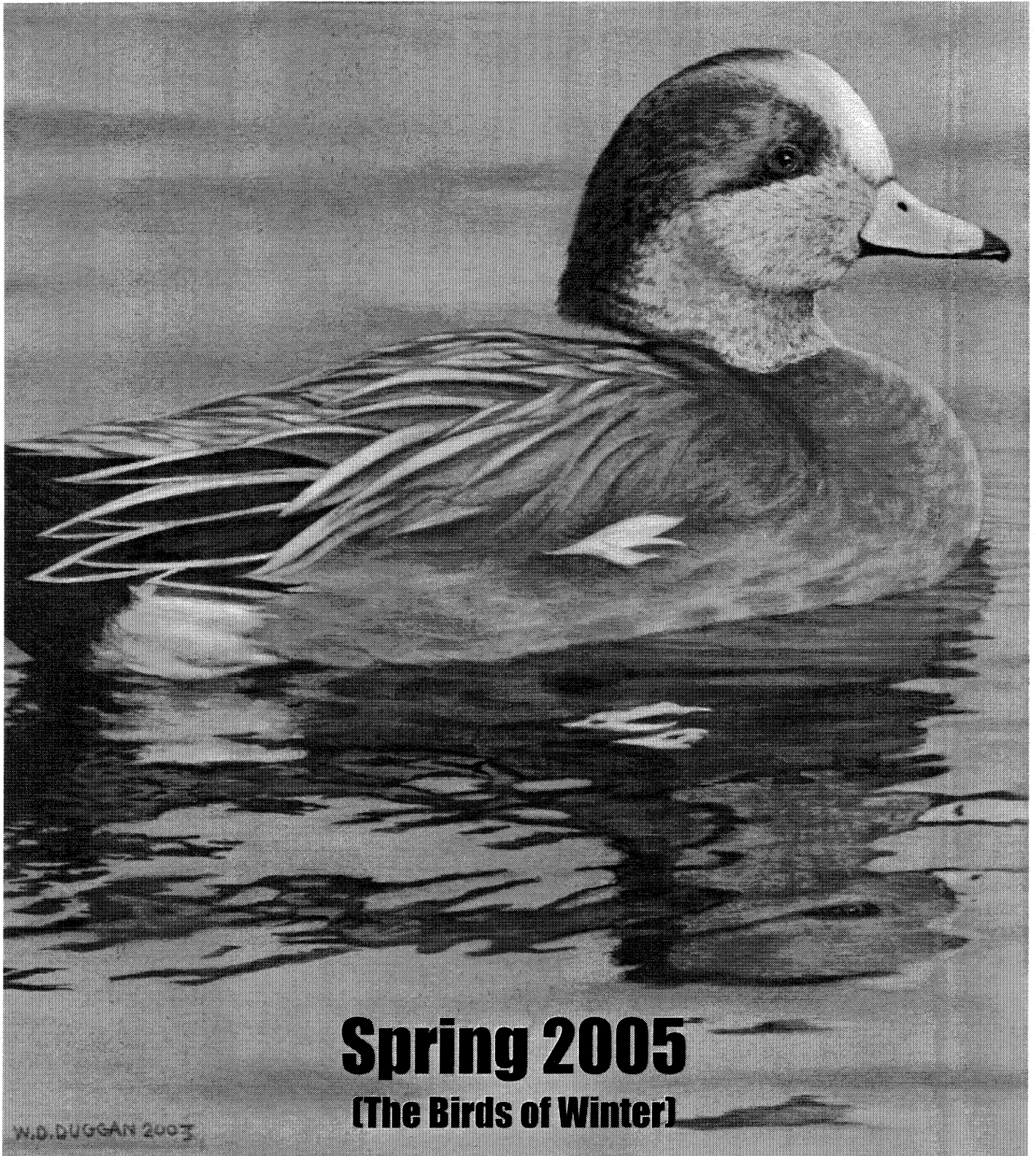


Nova Scotia Birds

A Quarterly Publication of the Nova Scotia Bird Society



Spring 2005
(The Birds of Winter)

NOVA SCOTIA BIRD SOCIETY

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Reporting Deadlines

Winter 2006 issue: Dec. 7, 2005
Spring 2006 issue: Mar. 7, 2006

Summer 2005 issue: June 7, 2005
Fall 2005 issue: Aug. 7, 2005

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- Winter Seasonal Reports
- President's Corner
- Christmas Bird Counts
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Cover Photo: This AMERICAN WIDGEON is an original work by Dartmouth artist William Duggan. www.williamduggan.com

NOVA SCOTIA BIRDS

SPRING 2005

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THE SPOTTING SCOPE

Happy Spring Birding to All

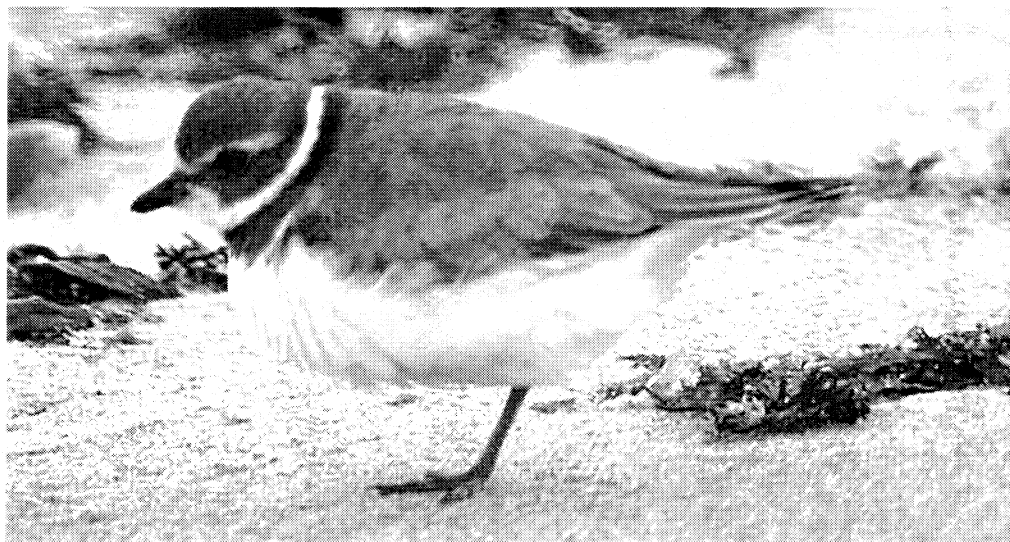
Another packed issue to send to you all, so let us not further delay. There are a couple of announcements further in this column, but first a quick explanation of one article herein, reprinted with permission from *North American Birds*. The editor of that fine journal asked for someone in each region of North America to prepare an ecological "state of the region", to provide readers with perspective against which to understand the seasonal changes in each region's birdlife. Ian McLaren wrote the summary for Atlantic Canada, and it was so concise and cogent that I believed our readers would benefit by having it reprinted here. I asked permission, it was readily given, and I present the summary to you.

I have nothing else to report, so I'll use the rest of the column to pass along some words from the Photo Editor. Enjoy.

Corrections from the Photo Editor

Perceptive readers, including Fulton Lavender and Paul Lehman, alerted me to three misidentifications in the last issue's photo captions. The most serious is my misidentification (p. 3) of the 1981 "Ross's Gull" on Brier Island. It is, in fact, a first-summer Black-legged Kittiwake. Also, the Willet on p. 15, clearly in full Alternate (breeding) plumage, and Ulli Hoeger informs me that it was photographed May 9, not Sept. 5. (my mix-up of the numerical month/day designation). Finally, the "Warbling Vireo" on p. 22 is actually a Philadelphia Vireo, as even more clearly on the colour original.

Apologies to all. Ian McLaren.



A SEMIPALMATED PLOVER clung to existence during harsh winter weather on Crystal Crescent Beach, where its diagnostic foot webbing was observed and photos were taken (here Jan. 14) that eliminate Ringed Plover, which should always be considered in out-of-season birds. Note, in particular, the narrow "tick" of white extending from the throat to above the gape of the bill. [Photo Hans Toom]

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



Atlantic Canada – An Ecological Update

By Ian McLaren
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Despite low human density (2.4 M people, 52% urban, in 540,000 km²), there have been great impacts on terrestrial and marine environments in the Region. Some 60% of the land is forested and substantially owned or leased by forestry companies. Agriculture is largely localized along river valleys and coastal areas. Accordingly forestry has had wide impacts, but agriculture has especially affected rich forests and wetlands. The sea, with some 40,000 km of coastline, has dominated patterns of human settlement and resource exploitation. Damming of rivers flowing into the Bay of Fundy has led to huge losses of saltmarshes, and many elsewhere have been diked and drained. The 1977 establishment of Canada's 200-mile, Exclusive Economic Zone has not been accompanied by adequate stewardship.

Species of particular concern are listed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) and by various provincial agencies. These along with less-threatened species are considered here in three groups: seabirds, shorebirds, and landbirds.

Seabirds

Some 50 million seabirds live in or pass through the Region each year, including most of the alcids wintering in the western North Atlantic. Newfoundland hosts the world's largest colony of Leach's Storm-Petrel, on Baccalieu I., one of the world's largest colonies of Common Murre, on Funk I., and the largest North American concentrations of Atlantic Puffin, in Witless Bay. Catastrophic declines of commercial groundfishes off Atlantic Canada have not directly affected seabirds, but may have abundance of forage fishes. Reduced gillnetting has lessened bycatches of birds in recent years. Off Newfoundland, collapse of cod and the increase of Harp Seals have been accompanied by reduced availability of Capelin for many surface-feeding gulls, and increased abundance of Arctic Cod as food for other seabirds. Involvement of oceanographic changes in this switch is uncertain. Recent analyses implicates overfishing in a shift to a pelagic food web on the Scotian Shelf ecosystem, but effects on seabirds, which use mostly pelagic prey, are unclear. Fishery collapse and better management of garbage has locally reduced productivity by Herring Gulls, but may have increased predation by large gulls on other seabirds in their colonies.

The greatest hazard to continues to be the illegal flushing of oily bilge water at sea, which is estimated to kill some 300,000 birds annually, 80% murres and Dovekies. Canada's record on preventing this practise is deplorable. Aerial pollution surveillance has been some 400 hours per year, compared with about 2000 hours off California. In the United States and Europe, bilge-dumping fines of a million dollars or more have been imposed, whereas a \$125,000 fine by a Nova Scotia court in February 2002 was unprecedented.

Seabird hunting continues to be of concern. Newfoundland entered Canada belatedly (1949) with its traditional murre (mostly Thick-billed) hunt intact, and some 200,000 are killed annually. Wide publicity and local sympathy for closure of Harlequin Duck hunting seems to have worked; rated by COSEWIC as endangered in 1990, it was downlisted to "special concern" in 2001. The Canadian Wildlife Service is addressing concern about other species, such as scoters and Com. Eiders, which may be subject to unsustainable harvests.

The Nova Scotian populations of the (COSEWIC, endangered) Roseate Tern, at the margin of its range, have been studied extensively. The two major colonies (76 pairs on the Brothers I. and 40 pairs on Country I. in 2004) have been sustained in recent years by wardening and predator control.

Seabird populations may be affected by poorly understood oceanographic variation. A recent conference highlighted disappearance of masses of Red-necked Phalaropes from southwestern Bay of Fundy during the 1990s. This was mooted as a spillover effect of a wider, 10-fold decrease in Atlantic Canada of their chief prey, the copepod *Calanus finmarchicus*. Although probably a natural, long-term, fluctuation, such events can make species more vulnerable to human impacts.

Shorebirds

Wider declines of some shorebirds, including Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers, Short-billed Dowitchers, Red Knots, and Black-bellied Plovers, are reflected by censuses in Atlantic Canada. The Region supplies vital stopover sites. In autumn, 75-95% of the total population of Semipalmated Sandpipers fatten on a single species of small crustacean on the vast tidal mudflats of upper Bay of Fundy. (As an example of unforeseen consequences of conservation initiatives, the thriving Peregrine Falcons in the area may now harass the birds to the point of the reducing their fitness for their non-stop flight to S. America.) Another site, Cape Sable Island, NS, hosts Canada's only breeding Am. Oystercatchers and the largest and most diverse assemblage of wintering shorebirds in E. Canada. Fortunately, some important sites are National Wildlife Areas, Hemispheric Shorebird Reserves, and Important Bird Areas, and outright destruction of coastal beaches and wetlands is prevented by land-use regulations. Effects of such activities as increasing and almost unregulated exploitation for bait of mudflat "bloodworms" (*Glycera*) need study.

Among breeding shorebirds, the Piping Plover (COSEWIC, endangered) has only some 220 breeding pairs in the Region (including the Magdalen Islands, QC). Most egg and chick mortality is from high tides and predation, but both are partly driven by human disturbance. People, with their ATVs and dogs, continue to ignore warning signs and patrols by citizen "Guardians," and the plover population remains at best stationary. Hopefully, ongoing education will help. The saltmarsh-nesting Willet is of less concern, although its Regional population of only 2,500 pairs makes it potentially vulnerable.


Landbirds

Breeding ranges of some COSEWIC-listed landbird (and wetland) species extend into Atlantic Canada (e.g. Least Bittern, Rusty Blackbird), but their welfares lie largely elsewhere. The Region does have substantial fractions of others, including the charismatic Bicknell's Thrush (special concern), and contains the entire breeding ranges of two listed subspecies. The Savanna (Ipswich) Sparrow (subspecies *princeps*, rated of special concern), nesting on Sable Island, NS, along with other conservation concerns, could be impacted by federal plans (being strenuously opposed) to dispense with year-round wardening of the island. The (endangered) Newfoundland subspecies (or species?) *pernca* of Red Crossbill has declined sharply in the last 50 years.

The fate of many species is linked to forestry. Although knowledge and legislation have somewhat mitigated the excesses of forestry, current pulpwood extraction exceeds sustainable, medium-term, rates, and there is little old-growth left either to protect or manage wisely. The largely forested National Parks (two in each province except PEI, in which the park is essentially seashore) help, as do some areas protected by Land Trusts or in provincially designated wilderness areas. The situation is especially serious in Nova Scotia, where 70% of the land is privately owned, and in New Brunswick, where most forested public land is leased to forestry. Although more remaining patches of older or unusual forest need to be set aside, and the importance of remnant snags and cavity trees is increasingly accepted, many ecologists believe that landscape-scale management is the only remaining strategy for sustaining forest bird diversity. This includes limiting the areas of intensively managed conifer plantations. Fine tuning of the scale and timing of cutting also holds some hope; for example, preliminary research indicates that Bicknell's Thrush in New Brunswick is most common in naturally regenerating softwood stands 5-12 years after clearcutting. □



Portraits of BALD EAGLE have become a dime-a-dozen since the establishment of Eagle Days in *Kings*. This somewhat bedraggled third-winter bird, found during the Pictou Harbour CBC, seems particularly appealing. [Photo Richard Stern]



WINTER BIRD REPORTS

Loons Through Grebes

By Angus MacLean

Except for numbers observed at Port George in December, RED-THROATED LOONS had largely moved south. Somewhat lower numbers than average were found on the CBCs. In contrast COMMON LOONS persist along our coasts throughout the winter.

It's been noted before that HORNED GREBES are rarely found east of Sambro whereas RED-NECKED GREBES seem to prefer the waters of Halifax harbour and environs. DAM finding 100s of Horned Grebes but only a few Red-necked Grebes near Blandford illustrated this nicely. The large groups along Digby Neck have not been previously reported. Of particular note was that most of the birds were sleeping on each occasion. □

Red-throated Loon

Dec. 1	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Dec. 3	Maders Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DAW
Dec. 7	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	16	JOB
Dec. 9	Cheggoggin-Pembroke, <i>Yar.</i>	1	PRG
Dec. 15	Glace Bay	1	BES
Dec. 22	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	8	JOB
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	3	AAM
Jan. 1	Corkums I., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DAW
Jan. 12	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	1	DAM

Common Loon

Dec. 1-Jan. 17	St. Anns Bay, <i>Vic.</i>	2	BSK
Dec. 9	Cheggoggin-Pembroke, <i>Yar.</i>	2	PRG
Dec. 16	R. Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	1	GED
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	95	
Dec. 22	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	7	JOB
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	3+	AAM
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	68	
Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	47	
Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	13	KJM
Jan. 15	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	15	RBS

Pied-billed Grebe

Dec. 1	Dublin Shore, <i>Lun.</i>	1	ELM, AHM
Dec. 27	Strait of Canso CBC	1	
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF

Jan. 2	West Pubinco, <i>Yar.</i>	1	MUN
Jan. 5	Strait of Canso CBC	1	David Johnston

Horned Grebe

Dec. 4	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	100s	DAM
Dec. 7	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	2	JOB
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	33	
Dec. 22	Sydney, <i>CBRM</i>	6	DBM
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	1	AAM
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	57	
Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	26	
Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	9	KJM

Red-necked Grebe

Dec. 4	Aspotagan, <i>Lun.</i>	a few	DAM
Dec. 9	Cheggoggin-Pembroke, <i>Yar.</i>	1	PRG
Dec. 11	Parkers Cove, <i>Anna.</i>	2	RBS
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	124	
Dec. 18	St. Anns Bay, <i>Vic.</i>	2	BSK
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	5	AAM
Dec. 23	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	5	AAM
Jan. 16	Whale Cove, <i>Digby</i>	37	BLF
Jan. 16	Sandy Cove, <i>Digby</i>	60	BLF
Feb. 9	Whale Cove, <i>Digby</i>	35	BLF
Feb. 24	Whale Cove, <i>Digby</i>	50	BLF, AAM

These four groups were close together, sleeping next to shore.

□□□

Tubenoses Through Cormorants

By Eric Mills

Abundant offshore but rarely seen in winter, NORTHERN FULMARS were seen from shore on the Brier I. and Halifax-Dartmouth Christmas counts. NORTHERN GANNETS, abundant Dec. 19, were apparently mostly gone after that.

Lingering DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS were reported in small numbers through early February. Although GREAT CORMORANTS were sparsely reported throughout the reporting period, the total of 145 on Christmas counts suggests that they were under-reported rather than scarce. □

Northern Fulmar

Dec. 14	Brier I. CBC	2	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1	

Northern Gannet

Dec. 1	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	600-800	TOK
Dec. 2	Ogdens Pond, <i>Ant.</i>	Few dozen	RFL
Dec. 4	Canso Causeway, <i>Guys.</i>	2	PEH
Dec. 14	Brier I. CBC	43	

Dec. 17	Margaree, <i>Inv.</i> CBC	3	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	20	
Dec. 18	Cheticamp, <i>Inv.</i> CBC	5	
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	4	
Dec. 18	White Pt., <i>Queens</i> CBC	3	
Dec. 19	Antigonish, <i>Ant.</i> CBC	34	
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	1 imm.	AAM
Dec. 26	Port Hebert, <i>Queens</i> CBC4		

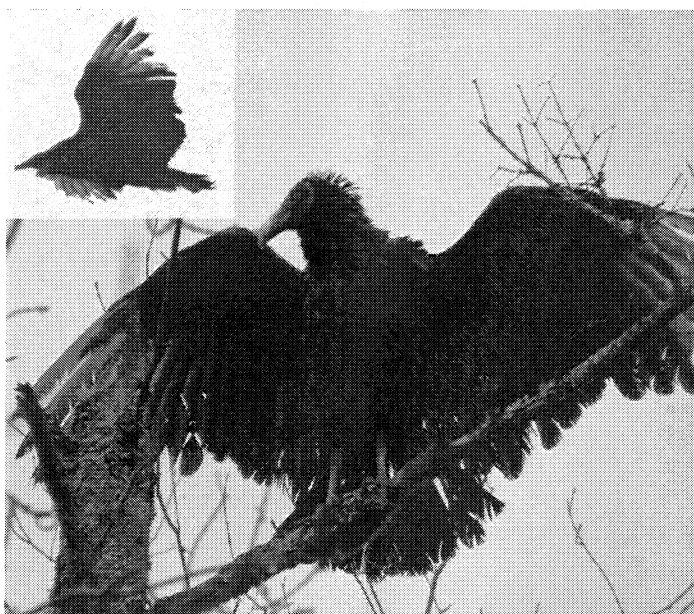
Dec. 28	St. Anns Hbr., Vic.	1	<i>fide</i> BSK	Jan. 14	Terence Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm.	BLM
Jan. 3	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	DOU	Feb. 9	Baddeck Bay, Vic.	1	BSK
Jan. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	CBC	Great Cormorant			
Double-crested Cormorant				Dec. 14	Brier I. CBC	105	
Dec. 1	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	3	TOK	Dec. 18	Pt. Aconi, <i>CBRM</i>	4	BSK
Dec. 10	Lunenburg Hbr.	1 imm.	ELM	Dec. 18	CSI CBC 210		
Dec. 14	Baddeck, Vic. CBC	2		Dec. 18	Cheticamp, <i>Inv.</i> CBC	6	
Dec. 14	Brier I. CBC	2		Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	96	
Dec. 16	CSI	5	JON	Dec. 18	Louisburg, <i>CBRM</i> CBC	6	
Dec. 17	Margaree, <i>Inv.</i> CBC	1		Dec. 23	Sydneys, <i>CBRM</i> CBC	15	
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	18		Dec. 26	Port Hebert, <i>Queens</i> CBC	105	
Dec. 18	Cheticamp, <i>Inv.</i> CBC	1		Dec. 27	Strait of Canso CBC	1	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	10		Dec. 30	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i> CBC	17	
Dec. 18	Kingston, <i>Kings</i> CBC	1		Jan. 1	Sydney Mines, <i>CBRM</i>	3	DBM
Dec. 23	Sydney, <i>CBRM</i> CBC	1		Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	1	
Dec. 26	Port Hebert, <i>Queens</i> CBC	1		Jan. 2	<i>Lunenburg</i> CBC	78	
Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	1		Feb. 21	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	DOU
Jan. 2	<i>Lunenburg</i> CBC	1		Feb. 26	Herring Cove, <i>HRM</i>	5	PLC
Jan. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i> CBC	2		□□□			

Herons Through Vultures

By Ulli Höger

As one can expect this report is seasonably short. As soon as lakes and marshes freeze over our herons and egrets are gone -most of them anyway.

Nevertheless we had some rare birds visiting Nova Scotia this winter. Some were just rare for the season; others are general rarities in our province. **BLACK VULTURES** are in the latter category, and we received reports from two locations. The individual found in late January near Canning, *Kings* stayed throughout February and was enjoyed by many birders. Another confirmed report came from an undisclosed location in *HRM* in early December (there are good reasons not to publish the location). □



Although not a pretty sight, this **BLACK VULTURE** wintering in *Kings* was a prize for many life-listers. The perched bird was photographed Dec. 8, and the bird in flight, showing its diagnostic shape and white primaries, somewhat later. [Photo Shawn Hicks; insert Richard Stern]

Great Blue Heron			
Dec. 12	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Dec. 14	Brier I.	2	ELM
Dec. 15	CSI	2	MUN
Dec. 16	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	2	DMW
Dec. 22	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	RHL
Dec. 24	Amherst Shore PP, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KJM
Dec. 25	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1	DHH
Jan. 5	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan. 14	CSI	2	MUN
Jan. 26	Sunnybrook, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Great Egret			
Dec. 5-28	Belleville/Eel L., <i>Yar.</i>	1-2	PRG, MUN <i>et al.</i>
Little Blue Heron			
Dec. 4-12	Clyde R., <i>Yar.</i>	1 imm.	SAH, MUN, JON
BLACK VULTURE			
Dec. 6-9	<i>HRM</i>	1	<i>fide</i> BLM
Jan. 28 - Feb. 26	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS, AAM, JCT
Turkey Vulture			
Dec. 14	Brier I.	14	ELM
Dec. 23	Higginsville Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Jan. 1	CSI	8	MUN
Jan. 10	Cheboque, <i>Yar.</i>	8	MUN
Jan. 13	Brier I.	8	JUS
Jan. 15	CSI	1	MUN

□□□

Geese, Swans and Ducks

By Angus MacLean

The three **PINK-FOOTED GEESE** found by KJM at Abercrombie, *Pict.* were certainly the highlight of the season. The first record for NS, they had been found initially in Charlottetown Hbr. in late December and were last reported there the first week of February. At first there was speculation one was an immature, thus indicating a family group but after studying the (excellent) photos taken, it was determined it was also an adult. There are a number of records for eastern NA including four each in Newfoundland and Quebec and six to eight in the eastern US. However it is possible a number of the records represent the same individual since geese can be long-lived. It will be interesting to see if the group return next spring.

EURASIAN WIGEON were in short supply on the mainland but note the astonishing number of 11 at Glace Bay. Considering they dwindled to three, one wonders where the others went. Perhaps they returned to Newfoundland? The **REDHEAD** seen at Freeport had been reported occasionally through the winter at both Freeport and Brier I. but I didn't have the earlier observations.

Unfortunately all three **KING EIDERS** found were 'one-day wonders'. It remains one of our most difficult species to locate and I expect many NS birders have yet to see one. Through the efforts of CWS we now realize considerable numbers of **HARLEQUIN DUCKS** frequent our shores. They are currently listed as a 'Species of Special Concern' having increased since the 1990s. However since they are so gregarious, they are very vulnerable to oil spills. In my own wanderings this winter, I had the impression **SURF SCOTERS** had largely supplanted **WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS** as our most common late winter scoter. **BLACK SCOTERS** continue to be reported much less frequently.

James Hirtle had the following observation: "There was a Barrows Goldeneye in the cove at Mahone Bay today (Dec 16) with a group of Common Goldeneyes. It had all the features of the Barrows with the sickle on the face and normal features, all except this bird has a green head rather than a blue one. Therefore Anne and I are inclined to believe that this is a Barrows/Common cross." Although the head colour might suggest "Common" ancestry, the most important field marks for male hybrids would be 1) head shape, 2) the shape of the white facial crescent, 3) scapular pattern and 4) extension of black on sides (towards the breast). However Barrow's are rarely seen close at hand and thus some of the above-noted marks are difficult even with today's high-powered scopes. Nevertheless the scapular pattern and the absence of the black spur (on side of breast) can be noted at a considerable distance and would serve to confirm the individual as a hybrid. □

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE

Jan. 13	Trenton/Abercrombie	3	KJM
Jan-Feb. 28	Trenton/Abercrombie	3	var. obs.

Snow Goose

The Snow Goose seen at Shag Hbr. (& elsewhere) has been present for two years and is an escape (MUN).

Canada Goose

Dec. 12-Feb. 4	Conrad Marsh, HRM	3-50	DMW
Dec. 16	Sydney(?), CBRM	10	DBM
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	633	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	3201	
Dec. 19	Antigonish CBC	561	
Dec. 26	Bissett L., HRM	1500	DMW
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	605	
Jan. 1	Lunenburg Hbr. CBC	1536	
Jan. 5	Baddeck Bay, Vic.	9	Barb Tower
Jan. 7	St. Anns, Vic.	31	Barb Tower (flying south)
Jan. 16	Conrads Beach, HRM	50+	PLC, FLL
Jan. 16	Fishermans Reserve, HRM	600+	PLC, FLL
Jan. 18	St. Anns, Vic.	41	BSK (flying south)

Brant

Dec. 14	Brier I.	3	ELM, AHM
Dec. 16	CSI	2	JON fide MUN
Feb. 24	Freeport, Digby	~25	AAM, BLF
Feb. 28	CSI	~3000	MUN

Wood Duck

Dec. 1	Canning, Kings	1 fem.	BLF
Dec. 3	Harris Pond, Kings	1 fem.	JCT
Dec. 29	Truro CBC	1	
Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	1	RFL, Bob Healey

Gadwall

Dec. 8	Sullivans Pond	2	BBU
Dec. 18	CSI	1	MUN
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	3	

Dec. 23	The Sydneys CBC	1	
Dec. 29	Truro CBC	2	
Jan. 1	Sullivans Pond	2	DOU
Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	1	
Jan. 9	Trenton, Pict.	6	KJM
??	Sydney	1	BSK
Jan. 15	Sullivans Pond, HRM	1	PLC, JEH
Feb. 15	Trenton, Pict.	6	BLM

Eurasian Wigeon

Dec. 5	Glace Bay/Beacon St. Dam	11	CAM, ALM
Jan. 2	Tufts Cove, HRM	1 fem.	JCZ
Jan. 2	Lr. Clarks Hbr., CSI	1 male	MUN
Feb. 28	Glace Bay/Beacon St. Dam	3	CAM, ALM

American Wigeon

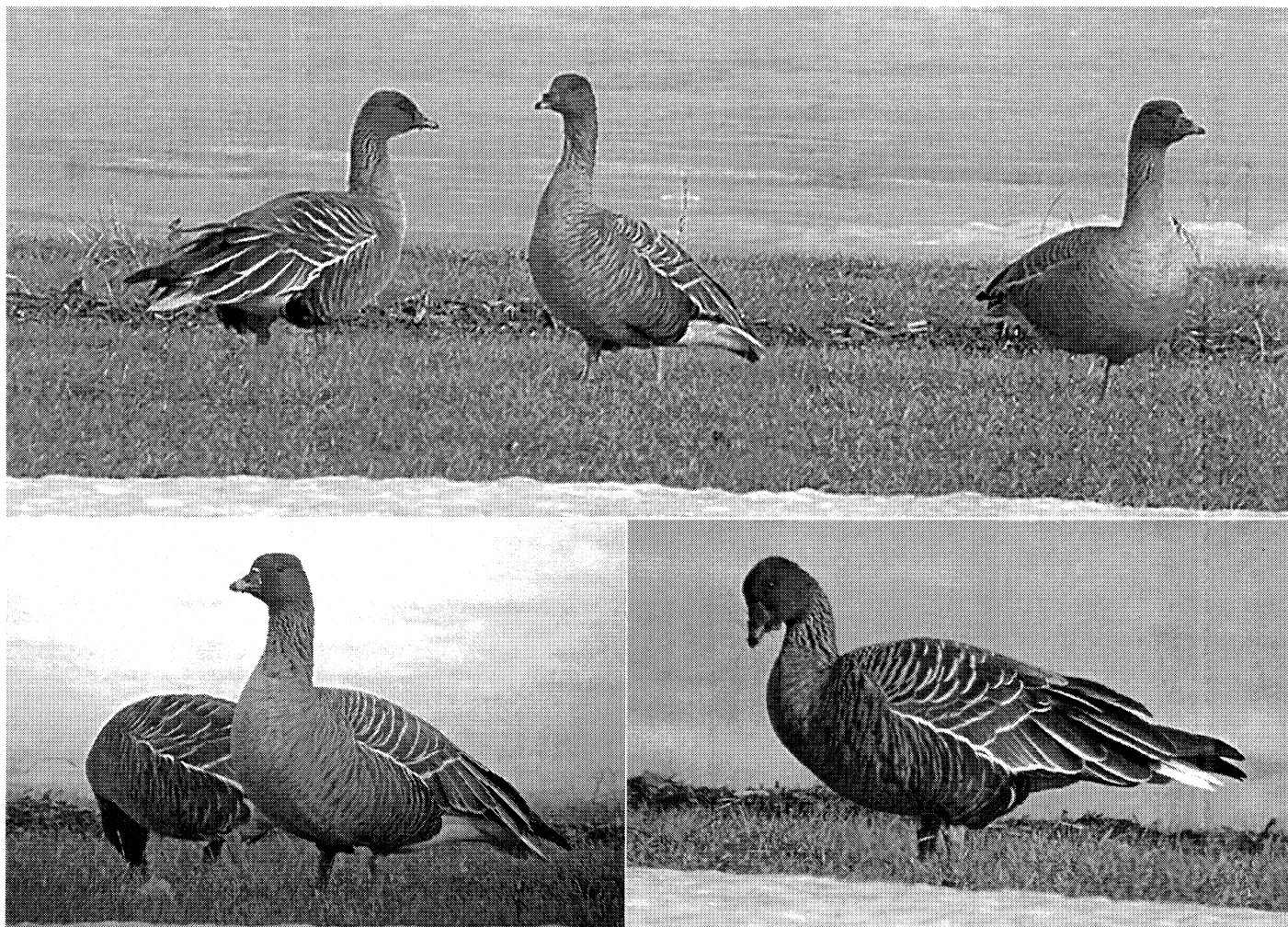
Dec. 3	LaHave, Lun.	3	JAH, DAW
Dec. 5	Glace Bay/Beacon St. Dam	76	CAM, ALM
Dec. 15	Daniels Hd., CSI	1	JON
Dec. 16	New Minas, Kings	pair	JWW
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	114	
Jan. 4	Tufts Cove, HRM	~30	AAM, BLF
Jan. 12	Back Oler Marsh, Lun.	1	JAH
Jan. 9	Dartmouth Cove, Dartmouth	1 male	PLC
Jan. 15	Sullivans Pond, HRM	3	PLC, JEH
Feb. 15	DeWolfe Park, Bedford	1 pr.	PLC

American Black Duck

Dec. 1-Feb. 28	Conrad Marsh, HRM	118 max	DMW
Dec. 26	Bissett L., HRM	425	DMW
Jan. 9	Eastern Shore	50	KJM, HAB, JEB
Feb. 2	Higginsville Rd., HRM	1	VJH - Notable as no
	known open water for about 30 km		
Feb. 13	Port Joli Sanctuary, Queens	1000+	ELM, AHM

Mallard

Dec	Conrad Marsh, HRM	5 max	DMW
Feb	Conrad Marsh, HRM	6 max	DMW



Among the most exciting finds recent years was this trio of **PINK-FOOTED GEESE** frequenting Pictou Harbour from Feb. 13. They obligingly came out Feb. 18 to graze with Canada Geese on a harbourside lawn at Abercrombie Pt., and were photographed and beautifully digiscoped by lucky observers. One of the geese seemed to stay apart from the other two (mates?), and there was some suggestion that it was a first-winter bird. However, the photos suggest that all three were adults. [Upper and lower left photo, Richard Stern; lower right photo, Cathy Murrant]

Dec. 3	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	~24	JCT
Dec. 16	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	40	JCT
Dec. 18	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	50	JCT, Mike O'Neill
Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	50	DMW
Jan. 8	Bear R., <i>Anna</i> .	pair	MCR

Blue-winged Teal

Dec. 3	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
Dec. 7	Sherose I., <i>Shel.</i>	1	DOE <i>fide</i> MUN
Dec. 14	Baddeck CBC	1	

Northern Shoveller

Dec. 1	Clarks Hbr., <i>CSI</i>	1 fem.	MUN
Dec. 2	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	2	BLF
Dec. 8	Lr. Clarks Hbr., <i>CSI</i>	1	MUN
Dec. 15-16	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1 male	JON
Jan. 3	North Sydney	1 fem.	DBM

Northern Pintail

Dec. 3	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
Dec. 3	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1 male	JCT
Dec. 5	Renwick Brook, <i>CBRM</i>	1 fem.	CAM, ALM
Dec. 10	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	1 male	AAM
Dec. 10	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1 fem.	ELM
Dec. 15-16	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	5	JON
Dec. 16	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	1 male	JWW
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	15	
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	9	
Dec. 19	Antigonish CBC	9	
Dec. 23	Black Rock Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	AGH

Dec. 26	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	7	JON
Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	6	DMW
Jan. 9	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	KJM, HAB, JEB
Jan. 28	Sydney R.	1 male	CAM, ALM
Feb. 6	Near Bridgewater	1 male	AAM, RBS
Feb. 20	Conrad Beach, <i>HRM</i>	2 males, 1 fem.	VJH
Feb. 24	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1 male, 1 fem.	VJH
Jan. 9	Dartmouth Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	PLC
Jan. 29	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	HFN trip <i>fide</i> PLC

Green-winged Teal

Dec. 3	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	sev.	AAM
Dec. 5	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	AAM, BLF
Dec. 26	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1	JON
Dec. 14	Garden Lots, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 18	White Pt., <i>Queens</i>	10	JAH, David Famer, Eric Harding
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	7	
Dec. 19	Caledonia CBC	8	
Jan. 1	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	7	
Jan. 2	Glance Bay (?)	8	CAM, ALM
Jan. 9	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM, HAB, JEB
Jan. 29	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	HFN trip <i>fide</i> PLC

Redhead

Feb. 24	Freeport, <i>Digby</i>	1m	AAM, BLF
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Ring-necked Duck

Dec. 3	Harris Pond, <i>Kings</i>	2 pairs	JCT
Dec. 18	Sydney	1 male	DBM

Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	8	
Dec. 26	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	lots	MUN
Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	12	DMW
Jan. 1	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH
Jan. 22	Sydney R.	1 male	CAM, ALM
Jan. 26	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	1 male	MCR
Tufted Duck			
Jan. 3	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	RBS
Jan. 4	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	AAM, BLF
Jan. 7	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	IRO
Jan. 9	Pictou Causeway	1 fem. (prob.)	KJM
Feb. 19-28	Glance Bay	1 fem.	CAM, ALM
Tufted Duck/Greater Scaup hybrid			
Jan. 2	New Hbr., <i>Gtys.</i>	1 fem.	FLL, CLS - greater scaup bill, cheek patch
Greater Scaup			
Dec. 18	Sydney Hbr.	10	DBM
Dec. 23	Bakers Flats, <i>Shel.</i>	few	MUN
Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	lots	MUN
Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	??	DMW
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	400	
Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	4744	
Feb. 2	Dartmouth	88	FLL
Feb. 7	Sambro Hd., <i>HRM</i>	255	FLL, CLS
Feb. 13	Port Joli Sanctuary, <i>Queens.</i>	200	ELM, AHM
Feb. 19	North Sydney	160	Andrew MacDonald, Kathleen Aikens
Lesser Scaup			
Dec. 1	Bakers Flats, CSI	6	MUN
Dec. 16	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 male	JWW
Dec. 18	Sydney	1 male	DBM
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	73	
Dec. 22	Northeast Arm, <i>HRM</i>	4	AGH
Dec. 23	Bakers Flats, CSI	5	MUN
Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	3	MUN
Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	10	DMW
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	22	
Jan. 3	North Sydney	1 male	DBM
Jan. 7	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	IRO
Feb. 13	Port Joli Sanctuary, <i>Queens</i>	~10	ELM
Feb. 19	North Sydney	2 male	DBM, Andrew MacDonald, Kathleen Aikens
Dec-Feb	Glance Bay	a few	CAM, ALM
King Eider			
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1	
Jan. 2	Prospect Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	JCZ, John Black - Seen flying.
Jan. 13	Herring Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	BLM - Lone bird, immature, close range. Small bill and head profile noted.
Dec. 18	Fergusons Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	FLL - Both plumage and bill shape checked
Common Eider			
Feb. 19	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	50+	RBS
Dec. 7	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	54	JOB
Dec. 16	Pt. Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	30+	WMA
Dec. 18	CSI CBC	857	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1264	
Dec. 18	Louisburg CBC	882	
Dec. 22	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	72	JOB
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	50+	AAM
Dec. 23	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	25+	AAM
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	833	
Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	7	KJM, HAB, JEB
Feb. 26	Herring Cove, <i>HRM</i>	50	PLC
Feb. 15	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	15	PLC
Harlequin Duck			
Dec. 5	St. Marys Pt., <i>Digby</i>	4	MUN
Dec. 7	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	10	JOB
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	4	AAM
Dec. 26	Port Hebert CBC	24	
Jan. 9	Sober L., <i>HRM</i>	3	KJM, HAB, JEB
Jan. 11	Parkers Cove, <i>HRM</i>	12	RBS
Jan. 13	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2 males, 1 fem.	BLM
Jan. 14	Daniels Hd., CSI	1 male	MUN
Feb. 9	<i>Digby Neck</i>	~115	CWS
Feb. 18	Shad Bay, <i>HRM</i>	~100	Chris Mills <i>fide</i> ELM -

CWS survey on CG cutter Sambro

Feb. 19	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	5 males, 1 fem.	RBS
Surf Scoter			
Dec. 1-Jan. 15	St. Anns Bay, <i>Vic.</i>	150-225	BSK
Dec. 7	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	38	JOB
Dec. 14	St. Anns Bay CBC	181	
Dec. 22	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	31	JOB
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	~40 (90% males)	AAM
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	135	
Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	6	KJM, HAB, JEB
Jan. 11	Parkers Cove, <i>Anna.</i>	50	RBS
Feb. 24	Brier I.	~50	AAM, BLF
White-winged Scoter			
Dec. 1-Jan. 26	St. Anns Bay, <i>Vic.</i>	100-122	BSK
Dec. 7	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	7	JOB
Dec. 13	Evangeline Beach, <i>Kings</i>	55	AAM
Dec. 14	St. Anns Bay CBC	164	
Dec. 22	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	5	JOB
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	~25	AAM
Dec. 23	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	a few	AAM
Dec. 26	E Port L'Hebert, <i>Shel.</i>	60	SJF, David Farner
Dec. 29	Annapolis CBC	154	
Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM, HAB, JEB
Feb. 24	Brier I.	5+	BLF, AAM
Black Scoter			
Dec. 1-Jan. 15	St. Anns Bay, <i>Vic.</i>	4-6	BSK
Dec. 1	Bakers Flats, CSI	1	MUN
Dec. 3	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1 fem.	JAH, DAW
Dec. 1	Evangeline Beach, <i>Kings</i>	6	AAM
Dec. 23	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	3	AAM
Dec. 29	St. Peters CBC	89	
Jan. 7	Crescent Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	40	JAH
Feb. 20	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1 fem.	CAM, ALM
Feb. 26	Purcells Cove	1 male	PLC
Long-tailed Duck			
Dec. 3	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	108	JAH, DAW
Dec. 3	Maders Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	41	JAH, DAW
Dec. 3	Princes Inlet, <i>Lun.</i>	33	JAH, DAW
Dec. 3	Chester Basin, <i>Lun.</i>	24	DAM
Dec. 7	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	32	JOB
Dec. 16	Pt. Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	2	WMA
Dec. 18	North Shore, <i>Vic.</i>	40	BSK
Dec. 18	Pt. Aconi, <i>CBRM</i>	150+	BSK
Dec. 22	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	48	JOB
Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	30+	AAM
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	268	
Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	362	
Jan. 1	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	70	JAH
Jan. 1	Princes Inlet, <i>Lun.</i>	60	JAH



A first-winter male **TUFTED DUCK X GREATER SCAUP** (behind the first-winter male Greater Scaup) was found Feb. 15 in an open stretch of Lyons Brook, near Pictou. The photo shows odd head shape and rather stunted, tuft. In the field, the gray back (which should be black in this plumage) was seen to have darker vermiculations, a contribution of its scaup parentage. These hybrids are quite frequent in Iceland, from which our Tufted Ducks originate, but this is the first we've found in Nova Scotia. [Photo Ian McLaren]



Wintering BARROW'S GOLDENEYES are regular off the tidal-power dam at Annapolis Royal, where our females of our Eastern Canada subspecies are readily distinguished from female Commons by their head shapes and all pale, yellow-to-orange, bills. [Photo Richard Stern]

Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	76	KJM, HAB, JEB	Jan. 28	North Sydney	2 fems.	CAM, ALM
Jan. 16	Conrad Beach, <i>HRM</i>	2	DMW	Jan. 28	Sydney R.	11	CAM, ALM
Feb. 26	Herring Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 pair	PLC	Jan. 29	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2-3	HFN trip <i>fide</i> PLC
Feb. 26	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	12	PLC	Feb. 14	Western Shore, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Bufflehead				Feb. 15	North Sydney	6 males, 5 fems.	DBM,
Dec. 3	East Pt., (<i>HRM</i> ?)	3	DAM	Andrew MacDonald, Kathleen Aikens			
Dec. 17	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	30	DMW	Hooded Merganser			
Dec. 29	Annapolis CBC	62		Dec-Feb	Sydney	1f	CAM, ALM
Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	68		Dec. 11,	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	pair	DJC
Jan. 3	Sydney Mines, <i>CBRM</i>	~12	DBM	Dec. 26	Tantallon, <i>HRM</i>	44	DAM
Jan. 4	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	5	AAM, BLF	Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	67	
Jan. 16	Fishermans Reserve, <i>HRM</i>	30+	PLC, FLL	Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	122	
Jan. 29	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	HFN trip <i>fide</i> PLC	Jan. 9	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	6	KJM
Feb. 13	Port Joli Sanctuary, <i>Queens</i>	100+	ELM, AHM	Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	8	KJM, HAB, JEB
Feb. 21	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	6	DJC	??	Mooseland, <i>HRM</i>	4	Blaine MacDonald
Feb. 20	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	2	MCR	Jan. 16	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	2	DMW
Common Goldeneye				Common Merganser			
Dec. 10	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	8	AAM	Dec. 8,	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	1 male	MCR
Dec. 16	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	3	JWW	Dec. 9	Cheggoggin & Pembroke	19	PRG
Dec. 16	R. Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	50	GED	Dec. 16	Margaree Hbr., <i>Inv.</i>	12	DBM
Dec. 16	Pt. Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	2	WMA	Dec. 19	Antigonish CBC	314	
Dec. 16	Margaree Hbr., <i>Inv.</i>	~90	DBM	Dec. 26	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	75	DMW
Dec. 23	The Sydneys CBC	421		Dec. 29-Feb. 28	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	8 max.	DMW
Dec. 26	Bedford Basin, <i>HRM</i> (CBC)	12	PLC	Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	1337	
Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	419		Jan. 1-2	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	32-37	JAH
Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	515		Jan. 8	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	6	MCR
Jan. 4	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	~45	AAM, BLF	Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	13	KJM, HAB, JEB
Jan. 7-Feb. 28	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	7 max.	DMW	Jan. 12	Westhaver Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	9	DAM
Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	133	KJM, HAB, JEB	Jan. 25	Baddeck Bay, <i>Vic.</i>	8 males	BSK
Jan. 16	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	4	PLC, FLL	Feb. 20	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	3 males	MCR
Jan. 16	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	186	JAH	Red-breasted Merganser			
Jan. 16	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	25+	PLC, FLL	Dec. 5-Feb. 28	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	20 max.	DMW
Jan. 29	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	10+	HFN trip <i>fide</i> PLC	Dec. 9	Cheggoggin & Pembroke	14	PRG
Jan. 29	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	20+	HFN trip <i>fide</i> PLC	Dec. 10	Upper South Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	110	ELM
Feb. 13	Port Joli Sanctuary, <i>Queens</i>	100+	ELM, AHM	Dec. 22	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	2	JOB
Barrows Goldeneye				Dec. 26	Eskasoni CBC	238	
Dec 1-Feb. 28	Englishtown, <i>Vic.</i>	1 fem.	BSK	Dec. 30	Broad Cove CBC	307	
Dec. 16	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH	Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	811	
Dec. 16	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, AHM - Possible hybrid?	Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	225	
Dec. 16	Margaree Hbr.	1 male	DBM	Jan. 9	Eastern Shore, <i>HRM</i>	71	KJM, HAB, JEB
Dec. 18	Sydney	1 male	DBM	Jan. 15	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	4-5	PLC, JEH
Dec. 29	Annapolis CBC	16		Feb. 26	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	10	PLC
Jan. 3	Annapolis Royal, <i>Anna.</i>	1 male	RBS	Ruddy Duck			
Jan. 6	Sackville R. outlet, <i>HRM</i>	3 pair	AAM, BLF	Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	1	
Jan. 9	Pictou Causeway	1 male, 4 fems.	KJM	Dec. 26	Bissett L.	1	MUN
Jan. 11	Annapolis Royal, <i>Anna.</i>	1 pair	RBS	Jan. 1	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan. 15	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1 male	BLM	Jan. 4	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	AAM, BLF
Jan. 15	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 male	AAM	Jan. 7	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	IRO
Jan. 16	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	PLC, FLL				

Diurnal Raptors through Cranes

By Ulli Höger

BALD EAGLES are year-round residents in Nova Scotia. Sightings of individual birds were reported from all over the province. However, a winter hotspot is the Canning / Sheffield Mills area, celebrating the accumulation of raptors with their annual two weekend festival in late February. Another tradition in this part of Nova Scotia is the annual CYRIL K. COLDWELL EAGLES/RAPTORS COUNT (CCER). Despite good numbers of eagles and other raptors reported during the Eagle Watch Weekends, the totals of the 24th CCER were considerably lower than numbers found in previous years.

As usual feeders all over the province were frequently raided by SHARP-SHINNED HAWKS. Less frequent were sightings of NORTHERN GOSHAWKS.

We also received several reports of GOLDEN EAGLES, some documented with verbal descriptions of fieldmarks seen, others undocumented. □

Bald Eagle

Jan. 9	Annapolis Valley, <i>Anna.</i>	38	HAT
Jan. 29	Sheffield Mills, <i>Kings</i>	100+	JWW
Feb. 12	CCER	217 (low!)	JWW

Northern Harrier

Dec. 16	CSI	1	MUN
Jan. 3	Evangeline Beach, <i>Kings</i>	1	Sheila McCurdy
Jan. 7	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	SHU
Jan. 7	Crescent Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan. 9	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	HAT
Jan. 10	Devils I., <i>HRM</i>	1	RSM
Jan. 19	Devils I., <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL
Jan. 26	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Jan. 30	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	1	CAH
Feb. 20	CSI	1	MUN

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Frequent sightings on bird feeders all over the province.

Dec. 3	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 3	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Feb. 12	CCER	3	JWW

Northern Goshawk

Jan. 9	Trafalga, <i>Guys.</i>	1	KJM
Feb. 1	CSI	1	MUN
Feb. 2	Burlington, <i>Hants</i>	1	JCT
Dec. 22	Blanche, <i>Shel.</i>	1	MUN

Red-tailed Hawk

Dec. 26	Eel L., <i>Yar.</i>	2	PRG
Jan. 9	Gaspereau area, <i>Kings</i>	7	HAT
Jan. 10	Wolfville	1 albino	Dennis Brennan
Feb. 3	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	BBU
Feb. 12	CCER	32	JWW
Feb. 15	Frenchvale, <i>CBC</i>	3	DBM
Feb. 28	Hortonville, <i>Kings</i>	1 albino	JWW

Rough-legged Hawk

Jan. 1	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Jan. 5	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan. 10	Devils I., <i>HRM</i>	1	RSM
Jan. 26	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	2	FLL
Jan. 28	CSI	2	MUN
Jan. 29	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	2	PEH
Feb. 1	CSI	2	MUN
Feb. 2	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	JWW
Feb. 12	CCER	1	JWW
Feb. 20	CSI	1	MUN

Golden Eagle

Feb. 18	Oakland Farm, <i>Kings</i>	1	Ron & Gail Rogerson
Jan. 2	Bayswater Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1	Eric Harding
Jan. 3	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1 juv.	HAT

American Kestrel

Dec. 21	CSI	1	MUN
Jan. 4	CSI	1	MUN
Feb. 6	Crescent Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1	AAM

Merlin

Dec. 4	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
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Jan. 7	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan. 9	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Jan. 15	CSI	1	MUN
Feb. 16	Lyons Brook, <i>Pict.</i>	1	AAM

Gyr Falcon

Dec. 13-19	Brier I.	1	ELM
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Peregrine Falcon

Dec. 15	Fall R., <i>HRM</i>	1	Darrell Backstrom
Dec. 19	Brier I.	1	ELM
Jan. 10	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	NSBS
Jan. 29	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	1	Cindy Creighton
Feb. 4	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	BBU
Feb. 21	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	JWW
Feb. 28	Hortonville, <i>Kings</i>	1	JWW

Ring-necked Pheasant

Frequently reported from the Annapolis Valley, individual birds and flocks with up to 22 individuals. Reports of individual birds or small groups from all counties during the season.

Ruffed Grouse

all winter	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1-3	KFS
all winter	Mid. Musq, <i>HRM</i>	common	VJH
Dec. 16R.	Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	2	GED
Dec. 19	Brier I.	2	ELM
Dec. 26	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	4	JET
Dec. 26	Joggin Bridge, <i>Digby</i>	1	KFS
Jan. 1	Advocate, <i>Cum.</i>	5	KFS
Feb. 23	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	2	RFL

Spruce Grouse

Dec. 13	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Dec. 16	R. Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	1	GED
Dec. 26	Joggin Bridge, <i>Digby</i>	1	KFS

American Coot

Dec. 5-13	Bisset L., <i>HRM</i>	1	AAM, Cindy Creighton <i>et al.</i>
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A RED-TAILED HAWK in "power flight" near Kentville Dec. 25, appears a bit more formidable than usual. [Photo Richard Stern]

Shorebirds

By Susann Myers

Shorebirds were notable this season mainly for their low numbers. Only six species were found on Christmas Bird Counts, compared to an average of 12 in recent years, and those present were seen in numbers well below average. For the first time in at least 15 years, no BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS were found on CBCs; the only report of this species for the season was of two found by MUN overwintering at CSI, Feb. 1. A SEMIPALMATED PLOVER lingering at Crystal Crescent Beach until Jan. 15 provided a record-late date, confirmed with the help of photographs by HAT.

RED KNOTS regularly linger into December and beyond, but this year they were reported only from CSI, in much lower numbers than in recent winters. SANDERLINGS were also found in unusually small numbers, with a total of only 12 counted on CBCs, compared to an average of 250 over the past 10 years. The flocks numbering in the hundreds that have been found on exposed sandbanks in Port l'Hebert Hbr. in recent winters were noted by SJF as considerably reduced. CSI, the other favoured wintering site, proved a haven for the largest group of Sanderlings in late winter, the 90 found by MUN Feb. 1. The total of 165 PURPLE SANDPIPERS seen on CBCs was less than half of the average and the lowest count in the last 15 years. As winter progressed, these hardy sandpipers were seen scattered in small flocks around the coast, although in comparatively low numbers. The 59 DUNLIN found on CBCs was also at roughly half the norm, and the only sizable flock found later in the season was 135 reported by MUN at CSI Feb. 1.

A LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER at Conrad Beach Jan. 2-9 provided a seasonal highlight and the third winter record for the province. It was first identified by LOC and confirmed by IAM and others on the basis of first basic plumage characteristics. Reports of WILSON'S SNIPE and AMERICAN WOODCOCK were unusually scant, with only a single bird reported for each species. □

Black-bellied Plover				Dec. 18	CSI	20	CBC
Feb. 1	CSI	2	MUN	Dec. 23	Port George, <i>Anna</i> .	4+	AAM
Semipalmated Plover				Dec. 27	CBHNP	51	CBC
Jan. 1-15	Crystal Crescent Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT, IAM <i>et al.</i>	Dec. 29	St. Peter's, <i>Rich.</i>	42	CBC
Killdeer				Jan. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	40	CBC
Dec. 29	Pt. Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	1	CBC, WMA	Jan. 9	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	50+	TEP
Red Knot				Jan. 30	Black Rock Beach, <i>HRM</i>	18	FLL, RIH <i>et al.</i>
Dec. 31	CSI	1	MUN	Feb. 1	CSI	40	MUN
Feb. 1	CSI	6	MUN	Dunlin			
Sanderling				Dec. 26	E Port l'Hebert, <i>Shel.</i>	52	CBC, SJF, David Famer
Dec. 26	E Port l'Hebert, <i>Shel.</i>	11	CBC, SJF, David Famer	Dec. 30	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	7	CBC
Dec. 30	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	CBC	Feb. 1	CSI	135	MUN
Jan. 4	Crystal Crescent Beach, <i>HRM</i>	2	AAM, BLF	Feb. 3	Crescent Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH, DAW
Feb. 1	CSI	90	MUN	LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER			
Feb. 5	Port l'Hebert, <i>Shel.</i>	8	AND	Jan. 2-9	Conrad Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	JCZ, LOC, IAM <i>et al.</i>
Feb. 24	Martinique Beach, <i>HRM</i>	4	VJH	Wilson's Snipe			
SEMIPALMATED/WESTERN SANDPIPER				Dec. 1	Wolfville Dyke, <i>Kings</i>	1	BLF
Dec. 31	CSI	1	MUN	American Woodcock			
Purple Sandpiper				Jan. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 13	Pt. Aconi, <i>CBRM</i>	5	BSK				



A PURPLE SANDPIPER at Crystal Crescent Beach PP, Feb. 4, seemed to be without the usual companions.
[Photo Hans Toom]

Skuas through Alcids

By Eric Mills

Halifax-Dartmouth remains the epicentre of BLACK-HEADED GULL distribution, as evidenced by 148 on that Christmas count, but a group of 85 examined by IAM at Three Fathom Hbr., *HRM*, Jan. 9 was unusual for even that location. Ogdens Pond, *Ant.*, remains favoured by BONAPARTE'S GULLS, judging by RFL's estimate of 1000+ there Dec. 2. Thereafter, following the main migration out of the area, although Christmas counts turned up some, numbers were low in January and February, even in favoured locations. Also abundant in the Halifax-Dartmouth area Christmas counts, RING-BILLED GULLS remained common there and in the Pictou area into January as the freeze set in. Thereafter numbers declined rapidly.

A lone gull photographed by BBU Feb. 13 among easily identifiable species showed marks of a Herring-Glaucous hybrid ("Nelson's Gull"), although its dark primaries put it among the few of that hybrid combination that retain blackish feathers. An ad. **THAYER'S GULL**, beautifully photographed and well documented, was found by CAM and ALM in Glace Bay, Feb. 14-15. Another ad. was well described by BLF from Lunenburg Hbr. Feb. 18. A first-winter bird among a melee of feeding gulls in Pea Jack Cove, Brier I., Dec. 14, showed the dark primaries and dark tail expected at that age, contrasting strikingly with same-age Iceland Gulls around it. One other bird, reported on the Halifax-Dartmouth count was not documented.

Northport, *Cum.*, was the ICELAND GULL capital of the province, although the Sydneys-Glace Bay area had their usual abundant populations. As the winter wore on, reports increased from throughout the province. A word on my interpretation of Iceland Gulls is in order. It's my belief, based on published biological evidence and observation, that the "Kumlien's" Iceland Gulls that make up the majority of our winter populations are the result of hybridization between the largely western Arctic Thayer's Gull and the extreme eastern Arctic and Greenland breeding Iceland Gull. This accounts, through primary hybridization, interbreeding and backcrossing, for the astonishing variety of "Kumlien's" wing patterns that we see. To a purist then, "Kumlien's" Gulls are not Iceland Gulls, nor are they Thayer's. For custom's sake I will continue to refer to them as in the past.

A long-staying ad. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL in Lockeport, *Shel.*, was still there Dec. 26, to be included in the Port Hebert count. Elsewhere there were perhaps eight in expected locations. GLAUCOUS GULLS were widespread in low numbers, apparently increasing toward the end of the reporting period when ice was prevalent in coastal waters. At The Hawk, *CSI*, Feb. 18, MUN watched as a Snowy Owl and a Glaucous Gull tussled over prey.

The gull of the season, of many seasons, was the first-winter **IVORY GULL** found and photographed by BBU on Sullivans Pond, Dartmouth, Jan. 5. This endearing Arctic stray remained in Halifax Hbr. for more than a month, using a Navy buoy as a night-time roost and commuting, first, to the pond to feed on the carcass of a goose, then becoming habituated to hotdogs and other scraps provided for it by its large audience. Another juv. was reported, without documentation, from Chebucto Hd., *HRM*, Jan. 16, and yet another, with good details, from Chebogue Pt., *Yar.*, Feb. 6.

A **FORSTER'S TERN** was in the Lockeport area Feb. 4. Could it have been the same bird reported there in mid-November?

DOVEKIES were late coming into coastal waters, but were seen in numbers in eastern Nova Scotia and parts of Cape Breton in late December-early January. BSK reported "quite a spate" of Dovekies, including seven that were rescued from shore in the South Haven / St. Anns, *Vic.*, area Jan. 22-25 after northeasterly gales. THICK-BILLED MURREs were scarce early in the winter, but were reported regularly in low numbers after the beginning of February, especially after storms. One storm-driven bird was found inland at Truro in mid-February. Although a few RAZORBILLS were reported, mainly from Halifax east, including a healthy 15 on the Halifax-Dartmouth count Dec.18, BRD reports a fisherman's account that Jan. 23 in southern Grand Manan waters there were "at least 10,000 large alcids stretching all the way from Seal Cove Sound to the 'Deep Hole' (near Machias Seal Island) ...there were lots of Common Murres, but more than half...were Razorbills." Two ATLANTIC PUFFINS on the Halifax-Dartmouth count Dec.18 were well away from their usual wintering area in the Bay of Fundy, where they are sparse but regular in winter. □

Black-headed Gull

Dec. 10	Upper South Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	3	ELM	Dec. 29	St. Peter's, <i>Rich.</i> CBC	4	
Dec. 14	Heckmans I., <i>Lun.</i>	15	JAH	Jan. 2	Lunenburg CBC	6	
Dec. 18	Sydney Hbr., <i>CBRM</i>	2	DBM	Jan. 8	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	3 ads.	KJM
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	148		Jan. 8	Weirs Gut, <i>Pict.</i>	1 imm.	KJM
Dec. 19	Antigonish, <i>Ant.</i> CBC	42		Jan. 9	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	85	ELM
Dec. 19	Yarmouth CBC	11		Jan. 16	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Dec. 20	Eskasoni, <i>CBRM</i> CBC	1		Jan. 30	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Dec. 23	Sydneys, <i>CBRM</i> CBC	12		Feb. 6	Sullivans Pond, Dartmouth	30+	DOU
Dec. 27	Strait of Canso CBC	2		Feb. 8-9	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	5-18	DMW
				Feb. 13	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM

Bonaparte's Gull

Dec. 2	Ogdens Pond, <i>Ant.</i>	1000+	RFL
Dec. 4	Canso Causeway, <i>Guys.</i>	4-6	PEH
Dec. 8	Stoney I., <i>CSI</i>	27	MUN
Dec. 10	Back Hbr., <i>Lun.</i>	3	ELM
Dec. 12	Pt. Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	6	WMA
Dec. 14	Back Hbr., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH
Dec. 14	Brier I. <i>CBC</i>	2	
Dec. 18	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth <i>CBC</i>	1	
Dec. 19	Antigonish, <i>Ant.</i> <i>CBC</i>	82	
Dec. 23	Sydneys, <i>CBRM</i> <i>CBC</i>	9	
Dec. 26	Eskasoni, <i>CBRM</i> <i>CBC</i>	63	
Dec. 27	Strait of Canso <i>CBC</i>	27	
Dec. 29	St. Peter's, <i>Rich.</i> <i>CBC</i>	29	
Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr., <i>Pict.</i> <i>CBC</i>	2	
Jan. 2	Lunenburg <i>CBC</i>	15	
Jan. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i> <i>CBC</i>	1	
Jan. 12	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	10	JAH
Feb. 5-8	Lunenburg	3	JAH
Feb. 6	Sullivans Pond, Dartmouth	1	DOU
Feb. 8	Lunenburg Hbr.	3	JAH

MEW GULL

Dec. 13	Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM, AHM
Dec. 19	CSI	1	MUN
Jan. 5	CSI	1	JON
Jan. 6-Feb.	Halifax Hbr.	1 ad.	FLL, CLS
Jan. 30	CSI	1 ad.	JON

Ring-billed Gull

Dec.- early Feb.	Conrads Bch, <i>HRM</i>	1-7	DMW
Dec. 14	Brier I.	8	CBC
Dec. 16	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	15	JWW
Dec. 18	CSI <i>CBC</i>	1	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth <i>CBC</i>	415	
Dec. 19	Antigonish, <i>Ant.</i> <i>CBC</i>	40	
Dec. 19	Yarmouth, <i>Yar.</i> <i>CBC</i>	53	
Dec. 20	Amherst, <i>Cum.</i> <i>CBC</i>	11	
Dec. 26	Eskasoni <i>CBC</i>	3	
Dec. 28	Economy, <i>Col.</i> <i>CBC</i>	42	
Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. <i>CBC</i>	246	
Jan. 2	W Hants, <i>Hants</i> <i>CBC</i>	85	
Jan. 16	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM
Feb. 13	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM

Herring Gull

Dec. 13	Brier I.	1000+	ELM, AHM
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Herring X Glaucous ("Nelson's") Gull

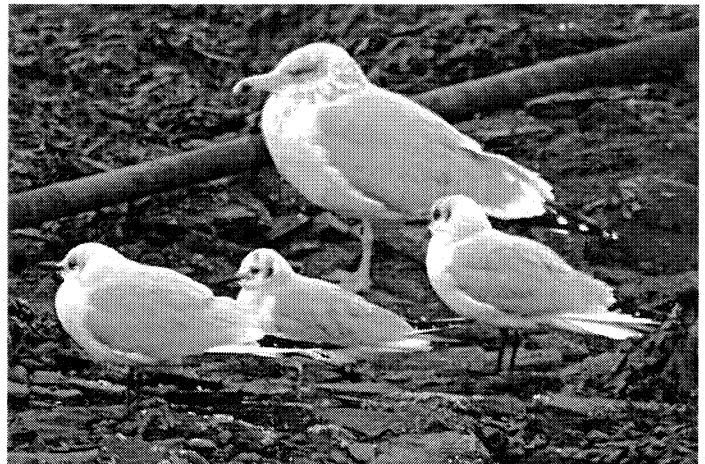
Feb. 13	Halifax Hbr.	1 imm., photo	BBU
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THAYER'S GULL

14 December	Brier I.	1 juv.	ELM
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth	1 ad.	CBC
Feb. 14-15	Glance Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	1 ad., photo	CAM, ALM
Feb. 18	Lunenburg Hbr.	1 ad.	BLF

Iceland Gull

Dec.- Jan.	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	numerous	DJC
Dec. 1	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	10+	TOK
Dec. 4	Canso Causeway, <i>Guys.</i>	a few	PEH
Dec. 13	Brier I.	20+	ELM, AHM
Dec. 14	Brier I. <i>CBC</i>	38	
Dec. 16	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	3 ads.	JWW
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth <i>CBC</i>	170	
Dec. 18	Sydney Hbr., <i>CBRM</i>	dozens	DBM
Dec. 19	Yarmouth, <i>Yar.</i> <i>CBC</i>	23	
Dec. 23	Sydneys, <i>CBRM</i> <i>CBC</i>	430	
Dec. 31	Northport, <i>Cum.</i> <i>CBC</i>	1147	
Jan. 1	Pictou Hbr. <i>CBC</i>	92	
Jan. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i> <i>CBC</i>	52	
Jan. 12	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun.</i>	7	JAH
Jan. 16	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	20+	KJM
Jan. 24	Black Brook, <i>Vict.</i>	~30	AAM
Feb. 2	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	4 ads.	JWW
Feb. 6	Sullivans Pond, Dartmouth	2	DOU
Feb. 26	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1	PLC
Feb. 26	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	2	DMW



Among our wintering BLACK-HEADED GULLS the occasional BONAPARTE'S GULL (middle of the trio) can be picked out when it is perched or on the water by its smaller, blackish bill and by the extension of gray from the mantle up the nape. [Photo Bernard Burke]

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Nov. 2 - Dec. 26	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 ad.	DJC
Dec. 3	Lr. Canard, <i>Kings</i>	1 juv.	JCT
Dec. 4	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1 ad.	BLF
Dec. 10	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	2 imm.	AAM
Dec. 18	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	4	fide TEP

Glaucous Gull

Dec. 1	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TOK
Dec. 8	Hd. of Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM
Dec. 13	Brier I.	1 juv.	ELM, AHM
Dec. 17	Margaree, <i>Inv.</i> <i>CBC</i>	2	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth <i>CBC</i>	1	
Dec. 19	Yarmouth, <i>Yar.</i> <i>CBC</i>	4	
Dec. 20	Amherst, <i>Cum.</i> <i>CBC</i>	3	
Dec. 23	Sydneys, <i>CBRM</i> <i>CBC</i>	10	
Dec. 31	Northport, <i>Cum.</i> <i>CBC</i>	1	
Jan. 1	Pictou hbr, <i>Pict.</i> <i>CBC</i>	4	
Jan. 2	Glance Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2	GEC, BES
Jan. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i> <i>CBC</i>	3	
Jan. 4	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1	AAM, BLF
Jan. 14	Lr. Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	BLM
Jan. 16	Lr. Canard, <i>Kings</i>	1 imm.	DOU
Jan. 30	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	1 imm.	KJM
Late Jan.-early Feb.	Lr. Canard, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Feb. 6	Pubnico Hbr., <i>Yar.</i>	3	PRG, RSD
Feb. 5-8	Lunenburg Hbr.	1	JAH
Feb. 18	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	1	MUN
Feb. 20	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 imm.	DJC
Feb. 24	Brier I.	1-2	AAM

Great Black-backed Gull

Dec. 13	Brier I.	500+	ELM, AHM
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Black-legged Kittiwake

Dec. 1	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	5	TOK
Dec. 14	Brier I. <i>CBC</i>	551	
Dec. 17	Margaree, <i>Inv.</i> <i>CBC</i>	1	
Dec. 18	Halifax-Dartmouth <i>CBC</i>	2	
Dec. 19	Antigonish, <i>Ant.</i> <i>CBC</i>	1	
Dec. 27	Strait of Canso <i>CBC</i>	1	
Jan. 2	Lunenburg <i>CBC</i>	2	
Jan. 14	Terence Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	BLM
Jan. 15	Halifax Hbr.	1	FLL, CLS

IVORY GULL

Jan. 5-Feb. 11	Halifax Hbr area	1 juv.	BBU et al.
Jan. 16	Chebucto Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1 juv.	A. & H. Hunter
Feb. 6	Chebogue Pt., <i>Yar.</i>	1 juv.	PHT

FORSTER'S TERN

Feb. 4	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 ad.	DJC
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Doves Through Woodpeckers

By Ian McLaren

Numbers of ROCK PIGEON and MOURNING DOVE on CBCs were a little below previous maxima, but above long-term averages, and the species received little further attention. Worth mention is a small dove, found injured some years ago in Liverpool and kept captive since, and featured on a recent ATV News report. Thanks to BBU, who downloaded some images, it was diagnosable as an (escaped) RINGED-TURTLE DOVE. Some day we'll get a "wild" COLLARED DOVE, which are one the move throughout the continent.

The usual owls were in about average abundance on CBCs, and in particular it was not a notable winter for SNOWY OWL. As usual, GREAT HORNED and BARRED OWLS began calling in early February, and SAW-WHETS somewhat earlier. A substantial roost of SHORT-EARED OWLS, once again at Grand Pré, was heartening.

BELTED KINGFISHERS were merely average in CBC numbers, but more than usual were recorded into February despite the cold and snow.

The big news, of course, was the fall-winter invasion of RED-BELLIED WOODPECKERS. The CBC total of 47 far exceeded the previous (2003-04) CBC record of seven. I've tried to add birds from the table that were probably not included within various CBC circles, and estimate that *at least* another 14 could be included in the winter's total. Surely some will stay to breed. The invasion was widespread; New Brunswick recorded 13 on their Audubon CBCs, and Maine observers thought that over 200 wintered there. By contrast, straying RED-HEADED WOODPECKERS may have peaked in earlier years; there are indications that they are being displaced by Red-bellied in their northeastern range. Following one (undetailed) CBC YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER, the Avonport bird in late February must have wintered in the region. Marian Hilton took pains to determine that it was not a wandering Red-naped Sapsucker – always a (remote) possibility in out-of-season occurrences. The CBC totals of our regular resident woodpeckers were somewhat above last year's, and were obviously under-reported thereafter. The two male BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKERS Feb. 6 in Long Point PP, HRM, were vigorously displaying to one-another. Are these taking hold following the destruction by "Juan?" □

Rock Pigeon

Dec.-Feb S. end Halifax up to 35 JCZ

Mourning Dove

Dec-Jan. Many feeders, Yar.-Vic. 1-30 Var. obs.

Great Horned Owl

Dec. 16-Feb. 8 Apple R., Cum. 1 KFS

Dec. 25 CSI 1 MUN

Early Feb. Lr. Eel Brook, Yar. 1 calling PRG

Feb. 9 CSI 1 calling MUN

Feb. 12 Clementsval, Anna. 1 calling MCR

Feb. 13 Starrs Pt., Kings 1 AAM

Snowy Owl

Nov. 10-Dec. 3 Louisbourg 1 imm. SEM

Nov. 21-Dec. 14 CSI & Cape 1-2 MUN, JON

Dec. 16-Feb. 28 CSI & Cape 3 MUN, JON

Dec. 14 Central Burlington, Hants 1 Derek Crosby

Dec. 20 Windsor 1 Angela Slaunwhite

29 Dec. Melmerby Beach, Pict 1 fide RFL

Jan. 1 Yarmouth & Digby 3 MUN, CST

Jan. 9 Wolfville Ridge 1 Dennis Brannen

Feb. 6 Pinkneys Pt., Yar. 1 PRG

Barred Owl

Dec. 7 Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax 1 AGH

Early Feb. Lr. Eel Brook, Yar. pair calling PRG

Feb. 21 Fairmont, Ant. 1 hooting RFL, MZG

Long-eared Owl

Feb. 2 The Hole CSI 1 dead MUN

Feb. 21 Lr. Canard, Kings 2 BLF

Short-eared Owl

Early Jan. Mahoneys Beach, Ant. 2 fide RFL

Jan. 1-7 Grand Pré, Kings 3-4 BLF et al.

Jan. 12 Dominion Beach, CBRM 1 BES, GRC

Jan. 22 Yarmouth 1 MUN - being

escorted out of town

Jan. 28 CSI 1 MUN - attempting to

catch a MODO

Feb. 13 Grand Pré, Kings

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Dec. 30 Big Baddeck, Vic.

mid-Jan. Sampsonville, Rich.

Jan. 16 Lumsen Dam, Kings

Feb. 11 Brier I.

Feb. 21-22 Fairmont, Ant.

11 at roost BLF

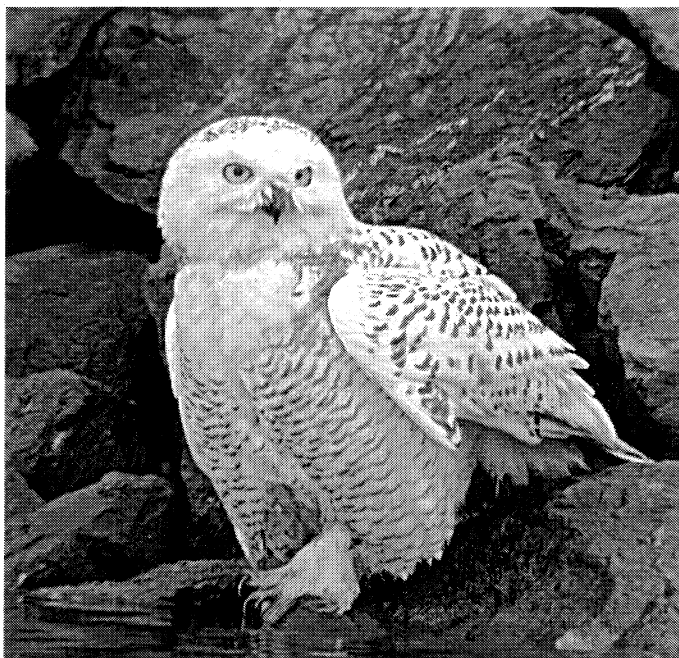
1 fide R. McCurdy

1 fide J. Shermerhorn

2 responding RBS

1 at feeder DAP

1 tooting RFL, MZG



It was not SNOWY OWL winter, but this one wintering in CBRM posed nicely for the record [Photo Cathy Murrant]



The RED-HEADED WOODPECKER wintering at Starrs Point, Kings, was a popular "tick" for many visiting birders. [Photo Cindy Creighton]

Feb. 27	Hammonds Plains, <i>HRM</i>	1	(eyeing Flying Squirrel)
Nov. 21	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	ELM
Belted Kingfisher			
Dec. 5	Clyde R., <i>Shel.</i>	1	MUN
Dec. 5	Hbr. Centre, <i>Pict.</i>	1	RFL
Dec. 7-Feb. 6	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	1	MCR
Jan. 8	Hubbards, <i>HRM</i>	1	PST
Jan. 13	Lr. Eel Brook, <i>Yar.</i>	1	PRG
Jan. 16	Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax	1	JEH, PLC - attacking an eagle
Jan. 22	Port Mouton, <i>Shel.</i>	1	AND
Feb. 10	Stewiacke, <i>Col.</i>	1	DCH, Mary Majka
Feb. 15	Sydney area	1	DBM
Dec.-Feb.	Lyons Brook, <i>Pict.</i>	1	var. obs.
Feb. 22	Greens Pt., <i>Pict.</i>	1	(different?) Gary Murray
Feb. 23	Abercrombie, <i>Pict.</i>	1	(different?) Gary Murray
Red-headed Woodpecker			
Oct. 23	Clementsport, <i>Ann.</i>	1	SHA
Dec. 8-Feb. 6	Starrs Pt., <i>Kings</i>	1 male	var. obs.
Jan. 8-Feb. 28	Aberdeen, <i>Vic.</i>	1 male (photo)	Mathesons
Early-mid. Jan	Shelburne	1	<i>fide</i> MUN
Nov. 13-30	Canso	1 male	TOK

Red-bellied Woodpecker (* = not previously reported)

Nov. - Feb. 28	Birch Cove, Dart.	1 fem.	BBU, var. obs.
Nov.-27-Jan. 22	Halifax S. end	1 male, 1 fem.	var. obs.
Nov. -Feb. 28	Halifax W. end	f	Ann Morrison
Nov.- Feb. 28	Halifax, Jollimore	1 male	var. obs.
Nov.-Jan. 8	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	up to 3*	var. obs.
Nov.-Jan. 27	Hd. St. Margarets <i>HRM</i>	1*	David Nettleship
Nov.- Dec. 3	Canso	2*	TOK
Nov. -Jan. 1	Wolfville	1	var. obs.
Nov.-Dec. 12	Grand Pré	1	BLF <i>et al.</i>
Nov. -Dec. 17	Economy	1	EPS
Nov.-Jan. Glace Bay		1*	JUM, BES
Nov.-Jan. 8	Starrs Pt., <i>Kings</i>	1	var. obs.
Nov. - end Jan.	Avonport	1	JET
Nov.-Feb. 28	Doctors Brook, <i>Ant.</i>	1	JOK
Nov.-Feb. 28	Hubbards, <i>HRM</i>	1*	The Billingtons
Nov.-Dec. 25	Kingsport, <i>Kings</i>	1	JWW <i>et al.</i>
Nov.-Feb. 28	Mahone Bay	1	Joyce Allen
Nov.-Feb. 23	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1	MAG <i>et al.</i>
Nov. -Feb. 28	Lunenburg	1 male	JAH
Early Dec. Liverpool		1	<i>fide</i> JAH
early Dec.-Feb.13	Plymouth, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Dec. 4-Feb. 28	Coldbrook, <i>Kings</i>	1*	AAM
Dec. 5	Tusket	1*	MUN
Dec. 13	Bible Hill, <i>Col.</i>	1*	LHA
Dec. 14	Central Burlington, <i>Hants</i>	1	Derek Crosby <i>fide</i> JWW
Dec. 25	Kentville	1*	RBS
Jan. 1	Yar. & Digby	2*	MUN
Jan. 18-?	Pubnico	1*	Ethelda Murphy
mid-late Jan.	Pugwash, <i>Cum.</i>	1*	<i>fide</i> SAW
Feb. 12	Amherst	1 male*, 1 fem.*	Vicki Daley

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Feb. 23-28	Hantsport, <i>Hants</i>	1 male	Marian Fulton
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Downy Woodpecker

Jan.-Feb.	Yarmouth to Victoria	11	var. obs.
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Hairy Woodpecker

Jan.-Feb.	Yarmouth to Victoria	16	var. obs.
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Black-backed Woodpecker

Dec. 19-Jan. 18	Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax	1	var. obs.
Jan. 8, 9	Hammonds Plains, <i>HRM</i>	1	ROG
Feb. 6	Long L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	2 males displaying	AGH, Marty Leonard
Feb. 14	Greenfield, <i>Kings</i>	1 fem.	BLF
Feb.13- 21	Graves I. PP, <i>Lun.</i>	1	var. obs.

Northern Flicker

Dec.-Jan.	W End Halifax	up to 3	var. obs.
Dec.-Jan.	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DMW
Dec.-Jan. 27	Hantsport, <i>Hants</i>	1	Marian Fulton
Feb. 13	Hantsport, <i>Hants</i>	4	Marian Fulton
Dec. 15	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Late Dec.	Windsor	1	Angela Slaunwhite
Dec. 25	Kingsport, <i>Kings</i>	6	AND
Dec. 30	Kentville	1	David Webster
Dec. 30-Jan. 28	Lr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	2	LOC
Dec. 31	Cole Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	DHH
Jan. 3	Florence, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Feb. 8	Lunenburg	1	JAH

Pileated Woodpecker

Dec.-Feb.	Yarmouth to Victoria	13	var. obs.
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Flycatchers through Thrushes

By Andy Horn

One **EASTERN PHOEBE** from the Wolfville CBC is almost expected, but the CBC total of only six **NORTHERN SHRIKES** was a quarter of the ten-year average. Barring one thrush discussed further below, the star of this section, and indeed one of the stars of the whole season, was the still unidentified vireo that lingered to just short of the Halifax-Dartmouth CBC. Perhaps certain distinctive features of the bird, such as its nervous manner and stubby "giz", will one day establish it as Nova Scotia's first documented **CASSIN'S VIREO**.

Half the ten-year average of **HORNED LARKS**, 149, was recorded on CBCs province-wide. Corvid and parid numbers were both average, while both nuthatches were up by about 25%, with **RED-BREASTED** and **WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCHES** weighing in at 1007 and 213 individuals, respectively. While these latter numbers may represent real upward trends, **BROWN CREEPERS** are so tough to locate (especially, I'm finally finding, for aging ears) that little can be concluded from a CBC total of 41 that's half the decade's average.

Finding two **MARSH WRENS** on the CBC is typical, at least from the typical locations listed below. Likewise, the total tally for each of our two kinglet species was within one bird of the 1990-2004 average: 1202 for **GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS** and 7 for **RUBY-CROWNED KINGLETS**. A particularly long-lingering **BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER**, however, was a rare treat for any year, as were the two **TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRES**, both of which were well documented. BSK provided a particularly vivid description of the bird at Baddeck Inlet, *Victoria*: "From startling white eye-ring, pale, honey-coloured wingbars to white outer tail feathers, the bird did everything for us but sing. Its pale grey breast, dark malar stripes (applicable to thrushes?) and long and notched tail were all easily observed as the bird hopped from branch to branch gobbling up rose hips and late, highbush cranberries."

As hinted earlier, the most remarkable find of all was a **VEERY**, the first winter record for Nova Scotia, and indeed one of the few for northeastern North America. This bird was photographed (by Christopher Clarke) and described as "rufous overall, with grey sides, no evident eye ring, and ... a buffy throat without obvious spotting" (Geraldine Williams *fide* IAM) -- "in short, a Veery in all respects" (IAM). Of course, no documentation is needed for **AMERICAN ROBINS**. Indeed, the provincial CBC total of 3596 was up by 90 % from the ten-year average, consistent with the good fall numbers noted in last issue. □

EASTERN PHOEBE

Dec. 18 Starrs Pt., *Kings* 1 GFO, HAF

Northern Shrike

Dec.-Feb. Apple R., *Cum.* 2-4+ KFS
Dec. 5-Feb. 26 Fairmont, *Ant.* 1 imm. RFL, MZG
Dec. 31 Portuguese Cove, *HRM* 1 HAT
Jan. 1 CSI 1 MUN, CST
Jan. 2 Brier I. 1 juv. JUS
Jan. 9 Starrs Pt., *Kings* 1 imm. AAM
Feb. 2-5 Morden, *Kings* 1 DAM, CRM, RBS *et al.*

Vireo sp. (Cassin's or Blue-headed)

Nov. 18-Dec. 16 Dartmouth 1 BBU

Blue-headed Vireo

Dec. 5 Dartmouth 1 RHL

Horned Lark

Jan. 8 Steam Mill, *Kings* ~150 AAM
Jan. 8 Grand Pré, *Kings* 25 AAM

MARSH WREN

Dec. 4-18 Wolfville 1 AAM, CBC
Dec. 20 Amherst 1 CBC

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Dec. 14 Brier I. 5 CBC
Dec. 18 Louisbourg 1 CBC
Jan. 3 Canso 1 CBC

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER

Nov.-Dec. 7 Broad Cove, *Lun.* 1 SJF

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE

Jan. 7-Mar. Baddeck Inlet, *Vic.* 1 *fide* BSK
Feb. 8 Sand L., *CBRM* 1 CAM

VEERY

pre-Jan. 30 Liverpool, *Shel.* 1 Geraldine Williams *fide* IAM

Hermit Thrush

Dec. 18 S. Kentville, *Kings* 1 RBS

Dec. 18 Liverpool, *Shel.* 1 CBC
Jan. 12 CSI 1 MUN
American Robin
Feb. 21-22 Wolfville ~50 JCT
Feb. 22 Canning, *Kings* 80 MAG *fide* JCT

□□□



This thrush appeared at the Clarke residence near Liverpool in late January. Its plain flanks (gray in the colour original), with no hint of spotting even near the neck (also noted by observers), obscure eyering, and uniformly rufous back and wings, mark it as our first fully-winter record of **VEERY**. [Photo Christopher Clarke]

Starlings Through Warblers

By Ken McKenna

The total number of EUROPEAN STARLINGS observed on all CBCs was about 10% below the 15-year average of about 57,000 birds, but in line with what has been observed the previous last three years. The Wolfville count had the highest total of 13,000 and Cape Breton Highlands was the only count to tally zero. In early February, Ted Kajdas observed starlings carrying dried grass from the perimeter of his home into the woods, leading PBG to speculate that this nesting type behaviour might indicate an early spring.

A single GRAY CATBIRD, first seen in mid-December, was observed on the Halifax-Dartmouth CBC and continued to be observed lurking in a thicket between Day Ave. and Elizabeth St. into mid-January. A couple of catbirds observed by ZOL on Sable I. also made it that far into the new year. NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD numbers seem to be on a slight upswing as ten were observed on the 2004 CBC, up from three from 2003. This is still a far cry from the average of 20 over the past ten years. Although there was a sprinkling of BROWN THRASHER reports, none were observed on a CBC.

AMERICAN PIPIT sightings were few with the 28 on the CBC a bit below the average of 47 for the last 10 years. BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS (225) were out-numbered three-one by CEDAR WAXWINGS (705) on the CBC totals this year. In the past we have had a fairly regular cycle of a year of small numbers of the wandering bohemians followed by an irruptive year of four to ten thousand birds. This was the third year with a low number and the result was a large supply of berries and fruit over the winter for the robins and for an increasing number of over-wintering Cedar Waxwings. Both waxwing species were reported into the late winter but no great influx occurred post-CBC.

Through the winter, observers commented on 14 species of warbler. A total of 382 individual warblers of ten species were noted on the CBC for 2004 including two species that were not seen on any previous CBC.

There were a good number of ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS this winter and this was also reflected in the average number seen on CBCs. Six of seven noted were on the Halifax-Dartmouth count. The NORTHERN PARULA seen Dec. 18 on the Halifax-Dartmouth CBC was new for the Nova Scotia CBC list. At Port Williams, Dec. 10, a nice grouping of warblers contained a MAGNOLIA WARBLER.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS, as usual, made up the bulk of the winter sightings of warblers and made up 334 of the 382 warblers seen on the various CBC. The high was 179 found on the CSI count Dec. 18. The total of 334 is about average for the last ten years. A report of an AUDUBON'S YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER was documented as follows by Rob Buckland-Nicks on Jan. 31. "Today I had an Audubon's Warbler at my feeder in Bear River. The bird was a female, yellow throat, yellow inside both shoulders and a yellow patch on the head. Very similar in appearance to a fall Myrtle, except for the throat. Did not stay around, and did not see it feeding."

On the White Point CBC, JAH, Eric Harding and David Farner discovered a **BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER** at Pine Grove Park. This is the first record for this species on a Nova Scotia CBC. Three December records were provided for the **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** from scattered areas of the province. AGH noted the Point Pleasant PP bird appeared to be the western *albilora* race. IAM examined a photo of the North Sydney bird taken by Lynn MacLean as the bird sought shelter by roosting under the veranda roof of her home on a windy rainy evening Dec. 19. IAM felt there was a slight suggestion of yellow lore and the rather longish bill indicated *dominica* race and possibly from the NE end of its range. The suet feeder of Gerald Allen, Liverpool, was a warbler magnet attracting not only the third wintering Yellow-throated Warbler but also a PINE WARBLER and an Orange-crowned Warbler. Pine Warblers were well reported and the 23 on CBCs is double the fifteen year average of 12. Although the bulk of the sightings were on the Halifax-Dartmouth count (9), there were sightings from a total of twelve counts from all areas of the province.

There were fewer PALM WARBLER reports than last winter, but the five seen on CBCs is average. An AMERICAN REDSTART made a surprisingly late winter appearance on CSI (*fide* MUN). Wintering COMMON YELLOWTHROATS were in about normal numbers. A very late bird on Sable I. was described by ZOL as being in an area of 100% snow just west of the west light. The total of five YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS on CBCs was a little shy of the ten-year average of eight. □

European Starling				Jan. 1&16 Elizabeth St, Dartmouth	1	DOU, FLL, PLC
Dec. 1	Canso	100	TOK	Northern Mockingbird		
Dec. 31-Feb. 28+	Sable I.	~20	ZOL	Dec. 2-Feb. 28	Halifax	DAM
Gray Catbird				Dec. 7	Broad Cove, Lun.	JAH, IRO
Dec. 13&18	Day St., HRM	1	FLL <i>fide</i> TEP	Dec. 12	Arcadia, Yar.	PRG
Dec.31-Jan. 19	Sable I.	2	ZOL	Dec. 12-Feb. 28+	Sable I.	ZOL

Dec. 18	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	Mike O'Neill, JCT	MAGNOLIA WARBLER		
Dec. 23	Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS <i>fide</i> Cindy Creighton	Dec. 10	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 BLF, AAM
Dec. 31	Broad Cove CBC	1	<i>fide</i> SJF	Yellow-rumped Warbler		
Jan. 9	Kentville	1	JWW	Dec. 20-23	Sable I.	40 ZOL
Dec. 1-Feb. 28	Broad Cove	1-2	SJF	Dec. 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2 Ethan Huner
Jan. 16	Barrington	1	MUN	Jan. 12-19	Sable I.	15 ZOL
Jan. 16	Antigonish	1 photo	Greg Lukeman	Feb. 8	White Pt., <i>Queens</i>	2 David Farner
Dec. 1-Jan. 16	Port Hawkesbury	1 daily	David Johnston	Feb. 13	CSI	a few MUN
Feb. 7-9	Brier I.	1	CAH	Feb. 28	CSI	15+ BLF
Feb. 8	Upper North Sydney	1	Fred Gallop <i>fide</i> DBM	YELLOW-RUMPED "AUDUBON'S" WARBLER		
Feb. 16	DeWolfe Park, Bedford	1	JEH <i>fide</i> PLC	Jan. 31	Bear R.	1 Rob Buckland-Nicks
Brown Thrasher				Black-throated Green Warbler		
Dec. 20-Feb. 6	Maitland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	Stephanie Daffey,	Dec. 18	Pine Grove Pk., <i>Queens</i>	1 JAH, Eric Harding,
JAH, RBS				David Farner		
Dec. 29	Ohio, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DOE <i>fide</i> MUN	YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER		
Jan. 18	Broad Cove	1	SJF	Dec. 7	Pt. Pleasant PP, <i>HRM</i>	1 <i>albilora</i> AGH
Jan. 22	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	1	Kier Gigeroff, Lucas Berrigan	Dec. 10-14	Liverpool	1 <i>fide</i> JAH, Peter Davies, AND
American Pipit				Dec. 19	North Sydney	1 <i>dominica</i> Lynn MacLean <i>fide</i>
Dec. 3&4	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	a few	BLF, AAM	Alan MacLeod		
Dec. 14	Brier I. CBC	4	<i>fide</i> ELM	Pine Warbler		
Jan. 19	Hartlen Pt.	10	FLL, Karen March	Dec. 4	by Birch Cove Pk., <i>HRM</i>	1 John Longaphy
Dec. 2	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	2	RHL	Dec. 5	Tallahassee School, <i>HRM</i>	2 TEP
Bohemian Waxwing				Dec. 9	<i>Yarmouth</i>	2 MUN
Dec. 18	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	5	JAH <i>et al.</i>	Dec. 10	Birch Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 dull IAM
Dec. 20	Ferguson Cove, <i>HRM</i>	40	FLL	Dec. 10	Tallahassee School, <i>HRM</i>	2 (1 dull) IAM
Jan. 3	Canso area 1	50+	Ethan Huner, Shannon	Dec. 10	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	2 BLF, AAM
Queen				Dec. 11	??	1 MUN
Jan. 22	Prince Arthur school, <i>HRM</i>	15	Kier Gigeroff, Lucas Berrigan	Dec. 11-12	Liverpool	1 <i>fide</i> JAH
Jan. 22	Hantsport	small flock	Joyce Norris	Dec. 13	Tallahassee School, <i>HRM</i>	2 FLL <i>et al.</i>
Jan. 22	Doratheia Drive, <i>HRM</i>	flock	TEP	Dec. 14	Lakeview Terrace, <i>HRM</i>	1 photo Cindy Creighton
Jan. 30	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	30	IAM	Dec. 18	Springville CBC	1 STV
Feb. 1	Annapolis County	3-4	RBS	Dec. 19-28	North End Halifax	1 photo, bright Cindy Creighton
Feb. 5	Hortonville, <i>Kings</i>	~20	Doug Linzey	Dec. 31	Broad Cove CBC	1 SJF
Cedar Waxwing				Jan. 1	<i>Pictou</i>	1 Harold Madore <i>fide</i> KJM
Dec. 1	Canso	60+	TOK	Jan. 1	Lakeside Terrace, <i>HRM</i>	1 dull TEP
Dec. 3	Lunenburg Co.	?	JAH, DAW	Jan. 12& 22	Centre, <i>Lun.</i>	1 JAH, DAW, DOU
Dec. 17 &	Jan. 4 South Haven, <i>Vic.</i>	25	<i>fide</i> Floyd Kent	Jan. 16 & 24	Port Hawkesbury	1 male David Johnston
Dec. 19	Wolfville	21	Sue Bissix <i>fide</i> JCT	Jan. 22 & Feb. 5	Brookdale Crescent, <i>HRM</i>	1 bright male TEP
Dec. 30	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	1	RFL, MZG	Jan. 23	Enfield, <i>Hants</i>	1 Kim Lively <i>fide</i> Cindy Creighton
Jan. 3	Canso area	numerous	Ethan Huner, Shannon Queen	Palm Warbler		
Jan. 6	Wolfville	3	JWW	Dec. 13	Pt. Pleasant PP, <i>HRM</i>	1 western FLL <i>et al.</i>
Jan. 16	Black Hbr., <i>Lun.</i>	17	JAH, DAW	Dec. 18	New Glasgow, <i>Pict.</i>	1 eastern KJM
Jan. 26	Hantsport	small flock	Marian Fulton	Blackpoll Warbler		
Jan. 29	Wolfville	25	Pat Hawes <i>fide</i> JWW	Dec. 18	CSI CBC	1 <i>fide</i> MUN
Feb. 1	Annapolis County	30	RBS	American Redstart		
Feb. 5	Yarmouth	14	MUN	~Jan. 25-Feb. 15	CSI	1 <i>fide</i> MUN
Feb. 15	South Haven, <i>Vic.</i>	11	<i>fide</i> Floyd Kent	Ovenbird		
Feb. 16	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	25	FLL	Early Dec.	Lochaber, <i>Ant.</i>	1 Harriet MacMillan
Feb. 20	Wolfville	5	JWW	Common Yellowthroat		
Feb. 20	Shubenacadie, <i>Hants</i>	40	FLL <i>et al.</i>	Dec. 12-15	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1 BLF/ AAM
Feb. 21-22	Wolfville	100	JCT	Dec. 12	New Glasgow	1 KJM
Feb. 22	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	?	MAG <i>fide</i> JCT	Dec. 19	Tusket, <i>Yar.</i>	1 Ethelda Murphy <i>fide</i> CST
Orange-crowned Warbler				Dec. 22	Tusket Falls, <i>Yar.</i>	1 MUN
Dec. 1	Dartmouth	2	IAM	Dec. 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 Ethan Huner
Dec. 4	Chester, <i>Lun.</i>	1	CJF	Dec. 31	CSI	1 MUN
Dec. 5	Sullivans Pd., <i>HRM</i>	1	TEP	Jan. 9	Sable I.	1 imm. or fem. ZOL
Dec. 5	Woodlawn, <i>HRM</i>	1	TEP	Yellow-breasted Chat		
Dec. 5	Tallahassee School, <i>HRM</i>	1	TEP	Dec. 3	Sullivan. Pd., <i>HRM</i>	1 Joyce Allen
Dec. 7	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DAW	Dec. 4	Findlay Pk., <i>HRM</i>	1 Cindy Creighton, John Longaphy
Dec. 10	Tallahassee School, <i>HRM</i>	3-4	IAM	to Dec. 7	Maynard St., <i>HRM</i>	1 <i>fide</i> JOW
Dec. 10	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	BLF, AAM	Dec. 8-19	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 DJC
Dec. 11	Liverpool	1	<i>fide</i> JAH	Dec. 10-17	Greenwood, <i>Kings</i>	1 DAC <i>fide</i> PBG
Dec. 12	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC	Dec. 14&16	Findlay Pk. <i>HRM</i>	1 BBU
Dec. 12	New Glasgow	1	KJM	Dec. 17	Aikens Ave. <i>HRM</i>	1 bathing DAM
Dec. 15	Conrose Field, <i>HRM</i>	2	PLC	Dec. 18	Mountain Ave. <i>HRM</i>	1 <i>fide</i> TEP
Jan. 1	Dorothea Ave., <i>HRM</i>	1	TEP	Dec. 28	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1 MAG <i>fide</i> JCT
Nashville Warbler				Jan. 8-9 & 15	Mountain Rd., Dartmouth	1 IAM <i>fide</i> TEP, DOU
Dec. 5	Tallahassee School, <i>HRM</i>	2	TEP, AAM	Jan. 9-10	Hd. of St. Margarets Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1 David Nettleship <i>fide</i> IAM
Dec. 17	CSI	1	JON <i>fide</i> MUN	aaa		
Northern Parula						
Dec. 18	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	1	<i>fide</i> TEP			

Winter Warblers

Among warblers that attempt to winter, only the YELLOW-RUMPED, found on Pictou I. Jan. 1 during the Pictou Harbour CBC is routine, although generally scarce this winter [Photo Richard Stern]. PINE WARBLERS, this one in Dartmouth Dec. 14 [Photo Cindy Creighton], often manage to get through the winter, but the PALM WARBLERS, this one a "western" Palm in Point Pleasant Park, Halifax, Dec. 12 [photo Cindy Creighton], rarely do. Although some YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS survive the cold and snow, this one in Dartmouth Dec. 4 [photo Bernard Burke] was not found in the New Year. This YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER during early December at a feeder in Port Joli, Shelburne, was among the more rare warbler finds [Photo Andy Dean]



YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER



PINE WARBLER



PALM WARBLER



YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER



YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT

Tanagers Through House Sparrows

By Hans Toom

Tanagers were not reported this winter for the first time in five years. However the EASTERN TOWHEE compensated by showing itself to many birders at Woodlawn, *HRM* and Port Williams, *Kings*. The latter bird successfully made it through the winter.

The AMERICAN TREE SPARROW'S winter invasion was about average for this year. This sparrow is often best identified in the winter by recognizing its chip-note coming from the thickets, often in response to "pishing". CHIPPING SPARROWS were scattered throughout the mainland but were especially reliable in *Kings*. Two FIELD SPARROWS at the Broad Cove, *Lun.* (CBC) was a nice surprise.

VESPER SPARROWS were hard to find this winter with isolated reports of single individuals. A single LARK SPARROW briefly visited at Canso, *Guys* (TOK). SAVANNAH SPARROWS were also hard to find but a nice group of 10 appeared at Hartlen Pt., Jan. 29 (FLL, Karen March) and an IPSWICH showed up at Port Williams, *Kings* (GFO). CSI birders produced two reports of NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW and one of a SEASIDE SPARROW, Dec. 9 at Daniels's Head (MUN).

FOX SPARROWS were scarce but one was a reliable visitor to MUN's feeder on CSI. Even more of a treat was when an uncommon LINCOLN'S SPARROW accompanied this sparrow at times. SONG SPARROWS were sparsely reported, though this is more likely due to its silent winter nature than the actual numbers present. Portuguese Cove, *HRM* had an over-wintering population of 10 birds (HAT). This was a good year for Lincoln's Sparrows with scattered reports from Grand Pré, *Kings* (AAM, BLF), Portuguese Cove, *HRM* (HAT) and from CSI (MUN, CBC). SWAMP SPARROWS were reported from *Kings*, with a nice group of eight showing up on CSI Dec. 15 (JON) and an overwintering bird at HAT's feeder in Portuguese Cove, *HRM*.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW numbers were about average but this bird is always easiest to find at established and reliable feeding stations, often showing up in good numbers of 10-30 birds per station. WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS were sparse but a cooperative duo showed themselves to lots of birders at Birch Cove, *HRM*. The DARK-EYED JUNCO wintering population was average with the bird easily found at reliable and established feeding stations.

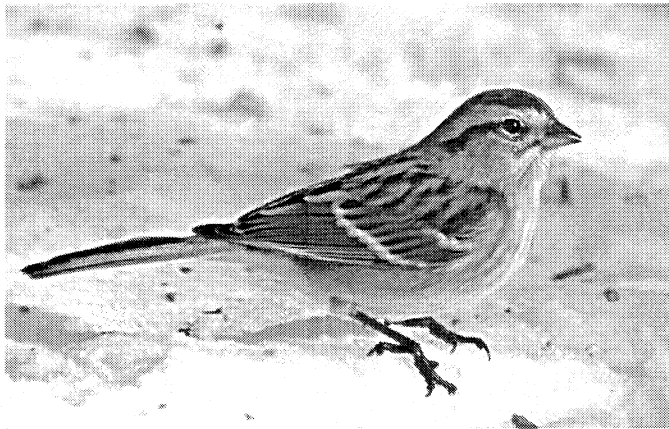
LAPLAND LONGSPURS were often found at Grand Pré, *Kings*, occasionally in good-sized flocks of 20-25 birds, though by mid-January their numbers had dwindled here and everywhere. SNOW BUNTINGS were abundant later in the winter period with their usual large flocks appearing in many locations. A highlight was a group of over 100 birds at West Apple R. in February. Who can forget the magic of a silent flock of Snow Buntings slowly settling to ground near a feeding station?

NORTHERN CARDINAL numbers appear to be increasing, especially in their haunts in Dartmouth and urban centres elsewhere. This is a difficult bird to miss when highlighted by snow but remarkably quite challenging to find in brush. There was a ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK, Dec. 16 in Wolfville (JCT, JET, BBT), an INDIGO BUNTING Jan. 1-3, Albert Bridge, *CBRM* (SEM), and scattered DICKCISSEL reports early in December.

A nice group of RED-WINGED BLACKBIRDS, 70 strong, appeared at Italy Cross, *Lun.* (JAH) on Dec. 19. A single male RUSTY BLACKBIRD visited Parmbelle Lane, *HRM*, Jan. 1-2 (SMB) while a group of 50 COMMON GRACKLES visited Brier I., Dec. 13 (ELM, AHM). There was a very late female BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD Feb. 11 at Middle Musquodoboit, *HRM* (VJH). BALTIMORE ORIOLES were reported from many locations early in the winter period but alas this bird seldom makes it into February and rarely successfully over-winters.

Hooray for our winter finches who once again gave us colour, sound and joy throughout our long cold winter. This was an especially abundant winter for Purple Finches, White-winged Crossbills, Pine Siskins and American Goldfinches. Fifty to one-hundred strong of these talkative birds often appeared at well-tended feeding stations only to move on again when the weather improved just to honour someone else's feeding station when the weather worsened.

A group of 20 PINE GROSBEAK visited Joggin Shore Road (KFS). RED CROSSBILLS were hard to find but wow, what a year for WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS. They were everywhere in large flocks, often accompanied by PINE SISKINS. A report of over 500 and 200 respectively of these birds in a one-hour period at Dollar Lake PP, *HRM*, Dec. 15 (HAT) was remarkable. The White-winged Crossbill CBC total was at a seven year high and the Pine Siskin total was at a nine year high. Good enough, as they say! It was an off year for COMMON REDPOLLS but they could still be found, although scattered. In contrast, the CBC total of AMERICAN GOLDFINCH was at a 15 year high. □



The AMERICAN TREE SPARROW, like this one Jan. 9 near Port Williams, *Kings*, is one of our more self-reliant winter birds, less often seen at feeders. [Photo Cindy Creighton]

Eastern Towhee

Dec. 1-5	Woodlawn, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU <i>et al.</i>
Dec. 7	Truro	1	ROH
Dec. 15	Wolfville	1 male	BBT
Dec. 19	Day Ave, <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 19	Windholm St, <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 29	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 male	JCT
Jan. 9-10	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Jan. 18	Woodlawn, <i>HRM</i>	1	PLC, FLL
Jan. 24	Wolfville	1 male	BBT
Jan. 29	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
Jan. 30	Springville, <i>Pict.</i>	1 fem.	KJM
Feb. 2-3	Moose Hbr., <i>Lun.</i>	1 fem.	AND
Feb. 5-6	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	JWW <i>et al.</i>
Feb. 28	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 male	JCT

American Tree Sparrow

Dec.-Feb.	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	6-12 at feeder daily	KFS
Dec.-Feb.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	5-30 daily at feeders daily	HAT
Dec.-Feb.	Conrad Rd., <i>HRM</i>	small flocks most days	DMW

Chipping Sparrow

Dec. 4	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
Dec. 5	Arcadia, <i>Yar.</i>	3	MUN
Dec. 10	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	BLF, AAM
Dec. 14	Upper Blue Rocks Cemetery, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec. 18	Liverpool	8	CBC
Jan.-Feb.	Grand Pré, Wolfville, Port Williams	4-6	JCT, JET
Dec. 4-7, Feb. 1	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF

Field Sparrow

Dec. 30	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	2	Blair Hodgman, Bruce Allen
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Vesper Sparrow

Dec. 3	Wolfville/Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	BBU
Dec. 9	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1	MUN
Dec. 18	Liverpool	1	CBC
Feb. 12	Hebron, <i>Yar.</i>	1	MUN

Lark Sparrow

Dec. 3	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TOK
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Savannah Sparrow

Dec. 30	Port Joli, <i>Queens</i>	1	AND
Jan. 19	Hartlens Pt., <i>HRM</i>	10	FLL, Karen March
Jan. 22	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i> (1-Ipswich)	1	GFO

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow

Dec. 9	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1	MUN
Dec. 18	CSI	1	CBC

SEASIDE SPARROW

Dec. 9	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1 pretty sure	MUN
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Fox Sparrow

Dec. 19	Wolfville	1	JCT
Dec. 30	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Feb. 27	CSI	1 at feeder	MUN

Song Sparrow

Dec.-Feb.	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	1 over wintered	KFS
Dec.-Feb.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2-10 daily	HAT

Dec.-Feb.	Conrad Rd., <i>HRM</i>	A few	DMW
Feb. 20	Fishermans Reserve, <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH

Lincoln's Sparrow

Dec. 4	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
Dec. 18	CSI	1	CBC
Jan. 8	Greenwich, <i>Kings</i>	1	BLF
Jan. 20	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Feb. 27	CSI	1 at feeder	MUN

Swamp Sparrow

Dec. 6	Near Canning, <i>Kings</i>	2	AAM
Dec. 15	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	2	AAM, BLF
Dec. 15	CSI	8	JON
Jan. 28-Feb. 28	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 over winter	HAT

White-throated Sparrow

Dec.-Feb.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	10-30 daily	HAT
Dec.-Feb.	Conrad Rd., <i>HRM</i>	a few	DMW
Dec. 6	Near Canning, <i>Kings</i>	20-25	AAM

White-crowned Sparrow

Dec. 5	Birch Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	TEP
Dec. 19	Birch Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	CBC
Dec. 26	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1 juv.	ELM
Jan. 12	Birch Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLF
Jan. 10	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT

Dark-eyed Junco

Dec.-Feb.	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	1-3 daily	KFS
Dec.-Feb.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2-30 daily	HAT
Dec.-Feb.	Conrad Rd., <i>HRM</i>	a few	DMW

Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco

Jan. 22-end of Feb.	Oyster Ponds, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	Lucas Berrigan, Kier Gigeroff
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Lapland Longspur

Dec. 31	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	25+	BLF
Jan. 12	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	20+	HAT, LAE
Feb. 4	Crystal Crescent Beach PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Feb. 22	Canard, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM

Snow Bunting

Dec. 13	Pond Cove, Brier I.	15	ELM, AHM
Jan. 2	Casesy Corner, <i>Kings</i>	10	RBS
Jan. 12-Feb	Middle Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	8-25	VJH
Jan. 13	Washaback, <i>Vic.</i>	75	BSK
Jan. 22	Lockports Crescent Beach, <i>Shel.</i>	20	DJC
Jan. 22	New Salem, <i>Col.</i>	1 at feeder	KFS
Jan. 26	Black R., <i>Kings</i>	3	BLF
Feb?	West Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	100+ at feeder	<i>fide</i> KFS
Feb. 4	Catalone, <i>CBRM</i>	10	GEC, BES
Feb. 6	New Ross, <i>Lun.</i>	20	AAM, RBS
Feb. 13	Hillaton, <i>Kings</i>	over 50	RBS

Northern Cardinal

Jan. 4	Sullivan's Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	AAM, BLF
Jan. 8	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	2	AAM
Jan. 12	Liverpool	1 male	Gary Hartlen
Jan. 16	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1 fem.	JAH
Jan. 30	Springvale Ave, Halifax, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	FLL, RIH
Feb. 9	Dartmouth	1 male, 1 fem.	PMC
Feb. 23	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Feb. 27	Dartmouth	1 male	Isla McEachern

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Dec. 16	Wolfville	1 male	BBT, JCT, JET
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Indigo Bunting

Jan. 1-2	Albert Bridge, <i>CBRM</i>	1 male (first winter)	SEM
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Dickcissel

Dec. 4	Glance Bay	1	BES, GEC
Dec. 19	Jamieson St., <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC
Dec. 19	McNabs St., <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC

Red-winged Blackbird

Dec. 10	Ira Settle Field, <i>HRM</i>	1	IAM
Dec. 22	Blockhouse, <i>Lun.</i>	5 males	JAH
Dec. 30	Italy Cross, <i>Lun.</i>	70	JAH

Rusty Blackbird

Dec. 28	Halifax, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	SMB
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Common Grackle

Dec. 1	Halifax, <i>HRM</i>	1 male	SMB
Dec. 10-12	New Salem, <i>Col.</i>	1 at feeder	KFS
Dec. 13	Brier I.	50	ELM, AHM

Jan. 4	Mahone Bay	1	CBC
Feb. 1	New Salem, <i>Col.</i>	1	KFS
Feb. 8	Coldbrook, <i>Kings</i>	8	AAM
Feb. 10	Coldbrook, <i>Kings</i>	8	BLF
Feb. 15	Cantley Village, Coxheath, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Feb. 12	Englishtown, <i>Vic.</i>	1	BSK
Feb. 15	Advocate, <i>Col.</i>	15	KFS

Brown-headed Cowbird

Dec. 2	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 male	DJC
Dec. 28	Basinview Drive, <i>HRM</i>	1	Cindy Creighton
Dec. 31	Tremont, <i>Anna.</i>	1 male	SLH
Jan. 8	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1	AAM
Feb. 11	Mid. Musq. <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	VJH

Baltimore Oriole

Dec. 1	Halifax	1	Ann Morrison, DOU
Dec. 4	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	BBU
Dec. 5	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	3-4	TEP
Dec. 10	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	1	PBG
Dec. 12	Truro	2	ROH
Dec. 16	Findlay Park	1	BBU
Dec. 16-27	Whites lake, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm.	BLM
Dec. 19	Gaspereau Vinyards, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Dec. 18	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	2	CBC
Dec. 30	Broad Cove, <i>Lun</i>	1 male	CBC
Jan. 2	Yarmouth	1	MUN
Jan. 2	Blue Rocks, <i>Lun</i>	1	CBC

Pine Grosbeak

Dec. 16	Pembroke L. area, over 10 stops	1-2 per stop	DBM
Dec. 28	South Haven, <i>Vic.</i>	1	BSK
Dec. 30	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	5	RFL, MZG
Jan. 7	South Haven, <i>Vic.</i>	4	BSK
Jan. 14-15	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	1-6	KFS
Jan. 15	Exit 5, Hwy 104	15	FLL
Jan. 18	South Haven, <i>Vic.</i>	4	BSK
Jan. 26	New Salem, <i>Col.</i>	4 at feeder	KFS
Jan. 29	Joggin Shore R., <i>Cum.</i>	20+	KFS
Feb. 10	Joggin Shore R., <i>Cum.</i>	6	KFS
Feb. 27	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	15	KFS

Purple Finch

Dec.-Feb.	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	12-24 daily at feeder	DJC
Dec.-Feb.	Coldbrook, <i>Kings</i>	10-20 daily at feeders	AAM
Dec.-Feb.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2-20 daily at feeders	HAT
Dec. 7-Feb. 28	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	1-50+ at feeders most days	KFS
Jan.	Conrad Rd., <i>HRM</i>	A few most days	DMW
Jan. 22	Whites L., <i>HRM</i>	200+	BLM
Feb. 1	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	3 male, 3 fem.	MCR

Red Crossbill

Dec. 18	White Pt. Beach, <i>Queens</i>	3	CBC
Jan. 4	Heckmans I. Rd., <i>Lun.</i>	many	CBC
Jan. 15	Lunenburg	2	BLM
Jan. 19	Coldbrook, <i>Kings</i>	a few	AAM
Feb. 1	Thornhill Drive, Halifax, <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL

White-winged Crossbill

Dec.-Feb.	South Mt., <i>Kings</i>	small flocks	AAM
Dec. 13	Black R., <i>Kings</i>	flock	AAM, BLF
Dec. 15	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	500+ in flocks of 25-50 birds	HAT
Dec. 16	Pembroke L. area	several flocks	DBM
Dec. 21	Clyde R., <i>Shel.</i>	9	JCZ
Dec. 31	Middle Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1 male, 3 fem.	VJH
Jan. 1	Tanook I., <i>Lun.</i>	6	ELM, AHM
Jan. 4	Conrad Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1	DMW
Jan. 5	Middle Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	20	VJH
Jan. 22-23	South Hbr., <i>Vic.</i>	flocks	AAM
Jan. 23	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	4	RFL, MZG
Jan. 29	Black R., <i>Kings</i>	several flocks	AAM
Jan. 30	Holman Marsh L. Trail, <i>HRM</i>	3	BLM
Feb. 25	Middle Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	small flock	VJH

Common Redpoll

Jan-Feb	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	1-2 at feeder	KFS
Dec. 15	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	4	AAM, BLF
Dec. 16	R. Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	8	JWW
Dec. 18	Kentville, <i>Kings</i>	40	JCT
Jan. 2	Heckmans I. Rd., <i>Lun.</i>	21	CBC
Jan. 8	Caribou I., <i>Pic.</i>	several	KJM
Jan. 27	Exit 38, Highway 104	15	FLL
Feb. 1	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	10	FLL, CLS, CSS
Feb. 3	Halifax	18	DAM
Feb. 19	Black R. L. Rd., <i>Kings</i>	10	RBS
Feb. 26	Sunrise Valley, <i>Vic.</i>	1	FMC

Pine Siskin

Dec-Feb	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	0-20 most days at feeder	
	HAT		
Dec. 15	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	200+ one flock	HAT
Jan. 28	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	1 at feeder	KFS
Feb.	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	2-3 at feeder	KFS
Feb. 13	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	1 at feeder	MCR

American Goldfinch

Dec.-Feb.	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	5-40 daily at feeders	HAT
Dec.-Feb.	Conrad Rd., <i>HRM</i>	a few most days	DMW
Dec. 26-Jan. 9	Lunenburg	1 melanistic example	ELM
Dec. 29-Feb. 13	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	22-50 at feeder most days	KFS
Jan. 18-19	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	3-6 at feeder	MCR
Feb. 13	Bear R., <i>Anna.</i>	8 at feeder	MCR

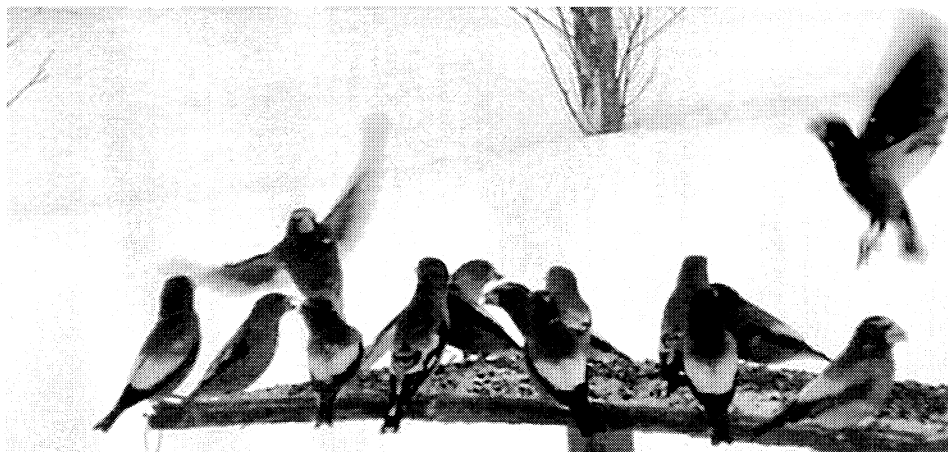
Evening Grosbeak

Dec-Feb	Tremont, <i>Anna.</i>	8-12 most days at feeder	SLH
Dec. 7-Feb. 1	Apple R. <i>Cum.</i>	3-18 at feeder	KFS
Dec. 30	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	12	RFL, MZG
Jan. 14-15	North R. Bridge, <i>Vic.</i>	100-150	BSK
Jan. 30	Sunken L., <i>Kings</i>	15	AAM, RBS

House Sparrow

Dec. 13	Brier I.	6	ELM, AHM
Dec. 29	Lunenburg	20	ELM

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EVENING GROSBEAKS have been less frequent at feeders throughout the province in recent years, but this lively bunch in Port Hawkesbury was bucking the trend. [Photo Jeannie Shermerhorn]

List of Contributors

Thanks to all of our contributors.

Sorted by Initials

MacLean, Angus	AAM	Belbin, John	JOB	Bissix, Sue
Moore, Bernice	ABM	Kearney, John	JOK	Black, John
Horn, Andy	AGH	Nickerson, Johnnie	JON	Brennan, Dennis
Mills, Anne	AHM	Waldron, Joan	JOW	Buckland-Nicks, Rob
Morrison, Aileen	EIM	Metcalfe, Hugh "Junior"	JUM	Clarke, Christopher
Murrant, Allan	ALM	Swift, June	JUS	Creighton, Cindy
Dean, Andy	AND	Wolford, Jim	JWW	Crosby, Derek
Thexton, Bill & Brenda	BBT	Spicer, Kathleen	KFS	Daffey, Stephanie
Sarty, Bev	BES	McKenna, Ken J.	KJM	Daley, Vicki
Burke, Bernard	BBU	Elliot, Laura	LAE	Davies, Peter
Forsythe, Bernard	BLF	Hall, Linda	LHA	Farner, David
Maybank, Blake	BLM	Codling, Lois	LOC	Fulton, Marian
Dalzell, Brian	BRD	Gibson, Merritt	MAG	Gallop, Fred
Kent, Bethsheila	BSK	Quinn, Marion	MAQ	Gigeroff, Kier
Haycock, Carl	CAH	Rice, Maggie	MCR	Harding, Eric
Murrant, Cathy	CAM	Newell, Murray	MUN	Hartlen, Gary
Christmas Bird Count	CBC	Goring, May	MZG	Hawes, Pat
Field, Chris	CJF	NS Bird Society Field Trip	NSBS	Healey, Bob
Stevens, Clarence, Jr.	CLS	Seymour, Norm	NSE	Hodgman, Blair
MacNeill, Carol	CRM	Snyder, Nellie	NSN	Huner, Ethan
Stevens, Clarence R. Sr.	CSS	Giffin, Barbara & Patrick	PBG	Johnston, David
Stoddard, Clyde	CST	Hope, Peter	PEH	Kajdas, Ted
Canadian Wildlife Service	CWS	Taylor, Phil	PHT	Kent, Floyd
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Pugh, David	DAP	McKay, Pat	PMC	Lively, Kim
Walmart, David	DAW	Gould, Paul	PRG	Longaphy, John
McCorquodale, Dave	DBM	Stowe, Peter	PST	Lukeman, Greg
Christie, David	DCH	Stern, Richard	RBS	MacDonald, Andrew
Hippert, Dennis	DHH	Lauff, Randy F.	RFL	MacDonald, Blaine
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Crosby, Donna	DJC	Hatch, Richard	RIH	MacLean, Lynn
Welch, Dottie M. K.	DMW	Gallinger, Rosemary	ROG	MacLeod, Alan
Ensor, Donna	DOE	Hall, Ross	ROH	MacMillan, Harriet
Doull, Elizabeth	DOU	d'Entremont, Raymond	RSD	Madore, Harold
Mills, Eric L.	ELM	McDonald, Robert S.	RSM	March, Karen
Spalding, Edgar	EPS	Hiltz, Sandy	SAH	Mathesons
Lavender, Fulton L.	FLL	Williams, Sherman	SAW	McCarthy, Heather
McEvoy, Fritz	FMC	Myers, Susann	SEM	McCurdy, R.
Crowell, George	GEC	Hawboldt, Steve	SHA	McCurdy, Sheila
Digout, George	GED	Hughes, Shirley	SHU	McEachern, Isla
Forsythe, George	GFO	Fullerton, Sylvia	SJF	Mills, Chris
Brennan, Harry	HAB	Borkowski, Suzanne	SMB	Morrison, Ann
Forsythe, Harold	HAF	Vines, Steve	STV	Murphy, Ethelda
Toom, Hans	HAT	Paquet, Terry	TEP	Nettleship, David
Halifax Field Naturalists	HFN	Kavanagh, Tom	TOK	Norris, Joyce
Van Donick, Helene	HVD	Higgins, Verna J.	VJH	O'Neill, Mike
McLaren, Ian	IAM	MacPhail, Weldon	WMA	Queen, Shannon
Roseby, Ian	IRO	Lucas, Zoe	ZOL	Rogerson, Gail & Ron
Hirtle, James	JAH	Aikens, Kathleen		Shermerhorn, J.
Tufts, Judy	JCT	Allen, Bruce		Tower, Barb
Czapalay, Joan	JCZ	Allen, Gerald		Webster, David
Brennan, Jean	JEB	Allen, Joyce		Williams, Geraldine
Hartley, Jean	JEH	Backstrom, Darrell		
Timpa, Jean	JET	Berrigan, Lucas		
Hughes, Janey	JHU	Billingtons		

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Presidents Corner

Hi Everyone!

A lot has been happening the last three months. We have a new website address: <http://nsbs.chebucto.org> Much shorter and easier to remember!

For now, if you type in our old website address: <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Recreation/NS-BirdSoc> You'll still be able to get into our homepage.

We also have a new E-mail address: nsbs@chebucto.ca

Again, if you send messages to ip-bird@chebucto.ns.ca, they'll be forwarded to the new address.

You may have noticed that, as of the last issue (Winter 2005) we've started advertising in Nova Scotia Birds. If you have a company or small business; or, if you know of someone who does, and would like to place an ad in our magazine, contact me and I'll send you the necessary information.

We've been busy revising the Nova Scotia Bird Society Field Checklist of Birds for our 50th Anniversary. It's going to be a little different. For one thing, we're using the new AOU checklist order, (45th supplement) which starts with Snow Goose! That'll take some getting used to. We've also segregated it into two sections – the first contains the birds regularly seen in the province; which takes up the first three pages; and the second contains the birds that are not so regularly seen. This list is on the back page. Most of you will use the first list almost exclusively. If you're lucky, you'll get to tick off quite a few from the second list! It should be available by June, so give it a try and let me know what you think.

I'd like to welcome Gary Hartlen, of Liverpool, and Murray Newell of Cape Sable Island as our first Area Representatives. If you live in either of those areas and want to renew your membership, or join for the first time, buy some checklists, pass along some comments or questions, go see Gary or Murray in person, or contact them by phone or E-mail:

Gary Hartlen; 80 Waterloo Street, Liverpool, 354-7250 or garych@eastlink.ca

Murray Newell; 1631 Highway #330, Clark's Harbour, 745-3340, dowitcher@eastlink.ca

I'd also like to welcome Hans Toom who has joined the Executive as a Director, replacing Terry Paquet who is taking a well-deserved break.

Happy Birding!

Suzanne M. Borkowski, (902) 445-2922, sborkowski@hfx.eastlink.ca



As mentioned in the last issue, this small goose among the larger Canadas at the Windsor sewage pond in autumn (here Oct. 3), was identified as a **CACKLING GOOSE** of the expected Richardson's subspecies (*Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii*). Its small size, stubby bill, and relatively short neck are all good features. Some of its Canada Goose companions appear to be of the duskier subspecies *B. canadensis interior*, which nests within the range of Richardson's Cackling Goose in eastern Nunavut. We can expect more of these small geese in future, as their populations are increasing. [Photo Richard Stern]



The Weather for the Winter of 2004-2005

By Larry Bogan

Climate Record from Atlantic Food & Horticulture Research Centre Kentville, N.S.

	Mean Temp (C)	Snow Fall (cm)	Total Precip (mm)	Bright Sunshine Hours
December	-2.5	78.5	109.5	70.2
(44 yr avg)	-2.2	55.5	126.9	59.8
January	-8.6	109.2	86.1	86.4
(44 yr avg)	-5.5	68.8	118	76.1
February	-4.6	8.6	41.5	104.7
(44 yr avg)	-5.3	60.1	98.7	101.3
Season	-5.3	196.3	237.1	261.3
(44 yr avg)	-4.3	184.4	343.6	237.2

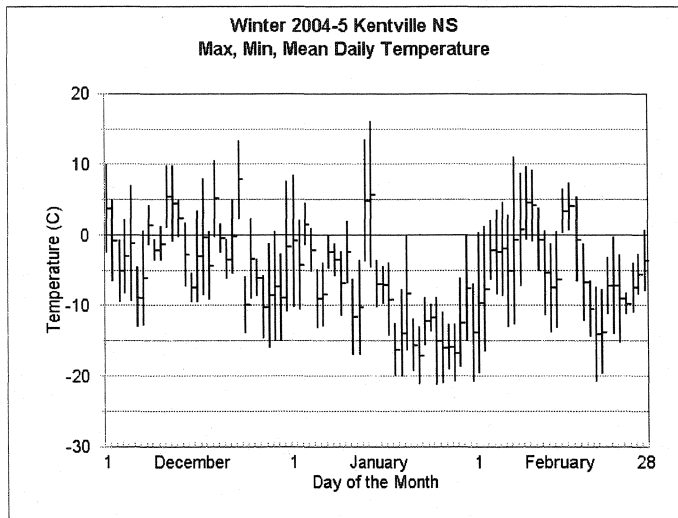
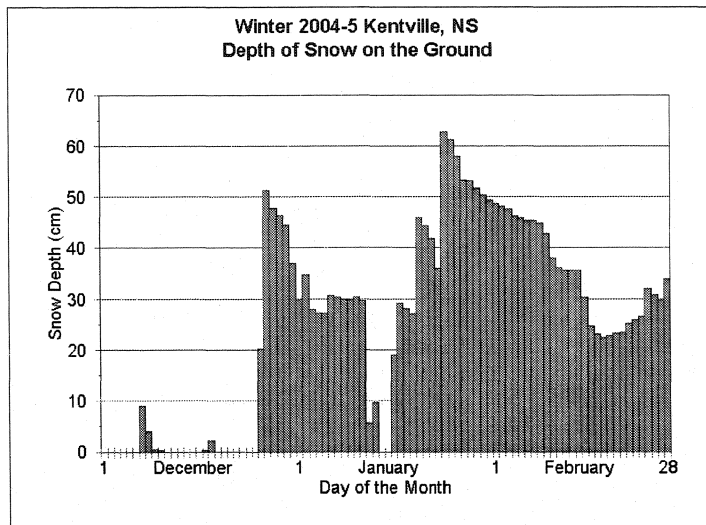
The winter of 2004-5 was not an unusual winter except for the snow fall pattern.

This last winter season was colder than average by 1.0° C, mostly due the very cold weather in January; a month that was a full 3.1° C below normal. December temperatures were about normal, while February was a bit warmer than normal. The graph of daily temperatures shows the ups and downs of the temperatures during the season. A normal progression would be a slow decrease in the temperature to the end of January then a slight rise toward the end of February. As you can see December temperatures did not drop much and early February had some unusually warm weather.

It seems as if we had a lot of precipitation during the winter, but the overall season total was about 2/3 of the long term average. There are two reasons for this, I think: the first half of the season never had more than 3 successive days without precipitation; and the precipitation was in the form of snow more so than usual. I think everyone remembers the week of January 16-24 when we had a metre of snow during three successive storms. That week is clearly shown on the graph of snow on the ground by the three sudden increases in snow depth. The snowfall for the season was about average but February was unusual in that it had only 1/7 of the expected amount. February also was very dry since it received only 4 cm of total precipitation, which helped to reduce the depth of snow on the ground.

It was a normal dreary winter, with cloudiness was only slight less severe than expected. I don't have a figure for the maximum possible bright sunshine hours but the rule of thumb is that the Nova Scotia winter skies are covered by clouds about 2/3 of the time. My solar home worked reasonably well this winter with the moderate increase in solar heating.

December and January were windier than average with monthly mean wind speeds over 10 kph, while February was better with mean speeds less than that. Interestingly, all three months experienced very windy days near the end of the month with windspeeds over 30 kph.



BOOK REVIEWS

The Bird Almanac
by David M. Bird
ISBN 1-55263-558-9
Key Porter Books Ltd. 2004

A massive amount of bird-related information! This book review could actually end right here. However, let me elaborate somewhat.

Information in this book is presented in three ways: line drawings (restricted to the anatomy chapter), tables/lists, as well as glossary-style entries. These are all appropriate and lead the reader to finding information rather quickly. There is both *birding* information and *ornithological* information (and a massive amount of overlap which is shared by both). A glossary of over 20 pages contains over 1000 terms – surely the word you're looking for must be there!

There are simply too many categories of information to give more than a smattering of examples here. Both traditional and genetically-based classifications of bird families are given, followed by the massive list of all known bird species. Significant people are listed in several tables, notably ornithological award recipients, world-class listers, Taverner Cup winners, bird artists and more. Bird watching clubs, ornithological societies, magazines and journals are listed from sources around the entire planet.

In comparison with Leahy's *The Birdwatcher's Companion*, a recent tome of similar intent, the *The Bird Almanac* comes out on top. The former is essentially all in dictionary format, and therefore lacks the comparative ease (or the ease of comparisons) of the thematically-organized, tabular format in *Almanac*. There are more in-depth definitions and descriptions in *Companion* (it is also a much bigger book), and the bibliography is better-organized, but I believe birders will much more *enjoy* flipping through *Almanac*.

Randy Lauff
St. Francis Xavier University
Antigonish, NS

Gulls of North America, Europe, and Asia
by Klaus Malling Olsen and Hans Larsson
Cloth, 2004, \$55.00, ISBN: 0-691-11997-X
544 pp., 938 color plates.

To a new birder, gulls are a challenge which never seems to end. This book is very well illustrated and helpful in determining the various ages and plumages of the gulls. It shows the specific variation and hybrid variations of all the gulls. It captures the shapes, and colours of the legs, back and bills. The book goes into great detail and has superb colour paintings and 800 clear photographs. It shows every major plumage from immature to third winter adult.

There are great maps of the birds' ranges and the populations trends are shown as well.

The book should be on every bird watcher's book shelves, but it is a bit pricey."

Clyde Stoddart

Shorebirds of North America: The Photographic Guide
Dennis Paulson, Princeton University Press 2005
ISBN 0-691-10274-9 (paperback, price varies between \$25 - 40 depending on source)

Shorebirds and Nova Scotia go together like lobster and melted butter, at least for me. Who is not stunned by the aerial display of huge sandpiper flocks over the Bay of Fundy in mid summer.

Shorebird identification can be challenging. There are many no-brainers like Oystercatchers, or Black-necked Stilts, and there are brain twisters like Semipalmated Sandpipers and Western Sandpipers. Even Yellowlegs can be hard to sort out if no size comparison is at hand. And all of them are long distant migrants, quite capable of flying long distance non-stop, which always leaves the chance to find an odd, out of place individual from the South or the East on our beaches, mudflats, and salt marshes.

For years *Shorebirds: An Identification Guide to the Waders of the World* by Peter Hayman, John Marchant, and Tony Prater was and still is the bible for shorebird identification. First published in 1986, it seems to be out of print now and is a bit hard to come by. Unbeatable in the field and as reference at home, it is sometimes a bit overwhelming with all the illustrated plumage variations and the often somewhat chaotic, mixed up arrangement of illustrations for two species in one plate. After all it covers the whole globe...

Now Dennis Paulson has authored a new photographic guide to the shorebirds of North America. In his guide, 94 species of shorebirds found on the continent are illustrated with over 530 excellent color photos. Each species has its own section, starting with written information on biology, identification features, and distribution (for strays from overseas when and where they were seen). This part is followed by several photos showing plumage variations etc. All photos are dated and list the location where the photo was taken. There are no distribution maps in this book, but I guess one can live without them, since they are found in regular field guides. The format of the book (species in individual chapters) limit the field guide value of the book, since side-by-side comparisons of similar species are difficult to make on the spot...lots of page flipping required. Field guides using illustrations assembled in plates have an edge here.

Paulson's book is more a reference for the second look after using the regular field guide to get a first grip on a bird. I think it makes a great addition to current field guide and the Hayman bible for everyone interested in shorebirds.

Ulli Hoeger

Nova Scotia Christmas Bird Counts 2004-2005

Edited By David Currie

For the third year in a row we've had a record number of Christmas Counts, 35 of them reporting results. There were 1325 observers (646 in field, 679 at feeders) tallying 160 species and over 250,000 individual birds. For the first time ever we had more people recruited to watch feeders during count day than we had people in the field. Despite more people counting and for the second straight year, both species seen and birds counted were lower than normal. To have any fewer birds, we have to look back to 1994 when 212,000 birds were counted by roughly half as many people!

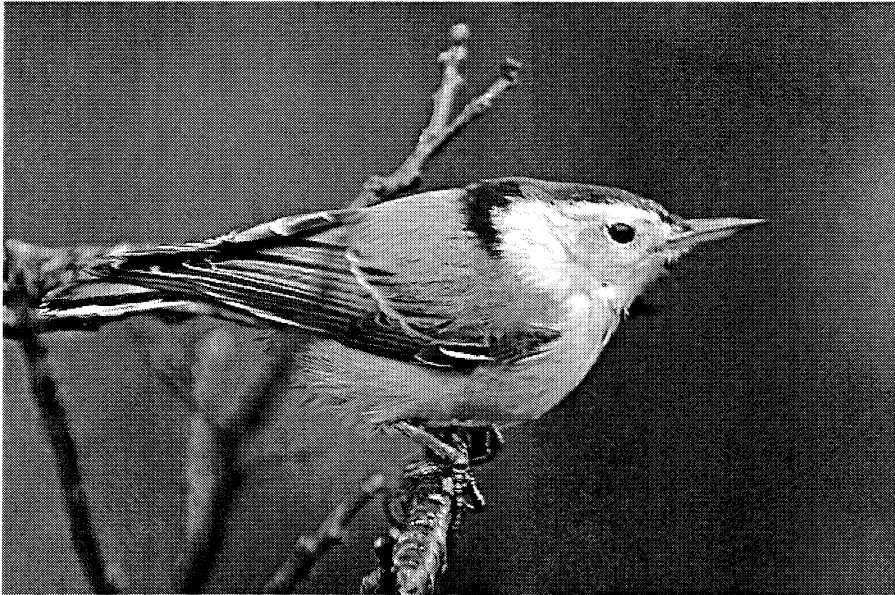
So, what were the results? Starlings were down about 13,000 in number representing the single most significant change. Herring Gulls and Great Black-backed Gulls continue to slide with the lowest number recorded since 1989. The chart below gives more examples comparing 2004 results with 10 year averages.

Woodpeckers did very well, with record numbers of both Red-bellied Woodpeckers (**47**) and Northern Flickers (**196**), and Hairy Woodpeckers, Downy Woodpeckers, Black-capped Chickadees, and Red-breasted Nuthatches were near record breaking numbers. Song Sparrows (**2,111** individuals) and American Goldfinch (**16,517**) were record high, possibly due to the greater number of feeder watchers participating this.

As usual we added species to our all-time list. A **Great Egret** was found at Cape Sable Island, a **Northern Parula** at Halifax/Dartmouth and a **Black-throated Green Warbler** was identified during the White Point CBC. Our all-time species list for Christmas Bird Counts in Nova Scotia now stands at 271. □

Species	Actual 2004	10 yr. Avg	Species	Actual 2004	10 yr Avg
European Starling	51035	64280	Blue Jay	5740	5653
American Crow	33446	39723	Common Eider	4977	6021
American Black Duck	12924	17109	D-eyed Junco	4919	6220
Herring Gull	21493	32618	G-Black Backed Gull	4526	10060
American Goldfinch	12924	17109	Mallard	3962	3164
Black-cap Chickadee	12190	10878	American Robin	3596	1789
Canada Goose	9030	11664	House Sparrow	3460	5910
Rock Pigeon	8759	8377	Pine Siskin	3407	1345
Greater Scaup	6034	4881	Purple Finch	2914	785
Mourning Dove	5791	6176	Common Goldeneye	2713	2614

Twenty most abundant species with corresponding last ten years' averages



WHITE-BREADED NUTHATCHES, like this one photographed at Coldbrook, *Kings*, Dec. 11 are less often seen perched in the normal songbird fashion. [Photo Richard Stern]

AMHERST, Dec 20; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -2 to 2C. Winds calm. Still water partly open, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, light to heavy snow. P.M. partly clear, light snow. 27 field observers in 10-15 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours 86.75 (43.5 on foot, 43.25 by car). Total party kilometres 620.5 (73 by foot, 547.5 by car).

American Black Duck 1; Common Merganser 60; Bald Eagle 15; Northern Harrier 13; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Red-tailed Hawk 7; Rough-legged Hawk 24; Merlin 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 76; Ruffed Grouse 11; Ring-billed Gull 11; Herring Gull 110; Iceland Gull 3; Glaucous Gull 3; Great Black-backed Gull 93; gull species 4; Rock Pigeon 453; Mourning Dove 325; Barred Owl 3; Downy Woodpecker 21; Hairy Woodpecker 14; Northern Flicker 3; Pileated Woodpecker 6; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 20; Blue Jay 174; American Crow 758; Common Raven 95; Black-capped Chickadee 629; Boreal Chickadee 5; Red-breasted Nuthatch 61; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Brown Creeper 3; **Marsh Wren 1**; Golden-crowned Kinglet 58; American Robin 40; European Starling 1103; Pine Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 89; Chipping Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 4; Dark-eyed Junco 39; Snow Bunting 5; Common Grackle 1; Purple Finch 18; White-winged Crossbill 144; Common Redpoll 31; Pine Siskin 15; American

Goldfinch 699; Evening Grosbeak 236; House Sparrow 33.

Total Species 50, about 5529 individuals. (CP. **Red-bellied Woodpecker**). Krista Baker, Sean Blaney, Doug Bliss, Zoe Bliss, Paul Bogaard, Evelyn Coates, Vicki Daley, Kevin Davidson, Jackie Davidson, Sheri Faulkner-Jackson, Margaret Ann Galbraith, Ross Galbraith, Ramsey Hart, Andrew Hicks, Jason Hudson, Andrew Kennedy, Colin MacKinnon, **Andrew MacFarlane (compiler)**, Colin MacFarlane, Keith McAloney, Julie Paquet, Luc Patterson, Harold Popma, Jocelyn Pringle, Al Smith, Jennifer Stewart, Kyle Wellband, John Wile.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, Dec 29; 9AM to 4PM. Temp. -5 to -10C. Wind N 10-25kmph. Snow 10cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies cloudy, light snow all day. 20 field observers in 8 parties, 49 at feeders. Total party hours 34 (21 on foot, 13 by car). Total party kilometres 196 (28 by foot, 168 by car).

Common Loon 8; Red-necked Grebe 1; cormorant species 5; **Turkey Vulture 1**; American Black Duck 472; Mallard 7; Greater Scaup 229; Common Eider 5; Surf Scoter 5, White-winged Scoter 154; Long-tailed Duck 41; Bufflehead 62; Common Goldeneye 6; Barrow's Goldeneye 16; Common Merganser 1;

Red-breasted Merganser 13; Bald Eagle 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 34; Ruffed Grouse 3; Ring-billed Gull 3; Herring Gull 445; Great Black-backed Gull 93; gull species 5; Common Murre 1; Razorbill 1; Black Guillemot 3; Rock Pigeon 126; Mourning Dove 239; Downy Woodpecker 33; Hairy Woodpecker 14; Pileated Woodpecker 6; Blue Jay 325; American Crow 249; Common Raven 101; Black-capped Chickadee 399; Red-breasted Nuthatch 17; White-breasted Nuthatch 6; European Starling 406; **Eastern Towhee 1**; American Tree Sparrow 27; Fox Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 34; White-throated Sparrow 23; **White-crowned Sparrow 2**; Dark-eyed Junco 70; sparrow species 18; Northern Cardinal 13; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Purple Finch 63; Pine Siskin 26; American Goldfinch 564; Evening Grosbeak 33; House Sparrow 18.

Total Species 54, about 4444 individuals. (CP. Barred Owl, **Red-bellied Woodpecker**, Spruce Grouse, American Robin, Common Redpoll). Wanda Auld, Susan Baltzer, Bob Bennett, Shelagh Bestany, Betty Burrell, Shirley Burrell, Joan Chalmers, Anne Comeau, Jerri Costa, Kaye Cox, Judy Creelman, Len Creelman, Ann D'eon, Henry D'eon, Graham Dalton, Peter Davies, Valerie Davies, Ruth Denton, Paula Dodaro, Rebecca Ellis, Robert Ellis, Barb Fancy, Leota Feener, Fred Fletcher, Geraldine Frail, Olive Graham, Margaret Hall, Michelle Hall, Joan Hamilton, Layton Hamilton, Joan Harris, Sharon Hawboldt, Erna Henshaw, Frances Higgs, Philip Higgs, Dick Holt, Wayne Hubley, Cliff Jones, Ginny Langley, Jean Pierre Lebel, Corinne Leek, Abby Marshall, Alex Marshall, Barbara McArthur, Jeff McCormick, Jane McDowell, Lorna McLagan, Wayne Morgan, Valerie Mount, Marian Mullen, Gini Proulx, Liza Proulx, Valerie Richards, Andi Rierden, Ryan Scranton, Mick Scromeda, Barb Selig, Myrtle Selig, Joan Stanley, Ross Stanley, Jack Thorburn, **David Tinker (compiler)**, Sheila Tinker, Wendell Trimper, Alice White, Karl White, Joyce Wilson, Roger Wilson, Myrtle Wright.

ANTIGONISH, Dec 19; 7:30AM to 4:15PM. Temp. 2 to 11C. Snow 0-3cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, light rain. P.M. cloudy, heavy rain. 16 field observers in 7-8 parties and 9 at feeders. Total party hours 34 (11.75 by foot, 359 by car). Total party kilometres 374 (15 by foot, 22.3 by car).

Red-throated Loon 2; Common Loon 3; Horned Grebe 2; Northern Gannet 34; Canada Goose 561; American Black Duck 499; Mallard 56; American Black Duck/Mallard Hybrid 3; Northern Pintail 9; Lesser Scaup 1; Common Eider 6; Surf Scoter 4; White-winged Scoter 3; Common Goldeneye 234; Barrow's Goldeneye 1; Common Merganser 314; Red-breasted Merganser 40; merganser species 400; duck species 8; Bald Eagle 32; Northern Harrier 3; Red-tailed Hawk 4; hawk species 1; Ruffed Grouse 6; Black-headed Gull 42; Bonaparte's Gull 82; Ring-billed Gull 40; Herring Gull 841; Iceland Gull 3; Great Black-backed Gull 44; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; gull species 136; Rock Pigeon 375; Mourning Dove 137; Belted Kingfisher 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 2**; Downy Woodpecker 5; Pileated Woodpecker 1; woodpecker species 1; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 132; American Crow 559; Common Raven 12; Black-capped Chickadee 232; Boreal Chickadee 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch 11; Golden-crowned Kinglet 47; American Robin 153; European Starling 54; Cedar Waxwing 2; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; **Eastern Towhee 1**; American Tree Sparrow 8; Savannah Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 26; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 17; Dark-eyed Junco 200; sparrow species 2; Snow Bunting 5; Pine Grosbeak 8; Purple Finch 203; White-winged Crossbill 36; Pine Siskin 111; American Goldfinch 310; finch species 138; Evening Grosbeak 57; House Sparrow 65.

Total Species 60, about 6339 individuals. (CP. Hooded Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker). Bob Bancroft, Anne Beck, Martha Brown, Leslie Buckland-Nicks, Stephen Bushell, Anne Camozzi, David Garbary, Emma Grell, Helen Hayne, Leslie Klapstein, Carol Lamey, Oona Landry, **Randy Lauff (compiler)**, Grace

MacKay, Harriet MacMillan, Bill Marshall, Paul McClung, Jean McGee, Ken McKenna, **Kerstin Mueller (compiler)**, Marilyn O'Brien, Mark Pulsifer, Frank Randall, Norm Seymour, Bunny Smith, Roth Wehrell.

APPLE RIVER, Dec 29; 8:00AM to 5PM. Temp. 0 to 1C. Wind SW 30-50kmph. Snow 25cm. Still water frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, light to heavy rain or snow. P.M. Partly clear. 7 field observers in 4 parties, 2 at feeders, .25 hours owling. Total party hours 20.25 (9.5 on foot, 11 by car). Total party kilometres 108.5 (8.5 by foot, 100 by car)

Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 1; Horned Grebe 1; American Black Duck 601; Mallard 2; Long-tailed Duck 14; Red-breasted Merganser 3; Bald Eagle 3; Northern Harrier 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Merlin 1; Ruffed Grouse 2; Herring Gull 57; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 4; Mourning Dove 27; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Northern Flicker 2; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 29; American Crow 93; Common Raven 15; Horned Lark 1; Black-capped Chickadee 72; Boreal Chickadee 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet 2; American Robin 1; European Starling 50; American Tree Sparrow 20; Song Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 5; Snow Bunting 40; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Common Grackle 31; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Purple Finch 5; American Goldfinch 58; House Sparrow 6.

Total Species 41, about 1177 individuals. (CP. Canada Goose, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Shrike, Evening Grosbeak). Sapphire Brine, Jane Fletcher, Keith Galbraith, Ross Galbraith, Andrew MacFarlane, Maureen Mills, Luc Patterson, Cynthia Spicer, **Kathleen F. Spicer (compiler)**.

BADDECK, Dec 19; 8AM to 4PM. Temp. -5 to -1C. Wind NW 5kmph. Snow 2cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. A.M. partly cloudy, light snow. P.M. clear. 5 field observers in 4 parties, 14 at feeders. Total party hours 15.5 (4 on foot, 11.5 by car). Total party kilometres 136.5 (18.5 on foot, 118 by car).

Common Loon 2; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Canada Goose 21; American Black Duck 30; Mallard 6; **Blue-winged Teal 1**; Common Goldeneye 55; Red-breasted Merganser 16; Bald Eagle 6; Ruffed Grouse 4; Herring Gull 3; Great Black-backed Gull 7; Mourning Dove 16; Downy Woodpecker 3; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Pileated Woodpecker 3; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 82; American Crow 70; Common Raven 9; Black-capped Chickadee 110; Boreal Chickadee 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; American Robin 125; European Starling 68; American Tree Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 5; Dark-eyed Junco 19; Pine Grosbeak 22; Purple Finch 48; White-winged Crossbill 2; American Goldfinch 172; Evening Grosbeak 24.

Total Species 31, about 1010 individuals. (CP. Red-tailed Hawk, Ring-billed Gull, Black-backed Woodpecker). Don Anderson, Angie Aucoin, Dan Banks, Mack Garland, Viola Garland, Margaret Hannam, James MacDonald, Marilyn MacDonald, Richard McCurdy, Jim Morrow, Burland Murphy, Ed Nicholson, Bonnie Nunn, **Bruce Nunn (compiler)**, Jim Smolennan, Melita Smolennan, Chuck Spiney, Marole Spiney, Lloyd Stone.

BARRINGTON BAY/CAPE SABLE ISLAND, Dec 18; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -7 to -1C. Wind NW 10kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies clear all day. 17 field observers in 9 parties, 2 hours and 4 km. owling. Total party hours 65 (33 on foot, 30 by car, 2 by boat). Total party kilometres 430.5 (85 by foot, 345.5 by car, 5 by boat).

Red-throated Loon 4; Common Loon 95; Horned Grebe 33; Red-necked Grebe 124; Northern Gannet 4; Double-crested Cormorant 14; Great Cormorant 210; Great Blue Heron 5; Great Egret 1; Canada Goose 633; Brant 7; Gadwall 1; American Wigeon 2; American Black Duck 328; Mallard 64; **Northern Shoveler 1**; Northern Pintail 9; Green-winged Teal 7; Greater Scaup 201; Lesser Scaup 5; Common Eider 851; Surf Scoter 11; White-winged Scoter

63; Black Scoter 36; Long-tailed Duck 88; Bufflehead 51; Common Goldeneye 22; Hooded Merganser 13; Common Merganser 7; Red-breasted Merganser 92; Northern Harrier 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Red-tailed Hawk 1; American Kestrel 1; hawk species 1; Ruffed Grouse 1; Purple Sandpiper 20; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 1377; Iceland Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 868; Black Guillemot 69; Rock Pigeon 28; Mourning Dove 229; Great Horned Owl 1; **Snowy Owl 2; Short-eared Owl 5**; Downy Woodpecker 4; Northern Flicker 13; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 102; American Crow 415; Common Raven 27; Horned Lark 30; Black-capped Chickadee 214; Boreal Chickadee 34; Red-breasted Nuthatch 40; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 27; American Robin 2; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 499; American Pipit 24; Orange-crowned Warbler 1; **Nashville Warbler 1**; Yellow-rumped Warbler 179; **Blackpoll Warbler 1**; Yellow-breasted Chat 1; American Tree Sparrow 11; Chipping Sparrow 3; Savannah Sparrow 8; Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow 1; **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow 1**; Song Sparrow 112; **Lincoln's Sparrow 1**; Swamp Sparrow 45; White-throated Sparrow 218; Dark-eyed Junco 29; Northern Cardinal 8; Common Grackle 3; Purple Finch 21; American Goldfinch 108; House Sparrow 17.

Total Species 81, about 7797 individuals. (CP. Black-bellied Plover, **Lesser Yellowlegs**, Red Knot, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, Dunlin, Common Snipe, **Mew (Common) Gull**, Glaucous Gull, Barred Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Baltimore Oriole). Terry Crowell, David Currie, Joan Czapalay, Raymond d'Entremont, Paul Gould, Patty Hudson, Michael Kieley, **Murray Newell (compiler)**, John Nickerson, Sandra Nickerson, Lillian Perry, Aileen Smith, Carolyn Smith, Betty June Smith, Sidney Smith, Wayne Smith, Clyde Stoddard.

BEDFORD/SACKVILLE, Dec 26; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -10 to -3C. Wind NW-NE 10-20. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. A.M. clear. P.M. partly cloudy. 29 field observers in 21 parties, 26 at

feeders. Total party hours 119.5 (71.5 on foot, 48 by car). Total party kilometres 554 (114.5 by foot, 439.5 by car).

Common Loon 3; Red-necked Grebe 1; American Black Duck 603; Mallard 57; Common Goldeneye 83; Hooded Merganser 44; Common Merganser 5; Red-breasted Merganser 18; duck species 6; Bald Eagle 6; Sharp-shinned Hawk 5; Red-tailed Hawk 7; Ring-necked Pheasant 1; Ruffed Grouse 5; Spruce Grouse 1; Ring-billed Gull 39; Herring Gull 471; Great Black-backed Gull 18; Rock Pigeon 532; Mourning Dove 153; Downy Woodpecker 50; Hairy Woodpecker 18; Northern Flicker 3; Pileated Woodpecker 3; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 220; American Crow 6363; Common Raven 45; Black-capped Chickadee 689; Boreal Chickadee 13; Red-breasted Nuthatch 70; White-breasted Nuthatch 10; Brown Creeper 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet 87; American Robin 7; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 1346; Pine Warbler 2; Chipping Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 68; White-throated Sparrow 33; Dark-eyed Junco 408; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Pine Grosbeak 9; Purple Finch 95; Red Crossbill 9; White-winged Crossbill 13; Pine Siskin 177; American Goldfinch 828; Evening Grosbeak 15; House Sparrow 187.

Total Species 50, about 12837 individuals. Bill Billington, Eileen Billington, Leszek Borkowski, Suzanne Borkowski, Yvette Buckley, Bev Bursey, Glenn Bursey, Marilyn Challis, Garth Chalmers, Joyce Chalmers, Margaret Clark, June Crookshank, Charles Cron, Lois Codling, Jamie Crosby, Daisy Dauphinee, Larry Eisenaur, Jean Hartley, Elliot Hayes, Judi Hayes, Andy Horn, David Hughes, Janey Hughes, Shirley Hughes, Rita Kinney Carol Klar, Fulton Lavender, Tracy Lutz-Noel, Donald MacLaughlin, Colonel MacLellan, Carol MacNeill, Don MacNeill, Andrew McDonald, Bob McDonald Wendy McDonald, Chris McDonald, Ian McLaren, Bernice Moores, Judy O'Brien, Allen Owen, Terry Paquett, Glorena Patterson, **Rich Peckham (Compiler)**, Joe Pitzel, Walter Regan, Helga Samsom, Azor Vienneau, Joan Waldron.

BIG POND/ESKASONI, Dec 26; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -7 to -4C. Wind NW 2-15kmph. Snow cover 2cm. Still water frozen, moving water open. A.M. clear. P.M. Partly cloudy. 26 field observers in 8 parties, 4 at feeders, 3 hours and 25km owling. Total party hours 37 (13 on foot, 24 by car). Total party kilometres 255 (18 by foot, 237 by car).

Common Loon 18; Red-necked Grebe 1; Canada Goose 1; American Black Duck 91; Mallard 2; White-winged Scoter 53; Long-tailed Duck 31; Common Goldeneye 92; Common Merganser 51; Red-breasted Merganser 238; Bald Eagle 14; Northern Harrier 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 6; Ruffed Grouse 5; Black-headed Gull 1; Bonaparte's Gull 63; Ring-billed Gull 3; Herring Gull 132; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 19; Rock Pigeon 9; Mourning Dove 11; Belted Kingfisher 2; Downy Woodpecker 13; Hairy Woodpecker 8; Northern Flicker 3; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Northern Shrike 2; Gray Jay 11; Blue Jay 188; American Crow 203; Common Raven 27; Black-capped Chickadee 305; Boreal Chickadee 33; Red-breasted Nuthatch 17; Golden-crowned Kinglet 48; American Robin 511; European Starling 69; Bohemian Waxwing 15; Cedar Waxwing 41; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 2; Savannah Sparrow 6; Song Sparrow 26; White-throated Sparrow 8; Dark-eyed Junco 104; sparrow species 1; Snow Bunting 7; Common Grackle 1; Pine Grosbeak 6; Purple Finch 206; White-winged Crossbill 113; Common Redpoll 1; Pine Siskin 690; American Goldfinch 858; Evening Grosbeak 43; House Sparrow 71.

Total Species 57, about 4491 individuals. Tom Ayers, Samantha Ayers-Glassey, George Ball, Terry Boone, Donald Campbell, George Digout, Sharon Digout, Joe Donovan, Barbara Glassey, Tony Hajjar, Dave Harris, Dennis MacDonald, George MacInnis, John MacInnis, Alanna MacNeil, Duncan MacNeil, **Jack MacNeil (compiler)**, Dave McCorquodale, John McKay, Weldon McPhail, Colin Murchison, Laurie Murchison, Bernard Murphy, Allan Murrant, Cathy Murrant, Pat Nelder,

Christine Thompson, Joe Wickens, Melvin White.

BRIDGETOWN, Dec 28; 8:30AM to 4PM. Temp. -9 to -14C. Wind W 16kmph. Snow 8cm. Still water frozen, moving partly frozen. Skies partly cloudy, light snow all day. 5 field observers in 3 parties, 39 at feeders. Total party hours 12 (1.5 on foot, 10.5 by car). Total party kilometres 132 (7 by foot, 125 by car).

Common Loon 1; Canada Goose 28; Common Eider 49; White-winged Scoter 30; scoter species 264; Long-tailed Duck 20; Common Goldeneye 1; Red-breasted Merganser 9; Bald Eagle 5; Red-tailed Hawk 5; Rough-legged Hawk 1; hawk species 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 10; Ruffed Grouse 6; Herring Gull 219; Great Black-backed Gull 3; Rock Pigeon 104; Mourning Dove 285; Barred Owl 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 2; Downy Woodpecker 26; Hairy Woodpecker 18; Northern Flicker 4; Blue Jay 165; American Crow 311; Common Raven 106; Black-capped Chickadee 330; Red-breasted Nuthatch 11; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; American Robin 3; European Starling 505; American Tree Sparrow 24; Chipping Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 24; White-throated Sparrow 13; Dark-eyed Junco 51; sparrow species 29; Snow Bunting 1; Northern Cardinal 6; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Pine Grosbeak 1; Purple Finch 73; Pine Siskin 52; American Goldfinch 834; Evening Grosbeak 35; House Sparrow 38.

Total Species 44, about 3713 individuals. (CP. American Woodcock, Baltimore Oriole). Thelma Bent, Joyce Burbridge, **David Colville (compiler)**, Justin Colville, David Cottenden, Jan Coulter, Vi Doucette, Marilyn Durling, Noel Durling, David Eisner, Murray Freeman, Marie Gaul, Bill Goucher, Rodney Halliday, Sharon Hawboldt, Steve Hawboldt, Marg Hirtle, Avora Howse, Donna Jones, Ron Jones, Rosaire MacNeil, Bob Maher, Bev Marshall, Fred Marshall, Hilda Messinger, Marg Messinger, Anne Parker, Doug Parker, Carl Phinney, Linda Phinney, Jean Smith, Jory Smith, Phyllis Spicer, Marg Taylor, Alberta Wade, Gladdie Weir, Jim Whitman,

Marion Whitman, Jane Wightman, Lib Woolaver, Faye Young.

BRIER ISLAND, Dec 14; 6:45AM to 5PM. Temp. 0 to 3C. Wind WNW 20-30kmph. No snow cover. Still water open, moving water open. A.M. Partly cloudy. P.M. Clear. 5 field observers in 4 parties, 5 at feeders. Total party hours 26.25 (23 on foot, 3.25 by car). Total party kilometres 108 (45 by foot, 63 by car).

Red-throated Loon 2; Common Loon 35; Horned Grebe 2; Red-necked Grebe 17; **Northern Fulmar** 2; Northern Gannet 43; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Great Cormorant 105; Great Blue Heron 2; **Turkey Vulture** 14; Canada Goose 2; Brant 3; American Black Duck 103; Mallard 11; Greater Scaup 2; Common Eider 151; Surf Scoter 4; White-winged Scoter 6; Black scoter 4; scoter species 2; Long-tailed Duck 22; Bufflehead 2; Common Goldeneye 45; Red-breasted Merganser 23; Ring-necked Pheasant 12; Ruffed Grouse 2; Purple Sandpiper 1; Bonaparte's Gull 2; Ring-billed Gull 8; Herring Gull 736; **Thayer's Gull** 1; Iceland Gull 38; Great Black-backed Gull 247; Black-legged Kittiwake 551; Razorbill 4; Black Guillemot 52; Atlantic Puffin 7; alcid species 21; Rock Pigeon 36; Mourning Dove 37; Blue Jay 20; American Crow 120; Common Raven 11; Black-capped Chickadee 63; Boreal Chickadee 3; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** 5; American Robin 2; European Starling 257; American Pipit 4; American Tree Sparrow 4; Savannah Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 12; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 8; Dark-eyed Junco 6; Snow Bunting 15; Northern Cardinal 1; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Common Grackle 55; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 33; House Sparrow 10.

Total Species 62, about 3002 individuals. (CP. Gyrfalcon, Peregrine Falcon, **Mew (Common) Gull**, Glaucous Gull, White-breasted Nuthatch, Purple Finch) George Garron, Louise Garron, Ian McLaren, Anne Mills, **Eric Mills (compiler)**, David Pugh, Sharon Pugh, June Swift, Jim Wolford.

BROAD COVE, Dec 30; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -14 to -2C. Wind NW 0-5kmph. Snow cover 0-20cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies clear all day. 27 field observers in 12 parties, 1 at feeders, 1 hour and 23 km owling. Total party hours 86 (52 on foot, 32 by car, 2 by boat). Total party kilometres 479.75 (61.75 by foot, 388 by car, 30 by boat).

Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 68; Pied-billed Grebe 1; Horned Grebe 57; Red-necked Grebe 6; Great Cormorant 17; Canada Goose 605; American Black Duck 357; Mallard 384; Green-winged Teal 1; Greater Scaup 400; Lesser Scaup 22; Common Eider 833; Surf Scoter 135; White-winged Scoter 10; Black Scoter 40; Long-tailed Duck 268; Bufflehead 68; Common Goldeneye 136; Hooded Merganser 67; Common Merganser 87; Red-breasted Merganser 309; Bald Eagle 9; Northern Harrier 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Red-tailed Hawk 5; Rough-legged Hawk 1; American Kestrel 1; Merlin 1; hawk species 2; Ring-necked Pheasant 6; Ruffed Grouse 9; Sanderling 1; Purple Sandpiper 1; Dunlin 7; shorebird species 1; Ring-billed Gull 27; Herring Gull 801; Iceland Gull 4; Great Black-backed Gull 97; Dovekie 55; Black Guillemot 60; Rock Pigeon 111; Mourning Dove 293; Great Horned Owl 2; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 22; Hairy Woodpecker 15; Northern Flicker 7; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 6; Blue Jay 359; American Crow 420; Common Raven 43; Black-capped Chickadee 538; Boreal Chickadee 15; Red-breasted Nuthatch 104; White-breasted Nuthatch 5; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 68; American Robin 9; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 477; Cedar Waxwing 3; Pine Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 35; Chipping Sparrow 3; **Field Sparrow** 1; Savannah Sparrow 1; Fox Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 271; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 216; Dark-eyed Junco 1011; Snow Bunting 1; Red-winged Blackbird 70; Common Grackle 1; Baltimore Oriole 1; Pine Grosbeak 4; Purple Finch 141; Red Crossbill 14; White-winged Crossbill 18; Pine Siskin 186; American Goldfinch 1011; Evening Grosbeak 26.

Total Species 83, about 10577 individuals. (CP. Black-headed Gull). Bruce Allen, Ruth Ballem, Lise Bell, Peter Bell, Kay Casselman, William Caudle, Shirley Cohrs, Eric Cooke, David Currie, Gillian Elliott, Jim Elliott, Donna Ensor, David Farner, **Sylvia Fullerton (compiler)**, Gary Hartlen, Janet Hartlen, James Hirtle, Blair Hodgman, Leslie MacDonald, Ian McLaren, Jamie McLaren, Nelson Melling, Anne Mills, Eric Mills, Eileen Morrison, Nellie Snyder, Clarence Stevens, David Walmark, David Young.

CALEDONIA, Dec 19; 7AM to 6PM. Temp. -5 to 5C. Wind SE 0-10kmph. Snow cover 5cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, heavy rain. P.M. partly cloudy, foggy, light rain. 16 field observers in 10 parties, 17 at feeders. Total party hours 61 (12.25 on foot, 48.75 by car). Total party kilometres 110.3 (28 by foot, 82.3 by car).

American Black Duck 35; Mallard 18; Green-winged Teal 8; duck species 2; Bald Eagle 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; **Broad-winged Hawk 1**; **Gray Partridge 5**; Ruffed Grouse 18; Rock Pigeon 26; Mourning Dove 36; Barred Owl 3; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Hairy Woodpecker 5; Jay 61; American Crow 27; Common Raven 12; Black-capped Chickadee 290; Red-breasted Nuthatch 35; White-breasted Nuthatch 13; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 9; American Robin 1; European Starling 19; American Tree Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 10; Snow Bunting 13; Purple Finch 27; Red Crossbill 6; Pine Siskin 59; American Goldfinch 156; Evening Grosbeak 108.

Total Species 31, about 1010 individuals. Colleen Anderson, Remi Brisson, Pat Canning, Judy Cole, Rod Ford, Myra Holdright, Lorraine Hope, Peter Hope, **Peggy Hopper (compiler)**, Steve Hopper, Jackie Jorissen, Amanda Lavers, Lesley Lewis, Blaine Mailman, Julie Meisner, Barb Rogers, Terji Rogers, Jonathon Sheppard, Sheila Sheppard, Tom Sheppard, David Small. **CANSO**, Jan 3; 8:30AM to 5PM. Temp. 2 to 6C. Winds SSW 5-10kmph. No snow 25cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. cloudy, light

snow. P.M. partly cloudy, light rain. 7 field observers in 3 parties, 4 at feeders. Total party hours 30.25 (9.5 on foot, 16.75 by car). Total party kilometres 170.5 (15.5 by foot, 155 by car).

Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 24; Horned Grebe 2; Red-necked Grebe 7; Northern Gannet 1; Double-crested Cormorant 2; cormorant species 7; Canada Goose 6; American Black Duck 23; Mallard 1; Greater Scaup 26; Common Eider 160; Surf Scoter 7; White-winged Scoter 20; Black Scoter 3; scoter species 23; Long-tailed Duck 71; Bufflehead 2; Common Goldeneye 21; Red-breasted Merganser 159; duck species 34; Bald Eagle 3; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Merlin 1; Purple Sandpiper 40; American Woodcock 1; Bonaparte's Gull 1; Herring Gull 162; Iceland Gull 52; Glaucous Gull 3; Great Black-backed Gull 42; gull species 10; Dovekie 45; Razorbill 1; Black Guillemot 66; Rock Pigeon 51; Mourning Dove 39; **Red-headed Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 23; American Crow 230; Common Raven 22; Black-capped Chickadee 115; Boreal Chickadee 44; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 55; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1**; American Robin 587; European Starling 743; Cedar Waxwing 202; Palm Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 12; Song Sparrow 21; **Lincoln's Sparrow 1**; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 21; Dark-eyed Junco 66; sparrow species 1; Snow Bunting 1; **Dickcissel 4**; Pine Grosbeak 7; Purple Finch 22; White-winged Crossbill 2; Common Redpoll 1; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 164; House Sparrow 35.

Total Species 64, about 3511 individuals. (CP. Great Cormorant, Lesser Scaup, Barrow's Goldeneye, Red-tailed Hawk, **Greater Yellowlegs**, Black-headed Gull, Hairy Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Saw-whet Owl, Horned Lark, Northern Mockingbird, Baltimore Oriole, **Grasshopper Sparrow**, Evening Grosbeak) **Stephen Bushell (compiler)**, Terry Crane, Roseann Delorey, Harry Delorey, Bob Healy, Tom Kavanaugh, Randy Lauff, Fulton

Lavender, Clyde MacKenzie, Ken McKenna, Joe Murphy, Clarence Stevens, Grace Walsh, Joe Walsh.

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS, Dec 27; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -4 to -5.5C. Wind NNE 37-52. Snow cover 18cm. Still water frozen, moving water open. Cloud, snow all day. 11 field observers in 3 parties, 26 at feeders. Total party hours 7 (4 on foot, 3 by car). Total party kilometres 32 (6 by foot, 26 by car).

Canada Goose 32; Long-tailed Duck 11; Common Merganser 1; Bald Eagle 2; Ruffed Grouse 1; Purple Sandpiper 51; Herring Gull 6; Great Black-backed Gull 19; Black Guillemot 2; Rock Dove 18; Mourning Dove 4; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 63; American Crow 68; Black-capped Chickadee 78; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; American Robin 21; Cedar Waxwing 20; Song Sparrow 7; Dark-eyed Junco 65; Snow Bunting 5; Purple Finch 62; Common Redpoll 7; Pine Siskin 26; American Goldfinch 100; House Sparrow 2.

Total Species 27, about 678 individuals. (CP. American Black Duck, Mallard, Red-tailed Hawk, Spruce Grouse, Black-headed Gull, Iceland Gull, Dovekie, Belted Kingfisher, Pileated Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Pine Grosbeak). James Bridgland, Mary Daisley, Lisa Dixon, Margrit Gahlinger, John Gainer, Chris Gorey, Doug Jackson, Jeanette Jackson, **Sheldon Lambert (compiler)**, Brad Manley, Fritz McEvoy, Jessie McEvoy, Jim McEvoy, Ruth McLagan, Ann Marie Morrison, Freeman Morrison, Heather Morrison, Eric Muntz, John Parker, Cathy Pinto, Daniel Pinto, Mario Pinto, Mitchell Pinto, Sarah Reynolds, Tim Reynolds, Wendy Faye Siteman, Pauline Siteman, Elliott Siteman, Jim Siteman, Heather Wilson, Tom Wilson.

CHETICAMP, Dec 18; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. -5 to -2C. Wind WNW 20-40kmph. Snow cover 2cm. Still partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. partly cloudy. 9 field observers in 5 parties. 8 at feeders. Total party hours 18.25 (11 on

foot, 7.25 by car). Total party kilometres 147.9 (31 by foot, 116.9 by car).

Common Loon 1; Northern Gannet 5; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 6; cormorant species 1; American Black Duck 45; Lesser Scaup 15; Common Eider 3; Long-tailed Duck 3; Common Goldeneye 104; Common Merganser 17; Red-breasted Merganser 33; duck species 8; Bald Eagle 9; Ruffed Grouse 4; Herring Gull 27; Great Black-backed Gull 34; gull species 35; Black Guillemot 4; Mourning Dove 60; Downy Woodpecker 1; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 20; American Crow 109; Common Raven 7; Black-capped Chickadee 44; Boreal Chickadee 12; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; European Starling 377; American Tree Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 41; sparrow species 2; Snow Bunting 30; White-winged Crossbill 2; Pine Siskin 62; American Goldfinch 2.

Total Species 34, about 1135 individuals. (CP. Great Blue Heron, Spruce Grouse, Northern Flicker, House Sparrow). Alfred Aucoin, Heather Davis, Walker Davis, **Gordon Delaney (compiler)**, Laurette Deveau, Beatrice Deveau, J. Arthur Deveau, Marie-Jeannette Harris, Sheldon Lambert, Edna Poirier, Edmond Roach, Henri-Charles Roach, Justine Roach, Marie-Agnes Roach, Eileen Rickard, Jean Timmon.

ECONOMY, Dec 28; 7:45AM to 5:15PM. Temp. -16 to -9C. Wind W 15kmph. Snow cover 25cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies partly clear all day. 7 field observers in 5 parties, 5 at feeders, 2 hours and 10 km owling. Total party hours 34 (27.5 on foot, 6.5 by car). Total party kilometres 120 (30 by foot, 90 by car).

Red-throated Loon 1; American Black Duck 385; Mallard 4; Surf Scoter 13; White-winged Scoter 4; scoter species 30; Long-tailed Duck 1; Bufflehead 16; Common Goldeneye 1; Common Merganser 2; Red-breasted Merganser 2; Bald Eagle 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 3; **Peregrine Falcon** 1; Ruffed Grouse 13; Purple Sandpiper 1; Ring-billed Gull 42; Herring Gull

228; Great Black-backed Gull 7; Rock Pigeon 77; Mourning Dove 44; **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 1; Downy Woodpecker 9; Hairy Woodpecker 7; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 37; American Crow 66; Horned Lark 21; Black-capped Chickadee 149; Red-breasted Nuthatch 34; Golden-crowned Kinglet 22; American Robin 12; European Starling 136; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 88; Song Sparrow 17; White-throated Sparrow 6; Dark-eyed Junco 24; Snow Bunting 55; Baltimore Oriole 1; Purple Finch 11; White-winged Crossbill 96; Common Redpoll 13; Pine Siskin 40; American Goldfinch 239; Evening Grosbeak 24; House Sparrow 16.

Total Species 48 about 2010 individuals. Shannon Breen, Irene Cooke, Allison Corbett, Harold Corbett, Jean Corbett, Linda Corbett, Ken McKenna, Bob MacLaughlin, Brad MacLaughlin, Audrey McLellan, Edgar Spalding, **Fran Spalding (compiler)**.

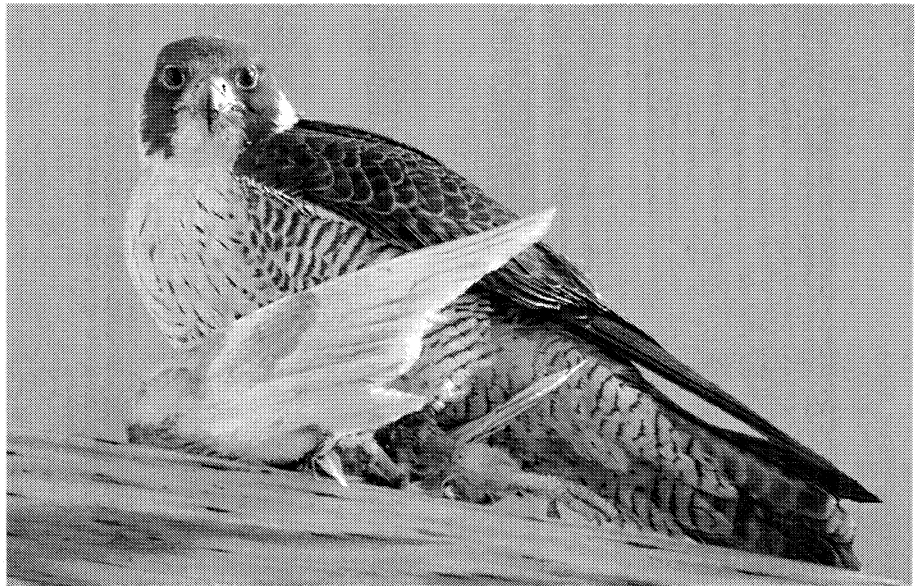
HALIFAX/DARTMOUTH, Dec 18; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -7 to -4C. Wind NW-E 6-17kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. clear. P.M. cloudy. 87 field observers in 42-48 parties, 67 at feeders, .25 hours owling. Total parties hours 253 (176 on foot, 72.5 by car, .5 by boat, 4 by bicycle). Total party kilometres 1775 (263 by foot, 1490.5 by car, .8 by boat, 21 by bicycle).

Red-throated Loon 4; Common Loon 6; Horned Grebe 4; Red-necked Grebe 3; **Northern Fulmar** 1; Northern Gannet 20; Double-crested Cormorant 10; Great Cormorant 96; Great Blue Heron 4; Canada Goose 3201; **Gadwall** 3; American Wigeon 114; American Black Duck 2551; Mallard 796; Northern Pintail 15; Green-winged Teal 2; Ring-necked Duck 8; Greater Scaup 212; Lesser Scaup 73; **King Eider** 1; Common Eider 1264; Surf Scoter 27; White-winged Scoter 9; Black Scoter 3; scoter species 50; Long-tailed Duck 183; Bufflehead 2; Common Goldeneye 130; Hooded Merganser 13; Common Merganser 111; Red-breasted Merganser 183; **Ruddy Duck** 1; **Osprey** 1; Bald Eagle 8; Northern

Harrier 3; Sharp-shinned Hawk 13; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Merlin 3; Peregrine Falcon 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 18; Ruffed Grouse 6; Spruce Grouse 1; American Coot 1; Purple Sandpiper 1; Black-headed Gull 148; Bonaparte's Gull 1; Ring-billed Gull 415; Herring Gull 4060; **Thayer's Gull** 1; Iceland Gull 170; **Lesser Black-backed Gull** 4; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 197; Black-legged Kittiwake 2; Common Murre 3; Razorbill 15; Black Guillemot 76; Atlantic Puffin 2; Rock Pigeon 2503; Mourning Dove 235; Northern Saw-whet Owl 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 11; Downy Woodpecker 94; Hairy Woodpecker 27; Black-backed Woodpecker 1; Northern Flicker 35; **vireo species** 1; Gray Jay 6; Blue Jay 560; American Crow 2029; Common Raven 87; Horned Lark 4; Black-capped Chickadee 1494; Boreal Chickadee 56; Red-breasted Nuthatch 96; White-breasted Nuthatch 16; Brown Creeper 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet 128; American Robin 58; **Gray Catbird** 1; Northern Mockingbird 3; European Starling 10256; Bohemian Waxwing 4; Cedar Waxwing 12; Orange-crowned Warbler 6; **Northern Parula** 1; Yellow-rumped Warbler 59; Pine Warbler 9; Palm Warbler 2; Yellow-breasted Chat 3; **Eastern Towhee** 2; American Tree Sparrow 47; Chipping Sparrow 4; **Field Sparrow** 2; Savannah Sparrow 5; Fox Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 609; Swamp Sparrow 8; White-throated Sparrow 197; White-crowned Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 486; Snow Bunting 5; Northern Cardinal 15; **Dickcissel** 2; Common Grackle 5; Baltimore Oriole 6; **Pine Grosbeak** 2; Purple Finch 131; House Finch 20; White-winged Crossbill 7; Common Redpoll 6; Pine Siskin 7; American Goldfinch 1423; Evening Grosbeak 3; House Sparrow 1012.

Total Species 115, about 36053 individuals. (CP. Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Brown-headed Cowbird, Red Crossbill). Darrell Adams, Gareth Akerman, Mary Alward, Marilyn Baker, Steve Barbour, Scott Barry, Leonard Biggs, Bill Billington, Eileen Billington, Richard Bone, **Suzanne Borkowski**, Earl Bradley, Jim Brown, Jake Bryant, Alice Buchanan, Bernard Burke, Mark

Butler, Andrea Caldwell, Beth Cameron, Lee Campbell, Pat Chambers, Gavin Charles, Tony Charles, Sarah Chisholm, Freeman Churchill, Marcia Coffey, Eileen Cooper, Margo Corkum, Alan Covert, Mary Jane Covert, Evelyn Cox, Margaret Cox, Joanne Creighton, Simon Creighton, Charles Cron, Gisele d'Entremont, Ron Dicks, Patricia Dodd, Ann Doull, Elizabeth Doull, Heather Drope, Martine Dufresne, Catherine Earley, Michael Eaton, Eric Eddy, Cheryl Edgett, Gerald Edsall, Gillian Elliott, Jim Elliott, Roger Evens, Wanetta Evans, Chris Field, Glen Flemming, Helen Fletcher, Bill Fraser, Phyllis Gardiner, Glen Gibson, Sherman Glazebrook, Fred Greig, Chris Hawkins, David Henry, Barbara Hinds, Dennis Hippen, Andy Horn, Marilyn Hourihan, Dave Huestis, Bill Hughes, Susan Hunt, Charlotte Hutchinson, Dorothy Jackson, Patricia James, Helen Jones, Margo Kaufman, Joan Keith, Elizabeth Kwindt, Henk Kwindt, Cindy Langer, Arnold Langille, **Fulton Lavender (compiler)**, Peter LeBlanc, Leslie Lee, Barbara Leedham, John Longaphy, Steve Lovitt, Joyce MacAskill, Alexander MacDonald, Larry MacDonald, Leslie MacDonald, Eva MacKay, Robert MacKay, Judy MacLean, Helen MacMillan, Don MacNeill, Chris Majka, Candace Malcolm, Karen March, Muriel Marryatt, Sue Mathers, Blake Maybank, Brenda McCabe, Bob McDonald, Mike McDonald, Nancy McDonald, Andrea McIvor, Pat McKay, Bernice McLaren, Ian McLaren, Mary McLaren, Bob Miller, Eric Mills, Judith Mills, Bernice Moores, Joanne Morris, Ann Morrison, Bob Morton, Maureen Nowlan, Judy O'Brien, Terry Paquet, Etta Parker, Judy Pask, Richard Peckham, Scott Pelton, Brigitte Petersmann, Martha Poirier, Joyce Purchase, Donna Rammo, Duncan Rand, Ian Rennie, Jen Rock, Gerald Rodgers, Doug Sherman, Angelica Silva, Gilbert Slaunwhite, Albert Sparks, Cindy Staicer, Clarence G. Stevens, Clarence Stevens, Sr., Angela Sykes, Hans Toom, Dick Vine, Joan Waldron, Bob Warrior, Dottie Welch, Ann Wetmore, Mel Whalen, Charles Widgery, Nancy Witherspoon, Rob Woods, Jeff Wright, Scott yetman, Lisa York, Marty Zelenietz.



The increase in PEREGRINE FALCONS in recent years, although exciting to behold, has led to possible conflicts. This wild beauty, photographed Feb. 29, was one of at least two around Halifax Harbour this winter. It developed a taste for small groups of white Rock Pigeons in the Dartmouth Cove area., and some wondered about the fate of the our wintering Ivory Gull. [Photo Cindy Creighton]

KINGSTON, Dec 18; 7:30AM to 5PM. Temp. -1 to -8C. Wind NW 1-5kmph. Snow 0.5cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. Skies partly clear all day. 11 field observers in 9 parties, 80 at feeders. Total party hours 47.5 (15.5 on foot, 32.25 by car). Total party kilometres 454.5 (31.5 by foot, 423 by car).

Common Loon 6; Horned Grebe 3; Red-necked Grebe 1; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Canada Goose 227; American Black Duck 166; Mallard 318; Common Eider 33; Surf Scoter 20; White-winged Scoter 5; Long-tailed Duck 6; Bald Eagle 11; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 22; Rough-legged Hawk 1; American Kestrel 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 16; Ruffed Grouse 8; Purple Sandpiper 8; Ring-billed Gull 3; Herring Gull 98; Great Black-backed Gull 2; Rock Pigeon 619; Mourning Dove 553; Great Horned Owl 1; Barred Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 67; Hairy Woodpecker 50; Northern Flicker 2; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Blue Jay 321; American Crow 831; Common Raven 208; Black-capped Chickadee 742; Boreal Chickadee 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch 51; White-breasted Nuthatch 65; Brown Creeper 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 20; American Robin 2; European Starling

2756; Cedar Waxwing 4; Yellow-breasted Chat 1; American Tree Sparrow 18; Fox Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 21; White-throated Sparrow 29; Dark-eyed Junco 129; Northern Cardinal 3; Brown-headed Cowbird 76; Baltimore Oriole 1; Purple Finch 30; House Finch 1; Common Redpoll 13; Pine Siskin 5; American Goldfinch 791; Evening Grosbeak 129; House Sparrow 42.

Total Species 60, about 8555 individuals. (CP. Common Grackle). Ron Baker, Sharon Baker, John Belbin, Marlene Brown, Ruth Brown, Edna Brunt, Ken Brunt, Bob Campbell, Karen Campbell, Patricia Chalmers, Tony Chaulk, Anna Clark, John Clark, Anna Clark, John Collins, Ken Crowell, Betty Cushing, Tom Cushing, Ella Dalton, Murray Decker, Gordon Delaney, Claire Diggins, Jean Dixon, Bob Foster, Paul Gertridge, Sheila Gertridge, Barbara Giffin, **Patrick Giffin (compiler)**, Mabel Green, Carole Gregory, Len Gregory, Mark Hamilton, Shirley Harris, Donna Hill, Ron Hill, Patricia House, John Hudgins, Marilyn Hudgins, Sheila Hulford, Mike Inkpen, Kathy Inkpen, Bob Kadjas, Andrea Leeson, Diane Legarde, Carol Long, Dave Ludlow, Jane Ludlow, Jim Ludlow, Tanya Ludlow, Pat MacDonald, Art MacIntosh, Judy MacKenzie, Mrs.

MacKenzie, Mary MacMillan, Patricai MacMillan, Tom Meers, Sandy Morrison, Evelena Mumenick, Phil Mumenick, Mary Osmond, Ron Osmond, Adora Parsons, Herb Parsons, Alice Patterson, Dan Patterson, Lilian Pullerin, Twila Robar-Decoste, Jim Robinson, Shirley Robinson, Helen Sharp, Herb Smale, Emily Stewart, Ralph Swinamer, Marilyn Swinamer, Barb Thompson, Jason Timpa, John Timpa, Shannon Timpa, Doris Tye, Jocelyn Verrault, Margot Walker, Mel Walker, Angus Weeks, Margaret Weeks, George Wells, June Wells, Audrey Wellwood, Jane White, Cecil Wile, Grace Wile.

LOUISBOURG, Dec 18; 6:45PM to 5:30PM. Temp. -5 to 6C. Wind NE 5-15kmph. Snow 0-1 cm. Still water partly open, moving water partly open. A.M. clear. P.M. partly cloudy. 29 field observers in 21 parties, 27 at feeders, 2.5 hours and 11 km owling. Total party hours 81.3 (64 on foot, 15.3 by car 2 by bicycle). Total party kilometres 202.5 (73 by foot, 114.5 by car 15 by bicycle).

Common Loon 15; Horned Grebe 9; Red-necked Grebe 15; grebe species 1; Great Cormorant 6; American Black Duck 38; Mallard 1; Northern Pintail 1; Common Eider **882**; Surf Scoter 4; White-winged Scoter 16; Black Scoter 6; Long-tailed Duck 200; Bufflehead 40; Common Goldeneye 30; Common Merganser 1; Red-breasted Merganser 65; duck species 1; Bald Eagle 6; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; buteo species 1; Merlin 1; Ruffed Grouse 30; grouse species 2; Purple Sandpiper 18; Herring Gull 121; Iceland Gull 11; Great Black-backed Gull 20; gull species 5; Dovekie 2; Black Guillemot 111; Rock Pigeon 1; Mourning Dove 101; Great Horned Owl 1; **Snowy Owl 1**; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 13; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Black-backed Woodpecker 1; Northern Flicker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 3; woodpecker species 1; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 25; Blue Jay 132; American Crow 258; Common Raven 38; Black-capped Chickadee 238; Boreal Chickadee 147; Red-breasted Nuthatch 13; Golden-crowned Kinglet 143; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; American Robin **156**; European Starling 394; Bohemian

Waxwing 8; Pine Warbler 1; Savannah Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 36; Swamp Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 64; Snow Bunting 24; Common Grackle 18; Pine Grosbeak 22; Purple Finch **425**; Red Crossbill 3; White-winged Crossbill 132; Common Redpoll 1; Pine Siskin **190**; American Goldfinch **555**; Evening Grosbeak 54; House Sparrow 116.

Total Species 66, about 4989 individuals. Victor Anderson, Jean Bagnell, Joseph Bagnell, Warren Bagnell, Brent Baker, Mary Lou Blundon, Melanie Blundon, Rob Boone, Theresa Boone, Bill Bussey, George Crowell, Billy Digout, George Digout, Ken Donovan, Lynn Ellis, Sheila Fudge, Tom Fudge, Dave Harris, Cyneth Hutt, Gordon Hutt, Glenda Kennedy, Harry Kennedy, John Lahey, Elizabeth LaLonde; Gerry LaLonde, Patsy MacDonald, John MacInnis, Louise MacLean, Brian MacLeod, Minnie MacLeod, Ramona MacLeod, Jack MacNeil, Viola MacPhail, Weldon MacPhail, Pearl Magee; Philip Magee, David McCorquodale, John McKay, Hugh Metcalfe Jr., Joan Mills, Florence Miron, **Susann Myers (compiler)**, Helen O'Shea, Terry Power, Lee Anne Reeves, Bev Sarty, Laura Saunders, Marmon Smith, Olive Spawn, Leta Trimm.

LUNENBURG, Jan 2; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. -8 to -3C. Wind NW 20kmph. Snow 15cm. Still water partly open, moving water partly frozen. Skies clear all day. 46 field observers in 11 parties, 17 at feeders, 1 hours and 10 km. owling. Total party hours 98.5 (52.75 on foot, 44.75 by car). Total party kilometres 472.2 (75 by foot, 387.2 by car).

Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 47; Horned Grebe 26; Red-necked Grebe 7; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 78; Great Blue Heron 1; Canada Goose 450; **Gadwall 1**; American Black Duck 227; Mallard 674; Northern Pintail 6; Green-winged Teal 7; Ring-necked Duck 1; Greater Scaup 90; Lesser Scaup 2; Common Eider 149; Black Scoter 1; White-winged Scoter 1; scoter species 2; Long-tailed Duck 362; Bufflehead 43; Common Goldeneye 515; Hooded Merganser 122; Common Merganser

109; Red-breasted Merganser 225; Bald Eagle 8; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 7; Red-tailed Hawk 5; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Merlin 2; Ring-necked Pheasant 61; Ruffed Grouse 2; Black-headed Gull 6; Bonaparte's Gull 15; Ring-billed Gull 14; Herring Gull 1288; Iceland Gull 5; Great Black-backed Gull 204; Black-legged Kittiwake 2; gull species 1; Dovekie 7; Black Guillemot 61; Rock Pigeon 159; Mourning Dove 378; Saw-whet Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 3**; **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 28; Hairy Woodpecker 16; Northern Flicker 4; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 213; American Crow 1031; Common Raven 36; Black-capped Chickadee 771; Boreal Chickadee 12; Red-breasted Nuthatch 86; White-breasted Nuthatch 11; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 21; American Robin 16; European Starling 608; Cedar Waxwing 9; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; Pine Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 25; Chipping Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 191; Swamp Sparrow 3; White-throated Sparrow 152; Dark-eyed Junco 364; sparrow species 13; Northern Cardinal 1; Common Grackle 1; Baltimore Oriole 1; Pine Grosbeak 1; Purple Finch 213; Red Crossbill 9; White-winged Crossbill 20; Common Redpoll 21; Pine Siskin 73; American Goldfinch 799; Evening Grosbeak 4; House Sparrow 25.

Total Species 84, about 10165 individuals. (CP. Red-winged Blackbird). Joyce Allen, Bill Billington, Eileen Billington, Edyth Burgess, Shirley Cohrs, Jill Comolli, Stephanie Daffey, Brian Delaney, Kelly Delaney, Bob Edey, David Farrar, Martha Farrar, Sylvia Fullerton, Marni Gent, Gary Hartlen, Janet Hartlen, **James R. Hirtle (compiler)**, Joanne Hubley, Sue Kashanski, Leslie Macdonald, Paul MacDonald, Gary Masey, Ron McClendran, Jean McKiel, Glo McNeil, Earl Meister, Val Meister, Anne Mills, Eric Mills, Pat Morrison, Sheevan Nelson, Laura Roblee, Ian Roseby, Steve Shewchuck, Clarence Stevens Sr., Harold Stevens, David Walmark, David Watson, Dottie Welch, Heather Weld, Robert Weld, Claudia Woelky, Rob Woods.

MARGAREE, Dec 17; 7:45AM to 4PM. Temp. -2 to 5C. Wind NW 3-20kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A. M. clear. P.M. Partly clear. 9 field observers in 4 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours 16 (6 on foot, 10 by car). Total party kilometres 116 (6 by foot, 110 by car).

Northern Gannet 3; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Canada Goose 7; American Black Duck 27; Common Eider 5; Common Goldeneye 60; Common Merganser 7; Red-breasted Merganser 16; Bald Eagle 15; Northern Harrier 4; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Ruffed Grouse 17; Herring Gull 16; Iceland Gull 3; Glaucous Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 17; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; Dovekie 1; Black-Guillemot 3; Rock Pigeon 26; Mourning Dove 2; Downy Woodpecker 1; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 5; Gray Jay 4; Blue Jay 65; American Crow 144; Common Raven 18; Black-capped Chickadee 44; Boreal Chickadee 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; Brown Creeper 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet 5; American Robin 625; European Starling 205; Bohemian Waxwing 35; Cedar Waxwing 130; **Eastern Towhee** 1; Fox Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 45; Baltimore Oriole 1; Pine Grosbeak 3; Purple Finch 12; Common Redpoll 2; Pine Siskin 46; American Goldfinch 38; Evening Grosbeak 9; House Sparrow 6.

Total Species 50, about 1696 individuals. Stephen Basker, Clifford Collins, Barry Fraser, Eunice Hart, **Frances Hart (compiler)**, David Ingraham, David Lawley, Verna MacMillan, Ian Sherman, Margo Timmons.

NORTHPORT, Dec 31; 8AM to 1PM. Temp. 8C. No wind. Snow cover 30-30cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. Clear all day. 2 field observers in 2 parties, 4 at feeders. Total party hours 5 (2 on foot, 3 by car). Total party kilometres 102 (2 by foot, 100 by car).

Common Goldeneye 7; Bald Eagle 2; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 1; Herring Gull 81; Iceland Gull 1147; Glaucous Gull 1; Great

Black-backed Gull 29; Rock Pigeon 48; Mourning Dove 12; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 16; American Crow 250; Black-capped Chickadee 32; European Starling 243; Song Sparrow 6; Swamp Sparrow 2; Snow Bunting 23; American Goldfinch 15; Evening Grosbeak 6.

Total Species 21, about 1925 individuals. Wendy Baumann, Walter Brander, James Dalton, June MacNeil, **Mary Jane MacNeil (compiler)**.

PICTOU HARBOUR, Jan 1; 7:30AM to 4:45PM. Temp. -1 to 8C. Wind SW 35-50kmph. Snow 0-20cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly frozen. A. M. cloudy, light to heavy rain. P.M. Partly clear, light rain. 21 field observers in 8-10 parties, 18 at feeders. Total party hours 55.75 (25 on foot, 30.75 by car). Total party kilometres 554 (35 by foot, 519 by car).

Common Loon 1; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 1; Great Blue Heron 1; Canada Goose 1536; Wood Duck 1; American Black Duck 1564; Mallard 68; American Black Duck/Mallard Hybrid 2; Greater Scaup 4744; Surf Scoter 8; White-winged Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 166; Bufflehead 8; Common Goldeneye 419; Barrow's Goldeneye 3; Hooded Merganser 16; Common Merganser 1337; Red-breasted Merganser 811; duck species 13; Bald Eagle 155; Northern Harrier 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 6; Northern Goshawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 9; Ring-necked Pheasant 1; Ruffed Grouse 3; Bonaparte's Gull 2; Ring-billed Gull 246; Herring Gull 2217; Iceland Gull 92; Glaucous Gull 4; Great Black-backed Gull 318; gull species 39; Rock Pigeon 208; Mourning Dove 113; Great Horned Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 5; **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 1; Downy Woodpecker 16; Hairy Woodpecker 13; Northern Flicker 18; Pileated Woodpecker 5; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 149; American Crow 1576; Common Raven 124; Black-capped Chickadee 304; Red-breasted Nuthatch 10; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 37; American Robin 463; European Starling 1263; Bohemian Waxwing 16; Yellow-rumped Warbler 4; Pine Warbler 2; American Tree

Sparrow 62; Fox Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 24; Swamp Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 2; **White-crowned Sparrow** 1; Dark-eyed Junco 260; sparrow species 3; **Rusty Blackbird** 1; Purple Finch 69; White-winged Crossbill 51; Common Redpoll 6; Pine Siskin 127; American Goldfinch 393; finch species 20; Evening Grosbeak 4; House Sparrow 227.

Total Species 69, about 19462 individuals. (CP. Northern Pintail, Gadwall, Common Eider, Merlin, Black-headed Gull, Northern Mockingbird, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird). Margie Beck, Harry Brennan, Jean Brennan, Cliff Bush, Tish Campbell, Pat Christensen, Bonnie Davidson, Rick Ferguson, Bob Heaney, Janet Hemphill, Elwin Hemphill, Ethan Huner, Charlie Kendell, Ann Lank, Randy Lauff, Jean MacDonald, Jean MacLeod, Duncan MacMaster, Harold Madore, Pat McCarron, Jane McCarthy, **Ken McKenna (compiler)**, Bernice Moores, Gary Murray, David Nowlan, Doreen O'Farrell, Dan Panting, Joan Panting, Shannon Queen, Doreen Snow, Henry Snow, Liz Stern, Richard Stern, Amber Vines, Steve Vines, Jennifer Whitehouse, Bob Whitman, Judy Whitman, Donnie Wright.

PORT L'HEBERT, Dec 26; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -5 to -1C. Wind NE 20-60kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. partly clear. P.M. cloudy. 14 field observers in 10 parties, 7 at feeders. Total party hours 40.25 (29 on foot, 11.25 by car). Total party kilometres 456.75 (55.25 by foot, 401 by car).

Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 28; Horned Grebe 6; Red-necked Grebe 6; Northern Gannet 4; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 105; Canada Goose 343; American Black Duck 317; Mallard 6; Greater Scaup 100; Common Eider 117; Harlequin Duck 24; Surf Scoter 2; White-winged Scoter 60; Black Scoter 45; Long-tailed Duck 60; Bufflehead 42; Common Goldeneye 7; Common Merganser 2; Red-breasted Merganser 41; duck species 55; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Ruffed Grouse 14; Sanderling 11; Dunlin 52; Herring Gull 382; Iceland

Gull 6; Glaucous Gull 6; Lesser Black-backed Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 69; gull species 30; Dovekie 2; Black Guillemot 9; Rock Pigeon 27; Mourning Dove 77; Downy Woodpecker 1; Northern Flicker 2; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 7; Blue Jay 56; American Crow 122; Common Raven 6; Black-capped Chickadee 97; Red-breasted Nuthatch 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet 11; American Robin 1; European Starling 186; Yellow-rumped Warbler 49; American Tree Sparrow 5; Song Sparrow 30; White-throated Sparrow 34; Dark-eyed Junco 32; sparrow species 3; Common Grackle 2; Purple Finch 17; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 91; House Sparrow 14.

Total Species 55, about 2834 individuals. (Great Blue Heron, Green-winged teal, American Kestrel, Wilson's Snipe, Black-headed Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull) Judy Bowers, Kay Casselman, Bill Crosby, Bryce Crosby, Chris Crosby, **Donna Crosby (compiler)**, David Farner, Frances Fisher, Ray Fisher, Dean Fiske, Sylvia Fullerton, Maggie Herff, Danny Mason, Laura Mason, Gerald Perrault, Susan Perrault, Linda Ross, Roger Ross, Robert Turner, Victor Wolfe, David Young.

ST. ANN'S BAY, Dec 14; 8AM to 3:00PM. Temp. -5 to -1C. Wind NW 0-10. Snow cover 0-2cm. Still water open, moving water open. A.M. partly cloudy., light snow. P.M. clear. 11 field observers in 6 parties, 4 at feeders. Total party hours 30 (8 on foot, 22 by car). Total party kilometres 78.2 (9 by foot, 69.2 by car).

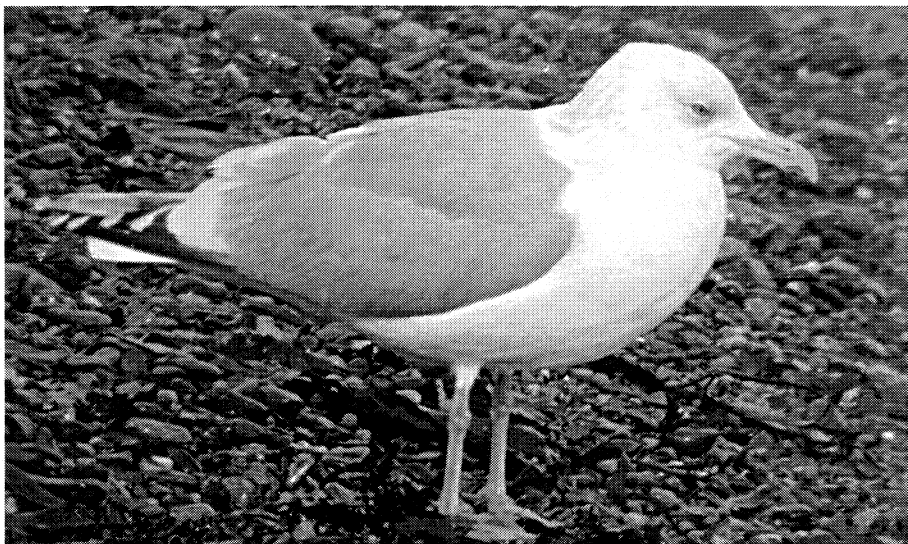
Common Loon 6; Horned Grebe 1; Red-necked Grebe 2; Great Cormorant 1; Canada Goose 22; American Black Duck 61; Mallard 2; Common Eider 3; Black Scoter 26; Surf Scoter 181; White-winged Scoter 164; Common Goldeneye 119; Red-breasted Merganser 17; Bald Eagle 17; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Ruffed Grouse 15; Ring-billed Gull 20; Herring Gull 105; Great Black-backed Gull 94; gull species 21; Black Guillemot 23; Rock Dove 28; Mourning Dove 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 3; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 4; Blue Jay 68; American Crow 84; Common Raven 10; Black-capped Chickadee 57; Boreal Chickadee 10; Golden-crowned Kinglet 10; American Robin 77; Cedar Waxwing 48; European Starling 11; Savannah Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 5; Dark-eyed Junco 22; Purple Finch 68; White-winged Crossbill 12; Pine Siskin 203; American Goldfinch 77; Evening Grosbeak 47.

Total Species 44, about 1751 individuals. (CP. Northern Gannet, Long-tailed Duck) Bev Brett, Jeannie Campbell, Diane Grant, **Bethsheila Kent (compiler)**, Floyd Kent, Denis Laffan, Judy Laffan, Jeanette MacDonald, Shirley Macdonald, Fenella Nicholson, Penny Steele, Marion Thompson, Gary Walsh, Jamie Wilson.

ST. PETER'S, Dec 29; 7:40AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -5 to 1C. Wind WNW 50kmph. Snow cover 10cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. cloudy, light rain/snow. P.M. partly cloudy. 9 field observers in 7 parties, 19 at feeders. Total party hours 30 (21 on foot, 9 by car). Total party kilometres 195 (14 by foot, 181 by car).

Common Loon 10; American Black Duck 43; Mallard 2; Greater Scaup 2; Common Eider 210; White-winged Scoter 20; Black Scoter 89; Long-tailed Duck 51; Common Goldeneye 73; Common Merganser 16; Red-breasted Merganser 47; Bald Eagle 4; Northern Goshawk 1; Merlin 1; Ruffed Grouse 11; **Killdeer** 1; Purple Sandpiper 42; Black-headed Gull 4; Bonaparte's Gull 29; Herring Gull 266; Iceland Gull 12; Great Black-backed Gull 28; Dovekie 97; Black Guillemot 5; alcid species 1; Rock Pigeon 42; Mourning Dove 64; Short-eared Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 3; Gray Jay 22; Blue Jay 56; American Crow 188; Common Raven 15; Horned Lark 1; Black-capped Chickadee 69; Boreal Chickadee 39; Red-breasted Nuthatch 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet 15; American Robin 6; European Starling 154; Common Yellowthroat 1; American Tree Sparrow 7; Chipping Sparrow 3; Savannah Sparrow 14; Song Sparrow 17; White-throated Sparrow 6; Dark-eyed Junco 108; sparrow species 3; Lapland Longspur 1; Snow Bunting 37; Pine Grosbeak 5; Purple Finch 104; White-winged Crossbill 104; Pine Siskin 185; American Goldfinch 380; Evening Grosbeak 35; House Sparrow 34.

Total Species 55, about 2789 individuals. (CP. Green-winged Teal, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Spruce Grouse, Common Murre, Baltimore Oriole) Norman Bartholomew, Tony Burke, Clifford Carter, **Billy Digout (complier)**, George Digout, Leonard Digout, Marg Digout,



This gull wintering at Glace Bay was a identified as **THAYER'S GULL** (possibly the same one found there last winter). Distinguishing "good" Thayer's from "Kumlien's Gull" has become a very disputatious subject among international birders. ("Kumlien's" is now generally viewed as a "hybrid swarm" that has developed from invasion by the Thayer's Gull of the breeding range of Iceland Gulls in eastern Nunavut during the past 100-odd years) This one seems as good as they get for Thayer's, with its very dark primaries, dark eye, and hefty bill. [Photo Cathy Murrant]

Murdock Digout, Sheila Digout, Stan Digout, Martha Holmes, Wendell Holmes, George Kyte, Dell Landry, Eva Landry, Gordie Landry, Elaine MacNeil, Weldon MacPhail, Tom Murray, Susann Myers, Frances Oram, Norman Oram, Jennie Shermerhorn, Donnie Sutherland, Annie Vanderhoeden, Mark Vanderhoeden, Leonard Whitty, Joseph Wincey.

SHUBENACADIE, Dec 19; 6:45AM to 4:45PM. Temp. 0 to 5C. Wind ENE 40kmph. Snow 0-2cm. Still water frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, heavy rain. P.M. foggy, light rain. 26 field observers in 18 parties, 32 at feeders, 1 hour and 3 km. owling. Total party hours 49.5 (11 on foot, 38.5 by car). Total party kilometres 316.25 (18.75 by foot, 297.5 by car).

Canada Goose 304; American Black Duck 76; Mallard 61; Hooded Merganser 3; Common Merganser 12; Bald Eagle 15; Sharp-shinned hawk 1; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Merlin 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 89; Ruffed Grouse 12; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 144; gull species 18; Rock Pigeon 243; Mourning Dove 175; Downy Woodpecker 19; Hairy Woodpecker 5; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 105; American Crow 539; Common Raven 140; Black-capped Chickadee 369; Boreal Chickadee 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch 15; Golden-crowned Kinglet 36; European Starling 2809; American Tree Sparrow 11; Song Sparrow 4; Dark-eyed Junco 38; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Purple Finch 28; White-winged Crossbill 21; Pine Siskin 3; American Goldfinch 544; Evening Grosbeak 36; House Sparrow 65.

Total Species 38, about 5951 individuals. (CP. Great Horned Owl, American Robin, Common Grackle). Barbara Aitken, Mark Anthony, Marilyn Babineau-Doucette, Mary Bancroft, Wylie Barbreck, Rob Cameron, Terry Carroll, Paul Ettinger, Brenda Grantmyre, Irene Isenor, Jean Isenor, Donnie Langille, Helen Langille, Anne MacDonald, Joan MacKay, **Roslyn MacPhee (compiler)**, Sharon MacPhee, Virginia Marshall, Elsie McCulloch, Linda McCulloch, Rollen McCulloch,

David Miller, Pat Moore, Juanita Murphy, Marguerite Newman, Brenda Norwich, Eldon Pace, Jacques Perron, Christine Queripel, Earl Reid, Nancy Reid, Roby Scammell, Barbara Scott, George Searle, Dale Smith, Catherine Spares, Connie Stott, Everett Tanner, Julie Towers, Faye Wallace, Roger Wardrope, Lorne Weaver, Arthur West, Myrna West, Bernice Williams, Frank Woodworth.

SPRINGVILLE, Dec 18; 7AM to 4:45PM. Temp. -8 to -4C. Wind NW 5-10kmph. Snow cover 1 cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. party clear. P.M. clear. 9 field observers in 5 parties, 27 at feeders, 2 hours and 26 km. owling. Total party hours 39.5 (16 on foot, 23.5 by car). Total party kilometres 508 (24 by foot, 484 by car).

American Black Duck 49; Mallard 4; Bald Eagle 14; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 7; Ring-necked Pheasant 3; Ruffed Grouse 22; Ring-billed Gull 3; Herring Gull 91; Iceland Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 23; Rock Pigeon 549; Mourning Dove 324; Great Horned Owl 2; Barred Owl 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 6**; Downy Woodpecker 36; Hairy Woodpecker 43; Northern Flicker 5; Pileated Woodpecker 6; Gray Jay 6; Blue Jay 221; American Crow 3967; Common Raven 158; Black-capped Chickadee 612; Boreal Chickadee 16; Red-breasted Nuthatch 96; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 131; American Robin 52; European Starling 2293; Pine Warbler 1; Palm Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 28; Chipping Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 12; Swamp Sparrow 9; White-throated Sparrow 11; Dark-eyed Junco 209; sparrow species 2; Red-winged Blackbird 3; Common Grackle 6; Brown-headed Cowbird 2; Pine Grosbeak 6; Purple Finch 51; White-winged Crossbill 247; Pine Siskin 600; American Goldfinch 502; Evening Grosbeak 74; House Sparrow 129.

Total Species 51, about 10642 individuals. (CP. Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Common Redpoll). Harry Brennan, Jean Brennan, Betty Calder, Frank Calder, Murry

Clish, Ed Cormier, Sonny Cyr, Lyla Dort, Rick Ferguson, Claire Foote, Ralph Foote, Doug Fraser, Mary Fraser, Amber Goodwin, Trudy Grant, Sylvia Grosskurth, Ethan Huner, Charlie Kendell, Sandy MacGregor, Eleanor MacKay, Malcolm MacLean, John MacKearney, Helen Melanson, Fraser MacLean, Jeanie McGee, Ken McKenna, Sally Polley, Rob Reid, Chris Robinson, Judy Schuhlein, Grant Stewart, Shirley Stewart, Donnie Uhren, Sue Uhren, **Steve Vines (compiler)**, Rita Young.

STRAIT OF CANSO, Dec 30; 8AM to 4:40PM. Temp. -8 to -6C. Winds W 13-15kmph. Snow cover 3cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies partly clear all day. 11 field observers in 7 parties, 11 at feeders. Total party hours 23.5 (10 on foot, 13.5 by car). Total party kilometres 181 (9.5 by foot, 171.5 by car).

Common Loon 9; loon species 1; Pied-billed Grebe 1; Great Cormorant 1; American Black Duck 38; Common Eider 85; Surf Scoter 1; White-winged Scoter 3; Black Scoter 2; Long-tailed Duck 21; Bufflehead 5; Common Goldeneye 50; Hooded Merganser 3; Common Merganser 11; Red-breasted Merganser 114; merganser species 11; duck species 2; Bald Eagle 24; Northern Harrier 1; red-tailed Hawk 1; Merlin 1; Ruffed Grouse 5; Black-headed Gull 2; Bonaparte's Gull 27; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 149; Iceland Gull 41; Great Black-backed Gull 30; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; gull species 50; Dovekie 6; Black Guillemot 21; Rock Pigeon 105; Mourning Dove 66; Belted Kingfisher 3; Downy Woodpecker 6; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 1; woodpecker species 1; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 63; American Crow 191; Common Raven 14; Black-capped Chickadee 105; Boreal Chickadee 15; Red-breasted Nuthatch 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet 14; American Robin 401; European Starling 240; Bohemian Waxwing 35; Cedar Waxwing 27; Pine Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 21; Song Sparrow 26; White-throated Sparrow 11; Dark-eyed Junco 105; sparrow species 7; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 15; Pine Grosbeak 13; Purple Finch 157; White-

winged Crossbill 102; Common Redpoll 1; Pine Siskin 71; American Goldfinch 448; finch species 65; Evening Grosbeak 113; House Sparrow 39.

Total Species 61, about 3210 individuals. (CP. Sharp-shinned Hawk, Northern Mockingbird) Maureen Demone, Billy Digout, George Digout, Freda Fifield, Lorena Forbrigger, Alana Hardiman, Mary Hemmings, Peter Hope, **David Johnston (compiler)**, Mary Johnston, Paul MacNamara, Weldon MacPhail, Trueman MacPherson, David McCorquodale, Adair Meagher, Kerstin Mueller, Frank Randall, Laura Swain, Betty Talbot.

SYDNEY'S, Dec 23; 7PM to 5PM. Temp. 0 to 5C. Winds S, 0-5kmph. Snow 5cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies cloudy, foggy all day. 43 field observers in 19 parties, 44 at feeders, 1 hour and 11 km. owling. Total party hours 82 (50.25 on foot, 31.75 by car). Total party kilometres 439 (52 by foot, 387 by car).

Common Loon 5; Red-necked Grebe 1; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 15; Canada Goose 7; **Gadwall 1**; American Black Duck 973; Mallard 287; American Black Duck/Mallard Hybrid 38; Northern Pintail 1; Green-winged Teal 1; Ring-necked Duck 2; Greater Scaup 24; Common Eider 1; Surf Scoter 3; White-winged Scoter 225; Black Scoter 4; Long-tailed Duck 81; Bufflehead 39; Common Goldeneye 421; Barrow's Goldeneye 9; Hooded Merganser 1; Red-breasted Merganser 52; Bald Eagle 12; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 6; Ruffed Grouse 3; Black-headed Gull 12; Bonaparte's Gull 9; Herring Gull 1587; Iceland Gull 430; Glaucous Gull 10; Great Black-backed Gull 320; gull species 9; Black Guillemot 10; Rock Pigeon 1024; Mourning Dove 147; Great Horned Owl 1; Snowy Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 4**; Downy Woodpecker 47; Hairy Woodpecker 21; Northern Flicker 7; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Gray Jay 5; Blue Jay 297; American Crow 1549; Common Raven 72; Black-capped Chickadee 600; Boreal Chickadee 17;

Red-breasted Nuthatch 15; Brown Creeper 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 47; American Robin 110; European Starling 3362; Bohemian Waxwing 107; Yellow-rumped Warbler 7; Pine Warbler 2; American Tree Sparrow 4; Song Sparrow 26; Dark-eyed Junco 97; sparrow species 7; Snow Bunting 59; Common Grackle 8; Baltimore Oriole 2; Pine Grosbeak 13; Purple Finch 337; White-winged Crossbill 77; Pine Siskin 313; American Goldfinch 1090; Evening Grosbeak 119; House Sparrow 291.

Total Species 72, about 14497 individuals. (CP. Northern Gannet, Common Redpoll). Kathleen Aikens, Charles Andrews, Jessie Andrews, Sam Ayers-Glassey, George Baillie, Dorothy Barnard, Mary Lou Blundon, Maureen Cameron-MacMillan, Pat Campbell, Judy Cartwright, Ed Clements, Don Courage, Rose Courage, Randy Davidson, George Digout, Ken Donovan, Bill English, Susan English, Jill Gardiner, Gwen Gardner, Tom Gardner, Betty Gentile, Paul Gillis, Barb Glassey, Muriel Goldston, Nancy Haley, David Harris, Bob Healey, Sharon Lannetti, Mark Jackson, Manny Keagan, Mrs. Keagan, Abbey Keeping, Lawrence Keeping, Sandra Lewis, Andrew MacDonald, Barbara MacDonald, Jim MacDonald, Miles MacDonald, Penny MacDonald, Walter MacDonald, Yvonne MacDonald, Paul MacDougall, Gordon MacFadden, Joan MacFadden, John W. MacInnis, Melisa MacIntyre, Lillian MacKeigan, Melanie MacLean, Allen MacLeod, Jack MacNeil, David McCorquodale, Eric McCorquodale, John McKay, Laura Mercer, Joan Mills, Jane Monaghan, John Monaghan, Jeannette Mulvihill, Rob Murphy, Susann Myers, Michael Novak, Anne O'Neill, Lisa Peters, Shelley Porter, Terry Power, Amelia Prestara, Pat Redmond, Bill Reeves, Mona Reeves, Emile Roach, Sean Roach, Pierre Sampson, Beverley Sarty, Scott Sawlor, Blair Shaw, Keith Sibley, Jim Siteman, Caryn Smith, Chris Thomson, Wanda Timmins, Meg Turner, Lydia Urban, Jack White, Darlene Whitty, Tim Whitty, Shawn Young, Albert Zwicker.

TRURO, Dec 29; 8AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -8 to -2C. Winds W 20kmph. Snow cover 35cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly frozen. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. Partly clear. 8 field observers in 5 parties, 11 at feeders. Total party hours 30.75 (7 on foot, 23.75 by car). Total party kilometres 346.5 (16.5 by foot, 330 by car).

Canada Goose 1; Wood Duck 1; **Gadwall 1**; American Black Duck 89; Mallard 379; Northern Pintail 2; Common Goldeneye 2; Bald Eagle 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Northern Goshawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 5; **Gray Partridge 19**; Ring-necked Pheasant 76; Ruffed Grouse 2; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 102; Great Black-backed Gull 7; Rock Pigeon 365; Mourning Dove 134; Belted Kingfisher 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1**; Downy Woodpecker 16; Hairy Woodpecker 10; Northern Flicker 2; Blue Jay 121; American Crow 6424; Horned Lark 15; Black-capped Chickadee 81; Red-breasted Nuthatch 12; White-breasted Nuthatch 5; European Starling 2037; **Eastern Towhee 1**; American Tree Sparrow 70; Song Sparrow 12; White-throated Sparrow 3; Dark-eyed Junco 159; Snow Bunting 33; Baltimore Oriole 1; Purple Finch 28; Common Redpoll 4; Pine Siskin 16; American Goldfinch 616; Evening Grosbeak 129; House Sparrow 85.

Total Species 44, about 11076 individuals. (CP. Green-winged Teal, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Raven, Brown Creeper). Emilie Grahon, Linda Hall, **Ross Hall (compiler)**, Joan Hudgins, Rip Irwin, Bernard Jackson, Marilyn Livingston, Bea MacCallum, Martha MacLaughlin, Marilyn MacWha, Glenn MacKinnon, John Rubin, Trish Rubin, Brian Russell, Millie Russell, Rose Selwyn-Smith, Harold Stewart, Sheila Stewart.

WEST HANTS, Jan 2; 8AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -4 to -10C. Wind NE 10-15kmph. Snow 2cm. Still water frozen, moving water open. Skies clear all day. 25 field observers in 12 parties, 3 at feeders, 2 hours and 20 kilometres owling. Total party hours 94 (35 on foot, 59 by car). Total party kilometres 685.5 (56.2 by foot, 629.3 by car).

Great Blue Heron 1; Canada Goose 46; American Black Duck 659; Mallard 37; Common Goldeneye 2; Common Merganser 102; Bald Eagle 23; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 8; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 27; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Merlin 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 108; Ruffed Grouse 4; Ring-billed Gull 85; Herring Gull 447; Great Black-backed Gull 63; Rock Pigeon 281; Mourning Dove 326; Barred Owl 2; **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 7; Downy Woodpecker 16; Hairy Woodpecker 11; Northern Flicker 10; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Northern Shrike 1; Blue Jay 356; American Crow 1127; Common Raven 118; Black-capped Chickadee 571; Boreal Chickadee 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch 24; White-breasted Nuthatch 13; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 29; American Robin 77; European Starling 3339; Cedar Waxwing 95 American Tree Sparrow 21; Chipping Sparrow 4; Song Sparrow 34; White-throated Sparrow 16; Dark-eyed Junco 142; Snow Bunting 1; Northern Cardinal 3; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Purple Finch 95; Red Crossbill 11; White-winged Crossbill 38; Common Redpoll 1; Pine Siskin 50; American Goldfinch 523; Evening Grosbeak 158; House Sparrow 393.

Total Species 55, about 9515 individuals. (CP. House Finch). **Gail Davis (compiler).** Participants names not available.

WHITE POINT, Dec 18; 8:05AM to 5:30PM. Temp. -12 to -8C. Wind 10-15kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies mostly clear all day. 5 field observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 16 (5 on foot, 11 by car). Total party kilometres 72 (6 by foot, 66 by car).

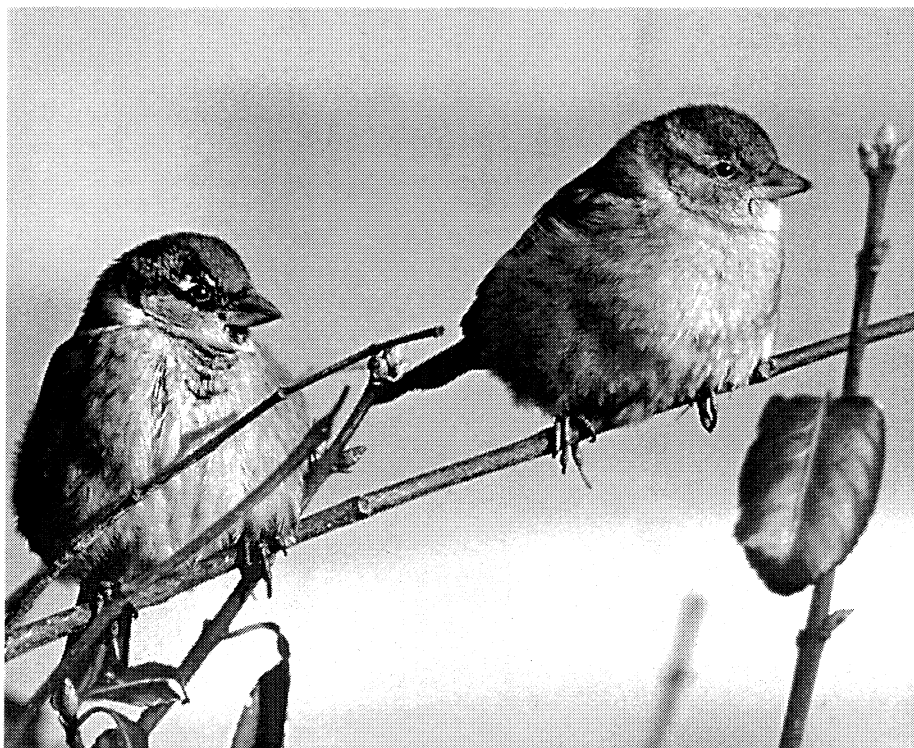
Common Loon 1; Horned Grebe 8; Red-necked Grebe 2; Great Cormorant 2; Northern Gannet 3; American Black Duck 96; Mallard 31; Green-winged Teal 10; Greater Scaup 2; Common Eider 127; Black Scoter 4; Long-tailed Duck 97; Bufflehead 18; Common Goldeneye 18; Common Merganser 11; Red-breasted Merganser 11; Bald Eagle 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Herring Gull 19; Great Black-backed Gull 11; Black Guillemot 4; Rock Pigeon 104; Mourning Dove 23; Downy Woodpecker 4; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Blue Jay 15; American Crow 74; Black-capped Chickadee 30; Red-breasted Nuthatch 19; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 1; Hermit

Thrush 1; European Starling 14; Cedar Waxwing 7; Bohemian Waxwing 5; **Black-throated Green Warbler** 1; American Tree Sparrow 11; Chipping Sparrow 8; Vesper Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 13; White-throated Sparrow 26; White-crowned Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 20; Snow Bunting 20; Purple Finch 9; Red Crossbill 3; American Goldfinch 88; Evening Grosbeak 9; House Sparrow 1.

Total Species 50, about 963 individuals. (CP Horned Lark, Baltimore Oriole). **David Farner, Eric Harding (compiler),** Gary Hartlen, Janet Hartlen, James Hirtle, Margie Millard.

WOLFVILLE, Dec 18; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. -7 to -4C. Wind NE 10-25kmph. No snow cover. Still water frozen, moving water frozen. Skies partly clear all day. 47 observers in 22 parties, 83 at feeders. Total party hours 149.4 (97.45 on foot, 50.95 by car, 1.5 by bicycle). Total party kilometres 841.4 (171.9 by foot, 659.5 by car, 10 by bicycle).

Great Blue Heron 9; Canada Goose 359; American Black Duck 2009; Mallard 452; Northern Pintail 2; Ring-necked Duck 2; Greater Scaup 2; scaup species 1; Common Eider 5; White-winged Scoter 4; Black Scoter 9; Common Goldeneye 1; Common Merganser 21; Bald Eagle 243; Northern Harrier 6; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 124; Rough-legged Hawk 4; Merlin 2; Ring-necked Pheasant 181; Ruffed Grouse 22; Ring-billed Gull 17; Herring Gull 3217; Iceland Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 999; gull species 260; Rock Pigeon 377; Mourning Dove 800; Barred Owl 2; Red-headed Woodpecker 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 7; Downy Woodpecker 12; Hairy Woodpecker 66; Northern Flicker 54; Pileated Woodpecker 20; **Eastern Phoebe** 1; Blue Jay 748; American Crow 2541; Common Raven 203; Horned Lark 73; Black-capped Chickadee 1328; Boreal Chickadee 13; Red-breasted Nuthatch 106; White-breasted Nuthatch 54; Brown Creeper 2; **Marsh Wren** 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 113; Hermit Thrush 1; American Robin 74; Northern Mockingbird 2; European Starling 13278; Cedar Waxwing 26; **Nashville**



This portrait of HOUSE SPARROWS was an entry in the 2005 PGNS/NSBS Slide Competition. [Photo Jennifer Fried]

Warbler 1; Pine Warbler 1; Palm Warbler 1; warbler species 1; American Tree Sparrow 81; Chipping Sparrow 13; Savannah Sparrow 40; Song Sparrow 367; Swamp Sparrow 5; White-throated Sparrow 73; Dark-eyed Junco 446; Snow Bunting 55; Northern Cardinal 3; **Rose-breasted Grosbeak 1;** Red-winged Blackbird 2; Common Grackle 1; Purple Finch 139; White-winged Crossbill 22; Common Redpoll 46; Pine Siskin 60; American Goldfinch 1679; Evening Grosbeak 60; House Sparrow 421.

Total Species 76, about 31554 individuals. (CP. American Wigeon, Lesser Scaup, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, **Eastern Towhee**, Fox Sparrow). Agar Adamson, George Alliston, Margaret Allison, Jim Amos, Diana Anderson, Peter Austin-Smith Jr., Diana Bishop, Sherman Boates, Larry Bogan, Soren Bondrup-Nielsen, Sharon Borden, Dennis Brannen, Carol Buckley, Ron Buckley, Nancy Burbidge, Scott Burbidge, Lana Churchill, Sandy Connelly, Chris Cox, Peggy Crawford, Graham Daborn, Debbie Daigle, Jim Daigle, Gail Davis, Pat Davis, Pat Dix, Betty Eaton, Mark Elderkin, Paul Elderkin, Wendy Elliott, Mary Ellis, Trina Fitzgerald, Val Flecknell, Bob Flecknell, Harold Forsyth, George Forsyth, George F. Forsyth, Bernard Forsythe, Hilma Frank, Glenys Gibson, Jamie Gibson, Merritt Gibson, Charlotte Harper, Eileen Harris, Sharon Harris, Lorna Hart, Avril Harwood, John Harwood, Pat Hawes, Heather Hennigar, Terry Hennigar, Gail Herbin, Tom Herman, Maxine Hill, Dennis Hippert, Marg Horne, Bob Horne, Isobel Horton, Winnie Horton, J. P. Huang, Lana Isenor, Dave Johnson, Patrick Kelly, Sandy Kempton, Del MacInnes, Clint (Mac) MacInnes, Angus MacLean, Stella MacLean, Janet

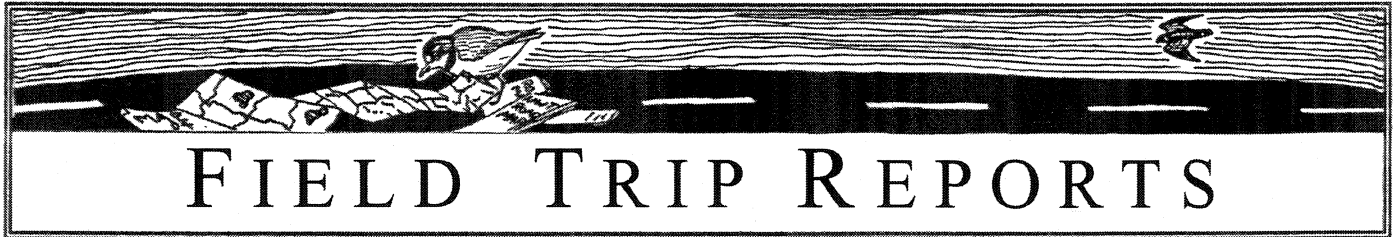
Macwha, Ron Margeson, Shirley Marston, Don Marston, Pat Martell, Jessie Martin, Rosaleen McDonald, Randy Milton, Terry Milton, Adel Mullie, Terry Murphy, Edna Mutch, Linda Nette, Andy Nette, Nancy Nickerson, Joe Nocera, Mike O'Brien, Mick O'Neill, **Ian Paterson (compiler)**, Linda Pearson, Terry Pearson, Dorothy Perkin, Mary Pratt, Ladny Richmond, Marg Russell, Barry Sabeen, Sarah Sabeen, Linda Sacouman, Ruth Scott, Helen Shaw, Dave Shutler, Steve Slipp, Peter C. Smith, Richard Stern, Elizabeth Stern, Sandy Stevens, Phil Taylor, Bill Thexton, Brenda Thexton, Bill Thexton, Chuck Thompson, Dianne Thorpe, Jean Timpa, Judy Tufts, Deanna Urban, Eva Urban, Lynn Walker, Gertrude Waseem, Tami Whiston, Mitch Whiston, Neil Whiston, Harry Whiston, Rick Whitman, Sherman Williams, Jim Wolford, Jean Wood, Barry Yoell, Betty Yoell.

YARMOUTH, Dec 19; 8AM to 5PM. Temp. 4 to 7C. Wind N 25kmph. No snow cover. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy, light to heavy rain. P.M. cloudy and foggy. 19 field observers in 8 parties, 14 at feeders. Total party hours 48.5 (9.5 on foot, 39 by car). Total party kilometres 694 (20 by foot, 674 by car).

Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 28; Red-necked Grebe 3; Double-crested Cormorant 4; Great Blue Heron 4; **Turkey Vulture 4;** Canada Goose 638; American Black Duck 368; Mallard 232; Green-winged Teal 2; Common Eider 38; Surf Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 20; Bufflehead 54; Common Goldeneye 74; Hooded Merganser 14; Common Merganser 2; Red-breasted Merganser 90; duck species 16; Northern Harrier 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Red-tailed Hawk 2;

American Kestrel 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 10; Ruffed Grouse 2; Black-headed Gull 11; Ring-billed Gull 53; Herring Gull 1488; Iceland Gull 23; Glaucous Gull 4; Great Black-backed Gull 500; gull species 8; Black Guillemot 1; Rock Pigeon 104; Mourning Dove 325; Great Horned Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; **Red-bellied Woodpecker 1;** Downy Woodpecker 13; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Northern Flicker 21; Blue Jay 178; American Crow 460; Common Raven 7; Horned Lark 4; Black-capped Chickadee 389; Boreal Chickadee 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch 10; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; American Robin 4; Northern Mockingbird 2; European Starling 1478; Yellow-rumped Warbler 49; Pine Warbler 1; Common Yellowthroat 1; American Tree Sparrow 26; Savannah Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 48; Swamp Sparrow 3; White-throated Sparrow 153; Dark-eyed Junco 46; Northern Cardinal 26; Red-winged Blackbird 37; Common Grackle 23; Brown-headed Cowbird 53; Baltimore Oriole 2; Purple Finch 6; House Finch 39; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 236; House Sparrow 62.

Total Species 70, about 7525 individuals. (CP. Yellow-breasted Chat). Martyn Bowler, Lori Colbeck, James Colbeck, Peter Comeau, Elsie Crosby, Raymond d'Entremont, Ted D'Eon, Marius Gerber, June Graves, Helen Hall, Hubert Hall, Fenton Henry, Jenny Hurlebert, Vivian Kennedy, Dale Mullen, Ethelda Murphy, Leah Murray, Thi Nhung Nguyn. Arthur Porter, Dick Pothier, Cindy Power, Marcie Rogers, **Barbara Ruff (compiler), Eric Ruff (compiler)**, Rachel Smith, Clark Sollows, John Sollows, Vera Sollows, Clyde Stoddart, Paulette Surette, Jim Thibeau, Dorothy Ward. □



Canso and Area

13 November 2004, Leaders: Steve Bushell and Tom Kavanaugh

We had a great turnout for the day despite the gloomy forecast. Ten birders took part in the excursion, from the valley, metro, Pictou, and Antigonish areas.

Here are just a few of the highlights: Dickcissels (four early in the morning, two while the gang looked over the feeders), White-winged Dove (good views by all at the feeders), a Pine Warbler, and an unidentified warbler which still needs further study. An adult Red-headed Woodpecker made an unexpected visit to feeders, and by the end of the day was spending a great deal of time storing seeds around the feeders and trees. This was a lifer, a new yard bird, and highlight to my day! Baltimore Oriole, Rough-Legged Hawk, Clay-coloured Sparrow, and Orange-crowned Warbler were further additions to the list. I probably missed some other good stuff but I personally didn't keep field notes. We had about 45 species for the day.

Some of the group left early; around 1330 hours (due to forecast concerns). A great day was had with even greater company. So good to put faces to the names. Thanks to all for the visit.

Tom Kavanaugh

Cape Sable Island

04 December 2004, Leader: Murray R. Newell

It was a nice day and we had a great bunch of birders, 16 in all. Some of the birds we found were: Snowy Owl, Baltimore Oriole, Horned Lark, American Wigeon, Red-throated and Common Loon. Our tally was 54 species. Thanks to all.

Sewer Stroll I

08 January 2005, Leader: Bob McDonald

Here are some of the highlights of the first NSBS 2005 winter sewer stroll.

Hartlen Point - Great Cormorant, Long-tailed Duck, Common Goldeneye, Common Eider, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Iceland Gull, Black Guillemot, Ring-necked Pheasant (flushed by Murray Newell), Savannah and Song Sparrow, Snow Buntings flying over, and, on Devils Island, Northern Harrier and Rough-legged Hawk.

Sullivan's Pond - Green-winged Teal, Gadwall, Northern Pintail, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, American Robin, Northern Cardinal.

Tufts Cove - Bufflehead, Black-headed Gull, American Wigeon, one female Barrow's Goldeneye and, seen by a few, one Ruby-crowned Kinglet. We were able to get through the locked gate by special permission, thanks to Suzanne Borkowski, and gain excellent views of the gulls and ducks from the point. The Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen along the trail to the point. Apparently, two Peregrine Falcons were seen by some just before the leader arrived! Bad timing!

Bedford Bay - 2 female and 4 male Barrow's Goldeneye.

At this point in the field trip, we received a phone call that the Ivory Gull had arrived at Sullivan's. Most of us proceeded back to the Pond to add this very special bird to the trip list.

Pier 9 gave us no additions to the list.

Chebucto Head - Common Loon, Dovekie (one fly-by), Purple Sandpiper (~50-60), Red-necked Grebe, Black Scoter, one lone Canada Goose swimming south as fast as it could go!

Tribune Head (Herring Cove) – Golden-crowned Kinglet, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Dovekie (1) and lots of Iceland Gulls.

At Hans Toom's feeder in Portuguese Cove, some were able to add Hairy Woodpecker, White-throated and Tree Sparrow and Dark-eyed Junco.

The last bird sighted for the day was one more Dovekie at Fergusons Cove.

The official trip list was 56 species, one more than last year. However, the very large group did tend to disperse at times and I have since heard of a number of other species observed during the day. These include Glaucous Gull at the sewer outflow at De Wolfe Park in Bedford, Thick-billed Murre in the Basin from Pier 9 and Razorbills at the end of Sandy Cove Road.

It was a superb day of birding - great company, wonderful weather and terrific birds! Can't wait for the next one.

Sewer Stroll II

19 February 2005, Leader: Fulton Lavender

Eight participants in four vehicles arrived by approximately 8:00 a.m. on a rather nippy morning at McCormacks Beach in Eastern Passage.


We found few highlights, except for the regular fare, as it turned out to be a quiet day for bird activity. By afternoon the wind was uncomfortably strong and the temperature down around the minus double digits! Despite these hindrances, we totaled a list of 54 species.

Some of the highlights included three Sharp-shinned Hawks, (one towing a freshly killed Cedar Waxwing), a large female Peregrine Falcon, five Thick-billed Murres, and Boreal Chickadees with a good selection of sparrows at Hans Toom's backyard "Bird Sanctuary" in Portuguese Cove. More importantly, the day's activities were hitch and glitch free!

See you on the Stroll next year! ▣



The very dark back, as dark as its head, and its blackish throat are features of the "Black-backed" AMERICAN ROBIN that nests most commonly in the Ungava Peninsula. This form, which is probably not a distinct, geographically defined subspecies (some blacked-backed birds even nest in Nova Scotia), is sometimes wrongly designated "Newfoundland Robin," but most birds from that island look like ours. This one, at Canso in late 2003, was quite unusual; most are seen here during spring and fall migration. [Photo Stephen Bushell]



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: sborkowski@hfx.eastlink.ca

Sat 21 May to Sun 12 June – 50th Anniversary Big Day Event!

Co-ordinator: Suzanne Borkowski 445-2922

E-mail: sborkowski@hfx.eastlink.ca

Pick your team; plan your route and register for this big-time fun event! Tally as many species as you can in 24 hours on the day of your choice between Saturday, May 21st and Sunday June 12th. ABA rules will apply. The winning team will be announced and have their picture in Nova Scotia Birds!

To register, send an e-mail to sborkowski@hfx.eastlink.ca; or send a letter to Suzanne Borkowski, 18 Parmbelle Lane, Halifax, N.S. B3M 1N3; or telephone (902) 445-2922.

Wed 25 May 2005 – The Fred Dobson Warbler Walk

Leader: Joan Waldron 477-4273

E-mail waldrojo@ns.sympatico.ca

Pre-registration is necessary!

Meet at 6:00 a.m. in the parking lot at the junction of Prospect Road (Rte#333) and St. Margaret's Bay Road in Halifax (Near Exit #2, Hwy #103). Duration: two to three hours. Waterproof footwear and fly repellent are recommended.

Thu 26 May 2005 – Regular Meeting

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

"Paternal Care and Paternity in Eastern Bluebirds" – Guest Speaker: Sue Meek

Sat 28 May 2005 – 50th Anniversary Historic Hants County Trip

Leader: Margaret Clark 443-3993

E-mail: themargs@ns.sympatico.ca

This is the longest running trip in the history of the Nova Scotia Bird Society! Meet at 8:00 a.m. in Mount Uniacke where the railroad tracks cross Hwy #1. Bring a lunch, to be enjoyed at Smiley Park.

Sun 29 May 2005 - Lewis Lake Warbler Walk

Leader: Hans Toom 868-1862 E-mail: htoom@hfx.eastlink.ca
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Meet at the main parking lot, Lewis lake Provincial Park. We'll walk the loop trail around Lewis and Round Lakes and then continue along the St. Margaret's Bay Trail to Hubley Mill Lake and back. No rain date.

Sat 04 June 2005 – Canso and Area

Leaders: Steve Bushell 366-2527, and Tom Kavanaugh 366-3476

E-mail: terri.crane@ns.sympatico.ca

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Chapel Gully Trail parking lot. Come down Main Street, turn right onto Union, pass the Marina and take the next right onto Wilmot. The parking lot is at the top of the hill. We will be walking a number of habitats from Jack Pine woods to the coastal barrens of Louse Harbour. Rain date: Sun, June 5th.

Sat 04 June 2005 - Kejimikujik Seaside Adjunct

Leaders: Gary C. Hartlen 354-7250 E-mail: garych@eastlink.ca and Peter Davies.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot for the Seaside Adjunct. Please be advised a small entrance fee is now being charged. Take Hwy #103 to exit #22 (unmarked) and drive approx six km down the St. Catherine's River Road to the Park. There are washroom facilities on site and coffee is available at the Port Joli General Store, one km past exit #22. We will be walking from the parking lot to the ocean where Piping Plover will be nesting. Expect warbler species in full breeding plumage and nesting shorebirds on the trail to the headland. Wear waterproof footwear, long pants (wood ticks abound at this time of year) and bring a lunch. No rain date.

Sun 05 June 2005 - Crystal Crescent Beach PP

Leader: Hans Toom 868-1862 E-mail: htoom@hfx.eastlink.ca
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Meet at the gates of Crystal Crescent Beach Provincial Park. We'll walk the coastal trail to Mackerel Cove and then go inland on the old wagon road. If time permits we'll do a warbler walk on the trails behind Portuguese Cove Lake and check out other hotspots on the Chebucto Peninsula. No rain date.

Sat 11 June 2005 – Conquerall Mills

Leader: James Hirtle 640-2173 E-mail: jrhbirder@hotmail.com

Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the dam area of the Petite Riviere, near the intersection of Conquerall Mills and the Crousetown Road. Turn left off Hwy #103 at the sign for Conquerall Mills, just past exit #14. Drive 3.5 km along this road. The dam will be on your left. We'll be exploring Fitch Road and Dagley Road along Publicover Lake, as well as Brown Branch Brook, Mount Pleasant and Hebb Mills. In the afternoon we can check out Station Road, Fauxburg, Long Hill and Oakland. Bring a lunch, sturdy footwear, socks that can be pulled up over pant legs (to discourage ticks) and sunblock.

Sat 11 June 2005 – Grand River, Cape Breton

Leader: Shirley Halliday 562-5698

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at 209 Grand River Road, East Grand River. This trip will include both lakeside and seashore birding.

Sat 18 June – Cumberland County

Leader: Clarence Stevens, Sr. 464-1664

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the entrance to Wentworth Provincial Park, Hwy #4, near the intersection of Rte#246. Take exit #11 off Hwy #104 and drive past Folly Mountain and Wentworth Valley. Park is on the left. We'll explore different habitats between Wentworth and Amherst, including Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary. Bring a lunch, boots and fly repellent. No rain date.

Sat 19 June 2005 – Shubenacadie

Leader: Rob Woods 261-2122 or

E-mail (preferred): rtrwoods@yahoo.com

Meet at 7:00 a.m. across the street from Millers restaurant (next to the Pharmasave) on HWY #2. Take the 102 to exit 9 (HWY 14) turn right towards Milford/Shubenacadie and turn left at the T intersection. There is an Esso station which may be open for coffee and washrooms. No rain date.

Fri 24 Jun to Sun 26 Jun 2005 – Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists Conference

The FNSN Conference and AGM will be held at Bible Hill (just outside Truro) at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Jenkins Hall. The theme is: "The Acadian Forest and its Conservation/Restoration. For more information contact: Claire Diggins, claire.diggins@hotmail.com or Pat Hawes, phawes@eastlink.ca

Sat 02 July 2005 – Cape Chignecto – Birds and Botany Walk

Leader: Joan Czapalay 348-2803

E-mail: joancz@ns.sympatico.ca

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the CCPP public parking lot in West Advocate. Bring a packed lunch, water, bug repellent and sunscreen. Wear sturdy sneakers or hiking boots. We will hike the hills and coastline to McGahey Brook where we will stop for lunch. The walk is moderate to difficult. No rain date.

Sat 09 July – Bird Islands

Leader: Maureen Cameron-MacMillan 727-2733

E-mail: maureen_cameron@excite.com

Pre-registration is Necessary!

Meet at 1:30 p.m. at Bird Island Tours parking lot, 1672 old route #5, Big Bras d'Or; for 1:30 boat tour. Maximum 28 people. Cost: \$27.00 + HST.

Sun 17 July 2005 – Wallace Bay

Leader: Paul MacDonald 627-2568

E-mail: paulrita2001@yahoo.com

Meet at the Wallace Wharf at 8:30 a.m. 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 30 July 2005 – Pictou County

Leader: Ken McKenna 752-7644 (home); 752-0044 (office).

E-mail: kenmcken@pchg.net

Meet shortly before 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot behind the Heather Motel in Stellarton at exit #24, Hwy #104. The group will leave promptly at 8:00 to tour some back roads of Pictou County. Look for lingering nesting birds as well as early shorebird migrants. Bring a lunch, bug spray and sturdy footwear, as some of the trails may be wet. No rain date.

Sat 06 Aug 2005 – Mahone Bay

Leader: James Hirtle 640-2173 E-mail: jrhbirder@hotmail.com

Meet at 8:00 a.m. across from the three churches in Mahone Bay. See a variety of habitats. Bring a lunch. The trip will conclude about 3:00 p.m. No rain date.

Sat 13 Aug 2005 – Taylor Head Provincial Park

Leader: Karl Tay 772-2287

E-mail: swallowhollow2972@hotmail.com

Meet at the main entrance to Taylor Head Provincial Park off Hwy 7, Eastern Shore, at 8:45 a.m. 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 Sparrows, Gray Jays and more. It's beach, rocky and wooded terrain, so hiking boots and a hearty lunch are recommended. No rain date.

Sat 20 Aug 2005 – Point Michaud, Cape Breton

Leaders: George and Sharon Digout 535-3516

E-mail: george.digout@ns.sympatico.ca and

Billy Digout 535-2513

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Tim Horton's in St. Peters, Cape Breton. It's a good idea to wear boots if it is rainy. Lunch at George and Sharon Digout's home. Rain date: Sun 21 Aug.

Sun 28 Aug 2005 - Cherry Hill Beach

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

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Cherry Hill firehall, 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 late August) and occasionally vagrant herons and gulls. No rain date.

Sat 10 Sep 2005 – Hartlen Point

Leader: Fulton Lavender 455-4966

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Hartlen Point. We'll spend several hours exploring the back cove, the marshes and the shoreline looking for fall migrants. Unusual vagrants have been spotted here at this time of year. Bring rubber boots and a lunch.
Rain date: Sunday, 11 September.

Sat 17 Sep 2005 – Eastern Shore

Leader: Peter Richard 463-5612

E-mail: Prichard@ns.sympatico.ca

Meet at 8:00 a.m. in Lower East Chezzetcook at the end of Storey's Head Road. Take Exit #21, Hwy #107 (East Chezzetcook Road). Keep going on this road and turn right after the pavement ends. This trip will cover the common birding hot spots from Lower East Chezzetcook to Dartmouth. Please plan to carpool as much as possible since many of the stops have a limited parking area. No rain date.

Fri 23 Sep 2005 – Cape Breton Chapter and NSBS 50th Anniversary Meeting - Sydney N.S.

Royal Bank Lecture Theatre, Cape Breton University, 7:30 p.m.
"The Birds of Bird Islands" – Guest Speaker: Dave McCorquodale

Please note: there will be no meeting in Halifax at the Museum of Natural History on Thursday 22 September.

Sat 24 Sep 2005 – Schooner Pond and Morien Bar

Leader: Maureen Cameron-MacMillan 727-2733

E-mail: maureen_cameron@excite.com

Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the Cape Breton University parking lot in front of the Great Hall.

Fri 30 Sep to Sun 02 Oct 2005 – Brier Island

Leaders: James Hirtle 640-2173

E-mail: jrhbirder@hotmail.com and

Fulton Lavender 455-4966

Join James on Saturday and Fulton on Sunday for a tour of Brier Island's hotspots. Mariner Cruises will be offering a whale & seabird cruise with Carl Haycock on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. There will be owling on both Friday and Saturday evenings. For info on accommodations contact Suzanne Borkowski at 445-2922 or sborkowski@hfx.eastlink.ca

Thu 20 Oct to Sun 22 Oct 2005 - Society of Canadian Ornithologists Conference

Delta Halifax, 1990 Barrington St., Halifax, N.S.

As luck would have it, Nova Scotia hosts ornithologists from across the Nation in the very year we celebrate our 50th anniversary. Saturday morning features a symposium on Citizen Science, hosted by Bird Studies Canada and open to BSC and NSBS members. Stay tuned for announcements and check for details at: <http://www.sco-soc.ca/meetings.html> □

Cape Breton Birders' Upcoming Events Schedule, 2005

- Late May:** Field Trip, Owls. Details to be announced.
Leaders: Barc Cunningham (564-6063) and John W. MacInnis (539-6451)
- Saturday, June 11:** Field trip, Grand River lakeside and seashore birding.
Leader: Shirley Halliday (562-5698)
Meet at 8:00 am at 209 Grand River Road, East Grand River.
- Saturday, July 9:** Field trip, Bird Islands.
Leader: Maureen Cameron-MacMillan (727-2733)
Meet at 1:00 pm at Bird Island Tours parking lot for 1:30 boat tour. Maximum 28 people.
Cost: \$27.00 plus HST
- Saturday, August 20:** Field trip, Point Michaud
Leader: Billy Digout (535-2513) and George Digout (535-3516)
- Friday, September 23:** NSBS 50th Anniversary Meeting, details to be announced
- Saturday, September 24:** Field Trip, Schooner Pond and Morien Bar, details to be announced
- October:** Meeting and field Trip in Cheticamp, details to be announced
- November:** Field Trip, Canso Causeway, details to be announced
Leader: Dave McCorquodale (794-2172)
- December:** Christmas Bird Counts, details to be announced

2004 Field Trip Leaders Recognized

Suzanne M. Borkowski – President, NSBS

We offered 43 fabulous field trips in 2004. Please join me in thanking the following leaders for organizing these terrific trips:

Sewer Stroll I
Cape Breton Seabirds
Sewer Stroll
Beginning Birders' Field Trip
Along the Fundy Shore
Baccaro & Blanche Peninsula
Martinique Beach
Wolfville Area
Cape Sable Island
Mersey Connector & Kaiser Meadow
The Fred Dobson Warbler Walk
Bon Portage Island
Conquerall Mills
Kejimikujik Seaside Adjunct
Belleisle Marsh
Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary
BLT Trail Walk
Canso and Area
Warbler Walk, Cape Breton
Chebucto Peninsula Bird Tour
Dawn Chorus on the Salt Marsh Trail
Cumberland County
Lewis Lake Warbler Walk
Eastern Shore
Cape Chignecto Birds & Botany Walk
Wallace Bay
Pictou County
Mahone Bay
Taylor Head Provincial Park
Point Michaud, Cape Breton
Cherry Hill Beach
The Hawk
Bon Portage Island
Yarmouth County
Hartlen Point
Shorebirds of Sydney Area
Sandy Lake, Tantallon
Eastern Shore
Brier Island Bonanza
Canso and Area
Antigonish Coastal Waters
Cape Sable Island
Metro "Hot Spot" Birding

Bob McDonald
Susann Myers
Fulton Lavender
Suzanne Borkowski
Richard Stern
Donna Ensor
Ian McLaren
Jim Wolford
Murray Newell
Eileen Billington, Bill Billington, Chris Field
Joan Waldron
Claire Diggins
James Hirtle
Gary Hartlen and Peter Davies
Sharon Hawboldt
Terry Paquet
Suzanne Borkowski
Steve Bushell
George and John W. MacInnis
Hans Toom
Cindy Staicer
Clarence Stevens, Sr.
Hans Toom
Bob Lindsay
Joan Czapalay
Paul MacDonald
Ken McKenna
James Hirtle
Karl Tay
George Digout, Sharon Digout, Billy Digout
Eric Mills
Murray Newell
Joan Czapalay
Murray Newell
Fulton Lavender
Susann Myers
Suzanne Borkowski
Peter Richard
James Hirtle, Terry Paquet, Fulton Lavender
Steve Bushell and Tom Kavanaugh
Randy Lauff
Murray Newell
Terry Paquet



The Murrants attracted a rare **TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE** at their Sandy Lake, CBRM, feeder this winter (here Jan. 31). This was not entirely a matter of luck, for they had prepared for such an event by keeping stocks of berries from their Mountain Ash in their freezer. [Photo Cathy Murrant]

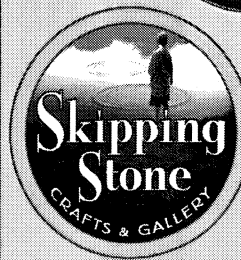


The lively **BROWN CREEPER** seldom gives photo opportunities, but this one posed nicely 12 Dec. in Dartmouth. [Photo Cindy Creighton]

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