

## **SPECIES ACCOUNTS: Contents**

### **THE NARRATIVE**

The information provided for each species is arranged in the following categories.

#### **Historical**

This section includes Indiana's earliest published reports and status assessments by previous authors. Exhaustive research to locate the earliest published record was not conducted; without doubt earlier records exist for many of the more common species.

#### **Status**

The physical evidence for each species occurrence in the state is given in this section along with a listing of specimens housed in various museums. Known specimen locations are tabulated in the Status Table.

Abundance information is succinctly tabulated in the "20-Year Abundance" section of the Status Table. Employing abundance code numbers, this table lists seasonal abundance codes for the three tiers of counties.

#### **Occurrence**

This section contains pertinent data about species distribution within the state, migration information, and unusual occurrences.

#### Migration histograms

Charts, which graph number of individuals versus time intervals, accompany the discussions of most species. The time unit is ten days, i.e., three units per month; duration of the final time interval is adjusted to accommodate months containing other than 30 days. Within the histograms bar height indicates the number of individuals recorded during each ten-day period. Numbers from Lake Michigan are indicated in deep red, whereas, contributions from inland sites are pink. For more details see the Migration Histograms file.

#### Maps

For about a third of the species a map showing distribution by county is included. In some cases a regional map, illustrating abundance rankings or species ratios, is used. The Map folder in the Species Account section also contains base maps of the nine regions.

#### **Population Trends**

One factor that has changed drastically in Indiana ornithology, especially over the past two decades, is the quantity of available bird records. Vast amounts of avian data are now available from across Indiana; however, the temporal distribution of these data is extremely heterogeneous. The erratic scattering of these records renders this information difficult to evaluate and virtually impossible to use for determining population trends. An "Average Curve"

treatment was developed to assist in extracting trends from this irregular data. These results are presented graphically in this section. For more details see the Population Trends file.

### **Breeding**

If nesting has occurred in the state it is discussed in this section.

### **Species Data**

The data section consists of two tables: the “Maximum Single Party Counts” and the “Migration Envelopes.”

#### Maximum Single Party Counts

The largest single party counts are tabulated in the Maximum Single Party Counts table. For most species this listing includes the highest counts in both spring and fall; in some cases, however, all counts are combined in a single tabulation.

#### Migration Envelopes

Provide a numerical analysis of the migration. For more details see the Migration Envelopes file.