

SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS – 1996

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The number of mammal counts conducted this year was 82 up from the 78 last year but below the record 84 in 1994. The number of species recorded was 39, up slightly from last year's 38. The average number of species per count (6.89) was down from the past few years and was below the 10-year average of 7.1.

Weather was more harsh than has been reported for most years. Temperatures were colder and there was more snow cover than usual. A Black Bear at Kamsack was the only species not previously reported from past mammal counts. Rarely reported species included Swift Fox reported from Govenlock and flying squirrels from Turtle Lake and Good Spirit Lake. Warm weather species were less prevalent though Piapot did see a Richardson's Ground Squirrel.

The most commonly reported species was White-tailed Deer followed by Coyote and White-tailed Jack Rabbit. Most populations appeared stable. An exception was Lynx that was found on three counts compared with none in 1995.

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. In the tables, a numeral alone shows that the mammals were seen, while a letter preceding the number means that the number was inferred by the means defined below. A letter alone means that the species was present but estimating the numbers was impossible or that no attempt was made to do so. Some counts have included the numbers of animals seen, plus an estimate

of the number present by tracks, as well as freshly dead animals found.

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 (December 20 to January 5) but not found on count day.

Table 1-1. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE									
	1. ARCHERWILL 26 December 1986	2. ARMIT 3 January 1997	3. ASSINIBOIA 4 January 1997	4. BANGOR 5 January 1997	5. BETHUNE 4 January 1997	6. BIGGAR 28 December 1986	7. BIG RIVER 28 December 1986	8. BIRCH HILLS 20 December 1986	9. BRIGHTWATER R. 21 December 1986	10. BROADVIEW 27 December 1986
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW species										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL										
COTTONTAIL species										
SNOWSHOE HARE	T(10)	T(30)	13	T(2)		T(3)	T(2)	T(29)		T(23)
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT			14		2	T(3)		T(1)	T(3)	T(5)
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL										
FOX SQUIRREL				+						
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL	T(2)	9					2	1 +T(2)		5 +T(4)
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
AMERICAN BEAVER		L(1)								
DEER MOUSE										
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT										
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE species						T(7)				
MOUSE species	1 + T(10)	T(2)						T(6)		T(9)
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
AMERICAN PORCUPINE		T(1)						T(1)		7 +T(1)
COYOTE	2 +T(2)	T(1)	7	T(5)	1	1	T(1)	T(5)		1 +T(5)
WOLF		T(3)								
RED FOX		T(1)	1			T(1)	T(1)		1	
SWIFT FOX										
BLACK BEAR										
RACCOON										
ERMINE								T(3)		T(1)
LONG-TAILED WEASEL				+				T(2)		
LEAST WEASEL								T(2)		
WEASEL species		T(1)				T(1)				
AMERICAN MINK										
AMERICAN BADGER										
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER										
LYNX										
FERAL CAT										
MULE DEER			15							
WHITE-TAILED DEER	2 + T(50)	2	66	14		11	T(4)	T(3)		11 + T(37)
DEER species										
MOOSE	2 +T(2)	1				+				T(3)
AMERICAN ELK		T(70)								
PRONGHORN										
TOTAL SPECIES	6	12	6	5	2	8	5	10	2	9

Table 1-2. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

11. BROMHEAD 5 January 1997	12. CANDLE LAKE 30 December 1996	15. CLARK'S CROSSING 21 December 1996	16. CORONACH 5 January 1997	17. CRAVEN 21 December 1996	18. CROOKED LAKE 21 December 1996	20. CYPRESS HILLS P.P. 30 December 1996	22. DUVAL 28 December 1996	23. EASTEND 3 January 1997	24. EMMA LAKE 1 January 1997	LOCATION AND DATE	SPECIES
											MASKED SHREW
											SHREW species
			5			T(2)		3			NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
						T(6)					COTTONTAIL species
	T(50)	T(8)		T(5)			1				SNOWSHOE HARE
		8		T(2)	T		T(6)				WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
											RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL
				2							GREY SQUIRREL
											FOX SQUIRREL
	7				2	2			6		AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL
											NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
											NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
					L	L(2)					AMERICAN BEAVER
						T(1)					DEER MOUSE
					1						GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
			1								MUSKRAT
											MEADOW VOLE
							T(4)				VOLE species
	T(5)	T(7)					T(10)				MOUSE species
											NORWAY RAT
											HOUSE MOUSE
			3	T(1)		5	T(1)				AMERICAN PORCUPINE
2			1	5	2	8	1				COYOTE
				+T(4)		+T(1)					WOLF
	T(1)										RED FOX
	T(1)	1	1	T(1)	T		T(4)				
		+T(1)									SWIFT FOX
											BLACK BEAR
	1								1		RACCOON
											ERMINE
							T(1)				LONG-TAILED WEASEL
											LEAST WEASEL
											WEASEL species
	T(1)				T			1			AMERICAN MINK
											AMERICAN BADGER
											STRIPED SKUNK
											+ RIVER OTTER
											LYNX
											FERAL CAT
3			116			21		8			MULE DEER
136	19	2	25	45	22	52	7	16			WHITE-TAILED DEER
		T(6)									DEER species
		2					T(15)				MOOSE
	T(1)					4					AMERICAN ELK
	5					168					PRONGHORN
						18					
3	11	6	7	7	8	12	9	5	2		TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-3. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE	25. ENDEAVOUR 24 December 1986	26. FENTON 4 January 1987	27. FIFE LAKE 2 January 1987	28. FT. QU'APPELLE 21 December 1986	28. FORT WALSH 21 December 1986	30. GARDINER DAM 23 December 1986	31. GOOD SPIRIT L 28 December 1986	32. GOVENLOCK 22 December 1986	33. GRASSLANDS N.P. 29 December 1986
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW species										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL				1		5	4		5 +T(2)	4
COTTONTAIL species										
SNOWSHOE HARE			2 + T(16)		3	T(3)	T(4)	T(13)		
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT		1			+	T(3)	3	T(7)	1 + T(21)	T(25)
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL										
FOX SQUIRREL										
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL			3 +T(3)		14	7		3		
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL								3		
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
AMERICAN BEAVER								L(1)		
DEER MOUSE		T			1		1			2
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE								1		
MUSKRAT					2			L(8)		
MEADOW VOLE					+				1	
VOLE species						T(5)		T(1)		
MOUSE species			T(1)							
NORWAY RAT					+					
HOUSE MOUSE										
AMERICAN PORCUPINE					1	3	1	2	2 +T(1)	4
COYOTE		1	2 +T(3)		1	9	9	1	6	7
WOLF										
RED FOX			T(1)		+	T(1)	T(1)	1		1
SWIFT FOX									T(1)	
BLACK BEAR										
RACCOON					5					
ERMINE										
LONG-TAILED WEASEL			1					+		
LEAST WEASEL			T(1)							
WEASEL species						T(1)		T(4)		T(2)
AMERICAN MINK					+					
AMERICAN BADGER										d(1)
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER										
LYNX										
FERAL CAT										
MULE DEER				17	5	59	62		38	79
WHITE-TAILED DEER		T	T(11)	11	11	61	69	9	28	48
DEER species										
MOOSE						T(1)		T(2)		
AMERICAN ELK		T				8				
PRONGHORN										11
TOTAL SPECIES		5	8	3	14	13	9	13	8	11

Table 1-4. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

34. GRASSLANDS (NW) 20 December 1986	35. GRAYSON 23 December 1986	36. HORSESHOE BEND 30 December 1986	39. HUMBOLDT 28 December 1986	40. INDIAN HEAD 28 December 1986	41. KAMSACK 28 December 1986	42. KELVINGTON 28 December 1986	43. KENASTON 2 January 1987	44. KILWINNING 20 December 1986	LOCATION AND DATE	SPECIES
										MASKED SHREW
										SHREW species
T							T(5)			NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
										COTTONTAIL species
			T(8)	6		1 T(10)				SNOWSHOE HARE
2			T(2)	7		T(4)	T(9)			WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
										RICHARDSONSGROUNDSQUIFFEL
										GREY SQUIRREL
										FOX SQUIRREL
		1		9				2		AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
										AMERICAN BEAVER
T(1)							T			DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
										MUSKRAT
										MEADOW VOLE
										VOLE species
		T	T(1)			T(2)				MOUSE species
										NORWAY RAT
	2			1						HOUSE MOUSE
H(1)			T(2)	11	4	T(4)	1	2		AMERICAN PORCUPINE
										COYOTE
										WOLF
		1	T(1)	4	1	T(1)	T(5)			RED FOX
										SWIFT FOX
					1					BLACK BEAR
				2						RACCOON
										ERMINE
T(1)							T			LONG-TAILED WEASEL
				1						LEAST WEASEL
										WEASEL species
										AMERICAN MINK
										AMERICAN BADGER
							T			STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
					2					LYNX
										FERAL CAT
6							T(4)			MULE DEER
90	6	5	T(8)	62	17	T(12)	4			WHITE-TAILED DEER
										DEER species
					2					MOOSE
					3					AMERICAN ELK
							8			PRONGHORN
7	2	4	6	9	7	6	10	2		TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-5. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE									
	45. KINLOCH 2 January 1997	46. KUTAWAGAN LAKE 27 December 1988	47. KYLE 26 December 1988	48. LAST MT. L. NWA 26 December 1988	49. LA RONGE 26 December 1988	50. LEADER (N) 29 December 1988	51. LEADER (S) 1 January 1997	53. LOVE - TORCH R. 2 January 1997	54. LUSELAND 5 January 1997	
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW species										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL						2	2			
COTTONTAIL species										
SNOWSHOE HARE	1	T(1)	2		T(6)			1		
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT		T(5)		T(25)		T(2)	2			+
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL										
FOX SQUIRREL										
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL	4				T(3)			3		
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
AMERICAN BEAVER	L(2)									
DEER MOUSE		T(1)		T(2)			3			+
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT	L(4)	L(21)		L(1)						
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE species										
MOUSE species						1				
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
AMERICAN PORCUPINE			1	T(2)						
COYOTE	T(4)	6		2 +T(7)		2		1	2	
WOLF										
RED FOX		1	1	1 +T(1)	T(1)				1	
SWIFT FOX										
BLACK BEAR										
RACCOON										
ERMINE					T(4)					
LONG-TAILED WEASEL				T(1)						
LEAST WEASEL	T(2)									
WEASEL species										
AMERICAN MINK				T(1)	T(2)					
AMERICAN BADGER				d(1)						
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER										
LYNX	T(1)									
FERAL CAT				3						
MULE DEER						21	51		6	
WHITE-TAILED DEER		3	31	90		15	8	9	+	
DEER species	11									
MOOSE										
AMERICAN ELK	T(25)									
PRONGHORN			15			50				
TOTAL SPECIES	9	7	5	11	5	7	5	4	6	

Table 1-6. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

56. MARYFIELD 26 December 1986	57. MEADOW LAKE 26 December 1986	58. MEATH PARK 4 January 1987	59. MELFORT 26 December 1986	60. MELFORT (SE) 26 December 1986	61. MELVILLE 24 December 1986	62. MOOSE JAW 28 December 1986	63. MOOSE MOUNTAIN 20 December 1986	64. NAICAM 3 January 1987	LOCATION AND DATE	SPECIES
										MASKED SHREW
						1				SHREW species
										NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
										COTTONTAIL species
T(10)			1		T(3)					SNOWSHOE HARE
1 +T(2)			1			1				WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
										RICHARDSONSGROUNDSQUIRREL
						1				GREY SQUIRREL
						3	5			FOX SQUIRREL
	1	2						1		AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
										AMERICAN BEAVER
					2					DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
										MUSKRAT
										MEADOW VOLE
										VOLE species
T(3)										MOUSE species
										NORWAY RAT
										HOUSE MOUSE
2										AMERICAN PORCUPINE
3				1						COYOTE
										WOLF
1 +T(8)					+					RED FOX
										SWIFT FOX
	1					2				BLACK BEAR
										RACCOON
										ERMINE
										LONG-TAILED WEASEL
										LEAST WEASEL
T(1)										WEASEL species
T(2)										AMERICAN MINK
										AMERICAN BADGER
S(1)										STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
										LYNX
										FERAL CAT
										MULE DEER
25 + T(200)			T(3)		3	25	4			WHITE-TAILED DEER
					6					DEER species
										MOOSE
										AMERICAN ELK
										PRONGHORN
10	2	1	3	1	4	6	2	1		TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-7. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE	65. NIPAWIN 5 January 1997	66. PIKE LAKE 4 January 1997	67. PRINCE ALBERT 22 December 1996	68. PRINCE ALBERT NP 29 December 1996	68. QU'APPELLE DAM 5 January 1997	70. RAYMORE 25 December 1996	71. REGINA 26 December 1996	72. ROCKGLEN 5 January 1997	73. ROUND LAKE (Q.V.) 2 January 1997
MASKED SHREW							T(1)			
SHREW species										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL										
COTTONTAIL species										
SNOWSHOE HARE			2 +T(1)	T(13) +D(2)	T(8)	T(5)	4 +T(7)	1		
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT							T(11)	15		
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL								3		
FOX SQUIRREL										
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL		3	7 +T(2)	2	27 + T(27)					
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
AMERICAN BEAVER							L(1)			T(2)
DEER MOUSE							1	T		T(1)
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT							L(20)			
MEADOW VOLE							1			
VOLE species					T(2)			T		
MOUSE species				T(4)	T(2)	T(4)				
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE				D(1)			1			
AMERICAN PORCUPINE			2	T(3)		4	T(3)	T(1)		
COYOTE				2 +T(1)	T(1)	26	T(4)	3	2	
WOLF					T(10)					
RED FOX				T(2)	2 +T(6)		T(1)	1		
SWIFT FOX										
BLACK BEAR										
RACCOON										
ERMINE					T(1)		T(1)			
LONG-TAILED WEASEL				T(3)			T(1)			T(2)
LEAST WEASEL				T(1)				T(1)		
WEASEL species								T(2)		
AMERICAN MINK										T(2)
AMERICAN BADGER							+			T(2)
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER					T(1)					
LYNX					+					
FERAL CAT										
MULE DEER						2			60	+
WHITE-TAILED DEER			11 + T(18)	7 + T(6)		59	T(11)	23	35	
DEER species					T(7)	3 + T(100)				
MOOSE					T(2)					
AMERICAN ELK					16 + T(38)					
PRONGHORN										
TOTAL SPECIES		1	4	9	13	6	15	10	3	13

Table 1-8. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

74. ROUND LAKE (P.A.) 22 December 1986	75. SK LANDING P.P. 24 December 1986	76. SASKATOON 26 December 1986	77. SCOTT 31 December 1986	78. SHAMROCK 28 December 1986	80. SKULL CREEK 26 December 1986	81. SNOWDEN 4 January 1997	82. SPALDING 4 January 1997	83. SPINNEY HILL 3 January 1997	LOCATION AND DATE	SPECIES
					T(2)	+				MASKED SHREW
					23					SHREW species
	3									NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
										COTTONTAIL species
T		2 +T(8)	1	T(4)		T(10)	T	T		SNOWSHOE HARE
	T(25)	12 +T(2)	T(2)		4					WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT
					+					RICHARDSONSGROUNDSQUIRREL
										GREY SQUIRREL
										FOX SQUIRREL
2					6	13		3		AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
										AMERICAN BEAVER
	T(1)	T(3)			T					DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
		T(1)								MUSKRAT
					T	T(3)				MEADOW VOLE
		T(1)	T(1)							VOLE species
		T(4)						T		MOUSE species
										NORWAY RAT
						T(12)				HOUSE MOUSE
	2	2 +D(1)			6			2		AMERICAN PORCUPINE
T	2	5	1	1	16	+				COYOTE
										WOLF
T	T(2)	3 +T(3)	T(1)	T(2)	T					RED FOX
										SWIFT FOX
										BLACK BEAR
					T(2)					RACCOON
										ERMINE
					T(3)					LONG-TAILED WEASEL
						+				LEAST WEASEL
	T(1)	T(2)								WEASEL species
					T(3)					AMERICAN MINK
					1					AMERICAN BADGER
					S(1)					STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
										LYNX
										FERAL CAT
	61	T(1)		15	49					MULE DEER
	32	25 + T(24)	T(15)		179	4	T			WHITE-TAILED DEER
		T(22)								DEER species
					T(2)	+				MOOSE
						+				AMERICAN ELK
										PRONGHORN
4	9	11	6	4	18	10	3	3		TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-9. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	LOCATION AND DATE	84. SQUAW RAPIDS 2 January 1997	85. SWIFT CURRENT 29 December 1996	87. TURTLE L. (E) 1 January 1997	88. TURTLE L. (SE) 2 January 1997	89. WEYBURN 21 December 1996	90. WHITE BEAR 1 January 1997	91. WHITEWOOD 22 December 1996	92. YORKTON 3 January 1997	TOTAL COUNTS
MASKED SHREW										1
SHREW species										2
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL			7				+			17
COTTONTAIL species										1
SNOWSHOE HARE		T(8)		6	T	T(7)		T(5)		47
WHITE-TAILED JACK RABBIT		T(1)			T	T(3)	1	T(2)		42
RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL										1
GREY SQUIRREL			5							4
FOX SQUIRREL						7		+		5
AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL		13		15	11			2	1	38
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL				1						2
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER								+		1
AMERICAN BEAVER		L(1)								8
DEER MOUSE		T(2)						T(4)		20
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										1
MUSKRAT		L(1)								9
MEADOW VOLE		T(2)								7
VOLE species					T					9
MOUSE species										19
NORWAY RAT										1
HOUSE MOUSE								T(2)		4
AMERICAN PORCUPINE		T(1)				+		1		31
COYOTE		5	10		3		1	4		57
WOLF		1								4
RED FOX		T(1)		1				7		43
SWIFT FOX										1
BLACK BEAR										1
RACCOON										7
ERMINE		T(1)						T(1)		7
LONG-TAILED WEASEL										12
LEAST WEASEL		T(2)								9
WEASEL species		T(2)			T(3)					11
AMERICAN MINK		T(1)								10
AMERICAN BADGER										5
STRIPED SKUNK				1						4
RIVER OTTER		T(2)								3
LYNX										3
FERAL CAT										1
MULE DEER			58				148			25
WHITE-TAILED DEER		10	48	15	T(4)	5	3	8	1	87
DEER species										7
MOOSE		2							1	14
AMERICAN ELK		4								10
PRONGHORN							25			8
TOTAL SPECIES		18	5	6	7	5	6	12	3	