

## 2023 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Summary by Dick Lamster, Count Coordinator

Although the weather was not ideal, the 82<sup>nd</sup> ECBC was a great success. The 190 Field Observers and 101 Home Counters saw 133 species of birds and 66,334 individual birds. Field observers spent 273 hours looking for birds while walking 192 miles, driving 444 miles and bicycling 9 miles.

Yes, I said 190 Field Observers! That is the highest number we have ever had on this CBC, breaking the old record by 26 birders! Combine that with the 101 Home Counters and the total number of observers also set a new record of 291, 27 over the old high. Each year I have tried to get more people to go on the ECBC because the more eyes we have out looking for birds, the more birds we will see. I also wanted more people to enjoy birdwatching so they would perhaps work to save habitat and the environment.

The number of species seen was about average for the past five years but the number of individual birds was low. We know the decreased visibility due to the heavy fog made finding birds difficult. The article in this issue by Vjera Thompson goes into more depth on the birds seen. I want to share an interesting tidbit. At the end of the day for most teams, we had not seen a Western Screech-Owl. Rich Hoyer who has been a Team Leader for several years but was out-of-the country for most of Count Day, was flying home and saw on e-Bird that we had not seen a Screech Owl. He had been hearing one in the Count Circle for much of December, so when his plane landed at 10:30 p.m., he went to the area he had been hearing the owl, heard it and reported it to Vjera before midnight!

Marcia Maffei, Home Counter Coordinator, recruited 101 Home Counters this year. That is a high number considering we have only had over 100 Home Counters six times, all in the past eight years.

The ECBC is such a success because we have many active birders in the Eugene-Springfield area, and also because of the great efforts by the 26 Team Leaders. The Team Leaders organize their teams and guide them all day long while looking for birds.

I have listed the Team Leaders below. Some have been Team Leaders for over 20 years and some even over 30 years. We also had two new Team Leaders this year.

I want to thank the LCAS Board of Directors for sponsoring the ECBC, Vjera Thompson the Species Compiler, Marcia Maffei the Home Counter Coordinator and all the Team Leaders for making the 82<sup>nd</sup> ECBC fun, educational and exciting!

Dick Lamster  
ECBC Coordinator

### Team Leaders by Area

- 1: Ron Renschler
- 2: Lars Norgren
- 3A: Dan and Anne Heyerly
- 3B: Darryl Wisner
- 4: Rick Ahrens
- 5A: Donna Albino

5B: Marcia Maffei  
6: John Sullivan  
7: Roger Robb  
8: Dave Kofranek  
9: Josh Galpern  
10: Lars Hovde  
11A: David Novak  
11B: Dick Lamster  
12A: Steve Gordon  
12B: Pat Boleyn  
13A: Sarah Merkle  
13B: Holly Hartmann  
14: Julia Siporin  
15: Thomas Meinzen  
16: Linda Gilbert  
17: no leader this year  
18: Caryn Stoess  
19: Vjera Thompson  
20A: Nancy Clogston  
20B: Bruce Newhouse  
21: Ellen Cantor