

### Barred Owl

No significant reports other than 10 Feb., Orland Park (Cook Co)(WS).

### Long-eared Owl

Very few sightings. MC: 3, Rend L, 21 Dec. (DK). Others: 31 Dec.- 1 Jan., Middlefork FWA (RC); 5 Jan.- mid-Feb., Lyons Woods (Lake Co)(AS); 1-22 Feb., Clinton Co (JV).

### Short-eared Owl

No large concentrations. MC: 4, Durand (Winnebago Co), 21 Dec.- 15 Feb. (BG, DW). Others: 3, Bloomington (McLean Co), mid Dec. (MFr); 2, De Kalb Co, 19 Jan. (DS); 2 Dec.- 30 Jan., Glenview (Cook Co)(EW); 21 Dec., La Salle Co (CMc); 23 Dec., Carl. L (DK); 7 Jan., Peabody Strip Mine (St Clair Co)(DK); 31 Jan., HL (KM).

### BOREAL OWL

1st record since 1914; 9 Feb., Rockford (Mdy,\*BG,\*RMs). See separate story for details.

### Northern Saw-whet Owl

1 Jan., Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co)(RC); 5 Jan., Van Patten Woods (Lake Co)(AS); 2 Feb., Allerton Park (Piatt Co)(RC).

### Belted Kingfisher

Wintered in southern locations. Other records: 7 Dec., Skokie Lagoons F.P. (Cook Co)(JMd); 14 Dec., LCal (JL); 22 Dec., JP (KC); 7 Jan., Bushnell (McDonough Co)(LH); 4, Spfld, 11 Jan. (DB); 2, Starved Rock L & D, 1 Feb. (CMc).

### Red-headed Woodpecker

Records away from southern Illinois strongholds. MC: 16, Carl. L, 23 Dec. (DK); 4, Spfld, 12 Dec. (DB); 4 wintered, Homer (Vermilion Co)(JS).

### Red-bellied Woodpecker

MC: 34, Carl. L, 23 Dec. (DK); 11, Spfld, 22 Dec. (DB); 9, Cap Sauers FP (Cook Co), 22 Dec. (PSw); 2 wintered, Homer (Vermilion Co)(JS). Other: wintered, Chi (Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary) (KH,EW,JL-unusual record for lakefront).

### Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Few reports. MC: 3, Spfld, 19 Dec. (DB). Others: 22 Dec., De Kalb Co (DS); 1 Jan., Rockford (DW, BG); 25 Jan., Ryerson Nature Area (Lake Co)(SH); 1 Feb., Pomona (Jackson Co)(KM).

### Downy Woodpecker

MC: 35, Carl. L, 23 Dec. (DK); 20, I & M canal (La Salle Co), 21 Dec. (DS); 18, Cap Sauers FP (Cook Co), 22 Dec. (PSw); 5-6 pairs wintered, JP (PC); 10, Spfld, 22 Dec. (DB).

### Hairy Woodpecker

Few reports. MC: 8, Carl. L, 23 Dec. (DK); 3, Spfld, 23 Jan. (DB). Other: 18 Jan., Chi (Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary) (JL).

### Northern Flicker

MC: 20, HLCA, 3 Jan. (KM, MD); 10, Spfld, 12 Dec. (DB). LD: 19 Jan., La Salle Co (DS).

### Pileated Woodpecker

MC: 3, Spfld, 2 Dec. (DB); 3, Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co), 23 Jan. (KM).

### Eastern Phoebe

LD: 19 Dec., Spfld (DB); 2 Dec., Lincolnwood (Cook Co)(RE).

### Horned Lark

MC: 1,385, Sangamon Co, 9 Jan. (DB). Others: 90, La Salle Co, 1 Dec. (CMc); 88, Pike Co, 29 Jan. (KM); 61, Carl. L, 22 Dec. (DK); 50, Fulton/Cordova (mostly Whiteside Co), 19 Jan. (JMd); 35, Killdeer (Lake Co) 12 Jan. (CFs); 24, Volo (Lake Co), 16 Feb. (JL).

### Blue Jay

MC: 103, Carl. L, 22 Dec. (DK et al); 38, Sangamon Co, 22 Dec. (DB); 35, Rend L, 21 Dec. (KM, FB); 22, I & M canal (La Salle Co), 21 Dec. (DS).

### CLARK'S NUTCRACKER

2nd state record/specimen: 27 Dec.- 13 Jan., Carthage (Hancock Co)(\*\*BGr). See seasonal highlights for details.

### American Crow

MC: 148,000, Danville, 1 Jan. (m. ob.). Others: 1,100 (peak of roost), Evanston, 18 Feb. (EW); 900, HL, 14 Dec. (KM); 600, Spfld, 26 Dec. (DB); 191, JP, 10 Dec. (KC).

### Black-capped Chickadee

MC: 77, Cap Sauers FP (Cook Co), 22 Dec. (PSw). Others: 24, Sangamon Co, 22 Dec. (DB); 16-18, JP, wintered (PC).

### Carolina Chickadee

MC: 94, Carl. L, 22 Dec. (DK et al).

### Tufted Titmouse

MC: 60, Carl. L, 22 Dec. (DK et al); 22, Rend L, 21 Dec. (KM, FB); 14, Sangamon Co, 22 Dec. (DB). Other: 2, Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Jan. (JMd).

### Red-breasted Nuthatch

Very scarce. MC: 4, Winnebago Co, 21 Dec. (DW). Others: 16 Dec.-30 Jan., Bushnell (McDonough Co)(LH); 4 Jan., UCCA (SJn,RC); 1-4 Feb., Carl. L (DK, JV); 8-15 Feb. (1-2 birds), Lyons Woods (Lake Co)(PSw).

### White-breasted Nuthatch

MC: 19, Carl. L, 22 Dec. (DK et al); 7, Sangamon Co, 4 Dec. (DB).

### Brown Creeper

Good numbers. MC: 14, I & M canal (La Salle Co), 29 Dec. (DS); 13, Carl. L, 22 Dec. (DK et al); 6, Sangamon Co, 1 Jan. (DB); 5, Cap Sauers FP (Cook Co), 22 Dec. (PSw); 2 win



*Short-eared Owl, Glenview Naval Air Station, Cook Co. Two Short-eared Owls wintered here. Photo taken in December 1996 by Eric Walters.*

### Meadowlark