

Gammon, D.E. 2004. Black-capped Chickadee Dawn Chorus and Subsequent Sexual Activity. *Wilson Bulletin*. 116:252-256.

Male Black-capped Chickadees (*Poecile atricapillus*) sing for several minutes prior to dawn during the breeding season. In northeastern Colorado, dawn singing was associated with male-female interactions rather than male-male interactions; males did not approach one another during the chorus. Males sang until female arrival, at which point they attempted copulation. During copulation attempts, males always uttered strings of *variable sees* and nearly always attached *gargles* to these strings. All *gargles* terminated in an acoustically similar, low-pitched, buzzy syllable.