

# Count Summary Report

Printout Date: 1/14/2015

|   |                                |  |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Count Name:</b> Parksville-Qualicum Beach                | <b>Count Code:</b> BCPQ        | <b>Count Date:</b> 12/14/2014              |
| <b>Organizations &amp; Sponsors:</b> Arrowsmith Naturalists | <b># of Party Hours:</b> 84.75 | <b>Species reported on count date:</b> 113 |

## Compiler(s)

| First Name | Last Name | Email            | Is Primary Compiler |
|------------|-----------|------------------|---------------------|
| Sandra     | Gray      | saninerr@shaw.ca | Yes                 |

## Start & End Times

| Start time | End time |
|------------|----------|
| 07:30 AM   | 04:45 PM |

## Effort

| Observers  |  |
|------------|--|
| In Field   | Total Number: 35                         |
|            | Minimum Number of Parties (daylight): 8  |
|            | Maximum Number of Parties (daylight): 10 |
| At Feeders | Total Number: 31                         |

| Party Hours and Distance (excludes viewing at feeders and nocturnal birding) |       |          |            |
|--|-------|----------|------------|
| By   | Hours | Distance | Units      |
| Foot   | 56.75 | 51.00    | Kilometers |
| Car  | 28.00 | 442.00   | Kilometers |
| Air  |       |          |            |
| All-Terrain Vehicle  |       |          |            |
| Bicycle  |       |          |            |
| Dog Sled   |       |          |            |
| Golfcart   |       |          |            |
| Horseback  |       |          |            |
| Motorized Boat   |       |          |            |
| Non-Motorized Boat   |       |          |            |
| Skis/Xc-Skis   |       |          |            |
| Snowmachine  |       |          |            |
| Snowshoe   |       |          |            |
| Wheelchair   |       |          |            |

| Other Time and Distance |       |          |       |
|-------------------------|-------|----------|-------|
|                         | Hours | Distance | Units |
| At Feeders              | 77.00 |          |       |

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|                   |       |        |            |
|-------------------|-------|--------|------------|
| Nocturnal Birding | 7.50  | 77.50  | Kilometers |
|                   |       |        |            |
| Total Party       | 84.75 | 493.00 | Kilometers |

## Weather

| Weather Summary      |                               |                                |  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Temperature          | Minimum: 1.0 Celsius          | Maximum: 9.0 Celsius           |  |
| Wind Direction       | Southeast                     |                                |  |
| Wind Velocity        | Minimum: 5.00 Kilometers/hour | Maximum: 15.00 Kilometers/hour |  |
| Snow Depth           | Minimum: 0.00 Centimeters     | Maximum: 0.00 Centimeters      |  |
| Still Water          | Open                          |                                |  |
| Moving Water         | Open                          |                                |  |
| AM and PM Conditions |                               |                                |  |
| Cloud Cover          | AM: Clear                     | PM: Clear                      |  |
| AM Rain              | None                          |                                |  |
| AM Snow              | None                          |                                |  |
| PM Rain              | None                          |                                |  |
| PM Snow              | None                          |                                |  |

## Checklist

| Species                     | Number or cw | Flags | Max Number | # Of Counts | Editor Comm. |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Greater White-fronted Goose | 14           |       | 22/110     | 13          |              |
| Snow Goose                  | 1            |       | 4/114      | 9           |              |
| Brant                       | 123          | HC,   | 123/115    | 20          |              |
| Cackling Goose              | 6            |       | 13/107     | 11          |              |
| Canada Goose                | 1500         |       | 1545/105   | 24          |              |
| Trumpeter Swan              | 522          |       | 860/113    | 24          |              |
| Gadwall                     | 4            |       | 20/110     | 17          |              |
| Eurasian Wigeon             | 3            |       | 49/92      | 24          |              |
| American Wigeon             | 2312         | HC,   | 2312/115   | 24          |              |
| Mallard                     | 2628         |       | 3174/102   | 24          |              |
| Northern Shoveler           | 3            |       | 33/103     | 20          |              |
| Northern Pintail            | 164          |       | 234/112    | 24          |              |
| American Green-winged Teal  | 109          |       | 460/99     | 24          |              |
| Ring-necked Duck            | 110          |       | 203/111    | 23          |              |
| Greater Scaup               | 300          |       | 1040/106   | 24          |              |
| Lesser Scaup                | 1            |       | 284/98     | 21          |              |
| Harlequin Duck              | 93           |       | 213/103    | 24          |              |

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|  |     |     |          |    |  |
|--|-----|-----|----------|----|--|
| Surf Scoter  | 793 |     | 2175/108 | 24 |  |
| White-winged Scoter                                      | 39  |     | 935/107  | 24 |  |
| Black Scoter   | 237 |     | 719/101  | 24 |  |
| Long-tailed Duck   | 168 | HC, | 168/115  | 15 |  |
| Bufflehead   | 588 |     | 886/105  | 24 |  |
| Common Goldeneye   | 412 |     | 453/103  | 24 |  |
| Barrow's Goldeneye                                       | 61  |     | 119/105  | 24 |  |
| Hooded Merganser   | 45  |     | 49/111   | 24 |  |
| Common Merganser   | 402 | HC, | 402/115  | 24 |  |
| Red-breasted Merganser                                   | 96  |     | 503/92   | 24 |  |
| Ring-necked Pheasant                                     | 1   |     | 16/96    | 23 |  |
| California Quail   | 134 |     | 173/103  | 24 |  |
| Red-throated Loon  | cw  |     | 4/99     | 14 |  |
| Pacific Loon   | 361 |     | 3568/113 | 24 |  |
| Common Loon  | 74  |     | 242/92   | 24 |  |
| Horned Grebe   | 120 |     | 147/107  | 24 |  |
| Red-necked Grebe   | 267 | HC, | 267/115  | 24 |  |
| Western Grebe  | 3   |     | 1245/92  | 24 |  |
| Brandt's Cormorant                                       | 2   |     | 75/110   | 22 |  |
| Double-crested Cormorant                                 | 75  |     | 249/110  | 24 |  |
| Pelagic Cormorant  | 56  |     | 62/110   | 24 |  |
| Great Blue Heron (Blue form)                             | 31  |     | 45/107   | 24 |  |
| Bald Eagle<br>Adults: 178<br>Immatures: 102<br>Unknowns: | 280 |     | 645/96   | 24 |  |
| Northern Harrier   | cw  |     | 2/107    | 10 |  |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk                                       | 4   |     | 9/112    | 23 |  |
| Cooper's Hawk  | 7   |     | 14/107   | 22 |  |
| Red-tailed Hawk  | 10  |     | 19/105   | 23 |  |
| American Kestrel   | 2   | HC, | 2/115    | 10 |  |
| Merlin   | 3   |     | 9/107    | 23 |  |
| Peregrine Falcon   | 2   |     | 3/111    | 14 |  |
| Virginia Rail  | cw  |     | 1/111    | 4  |  |
| Black-bellied Plover                                     | 107 |     | 296/106  | 24 |  |
| Killdeer   | 49  |     | 147/99   | 23 |  |
| Black Oystercatcher                                      | 52  |     | 84/112   | 23 |  |
| Greater Yellowlegs                                       | cw  |     | 5/111    | 13 |  |
| Black Turnstone  | 64  |     | 252/105  | 24 |  |
| Surfbird   | 3   |     | 30/111   | 9  |  |

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|                           |      |     |          |    |  |
|---------------------------|------|-----|----------|----|--|
| Dunlin                    | 671  |     | 1738/106 | 24 |  |
| Wilson's Snipe            | 1    |     | 27/103   | 9  |  |
| Bonaparte's Gull          | 1    |     | 468/107  | 17 |  |
| Mew Gull                  | 1332 |     | 2857/107 | 24 |  |
| Ring-billed Gull          | 2    |     | 22/92    | 21 |  |
| California Gull           | 61   |     | 1007/103 | 21 |  |
| Herring Gull              | 13   |     | 176/98   | 22 |  |
| Thayer's Gull             | 2117 | HC, | 2117/115 | 24 |  |
| Western Gull              | cw   |     | 11/100   | 17 |  |
| Glaucous-winged Gull      | 3638 |     | 5630/99  | 24 |  |
| gull sp.                  | 2932 |     | 5300/101 | 17 |  |
| Common Murre              | 202  |     | 754/112  | 17 |  |
| Pigeon Guillemot          | cw   |     | 54/110   | 17 |  |
| Marbled Murrelet          | 12   |     | 26/107   | 19 |  |
| Ancient Murrelet          | 502  |     | 504/112  | 10 |  |
| Rhinoceros Auklet         | cw   |     | 12/112   | 10 |  |
| Rock Pigeon               | 5    | LC  | 248/104  | 12 |  |
| Band-tailed Pigeon        | cw   |     | 17/99    | 18 |  |
| Eurasian Collared-Dove    | 54   |     | 89/113   | 6  |  |
| Mourning Dove             | 1    |     | 4/114    | 2  |  |
| Great Horned Owl          | 5    |     | 9/107    | 16 |  |
| Barred Owl                | 2    |     | 6/110    | 15 |  |
| Northern Saw-whet Owl     | 3    |     | 4/107    | 8  |  |
| Anna's Hummingbird        | 83   | HC, | 83/115   | 11 |  |
| Belted Kingfisher         | 20   | HC, | 20/115   | 24 |  |
| Red-breasted Sapsucker    | 1    |     | 10/109   | 21 |  |
| Downy Woodpecker          | 13   |     | 33/107   | 24 |  |
| Hairy Woodpecker          | 11   |     | 25/111   | 23 |  |
| Northern Flicker          | 153  |     | 215/111  | 16 |  |
| Pileated Woodpecker       | 23   |     | 38/107   | 24 |  |
| woodpecker sp.            | 2    |     | 2/115    | 5  |  |
| Northern Shrike           | 2    |     | 5/111    | 19 |  |
| Hutton's Vireo            | 1    |     | 5/110    | 16 |  |
| Steller's Jay             | 160  |     | 192/107  | 24 |  |
| Northwestern Crow         | 792  |     | 2091/111 | 24 |  |
| Common Raven              | 253  |     | 509/112  | 24 |  |
| Chestnut-backed Chickadee | 405  |     | 740/111  | 24 |  |
| Bushtit                   | 51   |     | 168/111  | 24 |  |
| Red-breasted Nuthatch     | 77   |     | 130/106  | 23 |  |

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|                                 |       |     |           |    |  |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----|-----------|----|--|
| Brown Creeper                   | 9     |     | 41/110    | 24 |  |
| Bewick's Wren                   | 17    |     | 39/111    | 24 |  |
| Pacific Wren                    | 54    |     | 78/111    | 5  |  |
| Marsh Wren                      | 1     |     | 3/114     | 12 |  |
| American Dipper                 | 5     |     | 9/113     | 22 |  |
| Golden-crowned Kinglet          | 208   |     | 526/107   | 24 |  |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet            | 24    |     | 84/106    | 24 |  |
| Townsend's Solitaire            | 4     | HC, | 4/115     | 6  |  |
| American Robin                  | 775   |     | 972/109   | 24 |  |
| Varied Thrush                   | 36    |     | 236/111   | 24 |  |
| European Starling               | 1553  |     | 2520/103  | 24 |  |
| Cedar Waxwing                   | 1     |     | 19/106    | 5  |  |
| Orange-crowned Warbler          | 1     |     | 1/115     | 3  |  |
| Yellow Warbler                  | cw    | US, | 0/115     | 1  |  |
| Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler  | 4     | HC, | 4/115     | 4  |  |
| Townsend's Warbler              | 2     |     | 5/111     | 12 |  |
| Spotted Towhee                  | 232   |     | 306/111   | 24 |  |
| Fox Sparrow                     | 81    |     | 100/107   | 24 |  |
| Song Sparrow                    | 170   |     | 198/107   | 24 |  |
| Lincoln's Sparrow               | 1     |     | 4/105     | 7  |  |
| White-crowned Sparrow           | 60    |     | 74/107    | 24 |  |
| Golden-crowned Sparrow          | 139   |     | 233/106   | 24 |  |
| Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco        | 1216  |     | 2251/110  | 24 |  |
| Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco | 2     |     | 2/115     | 5  |  |
| Red-winged Blackbird            | 119   |     | 715/102   | 24 |  |
| Brewer's Blackbird              | 579   |     | 1407/111  | 24 |  |
| Pine Grosbeak                   | cw    |     | 1/109     | 3  |  |
| Purple Finch                    | 18    |     | 353/108   | 23 |  |
| House Finch                     | 123   |     | 362/104   | 24 |  |
| Red Crossbill                   | 6     |     | 247/110   | 19 |  |
| Pine Siskin                     | 239   |     | 10420/104 | 24 |  |
| Evening Grosbeak                | 2     |     | 82/113    | 15 |  |
| House Sparrow                   | 49    |     | 118/114   | 23 |  |
| Total Individuals               | 31772 |     |           |    |  |
| Total Species Reported          | 113   |     |           |    |  |
|                                 |       |     |           |    |  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| cw = Reported count week<br>US = Flagged as an unusual species<br>HC = Flagged as an unusually high count<br>LC = Flagged as an unusually low count |  |
|---|--|

### Species Requiring Rare Bird Reports to be Submitted to Regional Editor

| Species                             |
|-------------------------------------|
| Yellow Warbler [Dendroica petechia] |

## Special Aspects

Special Aspects- Parksville Qualicum Beach-BCPQ- Dec.14, 2014-115th CBC

Clear skies overnight and during daylight hours helped lift the moods of field participants after an early December deep freeze followed by heavy rains with strong winds. Pockets of light frost were reported well inland. Rough seas and hazy conditions prevented clear views of many seabirds past 1km out on the Salish Sea. Several small groups of Greater White-fronted Geese in the area including 2 with 1 Snow Goose that have frequented Parksville Community Park since late November. This goose trio has been a topic of discussion and ID confusion by many. I had many calls from the public re the mysterious goose trio. Photos were taken and ID was confirmed by Denis Lepage of BSC. A high count of 123 Brant is very welcome in this community, they started arriving in early December. We got a second highest count of 522 Trumpeters, they were concentrated on the westside of the Count Circle at the Little Qualicum River mouth and in agricultural fields of Hilliers. Most of our dabbling ducks were in flooded fields well inland, one team's highlight was a mixed flock of about 3000 as they got spooked and moved over to a neighbouring field. 102 of the 110 Ring-necked Ducks were on Belle Lake in Errington. 39 White-winged Scoters is a second lowest count. 36 of the 49 Killdeer were all together in an agricultural field. Birders were lucky to find 3 Surfbirds seen at close range at Rath Trevor Beach along with other shorebirds. The 2117 Thayer's Gulls was a nice high count however the 10,096 total gulls counted does not reflect many more way out in deep water that birders could not ID due to rough seas and time constraints. The same situation applies to overall alcid numbers, one birder stopped counting Ancient Murrelets at 500 but many more were suspected.

The 5 Rock Pigeons counted is low, I know we missed many that roost near the local Buckerfield's and at the French Creek marina. Band-tail Pigeons have declined, a few have been seen in the Little Mountain area. Again, I think we missed many of the Eurasian Collared-Doves that often visit feeders and agricultural sites. Owling conditions were good, 3 Saw-whets were a welcome surprise. 83 Anna's Hummingbirds is a high count, yet I know of many more sites where they have been reported to me over the last few months. One feedercounter had an amazing 24 Annas' at his feeders, a regular occurrence at this site near the mouth of Craig Creek. The Little Qualicum River area held 9 of our 20 Kingfishers. The 4 Townsend's Solitaires were at Little Mountain, heard and seen at close range. 1 Cedar Waxwing seen from a few feet away. Our warbler list is great: 1 Orange-crowned and 2 others for count week; 4 Yellow-rumps and 6 others for count week; a Townsend's pair; and a rare winter visitor, 1 count week female Yellow Warbler that arrived mid-Nov. and stayed until Dec. 17. It was photographed and seen numerous times at sugar water feeders in the Englishman R. estuary/Rath Trevor area. I will email the YEWA photos and rare bird form to the editor. We will settle for count week Pine Grosbeaks, quite a few sightings here through December. We had very few finches around, several small flocks of 20-60 Pine Siskins, 2 Evening Grosbeaks at feeders and several more for count week. At dawn the team covering Hamilton Marsh were shocked to hear volleys of shots close to them just as they reached the waters' edge, they retreated and returned later when the hunters were gone. Birders were welcomed by many land owners and organizations that allowed entry to their private or managed lands.

Sandra Gray BCPQ compiler