

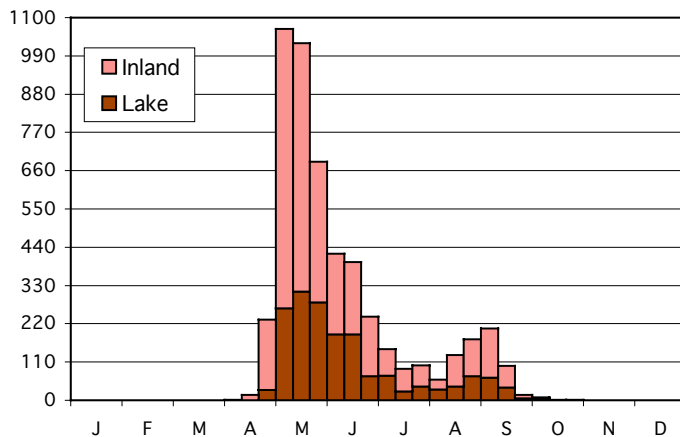
## Great Crested Flycatcher

## *Myiarchus crinitus*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: A specimen collected in Franklin County on 11 May 1881, provided Indiana's earliest record of this large flycatcher (Mumford files).

Butler (1890) deemed the "Crested Flycatcher" a common summer resident. Keller et al. (1979) referred to this *Myiarchus* flycatcher as a common summer resident and Mumford and Keller (1984) considered it a common migrant and summer resident.



### Status

Physical Evidence: Nine specimens, plus eggs, are preserved in museums including two skins at the Chicago Field Museum (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

| STATUS TABLE                       |     |     |     |      |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Specimens                          |     |     |     |      |
| Museum                             | No. |     |     |      |
| Carnegie Museum of Natural History | 2*  |     |     |      |
| Chicago Field Museum               | 2   |     |     |      |
| National Museum of Natural History | 2   |     |     |      |
| Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory   | 2   |     |     |      |
| Univ. of Michigan Museum           | 4*  |     |     |      |
| *Includes eggs                     |     |     |     |      |
| 20-Year Abundance Table            |     |     |     |      |
|                                    | Win | Spr | Sum | Fall |
| Northern Tier                      | n   | 4   | 5   | 6    |
| Central Tier                       | n   | 5   | 6   | 6    |
| Southern Tier                      | n   | 5   | 6   | 6    |
| Entire State                       | n   | 4   | 5   | 6    |

### Current Status

The Great Crested Flycatcher is a migrant and summer resident. It is observed most frequently during the spring migration when it is Common (4).

### Occurrence

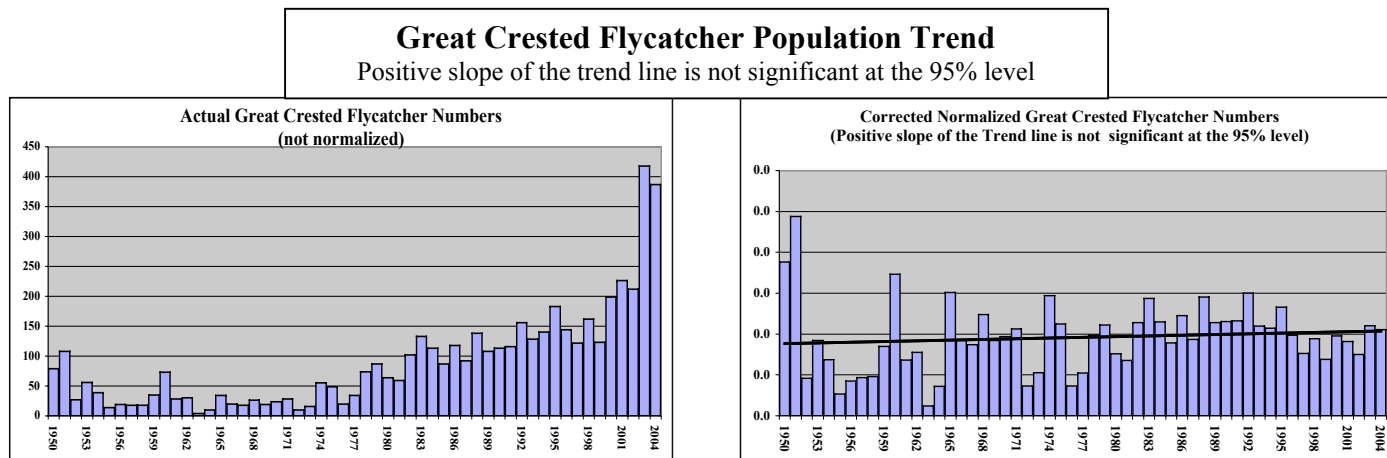
Perhaps due to its vocalizations, this noisy flycatcher is detected more often in spring than in fall (peak spring counts are higher by a factor of three to four). This characteristic is well illustrated in the migration histogram. It is widespread across the state with reports from every Indiana county. Over the past 20 years an average of about 191 birds per year has been reported in the state. The presence of numerous summer records confounds the calculation of migration envelopes for each tier; consequently, only statewide envelopes are presented.

### Extreme Record

The earliest spring record, 8 April 1991 in Hendricks County, was reported by Judith Hanson (pers. comm.), and precedes the next earliest report by six days. Some ten October records exist. Ted Chandik recorded the latest of these in Jasper County on the unusually late date of 23 October 1954 (Mumford files).

## Population Trend

The 50-year trend line appears near horizontal, but has a slightly positive slope, which is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



## Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) collected breeding evidence in 88 percent of the 647 priority blocks. It breeds widely across the state. Nests have been reported between 22 April and 6 July. Eggs have been reported from 8 May through 18 June and nests reported as late as early July.

## Great Crested Flycatcher Data

| Maximum Single Party Counts                  |             |                 |              |      |
|--|-------------|-----------------|--------------|------|
| Spring                                       |             |                 |              |      |
| Number                                       | Date        | Location        | Observer     | Ref. |
| 33   | 28-May-2005 | Multiple Sites* | S.R. Bagby   | KJB  |
| 31   | 25-May-1988 | Hancock Co      | H.C. West    | HCW  |
| 30   | 11-May-1947 | Tippecanoe Co   | I.W. Burr    | IAQ  |
| *Kankakee FWA (28) and Willow Slough FWA (5) |             |                 |              |      |
| Fall   |             |                 |              |      |
| Number                                       | Date        | Location        | Observer     | Ref. |
| 11   | 11-Sep-1960 | Geist Reservoir | H.C. West    | HCW  |
| 7  | 3-Sep-1984  | Fox Island Park | J. A. Haw    | IAQ  |
| 7  | 8-Sep-2002  | Tippecanoe Co.  | R.E. Allison | INB  |

| Migration Envelopes |            |        |        |        |             |         |
|---------------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|---------|
| Entire State        |            |        |        |        |             |         |
|                     | Earliest   | Arrive | Peak   | Depart | Latest      | Records |
| Spring              | 8-Apr-1991 | 1-May  | 13-May | 25-May | Sum. Res.   | 1583    |
| Fall                | Sum. Res.  | 12-Aug | 1-Sep  | 16-Sep | 23-Oct-1954 | 553     |

## References Cited

Butler, A. W. (1890) The Birds of Indiana, Appendix to *Transactions of the Indiana Horticultural Society for 1890* (available on the web).

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

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.