

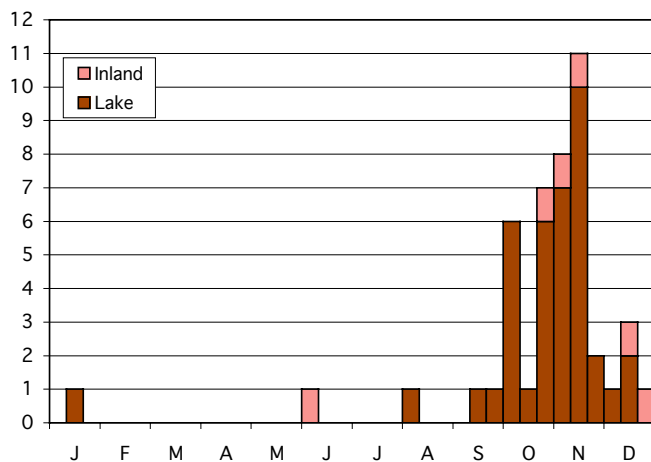
Pomarine Jaeger

Stercorarius pomarinus

Historical Information

First Published Record: Brayton (1879), in the company of E.W. Nelson, saw a Pomarine flying along the lakeshore on 9 October 1876 near the Illinois state line. However, Ford et al. (1934) refer to this record as having occurred in Chicago. Accordingly, the Geist Reservoir adult Pomarine, seen by Val Nolan Jr., H.F. Wright, C.E. Keller et al. on 1 June 1946, constitutes Indiana's earliest unequivocal record (Mumford and Keller 1984).

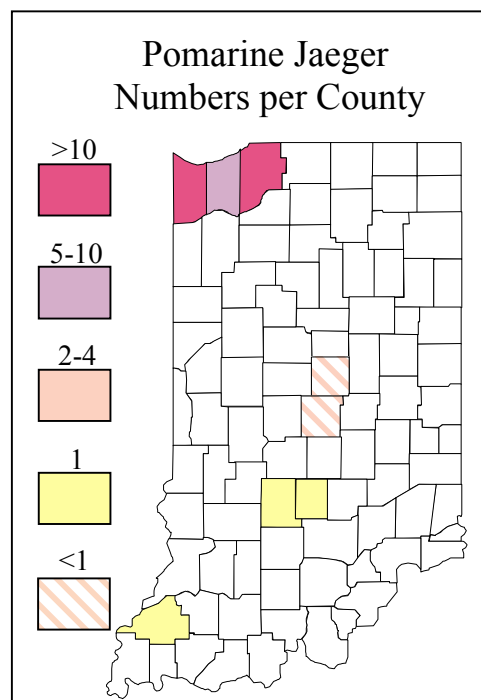
Based on the above 1876 record, Brayton (1879) deemed the Pomarine Jaeger "a rare winter visitor to Lake Michigan." Butler (1898) simply cited the above report. Ford et al. (1934) referred to it as a rare migrant in the Chicago region. Keller et al. (1979) considered this large jaeger a casual fall migrant in the north and cited the Geist Reservoir bird, which apparently entered the airspace of both Hamilton and Marion Counties. Mumford and Keller's (1984) comments are included in the Historical summary.



Status

Physical Evidence: There are no known Pomarine Jaeger specimens, but several photos have been published in the *Indiana Audubon Quarterly* (Brock et al. 1993).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
No known specimens				0
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	9	n	n	7
Central Tier	n	n	n	n
Southern Tier	10	n	n	9
Entire State	9	n	n	7



Current Status

The Pomarine Jaeger is Rare

(7) on Lake Michigan in fall and Occasional (9) or Accidental (10) at other times and locations.

Occurrence

This large jaeger is encountered most frequently on Lake Michigan, where it has been recorded in ten of the last twenty years. Pomarines are generally the latest migrant and any jaeger observed in winter is likely this species. There is also evidence that juveniles rarely appear in the state prior to the third week of September (J.L. Dunn pers. comm.).



Juvenile Pomarine Jaeger at Miller Beach 10 November 1987. Photo by K.J. Brock.

Extreme Dates

The anomalous summer record shown on the migration histogram involved the Geist Reservoir adult seen 1 June 1946 (see Historical section for details). An extremely early 8 August 1981 light-morph adult was observed by E.M. Hopkins and P.B. Grube at Michigan City Harbor (Brock 1982).

Inland Records

Interestingly, Bailey (2001) points out that in Illinois the ratio of Pomarine Jaegers to Parasitic differs significantly between downstate sites and Lake

Michigan; Pomarine Jaegers comprised almost 55 percent of inland birds identified, whereas, that species constitutes less than six percent of the jaegers identified on Lake Michigan. A similar pattern also applies to Indiana where 40 percent of the inland jaegers have been Pomarines. See Brock et al. (1993) for the detailed discussion of one inland Pomarine Jaeger.

Pomarine Jaeger Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Entire Year				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
5	09-Oct-1965	Mich. City Harbor	J.E. Landing	JEL
3	11-Nov-1996	Miller Beach	J.J. McCoy	KJB
3	14-Nov-1999	Miller Beach	J.J. McCoy	KJB
3	14-Nov-1999	Beverly Shores	K.J. Brock	KJB
2	23-Oct-1999	Miller Beach	K.J. Brock	KJB

Migration Envelopes						
Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Fall	8-Aug-1981	9-Oct	6-Nov	10-Dec	19-Jan-1998	31

References Cited

Bailey, S.D. 2001. The history and status of jaeger migration in Illinois. *Meadowlark* 10(4): 124-130.

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Brock, K.J. (1982) Field Notes; Fall Migration 1981, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 60:129-136.

Brock, K.J., J. H. Campbell, and S.F. Jackson (1993) Reexamination of the Gibson County CBC Jaeger, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 71:142-148.

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

Ford, E.R., C.C. Sanborn, and C.B. Coursen (1934). *Birds of the Chicago Region*, The Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, 80pp.

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.