**Audubon Christmas Bird Count/Birds Canada**

This important longest-running citizen science endeavour began in 1900 and has been held annually throughout North America since then.

Each year since 1991 the Arrowsmith Naturalist have sponsored the Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) in our area. Based on a standardized 24 km diameter count circle (BCPQ), centered at French Creek Marina, field counters and feeder watchers record all birds seen and heard. Birders search the shoreline from NW Bay in Nanoose to the Little Qualicum River as well as the inland communities of Parksville, French Creek, Qualicum Beach, Whiskey Creek, Hilliers, Coombs and Errington on count day.

Some of the highlights of the 2021 count, our 31th, were: High species count for Brant (652), Hooded Merganser (68) and Song Sparrow (202). There were three uncommon species: Eurasian Teal, Redhead (Duck) and Common Redpoll.

The 2022 CBC in Parksville Qualicum Beach will be held Sunday, December 18. For information contact:

James Goodwin or Susan Knoerr

[good\_one@telusplanet.net](mailto:good_one@telusplanet.net) [susanknoerr@gmail.com](mailto:susanknoerr@gmail.com)

For information re, feeder counts contact:

Lynne Brookes

[rppsolar@yahoo.com](mailto:rppsolar@yahoo.com)