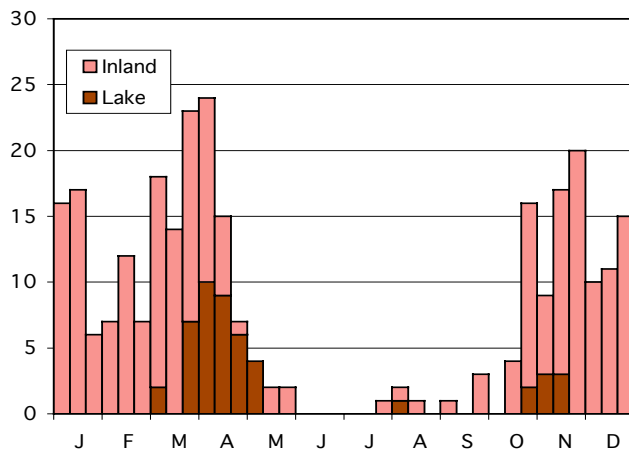


Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

Historical Information

First Published record: Butler (1898) mentioned sightings near Brookville in 1881, but the earliest completely dated report occurred in Lake County where two were seen 10 March 1885.

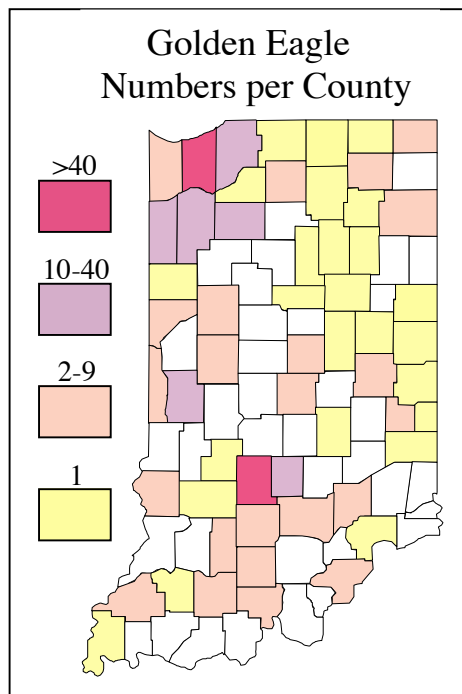
Butler (1890) characterized this eagle as a regular winter visitor and perhaps a winter resident. Keller et al. (1979) considered it a very rare to casual winter visitant, except at Lake Monroe where it was uncommon. Mumford and Keller (1984) deemed the Golden Eagle rare to very rare, but listed a number of sites at which they appear more frequently.



Status

Physical Evidence: Two specimens are archived in museums (J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list and Richards, 1987).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Indiana State Museum				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				1
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	8	7	n	7
Central Tier	7	9	n	9
Southern Tier	7	7	n	7
Entire State	7	7	n	7



Current Status

Today the Golden

Eagle is a Rare (7) migrant and winter resident. It is reported most often in the southern tier, especially at Lake Monroe.

Occurrence

The Golden Eagle has been reported in 56 Indiana counties; most birds are seen on major reservoirs or large waterways. R. Showalter observed the single July record at Jasper-Pulaski FWA 30 July 1971 (DNR files) to provide the only summer record. The same source cites a report by Butler at Dunes State Park 7 August 1897.

Migration

The migration histogram reveals moderate evidence of a spring migration, likely reflecting occurrences at hawk watches in the Dunes. A fall peak is subdued or lacking.

Golden Eagle Data

Maximum Single Party Counts						
Spring/Winter						
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.		
3	18-Apr-1992	Johnson Beach	L.S. Hinchman	LHi		
3	29-Jan-2006	Lake Monroe	D.R. Whitehead	INB		
2*	10-Mar-1885	Lake Co	A.W. Butler	DNR		
Fall						
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.		
2	21-Nov-1971	Fayette Co	???	DNR		
2	21-Nov-1981	Lake Monroe	Steve Glass	NIQ		
2	17-Dec-1988	Lake Monroe	D.R. Whitehead	IAQ		
*2 have been recorded on more than a dozen additional occasions						
Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	30-Jul-1971	24-Oct	Win. Res.	10-Mar	30-May-1959	123
Central	27-Sep-1975	23-Oct	Win. Res	25-Apr	17-May-1975	46
South	6-Sep-1980	30-Oct	Win. Res.	30-Mar	15-May- 1903	95

References Cited

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

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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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Richards, R.L. (1987) The Vertebrate Collection of the Indiana State Museum: "Old" Specimens and Records, *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* 97:547-570.