



This White-breasted Nuthatch hadn't yet decided whether to eat or store its seed. Photo taken at Lowden State Park (Ogle County) 20 December 2003 by Eric Walters.

TREE SWALLOW

2, UCCA, **6 Dec** (FB, m.ob.).

BARN SWALLOW

East Lynn (Vermilion Co), 17 Dec (*JH).

Carolina Chickadee

MC: 172, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 80, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 77, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 50, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDI); 49, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.). Reported in fairly normal numbers.

Black-capped Chickadee

MC: 616, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 356, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 151, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 117, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (BB, m.ob.). **Others:** 102, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 68, Lee Co, 20 Dec (EW); 49, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 39, Clin.L., 14 Dec (RJ); 25, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); 12, Calhoun Co, 3 Jan (TAM, DK). Relatively more abundant this winter.

Tufted Titmouse

MC: 119, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 58, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 54, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 49, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 30, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM). Reported in somewhat greater numbers in the north and central regions, but slightly less numerous in the south.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

MC: 35, M.Arb., 14 Dec (ES); 19, IBSP, 1 Jan (GW). **Others:** 5, Rockfd, 27 Dec (DW); 4, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 3, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 3, Wilmette (Cook Co), 27 Dec (EW, WS, JIE); 2, Klehm Arboretum, Rockfd, all winter (DW); 2, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 2, SRSF, 30 Dec (TAM); 2, Clinton Co, 28 Feb (TAM, KM); 2, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); Big River State Forest (Henderson Co), 19 Dec (BB). Noticeably more abundant, particularly in the north and central sections of the state.

White-breasted Nuthatch

MC: 231, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 117, QC, 14 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 62, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 46, Mercer Co, 19 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 36, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 33, Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (RJ); 33, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 28, Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM). Overall, this species seemed to be more abundant.

Brown Creeper

MC: 25, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 28 Feb (KJM, AF); 11, UCCA, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 10, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 10, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM); 9, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 6, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.). **Others:** 6, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, RS, m.ob.); 6, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 5, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 5, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 5, Wheaton (Du Page Co), 2 Jan (ES). Occurred in fairly typical numbers.

Carolina Wren

MC: 31, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **28**, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, SDI); **28**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 18, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 12, Kankakee (Kankakee Co), 3 Jan (GW); 9, La Salle Co, 28 Dec (KW, JD, KJM). **Others** (north): 5, Grundy Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 4, JP, all winter (PC); 2, QC, 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 2, Whiteside Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS); Severson Dells FP (Winnebago Co), 2 Jan (DW). Slightly less numerous this winter.

Winter Wren

MC: 9, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, SDI, SB); 3, Stump L (Jersey Co), 11 Jan (EW); 2, Cook Co, 7 Dec (CAM). **Others:** 2, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (SB, m.ob.); 2, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KM, DK); 2, Oakwd Btms,

1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 2, Urbana (Champaign Co), 31 Jan (SB); Putnam Co, 3 Dec (DFS); QC, 14 Dec (JDS, KR); Naperville (Will Co), 14 Dec (UG); Mason Co, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (KJM). Considerably lower numbers than last winter.

Sedge Wren

Easter Slough (Pulaski Co), **28 Feb** (TAM, KM).

Marsh Wren

La Salle Co, **28 Dec** (*KW, JD, KJM); Mermet L, **31 Dec** (FB).

Golden-crowned Kinglet

MC: 13, Union County, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 7, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 7, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM, CB); 7, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 6, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); 3, QC, 14 Dec (L&CB, KJM); 3, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS). **Others:** 5, Rend L, 20 Dec (KM, CL); 5, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB). Far less common throughout the state.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

MC: 19, Union County, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 12, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 7, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM, CB). **Others:** 2, HL, 27 Dec< (FH, JZ); Chau, 27 Dec (AM, DM, KJM); Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (EC). Slightly more numerous, but restricted to the south and central regions.

Eastern Bluebird

MC: 76, Vermilion Co, 17 Dec (EC, m.ob.); **59**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, CB); 54, Union Co, 30 Dec (SB, TH); 34, Clay & Wayne Cos, 29 Dec (DFS); 32, Winnebago Co, 20 Dec (DW); 28, SRSF, 27 Dec (DM, KJM); 27, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (VL, SJ, m.ob.); 26, Whiteside Co, 18 Dec (KJM, RS). **Others:** 18, Riverside (Cook Co), 13 Dec (JA); 16, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 20 Dec (LLH, m.ob.); 15,



Tufted Titmouse at Lowden State Park. 20 December 2003. Photo by Eric Walters.