

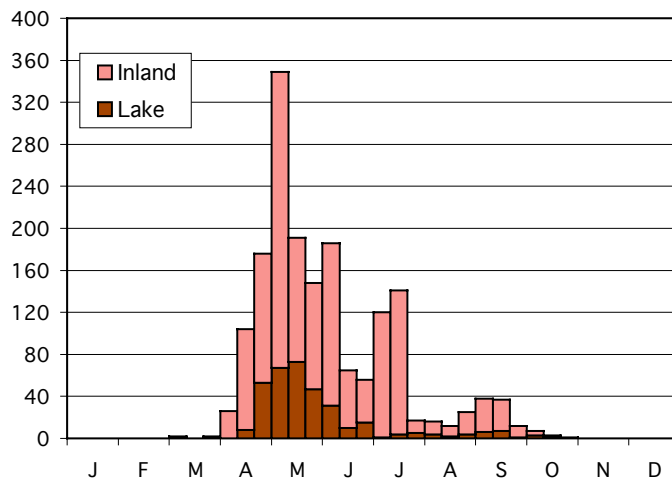
## Whip-poor-will

## *Caprimulgus vociferus*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: Indiana's first published Whip-poor-will was reported by A.W. Butler in Brookville on 18 April 1885 (Butler 1898).

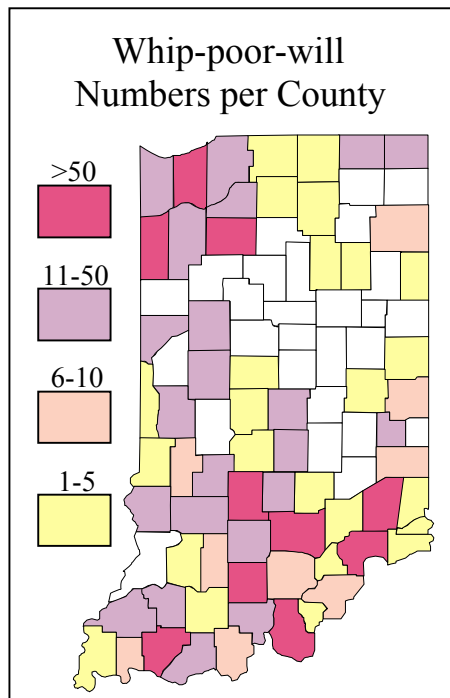
Butler (1898) believed that the Whip-poor-will was a common summer resident. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it an uncommon to fairly common summer resident. Mumford and Keller (1984) noted that numbers had greatly decreased, but still considered it common in forested areas.



### Status

Physical Evidence: Some seven skins and several eggs are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).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				6*
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				2
Univ. of Michigan Museum				3*
*Included eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	6	6	7
Central Tier	n	6	7	7
Southern Tier	n	5	5	6
Entire State	n	5	5	6



### Current Status

The Whip-poor-will is Fairly Common (5) in spring and summer and Uncommon (6) in fall.

### Occurrence

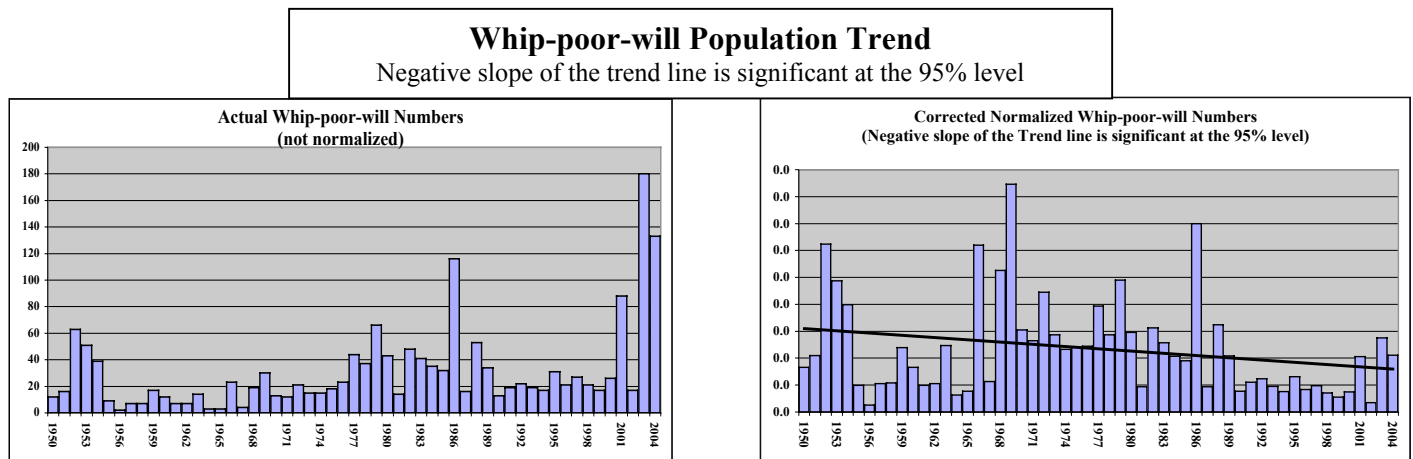
Although the Whip-poor-will is most prevalent in the southern tier, it has occurred in some 66 counties. Over the past 20 years an average of 54 birds was reported annually.

### Extreme Record

O.M. Meyncke provided the exceptionally early report of 2 March 1897, and reportedly heard its "unmistakable voice" in Franklin County (Butler 1898). Three other March records exist, including one in Porter County 10 March 1933 (Boyd notes).

## Population Trend

The 50-year population trend data concur with Mumford and Keller's assessment of population decline. Negative slope of the trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



## Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 33 percent of the 647 priority blocks. These were distributed across seven counties; all except one (Wayne County) were in the southern tier. Eggs have been reported from 13 May through 14 July. Calling birds have been heard from 2 March through 26 September (Mumford and Keller 1984).

## Whip-poor-will Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring/Summer				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
49	17-Jul-2003	Bigs Oaks NWR	J.T. Lewis	INB
42	03-Jul-2001	Willow Slough area	E.M. Hopkins	INB
39	10-May-1986	Willow Slough area	E.M. Hopkins	IAQ
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
4	27-Aug-1976	Orange Co	Lene Rauth	LRa
4	08-Sep-1985	Orange Co	Lene Rauth	LRa
4	05-Sep-1997	Warrick Co	Don Andrews	NNB
4	10-Sep-2001	Lake Monroe	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
<b>North</b>	10-Mar-1933	25-Apr	11-May	3-Jun	Sum. Res.	229
<b>Central</b>	31-Mar-1981	15-Apr	7-May	28-May	Sum. Res.	100
<b>South</b>	2-Mar-1897	11-Apr	4-May	4-Jun	Sum. Res.	149
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
<b>North</b>	Sum. Res.	31-Jul	3-Sep	4-Oct	25-Oct-2003	45
<b>Central</b>	Sum. Res.	20-Aug	17-Sep	3-Oct	16-Oct-1950	31
<b>South</b>	Sum. Res.	11-Aug	2-Sep	18-Sep	20-Oct-1996	53



Migrant Whip-poor-will at the George Lake woodlot, Hammond, 29 April 1995. Photo by J.K. Cassady.

### References Cited

Boyd notes. A compilation of field notes by D.F. Boyd, which is currently housed in the Indiana University Northwest Archives.

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.