

## CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK SPRING CENSUS, 2016

By Dwight Chasar and Craig Caldwell

The 2016 Spring Census was held on 21 May, the latest day ever. Fifty-nine birders in 19 teams participated. The day was cloudy with drizzle like last year's but cooler with temperatures between 56 and 60 degrees. We found over 5500 individuals. That number is in the middle of the range of 2624 to 7787 achieved since counts of individuals began in 1995. The species count of 128 didn't compare well with last year's 138 and the record high of 145 set in 2010.

We again found both cuckoos, which benefited from the periodic cicada hatch. Great Blue Heron numbers were down, probably because they've abandoned the Station Road rookery. Soras remained elusive if they were present at all.

We saw two Common Nighthawks; they belie their name by being difficult to find for the last several years. Tufted Titmouse numbers remain similar to those of Black-capped Chickadee. (Before 2011 their numbers were considerably lower.)

We saw our first Cliff Swallow since 2001 but missed Brown Creeper for the first time ever. We also missed Black-and-white Warbler for the first time since 1991 and Wilson's Warbler for the first time since 1999. The one Orange-crowned Warbler was our first since 2005. Chimney Swift, Hairy Woodpecker, and Veery counts were on the high side; Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, and Ovenbird counts were low.

### 2016 CVNP SPRING CENSUS TABLE

| Species             | Number | Species                   | Number | Species                  | Number |
|---------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| Canada Goose        | 143    | Spotted Sandpiper         | 6      | Hairy Woodpecker         | 25     |
| Wood Duck           | 40     | Solitary Sandpiper        | 1      | Northern Flicker         | 36     |
| Mallard             | 81     | American Woodcock         | 5      | Pileated Woodpecker      | 35     |
| Hooded Merganser    | 1      | Ring-billed Gull          | 33     | Peregrine Falcon         | 1      |
| Wild Turkey         | 1      | Herring Gull              | 1      | Eastern Wood-Pewee       | 32     |
| Common Loon         | 1      | Rock Pigeon               | 11     | Acadian Flycatcher       | 33     |
| Great Blue Heron    | 81     | Mourning Dove             | 72     | Alder Flycatcher         | 2      |
| Green Heron         | 5      | Yellow-billed Cuckoo      | 4      | Willow Flycatcher        | 10     |
| Turkey Vulture      | 57     | Black-billed Cuckoo       | 2      | Least Flycatcher         | 1      |
| Bald Eagle          | 3      | Eastern Screech-Owl       | 2      | Eastern Phoebe           | 24     |
| Northern Harrier    | 2      | Barred Owl                | 3      | Great Crested Flycatcher | 45     |
| Cooper's Hawk       | 6      | Common Nighthawk          | 2      | Eastern Kingbird         | 29     |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | 4      | Chimney Swift             | 287    | White-eyed Vireo         | 5      |
| Broad-winged Hawk   | 5      | Ruby-throated Hummingbird | 9      | Yellow-throated Vireo    | 19     |
| Red-tailed Hawk     | 6      | Belted Kingfisher         | 10     | Blue-headed Vireo        | 5      |
| Virginia Rail       | 3      | Red-headed Woodpecker     | 7      | Warbling Vireo           | 52     |
| American Coot       | 1      | Red-bellied Woodpecker    | 104    | Philadelphia Vireo       | 1      |
| Killdeer            | 16     | Downy Woodpecker          | 37     | Red-eyed Vireo           | 145    |

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| Species                       | Number | Species                      | Number | Species                  | Number      |
|-------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Blue Jay                      | 154    | Orange-crowned Warbler       | 1      | Bobolink                 | 10          |
| American Crow                 | 124    | Nashville Warbler            | 2      | Red-winged Blackbird     | 487         |
| Tree Swallow                  | 87     | Mourning Warbler             | 1      | Eastern Meadowlark       | 4           |
| Northern Rough-winged Swallow | 95     | Common Yellowthroat          | 156    | Common Grackle           | 103         |
| Bank Swallow                  | 2      | Hooded Warbler               | 70     | Brown-headed Cowbird     | 89          |
| Cliff Swallow                 | 5      | American Redstart            | 4      | Orchard Oriole           | 11          |
| Barn Swallow                  | 93     | Cerulean Warbler             | 12     | Baltimore Oriole         | 120         |
| Black-capped Chickadee        | 122    | Northern Parula              | 1      | House Finch              | 21          |
| Tufted Titmouse               | 118    | Magnolia Warbler             | 7      | American Goldfinch       | 232         |
| Red-breasted Nuthatch         | 3      | Bay-breasted Warbler         | 2      | House Sparrow            | 53          |
| White-breasted Nuthatch       | 40     | Blackburnian Warbler         | 3      | <b>Total individuals</b> | <b>5554</b> |
| Carolina Wren                 | 6      | Yellow Warbler               | 124    |                          |             |
| House Wren                    | 37     | Chestnut-sided Warbler       | 14     |                          |             |
| Winter Wren                   | 1      | Blackpoll Warbler            | 6      |                          |             |
| Marsh Wren                    | 2      | Black-throated Blue Warbler  | 1      |                          |             |
| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher         | 88     | Pine Warbler                 | 1      |                          |             |
| Eastern Bluebird              | 21     | Yellow-rumped Warbler        | 2      |                          |             |
| Veery                         | 23     | Yellow-throated Warbler      | 9      |                          |             |
| Swainson's Thrush             | 7      | Prairie Warbler              | 1      |                          |             |
| Wood Thrush                   | 45     | Black-throated Green Warbler | 9      |                          |             |
| American Robin                | 219    | Canada Warbler               | 1      |                          |             |
| Gray Catbird                  | 184    | Eastern Towhee               | 69     |                          |             |
| Northern Mockingbird          | 1      | Chipping Sparrow             | 45     |                          |             |
| Brown Thrasher                | 7      | Field Sparrow                | 39     |                          |             |
| European Starling             | 55     | Song Sparrow                 | 171    |                          |             |
| Cedar Waxwing                 | 69     | Swamp Sparrow                | 12     |                          |             |
| Ovenbird                      | 15     | White-throated Sparrow       | 1      |                          |             |
| Louisiana Waterthrush         | 3      | Dark-eyed Junco              | 1      |                          |             |
| Northern Waterthrush          | 1      | Scarlet Tanager              | 45     |                          |             |
| Blue-winged Warbler           | 32     | Northern Cardinal            | 211    |                          |             |
| Prothonotary Warbler          | 5      | Rose-breasted Grosbeak       | 46     |                          |             |
| Tennessee Warbler             | 25     | Indigo Bunting               | 116    |                          |             |