

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*)

WINTER: Casual Visitant. Occasionally winters. See Remarks section for CBC data and high counts.

SUMMER: NO RECORDS.

MIGRATION:

Spring: Casual Migrant from early to mid-March. Early Migrants likely occur in February. Late dates, two on 19 March 1978 in Mason Co., WV (HS); 17 March 1963 at McClintic WMA (Hall 1983); one on 12 March 1978 at Green Bottom WMA (HS).

Fall: Casual Migrant from mid-November to late December. Early dates, 10 November 1978 at Green Bottom WMA (HS); 12 November 2004 at Byrd Locks & Dam (WA); 16 November 1983 at Green Bottom WMA (HS); 17 November 1990 in Mason Co., WV (WA).

REMARKS:

Winter High Counts: 5 (4 light phase, 1 dark phase) on 02 February 2000 at Byrd Locks & Dam and Green Bottom WMA (WA).

Color Phase: Of 40 records (Slack, unpublished data), 70% were light phase individuals. Of 15 records (Griffith, unpublished data), 80% were light phase individuals.

Records of this species have decreased in our area since the mid-1990's.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DATA

Huntington, WV (1940 to 2001): Recorded on 5% of Counts. Total Birds: 5. Range: 1 to 2.

Mason County, WV (1953 to 1976): Recorded on 22% of Counts. Total Birds: 7. Range: 1 to 3.

Ona, WV (1962 to 2001): Recorded on 48% of Counts. Total Birds: 39. Range: 1 to 7.

Huntington, WV (1940 to 2001): Number of Counts: 61. Birds/Party Hr.: <1.0. Party Hr./Bird: 603.9.

Mason County, WV (1953 to 1976): Number of Counts: 18. Birds/Party Hr.: <1.0. Party Hr./Bird: 50.4.

Ona, WV (1962 to 2001): Number of Counts: 40. Birds/Party Hr.: <1.0. Party Hr./Bird: 46.5.