

ASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT—1989

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A total of 68 counts were received, exactly the same as last year. A total of 35 species were reported, one less than last year.

Two new species were reported. The first was a Little Brown Bat at Fort Qu'Appelle. Ron Hooper reports that on 27 December a single freshly dead specimen was found near a church. What caused mainly insectivorous species to cease hibernation and attempt to fly in the dead winter is a mystery, but a fatal activity for the bat.

The second new species is one that will probably cause some controversy by being included, a Wild Horse on the Loon Lake count. Frank Scott and Penny Davis reported this individual from the forested area to the south of Loon Lake where several groups of feral horses have existed for a number of years. We do include the introduced Norway Rat and House Mouse but they are considered to be a fully naturalized part of our mammalian fauna, and I feel that the fact that a herd of horses has persisted for more than 20 years and reproduces in the wild justifies them for the inclusion in the count. Although I would have to give consideration to feral cats after having made this decision on the horses, maybe it is not such a bad idea to have a count on the number of feral cats which exist at garbage dumps for the winter, feeding on the feral rats, feral House Mice, feral Rabbits and feral House Sparrows!

The most frequently recorded species, as usual, White-tailed Deer, Snowshoe Hare and White-tailed Jack Rabbit. Snowshoe Hare numbers appear to be up slightly, possibly

indicating that this species is approaching or at the crest of its population and coinciding with its traditional 10 year population cycle.

The cold weather just before Christmas was probably the cause of some species not being reported, such as the Richardson's Ground Squirrel and Raccoon. The Lynx was unreported but indications from government sources are that the population may finally be recovering from dangerously low populations of the past few years so possibly in the next few years we can expect to have some records on the counts.

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 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 diggings seen
- d freshly dead animals found
- S odour detected
- H heard with numbers in parentheses

Table 1-1. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE									
	1.ABERNETHY-KATEPWA 18 Dec. 1989	2.ARCHERWILL 01 Jan. 1990	3.BANGOR 01 Jan. 1990	4.BETHUNE 29 Dec. 1989	5.BIGGAR 28 Dec. 1989	6.BIG MUDDY LAKE 29 Dec. 1989	7.BIG QUILL LAKE 20 Dec. 1989	8.BIRCH HILLS 30 Dec. 1989	11.BROMHEAD 03 Jan. 1990	
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW SPECIES						*(1)				
LITTLE BROWN BAT										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL						1				
SNOWSHOE HARE		2	2		*(2)		*	*(38)		
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT				1	d(1)	*(1)	*	*(1)	*(12)	
FRANKLIN'S GR. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL										
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL	3	6	+1					3		
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
BEAVER			*(1)							
DEER MOUSE										
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT										
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE SPECIES						*(14)			*(21)	
MOUSE SPECIES				1	*(5)	*(2)		*(5)	2	
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE			1		d(1)		2	*(1)		
COYOTE	1		+3	+1	4	6	*(2)	1	*(3)	
WOLF										
RED FOX	2					*(3)		*(3)	*(6)	
FISHER										
ERMINE								*(3)		
LONG-TAILED WEASEL								*(1)		
LEAST WEASEL						*(1)				
WEASEL SPECIES					*(1)		*(1)		*(3)	
MINK								*(1)		
BADGER										
STRIPED SKUNK									S(1)	
WILD HORSE										
MULE DEER				+8		10				
WHITE-TAILED DEER	2		7	+8	*(15)	7	2		42	
DEER SPECIES										
MOOSE										
ELK										
PRONGHORN						60				
TOTAL SPECIES	4	2	6	5	7	11	6	10	8	

Table 1-2. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

									LOCALITY & DATE
									SPECIES
15. CROOKED LAKE 25 Dec. 1989									MASKED SHREW
									SHREW SPECIES
									LITTLE BROWN BAT
									NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
									SNOWSHOE HARE
									WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
									FRANKLIN'S GR. SQUIRREL
									GREY SQUIRREL
									FOX SQUIRREL
									RED SQUIRREL
									NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
									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
									WILD HORSE
									MULE DEER
									WHITE-TAILED DEER
									DEER SPECIES
									MOOSE
									ELK
									PRONGHORN
									TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-3. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE	27.GRAND CENTRE 26 Dec. 1989	28.GRASSLAND N.P. 28 Dec. 1989	30.HUMBOLDT 26 Dec. 1989	31.INDIAN HEAD 28 Dec. 1989	32.KAMSACK 19 Dec. 1989	33.KELVINGTON 27 Dec. 1989	34.KENASTON 25 Dec. 1989	35.KILWINNING 29 Dec. 1989	36.KUTAWAGAN LAKE 26 Dec. 1989
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW SPECIES							*(1)			
LITTLE BROWN BAT										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL			3							
SNOWSHOE HARE				2	1	13	*(26)	*		*
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT				1	6		2	*	*	3
FRANKLIN'S GR. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL						2				
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL		9			15	2	3		3	
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL						1				
BEAVER										
DEER MOUSE										
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT		1								
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE SPECIES										
MOUSE SPECIES							*(5)			*
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE			1	*(1)			*(1)	+3		2
COYOTE				1	8	2	2	+1		*
WOLF										
RED FOX				1	3		*(6)	+1	1	*
FISHER										
ERMINE										
LONG-TAILED WEASEL							3	*		
LEAST WEASEL										
WEASEL SPECIES										*
MINK										
BADGER										
STRIPED SKUNK										
WILD HORSE										
MULE DEER			14							
WHITE-TAILED DEER		*(3)	13	*(12)	6	14	26		*	3
DEER SPECIES			5							
MOOSE						3				
ELK										
PRONGHORN			177							
TOTAL SPECIES		3	5	6	6	7	10	6	4	8

Table 1-4. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

LOCALITY & DATE									SPECIES
39.LEADER 24 Dec. 1989									MASKED SHREW SHREW SPECIES
40.LEASK 03 Jan. 1990									LITTLE BROWN BAT
41.LIVELONG (1) 02 Jan. 1990									NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
43.LOON LAKE 01 Jan. 1990									SNOWSHOE HARE
44.LUSELAND 26 Dec. 1989				1	3				WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
45.MAIDSTONE 02 Jan. 1990									FRANKLIN'S GR. SQUIRREL
46.MARSDEN 26 Dec. 1989						1			GREY SQUIRREL
48.MELVILLE 23 Dec. 1989							+1		FOX SQUIRREL
49.MOOSE JAW 26 Dec. 1989									RED SQUIRREL
	+1	10			*				NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
									BEAVER
1					1	+4			DEER MOUSE
									GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
									MUSKRAT
									MEADOW VOLE
									VOLE SPECIES
	+1								MOUSE SPECIES
									NORWAY RAT
									HOUSE MOUSE
1	+1								PORCUPINE
4	+1		1		h(2)		2		COYOTE
									WOLF
	+1			+1		1			RED FOX
									FISHER
					1				ERMINE
							1		LONG-TAILED WEASEL
									LEAST WEASEL
									WEASEL SPECIES
									MINK
			2						BADGER
									STRIPED SKUNK
									WILD HORSE
52			26			+11			MULE DEER
65	5	20	9	+6	4		2		WHITE-TAILED DEER
									DEER SPECIES
			11						MOOSE
									ELK
				+31					PRONGHORN
7	8	4	5	5	6	4	4	8	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-5. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE		50.NIPAWIN 30 Dec. 1989		51.PIAPOT 03 Jan. 1990		52.PIKE LAKE 02 Jan. 1990		53.PREECEVILLE 26 Dec. 1989		54.PRINCE ALBERT (1) 19 Dec. 1989		55.PRINCE ALBERT (2) 29 Dec. 1989		56.PRINCE ALBERT N.P. 16 Dec. 1989		57.RAYMORE 24 Dec. 1989		58.REGINA 26 Dec. 1989		
MASKED SHREW																					
SHREW SPECIES																					
LITTLE BROWN BAT																					
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL																					
SNOWSHOE HARE																					
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT																					
FRANKLIN'S GR. SQUIRREL																					
GREY SQUIRREL																					
FOX SQUIRREL																					
RED SQUIRREL																					
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL																					
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																					
WILD HORSE																					
MULE DEER																					
WHITE-TAILED DEER																					
DEER SPECIES																					
MOOSE																					
ELK																					
PRONGHORN																					
TOTAL SPECIES																					

Table 1-6. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

LOCALITY & DATE									SPECIES	
61.SALTCOATS 24 Dec. 1989	62.SASKATOON 26 Dec. 1989	63.SCOTT 31 Dec. 1989	64.SKULL CREEK 26 Dec. 1989	65.SNOWDEN (1) 28 Dec. 1989	66.SNOWDEN (2) 31 Dec. 1989	68.SPINNEY HILL 30 Dec. 1989	69.SPRING VALLEY 31 Dec. 1989	70.SPRUCE HOME 29 Dec. 1989		
							+1		MASKED SHREW	
									SHREW SPECIES	
									LITTLE BROWN BAT	
			2						NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL	
	*	3	*(2)	3	1				SNOWSHOE HARE	
	*(2)		*(20)	2		*	5	3	WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT	
									FRANKLIN'S GR. SQUIRREL	
									GREY SQUIRREL	
									FOX SQUIRREL	
	1	1	1	6	5	2			RED SQUIRREL	
									NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL	
									BEAVER	
									DEER MOUSE	
									GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE	
									MUSKRAT	
							+1		MEADOW VOLE	
									VOLE SPECIES	
	*		*(3)		*(9)		*		MOUSE SPECIES	
					*(2)		1		NORWAY RAT	
							*		HOUSE MOUSE	
							+1		PORCUPINE	
		2	1	3	*(4)		3	+1	COYOTE	
									WOLF	
		1	1	*(1)			1		RED FOX	
									FISHER	
									ERMINE	
	1	2					1		LONG-TAILED WEASEL	
						1	+2		LEAST WEASEL	
				*(2)	*(1)				WEASEL SPECIES	
		+1							MINK	
			1				+2		BADGER	
	*(2)	S(1)							STRIPED SKUNK	
									WILD HORSE	
			10				1		MULE DEER	
	4	2	2	20	+3	*(3)	+3	+3	WHITE-TAILED DEER	
									DEER SPECIES	
				+2	1				MOOSE	
					*(3)				ELK	
			16	131					PRONGHORN	
7	8	6	9	6	9	4	12	3	TOTAL SPECIES	

Table 1-7. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCALITY & DATE								
	71.SQUAW RAPIDS 22 Dec. 1989	72.TISDALE 25 Dec. 1989	73.WAUCHOPE 26 Dec. 1989	74.WEYBURN 16 Dec. 1989	75.WHITE BEAR 31 Dec. 1989	76.WHITE BEAR LAKE 21 Dec. 1989	77.WHITEBEECH 26 Dec. 1989	78.YORKTON 16 Dec. 1989	
MASKED SHREW				*(2)					
SHREW SPECIES				*(2)			*(1)		
LITTLE BROWN BAT									
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL					1				
SNOWSHOE HARE	*	*	*(1)	*(3)		3	*(20)	1	
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT	*				+1	*		1	
FRANKLIN'S GR. SQUIRREL									
GREY SQUIRREL									
FOX SQUIRREL			1						
RED SQUIRREL	37					*(1)		1	
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL									
BEAVER							L(1)		
DEER MOUSE			*(5)					1	
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE									
MUSKRAT									
MEADOW VOLE					1				
VOLE SPECIES			1						
MOUSE SPECIES	*			*(1)			*(2)		
NORWAY RAT			*(1)						
HOUSE MOUSE									
PORCUPINE	1								
COYOTE	*		*(3)	1	+1			1	
WOLF	*								
RED FOX			1	1				1	
FISHER									
ERMINE									
LONG-TAILED WEASEL							*(1)		
LEAST WEASEL									
WEASEL SPECIES	*		*(2)			*(2)	*(1)		
MINK	*			+1					
BADGER									
STRIPED SKUNK									
WILD HORSE									
MULE DEER					208				
WHITE-TAILED DEER	3	3	*(10)	*(8)	2	2	*(2)	2	
DEER SPECIES									
MOOSE	2								
ELK	4								
PRONGHORN									
TOTAL SPECIES	12	2	9	7	6	5	7	6	



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Juhachi Asai

FOURTH RED BAT FOUND IN ALBERTA

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The Red Bat is widely distributed in Saskatchewan and provinces east. Their range extends southward through the United States, and into Argentina and Chile in South America.^{1, 2} However, only a few observations of this species have

been reported from Alberta and British Columbia.^{1, 3} Hugh Smith, curator of mammalogy at the Provincial Museum of Alberta, reported that four Red Bat specimens had been collected in Alberta by 1982.⁴ In fact only three individuals