

SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT — 1980

Compiled by WAYNE C. HARRIS, Box 93, Raymore, Saskatchewan S0A 3J0

A total of 45 counts were submitted this year, recording 28 species during the count period. The number of counts is a record high and the number of species ties the high set in 1978.

The lack of snow in some localities resulted in a reduction in number of species from these areas, while in other areas the limited snow meant easier access and probably better counts than usual.

Population trends of most species were stable. Red Fox numbers were lower than usual although similar to last year. Coyotes were also slightly down. Snowshoe Hare numbers were similar to last year but White-tailed Jack Rabbits appeared to be down slightly. Pronghorn Antelope were also lower than usual. The unseasonably warm weather and lack of snow probably accounted for the presence of ground squirrels at

Spring Valley and Eastend.

Some of the highlights of this year's count included a Raccoon and Fox Squirrel from Regina, a pack of ten Timber Wolves feeding at a kill site in Prince Albert National Park and over 90 Elk at Fort Walsh in the Cypress Hills.

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 number in parentheses.



White-tailed Deer.

Hans de Vogel

Table 1. SUMMARY OF CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

| SPECIES | LOCALITY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | | ASSINIBOIA January 4 | BATTLEFORD December 26 | BIGGAR December 24 | BIG GULLY CREEK January 1 | BROADVIEW December 24 | COLD RIVER December 28 | DALMENY December 31 | EASTEND December 29 | EASTEND January 2 | ENDEAVOUR January 4 | FT. QU'APPELLE December 29 | FT. WALSH December 21 | GARDINER DAM December 22 | GOVENLOCK December 20 | GRENFELL January 4 | HAFORD December 21 | HARRIS December 29 | HUMBOLDT December 31 | INDIAN HEAD December 21 | KELVINGTON December 22 | KENASTON December 28 | KUTAWAGAN L. December 23 | LAST MTN. L. December 24 | |
| Shrew sp. | | | | | *(2) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Raccoon | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Red Fox | | | | * | *(4) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coyote | | | | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Timber Wolf | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ermine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Least Weasel | | | | | *(1) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Long-tailed Weasel | | | | | *(1) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Weasel sp. | | | | | *(2) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mink | | | | | * | *(2) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Striped Skunk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Badger | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White-tailed Jack Rabbit | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Snowshoe Hare | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nuttall's Cottontail | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rich. Ground Squirrel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ground Squirrel sp. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Red Squirrel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fox Squirrel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Beaver | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Meadow Vole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Deer-Mouse | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mouse sp. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Muskrat | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| House Mouse | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Porcupine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Elk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mule Deer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White-tailed Deer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Deer sp. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moose | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pronghorn Antelope | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL SPECIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| SPECIES | LOCALITY | LEADER December 28 | LOON LAKE December 25 | LUSELAND December 26 | MACDOWELL December 30 | MAIDSTONE BR. January 2 | MOOSE JAW December 26 | PRINCE ALBERT December 26 | PRINCE ALBERT December 28 | PRINCE ALBERT January 4 | PRINCE ALBERT NATL. PARK January 4 | RAYMORE December 25 | REGINA December 26 | ST. WALBURG December 26 | SASKATOON December 26 | SCOTT December 30 | SKULL CK. December 26 | SPIRIT LAKE December 25 | SPRING VALLEY December 25 | SQUAW RAPIDS December 27 | WHITE BEAR December 26 | WHITEBEECH December 27 | WOLSELEY January 4 | TOTAL NO. COUNTS PER SPECIES OR GROUP |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Shrew sp. | | | | * (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Raccoon | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Red Fox | | | | 1 | * (1) | 1 | 3 | | * | | * (3) | * | * (1) | | * (6) | * (2) | | 3 | 4 | * | 13 | | | 16 |
| Coyote | | H (2) | | | * (2) | * | 3 | | * | | * (2) | * | | | | | | | | | | | | 26 |
| Timber Wolf | | | | | | | | | | | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Ermine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Least Weasel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Long-tailed Weasel | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | * (1) | | * (1) | | | 8 |
| Weasel sp. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 13 |
| Mink | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 |
| Striped Skunk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Badger | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| White-tailed Jack Rabbit | | 2 | | 1 | | * | * (24) | | * | | | 8 | 52 | | 3 | * (10) | | 1 | + | * (12) | 13 | + | | 34 |
| Snowshoe Hare | | | 6 | * (40) | 3 | * | * (21) | | 3 | | * (12) | 6 | * (3) | 1 | 14 | | | | | 5 | 30+ | 2 | | 31 |
| Nuttall's Cottontail | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 |
| Rich. Ground Squirrel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Ground Squirrel sp. | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | 1 | 10 | + | | 65 | 6 | | 1 |
| Red Squirrel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22 |
| Fox Squirrel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Beaver | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Meadow Vole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 |
| Ooer Mouse | | | * (10) | 1 | * (3) | | * (1) | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | + | | L (2) | L (1) | | 10 |
| Ooer Mouse | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Mouse sp. | | | | * | | | | | | | | * | * | 1 | * (3) | | | | + | * | | | | 12 |
| Muskrat | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| House Mouse | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Porcupine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 18 |
| Elk | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 |
| Mule Deer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 |
| White-tailed Ooer | | | | | | | 16 | | * | | | 2 | * (3) | 1 | 3 | * (2) | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | + | 1 | + | 35 |
| Ooer sp. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Moose | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 6 |
| Pronghorn Antelope | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| TOTAL SPECIES | | 4 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 12 | 9 | 8 | 6 | |

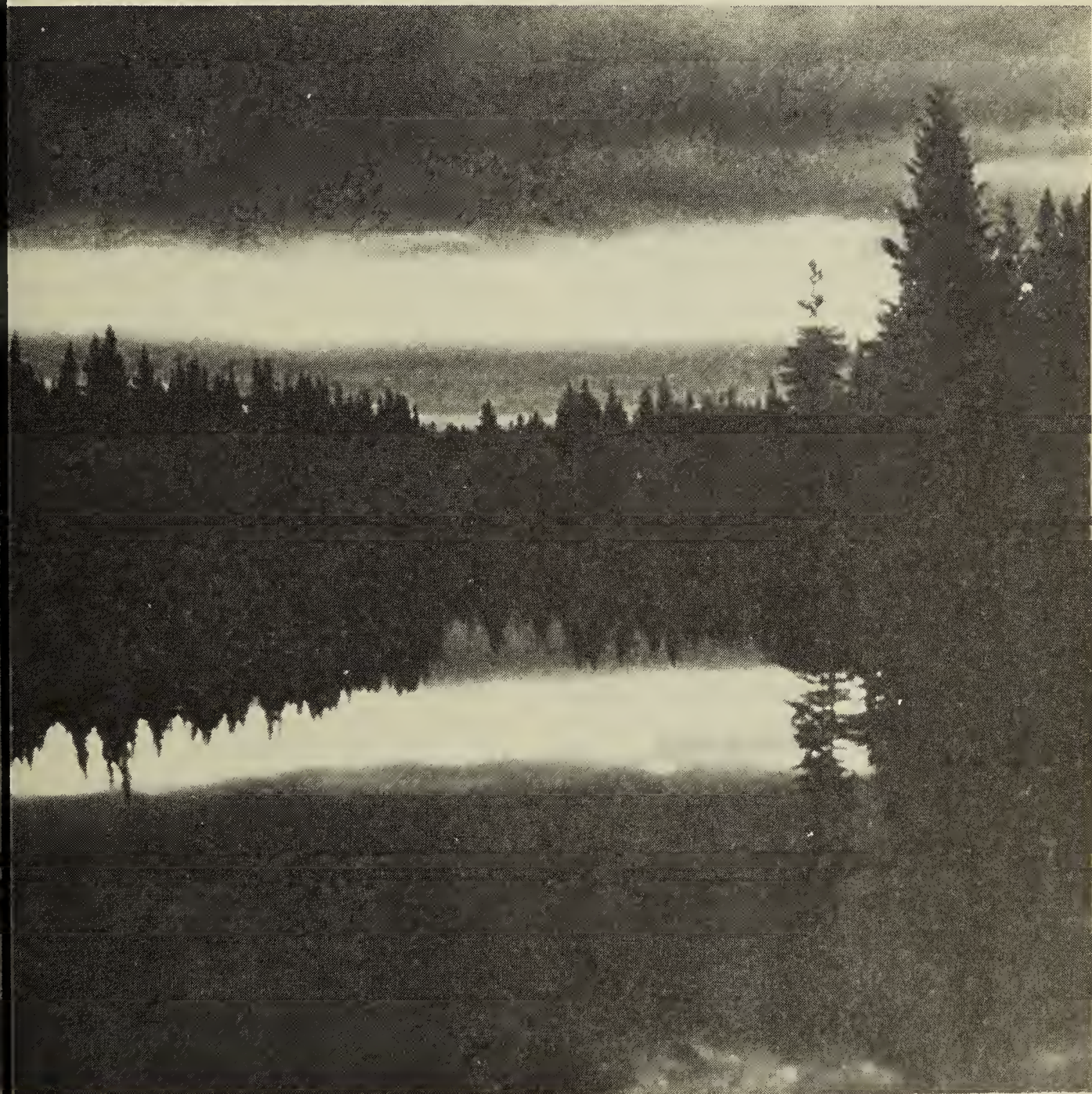
CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT — ROUND LAKE, 1 JANUARY 1981

The following count was received too late to include in the table. It adds one species not seen on any other count — a Lynx.

Red Fox *(2); Coyote *(1); Lynx *(1); Long-tailed Weasel *(1); Striped Skunk 1; Snowshoe Hare 23; Red Squirrel 2; Mouse sp. * (5); Muskrat 1; Porcupine 1. — *Doug Francis*. (This count is Broadview "b" in Christmas Bird Count.)

SUMMER MEETING AT WASKESIU LAKE, SASKATCHEWAN

The 1981 annual summer field meeting will be held at Waskesiu Lake, in Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan on 5-6 June, 1981. Guided trips and illustrated talks will help naturalists to become familiar with Saskatchewan's only National Park. Details of the meeting arrangements will be published in the Spring issue of the SNHS Newsletter.



Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan.

J. B. Gollop