

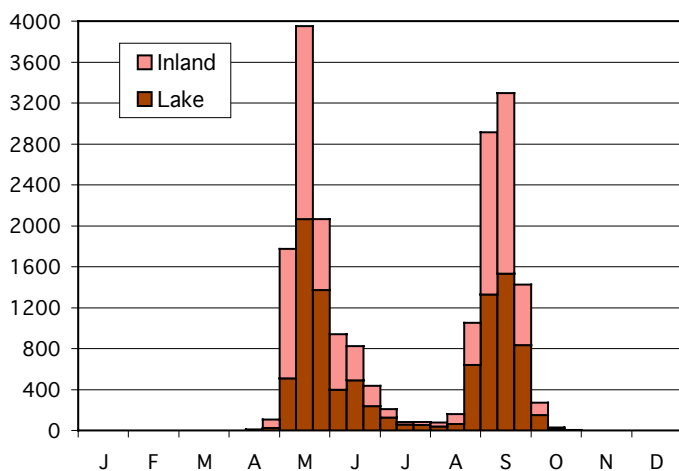
American Redstart

Setophaga ruticilla

Historical Information

First Published Record: A.W. Butler observed a pair on 4 May 1882 (Butler 1898), which constitutes Indiana's earliest published record.

Butler (1898) considered the Redstart common to abundant. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it a common migrant and fairly common (north) to rare (south) summer resident. Mumford and Keller (1984) characterized the Redstart as a common migrant and fairly common summer resident.



Current Status

The American Redstart is a Very Common (3) migrant and Common (4) summer resident.

Occurrence

This striking warbler has been recorded in at least 88 counties. Based on statewide rankings the Redstart is the fifth most numerous spring warbler and the second most commonly encountered fall warbler (behind the Yellow-rumped).

Extreme Records

Mumford and Keller (1984) listed a 12 April record; however, no year, location, or reference was given. These authors also reported that a live Redstart was observed in Terre Haute in early December 1978. Indiana has two November records. R.J. Fleetwood recorded the first in Elkhart County on 11 November 1932 (Mumford files). The second November Redstart, a female or immature male, was observed by James Cole, Becky Lomax, and Amanda Smith at Cool Creek Park, Hamilton County on 7 November 2003 (IN-BIRD). R.S. Plank recorded all three of the largest spring counts (see maximum count table) along the well known 10-mile drive at Kankakee FWA.

Status

Physical Evidence: At least a dozen specimens, plus eggs, are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

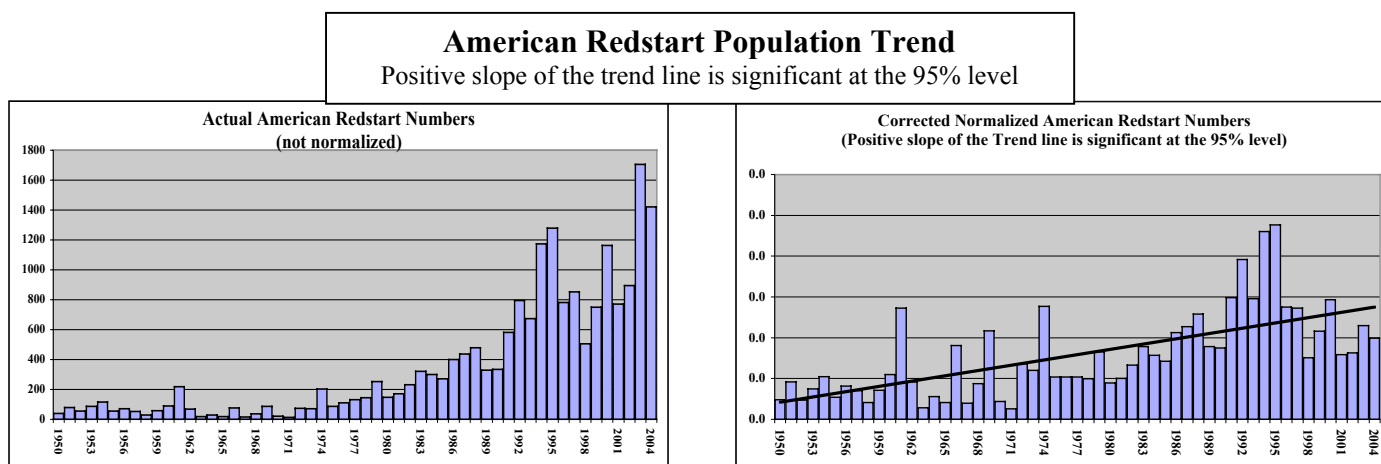
STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Carnegie Museum of Natural History				2
Chicago Academy of Sciences				3*
National Museum of Natural History				7*
Milwaukee Public Museum				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				1
Univ. of Michigan Museum				1*
*Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	3	4	3
Central Tier	n	5	6	3
Southern Tier	n	5	6	4
Entire State	n	3	4	3

Summer Records

Redstarts have been reported in each of the past 20 years, with a mean summer total of 122 individuals per year.

Population Trend

Although corrected numbers after 1995 have declined, the 50-year data indicate an increase in the American Redstart population. Positive slope of the trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



Breeding

In the Indiana Atlas Project breeding evidence was reported in 19 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks (Castrale et al. 1998). Breeding activity was concentrated in the Monroe-Brown County area and in north central Indiana. Mumford and Keller (1984) list egg dates from 21 May through 22 June.

American Redstart Data				
Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring/early Summer				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
203	08-May-1994	Kankakee FWA	R.S. Plank	IAQ
196	02-Jun-1995	Kankakee FWA	R.S. Plank	IAQ
192	18-May-1997	Kankakee FWA	R.S. Plank	IQM
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
225*	13-Sep-2000	Lake Monroe	C.L. Wood	INB
91	11-Sep-1999	Lakefront traps	K.J. Brock	KJB
73	20-Sep-2003	Lakefront traps	J.K. Cassady	INB
*Includes a nocturnal flight count				

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	15-Apr-2000	9-May	18-May	1-Jun	Sum. Res.	1099
Central	19-Apr-2002	3-May	15-May	27-May	Sum. Res.	374
South	17-Apr-1993	27-Apr	11-May	26-May	Sum. Res.	179
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum. Res.	25-Aug	11-Sep	27-Sep	11-Nov-1932	1670
Central	Sum. Res.	31-Aug	15-Sep	29-Sep	7-Nov-2003	614
South	Sum. Res.	31-Aug	15-Sep	28-Sep	19-Oct-2003	273

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.

Last modified: 12 Oct 2005