

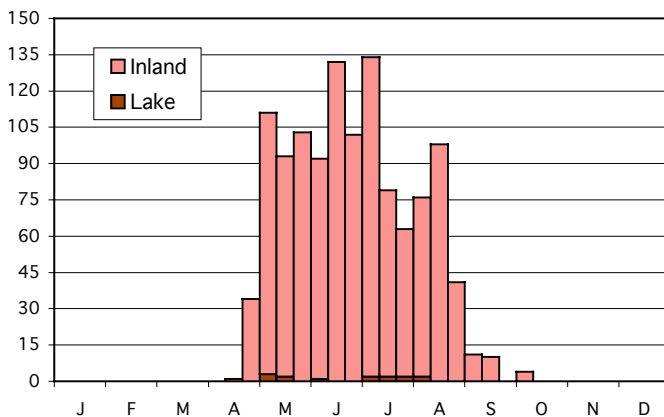
Blue Grosbeak

Passerina caerulea

Historical Information

First Published Record: Robert Ridgway reported Indiana's first Blue Grosbeak in Knox County during spring 1881 (Butler 1898). The first fully dated record came from Morgan County where a male was observed 3 June 1930 (Mumford files).

Butler (1898) reported only Ridgway's Knox County record. Keller et al. (1979) considered it very rare in the south and casual in the northern two-thirds of the state. Mumford and Keller (1984) deemed it a rare and local summer resident.



Status

Physical Evidence: There are no known specimens from Indiana (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
No known specimens				0
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	7	7	8
Central Tier	n	6	6	6
Southern Tier	n	5	5	6
Entire State	n	5	5	6

Current Status

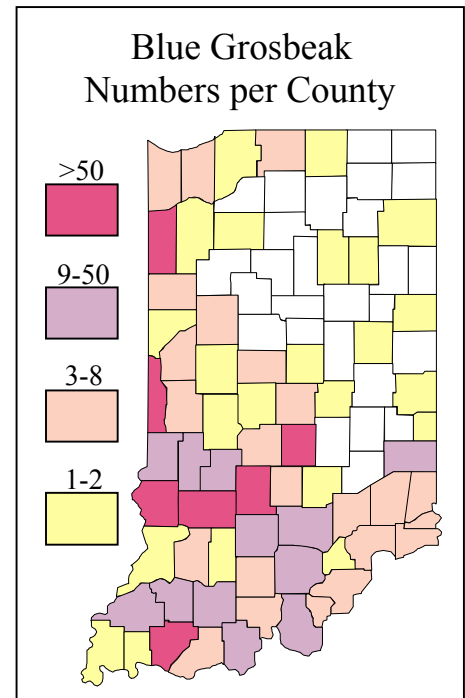
The Blue Grosbeak is a Fairly Common (5) summer resident in southwestern Indiana.

Occurrence

As shown on the distribution map the Blue Grosbeak is primarily a bird of southern and western Indiana; however, it has been reported in some 65 counties.

Northward Expansion

The Blue Grosbeak is an invading species, which is expanding northward. In the early 1970s the state had reports from only eight counties (Mumford and Keller 1975); however, records increased rapidly after the mid-1970s. On 30 April 1975 Keller (1975) discovered a singing male in Owen County and Keller (1976) reported a pair in Gibson County. In summer 1979 (30 June) G.W. Pyle discovered a singing male at the Prairie Chicken Refuge in Newton County and a pair was observed at that site on 7 July 1979 (Buck 1980). In the early 1980s Blue Grosbeaks became ensconced in Sullivan County when M.R. Brown reported



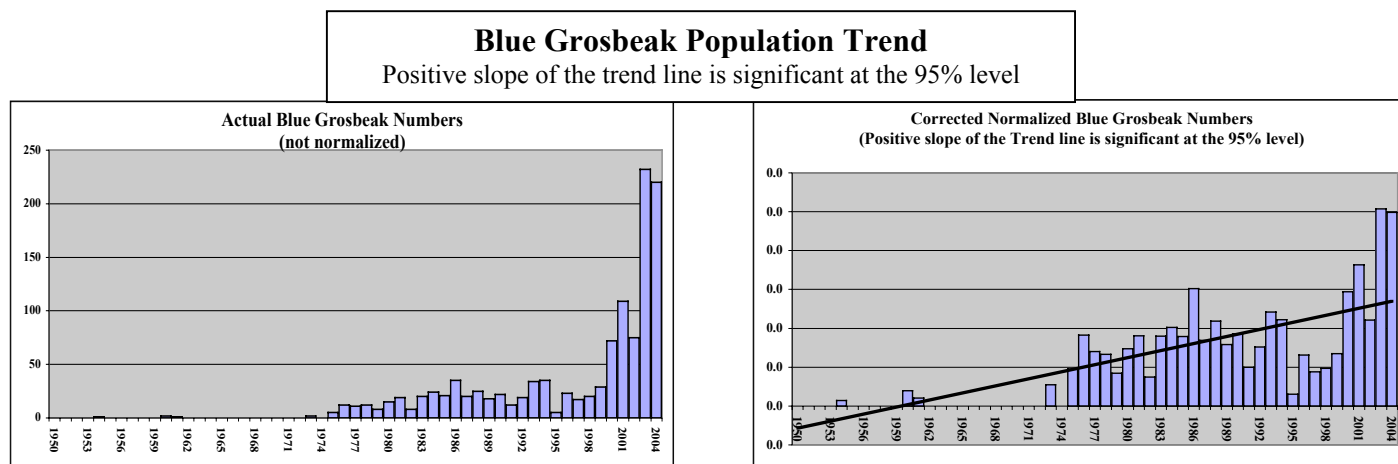
five near Merom 5-20 August 1984 (Brock 1985). A.W. Bruner discovered five at the Universal Mine, Vermillion County in fall 1993 (Brown 1994), marking the first report for this future stronghold. On 3 July 2004 Michael Topp discovered a territorial pair in the wooded dunes just south of Miller Beach, Lake County (Hedge, 2005).

Excluded Record

Without providing reference or year Mumford and Keller (1984) listed an early date of 14 April.

Population Trend

As expected for an invading species the positive slope of the trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



Breeding

Indiana's first confirmed nesting occurred in Pike County during the summer of 1976 (Mills and Smith 1976). Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 13 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks. These reports were primarily in the southern third of Indiana. Nests, eggs, or young in the nest have been reported from 11 June through 10 July; fledglings and family groups have been reported through 19 August.

Blue Grosbeak Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Entire Year				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
29	03-Aug-2003	Southwest Ind *	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB
27	15-Aug-2001	Southwest Ind	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB
25	20-Jul-2003	Southwest Ind	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB
25	04-Jul-2004	Southwest Ind	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB
17	29-Aug-2004	Southwest Ind	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB
16	11-Jun-1994	Minnehaha FWA	B.K. Jackson	IAQ
*Universal Mine (14), Hawthorn Mine (10), and Greene Co (5)				

Migration Envelopes						
Summer						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	26-Apr-2004	6-May	Sum. Res.	17-Aug	18-Sep-2003	81
Central	23-Apr-2000	7-May	Sum. Res.	4-Sep	11-Sep-1999	91
South	20-Apr-1999	1-May	Sum. Res.	2-Sep	9-Oct-2000	260

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