

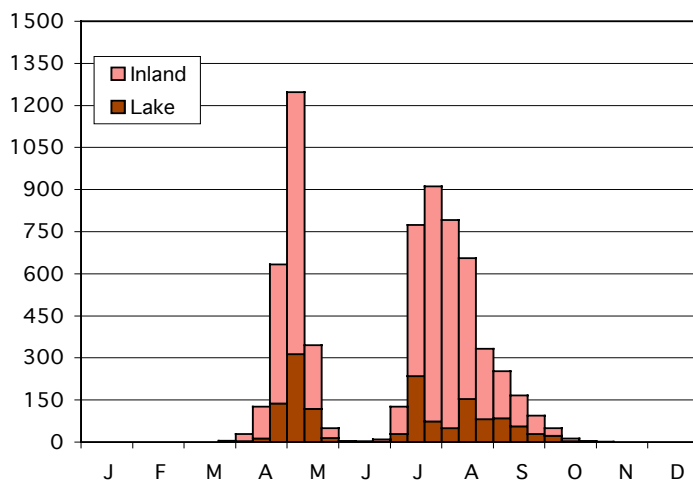
Solitary Sandpiper

Tringa solitaria

Historical Information

First Published Record: Brayton's 1879 list contained this species; however, no specific records were mentioned. The Mumford files included the record of a female specimen collected in Knox County 12 May 1885 by Robert Ridgway; this appears to constitute Indiana's earliest date.

Butler (1890) characterized the "Teeter Snipe" as a summer resident in some numbers, which bred. Keller (1958) concurred with the former assessment, but took issue with the suggestion of breeding within the state. Keller et al. (1979) and Mumford and Keller (1984) deemed the Solitary Sandpiper a common migrant.



Current Status

Today the Solitary Sandpiper remains a Common (4) migrant.

Occurrence

This widespread sandpiper has been reported in at least 84 Indiana counties; it is seen most frequently away from the lakefront. Separation between the end of spring and the beginning of fall migration is a scant seven days: 5 June to 12 June; this no doubt contributed to the early belief that Solitary Sandpipers bred in the state. However, the main fall flight does not begin until July when autumn migrants sweep across the entire state by mid-month.

Breeding

Contrary to Butler's early assertion, this species does not breed in Indiana.

Status

Physical Evidence: A minimum of twelve specimens are known to be stored in the nation's museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list, and Richards 1987).

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

Solitary Sandpiper Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
75	04-May-1989	Monroe Co	D.R. Whitehead	IQM
40	08-May-1979	Willow Slough	T.T. Cable	REM
37	7-May-2004	S. Lake Co	J.J. McCoy	INB
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
140	24-Jul-1999	Schneider Turf	J.J. McCoy	INB
100	18-Jul-1920	Cowles Bog	H.L. Stoddard	HLS
68	26-Jul-1961	Indy Sewage Ponds	C.E. Keller	IAQ

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	26-Mar-1996	23-Apr	5-May	15-May	5-Jun-2002	623
Central	22-Mar-1947	20-Apr	6-May	17-May	27-May-1961	210
South	31-Mar-1981	13-Apr	29-Apr	12-May	27-May-1990	156
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	16-Jun-1973	15-Jul	8-Aug	13-Sep	26-Oct-1984	756
Central	16-Jun-2002	18-Jul	10-Aug	17-Sep	29-Oct-1950	285
South	22-Jun-1991	14-Jul	11-Aug	14-Sep	24-Oct-1953	157
By Age: Fall flight						
Adult	3-Jul-2004	10-Jul	24-Jul	16-Aug	3-Sep-1999	58
Juv.	21-Jul-2003	6-Aug	8-Sep	25-Sep	7-Oct-1995	56

References Cited

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

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