

Hi Folks

I have attached our final results for the count on Dec. 30th. Please check over the result sheet. Let me know if you have any comments or questions. Collectively we found 37 species on the day and tallied another 4 on count week. Our average for the day is 41 so we were a bit below average but we were expecting lower numbers because of a frozen Lake Simcoe and a lack of winter finches who remained in the north where they had a rich food crop.

I want to thank everyone who ventured out that day risking life and limb (and vehicle). It was a tough birding day. Most groups started late and were not able to cover all their territory because of the icy roads. Last year the group drove over 900 km compared to less than 600 km this year. You will notice on the results page that we recorded no kilometers walking. I have been on over 100 Christmas Bird Counts and have never been on one where that situation occurred.

All things considered, I was quite pleased with the results and can't think of a species that is an obvious miss for our area. A special thanks goes to our feeder watchers who had a pretty boring time watching the few birds that ventured out of their shelters. They were key, however in identifying our 3 owl species.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed to the results. We hope to see everyone next year - Same date, December 30th, 2020.

John