

1976 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT P. E. I. National Park Area

It was a wise move to postpone the count from Dec. 18 to Sunday, Dec. 19. The day dawned clear and remained so all day and all night. The temperature was -12 C. at start and finish. With moderate NW winds it was a bit nippy---but birders dress appropriately. Roads were well plowed, side roads almost as smooth as pavement. There was good snow cover, and counters spent part of the day on snowshoes or skis as they scouted through woods and fields. To cap it all the countryside was spectacular with the ice-coated trees, weeds, and grasses sparkling in the brilliant sunshine. After the count about 16 counters and friends gathered at the home of Kevin and Diane Griffin, New Haven for a memorable potluck supper.

There were seventeen counters (7 teams): Lenore and Roger Andrew, Earle Hickey, Nelson Hurry, Winston Johnston, Anne Landry, Carolyn and Simon Lunn, Ian MacQuarrie, Margaret Mallett, Kathy Martin, David Smith, Paul Smith, Kathy Sklar, Mary Willms, John Wright (organizer, compiler), George Mason.

		<u>BIRD COUNT</u>	
Great Blue Heron	1	Horned Lark	96
Canada Goose (low)	11	Blue Jay	99
Black Duck	198	Common Raven	52
Pintail	2	Common Crow	405
Common Goldeneye	370	Black-capped Chickadee	52
Barrow's Goldeneye	21	Boreal Chickadee	15
Oldsquaw	90	White-breasted Nuthatch	1
Common Eider	1	Robin	7
White-winged Scoter	2	Golden-crowned Kinglet	6
Common Merganser	55	Common Starling	275
Red-breasted Merganser	2	Yellow-rumped Warbler	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	House Sparrow	515
Ruffed Grouse	3	Common Grackle	1
Ring-necked Pheasant	2	Evening Grosbeak	7
Gray Partridge	7	Pine Grosbeak	2
Iceland Gull	1	Dark-eyed Junco	47
Gt. Black-backed Gull	97	Tree Sparrow	31
Herring Gull	192	White-throated Sparrow	8
Rock Dove	92	Song Sparrow	5
Downy Woodpecker	4	Snow Bunting	220

Total 40 Species; about 3000 Individuals; In count area count week, but not seen Count Day: Gray Jay. (Unusual species on count underlined).

Margaret Mallett, Charlottetown, PEI