

2017 Juneau Christmas Bird Count Results

by Patty Rose

The 45th Juneau Christmas Bird Count took place Saturday, December 16. Thirty-one volunteers went out in the rain and wind and reported 52 species and 9,393 individual birds. A few feeder watchers also contributed their observations to the count. The weather undoubtedly affected the outcome, and the number of species reported was one of the lowest on record. Fortunately, good weather during count week enabled volunteers to add 22 count week species, for a respectable total of 74.

The rarest birds of the day were four Evening Grosbeaks seen at a downtown feeder. Evening Grosbeak had not been previously seen on a Juneau Christmas Bird Count. Other noteworthy observations were Bonaparte's Gull, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Great Horned Owl, and Anna's Hummingbird on count day, and Northern Shoveler, American Three-toed Woodpecker, and Hoary Redpoll during count week.

The count resulted in one new high and one new low. A count of seven Black-billed Magpies set a new low for that species. The previous low was eight in 1981. A count of four Evening Grosbeaks added a new species to the checklist and established a high count for that species.

Despite the weather, the 23 species that have been seen on each of the other 44 counts were seen on count day. The five most numerous species were Mallard (2,243), Surf Scoter (1,684), Canada Goose (1,398), Glaucous-winged Gull (1,032), and Northwestern Crow (865). A detailed list is included below.

Canada Goose - 1,398	Pacific Loon - 57
Gadwall - 13	Common Loon - count week
American Wigeon - 336	Yellow-billed Loon - count week
Mallard - 2,243	Horned Grebe - 14
Northern Shoveler - count week	Red-necked Grebe - 4
Northern Pintail - count week	Pelagic Cormorant - 17
Greater Scaup - 23	Great Blue Heron - 1
Lesser Scaup - 2	Bald Eagle - 55
Unidentified Scaup - 20	Killdeer - count week
Harlequin Duck - 30	Black Turnstone - count week
Surf Scoter - 1,684	Rock Sandpiper - count week
White-winged Scoter - 142	Common Murre - count week
Long-tailed Duck - 4	Pigeon Guillemot - count week
Bufflehead - 137	Marbled Murrelet - 6
Common Goldeneye - 98	Bonaparte's Gull - 1
Barrow's Goldeneye - 315	Mew Gull - 67
Unidentified Goldeneye - 10	Herring Gull - 2
Hooded Merganser - 5	Iceland Gull (Thayer's) - count week
Common Merganser - 112	Glaucous-winged Gull - 1,032
Red-breasted Merganser - 44	Glaucous-winged Gull x Herring Gull - 4
Unidentified Mergansers - 3	Unidentified Gulls - 61

Eurasian Collared-Dove - 1
Rock Pigeon - 74
Great Horned Owl - 1
Northern Pygmy-Owl - count week
Anna's Hummingbird - 2
Belted Kingfisher - 4
Downy Woodpecker - count week
Hairy Woodpecker - 1
American Three-toed Woodpecker - count week
Northern Shrike - 1
Steller's Jay - 14
Black-billed Magpie - 7 (new low count)
Northwestern Crow - 865
Common Raven - 134
Chestnut-backed Chickadee - 47
Red-breasted Nuthatch - count week
Brown Creeper - 1
Pacific Wren - count week
American Dipper - 8
Golden-crowned Kinglet 29

Count Day Species - 52

Count Week Species - 22

Total Species - 74

Total Individual Birds - 9,393

Volunteers: 31

Unidentified Kinglets - 8
American Robin - count week
Varied Thrush - 2
European Starling - 22
Bohemian Waxwing - count week
Snow Bunting - 1
American Tree Sparrow - count week
Song Sparrow - 12
White-crowned Sparrow - 1
Dark-eyed Junco - 124
Unidentified Sparrows - 2
Red-winged Blackbird - count week
Evening Grosbeak - 4 (new species)
Pine Grosbeak - 2
Red Crossbill - 13
White-winged Crossbill - CW
Unidentified Crossbills - 4
Common Redpoll - 69
Hoary Redpoll - CW
Pine Siskin - CW