

The Lake Isabel & Spanish Peaks CBC results:

Rosy Finches made good showings during Count Week and beyond in both Count circles, but not on Count Day with only 3 birds sighted in Rye.

The 40th annual Lake Isabel CBC 1-2-10 tallied 59 species plus 10 for Count Week. There were 9 birders afield and 2 more at feeders. 17 Pine Grosbeaks in Rye were seen by two parties. All the birds were near Rye and represent the best tally here in memory. They are easily seen on the Millset Trail, present here since mid-November. An elusive Winter Wren was refound by Pearle & Clif Smith at its usual location at the west end of Greenhorn Meadows Park. Pearle's uncanny ability to whistle out birds is renown. Count highs of over 1200 Canada & Cackling Geese in mixed flocks were patiently tallied by Marjorie Joy and Peg Rooney. Ring-necked Ducks and Common Ravens also hit Count highs.

The 21st Spanish Peaks CBC 12-12-09 tallied 48 species, well above average and the 4th best species total for this Count. Two new birds for the CBC were added: Dave Moore's yard produced a nice bunch of Cedar Waxwings, probably attracted by the noisy group of berry guzzling Robins. Cackling Geese were also a first for Count Day; they are now expected in Colorado's wintering flocks of Canada Geese. La Veta's resident Roadrunner was found and photoed by Paul & Polly Neldner, who also turned up a White-throated Sparrow in their yard. For the 2nd consecutive Count, a White-winged Dove adorned Beverly Jensen's birdy yard. Turkeys hit a Count high of 82 birds, most seen by Tom Doerk's party west of La Veta. Of special interest were Count highs for Magpies, Scrub Jays, and B-c Chickadees all widely believed impacted by West Nile Virus.

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Lake Isabel/Spanish Peaks CBCs