

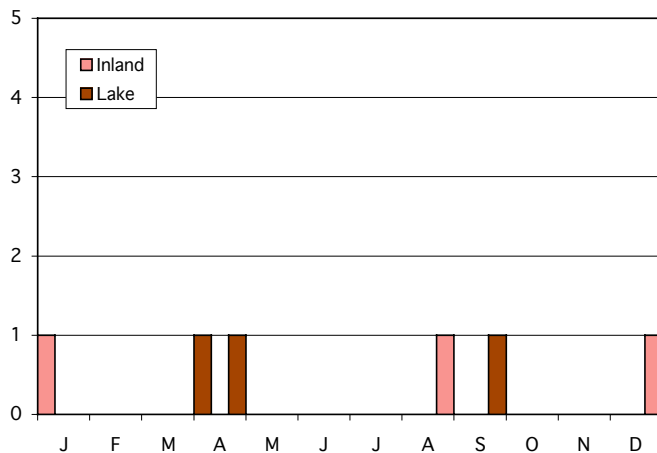
Say's Phoebe

Sayornis saya

Historical Information

First Published Record: F.A. Pitelka discovered Indiana's first Say's Phoebe in Dunes State Park 4 April 1937 (Pitelka 1938).

Noting records in Illinois and Wisconsin Butler (1898) added this western species to the Indiana hypothetical list. Keller et al. (1979) also considered it hypothetical. Mumford and Keller (1984) listed it as an uncorroborated accidental visitor.



Status

Physical Evidence: No known specimens exist; however, identifiable photographs of the 1997-98 and 2003 birds are in the Indiana Bird Records Committee files.

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

Current Status

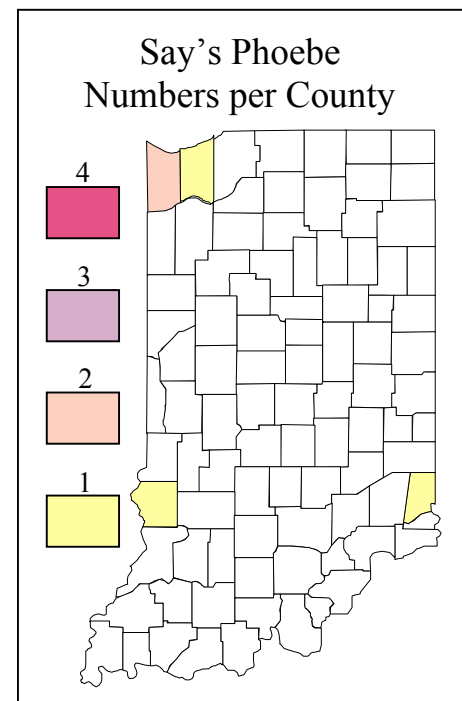
Four records have occurred in the past 20 years, rendering the Say's Phoebe Occasional (9) statewide; however, it remains Accidental (10) for any given season and location.

Occurrence

Indiana currently has five Say's Phoebe records; it was recorded annually from 2003 to 2005. Regarding the state's first sighting in 1937, that bird was discovered during a Chicago Ornithological Society field trip. In addition to Pitelka other members of the society also observed the bird from as little as 15 feet, noting the cinnamon-buff underparts (Pitelka 1938).

The Dearborn County bird appeared in the Deaton's backyard at Moores Hill on 27 December 1997 and again 2 January 1998. It was heard, seen, and photographed by 15-year old Nathan Deaton and his father (Jackson 1999).

Indiana's third and fourth records appeared on the lakefront. The first of these involved a migrating bird that quickly moved past lakewatchers at Miller Beach (Marquette Park





Say's Phoebe at the Hammond Lakefront Sanctuary parking lot on 30 April 2004. Photo by J.J. McCoy.

picnic shelter) on 29 September 2003, where it was identified by K.J. Brock, Nila Grube, and P.B. Grube (Brock 2004). The second was observed by J.J. McCoy and Michael Topp as it perched on the parking lot chain-link fence at the Hammond Lakefront Sanctuary 30 April 2004 (IN-BIRD).

Indiana's fifth Say's Phoebe was discovered and photographed by L.W. Sterrenburg and Terry Taylor at the Hawthorn Mine, Sullivan County on 27 August 2005 (IN-BIRD).

Say's Phoebe Records				
All Records				
No	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1	4-Apr-1937	Dunes SP	F.A. Pitelka	M&K
1	27-Dec-1997 & 2-Jan-1998	Dearborn Co	Nathan Deaton	IAQ
1	29-Sep-2003	Miller Beach	K.J. Brock	NAB
1	23-Apr-2004	Hammond	J.J. McCoy	NAB
1	27-Aug-2005	Hawthorn Mine	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB

References Cited

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-l.html>

Jackson, S.F. (1999) Field Notes Winter 1997-98, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 77:101-125.

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.

Pitelka, F.A. (1938) Say's Phoebe in northern Indiana, *Auk* 55:280-281.