

4 Mar (RG&SNB); 12, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 20 Mar (DMK). **LD:** 30 May (8—7 females, 1 male), L Decatur dredge ponds (TAM); 14 May (2), Carl.C (DMK, KAM); 7 May (female), JP (PRC, SLC).

Common Merganser

EA: 6 Feb (171), Clin.I (TAM); 4 Mar (8), Miss. R (Hancock Co) (AGD); 11 Mar (10), Rock Cut (DTW). **MC:** 790, Putnam Co, 15 Mar (DFS); 780, Nelson M, 18 Mar (EES); 600, S. Chi lakefront, 4 Mar (DFS); 70, Chau, 4 Mar (RG&SNB). **LD:** 14 May (female), Riverdale (Cook Co) (WJM); 3 Apr (7), Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (DJS); 12 Mar, Carl.C (DMK).

Red-breasted Merganser

EA: 19 Feb (20), Carl.C (DMK); 8 Mar, Fermilab (EES); 8 Mar (2), Quincy Bay (Adams Co) (AGD). **MC:** 1250, Grant P, 26 Mar (DFS); 382, JP, 2 Mar (PRC); 328 (record high for weekly census route 1996-2005), Chau, 24 Mar (RG&SNB); 300, Carl.C, 13 Mar (DMK). **LD:** 28 May (female), Rainbow Beach, Chi (DFS); 2 May, Boone Co (AEB); 10 Apr (4), Clin.I (RL); 3 Apr, Carl.F (DMK).

Ruddy Duck

EA: 12 Feb (3), Pyramid SP (Perry Co) (TAM); 19 Feb (150), Santa Fe Btms (DMK); 5 Mar, Coal City (Grundy Co) (DFS); 7 Mar (2), Fermilab (EES). **MC:** 2869, Chau, 24 Mar (RG&SNB); 870, Hennepin L, 15 Mar (DFS); 550, HL, 29 Mar (KAM); 450, Grassy L (Union Co), 30 Mar (KAM); 400, Carl.C, 10 & 13 Mar (DMK); 300+, Boone Co, 21 Mar (AEB). **LD:** 30 May (12), L Decatur dredge ponds (TAM); 28 May (5), HL (KAM, CJL); 7 Apr (18), JP (PRC).

Ring-necked Pheasant

MC: 34, L Decatur dredge ponds, 7 May (TAM, MFD); 7, Bureau Co, 7 May (DFS); 6, Montgomery Co, 7 May (RL); 6, Carl.C, 14 May (DMK).

Greater Prairie-Chicken

MC: 52 (males), PrRdg, Mar-Apr (SAS, m.ob)—93% increase from 2004 (SAS); 48 (males), PrRdg (Marion Co), Mar-Apr (SAS, m.ob)—30% increase from 2004 (SAS).

Wild Turkey

MC: 62 (single flock), Coal City (Grundy Co), 13 Mar (DFS); 60, Jefferson Co, 11 Mar (KAM); 39, Edwards Co, 13 Mar (RES); 19, McDonough Co, 14 Apr (LLH); 13, Rockfd, 1 Mar (DTW); 12, Carl.C, 12 & 25 Mar (DMK).

Northern Bobwhite

MC: 10, Monterey Mine (Clinton Co), 22 May (DMK); 9, Fayette Co, 5 May (TAM); 9, McDonough Co, 7 May (LLH); 9 (Union Co), 7 May (SDB); 6, Johnson Co, 10 Apr (KAM).

Red-throated Loon

EA: 24 Mar (basic plumage), L Spfld (HDB)—earliest date for Sangamon Co (HDB); 15 Apr, Montrose H (GAW). **LD:** 24 Apr, Montrose H (GAW); 17 Apr (imm.), Gillson P, Wilmette (Cook Co) (RDH); 28 Mar (1st spring), East Fork L (Richland Co) (*CLH).

Pacific Loon

EA: 15 Apr (basic plumage), Crab Or. (KAM). **LD:** 15-23 May (basic plumage), East Fork L (Richland Co) (*CLH:ph, *RES:ph)—record late spring date (but note one summer record, 21-30 Jun 1991). These are the third and fourth spring-season records for IL.



Common Loon at Blackwell Forest Preserve, Du Page County. 24 March 2005. Photo by Jerry Kumery.

Common Loon

EA: 17 Mar, East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH); 22 Mar, Independence Grove FP (Lake Co) (DRD); 22 Mar, JP (JEL); 24 Mar, Rock Cut (DTW). **MC:** 35, Montrose H, 24 Apr (GAW); 9, East Fork L (Richland Co), 29 Apr (CLH); 7, Diamond Lake (Lake Co), 26 Mar (SDB, SLD); 3, Crab Or., 15 Apr (KAM); 3, L Vermilion (Vermilion Co), 10 Apr (SDB). **LD:** 26 May, IBSP (AFS); 20 May, Livingston Co (KAM); 15 May (3), East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH).

Pied-billed Grebe

EA: 5 Mar, Goose L Pr State Natural Area (Grundy Co) (DFS); 17 Mar, Montrose H (GAW); 20 Mar (4), O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (DMK). **MC:** 48, L Decatur dredge ponds, 7 May (TAM, MFD); 42, Mermet L, 4 Apr (KAM); 39, Hennepin L, 11 May (DFS); 23, Chau, 28 Apr (RG&SNB); 16, HL, 31 May (DMK). **LD:** 5 May, JP (PRC).

Horned Grebe

EA: 4 Mar (6), Chau (RG&SNB); 6 Mar (2), Grant P (DFS); 7 Mar, Fermilab (EES); 12 Mar, Carl.C (DMK, JWE). **MC:** 35, East Fork L (Richland Co), 27 Mar (CLH); 9, Channahon (Will Co), 26 Mar (DTW); 6, Montrose H, 29 Mar (GAW). **LD:** 18 May, McGinnis Slough, Palos (JWL, JOS, KLS); 17 May, Montrose H (GAW, JIE, m.ob.); 8 Apr (3), Grassy L (Union Co) (KAM).

Red-necked Grebe

LD: 15 Apr, Montrose H (GAW, RDH)—the only report.

Eared Grebe

EA: 4 Mar, Sangamon Co (HDB); 6 Mar, Grant P (DEW); 17 Mar, HL (FRH). **LD:** 27 Apr, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co) (AFS); 24 Apr, HL (FRH).

American White Pelican

EA: 20 Feb (7), Santa Fe Btms (DMK); 26 Feb (65), L&D#13 (Whiteside Co) (TAM et al.); 4 Mar (135), Miss. R (Hancock Co) (AGD); 16 Mar (6), LShel. (Shelby Co) (KF). **MC:** 3136, Chau & Clear L (Mason Co), 1 Apr (RG&SNB); 1730, Putnam Co, 23 Mar (DFS); 750, Carl.F, 3 Apr (DMK). **LD:** 29 May (60), Carl.F (KAM); 28 May (25), Nauvoo (Hancock Co) (AGD); 28 May (30), Savanna (Carroll Co) (DTW). **Others:** 5 Apr (11), Nelson M (EES); 9 Apr (25), Spfld (HDB); 14-16 April (14), L Decatur (TAM et al.); 21 Apr (42), L&D 13 (Whiteside Co) (SDB). **Others:** 14 Apr (24), Evansville (Randolph Co) (SDB); 13 Apr (30), Rend Lk (Franklin Co) (SDB). Well reported statewide.

Double-crested Cormorant

EA: 11 Mar, Quincy Bay (Adams Co) (AGD); 13 Mar (8), Carl.C (DMK); 19 Mar (3), L Decatur (TAM); 21 Mar, JP (PRC). **MC:** 8000 (nesting colony), Carl.F, 9 Apr through end of season (DMK); 4700, Rend L (Jefferson & Franklin Cos), 17 Apr (KAM); 2062, Montrose H, 25 Apr (GAW); 1799, Chau, 1 Apr (RG&SNB). **LD:** 30 May (12), Montrose H (GAW).

American Bittern

EA: 30 Mar, JP (BWH, PRC)—local record early arrival date (PRC); 30 Mar, Oakwood Btms (Jackson Co) (KAM); 16 Apr, Pecatonica (Winnebago Co) (BW); 5 & 19 May (calling male), L Decatur dredge ponds (TAM, MFD). **MC:** 4, Oakwood Btms (Jackson Co), 28 & 30 Apr (TAM, SDB, MFD, CAT); 3, Goose L Pr State Natural Area (Grundy Co), 30 Apr (AFS); 2, Montrose H, 6 May (GAW). **LD:** 30 May, L Decatur dredge ponds (TAM, MFD); 29 May, HL (FRH); 25 May, Pratts Wayne Wds FP (Du Page Co) (EES); 14 May, JP (*vide* RDM). **Remarks:** Poor numbers in southern IL this spring (KAM). **ADDENDUM** to the spring 2004 summary: 11 Apr, Nelson M (RCR, NPB)—the earliest report from northern IL in that season.

Least Bittern

EA: 10 Apr (2), Mermet L (KAM); 11 May, Hennepin L (DFS); 14 May (female), JP (MCP); 19 May (calling male), L Decatur dredge ponds (TAM). **MC:** 3, Mermet L, 4 May (KAM); 3, Pratts Wayne Wds FP (Du Page Co), 18 May (UWG). **LD:** 30 May (calling male), L Decatur dredge ponds (TAM, MFD); 28 May (2), Spring L (Carroll Co) (DTW); 25 May, Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co) (AFS); 21 May, Nelson M (NPB, RCR).

Great Blue Heron

EA: 7 Mar, JP (PRC); 15 Mar, Montrose H (GAW). **MC:** 157, Chau, 6 May (RG&SNB); 121, Clear L (Mason Co), 1 Apr (RG&SNB); 60, Carl.F, 29 May (KAM); 34, Bakers L (Cook Co), 7 May (GAW).

Great Egret

EA: 6 Mar, HL (FRH); 26 Mar (2), LCal (WJM); 29 Mar, Sangamon Co (RLJ); 5 Apr, Boone Co (AEB). **MC:** 161, Bakers L (Cook Co), 7 May (GAW); 110, HL, 25 Apr (FRH); 60, Chau, 27 May (RG&SNB); 48, Bellrose Rsv, 4 May (KAM). **LD:** 7 Jun (3), Evanston (JIE); 27 May (2), JP (KMC).

Snowy Egret

EA: 27 Mar, HL (FRH); 7 May, Deadstick Pond, LCal (WJM). **MC:** 6, Bellrose Rsv, 4 May (KAM); 5, Sauget (St. Clair Co), 15 May (DMK); 4, Carl.F, 5 May (TAM, MFD). **Other:** 4-10 May (3), Sangamon Co (HDB); 11 May (2, alternate plumage), Chau (RG&SNB).

Little Blue Heron

EA: 29 Mar, Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co) (KAM); 5 Apr, Sangamon Co (HDB); 17 Apr (2), LCal (WJM). **MC:** 73, Alexander Co, 8 May (SDB); 50+, Bellrose Rsv, 29 Apr (SDB, MFD, CAT, TAM); 42, near Dongola (Union Co), 25 May (SDB); 30, Sauget (St. Clair Co), 15 May (DMK). **LD:** 27 May (ad.), Chau (RG&SNB); 20 May ("calico"), Chau (RG&SNB); 7 May, Shelby Co (KF). **Others:** 3 May (resident ad.), Wolf L (CAM); 14-18 May (2), Burnham Pr, LCal (GAW, JWL et al.); 22 May (2), LCal (AFS).

Cattle Egret

EA: 28 Mar (5), Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co) (KAM). **MC:** 200, Sauget (St. Clair Co), 15 May (DMK); 8, Duncan Mills (Fulton Co), 20 Apr (LLH); 6, Massac Co, 17