

Bird Field Note  
Shrubby Draw Surveys, Raptor Counts, and Raptor Banding  
10/31/14  
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## **Shrubby Draw Surveys- October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Kate Stone**

We wrapped up fall shrubby draw surveys this week. Our last two days of surveys yielded low numbers and low species diversity. A large flock of American Robins in Sheep Camp made up the bulk of the numbers on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The arrival of overwintering American Tree Sparrows on October 30<sup>th</sup> was a fitting end to our fall surveys.





# Species detected in shrubby draw surveys October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

## October 23<sup>rd</sup>

	Partridge Alley	Sheep Camp	Tongue Creek	Total
American Robin		43	3	46
American Goldfinch		5	16	21
Dark-eyed Junco		9		9
Red-breasted Nuthatch		5		5
White-throated Sparrow		5		5
Black-billed Magpie	2	1	1	4
Northern Flicker	2	2		4
Unknown Sparrow			4	4
Black-capped Chickadee		3		3
Clark's Nutcracker		2		2
Song Sparrow	2			2
White-crowned Sparrow			2	2
Downy Woodpecker		1		1
Golden-crowned Kinglet			1	1
Long-eared Owl		1		1
Northern Shrike		1		1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Species Richness</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>

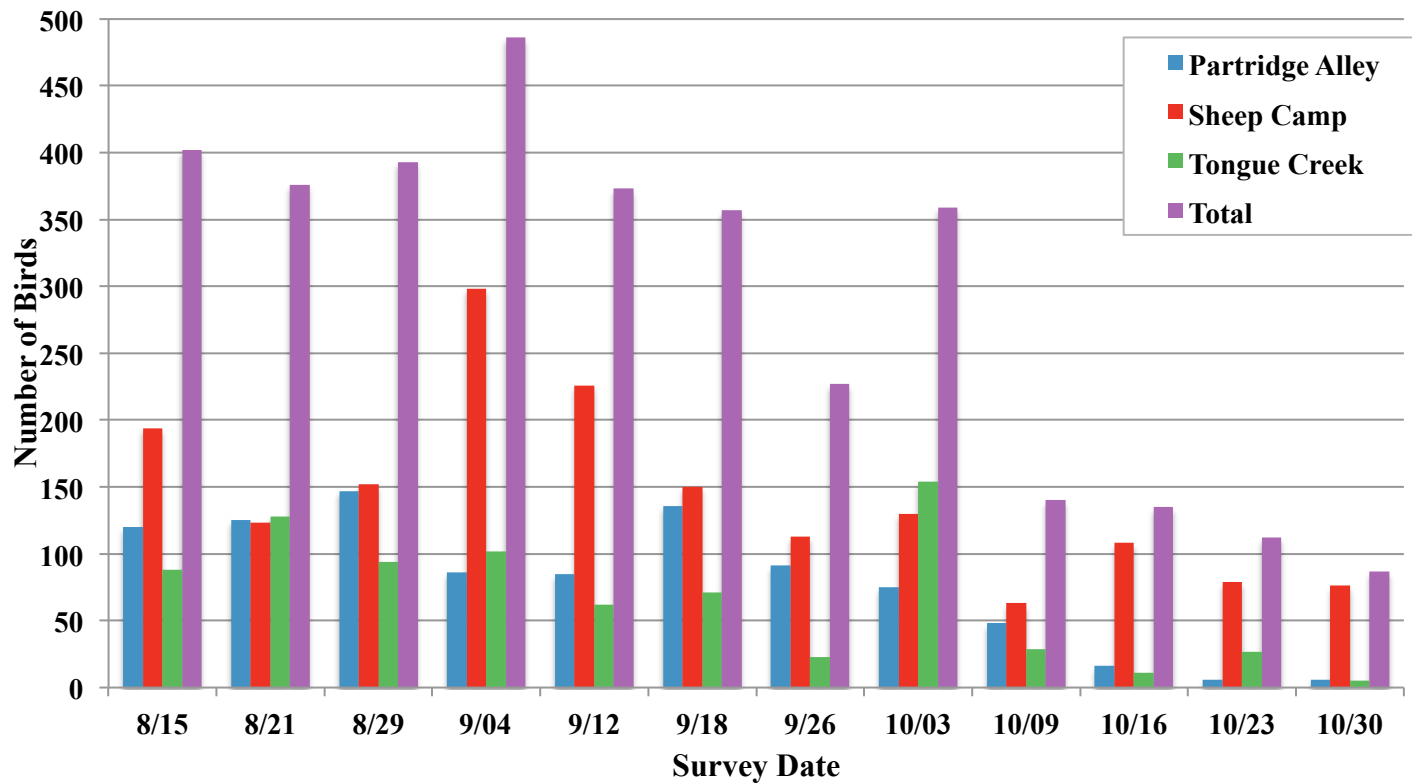
## October 30<sup>th</sup>

	Partridge Alley	Sheep Camp	Tongue Creek	Total
American Tree Sparrow		16	2	18
Black-capped Chickadee		13		13
House Finch		11		11
American Robin		10		10
Cedar Waxwing		10		10
Gray Partridge		7		7
House Sparrow	4			4
Northern Flicker		2	2	4
Red-breasted Nuthatch		3		3
Song Sparrow	2			2
Black-billed Magpie		1		1
Downy Woodpecker			1	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet		1		1
White-crowned Sparrow		1		1
Wilson's Snipe		1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Species Richness</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>

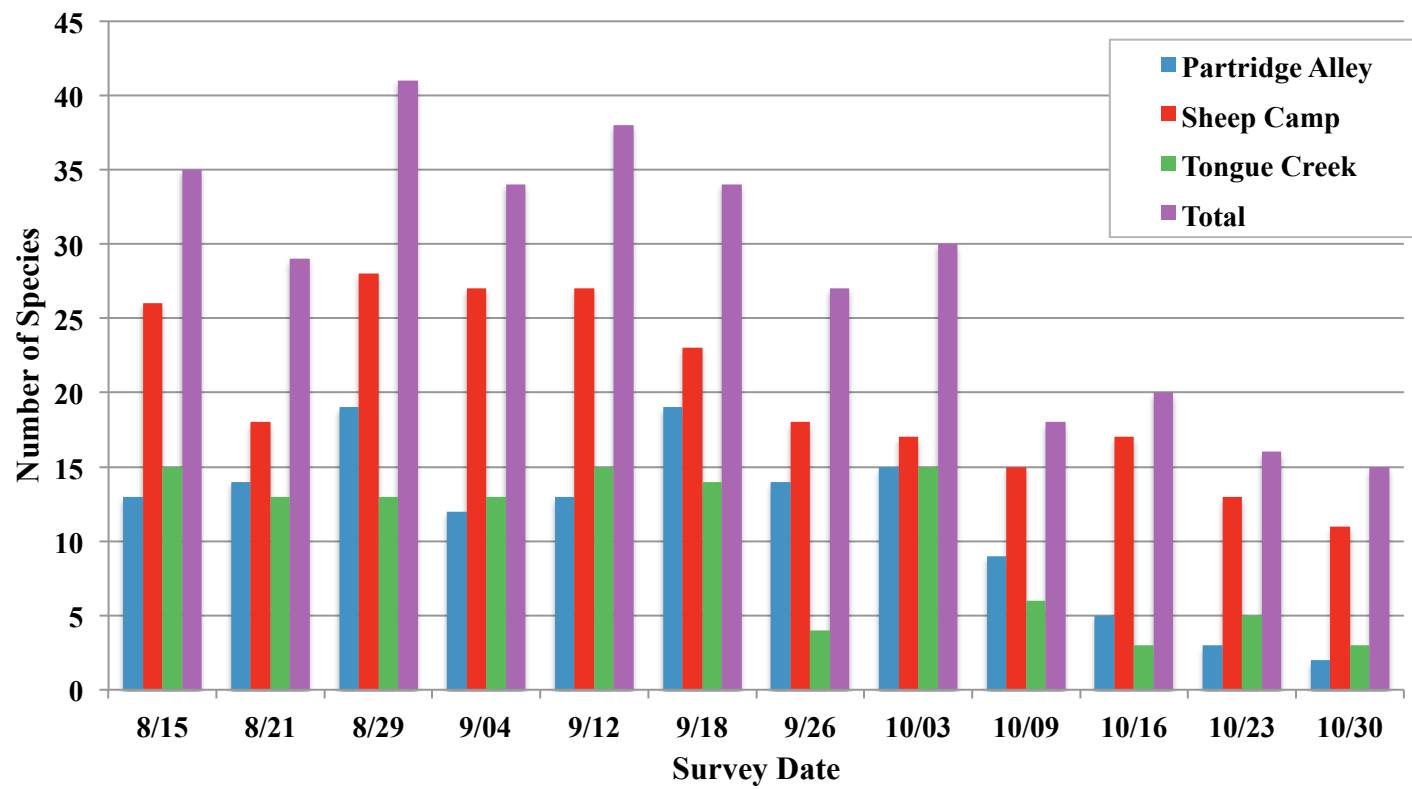
## Shrubby Draw Summary

We saw high but variable bird abundance and species richness through the first week in October. We recorded our highest abundance in the first week of September, and highest species richness the last week of August.

**Bird abundance in shrubby draws from 8/15-10/30/14**



**Species richness in shrubby draws from 8/15-10/30/14**



On October 30<sup>th</sup>, Kate flushed a Wilson's Snipe from the ground near the lower Sheep Camp stock tank.



# Raptor Migration Update

## Raptor Counts: 10/21/2014-10/27/2014



This week we recorded 161 raptors of 12 different species. The string of low daily totals from last week continued; we averaged just 13.1 migrants per day from October 13 to October 25. On October 26 and 27, we counted 131 birds, primarily Red-tailed Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks, and eagles. We saw a similar pattern in 2012 and 2013, where long lulls in mid-October were broken by relatively high daily counts towards the end of the month. We expect most days to be slow as we head into the last couple weeks of this fall's surveys, with occasional high counts composed primarily of buteos.

Weekly (10/21-10/27) and Seasonal Raptor Totals			
		Weekly Total	Season Total
Eagles	Golden Eagle	10	<b>40</b>
	Bald Eagle	20	<b>42</b>
	Unknown Eagle	0	<b>0</b>
Accipiters	Sharp-shinned Hawk	5	<b>325</b>
	Cooper's Hawk	5	<b>264</b>
	Northern Goshawk	1	<b>22</b>
	Unknown Accipiter	3	<b>84</b>
Buteos	Red-tailed Hawk	68	<b>745</b>
	Rough-legged Hawk	34	<b>79</b>
	Swainson's Hawk	1	<b>28</b>
	Broad-winged Hawk	0	<b>41</b>
	Ferruginous Hawk	0	<b>4</b>
	Unknown Buteo	4	<b>39</b>
Falcons	American Kestrel	0	<b>310</b>
	Merlin	2	<b>39</b>
	Peregrine Falcon	0	<b>23</b>
	Prairie Falcon	1	<b>24</b>
	Unknown Falcon	0	<b>8</b>
Other	Northern Harrier	2	<b>98</b>
	Osprey	3	<b>81</b>
	Turkey Vulture	0	<b>1,089</b>
	Unknown Hawk	2	<b>24</b>
	<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>161</i></b>	<b><i>3,409</i></b>



# Raptor Trapping 10/21/2014-10/27/2014



This week we captured just one Red-tailed Hawk at our Indian Ridge trapping blind. Though we saw relatively high numbers of buteos and eagles pass by on October 26 and 27, they flew at distances and heights too far to lure into our stations.

## Trapping summary 10/21-10/27

		Weekly Total		Season Total	
		Indian Ridge	West Baldy	Indian Ridge	West Baldy
Accipiters	Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	0	8	11
	Cooper's Hawk	0	0	0	7
	Northern Goshawk	0	0	0	1
Buteos	Red-tailed Hawk	1	0	8	1
	Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	2	0
Falcons	American Kestrel	0	0	10	0
	Merlin	0	0	9	0
	Prairie Falcon	0	0	3	0
	Peregrine Falcon	0	0	3	1
Other	Northern Harrier	0	0	1	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>22</b>

We frequently saw a Rock Wren near the Indian Ridge trapping blind.



Adam released the largest bird captured this season: a Red-tailed Hawk weighing more than 1200 grams (2.65 lbs).

