

Hi Everyone,

After another round of the virus season that refuses to go away, I have finally finished the compilation of the first of the three counts I compile, sorry for the delay.

Interesting how the numbers stack up. This was the second most diverse count in 23 years, but it was the third lowest in the number of individuals counted. 118/7663. Fifteen species had their highest individual counts, thirteen recorded the lowest individual counts, and seven unusual species were seen (species recorded 3x or less).

We had ten people in six teams cover the entire 177-sq. mile circle.

Three new species were found. Two by Susan Steele at Buena Vista (Mandarin Duck and Phainopepla) and one by John Sterling (Brewer's Sparrow) at the Kern Water Bank. A quick search by Bob Barnes yielded a checklist at Buena Vista by Chet Ogan during count week that added three species (Eared Grebe, Snowy Egret, and Sage Thrasher). The table of birds is posted below my signature.

I have already begun planning next year's count and hope to have the territories fully covered for the first time in its history. I hope you can help gather support by good birders around the state and by non-birders who work at agencies and corporations within the count circle. Next year, this will be the only count I compile and hopefully I will either retire or hand off the count after the 25th Anniversary of its inception. I would love to end it with a bang.

Ali

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Species	12/13 total
1 Snow Goose	2 HC
2 Ross's Goose*	1 US
3 Mandarin Duck	1 US
4 Gadwall	6
5 American Wigeon	12
6 Mallard	187
7 Northern Shoveler	23

8 Northern Pintail	13
9 Green-winged Teal	8
10 Canvasback	25
11 Redhead	4
12 Ring-necked Duck	4
13 Lesser Scaup	3
14 Bufflehead	319 HC
15 Common Goldeneye	254 HC
16 Common Merganser	20
17 Red-breasted Merganser	1 US
18 Ruddy Duck	17 LC
19 California Quail	71
20 Pied-billed Grebe	6
21 Eared Grebe	CW LC
22 Western Grebe	34
23 Clark's Grebe	104
24 Double-crested Cormorant	21
25 American White Pelican	43
26 Great Blue Heron	14
27 Great Egret	13
28 Snowy Egret	CW LC
29 Green Heron	1 LC
30 Black-crowned Night-Heron	87
31 White-faced Ibis	1 LC
32 Turkey Vulture	6
33 Osprey	7
34 White-tailed Kite	6
35 Northern Harrier	29 HC
36 Sharp-shinned Hawk	3 HC
37 Cooper's Hawk	11 HC
38 Red-shouldered Hawk	5
39 Red-tailed Hawk	127
40 Ferruginous Hawk	6
41 Virginia Rail	1 LC
42 Sora	3
43 American Coot	548
44 Killdeer	148
45 Black-necked Stilt	49
46 Spotted Sandpiper	2
47 Greater Yellowlegs	15
48 Western Sandpiper	2 LC

49 Least Sandpiper	110
50 Dunlin	2
51 Wilson's Snipe	6 LC
52 Bonaparte's Gull	1 LC
53 Ring-billed Gull	31
54 California Gull	263
55 Herring Gull	187 HC
56 Thayer's Gull*	4
57 Glaucous-winged Gull*	3 HC
58 Larus sp.	1
59 Rock Pigeon	51
60 Eurasian Collared-Dove	46
61 Mourning Dove	216
62 Greater Roadrunner	6
63 Barn Owl	5
64 Great Horned Owl	9
65 Burrowing Owl	3
66 Anna's Hummingbird	14
67 Belted Kingfisher	1 LC
68 Red-breasted Sapsucker	2 HC
69 Nuttall's Woodpecker	4 HC
70 Northern Flicker	27
71 American Kestrel	27
72 Merlin	4 HC
73 Black Phoebe	60
74 Say's Phoebe	25
75 Loggerhead Shrike	92 HC
76 Western Scrub-Jay	2
77 American Crow	1 LC
78 Common Raven	79
79 Horned Lark	775
80 Tree Swallow	1
81 Red-breasted Nuthatch	9 HC
82 House Wren	7 HC
83 Marsh Wren	6
84 Bewick's Wren	18
85 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3
86 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	37
87 Hermit Thrush	3
88 American Robin	9
89 Northern Mockingbird	48

90 Sage Thrasher*	CW
91 California Thrasher	3
92 Le Conte's Thrasher	4
93 European Starling	696
94 American Pipit	227
95 Cedar Waxwing	1
96 Phainopepla	1 US
97 Orange-crowned Warbler	12
98 Common Yellowthroat	3
99 Yellow-rumped Warbler	275
100 Spotted Towhee	1 LC
101 Chipping Sparrow*	7 US
102 Brewer's Sparrow	2 US
103 Vesper Sparrow	5 HC
104 Lark Sparrow	118
105 Sage Sparrow	24
106 Savannah Sparrow	153
107 Song Sparrow	15
108 Lincoln's Sparrow	6
109 White-crowned Sparrow	625
110 Golden-crowned Sparrow	4
111 Dark-eyed Junco	23
112 Red-winged Blackbird	55
113 Western Meadowlark	118
114 Brewer's Blackbird	55 LC
115 Great-tailed Grackle	3
116 Brown-headed Cowbird	35
117 House Finch	282
118 Pine Siskin*	6 US
119 Lesser Goldfinch	17
120 American Goldfinch	226
121 House Sparrow	200