

CHURCHILL & SOUTHERN MANITOBA TRIP LIST 1986-2006



Smith's Longspur *Calcarius pictus* by Mimi Hoppe Wolf

Prepared by

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This **CHURCHILL & SOUTHERN MANITOBA TRIP LIST** is designed for VENT tours to Southern Manitoba, Thompson & Churchill led by Jeri M. Langham with either Gary Langham or Shawn Hayes as co-leader. It includes all 382 species that have been accepted by the Manitoba Ornithological Records Committee for the entire Manitoba Province as of 2001. Nomenclature changes, taxonomic order, and any recent splitting or lumping of families and common names in this list follows J. F. Clements' ***Birds of the World: A Checklist***, 5th Edition, 2000, Ibis Publishing Co., with updates to December 2003. Species with an asterisk (*) preceding their name, need written descriptions and/or photographs submitted to Rudolf Koes, 135 Rossmere Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R2K 0G1.

Before signing up for a tour, many participants like to know their chances of seeing certain birds; **column II** indicates how many of my **TWENTY-ONE previous tours** have seen each species. This number provides a very realistic idea of your chances of seeing your most wanted Manitoba birds. We have only been keeping records for mammals during the last fifteen years; therefore, column II on page 10 indicates how many of our FIFTEEN previous tours have seen each mammal species. **Column I** indicates the species seen (x) or only heard (h) in 2006.

Sometime after you sign up for **CHURCHILL & SOUTHERN MANITOBA**, I will mail you the official, bound checklist (with sixteen additional columns per page) that we will use each evening to keep records of what we have observed.

Jeri M. Langham
June 30, 2006

TOUR REPORT
CHURCHILL AND SOUTHERN MANITOBA
June 8-20, 2006

By Jeri Langham

Every Churchill and Southern Manitoba tour has so many special experiences and varied ecosystems that it is always difficult to select the highlights.

At Oak Hammock Marsh, we had superb looks at a Vesper Sparrow and Virginia Rail, and also Yellow-headed Blackbirds, White Pelicans, Black Terns, and others. On the west side, a Le Conte's Sparrow crawled through the grass like a mouse, almost onto my speaker. We also saw Sharp-tailed Grouse, Short-eared Owl, Hooded Merganser, Willet, and Marbled Godwit. Near the visitor's center, a pair of Wilson's Phalaropes showed off near breeding-plumaged Eared Grebes and colonies of Richardson's ground squirrels.

The next morning at Riding Mountain National Park, a singing Sedge Wren and a surprise Philadelphia Vireo gave us excellent scope views, while Wilson's Snipes winnowed in the sky. Driving through the boreal forest, Steve Hilty and I listened carefully for new birds, and we had excellent views of Swamp Sparrow, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Northern Waterthrush, and a host of other warblers: Connecticut, Mourning (both in the scope), Cape May, Chestnut-sided, Black-throated Green, Tennessee, and Myrtle. Our afternoon trip was highlighted by male Spruce Grouse and Northern Three-toed Woodpecker.

Before leaving for Brandon, we enjoyed three Black-backed Woodpeckers. A Ruffed Grouse drumming on its special log allowed everyone to see it. We had wonderful looks at Blue-headed Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, and then Canada Warbler. A mother and calf moose were at the escarpment overlooking the park. At the McCreary ski area, we added a beautiful male Golden-winged Warbler.

The short-grass prairie fields near Brandon produced a Sprague's Pipit. I always enjoy watching and hearing this ethereal species, especially the one Steve called out of the sky several times. Baird's Sparrow flew onto a fence for superb looks and a male Chestnut-collared Longspur was very cooperative. On the way out, we had our best views of Sedge Wren and then a cooperative Sora. We had numerous looks at Upland Sandpiper throughout the day and great views of a soaring Ferruginous Hawk. Whitewater Lake Wildlife Management Area added Pectoral Sandpiper, White-faced Ibis, Cattle and Great egrets, Forster's and Black terns, many Black-crowned Night-Herons, and an incredible number of waterfowl.

We flew from Winnipeg to Thompson so that we could ride the VIA RAIL train overnight to Churchill. This spruce-dominated boreal forest near Thompson produced a Bald Eagle with perfect lighting conditions on our way to Paint Lake Provincial Park. There we saw such gems as Cape May, Magnolia, and Bay-breasted warblers in full breeding plumage, Boreal Chickadee, Winter Wren, Swainson's Thrush, incredible Pileated Woodpecker views, *Calypso bulbosa* orchids, and a great snowshoe hare.

Arriving in Churchill, we got off the train to face a "heat wave" with the warmest temperature of the trip (about 88°F). At the docks, Ruddy Turnstone, Whimbrel, beluga whales, Common

Eiders, and lots of Bonaparte's Gulls greeted us. The Granary Ponds brought breeding-plumaged Stilt and Least sandpipers, Red-necked Phalarope, Short-billed Dowitcher, Hudsonian Godwit, and many species of ducks. We had tremendous luck with Little Gull. At least five birds were seen flying and dropping into nests. At Cape Merry, the overlook of the Churchill River mouth, American Pipit, a few Parasitic Jaegers, Arctic Terns, Common Eiders, and three gull species were seen well. We spent many hours at this magical spot that changes by the minute, ice floes showing the direction of the tide. At Landing Lake road, we added American Tree Sparrow, Blackpoll Warbler, Common and Hoary redpolls, Harris's Sparrow, and both male and female Willow Ptarmigans. We saw three flying American Bitterns. After dinner we returned to Cape Merry, but by now it was cold and windy. According to the news, Churchill set a record high (88°F) and low (37°F) temperature for the entire Province that day.

On an absolutely beautiful day with little wind, the kind of time to really enjoy all the ice floes, belugas, seals, and constantly changing bird life, we added Red-throated Loon and a late Lapland Longspur and male Snow Bunting. The Lapland rosebay was spectacular this year—probably the best display I had seen in all my visits. A Pacific Loon on its nest was a real treat since it was so close to the road. Soon we were near Camp Nanuk, where our first American Golden-Plover gave us good scope views and later did an aerial display after helping to chase a Raven.

Our morning drive to the distant Twin Lakes produced a male Willow Ptarmigan, Hudsonian Godwits, and Short-billed Dowitchers. A Spruce Grouse was the crowd pleaser, but the heart-stopper was the male Smith's Longspur.

It was a trip most of us will long remember. Come join me next June to discover the beauty for yourself.

CHURCHILL II 1

	I	II
1	FAMILY GAVIIDAE	
2	x	20
3	x	21
4	x	21
5		
6	FAMILY PODICIPEDIDAE	
7	x	21
8	x	21
9	x	21
10	x	20
11	x	19
12		1
13	FAMILY PELECANIDAE	
14	x	21
15	FAMILY SULIDAE	
16		
17	FAMILY PHALACROCORACIDAE	
18	x	21
19	FAMILY ARDEIDAE	
20	x	21
21	x	3
22		
23		
24		2
25	x	4
26		1
27	x	20
28		
29		2
30	x	19
31	FAMILY THRESKIORNITHIDAE	
32		
33		
34	x	3
35	FAMILY ANATIDAE	
36		
37		
38	x	21
39		2
40	x	21
41		7
42	x	21
43		1
44	x	21
45		1
46	x	21
47	x	21
48	x	21
49	x	21
50		

CHURCHILL II 2

	I	II
1	x	21
2	x	21
3		
4	x	20
5		1
6	x	21
7	x	21
8	x	21
9	x	21
10	x	21
11	x	21
12	x	21
13		5
14		17
15	x	21
16	x	21
17	x	21
18	x	21
19	x	21
20		
21	x	20
22	x	13
23	x	21
24	x	21
25	x	21
26	FAMILY CATHARTIDAE	
27	x	14
28	FAMILY PANDIONIDAE [new]	
29	x	21
30	FAMILY ACCIPITRIDAE	
31	x	20
32	x	21
33	x	14
34		11
35		6
36		
37		13
38	x	21
39	x	21
40	x	12
41		12
42	x	2
43	FAMILY FALCONIDAE	
44	x	21
45	x	21
46		1
47		3
48		6
49	FAMILY MELEAGRIDAE [new]	
50	x	6

CHURCHILL II 3

	I	II
1	FAMILY TETRAONIDAE [new]	
2	x	19
3	x	21
4		
5	x	18
6	x	21
7		
8	FAMILY PHASIANIDAE	
9	x	18
10		6
11	FAMILY GRUIDAE	
12	x	20
13		
14	FAMILY RALLIDAE	
15		16
16		
17	x	21
18	x	21
19		
20	x	21
21	FAMILY RECURVIROSTRIDAE	
22	x	2
23	x	15
24	FAMILY CHARADRIIDAE	
25	x	21
26		4
27	x	21
28	x	21
29		
30	FAMILY SCOLOPACIDAE	
31		1
32	x	21
33	x	21
34		
35	x	21
36	x	20
37		
38	x	21
39		
40	x	21
41	x	12
42	x	21
43	x	14
44	x	21
45		
46	x	21
47	x	15
48		1
49		7
50		

CHURCHILL II 4

	I	II
1	x	14
2		
3	x	19
4		10
5		7
6	x	5
7		
8	x	15
9		
10	x	21
11		1
12		
13	x	20
14	x	21
15		4
16	FAMILY STERCORARIIDAE [new]	
17		1
18	x	21
19		3
20	FAMILY LARIDAE	
21		
22		2
23	x	21
24	x	3
25		
26		2
27		14
28		7
29		14
30	x	21
31		1
32		
33	x	21
34		
35	x	21
36	x	19
37		
38	x	19
39		4
40		1
41	FAMILY STERNIDAE [new]	
42	x	14
43		14
44	x	21
45	x	21
46		
47		
48	x	21
49		
50		

CHURCHILL II 5

	I	II
1	FAMILY ALCIDAE	
2		
3		
4		5
5	FAMILY COLUMBIDAE	
6	x	21
7		
8		1
9	x	21
10		
11		
12	FAMILY CUCULIDAE	
13	h	17,1
14		
15	FAMILY TYTONIDAE	
16		
17	FAMILY STRIGIDAE	
18		16
19	x	4
20		
21		
22		12
23		10
24		4
25		1
26		
27		2
28	x	19
29	FAMILY CAPRIMULGIDAE	
30		16
31		h
32	FAMILY APODIDAE	
33		18
34	FAMILY TROCHILIDAE	
35	x	20
36		
37	FAMILY ALCEDINIDAE	
38	x	20
39	FAMILY PICIDAE	
40		
41		9
42		
43	x	20
44	x	13
45	h	20,1
46	x	21
47	x	17
48	x	21
49	x	19
50		

CHURCHILL II 6

	I	II
1	FAMILY TYRANNIDAE	
2	x	20
3		14
4	x	19
5	x	10
6	x	21
7		6
8	x	21
9	x	20
10		7
11	x	21
12	x	21
13	x	21
14		
15	FAMILY ALAUDIDAE	
16	x	21
17	FAMILY HIRUNDINIDAE	
18	x	21
19	x	21
20		
21		19
22	x	21
23	x	21
24	x	21
25	FAMILY MOTACILLIDAE	
26	x	21
27	x	21
28	FAMILY REGULIDAE [new]	
29	x	14
30	x	21
31	FAMILY BOMBYCILLIDAE	
32		15
33	x	21
34	FAMILY TROGLODYTIDAE	
35		1
36		
37	x	9
38	x	21
39	x	21
40	x	21
41	FAMILY MIMIDAE	
42	x	21
43		h
44		
45	x	18
46		
47	FAMILY TURDIDAE [new]	
48	x	21
49	x	18
50		

CHURCHILL II 7

	I	II
1		
2	x	21
3	x	20
4	x	21
5	x	18
6		
7	x	21
8		1
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14	x	19
15	x	21
16		
17	x	19
18	h	18,1
19		
20		11
21		
22		16
23		13
24		
25	x	21
26	h	20,1
27		
28	x	21
29		
30	x	21
31	x	21
32		
33	x	21
34		
35	x	21
36		
37		
38		
39		12
40	x	17
41	x	21
42	x	16
43	x	21
44		
45		
46		
47	x	21
48	x	19
49		4
50		

CHURCHILL II 8

	I	II
1	h	h
2	x	13
3	x	21
4	x	21
5		19
6	x	21
7	h	12,1
8		
9		
10	x	13
11	x	21
12	x	21
13	x	20
14		
15	x	21
16	x	21
17	x	19
18	x	19
19		
20	x	21
21	x	21
22	x	21
23		
24		
25		
26	x	16
27	x	19
28	x	21
29		
30	x	20
31	x	21
32		
33		
34	x	21
35	x	21
36		
37	x	20
38	x	21
39	x	21
40		
41		2
42	x	9
43		
44		
45		7
46		
47		1
48		
49		
50		

CHURCHILL II 9

	I	II
1		7
2		
3	x	21
4	x	21
5	x	21
6		
7		
8	x	21
9	x	19
10		1
11	x	21
12	x	21
13	x	19
14	x	18
15	x	21
16	x	20
17	x	21
18	x	21
19	x	21
20	x	21
21	x	21
22		
23	x	21
24	x	21
25		
26	x	9
27	x	21
28	x	21
29	x	14
30		
31		
32	x	20
33		
34		
35		17
36		
37		
38	x	21
39	x	21
40		
41	x	21
42	x	21
43	x	21
44	x	21
45	x	21
46	x	21
47	x	21
48		
49	x	12
50		

CHURCHILL II 10

MAMMALS (only last 15 tours)		I	II
1	WOODLAND CARIBOU <i>Rangifer caribou</i>		3
2	BARREN GROUND CARIBOU <i>Rangifer arcticus</i>		6
3	MULE DEER <i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>		4
4	WHITE-TAILED DEER <i>O. virginianus</i>	x	15
5	MOOSE <i>Alces alces</i>	x	11
6	ELK <i>Cervus canadensis</i>		8
7	BISON <i>Bison bison</i>		9
8	BELUGA or WHITE WHALE <i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	x	14
9	HARBOUR SEAL <i>Phoca vitulina</i>	x	12
10	BEARDED SEAL <i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	x	8
11	RINGED SEAL <i>Phoca hispida</i>		7
12	GRAY WOLF <i>Canis lupus</i>		2
13	COYOTE <i>C. latrans</i>	x	9
14	ARCTIC FOX <i>Alopex lagopus</i>		3
15	RED FOX <i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	x	14
16	GREY FOX <i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>		
17	BLACK BEAR <i>Ursus americanus</i>		11
18	POLAR BEAR <i>U. maritimus</i>		1
19	RACCOON <i>Procyon lotor</i>		1
20	STRIPED SKUNK <i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	x	8
21	BADGER <i>Taxidea taxus</i>		1
22	ERMINE <i>Mustela erminea</i>		
23	LEAST WEASEL <i>M. nivalis</i>		7
24	PINE MARTEN <i>Martes americana</i>		1
25	FISHER <i>M. pennanti</i>		2
26	MINK <i>M. vison</i>		1
27	RIVER OTTER <i>Lutra canadensis</i>		
28	LYNX <i>Lynx canadensis</i>		
29	WOODCHUCK or GROUNDHOG <i>Marmota monax</i>	x	9
30	GRAY SQUIRREL <i>Spermophilus carolinensis</i>	x	10
31	RICHARDSON'S GROUND-SQUIRREL <i>S. richardsonii</i>	x	15
32	FRANKLIN'S GROUND-SQUIRREL <i>S. franklinii</i>		6
33	THIRTEEN-LINED G-SQUIRREL <i>S. tridecemlineatus</i>	x	15
34	RED SQUIRREL <i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>	x	15
35	NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL <i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i>		
36	EASTERN CHIPMUNK <i>Tamias striatus</i>	x	10
37	LEAST CHIPMUNK <i>Eutamias minimus</i>		3
38	NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER <i>Thomomys talpoides</i>		
39	PORCUPINE <i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>		3
40	BEAVER <i>Castor canadensis</i>		14
41	G. COLLARED LEMMING <i>Dicrostonyx groenlandicus</i>		3
42	BROWN LEMMING <i>Lemmus sibiricus</i>		
43	Many MOUSE and/or VOLE species	x	14
44	MUSKRAT <i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	x	15
45	EASTERN COTTONTAIL <i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>	x	13
46	ARCTIC HARE <i>Lepus arcticus</i>	x	9
47	SNOWSHOE HARE <i>L. americanus</i>	x	15
48	WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT <i>L. townsendii</i>	x	14
49	BATS 6 species		
50	SHREWS 6 species		2