

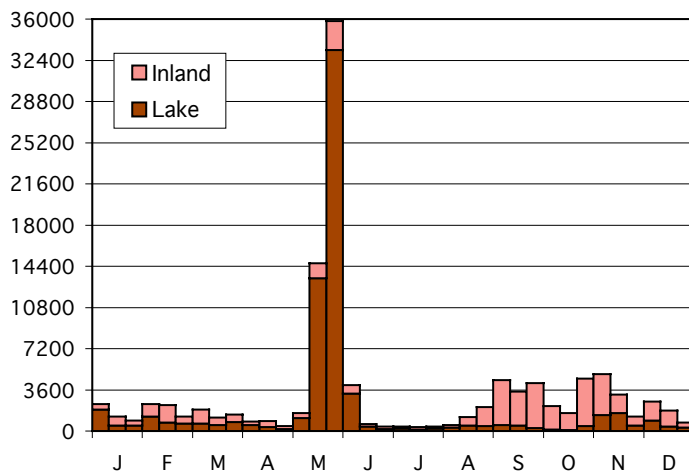
Cedar Waxwing

Bombycilla cedrorum

Historical Information

First Published Record: A Cedar Waxwing collected in Franklin County on 4 March 1877 (Mumford files) appears to constitute the state's earliest formal report.

Butler (1898) deemed the "Cedar Bird" a resident that roamed about the state in flocks. Keller et al. (1979) considered it a fairly common resident, which was a common migrant in spring and abundant in fall. Mumford and Keller (1984) basically concurred with Butler's assessment.



Status

Physical Evidence: Some 38 specimens, plus eggs, are housed in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Academy of Sciences				2
Chicago Field Museum				7
National Museum of Natural History				16
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				10
Univ. of Michigan Museum				7*
*Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	3	2	3	3
Central Tier	3	4	5	3
Southern Tier	3	4	5	2
Entire State	3	2	3	2

Current Status

The Cedar Waxwing is a permanent resident, which is an Abundant (2) migrant.

Occurrence

This common and widespread waxwing has been recorded in all 92 Indiana counties. It is quite gregarious and usually appears in small flocks. Outside of the migration periods the peak count consisted of 720 birds observed by C.L. Wood in Monroe County 8 December 2000 (IN-BIRD).

Migration

As illustrated in the migration histogram movement along the lakefront dominates the spring flight, whereas fall activity is most prevalent away from the lake. Enormous numbers are recorded in spring as Cedar Waxwings execute massive flights along Lake Michigan's shores. Indeed, all spring counts in the maximum count table involved longshore flight tallies. In fall the data suggest two more modest periods of migration: one in late September and the other in early November (see migration envelopes).

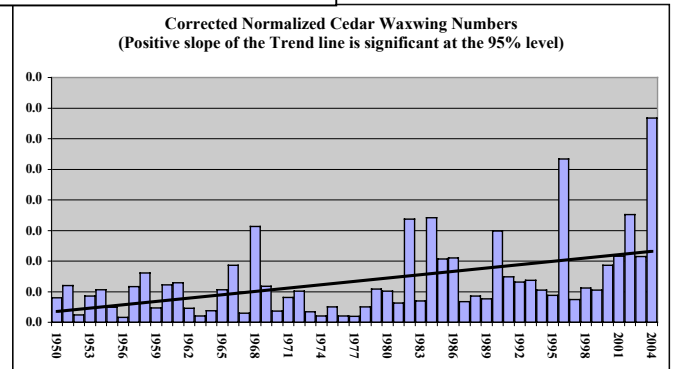
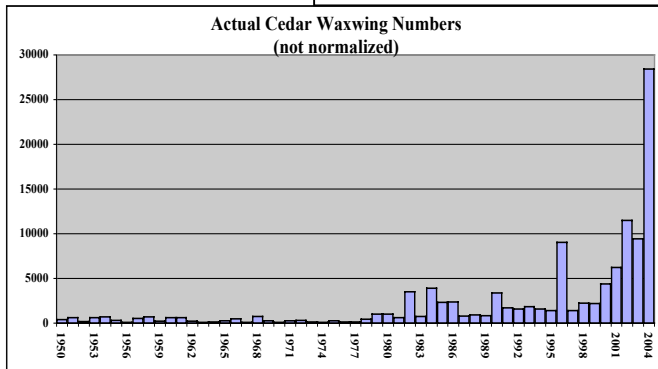
Extreme Record

The state's largest count occurred during a longshore flight of 13,800 birds observed by B.J. Grube at the Dunes State Park green tower on 22 May 2004 (IN-BIRD). This tally is double Indiana's next highest count.

Population Trend

The 50-year population data suggest that Cedar Waxwings are prospering in Indiana. Positive slope of the trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.

Cedar Waxwing Population Trend
Positive slope of the trend line is significant at the 95% level



Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) gathered breeding evidence in 71 percent of Indiana's 647 priority blocks, with evidence found in every county except Tipton. Active nests have been observed from 2 June through 14 August.

Cedar Waxwing Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
13800	22-May-2004	Dunes St Park	B.J. Grube	INB
6524	23-May-2004	Dunes St Park	J.J. McCoy	INB
5055	19-May-1996	Mich. City Harbor	K.J. Brock	KJB
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1200	10-Nov-1990	Franklin Co	Paul Wharton	NKE
800	10-Sep-1984	LaPorte Co	R.S. Plank	IAQ
500	26-Oct-1991	Salamonie Res	J.A. Haw	Haw

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Win. Res.	18-Mar	16-May	4-Jun	Sum. Res.	635
Central	Win. Res.	20-Mar	12-May	2-Jun	Sum. Res.	212
South	Win. Res.	5-Mar	12-May	1-Jun	Sum. Res.	98
Fall- Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
1 st peak	Sum. Res.	30-Aug	21-Sep	9-Oct	Win. Res.	144
2 nd peak	Sum. Res.	20-Oct	9-Nov	13-Dec	Win. Res.	121

References Cited

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

Castrale, J.S., E.M. Hopkins, and C.E. Keller (1998) *Atlas of breeding Birds of Indiana*, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 388 pp.

IN-BIRD, a Listserve 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.

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.