

2, Urbana, 3 Feb> (RC). **Others:** 3, Massac Co, 10 Jan (FB); JP, 25 Feb> (PC, KC); Homer L (Champaign Co), 28 Feb (JOS). Relatively scarce this winter.

### RED PHALAROPE

North Point Marina (Lake Co), **22 Dec**< (AS).

### LITTLE GULL

Rend L, 10 Feb (\*FB). Species subsequently reinstated on IORC review list.

### Bonaparte's Gull

**MC:** 5000, Carl.L., 8 Dec (DK) — **record winter-season high count:** 2500, Rend L, 15 Dec (DK); 1200, Carl.L., 16 Dec (DK); 1200, Rend L, 14 Feb (KM); 1100, LShel, 2 Dec (RC); 2900, LCal, 4 Jan (DFS); 2400, Clear L (Mason Co), 24 Jan (R&SB); 997, MS R Pool 13 (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 20 Dec (KJM, EA, DW). **Others:** 895, Evanston (Cook Co), 29 Dec (EW, JE); 777, QC, 16 Dec (KJM, TM, m.ob.); 523, MS R Pool 14 (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (RN, AM, KJM); 450, Boone Co, 2 Dec (AB); 137, Mercer Co, 18 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 20, Winthrop H, 5 Jan (DJ, m.ob.); 11, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 2 Dec (LLH). Various central and southern locations maintained exceptionally large wintering populations.

### Ring-billed Gull

**MC:** 50,000, Carl.L., 28 Dec (DK) — **record December high count:** 35,000, Carl.L., 6 Jan (KM) — **record January high count:** 11,000, HL, 5 Feb (KM); 10,000, LShel, 23 Feb (RC); 2900, LCal, 4 Jan (DFS); 2400, Clear L (Mason Co), 24 Jan (R&SB); 997, MS R Pool 13 (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 20 Dec (KJM, EA, DW). **Others:** 895, Evanston (Cook Co), 29 Dec (EW, JE); 777, QC, 16 Dec (KJM, TM, m.ob.); 523, MS R Pool 14 (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (RN, AM, KJM); 450, Boone Co, 2 Dec (AB); 137, Mercer Co, 18 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 20, Winthrop H, 5 Jan (DJ, m.ob.); 11, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 2 Dec (LLH). Various central and southern locations maintained exceptionally large wintering populations.

### Herring Gull

**MC:** 2000, Winthrop H, 26 Jan (KM); 1200, LCal, 29 Dec (WM); 150, Carl.L., 20 Jan (DK); 100, East Alton (Madison Co), 21 Jan (KM); 40, Chau, 24 Jan (R&SB). **Others:** 700+, La Salle Co, 12 Jan (DJS); 110, Winnebago Co, 1 Dec-5 Jan (DTW); 81, QC, 16 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 76, L&D 13 (Whiteside Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 54, JP, 23 Feb> (PC); 5, Rend L, 15 Dec (DK); 5, L&D 17 (Mercer Co), 18 Dec (TM, KJM); 3 imm., Boone Co, 2 Dec (AB). A report of a "**Vega Gull**" (subspecies *vegae*) at Winthrop H, 1 Dec, is pending IORC review of photos and documentation; this Siberian form is previously unknown in Illinois. Overall, Herring Gulls were relatively uncommon this winter.

### Thayer's Gull

**MC:** 8 (4 ad., 3 1st, 1 2nd), Winthrop H, 16 Feb (DJ, m.ob.); 5 (4 ad., 1



Eric Walters photographed this Merlin singing in Evanston, Cook County. February 2002.

1st), Grant P, Chi, 23 Jan (DFS). **Others:** 5 ad., Winthrop H, 12 Jan (GW); 4 (2 ad., 2 1st), LCal, 4 Jan (DFS); 4 (1 ad., 3 1st), QC, 19 Jan (SF); 4 (3 ad., 1 1st), Chi, 21 Jan (GW); 3, SRock SP, 19 Jan (DJS); 1st, Winnebago Co, 30 Dec-5 Jan (DTW); ad., Carl.L., 30 Dec (SD); ad., L&D 13 (Whiteside Co), 17 Feb (PV); 3rd, L&D 14 (Rock Island Co), 23 Feb (SF). Restricted almost exclusively to the northern section of the state.

### Iceland Gull

**MC:** 5 (2 ad., 3 1st), Winthrop H, 16 Feb (PSw) — evidently a one-day winter-season high count for IL: 3 1st, North Point Marina (Lake Co), 16 Feb (AS); 2 ad., HL, 27 Feb (KM, CL). **Others:** 2 (1 ad., 1 1st), Winthrop H, 12 Jan (GW); ad., Rend L CBC, 15 Dec (KM); ad., Carl.L CBC, 18 Dec (KM, SB, CL); ad., Chi, 12 Jan (GW); 1st, L&D 15 (Rock Island Co), 16 Jan, 10 Feb (KJM, SF); 1st, SRock SP, 19, 26-27 Jan (DJS); 2nd ("Kumlien's"), HL, 19 Jan (WR); 1st, LCal, 17 Feb (WM); 1st, L&D 13 (Whiteside Co), 17 Feb (PV).

### Lesser Black-backed Gull

2 ad., Rockford, 29 Dec-5 Jan (DTW); 2 ad., SRock SP, 5 Jan (DJS); 2 ad., Winthrop H, 5 Jan (DJ, PSw, m.ob.); South Elgin (Kane Co), 5-8 Dec (JD); ad., Carl.L., 16 Dec (DK); ad., LCal, 22 Dec (WM); ad., Evanston (Cook Co), 29 Dec (JE, EW); ad., L&D 14 (Rock Island Co), 1 Jan (SF); 1st, Carl.L., 6 Jan (DK); Rend L, 7 Jan (GW); 3rd, Grant P, Chi, 18 Jan (DFS); Chi, 21 Jan (GW). Restricted almost exclusively to northern IL.

### Glaucous Gull

**MC:** 5 (2 ad., 2 1st, 1 2nd), Winthrop H, 26 Jan (PSw). **Others:** 2 (1 1st, 1 2nd), LCal, 17 Feb (WM); 2 (1 ad., 1 2nd), SRock SP, 26 Feb (DJS); ad., Fox R (Kane Co), 19 Jan (PSw); 3rd, JP, 20 & 22 Jan (PC); ad., L&D 15 (Rock Island Co), 17 Feb (SF). Reported only from northern Illinois.

### Great Black-backed Gull

**MC:** 2, Chi, 27 Dec (CM). **Others:** 1st, LCal, 4 Jan (DFS); ad., Winthrop H, 5 Jan (DJ, m.ob.); 2nd, Ottawa (La Salle Co), 12 Jan (DJS); 1st, Wauk., 19 Jan (RC). Species scarce and restricted to northern Illinois.

### Black-legged Kittiwake

Imm., LShel, 2 Dec> (RC).

### Rock Dove

**MC:** 1607, Whiteside and Lee Cos, 30 Dec (J&SB, m.ob.); 1135, Cook Co, 13 Jan (DFS) — apparently a single-observer high count for IL; 600+, Urbana, 15 Dec (RC); 400, Carl.L., 22 Dec (DK); 54, Mercer Co, 18 Dec (BBE, m.ob.); 21, Union Co, 21 Dec (KJM, VK). **Others:** 780, Cook Co, 9 Feb (DFS); 710, QC, 16 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 159, Whiteside and Carroll Cos, 20 Dec (EA, DW, KJM); 113, JP, 29 Jan (PC).

### Eurasian Collared-Dove

**MC:** 17, Mermet L CBC, 31 Dec (KM); 7, Metropolis (Massac Co), 23 Feb (FB); 4, Urbana, 13 Jan (RC); 3, Chi, 22 Dec (CT); 3, Lemont (Cook Co), 5 Feb (UG). **Others:** 3, Metropolis (Massac Co), 22 Jan (FB); 2, Hillsboro (Montgomery Co), 28 Jan (KM). This species is gradually increasing, but documentation is strongly encouraged for all first local records, especially in the northern half of the state. Documentors should take special care to include details ruling out the very similar Ringed Turtle-Dove of avicultural origin.

### Mourning Dove

**MC:** 210, St. Clair Co, 14 Dec (KM); 200+, Urbana, 15 Dec (RC); 177, Kankakee (Kankakee Co), 5 Jan (DFS); 166, Mermet L CBC, 31 Dec (KM); 135, QC, 16 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 127, Whiteside and Lee Cos, 30 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others:** 150, Carl.L., 23 Dec (DK); 110, Putnam Co, 8 Jan (DFS); 97, Whiteside and Carroll Cos, 20 Dec (KJM, EA, DW); 56, Hyde P, Chi, 29 Jan (PC); 54, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM); 46, Mercer Co, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 35, Rend L, 15 Dec (DK); 21, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 5 Feb (LLH).

### Monk Parakeet

**MC:** 103, Burnham (Cook Co), 13 Dec (DFS); 82, JP, 22 Jan (PC). **Others:** 30, LCal, 4 Jan (DFS); 6, Chi, 10 Jan (GW); 2, Richmond (McHenry Co), 10-14 Jan (DF). Restricted to extreme northeastern Illinois.

### BARN OWL

Union Co, 21 Dec (DFS).

### Eastern Screech-Owl

**MC:** 10, Carl.L., 18 Dec (DK); 10, Zion (Lake Co), 1 Jan (PSw); 8, Whiteside Co, 20 Dec (KJM); 5, Mercer Co, 18 Dec (KJM, BBE); 3,