

Dalhousie Christmas Bird Count – 2015

Date: January 2, 2016 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM (830 – 1630)

Sky and Precipitation: Partly cloudy throughout, snow flurries in late afternoon

Conditions: 100% snow cover (10 – 50 cms);  
ponds and small rivers frozen  
large water largely open with some shore ice and floating ice  
wind 10 – 20 kms NW

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Black duck	8	
Greater scaup	1	
Common goldeneye	21	
Barrow's goldeneye	83	
Common merganser	2	
Sea duck species	300 +	at scattered distances in open water
Merganser species	3	
Ruffed grouse	1	
Bald eagle	4	
Herring gull	18	
Great black-backed gull	9	
Iceland gull	20	
Gull species	30	(flying at distance)
Rock pigeon	46	
Mourning dove	32	
Hairy woodpecker	6	
Downey woodpecker	6	
Blue jay	23	
Common raven	14	
American crow	24	
Black-capped chickadee	44	
Red-breasted nuthatch	3	
Hermit thrush	1	(Photos available)
European starling	69	
American tree sparrow	4	
Dark-eyed junco	1	
Snow bunting	80	
Common grackle	1	
Pine siskin	6	
American goldfinch	20	
House sparrow	8	

## **Count period**

**Red-throated loon**  
**Red-breasted merganser**  
**Eastern Towhee (photo available)**  
**Glaucous gull**  
**Sharp-shinned hawk**  
**Snowy owl**  
**Double-crested cormorant**  
**Pileated woodpecker**  
**Canada goose (a flock of fifty on January 3)**

## **Totals:**

**558 individual birds in 28 species on count day**  
**PLUS 330 unspecified sea ducks, mergansers, and gulls**  
**Plus 9 additional species during count period**

**(plus, I must add, Gyrfalcon and Goshawk, both just before the period began)**

## **Notes:**

**Very small Mountain ash and other winter berry crops, few conifer cone or other tree seeds had to have contributed to the almost complete absence of finches, robins, waxwings and other usual regular species here.**

**Varying hare numbers seem to be on the rise**

## **Participants:**

**Debbie Arsenault**  
**Sheena Barristo**  
**Ruth Bulmer**  
**Jackie Clifford**  
**Jim Clifford**  
**Marcel Cormier**  
**Monica Demoss**  
**Anne-Marie Drapeau**  
**Jolene Dube**  
**Karl Heinstein**  
**Gail Legere**  
**Maurice Legere**  
**Mike Lushington - compiler**  
**Tony Miller**

**Ken Reinsborough  
Sally Reinsborough  
Pam Stewart  
Sandra Thompson  
Gladys Young**

**Plus**

**Barb MacIntosh (feeder only)**

**19 field observers (some of whom contributed feeder observations) in 6 groups covered some 200 kilometers by road and about 20 on foot, during 15 hours in the field.**

**Prepared and submitted by**

**Mike Lushington**