

82ND ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - 2023

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The Counts

The same number of counts, 83, were conducted this past winter as in the previous winter. As we shall see, the similarity pretty much ends there.

The Weather

Average minimum and maximum temperatures for the count period (with 2022-23 records in brackets) were -7 to -1 °C (-17 to -13 °C), wind speeds 7 to 14 km/h (8 to 17 km/h), and snow depths 1 to 5 cm (18 to 39 cm).

Weather conditions were thus on average much warmer and slightly calmer compared to the previous winter. Snow depths were way down; indeed, 20 counts reported no snow at all. The warm weather and lack of snow had a significant impact on the numbers and variety of birds, and mammals, recorded.

The Birds

The 167,411 birds counted was higher than the century average of around 127,000, and much higher than the previous winter's 98,499. Half of the 2023-24 total, almost 83,000 birds, were Canada Geese.

The total number of species at 106, and number of species per count at 19.3, was the second highest ever. Comparable numbers from the previous winter were 86 and 17.7.

Gardiner Dam had the most species on count day with 50, one short of the all-time record from Fort Walsh with 51 in 2001.

Population Trends

Waterfowl were generally found in higher than average numbers and variety, due to the warmer weather at

more locations. Lack of snow allowed for excellent field foraging for Canada and Cackling geese, and Mallard.

In contrast was the "apparent" decline in the number of upland game birds: Gray Partridge dropped from 6,903 in winter of 2022-23 to 2,014 this last winter, Ring-necked Pheasant from 605 to 291, and Sharp-tailed Grouse from 2,731 to 1,600 (Table 3). These changes are likely due the lack of snow, which did not force birds to roadsides and farmsteads to feed as opposed to a real decrease in numbers.

Numbers of a couple of diurnal raptors showed marked increase. Forty-seven Rough-legged Hawk were recorded on 22 counts compared to a "more normal" three birds on three counts in 2022-23. For Sharp-shinned Hawks, results were 15 seen on eight counts versus six birds on three counts the previous winter.

For the second straight winter, Boreal Forest Owls were nearly absent from the forest fringe with only two Northern Hawk Owls on two counts; only one Barred Owl and no Great Gray Owls.

Five Eurasian Collared-Dove showed up in Nipawin, a northward expansion of about 50 km. On the other hand, expansion of the introduced House Finch appears to have stalled with no appreciable change in the range or numbers.

Results for the other finches were mixed. Numbers of the Common Redpoll increased to 6,576 from just 350 the previous winter. Pine Grosbeaks moved farther south than most winters with 1,274 birds on 52 counts compared with 371 birds on 20 counts in 2022-23. Red Crossbills were scarce with only 35 birds in four localities, while White-winged Crossbills were almost totally absent with only three birds on two counts (Table 4).

New Species

Three new species were recorded on the count. These were a Baird's Sandpiper on the Gardiner Dam count, a Black-legged Kittiwake on the Qu'Appelle Valley Dam count, and a Pygmy Nuthatch on the Regina Count. These bring the all-time list of species recorded on the Christmas Bird Count to a remarkable 198.

Other Rarities

Several other rarities included two Eared Grebes on the Maple Creek count; the first since two on the Regina count in 1962. An immature Red-headed Woodpecker on the Regina count was only the second provincial CBC record. Rare songbirds included second records of Swamp Sparrow on the Regina Count and Pine Warbler on the Carlyle Count.

Note

For purposes of Saskatchewan Counts, as published herein, the count period extends from 14 December to 5 January; Audubon counts include only those species recorded three days prior to and after the count day.

Count Areas and Participants

(names of compilers are in italics)

1. ARCHERWILL. Sharron Carlson, Gerald Hiron, Susan Hiron, Audrey Hnetka, Perry Hnetka, *Elaine Hughes*, Dorothy Klettberg, Willie Klettberg, Annette Kozak, Arryl Quaal, Sharon Quaal, Judy Revoy.
2. ASSINIBOIA. Randi Edmonds, *Alan Smith*.
3. AVONLEA. Randi Edmonds, Dave Holland, Michelle Howse (count period), *Alan Smith*, Tanner Stevens.
4. BALGONIE. Joel Cherry, Jared Clarke, Ken Feltin, Annie McLeod, *Brett Quiring*, Dan Sawatzky, Doreen Yurkoski.

5. BIGGAR. Dale Booth, Mary-Jo Danychuk, Ron Jezowski, Sheila Jezowski, Murray Newton, Lorne Sutherland, *Guy Wapple*, Marguerite Wapple, Rob Wapple.
6. BORDEN-RADISSON. Greg Fenty, *Kyron Giroux*, Ron Jensen, Jennipher Karst.
7. BROADVIEW. Doug Boivin, Wes Kemp, Gail Saleski, Ron Saleski, Barb Weidl, *Don Weidl*.
8. CANDLE LAKE. Doug Braaten, Marie Braaten, Gwen Klebeck, Merle Klebeck, John Lundgren, Ellen MacNeill, *Vicki St. Germaine*, Warren St. Germaine, Nick Saunders.
9. CARLYLE. *Kathy Hedegard*, Gordon Pauley.
10. CLARK'S CROSSING. Bruce Boldt, Sarah Bradley, Jake Buhler, Wilfred Buhler, Kiel Drake, Lorne Duczek, Brandon Finke, Shelly Fisher, Dawn Hall, Marilyn Haskins, Ron Jensen, LeeAnn Latremouille, Brian McGill, *John Patterson* (non-participating compiler), Jan Shadick, Stan Shadick, Marten Stoffel, Diane Wells, Jim Wells, Sydney Worthy.
11. CORONACH. Randi Edmonds, Vicki St. Germaine (count period), *Alan Smith*.
12. CRAVEN. Hiroyuki Aoki, Tracey Bakkeli, Levi Bellisle, Joel Cherry, Jared Clarke, Stephen Davis, Ian Fallas, Ryan Fisher, Rick Gamble, Tammie Gamble, Keri Irving, Lauretta Lane, Jaret McDonald, Annie McLeod, Janet Ng, Dave Phillips, *Brett Quiring*, Dan Sawatzky, Robb Taylor, Jeannette Taylor, Rand Teed.
13. CROOKED LAKE. Ralph Beattie, Wes Kemp, Barb Weidl, *Don Weidl*.
14. CROOKED RIVER. Marie Harpham, Sharon Kapeller, *Margaret Mehler*.
15. CYPRESS HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK (Centre Block). Jacquire Bolton, Stacy Bolton, Danyah Collura, Micah Collura, Shirley Collura, Blake Fischer, Easton Fischer, Kash Fischer, Alissa Harding, David Larsen, Margaret Larsen, Jorja Larsen-Mosquito, Annaleigh LeBruno, Brian Lothammer, Heather Lothammer, *Melody Nagel-Hisey*, Eileen Patterson, George Tsougrianus.
16. DENHOLM. Beverly Beland, Gerard Beland, Linda Beland, *Orval Beland*, Janice Mazurek.
17. DORINTOSH. *Vicky Pryor*, Joe Twidale, Lorraine Twidale, Tim Wahl.
18. DUNDURN. *Ron Jensen*, Phil Taylor, Guy Wapple.
19. E. B. CAMPBELL DAM. *Bert Dalziel*, Joan Dalziel, Sara Dalziel, Shawn Paschke, Mitch Simon, Stacie Simon, Bill Weighill, Clara Weighill.
20. EBENEZER. *Carol Wegner*, Harvey Wegner.
21. ESTEVAN. Glen Barton, Barry Dies, Marilyn Dies, Kathy Hedegard, Kathy Kazakoff, Gary Leslie, Craig Palmer, Kevin Perkins, Larry Preddy, *Guy Wapple* (non-participating compiler).
22. ESTUARY NORTH. Cathy Cocks, *Dean Francis*, Fran Francis.
23. FENTON. *Vicki St. Germaine*, Warren St. Germaine.
24. FLORAL. Ron Jensen, Scott Mitchell, *Guy Wapple*.
25. FORT QU'APPELLE. Jean Ashcroft, Pete Ashcroft, Linda Banman, Penny Byers, Jared Clarke, Mark Geremia, Al Kirkley, Tom McDougall, Alan Mlazgar, *Keith Stephens*, Kim Stephens, Ted Stevenson, Colleen Stueck, Shane Stueck, Colette Stushnoff, Richard Stushnoff, Dave Sutherland, Dave Weiman.
26. GARDINER DAM. Greg Fenty, Ron Jensen, Scott Mitchell, Nick Saunders, Stan Shadick, Marten Stoffel, Phil Taylor, *Guy Wapple*, Robert Wapple.
27. GOOD SPIRIT LAKE. *Joyce Anaka* (non-participating compiler), Dorothy Riesz, Ray Riesz.
28. GREENWATER. Bill Gudjonson, *Brian Shuya*, Helen Toovey.
29. GRENFELL. Wes Kemp, Ethel Rieger, Barb Weidl, *Don Weidl*.
30. HARRIS. Ron Jensen, Nick Saunders, Bruce Trapp, *Guy Wapple*, Rob Wapple.
31. HUDSON BAY. Mo Alain, *John Daisley*, Agnes Lewellin, Peter Lewellin, Gloria Stang.
32. INDIAN HEAD. Camille Dufour, *Irvin Escott*, Roberta Gehl, Jim Jinks, Linda Jinks, John Kort, Linda Kort, Peter Kort, Doug Lamb, Erin Lamb, Mathew Lamb, Tom Lamb, Bruce Neill, Dora Nichols, Laura Poppy, Jamie Rudack, Ruthanne Rudack, Brian Scott, Lorne Scott, Chris Skinner, Fred Skinner, Sander Vandersharf, John Wilson.
33. KENASTON. Marg Beckie, *P. Lawrence Beckie*.
34. KENOSEE LAKE. *Blain Hjertaas*, Dale Hjertaas, Kai Hjertaas, Naomi Hjertaas, Thyra Hjertaas.
35. KETCHEN NORTH. *Dallas Fairburn*.
36. KINLOCH. Andy Arnold, *Don Forbes*, Tom Frennette, Roy Hale, Jim Stocks, Darci Swider, Doreen Wickstrom.
37. KYLE. Dieter Gillanders, David Lewis, Debbie Peterson, Marten Stoffel, Ken Waldner, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.
38. LA RONGE. Bryanna Leeuwen, Linda Mikolayenko, Sid Robinson, *John Schisler*.
39. LAST MOUNTAIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREA. Wayne Busch, Veronica Schellenberg, *Sharlane Toole*.
40. LOVE - TORCH RIVER. *Bert Dalziel*, Joan Dalziel, Sara Dalziel, Scott Edwards, Harold Fisher, Dennis Foy, Liz Foy, Valerie Homer, Roseanne Kirkpatrick, Ron Knutson, Terri Knudson, Susan Kreuzweiser, Renee Kurbis, Eilene L'Heureux, Shawn Paschke, Linda Petrinchuk, Reg Petrinchuk, Audrey Schrader, Eric Schrader, Leonard Turtle.
41. LUSELAND. Estelle Finley, *Kim Finley*, Jean Halliday, Brent Honeker.
42. MAPLE CREEK. *Sharlane Toole*.
43. MEADOW LAKE. *Bob Wilson*, Ian Wilson, Peyton Wilson.
44. MELFORT. Bert Dalziel, Joan Dalziel, *Kim Eskowich*, Wendy Eskowich, Angela Gooliaf, Cecil Gooliaff, Delores Gooliaff.

45. MOOSE JAW. Stuart Anderson, Joel Cherry, Gordon Clark, Vivian Darroch-Lazowski, Ian Fallas, Annie McLeod, *Jeff Mander*, *Richard Pickering*, Brett Quiring, Dan Sawatzky, Pat Sterzuk.
46. MOOSE MOUNTAIN. Bill Fletcher, Dorothy Fletcher, Kathy Hedegard, *Val Thomas*.
47. MORSE. Larry Bonesky, Lorie Dean, Elizabeth Enns, Stella Enns, Dave Gardner, Randy McCulloch, Joel Priebe, Ken Priebe, *Myrna Priebe*, Shirley Robert, Lori Wilson.
48. NICOLLE FLATS. David Donald, Elaine Ehman, Gail Fennel, *Dale Hjertaas*, Jeff Mander, Karen Mander.
49. NIPAWIN. Carol Blenkin, Cindy Collopy, Mark Collopy, Bert Dalziel, Joan Dalziel, *Rick Doustin*, Patti Gaertner, Carol Grimm, Susan Gulewich, Terry Gulewich, Maureen Hagen, Wayne Hagen, Jeannette LeCuyer, Kate McCorrison, Doug Phillips, Shirley Phillips, Luc Syrenne.
50. NISBET FOREST, NORTHWEST. *Sandra Jewell*.
51. NISBET FOREST, WEST. *Kim Clark*, Shamara Clark, Suzanne Clark.
52. ODESSA. *Arden Curts*, Denise Curts, Denny Curts.
53. OUTLOOK. *Graham Thomson*.
54. PIKE LAKE. Dalice Abraham, Max Abraham, Denise Bezopenko, Donna Bruce, El Dormuth, Judy Haraldson, Bob Howe, Irene Howe, Judy Howsam, Greg Hutchings, Jeff Jensen, Ron Jensen, Robert Johanson, LeeAnn Latremouille, Marilyn Leuty, Larry McGuire, Joe Monahan, *John Patterson*, Marc Sabourin, Nick Saunders, Joe Stookey, Ljubica Stuglin, Stephan Stuglin, Guy Wapple, Bert Weichel, Diane Wells, Jim Wells.
55. PRINCE ALBERT. Doug Braaten, Marie Braaten, Kim Clark, Shamara Clark, Judy Demong, Lisa Elder, Harold Fisher, Hamilton Greenwood, Estelle Hjertaas, Ryan Holizki, Valerie Horner, Sandra Jewell, Gwen Klebeck, Merle Klebeck, Axel Klenz, John Lundgren, Teddy McDougald, Carl Nahachewsky, Shannon Poppy, Ramona Renneberg, Christine Rye, John Rye, Gail Sackett, *Vicki St. Germaine*, Warren St. Germaine, Eldon Thorson, Gwen Thorson, Jeannie Walker.
56. QU'APPELLE. Jean Ashcroft, Peter Ashcroft, Melanie Beattie, Cory Bennett, Christine Blair, Jeannie DesRochers, *Colette Stushnoff*, Richard Stushnoff, Frank Veresh.
57. QU'APPELLE VALLEY DAM. Bob Godwin, Dawn Hall, Robert Johanson, *John Patterson* (non-participating compiler), Jan Shadick, Stan Shadick, Marten Stoffel, Guy Wapple.
58. REDBERRY LAKE. *Mike Blom*, Maggie Britton, Jody Collier, Mary Collier, Zoe Collier, Cody David, Lillian Donahue, Jenna Englot, Matt Englot, Linda Erlanson, Stephen Galvin, Ian King, Joan Matechuk, Kari Matechuk, Larissa Matechuk, John Stead, Phil Taylor.
59. REGINA. Ingrid Alesich, Brian Armstrong, Jonathan Armstrong, Tracey Bakkeli, Lionel Bonneville, Stephane Bonneville, Joel Cherry, Roberta Cox, Derek Donald, Elaine Elhman, Jim Elliott, Claudia Fallas, Eric Fallas, Ian Fallas, Rachel Fallas, Mary Field, Terry Ford, Shirley Friel, Clara Githegi, Trevor Herriot, Bruce Holmes, Marie James, Sarah James, Fran Kerbs, Sarah Ludlow, Jeff Mander, Lauren Mang, Kim Mann, Val Mann, Joanne Martin, Annie McLeod, Ananya Punagoti, Swetha Punagoti, *Brett Quiring*, Brian Rainey, Chris Ratch, Jacqueline Roy, Ed Rodger, Dan Sawatzky, Margaret Skeel, Brian Sterenberg, Ethan Verroen, Lorraine Weidner, Levi Zeigler, Marcia Zeigler.
60. ROSCOMMON S.D. Bernice Althouse, Jim Althouse, Kate Althouse, Kurt Althouse, Ruby Finnie, Penny Froh, Brian Irving, Sophie Jankowski, Joan Lillibo, Lloyd Lillibo, *Dianne Sloan*.
61. ROSETOWN. *Ryan Dudragne*, Ryan Sparks, Sophia Sparks, Guy Wapple.
62. ROSTHERN. *Greg Bobbitt*, Dennis Helmut, Loretta Helmut, Zandi Hildebrand, Brenda Kramarchuk, Luca Lamb, David Ryson, Joan Yoder.
63. ROUND LAKE (Qu'Appelle Valley). Brent Bachtold, Kelly Finkas, *Boyd Metzler*, Pat Ward.
64. SALTCOATS. *Arden Bradford*, Donna Bradford, Len Cameron, Muriel Cameron, Barbara Crosswell, Walter Farquharson, Gail Gillard, Pam Hall, Terry Hall, Gerri Knudsen, Ron Knudsen, Fern McKay, Monique Smith, Violet Taylor-Braun, Heather Torrie, Randy Torrie, Bonnie Trowell, Mardell Trowell, Val Trowell, Verne Trowell, Earl Upshall, Verda Upshall, Rob Wilson.
65. SASKATCHEWAN LANDING PROVINCIAL PARK. Yvonne Nelson, Debbie Peterson, Glen Pederson, Marten Stoffel, Tracy Tangen, *Dan Zazelenchuk*.
66. SASKATCHEWAN RIVER FORKS. John Lundgren, Ellen McNeill, *Vicki St. Germaine*, Warren St. Germaine.
67. SASKATOON. Alexander Acton, Bruce Acton, Britt Agrey, Anas Ansari, Carol Blenkin, Donna Bruce, Jennifer Burgess, Geoffrey Carter, Jenny Carter, Kathleen Carter, Roseanne Carter, Roberta Cross, Elsewhere Dormuth, Kiel Drake, Melanie Elliott, Joan Feather, Greg Fenty, David Forbes, Stephanie Gauthier, Peter Gerrard, Denise Giroux, Kyron Giroux, Bob Godwin, Mike Gollop, Jeff Harder, Kerry Hjertaas, Amanda Horvath, Greg Hutchings, Jeff Jensen, Julie Jensen, Ron Jensen, Robert Johanson, Shan Landry, LeeAnn Latremouille, Dan Loran, Heather Loran, Janet Loran, Bill MacKenzie, Valerie Martz, Janine McManus, Jane McPhee, Kathy Meeres, Joan Merrill, Meghan Mickelson, Scott Mitchell, Carol Armstrong Monahan, Joe Monahan, *John Patterson* (non-participating compiler), Jim Paul, Kosala Rajapaksha, Don Robertson, Lisa Rohachuk, Marc Sabourin, Trish Santos, Nick Saunders, Stan Shadick, Lorrie Sielski, Kathlin Simpkins, Barbara Sprigings, Marten Stoffel, Phil Taylor, Brandon Wapple, Guy Wapple, Robert Wapple, Sandra Wapple, Trent Watts, George West, Dan Zazelenchuk, Norman Zlotkin.
68. SHAMROCK. Mike Francis, Joel Priebe, *Myrna Priebe*, Randy McCulloch, Iris McNeill, Darwin Menke, Krista Routledge, Lori Wilson.

69. SHELL LAKE. *Ryan Dudragne, Carole Martin, Nick Saunders.*

70. SMEATON. *Joyce Christiansen, Bob Godwin (non-participating compiler).*

71. SOUTH LADY LAKE. *Donna Krahn, David Weiman.*

72. SPINNEY HILL. *Andy Didiuk, Ed Driver.*

73. SWIFT CURRENT. *Jacquie Bolton, Norris Currie, Laurent Dudragne, Mary Ann Dudragne, Arnie Ens, Lorna Fast, Sandra Fortman, Barb Fraser, Tana Fraser, Dave Gardner, Dave Green, Esther Green, Katie Hagman, Norma Hain, Hugh Henry, Verna Lynne Knipfel, Dot Letkeman, Gavin McCulloch, Randy McCulloch, Janet Payne, David Tuttle, Allen Twamley, Betty Twamley.*

74. THICKWOOD-SPIRITWOOD. *Mavis Bellisle, Shannon Cafet, Anna Froese, Jennifer Froese, Julia Froese, Kenneth Froese, Giles Lalonde, Carole Martin, Kay Willson, Philip Willson.*

75. TORCH RIVER VALLEY. *Lorna Blaine, Bert Dalziel, Joan Dalziel, Sara Dalziel, Ellen Douslin, Richard Douslin, Don Lidster, Nancy Lidster, Barry MacLeod, Deborah MacLeod, John Minty, Wanda Minty, Shawn Paschke.*

76. TURTLEFORD. *Joel Banks, Ken Chambers, Margaret Chambers, Hank DeGraaf, Marlene DeGraaf, Larry Ingram, Brent Keen, Bonny MacNab, Richard Roney, Marg Uhlig.*

77. VAL MARIE. *Anne Beauchamp, Alec Cairns, Nick Cairns, Sally Cairns, Casey Duquette, S. Davis, 20 Students.*

78. WATROUS. *Cayle Cross, John Lundgren, Karen Norberg, Veronica Schellenberg, Sharlane Toole, Piet Van De Ruit.*

79. WEYBURN. *Bob Cameron, Lucille Cameron, Millie Fleming, Brad Hala, Jacquie Hala, Charlotte Payak, Don Payak, Gorette Pennington, Jim Pennington, Garnet Schultz, Linda Schultz, Joe Stephaniuk Tanis Thomas, Val Thomas.*

80. WHITE BEAR. *Greg Nelson, Yvonne Nelson, Dan Zazelenchuk.*

81. WHITEWOOD. *Ken Aldous, Carole Armstrong, Paul Ashfield, Kerri Bachtold, Thear Clark, Sarah Mambourg, Boyd Metzler, Brenda Pollock, John Pollock, Dawn Vennard, Lyle Vennard, Diane Veresh, Pat Ward.*

82. WINGARD. *Rebecca Beam.*

83. YORKTON. *Vern Brown, Warren Crossman, Patti Fletcher, Joyce Gardner, Sheldon Knoll, Dianne Norman, Doug Norman, Gloria Rathgeber, Dorothy Riesz, Ray Riesz, Bonnie Rushowick, Geoffrey Rushowick, Cory Sharpe Dale Sharpe.*



Three new species were recorded during the 2023 Christmas Bird Count, including a Pygmy Nuthatch on the Regina count. Photo credit: Annie McLeod.

TABLE 1. Weather and Snow Cover.

LOCALITY		MIN TEMP (°C)	MAX TEMP (°C)	MIN WIND (KM/HR)	MAX WIND (KM/HR)	MIN SNOW (CM)	MAX SNOW (CM)	SKY A. M.	SKY P. M.
Archerwill	22 Dec 2023	-4	2	15	0	2	2	clear	clear
Assiniboia	4 Jan 2023	-4	-3	0	10	0	2	overcast	clear
Avonlea	22 Dec 2023	1	10	0	5	0	0	clear	clear
Balgonie	30 Dec 2023	-13	-4	0	11	0	50	clear	clear
Biggar	16 Dec 2023	1	4	16	30	0	2	cloudy	clear
Borden-Radisson	18 Dec 2023	-10	0	5	10	0	1	mostly clear	partly cloudy
Broadview	20 Dec 2023	-9	-6	15	30	2	4		
Candle Lake	30 Dec 2023	-14	-12	10	15	8	40	clear	mostly clear
Carlyle	19 Dec 2023	-2	-2	2	2	0	8	overcast	overcast
Clark's Crossing	16 Dec 2023	-7	4	14	24	0	0	overcast	mostly clear
Coronach	2 Jan 2023	-4	-4	0	0	0	0	partly cloudy	clear
Craven	16 Dec 2023	-3	3	12	27	0	2	cloudy	cloudy
Crooked Lake	14 Dec 2023	-2	2	0	5	0	2	clear	clear
Crooked River	4 Jan 2024	-13	-10	12	19	1	5	overcast	overcast
Cypress Hills P.P.	28 Dec 2023	4	9	2	5	0	5	partly cloudy	mostly clear
Denholm	25 Dec 2023	-22	-1	0	5	0	0	clear	clear
Dorintosh	21 Dec 2023	-2	-10	0	2	2	5	mostly clear	mostly clear
Dundurn	21 Dec 2023	-8	2	5	10	0	0.5	cloudy	partly cloudy
E.B.Campbell Dam	1 Jan 2024	-9	-7	5	15	0	10	light snow	overcast
Ebenezer	21 Dec 2023	-2	-1	0	0	1	1	clear	clear
Estevan	3 Jan 2024	-10	-10	5	10	0	5	light snow	mostly clear
Estuary North	22 Dec 2023	4	12	0	0	0	0	clear	clear
Fenton	14 Dec 2023	5	5	10	15	0	0	cloudy	cloudy
Floral	4 Jan 2024	-7	-6	5	15	0	3	overcast	overcast
Fort Qu'Appelle	15 Dec 2023	-3	0	2	5	0	1	cloudy	cloudy
Gardiner Dam	14 Dec 2023	-3	4	16	25	0	2	partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Good Spirit Lake	5 Jan 2024	-9	-7	15	20	8	16	light snow	light snow
Greenwater	3 Jan 2024	-13	-9	2	5	10	10	cloudy	clear
Grenfell	29 Dec 2023	-3	2	10	20	0	2	clear	clear
Harris	15 Dec 2023	-3	1	10	20	0	2	partly cloudy	clear
Hudson Bay	26 Dec 2023	-7	-1	5	10	6	8	clear	
Indian Head	27 Dec 2023	-7	0	0	5	2	5	mostly clear	mostly clear
Kenaston	14 Dec 2023	-3	4	0	10	0	0	clear	partly cloudy
Kenosee Lake	29 Dec 2023	-2	2	20	40	5	10	clear	clear
Ketchen North	26 Dec 2023	-14	-4	7	10	3	8	clear	clear
Kinloch	30 Dec 2023	-8	-3	2	11	5	10	mod. fog	mostly clear
Kyle	21 Dec 2023	4	5	4	5	0	0	clear	clear
La Ronge	26 Dec 2023	-12	-8	6	10	12	12	clear	clear
LMLNWA	2 Jan 2024	-10	-6	11	17	1	1	cloudy	partly cloudy
Love-Torch River	26 Dec 2023	-19	-3	0	10	3	10	clear	clear
Luseland	30 Dec 2023	-8	-2	0	11	0	0	mostly clear	mostly clear
Maple Creek	20 Dec 2023	7	12	33	40	0	0	clear	clear

LOCALITY	DATE	MIN TEMP (°C)	MAX TEMP (°C)	MIN WIND (KM/HR)	MAX WIND (KM/HR)	MIN SNOW (CM)	MAX SNOW (CM)	SKY A.M.	SKY P.M.
Meadow Lake	26 Dec 2023	-14	2	0	5	0	3	clear	clear
Melfort	30 Dec 2023	-9							
Moose Jaw	17 Dec 2023	1	4	24	44	0	0	partly cloudy	mostly clear
Moose Mountain	3 Jan 2023	-12	-5	11	15	3	6	mostly clear	cloudy
Morse	14 Dec 2023	-5	5	13	19	0	0	clear	clear
Nicolle Flats	18 Dec 2023	-7	-1	0	14	0	3	partly cloudy	overcast
Nipawin	27 Dec 2023	-7	-1	0	5	0	10	clear	clear
Nisbet Forest NW	26 Dec 2023	-18	-10	2	2	0	4	clear	clear
Nisbet Forest West	31 Dec 2023	-9	-3	0	15	0	5	partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Odessa	28 Dec 2023	-2	1	5	10	4	10	mostly clear	mostly clear
Outlook	24 Dec 2023	-9	0	10	19	0	0	mostly clear	mostly clear
Pike Lake	30 Dec 2023	-17	-9	5	18	0	1	mostly clear	mostly clear
Prince Albert	17 Dec 2023	-13	-5	17	22	2	4	light snow	mostly clear
Qu'Appelle	27 Dec 2023	-7	0	2	10	0	10	clear	clear
Qu'Appelle Dam	17 Dec 2023	-7	-3	14	31	0	1	mostly clear	mostly clear
Redberry Lake	30 Dec 2023	-15	-10	2	5	0	0	clear	
Regina	27 Dec 2023	-11	-2	7	13	0	3	clear	clear
Roscommon S.D.	3 Jan 2024	-12	-9	5	10	0	8	light fog	partly cloudy
Rosetown	2 Jan 2024	-22	-15	0	5	3	15	heavy fog	light fog
Rosthern	2 Jan 2024	-16	-5	5	15	0	0	partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Round Lake (Q.V.)	19 Dec 2023	-3	-1	0	5	2	18	overcast	overcast
Saltcoats	18 Dec 2023			5	25	0	2	mostly clear	
Sask. Landing P.P.	20 Dec 2023	-4	13	5	10	0	0	clear	clear
Sask. River Forks	20 Dec 2023	-10	-5	25	40	3		overcast	overcast
Saskatoon	26 Dec 2023	-10	6	8	21	0	1	mostly clear	partly cloudy
Shamrock	4 Jan 2024	-7	-2	15	25	0	0	light fog	overcast
Shell Lake	4 Jan 2024	-8	-6	10	15	0	0	overcast	cloudy
Smeaton	26 Dec 2023	-12	-4	10	15	2	2	clear	clear
South Lady Lake	1 Jan 2024	-1	2					partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Spinney Hill	3 Jan 2024	-11	-7	15	21	0	2	overcast	partly cloudy
Swift Current	15 Dec 2023	3	-10	20	30	0	0	partly cloudy	partly cloudy
Thickwood-Spiritwood	3 Jan 2024	-12	5	20	25	0	3	overcast	overcast
Torch River Valley	23 Dec 2023	-9	-2	0	15	3	8	clear	mostly clear
Turtleford	29 Dec 2023	-14	-2	0	5	0	1	clear	clear
Val Marie	15 Dec 2023	-3	3	2	11	0	4	overcast	partly cloudy
Watrous	3 Jan 2024	-7	-6	11	22	1	2	cloudy	partly cloudy
Weyburn	28 Dec 2023	-9	-5	10	10	1	3	clear	mostly clear
White Bear	30 Dec 2023	-9	6	10	25	0	0	clear	clear
Whitewood	27 Dec 2023	-8	-1	2	2	1	15	clear	clear
Wingard	2 Jan 2024								
Yorkton	5 Jan 2024	-14		5		2		partly cloudy	mostly clear

TABLE 2. Effort and Habitat Coverage (%). Wild Fruit: p=poor, f=fair, g=good, e=excellent.

LOCALITY	PARTICIPANTS	KM ON FOOT	HOURS ON FOOT	KM BY VEHICLE	HOURS BY VEHICLE	HOURS AT FEEDERS	EVERGREEN FOREST	MIXEDWOOD FOREST	DECIDUOUS FOREST	ASPEN GROVE/FARMLAND	ASPEN GROVE/PRAIRIE	NATIVE PRAIRIE	TAME PASTURE	FARMLAND	FARMSTEADS	URBAN	OPEN WATER	RIPARIAN	OTHER	WILD FRUIT CROP
Archerwill	12	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0		25						50	25					p
Assiniboia	2	0.0	0.0	90.0	4.5	0.0						5	5	60		25		5		p
Avonlea	4	0.2	0.2	105	5.5	0.5		5				5	5	35	10	35		5		p
Balgonie	6	23.2	8.2	292	10.9	0.0				40				20		40				p
Biggar	9	7.0	6.0	551	17.0	7.0				15				49	7	29				p
Borden-Radisson	4	10.5	6.5	140	6.5	0.0														p
Broadview	6	0.5	0.5	127	7.5	5.0			15	25		5	10	25	5	15				p
Candle Lake	8	0.0	0.0	175	10.8	0.0	15	30	20							25		5	5	p
Carlyle	2	0.0	0.0	40	2.8									5		95				
Clark's Crossing	19	23.9	16.0	511	27.8	2.7				15	10			25	5	35	5	5		p
Coronach	2	0.0	0.0	90	3.5	0.0							5	55		25	10	5		p
Craven	21	12.3	5.9	298	21.5	4.0				45		5	5	35		10				p
Crooked Lake	4	1.0	1.0	115	7.0	0.0				15			5	30	5	25	20			p
Crooked River	3	0.0	0.0	22	1.0	7.0		40						40	20					
Cypress Hills P.P.	18	10.0	7.0	24	2.0	0.0	30	25	10			25		10						g
Denholm	5	0.0	0.0	275	9.0	1.0				10	5		5	70	5	5				g
Dorintosh	4	6.0	4.0	0	0.0	2.0	5	40										55		f
Dundurn	3	2.0	1.0	160	5.8	0.0				15	15			60		10				p
E.B.Campbell Dam	8	4.5	2.5	118	6.8	4.0		50		20							10	20		f
Ebenezer	2	0.0	0.0	80	4.0	1.5		10	20	20	10	20	10	10						p
Estevan	9	7.0	7.0	230	11.0	9.0								31		11		58		p
Estuary North	3	3.0	3.0	30	6.0	4.0			20			50		10	20					
Fenton	2	0.0	0.0	150	4.9	0.0				20				69		10	1			p
Floral	3	5.0	4.0	114	5.5	0.0				18				60	11	11				p
Fort Qu'Appelle	17	3.7	2.0	548	15.4	0.0				25	20		10	20	4	20				p
Gardiner Dam	9	18.0	17.0	477	13.5	0.0					5			37	15	7	34	2		p
Good Spirit Lake	3	0.0	0.0	101	6.0	0.0				20			20	30	5	25				p
Greenwater	3	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	21.0		70		30										f
Grenfell	4	0.5	0.5	121	7.0	2.0				15	10		10	30	15	20				p
Harris	5	4.0	2.5	317	9.0	0.0				17				61	9	13				p
Hudson Bay	5	0.0	1.0	0	1.0	6.0		60						20		20				p
Indian Head	23	17.0	30.0	423	14.0	25.0	5			10				74	5	5	1			p
Kenaston	2	0.0	0.0	90	5.0	0.0								95	5					
Kenosee Lake	5	0.0	0.0	84	6.0	0.5			15					15		70				f
Ketchen North	1	1.0	1.0	65	2.5	5.5				30			20	20	20	10				
Kinloch	7	1.0	1.5	100	4.5	22.0	10	30	20	20	10				10					f
Kyle	6	6.0	4.0	175	11.0	0.0					10	10	5	20	15	35		5		p
La Ronge	4	4.0	3.5	57	2.5	5.0		60							5	30		5		g
LMLNWA	3	0.0	0.0	160	12.0	1.0				10	10	30	5	15		30				p
Love-Torch River	20	3.5	2.0	370	15.5	18.0	10	15		50				5	10	10				p
Luseland	4	5.0	3.0	277	7.5	2.0				50	10	5	5	20	5	5				p
Maple Creek	1	0.0	0.0	120	6.0	0.0														

LOCALITY	PARTICIPANTS	KM ON FOOT	HOURS ON FOOT	KM BY VEHICLE	HOURS BY VEHICLE	HOURS AT FEEDERS	EVERGREEN FOREST	MIXEDWOOD FOREST	DECIDUOUS FOREST	ASPEN GROVE/FARMLAND	ASPEN GROVE/PRAIRIE	NATIVE PRAIRIE	TAME PASTURE	FARMLAND	FARMSTEADS	URBAN	OPEN WATER	RIPARIAN	OTHER	WILD FRUIT CROP
Meadow Lake	3	5.0	4.0	125	2.0	0.0		50						40		10				g
Melfort	7	1.0	0.5	55	4.5	3.0														
Moose Jaw	10	16.6	7.4	321	16.2	2.0		10					5	40	5	30		10		p
Moose Mountain	4	0.0	0.0	92	5.5	0.0				15			10	50	5	15	5			f
Morse	11	6.0	2.5	471	22.5	5.0							3	90	7					p
Nicolle Flats	6	16.8	6.2	273	13.0	0.0			12	5	8	8	2	45	4	4	1	8	3	p
Nipawin	19	1.5	0.8	150	9.0	8.0	15	5		15				25	10	30				f
Nisbet Forest NW	1	1.0	0.3	0	0.0	3.7								5	95					
Nisbet Forest West	3	1.0	1.0	115	8.5	2.3	5		10	40				40		5				p
Odessa	3		1.0		2.0	3.0				20	20	20		20	20					f
Outlook	1	3.0	1.5	130	5.5	0.0				75			10			10		5		f
Pike Lake	27	27.7	19.4	367	18.8	22.8			5	10	5		15	35	10	15		5		f
Prince Albert	29	30.5	13.5	568	28.8	5.5	15	10		50						23		2		f
Qu'Appelle	9	8.2	2.5	274	9.5	17.5				60	5		5	20	5	5				p
Qu'Appelle Dam	7	9.5	6.8	439	18.8	0.0			15	25	10			15		15	10	10		p
Redberry Lake	18	10.0	4.5	472	15.3	0.5		10		90										
Regina	45	106.5	40.9	337	19.4	12.0				10				40		50				p
Roscommon S.D.	11	2.0	2.0	98	4.0	56.0				20				60	20					p
Rosetown	4	1.6	1.2	214	7.4	0.0						5	5	45	25	10		10		p
Rosthern	8	15.0	4.0	320	12.0	0.0				15				60	5	20				g
Round Lake (Q.V.)	4	0.0	0.0	33	2.5	1.0			10	30				20	30		10			f
Saltcoats	23	0.0	0.0	176	12.0	120.0				2		5	10	79	3		1			f
Sask. Landing P.P.	6	6.0	4.0	250	10.0	0.0						10	10	50	10	5		15		p
Sask. River Forks	4	0.0	0.0	215	11.8	0.0		15		10				75						p
Saskatoon	65	133.0	62.8	859	59.4	23.6				10				5		70	5	10		p
Shamrock	8	2.0	1.0	432	21.0	2.0							5	60	25	10				p
Shell Lake	3	11.6	6.75	202	9.5	0.8	10	20	20	15			10	5		15		5		f
Smeaton	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.0									95				5	
South Lady Lake	2	0.0	0.0	93	5.3	0.0				40			5	50	5					f
Spinney Hill	2	1.0	0.3	165	7.7	0.0	5			60	30	5								f
Swift Current	23	18.0	15.0	321	21.0	12.0								20	10	68		2		g
Thickwood-Spiritwood	10	7.5	2.9	204	11.0	2.5	5	10		15			15	35	5	10		5		f
Torch River Valley	13	5.8	2.0	256	12.5	11.0		40		20				20	20					p
Turtleford	10	8.0	3.0	365	6.0	6.0				45			50			5				
Val Marie	26	6.0	4.0	27	1.5	0.0						20	20	50		5	2	3		p
Watrous	6	1.0	0.5	125	14.0	1.0				10	5	5	5	5		70				p
Weyburn	14	0.0	0.0	297	14.0	6.0	5	20	5	5		5	10	30		15	5			f
White Bear	3	2.0	2.0	275	10.0	0.0						20		50	25			5		p
Whitewood	13	6.5	8.5	14	30.9	12.0				25				25	25	25				f
Wingard	1													5	95					
Yorkton	14			54	10.0	10.0										90			10	

TABLE 3. Species found on 5 or more counts; () = seen during Count Period (CP).

SPECIES	ARCHERWILL 12 DEC 2023	ASSINIBOIA 4 JAN 2024	AVONLEA 22 DEC 2023	BALCONIE 30 DEC 2023	BIGGAR 16 DEC 2023	BORDEN - RADISSON 18 DEC 2023	BROADVIEW 20 DEC 2023	CANDLE LAKE 30 DEC 2023	CARLYLE 19 DEC 2023	CLARK'S CROSSING 16 DEC 2023	CORONACH 2 JAN 2023	CRAVEN 16 DEC 2023	CROOKED LAKE 14 DEC 2023	CROOKED RIVER 4 JAN 2024	CYPRESS HILLS PP. 28 DEC 2023	DENHOLM 25 DEC 2023	DORINTOSH 21 DEC 2023	DUNDIRN 21 DEC 2023	E. B. CAMPBELL DAM 2 JAN 2024	EBENEZER DEC 21 2023	ESTEVAN 3 JAN 2024	ESTUARY NORTH 22 DEC 2023
Cackling Goose										12												125
Canada Goose										2063	2893		1612									37938
Mallard					9					90	550		303									107
Green-winged Teal													1									
Common Goldeneye										216			17						80			27
Ruffed Grouse								3	5				1	(1)	1	(2)	1		(1)			
Sharp-tailed Grouse			62		41		37			35		9				(3)		24	51			45 80
Gray Partridge		25		15	67	10	(8)			78		45				17						11 16
Ring-necked Pheasant							(1)					1	1		1							183 35
Rock Pigeon		1	77	20	119	47	36			357	56	285	13			122		50	12			50 15
Eurasian Collared-Dove			4	1	3	2	4		2	1		8						46				14 2
Golden Eagle					1							1	1			(1)					(1)	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk										2		(1)										2
American Goshawk																						2
Bald Eagle					1	3	(1)			7	1	2	5		3	(1)			9	1		2
Rough-legged Hawk					2	1					(1)	6			1	(1)		1		1	1	1
Snowy Owl			2		2					2		2				2						1
Great Horned Owl			1		3					3		1	(1)	(1)		(1)		1				2
American Three-toed Woodpecker								1														
Downy Woodpecker	1		1	5	4	6	2	3		10		12	2	1	1	2	2	4	1	1	13	3
Hairy Woodpecker	4		(1)		1	4	(1)	5	1	10		7	1	1		1	2	1	7		7	1
Northern Flicker										1		2										3
Pileated Woodpecker	(1)			(1)		(1)	1	1											2			2
Merlin		2			1					1	1											1
Prairie Falcon																						
Northern Shrike					1		2					2	1			(1)						
Canada Jay								18										1		3		
Blue Jay	18			7	4	9	(1)	14		11		14	3	2		1	12		19			6
Black-billed Magpie	5	1	11	34	110	40	19	18	8	148		120	11	20	19	35	(2)	49	40	19	7	50
American Crow												1			2							
Common Raven		2	1	17	42	37	13	279		128		54	12	2	4	12	6	15	49	32	12	5
Black-capped Chickadee	63			51	21	34	18	91	7	158		81	22	3	45	5	15	19	17	7	35	19
Boreal Chickadee	1							14											(8)			
Horned Lark											10											
Golden-crowned Kinglet				1			2					2						1	2			
Bohemian Waxwing			(40)	747	30	30				68		407			17	110		72				
Red-breasted Nuthatch				15	2	4		2	2	5		2			25			2	1		3	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	7		1	3	4	6	3	4	1	10		12	1				1	1	2		5	2
Brown Creeper																						
European Starling				140	45	31				35		12		3							4	50
Townsend's Solitaire				3											1			1				
American Robin				1	1							2	(2)					1				
House Sparrow	41	134	217	852	254	530	180		100	1324	31	332	153	4	40	38		266	2	50	282	130
Evening Grosbeak	66			1								1					20		16			
Pine Grosbeak	51					6				2		27	11	(6)	13	(1)	12	5	4		29	12
House Finch				30	7	8			1	152		2						10			18	1
Purple Finch																					4	1
Common Redpoll	124			44	105	131	137	57		137		137	36			60	26	1	7		47	17
Hoary Redpoll	16					2	1															
Pine Siskin			(1)				2		3				(2)								(2)	
American Goldfinch							(3)					1										2
Snow Bunting	(35)			250	40		6			52					25	3	(30)			23	2	
Dark-eyed Junco	1		(2)	2				16	2								2					9
Common Grackle																		2				5
TOTAL BIRDS COUNT DAY	398	165	377	2239	923	942	469	528	128	5448	3546	1593	2217	36	198	409	100	573	325	134	39030	512
TOTAL BIRDS ONLY IN CP	37	0	45	1	0	1	15	0	0	0	1	1	8	8	0	11	32	0	10	0	4	0
TOTAL SPECIES COUNT DAY	13	6	10	21	28	21	19	15	11	31	9	31	26	8	15	13	12	22	20	8	31	29
TOTAL SPECIES ONLY IN CP	3	0	5	1	0	1	6	0	0	0	1	1	5	3	0	8	2	0	3	0	3	0

SPECIES	FENTON 14 DEC 2023	FLORAL 4 JAN 2024	FORT QU'APPELLE 15 DEC 2023	GARDINER DAM 14 DEC 2023	GOOD SPIRIT LAKE 5 JAN 2024	GREENWATER 3 JAN 2024	GRENFELL 29 DEC 2023	HARRIS 15 DEC 2023	HUDSON BAY 26 DEC 2023	INDIAN HEAD 23 DEC 2023	KENASTON 14 DEC 2023	KENOSEELAKE 29 DEC 2023	KETCHEN NORTH 26 DEC 2023	KINLOCH 30 DEC 2023	KYLE 21 DEC 2023	LARONCE 26 DEC 2023	LMLNWA 2 JAN 2024	LOVE-TORCH RIVER 26 DEC 2023	LUSELAND 30 DEC 2023	MAPLE CREEK 20 DEC 2023	MEADOW LAKE 26 DEC 2023	
Cackling Goose				2425																		
Canada Goose			2242	16570						7500					1							11
Mallard			6	5725						380											117	1
Green-winged Teal				2																		
Common Goldeneye			51	179						1												
Ruffed Grouse							1		3	10			3	6		(1)		5				
Sharp-tailed Grouse	7		12	63	2		1	29	5	10	6				75		19	16	26			
Gray Partridge	10	5		19			53	30		5	28				80			(7)	60	(8)		
Ring-necked Pheasant			(1)																			
Rock Pigeon		18	184	148	4		68	136	32	140			6		111		23	44	97	12	49	
Eurasian Collared-Dove			12	2			44	6		7					31		3		(2)	49		
Golden Eagle				4																(1)		
Sharp-shinned Hawk								1							1				(1)			
American Goshawk																						
Bald Eagle	1		5	14					(1)	15			(1)	1		2		1				1
Rough-legged Hawk			1							3			2				5					
Snowy Owl		1		1				8			1				3		2	1	3	2		
Great Horned Owl			(1)	2				2			1			1	10				1	(2)		
American Three-toed Woodpecker																		1				
Downy Woodpecker		5	14	2	2	5	1	2	5	14	1	4	4	9	1	2		12	(1)			1
Hairy Woodpecker	4	4	5	2		6	1	3	5	12		2	4	9		3	1	16	1	1	1	1
Northern Flicker		1		1						1											1	
Pileated Woodpecker									(1)			1		1		(1)		3				
Merlin			1		(1)					1					(1)							
Prairie Falcon				1				1							2				1			
Northern Shrike			1					1				1										
Canada Jay			(1)						11					9		6		15				1
Blue Jay	3	2	22	4	4	19	4		18	13		15	6	33		4	1	54	2	2	1	1
Black-billed Magpie	43	45	31	65	7	9	14	125	12	31	2	3	17	8	57	6	13	113	29	32		9
American Crow										4												
Common Raven	17	14	106	40	7	3	8	20	158	103	1	4	62	14	42	154	16	113	4			27
Black-capped Chickadee	21	49	115	24	31	26	7	2	34	113		18	10	55		10	1	160	2	9		2
Boreal Chickadee									1							2		9				
Horned Lark			(12)	2							(2)				5				1			
Golden-crowned Kinglet			3	4								2										
Bohemian Waxwing			413	14			25			424				1	9	(5)		14	(27)			
Red-breasted Nuthatch			2	2					1	29		2				2		14	3	1		
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	4	15	1	2	2	2	1	3	25		4	2	8		1	3	14				
Brown Creeper				1								1					1					
European Starling				24			7			7			1		50			22				2
Townsend's Solitaire										1										1	(1)	
American Robin			1															1	(1)			
House Sparrow	22	147	144	1010	2		198	285		392	75	30	26		690		238	21	97	466		11
Evening Grosbeak						39				73			(2)	86		31		149	(14)			
Pine Grosbeak	6	1	23	21		51	5		23				5	27	8	7		89		1		1
House Finch		6		2						51	9				10			2		15	56	
Purple Finch												(1)								3		
Common Redpoll	105	83	197	46	45	214	178	116	42	77		59	50	33		56	10	376	63	(5)		
Hoary Redpoll		2				10		2								1		2				
Pine Siskin			(1)						(15)	22			(1)									
American Goldfinch				1						4										1		
Snow Bunting		2		2	30			13	(100)	8				10	26		25	(200)	2	40		12
Dark-eyed Junco								2	(1)	15		(6)						3	(2)	9		
Common Grackle																	1	(1)				
TOTAL BIRDS COUNT DAY	240	389	3607	26622	137	384	619	785	426	9418	124	146	198	311	1212	289	367	1268	415	802	142	
TOTAL BIRDS ONLY IN CP	0	0	16	0	1	0	0	0	118	0	2	7	4	0	3	7	0	210	48	17	0	
TOTAL SPECIES COUNT DAY	12	17	25	50	12	11	19	20	16	31	9	14	14	17	19	17	18	28	21	17	14	
TOTAL SPECIES ONLY IN CP	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	1	2	3	0	2	3	0	5	7	5	0	

TABLE 3. Species found on 5 or more counts; () = seen during Count Period (CP).

SPECIES	MELFORT 30 DEC 2023	MOOSE JAW 17 DEC 2023	MOOSE MOUNTAIN P.P. 3 JAN 2024	MORSE 14 DEC 2023	NICOLLE FLATS 18 DEC 2023	NIPAWIN 27 DEC 2023	NISBET FOREST NORTHWEST 26 DEC 2023	NISBET FOREST WEST 31 DEC 2023	ODESSA 28 DEC 2023	OUTLOOK 24 DEC 2023	PIKE LAKE 30 DEC 2023	PRINCE ALBERT 17 DEC 2023	QU'APPELLE 27 DEC 2023	QU'APPELLE DAM 17 DEC 2023	REDBERRY LAKE 30 DEC 2023	REGINA 27 DEC 2023	ROSCOMMONS D. 4 JAN 2023	ROSETOWN 2 JAN 2024	ROSTHERN 4 JAN 2023	ROUND LAKE (Q.V.) 19 DEC 2023	SALICOATS 18 DEC 2023	SASKATCHEWAN LANDING P.P. 20 DEC 2023	SASKATCHEWAN RIVER FORKS 20 DEC 2023		
Cackling Goose														4		(2)									
Canada Goose		14								1000	168	(1)	(200)	7904		685							(100)		
Mallard										3				20		329							1		
Green-winged Teal																3							7		
Common Goldeneye					2	2				3		(1)		65		8								3	
Ruffed Grouse	2		1					(4)	4			11	(3)		14		5					7			
Sharp-tailed Grouse		2	2	93	31				40		48		28	69	227			15	13			12	76	9	
Gray Partridge		63		508	11				20				(44)	11	13	375		40	17			60	27		
Ring-necked Pheasant		2							2														1		
Rock Pigeon	11	502	14	336	112	458		73	15	55	164	149	167	38	113	786	32	169	114		3	90	5		
Eurasian Collared-Dove		39		8		5				(3)			10	1								2			
Golden Eagle				1																(1)			1		
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1								(1)						1				(1)					
American Goshawk												(1)			1										
Bald Eagle				1	3	2				2	2	(1)	(1)	16	2	(1)	(1)				(2)	8	(1)	3	
Rough-legged Hawk		2			2				4						1	3		1	1	(1)		2		2	
Snowy Owl	3	(1)		9	1					1					1	27		5					1		
Great Horned Owl	1	(1)		13	2				2		2	(1)	1	2	1	2	(1)	1	(1)		3		5		
American Three-toed Woodpecker						(1)						1													
Downy Woodpecker	35	4	3	(1)	4	2	2	2	4	2	41	15	11	3	7	34	9	2	3		12		4		
Hairy Woodpecker		3	1	(1)	2	3	2	2	4		21	8	8	1	15	5	10	2	4	1	14		3		
Northern Flicker		2										1				9							3		
Pileated Woodpecker			2			1		(1)	2		6	2		1	1						3				
Merlin		2		1								1	1			6			1						
Prairie Falcon				1						1				1		(1)									
Northern Shrike		(1)			1					1	2	(1)	1			6			1				1	1	
Canada Jay					1							2													
Blue Jay	8	(3)	22		2	23	2	11		5	23	19	9	2	22	21	17	4	3	2	22		10		
Black-billed Magpie	17	37	25	29	15	41	(1)	55	14	31	154	79	102	47	78	43	20	33	38	7	15	40	19		
American Crow																11						2			
Common Raven	11	12	11	13	22	141	1	12	8	13	101	264	24	19	39	47	14	9	24	6	51	7	22		
Black-capped Chickadee	50	43	51	1	14	62	6	23	20	14	363	117	60	29	84	243	54		15	9	83	21	24		
Boreal Chickadee												4												1	
Horned Lark		5		22	2								4	3	10	1		9							
Golden-crowned Kinglet		(2)			2										5	1									
Bohemian Waxwing		9		(10)	26	2				3	8	627	30	180	142	17						58	210	100	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	8	5			7	1			3	2	3	2	2	3	69			2		1				
White-breasted Nuthatch	5	9	7			11	2	1		1	36	13	3	3	6	13	5		2	1	7		2		
Brown Creeper		1														1									
European Starling		55	5	30	12	60		17	20	17	20	18						107					5		
Townsend's Solitaire												1		1		4		1							
American Robin					1						2	(1)				(2)									
House Sparrow	115	659	43	1387	192	87	(40)	7		173	675	518	216	201	112	1678	86	625	87	195	286	315	28		
Evening Grosbeak						110	3	40				33			33									15	
Pine Grosbeak	8	8	10		17	91	3	14			120	37		3	18	19	55	2	9		5	26	115		
House Finch		64		5						3	2	2			17	241		3							
Purple Finch																									
Common Redpoll			45	155	5	135	8	45			61	394	379	20	325		64	15	81	31	231	45	198		
Hoary Redpoll											2	6												2	
Pine Siskin			6								3	2				(1)					15				
American Goldfinch											1	26													
Snow Bunting		7		154	20			16			7			2	605	(1)	100	220	2		270				
Dark-eyed Junco		10										2	5		13	4	10				4				
Common Grackle																									
TOTAL BIRDS COUNT DAY	268	1563	253	2767	502	1246	30	319	190	1331	2043	2361	1061	8678	1887	4708	482	1263	417	252	1217	886	563		
TOTAL BIRDS ONLY IN CP	0	8	0	62	0	1	41	5	0	4	0	7	249	0	2	10	4	0	1	5	1	101	0		
TOTAL SPECIES COUNT DAY	13	26	17	19	24	22	10	15	17	19	27	31	19	36	27	43	15	19	18	8	27	20	20		
TOTAL SPECIES ONLY IN CP	0	5	0	4	0	1	2	2	0	2	0	7	5	0	1	8	3	0	1	4	1	2	0		

SPECIES	SASKATOON 26 DEC 2023	SHAMROCK 4 JAN 2024	SHELL LAKE 4 JAN 2024	SMEATON 26 DEC 2023	SOUTHLADY LAKE 1 JAN 2024	SPINNEY HILL 3 JAN 2024	SWIFT CURRENT 15 DEC 2023	THICKWOOD-SPIRITWOOD 3 JAN 2024	TORCH RIVER VALLEY 23 DEC 2023	TURTLEFORD 29 DEC 2023	VAL MARIE 15 DEC 2023	WATROUS 2 JAN 2023	WEYBURN 28 DEC 2023	WHITE BEAR 3 JAN 2023	WHITEWOOD 27 DEC 2023	WINGARD 2 JAN 2024	YORKTON 1 JAN 2024	TOTALS COUNT DAY	TOTALS ONLY IN COUNT PERIOD	# COUNTS COUNT DAY	# COUNTS ONLY IN COUNT PERIOD
Cackling Goose	11																	137	0	2	0
Canada Goose	2231						50											44506	0	4	0
Mallard	370						4				1							1059	0	5	0
Green-winged Teal	(2)																	1	0	1	0
Common Goldeneye	456																	340	0	4	0
Ruffed Grouse	1		2					9	4	8		(3)			4			11	4	5	3
Sharp-tailed Grouse	13	40				30	21	2	3	101	24		3	31	12			384	3	9	1
Gray Partridge	44	37					112	2		16			24	50	2		8	284	8	9	1
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	4					39				1		20					221	1	5	1
Rock Pigeon	3108	113	12			63	452	59	9	15	13	4	114	280	171		117	1260	0	15	0
Eurasian Collared-Dove	20	12					95				9	32	20		22		1	87	0	11	0
Golden Eagle		1									1			2				4	2	4	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6											1						4	1	2	1
American Goshawk	1								(1)									2	0	1	0
Bald Eagle	3		1		(1)		1			(2)								34	2	10	2
Rough-legged Hawk	1				(1)								4		(1)			13	2	7	2
Snowy Owl	1	2					4				7		2					11	0	6	0
Great Horned Owl	3	6	1				2			2		1	3	9	(1)			11	3	6	3
American Three-toed Woodpecker			1						1									1	0	1	0
Downy Woodpecker	58	2	5	1	1	1	6	4	4	6	1	4	5		12	2	7	74	0	19	0
Hairy Woodpecker	28		9		1	1		2	4	11	1	3	2		8	1	6	53	2	15	2
Northern Flicker	19											1					2	6	0	3	0
Pileated Woodpecker	1							1	3									6	3	4	3
Merlin	7	1					3		1				2	1				6	0	5	0
Prairie Falcon		1																1	0	1	0
Northern Shrike						1					1							6	1	4	1
Canada Jay									11									22	0	3	0
Blue Jay	114		8	3	2	5		25	38	13		5			11	2	8	120	1	13	1
Black-billed Magpie	747	23	28	1	20	18	90	63	29	42	5	4	9	114	44	1	14	764	2	20	1
American Crow	12						1						4					3	0	2	0
Common Raven	129	6	24	1	25	15	7	45	59	21		12	66	3	115		76	722	0	19	0
Black-capped Chickadee	647		70	1	5	16	30	72	50	44		42			119	6	41	711	0	19	0
Boreal Chickadee			2															15	8	2	1
Horned Lark		46																10	0	1	0
Golden-crowned Kinglet		1																8	0	5	0
Bohemian Waxwing	530					130	62	50				200			17		160	1481	40	8	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	99	99	2	1		2	48		1			2	2		7		4	64	0	12	0
White-breasted Nuthatch	49	49	16		2	1		4	4	2		6	7		14	1	9	63	0	16	0
Brown Creeper	1																	0	0	0	0
European Starling	23						7	10	1		1		6	4				320	0	8	0
Townsend's Solitaire	2														(1)			5	0	3	0
American Robin	3										1							5	2	4	1
House Sparrow	4632	420	57		44	17	643	34	75	173	91	600	291	725	384	80	184	4960	0	20	0
Evening Grosbeak								1	91							15		104	0	5	0
Pine Grosbeak	31		93				5	68	40	2		25				1	9	172	7	11	2
House Finch	205						159					13			10		2	229	0	9	0
Purple Finch					3													5	0	2	0
Common Redpoll	74		315	25	68	23	41	446	135	57		157		56	41	(15)	85	1066	0	15	0
Hoary Redpoll			1					2	1	4		(1)						19	0	3	0
Pine Siskin	8																	5	5	2	3
American Goldfinch																		3	3	2	1
Snow Bunting		12			41	30	29	1	138			1			57			401	65	8	2
Dark-eyed Junco	1	1					6											32	2	6	1
Common Grackle	(1)																	7	0	2	0
TOTAL BIRDS COUNT DAY	13717	877	649	33	212	353	1930	900	702	517	176	1114	584	1275	1050	111	733	167411	1140		
TOTAL BIRDS ONLY IN CP	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	4	0	0	3	15	0		1140		
TOTAL SPECIES COUNT DAY	45	21	19	7	11	15	27	20	22	16	15	20	18	11	18	10	17	106			
TOTAL SPECIES ONLY IN CP	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	3	1	0		0		

TABLE 4. Species found in fewer than 5 counts.

SPECIES	LOCALITY AND NUMBER (*=SEEN DURING COUNT PERIOD)
Snow Goose	Gardiner Dam (1)
Ross's Goose	Gardiner Dam (2)
Greater White-fronted Goose	Gardiner Dam (1)
Tundra Swan	Crooked Lake (1*), Gardiner Dam (11)
Gadwall	Crooked Lake (2), Gardiner Dam (5), Nicolle Flats (2), Regina (3)
American Wigeon	Crooked Lake (2*), Gardiner Dam (2), Regina (1)
Northern Pintail	Crooked Lake (2)
Canvasback	Crooked Lake (1)
Redhead	Gardiner Dam (44)
Ring-necked Duck	Crooked Lake (3), Saskatoon (1)
Greater Scaup	Gardiner Dam (56)
Lesser Scaup	Crooked Lake (1), Gardiner Dam (8), Saskatoon (3)
Long-tailed Duck	Qu'Appelle Dam (1)
Bufflehead	Clark's Crossing (28), Crooked Lake (1), Gardiner Dam (7), Qu'Appelle Dam (3)
Hooded Merganser	Estevan (1*)
Common Merganser	Clark's Crossing (2), Gardiner Dam (37), Qu'Appelle Dam (1)
Red-breasted Merganser	Qu'Appelle Dam (1)
Ruddy Duck	Regina (1)
Spruce Grouse	La Ronge (1), Qu'Appelle (1*)
Horned Grebe	Gardiner Dam (1)
Eared Grebe	Maple Creek (2)
Mourning Dove	Regina (2), Roscommon S.D. (2*), Saltcoats (1), Torch River Valley (1*)
American Coot	Estevan (3), Gardiner Dam (10), Qu'Appelle Dam (2)
Baird's Sandpiper	Gardiner Dam (1)
Black-legged Kittiwake	Qu'Appelle Dam (1)
Herring Gull	Gardiner Dam (12)
Glaucous Gull	Gardiner Dam (1)
Northern Harrier	Redberry Lake (1)
Red-tailed Hawk	Archerwill (1*), Good Spirit Lake (1), Qu'Appelle Dam (1)
Northern Hawk Owl	E.B. Campbell Dam (1*), Saskatchewan River Forks (1)
Barred Owl	Love-Torch River (1)
Long-eared Owl	Shamrock (1)
Short-eared Owl	Kyle (2*)
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Saskatoon (1*)
Belted Kingfisher	Regina (1*)
Red-headed Woodpecker	Regina (1)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Saltcoats (1*)
Black-backed Woodpecker	La Ronge (1), Love-Torch River (1*), Prince Albert (1)
American Kestrel	Regina (2)
Cedar Waxwing	Estevan (40), Estuary (50), Odessa (6), Saltcoats (40)
Pygmy Nuthatch	Regina (1)
Varied Thrush	Estevan (1), Nipawin (1), Regina (1), Roscommon S.D. (1)
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	Love-Torch River (1*), Redberry (2*)
Red Crossbill	Biggar (3), Prince Albert (4), Saskatoon (16), Swift Current (12)
White-winged Crossbill	Regina (1), Shell Lake (2)
Lapland Longspur	Luseland (3)
Fox Sparrow	Estevan (1)
American Tree Sparrow	Val Marie (18)
White-crowned Sparrow	Regina (1*)
Harris's Sparrow	Prince Albert (1), Wingard (2)
White-throated Sparrow	Broadview (1), Swift Current (1)
Swamp Sparrow	Regina (1)
Eastern Towhee	Broadview (1)
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Regina (1), Shell Lake (2)
Pine Warbler	Carlyle (1)
Western Meadowlark	Grenfell (1)
Red-winged Blackbird	E.B. Campbell Dam (1), Nisbet West (1), Odessa (15)
Rusty Blackbird	Love-Torch River (1), Odessa (10), Regina (1), Val Marie (2)
Pine Warbler	Carlyle (1)
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Regina (1)
Northern Cardinal	Saskatoon (1), Fort Qu'Appelle (1)

TABLE 5. Birds not identified to species.

CATEGORY	LOCALITY AND NUMBER (*=COUNT PERIOD)
Diving Duck sp.	Coronach (2)
Merganser sp.	Saskatoon (1)
Duck sp.	Clark's Crossing 300, Meadow Lake (14), Morse (50*)
Grouse sp.	Borden-Radisson (1)
Hawk sp.	Dehnmolm (1)
Woodpecker sp.	Craven (1), Nicolle Flats (1), Pike Lake (5), Saskatoon (1)
Large Falcon sp.	Avonlea (1*), Coronach (1)
Nuthatch sp.	Saskatoon (2)
Finch sp.	Craven (2)
Sparrow sp.	Love-Torch River (1)
Blackbird sp.	Pike Lake (4)



One of three Townsend's Solitaires observed during the Balgonie Count on December 30, 2023. Photo credit: Annie McLeod.

TABLE 6. New (in bold and italics) and tying high counts for individual species 2023.

LOCATION	2023 COUNT	SPECIES	PREVIOUS HIGH	LOCATION, YEAR
Gardiner Dam	2425	<i>Cackling Goose</i>	1800	Gardiner Dam (2021)
Gardiner Dam	2	<i>Ross's Goose</i>	1	Regina (30 Dec. 1962, 26 Dec. 1974), Coronach (20 Dec. 2015)
Gardiner Dam	44	<i>Redhead</i>	27	Gardiner Dam (19 Dec. 2011)
Gardiner Dam	56	<i>Greater Scaup</i>	23	Gardiner Dam (19 Dec. 2016)
Qu'Appelle Dam	1	Long-tailed Duck	1	6 counts north to E.B.Campbell Dam
Clarks Crossing	28	<i>Bufflehead</i>	17	Coronach (23 Dec. 1998)
Gardiner Dam	1	Horned Grebe	1	6 counts north to Saskatoon
Maple Creek	2	Eared Grebe	2	Regina (30 Dec. 1962)
Gardiner Dam	1	<i>Baird's Sandpiper</i>	New	
Qu'Appelle Valley Dam	1	<i>Black-legged Kittiwake</i>	New	
Saskatoon	6	<i>Sharp-shinned Hawk</i>	4	Saskatoon (26 Dec. 2010)
Regina	1	Red-headed Woodpecker	1	White Bear Lake (19 Dec. 1991)
Saltcoats	1	Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	8 counts north to Crooked River and Nipawin
Regina	2	American Kestrel	2	Indian Head (5 Jan. 2002)
Regina	6	Northern Shrike	6	9 counts north to Saskatoon
Regina	1	<i>Pygmy Nuthatch</i>	New	
Regina	1	Swamp Sparrow	1	Harris (18 Dec. 2001)
Carlyle	1	Pine Warbler	1	Saskatoon (26 Dec. 2015)
Regina	1	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	4 counts north to Biggar and Saskatoon

51ST ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTMAS MAMMAL COUNT - 2023

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Of the 83 Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) conducted last winter, almost all, 81, were accompanied by a Mammal Count — an increase of two over last year. Only 2,884 mammals were counted, however, compared to the previous winter's 4,937. Variety was down, as well, with only 29 species heard or seen on count day compared to last year's 34.

Most of the decline in numbers was due to a decrease in deer. White-tailed Deer dropped from 1,880 in 2022-23 to 610 individuals this past winter; Mule Deer from 1,379 to 586 animals. These changes are probably mainly due to a lack of snow, which did not force animals in to towns and farmsteads in search of food. Also, deer would be much less conspicuous on a snowless background.

Due to the unusually warm weather, Richardson's Ground-Squirrels were much in evidence. Twenty-five were seen on seven counts. None are recorded on most annual counts.

White-tailed Jackrabbits continue to

prosper in Regina with a new provincial high of 218 animals. Unfortunately only 74 hares were seen in the rest of the province.

A Wolverine was seen during the count period (24 December) near the E.B. Campbell Dam. This is an astonishing record as the only other Christmas Mammal Count (CMC) record was on Nisbet Forest West Count on 26 December 2022!

Most unwanted were Wild Boar tracks seen during the count period at Archerwill (the animal was actually seen in November). The only previous record was of tracks seen on the Pike Lake count on 5 January 2019.

Indian Head had the most species seen or heard with 13, Odessa was the runner-up with 12 species.

No new species were added this past winter. The all-time provincial total of species seen or heard remains at 52, plus three species found dead and three others recorded only on the basis of tracks.

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

Explanation of entries in Table 1

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) but not on 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 only detected by tracks or by other means, or that are seen or heard only in the count period but not on count day, no numbers of individuals is given in Table 1. Species detected only by tracks are indicated by 't' in the table; those detected only by other means — dead animals 'm', more clearly identifiable chewing or digging 'd', dens or lodges 'L' (including Muskrat push-ups) and by smell 's.' 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 three, four and five 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.