

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*)

WINTER: Casual Visitor. Occasional Uncommon Resident. See Remarks section for CBC data, Mid-Winter Aerial Survey data and high counts.

SUMMER: Accidental. One male at Kyger Creek Power Plant and two female at Gavin Power Plant on 04 June 1977 (HS); one female on 12 June and 18 June 1977 at Gavin Power Plant (HS).

MIGRATION:

Spring: Fairly Common to Common Migrant from late February to mid-April. Uncommon from late April to early May. Late dates, one on 23 May and 22 May 1976 at Gavin Power Plant, Gallia Co., OH (HS); one male on 22 (GR) and 24 (WA, MG) May 2011 at Gallipolis Ferry, Mason Co., WV; one on 21 May 1978 at Gavin Power Plant (HS); one on 06 May 1989 (Century Day Count, WA, AT, LW). See Remarks section for high counts.

Fall: Uncommon to Fairly Common Migrant from early November mid-December. Early dates, six on 28 October 1990 on the Ohio River in Mason Co., WV (WA); 01 November 1951 (Edeburn et al. 1960); fifty-four on 03 November 1951 (HKL, HCL) (Edeburn et al. 1960); 07 November 1967 at McClintic WMA (RS); seven on 08 November 1987 at Kyger Creek Power Plant (WA); seven on 09 November 1970 at Kyger Creek Power Plant (HS). See Remarks section for high counts.

REMARKS:

Winter High Counts: 75 on 02 February 2004 at Byrd Locks & Dam (WA); 40 on 27 February 1988 at Cheshire, Gallia Co., OH (WA, MG, JF); 23 on 17 February 1976 (20 at Kyger Creek Power Plant and 3 at Gavin Power Plant) (HS); 20 on 25 January 1976 at Kyger Creek Power Plant (HS).

Spring High Counts: 60 on 09 April 1985 at Cheshire, Gallia Co., OH (Smith 1996); 50 on 27 March 2002 at Byrd Locks & Dam (WA); 30 on 19 March 1966 (WA); 25 on 10 March 2003 in Mason Co., WV (WA, JB).

Fall High Counts: 54 on 03 November 1951 (HKL, HCL) (Edeburn et al. 1960); 30 on 17 November 2002 at Beech Fork Lake (GR); 26 on 12 November 1997 at Harris River Front Park (HS); 24 on 16 November 1980 on the Ohio River at Huntington, WV (GR); 14 on 29 November 1987 at Kyger Creek Power Plant (WA).

Banding Data: 2 (<1.0% of total Anatidae) were banded at McClintic WMA from 1953 to 1964. There were no recoveries (Donnelly 1967).

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DATA

Huntington, WV (1940 to 2001): Recorded on 30% of Counts. Total Birds: 50. Range: 1 to 7.
Mason County, WV (1953 to 1976): Recorded on 67% of Counts. Total Birds: 62. Range: 1 to 15.
Ona, WV (1962 to 2001): Recorded on 43% of Counts. Total Birds: 40. Range: 1 to 8.

Huntington, WV (1940 to 2001): Total Counts: 61. Birds/Party Hr.: <1.0. Party Hr./Bird: 60.4.
Mason County, WV (1953 to 1976): Total Counts: 18. Birds/Party Hr.: < 1.0. Party Hr./Bird: 5.7.
Ona, WV (1962 to 2001): Total Counts: 40. Birds/Party Hr.: <1.0. Party Hr./Bird: 45.4.

MID-WINTER AERIAL SURVEY DATA (WVDNR)

OHIO RIVER, POINT PLEASANT TO HUNTINGTON, WV

Recorded on 7 surveys from 1989 to 2006: 03 January 1990: 6. 03 January 1996: 1. 04 January 1999: 3.
02 January 2001: 12. 07 January 2002: 2. 05 January 2004: 5.
10 January 2006: 6. 06 January 2011: 1.