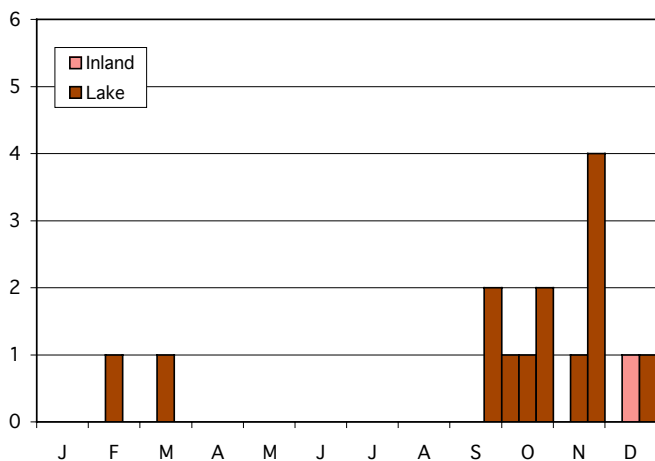


## Black-backed Woodpecker *Picoides arcticus*

### Historical Information

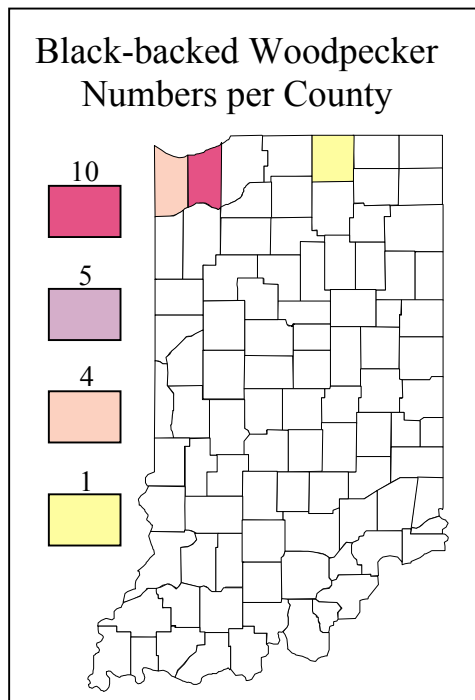
**First Published Record:** On an 11 March 1917 hike from Dune Park (near Ogden Dunes) to Millers (Miller Beach), H.L. Stoddard collected Indiana's first "arctic three-toed woodpecker" (Stoddard notes). Stoddard provided the following details: "The arctic 3-toed was feeding on small dead pines 1/4 mile back from the lake shore. He appeared very tame and also impressed one as being clumsy and sluggish on the trunk—somewhat as a sapsucker with hair 'soused' on fermenting sap. The stomach contained nearly complete skins with heads of 11 sawyers and head only of 12 more. These larvae were identified by Mr. Walcott as *Monohammus titillatory carolinensis* (Oliv.) and the pine was the northern scrub pine."



This species was included on Butler's (1898) hypothetical list. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it casual in the north and noted the absence of reports south of the northern tier. Mumford and Keller (1984) considered it accidental.

### Status

**Physical Evidence:** At least three skins are in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list). According to Richards (1987) a 21 November 1920 specimen, formerly in the Indiana State Museum, is missing.



**Current Status**  
Accidental (10).

### Occurrence

This northern woodpecker has been reported in only three counties and has not been reported in the state since 1982. Eifrig (1921), who reported the three Black-backed Woodpeckers at Millers on 26 November 1920, noted that about 15 birds were reported in the Chicago area that year, with many arriving in October.

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Field Museum				3
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	n	n	n
Central Tier	n	n	n	n
Southern Tier	n	n	n	n
Entire State	n	n	n	n

Black-backed Woodpecker Records					
All Records					
No.	Date	Location	Observer	Notes	Ref.
1	11-Mar-1917	West Beach	H.L. Stoddard	Male specimen	REM
1	03-Oct-1920	Ogden Dunes	H.L. Stoddard	Male specimen	REM
1	24-Oct-1920	Ogden Dunes	H.L. Stoddard	Male specimen	HLS
1	21-Nov-1920	Cowles Bog	H.L. Stoddard	Male specimen	R87
3	26-Nov-1920	Miller Beach	C.W.G. Eifrig	No data	REM
1	24-Oct-1924	Indiana Dunes	Mrs. Cramp	No data	REM
1	28-Dec-1924	Miller Beach	Mr. Jung	No data	REM
1	20-Feb-1927	Indiana Dunes	Mrs. Richardson	No data	REM
1	16-Oct-1927	Indiana Dunes	Mr. Grant	specimen	NAB
2	28-Sep-1949	N. Porter Co	Mrs. Scofield	specimen	DBo
1	14-Dec-1963	Elkhart Co	Mr. & Mrs. Frank King	Female at feeder	SWW
1	13-Nov-1982	N. Porter Co	Clyde Fields	In yard	KJB

### References Cited

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

Eifrig, C.W.G. (1921) Unusual Winter Occurrences at Chicago, *Auk* 38:609.

Keller, C.E., S.A. Keller, and T.C. Keller (1979) *Indiana Birds and Their Haunts*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 214 pp.

Mumford, R.E. and C.E. Keller (1984) *The Birds of Indiana*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 376 pp.

Richards, R.L. (1987) The Vertebrate Collection of the Indiana State Museum: "Old" Specimens and Records, *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* 97:547-570.

Stoddard notes, A listing of observations transcribed directly from H.L. Stoddard's original field notes by Dr. R.E. Mumford about 1951.