

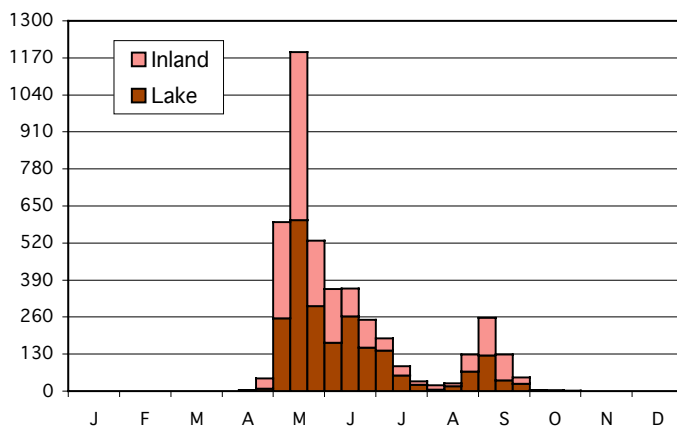
Veery

Catharus fuscescens

Historical Information

First Published Record: Robert Ridgway provided Indiana's earliest formal Veery report; it was found in Knox County 21 April 1881 (Butler 1898).

Butler (1898) considered "Wilson's Thrush," as it was then known, a rare migrant, which occasionally breeds. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it an uncommon migrant and common summer resident in northeastern Indiana. Mumford and Keller (1984) described the Veery as a fairly common migrant that occurs throughout the state.



Current Status

The Veery is Common (4) both as a summer resident and spring migrant.

Occurrence

Migrant Veerys have been reported in some 73 counties across Indiana. Spring migrants are reported about four times as often as fall birds (see migration histogram).

Extreme Records

All three of the largest spring counts (see maximum count table) occurred in concert with an incredible weather related fallout, which happened to occur on the 1996 May count day. The two highest tallies, which are almost double Indiana's next highest count, are unprecedented for the state (Brock 1997).

Subspecies

According to Butler (1898) the common Indiana Veery is the nominate form *C. f. fuscescens*, but the western subspecies *C. f. salicicola*, also known as the "Willow Thrush," had been collected in northern Lake County.

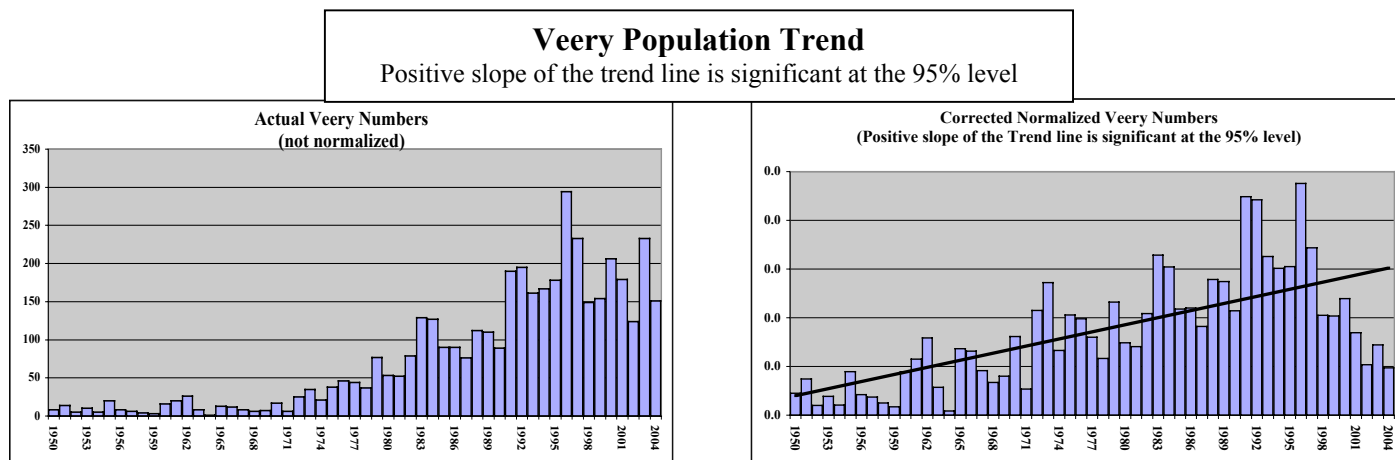
Status

Physical Evidence: Some 13 specimens, plus eggs, are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Carnegie Museum of Natural History				1*
Chicago Academy of Sciences				3
Chicago Field Museum				2
National Museum of Natural History				5
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				2
Univ. of Michigan Museum				1
*A clutch of eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	4	4	6
Central Tier	n	6	7	6
Southern Tier	n	6	7	6
Entire State	n	4	4	6

Population Trend

The 50-year trend line is most impressive, and the positive slope is statistically significant at the 95 percent level; however, note the post-1998 decrease in numbers.



Breeding

Mumford and Keller (1975) summarized the early breeding history of the Veery in Indiana. Three eggs were observed in Wells County on 15 June 1896, which provided the state's first breeding evidence (Mumford and Keller 1975). The center of Indiana's breeding population is in northeastern Indiana (Weldon 1977 and Casebere 1978), but nesting extends across the northern tier to Porter and Newton Counties and southward to Tippecanoe and Montgomery Counties (Tweit 1978). Additionally, Larry Peavler observed fledglings in Eagle Creek Park, Marion County 14 June 1982 (Mumford files). Egg dates range from 27 May though 15 June (Mumford and Keller 1984).

Castrale et al. (1998) found breeding evidence in seven percent of Indiana's 647 priority blocks, most of which was in the northern tier. A few possible or probable evidences of breeding occurred in four central tier counties.

Veery Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
57	11-May-1996	Dunes St Park	L.S. Hinchman	BBC
50	11-May-1996	East Beverly Shores	J.J. McCoy	KJB
31	11-May-1996	West Beverly Shores	K.J. Brock	KJB
All three of the above were associated with a major fallout (Brock 1997).				
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
19	13-Sep-2000	Lake Monroe	C.L. Wood	INB
12	30-Aug-1988	Fox Island Park	J.A. Haw	Haw
6*	03-Sep-1995	Indiana Dunes	S.R. Bagby	SBa
*6 were reported on two additional occasions.				

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	11-Apr-1931	8-May	17-May	3-Jun	Sum. Res.	756
Central	23-Apr-1977	4-May	14-May	26-May	Sum. Res.	200
South	18-Apr-1950	27-Apr	10-May	21-May	Sum. Vis.	70
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum. Res.	27-Jul	3-Sep	17-Sep	8-Oct-94	317
Central	Sum. Res.	30-Aug	10-Sep	26-Sep	30-Oct-84	127
South	Sum. Vis.	---	14-Sep	---	25-Sep-04	17

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