

# Bitterroot AUDUBON



FEBRUARY 2021

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 36, NO. 6

## Owls of Montana

*By Denver Holt and Micki Long, BAS President*

Denver Holt is a wildlife researcher, biologist and one of, if not the world's most renowned owl expert. Holt is also a graduate of the University of Montana. He is founder and president of the Owl Research Institute and the Ninepipes Wildlife Research Center, a nonprofit organization located in Charlo, Montana. As a dedicated field researcher, Holt believes that long-term field studies are the primary means to understanding trends in wildlife populations and key to wildlife and conservation management.



*Courtesy Owl Research Institute  
February's BAS speaker, Denver Holt,  
holding a Snowy Owl Chick.*



*Courtesy Owl Research Institute  
February's BAS speaker, Denver Holt, holding a Snowy Owl  
Chick.*

Holt has been a leader in owl research, education, and conservation for over 30 years. While much of today's research is conducted remotely, or builds on existing data, Holt has been unwavering in his commitment to boots-on-the-ground data collection. A classic, hardcore field researcher, he has spent a lifetime in the field with wild owls—observing, recording, measuring, and enjoying the natural world. The resulting body of work, and its implications to conservation, is an incredible gift and legacy. He is responsible for some of the longest running studies of their kind in the world.

Holt's Snowy Owl research based in the Alaskan Arctic was featured as the cover story of *National Geographic* and today, a new branch of this study, tackles the effects of a changing Arctic climate to Snowy Owls—research that is being covered by *Smithsonian* magazine. In addition to publishing over scientific 100 papers, Holt's work has been featured in countless magazines, films, and journals. Holt speaks around the world and enjoys guiding, meeting new people, and continuing to learn new things about wildlife and the natural world.

But on most days, you'll find him in the field - pencil and notebook in his hand, binocs around his neck, and a backpack full of nets, bands, and tools. If you happen to bump into him on a day like this, he'll look at you—with a big smile on his face—and say “you know, not everyone's doing this today.” And you know this is what he was meant to do.

Holt's presentation will focus on Montana owls; he will also tell us about a Boreal Owl project at Lost Trail Pass. For many of us, owls are very special birds; join us to learn more about them from a World Owl Hall of Famer!

***You are invited to a Zoom meeting.***

**When:** Feb 21, 2022 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

***Register in advance for this meeting:***

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZAsduqvpzMIG9NGhTuuElpIE5Dx0LvKyiyW>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### **Letter from the President**

*By Micki Long, BAS President*

The president of the college where I taught most of my career despised February.

Every February, he expressed animus for February in his version of a letter from the president. Every year he complained (and probably still does) about snow storms, gray skies, and frigid temperatures. Yes, it's true that living in western Montana during February requires plenty of warm clothes, Ice-Trekkers or Yaktrax, and an occasional attitude adjustment. This morning, as my dogs were trying to convince me to get up, I looked at my phone and saw that the wind chill was -14. My morning chores include piling hay on a sled to feed the horses, Zane and Bella, and filling the bird feeders. I thought about the little Chickadees, whose body fat drops from 7% in the evening to 3% by morning (according to Bernd Heinrich's *Winter World*). They will need those black oil sunflower seeds! So, an attitude adjustment and warm clothes encouraged me to go outside, where the beauty of snow-draped trees and shrubs and the quiet only an overnight snowfall can create made me, once again, grateful to live here, even in February. And you can't showshoe or ski in July!



February is Black History Month, a good time to deepen our awareness of a history that is being re-shaped by new interpretations and perspectives and by increased attention to neglected episodes in our country's past. February is also National Bird Feeding Month—not as crucial as Black History Month, but feeding birds is part of daily life for many of us. Watching the Clark's Nutcrackers, Steller's Jays, woodpeckers, and all the smaller birds at my feeders gives me great joy. I do realize, however, that feeders can be deadly for some birds, due to window strikes, cat predation, and diseases spread at feeders. Here are some guidelines for safe and healthy feeding:

<https://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/bwdsite/learn/feeding/dodont.php> I myself bought a few inexpensive tube feeders so that I could swap out empty feeders with clean, disinfected ones, in a regular rotation. And, as I participate in Project Feederwatch (see <https://feederwatch.org>), I watch my feeders frequently, even on non-counting days, and I can act quickly if I see birds that appear to be ill.



*Courtesy Micki Long*

*Clark's Nutcracker enjoying a suet morsel.*

February also brings us the Great Backyard Bird Count, February 18-21. The project's goal, according to the website: “Each February, for four days, the world comes together for the love of birds. Over these four days we invite people to spend time in their favorite places watching and counting as many birds as they can find and reporting them to us. These observations help scientists better understand global bird populations before one of their annual migrations.”

<https://www.birdcount.org>.

If you do participate, consider sending me an email

([mickilong@gmail.com](mailto:mickilong@gmail.com)) about what you see during that period. I'll pass on your observations in the March newsletter.

And finally, learn what another citizen science project, the Christmas Bird Count, tells us about the challenges birds face. The Audubon article is based on 90 years of CBC data:

<https://www.audubon.org/news/climate-change-or-habitat-loss-new-study-weighs-which-influences-birds-more>

Happy Birding, dressed warmly or watching from your windows!

### **Why Eagle Populations Are in Decline: Part 1 - Lead Poisoning and Collisions**

*By Judy Hoy and Kate Stone*

We should be concerned about our North American Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle populations for a number of reasons. The leading cause of mortality in eagles submitted to the National Wildlife Health Center 1975-2013 was collisions, either with vehicles when feeding on road-kill (Russell and Franson, 2014) or with structures like wind turbines and power lines. Structure collisions alone were found by Lehman et al., 2010 to be the number four cause of eagle deaths.

In recent years, both eagle species have been increasingly impacted by lead poisoning. It is likely that lead poisoning may be catching up or outpacing collisions as the leading cause of death. Crandall et al. 2019 found that lead poisoning in Golden Eagles in south-central Montana was higher than expected and other researchers found over 90% of Golden Eagles they tested in Montana had elevated levels of lead in their blood (Domenech et al., 2020).

Lead poisoning is also a common cause of death for several other bird species (Pain et al. 2019). In addition to direct mortality, lead poisoning can have indirect effects on individual bird health, and even impact populations. A recent study in the Northeast showed that lead poisoning is slowing the growth of otherwise recovering Bald Eagle populations (Hanley et al. 2022). In addition, the nerve damage caused by lead poisoning, which can slow an eagle's reaction time, would likely be complicit in causing neurologically damaged eagles to be more likely to be hit by vehicles when feeding on road-kill (Franson and Russell, 2014).

Testing is done for lead levels in the blood of the

bird if alive and in liver or bone if dead. Also, X-rays are taken to look for ingested lead in the digestive system. An abnormal lead level is above 0.2ppm in blood and 2.0ppm in liver. The danger of lead poisoning to eagles and other animals, including humans, who eat hunter-harvested meat is easily mitigated if hunters use non-lead ammunition. Even tiny amounts of lead exposure to children can cause them to suffer permanent, irreparable damage to their health and especially to their brain (Davis and Svendsgaard, 1987). A significant cost to humans and the environment as a result of using lead ammunition for hunting big game animals has been shown by Pain, et al., 2019.

Education is likely the most effective tool to help save wildlife and humans from lead poisoning. If you or your friends and family want information on how to switch from lead to lead free ammunition, here are two websites for groups run by hunters that can be of help, ([www.huntingwithnonlead.org](http://www.huntingwithnonlead.org)) and ([www.sportingleadfree.org](http://www.sportingleadfree.org)).

*Watch for Part 2 – Rodenticides in next month's BAS Newsletter.*

### **Kids' Corner: World Migratory Bird Day**

*By Ada Bernauer (age 10) and Annie Bernauer*

Four days every February is the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). This year the dates are February 18-21 2022. The GBBC is a day to come together to celebrate birds, nature, and the planet. It began in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society. It was the first online citizen science project. The idea is to collect real time data on birds worldwide to help scientists learn more about bird populations.

In 2009, Birds Canada joined the event and expanded participation. In 2013 it became a world-wide event when they began to enter data into [eBird](http://eBird.org). (Fun fact, did you know that eBird is the largest biodiversity related citizen science project?).

**How to Participate:** Anyone can participate. You can participate with a group, or you can participate solo. First, decide where you want to bird watch. It doesn't have to be just in your backyard, it can be anywhere. Second, watch birds at least 15 minutes within the four days. Last, but not least, count all the birds you see or hear within your planned time/location. Then you can enter your data into [eBird](http://eBird.org).

You can create a fun challenge for you and your friends! You can create a competition to see who

spots the most birds, or the rarest. For example, my mom made a bet with her friend last year to see who could spot the most birds during the GBBC. Our family saw more birds but my mom's friend saw more unusual species. You could create teams and compete with some of your friends. But most of all, just have fun!

You can get more information about the GBBC at the website [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org).

## Big Hole Christmas Bird Count

By Kate Stone



Courtesy Kate Stone

*American Three-toed Woodpecker.*

A small group of eight observers ventured to the Big Hole on Sunday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> to brave snow, ice, and white vistas in search of the few birds that call the area home in winter. The area surveyed by foot this year was greatly reduced with much of the Big Hole National Battlefield closed after this past summer's wildfire. Nonetheless, we tallied 19 species and 862 birds. The most numerous species included Snow Bunting (592), Black-billed Magpie (83), Common Redpoll (47), Black-capped Chickadee (26), and Common Raven (26). Compared to the other 12 years we've conducted this CBC, we observed high counts for Snow Bunting, Red Crossbill (6), and Golden-crowned Kinglet (4), and relatively low counts for Black-billed Magpie, Common Raven, and Rough-legged Hawk (10). We only had one car get stuck (that I know of) and discovered a giant flock of Snow Buntings while shoveling it out. Thanks to the Hook and Horn Trading Post in Wisdom for great coffee and pastries that helped fuel the day.

Can you believe it? We only saw one species of

woodpecker on the Big Hole CBC and it was the relatively uncommon American Three-toed Woodpecker. They enjoy the expanses of high-elevation, beetle-killed forest along the Foothills Road just west of the Big Hole National Battlefield.

## Bitterroot Audubon shirts available!

By Kate Stone



After a decades'-long respite, Bitterroot Audubon has our next generation of t-shirts available for purchase! These shirts feature a triptych of artwork by local artist and conservation celebrant Karen Savory. Enjoy a Common Raven, Great Horned Owl, and Black-capped Chickadee nestled on a Midnight Navy-heather background. If you enjoyed the shirts from the Bitterroot Valley Winter Eagle Project, these new shirts are the same style and sizing, printed for us by Garage Tees in Missoula.

We hope to have these shirts available for in-person purchase at programs and the Farmer's Marker later in 2022. In the meantime, you can order one from our website for \$20 and we will mail it to you.

Please thank Karen for donating her art to this cause and support her by visiting her website:

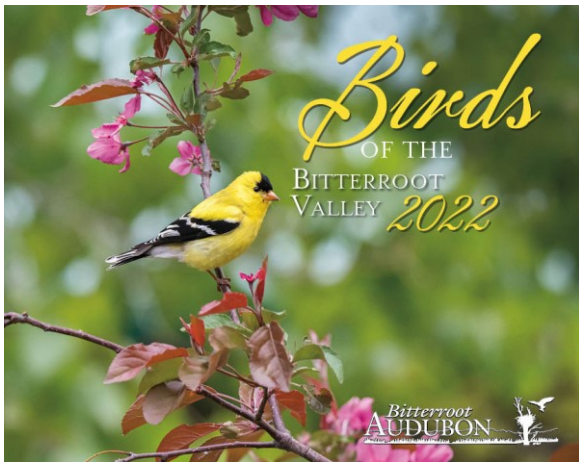
[www.simplysavoryart.com](http://www.simplysavoryart.com)

## New BAS Calendar Leader Needed

By Becky Peters

I will be stepping down as the head of the BAS Calendar Committee. After all these years and some exciting times and some beautiful calendars I will be going on to other activities. If any BAS member is interested in taking on this role I would be willing to show you the ropes with all my detailed notes and timelines – and maybe you'd like to bring a friend

and be co-leaders! It would be a task that would run from this February/March till July to get a Calendar Committee to create the calendar and get it printed. There are photographers to be notified, teachers to be asked, sponsors to be approached, advertising to do, etc. Then you would need to be getting a volunteer to take on the job of managing the volunteers for the Farmer's Market Booth. That job goes from gathering the names from our BAS members in April/May, making sure the booth is staffed each Saturday starting in July, and supplies are organized, etc. till the Market is done in October. You might also want to ask another volunteer to be in charge of the stores where we sell the calendars and collect the money to turn in. That job usually lasts from July to January. This all is a lot to take on. So, you would be corralling things from February till January of 2023. This calendar is always stupendous and people look forward to it every year and miss it when we don't create one. Let me know if you are interested in helping to create the 2023 Calendar, or if you have some questions, before the end of February. Email me at [rpeters@montana.com](mailto:rpeters@montana.com) with subject line: BAS Calendar. Thank you, Becky Peters



### Stevensville Christmas Bird Count Recap

By Dave Lockman

The 2021 Stevensville CBC was another instance of birding in isolation for many folks due to Covid. Will it never end? Hopefully next year we can actually meet face-to-face again. But we still had good participation and managed to get most of the accessible parts of the count circle covered, so thanks to all of you who once again overcame the constraints of Covid and the calendar and headed out and/or stayed home to count birds!

The 57th annual Stevensville CBC took place on December 26, 2021. Early winter weather around

## Calendar of Events

- Feb 19:** Beginner Bird Walk at Lee Metcalf NWR, Stevensville, MT 10AM-12PM.
- Feb 21:** **ZOOM** Audubon Meeting/Program, *Owls of Montana*, 7PM; Zoom Board Mtg. 5PM.
- Mar 21:** **ZOOM** Audubon Meeting/Program, details to be announced, 7PM; Zoom Board Mtg. 5PM.
- Apr 18:** **ZOOM** Audubon Meeting/Program, details to be announced, 7PM; Zoom Board Mtg. 5PM.
- May 16:** **ZOOM** Audubon Meeting/Program, details to be announced, 7PM; Zoom Board Mtg. 5PM.

Stevensville was generally warmer and drier than normal, which resulted in more open water and less snow on the ground than usual. The weather on count day was highly variable depending on where you were. Many of us had periods of fairly mild conditions and good visibility interrupted periodically by intense snow squalls that made birding rather pointless until they passed. Skies were cloudy all day with temperatures ranging from 18 to 28 degrees, generally light winds, no precipitation and good visibility, except for those squalls. Most of the count area had an inch or two of snow. Calm water was partly open, and moving water was open. We had 39 field observers and 30 feeder-watchers helping to count the birds in the 177 square miles within the count circle around Stevensville. Thanks again to Susan Nelson for coordinating the feeder watcher efforts, and to several of the area leaders who coordinated multiple field observers and/or feeder watchers in their areas.

Counters tallied 13,426 birds representing 80 species; both numbers the best since 2017 but well short of our previous high points. We didn't find any species new to the count, so our cumulative total remains at 158 species over our 57 years. Unusual winter species that we've found several times previously included Snow Goose, Northern Shoveler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet and Harris's Sparrow. We found our reliable Lewis's Woodpecker in the same spot for the 6th year in a row, but this year there was a second individual several miles away. And our fairly dependable Canyon Wren appeared again near the mouth of Kootenai Canyon.

One exciting highlight was that we almost doubled our previous record for Trumpeter Swans (20 in

2017)! We first recorded this species in 1996, and have been tallied every year since 2003. Interestingly, the tally of Trumpeters' has exceeded the tally of Tundra Swans almost every year since then. The tally of Trumpeters' has been increasing, while the tally of Tundra Swans has pretty much stayed flat. These days, most swans you see in the Bitterroot during the winter are Trumpeters, not Tundras. We also tallied new records for American Coot (59 in 1966), Townsend's Solitaire (38 in 2002) and Red Crossbill (336 in 2020). We tied our previous records for Harlan's race Red-tailed Hawk and Canyon Wren.

The numbers and species diversity of waterfowl and water-associated birds were generally higher than the last few years, likely due to having more open water and milder weather prior to the count day. In contrast, the tally for Great Blue Heron was the lowest since 1996. Raptor numbers were generally within the averages of the last 10 years, with the tallies for Red-tailed Hawk down a little but Rough-legged Hawk up a little from average. We found more Sharp-shinned Hawks and Merlins but fewer Cooper's Hawks and American Kestrels than recent averages, and we missed Northern Goshawk for the first time since 2013, although one was reported during count week. The tallies for Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers were both well below recent averages, continuing a long-term decline in numbers counted. However, the tally of Northern Flickers was the second highest on record (281 in 2010), as was the tally of Steller's Jays (101 in 1994). Tallies of Clark's Nutcracker and Common Raven were about average.

The tally for Black-capped Chickadee was again higher than the recent average. Tallies for Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatches were within recent averages, but the tally for Pygmy Nuthatch was the highest since 2007. The tallies for Mountain Chickadee and Brown Creeper were back down to the usual handful following notable increases the last two years. Dark-eyed Juncos rebounded from low tallies the last two years, while the tallies of Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin were the highest since 2012 and 2010, respectively. The tally of American Goldfinch was at the high end of the recent average, and the tally of Red Crossbills set an even higher record after 2020's count tripled the previous record. The tally of House Finch was the highest since 2010, and House Sparrows were also near record highs.

Our latest record wave of immigrating Blue Jays appears to have receded, with only two tallied, compared to 21 in 2019, and 45 last year. We seem to get a Blue Jay invasion every so often, with some persisting for a few years afterwards. The previous such incursion was 2004-2008. Tallies of two of our recently-arrived resident species, California Quail and Eurasian Collared-Dove bounced back a little from last year's recent lows. Species that we usually find a few of but missed this year included Golden Eagle, Gray Partridge, and all of the smaller owls.

CBCs are great for looking at long term trends in bird numbers and winter distribution at local, regional and national scales. The Stevensville CBC documents a number of such trends. For instance, wintering raptors were apparently an uncommon sight around Stevensville until the early to mid-1990s, when numbers reported on the CBC started to increase dramatically. House Finches, which are now one of our more common birds, first appeared on the count in 1981, and rapidly increased after that. Rock Pigeon first appeared on the count in 1973. Mourning Doves were a rare find until the late 1980s, when their numbers started to increase. More recently, California Quail first appeared on the count in 1994, and started to show up consistently in 2002. Their tallies and distribution increased until 2017, although tallies have tailed-off somewhat since then. Eurasian Collared-Doves first appeared on the count in 2007, and were restricted to Stevensville proper for several years after that. Now we find them spread throughout the more open rural and suburban areas of the circle, and their numbers increased rapidly until 2016, although their tallies have also declined since then. Your efforts on the CBC help document these interesting changes in our bird community

You can find the results of this and every other CBC ever done on the CBC website at <https://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count>.

As always, many thanks to all of you that squeezed in time to participate in the Stevensville CBC around your plans for celebrating the holidays. The traditional day for the Stevensville CBC is the Saturday between Christmas and New Year's Day, so the 2022 Stevensville CBC will be Saturday, December 31, 2022, a great way to ring in the new year. Mark your calendars! I hope we can actually

meet each other face to face again. Until then, stay well and good birding!

Sincerely, Dave Lockman, compiler  
406-381-7679; [stevicbc@gmail.com](mailto:stevicbc@gmail.com)

### What's the story, Story?

By Jim Story

#### **Question: Are bird diseases becoming a problem at our feeders?**

**Answer:** Like all animals, birds have a wide assortment of bacterial, viral, and fungal diseases, and parasites. But due to the popularity of feeding birds, some of the more serious and frequently observed diseases are occurring in our back yards because of bird overcrowding at feeders. The four diseases that are most commonly associated with feeders include: salmonella, trichomoniasis, aspergillosis, and avian pox. All of these diseases are transmitted between birds during crowded conditions.

The most common disease of feeder birds is salmonella. Typical symptoms include diarrhea, ruffled feathers, and lethargy. Birds showing symptoms usually die in one to three days. The disease spreads rapidly under crowded conditions. Salmonella can also be transmitted to people who handle sick or dead birds. The disease can attack all birds, but House Finches, Pine Siskins, and goldfinches seem to be especially vulnerable. In early 2021, the CDC investigated salmonella infections in eight states where 19 people had been infected. An alert was issued in neighboring Idaho about the need to remove bird feeders to prevent the disease spread.

Following are steps to prevent the spread of Salmonella:

- Clean feeders monthly by soaking in solution of one-part bleach to nine-parts warm water.
- If uneaten food is accumulating, consider using less food.
- Consider adding more feeders to minimize overcrowding.
- Store seed in airtight containers to prevent spoilage.
- Avoid throwing large amounts of food on the ground.
- If dead birds are found, clean feeders and stop feeding for several weeks.

- Use disposable gloves when handling dead birds, and wash hands thoroughly after touching a bird feeder. (Source: Massachusetts Audubon)

Local birding expert Jim Story answers your questions about birds and their habits. Jim welcomes your questions at [jstory4689@gmail.com](mailto:jstory4689@gmail.com).

## News and Notes

### Last Call for Local Chapter Member Renewal

By Heather Miller

BAS membership renewal for 2022 was due on January 31st. It is only \$15. Renew online through the BAS website to support Bitterroot Audubon: <http://www.bitterrootaudubon.org/membership> and click on the "Join Now" button to pay with credit card. You can also renew through mail by sending your name, address, email, and check (made out to the Bitterroot Audubon Society) to:

Bitterroot Audubon Supporting Member  
P.O. Box 326, Hamilton, MT 59840

**Call for Photos:** Bitterroot Audubon is seeking images of birds for a feature in our newsletter: *Bird Shots*. If you have taken a great photo and would like to submit it for consideration, please email the jpeg image, with a brief description, to [BASeditors@gmail.com](mailto:BASeditors@gmail.com).

### Bitterroot Audubon is on Facebook and

**Instagram:** If you use Facebook or Instagram, please look for Bitterroot Audubon and "Like" us.

## Bird Shots



Mountain Chickadee.

Courtesy Micki Long

## STEVENSVILLE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

PARTY LEADER 2021 Final Tally AREA COVERED All  
 OBSERVERS 39 in the field plus 30 feeder watchers QLL# \_\_\_\_\_  
 MILES DRIVEN 359.5 MILES WALKED 45.25  
 HOURS DRIVEN 52 HOURS WALKED 37 HOURS WATCHING FEEDERS 48.5 DATE 12/26/2021

CBC#	COMMON NAME	TALLY	CBC#	COMMON NAME	TALLY
109	PIED-BILLED GREBE		540	BELTED KINGFISHER	11
167	GREAT BLUE HERON	16	555	DOWNY WOODPECKER	27
188	TUNDRA SWAN	2	556	HAIRY WOODPECKER	8
199	CANADA GOOSE	2832	599	NORTHERN FLICKER	266
205	GREEN-WINGED TEAL	96	567	PILEATED WOODPECKER	9
208	MALLARD	564	608	HORNED LARK	
211	NORTHERN PINTAIL	60	608	GRAY JAY	
217	GADWALL	25	617	STELLER'S JAY	64
219	AMERICAN WIGEON	24	624	CLARK'S NUTCRACKER	45
224	RING-NECKED DUCK	25	625	BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE	455
227	LESSER SCAUP	10	628	AMERICAN CROW	14
241	COMMON GOLDENEYE	27	634	COMMON RAVEN	233
242	BARROW'S GOLDENEYE		636	BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	464
244	BUFFLEHEAD	5	639	MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE	6
246	HOODED MERGANSER	8	649	RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	128
247	COMMON MERGANSER	1	650	WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	35
250	RUDDY DUCK		651	PYGMY NUTHATCH	151
262	BALD EAGLE	Adult 27 Imm. 22 Unclassified 2	653	BROWN CREEPER	7
264	NORTHERN HARRIER	13	661	PACIFIC WREN	1
265	SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	8	663	MARSH WREN	
266	COOPER'S HAWK	2	665	AMERICAN DIPPER	5
267	NORTHERN GOSHAWK	cw	666	GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET	21
279	RED-TAILED HAWK	99 plus 4 Harlan's race+	676	TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE	40*
282	ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	59	684	AMERICAN ROBIN	25
284	GOLDEN EAGLE	Adult Imm.	700	BOHEMIAN WAXWING	383
287	AMERICAN KESTREL	18	701	CEDAR WAXWING	48
288	MERLIN	5	704	NORTHERN SHRIKE	6
292	PRAIRIE FALCON	3	707	EUROPEAN STARLING	505
296	GRAY PARTRIDGE		808	AMERICAN TREE SPARROW	36
300	RING-NECKED PHEASANT	41	832	SONG SPARROW	30
309	RUFFED GROUSE	1	839	JUNCO, SLATE-COLORED race	36
314	WILD TURKEY	198	846	JUNCO, OREGON race	164
319	CALIFORNIA QUAIL	1190	857	RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	665
331	AMERICAN COOT	64*	860	WESTERN MEADOWLARK	
343	KILLDEER	8	864	BREWER'S BLACKBIRD	10
386	WILSON'S SNIPE	9	884	PINE GROSBEEK	
464	ROCK PIGEON	362	886	CASSIN'S FINCH	3
468	EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE	501	887	HOUSE FINCH	700
471	MOURNING DOVE	121	889	RED CROSSBILL	364*
499	GREAT HORNED OWL	23	891	COMMON REDPOLL	186
502	NORTHERN PYGMY-OWL		894	PINE SISKIN	60
509	LONG-EARRED OWL		897	AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	281
510	SHORT-EARRED OWL		898	EVENING GROSBEEK	
514	N. SAW-WHET OWL		899	HOUSE SPARROW	1444

OTHER Trumpeter Swan 36\*\* Snow Goose 1  
 BIRD Northern Shoveler 1 Virginia Rail 1  
 SPECIES: Lewis's Woodpecker 2 Canyon Wren 1

Blue Jay 2 Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1 Harris's Sparrow 1  
Swan Spp. 1 Passerine Spp. 4  
 Total # Species Seen 80 Total # Birds Seen 13,462

Complete Unusual Bird Report for species not listed.

Please return results to: Dave Lockman at [stevicbc@gmail.com](mailto:stevicbc@gmail.com) or at 577 El Capitan Loop, Stevi MT 59870. Phone: 406-381-7679(c). Thanks for participating!



## Hamilton 2021 CBC Results

COMMON NAME		COMMON NAME	
GREAT BLUE HERON	15	EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE	387
TRUMPETER SWAN	4	GREAT-HORNED OWL	8
CANADA GOOSE	2829	LONG-EARED OWL	1
GREEN-WINGED TEAL	5	BELTED KINGFISHER TOTAL	8
MALLARD	564	DOWNY WOODPECKER	20
BLUE-WINGED TEAL	1	HAIRY WOODPECKER	5
GADWALL	2	NORTHERN FLICKER	75
CANVASBACK	2	PILEATED WOODPECKER	2
RING-NECKED DUCK	21	BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE	327
COMMON GOLDENEYE	30	AMERICAN CROW	13
BUFFLEHEAD	13	COMMON RAVEN	182
HOODED MERGANSER	3	BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	142
BALD EAGLE ADULT	48	RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	30
BALD EAGLE IMM	20	WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	9
BALD EAGLE UNK	4	PYGMY NUTHATCH	26
BALD EAGLE TOTAL	72	BROWN CREEPER	1
NORTHERN HARRIER UNK	1	MARSH WREN	2
NORTHERN HARRIER TOTAL	27	AMERICAN DIPPER	14
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	2	GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET	12
COOPER'S HAWK	2	RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET	1
RED-TAILED HAWK	173	VARIED THRUSH	2
HARLAN'S HAWK	3	TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE	1
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	85	NORTHERN SHRIKE	1
GOLDEN EAGLE	2	EUROPEAN STARLING	212
AMERICAN KESTREL	24	AMERICAN TREE SPARROW	32
MERLIN	2	SONG SPARROW	17
PRAIRIE FALCON	4	LINCOLN'S SPARROW	4
CALIFORNIA QUAIL	322	DARK-EYED JUNCO TOTAL	58
RING-NECKED PHEASANT	31	RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	478
WILD TURKEY	39	HOUSE FINCH	78
AMERICAN COOT	2	RED CROSSBILL	88
KILLDEER	2	COMMON REDPOLL	295
WILSON'S SNIPE	1	PINE SISKIN	10
ROCK PIGEON	57	AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	57
MOURNING DOVE	72	LESSER GOLDFINCH	1
		HOUSE SPARROW	538
<b>TOTAL BIRDS</b>	7639	<b>Observers</b>	26
<b>TOTAL SPECIES</b>	66	<b>Feeder watchers</b>	17

BITTERROOT AUDUBON  
PO BOX 326  
HAMILTON MT 59840-0326

### Officers

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\* Board Member

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