

SUMMARY

Grand Forks – East Grand Forks CBC

December 16, 2012

Cackling Goose	1	(2 nd record)	Northern Shrike	5	
Canada Goose	4000	(highest ever)	Blue Jay	13	
American Black Duck	1	(1 st record)	Black-billed Magpie	1	
Mallard	600	(2 nd highest)	American Crow	302	
Common Goldeneye	CW		Black-capped Chickadee	204	
Hooded Merganser	1	(2 nd record)	Red-breasted Nuthatch	33	
Common Merganser	1	(2 nd record)	White-breasted Nuthatch	62	
Gray Partridge	33		Brown Creeper	1	
Ring-necked Pheasant	4		Mountain Bluebird	1	(1 st record)
Sharp-tailed Grouse	101	(3 rd highest)	American Robin	109	
Greater Prairie-Chicken	7		European Starling	198	(low number)
Western Grebe	1	(1 st record)	Bohemian Waxwing	87	
Double-crested Cormorant	1	(1 st record)	Cedar Waxwing	59	
Northern Harrier	5		Lapland Longspur	21	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1		Snow Bunting	158	
Cooper's Hawk	CW		American Tree Sparrow	3	
Bald Eagle	3		White-throated Sparrow	7	
Red-tailed Hawk	1		Dark-eyed (Slate-col) Junco	214	(2 nd highest)
Rough-legged Hawk	22	(3 rd highest)	Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco	3	
Rock Pigeon	600		Northern Cardinal	3	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2		Red-winged Blackbird	1	
Mourning Dove	1		Common Grackle	1	
Great Horned Owl	3		Pine Grosbeak	50	(1 st since 1989)
Snowy Owl	4		Purple Finch	2	
Short-eared Owl	5		House Finch	252	
N. Saw-whet Owl	1		Red Crossbill	2	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	3		White-winged Crossbill	4	
Downy Woodpecker	45		Common Redpoll	654	
Hairy Woodpecker	24		Hoary Redpoll	17	
Northern Flicker	4		Pine Siskin	34	
Pileated Woodpecker	4		American Goldfinch	CW	
American Kestrel	1		Evening Grosbeak	5	(1 st since 1986)
Merlin	1		House Sparrow	634	

Species Summary: Total of 62 species plus one race (Oregon Junco) on Count Day surpassed the previous high of 55 species. The total of 65 species (count day plus count week) exceeded the previous high of 59 species. Total number of individuals = 8621.

Observers: 28 observers in field in 15 parties, plus 13 observers at feeders.

Time and Distance: 52 hours watching feeders. Total party-hours = 66 and total party miles = 716 (13 hours and 18 miles on foot; 52 hours and 688 miles by car, 1 hour and 10 miles nocturnal birding (“owling”)).

Participants in Field:

Sandy Aubol, Corey Bergsrud, Betsy Batstone-Cunningham, Charlie Christianson, Don Croeker, Jane Croeker, Tim Driscoll, Ann Flower, Erik Fritzell, Deb Hanson, Mary Jane Hennemann, Mike Jacobs, Joanne Johnson, Terry Johnson, Frank Kelley, Cec Lambeth, Dave Lambeth, Russell Lane, Vanessa Lane, Merle Mikkelsen, Bette Olson, Ed Olson, Rolf Paulson, Bob Seabloom, Beth Walters, Pat Wilber, Russ Wilber, Art Young

Feeder Watchers: Patti Alleva, Tim Aubol, David Berg, Charlie Christianson, Ann Flower, Perky Hertel, Tom Hill, Doug Peters, Rhonda Poellot, Paul Ray, Keith Trzynka, Mary Wakefield, Julia Wallin

Weather: Temperature range: 20 to 23 deg F. Winds northerly, 8-13 mph. Cloudy with intermittent light fog. 1-2 inches snow on ground.

Conditions: Crop residue (corn and sunflower) still remaining on surface in some fields. Good crop of crabapples, mountain ash and cones. Small patches of open water present at Kellys Slough, below the dams on the Red and Red Lake Rivers, Crystal Sugar ponds, and Grand Forks lagoons.

Comments:

This was the 52nd Grand Forks – East Grand Forks CBC. Coverage of the circle was thorough because all minimum maintenance roads could be driven, all of the greenway trails were walkable, and there were no impediments to covering city streets and alleys. For the second year in a row, a sizeable patch of open water at the Grand Forks lagoons resulted in large flocks of Canada Geese and Mallards remaining through count week. These two species spend much of their time at the lagoons, but fly to nearby fields to feed. The open water also resulted in first count records for Black Duck, Western Grebe, and Double-crested Cormorant. Perhaps the most interesting species was the first count record for Mountain Bluebird, discovered and photographed by Deb Hanson. This was a very good year for “northern finches”. American Goldfinch was not found count day for the first time since 1992.

A summary of this report and other CBC-related information can be found under the Christmas Bird Count link at <http://grandcitiesbirdclub.weebly.com/>

A yahoo e-mail group for bird enthusiasts to communicate about birds in the Grand Forks/East Grand Forks area including surrounding communities can be joined by following the link on the home page at the above site.