

MATANUSKA VALLEY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (CBC)

The Matanuska Valley CBC was first conducted in 1979. The

Count Circle is centered at Four Corners (junction of Palmer-Wasilla Hwy & Old Trunk Rd / Stringfield Rd), and is subdivided into 23 Areas with a habitat range from urban/industrial, residential neighborhoods, and areas that are near-wilderness in nature. The southern half of the Circle is largely composed of portions of the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge. Usually there is little unfrozen water within the Count Circle during a normal December, except for some sections of fast-moving streams and at the outflows of some lakes. The Circle encompasses Palmer and Wasilla, the two largest Matanuska Valley towns. Our Count Day concludes with a wrapup potluck in the evening during which Count participants total up their bird counts and tell tall tales about the species they've seen during Count Day.