
MAMMALS

32nd ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT-2004.

ALAN R. SMITH, 115 Perimeter Road, Saskatoon SK S7N0X4.

Mammal counts (Table 1) were received from 95 of the 99 localities submitting Christmas Bird Counts (CBC). The 33 species of mammals seen or heard on count day was second only to last year's 35 species and tied totals for 2002, 1995 and 1991.

The most abundant mammal was the White-tailed Deer, closely followed by the Mule Deer. The American Red Squirrel and Pronghorn placed third and fourth. The most frequently seen mammals involved the White-tailed Deer on 71% of all counts, the Coyote on 59%, the American Red Squirrel on 53%, and the Mule Deer on only 38%.

No new species were recorded, but the Least Chipmunk was recorded for only the third time and for the second year in a row. One was seen at Fort Qu'Appelle. The previous records include one seen at Archerwill and tracks noted at Saskatoon in 2003.

Another good find for the Fort Qu'Appelle count was a Short-tailed Shrew. A Fisher on the Spinney Hill count was south of its normal boreal forest range. Although identified only by tracks, a Woodland Caribou at Candle Lake was of interest as was a den considered to be that of a Swift Fox in Grasslands National Park.

For information on participants, weather, coverage and location of Christmas Mammal Counts see the CBC summary in this issue.

The number of mammals actually seen or heard on count day is treated separately from those recorded by other means, or those

recorded during count period (14 December to 5 January, as with the CBC) but not on count day. Numbers of individuals seen or heard are given in the table and are tallied in the first line of totals at the bottom of Table 1. The number of species they represent is given in the second line.

For animals detected by tracks, by other means, or that are seen or heard in the count period but not on count day, we tabulate only the species *additional to* those actually seen or heard and no number of individuals is given. Species detected only by tracks are indicated by 't' in the table; those detected only by other means (dead animals or clearly identifiable chewing, digging, dens or lodges) by 'o.' Species detected by any means during the count period, but not on count day are indicated by 'c' in the table. These additional species are tallied in lines 3, 4 and 5 at the bottom of the table. If a mammal is reported as member of a species group (i.e. mouse species, deer species), it is counted as a species only if no other species in this group has been definitely recorded.

The columns at the end of the table give totals for each species. The first shows the total number of individuals seen or heard on count day. The second gives the number of counts on which the species was seen or heard on count day. Columns 3 and 4 give the number of counts on which the species was recorded only by tracks or other signs. Column 5 shows the number of times the species was recorded during the count period (except count day). The last gives the sum of the count days and count periods reporting each species.

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Archerhill, 20 Dec 2004	Armit, 4 Jan 2005	Bangor, 10 Jan 2005	Bethune-Dilke, 9 Jan 2005	Biggar, 27 Dec 2004	Birch Hills, 18 Dec 2004	Brightwater, 23 Dec 2004	Broadview, 24 Dec 2004	Bromhead, 19 Dec 2004	Cabri, 27 Dec 2004	Candle Lake, 2 Jan 2005	Cherry Lake, 2 Jan 2005
Short-tailed Shrew												
Shrew Species												
Nuttall's Cottontail										1		
Snowshoe Hare	t				t	1	t	t			t	
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	t		9		t					1		
Least Chipmunk												
Eastern Grey Squirrel			1					1				
Fox Squirrel												
American Red Squirrel	2					2		2			t	
Northern Flying-Squirrel												
American Beaver						o		o				
Deer Mouse			t									
Muskrat									1			
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole												
Meadow Vole						o						
Vole Species						2						
Mouse Species	t							t		t		t
Norway Rat												
House Mouse												
American Porcupine	t					t				t		o
Coyote	1	t			9	1	1	1	t	t		
Wolf	c	t									t	
Red Fox	c		1									
Swift Fox												
Raccoon												
American Marten												
Fisher												
Ermine											t	
Long-tailed Weasel								t		t		
Least Weasel												
Weasel Species	t											
American Mink												
American Badger									o			
Striped Skunk			2									
River Otter											t	
Lynx												
Woodland Caribou											t	
Mule Deer	11				61			8		11		
White-tailed Deer		17	t	12	12	t	10	t	28	1	11	
Deer Species												t
Moose	1							t				
Elk	c											
Pronghorn										4		
Totals seen/heard on count day	15	17	13	12	82	6	11	12	29	18	11	0
Total species seen/heard	4	1	4	1	3	4	2	4	2	5	1	0
Total species recorded by tracks	5	2	2	0	2	2	1	5	1	4	6	2
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1
Species recorded count period	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	12	3	6	1	5	8	3	10	4	9	7	3

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Clark's Crossing, 18 Dec 2004	Codette Lake, 2 Jan 2005	Coronach, 2 Jan 2005	Craven, 18 Dec 2004	Crooked Lake, 17 Dec 2004	Crooked River, 29 Dec 2004	Cypress Hills P.P., 29 Dec.2004	Duck Lake, 21 Dec 2004	Dundurn, 5 Jan 2005	Eastend, 3 Jan 2005	Emma Lake, 17 Dec 2004	Endeavour, 26 Dec 2004
Short-tailed Shrew												
Shrew Species												
Nuttall's Cottontail							2			2		
Snowshoe Hare	4	t					1	t	t		t	t
White-tailed Jack Rabbit			2						t	23		
Least Chipmunk												
Eastern Grey Squirrel				4								
Fox Squirrel				3								
American Red Squirrel	1	2		5		1	3	6	t		5	3
Northern Flying-Squirrel												
American Beaver					o							
Deer Mouse									t			1
Muskrat												
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole												
Meadow Vole									t			
Vole Species							t					1
Mouse Species			t					t				
Norway Rat												
House Mouse												
American Porcupine		t		t								t
Coyote	1	1	1	4	t		t	1	t	2		1
Wolf												
Red Fox	3	t	1	1								t
Swift Fox												
Raccoon												
American Marten												
Fisher												
Ermine												t
Long-tailed Weasel		t					3					
Least Weasel							t			t		
Weasel Species	t											
American Mink												
American Badger			o									
Striped Skunk												
River Otter												
Lynx							t					
Woodland Caribou												
Mule Deer	12	t	13	1			12					
White-tailed Deer	12	t	7	9	t	4	3	3	1	5	t	5
Deer Species							12					
Moose							3			2		t
Elk		85										
Pronghorn										9		
Totals seen/heard on count day	33	88	24	27	0	5	39	10	1	43	5	11
Total species seen/heard	6	3	5	7	0	2	7	3	1	6	1	5
Total species recorded by tracks	1	6	1	1	2	0	4	2	6	1	2	5
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	7	9	7	8	3	2	11	5	7	7	3	10

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	37	38
	Esterhazy-Hazelcliffe, 18 Dec 2004	Estevan, 1 Jan 2005	Estuary North, 2 Jan 2005	Fenton, 17 Dec 2004	Fort Qu'Appelle, 18 Dec 2004	Fort Walsh, 18 Dec 2004	Gardiner Dam, 20 Dec 2004	Good Spirit Lake, 29 Dec 2004	Govenlock, 19 Dec 2004	Grasslands, N.P., 4 Jan 2005	Grenfell, 26 Dec 2004	Harris, 31 Dec 2004
Short-tailed Shrew					1							
Shrew Species								t				
Nuttall's Cottontail			8			t	4		2	1		
Snowshoe Hare				t			t	t				
White-tailed Jack Rabbit			2			2	1	t	3	2	t	1
Least Chipmunk					1							
Eastern Grey Squirrel												
Fox Squirrel		1										
American Red Squirrel	1			8	12	25		3				
Northern Flying-Squirrel												
American Beaver				7	c			o				
Deer Mouse					3							
Muskrat					1			o				
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole												
Meadow Vole								t				
Vole Species				t		1						
Mouse Species												
Norway Rat												
House Mouse					1							
American Porcupine						2		t				
Coyote			2	3	1		1	2	5	12		t
Wolf												
Red Fox					c			t	1	o		
Swift Fox										o		
Raccoon												
American Marten												
Fisher												
Ermine								t		t		
Long-tailed Weasel									1			
Least Weasel												
Weasel Species												
American Mink								t				
American Badger								1				
Striped Skunk												
River Otter												
Lynx												
Woodland Caribou												
Mule Deer		2	111		c	39	33		112	117		141
White-tailed Deer		2	150	t	5	39	35	6	3	142		16
Deer Species												
Moose												
Elk						t		t				
Pronghorn									69	84		17
Totals seen/heard on count day	1	5	273	18	25	108	74	12	196	358	0	175
Total species seen/heard	1	3	5	3	8	6	5	4	8	6	0	4
Total species recorded by tracks	0	0	0	3	0	2	1	9	0	1	1	1
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	1	3	5	6	11	8	6	15	8	9	1	5

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	39	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
	Hepburn, 14 Dec 2004	Indian Head, Dec 2004	Kamsack, Dec 2005	Kelvington, 29 Dec 2004	Kenaston, 18 Dec 2004	Kenosee Lake, 29 Dec 2004	Ketchen, 26 Dec 2004	Kilwinning, 18 Dec 2004	Kindersley North, 27 Dec 2004	Kinistino, 2 Jan 2005	Kinloch, 3 Jan 2005	Kutawagan Lake, 25 Dec 2004
Short-tailed Shrew												
Shrew Species												
Nuttall's Cottontail					t							
Snowshoe Hare		27		t							t	
White-tailed Jack Rabbit		9		t	t							
Least Chipmunk												
Eastern Grey Squirrel												
Fox Squirrel		2										
American Red Squirrel		34	3	1		11		8		2	3	
Northern Flying-Squirrel												
American Beaver						o	o					o
Deer Mouse										t		
Muskrat						o						o
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole												
Meadow Vole		t				t						t
Vole Species	t											
Mouse Species				t	t							
Norway Rat				t								
House Mouse				1								
American Porcupine		3			t	t				3		1
Coyote		15	12	t	t	3		1	c	2	t	
Wolf			2									
Red Fox		5	6	t	t	t			c	1		
Swift Fox												
Raccoon		1			t					2		
American Marten			2									
Fisher												
Ermine							1					
Long-tailed Weasel		3			t							
Least Weasel												t
Weasel Species		2								1		t
American Mink												
American Badger												
Striped Skunk				o	t							
River Otter												
Lynx			1									
Woodland Caribou												
Mule Deer		13	5		26				2			1
White-tailed Deer		48	154	t	5	12	10	4			3	8
Deer Species			4									
Moose		1	4	c	t	t						t
Elk			8			t	c					t
Pronghorn					t							
Totals seen/heard on count day	0	163	201	2	31	26	11	13	2	11	6	10
Total species seen/heard	0	12	10	2	2	3	2	3	1	6	2	3
Total species recorded by tracks	1	1	0	7	11	5	0	0	0	1	6	1
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	1	13	10	11	15	9	3	3	3	7	10	4

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
	Kyle, 3 Jan 2005	La Ronge North, 30 Dec 2004	Last Mountain Lake, 30 Dec 2004	Leader North, 29 Dec 2004	Little Manitou Lake, 29 Dec 2004	Love-Torch River, 27 Dec 2004	Luseland, 5 Jan 2005	MacDowall, 1 Jan 2005	MacNutt, 28 Dec 2004	Matador, 29 Dec 2004	Mayview, 21 Dec 2004	Meadow Lake, 26 Dec 2004
Short-tailed Shrew												
Shrew Species												
Nuttall's Cottontail	9			2						t		
Snowshoe Hare					t	t		t				t
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	3		1	2	c		4			t		
Least Chipmunk												
Eastern Grey Squirrel												
Fox Squirrel												
American Red Squirrel		3				3		2	3		3	t
Northern Flying-Squirrel												
American Beaver								o				
Deer Mouse	1						c			1		
Muskrat												
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole												
Meadow Vole								c				
Vole Species										1		
Mouse Species				6								t
Norway Rat												
House Mouse												
American Porcupine	1				o			c		1		
Coyote	5		t	1	t	1	4	2	2	6	1	3
Wolf												
Red Fox	t						c	t				t
Swift Fox												
Raccoon						t						
American Marten												
Fisher												t
Ermine								t				
Long-tailed Weasel												
Least Weasel				1								
Weasel Species	t		t			c						t
American Mink						c						
American Badger								o				
Striped Skunk					o							
River Otter												
Lynx		1						t				
Woodland Caribou												
Mule Deer	12		2	11	3		11			51		
White-tailed Deer	40		24	10	1	43		6	t	50		5
Deer Species												
Moose						t	c					
Elk											3	
Pronghorn												
Totals seen/heard on count day	71	4	27	33	4	47	19	10	5	110	7	8
Total species seen/heard	7	2	3	7	2	3	3	3	2	6	3	2
Total species recorded by tracks	2	0	2	0	2	3	0	4	1	2	0	6
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	9	2	5	7	7	8	6	11	3	8	3	8

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
	Moose Jaw, 27 Dec 2004	Moose Mountain, 22 Dec 2004	Morse, 23 Dec 2004	Nipawin, 28 Dec 2004	Nisbet Forest NW, 14 Dec 2004	Nisbet Forest West, 1 Jan 2005	Pike Lake, 2 Jan 2005	Preeceville, 1 Jan 2005	Prince Albert, 19 Dec 2004	Prince Albert N.P., 22 Dec 2004	Qu'Appelle Dam, 19 Dec 2004	Raymore, 27 Dec 2004
Short-tailed Shrew												
Shrew Species												
Nuttall's Cottontail	t		t									
Snowshoe Hare	2			10	c		2		5	t		
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	2		t	2			1		t			
Least Chipmunk												
Eastern Grey Squirrel												
Fox Squirrel	4											
American Red Squirrel		3		5	c	7	4	4	8	t		t
Northern Flying-Squirrel												
American Beaver									o			
Deer Mouse									t			
Muskrat											1	
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole												
Meadow Vole	t											
Vole Species			1						2			
Mouse Species							t			t		
Norway Rat												
House Mouse												
American Porcupine					o							
Coyote	1	1	4	1	1		4		3	t	2	
Wolf										t		
Red Fox			c	2	c	c	1	1		t		
Swift Fox												
Raccoon												
American Marten										t		
Fisher										t		
Ermine						1						
Long-tailed Weasel				1					t			
Least Weasel												
Weasel Species										t		
American Mink									t			
American Badger			o									
Striped Skunk					c							
River Otter										2		
Lynx												
Woodland Caribou												
Mule Deer			24				2				50	
White-tailed Deer		7	33	15	c		35	8	t	1	24	22
Deer Species												
Moose			3	c								
Elk										t		
Pronghorn												
Totals seen/heard on count day	9	11	65	36	1	8	49	13	18	3	77	22
Total species seen/heard	4	3	5	7	1	2	7	3	4	2	4	1
Total species recorded by tracks	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	5	10	0	1
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	1	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	6	3	9	8	7	3	8	3	10	12	4	2

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	76	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88
	Regina, 26 Dec 2004	Round Lake, 28 Dec 2004	Saltcoats, 28 Dec 2004	Sk. Landing P.P., 21 Dec 2004	Sk. River Forks, 29 Dec 2004	Saskatoon, 26 Dec 2004	Shamrock, 18 Dec 2004	Skull Creek, 26 Dec 2004	Snowden, 31 Dec 2004	Somme, 30 Dec 2004	Spinney Hill, 14 Dec 2004	Spruce Home, SW, 19 Dec 2004
Short-tailed Shrew												
Shrew Species											t	
Nuttall's Cottontail				10				4				
Snowshoe Hare	t	1	1		t	3			9		t	
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	24	t				14		2	1	1	t	
Least Chipmunk												
Eastern Grey Squirrel	2											
Fox Squirrel	4											
American Red Squirrel	8	4	2		7			2	10	8	9	2
Northern Flying-Squirrel									c			
American Beaver	o	o				3						
Deer Mouse	t			t						c	t	
Muskrat												
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole												
Meadow Vole	t	1			1	t			t			
Vole Species				t								
Mouse Species												
Norway Rat									t			
House Mouse										c		
American Porcupine			o	2	t	1						
Coyote	5	4	1	7	t	3	1	4	1	1	2	c
Wolf												
Red Fox	1	t		2	1	1		1		1		c
Swift Fox												
Raccoon									t			
American Marten												
Fisher											1	
Ermine						1						
Long-tailed Weasel					t			2	t			
Least Weasel												
Weasel Species				t								c
American Mink												
American Badger							o	1				
Striped Skunk			o									
River Otter												
Lynx												
Woodland Caribou												
Mule Deer	16	t		52		4	2	55		c	1	
White-tailed Deer	3	t	5	15	t	54	4	75	8	25	4	
Deer Species							34					
Moose									t	1		
Elk					t					10		
Pronghorn				34								
Totals seen/heard on count day	63	10	9	122	9	84	41	146	29	47	17	2
Total species seen/heard	8	4	4	7	3	9	3	9	5	7	5	1
Total species recorded by tracks	3	4	0	3	6	1	0	0	5	0	4	0
Total species otherwise recorded	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	3
Total species count period and day	12	9	6	10	9	10	4	9	11	10	9	4

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

Map number	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
	Squaw Rapids, 5 Jan 2005	Stenen, 1 Jan 2005	Swift Current, 27 Dec 2004	Togo, 3 Jan 2005	Torch River Valley, 29 Dec 2004	Turtle Lake, 21 Dec 2004	Turtleford, 29 Dec 2004	Weyburn, 21 Dec 2004	White Bear, 4 Jan 2005	Whitewood, 2 Jan 2005	Yorkton, 18 Dec 2004
Short-tailed Shrew										t	
Shrew Species											
Nuttall's Cottontail			2						1		
Snowshoe Hare	t			3		2	1			t	1
White-tailed Jack Rabbit			8			1		2		t	1
Least Chipmunk											
Eastern Grey Squirrel			16							c	
Fox Squirrel								4		c	
American Red Squirrel		6		4	11	3	6			2	3
Northern Flying-Squirrel				1							
American Beaver							o			o	
Deer Mouse			t				t				
Muskrat			1								
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole							t				
Meadow Vole										t	
Vole Species			1								
Mouse Species											
Norway Rat											
House Mouse											
American Porcupine				t							t
Coyote	t		t	t	15		2		1	5	1
Wolf	t			t	t						
Red Fox		2	t	1			t			t	o
Swift Fox											
Raccoon							t				
American Marten	t										
Fisher											
Ermine	t										
Long-tailed Weasel											
Least Weasel	t										
Weasel Species			t		1		t				
American Mink			t								
American Badger							o				o
Striped Skunk			o								
River Otter											
Lynx											
Woodland Caribou											
Mule Deer			25	t			c		10		
White-tailed Deer	5	8	18	6	14	15	1	29		8	t
Deer Species											
Moose					t		3			t	
Elk	75			t							
Pronghorn											
Totals seen/heard on count day	80	16	71	15	41	21	13	35	12	15	6
Total species seen/heard	2	3	7	5	4	4	5	3	3	3	4
Total species recorded by tracks	6	0	5	5	2	0	5	0	0	6	2
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	2
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Total species count period and day	8	3	13	10	6	4	13	3	3	12	8

Table 1. 32nd Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2004.

	# individuals seen/heard count day	# Counts seen/heard	# Counts recorded as tracks	# Counts recorded as other	# Counts, count period	# Counts, count period & count day
Short-tailed Shrew	1	1	1	0	0	2
Shrew Species	0	0	2	0	0	2
Nuttall's Cottontail	48	13	5	0	0	18
Snowshoe Hare	73	16	25	0	1	42
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	124	27	13	0	1	41
Least Chipmunk	1	1	0	0	0	1
Eastern Grey Squirrel	24	5	0	0	1	6
Fox Squirrel	18	6	0	0	1	7
American Red Squirrel	275	50	5	0	1	56
Northern Flying-Squirrel	1	1	0	0	1	2
American Beaver	10	2	0	13	1	16
Deer Mouse	6	4	9	0	2	15
Muskrat	4	4	0	3	0	7
Gapper's Red-Backed Vole	0	0	1	0	0	1
Meadow Vole	2	2	10	1	1	14
Vole Species	9	7	4	0	0	11
Mouse Species	6	1	11	0	0	12
Norway Rat	0	0	2	0	0	2
House Mouse	2	2	0	0	1	3
American Porcupine	14	8	12	4	1	25
Coyote	178	56	17	0	2	75
Wolf	2	1	6	0	0	7
Red Fox	33	19	14	2	7	42
Swift Fox	0	0	0	1	0	1
Raccoon	3	2	4	0	0	6
American Marten	2	1	2	0	0	3
Fisher	1	1	2	0	0	3
Ermine	3	3	6	0	0	9
Long-tailed Weasel	10	5	7	0	0	12
Least Weasel	1	1	4	0	0	5
Weasel Species	4	3	10	0	2	15
American Mink	0	0	3	0	1	4
American Badger	2	2	0	7	0	9
Striped Skunk	2	1	1	4	1	7
River Otter	2	1	1	0	0	2
Lynx	2	2	2	0	0	4
Woodland Caribou	0	0	1	0	0	1
Mule Deer	1062	37	3	0	3	43
White-tailed Deer	1403	67	13	0	1	81
Deer Species	50	3	1	0	0	4
Moose	18	8	9	0	3	20
Elk	181	5	7	0	1	13
Pronghorn	217	6	1	0	0	7
Totals seen/heard on count day	3794					
Total species seen/heard		33				
Total species recorded by tracks			30			
Total species otherwise recorded				8		
Species recorded count period					19	
Total species count period and day						39