

# Lane County Audubon Society's 2021 Eugene Christmas Bird Count

By Dick Lamster, Count Coordinator

The 80<sup>th</sup> Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC) was held on Sunday, January 2, 2022. The weather was good, considering it was the first week of January, and we were rewarded with finding 137 species (see the Count Tally on page 3). This is the second highest species total recorded for our Count, tied with the same number in 2007. It came close to our record of 140 species, seen in 2005. Our teams counted 60,587 birds, the lowest number seen in the past two decades. Still, it's a lot of birds. A more detailed summary by Species Compiler Vjera Thompson can be found on page 4.

We had teams in the usual 27 Areas inside our Count Circle, each led by an expert birder. The 164 Field Observers on these teams set a new record for our Count. The previous high of 162 was set last year. These Field Observers spent 278 hours looking for birds while walking 170 miles, driving 495 miles, and bicycling 10 miles.

In addition, we had 100 Home Counters, who spent 300 hours looking for birds in their yards. They identified 67 species and recorded 3,829 individual birds. Marcia Maffei was the Home Count Coordinator for the second time this year. Again, she did a great job organizing the Home Counters and her report is on page 5.

We also set a new record for number of total ECBC participants. With 164 Field Observers and 100 Home Counters, this year's total of 264 total participants beat the old record of 262 set last year.

For the second year, due to COVID restrictions, we could not have our traditional end-of-the-day Chili Feed Countdown. We did have a Zoom Countdown viewed by approximately 75 people. I really hope we can have the Chili Feed Countdown next year, as it has always been a fun event attended by over 100 birders.

In recognition of the 80<sup>th</sup> ECBC, each participant received a special patch for their efforts. The patch is shown above.

One of the main reasons the ECBC is so popular and successful is because of the efforts of the Team Leaders listed below. They assemble their teams well before Count Day, guide them through the day, and then report the results.

Speaking of great efforts, last year our Count was the 7<sup>th</sup> largest in number of participants in the 2,459 CBCs in North America and Central America. That is quite remarkable for a little town in Oregon!

I am very pleased that we conducted a safe and very successful 80<sup>th</sup> ECBC. Thanks to all of you who participated. It was fun!

It's not too early to mark your calendar for the 81<sup>st</sup> ECBC on January 1, 2023!

Team Leaders by Area

- 1: Ron Renchler
- 2: Rich Hoyer

3A: Dan Heyerly  
3B: Darryl Wisner  
4: Rick Ahrens  
5A: Donna Albino  
5B: Marcia Maffei  
6: Ramiro Aragon  
7: Roger Robb  
8: Dave Kofranek  
9: Tom Mickel  
10: Alan Contreras  
11A: David Novak  
11B: Dick Lamster  
12A: Steve Gordon  
12B: Pat Boleyn  
13A: Rebecca Waterman  
13B: Holly Hartmann  
14: Julia Siporin  
15: Thomas Meinzen  
16: Linda Gilbert  
17: John Sullivan  
18: Caryn Stoess  
19: Barbara Combs  
20A: Vjera Thompson  
20B: Bruce Newhouse  
21: Ellen Cantor