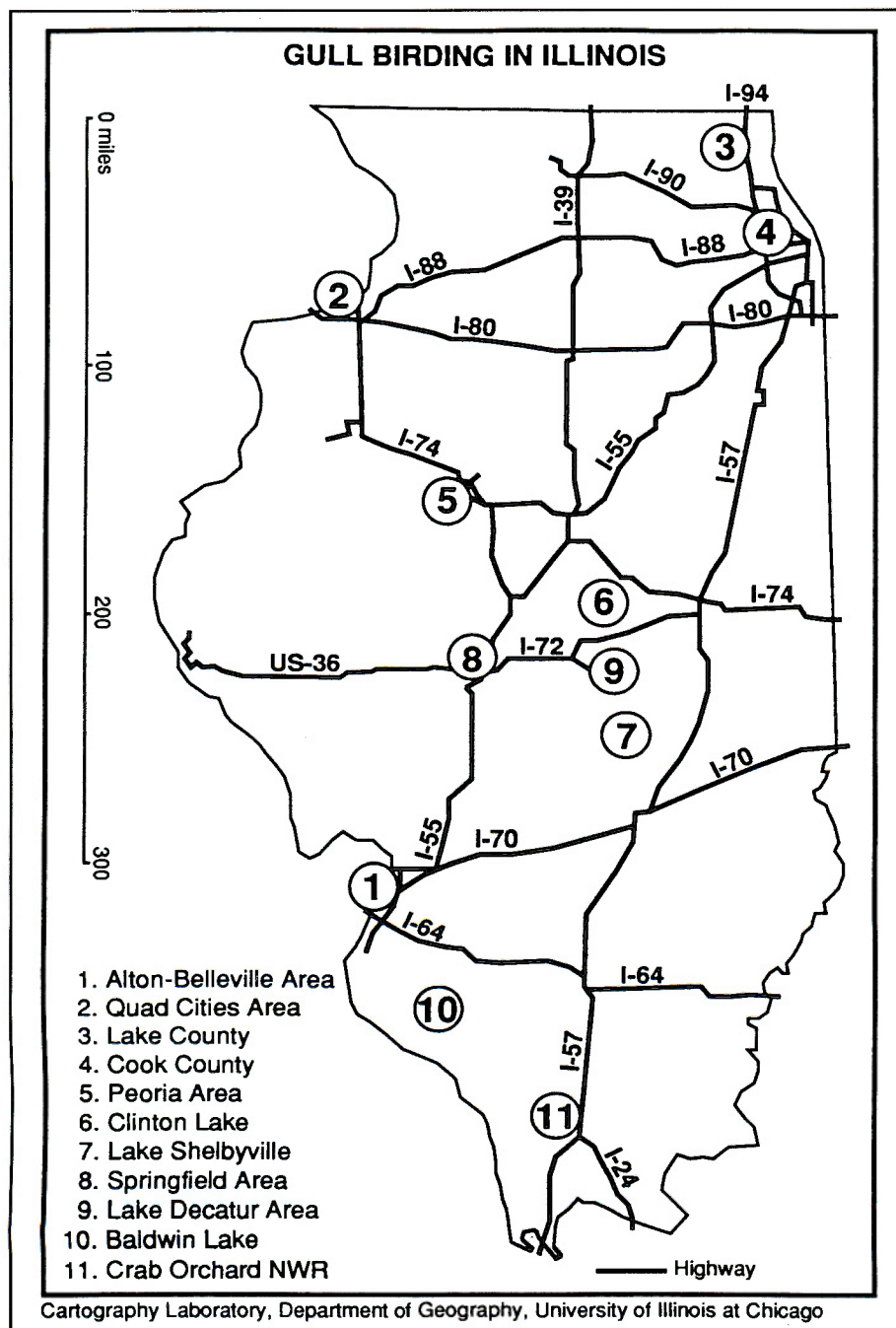


exceeds 20,000 birds. Winter numbers are reduced, but 7,000 to 8,000 birds on a day would not be unusual. Birds leave the area before sundown (except those incubating in the summer) and head to Lake Michigan, then trickle in the following morning for loafing and foraging in the Chicago dumps. Mid-morning to mid-

afternoon is the peak time for spotting.

The nesting colony at Lake Calumet is on private property and is difficult to survey, but winter concentrations on the lake may be viewed from Stony Island Avenue just north of the closed incinerator plant. Throwing old bread is very helpful.

Other premier spots include the bridges that cross the Calumet River at 100th, 106th, and 130th streets, and the O'Brien Lock and Dam which is reached from 130th Street about one-half mile east of I 94. The Glaucous-winged Gull, Illinois' first record, was seen at the Dam (American Birds Summer 1993).



#### Gull Area 5: Peoria

The major gull attraction in the Peoria area is the Illinois River. Check the bridges on U.S.-24, IL-74 and IL-274. For riverfront checking along the east bank use IL-29. Check especially at the Peoria Lock and Dam just south of IL-274 or at Worley Lake at the intersection of IL-29 and IL-98.

#### Gull Area 6: Clinton Lake

Clinton Lake is a 14,000-acre cooling pond area for the Clinton Nuclear Power Plant run by the Northern Illinois Power Company for nearly a decade. A large earthen dam was built across Salt Creek to back up the waters. This has become a major state recreation area run by the Illinois Department of Conservation.

The lake in DeWitt County near Clinton is about 30 miles south of Bloomington. Access is from IL-54 on County Road 14 just south of DeWitt. Local maps showing many access points can be obtained at headquarters. Laughing Gull and Black-legged Kittiwake have been reported here (Bohlen 1989).