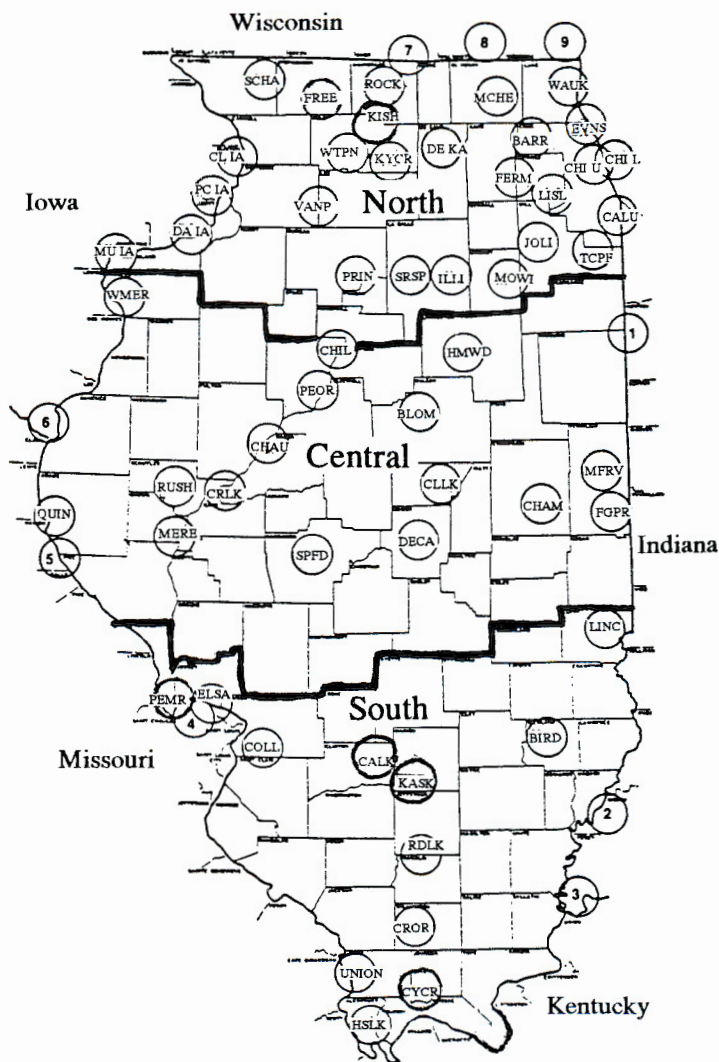


**Figure 1 (map ids).**

Illinois Christmas Bird Count circles cross-referenced to Table 1.

Circles with numbers are counts centered in bordering states which do not report results to Illinois:

1. Willow Slough — Iroquois Preserves
2. Western Gibson County
3. Posey County
4. Orchard Farm, MO
5. Hannibal, MO
6. Keokuk, IA-IL-MO
7. Beloit, WI
8. Lake Geneva
9. Kenosha County, WI.



## Avian Annals

by Eric Walters

**87 years ago:** Numerous trips were taken throughout the state to determine the most abundant winter birds of the open country. The

Lapland Longspur, American Crow, and American Goldfinch were the most plentiful in northern Illinois. The American Crow, Horned Lark, and House Sparrow topped the list in central Illinois while southern Illinois' most numerous species were the junco, meadowlark, and Northern Bobwhite. The most numerous bird statewide was the American Crow (Auk 41:371).

**40 years ago:** On the Decatur Christmas Bird Count, 11 waterbird species were located. None were geese. Also on that count, Carolina Wrens outnumbered all woodpeckers (except the downy) while a cormorant made that CBC's best bird list. Karl Bartel, Laurence Binford, Charlie Clark, Ralph Eiseman, Chuck Wescot, and eight other prominent birders spent almost six hours in the field on the Waukegan CBC, held New Year's Day. They tallied five Ring-billed Gulls, two Downy Woodpeckers, 18 crows, one White-breasted Nuthatch, two chickadees, two cardinals, and 15 goldfinches. They also discovered Canvasbacks, Ruddy Ducks, snipe, killdeer, a Bald Eagle, redpolls, 38 Rusty Blackbirds, and one Brewer's Blackbird (Illinois CBC records).

**20 years ago:** Forty percent of the total birds counted on the Illinois CBCs were grackles. Goshawks and Red Crossbills were regularly encountered. Crab Orchard's CBC compiler reported House Wren, Pine Grosbeak, and LeConte's and Vesper Sparrows.