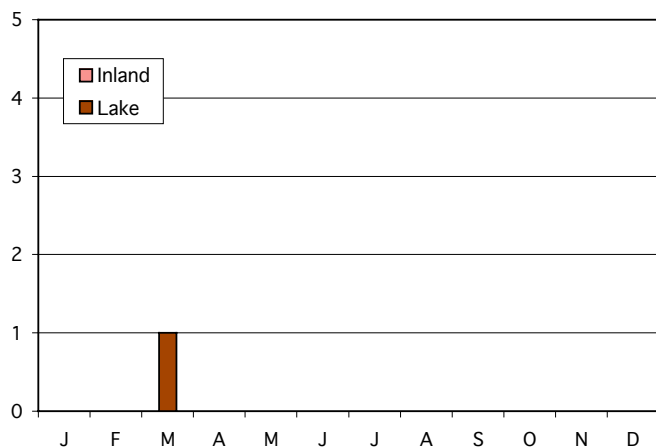


## Slaty-backed Gull

## *Larus schistisagus*

### Historical Information

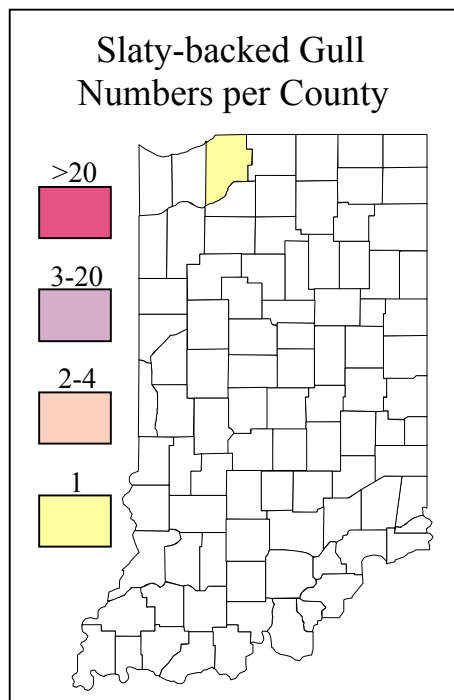
First Published Record: Indiana has only a single sight record of this Asian gull; an adult was detected within a large gull flock at Michigan City Harbor 13 March 1993 (Brock 1994).



### Status

Physical Evidence: No specimens or photographs exist for Indiana.

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



### Current Status

The state's single record relegates the Slaty-backed Gull to the Accidental (10) category.

### Occurrence

The Michigan City Harbor record involved an adult bird within a flock of some 3000 gulls that rested on floating ice north of the NIPSCO power plant. It was first detected about 7:30 by J.K. Cassady and watched until 9:15AM. Initially, adjacent birds obscured much of the gull and, based on extensive head mottling, the bird was assumed to be an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull. During the observation it was perched most of the time; however, several brief flights were observed. Ultimately J.K. Cassady discovered that the bird had bright pink legs, which then led to its identified as a Slaty-backed Gull. Also present during the observation were K.J. Brock, S.R. Bagby, B.J. Grube, L.S. Hinchman, and John White. The bird was seen again in the afternoon from 1:05 to 2:05PM CST.

### References Cited

Brock, K.J. (1994) Slaty-backed Gull Sight Record for Indiana with Comment on Identification, *Meadowlark*, 3:47-50.