



Red Crossbill, Cook County. 31 January 2005. Photo by Eric Walters.

Snow Bunting

MC: 105, Starks (Kane Co), 15 Jan (DTW); 50, LaMoille (Bureau Co), 28 Jan (MM). **Others:** 27, IBSP, 1 Jan (GAW); 4, Montrose H, 23 Feb (GAW); Carl.L., 5 Dec & 17 Jan (DK); Mercer Co, 21 Dec (KJM, SH); Lee Co, 27 Dec (KJM); Champaign Co, 18 Jan (EC, m.ob.); Meyer (Adams Co), 26 Feb (AD). This species was less abundant and less widespread throughout Illinois.

Northern Cardinal

MC: 278, Union Co, 30 Dec (DFS, VK, KJM, EW); 232, Carl.L., 14 Dec (KAM); 171, Jasper Co, 17 Dec (SDB, PSW); 146, Rock Island Co, 19 Dec (KJM, SH, m.ob.); 104, Kankakee Co, 2 Jan (DFS); 75, Mercer Co, 21 Dec (KJM, SH, m.ob.).

DICKCISSEL

imm. female, near Ware (Union Co), **30 Dec** (*DFS); female, Elsayh (Jersey Co), **22 Jan** (WCR).

Red-winged Blackbird

MC: **44,400**, Rend L, 18 Dec (KAM, CL); **40,000**, Carl.L., 5-6 Feb (DK); **36,000**, La Salle Co, 18 Feb (DJS); 7000, Spfld, 17 Feb (RJ); 600, Morris (Grundy Co), 11 Dec (EW). **Others:** **25,000**, Kaskaskia Island (Randolph Co), 5 Feb (JE); **10,000**, Carl.L., 5 Dec & 22 Jan (DK); 8580, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, SJ); 6130, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); 5510, Pyramid SRA, 25 Dec (KJM). More abundant overall, especially in the south.

Eastern Meadowlark

MC: **64**, Pyramid SRA, 25 Dec (KJM); **52**, HLCA, 29 Dec (EW); 37, Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA (Cass Co), 21 Feb (RJ); 32, Jasper Co, 17 Dec (SDB); 8, Knox Co, 9 Jan (PR); 5, Stephenson Co, 29 Jan (DFS). **Others:** 42, Monroe Co, 12 Jan (JPZ); 39, Carl.L., 14 Dec (KAM); 33, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB,TH); 31, Edwards Co, 15 Jan (BS); 28, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KAM, DK); 18, UCCA, 30 Dec (VK, KJM, EW).

Western Meadowlark

MC: 10, Carl.L., 6 Feb (DK). **Others:** 4, Kaskaskia Island (Randolph Co), 12 Feb (JE); Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, TH).

Rusty Blackbird

MC: 166, Carl.L., 14 Dec (KAM); 50, Bald.L., 4 Dec (JE); 47, Morris (Grundy Co), 11 Dec (EW); 31, Bureau Co, 18 Dec (DFS); 12, Moultrie Co, 23 Dec (TAM). **Others:** 37, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, SJ); 35, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DK); 32, Rend L, 18 Dec (KAM, CL); 25, Gallatin Co, 29 Dec (DFS); 12, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB,TH); 7, Hampshire FP (Kane Co), 21 Feb (AA); 3, Pyramid SRA, 25 Dec (KJM); 2, Babcock Marsh (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM, SH); HL, 1 Jan (FH); Urbana, 23 Jan (GL).

Brewer's Blackbird

MC: 25, Pyramid SRA, 27 Feb (JE); 20, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DK). **Others:** 2, Beall Wds (Wabash Co), 26 Dec (BS); 2, Gallatin Co, 29 Dec (DFS); Morris (Grundy Co), 11 Dec (EW). Although scarce, this species was slightly more common this winter.

Common Grackle

MC: **75,000**, Kaskaskia Island (Randolph Co), 5 Feb (JE); **20,000**, Carl.L., 22 Jan & 5-6 Feb (DK); 5000, Spfld, 19 Feb (RJ); 3000, La Salle Co, 18 Feb (DJS); 2700, Morris (Grundy Co), 11 Dec (EW). **Others:** **13,504**, Rend L, 18 Dec (KAM, CL); 5800, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); 5675, Pyramid SRA, 25 Dec (KJM). Numbers increased considerably, particularly in the south.

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE

Pyramid SRA, 25 Dec (*KJM).

Brown-headed Cowbird

MC: 4000, Carl.L., 5 Feb (DK); 3000, Urbana, 24 Jan (RJ); 2300, Morris (Grundy Co), 11 Dec (*EW); 731, Perry Co, 25 Dec (KJM); 350, Rock Island Co, 19 Dec (TM); 261, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM); 203, Rend L, 18 Dec (KAM, CL); 200, Urbana, 18 Dec (SDB, GL); 189, Kankakee Co, 2 Jan (DFS); 182, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, SJ); 175, Modena (Stark Co), 30 Jan (EW); 133, Wolf L (Cook Co), 26 Dec (DFS). Considerably more abundant.

PINE GROSBEAK

Marengo (McHenry Co) (ad. Female), ~ 1 Jan (fide SDB).

Purple Finch

MC: 40, Sand Rdg, all winter (R&SBj); 38, Vermilion Co, 5 Jan (SDB, m.ob); 31, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB,SD); 24, Rock Island Co, 2 Jan (KJM, JS); 15, Table Grove (Fulton Co), 18 Jan (KAM); 12, HL, 17 Jan (JPZ); 11, Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co), 12 Feb (DFS); 9, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 22 Dec (SDB); 8, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB,TH); 8, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, SJ); 7, Poplar Grove (Boone Co), 13 Dec (AB); 6, Johnson Co, 20 Dec (SDB). Widely reported in small numbers.

House Finch

MC: **400**, Aurora West FP (Kane Co), 11 Dec (TK, CMA, SF, m.ob.); 193, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 22 Jan (LLH); 126, Winnebago Co, 29 Jan (DFS); 105, LCal, 26 Dec (WM); 92, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KAM, DK); 77, Rock Island Co, 19 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 62, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 22 Dec (SDB); 42, Urbana, 18 Dec (SDB,GL); 25, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, SJ); 24, Mercer Co, 21 Dec (KJM, SH, m.ob.).

Red Crossbill

45, Sand Rdg, 9 Jan (RJ); 8, Carl.L., 5 Dec (DK).

White-winged Crossbill

5, Sand Rdg, 14 Dec (ES).



Common Redpoll at Lake Chautauqua, Mason County. 31 January 2005. Photo by Eric Walters.