

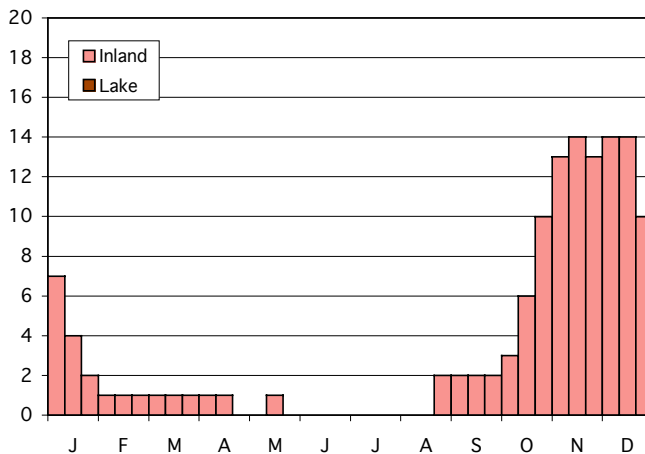
Rufous Hummingbird

Selasphorus rufus

Historical Information

First Published Record: Thomas, John, and Linda Michael observed an adult male Rufous Hummingbird near Mississinewa Reservoir (Grant County) on 11-12 May 1985, providing Indiana's first record of this western hummingbird (Gorney 2004). This report constitutes the state's only May record.

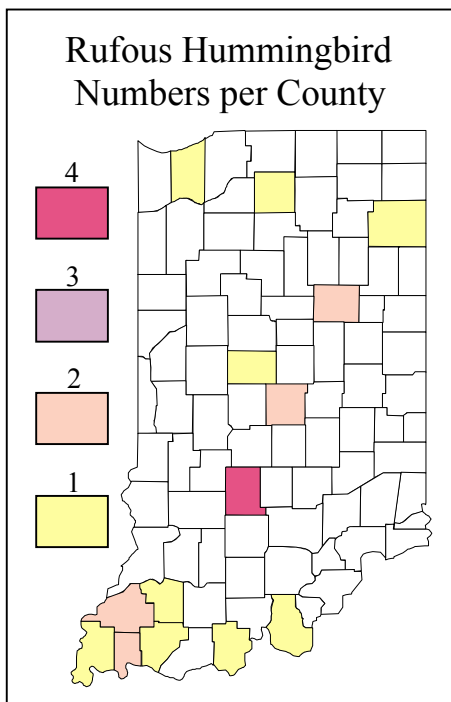
Earlier authors did not mention Rufous Hummingbird.



Status

Physical Evidence: At least three Indiana specimens are housed in museums (Gorney 2004 and pers. comm.).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Field Museum				2
J. Moore Museum, Earlham College				2
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	n	n	10
Central Tier	9	n	n	9
Southern Tier	7	10	n	7
Entire State	7	10	n	7



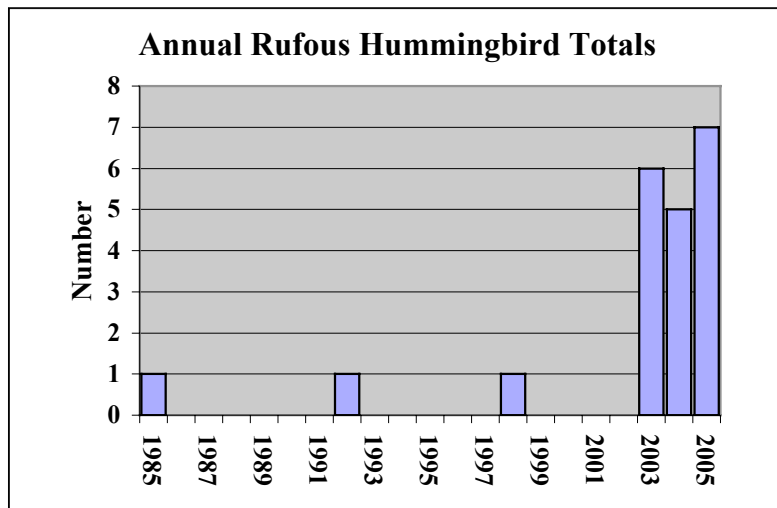
Current Status

The Rufous Hummingbird is Rare (7) in Indiana; however, this status must be tempered by the observation that dozens of unidentified hummingbirds belonging to the genus *Selasphorus* have also been reported in the state; most of these were also likely this species.

Occurrence

Although Indiana's 21 Rufous Hummingbird records are scattered across 14 counties (see distribution map), a majority occurred in the southern tier. Numbers have exploded in recent years with 86 percent of the state's records occurring since 2002 (see chart below). Indeed, Rufous Hummingbirds have become so prevalent that in 2006 the Indiana Bird Records Committee removed this species from the state's review list. This recent increase can be attributed to a greater awareness of late fall and winter hummingbirds and especially the banding efforts of Allen Chartier and Cathie Hutcheson (virtually all Indiana Rufous Hummingbirds are identified during banding).

Most Rufous Hummingbirds appear at feeding stations in autumn and many linger through mid-winter, resulting in multiple migration histogram entries for each record (i.e., the numerous reports indicated on the migration histogram represent only 21 individuals). A breakdown of Indiana's Rufous Hummingbirds by age and gender is as follows: five adult males, six adult females, two immature males, and eight immature females (Gorney 2004 and pers. comm.).



Extreme Record

An immature female Rufous that arrived at the Poseyville feeding station of Sharon and Walter Broadhead on 28 October 2005 wins the perseverance award; Cathie Hutcheson identified the bird on 1 December 2005 as it was banded. This hearty individual subsequently wintered at the site, ultimately lingering until 15 April 2006. (Gorney pers. comm.). This durable hummingbird provided Indiana's only record for the months of February, March, and April (Note that these months fall outside the 31 January 2006 cutoff date for this work, but were sufficiently important to warrant appending).

Unidentified *Selasphorus* Hummingbirds

Supplementing the 21 Indiana Rufous Hummingbird records are more than two-dozen additional birds identified as either *Selasphorus* or Rufous/Allen's hummingbirds. The migration envelope below incorporates all Rufous and *Selasphorus* Hummingbird records.

Combined Migration Envelope for both Rufous and Unidentified <i>Selasphorus</i> Hummingbirds						
Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Year	26-Jul-2005	27-Sep	Win. Vis.	19-Jan	12-May-1985	49

Acknowledgement

The author is indebted to Don Gorney who generously shared his extensive and detailed compilation of Indiana hummingbird data. He also reviewed this summary and made many helpful suggestions.

References Cited

Gorney, D. (2004) *Selasphorus* Hummingbird Records For Indiana Through 2003, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 82:213-224.