

Soras, U of IL researchers regularly encountered the species during late May in east-central IL, well past the usual spring departure dates for most individuals of this species. Like some other (especially marsh) species, the cool and stormy weather of late spring likely hampered normal migration patterns (SDB).

Common Moorhen

Breeding: Almond M FP (Lake Co): family group, 3 & 9 Aug (MJH). Pratts Wayne Wds: 3 pr & 11 fledglings, season (PAM). McGinnis Sl: ad w/brood of 4 yg, Jul (WSS) & pr w/3 yg, 13 Jul (REF, KDF). Deadstick Pond, LCal: ad, 7 Jun & 26 Jul (WJM). Hegewich M, LCal: ad, 10 Jun (WJM). Eggers Grv FP, LCal: ad, 17 Jun & 15 Jul (WJM). Hennepin L: 2 broods w/1 & 2 chicks, 30 Jun (DFS). **MC:** 17, Pratts Wayne Wds, season (PAM). **Others:** Sloane M, Upper Mississippi R NWR (Carroll Co): 16 Jun (AS). Redwing Sl (Lake Co): pr, 18 Jun (MPW). Philip SP: pr, season (PAM). Hennepin L: ad, 14 Jul (MJB). HL: 3 on 22 Jun (DMK). **ECape Gir:** 19 Jul (DMK, MSS).

American Coot

Breeding: Hebron (McHenry Co): 11 nests (incl. 4 nests w/1-4 nestlings/fledglings), 8 Jun (EWW). Dorr Twp (McHenry Co): 6 juv, 29 Aug (SDB). Rollins Sav: ad on nest, 13 May; 4-7 broods of 33 yg, 29 Jun (EWW). Harborside Golf Course, LCal: 2 downy yg, 3 Jul (WJM). Erie (Whiteside Co): 3 downy chicks, 25 Jul (DFS). Green R CA (Lee Co): 11 yg, 8 Jul (EWW). Emiquon Psv: numerous breeding prs, season (TH). **MC:** 49 (incl. 16 yg, Hebron (McHenry Co), 28 Jun (EWW)); 26 (incl. 3 downy chicks, Erie (Whiteside Co), 25 Jul (DFS)); 18, Rollins Sav, 8 Jun (DRD et al.); 18, Hennepin L, 30 Jun (DFS). **Others:** Independence Grv FP (Lake Co): 1 Jun (JSS). Carson Sl (Kane Co): 27 Jul (GAW). Nelson L Psv: 2 Jun (CLC). Midfork Sav: 28 Jun (SDB, SLD, MJH). Butterfld Crk LWR: ad, 31 Jul (ABA). Linc.P: 18 Jun (GAW). Goose L Pr: 5 Jul (BR). Kankakee: 2 on 3 Jun (JBH). Monmouth sewage lagoons (Warren Co): 29 Jun (PR, DJM). Chau: all season (RGB, SNB). L Decatur dredge ponds: 2 on 15 Jun (TAM). HL: 3 on 22 Jun-1 Jul (DMK). Carl.F: 4 on 4 Jul (DMK). Monroe Co: 4 on 4 Jul (KAM). **Alexander Co:** 13 Jul (CAT, TLK). Mermet L: 20 Jun (DMK, MSS) & 23 Jun (KAM).

Sandhill Crane

Breeding: Pecatonica Wetlands FP (Wbgo Co): ad on nest, 7 Jun, but nest flooded out by 15 Jun (DTW). Harrison (Wbgo Co): pr w/colt (only Wbgo Co report of a colt all season), 29 Jul (AB *vide* DTW). McHenry Dam (McHenry Co): pr w/colt, 2 Aug (KML). Volo Bog SNA (Lake Co): pr w/small flightless yg, 3 Jul (CD ph). Ethel's Wds FP (Lake Co): pr at nest w/2 eggs, 10 May (SDB, SLD). Midfork Sav: pr w/colt, 28 Jun (SDB, SLD, MJH). Kane Co: pr w/2 flightless colts, 1 Jun (JH ph). **MC:** 20, Volo (Lake Co), 11 Jul (ADF); 6, Goose L Pr, 5 Jul (BR); 5, Stephenson Co, 26 Jul (CAT). **Others:** Rockton (Wbgo Co): 2 pr but no chicks, 20 Jul (DTW). Pecatonica (Wbgo Co): 2 pr but no chicks, 27 Jul (DTW). North Point Marina, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co): pr (likely unsuccessful nesting nearby), 13 Jul (EWW). Rollins Sav: 2 on 11 Jun (DRD) & 19 Jun (BJS).

Nelson L Psv: pr, 9 Jun (JH). Sugar Grove (Kane Co): 2 on 27 Jul (GAW). Barrington Hills (Cook Co): 2 Jun (ABA et al.). McGinnis Sl: pr, 24 Jun (DFS). Goose L Pr: pr & 2+ calling, 11 Jul (JAJ). **Notes:** The low areas adjoining the four major rivers that were flooded for much of the spring and summer season in Wbgo Co were a detriment to "the cranes that normally nest in those same low marshy and prairie areas. High water in May likely ruined or frustrated their first nesting attempt. Subsequently, they tried to nest again when the water receded in late May/early June, only to have the rivers rise again and flood their new nests or nest sites" (DTW).

American Golden-Plover

NBSO: sw. Stephenson Co: breeding plumage, 16 Jun (DFS).

Killdeer

Breeding: Deer Run FP (Wbgo Co): ad w/4 downy chicks, 13 Jun (EBC). Tabler Rd, Kane Co: 3 small chicks, 26 May (DFS). Songbird Sl: pr w/1 small yg, 20 Jun (ABA). Northwestern Wds FP (Cook Co): pr w/2 small yg, 25 May (ABA). Rainbow Beach, Chi: nest w/4 eggs, 31 May (DFS). Goose L Pr: nest w/4 eggs, 12 & 28 Jun (DFS). Midewin Pr: 3 flightless chicks, 12 Jun (DFS). McDonough Co: 6 downy yg, 10 May (LLH). Fulton Co: "strong nesting behavior", 9 Apr (LLH). Stockland Twp (Iroquois Co): pr w/3 downy yg, 14 Jun (SDB). Midfork FP: 2 fledglings, 17 Jun (EJC). Urb.: fledgling, 10 May (EJC). PrRdg: pr at nest w/4 eggs, 26 Apr (KDF). Monroe Co: 36 ad & 4 yg, 5 Jul (KAM). **MC:** 375, Kendall Co sod farms, 29 Jul (DFS); 319, Am. Btms, 27 Jul (C&PD); 300, Carl.C, 26 Jul (DMK, MSS); 170, Momence sod farm (Kankakee Co), 5 Aug (JBH); 100, McHenry Co sod farm, 17 Jul (DRD); 93, De Kalb Co, 20 Jul (GAW); 89, Stephenson Co, 26 Jul (CAT); 82, Chau, 11 Jul (RGB, SNB); 80, Monroe Co, 13 Jul (DMK, MSS, KAM); 60, Farina (Fayette Co), 12 Jul (DMK, MSS); 55, Kane Co, 27 Jul (GAW). **Note:** Although "many adults around, nesting success appeared low due to the cold, wet spring and destruction of nests by farming cultivation" (LLH).

Black-necked Stilt

Breeding: **Sgmn Co:** nest building, 10 Jun; distraction display, 14 Jun; nest w/4 eggs, 16 Jun; ad on nest, 17-23 Jun in now dry nest site, and nest deserted w/only 3 eggs, 24 Jun; then at another area, 23-24 Jun (HDB). Emiquon Psv: breeding colony on small island in Thompson L, w/3 chicks less than 1 week old in Jul (TH). Keensburg (Wabash Co): "appeared to be nesting, as group noted mobbing a kestrel & a Bald Eagle. Wabash R flood likely destroyed some nests; pr noted copulating on 18 Jun & 2 of 8 birds on nests 2 Jul" (CLH). Levee Rd, Monroe Co: 4 active nests, 4-21 Jun (DMK ph, MSS, BAH). Mitchie (Monroe Co): pr w/3 week-old fledglings, 2 Aug (EWW ph). Harrisonville (Monroe Co): pr w/2 juv, 2 Aug (EWW). Grand Tower Twp (Jackson Co): 2 ad & 2 juv, 17 Aug (EWW). UCCA: 4 ad & 2 juv, 17 Aug (EWW). ECape Gir.: 30 ad and 3 nests w/1, 2, & 3 eggs, 21 May (SDB ph); 6 nests w/1-4 eggs each, 25 May (EWW). **MC:** 112 (22+ juv) & 71 (possibly 33 pr), ECape Gir., 17 Aug (EWW, WSS) & 25 May (EWW); 49 (incl. at least 5 immes), Am. Btms, 13 Jul (KAM, C&PD); 38, Emiquon Psv, season (TH, CY ph, JGW ph); 41, near Lawrenceville Airport (Lawrence Co), 9 Jul (and note 31 there on 6 Jul, 25 on 10 Jul, but only 2 on 13 Jul as flooded agriculture field was drying up) (CLH); 33 (incl. juvs), Harrisonville (Monroe Co), 2 Aug (EWW) (same site as Am. Btms sighting above?); 10, Keensburg (Wabash Co), 6 Jun (w/8 still present, 1 Aug) (CLH); 9, Downs Twp (**McLean Co**), 17-18 Jun (MJW, TR, m.ob.); 9, Willard (Alexander Co), 3 Aug (EWW). **Others:** Calumet Water Reclamation Plant, LCal: 2 males & 2 females, 5-7 Jun (WJM, ph). Sgmn Co: 2 on 6 & 9 Jun; 3 on 11 Jun; 4 (2 pr) on 12-13 Jun; 5 on 14 Jun (HDB); see above for nesting. Colfax Twp (Champaign Co): 3 in two locations in flooded agriculture fields, 12 Jun (SDB). Champaign Twp (Champaign Co): 2 on 13



Sandhill Crane pair with young. Volo Bog, Lake County.

9 July 2008. As of this writing, the Sandhill Crane is threatened in Illinois. Photo by Claire Dassy.