

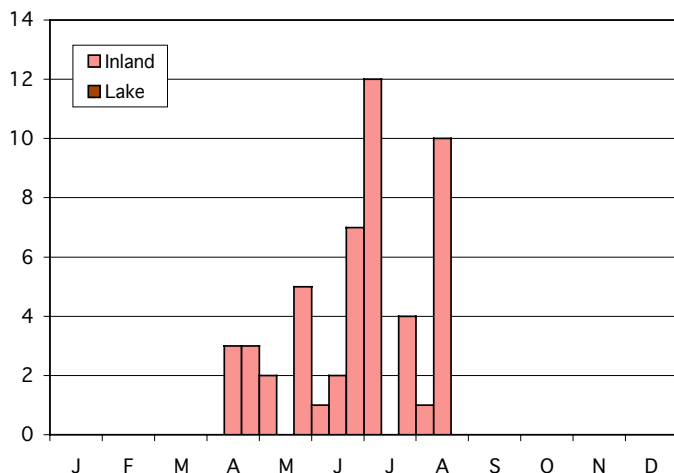
Fish Crow

Corvus ossifragus

Historical Information

First Published Record: The Fish Crow is a relative newcomer to Indiana. The state's first accepted report consisted of approximately 10 individuals discovered by R.L. Hedge along the Ohio River in Posey County on 15 August 1991 (Bruner 1996).

Earlier authors did not mention this species.



Status

Physical Evidence: There are no known specimens, but a tape recording (Jackson 1993) and a video with audible calls are in the Indiana Bird Records Committee files (Gorney 2004).

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

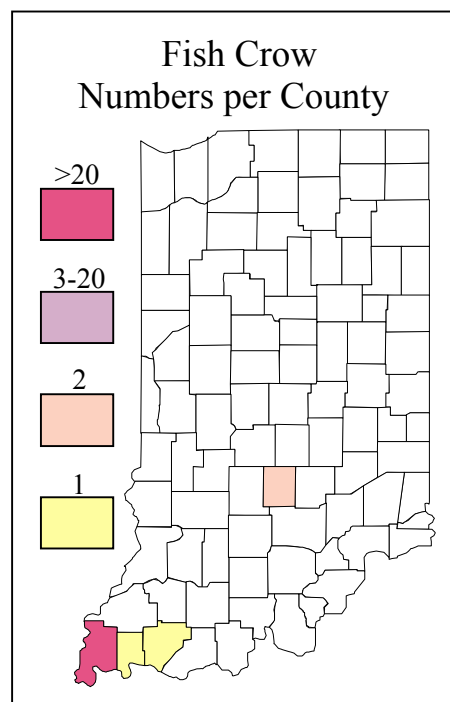
Current Status

The Fish Crow is Rare (7) in the southern tier.

Occurrence

This coastal species has been systematically moving up the Mississippi River system. It was first recorded in Kentucky 24 May 1959 and is now regular in that state along the Mississippi and Ohio River floodplains (Palmer-Ball 2003). Several earlier reports preceded R.L. Hedge's 15 August 1991 first state record, but the Indiana Bird Records Committee did not accept these.

The Fish Crow has now become regular at Uniontown and has been reported in eleven of the past 13 years. This species was also recorded near Chandler in Warrick County 19 April 1998 (Buskirk 1999) and, most remarkably, at Lake Lemon in Brown County 26 April and 5 May 2003 (Gorney 2003).



Fish Crow Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Entire Year				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
10	15-Aug-1991	Posey Co	R.L. Hedge	BRC
8	08-Jul-1995	Posey Co	J.A. Haw	Haw
3	25-Jul-1992	Posey Co	S.F. Jackson	NAB
3	01-Jul-2003	Posey Co	David Ayer	IAQ
2	14-Jun-1997	Posey Co	A.W. Bruner	IAQ
2	23-Jun-2002	Posey Co	E.M. Hopkins	INB
Two were recorded on three additional occasions.				

References Cited

Bruner, A. W. (1996) Report of the Indiana Bird Records Committee—1992-1995, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 74:65-80.

Buskirk, R.F. (1999) Field Notes Spring 1998 *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 77:159-176.

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Gorney, D. (2004) Report of the Indiana Bird Records Committee-2003, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 82:2-18.

Jackson, S.F. (1993) Field Notes Summer 1992, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 71:125-138.

Palmer-Ball, B. (2003) *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky*, Kentucky Ornithological Society, 200pp.