

The 26th annual Pueblo County Spring Migration Count was held 5-12-18, International Migratory Bird Day(IMBD). 22 birders in up to 11 parties tallied 187 species.

It was the 6th best species total of the 26 counts, & we can thank Brandon Percival & Van Truan who reported 164 of these species on a marathon county Big Day. Starting at midnight, they tallied multiple species of owls, & the rare but now regular Black Rail; after sunrise, a possible nesting 2 Yellow-throated Warblers at Pueblo's Mineral Palace Park & a continuing Grace's Warbler at the Mountain Park in Beulah.

The Greenhorn Valley team lucked out on a N. Waterthrush delighting nearly all 8 team members with "killer" looks near the Greenhorn Creek Diversion Gate. We also got a brief glimpse at a Rose-breasted Grosbeak in my yard, first spotted by Art Hudak. The Grosbeak was better seen just before sunset. The team also had great views of the Count's only Olive-sided Flycatcher flashing its "cotton balls" in Greenhorn Park. Before meeting us, Gib Rokich counted a whopping 11 Burrowing Owls at a Prairie Dog colony he discovered on Cedarwood Road.

The Count is usually held too early in May for late Spring arriving White-rumped Sandpipers. But Leon Bright jumped the Count's only one near the Goodnight River Walk. Leon also had 4 Red Crossbills in his Pueblo yard, an unusually low elevation for this bird, due to evergreen cone failures at higher elevations. No longer easily found in the County, we can thank Margie Joy for 5 **Pinyon Jays** in Pueblo West. The long present Carolina Wren in Pueblo monitored by Rick Clawges was another good Count Day bird. And you can also depend on the Chico Basin Ranch team finding an awesome warbler. This year's gem was a Cape May reported by Dave Chartier & others.

This Count is sponsored by the Arkansas Valley Audubon Society, and organized & compiled with the help of Brandon Percival. All birds reported are entered in the ebird/IMBD data base <[www.birdday.org](http://www.birdday.org)> To receive a complete list of birds on this year's Spring Count, please respond to this message.

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