

and Red-breasted Merganser numbers increased compared with the 1994 CBC season. Compilers also mentioned record high numbers of Red-tailed Hawks (see Table 2). Wild Turkeys are being recorded with greater frequency along the Illinois and Rock rivers. The Illini and Rockford counts reported record high numbers, 90 and 78, respectively.

This was the CBC season for owls. Barrington recorded a high count of 23 Long-eared Owls; Fermilab-Batavia followed with 22 individuals, and 13 were at Thorn Creek-Park Forest. Eighty-seven Long-eared Owls were recorded in 18 count circles. Forty-nine Short-eared Owls were recorded in 16 count circles. Kishwaukee detected a record three Northern Saw-whet Owls. Only 3 other central Illinois counts recorded single saw-whets, Princeton-Cordova, Middle Fork River Valley, and Forest Glen Preserve.

Red-headed Woodpecker numbers were down (929 compared with 1677 last CBC season) yet Blue Jay numbers were up this year (8751 vs. 8254 last CBC season). Perhaps jays were better detected at feeding stations. Red-breasted Nuthatches rebounded after last year's paltry numbers, 546 (in 49 count circles) (see histogram). Compilers reported record counts for this nuthatch.

Compilers also noted that Loggerhead Shrike numbers were down, 42 individuals in 11 count circles compared with 85 individuals in 15 count circles in 1994. House Finch numbers continue to increase; Rockford had a record 698 birds and Fermilab-Batavia had 303, however statewide numbers seem to have leveled (see histogram). Finally, the Eurasian Tree Sparrow appears to be moving right up the western Illinois river valleys and is being detected as far north as Van Patten and Western Mercer. Northern count observers along the Mississippi, Rock, and Illi-

