

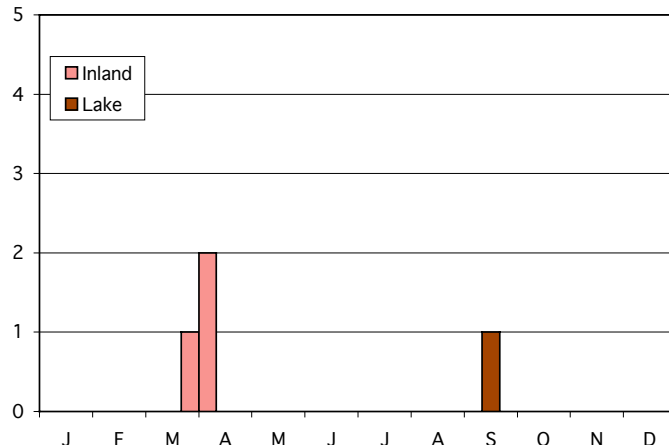
## Gyrfalcon

## *Falco rusticolus*

### Historical Information

First Published record: Indiana's first report of this Arctic raptor occurred at Miller Beach when K.J. Brock observed a dark morph 16 September 1986 (Peterjohn 1987).

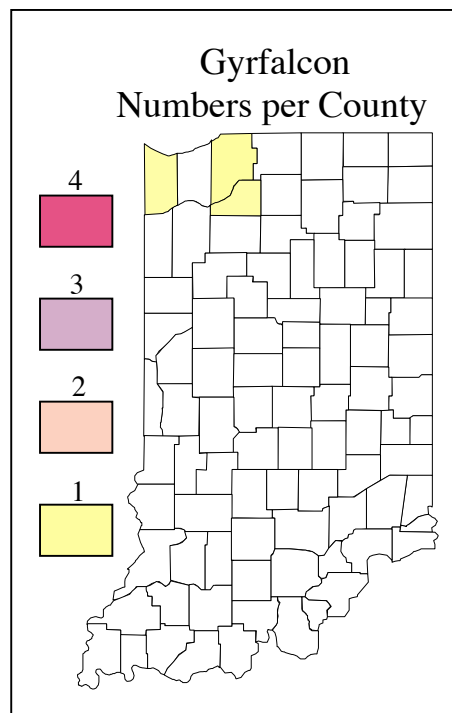
Based on a Michigan record Butler (1898) added the Gyrfalcon to the Indiana hypothetical list.



### Status

Physical Evidence: There are no known specimens but J.J. McCoy's photograph of the 2003 bird was published in *North American Birds* (57:348).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
No known specimens				0
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	10	n	n
Central Tier	n	n	n	n
Southern Tier	n	n	n	n
Entire State	n	10	n	n



### Current Status

With only one record in the past twenty years the Gyrfalcon is Accidental (10).

### Occurrence

Indiana has two accepted Gyrfalcon records. The first was a sight record of a dark morph adult at Miller Beach 16 September 1986; only K.J. Brock saw this bird. B.J. Grube discovered the second, a juvenile gray morph, at Kankakee FWA, Starke County on 22 March 2003. Gorney (2004) noted that this individual was also seen in adjacent LaPorte County. Several observers reported this bird regularly through 25 March; it then disappeared only to reappear one last time on 5 April. Excellent photographs were obtained rendering this Indiana's first verified record (see photo below). The Indiana Bird Records Committee has rejected several other reports.

Gyr Falcon Records				
All Accepted Records				
No.	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1	16-Sep-1986	Miller Beach	K.J. Brock	KJB
1	22-Mar to 5-Apr-2003	Kankakee FWA	B.J. Grube	INB



### References Cited

Butler, A. W. (1898) The Birds of Indiana, Indiana Department of Geology and Natural Resources Annual Report, 22:575-1187.

Gorney, D. (2004) Report of the Indiana Bird Records Committee-2003, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 82:2-18.

Peterjohn, B.G. (1987) Field Notes Autumn 1986, *American Birds* 41:93-99.