

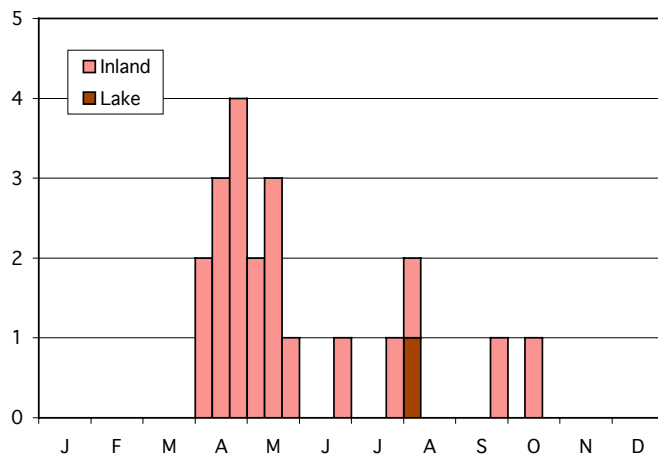
Ruff

Philomachus pugnax

Historical Information

First Published Record: Indiana's first record of this Old World shorebird involved a molting male shot by Wm. M. Derby, Jr. at English Lake, Starke County 12 April 1905 (Deane 1905).

Based on an Ohio record, Butler (1898) added the Ruff to the Indiana hypothetical list. Citing only the 1905 record, Keller (1958) considered the Ruff accidental, and Keller et al. (1979) maintained the accidental status. Mumford and Keller (1984) described the collection of Indiana's first record, but do not assess the status of this species.



Status

Physical Evidence: A single specimen is housed in the Chicago Academy of Sciences collection (S.F. Jackson unpublished list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Academy of Sciences				1
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	8	10	10
Central Tier	n	n	n	10
Southern Tier	n	10	n	10
Entire State	n	8	10	10

Current Status

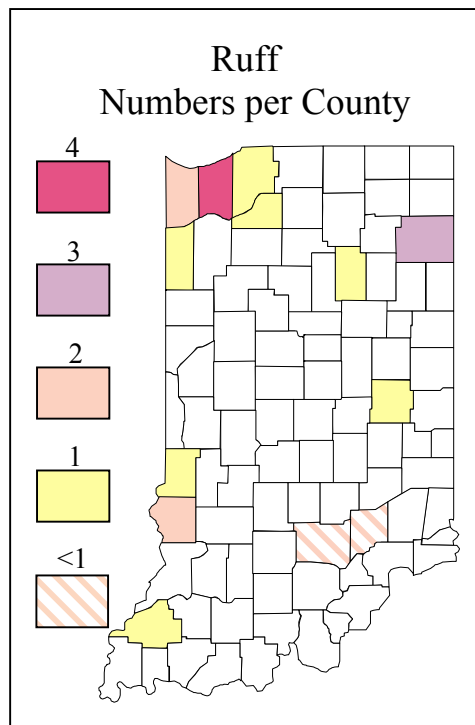
Today the Ruff remains Very Rare (8) in spring and Accidental (10) in summer and fall.

Occurrence

The 19 records of this striking species are scattered across 12 counties; it has been recorded in nine of the last twenty years. The five records in Porter County constitute the largest of any county; all except one of these occurred along the Kankakee River floodplain. Surprisingly, beginning with the 1978 Porter County bird (Grube et al. 1978) over the next seven years three different males occurred on the floodplain, all within a quarter-mile of the first individual. The striped pattern in Jackson and Jennings Counties represents a bird reported at Muscatatuck NWR; the exact county is uncertain.

Gender

Eleven of the Indiana Ruffs were males (two reported as immature birds) and eight were females.



Ruff Records in Indiana				
All Records				
Gender	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
male	12-Apr-1905	Starke Co	Ruthven Deane	AUK
male	18-Apr-1976	Wabash Co	Howard Book	KKK
male	28-Apr-1978	S. Porter Co	P.B. Grube	KJB
male	10-Apr-1982	Vigo Co.	Ruth Erickson	REM
male	18-Apr-1982	S. Porter Co	B.J. Grube	KJB
male	26-Jun-1982	Gibson Co	C.E. Mills	REM
female	19-May-1984	Woodburn ponds	J.A. Haw	IAQ
male	22-Apr-1985	S. Porter Co	L.S. Hinchman	KJB
female	26-Apr-1986	Woodburn ponds	J.A. Haw	Haw
female	9-Aug-1986	Gary sewage ponds	B.K. Jackson	KJB
female	29-Apr-1989	Minnehaha FWA	M.R. Brown	NAB
female	4-Apr-1991	Sullivan Co	A.W. Bruner	IAQ
im. male	26-Sep-1991	Muscatatuck NWR	J.D. Webster	IAQ
female	2-May-1993	Woodburn ponds	J.A. Haw	IAQ
male	12-May-1994	Willow Slough	E.M. Hopkins	NAB
male	18-May-1994	Kingsbury FWA	Clyde Fields	NAB
female	27-Jul-1995	S. Porter Co	B.J. Grube	NAB
female	18-Oct-1997	Summit Lake	S.A. Pancol	SAP
male	23-May-2002	Grand Kankakee Marsh	B.J. Grube	NAB

Migration Envelopes						
Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Spring	4-Apr-1991	---	28-Apr	---	23-May-2002	15
Fall	26-Jun-1982	---	---	---	18-Oct-1997	6

References Cited

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Deane, Ruthven (1905) The Ruff (*Pavoncella pugnax*) in Indiana, *Auk*, 22:410-411.

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