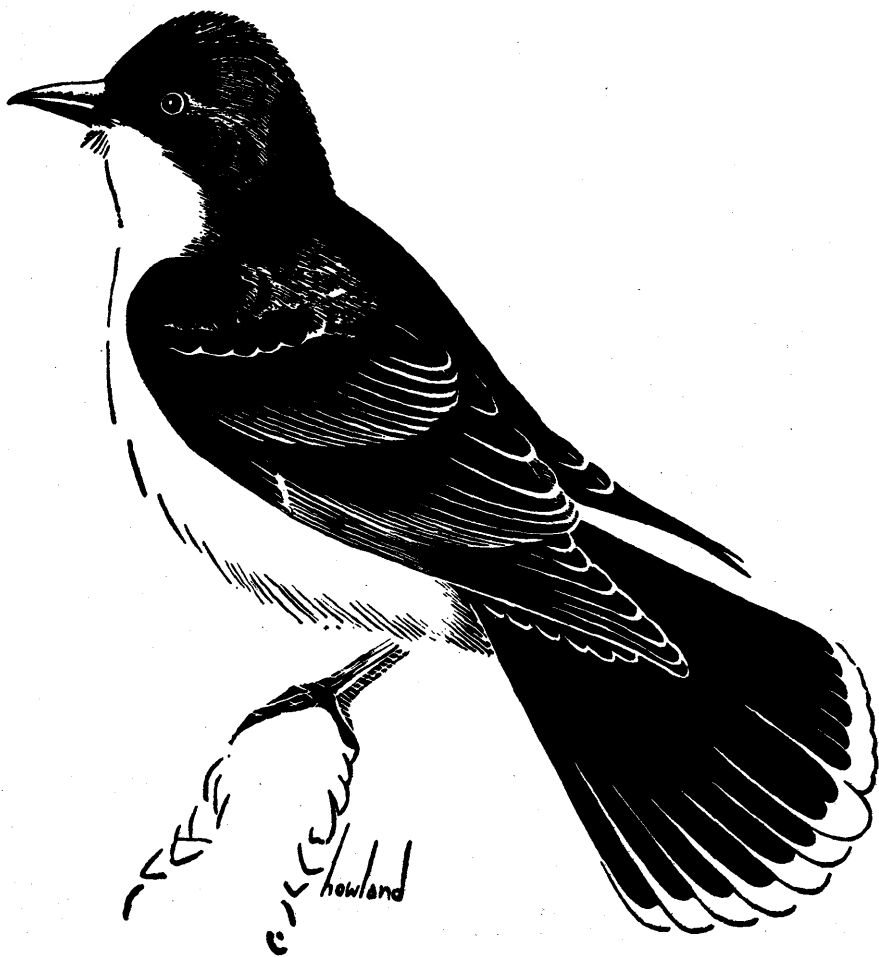


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THE FIRST DOCUMENTED BREEDING OF BLUE GROSBEAK ON LONG ISLAND AND SECOND IN NEW YORK STATE

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ABSTRACT

A pair of Blue Grosbeaks (*Guiraca caerulea*) was found nesting off Rte 25 west of Riverhead in Suffolk County. The pair was first observed on 31 May 1999, and the nest with five fledglings was found on 22 Jun. The only other confirmed nesting in the state was in Latourette Park, Richmond Co. (Staten Island) in 1982 (Siebenheller and Siebenheller, 1982). Nesting was suspected in four other locations since then (Paxton, 1998), but confirmation was never obtained.

INTRODUCTION

The species was RBA material until the mid-1940's, when it became of more or less regular occurrence, certainly on Long Island, with spring records in April and May and fall records in September and October. At the same time, the breeding range crept steadily northward through New Jersey, (Leck, 1984) and as far as Bergen County in that state (Paxton, 1998). With as many as eight to thirteen individuals being seen on the South Shore of Long Island during single early spring flight days, the discovery of a breeding pair should come as no surprise. Whether this species will join the northern march of southern avifauna (i.e. Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Mockingbird, Northern Cardinal) remains to be seen. ATLAS 2000, the upcoming five-year state breeding bird census, may supply an answer to that question.

OBSERVATIONS

"Breeding evidence should be carefully looked for in weedy edges on LI and in the lower Hudson Valley, since this species is quiet and discreet around the nest" writes Robert O. Paxton (1998). Indeed yes! These were

the words which gave the author encouragement in his persistent returns to the site where he had first seen the pair of Blue Grosbeaks on 31 May 1999.

The pair of Blue Grosbeaks, the nest and subsequently the fledglings were all discovered and photographed on and around a gently sloping ridge which forms the eastern border of an early successional pitch pine/black cherry tree field sandwiched between the edge of a plowed field on the east and a very noisy working sand excavation site on the west. The female was seen first. She was about 10 feet away, and was in full view for about 40 seconds as she sat twitching her tail on the lower branches of a black cherry tree on top of the ridge at about 11:00 AM. A portion of the male's body, with its chestnut wingbars in view, was visible within a cluster of leaves about five feet from the female.

According to Hal H. Harrison (1975) the nesting habitat for the Blue Grosbeak is in "Old fields overgrown to brambles; brushy edges, scrubby thickets, open groves, hedgerows". In the field where the grosbeaks nested, the area to the west of the ridge contains pitch pine and black cherry trees scattered among an extensive ground cover of sweet fern which ends at the bottom of the ridge. The ridge is covered with grasses, some black berries, a huge poison ivy complex and 4-5 scattered black cherry trees. The pair of Blue Grosbeaks and their nest were discovered near the middle of this ridge. Between the east side of the ridge and the plowed field is a narrow area of grasses, bayberry bushes, sweet fern, a few eastern red cedars and scattered mugwort, dewberry, milkweed, dogbane, St. Johnswort and a few species of goldenrod. The site is located along NY 25 in Calverton, NY.

Four subsequent visits to the site produced Northern Bobwhite, Killdeer, Red-bellied Woodpecker, House Wren, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, Prairie Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Chipping, Field, Vesper and Grasshopper sparrows, Northern Cardinal, Brown-headed Cowbird and American Goldfinch, but no Blue Grosbeaks. The site was also visited by a half-dozen much more experienced birders than the author, who also failed to find the grosbeaks.

On 14 Jun 1999 at 8:05 AM the author relocated the male Blue Grosbeak (Fig.1) singing on top of a black cherry tree but the female was not seen. On 22 Jun 1999 at 8:35 AM the author and Jim Clinton, a local birder, observed the male and, ten minutes later, the female, who was carrying food in its beak, and heard them apparently communicating with each other by "click" calls. Between 10:00 and 10:30 AM the author successfully photographed both adults. At around 11:00 AM he discovered the

nest, containing 5 nestlings, in a large poison ivy bush. Attempts by the author to photograph the nest with the nestlings in it were unsuccessful.

According to Hal H. Harrison (1975) the nest of a Blue Grosbeak is "Placed in low tree or bush, tangle of vegetation (vines, briars), 3-8 ft (0.9 - 2.4 m) above ground, typically at edge of an open area. Compact, rather deep structure of grasses, bark strips, leaves, weed stems, snake skins, cotton; lined with rootlets, hair(sometimes), grasses. Inside diam. 2 3/8 in. (6 cm). Depth 2 in, (5.1 cm)". In this case, the nest was discovered about six feet above the base of the east slope of the ridge, about three feet from the soil of the slope. It was constructed mainly of dried grasses woven within a fork in a poison ivy branch, but it also contained parts of a thin plastic bag and pieces of corn leaves. The nest (Fig.2) was collected later and found to have an inside diameter of 3 1/4 inches and an inside depth of 2 inches.

The author and Jim Clinton revisited the site on 28 Jun 1999 at 8:00 AM. The nest was empty, but intact. A two hour search for the fledglings produced only "chips" coming from three different black cherry trees and two undetermined locations. Both adults were observed close to these locations and were heard "clicking" numerous times. At one point, the author observed the female and something fluttering behind some cherry leaves which could have indicated that she was feeding one of the fledglings. At 11:45 a fledgling was discovered by the author on a black cherry tree from which "chips" had not been heard before and the fledgling was photographed, albeit not well enough for reproduction here.

I would like to thank Jim Clinton for believing my initial report on the Blue Grosbeaks, visiting the site with me even after the site was checked by more experienced birders than myself with no results, for his helpful suggestions on how to write this article, and his invaluable experience which he shared with me, and to Daniel O'Shea for the loan of his camera.

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Figure 1. Male Blue Grosbeak



Figure 2. Nest of Blue Grosbeak

NEW YORK STATE WATERFOWL COUNT, JANUARY 1999

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ABSTRACT

The Federation of New York State Bird Club's annual midwinter waterfowl count was held 16-24 January 1999. The entire state was covered by about 130 observers. Of the 47 species counted, 24 exceeded 1,000 individuals, and 9 of these exceeded 10,000 each. Those top 9 species, in order of abundance, were: Canada Goose, Mallard, Greater Scaup, Brant, American Black Duck, Common Goldeneye, Old Squaw, Redhead and Canvasback. Of those 9, 4 decreased and 5 increased since 1998. The grand total of 371,254 individuals was up 10.5% from 1998, and 41.3% above the 26-year (1973-1998) average of 262,771.

INTRODUCTION

The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc., held its 1999 mid-winter Waterfowl Count from 16 through 24 January, with 17 January as the target date. All Regions completed their counts in the allotted time.

THE WEATHER

Late fall weather was warmer than usual by about 10 degrees. Snowfall was meager except in the usual snow belt areas downwind of Lakes Erie and Ontario. The temperature bottomed out to minus 10 degrees on 2 Jan in the Albany area, the coldest it got all winter. As a result, there were many water areas left open to waterfowl use that normally would have frozen.

THE COUNT

The grand total of 371,254 (Table 1) was up 10.5% from 1998, and 41.3% above the 26-year (1973-1998) average of 262,771. Counts of all species

listed in Table 2 showed gains versus losses over 1998 to be 13 to 6.

Comparing 1999 to 1998 count figures (Table 2), the top 9 species showed a 5 to 4 split in favor of increases. Canada Goose, Brant, Canvasback and Common Goldeneye showed decreases and, except for Canada Goose, showed a reversal in trend from 1997-98. Apparently, more American Black Duck, Mallard, Redhead, Greater Scaup and Oldsquaw than in 1998 decided to remain in New York waters rather than going farther south in the Atlantic Flyway.

When comparing 1999 count figure with the 26-year (1973-1998) average (Table 3), there is a 12 to 1 split in favor of increases. The overall total in Table 3 had a larger percent increase over the long-term average than in 1998. Canada Goose, Mallard and Greater Scaup contributed substantially to this. It is encouraging that scaup and scoter numbers have now shown an increase over 1998, while on the other hand, it was not encouraging that Common Merganser numbers have decreased.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service midwinter waterfowl inventory report (Serie and Vecchio 1999) showed Snow Goose, Canada Goose and Brant numbers in the Atlantic Flyway (Maine to Florida) increased respectively by 3.7%, 30.1%, and 19.6%. The Canada Goose increase this year reverses the minor decrease of 1998. The dabbling ducks encouragingly showed a 28.3% increase after two successive years of decline. The only discouraging note was the continued decline of Northern Shoveler, minus 34.4% this year. Diving ducks, excluding mergansers but including sea ducks, showed 3.9% and 4.0% decline respectively. Mergansers, however, showed a 31.3% increase over 1998. While Canvasback, Redhead, eiders and Oldsquaw, Common Goldeneye, and Ruddy Duck, all showed increases, they were more than offset by decreases in Ring-necked Duck, scaup, scoters and Bufflehead. American Coot showed another increase this year of 37.9%. In summary, waterfowl in the Atlantic Flyway was up 19.1% from 1998, and 19.5% above the 10-year (1989-98) average.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to thank the upwards of 130 observers who participated this year. A special thanks to the Regional Compilers who coordinated all those volunteers. Paul Grattan, the Region 8 compiler, has retired after many years of faithful service. Many thanks, Paul! His place has been ably taken by Bryan L. Swift. Regional Compilers were:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Compiler</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Compiler</u>
1	William Burch	6	Lee Chamberlaine
2	Gregory Hartenstein	7	John Peterson
3	Eric Donohue	8	Bryan Swift
4	Leslie Bemont	9	Michael Usai
5	Marge Rusk	10	Stephen Dempsey

NEXT YEAR

The 2000 Federation Waterfowl Count dates are from 15 through 23 January, with Sunday, 16 January, as the target date.

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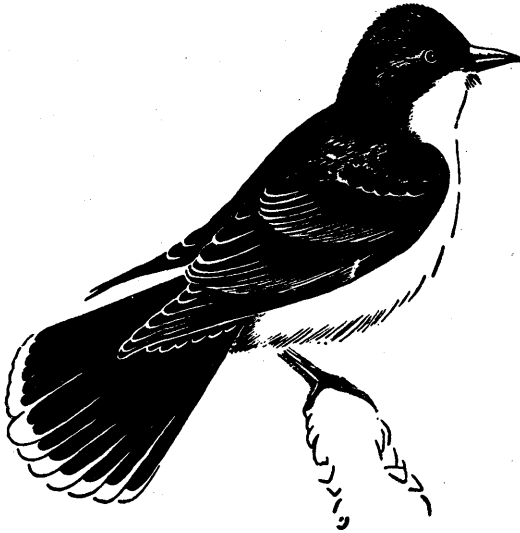


Table 1. Regional Totals for 1999 Waterfowl Count

Species/Region	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
Loon, Red-throated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	74	81
Common	-	3	4	1	2	-	2	-	4	231	247
Yellow-billed	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Grebe, Pied-billed	8	1	13	4	3	-	-	-	23	97	149
Horned	14	15	49	11	37	-	11	2	12	312	463
Red-necked	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cormorant, Double-crested	7	12	4	-	6	-	-	-	-	147	176
Great	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	36	281	319
Goose, Gr. White-fronted	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Snow	4	-	52	-	-	-	-	701	1	786	1,544
Canada	2,493	417	36,348	2,369	1,938	338	276	5,257	8,879	47,712	108,027
Brant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,700	26,700
Swan, Mute	3	102	2	-	2	5	-	60	417	1,280	1,871
Trumpeter	6	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	11
Tundra	144	18	56	2	10	7	-	1	-	2	240
Wood Duck	6	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	1	12	23
Gadwall	15	26	49	-	10	3	9	-	48	1,682	1,842
Wigeon, Eurasian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	9
American	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	1	122	1,730	1,867
American Black Duck	177	401	2,013	400	209	292	273	499	414	15,498	20,176
Mallard	7,737	8,450	7,087	2,953	3,716	417	1,690	2,123	1,761	11,938	47,872
Mallard X Black	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	11	36	50
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	464	471
Northern Pintail	2	5	10	3	1	-	-	-	3	113	137
Green-winged Teal	3	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	553	562
Canvasback	7,328	466	1,365	2	39	-	2	256	364	2,138	11,960
Redhead	398	1,553	10,091	37	578	-	6	1	-	104	12,768
Ring-necked Duck	13	9	196	2	157	23	6	5	301	695	1,407
Tufted Duck	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Scup, Greater	21,940	8,980	115	3	821	691	228	-	672	11,777	45,227
Lesser	37	231	288	9	147	-	21	-	16	3,887	4,636
not to species	2	38	207	-	250	-	10	-	-	1,325	1,832
Eider, King	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Common	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	.5
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Scoter, Surf	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2,550	2,553
White-winged	72	500	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	9,221	9,794
Black	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	797	800
not to species	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	804	804
Oldsquaw	2,126	6,676	1	3	573	600	1	1	17	3,073	13,071
Bufflehead	448	151	300	7	131	304	92	2	322	7,614	9,371
Goldeneye, Common	4,426	4,220	402	19	994	1,338	1,309	424	161	2,593	15,886
Barrow's	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	4
Merganser, Hooded	33	23	36	17	40	10	17	53	91	1,126	1,446
Common	1,704	1,398	1,922	261	942	889	497	156	348	221	8,338
Red-breasted	250	115	7	-	55	-	4	-	194	4,405	5,030
Ruddy Duck	6	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	168	8,656	8,834
American Coot	165	127	1,201	100	68	1	3	3	667	1,444	3,779
UNKNOWN	333	-	50	1	-	-	-	2	450	20	856
TOTAL	49,903	33,946	63,894	6,204	10,745	4,920	4,459	9,549	15,518	172,116	371,254

Table 2. Comparison of 1999 count with 1998 count for all species totalling over 1,000 individuals in 1998 or 1999, or both.

SPECIES	1998	1999	Percent Change from 1998
Snow Goose	817	1,544	89.0
Canada Goose	129,141	108,029	- 16.3
Brant	31,592	26,700	- 15.5
Mute Swan	1,637	1,871	14.3
Gadwall	1,467	1,842	25.5
American Wigeon	1,621	1,867	15.1
American Black Duck	18,497	20,176	9.1
Mallard	33,809	47,872	41.6
Canvasback	15,995	11,960	- 25.2
Redhead	11,182	12,768	14.2
Ring-necked Duck	700	1,407	100.1
scaup (both species)	24,265	51,695	113.0
scoter (all species)	3,523	13,951	296.0
Oldsquaw	4,672	13,071	179.7
Bufflehead	7,465	9,371	25.5
goldeneye (both species)	18,220	15,890	- 12.8
Hooded Merganser	1,218	1,446	18.7
Common Merganser	6,953	8,338	19.9
Red-breasted Merganser	7,164	5,030	- 29.8
Ruddy Duck	8,090	8,834	9.2
American Coot	4,406	3,779	- 14.2
TOTAL	332,434	367,441	10.5

Table 3. Comparison of 1999 count with 1973-1998 average for all species consistently totalling over 1,000 individuals annually.

Species	Average	1999	Percent Change
Canada Goose	62,506	108,029	72.8
Brant	14,867	26,700	79.6
American Black Duck	19,888	20,176	1.4
Mallard	31,094	47,872	54.0
Canvasback	10,697	11,960	11.8
Redhead	7,342	12,768	73.9
scaup (both species)	50,086	51,695	3.2
scoter (all species)	12,497	13,951	11.6
Oldsquaw	4,094	13,071	219.3
Bufflehead	5,874	9,371	59.5
Common Goldeneye	12,107	15,886	31.2
Common Merganser	11,560	8,338	- 27.9
Red-breasted Merganser	3,726	5,030	35.0
TOTAL	246,338	344,847	40.0

PIPING PLOVERS (*Charadrius melodus*) BREEDING AT JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN NEW YORK CITY

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ABSTRACT

The Piping Plover is a "fairly common breeder and migrant on sandy beaches and spoil banks of coastal Long Island", (Paxton 1998) In New York City's Queens Co., a breeding colony is protected by the National Park Service at the Breezy Point Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area and they have bred nearby at John F. Kennedy International Airport, although they have not been recorded there since 1985. The JFK site, however, was not along the coast, rather it was near Jamaica Bay, and right under the flight path of hundreds of planes each day, and not on sandy beach, but on newly deposited dredge spoils in an area regularly taxed by and/or flown over.

INTRODUCTION

Due to its declining numbers and rarity the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) was listed as "Endangered" on the Great Lakes and "Threatened" on the Atlantic Coast by the United States Fish and Wildlife (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1985). Along the Atlantic Coast of the United States, Piping Plovers breed on sparsely vegetated beaches either composed of sand, gravel, or cobble, frequently adjacent to sand dunes (Haig 1986; Brown 1987; Burger 1987). In the northern Great Plains they use sparsely vegetated sand or gravel beaches next to some alkali lakes (Whyte 1985; Haig and Oring 1988) and washed out hillside beaches on small alkali wetlands (Prindiville Gaines and Ryan 1988; Weber and Martin 1991). On rivers they use beaches, sandflats, dredge spoil islands, and drained river floodplains where vegetative cover is usually less than 20% (Haig 1986; Schwabach 1988; Ziewitz et al. 1992). The Piping Plover literature, to my knowledge, does not include information about this

species' utilization of airports and surrounding environments. Because airports that occur within the range of the Piping Plover may be required to complete either an Environmental Impact Statement, Environmental Assessment, or a Biological Assessment taking these birds into account whenever planning modifications such as a runway extension or new equipment installment, experience with this species at John F. Kennedy International Airport is significant.

RESULTS

Piping Plovers have never been involved in any bird strike incidents at JFK. Although several pairs breed at Breezy Point, the part of Gateway National Recreation Area that is on the westernmost tip of Long Island, and they are fairly common in the area, Piping Plovers have not been recorded at JFK since 1985. In conjunction with Sam Chevalier, breeding was documented during the years 1970, 1983, and 1984 (Garber 1998). Some Piping Plovers were banded there too (Chevalier 1998, pers. comm.).

Chevalier and I conducted Piping Plover breeding surveys at JFK over the years. In 1983 two pairs nested at JFK; 1984 one pair bred there; none bred there from 1985-1988; the airport was not surveyed from 1989-1990; none nested here from 1991-1993; the airport was not surveyed in 1994; and none nested here from 1995-1997.

A former member of the Bird Control Unit at JFK, Chevalier, trapped a female Piping Plover on its nest at JFK on May 20, 1970 (Garber 1996). This bird was previously trapped and banded two years earlier, when she was on her nest on June 29, 1968 at Shinnecock Bay, Long Island, 62 miles away (Garber 1995). The JFK nest occurred in a highly disturbed area where fill had just been deposited on the airport. This record documents Piping Plovers do not always nest in the same location, rather, they sometimes move 50-100 miles to a new nest site.

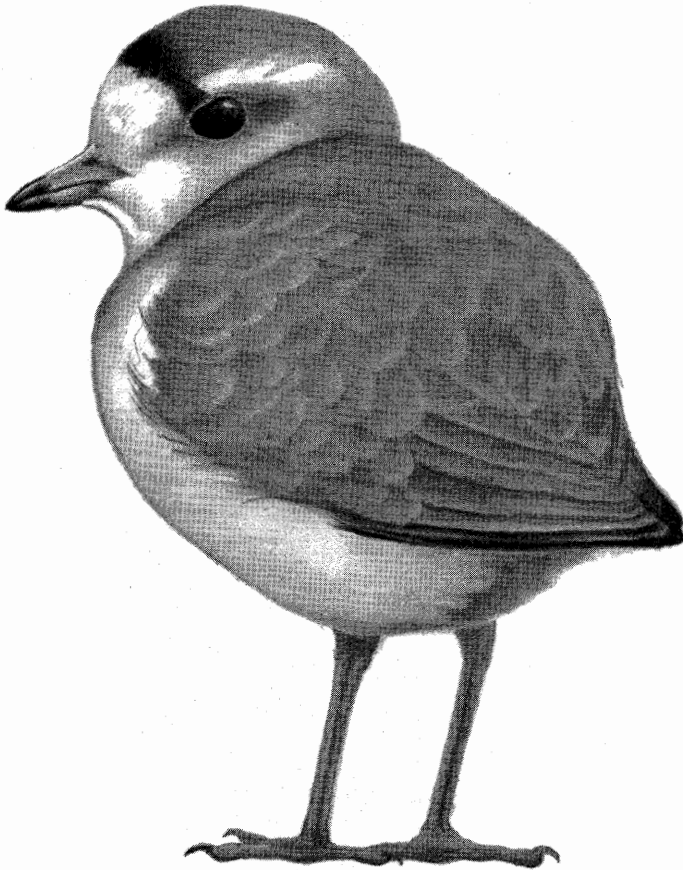
DISCUSSION

From what we know about the nesting sites chosen at JFK, it is clear that Piping Plovers do not require natural pristine habitats to breed. At JFK they chose newly created, highly disturbed areas not always immediately adjacent to the shore, let alone along the first dune line, as is the case where they breed at Breezy Point. At JFK they have bred on newly deposited dredge spoils and in areas where planes regularly taxied and flew over.

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Andrew C. Valley

A CHANGE IN NYSARC

On 24 July 1999, the FNYSSBC Board of Directors voted unanimously to increase the number of members on The New York State Avian Records Committee (NYSARC) from five(5) members to seven(7). This change had been under study for almost two years.

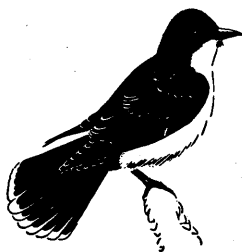
Acting with the authority granted to that office in the Guidelines of The NYSARC (*Kingbird* 48(2)116-119), President Valerie Freer appointed two additional members, Kevin McGowan of Ithaca, and Angus Wilson of New York City. The complete NYSARC now consists of:

Kenneth P. Able
Robert Andrie
Thomas W. Burke
Kevin J. McGowan
Robert O. Paxton
Charles R. Smith
Angus Wilson

Angus Wilson has been appointed as the Chairman of NYSARC. Robert Andrie who held that position for more than a decade, has graciously agreed to remain as a member, thus assuring NYSARC of the expertise and experience of his long-term association with the committee both as chair and member.

The addition of two members to the original five necessitates a change in the voting procedure as put forth in The Guidelines. The changes will be effected by the NYSARC itself and the revisions will be announced in these pages after they are made and approved by the FNYSSBC Board of Directors.

Jim Lowe remains as non-voting Secretary of NYSARC. He may be reached at The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology 159 Sapsucker Woods Rd. Ithaca, NY 14850



FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.
50TH ANNUAL MEETING
ROCHESTER, NY 25-27 SEP 1998

At 9:14 a.m., Saturday, 26 Sep 1998, President Valerie Freer called to order the meeting of the Council of Delegates for the 50th Annual Meeting of the FNYSBC, Inc. hosted by Burroughs Audubon Nature Club, Genesee Ornithological Society, and Rochester Birding Association. The minutes of the Annual Meeting of 12-14 Sep 1997 mistakenly reported that meeting as the 50th. Actually that was the 49th. A roll call of member clubs conducted by Recording Secretary Linda Parr showed a quorum of authorized delegates was present. The minutes of the 49th (sic) Annual Meeting were published in *The Kingbird* [48(2)120-129]. A motion to accept the minutes as read made by Mary Alice Koeneke and seconded by Charlie Smith was approved. Barbara Butler and Mary Alice Koeneke agreed to prepare any resolutions to be read at the evening banquet.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 1998

On the occasion of our 50th Annual Meeting, I am pleased to report that the Federation continues to be a healthy and vigorous organization. The past year has been a very active one, and there have been many accomplishments by the many dedicated workers in this organization. The publication of *Bull's Birds of New York State* leads the list of accomplishments of the Federation. The Publications Committee under the skilled leadership of Manny Levine showed unparalleled commitment and remarkable perseverance to successful completion of this outstanding publication. The gratitude of the Federation Directors, individual members and member clubs go to the Committee: Manny Levine, Stan Lincoln, Berna Lincoln, and Dick Sloss.

Activities of the Federation during the past year include:

- celebration of our 50th anniversary with this special meeting and the publication of the history of the organization, researched and written by Stan Lincoln.
- implementation of governance by an 11-person Board of Directors as called for in the 1997 by-laws, and further polishing of the by-laws to clarify board procedures
- revision of NYSARC Guidelines (for the first time since 1987.
- an Awards Committee produced new awards and led fund raising to bolster the Stoner Award.

—A membership recruitment drive led by Dave Junkin used book offers to bring in new members.

—Initiation of a Speaker's Bureau, a new service to member clubs, listing over 30 speakers for club programs.

Other Federation activities continued, led by our excellent state journal, *The Kingbird* and our high quality newsletter, *NY Birders*. Thanks go to *Kingbird* editor Don Windsor, Regional Reports editor Bob Spahn, Highlights editor Willie D'Anna and the ten Regional editors whose efforts are so critical to the documentation of bird life in the state. Thanks go as well to the *NY Birders* editor, Phyllis Jones.

Field trips and county listing continued to be thriving projects, and our active Conservation Committee represented us on many fronts during the year. Federation leadership participated in statewide conservation efforts in cooperation with state agencies, including the Important Bird Areas (IBA) and Bird Conservation Area (BCA) projects.

During this next year the Board of Directors will turn their attention to the Atlas project, publish a revision of the *Checklist of the Birds of NYS*, work toward increasing both individual and club membership, and will use our website for greater service to our member clubs.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Berna Lincoln presented the Treasurer's Report, distributing a detailed 1997 Annual Financial Report. As of 31 Dec 1997, the total assets of the Federation were \$102,841.95, liabilities \$3,764.20.

Specific fund balances were:

Unrestricted Funds

General Operating	24,335.69
General Memorial	42,927.80
Member Clubs Awards	5,000.00

Temporarily Restricted Funds

John J. Elliott	1,317.10
Lillian C. Stoner	2,640.92
Atlas 2000	4,573.60
Bull's Birds of New York State	(56.86)
Life Member	18,339.50

In the General Operating Fund, income was \$17,071.85, expenses \$12,876.83. The 1997 year end total for this fund was \$24,335.69. The excess of income over expenses was \$4,195.02 of that project. Because *Bull's Birds of New York State* had just been published, the treasurer presented a special report. Total revenue from two sources, DEC Gift to Wildlife and member donations was \$30,415. Expenses total \$17,370. President Valerie Freer noted the generous level of member financial support for the book.

There are 626 individual annual members, 40 member clubs, and 80 life members. There were 53 fewer members than at the end of 1996.

In conclusion, Valerie Freer expressed great appreciation for the work that Berna Lincoln has done as treasurer.

Dick Sloss reported for the Auditing Committee, comprised of Irving Cantor, Norm Stotz, and Dick Sloss. The committee's report stated that, upon examination of the financial statements of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc. as of 31 Dec 1997, ..."these financial statements fairly represent the financial condition and the operating results of the Federation for the period indicated."

BY-LAWS REVISION

Member clubs ratified the change of the number of the Board of Directors to eleven, as approved by last year's Council of Delegates. Changes also specify the duties of the board. The revisions include a major revision of the ratification process for changes to the by-laws. The process has been streamlined so that changes will be approved by the Directors and Council of Delegates. The requirement for ratification by member clubs at a subsequent annual meeting has been dropped.

A motion, made by Bob Budliger and seconded by Charlie Smith to accept the by-laws as revised, passed unanimously. These changes will be final when ratified by the member clubs.

PUBLICATIONS

Don Windsor noted that *The Kingbird* is now produced through desktop publishing. There is a new format for Regional reports. Don has organized a meeting of the Regional editors at this Annual meeting. He also encourages letters expressing opinions

Phyllis Jones, editor of *NY Birders*, pointed out highlights for the year.

The revised *Checklist of the Birds of New York State*, compatible with the 7th edition of *The A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds*, is nearly ready. Publications Chair Manny Levine said it is awaiting final approval by NYSARC.

The Federation history written by Stan Lincoln especially for this meeting will be published as a special issue of *The Kingbird*.

CONSERVATION

Committee Chair Mary Alice Koeneke gave the following report:

The cormorant issue was the most evident conservation issue for this past year. The Federation was represented at several meetings about this topic, including a public hearing sponsored by Assemblyman Bragman and Congressman McHugh in Syracuse in December, 1997, NYSDEC sponsored workshops in Watertown in January, and an August meeting about the Oneida Lake harassment experiment. The committee provided a display about cormorants for the vendor area at this meeting.

The Jamaica Bay NWR proposed bike path has also been an active issue for the Federation and the committee encouraged the signing of petitions on that issue. The most recent issue, expected to be in the forefront in the coming months, is that of migratory bird kills at communications towers. Monitoring on a volunteer basis has begun at some towers in central NY and if successful, may be expanded to other areas of the state next year. There will be an article on the concerns about these towers and a proposed program in an upcoming issue of *NY Birders*.

The Federation continued its statewide presence on conservation issues with Valerie Freer's participation on the Bird Conservation Areas (BCA) Advisory Committee. The committee proposed resolutions on the following three topics for passage by the delegates: Jamaica Bay NWR Bike Path, Bird Mortality At Communications Towers, and Double-crested Cormorants. After delegate review and suggested minor revisions, motions to approve each respective resolution were unanimously passed by the delegates.

NYSARC REPORT AND NYSARC GUIDELINES REVISIONS

Charlie Smith reported that the committee expects shortly to issue decisions on reports thru the end of 1996 and is working hard to clear up the backlog.

Manny Levine reported that NYSARC guidelines revisions have been printed in *The Kingbird* and are now being implemented.

AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee chair Mary Alice Koeneke reviewed the list of awards to be presented at the evening program: the Eaton Memorial, Lillian C. Stoner, John J. Elliott, and Gordon Meade awards. Also to be presented are Member Club Grants and a new award, Certificates of Appreciation, for special contributions by the public or others to the experience of birding.

Bob Budliger, who is leading a special effort to shore up the fiscal base of the Lillian C. Stoner Award, announced there were contributions to date of \$1,595 from individuals and organizations. He encouraged attendees who haven't already done so to make a contribution.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Bob Budliger announced the slate of officers and board members for 1998-99 Annual Meeting

President: Valerie Freer

Vice President: Mary Alice Koeneke

Recording Secretary: Linda Parr

Corresponding Secretary: Bill Reeves

Treasurer: Sue Adair

Board Members - terms expiring in 1999: Dave Junkin, Sara Kinch, and Manny Levine

Board Members - terms expiring in 2000: Tim Baird, Barbara Butler, and Kevin McGowan

There were no nominations from the floor.

Valerie Freer thanked the three members of the committee, Bob Budliger, Gail Seamans, and Charlie Smith for their work.

A motion to cast one vote to adopt the slate as presented was made by Ellie Long and seconded by Ann Vogt. It passed unanimously.

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Bill Lee, committee chair, described the committee's goal of having one field trip in each month. There were nine trips conducted or scheduled : January, Watertown -cancelled due to ice storm; February, Mongaup Reservoir, Denise Hilton and Scott Stoner leaders; March, Stissing Mt., Barbara Butler leader; April, Derby Hill, Bill Purcell leader; May, Letchworth State Park, Doug Bassett and Dave Junkin leaders; June, Doodletown Road, Phil Meisner leader; July, Lake Placid, Sean O'Brien leader; August, Jamaica Bay NWR, Walter Ellison and Nancy Martin leaders; September, Orange County Sod Farm, John Tramontano leader; October, no trip scheduled; November, Franklin Mt. Hawkwatch, Chris Greenberg leader; December, Niagara River, Bill Lee leader; and January, 1999, Cape Vincent.

Bill invites member ideas and assistance in scheduling and conducting these and future trips. He will continue as committee chair.

WEBSITE

Barbara Butler described much progress on this new initiative for member service. The site has been up since January, 1998. The server is hosted by Cornell University. There has been member feedback, all good. Available on the site are a list of member clubs and links to their websites, a list of field trips, listings of Regional *Kingbird* reporters, information on conservation issues, on *Bull's Birds of New York State*, and the form for reporting sightings to NYSARC.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Charlie Smith described the primary activity as coordinating the work of nearly 90 volunteers to monitor the state's breeding bird populations through the statewide Breeding Bird Survey (BBS). At the beginning of 1998, there were only 9 BBS routes unassigned. Seven of these unassigned routes were accepted by volunteer observers. Unassigned routes for which observers are needed for 1999 are Route 108, Ellenburg (northwestern Clinton County), and Route 212, Orange Lake (northwestern Orange County). This success in assignments gives the potential for the best coverage since the NY BBS routes began in 1965. Another major task of the committee chair has been to begin preparation for the upcoming

ing Atlas 2000 Project, the second NY breeding bird atlas which will begin in 2000. Charlie is exploring a number of options for organizing, funding, and developing survey methods for this project. It is expected that a project work group will be named later.

COUNTY AND STATE LISTING REPORT

Berna Lincoln reminded delegates of the availability of the form for reporting county listings. It appears in the January (1998) issue of *NY Birders*. She encouraged more participation, noting the fun of seeing the listings. She clarified one point — the county to be listed is where the bird was sighted, not the county of residence of the observer. Don Windsor described the patches that are available for anyone who has 200 or 300 species for the state.

ARCHIVES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Phyllis Jones, chair of both committees, thanked the Rochester sponsoring clubs of this meeting for contributing the documents of Winston Brockner, an early Federation President, to the archives. Cornell University continues as the site of Federation archives. Phyllis and the other members of the Bibliography Committee, Barbara Butler, Valerie Freer, Walt Sabin, and Don Windsor, have compiled the citations which will appear in the December issue of *The Kingbird*.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Bill Lee reviewed the list of previously announced future Annual Meetings: 1999, Elmira-Chemung Audubon Society, 17-19 Sep, Riverview Holiday Inn; 2000, Eaton Birding Society (Geneva), 9-11 Sep, Ramada Inn and Convention Center; 2001, Onondaga Audubon Society (Syracuse), date and site to be determined. Bill Lee will continue to serve as coordinator of the schedule.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be 14 Nov 1998 in Loch Sheldrake.

ELECTION OF NOMINATING AND AUDITING COMMITTEES

A motion to elect the following nominating committee for the 1998-99 year was made by Bob Budliger and seconded by Jane Graves. The nominees were Bill Reeves, chair; Mike Peterson; and Dominic Sherony. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion by Charlie Smith to elect Norm Stotz, Irving Canter, and Dick Sloss to the Auditing Committee was seconded by Phyllis Jones and approved by the delegates.

RESOLUTIONS

The Resolutions Committee appointed at the beginning of this session agreed to craft a resolution to be presented at the evening program, thanking the three host clubs for an excellent meeting. The group also will also present the final versions of the conservation resolutions voted on earlier in this session.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION REPORT

In the absence of Bob Miller, DEC's representative to the Federation, Peter Nye gave the report from DEC. Key points are:

— In August, the governor announced the designation of four Bird Conservation Areas (BCAs): Doodletown/Iona Island, Buckhorn Island Marshes, Eastern Lake Ontario Marshes, and David Sarnoff Pine Barrens Preserve. With these designations, the program is up and running. More designated areas will follow.

— A new publication, *New York Wildlife Viewing Guide* may be purchased from DEC.

— DEC is very involved in the issues of the cormorant population in the eastern Lake Ontario region, including a study of smallmouth bass and other near shore fish, results of which will be available in December. Population surveys on Little Galloo Island show 5,839 nesting pairs, down 23% from 1997 surveys, and down 30% from 1996 figures.

— A statewide survey of Black Terns showed 202 breeding pairs, down 18% from a 1994 survey.

— Return A Gift To Wildlife funding is declining, probably because of the availability of four other tax donation alternatives. The difference in funds available for DEC projects caused by the 25% decline in donations

in 1998 (compared to donations for 1997) was picked up by the Conservation Fund.

—Record numbers of two “Endangered” species, Peregrine Falcon and Bald Eagle continue. There were 36 nesting pairs of Peregrines counted in 1998, 6 more than in 1997. Bald Eagles had five more nesting pairs than in 1997, 40 pairs compared with 35 pairs. The Peregrine Falcon is being federally delisted as an “Endangered” species because of its comeback. Observations of another important raptor species, Osprey, shows similar numbers of nesting pairs as last year. There are problems on Long Island of birds not fledging young, perhaps due to food shortages.

—Major revisions to the lists of “Endangered” and “Threatened” species are expected. DEC’s website (www.dec.state.ny.us) shows the current lists.

—The Teaming With Wildlife initiative has a new major strategy that calls for using fees from leasing offshore oil and gas sites to finance nongame programs. This conservation legislation is now included in the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (HR701/S25).

OTHER BUSINESS

Bill Lee expressed interest in obtaining low cost liability insurance for field trips. He has concerns about the risk of not having such insurance if someone decides to sue. Valerie Freer agreed to explore the topic.

Charlie Smith announced the annual AOU Meeting, 12-14 Aug 1999, Cornell University, Ithaca. He invited contributions to help pay the costs of student participants to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Council of Delegates was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

WORKSHOPS

The following workshops were held simultaneously with the morning delegate’s meeting: Brett Ewald, Hamlin Beach Lake Watch, 5 Years and Counting; Jeff Wells, Bird Conservation for Birders: the NYS Important Bird Areas Program; Bob Marcotte, The Birds of Badgerow:

How the Little Park Around the Corner Became an Important Bird Area; and Sharon Skelly, Less Common Gulls of Western NY.

PAPER SESSION

These papers were presented on Saturday afternoon: D.V. Chip Weseloh, Laird Schutt, Glenn Barrett, and Jamie Reid — "Continued expansion of Great Black-backed Gull nesting on the lower Great Lakes"; John Bull, "Problems for wintering Dickcissels"; Elizabeth Brooks, "Capture times of passerines on the south shore of Lake Ontario during spring migration"; Sharon Skelly, "Studies of three Black Tern colonies in the Braddock Bay WMA"; Bryan I Swift and Paul Hess, "Comparison of winter waterfowl surveys in New York"; Dominic F. Sherony and Brett M. Ewald, "The fall migration of Red-throated Loons on Lake Ontario"; Patricia Martin and Douglas Bassett, "Warbler mapping in Letchworth State Park"; and Maxwell C. Wheat, "Celebration [of] 50 Federation years with poetry".

BANQUET AND EVENING PROGRAM

Among the introductions made by emcee Dominic Sherony were these very special guests: Ann Meade, daughter of Gordon Meade; John Bull, author of the original *Birds of New York State*, as well as 39 of the nearly 80 authors who contributed to the current *Bull's Birds of New York State*. During the awards ceremony portion, the Lillian C. Stoner Award, went to college student Matt Sarver, sponsored by Cayuga Bird Club and to high school student Brandon Click, sponsored by the Buffalo Ornithological Society; the Eaton Award, to John Bull and Manny Levine; the John J. Elliott Award (for best *Kingbird* article), to Eric Salzman for his article on Bell's Vireo, September, 1997 edition; Gordon Meade award, to Stan Lincoln and to Berna Lincoln for their outstanding and distinguished service to the Federation.

Rockland Audubon Society received a \$100 Member Club Grant Award for its *Checklist of Birds of Rockland County*. Certificates of Appreciation were given to: the Harold Hoyt family for hospitality to birders who came to see Lewis's Woodpecker; the Don Teede family, hosts for those seeking the Lazuli Bunting; John "Mike" Peterson, High Peaks Audubon Society, for service and dedication to member clubs; and to the organizers of the Montezuma Muckrace—Marva Gingrich, Bill

Grough, Charlie Rouse, John Van Neal, and Jeff Wells.

The awards were followed by the presentation of resolutions. Barbara Butler presented a resolution enthusiastically thanking the host clubs for providing this Annual Meeting. She also presented final versions of the conservation resolutions reviewed in the delegates meeting.

The evening was capped by an excellent program by Kenn Kaufman, who explored the travels of birds and of humans from a variety of viewpoints.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda D. Parr, Recording Secretary



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPRING SEASON 1999

Willie D'Anna
2257 Cayuga Drive Extension,
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

WEATHER EFFECTS

In most Regions March was wintry, though just cold and wet in the coastal areas. This delayed the waterfowl and blackbird migration and even caused some reverse movement, as noted in Region 5. In Region 3 waterfowl became concentrated as waters refroze. April and particularly May, were warmer than average and both months were dry. There was a multitude of early arrival dates. However, concentrations of birds were again uninspiring, leaving birders to search for a culprit. Theories included weather systems to the south, northerly winds, and calm nights allowing birds to fly directly to the breeding grounds. Region 8 editor Graves blamed an Omega Block, a wave in the jet stream across North America that looks like the Greek letter of the same name. Indeed, this upper air pattern moves low pressure systems to the south of us and, generally, keeps us under the influence of high-pressure, northerly winds, and relatively calm nights, conditions suitable to birds but not birders.

ARRIVAL DATE TABLES

A glance at the Arrival Dates and Seasonality and Advance tables shows that first arrivals averaged early in every Region (seasonality.) The greatest seasonalities were in the northern Region 6 and the southern Region 9, more than three and four days early, respectively. As you might expect with a unanimous set of early seasonalities, there were many Regional record arrival dates and even a couple of possible NYS records. An Eastern Kingbird on 1 April in Region 1 was a day later than the one in Region 3 last spring, while another was reported on 4 April in Region 4. Unfortunately, like last year's kingbird, these two sightings apparently were not verified. The earliest date given in *Bull's Birds of New York State*, p. 374, is 4 April. Unseasonable birds deserve verification as much as rarities. A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak on 23 March in Region 7 is probably a NYS record. Given the mildness of the previous season, it is possible that one could have overwintered. However, that seems least likely in the cold climate of Region 7. A Least Sandpiper on 29 March in Region 10 tied the earliest ever in the state, while Caspian Tern, remarkably, was record early in *four* Regions.

In the Spring Arrival Dates table, it was mainly the April and May birds that were significantly early (greater than two standard deviations.) Eastern Phoebe was the only March bird in that category. Significantly early April birds included Caspian Tern, Marsh Wren, Eastern Kingbird, Purple Martin, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Veery, Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, Pine Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Chipping Sparrow, and Bobolink. In the May group were Black Tern, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Alder Flycatcher, Swainson's Thrush, Indigo Bunting, and Tennessee, Chestnut-sided, Cape May, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Wilson's, and Canada warblers. Bucking the early trend were, Black-bellied Plover, Sanderling and Blue-headed Vireo. Readers are reminded that overwintering individuals which are wrongly assumed to be early migrants, can greatly affect the data.

WATERFOWL

Some editors cited this group as one of the few bright spots of the spring. However, it took some time for the migration to get going with the harsh beginning to March. Snow Geese continued their burgeoning trend, with the highest count an estimated 10,000 in Region 6. Ross's

Goose is now annual in the state. Presumably these birds hook up with the Snows in the arctic and follow them to their wintering grounds, producing our fall and then the following spring records. Ross's were found in four locations in Region 3, two in Region 2, and two together in Region 8. Greater White-fronted Goose were found in even higher numbers than Ross's Goose in the east last fall. Presumably, it was these birds that appeared in six Regions this spring. Since it is believed they arrived from the west after the Great Storm of mid-November, the *flavirostris*, or Greenland race bird in Region 5, if correct, was not part of this influx. Brant arrived very early in Region 5, with good counts there and in Region 8. The now regular Eurasian Wigeon was found in Regions 1, 2, 3 and 10. Counts of Green-winged Teal were near 100 in Regions 5 and 7. Singles of the very rare nominate form of this species, the Eurasian *crecca*, were found in opposite ends of the state. Nine thousand Greater Scaup in Region 6 was a significant count, while a Barrow's Goldeneye was a highlight in Region 8. Harlequin Duck continued to be found on Lake Ontario as well as in Region 10, where they are virtually regular.

SHOREBIRDS

Five Regions complained of low numbers of shorebirds, even Region 10 which garnered several of the highlights. Region 3 was an exception as Montezuma NWR was effectively managed for these birds. A count of 103 Common Snipe in Region 2 is the largest on record in New York. Shorebirds very rare in spring but regular in fall included: American Golden-Plovers in Regions 4, 5, and 10, Stilt Sandpiper in Region 10, and Red-necked Phalarope in Region 9. The only Willets away from the coast were two in Region 1. Ruffs were found in Regions 3 and 10. But the outstanding rarity in this group was Region 10's Wilson's Plover. This species has never been found away from the coast in NY (*Bull's Birds of New York State*, p.230). However, it has occurred in Hamilton, Ontario, a mere 50 miles from western New York, so there is hope for inland Regions!

WARBLERS

Though comments on the warblers and neotropical migrants were generally that numbers were down while diversity remained about the same, there were some good counts, especially in Region 6. Some of the

best were 30 Nashville Warblers in Region 5 and 27 in Region 6, 27 Northern Parulas in Region 6, and 2500 Yellow-rumped Warblers in Region 6. Indicative of the good diversity were Orange-crowned Warblers, found in seven Regions, Yellow-throated in four, Prothonotary in three, Worm-eating in five, Kentucky in six, and Yellow-breasted Chat in three. Connecticut Warblers were found in Regions 2 & 7.

THE REST

Southern herons were few in number this spring. Away from the coastal Regions, and excluding Great Egret, only the following were seen: Cattle Egret in Regions 2 & 8, Snowy Egret in Regions 1 & 8, and Glossy Ibis in Regions 3 & 8.

It was a poor spring for hawkwatching along the Great Lakes as northerly winds prevented strong movements. Of note, in Region 3 raptors were observed using updrafts on north-facing slopes, indicating at least some independence from southerly winds in spring. Three species managed to set records at the Ripley Watch along Lake Erie – Cooper's Hawk, Golden Eagle, and Peregrine Falcon. These birds have already been noted to be on the increase in recent years. The rarest of the "raptor" group were two Swainson's Hawks in Region 2, a Black Vulture in Region 5, and, not at a hawkwatch, a Mississippi Kite in Region 10. Not in the same group but often seen at the hawkwatches, Sandhill Cranes continue to increase. Numbers were seen in the usual Regions 1, 2, & 5 as well as one in Region 3 and another continuing from the winter season in Region 10. Gulls were highlighted by a record count of Little Gulls at the mouth of the Niagara River – 85! The previous record was 78 at this same location (*The Kingbird* 46:226) and in Rochester (*Bull's Birds of New York State*, p.278). Another highlight was the state's second Black-tailed Gull, hot on the heels of the first one last season. This one was a third-year type, again found in Region 10. A Franklin's Gull in Region 3, a Black-legged Kittiwake in Region 2, and a Black-headed Gull in Region 5 were very rare spring finds. A Mew Gull continued in Region 10.

Owls were not very notable though counts of 11 Long-eared in Region 2 and 21 Short-eared in Region 8 were impressive. Barn Owls in Region 5 and especially Region 7 were noteworthy. A March hummingbird in Region 8 is unprecedented, no matter what species it was. Red-headed Woodpeckers are not nearly as common as formerly and there has been concern expressed for continuing declines. This season, however, they

actually elicited a few positive comments in Regions 2, 4, 9, & 10.

Fish Crows continue to prosper. A count of 30 in Region 8 is likely a record that far from the coast. The only Sedge Wren of the season was found in Region 2 as was a high count of American Pipits – 700. A count of 450 Song Sparrows in Region 5 is outstanding, especially for a species considered to be declining in recent decades. Lapland Longspurs made a strong showing. They were found in seven Regions with the highest count being 100 in Region 3. Birds lingering into April and early May were mostly in their rarely observed and beautiful breeding plumage as found in Regions 1, 2, & 3. The wintry start to March caused excellent concentrations of Snow Buntings, with highest counts being 800 in Region 3 and 1000 in Region 5. Rare blackbirds in the state included one Brewer's in Region 1 and an impressive flock of 12 in Region 2, and Yellow-headed was found in Regions 1, 5, & 9. The finches not only showed poorly this past winter but the return flight this spring was practically nonexistent. Only American Goldfinches were seen in higher than average numbers.

INTERESTING TIDBITS

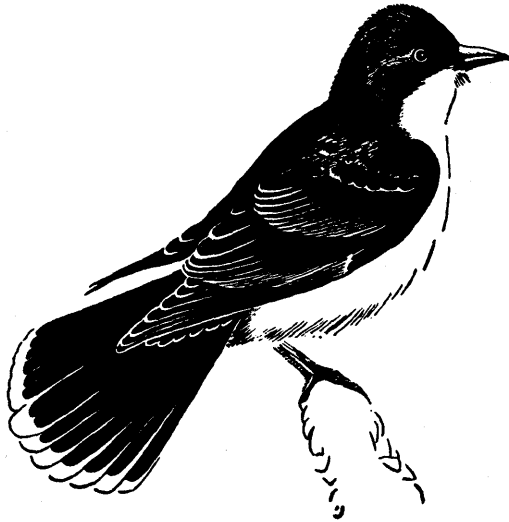
The Regional Editors always manage to include some unusual observations other than simply rare birds. In this category were Mallards in Region 3 forced to dive in deeper water by shoreline ice. Birds feeding on large mammals are not often observed in New York. Thus, the reports of many corvids dining on beaver carcasses in Region 7 and Bald Eagles on deer carcasses in Regions 6 & 7 are unusual. In Region 8, some very aggressive Northern Goshawks were living up to the species' fierce reputation, while an Osprey in Region 5 wisely chose to wait for Great Horned Owls to fledge before usurping their nest. In Region 9 there was an interesting lesson in loon identification. Finally, from Region 7 comes the report of a most bizarre Common Yellowthroat – part male, part female! See editor Peterson's narrative for the full description.

RARITIES

Most of the birds discussed here are subject to acceptance by NYSARC. Except in Region 10, the season offered few rarities to excite birders. The best finds were Blue Grosbeak in Regions 8, 9, 10, and most notably Region 1, the first there in 24 years; Varied Thrush in Regions 2 &

7; Eared Grebe and Loggerhead Shrike in Region 2; a rufous-morph Red-tailed Hawk, much rarer away from the Great Lakes, and a very rare in spring Bohemian Waxwing in Region 3; a White-eyed Vireo well north in Region 6; a first Regional "Brewster's" Warbler in Region 7; "Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow in Regions 8 & 10, the former report documented; and a Summer Tanager in Region 9. It is difficult to compete with Region 10 and the coastal influence when it comes to rare birds. Besides birds already mentioned, Region 10 garnered a White-winged Dove, Painted Bunting, and a Harris's Sparrow.

The choice for Bird-of-the-Season was a difficult one. Mississippi Kite, Wilson's Plover, Painted Bunting, and Harris's Sparrow are great finds but they have been recorded over 20 times each in New York. White-winged Dove has been recorded only six times previously but this spring's was the fifth during the nineties in Region 10. The lingering Mew Gull and the Black-tailed Gull in Region 10 are exceptional rarities, the latter only the second ever in New York. Nevertheless, their stars are dimmed, ever so slightly, by their recent appearances last winter. I guess absence really does make the heart grow fonder! My choice for the BOTS award is the Arctic Tern in Region 7. If accepted by NYSARC, this will be only the third such inland record in the State.



Spring Arrival Dates 1999 Waterbirds

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average	13-Yr. Ave
American Bittern	13 Apr	13 Apr	17 Apr	21 Apr	10 Apr	19 Apr	19 Apr	22 Apr	10 Apr		16 Apr	18 Apr
Green Heron	17 Apr	15 Apr	14 Apr	24 Apr	26 Apr	22 Apr	6 May	21 Apr	20 Apr	17 Apr	21 Apr	23 Apr
Wood Duck	10 Mar	15 Feb	2 Mar	19 Mar	19 Mar	19 Mar	25 Mar	5 May	3 Mar		16 Mar	14 Mar
Green-winged Teal	19 Mar	17 Mar	14 Mar	17 Mar	20 Mar	15 Mar	30 Mar	20 Mar	12 Mar		18 Mar	19 Mar
Northern Pintail	3 Mar	14 Feb	3 Mar	8 Mar	28 Feb	17 Mar	20 Mar	3 Mar	5 Mar		5 Mar	8 Mar
Blue-winged Teal	19 Mar	20 Mar	25 Mar		20 Mar	17 Mar	7 Apr	3 Apr	7 Apr		26 Mar	30 Mar
Osprey	1 Apr	27 Mar	20 Mar		21 Mar	4 Apr	3 Apr	6 Apr	26 Mar	8 Mar	26 Mar	29 Mar
Virginia Rail	18 Apr	13 Apr	15 Apr	27 Apr	10 Apr	2 May	22 Apr	8 Apr	24 Apr	30 Mar	16 Apr	19 Apr
Sora	25 Apr	25 Apr	3 May		24 Apr	8 May	4 May	8 May	27 Apr	30 Apr	30 Apr	28 Apr
Common Moorhen	17 Apr	3 Apr	15 Apr		24 Apr	7 May	8 May			30 Apr	23 Apr	27 Apr
Black-bellied Plover	9 May	7 May	16 May		23 May	18 May	22 May		18 May		16 May	11 May
Semipalmated Plover	8 May	7 May	8 May		14 May	18 May	22 May	12 May	16 May	4 Apr	8 May	11 May
Killdeer	16 Mar	17 Feb	3 Mar	20 Mar	23 Feb	17 Mar	23 Mar	7 Mar	12 Feb		6 Mar	5 Mar
Greater Yellowlegs	30 Mar	28 Mar	25 Mar	8 Apr	2 Apr	10 Apr	27 Apr	2 Apr	4 Apr		4 Apr	7 Apr
Lesser Yellowlegs	8 Apr	24 Mar	11 Apr	8 May	31 Mar	18 Apr	22 May	24 Apr	3 Apr	25 Mar	14 Apr	19 Apr
Solitary Sandpiper	24 Apr	28 Apr	25 Apr		1 May	28 Apr	13 May	15 Apr	19 Apr	26 Apr	26 Apr	27 Apr
Spotted Sandpiper	22 Apr	24 Apr	17 Apr		27 Apr	7 May	4 May	11 Apr	24 Apr	20 Apr	24 Apr	24 Apr
Sanderling	25 May	22 May									23 May	15 May
Semipalmated Sandpiper	22 May	16 May	3 May	20 May	12 May	18 May	11 May	15 May	22 May	4 May	14 May	14 May
Least Sandpiper	29 Apr	30 Apr	25 Apr	8 May	6 May	14 May	18 May	24 Apr	15 May	29 Mar	1 May	5 May
Pectoral Sandpiper	1 Apr	21 Mar	21 Mar		10 Apr	27 May		22 May	14 May	26 Mar	17 Apr	20 Apr
Common Snipe	21 Mar	21 Mar	22 Mar	21 Apr	3 Apr	1 Apr	9 Apr	21 Mar	1 Mar		27 Mar	24 Mar
American Woodcock	17 Mar	3 Mar	3 Mar	5 Mar	20 Mar	27 Mar	23 Mar	5 Mar	18 Feb	12 Mar	10 Mar	12 Mar
Caspian Tern	8 Apr	6 Apr	4 Apr		5 Apr	8 Apr		9 May		9 Apr	11 Apr	22 Apr
Common Tern	17 Apr	11 Apr	22 Apr		16 Apr	2 May	7 Jun	23 Apr	10 May	18 Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr
Black Tern	28 Apr	30 Apr	25 Apr	23 Apr	10 May	8 May				4 May	1 May	7 May
Marsh Wren	1 May	1 May	29 Apr		1 May	8 May	8 May	8 May	6 Apr	30 Mar	26 Apr	2 May

Spring Arrival Dates 1999 Landbirds

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average	13-Yr. Ave
Black-billed Cuckoo	15 May	15 May	29 Apr		15 May	15 May	8 Jun	11 May	1 May	6 May	12 May	13 May
Common Nighthawk	12 May	8 May	13 May	14 May	15 May	17 May		8 May	14 May	12 May	12 May	12 May
Chimney Swift	21 Apr	28 Apr	25 Apr	27 Apr	1 May	30 Apr	9 Apr	26 Apr	27 Apr	17 Apr	24 Apr	25 Apr
Ruby-thr Hummingbird	1 May	2 May	5 May		6 May	6 May	2 May	7 May	27 Apr	21 Apr	1 May	5 May
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3 Apr	31 Mar	1 Apr	2 Apr	2 Apr	9 Apr		29 Mar	6 Apr	10 Mar	15 Apr	1 Apr
Olive-sided Flycatcher	13 May	31 May	22 May					19 May	15 May	10 May	12 May	17 May
Eastern Wood-Pewee	12 May	8 May	4 May	11 May	11 May	15 May	12 May	11 May	13 May	12 May	10 May	10 May
Alder Flycatcher	15 May	5 May	15 May	18 May	14 May	20 May	11 May	14 May	15 May		14 May	18 May
Willow Flycatcher	15 May	5 May	16 May	17 May	8 May	21 May	22 May	11 May	15 May	15 May	14 May	17 May
Least Flycatcher	2 May	2 May	29 Apr	4 May	1 May	5 May	6 May	26 Apr	9 May	27 Apr	2 May	2 May
Eastern Phoebe	17 Mar	21 Mar	21 Mar	24 Mar	21 Mar	27 Mar	1 Apr	24 Mar	5 Mar	4 Mar	19 Mar	22 Mar
Gr. Crested Flycatcher	1 May	2 May	1 May	6 May	2 May	1 May	4 May	20 Apr	4 May	23 Apr	30 Apr	1 May
Eastern Kingbird	1 Apr	29 Apr	24 Apr	4 May	1 May	5 May	3 May	3 May	27 Apr	17 Apr	26 Apr	28 Apr
Purple Martin	31 Mar	24 Mar	12 Apr	13 Apr	6 Apr	18 Apr	19 Apr	17 Apr	20 Apr	21 Mar	8 Apr	18 Apr
Tree Swallow	21 Mar	20 Mar	20 Mar	18 Mar	18 Mar	24 Mar	28 Mar	27 Mar	18 Mar		21 Mar	22 Mar
N. Rough-winged Swallow	8 Apr	3 Apr	7 Apr	21 Apr	13 Apr	10 Apr	15 Apr	8 Apr	10 Apr	9 Apr	10 Apr	17 Apr
Bank Swallow	2 May	19 Apr	22 Apr	15 Apr	22 Apr	18 Apr	1 May	29 Apr	10 Apr	29 Apr	22 Apr	25 Apr
Cliff Swallow	8 May	1 Apr	20 Apr	24 May	13 Apr	8 May	29 Apr	2 May	17 Apr	16 Apr	25 Apr	28 Apr
Barn Swallow	8 Apr	13 Apr	30 Mar	15 Apr	6 Apr	11 Apr	17 Apr	8 Apr	18 Apr	21 Mar	8 Apr	11 Apr
House Wren	19 Apr	25 Apr	27 Apr	29 Apr	27 Apr	8 Apr	8 May	15 Apr	26 Apr	11 Apr	22 Apr	23 Apr
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5 Apr	8 Apr	7 Apr		7 Apr	12 Apr	20 Apr	1 Apr	8 Mar		4 Apr	7 Apr
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	14 Apr	31 Mar	21 Apr	30 Apr	24 Apr	1 May	2 May	10 Apr		31 Mar	17 Apr	21 Apr
Eastern Bluebird		19 Feb			17 Mar	1 Mar	31 Mar				10 Mar	9 Mar
Veery	2 May	3 May	2 May	7 May	6 May	29 Apr	29 Apr	30 Apr	29 Apr	17 Apr	30 Apr	2 May
Swainson's Thrush	6 May	5 May	12 May	26 Apr	8 May	16 May	1 May	1 May	9 May	5 May	5 May	8 May
Hermit Thrush	21 Mar	8 Apr	30 Mar	4 Apr	5 Apr	15 Apr	9 Apr	3 Apr	7 Mar		1 Apr	7 Apr
Wood Thrush	1 May	27 Apr	17 Apr	17 Apr	3 May	25 Apr	8 May	3 May	28 Apr	23 Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr
Gray Catbird	2 May	5 May	1 May	6 May	1 May	6 May	10 May	26 Apr	17 Apr	22 Apr	30 Apr	25 Apr
Brown Thrasher	18 Apr	17 Apr	17 Apr	15 Apr	22 Apr	17 Apr	28 Apr	22 Apr	17 Apr	25 Apr	19 Apr	16 Apr
Solitary Vireo	17 Apr	30 Apr	17 Apr	2 May	27 Apr	29 Apr	29 Apr	20 Apr	21 Apr	15 Apr	23 Apr	21 Apr
Yellow-throated Vireo	3 May	4 May	2 May	8 May	5 May	28 May	17 May	7 May	1 May	26 Apr	7 May	4 May
Warbling Vireo	2 May	28 Apr	30 Apr	6 May	4 May	5 May	5 May	2 May	26 Apr	25 Apr	1 May	2 May
Red-eyed Vireo	6 May	5 May	6 May	8 May	6 May	5 May	7 May	30 Apr	6 May	8 May	5 May	4 May

Spring Arrival Dates 1999 Landbirds (cont'd)

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average	13-Yr. Ave
Tennessee Warbler	5 May	5 May	29 Apr	15 May	8 May	5 May	21 May	6 May	10 May	6 May	8 May	9 May
Nashville Warbler	1 May	29 Apr	29 Apr	3 May	5 May	2 May	5 May	18 Apr	27 Apr	26 Apr	29 Apr	30 Apr
Northern Parula	7 May	4 May	3 May	9 May	6 May	5 May	10 May	8 May	28 Apr	15 Apr	3 May	4 May
Yellow Warbler	23 Apr	29 Apr	26 Apr	30 Apr	29 Apr	4 May	2 May	27 Apr	3 Apr	25 Apr	25 Apr	27 Apr
Chestnut-sided Warbler	2 May	4 May	3 May	27 Apr	5 May	5 May	7 May	6 May	27 Apr	27 Apr	2 May	3 May
Magnolia Warbler	5 May	4 May	5 May	8 May	1 May	10 May	1 May	6 May	6 May	6 May	5 May	6 May
Cape May Warbler	2 May	4 May	8 May		5 May	3 May	7 May	6 May	10 May	5 May	5 May	7 May
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	2 May	1 May	3 May	1 May	1 May	6 May	6 May	2 May	29 Apr	25 Apr	1 May	1 May
Black-thr Green Warbler	26 Apr	1 May	26 Apr	27 Apr	27 Apr	4 May	2 May	29 Apr	20 Apr	17 Apr	26 Apr	26 Apr
Blackburnian Warbler	29 Apr	2 May	5 May	30 Apr	5 May	5 May	8 May	11 May	7 May	5 May	4 May	4 May
Pine Warbler	14 Apr	8 Apr	8 Apr	3 Apr	7 Apr	15 Apr	15 Apr	4 Apr	1 Apr	17 Mar	6 Apr	13 Apr
Palm Warbler	26 Apr	21 Apr	25 Apr	4 Apr	17 Apr	18 Apr	22 Apr	4 Apr	6 Apr		15 Apr	20 Apr
Bay-breasted Warbler	6 May	5 May	5 May	8 May	8 May	11 May	14 May	8 May	7 May	6 May	7 May	11 May
Blackpoll Warbler	5 May	14 May	8 May	5 May	14 May	20 May	15 May	14 May	9 May	6 May	11 May	13 May
Black-and-white Warbler	25 Apr	26 Apr	25 Apr	28 Apr	1 May	2 May	5 May	12 Apr	23 Apr	14 Apr	25 Apr	26 Apr
American Redstart	29 Apr	4 May	2 May	5 May	2 May	6 May	9 May	5 May	1 May	24 Apr	2 May	3 May
Ovenbird	2 May	3 May	2 May	5 May	2 May	1 May	7 May	1 May	6 May	23 Apr	2 May	30 Apr
Northern Waterthrush	25 Apr	23 Apr	22 Apr	27 Apr	27 Apr	29 Apr	6 May	27 Apr	1 Apr	14 Apr	23 Apr	27 Apr
Mourning Warbler	12 May	6 May	13 May	15 May	7 May	15 May	28 May	14 May	15 May	12 May	13 May	15 May
Common Yellowthroat	3 May	3 May	1 May	8 May	5 May	8 May	8 May	27 Apr	17 Apr	23 Apr	1 May	1 May
Wilson's Warbler	7 May	6 May	6 May	14 May	6 May	16 May	20 May	11 May	2 May	9 May	9 May	12 May
Canada Warbler	8 May	6 May	7 May	12 May	8 May	15 May	21 May	8 May	6 May	6 May	9 May	11 May
Scarlet Tanager	5 May	4 May	6 May	8 May	6 May	5 May	8 May	8 May	1 May	27 Apr	4 May	5 May
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	29 Apr	1 May	29 Apr	23 Apr	4 May	5 May	23 Mar	1 May	28 Apr	26 Apr	25 Apr	29 Apr
Indigo Bunting	4 May	6 May	29 Apr	5 May	8 May	15 May	8 May	6 May	13 Apr	18 Apr	2 May	5 May
Eastern Towhee	1 Apr	5 Mar	4 Apr	15 May	10 Apr	11 Apr	16 May	2 Apr	6 Apr		11 Apr	11 Apr
Chipping Sparrow	1 Apr	29 Mar	1 Apr	2 Apr	6 Apr	14 Apr	8 Apr	5 Apr	27 Feb	17 Apr	2 Apr	7 Apr
Vesper Sparrow	7 Apr	3 Apr	1 Apr	23 May	6 Apr	5 Apr	9 Apr	17 Apr	6 Apr	11 Apr	11 Apr	12 Apr
Savannah Sparrow	3 Apr	3 Apr	3 Apr	15 Apr	6 Apr	8 Apr	8 Apr	7 Apr	17 Apr		7 Apr	8 Apr
Lincoln's Sparrow	1 May	5 May	13 May	29 Apr	5 May	22 May	6 May	14 May	16 Apr	9 May	6 May	5 May
White-crowned Sparrow	11 Apr	1 May	1 May	30 Apr	3 May	30 Apr	7 May	6 May	10 Mar		24 Apr	26 Apr
Bobolink	1 May	2 May	28 Apr	8 Apr	5 May	4 May	3 May	1 May	6 May	9 May	30 Apr	2 May
Baltimore Oriole	30 Apr	30 Apr	29 Apr	1 May	5 May	5 May	6 May	2 May	28 Apr	18 Apr	30 Apr	30 Apr
Overall Average	21 Apr	18 Apr	20 Apr	25 Apr	22 Apr	26 Apr	29 Apr	23 Apr	18 Apr	20 Apr	22 Apr	24 Apr

Departure Dates Seasonality and Advance

Region	Species Reported	Seasonality vs 1987-1998	Advance (Days)	vs 1998
1	92	-0.70	-1.38	-3.66
2	93	-1.30	-3.75	-1.01
3	91	-1.82	-2.38	-1.65
4	74	-0.79	2.88	2.59
5	91	-0.07	-0.26	-0.31
6	91	-3.17	4.25	-2.85
7	88	-0.53	7.11	1.70
8	89	-1.45	0.86	0.49
9	88	-4.17	-4.65	-2.20
10	76	-0.85	-2.73	-6.40

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in **BOLD UPPERCASE**; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in **UPPER CASE** letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In **species accounts**: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! — details seen by Regional Editor; ad — adult; Alt — Alternate plumage; Am. — American; arr — arrival or first of season; BBS — Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS — bird of the season; CBC — Christmas Bird Count; CO — confirmed nesting; Com. — Common; E. — Eastern; FL — fledgling; FY — adult feeding young; I — Island; imm — immature; *intro* — see introduction to report; juv — juvenile; L — Lake; max — maximum; mob — multiple observers; N. — Northern; NYSDEC — New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR — National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC — report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P — Park; Pd — Pond; ph — photographed; Pt — Point; Res — Reservoir; SP — State Park; spm — specimen; subad — subadult; T — Town of; Twn — township; W. — Western; WMA — Wildlife Management Area; y — young.

REPORTING DEADLINES

Winter Season: December, January, February

Deadline is 7 March

Spring Season: March, April, May

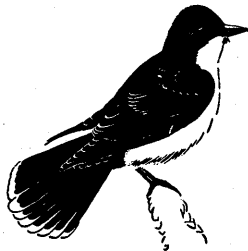
Deadline is 7 June

Summer Season: June, July, August

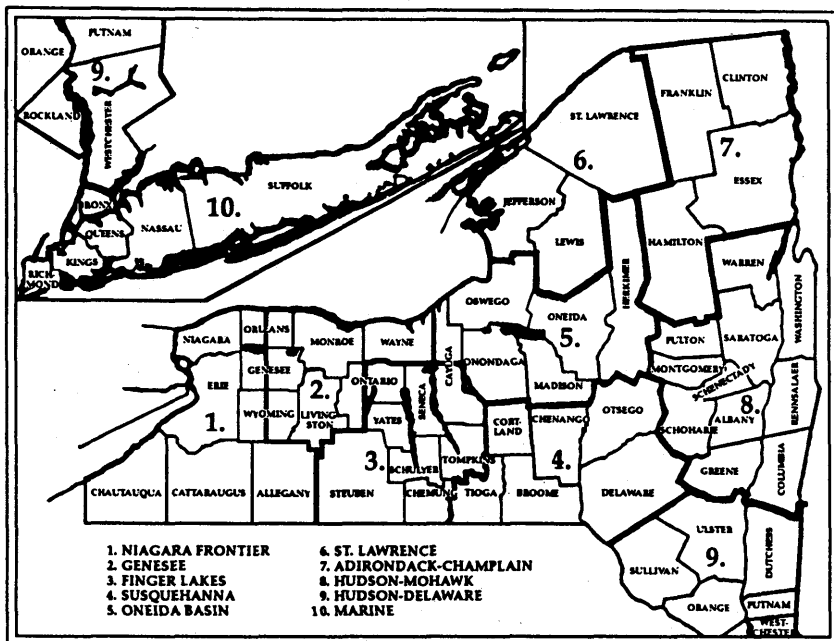
Deadline is 7 September

Fall Season: September, October, November

Deadline is 7 December



REPORTING REGIONS



Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, *except at:*

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties: the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia, NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19 from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County: the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64 from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21 from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County: the boundary is NY Route 31.

INVITING NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Readers are invited to submit short pieces of interesting sightings, observations or incidents, etc., that do not require full-blown article treatment. No bibliography is necessary unless the author wishes to submit one. If a photograph is included, we require either a black-and-white glossy print or a color negative which we will convert to a b&w print. If the editor believes the note should be expanded to a full article, you will be invited to do so.

REGION 1- NIAGARA FRONTIER

Dick Miga
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New York, 14063-1937

The spring of 1999 followed yet another strange winter for all of western New York. The total snowfall for the season was actually normal or slightly above over all areas, but this masked the fact that the bulk of the winter was actually quite mild and open. In March the only severe weather occurred in the early part of the month. After a very mild and dry February, winter roared back into the Region during the first week with two major snowstorms. The first one, on the 4th, brought record snowfall to the Genesee Valley and focused on that area with two feet of snow and blizzard conditions for over six hours. To the west of that region in most of the Region 1 territory amounts dropped off rapidly, with just 3-4 inches in the Buffalo area. Another storm affected the Region on the 6th, dropping 6-12 inches across the area. This storm was followed with slowly moderating temperatures for the next two weeks. A final storm occurred on the 21st and 22nd of the month, when several inches of snow dropped on the higher elevations of the area. Average temperature for the month was 31.0°F, 3 degrees below normal, with no record high or low temperatures set. The 31.0° average equaled the February average, creating the unusual statistic of being only the seventh time in this century that March failed to be warmer than February.

April started like a roller coaster during the first three weeks and ended with some very fine spring weather during the last week. It averaged out at 46°, only 0.8° above normal. The month ended up being dry and sunny, with the higher temperatures occurring in the early part. With abundant sunshine and lack of precipitation, this La Niña period created a somewhat delayed migratory movement and a colder than normal feel to the air. This was unlike the El Niño conditions that prevailed during the spring of 1998.

The spring period concluded with May being warm, dry, and sunny. The Buffalo Weather Service reported the average monthly temperature at 59.7°, 3.1° above normal in the Buffalo area, with other locations in western New York reporting as high as 5.8° above the norm. While Buffalo recorded 2.2 inches of precipitation, 0.32 inches below normal for the month, the community of Wellsville in Allegany County recorded 1.38 inches below normal precipitation. Sunshine was present for 62% of the possible time. By month's end, the Lake Erie temperature was record-

ed at 55°. Weather data was provided by Steven McLaughlin of the Buffalo National Weather Service Office and Richard Rosche, reporter for *The Prothonotary*, the newsletter of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

The lack of ice across Lake Erie brought hope to many that an early spring was in the making. For hawkwatchers, however, the persistent high-pressure systems and east to northeast winds proved otherwise. Counters at the Ripley watch recorded 14,002 birds for the period, which was the lowest number since spring of 1995. The number was particularly significant in that both Broad-winged and Rough-legged hawks were being recorded some distance inland from the lake shore, in some cases in record numbers, thus confirming their movement though not at the official count site. Despite the low overall totals, annual high count records were reached for Cooper's Hawk and Golden Eagle, and the Peregrine Falcon sightings tied the 1998 high. All in all, the conditions did not dampen the enthusiasm of the increasing number of volunteer counters who appeared at the site.

Another highlight from the Region was three Black-crowned Night-Herons roosting in pine trees in northwest Buffalo for three to four months on the private property of Norma Dittiger. Waterfowl made several noteworthy movements early in spring, with reports of hundreds and thousands being sighted throughout the entire Region. Included are an unusually high count of 72 Snow Geese on 19 March in Chautauqua County and a count of 7030 Oldsquaws on 8 March in the Niagara River.

Larids were evident in the lower Niagara River, with reports of 4240 Bonaparte's Gulls on 29 March by Gordon Bellerby and 52 Little Gulls by Susan O'Donnell on 17 March. Bellerby also noted a high count of 85 Little Gulls in the same area on 19 March. The **Black-headed Gull** reported in the winter report was still spotted during the month of March. A **Black-headed Gull** was reported again in early April in full breeding plumage, but whether this was the same bird or not is unknown. March also produced two fine reports of Short-eared Owls, with sightings of 4 to 6 birds at the Dunkirk Airport from the 8th through the 26th and the observations of 5 to 9 birds in the Town of Shelby in Orleans County.

Sandhill Cranes made several appearances during the spring in Chautauqua County over the period 2 -15 April near the village of Ripley, in the Point Gratiot area in Dunkirk, and at the Cheney Marsh in the Town of North Harmony. Sightings also occurred at the Tillman Wildlife Management Area and in the Town of Shelby in Orleans County. Additional reports were received of a bird at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area in Niagara County on 1 May and from the town of Alabama in Genesee County on 15 May. Certainly an impressive num-

ber of sightings over an extended date range.

The south shore of Lake Ontario continues to provide excellent vantage points for viewing waterfowl movements, such as an impressive movement of Red-breasted Mergansers on April 10th observed by Mike Morgante. The birds were sighted flying eastward against an unfavorable north wind at the rate of about 500 birds/ten minutes. Accompanying these birds were Oldsquaws, Common Loons, and a single Caspian Tern.

Noteworthy sightings for the month of April included: **Greater White-fronted Goose**, **Eurasian Wigeon**, and a **Green-winged Teal** of the **Eurasian race** (*Anas c. crecca*). The goose was found in the Town of Newstead in Erie County and the wigeon and teal in the Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area near Batavia . The teal represents the third report for the nominate of this species in Region 1 since 1960. A **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was found in Lockport in Niagara County and a **Brewer's Blackbird** in the Town of Oakfield in Genesee County, providing two fine western *icterid* observations for local birders.

The fine weather during the month of May produced many reports of more typically southern species, such as **Blue Grosbeak**, **Acadian Flycatcher**, **White-eyed Vireo**, **Yellow-throated Warbler**, **Prothonotary Warbler**, **Kentucky Warbler**, and **Orchard Oriole**. The female **Blue Grosbeak**, reported by J. Douglas and Sharon Beattie in the Town of Bethany in Genesee County, was the second record for this Region since 1975, when a male was found by me and photographed by Allen Benton on the campus of SUNY Fredonia. The specifics of the other southern species are found below in the bird report data.

The spring season closed out with individual reports of Willet on 8 and 9 May and of a hybrid "Lawrence's" Warbler observed by the members of the Lake Erie Bird Club along the Sheldon trail in Chautauqua County on the 22nd of May as it sang a Blue-winged Warbler song.

To close out this report, I would like to briefly summarize the April bird count conducted in Region 1 under the auspices of the Buffalo Ornithological Society. The count was conducted on 11 April, 1999 under partly sunny skies early in the day followed by strong winds, heavy rains, thunderstorms, and snow and drizzle. The resulting data included new low counts for the most recent 21 years of the count for Northern Pintail, Rough-legged Hawk, Ring-necked Pheasant, Killdeer, Great Horned Owl, Song Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and House Sparrow. New highs were recorded for Wild Turkey, Great Black-backed Gull, Barred Owl, and Winter Wren, with Eastern Kingbird and Blue-headed Vireo appearing for the first time. Compilers were Ed Fuchs, Mike Hamilton, and Terry Yonker.

CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Andrie, J. Douglas Beattie, Sharon Beattie, Gordon Bellerby, Allen Benton, Bonnie Bowen, Elizabeth Brooks, Chris Budniewski, Ray Budniewski, Bill Burch, Bruce Chilton, Willie D'Anna, Mike Davis, Norma Dittiger, Barbara Henderson, Paul Hess, Dave Junkin, S. Junkin, Nancy Karp, Aron Kehlenback, Brendan Klick, Bob McKinney, Dick Miga, Miley Miller (MiM), Mike Morgante, Terry Mosher, David Neveu, Linda O'Brien, Susan O'Donnell, Tom O'Donnell, Michael Pitzrick, Vivian Pitzrick, Betsy Potter, Frances Rew, Gerald Rising, Donald Roberson, Dorothy Rosche, Olga Rosche, Richard Rosche, Gail Seamans, Jack Skalicky, A. Smith, David Suggs (Buffalo RBA), Robert Sundell, Mike Turisk, Kirk Vanstrom, William Watson, Tom Welch, Jim Wojewodzki, Peter Yoerg.

ABBREVIATIONS

BISP - Beaver Island State Park - Grand Island; BWWTP - Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant GENE; BuSP - Buckhorn Island State Park - Grand Island; BRBA - Buffalo Rare bird Alert; DH - Dunkirk Harbor, City of Dunkirk; FMCSF - Four Mile Creek State Park - NIAG; GHSP - Golden Hills State Park - NIAG; INWR - Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge - GENE/ORLE; NF - Niagara Falls; OOWMA - Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area - GENE; Tiff NP - Tiff Nature Preserve, Buffalo; TiWMA - Tillman Wildlife Management Area - ERIE; TWMA - Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area - WYOM; WTSP - Wilson-Tuscarora State Park - NIAG.

LOONS - DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: 2 T Yates ORLE 27 Mar; 1 FMCSF 8 May (WD).

Com. Loon: 15,27 T Somerset NIAG, T N Harmony CHAU 10,16 Apr; 1 NF 31 May (MM).

Pied-billed Grebe: 3 DH 12 Mar.

Horned Grebe: max 28 T Oakfield GENE 4 Apr (GS); 1 NF 29 May (MM).

Red-necked Grebe: arr 2 T Somerset NIAG 20 Mar (WD); 2 Tiff NP 4 Apr (WW).

Double-crested Cormorant: max 570 LaSalle Park Buffalo 25 Apr (GR); 293 BISP 20 May (WW); nesting activity tak-

ing place on Motor Island and Strawberry Island in the Niagara River with 7 and 8 nests respectively (WW); One cormorant appeared in Amity Lake in ALLE on 22 May (VP).

Am. Bittern: arr 3 TWMA 1 May.

Least Bittern: arr 1 TWMA 15 May.

Great Blue Heron: 29ad & 29 nests Motor Island Niagara River 11 Apr; 21ad, 7yg Motor Island 21 May.

Great Egret: arr 1 Motor Island Niagara River 6 Apr.

Green Heron: arr T Lewiston NIAG 17 Apr.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 1-3 Buffalo

1-15 Mar (ND); 14,13,9 Motor Island
Niagara River from 27 Apr through 21
May (WW).
Turkey Vulture: 560 Hamburg ERIE 29
Mar (RA).
GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE:
1 T Newstead ERIE 3 Apr (PY!).
Snow Goose: 72 CHAU 19 Mar (FR).
Brant: arr 1 NF 15 May (WD).
Tundra Swan: 10 - 240 throughout
Region 7 Mar - 10 Apr (mob).
Gadwall: 1 BWWTP 30 May.
EURASIAN WIGEON: 1 OOWMA 2
Apr (BC!).
Blue-winged Teal: 2 T Pomfret CHAU 24
Mar.
N. Shoveler: arr 3 BWWTP 20 Mar; max
96 BWWTP 11 Apr.
Green-winged Teal: arr 1 T Pomfret
CHAU 19 Mar.
"EURASIAN" TEAL (*A.c.crecca*): 1
OOWMA 6 Apr (WW), third Regional
report since 1960.
Canvasback: 1900 BISP 7 Mar (BB).
Redhead: 7 BWWTP 27 Mar; 20 BWWTP
3 Apr; 3,1 INWR, TWMA 15 May.
Ring-Necked Duck: 2 INWR 15 May.
Greater Scaup: 2 BWWTP 30 May (BK).
Lesser Scaup: 6 BWWTP 30 May
(MM, BK).
White-winged Scoter: 6 GHSP 23 May
(WD).
Oldsquaw: 7030 Niagara River 8 Mar
(GB); 21 Amity Lake ALLE 4 Apr (VP);
10 Olcott NIAG 15 May.
Bufflehead: 3 NF 15 May (MM).
Red-breasted Merganser: 1000 T
Somerset NIAG 10 Apr.
Ruddy Duck: arr 6 BWWTP 20 Mar; 7
BWWTP 30 May (BK).

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: arr 2 INWR 4 Apr.
Bald Eagle: 2 at nest INWR 26 Mar; 1 ad,
2 eggs INWR 6 Apr; 2 yg INWR 22 May;
several imm reported thru from ERIE &
CHAU.
NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 1 T
Eggertsville ERIE 4 Mar; 1 Hamburg
ERIE 18 Apr; 1 T Eagle WYOM 3-29 May
(WW).

Broad-winged Hawk: arr 12 Hamburg
ERIE 17 Apr.
Merlin: 1 University of Buffalo Campus
AMHERST 7,23,25,26 Mar (PY!).
Peregrine Falcon: 2 Hotel Statler Buffalo
3,18,30 Mar; 3 yg Hotel Statler Buffalo 23
May.
Virginia Rail: arr 1 TiWMA & OOWMA
18 Apr.
Sora: arr 1 TiWMA 25 Apr.
Com. Moorhen: arr 1 TWMA 17 Apr.
SANDHILL CRANE: 1-2 throughout the
lake plain area of CHAU 2-21 Apr
(DM, JG, MiM); 1 TWMA 18 Apr (MD et
al); 2 T Shelby ORLE (JS); 1 TWMA 1
May (WD); 1 T Alabama GENE 15 May
(AK).
Black-bellied Plover: arr 3 GHSP 16
May.
Semipalmated Plover: arr 1 T Hartland
NIAG 8 May.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr 1 T Villenova
CHAU 30 Mar.
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 3 T Villenova
CHAU 8 Apr.
Solitary Sandpiper: arr 3 INWR 2 May.
Willet: 1 Randolph CATT 8 May (KV); 1
Gainsville WYOM 9 May (R&DR!).
Spotted Sandpiper: arr 1 V Lancaster
ERIE 22 Apr.
Upland Sandpiper: arr 1 T Alabama
GENE 25 Apr.
Ruddy Turnstone: arr 1 Batavia GENE 11
May.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 8 TWMA
22 May.
Least Sandpiper: arr 1 T Chautauqua
CHAU 29 Apr.
White-rumped Sandpiper: 1 Silver
Creek CHAU 25 May.
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 6 T Yates ORLE
1 Apr; 2 T Pomfret CHAU 19 May.
Dunlin: arr 1 Batavia GENE 11 May.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 2 T Pomfret
CHAU 22 May.
Com. Snipe: arr 1 TiWMA 21 Mar.
Am. Woodcock: arr 3 Joseph Davis State
Park NIAG 17 Mar.
Little Gull: 52,45 T Lewiston NIAG 17,22
Mar (SO); 85 Niagara River 19 Mar (GB).
BLACK-HEADED GULL: 1 Niagara

River 29 Mar (GB); NR early April, alt plumage.
Bonaparte's Gull: 4250 Niagara River 29 Mar (GB); 1 Gainsville WYOM 9 May.
Ring-billed Gull: 2 inland nests, 1 egg each BWWTP 24 Apr (GS).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1-3 Lake Ontario plain 8- 23 May (WD).
Caspian Tern: arr 1 T Somerset NIAG 10 Apr (MM); max 55 DH 23 Apr (DN).
Com. Tern: arr 1 T Lewiston NIAG 17 Apr; max 45 BWWTP 8 May.
Black Tern: arr 1 BWWTP 28 Apr; 7 BWWTP 8 May .

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr 3,1 Tonawanda Indian Reservation ERIE, T Charlotte CHAU 15 May.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 T Ward ALLE 24 May.
Long-eared Owl: first 1 WTSP NIAG 24 Mar; 4 T Somerset NIAG 4 Apr.
Short-eared Owl: 4-6 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 8-28 Mar; 5-9 Tof Shelby ORLE 8-28 Mar.
N. Saw-whet Owl: 1 WTSP 21 Mar (WD,BP); 1 GHSP, Wethersfield WYOM 1, 26 Apr (WD,BP,DJ) ; 1 T Charlotte CHAU 29,30 May (R&CB,FR)
Com. Nighthawk: arr 1 Hamburg ERIE 12 May .
Whip-poor-will: 1 Silver Creek CHAU 26 May.
Chimney Swift: arr 1 Colden ERIE 21 Apr.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr 1 Cherry Creek & Silver Creek CHAU 1 May.
Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 sev areas lake plain of CHAU & NIAG 2-16 May (mob).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr 1 Lockport NIAG 3 Apr.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr 1 Gainsville WYOM 13 May (R&DR).
E. Wood-Pewee: arr 1 Willaimsville Glen ERIE 12 May .
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 sev areas

18-30 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: arr 5 Wheelers Gulf T Pomfret CHAU 19 May.
Alder Flycatcher :arr 1 INWR 15 May.
Willow Flycatcher: arr 1 TWMA 15 May.
Least Flycatcher: arr 1 Blasdell ERIE 2 May.
E. Phoebe: arr 1 T Lewiston NIAG 17 Mar.
Great Crested Flycatcher: arr 2 TWMA 1 May.
E. Kingbird: arr 1 T Pomfret CHAU 1 Apr (DN)
White-eyed Vireo: arr 1 Goat Island Niagara River 7 May.
Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 1 INWR 3 May.
Blue-headed Vireo: arr 1 T Lewiston NIAG 17 Apr.
Warbling Vireo: arr 1 Tiftt NP 2 May.
Philadelphia Vireo: arr 1 Tiftt NP 15 May.
Red-eyed Vireo: arr 1 TiWMA 6 May .
Com. Raven: 2-3 ALLE (EB,VP), regular.
Purple Martin: arr 1 WTSP 31 Mar (BP).
Tree Swallow: arr 2 Hamburg ERIE 21 Mar (MM).
N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr 1 South Park Buffalo 8 Apr.
Bank Swallow: arr 2 T Sheridan CHAU 2 May.
Cliff Swallow: arr 8,4,6,1 BWWTP, T Somerset NIAG , T Yates ORLE, V Amity ALLE 8 May.
Barn Swallow: arr 2 TifttNP 8 Apr.
House Wren: arr 1 Cattaraugus Creek CHAU/CATT 19 Apr.
Marsh Wren: arr 3 TWMA 1 May.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1-6 known breeding areas GENE & ALLE thru.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr 1 TiWMA 5 Apr.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr 1 FMSCP 14 Apr.
Veery: arr 1 Evangola SP ERIE 2 May.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr 1 WTSP 12 May.
Swainson's Thrush: arr 1 Point Gratiot-Dunkirk-CHAU 6 May.
Hermit Thrush: arr TiWMA 21 Mar.
Wood Thrush: arr 1 TiWMA 1 May.

Brown Thrasher: arr 1 TiWMA 18 Apr.
Am. Pipit: arr 1,1 Buffalo, Hamburg
ERIE 28 Mar.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 V Snyder
ERIE 4 May.
Golden-winged Warbler: arr 1 Silver
Creek CHAU 5 May.
"Brewster's" Warbler: 1 Hunters Creek
ERIE 23 May (JS,MD).
"Lawrence's" Warbler: 1 Sheldon Trail
CHAU 22 May (mob).
Tennessee Warbler: arr 1 Goat Island
Niagara River 5 May.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr 1 Goat
Island Niagara River 9 May.
Nashville Warbler: arr 1 Williamsville
Glen ERIE 1 May.
N. Parula: arr 1 Goat Island Niagara
River 7 May.
Yellow Warbler: arr 1 Silver Creek
CHAU 23 Apr.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 3 Saint
Columbans Seminary CHAU 2 May.
Magnolia Warbler: arr 1 Williamsville
Glen ERIE 5 May.
Cape May Warbler: arr 1 T Porter NIAG
2 May (DR)
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 1
Evangola SP ERIE 2 May.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr
Sprague Brook Park 28 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr 1 T Pomfret
CHAU 29 Apr.
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: 1
GHSP 15 May (MM!,WD).
Pine Warbler: arr 1 INWR 14 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: 1-2 ALLE May
(VP,BC,EB).
Palm Warbler: arr 2 Goat Island Niagara
River 26 Apr.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 1 BuSP 6 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr 1 T Snyder ERIE
5 May, early.
Cerulean Warbler: arr 4 TWMA 9 May.
Black-and-white Warbler: arr 1,1 Forest
Lawn Cemetery Buffalo Tift NT25 Apr.
American Redstart: arr 1 Saint
Columbans Seminary CHAU 29 Apr
(DN)

Prothonotary Warbler: 1 Tift NP 6 May
(WD!).

WORM-EATING WARBLER: 1

Allegheny Indian Reservation
ERIE/CATT 29 May (WD!).
Ovenbird: arr 1 Point Gratiot Dunkirk
CHAU 2 May.
N. Waterthrush: arr 1 Tift NP 25 Apr.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 2 Hunters
Creek Park ERIE 25 Apr.
KENTUCKY WARBLER: 1 Tift NP 8
May (MM!).
Mourning Warbler: arr 1 V Lancaster
ERIE 12 May.
Wilson's Warbler: arr 1 Williamsville
Glen ERIE 7 May.
Canada Warbler: arr 1 Amity ALLE 8
May.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr Point Gratiot
Dunkirk CHAU 5 May.
E. Towhee: arr 1 Tift NP 1 Apr.
Chipping Sparrow: arr 2 T Wales ERIE 1
Apr.
Field Sparrow: arr 1 T Somerset NIAG 1
Apr.
Vesper Sparrow: arr 1 T Pomfret CHAU
7 Apr.
Savannah Sparrow: arr 3 T Somerset
NIAG 10 Apr.
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 2 TiWMA 6
May.
Henslow's Sparrow: arr 1 T Somerset
NIAG 15 May.
Fox Sparrow: arr 1 Amity Lake ALLE 21
Mar; max 4 feeder Amity Lake ALLE 1-
19 Apr.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr 1 Tift NP 1 May.
Swamp Sparrow: arr 1 INWR 8 Apr.
Lapland Longspur: 30 T Oakfield GENE
2 May (GS).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr 1
Jamestown CHAU 29 Apr.
BLUE GROSBEAK: 1 T Bethany GENE
11 May (sB!,JD), second regional record
since 1975.
Indigo Bunting: arr 1 Chautauqua
Institute CHAU 4 May.
Bobolink: arr 1 INWR 1 May.
E. Meadowlark: arr 3 Java WYOM 21

Mar.
YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 1
Lockport NIAG 23 Apr (AS).
BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: 1 T Oakfield
GENE 2 Apr (BM).
Orchard Oriole: 1 Allegany Indian

Reservation ERIE/CATT 29 May (WD!).
Baltimore Oriole: arr 1 Lakeview
CHAU 30 Apr.
Red Crossbill: 1 T Ward ALLE 31 May
(EB).

REGION 2 - GENESEE

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It was not the most eventful spring we've ever had. While there certainly were some highlights, the overall picture was less than encouraging. March played its traditional role by coming in like a lion and going out like a lamb, a phrase I heard more than once this spring. A three-day snowfall total of 43.2 inches from the 4th to the 6th was just shy of the record. Combined with the cold temperatures, this period of the month stalled any migration. Things started to warm up again by mid month and the snow was gone by month's end. The average temperature for the month was 30.8°F which was 3.5° below normal. Precipitation measured 1 inch above normal at 3.28 inches. A total of 128 species was reported during the month.

April started off with some rain, but by month's end things were pretty much normal. The average temperature was only 0.6° below normal at 45.3°, and precipitation was 0.54 inches below normal at 2.07 inches. There was very little snowfall to speak of, with a scant 2.9 inches recorded. Overall the migration for the month was slow. The passage of fronts conducive to a good migration was limited. Winds that produce good hawk flights were few and far between. The often noted early arrivals were delayed and kept a number of traditionally late April species from being reported or kept their numbers low. The species total for the month stood at 174.

May was generally average meteorologically. The average temperature of 59.5° was 2.4° above normal. Precipitation was right on the normal mark at 2.72 inches. The overall migration was once again disappointing. The area was quiet much too often. This may have been due to the blocking high-pressure systems that persisted during much of the month. Conditions didn't seem to affect the species total, as 240 were recorded.

The overall picture was one of a relatively poor spring migration. The

species total was by no means alarmingly low, but numbers of individuals were lacking. As stated earlier, there just weren't any grounding conditions on a consistent basis. Did the birds simply pass over us, were they guided in a different direction, or is the population in dire straits? There were some very early arrivals, but also some species that traditionally arrive early which were absent at that time this year. Arrivals, relative to the Monroe County Checklist were distributed somewhat evenly between the 1st quartile and the interquartile range. There were few that were later. Spring departures were about normal with just a few exceptions.

Waterbird numbers were average to low average. Loons generally were good, as were Horned Grebes, but Red-necked Grebe numbers were down considerably from recent years. Single Eared Grebes were reported from Sodus Bay and Hamlin Beach in April. Ten Double-crested Cormorants were spotted on Silver Lake for a new high for Wyoming County. Waders were scarce, with only a single Cattle Egret report and scattered reports of Great Egret. There were some good waterfowl sightings, with good numbers of Greater White-fronted Goose and an unprecedented number of Ross's Goose reports within the Region. Eurasian Wigeon was reported from two locations, and there were three separate reports of Harlequin Duck. Numbers of waterfowl left the Region earlier than normal and were scarce by the time May rolled around. Surf Scoter numbers were good from Hamlin Beach. A Snow Goose was present in Perinton late in the season.

It was a tough year for the spring hawkwatch. Conditions were generally poor for decent flights. Often lake breezes kicked in early and shut down any chance for a good afternoon flight. An immature Swainson's Hawk at Braddock Bay and one in Webster were highlights. The Peregrine Falcons returned to downtown Rochester and were rearing young in May, documented continuously on the Kodak website. Rails were scarce. None of the Big Day participants were able to turn up a Sora. The only reports were of an individual along Nations Road (Avon) on 25 April and another from the first half of May. Moorhens were also relatively scarce. On the plus side though was Sandhill Crane. The trend of increased sightings of this species continued this spring, with birds being seen throughout the season. It quite possibly suggests the confirmation of nesting in the not too distant future. Shorebird numbers were low even with the presence of good habitat due to the lower lake level. Fields inland from the lakeshore had very little flooding and dried early, which limited that habitat. Of interest was a record early Whimbrel heard flying over Fairport on 5 May and 103 Common Snipe at just a few

spots along the west lakeshore on 10 April was an excellent total. Gull reports for the most part were lackluster, with the highlights being a continuation of Lesser Black-backed Gull sightings and a spring Black-legged Kittiwake at Hamlin Beach on 17 April. Terns were generally scarce.

The spring owl migration was poor. Long-eared Owl reports were fair, but N. Saw-whet Owls were down for the second year in a row. There is some speculation that the availability of proper roosting trees will remain low until some of the smaller trees that were planted recently grow to a suitable height. Both species were reported from Bergen Swamp, which is a traditional nesting location. Whip-poor-wills were poorly reported again other than a burst of sightings during the first week of May and a single report during the second half of the month. Common Nighthawk continued its downward trend, with only small numbers reported in the Region. Also of interest is an increased number of Red-headed Woodpecker reports away from the most reliable nesting site along Nations Road. Is this the reoccupation of areas where birds were found during the Breeding Bird Atlas or just better coverage this spring? The Atlas 2000 effort beginning next year may help us to sort this out.

As previously reported, passerine numbers were down. All the expected flycatchers were sighted but with only average to low average numbers. A late push of Yellow-bellied Flycatchers was noted, particularly in the early June banding reports. A single Loggerhead Shrike at Braddock Bay on 5 May was the first sighting in a couple of years. Warbling Vireo was well reported, but Yellow-throated was scarce. A White-eyed Vireo seen in Greece on 23 May was noteworthy. There were decent numbers of Philadelphia Vireos around. Fish Crow was once again reported, with an individual sighted at Mendon Ponds Park in May. Common Raven also continued its recent trend of sightings with reports from Naples, Hamlin, and Hilton. Carolina Wrens were up a bit, but some observers commented that Marsh Wrens seemed to be fewer in number, possibly due to very low water levels in the lakeshore marshes for much of the season. Thrush numbers never reached notable levels. A female Varied Thrush at Manitou in April was a good find.

The warbler picture was mixed. Overall it was not very good, but there were decent numbers of Yellow, Magnolia, Blackpoll, N. Waterthrush, Am. Redstart, Wilson's and Canada. On the down side were N. Parula, Cape May, and Black-and-white. A highlight was a Yellow-throated Warbler discovered singing in Letchworth State Park at the end of May (still present late in June). Prairie, Prothonotary, Worm-eating, Kentucky and Connecticut warblers were all reported. Some

Some observers felt that Scarlet Tanager numbers were good this spring. None of the usual large concentrations of White-throated or White-crowned sparrows materialized this spring. Rose-breasted Grosbeak numbers also were down. There were several reports of multiple Brewer's Blackbirds once again this spring, a change from recent years. Baltimore Oriole numbers were up, and Orchard Orioles took up residence in the Geneseo Arboretum again this spring. There really wasn't much to say about finches other than that there weren't many. Purple Finch was not very numerous, two Pine Siskins were reported from Braddock Bay, and Evening Grosbeak was reported on a couple of days in late April.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BB - Braddock Bay, BE - Bergen Swamp, CH- Charlotte (Ontario Beach), CO - Cobbs Hill (Rochester), CL - Conesus Lake, DE- Durand-Eastman Park, G - Greece, GA - Galen (Wayn Co), GE - Geneseo, H - Hamlin, HB -Hamlin Beach State Park, IC - Island Cottage Woods, K - Kendall, LW - Letchworth State Park, M - Manitou Beach area, MP - Mendon Ponds Park MONR, NR - Nations Road, P -Perinton, R - Rochester, SB - Sodus Bay, W - Webster, WL - West Lakeshore.

LOONS - DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: max 93 HB 20 Apr; last 1 HB 22 May.
Com. Loon: max 480 HB 18 Apr.
Horned Grebe: last 6 HB 22 May.
Red-necked Grebe: last 1 WL 4 May.
EARED GREBE: 1 HB 7 Apr (WS); 1 SB 9 Apr (DT).
Double-crested Cormorant: 10 Silver Lake, WYOM 24 Apr (KF).
Least Bittern: arr 1 IC 19 May.
Great Egret: arr 1 BB 18 Apr.
Cattle Egret: 1 M 23 Apr, only report.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr 1 M 3 Apr.
Greater White-fronted Goose: 1 ad H 25 Mar (RMc,RD,RO'H); 1 ad H 27 Mar (R&SS); 1 BB 2 Apr (DT); 1 H 12 Apr (DT); 1 H 17 Apr (PS).
ROSS'S GOOSE: 1 ad GA 11 Mar (DT); 1 H 28 Mar (FF,R&SS,DS,GC).
Snow Goose: max 140 K 24 Mar.
Canada "Richardson's" Goose: 1 H 17 Mar.
Brant: arr 2 DE 15 May.
Tundra Swan: 1 Castile 25-31 May (JK), late.
Eurasian Wigeon: 1 BB 20-21 Mar (DS,GC); 1 G 28 Mar (KG), both males.
N. Shoveler: last 2 DE 1 May.
Green-winged Teal: last 5 G 5 May.
Greater Scaup: last 1 BB 2 May.
Lesser Scaup: 5-9 sev 22 May.
Harlequin Duck: 1 fem H 8 Apr (DT); 1 fem SB 9 Apr (DT); 1 fem HB 26 Apr (WS).
Surf Scoter: max 77 HB 20 Apr; 3 MP 26 Apr (AC), interesting location.
Black Scoter: max 16 HB 26 Apr; last 1 HB 25 May.
Oldsquaw: last 5 HB 27 May.
Bufflehead: last 1 BB 7 May.
Com. Goldeneye: last 1 BB 1 May.
Hooded Merganser: max 300 CL 19 Mar.
Ruddy Duck: arr 1 BB 31 Mar; max 33 G 4 Apr; last 1 CL 11 May.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

N. Goshawk: 2 Pike 29 May, nesting.
Red-shouldered Hawk: arr 3 BB 16 Mar.
Broad-winged Hawk: arr 1 G 15 Apr.

SWAINSON'S HAWK: 1 imm BB 7 May (DT); 1 imm W 16 May (R&SS,CS).
Rough-legged Hawk: last 1 IC 1 May.
Golden Eagle: arr 1 BB 17 Mar.
Merlin: last 1 G 24 May.
Peregrine Falcon: arr 1 R 16 Mar, 5 reports from May.
Sandhill Crane: arr 2 BB 23 Mar (SA); 2 Richmond 24-25 Mar (VB); 4 BB 28,31 Mar (SA,BE,DT); 2 Richmond 2 Apr (KF); 2 BB 7 May (CC); 1 G 8,9 May (KG); 1 G 9 May (CC); 1 HB 9 May (DB); 1 IC 16 May (WS); 1 BB 17 May (CC).
Solitary Sandpiper: last 1 Cuylerville Marsh 30 May.
Upland Sandpiper: arr 1 NR 15 Apr.
Whimbrel: 1 Fairport 5 May (DT), record early; max 3 M 13 May (RO'H).
Ruddy Turnstone: arr 1 CH 24 May, only report.
Sanderling: arr 1 Turning Pt Park 22 May.
White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 1 P 27 May.
Dunlin: arr 3 BB 22 Apr.
Short-billed Dowitcher (*L.g. griseus*): 1 P 18 May (DS,NYSARC).
Com. Snipe: max 103 WL 10 Apr (D&KT).
Iceland Gull: last 3 P 1 May.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 2 ad P 5 Mar (DS); 1 CL 19 Mar (JK); 1 ad G 9 Apr (RO'H); 1 3rd yr P 30 Apr (DS); 3 P 1 May (DS), 1 ad, 1 subad, 1 1st sum; 1 1st sum CH 22 May (BDG 1).
Glaucous Gull: last 2 P 1 May.
BLACK-LEGGED KITTIIWAKE: 1 imm HB 17 Apr (WS), rare in spring.
Forster's Tern: arr 2 CH 9 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr 1 NR 15 May.
Long-eared Owl: max 11 M 31 Mar.
N. Saw-whet Owl: arr 1 M 20 Mar.
Whip-poor-will: arr 1 M 25 Apr.
Chimney Swift: max 100 IC 10 May.

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Acadian Flycatcher: arr 1 W 15 May.
LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: 1 BB 5 May (DT).

WHITE-EYED VIREO: 1 G 23 May (DT,ST).
Blue-headed Vireo: arr 1 CO 30 Apr.
Philadelphia Vireo: arr 1 CO 8 May.
Fish Crow: 1 MP 12 May (PF).
Com. Raven: 1 Cummings Nature Center, Naples 28 Mar (RC); 1 H 8 Apr (DT); 1 Hilton 28 May (CS).
Winter Wren: arr 2 IC 31 Mar.
Sedge Wren: arr 1 GE 18 May.
Marsh Wren: arr 4 IC 1 May.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: last 1 BB 31 May (DT,MD), late.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr 1 Thousand Acre Swamp 15 May.
VARIED THRUSH: 1 fem M 4 Apr (DT).
Am. Pipit: arr 1 Elba, BB 7 Mar; max 700+ K 22 Apr (DT).

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 sev 5 May.
Golden-winged Warbler: arr 1 IC 7 May.
"Brewster's" Warbler: 1 M 6 May, banded.
"Lawrence's" Warbler: 1 Portage 6, 15 May; 1 Bushnell's Basin 17 May.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr 1 M 12 May, banded.
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER
(abilora): 1 LW 30 May (RS, mob).
Prairie Warbler: arr 1 IC 15 May.
Cerulean Warbler: arr 1 W 4 May.
Prothonotary Warbler: arr 1 W 5 May (D&DT); 1 WAYN Co 8-29 May, nesting?

Worm-eating Warbler: arr 1 W 7 May (D&DT); 1 CO 9 May (AW).
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 1 IC 28 Apr.
Kentucky Warbler: arr 1 IC 16 May (S&RS); 1 IC 24 May (DT).
Connecticut Warbler: 1 G 30 May (DT,MD).
Hooded Warbler: arr 1 IC 5 May.
Yellow-breasted Chat: arr 1 HB 18 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: last 1 BB 1 May.
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 1 GE 25 Apr.
Henslow's Sparrow: arr 1 GE 21 Apr.
Fox Sparrow: arr 3 GE 23 Mar; max 20 IC 10 Apr; last 1 Irondequoit Bay 27 Apr.
Swamp Sparrow: arr 1 G 21 Mar.
White-throated Sparrow: last 1 BB 31 May.
Lapland Longspur: last 25 H 3 Apr.
Snow Bunting: last 3 HB 27 Mar.
E. Meadowlark: arr 2-3 BB, NR 21 Mar.
Rusty Blackbird: arr 1 CL, Penfield 4 Mar; last 1 M 23 May.
BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: max 12 H 21 Mar (DT, BE); 2 H 28 Mar (JB); 2 H 2 Apr (RS).
Orchard Oriole: arr 1 GE 4 May.
Purple Finch: arr 1 BB 24 Mar.
Pine Siskin: 2 BB 2 may (DT), only report.
Evening Grosbeak: 1 M 29, 30 Apr.

REGION 3 - FINGER LAKES

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The month of March was perfect—in like a lion and out like a lamb. Snow fell all but one day in the first week and by 7 March, 14 inches had accumulated. The one noticeable effect that this had on birds was the concentration of large numbers of Snow Buntings and Horned Larks where birders were able to find them. The snow cover persisted through 17 March.

The snow's ability to radiate heat back into outer space on cloudless nights was probably a factor in the below normal temperatures experienced through most of the month. As a consequence, waterfowl which had been taking advantage of the open water became more concentrated in the much reduced areas of ice-free water. A large number of Mallards in downtown Elmira were forced into the deeper and swifter portions of the Chemung River. Several of them compensated by becoming very active diving ducks. Waterfowl in wetland areas crowded around small areas of open water fed by springs.

The thaw which climaxed with peak temperatures above 60°F on 18 March, led to rising water levels. Waterfowl were driven from muddy rivers to wetlands and lakes. The last week of the month was characterized by subfreezing nighttime temperatures and above freezing daytime temperatures. The cold nights kept wetlands largely frozen.

April had no snow. Temperatures were about average. Precipitation was below normal. May temperatures averaged 2.9° above normal. Precipitation, at 0.81 inches, was way below the normal 3.31 inches and plunged the Region into deeper drought than had preceded the temporary relief of the snowy March. Very low water tables combined with deterioration of old beaver dams produced ideal shorebird habitat.

Throughout the season, the wind seemed to blow almost continually out of the north. This retarded migration and may have caused waterfowl to accumulate in the Region. The steadiness of the wind direction was probably also the reason for the few waterfowl fallouts on smaller bodies of water, which seem to occur most often when south winds suddenly change to north winds.

Raptor migration went almost unnoticed. The largest numbers of Red-tailed Hawks were seen perched around the Cornell Pheasant Farm instead of sailing past Mt. Pleasant. The red-tails, including a beautiful and regionally rare rufous morph bird, were probably seeking an alternative to snow-covered voles. While my wife and I were birding at Lowe Pond on 25 Apr, Joan noticed several raptors passing the Harris Hill overlook. After lunch I checked it out and sure enough Ospreys, Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Broad-winged Hawks were taking advantage of the updrafts along the north-facing slope and affording excellent views. Rich Clements observed a similar movement there the following day.

At the Kestrel Haven Avian Migration Observatory, the wind forced John and Sue Gregoire to take down their mistnets and suspend banding operations after 15 May. John reported that banding in April was great. The season totals were 596 banded, 99 returns, and 782 handled. The 273 Am. Goldfinches banded was the most for any species. One of the Am.

Goldfinches banded in the fall of 1998 was recaptured by a bander in Rochester in May.

Many species this spring appeared to show significant changes in population from spring 1998, based on numbers reported by birders in the Region. Most of the waterfowl species common to the Region showed increases and there were no significant decreases. Horned and Red-necked grebes and Double-crested Cormorants also showed increases. Likewise, virtually all of the common shorebird species showed significant increases in numbers reported. Only Semipalmated Plover was down. Many species of warblers were more common this spring as well, with none declining significantly. Some grassland species showed declines, including Vesper Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, and Eastern Meadowlark. Savannah Sparrows, however, were up. As expected following last year's invasions, lingering winter finches were way down, though Purple Finches and Am. Goldfinches were up. Rock Doves, House Sparrows, and House Finches increased. Additional species reported in significantly smaller numbers this spring were: Northern Goshawk, Herring Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Black-billed Cuckoo, Chimney Swift, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Blue Jay, Common Raven, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Veery, Swainson's Thrush, American Robin, Dark-eyed Junco, and Rusty Blackbird.

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ABBREVIATIONS

Caro - Caroline, CayL - Cayuga Lake, CLB - Cayuga Lake Basin, CLSP - Cayuga Lake State Park, ChR - Chemung River, CoH - Connecticut Hill TOMP, CU - Cornell University, Dry - Dryden, DryL - Dryden Lake, Elda - Elmira Dam CHEM, EldL - Eldridge Lake CHEM, FLNF - Finger Lakes National Forest, GIMe - Gleason Meadows, GHC - Green Hill Cemetery TOMP, HGP- Horseheads Gravel Pits CHEM, HHP - Harris Hill Park CHEM, HHSF - Hammond Hill State Forest TOMP, JePd - Jennings Pond TOMP, KH - Kestrel Haven Avian Migration Observatory, Lans - Lansing, Led - Ledyard, LoPd - Lowe Pond CHEM, MNWR - Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, MtPl - Mt. Pleasant TOMP, MyPt - Myers Point TOMP, Newf - Newfield, PSt - Park Station CHEM, RNP - Ringwood Nature Preserve TOMP, SaCr - Salmon Creek TOMP, SaMu - Savannah Mucklands, SCF - Seneca County Fairgrounds SENE, Shel - Sheldrake, SLSP - Seneca Lake State Park, SML - Seneca Meadows Landfill SENE, StP - Stewart Park TOMP, SuSF - Summerhill State Forest CAYU, SW - Sapsucker Woods TOMP, TCA - Tompkins County Airport, TCAH - The Center At Horseheads CHEM, US - Union Springs, WDan - West Danby; WERF - West Elmira Riverine Forest

LOONS-DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: arr 1 CayL 21 Apr; 1 PSt 23 Apr; 1 Hog Hole TOMP 27 Apr.
Com. Loon: max 27 PSt 23 Apr; 1 PSt 26 May.
Pied-billed Grebe: max many Keuka L 25 Mar.
Horned Grebe: arr 3 HGP 26 Mar; max 61 DryL 4 Apr; last 5 SLSP 23 May.
Red-necked Grebe: arr 1 DryL 2 Apr; max 5 MNWR 20 Apr; last 1 MyPt 23 Apr.
Double-crested Cormorant: arr 1 CayL 7 Apr; max 66 HGP 23 Apr.
Am. Bittern: max 2 JePd 26 Apr; 1 MNWR 17 Apr thru; 1 TCAH 29 Apr.
Least Bittern: arr 1 TCAH 14 May; max 3 TCAH 15, 21 May, high; 1 LoPd 15 May; only reports.
Great Blue Heron: arr 1 RNP 14 Mar; max 101 MNWR 30 May, high.
Great Egret: arr 1 SW 24 Mar, early; 1 LoPd 25 Apr; 1 Tyre 7 May; only reports.
Green Heron: max 6 SW 1 May.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr 1 DryL 15-24 Apr; 1 MNWR 7 May; only reports.
GLOSSY IBIS: 1 MNWR 31 May (J&KM).
Turkey Vulture: max 40 MyPt 8 Apr, high.
GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: 1 MNWR 2-4 May (SS,mob); 1 StP 7-9 May (J&KM,mob).
Snow Goose: max several thousand Caro 18 Mar; last 1 MNWR 4 May.
ROSS'S GOOSE: 1 Tyre 11-12 Mar (DT fide CTH); 1 SaMu 11-19 Mar; max 2 CayL 20 Mar (RBa, MMe, MSa); 1 MNWR 21, 28 Mar.
Canada Goose: max 11000 KH 24 Mar.
Brant: 22 EIDa 23 May (RCI), only report.
Mute Swan: 1 StP thru 7 May, only report.
Tundra Swan: arr 18 East Corning Gravel Pit STEU; 18 Mar; max 350 MNWR 20 Mar, high; last 2 TCAH 29 Apr, late.
Wood Duck: max 23 TCAH 21 May.
Gadwall: max 5 MNWR 20 Mar; last 1 LoPd 8 May.

Eurasian Wigeon: arr 1 MNWR 1 May (MMe, MSa, MW, A&RG); 2 MNWR 4-5 May (fide DNu).
Am. Wigeon: arr 2 MyPt 6 Mar; max 30 MNWR 27 Mar; 12 MNWR 31 May (MSa, MH), late.
Am. Black Duck: max 14 MNWR 20 Mar.
Mallard: max 113 MNWR 29 May.
Blue-winged Teal: max 34 LoPd 24 Apr.
N. Shoveler: arr 19 MNWR 20 Mar; max 50 MNWR 31 Mar; last 2 MNWR 29 May, late.
N. Pintail: max 300 MNWR 20 Mar, high; last "many" MNWR 3 May.
Green-winged Teal: max 51 LoPd 24 Apr; last 1 LoPd 14 May.
Canvasback: max 2300 MNWR 20 Mar; last MNWR 1 May.
Redhead: max 300 CLSP 20 Mar; last CLB 18 Apr.
Ring-necked Duck: max 114 HGP 27 Mar; last 1 EIDa 25 May, late.
scaup sp: max 300 CLSP 20 Mar.
Greater Scaup: max 23 StP 25 Apr; last 1 CLB 28 Apr.
Lesser Scaup: max 18 EldL 4 Apr; last 7 SLSP 23 May.
Surf Scoter: 2 DryL 22-24 Apr; 3 EldL 23 Apr, only reports.
White-winged Scoter: arr 2 CayL 26 Mar; max 40 MNWR 25 Apr (MH), high; last 1 SLSP 23 May, late.
BLACK SCOTER: 6 MNWR 25 Apr (MH), only report.
Oldsquaw: arr 1 Harris Park 26 Mar; max 16 Dean's Cove State Park 4 May; last 1 SLSP 23 May, late.
Bufflehead: max 50 Aurora Bay CAYU 6 Mar; last 1 CLB 28 Apr.
Com. Goldeneye: max 250 CLSP 20 Mar, high; last 1 CLB 18 Apr.
Hooded Merganser: arr 2 SW 3 Mar; max 20 StP 19 Mar.
Com. Merganser: max 52 CLSP 20 Mar.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 180 StP 25 Apr, high; last 1 EIDa 26 May.
Ruddy Duck: arr 1 US Mill Pond CAYU 8 Mar; max 20 DryL 4 Apr; last 1 imm EIDa 26 May, late.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Osprey: max 13 ChR 3 May, high.
Bald Eagle: max 5 MNWR 3 May, high.
N. Harrier: max 6 KH 25 Apr.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 4 HHP 25 Apr.
Cooper's Hawk: max 2 Treman Marina State Park TOMP 25 Apr.
N. Goshawk: 1 MtPl 17 Mar; 1 SuSF 30 Mar; 1 Dry 5 Apr; 1 CayH 30 Apr; 1 Sugar Hill State Forest SCHU 19 May; only reports.
Red-shouldered Hawk: arr 1 T Caro 15 Mar; max 4 KH 2 Apr.
Broad-winged Hawk: arr 1 DryL 14 Apr; max 9 HHP 25 Apr.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 18 CU 9 Mar.
Rough-legged Hawk: max 3 TCA 14 Mar; last SaMu 18 Apr.
Golden Eagle: arr 1 SaMu 14 Mar; 1 MtPl 20 Mar; max 2 KH 1 Apr; 1 SW 3 Apr.
Am. Kestrel: max 12 CLB 18 Apr, high.
Merlin: last 1 MNWR 3 May.
Peregrine Falcon: arr 1 MNWR 10 Apr; last 1 MNWR 3 May, late; no reports away from MNWR.
Ring-necked Pheasant: max 6 Lodi 1 May, high.
Ruffed Grouse: max 1 ad, 12 y WDan 29 May.
Wild Turkey: max 75 Caro 11 Mar, high.
N. Bobwhite: 2 Enfield 30 Mar, only report.
Virginia Rail: max 6 TCAH 22 Apr, high.
Sora: max 3 TCAH 21 May.
Com. Moorhen: max "lots" MNWR 3 May.
Am. Coot: max 101 MyPt 15 Apr (MSa); last 2 MNWR 4 May.
SANDHILL CRANE: 1 MNWR 22 May (MG).
Black-bellied Plover: 1 MNWR 16-31 May (KF); 1 MyPt 30 May; only reports.
Semipalmated Plover: max 6 MNWR 22 May.
Killdeer: max 18 Dry 22 Mar.
Greater Yellowlegs: max "lots" MNWR 1 May.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max "lots" MNWR 6

May.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 20 MNWR 6 May.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 6 TCAH 13 May; 6 EIDa 19 May.
Upland Sandpiper: arr 1 Dry 30 Apr; max 7 SCF 31 May.
Ruddy Turnstone: arr and max 15 MNWR 25 May, high.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 31 MNWR 3 May, high.
Least Sandpiper: max 83 LoPd 14 May, high.
White-rumped Sandpiper: 1 MNWR 25 May (MY), only report.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 101 MNWR 10 Apr, high; last 1 EIDa 24 May.
Dunlin: arr 6 MNWR 17 Apr; max 59 MNWR 31 May, high.
RUFF ;1 MNWR 2-5 May (DG,MTe,mob!).
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 1 MNWR 18 Apr; max 2 MNWR 30-31 May.
Com. Snipe: max 13 MNWR 17 Apr, high; last 2 MNWR 3 May.
Am. Woodcock: max 7 FLNF 1 May.
Wilson's Phalarope: 1 MNWR 23-25 May.
FRANKLIN'S GULL: 1 EIDa 23 Apr (BOS,RCI,DR!).
LITTLE GULL: 1 MNWR 6 May (CTH).
Bonaparte's Gull: arr 1 StP 1 Apr; max 101 MNWR 3 May; last 3 MyPt 12 May.
THAYER'S GULL: 1 EIDa 25 Mar (BOS,DR,NYSARC!).
Iceland Gull: 1 SML 8 Mar; max 3 SML 13 Mar; last 1 StP 28 Mar.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 3 SML 20 Mar; last 1 EIDa 23 Apr.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 51 CLSP 20 Mar; last 1 StP 9 May.
Caspian Tern: max 6 EIDa 22 Apr, high; last 3 MNWR 5 May.
Com. Tern: max 4 EIDa 7 May; last 3 MyPt 12 May.
Forster's Tern: arr 3 DryL 16 Apr; max 3 DryL 16 Apr; last 1 EIDa 26 May.
Black Tern: max 4 MNWR 20 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr 1 Etna 6

May; max 3 Tyre 30 May.
E. Screech-Owl: max 3 Halderman
Hollow CHEM 14 May.
Great Horned Owl: max 3 Newman
Municipal Golf Course TOMP 4-8 May.
Barred Owl: max 2 Shindagin Hollow
TOMP 15 Mar; 2 RNP 19 Apr; 2 Dry 31
May.
Long-eared Owl: 1 Danby 16 Mar (spm
to Cornell Vertebrates Collection); 1 Dry
3 Apr.
Short-eared Owl:; max and last 4 Seneca
Falls Airport SENE 4 Apr; 3 Gorham 7
Mar.
Com. Nighthawk: max 6 EIDa 26 May,
high.
Whip-poor-will: arr 1 Trumansburg 2
May; 1 US 3 May; 1 Etna 4 May; 1 Lan 4
May.
Chimney Swift: max 20 EIDa 26 Apr,
low.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 6 Dry 4
Apr.
Downy Woodpecker: max 8 FLNF 1
May.
Hairy Woodpecker: max 6 Dry 4 Mar.
N. Flicker: arr 1 KH 26 Mar; max 10
FLNF 2 May.

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 SuSF 22 May
(CBC); 1 WERF 22 May (CVAS); only
reports.
E. Wood-Pewee: max "a few" SuSF 22
May.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr 1 SW 19-
22 May; 1 CayH 20 May; 1 Buttermilk
Falls SP 21 May; 1 Ithaca 21 May.
ACADIAN FLYCATCHER: 1 SaCr 31
May (GK), only report.
Alder Flycatcher: max 6 TCA 31 May.
Willow Flycatcher: max 13 TCAH 21
May.
Least Flycatcher: max 20 DryL 9 May.
E. Phoebe: max 4 WDan 31 Mar; 4 DryL
24 Apr; 4 CoH 31 May.
Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 CoH 31
May.
E. Kingbird: max 5 LoPd 14 May.
N. Shrike: 1 TCA 6 Mar; 1 Groton 9 Mar;
1 Dry 14 Mar; 1 Led 14 Mar; 1 GIMe 28

Mar.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 11 ChR 29
May, high.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 10 HHSF 25
Apr.
Warbling Vireo: max 31 ChR 29 May.
Philadelphia Vireo: arr 1 Dry 6 May;
max and last 2 Cass Park TOMP 25 May.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 14 CoH 31 May.
Am. Crow: max 101 KH 4 Mar.
Fish Crow: max 5 Southport 2 May.
Com. Raven: max 4 Erwin State WMA
STEU 3 Apr.
Horned Lark: max 250 Dry 7 Mar.
Purple Martin: max 5 CayL 12 Apr; 2
Shel 19 Apr-9 May.
Tree Swallow: max 200 EIDa 9 Apr.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 10
MNWR 17 Apr.
Bank Swallow: max 69 EIDa 26 May.
Cliff Swallow: max 100 Corning 23 May,
high.
Barn Swallow: max 100 EIDa 19 Apr.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 6 SuSF 24
Mar.
Brown Creeper: max 6 WDan 1 May.
Carolina Wren: max 3 WERF 25 May.
House Wren: max 7 GIMe 8 May.
Winter Wren: arr 2 Southport 28 Mar;
max 3 SuSF 2 Apr.
Marsh Wren: max 4 TCAH 21 May; 4
Canoga Marsh SENE 31 May.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 100 SuSF
2 Apr, high.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max "swarms"
Finger Lakes Trail 23 Apr.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 5 Lick
Brook TOMP 28 Apr; 5 WERF 15, 22
May.
E. Bluebird: max 7 Big Flats 13 Mar.
Veery: max 3 CoH 31 May.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 Dry 18 May; 1
East Ithaca Recreation Way TOMP 21
May, only reports.
Swainson's Thrush: 1 SW 12 May; 1 Dry
12 May; last 1 WDan 21 May.
Hermit Thrush: max 10 HHSF 25 Apr.
Wood Thrush: max 6 WERF 15, 22 May.
Am. Robin: max 80 KH 18 Mar.
Gray Catbird: 1 CayH 1 May; max 20
WERF 15 May.

N. Mockingbird: max 5 TCAH 15 Apr, high.
Brown Thrasher: max 6 GI Me 1 May, high.
Am. Pipit: arr 5 Dry 7 Mar; max 201 Groton 22 Apr; last 1 MNWR 20 May.
Bohemian Waxwing: 2 Tompkins.cortland Community College 1 Mar (MY), only report.
Cedar Waxwing: 101 Dry 1 Mar; max 200 CU 18 Apr.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 Queen Catherine's Marsh SCHU 1 May; max 8 GI Me 15 May.
"Lawrence's" Warbler: 1 South Hill Recreation Way TOMP 26 May (Jgo).
Golden-winged Warbler: arr 1 WDan 8 May; 1 CVAS Spring Census 15 May (RCL), only reports.
Tennessee Warbler: max 2 HHSF 8 May; 2 GHC 9 May; last 1 SuSF 22 May.
Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 Dry 29 Apr (J&KM!), only report.
Nashville Warbler: max 4 GI Me 8 May.
N. Parula: 1 MyPt 3 May (MY); 1 Danby 12 May (GK); only reports.
Yellow Warbler: max 38 TCAH 21 May.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 10 CoH 31 May.
Magnolia Warbler: max 21 SuSF 22 May, high.
Cape May Warbler: max 3 GHC 8 May; last 1 Etna 11 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 8 Beam Hill Road Dry 6 May.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr 10 Lake Road Led 6 Mar; max 100 Hunt Hill Road Dry 12 May, high.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 13 WDan 6 May.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 10 SuSF 22 May, high.
Pine Warbler: max 4 CU 8 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: arr 1 GI Me 1 May; max 6 GI Me 8 May.
Palm Warbler: 2 DryL 29 Apr; 2 TCAH 29 Apr; last 2 LoPd 14 May.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 2 GHC 5 May; last 1 SuSF 22 May, early dep.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 20 Shel 20 May; last 1 KH 31 May.
Cerulean Warbler: arr 2 MNWR 4 May; max 13 SaCr 8 May, high.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 6 WDan 6 May.
Am. Redstart: max 29 ChR 29 May.
Worm-eating Warbler: arr 1 WDan 11 May; max 3 Old Baldy 15 May.
Ovenbird: max 18 CoH 31 May.
N. Waterthrush: max 6 SW 1 May.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 1 Beech Hill Gorge 9 Apr; max 6 Six Mile Creek Gorge Wildflower Preserve 2 May, high.
KENTUCKY WARBLER: 1 CU 6-7 May (DMcD,MH,JGI); 1 WERF 16 May (RCL).
Mourning Warbler: max 6 SuSF 22 May.
Com. Yellowthroat: max 20 CoH 31 May.
Hooded Warbler: arr 1 CU 6 May; max 6 Beam Hill Road Dry 6 May, high.
Wilson's Warbler: max 2 TCAH 13 May; last 2 SW 21 May; 2 TCAH 21 May.
Canada Warbler: max "numerous" WDan 17 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: max "lots" Michigan Hill 30 May.
E. Towhee: max 10 GI Me 8 May.
Am. Tree Sparrow: max 45 Dry 4 Mar, high; last 1 Dry 29 Apr.
Chipping Sparrow: max 10 Lan 30 Apr.
Field Sparrow: arr 1 StP 1 Apr; max 7 FLNF 2 May; 7 GI Me 15 May; 7 CoH 31 May.
Vesper Sparrow: max 2 MtPl 21 Apr.
Savannah Sparrow: max 12 SPCA TOMP 28 Apr.
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 2 Led 3 May; max 6 Led 27 May.
Henslow's Sparrow: arr 2 Led 15 May; max 4 CAYU 27 May.
Fox Sparrow: max 7 GI Me 3 Apr; last 1 Dry 29 Apr.
Song Sparrow: max 32 TCAH 22 Apr.
Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 KH 13 May, banded; 1 CVAS Spring Census 15 May (NH, JS); only reports.
Swamp Sparrow: max 38 TCAH 29 Apr, high.
White-throated Sparrow: max 48 Quail

Hollow CHEM 25 Apr; last 7 SuSF 22 May.
White-crowned Sparrow: max 6 Dry 8 May; last 1 KH 22 May.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 75 HHP 24 Apr.
Lapland Longspur: max 100 SaMu 16 Apr (CTH), high; last 100 SaMu 18 Apr.
Snow Bunting: max 800 Dry 7 Mar, high; last 1 Romulus 14 Mar.
N. Cardinal: max 13 Big Flats 7 Mar.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 7 WERF 15 May.
Indigo Bunting: max 12 CoH 31 May.
Bobolink: max 16 CoH 31 May.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 600 Lan 5 Mar.
E. Meadowlark: arr 8 Newf 21 Mar; max 10 SCF 31 May.

Rusty Blackbird: arr 6 MNWR 27 Mar; max 7 PSt 10 Apr; last 2 SW 10 May.
Brown-headed Cowbird: arr 3 Dry 2 Mar; max 20 SuSF 30 Mar; last 1 KH 31 May.
Orchard Oriole: arr 1 Shel 9, 31 May; 1 US 17 May.
Baltimore Oriole: max 10 MyPt 12 May.
Purple Finch: max 16 KH 1 Apr.
House Finch: max 12 Dry 4 Mar.
Red Crossbill: 2 SuSF 24-30 Mar; last 1 SuSF 2 Apr.
Pine Siskin: 1 Keuka Park YATE 13 Mar (fide CTH), only report.
Am. Goldfinch: max 50 Pine City 1 May.

REGION 4 SUSQUEHANNA

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The average temperatures for the spring season months were well within the normal range according to data from the Binghamton Regional Weather Service. The average temperature in March was 30.3°F, in April 45.0°F, and May 59.1°F. Eleven days of unseasonably warm temperatures began on 29 March and continued through 8 April. The warmest days these months were: 67° on 31 March, 71° on 3 April, and 85° on 31 May.

Records show that the average precipitation for March, 2.57 inches, and April, 2.53 inches, was slightly below normal by 0.25 and 0.6 inches, respectively. However, precipitation was significantly below average in May. The area received an average of 1.53 inches of precipitation in May, 1.83 inches below normal. Obviously, unless this situation improves, we will be faced with drought conditions for the nesting season.

Snowfall totalled 33.8 inches during March. Of this, 12.3 inches came in a storm on 21-22 March. Snowfall of 1.7 inches was recorded on the ground in April, with most of that, 1.6 inches, falling on 11 April. No snow was recorded in May.

An analysis of wind direction data revealed that during March, there were 7 days on which the winds came from a southerly direction. Two of them occurred during the snowstorm previously mentioned. There were 10 favorable wind days in April, five of those during the week of the 15th to the 22nd. Unfortunately, wind data for May was unavailable.

The mild spring seemed to allow migrants to arrive over a scattered number of dates, rather than in big waves on a few particular days. One notable exception was a broad flight of Snow Geese on 18 March. Westerly winds at 39 mph pushed them into our Region, yielding several reports between Broome and Otsego counties, with a high count of at least 545 over Binghamton. These were tallied by some one while making rounds in a delivery truck. Another 810 unidentified geese also flew over Binghamton. One can only imagine how many birds flew over undetected.

Nearly all waterfowl species normally found in our Region were reported, including Canvasback, Redhead, both scaup, and Ruddy Duck. Average river levels made favorable stopover conditions for Ring-necked Duck, White-winged Scoter, Black Scoter and Oldsquaw. Missed were Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe, and Brant.

Raptor numbers were not overly impressive, though there were good counts for Osprey, Bald Eagle, and American Kestrel. Northern Harrier was not reported in Broome or Delaware counties. Accipiters had average to low counts. Always uncommon, a Merlin was observed in Cortland. Missed were Northern Goshawk and Golden Eagle.

The highlight of the season was a report of two **Peregrine Falcons** in downtown Binghamton. Nesting was not confirmed, however it is suspected. They are believed to be a pair and frequent the area near the courthouse. The Press Building and the Security Mutual Building are their favored perches. Apparently, the birds were first noticed early in Spring, but were not reported until early June.

Sue and Les Bemont had a good find of a Northern Bobwhite near their Vestal home on 24 May. Fewer and fewer are reported, if any at all. Sora and Common Moorhen were missed.

Low numbers for plovers and sandpipers may have reflected a lack of mudflats due to higher water levels. Only a single Common Snipe was reported. A nice find was a **Short-billed Dowitcher** on Allen Pond in Morris, 8 & 9 May by John Fritz. Not reported since 1994, this is only the third report in 23 years. Missed were Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Upland Sandpiper, Dunlin, and Pectoral Sandpiper. The tern family was well represented with Caspian, Forster's, and Black terns reported. The **Caspian Tern**, unreported between 1968 and 1992, may only be the fourth Regional report.

Most species of owls were reported in good numbers, with 6 Long-eared Owls at Rogers Environmental Education Center, Sherburne from 27 February-16 March especially interesting. Northern Saw-whet Owl was missed, as was Whip-poor-will. A Red-headed Woodpecker was seen south of Owego TIOG in May. An exact date and location were not reported. With more scattered reports in recent years, we should be watchful for breeding evidence from this former breeder in our Region.

All expected passerines were reported. Most of the unusual migrants through the area, such as Gray-checked Thrush, Orange-crowned Warbler, and Cape May Warbler, sometimes reported by one or two people, were not sighted. "Brewster's" Warbler was reported by more than one set of observers, but no reports of "Lawrence's" Warbler were received.

No reports of Henslow's or Grasshopper sparrows were submitted. Apparently continued habitat loss for these and other grassland species is making it more difficult to locate these birds. It is worthwhile to note that the Henslow's Sparrow was added to the New York State List of "Threatened Species", an uplisting from its previous status as a species of "Special Concern".

Unusual passerines reported included Hooded Warbler and Orchard Oriole. Both birds have expanded the northern edges of their range during the past 15 years and are reported occasionally but not every year.

Region 4 birders may find it interesting to learn what other species in our area were uplisted to "Threatened" status. These are Pied-billed Grebe, Least Bittern, and Upland Sandpiper. Bald Eagle was downlisted, from "Endangered" to "Threatened", following increases in the number of nesting pairs.

Region 4 species listed as species of "Special Concern" include: American Bittern, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Northern Goshawk, Osprey, Horned Lark, Bicknell's/ Gray-cheeked Thrush, Golden-winged Warbler, and Yellow-breasted Chat. All of these species except the Red-shouldered Hawk and Osprey are newly listed. The Red-shouldered Hawk and Osprey are downlisted from their previous "Threatened" status. Short-eared Owls have been moved up to "Endangered". The entire list of Endangered, Threatened, and Species of Special Concern is available at www.dec.state.ny.us

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ABBREVIATIONS

BUNP- Binghamton University Nature Preserve, BROO; BPd-Boland Pond, BROO; BrPd-Brick Pond, TIOG; CanRes-Cannonsville Reservoir, DELA; Cole P-Nathaniel Cole Park, BROO; CVSP-Chenango Valley State Park, BROO; FHNC - Finch Hollow Nature Center, BROO; GyL-Goodyear Lake, OTSE; HPd-Hawkins Pond, BROO; Murphy's-Murphy's Sand Pits, Vestal BROO; REEC-Rogers Environmental Education Center, Sherburne CHEN; WeB-West Burlington, OTSE; WPR-Whitney Point Reservoir and nearby areas, BROO.

LOONS-DUCKS

Com. Loon: arr Endicott 20 Mar; max 8 CanRes 8 Apr; last GyL 17 Apr; 2 other reports.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 3 Murphy's Vestal 20 Mar; singles BROO, OTSE to 7 Apr; low count.

Horned Grebe: arr 4 Apr, last 8 Apr; max 17 WPR 7 Apr (WW); short stay.

Double-crested Cormorant: 9 reports; max 8 WPR 25 Apr; low to average numbers.

Am. Bittern: 2 BPd 21 Apr (PB), often missed.

Great Blue Heron: max 33 heronry w of Owego 28 Mar; 4 birds with 7 nests Spencer TIOG 7 Apr (WW), new locale?

Green Heron: arr Hillcrest BROO 24 Apr; 5 May reports max 2, average.

Turkey Vulture: max 15 GyL 29 May (IW); good numbers after 20 Mar.

Tundra Swan: 1 Mirror L Owego 27 Mar (SK, MP).

Mute Swan: 1 BPd 17 Mar; 2 WPR 20 Mar.

Snow Goose: reports from BROO, CORT, OTSE, all 18 Mar, max 545

Binghamton(ES), large flight; last Unadilla R T. Edmeston 15 May.

Canada Goose: max about 300 BROO 20 Mar; ad with y 8 May BROO.

goose sp: 810 unidentified geese over Binghamton 18 Mar (ES), migrating north.

Wood Duck: arr 5 Vestal 19 Mar; max 8 BROO 25 Apr.

Green-winged Teal: arr 4 Murphy's Vestal 17 Mar (GK, HM); 3 other BROO reports, low.

Am. Black Duck: max 200+ Otsego L 18

Apr (BD).

N. Pintail: Endwell 8 Mar; last BPd 24 Mar, low count, early departure.

Blue-winged Teal: max 4 BROO 22 Apr (PB); one other report, low.

N. Shoveler: arr 4 WPR (MD, GK, HM) and 5 Otsego L (BD) both 1 Apr, scarce.

Gadwall: 4 Mirror L Owego Mar.

Am. Wigeon: arr Endwell 10 Mar (NCBC); max 4 Murphy's 17 Mar; 9 reports to 21 Apr, average.

Canvasback: Endwell 10, 18 Mar (NCBC), missed some years.

Redhead: Endwell 13 Mar (MD,BT), not seen every year.

Ring-necked Duck: max 100 Murphy's 20 Mar (GK, HM); 50 Mirror L 27 Mar; 50 WPR 1 Apr; scarce elsewhere in Region.

Greater Scaup: 2 pair BROO 9 Apr (PB).

Lesser Scaup: Endwell 12 Mar (DWa); 4 TIOG Mar; max 12 WPR 8 Apr (EHw, MP, DWa); 6 T. Morris OTSE 2, 3 Apr (JF); flock of both scaup sp. (no number) Otsego L 4 Apr.

White-winged Scoter: 1 Murphy's 27 Mar (GK, HM); Otsego L 5 Apr (BD); a "large flock" there 15 Apr (BD).

Black Scoter: 2 Hillcrest 23 Apr (RG)

Oldsquaw: pair Susq R. Owego 4 Apr (TBC); 4 Otsego L 15 Apr (BD).

Com. Goldeneye: 1 Murphy's 29 Mar; TIOG thru Mar; scarce, early departure.

Bufflehead: max 4 Morris OTSE 2 Apr; 4 reports, last BROO 15 Apr.

Hooded Merganser: arr Hillcrest 13 Mar; max about 50 WPR 1 Apr; average.

Com. Merganser: max 200 WPR 1 Apr (GK, HM); good numbers throughout.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr Vestal 17 Mar (RG); total of 10 CanRes and WPR 8 Apr (WWa); 2 Otsego L 2 Apr (BD); Chenango Forks 25 Apr; last TIOG May, no date, (TBC); good numbers.

Ruddy Duck: Otsego L 4 Apr (BD), scarce.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Osprey: arr TIOG Mar, no date (TBC); max 2 Hillcrest 26 Apr (MP); Greenwood P BROO 3 May; 6 other reports, good numbers.

Bald Eagle: ad Owego 5 Mar; Vestal 12

Mar; ad CVSP 20 Mar; imm WPR 20 Mar; pair OTSE 24 May; TIOG May, average.

N. Harrier: 2 reports CHEN Apr; 3 reports CORT Apr; TIOG thru.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 12 reports, low.

Cooper's Hawk: 7 reports, average.

N. Goshawk: none reported.

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr T Morris 2 Apr (JF); Greenwood P 15 Apr (MP); pair Cole P BROO 2 May, "same area as past years" (MP).

Broad-winged Hawk: arr Endwell 31 Mar; average numbers.

Rough-legged Hawk: 7 reports; max 5 CORT 20 Mar; last Carr Rd Willet 12 Apr.

Am. Kestrel: pair Cortland 27 Mar, "copulating near nest box" (BT); "on 5 eggs" Homer 25 Apr; McGraw 1 May; max 9 Towns of Lisle and Triangle 3 Apr (MP), good numbers.

Merlin: 1 City of Cortland 20 April, "harassed by starlings" (John Confer via John Gustafson), scarce.

PEREGRINE FALCON: pr Binghamton early spring thru.

Ring-necked Pheasant: TIOG Mar, Apr; WeB early May.

Wild Turkey: max 30 McGraw 13 Mar and Homer 24 Mar; on nest Vestal Center BROO 2 May; many reports.

N. Bobwhite: 1 Meeker Rd Vestal 24 May (S&LB), first report since 1995.

Virginia Rail: arr BPd 27 Apr; BPd 14 May (RG); TIOG May (TBC), scarce

Am. Coot: 1 WPR 8 Apr; 1 BPd 21 Apr, scarce.

Am. Golden-Plover: 1 WPR 7 Apr (WWa), not seen every year.

Killdeer: arr Vestal 20 Mar.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr 3 WPR and 1 T Deposit 8 Apr; last Unadilla R 15 May.

Lesser Yellowlegs: Allen P T Morris 8, 9 May; last Unadilla R 15 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 3 Endwell 20 May.

Spotted Sandpiper: 8 reports, average.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 5 Struble Rd Flood Control Dam Endwell 20 May (MP), only report.

Least Sandpiper: 2 TIOG May; Allen P T Morris 8, 9 May (JF); last Unadilla R 15

May.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: Allen P T Morris 8, 9 May (JF), first report since 1994, 3rd in 23 years.

Com. Snipe: WeB 21 Apr (TS), only report.

Am. Woodcock: arr T Binghamton 5 Mar; max 5 T Morris 2 Apr.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 32 WPR 8 Apr; 17 Murphy's 3 Apr; last 3 Hillcrest 26 Apr; high numbers.

Great Black-backed Gull: Endwell 24 Mar (DWa).

CASPIAN TERN: 2 BROO 9 Apr; 10 Hillcrest 23 Apr (RG), 2nd report since 1968, *intro*.

Forster's Tern: Hillcrest 23 Apr (RG).

Black Tern: Hillcrest 23 Apr (RG), uncommon.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: 4 reports BROO late May; 1 WeB late May, average.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Vestal 23 May (L&SB).

E. Screech-Owl: T Binghamton 5 Mar, only report.

Great Horned Owl: 1 TIOG May, only report.

Barred Owl: 1 Sky L Windsor 1 Apr (N&TT); 2 German 9 May, "calling back and forth" (DW); 2 other reports May.

Long-eared Owl: 6 REEC 27 Feb-16 Mar (Fred Von Meechow); good number.

Short-eared Owl: Edmeston OTSE 27 Mar (TS), scarce.

Com. Nighthawk: downtown JC 14 May (MP); 2 BROO 18 May (PB); CVSP 29 May (RG), only reports.

Chimney Swift: several BROO 27 Apr; CHEN, OTSE, TIOG May, only reports.

Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 S Owego May (TBC), regionally uncommon.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: CVSP 24 Mar; TIOG thru; 2 BROO 30 Apr; 2 T Union BROO 17 May, only reports.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 3 OTSE 2 Apr.

N. Flicker: arr CVSP 24 Mar.

Pileated Woodpecker: widespread reports.

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

E. Wood-Pewee: arr 1 BROO 11 May.

Alder Flycatcher: arr 2 BROO 18 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr 1 BROO 17 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr 1 BROO 4 May.

Eastern Phoebe: arr 1 BROO 24 Mar.

Great Crested Flycatcher: arr 1 BROO 6 May.

E. Kingbird: arr BROO 4 Apr

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 1 BROO 8 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr 2 BROO 24 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: arr 2 TIOG 6 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr BROO 8 May.

Fish Crow: BROO 10 Mar.

Com. Raven: HPd 26 Mar; 5 reports TIOG thru.

Horned Lark: few Edmeston OTSE 12 Mar.

Purple Martin: arr BROO 13 Apr.

Tree Swallow: arr BROO 18 Mar.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr BrP 21 Apr.

Bank Swallow: arr 1 BROO 15 Apr; 40+ colony Edmeston OTSE.

Cliff Swallow: arr 2 OTSE 24 May, only report.

Barn Swallow: arr 2 BROO 15 Apr.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 OTSE 24 Apr.

Carolina Wren: 1 BROO 12 Mar.

House Wren: arr BROO 29 Apr.

Winter Wren: TIOG 15 Apr.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr 2 BROO 30 Apr, courting pair.

Veery: arr. BROO 7 May.

Swainson's Thrush: arr 2 WeB 26 Apr.

Hermit Thrush: arr Triangle 4 Apr.

Wood Thrush: arr 1 GYL 17 Apr.

Gray Catbird: arr 1 BROO 6 May.

Brown Thrasher: arr 1 BROO 15 Apr

Am. Pipit: arr CORT 31 Mar, only report.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr BROO 6 May.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr BROO 19 May.

"Brewster's" Warbler: arr BROO 6 May.

Tennessee Warbler: arr BROO 15 May (NCBC).

Nashville Warbler: arr 1 BROO 3 May.

N. Parula: arr 1 BROO 9 May.

Yellow Warbler: arr BROO 30 Apr.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 1 BROO 27 Apr.
Magnolia Warbler: arr 1 OTSE 8 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 1 BROO 1 May.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr WeB 8 Apr.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr BROO 27 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr 1 BROO 30 Apr.
Pine Warbler: arr Cole P 3 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: arr BROO 9 May; 1 TIOG May.
Palm Warbler: arr 1 WeB 4 Apr.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr BROO 8 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr BROO 5 May; TIOG May.
Black-and-white Warbler: arr 1 BROO 28 Apr.
Am. Redstart: arr 1 BROO 5 May.
Ovenbird: arr BROO 5 May.
N. Waterthrush: arr 1 BROO 27 Apr.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 1 BROO 30 Apr.
Mourning Warbler: arr BROO 15 May.
Com. Yellowthroat: arr 1 OTSE and BROO 8 May.
Hooded Warbler: 1 Vestal BROO 27 May (VL); 1 TIOG May, only occasionally reported.
Wilson's Warbler: arr Ely Park Binghamton 14 May, only report.
Canada Warbler: arr BROO 12 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr T Burlington and BROO 8 May.
E. Towhee: arr BROO 15 Apr.
Am. Tree Sparrow: last BROO 25 Apr.
Chipping Sparrow: arr 1 OTSE 2 Apr.
Field Sparrow: arr BROO 17 Apr.
Vesper Sparrow: arr BROO 23 May, only report.
Savannah Sparrow: arr 3 BROO 15 Apr.
Fox Sparrow: arr BROO 22 Mar.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr 1 BUNP 29 Apr.
Swamp Sparrow: arr 2 BFD 7 Apr.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr BROO 30 Apr; 3-4 WeB until 15 May; last CORT 18 May.
Snow Bunting: about 12 birds Meredith DELA 1 Mar; max 400+ Edmeston 12 Mar.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr BROO 23 Apr.
Indigo Bunting: arr BROO 5 May.
Bobolink: arr BROO 8 Apr.
E. Meadowlark: arr 1 OTSE 1 Apr.
Rusty Blackbird: 1 BROO 12 Apr, only report.
Orchard Oriole: 1 OTSE 8 May (JF), rarely reported.
Baltimore Oriole: arr 1 BROO 5 May.
Purple Finch: 2 pair OTSE 2 Apr; common in WeB.
Evening Grosbeak: 1 TIOG 8 May, only report
 E-mail: Eric Sullivan: oldcards@juno.com

REGION 5 - ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Bill Purcell
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The average temperature in March was 31.5°F, 2.4° below normal, with 3.53 inches of precipitation, 0.76 inches more than usual. There were 28.4 inches of snow. April had an average temperature of 46.5°, 0.8° above the average. The month was very dry with only 1.75 inches of precipitation, 1.58 inches below the norm. For the second year in a row there was no snowfall in April. The dry trend continued in May, with only 0.81 inches

of rain, 2.47 inches below average. The average temperature was 60.7°, 3.6° above normal.

The first two weeks of March were quite wintry with two snowstorms and daily high temperatures in the 20's. Waterfowl and blackbirds which had arrived at the Region's doorstep during the last few days of February stopped or even retreated until migration finally moved into low gear on 16 March. For the rest of March and all of April north winds predominated. Over the last 10 days of April a Canadian high pressure system produced daily north winds, effectively blocking southerly flow and migrants were scattered and few. The first warm south winds in nearly a month on 5 May brought a large wave of migrants. The flight continued, in diminishing numbers, through the 9th when another blocking high pressure system took over. While the mostly calm clear nights over the next week might have been great flight weather it did not concentrate birds anywhere in the Region and the north winds that picked up each morning served to further scatter diurnal migrants.

There was a good Common Loon flight over two days in April and an impressive arrival of Horned Grebes at Woodman Pond, but otherwise the waterfowl migration was ordinary at best. Frozen water and cold weather didn't allow for movement until mid March and then dabblers moved right through. Redhead was not reported for the season although that may be due in part to no reports during March from Fair Haven, where they normally occur. The May flight on Oneida Lake had good numbers of Brant and White-winged Scoters but few Common Loons. At Oswego Harbor three Harlequin Ducks, probably the remnants of the winter's invasion of at least five, were seen into April, and the two wintering Great Cormorants stayed on until late March.

The hawk flight as recorded at Derby Hill was the worst since daily observations began in 1979. Too many days of north winds failed to concentrate the flight along Lake Ontario. As an example of the missed flight, on 8 April, a day with strong northwest winds, Chamberlaine had migrant hawks moving over Boylston in the Tug Hill area. As always, rarities passed over Derby Hill including Black Vulture, Black-headed Gull and nine Sandhill Cranes.

Shorebirds had little adverse weather to contend with and many seasonal pools dried up early, so not much of a flight was noted. The exception was an **American Golden-Plover** with 2 Black-bellied Plovers in a plowed field in Cato, the first Spring sighting since 1975. The April shorebirds were found in small numbers and the May flight at Sandy Pond and the Oneida Lake islands saw few birds. Sanderling and Short-billed Dowitcher were missed entirely. The lingering winter did force gulls to

remain in Oswego Harbor well into March resulting in good counts of Iceland and Glaucous gulls as well as 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls. A migrant Barn Owl was chanced upon at Nine Mile Point in May, but no migrant Long-eared or N. Saw-whet owls were found moving along the lakeshore this season.

Swallows, thrushes, vireos, warblers and sparrows all passed through in generally unremarkable numbers. Olive-sided Flycatcher and Sedge Wren were not found. Both Cesari and Perry reported passerine migration to be poor in Oneida County, with Perry noting that once again warblers seemed to skip straight to the breeding grounds. In Oswego County, Koeneke noted that any large numbers (large for this year, at least) moved on quite quickly. Cape May and Bay-breasted warblers were both very scarce, with few reports of either. Gary Lee had the first Magnolia Warbler in the Adirondacks on 1 May, four days before the first lowland migrant was noted. Several Kentucky Warblers were found this season, with one still lingering into June.

Sparrows moved in early April, with good counts of Song, Am. Tree, and Dark-eyed Junco on the third. Vesper, Savannah, Field and Chipping arrived within days although their numbers were low. By the middle of May, Henslow's Sparrows had returned to the only known colony in the Region, and 3-4 Clay-colored Sparrows along Lake Ontario was a new high. Finches were found in very small numbers in and near the Adirondacks. Several observers remarked on the Am. Goldfinch flight at Derby Hill in May, although no count was undertaken. The early March snows brought flocks of icterids to feeders, and a Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen at several stations in Baldwinsville over two days.

The total of 238 species reported for the season is quite good. Rare birds included **Great Cormorant**, **Black Vulture**, Greater White-fronted Goose, Harlequin Duck, Sandhill Crane, **Am. Golden-Plover**, **Black-headed Gull**, **Barn Owl**, Kentucky Warbler, Clay-colored Sparrow, **Yellow-headed Blackbird**, and Orchard Oriole.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BLNC - Beaver Lake Nature Center, Bvllle - Baldwinsville, CM - Clay Marsh, DH - Derby Hill, DL - Delta Lake, EIC - Niagara Mohawk Energy Information Center at Nine Mile Point, FH - Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay and vicinity, HVWMA - Happy Valley WMA, LOL - Lake Ontario Littoral, OneiL - Oneida Lake, OnonL - Onondaga Lake, SPd - Sandy Pond, SSSP - Selkirk Shores State Park, StMC - Saint Mary's Cemetery, Dewitt, SVB - Sylvan and Verona Beach, TRWMA - Three Rivers WMA, UM - Utica Marsh, WH - Whiskey Hollow, Van Buren, WPd - Woodman Pond, Eaton.

LOONS-DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: singles Oswego 17 Mar and OnonL 11 Apr, only reports.

Com. Loon: max 55 DH 17 Apr with other high counts 17-18 Apr; nesting Gray L HERK 6 May.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 9 WPd 7 April; pair Scriba in courtship display 16 Apr; nesting UM 24 Apr.

Horned Grebe: arr and max 145 WPd 4 April (MP), very high count away from LOL; last DH 30 May.

Red-necked Grebe: arr and max 4 UM 3 Apr; only 3 other singles reported.

GREAT CORMORANT: 2 Oswego to 28 Mar.

Double-crested Cormorant: arr OneiL 31 Mar; 330 nests OneiL 17 May.

Am. Bittern: max 4 Schroepfel 28 Apr; 3 migrants UM 15 Apr where they don't nest.

Least Bittern: arr UM 15 May; only 2 reports.

Great Blue Heron: arr UM 24 March.

Great Egret: arr DH 10 Apr; max 2 UM 24 April; 4 other reports.

Green Heron: max 10 CM 15 May.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 CM 15 May; only report.

BLACK VULTURE: 1 DH 31 Mar (DN, BP, NYSARC).

Greater White-fronted Goose: 1 *flavirostris* Schroepfel 18 Apr (BP), seems to be more of an Apr occurrence vs. Mar for *frontalis*.

Snow Goose: max 5000 Verona 28

March; other high counts were 4300

Bolivar 24 Mar and 2000 Schroepfel 24 Mar; last 17 Schroepfel 23 Apr.

Canada Goose: max 3970 Sterling 2 Apr; 5 young Forge Pd HERK, only second nesting there.

Brant: 1 Bvllle with Canada Geese 15 Apr, record early (JB); 3170 OneiL flight 10-15 May with max 880 12 May.

Mute Swan: 1 Oswego to 7 Mar; pair WPd thru; 2 SVB 13 Apr.

Tundra Swan: max 7 Fulton 25 Mar; 2 WPd 18 Mar; 1 Schroepfel 31 Mar to 3 Apr; 4 Cato 2 Apr, only other reports.

Trumpeter Swan: 1 ad with imm Mute Swan WPd 18 March, presumably from one of the stocking programs.

Wood Duck: max 40 Utica 24 March.

Gadwall: max 19 CM 11 Apr; last 2 SPd 23 May.

Am. Wigeon: arr Bolivar 24 Mar; max 20 SVB 28-31 March; last 2 UM 1 May.

Am. Black Duck: max 40 WPd 1 Apr.

Blue-winged Teal: max 15 Schroepfel 25 Apr.

N. Shoveler: max 24 OnonL 17 Apr; possible Shoveler X Blue-Winged Teal hybrid UM 10-18 Apr.

N. Pintail: max 320 Schroepfel 26 Mar; last 2 UM 18 Apr.

Green-winged Teal: max 100 Bolivar 8 Apr.

Canvasback: 1 Oswego 20 Mar; 2 DL 29 Mar, only reports.

Ring-necked Duck: max 325 DL 8 April; last 6 WPd 26 April.

Greater Scaup: max 1200 Toad Harbor 20 Apr.

Lesser Scaup: max 200 SVB 5 Apr; last Oswego 15 May.

Harlequin Duck: 3 Oswego to 18 Apr.

Surf Scoter: 3 singles OneiL 24 Apr - 13 May.

White-winged Scoter: max 97 OneiL 13 May.

Oldsquaw: max 35 Hinckley L 21 April; last 4 LOL 15 May.

Bufflehead: max 91 FH 2 Apr.

Com. Goldeneye: max 330 Brewerton 30 Mar; last 6 SVB 28 Apr.

Hooded Merganser: max 38 UM 24 Mar.

Com. Merganser: max 85 Oswego 14 Mar.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 110 SVB 19 Apr; still present LOL 30 May.

Ruddy Duck: arr SVB 28 Mar; max 20 WPd 4 Apr; last OnonL 3 May; scarce this year.

Derby Hill Migration Totals

Species	Total	Peak Flight/Date	Date Range
Turkey Vulture	5,170	739 - 7 Apr	5 Mar - 31 May
Osprey	558	171 - 5 May	27 Mar - 31 May
Bald Eagle	92	11 - 16 May	5 Mar - 31 May
N. Harrier	457	37 - 6 Apr	16 Mar - 31 May
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3,599	398 - 7 May	2 Mar - 31 May
Cooper's Hawk	302	31 - 3 Apr	16 Mar - 22 May
N. Goshawk	14	2 - 16 Mar	16 Mar - 24 Apr
Red-shouldered Hawk	593	128 - 3 Apr	16 Mar - 10 May
Broad-winged Hawk	9,803	1,954 - 25 Apr	15 Apr - 31 May
Red-tailed Hawk	4,603	765 - 6 Apr	2 Mar - 31 May
Rough-legged Hawk	209	27 - 7 Mar	2 Mar - 8 May
Golden Eagle	23	3 - 23 Mar	16 Mar - 9 May
Am. Kestrel	343	20 - 28 Mar	17 Mar - 18 May
Merlin	38	6 - 28 Apr	16 Mar - 18 May
Peregrine Falcon	14	4 - 5 May	24 Mar - 9 May
Total	25,823 (includes 5 unidentified)		

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Osprey: pair TRWMA waited for Great Horned Owls to fledge 14 May to reoccupy nest.

Bald Eagle: pair in courtship Fulton late Mar did not persist; 2 adults UM 19 Mar; 1 CM 31 Mar; 1 Altmar 28 Apr.

N. Harrier: pairs CM 25 Apr and Canastota 8 May.

Cooper's Hawk: pair in courtship flight West Monroe 12 May; pair DH thru.

N. Goshawk: pair Remsen nest site 30 Mar, female on nest 20 May; 2 TRWMA 8 May; 1 Altmar 28 Apr; 1 HVWMA 15 May.

Red-shouldered Hawk: pair at Verona nest site 31 March; 3 Rome 25 Apr; 1 HVWMA 8 May.

Rough-legged Hawk: 19 Fairfield 26 March, good spring concentration.

Golden Eagle: 1 Colosse 23 Apr.

Merlin: singles Mexico 27 Apr and Van Buren 11 May; dead ad male found New Hartford 25 Apr.

Ring-necked Pheasant: scattered singles with max only 2 CM 7-15 May.

Ruffed Grouse: 2-3 per day in good habitat.

Wild Turkey: max 125 Fairfield 10 Mar; numerous reports of flocks of 10-35.

Virginia Rail: max 8 UM 11 May.

Sora: max 3 West Monroe 8 May.

Com. Moorhen: max 6 UM 1 May.

Am. Coot: max 25 FH 5 Apr; last two UM 11 May.

Sandhill Crane: 2 CM 24 Mar, second spring record away from LOL; DH sightings were 4 on 23 Mar, 1 on 20 Apr, 3 on 15 May, and 1 on 18 May.

Black-bellied Plover: 2 Cato 22 May; 1 SPd 23 May; 1 WPd 30 May, only reports.

AM. GOLDEN-PLOVER: 1 Cato 22 May (GP), fourth Spring record and first since 1975.

Semipalmated Plover: 2 singles only, Schroepfel 14 May and SPd 23 May.

Killdeer: after Feb arr no reports until 17 Mar; y Constantia 8 May.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 4 Schroepfel 18 Apr; last West Monroe 15 May.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 4 EIC 7 May; last

West Monroe 15 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 6 DH 1 May.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 20 LOL 8 May.

Upland Sandpiper: arr Schroepfel 21 Apr; singles DH 23 & 26 Apr; max 3 Holland Patent 13 May.

Ruddy Turnstone: max 20 OneiL islands 29 May.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 5 OneiL islands 31 May.

Least Sandpiper: max 20 West Monroe 15 May.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 4 Fabius 21 Apr.

Dunlin: arr 17 May; max 50 OneiL islands 29 May.

Com. Snipe: max 40 Schroepfel 28 Mar.

Am. Woodcock: max 5 Nine Mile Pt 31 Mar; ad and 3 large y Hastings 30 May.

BLACK-HEADED GULL: 1 DH 17 May (GS), mob, second spring record.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr LOL 5 Apr; max 100 SVB 19 Apr; 2 still SVB 27 May.

Ring-billed Gull: max 2260 Oswego 9 Mar.

Herring Gull: max 760 Oswego 7 Mar.

Iceland Gull: max 6 Oswego 7 Mar.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1-2 Oswego to 15 Mar.

Glaucous Gull: max 3 Oswego 7 Mar; last SSSP 15 May, late.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 160 Oswego 7 Mar; 55 OneiL 2 May, high for there.

Caspian Tern: max 125 SPd 23 May.

Com. Tern: 16 Apr arr earliest since 1965; max 80 SVB 17 May.

Black Tern: max 6 SSSP 15 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: max 3 CM 15 May and Nine Mile Pt 17 May; about 12 other reports.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 2 New Hartford 30 May, 5 other singles after 16 May.

BARN OWL: 1 EIC 14 May (BP), first Regional sighting since 1981.

E. Screech-Owl: max 5 Kirkland 28 May, includes 3 ad, 1 fl, and 1 juv.

Great Horned Owl: nesting TRWMA,

Cicero, WH, DL, BLNC, Kirkland.
Barred Owl: reports from HVWMA, New Hartford, WH and West Monroe; 2 fledglings BLNC 28 May.

Long-eared Owl: 1 Fulton 15 May.
Short-eared Owl: 1 DH 27 Mar, only report.

N. Saw-whet Owl: 1 Cold Brook 14 March; calling Third Lake Creek HERK several times Mar.

Com. Nighthawk: only 3 singles reported.

Whip-poor-will: 1 Schroepel 13 May; 1 Dewitt & 2 Constantia 15 May; 3 Cold Brook 16 May.

Chimney Swift: max 40 DH 14 May.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: nest construction StMC 20 May.

Red-headed Woodpecker: wintering bird, last Van Buren 7 May; 2 LOL 15 May.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 8 Pompey 20 Apr.

N. Flicker: max only 35 DH 5 May, due in part to little observation at N Lookout during April's north winds.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS

E. Wood-Pewee: max 19 Kirkland 29 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 StMC 20 May; 1 UM 24 May; 1 Penn Mtn 28 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: arr WH 6 May, early; 4 singing males WH 30 May.

Alder Flycatcher: max 6 New Hartford 30 May.

Willow Flycatcher: max 10 CM 15 May.

Least Flycatcher: max 13 LOL 8 May.

E. Phoebe: max 12 Pompey 21 Apr.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 6 DH 5 May.

E. Kingbird: max 28 DH 5 May.

N. Shrike: 5 reports 10-14 Mar; last UM 6 April.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 4 many areas.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 8 New Hartford 30 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: max 20 Sterling 17 May.

Philadelphia Vireo: 1 New Hartford 16 May; 1 StMC 20 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 42 Brookfield 27 May, probably mostly breeding birds.

Fish Crow: 1 LOL 8 May; suspected breeding locations are Liverpool and Eastwood & University sections of Syracuse.

Com. Raven: 2 Hastings 9 Apr; 1 DH 14 Apr; 1 Hastings 15 May; 1 Sangerfield 17 May; only reports outside Adks.

Horned Lark: early migrants to about 15 Mar; last migrant push 15-20 Apr; max 100 Minoa Quarry 16 Apr.

Purple Martin: max 12 Constantia 15 May.

Tree Swallow: max 250 WPd 11 Apr.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 50 Nine Mile Pt 13 May.

Bank Swallow: max 20 Nine Mile Pt 13 May; higher counts at colonies.

Cliff Swallow: max 12 DH 14 May; more at colonies.

Barn Swallow: max 100 Nine Mile Pt 13 May. **Boreal Chickadee:** 1 Third Lake Creek HERK 13 Mar.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: handful of migrants noted early Apr to mid May; many had remained Adks & Tug Hill.

Brown Creeper: max 14 Nine Mile Pt 3 Apr.

Carolina Wren: 1 UM 10 Apr; 2 StMC and 1 Fayetteville thru; many of the winter birds dispersed by May.

House Wren: max 20 LOL 8 May.

Winter Wren: max 28 LOL 18 Apr; 1 StMC 20 May, late.

Marsh Wren: max 13 CM 15 May.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 100 Nine Mile Pt 16 Apr; last LOL 22 May.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 75 SPd 2 May; last 17 May.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 9 CM 15 May.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 CM 15 May, only report.

Swainson's Thrush: 1 WM 8 May; 1 LOL 8 May; last Kirkland 29 May; max 2 FH 15 May.

Hermit Thrush: max 10 New Hartford 27 Apr.

Gray Catbird: max 37 CM 15 May.

N. Mockingbird: 5-6 Oswego and Scriba,

a small increase.

Brown Thrasher: max 6 LOL 2 May.

Am. Pipit: arr DH 21 Mar; max 58

Hastings 8 May.

Cedar Waxwing: winter flocks lingered MADI & ONEI, but few reports ONON & OSWE until May breeders arrived.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr WPd 5 May; max 4 New Hartford 23 May.

Golden-winged Warbler: max 6 DH 15 May.

Tennessee Warbler: max only 3 location? 8-14 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 Scriba 2 May, only report.

Nashville Warbler: max 30 Rome 8 May.

N. Parula: max 6 EIC 6 May.

Yellow Warbler: max 82 CM 15 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 7 Kirkland 12 May.

Magnolia Warbler: arr Limekiln L 1 May, early.

Cape May Warbler: 2 DH 5 May; 1 DH 15 May, only reports.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr 2 EIC 24 Mar; max 60 EIC 4 May.

Pine Warbler: max 12 LOL 1 May.

Prairie Warbler: 4 singing males Dewitt after 14 May; 1 LOL 15 May.

Palm Warbler: max 7 EIC 7-15 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 2 Verona 15 May; 2 LOL 15 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 28 EIC 22 May.

Cerulean Warbler: arr WH 5 May; max 14 WH 30 May.

Black-and-white Warbler: max 11 Rome 8 May.

Am. Redstart: max 22 LOL 8 May.

N. Waterthrush: max 12 Verona 6 May.

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Pompey 8 Apr; pair with fl Kirkland 29 May.

KENTUCKY WARBLER: 1 WH 15 May, where 2 males were singing 30 May (JB); 1 DH 22 May (GP, mob).

Mourning Warbler: most reports from breeding areas, but 2 still at EIC 31 May.

Hooded Warbler: max 14 WH 30 May.

Wilson's Warbler: max 3 EIC 22 May; last EIC 31 May.

Canada Warbler: few migrants before 15 May when many on territory.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: max 6 Kirkland 15 May.

E. Towhee: max 7 Split Rock 12 May.

Am. Tree Sparrow: max 150 Nine Mile Pt 3 Apr; last LOL 1 May.

Chipping Sparrow: max 26 EIC 2 May.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: 3-4 LOL 15-17 May (MSc, MAK), highest spring numbers.

Field Sparrow: arr Hastings 5 Apr.

Vesper Sparrow: max 4 Nine Mile Pt 6 Apr.

Savannah Sparrow: max 11 EIC 2 May.

Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 1 Pompey 20 Apr; now using landfill cap at Fulton.

Henslow's Sparrow: at Mexico site by 15 May.

Fox Sparrow: arr Hastings 21 Mar; max 6 New Hartford 7 Apr; last EIC 1 May.

Song Sparrow: max 450 Nine Mile Pt 3 Apr.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr DH 4 May; max 9 LOL 8 May; 1 West Monroe 8 May, only report way from LOL.

Swamp Sparrow: arr 6 Apr; max 34 CM 20 Apr.

White-throated Sparrow: arr LOL 17 Apr; max 45 LOL 8 May.

White-crowned Sparrow: max 70 EIC 7 May; max only 10 elsewhere; last DH 21 May.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 170 Nine Mile Pt 3 Apr.

Lapland Longspur: 2 Cato thru 10 Mar.

Snow Bunting: max 1000 Kirkland 17 Mar; last 4 Shackleton Pt 22 Mar.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 13 Kirkland 12 May.

Indigo Bunting: max 13 WH 31 May.

Bobolink: max 130 DH 5 May.

E. Meadowlark: max 12 Nine Mile Pt 3 Apr.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 1 Bville 11-12 Mar (KM).

Rusty Blackbird: arr 21 Mar; max 500 Schroepfel 11 Apr; last 4 DH 9 May.

ORCHARD ORIOLE: pair Van Buren 12 May at 1998 breeding site; 2 migrants

LOL 7-9 May.

Baltimore Oriole: 1 Van Buren 29 Mar, probably wintered (JB); max 65 DH 5 May; 1 Old Forge 10 May, where unusual.

Purple Finch: arr Kirkland 20 Mar.

House Finch: low numbers and does not seem to be increasing.

Red Crossbill: present HERK thru in small numbers.

White-winged Crossbill: present HERK thru in small numbers.

Pine Siskin: present T's Webb & Remsen thru in small numbers.

Am. Goldfinch: large flight noted DH early May.

Evening Grosbeak: 25 Old Forge into Apr; 1 Penn Mtn 28 May, only reports; no return flight DH this year.

Corrigenda

Vol 48(4): **Orchard Oriole** location Van Buren, not Lysander.

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6 - ST. LAWRENCE

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Spring of 1999 was a dry one although it started out looking as though it would be cool and wet. On 2 March about 4 inches of snow fell in Henderson, with 18 inches on Tug Hill at N Osceola and 12 inches at other Tug Hill locations. This was followed by rain and sleet on the lakeplain the next day. On the 4th a big storm with all forms of precipitation closed NYS 177 across Tug Hill. The 6th brought 4 inches of snow to Henderson and blizzard-like conditions. On the 8th the temperature reached -13° F in Henderson. On the 17th temperatures reached 52° at 4 pm in Henderson. Little additional snow fell until the 22nd, when 8 inches fell in Potsdam, 6 inches in Watertown, and 26 inches at Montague atop Tug Hill. The winter was over on the 31st, when temperatures reached 61°. March can be summarized as cool and dry with Lake Ontario water levels low and dropping. The snow was gone, but April showers did not occur as normal and it was a cool, windy, and mostly overcast month, with temperatures as low as 15° on the 25th of the month. The high for the month was 65° on the 28th; then April was gone.

May started out with 37° on the 1st and quickly shot up to 81° in Watertown on the 3rd. May 6th it was 80° at noon, the temperature dropping back a few days later to a low of 26° on the 11th. On the 13th a heavy frost in the early morning was very evident. Cool mornings continued

until late in the month. May 21st saw an early morning temperature of 26° at 6am. The Lake Ontario water level was 29 inches below the 1998 May level and had not been this low since 1965. Rain that did fall during the month was too little too late to help the falling lake level. On the 31st of the month it was 86° in Watertown at 9:45 am.

Migration came in spurts with long lulls ; some species seemed very early while others seemed very late. Perhaps it was the observer's location. There were no winter finches to look for since none were to be found this winter. Winter visitors departed somewhat late for many species. At times spring migrants and winter species could be seen together. With Lake Ontario wide open from the mild winter, there was a much better chance than usual to see waterfowl. Vegetation was heavier than last year. As leafing out began, the number of broken stems from the ice storm of 1998, with sprouts and shoots grown last summer, made tree tops much thicker. The understory was also heavier as so many herbaceous and woody shrubs had taken advantage of the loss of overstory shade following the ice storm. Indications are for a low to moderate cone crop.

Observers for the period did some excellent field work. William Watson from Region 1 made a two day visit to the Region in mid March and reported some excellent waterfowl and raptor numbers from visits to some of the Regional hotspots. Chamberlaine and Hughes spent many mornings in April and May at Snowshoe Point, mainly counting warblers as they lifted off from that location to move north. Brouse provided sightings for Kelsey Creek in Watertown and the results from North Country Bird Club field trips. Leone and O'Shea provided Adirondack specialties. Badger and Cerwonka provided a view of arrivals farther north in St Lawrence County. Highlights for the season included: Red-necked Grebes at unexpected locations, excellent numbers of waterfowl - in particular Snow Geese and Canada Geese as well as some of the diving ducks such as Ruddys, high numbers of Bald Eagles and Broad-winged Hawks, Common Ravens everywhere, including a nest with young, unprecedented numbers of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, very high numbers of warblers - including unprecedented numbers of the "winged" warblers, and excellent numbers of grassland sparrows.

Negatives for the period were: low numbers of loons, very low numbers of Blue-winged Teal, low numbers and variety of shorebirds in spite of all kinds of exposed shoreline, only one Common Nighthawk, no Sedge Wrens, spot-breasted thrushes in low numbers, and Louisiana Waterthrushes missing at known previous breeding locations.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

Ellis - Ellisburg JEFF; Col Hill - Colwell Hill at Lakeview WMA; Hen - Henderson, JEFF; JCSP- Jacques Cartier SP Twn Morristown STLA; LOL - Lake Ontario Littoral Zone; Lor - Twn Lorraine Tug Hill JEFF; Lou - Twn Louisville STLA; LWMA - Lakeview Wildlife Management Area Twn Ellisburg JEFF; NCBC - North Country Bird Club; PRWMA - Perch River WMA Twns Brownville, Orleans & Pamela JEFF; PtPen - Point Peninsula Twn Lyme JEFF; SBSP- Southwick Beach State Park Twn Ellis JEFF; SnPt - Snowshoe Point Twn Henderson JEFF; T Hill - Torrey Hill Rd Twn Ellisburg JEFF; THSF - Tug Hill State Forest Twns Rodman & Pinckney JEFF & LEWI respectively; W BSP - Wescott Beach State Park, Twn Henderson JEFF.

LOONS-DUCKS

Com. Loon: arr Sixtown Pd 8 Apr; 4 W BSP 9 Apr; 1 near known nest site Lake Of The Woods Theresa 14 Apr; 1 SnPt 25 Apr.
Pied-billed Grebe: arr 2 PRWMA 4 Apr.
Red-necked Grebe: 2 Montario Pt 3 Apr; 1 Sixtown Pd Twn Hen 8 Apr; 1 PtPen 24 Apr (LC&BH).
Double-crested Cormorant: arr Montario Pt 3 Apr; arr St. Lawrence River Massena 20 Apr.
Am. Bittern: 1 LWMA 19 Apr; 1 LWMA 1 May; pair doing courting dance Potsdam 1 May (SC); 3 PRWMA 8 May.
Great Blue Heron: arr Hen 19 Mar; birds returning to Sulphur Springs Rookery 2 Apr; Raquette River Rookery in Forest Preserve occupied on 6 Apr (PO); a new rookery found near Ellis(LC&BH).
Great Egret: 1 NYS Rt 3 Marsh Twn Hen 19 Apr; 1 SnPt 13 May.
Green Heron: 2 Penny Settlement Rd

Twn Hen 22 Apr; 2 SnPt 15 May.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 1 PtPen 3 May; 3 PRWMA 4 May - a new location for them (RB); 2 Beaver Meadow Watertown 9 May.
Turkey Vulture: arr Hen 20 Mar; 3 Col Hill 21 Mar; 13 Clark Rd Twn Ellis 24 Mar; moving thru in large numbers 7 Apr; common within the Blue Line in STLA (PO).
Snow Goose: 70+ Ellis 19 Mar; 2000+ Ellis 21 Mar; 2000+ T Hill JEFF 24 Mar; max 10,000+ Twn Ellis 26 Mar; 4000+ Woodville JEFF 27 Mar; 6000+ Col Hill 27 Mar; 8000+ Col Hill 28 Mar; 1 in with 40 Canadas SnPt 25 Apr; 3 imm Hen 7 May.
Canada Goose: max 16,000+ over Col Hill 28 Mar; nesting on large beaver ponds in three Forest Preserve areas - also Cranberry L and Raquette R - some areas are quite remote and birds may be considered truly wild (PO).

Trumpeter Swan: 2 young from last year PRWMA 4 Apr; 2 PRWMA 11 Apr.

Mute Swan: 1 Colwell Pd LWMA 3 Mar; 2 Grass Pt SP STLA 16 Mar.

Tundra Swan: 5 (3 ad & 2 imm) PtPen 5 Mar; 6 feeding in fields near Ellis 16 Mar; 11 (9 ad & 2 imm) Wilson Hill WMA STLA early Apr.

Wood Duck: 5 Colwell Pd LWMA 19 Mar.

Gadwall: 1 Colwell Pd LWMA 19 Mar; 6 Colwell Pd LWMA 23 Mar; 6 PtPen 17 Mar.

Am. Wigeon: 2 Woodville 17 Mar; 1 Colwell Pd LWMA 19 Mar; 52 Colwell Pd 23 Mar.

Am. Black Duck: 200+ in flock of Mallards Mixer Rd Twn Ellis 13 Mar; 82 Woodville 17 Mar; max 300 Hen Pd 5 Apr.

Mallard: max 800+ Mixer Rd Twn Ellis 13 Mar; 500 Hen Pd 5 Apr.

Blue-winged Teal: arr Woodville 17 Mar; 2 Southwick Beach SP 29 Mar; 13 PRWMA 4 Apr.

N. Shoveler: 4 PRWMA 4 Apr; 4 Sherwins Bay Marsh Pillar Pt JEFF 28 Apr.

N. Pintail: 4 Mixer Rd Twn Ellis 13 Mar; 18 near Ellis 19 Mar; 2 Sherwin Bay Marsh Pillar Pt 15.

Green-winged Teal: 1 in with raft of Goldeneyes LOL Montario Pt JEFF 15 Mar; 1 Twn Hen 17 Mar; 3 Woodville 27 Mar; max 80+ PRWMA 4 Apr; 16 Hen 23 Apr.

Canvasback: 4 PtPen 17 Mar; 8 Colwell Pd LWMA 23 Mar.

Ring-necked Duck: 4 Montario Pt LOL 15 Mar; 25 Colwell Pd LWMA 19 Mar; 80+ Colwell Pd LWMA 23 Mar; 100 Lakeview Pd LWMA 31 Mar; max 200+ PRWMA 4 Apr.

Greater Scaup: 1 Montario Pt 15 Mar; 3 Colwell Pd LWMA 23 Mar; 200+ Fishers Landing St Lawrence River 11 Apr; max 9000+ Eel Bay, Wellesley Island SP 11 Apr; 60 PRWMA 11 Apr.

Lesser Scaup: 1 Montario Pt 15 Mar; 5 Colwell Pd LWMA 23 Mar; 8 Stony Cr Twn Hen 29 Mar; 20 PRWMA 4 Apr; 9

Sixtown Pd Twn Hen 8 Apr; max 100+ Fishers Landing St Lawrence River 11 Apr.

White-winged Scoter: 2 SnPt LOL 22 Apr. late.

Oldsquaw: 1 Montario Pt 15 Mar; 800+ SnPt LOL 15 Apr; 200 SnPt LOL 30 Apr; 200+ Hen Bay thru May.

Bufflehead: 35 Ray's Bay LOL Twn Hen 13 Mar; 75 Sackets Harbor LOL 10 Apr; 100+ Fishers Landing 11 Apr; checked many interior Forest Preserve ponds in early Apr - 5 had Bufflehead including Horseshoe L where 4 pairs and a single bird were noted (PO).

Hooded Merganser: 12 Colwell Pd LWMA 3 Mar; max 40 Colwell Pd LWMA 19 Mar.

Com. Merganser: 45 Colwell Pd LWMA 3 Mar.

Red-breasted Merganser: 1 Horse Is LOL Twn Hounsfield JEFF 21 Mar; 12 WBSP 9 Apr; more common than past years.

Ruddy Duck: 3 PRWMA 11 Apr; 2 Sixtown Pd Twn Hen 21 Apr; 8 PRWMA 15 May (TD); not usually reported in spring.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Osprey: arr PRWMA 4 Apr; 1 Col Hill 6 Apr; 1 Wellesley Is SP 11 Apr; 5 nesting PRWMA 11 Apr; 2 Paddy Hill 11 Apr; 1 Indian River Lakes 14 Apr; 1 SnPt 25 Apr; 1 SnPt on Association I chimney 30 Apr; 1 Stony Cr outlet 30 May.

Bald Eagle: up to 3 feeding on deer carcasses near Sevey Corner thru Mar; 2 Twn Ellis 13 Mar; 1 imm (2nd yr) Jefferson Park 15 Mar; 1 ad near Sandys Outlet LWMA 16 Mar; 1 Grass Pt SP 16 Mar; 1 ad LWMA 17 Mar; 3 (1 imm, 1 3rd yr & 1 ad) LWMA 21 Mar; 1 imm Colwell Pd LWMA 23 Mar; 1 ad Clark Rd Twn Ellis 30 Mar; 1 imm Hen Pd 5 Apr; 1 ad Col Hill 6 Apr; 1 imm T Hill 7 Apr; 1 imm (white belly II) Wellesley 1 SP 11 Apr; 1 ad Paddy Hill 11 Apr; 2 ad Lower Pool PRWMA 24 Apr; 1 imm Red L 23 May; 1 ad Kring Pt SP 30 May.

N. Harrier: 3 Favret-McKeever Rd 14 Mar; 2 Nash Rd 3 Apr; 7 PRWMA 4 Apr;

PtPen 5 Apr; 11 Favret Rd - Mason Rd 5 Apr; 12 PtPen 24 Apr; many other single sightings.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 T Hill 24 Mar; 2 Col Hill 27 Mar; 4 T Hill 31 Mar; 4 Nash Rd Twn Ellis 3 Apr; 9 Baldwin Rd Twn Ellis 26 Apr; 1 SnPt observed killing Am. Robin 28 Apr; 2 WBSF 4 May.

Cooper's Hawk: 2 Nash Rd Twn Ellis 23 Mar; 2 Clark Rd Twn Ellis 24 Mar; 8 Nash Rd 3 Apr; 6 Baldwin Rd Twn Ellis 26 Apr; 1 WBSF 4 May.

N. Goshawk: 1 Col Hill 21 Mar; 1 Hagen Rd Twn Ellis Tug Hill 8 Apr; 1 imm Stony Pt 1 May; 1 Red L 23 May.

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr Col Hill 21 Mar; 3 T Hill 29 Mar; 3 Clark Rd 30 Mar; 18 Nash Rd 3 Apr; 1 Wellesley I SP 11 Apr; 1 Indian River Lakes 14 Apr; 1 Red L 23 May; 3 near Lake Of The Woods 27 May.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr 42 T Hill 25 Apr; 14 over Watertown 26 Apr; max 585 in about 2 hrs Baldwin Rd Twn Ellis 26 Apr; 8 WBSF 5 May.

Red-tailed Hawk: 2 PtPen 5 Mar; 5 Favret-McKeever Rd 5 Mar; 1 leucistic bird Wellesley I SP 21 Mar (NL); 3 PtPen 14 Mar; 13 Favret - McKeever Rd 14 Mar; 16 Clark Rd 30 Mar; 11 T Hill 31 Mar; 16 PtPen 5 Apr; numbers have increased in areas of Forest Preserve the past decade (PO).

Rough-legged Hawk: 3 PtPen 5 Mar; 16 Favret- McKeever Rd Twn Cape Vincent 5 Mar; 30 PtPen 14 Mar; 26 Favret-McKeever Rd 14 Mar; 1 Nash Rd 27 Mar; 2 Clark Rd 3 Apr; 2 PRWMA 4 Apr; 20 PtPen 5 Apr; 28 Favret - Mason Rd 5 Apr; 19 Case Rd Twn Lyme & Brownville 5 Apr; 1 T Hill 7 Apr; max 28 Pt Pen 10 Apr; 1 Plessis JEFF 11 Apr; 1 Hen 22 Apr; 11 PtPen 24 Apr; 1 T Hill 25 Apr.

Golden Eagle: 1 ad Washburn Rd Twn Ellis 28 Mar; 1 Nash Rd Twn Ellis 3 Apr; 1 imm T Hill 25 Apr (all LC&BH).

Am. Kestrel: 1 PtPen 14 Mar; 2 Favret - McKeever 14 Mar; 3 T Hill 28 Mar; 3 Clark Rd 31 Mar; 5 PtPen 5 Apr; 5 Favret Rd - Mason Rd 5 Apr; 5 PtPen 24 Apr.

Merlin: 1 very dark bird SnPt 21 Apr; 1

Town Barn Rd Twn Hen 27 Apr.

Peregrine Falcon: 1 Stony Pt 12 May (LC&BH).

Gray Partridge: 8 Fox Cr Rd Twn Cape Vincent 5 Mar; 4 near Fox Cr Rd Twn Cape Vincent 14 Mar; 2 Stony Pt Rd Twn Cape Vincent 17 Mar.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 4 females Isthmus PtPen 5 Mar.

Ruffed Grouse: 6 Kring Pt SP 16 Mar; 10 Lou 1 Mar.

Wild Turkey: 24 Twn Hen 3 Mar; 140+ near Smithville Twn Hen JEFF 8 Mar; 21 Merchant Rd Twn Cape Vincent 14 Mar; 75 Twn Orleans JEFF 16 Mar; 42

Merchant Rd Twn Cape Vincent 17 Mar. **Virginia Rail:** 2 Paterson Rd Lou 2 May; 1 PRWMA 8 May; 2 near Lake Of The Woods 27 May.

Sora: arr 1 PRWMA 8 May; 2 Rt 37 marsh Lou 14 May.

Com. Moorhen: 1 Lou 7 May; 7 PRWMA 8 May, not in the numbers of just a few years ago (LC).

Am. Coot: 16 PRWMA 11 Apr; 2 PRWMA 24 Apr; 3 PRWMA 8 May.

Killdeer: arr Twn Cape Vincent 17 Mar; 1 Hen 21 Mar; 10 T Hill 24 Mar; first young noted near Chaumont 14 May.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr Calcium 10 Apr. **Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr Woodville 18 Apr.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr Pillar Pt 28 Apr; 1 Little Stony Cr Twn Hen 6 May; 2 near Gunns Corners JEFF 14 May.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr Lou 7 May; 1 PRWMA 8 May.

Upland Sandpiper: arr 1 Star Schoolhouse Rd Twn Brownville JEFF 28 Apr; 2 NYS Rt 3 near Sackets Harbor 14 May; 5 Fort Drum 29 May (NCBC).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 5 Rt 12 Watertown 16 May.

Least Sandpiper: arr 2 Winthrop STLA 14 May; 2 El Dorado Beach 15 May; 5 Rt 12 Watertown 16 May.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 1 near Lake Of The Woods 27 May.

Dunlin: arr El Dorado Beach 15 May.

Com. Snipe: 2 Hen 1 Apr; 8 Hen 25 Apr.

Am. Woodcock: 5 Stony Pt 27 Mar.

Bonaparte's Gull: 2 SBSF 8 Apr; 5 Ray's

Bay LOL 19 Apr.

Glaucous Gull: 1 Montario Pt 15 Mar, seldom seen on Lake Ontario, may be related to open Lake Ontario waters from the mild winter.

Caspian Tern: arr 4 SBSF 8 Apr; 1 Beaver Meadow Watertown 26 Apr.

Com. Tern: arr 80+ St Lawrence R Massena 28 Apr; 1 WBSP 2 May; 2 SnPt LOL 6 May; pair PRWMA 15 May.

Black Tern: 8+ PRWMA 8 May; 100+ PRWMA 15 May; 24 Wilson Bay Marsh Twn Cape Vincent 18 May.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Hen 15 May; 1 Red L 23 May; 1 Hen 26 May.

Great Horned Owl: Stony Pt nest found in Mar, 1 yng on nest 2 ad calling 3 Apr; nest w yng Twn Cape Vincent 5 Apr; nest w 2 yng SnPt 18 Apr; nest Lou 29 Mar.

Snowy Owl: 1 Rt 12 near Lyons Falls LEWI 11 Mar (GS), only report.

Barred Owl: 1 Lou STLA 1 Mar; pairs calling Twn Fine STLA & two widely separated areas of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area STLA (PO).

Short-eared Owl: 1 Dog Hill Rd Twn Orleans JEFF 28 Apr (NL); 2 Fort Drum 22 May (NCBC).

Com. Nighthawk: arr 1 Twn Philadelphia JEFF 17 May.

Whip-poor-will: 10 Stony Pt 1 May; 2 Limerick Cedars 29 May.

Chimney Swift: arr 2 Hen 30 Apr; 100 Twn Watertown 13 May.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Hen 6 May.

Belted Kingfisher: 1 Ellis 27 Mar.

Red-headed Woodpecker: pair Woodside Cemetery Twn Ellis 21 May (GPM); 1 Woodside Cemetery 25 May.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 1 SnPt 15 Mar; 1 male Hen 2 Apr; 1 Col Hill 6 Apr; 1 SnPt 4 May; 2 WBSP 4 May.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr WBSP 9 Apr; 2 SnPt 25 Apr; 3 Tug Hill SF 29 Apr; 5 Horace Forward Truck Trail JEFF & LEWI 30 Apr.

Black-backed Woodpecker: 1 near Massawepie Twn Piercefield STLA 28

Mar; another near Wanakena (PO).

N. Flicker: 2 Hen 16 Mar; 1 PtPen 17 Mar; moving in numbers 6 Apr; 20 Hen 13 Apr.

Pileated Woodpecker: 1 Wardwell Settlement Twn Ellis 17 Mar; 1 Hen village 19 Mar; 1 Washburn Rd Twn Ellis 27 Mar; 1 Wellesley Is SP 11 Apr; 1 Indian River Lakes 14 Apr; numerous other sightings.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Lou STLA 12 May; 1 Wanakena STLA 17 May (NCBC).

E. Wood-Pewee: arr 3 SnPt 15 May.

Alder Flycatcher: arr 1 Brown Rd Twn Lor 20 May; arr Lou 22 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr Lou 2 May; 1 Croghan LEWI 15 May; 1 Hen 21 May; 2 Lake Of The Woods 27 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr 10 SnPt 5 May; arr Lou 17 May.

E. Phoebe: arr LWMA 27 Mar.

Great Crested Flycatcher: arr SnPt 5 May.

E. Kingbird: arr WBSP 5 May; many on the Lake Plain 16 May.

N. Shrike: 1 PtPen 5 Mar; 1 NY Rt 3 Ellis 6 Apr.

WHITE-EYED VIREO: 1 Lou 12 May (MB).

Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 Twn Osceola LEWI 28 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr SnPt 29 Apr; 2 Tug Hill SF 29 Apr; 4 SnPt 5 May.

Warbling Vireo: arr 5 SnPt 5 May.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr 1 SnPt 6 May; 1 SnPt 11 May; 1 SnPt 16 May; 1 Lou 18 May; 1 Littlejohn WMA Tug Hill JEFF 19 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr 4 SnPt 5 May.

Gray Jay: 2 Sevey Corners 14 Mar (PO), on deer carcass; 4 Sevey Corners area 22 May (NL&SB).

Blue Jay: moving in numbers along Lake Ontario SnPt 3 May thru; 131 in a day Lou to Massena Dam (MB).

Com. Raven: 3 Tug Hill SF 9 Mar; 7 at deer carcass Twn Colton 16 Mar; 1 T Hill Twn Ellis 28 Mar; 1 Stony Pt 7 Apr; 1 Massena 18 Apr; 1 Stony Pt 22 Apr; nest

with 3 yng & 3 ad near Tug Hill SF 29 Apr (LC&BH); max 8 coursing and playing overhead Horace Forward Truck Trail JEFF & LEWI 30 Apr, suspect nest nearby; Winona SF JEFF 20 May, suspected nest site.

Horned Lark: 200+ in 3 flocks near Smithville 8 Mar; 20 Cape Vincent 17 Mar; 3 Fort Drum 29 May.

Purple Martin: arr SnPt 18 Apr.

Tree Swallow: arr 3 T Hill 24 Mar.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Sackets Harbor 10 Apr.

Bank Swallow: arr SnPt 18 Apr; 30+ Limerick 3 May.

Cliff Swallow: arr Lou 3 May ;2 Fort Drum 29 May.

Barn Swallow: arr Fishers Landing St Lawrence River 11 Apr; 7 Rays Bay LOL Twn Hen 13 Apr

Tufted Titmouse: 1 Lou 8 Apr; 1 WBSP 10 Apr; 2 WBSP 3 May.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 WBSP 10 Apr; 1 Hen 10 Apr; 3 Winona SF 20 Apr; 4 SnPt 2 May.

Brown Creeper: 1 Hen 2 Apr; 6+ Hen 10 Apr; moving in numbers 12 Apr; 6 Hen 13 Apr; max 20+ SnPt 15 Apr; 8 SnPt 18 Apr.

House Wren: arr Col Hill 31 Mar; 1 Montario Pt 8 Apr.

Winter Wren: arr SnPt 18 Apr; 1 JCSP 22 May.

Marsh Wren: arr Stony Cr Boat Launch 8 May.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 Stony Pt 29 Mar; heavy movement thru area 10 Apr, 28+ birds in 10 min Hen; again moving in numbers 12 Apr; max 40+ SnPt 15 Apr; 15 SnPt 18 Apr.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr SBSPP 12 Apr; 5 SnPt 18 Apr; many SnPt 25 Apr.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr SnPt 1 May; 3 WBSP 1 May; 1 SnPt 2 May; 1 SnPt 4 May.

E. Bluebird: 8 males Stony Pt 13 Mar; 5 Nash Rd Twn Ellis JEFF 15 Mar; 10 males at various locations Twn Hen & Ellis 17 Mar; first female Ellis 24 Mar.

Veery: arr Tug Hill SF 29 Apr, low numbers.

Swainson's Thrush: arr Lou STLA 16 May.

Hermit Thrush: arr LWMA 15 Apr; 2 SnPt 25 Apr.

Wood Thrush: 2 Stony Pt 25 Apr, early.

Am. Robin: many Hen 16 Mar.

Gray Catbird: arr 5 SnPt 6 May.

N. Mockingbird: 1 Fox Cr Rd Twn Cape Vincent 18 May (RB); 1 Cape Vincent 31 May (NL); 1 Lou 31 May (MB).

Brown Thrasher: arr Watertown Center 26 Apr.

Am. Pipit: 1 Mixer Rd Twn Ellis 23 Mar.

Cedar Waxwing: 1 Hen 17 Mar; 6 Stony Pt 3 Apr; 20 Montario Pt 8 Apr; 6 SnPt 29 Apr.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 SnPt 3 May; 4 WBSP 4 May; 2 SnPt 6 May; 2 WBSP 10 May; 2 WBSP 10 May; 4 SnPt 11 May; 3 SnPt 14 May; 2 Co Rt 91 Lor JEFF 20 May.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr 3 SnPt 3 May; 1 SnPt 5 May; 1 SnPt 8 May; 1 SnPt 11 May; 4 SnPt 12 May; 1 SnPt 15 May; 1 SnPt 16 May; 2 Co Rt 91 Lor 18 May; 2 Co Rt 91 Lor 20 May; max 4 Brown Rd Lor 20 May; 4 near Lake Of The Woods 27 May; 1 Lou 28 May.

"Brewster's" Warbler: 1 SnPt 12 May (NL).

Tennessee Warbler: arr 2 SnPt 5 May; max 3 SnPt 11 May; 3 SnPt 12 May; 1 SnPt 13 May; 1 JCSP 22 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: not observed at SnPt this year.

Nashville Warbler: arr SnPt 2 May; 6 SnPt 4 May; 19 SnPt 5 May; 15 SnPt 6 May; 21 SnPt 11 May; max 27 SnPt 12 May; 20 SnPt 13 May.

N. Parula: arr SnPt 5 May; 9 SnPt 6 May; 9 SnPt 11 May; max 27 SnPt 12 May; 13 SnPt 13 May; 9 SnPt 14 May; 8 SnPt 15 May; 2 SnPt 16 May.

Yellow Warbler: arr 3 SnPt 4 May; 9 SnPt 6 May; 17 SnPt 11 May; max 23 SnPt 12 May; 11 SnPt 13 May; 22 SnPt 15 May; 4 JCSP 22 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 2 SnPt 5 May; max 12 SnPt 12 May; 11 SnPt 13 May; 11 SnPt 15 May; 11 SnPt 16 May; 5

JCSP 22 May.

Magnolia Warbler: arr Lou 6 May; 1 SnPt 11 May; 1 SnPt 13 May; 1 SnPt 16 May; 5 Brown Rd Lor 18 May; 2 Brown Rd Lor 20 May; max 10 TwN Osceola LEWI 28 May.

Cape May Warbler: arrSnPt3May; max 5 SnPt 12 May; 2 TwN Osceola LEWI 28 May; 1 JCSP 22 May.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 10 SnPt 6 May; 8 SnPt 11 May; 19 SnPt 12 May; max 21 SnPt 13 May.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 2 Stony Pt 29 Mar; SnPt 15 Apr; 5 SnPt 18 Apr; 41 SnPt 27 Apr; 400+ SnPt 1 May; 800+ SnPt 2 May; 400+ SnPt 3 May; 400+ SnPt 6 May; 600+ SnPt 11 May; max 2500+ SnPt 12 May; 300+ SnPt 13 May; 80+ SnPt 14 May.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 13 SnPt 4 May; 15 SnPt 5 May; 19 SnPt 11 May; max 24 SnPt 12 May; 22 SnPt 13 May; 24 SnPt 15 May.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr 11 SnPt 5 May; max 30 SnPt 12 May; 7 SnPt 13 May; 2 SnPt 16 May; 2 JCSP 22 May.

Pine Warbler: arr SnPt 15 Apr; 2 SnPt 18 Apr; 2 Winona SF JEFF 20 Apr; 3 SnPt 29 Apr; 1 SnPt 2 May; 1 Brown Rd Lor 20 May; 4 JCSP 22 May.

Prairie Warbler: arr 3 Limerick Cedars TNC Preserve JEFF 8 May; max 11 (1 carrying nesting material) Limerick Cedars 14 May; 3 Limerick Cedars 29 May; 1 Fort Drum 29 May.

Palm Warbler: arr SnPt 18 Apr; 2 SnPt 27 Apr; max 6 SnPt 1 May; 4 SnPt 2 May; 5 SnPt 3 May; 5 SnPt 6 May; 3 SnPt 11 May; 1 first spring male SnPt 12 May; 2 s of Sevey Corners along Jocks Pd Cr TwN Colton STLA 22 May (NL), possible breeding loc.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 5 SnPt 11 May; max 29 SnPt 12 May; 4 SnPt 13 May; 4 SnPt 15 May; 1 SnPt 16 May; 1 El Dorado Shores 30 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr El Dorado Shores 15 May; 1 Brown Rd Lor 20 May; 3 JCSP 22 May; 4 SnPt 23 May; 1 El Dorado 30 May.

Cerulean Warbler: arr 1 SnPt 5 May, only

one there; on breeding grounds at TwN Theresa JEFF 23 May.

Black-and-white Warbler: arr SnPt 2 May; 2 SnPt 3 May; 7 SnPt 4 May; 8 WBSP 10 May; 7 SnPt 11 May; 9 SnPt 12 May; 6 SnPt 13 May; max 11 SnPt 15 May.

Am. Redstart: arr Lou 6 May; 4 SnPt 6 May; 13 SnPt 11 May; max 15 SnPt 12 May; 15 SnPt 13 May.

Ovenbird: arr SnPt 1 May; 1 SnPt 12 May; 3 JCSP 22 May.

N. Waterthrush: arr Tug Hill SF JEFF 29 Apr; 4 Tug Hill SF 11 May; 2 JCSP 22 May.

Louisiana Waterthrush: not found at two known locations.

Mourning Warbler: arr SnPt 15 May; 1 Brown Rd TwN Lor 20 May.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr Stony Pt 8 May.

Hooded Warbler: 1 Lou 11-14 May (MB & Tony Zappia); 1 TwN LEWI 28 May (LC&BH).

Wilson's Warbler: arr SnPt 16 May; 1 Lou 28 May.

Canada Warbler: arr SnPt 15 May; 1 SnPt 16 May; 1 TwN Osceola LEWI 28 May; low numbers.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr SnPt 5 May; 12 SnPt 12 May.

E. Towhee: arr 2 Limerick Cedars TwN Brownville JEFF 11 Apr.

Am. Tree Sparrow: 40+ Hen feeder 6 Mar; 8 Hen 1 Apr; 65 Hen 5 Apr; last Hen 30 Apr.

Chipping Sparrow: arr Watertown 14 Apr; heavy movement, random count 60+ SnPt 2 May.

Clay-colored Sparrow: 2 Fort Drum 29 May (NL).

Field Sparrow: arr Hen 7 Apr; 5 Hen feeder 8 Apr.

Vesper Sparrow: arr PtPen 5 Apr; 5 Sixtown Pd TwN Hen 12 Apr; 3 Fort Drum 29 May (NCBC).

Savannah Sparrow: arr Montario Pt JEFF 8 Apr, early.

Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Lou 24 Apr; 1 Smithville Rd TwN Hounsfield JEFF 14

May (NL); 1 Shear Rd Twn Hen 19 May (LC&BH); 5 same 21 May; 2 Fort Drum 29 May; 2 Shear Rd 31 May.
Henslow's Sparrow: 4 Dog Hill Rd Twn Orleans JEFF 3 May (NL); 1 Dog Hill Rd 8 May; 5 same 26 May, note birds are farther south along the Dog Hill Rd than the previous years' location.
Fox Sparrow: arr 1 Barnes Corners LEWI 24 Mar (GS); 5-7 feeder Twn Fine STLA 6 Apr (PO); 3 Hagen Rd Twn Ellis Tug Hill 8 Apr; 1 WBSF 9 Apr.
Song Sparrow: arr 3 s JEFF 21 Mar; arr Hen 22 Mar.
Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 s of Sevey Corners along Jock Cr Twn Colton STLA 22 May (NL&SB).
Swamp Sparrow: arr PRWMA 4 Apr.
White-throated Sparrow: arr Hen 19 Apr; 5 SnPt 29 Apr; in numbers SnPt 2 May; 2 JCSP 22 May.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr Col Hill 6 May; in Hen in good numbers 13 May; last WBSF 24 May - late.
Dark-eyed Junco: 15 Hen 5 Apr; 35 Winona SF JEFF 20 Apr.
Lapland Longspur: 2 Fox Cr Rd Twn Cape Vincent 14 Mar; 2 Millens Bay Rd Twn Lyme 14 Mar; max 25 Ayles Rd Twn Hen 23 Mar.
Snow Bunting: 200+ Twn Ellis JEFF 3 Mar; 400+ Mixer Rd Twn Ellis JEFF; last

Ellis 24 Mar.
N. Cardinal: 7 PtPen 14 Mar, not there this past winter.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr 5 SnPt 5 May.
Indigo Bunting: arr SnPt 15 May.
Bobolink: arr SnPt 4 May; moving overhead in large numbers SnPt 5 May.
Red-winged Blackbird: 1 Hen 9 Mar; many Hen 16 Mar; 200 Woodville 17 Mar; in large flocks 18 Mar.
E. Meadowlark: arr 2 on 23 Mar.
Rusty Blackbird: arr 2 Lyons Corners Twn Adams 1 Apr; 100 Stony Pt 3 Apr; 1 Montario Pt 8 Apr; 7 Windmill Rd Twn Hen 13 Apr; 11 Indian River Lakes Twn Theresa 14 Apr; 35 Stony Pt 21 Apr.
Com. Grackle: arr Hen 17 Mar; in large flocks 18 Mar.
Brown-headed Cowbird: 2 Hen 19 Mar.
Baltimore Oriole: arr 8 SnPt 5 May; 35+ SnPt 11 May.
Purple Finch: 5 males Hen 17 Mar; 8 Hen 1 Apr; numerous in Hen in May.
House Finch: a few in Hen, but still low from 5 years ago.
Pine Siskin: 1 feeder Lou 30 Apr (MB), only report.
Evening Grosbeak: 6 Lou 21 Apr; 1 male Hen 21 Apr; a small group Potsdam 26 May (SC); 4 Lou 28 May (MB).

REGION 7 ADIRONDACKCHAMPLAIN

John M.C. Peterson
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Although the season began with 5 inches of wet snow at Tupper Lake on 1 March, the Region reached 53° with rain showers on 4 March (the day Rochester was buried by the 2-foot snowstorm). A cold front arrived 8 March, with Tupper Lake -11°. The next day Saranac Lake was -23°, and it remained the coldest spot in the nation for the third straight day on the 10th, with -17°. By month's end, temperatures reached the fifties, with 59° at Plattsburgh on 29 March.

April saw 1/4 inch of rain on the 3rd, some rain and hail on the 8th, a trace of rain in showers on the 17th, and sun and hail on the 19th, but was mainly sunny, breezy, and dry. By month's end, this was the third driest April ever, with just 0.73 inch of rain. The former record of 0.6 inch was set in 1896. By 30 April, temperatures reached 68°.

The drought continued into May, with Plattsburgh a hazy, muggy 80° on 6 May. Showers and rain 8-9 May grounded migrant waves at Crown Point peninsula, but sun and north winds then prevailed for four days, followed by four more days of sun with south winds, before the last rainfall on 19 May. The rest of the month was sunny and warm, with Lake Champlain at about 96 ft., due to just 2.40 inches of precipitation. Annual precipitation was only 9.99 inches compared with an 11.56 inches norm. Memorial Day tied the temperature record, with a blistering 90°, as the Crown Point banding station closed after 24 days of operation.

A total of 785 birds of 60 species plus a hybrid was banded and released at Crown Point State Historic Site. On 8 May, a **Blue-winged Warbler** was banded, only the third in the 24-year history of the station. The best day was 9 May, when rains grounded migrants and 140 birds were banded. Variety was good that day, too, with ten species of warblers netted, including a first-ever "**Brewster's**" Warbler and 102 Yellow-rumped Warblers. Despite this promising start, banders were stymied by the sunny days and starry nights, and even the rainfall on 19 May failed to produce a meaningful fallout. Although we finished with the fourth best season for both species and numbers, this was partly a result of our extended stay and was far short of the record 70 species and 1,706 birds of 1996. Still, 16 warbler species were banded plus the hybrid "Brewster's," and the total included a Prairie Warbler on 18 May. Also, a Dark-eyed Junco on 23 May was new to the station, bringing the all-time list to 91 species.

Other noteworthy species seen or heard, but not banded, at the historic site include: a drake Surf Scoter, sky-dancing Osprey, migrant Bald Eagles, Peregrine Falcon, Wild Turkey, Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Whip-poor-will, male **Red-bellied Woodpecker**, nesting Common Ravens, Tufted Titmouse, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, singing male **Clay-colored Sparrow**, and two singing subadult male **Orchard Orioles**. There were 44 returns of eight species banded at Crown Point in past years, with five birds now at least six years, 11 months old: a Gray Catbird, two Brown Thrashers, and two American Goldfinches.

Regionally, a total of 201 species was reported, down from last spring's 206 and the 1997 record 219. Early arrivals included Virginia Rail at Lake Alice 22 April, Chimney Swift over downtown Plattsburgh 9 April, and a

male Rosebreasted Grosbeak seen at Owls Head, FRAN, by Anne Hungerford on 23 March, an early arrival for New York State.

In addition to the Crown Point rarities, the always exciting Chazy River lands produced a drake **Eurasian Wigeon** and an **Arctic Tern**, Essex had a **Barn Owl**, and the **Varied Thrush** at Saranac lingered into April. Uncommon warblers included an early Orange-crowned at Ausable Point, a singing male Prairie at Saranac Lake the same day that another was banded at Crown Point, and a Connecticut on French Settlement Road. Certainly the most interesting was the **bilateral gynandromorph Common Yellowthroat** banded and photographed by Gordon Howard and Mike Peterson at Crown Point 27 May; early the next morning Peterson watched the warbler, male on the right side and female on the left, as it sang. A full article and photos will appear in the next *Kingbird*.

High Peaks Audubon Society, Inc. has published the completely revised Third Edition of *Birds of Essex County, New York* (1999), by the late Geoffrey Carleton, edited by John M.C. Peterson. The new book lists 310 species, of which 190 breed or have bred. It contains all county records through 30 April, 1999. Copies are available from HPAS, RR 1, Box 230, Elizabethtown, NY 12932-9721 for \$10.50, postpaid.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AP Ausable Point WMA; CP - Crown Point State Historic Site; CR Chazy Riverlands; FB - Ferd's Bog; MRRR Moose River Recreational Area; RB Riley Brook outlet; SB Sabattis Bog; SLB Silver Lake Bog; TL Tupper Lake; WRS Webb Royce Swamp.

LOONS-DUCKS

Pied-billed Grebe: CR, L Alice, Ticonderoga ferry all 9 Apr; AP 22 Apr, a fair showing.
Red-necked Grebe: 3 L Flower, ESSE 18 Apr (RH); 2 Raquette R same date (CD).
Double-crested Cormorant: 10 Auger Pd 15 May (GH), unusual inland.
Turkey Vulture: 4 Tupper L chased Bald Eagle from deer carcass on ice (CD).
Snow Goose: arr Cumberland Head 20 Mar; 3,000 thru 3 May; 6 on 30 May (BK).
Canada "Richardson's" Goose: CR 12 Apr 3 May (BK).
Canada Goose: 4 nests Four Brothers, Isl. "C" 8 May (RM); daily flocks migrating n. CP 2531 May (JP et al.).
Brant: flock CP 9 May (GL), heard 9 p.m.
Gadwall: max 7 CR 9 Apr (WW); pr CR 23 Apr (NO); 2 drakes, hen CP 12 May (GH,JP,RW); drake CP 16 May (TB), strong showing.
EURASIAN WIGEON: drake CR 913 Apr (J&RH,BK,HK,GW,WW).
Am. Wigeon: arr CR 4 Apr (NO); 2 drakes Coll Bay 9 Apr (JP, J&PT); max 32 CR 9 Apr (WW).
N. Shoveler: arr CR 4 Apr (NO); CR and max 4 Westport 9 Apr (WW).
N. Pintail: drake arr CL 27 Mar (J&PT); max 7 CR 9 Apr (WW).
Green-winged Teal: max 96 CR 9 Apr (WW), high number.
Ring-necked Duck: many reports AP, Essex, L Alice, Putnam Pd, Ti ferry; max 125 TL 2 Apr (CD).
Greater Scaup: 13 Raquette Pd 22 Apr (CD), only report.
Lesser Scaup: arr CR and Moriah 9 Apr; Raquette Pd 16 Apr.
Surf Scoter: drake Bulwagga Bay late Apr to 10 May (GL,JP).
Red-breasted Merganser: 2 Willsboro 9 Apr (WW); TL park 7 May (TD), rarely reported.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Osprey: male sky dancing CP 2130 May (TB,JP,J&PT).
Bald Eagle: 6 TL 11 Mar, feeding on deer carcass on ice; max 9 TL 21 Mar (CD); 4

migrant imm CP 1130 May (JP); singles AP, CH,CR, Inlet, and TL.

Red-shouldered Hawk: imm CP 30 May (JP,JT), late northbound migrant.

Merlin: male TL 1124 Apr (CD,RH), seen chasing Mourning Doves at feeder.

Peregrine Falcon: ad Willsboro eyrie 18 Mar (JC,JP), where pr overwintered; Wilmington eyrie 27 Mar (RH); sightings near CP Bridge 10, 28, and 30 May (GH,GL,KM,JP,JT) suggest new nesting site.

Spruce Grouse: Uncas Rd 31 May (RG), always a good find.

Wild Turkey: max 65 Westport 4 Apr (JC).

Virginia Rail: max 9 RB 4 May (BK,HK).

Am. Coot: Westport 10 Mar (RH) to 9 Apr (WW).

Black-bellied Plover: full alt plumage CR 22 May (BK).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 24 CR 22 May (BK).

Dunlin: CR 28 Apr (BK), early.

Shortbilled Dowitcher: arr 5 CR 20 May, max 9 CR 27 May (BK).

Am. Woodcock: came out of springhole in HAMI snowbank 23 Mar (GL).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 50 CR 27 May (BK).

Ring-billed Gull: 14,979 nests Four Bros Isl "C" 8 May; 156 ads banded with aluminum & yellow color bands (HPAS, NYC DEP).

ARCTIC TERN: alternate plumaged ad CR 10 May (BK), new species for Region 7.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

BARN OWL: Essex 9 Apr (JP,J&PT)20 Apr (fide JS), rare here.

Short-eared Owl: 2 CR 27 Mar (J&PT), a known site, but still a good sighting.

Whip-poor-will: CP 9 May (GL,JP); Ticonderoga 19 May (DC); CP 28 May (PT), typical of nonAtlas reports.

Chimney Swift: arr Plattsburgh 9 Apr (J&RH), early.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER: male CP 18 May (TB,JP), only 3rd ESSE record, with last previous report in 1990.

Three-toed Woodpecker: female FB 30 May (RG), a good find.

Black-backed Woodpecker: pr at SLB nesthole 9 May (RH); nest with young SLB 31 May (BK,CM).

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr FB 31 May (RG).

Gray Jay: FB, McCauley Pd, MRRRA, SB; usual sites.

Am. Crow: 42 fed on beaver carcasses Inlet 2030 Mar (GL).

Com. Raven: 11 fed on beaver carcasses Inlet 2030 Mar (GL).

Horned Lark: 2 *E.a. alpestris* Chazy 9 Apr (WW).

Boreal Chickadee: BB, FB, MRRRA; usual sites.

Tufted Titmouse: pr Elizabethtown thru (JP); Plattsburgh 1 May (H&RB); CP 23 May (JT), typical.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Dannemora 2 May; Point au Fer 8 May (J&RH).

Bicknell's Thrush: SLB 31 May (BK,CM), based only on plumage.

VARIED THRUSH: Saranac to 6 Apr (BC), where present from 21 Jan.

N. Mockingbird: SL 30 Apr (TD); CP 2427 May (GH,KM,JP,DT); Cedar R gate 27 May (GL), excellent find in HAMI.

WARBLERS

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER: banded CP 8 May (GL,JP,J&PT), 3rd ESSE record.

"BREWSTER'S" WARBLER: banded CP 9 May (GL,JP), 1st Reg. record.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr AP 2223 Apr (J&RH,BK), early.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 213 banded CP, a good flight.

Prairie Warbler: 2nd yr male banded CP 18 May (TB,DN,JP); singing male SLHS pd 18 May (TD), rarely reported.

Palm Warbler: arr CLIN 22 Apr (J&RH); "Western" banded CP 12 May (GH,JP).

Connecticut Warbler: French Settlement Rd, CLIN 1 May (J&RH).

COM. YELLOWTHROAT: bilateral

gynandromorph (1 side male, 1. side female) banded CP 27 May (GH,JP) (photographed); seen singing 28 May (JP).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

E. Towhee: male banded CP 16 May (GH,JP), only report.

Am. Tree Sparrow: 2 Marcy Bk, 1/2 mi above Marcy Dam 15 Mar (J&PT), unusual this high up.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: singing male CP 11 May (GL,RM,JP,RW), present 6 am 8 pm.

Savannah Sparrow: 10 banded CP; max 11 TL mun pk 22 Apr (CD).

Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Morrisonville 29 May (J&RH); former PAFB 21 May (BK).

Dark-eyed Junco: banded CP 23 May, 1st banded CP.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: male Owls Head feeder 23 Mar (AH), state record early date.

ORCHARD ORIOLE: subad singing male CP 2731 May (GH,KM,JP,J&PT); 2nd subad male present 30 May, based upon songs.

Red Crossbill: feeding on HAMI cone crop (GL); 3 Lake Placid 10 May (JD), only reports.

White-winged Crossbill: feeding on cones HAMI (GL), only report.

Pine Siskin: arr Elizabethtown 22 Mar, Keene Valley 24 Mar, after near absence in winter.

Am. Goldfinch: remained abundant; 182 banded CP May.

Evening Grosbeak: 1525 daily Inlet feeder Mar (GL); arr 3 Keene 16 Mar (J&PT) and Elizabethtown 21 Mar (JP), after winter's near absence.

REGION 8 - HUDSON-MOHAWK

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As reported from the Albany International Airport, the average temperature in March was a nearly normal 34.4°F, with 51% sunshine. It was a very wet month, with 4.15 inches of precipitation, 1.22 inches above normal, and 14.7 inches of snow, mostly on the 7th. April's temperatures were also a near normal average of 46.6°, with 57% sunshine. There was only 0.60 inches of precipitation, 2.39 inches below normal, making it was the second driest April on record. May averaged 59.4°, 1.8° above normal, with 57% sunshine. Rainfall averaged 2.77 inches, 0.64 inches below normal.

The migration was significantly affected by an Omega Block, a blocking high that frequently occurs in the Northern Hemisphere in the spring, which in this case lasted through much of the spring. However, there were some good days. On 18 March there was a good movement of geese on strong south winds. There were many migrants seen on 6 May, as well as 14 and 15 May. Although migration seemed slow, actually most species arrived on their breeding grounds right on schedule. There were also some notably early migrants, including a possible record early Pine Warbler at a feeder in Malta, SARA, on 4 April; Palm Warbler, also on 4 April at Vischer Ferry; N. Rough-winged Swallow at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center on 8 April; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Vischer Ferry on 10 April; Black-and-white Warbler in Livingston, COLU, on 12 April; House Wren in Loudonville on 15 April; Nashville Warbler in Livingston on 18 April; and Swainson's Thrush on 1 May in Gallupville, SCHO. Unusually high numbers of Brant were noted from late April through late May, with a high count of 1000 at New Baltimore on 14 May.

Bob Yunick reported a pair of Northern Goshawks nesting at Jenny Lake about 20 feet from one of the cottages. The pair, which fledged three young, were very territorial and repeatedly attacked intruders. Their screaming as they swooped at people could be heard throughout the area. One person was grabbed on the head, bled profusely, and was pursued a distance of about 300 yards away from the nest.

The low water levels created mud flats at Vischer Ferry. Shorebird reports were mainly from there, the Troy Dam, and the Schodack Marshes, with 14 species observed. For the first time in many years no Black Terns were reported. This species is usually observed on Saratoga

Lake, which is more and more heavily used by boaters and fishermen and is becoming increasingly difficult to bird.

There was an intriguing report from COLU on 27 March of a hummingbird hovering at the location where a feeder hung last year at a home in Gallatin. Although described as a Ruby-throated by the observer, one must ask if, in fact, it might be one of the *Selasphorus* species which is more likely to show up on the east coast in the winter.

A "Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii*) was observed by Walter Ellison and Nancy Martin at their feeder in Guilderland on 14 May with a small group of the nominate form.. A detailed description of the bird was included with their spring report. Evening Grosbeak seems to be reappearing, with 27 banded at Jenny Lake in April and May.

Regional observers reported a total of 223 species. Included were 30 waterfowl, 13 hawks, 8 gulls, 31 warblers, and 13 sparrows. Rarities sighted during the period included Great Cormorant, Cattle Egret, Glossy Ibis, Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Hooded Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Blue Grosbeak.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BCM - Black Creek Marsh State Wildlife Management Area, ALBA; BCR - Basic Creek Reservoir, ALBA; CL - Collins Lake, SCHE; CP - Carter Pond, WASH; CSR - Cold Spring Road, T Saratoga, SARA; FR - Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar, ALBA; FtE - Fort Edward, WASH; FtM - Fort Miller, WASH; GI - Green Island, ALBA; HR - Hudson River; JL - Jenny Lake, SARA; L7 - Vischer Ferry Power Station/Lock 7, SCHE; LG - Lake George, WARR; MR - Mohawk River; NAMC - North American Migration Count; NB - New Baltimore, GREE;

NL – Nassau Lake, RENS; NR - Niskayuna Railroad Station, SCHE; NRP - Nott Rd. Park, Guilderland, ALBA; PB - Pine Bush Preserve, ALBA; PISP – Peebles Island SP, SARA; PP – Papscanee Preserve, RENS; SCR – Stony Creek Reservoir, SARA; SI - Simmons Island, Cohoes, ALBA; SISP – Schodack Island SP, RENS (formerly Castleton Island SP); SkW – Skidmore Woods, SARA; SL - Saratoga Lake, SARA; SNHP - Saratoga National Historical Park, SARA; StFl - Stillwater Flats, SARA (includes Saratoga Sod Farm); StPd – Stanton Pond, ALBA; TP - John Boyd Thacher SP, ALBA; TR - Tomhannock Reservoir, RENS; TRd - Tower Road, SARA; VF - Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve, SARA, WR – Watervliet Reservoir, ALBA.

LOONS-DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: 1 NB 14 May.

Com. Loon: arr 1 NB 30 Mar; max 8 SL 17 Apr.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr 1 FtM 21 Mar.

Horned Grebe: arr 2 Catskill 31 Mar; max 4 SL 17 Apr.

Red-necked Grebe: arr 3 SL 3 Apr; 1 NB 21 Apr, only reports.

Great Cormorant: 1 NB 24 Apr (RG).

Double-crested Cormorant: arr 1 NB 26 Mar; max 60 migrating over SL 17 Apr.

Am. Bittern: max 4 BCM 22 May; also reported from FtE, TRd, VF.

Least Bittern: 2 calling VF 28 Apr-25 May; 1 calling BCM 27 May (RB).

Great Blue Heron: rookeries reported from Bemis Heights, T Ballston .

Great Egret: 1 NB 20, 28 Mar; 1 BCM 24 May; unusual in spring.

Snowy Egret: 1 Cohoes 24 May (WL).

Cattle Egret: 4 CL 5 Apr (RP et al).

Green Heron: 9 reports; max 6 BCM 12 May.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 1 NB 20 Apr; 2 BCM 12 May.

Glossy Ibis: 3 Ghent 26 Apr (*vide* BC); 1 Canal Rd Half Moon 22 May (WE).

Turkey Vulture: max 15 Glens Falls 18 Mar, 10 May.

Greater White-fronted Goose: 1 FtM 18 Mar; 1 StFl 21 Mar (JG).

Snow Goose: max 2000 FtM 20 Mar.

Ross's Goose: 2 FtM 20-22 Mar (SA, JG,

AV, NYSARC), annual since 1995.

Canada Goose: max 5000+ FtM 22 Mar.

Brant: many reports; c. 50+ Fox Creek Valley SCHO 26 Apr; 50 FR 6 May; 400+ Duanesburg 12 May; 800 Mariaville L 12 May; 1000 NB 14 May; 200 VF 15 May; 300 Guilderland 22 May; 75 NB 26 May.

Mute Swan: 2 Catskill 20 Mar; 2 NL 24, 31 Mar; 1 PISP 1 May; 59 NAMC COLU; 76 Catskill 25 May.

Tundra Swan: 1 StFl 20 Mar (WE, NM).

Wood Duck: max 10 StFl 23 Mar; 22 NRP 18 Apr; 20 NAMC COLU; reported in good numbers.

Gadwall: arr 2 SL 27 Mar.

Am. Wigeon: arr 1 FtM 17 Mar; last 2 Half Moon 22 May.

Am. Black Duck: max 190 StFl 27 Mar.

Blue-winged Teal: max 4 FtE 3 Apr.

N. Shoveler: arr 1 FtM 17 Mar; last 1 Copake 13 Apr; widely reported in small numbers.

N. Pintail: max 100+ Rensselaer 20 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: 12 Coxsackie 27 Mar, 21 Apr; max 20 StFl 27 Mar.

Canvasback: max 100 Catskill 14 Mar.

Redhead: 1 SL 10 Apr, only report.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 6 FtM 10 Mar; max 44 VF, SCR 27 Mar; last 2 BCR 15 May.

Greater Scaup: arr HR COLU 2 Mar; max and last 92 SL 17 Apr.

Lesser Scaup: arr 5 SL 2 Apr; 31 SL 10 Apr; few reports.

Oldsquaw: 6 FtM 31 Mar-2 Apr; 4 FtE 10 Apr; 1 pr L7 28 Apr; only reports.
Bufflehead: arr 1 GI 5 Mar; last 1 SL 2 May.
Com. Goldeneye: max 200 HR Stillwater 15 Mar; not reported after 17 Apr.
Barrow's Goldeneye: 1 HR Stillwater 17-27 Mar (WL, BP, et al).
Hooded Merganser: arr Copake 4 Mar; 1 overwintered L7.
Com. Merganser: max 52 TR 29 Mar; 49 WR 31 Mar; pr FtM 9 May, late.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 24 NB 23 Apr.
Ruddy Duck: 18 TR 29 Mar; 59 TR 17 Apr; unusually high numbers away from coast in spring.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Osprey: 19 Apr, 10 May reports of singles; max 4 NB 10 Apr; 5 NB 28 Apr.
Bald Eagle: 13 Mar reports, 6 ad, 3 imm, 4 unspecified; 3 Apr reports, 1 ad at nest, 2 imm; 11 May reports, 5 ad, 5 imm, 2 unspecified; nesting records will appear in summer report.
N. Harrier: max 14 FtE 3 Mar; 17 reports of singles.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 30 reports of singles.
Cooper's Hawk: 23 reports of singles.
N. Goshawk: 1 BCR 14 May; 2 BCM 22 May; nesting JL, 3 yg 28 May.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 9 reports of singles.
Broad-winged Hawk: arr 1 NB 17 Apr.
Red-tailed Hawk: 12-15 Mechanicville 9 Mar; 29 T Northumberland 13 Mar; 24 Colonie Landfill 13 Mar.
Rough-legged Hawk: 40 FtE 10 Mar; 1 S. Hudson 16 Mar; 1 Jefferson 17 Mar; 9 still present FtE 26 Mar; 1 Austerlitz 15 Apr.
Am. Kestrel: max 9 FtE 5 Apr; began nesting Amsterdam 19 Mar.
Merlin: 1 ad Niskayuna 7 Mar (WL, RY); 1 Gallupville 26 Apr (BBo, KB).
Peregrine Falcon: 2 S. Hudson 16 Mar; 2 Catskill 20 Mar; pr. in courtship flight near Rip Van Winkle Bridge, Catskill 14, 20 Mar; 1 perched Castleton Bridge 21

Mar; 1 Hudson Falls 29 Mar; 1 FtE 2 Apr; 1 se MONT 25 Apr; 1 Queensbury 22 May; present Roger's Rock Mt.; nesting Dunn Memorial Bridge, Albany.
Ruffed Grouse: first drumming SNHP 7 Apr, late.
Wild Turkey: continues in good numbers; max 110+ Gallupville 18 Mar.
Virginia Rail: max 8 BCM 8 Apr, 21 May.
Sora: 1 Hillsdale 8, 15 May; 2 BCM 9 May, only reports.
Com. Moorhen: 1 BCM 27 Apr, 2, 22, 24 May; 3 CP 18, 22 May.
Am. Coot: 1 Coxsackie 27 Mar; 1 overwintered MR Crescent Dam still present 5 Mar.
Semipalmated Plover: max 6 VF 20 May; 7 SI 22 May.
Greater Yellowlegs: 10 reports of singles.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 8 reports.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 23 VF 15 May; 15 reports of singles.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 6 PISP 1 May; 4 NRP 2 May.
Upland Sandpiper: arr 2 FtE 29 Apr; 1 NAMC SCHO; 3 Amsterdam 18 May; 5 Cary Rd. FtE 15 May; 1 Hinds Rd WASH 22 May.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 1 VF 15 May; 3 Jefferson 20 May; present Alcove Res. 22 May; only reports.
Least Sandpiper: max 75-100 VF 15 May.
White-rumped Sandpiper: 4 SI 22 May (WE).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Alcove Res. 22 May; 1 StPd 22 May.
Short-billed Dowitcher: 5 Half Moon 22 May (WE, NM).
Com. Snipe: max 24 Town Line Rd WASH 17 Apr; 12 BCM 22 May; good numbers.
Laughing Gull: 1 NB 8 May (RG).
Bonaparte's Gull: 1 CL 7 Apr; 3 NB 23 Apr; 8 SL 9 May.
Ring-billed Gull: max 140 Cohoes/Colonie 13 Mar.
Herring Gull: max 2000 Cohoes/Colonie 5 Mar.
Iceland Gull: 1 Cohoes/Colonie 5 Mar; 3 Coxsackie 3, 20 Mar; 2 Coxsackie 21 Apr.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 3

Cohoes/Colonie 5 Mar; 1 Cocksackie 13 Mar; 1 Cocksackie 26 Mar.
Glaucous Gull: 1 Cocksackie 3 Mar (RB).
Great Black-backed Gull: max 115 SI 22 May.
Caspian Tern: 1 SI 22 May.
Com. Tern: 2 NB 23 Apr; 1 SL 9 May, only reports.
Black Tern: no reports.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: 9 reports of singles.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Austerlitz 2 May; 1 Greenport 8 May; 1 NB 22 May; 2 NB 31 May; only reports.
E. Screech-Owl: 1 FR 12 Mar; 2 Cocksackie 28 Mar; 1 Livingston 8 Apr, 15 May; 1 Guilderland 22 May; no other reports.
Great Horned Owl: 11 reports; 1 ad 2 juv NRP 16 May; nesting Gallupville.
Barred Owl: 5 reports of singles; 2 TP 22 May.
Short-eared Owl: max 21 Blackhouse Rd FtE 27 Mar (WL, BP); last 4 FtE 30 Mar; 1 over I-890 Schenectady 1 Apr (SA).
Com. Nighthawk: 1 NAMC SCHO; 1 Troy 29 May; 1 Saratoga 31 May; only reports.
Whip-poor-will: 1 Stanton Rd. Coeymans 30 Apr (CT); 1 Greenport 2-5 May; 1 Schodack 13 May; 1 CSR 22 May; 1 Hague 28 May; 2 Amsterdam 29 May.
Chimney Swift: max 36 Delmar 18 May.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 10 banded JL May incl 7 returns, 2-5 yr old birds (RY).
hummingbird sp?: Gallatin COLU 27 March, at feeder, reported as Ruby-throated
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 20 reports; max 18 NAMC COLU..
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 3 TP 2 May; 15 reports of singles.
Downy Woodpecker: max 12 NRP 21 Mar.
Hairy Woodpecker: max 8 NRP 21 Mar, 1 Apr.

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Alcove Res 22 May; 1 TRd 22 May; 1 TP 22 May; 1 Davits Pd RENS 28 May.
E. Wood-Pewee: 14 reports of singles; max 7 SNHP 30 May.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 Ghent 22 May (ADBC).
Alder Flycatcher: max 4 TRd 15 May.
Willow Flycatcher: 12 reports of singles; max 11 BCM 22 May.
Least Flycatcher: max 20 PP 12 May.
E. Phoebe: max 9 NRP 2 May; 24 NAMC COLU; 27 reports of singles.
Great Crested Flycatcher: max 7 NB 14 May; only 8 reports of singles.
E. Kingbird: 12 reports of singles; max 6 SL 9 May; 5 NRP 17 May.
Yellow-throated Vireo: 16 reports of singles; max 5 NAMC COLU; 5 Guilderland 22 May.
Blue-headed Vireo: only 10 reports of singles 20 Apr-30 May.
Warbling Vireo: only 8 reports of singles; max 12 SISP 31 May.
Philadelphia Vireo: no reports.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 10 NB 14 May.
Am. Crow: 2500 at roost SUNY at Albany 13 Mar.
Fish Crow: 18 reports; max 30 Catskill 3 Apr; 12 SUNYA 6 May.
Com. Raven: reported throughout Region.
Horned Lark: max 71 FtE 12 Mar.
Purple Martin: at least 8 prs SL 19 Apr; 1 CP 18 May; 1 Silver Bay WARR 29 May.
Tree Swallow: high counts 400-500 HR Stillwater 2 Apr.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 12 Cohoes 6 May; 23 NAMC SCHO.
Bank Swallow: 50 SL 9 May; present near old canal bank site Brookview 16 May; 45 burrows T Malta garage sandpile 16 May; 30 nesting burrows T Jackson garage sandpile 21 May (JS).
Cliff Swallow: 2 Gansevoort 2 May; nesting on inn Silver Bay WARR.
Black-capped Chickadee: only 20 banded JL 1 Mar-31 May (RY), oldest return caught c.11 yrs old; had been caught 8 of those 11 years.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: at least 5 prs Gallupville.
White-breasted Nuthatch: max 8 NRP 21 Mar.
Brown Creeper: first singing SNHP 21 Mar, late.
Carolina Wren: 13 reports of singles; max 3 NB 9 May.
House Wren: 1 Loudonville 15 Apr, early; max 5 NB 28 Apr, 5 SNHP 7 May.
Winter Wren: 3 reports for Mar, 14 for Apr, and 14 for May; 4 TP 15 May.
Marsh Wren: max 7 BCM 22 May.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 4 NRP 21 Mar; 6 WR 31 Mar.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 9 NRP 25 Apr; 8 SNHP 28 Apr; last 1 NRP 22 May.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 VF 10 Apr (SS), very early; max 5 NRP 2 May; 5 BCM 5 May; 28 NAMC COLU.
E. Bluebird: good numbers reported generally.
Veery: max 23 NB 31 May.
Bicknell's Thrush: no reports from breeding areas in Catskills.
Swainson's Thrush: 3 reports of singles; 1 singing Schodack Ctr RENS 14, 29 May.
Hermit Thrush: max 5 SkW 6 May.
Wood Thrush: max 23 NAMC COLU; 15 NRP 16 May; 18 NB 22 May.
Gray Catbird: max 42 NAMC COLU.
N. Mockingbird: 7 reports of singles; max 4 Guilderland 10 Apr.
Brown Thrasher: 9 reports of singles; max 2 BCM 2, 9 May.
European Starling: max 5000 Crescent Dam/Colonie landfill 5 Mar (WE).
Am. Pipit: 14 StFl 31 Mar; 12 FtE 29 Apr; c. 24 Ft. Hunter MONT 9 May.
Cedar Waxwing: max 50 Schodack 10 Mar; 70 Guilderland 12 Apr.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 SNHP 3 May; max 18 singing males SNHP 7 May; 18 NAMC COLU; 5 T Hartford WASH 16 May.
Golden-winged Warbler: 1 SL 22 May (WE); 1 Tawasentha Pd. ALBA 29 May (WE, NM); only reports.
Tennessee Warbler: 1 SkW 6 May; 1

BCM 9 May; 1 Schodack Ctr. 27 May.
Nashville Warbler: 8 reports 8-22 May; Livingston 18 Apr (BC), early.
N. Parula: 8 reports 8-22 May; max 5 NB 14 May.
Yellow Warbler: max 69 NAMC COLU; 27 BCM 9 May; 36 Guilderland 20 May; 29 SISP 31 May.
Magnolia Warbler: 13 reports 6-24 May; max 8 NB 14 May; 5 Cole Hill SF ALBA 15 May.
Cape May Warbler: 1 Riley Cove SL 6 May (RB); 1 NB 14 May (RG); 1 T Edinburg 20 May (WL); only reports.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 22 reports 2-24 May; max 10 NB 14 May.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 67 NAMC COLU; 35 SL 9 May; 40 SUNY at Albany 12 May.
Black-throated Green Warbler: 11 reports 29 Apr-21 May; max 7 New Scotland 21 May.
Blackburnian Warbler: 9 reports 11-23 May; max 5 TP 15 May, 6 New Scotland 21 May.
Pine Warbler: 11 reports of singles.
Prairie Warbler: arr. BCM, SNHP 7 May; max 6 Guilderland 15 May.
Palm Warbler: 11 reports 4 Apr-12 May.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 6 reports 8-21 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: 10 reports 14-31 May.
Cerulean Warbler: 3 NB 1 May; 1 BCM 15 May; 1 Gallatin 15 May; 4 SISP n end 12 May (WL); 11 SISP 31 May (RG).
Black-and-white Warbler: max 6 NAMC COLU.
Am. Redstart: 17 reports 5-31 May; max 31 SISP 31 May.
Worm-eating Warbler: 1 Holt Preserve, T New Scotland ALBA 21 May; pr. Blossom Hill Rd. ALBA 15 May.
Ovenbird: max 27 NAMC COLU; 14 NB 18 May.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 1 NRP 10 Apr; 9 reports of singles; max 4 FR 18 Apr; 3 TP 22, 29 May, ad carrying food.
Mourning Warbler: 1 Schodack Ctr. 14 May; 1 singing Schoharie Crossing St Historic Site MONT 18, 21 May; 1 Altamont 20 May; 1 TRd 22 May.

May.

Hooded Warbler: 1 Holt Preserve 21-22 May (WE, NM), second consecutive year.

Wilson's Warbler: 12 reports 11-22 May.

Canada Warbler: 10 reports 8-22 May; max 5 TP 22 May.

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 Meadowdale Rd ALBA 20-22 May (WE, NM).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: 12 reports of singles; 4 Guilderland 15 May; 7 NB 17 May; 5 New Scotland 21 May.

E. Towhee: max 15 PB 29 Apr; 11 NAMC COLU.

Am. Tree Sparrow: max 16 NRP 21 Mar; 23 Guilderland 27 Mar; 25 VF 2 Apr; last 1 VF 28 Apr.

Chipping Sparrow: max 50 NAMC COLU.

Field Sparrow: arr 1 Livingston 16 Mar; max 13 SNHP 28 Apr.

Vesper Sparrow: 2 Saratoga Cty. Airport 17 Apr, 15, 22 May; 1 T Moreau SARA 22 May; 1 Blackhouse Rd. FtE 22 May.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 FtE 15 May; 2 Dowmont Rd 22 May; 1 Cary Rd 30 May.

Henslow's Sparrow: 2 Dowmont Rd FtE 22 May; not present SNHP.

Fox Sparrow: arr 4 Mar Gallupville (BBo, KB); last 1 Guilderland 21 Apr; widely reported.

Song Sparrow: arr 7 Guilderland 21 Mar; max 40 Guilderland 27 Mar.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 NB 14 May; 1 NRP 16 May, only reports.

Swamp Sparrow: arr 3 Newton Hook COLU 8 Apr.

White-throated Sparrow: first migrants Rotterdam 24 Mar; high count 10

Guilderland 21 Apr.

White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Saratoga 6, 7 Mar, probably overwintered; 1 *gambelii* Guilderland 14 May (WE, NM); last 1 VF 22 May.

Lapland Longspur: 6 FtE 10 Mar.

Snow Bunting: 1 SUNY at Albany 22 Mar, only report.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 8 NAMC COLU; 11 NAMC SCHO; 8 NB 14 May; 8 New Scotland 21 May.

BLUE GROSBEAK: 1 Valatie 9 May (CW), NYSARC report requested.

Indigo Bunting: max 3 Guilderland 6 May, seem numerous.

Bobolink: numerous FtE, farm fields ALBA, MONT, SNHP after 1 May; max 20 Guilderland 20 May.

E. Meadowlark: arr 1 FtE 26 Mar.

Rusty Blackbird: arr 1 VF 3 Mar; 100+ BCM 5 Apr (SA); last 1 BCM 9 May.

Com. Grackle: max 2000 Troy 4 Mar.

Orchard Oriole: 2 ALBA 22 May (A. Mapes); 1 Amsterdam 28 May (TP).

Baltimore Oriole: max 12 NRP 22 May.

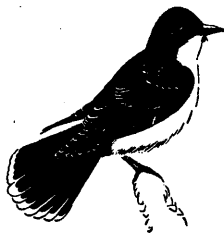
Purple Finch: widely reported in low numbers.

Pine Siskin: 2 Bakers Mills WARR 20 Mar (RY), only report.

Am. Goldfinch: 121 banded JL Mar-May, 30-year record (RY).

Evening Grosbeak: 2 E. Poestenkill 8 May; 2 New Salem 9 May; 1 LG 11 May (BP); breeding JL, 27 banded Apr-May (RY).

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REGION 9 - HUDSON - DELAWARE

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The spring season started out wet. March had an above average 4.62 inches of rain. This was followed by a long dry spell that continued through April and into the first half of May. April only recorded 1.80 inches of rain at Westchester Airport. Late April was warm and sunny. An early migration was anticipated but never materialized. There were weather problems to the south. A series of weather systems moving by south of the Region prevented any large movement of migrants. The first week of May was gray with heavy clouds and intermittent showers. The first good push of migrants did not occur until 9-12 May, quite late.

Wayne Kocher and his wife found an ailing loon in basic plumage off Iona Island on 15 May. The bird was photographed and eventually died. Kocher alertly took the bird to Croton Point Nature Center. It was frozen and eventually picked up by the American Museum of Natural History. The initial pictures indicated a possible Pacific/Arctic Loon, but further examination of the specimen revealed it to be a Red-throated Loon with an atypical bill. As Manny Levine pointed out in a correspondence with me, "Basic-plumaged *pacifica* type loons should be very carefully studied and unless every diagnostic clue is very apparent, should be called loon sp. John Bull was probably very correct in not accepting any sight records of basic-plumaged Pacific Loons."

Frank Alpert reported a phalarope off Piermont Pier on 31 May. Due to its distance off the pier, birders could only tell it was a phalarope. Fortunately, a boater went out and approached close enough to report back all the field marks of a Red-necked Phalarope.

A Chuck-will's-widow was reported from Croton Point Park 24 April, apparently only Westchester's third record.

Sullivan County recorded its first Yellow-headed Blackbird, an adult male in Bradley 30 March- 4 April.

Other highlights include: Red-headed Woodpecker, Kentucky Warbler, and Summer Tanager

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP-Croton Point Park, EGR-Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, GA-Galeville Airport, HMHW-Hook Mountain Hawk Watch, JBNHS-John Burroughs Natural History Society, KP-Kakiat Park, LHVBL-Lower Hudson Valley Bird Line, PNR Pawling Nature Preserve, PP-Piermont Pier, RNC-Rye Nature Center, RTWMC-Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club May Census, SCASFT-Sullivan County Audubon Society Field Trip.

LOONS-DUCKS

Com. Loon: Handful of inland reports in DUTC, ROCK, SULL.

Red-throated Loon: 1 Iona Marsh 12-15 May.

Red-necked Grebe: 3 EGR 18 Apr.

N. Gannets: max 15 EGR 27 Mar; few

EGR 3 Apr (LHVBL); 89 EGR 11 Apr.

Great Cormorant: 1 CP 26 Mar (LHVBL).

Am. Bittern: 1 MC 30 Apr; 3-4 Bashakill 16-31 May; 1 MC 4 May.

Least Bittern: 1 George's Island 15 May; 1 MC 29 May.

Great Egret: first 1 Rye 25 Mar.

Snowy Egret: first 2 MC 31 Mar.

Little Blue Heron: 1 EGR 1 Apr; 1 MC 4 Apr.

Cattle Egret: 3 along Route 84, ORAN 29 May

Green Heron: arr 20 Apr.

Glossy Ibis: 1 MC 10 May.

Black Vulture: 5 Bear Mt 7 Mar; 5

Teatown Reservation 19 Mar; 1 New

Paltz 20 Mar; 2 South Salem 5 Apr; 1

HMHW 17 Apr; 3 Doodletown 1 May; 3

Doodletown 22 May; 2 Cold Spring 22 May.

Snow Goose: max 50 DUTC 13 Apr.

Wood Duck: arr 3 Mar.

Blue-winged Teal: 2 Bashakill 7 Apr; 2

Rockland Lake 26 Apr.

N. Pintail: 50 Six-and-a-half Station

Marsh 19 Mar (LHVBL), more numerous this year.

Redhead: 4-5 Abel's Pond DUTC 5-14 Mar.

Ring-necked Duck: max 70 Lake Walton DUTC mid Mar.

Surf Scoter: 2 Rye 16 Apr; 3 EGR 1 May.

White-winged Scoter: 4 EGR 16 Apr; 1 EGR 1 May.

Oldsquaw: max 180 Rye 24 Mar.

Hooded Merganser: max 30 Bashakill 11 Mar.

Com. Merganser: 680 Chadwick Lake 31 Mar (LHVBL); 2 DUTC thru May (EP).
Red-breasted Merganser: 2 Hyde Park 1 Apr

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Osprey: first Cape Pond SULL 26 Mar; 24 HMHW 17 Apr; 2 nesting at Bashakill, pair attempting to breed at MC.
Bald Eagle: many lingered to Apr, reports from each county; on nest at Bashakill 20 Apr (SCASFT); 1 DUTC 15 May; 1 Cold Spring 22 May.
N. Harrier: few Oil City Rd ORAN 10 Mar (LHVBL); 4 HMHW 17 Apr.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 58 HMHW 18 Apr.
Cooper's Hawk: 10 HMHW 17 Apr.
N. Goshawk: 1 Stissing Mt 8 Mar (LHVBL); 1 Grahamsville early Apr; 1 Bashakill 9 May (RTWBC).
Red-shouldered Hawk: nests found in SULL; 1 Lake Oniad DUTC 14 Mar; 1 Myers Corners 31 Mar; 2 HMHW 17 Apr; nesting and feeding young Stonykill Apr-May.
Broad-winged Hawk: 1 Dutchess Mall 11 Mar early (BB); 1 Baird Park 31 Mar; 1 Cornwall 5 Apr (LHVBL); 1142 HMHW 17 Apr.
Red-tailed Hawk: 8 HMHW 17 Apr.
Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Youngsville early Mar; 1 Depot Hill DUTC 28 Apr, very late (CP)
Golden Eagle: 1 Claryville 5-6 Mar; 1-2 Stissing Mt 6,8,13, 20 Mar (LHVBL); 1 overhead DUTC 27 Apr.
Am. Kestrel: 20 HMHW 17 Apr.
Merlin: 1 EGR 26 Mar; 1 EGR 17 Apr; 1 HMHW 18 Apr.
Peregrine Falcon: 1 Bear Mt Bridge 1, 29-30 Apr; 1 Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge 24 Apr; nesting in Millbrook.
Ruffed Grouse: 1 Brinton Brook 20 Apr (LHVBL); 1 Doodletown 10 May.
Clapper Rail: few MC 4 Apr (LHVBL); 1 Iona Marsh 14 May.
Virginia Rail: 10 Bashakill 27 Apr.
Sora: 3 Bashakill 27 Apr; 1 George's Island 5 May.
Black-bellied Plover: max 10 MC 18

May.

Semipalmated Plover: 1 CP 25 May.
Am. Oystercatcher: 1 EGR 28 Mar; few MC 4 Apr (LHVBL).
Greater Yellowlegs: 3 MC 4 Apr; 1 CP 17 Apr.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 1 PP 3 Apr; 1 White Sulphur Springs SULL 1 May; 1 Bronx River, Yonkers 14 May; 1 DUTC 15, 18 May; 1 CP 1 25 May.
Solitary Sandpiper: 1 PP 26 Apr.
Willet: 1 Cold Spring 22 May.
Spotted Sandpiper: arr 26 Apr.
Upland Sandpiper: max 2 Blue Chip Farm and 3 GA 30 May.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: few Cold Spring 22 May; few CP 25 May.
Least Sandpiper: 16 DUTC 15 May.
Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Yonkers 14 May; 4 Poughkeepsie 18 May.
Purple Sandpiper: last 12 EGR 1 May.
Com. Snipe: 1 DUTC 1 Mar; 17 Bullville ORAN 13 Apr (LHVBL); 2 CP 17 Apr; 1 White Sulphur Springs SULL 1 May.
Red-necked Phalarope: 1 off Piermont Pier 31 May (FA).
Laughing Gull: 2 MC 21 Apr; 1 Fishkill 8 May.
Bonaparte's Gull: 3 EGR 3 Apr.
Iceland Gull: 1 Woodbourne 3 Mar; 2 Woodbourne 1 Apr.
Glaucous Gull: 1 Woodbourne 24 Mar.
Com. Tern: arr MC 10 May.
Forster's Tern: 2 MC 2 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: reported from each county
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Wappinger 9 May; 1 Doodletown 12,29 May; 1 East Irvington Nature Preserve 14 May; 1 Cold Spring 22 May; 1 Bashakill 29 May.
Long-eared Owl: 1 Kencisco Res 11-26 Mar; 1 Abel's Pond 22 Mar.
Short-eared Owl: 15 Oil City Rd ORAN 10,15 Mar (LHVBL).
N. Saw-whet Owl: 4 reports from SULL
Com. Nighthawk: arr 14 May.
Chuck-will's-widow: 1 CP 24 Apr (LHVBL).
Whip-poor-will: Bashakill 22 May; 1

DUTC 15 May.
Chimney Swift: arr 27 Apr.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr 27 Apr.
Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 CP thru (LHVBL); 1 Amenia 6 May; 1 Bashakill 9 May (RTWBC); pair nesting Esopus (SS).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: many reports in Apr; 2 drumming DUTC 22 May

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Doodletown 10,22,29 May; 1 DUTC 12 May; 1 Yonkers 15 May; 1 Vassar Farms 20 May; 1 Bashakill 29 May.
E. Wood-Pewee: arr 13 May.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 PNR 13,22 May; 1 Doodletown 10 May.
Acadian Flycatcher: 1 Doodletown 28 May; 1 Bashakill 29 May.
Alder Flycatcher: 4 reports from DUTC; 1 MC 27,28 May; 1 Pound Ridge 24-31 May; 1 Neversink Preserve 29 May.
Willow Flycatcher: arr 15 May.
Least Flycatcher: arr 16 Apr.
E. Phoebe: arr Bashakill 5 Mar.
E. Kingbird: 2 Bashakill 27 Apr.
Great Crested Flycatcher: arr 7 May, some commented that numbers were low.
N. Shrike: 1 Warwick 17 Mar (LHVBL).
White-eyed Vireo: arr 28 Apr.
Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Doodletown 1 May.
Blue-headed Vireo: arr 21 Apr.
Warbling Vireo: 1 Rockland Lake 26 Apr.
Philadelphia Vireo: 1 DUTC 15 May (RTWMC).
Red-eyed Vireo: arr 6 May.
Fish Crow: 1 Bashakill 13 Apr (LHVBL).
Com. Raven: reports from each county; 2 displaying Hook Mt 3 Apr (LHVBL); pair courting Mountainville ORAN 17 Apr; 1 Mine Rd ORAN 2 May.
Horned Lark: 2 DUTC 15 May.
Purple Martin: 1 Bashakill 20 Apr; 3 Milewood Rd DUTC 21 Apr; 4 pair Verbank May.
Tree Swallow: arr 18 Mar
N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr 10 Apr.
Bank Swallow: arr 19 Apr

Cliff Swallow: 1 CP 6 Apr (LHVBL), nesting colony for second year.
Barn Swallow: arr 18 Apr.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 Lenoir Preserve 21 Apr, migrant.
Brown Creeper: arr 1 Apr.
House Wren: arr 26 Apr.
Marsh Wren: arr 6 Apr.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: abundant last two weeks of April.; last 1 Vassar Farm 27 May.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr 10 Apr.
E. Bluebird: nest with four eggs DUTC 17 Mar (RTWBC)
Veery: arr 29 Apr.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr 1 Bashakill 9 May (RTWBC); 1 Hastings 15 May; 1 Yonkers 15 May; 3 DUTC 15 May; 1 RNC 12, 14, 16 May.
Swainson's Thrush: arr 9 May.
Wood Thrush: arr 28 Apr.).
Gray Catbird: arr 17 Apr.
Brown Thrasher: arr 17 Apr.
American Pipit: 6 CP 26 Mar (LHVBL).
Cedar Waxwing: max 90 IBM DUTC 24 Mar.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 25 Apr.
Golden-winged Warbler: 1 Katonah 12 May; 1 Bashakill 22,31 May; harder to find in the usual places.
"Brewster's" Warbler: 1 Doodletown 19 May.
Tennessee Warbler: arr 10 May.
Nashville Warbler: arr 27 Apr.
N. Parula: arr 28 Apr.
Yellow Warbler: arr PP 3 Apr (LHVBL).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 27 Apr.
Magnolia Warbler: arr KP 6 May.
Cape May Warbler: arr 10 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 29 Apr.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 20 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr 7 May.
Yellow-throated Warbler: 1 Somers, Amawalk Reservoir Outlet 18 Apr (LHVBL).
Pine Warbler: arr 1 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: arr 27 Apr.
Palm Warbler: arr Yorktown Heights 6

Apr; last 15 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arrived 7 May; few sightings this spring.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr 9 May.

Cerulean Warbler: arr at Doodletown 1 May; 1 Fahnstock SP 8 May; 1 Rockefeller SP 13 May; 2 DUTC 15 May; max 9 Doodletown 12 May, 6 Bashakill 28 May.

Black-and-white Warbler: arr 23 Apr.

Am. Redstart: arr 1 May.

Worm-eating Warbler: arr 14 Apr.

Ovenbird: arr 6 May.

N. Waterthrush: 1 Doodletown 1 Apr (LHVBL).

Louisiana Waterthrush: arrived 22 Apr.

Kentucky Warbler: 1 MC 12 May; 1 Vasser Farm 15-24 May; 1 Doodletown 15, 22 May; 1 Fort Montgomery ORAN 23 May.

Mourning Warbler: 1 DUTC 15 May; 3 Doodletown 22 May; 1 Doodletown 29 May.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr 17 Apr.

Hooded Warbler: 1 Kent Cliffs 27 Apr.

Wilson's Warbler: 1 PP 2 May; 1 Bashakill 9 May.

Canada Warbler: arr 10 May.

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 Doodletown 10 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Summer Tanager: 1 RNC 24, 26 May (MB,TB).

Scarlet Tanager: arr 1 May.

E. Towhee: arr 6 Apr.

Am. Tree Sparrow: last 22 Apr.

Chipping Sparrow: arr 27 Feb.

Field Sparrow: 1 Yorktown Heights 6 Apr (LHVBL).

Vesper Sparrow: 3 Hurleyville 6-7 Apr; 1 DUTC 24 Apr; 2 Youngsville 26 Apr.

Savannah Sparrow: few CP 17 Apr.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 1 Pound Ridge 24 May.

Seaside Sparrow: 1 MC 27 May.

Fox Sparrow: scattered reports in each month.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 DUTC 16 Apr; 1 SULL feeder 27-28 Apr; 1 DUTC 7,8 May.

White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Wawarsing early Mar; 1 DUTC 31 Mar; 1 Ellenville early Apr; reports from WEST, ROCK, DUTC in May.

Dark-eyed Junco: 3 DUTC 15 May.

Snow Bunting: max 13 SULL 11 Mar.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr 2 Liberty 28 Apr.

Blue Grosbeak: 1 Doodletown 10 May.

Indigo Bunting: 1 Croton-on-Hudson 13 Apr (LHVBL).

E. Meadowlark: arr 7 Apr; 1 CP 24 Apr.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: 1ad male Bradley 30 Mar- 4 Apr (AL,RD,VF,LH,MG,MC), first record for SULL.

Rusty Blackbird: 1 DUTC 7 Mar; 1 Bashakill 18 Apr; 1 MC 28 Apr.

Orchard Oriole: 1 Rockland Lake 26 Apr; 1 Newburgh late Apr; max 3 Bronx River 28 May; many other reports in May, increasing.

Baltimore Oriole: 1 f DUTC 10 Apr, early; most arr 28 Apr.

Purple Finch: 5 DUTC 6 Mar; 1 DUTC 30 Mar; 2 DUTC 15 May.

Am. Goldfinch: 50 ULST feeder Apr.

Evening Grosbeak: 1 DUTC feeder 30 Apr

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REGION 10-MARINE

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A plot of actual daily high and low temperatures for the entire season almost fit perfectly into the long term charts depicting normal weather. Talk about dull! Except for a small cold spell in early March, a warm spell toward the end of April, and a relatively warm period at the end of May, this was almost a textbook pattern. Rainfall was normal except for April when less than half the normal precipitation fell. No rain also meant no fronts.

A "blocking" pattern prevailed over most of the Northeast from late April and continued for most of May. It resulted in winds that blew from the east or northeast for much of the time and pushed the usual storms coming up the coast out to sea to our south or off to the north. It also effectively moved the migrants away from our Region. We did have birds, but they came late and not in the numbers usually seen during early and mid May. Shorebirds were on the low side during the migration both here and throughout the Northeast.

We have seen some trends in the Region based solely on our personal observation. Birds experiencing potential breeding range extensions or continued extensions include Double-crested Cormorant, Chuck-will's-widow, Pileated Woodpecker, Warbling Vireo, Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, Boat-tailed Grackle and Orchard Oriole. Wintering birds no longer rare include Lesser Black-backed Gull.

The wintering Bonaparte's Gulls in the Region almost always attract a few uncommon gulls such as Little and Back-headed gulls. All appear to increase during the early spring. It's possible that the increase represents migrants in addition to lingering winter birds.

A sub-adult **Mississippi Kite** was seen at a Forest Park, Queens water hole on 25 May by Jeff Rabkin.

While monitoring the Piping Plover nesting at Cupsogue Beach in Westhampton Dunes, the ranger found a **Wilson's Plover**. It was discovered on 4 May and stayed until the 5th.

Hugh McGuinness found a Least Sandpiper still in basic plumage at Sagaponack on 29 March. This species is rare before May and the date ties the earliest arrival date.

A third year **Black-tailed Gull** was discovered 6 May at Breezy Point by Paul Buckley and Shaibal Mitra. This will be the second record for the State, if approved by NYSARC.

A **White-winged Dove** came to Edward and Loretta Eaton's feeder in Long Beach 3-5 May. This same feeder last attracted this species 20-26 May 1995.

Henry F. Flamm ,who supplies information on birding on Staten Island, reported that Cliff Hagen had seen a Pileated Woodpecker in Clove Lake Park on 28 April. He indicated that this was the second sighting for Staten Island, both recently.

A Northern Parula was discovered in Hempstead Lake State Park by Matt Bayer on 15 April, a very early date.

A female **Painted Bunting** was found in Prospect Park by Peter Dorosh 24 March and remained until 6 April. It was seen by dozens of birders.

To round out the season, rare and uncommon birds that wintered and continued into the spring included **Sandhill Crane**, Greater White-fronted Goose, Tufted Duck and **Mew Gull**(*Larus c. canus*) the race popularly called Common Gull in Europe.

In terms of the exotic, an internet post by Marie Winn reported on a flock of parrots first observed in Central Park on March 18 by Tom Fiore. They remained to the 31st. Per her note, " They have been positively identified by several observers, including Marc Morrone of Parrots of the World, as Mitred Conures, [*Aratinga mitrata*]. This species is native to the mountains of Argentina and Peru in geographic areas with climate not all that unlike ours, i.e. cold in the winter. There are at least 17 birds in this flock, and they have been noisily ranging through the park feeding mainly on last year's hackberries."

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ABBREVIATIONS

CB-Cedar Beach; CP-Central Park; CLP-Clove Lake Park, SI; DP-Democrat Pt, FI; FI-Fire Island; FBF-Floyd Bennett Field; FP-Forest Park; FTP-Fort Pond, Montauk; HLSP-Hempstead Lake State Park; HP-Hook Pond, Southampton; JBWR-Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; JBCH-Jones Beach; JBWE-Jones Beach West End; LI-Long Island; MEB- Mecox Bay; MP-Montauk Point; PL-Point Lookout side Jones Inlet; PP-Prospect Park; RMSP-Robert Moses State Park; SG-Sagaponack; SGP-Sagg Pond, Bridgehampton; SHIN-Shinnecock Inlet; SI-Staten Island.

LOONS-DUCKS

Sooty Shearwater: RMSP 15 May; CB 15 May.
Double-crested Cormorant: at least 64 nests at Stony Brook Mill Pond (DF).
Tricolored Heron: JBWR from 27 Mar.
Cattle Egret: feeding in newly plowed field, Mattituck 21 Apr; SI 15 May.
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: pair constructed a nest in HLSP.
Greater White-fronted Goose: HP thru 20 Mar.
Snow Goose: 7 blue morph JBWR 12 Mar (SW).
Brant: Black morph FBF 28 Mar.
Eurasian Wigeon: several wintered, 1 Southampton thru 25 Apr.
Green-winged Teal: Eurasian race, JBWR 2 Mar.
Tufted Duck: 1 male Halsey Neck Pond Halsey Neck, Southampton; 1 male Cooper's Pond, Southampton 13 Mar; 1 there thru 1 Apr.
King Eider: 2-3 MP during Mar; off Montauk Village 15 May.
Com. Eider: 550 MP 6 Mar.
Harlequin Duck: wintering birds remained into Spring; numbers increased in late Mar and remained to mid Apr and later; 13 PL 31 Mar-18 Apr; 12 MP 28 Mar; 3 Horton Pt, No. Fork, LI; 8 Atlantic Beach 6 May.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

MISSISSIPPI KITE: sub-adult Forest Park water hole 25 May (JR).
Bald Eagle: JBWR 29 Mar; CP 21 Apr;

SHIN 24 Apr; Ft Tilden 9 May.

Red-tailed Hawk: nested again on building facing CP.

Ruffed Grouse: Quogue mid May.

Sandhill Crane: continued in Orient fields to 18 Mar.

Am. Golden-Plover: SHIN 11 Apr; SGP 21-30 Apr; SHIN 24 Apr.

WILSON'S PLOVER: Westhampton Dunes 4-5 May (per AL).

Semipalmated Plover: SG 4 Apr, first report (HMG).

Piping Plover: 2 Center Island Beach 8 Mar (RK).

Lesser Yellowlegs: SG from 27 Mar.

Whimbrel: MEB 18-20 Apr; 1-2 SHIN 24 Apr - 23 May; CB 15 May.

Least Sandpiper: SG 29 Mar (HMG), ties earliest record.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr SG 27 Mar.

Stilt Sandpiper: SGP 19 Apr (HMG); 2 SGP 21 Apr to 2 May; SGP 20 May.

Ruff: 1 SGP 19 Apr; 2 SGP 27 Apr-3 May; 1 SGP to 11 May.

Wilson's Phalarope: JBWR 14 May.

Red-necked Phalarope: 2 FTP 8 May.

Little Gull: 1-3 PL 14 Mar to 2 May, in Bonaparte's Gull flock; 2 MEB 27-28 Mar; HP 1 Apr; SHIN 3 Apr.

Black-headed Gull: 1-2 PL 13 Mar - 25 Apr, in Bonaparte's Gull flock; Agawam Pond, Southampton 7 Mar; 2 SAG 19 Apr; 1 SAG 2 May; MEB 6 Apr; 2 Georgica Pond 5 Apr; 1 Georgica Pond 4 May.

BLACK-TAILED GULL: 3rd year Breezy Pt 6 May (PB, SM).

MEW GULL: 1st winter continued SHIN thru 23 Mar (AL).

Iceland Gull: thru 2 May.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: thru 16 May

Glaucous Gull: HP 6 Mar; 2 MP 6 Mar; 1 MP 28 Mar; JBCH 20 Apr; SHIN 24 Apr, 3 May; FTP 8 May.

Black-legged Kittiwake: 3 adults, 2 imm SHIN 14 Mar.

Gull-billed Tern: 5 JBWE 9 May, 2 pair stayed a week and then departed presumably to nest on bay islands.

Caspian Tern: almost continuously with numbers as follows: 1 MEB 9 Apr, 2 on 18 Apr, 3 on 25 Apr; 1 SGP 11 Apr, 2 on 2 May, and 7 on 5 May.

Royal Tern: Westhampton Dunes 15 May.

Com. Tern: 18 Apr thru.

Forster's Tern: PL Feb thru.

Black Tern: arr DP 4 May.

Dovekie: off Hither Hills 14 Mar; off SHIN 14 Mar.

Com. Murre: picked up alive Napeague early Mar, died.

Razorbill: 8 MP 6 Mar; 40+ MP 14 Mar; 10 SHIN 14 Mar; 12 Easthampton 8 Apr.

Atlantic Puffin: landed on boat 70 miles off MP ~21 Mar, brought in for rehab.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: feeder, Long Beach 3-5 May (Edward and Loretta Eaton).

Monk Parakeet: 3 PP 30 Mar.

Chuck-will's-widow: SI 15 May, Oak Beach 15 May; Devon, northeast of Amagansett late May.

Red-headed Woodpecker: the 10 original wintering birds were reduced to 8 by the start of the season, some remained to nest in CP.

Pileated Woodpecker: CLP 28 Apr (CH *vide* HF).

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: first 11 May, CP, and PP.

N. Shrike: Dune road, W. of SHIN 8-17 Mar.

Philadelphia Vireo: Clove Laurel, SI 22 May.

Purple Martin: arr RMSP 21 Mar.

Barn Swallow: arr SG 21 Mar.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: almost no wintering birds and almost no migrants.

Marsh Wren: 2 heard singing Accabonac Marsh 30 Mar (*vide* HMG).

Bicknell's Thrush: JBWR south garden 15 May (TB, *et al*).

WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: CP 9, 13 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: NY City parks from 28 Mar - 9 May.

N. Parula: HLSP 15 Apr, very early (MB).

Yellow-throated Warbler: PP 11-19 Apr.

Cerulean Warbler: 2 CP 6 May; PP 8 May; 2 PP 9 May; JBWR 10 May; FP 23 May; more reports this year.

Prothonotary Warbler: Riverhead 22 May; PP 31 May.

Kentucky Warbler: from 7 May city parks, JBWE; a few others.

Mourning Warbler: 12 May thru.

Hooded Warbler: 17 Apr thru.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Summer Tanager: scattered individuals NY City parks and south shore LI 12 May thru.

Clay-colored Sparrow: JBCH 10 May (JF).

Vesper Sparrow: NY City parks early Apr - early May; others.

Harris's Sparrow: Bridgehampton 7 Mar - 12 May (JA *et al*).

White-crowned Sparrow: *gambelii* subspecies Bridgehampton in wintering flock of this species 10 Mar - 1 Apr.

Lapland Longspur: up to 12 St. Charles Cemetery early to late Mar.

Blue Grosbeak: 6-8 Jones Beach strip 17 Apr, others same week; CB 6 May; CP 12 May, Riverhead 15 May; PP 25 May.

PAINTED BUNTING: female PP 25 Mar - 6 Apr (PD *et al*).

Boat-tailed Grackle: reports from SI, JBWR, JBCH, CB, SHIN.

EXOTICS

Mitred Conure: 17 CP 18-31 Mar.

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