

2020 Juneau Christmas Bird Count Results

The 48th Juneau Christmas Bird Count took place Saturday, December 19. This year's count was held under COVID-19 guidelines for distancing, masking, and group composition. Thirty-eight volunteers, including 28 field volunteers and 10 feeder watchers, reported 51 species and 8,352 individual birds on count day. Nineteen additional species were seen during count week, for a total of 70 species.

Because of the pandemic, the National Audubon Society encouraged the participation of feeder watchers. Seven first-time volunteers participated in the Juneau count this year as feeder watchers.

Unfavorable weather on count day contributed to relatively low counts. Counters reported sustained winds of about 20 mph with gusts to about 40 mph, rain in all areas, and snow flurries at the higher elevations. Ponds and lakes were frozen or partly frozen.

Highlights on count day included a continuing **Trumpeter Swan** on Auke Lake, a **Ring-necked Duck** at the DIPAC hatchery, a **Double-crested Cormorant** on the South Douglas waterfront, a **Bonaparte's Gull** on the downtown Juneau and Thane Road waterfront, a continuing **Northern Flicker** at a North Douglas residence, and a continuing **White-throated Sparrow** at a Back Loop residence.

Highlights during count week included a **Northern Shoveler** at the Fish Creek access to the Mendenhall Wetlands, a continuing **Long-billed Dowitcher** at the Industrial Boulevard access to the Mendenhall Wetlands, an **American Three-toed Woodpecker** on the Richard Marriott Trail in the Lemon and Switzer Creeks area, and a **Merlin** in the Sandy Beach area of South Douglas.

Twenty-two species have been seen on each of the previous 47 counts and were seen on this count. The five most numerous species were Mallard (2013), Glaucous-winged Gull (1079), Canada Goose (712), Barrow's Goldeneye (636), and Surf Scoter (394). No new high or low counts were recorded this year. The only finches reported on count day were one Pine Grosbeak and one Red Crossbill. Pine Siskin, Common Redpoll, and White-winged Crossbill were reported during count week. A detailed list follows.

Canada Goose - 712	White-winged Scoter - 273
Trumpeter Swan - 1	Long-tailed Duck - 11
Gadwall - 20	Bufflehead - 147
American Wigeon - 233	Common Goldeneye - 136
Mallard - 2013	Barrow's Goldeneye - 636
Northern Shoveler - count week	Unidentified Goldeneyes - 5
Northern Pintail - 4	Common Merganser - 372
Ring-necked Duck - 1	Red-breasted Merganser - 166
Greater Scaup - count week	Red-throated Loon - count week
Unidentified Scaup - 192	Pacific Loon - 3
Harlequin Duck - 69	Yellow-billed Loon - count week
Surf Scoter - 394	Unidentified Loons - 1

Horned Grebe - 33
 Red-necked Grebe - 1
 Double-crested Cormorant - 1
 Pelagic Cormorant - 21
 Great Blue Heron - count week
 Bald Eagle - 161
 Sharp-shinned Hawk - count week
 Killdeer - 14
 Black Turnstone - count week
 Dunlin - 140
 Unidentified Sandpipers - 91
 Long-billed Dowitcher - count week
 Common Murre - 2
 Pigeon Guillemot - count week
 Marbled Murrelet - 136
 Bonaparte's Gull - 1
 Mew Gull - 98
 Herring Gull - count week
 Glaucous-winged Gull - 1079
 Unidentified Gulls - 100
 Rock Pigeon - 47
 Short-eared Owl - count week
 Anna's Hummingbird - 1
 Belted Kingfisher - 7
 Downy Woodpecker - count week
 Hairy Woodpecker - 3
 Am. Three-toed Woodpecker - count week
 Northern Flicker - 1
 Merlin - count week
 Unidentified Falcons - 1
 Northern Shrike - count week
 Steller's Jay - 58
 Black-billed Magpie - 10
 Northwestern Crow - 142
 Common Raven - 384
 Chestnut-backed Chickadee - 126
 Brown Creeper - 5
 Pacific Wren - 2
 American Dipper - 3
 Golden-crowned Kinglet - 23
 Varied Thrush - 1
 European Starling - 65
 Bohemian Waxwing - count week
 Snow Bunting - 12
 Song Sparrow - 28
 White-throated Sparrow - 1

Dark-eyed Junco - 163
 Pine Grosbeak - 1
 Red Crossbill - 1
 White-winged Crossbill - count week
 Common Redpoll - count week
 Pine Siskin - count week

CBC Photo Highlights



Trumpeter Swan on Auke Lake



Ring-necked Duck at the DIPAC hatchery



Northern Flicker at North Douglas



White-throated Sparrow on Back Loop.



Long-billed Dowitcher at the Industrial Boulevard access to the Mendenhall Wetlands