

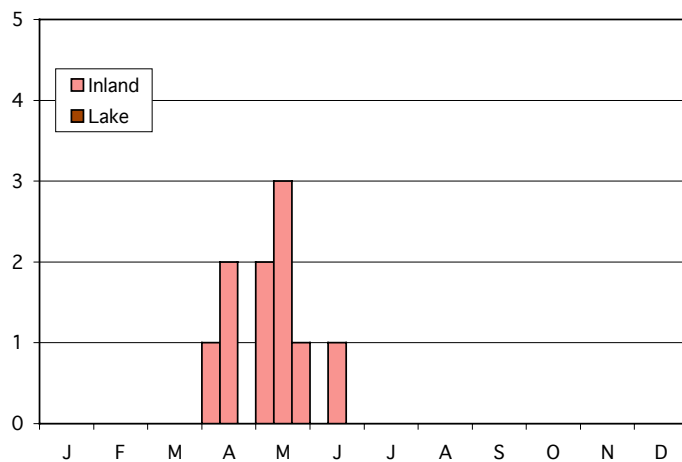
Glossy Ibis

Plegadis falcinellus

Historical Information

First Published Record: The earliest Indiana report of this species occurred 20 May 1962 at the Indianapolis Sewage Disposal Plant, where an adult was discovered by R.F Buskirk and W.H. Buskirk (Keller 1966).

Based on occurrences in adjacent states, Butler (1898) listed this species as accidental. Citing the Indianapolis Sewage Disposal Plant report, Keller (1966) considered it an accidental visitant. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it casual; however, Mumford and Keller (1984) believed that it was accidental.



Status

Physical Evidence: One specimen is preserved in the National Museum of Natural History (S.F. Jackson unpublished list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
National Museum of Natural History				1
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	9	n	n
Central Tier	n	10	n	n
Southern Tier	n	10	10	n
Entire State	n	9	10	n

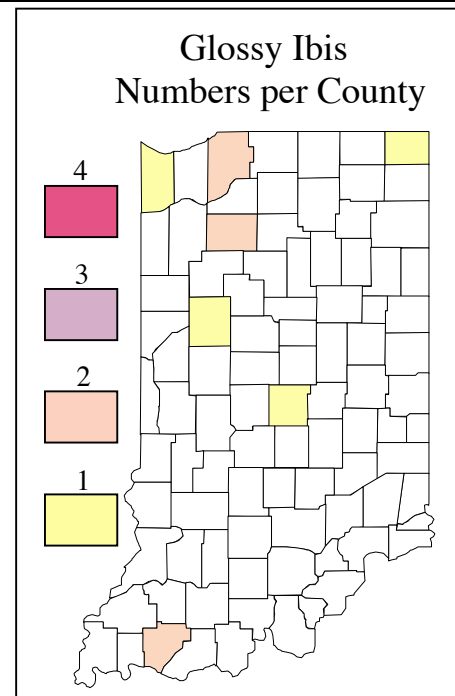
Current Status

The Glossy Ibis remains Occasional (9) to Accidental (10) in Indiana.

Occurrence

All records fall between early April and mid-June. This no doubt reflects the fact that under most field conditions only alternate-plumed adults can be safely separated from the White-faced Ibis.

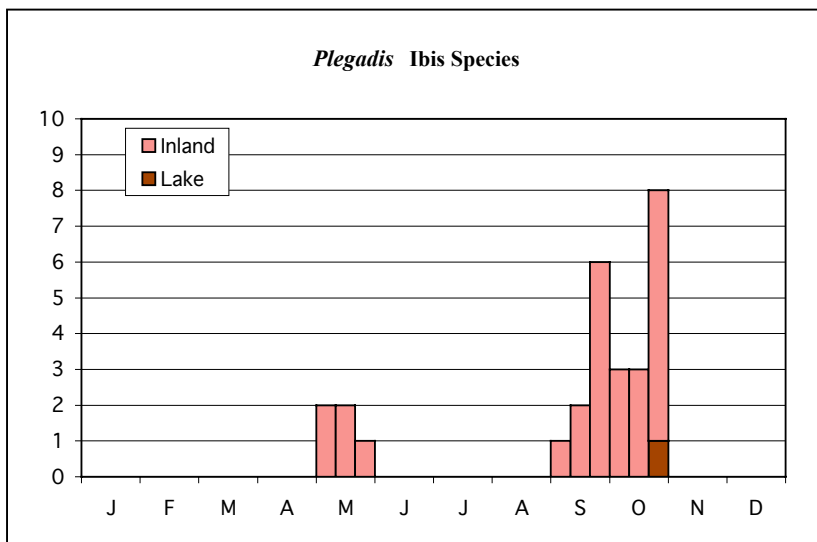
Five of the state's eight records occurred in May and early June 2001 when a major incursion occurred in the state. The Indiana Bird Records Committee has evaluated only two of the seven Glossy Ibis reports included in this summary; the committee has rejected additional records. Most of the rejected birds were accepted as *Plegadis ibis* species. A migration histogram of unidentified *Plegadis* ibis is shown below; it reveals that most records occur in mid-September to mid-October period. The latest of these involved an immature discovered by Denny Jones at Turtle Creek Reservoir 31 October 1982 (Brock 1983).



Specimen

R.E. Mumford (Mumford files) described the Pulaski County occurrence, which provided the state's only specimen, as follows (paraphrased): On 17 April 1968, Larry Lehman discovered two in a pasture one mile east and one mile north of Francesville. They were feeding in a shallow muddy pond. The birds were seen that evening and the morning of 18 April. About 11AM on the 18th, Lehman, R. Hyer, W. Rowe, D. Shroufe, and R.E. Mumford saw the birds and collected one; it proved to be a female. Both birds were adult Glossy Ibis. The collected bird had a bluish white line about the face, dark tan legs with perhaps a slight greenish cast. R.C. Laybourne, of the U.S. National Museum of Natural History, confirmed identification of the specimen.

Glossy Ibis Records				
All Records				
No.	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1	20-May-1962	Marion Co	R.F. & W.H. Buskirk	IAQ
2*	17-Apr-1968	Pulaski Co	Larry Lehman	REM
1	2-May-2001	Grand Kankakee M.	B.J. Grube	INB
1	4-May-2001	Tippecanoe Co.	E.M. Hopkins	INB
2	20-May-2001	Kingsbury FWA	S.A. Pancol	INB
1**	23-May-2001	Warrick Co.	Midge Lechner	IBRC
1	11-Jun-2001	Ayrshire Mine	S.A. Pancol	INB
1	5 to 10-Apr-2005	Fawn R. Fish Hatch.	Dave Clary	INB
*One of these birds was collected and currently represents the state's only specimen.				
**A photo of this bird was accepted as verification by the Indiana Bird Records Committee.				



References Cited

Brock, K.J. (1983) Field Notes; Fall Migration, 1982, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 61:113-131.

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

Keller, C.E. (1966) Status of the Ciconiiformes in Indiana. *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 44:56-86.

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

Mumford files: An extensive accumulation of Indiana bird data on 5x7 file cards compiled by Professor R.E. Mumford of Purdue University, West Lafayette.

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

Last updated: 13 April 2005