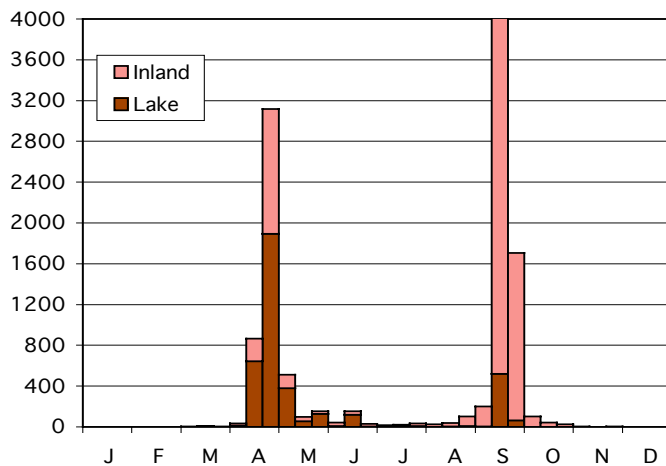


Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*

Historical Information

First Published record: Indiana's earliest formal report of this small buteo occurred in Knox County 2 May 1885 when a specimen was collected by Robert Ridgway (Mumford files).

According to Butler (1890), the Broad-winged Hawk was a rare resident at most localities in the late 19th century. Keller et al. (1979) considered it a fairly common migrant and very rare summer resident in northern and central Indiana. Mumford and Keller (1984) concurred with the Keller assessment.



Current Status

Today the Broad-winged Hawk is a Common (4) migrant. It is worth noting, however, that the status is based on average numbers. Migrating birds tend to flock; as a result any given observer often sees no Broad-wingeds on several outings, but then encounters scores on a single trip.

Occurrence

This small buteo is seen most often during the migrations, but flight numbers vary significantly from year to year, apparently reflecting the influence of regional winds on the migrating birds. It has been recorded in at least 70 Indiana counties. As occurs with most other raptors, spring numbers are highest on the lakefront and fall numbers are greatest away from the lake. More than a dozen March records and a half-dozen November records exist. Reports outside these periods almost certainly involve misidentified birds.

Summer Reports

Summer Broad-wingeds are secretive and difficult to locate. They are most frequently encountered in the northern and southern tiers where they are Rare (7) in summer. In the central tier his species is Very Rare (8) during summer. Most extraordinary was a flight of 110 birds,

Status

Physical Evidence: Nine skins and two eggs are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Field Museum				1
National Museum of Natural History				4
Illinois State Museum				4*
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				2
*Includes two eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	4	7	4
Central Tier	n	6	8	5
Southern Tier	n	6	7	5
Entire State	n	4	6	4

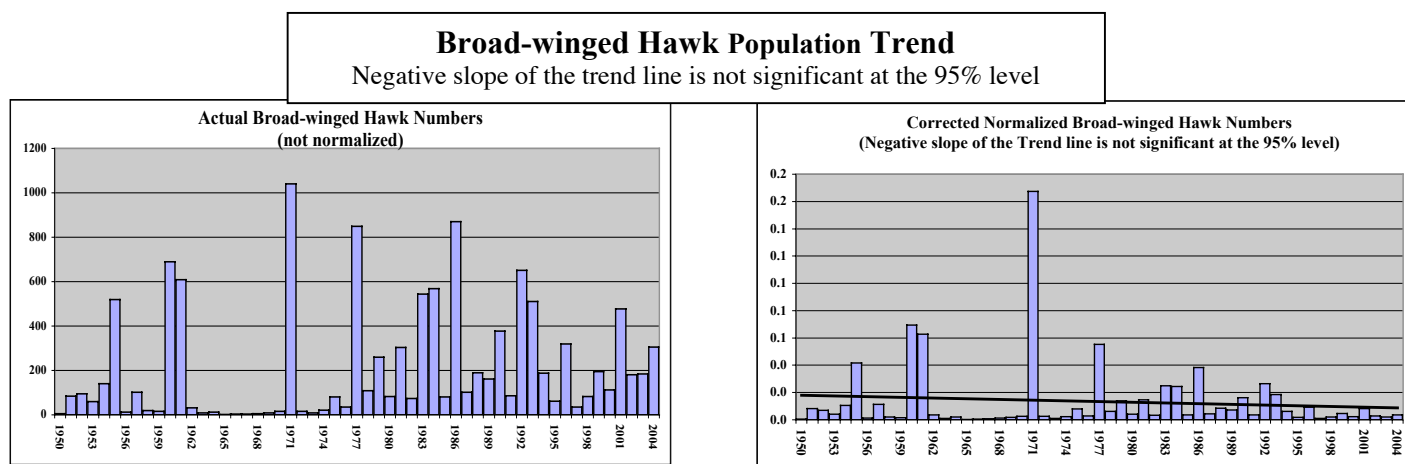
mainly immatures, at Beverly Shores on 20 June 1981 (Peterjohn, 1981). This is by far the state's largest summer tally; indeed, the next highest summer count is only four.

Dark Morphs

Adult dark morph Broad-wingeds have been reported at the Dunes hawk watches on two occasions: 24 April 1990 (Brown, 1991) and 28 April 1995 (Brock notes).

Population Trend

Although negative slope of the trend line is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level, observational data suggest a Broad-winged Hawk decline in Indiana.



Breeding

Butler (1890) mentioned breeding in Knox and Gibson Counties and Mumford and Keller (1984) noted nesting in more than a dozen counties. The Indiana Atlas recorded confirmed nesting in 13 counties: five in the northern tier, two in the central tier, and six in the southern tier (Castrale et al, 1998). Nests have been observed from early April through early July. The latest breeding report came from J.A. Haw, who found a nest containing three young about to fledge near Salamonie Reservoir 7 July 1990 (Haw records).

Broad-winged Hawk Data				
Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
421	26-Apr-1984	Johnson Beach	K.J. Brock	KJB
293	19-Apr-1992	Johnson Beach	Clyde Fields	KJB
292	23-Apr-1961	Porter Co	Raymond Grow	DNR
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1000	18-Sep-1971	Adams Co	Mrs. Karl Hilty	IAQ
800	23-Sep-1977	Wayne Co	W.H Buskirk	DNR
321	18-Sep-1960	Monroe Co	Val Nolan	DNR

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	4-Mar-1961	18-Apr	26-Apr	16-May	Sum.-Res	480
Central	6-Mar-1955	15-Apr	26-Apr	17-May	Sum.-Res	106
South	11-Mar-1973	12-Apr	23-Apr	20-May	Sum.-Res	150
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum.-Res	15-Aug	17-Sep	27-Sep	22-Nov-1958	157
Central	Sum.-Res	31-Aug	21-Sep	16-Oct	31-Oct-1980	67
South	Sum.-Res	3-Aug	17-Sep	27-Sep	24-Oct-1973	133

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Castrale, J.S., E.M. Hopkins, and C.E. Keller (1998) *Atlas of breeding Birds of Indiana*, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 388 pp.

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

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

Peterjohn, B.G. (1981) Field Notes Summer 1981, *American Birds* 35:943-947.