

# Meadowlark

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## ILLINOIS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### President's Message

Dear Members:

In my last message I recognized the wonderful team who make IOS the highly regarded birding association that has so enriched the Illinois birding experience for all these years. IOS has sustained an enviable track record for over 15 years.

IOS was organized to fill the demand for a high-quality journal to record Illinois' birdlife. This issue of the *Meadowlark* has the report of 2005's CBCs just in time for you to check what was seen last year before some of the 2006 counts begin. The next issue will have the 2006 SBCs just in time for the May 2007 spring counts. The count reports, the seasonal Field Notes and the articles on the Illinois birding scene are what we all look forward to in each issue of the Meadowlark.

The *Meadowlark*, *Wings Over The Prairie* and the local bird clubs' monthly newsletters no longer serve as the primary source of birding information for many of us. IBET serves that function with its same day immediacy that no paper publication can match. What I find encouraging is the way in which the bird chat rooms like IBET encourage questions and debate about our birds, their identification, habits and occurrence in a forum in which we can all follow along and increase our own knowledge. I also find it gratifying that more and more IBET posters are citing the Meadowlark to inform the debate.

The *Meadowlark* also publishes the IORC Reports, the deliberations of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee. This committee of expert, knowledgeable birders has what in many ways is a thankless task. Their job is to evaluate the documentation of rare bird sightings in Illinois and decide whether there is sufficient evidence to accept the sighting. I say that their task is thankless as for all the happy birders whose sightings are accepted, there are the sightings that are not accepted. These rejections have been known to generate some unhappiness.

Be that as it may be, IORC performs a valuable service in maintaining the official Illinois list. I for one look forward to their annual reports of rare and new to Illinois birds, and applaud their work in providing a credible record of the occurrence of species in Illinois. What would the serious lister do without IORC as the arbiter of rare bird sightings in Illinois?

Our thanks to the dedicated members of IORC: currently Doug Stotz, Dave Johnson, Bob Hughes, Dan Kassebaum, Keith McMullen, Paul Sweet and Mike Ward.

Good birding.

*Michael Hogg,*  
President

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## Letter from the Editor

### *The gift of bird song*

It starts with a slightly long, clear tone, then is followed by a series of higher, faster pitches, sometimes major, sometimes minor thirds repeated once or twice, some higher pitched than others – to my ears at least.

It's the song of the Hermit Thrush, which belongs to a family of some of the most beautiful songsters in the world.

Indeed, in Costa Rica and in Mexico, thrushes fill the forest with songs. Nightingale-thrushes, which are in the same genus as Gray-cheeked, Swainson's and Hermit Thrush, sing hauntingly beautiful melodies. And I've heard the Black-faced Solitaire in Costa Rica give its mellifluous series of several notes, sometimes followed by two notes at once, like I learned to play on the flute when I became more proficient on this instrument.

I've also heard the Townsend's Solitaire, a western species, which occasionally visits northern Illinois in winter. This species sang for my sister and me when we went to see it one year at Lyons Woods in Lake County.

I've only heard the Hermit Thrush sing in upper Michigan, echoing in pine woods and boggy woods, luring me into another dimension. But lucky Paul Clyne has heard the Hermit Thrush sing right here in Illinois. He writes about this wonderful surprise in this issue of Meadowlark – a little gift only for him.

Why and when birds sing is always fascinating to me – some sing during migration, some only when on their breeding grounds, and others even in fall and winter. White-throated Sparrows sang in my back yard all fall and now mostly are gone, taking their songs with them. If I'm lucky, on a Christmas Bird Count, I will hear the boisterous "Teakettle" of the Carolina Wren and the varied notes of the Song Sparrow. And come late winter, the American Tree Sparrow will offer its tinkling, love song before heading north.

This winter, listen for bird song and perhaps when the Hermit Thrushes come through in early spring, you may even hear one sing in Illinois, as Paul Clyne did.

*Sheryl DeVore*

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### About Our Cover:

Peter Olson crafted our cover of a Hermit Thrush. Peter is a professional artist working at the Northern Illinois University Art Museum. He has twice been selected to show his works at the highly acclaimed Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum Birds in Art exhibit in Wisconsin. His art work can be viewed at <http://www.umrain.com/pete.htm>.

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# The love song of *Catharus guttatus*: Hermit Thrushes singing in Illinois

by Paul R. Clyne



“For I have known them all already,  
known them all:—  
Have known the evenings, mornings,  
afternoons,  
I have measured out my life with  
coffee spoons;  
I know the voices dying with a dying fall  
Beneath the music from a farther room.  
So how should I presume?”

—T. S. Eliot (1915),  
*The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*

I was not actually engaged in existential quandaries when I stepped outside under the bleak winter skies of 14 December 2005. Actually, I was going grocery shopping, picking up some sundries for house guests who'd arrived that day. Yet a few steps outside my front door I was compelled to pause, as I was faintly hearing unknown music from a distant quarter. My first guess was a newly acquired antique music box, playing from behind closed windows of some farther room of a neighbor's flat. That, or maybe wind-chimes from a back yard — also unknown music in the familiar terrain of my front doorstep.

My next guess was perhaps a bird's song emanating from the rear courtyard of our block of buildings. Not, after all, a song I knew, but the distance was great and the audibili-

ty was weak: Some faint, tinkling, enchanting tones, so enchanting that I paused a bit more, scanning the roofs and few visible treetops. No birds, and in any event I was under pressure to get on with errands.

Five steps closer to the grocery store I found the music's source just fifteen feet to my left: A Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) was whispering a song from a leafless bush in the tiny front yard of my neighbor's row-house. So ventriloqual and modest was its song that I'd supposed it had come from quite some distance, yet the bird was so close as to be clearly identifiable to the naked eye. Its rusty tail and

*Above: Hermit Thrush at Kettle Moraine State Forest, South Unit (Walworth County) Wisconsin. 17 October 2004. Photo by Mary Kay Rubey.*

rump contrasted with its plain brown back. It obliged me once or twice with its characteristic tail pump. Eventually, it also uttered its distinctive chup-note a few times, interspersed within its subdued song. Eventually, I reached the supermarket.

Groceries and errands consumed the better part of an hour, but on returning home at 3:40 in the afternoon, the Hermit Thrush was still engaged in subtle song. I dragged my binoculars and house guests outside to partake of this rare encounter. The guests remained polite for a moment or two before returning indoors. It was, after all, right about freezing, with scant snow flurries.

Several authors have remarked on how unusual it is to hear Hermit Thrushes singing outside their breeding grounds. Arthur Cleve-

land Bent, in his classic series on the life histories of North American birds, notes (p. 143) that neither Alexander Wilson nor John James Audubon—the two most venerated founders of American ornithology—was familiar with this bird's song. Bent himself grew up in central Illinois but never knew the song until he moved to Maine. However, Bent also includes (p. 159) accounts of Hermit Thrushes singing in winter, especially on arrival at, and just before departure from, their wintering grounds in the pine forests of central Alabama and on the "peninsula of Missouri." He continues,

"Many other observers have had similar experiences, of hearing the full song of the hermit in their winter haunts..." and he bluntly adds, "...this bird does not sing during its migration journey."

The Jones and Donovan fascicle on this species in the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences series on North American birds notes (p. 9), "Generally does not sing on wintering grounds, though exceptions exist (Bent 1949, Stupka 1963, Potter et al. 1980, W. Gram pers. comm.)," and "...rarely sings during migration (Todd 1940, Bent 1949)." The datedness of the references is striking in this recent, comprehensive overview of the species. A Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology Web page on Hermit Thrush remarks that the song is "...heard rarely in winter and not at all during migration..."

Within Illinois, there are few published records of Hermit Thrushes singing at any time of year. Ridgway's founding monograph on Illinois birds back in 1889 includes a second-hand description of the song (from Dr. Thomas M. Brewer of Boston), and I don't suppose Ridgway—who was, as he put it (p. 3) "autoptically familiar only with the bird-fauna of the southeastern portion of the State"—knew the



*Hermit Thrush, Severson Dells Forest Preserve, Rockford, Winnebago County. 15 October 2005. Photo by Mary Kay Rubey.*

song in life. A century later, Bohlen's monograph notes only that the Hermit Thrush "rarely sings its beautiful flutelike song in Illinois." Robinson's (1996) study of southern Illinois birds remarks, under spring data, that "Sometimes, on cool, clear mornings, Hermit Thrushes will sing, but it is uncommon."

In their thorough monograph on the thrushes of Illinois, Graber, Graber and Kirk remark (p. 18), "We have never heard a hermit thrush sing in Illinois, though they do sing occasionally in the northern region of the state (Farwell 1919, and Craigmile 1945)." Farwell's encounter was in Lake Forest (Lake County) on 17 Apr 1912, when he was awakened at 5 a.m. by a song that "could not have been anything but the Hermit at so early a date." He adds, "I have not heard of its singing during migration in this locality before, neither had Mr. B. T. Gault, of Glen Ellyn, to whom I wrote." The Craigmile reference is to an Illinois Audubon Bulletin mention of a Hermit Thrush singing at Thatcher Woods in Cook County on 15 Apr 1944: "The rarest treat of the morning was the flute-like song of the hermit thrush on Edgewood lawns. He gave two encores. It seldom sings in migration..." These two citations are, in fact, the only

previously published concrete records, including date and site, of singing Hermit Thrushes that I've found for anywhere in the state.

In Jackson Park, Chicago, where I've done most of my birding, and where Hermit Thrushes attain some of their highest published numbers for anywhere in Illinois during migration, I have only one previous record of a singing Hermit Thrush. This was an individual that I saw issuing complete songs at full volume on Wooded Island on 11 Apr 1995.

On 15 Dec 2005, I posted a solicitation for further information on this topic to the ILbirds

Web site, and in March of 2006 I sent direct inquiries to several key, long-term Illinois birders. The feedback I received increased the number of concrete records from four to 25, along with several undated records, but only increased the number of birders with datable records from three to eight. Fifteen of the 25 concrete records are from a single observer in a single county; viz., H. David Bohlen in Sangamon County. Two additional modern observers provided undated recollections of hearing Hermit Thrushes sing in Illinois, and I assume that Robinson's remarks above reflect, at least in part, personal experience.

The six available fall dates are all somewhat to very late (11 Nov - 14 Dec) in the season for apparent migrants and are consistent with the claim that Hermit Thrushes are prone to sing on arrival at their wintering grounds. In addition, Dale E. Birkenholz (pers. comm.) noted hearing Hermit Thrushes on several occasions over the years while deer-hunting in southern Pope County in mid-November; the songs were issued in early evening under warm, clear weather.

The nineteen spring dates (15 Mar - 22 Apr, averaging 9 Apr) are clustered prior to peak passages of spring migrants. In most cases it is

impossible to say whether the individual birds were spring migrants as opposed to wintering residents (perhaps, in some cases, wandering a bit from their wintering turf prior to migration), although the three dates from Kankakee in 2006 suggest wintering, as they were all noted from a patch of honeysuckle where the species was also found in January of that year (Jed B. Hertz, pers. comm.). A high count of two

singing Hermit Thrushes comes from Lincoln Gardens in Springfield on 15 Mar 2006.

The Illinois data thus seem consistent with, albeit not directly supportive of, statements in Bent and elsewhere that Hermit Thrushes do not sing on migration.

Below are the concrete Illinois records of singing Hermit Thrushes that have come to my attention:

Date	Site	Observer	Source
15 Mar 2006	Sangamon Co (Lincoln Gardens, Spfld)	HDB	pers. comm.
20 Mar 2000	Jackson Co (Pomona)	KAM	pers. comm.
29 Mar 1998	Sangamon Co (Lincoln Gardens, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
4 Apr 2003	Sangamon Co (Washington Park, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
4 Apr 2006	Kankakee Co (Kankakee)	JBH	pers. comm.
6 Apr 2006	Kankakee Co (Kankakee)	JBH	pers. comm.
9 Apr 1989	Sangamon Co	HDB	Bohlen MS
9 Apr 2006	Kankakee Co (Kankakee)	JBH	pers. comm.
10 Apr 1998	Sangamon Co (Lick Creek)	HDB	Bohlen MS
11 Apr 1998	Vermilion Co	CBT	pers. comm.
11 Apr 1995	Cook Co (Jackson Park, Chicago)	PRC	pers. obs.
14 Apr 1976	Sangamon Co	HDB	Bohlen MS
14 Apr 1998	Sangamon Co (Lincoln Gardens, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
15 Apr 1944	Cook Co (Thatcher Woods)	EAC	Craigmile 1945
15 Apr 1980	Sangamon Co	HDB	Bohlen MS
15 Apr 1980	Sangamon Co (Boy Scout area)	HDB	Bohlen MS
15 Apr 1998	Sangamon Co (Lincoln Gardens, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
17 Apr 1912	Lake Co (Lake Forest)	EDF	Farwell 1919
22 Apr 2001	Sangamon Co (Round Inlet, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
11 Nov 2003	Sangamon Co (Lincoln Gardens, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
26 Nov 2004	Lake County (Lyons Woods)	KL	pers. comm.
27 Nov 2003	Sangamon Co (Woods by Lake Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
2 Dec 1997	Sangamon Co (Round Inlet, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
9 Dec 1997	Sangamon Co (Lincoln Gardens, Spfld)	HDB	Bohlen MS
14 Dec 2005	Cook Co (Hyde Park, Chicago)	PRC	pers. obs.

Abbreviations: HDB = H. David Bohlen, EAC = Esther A. Craigmile, PRC = Paul R. Clyne, EDF = E. D. Farwell, JBH = Jed B. Hertz, KL = Karen Lund, KAM = Keith A. McMullen, CBT = Craig B. Thayer. Spfld = Springfield. MS = unpublished manuscript.

In addition to undated records above (Robinson, Birkenholz), Keith A. McMullen recalls at least one additional encounter in southern Illinois, after the spring arrival of Swainson's Thrushes, and Steven D. Bailey communicated, "I think that I have heard Hermit Thrushes in song no more than two or three times in my life in Illinois...."

My many thanks to the following observers for comments, including informing me of lack of encounters with singing Hermit Thrushes in Illinois: Steven D. Bailey, Dale E. Birkenholz, H. David Bohlen, Joel Greenberg, Jed B. Hertz, Robert D. Hughes, Dan M. Kassebaum, Karen Lund, Keith A. McMullen, Michael L. P. Retter, Kevin B. Richmond, Douglas F. Stotz, Craig B. Thayer, and Eric W. Walters. Joel Greenberg supplied me with the passage from Farwell 1919, for which I am most grateful. I also thank my neighbors, James E. Miller, Jr., and Kathleen Farley, for hosting the impetus for this study in their front yard; curiously, the preceding year they had asked me to comment on references to thrushes in lectures by T. S. Eliot in preparation for Miller's 2005 *T. S. Eliot: The Making of an American Poet, 1888-1922*, and a part of our correspondence included the anomaly of Hermit Thrushes singing away from their breeding grounds.

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This bibliography includes additional information from a variety of sources not referenced in the text of this article.

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Thrushes in Southeastern Louisiana. The Wilson Bulletin 112:347-353. [p. 349: "We heard singing in the form of soft, whispering song several times both with and without playback, usually soon after fall migration."]

Johnsgard, P. A. 1979. Birds of the Great Plains: breeding species and their distribution. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, NE. 539 pp. [p. 343: "sometimes its...song can even be heard in wintering areas, although it does not sing during migration."]

Mengel, R. M. 1965. The birds of Kentucky. American Ornithologists' Union Ornithological Monography 3, Lawrence, KS. 581 pp. [pp. 362f.: "So far as known, the...song...is very rarely heard in Kentucky.... On the evening of April 3, 1938, I heard 2 singing... on a wooded hillside near Louisville." "Song...was heard briefly near Harlan, Harlan County, on December 4, 1955. (Cornett 1956:20)"]

Miller, L. 1947. Birds of the campus. University of California Syllabus Series, No. 300. University of California Press, Los Angeles, CA. 37 pp. ["...even his delicious 'whisper song,' which he gives in March from the thick shrubbery under my office window, can be heard only from a few feet away."] From Birds of Westwood Web site.

Miller, W. 1911. The notes of the Hermit Thrush. Bird-Lore. 13:99. ["The Hermit Thrush seldom sings while with us in the spring, and the song is so low as to be inaudible if one is more than a few yards from the singer. On March 19 [1910, near Plainfield, New Jersey], I was agreeably surprised to hear four or five of these thrushes singing through most of the afternoon, though it was raining at the time. The song of only one bird, however, was of sufficient volume to be heard at any distance."]

Mumford, R. E. and C. E. Keller. 1984. The birds of Indiana. Indiana University Press, Bloom-

ington IN. 376 pp. [p. 234: "Hoosiers sometimes have the chance to hear the song of the hermit thrush in our state in spring migration," and "Many hermit thrushes spent the winter of 1954-55 in the Harrison State Forest (west of Corydon). At 5:30 AM on March 31, 1955, Mumford...became aware of at least four hermit thrushes in song."]

Oberholser, H.C. 1974. The bird life of Texas. University of Texas Press, Austin TX. 1069 pp. [p. 666: "...seldom sings away from its nesting territory."]

Potter, E. F., J. F. Parnell, and R. P. Teulings. 1980. Birds of the Carolinas. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, NC. 399 pp. [p. 275: "...rarely sings... while here. Apparently it sings only briefly just past sunrise and occasionally at dusk, doing so most frequently soon after arrival in fall and shortly before departing in spring."]

Robbins, S. D. 1991. Wisconsin birdlife: population and distribution, past and present. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, WI. 702 pp. [p. 440: "To most Wisconsin observers the Hermit Thrush is an uncommon migrant..., silent except for an occasional barely audible "schuck"...."]

Turcotte, W. H., and D. L. Watts. 1999. Birds of Mississippi. University Press of Mississippi, Jackson, MS. 432 pp. [p. 333: "I have heard it in song in Mississippi during the winter months only twice, once in the evening twilight and once at sunrise while duck hunting in Delta National Forest."]

Webster Groves Nature Study Society. 1998. Birds of the St. Louis area: where and when to find them. Webster Groves Nature Study Society, St. Louis, MO. 202 pp. [p. 127: "It rarely sings during its stay in the St. Louis area."]

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# Juvenile Hermit Thrush in Chicago

By Geoffrey Williamson

On 9 October 2005 I was birding at the Jarvis Migratory Bird Sanctuary in Chicago's Lincoln Park, when a *Catharus thrush* landed about 15 feet away from me on the mulch path outside the fenced sanctuary. The bird was relatively tame and did not fly as I raised my binoculars to study it. The most striking features of the bird were the numerous feathers on the head and back that had buff spots. I also noted the reddish tail and uppertail coverts that contrasted with the gray-brown coloration of the remainder of the bird's upperparts. Clearly this bird was a Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*). The fact that the bird raised then slowly lowered its tail several times further supported this identification. I presumed at the time that the buff spots in the head and back feathers meant that this bird was a juvenile, which was confirmed by information in Pyle et al. (1987) and in Jones and Donovan (1996).

Though I had seen countless Hermit Thrushes in Illinois, this was the first time I had seen a juvenile of the species, and I recognized this occurrence as rather unusual for Illinois. I endeavored to photograph the bird using my digital camera hand-held to my binoculars. Several of the resulting images, though blurry, enabled one to identify the bird as a Hermit Thrush and showed the extensive amount of buff spotting in the feathers.

Though the southern edge of their breeding range reaches the middle latitudes of Wisconsin, Hermit Thrushes have never bred in Illinois (IORC, 1999). During the Illinois Breeding Bird Atlas project from



*Juvenile Hermit Thrush observed in Chicago's Lincoln Park, 9 October 2005. Note the extensive spotting on the head and back and also the wing coverts. Photo by Geoffrey A. Williamson*

1986 to 1991, not one Hermit Thrush was observed (Kleen, Cordle, and Montgomery, 2004), and no occurrences of Hermit Thrush are included in the summer seasonal reports of Meadowlark vol. 1-14. Therefore this bird was likely a migrant from outside Illinois.

In Hermit Thrushes, the first prebasic molt occurs from early July to early September and can be complete from August onward (Jones and Donovan, 1996), and fall birds arrive in Illinois no earlier than mid-August. Thus, juvenile-plumaged Hermit Thrushes are quite rare in Illinois, with most young birds that reach the state in fall having already attained first

basic plumage. Robert Hughes has noted that in 25 years of birding in Chicago, he has never seen a juvenile Hermit Thrush (pers. comm.). H. David Bohlen commented that during many years of observation in central Illinois, he has never seen a Hermit Thrush with retained juvenal feathering on the head or back (pers. comm.). Among 20 hatching year specimens of Hermit Thrushes in the Illinois State Museum collection, only three have a few light spots on the coverts and none have spots on the head or back (H. David Bohlen, pers. comm.). I examined Hermit Thrush skins in the Field Museum of Natural History's collection: none of the 207 specimens collected during August through November in Illinois showed spotting in the head or back. Of these, at least 152 were noted as having less than 80% skull ossification and were likely immatures.



*Adult female (bottom) and juvenile Hermit Thrush collected 29 July 1963 in Cheboygan, Michigan, from the holdings of the Field Museum of Natural History. Photo by Geoffrey A. Williamson*

However, on 11 October 2005, just two days subsequent to my observation of the Lincoln Park bird, Paul Clyne noted two individual Hermit Thrushes on Wooded Island in Jackson Park, Chicago with varying amounts of retained juvenal plumage. One bird showed four to six long buff tips to the scapulars on either side as well as gray-buff spotting on the head (about 10 such spots on the right side of the head behind the auriculars through the nape; the left side of the head was not observed). The other showed at least nine long buff tips on the scapular and upper back feathers on the left side (the bird's right side was not seen, and views of the head were poor). Both birds were somewhat more advanced in plumage than the Lincoln Park bird but were strikingly juvenal nonetheless.

#### Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the Field Museum of Natural History and its bird collections manager Dr. David Willard for access to and assistance with the museum's collection, and Dr. Douglas Stotz of the Field Museum of Natural History for helpful discussions.

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# Memory Lane

## The Chicago Ross's Gull of 1978

By Carolyn A. Marsh

When I was writing an article on Jackson Park birder, Dale Pontius, to celebrate his 100th birthday, I read in one of his bird notebooks: "Dec. 2, 1978, 7:00-1:00, North Avenue Beach. Watch for Ross's Gull (*Rhodostethia rosea*) with Doug Anderson." I wondered if it was instead a Ross's Goose or the Ivory Gull.

However, back then, according to Chicago Area Birds published in 1984 by Steven Mlodinow, the Ross's Goose was listed as a very rare vagrant and there was no record of it yet in Chicago. The Ivory Gull was considered hypothetical. The Ross's Gull was also marked a very rare vagrant, except there was a first record. These are the recollections of seven birders about the legendary bird and event in Chicago birding history.

#### Andy Sigler

I was birding at Gillson Harbor in Wilmette when I saw this small gull sitting in the lake. It was gray above and below on the wings with a white trailing edge. It didn't have much of a bill; it looked dinky because the dark feathering around the bill obscures it and makes it look tiny. The breast was pinkish. I asked a guy that was also bird watching, if he had a bird book. He did and lucky for me it was the Golden Field Guide as it was the only bird guide at the time that had the Ross's Gull in it. I didn't have a car then so once I realized it was the Ross's I ran all the way to the Baha'i Temple, up all of the stairs to find a public phone,

but there was none. I then ran to the phone booth in the train station and called Larry Balch. He came and we spent hours in the harbor searching for the bird, but it never showed up again.

**Larry pulled a U-turn  
in the middle of  
Lakeshore Drive at  
Division, in a blizzard,  
with a traffic  
cop furiously blowing  
his whistle at us.**

You have to remember the bird previously was considered totally a Siberian gull. Birders would go to Gambell, Saint Lawrence Island or Alaska to see Ivory and Ross's Gulls migrating through.

It was found nesting in small colonies in the Canadian Arctic and near Churchill, Manitoba in the early 1980s. I don't know what its status is today.

What's endearing about this sighting was that Larry and I had discussed this exact species just months before. I had mentioned to him that when I was living in New Jersey, I watched the evening news on television about a Ross's Gull found in Massachusetts. Larry declared that it was him on national television!

#### Larry Balch

This was not a life bird for me. A couple of years earlier I took a day off from teaching math and flew to see the Ross's Gull that was reported in Newburyport, Massachusetts. Thousands of birders were looking for it up and down the East Coast as it was the first North American sighting.

When I arrived, the group of birders already present did not see it at the usual place so I moved away to look for it by myself.

Miraculously, I did relocate it and had to go back to tell the group when I saw a NBC camera crew and called out, "The bird is over here." After I returned to Chicago I was very surprised to see myself in the lead story on NBC national news at 5:30 p.m. talking about the Ross's Gull.

About the Wilmette Ross's Gull, needless to say, I was skeptical, but despite my skepticism I went to Gillson Harbor and met Andy Sigler. After he described the bird, I then realized it could be the bird. However, it was not seen again for ten days, until Nov. 29, when I continued to check the Lake Michigan shoreline and accidentally ran into Lucy Gemlo and Walter Hopkins at Fullerton Street Beach. They described a bird that sounded to me like it could be the Ross's Gull.

The next day, along with Richard Biss, Dave Bohlen, David Johnson and Gerry Rosenband, I finally saw the bird in flight at North Avenue Beach; it was easy to pick out.

On Saturday, Dec. 2, there were at least 100 birders lined up on the beach, but no bird. The New York Times was there and interviewed Andy. A picture showing the line of birders on the beach was on the front page of the Sunday, Dec. 3, 1978 paper.

### H. David Bohlen

I must have heard about the sighting of the small gull with pink underparts from Larry Balch. We were in contact those days about rarities. I tried to get someone to go to Chicago with me – but no one would go. I myself was indecisive. I awoke about midnight and thought "What else besides a Ross's Gull would have pink on it?" (Years later I actually saw a couple of Bonaparte's Gulls with pink blush.) So I jumped into my car and drove 3 1/2 hours to North Beach.

I remember it was still dark when I got there. And cold. As it got light I was standing on a park bench

jumping up and down to keep warm. A Chicago cop stopped and inquired what I was doing – then joked about it when I told him. Richard Biss showed up and some others including Gerry Rosenband and said the gull had been seen out on a sand spit. We made the short walk out there. A few Bonaparte's Gulls were working low along the shore. Then the Ross's Gull flew in and joined them. It was very close and we

### I finally saw the bird in flight at North Avenue Beach; it was easy to pick out.

could see the peaked head, the wedge tail and dark area around the eye. It was slightly pink also but the vividness of this changed with the light angles. After we watched it intently for quite awhile and Biss took several photos – the bird flew. We tried to follow it – but I think we lost it.

The main credit for finding and identifying the bird should go to Andy Sigler. I just lucked out going up to look when I did.

### Richard Biss

I remember taking the photos through a regular camera attached to the back of my Questar. The field of view was very small, it was very dark in the viewfinder, and the bird was far away, so I was pretty sure that nothing would come out. I was totally amazed when I had the film developed that there was anything identifiable in the photos. These days with people's digital cameras they can instantly see the results of their efforts without having to wait to have film developed, and also without having to worry about whether they had their f-stops set correctly for the light conditions.

Dave Johnson had someone print out some T-shirts. We had two different types made up. One of them says Bird Chicago in print on the front, and Ross' Gull, 78 on the

back. Another T-shirt has Bird Chicago in writing on the front, and Ross' Gull, 78 on the back, with a drawing of a pink breasted Ross's Gull. I still have them, but they have shrunk with the multiple washings, and now my daughter wears them sometimes. (Note that Ross's Gull was spelled Ross' Gull in 1978).

That was the same year I did an Illinois big year, ending up with 307 species. I know it was a lifer for me and most other birders that were there at the time, and we were all very excited.

### Greg Neise

I was working at the Chicago Academy of Sciences that day, and Dr. William Beecher was called about the bird. He grabbed me and we walked over to North Avenue beach. There were already a number of birders strung out from Fullerton to North Avenue when we arrived. There was a northeast wind raising a good 3-foot chop on the lake, and hundreds of gulls, mostly Bonaparte's, were feeding in the algae that were being churned by the breakers.

We stood with others near the beach-house, but wandered north about 150 yards. I could see clutches of birders at Fullerton and North Avenue, all picking through the Bonies that were being tossed around like confetti by the increasing gales (remember that this was the day the great blizzard of '78 began). Beecher and I started ambling back toward the main group. As we got closer it became apparent that they had the bird, and as I ran up it was pointed out to me as a dot on the horizon headed out past Navy Pier.

At this point I was standing next to Larry Balch who grabbed his Questar and took off in pursuit. I'm not sure how, but I wound up in the front seat of his then-famous white Volvo wagon. He and Gerry Rosenband had "cop radios" that they used on Attu Island in Alaska, and I believe that Gerry was some-

place north of us, talking to Larry on the radio. Gerry said something, and Larry pulled a U-turn in the middle of Lakeshore Drive at Division, in a blizzard, with a traffic cop furiously blowing his whistle at us. We raced back north.... I never saw the bird...at least not a bird that I will count as a Ross's Gull.

### Tom de Boor

I was one of the many birders who came down from Wisconsin the day after the last sighting. I heard

about the bird from a friend, the great Wisconsin birder Randy Hoffman, who offered me a ride down to look for it. I was too young to drive yet. I remember calling the Chicago hotline a lot both before and after we went down. Got my life Brant and life Harlequin Duck that day, but was pretty much inconsolable. I was a kid and I'd read all the stories about the Newburyport bird that Roger Tory Peterson chased.

### Eric Walters

I had just started birding and was 15 at the time, not old enough for me and my friends to drive, but incredibly excited about what was so tantalizingly near us. I do remember listening about the Ross's Gull on the hotline, the precursor to what IBET is now. Larry Balch founded the Chicago Rare Bird Alert and he was able to talk about the incredibly rare bird as nobody knew anything about them.



*A group of birders enjoy views of the Ross's Gull at North Avenue Beach, Chicago, 2 December 1978. Pictured from left to right, Gerry Rosenband, Tom Pucelik, Penny Pucelik, Larry Balch, Richard Biss, Barbara Hickey (Balch), and second from right, Jeff Sanders. Photo by Dale Pontius.*

— Carolyn A. Marsh  
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**Editor's Note:** Ross's Gull is considered a species at risk by the Canadian government. Officials are working on a recovery strategy for this species, which should be completed in 2009. This species is a victim of predation by polar bears as well as collection of eggs by humans. A black market exists for the eggs.

For more information on this species in Canada, visit this Web site:  
[http://www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca/search/speciesDetails\\_e.cfm?SpeciesID=59](http://www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca/search/speciesDetails_e.cfm?SpeciesID=59)

# Bald Eagles in winter

*Photos by Mary Kay Rubey*

Except for Alaska, Illinois holds the largest concentration of Bald Eagles during winter in the United States. Staff photographer Mary Kay Rubey visited the Rock River area in Winnebago County the winter season of 2005/2006 to photograph the eagles you see on these pages.





In 2007, the Starved Rock chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society, the Illinois Raptor Center and the Army Corps of Engineers host the annual free Bald Eagle weekend Jan. 27 and 28 at the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center on Dee Bennett Road across the Illinois River from Starved Rock State Park. Exhibits and raptor programs will be at the Starved Rock Lodge.

For more information, call (815) 667-4054.

# Winter birds of Illinois



While winter may seem a dreary time, for birders, it can be exciting and rewarding. Birds like Harlequin Ducks and Northern Shrikes make their appearance in Illinois in the winter, with shrikes hanging around until March and an occasional Harlequin lingering through winter. Though most Tundra Swans migrate through Illinois, a few, even in small flocks, remain in some places such as Lake Chautauqua in the winter as well.

*Featured on this page,  
Tundra Swan,  
8 January 2006  
on the Rock River in  
Blackhawk Park, Rockford  
(Winnebago County)  
by Mary Kay Rubey.  
Northern Shrike, with vole  
winter 2006 at Rollins  
Savanna (Lake County)  
by Matt Fletcher.  
Harlequin Duck,  
26 January 2006 at Lake  
Decatur (Macon County)  
by Chris Young.*



# The 2005/2006 Illinois Christmas Bird Count

by David B. Johnson

Weather wise, the 2005/2006 Illinois Christmas Bird Count practically mirrored the previous season (2004/2005). Cold and snowfall came very early to the state (around Thanksgiving time), pushing many waterbirds out of the state due to the many frozen bodies of water. The average low temperature was 23 degrees Fahrenheit and the average high temperature was 33 degrees Fahrenheit. The average snow depth was one to 2.5 inches statewide.

A total of 162 species were reported from 64 counts. Also reported were two forms ("Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk, and "Oregon" Dark-eyed Junco), and one unrecognized form (Ringed Turtle-Dove), as well as four count week species.

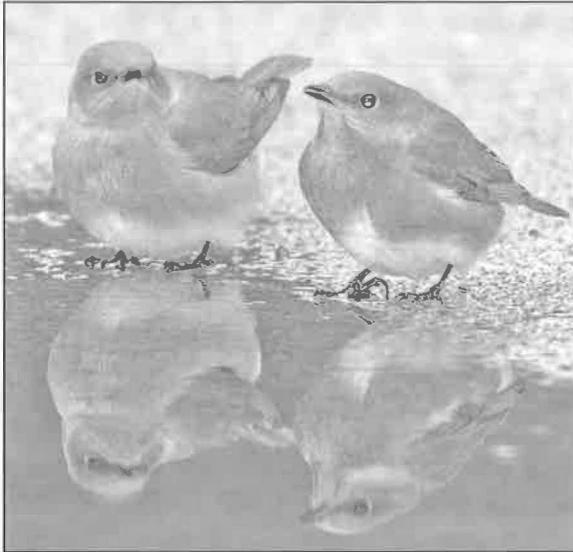
Where there was open water, waterfowl were observed in good and often record numbers. Amazing numbers of some geese, waterfowl, herons, wrens, thrushes, and sparrows were tallied on many counts.

Observers covered 21,895 miles in 3,608 party hours, plus spent 183 hours and 1,381 miles owling statewide. Rockford logged 8 hours and 12 miles by ATVs and cross-country skis.

Three southern Illinois counts surpassed the century mark of 100 species: Arklands (103), Mermet Lake (109), and Rend Lake (101). The highest species total for a central Illinois count came from Crane Lake – Sangamon (92) with Springfield a close second (90), and the highest northern Illinois count was Lisle Arboretum (80). Fermilab-Batavia reported the highest number of field observers (101), and Waukegan had the highest number of feeder watchers (76). Table 1 lists the counts, their compilers and other pertinent count circle data. Map 1 shows the count circle locations. The remaining tables show the count species broken down into North, Central, and South regions of the state.

## High Counts

Sixteen all-time state high counts were set for an individual species total recorded within a count circle.



*Eastern Bluebirds  
at Rock Cut State Park,  
Rockford, Winnebago  
County.*

*25 December 2005.*

*Photo by Eric Walters.*

Union noted 27 Trumpeter Swans. There was an amazing mix of geese high counts: Arklands noted 15,266 Greater White-fronted, 99,080 Snow, and 200 Ross's Geese. Rend Lake tallied 6,755 Common Goldeneye and 903 Hooded Mergansers. 28 Cooper's Hawks at Fermilab-Batavia and Lisle Arboretum reflect

this species' population expansion. Arklands noted an impressive 10,023 American Coot. 2,142 Mourning Doves were at Thorn Creek. Calumet-Sand Ridge noted 201 Monk Parakeets. A remarkable 17 Eastern Phoebes, 72 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 350 Eastern Bluebirds and 126 Hermit Thrush were at Horseshoe Lake. Three very tardy Gray Catbirds were at Fermilab-Batavia. Finally, Arklands tallied a remarkable 38 Pine Warblers.

The top 10 species with the most number of individuals (in order of abundance) were Common Grackle (1,048,601), blackbird sp. (659,766), Red-winged Blackbird (401, 612), Snow Goose (268,718), European Starling (244,525), Canada Goose (195,960), Mallard (183,301), American Crow (165,235), Ring-billed Gull (65,442), and House Sparrow (37,774). Close behind (11th spot) were Greater White-fronted Goose (35,716) and (12th spot) American Robin (32,330).

## Geese through vultures

Greater White-fronted (35,716 in 21 circles), Snow (268,718 in 30 circles) and Ross's (254 in 8 circles) Geese were detected in outstanding numbers this season –mostly in southern Illinois. Trumpeter Swans (54 in 8 circles) are being noted with increasing frequency particularly along the Mississippi River Valley. Tundra Swans (19 in 7 circles) were barely detected this season. New to the state's CBC list was a Mottled Duck at Springfield (present as a count week bird last 2004/2005 CBC season). Crane Lake (1), Mermet (1) and Pere Marquette (1) recorded the only Blue-winged Teal.

*Bald Eagle numbers continue to soar for the Illinois Christmas Bird Count. This photo was taken in March 2006 along the Mississippi River by Emil Martinec.*



Northern Pintail (6,080 in 29 circles) were mentioned by several compilers as being in high count numbers. There was a good sprinkling of Canvasback (925 in 30 circles) and Redhead (297 in 19 circles) throughout the state though in small numbers. Decatur recorded a Harlequin Duck – always rare inland. The only scoter noted was a Black at Clinton Lake. A few Long-tailed Ducks (17 in 5 circles) were sprinkled around the state with 3 at Rend Lake and one at Union being rather far south. Hooded Mergansers (1,871 in 34 circles) were reported in good numbers. Ring-necked Pheasants (414 in 34 circles) and Northern Bobwhite (379 in 26 circles) were noted as being in low numbers whereas Wild Turkeys (1,726 in 47 circles) are being detected in often remarkable numbers. Rend Lake noted the only Common Loon and Eared Grebe. Davenport (1), Carlyle Lake (7), and Pere Marquette (153) detected the only American White Pelicans. Great Blue Herons (1,283 in 55 circles) were ubiquitous and often in high counts whereas Black-crown Night-Herons (22 in 3 circles) were confined to Chicago's canal zones. Meredosia Island (1) and Pere Marquette (1) recorded the only Great Egrets. Black Vultures (295 in 7 circles), as always, were confined to southern Illinois. The northernmost Turkey Vultures were two detected at Kankakee.

### Diurnal raptors through gulls

Eagles (3,281 in 47 circles) continue to be detected in record high numbers. Northern Harriers (532 in 51 circles) were widespread this season and often reported in high count numbers by several compilers. Cooper's Hawks (393 in 61 circles) continue their increase and presence statewide. Northern Goshawks are conspicuous by their near absence with Champaign (1), Crane Lake – Sangamon (1), and Jackson (1) noting the only individuals statewide. Red-shouldered Hawks (166 in 26 circles) were sparse in northern and central Illinois but were easily detected in southern Illinois (153 in 17 southern Illinois circles). The Harlan's form of Red-tailed Hawk was reported from Pere Marquette(1) and Collinsville (1). The only Golden Eagle report was from Pere Marquette (1). Thirteen Merlins (in 13 circles) were noted statewide. For the 5th out of 6 seasons a Merlin has returned to winter at a Chicago urban cemetery. No Peregrine Falcons were detected in southern Illinois and Champaign (1) noted the only central Illinois Peregrine Falcon; Davenport (2), Lisle Arboretum (3), Chicago Urban (1) and Chicago Lakefront (1) tallied the remaining Peregrines in northern Illinois. Lisle Arboretum noted the only Virginia Rail. Rend Lake (2) and Thorn Creek (1) noted the only Sandhill Cranes. Rend Lake

noted a tardy Spotted Sandpiper, pending review. Least Sandpipers were detected at Mermet Lake (12), and Pere Marquette (8). Mermet Lake recorded the only Dunlin. Arklands (3) and Mermet Lake (2) detected the only American Woodcocks. A Parasitic Jaeger was a rare find at Chicago Lakefront. Bonaparte's Gulls (714 in 9 circles) were nearly out of the state during the season with the northernmost gulls at Clinton Lake (9), Peoria (24), and Springfield (135). Unusual gulls were hardly detected this season. Carlyle Lake (3), Chillicothe (1), Crab Orchard (1), Mermet Lake (1), Rend Lake (1) and Springfield (2) noted Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Calumet Sand-Ridge (1) and Evanston (2) noted the only Glaucous Gulls. Three Great Black-backed Gulls were at Calumet Sand-Ridge.

### Pigeons through kinglets

Eurasian Collared-Doves (246 in 21 circles) are on the move (apparently along railroad lines and grain elevators). The most remarkable owl find this season was in southern Illinois; a count week Burrowing Owl that was present for some time but not detected on count day at Arklands. Another owl that didn't count was a Snowy observed just before the Waukegan count. Short-eared Owls (91 in 13 circles) were rather wide spread this season whereas Long-eared Owls (22 in 10 circles) were hardly noted, and the only Northern Saw-whet Owls were detected at Barrington (1) and Middlefork (1). Red-headed Woodpecker (795 in 51 circles) numbers were low statewide. Sapsuckers (405 in 44 circles), Northern Flickers (2,146 in 64 circles), and Pileated Woodpeckers (512 in 38 circles) were reported in high count numbers for some circles. An amazing total of 60 Eastern Phoebes were in 9 extreme southern IL circles. A most outstanding flycatcher rarity was Crane Lake's solitary Say's Phoebe. Loggerhead Shrikes (25 in 8 southern Illinois circles) and Northern Shrikes (12 in 7 circles) were hardly detected this season. Middlefork



*Say's Phoebe.  
Crane Lake, Mason County,  
during the Sanganois  
Christmas Bird Count.  
17 December 2005.  
Photo by Dennis Oehinke.*

(1) tallied the southernmost Northern Shrike in central Illinois. A rare (for this season) Fish Crow was noted at Mermet Lake. Horned Larks (7,704 in 56 circles) were detected a bit easier along snow-swept roadsides. Horseshoe Lake noted tardy Tree (1) and Barn (1) Swallow. Union also noted 2 late Barn Swallows. Red-breasted Nuthatch (442 in 53 circles) numbers were supposed to fall this season—that did not happen—exactly. High counts of wrens and in some areas kinglets were noted. Carolina Wrens (2,022 in 58 circles) were often reported in high counts by some compilers. Winter Wrens (198 in 35 circles) seemed to be rather detectable. Solitary Marsh Wrens were tallied at Horseshoe Lake and McHenry. Union reported the only Sedge Wren. Golden-crowned Kinglets (1,151 in 43 circles) and Ruby-crowned Kinglets (207 in 20 circles) were a mixed-bag of noteworthy numbers with northern Illinois and some central Illinois compilers complaining of low counts for particularly Golden-crowned Kinglets.

### Thrushes through buntings

Amazing numbers of Eastern Bluebirds (3,418 in 53 circles), Hermit Thrush (534 in 39 circles), and American Robins (32,244 in 54 circles) were tallied and reported by compilers statewide. The Gray Catbird (10 in 7 circles) and Brown Thrasher (56 in 12 circles; all but two confined to southern Illinois) numbers, though small, were noteworthy. The northernmost American Pipit (19 in 6 circles) was detected at Hennepin (1).

Arklands tallied an amazing aforementioned 38 Pine Warblers; others were noted at Cypress Creek (1), Horseshoe Lake (1), and Warbluff (6). Clinton Lake (1) and Marion (1) noted the only Common Yellowthroat.

Evanston (1) and Mermet Lake (1) noted Spotted Towhee. The only Vesper Sparrow was noted at White Pines (1) and Van Petten (1). Highly detected sparrows included: Savannah Sparrow (246 in 25 circles); Fox Sparrows (361 in 44 circles); White-throated Sparrows (7,353 in 62 circles); and White-crowned Sparrows (1,893 in 53 circles). Arklands (5), Cypress Creek (5), Horseshoe Lake (5), Rend Lake (2), and Union (1) noted Le Conte's Sparrows—all in southern Illinois. Lapland Longspurs (2,912 in 42 circles) and 752 Snow Buntings (in 25 circles)

were often detected along snowy road edges and manure spreads this season with the southernmost individuals at Arklands, Baldwin, and Carlyle Lake. The only Indigo Bunting was a count week bird at Carlyle Lake.

### Blackbirds through weaver finches

Western Meadowlarks were detected at Princeton-Camanche (1) and Mermet Lake (1). Some compilers felt mixed about Rusty Blackbird numbers (19,995 in 21 circles) and the detections at Arklands (16,022) and Horseshoe Lake (1,600) were numerous contradictions to other low or nil counts. Arklands (10) and Marion (2) reported the only Brewer's Blackbirds. Winter finches were almost non-existent: Chautauqua NWR (7) and Fermilab-Batavia (1) noted Red Crossbills. Carlyle Lake (1) noted the only Common Redpoll. Pine Siskins (116 in 21 circles) were sparse statewide. Evening Grosbeaks were at Clinton Lake (1) and Thorn Creek (17). Eurasian Tree Sparrows (1,776 in 15 circles) are marching up Illinois's river valleys with Peoria (13) now recording this species with regularity.

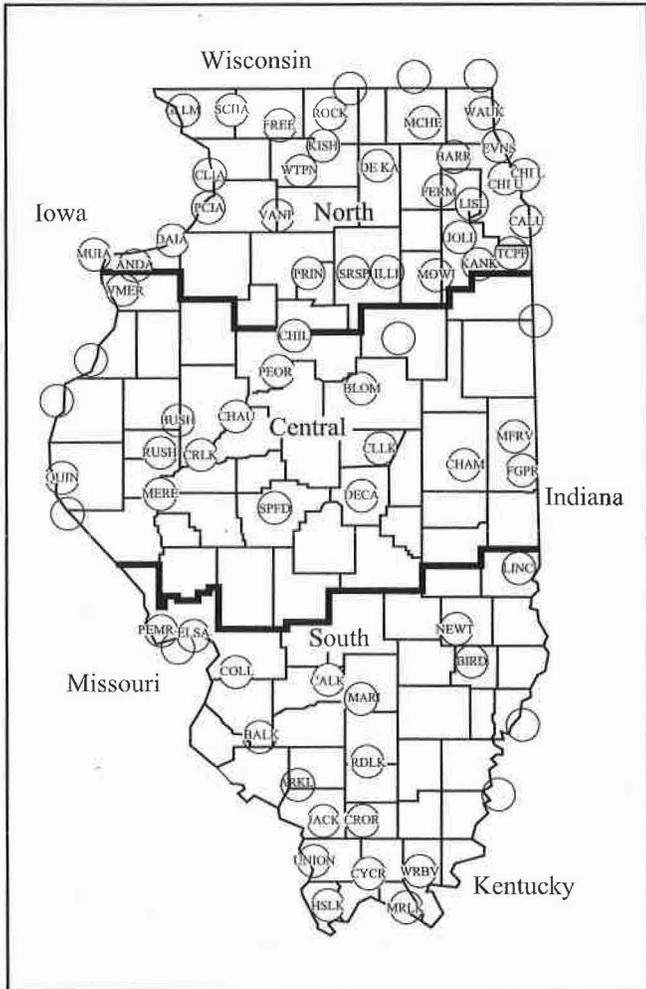
### Corrigenda

The Henslow's Sparrow report at Carlyle Lake (2004) was not accepted by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee and has been deleted from the CBC database.

### Acknowledgments

Thanks to the compilers, observers, feeder watchers and friends who so kindly support the effort of data collection for one of the largest bird databases in Illinois ornithological history. Christmas Bird Counting is a grand tradition—thanks to all who participated and support this effort! Until next season—keep looking up—and listening, too!

— David B. Johnson  
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### Key to Tables

Code	Description
dd	<u>details</u> <u>desired</u>
ed	<u>excellent</u> <u>details</u>
gd	<u>good</u> <u>details</u>
hc	<u>high</u> <u>count</u> for that circle
HC	all-time <u>H</u> igh <u>C</u> ount
nc	<u>n</u> ew species to that circle's <u>c</u> ount
NC	<u>N</u> ew to the state's <u>C</u> ount species list
nd	no details
ps	<u>p</u> resent for <u>s</u> ome time
ph	<u>Photographed</u>
qd	<u>questionable</u> <u>details</u>
rn	remarkable number
rr	remarkable record
ud	unconvincing details
<b>boldface</b>	species/number/item of note.

### Note: 2005/2006 CBC count circles

The empty circles did not report to the Illinois CBC. Some circles bordering Illinois report to other states.

### Editor's Note:

The Kankakee Count Circle on the map to the left is placed erroneously mostly in Will County. It should be located farther south mostly in Kankakee County.

Illinois 2005/ 2006 Christmas Bird Count • Table 1

Count Name	Map I.D.	Date	Time		Temp		Sky	Snow	Water	Wind Direction	Wind		Veloc.	Field Obs.	Feeder Obs.	Feeder Hours	Parties	Party Hours	Hours on foot	Hours by car	Party Miles	Miles on foot	Miles by car	Owling Hours	Owling Miles	Compiler	Area
			Begin	End	Low	High					Low	High															
Andalusia	ANDA	4-Jan	500	1700	35	40	Cloudy	0	Partly Froz	W	10	25	5	0	0	0	2-4	34.25	10.25	24	208.5	7.5	201	4.25	43	Kelly J. McKay	
Barrington	BARR	19-Dec	430	1600	-5	13	Clear	3-6	Partly Open	W	4	10	29	6	0.5	14	71.75	10.25	31.5	311	30.75	2802.5	1.5	1	Deanne Heaton		
Calumet City-Sand Ridge	GALU	31-Dec	700	1630	28	38	Partly cloudy; cloudy	0	Partly Open	W	6	12	25	10	22	11	58.25	33.5	24.75	289.5	21.25	268.25	0	0	Carolyn Munn		
Chicago Lakesfront	CHIL	25-Dec	700	1500	15	28	Cloudy	1-2	Partly Open	NE	15	30	10	0	4	19.5	17	2.5	57.3	14	43.5	0	0	Joel Greenberg			
Chicago (urban)	CHIC	15-Dec	330	1600	-9	13	Partly clear	2-8	Partly Open	W	5	10	19	8	5	10	62	52	10	291	41	230	5	7	Jeffrey Sanders		
Clinton LA	CLLA	15-Dec	430	1700	24	31	Cloudy; light snow	7	Frozen	SW	0	20	9	0	0	4	31.25	5.5	25.75	277.25	3.25	274	5.75	63	Kelly J. McKay		
Davenport IA	DA IA	15-Dec	500	1730	8	16	Clear	5	Frozen	NW	10	15	20	27	36	7	66.25	10.5	55.75	552.25	11.25	541	8	97	Kelly J. McKay		
DeKalb	DEKA	17-Dec	645	1630	10	19	Clear; partly cloudy	0	Partly Open	W	10	10	14	1	2	4-6	48.25	18	27.25	445	26	419	6.5	50	Kevin Jung		
Evanson (north shore)	EVNS	26-Dec	700	1630	29	40	Cloudy	1-2	Partly Open	VAR	0	5	19	30	71.5	10	106.75	83.75	23	349.5	76.5	273	3.5	6.5	Tim Wallace		
Foxmub-Baerle	FERM	17-Dec	445	1645	8	17	Partly cloudy	6-9	Partly Open	W	0	10	101	1	2	30	211	163.5	47.5	714	139	578	6	37	Jeff Chapman		
Froepfel	FREE	17-Dec	500	1630	6	17	Clear; partly cloudy	4-10	Partly Open	W	5	10	16	4	7	5	35.75	3.25	32.8	428.08	1.08	437	3.75	59	Richard Beming	N	
Green Island-Lost Mound	GILM	16-Dec	545	1715	14	19	Cloudy	4-14	Partly Open	W	0	20	10	0	0	2-6	39.2	6	33.2	325.5	8.5	317	2.75	36	Dan Wenzel		
Illini State Park	ILLI	15-Dec	500	1645	8	13	Partly cloudy; Clear	6	Partly Open	WNW	4	15	9	4	4	4	27.25	3	24.25	285	4	281	1.75	15	Jim Hampson	O	
Juliet	JOLI	17-Dec	600	1730	15	23	Clear; partly cloudy	2-5	Partly Open	SW	5	5	15	1	0.5	7	57	17	40	423	16	407	0	0	Greg Blahm		
Kankakee	KANK	31-Dec	345	2030	24	35	Cloudy	0	Partly Froz	WSW	5	10	23	19	21	10-14	71.5	43	28.5	387.4	36.1	341.3	8	20	Red Hertz	R	
Kankakee	KISH	31-Dec	645	1700	31	35	Cloudy	0-3	Partly Open	W	2	12	30	6	8.3	14-19	107	48.75	58.25	765	60	705	9.25	8.5	Barbara C. Williams		
Lisle Arboretum	LISL	18-Dec	400	1645	5	16	Clear	5-8	Partly Froz	W	8	15	78	9	18	16-19	194.5	139.5	55	471	105	366	14.3	15.4	Geoffrey A. Williamson	T	
McCHenry County	MCHC	17-Dec	545	1630	10	24	Clear	7-10	Frozen	WSW	7	10	32	0	0	14	78	27.75	30.25	453.75	26.75	427	1.5	10	David A. Frey		
Morris-Wilmington	MOWI	1-Jan	700	1645	31	48	Cloudy	0	Partly Open	E	5	10	11	2	3	5	30.75	10.5	20.5	303	14.5	290.5	1	0	William Morris	H	
Muscatine IA-IL City	MUIA	31-Dec	500	1715	35	40	Cloudy; foggy	0	Partly Open	SW	0	10	11	8	12	4	38	9.75	28.25	246.5	12.5	334	4.35	41	Kelly J. McKay		
Hennepin (formerly-Princeton)	HENN	17-Dec	445	1645	6	21	Clear	6	Partly Open	W	3	7	7	0	0	3	37.75	6	31.75	238	6	232	1.75	15	John McKee		
Princeton-Cumanahe IA	PCIA	20-Dec	530	1700	11	23	Clear	6	Frozen	W	5	10	8	0	0	4	30.75	5.5	25.25	291	5	286	4	47	Kelly J. McKay		
Rockford	ROCK	17-Dec	700	1630	8	17	Cloudy; clear	6	Partly Open	WSW	0	10	40	3	3.75	15-17	118.25	61.5	48.75	688	64	612	2.25	40	Daniel T. Williams		
Schapville	SCHA	3-Jan	700	1730	35	41	Foggy; cloudy	0	Partly Open	E	0	5	24	0	0	6	26.5	3	33.5	330.5	2	328.5	0	0	Torrence N. Ingram		
Saved Rock State Park	SRSP	1-Jan	430	1700	32	45	Cloudy	0	Partly Froz	E	8	20	10	3	3	6	38	13.5	24.5	364.5	14.5	350	2.25	35	John McKee		
Thorn Creek-Park Forest	TCPF	2-Jan	700	1600	35	45	Cloudy; light rain	0	Partly Froz	E	5	15	33	15	25	8	51.75	21.25	30.5	318.75	20.75	298	0.5	0	Jim Kelly		
Van Peiten	VANP	24-Dec	500	1700	31	35	Cloudy; light rain	1	Frozen	W	0	5	7	0	0	4	31	2	29	208	2	296	3.5	30	Kelly J. McKay		
Waukegan	WAUK	1-Jan	430	1700	35	42	Partly clear	0.5	Partly Open	SE	0	8	28	7	187.5	20	91.5	73	15.5	367	78	289	2	15	Joel Greenberg		
White Pines	WTPN	24-Dec	715	1700	32	34	Local fog; cloudy	0-4	Partly Open	W	4	8	5	1	1	3-4	20.5	13	7.5	107.5	10.5	97	0	0	Ernie Walters		
Bloomington-Normal	BLOM	18-Dec	700	1630	10	24	Clear; cloudy	0-6	Partly Open	W	0	7	14	1	1	6	36	24	13	198	23	175	1	0	Dale Birkenholz		
Duane	BUSH	17-Dec	700	1700	13	27	Clear; partly cloudy	3	Frozen	NW	5	8	9	0	0	3	25	41.5	23.45	247.5	3.75	244	0	0	Larry Hood	C	
Champaign County	CHAM	17-Dec	600	1700	15	30	Clear; partly clear	4	Partly Open	NNW	2	7	29	3	11	5	36	39.2	16.8	26.8	36.5	231.5	0.25	1	Helton M. Prizer		
Chautauq N.W.R.	CHAU	23-Dec	500	1645	38	50	Partly clear; partly cloudy	0-3	Partly Open	SW	8	10	16	1	2	6	52.75	25.25	27.5	297	19	278	1.5	7.8	Richard & Sigurd Hjorkund	E	
Chillicothe	CHIL	30-Dec	700	1700	31	38	Partly cloudy; light rain	0	Partly Open	VAR	0	2	18	1	2	7	52	15.8	36.5	442.5	11.5	431	1	0	Tracy Meints Igo		
Clinton Lake	CLLK	2-Jan	600	1700	45	60	Cloudy; clear; rain	0	Open	SE-NW	5	15	14	0	0	6	40	19.25	20.75	339.5	26.5	333	0.5	5	Myrna Denton	N	
Cranes Lake-Singamon	CRLK	17-Dec	700	1630	20	42	Clear; partly cloudy	0	Partly Froz	SW	0	5	9	0	0	6	47.5	12	55	306	11	295	0	0	Robert Rattall		
Decatur	DECA	17-Dec	615	1630	13	30	Clear	0	Partly Froz	VAR	2	10	9	4	8	2-7	36.25	22.4	13.75	193	19	179	5	10	Ross Thompson	T	
Eastern Knox County	ENXN	17-Dec	500	1700	8	21	Clear	6-8	Partly Froz	W	3.5	12	8	0	0	5	35	10	25	396.5	10.5	386	4	50	Jim Mountjoy		
Forest Glen Preserve	FGPR	21-Dec	600	1800	16	33	Clear; partly cloudy	1-3	Partly Open	SW	0	10	12	0	0	7	54	40.75	13.25	315	36	279	3	2.5	Marilyn P. Campbell	W	
Mercedosa Island	MIER	15-Dec	630	1700	30	41	Clear; partly clear	0	Partly Froz	SW	0	15	9	0	0	5	43	16	27	372	19	353	0	0	Tony Ward		
Middle Fork River Valley	MFRV	14-Dec	130	1715	28	36	Cloudy	1-5	Open	SE	0	14	12	5	8	57.75	42.25	15.5	262.5	4	221.5	4.5	39.5	Steven D. Bailey	A		
Peoria	PEOR	17-Dec	700	1600	15	27	Clear; partly cloudy	0-2	Partly Open	W	2	5	22	3	6	8	66	13	53	339	14	325	0	0	L. H. Prinson		
Quincy	QUIN	17-Dec	530	1630	15	27	Clear	0	Partly Froz	SW	6	6	14	10	8.75	8	51	10	41	404	7	397	3	1.5	Ken Heinze	L	
Rushville	RUSH	17-Dec	600	1500	22	35	Partly cloudy	0	Partly Open	E	5	0	2	4	5	2	6	6	0	4	4	0	0	1	Harold E. Hedden		
Springfield	SPFD	18-Dec	300	1730	8	20	Light snow; partly clear	-1	Partly Open	NW	7	14	17	10	20	12	57	34	53	523	35	488	7	40	H. David Bohlen		
Western Maroon Co.	WMER	18-Dec	500	1700	25	33	Cloudy	0	Partly Open	W	5	10	11	0	0	3-5	44	6.5	37.5	330.5	8.5	322	6	63	Kelly J. McKay		
Arkland	ARKL	25-Dec	630	1715	20	35	Cloudy	0	Open	NW	5	5	5	0	0	5	46	18	28	340	17	343	2.25	36	Joseph E. Morlockbusch		
Baldwin Lake-Kaskaskia	BALK	17-Dec	415	1643	22	36	Clear; partly cloudy	0	Partly Froz	W	5	10	12	4	8	5-8	40.5	28.25	12.25	263.5	17.5	256	1	44.7	Tim Oever		
Bird Haven Sanct.-Olney	BIRD	17-Dec	630	1700	24	36	Partly clear	0	Partly Froz	WNW	0	5	15	0	0	8	59	23	36	231	21	310	1.5	1	Frank E. Simentum		
Carlyle Lake	CALK	14-Dec	000	1700	30	38	Cloudy; foggy; rain; snow	-4	Partly Open	SW	10	15	14	0	0	5	58	24	34	483	25	457	7	140	Don Rassebaum		
Collinsville	COLL	29-Dec	500	1530	33	37	Cloudy	0	Open	SE	0	25	12	0	0	5	52.75	16.25	36.5	374.4	18.5	31					

Species	WALK	EVNS	CHLU	CHLU	CHLU	GALE	MICHE	BARR	FEAR	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	KANK	DEKA	MOVI	TELI	ROCK	KISH	SHSP	FREL	WTPN	RENN	TOTALS
Greater White-fronted Goose																							
Smew																							
Ring-billed Gull																							
Canada Goose	59	592	1409	743	1532	4829	1795	13908	12972	4060	6357	3170	1061	1061	3370	1407	1378	9555	3500	103	2715	1608	90299
Meadowlark	24																						156
Trumpeter Swan																							6
Whooping Crane																							18
Wood Duck	19	17	1																				725
Crow																							15
American Osprey																							277
American Black Duck	40	41	12	1	11	7	2	16	12	12	31	18			35	59	11	7	10				20078
Mallard	2327	1223	1243	194	761	525	835	2434	1831	461	1439	803	1061		1224	528	707	1786	338		35	31	20078
Northern Shoveler	1																						4
Northern Pintail	1																						5
Green-winged Teal																							11
Cinnamon Teal																							210
Cinnamon Teal																							12
Redhead	105	24	3																				144
Ring-necked Duck	3	1																					59
Greater Scaup	1197	1713																					2652
Lesser Scaup	27		5	4	308	6																	411
Lesser Scaup																							101
Lutescent Duck	2	3																					12
Blue-winged Teal	33	4	4																				44
Common Goldeneye	219	431	11	392	60																		1848
Hooded Merganser	49	10	4	7	11	4																	251
Common Merganser	131	2																					1568
Red-breasted Merganser	415	313	12	458	28																		1461
Road-kill Duck																							11
Am. Black Duck X Mallard																							2
Ring-necked Pheasant																							175
Wild Turkey																							322
Northern Bobwhite																							30
Partridge																							10
Partridge																							2
Red-shouldered Hawk	11	1	1																				49
Doubtless Cormorant	3	3	5																				135
Great Blue Heron																							6
Black-necked Stilt/Jonin																							22
Turkey Vulture																							2
Bald Eagle																							2
Osprey																							1
Osprey																							1
American Osprey																							277
Martin																							2
Pied-billed Grebe																							5
Virginia Rail																							1
American Coot	54		5	31	29	8																	161
Swamp Sparrow																							1
Killdeer																							4
Wilson's Snipe																							18
Parula Jay																							1
Ring-billed Gull	374	328	267	302	446	33	131	139	355	40	408	145			221	150	2	13	170			66	3808
Herring Gull	750	140	14	997	1130	1	360	69							11	21	9	271	1186			55	472
Thayer's Gull	1																						4
Ring-billed Gull																							4
Lesser Frigatebird																							2
Great Black-backed Gull																							3
Black-billed Gull																							3
Black-billed Gull																							53
Black-billed Gull	433	660	1280	52	1187	236	322	397	3242	330	352	509	523	136	106	1224	844	280	383	308	56	13568	
Ring-billed Gull																							37
Ring-billed Gull																							4
Ring-billed Gull																							21
Ring-billed Gull																							213



Species	North			Central			South			Totals													
	VANP	SCHA	GLIM	GLIA	PCJA	DAJA	ANDA	MUIA	MERV		EGPR	CHAM	BLOM	CLLK	DECA	CHIL	PEOR	EKNX	CHAU	CHLK	SFPD	MERE	BUSH
Greater White-fronted Goose																		58	7	47		375	
Snow Goose																		7					
Rainy Goose																							
Cackling Goose	12							2	2									35	17	46		106	
Canada Goose	1227		128		550	2675	1364	242	1965	3459	1715	3504	4870	1974	1383	2014	2107	10511	8479	2655	3249	248	54466
White Swan									4									14					
Trumpeter Swan																							
Tundra Swan																							
Wood Duck																							
Blue-winged Teal																							
Northern Shoveler																							
Northern Pintail																							
Green-winged Teal																							
Canvasback																							
Ring-necked Duck																							
Tufted Duck																							
Greater Scaup																							
Lesser Scaup																							
Hairywood Duck																							
Black Shrike																							
Common Goldeneye																							
Hooded Merganser																							
Red-breasted Merganser																							
Red-throated Loon																							
Ring-necked Pheasant																							
Wild Turkey																							
Northern Bobwhite																							
Pied-billed Grebe																							
Horned Grebe																							
American White Pelican																							
Double-crested Cormorant																							
Great Blue Heron																							
Great Egret																							
Turkey Vulture																							
Bald Eagle																							
Sharp-shinned Hawk																							
Cooper's Hawk																							
Northern Harrier																							
Red-shouldered Hawk																							
Sharp-shinned Hawk																							
Cooper's Hawk																							
Northern Goshawk																							
Red-shouldered Hawk																							
Pied-billed Grebe																							
American Kestrel																							
Martin																							
Paraglider Falcon																							
American Crow																							
Robin																							
Bobolink																							
Red-winged Blackbird																							
Ring-billed Gull																							
Herring Gull																							
Threats Gull																							
Lesser Black-backed Gull																							
Rock Pigeon																							
Emigrant Collared-Dove																							
Mourning Dove																							

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Species	North				Central				South				Total										
	VANP	SCHA	GLIM	GLIA	FCIA	DAIA	ANDA	MUIA	MERV	EGPR	CHAM	BLOM		CLLK	DECA	CHIL	FEOR	ENXX	CHAU	CRKX	SPFD	MIRR	BUISE
Eastern Screech-Owl	15	8	7	6	3	5	5	4	15	8	5	1	7	1	1	1	6	1	1	13	3	1	15
Great Horned Owl	15	5	7	12	2	12	5	10	1	5	4	1	7	1	1	1	8	4	1	4	4	1	113
Barned Owl	3	1	6	6	2	12	13	4	10	11	1	5	6	6	1	4	8	4	3	9	3	3	109
Long-eared Owl	5		4								1												10
Short-eared Owl	1																						15
Northern Saw-whet Owl	10	4	6	7	3	3	3	3	1	9	5	4	10	7	5	10	1	14	3	4	1	1	130
Belted Kingfisher	1	2	3	2	5	15	15	3	12	17	1	19	2	11	6	4	18	7	24	9	11	12	184
Red-bellied Woodpecker	18	35	42	72	26	67	63	46	81	104	96	28	34	32	83	57	40	88	124	184	39	42	1421
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	70
Downy Woodpecker	87	56	64	58	39	137	58	90	70	96	95	46	40	40	68	71	35	57	91	125	59	46	1478
Hairy Woodpecker	9	12	12	9	6	15	19	24	10	11	5	1	7	4	13	9	8	9	30	19	13	3	239
Northern Yellow-shafted Flicker	15	4	13	15	8	22	10	21	45	30	51	12	29	22	31	19	11	56	99	102	39	7	657
Pileated Woodpecker	3	4	4	4	2	2	5	5	16	23	1	12	29	2	3	6	4	7	25	10	21	1	143
Say's Phoebe	1																						1
Northern Shrike	1																						1
Blue Jay	132	310	143	121	78	169	84	76	228	215	138	102	97	86	126	73	81	312	305	214	153	141	2904
American Crow	1571	220	174	330	64	1134	133	170	11400	7063	408	3270	402	137	164	642	171	450	183	5325	307	78	148410
Fish Crow	88	116	465	409	105	139	13	22	162	53	116	250	50	3	5	32	238	56	140	205	40	305	3028
Horned Lark	123	112	161	188	156	377	177	150	131	158	33	84	126	81	215	185	117	141	168	177	132	37	2922
Black-capped Chickadee	11	37	20	26	9	34	31	32	81	126	40	8	23	30	94	53	48	51	66	108	46	12	696
Parula Finch	3	2	2	1	2	1	3	3	3	23	23	6	14	9	30	23	23	14	22	22	14	29	158
Red-breasted Nuthatch	34	45	77	115	46	117	64	107	73	127	47	27	44	35	115	76	52	70	104	108	82	37	1628
Brown Creeper	13	4	1	2	5	6	39	13	14	14	13	14	14	14	14	14	14	2	2	2	2	2	134
Carolina Wren	3	3	8	8	1	9	6	9	42	29	40	12	38	12	14	11	2	16	47	70	48	12	512
House Wren	1	1	3	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	8	8	1	1	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	1	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	7	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	11	8	10	3	1	3
Blue-winged Kinglet	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	6
Blue Jay	47	75	10	10	2	11	13	73	51	59	3	18	25	16	45	18	18	37	130	32	133	27	940
Blue Jay	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	74
Horned Lark	2	20	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	73
American Robin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gray Cuckoo	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Northern Mockingbird	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Brown Towhee	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Indigo Bunting	1886	1057	1920	2523	595	7619	4128	1952	891	1358	1720	969	1400	1558	6250	3616	254	1174	1011	10403	403	1130	54019
American Pipit	31	40	21	207	4	136	116	7	164	11	56	25	16	3	14	20	2	31	9	6	1	8	635
Yellow-rumped (Merle) Warbler	342	216	526	397	945	261	985	74	512	339	464	672	305	490	146	625	236	597	1376	519	715	501	11109
American Tree Sparrow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Field Sparrow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vesper Sparrow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Savannah Sparrow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Fox Sparrow	44	2	6	19	14	93	36	19	68	109	49	35	21	28	31	80	6	146	158	59	207	42	1292
Swamp Sparrow	2	1	2	8	3	1	18	4	34	14	4	8	8	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	161
White-throated Sparrow	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
White-crowned Sparrow	354	174	795	845	1100	720	911	324	665	554	537	379	189	169	302	676	466	392	724	746	265	139	11246
Doris-eyed (White-throated) Junco	123	5	5	123	9	62	4	1	22	210	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lutescent Junco	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Snow Bunting	271	68	190	221	168	470	247	189	260	301	298	150	127	158	112	223	126	192	203	604	141	180	4929
Northern Cardinal	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Red-winged Blackbird	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Eastern Meadowlark	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Western Meadowlark	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Indigo Bunting	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rusty Blackbird	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Common Grackle	2	12	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Brown-headed Cowbird	21	9	18	19	4	30	12	12	33	33	26	10	15	1	14	4	8	16	22	22	10	1	2009
Purple Finch	24	121	53	42	97	153	41	215	106	106	77	113	68	42	209	98	37	60	160	24	16	4	1325
House Finch	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Red Crossbill	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pink Skink	66	199	83	150	75	253	39	169	130	201	141	56	121	58	171	270	91	127	236	248	102	66	3199
American Goldfinch	978	462	719	533	692	1122	540	581	244	401	1868	258	192	148	300	680	220	551	124	1240	230	1006	3173
Evening Grosbeak	47	43	41	32	63	77	65	66	74	58	67	68	60	72	69	65	69	37	92	86	90	46	1192
Belted Kingfisher	12114	3008	6830	4830	2017	29227	10450	6892	121861	27920	11872	13008	25114	6673	20601	25733	9634	20449	36438	29539	17573	6676	43328
<b>Total Individuals</b>																							



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	Central										Southern										Grand	Total
	RUSH	WMER	QUIN	LINC	NEWT	RIBD	ARKL	MARI	BALK	HD LK	JACK	CROR	LYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	MRLK	COLL	PEMR	FLSA	WRBV	Total
Less-earred Owl						38	7	4	2		2		15								1	68
Short-eared Owl						3																4
Belted Kingfisher		4	4	1	2	4	3	5	4	3	4	3	4	1	5	2	0	7	11	1	1	4
Red-headed Woodpecker	3	5	12	21	5	12	7	8	8	3	3	11	9	97	99	59	1	33	18	27	520	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	7	6	24	71	53	62	54	65	27	55	89	112	79	201	181	101	29	113	47	66	1372	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2	17	7	4	4			7	7			24	9	61	65	28	8	7	8	399	
Downy Woodpecker	10	56	101	34	39	70	57	45	59	45	47	11	96	73	160	121	76	39	69	76	1451	
Hairy Woodpecker		12	11	2	11	21	20	18	9	18	9	11	18	11	24	30	30	6	15	8	8	
Northern Yellow-shafted Flicker	1	17	44	23	33	16	35	39	29	46	20	32	66	50	182	146	90	27	42	20	43	
Pileated Woodpecker	6	3	7		1	3	2		9	3	9	25	30	4	66	36	20	2	34	7	20	
Woodpecker sp.						7																
Edison Phoebe						5	6	3		1	1	7	10		9	17 HC	9				3	
Lutescent Shrike						5	6	3				1	3	1							1	
Blair Jay	30	88	220	82	96	248	158	106	117	220	117	201	271	178	250	241	88	21	150	71	282	
American Crow	22	169	120	255	42	55	95	546	83	155	83	191	142	161	187	127	40	396	173	24	145	
Field Crow																						
Horned Lark		31	48	157	118	331	149	17	29	12	38		46	224	113	441	41		29	6	38	
Tree Swallow																						
Barn Swallow																						
Carolina Chickadee				35	81	136	142	141	168	265	158	195	303	236	403	748	123	94			190	
Black-capped Chickadee	32	138	86			1													120	63	411	
Chickadee sp.																						
Tufted Titmouse	21	28	57	14	49	76	95	111	102	155	107	75	178	111	268	197	164	19	78	61	96	
Red-breasted Nuthatch		1	3		12	2	2	2	4	10	2	25	12	2	2	27				4	7	
White-breasted Nuthatch	14	34	92	18	57	52	31	88	54	22	24	40	109	55	194	122	107	6	87	45	80	
Horned Ceryle		3	2	1	4	3	26	6	10	15	10	7	22	16	43	43	20	2	10	1	27	
Carolina Wren	1	5	14	18	38	25	28	38	50	75	50	84	80	100	185	196	162	24	80	28	41	
House Wren																						
Winter Wren																						
Sedge Wren																						
Marsh Wren																						
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	2		14	3	22	31	22	27	25	213	117	51	115	172	62	3	4			130	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet						1	4	1	1	1	1	1	28	27	72 HC	29					9	
Eastern Bluebird	4	51	100	61	23	88	36	116	44	121	44	87	131	52	267	208 HC	249	38	113	36	131	
Horn Finch	1					3	6	6	5	22	5	10	30	10	60	126 HC	42	6	2	10	208	
American Robin	30	31	39	26	77	107	200	108	293	188	581	1147	328	1201	1910	212	224	192	184	208	1652	
Gray Catbird									1	1	1	1	2	2								
Northern Mockingbird		3		2	32	11	33	12	17	12	35	26	13	18	19	86	32	90	1	12	358	
Brown Thrasher									1	2	1	2	71	5	17	8					24	
European Starling	7	2407	1383	1214	3700	3085	10369	5087	6191	1668	6191	4335	7286	2712	2560	9000	62821	2738	2454	2702	271	
American Pipit														1	14	4					16	
Cedar Waxwing	87	216	40	19	46	19	39	28	126	28	158	32	171	69	20	518	12	48	18	217		
Yellow-rumped Myrtle Warbler	4	1			4	9	10	13	13	13	93	147	29	228	276	95			5		79	
Pine Warbler																						
Carolina Yellowthroat																						
Spotted Towhee																						
Eastern Towhee	1		2	6	3	12	11	3	13	3	22	30	10	15	27	85					48	
American Tree Sparrow		155	79	10	234	45	182	77	69	43	69	14	197	461	41	39	84	149	57	2	18	
Field Sparrow	15			21	12				7	30	7	6	117	4	61	63	128	1	7		109	
Savannah Sparrow					9		79	1	2	5	2	2	40	2	26	21	18	4	12		22	
Le Conte's Sparrow							5			2			5	1	3						18	
Poa Sparrow							1	9	2	6	2	6	2	25	1	18	47	3			19	
Song Sparrow	1	27	26	24	144	42	215	63	50	150	50	114	474	217	229	267	206	40	84		173	
Louisiana Sparrow																						
Savannah Sparrow	12	1	7	9	7	56	22	49	31	49	48	301	95	102	143	211	2	8			10	
White-throated Sparrow	6	18	1	41	48	243	115	128	231	156	97	291	167	314	1082	965	97	31	38	308		
White-crowned Sparrow	1		22	12	27	35	35	55	114	6	114	9	169	24	27	281	57	73			1136	
Sparrow sp.																						
Junco v4 (Oregon) Junco																						
Dark-eyed (State-colored) Junco	43	301	428	213	203	375	234	200	416	269	469	496	448	617	947	489	131	832	21	678		
Louisiana Junco																						
Landmark Junco																						
White-throated Sparrow																						
White-crowned Sparrow																						
Sparrow sp.																						
Chipping Sparrow	40	227	211	102	81	349	198	219	182	291	162	238	268	374	374	483	565	183	235	25	180	
Indigo Bunting																						
Red-winged Blackbird																						
Eastern Meadowlark	2																					
Western Meadowlark																						
Meadowlark sp.																						
Rusty Blackbird	6																					
Brewer's Blackbird																						
Common Grackle				38	9	69	84452	404	1546	5120	1546	1104	1998	31	325	1066	14619	501	16		5873	
Brown-headed Cowbird	3																					
Blackbird sp.																						
Purple Finch	6	22	11	3	40	5	6000	420	50	12700	840	3	35	3	2						9	
Purple Finch	22	51	97	33	7	64	3	88	99	32	39	16	23	65	21	135						



## Field Notes

### The 2005/2006 Winter Season

*Field Notes drawing of Great Horned Owl by Peter Olson.*

*by Kelly J. McKay*

The winter of 2005-2006 showed temperatures well below normal early and late in the season, but well above normal for most of the season. Illinois experienced six substantial winter storms with a variety of precipitation (rain, ice, snow), depending on the temperature at the time. Bird diversity was low compared with recent years, at 168 species compared with 177 species encountered in each of the previous two winters.

Temperatures in the first 2/3 of December were among the coldest in the last half-century, and were accompanied by significant precipitation. Light snowfalls (up to 1-2 inches) were recorded across much of Illinois on 1, 3, 6, 12, and 15 December. The first of two winter storms in this period, on 8 December, dropped 4-8 inches of snow. This was followed on 14 December by a storm producing 2-4 inches of snow and very strong winds with bitterly cold wind-chills. Conditions moderated in the last 1/3 of the month, resulting in temperatures substantially above normal by the last week of December.

January 2006 was one of the warmest on record, with several days in the 50s to low 60s across Illinois. For the most part January was fairly dry, but for 3 major storms. The first occurred on 2 January, as strong thunderstorms passed through the northern portion of the state, producing 1-2 inches of rain. The second moved through the state on 20 January under near-seasonal temperatures. This storm precipitated 3-6 inches of snow over northern Illinois, 4-8 inches of snow across the central third, but rain in the south. The third storm, on 27-28 January, dropped up to an inch of rain over most of the state.

Most of February continued the seasonal to slightly above normal temperatures, with only minor precipitation, but there were significant weather systems at mid-month. On 10 February, southern Illinois received 2 inches of snow and some freezing rain. The following day, 1-2 inches of snow fell over most of the state. Then on 15-16 February, the northern edge of the state was grazed by a front bringing

about an inch of snow with ice and sleet, while the rest of the state experienced heavy rains. This front continued southward under high winds and very cold temperatures, with wind-chills at -20 to -30 F, and by 19 February it reached extreme southern Illinois, where it left 1-2 inches of snowfall.

While bird diversity was low this season, most of the expected wintering birds, along with a variety of lingering migrants and several "semi-hardy" species were encountered. Additionally, several species typically found only in the southern section of the state were also found further north. Comparatively few uncommon and accidental species were reported this winter, and very little early spring migratory movement was noted, even in late February.

Reduced numbers were generally reported for upland game birds, various waterbirds, shorebirds, gulls, owls, black-birds, and "winter" finches. Several scarce but regularly occurring species went unreported, including White-winged Scoters, Gray Partridge, Red-throated Loon, Black-legged Kittiwake, White-winged Crossbill, and Evening Grosbeak. By contrast, most woodpeckers, thrushes, "semi-hardy" species (but see Johnson 2006 this issue), and sparrows were found in greater numbers. Some species groups, such as waterfowl, doves, and the non-migratory residents, showed roughly equal numbers of increases and declines across various species.

#### WATERFOWL TO VULTURES.

Thirty-four species of waterfowl were found in Illinois this winter. About half the species showed increases over recent years, and the other half appeared in smaller numbers. Greater White-fronted, Snow, and Ross's Geese continued to increase and were more widespread, particularly within southern concentration sites and/or the Chicago area. Canada and Cackling Geese were considerably less numerous this winter at their typical central and southern wintering grounds. Mute and Trumpeter Swans were slightly more common and widely distributed, while Tundra Swans occurred in considerably reduced numbers this winter.

With a few exceptions, puddle ducks again showed lower populations as compared to the recent past. There were, however, some noteworthy concentrations of Mallards and Northern Pintails in the south; see details below.

There were no reports of notably large numbers of any "diving ducks" this season. Nevertheless, three notable species were documented. An ongoing **Mottled Duck** in Springfield, an adult female **Harlequin Duck at Lake Decatur** overwintered, and three Harlequin Ducks were documented on Lake Michigan. A documentation of a female **Tufted Duck in Richland County** is pending IORC review.

Four species of upland gamebirds were noted this season, none in particularly good numbers. Northern Bobwhite went unreported from the central portion of the state. Only one report of Greater Prairie-Chickens was turned in from Prairie Ridge State Natural Area. There were no reports of Gray Partridge for the second consecutive winter.

There were no reports of Red-throated Loon this season, and Common Loon was found in sub-normal numbers. A single Eared Grebe at Rend Lake provided the sole noteworthy occurrence within its family. Both American White Pelican and Double-crested Cormorant were found in substantially lower numbers and were less widespread than in recent winters. Herons were also poorly represented, however, a Great Egret in northern Illinois in January was noteworthy. Only three reports for Black Vulture were submitted, while Turkey Vulture was found in fairly typical numbers.

#### DIURNAL RAPTORS TO GULLS.

Among the 13 species of diurnal raptors recorded this season, numbers were fairly typical. Although Bald Eagle concentrations were smaller this year, notable counts were obtained along the Mississippi River. Other noteworthy raptor numbers included good tallies of Northern Harriers at the Arklands Reclamation Area and Prairie Ridge State Natural Area, and up to 13 Cooper's Hawks in Champaign County.

American Coots were slightly more abundant this winter, but concentrations were confined to the south. Sandhill Cranes were considerably less numerous, especially in northeastern Illinois. The only sizable numbers were at the onset of spring migration.

Shorebirds were well represented during the period, with six species reported, with a rarely reported CBC species, **Spotted Sandpiper** (pending IORC review) being the most notable. Among these, Killdeer were substantially less common and widespread. There were no reports of Killdeer in the north, and five records of nine total American Woodcock, all in the south. By contrast, Wilson's Snipe was more numerous and widespread this winter. The only other relatively unusual shorebird identified this year was a late December **Dunlin** at Mermet Lake.

Gulls in general were in comparatively low numbers statewide, although Ring-billed, Herring, and Thayer's Gulls were found in respectable numbers in the north, and Carlyle Lake hosted up to **60,000 Ring-billed Gulls** at mid-winter. There were very few records of the scarcer arctic gulls outside northern Illinois, while Bonaparte's Gull went unrecord-

ed north of Clinton Lake in central Illinois. The most unusual species found this winter was **California Gull**, with singles at Carlyle Lake and Lake Michigan.

#### PIGEONS TO KINGLETS

Rock Pigeon numbers were somewhat lower this year, but this may not be significant for this under-reported species. Eurasian Collared-Doves showed essentially stable numbers, but with gradually expanding distribution. Mourning Doves occurred in greater abundance, particularly in the northern and central sections of the state. Reports of Monk Parakeets were confined to the Chicago region.

A **Burrowing Owl** at Pyramid State Park in Perry County since mid-October remained much of the winter. Snowy Owls staged an impressive showing, especially across central Illinois, bringing up the southern vanguard of a very large invasion to the north, east and west of Illinois. Other species of owls were noted in fairly typical numbers, but with some increase in Short-eared Owl populations. There were no reports of Barn Owls this season. Woodpeckers were found in typical to slightly above-average numbers, and Red-headed Woodpecker seemed more widespread this season.

A **Say's Phoebe** was documented at Crane Lake in Mason County 17-20 December. Another **Say's Phoebe**—possibly the same individual—came from Cass County, about ten miles distant from the Crane Lake sighting. Loggerhead Shrike numbers were somewhat down this winter, and confined to the south, while Northern Shrikes staged yet another impressive invasion, although most records were confined to the northern third of the state, especially the Greater Chicago region, with only a few birds making it to central Illinois.

American Crow and Black-capped Chickadee remained in somewhat reduced numbers this winter, saved for the large, annual roosts in central Illinois while numbers for allied permanent residents were typical (Carolina Chickadee) to above-average (Blue Jay, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch). However, all these common residents are doubtless under-reported. Red-breasted Nuthatch showed one notable count of 23 individuals at Champaign County.

One Tree Swallow was reported this season, but two extremely late **Barn Swallows** were in Union County on 30 December with one there 28 December. Carolina and Winter Wren numbers were healthy this winter. Since House Wrens often go entirely unrecorded in winter, a total of four individuals this season was high. Marsh Wrens have become almost annual in recent years, so this year's two reports come as no surprise, but the **Sedge Wren** at the Union County Conservation Area was somewhat rarer. Both Kinglets were in good numbers in southern Illinois but were sparingly reported elsewhere.

#### THRUSHES TO WEAVER FINCHES.

The three expected species of thrushes found this winter were widespread in good to excellent numbers. Hermit Thrush numbers were among the highest on record, and a

roost of **8000 American Robins** in Cook County was quite exceptional. Mimids were typically scarce, except for an amazing **12 (!) Gray Catbirds** throughout Illinois, mirroring increased winter reports throughout the midwest. Since few observers bother to count European Starlings, a tally approaching 60,000 birds in Massac County is noteworthy. Populations for the erratic Cedar Waxwing were strong this season.

Three species of warblers were encountered. Yellow-rumped Warblers appeared in extremely good numbers in southern Illinois in particular. In addition, Orange-crowned Warbler was found at two sites, while Pine Warblers were reported from only two southern Illinois locations.

Seventeen species of sparrows were reported this season. Most species were found in fairly typical numbers, with increased numbers overall from last year, although numbers for Song Sparrows were somewhat reduced. Scarcer species included single **Spotted Towhees** at two sites, two Vesper Sparrows in Lee County, seven Le Conte's Sparrows at four locations, three Lincoln's Sparrows, and one **Harris's Sparrow**. No large concentrations of Snow Buntings were noted, but a few individuals made it to far southern Illinois. Notable high counts among the sparrows included 25 Eastern Towhees, 985 American Tree Sparrows, 150 Swamp Sparrows, 475 White-throated Sparrows, and 1500 Lapland Longspurs.

As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

MC	=	maximum counts from representative areas of the state	Ark.	=	Arklands Reclamation Area (Perry Co)
*	=	documented observation	Carl.L	=	Carlyle Lake (Clinton & Fayette Cos)
m.ob.	=	many observers	Chinquapin Psv	=	Chinquapin Bluffs Nature Preserve (Woodford Co)
<	=	late fall departure	Chi	=	Chicago and vicinity (Cook Co)
>	=	early spring arrival	Clin.L	=	Clinton Lake (De Witt Co)
n.d.	=	no documentation	Cyp Crk	=	Cypress Creek NWR (Johnson and Pulaski Cos.)
ad.	=	adult	(L) Decatur	=	(Lake) Decatur (Macon Co)
imm.	=	immature	East Fork L	=	East Fork Lake (Richland Co)
1st/2nd/3rd	=	first-/second-/third-winter plumage	Fermi	=	Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co)
Co(s)	=	County (Counties)	Green Wing Lab	=	Green Wing Environmental Laboratory (Lee Co)
CP	=	County Park	HL	=	Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)
FP	=	Forest Preserve	HLCA	=	Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area (Alexander Co)
L	=	Lake	IBSP	=	Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)
L&D	=	Lock and Dam	JP	=	Chicago's Jackson Park (Cook Co)
NWR	=	National Wildlife Refuge	LCal	=	Lake Calumet and vicinity (Cook Co)
P	=	Park	Chau	=	Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)
R	=	River	M.Arb.	=	Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
SF	=	State Forest	Mermet L	=	Mermet Lake (Massac Co)
SF&WA	=	State Fish & Wildlife Area	Miss. R	=	Mississippi River (various Cos)
SNA	=	State Natural Area	Oakwood Btms	=	Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co)
SNP	=	State Nature Preserve	Pr.Rdg	=	Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper Co)
SP	=	State Park	QC	=	"Quad Cities" (Rock Island/Moline area) (Rock Island Co)
Twp	=	Township	Rend L	=	Rend Lake (Franklin and Jefferson Cos)
WA	=	Wildlife Area	Rockfd	=	Rockford and vicinity (Winnebago Co)
			Sand Rdg	=	Sand Ridge State Forest (Mason Co)
			SRock	=	Starved Rock State Park (La Salle Co)
			UCCA	=	Union Co C.A. (Union Co)
			Urbana	=	Champaign-Urbana (Champaign Co)
			Wauk.	=	Waukegan and vicinity (Lake Co)
			Winthrop H	=	Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co)

Information on counts greater than one individual, sexes, and/or ages of observed birds is included when available; no number indicates single birds. This information is followed by the location of the observation, date(s) of observation, and the observer(s) who made the report. Noteworthy dates of occurrence, remarkably high counts, and/or locations for the state as a whole, or for particular regions of the state, are **underlined and boldfaced**. Headings for species of extremely unusual occurrence in Illinois during the winter are **CAPITALIZED**. Headings for species requiring review by the IORC are **CAPITALIZED AND UNDERLINED**. Records pending IORC review are enclosed in square brackets [ ]; see forthcoming IORC reports in this journal for further details.

Maximum counts are provided, where available, from each of the three regions of Illinois (north, central, and south) as mapped out in H. David Bohlen's 1978 *Annotated check-list of the birds of Illinois*. Representative high counts from subsections within these regions are included for many species. Additional data reflecting the progress of the season are noted, when available, for species and areas of special interest. The species accounts below follow the taxonomy and nomenclature of the 7th edition of the American Ornithologists' Union's *Check-list of North American Birds*, through its 47th (2006) Supplement.

Northern Cardinal numbers were slightly higher than last year, although, as with other common resident species, available data are largely confined to Christmas Bird Count results. Single wintering **Indigo Buntings** were found at two sites in southern Illinois.

Blackbird numbers were lower for most species over much of the state, but huge concentrations occurred in the south, especially at the Arklands Reclamation Area in Perry County, at Massac County, and at Rend Lake. The most staggering high count was of **16,000 Rusty Blackbirds** at Arklands. A tally of **326 Eastern Meadowlarks** at Jasper County is among the highest ever recorded for this species in Illinois.

It was not a flight year for "winter finches," and both numbers and diversity among finches were unimpressive. House Sparrow populations appeared to be fairly typical, while Eurasian Tree Sparrow showed slight increases.

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## Winter 2005-2006 Field Notes

### Greater White-fronted Goose

**MC: 15,000**, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 7,500, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 4,314, Chau, 20 Jan (RGB, SNB); 4,000, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DMK); 3,800, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 425, Macon Co, 21 Jan (TAM); 54, River Bend FP (Champaign Co), 19 Feb (CA). **Others** (north & east): 38, Kennekuk CP (Vermilion Co), 23 Feb (BL); 25, Clin. L., 6 Feb (RD); 16, La Salle L (La Salle Co), 12 Feb (EWW); 9, Aroma P (Kankakee Co), 14 Jan (\*EWW); 3, Fairmount (Vermilion Co), 31 Jan (BP); New Milford (Winnebago Co), 1 Jan (DTW); Long Grove (Lake Co), 19 Feb (CSF). Widespread with continued increases, particularly in southern and west-central regions.

### Snow Goose

**MC: 300,000**, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); **90,000**, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 50,000, Rend L., 24 Feb (KAM); 37,714 (24,588 white



*Snow Goose, left, and Ross's Goose, right, flying over Montrose Point, Cook County. 18 February 2006. Photo by Emil Martinec.*

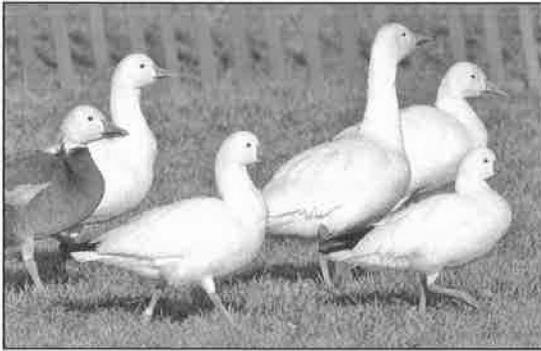
morph, 13,126 blue morph), Chau, 27 Jan (RGB, SNB); 20,000, Grand Chain (Pulaski Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 10,000, Macon Co, 25 Feb (TAM); 7,700, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 1,400, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 28, Chi, 25 Feb (UWG); 27 (23 white morph, 4 blue morph), Burnham (Cook Co), 19 Feb (CAM, WJM, PAD). **Others** (central & north): 250, Clin.L., 6 Feb (RD); 200, Pontiac (Livingston Co), 18 Feb (DJS); 80, Fairmount (Vermilion Co), 31 Jan (BP); 24, La Salle L (La Salle Co), 12 Feb (EWW); 3 (white morph), Long Grove (Lake Co), 26 Feb (CSF).

### Ross's Goose

**MC: 200**, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 23, UCCA, 18 Jan (KAM); 12, Clin. L., 25 Feb (GSL et al., fide SDB); 6, Coles Co, 15-16 & 20 Jan (LBH, RCF); 5, Chi, 19 Feb (CAM, RDH, PM, PAD, m.ob.).



Ross's Goose, above left and right, at Palos, Cook County on 28 February 2006. Photos by Jerry Kumery.



Ross's Geese (two in foreground) and Snow Geese at Montrose Point, Cook County. 18 February 2006. Photo by Emil Martinec. These birds were present for some time and seen by many.

**Others:** 6, Kinkaid L (Jackson Co), 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 4, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); 4, Carl.L., 18 Feb (DMK); 3, Macon Co, 25 Feb (TAM); 2, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK, KAM); 2, Chau, 8 Jan (KAM); 2, Urbana, 28 Feb> (GSL); Rockfd, 2-4 Dec (DTW); HLCA, 28-29 Dec (SDB, HDB); Beall Woods SP (Wabash Co), 29 Dec (CLH); JP, 7 Jan (JSM, KMC); Wolf L, LCal, 7 Jan (WJM); Flora (Clay Co), 8 Feb (CLH). More abundant this winter, and more widespread in the Chicago area.

#### Canada Goose

**MC:** 4,615, Chau, 20 Jan (RGB, SNB); 4,500, Rockfd, 31 Dec (DTW); 4,100, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 3,840, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 2,400, Oregon (Ogle Co), 24 Dec (EWW); 2,400, Grundy Co, 22 Jan (KAM); 2,100, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 2,000, Winthrop H, 2 Dec (KAM); 1,964, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 1,950, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 1,750, Clin.L., 6 Feb (RD); 1,350, Glacial P (McHenry Co), 21 Jan (EWW). Reduced numbers again, especially at traditional southern and central concentration sites.

#### Cackling Goose

**MC:** 300, Carl.L., 11 Dec (DMK); 175, Rockfd, 2 Dec (DTW); 85 & 100, UCCA, 30 Dec & 18 Jan (SDB, KAM resp.); 67, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 62, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 55, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 45, L Decatur, 17 Dec & 2 Jan (TAM). **Others:** 12, Urbana, 17 Dec (fide EJC); 12, Lec Co, 24 Dec (CK, TG, KJM); 8, Chau, 13 Jan & 24 Feb (RGB, SNB); 7, JP, 26 Feb> (PRC); 6, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 22 Jan (DMK); 5, Aroma P (Kankakee Co), 14 Jan (EWW); 4, CypCrk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 3, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 29 Jan (LLH); 3, Mundelein (Lake Co), 13 Feb (SDB); 2, Port Louisa NWR (Mercer Co), 28 Dec (KJM, SBH, DA); 2, Aurora West FP (Kane Co), 29 Dec (UWG); 2, Fermi, 4 Feb (UWG); Wilmington (Will Co), 1 Jan (CA). Considerably less numerous this winter.

#### Mute Swan

**MC:** 44, Wolf L, LCal (Cook Co), 7 & 19 Jan (WJM, CAM); 28, Channahon (Will Co), 8 Jan (UWG); 19, Spring L (Tazewell Co),

2 Jan (KAM, CJL); 12, Third L (Lake Co), 2 Jan (EWW); 10, JP, 1 Jan (PRC, KMC). **Others:** 8, L Decatur, 11 Feb (TAM); 7, HL, 26 Dec (FRH); 4, Kickapoo SP, (Vermilion Co), 13 Dec-11 Jan (SDB); Wolf Lake (Union Co), 30 Dec (SDB).

#### Trumpeter Swan

**MC:** 20 ad., Oakwd Btms, 27 Dec (DG); 19, Wolf L (Union Co), 30 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 12 (10 ad., 2 imm), Homer (Vermilion Co), 26 Feb> (JOS); 8 ad., Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 20 Dec (\*KJM, RTS); 4 ad., Miss. R (Carroll Co), 15 Dec (\*EAA, DGW); 4, Chau, 6 Jan-16 Feb (RGB, SNB). **Others:** 2, Rock R (Rock Island Co), 18 Dec (\*KR); 2, Miss. R (Hancock Co), 27 Dec (PR, AMR); 2, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 2, Wolf L, LCal, 30 Dec-19 Jan (\*CAM, WJM, m.ob.); Wauk., 3 Dec (AFS); imm., Macon Co, 15-21 Jan> (TAM, SDB).

#### Tundra Swan

**MC:** 30, Chau, 1 Jan-28 Feb (RGB, SNB); 6, Cook Co, 4 Dec (AFS); 4, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB). **Others:** 3, East Fork L, 12-16 Dec (CLH, RES); 2 ad., Thomson Causeway (Carroll Co), 15 Dec (\*KJM, RTS, MK); 2 ad., Macon Co, 21 Jan> (TAM); Jasper Co, 23 Dec (CLH); Gaskin L, 19 & 26 Jan (CLH). Greatly reduced numbers, with no concentrations.

#### Wood Duck

**MC:** 97, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 20, Carl.L., 18 Feb (DMK); 15, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 11, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 4, Chau, 24 Feb (RGB, SNB); 3, Danville (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SDB); 2 female, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 25 Dec (EWW); 2, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB).

#### Gadwall

**MC:** 400, Wilmington (Will Co), 1 Jan (CA); 326, Chau, 20 Jan (RGB, SNB); 200, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 200, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DMK); 174, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB).

#### American Wigeon

**MC:** 460, HL, 29 Jan (KAM); 117, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 10, Macon Co, 12 Feb (TAM); 2 (pair), Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 30 Dec (REF, KDF). Few other reports outside southern Illinois.

*Northern Pintail/Mallard hybrid  
at Waukegan Beach, Lake County.  
1 January 2006. Photo by Eric Walters.*

**American Black Duck**

**MC:** 85, Carl.L., 12 Dec (KAM); 49, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 34, Chau, 27 Jan (RGB, SNB); 21 & 23, Danville (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec & 11 Jan resp. (SDB); 14, Miss. R (Whiteside Co), 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 14, Fermi, 3 Jan (EES). **Others:** 13, Rockfd, 26 Dec (DTW); 12, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 11, Rock R (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM); 10, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 8, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 8, L Decatur, 2 Jan (TAM).

**Mallard**

**MC:** **150,000**, Carl.L., 3 Dec (DMK); **80,000**, Carl.L., 8 Jan (DMK); 15,969, Chau, 27 Jan (RGB, SNB); 3,982, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 1,342, Rock R (Lee & Whiteside Cos), 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 1,182, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 1,168, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others:** 19,150, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 16,502, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 10,600, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 3,000, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 800, Fermi, 3 Jan (EES); 425, Macon Co, 15 Jan (TAM, SDB); 354, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.). More abundant this winter, especially in the south.

**MOTTLED DUCK**

Springfield (Sangamon Co), 18 Dec (HDB, fide SDB). Likely the same bird that has been present off and on for some time.

**Blue-winged Teal**

male, Mermet L, **31 Dec** (KAM, DMK); male, Carl.L., 25 Feb (DMK); Crane Lake (Mason Co), 17 Dec (fide SDB); Pere Marquette (Jersey Co), 17 Dec (fide SDB).

**Northern Shoveler**

**MC:** 2,000, Carl.L., 3 Dec (DMK); 72, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 40, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 33, Chau, 3 Feb (RGB, SNB); 25, Clin.L., 6 Feb (RD); 20, Long Grove (Lake Co), 8 Jan (CSF); 10, Danville (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SDB).

**Northern Pintail**

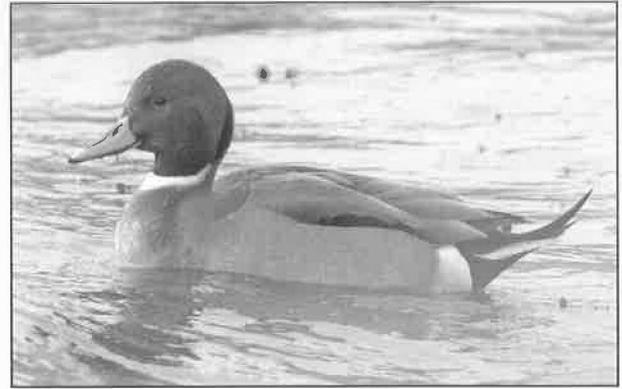
**MC:** 2,625, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 1,500, Carl.L., 14 Jan (DMK); 1,100, Rend L, 9 Jan (KAM); 782, Chau, 10 Feb (RGB, SNB); 675, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB). **Others:** 10, Macon Co, 15 Jan (TAM, SDB); 6, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); 6, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB). Slight increases, but overall numbers still lower than in recent past.

**Green-winged Teal**

**MC:** 350, Rend L, 9 Jan (KAM); 250, HL, 3 Dec (FRH); 200, Jasper Co, 11 Jan (CLH); 108, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB). **Others** (central & north): 3, L Decatur, 25 Feb (TAM); 2, Chau, 9 Dec (RGB, SNB); 2, Miss. R (Whiteside Co), 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 2, Hidden L FP (Du Page Co), 22 Jan (UWG); male, Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co), 13 Dec (SDB); male, Rock Cut SP



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(Winnebago Co), 27-30 Dec (DTW). Reduced numbers outside of south.

**Canvasback**

**MC:** 4,000, Miss. R (Hancock Co), 15 Jan (KJM); 500, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DMK); 350, Rend L, 9 Jan (KAM); 115, L Decatur, 11 Feb (TAM); 58, Chau, 10 Feb (RGB, SNB). **Others** (central & north away from Miss. R): 15, Wolf L, LCal, 31 Jan (CAM); 11, Channahon (Will Co), 8 Jan (UWG); 7, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 27 Feb (DTW); 2, Seneca (La Salle Co), 10 & 18 Dec (DJS, TW, AW).

**Redhead**

**MC:** 200, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DMK); 72, Winthrop H, 15 Jan (EWW); 36, Macon Co, 18 Feb (KAM); 26, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB). **Others:** 20, HL, 17 Jan (JPZ); 14, Chi, 2 Dec (CAM); 13, Chau, 24 Feb (RGB, SNB); 11, Seneca (La Salle Co), 18 Dec (DJS, TW, AW); 5 (3 male, 2 female), JP, 29 Jan (PRC); 5, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 27 Feb (DTW). Slightly less common, but widespread.

**Ring-necked Duck**

**MC:** 3,302, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 3,000, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 2,150, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 2,150, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 20 Jan (KAM); 1,500, Miss. R (Hancock Co), 15 Jan (KJM); 533, Chau, 3 Feb (RGB, SNB). **Others** (central & north): 75, Macon Co, 12 Feb (TAM); 5, Kane Co, 29 Dec (UWG); 5, Channahon (Will Co), 8 Jan (UWG).

**[TUFTED DUCK**

Richland Co, 16 Dec]

**Greater Scaup**

**MC:** 764, IBSP, 1 Jan (GAW); 100, Chi, 31 Jan (CAM); 30, Carl.L., 3 Dec (DMK); 12, East Fork L, 16 Dec (CLH). **Others** (away from L Michigan): 6, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK, FKB); 2, Rend L, 9 Jan (KAM); 2, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 15 Jan (SMF); male, Decatur, 26 Dec (UWG); HL, 1 & 29 Jan (FRH); female, L Decatur, 11-12 Feb (TAM).

**Lesser Scaup**

**MC:** 5,000, Carl.L., 3 Dec (DMK); 3,000, Miss. R (Hancock Co), 15 Jan (KJM); 468, Chau, 10 Feb (RGB, SNB); 302, Little Calumet R, LCal, 31 Dec (WJM, JSA, MLB); 200, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR). Widespread in good numbers.

**HARLEQUIN DUCK**

**MC:** 3 (1 male, 2 female), Chi, 7 Feb thru 8 Apr (JSS, \*UWG, m.ob., photos). Immature molted into full alternate plumage by late Feb. **Others:** ad. female, LDecatur, 17 Dec-25 Feb (\*TAM, \*UWG, \*HDG, \*GCL, m.ob.) – see 12th IORC report in last issue.

*Male Harlequin Duck, North Ave. Beach, Chicago  
Cook County, 22 February 2006.*

*Photo by Emil Martinec.*

### Surf Scoter

2 (pair), Winthrop H, 26 Feb (AFS); female, L Decatur, 11 Feb (TAM, m.ob.).

### Black Scoter

Clin.L, 2 Jan (\*fide SDB).

### Long-tailed Duck

**MC:** 19, Wauk., 28 Jan (AFS); 3, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK). 2 (females), Winthrop H, 11 Feb (SDB, SLD). **Others:** Illini SP (La Salle Co), 11 Dec (DJS); Miss. R (Hancock Co), 27 Dec (PR, AMR); UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 11 & 15 Jan (SMF); female, L Decatur, 10-12 & 18 Feb (MFD, TAM, KAM);. Poor numbers.

### Bufflehead

**MC:** 58 & 30, Winthrop H, 2 Jan & 11 Feb (EWW & SDB, SLD resp.); 40, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co), 24 Feb (KAM); 30, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DMK); 25 (14 male, 11 female/imm.), JP, 15 Jan (PRC); 6, Chau, 27 Jan (RGB, SNB); 6, L Decatur, 12 Feb (TAM). Rather low numbers.

### Common Goldeneye

**MC:** 5,000, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 2,000, Carl.L, 14 Jan (DMK); 1,500, Miss. R (Hancock Co), 15 Jan (KJM); 265, Chi, 25 Dec (GAW); 250, Macon Co, 2, 15 & 21 Jan (TAM, SDB); 160, Winthrop H, 17 Feb (KAM); 157, Chau, 10 Feb (RGB, SNB); 136, Rock R (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). Slightly more numerous in the south; poor numbers in north.

### Hooded Merganser

**MC:** 850, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 107, Chau, 13 Jan (RGB, SNB); 50, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DMK); 50, Clin.L, 6 Feb (RD); 15, Miss. R (Hancock Co), 27 Dec (PR, AMR); 15, Macon Co, 21 Jan (TAM); 10 (3 male, 7 female), Wauk., 1 Jan (EWW); 8, Wauk, 8 Jan (SDB, SLD); 8, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB).

### Common Merganser

**MC:** 1,545, Chau, 16 Feb (RGB, SNB); 823, Chi, 25 Dec (GAW); 750, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 20 Dec (KJM, RTS); 600, Woodford Co, 25 Feb (DJS); 500, Miss. R (Hancock Co), 15 Jan (KJM); 300, JP, 14 Feb > (PRC); 200, Carl.L, 9 Dec (DMK); 125, Clin.L, 6 Feb (RD). Considerably less abundant this winter.

### Red-breasted Merganser

**MC:** 1,100, JP, 11 Jan (PRC); 862, Chi, 12 Jan (GAW); 300, Carl.L, 26 Feb (DMK). **Others:** 104, Wolf L, LCal (Cook Co), 5 Feb (WJM); 8, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 7, HL, 6 Feb (KAM); 3 male, East Fork L, 10 Feb (CLH); 2 (pair), L Decatur, 11-12 Feb (TAM); 2, Clear L (Mason Co), 24 Feb (RGB, SNB); female, Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co), 13 Dec (SDB); female, L&D #15 (Rock Island Co), 18 Dec (\*TM, MK, RS). More numerous in the north, and slightly less abundant in the central and south.

### Ruddy Duck

**MC:** 300, Carl.L, 26 Feb (DMK); 175, HL, 6 Feb (KAM); 112, Chau, 3 Feb (RGB, SNB). **Others** (central & north): 6, Macon Co, 12 Feb (TAM); 2 (pair), Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 20 Dec (KJM, RTS); LCal (Cook Co), 11 Dec (CAM); JP, 14 Dec < (PRC). Considerably less abundant throughout the state.

### Ring-necked Pheasant

**MC:** 20, Reilly (Vermilion Co), 17 Jan (SDB); 13, Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); 12, Whiteside Co, 20 Dec (KJM, RTS); 11, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 8, Oregon (Ogle Co), 24 Dec (KRW, JD); 7, Urbana, 17 Dec (RD). **Others:** 6, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 5, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 4, Clin.L, 1 & 9 Jan (RD); 2, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); Bolingbrook (Will Co), 18 Dec (UWG); Henry Co, 21 Jan (SBH); Carl.L, 18 Feb (DMK). First winter reports from south since January 1999; low numbers elsewhere.

### Greater Prairie-Chicken

52, Pr.Rd, 23 Dec (JWW, m.ob.)—the only report.



*Long-tailed Duck at the Gull Frolic, Winthrop Harbor, Lake County. 11 February 2006. Photo by Eric Secker.*

### Wild Turkey

**MC:** 183, Wayne Co, 25 Feb (RES); 122, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 53, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 43, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); 42, Rock Island & Whiteside Cos, 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 34, Mernmet L, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 15, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 17 Dec (LLH). **Others:** 33, Blaine (Boone Co), 25 Dec (EWW); 28, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC); 22, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 16, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 13, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 9, Green Wing Lab, 27 Dec (SBH); 7, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 4, Urbana, all winter (RD, EJC, m.ob.); 3, Herrick L FP (Du Page Co), 4 Feb (UWG). Less abundant statewide.

### Northern Bobwhite

**MC:** 29, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 18, Whiteside Co, 20 Dec (RN, EAA); 17, Jasper Co, 3 Feb (RES); 13, Edwards Co, 5 Dec (RES). **Others:** 12, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DMK, KAM, CPA); 10, Mernmet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); 8, Grassy Slough Preserve (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 7, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); HL, 29 Jan (FRH). Less abundant and widespread overall; no reports from central Illinois.

### Common Loon

6, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DMK); 2, Rend L, 9 Jan (KAM). Unusually few reports.

### Pied-billed Grebe

**MC:** 26, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 22, HL, 3 Dec (FRH); 4, Clin.L, 6 Feb (RD); 2, Grundy Co, 15 Jan (AFS). **Others:** 15, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 10, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 6, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DMK); 2, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 4 Dec (DMK); JP, 4 Dec < (PRC); LCal, 11 Dec (WJM); Chau, 16 Dec (RGB, SNB).

### Horned Grebe

6, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 4, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DMK); HL, 4 Dec < (FRH); Jasper Co, 10 Feb (CL11); Gaskin L (Clay Co), 28 Feb (CLH). Considerably less common this winter, and confined to the south.

### EARED GREBE

Rend L, 17 Dec (\*DMK).

### American White Pelican

**MC:** 350, Carl.L, 26 Feb (DMK); 153, Pere Marquette (Jersey Co), 17 Dec (fide SDB); 100, Madison Co, 10 Feb (FRH); 13, Clear L (Mason Co), 24 Feb (RGB, SNB). **Others:** 14, Carl.L, 14 Jan (DMK); 2, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 11 Jan (SMF); Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 18 Dec (\*KJM, SBH, SC). Less numerous and widespread this winter.

### Double-crested Cormorant

**MC:** 28, Rend L, 24 Feb (KAM); 20, Carl.L, 12 Dec (KAM); 19, LCal, 17 Dec (WJM); 10, Wauk., 1 Jan (GAW). **Others:** 8, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (SMF); 5 (1 ad., 4 imm.), Des Plaines Conservation Area (Will Co), 5 Feb (AFS); Winthrop H, 2 Dec (KAM); East Fork L, 12-17 Dec (CLH); Clin.L, 26 Dec (UWG); HL, 15 Jan (FRH). Far less abundant and widespread this winter.

### Great Blue Heron

**MC:** 98, Chau, 24 Feb (RGB, SNB); 55, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DMK); 31, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM); 13, Andalusia Slough (Rock Island Co), 3 Jan (KJM, CB); 13, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); 11, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB). **Others** (central & north): 10, L Vermilion (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SDB); 5, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 5, Clin.L, 6 Feb (RD); 3, L&D #13 (Whiteside Co), 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 3, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC); 2, Rock R (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM); JP, 4 Dec< (PRC). Less numerous overall this winter.

### GREAT EGRET

Channahon (Will Co), 8 Jan (\*UWG), Meredosia Island (Cass/Morgan Co), 15 Dec (fide SDB); Perc Marquette (Jersey Co), 17 Dec (fide SDB).

### Black-crowned Night-Heron

**MC:** 17, L Cal (Cook Co), 31 Dec (fide SDB); 4, Chi, 18 Dec (fide SDB). **Other:** Evanston (Cook Co), 26 Dec (fide SDB).

### Black Vulture

**All records:** 26, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 25, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); 8, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM). Low numbers.

### Turkey Vulture

**MC:** 72, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 63, Edwards Co, 11 Feb (RES); 24 & 5, Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co), 13 Dec & 10 Feb resp. (SDB). **Others:** 35, Jasper Co, 23 Dec (CLH); 32, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); 15, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 14, Carl.L, 7 Jan (DMK); 7, Richland Co, 31 Dec (RES); 4, Clay Co, 27 Jan (CLH); 4, Du Page Co, 1 Feb (REF, KDF); HL, 15 Dec< (FRH); Henderson Co, 15 Jan (KJM); Urbana, 4 Feb> (GSL).

### Bald Eagle

**MC:** 626 (333 ad., 270 imm., 23 unknown), Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 14 Jan (KJM); 470 (257 ad., 200 imm., 13 unknown), QC, 18 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC, m.ob.); 403 (205 ad., 198 imm.), Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 20 Dec (KJM, RTS); 376 (205 ad., 171 imm.), Miss. R (Hancock Co), 15 Jan (KJM); 295 (115 ad., 178 imm., 2 unknown), Miss. R (Mercer Co), 16 Jan (KJM). **Others:** 78, Bureau, Putnam & Marshall Cos, 25 Feb (DJS); 38 (15 ad., 23 imm.), Chau, 31 Dec (RGB, SNB); 20 (10 ad., 9 imm., 1 unknown), Miss. R (Henderson Co), 15 Jan (KJM); 12 (7 ad., 5 imm.), Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 8 (2 ad., 6 imm.), HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 8 (7 ad., 1 imm.), Miss. R (Alexander Co), 29 Dec (KJM); 8 (3 ad., 5 imm.), Carl.L, 25 Feb (DMK); 8, Woodford Co, 25 Feb (DJS); 7 (1 ad., 6 imm.), Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 15 Jan (AFS); 6 (1 ad., 5 imm.), Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 6 (ad.), UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 3 (2 ad., 1 imm.), East Fork L, 11 Dec (CLH); 3 ad., Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 2 (1 ad., 1 imm.), L Decatur, 17 & 29 Dec (TAM); 2, Saganashkee Slough (Cook Co), 25 Jan (REF, KDF); 2 ad., Lawrence Co, 31 Jan (CLH); 2 ad., Gaskin L (Clay Co), 31 Jan (CLH); ad., Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); ad., Volo Bog SNA (Lake Co), 13 Feb > (SDB). Reduced numbers along Miss. R.

### Northern Harrier

**MC:** 56, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 40, Pr.Rdg, 23 Dec (JWW, m.ob.); 7, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 7, Rockf, 17 Dec (DTW); 7 (3 ad. male, 4 others), Rollins Savanna (Lake Co), 16 Jan (EWW); 5, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (WAB, KH, m.ob.); 5, Union Co, 30 Dec (SDB). **Others** (central & north): 4, St. Anne (Kankakee Co), 3 Jan (SDB); 3, QC, 18 Dec (KR, m.ob.); 3, Chau, 20 Jan (RGB,

SNB); 3, Glacial P (McHenry Co), 21 Jan (EWW); 2 (pair), Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 24 Dec (EWW); 2, Woodford Co, 6 Jan (MF); JP, 4 Dec< (PRC); male, L Decatur, 17 Dec (TAM); Clin.L, 17 Dec (RD); ad. male, Scott Co, 12 Feb (EWW); McDonough Co, 22 Feb (LLH).

### Sharp-shinned Hawk

**MC:** 3, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 15 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 3, QC, 18 Dec (KR, m.ob.); 3, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 2 (1 male, 1 imm. female), Bushnell (McDonough Co), 3 Jan & 20 Feb (LLH). **Others:** 2, HL, all winter (JPZ); 2, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 2, Lee Co, 24 Dec (CK, TG, KJM); 2, Red Hills SP (Lawrence Co), 7 Jan (CLH); 2, Carl.L, 22 Jan (DMK); 2 (1 ad., 1 imm.), M.Arb., 12 & 19 Feb (UWG). Widespread as singles elsewhere.

### Cooper's Hawk

**MC:** 13, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 4, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (m.ob. fide SDB); 4, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.); 4, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 3 (2 ad., 1 imm.), River Forest (Cook Co), 4 Dec-27 Feb (JSA); 3, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 3, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 3, St. Anne (Kankakee Co), 3 Jan (SDB). Widespread as ones and twos.

### Northern Goshawk

imm., Urbana, 8, 10 & 17 Dec (EJC, RD & SDB, GSL resp.), seen stooping on pheasants (SDB); imm., Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, \*VL, SJ); Menard Co, 6 Jan (EES); ad., La Grange Highlands (Cook Co), 21 Feb (RCR, NPB); imm., Madison Co, 24 Feb (JPZ).

### Red-shouldered Hawk

**MC:** 6, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 5, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB). **Others:** 4, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 4, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 3, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 3, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 3 ad., Richland Co, 6 Jan (CLH); 3 (2 ad., 1 imm.), Clay Co, 11 Jan & 21 Feb (CLH); 3, Carl.L, 12 Feb (DMK); 2 imm., HL, all winter (JPZ); 2 (1 ad., 1 imm.), Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co), 2 Dec (DTW); 2, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 2, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (KJM); 2 ad., Beall Woods SP (Wabash Co), 30 Jan (CLH); Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); Chau, 23 Dec (RGB, SNB); ad., Palatine (Cook Co), 25 Dec-19 Feb (CSF); ad., Oregon (Ogle Co), 26 Dec (DTW); Red Hills SP (Lawrence Co), 21 Jan (CLH); Blackwell FP (Du Page Co), 4 Feb (UWG); Geneseo (Henry Co), 12 Feb (SBH); Champaign Co, 13 Feb (RD). Somewhat more numerous and widespread.

### Red-tailed Hawk

**MC:** 41, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 38, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 38, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.); 35, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 34, Bureau Co, 17 Dec (DJS, TW, AW); 26, Lake Co to Iroquois Co, 3 Jan (SDB); 18, Johnson & Pulaski Cos, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 18, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 16, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 15, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 15, Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); 15, Woodford Co, 14 Jan (MF); 13, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 13, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH). **Others:** "Kridler's Hawk," Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 20 Jan (KAM); ad. dark morph, Madison Co, 22 Jan (JPZ, SM); dark morph, Logan Co, 22 Jan (KAM); ad., intermediate, rufous morph "Western," Urbana (same location as previous two winters), 9 Feb (SDB). More numerous this winter.

### Rough-legged Hawk

**MC:** 10, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 15 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 5, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, AT, ET); 4, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 3, Woodford Co, all winter (MF); 2, St. Anne (Kankakee Co), 3 Jan (SDB). **Others** (south & central): Carl.L, 3 Dec (DMK); Johnson Co, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 7 Jan (TAM, DMK); Chau, 13 Jan (RGB, SNB); Champaign Co, 28 Jan (DT); Clin.L, 6 & 13 Feb (RD); Menard Co, 13 Feb (KAM). Numbers similar to last year.

### Golden Eagle

imm., Carl.L, 10 & 12 Dec (\*DMK, KAM, MAM, AFS); imm., Two Rivers NWR (Calhoun Co), 17 Dec (\*WCR, \*RK); imm., Chau, 31 Dec (RGB, SNB); ad., Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co), 24 Feb (KAM).

### American Kestrel

MC: 23, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 22, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (WZ, m.ob.); 21, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (WAB, KH, m.ob.); 20, Perry Co, 12 Dec (KAM); 20, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 15, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 15, Mason, Fulton & McDonough Cos, 8 Jan (LLH); 13, Woodford Co, 31 Dec (MF); 11, Bureau, Putnam & La Salle Cos, 31 Jan (DJS); 10, Carl.L, 22 Jan (DMK); 9, Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); 8, Clin.L, 13 Feb (RD); 7, Macon Co, 15 Jan (TAM, SDB).

### Merlin

Clinton Co, 14 Dec (TAM, JPM); Two Rivers NWR (Calhoun Co), 17 Dec (\*WCR); male, Chi, 18 Dec (AFS); ad. male, Rock Island Co, 20 Dec (\*KJM, RTS); ad. male, Green R WA (Lee Co), 24 Dec (\*KJM); Ark., 25 Dec (\*KJM); Henderson Co, 28 Dec (\*WAB, KH); Rockfd, 1 Jan (DTW); Menard Co, 6 Jan (EES); Butterworth P (Rock Island Co), 11 Jan (SMF); Champaign (Champaign Co), 26 Jan (RFB fide SDB); HL, 5 Feb (FRH).



### Peregrine Falcon

MC: 2, JP, all winter (PRC, KMC); 2, Normal (McLean Co), 13 Feb (AC); 2, Rock Island (Rock Island Co), 24 Feb (SMF). **Others:** Urbana, (imm., possible 'Peale's' race; banded), 12 Dec-27 Feb (EJC, RD, SDB, GLS, m.ob.); ad., Saganashkee Slough FP (Cook Co), 18 Dec (WJM, WSS); ad., Rockfd, 26 Dec (DTW); East St. Louis (St. Clair Co), 10 & 27 Jan (KAM); imm., Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 21 Jan (REF, KDF); LCal, 4 Feb (CAM, TLK, CAT). Reported in typical low numbers.

### PRAIRIE FALCON

Savoy (Champaign Co), 22-23 Jan (\*GSL, \*RLJ fide SDB).

### VIRGINIA RAIL

Hidden Lake FP (DuPage Co), 18 Dec (\*JDC, \*LG fide SDB).

### American Coot

MC: 10,000, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 600, Carl.L, 11 Dec (KAM); 82, Chau, 10 Feb (RGB, SNB); 26, LCal, 1 Dec (CAM); 22, Clin.L, 6 Feb (RD); 13, JP, 4 Dec (PRC). **Others:** 400, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 275, HL, 29 Jan (KAM); 71, Kinkaid L (Jackson Co), 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 15, Macon Co, 15 & 21 Jan (TAM, SDB); 10, Third L (Lake Co), 2 Jan (EWW); 6, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); 5, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 6 Dec (DTW).

### Sandhill Crane

MC: 240, East Fork L, 28 Feb (CLH); 50, Du Page Co, 27 Feb (UWG); **Others:** 12, Danville (Vermilion Co), 16 Feb> (BL); 2, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 2, Lake Co, 25 Feb> (AFS); Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co), 31 Dec (DT, et al.); Thorn Creek (Will Co), 2 Jan (fide SDB); Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 7 Jan (TAM, WSS, CA, SF, m.ob.); Logan Co, 22 Jan (KAM). Considerably lower numbers this winter, especially in the northeast.

### Killdeer

MC: 30, Carl.L, 26 Feb (DMK); 21, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM); 15, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 3 Dec (EES); 10, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 10, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 6, HL, 26 Jan (FRH); 5, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 4, Chau, 16 Feb (RGB, SNB); 3, Marion Co, 27 Jan (CLH); 3, Macon Co, 25 Feb> (TAM). Less abundant overall this year; no reports from north.

### [SPOTTED SANDPIPER

Rend L, 17 Dec] If accepted, this apparently would be only the third winter record for Illinois.

### LEAST SANDPIPER

12, Mermet L, 31 Dec (\*FKB fide SDB).

### DUNLIN

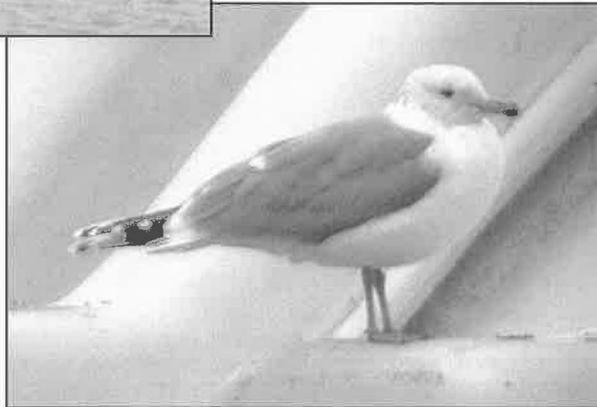
Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK, FKB).

### Wilson's Snipe

MC: 33, HLCA, 29 Dec (KJM); 10, Madison Co, 16 Dec (FRH); 5, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 4, Grassy Slough Preserve (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW). **Others:** 3, L&D #13 (Whiteside Co), 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 3, Urbana, 17 Dec (GSL, SDB); 3, Hidden L FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (RAM,

*Lesser Black-backed Gull at the Annual Gull Frolic, Winthrop Harbor, Lake County. 11 February 2006. Photo by Eric Secker.*

*Adult California Gull, Lake Calumet, Cook County on 4 February 2006. Photo by Robert Hughes.*



ALM); 3, Mason Co, 23 Dec (LLH); 2, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 2, Kinkaid L (Jackson Co), 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB). More numerous and widespread this winter.

### American Woodcock

3, Ark., 25 Dec (fide SDB); 2, Mermet L, 31 Dec (fide SDB); 2, Edwards Co, 26 Feb (RES); White Co, 17 Dec (RES); Clay Co, 24 Feb (CLH).

### PARASITIC JAEGER

Chi, 25 Dec, (\*SH fide SDB).

### Bonaparte's Gull

MC: 300, HL, 4 Dec (FRH); 100, Clin.L, 9 Jan & 26 Feb (RD); 50, Wabash R (Wabash Co), 15 Feb (CLH); 40, Olmstead (Pulaski Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 30, Rend L, 9 Jan (KAM); 16, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DMK); 12, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 4 Dec (DMK). Low numbers; no reports from north.

### Ring-billed Gull

MC: 60,000, Carl.L, 14 Jan (DMK); 5,000, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 3,500, Tazewell Co, 8 Jan (KAM); 3,500, L Decatur, 21 Jan (TAM); 1,600, SRock, 10 Dec (DJS); 1,500, St. Clair Co, 6 Feb (KAM); 1,009, Chau, 24 Feb (RGB, SNB); 700, Clin.L, 6 Feb (RD); 598, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 438, Chi, 7 Dec (GAW).



*Glaucous Gull at Annual Gull Frolic, North Point Marina, Lake County. 11 February 2006. Photo by Eric Secker.*

#### CALIFORNIA GULL

1st, Carl.L., 3 Dec (\*DMK); ad., Chi, 4 Feb (\*WJM, RDH, CAM).

#### Herring Gull

**MC:** 3,500, Winthrop H, 11 Feb (GAW); 2,400, SRock, 10 Dec (DJS); 1,280, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 1,100, LCal (Cook Co), 31 Dec (WJM, JSA, MLB); 600, Tazewell Co, 8 Jan (KAM); 576, Rock R (Lee Co), 24 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.); 200, Carl.L., 14 Jan (DMK); 200, Rockfd, 22 Dec (DTW); 60, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK).

#### Thayer's Gull

**MC:** 10 (7 ad., 2 1st, 1 2nd), Winthrop H, 11 Feb (GAW); 6 (3 ad., 3 1st), Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 12 Feb (SMF). **Others:** 2 (1 ad., 1 2nd), Chi, 25 Dec (GAW); 2 ad., SRock, 28 Dec (DJS); 2 (1 ad., 1 1st), LCal, 31 Dec (WJM); 2nd, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (SMF); 1st, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DMK)—the only report outside northern Illinois.

#### Iceland Gull

2 ad., Winthrop H, 25 Feb (AFS); 2nd, Winthrop H, 1 Jan (EWW); 1st, Tazewell Co, 8 Jan (KAM); 1st, Kane Co, 29 Jan (GAW); 1<sup>st</sup>, Winthrop H, 11 Feb (SDB, m.ob.); 1st, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 24 Feb (SMF); ad. "Kumlien's," LCal, 25 Feb (WJM).

#### Lesser Black-backed Gull

**MC:** 4 (1 ad., 1 1st, 2 2nd), Carl.L., 4 Dec (DMK); 4 (3 1st, 1 ad.), Winthrop H, 1 Jan (EWW); 4 (3 ad., 1 2nd), Winthrop H, 11 Feb (GAW, SDB). **Others:** 2, SRock, 23 Dec (DJS); 2 (1 ad., 1 1st), Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (SMF); 2 ad., Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 8 Feb (DTW); 3rd, Winthrop H, 3 Dec (AFS); ad., Geneva (Kane Co), 8 Dec (DJS); ad., Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 2nd, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 28 Dec (SMF); 1st, Tazewell Co, 8 Jan (KAM); ad., L Decatur, 15 Jan-12 Feb (TAM, m.ob.); 3rd, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 12 Feb (SMF). Fairly typical numbers reported.

#### Glaucous Gull

**MC:** 4 (1 ad., 2 1st, 1 3rd), Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 5 Jan (SMF). **Others:** 2, IBSP, 1 Jan (GAW); 2 ad., Winthrop H, 11 Feb (GAW, SDB); ad., SRock, 26 Dec (DJS); 1st, Winthrop H, 2 Jan (EWW); 2nd, Winthrop H, 25 Feb (AFS); ad., Wolf L, LCal, 25 Feb (WJM). Rather low numbers and confined to the north.

#### Great Black-backed Gull

ad., Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 1 Jan (DA, RZ, BZ, m.ob.); 1st, Miss. R (Rock Island Co), 7 & 15 Jan (SMF); ad., Chi, 22 Jan (AFS); ad., Winthrop H, 29 Jan (AFS); 1st, Winthrop H, 11 Feb

(GAW, SDB, UWG). Very low numbers and confined to L Michigan and northern Miss. R.

#### Rock Pigeon

**MC:** 3,000, Cook Co, 18 Dec (WJM, WSS); 823, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (SBH, m.ob.); 750, Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); 75, Carl.L., 7 Jan (DMK); 62, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 54, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 50, Macon Co, 21 Jan (TAM).

#### Eurasian Collared-Dove

**MC:** 46, Oakley (Macon Co), 26 Dec (TAM); 33, Forest City (Mason Co), 23 Dec (LLH); 16, Madison Co, 7 Jan (FRH); 13, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); 8, Henry Co, 21 Jan (\*SBH); 4, Marengo (McHenry Co), 19 Feb (DTW). **Others:** 12, Edwards Co, 29 Jan (\*RES); 10, Carl.L., 14 Dec (DMK); 8, Perry Co, 12 Dec (KAM); 7, Aroma Park (Kankakee Co), 31 Dec (UWG); 5, Henning (Vermilion Co), 17 Jan (SDB); 4, Wolf Lake (Union Co), 30 Dec (SDB); 3, Bolingbrook (Will Co), 18 Dec (UWG); 3, Tazewell Co, 2 Jan (KAM); 3, Jacksonville (Morgan Co), 12 Feb (EWW); 2, Shelby Co, 5 Dec (KAM); Tolono (Champaign Co), 31 Dec (SDB). Numbers were somewhat similar to last year as this species continues to expand throughout Illinois.

#### Mourning Dove

**MC:** 1,772, Rockfd, 17 Dec (DTW); 1,531, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.); 916, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 375, Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); 214, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (WAB, KH, m.ob.); 200, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); 125, Macon Co, 21 Jan (TAM); 105, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 182, Chain-O-Lakes SP (Lake Co), 28 Jan (EWW). **Others (south):** 103, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 75, Reilly (Vermilion Co), 17 Jan (SDB); 72, St. Clair Co, 25 Jan (KAM); 70, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM). High numbers, particularly in the northern and central regions.

#### Monk Parakeet

121, LCal (Cook Co), 9 Jan (CAM); 53, JP, 15 Feb (PRC).

#### Eastern Screech-Owl

**MC:** 15, northern Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); 14, Lee Co, 24 Dec (KJM); 5, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others:** 5, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (fide SDB); 5, Rend L, 17 Dec (KAM); 5, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 5, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 4, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 4, Loud Thunder FP (Rock



*Eastern Screech-Owl, gray phase, Morton Arboretum, DuPage County. 21 January 2006. Photo by Emil Martinec.*

*Snowy Owl, Oswego, Kendall County. 12 January 2006.*  
*Photo by Eric Secker.*



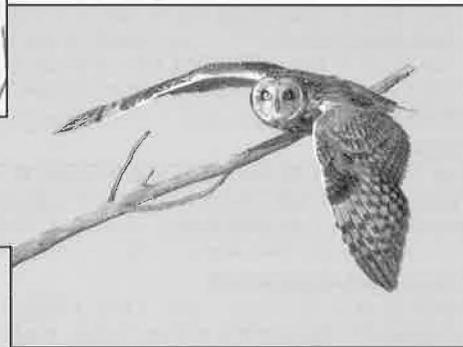
Dec (SDB); 4, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 4, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 4 (2 pr), Allerton P (Piatt Co), 14 Jan (SDB); 4 (2 pr), Middlefork SF&WA (Vermilion Co), 17 Jan (SDB). **Others:** 3, Urbana (locally vary rare) mid-Dec-19 Jan (GSL, SDB); 3, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 3, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 3, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (CK, TG, m.ob.); Mermet, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); Carroll Co, 15 Dec (EAA, DGW, m.ob.); 2, Rend L., 17 Dec (DMK); 2, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 2, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); Aroma P (Kankakee Co), 31 Dec (UWG).

**Long-eared Owl**

**MC:** 5, Green R WA (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM); 4, Henry Co, 29 Dec (BH); Urbana, 1 Dec-31 Jan (2) & 1-24 Feb (3) (RLJ, SDB, m.ob.). **Others:** 2, Henry Co, 21 Jan (SBH); Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, SBH, DA); Stickney Run FP (McHenry Co), 8 Jan (SDB, SLD); Evanston (Cook Co), 9 Jan (AFS); Volo Bog SNA (Lake Co), 13 Feb (SDB); Bartel Grasslands (Cook Co), 19 Feb (AFS). Reports mainly confined to northern half of the state.

*Short-eared Owls at Rollins Savanna, Lake County. 8 March 2006.*  
*Photo by Jim Solum.*

*Short-eared Owl taken at Rollins Savanna, Lake County on 25 January 2006. Photos by Emil Martinec.*



**Short-eared Owl**

**MC:** 38, Pr.Rdg, 23 Dec (JWW, m.ob.); 11, Glacial P (McHenry Co), 21 Jan (\*EWW); 7, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), all winter (SDB, SLD, EWW, m.ob.); 7, Ark., 25 Dec (fide SDB). **Others:** 4, Richland Co, 22 Dec (RES); 4, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 3, Grassy Slough Preserve (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 2, Durand (Winnebago Co), 16 Dec-10 Jan (DTW); Urbana, 19 Dec (EJC); Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); Wayne Co, 30 Dec (\*RES); Reilly (Vermilion Co), 17 Jan (SDB); Ferrin (Clinton Co), 20 Feb (DMK). Less numerous in the south and more numerous in the north.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl**

**M.C.:** 2, see below, 13 Dec (SDB). **Others:** Kennekuk CP (Vermilion Co), 13 Dec (SDB);

Island Co), 4 Jan (KJM); 3, Carl.L., 14 Dec (DMK); 3, Whiteside Co, 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 3, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (GAW); 3, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB, SDB); 2, Olive Branch (Alexander Co), 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 2 (1 red morph, 1 gray morph), Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co), 31 Dec (DTW); 2, Zion (Lake Co), 1 Jan (EWW); HL, 1 Jan (FRH); M.Arb., 22 Jan (CA); Volo Bog SNA, 13 Feb (SDB). Fairly typical numbers reported.

**Great Horned Owl**

**MC:** 15, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, SBI-I); 13, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 11, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 15 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 5, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 5, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (WAB, KH, m.ob.). **Others:** 4, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 4, Rock Island Co, 3 Jan (KJM, CB); 3, Rend L., 17 Dec (KAM); 3, Hidden L FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (RAM, ALM); 3, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DMK); Urbana, 15 Dec (RD); JP, 7 Jan (KMC); M.Arb., 22 Jan (UWG). Numbers were fairly typical and similar to last year.

**Snowy Owl**

**MC:** 3 (1<sup>st</sup> 2 Jan, 2<sup>nd</sup> 7 Jan, 3<sup>rd</sup> 18 Feb; ad male, 1 imm. male, 1 imm. female), La Salle Co Nuclear Power Plant, all three seen same day within 1-2 miles of one another on several dates 18 Feb-thru period (DJS, JDM, CKM, SDB, m.ob., photos); 2 (1 ad., 1 imm.), Gridley Twp (McLean Co), 11-28 Feb (LAI, SDB, m.ob., photos); 2 (1<sup>st</sup> 31 Dec, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3 Jan; 1 ad. female, 1 imm.), St. Anne (Kankakee Co), (DB, m.ob., photos), both seen (within 1 mile of one another) 3-15 Jan (SDB, et al.), but ad. thru 2 Feb (EWW). **Others:** Darien (DuPage Co), 29 Nov (fide EES); Toulon (Stark Co), 29 Dec (JWW); Winthrop H, 31 Dec (BE, DW, fide SDB); Wauk., 31 Dec & 6-8 Jan (BE, DW, m.ob.); Highland Park (Lake Co), killed by car, 10 Jan (RR, fide SDB); imm., Oswego (Kendall Co), 12 Jan (DE, REF, KDF, EES, m.ob., photos); ad. female, Morton (Tazewell Co), 21 Feb thru period (WH, m.ob. fide SDB); Towanda (McLean Co), 21-26 Feb (MFD, BW, fide SDB); Nekoma (Henry Co), 27 Feb (BS, LS, MJB, fide SDB). Above average invasion especially downstate. Unusual number of multiple birds at several locations.

**BURROWING OWL**

Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 1-2 & 12 Dec, 9 Jan (DMK, KAM, MAM, AFS). Present since 15 Oct and continuing into early spring. See the 12th IORC report in the preceding issue of *Meadowlark*.

**Barred Owl**

**MC:** 13, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 13, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 12, QC, 18 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 9, northern Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); 6, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21



Middlefork SF&WA (Vermilion Co), 13 Dec-17 Jan (SDB); Barrington (Cook Co), 19 Dec (fide SDB); Green R WA (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM); M.Arb., 29 Dec & 21-22 Jan (MAM, KAM, UWG, AFS, CA); Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); Allerton P (Piatt Co), 5-28 Feb (GSL, SDB, m.ob.).

**Belted Kingfisher**

**MC:** 18, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 10, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 5, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 3, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 3, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). Typical scatter of reports of 1-3 birds statewide.

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

**MC:** 40, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 37, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 25, Beall Woods SP (Wabash Co), 27 Dec (CLH); 23, Goodenow (Will Co), 2 Jan (GAW); 15, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 15, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM, m.ob.); 12, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 12, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 9, Lowden SP (Ogle Co), 23 Dec (EWW); 7, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 5, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 4, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 4, Aroma P (Kankakee Co), 31 Dec (UWG, EES). Somewhat more numerous and widespread.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

**MC:** 81, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 63, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 61, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 48, Ogle & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (EWW, KRW, JD); 42, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 42, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 31, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 30, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 36, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

**MC:** 21, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 16, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 16, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 9, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 9, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 7, Urbana (South Farms), 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); 5, Beall Woods SP (Wabash Co), 15 Dec (CLH); 3, Decatur, 17 Dec (TAM); 3 (1 ad. male, 1 imm. female, 1 imm. male), JP, 11, 17 Dec & 26 Feb (KMC, PRC). **Others** (central & north): 2, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, EJC); 2, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (EAA, DGW); 2, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC); 2, Lee Co, 24 Dec (KJM, SBH); 2, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, SBH, DA); La Salle Co, 18 Dec (DJS, TW, AW); Lowden SP (Ogle Co), 24 Dec (KRW); Wilmington (Will Co), 1 Jan (CA); Henry Co, 21 Jan (SBH). Much more common and widespread.

**Downy Woodpecker**

**MC:** 70, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 64, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 58, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 54, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 46, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 40, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 35, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 32,



*Say's Phoebe, Panther Creek SF&WA, Cass County. 12 February 2006. Photo by Eric Walters.*

Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); p 28, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW); 19, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 19, Union County, 30 Dec (SDB); 17, Carl.L., 14 Dec (KAM, CPA); 17, Kane Co, 17 Dec (EES).

**Hairy Woodpecker**

**MC:** 19, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM, m.ob.); 13, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW); 12, Green Wing Lab, 27 Dec (SBH); 11, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 10, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 8, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 8, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 8, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 7, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 6, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 3, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 3, Chinquapin Psv, 22 Dec (MF); 3, Carl.L., 18 Feb (DMK).

**North Flicker**

**MC:** 51, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 41, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 32, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 23, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 21, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 18, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 17, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 16, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 15, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 14, Goodenow (Will Co), 2 Jan (GAW); 13, Bureau Co, 25 Feb (DJS).

**Pileated Woodpecker**

**MC:** 16, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 11, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 10, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 10, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 8, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 8, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 8, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 5, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 5, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); 3, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (EAA, DGW). **Others:** Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 25 Dec (EWW); Carl.L., 14 Jan (DMK).

**Eastern Phoebe**

**MC:** 4, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 4, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 3, Little Black Slough SNA, (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW). **Others:** 2, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 2, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB, KJM, HDB); HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK). Reports confined to the south.

**SAY'S PHOEBE**

Crane L (Mason Co), 17-22 Dec (\*HDB photos); see the 12th IORC report in the preceding issue of Meadowlark. One (same bird as previous?), Panther Creek SF&WA (Cass Co), 3 Jan-12 Feb (CS fide EWW-photos, fide SDB).

**Loggerhead Shrike**

**MC:** 5, Pr.Rdg, 23 Dec (JWW, m.ob.); 2, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 9 Jan (KAM). **Others:** Carl.L., 14 Dec (VMK, HDB); Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); Clinton Co, 26 Feb (DMK). Reports confined to the south.



*Long-eared Owl in McHenry County. 16 January 2006. Photo by Eric Walters.*

### Northern Shrike

**MC:** 4, DuPage Co, 17 Dec (fide SDB); 3, Barrington (Cook Co), 19 Dec (fide SDB); 2 ad., Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co), 1 Jan, but one 1 Dec - 28 Feb (CSF, SS, fide SDB); 2 (ad. & unk), Greene Valley FP (DuPage Co), 7 Jan - 26 Feb, but one there 1 Dec - 28 Feb (m. ob. fide EES, SDB); 2 (ad. & unk), McKee Marsh (DuPage Co), 17 Dec, but ad. there thru 28 Feb (REF, KF, JMD, fide SDB). **Others:** Lost Mound NWR (Carroll Co), all winter, (DGW, fide SDB); ad., Aurora West FP (Kane Co), 1 Dec - 28 Feb (SCo, JJD, fide SDB); Springbrook Prairie FP (DuPage Co), 1 Dec - 26 Feb (fide EES, SDB); Volo Bog SNA (Lake Co), 1 Dec - 28 Jan (SI fide SDB, EWW); Will Co, 3 Dec (REF, KDF, EES); Bartel Grasslands (Cook Co), 10 Dec (CH, fide SDB); Kennekuk CP (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (MJE, fide SDB); Freeport (Stephenson Co), 17 Dec (fide SDB); Fermi Lab (DuPage Co), 17 Dec - 27 Feb (fide EES, SDB); Morton Arboretum (DuPage Co), 18 Dec (fide SDB); Glacial P (McHenry Co), 20 Dec - 30 Jan (fide SDB); Green R WA (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM); ad., Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 25 Dec (\*EWW); ad., North Unit IBSP, 29 Dec (CSF); ad., Matthiessen SP (LaSalle Co), 1-20 Jan (CKM, JDM, TW, fide SDB); ad., Victoria (Knox Co), 6 Jan (LAU, fide SDB); ad., Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), 13 Jan - thru period (MFI, SDB, m.ob., photos); Chain-O-Lakes SP (Lake Co), 21 Jan (MFI, fide SDB); Lee (Lee Co), 27 Jan (MFD); Wolf L, LCal, 4 Feb (CAT, TLK); Tinley Creek Woods FP (Cook Co), 20 Feb (TL, fide SDB); imm., Jim Edgar/Panther Creek SF&WA (Cass Co), 23 Feb (KBR, fide SDB); Tri-County SP (DuPage Co), 26 Feb (fide EES, SDB). Another above average invasion but most records from northern Illinois.

### Blue Jay

**MC:** 141, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 132, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 99, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 99, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 95, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 82, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 59, Goodenow (Will Co), 2 Jan (GAW); 43, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 41, Johnson & Pulaski Cos, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 32, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 32, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 32, Lyons Woods FP (Lake Co), 30 Dec (EWW); 31, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); 27, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB). Good numbers statewide.

### American Crow

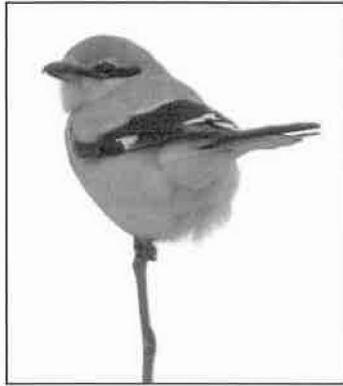
**MC:** 110,000 (winter roost), Danville (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (MJE, VB, SDB, m.ob.); 2,500 (roost), Rantoul (Champaign Co), all winter (SDB); 1,571, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 977, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 500 (roost), Champaign (Champaign Co), all winter (SDB, m.ob.); 300, Peoria (Peoria Co), 31 Jan (DJS); 168, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 160, HL, 29 Jan (KAM); 150, Johnson Co, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); 122, Chi, 15 Feb (GAW); 65, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM). Again reported in reduced numbers.

### FISH CROW

Mermet L, **24 Feb** (KAM).

### Horned Lark

**MC:** 658, Rockfd, 17 Dec (DTW); 305, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 304, De Kalb & Kane Cos, 24 Jan (DJS); 300, Carl.L., 8 Jan



*Northern Shrike at Rock Cut State Park, Rockford, Winnebago County. 25 December 2006. Photo by Eric Walters*

(DMK); 274, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 15 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 103, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 36, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); 28, Union Co, 30 Dec (SDB); 27, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 25, Macon Co, 21 Jan (TAM). Slightly less abundant this winter.

### TREE SWALLOW

HLCA, 29 Dec (fide SDB). Latest December recorded by 9 days.

### BARN SWALLOW

UCCA, **28 Dec** (1) (SDB), then **30 Dec** (2) (KJM, \*HDB); latest Illinois winter date excluding early spring migrants in Feb.

### Carolina Chickadee

**MC:** 95, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 84, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 64, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 56, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 46, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 45, Carl.L., 14 Dec (KAM, CPA); 40, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 35, Union Co, 30 Dec (SDB); 33, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.). Recorded in fairly typical numbers.

### Black-capped Chickadee

**MC:** 214, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 177, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 130, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 57, Kane Co, 17 Dec (EES); 54, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW); 30, Chiquapin Psv, 22 Dec (MF); 26, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 15, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 12, Sand Rdg, 2 Jan (KAM, CPA). Somewhat reduced numbers reported.

### Tufted Titmouse

**MC:** 83, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 81, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec, (SDB, m.ob.); 65, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 43, Ogle & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (EWW, KRW, JD); 33, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 31, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 31, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 30, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 26, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 16, Goodenow (Will Co), 2 Jan (GAW); 9, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 8, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK). Higher numbers overall.

### Red-breasted Nuthatch

**MC:** 23, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 8, Jasper Co, 23 Dec (CLH); 6, Carl.L., 11 Dec (DMK); 6, M.Arb., 18 Dec (RAM, ALM); 5, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 1-4, Urbana (U of I Forestry), 10 Jan - 24 Feb (SDB); 4, Sand Rdg, 2 Jan (KAM, CJL); 3, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, et al.); 3, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW). Widespread in small numbers.

### White-breasted Nuthatch

**MC:** 94, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM, m.ob.); 92, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 88, Ogle & Lee Cos, 24 Dec (EWW, KRW, JD); 73, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 44, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 36, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 34, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 31, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW); 30, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 17, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 17, Chiquapin Psv, 23 Dec (MF). Found in good numbers.



*Red-breasted Nuthatch at Plum Creek Forest Preserve, Cook County. 25 January 2006. Photo by Emil Martinec.*

### Brown Creeper

**MC:** 36, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 15, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (SBH, m.ob.); 15, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 13, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 12, Kankakee Co, 31 Dec (EES); 9, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 8, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 7, Kane Co, 17 Dec (EES); 6, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 3, Urbana (U of I Forestry), 10 Jan – 17 Feb (SDB). Widespread in fair numbers.

### Carolina Wren

**MC:** 42, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 40, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 37, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 35, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 24, Carl.L., 14 Dec (KAM, CPA); 21, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 19, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 18, Cyp Crk, 21 Dec (SDB, MW); 13, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 8, Aroma P (Kankakee Co), 31 Dec (UWG, EES); 7, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 5, Rock Island Co, 3 Jan (KJM, CB); 5, Urbana (U of I Forestry), 15 Feb (SDB). More numerous statewide.

### HOUSE WREN

3, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM).

### Winter Wren

**MC:** 13, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 11, UCCA, 31 Dec (SDB); 9, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 6, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 3, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (GAW); 2, Urbana, 18 Dec (EJC); 2, Copperas Creek (Fulton Co), 12 Feb (KAM). **Others:** (central & north): 2, JP, 4 Dec (PRC); 2, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (EAA, DGW, m.ob.); 2, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); 2, Urbana (U of I Forestry), 15 Feb, but 1 there 31 Jan & 7 Feb (SDB); Middlefork SF&WA (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (EJC); Geneseo (Henry Co), 15 Dec (SBH); IBSP, 22 Jan (EWW).

### SEDGE WREN

UCCA, 30 Dec (\*SDB).

### MARSH WREN

Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co), 17 Dec (\*BSc fide SDB); HLCA, 29 Dec (HDB).

### Golden-crowned Kinglet

**MC:** 47, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 34, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 29, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 29, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 17, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 14, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 10, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW); 8, Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co), 31 Dec (DTW); 5, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB). Fairly typical numbers, although scarcer than usual in central and northern Illinois.

### Ruby-crowned Kinglet

**MC:** 32, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 17, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 14, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 9, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW). **Others:** 6, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 4, Beall Woods SP (Wabash Co), 29 Dec (CLH); 3, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); Two Rivers NWR (Calhoun Co), 17 Dec (WCR); Potomac (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SDB); Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); HL, 1 & 15 Jan (FRH); Andalusia Slough (Rock Island Co), 3 Jan (\*KJM, CB); Carl.L., 27 Jan (CLH, RES); Red Hills SP (Lawrence Co), 28 Jan (CLH). Good numbers; largely confined to the south.

### Eastern Bluebird

**MC:** 93, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 81, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 79, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 52, Rock Island Co, 3 Jan (KJM, CB); 51, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 51, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 36, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 32, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 27, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 19, Bureau Co, 17 Dec (DJS, TW, AW); 17, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (GAW). **Others:** 76, HLCA, 29 Dec

(SDB, HDB); 59, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 36, Rend L., 17 Dec (KAM); 16, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 15 Dec (EAA, DGW, m.ob.); 12, Lake Co, 26 Dec (GAW); 10, Carl.L., 14 Jan (DMK); 9, Cook Co, 27 Dec (CSF); 8 (6 male, 2 female), Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 25 Dec (\*EWW); 7, Clin.L., 6 Feb (RD); 7, Macon Co, 25 Feb (TAM); 6, Edwards Co, 1 Jan (RES); 5, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 3, Geneseo (Henry Co), 15 Dec (SBH); 3, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC).

### Hermit Thrush

**MC:** 51, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 32, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 23, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 21, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 11, northern Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 10, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 5, Sand Rdg, 2 Jan (KAM, CJL); 4, Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co), 2 Dec (KAM); 4, Green Wing Lab, 27 Dec (SBH). **Others:** 29, Rend L., 17 Dec (DMK); 19, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 9, UCCA, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 8, Carl.L., 26 Feb (DMK); 5, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 5, Beall Woods SP (Wabash Co), 27 & 29 Dec (CLH); 3, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC); 3, Herrick L FP (Du Page Co), 4 Feb (UWG); 2, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 2, Middlefork SF&WA (Vermilion Co), 17 Jan (SDB); 2, Red Hills SP (Lawrence Co), 31 Jan (CLH); 2, Mattoon (Coles Co), 21 Feb (GC); 1 (singing), Hyde Park, Chi, 14 Dec (PRC); DePue L (Bureau Co), 17 Dec (DJS, TW, AW); Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); JP, 25 & 27 Dec (PRC); Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, SBH, DA); Urbana (U of I Forestry), 20 Jan (SDB); Wauk., 22 Jan (CSF). Considerably larger numbers this winter, particularly in the south.

### American Robin

**MC:** 8,000 (roost), Justice (Cook Co), 18 Dec (WJM, WSS); 1,500, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); 735, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 700, St. Clair Co, 30 Dec (KAM); 437, Lake Co, 28 Jan (EWW); 75, Macon Co, 15 Jan (TAM, SDB); 74, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.). **Others:** 523, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 237, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 152, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 139, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (GAW); 129, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 126, Rend L., 17 Dec (DMK); 120, Stickney Run FP (McHenry Co), 8 Jan (SDB, SLD); 79, Cyp Crk, 21 Dec (SDB, MW); 68, Silver Springs SP (Kendall Co), 29 Jan (GAW); 63, Sand Rdg, 18 Feb (RGB, SNB); 61, Lake Co, 4 Feb (SDB). Considerably more abundant this winter statewide.

### GRAY CATBIRD

Middlefork SF&WA (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (\*EJC, \*HP); Crab Orchard NWR, 17 Dec., (\*fide MB, SDB); Fermi, (3), 17 Dec. (\*fide JC); Timber Ridge FP (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (\*UWG); Baldwin L. (St. Clair Co), 17 Dec (\*fide TD, SDB); M. Arb., 18 Dec (\*fide GAW); Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co), 31 Dec (DT et al.); Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (\*fide JH); Jackson Co, 1 Jan. (\*fide RMR); Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (\*KJM). Amazing number of wintering/lingering birds statewide.

### Northern Mockingbird

**MC:** 13, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 8, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 4, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 3, Alexander Co, 30 Dec (SDB, HDB); 2, Chiquapin Psv, all winter (MF). **Others:** (central & north): Decatur, 17 Dec & 15 Jan (TAM); Lee Co, 24 Dec (KJM); Wilmington (Will Co), 1 Jan (CA); Clin. L., 9 Jan (RD).

### Brown Thrasher

**MC:** 9, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 5, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 3, Rend L., 17 Dec (DMK); 3, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR). **Others:** 2, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); Genoa (De Kalb Co), 1-7 Dec (KML); Chi, 1-9 Dec (KRW); Edwards Co, 5 Dec (RES); Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); Mattoon (Coles Co), 13 Feb (DM).

### European Starling

**MC:** **58,602**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 4,128, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 3,185, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 2,200, LCal, 31 Dec (WJM, JSA, MLB); 1,969, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 1,453, Kane Co, 17 Dec (EES); 800, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 745, Silver Springs SP (Kendall Co), 29 Jan (GAW); 531, Johnson & Pulaski Cos, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 495, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB); 229, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM).

### American Pipit

**MC:** 14, Carl.L., 14 Dec (JM, TH). **Others:** 2, Urbana, 8 Dec (GSL); Depue L (Bureau Co), 17 Dec (\*DJS, TW, AW); Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); IBSP, 3 Jan (EWW); Lawrence Co, 23 Feb (CLH).

### Cedar Waxwing

**MC:** 410, Palos (Cook Co), 18 Dec (WJM, WSS); 325 (1 flock), Urbana, 9 Feb (SDB); 300, Carl.L., 4 Dec (DMK); 300, East Fork L, 30 Dec (CLH); 220, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 27 Dec (DTW); 164, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 87, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others** (mid-season): 30, Macon Co, 15 Jan (TAM, SDB); 30, Fabyan FP (Kane Co), 16 Jan (DJS); 28, Grant Woods FP (Lake Co), 4 Feb (SDB); 8, M.Arb., 21 Jan (KAM). Considerably greater numbers this winter throughout the state.

### ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER

Urbana, **2 Dec** (RLJ); HL, **17 Jan** (JPZ, YH, SM).

### Yellow-rumped Warbler

**MC:** **75**, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); **57**, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); **51**, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); **51**, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 10, M.Arb., 22 Jan (UWG); 7, Rock Island Co, 3 Jan (KJM, CB); 4, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, SBH, DA). **Others:** 49, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 47, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 46, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 38, UCCA, 18 Jan (KAM); 4, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK); 3, Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 24 Dec (EWW); 2, Goodenow (Will Co), 2 Jan (GAW); 2, Lake Co, 28 Jan (EWW); 1-2, Urbana (U of I Forestry), many dates between 10 Jan-24 Feb (SDB); **Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM)**; Bureau Co, 17 Dec (DJS, TW, AW); **Silver Creek FP (McHenry Co), 13 Feb (SDB)**. More abundant, particularly in the south.

### PINE WARBLER

Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB); Carl.L., **22 Jan & 26 Feb** (DMK).

### SPOTTED TOWHEE

Hampshire FP (Kane Co), 2 Dec (KAM); Evanston (Cook Co), 26 Dec (\*fide TW, SDB); Copperas Creek (Fulton Co), 12 Feb (KAM).

### Eastern Towhee

**MC:** 25, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 15, Beall Woods SP (Wabash Co), 27 Dec (CLH). **Others:** 9, Perry Co, 25 Dec (KJM); 9, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 5, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 2, Carl.L., 14 Dec (TAM, JPM); male, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (\*KJM, SBH, DA); female, Chi, 10, 12 & 21 Jan (JSA, KRW); Homer L (Champaign Co), 18 Feb (EJC).

### American Tree Sparrow

**MC:** 985, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 787, Rock Island & Whiteside Cos, 20 Dec (KJM, RTS, m.ob.); 512, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 325, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 301, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 140, Volo Bog SNA (Lake Co), 13 Feb (SDB); 134, Wayne (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (GAW); 78, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 49, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH).

### Field Sparrow

**MC:** 44, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 40, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 18, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 12, Jasper Co, 31 Dec (CLH). **Others:** 10, Perry Co, 25 Dec (KJM); 8, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 4, Carl.L., 10 Dec (DMK); 3, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 2, Lawrence Co, 31 Jan (RES); Kennekuk CP (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (RLJ); QC, 18 Dec (KR); Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co), 25 Dec (EWW).

### VESPER SPARROW

Hamilton Twp (Lee Co), **24 Dec** (\*KJM); Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), **24 Dec** (KRW, JD).

### Savannah Sparrow

**MC:** 19, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 11, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 8, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); 5, Carl.L., 11 Dec (DMK); 5, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 3, Whalon L FP (Will Co), 18 Dec (\*REF, KDF); 2, Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL). **Others:** 4, Rend L, 17 Dec (DMK); 2, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 2, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); Rock Island Co, 20 Dec (\*KJM, RTS); Jasper Co, 23 Dec (CLH); Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); HL, 1 & 8 Jan (FRH); Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), 8 & 21 Jan & 3 Feb (AFS, EWW & SDB resp.); Macon Co, 25 Feb (TAM).

### Le Conte's Sparrow

3, Rend L, 9 Jan (KAM); 2, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB); UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB).

### Fox Sparrow

**MC:** 17, Oakwd Btms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 15, northern Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 13, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 11, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); 8, Union Co, 30 Dec (KJM, HDB); 6, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (GAW); 6, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 5, HLCA, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 4, Rockfd, 8-26 Dec (DTW); 4, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW). Widespread in small numbers.

### Song Sparrow

**MC:** 73, QC, 18 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 68, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 63, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 62, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 59, Perry Co, 25 Dec (KJM); 57, Union Co, 30 Dec (SDB); 51, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 49, Johnson & Pulaski Cos, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 44, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.); 42, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 25, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 19, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 7, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (GAW).

### Lincoln's Sparrow

West Du Page Woods FP (Du Page Co), **17 Dec** (\*REF, KDF); Grand Detour (Lee Co), **24 Dec** (EWW); Massac Co, **31 Dec** (KJM, \*RMR).

### Swamp Sparrow

**MC:** **150**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KAM, DMK); **120**, Pulaski & Johnson Cos, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 55, UCCA, 30 Dec (SDB); 53, HLCA, 30 Dec (SDB, HDB); 18, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); 14, Potomac (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SDB); 12, Port Louisa NWR (Mercer Co), 28 Dec (KJM, DA); 5, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 5, Green Wing Lab, 27 Dec (SBH); 2, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 2, Naperville (Will Co), 18 Dec (UWG).



*Fox Sparrow at Lincoln Park Zoo, Cook County. 27 December 2005. Photo by Emil Martinec.*

### White-throated Sparrow

**MC:** 475, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 239, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 160, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 151, Perry Co, 25 Dec (KJM); 70, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM, m.ob.); 64, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 50, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); 40, Rockfd, 17 Dec (DTW); 26, Wayne (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (GAW); 21, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB).

### Harris's Sparrow

male, HL, 6 & 12 Feb (KAM, FRH).

### White-crowned Sparrow

**MC:** 140, Urbana, 17 Dec (SDB, GSL); 43, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 40, Carl.L., 11 Dec (DMK); 32, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 15, Rock Island & Whiteside Cos, 20 Dec (KJM, RTS, m.ob.); 13, Edwards Co, 20 Feb (RES); 11, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 9, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 9, LCal, 31 Dec (WJM, JSA, MLB); 7, Grundy Co, 18 Dec (DJS, TW, AW); 5 (2 ad., 3 imm.), Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 24 Dec (EWW); 5, Bureau Co, 31 Jan (DJS).

### Dark-eyed Junco

**MC:** 911, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, m.ob.); 785, Rock Island & Whiteside Cos, 20 Dec (KJM, RTS, m.ob.); 665, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 359, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 280, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 200, Carl.L., 12 Feb (DMK); 189, Wayne (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (GAW); 165, Kankakee Co, 31 Dec (EES); 163, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 154, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 99, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 75, Macon Co, 21 Jan (TAM); 60, Cyp Crk, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 55, Sand Rdg, 2 Jan (KAM, CJL). "**Oregon**" Dark-eyed Junco: HLCA, 29 Dec (\*HDB).

### Lapland Longspur

**MC:** 1,500, Carl.L., 22 Jan (DMK); 1,300, Lawrence Co, 25 Jan (CLH); 1,000, Richland Co, 8 Dec (CLH); 210, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 133, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 123, Lee Co, 24 Dec (KJM, SBH); 118, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (KJM, RTS, MK). **Others:** 290, Clinton Co, 14 Dec (TAM, JPM); 100, Seward (Winnebago Co), 21 Jan (DTW); 90, Union Co, 30 Dec (SDB); 62, St. Anne (Kankakee Co), 2 Feb (EWW); 50, Pontiac (Livingston Co), 12 Feb (EWW); 35, De Kalb Co, 21 Jan (DJS); 23, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 22, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 14, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM); 12, McLean Co, 8 Jan (KAM); 6, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 5, Mazon (Grundy Co), 12 Feb (CA). More abundant overall, particularly in the south.

### Snow Bunting

**MC:** 45, Rock Island & Whiteside Cos, 20 Dec (RN, EAA, m.ob.); 41, La Salle Co, 22 Jan (DJS). **Others:** 20, Seward (Winnebago Co), 21 Jan (DTW); 11, Hunter (Boone Co), 25 Dec (EWW); 6, Geneseo (Henry Co), 15 Dec (SBH); 6, Lee Co, 24 Dec (KJM, SBH); 4, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM); 3, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 2, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 2, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, EJC); Carl.L., 14 Dec (TAM, JPM); Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC); De Kalb Co, 29 Jan (UWG).

### Northern Cardinal

**MC:** 260, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 247, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM, m.ob.); 221, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 207, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 180, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 118, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 91, Rend L., 17 Dec (DMK); 80, Wayne (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (GAW); 79, Kankakee Co, 31 Dec (EES); 75, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 72, Clin.L., 6 Feb (RD); 70, Carl.L., 20 Feb (DMK).

### INDIGO BUNTING

Carl.L., 11 Dec & 20 Feb (\*DMK); Jasper Co, 31 Dec & 11 Jan (CLH, \*RES).

### Red-winged Blackbird

**MC:** 200,000, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 135,450, Massac Co, 31 Dec

(KJM, RMR); 16,750, Rend L., 17 Dec (KAM); 2,075, La Salle Co, 1 Jan (DJS); 155, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC). **Others:** 8,000, Carl.L., 26 Feb (DMK); 4,851, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 98, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (TM, BLB); 60, Zion (Lake Co), 10 Jan (EWW); 40, Geneseo (Henry Co), 15 Dec (SBH); 6, Chau, 8 Jan (LLH); 5, Aroma P (Kankakee Co), 31 Dec (UWG). Outside major concentrations in the south, lower numbers reported. Almost no data from central Illinois.

### Eastern Meadowlark

**MC:** 326, Pr.Rdg, 23 Dec (JWW, m.ob.); 100, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 80, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 13, Whiteside Co, 20 Dec (RN, EAA); 8, Fulton Co, 15 Dec (LLH); 6, Potomac (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SDB); 3, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (EAA, DGW); 3, Clin.L., 9 Jan (RD). **Others:** 48, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 12 Dec (KAM); 33, Johnson & Pulaski Cos, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 30, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 23, Clinton Co, 14 Dec (TAM, JPM); 23, Union Co, 30 Dec (SDB); Geneseo (Henry Co), 15 Dec (SBH).

### Western Meadowlark

Rock Island Co, 20 Dec (\*KJM, RTS); Massac Co, 31 Dec (\*KJM); Richland Co, 24 Feb (CLH); Carl.L., 25 Feb (DMK).

### Rusty Blackbird

**MC:** 16,000, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM)—**unprecedented Illinois high count** (compare the previous high count of 6,750, HL, 18 Dec 1985); 2,000, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 1,550, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 500, Carl.L., 12 Feb (DMK); 62, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 25, Flagg Pond (Clay Co), 1 Jan (CLH). **Others** (central & north): 15, Macon Co, 25 Feb > (TAM); 11, Homer (Vermilion Co), 22 Dec (JOS fide SDB); Chau, 22 Dec (AFS).

### Brewer's Blackbird

10 (4 male, 6 female), Percy (Randolph Co), 25 Dec (\*KJM); 2 female, Raccoon Twp (Marion Co), 26 Dec (\*KJM, TH).

### Common Grackle

**MC:** 300,000, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 120,500, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 25,500, Rend L., 17 Dec (KAM); 10,000, Carl.L., 26 Feb (DMK); 3,870, Johnson & Pulaski Cos, 19 Dec (SDB, MW); 1,000, La Salle Co, 1 Jan (DJS); 46, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM); 14, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC). **Others** (central & north): 11, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (fide SDB); 5, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 16 Dec (LLH); 3, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (TM, BLB); 2, Green Wing Lab, 27 Dec (SBH). Major concentrations throughout the south.

### Brown-headed Cowbird

**MC:** 12,440, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 2,000, La Salle Co, 1 Jan (DJS); 1,100, Ark., 25 Dec (KJM); 633, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 340, Chebanse (Kankakee Co), 14 Jan (EWW). **Others:** 200, Urbana, all winter (SDB, m.ob.); 200, Carl.L., 3-4 Dec (DMK); 166, Rend L., 17 Dec (KAM); 65, Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co), 25 Dec (EWW); 50, Green Wing Lab, 27 Dec (SBH); 41, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (KJM, BLB); 38, Carroll Co, 15 Dec (EAA, DGW).

### Purple Finch

**MC:** 80, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (BLB, KJM); 35, Sand Rdg, 2 Jan (KAM, CJL); 33, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (m.ob. fide SDB); 26, Champaign Co, 17 Dec (EJC, m.ob.); 21, Green R WA (Lee Co), 24 Dec (KJM); 17, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 17, Cook Co, 8 Feb (CBT); 1-6, Urbana (U of I Forestry), 10 Jan - 24 Feb (SDB); 5, Carl.L., 11 Dec (DMK); 5, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJM, VL, SJ); 2, Edwards Co, 4 Dec (RES); 2, Little Black Slough SNA (Johnson Co), 19 Dec (SDB, MW). Somewhat greater numbers.

### House Finch

**MC:** 128, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 120, Macon Co, 15 Jan (SDB, TAM); 72, Kankakee Co, 31 Dec (EES); 66, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 56, Rock Island & Whiteside Cos, 20 Dec (KJM,

RTS, m.ob.); 51, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 50, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB); 38, De Kalb Co, 29 Jan (GAW); 29, Geneseo (Henry Co), 23 Dec (SBH); 24, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW). Less numerous overall.

#### Red Crossbill

7, Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co), 23 Dec (RGB, fide SDB); 5, Rockfd, 3 Dec (DTW); Fabyan FP (Kane Co), 17 Dec (\*EES).

#### Common Redpoll

3, Cass Co, 6 Jan (EES); Carl.L., 14 Dec (RMR).

#### Pine Siskin

MC: 32, Highland Park (Lake Co), 4 Dec (DRD); 13, M.Ar., 10 Dec (UWG). **Others:** 11, Joliet (Will Co), 12 Dec-28 Feb (CA); 6, Winthrop H, 7 Jan (EWW); 4, QC, 18 Dec (KR, m.ob.); 4, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co), 18 Dec (GAW); 4, Rockfd, 20 Feb (DTW); 3, Milan Bottoms (Rock Island Co), 4 Jan (BLB); 2, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 8 Dec (LLH); 2, Urbana, 11 Feb (EJC); Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co), 2 Dec (KAM); Geneseo (Henry Co), 5 Feb (SBH). Low numbers and almost entirely confined to north.

#### American Goldfinch

MC: 130, Vermilion Co, 14 Dec (SDB, m.ob.); 124, Alexander Co, 29 Dec (SDB, HDB); 121, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 101, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 26 Dec (GAW); 80, Rend L., 17 Dec (DMK); 77, QC, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 66, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 62, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 21 Dec (SDB);

61, Rockfd, 8 Dec (DTW); 43, Marion Co, 26 Dec (KJM, TH); 40, Union Co, 30 Dec (SDB); 31, Carl.L., 14 Dec (DMK); 28, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM, RMR); 18, Macon Co, 17 Dec (TAM).

#### House Sparrow

MC: 1,086, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 978, Lee & Whiteside Cos, 24 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 800, Carl.L., 14 Dec (DMK); 585, QC, 18 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 438, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (TM, m.ob.); 168, LCal, 31 Dec (WJM, JSA, MLB).

#### Eurasian Tree Sparrow

MC: 232, Mercer Co, 28 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 146, McDonough Co, 17 Dec (LLH); 45, Rock Island Co, 4 Jan (TM, m.ob.); 10, Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co), 12-16 Dec (CMV); 20, Spring L (Tazewell Co), 8 Jan (KAM); 2, HL, 29 Jan (KAM); La Moille (Bureau Co), 3 Feb (MAM); McLean Co, 11 Feb (EJC).

#### EXOTIC / RELEASED SPECIES

##### African Collared-Dove ("Ringed Turtle-Dove")

Bolingbrook (Will Co), 18 Dec (UWG). **Note:** The name "Ringed Turtle-Dove," applied to a domestic variant of the African Collared-Dove, is now treated as an invalid species name by the American Ornithologists' Union.

— Kelly J. McKay  
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