

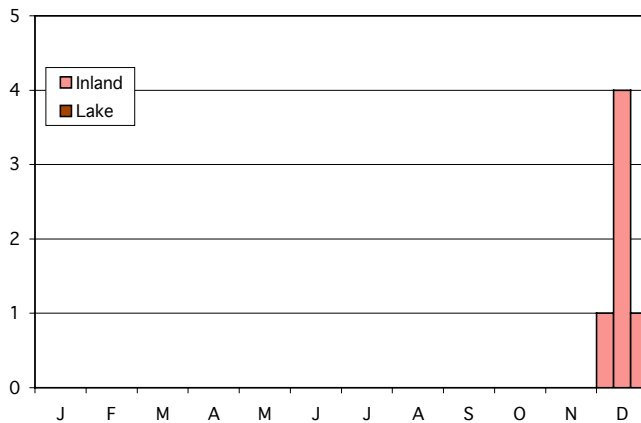
Thick-billed Murre

Uria lomvia

Historical Information

First Published Record: Apparently storm driven, a number of these normally oceanic birds appeared across the Midwest in December 1896; six were recovered in Indiana, and four more were found in Ohio. The first Indiana bird was discovered in Clinton County 10 December 1896 (Butler 1898). These displaced birds provide the state's only records.

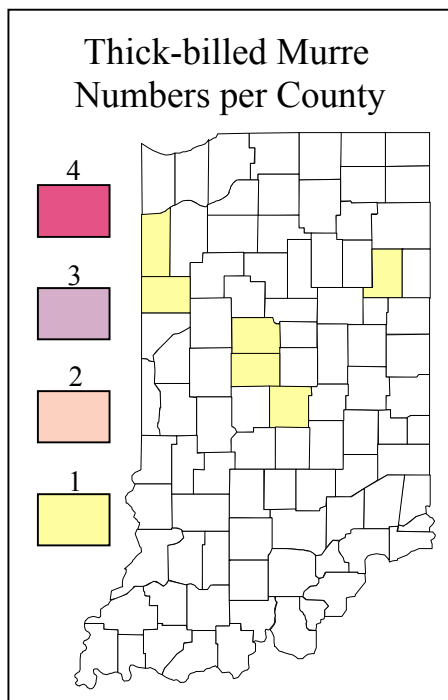
Butler (1898) listed the above six records. Keller et al. (1979) and Mumford and Keller (1984) follow suite.



Status

Physical Evidence: Of the six original specimens, only the whereabouts of the Marion County bird is known (Richards 1987).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Indiana State Museum				1
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	n	n	n
Central Tier	n	n	n	n
Southern Tier	n	n	n	n
Entire State	n	n	n	n



Current Status

With no Indiana records in more than 100 years, the Thick-billed Murre is Accidental (10).

Occurrence

Butler (1898) provided details about these records. The first bird was captured alive near Pickard on 10 December and was ultimately mounted by a taxidermist. A boy captured the Marion County bird alive on 13 December on Fall Creek. The Boone County Murre was also captured alive about 15 December in a field near Hazelrigg; it remained alive in captivity for several days. The 18 December bird, which ended up in Butler's collection, was taken in northern Wells County where it was observed moving about in an open field and was shot at long range. A teamster captured the Benton County alcid on the road three miles west of Fowler on about 20 December. An adult male was taken on the Iroquois River near Foresman, Newton County on 31 December and was shipped to F.M. Woodruff in Chicago where it was added to his personal collection.

Thick-billed Murre Records				
All Records				
Date	Location	Observer	Notes	Ref.
10-Dec-1896	Clinton Co	A. Christy	Specimen	M&K
13-Dec-1896	Marion Co	A boy	Specimen	R87
15-Dec-1896	Boone Co	D. Johnson	Specimen	BU2
18-Dec-1896	Wells Co	J.W. Roe	Specimen	BU2
20-Dec-1896	Benton Co	J.F. Warner	Specimen	BU2
31-Dec-1896	Newton Co.	12-year-old boy	Specimen	BU2

References Cited

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

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.

Richards, R.L. (1987) The Vertebrate Collection of the Indiana State Museum: "Old" Specimens and Records, *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* 97:547-570.