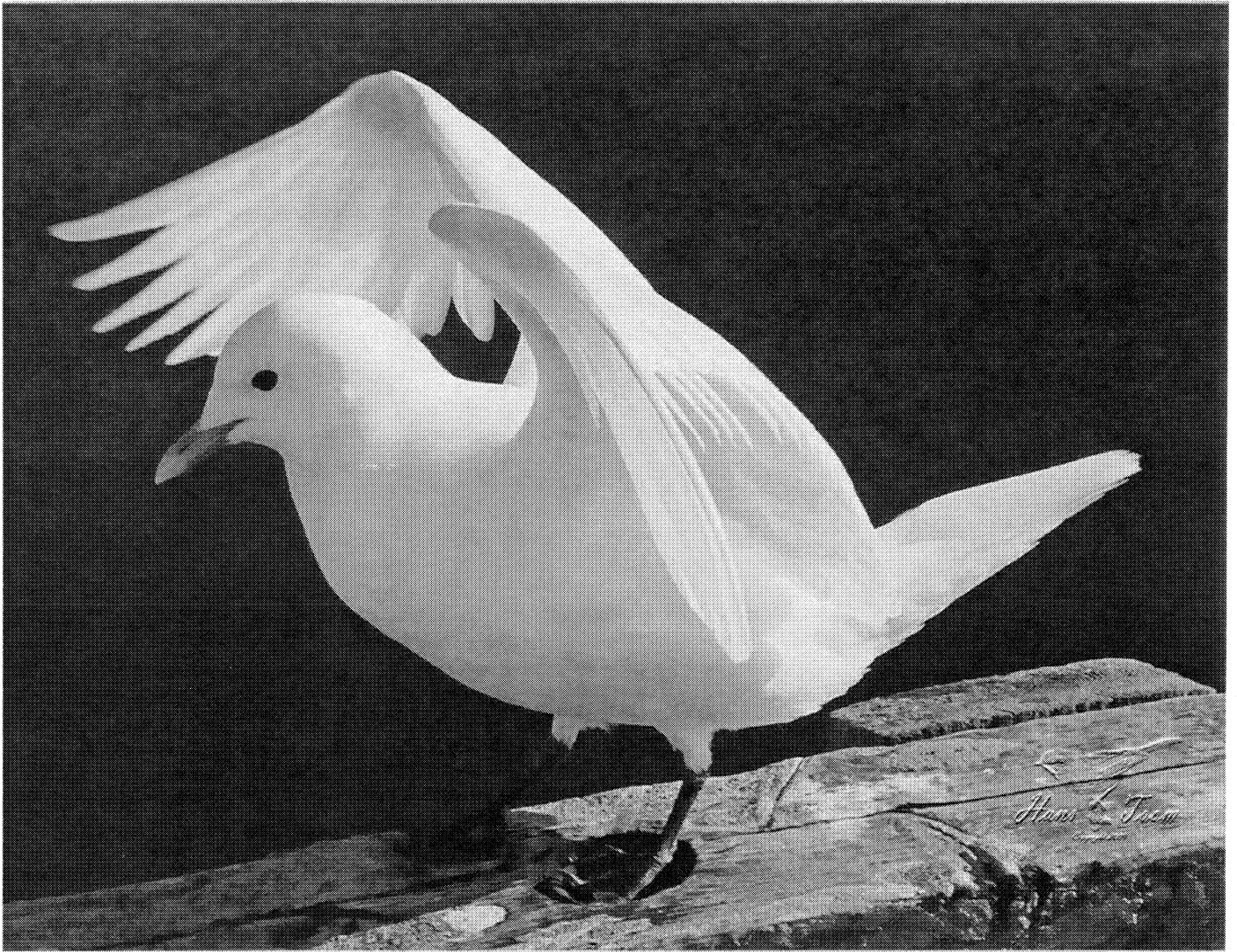


Nova Scotia Birds

A Quarterly Publication of the Nova Scotia Bird Society



Spring 2009

(The Birds of Winter)

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Formed in 1955, the Nova Scotia Bird Society is a member of Nature Nova Scotia and Nature Canada. The activities of the Society are centered on the observation and study of the bird life of this province and the preservation of habitat.

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Cover Photo: Among many images of the much-photographed IVORY GULL at Sambro, HRM, this one (Jan. 30) was most striking. [Photo Hans Toom]

NOVA SCOTIA BIRDS

SPRING 2009

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THE SPOTTING SCOPE

This is the second issue of "Nova Scotia Birds" assembled by Lise Cormier and Pam Mills. We had a "staff" meeting in May to establish a magazine production schedule, one that we hope is workable. The implications for you, the reader, are as follows: we hope to have issues in your hands at or near mid-September, mid-November, mid-March and mid-June. We hope this is not too ambitious, as we must always juggle the schedules and interests of the many people who volunteer to help write, lay out and mail the magazine. Stay tuned, as they say.

We used to present twice-annual reports from the Atlantic Bird Observatory regarding their spring and autumn migration monitoring, but unfortunately no one produces these now, and I have been unable to connect with anyone at the observatory to determine if the reports could re-commence. The ABO's data always added to our knowledge of the province's birdlife, and I look forward to the day when it again graces our pages.

Errata: in our previous issue we presented Suzanne Borkowski's last report as President under the banner "Past President's Report". That was my error, as Suzanne was still President when she made the report to the Society's last AGM. Also we neglected to include a photo of the current NSBS executive in last issue, so we offer it in this one, with our apologies.

See you next issue!

Blake Maybank

Editor

(Note: The two special sparrows mentioned in the photo on page 28 are Golden-crowned and Clay-colored.)



2009 NSBS Executive, left to right:

Mary Alward, Gail Bruhm, Suzanne Borkowski, Patrick Kelly, Pat McKay, David Hughes, Janey Hughes, Susann Myers, and Ulli Höger.

Missing: Gary Murray and Bob McDonald.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program, toward our mailing costs.



President's Corner

I hope that everyone enjoyed their summer. Summer, for many people, is a time to relax, take it easy, and try to escape from the "normal" world and find the time to recharge the batteries, so to speak. Birders, on the other hand, find this to be the time of the year when they tend to be at their busiest. Whether it is atlassing, tracking down unexpected birds (without the worry of winter roads), going on field trips, or just taking a peek at what birds in the area are up to, society members are in many ways like the birds we watch. We try to get as much done as possible during the summer months. Likely the biggest difference is that at least the birds don't seem to mind the flies, and many actually eat them. I have yet to find a place on the point count forms for the number of mosquitoes seen and/or heard. I have also discovered another advantage of taking my MacBook atlassing with me. It makes a great flyswatter, if you don't mind a bit of blood on the case! And don't get me started on deer flies!

I have already been able to make good use of the atlas results that have come in to date. I had a couple from Texas who joined my Herbert River Trail walk. They had just arrived in the province, and were going to be staying here for at least a month. In conversation, I found out that they were specifically hoping to see Cape May and Bay-breasted Warblers. I could not give them much advice, as I have yet to see either species myself, although I know that many of the avid birders that I know have seen them, and can recognize their song. I told them that I would check with the atlas maps and e-mail them to point them to areas that may make for better hunting. You can imagine my surprise when I looked at the maps for both species. There were whole areas where they had been seen in the first atlas, but not after three years of data in the current atlas. No wonder I had never come across one, but long-time birders had.

In a way it is the reverse of the situation of a different species, but in this case it is with respect to Christmas bird counts. Having only started just over a decade ago, in the two counts that I do regularly (Wolfville and West Hants), I start to get worried when it is halfway through the day and I have not come across a flicker. I had to be reminded by another birder that 20 years ago, a flicker on a Christmas bird count, would have been a great bird to get as they did not normally winter over.

Distribution changes like that are not what one would think of over such a short period of time. It is the ability to monitor these changes that make systematic surveys of birds, whether every year at Christmas, or every 20 years in an atlas, so important. That is something that I hope we all keep in mind, the next time we grumble about the cold or the mosquitoes.

Nova Scotia Birds Schedule: I recently met with the editor and production team and we have worked out a draft schedule for each issue of the publication. The goal is to have the printed copy in members' hands about four months after the end of each recording period. One factor of which I was not aware is that the reporting "seasons" differ in length: March–May, June–July, August–November, and December–February. Thus while it is a quarterly publication, it does not arrive every three months. We are also looking at ways to allow members to access the original colour versions of the images that are in each issue.

Board Members: We will be having some vacancies on the board of directors for the coming year. The society can really only be as active at the organizational level, and either maintain existing programs or look at new ones, if there are sufficient people on the board who are willing to participate. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact me.

Patrick Kelly
President, Nova Scotia Bird Society

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Patricia McKay - Secretary

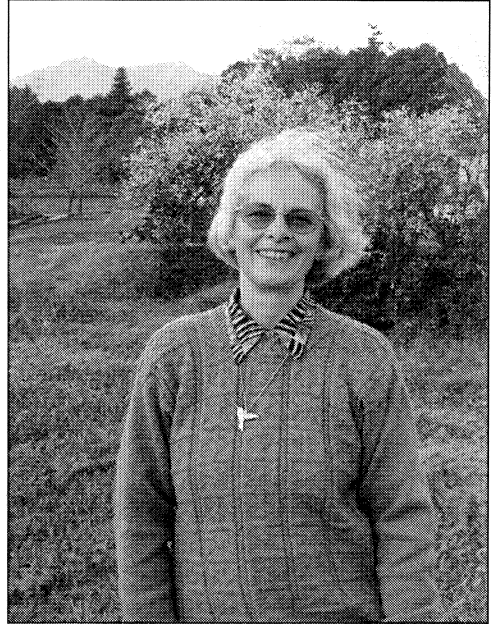
Pat McKay has been the Secretary for the Nova Scotia Bird Society since October of 2004. She was born in Newcastle-on-Tyne in Northeast England, and grew up in a big old rambling Vicarage on the Northumbrian shore, which had a large garden and an orchard. It was a great place for a child to play, and learn about the natural world of birds and plants.

After graduating from Durham University Pat took a job teaching High School mathematics at St. Andrews in Scotland. She married Alasdair McKay, a Geophysicist, whom she met at university, and who had received an offer to work in Canada. They moved into a house at 35 Edward Street in Dartmouth in 1973. Some of you may have seen a rare bird at that location, since Pat still lives there today and reports her sightings on NatureNS and the RBA.

The McKays have two children: a son, Robert, who now works at a German bank in London as an IT specialist; and a daughter, Elizabeth, who followed in her mother's footsteps and became a teacher. She now works at the French Immersion school, Shannon Park Elementary.

Besides Nature, Pat loves to travel. She and her family spent a year in Japan in 1990. Her husband was participating in a PhD exchange program and Pat welcomed the opportunity to learn about a new culture and explore the country's natural diversity. She's also travelled to Austria, Hungary, Italy, Turkey, Cuba, Portugal, Brazil, Costa Rica, Belize, Mexico, Panama and Hawaii. Birding is usually a top priority, but natural history and culture aren't far behind. The trip to Turkey satisfied all her interests. She got to see Hoopoes, Rollers, and Golden Orioles, but also saw Troy, Ephesus, and Termessos. It was Hawaii, however, that provided her with one of her more unusual and interesting bird sightings: an I'WI, a type of Hawaiian Honeycreeper, an endemic species, now endangered on some of the Hawaiian Islands.

Pat is an active, outdoor person who enjoys cycling, walking, hiking, canoeing, riding horses, owling, as well as painting and basket-weaving. She's also extremely well-organized and an excellent secretary. We sincerely hope she'll remain on the Board for several years to come!



Suzanne Borkowski
Past President



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Central Park in the Dark

By Marie Winn

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008, 295 pages, ISBN — 13:978-0-374-12011-5

I love birds, so it was with some reservations that I approached Marie Winn's new novel, *Central Park in the Dark* (sequel to *Red-tails in Love*). There was a Screech Owl on the cover, which was a good sign, but the introduction refers to raccoons, bats, crickets, moths, and even slug sex; none of which particularly appeals to me.

I quickly discovered that Marie Winn was not only a captivating and entertaining author, but easily able to interest her readers in a variety of topics. She has a way of writing as if she is speaking directly to you, sharing confidences, letting you in on secrets unknown to the general public. Her descriptions of how she overcame her instinctive fear of the dark in order to indulge her curiosity, and her discoveries of a whole new world, unrecognizable from Central Park in the daytime, can easily touch a core in every naturalist. The silence once people are gone and traffic diminished is captivating. You find yourself listening intensely for the clicking of a beetle, the rustling of mice in leaf litter, the odd yips and yowls of squabbling raccoons, right along with her.

I learned a lot about moths and the challenges of identifying them. I learned something about bats and lacy, green-winged cicadas, roosting patterns of Robins, Grackles, Starlings, and of course owls and hawks. I couldn't quite appreciate the beauty of slug sex, but I was fascinated by the tales of Little Red and her Riviera Gray, and of Spiffy and Unmade Bed, and of course Pale Male and Lola, the Red-tailed Hawks. If I could make one suggestion to Ms. Winn and her publishers for improvement it would be to add a map of Central Park denoting her special places like Warbler Rock, the Moth Tree, and Charles' Garden.

In summation, *Central Park in the Dark* is a great read and a true learning experience.

Suzanne Borkowski

Winter Nature: Common Mammals, Birds, Trees and Shrubs of the Maritime Provinces

By Merritt Gibson & Soren Bondrup-Nielsen

Illustrated by Twila Rebar-Decoste

Gaspereau Press, Kentville, Nova Scotia, 2008, paperback, 222 pages, ISBN — 978-1-55447-059-4

This is a revised edition of a book first published in 1980 by Lancelot Press of Hantsport, Nova Scotia. The new edition has been expanded, and now covers all three Maritime Provinces. "Winter Nature" is a book for people who are active outdoors during the winter season, and who are curious and wish to learn more about the nature and wildlife they are most likely to encounter on their excursions.

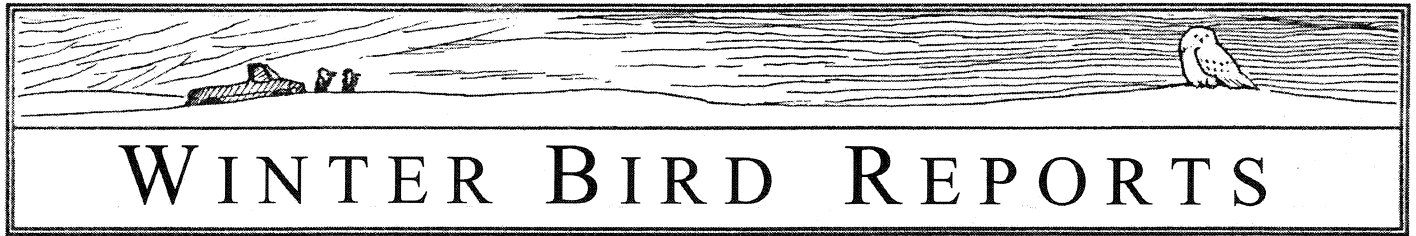
After a short introduction about winter and snow, the book is divided into three main sections: mammals, birds, and trees and shrubs. Each section includes all the common species you may see, giving a brief description of each one, with black and white line drawings to show their main features for identification. The section on mammals includes a clearly illustrated and useful section on mammal tracks.

The section on birds specifically shows the birds in their winter plumages, something which other bird field guides aimed at beginning birders do not always do. I found the line drawings perfectly adequate to show the main features for identification, but perhaps beginners would find colour illustrations easier to use. There does however appear to be one mistake: on page 77, the drawing of a Black Scoter is mislabelled as a White-winged Scoter, and vice versa.

The illustrations really come into their own in the section on trees and shrubs. Each species has detailed close-up drawings of the twigs with buds, in addition to a small scale profile of the whole tree.

In summary, if you would like to have only one book to carry with you which will help you identify most of what you meet outdoors in winter in the Maritimes, this may be just the book for you.

Pat McKay



WINTER BIRD REPORTS

NOTE: The Seasonal Reports frequently use the following abbreviations (counties are in *italics*):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>ad. = adult
 APBS = Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary, <i>Cumberland</i>
 Bch = beach
 BPI = Bon Portage Island (a.k.a. Outer Island), <i>Shelburne</i>
 Brier I. = Brier Island, <i>Digby</i>
 CBC = Christmas Bird Count
 CBI = Cape Breton Island
 CBRM = <i>Cape Breton Regional Municipality</i>
 Crystal Crescent = Crystal Crescent Beach Provincial Park, <i>HRM</i>
 CSI = Cape Sable Island, <i>Shelburne</i>
 <i>fide</i> = "according to" or "On the authority of"
 HRM = <i>Halifax Regional Municipality</i>
 I. = Island</p> | <p>imm. = immature
 juv. = juvenile
 m.obs. = many observers
 Martinique = Martinique Beach Provincial Park, <i>HRM</i>
 NAMC = North American Migration Count
 P.P. = Provincial Park
 Pen. = Peninsula
 ph. = photographed
 PPP = Point Pleasant Park, <i>HRM</i>
 R. = River
 Seal I. = Seal Island, <i>Yarmouth</i>
 thr. = throughout the season
 tr. = trail
 var.obs. = various observers</p> |
|---|--|

Loons Through Grebes

By John Belbin

An amazing 71 COMMON LOONS showed up on the CSI Christmas count, while 89 Common Loons were present on the Lunenburg CBC, several weeks later.

Cape Breton won the grebe sweepstakes: 37 HORNED GREBES were noted during the Glace Bay CBC, while the Louisbourg CBC tallied a remarkable 82 RED-NECKED GREBES.

Red-throated Loon

CBCs	18 counts	48	
Dec. 1	Riverside Park, <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM
Dec. 1	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	6	BLM, DAM
Dec. 6	Dominion Bch., <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL
Dec. 6	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	6	KJM
Dec. 7	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	4	WAN
Dec. 12	The Guzzle, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS
Dec. 15	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	1	DAM
Dec. 15	Morden, <i>Kings</i>	2	JOB
Jan. 10	Morden, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Jan. 25	Louisbourg	1	CSM, TMM
Jan. 31	Sydney Mines, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Feb. 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM

Common Loon

CBCs	22 counts	481	
Dec. 7	Margaretsville <i>Anna.</i>	3	WAN
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	71	
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	11	HAT
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	89	
Feb. 8	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	3, 5	LEL
Jan. 10	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	9	KJM
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	12	KJM
Jan. 21	Louis Head Bch., <i>Shel.</i>	29	Gloria Gilbert
Jan. 31	Lower Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	7	BLM
Jan. 31	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	9	CJF
Feb. 1	Terence Bay, <i>HRM</i>	6	RBS
Feb. 16	Wine Hbr., <i>Guys.</i>	8	RIB
Pied-billed Grebe			
Dec. 21	Yarmouth CBC	1	
Dec. 23	The Sydneys CBC	1	

Jan. 17,			
22, 24	E. Chester, <i>Lun.</i>	1	CJF
Feb. 10-18	Daniel's Head, <i>CSI</i>	1	RAH, MUN

Horned Grebe

CBCs	14 counts	190	
Dec. 6	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	14	KJM
Dec. 19	St. Margarets Bay, <i>HRM</i>	7	BLM, DAM
Dec. 27	Annapolis Royal CBC	26	
Dec. 28	Glace Bay CBC	37	
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	5	HAT
Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	29	
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	25	
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	5	KJM
Feb. 7	Fishermans Hbr., <i>Guys.</i>	1	KJM

Red-necked Grebe

CBCs	17 counts	309	
Dec. 1	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	several	JAH
Dec. 7	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	2	WAN
Dec. 13	Chebucto Head, <i>HRM</i>	4	MIK
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	73	
Dec. 20	Louisbourg CBC	82	
Dec. 27	Annapolis CBC	59	
Dec. 27	St. Peter's CBC	49	
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	1	HAT
Dec. 30	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	4	CJF
Jan. 10	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2	KJM
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Jan. 10	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan. 22	Shag End, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM
Jan. 26	Jeddore, <i>HRM</i>	1	LUB

Tubenoses through Cormorants

By Eric Mills

Shearwaters, and a late-reported booby, dominate this season's report, which I'll describe chronologically. A **MANX SHEARWATER** off Chebucto Hd., *HRM*, was photographed by MIK Dec. 13. Then two weeks later, on Jan. 6, DAM clearly described a lone **GREATER SHEARWATER** at the same location. Finally, a small black and white shearwater was rescued from the roadside near Louisbourg during the second week of January and then released without being photographed -- no further details are available. It is hard to account for these late-lingering tubenoses: is it fluke, climate change, or the increasing attention by birders to coastal sea-watching in early winter?

An apparent adult **BROWN BOOBY** was watched for a few minutes off Prospect High Hd., *HRM*, Sept. 27, 2008, the day before Hurricane Kyle. The observer reported most of the plumage features of the species, but was unable to make direct size comparisons with Gannets in the same area.

The report of **75 DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS** (and only three GREATS) on the Port L'Hebert CBC, Dec. 21, was exceptional, even for early winter. This report requires closer scrutiny.

GREATER SHEARWATER				Dec. 1	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
Jan. 6	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	2	DAM	Dec. 2	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
MANX SHEARWATER				Dec. 7	Pictou Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	4	KJM, Charlie Kendall
Dec. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, FLL	Dec. 9	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
SMALL SHEARWATER SP.				Dec. 29	W. Dublin, <i>Lun.</i>	1 imm.	ELM, AHM
~Jan. 16	near Louisbourg	1	<i>fide</i> Pearl Magee	Jan. 3	Sydney R. Bridge, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
BROWN BOOBY?				Great Cormorant			
Sept. 27	High Hd., Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	Peter Browne	CBCs	17 counts	672	
Northern Gannet				Dec. 2	Shag End, <i>HRM</i>	10	BLM, DAM
CBCs	10 counts	149		Dec. 6	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	1 imm.	ELM
Dec. 1	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	50+	BLM, DAM	Dec. 15	Brier I.	62	ELM, AHM
Dec. 7	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	12+	WAN, NSBS	Dec. 29	Dublin Shore, <i>Lun.</i>	7	ELM, AHM
Dec. 15	off Brier I.	36	ELM, AHM	Dec. 30	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	5	CJF
Double-crested Cormorant				Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	2 imm.	KJM, Charlie Kendall
CBCs	13 counts	122		Jan. 27	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	5	LOC, DCO

Hérons

By Ulli Höger

Our GREAT BLUE HERONS are good indicators of the arrival of winter. In December herons and egrets were still a common sight: not as many as during summer and fall, but with individuals still present in suitable habitat. With the loss of open freshwater these numbers dropped and by mid-December observations became rare.

American Bittern			
Dec. 6	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	DAW
Great Blue Heron			
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	13	var. obs.
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	1	CBC
Dec. 15	Brier I. CBC	1	CBC
Dec. 21	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Dec. 21	Port L'Hebert CBC	1	CBC
Dec. 26	French Basin Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	1	BLM
Dec. 28	Riverport, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 29	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 29	Truro CBC	!	CBC
Jan. 3	Riverdale, <i>Digby</i>	1	Susanne Wagner
Jan. 4	Pictou CBC	1	CBC
Feb. 8, 16	CSI	1	MUN; JON
Great Egret			
Dec. 2	CSI	2	MUN
Dec. 4-8	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Dec. 5	Goshen, <i>Guys.</i>	1	Harriet MacMillan
Dec. 7	CSI	3	MUN
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	1	JAH, Peter McLeod
Dec. 15	Oakland Rd., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 15	Port Hawkesbury, <i>Inv.</i>	1	DJO
Dec. 15-16	Indian Pt., <i>Lun.</i>	1	John Robart



A GREAT BLUE HERON, Jan 3, near inland Riverdale, Digby, makes a pretty picture, but it may have stayed at its peril in this winter's snows. [Photo Susanne Wagner]

Waterfowl

By John Belbin

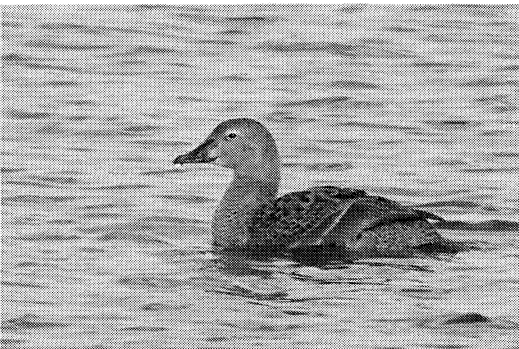
The place to view most waterfowl over the winter is clearly Pictou Hbr., with some truly astounding numbers being recorded.

A **GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** (Greenland sub-species) caused some excitement by appearing in Halifax Harbour, and remaining for most of the winter. It was initially seen in the Chocolate L. area; FLL then identified it on Horseshoe I. in Northwest Arm, where it remained for many observers to see and some to feed. IAM was asked to comment on it during the CBC news, during which another observer claimed it had been at Ashburton since October.

Among the many **BRANT** at Daniel Hd., CSI, MUN reported a single black-bellied individual, the first one seen there. A rare report of 50 Brant being seen at Second Peninsula near Lunenburg, well outside their normal haunts, was posted by JAH.

A single **TUNDRA SWAN** was well photographed by Bill Crosby in the Back Hbr. of Lockeport, Shel., Dec. 23.

Two **GADWALL** seen in Shad Bay by BLM were the first record for the Prospect Peninsula. A **EURASIAN WIGEON** seemed to spend all of December in Sullivans Pond, being seen by many different people. The **NORTHERN SHOVELER** seen by several people on Digby Neck is probably the one that has been in the area for over a year.

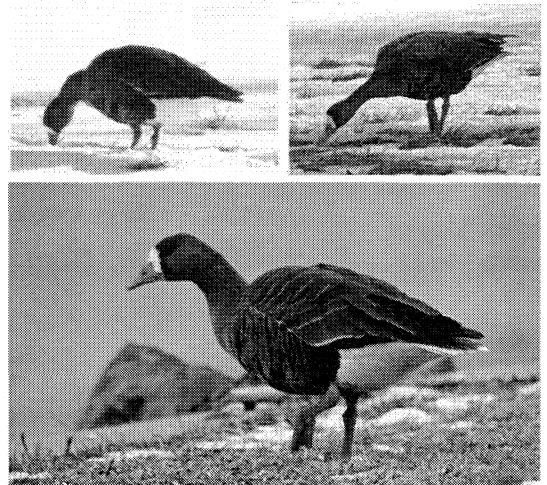


A **KING EIDER** (or “queen eider” as she came to be known) wintered off Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax (here Jan. 25). Even at a distance, it stood out among female Common Eiders with its all-dark, somewhat “scooped” bill, and pale patches around its eye and base of bill. [Photo Richard Stern]

A male **CANVASBACK**, a rare visitor, was well photographed in Glace Bay Hbr. by ALM in January, and another showed up in Yarmouth in mid February. A **TUFTED DUCK** seen at Trenton by KJM was most probably an eclipse male. Later five were seen in the nearby Pictou area.

A female **KING EIDER** was seen off Point Pleasant Park by AHG and subsequently confirmed by Anders Adolfsen. It remained there for some time and was referred to as a “Queen Eider” by some.

BARROW’S GOLDENEYES were present in their expected over-wintering sites, such as Halifax Harbour (especially the Bedford Basin), and in the Sydney area. **Thirty** on the CB Highlands CBC were unexpected and unprecedented.



This winter’s much sought-after **WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** of the Greenland subspecies (some think full species) *flavirostris*, spent January-February in the heart of Halifax. It was first discovered on a playing field near Chocolate L. (top left, Jan. 6) and at the end often grazed dangerously in the middle of the Armdale roundabout (top right, Feb. 23). One of the best of many photos (below, Feb. 7) was obtained at its favourite grazing area at the head of the NW Arm. [Photos: top left, Gavin Alward; top right, Hans Toom; bottom, Mike King]

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

Jan. 5	Chocolate L., HRM	1	MAA
Jan. 6-			
Mar. 12	Horseshoe Is., Park, HRM	1	FLL; m.obs.
Snow Goose			
Dec. 31	Freeport, Digby	1	CCA
Jan. 1	CSI	1	MUN
Jan. 24	Sherose I., Shel.	2	MUN
Feb. 8	Barrington, Shel.	4	MUN
Brant			
Dec. 6	Port Joli Sanctuary, Queens	1	ELM
Dec. 12	Daniel Head, CSI		MUN
Dec. 14	Cape Sable Island CBC	4	
Dec. 22	Second Peninsula, Lun.	50	JAH
Jan. 17	Daniel Head, CSI		TEC

Cackling Goose

Dec. 14	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1	FLL
Canada Goose			
CBCs	18 counts	22,909	
Dec. 4	Currys Corner, Hants	6-700	JOB
Dec. 6	Dominion Bch., CBRM	500+	LEL
Dec. 6	Port Joli Sanctuary, Queens	700	ELM
Dec. 6	Big I., Pict.	800	KJM
Dec. 19	Bisset L., HRM	600	BLM
Dec. 25, 31	Riverport, Lun.	225, 465	JAH; ELM
Dec. 30	Currys Corner, Hants	80	JWW
Dec. 31	Martinique Bch., HRM	lots	LUB
Feb. 11	East R., Pict.	300	ROH
Feb. 14	Lingan, CBRM	300	CSM, TMM
Feb. 22, 28	Port Joli, Queens	1500, 1150	ELM, AHM; JAH

TUNDRA SWANDec. 23 Lockeport, *Shel.* 1 Bill Crosby

A TUNDRA SWAN, risking freeze-up at Lockeport, Dec. 23, supplied one of our few winter records. [Photo Bill Crosby]

Wood Duck

Dec. 7 Bible Hill, *Col.* 1 JBO
 Dec. 14 Canso Dam, *Inv.* 2 TCR
 Jan. 11 Duncans Cove, *HRM* 1 f. Dominique Gusset

Gadwall

Dec. 2 Canard Pond, *Kings* 2 RBS
 Dec. 9 Tufts Cove, Dartmouth 1 BLM
 Dec. 14 Halifax-Dartmouth CBC 9
 Jan. 4 Pictou Harbour CBC 21
 Jan. 17 Shad Bay, *HRM* 2 BLM
 Jan. 18 Trenton, *Pict.* 4 KJM
 Jan. 18 Port Williams sewage ponds, *Kings* 1 m. JWW
 Jan. 25 Bedford, *HRM* 1 m. GMU
 Feb. 11 East R., *Pict.* 4 ROH
 Feb. 18 Three Fathom Hbr., *HRM* 1 SMB
 Feb. 23 Sambro, *HRM* 3 HAT

Eurasian Wigeon

CBCs 5 counts 9
 thr. Tufts Cove-Sullivan's Pond, *HRM* up to 3 var. obs
 thr. Glace Bay 2
 Jan. 24 Sherose I., *Shel.* 2 m. MUN
 Jan. 24 Daniels Hd., *CSI* 1 m. MUN

American Wigeon

CBCs 10 counts 542
 Dec. 2 Sullivans Pond, *HRM* BBU
 Dec. 4 Windsor Sewage Ponds, *Hants* 12 JOB
 Dec. 6 Dominion Bch., *CBRM* 21 LEL
 Dec. 7 Truro area, *Col.* 47 JBO
 Dec. 9 Tufts Cove, *HRM* 120 BLM, DAM
 Dec. 28 Glace Bay CBC 355
 Dec. 29 Sullivans Pond, *HRM* large flock JCZ
 Dec. 29 Kiwanis Pond, Truro 24 JBO
 Jan. 1 CSI 7 MUN
 Jan. 10 Horseshoe Is. Park, *HRM* 2 LOC
 Jan. 17 Cow Bay, *HRM* 10 HEK

American Black Duck

CBCs 32 counts 15,785
 Dec. 4 Windsor Sewage Ponds, *Hants* 50 JOB
 Dec. 6, 31 Martinique Bch, *HRM* 250, 32 BLM, DAM; LUB
 Dec. 10 Port Williams sewage, *Kings* 400 JWW
 Jan. 10 Sheet Hbr., *HRM* KJM
 Jan. 10 Sober I., *HRM* 50 KJM
 Jan. 17 Daniel Head, *CSI* 350 TEC
 Jan. 17 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* large flock Kathleen MacAuley
 Jan. 18 E. Petpeswick Inlet, *HRM* 220 PMC, SEM

Feb. 3, 17 Conrad Marsh, *HRM* 107 DMV
 Feb. 11 Pictou Causeway, *Pict.* 300 ROH
 Feb. 28 Port Joli, *Queens* 128 JAH, DPO

Mallard

CBCs 28 counts 5930
 Dec. 14 Port Williams sewage ponds, *Kings* 200 JCT
 Jan. 5 New Minas, *Kings* 400 JCT
 Jan. 22 Seaforth, *HRM* 50 SEM
 Jan. 24, 31 Oakland, *Lun.* 135; 118 JAH
 Feb. 27 New Minas, *Kings* 300+ JCT

Blue-winged Teal

Feb. 26 Lake Milo, *Yar.* 1 MUN

Northern Shoveler

Dec. 10 Freeport, *Digby* 1 CAH
 Dec. 14-19 Bissett L., *HRM* 1 var. obs.
 Dec. 27 Annapolis Royal CBC 6

Northern Pintail

CBCs 9 counts 40
 Dec. 2 Saxon St. Pond, *Kings* 19 RBS
 Dec. 6 Big I., *Pict.* 2 KJM
 Dec. 8 Pictou Causeway, *Pict.* 1 KJM
 Dec. 19, Jan. 5 Conrad Marsh, *HRM* 3 DMV
 Dec. 20 Bissett L., *HRM* 7 DOU
 Dec. 29, Jan. 1 Kiwanis Pond, Truro 2 JBO
 Jan. 1 CSI MUN
 Jan. 8 Sullivans Pond, *HRM* 1 BBU
 Jan. 17 Cow Bay, *HRM* 4 HEK
 Jan. 17 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* 1 m. Kathleen MacAuley
 Jan. 18 Trenton, *Pict.* 2 KJM
 Jan. 21 Eastern Passage, *HRM* 2 BLM
 Jan. 24 Cole Hbr., *HRM* 2 SEM
 Feb. 1 Blue Rocks, *Lun.* 9 JAH
 Feb. 5-6 Eastern Passage, *HRM* 4 BLM, BBU

GREEN-WINGED 'EURASIAN' TEAL

Feb. 23 Lilydale L., *Lun.* 1 m. Kevin Lantz

Green-winged Teal (72 on 13 CBCs)

CBCs 13 counts 72
 Dec. 1 3 Fathom Hbr., *HRM* 18 BLM, DAM
 Dec. 13 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* 20 MIK
 Dec. 29- Jan. 1 Kiwanis Pond, Truro 3 JBO
 Feb. 18 Three Fathom Hbr., *HRM* 1 SMB

CANVASBACK

Jan.? Glace Bay Hbr., *CBRM* 1 m. ALM
 Feb. 18 Lake Milo, *Yar.* 1 MUN

Redhead

Dec. 1-4 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* 1 BLM, DAM

Ring-necked Duck

Dec. 2 Bissett L., *HRM* 7 BLM, DAM
 Dec. 5-10 Hirtles Pond, *Lun.* 1 ELM
 Dec. 14 Antigonish CBC 1
 Dec. 14 Halifax-Dartmouth CBC 8
 Dec. 19 Bissett L., *HRM* 4 BLM, DAM
 Dec. 26 Eskasoni CBC 23
 Jan. 25, 30 Bedford, *HRM* 1 m. GMU
 Jan. 26 Jeddore, *HRM* 1 LUB
 Feb. 1 Sydney R., *CBRM* 1 m. DBM

TUFTED DUCK

Jan. 18 Trenton, *Pict.* 1 KJM
 Feb. 14 Pictou Causeway 5 MIK

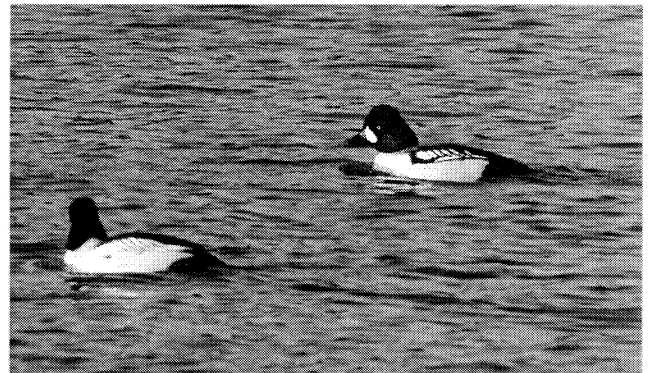
Greater Scaup

CBCs 17 counts 5105
 Dec. 2 Back Hbr., *Lun.* 3 JAH
 Dec. 6 Dominion Bch., *CBRM* 46 LEL
 Dec. 8 Pictou Causeway, *Pict.* 700+ KJM
 Dec. 14 Halifax-Dartmouth CBC 180
 Dec. 19 Bissett L., *HRM* 200 BLM, DAM
 Dec. 26 Eskasoni CBC 280
 Dec. 27 Annapolis Royal CBC 284
 Dec. 28 Glace Bay CBC 925
 Dec. 28 Strait of Canso CBC 12

Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	93		
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	435		
Jan. 4	Pictou Harbour CBC	2747		
Jan. 17	Daniel Head, <i>CSI</i>	500	TEC	
Jan. 22	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	24	SEM	
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	110	DBM	
Jan. 31	Sydney Mines- North Sydney	200+	DBM	
Feb. 5	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	200	BLM	
Feb. 11	Pictou Causeway, <i>Pict.</i>	2500	ROH	
Feb. 14	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	410	JAH	
Feb. 16	Indian Hbr., <i>Guys.</i>	30	RIB	
Feb. 22	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	100	CSM, TMM	
Feb. 28	Port Joli, <i>Queens</i>	400	JAH, DPO	
Lesser Scaup				
	CBCs	8 counts	176	
Dec. 14	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	120		
Dec. 19	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	20	BLM, DAM	
Jan. 2	Lunenburg Hbr.	a few	ELM	
Jan. 4	Pictou Harbour CBC	35		
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	2	LEL	
Jan. 10	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	2	KJM	
Jan. 18	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	a few	KJM	
Jan. 22	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2	SEM	
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	4	DBM	
Feb. 1	Sydney R., <i>CBRM</i>	2	DBM	
Feb. 5	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	BLM	
Feb. 11	East R., <i>Pict.</i>	50	ROH	
Feb. 14	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	11	JAH	
KING EIDER				
Dec. 14	Chebucto Head	1 m.	FLL	
Jan. 11-				
Feb. 14	PPP	1 f.	AGH; m.obs.	
Common Eider				
	CBCs	20 counts	7861	
Dec. 3	Martinique	20	LUB	
Dec. 7	Margaretville, <i>Anna.</i>	40+	WAN	
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	1,433		
Dec. 14	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1,852		
Dec. 15	Brier I., CBC, <i>Digby</i>	113	ELM	
Dec. 20	Louisbourg CBC	1,700		
Dec. 27	St. Peter's CBC	1,509		
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen. <i>Lun.</i>	lots	HAT	
Dec. 31	Martinique	lots	LUB	
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	34	LEL	
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	18	KJM	
Jan. 10	Morden, <i>Kings</i>	small flock	RBS	
Feb. 22	Louisbourg	300	CSM, TMM	
Harlequin Duck				
Dec. 3	Crystal Crescent PP., <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT	
Dec. 7	Margaretville, <i>Anna.</i>	6	WAN	
Dec. 12	Arisaig, <i>Ant.</i>	2	JOK	
Dec. 14	Hartlen Pt., CBC	1 m.	CBC	
Dec. 15	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	2	DAM	
Dec. 16	Belfry Gut, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Ian Harte	
Dec. 19	Shag End, <i>HRM</i>	8	BLM	
Dec. 20	Margaretville, Kingston CBC	3		
Dec. 21	Port L'Hebert CBC	54		
Dec. 27	Annapolis CBC	1		
Dec. 31	Deep Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 f.	HAT	
Jan. 10	Balcomb Hd., Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	11	KJM	
Jan. 10	Crystal Crescent PP., <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	BLM	
Jan. 17	Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	4+	BLM	
Jan. 22	Shag End, <i>HRM</i>	5	BLM	
Feb. 28	Bacarro, <i>Shel.</i>	1 m.	JAH, DPO	
Scoter sp				
Feb. 14	Mira Gut, <i>CBRM</i>	150	CSM, TMM	
Surf Scoter				
	CBCs	20 counts	421	
Dec. 2	Lunenburg		JAH	
Dec. 7	Margaretville, <i>Anna.</i>	3	WAN	
Dec. 9	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	2	BLM, DAM	
Dec. 15	Morden, <i>Kings</i>	42	JOB	
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	5	HAT	
Jan. 4	Sandy Cove Bch., <i>HRM</i>	5	HAT	
Jan. 6	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	4	DAM	
Jan. 9,				
Feb. 8	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	37, 36	LEL	
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	11	KJM	
Feb. 2	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	JBO	
White-winged Scoter				
	CBCs	23 counts	1064	
Dec. 15	Morden, <i>Kings</i>	19	JOB	
Dec. 23	The Sydneys CBC	410		
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen. <i>Lun.</i>	11	HAT	
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	28	LEL	
Jan. 31	Sydney Mines- North Sydney	230+	DBM	
Feb. 8	Mira Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	250	LEL	
Feb. 14	Catalone, <i>CBRM</i>	60	CSM, TMM	
Black Scoter				
	CBCs	15 counts	835	
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	141		
Dec. 21	Port L'Hebert CBC	166		
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	10	HAT	
Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	371		
Jan. 6	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	3	DAM	
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	47	LEL	
Jan. 9	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	5	Anders Adolfsson	
Jan. 11	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 f.	Dominique Gusset	
Feb. 2	Tribune Head, <i>HRM</i>	1	JBO	
Feb. 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM	
Long-tailed Duck				
	CBCs	23 counts	1635	
Dec. 3	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	8	LUB	
Dec. 6	Dominion Bch., <i>CBRM</i>	3	LEL	
Dec. 7	Margaretville, <i>Anna.</i>	30+	WAN	
Dec. 10	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	common	CAH	
Dec. 27	St Peter's CBC	232		
Dec. 31	Martinique	36	LUB	
Jan. 4	Pictou Harbour CBC	257		
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	9	LEL	
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	58	KJM	
Jan. 17	Daniel Head, <i>CSI</i>	65	TEC	
Jan. 18, 26	Martinique	31, 10	PMC, SEM; LUB	
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	15	DBM	
Feb. 2	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	85	CJF	
Feb. 16	Indian Pt., <i>Lun.</i>	150+	CJF	
Bufflehead				
	CBCs	15 counts	867	
Dec. 2	Advocate Hbr., <i>Cum.</i>	few	JBO	
Dec. 6	Martinique	35	BLM, DAM	
Dec. 9	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	40	BLM, DAM	
Dec. 10	Freeport, <i>Digby</i>	20	CAH	
Dec. 19	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	42	JAH	
Dec. 25	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	14	JAH	
Dec. 27	Annapolis Royal CBC	314		
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	12	HAT	
Dec. 30	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	50+	CJF	
Jan. 5	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	2	DMV	
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	7	LEL	
Jan. 9	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	6	Anders Adolfsson	
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	4	KJM	
Jan. 10	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	25	JAH, DPO	
Jan. 18	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	few	KJM	
Jan. 26	Martinique	35	LUB	
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	4	DBM	
Feb. 1	Terence Bay, <i>HRM</i>	4	RBS	
Common Goldeneye				
	CBCs	24 counts	3565	
Dec. 3	Martinique	15	LUB	
Dec. 7	White Rock, <i>Kings</i>	14	Andrew Steeves	
Dec. 8	Middle River Dyke, <i>Pict.</i>	200	KJM	
Dec. 23	The Sydneys CBC	312		
Dec. 25	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	16	DMV	
Dec. 26	Eskasoni CBC	293		
Dec. 27	Melanson, <i>Kings</i>	6	RBS	

Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	8	HAT
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	470	
Jan. 4	Pictou Harbour CBC	1,280	
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	13	LEL
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	15	KJM
Jan. 10	Second Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	100	JAH
Jan. 23	Pugwash Hbr., <i>Cum.</i>	50	VIR
Jan. 26	Martinique	12	LUB
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	10	DBM
Feb. 8	Mira Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL
Feb. 11	Pictou Causeway, <i>Pict.</i>	900	ROH
Feb. 14	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	500	JAH
Feb. 16	Indian Hbr., <i>Guys.</i>	6	RIB
Barrow's Goldeneye			
CBCs	9 counts	60	
thr.	Halifax Harbour	up to 8	var.obs.
Dec. 23	The Sydneys CBC	11	
Dec. 27	CB Highlands CBC	30!	
Dec. 27	Melanson, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Dec. 28	Whynachts Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	DAM
Jan. 3	Point Edward, <i>CBRM</i>	1 m.	DBM
Jan. 3	Coxheath, <i>CBRM</i>	6 m., 4 f	DBM
Jan. 10	Second Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	1 m.	JAH
Jan. 31	North Sydney, <i>CBRM</i>	3	DBM
Feb. 1	Sydney R., <i>CBRM</i>	4	DBM
Feb. 14	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CSM, TMM
Feb. 21	Martinique	1 m.	ELM
Feb. 22	Port Joli Hbr., <i>Queens</i>	1 m., 2 f.	ELM, AHM
Hooded Merganser			
CBCs	11 counts	209	
Dec. 1	Haliburton Gut, <i>Pict.</i>	80	KJM
Dec. 5	Rhodes Corner, <i>Lun.</i>	lots	JAH
Dec. 5	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JBO
Dec. 6	Petpeswick Inlet, <i>HRM</i>	25	BLM
Dec. 6	Indian Path, <i>Lun.</i>	25	JAH
Dec. 28	Whnachts Pt., <i>HRM</i>	30	DAM
Jan. 4	Sambro Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2 pair	HAT
Jan. 10, 26	Jeddore, <i>HRM</i>	2; 3	LUB
Jan. 10	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	10	KJM
Jan. 10	Quoddy R., <i>HRM</i>	7	KJM
Jan. 17	Shad Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2	BLM
Jan. 18	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	30+	KJM
Jan. 28	Sambro Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2	PMU
Common Merganser			
CBCs	29 counts	2417	
Dec. 7	White Rock, <i>Kings</i>	8	Andrew Steeves
Dec. 8	Middle River Dyke, <i>Pict.</i>	250+	KJM
Dec. 9	Bisset L., <i>HRM</i>	20	BLM, DAM
Dec. 28	Mush-A-Mush R., <i>Lun.</i>	55	JAH
Jan. 4	Pictou Harbour CBC	1,302	
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	4	LEL

Jan. 10	Jeddore, <i>HRM</i>	many	LUB
Jan. 10	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	18	KJM
Jan. 23	Pugwash Hbr., <i>Cum.</i>	10	VIR
Feb. 1	Terence Bay, <i>HRM</i>	3	RBS
Feb. 11	Pictou Causeway, <i>Pict.</i>	800	ROH
Feb. 14	Baleine, <i>CBRM</i>	12	CSM, TMM



Although superficially more like a BARROW'S GOLDENEYE rather than its companion COMMON GOLDENEYE, this individual present through late winter (here Feb. 26) in Dartmouth Cove, is a hybrid, as indicated by its rather short white face patch and lack of a black bar between its breast and flank. [Photo Paul Murray]

Red-breasted Merganser

CBCs	27 counts	4089	
Dec. 1	Powell Point Park, <i>Pict.</i>	~1400	KJM
Dec. 6	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	540	KJM
Dec. 8	Conrad Bch, <i>HRM</i>	64	DMV
Dec. 29	Aspotogon Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	7	HAT
Dec. 31	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	5	LUB
Jan. 4	Pictou Harbour CBC	2,018	
Jan. 9	Main-a-Dieu, <i>CBRM</i>	22	LEL
Jan. 10	Jeddore, <i>HRM</i>	many	LUB
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	22	KJM
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	12	DBM
Feb. 2	Cape Forchu, <i>Yar.</i>	24	CJF
Feb. 11	Pictou Causeway, <i>Pict.</i>	100	ROH
Feb. 14	Baleine, <i>CBRM</i>	12	CSM, TMM

Ruddy Duck

Dec. 6	Port Joli Sanctuary, <i>Queens</i>	4	ELM
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	1	

Rails, Cranes and Galliformes

By Ulli Höger

Early in the season individuals from a number of rail species were reported. With the exception of a hearty SORA, and AMERICAN COOTS that persisted in some urban ponds, the dropping temperatures and loss of open freshwater forced most of these birds to move south.

As usual RING-NECKED PHEASANTS were seen in many parts of the province, with some observers reporting good numbers. We will have to see how this species made it through the winter, as their population is very sensitive to harsh winter conditions.

Virginia Rail

Dec. 14	Conrad Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC
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Sora

Dec. 14-			
Jan. 8	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TCR

American Coot

All season	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	3	var. obs.
All season	Kiwanis Pond, Truro, <i>Col.</i>	2	JBO

Dec. 6	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	RIV
Dec. 14	Antigonish Landing, <i>Ant.</i>	2	RFL
Dec. 15	Port La Tour, <i>Shel.</i>	1	JCZ

Ring-necked Pheasant

All season	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
All season	Musquodoboit area, <i>HRM</i>	abundant	VJH
Jan.	Bridgetown, <i>Anna.</i>	frequent	MCR
Dec. 14	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	>30	JCT, SMC

Jan. 12	Berwick, <i>Kings</i>	12	SLH
Jan. 20	Aylesford, <i>Kings</i>	8 m., 8 f.	SLH
Ruffed Grouse			
Dec. 7	Little River Falls, <i>HRM</i>	2	Andrew Steeves
Dec. 19	Shag End, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
Jan. 4	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan. 25	New Boston, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CSM, TSM
Jan. 31	Lower Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM

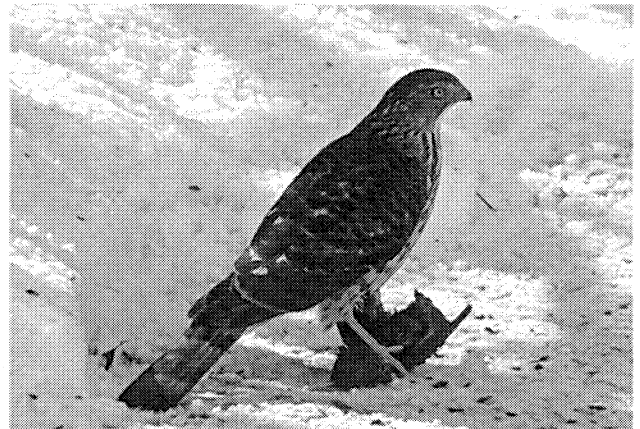
Feb. 4, 10, 15	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Spruce Grouse			
Dec. 6	Joggins, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Dec. 8	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	2	KFS
Jan. 24	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	Gloria Gilbert
Feb. 9	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	2	KFS

Diurnal Raptors

By Ulli Höger

Given the distance between sightings the two BLACK VULTURE reports from mid-December strongly suggest that there was more than one bird present at the time. Do we witness here another species expanding its range into our region, as sightings in recent years become more frequent?

An OSPREY crossing the Trans-Canada Highway while following South R. upstream was quite unseasonal, and an early Christmas gift for some birders winter list. Once again winter brought BALD EAGLES en masse to the Valley, making 'as usual' for a very successful eagle watch festival during the last weekend in January and the first weekend in February. The established feeding sites had at times up to 65 eagles present. The 28th annual "Cyril K Coldwell Eagle and Raptor Count" (CCC) for Hants County was held on Feb. 1 and reported a tally of 294 Bald Eagles in the area (~65% adults, 35% immatures). Along with the common seasonal accumulation of eagles in the valley this species was frequently reported from all parts of our province throughout the season.



As with the eagles, the epicenter of RED-TAILED HAWK abundance was the Valley. However, individuals were frequently reported from other parts of the province as well. Along with the reports of SHARP-SHINNED HAWKS raiding backyard feeders all over the place we had several creditable sightings of COOPER'S HAWKS this winter.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWKS, like this one in Yarmouth, are sometimes unwelcome around backyard feeders. But few would regret the loss of a Starling. [Photo Barbara Ruff]

Black Vulture

Mid Dec.	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TCR
Dec. 14, 15	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	1	ELM, CBC
Feb. 27	Vaughn L., <i>Yar.</i>	1	RAH

Turkey Vulture

Dec. 15	Brier I. <i>Digby</i>	11	CBC
Dec. 30	Freeport, <i>Digby</i>	12	AMO
Jan. 17	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	<i>vide</i> JAH

Osprey

Dec. 16	South R., <i>Ant.</i>	1	TCR
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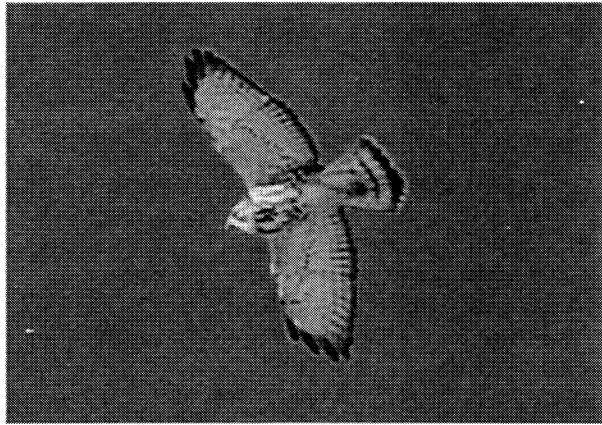
Bald Eagle

Jan. 31,			
Feb. 7	Eagle Watch, Canning area, <i>Kings</i>	>65	JCT, JWW
Feb. 1	Eagle Watch, <i>Kings</i>	294	CCC

Northern Harrier (35 on CBCs)

All season	Hartlen Pt./Devils I., <i>HRM</i>	3-4	var. obs.
Dec. 3	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1	LUB
Dec. 5	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Dec. 6	Chezzetcook Inlet, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 9	Wedge I., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 14	Dunmore, <i>Ant.</i>	1	RFL
Dec. 15	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC
Jan.	Port Howe, <i>Cum.</i>	2	VIR
Jan. 1	CSI	4	MUN
Jan. 2, 16	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Jan. 18	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1	PMC, SEM
Jan. 20	Rotary Halifax, <i>HRM</i>	male	DHU
Jan. 20	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	male	GAM

Jan. 21	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	male	DAM
Jan. 22	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Bev Crowell
Jan. 27	Lingan, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CSM, TSM
Sharp-shinned Hawk (106 on CBCs)			
All season	Carleton, <i>Yar.</i>	1	RAH
Dec. 19	Indian Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 24	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CSM, TSM
Jan. 23	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DLO
Feb. 7	Garden Lots, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DAW
Feb. 10	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	1	RFL
Feb. 15	Halifax, <i>HRM</i>	1	Lynn Currie
Feb. 16	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	juv.	VJH
Feb. 16, 19	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Feb. 21	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Feb. 23	L. Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1	Chris Pepper
COOPER'S HAWK			
Dec. 14	Wolfville	1	CBC
Jan. 23	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	LOC
Feb. 17	Clayton Park, <i>HRM</i>	1	SMB, WEM, RSM
Northern Goshawk (16 on CBCs)			
Jan.-Feb.	Lwr. Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1 resident	ELM, AHM
Dec. 2	Parrsboro, <i>Cum.</i>	1	JBO
Dec. 15	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 29	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	CBC
Jan. 8	Hemlock Ravine Park, <i>HRM</i>	1	GMU
Jan. 21	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAM
Jan. 31	Doctors Brook, <i>Ant.</i>	1	JOK
Feb. 1	<i>Hants</i>	1	CCC
Feb. 18	Halls Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	1	MMC

BROAD-WINGED HAWK (3 on 3 separate CBCs)

Laggard BROAD-WINGED HAWKS are regular on our CBCs but are rarely photographically documented. This first-winter bird was over Second Peninsula Jan. 3 during the Lunenburg CBC. [Photo David Currie]

Red-tailed Hawk

Dec. 6	Sand River, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Dec. 15	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	1	CBC
Jan. 14	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DLO
Jan. 22	Seaforth, <i>HRM</i>	1	SEM
Jan. 22	Upper Granville, <i>Anna.</i>	1	DLO
Feb. 1	<i>Hants</i>	48	CCC
Feb. 6	Bridgetown, <i>Anna.</i>	1	MCR
Feb. 9	Advocate, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFC
Feb. 10, 24	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Feb. 16	E Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	Chris Pepper

Rough-legged Hawk (47 on CBCs)

All season	Hartlen Pt./Devils I., <i>HRM</i>	several	var obs.
Dec. 9	Wedge I., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 19	Amherst CBC	27	CBC
Dec. 24	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 29	Truro, <i>Col.</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 31	Sylvester, <i>Pict.</i>	1	HAB, JEB

Jan. 6	Lilydale, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan. 10	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DPO, Janice Kenefick
Jan. 17	Prospect High Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM
Feb. 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM
Feb. 7	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DAW
Feb. 14	Mira, <i>CBRM</i>	2	CSM, TSM
Feb. 15	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1	<i>fide</i> VJH
American Kestrel			
Dec. 2	CSI	2	MUN
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	pair	JAH, Peter MacLeod
Dec. 28	Yarmouth CBC	4	CBC
Dec. 29	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	CBC
Feb. 1	CSI	1	MUN
Merlin (14 on CBCs)			
Dec. 3	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1	LUB
Dec. 8	Wolfville Ridge, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Dec. 29	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 29	Truro, <i>Col.</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 30	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Jan. 1	Lower Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	AHM
Jan. 1	CSI	1	MUN
Jan. 2	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Jan. 12	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan. 22	Belleisle, <i>Anna.</i>	1	DLO
Feb. 4	E Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	Chris Pepper
Feb. 8	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	1	NSBS
Gyrfalcon			
Dec. 17	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Peregrine Falcon			
Dec. 14-16	Brier I	1	ELM
Dec. 14	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	imm.	JCT, SMC
Dec. 14	Wolfville	3	CBC
Dec. 24	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 25	Port Howe, <i>Cum.</i>	1	BRS
Jan. 1	CSI	1	MUN
Jan. 1	Kingston, <i>Kings</i>	1	GMV
Jan. 25	Truro	1	HVD
Jan. 25	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Feb. 1	<i>Hants</i>	2	CCC
Feb. 4	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Feb. 12	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	Nancy Nickerson

Shorebirds

By Susann Myers

With an early and harsh start to winter most shorebird species lingered into December in below-average numbers, and few remained to winter. Nine species were found on Christmas Bird Counts, slightly less than the average of 10. The total count of 848 for the province was 10% above average, however, thanks mainly to a large group of lingering DUNLIN found on the Cape Sable count.

The total of 10 BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS seen on CBCs was half of the 10-year average. A SEMIPALMATED PLOVER found at Grand Desert in early December did not linger. This shorebird is common until early October, but has been found in only three of the last 10 winter seasons. KILLDEER have been seen on CBCs in eight of the last 10 years and this year's total of four was slightly above average. Two are known to have overwintered through to February.

GREATER YELLOWLEGS, which have been found on CBCs in five of the last 10 years, had only a Count Week sighting this year, but lingered into winter around the province in their usual small numbers. The six LESSER YELLOWLEGS reported on the Halifax-Dartmouth count were surprising, but calls are helpful with identification and FLL reports that these were both heard and seen by observers.

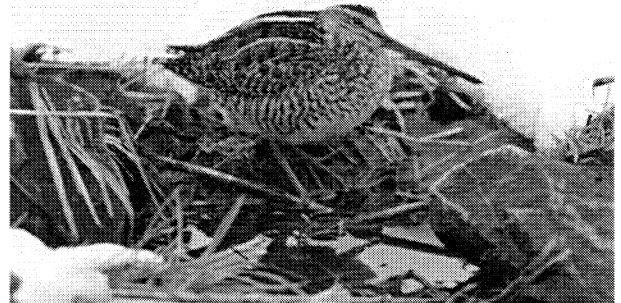
Numbers of RUDDY TURNSTONES and RED KNOTS continued to be very low this winter. SANDERLINGS were also scarce, with no large flocks seen, only small groups overwintering, and none found at Sable I., a favoured wintering ground. The CBC total of 25 is far below the 15-year average of 184. These three species all relied heavily in the past on horseshoe crab eggs at

Delaware Bay as a concentrated spring food resource, and all three have suffered serious population declines since the over-harvesting of horseshoe crabs in the 1990s.

A **WESTERN SANDPIPER** at Little Dover Dec. 27 was a nice find. Although rare in NS at any time, as most migrate down the west coast from Alaska, Western Sandpipers do winter in numbers on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and are the expected winter "peep".

PURPLE SANDPIPERS were found on CBCs in average numbers, but fewer than usual were found after December, when heavy ice appeared on coastal rocks and flats. **DUNLIN** were still plentiful in December and the 494 found on CBCs were roughly three times the average. The Cape Sable count boasted 377 of these and smaller numbers were found at Broad Cove (22), Halifax-Dartmouth (7) and Port L'Hebert (88), while Wolfville had a Count Week sighting, rare for that area.

A **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER** was spotted by MUN Dec. 9 at CSI, where sightings are becoming almost regular in winter, thanks to sharp-eyed observers. Lingering **WILSON'S SNIPE** and **AMERICAN WOODCOCK** were found in their usual small numbers in December-January, but none are known to have overwintered successfully.



A **WILSON'S SNIPE** hung on in Bedford for the CBC and into January (here Jan. 5). Photographs of wintering snipe are useful in eliminating the remote possibility of the Old World Common Snipe (one old winter record for Labrador). These are best distinguished by underwing pattern, but unlike this bird, also have more broadly rufous-fringed upper scapulars between the pale lines on the back and broader pale bars on the primaries. So, we'll accept this one with pleasure for what it is. [Photo Gary Murray]

shorebird species

Dec. 21	Yarmouth CBC	50	
late Dec.	CB Highlands	some	Count Week
Black-bellied Plover			
Dec. 1	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	2	JAH, DAW
Dec. 1	CSI	some	MUN
Dec. 6	Big I., Pict.	1	KJM
Dec. 9	Three Fathom Hbr., HRM	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 14	Cape Sable CBC	5	
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	3	
Dec. 28	Glace Bay CBC	1	
Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	1	
Jan. 9	Crescent Bch., Lun.	1	JAH, DPO
Jan. 15	Cow Bay, HRM	1	HEK
Feb. 10	near Crescent Bch., Lun.	1	JAH
Semipalmated Plover			
Dec. 6	Grand Desert, HRM	1	SEM
Killdeer			
Dec. 3, 14	Canso, Guys.	1	TOK
Dec. 14	Cape Sable CBC	2	
Dec. 14	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1	
Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	1	ELM, AHM
Dec. 30	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	2	SJF
early Jan.-			
Feb. 27	Broad Cove, Lun.	1	SJF, et al.
Jan. 10	Sober I., HRM	1	KJM, C. Kendell
Jan. 24-			
Feb. 22	Three Fathom Hbr., HRM	1	C. Pepper, et al.
Greater Yellowlegs			
early Dec.	CSI	1	MUN, fide BLM
late Dec.	Port L'Hebert CBC		Count Week
Lesser Yellowlegs			
early Dec.	CSI	1	MUN, fide BLM
Dec. 14	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	6	
Dec. 27	Little Dover, Guys.	1	TOK, fide BLM
Ruddy Turnstone			
late Dec.	Broad Cove CBC		Count Week
Dec. 30	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	1	SJF
Red Knot			
Dec. 1	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	1	JAH, DAW
Dec. 4	Story Hd., HRM	12	A. Adolfsson

Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	2	
Dec. 30	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	2	SJF
Sanderling			
Dec. 2	Cabot Landing Bch., Vic.	4	FMC
Dec. 6	Martinique	3	BLM, DAM
Dec. 6	Conrad Bch., HRM	1	SGL, M. Milligan
Dec. 14	Cape Sable CBC	25	
Dec. 31	Martinique	24	LUB
Jan. 3	Taylor Head PP, HRM	2	JAC
Jan. 17	Daniel Hd., CSI	4	TEC, JON, SAN
Jan. 18,			
Mar. 1	Martinique	9, 17	PMC, SEM
Feb. 28	Port Joli, Queens	20	DPO, JAH
WESTERN SANDPIPER			
Dec. 27	Little Dover, Guys.	1	TOK, fide BLM
Purple Sandpiper			
Dec. 1	Chance Hbr., Pict.	2	KJM
Dec. 6,			
Feb. 27	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	20, 18	SJF
Dec. 13	Duncan Reef, HRM	30+	HAT
Dec. 14-			
Jan. 4	10 of 35 CBCs	255 total	
Jan. 9	Crescent Bch., Lun.	22	JAH, DPO
Jan. 10	Morden, Kings	12	GMV
Jan. 10	Sober I., HRM	large flock	KJM, C. Kendell
Jan. 12	Hartlen Pt., HRM	50+	DOU
Jan. 13-			
Feb. 5	PPP	3-10	var.obs.
Jan. 18	Daniel Hd., CSI	21	TEC, JON, SAN
Jan. 24	Sable I.	1	ZOL
Jan. 24,			
Feb. 14	Baccaro, Shel.	2, 7	BJS, SIS
Jan. 26	Martinique	5-6	LUB
Jan. 31	Glace Bay, CBRM	26	BES, GEC
Feb. 4	W. Pubnico, Yar.	15	CST
Dunlin			
Dec. 4	Story Hd., HRM	20	A. Adolfsson
Dec. 9	Three Fathom Hbr., HRM	1	BLM, DAM
mid-Dec.	Wolfville CBC		Count Week
Dec. 14-			
Jan. 4	4 of 35 CBCs	494	

Dec. 21	Port L'Hebert CBC	87	SJF, DPO, CST	Dec. 14	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TOK
Dec. 29	Sable I.	1	ZOL	Dec. 14	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1	
Dec. 31	Martinique	21	LUB	Dec. 30-			
Jan. 9	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	30	JAH, DPO	Jan. 14	Bedford	1	PLC, var. obs.
Jan. 17	Daniel Hd., CSI	1	TEC, JON, SAN	American Woodcock			
Feb. 22	E. Port L'Hebert, <i>Queens</i>	55	ELM, AHM	mid-Dec.	Baddeck CBC	some	Count Week
LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER							
Dec. 9	CSI	1	MUN	Dec. 27	West Hants CBC	1	
Wilson's Snipe							
Dec. 9	CSI	1	MUN	Jan. 15	Belleville, <i>Yar.</i>	1	PRG
				Jan. 18	Osborne Hbr., <i>Shel.</i>	1	G. Gilbert

Gulls Through Alcids

By Eric Mills

Several **MEW (COMMON) GULLS** were reported, some documented. An adult during the CSI CBC was well described verbally. An adult frequented Sullivans Pond, Dartmouth, in January through early February and was photographed; it may have been the bird seen in Eastern Passage, *HRM*, Jan. 21. Two adults later in February, also photographed at Sullivans Pond, appear to have added to the total for the winter. What was likely a fifth for the province this winter was reported without details from Yarmouth, Jan. 24, but could not be located the following day.

Now a fixture on the winter scene in *CBRM*, the adult hybrid **HERRING X GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL** was present again this winter in Glace Bay, as noted by CAM and ALM.

A **YELLOW-LEGGED GULL**, not firmly identified as far as I can tell, was seen Jan. 23-24 in Yarmouth hbr., but could not be located after that. The problem of identification of "yellow-legged" gulls is not trivial, because so many possibilities exist. We all hope for a true eastern Atlantic Yellow-legged Gull, *Larus michahellis* (perhaps from the population called by some *Larus atlantis*, Azorean Gull), of the kind becoming regular in St. John's in winter. The palest Lesser Black-backed Gulls, *Larus fuscus graellsii*, could be a source of confusion. In early winter some of our regular American Herring Gulls develop yellowish legs that can sometimes be quite striking, but are never the vivid yellow of the preceding two species. One group of European Herring Gulls, notably from around the Baltic Sea, frequently has yellow legs, and until recently these birds were given subspecific status as *Larus argentatus omisus* (what was likely such a bird was photographed in Halifax in 1995). Finally, there is the possibility of Herring x Lesser Black-backed hybrids, a number of which are seen in Newfoundland most winters.

Despite some slight anomalies on wing-tip pattern, leading to a lengthy e-mail correspondence to and from California, the **THAYER'S GULL** found and photographed by BBU at Sullivans Pond, Feb. 21, was about as good as one gets of this enigmatic species in these parts.

IAM noted the presence of more pure white-winged **ICELAND GULLS** than usual this winter, based on a flock just outside Dartmouth on Halifax Hbr. Feb. 26. There is a real problem in distinguishing "pure" Iceland Gulls, most of them from Greenland (a few from Baffin I.), from the palest-primaried Kumlien's Gulls, which are hybrids (and no doubt complex back-crosses too) of Thayer's and Iceland Gulls from the Central and Eastern Arctic. My experience is that careful examination of "Iceland" Gulls shows up one or two robust, pale, birds with unmarked wing-tips every winter. But what are they?

An adult **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** that appeared in Shad Bay, *HRM*, in early January, is likely to have been the same bird found there last year. At last report (late March) it was still in the area.

It was the winter of the **IVORY GULL**, at least for about a week. An elegant and confiding adult (maybe two) appeared at the fish plant in Sambro, *HRM*, Jan. 22, where it was admired and photographed endlessly by a host of admirers until it disappeared



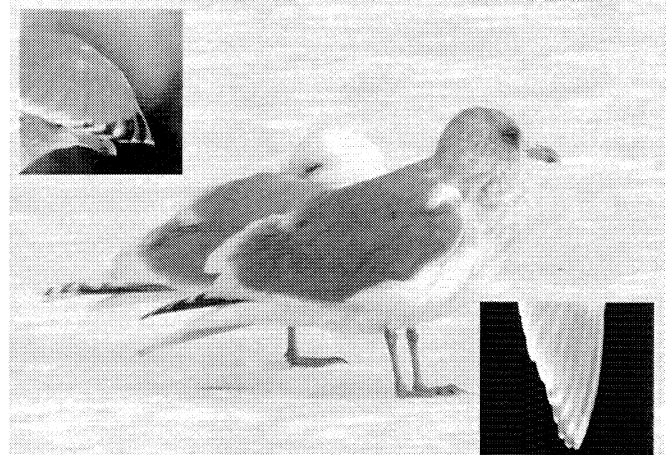
At first glance, this might be taken as an adult Ring-billed Gull, but the rather narrow bill ring, dark eyes, and limited black wingtips with larger white "windows" reveal it as a (COMMON) GULL, which most authorities take as a separate species from the N. American Mew Gull. This winter, as usual, one or two occasionally visited Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth (here Jan. 18), and wandered elsewhere around the harbour. [Photo Bernard Burke]

on Jan. 31. Another adult was a regular along the shore in North East Harbour, *Shel.*, from about Jan. 24 through Feb. 1. At Canso, TOK noted at least one immature, and possibly another of uncertain age, Jan. 23-24. Finally, an adult that had apparently been present for several days in Lower Prospect, *HRM*, was found by BLM and MAD Jan. 31 but not seen thereafter.

The three **TERNs** reported on the Marble Mountain, *Inv.*, CBC Dec. 19 were most unusual for the season but not positively identified. Forster's Tern is always the expected species in winter, but we do have a recent record of an adult Common Tern in December near Antigonish.

Without the Ivory Gull in North East Hbr., *Shel.* attracting birders it is unlikely that the only certain **FORSTER'S TERN** of the winter, present there for nearly three weeks beginning at the end of January, would have been found.

DOVEKIES were the alcid of the winter; although never abundant, they were widespread throughout the province. One found stranded after a storm in Brookfield, *Col.*, taken into care, and released near Pictou, was certainly the most distant from the coast.



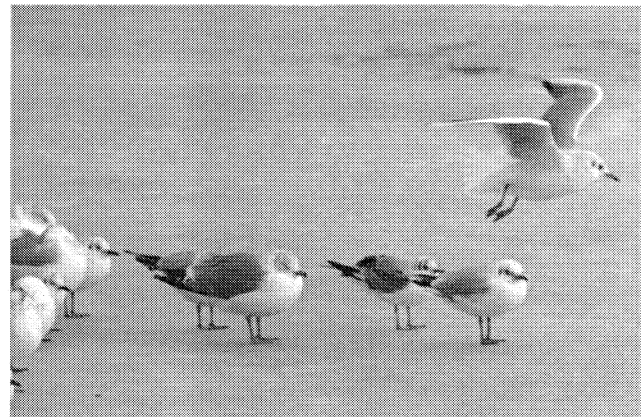
"Kumlien's Gull," although nominally a subspecies, is best viewed as representing a hybrid zone between the white-primaried ICELAND GULL and dark-primaried THAYER'S GULL, which migrates down the W. Coast. This one, alongside an obvious "Kumlien's" Iceland Gull, in Dartmouth during February, is a suitably darker backed and dark-primaried candidate for THAYER'S. [Photo Bernard Burke]

Black-headed Gull

CBCs	11 counts	116	
Dec. 1	Central Caribou, <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Dec. 6	Powells Pt. PP, <i>Pict.</i>	1 ad.	KJM
Dec. 6	Sinclair's I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 imm.	KJM
Dec. 13	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Dec. 18-			
Jan. 1	Conrad Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1-4	DMW
Dec. 19	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
Dec. 20-21	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	1	DOU
Dec. 24	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 29	Conrad's Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1	JCZ, Mark Butler
Jan. 8	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	22	BBU
Jan. 9	Eastern <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL
Jan. 12	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	10+	DOU
Jan. 18	PPP	1 ad.	ELM, AHM
Jan. 20	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	1-2	BBU
Jan. 22	Pt. Pleasant Pk., Halifax	1	Gilbert Bouchard
Jan. 25-			
Feb. 13	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1-5	DJC
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	3	DBM
Jan. 31,			
Feb. 1	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Feb. 4	W Pubnico, <i>Yar.</i>	2 ad., 1 imm.	CST
Feb. 5	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	2	BLM
Feb. 22	Port Joli, <i>Queens</i>	1 ad.	ELM
Bonaparte's Gull			
CBCs	10 counts	309	
Dec. 1	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	6	JAH, DAW
Dec. 1	Central Caribou, <i>Pict.</i>	400	KJM
Dec. 5	Hirtles Pt., <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad.	ELM
Dec. 6	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	33	KJM
Dec. 6	Powells Pt. PP, <i>Pict.</i>	500	KJM
Dec. 6	Martinique	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 7	Middle R., <i>Pict.</i>	100+	KJM, Charlie Kendall
Dec. 7	Pictou Hbr., <i>Pict.</i>	"hundreds"	
Dec. 10	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	12	KJM, Charlie Kendall
Dec. 13	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	DJC
Dec. 24	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	2	MIK
Dec. 28	Back Hbr., Lunenburg	2	JAH, DPO, Anne Hughes
Dec. 31	Conrads I., <i>Lun.</i>	12	SJF, JSC

MEW (COMMON) GULL

Dec. 14	CSI CBC	1 near ad.	JAH, Peter MacLeod
Jan. 18-			
Feb. 2	Sullivans Pd., <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	(photo) BBU, DOU
Jan. 21	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	BLM
Jan. 24	Yarmouth	1 ad.	MUN
Feb. 12,			
17	Sullivans Pond	1 ad	BBU



BLACK-HEADED GULLS have become scarcer around Halifax Harbour since the shut-down of the major sewage "boils". Here two adults and a first-winter bird, with an adult **RING-BILLED GULL**, dropped by Jan. 9 at Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth. [Photo Bernard Burke]

Ring-billed Gull

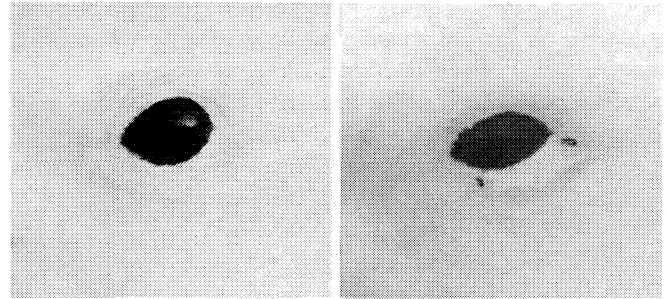
CBCs	26 counts	1159	
Dec. 5	Lwr. LaHave, <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad.	ELM
Dec. 11	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	"dozens"	DJC
Dec. 28	Apple R. wharf, <i>Cumb.</i>	30+	KFS
Dec. 29	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	6	JCZ, Mark Butler
Jan. 3	Windsor, <i>Hants</i>	4	AND
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	2	KJM, Charlie Kendall

Jan. 24-25	Yarmouth waterfront	est. 80-100	
Jan.-Feb.	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	"a few"	MUN, ELM, IAM
Feb. 22	Port Joli, <i>Queens</i>	5 ad.	ELM, AHM
Herring Gull X Great Black-backed Gull			
Feb.-Mar.	Glance Bay	1 ad.	CAM, ALM
YELLOW-LEGGED GULL?			
Jan. 23-24	Yarmouth hbr.	1	JON, MUN
THAYER'S GULL			
Feb. 21	Sullivans Pond, Dartmouth	1 ad. (photo)	BBU
Iceland Gull			
CBCs	23 counts	1523	
Dec. 5	Kingsburg Pd., <i>Lun.</i>	4 imms.	ELM
Dec. 6	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	1, 2 nd -yr.	ELM
Dec. 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	6	SJF
Dec. 6	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Dec. 7	Pictou, <i>Pict.</i>	"a few"	KJM, Charlie Kendall
Dec. 8-			
Feb.	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1-5 daily	DJC
Dec. 13	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	"lots"	MIK
Dec. 14	Peters I., Brier I.	1, 2 nd -yr.	ELM, AHM
Dec. 15	Brier I.	46	ELM, AHM
Dec. 20	Sullivans Pd., <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Dec. 21	Lunenburg hbr.	2	JAH
Dec. 24	Granville Ferry, <i>Anna.</i>	3	BLM
Dec. 24	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
Dec. 28	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	2 ad.; 1-2 nd -yr.	ELM
Dec. 28	Lunenburg area	4	JAH, DPO, Anne Hughes
Dec. 29	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	JCZ, Mark Butler
Dec. 29	Truro	3	JBO
Jan. 8	Sullivans Pd., <i>HRM</i>	8	BBU
Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	2	KJM, Charlie Kendall
Jan. 10	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH, DPO
Jan. 12	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	10	DOU
Jan. 17	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad., 1 imm.	ELM
Jan. 20	Off PPP	40+	ELM
Jan. 25	Yarmouth hbr.	20+	ELM, IAM
Jan. 27	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	"lots"	LOC, DCO
Jan. 31	Blue Rocks/Lunenburg	"plentiful"	JAH
Feb. 21	Lunenburg Hbr.	1, 2 nd -yr.	ELM
Feb. 26	Eastern Passage area	"several"	IAM
late Feb.	Guysborough Hbr.	"hundreds"	TOK
Lesser Black-backed Gull			
CBCs	4 counts	4	
Dec. 5	Grand Pre, <i>Kings</i>	1 ad.	RBS
Dec. 31	New Glasgow, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Jan. 9-			
March	Shad Bay- Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad. <i>graellsii</i>	BLM
Jan. 31	North West Arm, Halifax Hbr	1 ad. <i>graellsii</i>	IAM
late Feb.	Guysborough hbr.	1 ad.	TOK
Glaucous Gull			
CBCs	9 counts	21	
Dec. 1	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1 1st. w.	BLM, DAM
Dec. 6	Summerville Bch. PP, <i>Queens</i>	1, 2 nd -yr.	ELM
Dec. 13	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Jan. 9	Eastern <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL
Jan. 12	Hartlen Pt. <i>HRM</i>	3	DOU
Jan. 19	PPP	ad.	AGH
Jan. 20	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	1 ad., 1-1st w.	BBU
Jan. 20	Glance Bay	1 ad.	CAM, ALM
Jan. 27	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1	LOC, DCO
Jan. 29	Glance Bay	4	CAM, ALM
Jan. 31	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Feb. 5	Sullivans Pond., Dartmouth	1 imm.	BLM
Feb. 10	Glance Bay	6	CAM, ALM
Feb. 12	Sullivans Pond., Dartmouth	1, 1 st -w.	BBU

late Feb.	Guysborough hbr.	9 imm.	TOK
Black-legged Kittiwake			
CBCs	6 counts	35	
Dec. 1	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 6	Off Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	2	ELM
Dec. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	6	MIK, FLL

IVORY GULL

Jan. 22-31	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad. (photos)	Jeff Gilkie, var. obs.
Jan. 24	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1 imm.	TOK
Jan. 24?-			
Feb. 1	North East Hbr., <i>Shel.</i>	1 ad.	MUN, var. obs.
Jan. 31	Lwr. Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad. (ph.)	BLM, MAD



There was a brief quickening of interest when variable dark marks on the face of the Sambro **IVORY GULL** suggested that more than one bird was present. Close-ups of the bird (left Jan. 28, right Jan. 31) revealed the marks as bird lice. These (and also the more squat bird mite, related to ticks) are ubiquitous, but rarely visible: a pure-white plumage helps. [Photos: left, John Chardine; right, Dwaine Oakley].

TERN SP.

Dec. 19	Marble Mt., <i>Inv.</i>	CBC	3	DJO
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FORSTER'S TERN

Jan. 30-				
ca. Feb. 19	North East Hbr., <i>Shel.</i>	1	DPO, Peter McLeod, CST	

Dovekie

CBCs	10 counts	49	
Dec. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, FLL
Dec. 13	Brookfield, <i>Col.</i>	1	HVD
Dec. 27	Parker's Cove, <i>Anna.</i>	1	BLM
Dec. 29	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	1	HAT, LAE
Dec. 29	Dublin Shore area, <i>Lun.</i>	2	ELM, AHM
Dec. 31	Crystal Crescent	1	HAT
Dec. 31	Jeddore Oyster Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	LUB
Jan. 4-			
Feb. 2	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	max. 3	var.obs.
Jan. 4	Ketch Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT, LAE
Jan. 8	St. Peter's, <i>Rich.</i>	1	BID
Jan. 10	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	Anders Adolfsson
Jan. 10	Salmon Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM, Charlie Kendall
Jan. 12	Shearwater, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan. 23	Lwr. Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAM, DOU
Jan. 24	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 dead on beach	DJC
Jan. 25	Louisbourg	2	CSM, TMM
Jan. 25	Baleine, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM
Jan. 31	Sydney Mines, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Feb. 8	near Catalone, <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL
Feb. 8	Port Morien, <i>CBRM</i>	9	BES, GEC
Feb. 13	Conrad Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1 dead	Chris Pepper
Feb. 18	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC

Common Murre

CBCs	3 counts	56	
Dec. 1	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	25	BLM, DAM
Dec. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	50	MIK, FLL

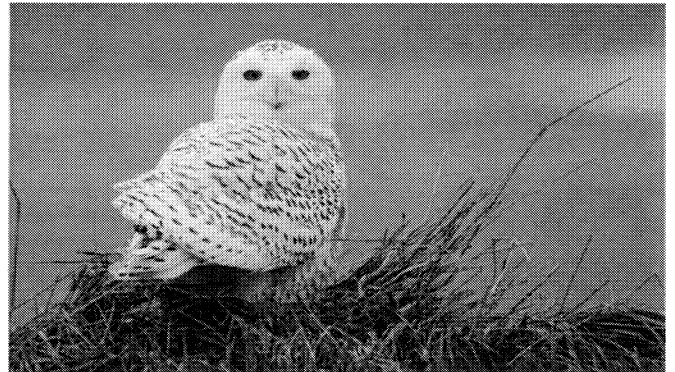
Dec. 15	Brier I.	50+	ELM, AHM	Dec. 2	CSI	?	<i>fide</i> MUN
Jan. 9	Eastern <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL	Dec. 7	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	80+	WAN, NSBS
Thick-billed Murre							
CBCs	4 counts	56		Dec. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	150	MIK, FLL
Dec. 1	CSI	1?	MUN	Dec. 27	Parkers Cove, <i>Anna.</i>	12	BLM
Dec. 2	CSI	1	<i>fide</i> MUN	Dec. 29	Dublin Shore, <i>Lun.</i>	1 imm.	ELM, AHM
Dec. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, FLL	Black Guillemot			
Jan. 3	Pt. Edward, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM	CBCs	17 counts	536	
Jan. 9	St. Peter's, <i>Rich.</i>	1	BID	Dec. 3	Martinique	3	LUB
Jan. 9	Shag End, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM	Dec. 6	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	1	ELM
Jan. 10	Morden, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS, JWW, GMY	Dec. 15	Brier I.	39	ELM, AHM
Jan. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	DAM	Dec. 29	Blandford area, <i>Lun.</i>	10	HAT, LAE
Jan. 14	Glace Bay	1	CAM, ALM	Dec. 29	Dublin Shore area, <i>Lun.</i>	6	ELM, AHM
Jan. 17	Prospect High Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM,	Jan. 4	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT, LAE
			Anders Adolfsson	Jan. 9	Eastern <i>CBRM</i>	8	LEL
Jan. 17	Indian Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2	BLM,	Jan. 10	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	22	KJM, Charlie Kendall
			Anders Adolfsson	Jan. 17	Heckmans I., <i>Lun.</i>	2	ELM
Jan. 19	Off Pt. Pleasant Pk., Halifax	2	AGH	Jan. 23	Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	11	BLM
Jan. 22	North West Arm, Halifax	1	Gilbert Bouchard	Jan. 20	Off Pt. Pleasant Pk., Halifax	10	ELM
Jan. 25	W. Pennant, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAM	Jan. 25	Louisbourg	5	CAM, ALM
Jan. 25	Louisbourg	2	CAM, ALM	Atlantic Puffin			
Jan. 25	Baleine, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM	CBCs	2 counts	2	
Jan. 31	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM	Dec. 1	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	30	BLM, DAM
Jan. 31	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	2 dead on beach	DJC	Dec. 13	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	5	MIK, FLL
				Jan. 25	Lingan, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CSM, TSM
				Jan. 25	Glace Bay	1	CSM, TSM
Razorbill							
CBCs	4 counts	50					

Pigeons Through Woodpeckers

By Dorothy Poole

There were plenty of ROCK PIGEONS (7288) for the CBCs and the Halifax/Dartmouth CBC tallied almost a quarter of them. Note below the date of KAM's nesting/courting sighting of one pair. MOURNING DOVES are definitely on the increase with a total of 7776 on this year's CBCs and Wolfville CBC was again the 'king' of the counts with 1029.

Not many GREAT HORNED OWLS (8) were found on the CBCs but there were 14 SNOWY OWLS. 25 years ago there were 16 counted so this year's numbers just missed the record. The CSI CBC had five and Halifax/Dartmouth CBC had four. Birders in and around Halifax were fortunate to have had Snowy Owls linger near Hartlen Pt. area and Devils I. during winter. BARRED OWLS (22) were about the 15 year average. Caledonia CBC had seven this year. Halifax/Dartmouth CBC came up with the only LONG-EARED OWL. LDE was fortunate to find one in the Wolfville area, a 'lifer' for him, and another one hung around the Hawk area of CSI. SHORT-EARED OWLS were seen regularly this winter near Kentville, in and around Middle Dyke Rd. RBS found four in early December and then Bob Williams sighted seven on one day in the first week of January. A new bird for Nova Scotia CBCs was a BOREAL OWL heard by FLL and DMW on the Halifax/Dartmouth CBC. There were 12 NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS on the CBC with seven found on the Lunenburg CBC. In 1995, 16 of these owls were found.



It was a good winter for SNOWY OWLS, and this one, among several around the mouth of Halifax Hbr., was photographed during the CBC. [Photo Mike King]

There were only nine BELTED KINGFISHERS on CBCs this year, the lowest number since 1994 when only eight were found. Pictou Hbr. CBC had almost half of these (4).

A whopping 30 RED-BELLIED WOODPECKERS were found on CBCs. This number pales in comparison to the 2004 total of 47, however. A Red-Bellied Woodpecker report from Baddeck adds another Nova Scotia county to the Red-bellied list, so now all but two counties in CB have had Red-bellied Woodpeckers since last fall. DOWNY and HAIRY WOODPECKER numbers are increasing: the total of 783 Downy Woodpeckers was a new high, while Hairy Woodpeckers numbers were not quite as high as last year (558 vs. 614). NORTHERN FLICKERS were abundant and the 212 total was a new record for CBCs. Almost half the Northern Flickers seen were accounted for between the Wolfville CBC, which had 63, and the CSI CBC, which had 27. The PILEATED WOODPECKER CBC total of 66 was about the 10 year average.

Rock Pigeon

Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	7288 (<10 yr. average)
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	1615
Feb. 14	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	nest building KAM

Mourning Dove

Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	7776 (>10 yr. average)
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	1029
Dec.-Jan.	Widely	1-40

Great Horned Owl

Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	8 (<10 yr. average)
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	3
Dec. 2	Woodside	1 Kala Macdonald
Jan. 20	Granville Ferry, <i>Anna</i> .	2 heard DLO
Jan. 21	River Tillard, <i>Rich</i> .	1 heard BID
Feb. 10	Apple R. area, <i>Cum</i> .	1 heard KFS
Feb. 11	Plymouth, <i>Pict</i> .	1 heard KJM
Feb. 17	E. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	pair heard Chris Pepper



A GREAT HORNED OWL on the Conrad Beach Rd., *HRM*, Dec. 14, was added to the list the Halifax-Dartmouth CBC. [Photo Ian McLaren]

Snowy Owl

Dec. 16	CBC	14 (2 nd highest)
Dec. 14	Cape Sable CBC	5
Dec. 2-		
early Feb.	Devils I., Hartlen Pt. <i>HRM</i>	1-4 var. obs.
Dec. 2-Feb.	CSI	5+ MUN, JUN <i>et al.</i>
Dec. 4	Story Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1 Anders Adolfsson
Dec. 5, 13	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1 James Churchill; ANS
Dec. 7	NSBS 'Hot Spots', <i>HRM</i>	3 MIK <i>et al.</i>
Dec. 9	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1 BLM, DAM
Dec. 9	Wedge I., <i>HRM</i>	1 BLM, DAM
Dec. 14	Brule Pt., <i>Col.</i>	1 JRU <i>fide</i> JCT
Dec. 14-20	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	several <i>fide</i> PLC
Dec. 14-19	Starr's Pt. Rd., <i>Kings</i>	1 Brad Sweet; Chris Cox
Dec. 24	Hwy 104 near exit 3	1 BRS
Dec. 30	Trenton airport, <i>Pict.</i>	1 Rob Reid, <i>fide</i> KJM
Jan. 18	Shearwater Airport, Halifax	1 KAM
Jan. 19	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	1 <i>fide</i> KJM
Feb. 3	Sable I.	1 ZOL
Feb. 11	near Berwick, <i>Kings</i>	1 SHH
Feb. 11	Middleton, <i>Kings</i>	1 SHA
Feb. 16	Seal I.	5 <i>fide</i> JON

Barred Owl

Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	22 (15 yr. average)
Dec. 29	Caledonia CBC	7
Dec. 28,		
Feb. 8	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	1, 1 RFL
Dec. 29	Dartmouth	1 CDA
Dec. 31	Maryvale, <i>Ant.</i>	1 BRS

Jan. 2	Carleton, <i>Yar.</i>	heard	RAH
Jan. 19	Mt. William-Alma, <i>Pict.</i>	1	Richard Murphy <i>fide</i> KJM
Feb. 8	Lake Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1	Chris Pepper

Long-eared Owl

Dec. 16	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	1
Jan. 10	Wolfville	1 LDE
Jan. 31-Feb.	CSI	1 MUN <i>et al.</i>

Short-eared Owl

Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	4 (10 yr average)
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	2
Dec. 14	Cape Sable CBC	1
Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	1
Dec. 2	Middle Dyke Rd., <i>Kings</i>	4-5 RBS
Dec. 30	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1 SJF
Jan. 31-Feb.	CSI	1 MUN <i>et al.</i>
Jan. 1-7	Chipmans Corner, <i>Kings</i>	7 Bob Williams <i>fide</i> JCT

Boreal Owl

Dec. 16	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	1 st ever for NS CBCs FLL
Jan. 15	Sable I.	1 died next day ZOL
Jan. 17-18	<i>Guysborough</i>	1 heard MIK, FLL
Northern Saw-whet Owl		
Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	12 (double 10 yr. average)
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	7
Dec. 1	Wolfville	1 LDE
Dec. early	Amherst	1 photo <i>fide</i> JOA
Feb. 11	Churchville, <i>Pict.</i>	1 heard Ethan Huner <i>fide</i> KJM
Feb. 16	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1 VJH
Feb. 18	Kentville, <i>Kings</i>	1 Christine Ross <i>fide</i> JCT
Feb. 19	<i>Antigonish</i>	various reports <i>fide</i> RFL

hummingbird sp.

Dec. 3	Canso	1 <i>fide</i> TOK
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Belted Kingfisher

Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	9 (lowest since 1994)
Jan. 4	Pictou Hbr. CBC	4
Dec. 1, 22	Jeddore Oyster Ponds, <i>HRM</i>	1 LUB
Dec. 6	Jeddore Oyster Ponds, <i>HRM</i>	1 BLM, DAM
Dec. 7	<i>Pictou</i> (various loc.)	5 KJM, Charlie Kendell



A BARRED OWL was surprised in daylight during the West Hants CBC, Dec. 28. [Photo Richard Stern]

Dec. 28	Indian Pt., <i>Lun.</i> & Lunenburg	1, 1	JAH, DPO, Anne Hughes
Feb. 2, 15, 18	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Jan. 9, 11	2nd Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	1	DAM, JAH, DAW
Jan. 13	Allendale, <i>Shel.</i>	1	Gloria Gilbert
Jan. 21	River Tillard, <i>Rich.</i>	1	BID
Feb. 2	Back Hbr., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Feb. 5-6	St. Peter's, <i>Rich.</i>	2	BID
Feb. 5	Mira R., <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL
Feb. 16	Indian Pt., <i>Lun.</i>	1	CJF
Red-headed Woodpecker			
Dec.-Feb.	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Bernie Van Doninck, BES, GEC <i>fide</i> SHH
Feb. 22	Port Royal, <i>Anna.</i>	1	<i>fide</i> SHH
Red-bellied Woodpecker			
Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	30 (2 nd highest)	
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	7	
Dec.-			
Feb. 27	Jollimore, <i>HRM</i>	1 f.	Susan Hunt
Dec 1-10,			
Jan. 5	Starrs Pt., <i>Kings</i>	1 f.	Debbie Daigle <i>fide</i> JWW
Dec. 1	White Pt., <i>Queens</i>	1	MMI
Dec. 1-30	New Glasgow, <i>Pict.</i>	1	Bob Hanes, <i>fide</i> KJM
Dec. 5	Halifax	1 f.	PLC
Dec. 8	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JOA
Dec. 9	Highland Village, <i>Col.</i>	1	VME
Dec. 6, 13,			
Jan. 11	Lunenburg	1 m.	JAH, DAW
Dec 13	Canso, <i>Guy's.</i>	2 male, 1 f.	TOK
Dec 13	Centre Burlington, <i>Hants</i>	1 m.	<i>fide</i> Dawn Villermet
Dec 13	Jimtown, <i>Ant.</i>	1 m.	RFL
Dec 18,			
Jan. 2, 22	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	LOC
Feb. 3, 6	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	LOC
Dec 19,			
Jan. 2	Port Mouton, <i>Queens</i>	1 m.	Ken MacAulay
Dec 20	Granville Ferry, <i>Anna.</i>	1 f.	Jon Percy
Dec. 20-			
Feb. 28	Milton, <i>Queens</i>	1 m.	DPO
Dec. 31,			
Jan. 3	Dartmouth	1 f.	DBR
Dec. 31	Halifax south end	1	ALD
Jan. 1	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 m.	Nancy Nickerson <i>fide</i> JWW
Jan. 3-			
Feb 28	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	1 m.	<i>fide</i> MMI



Many would feel honoured to have a PILEATED WOODPECKER visit their feeder, like this one mid-January in Coldbrook, *Kings*. [Photo Stan Riggs]

Jan. 3 (earlier)	Brooklyn, <i>Hants</i>	1 m.	AND
Jan. 3- Feb. 28	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1 f.	L&J Butcher
Jan. 4 (earlier)	Baddeck, <i>Vic.</i>	1 m.	Eleanor Dunning <i>fide</i> DBM
Jan. 6	Dingle Rd., Halifax	1	DAM
Jan. 7	MSV University, Halifax	1 m.	KAM
Jan. 10	Clarence, <i>Anna.</i>	1	Patricia Croscup <i>fide</i> JWW
Jan. 11	Truro	1 f.	JBO
Jan. 12	Rockingham, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	James Bruce
Jan. 15, 20	Springhill, <i>Cum.</i>	1 m.	Jeff Hiltz
Jan. 16-17	Dahlia St., Halifax	1	Rick Gautreau
Jan. 25	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Wayne Connors <i>fide</i> CSM, TMM
Jan. 27	Brooklyn, <i>Queens</i>	1	Judy James
Jan. 31,			
Feb. 1	Granville Ferry, <i>Anna.</i>	1 m.	DLO
Feb. 7	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	Dennis Garratt
Feb. 8	Rockingham, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	Helen MacPhail
Feb. 8	NSBS 'HRM Harbour Hop'	1	DHH <i>fide</i> SMB
Feb. 9	Halifax	1	PLC
Feb. 11	Oakland St., Halifax	1 f.	AGH
Feb. 22	Hebron, <i>Yar.</i>	1	MUN
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			
Dec. 5	Point Pleasant Park, Halifax	1	DAM
Dec. 18	Amherst CBC	1	
Downy Woodpecker			
Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	783 (record high)	
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	127	
Dec.-Feb.	Widely	1-5	
Hairy Woodpecker			
Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	558 (2 nd highest)	
Dec. 15	Wolfville CBC	65	
Dec. 16	Kingston CBC	57	
Dec.-Feb.	Widely	1-4	
Black-backed Woodpecker			
Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	none	
Dec. 13-15	Gabarus, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Mike Zaluski <i>fide</i> Joan Mills
Feb. 4	Hemlock Ravine trail, <i>HRM</i>	1 f.	Brian Bartlett
Northern Flicker			
Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	212 (record high)	
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	63	
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	27	
Dec.-Feb.	Widely	1-4	~31 reports
Pileated Woodpecker			
Dec.-Jan.	CBC total	66 (10 yr. average)	
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	8	
Dec. 15,			
Feb. 15	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM.</i>	1	VJH
Dec.-Feb.	Apple R. area, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Dec. 7	Jordan Ferry, <i>Shel.</i>	1	JCZ
Dec. 15	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 photo	RIV
Jan.-Feb.	Wolfville	1 pair	JCT
Jan. 7-14	Coldbrook, <i>Kings</i>	1 feeder	Stan Riggs
Jan. 9	Mira R. area, <i>CBRM</i>	1	LEL
Jan. 23	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	LOC
Jan. 25	Prospect Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1-2	Todd Frost
Jan. 31	Coldbrook, <i>Kings</i>	1 feeder	AAM
Feb. 8	Port Howe, <i>Cum.</i>	1	VIR
Feb. 22	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	AHM, ELM

Flycatchers Through Thrushes

By Hans Toom

MUN found an EASTERN PHOEBE, Jan. 4, in the yard of house #130 in Clyde R., *Shel*. This is remarkably late for this durable flycatcher.

A WESTERN KINGBIRD was reported by TOC in Canso Town, Dec. 14 and another one turned up Dec. 14 on the Halifax/Dartmouth CBC. A detailed study and photograph by IAM indicated that the Halifax bird was in its first fall. The bird was unnaturally tame, a sign of starvation and hypothermia, but lingered until Dec. 15 by which time many local birders were able to see it as it moved about the south end of Halifax.

There was a highly cooperative and domiciled CAROLINA WREN that visited the feeder of Graham Hawkins of Hatchet L., *HRM*, from Dec. 24 to at least Feb. 21 and possibly longer.

Dec. 5 Aileen Smith of Barrington Passage reported a fem. EASTERN BLUEBIRD on Sidney Heights, *CSI*. It was confirmed by other local birders and remained for two days. This is extremely late for this species.

On Jan. 2 Chris Helleiner, of Marlborough St., Halifax reported a SWAINSON'S THRUSH feeding on euonymus fruit at the side of the house.

There was a VARIED THRUSH feeding on berries in Homeville, *CBRM*, Jan. 3. Lynn Baechler saw and photographed this bird which was confirmed and also photographed by others. This bird did not linger unlike the VARIED THRUSH at Mount Denson, *Hants*, which stayed from Jan. 22 until last seen on Mar. 14. The homeowner, George Lynch, welcomed visitors and many birders did visit from Feb. 26 when it was first widely reported until it finally disappeared. It was a female and quite shy, often lingering in the shadows and deep foliage of nearby shrubs and trees for long periods.



Numbers of observers savoured the VARIED THRUSH at the Lynche's feeders in Mount Denson, *Hants*, late February and early March (here Mar. 3). Females, like this one, are less often seen here, and its greyish back and pale orange breast suggested it was of the expected subspecies *meruloides*, which breeds from AK and NWY to N. BC. [Photo Hans Toom]

Eastern Phoebe			
Jan. 4	Clyde R., <i>Shel</i> .	1	MUN
Western Kingbird			
Dec. 14	Canso, <i>Guys</i> .	1	TOK
Dec. 15	Halifax	1	CBC
Northern Shrike			
CBCs	13 counts	32	
Dec. 8	Lochaber, <i>Ant</i> .	1	Harriet MacMillan
Dec. 20	Carleton, <i>Yar</i> .	1	RAH
Dec. 25	Antigonish, <i>Cum</i> .	1	BRS
Dec. 29	Staples, <i>Col</i> .	1	JBO
Dec. 30	Apple R. CBC	8	KFS
Jan. 5	Butchers Falls, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Jan. 10	Feltzen South, <i>Lun</i> .	1 imm.	ELM, AHM
Jan. 17	Canso, <i>Guys</i> .	1	MIK, FLL
Jan. 25	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
March 4	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	BES, GEC
Gray Jay			
CBCs	19 counts	88	
Jan. 4	New Waterford, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CSM, TMM
Dec. 27	St. Peter's CBC	20	
Dec. 30	Apple R. CBC	10	
Dec. 1-			
Feb. 28	Sandy Cove Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1 many days	HAT, LAE
Blue Jay			
CBCs	35 counts	8000	
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	564	
Dec. 14	Shubenacadie CBC	416	
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	1195	
Dec. 20	Kingston CBC	633	
Dec. 27	Annapolis Royal CBC	673	
Jan. 3	Bridgetown CBC	584	
thr.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	4-16/daily	HAT, LAE
thr.	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	10 daily	VJH
thr.	White's Lake, <i>HRM</i>	20-25 daily	BLM
Jan. 18	Granville Ferry, <i>Anna</i> .	10-15	DLO
Dec. 5	Lwr. Rose Bay, <i>Lun</i> .	10+	ELM
Common Raven			
CBCs	33 counts	2313	- record high
Dec. 14	Shubenacadie CBC	292	
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	260	
Dec. 20	Kingston CBC	237	
Dec. 20	Springville CBC	249	
Dec. 28	West Hants CBC	102	
Jan. 4	Pictou CBC	360	
American Crow			
CBCs	35 counts	47,927	
Dec. 14	Wolfville	8207	
Dec. 20	Kingston	3516	
Dec. 20	Springville CBC	3840	
Dec. 27	Bedford/Sackville CBC	6849	
Dec. 29	Truro CBC	4980	
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	7663	
Horned Lark			
CBCs	10 counts	315	
Dec. 6	Martinique	9	BLM, DAM
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	216	
Dec. 21	Yarmouth CBC	70	
Feb. 15	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1	SEM
Feb. 16	Canard, <i>Kings</i>	30+	SLH
Black-capped Chickadee			
CBCs	35 counts	12,522	
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	1477	

Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	1136	
Dec. 20	Kingston CBC	786	
Dec. 28	West Hants CBC	728	
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	724	
Boreal Chickadee			
CBCs	26 counts	235	
Dec. 6	Martinique	3	BLM, DAM
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	24	
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	28	
Dec. 30-			
Jan. 16	Apple R. Area, <i>Cum.</i>	2-6+	KFS
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	34	
Jan. 16	Holman Marsh L. tr., <i>HRM</i>	6	BLM
Red-breasted Nuthatch			
CBCs	33 counts	453	
Dec. 20	Kingston CBC	33	
Dec. 27	Bedford/Sackville CBC	53	
Dec. 29	Broad Cove CBC	35	
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	35	
thr.	Mid. Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1 pair	VJH
thr.	L. Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1 pair	Chris Pepper
thr.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1-2 daily	HAT, LAE
Jan. 12-			
Feb. 28	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	2-3 fems., male	DJC



It is difficult to get a needle-sharp image of a RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH like this one Dec. 14 in Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax. [Photo Rita Viau]

White-breasted Nuthatch			
CBCs	24 counts	269	
Dec. 14	Caledonia CBC	38	
Dec. 14	Wolfville	62	
Dec. 20	Kingston CBC	47	
Dec. 28	West Hants CBC	32	
thr.	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1-2 most days	
thr.	L. Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1 pair	SLH
Dec. 8-			Chris Pepper
Feb. 9	Wilmot, <i>Anna.</i>	1	IRO

Jan. 16	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DLO
Jan. 16	E Chester, <i>HRM</i>	1	CJF
Brown Creeper			
CBCs	17 counts	46	
Dec. 28	Maders Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DPO, Anne Hughes
Dec. 28	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DPO
Dec. 31-			
Jan. 18	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1	SLH
Jan. 1	Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
Jan. 12	Wolfville Ridge, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
CAROLINA WREN			
Dec. 24-			
Feb. 21+	Hatchet L., <i>HRM</i>	1, ph.	Graham Hawkins
Winter Wren			
Dec. 31	PPP	1	Leslie Butters
Marsh Wren			
Dec. 14	Halifax	1	CBC
Golden-crowned Kinglet			
CBCs	33 counts	748	
Dec. 20	Liverpool, Milton, <i>Queens</i>	9	JAH, DPO
Feb. 15, 16	Apple R. Area, <i>Cum.</i>	2-5	KFS
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			
CBCs	8 counts	10	
Dec. 6	Seaview Park, <i>HRM</i>	2	TEP
Eastern Bluebird			
Dec. 5	Barrington Passage, <i>Shel.</i>	1	AIS
Swainson's Thrush			
Jan. 2	Marlborough Ave, Halifax	1	CHE
Hermit Thrush			
Dec. 2-5	PPP	1	BLM, DAM, BRS
Dec. 1	Wolfville	1	LDE
Dec. 9	Lake Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1	Chris Pepper
Dec. 30	Apple R. CBC (count week)	1	
Jan. 10	Wolfville	1	LDE
Jan. 16	Lwr. Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1 moribund	AHM
Jan. 13-15	L. Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1	Chris Pepper
Feb. 16	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	1	Paula Currie
American Robin			
CBCs	30 counts	2703	
Dec. 20	Louisbourg CBC	1618	
Dec. 27	St. Peter's CBC	191	
Dec. 28	Strait of Canso CBC	160	
Dec. 26-			
Feb. 1	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	10-20	DJC
Jan. 4	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	10	Dominique Gusset
Jan. 5-			
Feb. 17	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1+ daily most days	DMW
Jan. 10	Seaforth, <i>HRM</i>	75	SEM
Jan. 10, 22	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	75, 25	SEM
Jan. 25	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	10	HAT
Feb. 28	Wilmot, <i>Anna.</i>	12+	IRO
VARIED THRUSH			
Jan. 3	Homeville, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Lynn Baechler
Jan. 22-			
Feb. 28+	Mount Densen, <i>Kings</i>	1	George Lynch, <i>et al.</i>

Mimics Through Warblers

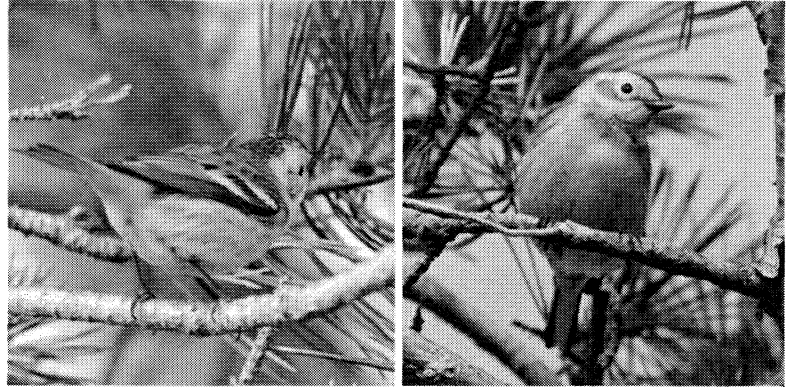
By Ken McKenna

All three mimic thrushes were reported this period. The Rockingham GRAY CATBIRD survived into early March. NORTHERN MOCKINGIRD numbers still continue low, but those reported were spread widely through the province. With the exception of the post-hurricane Wilma spike from 2005, the three BROWN THRASHER reports are the average of the last five years. EUROPEAN STARLING numbers on the CBC are higher than the previous five years and approaching the 10 year average.

In late autumn 2008 BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS had invaded CBRM and some areas of the northern mainland. By late December this species was at times seen in large numbers and occurred on more than half of the CBCs. Some areas seemed to be skipped,

particularly those counts in the which were held on the first weekend of the count period. This suggests that the waxwings didn't spread to southern parts of the province until the end of December. The total of ~7800 is down slightly from the 10,000 on the 2007 CBC but still higher than the 15 year average of 3500. Both Cape Breton counts of Louisbourg (1500) and Glace Bay (1457) had quite high numbers, but the Lunenburg count on Jan. 3 had the highest at 2217. Surprisingly, CEDAR WAXWINGS were noted on 20 CBC counts, but the total of 865, 512 found on the Louisbourg count, was much less. I have noted post-CBC sightings in the table below.

The total number and variety of species of warbler seemed low this winter with nine species reported for the entire period and only seven species and a total of 190 individuals on the various CBC's. The ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER was a notable exception with a record 17 seen on the various CBC's. None were seen on the 2007 counts. At least one survived in central Halifax to the end of the report period helped along by dedicated feeder watchers. A total of 134 YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS were seen on 10 CBCs with Halifax/Dartmouth (51) and CSI (44) with the majority of the sightings. HAT was able to provided a mixture of lard and peanut butter to bring one through winter. On one particular visit, it took over 50 stabs at this mixture.



The Point Pleasant Park **HERMIT WARBLER** from last issue was seen briefly into this report period but was not reported after Dec. 6. Twelve of the sixteen **YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS** on the CBC were from the strong-hold of the Halifax-Dartmouth area with at least one of these birds surviving into the first week of February.

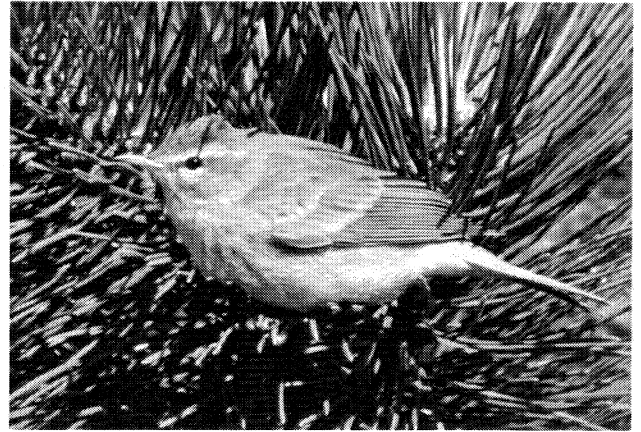
Many photos were obtained of the **HERMIT WARBLER** in Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax. The image at left (3 Dec.) shows the limited flank striping and that at right (30 Nov.) the unpronounced "ear" patch and mere hint of throat patch, all characteristic of a "pure" (i.e., no influence of Townsend's Warbler genes) first-fall male. [Photos: left, Bruce Stevens; right, Alan Covert]

Gray Catbird				Jan. 12	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	15+	DOU
Jan. 10-				Feb. 8	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	2-3	NSBS
Feb. 28	Rockingham, <i>HRM</i>	1	JEH <i>fide</i> PLC	Bohemian Waxwing			
Jan. 16	Atwoods Brook, <i>Shel.</i>	1	TEC	CBCs	21 counts	7804	
Northern Mockingbird				Dec. 20	Louisbourg CBC	1500	
CBCs	7 counts	9		Dec. 28	Glace Bay CBC	1457	
Dec. 3	Wolfville	1	Anders Adolfsson	Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	2217	
Dec. 7	Yarmouth	1	MUN	January	widely distributed	21 reports	var. obs.
Dec. 9, 28	Port Hawkesbury	1	DJO	Feb. 1	Evangeline Bch., <i>Kings</i>	50+	JWW
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	1		Feb. 2	Wolfville	400-500	JWW
Dec. 14	CSI CBC	1		Feb. 2	Sheffield Mills, <i>Kings</i>	50	JAH
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	2		Feb. 8	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	70	NSBS
Dec. 19	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM	Feb. 14	Hants Border, <i>Kings</i>	140	JOB
Dec. 20	Milton, <i>Queens</i>	1	DPO, JAH	Feb. 22	Morden, <i>Kings</i>	45	GMY
Dec. 21	Upper Canard, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS	Cedar Waxwing			
Dec. 26-				CBCs	20 counts	865	
Feb.11	Halifax	1	DAM	Dec. 20	Louisbourg CBC	512	
Dec. 26	Eskasoni, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CBC	Dec. 27-			
Dec. 27	Annapolis Royal	1	CBC	Jan. 2	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Dec. 27	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	2	GMU	Dec. 27-28	Wolfville	20+	<i>fide</i> JWW
Dec. 28	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	1	DPO, JAH	Jan. 3-4	Wolfville	a few	BLF, RBS
Dec. 29-30,				Jan. 9	Enfield, <i>HRM</i>	1	KAM
Jan. 4	Wolfville	1	PES	Jan. 9	Mira area <i>CBRM</i>	9	LEL
Feb. 22	Port Maitland, <i>Yar.</i>	1	MUN	Jan. 10	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	DPO, JAH
Feb. 27	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	<i>fide</i> PLC	Feb. 2	East Chester, <i>Lun.</i>	12	CJF
Brown Thrasher				Feb. 8	Bedford South, <i>HRM</i>	8-10	NSBS
Dec.-Feb.	Bedford	1	<i>fide</i> SMB	Orange-crowned Warbler			
Dec.-Jan.	Shad Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	<i>fide</i> BLM	CBCs	5 counts	17	
Jan. 2, 16,				Dec. 2	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, DAM
26	Chester, <i>Lun.</i>	1	CJF, JAH	Dec. 3	PPP	1	MIK
European Starling				Dec. 5-			
CBCs	34 counts	55,610		Feb. 28	central Halifax	1	PLC, SEM, DAM
American Pipit				Dec. 14	Canso	9	TOK
CBCs	1 count	49		Dec. 14	Hartlen Pt.	1	AGH
Dec. 2	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	DAM, BLM	Dec. 14	CSI CBC	5	var. obs.
Dec. 3	Martinique	1	LUB	Dec. 14	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	7	var. obs.
Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	49	CBC	Dec. 14	Wolfville CBC	1	<i>fide</i> RBS

Dec. 28	Strait of Canso CBC	1	<i>fide</i> DJO
Dec. 28	Back Harbour Tr., Lun.	1	JAH, DPO
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	3	<i>fide</i> JAH
Nashville Warbler			
Dec. 6	South end Halifax	1	Gavin Charles
Dec. 21	Yarmouth CBC	1	CBC
Yellow-rumped Warbler			
	CBCs	134	
Dec. 1	Rainbow Haven, HRM	10	BLM, DAM
thr.	Portuguese Cove, HRM	1	survived winter
			HAT
Dec. 3, 27	Canso	a few	TOK
Dec. 29	Back Harbour Tr., Lun.	5	DPO, JAH
Jan. 21	Martinique	1	Chris Pepper
Jan. 24, 31	New Waterford, CBRM	2-5	on bayberry
			DBM
HERMIT WARBLER			
Dec. 1-6	PPP	1	photos var.obs.
Pine Warbler			
	CBCs	5	counts 13
Dec. 2	Wolfville	1	imm. f. JWW
Dec. 3	PPP	3	MIK
Dec. 8-			
late Feb.	Mahone Bay, Lun.	1	JOA
Dec. 9, 18	Port Hawkesbury, Inv.	1	DJO, B.&L. Talbot
Dec. 14	Canso	6-7	TOK
Dec. 14	CSI	1	<i>fide</i> MUN
Dec. 27	Bedford	1	GMU
Jan. 11	Clam Pt., Shel.	1	CST
Jan. 11-			
Feb. 28+	Halifax	1	feeder ANM
Jan. 15	Halifax waterfront	1	1 st w. fem. Dennis Garratt
Jan. 18,			
Feb. 8	Mira, CBRM	1	LEL
Feb. 4	Barrington, Shel.	1	RMC
Feb. 11	PPP	2-3	CJF
Palm Warbler			
	CBCs	5	counts 7
Dec. 3	PPP	3, 1	palmarum
			MIK
Dec. 3	Crystal Crescent	1	HAT
Dec. 3	Canso	1	TOK
Dec. 14	Wolfville	1	<i>fide</i> RBS
Dec. 27	L'Ardoise, Rich.	1	DJO, SEM, DBM
Jan. 3	Lunenburg CBC	1	<i>fide</i> JAH
Black-and-white Warbler			
Dec. 2-3	PPP	1	ELM, IAM; var.obs
Dec. 21	Lunenburg	1	JAH
Common Yellowthroat			
	CBCs	2	counts 2
Dec. 16	Port La Tour, Shel.	1	JCZ <i>et al.</i>
Dec. 21	Seabright, HRM	1	Eleanor Lindsey
Yellow-breasted Chat			
	CBCs	4	counts 16
Dec. 2	Hastings Dr., HRM	1	BLM, DAM
Dec. 13-			
Jan. 3	north end Halifax	1-2	SEM
Dec. 14	Halifax/Dartmouth CBC	12	
Dec. 14-20	Lakeside Terrace, HRM	1	BBU
Dec. 23	Wolfville, Kings	1	David Silverberg
Dec. 25	Oakland, Lun.	1	Anne Hughes
Dec. 27	Lunenburg	1	<i>fide</i> JAH
Dec. 27	Canso	1	<i>fide</i> TOK
Jan. 1	Wolfville	1	JWW
Jan. 3	Back Harbour Tr., Lun.	1	<i>fide</i> JAH
Feb. 5	central Halifax	1	found
		dead	Dominique Le Grand



The PINE WARBLER is routine in early winter, but several in lingering in Pt. Pleasant Park (here Dec. 3) were somewhat unusual. [Photo Bruce Stevens]



A "Tellow" PALM WARBLER of the eastern subspecies was among the warblers staying into December in Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax. [Photo Bernard Burke]



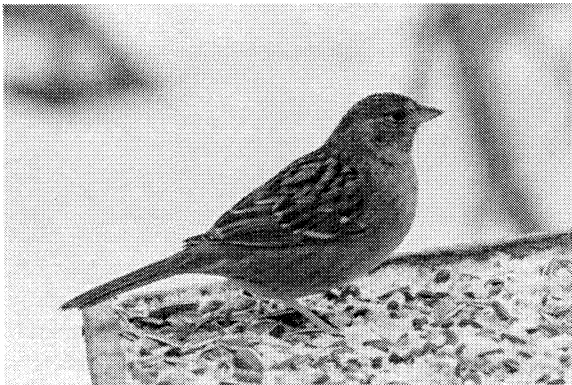
During tough times, look for warblers showing unusual behaviour in unusual places. This late BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER was foraging Dec. 21 in Lunenburg. [Photo John Robart]

Tanagers Through House Sparrows

By Ian McLaren

I've tried to tabulate all observations sent directly to the NSBS or to NatureNS and NS-RBA, but of course condensed those of routine species. Reports like "2-5 through winter" are added as 5 in each monthly total. A + or ++ indicates some reports of "some" or "a few," or "many." One is struck by the greater usefulness of CBCs in indicating the annual status of species. See, for example, pine grosbeak - people probably visit its deep forest habitat only under the urges of formal counting. Perhaps we need a similar organized count in late winter to get measures of seasonal change.

The two tanagers did not linger, or they failed to survive. The SUMMER Tanager was reported as a "western," which presumably meant subspecies *cooperi* breeding in extreme SW USA and N. Mexico. Descriptions and a photo suggest that it was too brightly yellow for that subspecies, which does not appear to have been recorded in the East, and it was probably a first-fall female.



The **GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW** at Canso was present sporadically after first appearing in late December. Later (here 2 Feb.) it began to show more yellow on the crown, but was otherwise very nondescript, more like a female House Sparrow than an exotic *Zonotrichia*. [Photo Tom Kavanaugh]

Sparrows were variously represented this winter, with vagrants including record seasonal numbers of **EASTERN TOWHEE** and **LARK SPARROW**, and rare occurrences of **LE CONTE'S** (2nd for winter) and **GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW** (ph, 4th for winter). Although the Le Conte's was briefly observed, AAM noted its *Ammodramus* size and shape, buff overall plumage tones, rounded rather than flat head, narrow flank streaking, and head features that included dark crown with pale buff streak, and dark post ocular stripe that "ended at the nape in a wedge or anchor shape that really stood out against the buff expanse of the face." Other uncommon sparrows included **CLAY-COLORED**, **LARK** and **GRASSHOPPER**. An interesting **FOX SPARROW** on the CBC in Halifax gave "... the impression that it was dark brown, unlike our usual rusty Fox Sparrows, and Laurel [Banks] thought it might be one of the western races." [PLC]. Such birds have wandered to NE USA, and a similarly dark brown one was photographed Dec. 2007 in Alma, NB. Any western Fox Sparrow here would almost certainly have to be from the "Slaty" *schistacea* subspecies (or species) group of the Rockies, some of which have brown rather than gray backs. Dark brown hybrids with the widespread "Red" subspecies *iilaca* group are also possible, so good photos would be mandatory for critical assessment.

Among our regular sparrows, **AMERICAN TREE** and **SAVANNAH SPARROW** were below average on the CBCs (both lowest since the late 1980s or early 1990s), whereas **SONG** and **WHITE-THROATED SPARROW** and **DARK-EYED JUNCO** were within or above CBC limits of recent years, and continued in good numbers through winter. The differences may have reflected the lack of uncovered brush and grassland this past winter and the lure of feeders for woodland sparrows. Interestingly, **SNOW BUNTINGS**, which were within the recent CBC range, appeared in numbers at feeders in January, a first for some reporters, and again probably reflected snow cover in open country.

NORTHERN CARDINALS continue to increase and spread, with the highest CBC ever and a toehold in Cape Breton. Among its relatives, November's **PAINTED BUNTING** evidently lingered through December in Dartmouth, its ultimate fate uncertain.

Most icterids were within recent CBC limits, except for a record high count of **BALTIMORE ORIOLES**, with unusual numbers sustained through winter at Halifax feeders. Most unusual were two reports of **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD**. One was a female with the usual distinguishing details given on plumage, eye colour, bill shape, and length of tail (CLS, FLL). The other was a briefly observed "all dark black bird with some lightness around the neck, no hint of contrasting colour in secondaries or primaries, no hint of wing patch, no chest striping and with a white eye. Overall the bird [was] a perfect match to Sibley's drab first winter male Brewer's



This remarkable image, obtained Feb. 16 in Kings, epitomizes the restlessness of **HORNED LARKS** foraging over open country to glean weed seeds on wind-exposed patches. Note the pointed wings of the one in flight – a useful distinction of distant larks flying among buntings and longspurs. The birds are of the usual wintering subspecies *alpestris*, as indicated on the original by their yellowish faces and throats and rufous-brown tone on the back. [Photo Jeff Ogden]

Blackbird” (HAT). Despite almost 30 reports, only one diagnostic photo of this species is available from Nova Scotia (plus a few photos and videos that proved to be of Rusty Blackbird or Common Grackle).

Winter finches were generally within the CBC limits of the recent decade, although of course COMMON REDPOLLS (and two reported HOARY REDPOLLS) did not match last year’s monumental invasion. Some noted arrivals of Commons at feeders in February, including an extensively white one photographed (Lori Maclellan) at Abercrombie, *Pict.*, in late February (streaking and bill shape excluded Hoary, and not at all like a hybrid). On the other hand, we have not had such a large CBC of WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS since 1995 and they were all reported through winter.

HOUSE SPARROW continues to decline. Will it be missed if it disappears?

WESTERN Tanager

Nov. 25 Canso 1 m. (not prev. reported)
fide KJM

Summer Tanager

Late Nov.-
Dec. 16 Halifax 1 f. at feeders (photo)
var. obs.
Nov.-Dec. 3 Bay St. Lawrence, *Vic.* 1 m., feeder *fide* FMC



A female SUMMER TANAGER lingered in Halifax to be counted on the CBC. [Photo Mike King]

Eastern Towhee

CBCs Dartmouth 2
Nov.-Jan. 2 Dartmouth, Hastings Dr. 1 *FLL et al.*
mid-Nov.-
3 Dec. Hubley, *HRM* 1 m. *fide* SHU
Late Nov.-
Mar. Wolfville 1 f. at feeder JWW
mid-Dec. Lwr. Rose Bay, *Lun.* 1 JAH
late Dec. Dartmouth, Lakeside Terr. 1 *fide* PLC
Jan. 2 Onslo, *Col.* 1 m. JBO
Jan. 3-
4 Feb. +? Wolfville 1 f. JWW

American Tree Sparrow

CBCs *CBRM to Shel.* 667
Dec. widely 7 repts., 35+ inds.
var. obs.
Jan. widely 7 repts., 70+ inds.
var. obs.
Feb. 5 locations 33+ inds. var. obs.
Early Dec.-
Mar. Port Hawkesbury “few” DJO

Chipping Sparrow

CBCs Pictou-Yarmouth 21
Dec. 9 Port Hawkesbury 1 DJO
Dec. 20 Falmouth 1 PKE (photo)
Dec. 21 Lwr. Rose Bay, *Lun.* 1 JAH
Jan. 7,
Feb. 21 Lunenburg 1 JAH

Clay-colored Sparrow

Dec. 2 Dartmouth 1 ph. (same as mid-Nov.?)
BLM, DAM
Dec. 14 Halifax/Dartmouth CBC 1 no details
Jan. 6-23+ ? Canso 1 TOK *et al.*

Lark Sparrow

Dec. 1, 9 Causeway Rd., *HRM* 1 (photo) BLM, DAM
Dec. 2 CSI 1 MUN
Dec. 4-14+? Dartmouth 1 CLS, FLL, *et al.*
Dec. 6-29 Lunenburg 1 at feeder JAH *et al.*
Feb. 8 Lwr. W. Pubnico 1 at feeder MUN

Savannah Sparrow

CBCs *Vic. to CSI* 39
Dec. 6 Dominion Bch., *CBRM* 7 LEL
Dec. 9 Grand Desert, *HRM* 1 BLM, DAM
Jan. 3 Wolfville, feeder 1 JWW
Jan. 13 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* 2 DOU
Jan. 17 Conrad Bch., *HRM* 1 Chris Pepper
mid-Jan. St. Peter’s, *Rich.* 1 BID

LECONTE’S SPARROW (7th provincial record)

Dec. 14 Wolfville CBC 1 (written report)
AAM

Grasshopper Sparrow

Dec.-
Jan. 23+? Canso 1 (photo) TOK

Fox Sparrow

CBCs Halifax-Yarmouth 10
Dec. 8 localities 9 inds. var. obs.
Jan. 4 localities 4 inds. var. obs.
Feb. 8 Lwr. W. Pubnico 1 MUN

Song Sparrow

CBCs *CBRM to Yarmouth* 1335
Dec.-Feb. widely 11 repts., 48+ inds.
var. obs.
Jan. 13 Halifax 1 singing PLC

Lincoln’s Sparrow

CBCs Halifax/Dartmouth, CSI 3
Dec. 2, 14 CSI 1 *MUN et al.*

Swamp Sparrow

CBCs *HRM. to Yar.* 25
Dec. Canso to Yarmouth 6 repts., 21+ inds.
var. obs.
Jan. 5-11,
Feb. 3 Conrad Rd., *HRM* 1 DMW
Jan. 8 Canso 10-12 TOK
Jan. 10 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* 1 A. Adolfsson
Jan. 14, 22 CSI 1 at feeder MUN, JAH
Feb. 8 Lwr. W. Pubnico 1 at feeder MUN

White-throated Sparrow

CBC *CBRM to Yar.* 1403
Dec. Canso to CSI 9 repts., 100+ inds.
var. obs.
Jan. CBRM-CSI 10 repts., 60+ inds.
var. obs.
Feb. Canso-CSI 7 repts., 35+ inds.
var. obs.

White-crowned Sparrow

CBCs Port L’Hebert, Wolfville 5
Wintered Wolfville 1 imm. JWW
Wintered CSI 1 JON, MUN
Dec. 27 Greenwich, *Kings* 1 imm. BLF, RBS
Early Jan. Wolfville, Starrs Pt., *Kings* 1, 1 ad. PLC, *fide* JWW

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW

Dec. 27-
end Feb. Canso 1 imm. (photo)
TOK *et al.*

Dark-eyed Junco

CBCs	<i>Vic. to Yar.</i>	6131	
Dec.	widely	8 repts., 50+ inds.	
			var. obs.
Jan.	widely	7 repts., 44++ inds.	
			var. obs.
Feb.	widely	9 repts., 115++ inds.	
			var. obs.

Lapland Longspur

CBCs	<i>Col. to Anna.</i>	131	
Dec. 1	Rainbow Haven PP, <i>HRM</i>	12	BLM, DAM
Dec. 2, 6	Martinique	2	LUB, BLM
Jan. 10	Wolfville	small flock	LDE
Early Feb.	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	number?	JBO
Feb. 27	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2 m.	SJF

Snow Bunting

CBCs	<i>CBRM to Shel.</i>	2810	
Dec.	widely	5 repts., 60+ inds.	
			var. obs.
Jan.	widely	11 repts., 345+ inds.	
			var. obs.
Feb.	widely	19 repts., 370+ inds.	
			var. obs.

Northern Cardinal

CBCs	<i>Pict. to Yar.</i>	176	
Late Dec.	Blues Mills, <i>Inv.</i>	1 m., 1 st for area	
			<i>fide</i> DJO
Dec.-Feb.	<i>Ant. to Yar.</i>	27 repts., 60+ inds.	
			var. obs.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Early Jan.	Dartmouth	1 f./imm. (photo)	
			GAM, <i>fide</i> MIK
To Feb.	Wallace, <i>Cum.</i>	1 m.	<i>fide</i> PLC

Indigo Bunting

Early Dec.	Canso	2	TOK
Dec. 5	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1 f./imm.	SJF

PAINTED BUNTING

Late Nov.-			
Dec. 31	Dartmouth	1 ad. m.	GAM, MIK, <i>et al.</i>

Dickcissel

CBCs	Louisbourg to Brier I.	9	
Dec. 9	Port Hawkesbury	2	DJO
Dec. 28-			
Jan. 9	Hirtles Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH <i>et al.</i>

Red-winged Blackbird

CBCs	<i>CBRM to Brier I.</i>	54	
Dec.-Feb.	widely	16 repts., 240+ inds.	
			var. obs.

Eastern Meadowlark

Dec. 29-31	L'Ardoise, <i>Rich.</i>	1	
Jan. 26	Glace Bay	1	Beverly Crowell

Rusty Blackbird

CBCs	<i>Cum. to Shel.</i>	6	
Dec. 6, 13	Lunenburg		JAH
Dec. 20	Millton, <i>Queens</i>	1 f.	JAH, DPO
Dec.-Jan. 14	Canso	1	TOK, MIK
Jan. 7-			
Feb. 14+?	Lunenburg	2	DOU, JAH
Dec. 24	Wolfville	20-25 (good details)	PES

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD

Dec. 6	Dartmouth	1 f.	CLS, FLL
Dec. 13	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	HAT

Common Grackle

CBC	<i>CBRM to Shel.</i>	103	
Dec.-Feb.	widely	8 repts., 17+ inds.	
			var. obs.

Brown-headed Cowbird

CBCs	<i>CBRM to Yar.</i>	102	
Dec.-Feb.	widely	15 repts., 85++ inds.	
			var. obs.

Baltimore Oriole

CBC	<i>CBRM to Yar.</i>	49	
Dec.	<i>Rich.</i> -CSI, mostly Halifax	8 repts., 24+ inds.	

Jan.	<i>Guys.</i> , mostly Halifax	3 locs., 11 inds.	var. obs.
			var. obs.
Feb.	Halifax-Dartmouth	4 locs., 13 inds.	var. obs.

Pine Grosbeak

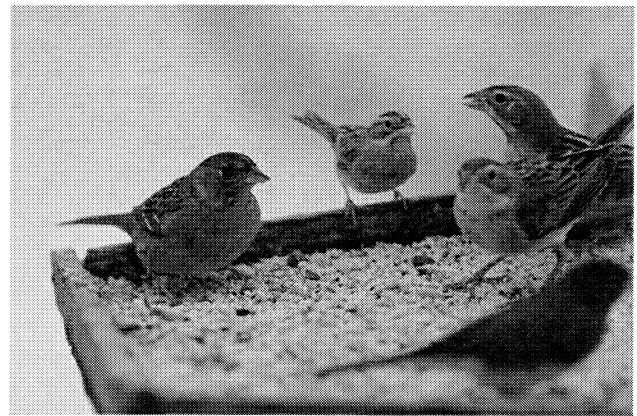
CBCs	<i>CBRM to Shel.</i>	710	
Dec. 3	Osborne Hbr., <i>Shel.</i>	"flock"	Gloria Gilbert
Dec. 30	Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	1 m.	KFS
Jan. 5	Homeville, <i>CBRM</i>	2	BES, GEC
Jan. 14	Dartmouth	1 m., 3 f.	DHH

Purple Finch

CBCs	<i>Vic. to Shel.</i>	277	
Dec.	widely	7 repts., 85++ inds.	
			var. obs.
Jan.	widely	6 repts., 18+ inds.	
			var. obs.
Feb.	widely	8 repts., 16++ indivs	
			var. obs.

House Finch

CBCs	mostly Hfx-D'mth, Yarmouth	54	
Dec. 6	CSI	7	MUN
Dec. 27	Carleton, <i>Yar.</i>	1	RAH
Feb. 4	Wolfville	1 f.	BLF
Feb.	Halifax	18+	var. obs.
Feb. 7	Barrington	2 m., 3 f.	RMC
Feb. 22	Yarmouth	"lots"	MUN



Surely no other feeder in Nova Scotia (or any other place in the East) can claim the variety of vagrants that visit TOK's feeders in Canso. Here two vagrant sparrows (can you id both? – answer in the "Spotting Scope") and two DICKCISSELS are filling up in early January. [Photo Tom Kavanaugh]

Red Crossbill

CBCs	Louisbourg-CSI	55	
Dec. 13	Lunenburg	1	
Dec. 14	CSI	1	JAH
Dec. 28	Woodville Rd., <i>Hants</i>	9	BLM
Jan. 16	Kentville	4, 2	AAM, AND
Jan. 9	Peggy's Cove	4	DAM
Jan.-Feb.	Willmot, <i>Ann.</i>	1-12	IRO
Feb. 13	Carleton, <i>Yar.</i>	1, 1 st yr. m.	RAH

White-winged Crossbill

CBCs	<i>CBRM to HRM</i>	3261	
Dec.-Jan.	widely	19 repts., 145++ inds.	
			var. obs.
Feb.	widely	5 repts., 25+ inds.	

Common Redpoll

CBCs	<i>Vic. to Yar.</i>	2,145	
Dec.	widely	8 repts., 170+ inds.	
			var. obs.
Jan.	widely	13 repts., 540+ inds.	
			var. obs.

Feb.	widely	14 repts., 450+ inds. var. obs.
Hoary Redpoll		
Dec. 14	L. Egmont, <i>HRM</i>	1 <i>exilipes</i> BLM
Feb. 14	Wolfville Ridge, <i>Kings</i>	1 BLF
Pine Siskin		
CBCs	<i>Vic.-Shel.</i>	1474
Dec.	<i>Cum., HRM, Lun.</i>	4 repts., ~35 inds. var. obs.
Jan.	widely	10 repts., 435+ inds. var. obs.
Feb.	widely	11 repts., 310++ inds. var. obs.
American Goldfinch		
CBCs	all CBCs but 1	11,946
Dec.	widely	10 repts., 270+ inds. var. obs.

Jan.	widely	9 repts., 305+ inds. var. obs.
Feb.	widely	11 repts., 305+ inds. var. obs.
Evening Grosbeak		
CBCs	<i>CBRM. to Shel.</i>	2085
Dec.	6 localities	55+ & a flock var. obs.
Jan.	widely	8 repts., 145++ inds. var. obs.
Feb.	4 localities	35+ 4 obs.
House Sparrow		
CBCs	<i>CBRM to Yar.</i>	2402
Winter	<i>HRM, Kings</i>	21 flocks of 6-15 var. obs.

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This MANX SHEARWATER off Chebucto Hd., *HRM*, supplied our only photographically confirmed winter sighting, and was a nice addition to the count-period list for the Halifax-Dartmouth CBC. [Photo Mike King]



Weather - Eastern Annapolis Valley - Winter 2008-2009

By Larry Bogan

Monthly Averages of Weather Data
 Kentville, Nova Scotia 2008
 (from the Canada Food & Horticulture Research Centre, Kentville, N.S)

	Average Temperature (C)			Prec (mm)	snow (cm)	Sunshine (hours)
	Max	Min	Mean			
December	4.0	-6.3	-1.1	140	35	79
<i>47 yr avg</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>-6.2</i>	<i>-2.3</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>60</i>
January	-2.6	-15.4	-9.0	78	44	92
<i>47 yr avg</i>	<i>-1.2</i>	<i>-9.7</i>	<i>-5.4</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>76</i>
February	1.0	-9.2	-4.1	71	49	93
<i>47 yr avg</i>	<i>-0.9</i>	<i>-9.8</i>	<i>-5.3</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>101</i>
Season	0.8	-10.3	-4.8	289	128	264
<i>47 yr avg</i>	<i>-0.1</i>	<i>-8.5</i>	<i>-4.3</i>	<i>336</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>237</i>

[Note: Precipitation includes melted snow: 1 cm of snow approximately equals 1 mm precipitation.]

Comparing this winter with the last 47 winters, the data says that the winter of 2008-2009 was sunnier, drier, slightly cooler, and less snowy. To me, it felt like a long winter, and more extreme than that description. There are a number of factors that made this winter seem more severe than it really was.

Temperature:

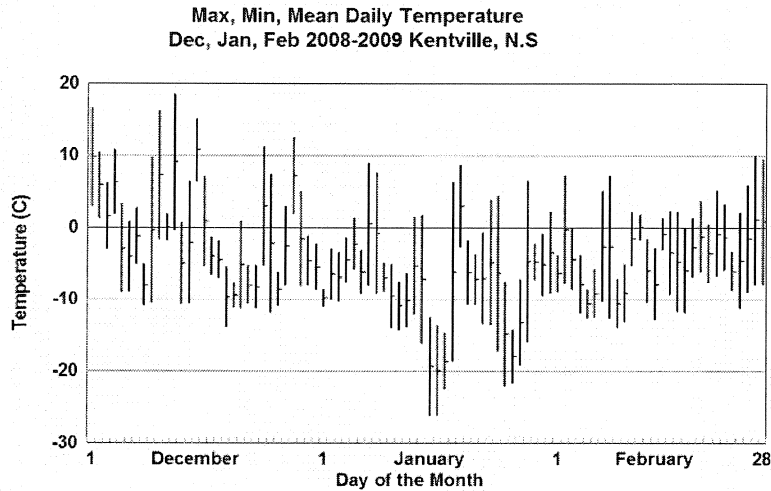
Although the season had nearly normal mean temperatures, January was very cold. The mean temperature for that month was an extra-ordinary 3.6 °C below normal. It also had extreme fluctuations in temperature -- while the mean maximum temperature was only 1.4 °C below average, the mean minimum was 5.7 °C lower than normal. We had two extended periods of cold temperatures during the month that contributed to these extremes.

This year we had no "January thaw", which usually occurs in the middle of the month, just the time when the coldest weather hit Nova Scotia. For three days on the 15-17th the mean temperature was -18 °C or below. The minimum was -26 °C on two evenings at the Kentville Agricultural Centre, while at my home in Cambridge I recorded -29 °C during that period. Ten days later another slightly less-cold air mass crossed over us. This time minimums were -22 °C and the mean temperatures were -13 to -18 °C. Only two separate days in January had mean temperatures above freezing, and then just 0.5 and 3 °C. You can see the fluctuations in temperatures during the season in the temperature graphic.

To compensate (albeit slightly) for January, both December and February were warmer than normal by 1.2 °C.

Precipitation:

We actually only had 71% of the usual snow for the season, and none of the three months of the season exceeded their normals. However, we had snow on the ground for all but 13 days of the season in The Valley, with an average depth of 26 cm. There was



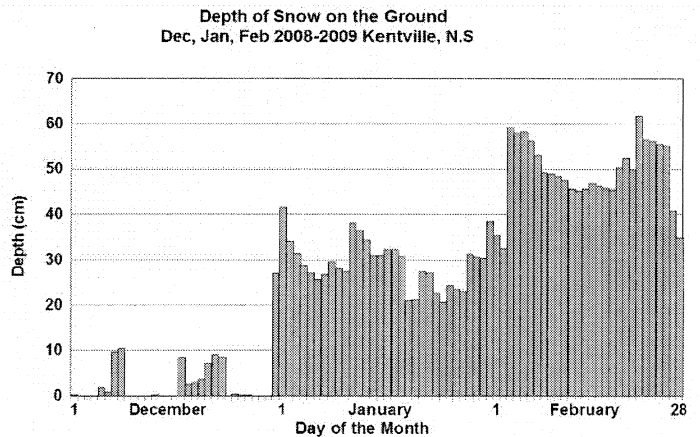
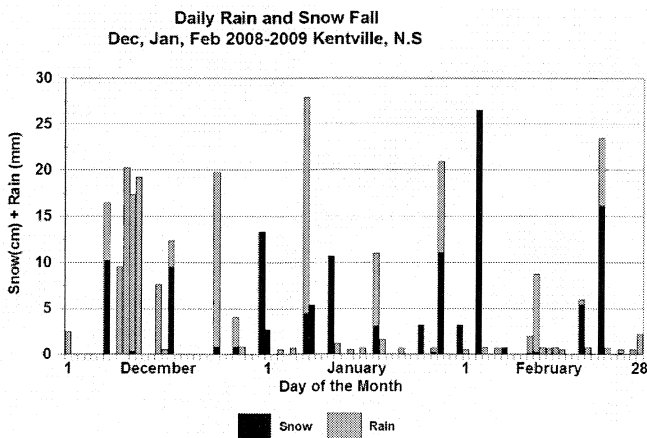
as much as 60 cm (two feet) of snow on the ground in February (see the graph of snow depth on the ground).

In the table of monthly averages, the precipitation includes both the snow and rain. December had 13% more than normal but the other two months received 2/3 and 3/4 of the expected precipitation. It was the cold temperatures (and the absence of freeze-thaw cycles) that allowed the snow to stay and build up on the ground. The precipitation graph shows both rainfall and snowfall. As you can see The Valley had lots of days with precipitation -- on 47 of the 90 days of the season there was some precipitation, though much of this was snow flurries off the Bay of Fundy during the many northwest winds The Valley experienced. There were fewer days with precipitation on the Atlantic coast.

All winter we had cold arctic air masses moving across Canada and into the Maritimes. If the mass pushed out into the Atlantic Nova Scotia dipped into the freezer, but if the mass moved north, as it did many times, the air circulation from the south brought moisture up from the south and we received snow or rain, depending on the location of the cold air mass. Regardless, it was a stormy season, with more than 20 significant storm events crossing the province.

Sunshine Hours:

Sunshine can somewhat compensate for cold weather, providing cheer on a winter day. December and January had above average bright sunshine, 30% and 20% above norms respectively, but February had 10% less: overall the season was 11% sunnier than average.



Nova Scotia Christmas Bird Counts 2008-2009

David Curry ed.

It was a banner year for Christmas Counts: 35 counts were submitted, 1,342 people participated, and more than 300,000 birds were counted. The all-time Christmas Bird Count list now stands at a remarkable **283** species, with the additions of **Cackling Goose**, **Boreal Owl**, **LeConte's Sparrow**, and **Summer Tanager**. The 2008/2009 CBC period will be remembered for the diversity and abundance of rarities, including 30 Red-bellied Woodpeckers and 14 Snowy Owls.

I note the continued decline of the House Sparrow population, and the apparent decline in European Starling.

Twenty most abundant species by party hour with corresponding fifteen year average for each species.

(The table below has been changed from previous years to show each species in relation to party-hours. Party hours only include those hours accumulated by field observers, and exclude owling and feeder hours.)

Species	Actual 2008	15 yr. Avg	Species	Actual 2008	15 yr Avg
European Starling	29.344	32.084	Mourning Dove	4.1032	3.244
American Crow	25.292	22.010	Rock Pigeon	3.8457	4.273
Canada Goose	12.194	6.589	Dark-eyed Junco	3.2352	2.937
Herring Gull	9.9145	16.014	Mallard	3.1291	1.878
American Black Duck	8.3452	8.853	Greater Scaup	2.6938	2.528
B-capped Chickadee	6.6091	6.121	Gr-Black-backed Gull	2.2959	3.876
American Goldfinch	6.3036	4.553	R-breasted Merganser	2.1577	1.750
Blue Jay	4.2214	3.105	Common Goldeneye	1.8812	1.471
Common Eider	4.1481	3.131	White-winged Crossbill	1.7208	.6314
Bohemian Waxwing	4.1180	1.898	American Robin	1.4163	.8478

Results/Effort with Corresponding 15 Year Averages

Results/Effort	Actual 2008	15 Yr. Average
Total Species Seen	167	164
Total Individual birds	300,618	283,696
Observers in Field	634	625
Feeder Watchers	708	574.6
Number of Hours	1895.1	1851.47
Number of Kilometres	13716	12525.7

The compilers of Christmas Bird Counts devote an enormous amount of time: recruiting and organising participants, gathering the data, arranging compilation suppers, confirming sightings, awaiting details, responding to questions, and submitting the final report. Our thanks to you all, because your valuable efforts increase our understanding of the ever-changing patterns of Nova Scotia birdlife.

AMHERST, Dec 19; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -10 to -1C. Wind W-NW 0-20kmph. Snow 10-15cm. Still water partly open, moving water partly frozen. Skies clear all day. 32 field observers in 10-17 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours 89 (52.5 on foot, 36.5 by car). Total party kilometres 737.9 (118 by foot, 619.9 by car).

American Black Duck 7; Common Merganser 211; Ring-necked Pheasant 39; Ruffed Grouse 10; Bald Eagle 30; Sharp-shinned Hawk 5; Northern Goshawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 5; Rough-legged Hawk 27; Merlin 1; hawk species 1; Ring-billed Gull 23; Herring Gull 550; Iceland Gull 16; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 226; gull species 242; Rock Pigeon 438; Mourning Dove 142; **Snowy Owl 2**; Barred Owl 3; Downy Woodpecker 16; Hairy Woodpecker 15; Northern Flicker 4; Pileated Woodpecker 5; **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1**; Northern Shrike 3; Gray Jay 5; Blue Jay 112; American Crow 815; Common Raven 88; Horned Lark 8; Black-capped Chickadee 558; Boreal Chickadee 11; Red-breasted Nuthatch 15; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 43; American Robin 10; European Starling 2271; Bohemian Waxwing 82; American Tree Sparrow 39; Song Sparrow 4; White-throated Sparrow 5; Dark-eyed Junco 15; Lapland Longspur 26; Snow Bunting 560; Northern Cardinal 1; **Rusty Blackbird 1**; Common Grackle 3; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Baltimore Oriole 1; Pine Grosbeak 42; Red Crossbill 16; White-winged Crossbill 140; Common Redpoll 329; Pine Siskin 6; American Goldfinch 109; finch species 27; Evening Grosbeak 339; House Sparrow 1.

Total Species 57, about 7,710 individuals. Ivy Austin, Sean Blaney, Doug Bliss, Sydney Bliss, Paul Bogaard, Andrew Boyne, Kate Bredin, Sandy Burnett; Greg Campbell, Roland Chiasson, Mickey Comeau, Cindy Creighton, Vicky Daley, Jackie Davidson, Kevin Davidson, Sheri Faulkner-Jackson, Jeff Hiltz, Jason Hudson, Patrick Kelly, Andrew Kennedy, Andrew MacFarlane, Colin MacKinnon, Adam McPherson, Julie Paquet, Kate Robinson, Dayton Skei, Al Smith, Kathleen Spicer, **Becky Stewart (compiler)**, Jennifer Stewart, Kyle Wellband, Becky Whittam, John Wile.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, Dec 27; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -10 to -5C. Wind SW 10kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. A.M. cloudy. P.M. cloudy, light snow. 20 field observers in 11 parties, 78 at feeders. Total party hours 39.5 (20 on foot, 19.5 by car). Total party kilometres 397.5 (26.3 by foot, 371 by car).

American Black Duck 648; Mallard 165; **Northern Shoveler 6**; Greater Scaup 284; Common Eider 9; Harlequin Duck 1; Surf Scoter 19; White-winged Scoter 89; Black Scoter 5; Long-tailed Duck 38; Bufflehead 314; Common Goldeneye 55; Barrow's Goldeneye 2; Hooded Merganser 1; Common Merganser 19; Red-breasted Merganser 63; Ring-necked Pheasant 32; Ruffed Grouse 2; Spruce Grouse 2; Red-throated Loon 5; Common Loon 32; Horned Grebe 26; Red-necked Grebe 59; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 1; Great Blue Heron 2; Bald Eagle 1; Northern Harrier 2; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Purple Sandpiper 7; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 527; Great Black-backed Gull 131; gull species 9; Dovekie 1; Razorbill 13; Black Guillemot 3; Rock Pigeon 159; Mourning Dove 319; Barred Owl 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 25; Hairy Woodpecker 29; Northern Flicker 5; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 673; American Crow 321; Common Raven 28; Black-capped Chickadee 359; Boreal Chickadee 12; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; American Robin 120; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 470; Cedar Waxwing 45; American Tree Sparrow 33; Chipping Sparrow 6; Song Sparrow 22; White-throated Sparrow 67; Dark-eyed Junco 359; sparrow species 19; Lapland Longspur 100; Snow Bunting 8; Northern Cardinal 25; Common Grackle 3; Baltimore Oriole 1; Purple Finch 49; House Finch 1; White-winged Crossbill 223; Common Redpoll 129; Pine Siskin 62; American Goldfinch 610; Evening Grosbeak 41; House Sparrow 8.

Total Species 76, about 6,923 individuals. (CW. Canada Goose, **Northern Bobwhite (escape)**, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Iceland Gull). Flo Baird, Clyde Baltzer, Susan Baltzer, Tanya Belliveau, Charlie Belliveau, Renatta Bennett, Bob Bennett, Henry Bent, Penny Berens, Shelagh Bestany, Earle Boudreau, Betty Burrell, Sam Burton, Lynn Burton, Sherry Caldwell, Joan Chalmers, Josie Chapman, Diane Clapp, Harold Clapp, Jerri Costa, Kaye Cox, Len Creelman, Judy Creelman, Graham Dalton, Dinah Dalton, Ray Dempsey, Par Dill, Bob Ellis, Becky Ellis, Barb Fancy, Kathy Fearon, Leslie Feener, Leota Feener, Gerry Frail, Barry Frail, Joan Francuz, Glenn Hall, Margaret Hall, Joan Harris, Frank Harris, Sharon Hawboldt, Millie Hawes, Erna Henshaw, Delereis Jefferson, Lois Jenkins, Cliff Jones, Susan Jost, Harry Jost, Hans Kutschera, Jean Lebel, Corinne Leek, Carol Littlewood, Shirley Marowich, Abby Marshall, Blake Maybank, Pat McDonald, Art McDonald, Wayne Morgan, Valerie Mount, Donald Mullen, Marian Mullen, Lynn Nordland, Julie Palmer, Michael Proulx, Gini Proulx, Lisa Proulx, Denise Rice, Ricky Rice, Andi Rierden, Barb Selig, Mary Sisson, Stephen Spidle, Jack Thorborne, Joey Thorpe, Sheila Tinker, **David Tinker (compiler)**, Stephanie Wamboldt, Tim Wamboldt, Marie Wamboldt, Alice White, Art White, Joyce Wilson, Marilyn Wright.

ANTIGONISH, Dec 14; 7:15AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -6 to -3C. Snow 3cm. Still water open, moving water open. A.M. cloudy. P.M. partly cloudy. 15 field observers in 7 parties and 8 at feeders, 1.25 hours and 8 km. owling. Total party hours 37 (14.5 by foot, 22.5 by car). Total party kilometres 254 (17.5 by foot, 236.3 by car).

Canada Goose 589; **Eurasian Wigeon 1**; American Wigeon 42; American Black Duck 715; Mallard 68; American Black Duck/Mallard hybrid 2; Northern Pintail 12; Green-winged Teal 2; Ring-necked Duck 1; Greater Scaup 1; Common Eider 132; Surf Scoter 16; White-winged Scoter 11; Black Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 10; Common Goldeneye 27; Hooded Merganser 14; Common Merganser 149; Red-breasted Merganser 78; merganser species 1; duck species 6; Ruffed Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 7; Common Loon 2; Horned Grebe 16; Northern Gannet 40; Bald Eagle 68; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 8; Black-headed Gull 30; Bonaparte's Gull 164; Ring-billed Gull 214; Herring Gull 712; Iceland Gull 17; Great Black-backed Gull 35; gull species 53; Rock Pigeon 387; Mourning Dove 185; **Red-Bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 9; Hairy Woodpecker 5; Northern Flicker 2; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 111; American Crow 474; Common Raven 32; Black-capped Chickadee 238; Red-breasted Nuthatch 8; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 32; American Robin 2; European Starling 1393; American Tree Sparrow 46; Song Sparrow 9; White-

throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 90; sparrow species 6; Snow Bunting 48; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Pine Grosbeak 28; White-winged Crossbill 21; Common Redpoll 27; American Goldfinch 212; Evening Grosbeak 45; House Sparrow 62.

Total Species 62, about 6,727 individuals. (CW. Osprey). Anne Beck, Charlotte Brosha, Martha Brown, May Goring, Leslie Clapstein, John Lamb, Oona Landry, **Randy Lauff (compiler)**, Peter MacEachern, Harriet MacMillan, Richard Mash, Paul McClung, Jean McGee, Ken McKenna, John Monkman, Josephine Monkman, Kerstin Mueller, Marilyn O'Brien, Aimee Pelletier, Mark Pulsifer, Bunny Smith, Brian Starzomski, Margaret Starzomski.

APPLE RIVER, Dec 30; 7:45AM to 5:45PM. Temp. -7 to -2C. Winds calm. Snow patchy 2cm. Still water frozen, moving partly open. Skies clear all day. 8 field observers in 5 parties, 4 at feeders, .25 hr. owling. Total party hours 30.75 (23 on foot, 7.75 by car). Total party kilometres 157 (28 by foot, 129 by car)

American Black Duck 40; Mallard 2; Common Eider 9; Black Scoter 2; Long-tailed Duck 5; Common Goldeneye 9; Common Merganser 5; Red-breasted Merganser 3; Ruffed Grouse 9; Spruce Grouse 2; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 9; Horned Grebe 2; Red-necked Grebe 1; Double-crested Cormorant 1; **Turkey Vulture 1**; Bald Eagle 6; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Purple Sandpiper 4; Ring-billed Gull 85; Herring Gull 47; Great Black-backed Gull 1; Black Guillemot 2; Mourning Dove 51; Barred Owl 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 21; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Northern Shrike 8; Gray Jay 10; Blue Jay 55; American Crow 98; Common Raven 10; Black-capped Chickadee 176; Boreal Chickadee 19; Red-breasted Nuthatch 15; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 11; American Robin 8; European Starling 83; Bohemian Waxwing 43; Cedar Waxwing 1; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 13; Song Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 3; Dark-eyed Junco 23; Red-winged Blackbird 3; **Rusty Blackbird 1**; Common Grackle 11; Brown-headed Cowbird 3; Pine Grosbeak 3; Purple Finch 1; Red Crossbill 1; White-winged Crossbill 123; Common Redpoll 5; Pine Siskin 25; American Goldfinch 250; Evening Grosbeak 35; House Sparrow 4.

Total Species 50, about 1,375 individuals. (CW. Hermit Thrush, Snow Bunting). Mickey Comeau, Ross Galbraith, Brandon Hicks, Andrew MacFarlane, Jane Mills, Maureen Mills, Sunday Mills, Craig Smith, Blaine Spicer, Cynthia Spicer, **Kathleen Spicer (compiler)**.

BADDECK, Dec 19; 8AM to 4PM. Temp. -6 to -3C. Wind NE 5-30kmph. Snow 30cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies partly clear, heavy snow squalls all day. 9 field observers in 7 parties, 13 at feeders. Total party hours 37.5 (13 on foot, 24.5 by car). Total party kilometres 247.5 (23.5 on foot, 214 by car).

American Black Duck 27; Mallard 1; Red-breasted Merganser 52; duck species 4; Ruffed Grouse 1; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 1; Bald Eagle 9; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Herring Gull 33; Great Black-backed Gull 24; Rock Pigeon 4; Mourning Dove 88; Downy Woodpecker 3; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 84; American Crow 78; Common Raven 12; Black-capped Chickadee 124; Boreal Chickadee 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; European Starling 104; Bohemian Waxwing 80; Dark-eyed Junco 6; Common Grackle 40; Pine Grosbeak 61; Pine Siskin 7; American Goldfinch 203; finch species 60; Evening Grosbeak 89; House Sparrow 4.

Total Species 31, about 1,221 individuals. (CW. American Woodcock, Song Sparrow). Angie Aucoin, Clarence Barrett, Lyn Duchesney, Joan Fownes, Mack Garland, Viola Garland, Larry Gibbons, **Bethsheila Kent (compiler)**, Aileen MacKillop, Jack MacKillop, Richard McCurdy, Erin Morrow, Jim Morrow, Sharon Morrow, Ed Nicholson, Bonnie Nunn, Bruce Nunn, Marcella Roberts, Beth Smith, Bill Smith, Chuck Spinney, Marg Spinney, Lloyd Stone.

BARRINGTON BAY/CAPE SABLE ISLAND, Dec 14; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -2 to -8C. Wind NW 50kmph. Snow 5cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. A.M. partly cloudy. P.M. clear. 20 field observers in 8 parties. Total party hours 56 (10 on foot, 46 by car). Total party kilometres 522 (15 by foot, 507 by car).

Brant 4; Canada Goose 70; **Eurasian Wigeon 2**; American Wigeon 8; American Black Duck 562; Mallard 189; Northern Pintail 9; Green-winged Teal 7; Greater Scaup 8; Common Eider 1433; Surf Scoter 62; White-winged Scoter 6; Black Scoter 141; Long-tailed Duck 106; Bufflehead 79; Common Goldeneye 10; Hooded Merganser 7; Common Merganser 3; Red-breasted Merganser 193; **Ruddy Duck 1**; Ring-necked Pheasant 6; Ruffed Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 71; Horned Grebe 11; Red-necked Grebe 73; Northern Gannet 15; Double-crested Cormorant 20; Great Cormorant 140; Great Blue Heron 13; **Great Egret 2**; Bald Eagle 1; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 31; Red-tailed Hawk 1; American Kestrel 1; Merlin 2; Black-bellied Plover 5; Killdeer 2; Sanderling 25; Purple Sandpiper 1; Dunlin 377; Black-headed Gull 1; Ring-billed Gull 10; **Common (Mew) Gull 1**; Herring Gull 2480; Iceland Gull 1; **Lesser Black-backed Gull 1**; Great Black-backed Gull 852; Black Guillemot 136; Rock Pigeon 41; Mourning Dove 262; Snowy Owl 5; Short-eared Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 5; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Northern Flicker 27; Blue Jay 92; American Crow 271; Common Raven 20; Black-capped Chickadee 164; Boreal Chickadee 24; Red-breasted Nuthatch 10; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 21; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1**; American Robin 14; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 640; Cedar Waxwing 2; Orange-crowned Warbler 5; Yellow-rumped Warbler 44; Pine Warbler 1; Palm Warbler 2; Common Yellowthroat 1; American Tree Sparrow 24; Chipping Sparrow 1; Savannah Sparrow 7; Song Sparrow 64; Lincoln's Sparrow 1; Swamp Sparrow 4; White-throated Sparrow 103; Dark-eyed Junco 63; Snow Bunting 28; Northern Cardinal 7; **Dickcissel 1**; Brown-headed Cowbird 4; Pine Grosbeak 1; Purple Finch 16; House Finch 1; Red Crossbill 2; White-winged Crossbill 43; Pine Siskin 28; American Goldfinch 183; House Sparrow 57.

Total Species 96, about 9,457 individuals. (CW. American Coot, Glaucous Gull, Thick-billed Murre, Common Grackle, Common Redpoll). Sue Abbott, Terry Crowell, Edna Crowell, David Currie, Christine Curry, Joan Czupalay, June Graves, James Hirtle, Peter MacLeod, Ethelda Murphy, **Murray Newell (compiler)**, Johnny Nickerson, Sandra Nickerson, Lillian Perry, Aileen Smith, Betty June Smith, Julie Smith, Sid Smith, Clyde Stoddart, Azor Vienneau.

BEDFORD/SACKVILLE, Dec 27; 7:30AM to 5:10PM. Temp. -13 to -2C. Wind SE 10kmph. Snow 2cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy all day. 32 field observers in 27 parties, 33 at feeders, 2.25 hours and 77.5km. owling. Total party hours 106.3 (60.9 on foot, 45.4 by car). Total party kilometres 729.3 (87.5 by foot, 641.8 by car).

Canada Goose 1; American Black Duck 795; Mallard 103; American Black Duck/Mallard hybrid 5; Greater Scaup 1; Common Goldeneye 92; Barrow's Goldeneye 8; Hooded Merganser 30; Common Merganser 15; Red-breasted Merganser 50; Ring-necked Pheasant 19; Spruce Grouse 1; Common Loon 1; Double-crested Cormorant 3; Bald Eagle 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Ring-billed Gull 17; Herring Gull 579; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 28; Rock Pigeon 273; Mourning Dove 494; Great Horned Owl 1; Northern Saw-whet Owl 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 77; Hairy Woodpecker 43; Northern Flicker 3; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 342; American Crow 6849; Common Raven 43; Black-capped Chickadee 768; Boreal Chickadee 8; Red-breasted Nuthatch 53; White-breasted Nuthatch 17; Brown Creeper 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 61; American Robin 14; Northern Mockingbird 2; European Starling 1555; Bohemian Waxwing 311; Pine Warbler 2; American Tree Sparrow 9; Song Sparrow 124; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 96; Dark-eyed Junco 365; Northern Cardinal 6; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 8; Purple Finch 3; White-winged Crossbill 176; Common Redpoll 1; Pine Siskin 27; American Goldfinch 926; finch species 10; Evening Grosbeak 56; House Sparrow 4.

Total Species 61, about 14,497 individuals. (CW. Wilson's Snipe). Bill Billington, Eileen Billington, Elaine Black, Paul Blades, Rita Blades, Leczyk Borkowski, Suzanne Borkowski, Donna Bondridge, Yvette Buckley, Lloyd Cameron, Marilyn Challis, Patricia Chalmers, Margaret Clark, Lois Codling, Bob Craig, Murial Craig, Charles Cron, Yvette Buckley, Marilyn Challis, Patricia Chalmers, Margaret Clark, Lois Codling, Bob Craig, Barbara Downham, Heather Drope, Brian Field, Renee Field, Bev Gammon, Elliot Hayes, Judi Hayes, Jean Hartley, Andy Horn, Bill Hughes, Shirley Hughes, David Hughes, Janey Hughes, Susan James, Elizabeth Keizer, Rita Kinney, Fulton Lavender, Pat Leader, Marina LeBlanc, Peter LeBlanc, John Loch, Gerry Lunn, Carol MacNeill, Don MacNeill, Edna Matthews, Andrew McDonald, **Bob McDonald (compiler)**, Wendy McDonald, Bernice Moores, Julie Morris, Gary Murray, Maureen Nowlan, Glorena Patterson, **Richard Peckham (compiler)**, Duncan Rand, Walter Regan, Carolyn Renton, Barry Sawyer, Dottie Welch, Rita Viau.

BIG POND/ESKASONI, Dec 26; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -8 to -5C. Wind W-NW 23-33kmph. Snow 4cm. Still water partly open, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy all day. 25 field observers in 8 parties, 5 at feeders. Total party hours 35.8 (13 on foot, 22.8 by car). Total party kilometres 288.5 (17.5 by foot, 271 by car).

Canada Goose 49; American Black Duck 93; Mallard 1; **Ring-necked Duck 23**; Greater Scaup 280; White-winged Scoter 27; Common Goldeneye 293; Common Merganser 46; Red-breasted Merganser 369; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 9; Red-necked Grebe 6; Double-crested Cormorant 6; Bald Eagle 34; Red-tailed Hawk 8; Black-headed Gull 18; Bonaparte's Gull 20; Ring-billed Gull 5; Herring Gull 146; Iceland Gull 22; Great Black-backed Gull 18; Rock Pigeon 1; Mourning Dove 44; Northern Saw-whet Owl 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 4; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Northern Shrike 1; Blue Jay 101; American Crow 263; Common Raven 28; Black-capped Chickadee 174; Boreal Chickadee 10; Red-breasted Nuthatch 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 23; American Robin 28; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 222; Bohemian Waxwing 236; Cedar Waxwing 17; Song Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 5; Pine Grosbeak 30; White-winged Crossbill 304; American Goldfinch 28; Evening Grosbeak 25; House Sparrow 31.

Total Species 47, about 3,045 individuals. George Ball, Dorothy Barnard, Barbara Cash, Theresa Cash, April Digout, Billy Digout, George Digout, Sharon Digout, Jim Guy, Dave Harris, Andrew Holt, John MacInnis, Frank MacIsaac, Ruth MacIsaac, Alanna MacNeil, Ann Marie MacNeil, Blaise MacNeil, Brian MacNeil, **Jack MacNeil (compiler)**, Shawn MacNeil, Dave McCorquodale, Mary McKenna, Laurie Murchison, Allan Murrant, Cathy Murrant, Steve Sutherland, Chris Thomson, Joe Wickens, Fred White, Melvin White.

BRIDGETOWN, Jan 3; 8:15AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -6 to -3C. Wind W 12kmph. Snow 15cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies partly clear or cloudy all day. 11 field observers in 7 parties, 36 at feeders. Total party hours 32.5 (6 on foot, 26.5 by car). Total party kilometres 423.5 (14.5 by foot, 409 by car).

Canada Goose 3; American Black Duck 4; Mallard 14; Common Eider 42; Surf Scoter 17; White-winged Scoter 8; Long-tailed Duck 15; Barrow's Goldeneye 2; Red-breasted Merganser 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 42; Red-throated Loon 2; Common Loon 9; Horned Grebe 2; Red-necked Grebe 2; **Osprey 1**; Bald Eagle 9; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Red-tailed Hawk 17; Merlin 1; **Peregrine Falcon 1**; hawk species 1; Herring Gull 151; Great Black-backed Gull 7; Rock Pigeon 182; Mourning Dove 359; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 26; Hairy Woodpecker 22; Blue Jay 584; American Crow 575; Common Raven 78; Horned Lark 2; Black-capped Chickadee 412; Red-breasted Nuthatch 6; White-breasted Nuthatch 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet 7; American Robin 11; European Starling 1502; Bohemian Waxwing 439; Cedar Waxwing 51; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 39; Song Sparrow 12; White-throated Sparrow 28; Dark-eyed Junco 346; sparrow species 16; Northern Cardinal 10; Common Grackle 2; Pine Grosbeak 26; Purple Finch 8; White-winged Crossbill 37; Common Redpoll 39; Pine Siskin 51; American Goldfinch 552; Evening Grosbeak 27; House Sparrow 17.

Total Species 55, about 5,831 individuals. (CW. Rough-legged Hawk, Barred owl, Short-eared Owl, Northern Shrike). Thelma Bent, Ilene Boutilier, Joyce Burbridge, Bill Caudle, Pearl Chambers, **David Colville (compiler)**, Annette Colville, Jan Coulter, Viola Doucette, Marilyn Durling, Noel Durling, Gloria Field, Murray Freeman, Marie Gaul, Bill Goucher, Joyce Grant-Smith, Avora Harding, Cyril Harding, Sharon Hawboldt, Steve Hawboldt, Christopher Hiltz, Marg Hirtle, Donna Jones, Ron

Jones, Roseaire MacNeil, Bev Marshall, Fred Marshall, Hilda Messinger, Wayne Neilly, Anne Parker, Doug Parker, Carl Phinney, Linda Phinney, Maggie Rice, Ian Rooseby, Christine Ross, Jean Smith, Les Smith, Paul Spicer, Alberta Wade, Gladdie Weir, Jane Wrightman, Lib Woolaver.

BRIER ISLAND, Dec 15; 7:45AM to 4:45PM. Temp. 9 to 11C. Wind SSW 70kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies cloudy all day. 4 field observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 14 (8 on foot, 6 by car). Total party kilometres 88 (13 by foot, 75 by car)

American Black Duck 34; *Mallard* 2; *Green-winged Teal* 3; *Common Eider* 113; *Surf Scoter* 2; *White-winged Scoter* 1; *Long-tailed Duck* 19; *Bufflehead* 3; *Common Goldeneye* 8; *Red-breasted Merganser* 33; *Ring-necked Pheasant* 5; *Common Loon* 14; *Red-necked Grebe* 2; *Northern Gannet* 36; *Great Cormorant* 62; *Great Blue Heron* 1; ***Black Vulture* 1; *Turkey Vulture* 11**; *Bald Eagle* 1; *Sharp-shinned Hawk* 1; *Red-tailed Hawk* 1; *Ring-billed Gull* 2; *Herring Gull* 745; *Iceland Gull* 46; *Great Black-backed Gull* 515; *Black-legged Kittiwake* 14; *Dovekie* 1; *Common Murre* 50; *Black Guillemot* 39; *alcid species* 500; ***Snowy Owl* 1**; *Rock Pigeon* 4; *Mourning Dove* 6; *Blue Jay* 14; *American Crow* 87; *Common Raven* 18; *Horned Lark* 3; *Black-capped Chickadee* 10; *Boreal Chickadee* 3; *Golden-crowned Kinglet* 4; *European Starling* 57; *Song Sparrow* 4; *White-throated Sparrow* 6; *Dark-eyed Junco* 6; *Northern Cardinal* 2; ***Dickcissel* 1**; *Red-winged Blackbird* 2; *Common Grackle* 22; *White-winged Crossbill* 30; *Common Redpoll* 100; *American Goldfinch* 6; *House Sparrow* 2.

Total Species 51, about 2,653 individuals. (CW. Northern harrier, Peregrine Falcon, Red-breasted Nuthatch, American tree Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird, Pine Siskin). Carl Haycock, Anne Mills, **Eric Mills (compiler)**, June Swift.

BROAD COVE, Dec 29; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -3 to 3C. Wind NW 5-30kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies clear all day. 24 field observers in 12 parties, 1 at feeders. Total party hours 72.15 (35 on foot, 37.15 by car). Total party kilometres 391.5 (41 by foot, 350.5 by car).

Canada Goose 860; *American Black Duck* 296; *Mallard* 261; *Greater Scaup* 93; *Lesser Scaup* 1; *Common Eider* 293; *Surf Scoter* 71; *White-winged Scoter* 8; *Black Scoter* 371; *Long-tailed Duck* 109; *Bufflehead* 127; *Common Goldeneye* 149; *Hooded Merganser* 21; *Common Merganser* 25; *Red-breasted Merganser* 121; *Ring-necked Pheasant* 4; *Ruffed Grouse* 11; *Red-throated Loon* 1; *Common Loon* 40; *Horned Grebe* 29; *Red-necked Grebe* 8; *Double-crested Cormorant* 2; *Great Cormorant* 12; *cormorant species* 2; *Bald Eagle* 14; *Northern Harrier* 3; *Sharp-shinned Hawk* 1; *Northern Goshawk* 1; *Red-tailed Hawk* 10; *American Kestrel* 1; *Merlin* 1; *hawk species* 1; *Black-bellied Plover* 1; ***Killdeer* 1; *Red Knot* 2**; *Purple Sandpiper* 34; *Dunlin* 22; *Ring-billed Gull* 14; *Herring Gull* 442; *Iceland Gull* 8; *Great Black-backed Gull* 144; *Dovekie* 4; *Common Murre* 4; *Razorbill* 1; *Black Guillemot* 15; *Rock Pigeon* 17; *Mourning Dove* 97; *Great Horned Owl* 1; *Short-eared Owl* 1; ***Red-bellied Woodpecker* 1**; *Downy Woodpecker* 14; *Hairy Woodpecker* 4; *Northern Flicker* 1; *Gray Jay* 3; *Blue Jay* 222; *American Crow* 191; *Common Raven* 24; *Horned Lark* 5; *Black-capped Chickadee* 476; *Boreal Chickadee* 8; *Red-breasted Nuthatch* 35; *White-breasted Nuthatch* 2; *Brown Creeper* 6; *Golden-crowned Kinglet* 43; ***Ruby-crowned Kinglet* 1**; *American Robin* 17; *European Starling* 628; *Bohemian Waxwing* 13; *Yellow-rumped Warbler* 8; *American Tree Sparrow* 3; *Savannah Sparrow* 2; *Song Sparrow* 22; *White-throated Sparrow* 21; *Dark-eyed Junco* 87; *Lapland Longspur* 5; *Purple Finch* 20; *Red Crossbill* 11; *White-winged Crossbill* 91; *Common Redpoll* 1; *Pine Siskin* 18; *American Goldfinch* 382; *Evening Grosbeak* 39.

Total Species 80, about 6,149 individuals. (CW. **Snowy Owl, Ruddy Turnstone**). Bruce Allen, Kay Casselman, Shirley Cohrs, Donna Crosby, David Currie, Gillian Elliott, Jim Elliott, Donna Ensor, Eric Ensor, **Sylvia Fullerton (compiler)**, James Hirtle, Blair Hodgman, Ann Hughes, Brian Kenefick, Janice Kenefick, Nelson Melling, Ann Mills, Eric Mills, Eileen Morrison, Dorothy Poole, Duncan Rand, Nellie Snyder, Azor Viennau, Dave Walmark, David Young.

CALEDONIA, Dec 14; 7:35AM to 4:55PM. Temp. -9 to 1C. No wind. No snow cover. Still water open, moving water open. A.M. clear. P.M. partly cloudy. 23 field observers in 13 parties, 26 at feeders, 1.5 hours owling. Total party hours 44 (34.75 on foot, 9.25 by car). Total party kilometres 238 (63 by foot, 175 by car).

American Black Duck 5; *Hooded Merganser* 1; *Ruffed Grouse* 11; *Spruce Grouse* 2; *Bald Eagle* 1; *Sharp-shinned Hawk* 1; *Red-tailed Hawk* 3; *Rock Pigeon* 55; *Mourning Dove* 91; *Barred Owl* 7; *Downy Woodpecker* 41; *Hairy Woodpecker* 32; *Pileated Woodpecker* 5; *Gray Jay* 3; *Blue Jay* 163; *American Crow* 39; *Common Raven* 36; *Black-capped Chickadee* 390; *Boreal Chickadee* 3; *Red-breasted Nuthatch* 15; *White-breasted Nuthatch* 38; *Brown Creeper* 4; *Golden-crowned Kinglet* 11; *American Robin* 2; *European Starling* 28; *Cedar Waxwing* 11; *American Tree Sparrow* 1; *Song Sparrow* 1; *Dark-eyed Junco* 50; *Snow Bunting* 25; *Pine Grosbeak* 5; *Purple Finch* 9; *White-winged Crossbill* 15; *Common Redpoll* 110; *Pine Siskin* 162; *American Goldfinch* 277; *Evening Grosbeak* 277.

Total Species 37, about 1,930 individuals. Don Baler, Jane Barker, Sarah Chisholm, Eric Cole, Judy Cole, Connie Eaton, Jennie Eaton, Ron Eaton, Torre Eaton, Rod Ford, Eaton Frail, Jerry Frail, Nancy Frayle, Anna Freiss, Wendy Grant, Marguerite Holdright, Myra Holdright, Lorraine Hope, **Peter Hope (compiler)**, Jackie Jorisson, Mary Keirstead, Rod Keirstead, Amanda Lavers, Tammy Lewis, Caleb Lewis, Danny Mansfield, Nadine Mansfield, Pierre Martel, Ashley Moffet, Eric Mullen, Elliott Payzant, Barb Rogers, Peter Rogers, Terje Rogers, Betty Ross, Jim Ross, Althea Rowter, Jonathan Sheppard, David Small, Rick Swain, James Woblison.

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS, Dec 27; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -10.7 to -5.2C. Wind NNE 6kmph. Snow 7cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. Skies partly cloudy all day. 9 field observers in 7 parties, 11 at feeders. Total party hours 17.75 (9.75 on foot, 8 by car). Total party kilometres 34.5 (5.5 by foot, 29 by car).

American Black Duck 6; *Greater Scaup* 6; *White-winged Scoter* 91; *Black Scoter* 2; *Long-tailed Duck* 10; *Common Goldeneye* 10;

Barrow's Goldeneye 30; Common Merganser 6; Red-breasted Merganser 13; duck species 1; Ruffed Grouse 1; Common Loon 2; Great Cormorant 1; Bald Eagle 3; hawk species 1; Ring-billed Gull 3; Herring Gull 37; Iceland Gull 3; Glaucous Gull 8; Great Black-backed Gull 4; Black-legged Kittiwake 15; Dovekie 5; Thick-billed Murre 50; Black Guillemot 7; Rock Pigeon 47; Mourning Dove 3; Downy Woodpecker 4; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 87; American Crow 95; Common Raven 16; Black-capped Chickadee 50; Boreal Chickadee 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 2; American Robin 5; European Starling 46; Bohemian Waxwing 1; Savannah Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 3; Dark-eyed Junco 11; Snow Bunting 2; Purple Finch 1; Common Redpoll 10; Pine Siskin 8; American Goldfinch 91.

Total Species 46 about 807 individuals. (CW. Canada Goose, Great Blue Heron, shorebird species, Great Horned Owl, Northern Shrike, Cedar Waxwing). James Bridgland, Margrit Gahlinger, Fred Lawrence, Sheldon Lambert (compiler), Gordon MacLean, Frances McEvoy, Fritz McEvoy, John McEvoy, John Murray, Ken Murray, Tim Reynolds, Sarah Reynolds, Ian Rideout, Gord Rideout, Lorraine Rideout, Roy Stevenson, Kathy Stevenson, Elaine Wallace.

CHETICAMP, Dec 19; 8AM to 4PM. Temp. -6 to -8C. Wind WNW 60 gusting to 75kmph. Snow 5-15cm. Still partly frozen, moving water open. Skies cloudy with snow all day. 5 field observers in 4 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours 13.75 (6 on foot, 7.75 by car). Total party kilometres 196 (20 by foot, 176 by car)

American Black Duck 50; Common Eider 75; Common Merganser 25; Red-breasted Merganser 45; Ruffed Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 1; Northern Gannet 1; Bald Eagle 1; Bonaparte's Gull 8; Herring Gull 28; Great Black-backed Gull 89; Black Guillemot 1; Downy Woodpecker 5; Blue Jay 1; American Crow 149; Common Raven 4; Black-capped Chickadee 39; European Starling 120; Pine Grosbeak 15; White-winged Crossbill 12.

Total Species 20, about 670 individuals. (CW. Barrow's Goldeneye, Ring-necked Pheasant, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Boreal Chickadee). Alfred AuCoin, Stacey Camus, Heather Davis, **Gordon Delaney (compiler)**, Laurette Deveau.

ECONOMY, Dec 27; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. -5 to 0C. Wind E 0-5kmph. Snow 2-6cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. Skies cloudy all day. 4 field observers in 4 parties, 4 at feeders. Total party hours 35 (20 on foot, 15 by car). Total party kilometres 148 (18 by foot, 130 by car)

American Black Duck 255; Mallard 1; Surf Scoter 6; White-winged Scoter 20; Long-tailed Duck 6; Bufflehead 1; Common Goldeneye 10; Common Merganser 21; Ring-necked Pheasant 13; Ruffed Grouse 8; Spruce Grouse 1; Bald Eagle 6; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Purple Sandpiper 4; Ring-billed Gull 6; Herring Gull 127; Great Black-backed Gull 2; Rock Pigeon 20; Mourning Dove 93; Barred Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 11; Hairy Woodpecker 11; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Northern Shrike 2; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 46; American Crow 113; Common Raven 15; Black-capped Chickadee 76; Boreal Chickadee 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 1; American Robin 1; European Starling 131; American Tree Sparrow 17; Song Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 21; Snow Bunting 37; White-winged Crossbill 22; American Goldfinch 53; Evening Grosbeak 3.

Total Species 42 about 1,177 individuals. (CW. Peregrine Falcon, Northern Flicker). Shannon Breen, Keith Chisholm, Allie Corbett, Harold Corbett, Jean Corbett, Brad McLaughlin, Robert McLaughlin, **Fran Spalding (compiler)**.

GLACE BAY, Dec 28; Temp. -8to 3C. A.M. cloudy, light rain/snow. P.M. cloudy, light rain. 18 field observers in field and 10 at feeders. Total party hours 35.5.

Canada Goose 645; Eurasian Wigeon 2; American Wigeon 355; American Black Duck 803; Mallard 247; Northern Pintail 2; Green-winged Teal 5; Greater Scaup 925; Lesser Scaup 7; Common Eider 105; Surf Scoter 100; White-winged Scoter 58; Black Scoter 8; Long-tailed Duck 50; Bufflehead 29; Common Goldeneye 66; Hooded Merganser 2; Common Merganser 52; Red-breasted Merganser 88; Ring-necked Pheasant 12; Ruffed Grouse 2; Red-throated Loon 2; Common Loon 8; Horned Grebe 37; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Great Cormorant 49; Bald Eagle 9; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Northern Goshawk 1; Black-bellied Plover 1; Purple Sandpiper 25; Black-headed Gull 7; Bonaparte's Gull 1; Ring-billed Gull 2; Herring Gull 575; Iceland Gull 282; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 172; Dovekie 1; Thick-billed Murre 2; Black Guillemot 4; Rock Pigeon 165; Mourning Dove 90; Great Horned Owl 2; Downy Woodpecker 8; Hairy Woodpecker 9; Northern Flicker 5; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 8; Blue Jay 166; American Crow 382; Common Raven 27; Black-capped Chickadee 178; Boreal Chickadee 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch 6; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 4; American Robin 99; European Starling 910; Bohemian Waxwing 1457; American Tree Sparrow 4; Savannah Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 6; White-throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 29; Snow Bunting 18; Baltimore Oriole 1; Pine Grosbeak 52; Purple Finch 6; White-winged Crossbill 17; Common Redpoll 14; Pine Siskin 28; American Goldfinch 158; Evening Grosbeak 34; House Sparrow 170.

Total Species 77 about 8,809 individuals. Wayne Burton, John Crewe, George Crowell, Brendon Ferguson, Art Gillard, David Harris, Bill Jaques, Cathleen Jerrott, Lillian Legrow, Barb MacDonald, Angus Macdonald, Jeff MacLeod, Archie MacMillan, Stephanie MacMillan, Barb McMullan, Geraldine Metcalfe, Jr. Metcalfe, Laurie Murchison, Allan Murrant, **Catherine Murrant (compiler)**, Della Murrant, Emily Murrant, Erin Murrant, Kevin Murrant, Winnie Peach, Shirley Pettigrew, Bev Sarty, Laura Sanders, Andy Silver, Alan Wilson.

HALIFAX/DARTMOUTH, Dec 14; 7:30AM to 5:00PM. Temp. -8 to -3C. Wind NW-SW 9-17kmph. No snow cover. Still water frozen, moving partly frozen. A.M. cloudy. P.M. clear. 75 field observers in 36-49 parties, 67 at feeders, 4.5 hours and 70km owling. Total parties hours 251.5 (191.5 by foot, 60 by car, 2.5 by boat, 1 by bicycle). Total party kilometres 1409.5(247 by foot, 1162.5 by car, 6 by boat, 12 by bicycle).

Canada Goose 11135; **Cackling Goose 1**; Gadwall 9; Eurasian Wigeon 3; American Wigeon 89; American Black

Duck 1583; Mallard 747; **Northern Shoveler 1**; Northern Pintail 8; Green-winged Teal 14; Ring-necked Duck 8; Greater Scaup 180; Lesser Scaup 120; **King Eider 1**; Common Eider 1852; Harlequin Duck 1; Surf Scoter 45; White-winged Scoter 44; Black Scoter 84; Long-tailed Duck 133; Bufflehead 78; Common Goldeneye 111; Barrow's Goldeneye 2; Hooded Merganser 34; Common Merganser 40; Red-breasted Merganser 235; Ring-necked Pheasant 40; Ruffed Grouse 3; Red-throated Loon 9; Common Loon 45; Horned Grebe 3; Red-necked Grebe 5; Northern Gannet 49; Double-crested Cormorant 7; Great Cormorant 181; Great Blue Heron 2; Bald Eagle 13; Northern Harrier 3; Sharp-shinned Hawk 8; Northern Goshawk 1; **Broad-winged Hawk 1**; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Peregrine Falcon 2; hawk species 1; **Virginia Rail 1**; American Coot 5; Black-bellied Plover 3; Killdeer 1; **Greater Yellowlegs 3**; **Lesser Yellowlegs 6**; Dunlin 7; Wilson's Snipe 1; Black-headed Gull 29; Bonaparte's Gull 4; Ring-billed Gull 399; Herring Gull 1919; Iceland Gull 250; Glaucous Gull 3; Great Black-backed Gull 234; Black-legged Kittiwake 3; gull species 8; Common Murre 2; Thick-billed Murre 1; Razorbill 35; Black Guillemot 110; Atlantic Puffin 1; Rock Pigeon 1615; Mourning Dove 565; Great Horned Owl 3; Snowy Owl 4; Barred Owl 1; **Long-eared Owl 1**; **Boreal Owl 1**; Northern Saw-whet Owl 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 7**; Downy Woodpecker 127; Hairy Woodpecker 53; Northern Flicker 20; Pileated Woodpecker 5; **Western Kingbird 1**; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 564; American Crow 1361; Common Raven 83; Horned Lark 3; Black-capped Chickadee 1477; Boreal Chickadee 28; Red-breasted Nuthatch 24; White-breasted Nuthatch 9; Brown Creeper 6; **Marsh Wren 1**; Golden-crowned Kinglet 83; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 3**; American Robin 48; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 11340; Bohemian Waxwing 17; Cedar Waxwing 53; Orange-crowned Warbler 7; Yellow-rumped Warbler 51; Pine Warbler 6; Palm Warbler 2; Common Yellowthroat 1; Yellow-breasted Chat 12; **Summer Tanager 1**; **Eastern Towhee 2**; American Tree Sparrow 106; Chipping Sparrow 2; **Clay-coloured Sparrow 1**; **Lark Sparrow 1**; Savannah Sparrow 11; Fox Sparrow 7; Song Sparrow 466; **Lincoln's Sparrow 1**; Swamp Sparrow 12; White-throated Sparrow 380; Dark-eyed Junco 735; Snow Bunting 43; Northern Cardinal 29; **Rose-breasted Grosbeak 1**; **Painted Bunting 1**; **Dickcissel 2**; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 1; Baltimore Oriole 28; Pine Grosbeak 1; Purple Finch 9; House Finch 23; Red Crossbill 2; White-winged Crossbill 112; Common Redpoll 50; Pine Siskin 4; American Goldfinch 1256; Evening Grosbeak 37; House Sparrow 752.

Total Species 135, about 41,637 individuals. Darrell Adams, Lisa Adams, Marshall Adams, Anders Adolfsson, Nathan Ayer, Jeff Balsden, Valery Bancroft, Laurel Banks, Lucas Berrigan, Leonard Biggs, Eileen Billington, Bill Billington, Richard Bone, Suzanne Borkowski, Valerie Brimicombe, Gail Broom, Jake Bryant, Phyliss Bryson, Alice Buchannon, Bernard Burke, Beth Cameron, Bonnie Carmichael, Patricia Chalmers, Gavin Charles, Tony Charles, Freeman Churchill, Marcia Coffey, Dorothy Conrad, Robie Cooper, Margo Corkum, Dominic Cormier, Alan Covert, Joanne Creelman, Charles Cron, Michelle Crow, Vance Crow, Mike Crowell, Joan Dawson, Cameron Deacuff, Renate Deppe, Ron Dicks, Ann Doull, Heather Drope, Morgan Dwyer, Gillian Elliott, Jim Elliott, Bob Farmer, Chris Field, Gretchen Fitzgerald, Meredith Flannery, Glen Flemming, Helen Fletcher, Beverley Flinn, Donna Foley, Bill Freedmen, Phyliss Gardiner, Glen Gibson, Fred Grieg, Dominique Gusset, Richard Hatch, Chris Heleiner, Dennis Hippen, Andrew Horn, Marilyn Hourihan, Dave Huetis, Bill Hughes, Shirley Hughes, Susan Hunt, Patricia James, Helen Jones, Mary Joyce, Joan Keith, Lola May Kidston, Michael King, Neville King, Arnold Langille, Jennifer Lau, **Fulton Lavender (complier)**, Peter LeBlanc, Leslie Lee, Tony Lock, Helen Lofgran, Steen Lovitt, Leslie MacDonald, Mike MacDonald, Gail MacLean, Judy MacLean, Pat MacLean, Sandra MacLean, Helen MacMillan, Don MacNeill, Candace Malcolm, Karen March, Sue Mathers, Lorna Matthews, Nancy McDonald, Robert McDonald, Oonaugh McDowell, Andrea McIvor, Ian McLaren, Bob McQueston, Dianne McQueston, Bob Miller, Ann Morrison, Susann Myers, Maureen Nowlan, Jim Nunn, Peter Oickle, Etta Parker, Richard Peckham, Brigitte Petersmann, Karen Potter, Martha Pourier, Joyce Purchase, Duncan Rand, Marie Reid, Rick Reid, Ian Rennie, Gerry Rogers, Barry Scott, Doug Sherman, Angelica Silva, Albert Sparks, Cindy Staicer, Clarence Stevens, Clarence Stevens Sr., Angela Sykes, Bob Thomas, Bonnie Thompson, Rita Viau, Bob Warrior, Richard Wassersug, Dottie Welsh, Ann Wetmore, Mel Whalen, Marjorie Widgery, Nancy Witherspoon, Sarah Wong, Scott Yetman, Clayton York, Marty Zelenietz.

KINGSTON, Dec 20; 6:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -2 to -6C. Wind NE 10-40kmph. Snow 5-20cm. Still water partly open, moving water partly frozen. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. cloudy, heavy snow flurries. 20 field observers in 9 parties, 97 at feeders, 1 hours and 8km. owling. Total party hours 62.25 (14.75 on foot, 47.5 by car). Total party kilometres 702.5 (16 by foot, 686.5 by car)

Canada Goose 93; American Black Duck 104; Mallard 200; Common Eider 27; Harlequin Duck 4; Surf Scoter 28; White-winged Scoter 46; Long-tailed Duck 18; Common Merganser 7; Red-breasted Merganser 15; Ring-necked Pheasant 28; Ruffed Grouse 3; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 6; Horned Grebe 5; Red-necked Grebe 2; Bald Eagle 12; Sharp-shinned Hawk 7; Red-tailed Hawk 21; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Herring Gull 55; Great Black-backed Gull 2; gull species 2; murre species 1; **Razorbill 1**; Rock Pigeon 280; Mourning Dove 708; Great Horned Owl 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 2**; Downy Woodpecker 76; Hairy Woodpecker 57; Northern Flicker 4; Pileated Woodpecker 5; Blue Jay 633; American Crow 3516; Common Raven 237; Horned Lark 5; Black-capped Chickadee 786; Red-breasted Nuthatch 33; White-breasted Nuthatch 47; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 4; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1**; American Robin 11; European Starling 2277; Cedar Waxwing 48; American Tree Sparrow 17; Chipping Sparrow 3; Savannah Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 27; White-throated Sparrow 31; Dark-eyed Junco 935; Snow Bunting 44; Northern Cardinal 11; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Brown-headed Cowbird 42; Pine Grosbeak 24; Purple Finch 14; Red Crossbill 3; White-winged Crossbill 2; Common Redpoll 453; Pine Siskin 188; American Goldfinch 1274; Evening Grosbeak 140; House Sparrow 109.

Total Species 64, about 12,745 individuals. (CW. Great Blue Heron, Snowy Owl, White-crowned Sparrow). Carole

Allen, Spike Allen, Ron Baker, Sharon Baker, Anne Balcomb, Fred Balcomb, Debbie Baldwin, Stan Baldwin, Brian Barkman, John Belbin, Allison Bell, Edna Blunt, Kenneth Blunt, Bob Campbell, Karen Campbell, Bill Caudle, Tony Chaulk, Dana Clark, Cole Clark, Madison Clark, John Collins, David Colville, Cathy Crook, Avis Crowell, Kenneth Crowell, Donna Cummings, David Curry, Edna Curry, Ella Dalton, Howard Dalton, John DeCoste, Claire Diggins, David Diggins, Linda Derry, Bea Deveau, Daniel Diggins, Jean Dixon, Ed Dodd, Joyce Dodd, Joyce Elliott, Shirley Fahie, Harry Folks, Paul Gertridge, Shilah Gertridge, Barbara Giffin, Patrick Giffin, Brenda Graham, Evelyn Graves, Carol Gregory, Leonard Gregory, Lilli Hand, Shirley Harris, Frank Hawkins, Thelma Hawkins, Arlene Healey, Donna Hill, Ron Hill, Chris Hiltz, Marilyn Hudgins, Sheila L. Hulford, Sibella Hulford, Jon Huneault, Michael Inkpen, Bob Kajdas, Ted Kajdas, Don Kelly, Ruth Kelly, Lois Leadley, Andrea Leeson, Gary Leeson, Frances Lourie, Dave Ludlow, Tonya Ludlow, Judy MacKenzie, Patricia MacMillan, Sandy Morrison, Jacquie Muers, Jon Muers, Gary Myers, Ruth Myers, **Wayne Neily (compiler)**, David Ogilvie, Wanda Ogilvie, Mary Osmond, Ron Osmond, Marie O'Toole, Adora Parsons, Dan Patterson, John Paull, Susan Paull, Debbie Proctor-Scoville, Lillian Pellerin, Mildred Prall, Ivan Reid, Janet Reid, Twila Robar-DeCoste, Ron Rogerson, Christine Ross, Jack Scoville, Tony Scoville, Helen Sharp, Millie Skanes, Ralph Swinamer, Barb Thompson, Sandra Trail, Charles Tye, Doris Tye, Margaret Waldner, Margot Walker, Mary-Lou Ward, Wade Ward, Audrey Wellwood, Jane White, Beverly Wolfe, Robert Wolfe, Jim Wolford, Ann Young.

LOUISBOURG, Dec 20; 6:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -5 to -8C. Wind N 20-25 kmph. Snow 3cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy, scattered flurries all day. 25 field observers in 13 parties, 15 at feeders. Total party hours 60 (47 on foot, 11 by car, 2 by bicycle). Total party kilometres 190 (60.5 by foot, 119 by car, 16 by bicycle)

Canada Goose 85; American Black Duck 78; Green-winged Teal 2; Common Eider 1700; Surf Scoter 25; White-winged Scoter 53; Black Scoter 48; scoter species 2; Long-tailed Duck 115; Bufflehead 39; Common Goldeneye 82; Common Merganser 166; Red-breasted Merganser 33; Ruffed Grouse 1; Common Loon 12; Horned Grebe 5; Red-necked Grebe 82; Northern Gannet 1; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Great Cormorant 37; cormorant species 8; vulture species 1; Bald Eagle 16; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Northern Goshawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Merlin 1; Purple Sandpiper 20; Black-headed Gull 4; Bonaparte's Gull 7; 1; Herring Gull 169; Iceland Gull 22; Glaucous Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 26; gull species 36; Dovekie 16; Black Guillemot 53; Rock Pigeon 10; Mourning Dove 70; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Northern Flicker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Gray Jay 6; Blue Jay 174; American Crow 342; Common Raven 14; Black-capped Chickadee 184; Boreal Chickadee 17; Red-breasted Nuthatch 18; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 49; American Robin 1618; European Starling 183; Bohemian Waxwing 1500; Cedar Waxwing 512; American Tree Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 8; White-throated Sparrow 3; Dark-eyed Junco 13; sparrow species 2; Snow Bunting 18; **Dickcissel 2**; Common Grackle 4; Baltimore Oriole 1; Pine Grosbeak 68; Purple Finch 19; White-winged Crossbill 663; Common Redpoll 307; Pine Siskin 12; American Goldfinch 102; House Sparrow 27.

Total Species 69, about 8,912 individuals. (CW. Spruce Grouse, Northern Harrier). Sandy Anthony, Jean Bagnell, Joseph Bagnell, Mary Lou Blunden, Linda Burke, Philip Burke, Albert Bussey, **Bill Bussey (co-compiler)**, Dianne Bussey, Eddie Bussey, Maureen Cameron, George Crowell, Barc Cunningham, Billy Digout, **Ken Donovan (co-compiler)**, Sheila Fudge, Tom Fudge, David Harris, Bethsheila Kent, Floyd Kent, John Lahey, Elizabeth LaLonde, Gerry LaLonde, Pat Lewis, Miles MacDoanld, Patsy MacDonald, John MacInnis, Ramona MacLeod, Pearl Magee, Philip Magee, Dave McCorquodale, Joan Mills, **Susann Myers (co-compiler)**, Ryan Power, Terry Power, Lee Ann Reeves, Bev Sarty, Laura Saunders, Marmon Smith.

LUNENBURG, Jan 3; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. -4 to -2C. Wind N 20kmph. Snow 15cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. partly cloudy. P.M. partly clear. 30 field observers in 10 parties, 6 at feeders, 2 hours and 38km. owling. Total party hours 86.8 (35.8 on foot, 51 by car). Total party kilometres 543.05 (50.75 by foot, 454.3 by car).

Canada Goose 53; American Wigeon 9; American Black Duck 397; Mallard 752; Northern Pintail 7; Green-winged Teal 6; Greater Scaup 435; Lesser Scaup 7; Common Eider 28; Surf Scoter 4; White-winged Scoter 13; Black Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 142; Bufflehead 37; Common Goldeneye 470; Hooded Merganser 42; Common Merganser 64; Red-breasted Merganser 306; Ring-necked Pheasant 33; Common Loon 89; Horned Grebe 25; Red-necked Grebe 1; Great Cormorant 68; Bald Eagle 16; Northern Harrier 6; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Northern Goshawk 2; **Broad-winged Hawk 1**; Red-tailed Hawk 30; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Merlin 1; hawk species 2; Purple Sandpiper 10; Black-headed Gull 3; Bonaparte's Gull 4; Ring-billed Gull 7; Herring Gull 1669; Iceland Gull 31; **Lesser Black-backed Gull 1**; Great Black-backed Gull 205; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; Dovekie 1; Black Guillemot 112; Atlantic Puffin 1; Rock Pigeon 151; Mourning Dove 332; Northern Saw-whet Owl 7; Belted Kingfisher 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 30; Hairy Woodpecker 20; Northern Flicker 18; Northern Shrike 4; Blue Jay 286; American Crow 7663; Common Raven 55; Black-capped Chickadee 724; Boreal Chickadee 34; Red-breasted Nuthatch 35; White-breasted Nuthatch 13; Brown Creeper 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 32; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1**; American Robin 83; European Starling 1621; Bohemian Waxwing 2217; Cedar Waxwing 4; **Orange-crowned Warbler 3**; Yellow-rumped Warbler 13; Pine Warbler 1; Palm Warbler 1; **Yellow-breasted Chat 1**; American Tree Sparrow 31; **Lark Sparrow 1**; Song Sparrow 133; Swamp Sparrow 4; White-throated Sparrow 68; Dark-eyed Junco 353; sparrow species 1; Northern Cardinal 5; **Rusty Blackbird 2**; Common Grackle 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 5; Purple Finch 51; Red Crossbill 4; White-winged Crossbill 185; Common Redpoll 4; Pine Siskin 51; American Goldfinch 422; Evening Grosbeak 11; House Sparrow 80.

Total Species 89, about 19,866 individuals. (CW. Barrow's Goldeneye, Ruffed Grouse). Joyce Allen, Bill Billington, Eileen Billington, Jill Comoli, David Currie, Kelly Delaney, Donna Ensor, Eric Ensor, Chris Field, Sylvia Fullerton, Karine Gaudet, Pat Gladman, Gary Hartlen, Brenda Hiltz, Steven Hiltz, **James Hirtle (compiler)**, Brian Kenefick, Janice Kenefick, Fulton Lavender, Charlene MacDonald, Paul MacDonald, Jessie MacLean, Don MacNeill, Earl Meister, Anne Mills, Eric Mills, Dorothy Poole, Judy Smits, David Walmark, Azor Vienneau, Bob Weld, Heather Weld, Dottie Welch, Rob Woods, Shirley

Woods.

MARBLE MOUNTAIN, Dec 19; 7AM to 4AM. Temp -9 to -4C. Wind NNE 16. Snow 20cm. Still water open, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, heavy snow. P.M. cloudy, snow. 8 field observers in 4 parties, 9 at feeders. Total party hours 17.75 (9.5 on foot, 8.25 by car). Total party kilometres 121 (12 on foot, 108 by car)

Canada Goose 16; Common Merganser 50; Red-breasted Merganser 24; Ruffed Grouse 1; loon species 5; Bald Eagle 30; Northern Harrier 1; Herring Gull 11; Mourning Dove 11; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 47; American Crow 86; Common Raven 5; Black-capped Chickadee 61; Boreal Chickadee 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch 20; Golden-crowned Kinglet 10; Cedar Waxwing 4; Dark-eyed Junco 9; sparrow species 19; Pine Grosbeak 2; Purple Finch 12; Common Redpoll 11; Pine Siskin 2; American Goldfinch 8.

Total Species 29, about 461 individuals. (CW. Mallard, Common Grackle). Michaellette Barrington, Tina Campbell, Carolyn Chant, George Chant, Maggie Davis, **Alice Gowans (compiler)**, Dave Johnston, Uphenia MacKinnon, Jean McCann, Betty Muise, Art Robertson, Beryl Robertson, Charles Spangenberg, Lou Talbot, Lynn Zimmerman.

MARGAREE, Dec 19; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. -6 to -2C. Wind NW 15-20kmph. Snow 12cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, heavy snow. P.M. cloudy, light snow. 6 field observers in 2 parties, 3 at feeders. Total party hours 6 (6 by car). Total party kilometers 100 (100 by car).

Bald Eagle 5; Rock Pigeon 11; Mourning Dove 18; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Blue Jay 25; American Crow 11; Black-capped Chickadee 12; European Starling 50; Dark-eyed Junco 5; Pine Grosbeak 14; American Goldfinch 36; Evening Grosbeak 16.

Total Species 14, about 221 individuals. (CW. American Black Duck, Black Scoter, Common Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, Herring Gull, Iceland Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Dovekie, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Robin, Bohemian Waxwing, Cedar Waxwing, Snow Bunting, Northern Cardinal, Baltimore Oriole, Common Redpoll). Steven Basker, Clifford Collins, Barrie Fraser, Debbie Hart, Eunice Hart, **Frances Hart (compiler)**, Karen Hart, David Ingraham, Verna MacMillan.

PICTOU HARBOUR, Jan 4; 7:15AM to 5PM. Temp. -9 to 0C. Wind W 25-52kmph. Snow 45cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy with light snow all day. 15 field observers in 8-9 parties, 26 at feeders, 1 hour and 10km owling. Total party hours 58.25 (21.75 on foot, 36.5 by car). Total party kilometres 611 (32 by foot, 579 by car).

Canada Goose 1008; **Gadwall 21**; Eurasian Wigeon 1; American Black Duck 2258; Mallard 80; American Black DuckxMallard hybrid 2; Green-winged Teal 5; Greater Scaup 2747; Lesser Scaup 35; scaup+Tufted Duck hybrid 1; Common Eider 2; Surf Scoter 4, Long-tailed Duck 257; Bufflehead 15; Common Goldeneye 1280; Barrow's Goldeneye 3; Hooded Merganser 32; Common Merganser 1302; Red-breasted Merganser 2018; duck species 7; Ring-necked Pheasant 59; Ruffed Grouse 7; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 1; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 97; Northern Harrier 3; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 14; Black-headed Gull 2; Ring-billed Gull 20; Herring Gull 645; Iceland Gull 11; **Lesser Black-backed Gull 1**; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 90; gull species 51; Rock Pigeon 244; Mourning Dove 270; **Snowy Owl 1**; Northern Saw-whet Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 2**; Downy Woodpecker 27; Hairy Woodpecker 35; Northern Flicker 9; Pileated Woodpecker 7; woodpecker species 1; Northern Shrike 2; Blue Jay 169; American Crow 1660; Common Raven 360, Horned Lark 2; Black-capped Chickadee 478; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 31; American Robin 12; European Starling 1132; Bohemian Waxwing 472; Cedar Waxwing 5; American Tree Sparrow 26; Chipping Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 27; White-throated Sparrow 8; Dark-eyed Junco 146; sparrow species 8; Snow Bunting 3; Northern Cardinal 4; Common Grackle 1; Pine Grosbeak 65; Purple Finch 4; White-winged Crossbill 71; Common Redpoll 44; Pine Siskin 76; American Goldfinch 131; finch species 27; Evening Grosbeak 34; House Sparrow 27.

Total Species 73 about 17,717 individuals. (CW. American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, White-winged Scoter, Northern Gannet, Northern Goshawk, Barred Owl, Brown-headed Cowbird). Carolyn Betts, Tim Brennan, Brenda Chisholm, Pat Christensen, Rick Ferguson, Bev Gale, Bob Hanes, Elwin Hemphill, Janet Hemphill, Ethan Huner, Charlie Kendell, Randy Lauff, Jean MacDonald, Ron MacDonald, Cheryl MacLane, Cathy Madore, Pat McCarron, Jane McCarthy, Jean McGee, **Ken McKenna (compiler)**, Doreen O'Farrell, Dan Panting, Joan Panting, Curtis Purdy, Janet Purdy, Rob Reid, Tee Roberts, Doreen Snow, Henry Snow, Gerald Stout, Amber Vines, Steve Vines, Pat Watson, Bob Whitman, Judy Whitman, Donnie Wright.

PORT L'HEBERT, Dec 21; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -5 to 1C. Wind NW 15-30kmph. Snow 2-4cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly frozen. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. cloudy, heavy snow. 18 field observers in 10 parties. Total party hours 49.5 (28 on foot, 14.5 by car). Total party kilometres 373 (43 by foot, 330 by car).

Canada Goose 5301; American Black Duck 927; Mallard 26; Greater Scaup 60; Common Eider 320; Harlequin Duck 54; Surf Scoter 3; White-winged Scoter 28; Black Scoter 166; Long-tailed Duck 90; Bufflehead 59; Common Goldeneye 96; Common Merganser 32; Red-breasted Merganser 57; Ring-necked Pheasant 5; Ruffed Grouse 2; Red-throated Loon 5; Common Loon 33; Horned Grebe 16; Red-necked Grebe 7; Double-crested Cormorant 75; Great Cormorant 3; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 20; Northern Harrier 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; American Kestrel 1; Merlin 2; Dunlin 88; Black-headed Gull 2; Bonaparte's Gull 7; Ring-billed Gull 7; Herring Gull 354; Iceland Gull 7; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 40; Dovekie 2; Black Guillemot 9; Rock Pigeon 27; Mourning Dove 55; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 5; Northern Flicker 12; Pileated Woodpecker 2; **Eastern Phoebe 1**; Gray Jay 6; Blue Jay 70; American Crow 220; Common Raven 4; Black-capped Chickadee 207;

Boreal Chickadee 9; Red-breasted Nuthatch 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet 9; American Robin 10; European Starling 311; Bohemian Waxwing 100; Cedar Waxwing 1; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 5; Song Sparrow 18; White-throated Sparrow 72; **White-crowned Sparrow** 3; Dark-eyed Junco 94; Snow Bunting 4; Red-winged Blackbird 7; Pine Grosbeak 1; Purple Finch 2; Red Crossbill 3; White-winged Crossbill 61; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 138; Evening Grosbeak 14; House Sparrow 10.

Total Species 76, about 9,406 individuals. (CW. Tundra Swan, Green-winged Teal, **Greater Yellowlegs**, Horned Lark). John Buttress, Suzy Buttress, **Bill Crosby (compiler)**, Donna Crosby, Chris Curry, Donna Ensor, Eric Ensor, Dean Fiske, Emerson Fiske, Sylvia Fullerton, Mike MacLeod, Danny Mason, Dorothy Poole, Roger Ross, Howard Roszel, Clyde Stoddart, Danny Swim, David Young.

ST. ANN'S BAY, Dec 19; 8AM to 4PM. Temp. -6 to -3C. Winds light, gusting NE 30kmph. Snow 20cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies partly clear, heavy snow squalls all day. 7 observers in 4 parties, 8 at feeders. Total party hours 61.5 (13.5 on foot, 13 by car). Total party kilometres 120.2 (17 by foot, 103.2 by car)

Canada Goose 38; American Black Duck 96; Greater Scaup 1; Surf Scoter 7; White-winged Scoter 54; Long-tailed Duck 3; Common Goldeneye 207; Common Merganser 7; Red-breasted Merganser 18; duck species 15; Ruffed Grouse 1; Common Loon 2; loon species 2; Red-necked Grebe 3; Northern Gannet 4; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 1; Bald Eagle 11; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Ring-billed Gull 3; Herring Gull 37; Iceland Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 3; gull species 23; Black Guillemot 5; Mourning Dove 23; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Blue Jay 57; American Crow 108; Common Raven 14; Black-capped Chickadee 81; Boreal Chickadee 6; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 2; American Robin 3; European Starling 45; Bohemian Waxwing 16; Cedar Waxwing 26; **Yellow-breasted Chat** 1; American Tree Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 3; Snow Bunting 8; White-winged Crossbill 19; American Goldfinch 116; Evening Grosbeak 32.

Total Species 44, about 1,116 individuals. (CW. Red-throated Loon, Pine Grosbeak). Bev Brett, Diane Grant, **Bethsheila Kent (compiler)**, Floyd Kent, Jeannette MacDonald, Shirley MacDonald, David McCorquodale, Susann Myers, Fenella Nicholson, Marion Thompson, Gary Walsh, Heather Wilson, Tom Wilson.

ST. PETER'S, Dec 27; 7AM to 4:35PM. Temp. -2 to 0C. Wind SSW 0-5kmph. Snow 5cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. clear. P.M. cloudy. 12 field observers in 7-8 parties, 19 at feeders. Total party hours 36.25 (20.5 on foot, 15.75 by car). Total party kilometres 238.2 (18.5 by foot, 219.76 by car)

Canada Goose 6; American Black Duck 99; Mallard 4; Common Eider 1509; Surf Scoter 5; White-winged Scoter 46; Black Scoter 3; scoter species 10; Long-tailed Duck 232; Bufflehead 2; Common Goldeneye 93; Common Merganser 36; Red-breasted Merganser 113; duck species 10; Ruffed Grouse 6; Common Loon 45; Horned Grebe 12; Red-necked Grebe 49; Great Cormorant 3; Bald Eagle 10; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Merlin 1; Purple Sandpiper 130; Black-headed Gull 26; Bonaparte's Gull 21; Ring-billed Gull 2; Herring Gull 251; Iceland Gull 15; Great Black-backed Gull 20; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; gull species 17; Dovekie 16; Thick-billed Murre 3; Black Guillemot 21; alcid species 1; Rock Pigeon 37; Mourning Dove 122; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Pileated Woodpecker 4; woodpecker species 1; Northern Shrike 4; Gray Jay 20; Blue Jay 123; American Crow 355; Common Raven 47; Black-capped Chickadee 163; Boreal Chickadee 13; Red-breasted Nuthatch 12; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 23; American Robin 191; European Starling 444; Bohemian Waxwing 70; Cedar Waxwing 5; Yellow-rumped Warbler 3; **Palm Warbler** 1; American Tree Sparrow 9; Song Sparrow 10; White-throated Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 30; sparrow species 2; **Eastern Meadowlark** 1; Pine Grosbeak 44; Purple Finch 3; White-winged Crossbill 100; Common Redpoll 43; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 125; Evening Grosbeak 35; House Sparrow 46.

Total Species 68, about 4,918 individuals. (CW. Spruce Grouse, Baltimore Oriole, Savannah Sparrow). Norman Bartholomew, Tony Burke, Clifford Carter, **Billy Digout (compiler)**, George Digout, Leonard Digout, Marj Digout, Sheila Digout, Stan Digout, Billy Holmes, Martha Holmes, Wendell Holmes, David Johnston, Greta Keigan, George Kyte, Gordon Landry, Helen MacDonald, Donnie MacDonnell, Jack MacNeil, David McCorquodale, Emily Meyers, Peter Meyers, Susann Myers, Daniel Nightingale, Frances Oram, Norman Oram, Hilliary Pottie, Jeannie Shermerhorn, Annie Vanderhoeden, Ricky Wambolt, Joseph Wincey.

SHUBENACADIE, Dec 14; 7AM to 5PM. Temp. -14 to -10C. Wind calm. Snow 30cm. Still water partly open, moving water party frozen. Skies partly clear all day. 28 field observers, 11 at feeders. Total party hours 71 (31 on foot, 40 by car). Total party kilometres 630 (44 by foot, 586 by car).

Canada Goose 287; American Black Duck 450; Mallard 206; Green-winged Teal 11; Common Merganser 14; Ring-necked Pheasant 71; Ruffed Grouse 10; Bald Eagle 46; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Northern Goshawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 12; Rough-legged Hawk 1; hawk species 1; Herring Gull 264; Great Black-backed Gull 1; gull species 49; Rock Pigeon 519; Mourning Dove 512; Barred Owl 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 3; Downy Woodpecker 26; Hairy Woodpecker 27; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 416; American Crow 993; Common Raven 292; Black-capped Chickadee 463; Boreal Chickadee 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch 9; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 62; American Robin 2; European Starling 4919; American Tree Sparrow 28; Savannah Sparrow 2; Fox Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 14; Swamp Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 5; Dark-eyed Junco 110; Red-winged Blackbird 5; Common Grackle 3; Brown-headed Cowbird 3; **Baltimore Oriole** 1; Pine Grosbeak 5; Purple Finch 2; White-winged Crossbill 61; Common Redpoll 39; **Hoary Redpoll** 1; American Goldfinch 574; Evening Grosbeak 314; House Sparrow 139.

Total Species 52, about 8,628 individuals. Barbara Aitken, Mark Anthony, Fred Ashley, Marilyn Babineau-Doucette, Wylie Barbreck, Colleen Blank, Barbara Bower, Rob Cameron, Terry Carrol, Carol Goswell, Myrna Hambleton, John

Hungerford, Irene Isenor, Myrna Isenor, Donnie Langille, Anne Mackley, Roslyn MacPhee, Sharon MacPhee, Jenna Marshall, Blake Maybank, Kathleen McAuley, Elsie McCulloch, Juanita Murphy, Christopher Pepper, Jacques Perron, Christine Queripel, Earl Reid, Nancy Reid, Roby Scammell, George Searle, Scott Smith, Blanche Tanner, Julie Towers, Faye Wallace, Lorne Weaver, Arthur West, Myrna West, Frank Wollingsworth, **Rob Woods (compiler)**.

SPRINGVILLE, Dec 20; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -8 to -8C. Wind NW 10-20kmph. Snow 15cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy all day. 8 field observers in 4 parties, 16 at feeders. Total party hours 34.5 (12 on foot, 22.5 by car). Total party kilometres 440.5 (7.5 by foot, 433 by car).

Canada Goose 151; American Black Duck 34; Mallard 2; Green-winged Teal 9; Common Merganser 4; Ring-necked Pheasant 18; Ruffed Grouse 1; Bald Eagle 14; Red-tailed Hawk 6; Ring-billed Gull 70; Herring Gull 82; Iceland Gull 4; Great Black-backed Gull 4; Rock Pigeon 344; Mourning Dove 253; Downy Woodpecker 20; Hairy Woodpecker 24; Northern Shrike 3; Blue Jay 212; American Crow 3840; Common Raven 249; Black-capped Chickadee 570; Boreal Chickadee 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch 14; White-breasted Nuthatch 7; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 7; American Robin 1; European Starling 2603; American Tree Sparrow 75; Song Sparrow 8; White-throated Sparrow 11; Dark-eyed Junco 109; **Dickcissel 1**; Red-winged Blackbird 12; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Baltimore Oriole 1; Pine Grosbeak 92; Purple Finch 2; White-winged Crossbill 365; Common Redpoll 4; Pine Siskin 420; American Goldfinch 270; Evening Grosbeak 143; House Sparrow 147.

Total Species 45, about 10,211 individuals. (CW. Sharp-shinned Hawk, Gray Jay). Harry Brennan, Jean Brennan, Mark Brennan, Ed Cormier, Lyla Dort, Rick Ferguson, Claire Foote, Doug Fraser, Trudy Grant, Charlie Kendall, Sandy MacGregor, Eleanor MacKay, John MacKearney, Fred MacKenzie, Jeanie McGee, Ken McKenna, Helen Melanson, Fred Polly, Sally Polly, Judy Schuhleuin, Grant Stewart, Sue Uhren, Amber Vines, **Steve Vines (compiler)**.

STRAIT OF CANSO, Dec 28; 7:30AM to 3:45PM. Temp. 2 to 5C. Winds SE 26-36. Snow 2-6cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy, foggy, light rain all day. 10 field observers in 7 parties, 18 at feeders. Total party hours 24.95 (11.95 on foot, 13 by car). Total party kilometres 168.9 (10.8 by foot, 158.1 by car).

American Black Duck 103; Mallard 4; American Black Duck/Mallard hybrid 5; Greater Scaup 12; Common Eider 13; Surf Scoter 1; White-winged Scoter 1; Black Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 25; Common Goldeneye 75; Common Merganser 65; Red-breasted Merganser 81; Ruffed Grouse 2; Red-throated Loon 2; Common Loon 10; Red-necked Grebe 7; Northern Gannet 1; Great Cormorant 1; Bald Eagle 5; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Merlin 1; hawk species 1; Black-headed Gull 10; Bonaparte's Gull 73; Ring-billed Gull 6; Herring Gull 154; Iceland Gull 128; Glaucous Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 18; Dovekie 2; Black Guillemot 10; Rock Pigeon 211; Mourning Dove 22; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 6; Blue Jay 72; American Crow 211; Common Raven 5; Black-capped Chickadee 151; Boreal Chickadee 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch 6; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 20; American Robin 160; **Northern Mockingbird 1**; European Starling 590; Bohemian Waxwing 150; Cedar Waxwing 10; **Orange-crowned Warbler 1**; American Tree Sparrow 15; Song Sparrow 12; White-throated Sparrow 5; Dark-eyed Junco 36; sparrow species 6; **Dickcissel 2**; Common Grackle 5; Baltimore Oriole 5; Pine Grosbeak 57; Purple Finch 1; White-winged Crossbill 4; Common Redpoll 21; Pine Siskin 6; American Goldfinch 37; Evening Grosbeak 24; House Sparrow 24.

Total Species 64, about 2,708 individuals. (CW. Pine Warbler). Dorothy Barnard, Cullen Bolger, Clark Brander, Maureen Cameron-MacMillan, Danny Demone, Maureen Demone, Billy Digout, George Digout, David Fifield, Freda Fifield, Lorena Forbrigger, Alana Hardiman, Tom Hardiman, Brian Johnston, **David Johnston (compiler)**, Mary Johnston, Tanya King, Allan MacMillan, Thelma MacPherson, Trueman MacPherson, Allison MacRury, Lorna MacRury, David McCorquodale, Susann Myers, Anna Peeples, Early Peeples, Julie Shemerhorn, Betty Talbot, Louis Talbot.

SYDNEYS, Dec 23; 7:10AM to 5PM. Temp. -6 to -9C. Winds NW 15-30kmph. Snow 2-10cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Cloudy light snow all day. 24 field observers in 12 parties, 55 at feeders. Total party hours 55 (31 on foot, 24 by car). Total party kilometres 461 (28 by foot, 433 by car)

American Black Duck 1013; Mallard 460; American Black Duck/Mallard hybrid 43; Greater Scaup 70; Lesser Scaup 4; Surf Scoter 3; White-winged Scoter 410; Long-tailed Duck 108; Bufflehead 30; Common Goldeneye 312; Barrow's Goldeneye 11; Common Merganser 6; Red-breasted Merganser 27; merganser species 5; Ring-necked Pheasant 10; Ruffed Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 2; **Pied-billed Grebe 1**; Northern Gannet 1; Great Cormorant 73; Bald Eagle 43; Northern Harrier 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Purple Sandpiper 20; Ring-billed Gull 9; Herring Gull 1582; Iceland Gull 625; Glaucous Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 368; Rock Pigeon 519; Mourning Dove 194; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 34; Hairy Woodpecker 23; Northern Flicker 6; woodpecker species 1; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 235; American Crow 1684; Common Raven 79; Black-capped Chickadee 483; Boreal Chickadee 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch 6; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 10; American Robin 13; European Starling 1967; Bohemian Waxwing 481; Cedar Waxwing 53; waxwing species 25; Yellow-rumped Warbler 5; American Tree Sparrow 12; Savannah Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 55; White-throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 119; sparrow species 4; Snow Bunting 1; Red-winged Blackbird 3; Pine Grosbeak 37; Purple Finch 20; White-winged Crossbill 171; Common Redpoll 4; Pine Siskin 141; American Goldfinch 413; Evening Grosbeak 88; House Sparrow 382.

Total Species 64, about 12,525 individuals. (CW. Canada Goose, Northern Pintail, Baltimore Oriole). Jane Aker, Charles Andrews, Jessie Andrews, Bill Bailey, George Baillie, Marilyn Baillie, George Ball, Ed Barrington, Mary Lou Blundon, Paul Bonnar, Heather Brown, Bill Bussey, Irene Campbell, Judy Cartwright, Don Courage, Rose Courage, Tim Courage, Scott Cowan, Joan Cunningham, Vince Cunningham, Randy Davidson, Billy Digout, Glenn Drodge, Donald Dunbar, Eleanor Dunning,

John Dunning, Bill English, Susan English, David Forrester, Daniel Francois, Gwen Garder, Tom Gardner, Cyndie Glogowski, Todd Glogowski, Jim Guy, Nancy Haley, Terry Haley, David Harris, Abbey Keeping, Jeannie Keeping, Barbara MacDonald, James MacDonald, Yvonne MacDonald, Paul MacDougall, Sam MacDougall, Gordon MacFadden, Joan MacFadden, John W. MacInnis, Lillian MacKeigan, Wendy MacKeigan, Margaret Ann MacKinnon, Edwin MacLellan, Allen MacLeod, Amanda MacLeod, Jeff MacLeod, Jack MacNeil, **David McCorquodale (compiler)**, Joan Mills, Jane Monahan, Al Patterson, Caroline Power, Terry Power, Bill Reeves, Mona Reeves, Gordon Sampson, Laura Saunders, Brian Seville, Pam Seville, Andy Silver, Cal Smith, Norm Smith, Jennifer Stephen, Chris Thomson, Roger Tobin, Les Urban, Lydia Urban, Jack White, Albert Zwicker.

TRURO, Dec 29; 6:30AM to 5PM. Temp. 2 to 5C. Winds NW 20kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies clear all day. 12 field observers in 8 parties, 11 at feeders. Total party hours 48.5 (23 on foot, 25.5 by car). Total party kilometres 657.8 (42.8 by foot, 615 by car).

Canada Goose 22; American Wigeon 30; American Black Duck 246; Mallard 863; Northern Pintail 1; Green-winged Teal 3; **Gray Partridge 3**; Ring-necked Pheasant 63; Ruffed Grouse 8; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 9; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 8; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Merlin 1; American Coot 2; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 151; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 31; Rock Pigeon 549; Mourning Dove 108; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 9; Hairy Woodpecker 8; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 82; American Crow 4980; Common Raven 8; Black-capped Chickadee 173; Red-breasted Nuthatch 6; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 16; American Robin 2; European Starling 4031; Bohemian Waxwing 5; American Tree Sparrow 6; Song Sparrow 4; White-throated Sparrow 3; Dark-eyed Junco 6; Snow Bunting 90; Common Grackle 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Pine Grosbeak 1; Common Redpoll 2; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 187; Evening Grosbeak 25; House Sparrow 11.

Total Species 52, about 11,773 individuals. (CW. Northern Harrier, Northern Flicker, Northern Cardinal, Eastern Towhee). Linda Hall, **Ross Hall (compiler)**, Joan Hudgins, Rip Irwin, Bernard Jackson, Audrey Jordan, Amy-Lee Kouwenberg, Betty Lynds, Martha MacLaughlin, Marilyn MacWha, Jeff Ogden, Chris Pepper, Anne Richard, John Ruben, Trish Ruben, Brian Russell, Millie Russell, Cliff Sandeson, Rose Selwyn-Smith, Harold Stewart, Sheila Stewart, Aldene Taylor, Neil Taylor.

WEST HANTS, Dec 28; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. 3 to 6C. Winds variable 10kmph. Snow 10cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. Skies foggy all day. 20 field observers in 10 parties, 10 at feeders. Total party hours 72.8 (28.2 on foot, 44.6 by car). Total party kilometres 548.5 (37.5 by foot, 511 by car).

Canada Goose 210; American Black Duck 230; Mallard 17; Common Goldeneye 4; Ring-necked Pheasant 147; Bald Eagle 21; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 56; Rough-legged Hawk 3; Merlin 1; hawk species 1; **American Woodcock 1**; Ring-billed Gull 40; Herring Gull 436; Great Black-backed Gull 68; Rock Pigeon 372; Mourning Dove 789; Barred Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 29; Hairy Woodpecker 36; Northern Flicker 17; Pileated Woodpecker 3; Gray Jay 5; Blue Jay 449; American Crow 1214; Common Raven 102; Black-capped Chickadee 633; Red-breasted Nuthatch 8; White-breasted Nuthatch 32; Brown Creeper 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet 28; American Robin 65; European Starling 4390; Bohemian Waxwing 99; Cedar Waxwing 11; American Tree Sparrow 14; Song Sparrow 21; White-throated Sparrow 8; Dark-eyed Junco 229; sparrow species 8; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Pine Grosbeak 28; Purple Finch 73; Red Crossbill 9; Common Redpoll 265; Pine Siskin 51; American Goldfinch 731; Evening Grosbeak 141; House Sparrow 109.

Total Species 47, about 11,215 individuals. (CW. Greater Scaup, **Red-bellied Woodpecker**). Anders Adolfsson, Joan Barkhouse, Laszek Borkowski, Suzanne Borkowski, Liddy Coldwell, Louis Coutinho, Derek Crosby, Gail Davis, Muriel Golan, Andrew Harvie, Susan Harvie, Pat Hawes, **Patrick Kelly (compiler)**, Peggy Kochanoff, Blake Maybank, Janey McGinty, Wayne Neily, Peter Richard, Neil Robarts, John Robertson, Geneva Sanford, Elizabeth Stern, Richard Stern, Daphne Warden, Jim Wolford, Everett Woolaver, Frank Woolaver.

WHITE POINT, Dec 20; 8:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp -18 to -4C. Wind NE 20kmph. Snow 2.5cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. partly cloudy. P.M. partly cloudy, light snow. 7 field observers in 3 parties, 4 at feeders, 1 at feeder. Total party hours 20.8 (7.8 on foot, 13 by car). Total party kilometers 206.5 (15.5 on foot, 191 by car).

Canada Goose 59; American Black Duck 112; Mallard 173; Common Eider 127; Surf Scoter 2; White-winged Scoter 38; Black Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 135; Bufflehead 12; Common Goldeneye 30; Red-breasted Merganser 31; Red-throated Loon 3; Common Loon 8; Horned Grebe 1; Red-necked Grebe 1; Great Cormorant 38; Bald Eagle 3; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Herring Gull 406; Iceland Gull 6; Great Black-backed Gull 94; Black Guillemot 3; Rock Pigeon 131; Mourning Dove 136; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 10; Hairy Woodpecker 7; Northern Flicker 1; Blue Jay 64; American Crow 160; Black-capped Chickadee 166; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet 11; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1**; European Starling 205; American Tree Sparrow 7; Chipping Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 18; White-throated Sparrow 36; Dark-eyed Junco 186; sparrow species 2; Northern Cardinal 2; Rusty Blackbird 1; Purple Finch 2; White-winged Crossbill 5; Pine Siskin 3; American Goldfinch 189.

Total Species 47, about 2,638 individuals. **Sam de Ruyter, (compiler)**, Donna Ensor, Sylvia Fullerton, Gary Hartlen, James Hirtle, Marg Millard, Dorothy Poole, Clyde Stoddart.

WOLFVILLE, Dec 14; 8AM to 5:15PM. Temp. -9 to -3C. Wind WSW 7-13kmph. Snow 0-5cm. Still water partly frozen. Moving water open. A.M. partly clear. P.M. clear. 45 field observers in 24 parties, 87 at feeders, .5 hours and .5km. owling. Total party hours 140.75 (83 on foot, 57.75 by car). Total party kilometres 897.25 (144.25 by foot, 753 by car).

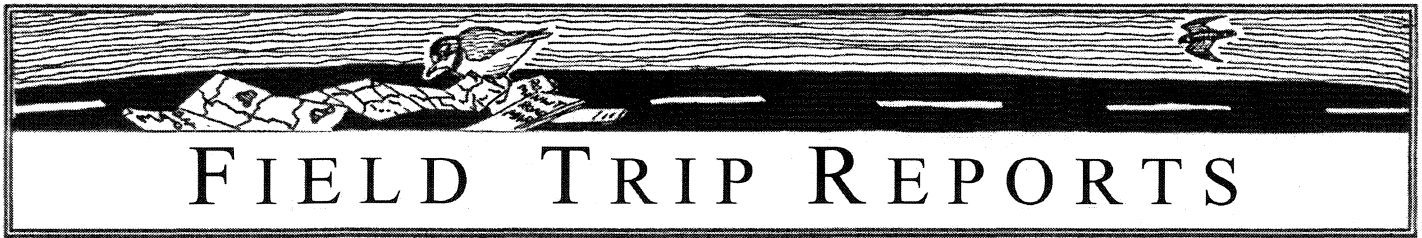
Canada Goose 1839; American Wigeon 6; American Black Duck 2945; Mallard 829; Black DuckxMallard hybrid 2; Northern Pintail 1; Green-winged Teal 5; Lesser Scaup 1; Common Eider 8, Surf Scoter 1; White-winged Scoter 8; Long-tailed Duck 2; Common Goldeneye 2; Common Merganser 22; Red-breasted Merganser 2; Ring-necked Pheasant 245; Ruffed Grouse 6; Red-throated Loon 4; Common Loon 1; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 167; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 13; **Cooper's Hawk 1**; Red-tailed Hawk 128; Rough-legged Hawk 3; American Kestrel 1; Merlin 1; Peregrine Falcon 3; Ring-billed Gull 163; Herring Gull 2763; Iceland Gull 3; **Lesser Black-backed Gull 1**; Great Black-backed Gull 760; gull species 113; Rock Pigeon 340; Mourning Dove 1029; Snowy Owl 1; Banded Owl 6; Short-eared Owl 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 4**; Downy Woodpecker 95; Hairy Woodpecker 56; Northern Flicker **63**; Pileated Woodpecker 8; Blue Jay 1195; American Crow 8207; Common Raven 260; Horned Lark 216; Black-capped Chickadee 1136; Red-breasted Nuthatch 6; White-breasted Nuthatch 62; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 69; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1**; American Robin 93; Northern Mockingbird 2; European Starling 7550; American Pipit 49; Bohemian Waxwing 15; Cedar Waxwing 4; Orange-crowned Warbler 1; Pine Warbler 3; Palm Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 48; Chipping Sparrow 5; Savannah Sparrow 12; **LeConte's Sparrow 1**; Song Sparrow 185; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 156; **White-crowned Sparrow 1**; Dark-eyed Junco 1221; Snow Bunting 89; Northern Cardinal 26; Red-winged Blackbird 5; **Rusty Blackbird 1**; Common Grackle 2; Baltimore Oriole 4; Pine Grosbeak 8; Purple Finch 37; Red Crossbill 4; White-winged Crossbill 42; Common Redpoll 149; Pine Siskin 86; American Goldfinch 1386; Evening Grosbeak 18; House Sparrow 170.

Total Species 86, about 34,183 individuals. (CW. Dunlin). Derrick Allerton, George Alliston, Margaret Alliston, Jim Amos, Helen Archibald, Peter Austin-Smith Jr., Peter Austin-Smith Sr., Diana Bishop, Sue Bissix, Sherman Bleakney, Sherman Boates, **Alison Bogan, (compiler)**, Larry Bogan, Soren Bondrup-Nielsen, Linda Brown, Carol Buckley, Nancy Burbidge, Scott Burbidge, Margaret Burton, Dick Cain, Jean Caldwell, Andy Cann, Ken Cheslock, Lana Churchill, Sandy Connelly, Chris Cox, Peggy Crawford, Graham Daborn, Debbie Daigle, Jill Davies, Pat Davis, Pat Dix, Joan Eaton, Paul Elderkin, Wendy Elliott, Mary Ellis, George Forsyth, George F. Forsyth, Harold Forsyth, Bernard Forsythe, Sandra Forsythe, Hilma Frank, Hedley Fulton, Jean Gibson-Collins, Glenys Gibson, Jamie Gibson, Merritt Gibson, Mary Sue Goulding, Lorna Hart, Avril Harwood, Pat Hawes, Tom Herman, Maxine Hill, Dennis Hippen, Bob Horne, Marg Horne, Winnie Horton, Lana Isenor, Patrick Kelly, Sandy Kempton, Jean Leung, Doug Linzey, Linda Lusby, Jake MacDonald, Del Macinnes, Mac Macinnes, Angus MacLean, Stella MacLean, Don Marston, Shirley Marston, Pat Martell, Sheila McCurdy, Rosaleen McDonald, Laurel McIvor, Pat McLeod, Randy Milton, Terri Milton, Irene Moore, Adele Mullie, Phil Muntz, Terry Murphy, Edna Mutch, Gary Ness, Nancy Nickerson, Mike O'Brien, Carol Paterson, George Paterson, Ian Paterson, Dorothy Perkin, Mary Pratt, Shirley Prescott, Stan Riggs, Gordon Robart, Barry Sabean, Linda Sacouman, Dave Shutler, David Silverberg, Peter Smith, Tyler Smith, Sarah Spencer, Richard Stern, Sandy Stevens, Ed Sulis, Mary Anne Sulis, Hugh Swandel, Bill Thexton, Brenda Thexton, Dianne Thorpe, Jean Timpa, Dave Tracy, Judy Tufts, Gertrude Waseem, Mohammed Waseem, Dave Webster, Jacquie White, Rick Whitman, Sharon Harris Whitney, Sherman Williams, Jim Wolford, Jean Wood, Wayne Woodman, Don Wright, Shirley Wright, Barry Yoell, Elizabeth Yoell, Sheila Young.

YARMOUTH, Dec 21; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -12 to -4.5. Wind E 9-27kmph. Snow 5cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly frozen. A.M. partly clear. P.M. cloudy, light snow. 15 field observers in 7 parties, 18 at feeders. Total party hours 46.5 (6.5 by foot, 40 by car). Total party kilometres 544.1 (8 by foot, 536.1 by car).

Canada Goose 588; American Wigeon 3; American Black Duck 800; Mallard 513; Greater Scaup 2; Lesser Scaup 1; Common Eider 64; White-winged Scoter 3; Long-tailed Duck 7; Bufflehead 42; Common Goldeneye 74; Hooded Merganser 25; Common Merganser 25; Red-breasted Merganser 18; duck species 19; Ring-necked Pheasant 4; Ruffed Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 31; **Pied-billed Grebe 1**; Red-necked Grebe 1; **Turkey Vulture 1**; Bald Eagle 7; Northern Harrier 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 6; **Broad-winged Hawk 1**; Red-tailed Hawk 7; Rough-legged Hawk 5; American Kestrel 4; hawk species 2; shorebird species 50; Ring-billed Gull 50; Herring Gull 662; Iceland Gull 20; Great Black-backed Gull 139; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; gull species 97; Black Guillemot 6; Rock Pigeon 135; Mourning Dove 235; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 2**; Downy Woodpecker 19; Hairy Woodpecker 8; Northern Flicker 14; Northern Shrike 1; Blue Jay 274; American Crow 516; Common Raven 20; Horned Lark 70; Black-capped Chickadee 382; Boreal Chickadee 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch 11; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 7; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1**; American Robin 41; European Starling 1802; Cedar Waxwing 2; **Nashville Warbler 1**; Yellow-rumped Warbler 7; **Yellow-breasted Chat 2**; American Tree Sparrow 38; Chipping Sparrow 1; **Field Sparrow 1**; Fox Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 52; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 282; Dark-eyed Junco 316; sparrow species 7; Snow Bunting 40; Northern Cardinal **48**; Red-winged Blackbird 10; Common Grackle 4; Brown-headed Cowbird **34**; Baltimore Oriole 6; Purple Finch 17; White-winged Crossbill 146; Common Redpoll 9; Pine Siskin 9; American Goldfinch 511; Evening Grosbeak 4; House Sparrow 12.

Total Species 82, about 8,424 individuals. (CW. American Wigeon, Wood Duck, Great Horned Owl). Dorothy Allan, Martin Bowler, Sandy Bowler, Peter Comeau, Raymond d'Entremont, Ted D'Eon, Ed Doherty, Susan Doherty, Paul Gould, June Graves, Fenton Henry, Theresa Henry, Carol Jacquard, Vivian Kennedy, Blair Kirchner, David Mahoney, Leah Murray, Murray Newell, Dermot O'Sullivan, Sally O'Sullivan, Arthur Porter, Melvin Pothier, Marcie Rogers, Barbara Ruff, Eric Ruff, Rachelle Smith, Stuart Smith, Clark Sollows, Vera Sollows, Debbie Sullivan, Bernice Trask, Dorothy Ward, June White.



07 March 2009 - Valley Birding

Leader: Bernard Forsythe

Our meeting place at the Wolfville Wharf proved to be ideal for the 18 participants to begin this outing on a mostly sunny, warm-for-March, day. A pair of courting Bald Eagles aroused the ducks and gulls around the harbour. An adult Peregrine Falcon zoomed in right over our heads and made a pass but missed a very lucky Rock Pigeon that quickly left the area. Over by the wharf we found the Northern Mockingbird that spent the winter eating Canada Holly berries nearby. The Peregrine returned for the benefit of several of our party who arrived after its first flyby.

Our 7-vehicle caravan headed for lower Wolfville where we looked at a very large Bald Eagle nest with the adults present. Nearby were 2 Northern Flickers, an American Robin, and a Red-tailed Hawk. The almost albino Red-tailed Hawk (pure white except for dark eyes, a couple of black feathers on the back of its head, and slightly pinkish on the upper side of its tail) has returned to its usual winter spot at the east end of the Ridge Road. It spooks easily so we walked down the muddy road and everyone got to see this striking hawk in flight. A drive over the Grand Pre Dykes produced more eagles and red-tails but not the Rough-legged Hawk recently seen over the dykes. Some of the group saw a Sharp-shinned Hawk.

We drove to Canning where at a feeder and large field with a tangle of Multiflora Rose and other bushes we were able to add Song and White-throated Sparrows (some were singing), Tree Sparrows, Purple Finch, Common Redpoll, quick looks at a female Northern Cardinal plus another Cardinal singing in the background. Pheasants and more sparrows were found along the banks of the Habitant River while a mink exploring the river banks entertained us. Several of the group ended the trip on Fred Thomas Road looking over the hundreds of Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls without spotting any uncommon gulls. Everyone enjoyed the day, especially one eager fellow recently getting into birding who added 3 lifers to his list.

Bernard Forsythe

21 Mar 2009 - Along the Fundy Shore

Joint outing: NSBS - Blomidon Naturalists Society - Annapolis Field Naturalists Society

Leader: Wayne Neily

The outing Saturday went very well, thanks to great weather and a good turnout - both of people and birds. We started out with 21 participants and about 12 vehicles, which limited our possibilities for stops, but the early high tide forced us to keep up a brisk pace in the a.m. anyway. I hope that everyone had a chance to meet one or more new potential birding friends, as well as getting some new birds - for the year or the county, at least. We were fortunate to have the Presidents of two of the sponsoring groups along - Pat Kelly of NSBS, and Rick Whitman of BNS - and I hope that any of you who are not members will consider joining one or more of the three groups - check out their websites.

For the day we had 58 species, none very rare but with a good representation of early migrants. We were able to start at Audrey Wellwood's bird haven in Aylesford, and between ravine, pond, and feeders we had most of the expected land birds from pheasants to finches, including Common Redpoll, and singing Red-winged Blackbirds and Song Sparrows. On the way from there to Morden, we were able to add more migrants, including Northern Flickers, a flock of American Robins, and a few Common Grackles in a resplendent plumage belying their name.

Waterfowl were for most the highlight of the trip, with Canada Geese and 15 species of ducks, most of which allowed us good views. Sea ducks, including the three scoters, Common Eider, Long-tailed Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, and Harlequin Duck, were at one or more of the three ports visited - Morden, Margaretsville, and Port George, most of them now in pairs, and with the males often displaying. Port George provided the only good views of Harlequins, but at least seven were quite cooperative there. Both loons and both coastal grebes were seen, but they were usually hidden by the wave action and their frequent dives, so not everyone got good views of them. A highlight for me was a close flypast of a Great Cormorant in breeding plumage at Morden - a species that has become quite scarce here. A Bald Eagle also gave us a good view, and at the Margaretsville pond a pair of Hooded Mergansers that we had seen through the scopes decided to give us a better look by flying low over us to get to the other side of the road.

After a stop at Middleton for Northern Cardinal most of the group continued on down the Annapolis River. Most of the river was open, and gave us a good variety of river ducks from Bridgetown to Annapolis: Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Common (and Hooded) Mergansers, and Greater Scaup. A few Red-tailed Hawks, three Bald Eagles, and a Sharp-shinned Hawk were seen - just a hint of a migration - but lots of Canada Geese, and a few flocks of American Black Ducks and Mallards.

A brief stop at the The Hawboldts' property in Belleisle added a Savannah Sparrow and allowed some of our group better views than they had had of nuthatches, woodpeckers, and other feeder birds. By the time we finished at the wharf in Annapolis Royal, the tide was rising again, and the Buffleheads and a Common Loon were putting on good shows there and providing a satisfying ending for our trip.

Thanks to Audrey Wellwood and the Hawboldts, and to the experienced birders who helped us leaders along the way find the birds and showed them to others. And thanks to all who came out and so helped us enjoy this second day of spring. I hope to see you again on more outings this year.

Wayne Neily

04 Apr 2009 - Martinique Beach

Leader: Ian McLaren

Two of us, Pat McKay and myself, turned up at the Dartmouth meeting place, and waited until 15 minutes after the appointed time. Without (much) hesitation, we drove to Martinique Park, and set out for a drizzly walk down the beach. It was actually quite pleasant, at least on the inner side. Results? Not much, although the walk is always invigorating. We found only one Ipswich Sparrow and a flock of 8 Sanderling on the inner side about half-way along the beach, apart from the usual gulls, crows, and a couple of Song Sparrows.

As we were leaving we met Lucas Berrigan, who had arrived late because of confusion over meeting place. His skills, and young eyes and ears, might have picked up some other species. We saw nothing much on the way back along the shore road (#207) and called it a day by noon.

Ian McLaren

25 April 2009 - Beginning Birders' Trip – Halifax

Leaders: Bonnie Carmichael and Gail Bruhm

25 enthusiastic people attended this field trip. Leaders Gail Bruhm and Bonnie Carmichael divided the participants into two groups to facilitate bird sightings. Here's what one participant, Noel Taussig, had to say:

"We had a great weekend for birding. I had a lot of fun at the Beginners' bird walk at the Frog Pond. We saw American Goldfinches, Kinglets, (Golden or Ruby-crowned, I can't remember,) a noisy Northern Flicker, Palm Warblers, a Common Raven, American Crows, Common Grackles, Song Sparrows, a Hairy Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Blue Jays, American Robins, several pairs of Black-capped Chickadees hollowing out their nests in dead birch trees, (see Stephen Cooke's photos on our blog: <http://www.birdsareback.blogspot.com>) and Painted Turtles out on the rocks sunning themselves. (Smart turtles.) Also Mallards and American Black Ducks."

26 April 2009 - Wolfville Area

Joint outing: The NSBS and the Blomidon Naturalists Society

Leader: Jim Wolford

Thirty-two people attended this trip including lots of familiar and welcome faces. It was a very nice warm day, with light to moderate winds and alternate bright overcast vs. sunny skies: temperatures reached 19° C. as measured by my car. At the Wolfville Wharf area, besides the rock pigeons and an Iceland or Glaucous gull, there were three **Greater Yellowlegs** (and one more was seen later in Canning by James Hirtle et al.).

Our first stop was on Starr's Point, at a **Red-tailed Hawk** nest in a woodlot adjacent to a house. There was no hawk on the nest, but the house occupant told us it was active again this year. Then to Van Nostrand's Ponds, also on Starr's Point, where we did the usual slow walk around the two ponds, finding lots of stuff of interest and not just birds! In the newer Ducks Unlimited pond, there were two male **Ring-necked Ducks**. Other birds were two **Tree Swallows**, several male **Yellow-rumped Warblers**, a **Palm**

Warbler was heard by Pat Chalmers and a **Swamp Sparrow** too, an early female **Red-winged Blackbird**, and a female **Downy Woodpecker** was seen drumming (is this normal for Downies?).

Mammals seen were a **Muskrat** and a **Porcupine**, the latter sleeping? up in a larch tree. One small pond had a school of probable **Banded Killifish** that were disturbing the surface in the shallows as they were startled by us. Herptiles (now known as herpes, courtesy of Don MacNeill), included calling **Leopard Frogs** and **Spring Peepers**, and sightings of either **Green** or **Bull Frogs** (just their heads, and seasonally too early for them to be calling). Also a **Painted Turtle** was seen basking (and later some more were seen in Canning and elsewhere).

Plants in bloom Included **Coltsfoot**, **Trembling Aspen**, **Red Maple**, **American Elm** (an apparently healthy large tree was a rare sight), **Speckled Alder**, and unidentified **Willow** species. The male willow bushes were attracting and humming with oodles of **Honey Bees**, which were clearly gathering pollen on their hind legs, and a **Mourning Cloak** butterfly that gave the appearance of not only basking with open wings but also feeding on the willow flowers -- thus the latter must produce nectar in addition to the pollen? Another butterfly seen was a **Cabbage White**, which several people were trying unsuccessfully to turn into a **Mustard White**.

Next stop was northwest of Wellington Dyke (Canard Valley), at the Canard Road **Bald Eagle** nest. I'm pretty sure they have tiny downy eaglets now, but we would have had to be very patient with good scopes to see them. We did see both adult eagles, and 1-2 **Red-tailed Hawks** nearby. Just east of Jawbone Corner (flashing light on Hwy. 358), we stopped at the home of Helen & Fred Archibald for a pit-stop and a bit of lunch. Another pair of **Downy Woodpeckers** was there, plus a flock of **House Sparrows**, etc. Then to Canard Pond, where we saw relatively very little, perhaps because a couple of people were walking along the pond bank when we arrived. There were a male **Gadwall**, one or two **Northern Pintails** flying over, two female **Common Mergansers**, two **Mallards**, a few **Green-winged Teals**, a bunch of the usual gulls plus an immature **Iceland Gull**, and a well-seen **Swamp Sparrow**.

Along Fred Thomas Road we couldn't spot a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** in a large flock of herring and great black-backed gulls. But a **Groundhog/Woodchuck** was found at a burrow along the road. Then we drove to Canning, stopping first at the Canning Aboiteau (Habitant River) at high tide: ten **Canada Geese** and about five **Green-winged Teals** were seen.

Our last formal stop was in Canning at Harris' Pond, just NW of the United Church: two **American Wigeons**, two female **Common Mergansers**, a small number of **Barn** and **Tree Swallows**, one **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, and a couple of **Painted Turtles**.

And, to finish off this trip, there was a roosting **Raccoon** that was not sleeping, up in a sugar maple? and a **Gray Squirrel!!** (probably one of the three that occasionally visit Merritt Gibson's property nearby). Thus some of us will remember this year's excursion as the one with several mammal species seen.

James W. Wolford

02 May 2009 - Cape Sable Island

Leader: Murray Newell

Some birds we found today: a Cattle Egret, a Snowy Egret, and a Blue Grosbeak at Doctors Cove. Also a Chimney Swift, a Red Knot in breeding plumage, three Indigo Buntings, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and two male Baltimore Orioles. We had 62 species for the day.

Thanks to the 17 participants who came from far and near.

Murray R. Newell

Victoria Day Weekend, May 15-17th, 2009 - Bon Portage Island

Leader: Claire Diggins

On Friday seven of us set out for the island in two outboard motorboats from Shag Harbour. It was raining and rather chilly but the wind had died down. It was very quiet on the island so after a brief walk we enjoyed a late supper and settled in our bunks. We listened to the petrels, hundreds of them, coming in from the sea energized to perform their purring courtship in their burrows.

We scouted the island all day Saturday and Sunday and much of Monday. Our list included the following: Brant, Canada Goose, several species of ducks, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Great Blue Heron, Osprey, DC Cormorant, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Spotted Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Willet, Common Tern, both Kinglets, Northern Parula, Chestnut-Sided Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Bl-Throated Green Warbler, Palm Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black and White, Common Yellowthroat, swallows, sparrows, Baltimore Oriole. There were six Great Horned Owls on the island: two were babies not yet able to fly. Two species of gulls were nesting and babies were hatching out each day. We spotted several Eider nests with eggs.

The thousands of breeding Leach's Storm-Petrels on the island make it an exciting spot in May. The amiable company and gourmet meals helped make this an out-standing weekend. Participants: Joan Czapalay, Pat MacKay, Peter MacLeod, Lillian Perry, Rebecca Gorham, Burkhard Plache, Leader, Claire Diggins.

Claire Diggins

13 June 2009 - Herbert River Trail

Joint outing: The NSBS and Blomidon Naturalists Society

Leader: Pat Kelly

This is the third time this trip has been offered as a joint NSBS/Blomidon Field Naturalist trip. There was a good turnout, including a couple from Texas who had e-mailed me several days earlier when they crossed over into New Brunswick. The walk is along the abandoned rail line that formerly connected Windsor with Truro, via Kennetcook. (Shortly after the walk I learned that the entire route will become part of the Trans-Canada Trail in 2010.)

At the start of the trail we came across an area that looked as though it had been dug up and filled in again. The bank there was quite steep, so I ruled out turtles, except that up ahead, John Harwood, one of the BNS members, was standing guard on a large snapping turtle that must have been making its way back to the river. Everyone had a good look, and it was gone when we went past that area on our return.

While it was not yet in bloom, the two Canada Lily plants were just starting to poke up above the surrounding vegetation in the wet scrubby area. In one of the large ponds there were two frogs which no one seemed to be able to identify. One was mostly copper in colour, the other was large with a bright yellow throat. In fact, it looked like a yellow water-lily with eyes.

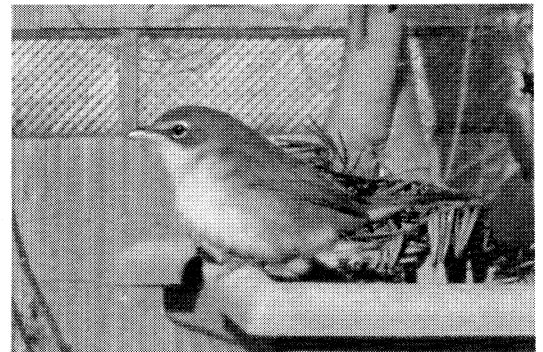
If there was a theme for the birds on this trip it would have been waxwings and redstarts. They were everywhere. Since this was also an atlassing trip it was nice to see nesting material being gathered by the cedar waxwings, and a flicker was seen flying by carrying food.

By my count, 29 species were seen. Here are some of the highlights. A female Common Merganser was dabbling its way up the middle of the river. A catbird was seen and heard by many. This area, and the section of trail just south of the bridge, are very reliable for catbirds. We usually stop and turn around at the side path that leads to the river's edge. While we were there we heard a Great Horned Owl calling several times. A hawk was also seen overhead which was identified as a Broad-winged Hawk. Partway out to the main trail, we heard a Rose-breasted Grosbeak singing and one in the group was lucky enough to see the flash of colour when it flew off. Another surprise was the appearance of a Common Nighthawk. When we returned to the road, an Eastern Phoebe showed very nicely, sitting on the power lines on one side of the bridge then flying to the phone lines on the other side.

My thanks to all the participants for making this a wonderful field trip.

Pat Kelly

YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS were unusually evident this winter, and sometimes left their usual tangles to seek food at feeders in the open, like this one Jan. 9 in central Halifax. [Photo Judith Fingard]





UPCOMING EVENTS

Field trips are open to non-members as well as members. Feel free to phone or E-mail the field trip leader or contact person ahead of time to obtain further information, directions or restrictions (e.g. dogs are not normally allowed on field trips). The area code for Nova Scotia is 902. NSMNH = The Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax.

Ideas and suggestions for future trips are welcome. You do not need to be an expert to lead a field trip, and the trip does not need to last all day. You just need to share your favourite birding spots. Any questions, comments or suggestions, as well as all field trip reports should be directed to The Events Editor, Suzanne Borkowski 445-2922. E-mail: suzanneborkowski@yahoo.ca

Sat 04 July 2009 - Square Bash! Region 20: Walton River (20MR30)

Leader: Suzanne Borkowski 445-2922 E-mail: suzanneborkowski@yahoo.ca

Meet at 7:00 am at the Shangri-La Cottages, Cottage #1, Burnt Coat Head, just Northwest of Noel at the intersection of #354 and #215 in Hants County. There are three main access points to this square: one from #215 (Minasville), one from #354 (Noel Road), and one from #236 (Stanley). Bring a lunch, snacks, water, hiking boots, insect repellent and sunscreen. Some roads are drivable, so you'll have your choice of driving or hiking (or both).

No rain date.

Sat 18 July 2009 - Beginning Birders Trip - Birds of Martinique Beach Prov Park

Leader: Sue Abbott 222-2880 E-mail: sabbott@bsc-eoc.org

Limited registration. **Pre-registration is required.** Meet at 10:00 am at the farthest parking lot (boardwalk#8) along the Martinique Beach Provincial Park road, which runs off Hwy #7 in Musquodoboit Harbour. If you love the beach and would like to improve your ability to identify the songs and calls of beach birds, join Bird Studies Canada on this 2-hour walk focusing on the fascinating and often secretive birds that breed in beach, dune, and salt marsh habitat. We will also observe Piping Plovers from a safe distance, and learn about why they are endangered, what is being done to recover their population at Martinique and across Nova Scotia, and how you can help. Contact Sue Abbott for more information.

No rain date.

Sat 18 July 2009 - Marble Mountain

Leaders: Lynn Zimmerman, 756-2872 E-mail:

zimmer@seaside.ns.ca

and Carolyn Chant, 756-9085 E-mail: cg.serenity@seaside.ns.ca

Meet at the Marble Mountain Community Hall in the community of Marble Mountain on the coast of West Bay, Inverness County, at 9:00 am. "Early Birders" are encouraged to stop at the bay in West Bay (possibly heron and other shore birds) and/or Lime Hill Cemetery (a diverse and plentiful bird population is always found).

We will travel up past Calder's gravel pit off Marble Mountain Road, exploring field and forest habitats with a bonus

spectacular view of the Bras d'Or from elevation. Some light hiking (dirt road) will be involved. Eagles are always plentiful in this area. Time permitting, a visit to the lakeshore and beach is a 5 minute walk from the community hall. Lunch will be provided, so please contact the trip leaders if you wish to attend.

Sat 18 July 2009 - Wallace Bay

Leader: Paul MacDonald 627-2568 E-mail:

paulrita2001@yahoo.com

Meet at the Wallace Wharf, at 8:30 a.m. Take Hwy #104 to exit #11, then Hwy #4 North to Wentworth Centre; then Hwy #307 to Wallace. The wharf is right in front of you when you reach the end of #307 at Rte#6. Primary points of interest are the impoundments at the Wallace Bay National Wildlife Area. The morning will consist of a three-hour walk along a woodland trail, so come prepared with sturdy footwear, water, and a lunch. No rain date.

Sat 01 Aug 2009 - Mahone Bay

Leader: James Hirtle 766-4642 E-mail: jrhbirder@hotmail.com

Meet at 8:00 a.m. across from the three churches in Mahone Bay, Lunenburg County. We'll explore a variety of habitats. Bring a lunch. The trip will conclude about 3:00 p.m.

No rain date.

Sat 08 Aug 2008 - Taylor Head Provincial Park

Leader: Jim Cameron 885-2970 E-mail:

jim.cameron@ns.sympatico.ca

and Warren Parsons 772-2207 E-mail:

rosalieeast@ns.sympatico.ca

This will be a joint trip with the Friends of Taylor Head Provincial Park. Meet at the end of the Taylor Head Provincial Park Road, in the last parking lot, at 9:00 am. Taylor Head is off Highway #7, Eastern Shore, past Clam Harbour and before Sheet Harbour. Taylor Head has over 17 km of hiking trails of which we will cover approximately 3 or 4. Many birds breed here such as Red Crossbills, Lincoln's Sparrows, Grey Jays and more. It's beach, rocky and wooded terrain so hiking boots and a hearty lunch are recommended. There will be an optional walk offered in the afternoon, perhaps as far as the Headland, for photos and the chance to see migrating waders.

No rain date.

Sat 15 Aug 2009 – Cape Sable Boat Trip

As part of “Island Days” Clarke’s Harbour Recreation Dept. will be offering a boat trip to Cape Sable to see the Lighthouse. Life jackets are required. Arrangements can be made to borrow one if you don’t have one of your own. For times and cost as well as other information, contact Parnell Walker at 745-0226 or e-mail: charbourecc@eastlink.ca
Rain date: Sun 16 Aug.

Sat 22 Aug 2009 - Point Michaud

Leaders: Billy Digout 535-2513; E-mail: william.digout@strait.ednet.ns.ca and Weldon MacPhail 535-3458

Meet at 8:30 a.m. in front of the Transportation building at the Exit to Hwy #247 (just east of St. Peters Canal, Richmond County). Lots of shorebird species and beautiful scenery are in store on this always-popular field trip. Lunch to follow at 1:00 pm at the home of George and Sharon Digout in River Bourgeois.

Sat 22 Aug 2009 – Cherry Hill Beach

Leader: Eric Mills 766-4606 E-mail: e.mills@dal.ca

Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Cherry Hill fire hall, corner of Hwy #331 and Henry Conrad Road in Cherry Hill, Lunenburg County. Bring a lunch, insect repellent, sunscreen and rubber boots. Walking distance about 4 km; some parts of medium difficulty on sand and cobbles. Cherry Hill Beach area has a combination of salt marsh, salt marsh ponds, muddy intertidal flats (good for waders) and sand beach. The nearby forested areas have a good diversity of land birds. Specialties of the area include migrating waders, Piping Plovers (may be gone by mid August) and, occasionally, vagrant herons and gulls.
No rain date.

Wed 26 Aug 2009 - Cabot Landing field trip and birding workshop.

Details to be determined.

Leader: Fritz McEvoy 383-2063 E-mail: fritzmcevoy@hotmail.com

Experience birding in northern Cape Breton with a lovely shoreline hike to see a variety of seabirds and shorebirds. In the evening, an interesting and educational birding workshop will take place at the local museum.

Fri 04 Sep to Mon 07 Sep 2009 – Bon Portage Island

Leader: Claire Diggins 825-6152. E-mail: claire_diggins@hotmail.com

Trip will be limited to 10-12 participants.

Pre-Registration is Necessary!

This trip is not suitable for small children or pets. Depart 6:00 p.m. on Friday from the Prospect Point Wharf in Shag Harbour, Shelburne County. Bring food, drinking water, warm clothing, footwear for rough (beach cobble) and wet terrain, a flashlight, mattress sheet, and a sleeping bag. Carry gear in waterproof bags or containers. Field guides are available on the island, as are cooking pots, utensils and dishes. There is a charge of \$45.00 for three nights accommodation for NSBS members plus a donation for the boat trip.

Please Note: If getting on or off the island cannot be done

safely, the trip will be moved to Cape Sable Island and area.

Sat 05 Sep 2009 – New Birders’ Walk

As an initiative of the *For the Birds* Conference last fall, the Nova Scotia Bird Society is pleased to introduce a *New Birders’ Walk* the first Saturday of every month. Place: Point Pleasant Park, Time: 9:30 am, Trip Leader to be announced. Meet in the lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive, by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach. We’ll take a leisurely walk around some of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on water. Duration: 2 hours.

Sat 12 Sep 2009 - Cape Breton Shorebirds

Leader: Susann Myers 431-9123 E-mail: myerss@eastlink.ca

Meet at the Sydney Airport (at the fence to the right of the terminal building) at 9:00 a.m. Experience a great variety of species, both shorebirds and others, at Sydney Airport and nearby sites. This is our annual opportunity to get out on the airport runways and see good numbers of Buff-breasted Sandpipers, American Golden-Plovers and others in the company of birding friends. Bring a lunch.

Rain date: Sun 13 Sept.

Fri 18 Sep to Sun 20 Sep 2009 – Brier Island Weekend

Leaders: James Hirtle 766-4642 E-mail:

jrhbirder@hotmail.com; and Wayne Neily 765-2455 E-mail: neilyornis@hotmail.com

For all bird outings meet in the parking lot of the Brier Island Lodge.

Birding Schedule:

Friday evening 8:30 pm – owling.

Saturday morning 6:00 – 8:00 am – Early birding.

Saturday 9:00 am – Birding the Island Hot Spots.

Saturday 12:30 pm or 1:30 pm – Whale and Seabird Cruise.

Please make your own reservation at: [http://](http://www.novascotiawhalewatching.ca)

www.novascotiawhalewatching.ca to book with Mariner

Cruises (12:30 pm departure) or: [http://](http://www.brierislandwhalewatch.com)

www.brierislandwhalewatch.com to book with Brier Island Whale and Seabird Cruises (1:30 pm departure).

Those who don’t wish to take a pelagic cruise are free to bird the island on their own.

Sunday 6:00 – 8:00 am – Early birding

Sunday 9:00 am – More birding

The ferry leaves Digby Neck for Long Island every hour on the half hour. The second ferry leaves Long Island for Brier Island every hour on the hour. Ferries are timed so you can drive comfortably from one to the other without missing it. However, you may want to take an extra hour to do some birding on Long Island. Please note, on the return trip, the ferry leaves Brier Island every hour at twenty minutes past the hour.

For weekend accommodations try:

Brier Island Hostel: www.brierislandhostel.com

The Brier Island Lodge: (NSBS members get 10% discount) www.brierislandlodge.com

The Dock & Doze Motel: <http://www.brierisland.org>

Bay of Fundy Inn: <http://www.brierislandwhalewatch.com>

Thu 24 Sept 2009 – Regular Meeting

NSMNH, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N. S., 7:30 p.m.

Piping Plovers in Nova Scotia: What we know and don't know, and why there's hope for recovery -

Guest Speaker: Sue Abbott

Sue Abbott has worked for over ten years on bird monitoring, research and conservation projects – from seabirds to shorebirds to songbirds. Understanding the effects of human disturbance on birds and habitats and using outreach as a tool to mitigate this threat are two common threads that link much of her past and present work. Sue is a program coordinator for Bird Studies Canada, a national non-profit dedicated to increasing the appreciation, understanding and conservation of Canada's birds. She currently coordinates the Piping Plover Conservation Program and the Important Bird Area Program in Nova Scotia.

Sat 26 Sep 2009 – Editor's Field Trip - Peggy's Cove Loop.

Leader: Blake Maybank 852-2077 E-mail

maybank@ns.sympatico.ca

Explore some little known trails and birding sites between White's Lake and Indian Harbour. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the White's Lake Legion parking lot (junction of Rte 333 and Prospect Village Rd) – 30 minutes from downtown Halifax. No rain date.

Sat 03 Oct 2009 – New Birders' Walk

Meet in the Lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach at 9:30 am. Trip Leader to be announced. We'll take a leisurely walk around part of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on the water. Duration: 2 hours.

Sat 17 Oct 2009 - Cheticamp Island Field Trip

Leader: Gordon Delaney 224-2490 E-mail:

gordon.delaney@pc.gc.ca

Meet at 9:00am at the Visitors' Centre, C.B. Highlands National Park Headquarters.

Join us for a tour of Cheticamp Island where we will see migrating seabirds and shorebirds, as well as do some forest birding.

Rain Date: October 24.

Thu 22 Oct 2009 – Regular Meeting of the NS Bird Society

Please Note: The Annual General Meeting Will be Held in November This Year!

NSMNH, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S., 7:30 pm.

Adventures in Bird Banding: from Manitoba to Central America

Guest Speaker: Becky Stewart.

A look into bird banding and what it is all about (believe it or not, there's more to it than just giving birds silver bracelets). Becky Stewart is certified by the North American Banding Council and has banded in Manitoba, Mexico, California and Costa Rica. She'll share her adventures and show us why a bird

in the hand is really worth two in the bush. Becky is currently the Atlas Coordinator for the Maritimes Breeding Bird Atlas.

Sat 07 Nov 2009 – New Birders' Walk

Meet in the Lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach at 9:30 am. Trip Leader to be announced. We'll take a leisurely walk around part of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on the water. Duration: 2 hours.

Sat 07 Nov 2009 - Port Hawkesbury

Leaders: David Johnston 625-534 E-mail:

dwj.jem@ns.sympatico.ca and Dave McCorquodale 563-260 E-mail: david_mccorquodale@capebretonu.ca

Meet at 9:00 am at the Tourist Information Building in Port Hastings.

At the Canso Causeway there are frequently concentrations of gulls, eagles and gannets that are feeding on migrating skipjacks (aka billfish) in mid-November. In addition we will check out the waterfront for loons, grebes, alcids and waterfowl, feeders for lingering migrants, and a few fields and creek valleys for sparrows and warblers. Lunch will follow at David and Mary Johnston's home.

Rain Date: November 14.

Thu 27 Nov 2009 – NSBS Annual General Meeting

NSMNH, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S., 7:30 p.m.

As usual, the AGM will be followed by a wine and cheese reception; a great opportunity to meet and mingle.

Sat 28 Nov 2009 – Canso and Area

Leaders: Tom Kavanaugh 366-3476 E-mail:

terri.crane@ns.sympatico.ca

and Steve Bushell 366-2527

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Chapel Gully Trail parking lot in the town of Canso, Guysborough County. Come down Main Street, turn right onto Union, go past the Marina and take the next right onto Wilmot. The parking lot is at the top of the hill. Fall migration is in full swing on Canso at this time of year, so be prepared for almost anything!

No rain date.

Sun 29 Nov 2009 – Antigonish Coastal Waters

Leader: Randy Lauff 867-2471 E-mail: rlauff@stfx.ca

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Dragon Fly Café on the TCH #104, just east of exit #35 (Lower South River). This trip covers the waters of St. Georges Bay and Antigonish Harbour. We'll end the day at Ogdens Pond which has hosted thousands of gulls, ducks and, in some years, inland gannets.

No rain date.