

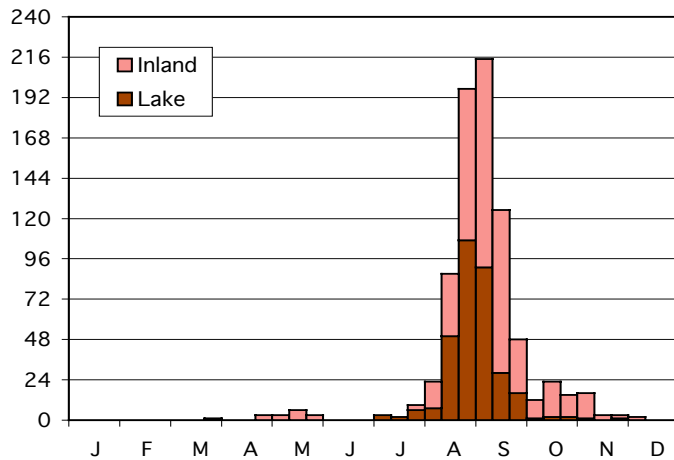
## Baird's Sandpiper

## *Calidris bairdii*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: According to Butler (1898) W.O. Wallace collected a specimen at Wabash 26 August 1893; this is apparently Indiana's first published report.

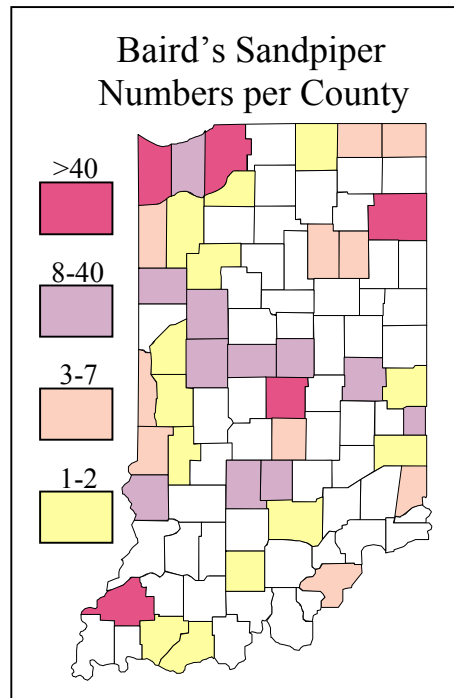
Based on two records, Butler (1898) considered the Baird's Sandpiper a rare migrant. Sixty years later Keller (1958) described it as very rare in spring and rare in fall. Keller et al. (1979) modified the status to casual in spring and rare to very rare in fall. Mumford and Keller (1984) deemed it casual in spring and uncommon (locally) to rare in fall.



### Status

Physical Evidence: At least nine specimens are housed in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Field Museum				4
National Museum of Natural History				2
Milwaukee Public Museum				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				1
Univ. of Michigan Museum				1
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	10	8	6
Central Tier	n	n	10	7
Southern Tier	10	9	10	6
Entire State	10	9	8	6



### Current Status

Baird's Sandpipers are Occasional (9) spring migrants, and Uncommon (6) in fall.

### Occurrence

This trim sandpiper is interesting for two reasons. First, it is rarely observed in spring, and second, fall observations almost exclusively involve juveniles. The Baird's Sandpiper has been recorded in at least 39 counties, with the highest numbers occurring in Lake County where more than 250 have been reported. Though not adverse to joining other sandpipers on the mudflats, this shorebird often frequents dryer habitats, such as turf farms and sandy beaches.

### Extreme Records

J.K. Cassady photographed the extremely early 29 March 2003 record at Kankakee FWA (Brock 2003). This report precedes the next earliest date by twenty-three days. The only winter reports consist of two juveniles documented by David Dister at Brookville Reservoir 6 December 2003 (Brock 2004), one identified by W.H. Buskirk at the same location on 12 December 2004 (IN-BIRD), and a singleton reported by Jeri Dadok and others at Lake Monroe's Fairfax on 16 and 17 December 2005 (Notes sent to *North American Birds*).

### **Baird's Sandpiper Data**

<b>Maximum Single Party Counts</b>				
<b>Spring</b>				
<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Observer</b>	<b>Ref.</b>
3	25-May-1961	Geist Reservoir	C.E. Keller	REM
2	21-Apr-2004	Orange Co	Larry Peavler	INB
1	16-May-1959	Marion Co	C.E. Keller	REM
<b>Fall</b>				
<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Observer</b>	<b>Ref.</b>
20	02-Sep-1951	Wolf Lake	L.C. Binford	REM
17	23-Aug-1995	USX breakwall	K.J. Brock	KJB
16	05-Sep-1998	Big Pine wetland	J.B. Dunning	NNB

<b>Migration Envelopes</b>						
<b>Spring</b>						
	<b>Earliest</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Peak</b>	<b>Depart</b>	<b>Latest</b>	<b>Records</b>
<b>North</b>	29-Mar-2003	---	---	---	11-May-1977	4
<b>Central</b>	6-May-1976	---	15-May	---	4-Jun-1951	11
<b>South</b>	21-Apr-2004	---	---	---	14-May-1981	3
<b>Fall</b>						
	<b>Earliest</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Peak</b>	<b>Depart</b>	<b>Latest</b>	<b>Records</b>
<b>North</b>	4-Jul-2002	15-Aug	1-Sep	21-Sep	22-Nov-2003	225
<b>Central</b>	22-Jul-1980	16-Aug	9-Sep	5-Oct	12-Dec-2004	103
<b>South</b>	31-Jul-1994	18-Aug	11-Sep	2-Nov	17-Dec-2005	83
<b>By Age: Fall flight</b>						
<b>Adult</b>	24-Jul-1999	---	10-Aug	---	11-Sep-1990	16
<b>Juv.</b>	5-Aug-2005	15-Aug	25-Aug	20-Sep	30-Oct-2000	89

### **References Cited**

Brock, K.J. (2003) Illinois and Indiana Region, Spring Migration 2003, *N. Am. Birds* 57:346-349.

Brock, K.J. (2004) Illinois and Indiana Region, Fall Migration 2003, *N. Am. Birds* 58:74-77.

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

IN-BIRD, a Listserve dealing with Indiana birds developed and maintained by P.W. Kelly. The records are archived at: <http://listserv.indiana.edu/archives/in-bird-1.html>

Keller, C.E. (1958) The Shorebird families: Charadriidae, Scolopacidae, Recurvirostridae, and Phalaropidae of Indiana. Part 4. *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 36:2-39.

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.