

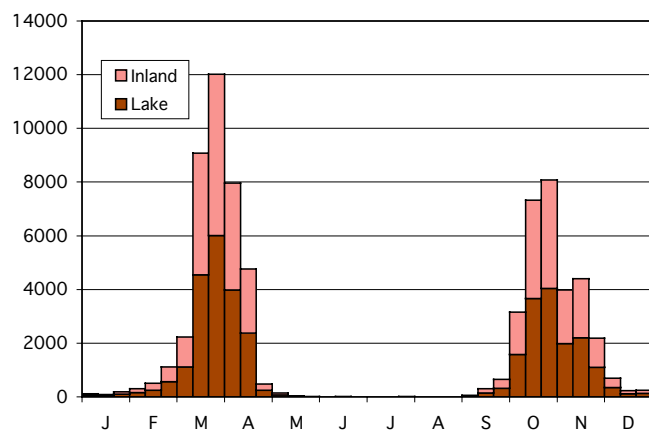
American Wigeon

Anas americana

Historical Information

First Published Record: Indiana's first fully-dated report involved a female collected from a flock of twelve in Carroll County 26 March 1884 (Mumford files).

Butler (1890) characterized the "Baldpate" as a common migrant and occasional winter resident, which is a rare summer resident northward. Keller et al. (1979) termed it fairly common in spring, but uncommon in fall and casual in winter. Mumford and Keller (1984) concurred with the Keller assessment.



Current Status

This handsome dabbling is Very Common (3) during migration; however, in contrast to former assessments it is now about equally common in spring and fall; indeed the maximum single party counts have been recorded in fall (see table).

Occurrence

The American Wigeon is a widespread member of the migrant puddle duck flocks, with reports from almost 70 counties. Numbers are reduced considerably in winter, but it remains Common (4) in the southern tier. Ned Keller counted fifty at the Great Miami Oxbow, Dearborn County 28 January 1993 (notes submitted to *North American Birds*).

Summer Records

At least 16 summer birds have been reported: eleven in June and five in July. A majority of these birds were males, but Virginia Reuter-skiold reported a female at Baileytown on 5 June 1959 (Reuter-skiold notes). Most of these represent tardy migrants or non-breeders that linger south of the nesting areas. The largest summer count consisted of four reported by R.E. Mumford at the Willow Slough FWA 13 June and 21 July 1952 (Mumford files).

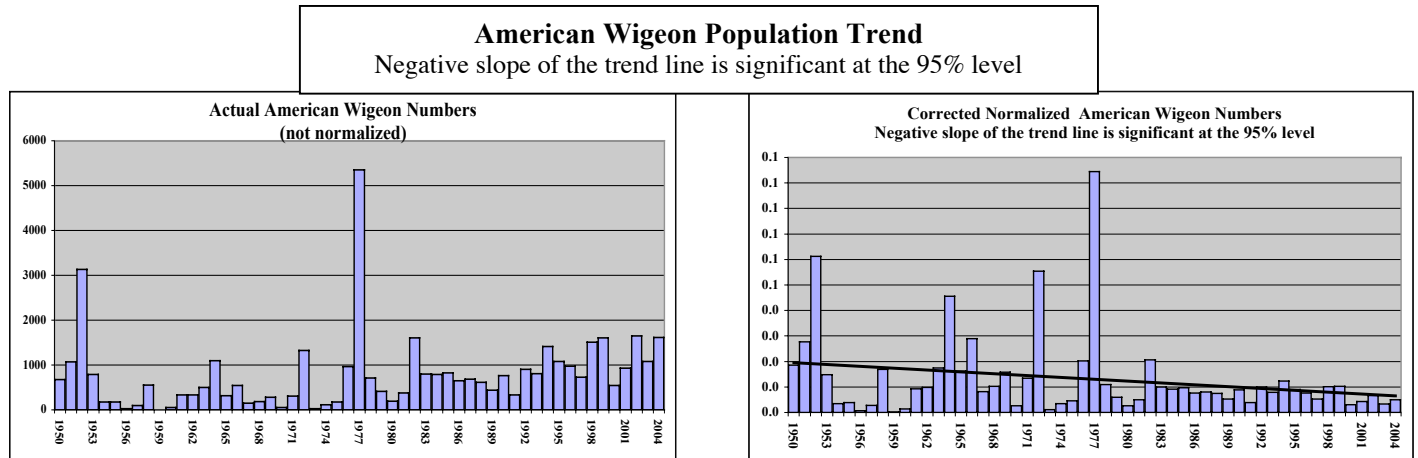
Status

Physical Evidence: Nine specimens are preserved as indicated in the Status Table (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Academy of Sciences				1
National Museum of Natural History				2
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				6
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	6	3	8	3
Central Tier	6	5	10	4
Southern Tier	4	3	10	4
Entire State	4	3	7	3

Population Trend

The trend line shown on the Population Trend plot reveals a decrease in the American Wigeon population. Negative slope of the line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



American Wigeon Data

Maximum Single Party Counts

Spring

Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1000	22-Mar-1964	Kankakee FWA	Scott Rea	REM
945	13-Mar-1952	Newton Co.	???	M&K
500	5-Apr-1952	Willow Slough	DNR- staff	REM

Fall/Winter

Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
2000	28-Oct-1977	Willow Slough	D.T. Sporre	REM
1000	19-Oct-1982	Sullivan Co	Denny Jones	REM
1000	4-Nov-1977	Willow Slough	D.T. Sporre	REM

Migration Envelopes

Spring

	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Win. Res.	14-Mar	30-Mar	24-Apr	5-Jun-1950	552
Central	Win. Res.	10-Mar	28-Mar	21-Apr	28-May-1955	119
South	Win. Res.	4-Mar	20-Mar	12-Apr	26-Apr-1999	137

Fall

	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	20-Jul-1990	21-Sep	21-Oct	12-Nov	Win. Res.	551
Central	7-Aug-1986	3-Oct	4-Nov	27-Nov	Win. Res.	85
South	22-Aug-1982	7-Oct	2-Nov	20-Nov	Win. Res.	108

References Cited

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

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.