

SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT — 1979

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A total of 42 counts were submitted this year, recording 27 species during the count period. The number of counts is the same as last year while the number of species recorded was one less than last year's record high.

Only one species, Fox Squirrel, was reported that has not been recorded on previous counts. As this is a species new to Saskatchewan, attempts should be made to provide documented evidence (photographs) of its occurrence. The Fox Squirrel is not native to Canada and is found only on Pelee Island in Ontario where it was introduced in 1890. A viable population still exists there today. The current range of the Fox Squirrel includes southern Michigan and south eastern North Dakota and this sighting would therefore be about 800 km northwest of this range.

The population trends of almost all

species appear stable with very little change over last year. Only our two common wild canines, the Coyote and Red Fox showed changes. The Coyote increased slightly over last year while the Red Fox is down in numbers. The Lynx was again unreported.

For weather, coverage and participants of these counts please refer to the Christmas Bird Counts found elsewhere in this issue. Symbols found in the Table are as follows:

- * Identified by tracks with the estimated number of animals in parentheses.
- + Seen during count period but not on count day.
- L Active lodges seen with the number in parentheses.
- D Freshly dead animals found with the number in parentheses.
- H Species heard but not seen with the number in parentheses.
- S Scats of the species found.



White-tailed Deer browsing on twigs.

L. A. Morgotch

	Battlefords Dec. 26	Biggar Dec. 22	Big Gully Creek Dec. 20	Broadview Dec. 24	Dalmeny Dec. 29	Duperow-Ruthilda Dec. 28	Eastend Dec. 17	Eastend Dec. 17	Eastend	Endeavour Dec. 26	Feudal Dec. 31	Fort Qu'Appelle Dec. 22	Fort Walsh Dec. 16	Frontier Dec. 24	Gardiner Dam Dec. 19	Govenlock Dec. 15	Harris Dec. 21	Humboldt Dec. 29	Indian Head Dec. 30	Kenaston Dec. 23	Kindersley Jan. 1	Kutawagan Lake Dec. 26	
Shrew sp.																							
Raccoon																							
Red Fox	•(4)				1			2	•(1)										•(3)	•			
Coyote	•(2)	3	4	•(7)			4	1			1	12			1	•(4)	6	•(1)	•(3)	•(2)		•	
Timber Wolf									•(4)														
Ermine																							
Least Weasel								1											•(1)				
Long-tailed Weasel				•(3)															•(3)				
Weasel sp.	•(1)		•(2)								•	•(7)			•(10)		•(5)	•(1)	•(3)			•	
Mink				•(1)														•(1)	•(1)				
River Otter																							
Striped Skunk																							
Badger								1															
White-tailed Jack Rabbit		2	•	•(3)	5	1	•(2)	6	2			1		3	•	1'	•(6)	5	•	•	1	7	
Snowshoe Hare	1		1	•(21)					4		1	•(6)						4	•			•	
Nuttall's Cottontail							1					•(1)		1									
Red Squirrel	2		21	5					2			6	68				1	11					
Fox Squirrel																							
Beaver																							
Meadow Vole																							
Deer Mouse		1																					
Mouse sp.	•(5)		•				•(4)					•							•(6)				
Muskkrat							•(1)																
Porcupine		1	•	•(1)	1						D(1)	4											
Elk												•(10)						•(2)					
Mule Deer							+	26															
White-tailed Deer	8	1	•(10)	•(7)		2	3	2	•(1)		•	10		3	7		12	3	17	•(3)		•	
Deer sp.																							
Moose									•(3)			4											
Pronghorn							26	8				8											
Total Species	7	5	8	8	3	2	8	8	7	5	4	14	4	2	5	3	5	7	13	8	1	5	

Species	Last Mountain Lake Dec. 27	Leader Dec. 17	Leader Dec. 30	Luseland Dec. 26	Madstone Bridge Dec. 18	Moose Jaw Dec. 26	Nicollie Flats Dec. 28	Prince Albert Dec. 30	Raymore Dec. 27	Regina Dec. 26	Round Lake Dec. 30	Skull Creek Dec. 26	Spirit Lake Dec. 23	Spring Valley Dec. 28	Squaw Rapids Dec. 23	Squaw Rpd.-Sipanok Chnl. Jan. 2	Waseca Dec. 26	Waskesiu Dec. 29	Webb-Swift Current Dec. 19	Whitebeech Dec. 26	Yorkton Jan. 1	Total Counts/Species
Shrew sp.				1																		2
Raccoon										*(1)												2
Red Fox				*(20)					*		*(2)			+			*		+	*(1)	+	14
Coyote	*	*(3)	H(1)	1	17	*(1)	1	*(2)	1		*(4)	6	H(3)	1	5		*	S	*(6)	+	*(3)	34
Timber Wolf									*(3)						1					*(2)		2
Ermine															*				+		*(2)	3
Least Weasel						*(1)					*(6)	+		+								5
Long-tailed Weasel									*(1)													7
Weasel sp.	*	*		*(3)	*		*(4)	*	*(1)		*(3)	+	+	1	*					*(4)		19
Mink								*(1)	*	*(1)	*(3)	+		+	1	*				*(1)		12
River Otter															*							1
Striped Skunk				*(1)		1					*(1)											3
Badger				*(1)								+	*(1)	+								6
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	8	*	1	2	3	3	1	*	11	65	*(2)	1	*(10)	12	*		*		*(20)	+	+	35
Snowshoe Hare	*	*(1)		*	3	1	2	*	3	3	1		*(30)		2		*			2	*	26
Nuttall's Cottontail		*(20)	1						H(1)		+	+							*(4)			7
Red Squirrel					3		1	12	H(1)	*(1)	3		H(3)		72	3	*		5	3		19
Fox Squirrel						*(1)	*(1)					1	L(2)		L(3)							1
Beaver						1								8								6
Meadow Vole							*(50)															3
Deer Mouse																						2
Mouse sp.	*	*			*			*	*	*(2)			*(2)	*	*							14
Muskrat							3							*	*							5
Porcupine	*	2			+		1	*(1)	*(3)		*(2)	+	2		*		*				+	20
Elk															1	6		*				4
Mule Deer												+		5			*					10
White-tailed Deer	*	*			*(10)	*(2)	7	*	*	*(1)	*(15)	+	*(6)	*	*		*		*(100)	*	*	33
Deer sp.																			*	*		3
Moose				*(8)											1					2		5
Pronghorn		17																	*(2)			5
Total Species	7	10	5	9	7	8	10	9	11	7	10	10	10	12	16	2	9	5	7	10	7	5