

International Migratory Bird Day Results

Saturday, May 9th, turned out to be a beautiful day for the count. It was cool (49°) with a wind blowing early, but by noon it was too warm for all of our layers of clothes. Fortunately, the temperature only got to about 70°. The early coolness didn't interfere with birding. In fact, this was one of our best years. I think that the cool weather kept a lot of the migratory birds here a little longer than normal. Usually, many of the migratory warblers are gone before the count, which is held the second Saturday of May each year.

The highlight of the day came early for Janet and me, when we were birding an area along McDowell Creek and had one small tree with five species of warblers in it – orange-crowned, northern parula, two Blackburnians, yellow, and a chestnut-sided. This was the first time Janet and I have seen a chestnut-sided warbler in Kansas. And, right before we saw these warblers, we heard and saw a Louisiana waterthrush down by the creek.

Other warblers seen by the various groups during the count were American redstart, blackpoll, black-and-white, common yellowthroat, Kentucky, Nashville, magnolia, ovenbird, prairie, and yellow-rumped warblers. It was also exciting to see four American avocets in a large farm puddle; not exactly where we'd expect to see them.

Another highlight for the day was the number of sparrows seen by the various groups: 521 chipping, 47 clay-colored, 17 field, 70 lark, 3 savannah, 8 grasshopper, 1 song, 1 Lincoln's, 6 white-throated, 18 white-crowned, and 213 Harris'. I was surprised that we only had nine Northern bobwhite this year. They seem to be on a downward trend, along with ring-necked pheasant – only 4 this year. Swainson's thrushes seemed to be all over the place, with a count of 28. We counted 11 wood thrushes, and it's always a joy to hear their beautiful song. Unfortunately, this was a good year for European starlings (216) and brown-headed cowbirds (446).

The total number of species counted was 139, with a total number of 6,341 birds. Both of these are highs for the three years that I've been compiling the count results. We had nine groups participating: Frank and Cheryl Arthur; Jim and Leslie Campbell; Michael Donnelly; Clyde and Maria Ferguson, Jim Koelliker, Barry Michie, and Mike Strobe; Loretta Johnson and Beth Montelone; Mark Hollingsworth and Jack Oviatt; Chris and Ann Smith; Jim and Janet Throne; Kevin Fay, Kathleen Jones, Nancy Miller, and Patricia Yeager. I want to thank everyone who participated this year, and please contact me if you'd like to participate in one of these groups or your own group next year.

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Species	2007	2008	2009
American white pelican	0	0	1
Double-crested cormorant	2	55	0
American bittern	0	0	1
Great blue heron	16	12	10
Great egret	0	0	0
Snowy egret	0	0	1
Turkey vulture	118	83	171
Cattle egret	0	0	0
Green heron	1	0	4

Canada goose	41	14	42
Wood duck	9	8	5
Blue-winged teal	26	12	83
Mallard	3	6	1
Northern shoveler	0	7	35
Gadwall	0	0	0
Canvasback	0	0	0
Lesser scaup	0	0	1
Ruddy duck	0	0	1
Mississippi kite	0	0	0
Northern harrier	1	0	2
Cooper's hawk	2	0	0
<i>Accipiter</i> spp.	0	0	0
Swainson's hawk	1	1	3
Red-tailed hawk	17	12	17
Buteo spp.	0	0	0
American kestrel	0	0	3
Merlin	0	0	0
Ring-necked pheasant	12	8	4
Greater prairie chicken	16	0	0
Wild turkey	116	63	64
Northern bobwhite	10	7	9
American coot	25	1	3
Semipalmated plover	0	0	0
Killdeer	35	12	27
American avocet	0	0	4
Greater yellowlegs	0	0	0
Lesser yellowlegs	0	1	11
Solitary sandpiper	0	0	0
Willet	0	0	6
Spotted sandpiper	1	8	18
Upland sandpiper	36	9	1
Semipalmated sandpiper	0	0	3
Western sandpiper	1	0	0
Least sandpiper	0	0	0
White-rumped sandpiper	0	0	0
Baird's sandpiper	0	0	0
Pectoral sandpiper	0	0	0
Peep spp.	0	0	0
Long-billed dowitcher	0	0	0
Dowitcher spp.	0	0	6
Wilson's phalarope	0	0	9
Franklin's gull	0	170	50

Ring-billed gul	0	0	60
Gull spp.	0	0	0
Forster's tern	0	0	3
Rock dove	9	55	57
European collared dove	0	0	5
Mourning dove	216	159	185
Yellow-billed cuckoo	18	0	0
Eastern screech owl	0	0	1
Great horned owl	2	2	0
Barred owl	10	13	8
Common nighthawk	24	5	6
Common poorwill	0	4	0
Chuck-will's-widow	14	2	8
Whip-poor-will	2	0	7
Chimney swift	14	13	36
Ruby-throated hummingbird	8	4	1
Belted kingfisher	2	6	3
Red-headed woodpecker	23	6	18
Red-bellied woodpecker	34	23	30
Downy woodpecker	8	10	17
Hairy woodpecker	1	2	2
Yellow-shafted flicker	6	6	3
Flicker spp.	3	0	4
Western wood-pewee	0	0	0
Eastern wood-pewee	24	2	2
Wood pewee spp.	0	8	9
Acadian flycatcher	2	0	1
Least flycatcher	4	0	5
Empidonax spp.	5	2	2
Eastern phoebe	66	29	41
Great-crested flycatcher	69	23	47
Western kingbird	6	11	18
Eastern kingbird	83	15	120
Scissor-tailed flycatcher	14	2	11
Horned lark	2	6	13
Purple martin	40	11	26
Tree swallow	19	5	13
Northern rough-winged swallow	2	18	20
Bank swallow	0	0	3
Cliff swallow	444	323	765
Barn swallow	190	92	154
Blue jay	65	54	66
American crow	50	35	71

Black-capped chickadee	20	15	39
Carolina chickadee	0	0	0
Tufted titmouse	41	28	42
White-breasted nuthatch	6	5	13
Carolina wren	25	16	44
Bewick's wren	5	1	4
House wren	5	5	36
Wren spp.	0	1	0
Ruby-crowned kinglet	0	0	20
Blue-gray gnatcatcher	31	17	25
Eastern bluebird	55	33	51
Veery	0	0	1
Gray-cheeked thrush	0	0	1
Swainson's thrush	6	3	28
Wood thrush	0	2	11
American robin	27	56	128
Gray catbird	3	7	20
Northern mockingbird	8	7	8
Brown thrasher	51	10	41
Cedar waxwing	45	20	141
Loggerhead shrike	0	1	1
European starling	39	31	216
White-eyed vireo	0	0	2
Bell's vireo	4	0	1
Blue-headed vireo	2	1	0
Warbling vireo	10	9	23
Philadelphia vireo	0	3	0
Red-eyed vireo	24	8	17
Vireo spp.	0	1	0
Tennessee warbler	1	0	0
Orange-crowned warbler	0	0	19
Nashville warbler	1	3	5
Northern parula	13	12	21
Yellow warbler	24	28	61
Chestnut-side warbler	0	0	1
Magnolia warbler	1	0	1
Yellow-rumped warbler	0	3	38
Myrtle warbler	0	0	7
Audubon's warbler	0	0	0
Blackburnian warbler	0	1	2
Prairie warbler	0	0	2
Blackpoll warbler	0	2	3
Black and white warbler	1	1	6

American redstart	0	1	9
Ovenbird	1	0	1
Louisiana waterthrush	3	0	4
Northern waterthrush	0	0	0
Kentucky warbler	0	0	1
Connecticut warbler	0	0	0
Common yellowthroat	2	3	3
Wilson's warbler	0	0	0
Summer tanager	14	9	13
Scarlet tanager	0	0	2
Northern cardinal	91	64	146
Rose-breasted grosbeak	0	6	2
Blue grosbeak	1	3	6
Lazuli bunting	0	0	0
Indigo bunting	50	38	17
Painted bunting	1	0	0
Dickcissel	95	19	203
Eastern towhee	1	0	0
Spotted towhee	0	1	0
American tree sparrow	0	1	1
Chipping sparrow	39	121	521
Clay-colored sparrow	0	15	47
Field sparrow	29	5	17
Vesper sparrow	0	2	0
Lark sparrow	56	86	70
Savannah sparrow	0	2	3
Grasshopper sparrow	36	12	8
Song sparrow	5	1	1
Lincoln's sparrow	0	0	1
White-throated sparrow	0	2	6
White-crowned sparrow	2	18	18
Harris' sparrow	3	80	213
Bobolink	1	0	103
Red-winged blackbird	164	222	370
Eastern meadowlark	61	41	57
Western meadowlark	24	7	14
Meadowlark spp.	105	12	61
Yellow-headed blackbird	4	24	27
Great-tailed grackle	1	2	0
Common grackle	71	50	94
Brown-headed cowbird	259	318	446
Blackbird spp.	2	0	0
Orchard oriole	19	13	25

Baltimore oriole	125	76	122
Bullock's oriole	0	1	0
Purple finch	0	0	2
House finch	4	10	21
Pine siskin	0	0	6
American goldfinch	55	116	65
House sparrow	26	21	100
Number of birds	3766	3167	6341
Number of species	112	115	144
Corrected number of species (- spp.)	108	110	139
	2007	2008	2009
	>0	>0	>0

2007 Includes flicker spp., Empidonax spp., Blackbird spp. and meadowlark spp.

2008 Includes Empidonax, vireo, wren, pewee, and meadowlark spp.

2009 includes DOWITCHER spp., flicker spp., wood pewee spp., meadowlark spp., and Empidonax spp.

REGULAR

Hours foot	18' 55"	5' 23"	39' 43"
Hours car	4' 44"	12' 46"	25' 16"
Hours boat			
Hours other			

Miles foot	11.875	11	18.65
Miles car	194	169.4	257.5
Miles boat			
Miles other			

# parties regular	5	5	8
# observers regular	10	10	21

STATIONARY

Hours stationary			
# parties stationary			
# observers stationary			

FEEDER WATCHING

Hours feeder watch	13'	1'	
# feeder watchers		2	1
# feeding stations		5	2

OWLING (NIGHT)

Hours owling	2:30	2:58
Miles owling	14	22
# parties owling	2	2
# observers owling	5	6