

5 January 2017

Dear Christmas Bird Counters: thanks very much for your hard work finding birds for the 2016 Baraboo Christmas Bird Count (CBC). I hope you enjoyed it. The results are attached. The Baraboo CBC "career record" counts for each species are on the next page, and our observer effort and birds found are pages 3-4. We found 60 species of birds on the Dec. 27 CBC. A Black Duck was found during the count week but not on the count. Our CBC averaged 58.2 species/year during 1998-2015, with a low of 51 to our record high of 67 in 2015. In 2015 Baraboo had the 7th highest species list in the state out of 108 CBCs.

This year we counted 8976 individual birds, a little above our average for the past 20 years. But it required a record-high field effort to get this total. Our count topped 100 field party-hours and 60 counters for the first time. New counters John and Jody Cabaj heard an Eastern Phoebe to add that species to the "career" Baraboo CBC list (1980-2016), making it this year's rarest find. We set Baraboo CBC record highs for Cooper's Hawk, Great Horned Owl, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Crow, Tufted Titmouse, and White-throated Sparrow. We tied the Baraboo record high for Great Blue Heron, Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. This year's record high of 3 Golden Eagles is indicative of the huge increase of this species in winter in Wisconsin the last 35 years.

We had fewer rare finds than last year. Birds found on 8 or fewer of the previous 35 counts that we found in 2016 included Wood Duck (found by new counter Stan Temple), Hooded Merganser (yard watcher Joan Fedkenheur and new field counter Brian Doverspike), Golden Eagle (the Ken Lange--Lisa Hartman--Mike Mossman team and the Bruce and Molly Stewart—Scott Swengel team), Sandhill Crane (Anne Lacy and Ted Thousand), Eastern Phoebe (John and Jody Cabaj), 2 Townsend's Solitaires (Aaron Holschbach), and Field Sparrow (found by feeder watcher Warren Terry).

Other highlights from different areas: in the Mirror Lake sector Carol Anderson, Greg Grisham, and Tony Kalenic found both Fox and White-throated Sparrows; in the east-central sector Charles Henriksen, Levi Wood, and Al Holzhueter found 12 Horned Larks, 9 Common Mergansers, a Cooper's Hawk, and 3 Bluebirds; Eric Hamburg and Bill Beers' found a Sharp-shinned and 2 Cooper's Hawks, Kestrel, Flicker, and Northern Shrike; Aaron Holschbach found a Brown Creeper, 346 Cedar Waxwings, and 4 White-throated Sparrows; Anne Lacy and Ted Thousand had 2 Great Blue Herons, 2 Kestrels, and a Flicker; Tom Stone, Angus Mossman, and Maia and Malachi Persche found 2 Tufted Titmice and 3 Pileated Woodpeckers while on foot most of the day; Ron and Todd Persche, John Taapken, and Ann Calhoun recorded 2 Rough-legged Hawks, a Kestrel, a Kingfisher, a Flicker, and 4 Horned Larks in the southwestern sector; Jaye Rykunyik and Cathy Pickle found Turkeys and Tree Sparrows north of Baraboo; Brian Doverspike found a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in Ochsner Park; Kevin Searock found 46 Turkeys; Cicero Stewart and Barb Hollay had 2 Rough-legged Hawks, a Kestrel, 7 Tufted Titmice, and 5 Robins in the west-central sector; the Molly and Bruce Stewart—Scott Swengel team had 5 kinds of hawks, 4 kinds of owls, and a Northern Shrike; Stan Temple found 3 Cooper's and a Sharp-shinned Hawk, and 4 other kinds of hawks, 84 Turkeys, a Screech-Owl, and all of our Herring Gulls and our only Song Sparrow; and the team at the International Crane Foundation found 2 Bald Eagles on the ICF site

Feeder/yard watchers found a large percentage of the birds, including the only ones of several species, such as Pheasant, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Pine Siskin (all three species by Joan Fedkenheur), and Field Sparrow (feeder watcher Warren Terry). Feeder watchers also found a high percentage of several other birds and pushed Tufted Titmice past 100 for the 1st time and several woodpeckers to record highs. They even had several hawks and owls. Feeder watchers also helped our woeful finch totals become more respectable.

Thanks everyone for doing such a good job. I am very happy about the total counts considering how difficult it felt to find birds that day. Participants in the 2016 Baraboo Christmas Bird Count are listed at the bottom of the 1st page of the WSO Christmas Bird Count Form (page 3 of this report).

I suggest that we hold the next Baraboo Christmas Bird Count will be on Wednesday, December 27, 2017. Please give me feedback on whether this date seems good for your participation. I hope you will join us again! And thanks again for making this year's count a success.

Sincerely, Scott Swengel 909 Birch St., Baraboo WI 53913; ph 608-356-9543; email aswengel@jvl.net

BARABOO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT Cumulative Species List 1980-2016 Notes: Fractions indicate years seen/years of count; then record number, and year(s). **Bold** count and bold "2016" = record high counts in 2016; bold "16" means the 2016 count tied the record high; **bold species name**, count, and 2016= new species added in 2016. X = count week birds, bolded if ties previous CW high (not included in grand total of 118 species; towhees only count for 1 species).

Common Loon 1/37 1 - 1982, X '02, '04
 Great Blue Heron 12/37 **2** – 2004, **2016**
 Canada Goose 33/37 5600 - 1994
 Cackling Goose 2/37 10 – 2011
 Mute Swan 0/37 X - 2011
 Greater White-fronted Goose 1/37 3 - 2002
 Trumpeter Swan 1/37 1 - 1993, X '06
 Tundra Swan 4/37 2 - 2004, X '82, '87, '97
 Wood Duck 3/37 **2**-2001, **2016**
 Gadwall 1/37 3- 2001
 American Black Duck 12/37 11 - 2002, X 2003, 2016
 Mallard 33/37 829 - 2001
 Green-winged Teal 2/37 1 - 1999, '01
 Canvasback 2/37 3 - 2005
 Redhead 0/37 CW - 2015
 Ring-necked Duck 2/37 1 - 1981, '06, X '02, '15
 Lesser Scaup 4/37 7 – 2002
 Long-tailed Duck 1/37 1 - 2012
 Bufflehead 3/37 5 - 2001, X '02
 Common Goldeneye 31/37 93 - 2015
 Hooded Merganser 5/37 **3** – 2011, **2016**, X '12
 Common Merganser 29/37 152 – 2009, X '82, '84
 Ruddy Duck 1/37 1 - 2012
 Turkey Vulture 7/37 4 - 1994, X '08
 Bald Eagle 33/37 85 – 2009, X '84, '92
 Northern Harrier 11/37 4 – 1998, X '85
 Sharp-shinned Hawk 29/37 6 - 2013, X '05
 Cooper's Hawk 29/37 **9** - **2016**
 Northern Goshawk 2/37, 3- 1983, 2009
 Red-shouldered Hawk 4/37 1 - 1997, '99, '08, '09, X '10, '11
 Red-tailed hawk 37/37 85 - 2009
 Rough-legged Hawk 36/37 34 - 1996
 Golden Eagle 7/37 **3** - **2016**, X'10
 American Kestrel 36/37 13 - 2012
 Merlin 4/37 1 - 2000, '10, '11, '14
 Ring-necked Pheasant 17/37 10 – 2003, X '14
 Ruffed Grouse 17/37 10 - 1981
 Wild Turkey 25/37 339 - 2012
 Northern Bobwhite 2/37 12 – 1981, X '90
 American Coot 4/37 11 - 1997
 Sandhill Crane 8/37 5000 - 2011, X '09, '14
 Killdeer 6/37 4 - 1980, '81
 Wilson's Snipe 14/37 14 - 1999, X '83, '01, '08
 Ring-billed Gull 7/37 196 - 2001, X '97, '02
 Herring Gull 13/37 267 - 2003, X '14
 Rock Pigeon 37/37 601 - 2015
 Eurasian Collared-Dove 0/37 X '10
 Mourning Dove 36/37 723 - 2012
 Eastern Screech-Owl 23/37 8 - 2010
 Great Horned Owl 31/37 **9** - **2016**
 Snowy Owl 1/37 1 - 1983, X - '01
 Barred Owl 26/37 8 - 2014, X '04
 Long-eared Owl 14/37 4 – 2013, 2014
 Short-eared Owl 1/37 1 - 2007
 Northern Saw-whet Owl 18/37 20 - 2015
 Belted Kingfisher 20/37 7 - 2003, '07, X '08
 Red-headed Woodpecker 19/37 6 - 1980, '81, X '14
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 13/37 **4** – 2008, '13, **16**
 Downy Woodpecker 37/37 **186** – **2016**
 Hairy Woodpecker 37/37 **67**-**2016**
 Northern Flicker 30/37 20- 2011
 Pileated Woodpecker 35/37 23 – 2008, 2012
Eastern Phoebe 1/37 1 – 2016
 Northern Shrike 31/37 12 - 2007
 Blue Jay 37/37 464 - 2010
 American Crow 37/37 **1307** - **2016**
 Common Raven 3/37 2 - 2015, X '04
 Horned Lark 24/37 315 - 2000
 Black-capped Chickadee 37/37 774 - 2010
 Tufted Titmouse 28/37 **109** – **2016**, X '96
 Red-breasted Nuthatch 32/37 42 - 2009
 White-breasted Nuthatch 37/37 243 - 2010
 Brown Creeper 30/37 14 - 2008
 Carolina Wren 8/37 3 - 2005, '06
 Winter Wren 6/37 10 - 2004, X '07, '08, '10, '11, '12, '14
 Golden-crowned Kinglet 20/37 9 - 1982
 Eastern Bluebird 18/37 46 - 2013
 Townsend's Solitaire 9/37 3 – 2010, '15 X '12, '14
 Hermit Thrush 2/37 1 - 2005, 2012
 American Robin 26/37 85 - 2009
 Northern Mockingbird 1/37 1 - 1996
 Brown Thrasher 2/37 1 - 1987, '10
 European Starling 37/37 1583 - 2006
 Cedar Waxwing 27/37 904 - 2013
 Bohemian Waxwing 3/37 55 - 1995
 Yellow-rumped Warbler 7/37 4 – 2008, X '14
 Common Yellowthroat 0/37, X - 1981
 Eastern Towhee 1/37 1 - 2000, X '81
 Towhee sp. (Eastern/Spotted) 1/37 1 - 2005
 American Tree Sparrow 37/37 1059 - 2013
 Chipping Sparrow 2/37 1 - '07, 2011, X '01
 Field Sparrow 3/37 2 – 1990
 Savannah Sparrow 2/37 1 – 2013, '15
 Fox Sparrow 7/37 5 - 2013
 Song Sparrow 22/37 5 - 2012
 Lincoln's Sparrow 1/37, 1 - 2008
 Swamp Sparrow 7/37 3 - 2002
 White-throated Sparrow 15/37 **7** - **2016**
 Harris' Sparrow 1/37 1 - 1998
 White-crowned Sparrow 1/37 1-2012 X - 2000, 2008
 Dark-eyed Junco 37/37 2454 - 2013
 Lapland Longspur 7/37 125 - 1984
 Snow Bunting 10/37 84 - 2013, X '85, '99,
 Northern Cardinal 37/37 376 - 2012
 Red-winged Blackbird 6/37 20 - 1998
 Rusty Blackbird 2/37 3 - 1981
 Common Grackle 2/37 200 - 2011
 Brown-headed Cowbird 1/37 1 - 2008
 Pine Grosbeak 2/37 20 - 1985
 Purple Finch 36/37 97 - 2005
 House Finch 28/37 433 - 2012, X '88
 Red Crossbill 1/37 2-2010, X '81
 White-winged Crossbill 4/37 45 - 2008
 Common Redpoll 14/37 125 - 1985
 Pine Siskin 31/37 305 - 2012
 American Goldfinch 37/37 663 - 2012
 Evening Grosbeak 8/37 92 – 1980, X '86, '90, '13
 House Sparrow 37/37 1102 - 2012

WSO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT FORM

Count Name_Baraboo, Wisconsin _(WIBA)_____ Date Conducted_12/_27_/2016

Center of Count Circle_Jct. of County Hwy A and City View Road County of Count center Sauk

Are the results of this count reported to National Audubon Society? Yes No

Compiler_Scott Swengel Phone 608-356-9543 Email aswengel@jvl.net
Address 909 Birch Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

WEATHER

Sky Conditions_cloudy, snow flurries_ AM cloudy, snow flurries early_ PM Snow Cover (inches) 5
Wind Direction **and** Velocity 10-20 west AM 10-15 west PM Low Temperature 17F High temperature 24F

PARTICIPANT DATA

Total Field Observers_43___ Total Field Parties____18_____ Total Feeder Watchers____20___

*Total Party hours 107.12 On foot 56.73 By car 50.39 Hours owling 10.25 Feeder watching about 44 hrs

*Total party hours is the sum of hours spent in the field by the various parties. It does **not** include time owling or observation time of feeder watchers.

*Total Party- miles_682.8 Miles on Foot 50.4 miles by Car 632.4 Miles owling about 56

Compilers should save this CBC Form in their Document Files. This form can then be used year after year. Compilers could then print hard copies of this form and mail those copies to the WSO State CBC Compiler. This form and all CBC rare bird reports should be mailed to --

Carl Schroeder 11807 Spring Lake Rd Kiel, WI 53042 carlschroeder@tds.net Kyle Lindemer CBC@wsobirds.org

Compilers can save both time and postage by sending this form electronically. Once the form is saved in your Document Files, it can be filled out electronically. Once filled, send the form as an ATTACHMENT to

Participants in the 2016 Baraboo Christmas Bird Count. People who I think did exclusively feeder/yard watching have an asterisk after their name. Carol Anderson, Karen Becker, Bill Beers, Gib Bird*, Norm Brickl*, John and Jody Cabaj, Ann Calhoun, Brian Doverspike, Jim Fawcett*, Joan Fedkenheur*, Kate Fitzwilliams, Connor*, David*, Elsie*, and Jim* Gilmore, Greg Grisham, Eric Hamburg, Lisa Hartman, Chuck Henrikson, Kay Hobler*, Aaron Holschbach, Allen Holzhueter, Buddy*, Marcie, and Zack Huffaker, Tony Kalenic, Anne Lacy, Ken Lange, Teresa Mayer*, Angus and Mike Mossman, Larry Pawlak*, Earlene*, Maia, Malachi, Ron, and Todd Persche, Cathy Pickle, Jaye Rykunyk, Betty Schultz*, Kevin Searock, Diane Seymour*, Kim Smith, Kari Stauffer, Bruce, Jen, and Molly Stewart, Cicero Stewart, Kari Stauffer, Tom Stone, Ann* and Scott Swengel, John Taapken, Stanley Temple, Sharon* and Warren* Terry, Hillary Thompson, Ted Thousand, Ann Vogt-Schaller*, Mark Wolff, Levi Wood, and Julie Zajicek*.

Please enter the number of each species seen or heard on the count day. Enter "CW" for any species seen or heard during the count week but not recorded on the count day. The count week is defined as 3 days before or after the count date.

Snow Goose	_____	Gyr Falcon	_____	Northern Mockingbird	_____
Canada Goose	<u>234</u>	Peregrine Falcon	_____	Gray Catbird	_____
Cackling Goose	_____	Virginia Rail	_____	Brown Thrasher	_____
Mute Swan	_____	American Coot	_____	European Starling	<u>645</u>
Trumpeter Swan	_____	Sandhill Crane	<u>1</u>	Cedar Waxwing	<u>381</u>
Tundra Swan	_____	Killdeer	_____	Bohemian Wxwing	_____
Wood Duck	<u>2</u>	Wilson's Snipe	_____	Yellow-rumped Warbler	_____
Gadwall	_____	Bonaparte's Gull	_____	Eastern Towhee	_____
American Wigeon	_____	Ring-billed Gull	_____	Am. Tree Sparrow	<u>440</u>
Am. Black Duck	<u>CW</u>	Herring Gull	<u>6</u>	Chipping Sparrow	_____
Mallard	<u>319</u>	Thayer's Gull	_____	Field Sparrow	<u>1</u>
Northern Shoveler	_____	Iceland Gull	_____	Fox Sparrow	<u>3</u>
Northern Pintail	_____	Lesser Black-backed Gull	_____	Song Sparrow	<u>1</u>
Green-winged Teal	_____	Glaucous Gull	_____	Lincoln's Sparrow	_____
Canvasback	_____	Great Black-backed Gull	_____	Swamp Sparrow	_____
Redhead	_____	Rock Pigeon	<u>417</u>	White-throated Sparrow	<u>7</u>
Ring-necked Duck	_____	Eurasian Collared-Dove	_____	Harris's Sparrow	_____
#Greater Scaup	_____	Mourning Dove	<u>267</u>	White-crowned Sparrow	_____
Lesser Scaup	_____	E. Screech-Owl	<u>6</u>	Dark-eyed Junco	<u>1636</u>
Scaup sp.	_____	Great Horned Owl	<u>9</u>	Lapland Longspur	_____
#Harlequin Duck	_____	Snowy Owl	_____	Snow Bunting	_____
#Surf Scoter	_____	N. Hawk-Owl	_____	Northern Cardinal	<u>313</u>
#White-winged Scoter	_____	Barred Owl	<u>2</u>	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	_____
#Black Scoter	_____	Great Gray Owl	_____	Red-winged Blackbird	_____
#Long-tailed Duck	_____	Long-eared Owl	<u>1</u>	Eastern Meadowlark	_____
Bufflehead	_____	Short-eared Owl	_____	Western Meadowlark	_____
Common Goldeneye	<u>46</u>	N. Saw-whet Owl	<u>4</u>	Meadowlark sp.	_____
Barrow's Goldeneye	_____	Belted Kingfisher	<u>1</u>	Yellow-headed Blackbird	_____
Hooded Merganser	<u>3</u>	Red-headed Woodpecker	_____	Rusty Blackbird	_____
Common Merganser	<u>15</u>	Red-bellied Woodpecker	<u>91</u>	Brewer's Blackbird	_____
Red-breasted Merganser	_____	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<u>4</u>	Common Grackle	_____
Ruddy Duck	_____	Downy Woodpecker	<u>186</u>	Brown-headed Cowbird	_____
Gray Partridge	_____	Hairy Woodpecker	<u>67</u>	Pine Grosbeak	_____
Ring-necked Pheasant	<u>1</u>	Black-backed Woodpecker	_____	Purple Finch	<u>21</u>
Ruffed Grouse	_____	Northern Flicker	<u>4</u>	House Finch	<u>105</u>
Spruce Grouse	_____	Pileated Woodpecker	<u>19</u>	Red Crossbill	_____
Sharp-tailed Grouse	_____	Eastern Phoebe	<u>1</u>	White-winged Crossbill	_____
Greater Prairie Chicken	_____	Northern Shrike	<u>5</u>	Common Redpoll	_____
Wild Turkey	<u>317</u>	Gray Jay	_____	Hoary Redpoll	_____
Northern Bobwhite	_____	Blue Jay	<u>227</u>	Pine Siskin	<u>3</u>
Common Loon	_____	American Crow	<u>1307</u>	American Goldfinch	<u>430</u>
Red-throated Loon	_____	Common Raven	_____	Evening Grosbeak	_____
Pied-billed Grebe	_____	Horned Lark	<u>33</u>	House Sparrow	<u>377</u>
Horned Grebe	_____	Black-capped Chickadee	<u>518</u>		
Double-crested Cormorant	_____	Boreal Chickadee	_____		
Great Blue Heron	<u>2</u>	Tufted Titmouse	<u>109</u>		
Turkey Vulture	_____	Red-breasted Nuthatch	<u>10</u>		
Bald Eagle	<u>37 (16 ad/8 imm/13 unk)</u>	White-breasted Nuthatch	<u>227</u>		
Northern Harrier	_____	Brown Creeper	<u>1</u>		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<u>3</u>	Carolina Wren	_____		
Cooper's Hawk	<u>9</u>	Winter Wren	_____		
Northern Goshawk	_____	Golden-crowned Kinglet	<u>1</u>		
Red-shouldered Hawk	_____	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	_____		
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>55</u>	Eastern Bluebird	<u>3</u>		
Rough-legged Hawk	<u>8</u>	Townsend's Solitaire	<u>2</u>		
Golden Eagle	<u>3</u>	Hermit Thrush	_____		
American Kestrel	<u>9</u>	American Robin	<u>21</u>		
Merlin	_____	Varied Thrush	_____		

Feeder watchers: Please provide an estimate of hours spent watching: _____

Total Count Day Species 60
 + 1 Count Week (CW) species
 Total Individuals 8976

Provide documentation for any boldfaced and any species not listed above.
Document if away from Lake Michigan