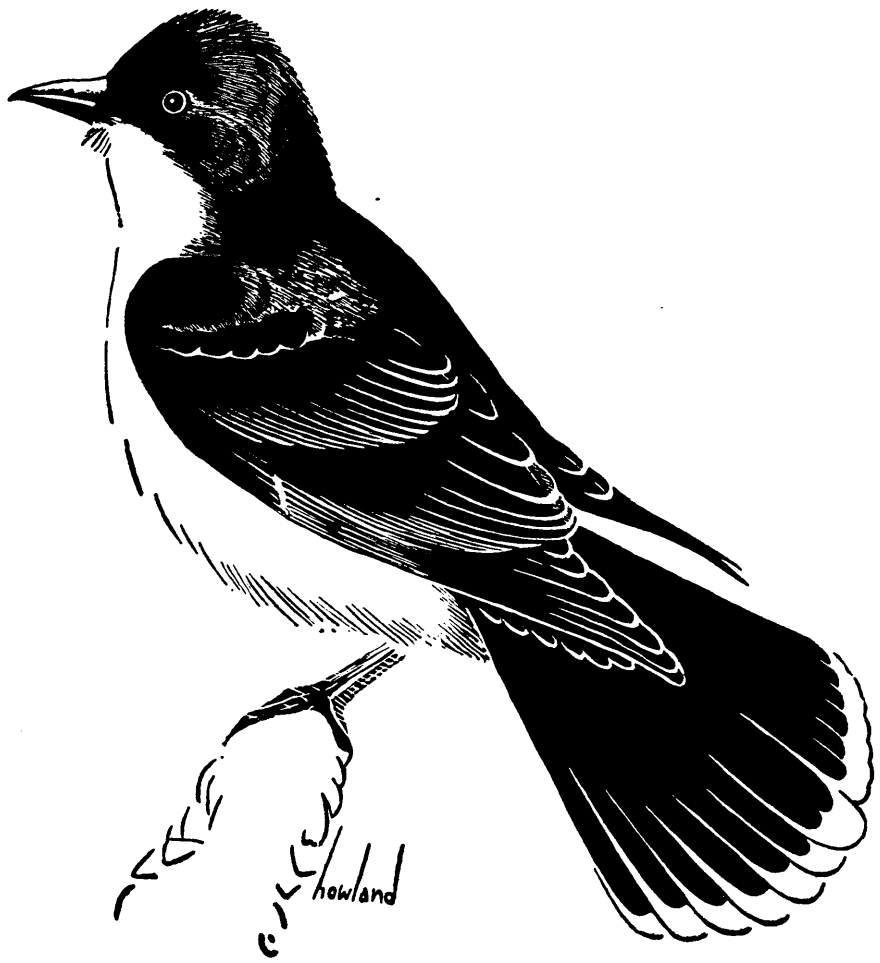


The KINGBIRD



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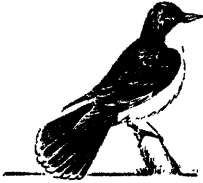
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Editor – Paul A. DeBenedictis

Highlights of the Season

Editor – Robert Spahn

Circulation Manager – Constance N. Wilkins

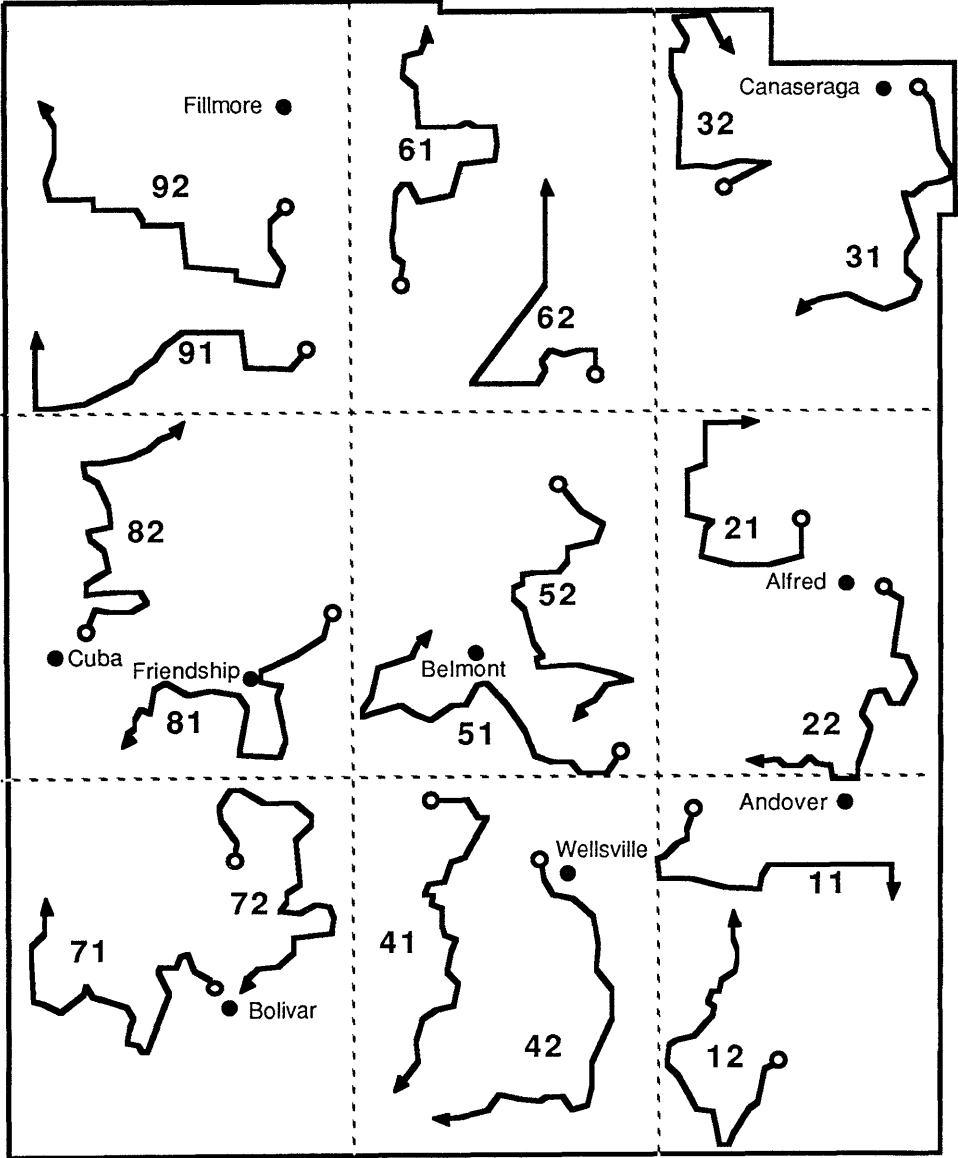


Figure 1. Location of census routes in Allegany County, New York.

THE ALLEGANY COUNTY BREEDING BIRD SURVEY

CLARENCE KLINGENSMITH and DEAN HOOVER

The Allegany County Breeding Bird Survey was instituted in 1970 to establish statistical indices of abundance of the breeding birds in the county and to monitor changes in these indices annually. The survey was patterned after the continent-wide Breeding Bird Survey developed by Chandler Robbins of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the 1960s (Robbins and VanVelzen 1967).

The purpose of this paper is to present a summary of the abundance indices and the changes which have occurred during the 15-year period 1970-1984.

Geographical Area

Allegany County in southern New York State embraces 670,000 acres that lie on the Allegheny Plateau. The southern part of the county primarily is heavily wooded terrain with narrow valleys and upland plateaus which reach elevations of 2400 feet. The northern part consists of hilly uplands and series of forested ridges. More than half of this northern section comprises the 200,000 acres of farmland in the county.

The central section of the county is densely spotted with 23 State Forest Lands, which have a total area of 45,000 acres. These were largely marginal farm lands which were planted to evergreens during the 1930s. The trees in these plantations are reaching a stature that permits harvesting of the logs for lumber.

The Genesee River, which crosses the county from south to north, is the principal drainage system. It enters the southern boundary at 1600 feet elevation and leaves the northern boundary at 1150 feet. The head waters of two other drainage systems occur within the county. The Allegheny River system is in the southwest and the Susquehanna river system is in the east.

Bodies of open water in the county are sparse. A dozen lakes have a total area of 1200 acres. Most of these are artificial impoundments, and many of them are surrounded by houses and cottages. A few marshes and swamps and other wetlands exist, but these provide major habitats only in a few localities.

Land use statistics reported by the Bureau of Census from 1969 to 1982 show changes which may affect bird populations. During that time, the proportion of the land in farms in Allegany County decreased from 38% to 32% and the number of farms decreased from 1100 to 900. The average size increased slightly.

Although harvested cropland has increased only slightly, the land used for pasture and grazing in 1982 was 60% of the amount in 1969. Acreage planted to corn and silage and acreage used for hay crops have increased substantially. The harvesting of grass now begins in the month of May and continues through a large part of the summer.

The population of the county is over 40,000. There are 29 towns and 12 villages, the largest of which is Wellsville with a population of 5800.

Methods

Eighteen 12-mile survey routes were laid out in 1970. These were distributed equally among nine rectangular parcels of the county. Each parcel is 10-12 miles on a side. The starting points and compass directions of the routes were chosen by random sampling. A map showing the distribution of the routes in Allegany County is found in Figure 1. Complete details and the locations of the routes were given previously (Klingensmith 1970).

Twenty-five "stops," spaced one-half mile apart, comprise the sampling unit referred to as a "route." These 18 routes provide a total of 450 sampling stations and represent a sampling density of one route for every 58 square miles. Thus, about 8.5% of the total area of the county is observed each year.

The surveys are conducted during June. Each survey starts 30 minutes before sunrise. At each stop, the observer or an assistant records the number of individuals of each species identified by voice at any distance or by sight within an estimated one-quarter mile for a three minute period. One of them also records the temperature, wind speed and sky condition. At the end of the route, the number of individuals of each species is totaled to complete the report. Each year after the routes are completed, the species count for each route is tabulated and the counts/route for each species found on one or more routes is computed.

Coverage of the 18 routes of this survey has been almost complete. Six of the routes have been conducted in each of the 15 years, and seven others lack only one year. The missing year is 1972, when flood waters washed out roads and bridges. Three routes lack two years and the other two routes have not been conducted during the last six years.

Fifteen observers, most of whom are members of the Allegany County Bird Club, have made the 15-year tenure of this survey possible. These observers have been assisted by an equal number of other members and friends of the bird club. Thirteen people have consistently run individual routes during the fifteen years of the survey. Although observers on the other five routes have varied, each route has had the same observer for several consecutive years.

Analysis of Data

The data were entered into Minitab, a statistical software package, on a Vax 11/780 computer. The annual counts/route for each of the species found on the survey for five years or more were analyzed by linear regression. The results are tabulated in Table 1. The first two columns, *mean* and *median* of the average counts/route, are measures of the abundance of the species. The *standard deviation* measures the variability in the counts. The *maximum* and *minimum* are the largest and the smallest average count per route in any one year. The *regression coefficient* measures the increase (positive value) or decrease (negative value) in the counts each year revealed by the line fit to the survey results. For example, the coefficient -1.13 for Song Sparrows indicates the line fit to the data shows an average decrease of 1.13 Song Sparrows per survey each year. The *Student T-value* tests the hypothesis that there is no change in the counts with respect to year; a T-value above 2 or below -2 indicates there is a significant change in the counts with respect to year at the 95% confidence level. The *coefficient of determination* gives the percentage of the total variation which can be explained by the regression line.

The annual counts/route for each species were plotted on graphs, a selection of which are presented below (Figures 2 to 9). With the aid of Minitab the yearly counts/route were smoothed using a method named "4253H Twice." Smoothing (Tukey, 1977) is a technical term for a method of analysis which allows one to see at a glance patterns which might otherwise be missed. The reader is cautioned that the vertical scale differs from graph to graph. If a value on the vertical axis is multiplied by the number of routes conducted, the result is the total number of birds of that species recorded for that year.

Results

One hundred twenty-six species were recorded on the survey during the 15-year period. Of this total, ninety-three species occurred in nine or more years. These are listed in Table 1 along with the results of the statistical analyses. The other thirty-two species (Table 2) occurred eight years or less and were not further analyzed. In most cases these species appear on the survey as a single individual for 3 years or less.

The 15-year mean of the annual counts/route of the 93 species detected regularly are listed in Table 1. These means range from 73.9 counts/route for Red-winged Blackbird to 0.06 for Northern Harrier. Eleven species have mean counts/route greater than 10, thirty-nine have mean counts/route between 1 and 10, and forty-four have mean counts/route less than 1. The two most abundant species are Red-winged Blackbird and American Robin. These two species are followed by European Starling,

Song Sparrow, American Crow, House Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Barn Swallow, Common Yellowthroat, and American Goldfinch, in that order.

In addition to providing a measure of the abundance of breeding species, this survey was undertaken to monitor changes in abundance. Decreasing abundance may be noted by the negative values of the regression coefficient and T-value in Table 1 and increasing abundance by the positive values. Changes significant at the 95% confidence level are denoted by T-values greater than 2 or less than -2 . By this criterion, abundance decreased for twenty-eight species listed in Table 1 and increased for nineteen species. Species with dramatic decreases (T-values less than -4) are Spotted Sandpiper, Northern Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, Rufous-sided Towhee, Song Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark and House Sparrow. Figures 2 to 4 are "smoothed" graphs of three of these species. Species with dramatic increases (T-values greater than 4) are Black-capped Chickadee, Common Yellowthroat, and Indigo Bunting. Figures 5 and 6 are "smoothed" graphs of two of these species. Two other species showed marked increases in abundance. For the Ovenbird the annual counts/route dropped slightly during the first half of the 15-year period and then increased sharply (Figure 7). The House Finch (Figure 8) was not included in the statistical treatment because it has been recorded on the survey only since 1979. It was first recorded in Allegany County in 1973 (Anon, 1973). By 1984 forty-three House Finches were recorded at fourteen "stops" on seven routes on this survey.

Another type of change in abundance found on this breeding bird survey will be referred to as "cycling." The most striking example is the Great Crested Flycatcher (Figure 9). The graph shows two cycles with a period of about eight years. Whether or not this cycling will continue can be determined only by the continuation of this survey. It is of interest to point out that linear regression parameters alone would not reveal this type of change. Other species which show some tendency toward "cycling" are Mourning Dove, Gray Catbird, Blue-winged Warbler and Bobolink.

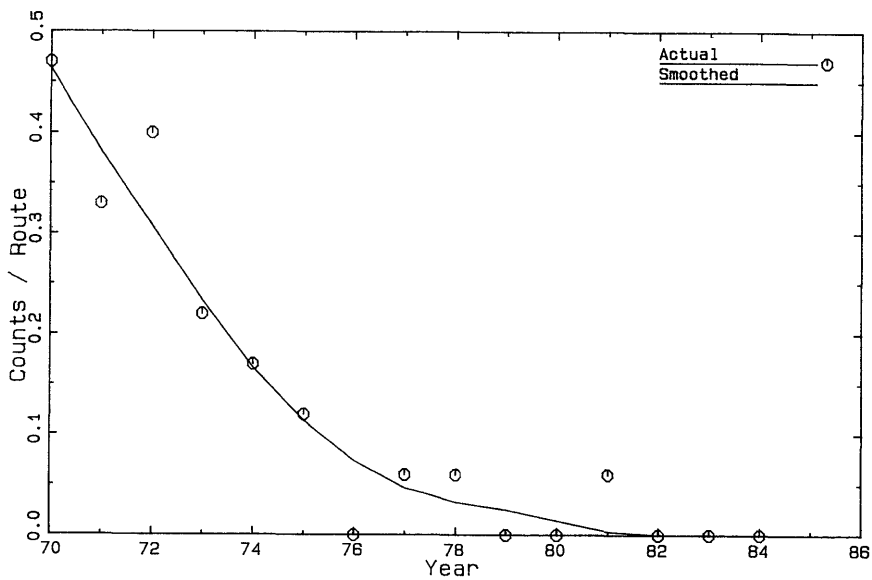


Figure 2. Spotted Sandpiper

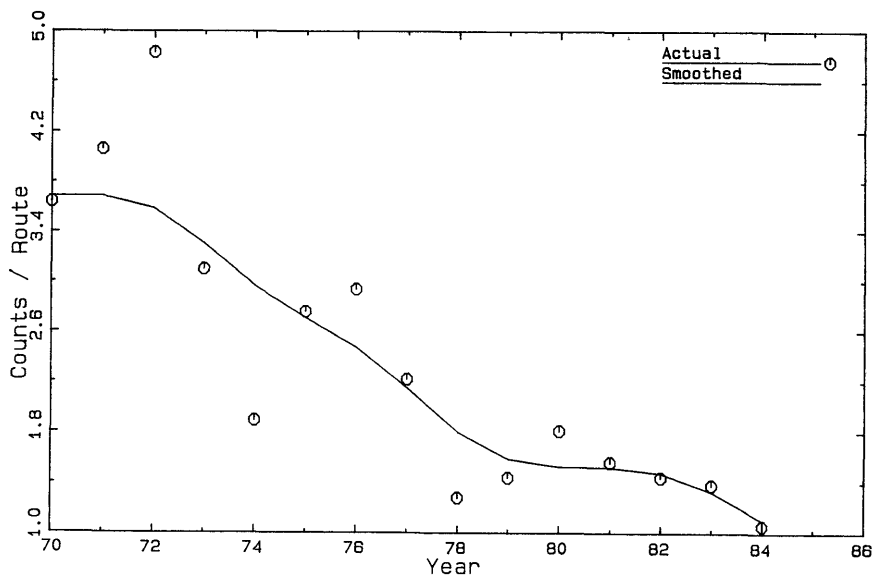


Figure 3. Northern Flicker

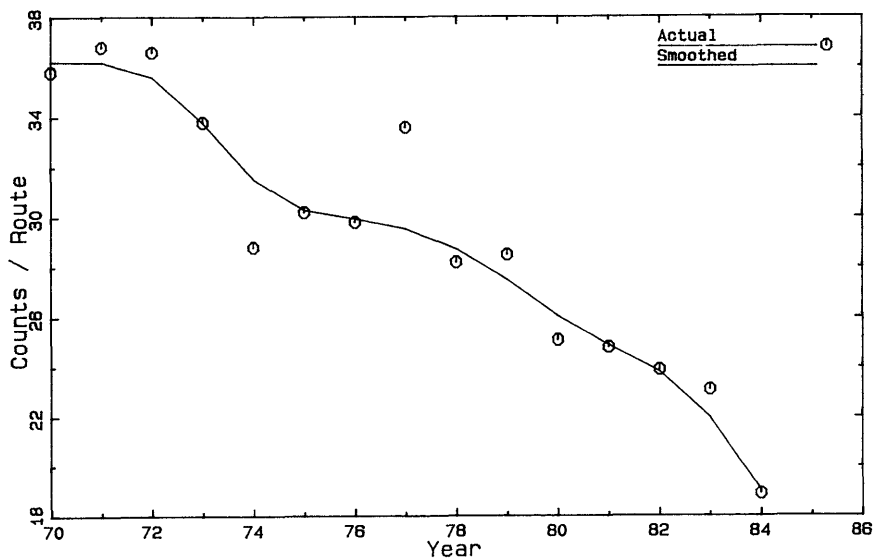


Figure 4. Song Sparrow

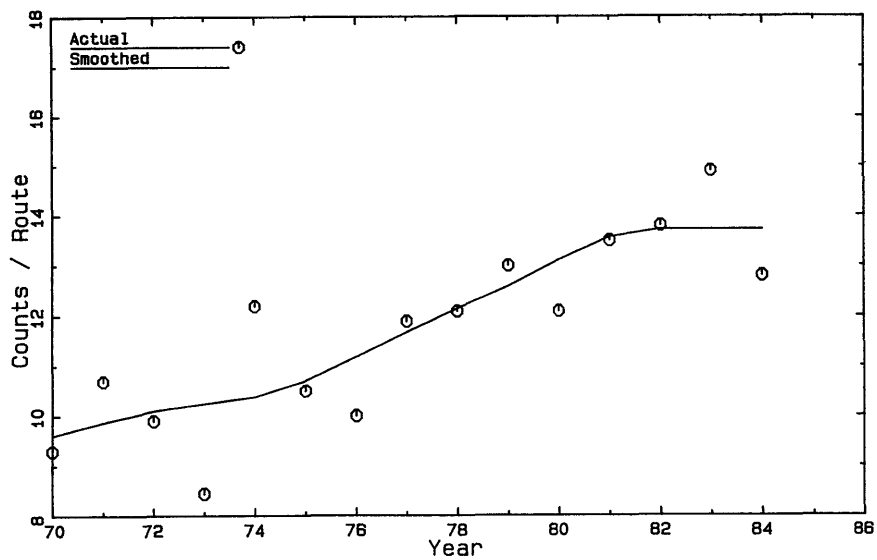


Figure 5. Common Yellowthroat

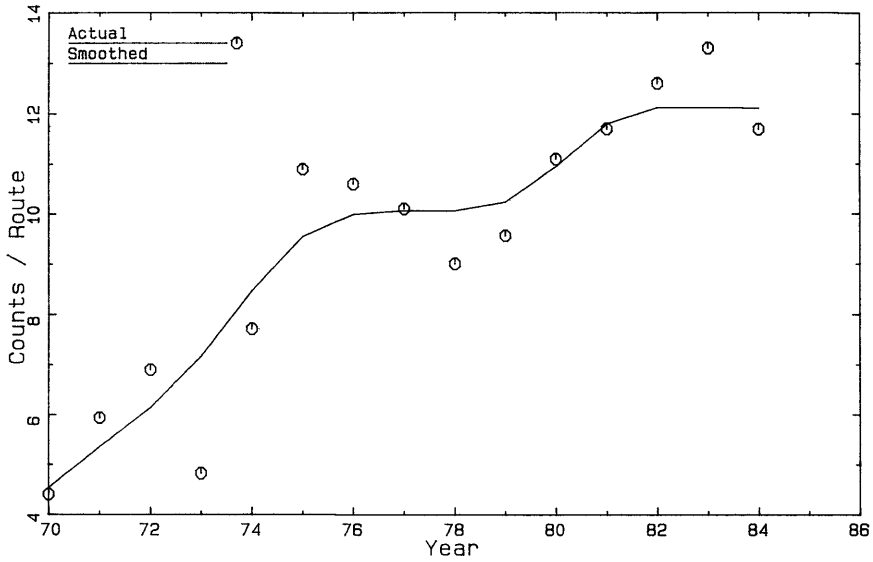


Figure 6. Indigo Bunting

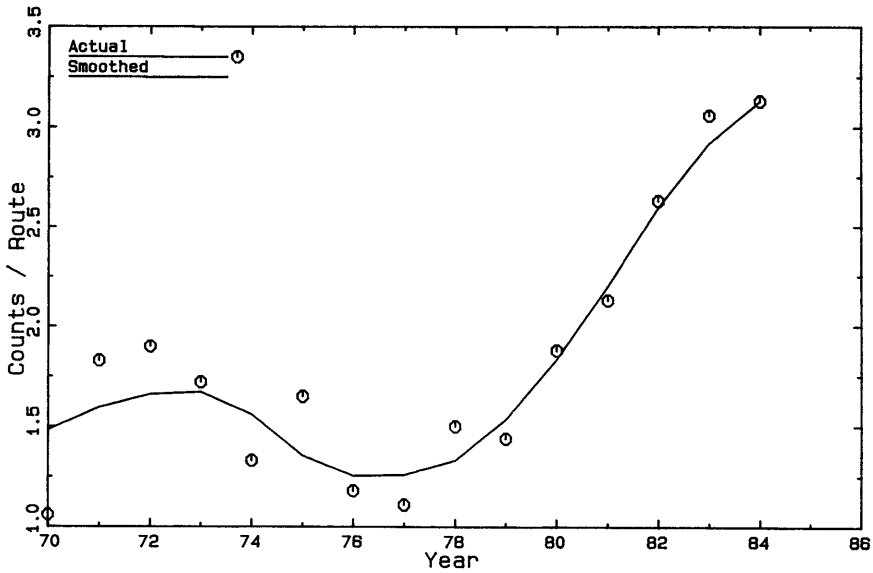


Figure 7. Ovenbird

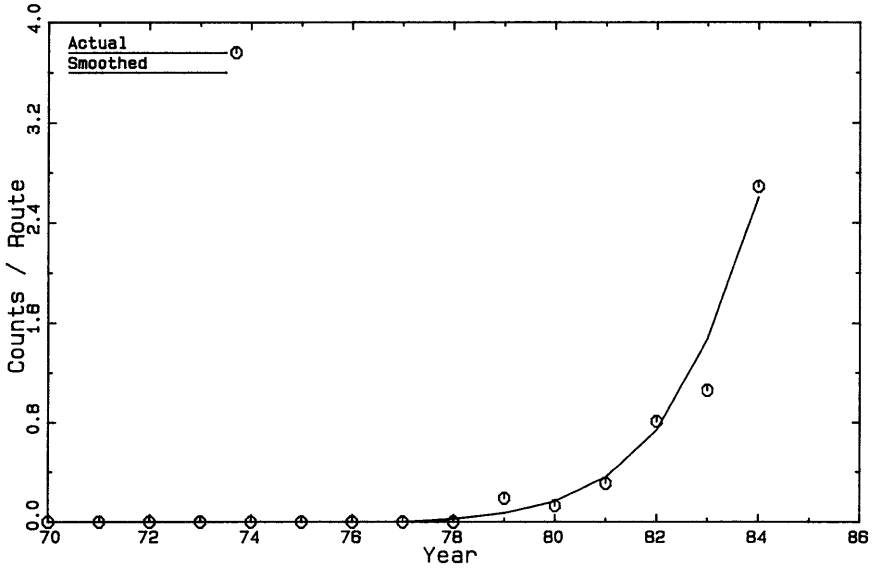


Figure 8. House Finch

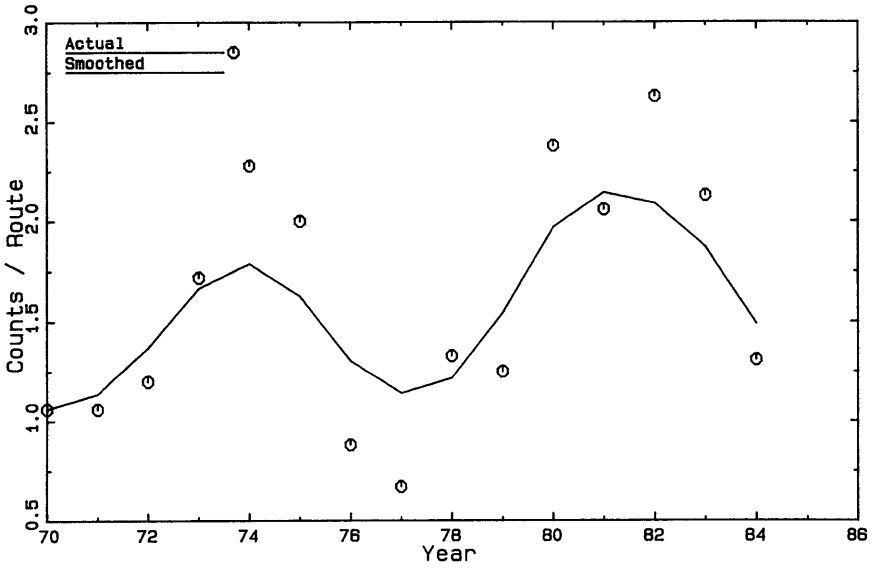


Figure 9. Great Crested Flycatcher

Discussion

The data presented in Table 1 has been gathered and assembled with considerable care for its accuracy and reliability, but our resources have not made it possible to subject the results to every possible control and test. One should also be reminded that the data has been gathered in an area that is only a small part of the entire range of most of the species. Any change in the abundance of a species changes in Allegany County may or may not happen elsewhere.

No attempt was made to search for a cause and effect relation between the status of the population of a species and the quality of the environment. Earlier in this article reference was made to changes in habitats and land management that could influence bird populations. These include maturation of 45,000 acres of evergreen plantation, an overall decrease in farmland acreage and the concomitant changes that occur in buildings and fields, a doubling of the acreage planted to grain, and early-season harvesting of grassland. These factors may have influenced bird populations in Allegany County, but it seems unlikely that a change in abundance is related to any simple habitat changes within the particular area of this survey. Moreover, most of the breeding species in Allegany County are only summer residents and spend the remainder of the year elsewhere. Changes in the abundance of these species may be caused by events outside of Allegany County.

Acknowledgments

The authors express their appreciation to David Hardy for his assistance in typing and data entry. Grateful acknowledgment is extended to the observers and assistants who have devoted early morning hours to running the routes: Sharon Baumgardner, Elizabeth Brooks, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Victor Carpenter, Donald Clark, Jane Clark, Christine Ferrand, Mary Jordan, Erma Larson, Andrew Mullen, Jane Moore, Katherine Palmer, Raymond Pitzrick, Vivian Pitzrick, Ruth Richardson, Ann Scott, Harold Ward, and Larry Wilson.

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Table 1. Regularly Encountered Species

Species	Mean±S.D.	Max.	Median	Min.	Reg.Coeff.	T	Coef.Det.
Great Blue Heron	0.67±0.31	1.31	0.65	0.04	0.04	2.4	31
Green-backed Heron	0.47±0.22	0.78	0.49	-0.03	-0.03	-3.7	51
Wood Duck	0.09±0.11	0.29	0.07	0.00	-0.02	-3.6	50
Mallard	0.32±0.23	0.83	0.33	0.00	0.02	1.4	12
Northern Harrier	0.06±0.06	0.18	0.06	0.00	-0.00	-0.5	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	0.14±0.13	0.50	0.12	0.00	-0.00	-0.8	5
Red-tailed Hawk	0.39±0.18	0.71	0.38	0.13	-0.02	-1.8	20
American Kestrel	0.47±0.17	0.83	0.44	0.13	-0.00	-0.8	5
Ring-necked Pheasant	0.33±0.17	0.72	0.31	0.06	-0.02	-1.7	18
Ruffed Grouse	0.15±0.11	0.44	0.12	0.07	-0.00	-0.1	0
Wild Turkey	0.17±0.20	0.81	0.13	0.00	0.02	1.5	15
Killdeer	3.43±1.13	6.11	3.33	1.63	-0.18	-3.7	52
Spotted Sandpiper	0.13±0.16	0.47	0.06	0.00	-0.03	-6.4	75
Common Snipe	0.07±0.07	0.19	0.06	0.00	0.01	4.2	60
Rock Dove	6.91±2.75	12.10	7.00	3.31	-0.36	-2.6	34
Mourning Dove	5.69±1.28	7.75	6.00	3.41	0.15	2.2	27
Black-billed Cuckoo	0.65±1.12	4.50	0.29	0.00	0.10	1.6	16
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	0.12±0.13	0.44	0.06	0.00	0.02	2.6	35
Chimney Swift	1.68±0.68	2.80	1.61	0.56	-0.10	-3.1	43
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	0.17±0.09	0.39	0.13	0.06	-0.10	-1.8	20
Belted Kingfisher	0.84±0.37	1.83	0.89	0.38	-0.06	-3.6	49
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	0.21±0.21	0.69	0.13	0.00	0.02	1.2	10
Downy Woodpecker	1.07±0.38	1.78	1.06	0.50	-0.05	-2.6	34
Hairy Woodpecker	0.20±0.14	0.53	0.19	0.00	-0.02	-2.8	38
Northern Flicker	2.36±1.15	4.83	1.89	1.06	-0.22	-6.1	74
Pileated Woodpecker	0.16±0.09	0.39	0.17	0.06	-0.01	-3.3	45
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1.58±0.42	2.56	1.50	1.06	-0.05	-2.4	31
Trail's Flycatcher*	1.04±0.53	2.27	0.89	0.53	0.06	2.1	25
Least Flycatcher	2.66±0.67	4.70	2.50	2.00	-0.04	-1.0	7
Eastern Phoebe	4.80±1.96	10.20	4.72	2.88	-0.34	-4.4	60
Great Crested Flycatcher	1.60±0.61	2.63	1.33	0.60	0.06	1.7	17
Eastern Kingbird	2.85±0.63	4.24	2.71	2.06	-0.08	2.4	31
Horned Lark	0.49±0.44	1.67	0.41	0.00	-0.06	-2.9	38
Tree Swallow	1.68±0.53	2.64	1.81	0.70	0.01	0.2	0
Purple Martin	0.38±0.50	1.76	0.18	0.00	-0.07	-3.0	41
N. Rough-winged Swallow	0.11±0.08	0.25	0.11	0.00	-0.00	-1.0	7
Bank Swallow	1.09±1.58	6.06	0.53	0.06	-0.20	-2.5	33
Cliff Swallow	1.92±1.71	6.44	1.33	0.06	0.18	2.0	23
Barn Swallow	11.71±2.02	15.20	11.60	7.33	0.17	1.4	14
Blue Jay	6.36±1.61	9.13	6.33	4.00	-0.04	-0.4	1
American Crow	23.65±2.47	28.90	23.50	19.90	0.11	0.8	4
Black-capped Chickadee	5.22±1.43	7.56	5.35	3.30	0.25	4.5	61
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.47±0.34	1.41	0.35	0.13	-0.05	-3.5	47
House Wren	8.64±1.70	13.20	8.50	5.94	-0.04	-0.3	1
Eastern Bluebird	0.66±0.41	1.70	0.63	0.17	-0.04	-1.2	10
Veery	2.31±0.57	3.28	2.44	1.50	0.06	2.1	26
Hermit Thrush	0.23±0.13	0.44	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.2	0

Table 1. Regularly Encountered Species

Species	Mean±S.D.	Max.	Median	Min.	Reg.Coeff.	T	Coeff.Det.
Wood Thrush	6.94±1.24	9.06	6.80	4.59	-0.04	-0.5	2
American Robin	51.92±6.47	66.90	50.80	41.20	-1.11	-4.4	59
Gray Catbird	7.42±0.86	8.94	7.19	6.13	0.03	0.5	2
Brown Thrasher	1.31±0.58	2.33	1.19	0.65	-0.10	-4.3	59
Cedar Waxwing	4.90±1.68	7.67	4.56	2.22	0.02	0.2	0
European Starling	34.88±8.18	54.80	34.70	23.40	-1.19	-3.1	42
Solitary Vireo	0.34±0.22	0.73	0.33	0.00	0.03	2.3	28
Yellow-throated Vireo	0.09±0.09	0.28	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.9	3
Warbling Vireo	0.72±0.28	1.31	0.75	0.24	0.02	1.3	11
Red-eyed Vireo	7.46±1.53	10.30	7.59	4.94	0.14	1.7	17
Blue-winged Warbler	0.95±0.45	1.75	0.89	0.35	0.06	2.5	33
Nashville Warbler	0.63±0.56	1.75	0.41	0.06	0.10	4.5	61
Yellow Warbler	7.12±1.23	8.72	7.44	4.82	0.11	1.5	15
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1.91±0.49	3.00	1.80	1.19	0.03	1.0	8
Magnolia Warbler	0.32±0.32	1.19	0.24	0.00	0.06	5.5	70
Yellow-rumped Warbler	0.14±0.15	0.44	0.06	0.00	0.03	4.8	64
Black-thr. Green Warbler	1.09±0.25	1.69	1.06	0.71	0.02	1.1	9
Blackburnian Warbler	0.30±0.15	0.70	0.28	0.11	-0.00	-0.3	1
American Redstart	0.47±0.20	0.88	0.44	0.19	-0.00	-0.1	0
Ovenbird	1.84±0.66	3.13	1.72	0.10	0.10	3.5	49
Mourning Warbler	0.25±0.09	0.44	0.22	0.12	0.01	1.7	19
Common Yellowthroat	11.68±1.82	14.90	12.10	8.44	0.34	5.7	71
Canada Warbler	0.13±0.12	0.50	0.11	0.00	-0.00	-0.4	1
Scarlet Tanager	1.83±0.37	2.25	1.88	0.90	0.04	2.0	24
Northern Cardinal	4.05±1.08	6.25	3.69	2.56	0.02	0.3	1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3.01±0.72	4.06	3.11	1.35	0.05	1.1	8
Indigo Bunting	9.36±2.80	13.30	10.10	4.41	0.56	7.2	80
Rufous-sided Towhee	5.98±1.63	8.40	5.39	4.17	-0.32	-6.6	77
Chipping Sparrow	13.30±2.36	17.50	12.80	9.17	0.29	2.3	29
Field Sparrow	8.88±1.30	11.10	8.89	6.72	0.20	-3.3	46
Vesper Sparrow	0.54±0.46	1.50	0.38	0.13	-0.10	-3.4	48
Savannah Sparrow	4.35±0.71	5.35	4.56	2.83	-0.08	-2.0	23
Grasshopper Sparrow	0.31±0.14	0.63	0.28	0.13	0.00	0.2	0
Henslow's Sparrow	0.29±0.20	0.76	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.1	0
Song Sparrow	29.19±5.39	36.80	28.80	18.90	-1.13	-9.6	88
Swamp Sparrow	0.48±0.30	0.94	0.41	0.00	-0.02	-0.9	5
White-throated Sparrow	0.22±0.11	0.47	0.20	0.06	0.00	0.3	1
Dark-eyed Junco	0.90±0.34	1.44	0.88	0.24	0.05	3.5	49
Bobolink	8.98±2.48	14.30	8.30	5.56	0.18	1.2	11
Red-winged Blackbird	73.90±13.5	91.80	77.10	48.00	-1.04	-1.3	12
Eastern Meadowlark	6.00±2.83	13.30	4.56	2.81	-0.52	-5.0	66
Common Grackle	28.39±6.66	40.30	27.60	18.50	-1.07	-3.7	52
Brown-headed Cowbird	2.97±1.94	8.80	2.75	0.69	-0.27	-2.9	40
Northern Oriole	2.83±0.82	4.50	2.75	1.31	-0.10	-1.8	21
Purple Finch	0.82±0.32	1.50	0.72	0.32	0.00	0.3	1
American Goldfinch	10.63±3.87	20.50	8.75	6.88	-0.60	-3.5	48
House Sparrow	18.60±5.14	26.20	20.10	9.44	-0.92	-4.8	64

*Willow and Alder Flycatchers combined

Table 2. Irregularly Encountered Species

Species	Years Observed	Species	Years Observed
Canada Goose	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch	6
Common Merganser	3	Brown Creeper	6
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8	Carolina Wren	1
Cooper's Hawk	7	Sedge Wren	1
Broad-winged Hawk	4	Golden-crowned Kinglet	8
Virginia Rail	1	Golden-winged Warbler	3
Sora	1	Northern Parula	1
Upland Sandpiper	2	Black-thr. Blue Warbler	3
American Woodcock	2	Prairie Warbler	5
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	Cerulean Warbler	2
Great Horned Owl	8	Black-and-white Warbler	3
Barred Owl	3	Northern Waterthrush	2
Long-eared Owl	1	Louisiana Waterthrush	4
Red-headed Woodpecker	8	Hooded Warbler	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2	House Finch	7
Tufted Titmouse	1	Red Crossbill	1

A REVIEW OF THE RED CROSSBILL IN NEW YORK STATE

Part 2. Identification of Specimens from New York

ROBERT W. DICKERMAN

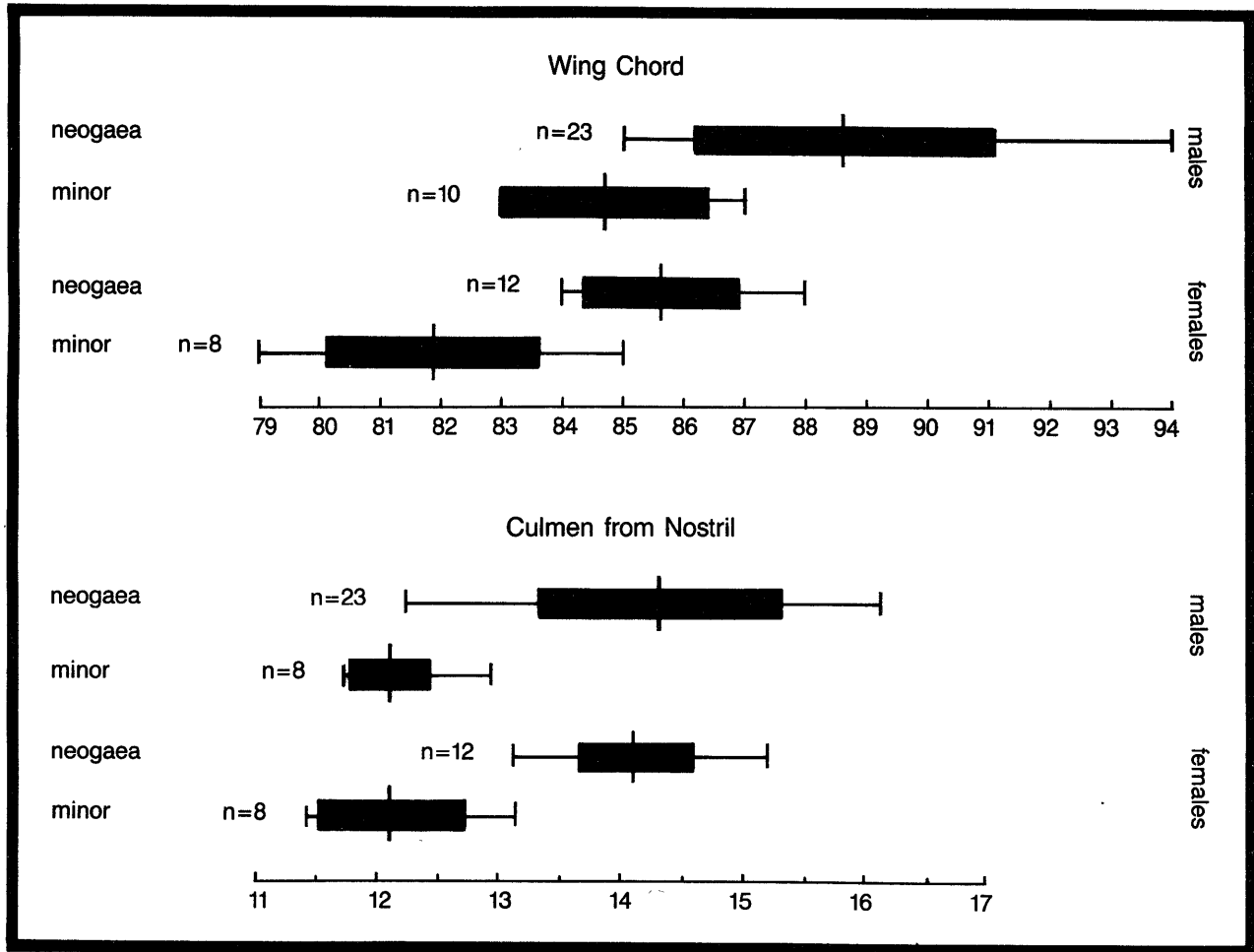
In the previous paper (Dickerman 1986a), I discussed the complex and confused historical and nomenclatural background of the Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) in North America, and (Dickerman 1986b) suggested that a dramatic change has occurred in the status of the formerly widespread "Old Northeastern" subspecies (*L. c. neogaea*). In this paper I will summarize the characters of the four subspecies that have been identified from New York and document their occurrence with specimen data. My use of subspecific names, literature cited earlier, and acknowledgments follows my previous paper.

Parkes (1952) recorded three subspecies in New York. He cited all specimens of *minor* (listed as *sitkensis*) and *percna* (listed as *pusilla*), the two non-resident subspecies that he identified. Bull (1974) presented a general account of the species, mapped 23 "known" New York nesting records, and listed four subspecies. Although Bull, while writing "The Birds of New York," had my ribbon copy of Parkes' thesis before him, the accounts of subspecies are at odds. Parkes listed 38 specimens of *minor* that he had examined, while Bull (p. 568) wrote that he had examined ". . . at least 40 specimens" but ignored some specimens of major flight years listed by Parkes. Similarly, Bull wrote that he had examined "at least nine state specimens . . ." of the Newfoundland subspecies *percna* (listed as *pusilla*), while Parkes had been able to find only two specimens typical of the subspecies, and two intermediate between it and *neogaea*. It is obviously time to reevaluate the status of the various subspecies in New York. They are arranged by the size-class schema of Phillips (1981, see Dickerman 1986a).

Characters of the Subspecies

Class I

L. c. minor. This is the smallest subspecies in the world, with the wing chord measuring 80-85 mm, occasionally 78 to 87 mm (Phillips 1981). Males average very slightly larger than females. The bill is short and stumpy, with the tip more down-curved. Phillips (*ibid*) separated the populations of interior British Columbia to Idaho as *L. c. reai*. It was distinguished from *minor* by being duller, with the back less reddish in the male and darker in the female, thus contrasting more strongly with the brighter rump. The female is more deeply ochraceous below. Figure 1 presents measurements of wing chord and of the culmen measured from the anterior edge of the nostril for specimens of *minor* prepared from the 1984-1985 invasion of the northeast, compared with



those measurements from the type series of *neogaea* as published by Paine (1986).

Class II

L. c. neogaea. Males of the "Old Northeastern" subspecies are orange-red, and birds in this size class are slightly larger with wing chord measurements of 85-92 mm. Occasionally females are as short as 81.7 mm (Phillips *ibid*). The bill is larger and straighter than in *minor*. Wing chord and culmen from nostril comparisons of *minor* and *neogaea* are presented in Fig. 1. Phillips characterized the population of the southern Appalachians (which in fact bears the older name *pusilla*) as being darker than *minor* (*pers. comm.*). In general, specimens taken prior to about 1930 are so faded, worn or dirty that they are of little use in making color comparisons. I have not seen recently taken, clean specimens from the southern Appalachians. I tentatively accept that *pusilla* differs morphologically, but have not attempted to segregate the few recently taken Class II specimens. If indeed *pusilla* is not separable from *neogaea* then *pusilla* becomes the name to use for continental Class II populations east of the Rockies and Black Hills of South Dakota. Phillips (1981) described *L. c. vividior* as a Class II subspecies that occurs within the "core range" of *bendirei*, a size class III subspecies in Colorado. While I recognize that even a single flock of Red Crossbills may act as a semi-species, *vividior* is a concept with which I have difficulty, and I have not attempted to follow his lead in this.

Class III

L. c. percna. The population of the humid Newfoundland region is long winged (males 91-96.5 mm, Bent 1937). The male is deep red, the female is a darker green, and both have dusker auricular regions and more of a tendency for a dusky cast to the back of the neck than the following. The bill is large and heavy at the base, especially in specimens from Newfoundland itself.

L. c. bendirei. The Rocky Mountain population is characterized by being large, males with wings measuring 89.4-97 mm, females 85.5-92.5 mm, rarely 94.5 mm (Phillips 1981); with a large slender bill, and generally paler coloration than the Newfoundland subspecies. The females are a brighter yellowish-green, with a paler rump and throat.

Subspecies in New York

L. c. neogaea (Table 1).

I have elsewhere (Dickerman 1986b) discussed the status of the "Old Northeastern" subspecies, but here list all New York specimens examined that have been collected since 1905. Sporadic nesting outside of major flight years of *minor* is probably by the recovering population of *neogaea*. However, I believe that to date only a single post 1905 nesting record is documented with specimens (Grzybowski 1973).

Table 1. New York specimens of *neogaea* examined.

Year	Date	County	Location	Collection	Number
1939	21 Mar	Hamilton	Morehouse	Cornell	18947
1954	22 Aug	Essex	Blue Ridge	Buffalo Mus Sci	3494
1969 ¹	3 Dec	Tompkins	Ithaca	Cornell	34405-34408
1970	20 May	Schoharie	Gallupville	NYSM	34984,34986
1973	11 Feb	Cattaraugus	Rt. 280	Buffalo Mus Sci	7021
	17 Feb	Cattaraugus	Allegany	AMNH	816856
	4 Mar	Cattaraugus	Salamanca	AMNH	816857
1974	24 Feb	Suffolk	Robert Moses State Park	AMNH	815622
1982	30 Mar	Albany	SUNY at Albany	AMNH	816945

Note 1. Also two undated specimens SUNY at Oswego collection #785-786 taken between 1964 and 1977 in Jefferson, Onondaga or Oswego Co.

L. c. minor (Table 2).

Parkes (1952) listed by collection the 38 specimens of *minor* that he examined, collected between the years 1864 and 1951. Flights represented by three or more specimens occurred in 1888, 1913, 1923, 1941 and 1951. To those flight years now may be added 1872, 1954, 1961, 1973-1974 and 1984-1985. Single specimens of *minor* were taken in 1864, 1869, 1874, 1892 & 1893, and 1896 and 1965. There may also have been a major flight in 1894. There are 5 specimens (not seen by myself) in the Roosevelt Wildlife Collection, Syracuse, collected that year in Lewis County that have wing chords of less than 85 mm (Ronald Giegerich *pers. comm.*). In requesting the loan of specimens for this study, I specified I needed to examine only those with wing chord measurements of 85 mm or greater. Thus, the list of specimens collected after 1951 that I have examined represents an unknown portion of the total number of *minor* available.

Probable nesting of *minor* in New York is documented by two females salvaged during the last invasion: AMNH 816426, from 11 miles south of Elizabeth, Essex County, 17 March 1985, had two corpora lutea and a brood patch; AMNH 815935, from North Hudson, Essex County, 15 March 1985, had the ovary moderately enlarged, with ova measuring 2 mm and the oviduct enlarged. Males found in January and March 1985 with moderately enlarged testes (up to 5 x 6 mm) are indicative of, but do not document nesting. The description of nesting of Red Crossbills in Chenango County (Messineo 1986) undoubtedly refers to *minor*. Eight of nine specimens prepared from birds he salvaged there, and another ten or so too mangled to salvage, in December 1984 were small and represent *minor*.

Most specimens in the series of 15 red males and 10 females prepared as study skins from the 1984-1985 invasion (including some from Algonquin Park, Ontario) are dull and have darker backs that contrast sharply with the rump. Females AMNH 816514 and 816515 from Pharsalia,

Chenango County, 15 December 1984, and a male 816423 from 4 mi. east of Elizabeth, Essex County, 16 March 1985, are examples of specimens with these characters. Although both females are not more ochraceous ventrally, these may well represent *reai* if that subspecies proves to be valid.

The 1984-1985 invasion was the first in New York in which two subspecies other than the local one was preserved. A single specimen of *bendirei* was salvaged from birds found dead on the road at Perkins Pond, Pharsalia in Chenango County by David Messineo 15 December 1984. All of the others (ten or more, most badly damaged and discarded after they were identified) were *minor*.

Table 2. New York specimens of *minor* examined.

Year	Date	County	Location	Collection	Number
1872	19 Nov	Herkimer	Stillwater	AMNH	
1875	14 Jan	[Orange]	Fort Montgomery	USNM	235370
	Feb	Putnam	Highland Falls	USNM	235371
1913	6 Jul	Putnam	Cold Spring	NYSM	776a,776b
1922	18 Aug	[Essex]	Paradox Lake	USNM	441822-448184
1941	24 Apr	[Erie]	Angola	Buffalo Mus Sci	2023
1951 ¹	26 Mar	Cattaraugus	Carolton	St. Bonaventure	153-154
	5 Apr	Cattaraugus	Carolton	St. Bonaventure	495
1953	29 Apr	Tompkins	Ithaca	Cornell	24038-24040
1954	19 Mar	Cattaraugus	Carolton	St. Bonaventure	492-494
1955	27 Nov	Hamilton	Speculator	Cornell	30488
1961	13 Mar	Albany	Albany	NYSM	19438
	5 Apr	Rensselaer	Tryo	NYSM	19439
1965 ²		Suffolk	Brookhaven	AMNH	185784
1973	11 Nov	Suffolk	Robert Moses State Park	AMNH	815624,815626
	2 Dec	Suffolk	Robert Moses State Park	AMNH	815625
1984	Dec	Westchester		AMNH	816421-8164221
	Dec	Essex		AMNH	816513
1985	15 Dec	Chenango	Pharsalia	AMNH	816514-816519
	Jan	Hamilton	several localities	AMNH	816427-816429 816512
	Mar	Hamilton	several localities	AMNH	815423-185426 815993 815935-815938

Note 1. Eleven specimens of *minor* collected in 1951 in the Cornell Collection were listed by Parkes (1952) and are not repeated here.

Note 2. Also an undated specimen in SUNY at Oswego collection #793, taken between 1964 and 1977 in Jefferson, Onondaga or Oswego Co.

L. c. percna (Table 3).

As noted above, Bull (1974, p. 568) wrote ". . . at least nine state specimens examined by the writer . . ." However, he was not able to provide me with a list of specimens he so identified, and because of the extensive and extended misapplication of the name *pusilla*, I am suspicious of the "nine state specimens." I believe I have now examined most (if not all) New York specimens with wing chords sufficiently long

possibly to be this subspecies. Griscom (1937) listed only a single record for the state. I found none in the American Museum other than the three listed below of the four that were listed by Parkes (1952). The fourth, AMNH 441600 from Brooklyn without date was not found. I believe it is a rather long-winged and dirty specimen of *neogaea*. Eight more recently taken specimens, six not seen by Bull, were also identified during this study.

The specimens listed below all have large bills. However, none is as heavy-billed as are Newfoundland specimens, although they are typical in other characters. They may represent populations from the coastal region of Labrador. The last two specimens listed are formalin-injected and mummified red males without date, locality or gonad data, but probably obtained from within 20 miles of Oswego between 1964, when the Rice Creek Field Station was established, and 1977, when the specimens were catalogued in the College of Oswego Vertebrate Collection as numbers 540 and 741 (Diann C. Jackson, *pers. comm.*). Their wings measure 96 and 98 mm; the later is larger than measurements for *percna* or *bendirei* (see above). Both are darker red than recently taken, clean male *bendirei* from New Mexico, Colorado and South Dakota. Their bills are long but not as stout as in typical *percna* nor *stricklandi* of the Mexican highlands. I believe that they represent *percna* rather than being from an intergrade zone between *bendirei* and *stricklandi*.

Table 3. New York specimens of *percna* examined.

Year	Date	County	Location	Collection	Number
1875	10 Mar	Orange	Highland Falls	AMNH	75125
1885	27 Jan	Westchester	Sing Sing [Ossining]	AMNH	55541
1908	10 May	Franklin	Paul Smiths	AMNH	229615
1969	4 Dec	Rockland	Harriman State Park	AMNH	801473-801474
1970 ¹	12 Feb	Otsego	Oneonta	AMNH	816902
	12 Feb	Otsego	Oneonta	SUNY Oneonta	70-4
	10 Jul	Otsego	NW part of county	NYSM	35845-35846

Note 1: Also undated specimens AMNH #816904, taken between 1964 and 1977 in Jefferson, Onondaga or Oswego Co.; and AMNH #81603, taken between 1973 and 1977 in Onondaga Co.

L. c. bendirei (Table 4).

Bull (1964) reported the first recognized specimen of the Rocky Mountain subspecies (as *benti*) from New York. It was found on Jones Beach, Long Island, 29 December 1963. The identification of the specimen, now in the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History, was confirmed by A. R. Phillips. To my amazement, I now find that 14 of the 77 post-1950 specimens examined in this study, and not seen earlier by Parkes, are *bendirei*, making it the second most commonly encountered subspecies in the state.

The earliest specimen of *bendirei* from New York was taken in 1878. In late March and early April 1982 Craig Benkman netted Red Crossbills on the campus of the State University of New York at Albany for use in controlled aviary studies of feeding behavior when presented with cones of various species of conifers. Four birds that died after two to 34 months in captivity were deposited at the American Museum of Natural History as voucher specimens for that study. Three of those are *bendirei*; the fourth is *neogaea*. Benkman (*pers. comm.*) reported that Red Crossbills nested on the Albany campus that spring, but the subspecies is unknown. As noted above, the 1984-1985 invasion was the first in which two "exotic" subspecies, *bendirei* and *minor*, were preserved from New York.

Table 4. New York specimens of *bendirei* examined.

Year	Date	County	Location	Collection	Number
1878	Feb	Herkimer	Stillwater	AMNH	816949
1956	7 May	Erie	East Aurora	Buffalo Mus Sci	4395
1967 ¹	spring	Erie	Eden	Buffalo Mus Sci	9085
1972	19 Sep	Cattaraugus	Allegany	AMNH	816859
	28 Sep	Cattaraugus	Humphrey	AMNH	816858
	9 May	Otsego	Oneonta	AMNH	816901
1973 ²	16 May	Otsego	Oneonta	AMNH	816900
1979	28 May	Onondaga	Beaver Lake	SUNY Oswego	1382
1982	1 Mar	Otsego	Westford	SUNY Oneonta	82-9
	30 Mar	Albany	SUNY Albany	AMNH	816946-816947
	7 Apr	Albany	SUNY Albany	AMNH	816948
1984	15 Dec	Chenango	Pharsalia	AMNH	816520

Note 1. Also two undated specimens SUNY at Oswego collection #742 and 787 taken between 1964 and 1977 in Jefferson, Onondaga or Oswego Co.

Note 2. This is probably an error of transcription when the label was prepared, and the year should be 1972. W. L. Butts kindly verified that the catalogue data agrees with the label data. However, the probability that two specimens of an uncommon subspecies were taken the same month at the same place during an invasion year of that subspecies is much greater than the probability that they were taken in two successive years.

Discussion

Four subspecies of the Red Crossbill have been found in New York. At least two and probably three subspecies have bred in the state. The small subspecies *minor*, whose core range is the coastal region of the Pacific northwest, is the most frequent and abundant population found in New York. Because it occurs in such large numbers during invasion years it may well be our most numerous nesting form! The "resident" subspecies *neogaea* may be recovering in numbers after the massive population crash of the 1905-1912 period as large areas second growth white pine and hemlock reach maturity.

Every occurrence of Red Crossbill in New York should be documented with specimens deposited in one of the major collections. The sub-

specific identity of even mashed birds found on the highways usually can be determined, and they can be preserved as voucher specimens. Most of all, we need to document nesting, preferably, with specimens prepared of entire families, although one hates to do it. Such collecting would have almost no impact on the populations, but it would make a real contribution to our knowledge of the biology of this species.

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THE OCCURRENCE OF TWO-EGG CLUTCHES IN COOPER'S HAWKS

SCOTT CROCOLL

Several authors reported that the range of Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) egg clutches varies between three and six eggs (Bent 1937, Meng 1951, Bull 1974, Rosenfield and Anderson 1983). A search of Cornell Nest Record cards for New York State also revealed a range of three to six eggs. However, Beardslee and Mitchell (1965) reported that W. A. and George M. Smith, when checking eight clutches of Cooper's Hawk in western New York, found a range of clutch sizes between two and five. Unfortunately, Dr. Robert Andrle (*pers. comm.*) of the Buffalo Museum of Science was unable to find any more information about these data, and Bull (1974) seems to have disregarded this record. Dr. Andrle did find two sets of Cooper's Hawk two-egg clutches in the Buffalo Museum of Science collection. One was collected in New York in the town of Hamburg in 1909. Because no other data on this clutch were available, there was no way to determine if it was complete. Moore and Henny (1984) reported the occurrence of a two-egg clutch for Cooper's Hawk in Oregon. Further, they associated this reduced reproductive effort and success with habitat and the first-time nesting of yearling parents. I report here the first documented occurrence of a two-egg clutch in New York since 1909 and comment on the possible reason for its occurrence.

The nest was first observed from a road during April 1985 but was not visited until 2 May 1985 when a brown-backed individual was sitting on the nest. The nest was in a Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) 76.5 feet from a road and 45 feet from the closest water, a small seasonal stream. The nest was 20 feet up from the ground and supported by five limbs. The habitat around the nest was second-growth hardwood with two small (less than one acre) planted conifer stands nearby.

The nest was visited six more times during the breeding season. A brown-backed adult was seen at the site five times, and on one trip another bird was heard calling while the brown-backed bird was at the nest. The nest was first climbed on 24 May when two eggs were found. The nest was next climbed on 2 July when two young (one more than four weeks of age; one three to four weeks of age) were found. One nestling attempted to fly out of the nest but was not capable of sustaining flight and was recaptured on the ground. The size of these young and their degree of feathering indicated they were Cooper's Hawks and not Goshawks. The birds were about the same size as Broad-wings but

much more slender. Also, the adults at this nest exhibited no aggressive behavior when I was present at the nest. The birds either called from nearby trees or left the area when the nest site was visited. A visit to the same nest in May, 1986 revealed an adult-plumaged bird on the nest.

Heinz Meng (*pers. comm.*) believes that Cooper's Hawk clutch sizes smaller than three are probably the result of predation by American Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). However, Moore and Henny (1984) found that clutch size was significantly smaller for pairs of birds with a second-year (brown-backed plumage) female than pairs with after-second-year (gray-backed plumage) females. Cooper's Hawks commonly breed in immature plumage (Meng 1951, Reynolds and Wight 1978, Rosenfield 1982, Moore and Henry 1984). The only two-egg clutch Moore and Henry recorded was from a second-year (SY) female. They also noted that in most measures of productivity, pairs of Cooper's Hawks with after-second-year (ASY) females were more productive than pairs with SY females.

Ian Newton (1981) has also noted productivity differences with different-aged pairs of European Sparrowhawks (*Accipiter nisus*), a close congener of the Cooper's Hawk, with younger birds laying smaller clutches and generally with lower reproductive success.

These authors suggest that pairs with SY females nest in habitat that is somewhat different than pairs with ASY females. They characterized the nest site habitat of SY females as of younger successional stages with a greater proportion of small trees and shrubs. Also the nest elevations of SY females tended to be lower than for ASY females. This is consistent with the observations from this study. The average height of nests reported in the Nest Record Card program was 45.4 feet with a range of 30-75 feet. The nest height of 20 feet reported here is the lowest, to my knowledge, recorded in New York State.

It is likely that in New York, as in Oregon, SY Cooper's Hawk use somewhat poorer nesting habitat than older pairs and lay smaller clutches, but more extensive data are needed to confirm this. Efforts to survey for breeding activity and management activities that might affect this species should take into consideration this variable habitat utilization and the resultant variable reproductive effort.

Acknowledgments

The author would like to thank Dr. James Parker for reviewing an earlier draft of this manuscript and Bob Falcone for assistance in the field.

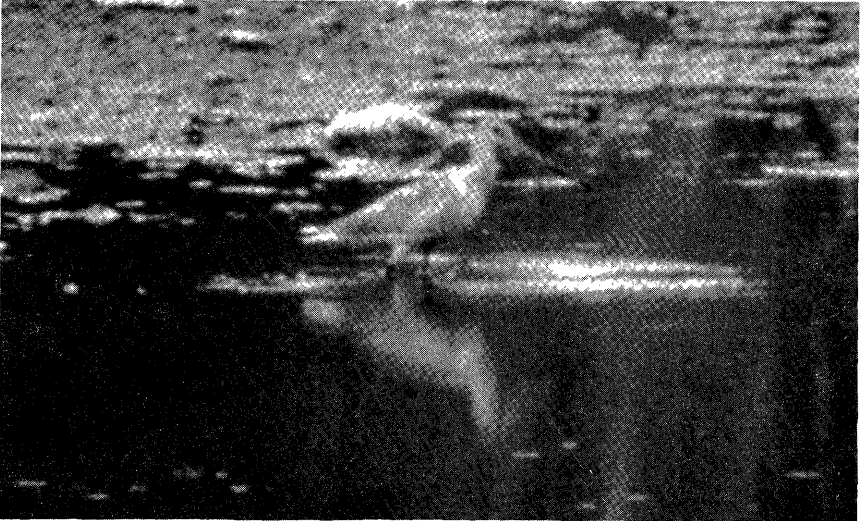
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NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Marbled Godwit Inland in Upstate New York: Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) is a rare or uncommon regular fall migrant on the coast but it is very rare inland (Bull, 1974, *Birds of New York State*, p. 245). Bull notes only twelve reliable reports upstate through 1976. Inland, away from Lake Ontario, he specifies seven records.



This photograph documents the first recorded sighting of a Marbled Godwit in Columbia County. The bird was discovered by Wendy Neefus, a professional wildlife photographer, on 31 August 1985 at Geoffroy's Pond in the town of Claverack. This location is about 120 miles from the Atlantic coast and about eight miles from the Hudson River. Wendy called me at 6:00 p.m. on the day that he found the bird to question its identity, so I hurried to the site with Patricia West to investigate.

The godwit remained in the area through September 3rd (4 days) allowing ample time for observation by many local birders. A detailed report has been submitted to the NYS Avian Records Committee, but one unusual plumage characteristic is worthy of note. The distal half of the leading edge of the right wing was white due to one or two albanistic primaries.

I wish to thank Wendy Neefus for his continued assistance in reporting sightings of unusual birds. His support was greatly appreciated during the Avian Atlas project and his reports continue to be of significant value.

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NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Another Variant in Three-toed Woodpecker Plumage: As stated in a previous article (*The Kingbird* 33: 165; 1983), the plumages of the Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus bacatus*) found in the Adirondack Mountains of New York are so variable that I believe that I have never seen two alike. On 4 May 1986 Chris Spies and I located a pair of Three-toed Woodpeckers digging a nest hole in "Ferd's Bog," Hamilton Co. The female was an unusually dark bird, with a very restricted amount of white in its plumage. Its head, back, wings and tail were mainly blackish. A gray crown patch flecked with black was present. The center of the back was narrowly barred with dull gray. Dull gray flecking continued up the nape and back of the crown, but was visible only at very close range. Its flanks were barred with light and dark gray. This barring extended completely across the underparts, a plumage that I never have seen before in a Three-toed Woodpecker. The only white on this bird was a broad stripe below the eye, the throat and uppermost breast, and its outer tail feathers, which were slightly flecked with black on the inner edges.

We observed this bird for over 15 minutes. At one point when the male flew to the nest hole to take over the digging, the female flew directly to us and lit on a small dead conifer for several minutes at ranges of 10 to 20 feet. I could not tell if this action by the female was a distraction of sorts or more evidence of their unconcern for humans.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPRING SEASON

ROBERT SPAHN

In contrast to several recent springs, this season's weather generally was warm, pleasant and conducive to birders being afield. As a result many Regions report very good species counts but, almost without exception when any direct comment was made, a dearth of numbers of individuals, especially among the passerines. In the past, these highlights usually have concentrated on the bright spots of the season, with only passing note of the many negatives. This season, I will strive for more balance and I also will include some speculations. I solicit your comments on these ideas.

Seasonal temperatures averaged above normal every month in all Regions. Temperature patterns varied somewhat and patterns of precipitation varied even more. March provided a typical roller coaster pattern. Early to mid month warm spells brought some record early arrival dates, most notably Broad-winged Hawks in Regions 2, 3, 4 and 9; a state record early Lesser Golden-Plover in Region 2; and a Pectoral Sandpiper in Region 5. A warm spell across the whole state at month's end resulted in record hawk flights in Regions 1 and 2 and in another group of Regional early arrivals. April was again seesaw, with some snow the low point in most Regions. The heaviest snow fell between 20 and 23 April in the southeastern Regions. May was generally lovely for people through at least the 18th, then became cool or hot depending on your locale. The uniform bluebird weather may have pushed migrants through with few groundings. Foliage typically about two weeks advanced of normal reduced their visibility in any case.

Positive notes and trends are by far the minority and easier to summarize. Continuing range expansions include Mute Swan inland and westward, reported in six Regions; Turkey Vulture everywhere; Wild Turkey everywhere and with individuals sighted even into the Moose River System in Region 7; Tufted Titmouse and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher north and eastward; and House Finch everywhere. Rarities of increased regularity include Greater White-fronted Goose in Regions 1, 2, 5 and 9; Black Vulture in Regions 2 and 9; Sandhill Crane along the Lake Ontario Plains in Regions 1, 2 and 5, with at least 10 individuals in Region 2 alone; a phenomenal count of 67 Common Raven in Region 7; Yellow-throated Warbler back where they nested in 1984 in Region 1 and also in Region 2; and both Yellow-headed and Brewer's Blackbird in Regions 1 and 2. The latter two species probably will soon be found nesting in New York as they continue to spread eastward. Additional

bright spots include increased numbers of Double-crested Cormorant inland, including a very high count from Region 5, probably associated with the large breeding colony on Little Galloo Island in eastern Lake Ontario; a widespread increase in Ring-necked Duck numbers; a new Bald Eagle nesting pair in Region 1 and another pair courting in Region 3, plus increased sightings of migrant birds; a local jump in migrant owls in Region 2; a cautious report of increased Whip-poor-will numbers in Region 9, in sharp contrast with the other Regions; Ring-billed Gull numbers up, especially in Region 6; a small jump in Sedge Wren numbers from the western Regions; a general increase in kinglets; positive comments on Eastern Bluebird populations from several Regions; and increased sightings of Prothonotary and Kentucky Warblers, though again with sharp contrasts between neighboring Regions.

Let us now turn to the much longer list of negatives. In some cases whole families are flagged. Waterfowl generally migrated early and rapidly, perhaps due to the early warm weather. Were they also driven from Lake Ontario resting areas by the hordes of boats that plied these waters as a result of this nice weather? Shorebirds had little habitat in most Regions. Region 4 reported good habitat but few birds, while there were state high counts of some species, notably Pectoral Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs and Solitary Sandpiper, from Region 2 thanks to the work of Frank Nicoletti, the Braddock Bay hawk count compiler. Terns of all species were scarce, as were cuckoos (except in some gypsy moth areas), owls and goatsuckers. Several species of flycatchers (possibly mitigated by late arrivals), swallows (even including Tree Swallow!) and thrushes (even including Wood Thrush!) were similarly flagged. Warbler reports varied across Regions with many sharp contrasts in preceptions. Finally, the grassland sparrows, in trouble for years mostly likely due to habitat loss and to conflicting and changing patterns of land use such as noted in Region 9, continue to do poorly.

Besides these families, many species had downward trends or have been flagged in several Regions. Among those to watch are both loons, Pied-billed Grebe, both bitterns, Green-backed Heron, Snow Goose (except for a tight migration corridor in Regions 3 and 9?), Brant (only reported in Region 9), Ring-necked Pheasant, Upland Sandpiper, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Marsh Wren, Loggerhead Shrike (too low for a comeback now?), Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Lincoln's Sparrow and Purple Finch (at times its decrease tentatively linked to the increase in House Finch). An obvious common thread for many of these species is habitat loss, sometimes with speculation on the effects of habitat loss on their wintering grounds as well. For some, not much is really known.

This year more than most springs that I recall, there are sharp contrasts in the impressions voiced for some species or groups among neighboring species, or even between sites within a Region. In Region 7 the migration pattern depended on elevation, the higher the better this season. In Region 9 warblers moved up the Harlem Valley but not the Hudson Valley on opposite sides of the same county on the same day, 17 May. Seasonal banding totals were way up in Region 2 but down in Region 7. A large Great Egret count in Region 1 was not echoed in the neighboring Regions. Hawk-watch totals were very high in Regions 1 and 2 but mediocre in Region 5, a reverse of the norm. Palm, Canada and Wilson's Warbler were common in Region 2 but flagged as very low in adjacent Regions 1 and 3. Connecticut Warbler, typically a more westerly migrant, was banded in Regions 2 and 5 on 16-17 May but first noted on 4 May in Region 9. Is a multitude of such contrasts really the norm? Have patterns of migration always been so local? Does this reflect an increase in observers who provide more opportunities to detect these contrasts, or that fewer observers are willing to contribute their observations? It is unfortunate that reports from Regions 8 and 10 are again lacking. Were some of the species missing from the western Regions present in better numbers there, or were these negative trends seen everywhere? What do you think?

Not to end on a negative note, there were a few more bright spots. High counts included 15,000+ Blue Jay on 16 May in Region 2, 13,000+ Am. Crow on 13 Mar in Region 2 and 7240 on 15 Mar in Region 5, 15 Pileated Woodpecker in Region 4, 2700 Yellow-rumped Warbler in Region 5, and a good count of eight Am. Bittern in Region 8. Record early dates were obtained for fledged young Hooded Merganser in Region 1, Least Bittern, Sedge Wren and Nashville Warbler in Region 2, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in Region 5, and Yellow-rumped Warbler in Region 7. There were record late departure dates for migrant Evening Grosbeak in Region 2 and 5, the end of a huge May movement noted across the state. Bohemian Waxwing lingered over a month later than ever before in Region 6. Other interesting notes include the progress of Bald Eagle and Osprey hacking efforts and April census results in Region 1, notes on rarer raptors in Region 2, an Am. Crow fishing(!) in Region 4, a Hoary Redpoll specimen and a discussion of "wettervögel" and "instinktvoegel" in Region 6, the gull colony report in Region 7, and a hybrid Dark-eyed Junco x White-throated Sparrow in Region 9.

This season's rarity list is the best in several years, except for the absence of Region 10 report. The best of the lot (not mentioned above) are: Region 1—Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, two King Rail, a first inland American Oystercatcher (almost BOTS), and Laughing Gull;

Region 2—Am. White Pelican, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, a male Cinnamon x Blue-winged Teal, three Swainson's Hawk, Am. Swallow-tailed Kite, Ruff, Thayer's Gull, Arctic Tern, two Boreal Owl, and Clay-colored Sparrow; Region 4—Black-crowned Night-Heron, Merlin and Fish Crow; Region 5—Parasitic Jaeger, Glossy Ibis, Fish Crow and Clay-colored Sparrow; Region 6—Cattle Egret and Blue-winged Warbler; Region 7—Orchard Oriole and Hoary Redpoll; Region 9—Little Blue Heron, Am. Swallow-tailed Kite, Chukar and Summer Tanager. The BOTS award was easy this season. It must go to the state's first Black-chinned Hummingbird, a male seen and well described in the town of Huron, Wayne County, in Region 2.

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Standard abbreviations: counties are shortened to their first four letters, months to their first three; !—details seen by Regional Editor; ad—adult; arr—arrival; f—female; I—Island; im—immature; L—lake; m—male; max—maximum; mob—multiple observers; NWR—National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC—report to New York State Avian Record Committee; Pd—Pond; ph—photographed; Pt—Point; R—River; Rd—Road; Res—Reservoir; SP—State Park; subad—subadult; Twn—Township; WMA—Wildlife Management Area; y—young.

REGION 1 – NIAGARA FRONTIER

STEPHEN W. EATON

Except for two brief spells of cold weather early and mid-month, March was pleasant with relatively mild temperatures. The 1.95 inches of total precipitation was 1.02 below normal and 44% of possible sunshine was twice the sunshine of gloomy February. The lowest temperature at Buffalo International Airport was on 8 Mar when it was 2°F, but -5° at Belmont. The low at Jamestown was -12° on the tenth. The final week of March was unseasonably warm, sunny and dry, the temperature climbing to 70° on 25 Mar and then to a high of 74° on 29 Mar at Buffalo, and even higher inland. The ground was mostly bare of snow through the month, except in the snow belt. Ice-off at Amity Lake, Allegany Co., occurred on 26 Mar, six days early; on the same day but 5 days early (2 April is 30 year mean with SD of 3 ± days) at Eaton's Pond, Cattaraugus Co. This last warm spell resulted in high counts of migrating hawks at Grimsby.

April started and ended with record heat but in between were two cold snaps. Temperatures for the month averaged 2.4° above normal at Buffalo and 5° above normal at Belmont, Allegany Co. Temperatures reached 70° or above on seven days; five of these came in the final week. This brought eleven species of warblers before the end of the month, five less than in 1985. The first two-thirds of the month was quite wet, with rain on eight consecutive days starting on 4 Apr, but the last eight days were totally dry, providing another contrast for a changeable month. Precipitation in the form of rain was 0.3 inches above normal for the month. Snow in Buffalo was 1.7 inches. March and April added up to "an on-again off-again spring" to quote Terry Mosher. May was dry, bright and warm with temperatures reaching 70° at Buffalo on 16 days, with 55% possible sunshine. Most of the 4.42 inches of rain, 1.5 inches above normal, came on the 18th, 19th and 20th and recharged the soil after a very dry period from 21 Apr to 18 May. This allowed fairly continuous migration up to that time.

Certainly the most exciting event in Region 1 was the successful nesting of a pair of Alaskan-hacked, four year old, Bald Eagles at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. To "put the frosting on the cake" the Refuge Manager, Edwin Chandler, could watch from his headquarters with a 60-power telescope and keep track of events as they unfolded. The nest had been located during winter and the pair returned in early March. The eggs, laid about 10 Apr, hatched 14 May. If all goes well they should fledge sometime in Aug. This is the state's third successful eagle's nest since the hacking program began.

The Osprey hacking program at the Allegheny Reservoir on the Allegany Indian Reservation has still not produced young Ospreys but a nest building male was still trying to lure receptive females into the area to form a permanent bond. Copulation was seen again on the nest on 29 Apr but the female failed to be further seduced.

The great mass movement of raptors from western New York to their well stocked larder in the north is best documented outside Region 1 at Grimsby, Ontario, along the Niagara Escarpment 30 miles west of Niagara Falls where

Walter Klabunde reported an all time high March count of 5361 hawks, 7672 hawks in Apr, and 783 hawks in May. The total count of 13,835 hawks of 15 species for the entire period, March through May, was slightly lower than the 1980-85 average.

One small pocket of interesting prairie birds has been located near Fredonia in Chautauqua County. Up to three singing male Sedge Wrens after 22 May and five Henslow's Sparrows after 15 May were found in the same field and just down the road, Terry Mosher reported that a pair of Vesper Sparrows had settled down.

It was a good spring for what we used to call the southern herons. Great Egrets arrived on 28 Mar and increased in numbers to 25 by 4 May at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Then Bruce Chilton and Terry Mosher found a subadult **LITTLE BLUE HERON** in Chautauqua County at Sheridan on 9 May, followed by an adult that Jeanine Flory discovered at Pomfret on 18 May. Don Endres found a **SNOWY EGRET** at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on 17 May.

The gypsy moth invasion of Cattaraugus County eased off a bit but there were patches of defoliation in poplars, hawthorns and oaks. In Allegany County they were on the increase as they were in Chautauqua County. Eur. Starlings, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Northern Orioles and other species including the two cuckoos, found the small larvae, which started hatching on 7 May, particularly to their liking, according to Tim Baird.

The Buffalo Ornithological Society holds a region-wide survey of birds in mid-Apr. May and Tom Harper summarized highlights of the April count. The highest counts since its inception about 45 years ago were made for: Great Blue Heron 271, Wild Turkey 166, Common Moorhen 4, House Finch 1,268. High counts for the past ten years were: Black-crowned Night-Heron 19, Mute Swan 12, Bufflehead 1,249, Cooper's Hawk 21, Barred Owl 6, Downy Woodpecker 355, Eastern Phoebe 227, White-breasted Nuthatch 313, Winter Wren 20, Golden-crowned Kinglet 525, Eastern Bluebird 120, Hermit Thrush 28, Northern Mockingbird 15. Low counts over the last ten years were: Tundra Swan 26, Common Goldeneye 247 and Cedar Waxwing 35.

Rarities reported this season were: Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Greater White-fronted Goose, King Rail, Sandhill Crane, American Oystercatcher, Laughing Gull, Sedge Wren, Yellow-throated Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Brewer's Blackbird. Also, a possible Mississippi Kite, too distant for positive identification, was reported from Pine Hill, Cattaraugus Co. by Steve Eaton and Tim Baird.

Contributors: Allegany Co. Bird Club, Robert Andrle, Tim Baird, Lois Beck, R. Biss, Buffalo Ornithological Society, Robert Brock, Lou & Doris Burton, Cattaraugus Co. Bird Club, Ed Chandler, Bruce Chilton, Don & Jane Clark, Dick Collins, William D'Anna, David Dister, Stephen & Betty Eaton, Donald Endres, Jeanine Flory, David Gagne, Tom Harper, Jamestown Audubon Society, Tom Jurczak, Walter Klabunde, Clarence Klingensmith, Lake Erie Bird Club, J & M Lewis, Luensman, Terry & Judy Mosher, Vivian & Raymond Pitzrick, Betsy Potter, Fran Rew, Marty Sanden, Art Schaffner, Bob Sundell, Joe Thill.

Abbreviations: AC—April Count; ASP—Allegheny State Park; BWS—Bergeson Wildlife Sanctuary; BOS—Buffalo Ornithological Society; DH—Dunkirk Harbor; INWR—Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; TFNP—Tiffit Farm Nature Preserve; TWMA—Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area; WS—Wildlife Sanctuary.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: arr Amity L 4 Apr; max 14 Allegheny Res 27 Apr; last three Allegheny Res 23 May. Horned Grebe: arr 120 Celeron 24 Mar; max 171 INWR 27 Mar. Red-necked Grebe: two Dunkirk Harbor 9 Mar. Double-crested Cormorant: arr Fort Niagara SP 1 Apr. Am. Bittern: arr TFNP and INWR 27 Apr; one BWS 17 May. Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr Times Beach 14 Apr; max 60 Niagara Falls heronry 28 Apr. Tundra Swan: arr Carrollton Twn, Catt 3 Mar, flock calling in passage; max 500 Swamp Rd, Catt, 22 Mar; last W Ellicott 30 Apr. **GREAT WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE:** two INWR 2 Apr (DE). Snow Goose: arr INWR 17 Mar; max four Somerset, Niag 12 Apr. Am. Black Duck: two Cuba Marsh 31 Mar. N. Shoveler: arr Falconer 11 Mar; max 26 INWR 31 Mar. Canvasback: none. Ring-necked Duck: arr INWR 11 Mar; max 287 BWS 25 Mar; 220 INWR 26 Mar, becoming more common as spring and fall migrant. Hooded Merganser: nine y tumbled from box Carrollton Twn, Catt, 10 Mar (SE & BE). Com. Merganser: two to nine Amity L all Apr; two Wellsville 25 Apr; one male and two females Allegheny R near Salamanca 24, 28 and 31 May, suggest nesting.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr Java 11 Mar; max 48 Hamburg Apr, still on the increase in Region 1; nest with one egg ASP 5 May (R. Biss). Bald Eagle: single ad INWR, Allegheny Res. and Hamburg; ims from several areas. N. Harrier: 6 localities BOS Mar; five localities BOS Apr; two Cuba Marsh 13 May, female building nest (VP). N. Goshawk: one territorial pair all May, only report of possible nesting (TJ); one Pomfret 29 May (AS, BC). Broad-winged Hawk: arr BOS AC 13 Apr; max 678 Hamburg 26 Apr. **KING RAIL:** one BWS 7 May (DD); one TWMA 17 May (WD, mob), perhaps more widespread than we believe. **SANDHILL CRANE:** one Pendleton Twn, between Lockport and N. Tonawanda, Niag (J & ML). **AM. OYSTERCATCHER:** one Barcelona Harbor, Lake Erie, 22 May (MS!, mob). Upland Sandpiper: arr Kiantone 9 May. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr TFNP 17 May; one Kiantone Twn 24 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr Riverside Rd, Kiantone, 18 Mar (DD!); last BWS 10 May. Purple Sandpiper: five Goat I 3 Apr (BP!). Black Tern: one BWS 7 May, only report. Laughing Gull: one DH 9-21 Mar; partially hooded 18th (TM!, mob).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Carrollton Twn 12 May; Pomfret Twn 13 May. Snowy Owl: one Wheatfield 2 Mar. Com. Barn-Owl: one Tonawanda Twn 3 & 13 Apr. Com. Nighthawk: arr one Ellery Twn 17 May; one Olean 17 May. Chimney Swift: arr Westfield, Ripley and Times Beach 26 Apr. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Forest Lawn, Buffalo, 6 May; and Amity L 7 May. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr TFNP 1 Apr.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Wood Pewee: arr Pomfret and Carrollton Twn 13 May. Acadian Flycatcher: arr Zoar Valley 7 May. Alder Flycatcher: arr Amity Twn 16 May. Willow Flycatcher: arr Pt Gratiot 17 May. Least Flycatcher: arr Amity L 29 Apr. E. Phoebe: arr Alfred 16 Mar; two Pomfret 25 Mar; one Amity L 26 Mar; one Carrollton Twn 26 Mar; one Amity L feeding on sumac 11 Apr. Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Lake Erie SP 28 Apr (T & JM!). E. Kingbird: arr Westfield 27 Apr (DD, mob!). Purple Martin: arr Ripley 14 Apr, one INWR 15 Apr. Tree Swallow: arr 12 INWR and four Amity L 26 Mar. N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Pinehurst 19 Apr. Bank Swallow: arr two TFNP 26 Apr. Cliff Swallow: arr Pinehurst 26 Apr. Barn Swallow: arr Pinehurst 19 Apr. N. Raven: one Carrollton Twn, Irving Mills 16 Mar (TB). Com. Crow: pair building nest 19 Mar. Tufted Titmouse: nest 8 y Amity L Apr-May (VP). Carolina Wren: one Stockton Twn 13 Apr; one Eden 18-27 Apr; one Silver Creek 30 Apr. Marsh Wren: arr TWMA 10 May; one TFNP 11 May. E. Bluebird: arr Amity L 12 Mar; nine pairs on territory 3 Apr; 22 nesting

pairs Amity and Ward Twms May (VP), production on first nesting poor. Hermit Thrush: one Lake Erie SP 8 Mar, wintering bird; arr TFNP 1 Apr. Wood Thrush: arr Pomfret Twn 30 Apr. Gray Catbird: arr Westfield 19 Apr. N. Mockingbird: one Dunkirk 1 Mar; three Porter Twn 2 Mar. Brown Thrasher: arr Belmont 18 Apr. Water Pipit: arr Somerset Twn 6 Apr; 80 Ripley 12 Apr; max 95 Pomfret Twn 10 May, late. N. Shrike: four localities Mar.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Solitary Vireo: arr BWS and Carrollton Twn 19 Apr. Yellow-throated Vireo: arr INWR 17 May. Warbling Vireo: arr Amity Twn 22 Apr. Philadelphia Vireo: arr INWR 10 May. Red-eyed Vireo: arr Carrollton Twn 6 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr Amity L 30 Apr (VP!). Golden-winged Warbler: arr three Cold Spring Twn 10 May; one "Brewster's" Warbler: TWMA 17 May; one "Lawrence's" Warbler: Cold Spring 10 May (TM, mob!). Tennessee Warbler: arr Wales 9 May. Orange-crowned Warbler: arr Goat I 15 May. Nashville Warbler: arr Pomfret 27 Apr. N. Parula: arr INWR 11 May. Yellow Warbler: arr Amity Twn 27 Apr. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Amity Twn and Goat I 7 May. Magnolia Warbler: arr Forest Lawn Buffalo 6 May. Cape May Warbler: arr TFNP 6 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr TFNP 11 May; one Ward Twn 24 May, very scarce this year in breeding areas. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Hamburg Twn 1 Apr. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Pomfret Twn and Silver Creek 25 Apr. Blackburnian Warbler: arr Carrollton 24 Apr. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER:** one Quaker Run, Science L, ASP, after 24 May (WD, RB, mob), where nested 1984. Pine Warbler: arr Farmersville Sta 10 Apr, at feeder; one INWR 20 Apr. Prairie Warbler: arr Amity Twn 14 May; five Carrollton Twn, Chau, 17 May. Palm Warbler: arr Lake Erie SP 28 Apr. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr TFNP 11 May. Blackpoll Warbler: arr INWR 17 May. Cerulean Warbler: arr Goat I 7 May. Am. Redstart: arr two Amity L 29 Apr. Prothonotary Warbler: arr Farmersville Sta 7 May, banded, very early (DC); two INWR 31 May (DE). Ovenbird: arr Amity Twn 29 Apr (VP!). N. Waterthrush: arr TFNP 1 May. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Carrollton Twn, Catt, 19 Apr; Amity Twn 21 Apr. Kentucky Warbler: one Salamanca Twn 18 May (TB). Mourning Warbler: arr Orchard Park 7 May. Com. Yellowthroat: arr Canadaway Creek Nature Sanctuary 4 May. Hooded Warbler: arr Carrollton Twn, Catt, 7 May. Wilson's Warbler: arr TFNP 15 May. Canada Warbler: one Portland Twn 11 May, only report. Yellow-breasted Chat: one Amity Twn 7-31 May; two Pomfret Twn 24 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr Pomfret and Amity Twn 14 May. Rufous-sided Towhee: arr Belmont 8 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: arr Pomfret 8 Apr. Vesper Sparrow: arr Amity L 1 Apr; max seven Pomfret Twn 4 Apr; six other reports BOS region. Savannah Sparrow: arr N. Boston 23 Mar. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Amity L 21 Apr. Fox Sparrow: arr Amity Twn 21 Mar. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Forest Lawn, Buffalo, 6 May. Bobolink: arr Scio and Pomfret 1 May. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:** one Mayville 11 Apr (Luensman!). **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:** one Fissell Rd, Kiantone Twn (RS, mob). Orchard Oriole: S. Valley Twn 10-17 May on 1985 territory (TM, mob). Evening Grosbeak: last Belmont 20 May, late.

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REGION 2 – GENESEE

KEVIN C. GRIFFITH

This spring produced a number of very different highlights. There were very early arrivals, good totals and many unusual species. A few negative trends also

could be attributed to weather conditions. March was very warm, with temperatures averaging 3.7° above normal, but dry, with precipitation 0.7 inches below the average of 1.9 inches. April was a month of contrasts, with rain as well as snow. There were very warm days as well as very cold days. The early part of the month brought us some very early arrivals, but unfavorable conditions later in the month kept some of the expected April arrivals from returning on schedule. May was warm, with a monthly average 2.9° above normal. It also was relatively dry at 1.64 inches of rain, 0.94 inches below average. How did this weather affect the migration? Overall, the migration was better than last year but it still didn't reach the magnitude of past years. It was easy to recognize the features which were significant.

An **AM. WHITE PELICAN** was carefully studied along the lakeshore. This species occurs only sporadically in the Region. Southern herons were scarce. While there were a couple of rarities – a **LITTLE BLUE HERON** at Braddock Bay on 18 May and an adult **YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON** along a creek in the Hamlin area on 13 Apr, the number of individuals was down and Great Egret, a relatively frequent species, was virtually unreported. Most waterfowl seemed just to fly past the Region. Totals generally were below normal. Tundra Swan numbers were down – the maximum 240 at Braddock Bay on 25 Mar, but this may have been partly due to the warm weather in early March when strong south winds could have passed them through. Braddock Bay also produced two Greater White-fronted Geese on 18 Mar. This now appears to be a typical total for the season. One puzzler was a probable male Cinnamon x Blue-winged Teal hybrid studied and photographed extensively by Frank Dobson on 29 Mar. It exhibited features of both species. Unfortunately, it didn't linger and provide for further study. It was a very good spring for **SANDHILL CRANE**. No less than ten different birds were seen at Braddock Bay between 28 Mar and 18 May.

There were some very good hawk flights in March. Six days of strong south to southwest winds brought excellent numbers of raptors. Bad flight conditions probably caused poor Broad-winged Hawk totals in April. Fortunately May compensated for those conditions. Frank Nicoletti manned the Braddock Bay Hawk Lookout this spring and added valuable data to the existing base as well as some unusual sightings. He recorded the third and fourth Regional **BLACK VULTURE** on 31 Mar. This species was seen again at two different locations on 7 May. One was seen at Braddock Bay by Clay Taylor, Bill Symonds and Sharon Skelly, and probably the same individual was spotted by Kevin Griffith about an hour and a half later farther along the lakeshore. Fishing in the Dansville area was ornithologically profitable for David Butler, who observed an adult **AM. SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** on 25 Apr. Bald Eagles were definitely on the increase, with 53 reports (maxima of five on 15 and 18 May) from the Hawk Lookout and numerous other reports. Of special note was a very early Broad-winged Hawk at Braddock Bay on 26 Mar. This immature may have wintered farther north than usual. Three **SWAINSON'S HAWKS** were reported, a light and a dark morph at Braddock Bay on 7 Apr and another light morph was found by Robert Spahn in Hamlin on 19 Apr. Subspecies of Red-tailed Hawk were reported this season included five **KRIDER'S RED-TAILED HAWK**, one banded at the Roches-

ter Hawk Banding station, and two dark morphs, presumably *calurus*, in Apr. Five Peregrine Falcons passed the Hawk Lookout and there were four reports from other locations. This continues its encouraging trend for increasing sightings.

The early shorebird flight was a positive feature of the season. A couple of unexpected species as well as good totals were found. Of special note was a Lesser Golden-Plover at Braddock Bay on 7 Mar. Few are found in the spring, especially so early. An outstanding flight of Lesser Yellowlegs at Braddock Bay began on 21 Mar and peaked with 520+ on 3 May. Pectoral Sandpiper numbers were excellent, with a maximum of 1000+ at Braddock Bay on 12 Apr. While the early shorebird flight was good, the May flight was not. Numbers were down and some species were missed. The shorebird rarity of the season was a **RUFF** at Hogan Point on 17 May by Robert McKinney and Richard O'Hara.

A first-winter **THAYER'S GULL**, the only individual reported this season, was seen regularly in Braddock Bay after 17 May. Iceland and Glaucous Gulls lingered through the season, with four reports of six Iceland Gull to 9 Apr and a straggler at Charlotte on 21 May and three Glaucous Gull reports between 23 Apr and 11 May. Continuing a downward trend were the very low numbers of Common and Forster's Tern along the lakeshore. A real find for the Region was an **ARCTIC TERN** carefully studied at close range by Frank Nicoletti at Braddock Bay on 20 May; details are on file with the editor.

The owl flight was better than recent years. Excitement was high with the return of **BOREAL OWL** to the Region. Martha Reinhardt located one at Manitou on 4 Mar. It was seen again the next day. Most likely a second individual was found at the same location by Bob Beal on 15 Mar. Photographs of both birds are being compared to see if they are separate individuals. Many observers searched the location in vain after the fifth. Weather favorable for migration probably let the first bird move out of the area between these dates, but what is the likelihood that a second individual of such rare occurrence would appear at the same location as the first? The season also proved to be a good one for N. Saw-whet Owls. A total of 22 were banded by the Rochester Raptor Banding Project and there were many other reports, the first at Manitou on 4 Mar.

In recent years Common Nighthawks have been reported in good numbers, but such was not the case this year. The maximum was only 40 in Rochester on 20 May. Whip-poor-will also was scarce. The bird of the season was a male **BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD** carefully observed by Mike Tetlow at Huron on 25 May. A detailed report is on file with the Rochester Birding Association and the NYSARC.

The passerine migration was fueled by some May warm spells and the passage of strong frontal systems during the month. The variety of passerines was good and there were several rarities, but totals for many species once again seemed to be down. We must wait to see what the totals are on their nesting grounds. Wood and Gray-cheeked Thrush seemed much scarcer than usual. This is especially alarming from a species as common as the Wood Thrush. Sedge Wren has been scarce in recent years but made a good showing this spring. A very early individual was found at Braddock Bay on 25 Apr and two appeared to be setting

up territory at Point Breeze in May. Continuing to plummet was Loggerhead Shrike.

The early May warbler flight was poor. Some species were very scarce, most notably Northern Parula. While the warbler flight was generally lackluster, some interesting species were reported. A Yellow-throated Warbler was in Ellison Park on 3 May; it now seems to be reported annually. Prothonotary Warbler at Braddock Bay on 5 May and Island Cottage Woods on 24-29 May are from lakeshore sites, where reports have been few and far between in recent years. Two Worm-eating Warblers were at Island Cottage Woods, the first on 29 Apr and the other from 18 to 20 May; it also has become regular in spring. Kentucky Warblers were reported on seven dates in May from three different locations, undoubtedly the best spring for this species in recent years. It also was a good spring for Connecticut Warbler sightings, with one at Hamlin Beach on 16 May and a male captured and banded at Manitou on the same date.

Scarlet Tanager was below normal in number like last year. While respectable numbers were found for some grassland sparrows, Henslow's Sparrows were difficult to find even at traditional sites. Its first report from Avon on 18 May probably is not the real arrival date. The sparrow of the season was a Clay-colored Sparrow observed in Greece on 1 May by Bob Dobson. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRDS** continue to appear, with a female at Braddock Bay on 7 Apr and an adult male there on 15 Apr. Sightings of **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD** continue this spring, but there were many fewer reports than in past years – a male at Parma 30 Mar, one to three at Hamlin from 12 to 19 Apr and a male at Braddock Bay on 5 May. Red Crossbills persisted from the winter, even though it was a mediocre finch winter. Three at Manitou on 29 Mar were considered late until one appeared at a feeder in Lima from 5 to 12 Apr. There was a tremendous Evening Grosbeak flight along the lakeshore in May as well.

Contributors: Betty & Martin Baker, Ron & Kay Ballard, John Barna, Bob Beal, Jeff Bouton, Braddock Bay Raptor Research Association, Elizabeth Brooks, Jean Browning, Mike Carlson, Carolyn Cass, Roberta Childers, Julie Claffey, Sharon Clark, Richard Collins, David Cooper, William D'Anna, Mike Davids, Gertrude Davis, Bill Dingerson, Bob Dobson, Frank Dobson, Jeff Dodge, Jim Doherty, Robert & Elizabeth Edgerton, June Feder, Arlieen & John Foster, Kevin Griffith, Harriet Hamilton, Tom Hampson, Robert Herndon, Nurak Irasena, Øivind Jensen, Allan Klonick, Doug Larkin, Walt Listman, Warren Lloyd, Hayward Madden, Jane Mason, Robert & Margaret McKinney, David Miller, Hyde Miller, Frank Nicolletti, Richard O'Hara, Tom Painting, Martha Reinhardt, Pat Reister, Ruth Rick, Dick Root, J. Ruscica, Pat Scheible, Marge Schmale, Jeanne & Sharon Skelly, Robert & Susan Spahn, Paul & Jeff Spindler, Ann Stear, Harriet Stride, Mary Ann Sunderlin, William Symonds, Clay Taylor, Joe Taylor, Steve Taylor, Dave & Tom Tetlow, Mike & JoAnn Tetlow, Don & Donna Traver, Ann & Joe Watson, Dorothy & Bruce Watson, Paul Weld, and Munro Will.

Abbreviations: BB—Braddock Bay; C—Charlotte; CH—Cobb's Hill; FH—Frisbee Hill; HB—Hamlin Beach; IB—Irondequoit Bay; ICW—Island Cottage Woods; LSP—Letchworth State Park; PB—Point Breeze; WL—West Lakeshore.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: max 100 JB 13 Apr, last Kendall 24 May, quite late. Com. Loon: last Kendall 24 May. Pied-billed Grebe: arr Greece 12 Mar. Horned Grebe: last Kendall 24 May. Red-necked Grebe: arr three Manitou 7 Apr, max 21 Greece 10 Apr, last there 2 May. Am. Bittern: arr BB 2 Apr. Least Bittern: arr BB 7 Apr. Great

Egret: arr two BB 30 Apr. Cattle Egret: arr Greece 23 Apr, one Hogan Pt 8 May, one HB 24 May, average year for this species. Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr Greece 12 Apr, max 18 BB 14 May. Snow Goose: arr three Parma 12 Mar. Green-winged Teal: arr two IB 9 Mar. N. Shoveler: arr two BB 18 Mar. Ring-necked Duck: max 200 Greece 16 Mar. Gr. Scaup: last BB 24-25 May. Oldsquaw: max 250 WL 11 May, good total for May. Black Scoter: arr two females WL 1 Mar; max six WL 11 May, good numbers for season. Com. Goldeneye: last WL 18 May. Bufflehead: last Kendall 25 May. Ruddy Duck: arr two BB 22 Mar.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr LSP 1 Mar, max 718 BB 7 Apr. Osprey: arr WL 29 Mar, max 56 BB 16 May. N. Harrier: max 81 BB 7 Apr. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 1618 BB 29 Apr. Cooper's Hawk: max 135 BB 7 Apr. N. Goshawk: max eight BB 19 Mar. Red-shouldered Hawk: arr three BB 15 Mar, max 465 BB 25 Mar, very good flight. Broad-winged Hawk: max 5327 BB 16 May. Red-tailed Hawk: max 1145 BB 19 Mar. Rough-legged Hawk: max 82 BB 19 Mar. Golden Eagle: arr BB 16 Mar, max three BB 27 Apr. Am. Kestrel: max 186 BB 25 Mar. Merlin: max five BB 5 May. Wild Turkey: one Palmyra 28 Apr (HS), new location. Virginia Rail: arr BB 7 Apr, very early. Sora: arr BB 11 Apr, very early. Com. Moorhen: arr two Greece 10 Apr., Black-bellied Plover: arr three BB 29 Apr, max 46 BB 19-20 May. Semipalmated Plover: arr BB 29 Apr, max 18 WL 20 May. Gr. Yellowlegs: arr BB 19 Mar. Solitary Sandpiper: arr BB 16 Apr, max 51 BB 3 May. Spotted Sandpiper: arr BB 20 Apr. Upland Sandpiper: arr two BB 23 Apr, max six BB 3 May. Whimbrel: arr 30 Manitou 22 May. Ruddy Turnstone: arr widespread 18 May. Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr HB 10 May, max 66 WL 30 May. W. Sandpiper: arr HB 15 May. Least Sandpiper: arr four Byron 29 Mar. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr one Perinton 14 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 12 BB 23 Mar, max 1000+ BB 12 Apr. Dunlin: arr two WL 12 Apr, max 75 WL 20 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: arr HB 4 Apr, early. Com. Snipe: arr BB 2 Mar. Am. Woodcock: arr three Webster 18 Mar. Wilson's Phalarope: one WL 20 May. Caspian Tern: arr three IB 14 Apr. Com. Tern: arr two BB 21 Apr. Forster's Tern: arr BB 15 Apr. Black Tern: arr three BB 1 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Manitou 15 May. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr two LSP 30 May, late. Long-eared Owl: arr Manitou 23 Mar. Com. Night-hawk: arr eight Rochester 15 May. Whip-poor-will: arr ICW 5 May. Chimney Swift: arr ICW 25 Apr. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Penfield 4 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr two Bushnell's Basin 9 May. E. Wood-Pewee: arr Highland Park 14 May. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Manitou 15 May. Acadian Flycatcher: arr ICW 18 May. Alder Flycatcher: arr two LSP and one ICW 18 May. Willow Flycatcher: arr several sites 10 May. Least Flycatcher: arr ICW 28 Apr. E. Phoebe: arr Greece 27 Mar. Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Penfield 30 Apr. E. Kingbird: arr Hunt Hollow 1 May. Tree Swallow: arr several sites 19 Mar. N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr BB 7 Apr. Bank Swallow: arr BB 7 Apr. Cliff Swallow: arr BB 7 Apr. Barn Swallow: arr BB 6 Apr. Blue Jay: max 15,000+ 16 May. Am. Crow: max 13,000+ BB 19 Mar. Boreal Chickadee: one BB 30 Apr. House Wren: arr Greece 26 Apr. Winter Wren: arr Manitou 28 Mar. Marsh Wren: arr Greece 27 Apr. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr WL 2 Apr. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr ICW 20 Apr. Veery: arr ICW 6 May. Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Manitou 15 May. Swainson's Thrush: arr ICW 10 May. Hermit Thrush: arr Manitou 28 Mar. Wood Thrush: arr ICW 29 Apr. Brown Thrasher: arr BB 10 Apr. Water Pipit: arr BB 23 Mar. Bohemian Waxwing: max three Brighton 4 Mar, three M 1-10 Mar. Loggerhead Shrike: arr Greece 18 Mar.

VIREOS-WARBBLERS: Solitary Vireo: arr ICW 25 Apr. Yellow-throated Vireo: arr two Oatka Creek Park 8 May. Warbling Vireo: arr CH 27 Apr. Philadelphia Vireo: arr CH 30 Apr. Red-eyed Vireo: arr Greece 12 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr CH 5 May. Golden-winged Warbler: arr several sites 10 May. Tennessee Warbler: arr ICW 3 May. Orange-

crowned Warbler: arr Oatka Creek Park 28 Apr. Nashville Warbler: arr BB 19 Apr. N. Parula: arr Greece 6 May. Yellow Warbler: arr BB 28 Apr. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr CH 5 May. Magnolia Warbler: arr ICW 29 Apr. Cape May Warbler: arr Webster 6 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr CH 4 May. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr three CH 28 Apr. Blackburnian Warbler: arr Greece CH 6 May. Pine Warbler: arr two ICW 25 Apr. Palm Warbler: arr ICW 29 Apr, good totals this season. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr ICW 10 May. Blackpoll Warbler: arr Greece 17 May. Cerulean Warbler: arr two Greece 6 May. Black-and-white Warbler: arr CH 28 Apr. Am. Redstart: arr Greece 6 May. Ovenbird: arr three CH 30 Apr. N. Waterthrush: arr ICW 29 Apr. Mourning Warbler: arr ICW 15 May. Com. Yellowthroat: arr ICW 1 May. Hooded Warbler: arr LSP 4 May. Wilson's Warbler: arr Manitou 16 May. Canada Warbler: arr three Murray 10 May. Yellow-breasted Chat: arr one ICW 9 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: arr two Greece 6 May. Indigo Bunting: arr BB 10 May. Rufous-sided Towhee: arr Springwater 19 Mar. Am. Tree Sparrow: last three Parma 21 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: arr WL 15 Mar. Field Sparrow: arr Manitou 29 Mar. Vesper Sparrow: arr Kendall 23 Mar. Savannah Sparrow: arr HB 30 Mar. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr two HB 26 Apr. Fox Sparrow: arr Manitou 26 Mar. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr ICW 1 May. White-crowned Sparrow: arr one-two Greece 29 Apr. Snow Bunting: last 60 BB 26 Apr. Bobolink: arr two ICW 1 May. E. Meadowlark: arr BB 8 Mar. Rusty Blackbird: arr seven Manitou 15 Mar. Orchard Oriole: arr PB 18 May, probably not true arr date. N. Oriole: arr IB 29 Apr. Pine Grosbeak: last PB 17 Apr. Com. Redpoll: last two BB 19 Apr.

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REGION 3 – FINGER LAKES

C. K. MELIN

Spring 1986 was characterized by average precipitation and warmer than normal temperatures for three consecutive months. During March, both record maximum and minimum temperatures were recorded. Total March precipitation was within an inch of the long-term mean. The first storm of the month, on 6 and 7 Mar, brought snow and cold temperatures, as well as wind speeds of 20-30 miles per hour. This winter weather was broken by a warm southern front on 10 Mar, bringing temperatures to above normal with daytime highs in the 60's. Region 3 had several first spring reports of migrant species during this brief warm spell, including Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, and Osprey. Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, and Brown-headed Cowbird also were reported as arriving in number. A cold front moved across the state on 11 Mar with some accompanying thunderstorms and strong winds. Rain fell, heavily at times, from 13 through 15 Mar. This inclement weather was followed by warmer than normal temperatures through 19 Mar, when another storm system moved across the state. A second pulse of migrants was reported with this warm spell, including Blue-winged Teal, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered

and Broad-winged Hawks, Common Snipe, and Barred Owl. The Region also had its first spring report of Field Sparrow, and reports of American Tree Sparrow departing in numbers. Temperatures dropped dramatically following the front on 19 Mar. At Ithaca, for example, the temperature dropped from 68 degrees at 4 PM to 48 degrees at 9 PM, and by 4 PM on 20 Mar it was only 14 degrees (a drop of 54 degrees in 24 hours). Daily minimum temperatures were broken on 21 Mar, then it began to warm up again on the 22nd. By the 26th, daily temperature records were broken again, but this time they were maximum temperature records. Daytime temperatures were in the upper 60's and low 70's, and on 29 and 30 Mar, temperatures were in the 70's and 80's, surpassing record highs again.

Monthly average temperatures for April were also above normal, this being the warmest April since 1968. Maximum temperatures were in the upper 70's to low 80's. The traditional April showers began on 4 Apr, and persisted through the 11th due to a large stationary storm system, which circulated unseasonably cold air from 9 through 13 Apr. For a brief period, above normal temperatures were recorded, then the rain returned until 17 Apr. A cold front on 20 and 21 Apr brought temperatures below freezing, with associated frost damage, through 24 Apr, when skies cleared. The remainder of April featured lots of sunshine.

In spite of the extended cold and rainy period between 4 and 24 Apr, many spring migrants arrived. These included Double-crested Cormorant, American Bittern, Virginia and Sora Rails, Rough-winged and Barn Swallows. The season's first report of Solitary Vireo came on 19 Apr, during a pause in the rain and before the cold spell.

Two adult Bald Eagles were present at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge throughout April. Although no nest building was reported, the birds investigated appropriate nest sites and engaged in stick exchanging behavior. Hopefully this portends nesting in a coming year.

The first days of May were cold, with nighttime temperatures below freezing. By 6 May temperatures were in the 70's and 80's and remained well above normal through the 18th. Between 18 and 23 May, a cold stationary front dominated our weather with associated thunderstorms. High pressure moved in on the 24th and provided beautiful weather for the remainder of May.

The impression of this spring's birding season was that many birds arrived later than usual, and that fewer individuals of each species were observed. Overall, the usual number of species was recorded. The following are examples of migrant species with unusually few reports this season: Common Nighthawk, Sedge Wren, Henslow's and Lincoln's Sparrows, and Red-shouldered Hawk. There were only single reports of Gray-cheeked and Swainson's Thrush. There were also single reports of Caspian, Common, and Black Terns. Migrant shorebirds were reported on relatively late dates and in small numbers, although this may be due to lack of habitat. Many warbler species were difficult to find, as there seemed to be few individuals.

Abbreviations: FLNF—Finger Lakes National Forest; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SSW—Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary.

Contributors: Jack Brubaker, Dick Clements, Bernice Hilfiker, Polly Keating, Malcolm Lerch, Dorothy McIlroy, C. K. Melin, Mary Welles.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-necked Grebe: one Keuka L in Mar (ML). Least Bittern: single report Cayuga Marsh 26 May. Great Egret: two MNWR 7 May. Green-backed Heron: arr SSW 22 Apr. Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr Ithaca 1 Apr. Brant: no reports. Am. Black Duck: reported throughout Region, although no reports of large flocks. Mallard: plentiful throughout Region, max 100+ Watkins Glen 2 Mar. N. Shoveler: arr MNWR 5 Apr, none elsewhere. Gadwall: reported throughout Region, max eight Watkins Glen 24 Mar. Am. Wigeon: present throughout Region. Canvasback: present throughout Region, last Ithaca 28 Apr. Redhead: many reports in Mar, tapering off by late Apr. Greater Scaup: reported throughout Region until 21 Apr. Lesser Scaup: last Ithaca 5 May. Oldsquaw: conspicuously absent during the Winter season, now six reports throughout Region. White-winged Scoter: four reports during Mar, all from Cayuga L. Com. Goldeneye: reported throughout Region, last Cayuga L 26 May. Bufflehead: last Cayuga L 27 Apr. Hooded Merganser: max 35 on 22 Mar, apparently driven from Queen Catherine Marsh to the lake front by freezing temperatures; nesting Big Flats 19 Apr and near Burdett 24 May. Ruddy Duck: two reports MNWR 20 and 27 Apr.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: N. Goshawk: only 3 reports, all from the Ithaca area, and absent from their traditional nesting area near Brooktondale. Rough-legged Hawk: last 29 Apr. Golden Eagle: one subad Arnot Forest 27 Apr (C. S. Robbins *et al.*); also one other report with scanty details. Wild Turkey: increasing, several reports throughout Region. Virginia Rail: arr near Ithaca 25 Apr, five other reports. Sora: arr near Ithaca 14 Apr, four other reports. Com. Moorhen: arr Ithaca Airport, 19 Apr, few reports. Am. Coot: reported throughout Region, max 87 Watkins Glen. Killdeer: arr Cornell University 3 Mar. Spotted Sandpiper: arr MNWR 20 Apr. Am. Woodcock: few reports outside Ithaca area, where it was reported consistently throughout May. Bonaparte's Gull: four Lansing 30 Mar, six Elmira 13 Apr, only reports.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Dryden and Ithaca 17 May. E. Screech-Owl: calling during a warm spell Ithaca 3 and 10 Mar, also two y in one of D. Clements flicker houses 29 May. Great Horned Owl: nesting at Newtown Battlefield Monument. Whip-poor-will one Tyre 29 Apr. Chimney Swift: arr Ithaca 20 Apr and Montour Falls 21 Apr. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Ithaca 26 Apr, several early May reports. Red-headed Woodpecker: arr Aurora 13 May, few other reports. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: very few reports. Pileated Woodpecker: increasing, several reports throughout Region.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: three reports, first SSW 12 May. E. Wood-Pewee: arr Aurora, 12 May, with several other reports in rapid succession. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one HHSF 17 May. Acadian Flycatcher: one Arnot Forest 25 May, at its traditional site. Purple Martin: arr Seneca Falls 19 Apr, scarcer than usual. Tree Swallow: arr MNWR 15 Mar, early. Cliff Swallow: nesting in Cayuta at a traditional site but not reported at a Big Flats nesting area. Fish Crow: Ithaca until 5 May. Carolina Wren: seemed to have survived the winter well, with several reports throughout Region. Winter Wren: singing at several locations throughout Region, present all season. Marsh Wren: single report MNWR 14 May. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Aurora 6 Mar, followed by several reports until the end of April. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Ithaca 14 Apr, subsequently reported throughout Region. Gray Catbird: arr Elmira 3 May. Brown Thrasher: arr Connecticut Hill 19 Apr, late. Water Pipit: reported in Mar, last Aurora 17 Apr.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: White-eyed Vireo: single report Elmira 10 May. Philadelphia Vireo: only two reports SSW 16 May, Dryden Lake 17 May. "Brewster's" Warbler: two reports Elmira 3 & 12 May (A. Smith), Ithaca 7 May (*vide* McIlroy). Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Michigan Hollow 4 May, few reports. Magnolia Warbler: only two reports Ithaca 3 May, Elmira 15 May. Cape May Warbler: three reports between 6 and 10 May.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Dryden L 26 Apr, then few reports. Pine, Prairie, and Palm Warblers: several reports of each throughout Region. Blackpoll Warbler: four reports 17-23 May. Cerulean Warbler: four singing males along the canal at MNWR in May; also three other reports. Black-and-white Warbler: arr Ithaca 14 Apr, scarce. Prothonotary Warbler: single report Ithaca 5 May, not present at traditional MNWR sites 14 May. Ovenbird: arr FLNF 24 Apr, early; present in usual numbers after 29 Apr. N. Waterthrush: arr SSW 30 Apr. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 15 Apr. Mourning Warbler: two reports, Hammond Hill 11 May and Sullivan's Monument 17 May. Hooded Warbler: several singing males at traditional nesting sites in Ithaca and Montour Falls. Wilson's Warbler: single report Ithaca 15 May. Canada Warbler: only three reports through Region, scarcer than usual. Yellow-breasted Chat: two reports, Ithaca and Elmira, both 13 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Vesper Sparrow: arr Elmira 1 Apr, few reports thereafter. Fox Sparrow: one Elmira 31 Mar; also SSW 20 Mar to 21 Apr. Lapland Longspur: two Apr reports. Bobolink: arr Trumansburg 28 Apr. Orchard Oriole: two reports Elmira, 10 and 17 May. Pine Grosbeak: last Ithaca 21 Apr; none elsewhere. Purple Finch: present all season, but scarce. Pine Siskin: present all season throughout Region. Evening Grosbeak: present all season, with greater than usual numbers during May when they were observed gorging themselves on maple buds.

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REGION 4 – SUSQUEHANNA

JAY G. LEHMAN

Mark Twain's apt 1876 description of the weather as having "a sumptuous variety that compels the stranger's admiration and regret" was appropriate for our spring. Early March was seasonably cold, followed by a warming trend with heavy rain and floods in Broome and Delaware Counties. March ended very warm, with daily high temperatures at Binghamton above 60° for five of the last seven days. A record breaking 81° was recorded on 30 March! Somewhat lower but still above average temperatures continued through most of April, except for a cold period with some snow from 9 to 12 April. Unseasonal cold brought a late snow storm that blanketed Otsego and Delaware Counties on 23 and 24 April. Eleven inches fell at Walton. One day later temperatures were back up in the seventies! The rest of April and all of May were warmer and sunnier than normal. May also was dry except for the third week, when 2.3 inches of rain fell. Precipitation was about average for the period.

What a pleasure it was to have a nice Spring for a change! In the past two years there were five or six consecutive rainy weekends. This year, however, there were nice sunny weekends for most of the migration in May, probably resulting in more eyes and ears in the field and, hence, an excellent species list. The nice weather apparently pushed most migrants through in the first half of

May. Judy Bell banded few migrants after the rainy third week of May. The flooding in March and normal precipitation in April resulted in good conditions for shorebirds at Norwich. Although the weather was generally pleasant, the cold, snowy weather on 12 April forced large numbers of robins and several Hermit Thrushes to the roadsides in Chenango Co. for food and induced E. Phoebes near Chenango Lake to eat sumac berries. Malingering winter finches from the good winter flight also contributed to our species diversity. No crossbills were reported, but no one checked the large conifer tracts in Cortland and Chenango Counties.

Long-legged waders, waterfowl and hawks were well represented. Reports of American Bittern, Black-crowned Night Heron, Double-crested Cormorant, Mute and Tundra Swans, and Merlin at two different locations in the same season are excellent for this Region. Turkey Vultures continue to expand their range north into Chenango Co., where they have been uncommon. Although all of the expected species of owls were reported, numbers were down probably because no one was Atlasing this year. Virginia Rail and Sora, and Loggerhead and Northern Shrike in the same report are a special treat.

An extremely unusual observation of a fishing Am. Crow was reported at Chenango Lake near Norwich by Dan Newby on 17 May. Apparently the crow "dove?" into shallow water, caught a small bullhead and flew off with it in its bill. This report is not to be confused with a Fish Crow which is uncommon in this Region! Two Fish Crows **were** reported on 19 May by Harriet Marsi and Bruce Bozdos at Chenango Valley State Park, which is north of those reported at Vestal in 1980, 1982 and 1984. The birds were identified by voice and size comparisons to nearby Am. Crows, to which they seemed relatively indifferent. This record probably indicates further range expansion up the Susquehanna River and its tributaries.

Of the flycatchers, vireos, and warblers, the only notable misses are Alder and Olive-sided Flycatchers and Golden-winged Warbler. Why we continue to miss Olive-sided Flycatcher in migration is a mystery. Perhaps they are relatively silent then. Surely there were some Alder Flycatchers among the five Traill's banded at Newark Valley. The dearth of Golden-wingeds is apparently due to the continuing displacement by Blue-wingeds. Notable southern landbirds that came north this year are Acadian Flycatcher, Worm-eating and Hooded Warblers, and Orchard Oriole. Could the extremely warm first half of May have encouraged over-flight migrants to stay?

No Sedge Wrens or Marsh Wrens were reported this Spring. Although Atlas data confirms that Sedge Wrens are rare in this Region, habitat is improving as more farms are being abandoned. Readers are encouraged to search the wet abandoned hayfields required by this species. Because Marsh Wrens are less rare, the lack of reports suggests that we are not birding in cattail marshes. Similarly, only a few Henslow's Sparrows were reported, apparently because few birders look in the appropriate habitat. Hopefully, in future years we can monitor the breeding locations found during the Atlas years.

The species list of 189 plus one hybrid ties that of 1983 as the highest since

1979. Black-crowned Night-Heron, Tundra and Mute Swans, Merlin, Virginia Rail, Sora, Whip-poor-will, Loggerhead Shrike, Fish Crow, and Orchard Oriole are rarities. Only the Delhi Bird Club Spring Count held on 17 May reported total numbers of each species seen.

Observers: Joe & Marion Aloï, Cutler & Jeanette Baldwin, Judy Bell, Les Bemont, Bruce Bozdos, Bill Breidinger, Ted Buhl, Sally Carey, Mildred & Lynn Clark, Ted Clark, Cortland County Bird Club, Chad Covey, Anna & Marilyn Davis, Louise Dean, Delhi Bird Club, Mary Dobinsky, Mal & Sadie Dorber, Nancy Emerson, Polly & Earl Gerkin, Marsha Guzewich, Shirley Hartman, Jack Knapik, Margaret Layton, Jay Lehman, Florence Linaberry, Harriet Marsi, Rick Marsi, Leona McDowell, Stella McPherson, Dave Messineo, Naturalists Club of Broome County, D. O'Neill, Betty Potter, Harriet Robinson, Dick Parker, Marie Petuh, Karl Scott, Shane Stalter, E. Sturgess, Tioga Bird Club, Elizabeth Titus, Bill Toner, George Wade, Elizabeth Washburn, Kathryn Wilson, Tom & Beryl Wilson, Don Windsor.

Abbreviations: bnd—banded; BCC—Broome Community College; CRes—Cannonville Reservoir; CCBCSC—Cortland County Bird Club Spring Count; DBCSC—Delhi Bird Club Spring Count; End—Endwell; NV—Newark Valley; Norw—Norwich; OPM—Oneonta, Portlandville, Milford; REEC—Rogers Environmental Education Center; WPres—Whitney Point Reservoir; Wind—Windsor; Vest—Vestal.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: two Hunts Pd (DW) and Chen L (JL) 5 Apr, only reports. Com. Loon: arr two Marathon 13 Apr (A & MD), last OPM 19 May (MD, KW). Pied-billed Grebe: arr Apalachin 9 Apr (EW). Horned Grebe: arr Hunts Pd 8 Apr (JL), last two WPres 12 Apr (A & MD). Double-crested Cormorant: Chen L 5 May (JL). Am. Bittern: OPM 29 Apr (MD, KW). Great Blue Heron: arr Vest 17 Mar (T & BW). Green-backed Heron: arr Wind 9 May (JS), two more OPM May, scarce. Black-crowned Night-Heron: one Cortland 11 Apr (J & MA). Tundra Swan: arr Tiog 4 Apr (C & JB), last eight Truxton 16 & 17 Apr (BP), unusual. Mute Swan: four Pepacton Res 19 Mar (SMcP). Snow Goose: only report Tiog 21 Apr (C & JB). Canada Goose: arr Norw 4 Mar (DW), max 240 three flocks OPM 17 Mar (MD, KW), 150 Johnson City 19 Apr (JS), last big flight. Wood Duck: arr WPres 23 Mar (A & MD), one f and 12 eggs Coventryville 3 May (JS), early breeding. Green-winged Teal: arr WPres 22 Mar (A & MD), last two OPM 14 Apr (MD, KW). Am. Black Duck: last one DBCSC. Mallard: max 29 OPM 24 Mar (MD, KW). N. Pintail: arr OPM 17 Mar (MD, KW), last Chen Forks 25 Mar (A & MD). Blue-winged Teal: arr OPM 3 Apr (MD & KW), last pair Norw 19 Apr (JL). Am. Wigeon: only report WPres 22 & 23 Mar (A & MD). Gadwall: only report WPres 22 Mar (A & MD). Redhead: only report WPres 23 Mar (A & MD). Ring-necked Duck: arr two 20 Mar Norw (DW), last WPres 6 Apr (A & MD). Greater Scaup: arr one Norw 5 Apr (DW, JL), last pair Geneganslet L 12 Apr (JL). Oldsquaw: arr eight Chen L 8 Apr (JL), last and max 16 WPres 12 Apr (A & MD). Com. Goldeneye: last 10 Apr Davenport (MD). Bufflehead: max 5 OPM 8 Apr (MD, KW), last f OPM 9 May (MD). Hooded Merganser: arr Chen Forks 15 Mar (A & MD), max ten Norw 16 Mar (JL). Com. Merganser: max 12 Oneonta 5 May (MD), last six Port Crane 26 May (HM, BB, FL). Red-breasted Merganser: only six WPres 12 Apr (A & MD).

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr Vest Center 15 Mar (SD), max 40 DBCSC. Osprey: arr Portlandville 14 Apr, max four 5 May OPM (MD, KW). Bald Eagle: only report Hamden 5 May (HR). N. Harrier: arr S. Otselic 13 Mar (DM), few singles through May, low. Sharp-shinned Hawk: about one/week through May, normal? Cooper's Hawk: about three/mo, low? N. Goshawk: arr Apalachin 9 Apr (EW), last Norw 4 May (DW). Red-shouldered Hawk: only report two OPM 13 and 19 May (MD, KW). Broad-winged Hawk: arr Hunts Pd 23 Mar (CC), max two OPM 29 Apr and 26 May (MD, KW). Red-tailed Hawk: arr Apalachin 1 Mar (P & EG), max migration eight OPM 31 Mar (MD, KW).

max 15 DBCSC. Rough-legged Hawk: last three Marathon 16 Mar (JL). Am. Kestrel: max 11 OPM (MD, KW). Merlin: arr one Delhi 21 Mar (MC), last S Otselic 25 Apr (DM). Ring-necked Pheasant: two m End 14 Mar (JS); one Johnson City 20 May (MP), scarce. Ruffed Grouse: max eight DBCSC. Wild Turkey: max 50 Hamden 23 Mar (HR), max breeding 14 DBCSC. Virginia Rail: arr exhausted migrant Smyrna 6 May, fed and released, max two REEC after 29 May (MG). Sora: arr REEC 14 May (JL). Semipalmated Plover: arr BCC 9 Apr (ET), last Norw 17 May (JL). Killdeer: arr 3 Mar OPM (MD, KW), max 20 Franklin 11 Mar (SS) and Plymouth 22 Mar (JL). Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Sherburne 28 Mar (CC), max three Norw 10 May (JL), last two DBCSC. Greater Yellowlegs: arr Norw 19 Apr (JL) & last there 10 May. Solitary Sandpiper: arr four 2 May, max 20 10 May, last four 17 May all Norw (JL). Spotted Sandpiper: arr OPM 6 May (MD, KW), max seven DBCSC. Least Sandpiper: only three Norw 17 May (JL). Am. Woodcock: arr Vest 14 Mar (LB). Com. Snipe: arr OPM 28 Mar (MD), max nine WPres 5 Apr (A & MD). Ring-billed Gull: max 150 Delhi 12 Mar (MC). Herring Gull: max 25 N. Colesville 16 Mar (JS).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: max 50 Delhi 1 Mar (MC). Black-billed Cuckoo: Vest Center 15 May (SD) and Norw 17 May (JL) only reports. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: only report Tiog May (LD). E. Screech-Owl: Tiog Mar (LD) and Vest 5 May (LB), scarce. Great Horned Owl: very few, av one/mo. Barred Owl: only report Valonia Springs 19 Apr (JS). Whip-poor-will: only report Broome May (LD). Com. Nighthawk: arr Oneonta 18 May (MD), last four New Berlin 25 May (CC). Chimney Swift: arr Vest 27 Apr (LB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr NV 13 May (JB). Belted Kingfisher: max 12 DBCSC. Red-headed Woodpecker: arr DBCSC. Red-bellied Woodpecker: few scattered 1-3/mo. Tiog-Broome, one REEC 17 May (JL) where unusual. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Chen Forks 29 Mar (A & MD), max six Wind 9 May (JS). Downy Woodpecker: max 17 DBCSC. Hairy Woodpecker: max 15 DBCSC. N. Flicker: arr Vest Center 18 Mar (SD), max 32 DBCSC. Pileated Woodpecker: max 15 DBCSC, very high.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Wood-Pewee: arr OPM 10 May (MD). Acadian Flycatcher: two NV 16 & 17 May (JB), only report. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: only report Norw 17 May (JL). Traill's Flycatcher: arr two bnd NV 15 May (JB). Willow Flycatcher: arr BCC 23 May (ET). Least Flycatcher: arr Walton & OPM 29 Apr. E. Phoebe: arr Vest Center 25 Mar (SD), max 25 DBCSC. Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Vest Center 6 May (SD). E. Kingbird: arr Walton 29 Apr. (MC, LMCD, SH). Horned Lark: max 250 OPM 12 Mar (MD, KW). Purple Martin: only report Owego 19 Apr (C & JB). Tree Swallow: arr Delhi 26 Mar (MC), max 103 DBCSC. Rough-winged Swallow: arr NV 20 Apr (JB). Bank Swallow: arr 30 Walton 29 Apr (MC, LMCD, SH). Cliff Swallow: arr two DBCSC. Barn Swallow: arr Norw 20 Apr (JL). Blue Jay: max 90 DBCSC. Am. Crow: max 54 DBCSC. Black-capped Chickadee: max 41 DBCSC. Tufted Titmouse: scattered 3-4/week Mar-Apr Southern Tier only. Red-breasted Nuthatch: several/mo. everywhere. White-breasted Nuthatch: max 16 DBCSC. Brown Creeper: arr OPM 3 Mar (MD, KW). Carolina Wren: two Broome Mar, last Chen L 12 Apr (JL), unusual. House Wren: arr NV & Chen Forks 27 Apr. Winter Wren: arr Pittsfield 13 Apr (CC). Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr and max six N. Colesville 2 Mar (JS). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Norw 10 Apr (JL), last DBCSC. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Norw 21 Apr (JL), max 12 NV 16 May (JB). E. Bluebird: arr Delhi 15 Mar (SC). Veery: arr Norw 28 Apr (DW). Gray-cheeked Thrush: only report OPM 12 May (MD, KW). Swainson's Thrush: arr bnd NV (JB), max three DBCSC. Hermit Thrush: arr three Whaley Pd & N. Pharsalia 12 Apr (JL). Wood Thrush: Pharsalia 28 Apr (CC). Am. Robin: max 300 Chen 12 Apr (JL). Gray Catbird: arr four Wind 9 May (JS). N. Mockingbird: several/mo Southern Tier, normal, one Norw 29 Mar (DW) & Otselic 15 May (DM) where uncommon. Brown Thrasher: arr Norw 7 Apr (JL), max 17 DBCSC. Water Pipit: arr & max 25 OPM 8 Apr (MD, KW), last Norw 17 May (JL). Cedar Waxwing: max 30 Bing 5 Mar (ML) & Norw 7, 28, 29 Apr (JL). Loggerhead Shrike: only report N Colesville 2 to 16 Mar (JS). N. Shrike: only report im Preston 22 Mar (JL).

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: arr OPM 29 Apr (MD, KW). Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Norw 6 May (JL). Warbling Vireo: arr OPM 29 Apr (MD, KW), max 10 DBCSC. Red-eyed Vireo: arr NV (JB) & Broome (SD) 7 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr bnd NV 29 Apr (JB). Golden-winged Warbler: only report Tiog May (GW), scarce. "Brewster's" Warbler: only report Truxton 18 May (DP). Tennessee Warbler: reported Vest 7 to 19 May (LB). Nashville Warbler: arr Vest 28 Apr (LB). N. Parula: only report bnd NV 9 May (JB). Yellow Warbler: arr three locations 29 Apr, max 62 DBCSC. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Delhi 29 Apr (MC, LMCD). Magnolia Warbler: arr Norw 24 Apr (DW). Cape May Warbler: arr OPM 9 May (MD), last two DBCSC. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Hunts Pd 11 May (CC), max six DBCSC. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr three locations 28 Apr, max 20 OPM 29 Apr (MD, KW). Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Lincklaen 28 Apr (CC). Blackburnian Warbler: arr three Walton 29 Apr (MC, LMCD, SH), max seven DBCSC. Prairie Warbler: arr Vest 30 Apr (LB). Palm Warbler: only report Truxton 11 May (KS). Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Delhi 28 Apr (MC), max & last nine Chen 17 May (CC, JL). Blackpoll Warbler: arr bnd NV 16 May, max & last 24 there 24 May (JB). Black-and-white Warbler: arr Nimmonsburg 9 Apr (ET). Am. Redstart: arr Vest 8 May (LB). Worm-eating Warbler: only report CCBCSC 10 May. Ovenbird: arr OPM 29 Apr (MD, KW), max 25 DBCSC. N. Waterthrush: arr bnd NV 27 Apr (JB). Louisiana Waterthrush: arr two Walton 29 Apr (MC, LMCD, SH). Mourning Warbler: arr bnd NV 16 May (JB). Com. Yellowthroat: arr two Wind (JS) & ten OPM (MD, KW) 9 May, max 45 DBCSC. Hooded Warbler: arr m Norw 14 May (JL) still present 31 May. Wilson's Warbler: singles bnd NV 12 & 13 May (JB), only report. Canada Warbler: arr five OPM 10 May (MD).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: arr Vest 6 May (LB). N. Cardinal: max 17 DBCSC. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr m Walton 29 Apr (MC, LMCD, SH). Indigo Bunting: arr one bnd NV 10 May (JB). Rufous-sided Towhee: arr Vest 5 Apr (LB). Am. Tree Sparrow: late max 22 OPM 3 Mar (MD, KW), last two Coventryville 3 May (JS). Chipping Sparrow: arr Vest 6 Apr (LB), max 64 DBCSC. Field Sparrow: arr OPM 24 Mar (MD, KW). Vesper Sparrow: arr BCC 9 Apr (ET). Savannah Sparrow: arr two Norw 8 Apr (JL). Grasshopper Sparrow: arr four N Colesville 17 May (JS), still present 31 May. Henslow's Sparrow: arr Norw 12 Apr, another there 3 May (DW), one Broome 18 May (ML, EW), still scarce. Fox Sparrow: arr Vest Center 12 Mar (SD), max six Choconut Center 28 Mar (JS), last Apalachin 19 Apr (EW). Song Sparrow: max 60 DBCSC. Lincoln's Sparrow: only report bnd NV 6 May (JB). Swamp Sparrow: arr OPM 3 Apr (MD, KW). White-throated Sparrow: max 12 DBCSC. White-crowned Sparrow: max 14 DBCSC, last OPM 19 May (MD, KW). Dark-eyed Junco: migration max 90 OPM 3 Apr (MD, KW). Bobolink: arr three Valonia Springs 10 May (JS), max 55 DBCSC. Red-winged Blackbird: arr three N Colesville 9 Mar (JS), max 300 Coventryville 16 Mar (JS). Rusty Blackbird: arr 6 Apr REE (JL), last OPM 9 May (MD). E. Meadowlark: arr six OPM 17 Mar (MD, KW). Com. Grackle: arr three West Corners 11 Mar & migration max 200 N Colesville 5 Apr (JS). Brown-headed Cowbird: arr Delhi 1 Mar (MC), max 40 DBCSC. Orchard Oriole: only report f bnd NV 11 May (JB). N. Oriole: arr bnd NV 5 May (JB), max 74 DBCSC. Pine Grosbeak: max 15 N Colesville 9 Mar (JS), last six S Plymouth 22 Mar (JL). Purple Finch: arr Walton 3 Mar (SH), max 21 DBCSC. House Finch: max 60 DBCSC. Com. Redpoll: max 24 End 18 Mar (ML), last Norw 29 Mar (DW). Pine Siskin: max 30 NV to 12 May (JB), last two Coventryville 25 May (JS). Am. Goldfinch: max 119 DBCSC. Evening Grosbeak: max 100 Norw 22 Apr (JL), last Broome three locations 24 May.

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REGION 5 – ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

PAUL A. DeBenedictis

A mild spring is fine for people, plants and birds but not always so good for birding. By consensus, this was one of those springs. March began quite cool and April ended with an unexpected cold snap. Otherwise temperatures were above average all three months, especially in March and April. Precipitation was quite variable. The last significant snowfall of the year came in early March, but only about a foot fell during the entire season, including late April's brief but unwelcome contribution. Precipitation was slightly below average in March and just above average in April and May, more so along the Lake Ontario shoreline. The early thaw and long warm spell early in the season left us very dry by mid-May, but rain at the season's end ended worry of a drought.

Waterbird numbers generally were poor. The early thaw permitted fleets of small craft on our larger bodies of water at the height of the waterfowl, grebe and loon migration, so no concentrations were observed and departures generally were early. April's warm weather dried most vernal pools, and emergent vegetation quickly made them unsuitable for shorebirds, so shorebird numbers were unexceptional as well. The most outstanding waterbird report of the season was a bird believed to be a dark morph **PARASITIC JAEGER** seen briefly by Jane Kidney from a boat off Pleasant Pt on 14 May. It is the first Regional spring record of a jaeger of any sort, and the observer's familiarity with fall migrant jaegers adds credence to this report. A new record high of 212 Double-crested Cormorant at Derby Hill on 10 May and 65 on Wontry I, Oneida L, on 24 May attest to the continued expansion of the Lake Ontario population of this species. About a half dozen reports of Great Egret, most from the Biddlecum area, between 6 Apr and 5 May were the only reports of "southern" herons. Other seldom found waterbirds reported this season included Glossy Ibis, Greater White-fronted Goose and Sandhill Crane.

The landbird migration was similarly uneventful. Long stretches without strong weather systems produced few concentrations of migrant landbirds. The best period was in early May. The vegetation unfurled about two weeks ahead of normal, and easily beat the arrival of warblers, vireos and flycatchers despite numerous early arrival dates. Southern overshoot species were not well represented, with singles of Prothonotary and Worm-eating but no Kentucky Warbler this spring. The peak count of 2700 Yellow-rumped Warblers passing Derby Hill on 1 May was weakly echoed by 250 along Lake Ontario the next day, but these were the only reports of more than 100 individuals of any warbler species all season. Swallow maxima were distressingly low, both cuckoos and the grassland sparrows continued scarce and Brown Thrasher were again conspicuous by their scarcity.

Return flights of winter irruptives were mixed. Raptors, both diurnal and nocturnal, passed in unexceptional numbers. There was no flight of chickadees or nuthatches, but Bohemian Waxwings persisted until late March. Pine Grosbeaks disappeared in mid-March, while Purple Finch reappeared in mid-April.

Crossbills remained scarce. A fair return flight of redpolls and Pine Siskins (which showed no evidence of breeding in the Syracuse area, unlike many springs) was dwarfed by a massive May return flight of Evening Grosbeak, of which large numbers appeared at feeders.

Record early arrivals were set by Peregrine Falcon, Pectoral Sandpiper, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Blue-winged Warbler, Nashville Warbler, N. Parula, Louisiana Waterthrush, Hooded Warbler and Swamp Sparrow, and tied by Olive-sided Flycatcher and Chestnut-sided Warbler. These new records exceeded the previous by one to four days. Departures also tended to be early, though bird banding at the Richard A. Noyes Sanctuary and continued coverage of St. Mary's Cemetery in DeWitt turned up most of our late May migrants in late May. Gray-cheeked Thrush was a conspicuous miss this season, and late season Swainson's Thrush were quite scarce.

Gary Lee provided much information on landbird arrivals in the southwestern Adirondacks of Herkimer County. Amazingly, Broad-winged Hawk, Winter Wren and Red-eyed Vireo were found there before they were found at lower elevations along Lake Ontario or near Syracuse. Comparative arrival dates for Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, E. Phoebe and Lincoln's Sparrow also appear in the species accounts below. Other arrivals seemed more in line with what might be expected, given the difference in altitude and climate.

Great rarities among landbirds reported this season include Fish Crow, Prothonotary and Connecticut Warbler, and Clay-colored Sparrow. A Com. Raven at Derby Hill on 26 Mar was only the ninth spring record there; it nests in the Adirondacks section of this Region. Other hard to find species reported this season include Bohemian Waxwing, Orange-crowned and Prairie Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat and Orchard Oriole. A total of 236 species were reported this season, which is about average.

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Abbreviations: BBFS—Ben Burtt feeder survey; DH—Derby Hill, Oswego Co.; FH—Fairhaven, Little Sodus Bay and vicinity, Cayuga Co.; LOL—Lake Ontario littoral, Oswego Co.; Noyes—Richard A. Noyes Sanctuary, Nine Mile Point, Oswego Co.; NPT—northern Pompey township; PSS—Peter Scott Swamp, Oswego Co.; SPd—Sandy Pond, Oswego Co.; SRF—Seneca River flats near Montezuma, Cayuga Co.; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park, Oswego Co.; StMC—Saint Mary's Cemetery, DeWitt, Onondaga Co.; Syr—Syracuse.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: singles DH 25 Apr and 4 May. Com. Loon: arr DH 23 Mar, max 36 Otisco L 9 Apr, last LOL 15 May; arr Limekiln L 14 Apr. Pied-billed Grebe: max 5 Clay 6 Apr. Horned Grebe: about six reported, last 12 Apr. Red-necked Grebe: two Brewerton 17 Mar. Double-crested Cormorant: arr DH 5 Apr. Am. Bittern: arr DH 3 Apr. Least Bittern: arr Poolsbrook 14 May. Great Blue Heron: arr PSS 12 Mar. Green-backed Heron: arr Clay 28 Apr. Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr DH 16 Apr. **GLOSSY IBIS**: one PSS 5 May (ph Alan Townsend *vide* DWC), last spring report 1978. Tundra Swan: three reported, last Pulaski 26 Apr. Mute Swan: two Brewerton 18 Mar. **GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE**: orange-billed ad Pond 100, FH, 12-13 Apr (FGS,

DWC), tenth spring record. Snow Goose: max 58 DH 2 Apr, low; last PSS 3 Apr; only one blue morph reported. Canada Goose: arr 6 Mar, last counts > 100 27 Apr. Wood Duck: arr DH 12 Mar, scarce. Green-winged Teal: arr DH 12 Mar, max 14 PSS 14 Apr. Am. Black Duck: max 70 Clay 29 Mar. Mallard: max 250 Clay 29 Mar. N. Pintail: arr Onon L 8 Mar, max 180 Clay 29 Mar, last PSS 27 Apr. Blue-winged Teal: arr DH 16 Mar. N. Shoveler: arr Oswe 27 Mar, last 10 May. Gadwall: arr Onon L 16 Mar, last FH 17 May. Am. Wigeon: arr SRF 15 Mar, max 40 FH 22 Mar, last PSS 27 Apr. Canvasback: max 260 FH 22 Mar, last FH 10 Apr. Redhead: max 18 FH 22 Mar, last FH 27 Mar. Ring-necked Duck: arr Brewerton 12 Mar, max 62 Clay 6 Apr, last FH 27 Apr. Greater Scaup: last FH 12 Apr, straggler LOL 10 May. Lesser Scaup: last DH 13 Apr. Oldsquaw: last LOL 10 May. White-winged Scoter: 35 FH 1 Mar declined to one DH 12 Mar, then singles LOL 14 Apr and 4 May. Com. Goldeneye: last DH 4 May. Bufflehead: last FH 17 May. Hooded Merganser: arr Brewerton 6 Mar, max 50 FH 22 Mar, irregular after 3 Apr. Com. Merganser: last Utica Marsh 10 May; arr Fourth L 1 May. Red-breasted Merganser: max 2800 FH 29 Mar, last DH 25 May. Ruddy Duck: one FH 20-22 Mar only report.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Derby Hill Hawk Migration Totals—1986

Species	Arrival	Max.—Date	Last ¹	90% Date Range ²	Total
Turkey Vulture	12 Mar	266—26 Mar	30 May	26 Mar — 14 May	2139
Osprey	31 Mar	36—16 May	30 May	15 Apr — 18 May	268
Bald Eagle	4 Mar	3— Mar	26 May	17 Mar — 17 May	24
Northern Harrier	10 Mar	55—21 Apr	30 May	18 Mar — 17 May	738
Sharp-shinned Hawk	17 Mar	1107— 1 May	29 May	1 Apr — 16 May	5685
Cooper's Hawk	4 Mar	102—25 Mar	17 May	18 Mar — 6 May	466
Northern Goshawk	3 Mar	10—18 Mar	16 May	4 Mar — 30 Apr	57
Red-shouldered Hawk	12 Mar	256—25 Mar	18 May	17 Mar — 19 Apr	836
Broad-winged Hawk	12 Apr	2434—18 May	30 May	15 Apr — 5 May	14845
Red-tailed Hawk	20 Feb	926—26 Mar	30 May	11 Mar — 25 Apr	6400
Rough-legged Hawk	20 Feb	66—18 Mar	25 Mar		263
Golden Eagle	18 Mar	3—19 Apr	5 May	10 Mar — 21 Apr	14
American Kestrel	10 Mar	37— 6 Apr	18 May		287
Merlin	15 Mar	2—20 Apr	16 May		11
TOTAL (includes 144 unidentified hawks and rarities)					32177

¹ Species listed as departing after 25 May may occur later.

² Dates between which 90% of the seasonal total appeared.

Turkey Vulture: arr Old Forge 2 May. Osprey: arr Fourth L 1 May. Bald Eagle: ad SSSP 2 Mar, Darts 28 Mar; DH total is record high. N. Harrier: arr SRF 15 Mar. Broad-winged Hawk: arr Darts 6 Apr (GL), early. Peregrine Falcon: single DH 23 Mar (record early) and 19 Apr, only reports. Ring-necked Pheasant: less than a dozen reported. Wild Turkey: one west side Little Sodus Bay 10 Apr (FGS), far from nesting populations. SANDHILL CRANE: one DH 27-28 May (ph G. Church *vide* GAS), seventh Regional record. Virginia Rail: arr PSS 19 Apr. Sora: arr Clay 28 Apr. Com. Moorhen: arr DH 19 Apr. Am. Coot: arr SRF 15 Mar. Black-bellied Plover: 11 SP 28 May, only report. Semipalmated Plover: arr Oswe 10 May. Killdeer: arr DH 14 Mar, max 26 on 27 Mar, low. Greater Yellowlegs: arr Oswe 27 Mar, last 17 May. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Pennellville 3 Apr, max 15 there 8 May, last 16 May. Solitary Sandpiper: arr Poolsbrook 26 Apr, max 26 Onon 8 May, last 15 May. Spotted Sandpiper: arr Holland Patent 12 Apr. Upland Sandpiper: arr DH 21 Apr, scarce. Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr SP 28 Apr, max 55 Six Mile Creek 31 May. Least Sandpiper: arr Clay 6 May, max 26 Onon 10 May, last 15 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: record early DH 19 Mar (DWC), max 90 Clay 10 Apr, last 4 May. Dunlin: arr

Onon 10 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: four Biddlecum 18 May. Com. Snipe: arr Holland Patent 25 Mar. Am. Woodcock: arr NPT 12 Mar, Old Forge 21 Mar. Bonaparte's Gull: arr DH 13 Apr. Iceland Gull: last FH 20 Mar. Glaucous Gull: last Oswego R 1 Mar. Caspian Tern: arr DH 13 Apr. Com. Tern: arr DH 28 Apr. Black Tern: arr DH 8 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Oswe 10 May, about four reported. Long-eared Owl: Noyes 23 Mar. Short-eared Owl: one DH 6 Apr. N. Saw-whet Owl: singles Noyes 15 Mar; Thendara 20 May. Com. Nighthawk: arr DH 16 May. Whip-poor-will: arr Noyes 10 May, another migrant Mexico Pt 25 May. Chimney Swift: arr PSS 26 Apr. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Holland Patent 12 May. Belted Kingfisher: arr DH 19 Mar. Red-headed Woodpecker: arr DH 15 May, scarce. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: migrants 23 Mar to 8 May. N. Flicker: arr DH 26 Mar, max 70 DH 20 Apr; one with mixed red and yellow shafts banded Noyes 31 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLING: Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Labrador Pd 9 May (BA) ties record early, Third L 12 May. E. Wood-Pewee: arr two sites 13 May. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: record early StMC 8 May, arr Third L 17 May. Alder Flycatcher: arr NPT 13 May, Third L 17 May. Willow Flycatcher: arr Clay 14 May. Least Flycatcher: arr two sites 28 Apr. E. Phoebe: arr Howland's I 15 Mar, Fourth L 3 Apr. Great Crested Flycatcher: arr DH 29 Apr. E. Kingbird: arr DH 28 Apr. Horned Lark: max 200 DH 9 Mar. Purple Martin: arr DH 19 Apr. Tree Swallow: arr DH 17 Mar, max 700 LOL 10 Apr. N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr DH 20 Apr. Bank Swallow: arr DH 20 Apr. Cliff Swallow: arr DH 20 Apr. Barn Swallow: arr DH 20 Apr. Blue Jay: migrants LOL after 19 Apr, max 5500 DH 6 May. Am. Crow: total 45250 DH 19 Feb to 21 Apr, max 6195 20 Feb and 7290 15 Mar. **FISH CROW:** one DH 18 May (GAS, NYSARC), second Regional record. Black-capped Chickadee: no flight. Red-breasted Nuthatch: to three/day 13 Apr to 12 May. Brown Creeper: arr ca. 23 Mar, max 28 DH 13 Apr. Carolina Wren: one Brewerton 16 Mar, another Camillus 5-8 May, three Syr area in May. House Wren: arr DH 26 Apr. Winter Wren: arr Limekiln 5 Apr, last migrant 4 May. Marsh Wren: arr PSS 9 May. Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr LOL 3 Apr, max 90 LOL 13 Apr, last migrant 3 May. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr FH 26 Apr, max 25 DH 27 Apr, last 12 May. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Poolsbrook 23 Apr. E. Bluebird: arr SRF 14 Mar, max 11 DH 1 Apr. Veery: arr two sites 6 May. Swainson's Thrush: arr Clay 6 May, max 11 StMC 16 May, last Noyes 31 May. Hermit Thrush: arr Old Forge 9 Apr, last migrant 25 May, late. Wood Thrush: arr Clay 3 May. Am. Robin: arr DH 12 Mar, max 500 DH 5 Apr. Gray Catbird: arr DH 4 May. Brown Thrasher: arr StMC 19 Apr, scarce. Water Pipit: arr DH 29 Mar, max 30 early Apr, last DH 15 May. Bohemian Waxwing: 60 Pompey Hollow Road, Onon, 10-14 Mar (mob), 18 DH 10 Mar and 28 on 25 Mar. N. Shrike: last SSSP 14 Mar.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: arr NPT 24 Apr, last Noyes 25 May. Yellow-throated Vireo: arr DH 4 May. Warbling Vireo: arr Clay 28 Apr. Philadelphia Vireo: arr Clay 5 May, last Noyes 17 May. Red-eyed Vireo: arr Old Forge 2 May. Blue-winged Warbler: record early StMC 30 Apr. Golden-winged Warbler: arr Clay 5 May; three hybrids (two "Brewster's", one "Lawrence's") Camillus in May. Tennessee Warbler: arr StMC 4 May, last LOL 30 May. Orange-crowned Warbler: singles Clay 5 May, Camillus 8 May. Nashville Warbler: record early StMC 22 Apr; last Noyes 22 May. N. Parula: record early Clay 28 Apr. Yellow Warbler: arr Clay 28 Apr. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr DH 1 May, ties record early. Magnolia Warbler: arr DH 29 Apr, last Noyes 31 May. Cape May Warbler: arr Clay 6 May, last Noyes 22 May, scarce. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr StMC 30 Apr, last Noyes 29 May. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Clay 30 Mar, last Noyes 30 May. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Clay, DH 28 Apr, last StMC 25 May. Blackburnian Warbler: arr Clay 5 May, last StMC 25 May. Pine Warbler: arr DH 24 Apr. Prairie Warbler: singles Mexico Pt W (FGS) and Syr (MSR) 15 May. Palm Warbler: arr DH 26 Apr, max 16 LOL 4 May, last LOL 10 May. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr StMC 6 May, last there 29 May. Blackpoll Warbler: arr FH 17 May, last Syr 6 Jun. Cerulean Warbler: arr

StMC 6 May. Black-and-white Warbler: arr Poolsbrook 29 Apr. Am. Redstart: arr Clay 30 Apr. **PROTHONOTARY WARBLER**: singing male Toad Harbor 25 May (JT), across Oneida L from former nesting area and first spring record since 1968. Worm-eating Warbler: one heard only NPT 13 May (DWC). Ovenbird: arr StMC 1 May. N. Waterthrush: arr PSS 27 Apr. Louisiana Waterthrush: record early arr NPT 14 Apr (DWC); migrant Shore Oaks 10 May. **CONNECTICUT WARBLER**: singles StMC 14 May (REL, NYSARC) and Noyes 17 May (banded), about ninth spring record. Mourning Warbler: arr StMC 16 May. Com. Yellowthroat: arr Clay 5 May. Hooded Warbler: record early StMC 5 May. Wilson's Warbler: arr StMC 8 May, last Noyes 28 May. Canada Warbler: arr Camillus 8 May. Yellow-breasted Chat: one StMC 16-27 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: arr StMC 7 May. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr StMC 5 May. Indigo Bunting: arr Otisco 8 May. Rufous-sided Towhee: arr DH 21 Apr. Am. Tree Sparrow: last Holland Patent 27 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: arr NPT 13 Apr. **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**: one Clay 9-10 May (FGS, mob), fifth spring record. Field Sparrow: arr Otisco 30 Mar. Vesper Sparrow: arr DH 5 Apr. Savannah Sparrow: arr SD 28 Mar. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Syr airport 7 May. Henslow's Sparrow: one Poolsbrook 24 May (MSR) only report. Fox Sparrow: arr DH 24 Mar, max 4 14 Apr, last 27 Apr. Song Sparrow: arr Onon 9 Mar. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Clay 6 May, Limekiln L 17 May. Swamp Sparrow: record early Clay 29 Mar. White-throated Sparrow: arr DH 5 Mar last 25 May. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Otisco 29 Apr, max 85 LOL 10 May, last Noyes 17 May. Dark-eyed Junco: max 265 LOL 13 Apr, last migrant LOL 25 May; male "Oregon" Junco NPT 22 Apr. Lapland Longspur: four FH 15 Mar, one DH 26 Apr. Snow Bunting: max 1000 NPT 10 Mar, last Toad Harbor 15 Mar. Bobolink: arr DH 29 Apr. Red-winged Blackbird: arr DH 4 Mar. E. Meadowlark: arr Syr 11 Mar. Rusty Blackbird: arr DH 16 Mar, last Clay 9 May. Com. Grackle: arr DH 4 Mar. Brown-headed Cowbird: arr Syr 12 Mar. Orchard Oriole: male Cato first week May (BBFS) and LOL 25 May, im male Holland Patent 26 May. N. Oriole: arr DH 26 Apr. Pine Grosbeak: last DH 18 Mar, Holland Patent 30 Mar, scarce. Purple Finch: 2 SRF 20 Mar, regular after 13 Apr. House Finch: 120+ over DH 4 Mar to 19 Apr. Red Crossbill: two Shackham Rd, Fabius, 25 May. Com. Redpoll: max 100 SRF 14 Mar, last NPT 8 Apr. Pine Siskin: arr DH 22 Apr, last Toad Harbor 21 May. Am. Goldfinch: regular after 15 Apr. Evening Grosbeak: strong return flight 20 Apr to 26 May, max 2550 DH 1 May.

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REGION 6 – ST. LAWRENCE

KENNETH L. CROWELL and GERALD A. SMITH

March temperatures and precipitation were close to normal. Noteworthy meteorological events included strong winds on 1 Mar and heavy snow on 7 Mar followed by record lows, in the low teens, the next day. Then during the final week of the month temperatures reached record highs in the mid-70's. April was warm, 4-6 degrees above normal. Rainfall was 1-3 inches below normal. The

only snow fell on 10 and 11 Apr. Minimum temperatures, in the 20's, occurred about 22 Apr, while highs of about 80° were reached on both 2 and 29 Apr. May was a month of contrasts. The second week was glorious, the third cold and wet, and the last week was hot.

Lingering winter visitors included a Bohemian Waxwing until early Apr in Canton and another very late in Louisville to **31 May**, a month beyond the previous state record late date. Northern Shrike remained at Hermon to 2 Mar and Stockholm to 16 Mar. A Snow Bunting was at Canton on 10 Mar. Four Hoary Redpoll were in Canton on 1 Mar, where a specimen was obtained earlier this winter, and others were in Louisville until 22 Mar.

Arrival dates of "wettervogel" or short-distance weather migrants in Mar were a week to 10 days ahead of their 10 year average. In contrast long-distance "instinktvoegel" or calendar migrants arrived as expected in May. Thus, Red-winged Blackbird, Am. Kestrel, Com. Grackle, Killdeer, and Song Sparrow all arrived 15-22 Mar, and E. Meadowlark, N. Harrier, E. Bluebird, N. Flicker, and Am. Tree Sparrow appeared the following week. Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Least Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, Warbling Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, N. Waterthrush, N. Oriole and Rose-breasted Grosbeak all arrived during the first week of May, followed by Whip-poor-will, E. Wood-Pewee, thrushes, Red-eyed Vireo, Am. Redstart and Scarlet Tanager between 9 and 15 May.

Big Day counts included 81 by Fiona Reed on 10 May; 82 by Ken Crowell and party on 17 May, and 114 by Joe van Riet on May 23! For the period 157 species were reported, including 21 waterfowl, 20 shorebirds, 12 raptors, and 95 passerines. In spite of the high species counts, some observers felt that there was a distinct dearth in numbers of migrant insectivores, perhaps reflecting habitat destruction in the tropics.

Three resident Common Loon on Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, where successful breeding has taken place for the past two years, suggests that loons may prefer this unusual lowland marsh location over less productive Adirondack sites. The Double-crested Cormorant population along Lake Ontario continues to grow. Six to 12 per day were seen after their arrival on 13 Apr, and the maximum was 48 at El Dorado Beach on 10 May. One at Upper and Lower Lakes WMA on 8 May and three at Norwood on 17 May are noteworthy sightings in St. Lawrence Co. away from the St. Lawrence River. A rarity was a **CATTLE EGRET** seen flying over Highway 3 in Pitcairn on 21 Apr by Lang Elliott. Its dark legs indicate non-breeding plumage – highly unusual for St. Lawrence Co.

Other positives were House Wren and E. Bluebird. Several nesting pairs in Pierrepoint-Russell area included one feeding young in a natural cavity on 30 May. There were unusually high numbers of Dark-eyed Junco during the first three weeks of Apr with flocks of 20-40 reported. One Red-bellied Woodpecker and a pair of Tufted Titmouse at Lee Chamberlaine's in Henderson remain the only Regional representatives of these species. Several sightings of both kinglets indicate continued recovery. Purple Finch and House Finch are running neck and neck, with House Finch courting 11 Apr in Potsdam and copulating 29 May in Pierrepoint. Resident Purple Finch were reported from Louisville, Morley, Ellisburg, Canton and Potsdam.

Two sightings by Scott Harris of Blue-winged Warbler in Lorraine 16 May and E. Boylston 17 May are perhaps the only Regional sightings other than one in 1968. They suggest continued northeasterly range expansion by this species, which replaces its congener, the Golden-winged Warbler, in the process. There were two sightings of the latter from E. Boylston and Pierrepont, both on 17 May. Also noteworthy were a singing Prairie Warbler which P. Novak sighted near Perch Lake 28 May and a Palm Warbler identified in Stockholm 26 Apr by Fiona Reed.

Three incidents involved the impact of man on owls. An im Snowy Owl died after striking a plane at the Ogdensburg Airport on 25 Mar. It was necessary to amputate the wing of a Barred Owl which was struck by a car in Colton on 30 Mar. The owl is now at the Rye Nature Center. Two young Great Horned Owls disappeared suddenly about 19 May from a nest in Morley under observation from 24 Apr. ATV tracks lead to the nest at the time the owlets vanished.

Contributors: Marilyn Badger, Richard Brouse, Sheila Cerwonka, Lee Chamberlaine, David Christiansen, Ken Crowell, Stephanie DeGhett, C. Gaskel, John Green, Scott Harris, Mildred & Everett Howard, Paul Kelly, Paul Novak, Fiona Reed, Peter O'Shea, Joe van Riet, Gerald Smith, Bob & June Walter, Brian Watson.

Abbreviations: Hen—Henderson; MSD—Moses-Saunders Dam; LWMA—Lakeview WMA; PR—Perch River WMA; SLR—St. Lawrence River; SLU—St. Lawrence University; ULL—Upper and Lower Lakes WMA; WH—Wilson Hill WMA.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: arr S. Colton 11 Apr (JG); one to three per day to mid-May. Pied-billed Grebe: one ULL 16 Apr, three PR 27 Apr only reports. Horned Grebe: none; is incessant disturbance from fishing boats on Lake Ontario responsible? Am. Bittern: arr one Fine 5 Apr (PO) also unusual for its highland location; max **eight** on the first eight stops of the Waddington BBS 31 May (KC) extraordinary; several reports of one to three per day are more than usual. Great Egret: one ULL 10 May. Tundra Swan: three PR 27 Apr (R & JW). Mute Swan: pair present PR 18 Mar onward. Snow Goose: two Hen 22 Mar (LBC) and one Morley 29 Apr-1 May (BW) only reports. Canada Goose: everywhere after late arr *en masse* in mid-Mar; max 12,000 Hen. 23 Mar; migrants gone by 25-30 Apr. Brant: a few small flocks SLR late May. Wood Duck: arr three Hammond 22 Mar, three Grass Pds, Colton 23 Mar are unusual for that Adirondack location. Green-winged Teal: more than usual, max ten Grasse River 15 Apr. Am. Black Duck: arr and max 50 Hen 2 Mar; pairs in the Adirondacks during late Apr indicative of breeding (PO). N. Pintail: arr two Hen 22 Mar; max 200 plus Ellisburg 23 Mar; last Ellisburg 12 Apr. Am. Wigeon: arr six Ellisburg 12 Apr; max 30 Woodville 13 Apr (SH). Ring-necked Duck: arr and max 31 PR 28 Mar. Oldsquaw: ten Stony Pt 27 Apr, only report. Bufflehead: last eight EDB 10 May. Hooded Merganser: arr pair ULL 27 Mar. Com. Merganser: migrants virtually unreported; pairs in breeding areas in Apr.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr Pierrepont 27 Mar (MEH). Osprey: several reports of one to three per day after mid-Apr, max four PR 17 May. Bald Eagle: ad northbound over Dry Hill near Watertown 15 Mar (R & JW), im Judson St Rd, Canton 17 May (J. Barthelme), ad Colton 18 May, im EDB 31 May (R & JW) reflect continued increase; the Jeff breeding pair had produced two eaglets by 19 May (LBC). N. Harrier: good numbers in several sectors suggests that our breeding population may be expanding. Sharp-shinned Hawk: four reports Mar-Apr. Cooper's Hawk: eight reports Mar-May. N. Goshawk: three reports Mar-Apr. Broad-winged Hawk: arr max Canton 25 Apr only report. Rough-legged Hawk: last Hen 16 Mar (LBC), early departure. Am. Kestrel: arr Pierrepont 15 Mar; max 18 Jeff 7 Apr (KC). Ring-necked Pheasant: one Lorraine 14 May

(SH) only report. Ruffed Grouse: one to three per day 6-24 May. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr two Watertown 4 May, max 49 PR 6 May (R & JW), excellent count for spring. Upland Sandpiper: max two Watertown 6 May. Ruddy Turnstone: three Eaglewing I, SLR, 21 May, only report. White-rumped Sandpiper: one WH 31 May (JVR), very unusual in spring. Dunlin: max 57 SLR 21 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: two SLR 21 May, only report. Bonaparte's Gull: 12 near Chippewa Pt, SLR, 21 May, only report. Ring-billed Gull: arr Hen 15 Mar, population way up; it is possible to see 20,000 feeding in plowed fields around Hen in a very short time (LBC). Caspian Tern: arr one LWMA 19 Apr (SH).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: three reports from SLaw. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: singles Dekalb 30 May (FR) and Louisville (MB) unusual as preceding species more common. Com. Nighthawk: arr Potsdam 16 May and courting 17 May; four moving through Pierrepont 28 May. Whip-poor-will: seven Hermon 12 May (JG).

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: one ULL 10 May, unusual. Willow Flycatcher: two Stockholm 21 May (FR) indicates range expansion in this species. Purple Martin: max 40 Massena 23 Apr. Winter Wren: two LWMA 13 Apr and one LWMA 19 Apr were probably migrants, but two Massena 26 May reflect regular breeding in pine woodlands. Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 13 LWMA 13 Apr.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Solitary Vireo: arr Louisville 25 Apr; one WH 30 May is late. Philadelphia Vireo: three Louisville (MB), unusual. Cape May Warbler: none.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Indigo Bunting: one Heuvelton 14 May, subad male Pierrepont 28 May only reports. Field Sparrow: arr Stockholm 14 Apr; 9 sightings Jeff. Vesper Sparrow: arr Pierrepont 24 Apr, three pairs resident there 17 May; none Hen (LC). Grasshopper Sparrow: none! Henslow's Sparrow: none! White-crowned Sparrow: arr Hen 29 Apr, last E. Boylston 17 May; far fewer than last year. Rusty Blackbird: 100 ULL 22 Apr. White-winged Crossbill: one Potsdam 9-23 Apr. Com. Redpoll: max 110 Canton 1 Mar (M & EH), last Southwick SP 19 Apr. Pine Grosbeak: last six Canton 4 Mar. Evening Grosbeak: numbers increasing, last 18 May.

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REGION 7 – ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

JOHN M. C. PETERSON

Active observers gave the season mixed reviews. Reports often were so contradictory that the hyphenated Adirondack-Champlain Region seemed split into high and low elevation regions. Near Tupper Lake (el. 1,556') Charlcie Delehanty noted, "Migration was *early* this year," while the hawk watch data from Coot Hill (el. 1,095') and bird banding results from neighboring Crown Point Peninsula (el. 162') portrayed a delayed movement. Covering Essex County areas near Port Henry and Moriah (el. 500') with his usual activity, Geoffrey Carleton had come up with only nine species of warblers by the end of May, noting, "It is most

discouraging." In Franklin County on 18 May Ted Mack and Christie & Larry Yox did a "century run" of 104 species, including 16 warblers; on 31 May Ted found 102 species with Ken & Virginia West, including 15 warblers. Consider, too, the Veery: Delehanty emphatically reported, "NONE!," while on 24 May near Paradox (el. 903') Merry Baker noted, "Love all the Veeries in the area," and the editor's woods near Elizabethtown (el. 705') rang with the songs of several.

The weather was almost as confusing. Seasonal degree days were running about 2% warmer than average during early Mar, and the first major thaw on St. Patrick's Day began to melt the two to six feet of snow that had accumulated in the woods. Then the first day of Spring brought a cold wave that saw temperatures drop to -9°F at Saranac Lake by the morning of 21 Mar. Thermometers bounced from 19° below average to 17° above normal by Palm Sunday, and as the jet stream swung north it pushed the mercury to a high of 65°F at Plattsburgh on 26 Mar. The month had 40% sunshine.

April began cold and wet, and even though conditions improved by mid-month, light northeasterly winds prevailed, holding back both hawks and landbirds. On the afternoon of 13 Apr, with winds shifting to southwesterly, Theodore Mack had 20 N. Harriers and a Broad-winged Hawk pass his lookout on Haystack Mountain, Franklin Co, plus a record flight of 67 Common Ravens moving east, including 48 at once kettling over nearby Kate Mountain. The Coot Hill hawk watch was visited on eight days during Apr, including six days of consecutive coverage from 15 Apr. The season was moderately successful, producing at least 236 hawks of a dozen species. On 20 Apr the winds blew from the SSE, bringing the highest daily total of 84 raptors of seven species. The best variety came on 26 Apr, when nine species were tallied, plus nine Com. Ravens over Bulwagga Mountain. The last day of observation was 27 Apr.

The retarded spring migration was not confined to raptors. Bird-banding operations were conducted on Crown Point Peninsula from 8-14 May. Although variety was good, there were no major waves of migrant landbirds. A total of 95 individuals of 30 species were banded. The tally was far short of last year's 429 individuals, and although the species total tied for the second best ever in terms of variety, 14 of those species were represented by a single bird. There were three returns of birds banded last year: Great Crested Flycatcher, Gray Catbird, and Northern Oriole.

An eight-person team from High Peaks Audubon conducted the census of Ring-billed Gulls on Island "C" of the Four Brothers Islands in Lake Champlain on 24 May counting 15,081 active nests. Two Snow Geese were also present on the island when the team arrived. The census of the other three islands was conducted on 26 May by the wildlife manager and three wardens. A total of 110 Double-crested Cormorant nests had been completed or were under construction, 105 on Island "A", five on Island "B". There are an estimated 30 Black-crowned Night-Heron nests on three islands. Herring Gulls are doing well on all islands, due largely to rather low lake conditions this spring. Great Black-backed Gulls are on all four islands, and Canada Geese had two goslings on Island "A". There are also nesting Mallards and Com. Mergansers, and a mixed flock of migrant shorebirds was feeding on the shingle beach of Island "D".

A Red-tailed Hawk found shot in Clinton Co was successfully rehabilitated by Drs. Craig & Suzanne Russell, banded, and released. A Barred Owl apparently struck by a motor vehicle in Essex Co was treated by the same Westport veterinarians for a fractured leg and wing. A wayward Red-necked Grebe landed inside the Ray Brook Correctional Facility on 4 Apr, but was released by the NYS DEC on Lake Flower the same day.

Eagles made a remarkable showing. The first Bald Eagle was feeding on a deer carcass at Tupper Lake on 4 Mar. By 31 Mar there had been sightings of five birds (3 ad, 2 subad) there, including an im with yellow wing-marker probably hacked nearby. Three Bald Eagles at Upper Saranac Lake on 3 Apr may have involved the same birds. Franklin Falls-Union Falls had three Bald Eagles (first-year, second-year, near ad) on 27 Mar, while Bay Pond had two ad on 27 Mar and two im on 29 Mar. Singles were reported from the Moose River Plains, Raquette Lake, and Lake Champlain at Ticonderoga during Mar-Apr. A wing-tagged im was seen again at Tupper Lake on 17 May. On 19 May, following a night of thunderstorms, a young bird with yellow/blue marker was found feeding on goats killed by lightning near Whallonsburg, Essex Co; this eagle had been hacked near Tupper Lake in 1985. The first Golden Eagle arrived at the outlet of Mitchell Ponds, Hamilton Co, on 19 Mar. A mated pair of ad Golden Eagles were touching talons in flight at Bay Pond, Franklin Co, on 29 Mar. In Essex Co, a migrant ad was at Port Henry on 6 May and another passed Coot Hill hawk watch on 15 Apr. Seasonal totals came to at least 16 Bald Eagles and five Golden Eagles, a most encouraging showing.

A total of about 177 species were recorded. Unfortunately, no reports were received from Clinton Co for the season.

Contributors: Nick Bailey, Russell Bailey, Merry Baker, Thomas Barber, Dirck & Mary Benson, Marvin Bissell, Kevin Boyle, John Brant, Geoffrey Carleton, Ann & Walter Chapman, Glen & Malinda Chapman, Dewey & Joan Clark, Charlie Delehanty, John D. Delehanty, John E. Delehanty, Susan Delehanty, Katherine Eagleson, Nan Eagleson, Greg Furness, Emily & Jack Geddes, Ed Grant, Robert Hagar, Julia Hammond, Gordon Howard, Elsbeth Johnson, Barbara Kunzi, Anne Lacy, Bruce & Connie Landon, Gary Lee, Theodore Mack, Eileen McKenna, Shirley Meisburger, John Peterson, Charles & Delia Pratt, Gary Randorf, Martin Roddy, William Rutherford, David Rutkowski, Elinore Schuck, James Sotis, Gen Sutter, Ken & Virginia West, Hollis White, Christie & Larry Yox.

LOONS-DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: Webb Royce Swamp, Esse, 27 Apr (TM, JP) only report. Red-necked Grebe: max six L Flower (Esse/Fran) 7 Apr, three Big Tupper L 9 Apr, last Port Henry 17 Apr. Double-crested Cormorant: 36 migrants passed Coot Hill 20 Apr. Am. Wigeon: pair St. Regis R, Hogansburg, 18 May (TM, C & LY). Redhead: St. Regis R 8 May (HW). Ring-necked Duck: arr three L Alice, Clin, 30 Mar (TM). Greater Scaup: arr three Tupper L 2 Apr. Lesser Scaup: male, Moody Pd, Esse, 17-18 Apr. White-winged Scoter: Newcomb 17 May (A & WC). Com. Goldeneye: arr 15 Tupper L 24 Mar. Bufflehead: arr two Tupper L 31 Mar, last Westport 27 Apr. Red-breasted Merganser: hen Four Brothers Islands 26 May.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr Moriah 28 Mar. Osprey: max three Coot Hill 20 Apr. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 22 Coot Hill 20 Apr. Broad-winged Hawk: arr two Auger Pd, Esse, 29 Mar (D & JC), max 21 Coot Hill 27 Apr. Red-tailed Hawk: max 19 Coot Hill 20 Apr. Merlin: max two Coot Hill 15 Apr. Peregrine Falcon: one nestling banded near Keene Valley, one nestling near Wilmington, subad male seen at cliff site near Westport.

Wild Turkey: male Paradox 26 Mar, male Coot Hill 26 Apr, male Westport early May, **Moose R. Plains, Hami**, 30 May (GL) suggests continued penetration of Region. Greater Yellowlegs: four migrants over Crown Pt peninsula 10 May. Solitary Sandpiper: Newcomb 17 May. Upland Sandpiper: Moriah 18 May. Semipalmated Sandpiper: two Four Brothers I "D" 26 May. Least Sandpiper: 15 Four Brothers I "D" 26 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: Four Brothers I "D" 26 May (JP).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Long-eared Owl: calling near Westport (DT). N. Saw-whet Owl: calling near Elizabethtown 29 Mar (JP). Three-toed Woodpecker: Ferd's Bog 29 May. Black-backed Woodpecker: Ferd's Bog 30 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Horned Lark: migrants Bay Pd, Fran, 14 Mar (BL), Newcomb, Esse, 17 Mar (WC). Gray Jay: roadkill found Rt. 28 Long Lake 5 Mar (WC); feeding on dead deer Moose R Plains daily in Mar (GL); one Sly Pd, Hami, 25 Mar (GL)—high elevation. Com. Raven: two at deer carcass Tupper L 2 Mar (CD), y Hami site 4 Apr (GL), and brooding y at Tahawus mine cliff, Esse, 12 Apr (WC). Boreal Chickadee: two, Newcomb feeder (A & WC); also Eighth L carry, Sabattis Bog, Sly Pd. Tufted Titmouse: male L Placid 22-25 Apr, Elizabethtown 29 Apr, and Crown Pt 11 May. Brown Creeper: singing near Elizabethtown 14 Mar (JP). Brown Thrasher: arr Crown Pt peninsula 26 Apr (TM, JP). Water Pipit: nine Newcomb 17 May (MB, A & WC).

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: arr Paradox 21 Apr, nest-building 9 May (MB). Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Port Henry 6 May (GC). Warbling Vireo: arr Port Henry 6 May (GC). Philadelphia Vireo: arr Tupper L 18 May (CD). Red-eyed Vireo: arr Paradox 13 May (MB). Blue-winged/Golden-winged Warbler: *bee-buzz-bz* song-type Paradox 29 May (MB). Tennessee Warbler: migrants Paradox 17 May (MB) and Elizabethtown 19 May (JP). Nashville Warbler: arr Tupper L 29 Apr (CD), one banded Crown Pt. N. Parula: arr Crown Pt 10 May (JP). Yellow Warbler: arr Paradox 7 May (MB), six banded Crown Pt. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Paradox 5 May (MB). Magnolia Warbler: arr Elk L, Esse, 9 May (MB); one banded Crown Pt. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Tupper L 6 May (CD). Yellow-rumped Warbler: record early Inlet, Hami, 1 Apr (GL); migrant wave Port Henry 6 May; ten banded Crown Pt. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Paradox 28 Apr (MB). Blackburnian Warbler: arr Paradox 30 Apr (MB). Pine Warbler: arr Saranac L 26 Apr (D & MB). (Western) Palm Warbler: record max 12 Crown Pt 8 May, plus two banded 9-10 May (JP). Blackpoll Warbler: arr Fran 18 May (TM, C & LY). Black-and-white Warbler: arr Elizabethtown 29 Apr (JP). Am. Redstart: one banded Crown Point 11 May (JP). Ovenbird: arr Paradox 5 May (MB). N. Waterthrush: arr Paradox 5 May (MB). Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Elizabethtown 29 Apr (JP). Mourning Warbler: arr Fran 31 May (TM, K & VW). Com. Yellowthroat: arr Paradox 10 May (MB), three banded Crown Pt. Canada Warbler: Fran 18 May (TM, C & LY).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Am. Tree Sparrow: last two Tupper L 18 Apr (CD). Chipping Sparrow: early arr Paradox 29 Mar (MB). Field Sparrow: arr two Tahawus 12 Apr (WC). Vesper Sparrow: early transient Newcomb 2 Apr (WC). Savannah Sparrow: arr Tupper L 10 Apr (CD). Fox Sparrow: arr Tupper L 8 Apr (CD), last six Bombay, Fran, 21 Apr (HW). Song Sparrow: arr Ticonderoga 17 Mar (MC). Lincoln's Sparrow: one banded Crown Pt 13 May. Swamp Sparrow: arr Saranac L 27 Apr (D & MB). White-throated Sparrow: arr Bay Pd 23 Mar (BL), 14 banded Crown Pt 8-13 May. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Hogansburg 2 May (HW), 12 banded Crown Pt 9-13 May, last Inlet 17 May (GL). Dark-eyed Junco: many migrants in Region from 20 Mar, max 107 Tupper L 11 Apr (CD). Snow Bunting: Inlet and Tupper L in Mar. Red-winged Blackbird: arr Tupper L 11 Mar. E. Meadowlark: early arr Westport 2 Mar (C & DP). Rusty Blackbird: 15 Bombay 21 Apr (HW). **ORCHARD ORIOLE**: subad male singing Crown Pt peninsula 11-13 May (TB, GH, JP). N. Oriole: arr Cheever, Port Henry, Tupper L 6 May. Pine Grosbeak: max 13 Tupper L 13 Mar, last 28 Mar. Purple Finch: returned Paradox 26 Mar, courtship display

4 May (MB). House Finch: arr Newcomb 18 Mar, Tupper L 25 Apr. Com. Redpoll: max flocks of 100 Newcomb and Tupper L during Mar, last Newcomb 3 Apr. **HOARY RED-POLL**: one Elizabethtown 15 Mar (KE). Pine Siskin: 20 Auger Pd 28 Mar, migrant flocks widely reported during early May. Evening Grosbeak: large flocks early May, female mate-feeding male Paradox 10 May (MB), male in display flight Elizabethtown early May (JP).

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There is no Region 8 report because we have no Region 8 Editor.

REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Warm days from mid-March through April brought the foliage out early. Low-land maples were in full leaf by 20 Apr, almost two weeks early. Cold days in early Mar froze the Hudson in the northern part of the Region from the 7th through the 16th, when it opened again. May was warmer than usual, but not excessively so and not enough to discourage birding.

Precipitation in Mar was largely restricted to three days in mid-month and was about a third of normal. April precipitation was only slightly above normal, but the surprise was an all day snowfall on the 23rd. Anywhere from two to eight inches fell depending on the elevation. 24 Apr was a beautiful day! Your reporter, who was counting hawks from a lawn chair perched on eight inches of snow atop Mt. Peter, watched that snow melt completely away around him by the day's end.

May was a beautiful month with well below normal precipitation. The only significant rain was about an inch that fell from the 20th to the 23rd. Although rain did little to dampen the fervor of most birders, the dearth of birds did. Several veteran correspondents expressed dismay and true concern for the continually dropping numbers of birds in recent years, and the complete absence of certain species. "Why?" was asked by many, and no answers were forthcoming.

Bob Deed reported warbler waves in Rockland during late Apr and again on 7 and 17 May, with the latter date the best. All other correspondents noted the movement on 17 May but not on the earlier dates. Luckily, 17 May coincided with the "Big Day" activities of most local clubs. The 162 species found by the Waterman Club broke their previous high of 160 for that count, set in 1972. Otis Waterman reported that most of the warblers found were moving up the Harlem Valley bordering the east side of the county and not on the west along the Hudson Valley.

The icing of the Hudson in Mar slowed the departure of a few species of

waterfowl. Hawk movements were good in Apr. Shorebirds, with the exception of Com. Snipe, were scarce. Flycatchers were down in numbers, and several species such as Acadian and Alder Flycatchers did not arrive until the end of the period. Tree Swallows arrived very early—one over the ice at Croton Falls on 11 Mar—but their numbers were wanting, as were those of the rest of that family. There were more Carolina Wrens reported during the winter than in the spring. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were missed by many. Thrushes were well below normal, but mimids were well reported. N. Mockingbird now are found everywhere. Vireos and warblers were poor both in species and in numbers. Your reporter birded almost daily and failed to find several migrant species locally. A few other species were represented by only one or two birds.

Rarities were few and far between, and their quality was not as spectacular as might be expected. Especially notable were: Red-necked Grebe, Little Blue Heron, Tundra Swan, Greater White-fronted Goose, Oldsquaw, Black Vulture, Golden Eagle, Swallow-tailed Kite, Chukar, N. Shrike, Kentucky and Connecticut Warbler, Summer Tanager and White-winged Crossbill. What appeared to be a hybrid between Dark-eyed Junco and White-throated Sparrow appeared at Denis Murphy's feeder in Warwick from 5 to 7 Apr. It superficially resembled a Black-chinned Sparrow. Its nape and back had the brown markings of a White-throat, but it had the dark gray forehead, wings and upper breast of a junco. Its throat was white. It travelled with juncos but fed much later in the evening with the White-throats, well after the juncos had gone to roost. About a dozen other hybrids of this combination are known.

Contributors: Jim Artale, John Askildsen, Al Brayton, Frank Brown, Tom Burke, Judy Cinquina, Robert F. Deed, George Demeux, Valerie Freer, Sibyl Gilbert, Alice Jones, Robert Losey, Helen Manson, Adam Martin, Tom Meyer, Lana & Ed Mills, Eleanor Pink, Selden Spencer, Herb Stein, John Stellwage, John Tramontano, Edward D. Treacy, John Van Valkenburg, Marion VanWagner, Barbara & John Voigt, Otis Waterman, Kurt Weiskotten, Berna Weissman.

Abbreviations: MBH—Mearns Club "Break-a-hundred" 17 May; MPHWH—Mount Peter Hawk Watch; WMC—Waterman Club May Census 17 May.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: a few passed MPHWH late Apr; up to nine Croton Res 24 Apr-4 Jun. Pied-billed Grebe: arr two Bashakill 27 Mar. **RED-NECKED GREBE**: one Rondout Cr near the Hudson 6 Apr, only report. Double-crested Cormorant: two large flocks totaling about 140 flew north past Hood Mt 20 Apr; the usual few along the length of the Hudson to the end of the period, but numbers do not seem to be increasing and no evidence of breeding yet. **LITTLE BLUE HERON**: ad Croft Pd near Pine Plains for two weeks until 20 May, second ever for WMC. **TUNDRA SWAN**: two Bashakill 22 Mar (JAr). **GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE**: two at Sylvan L, Dutc, last seen 3 Mar. Snow Goose: one to six wintering Dutc until first week of Mar; one white and one blue morph with several hundred Canada Geese in field below MPHWH 6 Mar; strong movement over Region last half of Apr. Brant: more than 2000 over Iona the eve of 19 May; more than 160 over Middletown 20 May; 20 over Poughkeepsie 24 May. Canvasback: most left during Feb thaw; good migration Dutc in Mar, max 300 Chelsea 3 Mar and 2250 near Vanderburgh Cove 16 Mar; last Bannerman's I in the Hudson 3 May. Redhead: two Esopus Light 15 Mar (MVW), always scarce. Lesser Scaup: one with Greater WMC 17 May first for that count. **OLDSQUAW**: an amazing 20 at Ashokan 12 Apr (Burroughs Club field trip). Hooded Merganser: at least six Bashakill all period, seen standing on Wood Duck boxes on several occasions. Red-breasted Merganser: last Kiamesha L 12 Apr. Ruddy Duck: 25 Croton Pt 22 Mar.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Black Vulture: one Pound Ridge 28 Apr (TM), first West record; one Bear Mt SP 19 Mar; four MPHWS; two over Mine Rd, USMA, on MBH; almost unknown Regionally only a few seasons ago, now almost regular. Osprey: max 33 MPHWS 27 Apr, total 124. Bald Eagle: 27 ad and nine im DEC count by helicopter 18 Mar; many wintering birds lingered late, last Croton 7 May. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 173 MPHWS 27 Apr, total 444. Cooper's Hawk: max three MPHWS, total eight; active nest Weyant's Pd early May. N. Goshawk: only one MPHWS 15 Apr; apparently abandoned nesting site near Island Pd in Harriman SP. Broad-winged Hawk: arr Orr's Mills, Oran, 20 Mar, early; max 498 MPHWS 27 Apr, total 1445. Red-tailed Hawk: albino at New Hempstead along Palisades Parkway last seen 30 Mar (L & EM), apparently did well. Rough-legged Hawk: last Warwick area 20 Mar, Monticello 29 Mar. **GOLDEN EAGLE:** ad Hook Mt 13 Apr (L & EM); ad and im lingered Mongaup Res, Sull, thru 23 Mar. Am. Kestrel: numbers up Dutc but low elsewhere; max 6 MPHWS 27 Apr, total 19. Merlin: total six MPHWS; only one over Hook Mt 19 Apr. Peregrine Falcon: none reported! **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** one Mt Kisco 5 May (GD, NYSARC). **CHUKAR:** one found dead along a road Dutc 20 Apr (AJ). N. Bobwhite: Burroughs Century Day 17 May (no details); singles Pawling 21 May, Quaker Hill, Dutc, 28 May; barely hanging on. Am. Coot: two Cornwall Bay 22 Mar, unusual. Black-bellied Plover: singles MBH and WMC 17 May, latter only second for count ever. Semipalmated Plover: three Wurtsboro 17 May; two WMC. **DUNLIN:** one 6½ Sanctuary, Goshen, 17 May, new to MBH; one WMC 17 May also a first; one Croton Bay 26 May (BW). Com. Snipe: good numbers Wisner Rd, Warwick, and Black Meadow Rd, Chester, in Mar; singles Amenia 14 Apr and Hunn's L 20 Apr, very low for Dutc in Apr.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: scarce. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: record early by ten days Rockland L 13 Apr, but scarce thereafter. N. Saw-whet Owl: singles calling Goshen 1 Apr, near Saugerties all period (seen on 27 Apr); probably more widespread than suspected. Whip-poor-will: again at Iona I and along Mine Rd, USMA, locations seemingly abandoned years ago. Red-headed Woodpecker: none reported, perhaps overlooked.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Pawling 13 May, early; few reported. E. Wood-Pewee: record early by 14 days Rockland L 15 Apr. Acadian Flycatcher: arr Teatown Lake Res, West, 25 May, late; two Bashakill 31 May only other report. E. Kingbird: arr Pawling 20 Apr, early. Fish Crow: at least five in valley of Bashakill to Wawarsing for second year. Golden-crowned Kinglet: very light spring movement; pair persisted Middletown Res area through May. Water Pipit: max 100+ near Amenia 12 Apr, often missed in spring. Cedar Waxwing: good numbers, max 400 Dutc. N. **SHRIKE:** one at IBM in Ulster Twn last seen 1 Mar; one at Pound Ridge Res last seen 17 Mar.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: White-eyed Vireo: arr Wawarsing 30 Apr (JCO), earliest ever there; several Dutc in May including two WMC 17 May. Golden-winged Warbler: continues its decline, possibly as many former sites now are too grown up to support it. Brewster's Warbler: one Goose Pond Mt P near Chester 13-15 May; one WMC 17 May, fourth ever. Lawrence's Warbler: one WMC 17 May, third ever, only report. Pine Warbler: arr Poughkeepsie 27 Mar, earliest for Dutc by three days; two Hook Mt 20 Apr, one in pine grove on w side of Bashakill during May. Cerulean Warbler: only single pairs Ferncliff, Dutc, and at Mine Rd, USMA, where resident for years. **KENTUCKY WARBLER:** singles Butler Sanctuary early May, Marist Hall, Rt 310, Putn, 17 May and Brinton Brook Sanctuary 17 May. **CONNECTICUT WARBLER:** one Teatown L Res 4 May (JV!). Mourning Warbler: one mid-May at Bashakill, only report w of Hudson; one WMC 17 May fourth ever for count. Yellow-breasted Chat: singles Teatown L Res late May (RL), Bashakill 17 May.

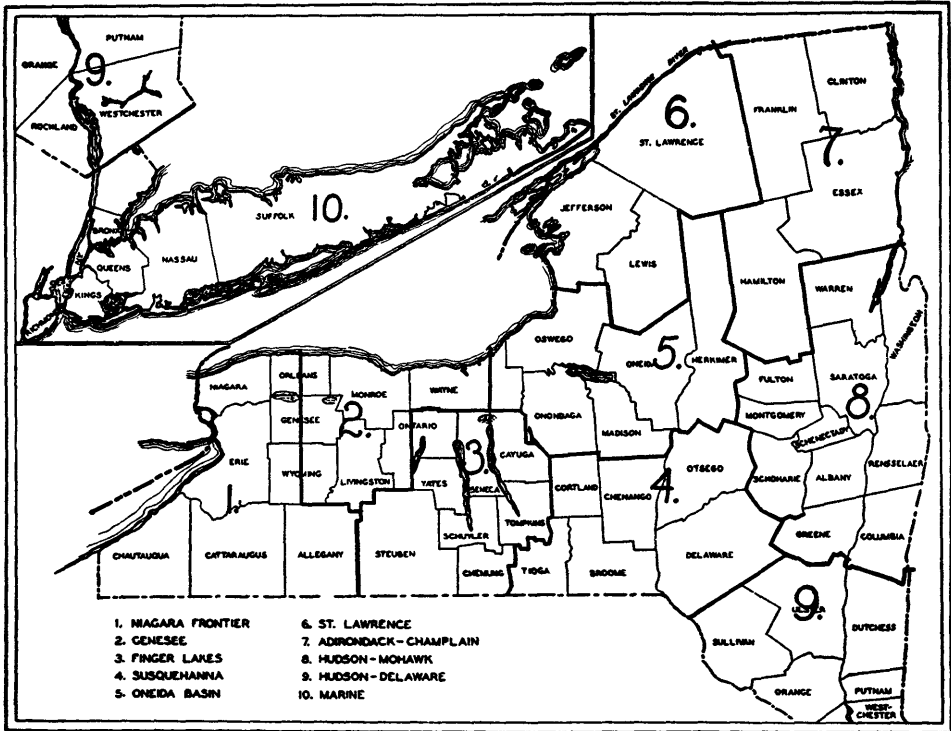
TANAGERS-WEAVERS: **SUMMER TANAGER**: male Westmoreland Sanctuary 15 May (KW). Chipping Sparrow: arr two Pawling 21 Mar (SG), early. Henslow's Sparrow: three Galeville Airport last half of May, where several dozen formerly present; new land uses, including model airplane flying, may have reduced the colony and could cause its extirpation. Lincoln's Sparrow: one MBH, three WMC 17 May, only reports. E. Meadowlark: one Piermont Pier 20 Apr, first spring Rock record in three years. Orchard Oriole: one Upper Nyack 24 Apr, record early for Rock by six days; small "colony" Westbrookville returned in mid-May; three pairs, including a breeding im male, Dutc; high. Pine Grosbeak: seven Monticello 5 Mar, four Millerton 8 Mar, 25 SCCC 17 Mar. **WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL**: two males bathing in a brook S Nyack 30 Mar, first since 1982; Rock has more March records than for any other month. Com. Redpoll: four Hook Mt 23 Feb, first Rock record since Jan 1983; one Highland Mills 1 Mar; 45 Dutc 1 Mar; two flocks 100 ± each Wisner Rd, Warwick 6 Mar; 25 Salt Point 7 Mar, last seven Pleasant Valley 17 Mar.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, New York 10928

[With this issue Ed Treacy, our senior Regional Editor, steps down from a long and distinguished tenure as Region 9 Editor. On behalf of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs I extend thanks for his many years of labor so faithfully contributed to *The Kingbird*. —The Editor]

The Region 10 report had not arrived in time for this issue of *The Kingbird*.

REPORTING REGIONS



For descriptions of Regions see Kingbird Vol. IV Nos. 1 and 2

REPORTING DEADLINES

Winter Season: December, January, February
 Deadline is March 7

Spring Season: March, April, May
 Deadline is June 7

Summer Season: June, July, August
 Deadline is September 7

Fall Season: September, October, November
 Deadline is December 7

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