

# SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT - 1992

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As with Christmas bird counts the number of mammal counts dropped from last year's record high of 82 to 69. The number of species recorded on these counts dropped from last year's high of 44 to a more normal 36. Species which have appeared on most of the counts in the past but which were absent from this year's count were Richardson's Ground Squirrel and Northern Pocket Gopher (undoubtedly due to the very cold weather). Woodland Caribou and American Marten were also absent.

A single new species was recorded on this year's count. An American Water Shrew was found on the snow covered ice adjacent to open water on the Waskesiu River in Prince Albert National Park. This is within the normal range of this species but it is rarely seen as it frequents the edges of fast flowing streams and is usually under the overhanging ice of the stream edge during the winter months.

Other rarely reported species include Lynx and Bobcat both from the Skull Creek count where tracks were seen; Eastern Cottontail on the Estevan count and Swift Fox from the Govenlock count.

With 97% of the counts having White-tailed Deer, they were the most common and the most

frequently encountered species. Red Fox at 62% and Coyote at 58% were the next most frequent species. Hare populations appear to be remaining low with White-tailed Jack Rabbit with only 52% and Snowshoe Hare with 49% occurrences.

For weather, coverage and participants please refer to the Christmas Bird Count found elsewhere in this issue. Numbers appearing before the count location name in the tables refer to the location of the count on the map included with the bird count; some columns are left blank because no mammal counts were taken at those locations. In the tables a numeral alone indicates that the animals were actually seen, while a letter preceding the number indicates that the numbers were inferred by the means defined. A letter alone indicates that the species was present but it was either impossible to estimate numbers or no attempt was made to do so.

T = tracks

L = active lodge or hut

D = dead animal found

d = fresh diggings found

S = smell or odour

H = heard

+ = present during the count period (Dec. 17 to Jan. 3) but not found on count day.

Table 1-1. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

LOCATION AND DATE												
SPECIES	1. ABERNETHY-KAT. L. 19 Dec. 1992	2. ARMIT 24 Dec. 1992	3. BETHUNE 03 Jan. 1993	4. BIGGAR 30 Dec. 1992	5. BIG MUDDY LAKE 03 Jan. 1993	6. BIRCH HILLS 01 Jan. 1993	7. BROMHEAD 02 Jan. 1993	8. CABRI 25 Dec. 1992	9. CANDLE LAKE 03 Jan. 1993	10. CLARK'S CROSSING 19 Dec. 1992	11. CRAVEN 19 Dec. 1992	12. CROOKED LAKE 03 Jan. 1993
MASKED SHREW												
AMERICAN WATER SHREW												
SHORT-TAILED SHREW												
SHREW species												1
LITTLE BROWN BAT												
EASTERN COTTONTAIL												
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL					1			1				
SNOWSHOE HARE	1	T		5		T1		5		T13	T16	T
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT		T		T15	T	T4	T14			3+T14	T12	
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL												
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SQUIRREL												
BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG												
GREY SQUIRREL												
FOX SQUIRREL												
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL	+	7				T1			3			1
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL												
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER												
AMERICAN BEAVER		L2										
DEER MOUSE					T1						T9	
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE												
MUSKRAT												
MEADOW VOLE												T
VOLE species				T7								
MOUSE species				T5		T8						
NORWAY RAT												
HOUSE MOUSE												
AMERICAN PORCUPINE		1			T2						1	
COYOTE		T4		10	2	1+T5	2		1	T1	T6	
WOLF		T3										
RED FOX	+	T2		T4	1	T7	1			T1	T8	2
SWIFT FOX												
RACCOON												
AMERICAN MARTEN												
FISHER												
ERMINE		T2				T2						
LONG-TAILED WEASEL						T2					T2	
LEAST WEASEL						T2						
WEASEL species					T1					T3		T4
AMERICAN MINK		T2				T1						T1
AMERICAN BADGER												
STRIPED SKUNK												
RIVER OTTER												
LYNX												
BOBCAT												
WOODLAND CARIBOU												
MULE DEER			+	1	22					6		
WHITE-TAILED DEER	+	4	+	4	29	T3	23	+	3	3+T16	21	T
DEER species											T26	
MOOSE		T2										
AMERICAN ELK		T3										
PRONGHORN					92		31					
TOTAL SPECIES	4	13	2	8	10	11	5	3	3	7	10	7

Table 1.2. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE											
	13. DILKE 28 Dec. 1992	14. DUVAL 29 Dec. 1992	15. EDAM 26 Dec. 1992	16. ENDEAVOUR 25 Dec. 1992	17. ESTEVAN 24 Dec. 1992	18. FENTON 02 Jan. 1993	19. FIFE LAKE 03 Jan. 1993	20. FORT QU'APPELLE 21 Dec. 1992	21. FORT WALSH 20 Dec. 1992	22. GARDINER DAM 22 Dec. 1992	23. GOOD SPIRIT LAKE 01 Jan. 1993	24. GOVENLOCK 21 Dec. 1992
MASKED SHREW AMERICAN WATER SHREW SHORT-TAILED SHREW SHREW species LITTLE BROWN BAT									T1			
EASTERN COTTONTAIL NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL SNOWSHOE HARE WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL					2   T2				1 T1 T11	T2 T2 T7	T20 T22	7   2
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SQUIRREL BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG GREY SQUIRREL FOX SQUIRREL AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL					T2							
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER AMERICAN BEAVER DEER MOUSE GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE				1								
MUSKRAT MEADOW VOLE VOLE species MOUSE species NORWAY RAT												
HOUSE MOUSE AMERICAN PORCUPINE COYOTE WOLF RED FOX												
SWIFT FOX RACCOON AMERICAN MARTEN FISHER ERMINE												
LONG-TAILED WEASEL LEAST WEASEL WEASEL species AMERICAN MINK AMERICAN BADGER												
STRIPED SKUNK RIVER OTTER LYNX BOBCAT WOODLAND CARIBOU												
MULE DEER WHITE-TAILED DEER DEER species MOOSE AMERICAN ELK												
PRONGHORN												
TOTAL SPECIES	0	5	0	4	5	1	0	11	16	9	13	13

Table 1.3. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

LOCATION AND DATE												
SPECIES	25. G. CTR.-PIERCELAND 26 Dec. 1992	26. GRASSLANDS N.P. 19 Dec. 1992	27. HUDSON BAY 02 Jan. 1993	28. HUMBOLDT 26 Dec. 1992	29. INDIAN HEAD 30 Dec. 1992	30. KAMSACK 26 Dec. 1992	31. KELVINGTON 02 Jan. 1993	32. KENASTON 26 Dec. 1992	33. KINDERSLEY 03 Jan. 1993	34. KINLOCH 03 Jan. 1993	35. KUTAWAGAN LAKE 02 Jan. 1993	36. LARONGE 02 Jan. 1993
MASKED SHREW AMERICAN WATER SHREW SHORT-TAILED SHREW SHREW species LITTLE BROWN BAT												
EASTERN COTTONTAIL NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL SNOWSHOE HARE WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT RICHARDSON'S GROUND SOUIRREL	T13	6 1		1 T1	5+T12	26	T4 T2				T	T2
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SOUIRREL BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG GREY SOUIRREL FOX SOUIRREL AMERICAN RED SOUIRREL												3
NORTHERN FLYING SOUIRREL NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER AMERICAN BEAVER DEER MOUSE GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE			T									
MUSKRAT MEADOW VOLE VOLE species MOUSE species NORWAY RAT		10						T				T1
HOUSE MOUSE AMERICAN PORCUPINE COYOTE WOLF RED FOX		6 4			+	7	+				1	T5
SWIFT FOX RACCOON AMERICAN MARTEN FISHER ERMINE	+				+		T1	T			1	T3
LONG-TAILED WEASEL LEAST WEASEL WEASEL species AMERICAN MINK AMERICAN BADGER							T1 T1				T	
STRIPED SKUNK RIVER OTTER LYNX BOBCAT WOODLAND CARIBOU					+							
MULE DEER WHITE-TAILED DEER DEER species MOOSE AMERICAN ELK	T15	111 67		T3	+	28	6	T	9		T	
PRONGHORN		444				2 50						
TOTAL SPECIES	4	9	0	3	7	5	7	3	1	0	5	6

Table 1.4. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE											
	37. LAST MTN. LAKE 26 Dec. 1992	38. LEADER 31 Dec. 1992	39. LIVELONG 02 Jan. 1993	40. LOON LAKE 31 Dec. 1992	41. LOVE-TORCH RIVER 28 Dec. 1992	42. LUSELAND 29 Dec. 1992	43. MACDOWALL 01 Jan. 1993	44. MARS DEN 28 Dec. 1992	45. MEADOW LAKE 27 Dec. 1992	46. MELFORT 19 Dec. 1992	47. MELVILLE 25 Dec. 1992	48. MISSINIPIE 03 Jan. 1993
MASKED SHREW AMERICAN WATER SHREW SHORT-TAILED SHREW SHREW species LITTLE BROWN BAT												
EASTERN COTTONTAIL NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL SNOWSHOE HARE WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL	T	2				+	T8 +	1				
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SQUIRREL BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG GREY SQUIRREL FOX SQUIRREL AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL							1					
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER AMERICAN BEAVER DEER MOUSE GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE							1					
MUSKRAT MEADOW VOLE VOLE species MOUSE species NORWAY RAT		22					T6			T		
HOUSE MOUSE AMERICAN PORCUPINE COYOTE WOLF RED FOX	T 3  T	1 2			+	+	T4 T5				T	
SWIFT FOX RACCOON AMERICAN MARTEN FISHER ERMINE					T3		T2					
LONG-TAILED WEASEL LEAST WEASEL WEASEL species AMERICAN MINK AMERICAN BADGER	T						T6 T2			1	+	
STRIPED SKUNK RIVER OTTER LYNX BOBCAT WOODLAND CARIBOU												
MULE DEER WHITE-TAILED DEER DEER species MOOSE AMERICAN ELK	4	27 13		2	2	5	1+T20	5 20			7	
PRONGHORN												
TOTAL SPECIES	6	6	0	1	3	4	11	3	0	3	2	0

Table 1.5. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

LOCATION AND DATE												
SPECIES	49. MOOSE JAW 26 Dec. 1992	50. MOOSE MOUNTAIN 17 Dec. 1992	51. NICOLLE FLATS 03 Jan. 1993	52. NIPAWIN 03 Jan. 1993	53. PIKE LAKE 02 Jan. 1993	54. PORCUPINE PLAIN 28 Dec. 1992	55. PRINCE ALBERT (A) 22 Dec. 1992	56. PRINCE ALBERT (B) 20 Dec. 1992	57. PRINCE ALBERT N.P. 20 Dec. 1992	58. QU'APPELLE VAL. D. 20 Dec. 1992	59. RAYMORE 25 Dec. 1992	60. REGINA 26 Dec. 1992
MASKED SHREW												1
AMERICAN WATER SHREW									+			
SHORT-TAILED SHREW												
SHREW species												
LITTLE BROWN BAT												
EASTERN COTTONTAIL												
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL												
SNOWSHOE HARE					T5				T8	1+T	T5	2
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT			D1		T5						T3	3
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL												
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SQUIRREL												
BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG												
GREY SQUIRREL												
FOX SQUIRREL												
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL	2	3						1	1+T5			1
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL												
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER												
AMERICAN BEAVER											L1	
DEER MOUSE					1				T1		2	
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE											1	
MUSKRAT											L1	L2
MEADOW VOLE											2	
VOLE species											T2	
MOUSE species											T7	
NORWAY RAT												
HOUSE MOUSE												2
AMERICAN PORCUPINE			1									2
COYOTE									T1	3+2T		4
WOLF									T2			
RED FOX		1	1						3+6T	1	1	8
SWIFT FOX												
RACCOON												
AMERICAN MARTEN												
FISHER									1			
ERMINE												
LONG-TAILED WEASEL												
LEAST WEASEL											+	
WEASEL species											T5	
AMERICAN MINK									1			
AMERICAN BADGER												
STRIPED SKUNK												
RIVER OTTER									T4			
LYNX												
BOBCAT												
WOODLAND CARIBOU												
MULE DEER			6							5		
WHITE-TAILED DEER	3	8	39				9	T8		15	7	13
DEER species					2			T1				T
MOOSE								T2				
AMERICAN ELK								3+45T				
PRONGHORN												
TOTAL SPECIES	2	3	5	0	4	0	0	2	14	5	17	7

Table 1.6. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

LOCATION AND DATE												
SPECIES	61. REGINA BEACH 03 Jan. 1993	62. ROUND LAKE 26 Dec. 1992	63. SASKATOON 26 Dec. 1992	64. SCOTT 03 Jan. 1993	65. SKULL CREEK 26 Dec. 1992	66. SNOWDEN 22 Dec. 1992	67. SOMME-NEELY LAKE 17 Dec. 1992	68. SPALDING 03 Jan. 1993	69. SPINNEY HILL 02 Jan. 1993	70. SPRING VALLEY 25 Dec. 1992	71. SPRUCE HOME 02 Jan. 1993	72. SQUAW RAPIDS 17 Dec. 1992
MASKED SHREW												
AMERICAN WATER SHREW												
SHORT-TAILED SHREW												
SHREW species						T			T			
LITTLE BROWN BAT												
EASTERN COTTONTAIL												
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL					6							
SNOWSHOE HARE	1	T1	2+21T			T9			T	T		T19
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT	1	T1		T7	11						2+T	T
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL												
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SQUIRREL												
BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG												
GREY SQUIRREL												
FOX SQUIRREL												
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL					2	2						10
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL												
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER												
AMERICAN BEAVER		T1										L2
DEER MOUSE												
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE												
MUSKRAT		T1										
MEADOW VOLE					1							
VOLE species				T7								1
MOUSE species					T	T6		T	T	T		T
NORWAY RAT												
HOUSE MOUSE												
AMERICAN PORCUPINE	T1			1	6				T	T		T1
COYOTE	T2		1	2	7	T7			2+T	3		2
WOLF												T1
RED FOX	T3		2		T	T2			T	1		1
SWIFT FOX												
RACCOON			T			T1						
AMERICAN MARTEN												
FISHER												T
ERMINE												
LONG-TAILED WEASEL		T1			+							
LEAST WEASEL			T									
WEASEL species						T2		T				T
AMERICAN MINK		T1			T	T2						
AMERICAN BADGER					1							
STRIPED SKUNK												
RIVER OTTER												
LYNX					T							
BOBCAT					T							
WOODLAND CARIBOU												
MULE DEER					23					8		
WHITE-TAILED DEER	4+3T		11+15T	T5	43	T24		T	1+T		+	4
DEER species									T			
MOOSE									T			
AMERICAN ELK						T3						T3
PRONGHORN					T							T10
TOTAL SPECIES	6	6	6	5	17	10	0	5	9	6	1	15

Table 1.7. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE								TOTAL COUNTS
	73. SWIFT CURRENT 02 Jan. 1993	74. TISDALE 30 Dec. 1992	75. TURTLE LAKE 26 Dec. 1992	76. VAL MARIE 03 Jan. 1993	77. WEYBURN 19 Dec. 1992	78. WHITE BEAR 02 Jan. 1993	79. WHITEWOOD 01 Jan. 1993	80. YORKTON 02 Jan. 1993	
MASKED SHREW									1
AMERICAN WATER SHREW									1
SHORT-TAILED SHREW									0
SHREW species									4
LITTLE BROWN BAT									0
EASTERN COTTONTAIL									1
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL	1					4			8
SNOWSHOE HARE					+		T		34
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT				2	1		T	1	36
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL									0
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SQUIRREL									0
BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG									0
GREY SQUIRREL									0
FOX SQUIRREL					+				1
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL							2		22
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL									1
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER									0
AMERICAN BEAVER									5
DEER MOUSE									7
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE									4
MUSKRAT									4
MEADOW VOLE									7
VOLE species							+		8
MOUSE species							T		17
NORWAY RAT									0
HOUSE MOUSE									2
AMERICAN PORCUPINE				1			1		20
COYOTE			2	7			4		40
WOLF									3
RED FOX				1	1	+	2		43
SWIFT FOX									1
RACCOON									3
AMERICAN MARTEN									0
FISHER									2
ERMINE									4
LONG-TAILED WEASEL									7
LEAST WEASEL									4
WEASEL species							+		16
AMERICAN MINK									9
AMERICAN BADGER									2
STRIPED SKUNK									1
RIVER OTTER									1
LYNX									2
BOBCAT									1
WOODLAND CARIBOU									0
MULE DEER	+				4	56			19
WHITE-TAILED DEER	+		14	12	4		11	4	67
DEER species									6
MOOSE			2						8
AMERICAN ELK			2						7
PRONGHORN									5
TOTAL SPECIES	3	0	4	5	6	3	10	2	