

## HARRISON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (119<sup>th</sup> CBC) – 18 Dec 2018

This was the 119<sup>th</sup> year for the Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC). This advent was hosted by Chilliwack Field Naturalists again this year on 18 December 2018. The Harrison River (BCHR) count covers a ~24.07km diameter circle reaching from Camp River road the north end of Gill Road in the south to the Cascade Peninsula and mid way on Harrison Lake and taking in all of Hemlock Valley Sky area in the north. The western part of the circle encompasses Elbow Lake the Chehalis River and Estuary while the easternmost sections of the circle reaches to the peak of Mount Hicks, all of Maria Slough and the Peters IR#1. Audubon also collects and prints birds observed in the Harrison River CBC count week (cw), this year Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018. This shows birds that occur in the count area but have eluded all counters on the count day, so next year, be sure to report birds that you saw 3 days before or after the count but were not locate on the count day. You can go anywhere in the 24.07km diameter count circle for a cw bird. Temperatures were at +3 to +7°C with light winds and cloud cover all day and rain most of the day hard at times . We had a wet count with numbers down. Counters did an excellent job of finding and identifying birds despite the weather!

This year, we recorded 75 species and 0 count week bird species and 9233 individuals down only 152 from 9385 last year. High numbers for individual species for this year on the Harrison count included Cackling 610, American Widgeon 800, Cooper's Hawk 10, Rock Pigeon 782, Anna's Hummingbird 36 up again from 22 last year, Peregrine Falcon 5, Common Raven 50, and Western Meadow Lark with only 3.

There were a few low numbers as well 472 Mallards, American Coot 1, and America Dipper 2.

The CBC rare birds form describes rare birds as birds that are unusual species, unusual date, or unusual habitat. For simplicity and clarity that means rare birds are birds that have not been seen on our count for 4 years or more. The rare bird reported this count is a Swamp Sparrow in area G east of Agassiz. One new species 8 Cedar Waxwings in area D were sighted on the west side of the circle.

Past count week species numbers are 2 species for 2011, and 2017, 0 specie for 2012 and 2013, 1 species each for 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2018, 1 new specie.

Past total species with count week for 2011 was 91, 2012 there were 78, 2013 and 2014 – 78 species, 2015 – 82 species, 2016 – 74 species, 2017 – 83, and 2018, 75 species.

Past total individuals for 2011– 23354, 2012 – 6751, 2013 – 10441, 2014 – 9565, 2015 – 9085, 2016 – 5644, 2017 – 9385 and 2018 – 9233.

Visit the Audubon CBC website [www.audubon.org/bird/cbc](http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc) to see birds observed on all the count days and weeks. Click on your Regional Editors e-mail address to contact them. All regional summaries are available for viewing at the *American Birds*, web site (<http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/index/http/>) which can be accessed through the CBC home page. Web accesses to all CBC circle at can be reached at <http://audubon.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Viewer/index.html?appid=87992bb4fea643f6b044488f48528eae>. For more information contact me at 604 858-5141 or [bcwild@uniserve.com](mailto:bcwild@uniserve.com) Please pass this summary of the count on to others that may be interested.

**Thanks for all your help and good Birding!**

Denis Knopp