

IOS Lister's Corner 2009

Big Days: State, Regional, Seasonal, Non-Motorized & County

Illinois Big Days (by month)

No 2009 Big Day tallies reached a level high enough to replace any of the top three tallies in a given month, demonstrating the strength of these established big day tallies.

Key: # = all-time IL Big Day record **Big Day rules:** 95% of all species must be ID'd by all observers.

(updated 5/22/10; compiled by Eric Walters & Joe Lill)

Top Three All-time Illinois Big Days by Month

January

103	southern	01/29/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
93	southern	01/02/04	C. Litteken, K. McMullen
85	southern	01/02/05	C. Litteken, K. McMullen

February

100	southern	02/29/04	T. Mahan, K. McMullen
97	southern	02/19/00	F. Bennett, K. McMullen
75	east-central	02/25/06	C. Erb, B. Guarente, G. Lambeth
75	central/southern	02/24/08	E. Walters

March

118	southern	03/25/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
111	southern	03/26/07	K. McMullen
105	central	03/30/08	M. Baum, J. Mountjoy

April

173	southern	04/28/07	S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor, D. Williams
172	southern	04/28/07	D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen, M. Seiffert
171	southern	04/29/06	S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor

May

184#	ne/east-central	05/17/97	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
176	nw/west-central	05/16/05	A. Frohlich, V. Kleen, K. McKay
175	southern	05/05/97	J. DeNeal, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
175	central	05/09/94	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, M. Ward, P. Ward
175	central	05/13/97	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, M. Ward, P. Ward, T. Ward

June

143	ne/east-central	06/02/04	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
135	ne/east-central	06/02/03	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
129	northern	06/02/06	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg

July

128	southern	07/31/03	D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan, K. McMullen
125	ne/east-central	07/17/02	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
118	southern	07/29/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen

August

136	southern/central	08/27/05	D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan
123	southern	08/19/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
120	north-central	08/25/05	D. Stotz

September

141	southern	09/16/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
129	northeast	09/27/91	W. Marcisz, W. Serafin, E. Walters
120	Carlyle Lake	09/09/00	D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen

October

127	southern	10/01/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
116	central	10/01/96	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen
113	northeast	10/01/67	C. Clark, one other birder

November

105	southern	11/01/03	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan, K. McMullen
99	southern	11/05/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
83	central	11/01/87	M. Baum
83	n. central	11/03/05	D. Stotz

December

100	southern	12/06/03	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan, K. McMullen
93	southern	12/02/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
93	central	12/17/00	D. Bohlen, B. Dyer

Top Monthly Big Days in 2009

Some of the tallies reported were likely eclipsed by other efforts. Hopefully, more of these 'hidden' efforts will get reported during 2010.

January:	67	northern	01/30/09	D. Stotz
February:	66	northern	02/28/09	P. Moxon, J. Smith
March:	80	northern	03/22/09	K. Mansfield, P. Moxon, G. Neise, J. Skrentny
April:	82	northern	04/04/09	E. Walters
May:	171	multi-region	05/18/09	P. Moxon, E. Secker
June:	103	west-central	06/11/09	D. Stotz
July:	115	Cook/Will/Lake	07/29/09	J. Lill, J. Sundberg
August:	100	southwest	08/15/09	W. Serafin, E. Walters
September:				
October:				
November:	67	northern	11/07/09	W. Serafin, E. Walters
December:	45	north-central	12/20/09	E. Walters

Top Illinois Big Days (170+)

This past May's Big Day by Pete Moxon and Eric Secker tied for 13th best Big Day in Illinois history. It's the only tally added to this list in the last two years, and one of only 16 to ever reach 170!

184	ne/east-central	05/17/97	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
176	nw/west-central	05/16/05	A. Frohlich, V. Kleen, K. McKay
175	central	05/09/94	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, M. Ward, P. Ward
175	southern	05/05/97	J. DeNeal, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
175	central	05/13/97	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, M. Ward, P. Ward, T. Ward
174	ne/east-central	05/11/96	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
173	central	05/06/86	D. Bohlen, R. Mudd, R. Randall, P. Ward
173	southern	05/09/95	J. DeNeal, T. Fink, K. McMullen, M. Seiffert
173	ne/east-central	05/20/95	R. Hughes, D. Mandell, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
173	southern	04/28/07	S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor, D. Williams
172	central	05/10/89	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, S. Robinson, P. Ward
172	southern	04/28/07	D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen, M. Seiffert
171	ne/east-central	05/16/98	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
171	southern	04/29/06	S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor
171	multi-region	05/18/09	P. Moxon, E. Secker
170	central	05/11/74	D. Bohlen, T. Crabtree, V. Kleen, W. O'Brien, R. Randall, P. Ward

Progression of the Illinois Big Day Record

113	08/31/63	C. Clark, C. Westcott
117	09/06/65	C. Clark, two other birders
135	04/30/66	C. Clark, C. Westcott
142	05/01/71	D. Bohlen, T. Crabtree, W. O'Brien, R. Randall, P. Ward
153	05/07/72	D. Bohlen, W. Bremser, T. Crabtree, W. O'Brien, R. Randall, P. Ward
170	05/11/74	D. Bohlen, T. Crabtree, V. Kleen, W. O'Brien, R. Randall, P. Ward
173	05/06/86	D. Bohlen, R. Mudd, R. Randall, P. Ward
175	05/09/94	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, M. Ward, P. Ward
184	05/17/97	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti

Top Five per Month by Region (top ten in May)

Easily missed in the morass of data was the eclipsing of the Illinois' oldest existing listing record - the 1964 January Northern Big Day tally! Significant congratulations are due to Doug Stotz, who managed to narrowly pass the old record by one species to reach his final tally of 67.

Of the eight Regional Big Day tallies added, two broke records. Pete Moxon and Jeff Smith's 66 in February, and Joe Lill and Jeff Sundberg's 115 in July both set new Northern region month records. Stotz's 103 June Central, and Wes Serafin and Eric Walters' 100 August Southern were each the second highest records for that month and region. Amazingly, there are no April, September or October reports in the 'Multi-region' category!

January

Southern

103	southern	01/29/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
93	southern	01/02/04	C. Litteken, K. McMullen
85	southern	01/02/05	C. Litteken, K. McMullen
78	southern	01/02/08	C. Litteken, K. McMullen

Central

80	Springfield	01/01/98	D. Bohlen
62	east-central	01/21/06	C. Erb, B. Guarente
59	Sangamon Co.	01/20/04	D. Bohlen, B. Dyer
52	Kankakee Co.	01/02/05	D. Stotz

Northern

67	northern	01/30/09	D. Stotz
66	northeast	01/04/64	L. Binford, A. Campbell, C. Clark, T. Nork, F. Swink, C. Westcott
56	northern	01/18/03	E. Walters, K. Wysocki
53	Kendall Co.	01/01/00	D. Stotz
52	DuPage Co.	01/07/07	M. Fletcher, P. Moxon, J. Skrentny

Multi-Region

58	central/northern	01/20/01	D. Stotz
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February

Southern

100	southern	02/29/04	T. Mahan, K. McMullen
97	southern	02/19/00	F. Bennett, K. McMullen
61	southern	02/04/95	C. Mowery Jr.

Central

75	east-central	02/25/06	C. Erb, B. Guarente, G. Lambeth
71	central	02/28/08	M. Baum
67	east-central	02/24/08	E. Walters
62	west-central	02/26/05	J. Mountjoy
54	Vermilion Co.	02/09/02	D. Stotz

Northern

66	northern	02/28/09	P. Moxon, J. Smith
56	Putnam Co.	02/16/05	P. Cruikshank, D. Stotz
54	northern	02/29/64	C. Clark, A. Campbell, F. Swink, D. Marshall, C. Westcott
54	LaSalle/Putnam	02/18/98	D. Stotz
54	northern	02/23/08	D. Stotz

Multi-Region

75	multi-region	02/24/08	E. Walters
65	multi-region	02/27/09	D. Stotz

March

Southern

118	southern	03/25/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
111	southern	03/26/07	K. McMullen
91	southern	03/19/07	K. McMullen
79	southern	03/23/08	E. Walters
78	southern	03/31/06	E. Walters

Central

105	central	03/30/08	M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
91	central	03/18/00	R. Chapel
91	central	03/27/08	M. Baum
72	central	03/25/06	A. Friend
70	central	03/06/98	D. Stotz

Northern

86	Grundy/Will	03/26/08	D. Stotz
84	northern	03/31/07	J. Chapman, J. Smith
84	northern	03/21/09	E. Walters
83	northern	03/22/08	D. Stotz
81	northern	03/22/09	E. Walters

Multi-Region

85	central/southwest	03/21/08	E. Walters
83	multi-region	03/23/08	E. Walters
80	multi-region	03/30/02	B. Fisher, K. Fisher, U. Geiser, E. Secker

April

Southern

173	southern	04/28/07	S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor, D. Williams
172	southern	04/28/07	D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen, M. Seiffert
171	southern	04/29/06	S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor
168	southern	04/30/05	F. Bennett, K. McMullen, C. Wood
167	southern	04/29/06	F. Bennett, J. Chapman, K. McMullen

Central

132	Knox Co.	04/30/02	M. Baum
118	central	04/27/06	M. Baum
115	central	04/29/08	M. Baum
107	east-central	04/25/00	R. Chapel
104	McDonough Co.	04/29/01	D. Benson, H. Benson, A. Moorehouse, D. Moorehouse, J. Rink

Northern

136	Cook Co.	04/30/66	C. Clark, C. Westcott
111	Putnam Co.	04/30/04	P. Cruikshank, D. Stotz
92	DuPage/Kane	04/29/07	K. Mansfield, P. Moxon, J. Skrentny
84	L. Calumet area	04/25/04	W. Marcisz
82	Lake/McHenry	04/22/07	M. Fletcher, J. Skrentny
82	northern	04/04/09	E. Walters

Multi-Region

May

Southern

175	southern	05/05/97	J. DeNeal, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
173	southern	05/09/95	J. DeNeal, T. Fink, K. McMullen, M. Seiffert
162	southern	05/13/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
161	southern	05/04/94	J. DeNeal, T. Fink, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen, M. Seiffert
160	Massac Co.	05/05/07	F. Bennett
159	southern	05/04/92	L. Augustine, J. De Neal, T. Fink, D. Kassebaum
159	southern	05/12/97	D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
158	southern	05/03/96	L. Augustine, T. Fink, K. McMullen, S. Olson, D. Robinson
155	southern	05/01/99	F. Bennett, V. Lang, K. McMullen, R. Rothrock
154	Fayette Co.	05/08/04	T. Mahan

Central

175	central	05/09/94	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, M. Ward, P. Ward
175	central	05/13/97	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, M. Ward, P. Ward, T. Ward
173	central	05/06/86	D. Bohlen, R. Mudd, R. Randall, P. Ward
172	central	05/10/89	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, S. Robinson, P. Ward
170	central	05/11/74	D. Bohlen, T. Crabtree, V. Kleen, W. O'Brien, R. Randall, P. Ward
165	central	05/12/09	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, P. Ward, T. Ward
161	central	05/12/03	B. Atwood, D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, P. Ward, T. Ward
161	Knox Co.	05/12/96	M. Baum
161	central	05/05/07	T. Mahan
159	central	05/10/91	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall
159	central	05/10/95	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, P. Ward
159	central	05/15/99	R. Chapel, E. Chato, G. Lambeth

Northern

174	northwest	05/16/05	A. Frohlich, V. Kleen, K. McKay
165	Cook Co.	05/15/99	A. Boone, J. Engel, M. Retter, E. Walters
163	Lake Co.	05/20/97	R. Baade, S. De Vore, D. Johnson
162	northwest	05/19/99	K. McKay, Peer
161	northeast	05/19/89	E. Walters
160	northwest	05/10/00	V. Kleen, K. McKay
159	Lake Co.	05/17/96	R. Baade, S. De Vore, D. Johnson, E. Walters
158	northeast	05/14/78	B. Kirshner, J. Sanders
156	northwest	05/13/98	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, K. McKay, R. Randall, M. Ward
155	northeast	05/17/89	T. Brown, E. Walters

Multi-Region

184#	ne/east-central	05/17/97	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
176	nw/west-central	05/16/05	A. Frohlich, V. Kleen, K. McKay
174	ne/east-central	05/11/96	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
173	ne/east-central	05/20/95	R. Hughes, D. Mandell, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
171	ne/east-central	05/16/98	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
171	multi-region	05/18/09	P. Moxon, E. Secker
163	ne/east-central	05/15/93	D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Suter
161	all regions	05/19/86	D. Bohlen, J. Greenberg, V. Kleen, S. Robinson (aircraft assisted)
154	ne/east-central	05/14/94	R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Suter
153	central/southern	05/07/72	D. Bohlen, W. Bremser, T. Crabtree, W. O'Brien, R. Randall, P. Ward

(Special Mention: this was the Midwest record for a few years before State Big Days came into fashion)

167	ne IL./nw IN	05/18/63	C. Clark, R. Grow, C. Westcott
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June

Southern

122	southern	06/19/00	D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
102	southern	06/03/98	C. Hutcheson, V. Kleen
80	southern	06/28/03	C. Taylor

Central

121	central	06/22/08	M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
103	west-central	06/11/09	D. Stotz
101	east-central	06/12/04	E. Walters
95	central	06/24/07	D. Stotz
93	east-central	06/02/03	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
93	east-central	06/02/04	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg

Northern

129	northern	06/02/06	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
110	northwestern	06/16/08	D. Stotz
105	northern	06/07/05	D. Stotz
104	Putnam Co.	06/03/04	D. Stotz
103	Bureau/Putnam	06/14/06	D. Stotz

Multi-Region

143	ne/east-central	06/02/04	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
135	ne/east-central	06/02/03	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg

July

Southern

128	southern	07/31/03	D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan, K. McMullen
118	southern	07/29/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
101	southern	07/21/97	C. Hutcheson, D. Kvernes, R. Rothrock
91	southern	07/14/08	J. Lill, J. Sundberg

Central

117	west-central	07/30/07	J. Mountjoy
101	west-central	07/01/07	J. Mountjoy
90	central	07/31/04	J. Mountjoy
90	Scott Co.	07/22/06	T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
89	east-central	07/17/02	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg

Northern

115	Cook/Will/Lake	07/29/09	J. Lill, J. Sundberg
109	Putnam/Ogle/Lee	07/15/04	D. Stotz
104	northeast	07/31/65	C. Clark, C. Westcott
101	Putnam/Bureau	07/02/04	D. Stotz
100	Rk. Is./Whiteside	07/25/08	D. Stotz

Multi-Region

125	ne/east-central	07/17/02	C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
116	ne/east-central	07/10/99	D. Stotz
109	ne/east-central	07/19/01	J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
108	ne/east-central	07/27/99	J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
98	multi-region	07/13/05	D. Stotz

August

Southern

123	southern	08/19/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
100	southwest	08/15/09	W. Serafin, E. Walters
96	southern	08/22/05	K. McMullen
71	southern	08/07/99	C. Taylor

Central

118	central	08/21/99	R. Chapel
105	L.Chautauqua	08/14/99	S. Bailey
100	central	08/16/08	M. Baum
100	central	08/28/08	M. Baum
91	central	08/11/07	T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

Northern

120	northern	08/25/05	D. Stotz
116	northern	08/10/05	D. Stotz
115	northeast	08/29/92	D. Mandell, J. O'Brien, W. Serafin
113	Cook/Lake	08/31/63	C. Clark, C. Westcott
99	northern	08/23/08	D. Stotz

Multi-Region

136	southern/central	08/27/05	D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan
100	central/southwest	08/16/08	W. Serafin, E. Walters

September

Southern

141	southern	09/16/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
120	Carlyle Lake	09/09/00	D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
108	southern	09/20/08	D. Stotz
101	Carlyle Lake	09/30/01	K. McMullen
100	Carlyle Lake	09/01/01	K. McMullen

Central

111	central	09/24/88	M. Baum
108	west-central	09/18/04	E. Walters
106	central	09/21/85	M. Baum
105	central	09/14/85	M. Baum
101	east-central	09/31/98	D. Stotz

Northern

129	northeast	09/27/91	W. Marcisz, W. Serafin, E. Walters
117	Cook/Lake	09/06/65	L. Binford, C. Clark, C. Westcott
113	n. central	09/09/05	D. Stotz
108	northeast	09/14/76	S. Mlodinow
106	Will/Grundy	09/22/98	D. Stotz

Multi-Region

October

Southern

127	southern	10/01/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
91	Carlyle Lake	10/01/97	K. McMullen

Central

116	central	10/01/96	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen
109	McLean Co.	10/09/97	M. Retter, B. Wiltshire
103	central	10/18/08	M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
91	Sangamon Co.	10/17/99	D. Bohlen

Northern

113	northeast	10/01/67	C. Clark, one other birder
97	Lake Calumet	10/02/98	D. Stotz
97	northern	10/05/06	D. Stotz
89	IBSP	10/14/95	J. Engel, E. Walters
83	n. central	10/21/05	D. Stotz

Multi-Region

November

Southern

105	southern	11/01/03	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan, K. McMullen
99	southern	11/05/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen

Central

83	central	11/01/87	M. Baum
76	central	11/03/07	J. Mountjoy
71	central	11/21/08	M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
66	central	11/20/02	B. Princen

Northern

83	n. central	11/03/05	D. Stotz
81	northern	11/01/06	D. Stotz
80	northern	11/10/08	W. Serafin, E. Walters
78	Cook/DuPage	11/03/95	E. Walters
78	northern	11/09/08	W. Serafin, E. Walters

Multi-Region

79	south-central	11/20/06	J. Chapman
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December

Southern

100	southern	12/06/03	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan, K. McMullen
93	southern	12/02/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
87	Union Co.	12/29/07	D. Stotz
81	southern	12/29/06	D. Stotz
79	Alexander Co.	12/29/03	S. Bailey, T. Hinckley

Central

93	central	12/17/00	D. Bohlen, B. Dyer
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Northern

73	northeast	12/16/98	D. Stotz
63	northcentral	12/20/98	P. Boeing, J. Hampson, C. McKee, J. McKee
62	northeast	12/24/71	L. Balch, L. Binford, C. Clark, B. Tweit
62	Putnam/Bureau	12/18/04	D. Stotz
59	northeast	12/06/69	C. Clark, 4 other birders

Multi-Region

75	south-central	12/28/06	J. Chapman
75	south-central	12/30/06	J. Chapman

Records by Season

<i>Southern dates:</i>	Winter: 12/20-2/9	Spring: 2/10-5/31	Summer: 6/1-8/20	Fall: 8/21-12/19
<i>Central dates:</i>	Winter: 12/15-2/14	Spring: 2/15-6/5	Summer: 6/6-8/15	Fall: 8/16-12/14
<i>Northern dates:</i>	Winter: 12/10-2/19	Spring: 2/20-6/10	Summer: 6/11-8/10	Fall: 8/11-12/9

There has been no change to this list in over four years, implying that these seasonal category tallies are quite a challenge to overcome!

Winter

Southern

103	southern	01/29/00	F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
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Central

93	central	12/17/00	D. Bohlen, B. Dyer
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Northern

73	northeast	12/16/98	D. Stotz
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Spring

Southern

175	southern	05/05/97	J. DeNeal, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen
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Central

175	central	05/09/94	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, M. Ward, P. Ward
175	central	05/13/97	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, M. Ward, P. Ward, T. Ward

Northern

174	northwest	05/16/05	A. Frohlich, V. Kleen, K. McKay
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Multi-Region

184#	ne/east-central	05/17/97	S. Bailey, R. Hughes, D. Mandell, S. Mlodinow, J. O'Brien, S. Patti
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Summer

Southern

128 southern 07/31/03 D. Kassebaum, T. Mahan, K. McMullen

Central

105 L.Chautauqua 08/14/99 S. Bailey

Northern

116 northern 08/10/05 D. Stotz

Multi-Region

125 ne/east-central 07/17/02 C. Gordon, J. Lill, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg

Fall

Southern

141 southern 09/16/00 F. Bennett, D. Kassebaum, K. McMullen

Central

118 central 08/21/99 R. Chapel

Northern

129 northeast 09/27/91 W. Marcisz, W. Serafin, E. Walters

Non-motorized Big Days

The 'Cocoa Billed Cuckoos' (Steven Juhlin, Vicki Lang-Mendellhall, Don Mullison and Rhonda Rothrock) set out on April 25th around 4:30am, somewhere in Pine Hills, biking and birding until they reached Oakwood Bottoms at 9:00pm. In the process they set a new state Big Day record in the 'non-motorized' category when they listed 135 species! This team pedaled just over 30 miles and only passed one place on their route that had available food, so this was hardcore birding. In the past, they've done their big days along the Cache Tunnel Hill Trail, but they found that, despite giving good wader and shorebird options, it lacked warblers. Not content with setting the record with this route, the team is considering a new starting point that would take them through more upland areas but add more miles, especially uphill.

When the Williamsons submitted their Big Day tally, it broke their former personal (and state) record but fell short of the number put up by the Cuckoos. Nevertheless, after four years of being able to perfect their route and technique, Team Williamson now owns four of the top seven tallies in this unique category, including this year's second best ever in Illinois. Both teams are already in preparatory stages for their attempts to move the bar even higher - is 150 species possible to do without any motorized assistance? Congratulations to both the Williamsons and the Cuckoos on their 2009 tallies! Bill Reddinger's Kane county addition is noteworthy in that it sets a Northern Region non-motorized big day record. It is, as well, the only northern one that exceeds 100 species.

These Big Days were done via bicycle unless otherwise noted.

135	Jackson/Union	04/25/09	S. Juhlin, V. Lang-Mendellhall, D. Mullison, R. Rothrock
129	Union Co.	04/25/09	C. Williamson, G. Williamson
128	Union Co.	04/28/07	C. Williamson, G. Williamson
127	Johnson/Pulaski	04/28/07	S. Juhlin, V. Lang, D. Mullison, R. Rothrock
119	Union Co.	04/25/08	C. Williamson, G. Williamson
114	Jackson/Union	04/24/04	S. Juhlin, V. Lang, R. Rothrock
114	Union Co.	04/29/06	C. Williamson, G. Williamson
112	Jackson/Union	04/26/03	V. Lang, D. Mullison, R. Rothrock
111	southern	04/26/03	M. Baltz, J. Hoover, A. Pyle, J. Stevenson
111	Kane Co.	05/08/09	B. Reddinger
102	southern	04/27/02	M. Baltz, J. Hoover, N. West
97	Jackson Co.	04/27/02	S. Juhlin, V. Lang, D. Mullison, R. Rothrock (bicycle/canoe)
87	Salt Creek (Cook)	05/15/05	D. Stotz (walking)
87	Rock Springs N.C.	05/05/06	T. Mahan, E. Walters (walking)
84	Lincoln Park	05/21/06	G. Williamson (walking)
83	Lincoln Park	05/13/06	G. Williamson (walking)
82	Salt Creek (Cook)	05/09/04	D. Stotz (walking)
80	Northwestern U.	05/15/01	E. Walters (walking)

Top All-time County Big Days

No county big days were able to reach 150 species in the last two years. In fact, outside of 2007's four tallies, there have been only three tallies exceeding 150 since 2000.

1)	165	05/15/99	Cook Co.	A. Boone, J. Engel, M. Retter, E. Walters
2)	163	05/20/97	Lake Co.	R. Baade, S. De Vore, D. Johnson
3)	161	05/12/96	Knox Co.	M. Baum
4)	160	05/05/07	Massac Co.	F. Bennett
5)	159	05/17/96	Lake Co.	R. Baade, S. De Vore, D. Johnson, E. Walters
6)	158	05/05/07	Brown Co.	M. Ward, T. Ward
7)	155	05/07/05	Brown Co.	M. Ward, T. Ward
	155	05/09/94	Sangamon Co.	D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, M. Ward, P. Ward
9)	154	05/08/04	Fayette Co.	T. Mahan
10)	153	05/06/06	Massac Co.	F. Bennett
	153	04/28/07	Williamson Co.	T. Hinkley, R. LaSalle, J. Merkelbach
12)	151	05/15/99	Cook Co.	W. Serafin, C. Williamson, G. Williamson, K. Wysocki
	151	05/22/06	Lake Co.	J. Engel, E. Walters
	151	05/05/07	Knox Co.	M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
	151	05/10/08	Massac Co.	F. Bennett

County Big Days

The 16 additions to this list include five top tallies. Jeff Walk's 112 ties his former Stark County record. Doug Stotz's 97 effort in Henderson moves him to the top of that county. The Kuesel/Taylor team set big day records in Edgar, Randolph and Shelby counties, with the 103 in Edgar passing the hundred mark. Although Mike Baum and Jim Mountjoy's 146 in Knox merely ties for sixth-best in that county, it is among the top 25 alltime county big days and was the best county tally reported in 2009.

(100 minimum, or top three totals; 135 in Cook)

Key: * = alltime County Big Day Record

ADAMS

109	05/09/03	M. Gallagher, K. Vail
107	05/04/01	M. Gallagher, K. Vail
104	05/06/06	E. Walters

ALEXANDER

123	05/09/87	T. Fink
121	04/25/08	S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor, D. Williams
79	12/29/03	S. Bailey, T. Hinckley

BOND

85	05/11/04	E. Walters
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BOONE

105	05/21/02	D. Stotz
96	05/14/09	A. Friend
85	05/13/08	A. Friend

BROWN

158	05/05/07	M. Ward, T. Ward
155	05/07/05	M. Ward, T. Ward
144	05/06/00	M. Ward, T. Ward
108	05/07/94	M. Ward

BUREAU

130	05/10/03	D. Stotz
124	05/07/05	D. Stotz
124	05/05/07	J. Lill, D. Stotz
116	05/06/00	D. Stotz
115	05/05/01	D. Stotz
106	05/08/99	D. Stotz

CALHOUN

68 10/18/08 E. Walters
63 03/23/08 E. Walters

CARROLL

123 05/16/98 E. Walters
79 06/16/08 D. Stotz

CASS

128 05/05/07 R. Randall
125 05/07/94 R. Randall
120 05/09/92 R. Randall
120 05/08/99 R. Randall
111 05/05/01 R. Randall
109 05/06/06 R. Randall
108 05/09/87 R. Randall

CHAMPAIGN

131 05/08/04 G. Lambeth

CHRISTIAN

49 03/06/98 D. Stotz
48 09/07/08 C. Taylor

CLARK

89 05/07/04 E. Walters
76 04/29/05 E. Walters

CLAY

81 05/10/97 T. Esker
69 07/13/05 D. Stotz
46 07/01/03 D. Stotz

CLINTON

100 05/16/04 C. Taylor
94 09/22/07 E. Walters
85 09/21/04 D. Stotz

COLES

68 05/15/04 E. Walters
62 04/28/08 C. Taylor

COOK (135 minimum)

165* 05/15/99 A. Boone, J. Engel, M. Retter, E. Walters
151 05/15/99 W. Serafin, C. Williamson, G. Williamson, K. Wysocki
149 05/19/96 J. Engel, E. Walters
146 05/13/00 C. Alberico, W. Serafin, G. Williamson, K. Wysocki
142 05/16/98 C. Alberico, S. Friscia, W. Serafin, K. Wysocki
140 05/19/02 C. Gordon, B. Moskoff, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
140 05/11/03 S. Huggins, W. Serafin, G. Williamson, K. Wysocki
138 05/18/03 C. Gordon, B. Goluboff, J. Sundberg, K. Sundberg
136 05/23/92 S. Friscia, D. Mandell, W. Marcisz, J. O'Brien, W. Serafin

CRAWFORD

76 05/07/04 E. Walters

CUMBERLAND

45 03/24/07 E. Walters

DE KALB

103 05/06/00 F. Lenski, D. Shambaugh
100 05/10/97 F. Lenski, D. Shambaugh

DE WITT

90 05/17/06 D. Stotz
72 05/05/06 E. Walters
61 01/02/06 C. Taylor

DOUGLAS

115 05/05/07 M. Alessi
76 05/09/87 F. Hartly
65 05/10/86 F. Hartly

DU PAGE

132 05/15/99 D. Kania, J. Pomatto, J. Suchecki
132 05/17/97 D. Kania, J. Pomatto, J. Suchecki
123 05/13/89 E. Walters
122 05/08/04 A. Secker, E. Secker
119 05/16/87 V. Byre, J. Hardt, R. Wagner, E. Walters
116 05/15/86 D. Burdick, H. Cohen, M. Smith, D. Young
115 05/06/89 E. Walters
115 05/17/86 V. Byre, J. Hardt, R. Wagner, E. Walters
112 05/16/87 D. Burdick, H. Cohen, M. Smith, D. Young
110 05/07/86 E. Walters
109 05/04/91 E. Walters
104 05/07/88 J. Hardt
104 05/15/87 J. Hardt, E. Walters
102 05/04/91 T. Brown

EDGAR

103 05/09/09 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
87 05/02/09 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
82 05/03/08 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

EDWARDS

54 05/01/06 D. Stotz

EFFINGHAM

60 05/15/04 E. Walters

FAYETTE

154 05/08/04 T. Mahan

FORD

103 05/13/06 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
101 05/15/04 D. Stotz
101 05/06/06 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

FRANKLIN

126 05/09/92 R. Danley
118 05/08/99 L. Stanley
114 05/05/90 R. Danley
111 05/04/91 R. Danley
104 05/05/01 L. Stanley
102 05/06/89 R. Danley

FULTON

102 05/10/03 L.H. Princen
95 05/09/05 E. Walters
90 07/01/07 J. Mountjoy

GALLATIN

118 05/05/07 R. Bradley
110 05/09/92 R. Bradley
108 05/10/97 R. Bradley
107 05/09/98 R. Bradley
106 05/06/06 R. Bradley
105 05/06/89 R. Bradley
103 05/05/90 R. Bradley
103 05/09/09 R. Bradley
102 05/07/88 R. Bradley
102 05/08/99 R. Bradley
101 05/04/91 R. Bradley
100 05/06/00 R. Bradley

GREENE

64 05/11/04 E. Walters
58 09/06/09 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
53 09/07/09 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

GRUNDY

117 05/13/05 D. Stotz
108 05/10/98 D. Stotz
106 05/24/08 D. Stotz

HAMILTON

35 12/29/03 D. Stotz
34 04/21/08 C. Taylor

HANCOCK

96 05/06/05 E. Walters
62 06/18/04 D. Stotz

HARDIN

93 04/29/07 E. Walters
75 05/01/05 E. Walters
66 04/30/06 D. Stotz

HENDERSON

97 06/11/09 D. Stotz
67 06/13/06 D. Stotz
62 06/18/04 D. Stotz

HENRY

115 05/05/07 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
108 05/11/07 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
105 05/10/06 D. Stotz

IROQUOIS

96 05/22/02 D. Stotz
81 05/03/08 D. Stotz

JACKSON

146 05/09/92 J. De Neal, T. Fink
137 04/25/08 S. Juhlin, V. Lang, D. Mullison, R. Rothrock
97 04/27/02 S. Juhlin, V. Lang, D. Mullison, R. Rothrock

JASPER

128 05/04/96 E. Kirshner, J. Walk

JEFFERSON

58 04/23/99 C. Taylor
55 04/29/06 D. Stotz

JERSEY

75 05/19/01 D. Stotz
66 05/15/04 C. Taylor

JO DAVIESS

93 05/05/90 D. Cederstrom
92 05/07/88 D. Cederstrom
92 05/22/04 D. Stotz
92 05/17/08 E. Walters

JOHNSON

77 04/25/99 D. Stotz

KANE

133 05/15/05 S. Cohrs
111 05/08/09 B. Reddinger (bicycle)
100 05/01/04 S. Cohrs, J. Duerr
100 05/26/08 D. Stotz

KANKAKEE

108 05/16/02 J. Chapman
94 05/12/01 D. Stotz
73 06/24/06 D. Stotz

KENDALL

124 05/07/00 D. Stotz
117 05/11/99 D. Stotz
53 01/01/00 D. Stotz

KNOX

161 05/12/96 M. Baum
151 05/05/07 M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
148 05/06/06 M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
147 05/08/04 M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
147 05/07/05 M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
146 05/10/03 M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
146 05/09/09 M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
138 05/08/99 A. Reyburn
138 05/10/08 M. Baum, J. Mountjoy
132 04/30/02 M. Baum

LAKE

163 05/20/97 R. Baade, S. De Vore, D. Johnson
159 05/17/96 R. Baade, S. De Vore, D. Johnson, E. Walters
151 05/22/06 J. Engel, E. Walters
115 05/13/88 D. Hecklinger, A. Stokie

LA SALLE

144 05/12/96 C. McKee, J. McKee, J. Hampson

LAWRENCE

56 05/07/04 E. Walters

LEE

98 05/08/06 E. Walters
96 05/17/03 D. Stotz

LIVINGSTON

106 05/02/03 D. Stotz

LOGAN

90 05/19/05 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
78 05/10/05 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
73 05/09/05 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

MACON

141 05/07/05 T. Mahan
138 05/10/90 R. Palmer
132 05/05/06 T. Mahan, E. Walters
129 05/09/09 N. Jensen

MACOUPIN

104 05/05/07 V. Hedrick
96 05/10/08 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
82 08/18/07 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

MADISON

127 05/04/96 F. Holmes, B. Wetteroth
126 05/08/99 F. Holmes
117 05/07/94 F. Holmes, B. Wetteroth
114 05/06/00 F. Holmes

MARION

85 05/05/07 T. Esker
69 09/23/07 E. Walters
64 03/25/07 E. Walters

MARSHALL

99 05/06/06 M. Brucker, E. Yang
80 04/10/02 D. Stotz

MASON

145 05/08/04 S. Bjorklund, S. Cohrs
130 05/04/02 S. Bjorklund, S. Cohrs
105 08/14/99 S. Bailey

MASSAC

160 05/05/07 F. Bennett
153 05/06/06 F. Bennett
151 05/10/08 F. Bennett

MC DONOUGH

104 04/29/01 D. Benson, H. Benson, A. Moorehouse, D. Moorehouse, J. Rink

MC HENRY

128 05/17/98 R. Baade, D. Fiske, B. Meding
117 05/15/02 'Birding Buddies'
82 09/18/97 R. Baade, E. Walters

MC LEAN

146 05/10/00 T. Bugg, M. Retter
144 05/09/99 J. Rink, M. Retter, B. Wiltshire
132 05/08/99 R. Frissora, J. Kincade, M. Retter, B. Wiltshire
118 05/17/98 T. Dilley, J. Engel, M. Retter, J. Rink
109 10/09/97 M. Retter, B. Wiltshire

MENARD

45 07/24/04 D. Stotz
38 03/01/08 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

MERCER

131 05/09/92 P. Peterson
111 05/08/76 P. Peterson, W. Zuurdeeg
100 05/07/05 E. Walters

MONROE

128 05/10/86 R. Goetz
116 05/09/87 R. Goetz
76 07/25/09 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

MONTGOMERY

105 05/07/05 L. Acs, R. Jack
93 05/08/04 L. Acs, R. Jack
86 05/10/03 L. Acs, R. Jack

MORGAN

132 05/09/96 P. Ward
71 05/08/06 E. Walters
40 04/29/03 C. Taylor

MOULTRIE

139 05/05/07 T. Mahan
86 05/10/08 E. Smith
38 12/31/06 D. Stotz

OGLE

101 05/14/05 D. Stotz
95 06/06/01 D. Stotz
83 05/08/06 E. Walters

PEORIA

93 04/28/02 L. Princen
75 05/09/05 E. Walters

PERRY

115 05/10/08 B. Chandler
106 05/05/07 B. Chandler
105 05/09/09 B. Chandler
103 05/04/02 B. Chandler
103 05/07/05 B. Chandler

PIATT

58 05/05/06 E. Walters

PIKE

39 07/12/08 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor

POPE

127 05/04/91 J. De Neal
75 05/09/87 L. Stritch
68 05/01/05 E. Walters

PULASKI

146 05/08/93 J. Andrews, J. De Neal, T. Fink, R. Lindsey
107 05/10/97 R. Lindsay
97 05/07/94 R. Lindsay

PUTNAM

125 05/19/04 D. Stotz
115 05/06/03 D. Stotz
111 04/30/04 P. Cruikshank, D. Stotz
110 06/03/04 D. Stotz
104 06/03/04 D. Stotz
102 06/20/01 D. Stotz

RANDOLPH

78 07/26/09 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
47 12/29/06 D. Stotz
39 02/20/07 M. Kutska, C. Taylor

RICHLAND

39 07/13/05 D. Stotz

ROCK ISLAND

95 05/20/08 D. Stotz
74 06/16/08 D. Stotz
54 06/18/04 D. Stotz

ST. CLAIR

70 05/08/02 D. Stotz

SALINE

90 05/08/04 E. Walters

SANGAMON

155 05/09/94 D. Bohlen, V. Kleen, R. Randall, M. Ward, P. Ward
145 05/14/96 D. Bohlen
136 05/01/00 D. Bohlen

SCHUYLER

77 05/11/04 E. Walters

SCOTT

90 07/22/06 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
51 05/18/01 D. Stotz

SHELBY

52 01/03/09 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
49 01/05/08 T. Kuesel, C. Taylor
39 07/13/05 D. Stotz

STARK

112 05/08/04 J. Walk
112 05/09/09 J. Walk
107 05/10/08 J. Walk
106 05/06/06 J. Walk
105 05/07/05 J. Walk

STEPHENSON

106 05/15/07 D. Stotz
76 05/27/05 D. Stotz
68 07/26/08 C. Taylor

TAZEWELL

102 05/10/03 M. Miller
102 05/08/04 M. Miller
52 05/18/01 D. Stotz

UNION

149 05/06/78 J.T. Erwin, V. Kleen
140 05/07/76 V. Kleen
137 05/08/99 S. Bailey, P. Weber
135 05/07/05 S. Bailey
129 04/25/09 C. Williamson, G. Williamson (bicycle)
128 05/09/92 V. Kleen
128 04/28/07 C. Williamson, G. Williamson (bicycle)
119 04/25/08 C. Williamson, G. Williamson (bicycle)
114 04/29/06 C. Williamson, G. Williamson (bicycle)
113 04/28/07 S. Bailey, T. Mahan, C. Taylor, D. Williams

VERMILION

104 05/11/04 B. Chato, J. Smith
85 04/19/97 C. Taylor
84 04/11/98 C. Taylor

WABASH

78 05/07/04 E. Walters
69 05/01/06 D. Stotz
66 05/27/00 C. Taylor

WARREN

47 06/18/04 D. Stotz

WASHINGTON

90 05/02/05 E. Walters

WAYNE

99 05/04/02 G. Rose
89 05/01/06 D. Stotz
61 05/10/08 G. Rose

WHITE

84 05/06/06 J. Horn
84 05/05/07 J. Horn
52 04/30/06 D. Stotz

WHITESIDE

113 05/13/07 D. Stotz
89 07/25/08 D. Stotz
85 05/20/08 D. Stotz

WILL

115 05/13/98 D. Stotz

WILLIAMSON

153 04/28/07 T. Hinkley, R. LaSalle, J. Merkelbach
129 04/25/09 T. Hinkley, J. Merkelbach
82 04/27/06 E. Secker, C. Taylor

WINNEBAGO

145 05/19/96 A. Branhagen, J. Donaldson
115 05/15/95 B. Grover
112 05/11/96 A. Branhagen

WOODFORD

126 05/05/07 M. Fraker, M. Winks
117 05/09/09 T. Hartzler, M. Winks
112 05/09/09 M. Fraker
103 05/10/08 M. Fraker, M. Winks