Stilt Sandpiper
EA: **10 Apr** (4), Pulaski Co (KM) — **second earlicst IL arrival**; 16 Apr (2), Carl.F (CPA); 30 Apr, Victoria (Knox Co) (MB); 5 May, Knox Co (*MW). **MC**: **40**, Carl.F, 21 May (KM) — **record spring high count**; 10, same site, 18 May (RC); 4, Sgmn Co, 21 & 23 May (HDB). **LD**: 26 May (4), Carl.F (KR); 26 May, Sang.L (HDB); 23 May, Victoria (Knox Co) (MB). No reports submitted from n IL.

Short-billed Dowitcher
EA: 5 May, Heyworth (McLean Co) (TEB, MF); 5 May (2), Carl.C (DK); 12 May, LCal (WM). **MC**: **129**, Carl.F, 6 May (DK, MD) — **single-site high coount for spring**; 45, Carl.C, 12 May (DK); 35, Hennepin L, 23 May (DFS); 13, Rockford, 17 May (DTW). **LD**: 27 May, Clin.L (RC); 23 May (35), Hennepin L (DFS); 21 May, Carl.F (KM). **Others** (undocumented): **17 Apr** (11), Pulaski Co. This species merits documentation prior to the last few days of April.

Long-billed Dowitcher
EA: 31 Mar (5), Carl.F (DK); 13 Apr (7), Belknap (Johnson Co) (FB); 17 Apr, Rend L (Jefferson Co) (KM); 14 Apr (4), MidFk (RC). **MC**: 19, Carl.F, 15 Apr (DK); 10, Johnson Co, 21 Apr (KM). **LD**: 3 May, CypCrk (KM et al.); 22 Apr (16), Carl.F (DK). **Others** (undocumented): **22-23 May** (2), Knox Co; **17 May** (2), Winnebago Co; **16 May**, Lake Co. This species of Dowitcher is little expected beyond early May, and there is but oue documented IL record past mid-May (19 May 1997).

Common Snipe
EA: 3 Mar, Pulaski Co (KM); 11 Mar (3), Carl.C (DK); 14 Mar (2), Sang.L (HDB); 19 Mar, JP (KC, PC). **MC**: **210**, Gifford/MidFk, 14 Apr (RC); 157, Carl.F, 24 Mar (DK); 121, Pulaski Co, 29 Mar (KM); 16, Des Plaines R Wetlands Demonstration Project (Lake Co), 3 Apr (SH). **LD**: 8 May, Sauget Marsh (St. Clair Co) (DFS); 5 May (7), Carl.C (DK); 5 May, Sang.L (HDB); 5 May (2), Hoffman Estates (Cook Co) (AA).

American Woodcock
EA: 8 Feb, Madison Co (KM); 11 Feb, Urbana (RC); 11 Feb (8), Carl.C (DK); 27 Feb, Sgmn Co (HDB); 10 Mar, JP (PC). **MC**: **87**, Spoon L (Knox Co), 22 Mar (MB) — **record IL high count**; 20+, Urbana, 14 Mar (RC et al.); 15, Johnson Co, 3 Mar (KM); 6, Greene Valley FP (Du Page Co), 21 Mar (UG). **LD**: 15 May (2), Evanston (EW, JE).

Wilsons Phalarope
EA: 21 Apr (2), Carl.C (DK); 25 Apr, Ridgway tract, Pr.Rdg (LH); 25 Apr, Carl.F (KM); 1 May (female), Victoria (Knox Co) (MB). **LD**: 4 Jun, Del Monte ponds, Meudota (La Salle Co) (JH). Few reports; none in excess of two.

Red-necked Phalarope
EA: 13 May, Carl.C (DK); 17 May, Carl.F (KR). **MC**: 2 (pr), Carl.F, 21 May (KM). **LD**: 26 May, Carl.F (KR). Reported only from Carlyle L (Clinton/Fayette Cos).

Laughing Gull
EA (see Note): **3 Mar**, Fishhk (RC); **10 Mar**, Carl.C (DK); **19 Mar** (ad.), Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co) (KM); 1 May (ad.), L Spfld (HDB); 5 May, Kane Co (*RH); 5 May, Kane Co (*RM); 6 May, La Salle County Nuclear Plant (La Salle Co) (DJS); 9 May, Waukegan (Lake Co) (RP). **MC**: 2, Carl.C, 21 Apr (DK); 2, Carl.F, 26 May (KR). **LD**: 1 Jun, Carl.F (CPA); 26 May (dead), GrtLakes (RP); 20-21 May, L Spfld (HDB); 20 May (ad.), Borrow Pits at HL (DFS). **Other**: **winter - 9 Mar**, Sgmn Co (HDB); **hybrid**, apparently **Laughing x Ring-billed Gull** (first-summer), 28 Apr - 20 May, Keutucky Fried Chicken Restaurant, LCal (*WM, TVB:ph.). **Note**: This years arrivals are the **first Marcb records for IL** (with surprisingly early dates in March!), the earliest previous being 7 Apr 1991. It is unfortunate that no documentations were submitted. **Others:** 1, Montrose, Cook Co, 25 May (KH, ph).

Franklins Gull
EA: 15 Mar (ad.), L Spfld (HDB); 18 Mar & 24 Mar, Mermet L (FB); 22 Apr (ad.), IBSP (AS); 22 Apr (2), Montrose (GW). **MC**: 32, Sgmn Co, 27 May (HDB); 19, Clin.L, 27 May (RC); 4, Carl.F, 28 May (DK, KR). **LD**: 6 Jun (first-year), JP (PC); 30 May (6), L Spfld (HDB); 29 May (2 — ad. & first-year), Clin.L (MR, JS); 28 May (4), Carl.F (DK, KR). Widely reported.

Little Gull
Two reports; both from inland sites: **EA**: **31 Mar**, LShel (**Shelby Co**) (*RC) — **second earliest spring arrival**. **LD**: 1 May, Split Rock L (**La Salle Co**) (JH).

Bonapartes Gull
EA: **7 Feb** (2), CrabOr. and Baldwin L (St. Clair/Randolph Cos) (KM); 27 Feb, Sgmn Co (HDB); 6 Apr, Evanston (EW); 8 Apr (40), I & M Canal (La Salle Co) (DJS). **MC**: **4810**, GrtLakes, 27 Apr (EW); 1600, Hennepin L, 19 Apr (DFS); 400, CrabOr., 4 Apr (KM); 300, Carl.C, 13 Apr (DK); 350, Sgmn Co, 11 Apr (HDB); 280, Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery (Mason Co), 5 Apr (R&SBj) — local record high count. **LD**: 30 May (**ad.**), L Spfld (HDB); 2 May (imm.), L Spfld (HDB); 29 Apr, Rend L (KM, DK); 23 Apr, JP (DJJ, SF).

Ring-billed Gull
EA: **20 Jan**, Sgmn Co (HDB); 17 Feb, Homer L (Champaign Co, where none wintered) (RC, SB, m.ob.); 10 Mar (3), Little Swan L (Warreu Co) (LLH). **MC**: **80,000**, Carl.C, 11 Mar (DK) — **ties record spring high count set at same site in 1996**; 3500, Sgmn Co, 22 Mar (HDB); 1000, Evergreen L (McLean Co), 3 Apr (MR); 1550, Hennepin L, 19 Apr (DFS). **LD**: 4 May (decreased numbers), Sgmn Co (HDB). See also Laughing Gull for appareut hybrid.

Herring Gull
MC: 300, LCal, 26 Mar (DFS); 40, Sgmn Co, 1 Mar (HDB); 20, Madison Co, 6 Mar (KM); 10, Carl.C, 11 Mar (DK). **LD**: 31 May (in heavy molt), Carl.C (DK); 30 May (imm.), L Spfld (HDB). Modest numbers statewide.

Thayers Gull
EA: 3 Mar (imm.), LCal (WM); 11 Mar (ad.), McKee Marsh (Du Page Co) (UG); 18 Mar (ad.), Fermi (UG). **LD**: 5 May (ad.), Evanston (*EW, TB); 22 Apr, Montrose (GW). A few additional singles at L Michigan.

Iceland Gull
EA: 18 Mar (ad.), Fermi (UG) — the only report.

Lesser Black-backed Gull
EA: 3 Mar, North Point Marina, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co) (SH); 17 Mar, Fermi (DTW); 17 Mar (ad.), L Spfld (HDB); 18 Mar (second-year), L Spfld (HDB). **LD**: 5 May, Lake Co (*RDH); 5 May, Lake Co (*BR); 5 May, Lake Co (*DDz); 23 Mar (ad.), HL (KM); 19 Mar (ad.), L Spfld (HDB). A few additional singles at L Michigan.

Glaucous Gull
EA: 18-21 Mar (second-year), JP (RDH, PC); 18 Mar, North Point Marina, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co) (DRD). **LD**: 5 May, Lake Co (*DDz); 24 Mar, Monroe Harbor, Chi (GW). Singles only, confined to L Michigan.

Great Black-backcd Gull
EA: 18 Mar (1st year), Rainbow Beach, Chi (AS); 26 Mar (1st year), Calumet P (LCal) (DFS). **LD**: 6 Apr (1st year), Grant P (DFS). All records possibly assignable to a single individual.

Caspian Tern
EA: 6 Apr, Evanston (EW); 6 Apr (3), JP (PC, BH); 8 Apr, Mermet L (FB); 10 Apr, L Spfld (HDB). **MC**: **200+**, Grant P, 19 Apr (DEW fide DFS); **185**, Evanston, 21 Apr (EW); **177**, JP, 18 Apr (KC); 9, Sgmn Co, 26 Apr (HDB); 6, Rend L (Jefferson Co), 23 Apr (KM). **LD**: 9 Jun (4 migrants), Evanston (EW); 21 May, Carl.F (KM); 18 May (2), Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB). Peak numbers at L Michigan occurred unusually early in season.

Common Tern
EA: 3 May (15), L Spfld (HDB); 20 May (first-year), Heyworth (McLean Co) (MR). **MC**: **1100**, Waukegan and GrtLakes, 12 May (AS) — second highest count on record; 230, Evanston, 9 May (EW); 15, L Spfld, as above. **LD**: 3 Jun, Rainbow Beach, Chi (DFS); 29 May (3), Clin.L (MR, JS); 27 May (17), L Spfld (HDB); 26 May, La Salle County Nuclear Plant (La Salle Co) (DJS). Very few reports over most of state, but highly localized high counts at n L Michigan sites.

Forsters Teru
EA: 10 Apr, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH); 11 Apr (2), Sang.L (HDB); 14 Apr (4), Evanston (EW); 14 Apr (3), OFallon (St. Clair Co) (DK). **MC**: 45, GrtLakes, 27 Apr (EW); 42, Carl.F, 11 May (DK); 20, Sgmn Co, 26 & 29 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 15 Jun (4 — summering?), GrtLakes (EW); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 29 May (2), Clin.L (MR, JS); 22 May (6), HL (KM, IOS). **Other** (undocumented): **4 Mar** (2), Mermet L — the date is unprecedented, as there is ouly one other March date for IL (23 Mar 1991), and that was published as a second-hand report.

Least Tern
EA: 12 May, Massac Co (FB). **MC**: 6+ (ad.), just w of Cache (Alexander Co), 28 May (MR, JS). **LD**: 30 May, L Spfld (KM); 30 May, Sang.L (HDB).

Black Tern
EA: 5 May (2), L Spfld (HDB); 11 May (4), Carl.F (DK). **MC**: **500**, Carl.F, 26-27 May (KR, DK); **260**, Hennepin L, 23 May (DFS); 228, Sgmn Co, 26 May (HDB). **LD**: into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 5 Jun, Pillsbury Poud, St. Charles (Kane Co) (DJS).

Rock Dove **MC**: 350, s Cook Co, 17 Mar (DFS); 50, Carl.C, 17 Mar (DK) — the only non-SBC high counts reported.

Mourning Dove
MC: 80, Kankakee Co, 8 Apr (DFS); 36, Sgmn Co, 3 Mar (HDB); 34 (migrating), Evanston, 7 Apr (EW); 30, Carl.C, 18 Mar & 6 May (DK). A weak migration, with no arrival or departure dates discerned.

Monk Parakeet
MC: 76 (including 21 nests), three sites at LCal, 11 Mar (WM); 25, JP, 6 Apr (PC, BH).

Black-billed Cuckoo
EA: 2 May, Linc.P (GW); 4 May, Knox College (MB); 5 May (2), s Clinton Co (KM); 5 May, Mermet L (FB). **MC**: 2, s Clinton Co, 5 May (KM) — the only high couut reported. **LD**: 24 May, Sang.L (HDB); 23 May, JP (PC, KC); 19 May, Carl.F (DK, MD). Once again, observers statewide commented on the **critically low numbers of both species of cuckoos**; e.g., no cuckoos at all at Grant P (DFS, TS); only one of each species at McLean Co all season (MR); season totals of only four Black-billed Cuckoos (all singles) at Sgmn Co (HDB), and only three at JP (PC).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo
EA: 25 Apr, Massac Co (FB); 28 Apr, Atwood Ridge (Union Co) (KM, DK, VL); 30 Apr, Montrose (GW); 1 May, Knox College (MB); 3 May, three miles ne of Marietta (Fulton Co) (LLH). **MC**: 4, Sgmn Co, 18 May (HDB); 3, Carl.F, 14 May (KM) & 28 May (DK); 3, Carl.C, 19 May (DK); 2, Swallow Cliffs FP, Palos, 9 May (DFS). **LD**: 17 Jun, JP (GD) — the only one of season for site. See comments at Black-billed Cuckoo.



Eastern Screech-Owl. Sangamon County. 9 April 2001. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Barn Owl
1 Apr (at known nest box), Union Co (KM); 26 Apr through summer (pr), Pr.Rdg (LH, *JW et al.); 5 May, Pike Co (*JF)

Eastern Screech-Owl
MC: 11, Palos, 3 Mar (EW, KW, WS). Almost no reports, no other counts contributed.

Great Horned Owl
MC: 12, Palos, 3 Mar (WS, EW, KW); 3 (including one fledgling), Chau, 3 May (R&SBj). **LD**: **9 May**, JP (SF et al.) — the only migrant reported.

Barred Owl
MC: 8, Carl.C, 5 May (DK); 3 (young), La Rue-Pine Hills Ecological Area (Union Co), 3 May (KM); 3, Sgmn Co, 10 Apr & 5 May (HDB); 2, McClaughry Springs Wds FP, Palos, all spring (WS); 2, Des Plaines R (Du Page Co), 18 May (MBC). **Other** (north): 13 Apr, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (UG).