

RARE AND MARGINAL WINTER NON-PASSERINE BIRDS IN MANITOBA

PETER TAYLOR, Box 597, Pinawa, MB R0E 1L0, E-mail: <taylorp@granite.mb.ca> and RUDOLF F. KOES, 135 Rossmere Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R2K 0G1, E-mail: <rkoes@mts.net>

This is the belated companion to a similar article on passerine birds published in 1995.²⁷ Our intent is to provide a benchmark to help detect future changes in winter bird distribution and survival in Manitoba, whether due to climate change or other causes. For consistency with the companion article, we used the 1986 Manitoba bird checklist to identify 23 species that normally occur in a significant portion of Manitoba in winter.¹⁴ These comprise category A below: normal winter birds. About 78 additional species have been recorded in the province, mainly in the south, between 1 December and 28 February. These make up categories B to E below. We define this period as the "winter" season for the purpose of this article; it is normally the most demanding period for bird survival in the Prairie Provinces. All these species are listed in Table 1 in categories A to E, in decreasing order of their apparent ability to survive. Winter records for species in categories B to E are summarized in the annotated list that follows. The categories are defined as follows.

Category A1, Normal winter birds (more common species)

These 10 species are described in the provincial checklist¹⁴ as abundant, common, or fairly common in winter.

Category A2, Normal winter birds (less common species)

These 13 species are described in the checklist¹⁴ as uncommon or rare in winter, but their winter survival in parts of Manitoba is a normal event of long standing. Of these, the Wild Turkey is a borderline case because its survival usually depends on supplemental feeding and protection, often at farmyards. The Greater Prairie-Chicken, though now extirpated in Canada, was a regular overwintering species during its heyday in Manitoba from the 1880s to the 1930s.⁵

Category B, Localized overwintering species

These 13 species can be expected to overwinter, but are irregular and/or highly localized.

Category C, Occasional overwintering species

These 19 species are accidental or occasional in winter, occurring less frequently than those in Category B, but with evidence of survival until March at least once.

Category D, Persistent stragglers

These 19 species are also accidental or occasional in winter; they are known to have survived into January or February at least once, but not until March.

Category E, Mostly lingering migrants

These species (about 26) have been recorded in December, but are not

TABLE 1 : Non-passerine birds recorded in Manitoba at least once between 1 December and 28 February.

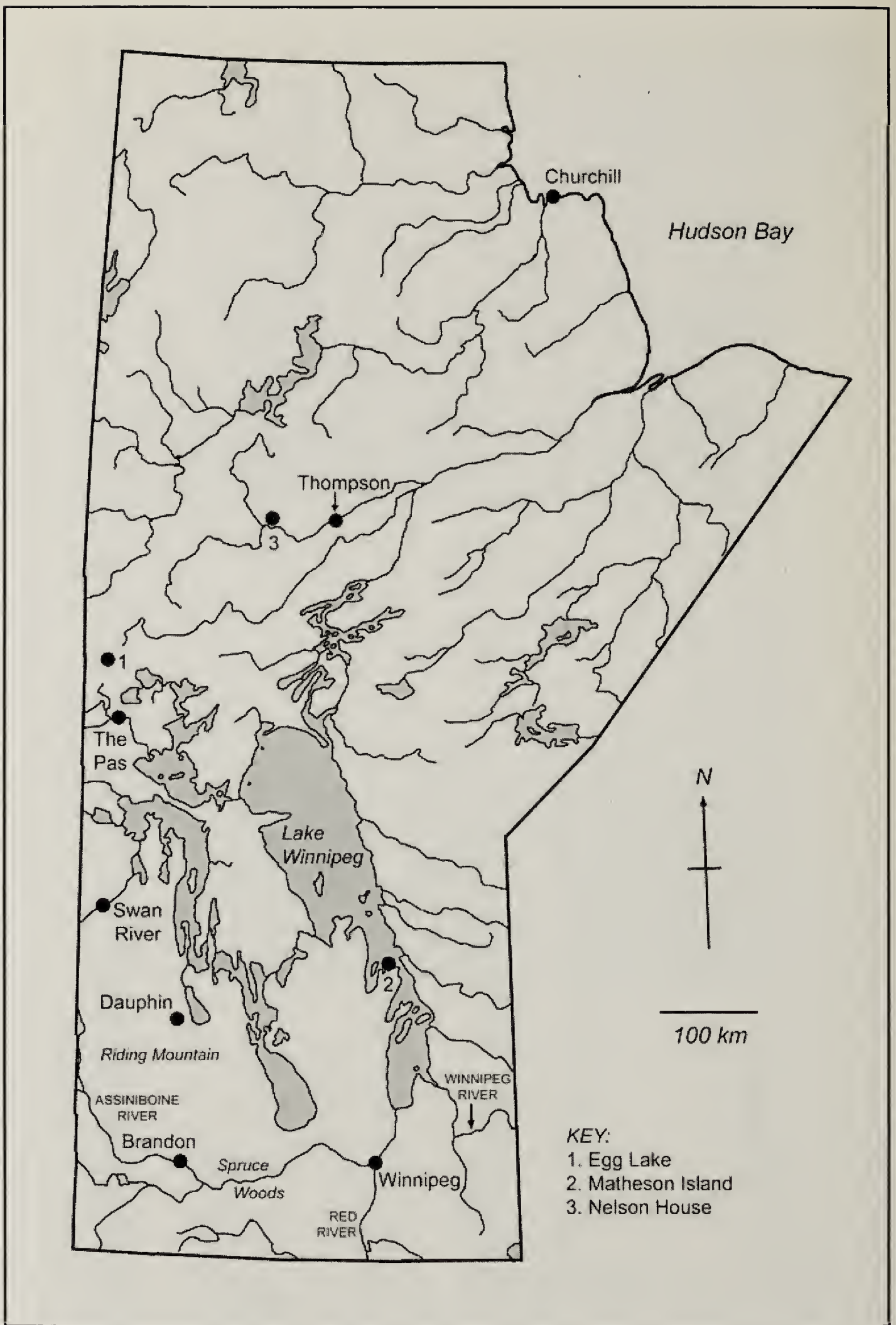
Category A, Normal winter birds (relatively common species, Category A1, in italics)		
<i>Gray Partridge (introduced)</i>	Northern Goshawk	Barred Owl
<i>Ruffed Grouse</i>	Golden Eagle	Great Gray Owl
<i>Spruce Grouse</i>	Gyrfalcon	Boreal Owl
<i>Willow Ptarmigan (in the north)</i>	<i>Rock Pigeon (introduced)</i>	<i>Downy Woodpecker</i>
<i>Rock Ptarmigan (in the far north)</i>	Eastern Screech-Owl	<i>Hairy Woodpecker</i>
<i>Sharp-tailed Grouse</i>	<i>Great Horned Owl</i>	American Three-toed Woodpecker
Greater Prairie-Chicken (extirpated)	<i>Snowy Owl</i>	Black-backed Woodpecker
Wild Turkey (introduced)	Northern Hawk Owl	Pileated Woodpecker
Category B, Localized overwintering species		
Canada Goose	Bald Eagle	Mourning Dove
Mallard	Rough-legged Hawk	Short-eared Owl
Common Goldeneye	American Kestrel	Northern Saw-whet Owl
Common Merganser	Merlin	Northern Flicker
Ring-necked Pheasant (introduced)		
Category C, Occasional overwintering species		
American Wigeon	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Band-tailed Pigeon *
American Black Duck	Cooper's Hawk	Eurasian Collared-Dove (introduced) *
Lesser Scaup	Red-tailed Hawk	Long-eared Owl
Bufflehead	Peregrine Falcon	Red-headed Woodpecker
Common Loon	Prairie Falcon *	Red-bellied Woodpecker *
Double-crested Cormorant	Black Guillemot (far north only) *	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Northern Harrier		

TABLE 1 (continued)

Category D, Persistent stragglers	
Snow Goose	King Eider (far north only) *
Cackling Goose	Common Eider (far north only) †
Gadwall	White-winged Scoter
Northern Shoveler	Long-tailed Duck †
Northern Pintail	Hooded Merganser
Green-winged Teal	Red-throated Loon †
Ring-necked Duck	
	Red-necked Grebe
	Great Blue Heron
	Glaucous Gull †
	Ivory Gull *
	Barn Owl *
	Lewis's Woodpecker *
Category E, Mostly lingering migrants	
Mute Swan (introduced) *	Ruddy Duck
Tundra Swan	Pied-billed Grebe
Wood Duck	Horned Grebe
Blue-winged Teal	Western Grebe
Canvasback	American White Pelican
Redhead	American Bittern
Greater Scaup	Cattle Egret
Harlequin Duck *	Turkey Vulture
Red-breasted Merganser	Red-shouldered Hawk *
	American Coot
	Sandhill Crane
	Killdeer (winter status uncertain)
	Ring-billed Gull
	Herring Gull
	Thayer's Gull and/or Iceland Gull †
	Jaeger (species unknown) †
	Belted Kingfisher

* Noteworthy anywhere in Manitoba at all seasons

† Rarities at any season in the south.



Map 1. Manitoba map showing northern locations referred to in the text



Figure 1. Mallard flock on the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg, 25 February 2007
Dennis Swayze

known to have survived into January.

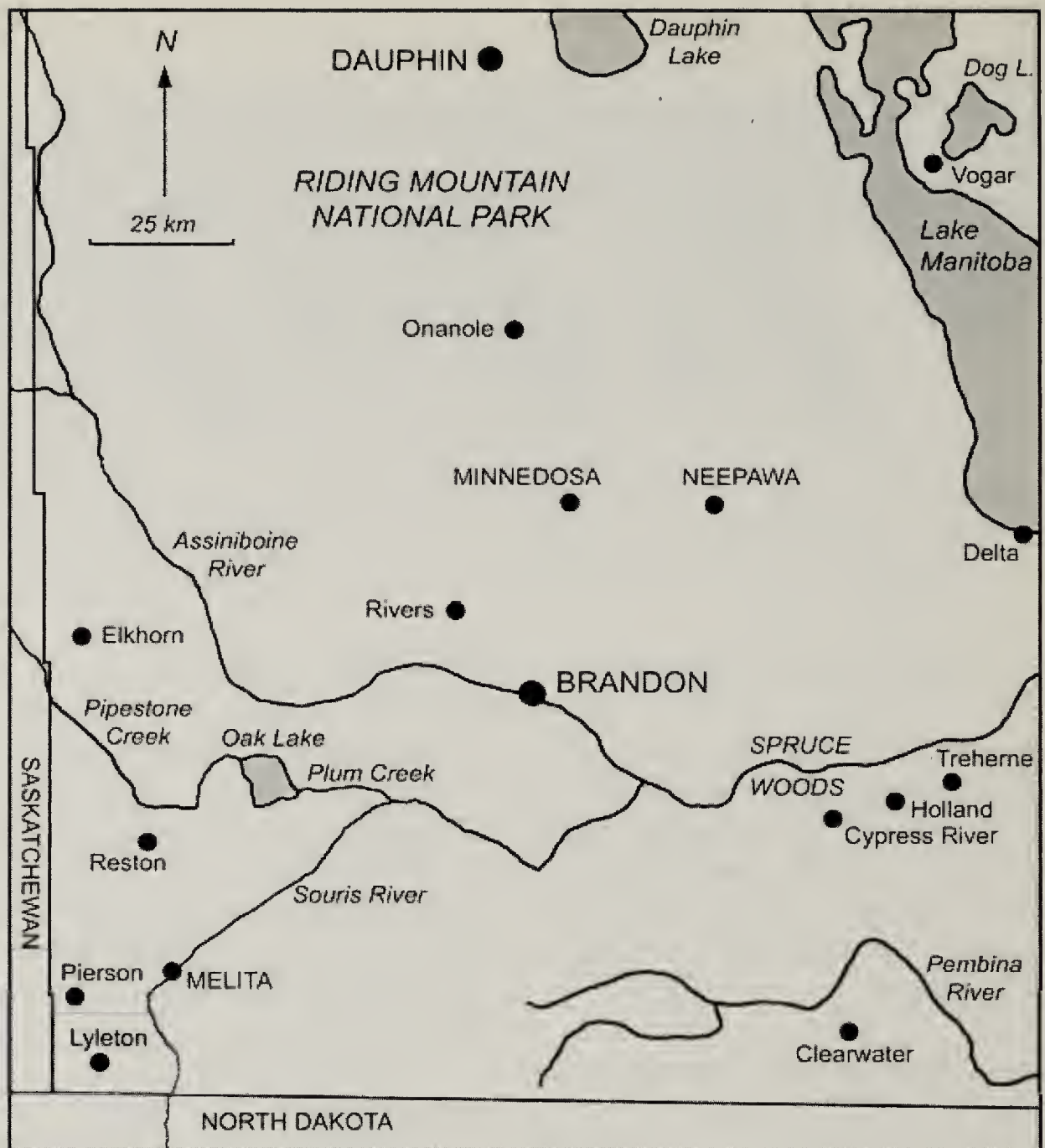
Between mid-March and early April, the first spring migrants of many of these species arrive in Manitoba, while wintering individuals become more mobile as the cold weather eases up, snow cover declines, and open water starts to expand.

The categories outlined above are slightly different from those we used for passerines,²⁷ because of different overall patterns of occurrence. About 38 of the 54 rare and marginal winter passerine species, discussed previously, tend to occur near human habitation, including farmyards, feeders, and fruit trees.²⁷ This can make winter survival relatively easy to document. In contrast, only 12 of the 78 non-passerines discussed below tend to favour human habitation. Fifty-two of them, however, are either water birds (geese, ducks, grebes, etc.) or are strongly associated with open water (e.g. herons). It is sometimes a birder's lot to record the demise of these birds, often injured individuals, as the coldest part of winter sets in and open water is reduced to a minimum. Fast water and dangerous ice conditions usually preclude any rescue attempt. Most winter water-bird records occur along

a few fast-flowing stretches of the Assiniboine, Red, and Winnipeg River systems, and a few other late-freezing spots; little is known about winter birds on major rivers in northern Manitoba. Of the remaining species, 14 are raptors (including owls) whose large ranges and often secretive habits make their survival difficult to confirm, and five are woodpeckers.

Species accounts

As in our previous article,²⁷ these species accounts are compiled from many sources: published seasonal bird reports in *North American Birds* and its predecessors; Christmas Bird Counts compiled at the National Audubon Society website (<http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/>) and in the *Manitoba Naturalists Society Bulletin*; the "Chickadee Notes" bird column formerly published every week in the *Winnipeg Free Press*; e-mail reports on the "Manitobabirds" discussion group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Manitobabirds/>); correspondence and conversations with numerous birders; and our own field notes. Further details of the status of all species can be found in *The Birds of Manitoba*, which includes a gazetteer and a large bibliography.¹⁵



Map 2. Western half of southern Manitoba

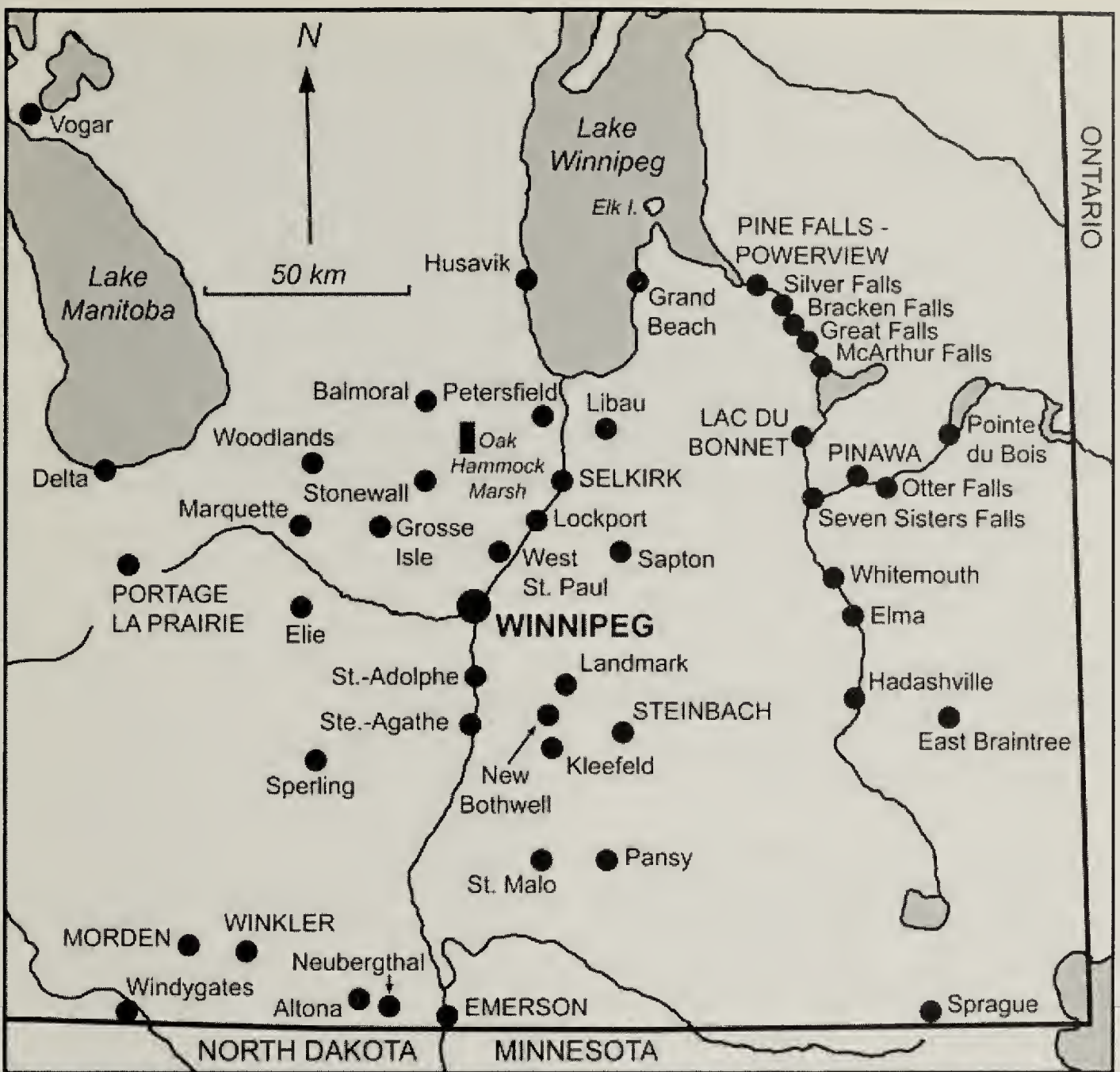
Note that some Hudson Bay coastal records (at or near Churchill) may, strictly, refer to Canadian federal territory rather than Manitoba, if a bird is viewed offshore beyond the normal low-water mark.

Abbreviations: CBC = Christmas Bird Count; Charleswood lagoon = Charleswood or Wilkes sewage lagoon, just west of Winnipeg; M.M. = Manitoba Museum; Oak Hammock = Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area and vicinity. The year for a CBC is defined here as the year in which Christmas Day falls, e.g., a count held on 2 January 1997 would be a "1996" count. Some count names have been abbreviated to a single locality,

e.g., Cypress River, Pinawa, and St. Adolphe. Maps 1-3 show the locations of places mentioned in this article.

SNOW GOOSE – A persistent straggler. There are several early-December records, and lone birds were found on four CBCs: Winnipeg in 1978, Cypress River in 1979, Lyleton in 2002, and St. Adolphe in 2005. A count-week bird at Winnipeg in 2005 was perhaps the same bird found at St. Adolphe. A blue-morph bird survived at Petersfield until at least early February 1983.

ACKLING GOOSE – (Figure 2) A persistent straggler. One accompanied a small group of Canada Geese on the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg until at



Map 3. Eastern half of southern Manitoba

least 2 January 2006, furnishing the first provincial winter record. This species was just recently split from Canada Goose, and previous winter occurrences may have been recorded as that species.

CANADA GOOSE – A localized overwintering species. During mild falls when open water and unharvested grain are available, hundreds or even thousands of Canada Geese may remain into December, but most years virtually all birds have departed by mid-November. The first CBC record involved six birds at Oak Lake in 1970. Since 1975, the species became almost annual on up to five CBCs per year. This coincided with a general

increase in the southern Manitoba breeding population, which consists of relatively short-distance migrants.¹⁵ Individual CBC totals seldom exceed single digits, but occasionally reach 50 or more birds, with an exceptional total of 1800 at Brandon on 19 December 2004. Injured individuals are a fairly common sight into January. Overwintering records are scarce, mostly in the Winnipeg area (especially on open water of the Assiniboine River) and near the dam at Minnedosa, with occasional records elsewhere. Early spring migrants are sometimes noted in late February, but usually in March.

MUTE SWAN – A stray migrant, rare at any season. One at Powerview on 2

December 2000 was likely a “wild” individual, i.e., originating from the expanding, introduced population in eastern North America, including the Great Lakes.²⁶

TUNDRA SWAN – A lingering migrant. An apparently healthy, flying bird at Seven Sisters Falls on 30 December 1998 provided the latest of several December records on the Winnipeg River as well as a rare CBC record for the Pinawa count. The only other CBC individual was at Brandon on 19 December 2004, and last seen on 24 December. Several early December birds have been noted, e.g., at Delta, Oak Hammock and Pansy. An unidentified swan at Windygates on 28 February 2006 was an early migrant, possibly a Trumpeter Swan.

WOOD DUCK – A lingering migrant. The latest individual was in Winnipeg on 21 December 1993, two days after two were seen on that year’s CBC. There are two other CBC records: one at Winnipeg on 16–18 December 2001, and two birds at Oak Hammock on 19 December 1997.

AMERICAN WIGEON – An occasional overwintering species. One was seen on the Assiniboine River west of Winnipeg in January 1981 and again on 8 March. The next latest bird was noted on the Minnedosa CBC on 30 December 1997, and there are two other CBC records: Delta (1997, count week) and Winnipeg (1998).

GADWALL – A persistent straggler. By far the latest record involved one at Minnedosa until 17 January 1999. The only other sighting was of two birds at Oak Hammock on 2 December 1987.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK – An occasional overwintering species, sometimes found with Mallards at Oak

Hammock into early December. One was recorded on the Winnipeg CBC, 19 December 1993, and perhaps the same individual stayed on the Red River at West St. Paul until 2 February 1994. A sighting a little farther downstream on 16 March 1994 suggests that this bird overwintered, since migrants are rarely seen in early spring.

MALLARD – A localized overwintering species. Like Canada Geese, Mallards may be present in the thousands in early December if conditions remain unseasonably mild, but as a rule most have left by then. Their mid-winter distribution is highly localized, depending as they do on open water and access to grain or aquatic food sources. In recent years, up to 200 have attempted to winter annually along the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg (Figure 1) and at the nearby Charleswood lagoon, attracted by open water and supplemental feeding by residents. The first Winnipeg CBC record involved four birds in 1932. More recently, Mallards were recorded irregularly during the 1960s and early 1970s, and since 1976 they have been an annual feature of some Manitoba CBCs. In 1997, a grand total of 446 was recorded on 12 different counts. The maximum tally for the Winnipeg CBC was 341 in 2006. High CBC totals in western Manitoba include 64 at Brandon in 1981, 26 at Minnedosa in 1997, and 18 at Rivers in 1990.

Survival appears to be quite high, e.g., 114+ were counted along the Assiniboine River on 3 March 2004. Up to a few dozen have overwintered on open stretches of the Red River in or near Winnipeg, along artesian streams at Oak Hammock, and below the dam at Minnedosa (e.g., 18 on 21 January 2007). Elsewhere, numbers rarely reach double digits. Mallards are



Figure 2. Cackling Goose (centre) with Canada Geese on the Assiniboine River during the Winnipeg Christmas Bird Count, 18 December 2005

Christian Artuso

infrequent on the Winnipeg River system beyond mid-December, because the available open water is generally too deep or turbulent for dabbling ducks to forage. Spring migrants have been known to arrive in southern Manitoba before the end of February.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL – A lingering migrant. This species just barely qualifies as a “winter” bird, with a single bird seen at Oak Hammock on 1 December 2004.

NORTHERN SHOVELER – A persistent straggler. There are two Winnipeg CBC records, in 1980 and 2001, and one survived at St. Norbert, just south of Winnipeg, to 30 January 1998. Several others have been seen in early December.

NORTHERN PINTAIL – A persistent straggler. The latest survivors were at least one until 17 February 1999, three on 2 February 1976 (with over 70 Mallards and a Common Goldeneye),² and singles on 28 January 2000 and 11 January 1998, all at Oak Hammock. A female was at Rivers on 9 January 1986. There are numerous early-December observations, but only five

CBC records, all in southeastern Manitoba: Winnipeg (1976 and 1997), Oak Hammock (1998), Balmoral (1999), and Pinawa (2003).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL – A persistent straggler. There are several records for the first half of December, including four birds at Plum Creek on 14 December 1999, but only one CBC record, at Balmoral in 1998. The latest sightings were at Oak Hammock: two birds on 11 January 1998 and one on 28 January 2000.

CANVASBACK – A lingering migrant. An apparently injured male stayed on the Winnipeg River at Powerview from 14 to 30 December 1997. The only CBC record was at Winnipeg on 15 December 2002.

REDHEAD – A lingering migrant. There are two recent CBC records of single birds, at Winnipeg on 16 December 2001 and Minnedosa on 27 December 2002. A report of two on the inaugural Pinawa CBC, 2 January 1965, likely refers to “red-headed” female Common Goldeneyes.

RING-NECKED DUCK – A persistent straggler. Mild conditions allowed four

to remain on the Charleswood lagoon from mid-December to 23 February 2002, but they disappeared when the lagoon froze during a late-February cold snap; one was there until at least 5 January 2007. There are several December records, with lone survivors until 1 January 1998 on the Winnipeg River at Silver Falls and until 2 January 1980 on the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg. In addition to the four birds noted above, singles have been found on nine CBCs, starting in 1976: six times at Winnipeg and once each at Brandon, Minnedosa and Pinawa.

GREATER SCAUP – A lingering migrant. Single birds remained on the Winnipeg River until 1 December 1979 at Lac du Bonnet,²⁴ 9 December 1990 at Pine Falls, and 12 December 1981 at Otter Falls.²⁴ There is an old report of one at Winnipeg on 9 December 1923.⁸

LESSER SCAUP – An occasional overwintering species, this duck occurs frequently on open water until December or even early January. One survived until March 2001 at the Charleswood lagoon, while three attempted to overwinter there in 2001–2002 but disappeared during a late-February cold spell. Another was there until at least 5 January 2007. The latest on the Winnipeg River was at Powerview on 1 January 1998. Lesser Scaup have been reported on at least 17 different CBCs, starting with two at Winnipeg in 1935; usually only one or two are seen, and a report of 10 at Pinawa in 1969 seems doubtful.

KING EIDER – A persistent straggler in the far north. A first-winter female was found dead on a road in Churchill on 2 February 1985 (M.M. specimen #1.2-4294, originally mislabelled as Common Eider). One was reported as a CBC “count week” bird at Churchill in 1981. Small numbers are known to

winter with Common Eiders on Hudson Bay.³

COMMON EIDER – A persistent straggler in the far north. One collided with the Churchill Northern Studies Centre building, about 25 km east of the townsite, on or about 12 January 1985. There are three CBC records for Churchill: 6 birds on 4 January 2003, plus count-week records in 1977 and 1981. The *sedentaria* race overwinters at open water on Hudson Bay, especially near the Belcher Islands,³ so sightings off the Manitoba coast are not unexpected.

HARLEQUIN DUCK – A lingering migrant. There are three early-December records of singles on the Winnipeg River: at Pine Falls from 17 October to 9 December 2001 and on 2–3 December 1995, and at Pinawa on 5 December 1992.²⁸

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER – A persistent straggler. One was rescued from the ice of the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg on 9 January 1925 and later released.⁹ More recently, late migrants have been noted on the Winnipeg River at Lac du Bonnet (four birds on 1 December 1992) and Great Falls (one, 1–3 December 2005), and on the Red River at North Kildonan, Winnipeg (one, 27 November to 2 December 1998).

LONG-TAILED DUCK – A persistent straggler. A male present from December 1971 on the Rat River at St. Malo was struck by a car on 18 February 1972 (M.M. specimen # 1.2-3215).²³ An emaciated, dead male was retrieved in winter 1934 (February?) at Elk Island on Lake Winnipeg.²³ Late migrants remained into December on the Winnipeg River, mostly at Pine Falls, in 1990, 1993, 1995, 1997, and 2000.²⁵ The highest count was nine on 7 December 1997, and the latest record

involved two birds a week later on 14 December 1997. A CBC record of this hardy duck seems overdue.

BUFFLEHEAD – An occasional overwintering species. One was seen near Seven Sisters Falls in January 2006 and again on 24 February. Also on the Winnipeg River, there were singles at McArthur Falls on 22 January 1995 and Pointe du Bois on 20 January 1979, as well as three birds (one at Powerview and two near Bracken Falls) on 9 January 2002. Three CBC sightings also occurred along the Winnipeg River on the Pinawa count in 1994, 1998, and 2002, while two were included in the 1997 tally at Winnipeg. Late migrants are recorded almost annually into early December.

COMMON GOLDENEYE – A localized overwintering species, this is the only duck that truly seems at home in Manitoba in winter, though it requires long stretches of open water. Small parties can be found through the season on the Winnipeg River from Pointe du Bois to Pine Falls, mainly at fast water near dams, but also at a few undammed rapids. Such records of “wild ducks” date back at least to the 1920s.²⁴ High counts at Pointe du Bois

include 54 in January 1977 and 59 on 10 February 1990;¹⁵ flocks elsewhere on the river in mid-winter rarely reach double-digit numbers. The Pinawa CBC, situated on the Winnipeg River, accounts for the majority of CBC records (e.g., 56 of 67 birds during the 1990s, with more recent counts sometimes exceeding 20). Relatively few winter elsewhere in the province; irregular CBC appearances include peak counts of eight at Brandon, five at Winnipeg, three at Rivers, and two at Minnedosa.

HOODED MERGANSER – A persistent straggler. Early December records are not exceptional in the southeast, but few birds stay much later than that, and there are just three CBC records. The latest survivors, all single birds, were noted on 28 January 2003 at Brandon, 2 January 2003 at McArthur Falls, 1 January 1998 at Silver Falls, and 28 December 1994 at Seven Sisters Falls.

COMMON MERGANSER – A localized overwintering species, found annually in winter at the same locations on the Winnipeg River as the Common Goldeneye, but in much lower numbers (rarely more than two or three birds).



Figure 3. Sharp-shinned Hawk in Winnipeg, 1 February 2005 *Brian Huebert*

During very cold weather they seem decidedly uncomfortable, spending most of the time hunkered down on the ice at the edge of open water, but they often succeed in overwintering. They rarely winter elsewhere, due to the lack of extensive open water. Scattered CBC records total 34 birds on 25 counts province-wide. A pair spent much of February 1987 on the Assiniboine River at Brandon, and a male found on the 2003 St. Adolphe CBC apparently overwintered. Thousands sometimes delay their departure from Lake Winnipeg until late November, and 32 late birds were tallied at Pine Falls on 3 December 1994.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER – A lingering migrant. This is the scarcest of the three mergansers in early winter. The latest individuals include the sole CBC record, at Winnipeg as long ago as 28 December 1947,¹³ and one on the Winnipeg River at Silver Falls on 18 December 1994 and possibly 1 January 1995.

RUDDY DUCK – A lingering migrant. Single mid-December birds at the Charleswood lagoon featured on the 1995, 2001, and 2002 Winnipeg CBCs. One was rescued (along with a Mallard, a Redhead, and an American Coot) at a vestige of open water at Crescent Lake, Portage la Prairie, on 16 December 1979. One remained near Lockport until 3 December 1992.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT – A localized overwintering species. Only in extreme southwestern Manitoba have pheasants established a permanent, year-round foothold. On the Lyleton CBC, the only long-running count in the area, totals have ranged from lows of one in 1988 and 1997 to highs of 70 in 2003, 71 in 1994 and 86 in 1995, with an average of 20 birds in the last 20 years. It is suspected that

releases boosted the totals in some of the above high years. At nearby Melita, counts fluctuated between zero (though some were doubtless present) and 32 birds between 1992 and 2000, also with a peak in 1995. Recently released pheasants, or escapees from game farms, are noted from time to time elsewhere across the agricultural portion of southern Manitoba.

RED-THROATED LOON – A persistent straggler. One remained at Pine Falls from 2 December 2006 to at least 9 January 2007, but appeared weak when last seen. A late migrant paused on the rapidly freezing Winnipeg River at Lac du Bonnet on 30 November and 1 December 2005.

COMMON LOON – An occasional overwintering species. Three birds at Pine Falls on 7 December 1997 declined to two on 14 December 1997. Both were still present on 1 January 1998, then a single was seen intermittently until 3 March 1998. There are about half a dozen additional records for the first half of December, all from the Winnipeg River.

PIED-BILLED GREBE – A lingering migrant. The latest individuals survived until 25 December 1981 at Portage la Prairie and 21 December 1994 at Pinawa.

HORNED GREBE – A lingering migrant. One remained at Portage la Prairie until 25 December 1981. The latest Winnipeg River birds were at Pointe du Bois on 3 December 1988, and near Seven Sisters Falls on 3 December 1994.

RED-NECKED GREBE – A persistent straggler. Totally unexpected was a well-documented Red-necked Grebe that crash-landed at Reston on 5 February 1990.⁷ Late individuals on the



Figure 4. Merlin with House Sparrow.

Christian Artuso

Winnipeg River were noted at Powerview from 5 to 14 December 1998 and at Bracken Falls on 2 December 2006.

WESTERN GREBE – A lingering migrant. The latest were singles at McArthur Falls on 3 December 1994 and Pinawa on 1 December 1992.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN – A lingering migrant. Five late pelicans at Pine Falls on 10 November 2006 dwindled to two on 8 December and a listless survivor on 11 December. Also at Pine Falls were one pelican and a dead companion on 2 December 1995. A wounded pelican survived at Neepawa until 29 November 2003, just short of the winter period.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT – An occasional overwintering species. A solitary cormorant survived below the Lockport dam on the Red River from late fall 1997 to at least 1 March 1998. Ice breakup in early March may have killed the bird or forced it to move. During the same period, a group of cormorants

at Pine Falls dwindled from 14 in mid-November to nine on 7 December and one on 1 January 1998; the sole CBC observation was at Oak Hammock on 19 December 1997. There are several early-December records, mainly from the Winnipeg and Red Rivers, including eight at Pine Falls on 2 December 1995.

AMERICAN BITTERN – A lingering migrant. A single bird was exceptionally late at The Pas on 1 December 1987.

GREAT BLUE HERON – A persistent straggler. Remarkably, one survived at Rivers until at least 7 February 1983. A few December reports include one up to 29 December 2005 at Elie, plus the sole CBC record at Melita on 20 December 1997. A sighting near Elkhorn on 27 February 2006 may have involved an early migrant.

CATTLE EGRET – A lingering migrant. One reportedly stayed at a cattle feedlot near Cypress River into early December 2000.

TURKEY VULTURE – A lingering migrant. The latest confirmed record was at Neubergthal on 9 December 2005.

BALD EAGLE – A localized overwintering species, but a fairly common fall migrant well into December. During the 1980s and 1990s, small numbers (usually only one or two birds) wintered almost annually near Seven Sisters Falls and less frequently elsewhere along the Winnipeg River. In colder winters these birds appeared to withdraw from the province for a few weeks between mid-January and early March. Since the late 1990s, the number of wintering birds has increased sharply across southern Manitoba.

These changes are reflected in CBC totals: a count-week bird at Riding Mountain National Park furnished the first record in 1977, then nine were tallied on seven counts in 1981. More recent totals include 29 on 14 counts in 2001, 39 on 13 counts in 2005, and 35 on 12 counts in 2006. Individual peak CBC totals include 14 at Kleefeld and eight at St. Adolphe in 2005, and many counts of up to six birds.

While milder winters may be a factor in this increased winter occurrence, many of the eagles are associated with poultry farms and similar operations where they evidently scavenge food. High counts in the Whitemouth–Elma area include 25+ on 8 January 2000, 19 on 1 January 2002, and 16 on 21 January 2003. Spring migrants usually start arriving in early March, but occasional early birds are seen in late February.

NORTHERN HARRIER – An occasional overwintering species. Although harriers generally leave Manitoba in October, they may remain

into November or even later in years with high vole populations and little snow. There is an unusual cluster of four birds reported on three CBCs between 1962 and 1966. Four birds each were recorded on the Oak Hammock and Lyleton CBCs in 1999, and a few birds survived that winter near Pierson. There are very few other late January to mid-February records; at least nine sightings between 21 February and 4 March may have involved early migrants.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK – (Figure 3) An occasional but increasingly frequent overwintering species. We are aware of only one winter sighting prior to 1989. Starting in 1989–1990, and especially since 1999, there have been dozens of mid-winter reports throughout southern Manitoba. These include 14 CBC records between 1999 and 2005, and 10 sightings between 17 December 2004 and 1 March 2005 alone. It appears highly likely that the generally milder recent winters are responsible for this increase, although the proliferation of feeders—and attendant passerines—in the south may also play a part.

COOPER'S HAWK – An occasional overwintering species, this raptor shows a similar pattern of increasing winter occurrence to that of the Sharp-shinned Hawk. There have been numerous December records, including 16 CBC sightings, all but one of them between 1990 and 2005. From 1979 to 2007 there were at least 10 sightings of single Cooper's Hawks by experienced observers between mid-January and late February at several communities across southern Manitoba: Balmoral, Elie, Holland, Kleefeld, Landmark, Lyleton, and Onanole. While accipiter identification is always a challenge, and some individual reports may be incorrect,

these overall patterns for both Sharpshinned and Cooper's Hawks seem to be accurate.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK – A stray migrant, rare at any season. An adult was struck by a car near Clearwater on 1 December 1978, furnishing the first confirmed record for this hawk in Manitoba (M.M. specimen # 1.2-3488). Unconfirmed reports date back to the 19th century, and the species is now recognized to be an irregular migrant and summer visitor.¹⁵

RED-TAILED HAWK – An occasional overwintering species. The last Redtails usually leave Manitoba in November, and even early-December records are noteworthy. There were 12 CBC reports between 1965 and 2004, including singles at Cypress River, Oak Lake, Riding Mountain National Park, and Winnipeg in 1981. A small number of isolated sightings between mid-January and the first few days of March suggest occasional overwintering in Manitoba: Pinawa on 13 January 1977; Winnipeg on 21 January 1998; East Kildonan (Winnipeg) on 13 February 1988; Stonewall on 26 February 1999 (a freshly dead immature bird); Elmwood (Winnipeg) on 2 March 1999.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK – A localized overwintering species, this late migrant frequently occurs into December, particularly in years with high vole populations and little snow cover. Marginal farmland in the southern Interlake region, and along the edge of the boreal forest from Pine Falls to Sprague in the southeast, is generally most productive. High early-winter counts include 128 in the Hadashville–East Braintree area on 1 December 1984 and 34 at Oak Hammock on 5 December 1999. Usually only scattered birds are found once lasting snow cover is established, but small

numbers sometimes remain throughout the winter in isolated pockets of favourable hunting habitat. On Manitoba CBCs, records date back to the 1960s, and the species has featured in all but eight years since 1980. Peak totals include 26 on 10 counts in 1999, half of them at Oak Hammock, and eight at Balmoral in 1993. Spring migrants sometimes return as soon as late February, though more commonly around mid-March.

AMERICAN KESTREL – A localized overwintering species, this small falcon has decreased dramatically as a breeder in the province during the last few decades. Concurrently, winter sightings have diminished. Maximum Winnipeg CBC totals have declined from a high of nine birds in both 1989 and 1990 to several years with no birds in the past decade, even though coverage has remained roughly constant. Elsewhere in the province, a few birds are noted each winter, but reports never involve more than one or two birds.

MERLIN – (Figure 4) A localized overwintering species. Although there seems to be no causal relationship with the decrease in American Kestrel numbers, the Merlin has become a much more common breeder and wintering bird in southern Manitoba since the late 1970s.^{15,16} In particular the pale Prairie (Richardson's) race is now well established in urban areas, with mature conifers for nesting and a steady year-round supply of food in the form of House Sparrows and other passerines. The first Manitoba CBC sighting occurred at Riding Mountain National Park in 1971, and the species has featured annually on provincial CBCs since 1976. Winnipeg dominates the totals with a 20-year average of nine birds and peaks of 14 in 1999 and 17 in 2001.

Outside Winnipeg, wintering Merlins have been reported in Brandon, Kleefeld, and other towns as far north as Dauphin, with outlying CBC records north to Thompson and east to Lac du Bonnet. Since 1987, province-wide CBC totals have fluctuated between six and 21 birds on three to eight counts. High counts outside of Winnipeg include five at Brandon in 2003 and four at both Brandon and Kleefeld in 2006. Contrary to the trend in many localities, CBC sightings at Cypress River have declined in frequency since the early 1990s, despite improved coverage of the count area.

PEREGRINE FALCON – An occasional overwintering species. Since the first successful nesting in Winnipeg in 1989, at least one of the breeding birds has frequently overwintered in the city, surviving on a steady diet of Rock Pigeons. A female, originally released in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, overwintered regularly for more than a decade, starting in 1990–1991, before being displaced. Outside of Winnipeg the species is reported almost annually during the winter

months, but in very low numbers; thus Winnipeg accounts for all but one of a dozen CBC records.

PRAIRIE FALCON – (Figure 5) An occasional overwintering species. Like the Peregrine Falcon, the Prairie Falcon is a rare but probably annual winter resident. This species made its provincial CBC debut as long ago as 1932 in Winnipeg. In January 1935, two frequented the vicinity of the Legislative Building in Winnipeg, where at least one bird had wintered for 5–6 years but had remained unidentified. This was considered to be the first confirmed winter record for the province.^{10,11} Further Winnipeg CBC sightings came in 1947, 1950, 1964 and 1981. Reports then increased somewhat, especially in the late 1980s and early 1990s. One bird returned to roost nightly on a high-rise apartment building in the East Kildonan area of Winnipeg during the winter of 1989–1990 and again from 9 December 1990 to 23 February 1991. Perhaps the same bird roosted on a building in the city's Tuxedo district in 1991–1992. More recently, a Prairie Falcon spent much of winter 2003–



Figure 5. Prairie Falcon just north of Winnipeg, 29 February 2004

Christian Artuso

2004 harassing pigeons between Winnipeg and Stonewall, and another spent the 2006–2007 season near Kleefeld. Scattered sightings elsewhere, primarily in rural areas, likely involve overwintering birds. These include four CBC records across the extreme south from Altona to the Spruce Woods area and Lyleton.

AMERICAN COOT – A lingering migrant. There are several December records at Crescent Lake in Portage la Prairie: two birds until 25 December 1981, one until 16 December 1979 (see Ruddy Duck account), and three on 4 December 1987. Two were at Plum Creek on 14 December 1999, and one was at Great Falls on 3 December 1994.

SANDHILL CRANE – A lingering migrant. An exceptionally late individual was seen near Powerview on 15 December 2004. Also remarkable, 15 late migrants passed St. Adolphe on 1 December 2001.

KILLDEER – Hypothetical. Although this species is shown as accidental in winter in the 1986 checklist, we are unable to trace the record and it must be considered doubtful. That apart, the latest shorebird on record in Manitoba was a Black-bellied Plover near Libau on 25 November 2001, while several other species occur frequently well into November. Given the overall warming trend, the first early-winter shorebird record for the province would seem to be only a matter of time.

RING-BILLED GULL – A lingering migrant. An injured bird furnished a CBC “count week” record in Winnipeg on 20 December 2004. At least 14 late migrants passed Powerview dam with a large flight of Herring Gulls on 1 December 2001, four were at Natalie Lake on 3 December 1994, and there

are other early-December records for Winnipeg and Rivers.

HERRING GULL – A lingering migrant. The latest individual was a Winnipeg CBC count-week bird on 18 December 1979. Early-December records are not unusual on the lower Winnipeg River, especially at Pine Falls–Powerview. There, 650+ migrants flew upriver in a 1.5-hour period on 1 December 2001, while the latest birds were two on 14 December 1998. Extraordinary in the far north were two Herring Gulls at Churchill on 11 December 1954.⁶

THAYER’S GULL and/or ICELAND GULL – A lingering migrant. An Iceland Gull was reported at Powerview from 14 to 17 December 1986. A pale-winged gull migrating up the Winnipeg River near Seven Sisters Falls on 3 December 1988 was either a Thayer’s or Iceland Gull.

GLAUCOUS GULL – A persistent straggler. Another extraordinary Churchill sighting was a Glaucous Gull on 14 January 2000. The latest of several early-December records along the Winnipeg River was at Pine Falls on 7 December 1997.

IVORY GULL – Persistent straggler, rare at any season. Three Ivory Gulls were collected at inland locations in Manitoba in December during the first third of the 20th century: a juvenile at Woodlands on 27 December 1915 (specimen at University of Manitoba Zoology Department), an adult female at Egg Lake on 11 December 1926 (M.M. specimen # 1.2-941), and an adult at Nelson House on 9 December 1930 (specimen location uncertain).¹⁵ One was seen at Husavik on Lake Winnipeg on 7 February 1940 and possibly the next day.¹² Also on Lake Winnipeg, there were tantalizing

rumours of a gull hanging around ice-fishing shacks near Matheson Island during the winter of 1990–1991. With the species in serious decline, the chances of future winter records become slimmer all the time.

JAEGER (sp.) – A lingering migrant. A jaeger at Grand Beach on 4 December 1999 was seen too briefly for positive identification of the species.

BLACK GUILLEMOT – An occasional overwintering species in the far north. A male, found at the radar site near Churchill on 8 March 1974, later died and became M.M. specimen # 1.2-3703. During the same winter, 200–300 Black Guillemots were observed on leads in the pack ice of Hudson Bay about 70–130 km offshore on 21 and 22 February, with a single bird noted on 21 March about 75 km northeast of Churchill.¹ In March 1984, a live bird was found near the Churchill elevator; it subsequently died and is now in the Churchill Northern Studies Centre collection.¹⁷ McRae also mentioned that seal hunters frequently encounter the species during winter in open water off Churchill. On 4 January 1991, a guillemot was dropped onto a Churchill street by a Common Raven. It was flown to Winnipeg for rehabilitation, but it too died.²⁰

BAND-TAILED PIGEON – An occasional overwintering species, rare at any season. One first seen on the Brandon CBC, 16 December 2001, survived until 21 April 2002, furnishing the 5th accepted record of this species in Manitoba.¹⁵

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE – An occasional overwintering species. Since Manitoba's first probable sighting of this introduced species in Winnipeg on 7 January 2000, it has been recorded in several locations. A

pair nested at Lyleton in 2005 and probably again in 2006, with more than one pair in 2007. At least one bird spent the previous winter (2004–2005) at the Wang farm near Pierson, less than 15 km from the nesting site. From 27 February until at least 3 March 2006, and again during the winter of 2006–2007, two birds were in Winkler. The species seems poised to colonize the prairie region of southern Manitoba in the near future.

The closely related “Ringed Turtle-Dove”, also known as Barbary Dove, is a domesticated variety of the African Collared-Dove. It is sometimes recorded as an escapee from captivity in Manitoba, including CBC records at Selkirk (two in 1997) and Winnipeg (one in 1999).

MOURNING DOVE – A localized overwintering species, reported annually in winter, but in varying numbers. Mourning Doves are particularly susceptible to frostbitten feet during severe cold spells, and most do not survive to spring. However, certain sheltered feeders with plentiful food have enticed birds to winter for many years in a row. One such feeder was operated for decades until the early 1990s by the late Olivia Lane at Victoria Crescent in Winnipeg.³⁰ Besides blackbirds and the occasional Red-bellied Woodpecker, she almost always hosted some doves. Another favoured feeder in North Kildonan, Winnipeg attracted Mourning Doves annually from 1999 or earlier until 2004, with as many as five birds surviving the winter of 1999–2000. Three made it through the 1995–1996 winter at a third Winnipeg feeder.

The first CBC record involved six birds at Winnipeg in 1971, and the species has been recorded on at least one Manitoba count every year since 1976,

except 1983. Winnipeg has dominated provincial totals, with peaks of 22 in 1979 and 25 in 1981 out of totals of 27 in each year. The species is found frequently on some southwestern CBCs, where livestock feedlots often attract one or more doves, e.g., 40% of Cypress River counts since 1977. Elsewhere, scattered CBC records extend northward to Dauphin and Swan River, and eastward to the edge of the boreal forest at Pinawa, where one overwintered in 2000–2001 despite severe frostbite. The species was especially widespread at Christmas 1997, when it was found on 10 different counts.

BARN OWL – A persistent straggler, rare at any season. One was captured and released at Sperling in January 1925.¹⁸ In 1990, authorities confiscated remains of a Barn Owl that supposedly came from a road-kill found somewhere in the province on 8 February 1990.²¹

LONG-EARED OWL – An occasional overwintering species. There are few winter records for this secretive, largely

nocturnal raptor, though unconfirmed reports date back to the 19th century.²⁹ Two birds at Lyleton on 30 December 1999 furnish the sole CBC record. There are two late-winter sightings, at Marquette on 22 February 1997 and Winnipeg on 11 February 2007. Calling birds are rarely heard before April, but an early individual was noted near Pinawa on 6 and 9 March 1988. The species likely occurs more often in winter than these few records suggest.

SHORT-EARED OWL – A localized overwintering species, fluctuating in numbers from year to year, with an underlying decline noted since the 1960s. Similarly, winter populations vary greatly from year to year. Typically, only a few birds are noted during the winter season, with reports as far north as the southern Interlake region. Peak seasons were: 1962–1963, with a maximum of 11 in northwest Winnipeg on about 27 January 1963;¹⁹ 1994–1995, with up to 10 in the New Bothwell area and 7 near St. Adolphe and Ste. Agathe; and 1998–1999, with a maximum of 14 at Oak Hammock on 20 February 1999. This owl has featured



Figure 6. Northern Saw-whet Owl in Winnipeg, 26 January 2006

Christian Artuso

on 30 Manitoba CBCs in 21 different years, the highest totals being five at Lyleton in 1985 and four at Winnipeg in 1968.

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL – (Figure 6) A localized overwintering species, this tiny owl is undoubtedly more common in winter than generally believed, but due to its nocturnal habits it is rarely seen. Most are found at roosts when scolding passerines alert the observer, or in barns or other rural buildings where they may take shelter. Southwestern localities dominate the few CBC records, with four at Lyleton and one each at Oak Lake and Melita. Winnipeg has reported this species just twice on CBCs, and Delta once. Although Saw-whet Owls appear to have difficulty surviving the harshest weather, and dead birds have sometimes been found, some appear to make it through the season. One spent much of January 2006 in the vicinity of a Winnipeg feeder. Occasionally, birds are heard calling in late February; these could be either early migrants or successful wintering birds.

BELTED KINGFISHER – A lingering migrant. Individuals have twice stayed late enough to be tallied on a CBC, at Brandon on 28 December 1981 and at La Barrière Park (St. Adolphe count) on 16 December 2004. One was seen at Pinawa on 4 December 1993.

LEWIS'S WOODPECKER – A persistent straggler, rare at any season. This western woodpecker was reported in Manitoba 18 times between 1929 and 1943, but there have been only four sightings since 1966.^{4,15} Some of the early records involved birds that apparently attempted to overwinter: one in Winnipeg from 24 October 1929 until 20 January 1930, another at Supton on

18 and 23 February 1930, one at Selkirk in mid-December 1931, an adult at Emerson for several weeks until at least 22 January 1933, a bird seen occasionally at Stonewall in November–December 1939 and February 1940, and finally a pair in Winnipeg, 21 January 1942.⁴

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER – An occasional overwintering species. A little like Mourning Doves, Red-headed Woodpeckers sometimes winter at certain favourite locations for several years in a row. One individual did so in St. Vital, Winnipeg in 1937–1938 and 1938–1939.²² Others were present for a few winters at Balmoral around 1980. From 1983 until at least 1995, one to several birds wintered in a grazed woodlot near Kleefeld. More recently, single birds have wintered at Grand Beach and Grosse Isle, and there have been reports from Morden, Steinbach, Treherne, Vogar, Winnipeg and elsewhere. The small total of just five CBC records of this fairly conspicuous species indicates, however, that it may be scarcer than the Red-bellied Woodpecker in winter.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER – An occasional overwintering species, this woodpecker breeds regularly as close as North Dakota and seems perpetually poised to become a permanent resident of Manitoba.^{4,15} It is reported annually, especially in and near the Red River valley, and in many cases wintering birds are involved. These are particularly attracted to suet feeders, probably the key to surviving even the harshest Manitoba winter weather. Winnipeg accounts for all but one of the 10 CBC sightings up to 2005, the exception being at Cypress River in 1988. In 2006, however, CBC records came from Brandon and Cypress River, with a count-week bird at St. Adolphe.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER – (See front cover) An occasional overwintering species. One bird appeared at a suet feeder in Winnipeg on 28 December 2005 and remained until 21 March 2006; it appeared healthy on its last visit. Prior to this record, the latest known fall departure date for Manitoba was 29 October 2004.

NORTHERN FLICKER – A localized overwintering species. Most flicker sightings in winter have been in Winnipeg, with records on all but two CBCs since 1980 (sometimes only during the count week), a peak tally of 11 in 1990, and other counts of up to seven birds. On the Brandon CBC, three were tallied in 1997 and individuals have been reported irregularly there and elsewhere in other years. Survival appears to be quite high; there are numerous late February and early March sightings, again primarily in Winnipeg.

As expected, almost all sightings involve “Yellow-shafted” Flickers, but “Red-shafted” individuals were reported in Winnipeg in winter 1980–1981, February to April 1982, and in December of 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1987. Most of these observations were made in the same west Winnipeg area and may have involved one long-surviving bird. Another was in Brandon from 3 January to 1 March 1990. Finally, one hybrid was seen twice in Winnipeg, on 3 December 2000 and 6 January 2001.

Discussion

The proliferation of CBCs in Manitoba in recent decades, and much-increased coverage on the Winnipeg CBC, help account for the predominance of post-1970 records in this article. There has also been increased interest in “winter listing” and follow-up on the survival of

unseasonal stragglers. While there is little doubt that frequent mild winters in recent years have contributed to overwintering success, records for most of the species discussed here are too sparse for us to make detailed correlations with weather conditions.

Prolonged mild weather in fall allows late migrants extra time to leave the province, while an early winter storm and ensuing cold snap may trap some birds, at least for a while. Water birds may depend on high river flows from late fall rains, as well as relatively mild conditions, to preserve adequate open water in mid-winter. Wintering raptors follow unpredictable food supplies, such as fluctuating vole populations under variable snow cover (Rough-legged Hawk, Northern Harrier), erratic winter populations of waxwings and finches (Merlin, Sharp-shinned Hawk), or changing waste disposal practices at factory farms (Bald Eagle).

Though laudable, improvements in communication among birders can create a false or exaggerated impression of peaks or ongoing increases in bird numbers. Examples include A.G. Lawrence’s province-wide network of correspondents from the 1920s to the 1950s,¹⁵ the Manitoba Rare Bird Alert originating in 1976 and, most recently, the development of Internet correspondence through the “Manitobabirds” e-group.

These caveats aside, the diversity of winter birds in Manitoba does seem to have increased in recent decades. It is reasonable to think that any future warming of Manitoba’s climate will bring a northward extension of the winter range of some bird species, especially those in Category B. We might also expect a gradual “upgrading” of some species in the sequence of categories from E to D, C, B, and even

A, as well as additions to the overall Manitoba winter list.

Acknowledgements

We thank Christian Artuso, Cal Cuthbert, Ken De Smet, and Rob Parsons for helpful comments on a draft manuscript. We are also grateful to the hundreds of birders, over several generations, without whose observations—on Christmas Bird Counts and throughout the winter—this review would not have been possible.

1. BEST, R. 1974. Wintering records of Black Guillemots off northern Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 32: 163.

2. GARDNER, K.A. 1981. Birds of Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area. Department of Natural Resources, Winnipeg, MB.

3. GILCHRIST, H.G. and G.J. ROBERTSON. 2000. Observations of marine birds and mammals wintering at polynyas and ice edges in the Belcher Islands, Nunavut, Canada. *Arctic* 53:61-68.

4. HATCH, D.R.M. and L.P. L'ARRIVÉE. 1981. Status of the Lewis' and Red-bellied Woodpeckers in Manitoba – 1929-1980. *Blue Jay* 39:209-216.

5. HOUSTON, C.S. 2002. Spread and disappearance of the Greater Prairie-Chicken, *Tympanuchus cupido*, on the Canadian Prairies and adjacent areas. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 116:1-21.

6. JEHL, J.R., Jr. and B.A. SMITH. 1970. Birds of the Churchill region, Manitoba. Special Publication Number 1, Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, Winnipeg, MB.

7. KOES, R.F. and P. TAYLOR. 1990. Prairie Provinces Region. *American Birds* 44:284-285.

8. LAWRENCE, A.G. 1923. Chickadee Notes No. 142, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 13 December 1923.

9. LAWRENCE, A.G. 1925. Chickadee Notes Nos. 199 & 200, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 15 & 22 January 1925.

10. LAWRENCE, A.G. 1932. Chickadee Notes No. 614, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 30 December 1932.

11. LAWRENCE, A.G. 1935. Chickadee Notes No. 723, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 1 February 1935.

12. LAWRENCE, A.G. 1940. Chickadee Notes No. 990, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 15 March 1940.

13. LAWRENCE, A.G. 1948. Chickadee Notes Nos. 1389 & 1390, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 2 & 9 January 1948.

14. MANITOBA AVIAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE. 1986. Field checklist of the birds of Manitoba. Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature and Manitoba Naturalists Society, Winnipeg.

15. MANITOBA AVIAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE. 2003. The Birds of Manitoba. Manitoba Naturalists Society, Winnipeg. 504 pp.

16. McCOWAN, M. 1978. Merlins wintering and breeding at Brandon, Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 36: 39.

17. McRAE, D. 1993. A third winter Black Guillemot from Churchill, Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 51: 186-187.

18. MOSSOP, H. 1959. Chickadee Notes No. 217, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 13 March 1959.

19. MOSSOP, H. 1963. Chickadee Notes No. 422, *Winnipeg Free Press*, 16 February 1963.

20. NERO, R.W. 1992. Second winter record of Black Guillemot at Churchill, Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 50: 113-114.

21. NERO, R.W. 1993. Probable Barn Owl records for Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 51: 170-171.

22. ROLLIN, N. 1957. Wintering of Red-headed Woodpecker in Manitoba. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 71:31-32.

23. SEXTON, D.A. and K.M. COLLINS. 1977. Records of the Oldsquaw in southern Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 35: 96-99.

24. TAYLOR, P. 1983. Wings along the Winnipeg: the Birds of the Pinawa–Lac du Bonnet Region, Manitoba. Eco Series No. 2, Manitoba Naturalists Society, Winnipeg, MB (reprinted with minor revisions, 1985).

25. TAYLOR, P. 1994. Recent records of Oldsquaw in southeastern Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 52:147-151.

26. TAYLOR, P. 1997. A Mute Swan flyby at Springer Lake, Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 55:41-42.

27. TAYLOR, P. and R.F. KOES. 1995. Rare and marginal winter passerine birds in Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 53:148-158.

28. TAYLOR, P. and J.E. THOMPSON. 1990. Harlequin Duck in Manitoba: an update. *Blue Jay* 48:98-103.