

over one-million Red-winged Blackbirds and over 100,000 Common Grackles – and in Massac County in late December, where 138 Eastern Meadowlarks were tallied. Unusual for winter were three sightings (involving four individuals) of Yellow-headed Blackbirds, including singles in northern Illinois in early December and early February. A Great-tailed Grackle was reported from Madison County in January.

No notable concentrations of finches were observed. Numbers and diversity among irruptive species remained very low to nil. Populations of House Sparrows and Eurasian Tree Sparrows showed little change, although there may be some statewide decline in the former species.

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Winter 2006-2007 Field Notes

Greater White-fronted Goose

MC: 7900, Hennepin L, 9 Jan (DFS); 6094, Chau, 11 Jan (RGB, SNB); 3000, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 3000, Emiquon NWR (Fulton Co), 28 Dec (LLH); 3000, Two Rivers NWR (Calhoun Co), 28 Jan (JWE); 1285, UCCA, 30 Dec (VMK, KJM, BT); 1235, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, TH); 800, Carl.L, 18 Feb (KAM); 720, L Mattoon (Shelby Co), 28 Jan (EWW); 500, HL, 21 Feb> (FRH); 465, NewtonL (Jasper Co.), 15 Dec (SDB, et al); 425, Marshall Co, 10 Jan (AFS). Increases in north.

Snow Goose

MC: 300,000, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 210,000, Carl.L, 2 Jan (KAM, CJL); 60,000, Rend L, 16 Dec (KAM); 24,351, Chau, 11 Jan (RGB, SNB); 8332, UCCA, 30 Dec (VMK, KJM, BT); 8250, HLCA, 29 Dec (DMK, KJM); 7000, Bald.L, 19 Feb (TJD). Nearly absent in northern Illinois.

Ross's Goose

MC: 25, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 13, Bald.L, 29 Dec (DFS); 4, Havana (Mason Co), 28 Dec (LLH). **Others:** 10, Carl.L, 20 Jan (DMK); 8, Rend L, 16 Dec (KAM); 6, HLCA, 29 Dec (DMK, KJM); 4, UCCA, 30 Dec (VMK, KJM, BT); 3, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL); 2, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, JEM); 2, Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co), 6 Jan (KAM); 2, Johnson Co., 18 Dec (SDB); Lake Co, 2 Dec (AFS); Macoupin Co, 28 Dec (DFS); Hennepin L, 9-10 Jan (DFS, AFS); Pr.Rdg, 15 Jan (DMK); HL, 23 Feb> (FRH).

Cackling Goose

MC: 500, Woodford Co, 1 Dec (MEF); 200, Bloomington (McLean Co), 2 Dec (MJW); 200, Chau, 6 Jan (KAM); 120, Crab Or., 17 Dec (KAM, DMK); 105, Rend L, 16 Dec (KAM); 100, Joliet (Will Co), 20 Jan (DFS). **Others:** 96, Carl.L, 2 Dec (DMK); 51, UCCA, 30 Dec (VMK, KJM, BT); 40, HL, 17 Dec (FRH); 33, NewtonL (Jasper Co), 15 Dec (SDB); 20, Two Rivers NWR

(Calhoun Co), 16 Dec (WCR); 20, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 8, Miss. R (Carroll Co), 19 Dec (*DGW, EAA); 6, Winthrop H, 10 Jan (KAM, JV); 5, L Mattoon (Shelby Co), 28 Jan (EWW); 5, Paradise L (Coles Co), 28 Jan (EWW); 4, Quincy Bay (Adams Co), 23 Jan (AGD); 3, Champaign Co, 2 Dec (EJC); 3, QC, 17 Dec (*KJM, SC, m.ob.); 2, Keithsburg NWR, 26 Dec (KJM, SBH).

Canada Goose

MC: 30,000, Fox R (Kendall Co), 26 Jan (DJS); 10,000, L Renwick (Will Co), 20 Jan (CA); 5350, Crab Or., 17 Dec (DMK, KAM); 3500, HL, 23 Feb (FRH); 3350, Chau, 6 Jan (KAM); 1533, Woodford Co, 17 Jan (MEF). **Others:** 4000, La Salle L (La Salle Co), 11 Feb (DJS); 3800, Hennepin L, 9 Jan (DFS); 2650, Grundy Co, 23 Feb (DFS); 1609, QC, 17 Dec (TMu, DV, m.ob.); 1267, Mercer Co, 26 Dec (KJM, SBH, m.ob.); 1250, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 1020, UCCA, 30 Dec (VMK, KJM, BT).

Mute Swan

MC: 137, LCal, 10 Feb (WJM); 29, Channahon (Will Co), 18 Feb (DFS). **Others:** 7, L&D #14 (Rock Island Co), 15-20 Feb (SMF, MAM); 3, Vermilion Co, 3 Jan (SDB); 3, Wayne Co, 22 Feb (RES); 2, Chau, 11 Jan (RGB, SNB); 2, HL, 12 Jan (KAM); 2, East Fork L (Richland Co), 11 Feb (CLH).

Trumpeter Swan

MC: 30, Jackson Co, 13 Jan (RMR, JEM, DK); 15 (8 ad., 7 imm.), Chau, 28 Dec (LLH); 13 (11 ad., 2 imm.), Wolf L (Union Co), 30 Dec (DMK, CAT); 12 (8 ad., 4 imm.), Wabash Co, 9 Jan (RES, CLH). **Others:** 5, Richland Co, 30 Jan (RES, CLH); 4, HL, 10 Dec< (FRH); 3, Champaign Co, 10 Dec (EJC); 3, Miss. R (Carroll Co), 19 Dec (*DGW, EAA); 3 ad., Carl.L, 11 Feb (DMK); 2, L Storey (Knox Co), 7 Dec (PR). Slightly more numerous.