

who suit up and assist with the largest voluntary bird watching event in the world.

Participation can be in several forms. If you happen to be lucky enough to live in the count circle (a 24 kilometer wide circle) and have a bird feeder you can be a "feeder watcher". Sit back, enjoy your morning coffee, tea, or juice, and record the number of birds seen of each species. For those who wish to enjoy the brisk weather and also live in the count circle, you simply take up your binoculars and start wandering while recording the distance and time spent walking and the number of birds seen by species. For those others who live outside the count areas, you travel via vehicle to an assigned area and use your vehicle, snowshoes, skis, or snow boots to traverse your section of the zone. In the latter case, you keep track of the number of birds seen by each species, the amount of time spent driving, walking, or listening and the distance driven and walked. There is a small charge of \$4.00 to cover the publication costs if you participate as a field observer. There is no charge for feeder watchers but contributions to American Birds would be appreciated.

The results of the counts are recorded in a special edition of American Birds. They provide a permanent record of population variation trends across North America and are valuable to wildlife biologists and ornithologists who require information on bird populations.

As in the past 7 years, there will be two registered counts and one fun count organized by the Society in the province. This year's P.E.I. National Park Christmas Bird Count is scheduled for Sunday, December 16th, the Hillsborough Count is scheduled for Wednesday, December 26th, and the Montague Fun Count is set for Saturday, December 29th. Dan McAskill (569-4351) will be the coordinator of the P.E.I. National Park Count and the Hillsborough Count while Gary Schneider (838-2678) will be the coordinator of the Montague Count. Please contact the coordinators if you wish to participate.

A pot-luck supper will be held at Dan McAskill's following the Hillsborough Count on the 26th. The pot-luck will start at 6:30 P.M.

