

## Albuquerque Christmas Bird Count Summary, 2020 (CBC #121)

**Date:** Sunday, December 20, 2020

**Number of species:** 124, plus 7 count week

**Number of individual birds counted:** 30,301

**Number of participants:** 82 (79 in field, 3 at feeders)

**Start time:** 6:26am

**End time:** 5:38pm

**Total party hours:** 180.75

**Total party miles:** 401.98

By car: 18.8

By car: 201.4

On foot: 161.95

On foot: 200.58

**Feeder hours:** 16.5

**Owling hours:** 0.2

**Commentary:** A huge shout out and many, many thanks to all the participants this year given the challenges posed by the covid-19 pandemic. I also want to especially thank those who volunteered to lead and/or coordinate sectors of the count. The total number of species seen (124) equaled our all-time previous high count (in 2018), and is well above the 59-year average of 93.2. An additional 7 species were found during count week (cw; observed on the 3 days before or 3 days after count day, but not on count day itself). Two new species for the cumulative count list were found: Northern Saw-whet Owl (found by Chris Witt, Ethan Gyllenhaal, Moses Michelson, and Lisa Barrow in the westside bosque south of Montañito) and Dusky Flycatcher (found by Nancy Hetrick, Deanna Nichols, Christopher Rustay, and Mike Shoop at UNM). We also added a “new” species this year with the elevation of Mexican Duck to species status. These additions bring the cumulative count species list to 211 since 1961. Other interesting and unusual species found were Blue-winged Teal (2<sup>nd</sup> year on count), Western Grebe (3<sup>rd</sup> year), Least Sandpiper (2<sup>nd</sup> year), American Woodcock (2<sup>nd</sup> year), Williamson’s Sapsucker (9<sup>th</sup> year), California Gull (5<sup>th</sup> year), Winter Wren (7<sup>th</sup> year), Brown Thrasher (9<sup>th</sup> year), and Chestnut-collared Longspur (8<sup>th</sup> year). New record high counts were set or tied for: Canada Goose, Canada/Cackling Goose, Green-winged Teal, Gambel’s Quail, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Cooper’s Hawk, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Pinyon Jay, White-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, and Lesser Goldfinch. Number of participants and total party hours were above average, continuing recent trends. Here are the results!

Species	Total	Notes
Snow Goose	3	
Greater White-fronted Goose	5	
Cackling Goose	181	
Canada Goose	5446	new high count
<i>Canada/Cackling Goose</i>	793	new high count
Wood Duck	214	
Blue-winged Teal	3	second year on count
Northern Shoveler	36	
Gadwall	36	
American Wigeon	1248	
Mallard	1504	
Mallard/Mexican hybrid	15	
Mexican Duck	2	
Northern Pintail	2	
Green-winged Teal	93	new high count

Species	Total	Notes
Canvasback	11	
Redhead	cw	
Ring-necked Duck	37	
Lesser Scaup	8	
Bufflehead	5	
Common Goldeneye	4	
Hooded Merganser	5	
Common Merganser	73	
Ruddy Duck	6	
<i>Duck species</i>	11	
Scaled Quail	42	
Gambel's Quail	123	new high count
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	
Pied-billed Grebe	10	
Western Grebe	1	third year on count
Rock Pigeon	2905	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	221	
White-winged Dove	465	
Mourning Dove	308	
Greater Roadrunner	28	
Virginia Rail	cw	
American Coot	162	
Sandhill Crane	1028	
Killdeer	41	
Least Sandpiper	4	second year on count
Wilson's Snipe	14	
American Woodcock	1	second year on count
Ring-billed Gull	1360	new high count
California Gull	2	new high count; fifth year on count
Great Blue Heron	24	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	6	
Northern Harrier	17	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	
Cooper's Hawk	56	new high count
<i>Accipiter species</i>	3	
Bald Eagle	15	
Red-tailed Hawk	34	
Ferruginous Hawk	1	
<i>Buteo species</i>	1	
Western Screech-Owl	5	
Great Horned Owl	7	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1	new species for count
Belted Kingfisher	6	
Williamson's Sapsucker	1	ninth year on count
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	6	new high count
Red-naped Sapsucker	3	
Downy Woodpecker	34	
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	65	new high count
Hairy Woodpecker	14	

<b>Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Northern Flicker	51	
Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)	122	
American Kestrel	22	
Merlin	4	
Peregrine Falcon	1	
Prairie Falcon	1	
Dusky Flycatcher	1	new species for count
Black Phoebe	30	
Say's Phoebe	73	
Loggerhead Shrike	1	
Pinyon Jay	210	new high count
Blue Jay	1	
Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay	27	
American Crow	3749	
Chihuahuan Raven	19	
Common Raven	35	
<i>Raven species</i>	6	
Horned Lark	171	
Black-capped Chickadee	47	
Mountain Chickadee	29	
Black-capped/Mountain Chickadee	2	
Juniper Titmouse	1	
Bushtit	354	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	cw	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	123	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	8	
White-breasted Nuthatch	175	new high count
Pygmy Nuthatch	cw	
Brown Creeper	19	
Rock Wren	8	
Canyon Wren	1	
Marsh Wren	6	
Bewick's Wren	42	
Cactus Wren	1	
Winter Wren	2	seventh year on count
European Starling	668	
Curve-billed Thrasher	29	
Brown Thrasher	1	ninth year on count
Crissal Thrasher	2	
Sage Thrasher	1	
Northern Mockingbird	cw	
Eastern Bluebird	160	new high count
Western Bluebird	220	
Mountain Bluebird	11	
<i>Bluebird species</i>	6	
Townsend's Solitaire	4	
Hermit Thrush	52	new high count
American Robin	1343	
Cedar Waxwing	62	

<b>Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Notes</b>
House Sparrow	499	
American Pipit	12	
House Finch	1275	
Cassin's Finch	3	
Pine Siskin	92	
Lesser Goldfinch	362	new high count
American Goldfinch	110	
Chestnut-collared Longspur	1	eighth year on count
Black-throated Sparrow	cw	
American Tree Sparrow	cw	
Dark-eyed Junco (unk.)	541	
<i>Slate-colored</i>	7	
<i>Oregon</i>	299	
<i>Pink-sided</i>	200	
<i>Gray-headed</i>	32	
<i>cismontanus</i>	8	
White-crowned Sparrow	658	
<i>White-crowned Sparrow (Gambel's)</i>	54	
Harris's Sparrow	3	
Sagebrush Sparrow	5	
Savannah Sparrow	14	
Song Sparrow	293	
Lincoln's Sparrow	3	
Canyon Towhee	16	
Spotted Towhee	111	
<i>sparrow species</i>	2	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1	
Eastern Meadowlark	1	
Western Meadowlark	43	
<i>Meadowlark species</i>	1	
Red-winged Blackbird	582	
Brewer's Blackbird	85	
Great-tailed Grackle	146	
Yellow-rumped Warbler (unk.)	85	
<i>Audubon's</i>	91	
<i>Myrtle</i>	6	

**Participants**

Mike Andersen	Moses Michelson
Rich Anderson	Gary Morgan
Lisa Barrow	Larry Morgan
Tim Berkopeck	Bernie Morris
Wendy Brown	Tish Morris
David Buckley	Robert Munro
Ruth Burstrom	Amy Neel
Bob Buttery	Lannois Neely
Niels Chapman	Deanna Nichols
Chris Chappell	Dawn Nordquist
Ed Clark	Bo Olcott
Christine Clayton	Jack Parlapiano
Donald Clayton	David Parsons
Paulette Clayton	Cristina Pereyra
Sara Jayne Cole	Lee Pierce
Daniel Conrad	Cindy Ramotnik
Nancy Cox	Stephanie Reese
Steve Cox	Jim Rhodes
Virginia Davis	Merri Rudd
Rebecca Gracey	Christopher Rustay
Ethan Gyllenhaal	Janet Ruth
Cindy Harris	Lawry Sager
Chuck Hayes	Tracey Salazar
Leah Hensler	Allison Schacht
Nancy Hetrick	Joe Schelling
Jim Hunter	Mike Shoop
Susan Hunter	Owen Sinkus
Barbara Hussey	Nathan Smith
Dave Hutton	Chris Spotton
Mike Hymel	Ashley Talbot
Mary Ann Joca	Bill Talbot
Jim Joseph	Claude Vallieres
Jason Kitting	Nick Vaughn
Dave Krueper	Nick Vinciguerra
Judy Liddell	Tim Wallace
Maurice Mackey	Linda Walsh
Jo March	Adrienne Warner
Deb Martin	Sandy Williams
Mary Mazza-Anderson	Chris Witt
Rayo McCollough	
Jenna McCullough	
Pat Mehlhop	
David Mehlman	