

statewide, along with a very small number of Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night-Herons. Relatively small numbers of both vulture species were recorded; three reports of Black Vultures came from the South along with scattered observations of Turkey Vultures statewide.

Waterfowl diversity in Illinois was good during the 2000-2001 winter season – 4 species of geese, 3 swans, 8 “puddle” ducks, and 15 species of “diving” ducks were observed. Once again, no statewide aerial waterfowl survey data were reported, which undoubtedly influenced the totals. Typically large concentrations of Snow and Canada Geese were found at their normal wintering locations in southern and central Illinois. Especially noteworthy were the 300,000 and 80,000 Snow Geese at Carlyle Lake (11 February and 28 January, respectively), along with 30,000 Canada Geese at Carlyle Lake, 20,000 at Rend Lake, and 10,000 at Clinton Lake. Near record wintering numbers of Ross’s Geese were observed at Evergreen Lake (15 birds) and Union County Conservation Area (11 birds). The number of wintering Greater White-fronted Geese continues to increase statewide. A relatively normal number of Mute Swans were reported, primarily from the northeast, while only three Tundra Swans were observed in the Chicago vicinity. A single report of five Trumpeter Swans was made from Carlyle Lake (11-24 February). Most duck species seemed less abundant; however, as in recent years, “puddlers” appeared to be more abundant and widespread in the north, while common “divers” such as the Common Goldeneye and Common Merganser were consider-

ably less abundant. The largest concentrations of ducks once again occurred at central and southern locations including: 75,000 Mallards at Carlyle Lake and 30,484 at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, 25,000 Northern Pintail at Carlyle Lake, and 50,000 Canvasbacks on the Mississippi River in Hancock County. Exceptional species included two King Eiders (Lake Springfield and Vermilion County) and two Barrow’s Goldeneyes (Evergreen Lake and Alton).

### Eagles to Gulls

A total of 12 species of diurnal raptors were observed in Illinois. The cold temperatures provided optimum ice conditions on the Mississippi River attracting record numbers of Bald Eagle including two amazing reports of 1,857 in Whiteside and Rock Island counties (11-15 January) and 1,562 in Hancock, Henderson, and Mercer counties (17 January). More extensive ice cover along Illinois’ smaller tributary rivers, however, reduced eagle numbers there. Northern Harriers, Sharp-shinned, Cooper’s, Red-shouldered, and Rough-legged Hawks occurred in relatively good numbers and were widespread across the state. Concentrations of harriers were not as large as last year. Small numbers of Northern Goshawks (4), Golden Eagles (2), and Merlins (5) occurred, along with the small resident population of Peregrine Falcons (primarily in the Chicago area). Although fairly abundant and widespread, I believe Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels are probably still under-reported across Illinois.

Four species of upland gamebirds were recorded during the 2000-2001 winter, with the Wild Turkey being the most

The following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

MC = Maximum Count(s)	ad. = adult	pr. = pair	R = River	SF = State Forest
* = documented record	subad. = subadult	m.ob. = many observers	Rd. = Road	SP = State Park
< = reported as fall migrant departure	imm. = immature	Co(s) = County (Counties)	L&D = Lock and Dam	NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
> = reported as spring migrant arrival	1st/2nd = first-year/second-year/ 3rd = third-year plumage	P = Park	CA = Conservation Area	
		L = Lake	FP = Forest Preserve	

  

Bald.L = Baldwin L (St. Clair, Randolph Cos)	Little Cal.R = Little Calumet R (southern Cook Co)
Bloom. = Bloomington (McLean Co)	La Salle L = La Salle L (La Salle Co)
Carl.L = Carlyle L (Clinton, Fayette Cos)	Loud Thunder FP = Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co)
Chau = Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)	MARb = Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
Chi = Chicago (Cook Co)	Mermet L = Mermet L (Massac Co)
Clin.L = Clinton L (DeWitt Co)	Miss.R = Mississippi River (various Cos)
CrabOr = Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co)	Montrose = Montrose Harbor and vicinity, Chicago (Cook Co)
Evergrn L = Evergreen L (McLean, Woodford Cos)	Pekin = Pekin area, including Peoria L&D (Peoria, Tazewell Cos)
Fermi = Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co)	Rend L = Rend L (Franklin, Jefferson Cos)
GrtLakes = Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)	Rock Falls = Rock Falls (Whiteside, Lee Cos)
HL = Horseshoe L (Madison Co)	(L) Spfld = (Lake) Springfield (Sangamon Co)
HLCA = Horseshoe L CA (Alexander Co)	SandRdg = Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co)
IBSP = Illinois Beach SP (Lake Co)	SRock SP = Starved Rock SP and L&D (La Salle Co)
JP = Chicago’s Jackson Park (Cook Co)	UCCA = Union County CA (Union Co)
Klehm Arb = Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co)	Urbana = Champaign-Urbana (Champaign Co)
LCal = L Calumet and vicinity (southern Cook Co)	

When information on counts greater than one individual, sexes, and/or ages of observed birds is available, it is included at the head of the observation account. This information is followed by the location of the observation, date(s) of observation, and the observer(s) who made the report. Noteworthy dates of occurrence and remarkably high counts for the state as a whole, or for particular regions of the state, are **underlined and boldfaced**. The most significant editorial remarks on the status of records are **boldfaced**. Species of extremely unusual occurrence in Illinois during the winter appear in **CAPITALIZED, BOLD FACED** fonts. Headings for species requiring IORC review are **CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLD FACED**; records of these species are included in the main summary if already reviewed and accepted by IORC, and otherwise at the end of this report. Undocumented reports of species requiring IORC review are omitted.

New in this summary is the use of symbols appended to dates to flag records reported to the compiler as migrant departures/arrivals; see “<” and “>” in the table of abbreviations above. Interpretive information of this sort, when supplied by locally active observers, can assist greatly in differentiating apparent migration limits from potential overwintering data in the long-term Illinois record.

The second (1996) edition of the DeLorme Illinois Atlas & Gazetteer has been followed for normalization of site names.