

NYSOA Winter Birding Weekend in the Adirondacks! Saturday & Sunday, January 31-February 1, 2026

Enjoy a weekend of birding trips in the Adirondacks this winter. Participants will look for winter irruptive species such as Bohemian Waxwing, Evening Grosbeak, Pine Grosbeak, Redpoll, Red and White-winged Crossbills, and more, along with year-round boreal residents such as Ruffed Grouse, Black-backed Woodpecker, Canada Jay, and Boreal Chickadee. Food sources are good this year with abundant fruit and many conifer species have excellent cone crops. For more detailed information, see this year's "Winter Finch Forecast" at: <https://finchnetwork.org/winter-finch-forecast-2025-2026>.

Field Trips: Joan Collins and Mary Beth Warburton will lead field trips on both days. On Saturday and Sunday morning, meet outside the Adirondack Hotel at 7 a.m. (near the bridge over Long Lake on Route 30). Participants can drive in their own vehicles, or car-pool, if they are comfortable, to reduce the number of cars in the train.

Social Dinner & Speaker: Gather for dinner and a presentation on Saturday evening at the Adirondack Hotel in Long Lake. Exact time for the dinner and presentation TBD. We are excited to have Matt Young as our speaker for the weekend event! Details are below:

Matt Young **“The Evening Grosbeak Road to Recovery Project** **and *The Stokes Guide to Finches of the United States and Canada*”**

Presentation Description: With a 92% decline since 1970, Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) was cited as the steepest declining landbird in the continental United States and Canada in the [Partners in Flight 2016 Landbird Conservation Plan](#).

From backyards to wilderness peaks, finches are some of the most exciting, mysterious, and popular group of songbirds. In this information-packed book, Lillian Stokes, best-selling author of 35 Stokes guides, and finch expert Matthew Young will introduce you to the 43 finches of the United States and Canada from feeder-favorite goldfinches to Red Crossbill tribes, to least known mountain-top Black Rosy-Finches to endangered Hawaiian honeycreepers. The Stokes Guide to Finches of the United States and Canada covers detailed finch identification, language, behavior, irruptions, specialized maps and foraging charts on crossbills, how to conserve finches, and much more. Infused throughout with quotes from the creative Quick Take chapter intros, filled with interesting facts, scientific knowledge, and stunning photos, this book will leave you understanding so much more about the finches you thought you knew.

Bio: Matthew Young is a co-lead on the Evening Grosbeak Road to Recovery Project in addition to being the Founder and Board President of the Finch Research Network. Matthew worked in the field of social work with special needs populations at the William George Agency for 12+ years and is currently a Wild Bird Products Specialist and Conservation Coordinator for Aspen Song Wild Bird Food. Additionally, Matthew worked at the Cornell Lab across 15 years where he worked on Golden-winged Warblers, Voices of Hawaii's Birds, Merlin Bird ID, and was

Project Lead on Lab's first Irruptive Finch Survey in 1999. Co-author of *The Stokes Guide to Finches of the United States and Canada*, and widely known as a preeminent authority on finches of North America, he has written finch species accounts for breeding bird atlases, Birds of the World accounts, and published several papers on finches and the Red Crossbill vocal complex.

Registration is required to attend the field trips. To register, contact Mary Beth Warburton at 315-268-0150 or email at msmarybeth.warburton@gmail.com . There is a maximum of 25 participants for each field trip.

Places to Stay:

A few possible places to stay in Long Lake (central Adirondacks):

- Adirondack Hotel (near the bridge over Long Lake) – hotel with a restaurant: <https://adirondackhotel.com/>
- Long View Lodge (on the southern end of the lake) – lodge with a restaurant: <https://thelongviewlodge.com/>
- Paddler's Rest (on the eastern side of the lake – a motel unit and cabins on the lake): <https://www.paddlersrestlonglake.com/>
- Motel Long Lake and Cottages (also a motel unit or cabins (all recently renovated) on the lake with a kitchen): <https://www.motellonglake.com/>

There are lots more places to stay (along with Airbnb's).

Breakfast/Lunch: Stewarts opens at 5 a.m. and offers quick breakfast items. Depending on the itineraries for Saturday and Sunday, lunch can be ordered (if needed) from the Adirondack Trading Post in Long Lake. If we go farther afield, there will be other locations to pick up lunch.