

From: Corey Finger <10000birdsblogger@gmail.com>

Subject: Results of the Queens County CBC

Date: December 24, 2022 at 4:00:20 PM EST

To: Corey Finger <10000birdsblogger@gmail.com>

All,

Sorry for the delay in getting this out this year. (If you pay attention to the news and know what I do for a living you may have some inkling as to why.)

The Queens County Christmas Bird Count was held on Sunday, 18 December. A total of roughly 60 participants (still waiting on some final effort info from some sectors) found 28,701 individuals of 126 species, one of the best counts we've had. An additional 5 species were seen during count week.

Highlights included:

3 New Birds for the Count (day)

First record of Forster's Tern (or any tern if you don't count Black Skimmer) - found by Richard Aracil in the Rockaways

First (count day) record of Black Vulture, with four, in the Alley Pond Sector (though we had them during count week in recent years)

First (count day) record for Prairie Warbler, at Baisley Pond Park (we have had it once during count week before)

Rare-for-our-count birds

Laughing Gull, 1, in the Rockaways, surprisingly our 26th occurrence

Semipalmated Plover, 1, in Atlantic Beach, our 12th occurrence

High Counts

Wood Duck - 25, thanks to the growing year-round population at Kissena Park

Redhead - 64, bested old record by two! (bulk were at Baisley Pond)

Common Loon - 160 - More than doubling our old best of 74 (did we never have good movement observed on a count day before?)

Double-crested Cormorant - 315 - topping the 226 last year

Bald Eagle - 6 - Exactly double our best

Red-bellied Woodpecker - 127 - previous best 92 (Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers were also near their high counts for us so this is probably at least partially effort-related)

Blue Jay - 485 - beats previous best by 40 (effort? or genuinely a lot around?)

Tufted Titmouse - 293 - nearly tripling our previous best (definitely far more than usual!)

White-breasted Nuthatch - 101 - previous 79 (effort and more than usual around?)

Nashville Warbler - 3 - beats our previous high of 2

Orange-crowned Warbler - 9 - beats previous high of 7

Misses and other lowlights

Canvasback - World's Fair Marina did not come through this year though we did get it for count week

Owls - we only had one Great Horned and one Eastern Screech. No other owls at all.

Thanks to everyone who participated! Attached is the spreadsheet for your viewing pleasure. Please do let me know if you see any errors. And if you are a sector leader and haven't gotten me your effort information yet expect coal in your stocking and/or for your menorah to go out!

Good (CBC) Birding and Happy Holidays to all!

Sincerely,
Corey Finger