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If you have been on the end of your binocular strap, waiting for the Seward CBC results, you can now relax!

14 Field Observers and 8 Feeder Watchers nailed down 55 species on Count Day for a total of 2156 birds. Highlights included HOODED MERGANSER, SLATY-BACKED GULL, GREAT HORNED OWL, and PURPLE FINCH. 7 additional species, including WHITE-TAILED PTARMIGAN, NORTHERN GOSHAWK, THAYER'S GULL, NORTHERN SHRIKE, CEDAR WAXWING, and PINE SISKIN bumped the total species to 62.

The most abundant species was, regrettably, the ROCK PIGEON, at an astounding new record high of 232 well-fed birds. In close second was the gorgeous BARROW'S GOLDENEYE at 227 birds.

The dark morning deepened by snow squalls may have hidden the camouflaged juvenile BALD EAGLES, as only one was counted. MALLARDS too, were probably undercounted as over 150 were found during Count Week.

Several Feeder Watchers reported few to no birds that day, a trend that many others have noted with great disappointment. Not one PINE SISKIN or REDPOLL was counted, and only a few siskins have been reported this entire winter.

Special thanks to the M/V Dora's capable Captain Mike Brittain and his ever intrepid boat crew. Many thanks to the Field Observers who drove, walked, and skied their routes in search of one more species. Kudos to the patient Bird Feeder Watchers who spent the day eyeballing their quiet feeders. And Big Bird cheer to the two youngest birders, Cody 7 and Casey 5 who are well on their way to having something special to add to their college resume.

Happy Birding!
Carol Griswold
Seward Sporadic Bird Report Reporter and Seward CBC Compiler

Birds of the 2010 Seward CBC:

Mallard 67
Gadwall 2
duck unknown species 4
Greater Scaup 2
Black Scoter 5
White-winged Scoter 5
Surf Scoter 152
Harlequin Duck 61
Common Goldeneye 58

Barrow's Goldeneye 227
goldeneye unknown species 25
Bufflehead 34
Common Merganser 161
Red-breasted Merganser 59
*Hooded Merganser 1
merganser unknown species 7
White-tailed Ptarmigan CW
Pacific Loon 4
Common Loon 12
Yellow-billed Loon 5
loon unknown species
Horned Grebe 40
Red-necked Grebe 7
grebe unknown species 1
Pelagic Cormorant 102
Double-crested Cormorant
cormorant species 2
Great Blue Heron 1
Bald Eagle adult 38
Bald Eagle immature 1
Bald Eagle total 39
Sharp-shinned Hawk 1
Northern Goshawk CW
Rock Sandpiper 22
Mew Gull 9
Herring Gull 5
Glaucous Gull 1
*Thayer's Gull CW
Glaucous-winged Gull 141
*Slaty-backed Gull 1
gull unknown species 14
Common Murre 23
Marbled Murrelet 14
Rock Pigeon 232
Great Horned Owl 1
Belted Kingfisher 1
Downy Woodpecker 11
Hairy Woodpecker 7
Northern Shrike CW
Steller's Jay 21
Black-billed Magpie 55
Northwestern Crow 148
Common Raven 70
Black-capped Chickadee 19
Chestnut-backed Chickadee 49

Red-breasted Nuthatch 20
Brown Creeper 2
American Dipper 8
Golden-crowned Kinglet 51
American Robin 36
Varied Thrush 1
Bohemian Waxwing 9
*Cedar Waxwing CW
Song Sparrow 1
Golden-crowned Sparrow 1
sparrow unknown species 1
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco 79
Snow Bunting CW
Pine Grosbeak 62
*Purple Finch 1
White-winged Crossbill 17
Pine Siskin CW

SUBSTOTAL COUNT DAY 55
SUBSTOTAL COUNT WEEK (CW) 7
TOTAL SPECIES: 62

Total of 2156 birds

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