

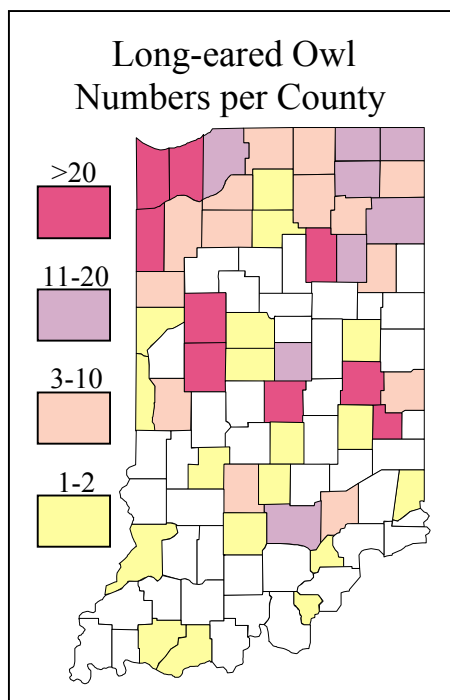
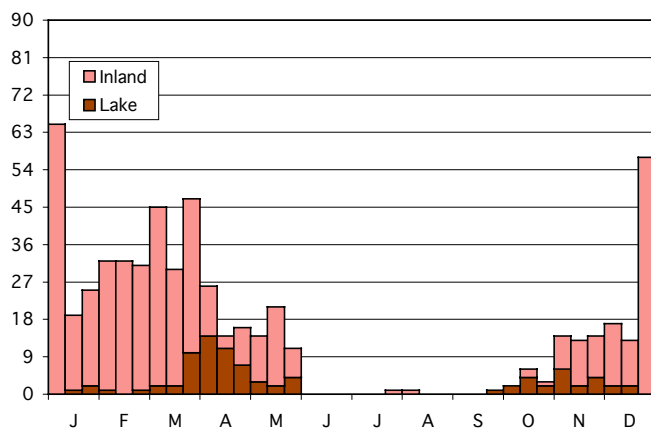
## Long-eared Owl

## *Asio otus*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: The earliest fully dated Indiana Long-eared Owl report consisted of two adults and two young taken by H.W. McBride in DeKalb County 29 April 1890 (Butler 1898).

In describing the Long-eared Owl status, Butler (1898) referred to it as a resident, which was uncommon in summer and more common in winter. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it a very rare summer resident and rare winter visitant in the north and very rare to casual in the remainder of the state. Mumford and Keller (1984) considered it a resident, which was less common in summer.



### Status

Physical Evidence: Some eleven specimens are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list, and Richards 1987).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Field Museum				2
National Museum of Natural History				2
Indiana State Museum				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				4
Univ. of Michigan Museum				2
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	7	7	n	7
Central Tier	7	8	n	0
Southern Tier	8	8	n	0
Entire State	7	7	n	7

### Current Status

The Long-eared Owl is Rare (7) in winter, spring, and fall; there have been no summer period records in the past 20 years.

### Occurrence

Although reports are concentrated in the northern half of Indiana (see distribution map), Long-eared Owls have been reported in at least 49 counties. They are most frequently encountered in conifer groves. Over the past two decades an average of 12.4 birds has been reported annually in the state.

### Migration

The Long-eared Owl migration is obscured by the presence of winter residents and is best assessed by considering only

reports from the lakefront where migrants appear with some regularity. Migration envelopes employing only lakefront data (see below) suggest a spring flight between late March and early

Dunes Area						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
<b>Spring</b>	1-Mar-1959	21-Mar	14-Apr	12-May	25-May-1914	36
<b>Fall</b>	30-Sep-2000	---	1-Nov	---	29-Nov-1961	20

Note: these envelopes are based solely on lakefront records.

### References Cited

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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. (1976) Nesting of the Long-eared Owl in Indiana, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 44:114.

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

Richards, R.L. (1987) The Vertebrate Collection of the Indiana State Museum: "Old" Specimens and Records, *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* 97:547-570.