

1996 Breeding Season Report

Common Loon

NBSO: Sang.L, 1 July (DB).

Pied-billed Grebe

Nests: Moraine Hills S.P. (McHenry Co) (2), May/July (CP); Lakewood F.P. (Lake Co) (3), May/July (CP); Cuba Marsh F.P. (Lake Co) (8), May/July (CP); Redwing Slough C.A. (Lake Co), May/July (CP); KCP, May (DI). Broods: LCal (2—4 & 5 yg.), 20 June (WM); GLPSP (2 ad., 6 yg.), 14 July (AS); e. Lawrence County (2—1 & 3 yg.), 16 July (BE); s.w. Jackson County (2 yg. from 5 nesting attempts), June/July (BD). MC: 20 (including yg.), s.w. Jackson County, 1 Aug. (KM); 10, HL (Eagle Park), 15 June (KM). Others: McHenry Dam, 11 July (SD); Deer Grove F.P. (2-3 ad, but no yg.), 24 May-15 June (CF); JP, 4 July (KC fide PC); Heyworth (McLean Co), 10 June (MF); Spfld, 8 June (DB); Arcola, 20 July (EC); Lawrenceville (ad.), thru 24 June (TE); n.w. Union County (3), 10 June (VK).

American White Pelican

NBSO: Nauvoo (Hancock Co) (ad.), 5 June (VK).

Double-crested Cormorant

Colonies (nests present in 9 locations): LRen (242 nests), May/June (DR); Carl.L (120 nests), 31 May (VK); Baker's L (47 nests), 2 July (SBy); Worley L (Tazewell Co) (41 nests), 7 July (Rbj); Riverdale (29 active nests), 2 June (but all nests empty and fledging unknown on 4 July) (WM); Rend L (21 nests), June (TE); Indian Creek (Lake Co) (2 nest), summer (BS); Crabtree N.C. (1 nest), 11 June (BS); Fox River F.P. (Lake Co) (1 nest), summer (BS). MC: 1037, Riverdale, 2 June (WM); 150, s.w. Jackson County, 1 Aug. (KM). Others: JP, 17 June (KC) and (1-3), 9-31 July (PC, KC); Denny Road Marsh (Kane Co) (2), 3 July (DS); Spfld, 3 June (DB); Buckhart (Sangamon Co), 24 June (DB); HL (8), 27 June (KM); HLCA (4), 12 June (VK); n.w. Union County (subad.), 10 June (VK); Thebes (Alexander Co) (2 subad.), 24 July (VK et al).

AMERICAN BITTERN

Nest: PCS (4 eggs), 1 July (SS) apparently the latest egg date on record for the state. Others: Deer Grove F.P., 22 June (CF); GLPSP (ad.), 29 June & 14 July (AS & EW); Banner Marsh (Fulton Co), 7 June (KR); ESTL, 4 July (RC); Lawrenceville (ad.), thru 24 June (TE).

Least Bittern

Nests: Moraine Hills S.P. (McHenry Co) (7), May/July (CP); Lakewood F.P. (Lake Co) (8), May/July (CP); Cuba Marsh F.P. (Lake Co) (16), May/July (CP); Redwing Slough C.A. (Lake Co) (6), May/July (CP); Lockport, 28 June (JM); KCP (2—both unsuccessful), 9 June (DI). Nesting: Lawrenceville (2 pr.), June/July and (1 fledgling), 25 July (TE). Others: Wadsworth Wetlands, 16 June & 28 July & 3 Aug. (AS, SH, AS respectively); near Palos (calling), 10-23 June (WS, CT); Oakhurst Marsh (Du



Common Loon, caught below dam at Lake Sangchris, Sangamon Co. 29 June 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Page Co), 22 June (JP); GLPSP, 2 June (CA); Clin.L, 1 July (RC); Banner Marsh (Fulton Co) (2), 7 June (KR); Matanzas Prairie (Mason Co) (6), 6 June (KR, RS); Arcola (Douglas Co), 13 June-4 July (RC); Yale (Jasper Co) (1-2), 28-29 May (SS); Kinmundy (Marion Co) (2 ad.), 29 July (SS); O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (ad.), 3 June (*TD); s.w. Jackson County (2 ad.), 29 June (BD).

Great Blue Heron

Colonies: 57 colonies with approximately 10124+ nests reported this year. Major colonies (with # of nests) along the Mississippi River in Illinois: East Dubuque (800), Andalusia (300), Blanchard Island (250), Bogus Island (200), Lomax (150), Eagle Island (150), Armstrong Island (200), Clarksville Island (120), Red's Landing (700+), Hat Island (500), Island 525 (600) and Beagles Island (500); major colonies along the Illinois River: Depue (600), Marshall County (150), Worley Lake (449), Clear Lake (327), Matanza (500); major colonies at Corps of Engineers Lakes: LShel (115); major colonies in n.e. Illinois: Fox River F.P. (85), Baker's Lake (68); Bartlett (270), LRen (182); Goose L (121); other major colonies: Little Muddy R (Jackson Co) (75); Little Black Slough (900); s. Cache River (450). New site: Kemper L (Lake Co) (3). Thanks especially to Rbj, SB, TE, WM, and BS for providing ground counts.

Great Egret

Colonies: 25 colonies totalling more than 2150 nests reported this year. Major colonies (with # of nests) along the Mississippi River in Illinois: East Dubuque (40); Andalusia (25), Blanchard Island (25), Lomax (30), Gilbert Island (30), Clarksville Island (30), Red's Landing (200), Island 525 (400), Beagles Island (50); major colonies along the Illinois River: Depue (20), Worley L (154), Clear L (104); other major colonies: Reevesville (50),