
MAMMALS

SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT – 2001

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The weather was unseasonably mild up to and throughout the count period. Much of the western half of the province was snow free or had shallow crusted snow cover, making identifying tracks very difficult.

A total of 102 counts were completed. This is nine more counts than were completed last year and six more than in 1997, the previous high.

No new species were seen during the count. Rarities include a Short-tailed Shrew at Fort Qu'appelle, and for the second consecutive year, a Woodland Caribou at La Ronge South. Two southwestern counts recorded Swift Fox. All three wild cat species were recorded, the rarest being a Mountain Lion at Saskatoon. Three locations with Lynx is the largest number in recent times, while two locations recorded Bobcat.

Similar to last year, the most frequently recorded species were the Coyote (80% of counts), and White-tailed Deer (79%). Snowshoe Hare and White-tailed Jackrabbit were next in frequency, though Snowshoe Hare numbers remain depressed. Surprisingly, Red Squirrel was found on 56% of counts (up from 44% last year), and Moose on 26% (up from 20%). Porcupine was the only species to show a substantial decline (from 41% of counts to 31%).

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 mammals were

seen, while a letter following the number means that the number was inferred from other evidence. The meaning of each letter symbol is given below. A letter alone, means that the species was present but estimating the numbers was either impossible, or that no attempt was made to do so.

Letter Symbols:

T = tracks

L = active lodge, hut, or den

D = dead animal found

d = fresh diggings found

S = smell or odour

H = heard

O = present during count period

(December 14 to January 5) but not found on count day

Received too late to include in tables

Fife Lake:

White-tailed Jackrabbit, 1; White-tailed Deer, 5; Pronghorn, 33.

Rockglen:

Nuttall's Cottontail, T; White-tailed Jackrabbit, O; Porcupine, 1; Coyote, 1; Red Fox, O; Long-tailed Weasel, T; Least Weasel, T; Badger, d; Mule Deer, 42; White-tailed Deer, 6; Pronghorn, O.

Table 1-1. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

	Archerwill December 30, 2001	Armit December 30, 2001	Bangor January 5, 2002	Battle Creek PFRA January 3, 2002	Bethune-Dilke January 5, 2002	Biggar December 27, 2001	Big Muddy January 4, 2002	Big River December 26, 2001	Birch Hills December 18, 2001	Brightwater Res. December 22, 2001
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										
SHREW species									4T	
EASTERN COTTONTAIL										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL				5T			1T			
SNOWSHOE HARE	1	10T	2			1T			42T	
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT		1T		3T	0	1+3T	T			
RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL	3				1					
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL		25	1					1T	4+1T	
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
BEAVER										
DEER MOUSE		1T								
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT									1T	
MEADOW VOLE						1+3T				
VOLE species							2T		6T	
MOUSE species									15T	
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE	1								1T	
COYOTE	2	1+1T	4H	3+1T	1	1	1T	1T	3+4T	2
WOLF		2T								
RED FOX	1	1T								
SWIFT FOX				1T						
RACCOON										
AMERICAN MARTEN		2T								
FISHER										
ERMINE		1T							1	
LONG-TAILED WEASEL	1		0						1T	
LEAST WEASEL									2T	
WEASEL species							1T			
MINK	3+1T	1T							1T	
BADGER										
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER										
MOUNTAIN LION										
BOBCAT										
LYNX										
FERAL CAT										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER						7	41			
WHITE-TAILED DEER	10	12	2			16	3	1T	8T	
DEER species										
MOOSE	1+2T	1T								
ELK	30	28								
PRONGHORN				46						
TOTAL SPECIES	10	13	5	5	3	6	7	3	13	1

Table 1-2. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

	Broadview December 28, 2001	Bromhead December 27, 2001	Cabri December 24, 2001	Candle Lake December 29, 2001	Clark's Crossing December 15, 2001	Coronach December 19, 2001	Craven December 15, 2001	Crooked Lake December 16, 2001	Cypress Hills P. P. December 31, 2001	Duck Lake December 20, 2001
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										
SHREW species										
EASTERN COTTONTAIL								1T		
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL			1+3T			2T				
SNOWSHOE HARE	6T			4T	2T		9T	1T		2T
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT	1T	T			1+4T	3T				
RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL	0									
FOX SQUIRREL	3						2	2		
RED SQUIRREL	1H+2T			15+5T			7+3T	7	14	2+8H
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
BEAVER						1L	4L	1		
DEER MOUSE										
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT						1		1		
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE species		1T		2T						
MOUSE species	2T			5T	1T		27T			1D
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE		1T					2D+6T			
COYOTE	1+3T	1	1+1T	2+2T	9+1T		4T	2T		2H
WOLF				1T						
RED FOX			2T		1T		4T			
SWIFT FOX										
RACCOON										
AMERICAN MARTEN										
FISHER										
ERMINE	2T									
LONG-TAILED WEASEL	1T									
LEAST WEASEL										
WEASEL species							1T			
MINK	1T						1			
BADGER								1		
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER				1T						
MOUNTAIN LION										
BOBCAT										
LYNX										
FERAL CAT										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER			7			10				
WHITE-TAILED DEER	15T	26		12+22T	8		4+11T	2T	23	
DEER species			8T		1+1T					2T
MOOSE	1T			1T					5	
ELK										1T
PRONGHORN										
TOTAL SPECIES	11	5	5	9	6	5	11	9	3	6

Table 1-3. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

Duval December 30, 2001	Eastend January 3, 2002	Emma Lake January 3, 2002	Endeavour December 23, 2001	Estevan December 23, 2001	Estuary January 2, 2002	Fenton December 15, 2001	Fort Qu'appelle December 15, 2001	Fort Walsh December 15, 2001	Gardiner Dam December 17, 2001	
							1			SHORT-TAILED SHREW
										SHREW species
4T				1T						EASTERN COTTONTAIL
	3				3			8+3T		NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
3T		T	T			1+7T	1		7T	SNOWSHOE HARE
5T				5T					2T	WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
							1			RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL
										GREY SQUIRREL
				1+2T						FOX SQUIRREL
		8	0			3+2T	8	54		RED SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
1L								3T		BEAVER
							0	5T	3T	DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
				1L			1			MUSKRAT
			1				0	1		MEADOW VOLE
						3T		5T		VOLE species
2T						25T				MOUSE species
										NORWAY RAT
							1			HOUSE MOUSE
3				2		1T		2T	1+1T	PORCUPINE
16T	3T		T	1+7T	8	8+2T	4	4+3H	1+2T	COYOTE
										WOLF
3T	2T									RED FOX
										SWIFT FOX
										RACCOON
										AMERICAN MARTEN
			T							FISHER
							0	1T		ERMINE
						3T				LONG-TAILED WEASEL
1T			T	2T		1T				LEAST WEASEL
										WEASEL species
		0						2		MINK
					1					BADGER
1S	1D									STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
										MOUNTAIN LION
								1T		BOBCAT
										LYNX
							0			FERAL CAT
										WOODLAND CARIBOU
	10				113		0	76	53	MULE DEER
		T	13		65	10T	1	60	57	WHITE-TAILED DEER
59T				5T						DEER species
	2T		0					1T		MOOSE
			0					25T		ELK
										PRONGHORN
10	6	4	9	8	5	9	14	13	7	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-4. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

	Good Spirit Lake December 20, 2001	Govenlock December 16, 2001	Grasslands N. Park December 18, 2001	Grayson December 23, 2001	Grayson January 5, 2002	Harris, December 18, 2001	Holbein January 3, 2002	Indian Head January 5, 2002	Kamsack December 26, 2001	Kelvington December 27, 2001
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										
SHREW species	2T	1T						1		
EASTERN COTTONTAIL										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL		2+24T	3							
SNOWSHOE HARE	42T					1	T	7		1+6T
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT	3T	40T		1		1+2T		9		
RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL		1								
GREY SQUIRREL										
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL	7			1			2	45	1	1T
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER	3d									
BEAVER	1L			1						
DEER MOUSE		15T				3T				
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT										
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE species	T	1T						1		
MOUSE species	T			1T						1T
NORWAY RAT										2T
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE	2T	1		1				4		
COYOTE	3	13+18T	4	1		1+5T		29	9	1+4T
WOLF										
RED FOX		3T						4	3	1T
SWIFT FOX		1T								
RACCOON		1T								
AMERICAN MARTEN									1	
FISHER										
ERMINE	2T	1T								
LONG-TAILED WEASEL										
LEAST WEASEL								1		
WEASEL species										
MINK	2T							1T		
BADGER	3d	1d								
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER										
MOUNTAIN LION										
BOBCAT										
LYNX										
FERAL CAT										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER		83	67			77		10		
WHITE-TAILED DEER	17	3	93	3	20T	21		62	54	10T
DEER species										
MOOSE	2T					2T			2	0
ELK									2	
PRONGHORN		158	163							
TOTAL SPECIES	15	15	5	7	1	7	2	12	7	8

Table 1-5. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

Kenaston December 23, 2001	Kennedy January 3, 2002	Kenosee Lake December 28, 2001	Kilwinning December 28, 2001	Kindersley December 26, 2001	Kinistino January 4, 2002	Kinloch December 16, 2001	Kutawagan Lake December 26, 2001	La Ronge (North) December 23, 2001	La Ronge (South) December 30, 2001	
										SHORT-TAILED SHREW
T									1	SHREW species
										EASTERN COTTONTAIL
										NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
T	1T	1T				30T	2T	3T	0	SNOWSHOE HARE
2T	1T			3T			12T	0		WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
										RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL
										GREY SQUIRREL
										FOX SQUIRREL
	4	1	2		1	3		6+3T	3	RED SQUIRREL
									0	NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
		8L				4L				BEAVER
7										DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
	26L	8L				9L				MUSKRAT
			1			7T				MEADOW VOLE
								2T		VOLE species
					T					MOUSE species
										NORWAY RAT
										HOUSE MOUSE
				0			2T			PORCUPINE
T	2			1		1	3+2T	0	0	COYOTE
						1T				WOLF
T	1						1T		0	RED FOX
										SWIFT FOX
										RACCOON
										AMERICAN MARTEN
										FISHER
										ERMINE
T							1T			LONG-TAILED WEASEL
						2T				LEAST WEASEL
										WEASEL species
										MINK
						1	1d			BADGER
										STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
										MOUNTAIN LION
										BOBCAT
									0	LYNX
									0	FERAL CAT
									0	WOODLAND CARIBOU
2				2						MULE DEER
9	25T	1	4	1	2	16	7	0		WHITE-TAILED DEER
										DEER species
T				0		5T				MOOSE
						25T				ELK
T				16						PRONGHORN
11	7	5	3	7	3	12	8	6	8	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-6. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

	Last Mount. L. WMA January 5, 2002	Leader (North) December 26, 2001	Leader (South) December 22, 2001	Love December 26, 2001	Luseland December 31, 2001	MacDowall December 25, 2001	Maple Creek December 20, 2001	Mayview January 1, 2002	Meadow Lake December 26, 2001	Melfort December 26, 2001
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										
SHREW species	2T									
EASTERN COTTONTAIL										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL		6	5							
SNOWSHOE HARE				1T		6T			T	
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT	17T	4		1T		1T	3			1
RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL										
FOX SQUIRREL										
RED SQUIRREL				3		2		10	1+T	
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
BEAVER										
DEER MOUSE	7T				2					
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE										
MUSKRAT										
MEADOW VOLE										
VOLE species						5T				
MOUSE species		2				5T				
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE										
PORCUPINE	1T					3T	2			
COYOTE	4+3T	3H	2	1	1	5+12T	3	2		
WOLF										
RED FOX	1T				2T	1T			T	1
SWIFT FOX										
RACCOON										
AMERICAN MARTEN										
FISHER										
ERMINE										
LONG-TAILED WEASEL				1T						
LEAST WEASEL				1T		2T				
WEASEL species	1T					2T		0		
MINK										
BADGER		1T				2d	2d			
STRIPED SKUNK										
RIVER OTTER										
MOUNTAIN LION										
BOBCAT		1T								
LYNX										
FERAL CAT										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER	1D	10	45		11		13			
WHITE-TAILED DEER	4+25T	18	15	24		5+15T	7		T	
DEER species										
MOOSE					6	2T			T	
ELK										
PRONGHORN	7						11			
TOTAL SPECIES	10	8	5	7	5	12	7	3	5	2

Table 1-7. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

Melville December 31, 2001	Missinipe December 29, 2001	Moose Jaw December 26, 2001	Moose Mountain December 21, 2001	Nipawin December 28, 2001	Nisbet Forest W. December 31, 2001	Paddockwood N December 24, 2001	Paddockwood January 4, 2002	Pike Lake January 5, 2002	Ponteix January 2, 2002	
										SHORT-TAILED SHREW
										SHREW species
										EASTERN COTTONTAIL
									2	NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
					1	T		10+4T		SNOWSHOE HARE
		10T		T				5T		WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
										RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL
		21								GREY SQUIRREL
										FOX SQUIRREL
	1		4	2	13	1		7		RED SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
										BEAVER
								2T		DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
										MUSKRAT
										MEADOW VOLE
										VOLE species
					0			3T		MOUSE species
										NORWAY RAT
										HOUSE MOUSE
						1		1		PORCUPINE
1			1	1	1	1		6+1T		COYOTE
										WOLF
								2		RED FOX
										SWIFT FOX
										RACCOON
										AMERICAN MARTEN
										FISHER
										ERMINE
										LONG-TAILED WEASEL
										LEAST WEASEL
										WEASEL species
										MINK
										BADGER
	1T									STRIPED SKUNK
										RIVER OTTER
										MOUNTAIN LION
										BOBCAT
										LYNX
										FERAL CAT
										WOODLAND CARIBOU
								34		MULE DEER
4T		3T		T	0	7	9	8+35T	4	WHITE-TAILED DEER
	5T							19T		DEER species
										MOOSE
				T		20T				ELK
										PRONGHORN
2	3	3	2	5	5	6	1	9	2	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-8. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

	Preeceville January 1, 2002	Prince Albert December 16, 2001	Prince Albert N.P. December 14, 2001	Qu'appelle V. Dam December 16, 2001	Raymore December 25, 2001	Regina December 26, 2001	Round Lake December 15, 2001	Sask. Landing P.P. December 18, 2001	Sask. River Forks December 19, 2001	Saskatoon December 26, 2001
SHORT-TAILED SHREW										
SHREW species										
EASTERN COTTONTAIL										
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL								1T		
SNOWSHOE HARE		17T	57T		10T	4T	1T		9T	2+3T
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT		1T			15T	10				9+38T
RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL										
GREY SQUIRREL	1					8				
FOX SQUIRREL						2				
RED SQUIRREL	2	11+11T	23+54T		0	7	6		8+8T	
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL										
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER										
BEAVER		1L			2L		2L	1		
DEER MOUSE					0	11T				4T
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE					0					
MUSKRAT					3L		1			1T
MEADOW VOLE	1				0	1T				
VOLE species		4T							3T	1
MOUSE species		8T							7T	
NORWAY RAT										
HOUSE MOUSE						1T				
PORCUPINE		3T		2	0			1+1T		1T
COYOTE	21+3T	6+8T	3T	1	7T		7T	3	1+2T	19+2T
WOLF			5+9T							
RED FOX		1	1+27T	1	1T	2T				2T
SWIFT FOX										
RACCOON									1T	
AMERICAN MARTEN										
FISHER	T		5T						1T	
ERMINE					1T				2T	
LONG-TAILED WEASEL		2T								1
LEAST WEASEL	T	1T							1T	
WEASEL species						5T				
MINK						1T				1T
BADGER										1
STRIPED SKUNK		0								
RIVER OTTER			1+2T							
MOUNTAIN LION										1T
BOBCAT										
LYNX			3T							
FERAL CAT										
WOODLAND CARIBOU										
MULE DEER				2				61		1
WHITE-TAILED DEER	38+10T	4+30T		2	20	4	5	2	2+11T	58
DEER species			8+68T							
MOOSE	2T									
ELK	17		5T						5T	
PRONGHORN								25		
TOTAL SPECIES	9	13	10	5	13	12	6	7	11	14

Table 1-9. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

Shamrock December 30, 2001	Skull Creek December 27, 2001	Snowden December 29, 2001	Somme December 26, 2001	Spalding December 14, 2001	Spruce Home January 3, 2002	Squaw Rapids December 29, 2001	Stenen January 2, 2002	Stockholm January 5, 2002	Swift Current December 29, 2001	
						1T				SHORT-TAILED SHREW
										SHREW species
	12								1	EASTERN COTTONTAIL
10T		6T	1	0		13T				NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL
1	2		0			3T		1		SNOWSHOE HARE
										WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT
										RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL
									20	GREY SQUIRREL
										FOX SQUIRREL
	2	9	6		1	25	3			RED SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
										NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER
						4L				BEAVER
						1T				DEER MOUSE
										GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE
						2L				MUSKRAT
		1T								MEADOW VOLE
						2T				VOLE species
2T										MOUSE species
			0							NORWAY RAT
										HOUSE MOUSE
	3					1T		1D		PORCUPINE
6+6T	5	2	3	H		2+5T			8	COYOTE
			0			3T				WOLF
2+11T	1		0			1+1T				RED FOX
										SWIFT FOX
	3T			0						RACCOON
										AMERICAN MARTEN
										FISHER
										ERMINE
	2									LONG-TAILED WEASEL
						1T				LEAST WEASEL
		1T								WEASEL species
	2					1T			1	MINK
	2									BADGER
									1S	STRIPED SKUNK
						1T				RIVER OTTER
										MOUNTAIN LION
										BOBCAT
			1							LYNX
										FERAL CAT
										WOODLAND CARIBOU
36+4T	70								36	MULE DEER
2	50	7	25			8	2	1	16	WHITE-TAILED DEER
										DEER species
			2	0		2				MOOSE
			0			22				ELK
									51	PRONGHORN
7	11	6	11	4	1	18	2	3	8	TOTAL SPECIES

Table 1-10. SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT

	Tisdale December 25, 2001	Togo January 1, 2002	Turtleford December 29, 2001	Turtle Lake January 3, 2002	Watson January 1, 2002	Weldon December 16, 2001	Weyburn December 19, 2001	White Bear December 26, 2001	Whitewood December 29, 2001	Yorkton December 30, 2001	TOTAL COUNTS/ SPECIES
SHORT-TAILED SHREW											1
SHREW species					2T						9
EASTERN COTTONTAIL									1T		4
NUTTALL'S COTTONTAIL								1			16
SNOWSHOE HARE	3T		2+T	5		T			7T	15T	53
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT				1	5T		3		2T		44
RICHARD. GRD. SQUIRREL											1
GREY SQUIRREL										1	9
FOX SQUIRREL							6		0		7
RED SQUIRREL		3		4		2			3	1	56
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL		4									2
NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER									0		2
BEAVER			T								15
DEER MOUSE			T						0		16
GAPPER'S RED-BACKED VOLE											1
MUSKRAT									2L		13
MEADOW VOLE									10		11
VOLE species			T								16
MOUSE species											19
NORWAY RAT									4T		3
HOUSE MOUSE									1		3
PORCUPINE				4				1	5T		31
COYOTE			T	10	5T	1	3	15	7T	1	80
WOLF											6
RED FOX	1T		T	2	3T	T	2	1D	4T	1	40
SWIFT FOX											2
RACCOON											4
AMERICAN MARTEN											2
FISHER											4
ERMINE											9
LONG-TAILED WEASEL											11
LEAST WEASEL											13
WEASEL species											7
MINK											14
BADGER			0						0		13
STRIPED SKUNK				2							5
RIVER OTTER											4
MOUNTAIN LION											1
BOBCAT											2
LYNX											3
FERAL CAT											1
WOODLAND CARIBOU											1
MULE DEER			0	5				211	8		31
WHITE-TAILED DEER	2T	3	T	25	20T	4	33			9+6T	79
DEER species											8
MOOSE			3	3	2T				2		26
ELK				5					15T		16
PRONGHORN											9
TOTAL SPECIES	3	3	10	11	6	5	5	5	18	6	100