

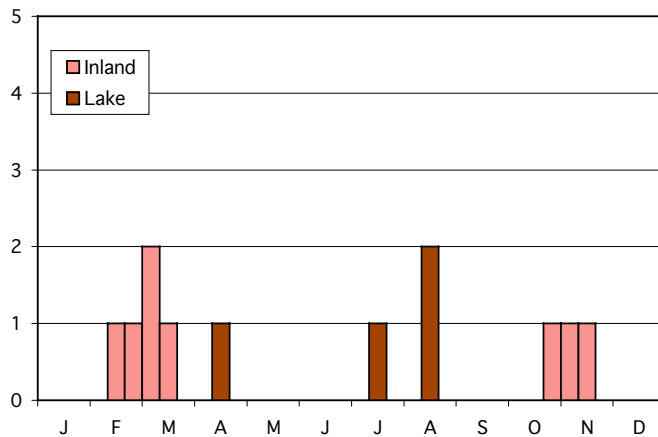
Black-headed Gull

Larus ridibundus

Historical Information

First Published Record: Indiana's first reported Black-headed Gull was identified by K.J. Brock, P.B. Grube, Kristin Grube, and E.M. Hopkins at Michigan City Harbor 20 August 1977 (Brock et al. 1978).

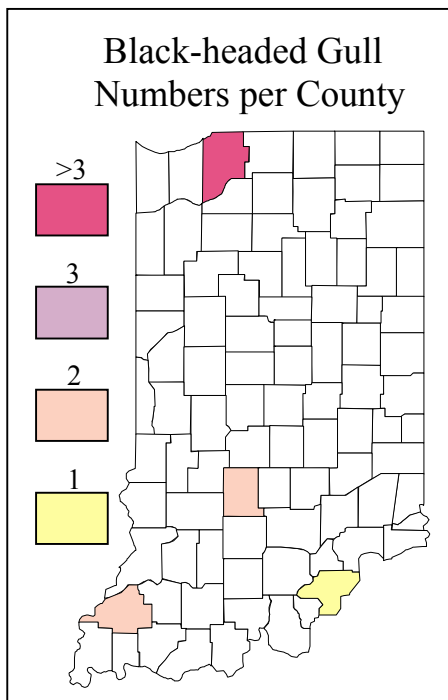
Butler (1898) failed to mention this Old World gull. Keller et al. (1979) listed two records and three were mentioned by Mumford and Keller (1984), inferring that this gull was considered accidental.



Status

Physical Evidence: There are no known Indiana specimens, but at least three photographs have been published, including one on the front cover of the *Indiana Audubon Quarterly* 1989 Vol. 67, No. 3 (see Keller 1994).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
No known specimen				0
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	10	n	n
Central Tier	n	n	n	n
Southern Tier	10	9	n	9
Entire State	10	9	n	9



Current Status

The Black-headed Gull is Occasional (9) in spring and fall and Accidental (10) at other times.

Occurrence

Indiana currently has some nine records of this elegant gull, though the Indiana Bird Records Committee has not reviewed them all. Five of these occurred at inland sites and four were on Lake Michigan.

The 1989 Lake Gibson Record

Indiana's most interesting Black-headed Gull report involved an adult that Denny Jones discovered at Lake Gibson on 19 February 1989 (Brown 1989). This remarkably content individual lingered at that site through 11 March 1989 (Brown 1990), accounting for most of the spring bars shown on the migration histogram. Brown (1989) contains two black and white photographs of the Lake Gibson bird.

Black-headed Gull Records				
All Records				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1	20-Aug-1977	Mich. City Harb	K.J. Brock	KJB
1	18-Jul-1979	Mich. City Harb	A.W. Bruner	REM
1	16-Aug-1980	Mich. City Harb	C.E. Keller	REM
1	19-Feb-1989	Lake Gibson	Denny Jones	IAQ
1	15-Nov-1995	Clark Co	Brainard Palmer-Ball	IAQ
1	20-Apr-1996	Mich. City Harb	K.J. Brock	KJB
1	27-Oct-1999	Lake Monroe	D.R. Whitehead	INB
1	06-Nov-2000	Lake Gibson	C.L. Wood	BRC
1	02-Mar-2001	Lake Monroe	D.R. Whitehead	INB

References Cited

Brock, K.J., P.B. Grube, and E.M. Hopkins (1978) The Black-headed Gull: an Indiana record, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 56:1-2.

Brown, M.R. (1989) Field Notes Winter 1988-89, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 67:189-197.

Brown, M.R. (1990) Field Notes Spring 1989, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 68:28-39.

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

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

Keller, T.C. (1994) Index of Published Photographic Documentation of the Birds of Indiana, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 72:119-130.

Mumford, R.E. and C.E. Keller (1984) *The Birds of Indiana*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 376 pp.