

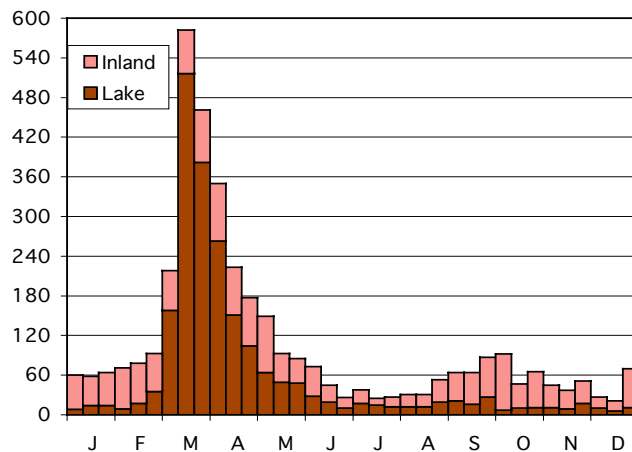
## Red-shouldered Hawk

## *Buteo lineatus*

### Historical Information

First Published record: The earliest Indiana report of this raptor was recorded in Knox County 12 October 1882 (Mumford files).

Butler (1890) considered the Red-shouldered Hawk a resident throughout the state. Interestingly, Butler (1898) pointed out that this species outnumbered the Red-tailed Hawk in several southern Indiana counties, in some cases by a ratio of five to one. Keller et al. (1979) labeled this handsome hawk an uncommon migrant and very rare summer resident. Mumford and Keller (1984) concurred with the latter assessment adding that a drastic population reduction had occurred since 1900.



### Current Status

Today the Red-shouldered Hawk is Uncommon (6) in all seasons except spring. In spring it is a Common (4) migrant, especially at the lakefront hawk watches.

### Occurrence

Red-shouldered Hawks are widespread across Indiana and have probably occurred in every county; however, actual records exist for only 82 counties. The largest counts come from spring hawk watches in the Dunes. A weak fall flight occurs away from the lake where the largest autumn tally consists of nine observed by Paul Wharton at Muscatatuck NWR 6 October 1991 (Brown 1992).

### Spring Migration

The migration histogram is dominated by large spring counts recorded during lakefront hawk watches. Indeed, all three of the state's largest spring tallies were logged at the Dunes hawk watches (see maximum count table). The fall flight is more evident away from Lake Michigan.

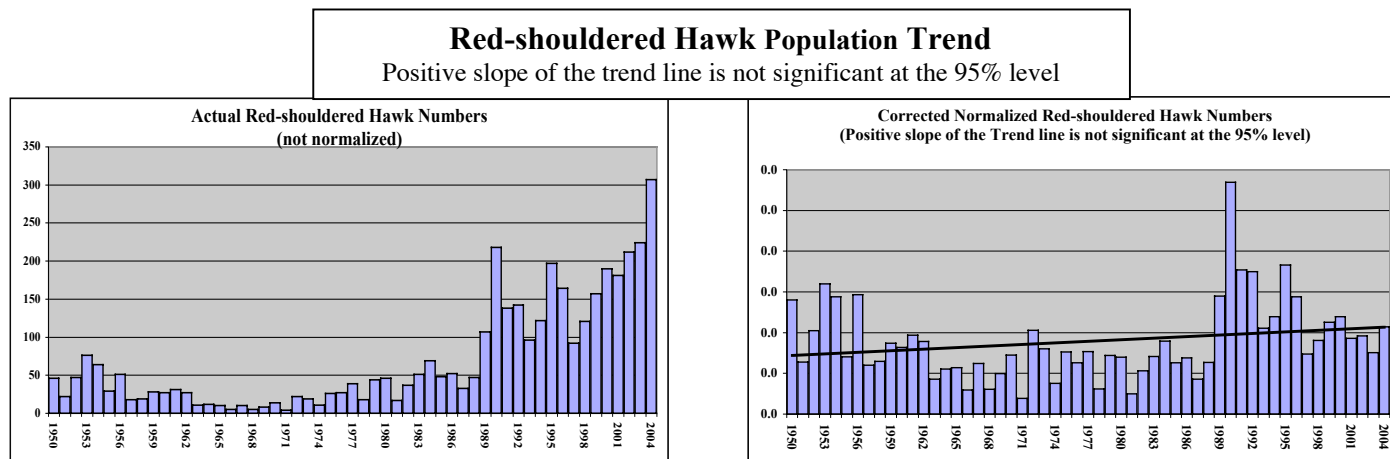
### Status

Physical Evidence: Some eleven skins and 18 eggs are preserved in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Carnegie Museum of Natural History				1*
Chicago Academy of Sciences				2
National Museum of Natural History				4
Univ. of Michigan Museum				19*
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				3
*Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	6	4	6	6
Central Tier	7	7	7	7
Southern Tier	7	6	7	6
Entire State	6	4	6	6

## Population Trend

The population decrease described by Mumford and Keller (1984) appears to have reversed. Plots below suggest increasing numbers in recent decades; however, positive slope of the trend line is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



## Breeding

Butler (1898) noted that this species breeds throughout the state. Today the Indiana DNR considers the Red-shouldered hawk a species of special concern. Castrale et al. (1998) listed confirmed evidence of breeding in 13 counties, two in the northern tier, one in the central tier, and ten in the southern tier. The largest cluster of nest sites was in southeastern Indiana. Nests have been observed from 6 March through mid-June.

## Red-shouldered Hawk Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
75	14-Mar-1990	Johnson Beach	K.J. Brock	KJB
32	09-Mar-1956	Baileytown	V. Reuter-skiold	VRS
30	16-Mar-1990	Johnson Beach	K.J. Brock	KJB
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
9	06-Oct-1991	Muscatauck NWR	Paul Wharton	IAQ
8	28-Oct-1952	Hovey Lake	R.E. Mumford	REM
7	07-Sep-1952	Marion Co	H.C. West	HCW

Migration Envelopes						
Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Spring	Win. Res.	12-Mar	7-Apr	17-May	Sum. Res.	1063
Fall	Win. Res.	9-Aug	27-Sep	16-Nov	Sum. Res.	527

## References Cited

Brown, M.R. (1992) Field Notes Fall 1991, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 70:163-175.

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

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

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

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.

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