

SUMMARY
Grand Forks – East Grand Forks CBC
December 15, 2013

Canada Goose	7		Blue Jay	21	
Mallard	15		Black-billed Magpie	2	
Lesser Scaup	CW		American Crow	245	
Bufflehead	CW		Common Raven	1	(3 rd record)
Common Goldeneye	CW		Horned Lark	8	
Gray Partridge	60		Black-capped Chickadee	127	
Ring-necked Pheasant	5		Red-breasted Nuthatch	8	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	80		White-breasted Nuthatch	35	
Greater Prairie-Chicken	8		American Robin	8	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1		Varied Thrush	1	(4 th record)
Cooper's Hawk	1		European Starling	433	
Bald Eagle	8	(highest ever)	Cedar Waxwing	60	
Rough-legged Hawk	4		Lapland Longspur	82	
Rock Pigeon	803		Snow Bunting	869	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	16		White-throated Sparrow	4	
Mourning Dove	1		Dark-eyed (Slate-col) Junco	262	(2 nd highest)
Great Horned Owl	1		Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco	3	
Snowy Owl	9	(highest ever)	Dark-eyed (Cassiar) Junco	1	
Short-eared Owl	8		Northern Cardinal	6	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2		Common Grackle	CW	
Downy Woodpecker	32		Red-winged Blackbird	50	
Hairy Woodpecker	26		Purple Finch	11	
Northern Flicker	1		House Finch	206	
Pileated Woodpecker	3		American Goldfinch	61	
Merlin	CW		House Sparrow	874	
Northern Shrike	2				

Species Summary: On count day, total of 44 species plus two races (Oregon and Cassiar Juncos). Total of 49 species (count day plus count week). Total number of individuals = 4471.

Observers: 21 observers in field in 13 parties, plus 13 observers at feeders.

Time and Distance: 32 hours watching feeders. Total party-hours = 62.67 and total party miles = 699.3 (5.67 hours and 10.3 miles on foot; 57 hours and 689 miles by car, 1.5 hour and 10 miles nocturnal birding ("owling")).

Participants in Field:

Sandy Aubol, Tim Aubol, Betsy Batstone-Cunningham, Charlie Christianson, Don Croeker, Jane Croeker, Tim Driscoll, Deb Hanson, Judy Johnson, Joanne Johnson, Terry Johnson, Armand Lagasse, Ross Lagasse, Dave Lambeth, Vanessa Lane, Art Schroder, Bob Seabloom, Nikki Seabloom, Pat Wilber, Russ Wilber, Art Young

Feeder Watchers:, Sandy Aubol, Tim Aubol, Charlie Christianson, David Berg, Elizabeth Delgado, Gordon Iseminger, Cec Lambeth, Rhonda Poellot, Paul Ray, Bev Rosencrans, Virginia Stewart, Keith Trzynka, Julia Wallin

Weather: Temperature range: -20 to -10 deg F. Winds northerly in AM shift to s-se in afternoon, 0-8 mph. Sunny in morning becoming cloudy in afternoon. 6-12 inches snow on ground.

Comments:

This was the 53rd Grand Forks – East Grand Forks CBC. It was the coldest CBC since 1983. The most unusual species were Common Raven (3rd record) and Varied Thrush (4th record). Frigid temperatures may have caused three species of waterfowl seen on 1st day of count week to leave. “Northern finches” were mostly absent, including most notably, Pine Siskin and redpolls. Semihardy species were few in number as well. Heavy snow cover may have caused most of Rough-legged Hawks and Short-eared Owls to move southward, but made open country birds more visible. Nine Snowy Owls set a new high and most of these may have moved into the area within the past week. Bald Eagles continue to increase in number and this year there seemed to be more away from the Red River.

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.