

marbled godwit

Limosa fedoa

FEATURES

The marbled godwit is 17 and one-half to 18 and one-half inches long (bill tip to tail tip in preserved specimen). It has brown feathers with darker markings on the back feathers. The wing linings are cinnamon-colored. The bill is long and may be straight or upturned.

BEHAVIORS

The marbled godwit is a shorebird that wades into water as deep as its belly to feed. It probes mud with its bill to find the small, aquatic invertebrates that it feeds on. It breeds in the northern United States and Canada. Wintering occurs from the southern United States to South America. Spring migrants begin arriving in Illinois in April. Fall migrants may be seen starting in July.

TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Aves
Order: Charadriiformes
Family: Scolopacidae

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

ILLINOIS RANGE





Aquatic Habitats

temporary water supplies; lakes, ponds, reservoirs; rivers and streams;
Lake Michigan

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none