

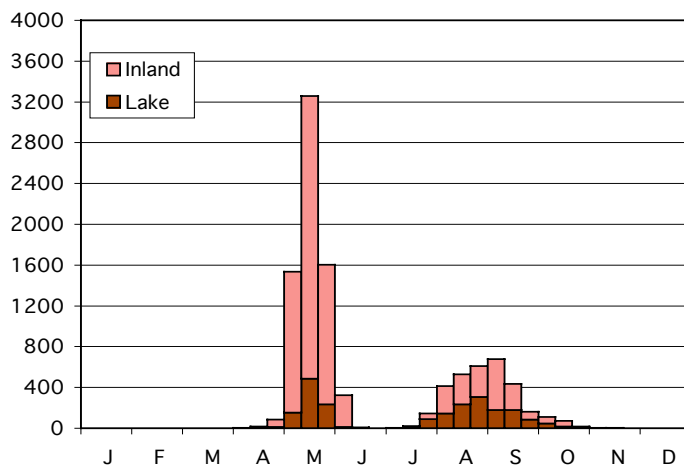
Semipalmated Plover

Charadrius semipalmatus

Historical Information

First Published Record: Two females collected in Lake County 27 May 1877 (Butler 1898), provided Indiana's first published record.

Butler (1890) referred to this pert shorebird as a "not uncommon" migrant and noted that it was encountered most frequently in northern Indiana. It was characterized as a rare to frequent migrant by Keller (1957). Mumford and Keller (1984) considered it a migrant: fairly common in spring and uncommon in fall.



Current Status

The Semipalmated Plover is a Common (4) migrant in both spring and fall.

Occurrence

Having been reported in more than 68 counties the Semipalmated Plover is widespread across the state.

This species tends to collect into sizeable concentrations in spring (see maximum count table), which accounts for the large numbers in May (see migration histogram). The only March report was recorded by J.B. Dunning on 30 March 1999 at Pine Creek Gamebird Habitat Area, Benton County. The migration envelopes indicate that juveniles pass through Indiana about one month after the adults.

Winter Record

Kevin Willsey documented two birds at Lake Monroe 17-19 December 1998 (Brock 1999) to provide the state's only winter record.

Summer Records

Semipalmated Plovers have been reported during the summer season in nineteen of the last twenty years, rendering it an Uncommon (6) to Rare (7) summer resident. Many of these birds

Status

Physical Evidence: At least 17 specimens are housed in North American museums (S.F. Jackson, unpublished list, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list, and Richards 1987).

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

are migrants and some are likely non-breeding wanderers. A distinct break in the summer records occurs during the ten-day interval between 25 June and 5 July; this hiatus is taken as the boundary between spring and fall migrations.

Semipalmated Plover Data				
Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
250	2-Jun-1977	Willow Slough area	E.M. Hopkins	REM
217	15-May-1963	Indy Sewage Ponds	C.E. Keller	REM
200	10-May-1972	Gibson Co	C.E. Mills	IAQ
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
40	20-Aug-1994	Shamrock sod farm	K.J. Brock	KJB
35	18-Sep-1948	Geist Reservoir	H.C. West	HCW
35	29-Aug-1982	Lake Gibson	Denny Jones	REM
35	7-Sep-1988	Geist Reservoir	C.E. Keller	IQM

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	30-Mar-1999	6-May	16-May	26-May	Sum. Vis.	281
Central	18-Apr-1981	7-May	16-May	26-May	Sum. Vis.	122
South	7-Apr-1999	30-Apr	14-May	26-May	Sum. Vis.	86
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum. Vis.	1-Aug	25-Aug	24-Sep	3-Nov-1992	638
Central	Sum. Vis.	4-Aug	3-Sep	21-Sep	24-Nov-1996	171
South	Sum. Vis.	7-Aug	5-Sep	12-Oct	1-Nov-1987	129
By Age: Fall Flight						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Adult	15-Jul-1984	26-Jul	10-Aug	24-Aug	24-Sep-1993	84
Juv.	8-Aug-2003	16-Aug	5-Sep	4-Oct	31-Oct-1992	115

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