

**WINTER 2002-2003 FIELD NOTES**

**Greater White-fronted Goose**

**MC:** 6000, UCCA, 25 Jan (KAM); 1500, Carl.L, 9 Feb (DK); 750, LSpfld, 13 Feb (DFS); 158, Chau, 19 Dec (R&SBj). **Others:** 178, OakwdBtms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL); 73, Rend L, 3 Jan (FB); 60, Pomona (Jackson Co), 4 Feb (RSR); 40, Jasper Co, 12 Feb (LH, BS); 30, CrabOr, 5 Jan (FB); 27, Chau, 8 Jan (LLH); 4, Lee Co, 5 Jan (KJM, SBH, BC); 3, Rock Island Co, 15 Dec (JR, RRd); 3, East Fork L (Richland Co), 15 Jan (LH, BS). Far fewer reports this winter and lower numbers, especially in the north and central regions.

**Snow Goose**

**MC:** **300,000**, Carl.L, 9-18 Feb (DK, KAM); **100,000**, Carl.L, 12 Jan (DK); **14,000**, LSpfld, 13 Feb (DFS). **Others:** **50,000**, Rend L, 14 Dec (KAM, CL); 4000, Pomona (Jackson Co), 6 Jan (RSR); 1475, CrabOr, 14 Dec (RSR, LW, JM); 550, Grassy Slough (Johnson Co), 19 Jan (FB); 300, HLCA, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 221, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); 6, Rkfd, 15 Dec (DTW); 3, Knox Co, 12 Jan (DJM); 2 (white morph), Kaneville (Kane Co), 9 Jan (DJS); 2, La Salle L (La Salle Co), 18 Jan (LLH); white morph, Libertyville (Lake Co), 1 Dec (AS); Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (JDS); Vmln Co, 4 Jan (KJM, MW). Largely restricted to southern Illinois.

**Ross's Goose**

**MC:** 6, Rend L, 14 Dec (KAM, CL); 4, Carl.L, 17 Dec (DK); 4, LSpfld, 13 Feb (DFS). **Others:** 2, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); Bald.L, 3 Feb (KAM). Much less numerous this winter.

**Canada Goose**

**MC:** 9000, Kane Co, 7 Dec (DFS); 7850, UCCA, 16 Dec (KAM); 2835, Chau, 19 Dec (R&SBj); 2510, Rock Island Co, 15 Dec (KJM, m.ob); 2348, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (JOS, ES); 388, Vmln Co, 4 Jan (KJM, MW). **Others:** 1750,

JP, 6 Feb (KC); 1500, Lake Co, 7 Feb (PS); 1163, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 5 Jan (CK, m.ob); 1090, Ogle Co, 21 Dec (EW, KW, TB); 1000, Rend L, 14 Dec (KAM, CL); 687, Hoffman Estates (Cook Co), 16 Dec (AA); 602, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, JDS, TM); 500, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 28 Dec (EW, WS); 200, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK). Very low numbers overall, but note the lack of aerial waterfowl survey data.

**Mute Swan**

**MC:** **145**, Wolf L, LCal, 7 Feb (CM); **109**, Wolf L, LCal, 3 Jan (DFS). **Others:** 63, Widewaters (Will Co), 26 Dec (MBC); 6, JP, 10 Dec (PC); 5 (4 ad., 1 imm.), GrtLakes, 1 Jan (PS); 2, Des Plaines (Cook Co), 1 Dec-25 Jan (AA); 2, Barrington Hills (Cook Co), 16 Dec (AA); Carroll Co, 18 Dec (EA, DW); imm., Rkfd, 19 Feb (DTW). Restricted almost exclusively to north-eastern Illinois.

**Tundra Swan**

**MC:** 28-34, Chau, 19 Dec-16 Jan (R&SBj); 9, East Fork L (Richland Co), 5 Dec (LH, BS); 8, Thomson Causeway (Carroll Co), 18 Dec (KJM). **Others:** 3 (2 ad., 1 imm.), Rkfd, 12 Jan (DTW); imm., Mermet L, 20 Dec-28 Feb (FB, KAM, DK). Much less common this winter.

**Wood Duck**

**MC:** 11, Mermet L, 31 Dec (FB). **Others:** 3, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); 3, Kane Co, 18 Jan (AS); 2, Rock Island Co, 15 Dec (KJM); 2, North Point Marina (Lake Co), 22 Feb (PS); 2, Carl.L, 23 Feb (DK); male, LtCal.R, 28 Dec (WM); female, North Point Marina (Lake Co), 12 Jan (PS); St. Charles (Kane Co), 14 Jan (DJS); Madison Co, 26 Jan (FH). Much less numerous throughout the state.

**The following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:**

<	= reported as fall departure	ad.	= adult	FP	= Forest Preserve
>	= reported as spring arrival	imm.	= immature	L	= Lake
*	= documented record	pr.	= pair	L&D	= Lock and Dam
MC	= maximum count(s)	1st	= first winter plumage	P	= Park
m.ob.	= many observers	2nd	= second winter plumage	R	= River
IORC	= Illinois Ornithological Records Committee	3rd	= third winter plumage	Rd	= Road
		Co(s)	= County (Counties)	SP	= State Park

**Observation Locations:**

Bald.L	= Baldwin Lake (St. Clair & Randolph Cos)	LtCal.R	= Little Calumet River (Cook Co)
Carl.L	= Carlyle Lake (Clinton & Fayette Cos)	LVmln	= Lake Vermilion (Vermilion Co)
Chau	= Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge (Mason Co)	M.Arb.	= Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
Chi	= Chicago and vicinity (Cook Co)	Mermet L	= Mermet Lake Conservation Area (Massac Co)
CrabOr.	= Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (Williamson Co)	MidFkVmln	= Middle Fork Fish and Wildlife Area (Vermilion Co)
Green R	= Green River Conservation Area (Lee Co)	Miss.R	= Mississippi River (various counties)
GrtLakes	= Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)	MTwain	= Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge (Mercer Co)
HL	= Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)	OakwdBtms	= Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co)
HLCA	= Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area (Alexander Co)	Rend L	= Rend Lake (Franklin & Jefferson Cos)
IBSP	= Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)	Rkfd	= Rockford and vicinity (Winnebago Co)
JP	= Chicago's Jackson Park (Cook Co)	SRock	= Starved Rock State Park (La Salle Co)
LCal.	= Lake Calumet and vicinity (Cook Co)	UCCA	= Union County Conservation Area (Union Co)
LSpfld	= Lake Springfield (Sangamon Co)	Vmln Co	= Vermilion Co
		Wauk.	= Waukegan and vicinity (Lake 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. Species of extremely unusual occurrence in Illinois during the winter appear in CAPITALIZED, BOLD FACED fonts. Headings for species requiring review by the IORC appear in CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLD FACED fonts. Documented records pending IORC review are enclosed in square brackets [ ].