

FIELD NOTES WINTER 2006

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Weather. As Jim Haw noted, “Temperatures were well below normal from the latter half of Nov until about Dec. 20. That period was also snowy, with an 8-in snowfall in Ft. Wayne highlighting a total of half of an average winter’s snowfall in that one month period. Then, just as the calendar began to read winter, it turned mild. Jan was the warmest on record at Ft. Wayne, with considerable rain. Cold weather returned in mid February, and the weekend of Feb 18-19 brought the coldest weather of the winter as the mercury dropped to 4 above.

“The cold weather early in the period drove most late migrants and semi-hardy species south. Almost all water froze, and waterfowl also departed. With few northern invaders around and few of the more southerly winterers left to enjoy the mild January, it was a dull winter ornithologically. Some early spring migrants – a few waterfowl, Sandhill Cranes, Turkey Vultures, blackbirds – had begun to return by the end of February, but on the whole spring migration was retarded at the end of the period.”

Invasive northern species. The winter of 2005-2006 was not an invasion year for northern species. No eiders or Goshawks were reported. Compared to typical years (data from Brock’s *Birds of Indiana*) Snowy Owl sightings were at average levels. Purple Finch and Pine Siskin numbers were very low in northern Indiana, with the majority of reports coming from the southern tier. Only two Common Redpolls were reported (one observation), with no Pine Grosbeaks, crossbills, Hoary Redpolls, or Evening Grosbeaks being reported.

Rarities. Indiana hosted a surprising number of rarities during the winter season. Many of these sightings corresponded with the increasing continent-wide trend for southern birds to remain north of their traditional wintering grounds. These sightings included a Blue-winged Teal, Ring-necked Ducks in northern Indiana, single inland Surf and White-winged Scoters, Indiana’s first documented winter record of Osprey, half a dozen Merlins, a Prairie Falcon, a Virginia Rail, Indiana’s first winter record of Sora in 106 years, a Baird’s Sandpiper, one or more Purple Sandpipers, n.e. Indiana’s first Feb record of Bonaparte’s Gull, one or more California Gulls, a record high number of Eurasian Collared-Doves, at least 5 Rufous Hummingbirds, Indiana’s first overwintering *Selasphorus* hummingbird, a Loggerhead Shrike, Indiana’s first winter record of Blue-headed Vireo, a duo of Tree Swallows, and a lingering Townsend’s Solitaire.

This report includes data from single- and multiple-observer submissions covering one or more sites each but attempts to exclude data from Christmas Bird Counts unless those reports include species not reported elsewhere. A total of approximately 12,000 observations were compiled and reviewed during this analysis.

Reports were submitted by Alan Bruner, Jerry Downs, Jim Haw, Roger Hedge, Steve Lima, Carolyn Marsh, Steve Pancol, Timothy Roth II, and Peter Scott. Special thanks to these birders.

The following observers submitted sightings to eBird (thus saving this Field Notes compiler a tremendous amount of time – thanks!): Patricia Angotti, Jay Bolden, Jim Campbell, Laura Carr, James Cole, Bob Crail, Bob Daming, Trudy Davis, Jerry Downs, Kristen Floyd, Timothy Grimm, Doug Hall, Larry Harman, Bert Harrison, Craig Haza, Clinton Hedges, Gregory Hess, Thomas Kammel, Cristie Kellar, Norma King, Brandon Kirk, James Kittinger, Dale Koeman, Barry Kress, Patrick Krueger, Paul Krusling, Ron Lahr, Michael Lennartz, Frederick May, Jerri Meehan, Jim Michael, Randall Pals, Jan Pottinger, Michael Riggs, Rob Ripma, Bryan Roberts, Robert Rodman, Bob Russell, Dean Smith, Christie Steever, Dan Stoltzfus, Brant Stoner, Bonnie Storey, Doug Thomsen, Kristy Tuttle, Joan Tweedell, Lesley Vote, Stephanie Wagner, Andrew Weber, Vern Wilkins, and Fred Zilch.

The following observers reported or had sightings reported on IN-BIRD: Mary Albury, Russell E. Allison, Alan Anderson, Mike Apple, Sue Arnold, Kyle Arvin, David Ayer, Susan Bagby, Bruce Bainbridge Jr., Tony Baldoni, Jon Bauer, Colleen Becker, Tom Becker, David Beery, Ingrid Beery, Sandy Belth, Michael Bishop, Mary Alice Bowles, George Bowles, Gary Bowman, Lisa Bowman, Ross Brittain, Sharon Broadhead, Walter Broadhead, Ken Brock, Jim Brown, Michael Brown, Alan Bruner, Matt Buffington, Brad Bumgardner, Bill Buskirk, Joseph T. Caruso, John Cassidy, John Castrale, Jon Chapman, Gordon Chastain, Josh Christian, Fred Churchill, Forest Clark, Charles Crawford, Janet Creamer, Jan Curier, Liz Day, Ronda J. DeCaire, Denise Dixon, Marlin Dodge, Gary Dorman II, Steve Doud, Naomi Downs, Sam Downs, Frank Drumwright, Milt DuCharme, David Dugas, John Dunning, John Eakin, Dave Eiler, Scott Evans, Lynnanne Fager, Brad Feaster, Maureen Forrest, Charis Snyder Gilbert, Jennie Girtton, Al Gmutza, Don Gorney, Doug Gray, Joel Greenberg, John Grogg, Brendan Grube, Nila Grube, Pete Grube, Jess Gwinn, Jeff Hammond, Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Jim Haw, Frannie Headings, Cloyce Hedge, Michelle Hedge, Roger Hedge, Ted Heemstra, Jim Hengeveld, Susan Hengeveld, Mary Henschen, Jed Hertz, Jeff Hertz, Sarah Hertz, Dawn Hewitt, Diana Hews, Kim Higdon, Lynea Hinchman, Angela Hoffman, Aaron Holbrook, Don Holden, Bill Holladay, Michael Hooker, Ed Hopkins, Tom Hougham, Robert Hughes, Robert Huguenard, Dick Hurley, Cathie Hutcheson, Denise Jackson, Jeanette Jaskula, Cheri Johnstone, Doug Johnstone, Dan Kaiser, Seth Keller, Tim Keller, Phil Kelly, John Kendall, Ron Kerner, Kevin Kincaid, Bob Kissel, Jennifer Kleinrichert, Pat Kurkin, Mindy Lankenau, John Lawrence, Dan Leach, Judy Leahy, Tom Leggett, Diane Leirer, Jason Lewis, Steve Lima, Eric Lundquist, Clint Maddox, Dana Maddox, Jennifer Manning, Rob Mantel, Walter Marcisz, Carolyn Marsh, Nancy Martin, Paul Massey, Deanna McCool, Jeff McCoy, Rachel McNett, Jack McNutt, Warren Mead, Andrew Mertz, Darlene Messenger, Ed Messenger, Mark Messerle, Cathy Meyer, Holly Meyers, Gary Miller, Greg Miller, Larry Miller, Perry Miller, Jim Mitchell, Bruce Mohler, Jeff Moore, Brian Morris, Bill Murphy, Matthew Myer, Scott Namestnik, Diane Packett, Steve Pancol, Sharon Parmet, Patsy Pearson, Temple Pearson, Larry Peavler, Shane Perfect, Phil Power, Ed Powers, Don Presser, Keegan Ramey, Roger Rang, Bronson Ratcliff, Eleanor Rayl, Rick Read, Keet Redden, Dave Reichlinger, Dick Repasky, Laura Reynolds, Gary Richards, Beverly Richardson, Jeff Riegel, Jeff Romain, Doug Rood, Steve Ross, Timothy Roth, Casey Ryan, Marianna Sadowski, Sandy Schacht, Peter Scott, Jeff Sells, Andy Sigler, Andy Slack, Charles Sorenson, Sharon Sorenson, Jim Spier, Brian St. Clair, Michael Steiner, April Sterling, Lee Sterrenburg, Douglas Temple, Michael Topp, Roy Troyer, Tammy Turner, Chuck Tuttle, Terry Walsh, Bob Wargel, Judy Wargel, Drew Weber, Karl Werner, Pat White, Betsy

Whitehead, Don Whitehead, Jeanie Wiesler, Richard Wiesler, Marisa Windell, John Winebrenner, John Woodcock, Kevin Wyckoff, and Paul Zeller.

Localities appear in **bold**, county names appear in *italics*, underlined species are on the Indiana review list, and CAPITALIZED names indicate unusual sightings.

Abbreviations:

*doc = documentation was submitted to the Indiana Bird Records Committee

*photo = photographic documentation was obtained

Beehunter = Beehunter Marsh in *Greene/Sullivan*

Cutright = Cutright State Recreation Area on L. Monroe in *Monroe*

Dugger = Dugger Unit of the Greene-Sullivan SF in *Greene/Sullivan*

Friendship = Friendship Rd. approx. 6 mi. e. of Bloomington just n. of the Hoosier National Forest in *Monroe*

FWA = Fish & Wildlife Area

Hawthorn = Hawthorn Mines in *Greene and Sullivan*

Kankakee = Kankakee FWA in *Starke*

Kankakee Sands = The Nature Conservancy Kankakee Sands Preserve in *Newton*

L. Gibson = Lake Gibson in *Gibson*

LaSalle = LaSalle FWA, Lake Village, IN

MichCtyHarb = Michigan City harbor in *LaPorte*

Muscatatuck = Muscatatuck NWR in *Jackson*

NP = Nature Preserve

Oxbow = Ohio R. area near Lawrenceburg in *Dearborn*

Paynetown = Paynetown State Recreation Area on L. Monroe in *Monroe*

Pigeon R. = Pigeon River Fish & Wildlife Area in *Lagrange/Steuben*

Stillwater = Stillwater Marsh in *Monroe*

SF = State Forest

SP = State Park

Summit L. = Summit Lake SP in *Henry*

Universal = Universal Mine in *Vermillion*

WakWWTrPlant = Wakarusa Waste Water Treatment in *Elkhart*

West Beach = West Beach in *Porter*

Willow Slough = Willow Slough Fish and Wildlife Area in *Newton*.

Yankeetown = Yankeetown Woods in *Warrick*

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Geese and Swans Bruner noted that as many as 120 Trumpeter Swans, 7 Mute Swans, 6 Tundra Swans, 200+ Greater White-fronted Geese, 400+ Snow Geese, 6 Ross's Geese, 5,000 Canada Geese, and 3 Cackling Geese wintered in a deep pit pond in Edgar Co., IL, along the w. side of the Universal Mine area and just across the Indiana state line from *Vermillion*. Although the birds stayed primarily on the IL side and fed primarily in fields to the n.w., many of them often moved across the state line into Indiana and could be seen in various areas of the Universal Mine in *Vermillion* and *Vigo*.

Greater White-fronted Goose Mainly observed in the w. portion of the state. High counts included 249 at **Beehunter** 18-Feb, 22-Feb, and 25-Feb (Dave Beery, John Eakin, Lee Sterrenburg, Don Whitehead), 200 at **Universal Mine** 28-Jan (Alan Bruner & IAS field trip), 147 at **Willow Slough** 28-Jan (Ed Hopkins), 134 s. of **Switz City** in

Greene 1-Feb (Fred Churchill, John Eakin, Don Whitehead, John Woodcock), and 100 on **L. Gibson** 7-Jan (Gary & Lisa Bowman).

Snow Goose Mainly observed in the w. portion of the state. By far the highest count was 75,000 at **L. Gibson** 25-Feb (Gary & Lisa Bowman, Jerry Downs, Bill Holladay, Dan Leach, Judy Leahy, Tammy Turner, Pat White) up from 4,000 there 7-Jan (Gary & Lisa Bowman). Dan Leach described estimating the number of geese at L. Gibson on 25-Feb as follows: "...took a stab at counting the flock, and the number isn't fanciful. We'd count by rough groups of 100 a couple of times in order to get a sense of what a thousand looked like, then applied the rough-thousand sizing to the entire flock. Even then, it was generally felt that the total count was still somewhat conservative." Other high counts included 500 at **Beehunter** 26-Feb (Rob Ripma), up from 450 there the previous day (Don Whitehead, Lee Sterrenburg), and 400 at **Universal** 7-Jan (Alan Bruner).

Ross's Goose Small numbers reported statewide with high counts of 37 at **Kankakee** 19-Feb (Brendan, Pete, and Nila Grube), 35 there 21-Feb (Seth Keller), and 23 at **L. Maxinkuckee** in *Marshall* 24-Feb (Seth Keller).

Cackling Goose Now that this taxon is 'countable', observers are finding surprisingly high numbers of this diminutive goose throughout the state. High counts included 200 on **L. Lemon** in *Brown* 25 December (Jim & Sue Hengeveld), 64 at **Hawthorn** 12-Feb (Jim & Susan Hengeveld, Brandon Kirk, Keegan Ramey), up from 43 there 25-Dec (Don Whitehead, Lee Sterrenburg), and 50 at **West Beach** 27-Dec (Jeanette Jaskula).

Canada Goose High counts of this urbanized Indiana resident species included 10,000 at **SR 8 & SR 39** in *St. Joseph* 3-Jan (Robert Huguenard), 5,000 at **Universal** 7-Jan (Alan Bruner), 3,000 at **Kankakee** 26-Feb (Robert Huguenard), 2,500 at the **Cayuga power plant** in *Vermillion* 27-Dec (Alan Bruner, Brian St. Clair), and 2,500 in *Tippecanoe* 31-Dec (Ed Hopkins).

Mute Swan High counts of this exotic species included 216 on **Tippecanoe L.** in *Tippecanoe* 31-Dec (Steve Doud), 81 in **Angola** in *Steuben* 8-Jan (Fred Zilch), 54 in **Angola** in *Steuben* 21-Jan (Fred Zilch), and 53 at **Pokagon SP (L. James)** in *Steuben* 11-Dec (Brad Bumgardner).

Trumpeter Swan Not yet established or 'countable' in Indiana, high counts (all at **Universal**) of this reintroduced species included 124 7-Jan (Alan Bruner), 120 28-Jan (Alan Bruner, IAS field trip), 106 (mostly in IL) 23-Dec (Alan Bruner), and 97 16-Jan (Don Gorney).

Tundra Swan High counts included 98 on **Pine L.** in *LaPorte* 2-Dec (Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Andy Sigler, Michael Topp), 24 at **CR 144 & CR 1** in *Elkhart* 4-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), 13 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel), and 10 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 27-Dec (Charles Crawford).

Wood Duck High counts included 10 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 24-Feb (Jerry Downs), 8 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 26-Feb (Don Whitehead), 7 on **Lamb L.** in *Johnson* 19-Feb (Tom Hougham), 6 at **Hobart** in *Lake* 1-Dec (Jeanette Jaskula), 6 at **LaSalle** in *Jasper*

23-Feb (Jed Hertz), 6 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 25-Feb (Gary Dorman II), 6 at **Bottom Rd.** in *Monroe* 26-Feb (Gregory Hess), and 6 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 28-Feb (Don Whitehead).

Gadwall High counts included 188 on **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 150 at **Newburgh** in *Warrick* 11-Dec (Jim Campbell), 65 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 25-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Whitehead), and 60 at **Stillwater** 24-Feb (Don Whitehead).

American Wigeon High counts included 110 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 24-Feb (Jerry Downs) and 90 there the next day (Gary Dorman II), up from 30 on 12-Feb (Colleen & Tom Becker); and 25 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 24-Feb (Don Whitehead).

American Black Duck High counts included 23 at **Dugger** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Jim Brown, Jim Hengeveld, Lee Sterrenburg), 100 at **Summit L.** 29-Dec (Steve Pancol), 60 at **Beehunter** in *Sullivan* 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead) and 60 there (in *Greene*) 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead), and 54 at **Summit L.** 7-Jan (Don Gorney, Andy Slack).

Mallard High counts included 10,000 at **Cane Ridge** in *Gibson* 7-Jan (Gary & Lisa Bowman); 4,000 at **SR 8 & SR 39** in *St. Joseph* 1-Jan (Robert Huguenard); 2,500 at **Beehunter** in *Green/Sullivan* 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead) and 22-Feb (Dave Beery, John Eakin, Don Whitehead); 2,000 at **Summit L.** 3-Dec (Steve Pancol) and 7-Jan (Don Gorney, Andy Slack), and 2,000 at **Universal** 7-Jan (Alan Bruner).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL Exceptionally rare in winter (99% of the world's population winters south of the U.S.), 1 was in **Columbus** in *Bartholomew* 2-Jan (Beverly Richardson). According to Brock's *Birds of Indiana*, the two previous Jan Indiana records of Blue-winged Teal were both at Roxana Pond, Hammond, on 14-Jan 1984 and again on 12-Jan 1992.

Northern Shoveler High counts included 34 at **Summit L.** in *Henry* 3-Dec (Steve Pancol); 25 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 12-Feb (Colleen & Tom Becker), 24-Feb (Jerry Downs), and 25-Feb (Gary Dorman II); 20 at **WakWWTrPlant** in *Elkhart* 1-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus); and 20 at the **Ft. Wayne terminal ponds** (sewage treatment plant) in *Allen* 8-Jan (Ted Heemstra).

Northern Pintail High counts included 700 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 1-Feb (Don Whitehead, Fred Churchill, John Eakin, John Woodcock) and 22-Feb (Dave Beery, John Eakin, Don Whitehead), 374 there 14-Feb (Steve Pancol), and 370 there (*Greene/Sullivan*) 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead). A flock of 7 at the **Ft. Wayne terminal ponds** in *Allen* 8-Jan (Ted Heemstra) and 6 at **Clear L.** in *Steuben* (Jim Haw) the same day might have been early migrants.

Green-winged Teal High counts included 45 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 5-Dec (Brad Feaster, Lee Sterrenburg), 39 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 25-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Whitehead), 32 at **Summit L.** in *Henry* 3-Dec (Steve Pancol), 30 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 17-Feb (Don Whitehead), 27 at **Bottom Rd.** in *Monroe* 26-Feb (Gregory Hess), 25 at **Dugger** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Jim Brown, Jim Hengeveld, Lee Sterrenburg),

and 23 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 21-Dec (David & Ingrid Beery, Betsy & Don Whitehead).

Canvasback High counts included 22 at **Summit L.** 10-Dec (Don Gorney, Doug Gray), 20 at **L. Maxinkuckee** in *Marshall* 4-Jan (Michael Hooker), 19 at **Pine L.** in *LaPorte* 2-Dec (Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Andy Sigler, Michael Topp), 13 at **Heritage L.** in *Putnam* 17-Jan (Clint & Dana Maddox), and 12 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk).

Redhead High counts, all at **Stillwater** in *Monroe*, included 210 26-Feb (Don Whitehead), 160 24-Feb (Don Whitehead), 160 28-Feb (Don Whitehead), and 113 17-Feb (Don Whitehead). A flock of 10 at **Clear L.** in *Steuben* 8-Jan might have been early migrants (Jim Haw).

Ring-necked Duck High counts included 520 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 26-Feb (Don Whitehead), 500 there 28-Feb (Don Whitehead), 440 in **Indianapolis** in *Marion* 6-Dec (Terry Walsh), 340 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 24-Feb (Don Whitehead), 310 there 17-Feb (Don Whitehead), 300 there 18-Feb (Betsy & Don Whitehead), 269 in **Indianapolis** in *Marion* 6-Dec (Don Gorney), and 261 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 25-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Whitehead). A flock of 3 males at **Tri-County FWA** in *Kosciusko* 16-Jan (Jim Haw, Sandy Schacht) and 1 at **Clear L.** in *Allen* 18-Feb (Jim Haw) may have been northbound as this species is very uncommon in n.e. Indiana in winter.

Greater Scaup High counts included 100 in **MichCtyHarb** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady), 80 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 24-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Cathy Meyer), 75 there 18-Feb (John Cassady), 71 at **Miller Beach** in *Lake* 3-Dec (Jeff McCoy, Brendan Grube, Pete Grube, Andy Sigler, Don Gorney), 60 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 16-Jan (Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy, Ken Brock), and 50 there 31-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals).

Lesser Scaup High counts included 120 in **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 6-Dec (Don Whitehead), 100 at **Port of Indiana** in *Porter* 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady), 56 at **L. Lemon** in *Brown* 3-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 52 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 10-Feb (Jim Hengeveld), and 50 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 23-Feb (Jim & Susan Hengeveld).

Harlequin Duck A single report of 2 at MichCtyHarb in *LaPorte* 17-Dec (*photo John Cassady).

Surf Scoter A single report of 1 adult female at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 16-Dec (Jim Hengeveld).

White-winged Scoter Declining across the continent, observations included 1 at **Miller Beach** in *Lake* 3-Dec (Jeff McCoy, Brendan Grube, Pete Grube, Andy Sigler, Don Gorney), 1 at **Summit L.** in *Henry* 11-Dec (Dave Reichlinger), and 1 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 29-Jan (Rob Ripma).

Black Scoter High counts included 2 at **Indiana Dunes SP** in *Porter* 28-Jan (Ken Brock, Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Ed Hopkins, Andy

Sigler), 1 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 21-Dec (Michael Topp), and 1 at **West Beach** in *Porter* 7-Jan (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Larry Peavler).

Long-tailed Duck Scarce in Indiana, 2 were at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 21-Dec (Michael Topp); 1 dependable bird at **W. Lafayette** in *Tippicanoe* 30-Jan (Ed Hopkins), 11-Feb (John Dunning, Angela Hoffman), 15-Feb (Angela Hoffman), 17-Feb (Michael Steiner), 18-Feb (Phil Kelly), 19-Feb (Russ Allison, Clint & Dana Maddox, Rick Read), 22-Feb (Daniel Collins, Michael Steiner), 23-Feb (Ed Hopkins), 25-Feb (Beverly Richardson), and 28-Feb (Temple Pearson); 1 at the **Precedent Office Complex** in *Marion* 3-Jan (Janet Creamer, Andrew Mertz, Larry Peavler), 16-Jan (Janet Creamer, Andrew Mertz), and 19-Feb (Janet Creamer); 1 in **Indianapolis** in *Marion* 12/5/2005 (Don Gorney); 1 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 10-Jan (Michael Topp); and 1 at **Eagle Cr. Res.** in *Marion* 10-Dec (Kevin Kincaid).

Bufflehead High counts included 51 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 24-Feb (Don Whitehead), 50 there 3-Feb (Rob Ripma) and 28-Feb (Don Whitehead), 30 at **Summit L.** in *Henry* 10-Dec (Don Gorney, Doug Gray), and flocks of 30 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 17-Feb (Don Whitehead), 18-Feb (Betsy & Don Whitehead), and 26-Feb (Don Whitehead).

Common Goldeneye High counts included 100 at **Tippicanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 15-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker, Seth Keller, Rob Mantel), 98 at **Jerose Park, East Chicago** in *Lake* 31-Dec (Jeff McCoy), 78 at **Kankakee FWA** in *Starke* 26-Feb (Robert Huguenard), 75 at **L. Maxinkuckee** in *Marshall* 4-Jan (Michael Hooker), 60 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 24-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Cathy Meyer), and 54 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk).

Hooded Merganser Quite numerous in the southern part of Indiana, high counts included 315 at **L. Gibson** in *Gibson* 7-Jan (Gary & Lisa Bowman), 175 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 14-Dec (Don Whitehead), 135 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 10-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 125 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 13-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), and 120 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld).

Common Merganser High counts included 70 at **Port of Indiana** in *Porter* 18-Feb (John Cassady), 40 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 24-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Cathy Meyer), 33 at **Potato Cr. SP** in *St. Joseph* 25-Jan (Robert Huguenard), 25 at **Port of Indiana** in *Porter* 14-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals, Dan Stoltzfus, Ray Troyer, Drew Weber), 24 at **Potato Cr. SP** in *St. Joseph* 1-Feb (Robert Huguenard), 23 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 23-Dec (Don Whitehead), and 20 at **Port of Indiana** in *Porter* 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady).

Red-breasted Merganser High counts included 58 at **Miller Beach** in *Lake* 3-Dec (Jeff McCoy, Brendan Grube, Pete Grube, Andy Sigler, Don Gorney), 50 at **Miller Beach** in *Lake* 2-Dec (Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Andy Sigler, Michael Topp), 50 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 21-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady), 45 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 31-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals), 44 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 4-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), and 42 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 9-Jan (Carolyn Marsh).

Ruddy Duck High counts, all at **L. Lemon**, included 39 in *Brown* 3-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 28 in *Monroe* 4-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 26 there 10-Feb (Jim Hengeveld),

25 there 15-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 22 there 2-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 22 there 21-Jan (Jim Hengeveld), and 22 in *Brown* 13-Dec (Jim Hengeveld).

Ring-necked Pheasant With determination of their wild status complicated by releases of pen-reared birds, sightings included 20 at **Kankakee Sands** 6-Dec (Jed & Sarah Hertz, Bronson Ratcliff), 10 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Ed Hopkins), 9 there the same day (Jed Hertz, Mark Messerle, Bronson Ratcliff), 5 there 21-Jan (Jed Hertz, Bronson Ratcliff), 4 at **Kankakee Sands** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy) and 24-Dec (Jeff Hertz), 2 at **Pine Creek Gamebird Habitat Area** in *Benton* 13-Jan (John Dunning), 1 at **Potato Cr. SP** in *St. Joseph* 29-Jan (Robert Huguenard), 1 at **Kankakee Sands** 25-Feb (Rob Ripma), and 1 at **The Burn** in *Montgomery* 26-Feb (Clint & Dana Maddox).

Ruffed Grouse The only report was of 1 at **Fairfax (L. Monroe)** in *Monroe* 15-Dec (Bob Kissel).

Wild Turkey High counts included 50 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 26-Feb (Rob Ripma), 40 at **L. Hardy** in *Scott* 14-Dec (Mary Alice Bowles), 22 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), and 20 at the **Kaiser/Red Brush Loop** in *Warrick* 16-Jan (James Kittinger).

Northern Bobwhite As with pheasants, determination of the wild status of this species is complicated by releases of pen-reared birds. Sightings of this declining species included 10 at **Huntingburg** in *Dubois* 19-Feb (Douglas Temple), 2 at **LaSalle** in *Jasper* 23-Feb (Jed Hertz), 1 at **L. Maxinkuckee** in *Marshall* 4-Jan (Michael Hooker), 1 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 8-Jan (Jeff Sells), and 1 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 17-Feb (Timothy Grimm).

Red-throated Loon High counts included 7 at **Indiana Dunes SP** in *Porter* 28-Jan (Ken Brock, Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Ed Hopkins, Andy Sigler), 2 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 11-Dec (Don Gorney, Brendan Grube), 2 at **MichCtyHarb** 14-Jan (Dan Stoltzfus), 2 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 14-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals, Dan Stoltzfus, Ray Troyer, Drew Weber), 1 at **West Beach** in *Porter* 7-Jan (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Larry Peavler), and 1 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 7-Jan (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Larry Peavler).

Common Loon High counts included 93 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 2-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 55 there 4-Dec (Don Whitehead), 39 there 6-Dec (Don Whitehead), 19 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 2-Dec (Don Whitehead), and 15 at **Miller Beach** in *Lake* 2-Dec (Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Andy Sigler, Michael Topp).

Pied-billed Grebe High counts included 57 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 26 at **L. Lemon** in *Brown* 3-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 15 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 13-Dec (Jeff Romain), 15 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 13 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 4-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 11 at **Summit L.** in *Henry* 3-Dec (Steve Pancol), and 9 at **Newburgh** in *Warrick* 11-Dec (Jim Campbell).

Horned Grebe High counts included 75 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 9-Dec (Don Whitehead), 56 at **Turtle Cr. Res.** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Alan Bruner), and 43 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 7-Dec (Jim Hengeveld).

Red-necked Grebe Almost absent from the state this winter, the only report was 1 at **MichCityHarb** 4-Jan (Dan Stoltzfus *vide* eBird).

Eared Grebe Singles only, at **Fiddler's Pond** in *Elkhart* 18-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus) and at **MichCityHarb** 3-Jan (Jim Mitchell), 6-Jan (Michael Topp), 7-Jan (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Larry Peavler), and 8-Jan (Jon Bauer, Randy Pals).

Double-crested Cormorant High counts included 55 at **L. Gibson** in *Gibson/Pike* 25-Feb (Gary & Lisa Bowman, Jerry Downs, Bill Holladay, Dan Leach, Judy Leahy, Tammy Turner, Pat White) and 38 at **L. Gibson** in *Gibson* 7-Jan (Gary & Lisa Bowman).

Great Blue Heron High counts included 21 at **Oxbow** in *Dearborn* 25-Feb (Doug Thomsen), 12 at **L. Gibson** in *Gibson* 7-Jan (Gary & Lisa Bowman), 12 at the **Gibson generating station** in *Gibson* 25-Feb (Jerry Downs), and 10 in *Gibson/Pike* 25-Feb (Dan Leach, IAS field trip).

Great Egret Rare in Indiana in winter. Alan Bruner reported a possible Great Egret along the **Wabash R. near the Cayuga power plant** in *Vermillion* 20-Feb. He could not see the head and bill clearly but noted that the bird was obviously a pure white "heron".

Black-crowned Night-Heron High counts included 24 at their traditional winter site at **E. Chicago, Indiana Ship Canal** in *Lake* 21-Feb (Carolyn Marsh), up from 17 there 31-Dec (Carolyn Marsh); 2 at **Wolf L.** in *Lake* 11-Dec (Don Gorney); 1 at **Ft. Wayne** in *Allen* 17-Dec (Jim Haw); and 1 at **Roxana Pond (Hammond)** in *Lake* 21-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady).

Black Vulture High counts included 23 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 6-Jan (Jim Hengeveld), 23 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 8-Jan (Jeff Sells), 21 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 12 at **Bedford** in *Lawrence* 12-Feb (John Winebrenner), and 10 in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk).

Turkey Vulture High counts included 63 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 6-Jan (Jim Hengeveld), 63 at **Lampkins Ridge Rd. Bloomington** in *Monroe* 1-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg), 25 at **Bradford Place Apts.** in *Monroe* 27-Feb (Rob Ripma), 20 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 12-Feb (John Winebrenner), 16 at **Culver Academies horse pasture** in *Marshall* 10-Jan (Michael Hooker), 14 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 26-Dec (Don Whitehead), 14 at **Route 446/46** in *Monroe* 21-Jan (Don Whitehead), 13 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 27-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), and 12 at **Bradford Place Apts.** in *Monroe* 30-Jan (Rob Ripma). A lone bird in *Allen* 29-Jan was certainly noteworthy Warren Mead, *vide* Jim Haw).

OSPREY Forest Clark of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service provided Indiana's first documented winter record, a bird perched over **Big Walnut Cr.** in *Hendricks* 4-Jan. The bird was in the area for more than 15 min., first perched, then fishing. It was seen

to plunge into the creek once, then fly along the creek into *Putnam* and out of sight (*photo, Forest Clark). According to Brock's *Birds of Indiana*, two previous Jan records exist but substantiating documentation appears to be lacking.

Bald Eagle High counts included 50 at **West Union bridge** in *Parke* 28-Jan (Alan Bruner, IAS field trip), 49 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 11-Jan (Aaron Holbrook), 37 at **West Union Bridge** in *Parke* 16-Jan (Don Gorney), 30 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 9-Jan (John Castrale), 27 at **8 West Union bridge/Rt. 19 along the Wabash R. and Sugar Cr.** in *Parke* 20-Feb (Alan Bruner), 25 at **Sugar Cr.** in *Parke/Montgomery* 11-Jan (Aaron Holbrook), 20 along the **Wabash R.** in *Vermillion-Parke* 5-Jan (John Castrale), 14 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 12-Feb (John Winebrenner), and 12 in *Wabash* 15-Jan (Lynnanne Fager).

Northern Harrier High counts included 26 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 31-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Gorney, Jeff McCoy); 23 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 4-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg); 16 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 15-Jan (Don Whitehead); 15 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 21-Dec (Jerry Downs); 15 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 19-Jan (Fred Churchill, John Eakin, Don Whitehead); and sightings of 12 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 21-Dec (David & Ingrid Beery, Betsy & Don Whitehead), 23-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 1-Jan (Scott Evans, John Lawrence), 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead); and 12 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Larry Peavler).

Sharp-shinned Hawk Scarce in Indiana this winter. High counts included 3 at **Willow Slough** 21-Jan (Jed Hertz, Bronson Ratcliff) and 2 at the **Dugger Unit of Greene-Sullivan SF** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Jim Brown, Jim Hengeveld, Lee Sterrenburg).

Cooper's Hawk This species, the most common hawk in many Indiana urban and suburban areas, was widely reported throughout the state with no concentrations in any one area.

Red-shouldered Hawk High counts included 3 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 17-Dec (Alan Anderson, Brian Morris, Matthew Myer, Sharon Parmet), 3 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 3 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 21-Dec (David & Ingrid Beery, Betsy & Don Whitehead), and 3 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 2-Jan (Vern Wilkins), 20-Jan (Vern Wilkins), and 25-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Whitehead).

Red-tailed Hawk High counts included 42 in *Steuben/Dekalb* 14-Jan (John Winebrenner), 22 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 5-Dec (John Castrale), 11 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 25-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Whitehead), and 10 at **Dugger Unit of Greene-Sullivan SF** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Jim Brown, Jim Hengeveld, Lee Sterrenburg).

Rough-legged Hawk Jim Haw noted that this species was very scarce in n.e. Indiana this winter, at least after mid-Dec, with only 2 reported. High counts elsewhere in the state included 17 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Don Gorney), 15 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 21-Dec (David & Ingrid Beery, Betsy & Don Whitehead), and 15 at

Hawthorn in *Sullivan* 1-Feb (Don Whitehead, Fred Churchill, John Eakin, John Woodcock).

Golden Eagle High counts included 3 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 29-Jan (Don Whitehead) and 2 at **Cutright** in *Monroe* 24-Jan (Don Whitehead).

American Kestrel High counts included 13 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 24-Dec (Jeff Sells), 13 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 12-Feb (John Winebrenner), 12 in *Steuben/Dekalb* 14-Jan (John Winebrenner), and 11 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 15-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker, Seth Keller, Rob Mantel).

Merlin Rare in winter and almost always seen as singles, sightings included 1 at the **Purdue Animal Science Farm** in *Tippecanoe* 4-Dec (Ed Hopkins), 1 at **L. Monroe** in *Lawrence/Monroe* 17-Dec (L. Monroe CBC *fide* Jim Hengeveld), 1 at the **Marion College Ecolab** in *Marion* 17-Dec (James Cole), 1 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 21-Dec (Jerry Downs, Jim Hengeveld, Bill Holladay), 1 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 1 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 31-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy, Randy Pals), 1 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 10-Jan (Don Whitehead), 1 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 16-Jan (Paul Krusling), 1 at the **Marian College Ecolab** in *Marion* 21-Jan (Gordon Chastain), and 1 at **Strawtown-Koteewi Park** in *Hamilton* 11-Feb (James Cole).

Peregrine Falcon Sightings included 2 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 23-Dec (Carolyn Marsh), 1 at **MichCtyHarb** 24-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Cathy Meyer), 1 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 26-Dec (Carolyn Marsh), 1 at **West Beach** in *Porter* 27-Dec (Jeanette Jaskula), 1 at **East Chicago** in *Lake* 14-Jan (Michael Topp), 1 at **West Beach** in *Porter* 28-Jan (Ken Brock, Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Ed Hopkins, Andy Sigler), 1 in *Monroe* 12-Feb (Jim & Susan Hengeveld, Brandon Kirk, Keegan Ramey), 1 at **MichCtyHarb** 18-Feb (John Cassady), 1 at **Oxbow** in *Dearborn* 25-Feb (Doug Thomsen), and 1 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 26-Feb (Rob Ripma).

PRAIRIE FALCON 1 at **Hawthorne** in *Greene* (David & Ingrid Beery, Betsy & Don Whitehead) 21-Dec-2005. According to Brock's *Birds of Indiana* Indiana has six , records (some of which have yet to be evaluated by the Indiana Bird Records Committee), all in s.e. Indiana. Recent observations of Prairie Falcons in s.e. Illinois (across the Wabash R. from Indiana) and from The Wilds in s.e. Ohio indicate that this western falcon may be a rare but regular wintering species in suitable habitat (=restored strip mines) in the Midwest.

VIRGINIA RAIL Very rare in winter, a single bird at **Pigeon R.** in *LaGrange* was first detected 18-Dec (Ted Heemstra, Dick Hurley, Jeff McCoy) and last reported 5-Jan (Sandy Schacht, Jim Haw).

SORA Extraordinary is the only way to describe a sighting of 1 at **LaSalle** in *Jasper* 23-Feb (Jed Hertz). According the *Brock's Birds of Indiana*, the sole previous winter record was in *Marshall* 11-Dec 1900 (Mumford and Keller, 1984), with the previous early date 8-Mar.

American Coot High counts included 500 at **L. Lemon** in *Brown* 3-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 480 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk), 354 at **Summit L.** in

Henry 3-Dec (Steve Pancel), 250 at **Pokagon SP (L. James)** in *Steuben* 11-Dec (Brad Bumgardner), 200 at **Celery Bog** in *Tippecanoe* 4-Dec (Russell E. Allison), and 200 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 28-Jan (Jim Michael).

Whooping Crane This reintroduced species is not yet 'countable' in Indiana but is listed here as a matter of interest. Sightings included 6 over **Indianapolis** in *Marion* 5-Dec (Dale Koeneman), 5 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 10-Dec (Marlin Dodge), 1 at **Ewing Bottoms** in *Jackson* 19-Feb (Jerry Downs), 1 at **Brownstown** in *Jackson* 19-Feb (Colleen & Tom Becker), 1 at **Medora** in *Jackson* 22-Feb (Al Gmutza), and 1 at **Ewing Bottoms** in *Jackson* 25-Feb (Jim & Susan Hengeveld, Dan Kaiser).

Sandhill Crane The high count of 25,298 at **Jasper-Pulaski FWA** in *Jasper* 6-Dec (Bob Russell) had dropped to 5,000 by 25-Feb (John Kendall). Also observed were 4,000 at **Brownstown** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Dan Kaiser), 4,000 at **Ewing Bottoms** in *Jackson* 19-Feb (Jim & Susan Hengeveld), 4,000 at **Hwy. 39 & 8 (nr Kingsbury)** in *LaPorte* 25-Feb (John Kendall), 4,000 at **Kankakee FWA** in *Starke* 25-Feb (Robert Huguenard), 4,000 at **SR 8 & SR 39** in *St. Joseph* 25-Feb (Robert Huguenard), and 4,000 at **Ewing Bottoms** in *Jackson* 26-Feb (Dan Kaiser).

Killdeer High counts of this hardy shorebird included 75 at **100 E & 700 S** in *Montgomery* 25-Feb (Clint & Dana Maddox), 20 in *Gibson/Pike* 25-Feb (Dan Leach, IAS field trip), 20 at the **Gibson generating station** in *Gibson* 25-Feb (Jerry Downs), 16 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), and 13 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 25-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Whitehead). Up to 10 wintered as usual at **Fawn River Fish Hatchery, Orland** in *Steuben* (Jim Haw, Frannie Headings, Doug Rood).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER Very rare in winter anywhere in the U.S., 1 was carefully studied at **L. Monroe** in *Lawrence/Monroe* 17-Dec (L. Monroe CBC *fide* Jim Hengeveld). According to *Brock's Birds of Indiana*, the only previous winter reports consist of two juveniles documented by David Dister at Brookville Res. 6-Dec 2003 (Brock 2004), one identified by Bill Buskirk at the same location on 12-Dec 2004 (IN-BIRD), and a singleton reported by Jeri Dadok and others at Fairfax (L. Monroe) on 16- and 17-Dec 2005 (Notes sent to *North American Birds*).

PURPLE SANDPIPER Scarce in winter, 1 was at **Whiting** in *Lake* 2-Dec (Carolyn Marsh) and 4-Jan (*doc Carolyn Marsh).

Wilson's Snipe Overwintered at **Fawn River Fish Hatchery, Orland** in *Steuben* with 13 there 3-Dec (Jim Haw, Sandy Schacht) and 5 there 7-Jan (Jim Haw, Frannie Headings, Marisa Windell). Also overwintering were 5 at **Pigeon R.** in *Steuben* 7-Jan and 28-Feb (Jim Haw, Frannie Headings, Sandy Schacht, Marisa Windell).

American Woodcock 3 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 19-Feb (Jeff Sells), 1 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 29-Jan (Jim Hengeveld), 1 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 12-Feb (Jim & Susan Hengeveld, Brandon Kirk, Keegan Ramey), and 1 in *Floyd* 26-Feb (Colleen & Tom Becker).

Bonaparte's Gull High counts included 146 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 2-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), and 76 at **Turtle Cr. Res.** in *Sullivan* 23-Dec (Alan Bruner). A single bird at **L. James** in *Steuben* was Jim Haw's first Feb record for n.e. Indiana.

Ring-billed Gull High counts included 4,000 at **L. Gibson** in *Gibson* 7-Jan (Gary & Lisa Bowman), 650 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 4-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 500 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 8-Jan (Jim Hengeveld), 500 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk), and 500 at the **Gibson generating station** in *Gibson* 25-Feb (Jerry Downs).

CALIFORNIA GULL Very rare in Indiana at any season, 1 was observed at **Hammond** in *Lake* 2-Feb and again at **L. Calumet** in *Lake* 5-Feb (*doc, both by John Kendall).

Herring Gull High counts included 300 at **MichCtyHarb** 5-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik), 150 there 14-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals, Dan Stoltzfus, Ray Troyer, Drew Weber), and 150 there 18-Feb (John Cassady); 40 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 11-Dec (Carolyn Marsh); 18 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 27-Jan (Michael Topp); and 10 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 5-Feb (Carolyn Marsh).

Thayer's Gull 5 were at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 11-Dec (Don Gorney, Brendan Grube), 2 there 5-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik), 2 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 5-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik), 2 at **MichCtyHarb** 5-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik), 1 there 30-Dec (Carolyn Marsh), 1 there 21-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady), 1 at **Wolf L.** in *Lake* 11-Feb (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Scott Namestnik, Randy Pals), and 1 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 20-Feb (Carolyn Marsh).

Iceland Gull One or two individuals were reported: 1 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 26-Dec (Carolyn Marsh) and 1 (same bird?) at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 7-Jan (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Larry Peavler, Michael Topp), 16-Jan (Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy, Ken Brock), 21-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady), 27-Jan (Michael Topp), 28-Jan (Ken Brock, Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Ed Hopkins, Andy Sigler), and 11-Feb (Jim Haw).

Lesser Black-backed Gull 2 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 11-Dec (Don Gorney), 2 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 11-Dec (Don Gorney, Brendan Grube), 1 at **Miller Beach** in *Lake* 2-Dec (Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Andy Sigler, Michael Topp), 1 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 13-, 15-, and 16-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 1 at **MichCtyHarb** 14-Jan (John Kendall), and 1 at **Port of Indiana** in *Porter* 14-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals, Dan Stoltzfus, Ray Troyer, Drew Weber).

Glaucous Gull 3 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 5-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik), 3 at **Calumet Park** in *Lake* 21-Feb (Carolyn Marsh), 3 at **Forsythe Park (Wolf L.)** in *Lake* 27-Feb (Michael Topp), 2 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 26-Dec (Carolyn Marsh), 2 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 31-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals), 2 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 11-Feb (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Scott Namestnik, Randy Pals), and 1 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* (*doc Scott Evans).

Great Black-backed Gull 11 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 8-Feb (Carolyn Marsh), 10 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 5-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik), 7 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 11-Feb (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Scott Namestnik, Randy Pals), and 5 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 19-Feb (Carolyn Marsh).

Rock Pigeon High counts of this introduced species included 150 at **Hovey Lake FWA** in *Posey* 28-Dec (Timothy Grimm) and 100 at **Seymour** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel).

Eurasian Collared-Dove 13 seen at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan established a new record high count for Indiana (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Larry Peavler). Other observations of this introduced species included 8 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 15-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker, Seth Keller, Rob Mantel) up from 7 there 8-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker), 1 in rural *Newton* 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), 1 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 31-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Randy Pals), 1 there 3-Feb (Carolyn Marsh), 1 at the **Hammond marina** in *Lake* 5-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik), 1 at **Mitchell** in *Lawrence* 12-Feb (John Castrale), and 1 at **Whiting** in *Lake* 25-Feb (Carolyn Marsh).

Mourning Dove High counts included 500 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 15-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker, Seth Keller, Rob Mantel), 195 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), 130 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 27-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), and 124 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Larry Peavler).

Monk Parakeet All observations of this introduced species were in **Hammond** in *Lake*: 20 (**Monroe St.**) 31-Dec (Mary Albury, Carolyn Marsh), 3 24-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Cathy Meyer), and 1 7-Jan (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Larry Peavler).

Eastern Screech-Owl High counts included 7 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 6 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 5 at **Johnson Co. Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden), and 4 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Ed Hopkins).

Great Horned Owl High counts included 12 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 4 at **Kankakee Sands** 24-Dec (Jeff Hertz), and 4 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Jed Hertz, Mark Messerle, Bronson Ratcliff).

Snowy Owl All sightings were of single birds. One individual was seen repeatedly in *Jasper*: 8-Jan (Brenden Grube), 10-Jan (Robert Huguenard, Kevin Wyckoff), 14-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker, Seth Keller, Rob Mantel), 15-Jan (Ken Brock, Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker, Seth Keller, Rob Mantel, Dan Stoltzfus), 23-Jan (Ed Hopkins), and 30-Jan (Robert Huguenard). Other observations were made in s.e. *LaPorte* 7-Jan (Dan Stoltzfus), at **SR 39 and 700N** in *Marshall* 9-Jan (Michael Hooker), at **Ogden Dunes** in *Porter* 16-Jan (Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy, Ken Brock), at **U.S. 35 1 mi n. US 30** in *Starke* 20-Jan (Robert Huguenard, Scott

Namestnik), **n.w. of Wheatfield** in *Jasper* 23-Jan (Jennie Girton, Brendan Grube), and in *Starke* 23-Jan (Michael Hooker).

Barred Owl Observations included 3 at **Ft. Wayne** in *Allen* 6-Feb (Beverly Richardson), 2 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 2 at **Friendship Rd.** in *Monroe* 29-Jan (Lee Sterrenburg), and 2 in *Morgan* 19-Feb (Cheri & Doug Johnstone).

Long-eared Owl 2 at **Kingsbury FWA** in *LaPorte* 31-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy, Randy Pals), 1 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Larry Peavler), 1 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 3-Jan (Jim Mitchell), and 1 at **Indiana Dunes SP** in *Porter* 4-Jan (John Kendall).

Short-eared Owl High counts included ____ at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 45 21-Dec (Jerry Downs, Bill Holladay), 32 4-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 27 7-Jan (Jerry Downs), 27 7-Jan (Sam & Jerry Downs), and 21 23-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg). Two near **Spencerville** in *DeKalb* 14-Jan (John Winebrenner *et al.*) were wintering at a traditional location (Jim Haw).

Northern Saw-whet Owl 2 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 2 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 1 at **Friendship Rd.** in *Monroe* 29-Jan (Lee Sterrenburg), and 1 at **Muncie** in *Delaware* 13-Feb (Kristen Floyd).

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD All singles: an after-hatch-year female at **Elizabeth** in *Harrison* late Sep/early Oct – 26-Jan (Darlene & Ed Messenger, banded by Cathie Hutcheson); a hatch-year female at **Fort Branch** in *Gibson* 14-Oct – 8-Dec (Jan Curier, Don Gorney, *photo Cathie Hutcheson, *photo Charles & Sharon Sorenson, banded by Hutcheson); a hatch-year female at **Poseyville** in *Posey* 28-Oct – 15-Apr (Sharon & Walter Broadhead, *photo Cathie Hutcheson, *photo Charles & Sharon Sorenson, banded by Hutcheson), Indiana's **first overwintering *Selasphorus* hummingbird**; a hatch-year female at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 12-Nov – 20 Dec (*photo Cathie Hutcheson, Diane Leirer, *photo Jim & Susan Hengeveld, banded by Hutcheson); and an after-hatch-year female at **Evansville** in *Vanderburgh* 4-Dec – 9-Jan (*photo Cathie Hutcheson, Bob & Judy Wargel, *photo Patti Dee Wazny).

SELASPHORUS HUMMINGBIRD Identified only to genus, 1 female was at **New Albany** in *Floyd* <24-Nov – 10-Dec (Aaron & Vickie Hanka, *photo Brainard Palmer-Ball). Palmer-Ball indicated the bird had a number of gorget feathers in the center of the throat and thought it was probably an adult female. The bird apparently had been present before 24-Nov. The bird departed before it could be banded.

Belted Kingfisher High counts included 3 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 3 at **LaSalle** in *Jasper* 3-Feb (Jed Hertz), and 3 at **Goshen (Shanklin Park)** in *Elkhart* 28-Feb (Dan Stoltzfus).

Red-headed Woodpecker High counts included 19 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), 8 at **Raccoon Lake SRA** in *Parke* 19-Dec (Jay Bolden), and 8 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 27-Feb (Dan Stoltzfus).

Red-bellied Woodpecker High counts 15 at **Johnson Co. Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden), 15 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Jed Hertz, Mark Messerle, Bronson Ratcliff), 13 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 12 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), 12 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel), 12 at **Angola** in *Steuben* 21-Jan (Fred Zilch), and 10 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 19-Feb (Jay Bolden).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Rather scarce. High counts included 2 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel) and 2 at **Yankeetown** 23-Jan (James Kittinger).

Downy Woodpecker High counts included 15 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 19-Feb (Jay Bolden), 14 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 2 Jan (Vern Wilkins), 13 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 31-Dec (Vern Wilkins), 13 at the **Elkhart Environmental Center** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), 12 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 26-Dec (Vern Wilkins), 12 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), and 10 at **Angola** in *Steuben* 1-Jan (Fred Zilch).

Hairy Woodpecker High counts included 5 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 27-Feb (Vern Wilkins), 4 at the **Bailly Homestead** (Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore) in *Porter* 17-Dec (Randall Pals), 4 at **Elkhart** in *Bristol* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), and 4 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 28-Jan, 10-Feb, 11-Feb, 18-Feb, and 26-Feb (Vern Wilkins).

Northern Flicker High counts included 19 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), 15 at **Pine Grove State Recreation Area on L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 5-Feb (Rob Ripma), and 10 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel).

Pileated Woodpecker High counts included 12 at **Johnson Co. Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden), 12 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 11 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel), and 5 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 11-Dec (Jay Bolden).

Eastern Phoebe All sightings of this hardy flycatcher were of single birds: at **Lamb L.** in *Johnson* 4-Dec (Tom Hougham); at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 15-Dec (Don Whitehead); at **L. Monroe** in *Lawrence/Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld); at **Tannanbaum L.** in *Parke* 19-Dec (Peter Scott), at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel); at **Powder House Ln** in *Floyd* 11-Jan (Joseph T Caruso); at **Cutright** in *Monroe* 3-Feb (Rob Ripma); at **Hardy L.** in *Scott* 5-Feb (George & Mary Alice Bowles); and in s.w. *Johnson* 7-Feb (Tom Hougham).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE Rare in Indiana in winter, 1 was at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 22-Dec (Michael Riggs).

Northern Shrike Reported were 1 at **Potato Cr. SP** in *St. Joseph* 23-Dec and 28-Dec (Robert Huguenard), 1 at **Kingsbury FWA** in *LaPorte* 24-Dec (John Kendall), 1 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 31-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy, Randy Pals), 1 at **Dugger Unit of Greene-Sullivan SF** in *Sullivan* 1-Jan (Lee

Sterrenburg), 1 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 2-Jan (Jim & Susan Hengeveld), 1 at **Willow Slough** 7-Jan (Jon Chapman, Don Gorney), 1 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 13-Jan (Gary Dorman II), 1 in **rural n. Porter Co.** in *Porter* 21-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady), 1 at **Potato Cr. SP** in *St. Joseph* 23-Jan (Seth Keller), 1 at **Dugger Unit of Greene-Sullivan SF** in *Sullivan* 28-Jan (Jim Brown, Jim Hengeveld, Lee Sterrenburg), 1 at **Chain O' Lakes SP** in *Noble* 1-Feb (Jeff McCoy), 1 in **rural n. Porter Co.** in *Porter* 11-Feb (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Scott Namestnik, Randy Pals), 1 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 25-Feb (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Larry Peavler), 1 at **Dugger Unit of Greene-Sullivan SF** in *Sullivan* 25-Feb (Scott Evans, John Lawrence), 1 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 26-Feb (Ken Brock, Susan Bagby, John Cassady, Don Gorney, Joel Greenberg, Ed Hopkins, Andy Sigler), and 1 at **Potato Cr. SP** in *St. Joseph* 26-Feb (Scott Namestnik).

BLUE-HEADED VIREO Indiana's first winter record was 1 at the Old Timbers Lodge on **Big Oaks NWR** in *Ripley* 20-Jan (Jason Lewis). Lewis discovered the bird after it had struck a window. As noted in Brock's *Birds of Indiana*, this healthy appearing individual soon regained its faculties and flew away.

Blue Jay High counts included 89 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 89 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Jed Hertz, Mark Messerle, Bronson Ratcliff), and 60 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 26-Feb (Michael Riggs).

American Crow Still recovering from West Nile virus decimation, high counts included 1,000 at **Willow Slough** 29-Jan (Rob Ripma), 350 at **Hovey Lake FWA** in *Posey* 28-Dec (Timothy Grimm), 200 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 28-Jan and 19-Feb (Jay Bolden), and 158 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Jed Hertz, Mark Messerle).

Horned Lark High counts included 159 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 110 at **Willow Slough** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), 100 at **Kankakee Sands** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), 100 in *Newton* 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), and 100 at **Terre Haute** in *Vigo* 17-Dec (Jessica Bolser, Timothy Roth).

TREE SWALLOW Amazing were 2 at the **Gibson generating station** in *Gibson/Pike* 25-Feb (Gary & Lisa Bowman, Jerry Downs, Bill Holladay, Dan Leach, IAS field trip, Judy Leahy, Tammy Turner, Pat White). According to Brock's *Birds of Indiana* the species has been recorded in Indiana in Feb only nine times previously and that no doubt many of the Feb reports represent early migrants.

Carolina Chickadee High counts included 32 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 28-Jan (Vern Wilkins), 30 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 11-Dec (Jay Bolden), and 30 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 26-Dec (Vern Wilkins).

Black-capped Chickadee High counts included 20 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 8-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker), 15 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), and 15 at **Angola** in *Steuben* 1-Jan (Fred Zilch). [Also reported without documentation and almost certainly in error were 5 at **Muscatatuck NWR** in *Jackson* 22-Dec, 1 in **Indianapolis** in *Marion* 25-Dec, and 1 in **Avon** in *Hendricks* 18-Feb].

Tufted Titmouse High counts (all at **Bloomington** in *Monroe*, all by Vern Wilkins) included 30 28-Jan and 5-Feb; 23 24-Dec; 22 2-Jan, 8-Jan, and 22-Jan; and 21 26-Dec, 31-Dec, and 14-Jan.

Red-breasted Nuthatch Widespread in small numbers (Jim Haw). High counts included 36 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 8-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker) and 25 there 15-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker, Seth Keller, Rob Mantel).

White-breasted Nuthatch High counts include 30 at **Johnson County Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden), 22 at **Angola** in *Steuben* 21-Jan (Fred Zilch), 20 there 20-Dec (Fred Zilch), and 17 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus).

Brown Creeper High counts included 10 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 8-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker).

Carolina Wren High counts included 7 at the **Marion College Ecolab** in *Marion* 10-Dec (James Cole), 6 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 11-Dec (Jay Bolden), and 5 there 19-Feb (Jay Bolden).

Winter Wren High counts included 4 at the **Marion College Ecolab** in *Marion* 5-Jan (James Cole), with 3 there 3-Dec and 2 there 10-Dec (James Cole) and 21-Jan (Gordon Chastain); 2 at **Ft. Wayne** in *Allen* 17-Dec (Jim Haw); 2 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 20-Jan (Timothy Grimm); and 2 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 17-Feb (Timothy Grimm).

Marsh Wren One report only, 4 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 21-Dec (*fide* Don Whitehead.). According to Brock's *Birds of Indiana*, all previous winter records in Indiana have been singletons: 9 in Dec, 7 in Jan, and 1 in Feb.

Golden-crowned Kinglet High counts included 15 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 11-Dec (Jay Bolden), 12 at **L. Maxinkuckee** in *Marshall* 4-Jan (Michael Hooker), and 10 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 8-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet Low numbers: 4 at **Indianapolis** in *Marion* 7-Dec (Laura Carr), 1 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 7-Dec (Jay Bolden), 1 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 1 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 21-Dec (Jerry Downs, Jim Hengeveld, Bill Holladay), 1 at the **IUB Main Library** in *Monroe* 6-Jan (Vern Wilkins), 1 at **Eagle Cr. Res.** in *Marion* 16-Jan (Jeanie & Richard Wiesler), 1 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 21-Jan (Jim Hengeveld), 1 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 14-Feb (Steve Pancol), 1 at **DePauw NP** in *Putnam* 15-Feb (Clint & Dana Maddox), and 1 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 21-Feb (Betsy & Don Whitehead).

Eastern Bluebird High counts included 50 at **Johnson Co. Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden), 40 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 19-Feb (Jeff Sells), 38 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk), 29 at **Summit L.** in *Henry* 29-Dec (Steve Pancol), and 28 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld).

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE Of the 2 individuals reported at **West Beach** in *Porter* throughout Oct and Nov, 1 remained until 16-Dec (*doc Michael Topp).

Hermit Thrush High counts included 12 at **Waveland** in *Montgomery* 19-Dec (Jay Bolden, Alan Bruner, Patsy Pearson, Peter Scott, Karl Werner), and 7 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld).

American Robin High counts included 2,400 at **Seymour/Brownstown** in *Jackson* 26-Feb (Gary Dorman II), 222 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel), 180 at **Summit L.** in *Henry* 11-Feb (Steve Pancol), and 120 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 26-Dec (Don Whitehead).

Gray Catbird All sightings were of single birds: at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 7-Dec (Jay Bolden), at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 17-Dec (Alan Anderson, Brian Morris, Matthew Myer, Sharon Parmet), at **L. Monroe** in *Lawrence/Monroe* 17-Dec (L. Monroe CBC *fide* Jim Hengeveld), at **Indianapolis** in *Marion* 17-Dec (Michael Bishop), at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk), and at the **Indianapolis Zoo** in *Monroe* 1-Feb (Kyle Arvin).

Northern Mockingbird High counts included 3 at **Fairfax (L. Monroe)** in *Monroe* 15-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 3 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 2 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 2 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 2 at **Kaiser/Red Brush Loop** in *Warrick* 27-Dec (James Kittinger), and 2 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk).

Brown Thrasher Unusual in winter were 2 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 1 at **Goshen** in *Elkhart* 8-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus, Roy Troyer), 1 at **L. Monroe** in *Lawrence/Monroe* 17-Dec (L. Monroe CBC *fide* Jim Hengeveld), and 1 at **L. Lemon** in *Monroe* 18-Dec and 21-Jan (Jim Hengeveld).

European Starling High counts of this introduced species included 6,299 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 4,000 at **Beehunter** in *Sullivan* 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead), and 2,500 at **Brookville L.** in *Union* 22-Jan (Bill Buskirk).

American Pipit A few scattered reports: 14 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 10-Dec (Don Whitehead), 2 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 5-Jan (Scott Evans), 1 at **Pigeon R. FWA** in *Lagrange/Steuben* 3-Dec (Jim Haw, Sandy Schacht), 1 at **Summit L. SP** in *Henry* 3-Dec (Steve Pancol), 1 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 12-Dec (Don Whitehead), 1 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 4-Jan (Scott Evans, John Lawrence).

Cedar Waxwing High counts included 82 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Jon Chapman, Don Gorney), 44 at the **Marion College Ecolab** in *Marion* 3-Dec (James Cole), 44 at **Beverly Shores** in *Porter* 3-Dec (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Scott Namestnik, Larry Peavler), and 40 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Larry Peavler).

Yellow-rumped Warbler Scarce this winter (Jim Haw). High counts included 25 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 20 at **Hardy L.** in *Scott* 19-Feb

(George & Mary Alice Bowles), 12 at **Oxbow** in *Dearborn* 25-Feb (Doug Thomsen), 11 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), and 10 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 19-Feb (Jeff Sells).

Pine Warbler Two sightings of single birds: at **Mt. Vernon** in *Posey* 8-Dec, 9-Dec, and 22-Feb (Sharon Sorenson) and at the **Gibson generating station** in *Gibson* 25-Feb (Gary & Lisa Bowman, Jerry Downs, Bill Holladay, Dan Leach, Judy Leahy, Tammy Turner, Pat White).

Eastern Towhee High counts included 15 at **Johnson Co. Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden), 9 in *Morgan* 19-Feb (Cheri & Doug Johnstone), 9 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 19-Feb (Jeff Sells), 8 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 8 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 1-Jan (Jeff & Laura Hammond, Jo Hargesheimer, Cathy Meyer, Jeff Riegel), and 8 at **Hardy L.** in *Scott* 19-Feb (George & Mary Alice Bowles).

American Tree Sparrow High counts included 329 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 18-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg), 300 at **Strawtown-Koteewi Park** in *Hamilton* 17-Dec (James Cole), 275 at **Indiana Dunes Heron Rookery Unit** in *Porter* 17-Dec (Eric Lundquist), 256 at **Strawtown-Koteewi Park** in *Hamilton* 5-Feb (James Cole), 174 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 159 at **Kankakee Sands** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), and 129 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg).

Chipping Sparrow Three sightings of single birds: at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 15-Dec (Don Whitehead), at **L. Monroe** in *Lawrence/Monroe* 17-Dec (L. Monroe CBC *fide* Jim Hengeveld), at **Willow Slough** 7-Jan (Jed Hertz), and overwintering at a feeder at **Ashley** in *Steuben* (*photo taken by Holly Meyers week of 5-Feb).

Field Sparrow High counts included 12 at **Strawtown-Koteewi Park** in *Hamilton* 17-Dec (James Cole), 9 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 7-Dec (Timothy Grimm), and 6 at **Bluegrass FWA** in *Warrick* 17-Feb (Timothy Grimm).

Vesper Sparrow One report of a single bird at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 27-Feb (John Lawrence).

Savannah Sparrow High counts included 3 at **Kankakee Sands** in *Newton* 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), 3 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), and 3 at **Strawtown-Koteewi Park** in *Hamilton* 17-Dec (James Cole).

Fox Sparrow High counts included 4 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 4 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 8-Jan (Jeff Sells), 4 in *Morgan* 19-Feb (Cheri & Doug Johnstone), 3 at **Wabash Heritage Trail** in *Tippecanoe* 5-Dec (Angela Hoffman), and 3 at **Ft. Wayne** in *Allen* 17-Dec (Jim Haw).

Song Sparrow High counts included 39 at **Strawtown-Koteewi Park** in *Hamilton* 17-Dec (James Cole), 36 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Ross Brittain, Lee Sterrenburg), 35 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 5-Dec (Brad Feaster, Lee Sterrenburg), 33 at **Strawtown-Koteewi Park** in *Hamilton* 4-Dec (James Cole), and 30 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 11-Dec (Jay Bolden).

Swamp Sparrow High counts included 47 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 5-Dec (Brad Feaster, Lee Sterrenburg) and 32 at **Beehunter** in *Greene* 5-Dec (Brad Feaster, Lee Sterrenburg).

White-throated Sparrow High counts included 61 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 20 at **Johnson Co. Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden), and 20 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 28-Jan (Jay Bolden).

White-crowned Sparrow High counts included 25 at **L. Maxinkuckee** in *Marshall* 4-Jan (Michael Hooker), 24 at **CR 100 S, w, of SR 67** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 16 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 5-Dec (Brad Feaster, Lee Sterrenburg), 15 at **Yankeetown** 18-Dec (James Kittinger), and 15 at **Beehunter** in *Greene/Sullivan* 15-Jan (Don Whitehead).

Dark-eyed Junco High counts included 169 at **Patoka L.** in *Orange* 20-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 135 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Jed Hertz, Mark Messerle, Bronson Ratcliff), and 103 in *LaPorte* 27-Jan (Patrick Krueger).

Lapland Longspur None could be found in n.e. Indiana after the late Dec snowmelt (Jim Haw). High counts included 225 at **Kankakee Sands** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), 185 at **Newburgh** in *Warrick* 11-Dec (Jim Campbell), 147 at **CR 100 S, w. of SR 67** in *Greene* 14-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 124 at **Willow Slough** 2-Jan (Ed Hopkins), 100 at **MichCtyHarb** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady), 100 at **Willow Slough** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), and 100 at **Terre Haute** in *Vigo* 17-Dec (Jessica Bolser, Timothy Roth).

Snow Bunting None at all in northern Indiana in late Dec (Jim Haw). High counts included 120 at **Kingsbury FWA** in *LaPorte* 1-Jan (John Kendall), 80 at **Pigeon R.** in *LaGrange* 18-Dec (Ted Heemstra, Dick Hurley, Jeff McCoy), 35 at the **WakWWTrPlant** in *Elkhart* 1-Dec (Tony Baldoni, Robert Huegenard, Dan Stoltzfus, Ray Troyer), 11 at **CR 26 & CR 33** in *Elkhart* 10-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus), 11 at **Kankakee Sands** 10-Dec (Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jeff McCoy), and 11 at the **Indiana Dunes Heron Rookery Unit** in *Porter* 17-Dec (Eric Lundquist).

Northern Cardinal High counts included 65 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 28-Jan (Jay Bolden), 52 at **Willow Slough** in *Newton* 2-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Lynea Hinchman, Larry Peavler), 40 at **Southwestway Regional Park** in *Marion* 2-Jan (Jay Bolden), and 36 at **Bristol** in *Elkhart* 31-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus).

Red-winged Blackbird High counts included 4,000 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 15-Jan (Don Whitehead), 700 at **Beehunter** in *Greene/Sullivan* 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead), 500 at **Universal** in *Vermillion* 28-Jan (Alan Bruner, IAS field trip), and 400 at **Kaiser/Red Brush Loop** in *Warrick* 16-Jan (James Kittinger).

Eastern Meadowlark High counts included 45 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 15-Jan (Don Whitehead), 24 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 18-Feb (Lee Sterrenburg), and 24 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 19-Feb (Jeff Sells).

Rusty Blackbird High counts of this drastically declining species included 175 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 24-Feb (Don Whitehead), 145 at **L. Monroe** in *Monroe* 18-Dec (Jim Hengeveld), 45 at **Stillwater** in *Monroe* 28-Feb (Don Whitehead), and 20 at **Universal** in *Vermillion* 28-Jan (Alan Bruner, IAS field trip).

Brewer's Blackbird 3 at **Hawthorn** in *Sullivan* 3-Dec (Steve Lima), 14 there 4-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg), 9 there 10-Dec (Steve Lima), 4 there 11-Dec (Peter Scott, Michael Brown), and 1 at **Paynetown** in *Monroe* 15-Dec (Don Whitehead).

Common Grackle High counts included 20,000 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 31-Dec (Lee Sterrenburg, Don Gorney, Jeff McCoy), 6,000 there 15-Jan (Don Whitehead), 3,410 at **Yankeetown** 15-Jan (James Kittinger) up from 3,000 there 2-Jan (James Kittinger).

Brown-headed Cowbird High counts included 2,500 at **Goose Pond** in *Greene* 15-Jan (Don Whitehead), 300 at **Hobart** in *Lake* 1-Dec (Jeanette Jaskula), 150 at **Kaiser/Red Brush Loop** in *Warrick* 16-Jan (James Kittinger), and 70 at **Beehunter** in *Greene/Sullivan* 25-Jan (David Beery, Don Whitehead).

Purple Finch Found infrequently and in very small numbers in n.e. Indiana (Jim Haw). High counts included 65 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 11-Feb (Jeff Sells), 25 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 4-Feb (Vern Wilkins), 25 at **Muscatatuck** in *Jackson* 12-Feb (Colleen & Tom Becker), 19 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 26-Feb and 27-Feb (Vern Wilkins), 18 at **Pekin** in *Washington* 4-Feb and 19-Feb (Jeff Sells), and 18 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 15-Feb (Vern Wilkins).

House Finch High counts included 111 in *LaPorte* 3-Dec (Patrick Krueger), 87 at **W. Lafayette** in *Tippecanoe* 5-Feb (Russ Allison), 83 there 15-Jan (Russ Allison), and 82 at **Goshen (Shanklin Park)** in *Elkhart* 28-Dec (Dan Stoltzfus).

Common Redpoll One report of 2 at **Williamsport** in *Warren* 3-Dec (*vide* Marianna Sadowski).

Pine Siskin Few reports: 15 at **Johnson Co. Park** in *Johnson* 18-Dec (Jay Bolden); 12 at **Bloomington** in *Monroe* 6-Feb (Vern Wilkins) and 3 there 3-Dec (Vern Wilkins); and 3 at **Tremont** in *Porter* 18-Feb (John Cassady). A single bird at a feeder near **Salamonie Res.** was the only one reported from n.e. Indiana (Jim Haw).

American Goldfinch High counts included 100 at **Tippecanoe R. SP** in *Jasper-Pulaski* 8-Jan (Jon Chapman, Michael Hooker), 90 at **"Danita's"** in *Porter* 3-Dec (Patrick Krueger), and 90 at **Willow Slough** in *Newton* 2-Jan (Susan Bagby, Ken Brock, John Cassady, Jed Hertz, Lynea Hinchman, Mark Messerle, Larry Peavler, Bronson Ratcliff).

House Sparrow High counts of this introduced species included 152 at **Willow Slough** in *Newton* 2-Jan (Jon Chapman, Don Gorney), 125 at **Raccoon Lake SRA** in *Parke* 19-Dec (Jay Bolden), and 110 at the **Purdue Animal Science Farm** in *Tippecanoe* 4-Dec (Ed Hopkins).