

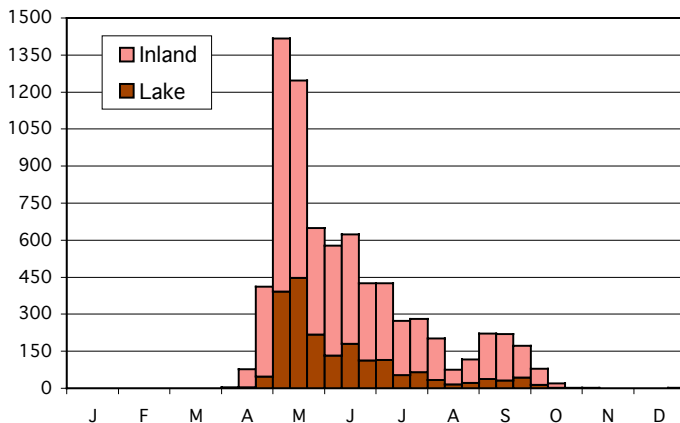
## Wood Thrush

## *Hylocichla mustelina*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: Indiana's earliest published Wood Thrush record occurred at Brookville where A.W. Butler observed one 3 May 1882 (Butler 1898).

Butler (1898), Keller et al. (1979), and Mumford and Keller (1984) all deemed this master songster a common summer resident.



### Status

Physical Evidence: At least ten specimens are housed in the nation's museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

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

### Current Status

The Wood Thrush remains a Common (4) summer resident.

### Occurrence

Among the spotted thrushes, the Wood Thrush is the most widespread in Indiana, where it has been reported in every county. As a migrant it is far more prevalent in spring than in fall; indeed, on average spring numbers exceed those of the fall flight by a factor of 3.5. Over the past 20 years an average of 313 Wood Thrushes has been reported annually.

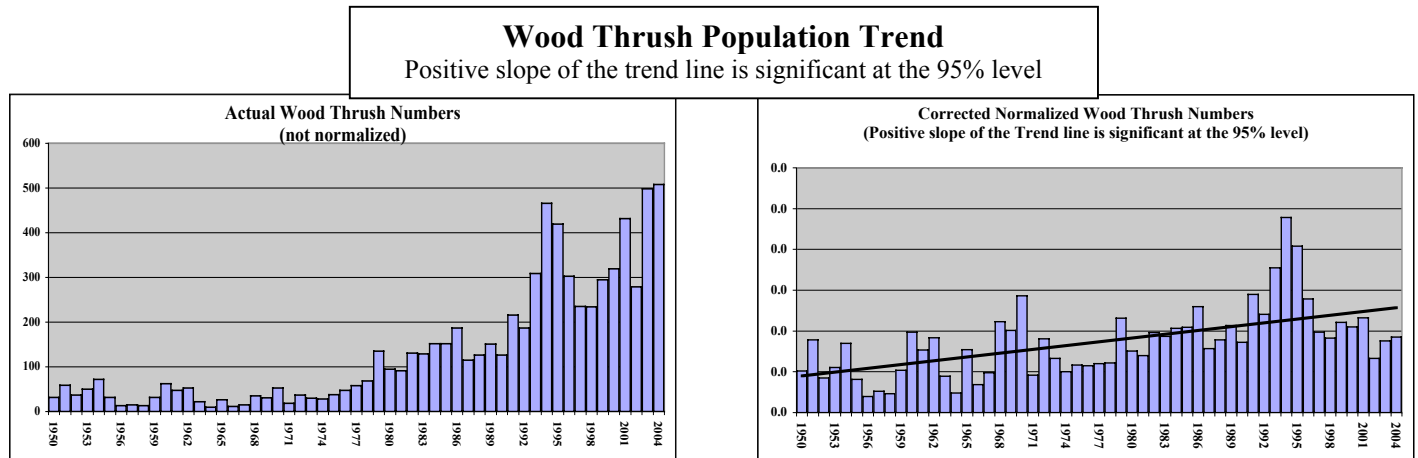
### Extreme Records

Although most Wood Thrushes depart Indiana by the end of September, two November and one December records exist. The most surprising of these occurred 30 December 1978 when Ruth Erickson, Laura Bakken, and Vula Malooley identified and documented one in north Terre Haute, Vigo County. The bird was studied through binoculars from as close as 30 feet for three or four minutes (Mumford files). Mumford and Keller (1984) also mentioned an Evansville record on 30 December 1972, but provided no details or reference.

B.K. Jackson recorded the state's maximum count of 133 birds in four southeastern Indiana counties: Dearborn (42), Ohio (26), Ripley (24), and Switzerland (41). This tally is more than triple the next highest count.

## Population Trend

Positive slope of the 50-year trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level. In view of recent concern expressed in the general media about Wood Thrush declines, this is a somewhat surprising result. However, note that the corrected plot does indeed show a steep decline after the mid-1990s.



## Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 83 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks, with evidence reported in every Indiana county. Mumford and Keller (1984) reported egg dates from 6 May through 14 July and mentioned an adult on the nest 8 August.

Wood Thrush Data				
Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring/Summer				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
133*	30-Jun-2004	Multiple sites	B.K. Jackson	BKJ
39	09-May-1995	Kankakee FWA	R.S. Plank	IAQ
37	10-May-1986	Montgomery Co	A.W. Bruner	IAQ
*See Extreme Records for more information				
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
8	04-Aug-1978	Fox Island Park	J.A. Haw	Haw
8	01-Aug-1990	Fox Island Park	J.A. Haw	Haw
8	21-Sep-2003	Monroe Co	J. & S. Hengeveld	INB

Migration Envelopes						
Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Spring	2-Apr-1999	29-Apr	13-May	5-Jun	Sum. Res.	1764
Fall	Sum. Res.	20-Jul	27-Aug	28-Sep	11-Nov-1953	1016

### **References Cited**

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 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.