
BIRDS

73rd ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - 2014

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The Counts. Every year we gain and lose a varying number of counts with the result that the number conducted since 1995 has fluctuated between a high of 106 in 2001 to a low of 84 in 2009. The death of Wayne Harris in the fall of 2002 was a severe blow to the Saskatchewan CBC as he had participated in no less than 12 counts the previous winter!

This past winter we lost MacDowall naturalist, Myron Barton who was compiler of counts at MacDowall and Wingard-Carlton. Myron passed away on December 30, the very day that he and the senior author would have normally conducted one of the two counts. In spite of this great loss, 10 new or "revived" counts brought the number of counts to 88 from last year's 85.

The Weather. Average minimum and maximum count temperatures this past count period (with 2013-14 records in brackets) were -16 to -12C (-21 to -14C), wind speeds 7 to 15 km/h (10 to 23 km/h), and snow depths 9 to 21 cm (18 to 34 cm).

All three of these weather parameters (warmer, calmer and less snow) would seem more favourable to greater observer effort, and yet the opposite was true as effort was only 1119 hours compared to last year's 1546. Virtually the same number observers participated (721 versus 736), but it appears they preferred to stay home watching feeders setting a record for the proportion of overall effort spent at feeders at 45%.

We are at a loss for a complete explanation, but we know that the threat of freezing rain caused the cancellation of the Coronach Count. Rain was reported on Weyburn Count - perhaps the first such report in the history of the CBC.

The Birds. The absence of the Coronach Count (which contributes an average of 15,000 birds, mostly waterfowl) resulted in a total of only 84,701 birds, the lowest since 1996. The average number of species per count at 17.2 was slightly below the 30 year average of 17.5, while the overall number of species (87 on count day plus

4 count period species) was the lowest since 1992 (77 plus 7). Again, a count of Coronach would probably have boosted the latter number.

Saskatoon led all counts with 43 species on count day plus 2 more during the count period. The city has held the crown for thirteen consecutive years; the runner up, as usual, was Gardiner Dam with 41 species.

Population Trends. There were few trends of note in the numbers of individual species over previous years (Table 7). Some of these include the continued low numbers of upland game birds except the Ruffed Grouse, and the invasion of Northern Goshawk into the Parklands.

The expansion of the Eurasian Collared-Dove seems to have stalled; for the first time since the first CBC records in 1999 no new localities were added. Numbers of most of the finches including Pine Grosbeak, White-winged Crossbill, the redpolls, and Pine Siskin recovered from last year's crash but not enough to return to levels of the last five years.

New Species: A Golden-crowned Sparrow during the count period at Broadview was the first of its kind for the provincial CBC. A first-winter bird, it was initially seen (and

photographed) on November 16 by Don Weidl and intermittently until Dec 27, when it was seen by Doug Boivin. The CBC list now stands at an amazing 187 species.

Other Rarities. The only other rarity of note was the provincial CBC's third and Saskatoon's second Cassin's Finch.

For the second consecutive winter, a female-plumaged bird appeared at Phil Taylor's feeder, it was recorded during count periods Jan 2 and 4.

Count areas and participants
(Names of compilers are in italics).

1. ARCHERWILL. Gerald Hiron, Susan Hiron, Audrey Hnetka, Perry Hnetka, *Elaine Hughes*, Dorothy Klettberg, Willie Klettberg, Judy Revoy, Stan Revoy.

2. AVONLEA. Randi Edmonds, *Alan Smith*, Blaine Sudom.

3. BALGONIE. Stephane Canévet, Jared Clarke, Fran Kerbs, Laurie Koepke, Jeannette Luther, Kim Mann, Val Mann, *Brett Quiring*.

4. BIGGAR. Mary-Jo Danychuk, Tammy Danychuk, Greg Goring, Linda Schnedar, Lorrie Sielski, *Guy Wapple*, Marguerite Wapple, Rob Wapple, Sandra Wapple.

5. BIRCH HILLS. Carman Dodge, Margaret Mareschal, *Maurice Mareschal*, Don Weidl.

6. BORDEN-RADISSON. Heather Giroux, Kyron Giroux, Jeff Jensen, Ron Jensen, Jennipher Karst, *Stan Shadick*.
7. BROADVIEW. Mary Ann Pearson, Barb Weidl, *Don Weidl*.
8. CHATSWORTH S.D. *George Murray*, Laurie Murray, Kerri Rooke, Stewart Rooke, Carol Tangedal, Rudy Tangedal.
9. CHRISTOPHER LAKE. *Jeannie Walker*.
10. CHURCHBRIDGE A. Elin Johnson, *Ron Johnson*.
11. CHURCHBRIDGE B. *Dennis Petracek*.
12. CLARK'S CROSSING. Dave Cook, Louise Cook, Lorne Duczek, Shelly Fisher, Bob Godwin, May Haga, Marilyn Haskins, Ron Jensen, Heney Klypak, Gordon Koshinsky, Margaret Koshinsky, Sylvia Raginski, Nick Saunders, Marten Stoffel, Mary Toews, Guy Wapple, *Michael Williams*, Dianne Young.
13. CRAVEN. Jody Broughton, Dave Cameron, Liz Cameron, Ron Cameron, Stephane Canévet, Jim Cummings, Stephen Davis, Elaine Exelby, Brendan Graham, Dan Grand, Chris Harris, *Trevor Herriot*, Louise Holloway, Phil Holloway, Norbert Kossmann, Fran Kerbs, Laurie Koepke, Bob Luterbach, Barbara Mader, Kim Mann, Amelia McDonald, Jared McDonald, Barry Mitschke, Curtis Pollock, Brett Quiring, Ed Rodger, Brian Sterenberg, Jeanette Taylor, Robb Taylor, Mary Worel.
14. CREIGHTON. Karen Prokopetz, *Brenda Schmidt*, Harvey Schmidt, Terry Smith.
15. CROOKED LAKE. *Boyd Metzler*.
16. CROOKED RIVER. *Margaret Mehler*, Morley Mehler.
17. CYPRESS HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK (Centre Block). Dianne Dohie, Jennifer Hoffman, Kathy Lewis, Krystal Lewis, Dave Larson, Margarette Larson, Angela Litke, Wayne Litke, Brynne Martin, Mimi Martin, *Melody Nagel-Hisey*, Matt Robertson, John Schock, Brett Vallee, Greg Vallee, Shayne Vallee,
18. DENHOLM. Beverly Beland, Gerard Beland, Linda Beland, *Orval Beland*.
19. DORINTOSH. *Joe Twidale*, Lorraine Twidale.
20. DUVAL. Ryan Dudragne, Val Harris, Merv Hey, Sheila Lamont, *Lloyd Saul*, Dan Sawatzky.
21. EASTEND. Roxie Binkley, Dwane Bristow, Kevin Bristow,

- Betty Davis, Diane Dohei, *Robert Gebhardt*, Sandy Hagan, June Higgins, Joan Hodgson, Harvey Johnson, John McIntyre, Ed Sanford, Mary Thomson, Heidi Topham.
- 22 EBENEZER 1. Nancy Bird, *Kenn Wood*, Sarah Wood
23. EBENEZER 2. *Harvey Wegner*
24. ENDEAVOUR. Ed Harris, *Norman Harris*.
25. ESTEVAN. Barry Dies, Marilyn Dies, Kathy Hedegard, Larry Preddy, *Guy Wapple*.
26. ESTUARY NORTH. Cathy Cocks, *Dean Francis*, Fran Francis.
27. FENTON. *Carman Dodge*, Maurice Mareschal, Don Weidl.
28. FLORAL. Nick Saunders, Brenda Walker, *Guy Wapple*.
29. FORT QU'APPELLE. Jean Ashcroft, Peter Ashcroft, Shawn Baldock, Linda Banman, Mark Geremia, Don Horsman, Jack Lowe, Alan Mlazgar, Jean McKenna, Paul Paulhus, Wendy Paquin, *Keith Stephens*, Kim Stephens, Ted Stevenson, Colette Stushnoff, Dave Sutherland, Glenn Zimmer.
30. GARDINER DAM. Greg Fenty, Maxine Forsberg, Jeff Jensen, Ron Jensen, Nick Saunders, Marten Stoffel, Phil Taylor, *Guy Wapple*.
31. GOOD SPIRIT LAKE. *Joyce Anaka (non-participating compiler)*, Dorothy Riesz, Ray Riesz, Lloyd Wilson, Marg Wilson.
32. GRASSLANDS NATIONAL PARK. Jessica Bolton, Eugene Dumont, *Jay Frandsen*, Carolyn Gaudet, Danielle Grant, Donna Grohs, Herbert Lacey, Kevin Moore, Heather Olson, Mark Otway, Carolyn Prentice, Heather Sauder, Kelsey Van Dyke, Nathan Young.
33. GRAYSON. Carina Helm, *Charles Helm*, Linda Helm, Jeanette Zimmer, Karl Zimmer.
34. GRENFELL. Ethel Reiger, Barb Weidl, *Don Weidl*.
35. HARRIS. Ron Jensen, Nick Saunders, *Guy Wapple*.
36. HUDSON BAY. *John Daisley*, Agnes Lewellin.
37. INDIAN HEAD. Gerald Dixon, Kay Dixon, *Irv Escott*, David Gehl, Roberta Gehl, Jim Jinks, Linda Jinks, Dan Loran, Dora Nichols, Lorette Schaeffer, Raymond Schaeffer, Bob Scott, Brian Scott, Glenn Scott, Chad Skinner, Chris Skinner, Fred Skinner, Donna Thompson.

38. KENASTON. Doug Beckie, *P. Lawrence Beckie*, Tyler Beckie, Bev George.
39. KENOSEE LAKE. Boyd Metzler, *John Pollock*.
40. KITCHEN NORTH. *Dallas Fairburn*.
41. KINDERSLEY NORTH. *Jean Harris*, Keith Harris.
42. KINLOCH. *Don Forbes*, Doreen Forbes, Arland Lanning, Clifford Logan, Daryl Siwak, Phillip Siwak, Doreen Wickstrom.
43. KUTAWAGAN LAKE. *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.
44. KYLE. Arlene Campbell, David Hamilton, Sig Jordheim, Glen Pederson, Marten Stoffel, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.
45. LAC LAPLONGE. Erin Conkin, John Conkin, *Katherine Conkin*, Aislinn Petz.
46. LA RONGE. Sid Robinson, *John Schisler*, Jan Shewchuk.
47. LAST MOUNTAIN LAKE NWA. *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.
48. LEROY. *Lloyd Saul*.
49. LOVE - TORCH RIVER. Theresa Belliveau, Hal Birkett, Joan Birkett, *Bert Dalziel*, Joan Dalziel, Kari Dalziel, Nora Dalziel, Sara Dalziel, Scott Edwards, Ashley Gallon, David Gallon, Elaine Inskster, Roseanne Kirkpatrick, Eilene L'Heureux, Bev Macauley, Dave Macauley, Kieran Nessel, Lillian Nessel, Renny Nessel, Audrey Schrader, Eric Schrader, Al Taylor, Sharon Taylor, Leonard Turtle.
50. LUSELAND. Doug Campbell, Estelle Finley, Graeme Finley, *Kim Finley*, Liam Finley, Sandra Filey, Brent Honeker, Shirley Honeker.
51. MEADOW LAKE. Bill Caldwell, Janet Caldwell, Andrew Wilson, *Bob Wilson*, Ian Wilson.
52. MILESTONE. Randi Edmonds, *Alan Smith*.
53. MOOSE JAW. Ryan Dudragne, Jeff Mander, Dan Sawatzky, *Alan Smith*.
54. MOOSE MOUNTAIN. Bill Fletcher, Doyle Thomas, *Val Thomas*.
55. MORSE. Stella Enns Joel Priebe, Ken Priebe, *Myrna Priebe*, Lori Wilson.
56. NIPAWIN. Theresa Belliveau, *Carol Blenkin*, Nancy Budd, Vi Budd, Joyce Christiansen, Bert Dalziel, Rick Douslin, Patti Gaertner, Jennette LeCuyer, Shannon LuCuyer, George Lidster,

Jeri McCleary, Peter McCleary, Fred Olfert, Doug Phillips, Shirley Phillips, Len Turtle.

57. NISBET FOREST, NORTHWEST.

Sandra Jewell.

58. NISBET FOREST, WEST. *Kim Clark.*

59. ODESSA. *Arden Curts*, Denise Curts, Denny Curts.

60. OGEMA. Randi Edmonds, *Alan Smith.*

61. OUTLOOK. *Alan Smith*, Graham Thomson.

62. PIKE LAKE. Alison Baudru, Denis Bezopenko, Carol Blenkin, Donna Bruce, Dave Cook, Louise Cook, Yvonne Cuttle, Elsbeth Dormuth, Lorne Duczek, Raea Gooding, Kyron Giroux, Bob Girvan, May Haga, Greg Hutchings, Ron Jensen, Audrey MacKenzie, Bill MacKenzie, *Murray Morgan*, Keith Paul, John Patterson, Wayne Provicki, Mark Sabourin, Nick Saunders, Jan Shadick, Stan Shadick, Phil Taylor, Michael Williams.

63. PRINCE ALBERT. Doug Braaten, Marie Braaten, Michelle Braaten, Kim Clark, Kiri Clark, Shamara Clark, Suzanne Clark, *Carman Dodge*, Margaret Ferguson, Millie Fillmore,

Andrea Fisher, Harold Fisher, Josias Furstenburg, Hamilton Greenwood, Ruth Griffiths, Ron Jensen, Sandra Jewel, Gwen Klebek, Collin McGuire, John Rye, Faith Tait, Phil Taylor, Don Weidl.

64. PRINCE ALBERT N.P. *Jeannie Walker.*

65. QU'APPELLE. Jean Ashcroft, Peter Ashcroft, *Christine Blair*, Lillian Longpre, Paul Paulhus, Colette Strushnoff, Richard Strushnoff, Frank Veresh.

66. QU'APPELLE VALLEY DAM. Dale Booth, Shelly Fisher, May Haga, Robert Johanson, Nick Saunders, Jan Shadick, Stan Shadick, Marten Stoffel, Guy Wapple, *Michael Williams.*

67. RAYMORE. *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.

68. REGINA. Don Bjerkie, Maryanne Bjerkie, Lionel Bonneville, Stéphane Bonneville, Lolamae Crawley, Ron Crawley, Jim Elliot, Ruth Englund, Jackie Fauth, Phil Fauth, Terry Ford, Shirley Friel, Chris Harris, Karen Herriot, Kate Herriot, Trevor Herriot, Dale Hjertaas, Phyllis Isley, Laurie Koepke, Fran Krebs, Linda Langenbacher, Maureen Lee, Luciel Lipka, Mike Lipka, Bob Luterbach, Lauren Mang, Kim Mann, Val Mann, Carolyn Pepper, Wayne Pepper, *Brett Quiring*, Chris

Ratch, Ed Roger, Daniel Sawatzky, Chris Selinger, Nick Selinger, Joanne Shurvin-Martin, Margaret Skeel, Frank Switzer.

69. ROKEBY. Clarence Bishop, Blake Harris, Lloyd Liebracht, Morley Maier, Lorne Niebergal, Fred Phillips, *Martin Phillips*, Kirk Screpnek, Ray Thies.

70. ROSCOMMON S.D. Bernice Althouse, Kate Althouse, Marjorie Finnie, Ruby Finnie, Brian Irving, Joan Lillibo, *Dianne Sloan*, Graham Sloan, Marguerite Sloan.

71. ROULEAU. Allen McGratten, Noreen McGratten, *Patricia Sterzuk*.

72. ROUND LAKE (Prince Albert Area) *Crystal Frenette*.

73. ROUND LAKE (Qu'Appelle Valley). *Boyd Metzler*, Mary Ward, Pat Ward.

74. SALT COATS. *Arden Bradford*, Donna Bradford, Walter Farquharson, Dave Herron, G. Herron, Gerri Knudsen, Ron Knudsen, Fern McKay, M. Nichol, B. Torrie, H. Torrie, Randy Torrie, S. Torrie, Verne Truwell, Joan Wilson, Rob Wilson.

75. SASKATCHEWAN LANDING PROVINCIAL PARK. Ryan McDowell, Casey Rempel, Marten Stoffel, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.

76. SASKATCHEWAN RIVER FORKS. Carman Dodge, *Don Weidl*.

77. SASKATOON. Bruce Acton, Joanne Adams, Allison Baudru, Neva Bayliss, Jim Beveridge, Janny Bos, Eveline Boudreau, Heather Brenneman, Annemarie Buchmann-Gerber, Heinz Buchmann, Jacquie Christensen, Ewen Coxworth, Laurel Duczek, Lorne Duczek, Anne Dzus, Melanie Elliott, Kathy Exner, Joan Feather, Lesley Fell, Joanne Ferguson, David Forbes, Cathy Fry, Joe Fry, Chris Gilbert, Heather Giroux, Kyron Giroux, Mike Gollop, May Haga, Audrey Hall, Anne Hanbidge, Helen Hanbidge, John Hanbidge, Marlene Hanbidge, Donna Haugen, Kathy Holtslander, Stuart Houston, Marlene Kalanack, Arlene Karpan, Richard Kerbes, Helen Klypak, Gordon Koshinsky, Margaret Koshinsky, Anna Leighton, Ted Leighton, Audrey MacKenzie, Bill MacKenzie, Priscilla Mah, Kalman McCann, Colleen Meldrum, David Miller, Jean Mitchell, Kerry Mitchell, Larry Mitchell, Scott Mitchell, Hilda Noton, Bernice Nyeste, Ken Nyeste, John Patterson, Asha Perera, Dorothy Riemer, Marella Rosta, Mary Jean Roy, Marc Sabourin, Craig Salisbury, Lorriene Salisbury, Richard Santo, Trish Santo, Nick Saunders, Margie Scharf, Murray Scharf, Doug Schmeiser, Irene Schmeiser, Hnery Shpyth, Laurie Slinger, Jan

- Solem, Jennifer Solem, Marten Stoffel, Margot Taylor, Phil Taylor, Lillian Thorpe, Dave Tyler, Mary Tyler, Hilda Voth, Guy Wapple, George West, *Michael Williams*, Helen Wilkins, Jim Wood, Sandy Woynarski, Stan Woynarski, Grant Wright, Dianne Young, Norman Zlotkin.
78. SAWYER LAKE. Maureen Blight, *David Weiman*.
79. SHAMROCK. Mike Francis, *Hugh Henry*, Randel McCulloch, Ryan McCulloch, Iris McNeill, Darwin Menke, Ken Priebe, Myrna Priebe, Darwin Seidler.
80. SPINNEY HILL. *Ed Driver*, Margaret Driver.
81. SQUAW RAPIDS. Bert Dalziel, Joan Dalziel, *Valeriana Harris*, Sheila Lamont.
82. SWIFT CURRENT. Karl Bazin, Sara Bazin, Jacquie Bolton, Eunice Cammell, Norris Currie, Laurent Dudragne, Mary Ann Dudragne, Arnie Ens, Lorna Fast, Dave Green, Esther Green, Katie Hagman, Norma Hain, Leonard Head, *Hugh Henry*, Leonard Howes, Lois Howes, Stephanie Kaduck, Tommy Kirk, Verna Lynn Knipfel, Dot Letkeman, Maxine Lundman, Janet Payne, Harold Steppuhn, Sue Steppuhn, Irene Stinson, Sharlane Toole.
83. THICKWOOD HILLS-SPIRITWOOD. Harold Fast, Margie Fast, Giles Lalonde, Susan Lalonde, *Philip Wilson*.
84. TOGO. Betty Burback, Del Burback, Kevin Chutskoff, Donna Dewores, *Doug Elsasser*, Ed King, Louise King, William Koreliuk, Karen Leis, Barb Leppky, Jim Leppky, Mabel Skinner, Marty Skinner, Zoria Woodworth.
85. WEYBURN. John Ferrier, Glen Fleming, Millie Fleming, Dale Huff, Sandi Huff, Ken LeBlanc, Charlotte Payak, Don Payak, Doyle Thomas, Tanis Thomas, *Val Thomas*, John Whittell.
86. WHITE BEAR. Greg Nelson, Yvonne Nelson, Glen Pederson, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.
87. WHITEWOOD. Ken Aldous, Carole Armstrong, Cindy Ashfield, Joe Ashfield, Paul Ashfield, Grant Erickson, Joyce Kydd, Florence Luhtala, Sarah Manbourg, *Boyd Metzler*, Harry Mitchell, Marilyn Mitchell, Donna Mohr, Brenda Pollock, John Pollock, Tony Saltasuk, Dawn Vennard, Diane Veresh, Pat Ward.
88. YORKTON. Joyce Anaka, Brian Beck, Lorna Bright, Vern Brown, Warren Crossman, Cheryl Fraser, Bob Graham, Art Loucks, George Maben, Gloria Rathgeber, Dorothy Riesz, Ray Riesz, Don Ruf, *Geoff Rushowick*, James Rushowick, Dorothy Skene, Stan Williams.