

Thank you for participating in the 10th annual Eastern Alameda County Christmas Bird Count last Friday!

We had 97 birders covering 28 sections.

We tallied **138 species** (below the count average of about 145)

Notable species this year:

Mountain Bluebird – 29; new species for the count

Wood Duck – 176; more than twice usual #s

Hooded Merganser – 42; nearly twice usual #s

Bald Eagle – 8; more than twice usual #s

Ferruginous Hawk – 8; twice usual #s

Golden Eagle – 50; above average but number will go down due to duplicate sightings

Phainopepla - 25; above average

Burrowing Owl – 2; there are more out there but we don't find them all

Loggerhead Shrike – 14; numbers continue to drop

Yellow-billed Magpie – 71; on the low side

Introduced species that continue to increase:

Wild Turkey - 684

European Starling - 5,005

Notable misses for the count:

Cackling Goose

Redhead

Sora

Virginia Rail

Common Gallinule

Short-billed Dowitcher

Marsh Wren

Common Yellowthroat

Chipping Sparrow

Co-complier Rich Cimino