

INDIAN PEAKS BIRD COUNTS

Fall 2017

Newsletter

Vol.36 No. 4

Fall Count Summary

The number of species was well below average while the total number of birds was slightly below average.

Fall Count Summary

Number of Species

2017 - 73

Last Fall - 74

30-year Average - 83

Record High - 99 (1992)

Record Low - 70 (1996)

Number of Individuals

2017 - 32/count hour

Last Fall - 36/count hour

30-year Average - 34/count hour

Record High - 48/count hour (1991)

Record Low - 25/count hour (1982, 83 & 93)

There were two new finds for the fall count: Sabine's Gull (Sugarloaf area) and Flammulated Owl (Rainbow Lakes and North Fork). Other good finds included Bald Eagle (6th time on fall count, all since 2006; Arapaho Ranch), Western Wood-Pewee (6th time; Sugarloaf), Wild Turkey (7th time, with 6 of the 7 sightings since 2010; Ward North, Sugarloaf and Eldora), and Nashville Warbler

(2nd time; Caribou Ranch).

Species generally seen during the fall that were absent or missed included Green-winged Teal (not seen on fall count since 2010), Ring-necked Duck, Northern Goshawk, Wilson's Snipe, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Warbling Vireo, McGillivray's Warbler, Vesper Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-capped Rosy-Finch, House Finch, and House Sparrow.

There were below average counts for several species, including Yellow-rumped Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, and Red Crossbill.

Golden-crowned Kinglets were seen in record high numbers for the fall count.

Winter Count

Once again the winter count will be held to correspond with the Great Backyard Bird Count - February 16-19, 2018.

But if you have trouble meeting that period, I encourage you to go out anytime from December 15 to February 20 to cover your area and report the findings.

Happy Birding,
Dave Hallock

2017 INDIAN PEAKS FALL BIRD COUNT

Count day – September 16; Count period – September 9-24. Twenty participants. Fourteen (of 25) areas covered. Total party hours: 81.1.

Canada Goose.....31	Sapsucker species..... 1	Mountain Bluebird 56
Mallard27	Downy Woodpecker 5	Bluebird species 2
Common Merganser6	Hairy Woodpecker 15	Townsend’s Solitaire 24
White-tailed Ptarmigan.....1	Three-toed Woodpecker..... 6	Hermit Thrush 8
Dusky Grouse1	Northern Flicker..... 38	American Robin 173
Wild Turkey.....18	American Kestrel 1	American Pipit..... 63
Band-tailed Pigeon16	Prairie Falcon..... 2	Pine Grosbeak 15
Mourning Dove.....2	Western Wood-Pewee..... 1	Cassin's Finch.....22
Broad-tailed Hummingbird...8	Empidonax species..... 1	Pine Siskin..... 144
Rufous Hummingbird2	Gray Jay 25	Lesser Goldfinch 13
Spotted Sandpiper.....1	Steller’s Jay..... 74	American Goldfinch 1
Sabine's Gull.....1	Clark’s Nutcracker 44	Evening Grosbeak 16
Great Blue Heron.....1	Black-billed Magpie..... 28	Orange-crowned Warbler 1
Turkey Vulture.....2	American Crow 88	Nashville Warbler 1
Osprey.....2	Common Raven..... 54	Yellow-rumped Warbler.... 92
Bald Eagle1	Horned Lark..... 7	Townsend’s Warbler 10
Sharp-shinned Hawk.....1	Barn Swallow..... 25	Wilson’s Warbler 59
Cooper’s Hawk2	Black-capped Chickadee.... 50	Warbler species 1
Red-tailed Hawk 18	Mountain Chickadee 394	Green-tailed Towhee 7
Buteo species1	Red-breasted Nuthatch..... 52	Chipping Sparrow..... 14
Golden Eagle4	White-breasted Nuthatch.... 28	Song Sparrow 5
Flammulated Owl.....2	Pygmy Nuthatch..... 85	Lincoln’s Sparrow 5
Great Horned Owl.....4	Brown Creeper 35	White-crowned Sparrow.... 86
Belted Kingfisher.....4	House Wren 15	Sparrow species 4
Williamson's Sapsucker 1	American Dipper..... 6	Dark-eyed Junco..... 378
Red-naped Sapsucker.....2	Golden-crowned Kinglet.. 108	Brown-headed Cowbird..... 1
	Ruby-crowned Kinglet 62	Passerine species 12

Totals: 73 species; 2,636 individuals; 32 individuals per count hour.

Participants: Linda Andes-Georges, Jean Pierre Georges, Maureen Blackford, Diane Brown, George Coffee, Todd Deininger, Dave Hallock, Jim Holitza, Steve Jones, Bill Kaempfer, Michael Kessig, Nan Lederer, Merle Miller, Sally Miller, Carol Newman-Holitza, Cara Stiles, Lucy Stroock, Jeff Thompson, Marty Wolf, and George Young.