

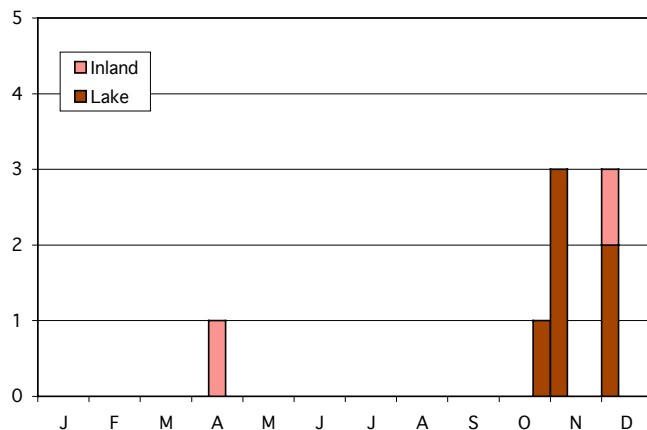
## Northern Gannet

## *Morus bassanus*

### Historical Information

**First Published Record:** An immature was shot on Lake Michigan off Michigan City in November 1904; a photograph of this mounted specimen appears in Butler (1906). The first fully dated record involved a specimen found in Jay County 5 December 1947 (Mumford and Keller 1984).

Butler (1898) failed to mention this species. Citing the above records, Keller et al. (1979) deemed the Gannet accidental in Indiana. Likewise, Mumford and Keller (1984) assigned this large seabird to the accidental category.



### Status

**Physical Evidence:** The specimen of an immature male, found dead in Jay County on 5 December 1947, is in the Purdue Wildlife Laboratory Collection (Dunning unpublished computer list).

### Current Status

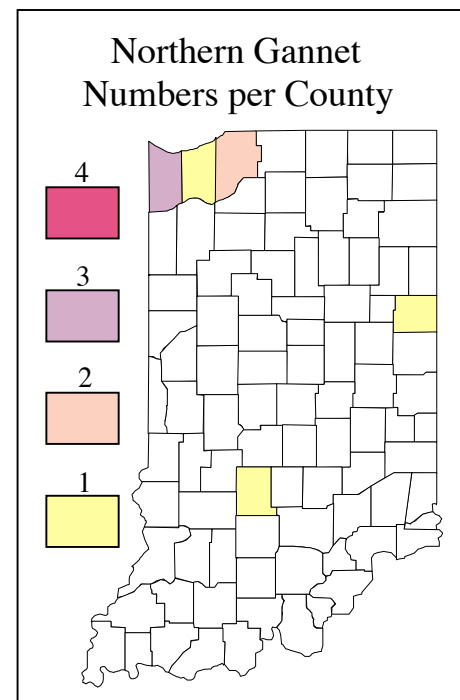
Indiana now has seven Northern Gannet records, four of which occurred since 1991, relegating this species to the Occasional (9) category.

### Occurrence

The only adult Gannet occurred 18 April 1981 when Tom Alexander, D. Alexander, and P. Powers saw one flying high over Lake Monroe (Mumford and Keller 1984). One individual was apparently observed on two occasions: on 8 Dec 1991 J.J. McCoy observed a juvenile flying eastward past West Beach (Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore). The following morning K.J. Brock and L.S. Hinchman saw presumably the same bird flying westward past Michigan City Harbor (Peterjohn 1992).

Northern Gannet Records				
All Records				
No.	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
imm	Nov-1904	Michigan City	A.W. Butler	M&K
imm	5-Dec-1947	Jay Co	---	PUC
adu	18-Apr-1981	Lake Monroe	Tom Alexander	M&K
imm	8 & 9-Dec-1991*	Lakefront	J.J. McCoy	NAB
imm	5-Nov-1993	Miller Beach	John White	NAB
imm	6-Nov-1999	Miller Beach	J.K. Cassady	NAB
juv	26-Oct-2004	Miller Beach	K.J. Brock	NAB

\*See text for details



### **References Cited**

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

Butler, A. W. (1906) Some notes on Indiana Birds. *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* 16:145-150.

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.

Peterjohn, B.G. (1992) Middlewestern Prairie Region, *Am. Birds*, 45:270-274.

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