



Two Black-billed Magpies spent 28 August through 14 (here 2) October 2005 in Damascus, Mahoning County, Ohio; it is uncertain whether these birds had been in captivity prior to their appearance there. Photograph by Delores Cole.

Evening Grosbeak appeared in *Montgomery*, PA 18 Nov (RK). The peak Red Crossbill count of 12 came at H.M.S. 20 Nov (LGo). Two early White-winged Crossbills were at H.M.S. 25 Aug (LGo).

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## Illinois & Indiana



**James Hengeveld • Keith A. McMullen  
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For the most part, the autumn was dry in the Region, resulting in a lack of habitat at many popular shorebird and wading bird locales. Maximum counts of most shorebird species were lower than usual, as many birds probably passed through the Region in search of more favorable habitat. Warm temperatures continued into Novem-

ber, and perhaps as a result of the warm weather, many insectivorous species lingered, with plentiful prey available. Many migrants showed up early, and many remained later than usual. With respect to rarities and daily high counts, the 2005 fall migration was one of the most exciting on record in Indiana, with a rarity list including a frigatebird, White Ibis, Swallow-tailed Kite, Long-tailed Jaeger, Arctic Tern, and Say's Phoebe, as well as state firsts for Gray Kingbird and Cave Swallow.

Abbreviations: Bee. M. (Beehunter Marsh, *Greene*, IN); Bev. Sh. (Beverly Shores, *Porter*, IN); Carl. L. (Carlyle L., *Clinton*, *Fayette*, and *Bond*, IL); Chau. (Chautauqua N.W.R., IL); Dunes S.P. (Dunes State Park, *Porter*, IN); Eagle Cr. (Eagle Creek Park, *Marion*, IN); F.P. (Forest Preserve); F.W.A. (Fish and Wildlife Area); Hennepin (Hennepin-Hopper Lake Restoration Area, *Putnam*, IL); Mich. City (Michigan City Harbor, *La Porte*, IN); Miller (Miller Beach, *Lake*, IN); Montrose (Montrose Pt., Lincoln Park, Chicago).

### WATERFOWL

The count of 500 Greater White-fronted

Geese at Chau. 20 Nov (KR) was Illinois's 2nd highest fall total, and 750 Cackling Geese 27 Nov in *Winnebago*, IL (DTW) was a high fall total. A record Illinois fall count of 20 Ross's Geese was made at Carl. L. 11 Nov (DMK) Tundra Swans made a nice showing, evidenced by 80 tallied 17 Nov at Illinois Beach S.P. (RE) and 75 recorded 12 Nov at Spring L., *Carroll*, IL (KAM). Numbers of migrant and wintering Trumpeter Swans in w. Indiana have been building over the past few years, as evidenced by 52 recorded at Universal Mines, *Vermillion* 22 Nov (MRB); 26 Trumpeters throughout Illinois also reflected an increase.

Wood Ducks continue to thrive; an impressive tally of 1260 came from Hennepin 25 Aug (DPS). Scaup were plentiful: 10,000 Lesser at Carl. L. 13 Nov (DMK) and 3500 Greater at Illinois Beach S.P. 6 Nov (KAM) were maxima. A high count of 500 Canvasbacks was made 12 Nov at Spring L., *Carroll* IL (KAM), and 500 Redheads were tallied 13 Nov at Carl. L. (DMK). Four Harlequin Ducks at Jeorse Park, *Lake* (DG, JJM) and one at Whiting Park, *Lake* 25 Nov (DG, JJM) following the Thanksgiving Day front constituted the highest ever one-day count (5) for



This immature White Ibis at Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge 12 November 2005 was the latest ever reported in Indiana.  
Photograph by Dan Kaiser.

this species in Indiana. The scoter migration through Illinois was above average, with double-digit counts for Surfs from three locations and a total of 60 individuals. Three Surf Scoters seen at Miller 23 Sep (DG, PBG et al.) furnished Indiana's 2nd earliest fall record ever. A peak count of 5 White-winged 25 Nov at Illinois Beach S.P. (AFS, DTW) was a highlight among the 20 reported for Illinois. Two Black Scoters 12 Nov at Carl. L. (DMK, KAM) were the farthest inland reported of the 18 seen in Illinois. Inland Indiana reports included only 2 White-winged and a single Black Scoter. Buffleheads peaked 14 Nov, with high counts of 83 at Chau. and 65 at Clinton L. (KAM). The lone lakefront Long-tailed Duck recorded was a female at Dunes S.P. 13 Nov (BJG et al.). Inland records of an early ad. male on L. Lemon 24 Oct (J&SH) and 2 females on L. Monroe 24 Nov (DRW) were the only others for the Region.

## LOONS THROUGH VULTURES

Three Pacific Loons reported from the Region included singles at Chau. 20 Oct and in Peoria, IL (KR) 31 Oct, as well as a tardy individual at Bev. Sh. 26 Nov (JCo, AC). A high count of 11 Red-throated Loons was logged at Bev. Sh. 20 Nov (JJM), while among the 6 reported from Illinois, a single bird at Carl. L. 18 Nov (JE, KAM) provided the only down-state report. The two highest ever single-day counts of Common Loons in Indiana were made 19 Nov from Dunes S.P. to Bev. Sh., where 1315 were counted (JJM et al.), and at Bev. Sh. 20 Nov, when 2270 were tallied (JJM, BJG). An impressive 165 Pied-billed Grebes at Hennepin 25 Aug (DFS) and 150 Horned Grebes at Carl. L. 11 Nov (DMK) were maxima for those species. Red-necked and Eared Grebes were rather scarce, with one report of each from each state. A single Western Grebe was discovered 19 Nov at Bev. Sh. (BJG, JJM).

Some 10,000 American White Pelicans were estimated 23 Oct at Carl. L. (DMK), and a state-record 100 were at L. Gibson 2 Oct (G&LB). An American Bittern observed 8 Nov at Greene Valley F.P., DuPage, IL (JS) was tardy. Nice counts of 500 Great Blue Herons 5 Sep (DMK) and 709 Great Egrets 11 Sep (KAM) were made at Carl. L. Fifty-five Little Blue Herons and 32 Snowy Egrets were tallied 3 Aug at Horseshoe L., Madison, IL (KAM), and a tardy Cattle Egret was noted 14 Nov at Winthrop Harbor, IL (AS, DJ). An imm. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was at Bee M. 2 Sep–1 Oct (LWS), the latter date furnishing the 2nd latest ever for Indiana.

A White Ibis, first detected 29 Jul at Homer L., Champaign, IL, stayed until 11 Aug (CLW et al.), and an imm. found at Muscatatuck N.W.R. 12 Nov (JB, ph. DK) provided Indiana's latest fall record. Two White-faced Ibis were present 1 Oct at Carl. L. (KAM), and another was reported from Macon, IL 6–9 Oct (TAM, MFD). Two unidentified *Plegadis* ibis were seen: one at Jasper-Pulaski F.W.A. 16 Oct (JJM) and another at Summit L. 16 & 23 Oct (SAP). An imm. frigatebird (white on the head, neck, and chest), undoubtedly driven northward by Hurricane *Katrina*, was seen flying over Eagle Cr. 1 Sep (†LAB, †RFB). It was not relocated.



A rare subspecies so far east, this adult dark-morph Harlan's Hawk was found and photographed 13 November 2005 in Jackson County, Indiana. Photograph by Dan Kaiser.

The count of 250 Turkey Vultures 8 Aug in Springfield (KAM) tied the 2nd highest on record for fall in Illinois, and a tally of 275 at L. Monroe 14 Nov (DRW) was Indiana's 6th highest ever for the season. A peak Black Vulture tally of 52 was made at Brookville Res. 23 Oct (WHB).

## KITES THROUGH CRANE

An amazing 2 Swallow-tailed Kites were seen circling together over Wakarusa Wastewater Treatment Facility, Elkhart 1 Sep (DS), Indiana's first multiple-bird sighting of this species since 1882. Four Mississippi Kites, including 2 juvs., were seen at Scales Lake Park, Warrick, IN 6 Aug (DL), and 4 others, including one juv., were found at Lincoln S.P., Spencer, IN 18 Aug (DA). An early imm. Northern Goshawk was seen 8 Oct at Paul Douglas F.P., Cook, IL (GAW). Swainson's Hawks away from breeding territories included an ad. 22 Sep at Prairie Ridge State Natural Area, IL (BS) and an imm. 17 Oct at Carl. L. (KAM). Indiana's 12th Harlan's Hawk, an ad. dark morph, was documented in Jackson, IN 13 Nov (ph. DK). Thirteen Golden Eagles were reported this fall from the Region, including an early imm. seen at L. Lemon 9 Oct (WLM et al.). The Merlin flight was early and strong, with a 9 Aug sighting in St. Clair, IL (KAM) the earliest of six Aug reports, a peak of 154 at Illinois Beach S.P. 15 Oct (VB), and a fine season total of 26 for Indiana.

A Yellow Rail 29 Sep at Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (BS) was cause for excitement; the species is rarely detected on migration anywhere in the Midwest. Two Virginia Rails lingered through 14 Nov at Chau. (KAM). An impressive 4 King Rails, including 2 juvs., at Bee. M. 9 Sep (LWS, J&SH) indicated successful nesting for the species at this site. The last Common Moorhens in the Region were 3 seen 15 Oct at Lock and Dam 13, Whiteside, IL (EWW). Impressive sights included 23,000 American Coots 3 Nov at Hennepin (DFS) and a Nov count of 16,420 Sandhill Cranes migrating over Lake Villa, IL (RB).

## SHOREBIRDS

A Black-bellied Plover at Eagle Cr. 13 Nov (LP) was the 8th latest inland record for Indiana. A Semipalmated Plover at West Beach, Porter, IN 1 Nov (KJB) was the 4th Nov record for the lakefront. Four different Piping Plovers were recorded at Miller; 3 were reported from Illinois. Two Black-necked Stilts were still at Cane Ridge Wetlands, Gibson, IN 21 Aug (G&LB) following successful breeding. American Avocets were reported in above-average numbers this fall, with 24 from Indiana and 9 from Illinois; the high count consisted of 7 at Eagle Cr. 20 Sep (TH, *vide* RLH). A tardy Solitary Sandpiper was at Salamonie Res., IN 15 Oct (SAS). Two large flights of Willets occurred 13 Aug at Miller, where 57 were counted (MT et al.), and 20 Aug at Michigan City, where 66 were tallied (BJG, PBG). Two Willets lingered at Hennepin through 14 Oct (EWW).

The 3 Upland Sandpipers at Hawthorn Mines 18 Aug (LWS, PR) were the first in Sullivan, IN since 1952, while 12 tallied 30 Jul in Decatur, IL were noteworthy (TAM). A total of 8 lakefront Whimbrels represented an average fall flight, but a single bird in Sullivan, IN (RLH et al.) was the first ever seen there, providing Indiana's 12th inland record. A Marbled Godwit at Miller 14 Sep (PBG et al.) was tardy, and one at L. Shelbyville 23 Sep (TAM) was even later. Three found 22 Aug at Carl. L. (KAM) lingered for two weeks before departing. The only report of Hudsonian Godwits consisted of 3 seen 4 Aug at Chau. (KR). A Red Knot 26 Jul in Macon, IL was very early (TAM, MFD).

On 27 Aug, the 9 White-rumped Sandpipers at Hawthorn Mines (LWS, TT) represented the largest Aug count ever in Indiana. A count of 75 Stilt Sandpipers 14 Aug at Chau. was indicative of a strong flight (TAM). At Miller, an impressive 1383 Dunlins were logged 16 Oct (BJG). Phalaropes fared well in the Region, with a maximum of 3 Wilson's 6 Aug at Rend L. (KAM) and 5 tardy Red-neckeds 16 Oct at Carl. L. (DMK). A juv. Red Phalarope was discovered at Mulvey Pond, Tippecanoe, IN on the early date of 19 Aug (EMH). Five Red Phalaropes were reported from Illinois, a 5 Nov bird at Carl. L. (JE) being the latest.

## JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS

A record-early ad. Long-tailed Jaeger was seen at Miller 14 Aug (BJG); 3 others were seen there this season. The Region's only Pomarine Jaeger was found 23–31 Oct at Clinton L. (EWW, TAM, m.ob.). A Franklin's Gull at Brookville Res. 13 Aug (WHB) was very early. There was an unprecedented influx of 54 Laughing Gulls into Indiana, perhaps related to the passage of Hurricane Katrina, with a high count of 8 (DG) at Eagle Cr. 11 Sep. Little Gulls also appeared in higher-than-average numbers, as 9 were reported, all on the Indiana lakefront.

Of the Region's 15 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, the most noteworthy was an ad. at Salamonie Res. 19 Nov (JAH, SS) that provided the 2nd record for ne. Indiana. A first-year Great Black-backed Gull at Waukegan, IL 6 Aug (AFS) and an ad. 25 Aug at Montrose 25 Aug (GAW) were both early. A juv. Black-legged Kittiwake was a first for Brookville Res. 5 Nov (WHB). Three kittiwakes were tallied at the Indiana lakefront, while an inland bird noted 2–8 Oct in LaSalle, IL (J&CM,

m.ob.) provided the only Illinois record. An impressive and unprecedented 28 Sabine's Gulls flew past Miller in a single flock 16 Sep (DG)—one of the highest single-day counts ever for the entire Midwest (but see the Ontario and Western Great Lakes reports). The 3



One of nine reported on the Indiana lakefront in autumn 2005, this Little Gull was at Miller Beach in Lake County 11 August. Photograph by John K. Cassidy.

reported from Illinois were all from Carl. L. (DMK, KAM et al.).

A fine total of 524 Caspian Terns was reported on the Indiana lakefront, with the highest one-day tally consisting of 172 birds at George L. and Miller 6 Aug (KJB et al.). Indiana's 3rd and 4th records of Arctic Tern, both ads., were discovered on consecutive days at Miller. The first bird was seen 11 Aug (KJB, ph. JKC et al.), and a bird seen and photographed 12 Aug (MT) was subsequently identified conclusively 13 Aug (JJM, SRB, et al.). A Forster's Tern at Montrose 14 Nov (MF) was quite late. The largest lakefront count of Black Terns was 363 at Miller 4 Aug (BJG), and the peak inland tally was 300 at Carl. L. 27 Aug (DMK, TAM). A murrelet, thought to be a Long-billed, was seen 12 Nov at Carl. L. (DMK). Efforts to relocate the bird were foiled by strong winds and heavy waves.

## DOVES THROUGH NIGHTHAWKS

Eurasian Collared-Doves continue to push northward in the Region. A new colony consisting of 7 birds was found in Pulaski, IN 5 Nov (JCh, MH), and another individual was at a feeder in Porter, IN 16 Nov+ (KJB). Two more were seen 12 Nov in Carroll in nw. Illinois (KAM). A White-winged Dove was seen 28 Aug–4 Sep in Edwards, IL (†BS). The first two nests of Monk Parakeets in Indiana, along with a dozen birds, were found in Highland, Lake 24 Aug (ph. MT).

The remains of a Barn Owl were found at L. Lemon 1 Sep (B&RK, J&SH), and one was seen 8 Sep in Jasper, IL (ph. BS). The only

Snowy Owl reported in the Region was one at Winthrop Harbor, IL 25 Nov (RE, AFS, DTW). A single Long-eared Owl was found at West Beach, Porter, IN 9 Nov (CS). An impressive 5 Short-eared Owls were seen over L. Michigan from Miller 15 Oct (JKC et al.). A lakefront Northern Saw-whet Owl at the traditional Tremont, Porter, IN site was found 20 Nov (RJP), representing the first Nov record there. A prominent highlight of the season was the appearance of a Burrowing Owl at Pyramid S.P., Perry, IL (ph. RS, CT, MK, m.ob.) 15 Oct–30 Nov+.

A record-late Ruby-throated Hummingbird, an ad. male, remained at a Newburgh, IN feeder through 21 Nov (fide DG). Five Rufous Hummingbirds were reported in Illinois and 6 were reported in Indiana (AC, CH fide DG), where an unidentified *Selasphorus* was also noted. Common Nighthawk numbers reported from the Region have diminished in recent years, but this season's high counts of 94 and 127 were especially low, representing the lowest and 2nd lowest fall maxima for Illinois and Indiana, respectively.

## FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PIPITS

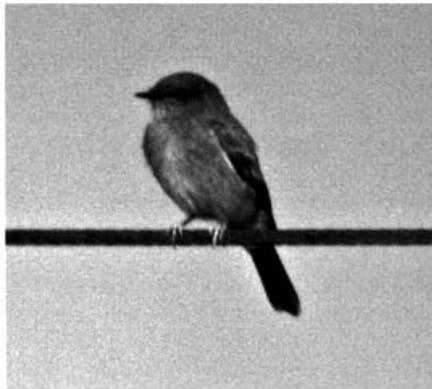
Five Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported in Illinois, the latest a bird in Kankakee 12 Oct (JBH). Indiana's 5th Say's Phoebe was found at Hawthorn Mines, Sullivan 27 Aug (ph. LWS, TT) and was seen briefly 28 Aug (DG) at the same location. A first-state-record Gray Kingbird was found in s. La-



Two Arctic Terns were noted at Miller Beach, Lake County, Indiana just two days apart, 11 (below) and 13 (above) August 2005. The species is a very rare migrant in the central Midwest. Photographs by John K. Cassidy.

Porte, IN 5 Nov (BJG, MT). This first-year bird lingered at the location through 8 Nov and was seen by many.

The autumn flight of 15 Northern Shrikes was above average for the Region. A White-eyed Vireo found 1 Nov (JAH, SS) was the latest ever for ne. Indiana. Four Bell's Vireos were logged in Greene, IN 2 Sep (LWS, JCo), and one at Willow Slough F.W.A. 16 Sep (AWB) was tardy. On 8 Oct, a total of 10 Blue-



Indiana's fifth Say's Phoebe was this young bird found in an area of reclaimed strip mine in Sullivan County 25 August 2005 (here); it was seen briefly the next day. Photograph by Lee Sterrenburg.

headed Vireos was tallied at Bev. Sh. (BJG), matching a previous high for Indiana set in 1922. A Yellow-throated Vireo 20 Oct at the Marian College Ecolab, Marion (GLC et al.) was the latest ever for Indiana. A Warbling Vireo seen 2 Oct at Carl. L. was rather late (DMK). A peak Red-eyed Vireo count of 28 was made 5 Sep at Carl. L. (KAM), and one that struck a window (it survived) 3 Nov at a Chesterton residence (KJB) provided the 2nd latest Indiana lakefront record. Five Philadelphia Vireos provided a nice one-day total 4 Sep at Blackwell F.P., DuPage, IL (EES).

A previously unknown autumn staging area for Purple Martins was discovered at LaSalle F.W.A., Lake, IN, where the maximum tally of 1810 was made 2 Aug (JBH). In addition, a male and female were found lingering at martin houses in Lagrange until 12 Nov (DY), establishing Indiana's latest record. The peak tally of 16,000 Tree Swallows came 22 Sep at Carl. L. (KAM), and totals of 1265 Banks at Hennepin 28 Jul (DFS), 600 Cliffs 3 Sep in McDonough, IL (KAM), and 600 Barns 14 Aug at Carl. L. (DMK) were all noteworthy. There was a remarkable flight of Cave Swallows throughout the e. United States, and Indiana shared in the excitement when the state's first were recorded in Nov. On 12 Nov, Brendan J. Grube saw 12 swallows flying past his vantage point at Dunes S.P., and he positively identified 5 of them as Cave Swallows. Later that

same day, 4 were seen by Michael Topp at Miller and another 2 by Don Gorney at Miller.

Indiana's highest ever count of Red-breasted Nuthatches, 76, was made at Tippecanoe River S.P. 30 Oct (JCh). The 42 Winter Wrens tallied at three Indiana lakefront locations 7 Oct (DG) represented the highest ever Indiana fall count, while 59 tallied at Chicago's Jackson Park 9 Oct (PRC) was even more impressive. An excellent count of 75 Sedge Wrens came from Carl. L. 5 Aug, and 2 lingering Marsh Wrens were noted there 5 Nov (DMK). On 8 Oct at various lakefront sites, Indiana recorded its highest-ever tallies of 203 Golden-crowned Kinglets (EMH, RJP et al.) and 182 Ruby-crowned Kinglets (JKC, KJB et al.).

West Beach, Porter, IN once again produced one and also a 2nd Townsend's Solitaire, representing the first time that more than one has been seen in Indiana. On 22 Oct, an ad. was found (BJG, PBG), and 2 birds were seen perched together on 27 Oct (PBG, NG). Illinois hosted one as well: 29 Oct-1 Nov at Lake Forest, Lake (TCG et al.). Indiana lakefront sites yielded a fall-record 70 Hermit Thrushes 7 Oct (DG), and a notable 85 Swainson's Thrushes were tallied 14 Sep in Lake, IL (EWW). A tardy Swainson's was reported 2 Nov from Chicago (KW). A juv. Hermit Thrush 9 Oct in Chicago (ph. GAW) was unusual, as this plumage is rarely seen in the Region. An amazing 9915 American Robins were counted at a roost at Palos, Cook, IL 2 Nov (WSS). Peak American Pipit counts were



Two Townsend's Solitaires graced West Beach on the Indiana lakefront for more than a month this fall; this bird was photographed 6 November 2005 at West Beach, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Photograph by Susan Hengeveld.

75 at Wakarusa Wastewater Treatment Facility, Elkhart, IN 31 Oct (DS) and 75 at Carl. L. 20 Nov (DMK).

## WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

Noteworthy were 2 Lawrence's Warblers seen 4 & 5 Sep in ne. Indiana (JAH). A Tennessee Warbler at Indianapolis 7 Aug (LC) was early,

and the 134 Tennessees reported from the Indiana lakefront provided the highest ever fall total. A nice total of 12 Orange-crowned Warblers was seen 8 Oct at Paul Douglas Forest Preserve, Cook, IL (GAW). The total of 96 Cape May Warblers recorded along the Indiana lakefront this fall was double the average number. Selected high counts for migrant warblers included 31 Magnolias 2 Sep in Chicago's Grant Park (DFS); 30 Black-throated Greens 1 Oct at L. Monroe (JD, CB); 225 Yellow-rumpeds 9 Oct at Salt Creek F.P., Cook, IL (DFS); 207 Palms 6 Oct in Chicago (DFS); and 25 Bay-breasteds 1 Oct at L. Monroe (JD, CB). A late Cerulean Warbler was seen at Chain O' Lakes S.P. in ne. Indiana 10 Sep (SAS). The Indiana total of 15 Mourning Warblers was average, but the flight in Illinois was weak, with 3 in Chicago 2 Sep (DFS) providing both the high count and the latest observation. Fourteen Connecticut Warblers were reported in Illinois, the latest 26 Sep at Montrose (GAW). A first-year female Hooded Warbler at the Hammond Lakefront Sanctuary 27 Aug (JKC, SRB, KJB) furnished only the 3rd fall lakefront record in Indiana. A tardy Yellow-breasted Chat was noted 19 Oct at Montrose (JL).

An ad. male Summer Tanager at Bev. Sh. 17 Sep (KJB, EMH et al.) was noteworthy for the lakefront. Single tardy Scarlet Tanagers were noted 15 Nov in Massac, IL (FB) and 23 Nov at Rockford, IL (fide DTW). Three Spotted Towhees were detected in Illinois; one found 15 Nov at Hampshire Forest Preserve, Kane, IL remained until 30 Nov (SC, DTW, m.ob.). A nice total of 39 Savannah Sparrows was logged at Bee. M. 24 Sep (LWS, DG). A Grasshopper Sparrow lingered until 8 Oct at Paul Douglas F.P., Cook, IL (GAW). Seven Le Conte's Sparrows were reported from Indiana sites, and the 3 recorded at Carl. L. (KAM, DMK) 11 Nov represented the largest group of the 9 reported in Illinois. An impressive total of 9 Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows was found at Indiana's Lebanon Business Park 30 Sep (RLH, DG). Two Harris's Sparrows seen 4 Oct at Montrose (RH) highlighted the 7 reported from Illinois, while a single juv. discovered at Bev. Sh. 8 Oct (BJG) represented the only Indiana report. Amazing were the 196 White-crowned Sparrows 9 Oct (GAW) and the 341 Dark-eyed Juncos 27 Oct (PRC) tallied at downtown Chicago sites. A Lapland Longspur was very early 8 Sep at Miller (MT); the 700 seen 20 Nov at Carl. L. (DMK) was the largest number reported. A peak count of

220 Snow Buntings came from Dunes S.P. 19 Nov (JJM, KJB et al.).

Six Blue Grosbeaks at Carl. L. 24 Sep was a significant count there (KAM, LH, BS), while a very tardy individual was detected 22 Nov in Massac, IL (FB). A high count of 95 Bobolinks came from Bee. M. 24 Sep (LWS, DG), and one at Lebanon Business Park, IN 13 Oct (RLH) was the latest reported. A single Yellow-headed Blackbird was noted 17 Nov at Bee. M. (DRW). Indiana's 4th-ever Aug lakefront Rusty Blackbird was found at Cowles Bog, Porter 30 Aug (KJB). The species was well reported this year, with a peak count of 1200 at Fawn R. Fish Hatchery, Steuben, IN 10 Nov (JAH, SS) providing Indiana's 2nd largest fall tally. A female Baltimore Oriole showed up in a Bloomington-area yard 6 Nov (PJP), and in the same yard, an imm. male was present 10–29 Nov.

The fall flight of Purple Finches was average, while numbers of Pine Siskins were disappointing. A nice count of 28 Purple Finches came from Siloam Springs S.P., IL 4 Nov (EWW), and the peak Pine Siskin tally of 20

birds was made at Bev. Sh. 29 Oct (JJM). Eight Red Crossbills and 2 Evening Grosbeaks were reported throughout Illinois.

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## Western Great Lakes



### Peder H. Svingen

Michigan had a bittersweet season, with no fewer than six potential first state records—three of these new to the Region. But here was also great sadness, as our friend and colleague Jim Granlund died suddenly and unexpectedly on 20 September 2005. In addition to his role as husband, father, and respected teacher, Jim was involved in virtually every aspect of ornithology in Michigan. His dedication and his contributions will be greatly missed.

**Abbreviations:** Hawk Ridge (Hawk Ridge B.O., Duluth, MN); Shiawassee (Shiawassee N.W.R., Saginaw, MI); S.M.R.R. (Southeast Michigan Raptor Research, including L.E.M.P. [Lake Erie Metropark] and Pte. Mouillee Headquarters, Wayne, MI); W.P.B.O. (Whitefish Pt. B.O., Chippewa, MI).

### WATERFOWL THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS

Minnesota's 8th Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was shot from a flock of Mallards in Stevens 17 Oct (*vide* SV). Ross's Geese appeared in nine Minnesota and seven Wisconsin counties; in Michigan, where the species is still considered casual, one was at Saginaw 21 Nov (DP). Michigan also had a King/Common Eider in Marquette 5 Oct (SH). All three states reported Harlequin Duck, including 5 in Benzie, MI 14–15 Nov (m.ob.). Early for Minnesota was an ad. male Surf Scoter in St. Louis 18 Sep (PHS et al.); a total of 322 at W.P.B.O. was well below average. Seasonal-

totals of 3206 White-winged Scoters and 132 Black Scoters were near average at W.P.B.O. Also early in Minnesota were Black Scoters in Beltrami (BU) and Cook 12 Sep (DBM). W.P.B.O. had its 2nd best total of 20,144 Long-tailed Ducks 19 Sep–15 Nov, with peaks of 5369 and 5231 on 1 & 5 Nov, respectively. Fifteen Long-taileds in Beltrami 16 Nov (BU) was an unusual number inland for Minnesota. Record-high seasonal (4183) and daily (2129 on 12 Nov) totals of Bufflehead were tallied at W.P.B.O. Drake Barrow's Goldeneyes graced Leelanau, MI 28 Oct+ (MB, ph AMB), Houston, MN 20 Nov (DBz et al.), and Ozaukee, WI 25 Nov (TCW).

Near average was a total of 486 Red-throated Loons (peak 85 on 22 Sep) at W.P.B.O. Wisconsin had up to 5 Red-throateds in Douglas (m.ob.) and one in Manitowoc 13 Oct (SF). W.P.B.O. documented 3 Pacific Loons; Minnesota's 7 included one in Meeker 22 Oct (DF). Pacific Loons on L. Superior in Douglas, WI probably overlapped those in Minnesota, but one also transited Ozaukee 3

**SA** Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico are rarely associated with vagrants in our Region; most storms dissipate before reaching the Western Great Lakes or track too far to the east to produce storm-displaced seabirds here. Thus, needless to say, **Lesser Frigatebird** was not on anyone's list of expected vagrants! Experts are reviewing photographs and written documentation of this potential first Michigan record at L.E.M.P. 18 Sep (TTS); details are published in this issue of *North American Birds*. In n. Minnesota, a female frigatebird at Big Lake, St. Louis 19–21 Sep (JIL et al.) was most likely a Magnificent, but details were not sufficient to eliminate other species.