

# Millrace Bird Count Data

April-June 2017

## Overview

In order to create Millrace based curriculum for preschoolers, accurate data needed to be collected of the various bird species of the area by hand. This project is focused on the riparian bird species of the Willamette and Millrace habitat.

## Objectives

- Create an accurate database of the bird species in the Millrace pond, Willamette habitat, and Campus area
- Collect data in an ethical way that does not disturb the wild bird populations

## Materials

- Field Journal and pencil
- Bike (if needed)
- Binoculars
- Bird ID book (Birds of Western North America)
- Audubon Birds APP
- iPhone Camera

## Methods

I biked/walked to each of my sit spots, spending five minutes at each section and observing everything I saw in that time frame. This included all of the people and dogs that were in my locations. At each sit spot, I would find a place out of the way and used my binoculars to try to spot different birds. Each time I saw a bird, I would record it in my journal even if it were the same kind of bird as a previous bird. I tried to identify birds by the size and colorings of each bird. Once the five minutes was up, I would move to the next sit spot place. I collected data at different times of the day each time I went out to my sit spots. I would also change the order of the sit spots in order to prevent time being a variable in my data.

## Results

April 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	3	15 people
Campus Cemetery	0	0	0	2	1 squirrel
Millrace Pond East	0	0	2	2	1 blackbird
Millrace	0	0	4	0	

Pond West					
Autzen Footbridge	1	0	15	25	3 people
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	0	6 people

April 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	4	35 people
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	1	2 people
Millrace Pond East	0	0	1	0	
Millrace Pond West	0	0	4	0	
Autzen Footbridge	0	1	6	20	1 person 1 dog
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	3	3 people

April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	2	12 people
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	0	1 Robin 1 Squirrel
Millrace Pond East	0	0	0	0	
Millrace Pond West	0	0	0	0	1 person
Autzen Footbridge	1	0	3	15	2 people
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	2	6 people

May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	3	30 people
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	2	

Millrace Pond East	0	0	2	2	
Millrace Pond West	0	1	4	0	
Autzen Footbridge	0	0	15	25	3 people
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	0	2 dogs 5 people

May 13th, 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	7	25 people
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	2	2 squirrels 1 person 1 dog
Millrace Pond East	0	0	0	2	
Millrace Pond West	0	0	6	0	
Autzen Footbridge	0	1	5	20	10 people
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	0	7 people

May 17th, 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	5	8 people
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	0	
Millrace Pond East	0	0	0	1	
Millrace Pond West	0	0	0	2	
Autzen Footbridge	2	0	8	15	4 people
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	0	2 people

May 23rd, 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	3	12 people 1 squirrel
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	2	
Millrace Pond East	0	0	2	2	
Millrace Pond West	0	0	4	0	4 Mallard duck
Autzen Footbridge	0	1	10	20	5 people
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	2	5	

May 30th, 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	2	20 people
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	2	3 people
Millrace Pond East	0	0	10	0	
Millrace Pond West	0	0	2	3	2 people
Autzen Footbridge	0	0	4	15	5 people 1 dog
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	2	2 people

June 4th, 2017	Osprey	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Cliff Swallow	Other
Campus Lawn	0	0	0	3	17 people
Campus Cemetary	0	0	0	4	1 squirrel
Millrace Pond East	0	0	1	2	1 Mallard duck
Millrace Pond West	0	0	0	0	
Autzen Footbridge	0	0	7	10	5 people
Skinner Butte Park	0	0	0	3	

**Discussion**

I decided to use the Canada Goose and Cliff Swallows for my project because there were present in large numbers every time I visited my sites in at least one of the areas. I decided to use the Great Blue Heron and Osprey as my other two species because even though they were not as common as the other two species, they were common enough to be a part of the educational sign.