

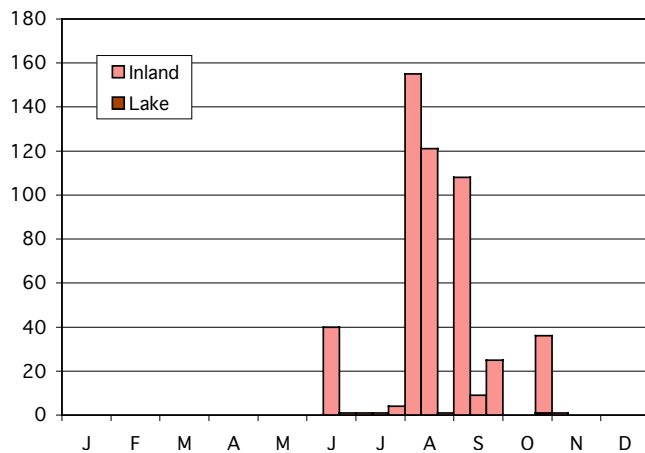
Wood Stork

Mycteria americana

Historical Information

First Published Record: The Wood Stork has a long and somewhat obscure history in Indiana. The earliest report came from J.J. Audubon who noted this species 4 November 1820 on the Ohio River in Vanderburgh County (Mumford and Keller 1984). As most of the Ohio is in Kentucky it is uncertain that this report was in fact inside Indiana. The next fully dated report occurred in Carroll County 30 July 1887 (Butler 1898).

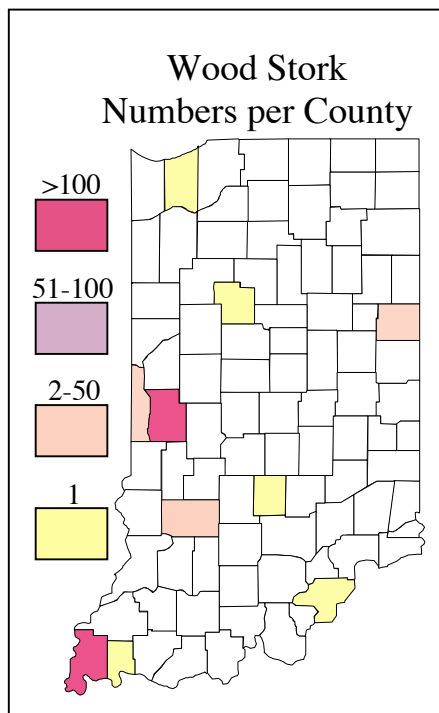
Butler (1898) characterized the “Wood Ibis” as a “Summer visitor or summer resident, more or less irregular in the lower Wabash Valley.” Keller (1966) deemed it an occasional very rare summer visitant, but by 1979 Keller et al. revised the status to accidental. Mumford and Keller (1984) disregarded a July 1976 report from Morgan County and concluded that the Wood Stork remained accidental in Indiana.



Status

Physical Evidence: Three skeletons (lacking specific dates) are in the National Museum; they are from Franklin, Knox, and Hamilton Counties. An undated mounted specimen from Allen County, taken in 1890, is in the Joseph Moore Museum, Earlham College (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and Bruner 2004).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
National Museum of Natural History				3
Joseph Moore Museum, Earlham Coll.				1
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	n	n	10
Central Tier	n	n	9	9
Southern Tier	n	n	n	n
Entire State	n	n	9	9



Current Status

The spate of occurrences in the late 1990s elevated the Wood Stork to Occasional (9) status. It appears to be a summer visitor that occasionally lingers well into autumn.

Occurrence

The morass of undated older records renders it difficult to assess the Wood Stork in Indiana. Bruner (2004) provides a listing of all undated or partially dated reports; these have been excluded in this treatment. This species was not reported in the state between 1944 and 1998.

Modern Records

Recent reports include an immature in the Indiana Dunes 28-29 October 1998 near Furnessville (Brock 1999) and three at the Universal Mine, Vermillion County 24 July to 3 August 1999 (Bruner 2004).

Wood Stork Records				
All dated records				
No.	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1	4-Nov-1820	Vanderburgh Co	J.J. Audubon	M&K
1	30-Jul-1887	Carroll Co	Mr. Harmon	BU2
35	30-Oct-1887	Posey Co	???	BU2
150	10-Aug-1901	Parke Co	???	M&K
10	12-Aug-1902	Posey Co	???	DNR
100	16-Aug-1902	Posey Co	A.W. Butler	DNR
1	27-Jun-1910	Greene Co	VanGorder	K66
1	16-Jul-1910	Brown Co	???	K66
40	mid-June to 10-Sep-1911	Greene Co	???	K66
9	25-Aug-1925	Jay Co	???	K66
18	Aug until 5-Sep-1930	Hovey Lake	???	K66
?	7-Aug-1931	Hovey Lake	???	K66
1	12-18-Aug-1934	Falls of the Ohio	???	K66
42	5-Sep-1944	Posey Co	R.L. Witt	REM
1	28-29-Oct-1998	Porter Co	IDNL personnel	NAB
3	24-Jul to 3-Aug 1999	Vermillion Co	A.W. Bruner	AB5

References Cited

Brock, K.J. (1999) Wood Stork in the Indiana Dunes, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 77:61-64.

Bruner, A. W. (2004) From the Archives – Part 5, CICONIIFORMES CONTINUED – FAMILY THRESKIORNITHIDAE (Ibis, Spoonbill), CICONIIDAE (Wood Stork), CARTHARTIDAE (Vultures), and PHOENICOPTERIDAE (Flamingo), *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 82:19-43.

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

Keller, C.E. (1966) Status of the Ciconiiformes in Indiana. *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 44:56-86.

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.