

American Bittern. Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, Grundy County. 26 June 2009. Photo by Brian Tang.

Least Bittern

Breeding: GreenR (2 pr & juv), 13 Jun & 14 Aug (EWW & MJB resp); White Oak Pk (city park), Bloomington (McLean Co), ads 3-28 Jul (MJW), w/2&3 juv 30&31 Jul (MEF, DB resp); ConnerL (pr w/juv), 7 Jun (C&PD); KLMSNA (ad w/juv), 11 Jun & (ad) 16 Jul (C&PD & CLH, DMK resp). **MC**: 6-8, Guzy Pra, 2-26 Jul (TDF, RF, MFD, TAM), but 1 there 21 Jun (TAM); 4 ad (@ 3 locations), RedwingSl, 11 Jun – 7 Jul (SDB); 4, MermetL, 21 & 26 Jun (KAM, COS & CLH resp); 3&1, PrRdg-J (Ridgway Tract), 4 Jun & 21 Jul resp (RES, CLH). **Others:** SpgBlf, 7-22 Jun (EWW, DRD, m.ob.); McGinnisSl (1-2), 2 Jun/5 Jul (WSS & DFS); GLPSP, 24 Jun (BT ph); Dewey Helmick NP (Cook Co), 29 May (SDB); Emiquon (ThompsonL), 5 Jul (KBR); BannerMarsh (Fulton Co), 11 Jul (ad) (MHB, EY); BannerMarsh (Peoria Co) (3), 13 & 18 Jul (MHB, EY); PrRdg-M (pr &1), 3 Jun & 21 Jul resp (RES, CLH); Singles @ PrRdg-J (Donsbach Tract), 9 Jun & 2 (pr) (Ridgway Tract), 4 Jun & 21 Jul & (Fuson Tract), 4 Jun & (Zumbahlen Tract), 18 May (CLH); HL, 7 (2) & 22 Jun & 3 Jul (MJB & FRH & DMK resp); CarlL-F, 28 Jun (DMK, MSS); *Monroe*, 27 Jun – 11 Jul, (DMK, MSS); Blairsville Twp (Williamson Co), 18 Jun (SDB).

Great Blue Heron

Breeding: AlmondMarsh (ad on 9 nests), 6 Mar (JSS); Baker'sL (10+ ad on nests), 21 Mar (SDB, SLD); Churchill Wds FP (DuPage Co) (14 active nests w/pr in elaborate courtship display), 19 Mar (JCl); Barrington AT&T HQ (Cook Co), rookery w/39 nests w/ads on 27 nests & pr cop, 4 Apr (ABA); PaulDouglas (10 & 15 ad on nests), 10 Mar & 4 Apr (SWS & ABA resp); BusseWds rookery (31 nests w/ad on), 4 Apr (ABA), but working on nests 6 Mar (JRp); LCal (Indian Ridge M) (5 prs w/1st ad on nest 19 Mar, incubating ads on 9 Apr & 5 occupied nests by 26 Apr) (WJM); Salt ForkR rookery near Homer (Vermilion Co) (20 nests w/ads on nests), 14 Jun (JOS). **MC**: 396, AmnBot, 28 Jul (C&PD); 125, TwoRivers, 24 Jul (KAM); 65, SantaFe, 1 Jul (DMK); 60, DogtoothI, 20 Jun (DMK, MSS); 52, BraidwoodL, 27 Jun (JHH); 50, *Wabash*, 19 Jul (KAM); 40, Levee Rd (Monroe Co), 11 Jun (DMK); 37, KaskaskiaI (Randolph Co), 26 Jul (CAT, TLK); 30, CarlL-C, 30-31 Jul (DMK, MSS); 20, Beaucoup_, 6 Jun (DMK, MSS); 20, CarlL-F, 28 Jun (DMK, MSS). **Others**: SniderL (Elk Twp, Jackson Co) (19), 1 Jul (SDB); *St. Clair* (12), 30 Jul (KAM). **Note**: Mid Meadows rookery now gone as nest trees have all fallen (ABA).

Great Egret

Breeding: BakersL (2 ad on nesting platforms), 19 Mar (CSF); So. Pond, (Lincoln Pk, Chi) (building a nest on island), 15 Jun (JHP), w/nestlings 15 Jun (JHP); LCal (Indian Ridge Marsh) (64 ad & 17 nests in phragmites 2 May. 30 prs nested but more likely hidden) (WJM). **MC**: 1,321, ConnerL, 28 Jul (C&PD); 1,040, KLMSNA, 11 Jul (C&PD); 450, TwoRivers, 24 Jul (KAM); 400, DogtoothI, 20 Jun (DMK, MSS); 200, Dickson Mounds (Fulton Co), 9 Jun (MJB); 150, ECapeGir, 9 Jul (KAM); 143, KaskaskiaI (Randolph Co), 26 Jul (CAT, TLK); 105, *Wabash*, 9 Jul (KAM); 100, *Madison*, 24 Jun (KAM); 250 & 100, Grand Tower Twp (Jackson Co), 27 Jul & 4 Jun resp (KAM); 100, HLCA, 2 Jul (SDB, SLD); 80, SantaFe, 12 Jun-31 Jul (DMK, MSS); 65, Mundelein (American Way M, Lake Co), 10 Jul (BS); 50, *Fulton*, 3 Jul (KAM); 40, Canteen Crk (Madison Co), 21 Jun (DMK); 40, CarlL-F, 28 Jun (DMK, MSS). **Others**: *Jo Daviess* (5), 4 Jul (CAT, TLK); Dewey Helmick NP (Cook Co) (11), 26 Jun (SDB); BraidwoodL (36), 8 Jun (JHH); 7, *Will*, 9 Jul (CAT, TLK); Yorktown (Bureau Co) (9), 7 Jul (EWW); Nauvoo (Hancock Co) (4), 7 Jul (EWW); Woodford SF&WA (Woodford Co) (25), 21 Jun (MJW); LDDP (3), 22 Jul (TAM); Guzy Pra (9), 26 Jul (TAM, MFD, TDF, RF); Farina Wetland (Fayette Co) (9), 11 Jun (CLH); Mt. Erie Twp (Wayne Co) (5), 6 Jun (CLH); SniderL (Elk Twp, Jackson Co) (12), 4 Jun (SDB); Gorham (Jackson) (35), 20 Jun (KAM, COS).

Snowy Egret

MC: 80, Levee Rd (Monroe Co), 20 Jul (DMK); 50, DogtoothI, 20 Jun (DMK, MSS); 28, AlmondMarsh, 5 Jul (SDB, SLD); 27, TwoRivers, 24 Jul (KAM); 20, *Alexander*, 2 Jul (SDB, SLD); 10, Canteen Crk (Madison Co), 21 Jun (DMK). **Others**: LCal (Burnham Pra), 9 Jul (DFS et al.); BraidwoodL, 4 Jun (JHH); Dickson Mounds (Fulton Co) (ad), 1 Jul (KBR); Sang, 16 (juv) & 27 Jul (HDB); E. Alton (Madison Co) (3), 25 Jul (KAM); ESTL (3), 30 Jun (KAM); HL, 1 Jun (FRH); *Randolph* (3), 26 Jul (CAT, TLK); MermetL, 26 Jun (CLH).

Little Blue Heron

Breeding: LCal (Heron Pond) (ad on nest w/2 large yg 20 Jul in night-heron colony) (WJM); CRSNA (Johnson Co) (5 pr & 6 juv), 25 Jun – 14 Jul (MML). **MC**: 117 (81 ad, 36 imm), AmnBot, 28 Jul (C&PD); 50, Madison, 2 Jun (KAM); 20, Cahokia Mounds SP (St. Clair Co), 5 Jul (DMK). **Others**: Yorktown Twp (Henry Co) (imm), 25 Jul (EWW); Plainfield (Will Co) (imm), 2 Jun (BT ph); Sang, 9 (3 juv) -11 (3 juv & 5 ad) Jul (HDB); LDDP (8 imm), 24 Jul (TAM); LShel (8, 2 ad & 6 imm), 26 Jul (TAM);Guzy Pra (3), 26 Jul (TAM, MFD, TDF, RF); TwoRivers (9), 25 Jul (KAM); PrRdg-M (Bartel Wetland) (imm),21 Jul (CLH); Louisville (Clay Co) (ad), 2 Jun (CLH); *Wabash* (Amax prop.) (2), 20-22 Jul (CLH); Grayville (White Co) (imm), 22 Jul (CLH).

Cattle Egret

MC: 200, DogtoothI, 20 Jun (DMK, MSS); 59, Columbia_, 7 Jun (KAM); 40, Cahokia Mounds SP (St. Clair Co), 3 Jun (DMK, MSS, APS); 40, ESTL (DMK); 40, Levee Rd (Monroe Co), 20 Jul (DMK); 28, ECapeGir, 17 Jun (KAM); 12, *St. Clair*, 25 Jun (KAM); 12, Hecker (Monroe Co), 2Jul (DMK, MSS). **Others**: Plainfield (Will Co) (15), 31 May-2 Jun (JCg, BT), & (4), 6 Jun (UWG); Emiquon (7 & 1), 18 Jun & 3 Jul (KBR & UWG resp); Sang, 1 Jun & 29 Jul (basic plum) (HDB); ESTL (7), 25 Jul (KAM); Jamestown_ (4), 2 Jun (DMK, MSS); Bogota (Jasper Co), 10 Jun (RES, CLH); EForkL (2), 19 Jul (CLH); Evansville (Randolph Co), 11 Jul (DMK, MSS).

Green Heron

Breeding: SpgBlf (pr w/3 yg), 7-17 Jun (EWW); North Shore Channel (Cook Co) (ad on nest), 24 May (MMC); Chi (Douglas Pk) (pr building nest), 6 May (JSA); NoP (nest w/3 yg), 21 Jun (JN); JP (2 summering prs, w/ one pr @ nest 10 Jun & brooding 14 Jun (PRC), w/2 hatchlings 11 Jul (PAD), stretching outside nest 22 Jul (PRC) & fledgling by 1 Aug (KMC); Towanda (McLean Co) (nest w/3 yg), 7 Jul (JMe fide MEF); Sang (4 yg leaving nest), 23 Jul (HDB); CarlL-C (nest w/3 yg), 19 Jul (DMK, MSS). **MC**: 27, AmnBot, 28 Jul (C&PD); 19, SniderL (Elk Twp, Jackson Co), 1 Jul (SDB); 10 (mostly juvs), Salamander Springs OSL (Kane Co), 31 Jul (RCR, NPB); 7, AlmondMarsh, 12 Jul (JAS, MAM); 7, St. Morgan_, 6 Jun (KAM); 6, RedwingSl, 7 Jul (SDB); 6, JP (some late migrants?), 7 Jun (PRC); 6, Guzy Pra, 26 Jul (TAM, MFD, TDF, RF); 6, CarlL-C, 26-31 Jul (DMK, MSS); 6, Jamestown_, 2 Jun (DMK, MSS); 6, DogtoothI, 20 Jun (DMK, MSS); 5, AlmondMarsh, 5 Jul (SDB, SLD); 5, Cuba M FP (Lake Co), 7 Aug (B&BI); 5, Mill Creek (Union Co), 2 Jul (SDB). **Others**: Afton FP (Dekalb Co) (2 juv), 25 Jul (EWW); NoP (3), 3 Jun (GAW); BraidwoodL (Will Co) (4), 4 Jun (JHH); Spring Branch (Bond Co), 18 Jun (DMK, MSS); *Bond* (4), 18 Jun (CAT, TLK); Canteen Crk (Madison Co), 21 Jun (DMK); BurntPrairie_ (4), 9 Jun (VMK); Buttonbush Sl (Cook Co) (4), 25 Jun (SDB).

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Breeding: So. Pond, (Lincoln Pk, Chi) (80, many on nests, 3 May & 97 birds, 41 nests, 24 May) (GAW), w/nestlings 15 Jun (JHP); LCal (3 colonies of 125+ prs in Indian Ridge Marsh [85 prs], Heron Pond [40 prs] both nesting in phragmites, & 3rd @ gull colony. Ads building and incubating @ nests 2-12 May & fresh juvs by 27 Jun & many by 20 Jul) (WJM et al.). **MC**: 250+, LCal, see above; 34, L Ren, 7 Jun (DJS); 28, AlmondMarsh, 5 Jul (SDB, SLD); 18, *Monroe*, 11 Jul (DMK, MSS); 12, HL, 21 Jun (DMK); 14 (12 ad, 2 juv), AlmondMarsh, 6 Jun (BJS); 12, Canteen Crk (Madison Co), 21 Jun (DMK); 10 (9 ad), SpgBlf/WinthropH, 17 Jun (EWW). **Others**: Waukegan (Lake Co), 28 Jul (SG, CSF, AAA); Fermi, 6 Jun (DLt); Glenview (Cook Co) (3 ad), 10 Jun (SG); Des Plaines Riverwalk (Cook Co) (juv), 23 Jul (ABA); Fullersburg Wds FP (Cook Co) (ad), 7 Jun (present for weeks) (CP); Crabtree NC (Cook Co), 27 Jun (JBy); Butterfield Crk Wetlands (Cook Co) (5ad, juv), 9 Jun (ABA); Mid Meadows (ad), 9 Jun (ABA); JP (4 ad),