# **Progress Notes**

Progress Notes contain *interim* data and conclusions and are presented as a service to other wildlife biologists and agencies.

Canadian Wildlife Servi

Aussi disponible en français

No. 60, March 1976\_

The co-operative Breeding Bird Survey in Canada, 1975

by Anthony J. Erskine<sup>1</sup>

### Introduction

The Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) was started in Canada in 1966, as an experimental study. We now use it to follow year-to-year changes in numbers of birds (especially nongame birds) in most settled areas of Canada. This report considers those changes between 1974 and 1975, and is thus comparable in format and coverage to recent reports in this series (Erskine 1974, 1975).

This is a co-operative project, involving the Canadian Wildlife Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and volunteers in both countries. Methods of data collection are the same throughout, but there are some important differences in the procedures used in Canada and the U.S.A. for editing the data received and in the actual analyses.

## Results

### Coverage

Figure 1 shows the distribution of degree-blocks in which surveys were made in 1975, and Table 1 compares the numbers of routes surveyed in each of the last five years with the total number of routes surveyed since the survey began in 1966.

### Grouping of routes for analysis

The groupings used in 1974 were continued with minor adjustments, chiefly along the northern limits of the two most westerly regions. The species most frequently reported in each region are shown in Tables 2 to 9.

#### Changes observed

As in 1974, we have analysed data for six major regions: Maritimes, central Ontario and Quebec, southern Ontario and Quebec, southern Prairie Provinces, central Prairie Provinces (including northeastern British Columbia), and British Columbia (west of the Rockies). Data from Newfoundland and Yukon Territory are too few for useful analysis. Summaries of comparisons between 1974 and 1975 are presented in Tables 10 to 15. Annual index numbers will appear in a proposed 10-year report, and are not given here.

# Discussion

# Coverag

SK

471

C3371

NO.60

The pattern of coverage was similar to previous years, with a few new routes added along the northern periphery of most sampled areas. The total number of surveys was similar to those of 1973 and 1974, and only in Newfoundland and Ontario did numbers of completed surveys increase. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick we surveyed the fewest routes of

any year except 1966, the very first year of the project, and recruitment of new observers in Quebec did little more than balance the loss of former co-operators. Although coverage in Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia reached a peak in years when the national co-ordinator worked in those provinces, coverage in all except Manitoba would have peaked in the same years even without his efforts. Actually, coverage in British Columbia decreased in 1975 even though the national co-ordinator surveyed more routes there than in 1974. It thus seems that coverage has reached a plateau beyond which only greatly increased efforts by regional co-ordinators, in recruiting new co-operators, can effect an increase or even maintain present coverage. This year only 31 of 193 observers covered more than one route, although some of these also assisted other people with their surveys. Seven regional co-ordinators collectively covered 30 routes, a good example of the dedication these surveys arouse in some of our keener observers. But we are equally happy to note that 66% of all surveys were done by observers who surveyed only one route each, compared to 63% in 1974. Spreading the load is the surest way of ensuring the continued enthusiasm of our volunteer co-operators.

### Grouping of routes for analysis

No significant changes were made this year, despite the marginally adequate samples available from the central Prairie Provinces. The examination of methodology anticipated in a proposed 10-year report on the BBS may indicate whether it is worth our recalculating past data using groupings different from or smaller than those now in force. In general, we can anticipate that further subdivision will tend to increase the confidence intervals of the estimated changes, owing to the smaller samples, unless the subsamples are markedly more homogeneous than the groupings used at present.

### Changes observed

Statistically significant changes from 1974 to 1975 are marked in Tables 10 to 15. 1974 was apparently a poor year, as changes from 1973 were generally downward in most regions; changes from 1974 to 1975, however, showed no general upward or downward pattern. There is no evidence of region-wide changes in three regions, and only a slight suggestion of this in a fourth. The central Ontario and Quebec region showed markedly more increases than decreases, and all significant decreases-in Herring Gull, Bank Swallow, and Common Crow-were based on large changes on a very few routes, very possibly as results of chance observations of flocked birds in 1974. As the central Ontario and Quebec region showed far more decreases than increases last year, this year's increases could reflect either a real recovery from reduced numbers in 1974, or else that birds were back to normal after having adopted less conspicuous behaviour in response to

S.C.F. - C.W.S.

MAR 1 7 1976

1CWS, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3.

EZENWEÇUZ Privironment Canada

Environnement Canada Service Cal Felia EC adverse weather in 1974. We cannot clearly distinguish between such alternatives at present, but in either case we see further evidence of the fluctuation around intermediate levels, which is characteristic of most populations.

The situation in the Maritimes was especially interesting, as this area showed evidence of a decline among insectivorous species in 1974 (although not in all species combined), and of a still more striking and general decline in all species in 1975. Inasmuch as we had already learned of evidence suggesting mortality of small birds in areas sprayed against spruce budworm in New Brunswick, it seemed worth examining the Maritimes data more closely. We subdivided the Maritimes sample of routes with comparable coverage into (i) areas sprayed against budworm, (ii) other New Brunswick areas, and (iii) Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. None of these subsamples contained as many routes as we had considered the minimum necessary for meaningful analysis. but, most surprisingly, the numbers of species showing statistically significant changes were as great or greater in each subsample as in the total, composite sample (Table 16). Furthermore, the largest number of statistically significant changes, all decreases, was found in the N.S.-P.E.I. subsample, which was obviously not directly affected by budworm spraying. Comparison of the two New Brunswick subsamples indicated that, in almost every case where the per cent change differed appreciably, the sprayed area showed a larger decrease or a smaller increase than the unsprayed area, an obvious correlation with the mortality actually observed by P.A. Pearce and co-workers (pers. commun.). We conclude that some other adverse factor(s) must have acted on bird numbers in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, where only 7 species out of 41 examined showed increases and no less than 18 showed significant decreases. A climatic effect, possibly either from the prolonged cold weather in late spring or from the unusual drought that prevailed throughout the breeding season, may be suspected, but the fact that it acted on all groups of birds, including omnivorous and seed-eating birds as well as insectivores, sets it clearly apart from the Maritime-wide decreases of insectivorous species in 1967 and 1974. We will have to look at data from other regions and years to determine whether subdividing our usual samples is a worthwhile general practice. Clearly, this supports our decision not to combine the existing regions in search for Canada-wide indices to changes, as had been suggested in some quarters, since even a regional change has now been shown to involve at least two different factors.

We will discuss trends at length in the proposed 10-year report. As this may not appear for over a year, it may be worth noting that all species for which continued decreases were suggested earlier in the Maritimes continued to decline in 1975, owing to the overall downward trend there, but all species previously noted to have decreased markedly in the southern Ontario and Quebec and Prairie regions showed appreciable increases in 1975.

#### Acknowledgements

We wish to thank all observers and their assistants who carried out the surveys reported here, and also our regional coordinators, many of whom also carried out surveys and who

ensured the coverage necessary for meaningful analyses. Addresses of the co-ordinators are

Newfoundland: co-ordinated from CWS, Ottawa K1A 0H3

New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island: Mr. David S. Christie, The New Brunswick Museum, 277 Douglas Avenue, Saint John, New Brunswick E2K 1E5

Quebec: Club des Ornithologues de Québec, 8191, avenue du Zoo, Orsainville G1G 4G4

Ontario: Dr. J. Murray Speirs, 1815 Altona Road, Pickering L1V 1M6

Manitoba: Mr. H.W.R. Copland, Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, 190 Rupert Avenue, Winnipeg R3B 0N2

Saskatchewan: Mr. Frank Brazier, 2657 Cameron Street, Regina S4T 2W5

Alberta: Mr. Jack L. Park, 10236-70 Street, Edmonton T6A 2T4

British Columbia: co-ordinated from CWS, Ottawa K1A 0H3

Yukon Territory: Mr. Wayne P. Neily, Haines Junction Y0B IL0

#### References

Erskine, A.J. 1974. The co-operative Breeding Bird Survey in Canada, 1973. CWS Progr. Note No. 38. 15 p.

Erskine, A.J. 1975. The co-operative Breeding Bird Survey in Canada, 1974. CWS Progr. Note No. 45. 19 p.

Table 1
Number of routes completed in the Breeding Bird Survey,
Canada, 1971—75, compared to all routes surveyed in 1966
through 1975

	Total routes					
Province	surveyed in 1966–75	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Nfld.	4	0	0	2	4	6
P.E.I.	4	2	2	4.	· 4.	$\frac{6}{4}$
N.S.	24	21	23	20	19	17
N.B.	27	24	$\frac{\overline{24}}{28}$	22	21	16
Que.	44	$\frac{24}{25}$	$\overline{28}$	24	21	24
Ont.	67	<b>5</b> 3	47	55	58	<u>61</u>
Man.	16	11	14	13	14	<del>13</del>
Sask.	29	13	$\overline{20}$	28	$\overline{19}$	19
Alta.	45	17	27	28 36 38	31	33
B.C.	74	12	9	38	<b>5</b> 3	50
Yukon	7	0	1	5	7	5
Țotal	341	178	194	247	251	248

<sup>\*</sup>The underlined figures represent the greatest number of routes surveyed in one year for each province. P.E.I. also had 4 routes surveyed each year in 1967–69; Quebec had 33 routes surveyed in 1970

Table 2
The 20 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, Maritime Provinces, 1975; the mean number of each per route; and the percentage of routes on which they were found. Thirty-seven routes were surveyed, with a mean of 840 birds noted per route.

Starling White-throated Sparrow Song Sparrow Common Crow Common Grackle Red-winged Blackbird Common Yellowthroat	Mean no. per route	% of 37 routes
American Robin	65.5	100
Starling	55.8	97
White-throated Sparrow	53.4	100
Song Sparrow	39.0	100
Common Crow	38.4	97
Common Grackle	28.3	95
Red-winged Blackbird	27.6	95
Common Yellowthroat	23.3	100
American Redstart	20.4	95
Herring Gull	20.1	54
Bobolink	19.7	89
Swainson's Thrush	18.1	86
Barn Swallow	16.3	100
Red-eyed Vireo	15.9	92
Savannah Sparrow	15.8	89
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	15.5	92
House Sparrow	15.3	89
Dark-eyed Junco	14.4	100
Alder Flycatcher	14.2	97
Ovenbird	14.0	81

Table 3
The 20 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, central Ontario and central Quebec, 1975; the mean number of each per route; and the percentage of routes on which they were found. Forty-nine routes were surveyed, with a mean of 617 birds noted per route

Species  White-throated Sparrow Starling Red-eyed Vireo American Robin Common Crow  Song Sparrow Red-winged Blackbird Ovenbird Veery Chestnut-sided Warbler Common Yellowthroat Swainson's Thrush Common Grackle Savannah Sparrow Tree Swallow	Mean no. per route	% of 49 routes
White-throated Sparrow	51.2	1.00
	40.0	88
	28.4	<b>9</b> 8
	27.7	1 <b>00</b>
	19.6	100
Song Sparrow	18.7	96
	18.3	96
	18.1	96
	17.6	82
•	16.8	92
Common Yellowthroat	15.9	96
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<b>15</b> .1	84
	13.8	88
	13.7	69
Tree Swallow	13.2	92
Chipping Sparrow	13.1	96
Barn Swallow	12.0	82
Bobolink	11.9	53
Mourning Warbler	10.4	84
Hermit Thrush	9.6	80

Table 4
The 20 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, southern Ontario and southern Quebec, 1975; the mean number of each per route; and the percentage of routes on which they were found. Thirty-six routes were

surveyed, with a mean of 1201 birds noted per route

<del> </del>	·-·	<del></del>	
Species	Mean no. per route	% of 36 routes	
Red-winged Blackbird	197.7	100	
Starling	169.3	100	
Common Grackle	76.5	100	
House Sparrow	72.5	100	
Savannah Sparrow	59.3	97	
American Robin	56.2	100	
Bobolink	46.7	100	
Common Crow	43.2	100	
Barn Swallow	40.2	100	
Song Sparrow	38.6	100	
Bank Swallow	28.7	78	
Brown-headed Cowbird	27.1	100	
Eastern Meadowlark	26.3	100	
American Goldfinch	23.8	100	
Killdeer	21.3	100	
Rock Dove	18.2	94	
Mourning Dove	14.9	94	
Chipping Sparrow	14.3	94	
Tree Swallow	12.4	89	
Common Yellowthroat	11.3	83	

Table 5
The 20 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, southern Prairie Provinces, 1975; the mean number of each per route; and the percentage of routes on which they were found. Forty routes were surveyed, with a mean of 920 birds noted per route

Mean no. per route	% of 40 routes	
104.3	100	
76.7	100	
69.8	95	
48.4	100	
41.5	100	
35.8	95	
27.2	100	
26.9	92	
26.7	98	
24.0	72	
20.8	98	
20.2	92	
19.7	45	
18.6	78	
17.8	92	
17.0	100	
15.2	48	
15.0	30	
14.7	100	
13.9	70	
	104.3 76.7 69.8 48.4 41.5 35.8 27.2 26.9 26.7 24.0 20.8 20.2 19.7 18.6 17.8 17.0 15.2 15.0 14.7	

Table 6

The 20 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, central Prairie Provinces region, 1975; the mean number of each per route; and the percentage of routes on which they were found. Twenty-six routes were surveyed, with a mean of 609 birds noted per route

Species	Mean no. per route	% of 2
Red-winged Blackbird	45.8	92
Clay-coloured Sparrow	32.0	77
Common Crow	30.2	81
Brewer's Blackbird	25.3	73
Franklin's Gull	22.5	27
Mallard	20.6	65
Song Sparrow	19.8	62
American Robin	18.9	100
Savannah Sparrow	18.8	81
Starling	14.7	85
Yellow Warbler	14.6	88
White-throated Sparrow	13.3	73
Vesper Sparrow	12.9	73
House Sparrow	12.6	65
Cliff Swallow	12.5	<b>2</b> 3
Brown-headed Cowbird	11,1	85
Least Flycatcher	10.8	85
Alder Flycatcher	10.1	65
Black-billed Magpie	9.7	81
Common Snipe	9.5	73

Table 7
The 20 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, British Columbia (west of Rocky Mountains), 1975; the mean numbers of each per route; and the percentage of routes on which they were found. Forty-eight routes were

surveyed, with a mean of 605 birds noted per route

Species	Mean no. per route	% of 48 routes
Starling	65.8	83
American Robin	54.0	98
Pine Siskin	31.6	94
Swainson's Thrush	30.8	98
Crows*	29.5	83
Barn Swallow	18.7	81
Chipping Sparrow	16.1	18
Glaucous-winged Gull	13.1	19
Dark-eyed Junco	12.9	94
Brewer's Blackbird	12.2	61
Red-winged Blackbird	10.8	73
Song Sparrow	10.0	85
Brown-headed Cowbird	9.2	71
Yellow Warbler	7.9	77
Yellow-rumped Warbler	7.8	90
MacGillivray's Warbler	7.8	67
House Sparrow	7.7	25
Tree Swallow	7.6	81
Black-capped Chickadee	7.6	69
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	7.6	63

<sup>\*</sup>Common Crow and Northwestern Crow combined.

Table 8

The 10 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, Newfoundland (including Labrador), 1975; the mean number of each per route; and the number of routes on which each was noted. Six routes were surveyed, with a mean of 483 birds noted per route

Species	Mean no. per route	No. of routes
American Robin	56.7	6
White-throated Sparrow	46.7	6
Blackpoll Warbler	32.5	6
Northern Waterthrush	31.9	6
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	24.0	5
Fox Sparrow	23.4	6
Lincoln's Sparrow	21.7	5
Herring Gull	17.7	4
Gray-cheeked Thrush	17.3	6
Mourning Warbler	16.8	5

Table 9

The 10 species recorded in greatest numbers in the Breeding Bird Survey, Yukon Territory, 1975; the mean number of each per route; and the percentage of routes on which they were found. Five routes were surveyed, with a mean of 518 birds noted per route

Species	Mean no. per route	% of 5 routes
Dark-eyed Junco	74.5	100
Swainson's Thrush	59.5	100
White-crowned Sparrow	53.2	100
American Robin	31.0	100
Yellow-rumped Warbler	28.8	100
Canada Jay	19.4	100
Chipping Sparrow	19.2	100
Scaup sp.?	16.6	40
Bank Swallow	14.8	80
Bohemian Waxwing	13.2	100

Table 10
Changes in bird population samples for 28 comparable routes,
Breeding Bird Survey, Maritime Provinces, 1974—75

		mean no. per route		% change (I th 95% con		
Species	1974	1975		limits		
Common Snipe*	8.74	5.33	-64	-39	-14	
Herring Gull	31.71	28.43	- 108	- 10	+87	
Common Flicker	3.67	2.89	-49	- 21	+ნ	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	7.51	8.44	-31	+12	+56	
Alder Flycatcher*	21.73	14.92	-41	-31	- 22	
Least Flycatcher	5.10	4.13	-46	-19	+8	
Tree Swallow*	17.37	12.27	-49	- 29	-9	
Bank Swallow*	20.65	9.03	-97	- 56	- 15	
Barn Swallow*	22.16	15.85	-46	- <b>28</b>	-11	
Blue Jay	4.37	3.71	-37	-15	+6	
Common Raven	10.79	8.89	-42	-18	+6	
Common Crow	38.22	33,58	-25	-12	0	
Winter Wren*	7.64	4.70	-5 <b>6</b>	-39	-21	
American Robin	68.87	65.29	-14	-5	+4	
	9.81	9.69	-14 -20	- 3 - 1	+18	
Hermit Thrush	9,01	9.09	-20	-1	<b>⊤1</b> 0	
Swainson's Thrush	21.92	21.49	-20	<b>-2</b>	+16	
Veery	8.45	7.03	-43	-17	+9	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	17.79	17.60	-13	- 1	+11	
Starling	46.79	50.08	-15	+7	+30	
Red-eyed Vireo	14.95	12.57	-40	-16	+8	
Nashville Warbler	5.03	4.58	-34	-9	+16	
Yellow Warbler	14,40	13.12	-27	-9	+9	
Magnolia Warbler	12.84	13.23	-12	+3	+18	
Black-throated Green Warbler	7.68	7.17	-29	-7	+16	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5.85	5.41	-38	-8	+23	
Ovenbird*	16.37	12.31	-44	- 25	-6	
Common Yellowthroat	27.13	25.03	-23	-8	+8	
American Redstart	20.37	19.57	-24	-4	+17	
House Sparrow*	15.93	12.58	-36	-21	-7	
Bobolink*	19.21	16.08	-29	-16	-4	
Red-winged Blackbird	28.29	27.94	-23	-1	+20	
Common Grackle	29.60	26.74	-38	-10	+19	
Common Grackie Brown-headed Cowbird	8,46	7.49	-38 -48	-10 -11	+25	
				-		
Evening Grosbeak*	10.04	15.66	+11	+56	+101	
Purple Finch	8.68	9.01	-20	+4	+27	
American Goldfinch	12.26	11.92	-45	-3	+39	
Savannah Sparrow	11.93	12.23	-16	+2	+21	
Dark-eyed Junco	13.79	13.64	-22	-1	+20	
Chipping Sparrow	7.66	7.71	-26	+1	+28	
White-throated Sparrow	59.86	56.37	-13	-6	+2	
Song Sparrow	37.51	36.19	~13	-4	+6	

<sup>\*</sup>Change at least 95% significant.

9

Table 11
Changes in bird population samples for 28 comparable routes,
Breeding Bird Survey, central Ontario and Central Quebec,
1974—75

		mean no. per route		% change (bold) with 95% confidence		
Species	1974	1975	limits			
Killdeer	2.95	3.80	-26	+29	+84	
Herring Gull*	9.13	4.36	-90	-52	-15	
Common Flicker	3.50	3.74	-45	+7	+59	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2.34	2.97	-43	+27	+97	
Alder Flycatcher	9.62	8,73	-32	-9	+14	
Least Flycatcher	8.19	8.55	22	+4	+30	
Tree Swallow*	8.33	12.80	+15	+54	+93	
Bank Swallow*	3.79	1.81	-72	-52	-33	
Barn Swallow*	8.28	11.00	+1	+33	+65	
Blue Jay	2.40	2.56	-53	+7	+67	
Common Raven	5.35	5.49	-22	+3	+28	
Common Crow*	21.51	16.01	-52	- 26	0	
Winter Wren*	7.54	10.34	+1	+37	+73	
American Robin	28.34	27.52	-16	-3	+11	
Hermit Thrush	9.12	13.83	-3	+52	+107	
Swainson's Thrush*	15.28	20.47	+11	+34	+57	
Veery	15.27	17.96	-6	+18	+41	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	11.59	11.37	-30	-2	+26	
Cedar Waxwing	4.31	4.74	-41	+10	+60	
Starling	28.54	• 37.05	-12	+30	+71	
Red-eyed Vireo*	24.09	29.17	+4	+21	+38	
Nashville Warbler	11.76	9.39	-42	-20	+2	
Yellow Warbler	2.74	3.92	-29	+43	+115	
Magnolia Warbler	6.02	6.89	-24	+15	+53	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	5.55	7.94	-27	+43	+113	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	15.00	16.58	-16	+11	+38	
Ovenbird	20.22	19.31	-16	- 4	+7	
Mourning Warbler*	10.08	13.49	+5	+34	+63	
Common Yellowthroat	15.84	18.09	-14	+14	+42	
American Redstart	6.80	7.45	-30	+10	+49	
House Sparrów	0.98	1.78	-72	+82	+237	
Bobolink	9.59	10.96	-3	+14	+32	
Red-winged Blackbird	15.03	15.87	-20	+6	+32	
Common Grackle	6.19	7.23	-32	+17	+65	
Brown-headed Cowbird	4.17	4.53	- 35	+9	+53	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5.32	6.18	-30	+16	+62	
Evening Grosbeak	6.00	6.78	-45	+13	+71	
American Goldfinch	4.86	5.49	-5	+13	+31	
Savannah Sparrow	9.28	11.54	-17	+24	+66	
Dark-eyed Junco	5.14	6.42	-17	+25	+67	
Chipping Sparrow	10.78	10.47	-25	-3	+19	
White-throated Sparrow	60.00	60.65	-10	+1	+12	
Song Sparrow	14.42	15.82	-13	+10	+32	

<sup>\*</sup>Change at least 95% significant.

Table 12
Changes in bird population samples for 23 comparable routes,
Breeding Bird Survey, southern Ontario and southern
Quebec, 1974–75

		mean no. per route	% change (bold) with 95% confider		
Species	1974	1975	limits		
Killdeer	18.39	22.08	-4	+20	+44
Rock Dove	17.43	19.41	-32	+11	+55
Mourning Dove	16.46	16.39	-32	0	+31
Common Flicker	5.08	4.94	-35	-3	+29
Eastern Kingbird	9.06	7.41	-42	-18	+6
Great Crested Flycatcher	4.15	3.80	-46	-8	+29
Eastern Wood Pewee*	3.67	2.57	-53	-30	-7
Horned Lark*	4.64	7.17	+20	+55	+89
Tree Swallow	11.76	10.25	-49	-13	+24
Bank Swallow	22.15	21.98	-57	<b>- 1</b> .	+56
Barn Swallow	33,16	36.18	-13	+9	+31
Purple Martin	5.00	4.92	-83	-2	+79
Blue Jay	4.46	4.58	-46	+3	+51
Common Crow	45.82	41.46	-26	-10	+7
House Wren	5.03	6.14	-11	+22	+54
Gray Cathird	3,63	3.58	-36	-1	+34
Brown Thrasher	4.99	4.02	-53	-19	+15
American Robin	49.45	49.76	-14	+1	+15
Veery	4.03	5.26	-5	+30	+66
Cedar Waxwing	4.38	3.78	-77	-14	+50
Starling	175.32	170.82	-30	-3	+25
Red-eyed Vireo*	4.59	6.15	+9	+34	+59
Warbling Vireo	3.27	3.53	-27	+8	+43
Yellow Warbler	7.77	6.33	-44	-18	+7
Common Yellowthroat	8.98	9.93	-7	+11	+29
House Sparrow	77.64	70.04	-27	-10	+8
Bobolink	49.40	47.35	-20	-4	+11
Eastern Meadowlark*	29.11	24.06	-29	-17	-6
Red-winged Blackbird*	142.06	183,85	+4	+29	+55
Northern Oriole	9.19	8.52	-31	-7	+16
Common Grackle	72.77	84.61	-36	+16	+68
Brown-headed Cowbird	25.85	21.16	-47	-18	+10
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4.24	5.72	-2	+35	+72
American Goldfinch	16.52	19.84	-19	+20	+59
Savannah Sparrow	48.97	57.68	-6	+18	+41
Vesper Sparrow	6.67	6.61	-31	-1	+29
Chipping Sparrow	10.84	11.78	-10	+9	+28
White-throated Sparrow	4.95	6.91	-15	+40	+94
Song Sparrow*	38.97	34.38	-22	-12	-1

<sup>\*</sup>Change at least 95% significant.

Table 13
Changes in bird population samples for 32 comparable routes,
Breeding Bird Survey, southern Prairie Provinces, 1974-75

Species Mallard	Weighted mean no. of birds per route		% change (bold) with 95% confidence		
	1974	1975	limits		
	36.16	39.52	-29	+9	+47
Pintail	17.03	22.21	-30	+30	+91
Blue-winged Teal	11.62	12.32	-18	+6	+30
Northern Shoveler	6.27	8.45	-17	+35	+86
American Wigeon	4.81	5.95	-28	+24	+75
Lesser Scaup	10.68	9.13	-67	-15	+38
Sora*	3.90	6.29	+13	+61	+109
American Coot	11.56	14.60	-23	+26	+75
Killdeer	13.37	14.07	-18	+5	+28
Ring-billed Gull	12.44	13.76	-32	+11	+53
Franklin's Gull	22,33	13.17	-109	-41	+27
Black Tern	10.37	12.11	-33	+17	+66
Rock Dove	4.00	5.11	-34	+28	+89
Mourning Dove	9.62	11.33	-18	+18	+53
Common Flicker	1.94	2.79	-5	+44	+94
Eastern Kingbird	7.21	6.55	-30	-9	+11
Least Flycatcher	2.53	3.77	2	+49	+100
Horned Lark	70.64	74.40	-10	+5	+21
Tree Swallow	2.46	2.49	-56	+1	+58
Barn Swallow	15.89	17.39	-8	+9	+27
Cliff Swallow	20.74	24.72	-38	+19	+77
Black-billed Magpie	8.95	8.75	-34	-2	+30
Common Crow	37.34	33.98	-21	-9	+3
House Wren	10.47	11.13	-14	+6	+27
American Robin	6.31	7.30	-11	+16	+42
Starling	17.12	21.57	-17	+26	+69
Warbling Vireo	3,38	2.79	-49	-17	+14
Yellow Warbler	6.28	4.65	-58	- 26	+6
House Sparrow*	56.29	75.70	+3	+34	+66
Bobolink	3.09	3.52	-26	+14	+54
Western Meadowlark	47.50	42.94	-27	-10	+8
Yellow-headed Blackbird	22,75	27.26	-17	+20	+57
Red-winged Blackbird*	95.22	107.82	0 .	+13	+26
Brewer's Blackbird	27,22	26.42	-28	-3	+22
Common Grackle	3,97	6.15	-25	+55	+135
Brown-headed Cowbird	28.10	27.30	-21	-3	+15
American Goldfinch	4.43	3.99	<b>-41</b>	- 10	+22
_ark Bunting*	14.67	4.56	-91	-69	-47
Savannah Sparrow	20.32	18.37	-26	-10	+6
Vesper Sparrow	16.38	14.74	-36	-10	+16
Clay-coloured Sparrow	28.89	26,75	-22	-7	+7
Song Sparrow	13.68	13.36	-37	-2	+32
Chestnut-collared Longspur	15.88	18.25	-17	+15	+47

<sup>\*</sup>Change at least 95% significant.

Table 14
Changes in bird population samples for 16 comparable routes,
Breeding Bird Survey, central Prairie Provinces, 1974–75

Species  Mallard		Weighted mean no. of birds per route		% change (bold) with 95% confidence		
	1974	1975	limits			
	20.92	19.86	-52	-5	+42	
Pintail	8.98	6.20	-69	-31	+7	
Blue-winged Teal	10.63	8.94	-48	-16	+16	
Northern Shoveler	6.06	4.10	-65	-32	+1	
Lesser Scaup*	9.84	7.55	-46	<b>- 23</b>	-1	
American Coot	5.55	5.29	-53	-5	+44	
Killdeer	5.06	4.78	-24	-6	+13	
Common Snipe	10.49	11.58	-17	+10	+38	
Franklin's Gull	39.57	22.04	-111	- 44	+23	
Black Tern	6.79	7.39	-16	+9	+34	
Common Flicker	2.59	3.55	-28	+37	+103	
Alder Flycatcher	8.93	12.66	-9	+42	+92	
Least Flycatcher	12.85	12.63	-23	-2	+19	
Western Wood Pewee	2,20	2.98	-60	+35	+131	
Tree Swallow	4.76	6.03	-30	+27	+83	
Barn Swallow	7.97	7.41	-39	-7	+24	
Black-billed Magpie	12,22	10.89	-39	-11	+17	
Common Crow	25.92	28.72	-8	+11	+30	
House Wren	8.57	8.34	-23	-3	+18	
American Robin	24.21	23.00	-24	-5	+14	
Starling	25.43	19.28	-56	- 24	+8	
Red-eyed Vireo	5.10	7.52	-9	+47	+104	
Warbling Vireo	3.59	2.56	-69	- 29	+12	
Yellow Warbler	13.12	14.05	-6	+7	+20	
Common Yellowthroat	4.73	4.67	-51	-1	+48	
House Sparrow	11.23	13.72	<b>-5</b>	+22	+49	
Western Meadowlark	7.80	8.13	-33	+4	+41	
Red-winged Blackbird	39.76	43.36	-3	+9	+21	
Northern Oriole	6.36	5.63	-36	- 1.1	+13	
Brewer's Blackbird	23,89	22.89	-45	-4	+37	
Brown-headed Cowbird	14.78	12.43	-47	- 16	+15	
Pine Siskin*	14.50	3.78	-82	- 74	-66	
American Goldfinch	2.16	1.90	-98	-12	+74	
Savannah Sparrow	18.68	17.90	-27	-4	+18	
Vesper Sparrow	8.56	13.28	-17	+55	+128	
Dark-eyed Junco	7.10	8.88	-22	+25	+72	
Chipping Sparrow*	14.28	9.43	-59	-34	-9	
Clay-coloured Sparrow	28.24	31.64	-6	+12	+30	
White-throated Sparrow	13.52	12.92	-31	-4	+22	
Song Sparrow	23.47	20.75	-35	-12	+12	

Change at least 95% significant.

Table 15
Changes in bird population samples for 26 comparable routes,
Breeding Bird Survey, British Columbia (west of Rocky
Mountains), 1974—75

Species Killdeer*	Weighted mean no. of birds per route		% change (bold) with 95% confidence		
	1974	1975	limits		
	2.50	3,92	+6	+56	+106
Rufous Hummingbird	3.06	2.62	-65	- 14	+37
Common Flicker	4.86	6.13	-5	+26	+57
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2.63	2.21	-41	-16	+9
Willow Flycatcher	5.22	5.55	-28	+6	+40
Western Wood Pewee*	6.76	3.97	-58	-41	-25
Violet-green Swallow	9.02	5.44	-82	-40	+2
Tree Swallow	8.66	7.02	-65	-19	+27
Rough-winged Swallow*	7.38	3.49	-77	-53	-29
Barn Swallow	· 14.15	19.80	-1	+40	+80
Cliff Swallow	8.96	7.52	-123	- 16	+91
Common Raven	4.35	6.31	-4	+45	+94
Crows‡	28.14	32.74	9	+16	+42
Black-capped Chickadee	7.79	9.16	-25	+18	+60
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	4.32	3.61	-85	-16	+52
Winter Wren	3,59	2.64	-66	-27	+13
American Robin	60.55	58.63	-17	-3	+11
Varied Thrush	2.33	3.45	-17	+48	+113
Swainson's Thrush	31.26	29.37	-21	-6	+8
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4.22	3.58	-54	-15	+24
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3.54	5.29	-25	+49	+123
Cedar Waxwing	4.29	3.76	-78	-12	+53
Starling	55.37	70.13	-43	+27	+96
Red-eyed Vireo	11.50	10.27	-33	-11	+11
Warbling Vireo	6.43	5.65	-55	-12	+31
Orange-crowned Warbler	7.06	5.99	-46	-15	+16
Yellow Warbler*	13.34	10.56	-32	-21	-9
Yellow-rumped Warbler	8.51	8.88	-38	+4	+46
MacGillivray's Warbler	7.47	6.48	-51	-13	+25
Wilson's Warbler*	3.54	1.64	-92	-54	-16
House Sparrow	4.88	5.01	-29	+3	+34
Western Meadowlark*	8.46	12.51	+24	+48	+71
Red-winged Blackbird	10.04	16.78	-89	+67	+223
Red-winged Blackbird Brewer's Blackbird	18.63	15.50	-41	-17	+8
Brown-headed Cowbird	9.00	9.63	-22	+7	+36
	7.20	7.66	-17	+6	+30
Western Tanager	24.90	7.00 38.89	-17	+56	+128
Pine Siskin	6.64		-15 -46	-18	+120
American Goldfinch Rufous-sided Towhee	5.35	5.47 4.30	-40 -40	-18 -20	+1 +1
Rufous-sided Townee Savannah Sparrow	5.35 4.91	4.30 5.25	-40 -29	-20 +7	+43
•	11.86		-32	-5	+22
Dark-eyed Junco		11.23 .23.31	-32 +8	+35	+62
Chipping Sparrow*	17.27		-29	-6	+17
Song Sparrow	12.72	11.99	-49	U	111

<sup>\*</sup>Change at least 95% significant. ‡Common and Northwestern Crows combined.

Table 16
Changes in bird population samples for comparable routes in areas sprayed against spruce budworm in 1975 and other parts of the Maritime Provinces, Breeding Bird Survey, 1974—75

	% change w	% change with 95% confidence limits for		
	N.B. sprayed	N.B. unsprayed	N.S. and P.E.I unsprayed	
Species	(7 rtes)	(8 rtes)	(13 rtes)	
Common Snipe	-55±33 *	-50±41 *	-15±28	
Herring Gull	(-100)	-31±31 *	-3±132	
Common Flicker	-27±45	+33±89	-35±32 *	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	+48±63	+37±113	-56±42 *	
Alder Flycatcher	-37±18 *	-31±18 *	-30±13 *	
Least Flycatcher	-31±30 *	+18±44	-29±44	
Tree Swallow	-13±67	-17±48	-39±23 *	
Bank Swallow	-38±25 *	-40±23 *	-70±61 *	
Barn Swallow	-27±17 *	-37±34 *	-22±31	
Blue Jay	+11±56	+48±88	-52±15 *	
Common Raven	-37±46	+28±66	-28±20 *	
Common Crow	-11±21	-8±39	-14±14 *	
Winter Wren	-38±18 *	-3±23	-69±23 *	
American Robin	0±6	-6±9	-8±17	
Hermit Thrush	-23±16 *	+41±109	+4±38	
Swainson's Thrush	-4±32	+26±42	-18±2 <b>4</b>	
Veery	-22±37	-1±41	-26±51	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-17±10 *	+17±28	+5±17	
Starling	+29±32	-8±29	+11±40	
Red-eyed Vireo	-36±14 *	+18±52	-30±26 *	
Nashville Warbler	-40±18 *	-15±46	+32±74	
Yellow Warbler	+10±53	+36±18 *	-25±20 *	
Magnolia Warbler	+13±38	+32±34	-13±12 *	
Black-throated Green Warbler	+69±208	+12±54	-23±13 *	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	-48±39 *	+32±39	-1±31	
Ovenbird	-34±27 *	-20±19 *	+10±55	
Common Yellowthroat	0±31	+18±54	-19±13 *	
American Redstart	-4±14	-4±43	$-6\pm28$	
House Sparrow	-34±59	-22±16 *	-18±12 *	
Bobolink	-17±6 *	-5±24	-37±22 *	
Red-winged Blackbird	-16±9 *	+13±49	-6±23	
Common Grackle	-9±35	+18±101	-2 <b>0</b> ±31	
Brown-headed Cowbird	+5±52	-55±20 *	+29±106	
Evening Grosbeak	+45±42 *	+290±720	(none)	
Purple Finch	+12±8 *	-11±48	$-13\pm49$	
American Goldfinch	-54±41 *	+8±47	+19±59	
Savannah Sparrow	-16±68	+50±28 *	-12±12 *	
Dark-eyed Ĵunco	-9±11	+10±77	-2±28	
Chipping Sparrow	+13±59	+12±46	-36±18 *	
White-throated Sparrow	-2±6	-2±16	-11±13	
Song Sparrow	+10±16	-9±17	-5±13	

<sup>\*</sup>Change at least 95% significant.

.