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As expected from all observers, regardless of experience, unusual observations must be fully documented; the more documentations for each pertinent record, the higher rating it will receive from the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (I.O.R.C.). Observers should, as much as possible, prepare the documentations in the field at the time they are observing the bird(s).

Photographs are better than written documents, provided birds are not unduly disturbed. Unless the photograph is available for immediate review, and without doubt identifies the bird that is being documented, a documentation form should still be completed at the time of observation.

Only three observers submitted photographs along with their breeding season reports this year. I.O.R.C. has developed a documentary photo library and maintains the documentary photos in archival folders at the Natural Heritage Division of the Department of Conservation for the permanent record. It is hoped that all documentary photos submitted as part of any seasonal report will be added to Illinois' permanent archives for appropriate access by all future researchers.

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

Carl.L	=	Carlyle Lake (Clinton Cty)
Carb	=	Carbondale (Jackson Cty)
Chi	=	Chicago's lakefront parks (excluding JP)
Clin.L	=	Clinton Lake (De Witt Cty)
COLSP	=	Chain O' Lakes S.P. (Lake Cty)
DPCA	=	Des Plaines C.A. (Will Cty)
Fermi	=	Fermilab at Batavia (Du Page Cty)
GLPSP	=	Goose Lake Prairie S.P. (Grundy Cty)
GLNTC	=	Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Cty)
HL	=	Horseshoe Lake (Madison Cty)
HLCA	=	Horseshoe Lake C.A. (Alexander Cty)
IBSP	=	Illinois Beach S.P. (Lake Cty)
JP	=	Chicago's Jackson Park (Cook Cty)

LCal	=	Lake Calumet (Cook Cty)
LChau	=	Lake Chautauqua N.W.R. (Mason Cty)
LRen	=	Lake Renwick (Will Cty)
LRSHNC	=	Little Red Schoolhouse N.C. (Cook Cty)
LShe	=	Lake Shelbyville (Shelby Cty)
M.Arb	=	Morton Arboretum (Du Page Cty)
MM	=	McKee Marsh (Du Page Cty)
MS	=	McGinnis Slough (Cook Cty)
Rend L	=	Rend Lake (Franklin Cty)
RLCA	=	Rice Lake Conservation Area (Fulton Cty)
SLSP	=	Sangchris Lake State Park (Sangamon Cty)
Spfld	=	Springfield (Sangamon Cty)
SRSF	=	Sand Ridge S.F. (Mason Cty)
UCCA	=	Union Cty C.A. (Union Cty)
Wauk	=	Waukegan (Lake Cty)

ad.	=	adult
C.A.	=	Conservation Area
subad.	=	subadult
F.P.	=	Forest Preserve
imm.	=	immature
F.W.A.	=	Fish & Wildlife Area
yg.	=	young
L	=	Lake
pr.	=	pair
N.C.	=	Nature Center
*	=	documented record
N.P.	=	Nature Preserve
**	=	specimen record
N.W.R.	=	Nat'l Wildl Refuge
resp.	=	respectively
S.F.	=	State Forest
m.ob.	=	many observers
S.P.	=	State Park
est.	=	estimate(d)
et al.	=	and others present
Co.	=	County
M.C.	=	Maximum Count(s)
juv.	=	juvenile

A number in parentheses () indicates the number of birds observed at a particular location or on a particular date. No number signifies single birds.