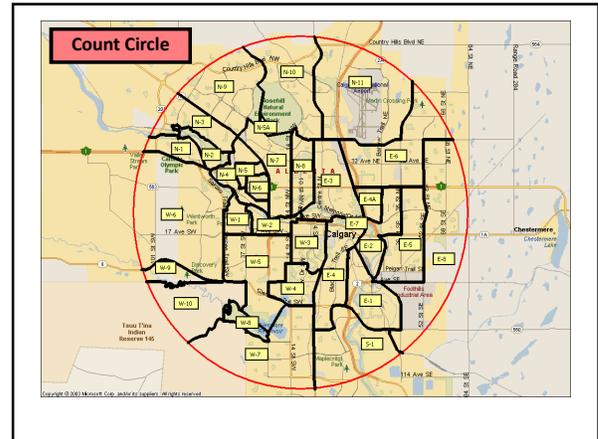


## 62nd Calgary Christmas Bird Count



Sunday December 15, 2013

©Arthur Wieckowski



## 2013 Count Challenges

- **Floods (June 2013)**
- **Finches (Stayed in the north: crummy cone crop here)**
- **Freezing Weather (Prior to the count)**

## NMT Birding Anyone?



## Finch Forecast

**COMMON REDPOLL:** **Most redpolls should stay in the north** this winter because birch, alder and conifer seed crops are generally good across the boreal forest.

**WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL:** ... **should be widely dispersed** this winter given the enormity of the cone crops.

**PINE GROSBEAK:** **Most Pine Grosbeaks will remain in the north** this winter because mountain-ash berry crops are very good to bumper across the boreal forest

## Calgary, December 2013

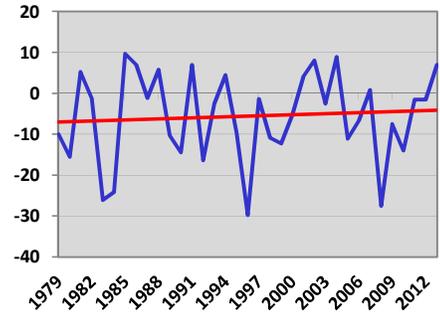


I can still get to 200.....

## Weather

- Partly cloudy becoming mostly sunny
- Temperature Range: +6 to +8 deg C
- Wind: Westerly, averaging 30 km/h, gusting to 60 km/h
- Snow Cover: variable, in places over 30 cm
- Open Water: Rivers 0 - 50 %, Reservoir, 0%

## Count-Day Temperature, deg C

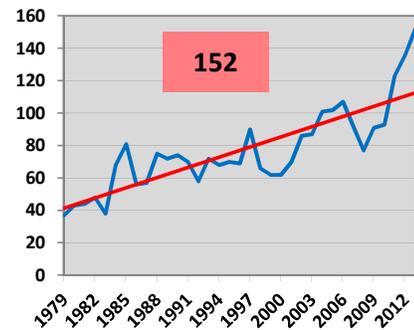


## Participants

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Field Observers (32 routes)	152	136	123	93	91
Feeder Watchers (88 feeders)	116	113	117	102	105
Total	268	249	240	195	196

Four under 18s

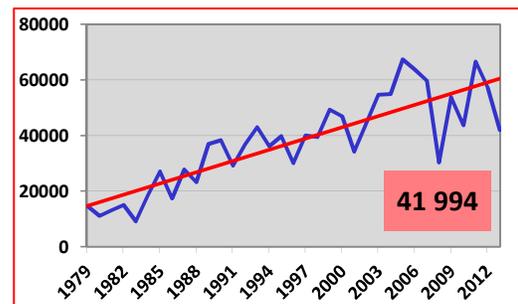
## Field Observers

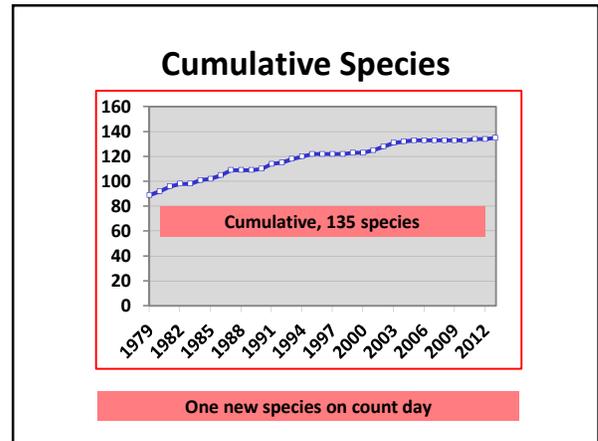
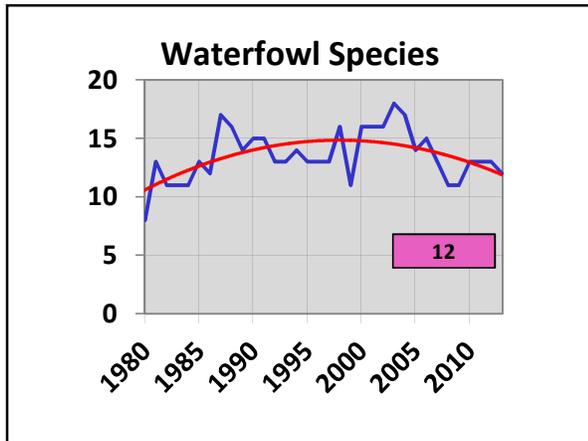
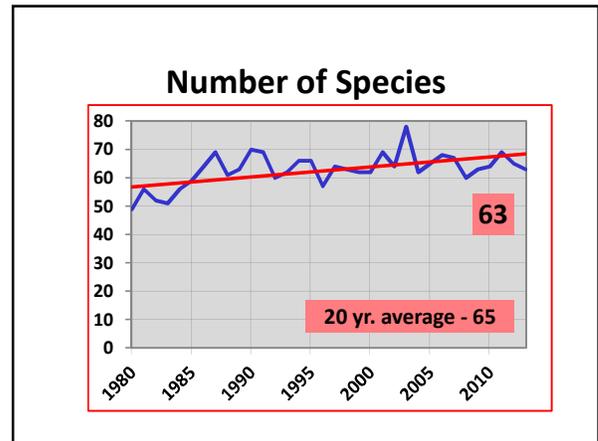
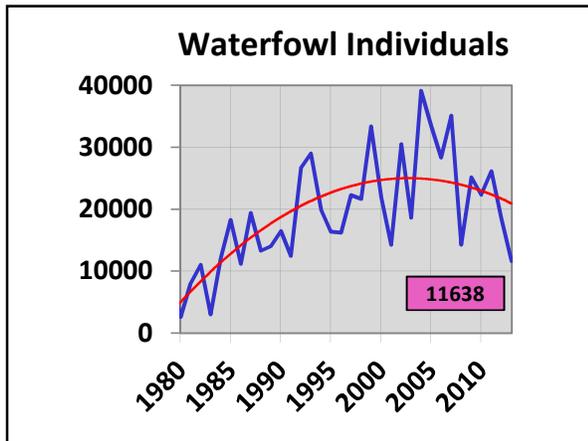


## Effort

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Km on Foot	313	275	272	230	225
Km Driving	1004	912	1021	881	1050
Party-Hours	270	240	231	205	219
% PH on Foot	73	77	71	70	69

## Number of Individuals Seen



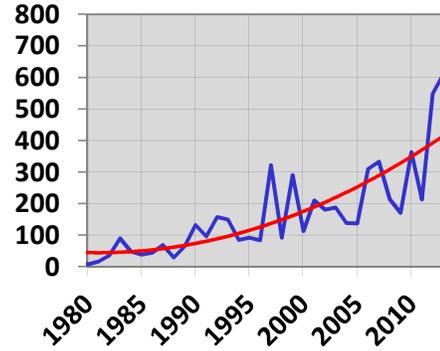


Below Average	Top Ten	Above Average
Bohemian Waxwing, 15395	Black-capped Chickadee, 1924	
Mallard, 7747	Rock Pigeon, 1665	
House Sparrow, 5939	House Finch, 815	
Canada Goose, 3260	Common Raven, 612	
Black-billed Magpie, 2482	Common Goldeneye, 406	

### Record Counts

Bald Eagle (44)	Northern Flicker (176)
Cooper's Hawk (7)	Common Raven (612)

### Common Raven



### Species Categories

Old Faithful	40	10 out of last 10 years
Not Always Seen	26	5-9 out of last 10 years
Unusual	37	1-4 out of last 10 years
Rarities	31	0 out of last 10 years
New	1	0 out of last 61 years

Total = 135

### 2013 Count

Old Faithful	40	40 seen, 0 missed (100%)
Not Always Seen	26	16 seen, 10 missed (62%)
Unusual	40	6 seen, 34 missed (15%)
Rarities	28	0 seen (0%)
New	1	1 seen

Total = 135

Total Seen = 63

### Old Faithfuls

Count	Species
Above Average	16
Below Average	24
Total	40

Average refers to past 10 years

Last year was 23 and 13

### Not Always Seen

Count	Species
Above Average	10
Below Average	6
Missed	10
Total	30

Last year was 15 and 6

### Unusual Species

Gadwall, 2	2
Northern Shoveler, 1	1
Gyr Falcon, 1	4
Mourning Dove, 2	3
Short-eared Owl, 1	1
Song Sparrow, 2	3

### Northern Shoveler



### Missed

Northern Pintail	6	Killdeer	9
Green-winged Teal	5	Northern Saw-whet Owl (cw)	5
Redhead	7	Rusty Blackbird	5
Greater Scaup	5	Red Crossbill	7
Harlequin Duck	6	White-winged Crossbill	8

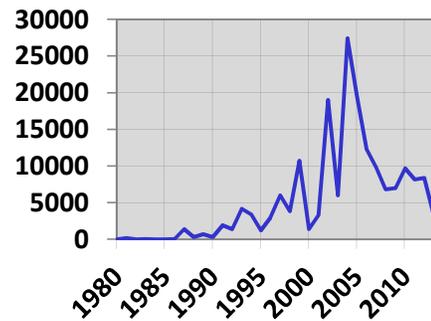
### High Counts

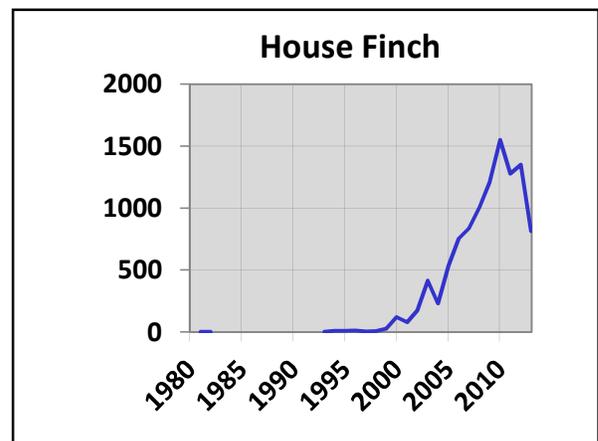
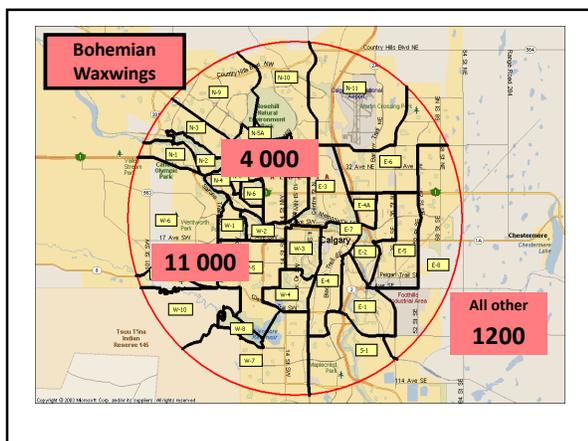
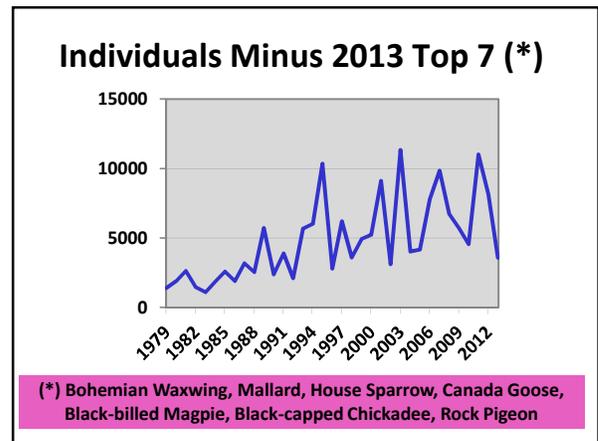
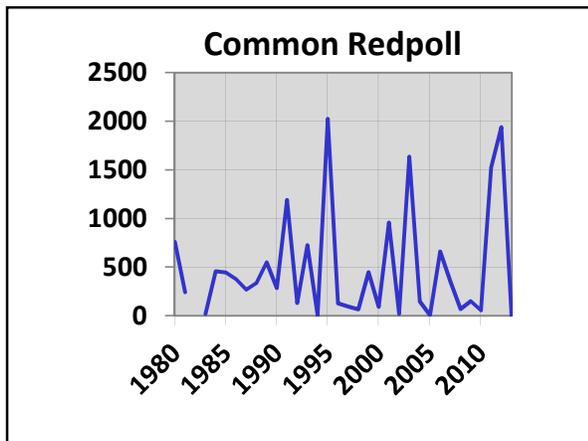
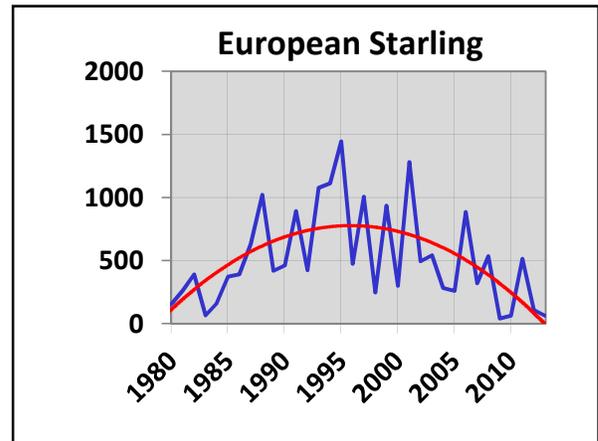
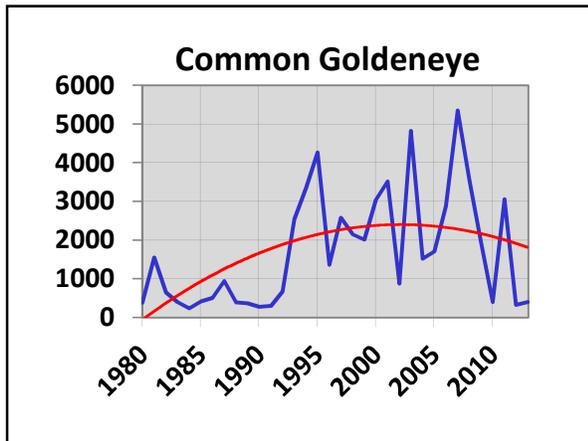
Prairie Falcon (3)	Song Sparrow (2)
White-throated Sparrow (4)	(>300% average)

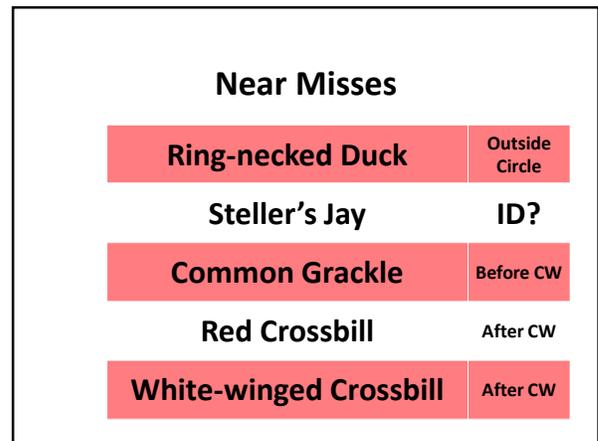
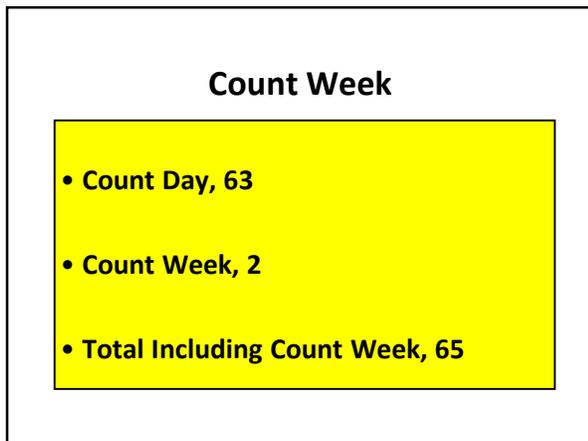
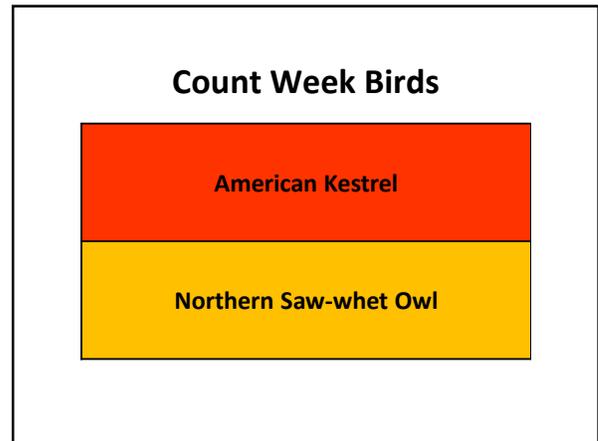
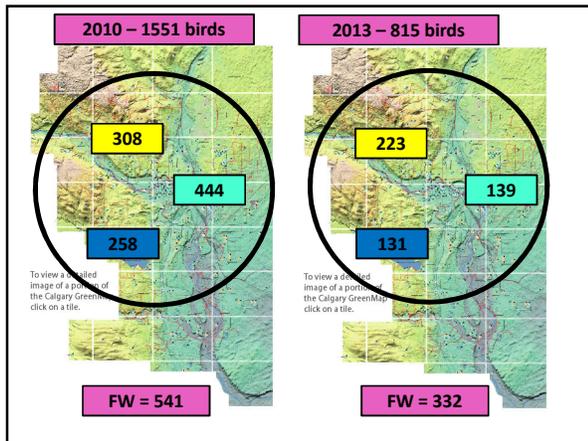
### Low Counts

Canada Goose (3260)	Pine Grosbeak (4)
Wood Duck (3)	Common Redpoll (2)
Common Goldeneye (406)	Pine Siskin (6)
European Starling (65)	(<33% average)

### Canada Goose







### Mammals

Snowshoe Hare	7
White-tailed Jack Rabbit	66
Gray Squirrel	709
Red Squirrel	81
Beaver	2
Muskrat	3
Porcupine	3
Coyote	6
Red Fox	2
Red-backed Vole	1
Shrew or Vole	1
Mule Deer	2
White-tailed Deer	32

+ European Rabbit 15



## Battle of Alberta

Calgary, 63  
Edmonton, 48  
Medicine Hat, 47

## Species Seen

- Feeder Watchers, **33**
- Route E-1, **32**
- Route W-10, **29**
- Route W-4, **28**

## Seen by Only One Route

Gadwall	E-1	Pileated Woodpecker	W-8
Northern Shoveler	E-8	Mountain Chickadee	FW
Lesser Scaup	E-1	American Dipper	W-10
Hooded Merganser	E-8	American Tree Sparrow	W-10
Red-tailed Hawk	W-10	Snow Bunting	N-10
Gyr Falcon	W-6	Purple Finch	FW
Short-eared Owl	"N-12"	Common Redpoll	E-1
		Pine Siskin	FW

## Effort, Party-Hours

- Route W-10, **22**
- Route E-1, **12**
- Route W-4, **12**
- Feeder Watchers, **N/A**

## Contribution of Feeder Watchers

**33 species in total**

The only Mountain Chickadees,  
Purple Finches and Pine Siskins

Also >40%:  
Ring-necked Pheasant, Mourning Dove, Blue Jay,  
White-throated Sparrow and Pine Grosbeak

8 species > 40% vs 9 species in 2011

## Totals

	Species	1-Route Species	Party-Hours	@BSG?
E-1	32	3	12	?
W-4	28	0	12	?
W-10	29	3	22	?
Feeder-Watchers	33	3	N/A	?

And The Winner Is.....?????

## Thanks!

- To all Field Observers and Feeder Watchers
- To Cindy and Dan Parliament
- To Donna Wieckowski, Barb Coote, Jean Dunn, Joan Falcione, Catherine Huene, Dorothy Johnston, Catherine McGlashan, Nimali Seneviratne and Ruth Ullman
- To Bob Lefebvre and Arthur Wieckowski
- To Daniel Arndt, Terry Korolyk, John McFaul and Jim Washbrook
- To all photographers

## Thanks!

- To all who made donations
- After covering dinner expenses we raised \$715, shared between Nature Calgary and Bird Studies Canada



©Matthew Sim

Happy New Year

And Good Birding!