

FIELD NOTES

1996-1997 Winter Season

Red-throated Loon

LD: 7 Dec. (2), IBSP (PSw); 4 Dec., Wauk (SH); .

Pacific Loon

25 Dec. (3), CONWR (*BD).

Common Loon

LD: 7 Jan. (3), CONWR (BD); 6 Jan., Peabody River King SFWA (St Clair Co)(JV); 16 Dec., Spfld (DB); 8 Dec., Wauk (JL).

Pied-billed Grebe

Wintered. MC: 45, Spfld, 23 Jan. (DB); 18, CONWR, 3 Jan. (BD). LD: 4 Jan., Chi (AS); 11 Dec. (2), Crystal Lake (McHenry Co)(RBA).

Horned Grebe

Scarce. MC: 3, CONWR, 4 Jan. (BD). LD: 4 Jan., Fox R (Kane Co)(DS); 22 Dec., Spfld (DB); 7 Dec., IBSP (DB, MD, VK).

American White Pelican

May have wintered at these locations: 21 Dec. (2), MTNWR (WR); 21 Feb. (6), Calhoun Co (JV).

Double-crested Cormorant

Wintered (1) at Spfld (DB). MC: 10, Carl. L, 11 Jan. (DK). LD: 4 Jan., Lockport (CA); 4 Jan., LCal (AS); 25 Dec., Chi (DJ); 21 Dec., LCNP (CMc, JMc).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT

1st winter record for state. 3 Jan., HLCA (*KM, MD).

Great Blue Heron

MC: 151, Rend L, 21 Dec. (KM, FB). LD: 31 Jan., Spfld (DB); 31 Jan., COLSP (SH); 19 Jan., Peoria L & D (Tazewell Co)(MR); 19 Jan. (2), Starved Rock L & D (La Salle Co)(CMc); 18 Jan., Rockford (DW); 4 Jan., Will Co (CA).

Great Egret

LD: 15 Dec., Franklin Co (BD).

Black-crowned Night-Heron

28 Dec., LCal (WM); 21 Dec. (2), Skokie (EW).

Tundra Swan

All records. 22 Dec. (6), Palos (WS); 1-2 Jan. (8), St. Mary's Seminary (Lake Co)(AS, MM); 22-23 Feb. (5), Clinton Co (JV).

Trumpeter Swan

3, Carl. L, 17 Dec. (DK-2 were eventually found shot).

Mute Swan

MC: 90, Wolf L (Cook Co), 8 Feb. (WM); 36, Kemper L (Lake Co), in Jan. (CFs); 26, Druce L (Lake Co), 1 Jan. (DJ); 11, Fox R (Kane Co), 12 Jan.—but 2 thru Feb (DS); 7, Spfld, 25 Dec. (DB).

Greater White-fronted Goose

"Greenland" race- 3 times/period, Winnebago Co (*BG). Winter MC: 128, Sangamon Co, 18 Dec. (DB); 60, Carl. L, 24 Dec. (DK); 60, HLCA, 3 Jan. (KM, MD); 45, UCCA, 5 Jan. (BD); 25, Mel Price L & D (Madison Co), all period (WR). Spring stagings MC: 600+, Clin. L, 22 Feb. (RC); 250, Sangamon Co, 19 Feb. (DB); 45, McLean Co, 23 Feb. (fide MFr); 36, LCNP, 23 Feb. (CMc).

Snow Goose

Winter MC: 25,000, CCNWR, 6 Jan. (RWh); 16,000, Rend L, 9 Dec. (RWh). For the most part, they didn't winter in these large "migrant" numbers. Spring stagings, tremendous numbers MC: 320,000, southern Illinois aerial survey, 17 Feb. (RWh); 100,000, Carl. L, 15 Feb. (KM, DK); 13,000, Sangamon Co, 18 Feb. (DB).

Ross's Goose

Winter MC: 5, Rend L, 15 Dec. (BD); 2, HLCA, 3 Jan. (KM, MD). Spring stagings MC: 10+, Sangamon Co, 19 Feb. (DB—many hybrid Ross'/Snow noted also); 7, Baldwin L (Randolph Co), 17 Feb. (KM); 2, LCNP, 23 Feb. (CMc).

Canada Goose

The Mississippi Valley population "short stopped" in southern Wisconsin and north of traditional areas in southern Illinois. MC: 302,000, aerial survey of southern Illinois, 8 Jan. (RWh). Hunters only harvested 67 % of their quota or 24,479 birds.

Wood Duck

LD: 14 Jan., Spfld (DB); 4 Jan., Fox R (Kane Co)(DS); 22 Dec., Moraine View SP (McLean Co)(MR); 21 Dec., MM (EW); 7 Dec. (2 female), Illini SP (La Salle Co)(CMc).

Green-winged Teal

Wintered in small numbers. MC: 700, CCNWR, 10 Dec. (MGe). Others: 4, HLCA, 3 Jan. (KM, MD); pair wintered, M.ArB (m.ob.). LD: 2 Jan., Spfld (DB).

American Black Duck

MC: 3,500, Illinois R at Duck Creek, 9 Dec. (MGe). Others: 90, Carl. L, 22 Dec. (KM); 59, Illinois R at Seneca, 21 Dec. (DS).

Mallard

MC: 197,765, IDNR-District 7, area centered on LCNP, 9 Dec. Others: 1500, Spfld, 26 Dec. (DB).

Northern Pintail

Wintered in small numbers-south. MC: 4,400, Mississippi R-Calhoun Co, 9 Dec. (MGe). Others: 30, CONWR, 3 Jan. (BD); 25, UCCA, 4 Jan. (KM, DK); 8, LCNP, 7 Dec. (CMc); 7, Spfld, 28 Dec. (DB). LD: 3 Jan., Cherry Valley (Winnebago Co)(BG).

Northern Shoveler

Wintered in small numbers statewide. MC: 160, HL, 9 Dec. (KM). Others: 30, Carl. L, 17 Dec. (DK); 17 wintered, Kemper L (Lake Co)(CFs); 5, Sangamon Co, 18 Dec. (DB); 28 Dec.-1 Jan., Evanston (EW).

Gadwall

Wintered at usual sewer pond locations. MC: 2,000, CCNWR, 10 Dec. (MGe). Others: 100, Spfld, 21 Dec. (DB); 100, HL, 14 Dec. (KM); 66, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 10 Dec. (BD); 3, Lake Co, 19 Jan. (PSw); 2, LCNP, 4 Jan. (CMc).

Eurasian Wigeon

18 Feb., Moraine View SP (McLean Co)(*BPk).

American Wigeon

Wintered in small numbers. MC: 500, Mississippi R at Calhoun Co, 9 Dec. (MGe). Others: 20, Spfld, 6 Dec. (DB); 8, Wauk, 21 Dec. (PSw); 4, UCCA, 4 Jan. (KM, DK).

Canvasback

Wintered in usual numbers and places. Others: 45, Spfld, 8 Jan. (DB); 14, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 3 Jan. (BD); 8, HL, 31 Dec. (KM); 2, Wauk, 21 Dec. (PSw). Spring MC: 7,500, Mississippi R-Hancock Co, 25 Feb. (VK,DB); 300, Carl. L, 19 Feb. (DK).

Meadowlark