

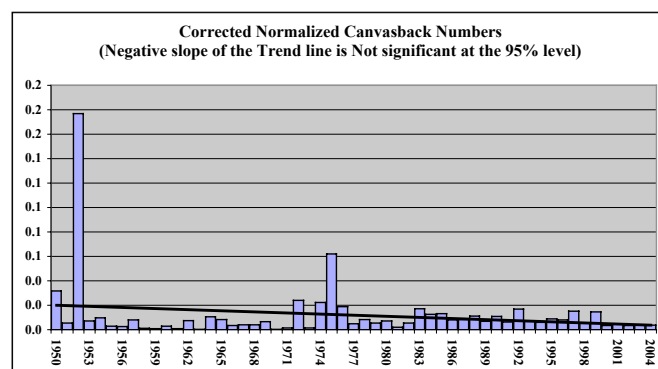
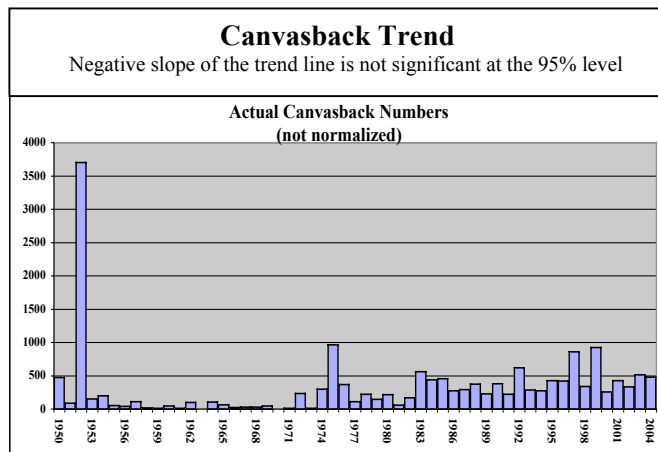
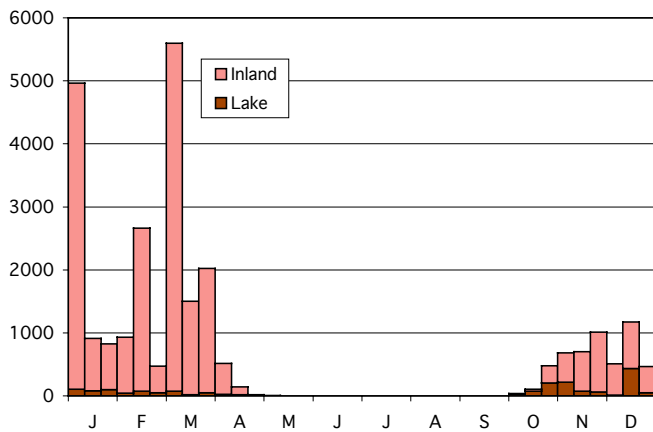
Canvasback

Aythya valisineria

Historical Information

First Published Record: A drake, collected 9 March 1889 by F.M. Woodruff at Liverpool, Lake County (Mumford files), constitutes the state's first formal report of this large duck.

Butler (1890) considered the Canvasback a regular but rare migrant throughout most of the state. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it a rare migrant, which was rare to casual in winter. Mumford and Keller (1984) listed it as an uncommon to rare migrant that occurred locally in fair numbers; it wintered, in small numbers, throughout the state.



Status

Physical Evidence: Indiana's first record (mentioned above) is now specimen #1659 in the Chicago Academy of Sciences collection (Mumford files, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Academy of Sciences				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				7
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	4	4	n	4
Central Tier	6	6	n	6
Southern Tier	5	4	n	6
Entire State	4	4	n	4

Current Status

The Canvasback is currently a Common (4) migrant and winter resident.

Occurrence

This large diving duck occurs primarily on inland reservoirs and impoundments where it associates with other bay ducks. The Canvasback has been recorded in 60 counties across the state. Hovey Lake holds a monopoly on the largest counts (see table). Recent maximum counts have diminished considerably; the highest count over the past two decades consisted of 388 late migrants that flew past Michigan City Harbor 18 December 1999 (IN-BIRD).

Summer Record

The only summer report consisted of a male seen by I.W. Burr in Tippecanoe County 5 June 1949 (Burr 1979).

Population Trend

Data in the Population Trend plots suggest a Canvasback decline; however, negative slope of the trend line is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level.

Canvasback Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
2500	7-Mar-1949	Hovey Lake	R.E. Mumford	REM
2000	16-Feb-1949	Hovey Lake	R.E. Mumford	REM
1500	8-Mar-1949	Hovey Lake	R.E. Mumford	REM
Fall/Winter				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
3500	9-Jan-1952	Hovey Lake	???	REM
800	3-Jan-1949	Hovey Lake	R.E. Mumford	REM
550	24-Jan-1949	Hovey Lake	R.E. Mumford	REM

Migration Envelopes

Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Win. Res.	7-Mar	23-Mar	7-Apr	23-May-1980	228
Central	Win. Res.	5-Mar	19-Mar	11-Apr	5-Jun-1949	85
South	Win. Res.	3-Mar	11-Mar	1-Apr	28-May-1975	75
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	20-Sep-2003	20-Oct	6-Nov	25-Nov	Win. Res.	219
Central	7-Oct-1979	27-Oct	17-Nov	29-Nov	Win. Res.	57
South	13-Oct-2002	30-Oct	12-Nov	26-Nov	Win. Res.	59

References Cited

Butler, A. W. (1890) The Birds of Indiana, Appendix to *Transactions of the Indiana Horticultural Society for 1890* (available on the web).

Burr, I. W. (1979) The Birds of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 57:1-43.

IN-BIRD, a Listserv dealing with Indiana birds developed and maintained by P.W. Kelly. The records are archived at: <http://listserv.indiana.edu/archives/in-bird-1.html>

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

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

Mumford, R.E. and C.E. Keller (1984) *The Birds of Indiana*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 376 pp.