

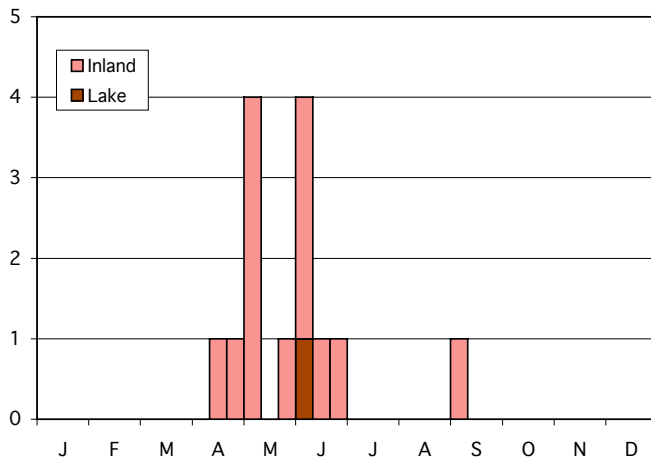
## Purple Gallinule

*Porphyrio martinica*

### Historical Information

**First Published record:** Ford (1956) referred to one in a taxidermy shop, which was from Tolleston in Lake County; this bird was apparently taken about 1868. Butler (1898) indicated that a Purple Gallinule was captured near the mouth of the Big Miami River 31 March 1877, but questioned whether this location was within Indiana's borders. He also mentioned a gallinule captured in Franklin County in spring 1880 and a specimen from Decatur County collected in May 1883; quite remarkably however, the first fully dated Indiana record did not occur until 5 May 1962 when I.W. Burr discovered one at Lilly Pond in Tippecanoe County (Burr 1979).

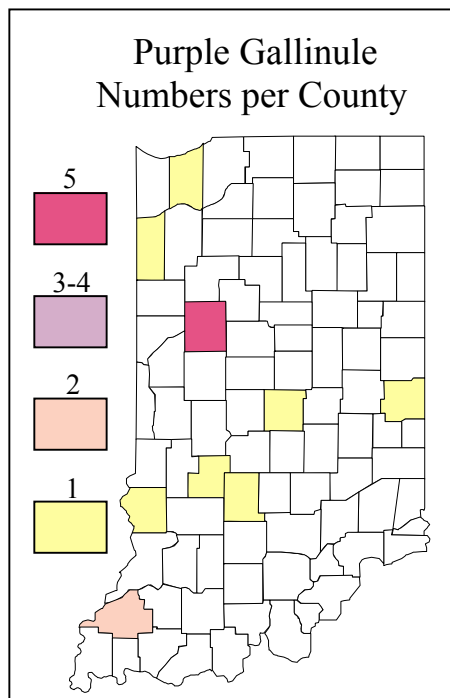
Butler (1890) deemed the Purple Gallinule a rare migrant and rare summer resident. Neither Keller et al. (1979) nor Mumford and Keller (1984) provided status assessments.



### Status

**Physical Evidence:** Two specimens are housed in the state's museums (Mumford files, IN-BIRD, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list, and Gorney, in press)

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
J. Moore Museum, Earlham College				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				1
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	n	10	n
Central Tier	n	10	n	n
Southern Tier	n	10	10	10
Entire State	n	9	9	10



### Current Status

The Purple Gallinule is Accidental (10) in each tier, but Occasional (9) statewide during spring and summer.

### Occurrence

The 14 records of this colorful water bird are scattered across nine counties, with the largest concentration in Tippecanoe County. Except for the Wayne County bird, all occurred in the western half of the state (see distribution map). The Purple Gallinule has been reported in four of the past twenty years. A regional invasion occurred in 1999, bringing at least four birds to Indiana. The most unusual of these was one found dead in downtown Indianapolis about 24 May 1999; the specimen is now in the Purdue collection (IN-BIRD).

### Fall Record

The single fall record involved a fresh road killed immature found by Pat Munson near Kirksville, Monroe County on 3 September 1991; it was documented and photographed by D.R. Whitehead (Brown 1992).

<b>Purple Gallinule Records</b>				
<b>All fully dated Records</b>				
<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Observer</b>	<b>Ref.</b>
1	05-May-1962	Tippecanoe Co	I.W. Burr	IAQ
1	03-Jun-1962	Tippecanoe Co	Bruce Fall	REM
1	29-Apr-1963	Wayne Co	???	REM
1	07-May-1964	Tippecanoe Co	I.W. Burr	IAQ
1	16-Jun-1973	Tippecanoe Co	E.M. Hopkins	REM
1	23-Jun-1973	Willow Slough	E.M. Hopkins	IAQ
1	05-Jun-1985	Dunes St Park	???	IAQ
1	03-Sep-1991	Monroe Co	Pat Munson	IAQ
1	08-Jun-1995	Gibson Co	Muriel Smith	IAQ
1	08-May-1999	Lake Gibson	C.E. Mills	INB
1	08-May-1999	Tippecanoe Co	J.B. Dunning	NAB
1	24-May-1999	Indianapolis	R. Rutledge	INB
1	06-Jun-1999	Minnehaha FWA	M.R. Brown	IAQ
1	14-Apr-2005	Owen Co	DNR staff	INB

<b>Migration Envelopes</b>						
<b>Entire State</b>						
	<b>Earliest</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Peak</b>	<b>Depart</b>	<b>Latest</b>	<b>Records</b>
<b>Spring</b>	14-Apr-2005	---	24-May	---	23-Jun-1973	13
<b>Fall</b>	3-Sep-1991	---	---	---	3-Sep-1991	1

### **References Cited**

Brown, M.R. (1992) Field Notes Fall 1991, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 70:163-175.

Burr, I. W. (1979) The Birds of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 57:1-43.

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

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

Ford, E. R. (1956) *Birds of the Chicago Region*, Special Publ. No. 12 Chicago Acad. Sci, 117 pp.

Gorney, D. (in press) Report of the Indiana Bird Records Committee-2005, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, in press.

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.