

INDIAN PEAKS BIRD COUNTS

Winter 2019

Newsletter

Vol.38 No.1

Winter Count Summary

Overall, this was a good winter count in terms of total numbers of birds, being above average. Leading the way were most corvids (Steller's Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Black-billed Magpie, American Crow, and Common Raven), Black-capped Chickadee, Mountain Chickadee, Pygmy Nuthatch, Pine Grosbeak, and Rosy-Finches - we found some new feeders being visited by flocks.

Winter Count Summary

Number of Species

2019 - 32

Last Winter - 22

35-year Average - 35

Record High - 42 (1982)

Record Low - 22 (2018)

Number of Individuals

2019 - 25/count hour

Last Winter - 9/count hour

35-year average - 19/count hour

Record High - 29/count hour (1999)

Record Low - 9/count hour (2018)

Of course, not all was good. Those that covered true subalpine areas - Brainard Lake, North Fork, and Woodland Lake - had miserable weather and only saw a total of 3 species and 29 birds in 10.5 hours of effort. I remember those days.

Species normally seen that were missed or absent included all accipiters, Red-

tailed Hawk, White-tailed Ptarmigan, and Golden-crowned Kinglet. Bohemian Waxwings failed to make a showing - their last appearance was in 2013.

There were no new finds for the Winter Count. House Finch was seen for the 15th time. The Rollinsville group got their Northern Shrike; this is the 24th time they have been seen, and the Rollinsville count area has been the most consistent location.

There were poor numeric showings for Townsend's Solitaire, American Robin, and Pine Siskin.

Thanks to you all for going out. This count began our 38th year. We welcome back Bill Keampfer, who was back in the area and decided to do some local birding. Also note that one of our new participants, Marty Wolf, comes up from Colorado Springs.

Looking Ahead

Breeding Count

Count Day - June 22

Count Period - June 1 - July 15

Happy Birding,

Dave Hallock

2019 INDIAN PEAKS WINTER BIRD COUNT

Count period: January 20 - February 18. Twenty-two observers, 11 (of 25) areas covered. Total party hours: 36.11.

Dusky Grouse.....	2	American Robin	3
Downy Woodpecker	7	European Starling.....	40
Hairy Woodpecker	9	House Sparrow	25
Northern Shrike.....	1	Evening Grosbeak.....	9
Canada Jay	3	Pine Grosbeak	31
Steller's Jay	48	Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	70
Clark's Nutcracker	31	Black Rosy-Finch.....	2
Black-billed Magpie.....	28	Brown-capped Rosy-Finch.....	76
American Crow	112	House Finch	9
Common Raven	39	Cassin's Finch.....	2
Black-capped Chickadee.....	46	Red Crossbill.....	11
Mountain Chickadee	157	Pine Siskin	7
Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	11	Dark-eyed Junco	21
White-breasted Nuthatch	20	White-winged Junco	(1)
Pygmy Nuthatch.....	71	Slate-colored Junco.....	(1)
Brown Creeper	2	Gray-headed Junco.....	(9)
American Dipper.....	1	Red-winged Blackbird	10
Townsend's Solitaire	1	songbird species	3

Totals: 32 species; 908 individuals; 25 individuals per count hour. Participants: Linda Andes-Georges, Bev Baker, Suzanne Bhatt, Alex Brown, Gillian Brown, Mike Figgs, Elaine Hill, Jim Holitza, Bill Keampfer, Nan Lederer, Lisa McCoy, Merle Miller, Sally Miller, Naseem Munshi, Carol Newman-Holitza, Mark Pscheid, Jeannie Reynolds, Richard Trinkner, Michael Tupper, John Vanderpoel, Susan Wagner, and Marty Wolf.