

1908 Christmas Bird Count Grand Manan

Attached are the details on what is probably New Brunswick's second-ever Christmas Bird Count; one that, after several years of trying to get all of New Brunswick's CBC's online, I was not aware of until recently.

The page following this one indicates that David Christie was aware of it though. I found this page in a box of CBC stuff that was sent to me by Chris Majka on its way to the New Brunswick Museum. I puzzled over the page, written on a 1968-69 CBC field report form until I suddenly realized that maybe the "1908" in the date area, when coupled with the reference to The Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society written at the top, just might be a clue.

Sure enough, the journal does publish the count results and, while not compliant with today's CBC protocols, it was entirely consistent with other count area reports in the same journal. In fact, going out and reporting on the birds seen every day during the Dec 20-31 period was probably a good way of getting a real assessment of what birds are in the area given that count participants at that time were few and far between, and they probably had limited means for getting around their count areas. (The Model T Ford started production in 1908.)

The next three pages are an attempt to put the 1908 data into a format that is recognizable today and is based both on David Christie's page where he did the same thing and on the published report.

The actual published report follows.

Alan Moses, known as the Bird Man of Grand Manan, was a third-generation naturalist and taxidermist who was instrumental in the acquisition of Kent Island as a bird sanctuary. He also participated on a couple of year-long natural history expeditions to Africa and other places.

D. MacPhail
February 2023

Dec 20-31

from Journ. Mc Dinith Soc.

11:12-15

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - NEW BRUNSWICK
December 20, 1968 through January 1, 1969

Area (Within 15 mi. diameter circle) Grand Manan

Date: 1902 Start _____ Return _____ Weather _____ Temp. _____

Wind: _____ mph; Ground _____; Observers in _____ parties; _____ at feeders.

Total party hours, _____; _____ on foot; _____ by car. Total party miles _____; _____ on foot.

_____ by car. No. Species _____; No. Birds _____; Compiler: Allan L. Mozes

<u>Common Loon</u>	<u>Ring-billed Gull</u>	<u>Cedar Waxwing</u>
<u>Red-throated Loon</u>	<u>Black-headed Gull</u>	<u>Northern Shrike</u> 1
<u>2 Red-necked Grebe</u>	<u>Black-legged Kittiwake</u> <u>many</u>	<u>Starling</u>
<u>Horned Grebe</u>	<u>150 Razor-bill</u> <u>many</u>	<u>Myrtle Warbler</u>
<u>Great Cormorant</u>	<u>Common Murre</u>	<u>House Sparrow</u> 5
<u>Great Blue Heron</u>	<u>Thick-billed Murre</u> 2	<u>Eastern Meadowlark</u>
<u>Canada Goose</u>	<u>many Dovekie</u> <u>plentiful</u>	<u>Redwinged Blackbird</u>
<u>Brant</u>	<u>1 Black Guillemot</u> <u>in 5</u>	<u>Baltimore Oriole</u>
<u>Mallard</u>	<u>Rock Dove</u>	<u>Rusty Blackbird</u>
<u>Black Duck</u> 2	<u>Mourning Dove</u>	<u>Common Grackle</u>
<u>Greater Scaup</u>	<u>Great Horned Owl</u>	<u>Brown-headed Cowbird</u>
<u>Lesser Scaup</u>	<u>Snowy Owl</u>	<u>Dickcissel</u>
<u>Common Goldeneye</u> 2	<u>Hawk-Owl</u>	<u>Evening Grosbeak</u>
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	<u>Barred Owl</u>	<u>Purple Finch</u>
<u>Bufflehead</u>	<u>Long-eared Owl</u>	<u>Pine Grosbeak</u>
<u>Oldsquaw</u> <u>many</u>	<u>Short-eared Owl</u>	<u>1,2 Common Redpoll</u> <u>plentiful</u> <u>12 fresh</u>
<u>Harlequin Duck</u>	<u>Saw-whet Owl</u>	<u>Pine Siskin</u>
<u>Common Eider</u>	<u>Belted Kingfisher</u>	<u>American Goldfinch</u>
<u>King Eider</u>	<u>Pileated Woodpecker</u>	<u>Red Crossbill</u>
<u>White-winged Scoter</u> 4	<u>Hairy Woodpecker</u> 1	<u>1,2 White-winged Crossbill</u> 2, 18
<u>Surf Scoter</u> 1	<u>Downy Woodpecker</u>	<u>Rufous-sided Towhee</u>
<u>Common Scoter</u>	<u>Blk-backed 3-toed Wdpkr.</u>	<u>Savannah Sparrow</u>
<u>Hooded Merganser</u>	<u>Northern 3-toed Wdpkr.</u>	<u>4 Slate-coloured Junco</u> 6, 11, 31
<u>Common Merganser</u>	<u>Horned Lark</u> 4	<u>Tree Sparrow</u> 3 5
<u>Red-breasted Merganser</u> 50	<u>Gray Jay</u>	<u>White-throated Sparrow</u>
<u>Goshawk</u>	<u>Blue Jay</u>	<u>Fox Sparrow</u> 1
<u>Sharp-shinned Hawk</u> 1	<u>Common Raven</u> 2	<u>Swamp Sparrow</u>
<u>Red-tailed Hawk</u>	<u>Common Crow</u> 20	<u>Song Sparrow</u> 1
<u>Rough-legged Hawk</u>	<u>1 Black-capped Chickadee</u> 2 <u>many</u>	<u>Lapland Longspur</u>
<u>Bald Eagle</u> 1 <u>in</u>	<u>Boreal Chickadee</u> 1	<u>Snow Bunting</u> 1
<u>Pigeon Hawk</u>	<u>White-breasted Nuthatch</u>	
<u>Sparrow Hawk</u>	<u>Red-breasted Nuthatch</u> 1	
<u>Spruce Grouse</u>	<u>Brown Creeper</u> 1	
<u>Ruffed Grouse</u>	<u>Winter Wren</u>	
<u>Ring-necked Pheasant</u>	<u>Mockingbird</u>	
<u>Gray Partridge</u>	<u>Brown Thrasher</u>	
<u>Purple Sandpiper</u>	<u>2 Robin</u>	
<u>Glaucous Gull</u>	<u>1 Hermit Thrush</u>	
<u>Iceland Gull</u>	<u>3 Golden-crowned Kinglet</u> <u>many</u>	
<u>Great Black-backed Gull</u> 100	<u>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</u>	
<u>Herring Gull</u> <u>many</u>	<u>1 Bohemian Waxwing</u> 1	

List all members of party
on reverse side

Species Not Listed

..... Vesper Sparrow 1
..... Trinity Gull 1
.....
.....

Seen in area in count period
but not on count day.

.....
.....
.....

39 M
all told
16 on
13 on Dec 22

New Brunswick Christmas Bird Count Data Sheet

Compiler Summary Report

Count Name: <u>Grand Manan</u>	Count date (d/m/y): <u>Dec 20 - 31, 1908</u>
Compiler Name: <u>Allen L. Moses</u>	Report date (d/m/y): <u>Feb 2023</u>
4 letter Audubon Count Code (if known) <u>NBGM</u> Sent to Audubon: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

(For species not reported on Count Day, use 'CP' for Count Period and 'CW' for Count Week in the number column.)

Brant		Lesser Black-backed Gull		Hermit Thrush	1
Canada Goose		Glaucous Gull		American Robin	2
Gadwall		Great Black-backed Gull	100	Northern Mockingbird	
American Wigeon		Red-throated Loon		European Starling	
Mallard		Common Loon		Cedar Waxwing	
American Black Duck	2	Northern Gannet		Bohemian Waxwing	1
Northern Pintail		Double-crested Cormorant		House Sparrow	5
Green-winged Teal		Great Cormorant		Evening Grosbeak	
Ring-necked Duck		Turkey Vulture		Pine Grosbeak	
Greater Scaup		Northern Harrier		House Finch	
Lesser Scaup		Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	Purple Finch	
Common Eider		Cooper's Hawk		Common Redpoll	PLENTIFUL
Harlequin Duck		Northern Goshawk		Red Crossbill	(50?)
Surf Scoter	1	Bald Eagle	1	White-winged Crossbill	19
White-winged Scoter	4	Red-tailed Hawk		Pine Siskin	
Black Scoter		Rough-legged Hawk		American Goldfinch	
Long-tailed Duck (150?)	MANY	Great Horned Owl		Snow Bunting	1
Bufflehead		Snowy Owl		Fox Sparrow	1
Common Goldeneye	2	Barred Owl		American Tree Sparrow	5
Barrow's Goldeneye		Belted Kingfisher		Dark-eyed Junco	11
Hooded Merganser		Red-bellied Woodpecker		White-throated Sparrow	
Common Merganser		Downy Woodpecker		Song Sparrow	1
Red-breasted Merganser	50	Hairy Woodpecker	1	Common Grackle	
Ring-necked Pheasant		Northern Flicker		Northern Cardinal	
Ruffed Grouse		Pileated Woodpecker		Species not on this list	
Spruce Grouse		Merlin			
Wild Turkey		Peregrine Falcon		DOVE KIE	MANY, PLENTIFUL
Horned Grebe		Northern Shrike	1	IVORY GULL	(150?)
Red-necked Grebe	2	Canada Jay		VESPER SPARROW	1
Rock Pigeon		Blue Jay			
Mourning Dove		American Crow	20		
Purple Sandpiper	40	Common Raven	2		
Thick-billed Murre	2	Horned Lark	4		
Razorbill (2000?)	150	Black-capped Chickadee	MANY (25?)		
Black Guillemot	MANY	Boreal Chickadee	1		
Black-legged Kittiwake HUNDREDS		Red-breasted Nuthatch	1		
Bonaparte's Gull (2000?)		White-breasted Nuthatch			
Ring-billed Gull		Brown Creeper	1		
Herring Gull (1000?)	MANY	Golden-crowned Kinglet	3		
Iceland Gull		Ruby-crowned Kinglet			

Redpolls - a dozen flocks of 4-5 birds each

Count Name: <u>Grand Manan</u>	Count date: <u>1908</u>
Compiler Name: <u>Allan L. Moses</u>	Report date: <u>2023</u>

Count Data Summary

Count Day Totals: No. of species 40 No. of individuals 5813 (est)
No. of species on other days: Count Week (CW) _____ Count Period (CP) All data from CP

Effort Data:

Start Time:		End Time:	
Party hours by car:	Party hours on foot:	Party hours other	Total hours
Travel by car: km	Travel on foot: km	Travel by other: km	Total travel: km

(Please specify 'Other', i.e. canoe, horseback, etc.:)

Environmental Data:

	Temp (C)	Wind speed (kmph)	Wind direction	Cloud cover
Count Start				No cloud <input type="checkbox"/> Partial cloud <input type="checkbox"/> Full cloud <input type="checkbox"/>
Count End				No cloud <input type="checkbox"/> Partial cloud <input type="checkbox"/> Full cloud <input type="checkbox"/>

Precipitation: (Check as many as necessary)

Precipitation in morning	None <input type="checkbox"/>	Rain <input type="checkbox"/>	Snow <input type="checkbox"/>
Precipitation in afternoon	None <input type="checkbox"/>	Rain <input type="checkbox"/>	Snow <input type="checkbox"/>

Water and Snow:

Standing Water (Lakes, Ponds, etc.)	Open <input type="checkbox"/>	Partial <input type="checkbox"/>	Frozen <input type="checkbox"/>
Flowing Water (Rivers, Streams, etc.)	Open <input type="checkbox"/>	Partial <input type="checkbox"/>	Frozen <input type="checkbox"/>
Snow depth (estimate)	0 - 1 cm <input type="checkbox"/>	1 - 10 cm <input type="checkbox"/>	>10 cm <input type="checkbox"/>

Participants: (Field and Feeder)

Total No. of Participants: <u>1</u>	No. of field parties: <u>1</u>
No. of field observers: <u>1</u>	No. of feeder only observers:

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Associate Editor, LOUIS E. LEGGE, Portland

Published by the Society at 97 1-2 Exchange Street, Portland, Maine

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Carolina Wren, had gone. It is now in the collection at the Natural History rooms, and, without doubt, Mr. Norton will gladly show it to you, should you care to see it.

Christmas Bird Census.

**Reports of Winter Birds by Members of the Maine Ornithological Society
During the Period from Dec. 20 to 31, Inclusive.**

The third Christmas bird census, taken by members of the Maine Ornithological Society, has been fully as successful as those which have preceded it. During the present winter birds have been unusually plentiful all over the State, and many of the reports are of permanent interest. The presence of Bohemian Waxwings in eastern Maine and the neighboring island of Grand Manan is noteworthy. Several new observers have taken part in the bird census and their contributions are welcome. For the sixth consecutive winter Myrtle Warblers were observed at Cape Elizabeth during Christmas week.

The reports sent by different members for the closing days of 1908 are as follows:

W. H. BROWNSON.

Observations at Cape Elizabeth and Pine Point:

Crow, 104; Herring Gull, 1,050; Great Black-backed Gull, 5; Horned Lark, 20; Snow Bunting, 22; Redpoll, 115; Red-legged Black Duck, 250; Old Squaw, 115; White-Winged Scoter, 50; American Golden-eye, 80; Meadowlark, 16; Goldfinch, 20; Horned Grebe, 5; Loon, 4; Tree Sparrow, 3; Brown Creeper, 1; Snowy Owl, 2; Brunnich's Murre, 1; Chickadee, 10; White-winged Crossbill, 15; Red Crossbill, 20; Myrtle Warbler, 15; Bufflehead, 10; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1.

Additional list out of date or reported by others:

Song Sparrow, 4; Hermit Thrush, 1; Pigeon Hawk, 1; Pine Siskin, 20; Robin, 1; Northern Shrike, 1.

J. MERTON SWAIN.

Observations at Farmington and elsewhere:

Dec. 20th, 7 Pine Siskins, 3 Chickadees.

Dec. 21st, drove from Farmington to Wilton, Jay and Livermore Falls. Saw 1 Hairy Woodpecker, 5 Pine Grosbeaks, 2 Canadian Ruffed Grouse.

Dec. 22nd, drove from Livermore Falls to East Livermore, Fayette, Wayne, Monmouth and Winthrop. Saw three flocks of Siskins, probably 150 individuals in the three flocks, 7 Snowflakes, 3 Canadian Ruffed Grouse.

Dec. 23rd, drove from Winthrop to Readfield, Belgrade Lakes, Mt. Vernon, Vienna, Chesterville to Farmington. Saw 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 5 Chickadees, 50 Siskins, 7 Blue Jays, 3 Canadian Ruffed Grouse.

Dec. 24th, went by train to Phillips. Saw 25 Snowflakes, two small flocks of Siskins, 25 birds.

Dec. 25th, went by train from Phillips to Strong, Kingfield and Bigelow, and back to Farmington. Saw 1 Canada Jay, 3 Blue Jays, 2 Crows, 7 Siskins, 1 Pileated Woodpecker.

Dec. 26th, Farmington. No birds seen.

Dec. 27th, Farmington. No birds seen.

Dec. 28th, drove from Farmington to New Vineyard, and New Portland. Saw 3 Canadian Ruffed Grouse, 1 Blue Jay, 3 Pine Grosbeaks, 1 White-breasted Nuthatch, 5 Chickadees.

Dec. 29th, drove from New Portland to North Anson, North Cornville, West Athens and Athens. Saw 2 Chickadees, 5 Blue Jays, 1 Hairy Woodpecker, 1 Pileated Woodpecker, 7 Canadian Ruffed Grouse.

Dec. 30th, drove from Athens to Brighton, Cornville, East Madison and Madison. Saw 3 Blue Jays, 100 Siskins, 3 Snowflakes.

Dec. 31st, drove from Madison to West Mills, Stark, Mercer,

New Sharon and Farmington. Saw 3 Chickadees, 25 Siskins, 7 Pine Grosbeaks, 1 Canadian Ruffed Grouse.

F. M. DAVID AND R. T. DAVID.

Observations at Damariscotta:

Sunday, Dec. 20th, 15 Redpolls, 26 Snow Buntings, 2 Blue Jays, 2 Crows, 14 Chickadees.

Monday, Dec. 21st, 12 Golden-eyes, 1 Partridge.

Tuesday, Dec. 22nd, 3 Chickadees, 1 Partridge, 1 Blue Jay.

Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, 18 Redpolls, 3 Blue Jays, 2 Crows.

Thursday, Dec. 24th, 4 Crows, 9 Gulls, 3 Blue Jays, 3 Chickadees.

Friday, Dec. 25th, 2 Gulls, 1 Crow, 5 Blue Jays, 3 Chickadees.

Saturday, Dec. 26th, 1 Crow, 3 Blue Jays, 5 Gulls.

Sunday, Dec. 27th, 1 White-breasted Nuthatch, 3 Chickadees, 2 Blue Jays, two large flocks of Redpolls, should say over 100 in each flock.

Monday, Dec. 28th, 2 Blue Jays, 1 Crow, 3 Chickadees.

Tuesday, Dec. 29th, 2 Crows, 1 Blue Jay, 7 Gulls, 6 Golden-eyes.

Wednesday, Dec. 30th, 3 Blue Jays, 3 Pine Grosbeaks, 1 Partridge, 1 Nuthatch, 80 or 100 Redpolls.

LOUIS E. LEGGE AND DANFORTH S. HERSEY.

Observations at Cape Elizabeth:

Dec. 20th, Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Myrtle Warbler, 9; American Crossbill, 2; Chickadee, 13; Redpoll (estimated), 20; Herring Gull, 25; American Crow, 2.

Dec. 27th, Chickadee, 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Myrtle Warbler, 3; American Goldfinch, 2; White-winged Crossbill, 22; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4.

ALLAN L. MOSES.

Observations at Grand Manan, New Brunswick.



Dec. 20th, 1908. Saw 10 Crows, 1 Fox Sparrow, 3 Tree Sparrows, 6 Juncos.

Dec. 21st. Saw 11 Juncos. These birds were feeding on meal. They have been feeding there three days and more are coming every day. A great many Herring Gulls were in the harbor this morning. Redpolls are very plentiful; saw as many as a dozen flocks, from 4 to 50 in a flock, 5 Tree Sparrows, 1 Vesper Sparrow, 2 Chickadees, 1 Song Sparrow. The reason that these song birds are here is due to so much open weather. I never saw so many at this time of the year since I can remember. It is not an unusual thing to see Juncos, Song Sparrows and Tree Sparrows here in winter, but it is very unusual to see them in flocks.

Dec. 22nd. Early this morning I saw 4 Juncos under the window eating meal I put there the day before. Next I saw one of the rarest birds that come to the island, the Bohemian Waxwing. Three specimens have been seen here this winter, and I have two of them in my collection. This is the second record of this bird being taken on the island. The first was taken by my father, John R. Moses. I don't know the exact date, but it was about fifteen years ago. To-day I saw 19 White-winged Crossbills, 1 Chickadee, 3 Golden-crowned Kinglets and 2 Robins. I was out on the Bank to see the Kittiwakes flying to their feeding ground, off North Head. Any day at this time of the year, when the wind is north or northwest, you can go out here and see Kittiwakes, Razor-billed Auks and Dovekies going in flocks of from 3 to 100. To-day, with the wind northwest, and on the ebb-tide in the morning, there was not one moment that some of these birds were not in sight. I saw nine flocks of Razor-billed Auks, at least 150 birds in all. I also saw a great many Dovekies, 2 Holboell's Grebes and 1 Black Guillemot. I also saw a Hermit Thrush in company with a Robin. This bird surely had forgotten himself. I was positive of his identity, for the day was cold and the bird was so stupid that I could get within two or three yards of him. I also saw about a dozen Redpolls.

Dec. 23rd. Very few birds seen to-day, as it was stormy. 11

Juncos were around the window on the ground all day. Saw 6 Redpolls and 1 Tree Sparrow.

Dec. 24th. Juncos still around the house. Saw about 30 Redpolls, 1 Vesper Sparrow, 3 Tree Sparrows and 7 Crows.

Dec. 25th. Saw 3 Chickadees, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglets, a flock of Redpolls, about 100 Black-backed Gulls, one large flock of Razor-billed Auks, 5 Black Guillemots, 2 Holboell's Grebes, 2 Brunnich's Murres, and a great many Herring Gulls.

Dec. 26th. Went gunning to-day among the islands, so had a pretty good chance to see water fowl. Saw 2 American Golden-eyes, 2 Black Ducks, 50 Red-breasted Mergansers, nearly all old males, many Old Squaws, 4 White-winged Scoters, 1 Surf Scoter, many Black Guillemots, Dovekies very plentiful, Razor-billed Auks more plentiful than any other day this winter. Also saw 4 Horned Larks, 2 White-winged Crossbills, 1 Red-breasted Nuthatch, and heard many Chickadees and Kinglets. About a week ago, on Long Island, saw a flock of about 40 Purple Sandpipers, but did not see them to-day, though the birds are undoubtedly there, for they make this small island their home every winter. Saw hundreds of Herring Gulls and Black-backed Gulls.

Dec. 27th. Saw 3 Chickadees, a small flock of Redpolls, 1 Snow Bunting. The 11 Juncos were around the house to-day, having been absent for two days. Other birds seen to-day were a young Bald Eagle, 20 Crows, hundreds of Kittiwakes, a few Dovekies and 1 White-winged Crossbill.

Dec. 28th. Saw 5 Redpolls. Juncos absent again to-day.

Dec. 29th. Saw 1 Vesper Sparrow this morning, 1 Sharp-shinned Hawk, 7 White-winged Crossbills, 1 Brown Creeper, 1 Red-breasted Nuthatch, several Chickadees, a Hairy Woodpecker, three flocks of Redpolls, 1 Tree Sparrow, 1 Northern Shrike, 5 English Sparrows, 18 Crows. Juncos were around again to-day, also a new flock of about 20.

Dec. 30th. Saw 2 Northern Ravens and 1 Bald Eagle. I was at the North Head to-day, where the Kittiwakes feed. The birds

were rather scarce to-day, but even then there were thousands of them. I stood on the top of the bank, where it was not less than three hundred feet high, and gazed at the birds sitting in a white line as far as I could see. They were feeding on shrimps, which are their favorite food around the island in the winter.

Dec. 31st. Saw to-day 4 English Sparrows, flock of Juncos near my house, small flock of Crows, 5 White-winged Crossbills, 4 Chickadees, and with them 1 Hudsonian Chickadee, very rare here. Saw also thousands of Kittiwakes and Razor-billed Auks, and the only Ivory Gull I ever saw alive. It was an elegant specimen, as white as snow. This Gull is an accidental visitor in the neighborhood of Grand Manan.

NELLIE F. DUNTON.

Observations at Bath:

Dec. 20th, 1908, was at Winnegance (south end of Bath). Day fine. Saw 4 Blue Jays, 6 Chickadees, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 1 Gull, 3 birds flying, too far off to be identified. Heard a Crow.

Dec. 21st, snow squall early, then clearing. Saw 5 Blue Jays, 3 Chickadees, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches and a Crow.

Dec. 22nd, saw 3 Blue Jays, 2 Chickadees, 1 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1 Gull.

Dec. 23rd and 24th, was busy preparing for Christmas and did not see any birds excepting the large flocks of English Sparrows and Pigeons on our streets.

Dec. 25th (Christmas), walked along the country roads some two miles in West Bath and vicinity, and saw only 2 Crows and 2 Goldfinches, or the same one twice, but they tell me that the next day there were four different kinds of small birds around the house I visited that day. They were quite sure one was a Junco, but I have not seen any in this vicinity for some time.

Dec. 26th, at Winnegance again, and took a long walk in the woods in the afternoon. Saw 3 Blue Jays, 4 Chickadees, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 3 Crows, 1 small Hawk, probably a Sharp-