

Matanuska Valley (AKMV) 36th Christmas Bird Count (CBC) Results

The 2014 Matanuska Valley Christmas Bird Count (CBC) took place on Sunday, December 14th. During the CBC, Field Teams and Feeder Counters at home counted all the birds that they saw within the Matanuska Valley Count Circle, a 15 mile diameter circle centered on Four Corners. Count totals for this year's Count are:

Mallard - 585

Common Goldeneye - 2

Ruffed Grouse - 1

Bald Eagle (Adult - 111) / (immature - 59)

Bald Eagle - total - 170 New high / previous 143 (Most at Palmer Landfill)

Northern Goshawk - Count Week (CW)

Rock Pigeon - 45

Great Horned Owl - CW

Downy Woodpecker - 19

Hairy Woodpecker - 13

American Three-toed Woodpecker - 1

Northern Shrike - 2

Gray Jay - 10

Black-billed Magpie - 116

Common Raven - 739

Black-capped Chickadee - 609 (including 9 w/deformed beaks)

Boreal Chickadee - 1

Red-breasted Nuthatch - 62 New high / previous 52

Brown Creeper - 1

American Dipper - 5

American Robin - 2

European Starling - 206

Bohemian Waxwing - 2121

American Tree Sparrow - 1

White-crowned Sparrow - CW

Dark-eyed Junco - 12

Snow Bunting - 300

Rusty Blackbird - 22

Pine Grosbeak - 180

White-winged Crossbill - 7

Common Redpoll - 321

Pine Siskin - 2

Total Count Day species: 28 (record: 35)

Total birds seen: - 5555

Temperatures ranged from 22 to 40 degrees. Although relatively mild, morning conditions were very icy. At the end of Count Day, we finished up with another very delicious potluck at Nancy Moore's home, where Counters did their best to amaze everyone with their species' counts.

A very special thanks to Nancy Moore for hosting our wrapup/potluck meeting again, and to all of our Field Counter and Feeder Counters for taking part in our Count!

Bob Winckler

Matanuska Valley CBC Compiler

www.matsubirders.org