

Birding Reports (CBC 2016)

Christmas Bird Count Results — The 5th Annual Uppgarrd Wildlife Management Area Christmas Bird Count was Saturday, Jan. 2, 2016. This local event had 11 participants and 3 feeder watchers.

A special thanks to Larry Wannebo of Crosslake for inviting us to watch for Red-headed Woodpecker at his home. For a 2nd year in a row, 1 Red-headed Woodpecker came into the feeders.

The starting weather conditions were mild with a high temperature of 30, clear skies and 5-15 mph winds. This year's count added 4 new species: Red Crossbill (3), Hooded Merganser (1) American Robin (1) and Starling (5). A new high total of 34 species were observed and recorded during the count. Looking at the previous 4 years this year's count produced the 2nd highest number of individual birds with 1066 total birds spotted.

Complete Tally: Crow (127), Goldfinch (2), Bald Eagle (12), Chickadee (425), Blue Jay (93), Barred Owl (1), Raven (20), Common Redpoll (25), Junco (6), Downy Woodpecker (17) Hairy Woodpecker (12) House Sparrow (21), Mallard (43), Northern Cardinal (3), Pileated Woodpecker (14), Pine Siskin (5), Red-bellied Woodpecker (13), Red-breasted Nuthatch (18), Ruffed Grouse (1), Trumpeter Swan (25), White-breasted Nuthatch (60), Wild Turkey (11), Red-headed Woodpecker (1), European Starling (5), Red Crossbill (3), Red-tailed Hawk (1), Canada Goose (6), Rock Pigeon (3), Bohemian Waxwing (54), Cedar Waxwing (2), Common Goldeneye (1), American Robin (1), House Finch (3), and Hooded Merganser (1).

Citizen-run bird counts are unique science projects that have been occurring throughout the country for more than 116 years. This National Audubon Society accepted count region nearly covers the 54-mile driving route of the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway. For more information about this bird count or how to become involved in the next event, please contact the CBC organizer Judd Brink at info@BirdMinnesota.com or (218) 838-4784.

— Judd Brink, bird guide/owner, MN Backyard Birds & BirdMinnesota.com