

Harney County CBCs 2019



The two Harney County 2019 CBCs will be held on December 16th, Monday (Burns CBC) and December 17th Tuesday (P-Ranch Malheur Refuge CBC). For the Burns CBC on Monday we will meet inside McDonalds in Burns at 7:30am; and for the P-Ranch Malheur Refuge CBC on Tuesday we will meet at the P-Ranch House at 7:30am

The Burns count was started in 1998 with the goal of attracting more local people who did not want to brave the longish winter drive to Frenchglen for the P-Ranch CBC and to break the record for California quail held by the Orange County, CA CBC. We obliterated their previous record with over 10,000 quail one year! Then the feral cats decided to do their own special dinner count, but we still hold the record. During the special pre-roost quail count for this CBC, we also count deer and cats as we drive every street in Burns and Hines in 1 hour. Our famous dinner award social will occur after the count, just bring a salad or small side dish, one piece of firewood and your drinks.

The P-Ranch Malheur Refuge CBC on Tuesday has a long history and was started before most of us were born! It occurs on the south end of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and Burns BLM lands.

P-Ranch Malheur Refuge CBC sunrise

Both counts provide options for hiking, driving or watching feeders. Feeder watching could be done at our house, as well as the regular feeder watches conducted throughout the count area. Hopefully someone will enjoy sitting in front of the wood burning stove (bring another piece of firewood) and observe Cooper hawks, sharp-shinned hawks, northern goshawks and merlins eying hundreds of quail and doves at the feeders. We usually observe about 65 species on each count, depending on open water.

Limited lodging is available before, during and after the counts. Be prepared for cold winter weather and winter driving conditions.

If you want to take part or need more information , email Rick Vetter at cotingas@gmail.com or call or text me at (541) 589-2230 or Joan Suther at (541) 589-1087. Texting is best.

Joan Suther receiving the Jedi Harney County CBC award in 2019. Clay, thinking.....Boy, I am glad I did not get that!

