
MAMMALS

37th ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT - 2009

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With the exception of Holbein, all Christmas Bird Counts also included a mammal count. The 82 counts conducted were the fewest since 1996, when 82 counts were also conducted. While the number of mammals seen or heard (2968) was the fewest this century, the number of species recorded (37) was about normal for the last ten years. Indian Head led, with 11 species seen or heard; Qu'Appelle Dam was the runner-up with 10 species.

No new species were added to the all-time species total. Noteworthy records were also scarce. A Fisher is a rare sighting anywhere in the province, but one was observed well beyond its normal Boreal Forest range at Moose Mountain on 5 January; another was seen in its normal range at Endeavour on 20 December.

A new high count for Eastern Cottontail was established at Estevan with five seen; the previous high was two, also at Estevan, in 1990, 1992, and 2000.

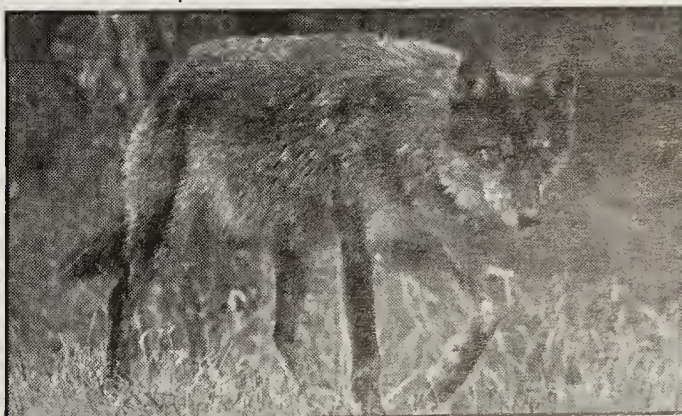
For information on participants, weather, coverage and location of Christmas Mammal Counts see the CBC summary in this issue.

Explanation of Entries in Table 1

The number of mammals actually seen or heard on the count day is treated separately from those recorded by other means, or those recorded during the count period (14 December to 5 January)

but not on the count day. Numbers of individuals seen or heard are given in Table 1 and are tallied in the first line of totals at the bottom of the table. The number of species they represent is given in the second line.

For species detected only by tracks or by other means, or that were seen or heard only in the count period but not on the count day, no numbers of individuals are given in Table 1. Species detected only by tracks are indicated by 't' in the table; those detected only by other means are indicated as follows: dead animals 'm', more clearly identifiable chewing or digging 'd', dens or lodges 'L', and by smell 's.' Species detected by any means during the count period, but not on the 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 a member of a species group (e.g., 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.



Timber Wolf.

Nick Saunders

Table 1-1. 37th Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2009.

Map number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Archerwill, 4 Jan 2010	Avonlea, 21 Dec 2009	Bangor, 29 Dec 2009	Besnard Lake, 27 Dec 2009	Biggar, 27 Dec 2009	Birch Hills, 17 Dec 2009	Broadview, 26 Dec 2009	Bromhead, 31 Dec 2009	Cabri, 1 Jan 2010	Candle Lake, 30 Dec 2009	Cater, 1 Jan 2010	Christopher Lake, 17 Dec 2009	Churchbridge, 30 Dec 2009
Short-tailed Shrew													
Shrew Species						t							
Eastern Cottontail													
Nuttall's Cottontail													
Snowshoe Hare	c			t	t	t	t			t	t	t	
White-tailed Jack Rabbit					t		t	1					
Richardson's Ground Squirrel													
Eastern Grey Squirrel													
Eastern Fox Squirrel													
American Red Squirrel	1		1	1		5	2			9	3	3	2
Northern Flying-Squirrel	c											1	
American Beaver						L	L			L			L
Deer Mouse							t						
Muskrat						L							L
Gapper's Red-backed Vole													
Meadow Vole				t						t			
Vole Species					t	t				t			
House Mouse						t							
Mouse Species	t												
American Porcupine		m			1		t						
Coyote	t		3		12	6	t	1	1	t	t		2
Wolf				t						t	c		
Red Fox	c		2			t	t	t		t	t		
Raccoon	t												
American Marten													
Fisher										t			
Ermine						t	t			t			
Long-tailed Weasel			1			t	t			t			
Least Weasel						t				t			
Weasel Species					t								
American Mink	c					t				t			
American Badger					1								
Striped Skunk	s												
River Otter				4						t			
Lynx										t			
Mule Deer					55			3	9		6		
White-tailed Deer	7	10	21		27	t	t	14		14	2	4	
Deer Species									t				t
Moose	3						t		2	t			t
Elk	c									t			
Pronghorn		60											
Totals seen/heard on count day	11	70	28	5	96	11	2	19	12	23	11	8	4
Total species seen/heard	3	2	5	2	5	2	1	4	3	2	3	3	2
Total species recorded by tracks	3	0	0	3	4	10	10	1	1	14	3	1	2
Total species otherwise recorded	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Species recorded count period	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total species count period and day	12	3	5	5	9	14	12	5	3	17	7	4	6

Table 1-2. 37th Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2009.

Map number	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Clark's Crossing, 19 Dec 2009	Codette Lake, 1 Jan 2010	Coronach, 16 Dec 2009	Craven, 19 Dec 2009	Creighton, 14 Dec 2009	Crooked Lake, 14 Dec 2009	Crooked River, 30 Dec 2009	Cypress Hills P.P., 30 Dec 2009	Denholm, 25 Dec 2009	Dorintosh, 5 Jan 2009	Eastend, 3 Jan 2010	Edenwold, 27 Dec 2009	Endeavour, 20 Dec 2009
Short-tailed Shrew													
Shrew Species					t								
Eastern Cottontail													
Nuttall's Cottontail			1					1			2		
Snowshoe Hare	1	t		t	1				t	t			t
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	1			t					t		11		
Richardson's Ground Squirrel													
Eastern Grey Squirrel													
Eastern Fox Squirrel				1									
American Red Squirrel	2	7			2	2	1	6	1	t			t
Northern Flying-Squirrel													
American Beaver		L				L							
Deer Mouse													
Muskrat			1										
Gapper's Red-backed Vole									c				
Meadow Vole													
Vole Species		t			t	t			t				t
House Mouse													
Mouse Species	t			t									
American Porcupine		t						1			3		
Coyote	11	2	7	6	t	t	c	2	3	t	4	1	t
Wolf					t					t			
Red Fox	1	1		L	t	t			t		1		
Raccoon	t												
American Marten		t											
Fisher										t			
Ermine		t											1
Long-tailed Weasel		t			t								
Least Weasel			t					t		t			
Weasel Species													
American Mink						c					t		
American Badger			1										
Striped Skunk													
River Otter		t			t					c			
Lynx													
Mule Deer	15	2	27	8				3			270		9
White-tailed Deer	21	2	11	8		4	3	29	3	20	100		1
Deer Species				t									
Moose							c	t	2		c	3	t
Elk		t					5			t			t
Pronghorn								18			39		
Totals seen/heard on count day	52	14	48	23	3	6	9	60	9	20	430	4	11
Total species seen/heard	7	5	6	4	2	2	3	7	4	1	8	2	3
Total species recorded by tracks	2	8	1	4	7	3	0	2	4	7	1	0	6
Total species otherwise recorded	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0
Total species count period and day	9	14	7	8	9	7	5	9	8	9	10	2	9

Table 1-3. 37th Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2009.

Map number	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	25	37	38	39	40
	Estevan, 4 Jan 2010	Estuary North, 2 Jan 2010	Fenton, 18 Dec 2009	Fort Qu'Appelle, 19 Dec 2009	Gardiner Dam, 18 Dec 2009	Good Spirit Lake, 17 Dec 2009	Grayson, 24 Dec 1009	Harris, 16 Dec 2009	Hepburn, 28 Dec 2009	Hudson Bay, 27 Dec 2009	Imperial, 20 Dec 2009	Indian Head, 27 Dec 2009	Kelvington, 30 Dec 2009
Short-tailed Shrew				c									
Shrew Species													t
Eastern Cottontail	5												
Nuttall's Cottontail		t			4	t							
Snowshoe Hare		t	t	c	1	t		1				4	t
White-tailed Jack Rabbit					1			t			t	1	
Richardson's Ground Squirrel													
Eastern Grey Squirrel												1	
Eastern Fox Squirrel	1											4	
American Red Squirrel			7	2		2						10	
Northern Flying-Squirrel										1			
American Beaver			L			L							
Deer Mouse			t										
Muskrat	1		L	1		L							
Gapper's Red-backed Vole			1	m									
Meadow Vole										1			
Vole Species					t			t					
House Mouse				3									
Mouse Species			t			t							
American Porcupine	2							1					t
Coyote	2	4	1	6	3		7		2	3	16		t
Wolf													
Red Fox				c	t	t	1					5	t
Raccoon													
American Marten													
Fisher													
Ermine			t										
Long-tailed Weasel												1	t
Least Weasel			t									1	
Weasel Species						t							
American Mink				2									
American Badger	L							d					
Striped Skunk					s								s
River Otter													
Lynx													
Mule Deer	14	45			15			77			12	6	t
White-tailed Deer		37	2	3	39	9		17		3	16	20	t
Deer Species													
Moose						4		t			2		
Elk						t				40			
Pronghorn								23					
Totals seen/heard on count day	25	82	14	12	66	18	1	126	0	47	33	69	0
Total species seen/heard	6	2	4	6	6	4	1	6	0	5	4	11	0
Total species recorded by tracks	0	2	5	0	2	6	0	3	0	0	1	0	8
Total species otherwise recorded	1	0	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	7	4	11	10	9	12	1	10	0	5	5	11	9

Table 1-4. 37th Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2009.

Map number	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53
	Kenaston, 21 Dec 2009	Kenosee Lake, 30 Dec 2009	Ketchen North, 26 Dec 2009	Kinistino, 4 Jan 2010	Kinloch, 18 Dec 2009	Kyle, 28 Dec 2009	La Ronge, 29 Dec 2009	Leader North, 27 Dec 2009	Love-Torch River, 28 Dec 2009	Luseland, 27 Dec 2009	MacDowall, 3 Jan 2010	Mayview, 2 Jan 2010	Meadow Lake, 26 Dec 2009
Short-tailed Shrew													
Shrew Species													
Eastern Cottontail													
Nuttall's Cottontail	t					1		2					
Snowshoe Hare				2	t		t		t		t		t
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	t					4		2		c			
Richardson's Ground Squirrel													
Eastern Grey Squirrel													
Eastern Fox Squirrel													
American Red Squirrel				2	5		1		5		9	2	1
Northern Flying-Squirrel													
American Beaver		L	L		L						L		
Deer Mouse													
Muskrat					L						L		
Gapper's Red-backed Vole													
Meadow Vole													
Vole Species													
House Mouse													
Mouse Species					t	t					t		t
American Porcupine	1												2
Coyote	2		t		3	4		4	8	4	1		2
Wolf					t								
Red Fox	t		t		t	c			1		t		t
Raccoon	t												
American Marten													
Fisher					t								
Ermine													
Long-tailed Weasel	t												
Least Weasel											t		
Weasel Species			t		t								t
American Mink					t		c						
American Badger						t		1			d		
Striped Skunk	t												
River Otter							3						
Lynx													
Mule Deer	9					21		9	14	2			
White-tailed Deer	8	7	t		19	11		14		c	t		t
Deer Species													
Moose	c	3	t		4	c			c	5	c		
Elk			t		c				c				
Pronghorn						11		3					
Totals seen/heard on count day	20	10	0	4	31	52	4	35	28	11	10	2	5
Total species seen/heard	4	2	0	2	4	6	2	7	4	3	2	1	3
Total species recorded by tracks	6	0	6	0	7	2	1	0	1	0	5	0	5
Total species otherwise recorded	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Species recorded count period	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	2	2	1	0	0
Total species count period and day	11	3	7	2	14	10	4	7	7	5	11	1	8

Table 1-5. 37th Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2009.

Map number	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
	Moose Jaw, 18 Dec 2009	Moose Mountain, 5 Jan 2010	Morse, 19 Dec 2009	Nipawin, 2 Jan 2010	Nisbet Forest NW, 27 Dec 2009	Nisbet Forest West, 29 Dec 2009	Oxbow, 21 Dec 2009	Pierce Lake, 2 Jan 2010	Pike Lake, 2 Jan 2010	Prince Albert, 20 Dec 2009	Prince Albert N.P., 17 Dec 2009	Qu'Appelle Dam, 20 Dec 2009	Regina, 26 Dec 2009
Short-tailed Shrew										t			
Shrew Species				1									
Eastern Cottontail													
Nuttall's Cottontail			t									3	
Snowshoe Hare				8		1		t	t	t	t		
White-tailed Jack Rabbit			4	t					t	1		1	9
Richardson's Ground Squirrel					c								
Eastern Grey Squirrel													4
Eastern Fox Squirrel	4						3						15
American Red Squirrel		3		1		5		2	17	17	36	1	
Northern Flying-Squirrel				1									
American Beaver										L			
Deer Mouse				t						t			
Muskrat					L					L		1	
Gapper's Red-backed Vole													
Meadow Vole													t
Vole Species					t					t	t		
House Mouse													
Mouse Species					t				2	t			
American Porcupine				t	t								
Coyote		1	8	2	c	1	1	1	6	2	t	10	2
Wolf										t	5		
Red Fox	1	2	4		t					t	2	2	t
Raccoon										t			
American Marten											1		
Fisher		1									t		
Ermine													
Long-tailed Weasel			t	t		c			t			3	
Least Weasel				t									
Weasel Species						1					t		
American Mink													
American Badger			d										
Striped Skunk										t			
River Otter											1		
Lynx													
Mule Deer			45	7			8		13			41	
White-tailed Deer	1	2	203	6	2	c	4	13	16	t	7	11	t
Deer Species									t		t		
Moose		2	3				2		t			1	
Elk											t		
Pronghorn			30										
Totals seen/heard on count day	6	11	297	26	2	8	18	16	54	20	52	74	30
Total species seen/heard	3	6	7	7	1	4	5	3	5	3	6	10	4
Total species recorded by tracks	0	0	2	6	3	0	0	1	5	9	7	0	3
Total species otherwise recorded	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	3	6	10	13	7	5	5	4	9	14	12	10	7

Table 1-6. 37th Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2009.

Map number	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79
	Rouleau, 27 Dec 2009	Round Lake, 16 Dec 2009	Saltcoats, 4 Jan 2010	Sk. Landing P.P., 30 Dec 2009	Sk. River Forks, 14 Dec 2009	Saskatoon, 26 Dec 2009	Shamrock, 27 Dec 2009	Somme, 20 Dec 2009	Spinney Hill, 29 Dec 2009	Squaw Rapids, 1 Jan 2010	Swift Current, 19 Dec 2009	Togo, 3 Jan 2010	Weyburn, 19 Dec 2009
Short-tailed Shrew													
Shrew Species					t								
Eastern Cottontail													
Nuttall's Cottontail				t							3		
Snowshoe Hare			1		t	1		3				1	
White-tailed Jack Rabbit			2	2		t	8	5			1		
Richardson's Ground Squirrel											2		
Eastern Grey Squirrel											18		
Eastern Fox Squirrel													8
American Red Squirrel		1	4		4	2		4	4	2		4	
Northern Flying-Squirrel													
American Beaver		L											
Deer Mouse					t	t							
Muskrat													
Gapper's Red-backed Vole					1								
Meadow Vole													
Vole Species													
House Mouse													
Mouse Species				t	t	t				t	t		
American Porcupine			1	1		2							
Coyote	t	1		3	2	14	15	4		t	1	2	3
Wolf					t			1		t			
Red Fox	1	1			t		9	c		1	t		1
Raccoon													
American Marten													
Fisher					1								
Ermine					t			1					
Long-tailed Weasel								1					
Least Weasel													
Weasel Species				t		1					t		
American Mink					t						t		
American Badger						d	d				d		
Striped Skunk													
River Otter													
Lynx													
Mule Deer		3				10	116	c			15		4
White-tailed Deer		5	4	6	t	80	72	29	3	2	51	7	15
Deer Species	t					t	t				m		
Moose	c												
Elk		2			t								
Pronghorn				41									
Totals seen/heard on count day	1	13	12	53	8	110	220	48	7	5	91	14	31
Total species seen/heard	1	6	5	5	4	7	5	8	2	3	7	4	5
Total species recorded by tracks	2	0	0	3	10	4	1	0	0	3	4	0	0
Total species otherwise recorded	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
Species recorded count period	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Total species count period and day	4	7	5	8	13	11	6	10	2	6	12	4	5

Table 1-7. 37th Saskatchewan Christmas Mammal Count-2009.

Map number	80	81	82	83								
	White Bear, 5 Jan 2010	Whitewood, 28 Dec 2009	Wingard-Fort Carlton, 3 Jan 2009	Yorkton, 22 Dec 2009	# individuals seen/heard count day	# Counts seen/heard	# Counts recorded as tracks	# Counts recorded as other	# Counts, count period	# Counts, count period & count day	% counts	high count
Short-tailed Shrew					0	0	1	0	1	2	0.0	0
Shrew Species					1	1	4	0	0	5	1.2	1
Eastern Cottontail					5	1	0	0	0	1	1.2	5
Nuttall's Cottontail					17	8	5	0	0	13	9.9	4
Snowshoe Hare		1			26	13	26	0	2	41	16.0	8
White-tailed Jack Rabbit		1		t	55	17	11	0	1	29	21.0	11
Richardson's Ground Squirrel					2	1	0	0	1	2	1.2	2
Eastern Grey Squirrel					23	3	0	0	0	3	3.7	18
Eastern Fox Squirrel		4			40	8	0	0	0	8	9.9	15
American Red Squirrel		4	2	2	209	46	2	0	0	48	56.8	36
Northern Flying-Squirrel					3	3	0	0	1	4	3.7	1
American Beaver		L			0	0	0	15	0	15	0.0	0
Deer Mouse					0	0	6	0	0	6	0.0	0
Muskrat			L		4	4	0	9	0	13	4.9	1
Gapper's Red-backed Vole					2	2	0	1	1	4	2.5	1
Meadow Vole					1	1	3	0	0	4	1.2	1
Vole Species					0	0	13	0	0	13	0.0	0
House Mouse					3	1	1	0	0	2	1.2	3
Mouse Species					2	1	16	0	0	17	1.2	2
American Porcupine		t	t		15	10	7	1	0	18	12.3	3
Coyote	6	2	2		222	53	13	0	2	68	65.4	16
Wolf			t		6	2	9	0	1	12	2.5	5
Red Fox		2	2	t	40	19	22	1	4	46	23.5	9
Raccoon					0	0	4	0	0	4	0.0	0
American Marten					1	1	1	0	0	2	1.2	1
Fisher					2	2	4	0	0	6	2.5	1
Ermine					2	2	6	0	0	8	2.5	1
Long-tailed Weasel					6	4	10	0	1	15	4.9	3
Least Weasel			t		1	1	9	0	0	10	1.2	1
Weasel Species					2	2	8	0	0	10	2.5	1
American Mink					2	1	6	0	3	10	1.2	2
American Badger		d			3	3	1	8	0	12	3.7	1
Striped Skunk					0	0	2	3	0	5	0.0	0
River Otter					8	3	3	0	1	7	3.7	4
Lynx					0	0	1	0	0	1	0.0	0
Mule Deer					893	32	1	0	1	34	39.5	270
White-tailed Deer		16	2	t	1063	56	10	0	2	68	69.1	203
Deer Species					0	0	8	1	0	9	0.0	0
Moose		1			37	14	8	0	7	29	17.3	5
Elk		t	t		47	3	10	0	3	16	3.7	40
Pronghorn					225	8	0	0	0	8	9.9	60
Totals seen/heard on count day	6	31	8	2	2968							
Total species seen/heard	1	8	4	1		30						
Total species recorded by tracks	0	2	4	3			27					
Total species otherwise recorded	0	2	1	0				8				
Species recorded count period	0	0	0	0					16			
Total species count period and day	1	12	9	4						36		