

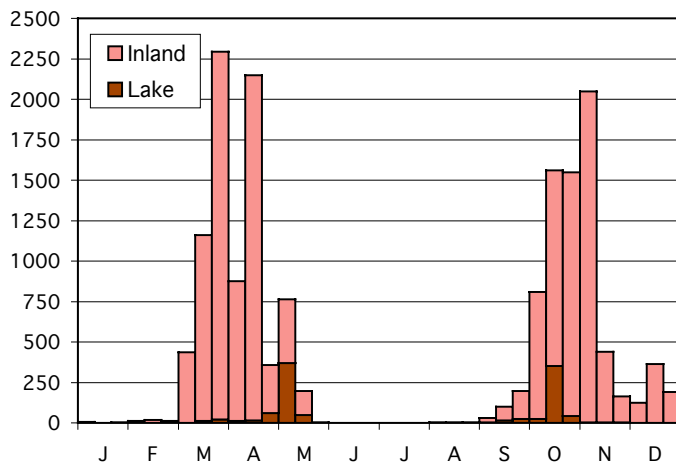
## American Pipit

## *Anthus rubescens*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: Indiana's earliest fully dated Pipit record involved two specimens collected in Franklin County on 21 March 1888 (Mumford files).

Butler (1898) characterized the "American Titlark" as an abundant migrant that occasionally wintered in the south. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it an uncommon migrant, which was very rare in winter. Mumford and Keller (1984) considered the "Water Pipit," as it was then known, a common migrant and casual winter resident in the southern two-thirds of the state.



### Status

Physical Evidence: At least five specimens are known to exist in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Field Museum				3
National Museum of Natural History				2
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	9	4	n	4
Central Tier	6	4	n	4
Southern Tier	6	4	n	4
Entire State	6	4	n	4

### Current Status

The American Pipit is a Common (4) migrant and an Uncommon (6) winter resident in the south.

### Occurrence

Currently the Pipit has been reported in only 66 Indiana counties; however, it has without doubt occurred in many more. Though migrants are frequently heard along the lakefront, most records come from inland sites where preferred habitat occurs.

### Winter Records

Over the past two decades Pipits have been recorded during 14 winters; it has been reported annually since 1996, primarily in southwestern Indiana. Although a majority of the winter reports occur in December (59 percent), multiple January and February records also exist. The maximum winter counts include 202 recorded by J.J. McCoy, B.J. Grube, David Ayer, and J.D. Hengeveld at Lake Gibson 14 December 2003 (IN-BIRD) and 100+ logged by A.W. Bruner and C.C. Murray at Lake Waveland on 27 December 1999 (Keller and Keller 2000).

### American Pipit Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1000	28-Mar-1982	Turtle Creek Res	Denny Jones	NIQ
800	17-Apr-1983	Atterbury FWA	Boyd Gill	REM
250*	14-Mar-1954	Geist Reservoir	M.P. Kahl	REM
*250 Pipits were recorded on one additional occasion				
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
600	01-Nov-1981	Knox Co	Denny Jones	REM
333	15-Oct-1989	St Joseph Co	Virgil Inman	IAQ
300	10-Oct-1991	St Joseph Co	Virgil Inman	IAQ
*300 Pipits were recorded on one additional occasion				

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
<b>North</b>	Win. Vis.	26-Mar	29-Apr	12-May	28-May-1986	217
<b>Central</b>	Win. Res.	15-Mar	7-Apr	2-May	20-May-1958	93
<b>South</b>	Win. Res.	9-Mar	29-Mar	25-Apr	17-May-1932	88
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
<b>North</b>	20-Aug-1999	23-Sep	17-Oct	9-Nov	Win. Vis.	220
<b>Central</b>	5-Sep-1959	22-Sep	25-Oct	12-Nov	Win. Res.	102
<b>South</b>	8-Aug-1982	29-Sep	1-Nov	20-Nov	Win. Res.	95

### References Cited

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

IN-BIRD, a Listserv dealing with Indiana birds developed and maintained by P.W. Kelly. The records are archived at: <http://listserv.indiana.edu/archives/in-bird-l.html>

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

Keller, Pamela and T.C. Keller (2000) Field Notes Winter 1999-2000, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 78:141-153.

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.