

Audubon's Important Bird Areas in Ohio

The National Audubon Society has taken the initiative to identify Important Bird Areas in states throughout the nation. The goal of the Important Bird Areas (IBA) program is to identify and establish a network of sites to be protected or managed for the conservation of birds. IBAs are identified using standardized criteria in accordance with BirdLife International-sponsored programs in the U.S. and other parts of the world, primarily Africa and Europe. Audubon Ohio is coordinating the program in Ohio.

IBAs are irreplaceable sources of avian abundance and diversity. Sites designated as IBAs hold large concentrations or exceptional diversity of birds, harbor rare and/or endangered species, contain unique or threatened habitat supporting a representative suite of birds, or have a history of avian research supported by published data. IBAs include sites on both private and public lands and vary in size from a few to thousands of acres, but are usually distinguishable from the surrounding landscape. The conservation of these sites must be a high priority if we are to maintain healthy avian resources and reverse the decline of many bird species.

The IBA effort in Ohio is well underway. Dr. Edward Burtt, Jr. of Ohio Wesleyan University chairs an Ohio IBA Technical Committee composed of members among those most knowledgeable about birds in the state. Representatives from ODNR's Division of Natural Areas and Preserves and Division of Wildlife, The Nature Conservancy, park districts, natural history museums, several universities, and nature centers all have contributed to the IBA program. This committee has determined Ohio criteria for establishing IBAs based on scientific data concerning endangered species and bird population parameters. It has formulated the nomination process that will result in the designation of a suite of 80-100 IBA's throughout Ohio.

In the fall of 2000, the IBA Technical Committee will reach determinations on the first nominations submitted this past summer. Some sites will undoubtedly have been left out. IBA nomination forms are available for anyone interested in nominating an area based on the criteria outlined in the IBA selection guidelines. At the end of the identification process, we will prepare a detailed list of IBAs. This list will include location, type of habitat, significance to bird populations, and additional information obtained through the scientific evaluation process. We will distribute this information to state, county, and municipal planning commissions, local land trusts, Audubon chapters, and other habitat conservation groups, enabling them to add these sites to their local conservation agendas. Audubon Ohio will work with partner groups and volunteers to identify and implement conservation strategies according to the size, location, ownership, and type of areas listed. For information, contact John Ritzenhaler, Director of Habitat Conservation at Audubon Ohio, at 614-224-3303 or <jritzenhaler@audubon.org>.

John Ritzenhaler
National Audubon Society Ohio
692 N. High St., Suite 208
Columbus, OH 43215

Index to *The Ohio Cardinal*, 1978-2000

The dates supplied in the following entries indicate the seasons covered in each issue, rather than the date of publication. In addition to articles and features indexed below, each issue contains a seasonal summary and a comprehensive report of bird sightings compiled by the editor. Other features not indexed below are regular columns and reports from records committees, letters to the editor, drawings and photographs, and announcements. Reprints of back issues are available for a modest cost from the Publisher at the address inside the front cover.

Vol. 1, No. 1: Spring 1978

Tom Kemp, "Pine Siskins Nesting in Toledo"
Jim Fry, "Documentation of Extraordinary Sight Records"

Vol. 1, No. 2: Summer 1978

Ray Hannikman, "Occurrence of Black-headed Gull at Cleveland, Ohio"
Laurel Van Camp, "Screech Owl Nesting Decline from 1976 Thru 1978"
Jean Hoffman, "Phalaropes in Winter"

Vol. 1, No. 3: Autumn 1978

Author unknown, "Characteristics of Two Species of Chickadees"

Vol. 1, No. 4: Winter 1978-79

John Pogacnik, short note, "January Sighting of Sanderling"

Vol. 2, No. 1: Spring 1979

no articles

Vol. 2, No. 2: Summer 1979

Jean Hoffman, "Guide to the Cleveland Lakefront"

Vol. 2, No. 3: Autumn 1979

Larry Rosche, "The First Spotted Redshank Record for Ohio"
Bruce Peterjohn, "A California Gull Sight Record for Ohio"
Jerry Cairo & ed., "Bewick's Wren Visits Lancaster Factory"

Vol. 2, No. 4: Winter 1979-80

no articles

Vol. 3, No. 1: Spring 1980

Bruce Peterjohn, "Identification Aid: Short-billed vs. Long-billed Dowitchers"
Laurel Van Camp, "The Bald Eagle: Its Nesting Success in Ohio, 1975 through 1980"
John Pogacnik, "Documentation: First State Record, Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*"
Vic Fazio, "Documentation: Third State Record: Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera*"
Larry Rosche & Tom Bartlett, "Summer Trips: Southern Ohio"
Ed Pierce, "Summer Trips: Irwin Prairie"

Vol. 3, No. 2: Summer 1980

Mark Shieldcastle, "Documentation: First State Nesting Record, Wilson's Phalarope, *Steganopus tricolor*"
Bruce Peterjohn & Don Tumblin, "Documentation: First State Photographic Record, Arctic Tern, *Sterna paradisaea*"
Dick & Jean Hoffman, "Documentation: Second State Nesting Record, Bell's Vireo," plus notes from the editor and from Tom Kemp.
Bruce Peterjohn, "Identification Aid: Mourning vs. Connecticut Warblers"
Summer Census: Carol Tveekrem, "Summit County"
Summer Census: Matt Anderson, "Lucas County"
Summer Census: Jerry Cairo, "Hocking & Fairfield Counties"