A bitterly cold day didn't deter 73 participants, but it did limit the species count to 36 - the lowest since 1993. A further four species were recorded during the count period (December 15 - January 5). With COVID-19 still prevalent, most teams went out in convoy or individually.

Some of the most common species were present in unusually small numbers. Black-capped Chickadee count (456) was the lowest since 1997. Canada Goose was largely absent from the river. Their numbers were less than 10% of what is seen in an average year. Although Rock Pigeon were still abundant at 924, that was the lowest count since 1976. Red-breasted Nuthatch count (49) was the lowest since 1994.

Ron Jensen's count for Black-billed Magpie was easily the most surprising species count of the day. Over several hours in his sector he recorded only six magpies, but at the end of the day, in the hour or so before sunset he saw 768 magpies fly into the dog park at Sutherland Beach to roost for the night. The magpie count in all other sectors combined was 357. After some discussion about how many counts should be eliminated as probable duplicates, it was decided to to use the count at the roost site as a proxy for the entire city and add the counts for the five rural sectors in the southern half of the circle, for a total of 871.

The counts for Common Redpoll (1052) and Snow Bunting (350) were triple and double their 20-year averages. The Clark's Crossing and Pike lake counts were also high for these two species confirming a major irruption this year.

Species added during the count period (December 15 - January 5) were Northern Hawk Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Gyrfalcon and Townsend's Solitaire.

Thank you to all participants in the count. The Saskatoon Christmas count has been conducted continuously since 1955. Please join us next year for the 68th annual count.

Stan Shadick, Organizer
John Patterson, Compiler

C1	C2	C3a	C3b	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	NEa	NEb	NEc	NW	NWc	SEa	SEb	SEcd	SWa	SWb	Sector	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
15	15	12	8	10	7	13	10	9	13	11	13	15		13	17		19	18	12	Total Species - count day	35	44	38	39	42	42	44	42	39	41
																				Total Species - count period	5		5	2	1	1	2	2	2	5
6.0	3.9	4.9	1.5	3.3	2.0	2.9	4.5	3.2	3.3	5.5	6.0	12.5		8.3	4.7		7.6	8.1	4.1	Party Hours	92.2	172.8	93.5	93.5	96.0	88.8	95.1	95.0	100.8	98.3
9	7	7	4	2	1	8	4	2	4	4	1	7		6	2		2	3	3	Participants	73	99	77	61	69	80	81	93	93	117
																				BIRDS										
																				Cackling Goose						140				
				42														5		Canada Goose	47	186	1918	2100	776	680	175	18		1
127				55					2									2		Mallard	186	142	46	85	9	19	10	44	169	55
																				Redhead							-1			
																				Ring-necked Duck				2						
																				Lesser Scaup		1		5	2					
																				Harlequin Duck						-1	1			
28	3			33					25	23					7			102		Common Goldeneye	221	1032	721	178	121	1050	247	154	160	79
																				Hooded Merganser		2								
									1											Common Merganser	1									2
																				Ruffed Grouse					1					2
															8		6			Sharp-tailed Grouse	14	32	9	64	35	46	7	28	28	7
																				Gray Partridge		144			9		28	29		12
40	8	11		133			2	13	154	91	8	57		223	7		50	127		Rock Pigeon	924	2272	1410	2028	1314	1565	2486	2432	1962	1823
																	15			Eurasian Collared-Dove	15	32	40	40	30	30	21	12	10	5
																				Mourning Dove							1	2	5	1
																				Turkey Vulture										-1
		1																		Hawk sp.	1			1	1					
																		1		Accipiter sp.	1									
						1														Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	3	1	-1	2	3			1	-2
																				Northern Goshawk		3						4	2	-1
1	1									1										Bald Eagle	3	3			-1		2	1	-1	
																				Rough-legged Hawk					1	1	-1			
											1									Great Horned Owl	1	1	-1	2	1	4	3		3	3
																				Snowy Owl							2	-1		
																				Northern Hawk Owl	-1								1	-1
																				Northern Saw-whet Owl	-1	1	-1							
																				Woodpecker sp.					1		2	2	1	
																				American Three-toed Woodpecker			-1	1						
																				Black-backed Woodpecker			-1							1
2										1										Picoides sp.	3	1								
2	3	2	1	1		4	3		2		3	9		2	2		12	4	5	Downy Woodpecker	55	65	47	44	51	36	48	31	50	44
							1		1		1	3			2		3	3	1	Hairy Woodpecker	15	20	17	21	21	14	17	14	18	16
															2		1			Pileated Woodpecker	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	2		
	1				2	2		1				2		2				2		Northern Flicker	12	22	10	16	12	17	8	16	22	24

C1	C2	C3a	C3b	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	NEa	NEb	NEc	NW	NWc	SEa	SEb	SEcd	SWa	SWb	Sector	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
														1						Merlin	1	4	1	2	5	7	3	2	6	5
																				Gyrfalcon	-1		1						1	
																				Northern Shrike			1	1	2	1	2		2	1
3	3	11	2		1	1				1		2		8	2		15	1		Blue Jay	50	160	69	102	96	54	47	82	170	60
12	28	19	1	21	4	21	17	9	16	31	768	16		9	22		68	50	13	Black-billed Magpie	871	726	411	476	368	432	289	402	567	399
						1						1							4	American Crow	6	7	4	4	3	3	13	12	10	1
3	2	2		2		2	2	1	5		7				91		12	97	37	Common Raven	263	499	174	128	234	196	341	365	431	357
22	26	38	6	19	16	8	27	16	13	8	21	44		27	13		76	37	39	Black-capped Chickadee	456	1178	729	800	744	852	728	848	942	747
																				Boreal Chickadee								1		
																				Horned Lark							2			
																				Golden-crowned Kinglet		1	-2		5	4	2		10	
1	3	9		5	1	5	5		2	1	1	8		5	1		2			Red-breasted Nuthatch	49	291	168	143	96	211	100	72	103	215
		2							1		2				1		2	3	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	12	29	17	24	16	17	10	17	16	4
	1											1								Brown Creeper	2	5	3		1	2	2	1		6
															6		16			European Starling	22	86	1	14	33	233	148	57	109	207
																				Townsend's Solitaire	-1		1				2	1		
																				Varied Thrush		1		1	1	1				1
																				Hermit Thrush		1								
						1														American Robin	1	8	3		10	10	37	3	34	2
310	421	72	50			2		22			88	45		96	185			420	259	Bohemian Waxwing	1970	852	476	270	397	460	1021	1130	173	2696
			4																	Cedar Waxwing	4			30		5	101		50	11
184	451	217	40	17	138	199	180	120	325	109	54	327		427	117		400	84	14	House Sparrow	3403	6292	3515	3379	2668	2512	1976	1861	2778	1617
										40										Finch sp.	40									
																		2	4	Pine Grosbeak	6	48	15		59	2	66	15	5	271
6	11	1				6	43	11	14	55	54	34		25	1		5	84		House Finch	350	468	213	353	454	323	525	409	480	492
																				Purple Finch			1		2			1	1	
																				Cassin's Finch								-1	1	
	13		5		15			60			1	2		4	11		76	74	791	Common Redpoll	1052	43	5	46	251	110	494	62	5	1060
																			2	Hoary Redpoll	2				4		10	1		8
																				Red Crossbill			36	7		10	137	1	7	98
																				White-winged Crossbill		132	6	1	12	255	115	24		559
11																				Pine Siskin	11	36	9	159	4	35		3		
																	2			American Goldfinch	2	2	3	1		3		11	9	2
																	350			Snow Bunting	350	66	56	5	3	200	22	31	396	31
							5			1		1		4			7			Dark-eyed Junco	18	10	2	19	3	14	7	18	9	21
																				White-crowned Sparrow										-1
																				Harris's Sparrow					2			2		
								-2												White-throated Sparrow	-2	2	1	2	1	1		2	3	2
																				Song Sparrow							1			1
																				Spotted Towhee				-1		1				
																				Brewer's Blackbird							1	3		
																				Common Grackle		2		1					-1	
																				Pine Warbler							1			

Saskatoon Bird and Mammal Count - Dec 27, 2021

C1	C2	C3a	C3b	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	NEa	NEb	NEc	NW	NWc	SEa	SEb	SEcd	SWa	SWb	Sector	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
752	975	385	109	328	177	253	285	253	561	362	1009	552		833	478		1118	1098	1170	Total Birds - count day	10444	14912	10141	10557	7862	9560	9262	8226	8750	10949
								2												Total Birds - count period	6		6	2	1	1	2	2	2	6

- a minus sign indicates a count period observation (Dec 14 - Jan 5) . These are only recorded if the species was not seen on count day.

																				MAMMALS										
																				Shrew sp.							T			
																				Nuttall's Cottontail									T	
											3T								2T	Snowshoe Hare	T	T	T	2	2	2	1	2	2	T
9T	8T	1 1T	10T		1	1 2T	6 xT	2 20T	4T	xT	3T	2T		12	2T		1	1	1T	White-tailed Jackrabbit	25	39	20	3	T	7	1	2	2	7
																				Franklin's Ground Squirrel									1	
																				Eastern Grey Squirrel								2	2	
											2T							2	1	American Red Squirrel	3	14	9	12	5	8	6	5	12	13
																				American Beaver		T				1			D	
																				Deer Mouse							T	T	T	
																				Muskrat									1	
																				Vole sp.		1	T				T	T	T	
															1T					Meadow Vole	T					1				
																			2T	Mouse sp.	T	T	T				1			
	1T																			House Mouse	T	T								1
											1									Porcupine	1	2	T		1	D				1
																	1	1T	2T	Coyote	1	18	4	1	5	2	3	11	3	7
2T											1T							1 1T		Red Fox	1	4	T		1	1		1	T	1
																				American Marten										C
																				Ermine						1				
																				Weasel sp.							1		T	
																				Least Weasel								1		
											1T									Mink	T	T	T					T		
																				American Badger						T				
																		1		River Otter	1									
																				Striped Skunk							M			
																			2T	Deer sp.	T						T			
															5				4	Mule Deer	9	6		6				T	4	5
											2				1T		12 21T	7	1	White-tailed Deer	22	9	32	22	47	28	7	53		31
																	1			Moose	1									1

T - tracks, M - carcass, x - no count given, ( ) - count period observation

C1	C2	C3a	C3b	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	NEa	NEb	NEc	NW	NWc	SEa	SEb	SEcd	SWa	SWb	Sector	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012

PARTICIPANTS

C1	Meghan Mickelson, Sofya Baijius FW 18, Geoffrey Carter, Jeremiah Carter 18, Danielle Hopkins, Louis Carter, Kathleen Carter, Roseanne Carter, Jenny Sutton
C2	LeeAnn Latremouille, Kiel Drake, Bev Will FW, Bob McNaughton FW, Kariann McCrea FW, William Robertson FW, Mary Maxwell FW
C3a	Trent Watts, Olive Watts 18, Hamish Watts 18, Shan Landry, Jane McPhee, Stan Shadick, Jan Shadick
C3b	Britt Agrey, Chelsea Parent FW, Pat Lloyd-Smith FW, Maggie Lloyd-Smith FW 18
C4	Janine McManus, Jeff Harder
C5	Mike Gollop
C6	Eric Wood, Grant Wood, Lorne Binsfeld FW, Jackson Olaski FW 18, Joanne Blythe FW, Joe Monahan FW, Carol Monahan FW, Greg Fenty
C7	Bill MacKenzie, Audrey MacKenzie, Jim Paul, Sara Bryson
C8	Greg Fenty, Norman Zlotkin FW
C9	Raea Gooding, Troy Lange, Stan Shadick, Jan Shadick
NEa	Bob Godwin, Kathy Meeres, Hilda Voth, Peter Gerrard FW
NEb	Ron Jensen
NEc	Lorne Duczek FW, Scott Mitchell, Joel Spetz FW, Brandon Wapple FW, Guy Wapple, Morgan Wapple Spetz FW, Sandra Wapple FW
NW	
NWc	David Forbes, Dawn Martin, Kathlin Simpkins, Bev Loring FW, Rodger Davis FW, Robin Davis FW
SEa	Nick Saunders, Joan Feather
SEb	
SEcd	Marten Stoffel, Dan Zazelenchuk
SWa	John Patterson, Marc Sabourin, George West
SWb	Melanie Elliott, Alex Acton, Amanda Horvath

FW - Feeder Watcher, 18 - Youth

EFFORT

9:30	10:30	9:30	13:15	13:10	12:00		9:30	9:40	9:40	12:00	10:00	9:00		9:45	10:00		8:40	8:34	9:30	Start Time	8:34	8:15								
16:15	16:52	14:30	14:45	16:30	14:00		14:00	14:20	14:00	16:24	16:00	17:15		15:45	14:40		16:15	14:30	14:00	End Time	17:15	17:15								
4.7	3.3	2.2	1.5	2.3	7.0		2.0		3.3	3.3	1.3	9.5		3.5			0.7	1.4	0.5	Time on foot	46.4	116.3	46.4	46.3	30.0	95.0	109.0	106.0	116.0	124.0
1.3	1.9	2.7		1.1		1.9	1.5	3.2		2.2	4.8			4.8	3.7		6.6	6.1	3.6	Time by Car	45.2	56.5	47.1	47.2	66.0	53.9	55.6	43.7	46.5	51.2
1.4	12.0	0.1	2.0			9.3	1.0	4.0		2.0		2.7		6.4						Time at Feeder	40.9	38.9	48.9	15.9	54.0	124.0	109.5	86.0	123.0	126.0
12.9	5.0	4.8	4.5	5.3	10.5	1.8	3.0		7.6	3.6	2.0	7.0		9.5			1.0	2.0	0.9	Dist by foot/ski	81.4	286.3	107.3	89.0	72.0					
	13	8		16		27	50	46		38	53	50		53	61		107	68	74	Dist by car	664	750	848	772	924					

Saskatoon Bird and Mammal Count - Dec 27, 2021

C1	C2	C3a	C3b	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	NEa	NEb	NEc	NW	NWc	SEa	SEb	SEcd	SWa	SWb	Sector	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
																				WEATHER										
																				Min. Wind (kph)	11	-8	-16	-12	-37					
																				Max. Wind (kph)	21	-7	-10	-9	-25					
																				Min. Temp. (˚C)	-33	10	16	2	9					
																				Max Temp (˚C)	-28	20	23	7	15					
	10	8		15		10		10	5		2.5	5		15				15	22	Min Snow Depth (cm)	3	15	4	2	0					
	60	12	10	60	10	30		30	20		15	15		15	10			15	30	Max Snow Depth (cm)	60	32	15	15	20					
1	20			20		10		10	60			50		35				5		Cloud cover AM (%)	mcr	ov	Cr	pcd	cr					
1	20		5	20	30				75			50		15	5			15	5	Cloud cover PM (%)	mcr	ov	Cr	pcd	cr					

ov - overcast, cd - cloudy, mcd - mostly cloudy, pcd - partly cloudy, pcr - partly clear, mcr - mostly clear, cr - clear

																				HABITAT										
											5									Evergreen forest						<1				
5											5									Mixedwood forest						2	1	2	1	1
																				Deciduous forest						<1		1		
																	60	15	90	Aspen grove/ farmland	25	10	10	10	15	6	6	10	10	10
															30		5			Aspen grove/prairie	5				5	1	3	1		
											10									Native prairie						1	2	1	1	1
																				Tame pasture						1	1	1	1	1
											30				10					Farmland		5	5	5	5	5	6	7	10	10
															5					Farmsteads			5			5	4	9	12	14
75	100	100	100	70	100	100	100	100	55	100	50			100	50		35	70	10	Urban (incl. cottages/landfill)	65	80	75	70	70	74	70	62	57	57
																		5		Open water				5		4	3	4	4	5
20				30					45						5			10		Riparian (river bank)	5	5	5	10	5	1	4	2	4	1
																				Other (specify)										
																				Wild Fruit Crop	f	f	f	p	p	f	f	f	g	p

p - poor, f - fair, g - good, e - excellent