
MAMMALS

SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT - 2000

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The number of mammal counts received this year was 93, three less than in 1997. The number of species reported was 40, one more than both 1998 and 1997. The average number of species per count was 7.2, the same as last year, which is below the long-term average.

The weather was cold and windy. Much of the west half experienced snow free or almost snow free conditions while further east extremely heavy snow cover was found

No new species were reported this year. The Short-tailed Shrew at Fort Qu'Appelle was the only rarity. The Woodland Caribou found dead on the La Ronge South count is one of few recent records on the mammal count.

Coyotes and White-tailed Deer were the most frequently recorded species. Population trends followed the pattern of previous years with the exception of White-tailed Deer where numbers appeared to be above the long term averages. This, however, may be the result of the heavy snow cover in the eastern half of the province which forced deer to more open areas increasing their visibility to observers. The only other species showing a significant change is the Snowshoe Hare which declined and may now be at or near their cyclic low.

For weather, coverage and participants please refer to the Christmas Bird Count found elsewhere in this issue. In the tables, a numeral alone shows that the mammals were seen, while a letter following 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. Symbols used in the tables are:

T = tracks

L = active lodge or hut

D = dead animal found

d = fresh diggings found

S = smell or odour

H = heard

0 = present during the count period (December 14 to January 5) but not found on count day.



White-tailed Deer, winter fawn

Carol Clarke

Table 1-1. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	Archerwill December 27, 2000	Armit December 28, 2000	Assiniboia January 4, 2001	Bangor January 3, 2001	Bethune-Dilke December 18, 2000	Biggar December 27, 2000	Big Muddy January 3, 2001	Birch Hills December 18, 2000	Bightwater Reservoir January 4, 2001	Broadview December 23, 2000
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW species										
EASTERN COTTONTAIL										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL							6T			
SNOWSHOE HARE	2T			2+10T			2+16T	13T		
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT	1		12			3T			1+1T	2T
GREY SQUIRREL	3							1		1
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL		2						2T		2
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
BEAVER		2L								
DEER MOUSE				0					2T	1T
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT		1L	1							
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE species							T		1T	
MOUSE species				0		2T	T	2T		T
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE		1T		1T			1	2T		2
COYOTE	1	1+3T	6	5T		2T	7	2+4T	2T	3+5T
WOLF										
RED FOX	1		3			1	2			
RACCOON							T			
AMERICAN MARTEN		1T								
FISHER										
ERMINE		1T						3T	1T	
LONG-TAILED WEASEL				1T				1T	1T	1
LEAST WEASEL								1T		1T
WEASEL species								1T		
MINK	1T							1T		
BADGER							1d			1T
STRIPED SKUNK			2	1+1d						
RIVER OTTER										
FERAL CAT										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER			15			5	9			3
WHITE-TAILED DEER	10T	14	8	12+26		6	4T	2	37	
DEER species										
MOOSE	2T	2T				2				2T
ELK	5T	50T								
PRONGHORN										
TOTAL SPECIES	8	10	7	7	0	6	10	11	8	13

Table 1-2. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	Bromhead January 1, 2001	Cabri December 23, 2000	Candle Lake December 29, 2000	Clark's Crossing December 16, 2000	Coronach December 20, 2000	Craven December 23, 2000	Crooked Lake December 29, 2000	Cypress Hills Prov. P. December 29, 2000	Duck Lake December 15, 2000	Duval December 27, 2000
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										
MASKED SHREW										
SHREW species										
EASTERN COTTONTAIL										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL		2T			4T					
SNOWSHOE HARE		1T	1+13T		5T	1		T		
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT	T	2T		1+1T	7T	3T				2T
GREY SQUIRREL						4				
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL			3+3T			1	2	8	2H	
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
BEAVER							1L			1L
DEER MOUSE						2T				
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT					2					4L
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE species			2T							
MOUSE species			3T	6T					2T	
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE				1	2T	3	4			2
COYOTE	6	2+2T	3T	4+1T	7T	1	7		2+2T	5T
WOLF			1T							
RED FOX		1T		2+5T	1T	1T				
RACCOON										
AMERICAN MARTEN										
FISHER										
ERMINE						1T				
LONG-TAILED WEASEL						1T			T	
LEAST WEASEL	1T									
WEASEL species				1T						1T
MINK			1T				1			
BADGER	1d				2d					
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER			1T							
FERAL CAT										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER		28			14			15		
WHITE-TAILED DEER	226	3	9+18T	2	44	13	30		5	
DEER species		3T		3T					T	10T
MOOSE			1T							
ELK										
PRONGHORN										
TOTAL SPECIES	5	7	10	8	9	11	7	3	6	7

Table 1-3. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

Eastend January 3, 2001	Emma Lake January 2, 2001	Endeavour December 25, 2000	Estevan December 26, 2000	Eston December 26, 2000	Estuary January 4, 2001	Fenton December 21, 2000	Fort Qu'appelle January 4, 2001	Fort Walsh December 16, 2000	Gainsborough December 26, 2000	SPECIES
							0			SHORT-TAILED SHREW
										MASKED SHREW
										SHREW species
			2							EASTERN COTTONTAIL
2				2	3			3		NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
	0	1T				1+9T	1		20T	SNOWSHOE HARE
		1T	2T				0	2T	1	WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
										GREY SQUIRREL
			14							FOX SQUIRREL
	6					1+3T	6	8	1	RED SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
										BEAVER
			2T			3T	0		3T	DEER MOUSE
	0									GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
			4L				1			MUSKRAT
				1						MEADOW VOLE
										VOLE species
						4T		4T		MOUSE species
										NORWAY RAT
										HOUSE MOUSE
			4				1	2	1	PORCUPINE
2		1T	3T	2	2	1+6T	0	2	4	COYOTE
										WOLF
			1T	1			1		3T	RED FOX
										RACCOON
										AMERICAN MARTEN
										FISHER
						1T				ERMINE
						1T				LONG-TAILED WEASEL
		1T								LEAST WEASEL
								2T		WEASEL species
	0		2				4			MINK
										BADGER
	1S									STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
										FERAL CAT
										WOODLAND CARIBOU
3			29	11	53		1	46		MULE DEER
4	2	7	96	5	26	6T	13	34	56	WHITE-TAILED DEER
										DEER species
		2						2T		MOOSE
		T						30		ELK
0				2				18		PRONGHORN
5	6	7	11	7	4	8	11	12	8	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-4. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	Gardiner Dam December 18, 2000	Good Spirit Lake December 31, 2000	Govenlock December 17, 2000	Grasslands Nat. Park December 19, 2000	Harris December 21, 2000	Holbein December 29, 2000	Indian Head December 27, 2000	Kamsack December 26, 2000	Kelvington December 29, 2000
SHORT-TAILED SHREW									
MASKED SHREW									
SHREW species		1T							
EASTERN COTTONTAIL									
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL	2+12T	5+10T							
SNOWSHOE HARE	1T	15T					1	14	6T
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT	2+22T	7T		4T				2T	
GREY SQUIRREL									
FOX SQUIRREL									
RED SQUIRREL		3				1	8		
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL								5	
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER									
BEAVER								L	
DEER MOUSE									
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE									
MUSKRAT		6L	1L					L	
MEADOW VOLE	1								
VOLE species	5T	2T			3T				
MOUSE species	2T				1T				4T
NORWAY RAT									
HOUSE MOUSE									
PORCUPINE	1	1T	3+2T		2				
COYOTE	16+5T	11+10T	4		9	2	8T		
WOLF									
RED FOX	1+1T	3T			2T		1	1	3T
RACCOON									1T
AMERICAN MARTEN									
FISHER									
ERMINE		2T							
LONG-TAILED WEASEL		3T							2T
LEAST WEASEL							1		
WEASEL species	3T								
MINK			1T						
BADGER								1	
STRIPED SKUNK									
RIVER OTTER									
FERAL CAT					1				
WOODLAND CARIBOU									
MULE DEER	154		107	17	30				
WHITE-TAILED DEER	796+20T		54	14		127		14T	
DEER species									
MOOSE		3T						4	
ELK								13	
PRONGHORN			175	103	20				
TOTAL SPECIES	11	13	9	4	10	1	6	9	8

Table 1-5. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

Kenaston December 31, 2000	Kennedy December 27, 2000	Kenosee Lake December 28, 2000	Kindersley December 31, 2000	Kinistino January 5, 2001	Kinloch December 29, 2000	Kutawagan Lake January 5, 2001	Laird January 3, 2001	La Ronge (North) December 23, 2000	SPECIES
									SHORT-TAILED SHREW
									MASKED SHREW
									SHREW species
									EASTERN COTTONTAIL
									NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
		1T	T		23T	2T		T	SNOWSHOE HARE
T						10T	T		WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
									GREY SQUIRREL
									FOX SQUIRREL
	1	1		1	2		T		RED SQUIRREL
									NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
									NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
		2L		1L	2L				BEAVER
T									DEER MOUSE
									GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
	18L				5L	10L			MUSKRAT
									MEADOW VOLE
									VOLE species
									MOUSE species
									NORWAY RAT
				2T					HOUSE MOUSE
		1			2	4T			PORCUPINE
2	1		1H	0	2	7T	T	1	COYOTE
									WOLF
T			0			2T	T		RED FOX
T									RACCOON
									AMERICAN MARTEN
					1T				FISHER
									ERMINE
T									LONG-TAILED WEASEL
					3T				LEAST WEASEL
									WEASEL species
T									MINK
						1d			BADGER
T									STRIPED SKUNK
									RIVER OTTER
									FERAL CAT
									WOODLAND CARIBOU
T									MULE DEER
T	20	47			17	20T			WHITE-TAILED DEER
							T		DEER species
					2				MOOSE
					4				ELK
									PRONGHORN
10	4	5	3	4	11	8	5	2	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-6. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	La ronge (South) December 31, 2000	Last Mountain L. WMA December 21, 2000	Leader (North) December 30, 2000	Leader (South) December 16, 2000	Love December 27, 2000	Luseland January 2, 2001	MacDowall December 28, 2000	Maidstone Bridge December 31, 2000	Meadow Lake December 26, 2000
SHORT-TAILED SHREW									
MASKED SHREW									
SHREW species						1			
EASTERN COTTONTAIL									
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL			3	4					
SNOWSHOE HARE	10T				1T		4T	3T	25T
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT		7T	2T		1T	1	2T	1T	
GREY SQUIRREL									
FOX SQUIRREL									
RED SQUIRREL	1+3T				2		2		10T
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL									
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER									
BEAVER		1L					4L	2L	2L
DEER MOUSE							5T		6T
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE									
MUSKRAT		17L					12L	3L	
MEADOW VOLE									
VOLE species	T						4T		
MOUSE species		2T	5				4T		
NORWAY RAT									
HOUSE MOUSE									
PORCUPINE		1+3T		1					
COYOTE		13T	3	2T	7	2	1+5T	2T	
WOLF					0				
RED FOX		2T			0		2T	1T	
RACCOON							2T		
AMERICAN MARTEN					1				
FISHER									
ERMINE								2T	
LONG-TAILED WEASEL			1						
LEAST WEASEL						1	4T		
WEASEL species									
MINK									
BADGER		1d							
STRIPED SKUNK									
RIVER OTTER									3T
FERAL CAT									
WOODLAND CARIBOU	1D								
MULE DEER			19	30	1	6		0	
WHITE-TAILED DEER		67	12	4	54		2	10T	25T
DEER species									
MOOSE					1T	3			
ELK									
PRONGHORN									
TOTAL SPECIES	4	9	7	5	10	6	12	9	7

Table 1-7. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

Melfort December 25, 2000	Moose Jaw December 26, 2000	Naicam December 24, 2000	Nipawin December 29, 2000	Nisbet Forest W. December 26, 2000	Paddockwood December 17, 2000	Paddockwood January 4, 2001	Pike Lake January 2, 2001	Porcupin Plain December 29, 2000	SPECIES
									SHORT-TAILED SHREW
									MASKED SHREW
									SHREW species
									EASTERN COTTONTAIL
	3T								NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
		10T				1	2T		SNOWSHOE HARE
1	7+2T						4T		WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
									GREY SQUIRREL
	8								FOX SQUIRREL
			3	4			8		RED SQUIRREL
									NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
									NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
									BEAVER
									DEER MOUSE
									GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
							1		MUSKRAT
									MEADOW VOLE
									VOLE species
							1+7T		MOUSE species
									NORWAY RAT
									HOUSE MOUSE
		0					2+1T		PORCUPINE
	2	4T		2	1T		2+4T		COYOTE
									WOLF
							1+1T		RED FOX
							3+1T		RACCOON
									AMERICAN MARTEN
									FISHER
									ERMINE
		1T							LONG-TAILED WEASEL
					1T				LEAST WEASEL
									WEASEL species
									MINK
									BADGER
									STRIPED SKUNK
									RIVER OTTER
									FERAL CAT
									WOODLAND CARIBOU
							4		MULE DEER
	2+2T	4T				8	16+8T	2	WHITE-TAILED DEER
			T				4+3T		DEER species
		0							MOOSE
			0					T	ELK
									PRONGHORN
1	5	6	3	2	2	2	11	2	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-8. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	Preeceville December 29, 2000	Prince Albert December 17, 2000	Prince Albert N.P. December 17, 2000	Qu'appelle Valley Dam December 17, 2000	Raymore December 25, 2000	Regina December 26, 2000	Round Lake December 27, 2000	Sask. Landing P.P. December 19, 2000	Sask. river Forks December 19, 2000
SHORT-TAILED SHREW									
MASKED SHREW					1T				
SHREW species	2T								
EASTERN COTTONTAIL									
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL								10T	
SNOWSHOE HARE	16T	3T		1	20T	1	5T	1	7T
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT		1T			2T	38	1T	10T	
GREY SQUIRREL						4			
FOX SQUIRREL						4			
RED SQUIRREL	6T	1+1T	4+2T		3	1		2H+2	
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL									
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER									
BEAVER	1L	5L			1L	1L	1		
DEER MOUSE					3				
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE									
MUSKRAT				1	17L	1T			
MEADOW VOLE	4T				1	5T	6T		
VOLE species								2T	
MOUSE species	T								1T
NORWAY RAT									
HOUSE MOUSE									
PORCUPINE		1			2T	1T	5	3T	
COYOTE	4H+3			7T	3	1	7T		
WOLF		0							
RED FOX		2T	2+5T		1				
RACCOON									
AMERICAN MARTEN			2T						
FISHER									
ERMINE	1T				0				
LONG-TAILED WEASEL		1T							
LEAST WEASEL	2T								
WEASEL species	2T					2T			
MINK						2T	1		
BADGER					0		1d		
STRIPED SKUNK									
RIVER OTTER			3+3H						
FERAL CAT									
WOODLAND CARIBOU									
MULE DEER				8				24	
WHITE-TAILED DEER	36+21	1+7T	11	11+40T	33	73	2+2T		
DEER species									
MOOSE	5T								
ELK	1T		15+5T					3T	
PRONGHORN								5	
TOTAL SPECIES	11	10	6	4	13	13	10	9	5

Table 1-9. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

Saskatoon December 26, 2000	Shamrock December 27, 2000	Snowden December 30, 2000	Somme December 30, 2000	Spalding December 29, 2000	Squaw Rapids December 29, 2000	Stockholm December 31, 2000	Swift Current December 30, 2000	Tisdale December 25, 2000	SPECIES
									SHORT-TAILED SHREW
				T					MASKED SHREW
									SHREW species
									EASTERN COTTONTAIL
	26T						1+2T		NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
2+6T	2T	2		T	12T			2	SNOWSHOE HARE
6	12T		0		3T	1	3+3T		WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
							27		GREY SQUIRREL
									FOX SQUIRREL
3+1T		13			1				RED SQUIRREL
		1							NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
									NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
					2L				BEAVER
					3T		5T		DEER MOUSE
									GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
					10L				MUSKRAT
			0		1T				MEADOW VOLE
				T			1T		VOLE species
1	4T	2T		T					MOUSE species
		1T							NORWAY RAT
1			0						HOUSE MOUSE
2					1T	2	1		PORCUPINE
8	3+6T	1	6	H	2T		2+2T	1	COYOTE
									WOLF
2	9T+8d			1T	1T	1	1+23T		RED FOX
		1T		T		1			RACCOON
									AMERICAN MARTEN
									FISHER
					1T				ERMINE
							1T		LONG-TAILED WEASEL
					1T				LEAST WEASEL
		1T		3T					WEASEL species
1T					1T		1		MINK
									BADGER
							1T		STRIPED SKUNK
					1+2T				RIVER OTTER
									FERAL CAT
									WOODLAND CARIBOU
4	16+1						101+38T		MULE DEER
88+2T	4+8T	11	8	T	12	14	5	4	WHITE-TAILED DEER
1T							16T		DEER species
		1T	2		2+1T				MOOSE
		11	7		76			2	ELK
									PRONGHORN
10	8	11	7	9	17	5	13	4	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-10. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNTS

SPECIES	Togo December 28, 2000	Turtleford January 6, 2001	Turtle Lake December 26, 2000	Waldheim January 2, 2001	Weldon December 17, 2000	Weyburn January 3, 2001	White Bear December 27, 2000	Whitewood December 31, 2000	Yorkton December 30, 2000	Total Number of Counts/Species
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										1
MASKED SHREW										1
SHREW species										4
EASTERN COTTONTAIL										1
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL										15
SNOWSHOE HARE	2	1						4		51
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT	0					1	0			47
GREY SQUIRREL										6
FOX SQUIRREL						4		1		5
RED SQUIRREL	1	1	4					6		41
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL	2		1							4
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER	0									1
BEAVER								2L		18
DEER MOUSE								1T		15
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										1
MUSKRAT								7L		21
MEADOW VOLE										8
VOLE species										11
MOUSE species										23
NORWAY RAT										1
HOUSE MOUSE	0							1		5
PORCUPINE	1		2				1	6		38
COYOTE	0	1	14		0	1	9	4	3	78
WOLF										3
RED FOX							0	3T	1	39
RACCOON		1								9
AMERICAN MARTEN										3
FISHER			2							2
ERMINE								1T		11
LONG-TAILED WEASEL	0						0			16
LEAST WEASEL										11
WEASEL species								1T		10
MINK										14
BADGER								2d		10
STRIPED SKUNK		1								6
RIVER OTTER										4
FERAL CAT										1
WOODLAND CARIBOU										1
MULE DEER			4				99			31
WHITE-TAILED DEER	1	4	20		0	43		20	2	76
DEER species										9
MOOSE			2					2T		19
ELK	0									16
PRONGHORN										7
TOTAL SPECIES	11	6	8	0	2	4	6	14	3	