

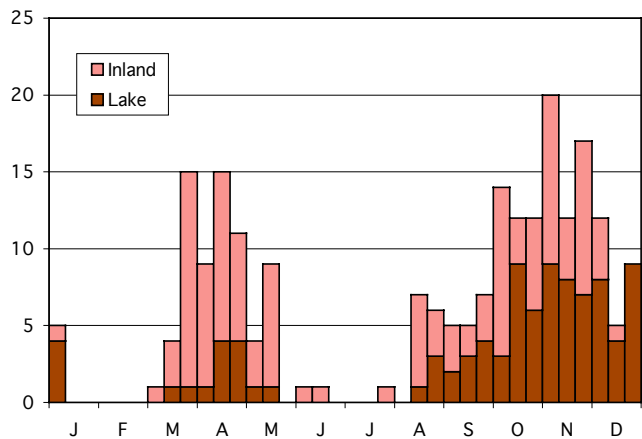
Eared Grebe

Podiceps nigricollis

Historical Information

First Published Record: Indiana's first record was collected near Brookville, Franklin County, 19 May 1883, and a second specimen was taken there 5 November 1886 (Butler 1890).

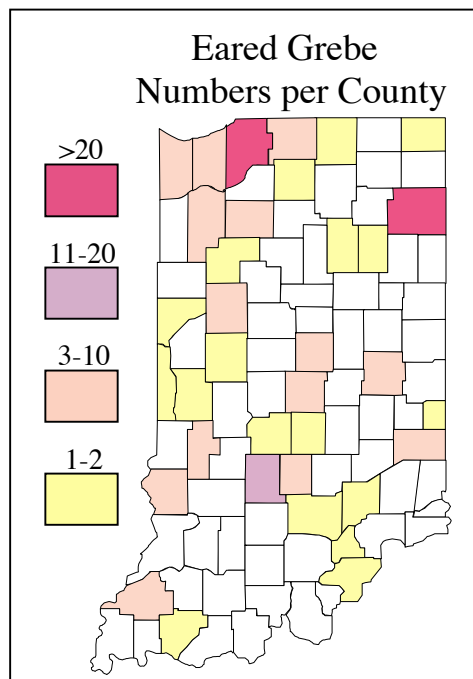
Butler (1890) referred to this small grebe as an "accidental visitor, or perhaps rare migrant." By the mid-1980s Mumford and Keller (1984) considered this species a casual migrant and winter resident.



Status

Three specimens are housed in the National Museum of Natural History (S.F. Jackson, unpublished list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
National Museum of Natural History				3
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	9	7	10	7
Central Tier	10	9	10	9
Southern Tier	10	8	n	7
Entire State	8	7	10	7



Current Status

This small grebe remains scarce in Indiana. It was recorded in 17 of the past twenty years and is a Rare (7) to Very Rare (8) migrant.

Occurrence

This small grebe is primarily a migrant and early winter visitor, which is more common in fall than spring. It prefers small lakes and ponds; consequently it is rarely seen on Lake Michigan, but occasionally appears in the lake's harbors. The number of inland records is slightly greater than lakefront reports; however, considerable seasonal variation occurs. Surprisingly, the state's largest count occurred in winter (see Maximum Single Party Counts table).

Summer Records

Two early June records exist and in 1944 O.D. McKeever reportedly photographed one at Jasper-Pulaski FWA 28 July (Mumford files).

Eared Grebe Data

Maximum Single Party Counts						
Spring						
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.		
3	9-Apr-1927	Marion Co	F. Baumgartner	DNR		
2	11-Apr-1998	Hursttown Res.	J.A. Haw	Haw		
2	11-Apr-1999	Lake Lemon	J. & S. Hengeveld	INB		
Fall						
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.		
7	31-Dec-1956	Mich. City Harbor	J.E. Landing	Grow		
5	20-Aug-1997	Woodburn Ponds	J.A. Haw	Haw		
4	1-Dec-1956	Mich. City Harbor	Raymond Grow	Grow		
Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	10-Mar-1998	22-Mar	16-Apr	13-May	5-Jun-1984	35
Central	15-Mar-1986	---	16-Apr	---	14-May-1966	16
South	24-Mar-1991	---	---	---	19-May-1983	10
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	28-Jul-1944	26-Aug	19-Oct	23-Nov	28-Nov-1977	69
Central	5-Oct-1980	---	---	---	11-Nov-1997	6
South	26-Aug-2000	---	24-Oct	---	26-Nov-1989	15

References Cited

Butler, A. W. (1890) The Birds of Indiana, Appendix to *Transactions of the Indiana Horticultural Society for 1890* (available on the web).

Mumford files: An extensive accumulation of Indiana bird data on 5x7 file cards compiled by Professor R.E. Mumford of Purdue University, West Lafayette.

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