

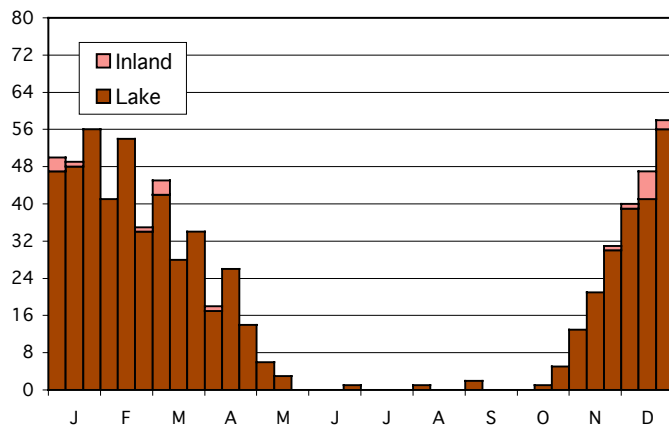
Glaucous Gull

Larus hyperboreus

Historical Information

First Published Record: A specimen collected at Millers (Miller Beach) by F.M. Woodruff on 8 August 1897 (Butler 1898) constitutes Indiana's first record of this species. Oddly, this remains the state's only August record.

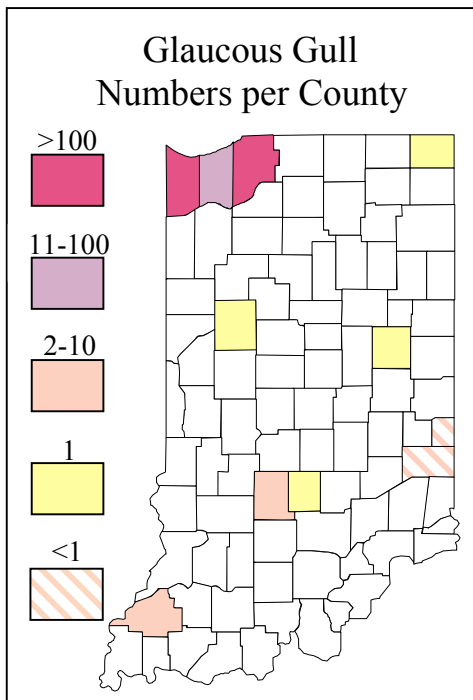
Butler (1890) considered this Arctic gull an occasional winter visitor on Lake Michigan and Keller et al. (1979) deemed it a periodic rare to very rare visitor on the lake. Mumford and Keller (1984) revised the status to a rare or uncommon winter visitor on Lake Michigan.



Status

Physical Evidence: No extant specimens are known (S.F. Jackson unpublished list), but a number of photographs have been published (Keller 1994).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
No known specimens				0
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	6	6	10	7
Central Tier	10	n	n	n
Southern Tier	8	9	n	10
Entire State	6	6	10	7



Current Status

In winter and early spring the Glaucous Gull is Uncommon (6) near Lake Michigan; it is Very Rare (8) to Accidental (10) away from the lake.

Occurrence

Although the Glaucous Gull is primarily a winter resident on Lake Michigan, it has occurred in eight inland counties (see distribution map). The striped pattern in Franklin and Union Counties reflects a bird reported only as occurring on Brookville Reservoir, thus the exact county is unknown. The largest numbers occur on Lake Michigan; well over 300 birds have been reported in LaPorte County.

Out of Season Records

The anomalous June report involved a first-year bird seen by B.J. Grube off Beverly Shores 22 June 1997 (Jackson 1998) and the August record is described in the Historical section. In addition two second-year Glaucous Gulls have been reported during the first ten days of September. The



First-year Glaucous Gull at Michigan City Harbor 28 November 2001. This individual is unusually dark. Photo by K.J. Brock

first was observed at Miller Beach by J. O'Brien 10 September 1993 (Brown 1994) and L.S. Hinchman saw the second at Michigan City Harbor 7 September 1996 (Buskirk 1998).

Plumages

As shown in the plumages table, first-year or juvenile plumages are reported most frequently. This likely reflects the conspicuousness of this very distinctive plumage. Other Glaucous Gull plumages are not as easily detected. First and second-year birds are very similar;

consequently listed percentages of these two are likely of low accuracy.

Percent of Aged Plumages

Adult	Win.	2nd-year	1st-year or juv.	Imm
30%	5%	12%	50%	3%

Glaucous Gull Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
13	15-Jan-2005	N. Lake Co	J.K. Cassady	INB
7	02-Jan-1994	N. Lake Co	S.R. Bagby	KJB
7	11-Feb-1995	Lakefront	J.K. Cassady	KJB
7	07-Jan-1997	Lakefront	J.J. McCoy	KJB
7	21-Feb-2004	Multiple Sites	J.K. Cassady	KJB
6	15-Mar-1997	Lake Co lakefront	K.J. Brock	KJB

Migration Envelopes

Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Winter	08-Aug-1897	10-Nov	Win. Res.	14-Apr	22-Jun-1997	576

References Cited

Brown, M.R. (1994) Field Notes Fall 1993, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 72:6-26.

Buskirk, R.F. (1998) Field Notes Fall 1996 *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 76:9-35.

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.

Jackson, S.F. (1998) Field Notes Summer 1997, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 76:145-168.

Keller, C.E., S.A. Keller, and T.C. Keller (1979) *Indiana Birds and Their Haunts*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 214 pp.

Keller, T.C. (1994) Index of Published Photographic Documentation of the Birds of Indiana, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 72:119-130.

Mumford, R.E. and C.E. Keller (1984) *The Birds of Indiana*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 376 pp.

Last update: 4 March 2005