

SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS ANIMAL COUNT - 1988

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Total of 68 counts were received this year, two less than last year. These counts reported 36 species, only one more than the record number reached in 1986 and 1987.

Only one new species was reported, a Woodchuck found at Gardiner Dam. This sighting is unusual from two perspectives; the first is that this species normally spends the winter underground like the ground squirrels; the second is that the species is not normally found this far south although it may have followed the South Saskatchewan valley southward.

The most frequently occurring species was the White-tailed Deer with 100% of localities having this species, down from 85% last year. Coyotes were followed by Red Fox, White-tailed Rabbit and Snowshoe Hare. Some less common or more difficult to see species included Masked Shrews at Wapiti and Sandy Bay, Northern Flying Squirrel from Good Spirit Lake, Carragana and Fisher from Prince Albert National Park.

For the first time in a number of years a Woodland Caribou was reported, that from Sandy Bay.

Lynx were unreported, continuing their long-term absence from the counts while Racoons were also absent for the first time in several years.

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

* identified by tracks with estimated numbers in parentheses

+ seen during the count period but not on count day

L active lodges or huts seen with numbers in parentheses

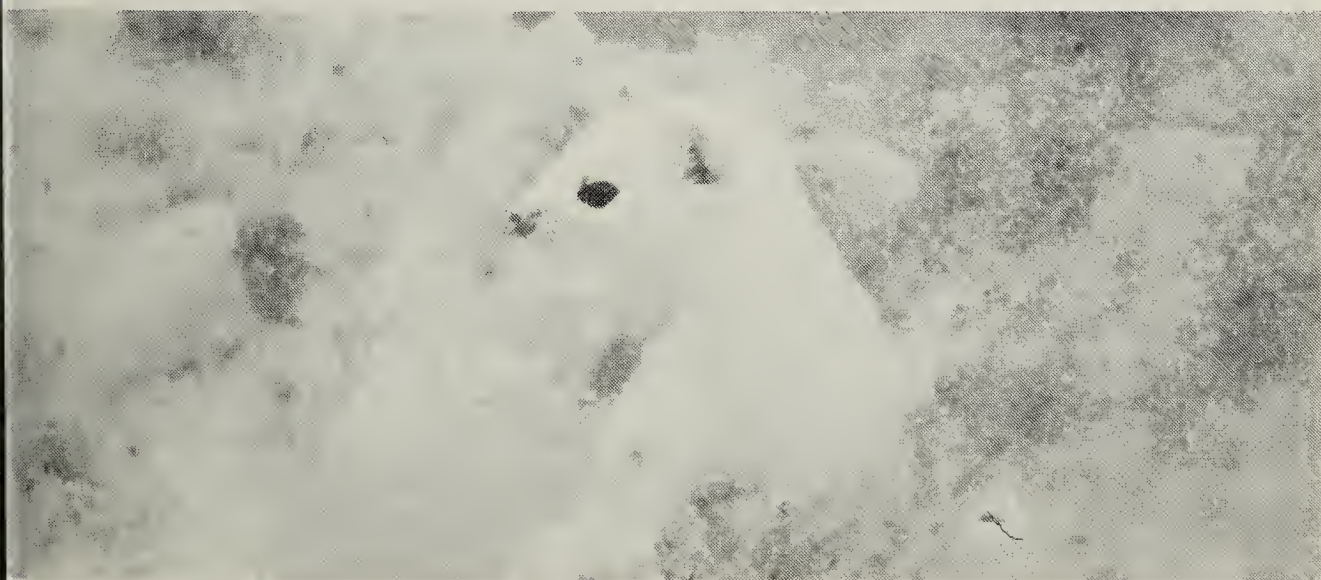
N nests found with numbers in parentheses

D fresh digging seen

d freshly dead animals found

S odour detected

H heard with numbers in parentheses



Weasel

W.C. Harris

Table 1-1. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE											
	1. ABERNETHY-KATEPWA 3 Jan. 1989	2. ARCHERWILL 1 Jan. 1989	3. ASSINIBOIA 3 Jan. 1989	4. BANGOR 26 Dec. 1988	7. BIGGAR 28 Dec. 1988	8. BIG MUDDY LAKE 29 Dec. 1988	9. BIRCH HILLS 23 Dec. 1988	10. BROADVIEW 27 Dec. 1988	11. BROMHEAD 28 Dec. 1988	12. CARRAGANA		
MASKED SHREW												
SHREW SP.							*(2)					
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL						9						
SNOWSHOE HARE	+		4	1			1	*(11)				
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT		+	6	1	1	d(2)	*(1)	*(1)	3			
WOODCHUCK												
RICHARDSON'S G. SQUIRREL												
GREY SQUIRREL												
FOX SQUIRREL	+											
RED SQUIRREL	1	+					3	H(2)				
N. FLYING SQUIRREL												
N. POCKET GOPHER												
BEAVER				1			1					
DEER MOUSE				11								
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE												
MUSKRAT	1						2					
MEADOW VOLE												
VOLE SPECIES										*(2)		
MOUSE SPECIES						*(2)	*(17)	*(4)				
NORWAY RAT												
HOUSE MOUSE						*(1)						
PORCUPINE				1		2	*(1)	1				
COYOTE	+	1	2	*(4)	*(1)	5	*(6)	*(3)	2			
WOLF												
RED FOX	1		4		*(2)	*(1)	*(3)		*(3)			
FISHER							2					
ERMINE		1						*(1)				
LONG-TAILED WEASEL												
LEAST WEASEL							3	*(1)				
WEASEL SPECIES												
MINK												
BADGER												
STRIPED SKUNK												
RIVER OTTER												
WOODLAND CARIBOU												
MULE DEER			12									
WHITE-TAILED DEER	+		58	7	*(15)	1	*(8)	*(11)	51			
DEER SPECIES						*(3)						
MOOSE												
ELK												
PRONGHORN			48			59						
TOTAL SPECIES	7	4	7	7	5	8	13	9	5			

1-2. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

14. CYPRESS HILLS P.P. 18 Dec. 1988	17. DOUGLAS P. PARK 26 Dec. 1988	18. DUVAL 27 Dec. 1988	19. ELROSE-KYLE 24 Dec. 1988	20. ENDEAVOUR 25 Dec. 1988	21. ESTEVAN 24 Dec. 1988	22. FORT QU'APPELLE 19 Dec. 1988	23. FORT WALSH 17 Dec. 1988	24. FRENCHMAN RIVER 18 Dec. 1988	LOCALITY & DATE	SPECIES
										MASKED SHREW
										SHREW SP.
	4	*(5)	1				2	+		NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
		*(30)			*(3)	+	2			SNOWSHOE HARE
										WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
										WOODCHUCK
				1						RICHARDSON'S G. SQUIRREL
										GREY SQUIRREL
					d(1)					FOX SQUIRREL
2				3		5	83			RED SQUIRREL
										N. FLYING SQUIRREL
							D(1)			N. POCKET GOPHER
						+				BEAVER
								*(4)		DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
		L(2)				3				MUSKRAT
					1					MEADOW VOLE
										VOLE SPECIES
		*(11)			*(2)		*(4)			MOUSE SPECIES
										NORWAY RAT
						+				HOUSE MOUSE
						1	3	2		PORCUPINE
	1	*(7)				+	27	1		COYOTE
										WOLF
		*(3)				+	*(1)	2		RED FOX
										FISHER
										ERMINE
		*(1)					1			LONG-TAILED WEASEL
		*(2)								LEAST WEASEL
		*(2)					*(1)			WEASEL SPECIES
						+	*(2)			MINK
								+		BADGER
							S(1)			STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
										WOODLAND CARIBOU
	12						68	80		MULE DEER
8	8	*(9)			15	+	39	55		WHITE-TAILED DEER
										DEER SPECIES
1							*(2)			MOOSE
							13			ELK
								260		PRONGHORN
3	4	10	1	2	4	10	15	9		TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-3. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE	25. GARDINER DAM 19 Dec. 1988	26. GLAMIS-WISETON 01 Jan. 1989	27. GOOD SPIRIT LAKE 21 Dec. 1988	28. GOVENLOCK 18 Dec. 1988	29. GRAND CENTRE 26 Dec. 1988	30. GRASSLAND N.P. 16 Dec. 1988	32. HUMBOLDT 26 Dec. 1988	33. INDIAN HEAD 30 Dec. 1988	34. KAMSACK 04 Jan. 1989
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW SP.										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL		2			17		4			
SNOWSHOE HARE		*(1)		*(26)		*(5)		*(8)		
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT		4	4	*(11)	3		4	*(20)	2	
WOODCHUCK		1								
RICHARDSON'S G. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL										
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL				3		8				
N. FLYING SQUIRREL				1						
N. POCKET GOPHER				D(3)						
BEAVER				L(1)						
DEER MOUSE										
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT										
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE SPECIES				*(2)	*	*(1)				
MOUSE SPECIES		*(4)								
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE				*(3)			2	*(1)	1	
COYOTE		*(4)		*(8)	4		20	*(6)	1	2
WOLF										
RED FOX		*(1)		*(1)			*(2)	*(3)	2	
FISHER										
ERMINE				*(1)						
LONG-TAILED WEASEL									2	
LEAST WEASEL				*(1)		*(1)				
WEASEL SPECIES		*(2)			*(1)			*(1)		
MINK		*(1)					*(1)			
BADGER										
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER		23			13		20			
WHITE-TAILED DEER		26		2	12	*(4)	14	*(6)	2	4
DEER SPECIES										
MOOSE										2
ELK										
PRONGHORN					123		144			
TOTAL SPECIES		11	1	13	8	5	9	7	6	3

e 1-4. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

									LOCALITY & DATE	SPECIES	
38.	KUTAWAGAN LAKE 03 Jan. 1989										MASKED SHREW SHREW SP.
39.	LA RONGE 27 Dec. 1988										NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
40.	LAST MOUNTAIN L. 26 Dec. 1988										SNOWSHOE HARE
41.	LEADER 26 Dec. 1988										WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
44.	LUSELAND 02 Jan. 1989										WOODCHUCK
46.	MARSDEN 26 Dec. 1988										RICHARDSON'S G. SQUIRREL
47.	MAYMONT 21 Dec. 1988										GREY SQUIRREL
48.	MELFORT 27 Dec. 1988										FOX SQUIRREL
49.	MELVILLE 25 Dec. 1988										RED SQUIRREL
											N. FLYING SQUIRREL
											N. POCKET GOPHER
											BEAVER
											DEER MOUSE
											GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
											MUSKRAT
											MEADOW VOLE
											VOLE SPECIES
											MOUSE SPECIES
											NORWAY RAT
											HOUSE MOUSE
											PORCUPINE
											COYOTE
											WOLF
											RED FOX
											FISHER
											ERMINE
											LONG-TAILED WEASEL
											LEAST WEASEL
											WEASEL SPECIES
											MINK
											BADGER
											STRIPED SKUNK
											RIVER OTTER
											WOODLAND CARIBOU
											MULE DEER
											WHITE-TAILED DEER
											DEER SPECIES
											MOOSE
											ELK
											PRONGHORN
											TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-5. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE	50. MOOSE JAW 26 Dec. 1988	53. OUTLOOK 16 Dec. 1988	54. PIKE LAKE 30 Dec. 1988	55. PRECEVILLE 26 Dec. 1988	57. PRINCE ALBERT (2) 18 Dec. 1988	58. PRINCE ALBERT N.P. 18 Dec. 1988	59. RAYMORE 25 Dec. 1988	60. REGINA 26 Dec. 1988	61. ROUND LAKE 03 Jan. 1989
MASKED SHREW								+		
SHREW SP.							1			
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL										
SNOWSHOE HARE		5	*	*(7)	*	3	*(41)	2	*(10)	1
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT		5		2		*(1)		1		1
WOODCHUCK										
RICHARDSON'S G. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL										+
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL						8	112		1	5
N. FLYING SQUIRREL										
N. POCKET GOPHER										
BEAVER						L(1)		L(2)		
DEER MOUSE							*(1)	1		
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE								1		
MUSKRAT						L		L(1)		
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE SPECIES							*(3)			
MOUSE SPECIES		*(25)				*(6)				*(6)
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE								1		
PORCUPINE						*	2	2		
COYOTE		*(14)		*(2)	*(2)	*(2)	*(2)	7	*(4)	*(17)
WOLF										
RED FOX		*(7)			1	*(3)	2	1	3	*(6)
FISHER							1			
ERMINE						1				*(1)
LONG-TAILED WEASEL		*(2)		*(3)						*(13)
LEAST WEASEL										*(1)
WEASEL SPECIES			*		*		*(2)	*(3)		
MINK		*(2)					1			*(2)
BADGER										
STRIPED SKUNK								S(1)		
RIVER OTTER							2			
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER			1	*(20)						
WHITE-TAILED DEER		*(4)			*(3)	*(2)	2	7	7	*(27)
DEER SPECIES							*(5)		*(4)	
MOOSE							2			
ELK							63			
PRONGHORN										
TOTAL SPECIES		8	3	5	5	11	16	14	5	12

1-6. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

64. SCOTT 02 Jan. 1989	65. SHAUNAVON 17 Dec. 1988	67. SKULL CREEK 26 Dec. 1988	68. SNOWDEN 30 Dec. 1988	70. SPINNEY HILL 31 Dec. 1988	71. SPRING VALLEY 29 Dec. 1988	73. SQUAW RAPIDS 22 Dec. 1988	74. ST. WALBURG 26 Dec. 1988	75. TISDALE 25 Dec. 1988	LOCALITY & DATE SPECIES
									MASKED SHREW
									SHREW SP.
	* (3)	1							NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
			* (6)			* (4)	* (30)		SNOWSHOE HARE
* (7)	1	*	1	*	7			2	WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
									WOODCHUCK
					+				RICHARDSON'S G. SQUIRREL
									GREY SQUIRREL
									FOX SQUIRREL
		1	2			32	* (3)		RED SQUIRREL
									N. FLYING SQUIRREL
									N. POCKET GOPHER
						L (2)			BEAVER
									DEER MOUSE
									GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
									MUSKRAT
	1	*							MEADOW VOLE
		*	* (2)		*	*	* (3)		VOLE SPECIES
									MOUSE SPECIES
									NORWAY RAT
* (2)		* (2)				1			HOUSE MOUSE
	* (2)	1			2	2			PORCUPINE
									COYOTE
						* (1)			WOLF
* (1)	* (1)	* (1)	* (1)	*	*	*	* (3)		RED FOX
									FISHER
									ERMINE
					+				LONG-TAILED WEASEL
									LEAST WEASEL
	* (1)	* (3)	* (2)	*		*			WEASEL SPECIES
		* (1)							MINK
		* (1)			D (1)				BADGER
									STRIPED SKUNK
						* (1)			RIVER OTTER
									WOODLAND CARIBOU
		2			+				MULE DEER
(3)	3	13	* (5)			*	* (3)		WHITE-TAILED DEER
				*					DEER SPECIES
						*			MOOSE
						*			ELK
		24							PRONGHORN
4	7	14	7	4	8	13	5	1	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-7. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE								TOTAL COUNTS
	76. TOMPKINS 29 Dec. 1988	77. TURTLE LAKE 26 Dec. 1988	78. VAL MARIE 20 Dec. 1988	79. WARMAN 26 Dec. 1988	80. WEYBURN 17 Dec. 1988	81. WHITE BEAR LAKE 20 Dec. 1988	83. WOLSELEY 01 Jan. 1989	84. YORKTON 17 Dec. 1988	
MASKED SHREW									
SHREW SP.									
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL	1		8						
SNOWSHOE HARE	*	*		*(2)		2	+		
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT	2			*(1)	2		6		
WOODCHUCK									
RICHARDSON'S G. SQUIRREL									
GREY SQUIRREL									
FOX SQUIRREL					1				
RED SQUIRREL		*							
N. FLYING SQUIRREL									
N. POCKET GOPHER									
BEAVER									
DEER MOUSE									
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE									
MUSKRAT		*							
MEADOW VOLE									
VOLE SPECIES		*							
MOUSE SPECIES				*(1)					
NORWAY RAT									
HOUSE MOUSE									
PORCUPINE									
COYOTE	4	*	1			1		1	
WOLF		*							
RED FOX			1	*(2)	+		1	2	
FISHER									
ERMINE									
LONG-TAILED WEASEL		*							
LEAST WEASEL									
WEASEL SPECIES									
MINK		*							
BADGER									
STRIPED SKUNK									
RIVER OTTER									
WOODLAND CARIBOU									
MULE DEER	32		5						
WHITE-TAILED DEER	9	*	14	*(2)	5		6		
DEER SPECIES									
MOOSE									
ELK									
PRONGHORN	185								
TOTAL SPECIES	7	9	5	5	4	2	4	2	