

As if competing with last year, more observers provided more information for the 1999 Breeding Season Report than in any previous year. We thank each and every one of them and, as last year, hope this trend continues. Speaking of trends, all 81 of Illinois' Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) routes (which are significant for detecting short-term and long-term population changes in Illinois, the Midwest, and nationwide) were completed this year; so, many, many thanks to all of those observers (nearly all volunteer) for their continued dedication and for taking the responsibility of monitoring Illinois' breeding bird populations seriously year after year. Some of these observers have been doing their routes for 25 or more years. It is possible (if enough observers are available) that Illinois could increase its monitoring potential by adding another 17 BBS routes (one additional route for each one-degree block throughout the state); routes are run on a single day sometime during the month of June. Anyone wishing to assist should contact me for details.

As usual, the success of this report would not have been possible without the dedicated support of Illinois' many amateurs and professionals. Without their continued support, there'd be a paucity of historical information for this period of time. I'd specifically like to thank Steven D. Bailey, Jim Herkert, Jeff Hoover, Brad Semel, Mike Ward, and Jeff Walk for providing key information from their extensive field surveys this year and Richard Bjorklund along with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Division of Natural Heritage field staff for their concise surveys of Illinois' heron colonies in their Districts. The persons responsible for records in the accompanying species accounts have been acknowledged individually after their records. As usual, major effort has been made to be sure that all information is correct and properly acknowledged and can be referenced back to the original source documents placed in the permanent record file. A few records not printed here may still be under review by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC) and should

As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

MC	= Maximum Count	resp.	= respectively	NA	= Natural Area
NBSO	= Non-Breeding Summer Occurrence	m.ob.	= many observers	NC	= Nature Center
BBS	= Breeding Bird Survey	Co(s)	= County(ies)	NWR	= National Wildlife Refuge
IDNR	= Illinois Department of Natural Resources	CA	= Conservation Area	P	= Park
*	= documented record	FP	= Forest Preserve	R	= River
ad	= adult(s)	FWA	= Fish & Wildlife Area	SP	= State Park
subad	= subadult(s)	L	= Lake	Wds	= Woods
imm	= immature(s)				
juv	= juvenile(s)				
yg	= young				
pr(s)	= pair(s)				

A number in parentheses ( ) indicates the number of birds observed at a particular location or on a particular date. No number signifies single birds. Transparent directionals such as e=east(ern), sw=southwest(ern), c=central, etc., are used where relevant. The 1996 DeLorme *Illinois Atlas & Gazetteer* has been used as a standard for spelling of most place names.

Blk-crwnM	= Black-crown Marsh (McHenry Co)	M.Arb	= Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
Carl.L	= Carlyle L (Clinton Co)	MaxMc	= Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation (Kane Co)
Chau	= Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)	Marseilles	= Illinois National Guard Training Center at Marseilles (La Salle Co)
Chi	= Chicago, excluding JP & LCal (Cook Co)	Mermet L	= Mermet L CA (Massac Co)
Clin.L	= Clinton L (DeWitt Co)	MidFk FP	= Middle Fork R County FP (Champaign Co)
DeerGE	= Deer Grove East FP, Palatine (Cook Co)	MidewinPr	= Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (Will Co)
DeerGW	= Deer Grove West FP, Palatine (Cook Co)	Monroe Levee	= Mississippi R levee at Monroe Co
DesPlWetlands	= Des Plaines R Wetlands Demonstration Project (Lake Co)	Montrose	= Chicago's Montrose Harbor area (Cook Co)
EngrM	= Engineers Marsh (Lake/McHenry Cos)	MorHls	= Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co)
ESL	= East St. Louis (St Clair Co)	Monticello BBS	= Monticello BBS (Piatt & McLean Cos)
Evanston	= Evanston (Cook Co)	Nachusa	= Nachusa Grasslands (Lee/Ogle Cos)
Fairland BB	= Fairland BBS (Champaign & Piatt Cos)	Palos	= Palos area (Cook Co)
Flora BBS	= Flora BBS (Clay Co)	Pomona	= Pomona (sw Jackson Co)
GooseLPr	= Goose L Prairie SP (Grundy Co)	PrRdg	= Prairie Ridge State NA (Jasper Co)
GrtLakes	= Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)	RichardsonFdn	= Richardson Wildlife Foundation (Lee Co)
GreenR	= Green River CA (Lee Co)	Rice L	= Rice Lake CA (Fulton Co)
HL	= Horseshoe L (Madison Co)	Sang.L	= Sangchris L SP (Sangamon Co)
HoffmnEst	= Hoffman Estates (Cook Co)	Shab.L	= Shabbona L SP (De Kalb Co)
IBSP	= Illinois Beach SP (Lake Co)	Spfld	= Springfield (Sangamon Co)
IL	= Illinois	SandRdg	= Sand Ridge State Forest (Mason Co)
JP	= Chicago's Jackson P (Cook Co)	UCCA	= Union County CA (Union Co)
Kidd L	= Kidd L Marsh (Monroe Co)	Urbana	= Urbana (Champaign Co)
LCal	= Lake Calumet (Cook Co)	Wauk	= Waukegan (Lake Co)
La Salle L	= La Salle L and Nuclear Power Plant (La Salle Co)	Yale BBS	= Yale BBS (Jasper & Effingham Cos)
LdnMlr	= Lowden-Miller State Forest (Ogle Co)		
LRen	= L Renwick (Will Co)		
MacArthurWds	= MacArthur Wds FP (Lake Co)		