

American Coot

Nesting: Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co) (nest), 17 May (EW); Palos (McGinnis Slough) (2 broods), Jun/Jul (WS); Hennepin L (50 birds, 1 nest-building), 6 Jun, (65 birds and 2 nests) on 12 Jun, (80 birds and 3 broods) on 7 Jul, and (4 broods and 6 nests) on 18 Jul (DFS); Chau (67 ad & 11 yg), 13 Jun (R&SBj), and (50+ yg), 25 Aug (VK, MD); HL (3 yg), 5 Jun (FH). **Others:** Schaumburg (Cook Co) (2-3), 28 Jun - 20 Jul (AA); Hoffmn Est. (ad), 28 Jun (AA); LCal (2 ad), 22 Jun & 13 Jul (WM); HL (1-6), 28 Jun - 17 Jul (DK, m.ob.). Very scarce in LCal area this year (WM).

Sandhill Crane

Nesting: Garden Pr. Sl. (nesting), May/June (MR); Spencer P (Boone Co) (pr at nest), Jun/Jul (MR); Goose L Pr. (pr w/ 2 yg), 26-27 Jun (SB--1st confirmed nesting for county and southernmost current record). **Others:** Spring L (3), 21 Jun (VK et al.); Woodstock (McHenry Co) (2 ad--walked into a backyard), 11 Jul (KC fide AA); Round L (Lake Co), 1 Jul (JS); Greene Vly (pr), 22 Jun - 6 Jul (MC). **NBSO:** Carl.C (2), 14 Jun - 8 Jul (DK).



WHOOPING CRANE

Last year's #14, a female (from the Wisconsin 2002 re-introduction flock) that did not complete its round-trip from Wisconsin/Florida/Wisconsin summered in Bureau and Putnam counties from at least mid-May until late July. Its presence there was known by the Wisconsin crane staff and a few other people, and this information was carefully guarded until after the completion of the fall 2003 migration season. Since the bird had "returned" fairly close to its hatching site on its return trip, it was allowed to stay rather than being captured and taken back to Wisconsin. (Private source of information on file.) See photos.

Killdeer

Nesting: Champaign (nest w/ 4 eggs), 31 Mar (SB, RJ). **MC:** 500, HL, 28 Jul (DK); 295 & 293, Chau, 24 & 31 Jul, resp. (R&SBj); 150, Carl.C, 29 Jul (DK); 120, e. Ogle, 12 Jul (DFS); 103, Rockfd, 4 Jul (DW); 79, Hennepin L, 7 Jul (DFS); 33, Milford B, 6 Jun (SB); 32, Beaucoup B, 1 Jun (DK); 28, Goose L Pr., 27 Jun & 1-2 Jul (SB); 28, Kell B, 15 Jun (SB).

Black-necked Stilt

Carlson L (Fulton Co) (3), 7 Jun (TM); sw. Jackson (2), 5 Jul (DK, TM et al.); Crab Or. (2 pr), 24 Jun (SB); Grassy Slough (Johnson Co) (2), 5 Jul (DK, TM et al.); Ditch Road (Alexander Co) (2), 21-25 Jun (DK, KAM).

Spotted Sandpiper

Nesting: Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (2 pr), Jun/Jul (SB); Ethel's Wds (pr near nest), 28 Jun & 2 Jul (SD); LCal (2 broods, 3 & 1 yg), 22 Jun (WM); Fishhook WMA (Moultrie Co) (2 ad, 3 yg), 27 Jun (TM); Chau (suspected), Jun/Jul (R&SBj). **MC:** 19 (incl. yg above), LCal, 22 Jun (WM); 10, Chau, 13 Jun (R&SBj); 8, Miller Meadow (Cook Co), 1 Jun (JA); 6, Greene Vly, 27 Jun (UG); 5, MermetL, 31 Jul (KAM). **Others:** Lindenwood (Ogle Co), 11 Jun (SB); Sauk Trail Wds FP (Cook Co) (pr), 23 Jun (AA); Hoffmn Est. (pr), 28 Jun (AA, KC); MidFk, 5 Jun (SB).

Willet

NBSO: Atkinson B, 13 Jun, "it landed in a corn field where it appeared that Killdeer were nesting." (DFS).

A banded Whooping Crane spent the summer of 2003 along the Illinois River. It stayed about one week near Ayers Sand Prairie in Carroll County and then moved a short distance north near Galena in JoDaviess County in early August. One photo shows the crane alone; another shows it with a Great Blue Heron. Photos taken 29 July 2003 by Dan Wenny. Bird first found in Bureau and Putnam counties.

Upland Sandpiper

Lost Mound (2), 21 Jun (VK et al.); Atkinson B, 13 Jun (DFS); Earlville (La Salle Co) (4), 20 Aug (DJS); Wellington (Iroquois Co), 6 Jun (SB); Monticello Field Station (Champaign Co), 20 Jun (EC); Decatur airport (Macon Co) (2), 17 Jul (TM, MD); Charleston airport (Coles Co), 23 May (SB, SD).

Wilson's Snipe

Mill Crk B, 14 Jun (DW).

American Woodcock

Nesting: LCal (ad & 1 yg), 10 May (WM); Berdan (Greene Co) (ad & fledgling), 18 Jun (RJ). **Others:** Ferne Clyffe SP (Johnson Co), 28 Jun (KAM et al.).

Wilson's Phalarope

Hennepin L (male), 12 Jul (CM); MTwain (Calhoun Co) (imm), 13 Jul (WCR).

Laughing Gull

NBSO: Wauk (ad), 3 Jun (JS); Chi (Montrose Harbor) (ad), 1 Jul (WM); Carl.C (1st yr) (1), 18 Jun - 20 Jul and (2), 21 Jul (DK); HL (1st yr) 24-31 Jul (FH, KAM, DK et al.).

Bonaparte's Gull

GrtLakes (39), 21 Jun (EW); Wauk (Winth-rop Harbor) (2--1st year birds), 21 Jun (EW).

Ring-billed Gull

Nesting: Evanston (Cook Co) (1st juvs from local colony--3), 14 Jun (EW); LCal (1000's nested) w/ 1st fledglings noted 22 Jun and (243), 4 Jul (WM). **MC:** 3000+ (at colony), Wauk, 20 Jun (EW); 1130 (non-nesting, mostly 3rd-year birds), Evanston (Cook Co), 8 Jun (EW); 202, Chau, 24 & 31 Jul (R&SBj); 183, Chi (Humboldt P), 12 Jul (AA); 157 Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery (Mason Co), 31 Jul (R&SBj). **NBSO:** Carl.C (15, 4, & 8), 1, 14 & 18 Jun, resp. (DK). **Comment:** Various repellents (fencing on the roof and small windmills around the pond) were apparently effective in deterring the roof-top nesting gulls from returning to the Des Plaines (Cook Co) nesting site of 2002 (AA).

Herring Gull

Nesting: Wauk (ad on nest), 14 Jun (TM); LCal (probably nested), 22 Jun (WM). **Others:** Alton (Madison Co) (1st summer), 20 Jul (WCR).

Caspian Tern

NBSO: Rockfd (5), 12 Jul (DW); Wauk (10), 20 Jun (EW); Wilmette (Cook Co) (11), 14 Jun (EW); GrtLakes (10), 21 Jun (EW); Miller Meadow (Cook Co), 12 Jun (JA); LCal (13 ad), 22 Jun & 33 (ads & imm), 13 Jul (WM); Braidwd L (9), 13-14 Jun (AA); Greene Vly (5),