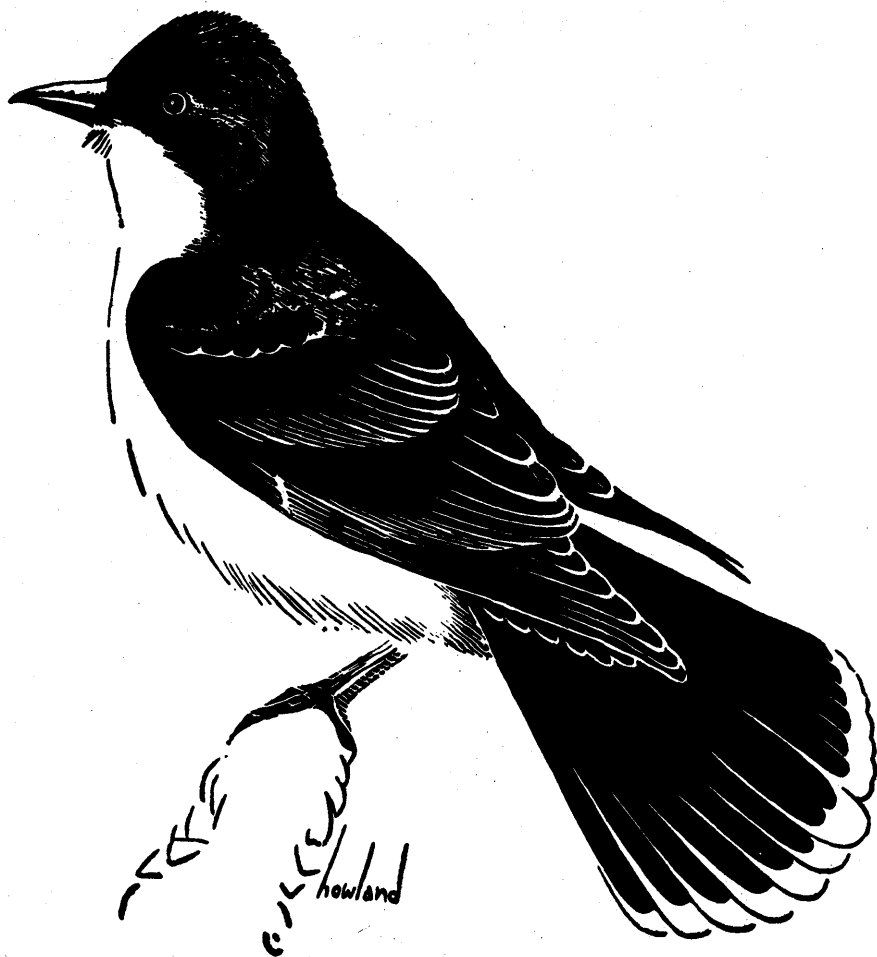


The **KINGBIRD**



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Highlights of the Season Editor — Robert Spahn
Circulation Manager — Berna B. Lincoln



Figure 1. Ross's Goose (1992-27-A) at Stillson's Pond, Cattaraugus Co., New York, 9 October 1992. Photograph by S. W. Eaton.

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK STATE AVIAN RECORDS COMMITTEE 1992

The New York State Avian Committee received 82 reports from 1992, representing 57 records of birds. In addition, five reports from 1991 plus single reports from 1976, 1982, 1985 and 1990 were received. Three reports from 1991 and one from 1962 were resolved. The 1976 and seven of the 1992 reports are still being reviewed.

To the list of species normally reviewed by the NYSARC, which was last published in *The Kingbird* (43:18-19; 1993), should be added Roseate Spoonbill, Spotted Redshank and Slaty-backed Gull, the three species admitted to the New York State List in this report. Reports should be sent to the Secretary:

Jim Lowe, Secretary
New York State Avian Records Committee
c/o Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, New York 14850

1992 ACCEPTED REPORTS

- Leach's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*). 1992-21-A: one at Cedar Beach, Town of Babylon, Suffolk Co., 26 September (SS, RM); this observation followed by a day the passage of tropical storm Danielle.
- American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*). 1992-34-A: one at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, Town of Tyre, Seneca Co., 23 April (NB). 1992-39-A: one over Lakeside Memorial Park, Town of Hamburg, Erie Co., 22 April (RA).
- Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*). 1992-3-A: one resting on breakwater off LaSalle Park, Buffalo, Erie Co., 10 July (WD). This appears to be the third record from upstate New York. The species is being reported with increasing frequency on Long Island, but few observers are submitting documentation to support their observations.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*). 1992-38-A: one adult off Smokey Hollow Road, Town of Lafayette, Onondaga Co., 8 June (DC); this bird was reported to be present for several days, but no other documentation was received. 1992-42-A: one at Utica Marsh, Town of Deerfield, Oneida Co., 26 April (GC).
- Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*). 1992-17-A,B: one juvenile at Goethals Bridge Pond, Staten Island, Richmond Co., 20 August (LS, CA), photographs on file. A more complete account with a photograph of this first record for New York appears in *The Kingbird* 43: 2-5; 1993.

- Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*). 1992-27-A: one at Stillson's Pond, Town of Cold Spring, Cattaraugus Co., 9 October (SE), photographs on file (Fig. 1). This is the first record from New York substantiated by tangible evidence. Although this species is reported with increasing frequency from the Atlantic seaboard, the possibility remains that this bird is an escape from captivity.
- Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*). 1992-6-A: one off Sand Hill Road, Town of Dover, Dutchess Co., 11 August (EP, MVW, MY). 1992-47-A: one west of Cayuga, Town of Aurelius, Cayuga Co., 23 March (NB). This species is still on the list of species for which all observations should be submitted to the NYSARC for review, despite the frequency with which it is reported downstate.
- Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). 1992-35-A,B: one at Derby Hill, Town of Mexico, Oswego Co., 21 April (NB, RP). Although this species has been reported annually in recent years, all observations should be submitted to the NYSARC for review.
- Merlin (*Falco columbarius*). 1992-57-A-G: two adults and three nestlings (fledged) at Spitfire Lake, Town of Brighton, Franklin Co., 11 June to 11 August (WM, RG, KB, JMCP, RH, GC), photographs on file. This first substantiated nesting in New York is detailed in *The Kingbird* (42:206-209; 1992).
- Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*). 1992-13-A-D: one at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, Town of Tyre, Seneca Co., 1 March (AC); one west of Cayuga, Town of Aurelius, Cayuga Co., 21-29 March (AC, CC, NB). These observations apparently refer to a single bird.
- Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*). 1992-19-A: one at Tivoli Bays, Town of Red Hook, Dutchess Co., 16 September (MD).
- American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*). 1992-20-A-C: one at Fair Haven Beach State Park, Town of Sterling, Cayuga Co., 3 November (GW, DC, MR).
- Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*). 1992-23-A,B: one at Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, Kings Co., 6 December 1992 to 18 March 1993 (JY, DC), photographs on file. This is the first substantiated record for New York, but a prior report currently is being reviewed by the NYSARC. A full account of this record appears in *The Kingbird* (43:166-170; 1993).
- Mew Gull (*Larus canus*). 1992-30-A: one, reported as *L. c. canus*, at Robert Moses Power Dam, St. Lawrence River, Town of Massena, St. Lawrence Co., 27 & 29 December (DS). 1992-56-A,B: one, reported as *L. c. brachyrhynchus*, on the Niagara River near Robert Moses Power Plant, Town of Lewiston, Niagara Co., 29 November, 4 December (RK, AW); photographs on file with the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- California Gull (*Larus californicus*). 1992-29-A-D: one adult on the Niagara River near Robert Moses Power Plant, Town of Lewiston, Niagara Co., 29 November, 1, 2, 6 December (RP, TLeuk, RA, NB). This is the first accepted record from New York since 1982, the last of four successive years in which one appeared in Rockland Co.
- Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*). 1992-31-A-C: one adult at Niagara Falls, Town of Niagara, Niagara Co., 4, 20 December (RVT, RB); one adult over Niagara River, Town of Lewiston, Niagara Co., 16 December (DM), photographs on file. This bird, the first for New York, was initially found on 24 November at Niagara Falls, Ontario, and was subsequently seen by many observers, the last report being on 29 December. A complete account of this record will appear in an upcoming *Kingbird*.
- White-winged Tern (*Chlidonias leucopterus*). 1992-50-A-E: an adult paired with a Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*) and produced two young, which did not fledge, at Stone Mills Pool, Perch River Wildlife Management Area, Town of Orleans, Jefferson Co., 17 June to 4 August (IM, SM, MK, DC, SA, DP), photographs on file. An account of this first breeding record of this Eurasian species in New York appears in *The Kingbird* (42:210-212; 1992).
- Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*). 1992-49-A-C: one along New York State Route 5 between Chittenango and Canastota, Towns of Sullivan and Lenox, Madison Co., 1-3, 5, 21 February (DC, SA, SH), photographs on file.
- Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*). 1992-32-A,B: one near intersection of U. S. Route 11 and New York State Route 342, Town of Leray, Jefferson Co., 1-2 February (DP, SA), photograph on file; this bird was found dead in the same area on 5 February. 1992-33-A: one 3.6 miles north of Jamestown, Town of Ellicott, Chautauqua Co., 3 February (RA), photograph on file.
- Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*). 1992-46-A: one at Mount Pleasant Observatory, near Varna, Town of Dryden, Tompkins Co., 13 April (NB). This species is noteworthy anywhere upstate and extraordinarily unusual anywhere in the spring.
- Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*). 1992-28-A: one at Jones Beach, Long Island, Town of Hempstead, Nassau Co., 24 September (JGreenlaw).
- Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*). 1992-22-A: one at Fire Island, Long Island, Suffolk Co., 14 September (JQ), photograph on file and reproduced in *The Kingbird* (43:86-87; 1993). This is the tenth accepted record from New York State; the ninth appears below.
- Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*). 1992-44-A,B: one at Clove Valley Cemetery, Town of Union, Dutchess Co., 7 May (HM, JK, MK); details appear in *The Kingbird* (42:143; 1992).

- Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*). 1992-11-A: one at Aurora, Town of Ledyard, Cayuga Co., 22 May (KD). While vary rare upstate, this species is not on the list of reports normally reviewed by the NYSARC.
- Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*). 1992-45-A: one behind 152 West 77th Street, Manhattan, New York Co., 2 January (SP).
- Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*). 1992-5-A: one at Lafayetteville, Wilbur Flats Road, Town of Milan, Dutchess Co., 10 August (KK). 1992-24-A: one at Montauk Town landfill, Town of Montauk, Suffolk Co., Long Island, 19 December (AB); this bird was reported to have been seen by many observers until 28 December, but no additional documentation was submitted.
- Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*). 1992-18-A: one at Robert Moses State Park, Fire Island, Suffolk Co., 14 September (DM), photographs on file (Fig. 2). 1992-25-A: one at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Queens Co., 9 September (RL).
- Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*). 1992-41-A,B: one at Nine Mile Point Road, Town of New Haven, Oswego Co., 7 May (MK, SA), photographs on file. Details of this record, with a photograph, are in *The Kingbird* (42:130-132; 1992).
- Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). 1992-16-A-C: one and two at Church Road and northeast of intersection of Chase and Walker-Lake Ontario Roads, Town of Hamlin, Monroe Co., 11 April, 8,23 May (RS, CC). 1992-48-A: three about 4 miles southwest of Mecklenburg, Schuyler Co., March (JG, SG). 1992-53-A: one on Beech Hill Road, Town of Andes, Delaware Co., 11,15 March (GW). 1992-54-A: one at Cayuga, Town of Aurelius, Cayuga Co., 24 March (NB). 1992-55-A: one male at Gates Road, Town of Pompey, Onondaga Co., 11-14 March (DC). Despite the increasing frequency with which this species is reported, observations still merit careful documentation.

1992 REPORTS, IDENTITY ACCEPTED, ORIGIN UNCERTAIN

- Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*). 1992-52-A: at North 40 Preserve, Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, Kings Co., 19-20 May (JF). There are no accepted New York records of this species.
- Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*). 1992-43-A: one at intersection of Biddlecum Road and New York State Route 264, Town of Schroepfel, Oswego Co., 26 April (DC). This bird was reported in the area with Canada Geese for several weeks, but no additional documentation was submitted.



Figure 2. Lark Bunting (1992-18-A) at Robert Moses State Park, Fire Island, Suffolk Co., New York, 14 September 1992. Photograph by David Mizrahi.

1992 REPORTS NOT ACCEPTED

- American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*). 1992-4-A: one at Perch River Wildlife Management Area, Town of Brownville, Jefferson Co., 28 July.
- Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*). 1992-1-A: one at Atlantic Beach, Long Island, Town of Hempstead, Nassau Co., 11 June.
- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*). 1992-9-A: one on New York State Route 90 halfway between King Ferry and Aurora, Town of Ledyard, Cayuga Co., 9 September.
- Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*). 1992-36-A: one at Fishkill, Town of Fishkill, Dutchess Co., 18 May.
- Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*). 1992-10-A: one at Ithaca, Town of Ithaca, Tompkins Co., 30 August.
- Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*). 1992-51-A: two at Endicott, Town of Union, Broome Co., 15 June.
- Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*). 1992-14-A; four to five at Webster, Town of Webster, Monroe Co., 12 April.
- Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*). 1992-8-A: one at Myers Point, Town of Lansing, Tompkins Co., 3 October.

1991 REPORTS ACCEPTED

- Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*). 1991-36-A: one on Saratoga Lake off New York State Route 9 near intersection of Fish Creek Road, Saratoga Co., 14 December (RP).
- Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*). 1991-38-A,B: one at northeast corner of intersection of Cutting and Denton Roads, Town of Lewis, Essex Co., 21 December (JMCP, TB).
- Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*). 1991-39-A: one at Town Line Road, Town of Fort Edward, Washington Co., 21 December (BP). This individual was reported to have been seen by many observers over a period of four weeks but no additional documentation was submitted.
- Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*). 1991-37-A,B: one in Flushing Meadow park, Queens Co., 14 December 1991 (BD, AK).

1991 REPORTS NOT ACCEPTED

- Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*). 1991-29-A: one on Lake Ontario at Derby Hill, Town of Mexico, Oswego Co., 20 October.
- Pterodroma, species uncertain. 1991-35-A: one at Montauk Point, Town of Montauk, Suffolk Co., Long Island, 19 August.
- Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). 1991-17-A: four west of intersection of Maul Road and Hamlin-Parma Town Line Road, Town of Hamlin, Monroe Co., 20 April. 1991-40-A,B: four 0.5 miles north of Point Rock, Town of Ava, Oneida Co., 29 December.

1990 ACCEPTED REPORT

- Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). 1990-37-A: one at 34 Pine Street, Saranac Lake, Essex Co., 24 October (RH).

1985 ACCEPTED REPORT

- Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia*). 1985-47-A: one on beach 1 mile west of Shinnecock Inlet, Long Island, Town of Southampton, Suffolk Co., 24 October (BB), photographs on file and reproduced in *The Kingbird* (42: 70-72; 1992).

1982 REPORT NOT ACCEPTED

- Great Black-headed Gull (*Larus ichthyaetus*) 1982-51-A: one at Genesee River, Rochester, Monroe Co., 1 January.

1962 REPORT NOT ACCEPTED

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*). 1962-2-A: one at mouth of Nine-mile Creek, Onondaga Lake, Syracuse, Onondaga Co., 30 October.

With this report's three additions, the New York State List now stands at 441.

Respectfully submitted, New York State Avian Records Committee

Kenneth P. Able
Robert F. Andrie (Chairman)
Thomas W. Burke
Robert O. Paxton
Barbara J. Spencer

OBSERVERS SUBMITTING REPORTS CITED IN THIS REPORT: Sue Adair, Robert Andrie, Christopher Aquila, Andrew Baldelli, Tom Barber, Ned Brinkley, Ken Brown, Bertel Bruun, Paul Buckley, John Bull, Barbara Byron, Richard Byron, Bruce Carpenter, Carolyn Cass, Greenleaf Chase, T. L. Clark, Anne Clarridge, Sandra Coester, George Colborn, Richard Collins, Harriet Cramton, Dorothy Crumb, Willie D'Anna, Karl David, Mark Dedeo, Bob Dieterich, Stephen Eaton, John Fritz, Richard Gershon, Jon Greenlaw, John Gregoire, Sue Gregoire, Robert Hagar, Sandra Hazen, Jody Hildreth, Karen Kearney, James Key, Mary Key, Sara Kinch, Richard Knapton, Mary Koeneke, Alexei Kondratiev, Robert Kurtz, Charlotte Ladwig, Tony Lauro, Tony Leukering, Robert Lewis, Robert Machover, Helen Manson, Robert Marcotte, Irene Mazzocchi, Doug McRae, Ferne Merrill, David Mizrahi, Wright Montgomery, Sandy Muller, Russ O'Malley, David Peakall, Raymond Perry, John M.C. Peterson, Eleanor Pink, Ron Pittaway, Rod Planck, Sarah Plimpton, David Prosser, Barbara Putnam, Joan Quinlan, Margaret Rusk, Lorna Salzman, Starr Saphir, David Sibley, Robert Spahn, Rohan van Twest, Marion Van Wagner, Gloria Wiener, Glenn Wolford, Alan Wormington, Mary Yegella, John Yrizarry, Mary Yrizarry.

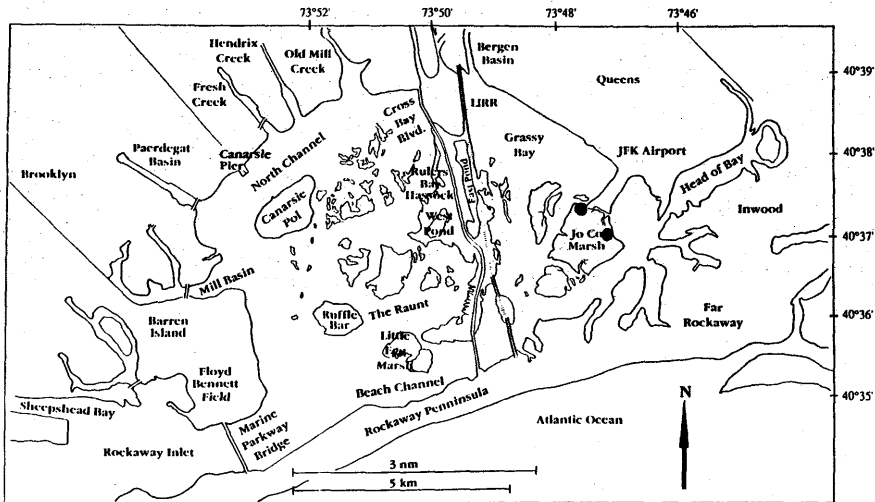
A FORSTER'S TERN COLONY AT JAMAICA BAY, NEW YORK CITY

DON RIEPE

In 1991, Marilyn England, of the National Audubon Society, and the author discovered a single pair of Forster's Tern nesting among Common Tern at JoCo marsh in Jamaica Bay (Fig. 1). During the 1992 breeding season, a colony of approximately 53 pairs was nesting on the same marsh. During the 1993 breeding season, at least 40 pairs were present. The Forster's Tern were nesting alongside Common Tern, which have been using these marshes for a decade or more. They were readily distinguished from Common Tern by their raspy call, orangish bill, whiter primaries and longer forked tail.

Despite some nest loss due to flooding, the terns appeared to have a successful fledging year in the marsh. Flooding occurs during unusually high tides or storm related overwash, and is not equally severe every year. This colony experienced less flooding in 1993 than it did in 1992. The birds' preferred nesting substrate is dead *Spartina alterniflora* grass wrack at or near marsh creek edges (Fig 2). The accumulated wrack provides several inches of protection from tidal waters. They will also occasionally nest on *Spartina patens* high marsh (Fig. 3). Just inland from the creeks are colonies of Laughing Gull, the bulk of which nest in areas of short form *Spartina alterniflora*. Some gulls nest alongside and within tern colonies, but most seem to prefer higher marsh situations. From my observations, the terns seem to tolerate the nesting gulls and I've never witnessed any predation on the tern eggs or chicks. Other bird species nesting in these marshes include Clapper Rail, American Black Duck, Gadwall, Canada Goose, Boat-tailed Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, Seaside Sparrow, Willet and American Oystercatcher. Many of these birds nested on higher ground, usually old dredge spoil deposit sites at the marsh edge.

JoCo Marsh is a 200 acre saltmarsh situated in the eastern section of the bay adjacent to runway 4R/22L at John F Kennedy International



● - sites of nesting Forster's Terns

Figure 1. Location of Forster's Tern nesting sites in Jamaica Bay.

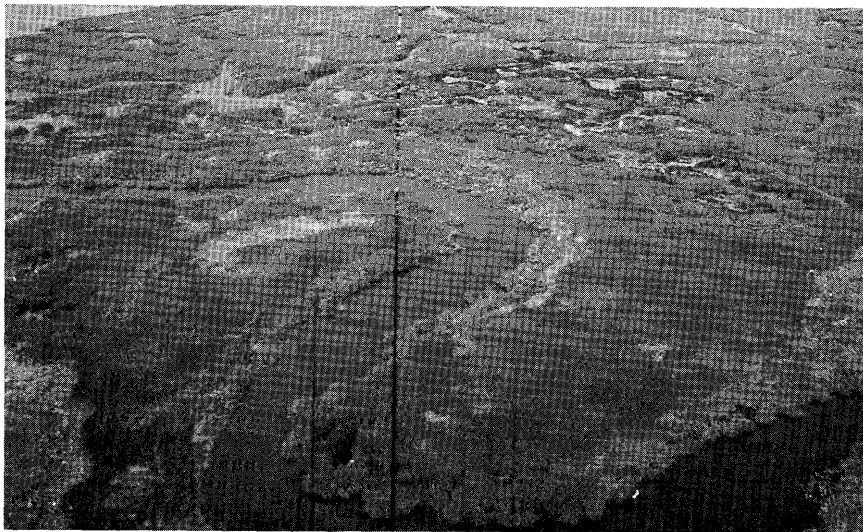


Figure 2. Aerial view of JoCo Marsh. Forster's Tern nested in wracks of dead *Spartina* near the creek edges, which appear as light spots in the photograph.



Figure 3. Forster's Tern nest habitat in *Spartina alterniflora* wrack.

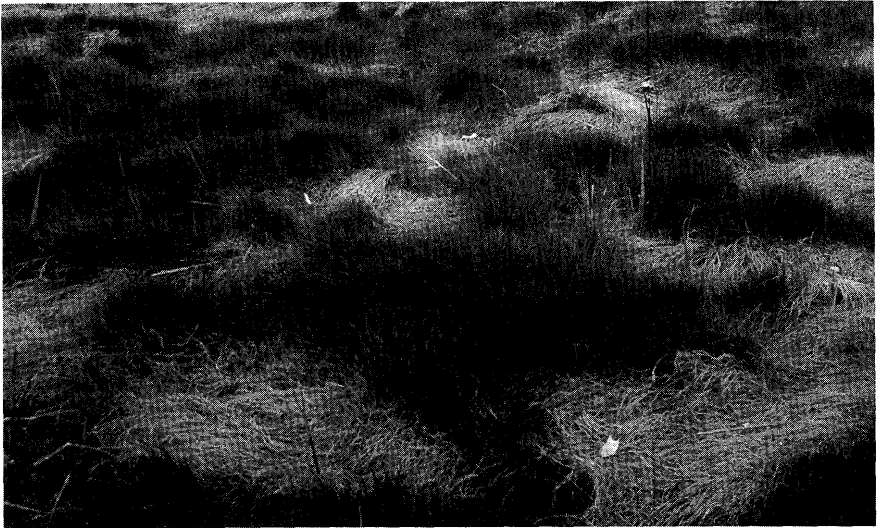


Figure 4. *Spartina patens* marsh utilized by some nesting Forster's Tern.

Airport (Fig 4). The marshes of Jamaica Bay are part of the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, a 9,155 acre district of Gateway National Recreation Area. As such, they are protected from human intrusion by the National Park Service. The terns, however, are subject to predation by Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls, Common and Fish Crows, Boat-tailed Grackle, Northern Harrier and the very occasional stray dog. Despite these potential threats, the marshes offer better protection than recreational beaches, where cats, dogs, rats, vehicles and other human related activities compound these disturbances.

Connor (1988) summarizes the first known nesting records of Forster's Tern in New York State, all obtained since 1981. Since then, four pairs nested at two sites in Hempstead Bay (one at Deep Creek Meadow and three at Three-cornered Marsh) in 1990, and three pairs nested at Cuba Island in Hempstead Bay (Chris Liebelt, NYSDEC, pers. comm.) in 1991 and one pair was present in 1993 (Mike Scheibel, pers. comm.). The colony at Jamaica Bay, however, represents the first substantial colony recorded in New York State.

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Gateway National Recreation Area, Floyd Bennett Field, Bldg. 69, Brooklyn, New York 11234

LITERATURE CITED

Connor, P. F. 1988. Forster's Tern. pp. 180-181, in Andrie, R. F., and J. R. Carroll, Eds. *The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*. Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, NY

WINTER OBSERVATIONS OF HERRING GULL AND OTHER BIRDS FROM LITTLE GALLOO ISLAND, EASTERN LAKE ONTARIO

PETER J. EWINS AND D. V. WESELOH

Few people, let alone birders and naturalists, have visited islands in Lake Ontario during the winter months. Access is difficult due to shifting ice conditions, and one might reasonably expect to find little of ornithological interest. In early February 1991 we made some observations of birds on and around Little Galloo Island (45°53' N 76°24' W), a 17 ha island lying in the eastern part of Lake Ontario approximately 23 km west of Sackets Harbor, Jefferson County. To our knowledge, these are the first bird observations in winter from the island. Contrary to earlier predictions, we found considerable bird activity!

Our ultimate aim was to document winter roosting and colony attendance by Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*), in relation to studies of their diet and accumulation of toxic contaminants in the Great Lakes aquatic ecosystem (Mineau *et al.* 1984; Ewins *et al.* 1993). Little Galloo Island is one of the most important nesting sites for colonial water birds on the Great Lakes, including over 300 pairs of Herring Gull (Blokpoel & Weseloh 1982).

METHODS

On 6 and 8 February 1991, the island and surrounding water/ice was surveyed from a fixed-wing aircraft. On 11 and 12 February we made observations on the island itself, camping overnight (at -20°C), and being transported by helicopter. Weather conditions during this period were generally bright and cold, with moderate northwesterly winds pushing in ice from Lake Ontario, and up to 5 cm of snow lying on the frozen ground. The island was almost completely engulfed in ice, but some leads and small patches of open water occurred amongst the shifting ice sheets.

OBSERVATIONS

On 6 February, a flight over the island at 1635 h (EST) recorded only a flock of 50 Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*), 100 unidentified

ducks near the ice-free southern shoreline, and approximately 200 Oldsquaw (*Clangula hyemalis*) 4 km northeast of the island. No gulls were seen, indicating that they were not using the island as an overnight roost site. On 8 February, at 1140 h, up to 20 Herring Gull were standing on the ice and snow over some of the known breeding territories, approximately 200 were standing on iced-over small pools at the southern end of the island, and about an additional 300 birds (mostly adults) were loafing on ice at the island's western shoreline.

On 11 February, small numbers of Herring Gull were seen flying northwest over the island at dusk, presumably to overnight roosting areas on open water or the main ice edge further out into Lake Ontario. From 40 minutes before sunrise, on 12 February, Herring Gull were calling and circling high over the island. A few individuals landed and rested briefly on ice along the south shoreline. By two hours after sunrise, 105 Herring Gull had passed over the island heading in a general south-southeasterly direction, most circling and calling over the island for 5 minutes or so as they went. About 85% of these birds appeared to be in adult plumage, and may have been individuals which would subsequently breed on the island. We recovered large numbers of fresh gull feces from the ice ridge along the southwestern shoreline of the island, and could see more feces on ice offshore. Clearly Herring Gull had been using this area as a daytime roost/loafing area between feeding bouts.

Nine other bird species were seen on 11-12 February: one Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) flying north; 14 Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*); 33 Gadwall (*A. strepera*); 180 scaup, probably Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*); 36 Oldsquaw; 43 Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*); more than 130 Bufflehead (*B. albeola*); three Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*); a Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*); and more than 80 Snow Bunting. In addition, just after dawn on 12 February, over 400 unidentified diving ducks flew northwest past the island, presumably heading for more extensive areas of open water than were available near Little Galloo Island. All the ducks identified were feeding within 400 m of the island, particularly along the ice free southern shoreline. The passerines fed on small seeds (possibly of *Atriplex* sp.) in the few small patches of exposed ground. At intervals the Snow Buntings took flight and perched in a compact group on the upper branches of dead hardwood trees. However, we saw no signs of any birds of prey. The only other signs of life were fresh tracks of a Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*) on 12 February.

DISCUSSION

There are few published accounts of Herring Gull roosting behavior or colony occupation during late winter or early spring in Lake Ontario. Observations further west in the lower Great Lakes indicate that eggs are laid from mid April onwards, and that some breeding territories are occupied as early as February (Morris & Haymes 1977; Ewins *et al.* 1993). Most Herring Gull which breed on the Great Lakes also winter there once adult, but there is considerable winter immigration from further north (Moore 1976; Weseloh 1984). In northeastern Lake Ontario Herring Gull have usually moved out of the Kingston area by mid January, once ice free water becomes difficult to find close to the city (Cooke & Ross 1972). Our aerial surveys in eastern Lake Ontario in February 1991 located small groups (usually less than 10 birds) of Herring Gull and a few Great Black-backed Gull (*L. marinus*) resting on ice floes during the afternoon, particularly at the ice edge. At dusk we also located a roost of up to about 100 Herring Gulls just northwest of False Duck Island, off Prince Edward Point, Ontario, 35 km west of Little Galloo Island. We suspect that this was an overnight roost, probably one of a number of such roosts in open water in the eastern basin of Lake Ontario at that time. In some winters, enormous concentrations of Herring Gull, up to 20,000 birds, have been noted in open water areas near Oswego and Rochester harbors (Bull 1985).

Most of the other species we noted at Little Galloo Island in mid February can often be encountered in suitable habitat inland in the State during the winter months, but there appear to be few data from Lake Ontario islands (Bull 1985). However, Bull notes that Gadwall are generally uncommon inland in winter, and makes no mention of Common Loon wintering away from the Atlantic coast. Clearly, small islands in eastern Lake Ontario offer suitable wintering conditions for good numbers of a variety of bird species, particularly where open water persists.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Air Muskoka and the Kingston Flying Club for safe transit, and Phillips Petroleum Company for permission to carry out bird research on Little Galloo Island. We also acknowledge Environment Canada's Great Lakes Action Plan, which provided funding for the overall studies of Herring Gull and contaminants on the Great Lakes.

Canadian Wildlife Service (Ontario Region), Canada Centre for Inland Waters, P.O. Box 5050, Burlington, Ontario. L7R 4A6. Canada.

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THE WILLIAMSVILLE GLEN: A SUBURBAN SPRING MIGRANT TRAP

GERALD R. RISING

My first visit to the Williamsville Glen in this Buffalo suburb was on a Saturday morning in May 1987. Following a path into the woods just northeast of the Glen Avenue bridge, I came immediately upon a wrinkled three inch square piece of paper impaled on the branch of a shrub. On it was printed the cryptic note: "Seen here Thursday." A few yards further along appeared the sequel: "Under bushes ahead Friday." As I read the second message, I noticed in those very bushes two birders fussing over a tape recorder. One of them, Bruce Chilton, informed me that Peter Yoerg's notes referred to a Swainson's Warbler that Peter had discovered there earlier in the week. Others had confirmed Peter's remarkable find, but none of us found the elusive skulker that day. Despite that, on that windy May morning I had found a birding "home."

The Williamsville Glen is an extension of Williamsville's Glen Park. It extends north from Glen Avenue for about a mile between Ellicott Creek to the west and the backs of residential properties along Mill Street to the east. The more formal sections of Glen Park are mostly south of Glen Avenue where there is an attractive cascade in the creek. Although this section is usually overrun by families feeding the tame Mallards (contrary to park rules), its shrubbery is worth a check early in the day before the crowd arrives.

This glen is essentially a spring migrant trap. Why is an open question. It lies in a populous suburb immediately northeast of the City of Buffalo: The village of Williamsville is a part of Amherst, a town whose population ranks it sixth of the state's metropolitan districts, ahead of Albany and Binghamton, for example. Glen Avenue is just one block north of shop-lined Main Street, a major traffic artery that extends out from Buffalo and continues as Route 5 toward Batavia.

The easternmost end of Lake Erie is about fifteen miles to the south-southwest, and the northerly flow of spring migrants that is forced northeast along the shore of that lake probably turns north again when it reaches this point. Although we know that many migrants continue along the shore to Buffalo's Tift Nature Preserve, Forest Lawn Cemetery, and Delaware Park and then on along the Niagara River, others may drift slightly to the east to avoid the central city. Such birds may then drop into the Glen.

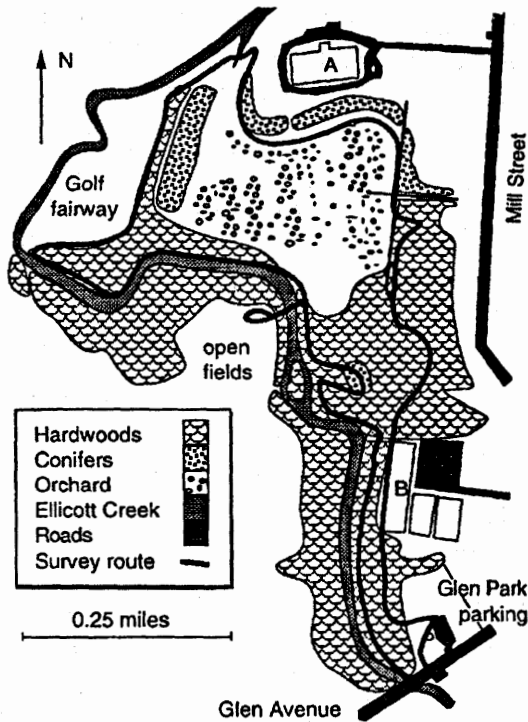


Figure 1. Williamsville Glen. The letter A denotes the St. Francis Motherhouse of St. Mary of the Angels (private), and the letter B denotes the Village Glen Tennis and Fitness Club.

Perhaps, but the Glen is not an island in a city sea like New York's Central Park. On all sides are residential streets lined with mature trees in which small groups of migrants are also to be found. Nor do geologic features funnel in birds; in particular creeks, including Ellicott Creek south of the Glen, generally run east to west across the northward flow of migrating birds.

Birdwatchers can reach the Glen more easily. From the Main Street East exit of I-290, drive east just over a mile. Take two lefts: north on Mill Street and west on Glen Avenue a few yards to the parking lot on your right. Once there the accompanying map (Fig. 1) shows a walk that

Buffalo Ornithological Society members have followed to census migrants on about twenty days each spring since 1989. Join me on one of those mid May mornings at the peak of migration to see what is to be found along that two and a half mile route.

The apple trees and ornamental shrubs around the parking lot produce House Finches, blackbirds, a Gray Catbird, Song, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, Dark-eyed Junco, and Yellow Warbler. A Northern Oriole and a Warbling Vireo alternate songs from high in the trees along the creek and a Wood Thrush carols in the distance. We enter the woods at the end of the lawn and immediately find ourselves in a wilder area. The hardwoods here are very tall and the understory sparse, so the birds here are to be seen at a distance. We quickly add White-breasted Nuthatch, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-eyed Vireo, Northern Cardinal, Eastern Wood-Pewee, American Redstart, and Black-and-white and Magnolia Warblers to our list. The subdued sounds of dance music greet us at the Tennis Club, in which early morning exercisers cavort. Among the shrubs behind the building are two Veery and a rarer Gray-cheeked Thrush. Rose-breasted Grosbeak and several of the common woodpecker species are to be seen in the canopy above. Just beyond this building we enter a low swampy area with old overgrown orchard trees still holding out against the taller cottonwoods. Here a Northern Waterthrush greets us. American Crow and Blue Jay noisily chase a Great Horned Owl out of the pine grove to our left. A Great Crested Flycatcher wheeps. As the taller trees take over again, we clamber over a ten foot ridge and see the twisted remains of an iron picket fence ahead. We pick out a Philadelphia Vireo and a late Solitary Vireo as well. A Brown Thrasher sings ahead along the forest margin. Following the fence we soon come to the open meadow and abandoned orchard to our left. But before we squeeze through a broken place we check at the top of the rise to our right the backyard feeders of several houses. We're lucky today: a Tufted Titmouse and a Pine Siskin are among the birds at the trays. As we emerge into the wet meadow we're met with the chatter of a House Wren and from the orchard beyond an Eastern Bluebird calls. The beauty of the apple blossoms is enhanced by their contrast with the gnarled limbs of these old and dying trees. There are only Yellow Warblers on this side of the orchard, so we move on to the sidewalk below the White Pines. All this is private property but the Sisters and their groundskeepers have always been accommodating to birders. Above us in the tall trees are Red-breasted

Nuthatch and more chickadees; several Blackburnian Warbler and Chipping Sparrow sing from the highest perches. Chimney Swift circle the mother house. At the far end of the sidewalk formal gardens reach down to the creek bank. Here in this dark area are more juncos and a Lincoln's Sparrow. A Scarlet Tanager rasps downstream. We are at the northern end of our route where we cross a footbridge to the creek edge. So far our list includes only a few warbler species; on the way back we'll find many more. But now across the creek we find a Spotted Sandpiper exploring the mud and a pair of unwelcome Canada Geese march above it along the edge of the golf fairway. An early Mallard brood plies the eddies and a Belted Kingfisher speeds by, rattling as it goes. Tree and Barn Swallows fly overhead and a towhee chinks from a willow. We wade through tall wet grass to an area of mixed hardwoods behind a thick pine grove and immediately begin to add warblers to our list. Wilson's first, then Canada and a Common Yellowthroat, all these yellow-bellied birds within twenty yards. From here on we'll find warblers in small mixed flocks. Sadly there will be only one or two of each species. Once in late April I even found a group of warblers feeding on the manicured golf course lawn that now separates us from the creek. When we reach the end of the fairway at a golfers' bridge, we pause to pick up the songs of Ovenbird and Carolina Wren and to watch Yellow Warbler and American Redstart cavort in the low bushes. Entering the woods again we find a nice group: some late Yellow-rumped and a Palm Warbler together with Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Black-and-white, Nashville, and Tennessee Warblers. A few Blackpoll Warbler and an Indigo Bunting tell us that the spring migration is nearing its end. Chestnut-sided and more Magnolia Warblers appear in the next group along the creek. Here we also find Bay-breasted and Cape May Warblers. In the thickets and apple trees at the bridge we find our last group, adding singing Northern Parula and Blue-winged Warblers to complete our total of 22 warbler species. But we pick up a few additional species in the woods ahead. Both kinglets join a number of warblers in the pine grove only recently deserted by the horned owl. Several Least Flycatcher start calling now and a pair of Red-headed Woodpecker dash from tree to tree along the stream. And when we emerge again at the Glen Avenue bridge we find Northern Rough-winged Swallow on the wires with the ever present Rock Dove. An Eastern Phoebe joins the crowd.

Table 1. Williamsville Glen spring census totals.

	1989	1990	1991	1992
WARBLERS				
Maximum species/day	18	23	22	13
May date of maximum	19	21	12	18
Season species total	25	24	27	20
ALL BIRDS				
Maximum species/day	63	72	73	49
May date of maximum	16	21	12	13
Season species total	94	102	107	88

The walk I have described represents a big day like those of 1990 and 1991. Over the four years of spring censuses in the Glen, 133 species have been identified including 30 warbler species. In addition to those mentioned above, Golden-winged, Pine, Cerulean, Worm-eating, Kentucky, Connecticut, Mourning, and Hooded Warblers have been seen as well as the Brewster's type of Blue-wing x Golden-wing hybrid. The overall species count is low because only a few non-passerine species, and almost no water birds, have been found. Table 1 summarizes the census results for the four years they have been conducted by the Buffalo Ornithological Society and suggests the range of dates of peak activity.

Less is known about the birds of the Williamsville Glen in other seasons. Investigations of summer residents, of autumn migrants, and of wintering species all would be worthwhile. Birders interested in visiting the Glen in April and May should plan to contribute their records to this author. Anyone who would like company on a trip there at any time of year is also welcome to contact me.

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NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Second attempted nesting of Double-crested Cormorant in the Niagara Frontier Region: Double-crested Cormorant made a second attempt to nest on the water diversion weir at Buckhorn Island State Park in 1993. This is only the second attempted nesting of this species in western New York (*Kingbird*, 43:88-93; 1993). The first attempted nesting activity was observed last year between 8 and 28 May 1992. This year cormorant numbers increased to 51 on the weir by 4 May 1993, with one cormorant possibly incubating and another sitting on a nest. On 13 May, four cormorants possibly were incubating, while a fifth was standing on a nest. On 29 May, four or five cormorants were sitting on nests. On 3 June, four (and possibly a fifth) cormorants were observed in incubating position. Since last year the nests were abandoned sometime between 28 May and 9 June, any nesting after these dates would represent new nesting dates for Region 1. On 10 June, five cormorants were in incubating position, while two other cormorants appeared on nests in possible incubating position. On 19 June, ten cormorants were in the nesting trees and a total of 65 cormorants was perched in two of the Niagara Mohawk electrical towers. Four cormorants (and possibly a fifth) appeared to be incubating. Although they had set a new nesting endurance record for Region 1, the number of incubating cormorants started to decline. Between 9:45 and 11:00 on 26 June only three cormorants were on nests in incubating positions. Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, and as many as nine other cormorants roosted in the nesting trees with the three incubating cormorants. By 30 June between 4:50 and 5:10 only one Double-crested Cormorant was still incubating. At 7:00 PM on 3 July all the cormorant nests were empty. Although 145 were on the nearby electrical towers, no Double-crested Cormorant was in the nesting tree. Again the nesting was unsuccessful, but this time the cormorants remained on their nests more than a month longer than in the previous attempt. Several observations suggested that gull predation may be a factor causing the abandonment of the colony. Although no direct aggression between gulls and cormorants was observed, both Ring-billed and Herring Gulls were observed in the nesting trees. The number of gulls in the nesting tree was greater during the period when cormorants were incubating, and the nesting tree contained more gulls than other trees on the island during the period cormorants incubated. Non-incubating cormorants positioned themselves near the nest and gulls seemed to keep at a respectful distance. However, when these cormorants left, the gulls would gradually move closer to the cormorant nests. On one occasion a Ring-billed Gull was seen picking at material in a recently abandoned cormorant nest. Gulls were even observed sitting on cormorant nests. A Ring-billed Gull was sitting on a nest 13 April, while on 30 June a Herring Gull was observed sitting on a nest that had been occupied by a cormorant as recently as 26 June. These observations suggest that gulls were waiting for incubating cormorants to leave the nests, so that the gulls could feed on eggs or young chicks.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FALL SEASON

ROBERT SPAHN

The Regional reports make clear that the fall season of 1993 was certainly an interesting time for birding. The overall assessment of the fall migration varied among Regions, but in most the picture was a bit better than last year. Starting our search for trends and causes, temperatures generally ran below average and precipitation above average, with November the month having the least deviation from normal precipitation. Regions 9 and 10 reported only slight variations from the norms for both measures, Region 5 noted below average precipitation, and Region 7 saw above normal temperatures well into November. There were September frosts in several Regions, an early substantial snowfall at the end of October in Regions 1, 3, 4, and 9. The passage of many fronts was noted in most Regions in September and October.

The average departure date for all species in all Regions in the departure dates table was the latest for the eight years of comparable coverage, but was not statistically different from the previous seven years' average. All of these eight years, including this one, have averaged significantly early relative to the 25-year average extracted from the Regional reports of 1961-1985. This almost certainly reflects a reporting bias, when normal departure dates were simply not recorded.

With significant local exceptions, the general theme of this fall's migration is of continued concern over low numbers of individual migrants for a wide variety of species, but particularly among the passerines. There are a dozen or so reports of really high counts, even state record highs, but the predominant notes are of decreases and very low totals. Regions 1 and 2 report some good warbler days; Region 8 notes a major fallout on 17 Sep, with some of the best birding in 20 years; Region 10 reports patterns returning towards normal; and Region 3 provides a sharp contrast with the general view of poor fall warbler movements expressed elsewhere. The Region 3 report suggests that constant effort banding station data from one location may provide a clearer picture of the migration than scattered, general observations. I feel that quantitative data gathered under carefully controlled conditions are better than most alternatives. However, based on my observations of banding data relative to other survey data in my home

Departure Dates Seasonality and Advance

Region	Species Reported	Seasonality (days)	Advance (days)
Region 1	59	-1.1	4.6
Region 2	61	-2.1	4.3
Region 3	58	-4.0	-2.9
Region 4	50	-6.7	-8.5
Region 5	62	-1.2	3.4
Region 6	51	4.9	-1.4
Region 7	56	0.4	-12.5
Region 8	56	3.4	3.1
Region 9	47	-1.5	4.4
Region 10	41	-9.8	5.9

Seasonality measures the average difference (in days) between this year's departure dates and the long term average dates for the *same* Region. *Advance* measures the average difference between this year's departure dates in one Region and the departure dates averaged over all ten Regions. Negative values mean early.

Region, it is not clear that any local point data represents Regional or Statewide migration better than do more broadly based surveys. There are too many variables for any point count data to apply much beyond that particular point.

Additional special notes relevant to the general picture include comments on the wild food supply from Regions 1 and 8; notes on improved coverage from Regions 3 and 6; banding site summaries and notes from Regions 1, 3, and 7; and summary of the 58th Annual October Count in Region 1.

Moving to a more detailed family and group level review, we find special notes and summaries in many reports, including a loon and waterfowl watch in Region 3. It is unfortunate that a similar watch conducted daily on Lake Ontario in Region 2 was not submitted to the Regional editor. The loon counts, supplemented by observations from elsewhere, yielded some excellent numbers. Red-throated Loon was noted in 8 of 10 regions, with the best numbers in Region 1 and setting record highs at the Region 2 loon watch, surpassing Common Loon highs there this fall. Common Loon peak numbers were down a bit on Lake

Fall Departures 1993

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average
Osprey	24 Oct	28 Oct	14 Oct	2 Nov	20 Oct	4 Oct	14 Nov	24 Oct	10 Nov		25 Oct
Broad-winged Hawk	10 Oct	13 Sep	23 Sep	24 Sep	29 Sep	17 Sep	14 Sep	25 Sep	1 Oct		24 Sep
Black-bellied Plover	31 Oct	10 Nov	14 Oct		17 Nov	9 Nov	7 Oct	31 Oct			30 Oct
Semipalmated Plover	26 Sep	24 Oct	13 Oct		6 Nov	1 Oct	31 Oct	7 Nov	1 Oct		17 Oct
Greater Yellowlegs	13 Nov	17 Nov	31 Oct	28 Oct	14 Nov	10 Nov	10 Nov	17 Nov			9 Nov
Lesser Yellowlegs	2 Nov	12 Nov	13 Oct		2 Nov	14 Nov	16 Nov	8 Nov			5 Nov
Spotted Sandpiper	1 Oct	10 Oct	2 Oct	9 Oct	2 Nov	1 Oct	1 Oct		1 Oct	3 Oct	6 Oct
Sanderling	30 Oct	15 Nov	11 Nov		17 Nov	15 Oct	19 Oct				2 Nov
Semipalmated Sandpiper	10 Oct	11 Nov	13 Oct		13 Oct	25 Oct	28 Oct	8 Nov	2 Nov		25 Oct
Least Sandpiper	26 Sep	30 Oct	30 Oct		25 Sep	11 Nov	7 Sep	31 Oct	15 Oct		14 Oct
Pectoral Sandpiper	24 Oct	11 Nov	13 Oct	19 Oct	12 Nov	11 Nov	9 Oct	7 Nov	7 Nov	13 Oct	28 Oct
Caspian Tern	16 Sep	12 Oct	2 Oct		25 Sep	17 Sep				10 Oct	28 Sep
Common Tern	9 Nov	16 Oct			26 Sep	12 Sep	5 Aug				25 Sep
Black Tern	9 Sep	5 Sep	2 Sep		12 Sep		5 Aug	4 Sep		20 Sep	3 Sep
Chimney Swift	10 Oct	19 Sep	27 Sep	20 Sep	3 Oct	15 Sep	26 Aug	6 Oct	15 Oct		25 Sep
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	26 Sep	14 Oct	7 Oct	28 Sep	3 Oct	22 Sep	3 Oct	20 Oct	30 Sep	12 Sep	1 Oct
Eastern Wood-Pewee	10 Oct	2 Oct	2 Oct	3 Oct	25 Sep	15 Oct	25 Sep	13 Oct	25 Sep	10 Oct	4 Oct
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	18 Sep	22 Sep	8 Sep	5 Sep	30 Sep	18 Sep		18 Sep			17 Sep
Least Flycatcher	19 Sep	19 Sep	24 Oct	7 Sep	19 Sep		19 Aug	19 Sep			17 Sep
Eastern Phoebe	14 Nov	22 Oct	24 Oct	19 Oct	18 Nov	24 Oct	3 Oct	25 Sep	3 Nov	7 Nov	25 Oct
Great Crested Flycatcher	17 Sep	18 Sep	7 Sep	25 Aug	19 Sep	9 Aug	25 Aug	17 Sep	15 Sep	26 Sep	8 Sep
Eastern Kingbird	5 Sep	8 Sep	8 Sep	25 Sep	8 Sep	10 Sep	25 Aug	11 Sep	25 Sep	24 Oct	14 Sep
Tree Swallow	10 Oct	29 Oct	30 Sep	8 Oct	13 Oct	6 Oct	12 Sep	26 Sep	1 Nov	3 Nov	11 Oct
Barn Swallow	10 Oct	1 Oct	29 Sep	11 Sep	3 Oct	12 Sep	12 Sep	26 Sep	3 Oct	29 Sep	25 Sep
House Wren	14 Nov	6 Oct	21 Sep	3 Oct	8 Oct	14 Oct	29 Aug	15 Oct	20 Oct		7 Oct
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	17 Sep	2 Oct		11 Aug	29 Aug			27 Nov	25 Oct		28 Sep
Veery	10 Oct	26 Sep	13 Sep	12 Sep	13 Oct	14 Oct	29 Aug			2 Oct	26 Sep
Swainson's Thrush	10 Oct	23 Oct	27 Sep	9 Oct	3 Nov	25 Oct	4 Oct	2 Oct		19 Oct	13 Oct
Wood Thrush	10 Oct	8 Oct	18 Sep	3 Oct	6 Oct	2 Oct	4 Oct	29 Sep			2 Oct
Gray Catbird	18 Oct	30 Oct	2 Oct	31 Oct	27 Oct	5 Oct	6 Oct	9 Oct			16 Oct
Brown Thrasher	10 Oct	14 Oct	16 Sep	18 Oct	13 Oct		3 Oct	18 Sep		1 Oct	4 Oct

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average
Solitary Vireo	17 Oct	5 Oct	9 Oct	6 Oct	15 Oct	30 Sep	20 Oct	24 Oct	20 Oct	14 Oct	13 Oct
Yellow-throated Vireo	27 Sep		21 Sep	4 Sep	12 Sep	5 Oct	5 Sep	8 Sep	25 Sep		17 Sep
Warbling Vireo	24 Sep	27 Sep	18 Sep	9 Sep	24 Sep		5 Sep	24 Sep	15 Sep		18 Sep
Red-eyed Vireo	12 Oct	8 Oct	7 Oct	25 Sep	30 Sep	3 Oct	20 Sep	15 Oct	5 Oct	29 Sep	3 Oct
Blue-winged Warbler	16 Sep	5 Sep	6 Sep	6 Sep	4 Sep			12 Sep	3 Sep	29 Aug	6 Sep
Tennessee Warbler	10 Oct	2 Oct	20 Sep	19 Sep	24 Sep	1 Oct	8 Sep	5 Oct	25 Sep	13 Oct	27 Sep
Nashville Warbler	16 Oct	29 Sep	10 Oct	3 Oct	13 Oct	1 Oct	4 Oct	15 Oct	20 Sep	6 Oct	5 Oct
Northern Parula	30 Sep	25 Sep	18 Sep		25 Sep	19 Sep	4 Sep	24 Sep	18 Sep	12 Sep	19 Sep
Yellow Warbler	13 Sep	17 Sep	19 Sep	21 Aug	24 Sep		12 Aug	18 Sep	18 Sep	21 Sep	11 Sep
Chestnut-sided Warbler	24 Sep	22 Sep	18 Sep	2 Oct	24 Sep	21 Sep	19 Sep	30 Sep	20 Sep	12 Sep	22 Sep
Magnolia Warbler	10 Oct	12 Oct	19 Sep	18 Sep	7 Oct	18 Sep	4 Oct	4 Oct	18 Sep	7 Oct	29 Sep
Cape May Warbler	18 Sep	25 Sep	25 Sep	15 Sep	27 Sep		3 Oct	2 Oct	23 Sep	18 Oct	27 Sep
Black-thr Blue Warbler	28 Sep	8 Oct	15 Oct	25 Aug	30 Sep	5 Oct	3 Oct	8 Oct	9 Oct	14 Oct	2 Oct
Black-thr Green Warbler	10 Oct	2 Oct	7 Oct	25 Sep	5 Oct	2 Oct	3 Oct	11 Oct	3 Oct	30 Sep	3 Oct
Blackburnian Warbler	27 Sep	25 Sep	18 Sep	24 Aug	27 Sep	18 Sep	5 Oct	13 Oct	21 Sep	6 Oct	24 Sep
Bay-breasted Warbler	27 Sep	19 Sep	2 Oct		27 Sep	30 Sep	4 Sep	30 Sep	1 Oct	9 Nov	30 Sep
Blackpoll Warbler	10 Oct	7 Oct	4 Oct	18 Sep	27 Sep	7 Oct	14 Sep	2 Oct	28 Sep	28 Oct	2 Oct
Black-and-white Warbler	27 Sep	16 Sep	18 Sep	15 Sep	30 Sep	2 Oct	13 Sep	18 Sep	2 Oct	29 Sep	23 Sep
American Redstart	10 Oct	15 Oct	18 Sep	2 Sep	25 Sep		18 Sep	18 Sep	5 Oct	30 Sep	25 Sep
Ovenbird	10 Oct	19 Sep	8 Oct	19 Sep	20 Sep	6 Oct	13 Sep	24 Sep	20 Sep	20 Sep	24 Sep
N. Waterthrush		29 Aug	25 Sep		18 Sep	6 Oct	6 Sep	17 Sep	5 Oct	19 Sep	19 Sep
Common Yellowthroat	17 Nov	23 Nov	4 Oct	6 Oct	15 Oct	5 Oct	5 Sep	21 Nov	5 Nov	14 Oct	20 Oct
Wilson's Warbler	10 Oct	22 Sep	19 Sep	2 Sep	30 Sep	11 Sep	19 Sep	18 Sep	18 Sep	9 Sep	18 Sep
Canada Warbler	19 Sep	4 Sep		25 Aug	6 Oct	8 Sep		17 Sep	20 Sep	14 Sep	14 Sep
Scarlet Tanager	24 Sep	30 Sep	24 Sep	25 Sep	10 Nov	5 Oct	13 Sep	24 Sep	20 Sep	11 Oct	30 Sep
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	10 Oct	29 Sep	3 Oct	6 Oct	30 Sep	28 Oct	9 Sep	18 Sep	15 Oct		3 Oct
Rufous-sided Towhee	8 Nov	3 Dec	13 Oct	15 Oct	15 Oct	10 Oct				15 Oct	24 Oct
Lincoln's Sparrow	10 Oct	11 Oct	30 Oct	10 Oct	15 Oct	20 Oct	1 Oct	15 Oct	20 Oct	22 Oct	15 Oct
White-crowned Sparrow	8 Nov	18 Nov	2 Nov	4 Nov	2 Nov	22 Oct	5 Nov	1 Nov	31 Oct	25 Oct	2 Nov
Bobolink	24 Sep	24 Sep	9 Sep	9 Sep	9 Sep		4 Sep	5 Sep	25 Oct		17 Sep
Northern Oriole		5 Sep	18 Sep	6 Sep	18 Sep		3 Sep	17 Sep	10 Oct	7 Nov	21 Sep

Bold Regional Record Late

Italics also isolated later report(s).

Ontario, but the watch on Cayuga Lake in Region 3 tallied over 8000, with a record high peak of 1224. It will take many more years of daily counting to put these numbers into perspective.

Hawk watches are summarized in Regions 1, 3, 4, 9, and 10. The hawk watch data, including some new sites, continues to show widespread southward movements of good numbers of buteos inland along various ridge systems. Overall, numbers appeared modest except for the record high for Golden Eagle past Franklin Mt. in Region 4, which probably is eastern North American record high as well. On the coast, the more normal weather patterns boosted numbers, with the American Kestrel increase particularly encouraging. Northern Harrier counts also were up, but Sharp-shinned Hawk numbers continued their serious decline.

Pelagic trip data appear in the Region 10 report. They continue to alter our understanding of dates and abundance from what we find in John Bull's *Birds of New York State*.

For most of the other groups of birds, the level of reporting is not sufficiently detailed to draw many overall conclusions or trends. Among the shorebirds, a prime fall target for observation, there are positive comments from Regions 5, 7, and 8, and a note of scarcity despite good habitat from Region 4. The notes on species generally are of scarcity, but high points included the occurrence of American Avocet and good numbers of American Oystercatcher in Regions 9 and 10; unusually widespread occurrence of Hudsonian Godwit in seven Regions; a record high inland count of Western Sandpiper in Region 3; and Buff-breasted Sandpiper in Regions 3, 5, 9, and 10. Shorebirds accounted for three of the four departure dates which were statistically later than average, with Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, and Semipalmated Sandpiper departing late. Region 5 notes a continued downward trend for gulls, with speculation that this may correlate with recent improvements in water quality in the Lake Ontario. Region 4 notes increased swallow numbers past the Franklin Mt. Hawk Watch, the only real positives for that family. Excepting the positives from Regions 3 and 8 mentioned above, notes about warblers and vireos are generally of low counts. A few positives were more widespread occurrence of good numbers of Pine and Palm Warblers and Yellow-breasted Chat. Another interesting observation comes from the departure date table. Of the 62 species tracked, 21 had early average departure dates. While none of the average departure dates for individual warbler species differed statistically significantly from their 7-year baseline, 14 of the 20 warblers tracked in this list were among the early departees and two more warbler species hit their baseline average on the nose. Among the

sparrows, there are notes of good local movements and especially high counts for White-throated Sparrow in Regions 2, 5, and 6; White-crowned Sparrow in Regions 4, 6, and 9; and Dark-eyed Junco in Regions 4 and 6. These are countered in each case by notes of low numbers in neighboring Regions. Finally, there were signs of the long awaited finch winter. All species were noted. However, by the end of November numbers of all species except Common Redpoll were down everywhere. While Pine Grosbeak arrived early, numbers were large nowhere. All mentions of Purple Finch noted their scarcity. Crossbill counts exceeded 1 or 2 only for Red Crossbill in Region 9 and White-winged Crossbill in Regions 3 and 5. *Hoary Redpoll* occurred as a single or two in Regions 3, 5, and 6. Pine Siskin counts were generally low, and Evening Grosbeak surpassed 100 in only Regions 2 and 4. Oh well, maybe this is a preview of next year!!

Now, one more pass through the checklist for interesting notes which don't fit neatly into the above discussion. It was a particularly good fall for Red-necked Grebe, noted in eight Regions, with the first occurrences of Alternate plumaged birds that anyone could remember at this season in Region 2. Double-crested Cormorant counts remained high, though maybe off a bit in some Regions, and Great Cormorant continues its increase away from the coast in Region 9. Six Regions reporting American Bittern to a date as late as 23 Nov in Region 3 is a positive for this declining marsh dweller. Great Egret counts were way up, with an increase even in Region 7 and a record late inland date in Region 3. An excellent count of Snowy Egret was made in Region 9. Among the waterfowl, Region 10 notes Snow Goose wintering farther north than usual, coincident with a very high count in Region 7; Eurasian Wigeon was found in Regions 2, 6, and 9, Harlequin Duck in Regions 2, 6, and 10, Common Eider in Regions 3 and 10, King Eider in Regions 3 and 10, with an astonishing peak in Region 3; and Barrow's Goldeneye in Region 8. Blue-winged Teal numbers continue very low, and lows also were flagged for Oldsquaw, scoters, and Ruddy Duck in several Regions. Turkey Vulture tarried very late in Region 7 and *Black Vulture* occurred in Region 3 as well as the more expected Region 9. There was little sign of a Rough-legged Hawk invasion, though low numbers were noted in six Regions. *Sandhill Crane* lingered into September in Region 4. Laughing Gull in Region 6 (as well as in the usual Regions 9 and 10), Franklin's Gull in Region 1; multiple Sabine's Gull in Regions 1 and 2,

Thayer's Gull in Regions 1 and 10, and Black-legged Kittiwake in Regions 1, 5, and 6 were most noteworthy. Black Tern numbers were above normal in the southeastern Regions, with Region 10 reporting many good counts and a coastal record late date. A minor invasion of Snowy Owl touched seven Regions. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird was displaying in Region 5 on 3 Sep and one remained until 29 Oct in Region 6. Woodpecker positives include Red-headed and Red-bellied continuing their presence to the north in Region 6 and both three-toed species in Region 7. From the flycatchers, we have negatives in very low counts for Great Crested Flycatcher and Eastern Kingbird, but positives in two very late reports of *Empidonax* species in Region 1 and rarities including *Western Kingbird* in Regions 6 and 10, *Fork-tailed Flycatcher* in Region 6, and *Ash-throated Flycatcher* in Region 10. Good movements were noted for Tufted Titmouse and Red-breasted Nuthatch. Carolina Wren reports were down from recent peaks, a population decrease or reporting ennui? House Wren tarried very late in Region 1, and Sedge Wren was noted in three Regions, high for recent years. The Region 5 report notes a well documented observation of a "Bicknell's" Gray-cheeked Thrush on migration. There was a moderate invasion of Bohemian Waxwing, with very high peak counts of 101 in Region 1 and 150 in Region 7. Small numbers of Northern Shrike reached eight Regions, while a single, now rare *Loggerhead Shrike* was tallied in Region 10. Scarlet Tanager notes were generally of scarcity, though very good numbers were recorded in Region 3 and one tarried to a very late date in Region 5. Late November dates were also noted for Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Region 9 and Indigo Bunting in Region 7. We find American Tree Sparrow arriving over a very tight date range in late October in seven regions, a bit later in Region 9. Rarer sparrow reports include Clay-colored Sparrow in Regions 3, 9, and 10; several *Sharp-tailed Sparrow* in Region 2; and *Lark Sparrow* in Regions 2 and 10. Among the blackbirds, the highlights included a Yellow-headed Blackbird in Region 3; a *Brewer's Blackbird* in Region 10; a "*Bullock's*" *Northern Oriole* in Region 9 and "Baltimore" Northern Oriole both late in Region 9 and also setting the fourth statistically significantly late average departure date in the fall departure dates table.

This Fall was great for rarities in most Regions. Among the best of those not noted above are *Arctic Tern* in Region 2; "Eurasian" Teal, Glossy Ibis, and White-eyed Vireo in Region 5; *Northern Wheatear* in

Regions 6, 8, and 10; *Gyr Falcon* and *Great Gray Owl* in Region 7; *Ross's Goose* in Region 8; Tufted Duck in Regions 9 and 10; and Manx Shearwater, *American White* and *Brown Pelicans*, *Spotted Redshank*, *Long-tailed Jaeger*, *Bridled Tern*, and Blue Grosbeak in Region 10. Many of these would have rated trophies for the season in past years, but there is more to come! I must leave the choice of B.O.T.S. to you. Is it the State's first *Marbled Murrelet* in Region 6, or any or all of the *Rufous Hummingbird* in Regions 9 and 10?

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

REPORTING DEADLINES

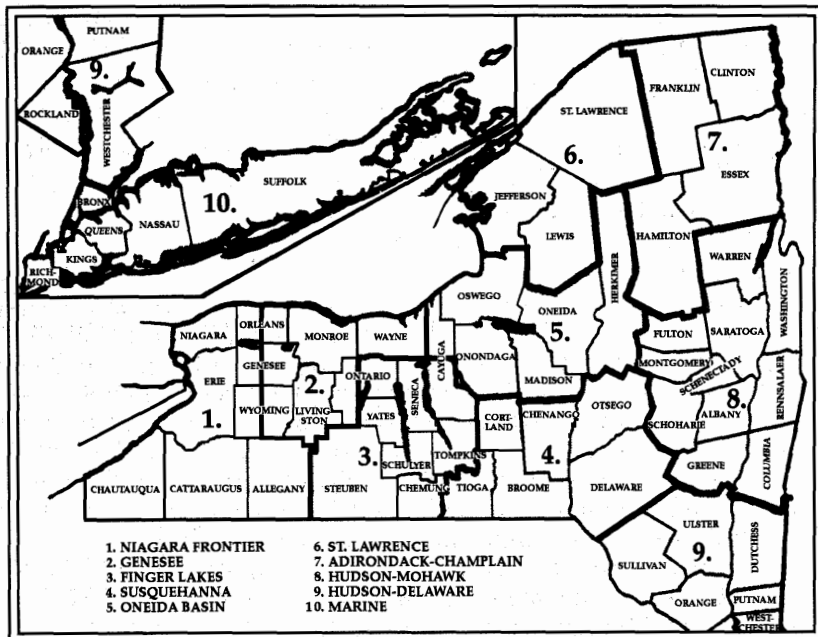
Winter Season: December, January, February
Deadline is 7 March

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

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

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

REPORTING REGIONS



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

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

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

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

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

WILLIAM C. D'ANNA

The fall of 1993 was the coolest in 17 years according to National Weather Service data for Buffalo. September was both cool, at an average of 59.4°F, and wet, with 5.5 inches of precipitation although over 3 inches of the rain fell 26 to 28 Sep in a lake enhanced storm. These totals marked departures of 2.5° below and 2.04 inches above the norms, respectively. Very unusual were two tornadoes that touched down during the month, one causing two deaths in Batavia on 3 Sep and another causing minimal damage on Grand Island on 23 Sep. October continued cool and wet with a mean temperature of 49.2°F, 1.9° below normal, and 3.69 inches of precipitation, 0.6 inches above normal. Several days with strong southwesterly winds produced relatively few notable bird sightings at the eastern end of Lake Erie, even though the wind was strong enough to produce localized flooding along the shoreline on 21 Oct. Linda Holmes noted a small hawk flight over Sinking Ponds in ERIE on 27 Oct. Her tally of 48 raptors was mostly Red-tailed Hawk. Numbers of migrating raptors are seldom recorded in the fall in this Region. Three inches of snow fell on the last day of the month, an early date for that much. November's mean temperature was only 0.9° below normal at 39.6°F, and precipitation, at 3.58 inches, was a quarter inch below the norm. The month was consistently damp and cloudy, with precipitation falling on 23 days and only 29% of the possible sunshine, exactly normal here at the eastern end of Lake Erie. Five inches of snow fell, which is half of normal, but more fell in the snow belts south of Buffalo. Steve Eaton in CATT and Vivian Pitzrick in ALLE both noted excellent Red Oak and Apple crops. Steve added that Thornapple, Black Elderberry, Nannyberry, Gray Dogwood, and bottomland Black Cherry also had excellent years.

Data for the New York portion of the Buffalo Ornithological Society's 58th Annual October Count on 10 Oct was split out by Gerald Rising, no small effort. Nearly 76,000 birds of 146 species were tallied. Total individuals were down 35% from the average. Of the groups of birds that average at least 200 per count, the only group that did not decline was finches. Waterfowl, gulls, thrushes, and blackbirds had the greatest declines, ranging from 36% to 69%. Hawks, shorebirds, gulls, woodpeckers, tits, thrushes, warblers, sparrows and allies, and

blackbirds were the other major groups that declined. The native finches were up 2%. As Gerry has pointed out before, the count data are highly weather dependent, and the count day this year was a sharply colder one. Also, the comparison base is only four years and the averages could still change markedly. Nonetheless, it might be useful to look at species that had significant increases this year in spite of the weather and short database. The species which had at least 100 individuals recorded and a 25% increase were Double-crested Cormorant (up 91%), American Wigeon (30%), Red-tailed Hawk (64%), Common Moorhen (103 versus an average of only 4), Rock Dove (up 31%), Mourning Dove (25%), Black-capped Chickadee (40%), Field Sparrow (68%), and House Finch (36%).

There were a few good days of warbler migration. Gerry Rising noted good movements in Williamsville Glen, ERIE, on 17 and 27 Sep while Betsy Potter enjoyed birding Goat Island on 1 Sep and this writer found Fort Niagara SP productive on 12 Sep. Due to an abundance of stray cats, Elizabeth Brooks had to cut back on the number of nets used at her ALLE banding station this season. She still managed to ring 544 birds of 66 species at an average of 26.5 birds per 100 net hours, the highest rate since 1982. Her most interesting bird was a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, at least eleven years old, which she first banded in 1983.

There was a good Black-capped Chickadee flight. Birders hoped that the good migration of Red-breasted Nuthatch this fall would foretell the long awaited arrival of winter finches. I do not know how this notion came about but this season it had some degree of accuracy. By season's end good numbers of Evening Grosbeak and Common Redpoll were in the Region, with lesser numbers of Pine Siskin, and a scattering of Pine Grosbeak and both crossbills. Finally, there was a belated report of a juvenile White-winged Crossbill from a Hamburg feeding station on 5-6 Aug.

Unprecedented numbers of Red-throated Loon were seen migrating west on Lake Ontario during November. Counts of 227 and 181 on 11 and 14 Nov off of eastern NIAG and western ORLE surpass the previous high of 125 for the Region. The old high count was made in the fifties, implying that significant flights rarely occur here and that there has not been one in a very long time. Observations from Region 2, however, suggest otherwise. That Region occasionally hosts numbers that greatly eclipse these totals on Lake Ontario. Red-throated Loon off Somerset and Yates were flying at the limit of identifiability, much further out

than Common Loon, and it may be that the shoreline orientation which funnels raptors east over Braddock Bay in Region 2 also tends to concentrate loons flying west past that Region's preferred lookouts. It also is interesting that the maximum count in Region 5, includes the southeastern corner of Lake Ontario, is only 16. But why are Red-throated Loon heading west? They winter on both coasts of North America are are rare on the Great Lakes and inland.

Tom Harper of Darien had the great fortune of being able to study diurnal hunting by Great Horned Owl at his backyard pond. He first noticed an owl flying away from the pond with a muskrat in its talons. The next morning his wife and son noticed a young Great Horned Owl eating a muskrat on the dike. Two days later Tom watched an adult owl capture a muskrat in shallow water and struggle to carry it onto the dike. A few minutes later a Red Fox came out of the woods and proceeded down the dike toward the owl. After a ten second stare down, the fox made a wide circle and went on its way. The following day Tom saw a young owl on his bird feeder. Checking every five to ten minutes he eventually saw the owl with a muskrat on the bird feeder. Four kills in five days! Although Tom saw the owls a few more times, he found no evidence of muskrats and figures that the owls may have cleaned out the entire family group.

Paul Benham tells of an interesting encounter with a Ruffed Grouse while skiing in the T Concord, ERIE. A grouse flew past Paul and his party to alight nearby. They approached slowly as the bird "muttered to itself." After a few minutes the grouse took raisins from the snow at their feet, and finally from the hand!

Rarities this fall included Kentucky Warbler, Eared Grebe, and unprecedented numbers of Bohemian Waxwings. It was a very poor year for the Bonaparte's Gull migration on the Niagara River. Even the strong winds from Lake Erie failed to push significant numbers to Buffalo. Still, Parasitic Jaeger, a single Franklin's Gull, Little Gull, Sabine's Gull, and Black-legged Kittiwake were found at the Peace Bridge. Either there was a slight die-off of Carolina Wren last winter or observers consider it too frequent to mention.

Contributors: Mallery & Mary Adams, Becky Albaugh, Shawn Allen, Robert Andrie, Tim Baird, Margaret Barnett, Carmon Becker, Gordon Bellerby, Paul Benham, Robert Brock, William Broderick, Elizabeth Brooks, Billie Brown, Lee Brown, Lois Buck, Chris Budniewski, Ray Budniewski, William Burch, Sandy Burton, Al Cala, Bruce Chilton,

Richard Collins, David Cooney, David Cooper, Wilma Csont, Roger Daniel, Taddy Dann, Willie D'Anna, Michael Davis, Leonard DeFrancisco, Steven Eaton, Alice Evans, Brett Ewald, Ralph Ewald, Paul Farver, Michael Galas, Tom Greg, James Gregory, Jack Gulvin, Darwin Gustavson, Gary Halicki, Tom Harper, Barbara Henderson, Paul Hess, Linda Holmes, Matthew Hotchkill, Eileen & Robert Hull, Alec Humann, Hans Kunze, David & Marty Junkin, Robert & Lucille Leonard, Margaret Leyonmark, Walt Listman, John Luensman, Tom Madison, Herb Massey, Dale Maynard, Henry Mayo, Ollie Mayo, Alice McKale, Bob McNinch, Mike Morgante, Judy Mosher, Terry Mosher, Catherine Mueller, David Nawrocki, Rev & Barb Newton, Dan Nicholson, Harley Northrup, Patrick O'Donnell, Katherine Palmer, Dave Peterson, Michael Pitzrick, Raymond Pitzrick, Vivian Pitzrick, Larry Pline, Betsy Potter, Frances Rew, Joseph & Susan Ribaud, Gerald Rising, Donald Roberson, Art Rosche, Olga Rosche, Mae Ruhl, Eleanor Sanctuary, Gordon Sanctuary, Mary Saville, Arthur Schaffner, Ellen Schopp, Bert Schweigert, William Seleen, Joyce & Milt Shelgren, Lillian Simons, David & Debra Suggs, Robert Sundell, Joe Thill, John Thill, William Watson, Margaret Woolley, Peter Yoerg

Abbreviations: BOSOC - Buffalo Ornithological Society October Count, 10 Oct; EA - East Aurora; INWR - Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; NF - Niagara Falls; NPP - Niagara Power Project on Niagara River, Town of Lewiston; NR - Niagara River.

Fall reports: **Red-throated Loon:** *intro*. **Horned Grebe:** arr 18 BOSOC. **Eared Grebe:** one T Yates 30 Oct (WD!), first ORLE record. **Double-crested Cormorant:** max 834 NF 2-29 Sep (WW), about the same as last year; *intro*. **Am. Bittern:** last T Machias 16 Oct (BS). **Great Egret:** three-four T Machias 4-19 Sep (BS), very uncommon away from INWR; max 19 INWR 4-27 Sep. **Tundra Swan:** arr T Yorkshire 23 Oct (BS), max 275 Mayville (RS). **Mute Swan:** T Newfane 7 Nov (PY, BH), only report. **Snow Goose:** arr white morph T N Collins 26 Oct (LH). **Brant:** 30 off Lakeside Beach SP 27 Oct (TH); one off Four Mile Creek SP 21 Nov (WD), only reports. **Green-winged Teal:** max 63 Burgeson Wildlife Sanctuary 13 Oct (RS). **Blue-winged Teal:** last three T Dayton 24 Oct (BS). **N. Shoveler:** max 36 INWR 2 Nov (WW). **Am. Wigeon:** 200 INWR 6 Sep (LH, MSa), many so early; *intro*. **Canvasback:** arr 180+ NF 18 Oct (WD, BP). **Redhead:** up to 27 at INWR all season are considered releases; arr BOSOC. **Ring-necked Duck:** arr TWMA 18 Sep; four INWR 18 Sep; one TNP 26 Sep, early. **Greater Scaup:** arr four Buckhorn I SP 6

Oct (WW). **Lesser Scaup**: arr eight Lewiston Res 18 Sep (WD). **King Eider**: Pt Breeze ORLE 26 Nov (WL), rare away from NR. **Oldsquaw**: arr two BOSOC. **Black Scoter**: arr T Somerset 24 Oct. **Surf Scoter**: arr two BIP 2 Oct (BC). **White-winged Scoter**: arr 10 T Wilson 25 Sep (WD), max 348 T Somerset 11 Nov (WD,BP). **Com. Goldeneye**: arr two T Hamburg 21 Oct (RA). **Bufflehead**: arr INWR 17 Oct (D&DS); max 310 T Carlton 30 Oct (WD). **Hooded Merganser**: max 350 Mayville 19 Nov (RS). **Ruddy Duck**: one Batavia 10 Sep (WL) unusually early or possible breeding location.

Bald Eagle: only reports involved three imm, one ad along the Allegheny R CATT (BS). **Red-tailed Hawk**: *intro*. **Rough-legged Hawk**: arr four BOSOC. **Merlin**: one BOSOC; Barcelona Harbor 11 Oct (RS); EA 19 Oct (LH), continues to do well. **Peregrine Falcon**: imm T Newfane 26 Sep (WD!, BP), two ad Buffalo 11 Nov (LH!). **Sora**: last Buckhorn ISP 2 Oct (WD, PO). **Com. Moorhen**: last Batavia 19 Oct (WL), *intro*. **Am. Golden-Plover**: last T Yates 20 Nov (MM!), latest in 34 years. **Greater Yellowlegs**: last T Cheektowaga 13 Nov (PB). **Lesser Yellowlegs**: last two INWR 2 Nov (WW). **Red Knot**: two BOSOC, only report. **Purple Sandpiper**: arr NF 21 Nov (RB); Pt Breeze 22 Nov (WL), rare away from NF. **Dunlin**: arr T Ellery 29 Sep (RS). **Red-necked Phalarope**: Batavia 10 Sep (WL); NF 30 Sep (GR). **Red Phalarope**: Barcelona Harbor 11 Sep (RS, HN), rare and early. **Parasitic Jaeger**: singles T Hamburg (RA) and Buffalo (WD) 28 Sep on strong southwesterly winds. **Franklin's Gull**: only report Buffalo 5-29 Sep (GB), less frequent than formerly. **Little Gull**: arr two NF 29 Sep (GB). **Bonaparte's Gull**: max only 6300 NR 9 Nov (GB). **Herring Gull**: low numbers on the NR. **Iceland Gull**: arr NPP 30 Oct (GB). **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: arr NPP 16 Nov (GB). **Glaucous Gull**: arr Fort Niagara SP 7 Nov (WD). **Great Black-backed Gull**: Lime L CATT 13 Nov (BS), unusual inland. **Black-legged Kittiwake**: Buffalo 3, 4 Nov (MM!, GB), only report. **Sabine's Gull**: two NF 28-29 Sep (WD, GB); Bird I Pier 3 Oct (BC) and 3 Nov (PH); NPP 7 Nov (BC), a good season. **Forster's Tern**: one T Ellery 3, 8 Sep (RS), rare inland; only other Buffalo 30 Sep (GR).

Rock Dove: *intro*. **Mourning Dove**: *intro*. **Snowy Owl**: arr T Pomfret 16 Nov (RB). **Short-eared Owl**: three or four T Yates 14 Nov (PY, BH), only report. **N. Saw-whet Owl**: WTSP 26 Oct (BP), only report. **Com. Nighthawk**: last five Buffalo 7 Oct (PH, ESc). **Red-headed Woodpecker**: last Fort Niagara SP 14 Nov (WBr), a former wintering location.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Golden Hill State Forest 4 Sep (BS); T Franklinville 6 Sep (BS). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** FNSP 18 Sep (WD, BP), only report. **Empidonax species:** one-two Canadaway Creek WMA 11 Oct (PY!, BH), late; Traill's T Alfred 4 Sep (EB), rarely reported into Sep; suspected Acadian EA 16-18 Nov (LH!, WD!), extremely late. **E. Phoebe:** GHSP 14 Nov (TH!, PY!), second latest ever. **Horned Lark:** 79 T Conewango 31 Oct (BS), good number away from the lake plains. **Purple Martin:** last four Buffalo 3 Oct (PB). **Tufted Titmouse:** max 41 BOSOC, doing quite well. **Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 87 BOSOC, a good migration. **House Wren:** Buckhorn I SP 14 Nov (WW!), record late. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr FNSP 6 Sep (BP, WD!), early. **E. Bluebird:** fewer reports than usual. **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr FNSP 12 Sep (WW). **Swainson's Thrush:** arr TNP 2 Sep (DR). **Hermit Thrush:** arr two FNSP 25 Sep (DR). **Am. Pipit:** arr 10 T Porter 18 Sep (WD, BP). **Bohemian Waxwing:** record max 101 in three locations T Somerset 11-28 Nov (WD!); one Allegany SP (BS!, TB) 26 Nov, first CATT record. **N. Shrike:** arr T Yates 14 Nov (TH).

Philadelphia Vireo: arr TNP 2 Sep (WW); total six, about average. **Orange-crowned Warbler:** Goat I 1 Sep (BP!), early; only other TNP 26 Sep (WW). **Cape May Warbler:** arr two T Franklinville 1 Sep (LH). **Pine Warbler:** arr Goat I 13 Sep (DR); GHSP 14 Nov (BP, DCr, WD!), late. **Prairie Warbler:** one banded T Alfred 2 Sep (EB). **Palm Warbler:** arr T Ellery 8 Sep (RS). **Kentucky Warbler:** FNSP 12 Sep (WD!, BP), rarer in fall than spring. **Mourning Warbler:** last INWR (WW) and Goat I (DR) 18 Sep. **Hooded Warbler:** last window casualty Carrollton Twp 14 Sep (SE).

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr six T Tonawanda 26 Oct (WW). **Chipping Sparrow:** last Buffalo 5 Nov (PY). **Field Sparrow:** last Whirlpool SP 13 Nov (BC); *intro*. **Vesper Sparrow:** last T Napoli 31 Oct (BS). **Savannah Sparrow:** last two T Dayton 24 Oct (BS). **Fox Sparrow:** arr BOSOC, last two T Tonawanda 12 Nov (PH). **Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr T Alfred 16 Sep (EB). **White-throated Sparrow:** arr Four Mile Creek SP 12 Sep (WD). **White-crowned Sparrow:** arr TNP 24 Sep (RA, JGr). **Lapland Longspur:** arr two BOSOC; one T Allegany 23 Oct (BS), rare away from the lake plains. **Snow Bunting:** arr 70 T Yates 24 Oct (WD). **Rusty Blackbird:** arr EA 24 Sep (LH). **Pine Grosbeak:** arr WTSP 9 Nov (BP); max 11 T Porter 21-28 Nov (WD). **House Finch:** *intro*. **Red Crossbill:** Golden Hill SP 26 Nov (BC), only report. **White-winged Crossbill:** T Alfred 5 Nov (EB), only report; *intro* (RL!, ph, LL, MW, ML). **Com. Redpoll:** arr 50 T Carlton 3 Nov (WL); several reports. **Pine Siskin:** arr 16 BOSOC. **Evening Grosbeak:** arr EA 7 Oct (LH); many reports in Oct and Nov.

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REGION 2 - GENESEE

KEVIN C. GRIFFITH

The fall season was wet and cool. Even though conditions were cooler and slightly wetter than normal, they didn't put a damper on birding, and the fall season was quite good.

September's average temperature was barely below normal at 59°F. Precipitation was 1.4 inches above normal at 4.37 inches. September had a well above normal species count. All families were well represented but numbers of some passerines seemed rather low. A Red-necked Grebe in Alternate plumage at Hamlin Beach on 25 Sep was unusual not only to the plumage but also the very early date. Other sightings from Hamlin Beach included Sabine's Gull. The Little Blue Heron at Braddock Bay was also good. Shorebird habitat was scarce and their numbers were low. A *Fish Crow* continued a trend of scattered sightings in recent years.

October's average temperature was 48°F, just about 3° below normal. Precipitation was 3.21 inches, about 3/4 inch above average. October was characterized as "good" by many observers. The lake watch at Hamlin Beach was covered daily, and the results were indicative of the coverage and of good weather patterns. There were many days with good flights of loons, grebes and waterfowl. Two more Alternate plumage Red-necked Grebe were reported, one at Hamlin on 10 Oct by Carolyn Cass and Bill Symonds and one in Webster on 30 Oct by Don & Donna Traver. Diving ducks were well reported with respectable numbers of Canvasback and Redhead, two species that have not been very numerous in recent Years. Surf and Black Scoters, while not reported in high numbers, were seen regularly. Some dabbling ducks, like Northern Pintail, seemed scarce once again. Shorebird habitat improved as precipitation was up and the lake level went down. There were a number of species with good peak counts, including Hudsonian Godwit and Dunlin. Two Long-billed Dowitcher were reported. American Golden-Plover and Short-billed Dowitcher seemed scarce, and White-rumped Sandpiper was scattered. Other highlights for the month included a Snowy Egret, another Sabine's Gull, an *Arctic Tern*, a *Fish Crow* and cooperative *Sharp-tailed Sparrow*.

The mean temperature in November was 39°F, which was 1.5° below normal. Precipitation was 0.35 inch above normal at 3.27 inches. While being somewhat gloomy, November was still ornithologically eventful.

Most noteworthy was the unprecedented Red-throated Loon flight. Flights of 1201 and 1413 were counted on 10 and 16 Nov, respectively. These totals were far above any recent or historical trend. Also notable was the good flight of winter finches. Common Redpoll was very numerous, and Pine Grosbeak was found at several locations. A good count of Bohemian Waxwing was exceptional also. Other highlights for the month included *Northern Gannet*, a Harlequin Duck, Common Raven, and a very cooperative *Lark Sparrow*.

Generally speaking numbers of birds were only a hint of what observers remember. While there were some good sightings and interesting reports, there continues to be a number of trouble spots. Pied-billed Grebe was once again poorly reported. Dabbling ducks, especially American Wigeon, were scarce. Numbers of some of the diving ducks like Oldsquaw and scoters were down. Raptor counts were not good in general. Bald Eagle and Osprey reports were fewer than in recent years, and very few Rough-legged Hawk were reported. Ring-necked Pheasant continued scarce. Gulls and tern reports were generally lackluster, and reports of the regular species seemed a bit off. Swallow numbers were low with peak counts of Tree and Bank Swallow off slightly from recent years. Yellow-throated Vireo was not reported, and warblers in general continued to be scarce. Scarlet Tanager and Rose-breasted Grosbeak numbers were down and they seemed to depart early. White-throated and White-crowned Sparrow counts were not up to expectation, the best reports a surge at Manitou 5-8 Oct. Snow Bunting arrived with low counts only.

Contributors: Richard Ashworth, Elizabeth Brooks, Carolyn Cass, Belma Cerosaletti, Gary Chapin, Julie Claffey, Tomma Lisa Clark, Anne Clarridge, Jerry Czech, Mike Davids, Frank & Bob Dobson, Robert Dows, Brett Ewald, John Foster, Cindy Garfield, Roy Grau, Kevin Griffith & Colleen Dox-Griffith, Lucretia Grosshaus, Diane Henderson, Harriet Hamilton, Tom Hampson, Greg Hartenstein, Herb & Polly Keating, Gary Klue, John Lehr, Gerhardt Leubner, Bob Marcotte, Terry & Robbie Mason, Robert McKinney, Dave Miller, Nancy Miller, Neil & Laura Moon, Connie Nitsch, Richard O'Hara, Tom Painting, Bill & Betty Powell, Martha Reinhardt, Eldon Remy, Ray Robinson, Pat Seager, Dominic Sherony, Jeanne Skelly, Sharon Skelly, Tom & Pat Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Cathy & Kristin Spahn, William Symonds, Paul Spindler, Mike Tetlow, Don & Donna Traver, and Paul & Mary Jean Weld.

Abbreviations: BB - Braddock Bay; CL - Conesus Lake; DEP - Durand Eastman Park, Rochester; HBSP - Hamlin Beach State Park; HP - Hogan Point; IB - Irondequoit Bay; RPd - Round Pond; WL - west lakeshore (Lake Ontario shore west of Rochester).

Fall reports: **Red-throated Loon:** arr HBSP 9 Oct; *intro.* **Com. Loon:** max 720 HBSP 21 Oct. **Horned Grebe:** arr two HBSP 25 Sep; max 200+ WL 30 Oct, good total. **Red-necked Grebe:** *intro.* **N. Gannet:** juv HBSP 22 Nov (BM, ER, DT!). **Double-crested Cormorant:** max 150 WL 18 Sep. **Am. Bittern:** last BB 7 Oct. **Green Heron:** last RPd 23 Oct. **Snowy Egret:** one HBSP 22 Oct (WS). **Little Blue Heron:** one BB 25 Sep (RS!, RO'H), scarce in recent years. **Tundra Swan:** max 70 CL 27 Nov. **Snow Goose:** max 18 CL 27 Nov. **Brant:** arr 28 HBSP 29 Sep; max 1000+ HBSP 31 Oct. **Greater Scaup:** arr six HBSP 21 Sep; max 4500 HBSP 18 Nov. **Harlequin Duck:** female HBSP 27-28 Oct (BM, BE), one HBSP 1 Nov (BE, WS). **Oldsquaw:** arr three HBSP 21 Sep. **Black Scoter:** arr HBSP 11 Sep; max 100 HBSP 1 Nov. **Surf Scoter:** arr ten HBSP 30 Sep. **Hooded Merganser:** max 100+ CL 4 Nov. **Ruddy Duck:** two BB 11 Nov, poor total this fall.

Bald Eagle: imm Ellison P 9 Nov, unusual location. **N. Goshawk:** one Manitou 29 Sep; one Bristol Springs 24 Sep. **Rough-legged Hawk:** arr HBSP 26 Oct. **Peregrine Falcon:** four reports in Sep. **Merlin:** four reports Oct, one report Nov. **Virginia Rail:** last WL 2 Oct. **Whimbrel:** one HBSP 2, 5, 16 Sep. **Hudsonian Godwit:** five-17 IB 6-31 Oct. **Red Knot:** last Greece 23 Oct. **W. Sandpiper:** last BB 11 Nov. **White-rumped Sandpiper:** last BB 11 Nov. **Purple Sandpiper:** arr singles BB, Greece 22 Oct, one IB 22-23 Nov, one HBSP 22 Nov, more than usual. **Dunlin:** arr 12 WL 20 Sep, early; last three Salmon Creek 19 Nov. **Stilt Sandpiper:** last two IB 10 Oct. **Long-billed Dowitcher:** one IB 7-10 Oct (DS), one Greece 9 Oct (KG, CD-G). **Red Phalarope:** one-two HBSP 23-28 Oct (WS), one-two IB 7-10 Nov (BM). **Pomarine Jaeger:** one HBSP 10 Nov (BE, CC, WS!), only report. **Parasitic Jaeger:** arr two HBSP 11 Sep (CC), singles HBSP 5, 13, 23 Oct, and 24 Nov (BE). **Little Gull:** one RPd 26 Nov (BM, RO'H, PW), only report. **Sabine's Gull:** juv HBSP 11 Sep (CC, MD, SSk, RS!); ad HBSP 14 Oct (WS). **Arctic Tern:** one on the beach HBSP 14 Oct (CC, WS!).

Snowy Owl: eight individuals Nov. **Long-eared Owl:** one Webster 1, 12 Sep (D&DT), unusual date and location. **Short-eared Owl:** arr two HBSP 23 Oct. **Com. Nighthawk:** max 150 Rochester 2 Sep; last HBSP 15 Oct. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** one Irondequoit 26 Nov (GL), presumably one that has returned there in recent winters.

Alder Flycatcher: last Port Bay 5 Sep. **Purple Martin:** last BB 23 Sep. **N. Rough-winged Swallow:** last Greece 15 Oct. **Bank Swallow:** last ten Port Bay 5 Sep. **Fish Crow:** one T Greece 26 Sep, 8 Oct (KG!). **Com. Raven:** Cumming Nature Center near Naples 1-3 Nov (JC). **Winter Wren:** last two Ellison P 9 Nov. **Sedge Wren:** two HP 3 Oct (R&SS), only report. **Marsh Wren:** last IB 7 Nov. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr three Greece 19 Sep; last DEP 7 Nov. **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** last DEP 16 Oct. **Hermit Thrush:** max 20 Webster 30 Oct, good total. **Brown Thrasher:** max six Webster 17 Sep (CG), good total. **Gray Catbird:** max 25 Webster 17 Sep, good total. **Bohemian Waxwing:** 42 HBSP 9 Nov (MD). **N. Shrike:** arr Webster 7 Nov.

N. Parula: last BB 4 Nov (MD), very late. **Yellow-rumped Warbler:** last BB 16 Nov. **Pine Warbler:** one Manitou 24 Nov (RO'H), quite late. **Palm Warbler:** last Beatty Pt 11 Oct. **Orange-crowned Warbler:** two Webster 19 Sep (R&SS), only report. **Connecticut Warbler:** one Manitou 15 Sep (RO'H). **Mourning Warbler:** last Webster 15 Sep. **Yellow-breasted Chat:** one Manitou 7 Oct (EB), only report.

Field Sparrow: last WL 15 Nov. **Lark Sparrow:** one HBSP 12-15 Nov (MD, mob, ph,!). **Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** one Hogan Pt 3-10 Oct (MD, RS!); one HBSP 17 Oct (MD). **Fox Sparrow:** arr Irondequoit 29 Sep; last Ellison P 9 Nov. **Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr Greece 16 Sep. **White-crowned Sparrow:** arr Greece 16 Sep; last Manitou 18 Nov. **Lapland Longspur:** max 100+ H 17 Oct. **Snow Bunting:** arr three IB 19 Oct. **Rusty Blackbird:** arr Hamlin 9 Sep; last Greece 21 Nov. **Pine Grosbeak:** max 26 HBSP 9-30 Nov. **Red Crossbill:** two DEP 30 Oct. **White-winged Crossbill:** two Manitou 25 Oct (EB), only report. **Com. Redpoll:** *intro.* **Pine Siskin:** arr two Hamlin, 15 Greece 29 Sep. **Evening Grosbeak:** max 100+ Webster 20 Oct.

61 Grandview Lane, Rochester, New York 14612

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

C. R. SMITH AND C. K. MELIN

For Region 3, the month of September brought normal to near normal temperatures and precipitation. Significant cold fronts passed through the Region on 3, 9, 15, and 23 Sep, with associated movements of migratory birds ahead of these fronts. The first frost in the Region occurred on 20 Sep, signaling the return of crisp fall weather. October

was characterized by both temperature and precipitation that were below average. Strong cold fronts crossed the region on 9 and 24 Oct, and the first hint of real winter weather appeared early, with 1 to 15 inches of snow in some parts of the region on 30 and 31 Oct. November produced temperatures 1 to 2°F cooler than average and near normal precipitation levels for the month. The only significant cold front crossed the region on 11 Nov, signaling the end of significant fall migration.

If more than 70 pages of handwritten and typed notes from contributors are any indication, it was a remarkable fall season. Migrations of waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds, and land birds were well monitored throughout the season and the Region at a variety of localities. Reports from multiple independent observers covered the shorebird migration at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge in substantial detail. Frequent visits to the same locality by the same observer, such as visits to Myers Point on Cayuga Lake by Karl David, provided a focused view of migration.

In addition to the usual, more or less random fall birding activities, many observers continued to add a project oriented flavor to their activities. John and Sue Gregoire banded fall migrants at Kestrel Haven Farm, where they have been banding birds during migration since 1986. During a season of banding that spanned mid July to mid November, they banded 1986 individual birds representing 90 species in 387 hours of effort. Both species diversity and total numbers of birds netted at Kestrel Haven Farm were higher than in previous years. This was in marked contrast to the comment from one observer that the season was a "terrible fall for vireos and warblers," while another observer reported "healthy numbers of less common migrants (Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, Connecticut Warbler, Northern Parula, Lincoln's Sparrow)." Based on their banding activities, John and Sue Gregoire reported that several migrating song birds, including many neotropical migrants (e.g. Nashville Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager) were netted in significantly high numbers this fall. Such apparent contradictions raise the issue of observer bias in sampling intensity and effort, and the potentially erroneous impressions of bird movements and numbers that can result from our own changing patterns of observation from year to year. Constant effort banding stations, like those managed by the Gregoires, can give us a clearer impression of both the magnitude and timing of migration.

Another organized fall migration monitoring project was initiated on Cayuga Lake. Coordinated by Bill Evans and Bob Meade, observers monitored flights of Common Loon from Taughannock Falls State Park on the west shore of Cayuga Lake for a seven week period from 10 October through 27 Nov. A total count of 8374 migrating Common Loons was recorded at the Cayuga Lake Loon Watch, with a peak count of 1224 on 2 Nov. A total of 15 Red-throated Loon was recorded during the same period as well.

Observations of migrating raptors also continued from the Mt. Pleasant Observatory near Ithaca, coordinated by Bernie Guirey. During September, October, and November, a total of 3047 migrating raptors was counted, representing 16 species including *Black Vulture* and Golden Eagle. A total of 141 hours were spent counting migrating raptors. Broad-winged Hawk and Red-tailed Hawk made up 63% of the total counted.

Additional noteworthy observations for the period include Eurasian Wigeon, **Common Eider**, **King Eider**, Hudsonian Godwit, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Connecticut Warbler, **Clay-colored Sparrow**, and **Yellow-headed Blackbird**. It was a good season for "northern invaders," with reports of **Bohemian Waxwing**, Pine Grosbeak, White-winged Crossbill, Common Redpoll (numerous reports from feeders throughout the Region), **Hoary Redpoll**, and Pine Siskin.

This is our last Region 3 report. We want to thank all of the contributors who have made these reports possible. The new Region 3 Editor is: Dr. Steven Kelling, 732 Old 76 Road, Berkshire, New York 13736.

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Abbreviations: AF - Arnot Forest; BF - Big Flats; CH - Connecticut Hill Wildlife Management Area; CLLW - Cayuga L loon watch, Taughannock Falls SP, west shore of Cayuga L, 10 Oct through 27 Nov; FLNF - Finger Lakes National Forest; KHF - Kestrel Haven Farm (banding station of John and Sue Gregoire); MNWR - Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; MtP - Mount Pleasant hawk watch, Tomp; MPt - Myers Point (east shore of Cayuga L); QCM - Queen Catharine Marsh (south end of Seneca L); StP - Stewart Park (south end of Cayuga L); SWS - Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary; WG - Watkins Glen.

Fall reports: **Red-throated Loon:** *intro*; two MtP 29 Nov. **Com. Loon:** *intro*. **Red-necked Grebe:** one Taughannock Falls SP 28 Oct. **Double-crested Cormorant:** max 316 migrating over MtP 22 Sep. **Am. Bittern:** singles MNWR 12 and 17 Sep, 23 Nov. **Great Egret:** max 22 MNWR 17 Sep, two there 20 Nov, last there 5 Dec. **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** one MNWR 29 Sep. **Tundra Swan:** one MNWR 23 Oct, four MNWR 31 Oct; imm Elmira 14-17 Nov. **Snow Goose:** 100 total CLLW. **Brant:** 220 Seneca L 31 Oct, 28 StP 19 Oct, total of 498 CLLW. **Wood Duck:** 13 total CLLW. **Green-winged Teal:** 20 total CLLW. **N. Pintail:** 30 total CLLW. **N. Shoveler:** 16 total CLLW. **Gadwall:** six total CLLW. **Am. Wigeon:** 17 total CLLW. **Eurasian Wigeon:** male MNWR 26 Sep-13 Oct. **Redhead:** 18 total CLLW. **Ring-necked Duck:** 11 total CLLW. **Greater Scaup:** 33 total CLLW. **Lesser Scaup:** six total CLLW. **Com. Eider:** female MNWR 23 Nov, very rare inland (*fide* N. Brinkley, no other details). **King Eider:** flock of three ad males, three imm males, two females near Ithaca 26 Oct (NB). **Oldsquaw:** 15 total CLLW. **Black Scoter:** 157 total CLLW. **Surf Scoter:** seven total CLLW. **White-winged Scoter:** nine total CLLW. **Com. Goldeneye:** 47 total CLLW. **Bufflehead:** 127 total CLLW. **Hooded Merganser:** 49 total CLLW. **Com. Merganser:** 83 total CLLW. **Red-breasted Merganser:** 20 total CLLW.

Black Vulture: one MtP 11 Oct (BG). **Turkey Vulture:** 363 total MtP. **Osprey:** 22 total MtP. **Bald Eagle:** four total MtP. **N. Harrier:** 153 total MtP. **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 204 total MtP. **Cooper's Hawk:** 39 total MtP. **N. Goshawk:** 16 total MtP. **Red-shouldered Hawk:** 87 total MtP. **Broad-winged Hawk:** flight of 1200 over Freeville 19 Sep; 782 total MtP, max 623 on 19 Sep. **Red-tailed Hawk:** 1134 total MtP, max 436 on 25 Oct. **Rough-legged Hawk:** seven total MtP. **Golden Eagle:** 11 total MtP. **Am. Kestrel:** 54 total MtP. **Merlin:** five total MtP. **Peregrine Falcon:** four total MtP. **Wild Turkey:** flocks of 25 to 50 birds widespread. **Sora:** one MNWR 6, 12 Sep. **Com. Moorhen:** last MNWR 8 Oct. **Black-bellied Plover:** max 15 MNWR 3 Oct, four MNWR 13 Oct. **Am. Golden-Plover:** 11 WG 13 Sep-7 Oct, two MNWR 19 Sep, three MNWR 3 Oct. **Semipalmated Plover:** 12 MNWR 6 Oct. **Killdeer:** max 100+ King Ferry 9 Sep. **Greater Yellowlegs:** two BF 18 Sep, 12 MNWR 3 Oct, one Elmira 7 Oct, one MtP 15 Oct, two QCM 16 Oct. **Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 15 MNWR 6 Sep.

Solitary Sandpiper: singles MPt 12 Sep, BF 18 Sep and 2 Oct. **Spotted Sandpiper:** singles MPt 30 Sep, BF 2 Oct. **Hudsonian Godwit:** one MNWR 19 Sep, eight MNWR 13-28 Oct. **Sanderling:** two MPt 2 Sep, one MNWR 17 Sep, two MPt 22 Sep, one MPt 11 Nov. **Least Sandpiper:** max 44 MNWR 7 Sep. **W. Sandpiper:** two MNWR 24 Sep, record max 39 MNWR 13 Oct. **Baird's Sandpiper:** two MNWR 29 Sep. **White-rumped Sandpiper:** five MNWR 6 Sep, five MNWR 9 Oct, one MNWR 13 Oct. **Pectoral Sandpiper:** 12 MNWR 17 Sep, one BF 18 Sep and 2 Oct, six MNWR 29 Sep, max 25 MNWR 3 Oct. **Stilt Sandpiper:** six MNWR 2 Sep, three MNWR 17 Sep. **Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** one MNWR 6 Sep. **Dunlin:** 12 MNWR 29 Sep, nine MNWR 9 Oct; two MPt 21 Oct, one MPt 11 Nov. **Short-billed Dowitcher:** 17 MNWR 6 Sep, eight MNWR 17 Sep. **Long-billed Dowitcher:** four MNWR 17 Sep, two MNWR 30 Oct. **Com. Snipe:** six MNWR 17 Sep, one QCM 4 Oct. **Red-necked Phalarope:** two MNWR 2 Sep, three MNWR 19 Sep. **Bonaparte's Gull:** three Cayuga L 30 Oct, one MPt 15 Nov. **Caspian Tern:** six MPt 2 Sep; max ten WG 7 Sep; two Elmira 13 Sep, five Elmira 16 Sep; 1 MNWR 29 Sep.

E. Screech-Owl: one calling Caroline 16 Sep, one QCM 29 Oct, one calling WG 5 Nov. **Snowy Owl:** singles near Ithaca 11 Nov, Cornell Campus 19-23 Nov, Waterloo 28-29 Nov, Groton 2 Dec. **Long-eared Owl:** one Southport 19 Oct. **Com. Nighthawk:** one MNWR 2 Sep; max 20 Elmira 2 Sep; one StP 3 Sep; 15 Elmira 6 Sep; last Elmira 26 Sep. **Chimney Swift:** max 100 Elmira 22 Sep. **Red-headed Woodpecker:** one Newfield 11 Nov.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: one Aurora 13 Sep. **Blue Jay:** max 280 Ithaca 20 Sep. **Com. Raven:** established in sw Region, numerous reports from Elmira, FLNF, CH, and MtP, including 13 sightings from Chem from 15 Sep-15 Nov (DR). **Bohemian Waxwing:** flock of 11 MtP 7 Nov (NB, AF), one in flock of 600 Cedar Waxwing Cornell Campus 22 Nov; one Kashong Pt 25 Nov (FB), three Cornell Campus 29 Nov. **N. Shrike:** two MtP 23 Oct, one FLNF 18 Nov, one MNWR 21 Nov.

Philadelphia Vireo: one Aurora 8 Sep, five KHF 16 Sep. **Orange-crowned Warbler:** two banded KHF 30 Sep. **Palm Warbler:** 22 western form banded KHF 1 Sep-25 Oct, four yellow form banded KHF 22-25 Oct. **Worm-eating Warbler:** one Horseheads 18 Sep, seldom reported in fall. **Connecticut Warbler:** one KHF 5 Sep. **Hooded Warbler:** last two FLNF 16 Sep.

Scarlet Tanager: "an excellent year with eight times the norm banded and many more seen" KHF (J&SF). **Am. Tree Sparrow:** arr KHF 25 Oct. **Clay-colored Sparrow:** ad Baker Hill 11 Oct (NB). **Fox Sparrow:** one Geneva mid Oct, four FLNF 30 Oct, only reports. **Lincoln's Sparrow:** numerous singles mid Sep to mid Oct. **Lapland Longspur:** two WG 31 Oct, only report. **Snow Bunting:** max 30 MPt 30 Oct and 29 Nov. **Yellow-headed Blackbird:** imm Union Springs 27-28 Oct (AF). **Rusty Blackbird:** arr 24 Sep, four Union Springs 27-28 Oct, two SWS 22 Oct. **Pine Grosbeak:** two Ithaca 19 Nov and 29 Nov. **White-winged Crossbill:** one Ithaca feeder 21-28 Oct, one Ithaca 22 Oct; max 30 AF 6 Nov. **Com. Redpoll:** max 125 Southport 27 Nov. **Hoary Redpoll:** one with 75 Commons Horseheads 20 Nov (RC, DR). **Pine Siskin:** numerous reports of small flocks (15-20 birds) at feeders throughout the Region.

Addendum: *Clay-colored Sparrow:* one MPt 3 Oct 1992 (NB).

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

MARY DOBINSKY

Mother Nature decreed that Region 4 must wear a Halloween costume. Her choice, unfortunately, was a blanket of snow that continued to unroll from 30 Oct to 1 Nov. At Binghamton, the three day snowfall was 16.6 inches, an unprecedented amount so early in the season. The storm dumped less snow on other areas of the Region but more sleet and rain. Other than the big snow, the fall was cooler and wetter than normal but weather patterns were not distinctive. Temperatures averaged about 2°F below normal each month. The first frost hit 20 Sep. However, 9 Oct marked the season's killing frost and first snow. Precipitation for the period exceeded the average each month by about one-half inch. Still, the rains were not enough to make up for a very dry July and August. A drought alert in DELA and OTSE continued

through the season. Water levels in rivers and streams were very low in Sep and Oct but improved after the Halloween storm.

Such unusual water birds as Great Egret and Black-crowned Night-Heron found the water levels just right and stayed until late in the season. Little Blue Heron and Sandhill Crane were probably Regional firsts. The well-described immature *Little Blue Heron* was spotted by Jim Hotaling 30 Oct at Chenango Bridge in a small pond along the Chenango R. Rare in upstate New York and very late, the bird was observed in the open, both in and out of the water, at 8:15 AM and again at 2 PM. The immature *Sandhill Crane* was first sighted 12 Sep by Joe Sedlacek "feeding on insects in a large alfalfa field on the Susquehanna R. flats south of Windsor." It was verified by many observers before it left 15 Sep. Sighting of 14 duck species was excellent, although only a single bird was reported for five of them. Despite some good shoreline habitat, no uncommon shorebird species were reported nor were there many individuals of even the usual fall species. Did the dry summer affect their food?

Observers at the Franklin Mt. Hawk Watch celebrated their fifth season by beating or tying all but one of their previous fall migration records. The 1884 Red-tailed Hawk fell short of the 1990 record of 2249. Sighting of 139 Golden Eagle was a big achievement. Chris Vredenburg, compiler, assumes it set a new species record for eastern North American hawk watch sites. Last year Franklin Mt. tied the East's long-standing record of 123 Golden Eagles for a season. This year they shattered the old record. The big news for Broad-winged Hawk, however, was made at the new Riley Rd. hawk watch site at Cortland. A fantastic flight of 2297 Broad-wings passed the site Sunday, 19 Sep. All were seen in the morning from 9:15 to 10:30, according to Bill Toner, compiler. Timing is interesting, for on the same day and at about the same hours, peak flights for the species were also recorded at Franklin Mt. (486 hawks) and at the Ithaca hawk watch site.

Ruffed Grouse continued to be listed as "abundant" by J. Sedlacek, even in this cyclically poor year. "What's your secret?" said I. "Old apple orchards," said Joe. At Franklin Mt., observers reported bigger flights of Chimney Swift, Tree Swallow and Ruby-throated Hummingbird than in other years. However, migration for most thrushes, vireos and warblers was poor. A single Veery and only four Wood Thrush were recorded. From Binghamton, Steve Rice wrote, "I banded no thrushes; can only hope they moved out early." All possible

vireo species were at least reported. Warblers didn't fare as well. Missed were such commonly seen fall warblers as Yellow, Black-throated Blue (second time in 16 years), Blackburnian, Bay-breasted and Canada. Sparrows, except for the grassland species, had a good fall and lingered until the Halloween storm pushed them out. White-crowned Sparrow and Dark-eyed Junco were here in near record numbers. Other welcome happenings were the early arrivals and the good counts of winter finches.

The total of 162 species is about average for fall but low compared to the last six years. Rarities included Great Egret, *Little Blue Heron*, *Sandhill Crane* and Yellow-breasted Chat. Missed were Olive-sided and Great Crested Flycatchers, Indigo Bunting and Vesper Sparrow plus the warbler species listed above.

Abbreviations: FMHW - Franklin Mt Hawk Watch; OnRes - Oneonta Reservoir; OPM - Oneonta, Portlandville, Milford; NNM - North Norwich Marsh.

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Fall reports: **Com. Loon:** two flying FMHW 1 Oct, only report. **Pied-billed Grebe:** six widespread singles 25 Sep- 28 Oct, continued low count. **Horned Grebe:** only one BROO 25 Oct (HM, BB, FL, GK), often missed. **Double-crested Cormorant:** one Goodyear L often Sep, two other singles, fewer reports. **Am. Bittern:** one Mirror L Owego (C&JB), third in last four years, after only two in previous 11 years. **Great Blue Heron:** only five singles after mid Oct. **Great Egret:** max five BROO 10 Sep; singles CHEN 5-15 Sep and Goodyear L to 28 Sep, rare. **Green Heron:** five widespread Sep; last Norwich 9 Oct, late. **Little Blue Heron:** *intro.* **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** imm Goodyear L 4 Sep (IW): singles Waterman Center Sep and BROO 29 Sep (SR); last BROO 14 Nov (PB), very late, fall expansion into Region 4 continues. **Mute Swan:** Susquehanna R Bainbridge 24 Nov (CV), late. **Snow Goose:** max 24 FMHW 25 Nov; flight Sherburne also 25 Nov (DW). **Canada Goose:** max 4,000 FMHW 24 Sep; flocks to 200 birds still feeding BROO, OTSE late Nov. **Wood Duck:** max 35 Oneonta 17 Sep; last nine Burlington 26 Oct. **Green-winged Teal:** max seven Oneonta 21, 22 Oct and Oneonta Res 21 Nov, high count. **Am.**

Black Duck: max 50 TIOG Oct. **Mallard:** max 50 OTSE 5 Oct, low. **Blue-winged Teal:** Hartwick 10 Oct (JH), only report. **Ring-necked Duck:** one BROO 24 Nov; one CHEN, low count. **Lesser Scaup:** only one BROO 22 Oct. **White-winged Scoter:** only two Chenango L 13 Nov (DW). **Com. Goldeneye;** only one CHEN. **Bufflehead:** arr BROO 22 Oct; six widespread reports Oct, Nov, max three. **Hooded Merganser:** arr OTSE 26 Oct; five reports Nov, max three. **Com. Merganser:** max 200 BROO 29 Nov (HM, mob), high. **Red-breasted Merganser:** only one BROO 29 Sep (SR). **Ruddy Duck:** only one Chenango L 6 Nov, often missed.

Turkey Vulture: FMHW total 122; max 48 Riley Road Hawk Watch on 23 Oct. **Osprey:** FMHW total 162; max 35 on 16 Sep; **Bald Eagle:** FMHW total 21. **N. Harrier:** FMHW total 114; max 21 on 2 Nov. **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** FMHW total 601; max 40 on 16 Sep. **Cooper's Hawk:** FMHW total 72; max seven 30 Sep. **N. Goshawk:** FMHW total 34; max five 23 Nov. **Broad-winged Hawk:** *intro.* **Red-tailed Hawk:** *intro.* **Rough-legged Hawk:** FMHW total 10. **Golden Eagle:** *intro.* **Am. Kestrel:** FMHW total 160; max 27 on 19 Sep. **Merlin:** FMHW total 10. **Peregrine Falcon:** FMHW total 16. **Ring-necked Pheasant:** max four Johnson City 4-28 Oct (MP). **Ruffed Grouse:** *intro.* **Wild Turkey:** max 60 Morris (JF). **Virginia Rail:** imm found dead TIOG Oct (RP). **Sandhill Crane:** *intro.* **Killdeer:** max 30 OPM 14 Sep. **Greater Yellowlegs:** max six OnRes 19 and 28 Oct. **Solitary Sandpiper:** max six OnRes 14 Sep; last Conklin 26 Oct. **Spotted Sandpiper:** last BROO 3-9 Oct, late. **Pectoral Sandpiper:** OnRes 1-19 Oct, max six. **Am. Woodcock:** five widespread singles Oct; last Morris 8 Nov. **Ring-billed Gull:** last 120 Otsego L 26 Nov. **Herring Gull:** max six Otsego L 26 Nov. **Great Black-backed Gull:** FMHW 30 Oct. (GS), uncommon.

Great Horned Owl: good numbers Oct, Nov. **E. Screech-Owl:** ten widespread Sep, Oct, high count. **Barred Owl:** two Catatunk (TIOG) through period; two CHEN 15 Sep (EH), only reports. **Com. Nighthawk:** ten Johnson City 1 Sep (MP); last BROO 8 Oct (BB), very late. **Red-bellied Woodpecker:** only one TIOG. **Pileated Woodpecker:** ten widespread Oct, good.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: only one banded Binghamton 5 Sep (SR), often missed. **Willow Flycatcher:** only one banded Binghamton 5 Sep. **Empidonax species:** single Traill's banded Vestal 2 and 5 Sep (GK). **E. Kingbird:** several TIOG through 12 Sep. **Horned Lark:** only report CHEN 15 Sep. **Bank Swallow:** one TIOG report Sep, often gone. **Tree Swallow:** max 10 CHEN 25 Sep. **Com. Raven:** two Catatunk 4-27 Nov (JS). **Tufted**

Titmouse: max four banded Vestal 19 Sep; high numbers continue. **Carolina Wren:** fewer than recent years. **House Wren:** four reports to 3 Oct, scarce. **Winter Wren:** "several" BROO, TIOG Oct (JS). **Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** max six Oneonta 20 Oct; at Margaretville "still feeding in Autumn Olive early Nov" (MPo). **E. Bluebird:** max 20 mostly imm Oneonta 30 Sep; last 15 Nov. **Swainson's Thrush:** max four OPM 6 Oct; three singles banded Vestal 11 Sep-9 Oct, good count. **Hermit Thrush:** max and last five Morris 11 Oct (JF), scarce. **N. Mockingbird:** several reports mostly BROO. **Brown Thrasher:** eight reports, good. **Am. Pipit:** only report NNM 25 Sep. **Cedar Waxwing:** max 100 OPM 20 Oct and Vestal 31 Oct. **N. Shrike:** arr BROO 2 9 Nov (HM).

Solitary Vireo: only four reports to 6 Oct, scarce. **Yellow-throated Vireo:** only two OPM 4 Sep, scarce. **Warbling Vireo:** singles OPM 5 and 9 Sep, low. **Philadelphia Vireo:** one banded Vestal 4 Sep; one NNM 25 Sep, good. **Red-eyed Vireo:** max six banded BROO 12 Sep. **Blue-winged Warbler:** singles banded Vestal 1 and 6 Sep. **Tennessee Warbler:** only one banded Vestal 19 Sep. **Nashville Warbler:** one Vestal 25 Sep; one BROO 2 and 3 Oct, scarce. **Chestnut-sided Warbler:** singles banded 12 and 14 Sep and 2 Oct, very low. **Magnolia Warbler:** Max 15 Cherry Valley 2 Sep. **Cape May Warbler:** singles CHEN 11 and 15 Sep, scarce. **Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 25 BROO 8 Oct; last Vestal 25 Nov, late. **Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 15 CHEN 25 Sep. **Pine Warbler:** only one BROO 22 Sep. **Prairie Warbler:** one Banded Binghamton 12 Sep. **Palm Warbler:** last of four Eastern race BROO, CHEN reports 9 Oct; five Western race banded Binghamton 12-19 Sep, high counts. **Blackpoll Warbler:** only one 18 Sep CHEN. **Black-and-white Warbler:** singles FMHW 12 Sep and CHEN 15 Sep. **Am. Redstart:** only one Owego 2 Sep. **Wilson's Warbler:** singles Vestal 1 Sep and Cherry Valley 2 Sep, only ones. **Yellow-breasted Chat:** TIOG feeder 28 Sep, "no mistaking the Chat, for it was so close and remained long enough for a good check" (R&JB).

Scarlet Tanager: six reports max two to 25 Sep. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** max and last three OPM 3 Oct. **Rufous-sided Towhee:** max three BROO 6 Oct. **Am. Tree Sparrow:** arr 22 Oct; max 15 CHEN 29 Oct. **Chipping Sparrow:** max 15 BROO 2 Oct; last 11 Nov. **Field Sparrow:** max six BROO 6 Oct. **Savannah Sparrow:** last CHEN 8 Oct., scarce. **Fox Sparrow:** nine reports 25 Oct to 8 Nov max two, good count. **Song Sparrow:** good counts max 30. **Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr two BROO 6 Oct; one CHEN and two banded Binghamton 9 Oct, good. **Swamp Sparrow:** max six banded Binghamton 9 and 10 Oct. **White-throated Sparrow:**

max 30 CHEN and 16 banded Vestal 9 Oct; 12 banded 13 and 16 Oct, high numbers. **White-crowned Sparrow:** *intro.* **Snow Bunting** arr 2 Nov; max 20 Burlington 22 Nov (NW). **E. Meadowlark:** max 25 CORT week of 24 Oct. **Rusty Blackbird:** three NNM 25 Sep; one OnRes 6 Oct, only reports. **Com. Grackle:** good numbers to late Nov, late. **Pine Grosbeak:** arr FMHW 20 Nov; max four OTSE 21 and 24 Nov (JQ). **Purple Finch:** max 10 Margaretville early Nov (MPo). **Com. Redpoll:** arr 50 BROO 26 Oct (HM); flocks FMHW 30 Oct-7 Nov; 50 CHEN 9 Nov; max 70 Morris week of 21 Nov; early and the first incursion since winter of 1980-81. **Pine Siskin:** arr TIOG 10 Oct; max 30 CORT 16 Oct, Oneonta 30 Oct and Margaretville early Nov. **Am. Goldfinch:** max 20 banded Vestal 19 Sep; scarce Oct, Nov. **Evening Grosbeak:** arr CHEN 7 Oct; FMHW 14-30 Oct, max 100; widespread through period.

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

DOROTHY W. CRUMB AND JIM THROCKMORTON

This was a chilly fall season with temperatures averaging below normal every month. September was 1.5°F below normal; October was a chilly 2.5° below normal and November was 1.9° below. Precipitation was slightly less than normal, although a Halloween snow storm dropped from six to eighteen inches of snow around the area, the heaviest snowfall ever for that early in the season. The cold and early snowfall did not keep the 28 contributors from reporting 231 species plus 2 exotics and 2 subspecies, up from 227 last year.

After four years of hits and misses, this fall season finally produced a real northern invasion. All the winter finches were observed at least once during the season. Most abundant was Common Redpoll, which was noted by eleven observers in five widely scattered areas. There were flocks of 200 or more along Lake Ontario and in Pompey. The birds seem to prefer weedy fields or larch groves, but were occasionally observed feeding in birch trees that had retained catkins. Single *Hoary Redpoll* were picked out of the busily feeding Common Redpoll at three sites, marking the first time since 1959 this frosty visitor has been noted

for the fall season and the first record of any kind for Hoary Redpoll since January 1989. Pine Grosbeak was widespread for the first time since 1985. Two Bohemian Waxwing were at Verona Beach on 2 Nov and several flocks, up to 18, were observed along Lake Ontario through the end of the period. Also seen during the period were both crossbills, Evening Grosbeak and Pine Siskin. Strangely, there were only four sightings of Purple Finch.

Adding to the winter invasion records were good flights of Black-capped Chickadee and Red-breasted Nuthatch, with many of the latter appearing at feeders and remaining through the period. Also reported was Snowy Owl in five locations, including the three individuals at Syracuse's Hancock Airport, one of which was struck and killed on a runway. Tufted Titmouse seem to be permanently entrenched in its northern habitat, with almost every observer reporting them. The seven seen at Beaver Lake are a record high for the fall season.

Unusual raptors included eight records of Merlin. The one seen chasing pigeons in downtown Syracuse is undoubtedly the one seen roosting in nearby Onondaga Park for the fourth year in a row. Peregrine Falcon continue to increase, with nine reports including five in one day by Bill Purcell on 29 Sep. Dave Cesari saw a very dark, almost black peregrine at Delta Lake on 17 Sep. An apparently very hungry Sharp-shinned Hawk was seen engaging in what seemed like a waste of energy chasing a kinglet on 10 Oct at Nine Mile Point, Lake Ontario. A Northern Goshawk was observed in Oswego catching a squirrel and crashing into a window (spm RCBFS).

A Ruby-throated Hummingbird was seen doing its ritual U-shaped display in Pompey on 3 Sep—a little late to attract a female. Comment from one report: "Brown-headed Cowbird: Sandy Pond, 5 September. Juvenile being fed by a Red-eyed Vireo—YUCK!" A record late Vesper Sparrow was spotted.

The gull flight was very light and late along Lake Ontario this season in spite of several favorable northwest wind days. Appreciable numbers of gulls didn't appear until 22 Oct, which is pretty much past the time for rare gulls. Even Iceland Gull was missed. There was only one sighting of Parasitic Jaeger. Black-legged Kittiwake was only reported twice, possibly the same bird on 12 Nov at Oswego Harbor and Derby Hill. This was the second poor flight year in a row along the southeastern corner of the lake. In his report, Bill Purcell noted, "It should still be considered speculation, but the improving water quality

of Lake Ontario may well be leading to a decrease of gulls on the lake."

The swallow flight was very light. The sixty Barn Swallow noted on 2 Sep at Sandy Pond was the only swallow count over 50 for any species. Two large American Crow roosts continue to be used. One, on the south side of Syracuse near Community Hospital, was host to thousands of birds each night at dusk in spite of the cutting of many trees over the past few years. The other is in Pompey in a large stand of spruce and shelters well over a thousand birds. There was a relatively poor flight both kinglets. The fall migration of warblers and shorebirds can only be described as normal. Twenty-five species of warblers were reported, but with the exception of Magnolia (max 10), Yellow-rumped (max 79) and Black-throated Green (max 15) Warblers, all sightings were single digit counts. The final big warbler push was the last ten days of September with the biggest numbers found on favorable winds 24 Sep. A Yellow-breasted Chat was seen for the second straight fall, although it has not been reported in summer since 1987. There were also twenty-five species of shorebirds reported. John Hanyak found two Buff-breasted Sandpiper in a plowed field north of Phoenix on 12 Sep. They stayed through 16 Sep, affording many good looks. The ten Hudsonian Godwit at Sylvan Beach on 10 Oct were the most observed since the fall 1976 season. There were no reports of Western or Stilt Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Prairie or Cerulean Warbler. Several observers reported low numbers or no House Sparrow at their feeders and are questioning whether the increase in House Finch is related to this decline.

John Hanyak also located the season's only Glossy Ibis, the first fall report since 1985. A record late Black-crowned Night-Heron was observed. One of the most interesting reports is Steve Rulison's possible calling *Yellow Rail* on Howland's Island 20 Sep. The diagnostic ticking call was heard from the reeds and grasses along the bank of a small pond. The only other recent record was a dead bird found in 1992 (*Kingbird* 42:14). Two probable escaped waterfowl were found this season: a Mute Swan continues on Onondaga Lake and a male Ruddy Shelduck was found at Sylvan Beach on 14 Nov.

The first confirmed sighting of the soon-to-be-recognized Bicknell's (Gray-cheeked) Thrush in the Region occurred at Nine Mile Point on 26 September. Paul DeBenedictis described the bird as follows: "immature Bicknell's seen almost too close to focus binoculars. It was a small *Catharus* thrush, olive-backed with a rufous-tinged tail, faint wingbar on greater upperwing coverts, breast heavily spotted with no buffy suffusion, faint narrow gray eye ring, dark cheeks: no calls, no wing and tail flipping even when spished at; legs and bill were dark."

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Abbreviations: Bid - Biddlecum, n of Phoenix, OSWE; CIM - Clay Marsh, ONON; DeL - Delta Lake, ONEI; DH - Derby Hill, OSWE; LOL - Lake Ontario Littoral, OSWE; LSB - Little Sodus Bay, Fair Haven, and vicinity, CAYU; NMP - Nine Mile Point, OSWE; NPT - northern Pompey Township, ONON; OneiL - Oneida Lake; OnonL - Onondaga Lake; RCBFS - Rice Creek Biological Field Station, OSWE; SPd - Sandy Pond, OSWE; TRGMA - Three Rivers Game Management Area, OSWE.

Fall reports: **Red-throated Loon:** seven reports, max four LSB 13 Nov and 11 LSB 21 Nov. **Com. Loon:** max 100 NMP 31 Oct. **Pied-billed Grebe:** 11 reports, max 16 TRGMA 17 Oct. **Horned Grebe:** max 20 OnonL mid-Nov, continuing scarce. **Red-necked Grebe:** four each LOL 23 Oct, 17 Nov and OnonL mid-Nov; one Howland's I 20 Sep, early. **Great Egret:** max nine OnonL early Sep, others Rome, W Monroe and DeL; last 11 Oct. **Green Heron:** only report two Rome 6 Sep. **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** imm Bid 14 Nov, record late. **Glossy Ibis:** one SPd 8 Sep (JH). **Tundra Swan:** eight DeRuyter 16 Nov; 12 LSB 3 Nov, 24 OneiL 29 Nov, record fall high; high numbers. **Brant:** record early 15 DH 29 Sep; poor flight, max 689 DH 10 Oct. **Canada Goose** max 1081; low. **Wood Duck;** max 160 W Monroe OSWE 4 Sep. **Green-winged Teal:** Eurasian race near Oswego 13 Oct (CF). **N. Pintail;** max 80 OneiL 23 Nov. **Gadwall:** max 144 LSB 21 Nov. **Am. Wigeon:** max 350 LSB 2 Nov. **Greater Scaup:** max 1200 LOL 7 Nov. **Oldsquaw:** poor flight, max 75 SPd 31 Oct. **Ruddy Duck:** max nine Beaver L ONON 25 Nov; four SVB 13 Nov, unusual location.

Bald Eagle: six reports of single imm, one from DeL, others from LOL, 6 Sep-21 Nov. **N. Harrier:** max 46 SPd 31 Oct. **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** *intro.* **N. Goshawk:** *intro.*; seven reports LOL 25 Sep-25 Nov, one CIM 20 Oct, good fall flight. **Red-shouldered Hawk:** only report one LOL 2 Nov, late. **Rough-legged Hawk:** max 6 SPd 31 Oct. **Am. Kestrel:** max 42 LOL 18 Sep. **Merlin:** *intro.* **Peregrine Falcon:** *intro.* **Yellow Rail:** *intro.* **Am. Coot:** max 225 LSB 2 Nov. **Black-bellied Plover:** max 18 DeL 20 Sep. low, but more scattered reports than usual. **Am. Golden-Plover:** max 66 Bid 25 Sep. **Greater Yellowlegs:** one LOL 14 Nov late. **Hudsonian Godwit:** *intro.*; one DeL 16 Oct. **Least Sandpiper:** max 15 DeL

7 Sep. **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**: *intro*. **White-rumped Sandpiper**: only three single reports. **Baird's Sandpiper**: max three SPd 4 Sep; two DeL 16 Sep. **Pectoral Sandpiper**: max 84 DeL 17 Sep, good flight. **Purple Sandpiper**: three DH 22 Oct; three LSB 6 Nov; one SPd 7 Nov and one LSB 26 Nov. **Red-necked Phalarope**: one DeL 6 Sep, one Lysander 6 Sep. **Red Phalarope**: three DH 7 Nov. **Parasitic Jaeger**: five chasing gulls off Nine-mile Pt OSWE 30 Oct. **Glaucous Gull**: two singles LSB 21 Nov and LOL 28 Nov. **Black-legged Kittiwake**: *intro*.. **Forster's Tern**: imm SVB 4-5 Sep.

Mourning Dove: max 200 Van Buren ONON 18 Sep. **Black-billed Cuckoo**: only one SPd 17 Sep. **Snowy Owl**: *intro*. **Short-eared Owl**: only report one LOL 17 Nov. **N. Saw-whet Owl**: one Syracuse 14 Nov being harassed by crows (Ann Scheider). **Com. Nighthawk**: last DeL 24 Sep, late. **Whip-poor-will**: one CIM 29 Sep, unusual after calling ceases. **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: *intro*.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: only two reported SVB 19 Sep. **Least Flycatcher**: only one Erieville 5 Sep. **E. Phoebe**: max 12 CIM 22 Sep, ties record high; last Erieville 18 Nov. **E. Kingbird**: only report two NPT 8 Sep. **Barn Swallow**: *intro*. **Blue Jay**: max 312 Hastings 30 Sep. **Am. Crow**: *intro*. **Com. Raven**: two returned to old nest site n Constantia after 18 Nov (PB). **Black-capped Chickadee**: max 80 Brookfield 4 Sep. **Tufted Titmouse**: *intro*. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: *intro*. **Winter Wren**: max nine Brookfield 9 Sep; last Erieville 17 Nov. **Marsh Wren**: max 13 CIM 22 Sep; last two CIM 10 Nov. **Golden-crowned Kinglet**: max 45 LOL 10 Oct. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**: max 30 LOL 10 Oct. **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: five singles; *intro*. **Bohemian Waxwing**: *intro*. **N. Shrike**: singles only in four locations LOL, poor flight.

White-eyed Vireo: imm DH 3 Oct, rarely seen in fall. **Red-eyed Vireo**: *intro*. **N. Waterthrush**: only report one SVB 18 Sep. **Yellow-breasted Chat**: one CIM 15 Sep (DN).

Scarlet Tanager: one W Winfield 8-11 Nov, well described, record late. **Chipping Sparrow**: max 47 LOL 18 Sep and 60 T Clay 21 Sep. **Vesper Sparrow**: one near Baldwinsville 21 Nov (JB), record late. **Fox Sparrow**: ones and twos only, scarce. **White-throated Sparrow**: low counts except for max 150 LOL 29-30 Sep. **Dark-eyed Junco**: very low max 54 Pratts Falls P ONON 31 Oct. **Snow Bunting**: good flight LOL, max 200 on 30 Oct. **E. Meadowlark**: continued in low numbers, max 14 T Richland 10 Oct. **Brown-headed Cowbird**: *intro*. **Pine Grosbeak**: *intro*: arr LOL 5 Nov, max 14 LOL 27 Nov; only location away from LOL five

NPT after mid Nov. **Purple Finch**: virtually disappeared by mid Nov. **Red Crossbill**: only two singles reported; one Albion 14 Nov; one Syracuse 16 Nov. **White-winged Crossbill**: male at feeder DeWitt 26 Oct-27 Nov (K. Zauter), 100 NPT 23 Nov, only reports. **Com. Redpoll**: *intro*. **Hoary Redpoll**: singles Pompey 26 Oct, Verona Beach 3 Nov, DH 12 Nov. **Pine Siskin**: max 31 Erieville 30 Oct, low numbers for winter finch year, none persistent. **Evening Grosbeak**: started out in good numbers, max 50 Erieville 20 Nov, then only flocks max 10. **House Sparrow**: *intro*.

Corrigenda: Vol 43: 238—Derby Hill Hawk migration totals: Heading for 4th column should read "Last." Heading for fifth column should read "90% Date Range." **Sora**: should read "12 May." Vol 43:241—Lapland Longspur: should read "last Fabius ONON 22 Mar." Snow Bunting: should read "last LOL 27 Mar."

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

GERRY SMITH

The fall season began much as the summer ended, with warm temperatures and light precipitation that extended through September. October began our movement toward winter with several strong cold fronts and cool conditions. November was about normal for the North Country, but no significant (more than 6 inches) snowfall was reported.

As noted by R. E. Long in the summer 1993 report, this Region is enjoying a significant increase in the number of competent and active resident observers. For many years Region 6 had few observers to survey our extensive and diverse habitats. Happily this trend has reversed for the moment and the result is copious amounts of data and increased detection of rarities in our area. In addition, a better distribution of observers is developing. Besides the usual concentration areas of Canton/Potsdam and Watertown, there are now resident observers in the Tug Hill Plateau, the Adirondacks and along the St. Lawrence River valley where there had been little coverage in recent years. This happy circumstance is contributing to greatly improved understanding of bird distribution in the Region.

Positives for the season included fair numbers of raptors. Turkey Vulture continues to increase locally, particularly in JEFF, where reports of 5–10 per day were widespread in September and October. Reports of Golden Eagle and Merlin in the fall are much more frequent now than prior to late 1970s. There was a major incursion of Bohemian Waxwing. Northern Cardinal is still on the increase in our Region, with one to ten per day reported widely, and the first ever records from the Adirondack and Tug Hill areas. A spectacular invasion of White-crowned Sparrow in nw JEFF produced counts of 150–600 per day during the first three weeks of Oct. This movement was not evident elsewhere, as most other counts ran 2–8 per day, and the species was virtually gone by 22 Oct. There was a moderate incursion of Pine and Evening Grosbeaks and an excellent invasion of redpolls, but Purple Finch and Pine Siskin were relatively scarce and crossbills absent. The Evening Grosbeak flight was the first significant one in 3–4 years.

Common Raven is regularly seen in small numbers in the Adirondacks and Tug Hill, but this fall Dean DiTommaso produced an amazing 11 observations near the Alcoa plant on the St. Lawrence River shore between 1 Oct and 24 Nov, and there were three other records from StLA lowlands. Equally astonishing was one coming for sunflower seeds at Peter O'Shea's feeder in the Town of Fine on 28 Nov. If current trends continue, this species will be regular in most parts of the Region within a decade.

Negatives for the season included disaster levels for some dabbling duck species and abysmal numbers of migrant warblers and vireos. Maxima for most of the latter were single digit counts, often only one; all maxima greater than 5 appear in the species accounts that follow. Pied-billed Grebe continues generally scarce and restricted in distribution. Herring Gull numbers have declined in recent years.

An extraordinary number of rarities were reported, including Eared Grebe, Laughing Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, *Western Kingbird*, *Fork-tailed Flycatcher*, and *Northern Wheatear*. The latter three species are either first, second or third Regional records. An extraordinarily late pale-rumped swallow seen on the Point Peninsula 31 Oct was either a Cliff or Cave Swallow, and in light of the date and recent reports from the Northeast, Cave Swallow is a legitimate possibility. However, all these reports were eclipsed by the first State record of *Marbled Murrelet* found by Bruce DiLabio in both New York and Ontario waters at Moses-Saunders Power Dam from at least 11 to 26 Oct.

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Abbreviations: Alcoa – Alcoa Aluminum property near St. Lawrence R, T Massena, StLA; CV – T Cape Vincent, JEFF; EDB - El Dorado Beach Preserve, T Ellisburg, JEFF; FCWMA – T Clayton, JEFF; HSUA – Henderson Shores Unique Area, T Henderson, JEFF; KCRK – Kelsey Creek Area, Waterown, JEFF; LOL – Lake Ontario littoral, JEFF; LWMA – Lakeview Wildlife Management Area, T Ellisburg, JEFF; MSPD – Moses-Saunders Power Dam, T Massena, StLA; OGP – Ogdensburg Psychiatric Center and vicinity, StLA; PtPn – Point Peninsula, T Lyme, JEFF; PRWMA – Perch River Wildlife Management Area, JEFF; SLR – St. Lawrence River, JEFF and StLA; TMB – Three Mile Bay and Point, T Lyme, JEFF; ULLWMA – Upper and Lower Lakes Wildlife Management Area, StLA; WBM – Wilson Bay Marsh and vicinity, T Cape Vincent, JEFF; WHWMA – Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area, StLA.

Fall Reports: **Red-throated Loon:** one to three per day LOL, SLR 3–25 Nov, total 14 more than usual. **Com. Loon:** arr two LOL 15 Sep, to 25/day LOL and SLR to mid Nov, max three thereafter. **Pied-billed Grebe:** max 12 PRWMA 12 Sep (BP). **Horned Grebe:** arr five Henderson Bay 24 Oct, max 97 there 30 Oct (TE, BH), high for recent years, most reports less than 15/day; present to at least 27 Nov. **Red-necked Grebe:** to three/day mostly LOL, SLR 25 Sep–27 Nov, total 17 more than usual. **Eared Grebe:** one Ogdensburg 16–18 Nov (DD!). **Double-crested Cormorant:** numbers seem lower than last few years, max 155 LOL near LWMA 30 Oct, late; last Pt Salubrious 16 Nov. **Am. Bittern:** max six PRWMA 12 Sep (LBC); last Barnes Corners 9 Oct (GS), only report away from PRWMA. **Great Blue Heron:** one–four/day widespread Sep–Oct, singles widespread Nov. **Great Egret:** one Swan Road T Ellisburg 10–11 Sep (BP). **Green Heron:** four singles, last KCRK 25 Sep (RB), scarce. **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** only report two Indian Creek StLA 8 Sep (PO). **Tundra Swan:** arr PtPn 25 Oct, max 18 PtPn 20 Nov (TE, BH), four PRWMA 31 Oct (RW). **Mute Swan:** max 12 PRWMA 6 Nov; to two/day at 3 other locations, spreading. **Snow Goose:** total seven 20 Sep–19 Oct, very scarce in marked contrast to 1992. **Brant:** total five 23 Oct–9 Nov.

Wood Duck: to eight/day Sep-Oct, scarce. **Am. Black Duck:** max 36 Mud Bay CV 21 Nov. **Mallard:** max 400 PRWMA 22 Sep. **N. Pintail:** max six EDB 31 Oct, scarce. **Blue-winged Teal:** max 12 EDB 1 Sep, where hundreds were present in the early 1980s. **N. Shoveler:** four PRWMA 22 Sep (LBC), only report. **Gadwall:** only three reports 12 Sep-13 Nov, max six PRWMA 12 Sep. **Am. Wigeon:** max 60 PRWMA 30 Sep, last two PtPn 4 Nov(DP). **Canvasback:** four HCB 10 Nov (TE, BH) only report. **Redhead:** restricted to e SLR, max 193 WHWMA 5 Sep (DD). **Ring-necked Duck:** max 400 ULLWMA 8 Oct (DD); last 26 Nov. **Greater Scaup:** arr PtPn 6 Oct, max 6000-7000 HCB to Black R Bay 6 Nov (RW). **Lesser Scaup:** one Crystal L 7 Nov only report. **Harlequin Duck:** two EDB 30 Oct (JR), first there in several years. **Oldsquaw:** max 250 Brantingham L LEWI 14 Nov (RH), unusual site for such numbers; arr LOL 22 Oct, only one-two/day, very scarce. **Black Scoter:** two WBM 28 Oct, only report. **Surf Scoter:** to two/day scattered 21 Sep-5 Nov. **White-winged Scoter:** arr two Sawyers Bay 27 Sep (GPM), max 20 Black R Bay 6 Nov and Brantingham L LEWI 14 Nov. **Com. Goldeneye:** arr three ULLWMA 2 Oct, early, possibly local breeders (LBC); 50-250 per day widespread after 20 Oct. **Bufflehead:** max 168 Pillar Pt-Pt Salubrious 23 Nov (TE, BH), good numbers. **Hooded Merganser:** arr Barnes Corners 8 Oct, max 260 WHWMA (DD) and 75 Hen Bay 26 Nov (TE, BH). **Com. Merganser:** to 20/day EDB Sep, local breeders, migrants 20-55/day LOL and SLR in Nov, usual concentration at MSPD did not develop. **Red-breasted Merganser:** arr six HCB 14 Oct, max 111 CV-Chaumont Bay 20 Nov. **Ruddy Duck:** male Catspaw L LEWI 30 Oct (RH), three Alcoa 27 Oct (DD), three ULLWMA 6-8 Nov (AC, DD), more than usual.

Turkey Vulture: to 35/day EDB-Wescott Beach SP hawk lookout, none in Nov. **Osprey:** max 7 PRWMA 12 Sep includes local breeders. **Bald Eagle:** total twelve LOL and SLR, continues to increase. **N. Harrier:** widespread, max seven. **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 15 Wescott Beach SP hawk lookout 16 Sep. **Cooper's Hawk:** max four EDB 15 Sep. **N. Goshawk:** total seven (six imm) mostly Sep suggests a light incursion. **Red-shouldered Hawk:** total nine 29 Sep-13 Nov, late, more than usual. **Broad-winged Hawk:** max 47 Wescott Beach SP hawk lookout 16 Sep (GS), "numbers down in the Adirondacks" (PO). **Red-tailed Hawk:** "noticeable movement by 5 Sep" (LBC), max 25-30 per day CV-PtPn Oct/Nov, dark morph Limerick area 7 Nov (DP), "common over large marshes" T Fine (PO). **Rough-legged Hawk:** arr

PtPn 20 Oct, max 11 PtPn 26 Nov (TE,BH), not very common. **Golden Eagle**: two Alcoa 31 Oct (DD); two EDB 6 Nov (GS), only reports. **Am. Kestrel**: max 31 T Henderson 17 Sep. **Merlin**: total 18 1 Sep–8 Oct, max three PRWMA 12 Sep. **Peregrine Falcon**: imm EDB 5 Sep (GS), only report. **Gray Partridge**: to 20/day CV Oct, Nov; one WHWMA 20 Sep (MB), unusual site in recent years. **Ring-necked Pheasant**: one to three locally released birds/day after mid Sep (LBC) but little evidence of self maintaining populations. **Ruffed Grouse**: scarce, best numbers in Adirondacks (PO). **Wild Turkey**: highest numbers in StLA, with flocks of 20–25 reported; lower numbers in JEFF where still scarce except in Tug Hill plateau. **Com. Moorhen**: max 20 PRWMA 12 Sep (LBC); to six per day WBM 1–9 Sep (TE, BH), only sites. **Am. Coot**: to eight/day Ogdensburg 18–21 Nov, only reports. **Sandhill Crane**: last seen LEWI 12 Aug. **Black-bellied Plover**: max 30 WBM 6 Nov (MBW). **Am. Golden Plover**: one PRWMA 12 Sep (BP, P. DeBenedictis), one PtPn 22 Oct (TE, BH), only reports. **Semipalmated Plover**: max eight. **Killdeer**: max 132 near E. Martinsburg LEWI 17 Oct, none in Nov. **Greater Yellowlegs**: max seven primarily LOL and SLR, present on beaver ponds T Fine StLA (PO). **Lesser Yellowlegs**: max six in Sep, record late singles PtPn 9–11 Nov and Pillar Pt 14 Nov. **Solitary Sandpiper**: none! **Spotted Sandpiper**: max eight EDB. **Whimbrel**: two EDB 4 Sep (GS). **Hudsonian Godwit**: one PtPn 22–25 Oct (TE, BH). **Ruddy Turnstone**: to seven/day EDB to 6 Sep, very scarce. **Sanderling**: max 160 LWMA 11 Sep (BP). **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: last 30 PtPn 22 Oct and six PtPn 25 Oct, very late, may include W. Sandpiper. **Least Sandpiper**: max six Sep; seven well seen off Valley Road CV 9–11 Nov (MBW), Regional record late. **White-rumped Sandpiper**: one MSPD 12 Oct (MB), six Dexter Marsh JEFF 31 Oct (RW), only reports. **Baird's Sandpiper**: two EDB 4 Sep (GS), only report. **Pectoral Sandpiper**: one PRWMA 12 Sep, six Dexter Marsh 31 Oct, one Valley Road CV 11 Nov, only reports. **Dunlin**: scattered LOL 15 Oct–10 Nov, max 14 EDB 15 Oct, very scarce. **Short-billed Dowitcher**: three EDB 4 Sep (GPM), one PRWMA 12 Sep (LBC), only reports. **Com. Snipe**: max six PRWMA 12 Sep. **Am. Woodcock**: max three, last 19 Oct. **Laughing Gull**: ad EDB 3 Sep (GS!), ad Alcoa 1 Nov (DD). **Little Gull**: total 18 MSPD 2 Sep–13 Nov (DD, B.DiLabio). **Bonaparte's Gull**: max 25 away from MSPD, 200 MSPD. **Herring Gull**: most counts 5–15 per day. **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: ad MSPD 6 Nov (DD!). **Glaucous Gull**: singles TMB area 15–16 Nov (RJW, TE, BH). **Black-legged Kittiwake**: singles Montario Pt JEFF 30 Oct and 9 Nov (TE, BH, GS). **Com. Tern**: max

30 MSPD 12 Sep (MB). *Marbled Murrelet*: intro (DD, L.Harper, DP, MBW, RJW, TE, BH, KC, mob, ph, NYSARC).

Mourning Dove: max 90 OGP 30 Nov (PK), scarce after mid Oct in Adirondacks and Tug Hill Plateau. **Black-billed Cuckoo**: one EDB 7 Sep, one PRWMA 12 Sep (LBC), only reports. **E. Screech-Owl**: one CV after 30 Sep; one Henderson 18 Nov, only reports. **Snowy Owl**: arr CV 15 Oct (MBW), scattered singles only, a mediocre flight. **Short-eared Owl**: singles PtPn 9 Nov and WBM 10 Nov only reports, scarce. **N. Saw-whet Owl**; one Waddington 7 Oct (MB). **Com. Nighthawk**: last 13 Sep, then two KCRK 23 Sep and one 1 Oct (RB). **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: one at feeder CV 7-29 Oct (MBW), very late. **Belted Kingfisher**: max four PRWMA 12 Sep. **Red-headed Woodpecker**: seven reports mostly in T Ellisburg JEFF, Sep; imm PtPn 6 Oct and at feeder CV 26-30 Oct, many more than usual for recent years. **Red-bellied Woodpecker**: still increasing locally, seven reports JEFF. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: scattered, max four, 17 Sep-10 Oct. **N. Flicker**: max 25 Chaumont Barrens Preserve JEFF 17 Sep..

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: singles Alcoa 7 and 18 Sep(DD) and LWMA 11 Sep (BP). **Great Crested Flycatcher**: singles only, scarce. **W. Kingbird**: one PtPn 19 Sep (DP, NYSARC). **E. Kingbird**: max six, scarce. **Fork-tailed Flycatcher**: imm Benton Road T Ellisburg 8 Sep (GS, LBC, TE, BH, DP, ph, NYSARC), Regional first and second Upstate record. **Horned Lark**: arr PtPn 22 Sep , max 400 Valley Road CV 11 Nov. **Tree Swallow**: max 500 PRWMA 12 Sep, departure early. **Bank Swallow**: max and last 60 PRWMA 12 Sep. **Cliff Swallow**: six PRWMA 12 Sep; intro (RW *fide* LBC). **Barn Swallow**: max and last 200 PRWMA 12 Sep (LBC), impressive count for so late. **Blue Jay**: substantial flight along LOL with counts to 100/day in Sep. **Am. Crow**: max 450 Wescott Beach SP hawk lookout 25 Oct. **Com. Raven**: intro. **Black-capped Chickadee**: moderate incursion with 15-25/day widespread. **Boreal Chickadee**: one OGP after 16 Nov (PK), outside of normal range. **Tufted Titmouse**: singles Henderson 19 Oct (LBC), KCRK after 28 Oct (RB). **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: moderate incursion with 5-10 per day LOL in Sep, max 14 Barnes Corners in 2 mile walk 7 Sep, to three/day widespread after mid Oct. **White-breasted Nuthatch**: max six. **Brown Creeper**: to three/day widespread 19 Sep-20 Oct, one CV 19 Nov. **Carolina Wren**: small incursion, total 11 after 17 Sep. **Winter Wren**: last CV 30 Oct. **Marsh Wren**: max three PRWMA 12 Sep, last there 30 Sep. **Golden-crowned**

Kinglet: arr Stony Pt T Henderson 18 Sep, max 45 Henderson 19 Oct, last CV 7 Nov. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Henderson 20 Sep, max 50, widespread to 20 Oct. **N. Wheatear:** one Vanderbilt I SLR between Clayton and Alexandria Bay JEFF 21–25 Sep (found by the owner of the island, Mr. Houghton; Stu Hosler, Al Baker, MBW, RJW, ph). **E. Bluebird:** max 13 Henderson 25 Sep. **Veery:** scarce; last Dump Swamp Road CV 14 Oct, Regional record late. **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** one T Louisville 21 Sep (MB), only report. **Swainson's Thrush:** last PtPn 25 Oct (TE, BH), ties record late. **Hermit Thrush:** last CV 30 Oct. **Wood Thrush:** max five T Louisville 9 Sep. **Am. Robin:** max 200 Henderson 19 Oct, smaller numbers Nov. **Gray Catbird:** max eight 8 Sep. **N. Mockingbird:** one Watertown 2 Nov (LBC) only report. **Am. Pipit:** arr EDB 16 Sep, many flocks in mid Oct, max 100+ CV 20 Oct, last three CV 5 Nov. **Bohemian Waxwing:** several flocks of 15–35, max 100 Potsdam 23 Nov (RC). **Cedar Waxwing:** max 50 KCRK 1 Oct (RB). **N. Shrike:** arr at feeder T Lorraine JEFF 29 Oct (DSL), scattered ones and twos thereafter, small flight.

Yellow-throated Vireo: last CV 5 Oct, Regional record late. **Philadelphia Vireo:** six singles 7–18 Sep, good number. **Yellow-rumped Warbler:** last two Stony Pt T Henderson 22 Nov (LBC). **Pine Warbler:** to two/day ESLR to 16 Sep. **Palm Warbler:** one to two ESLR to last 7 Oct (MB, DD). **N. Waterthrush:** last 6 Oct, Regional record late. **Mourning Warbler:** one T Louisville 17 Sep (MB), only report. **Wilson's Warbler:** two LWMA 11 Sep (BP) only report.

N. Cardinal: *intro*. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** extremely late female at feeder OGP to 28 Oct (PK). **Am. Tree Sparrow:** arr OGP 23 Oct, numbers very low, max 35. **Chipping Sparrow:** to eight/day through 20 Oct; last two CV feeder 6 Nov (MBW), late. **Field Sparrow:** last 11 Oct. **Vesper Sparrow:** to seven/day scattered to mid Oct, max 25+ T Henderson 17 Oct (LBC), good for recent years; last two PtPn 9 Nov. **Savannah Sparrow:** max 11 PRWMA 12 Sep, last CV 10 Oct. **Henslow's Sparrow:** one PRWMA 11 Sep (*fide* LBC), rarely reported in fall. **Fox Sparrow:** arr OGP 13 Oct, ones and twos scattered to 20 Nov, more reports than usual. **Lincoln's Sparrow:** total 12 singles all ESLR 17 Sep–20 Oct (DD, MB). **Swamp Sparrow:** max 25 PRWMA 12 Sep (LBC), excellent count; scarce after sep. **White-throated Sparrow:** arr CV 20 Sep, max 100 Henderson 1 Oct, few in Nov. **White-crowned Sparrow:** *intro*; last two at feeder Watertown 14 Nov. **Dark-eyed Junco:** arr widespread 22 Sep; most counts 20–40/day but to 300/day JEFF early Nov; one "Oregon" type at

Henderson feeder 22–29 Nov (LBC). **Lapland Longspur**: arr and max 10 Favret Road CV 15 Oct, total 22, good flight. **Snow Bunting**: arr PtPn 22 Oct, max 100 thereafter. **E. Meadowlark**: max 36 CV 13 Oct and 50 PtPn 22 Sep. **Rusty Blackbird**: 100+ CV 13 Oct. **Pine Grosbeak**: arr three ESLR 1 Oct (MB), extraordinary early; small flocks 5–15 scattered after mid Nov, moderate invasion. **Purple Finch**: max three, scarce. **House Finch**: “daily in large numbers at OGP prior to end Sep, migration out of area thereafter with much lower max” (PK). **Com. Redpoll**: arr MSD 24 Oct, widespread by early Nov, to 200 per day widespread thereafter, max 600 PtPn 7 Nov (MBW), excellent invasion. **Hoary Redpoll**: one confirmed PtPn 20 Nov (MBW), several possibles also noted. **Pine Siskin**: arr OGP 21 Sep, to ten/day thereafter. **Am. Goldfinch**: to 20/day. **Evening Grosbeak**: one-four/day Adirondacks and Tug Hill since Aug, arr elsewhere 5 to 12 Oct; max 50.

Exotics: Ruddy Shelduck: one shot WHWMA 2 Oct and five other escapes with same (Blanche Ritchie *vide* LBC). **Com. Crane**: last seen LEWI 7 Sep (BS).

Corrigendum: Kingbird 43(4):333. **Red-shouldered Hawk**: should read “pair attacking Turkey Vulture T Fine...”

The Nature Conservancy, RR1 Box 120G, Barnes Corners, New York 13626

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

JOHN M. C. PETERSON

Lake Champlain stood at 94.93 feet in early September, providing good mudflats for migrant shorebirds. Although Inlet had the first frost on 24 Sep, temperatures rose to unseasonable levels the same day at the Crown Point net lanes, where a brush-cutting detail was at work in preparation for the coming spring migration. Rain on 2 Oct fell as snow in the High Peaks. The first snowfall at Inlet was 10 Oct, with a major storm dumping 18–24 inches there on 1 Nov. Paul Smiths recorded 15 inches the same day. Seasonal temperatures remained above average, however, until dropping to single digits on Thanksgiving and 0°F the next day. By the end of November there was only a trace of snow left on the ground across most of the Region.

A total of 157 species was reported, lower than the last two years, but slightly above 1990. The total of 17 species of shorebird reported this fall is quite good. Between 4 Sep–30 Nov, a total of 368 birds of 38

species was banded near Elizabethtown; among these were 40 Black-capped Chickadee, suggestive of a flight year. On the "winter finch" front, there were good numbers of Pine Grosbeak for the first time in several years. Following Gary Lee's first bird near Red River in the Moose River Recreational Area 2 Nov, there were widespread sightings of these approachable finches from Newcomb, Paradox, Plattsburgh, and Tupper Lake. Of the max 11 banded near Elizabethtown on 15 Nov, ten had a wing chord of 107-112 mm, indicative of the more southerly race *P. e. eschatosus*; one bird was an indeterminable intermediate. Common Redpoll began to stage a similar invasion after Andy Saunders had the first at Newcomb 29 Oct, with subsequent reports from Beekmantown, Elizabethtown, Hogansburg, St. Regis Mountain, Tupper Lake, and West Chazy. The largest flock of 34 was at Saranac Lake on 20 Nov.

In addition to the usual migrant waterfowl and shorebirds detailed in this Fall report, a host of other arctic and subarctic species pushed southward, suggesting hard times in northern Canada. Mobbing crows alerted Mike Peterson and Dean Spaulding to an early gray *Gyr Falcon* over downtown Plattsburgh on 3 Nov, and Peterson had another gray *Gyr Falcon* fly over his woods and field outside Elizabethtown on 19 Nov. Gary Lee found the first *Great Gray Owl* at the inlet to Seventh Lake, off the Bug Lake trail, HAMI, on 16 Nov. Another was spotted perched along Route 28N near Newcomb on 29 Nov by Dean Spaulding. Bohemian Waxwing has appeared in all but two years since the winter of 1979-80, or 13 of the last 15 years. This fall these handsome birds were especially widespread. Following the arrival of the first flock of 20 spotted by Ted Mack at Paul Smiths on 2 Nov, there were Bohemian Waxwing reports from Elizabethtown, Newcomb, Ticonderoga, and Wadhams throughout the month, with a max 150 in a flock at Plattsburgh on 29 Nov. The first Northern Shrike arrived near Elizabethtown on 10 Nov. Snow Bunting arrived on the Crown Point peninsula 20 Oct, according to Greg Furness, then fluttered over Ausable Point, Blue Mountain Lake, Essex, Malone, Owls Head, and West Chazy, with max 50 at Marcy Field 6 Nov.

The last trip to the Four Brothers Islands, Lake Champlain, on 8 Sep noted 200 lingering Double-crested Cormorant, two Canada Goose, a transient Sharp-shinned Hawk, two Ruddy Turnstone, four Sanderling, a dead Herring Gull banded as a chick on Little Galloo Island, NY, on 17 Jun 1993 by Chip Weseloh of the Canadian Wildlife Service, as well as 16 adult and 2 immature Great Black-backed Gull.

The Common Raven show at Mt. Discovery, ESSE, resumed, with Tom Barber and this editor admiring 25 as they displayed over the rocky summit and down the cliff faces at 5 PM on 3 Oct, mostly in pairs, but with the occasional "odd man out" trying to break into the aerobatics of a twosome. At 6:30 AM on 4 Oct, there was a string of 35 ravens headed south from Mt. Discovery toward Raven Mt., across the Boquet River valley. Mike and Susan Peterson saw the last flight of five over Mt. Discovery on 14 Oct at 5:15 PM.

Contributors: E. & T. Baker, Merry Baker, Thomas Barber, Helen & Robert Booth, Barbara Cahill, Geoffrey Carleton, Dewey & Joan Clark, Charlcie Delehanty, Greg Furness, Robert Hagar, Judy & Roger Heintz, Candy & John Hess, Bill Kreuger, Bob & Charlotte Ladwig, Dale Langois, Wesley Lanyon, Gary Lee, Rich MacDonald, Theodore Mack, Charles Mitchell, John & Susan Peterson, Andrew Saunders, Dean Spaulding, Alex & Langdon Stevenson, John & Pat Thaxton, Jan Trzeciak, Robert Wei, Hollis White.

Abbreviations: APt - Ausable Point WMA; CPP - Crown Point peninsula; TL - Tupper Lake.

Fall reports: **Red-throated Loon:** Indian L 6 Nov (JT), with two Com. Loon for comparison. **Com. Loon:** L Colden 20 Oct, late for interior; 34 Treadwell Bay and 14 APt 30 Oct (BK), good numbers. **Red-necked Grebe:** arr Plattsburgh 4 Sep, with subsequent reports from APt, Malone, Westport, and Willsboro Bay, an excellent showing. **Double-crested Cormorant:** *intro*; last Rouses Pt 6 Nov (RM). **Great Egret:** Plattsburgh 3-25 Sep (BK, J&RH); CPP 17 Sep (GF), increasingly regular yet still exciting. **Snow Goose:** arr n CLIN 12 Oct (J&SP); max 4,000 Point au Roche 28 Oct (BK,CM), with a number of yellow neck collars read and reported from there. **Brant:** max and arr 12 Indian L FRAN 6 Nov (JT); imm eating grass daily Saranac L 7-17 Nov (RH). **Canada Goose:** *intro*; 6,000± Malone Recreational P 8 Nov (JT). **Gadwall:** four Plattsburgh 20 Oct (BK), uncommon. **Ring-necked Duck:** max 140 Moody Pd ESSE 7 Nov (RH) somehow managed to crowd onto this small village pond. **Greater Scaup:** arr APt 6 Nov (RM). **Lesser Scaup:** arr APt 19 Nov (RM). **Black Scoter:** ten Goodnow Flow 23 Oct (TM); 14 Indian L FRAN 6 Nov (JT), good inland finds. **White-winged Scoter:** 20 Goodnow Flow 23 Oct, ditto; Whallon's Bay 9 Oct and Plattsburgh 26 Oct more expected locations. **Com. Goldeneye:** max 70 APt 19 Nov. **Bufflehead:** max 60 Mt. View L 7 Nov. **Hooded Merganser:** max 100 Mt View L 8 Nov (JT).

Turkey Vulture: Malone 23 Nov (HW), late. **Bald Eagle:** ad Raquette R 22 Sep; ad TL Marsh 13 Nov; ad APt 22 Nov; two ad TL Marsh 27 Nov; ad Raquette R 28 Nov, a good showing. **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** *intro*. **Rough-legged Hawk:** arr Whallon's Bay Road 5 Nov (RM). **Gyr Falcon:** *intro*. **Ring-necked Pheasant:** stocked birds Wadhams only report. **Wild Turkey:** 16 East Dickinson Oct (DL); 12 Cheever 2 Nov (GC), good numbers, but only reports. **Am. Coot:** Plattsburgh 15 Oct to APt 19 Nov. **Black-bellied Plover:** CPP 24 Sep (RM, J&SP, RW), new to Historic Site checklist. **Am. Golden-Plover:** Newcomb yard 2 Nov (AS), an even more unexpected find! **Semipalmated Plover:** APt 4 Sep (A&LS), last report. **Killdeer:** max 25 APt 3 Sep (D&JC); last TL 8 Oct (CD). **Greater Yellowlegs:** APt 6 Nov (RM), late. **Lesser Yellowlegs:** Plattsburgh 16 Nov (BK), CLIN record late by nine days. **Solitary Sandpiper:** last Plattsburgh 26 Sep (J&RH). **Ruddy Turnstone:** *intro*. **Sanderling:** *intro*; APt 2-3 Sep (D&JC); four APt 19 Oct (BK), CLIN record late by 26 days. **Least Sandpiper:** APt 4 Sep expected; three Newcomb L same day (TB) rather unexpected. **Baird's Sandpiper:** APt 2 Sep (DC) to 21 Sep (J&RH), max five on 4 Sep (A&LS). **Pectoral Sandpiper:** three on mud bars in a Newcomb beaver pd 9 Oct (AS), an extremely good find. **Dunlin:** arr King's Bay 9 Sep (BK), early CLIN record; last Plattsburgh 24 Oct (J&RH). **Short-billed Dowitcher:** last Plattsburgh 24 Oct (J&RH). **Bonaparte's Gull:** last 20 APt 31 Oct (CH). **Herring Gull:** *intro*. **Great Black-backed Gull:** *intro*.

Great Gray Owl: *intro*. **Com. Nighthawk:** three Schuyler Falls 2 Sep; Plattsburgh 7 Sep, only reports. **Three-toed Woodpecker:** Mohegan L 15-20 Nov (GL). **Black-backed Woodpecker:** Newcomb L 4 Sep (TB); Icehouse Pd 2 Nov; Mohegan L 15-20 Nov (GL).

Horned Lark: max 20 Malone 3 Nov (JT). **Gray Jay:** two Saranac Inn feeder 10 Nov (E&TB); Mohegan L 15-20 Nov (GL). **Com. Raven:** *intro*. **Black-capped Chickadee:** *intro*. **Boreal Chickadee:** reports from between Cliff and Redfield Mts, Helldiver Pd, Newcomb L, and Spruce L. **Carolina Wren:** two at feeders Saranac L after 25 Oct (RH). **Winter Wren:** Inlet 2 Nov (GL), late. **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** nominate *minimus* banded near Elizabethtown 30 Sep (JP). **Hermit Thrush:** Limekiln campsite 6 Nov (GL), late for central Adirondacks. **Am. Pipit:** 12 CPP 7 Nov (DS). **Bohemian Waxwing:** *intro*. **N. Shrike:** *intro*.

Philadelphia Vireo: TL 13 Sep (CD); Plattsburgh 16 Sep (J&RH), good for a rarely reported bird. **Pine Warbler:** TL 15 Sep (CD), only report. **Palm Warbler:** Helldiver Pd 7 Sep (GL), only report. **Wilson's Warbler:** banded Keene Valley 4 Sep (WL); last Newcomb 19 Sep (AS).

Indigo Bunting: subad male Inlet feeder after 25 Oct (GL), exceptionally late. **Am. Tree Sparrow:** arr Owls Head 19 Oct (JT). **Chipping Sparrow:** alternate plumage Keeseville feeder 1-4 Nov (D&JC), possible western race. **Savannah Sparrow:** dark form Owls Head 19 Oct (JT). **Fox Sparrow:** arr two TL 30 Sep; last Terry Mt 11 Nov. **Snow Bunting:** *intro.* **E. Meadowlark:** Harkness 3 Nov (D&JC), late. **Com. Grackle:** Hogansburg 24 Nov (HW), late. **Pine Grosbeak:** *intro.* **Purple Finch:** two moving flocks St Regis Mt 24 Oct; occasional TL; only reports. **House Finch:** max ten Elizabethtown feeder 14 Oct (J&SP). **Red Crossbill:** two Forestmere Pds 13 Sep (JT), only report. **Com. Redpoll:** *intro.* **Pine Siskin:** max 40 Mt View 12 Nov, with scattered reports of 1-15 from Elizabethtown, Hogansburg, Inlet, and TL. **Am. Goldfinch:** max 56 Hogansburg 11 Oct (HW); female banded Elizabethtown 9 May 1991 returned 13 Nov (JP). **Evening Grosbeak:** 78 banded Elizabethtown 25 Sep-30 Nov, a relatively good showing after the decline of recent years.

Addendum: Sharp-shinned Hawk: one banded at Easton, PA, 24 Sep 1990 by Gerald Lehr was retrapped on Cedar R HAMI 15 Aug 1993 by Bob McKinney.

Corrigendum: The Worm-eating Warbler at Wadhams 11-12 May 1993 "was found just 3.5 [not 32] miles east of where the first for the region was banded on 10 May 1979."

Discovery Farm, RR 1, Box 230, Elizabethtown, New York 12932

REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

JANE E. GRAVES

Fall 1993 was slightly cooler and wetter than normal. September's mean temperature was 60.5°F, 0.8° lower than usual, with 15% less sunshine than normal. The first frost occurred on 20 Sep. October averaged 48.6°F, 1.6° below normal, but with nearly normal sunshine. November averaged 39.7°F, 1.3° below expected. There was 48% possible sunshine, 10% more than normal. September had slightly above normal precipitation, with rain on 19 days. October rainfall was 0.48 inches above the normal 2.83 inches. November's precipitation was 0.57 inches above normal, with three-quarters of it occurring on 17 and

28 Nov. Snowfall through the period was minimal, only 0.7 inches.

A stalled front produced a major passerine grounding on 17 Sep. There were many reports of large numbers of both species and individuals through 22 Sep. According to Ken Able "trees on the SUNY campus were actually 'vibrating' with warblers feeding in the foliage." Frank Murphy states "one of the best fallouts ever witnessed by me in 20 years!" At the same time Robert Yunick experienced a heavy Monarch butterfly movement while traveling south on I-88 from Schenectady to Oneonta.

Double-crested Cormorant was common on the Mohawk and Hudson R through October. Wild Turkey was seen in record high numbers throughout the period, with flocks of 75 to 100 birds being reported. Shorebird numbers were good due to lower water levels and associated mud flat exposure at Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve, SARA, and Tomhannock Reservoir, RENS. Common Nighthawk reports continued through 8 Oct, with 38 being reported from Fort Edward on 2 Sep and 23 from Rotterdam on 13 Sep. Few American Robin were reported during the period due to a poor fruit crop.

Robert Yunick continued to observe Red-breasted Nuthatch in record numbers at Jenny Lake, SARA, with over 35 individuals seen on 19 Sep. In late October and early November, Dark-eyed Junco appeared in good numbers in his yard in Schenectady, with 38 individuals banded between 25 and 31 Oct, and 45 banded in November.

It appears that a good season for winter finches is in the making. Pine Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, and Evening Grosbeak made early appearances. Pine Siskin was seen in good numbers during mid to late October but then all but disappeared. No crossbills were reported during the period.

Two great rarities were sighted during the period. Two adult *Ross's Goose* were found by Walter Ellison (NYSARC) on 14 Nov at Tomhannock Reservoir in a large flock of Snow Goose. At least one of the birds remained through 28 Nov. A *Northern Wheatear* was discovered by Bill Graham on 24 Sep in the Town of Fort Edward. On the same day the bird was photographed by Barb Putnam and extensively described by Walter Ellison (NYSARC report encouraged). The bird remained through 29 Sep and was seen by many observers. It was only one of many individuals seen on the east coast this fall, leading to some speculation that a small subpopulation of this species may be adopting a new migration route. Other unusual birds sighted during the period

include Eurasian Wigeon, Redhead, Barrow's Goldeneye, Hudsonian Godwit, Acadian Flycatcher, and Bohemian Waxwing.

Contributors: Ken Able, Alan Devoe Bird Club monthly sighting reports (ADBC), Birdline of Eastern New York (BEN), Robert Budliger, Paul Connor, Bill Cook, Walter Ellison, Bill Graham, Jane Graves, Bill Lee, Alan A. Mapes (AAM), Andy Mason (AM), Nancy Martin, Laura Meade, Frank Murphy, Barb Putnam, Jim Sotis, Robert Yunick.

Abbreviations: BCWMA - Black Creek Marsh State Wildlife Management Area, ALBA; BCRes - Basic Creek Res, ALBA; FiveR - Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar, ALBA; NRP - Nott Road Park, Guilderland, ALBA; PISP - Peebles Island State Park, Cohoes, ALBA; SaraL - Saratoga Lake, SARA; SCRes - Stony Creek Reservoir, SARA; SI - Simmons Island, Cohoes, ALBA; TomRes - Tomhannock Reservoir, RENS; VFNP - Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve, SARA.

Fall reports: **Red-throated Loon:** three singles, Mohawk R near VFNP 1 Nov (BEN), VFNP 8 Nov (WE), four TomRes 18 Nov (WE, NM). **Com. Loon:** juv being fed by parents Thirteenth L WARR until at least 17 Oct (KA); max eight SaraL 13 Nov (WE), six TomRes 18 Nov (WE). **Pied-billed Grebe:** max ten BCRes 6 Sep (BEN); last Watervliet Res ALBA 21 Nov (WE). **Horned Grebe:** last L George WARR 27 Nov (LM, mob). **Red-necked Grebe:** six reports, last two SaraL 13 Nov (WE). **Double-crested Cormorant:** last ad TomRes 14 Nov. (WE). **Am. Bittern:** one VFNP 18 Sep (BEN). **Great Egret:** six reports, max ten BCRes 6 Sep (BEN); last TomRes 25 Sep (WE, NM). **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** two VFNP 5 Sep (WE, NM), only report. **Tundra Swan:** four ad, one juv SaraL 11 Nov (BL, BP). **Snow Goose:** max 490 TomRes 14-28 Nov (WE, NM); 250+ Greenwich 18 Nov (JS). **Ross' Goose:** *intro*. **Brant:** two TomRes 7 Nov (BL); three SaraL 24 Oct (JG). **Eurasian Wigeon:** male Stanton Pd ALBA 9-24 Oct (RB). **Redhead:** four SaraL 5-15 Nov (JG, BL). **Black Scoter:** five reports, max 70 Thompson L RENS 13 Oct (KA); 80 TomRes 23 Nov (WE, NM, mob). **Barrow's Goldeneye:** male SaraL 4-14 Nov (BEN), third year in a row. **Hooded Merganser:** high numbers throughout period, max 102 TomRes 28 Nov (WE, NM). **Red-breasted Merganser:** four reports, max three SaraL 13 Nov (JG).

Osprey: nine reports. **Bald Eagle:** four reports, imm BCRes 12 Sep (WE, NM), imm Pinnacle 19 Sep (JG), one Taconic SP (BEN), two Alcove Res ALBA 20 Oct (BEN). **N. Goshawk:** three reports, imm Schodack Center 4 Oct (PC), two Pinnacle 23 Oct (KA), ad Schodack Center 13 Nov (PC). **Red-shouldered Hawk:** last TomRes 18 Nov (WE, NM, mob).

Rough-legged Hawk: three reports, one Alcove Res ALBA 24 Oct (KA); one Fort Edward 3 Nov (BG); three Fort Edward 26 Nov (WE, NM). **Merlin:** five reports, one Northumberland 4 Sep (BP); one VFNP 8 Sep (WE, NM); one Pinnacle 11 Sep (WE, NM, mob); one NRP 22 Sep (WE); one SI 17 Oct (WE, NM). **Peregrine Falcon:** nine reports, last Delmar 14 Nov (BEN). **Wild Turkey:** *intro*. **Am. Golden-Plover:** juv TomRes 25 Sep (WE, NM). **Solitary Sandpiper:** last VFNP 2 Oct (WE, NM). **Hudsonian Godwit:** two reports, five TomRes 16 Oct (WE, NM); one SaraL 3-21 Nov (BEN), extremely pale, albino? **Sanderling:** one Carter L WASH 28 Oct (JS). **W. Sandpiper:** one TomRes 31 Oct (RB, JG). **White-rumped Sandpiper:** three reports, last TomRes 31 Oct (RB, JG). **Baird's Sandpiper:** juv SI 1 Sep (WE, NM). **Pectoral Sandpiper:** six reports, max 48 BCRes 9 Oct (BEN). **Dunlin:** last TomRes 14 Nov (WE). **Short-billed Dowitcher:** two reports, juv VFHP 5 Sep (WE, NM), one BCRes 12 Sep (WE, NM, mob). **Long-billed Dowitcher:** one TomRes 17 Oct (BEN). **Bonaparte's Gull:** last one SaraL 6 Nov (BL). **Ring-billed Gull:** high count 2000+ SaraL 13 Nov (WE, NM). **Lesser Black-backed Gull:** three reports, imm Cohoes Falls ALBA 18 Sep; two ad SI 7 Nov; ad SaraL 13 Nov (WE, NM). **Iceland Gull:** imm Mohawk R near Cohoes 27 Nov (WE). **Black Tern:** two Fort Edward 4 Sep (BP).

Com. Nighthawk: *intro*; last Albany 8 Oct (KA), quite late. **Chimney Swift:** max 80 PISP 4 Sep (BEN). **Red-bellied Woodpecker:** three reports. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** last Saratoga Springs 9 Oct (JG).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: two reports, one Ghent 14 Sep (ADBC); one PISP 18 Sep (WE, NM). **Acadian Flycatcher:** one Guilderland 17 Sep (WE). **Bank Swallow:** high count 200 Copake 5 Sep (BC). **Fish Crow** two Colonie 18 Sep (WE); one Niskayuna Landfill SCHE 6 Nov (RY). **Com. Raven:** many reports including ten Pinnacle ALBA 23 Oct (KA). **N. Wheatear:** *intro*. **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** one PISP 11-27 Nov (WE), very late. **E. Bluebird:** many reports, high count 45 Guilderland 15 Oct (WE). **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** one Berne 25 Sep (KA), only report. **Swainson's Thrush:** eight reports, nocturnal migrants heard RENS 8 and 11 Sep (PC). **Bohemian Waxwing:** twelve Warrensburg 11 Nov (A. Saunders).

Philadelphia Vireo: five reports, last Austerlitz 28 Sep (ADBC). **Orange-crowned Warbler:** one Ann Lee Pd ALBA 1 Oct (FM). **Black-throated Blue Warbler:** only two reports. **Prairie Warbler:** three reports, last two BCWMA 11 Sep (WE, NM). **Palm Warbler:** last TomRes 23 Oct (WE, NM). **Worm-eating Warbler:** one FiveR 12 Sep (BEN). **Mourning Warbler:** only two reports. **Wilson's Warbler:** five reports.

Am. Tree-Sparrow: arr four VFNP 22 Oct (WE, NM). **Vesper Sparrow:** one Fort Edward 30 Sep (BP), only report. **Fox Sparrow:** last PISP 7 Nov (WE). **Lincoln's Sparrow:** six reports. **White-throated Sparrow:** arr PISP 17 Sep (WE, NM). **White-crowned Sparrow:** arr FiveR 2 Oct (C. Grachen). **Lapland Longspur:** two S Albany Airport ALBA 26 Nov (AAM). **Snow Bunting:** 60 Kingsbury WARR 28 Oct (WE, NM). **Rusty Blackbird:** max eight VFNP 22 Oct (WE, NM). **Pine Grosbeak:** small flocks noted Schodack Center 18 and 24 Nov (PC), four Thacher P ALBA 25 Nov (KA). **Purple Finch:** small numbers present Sep-late Oct, none reported Nov. **Com. Redpoll:** arr ten 2 Nov (BEN), many reports. **Pine Siskin:** in numbers mid to late Oct, few reported Nov. **Evening Grosbeak:** many reports beginning Oct, max 30 Schodack Center 7 Oct (PC); 30 Hague 30 Oct (LM); 20-30 Jefferson 16 Oct through end of period (AM); 30 Jenny L SARA 24 Oct (RY).

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REGION 9 — HUDSON-DELAWARE

JOHN P. ASKILDSEN

The weather of the fall of 1993 actually was quite tame compared to what has been dealt out by Mother Nature in the last few seasons. Lower New York State was spared by Hurricane Emily in September when she changed course and moved out into the Atlantic. Even though nine cold fronts passed through the Region in September, some bringing substantial rains, we remained in a state of severe drought. A high of 93°F was reached on 3 Sep. This would be the only day that we would experience 90+° weather all fall. The average temperature of 61° for the month was on target. October ushered in colder temperatures and in some areas of the Region trace amounts of snow fell on 31 Oct. The average temperature was 48.7°F, which was 1.5° below normal. The eight cold fronts that passed with more significant amounts of precipitation lowered the drought index from severe to moderate. By the end of November, the handwriting was on the wall in terms of what was to come this winter. We went from 76°F on 15 Nov to a low of 10° on 26 Nov. Old Man Winter was knocking on our front door.

The big question this fall was, were we going to receive the very long awaited finch flight? The answer was yes and no. For Pine Siskin and Evening Grosbeak, what started with a trickle on 10 and 6 Oct respectively, turned into a major movement by Nov. Purple Finch made an excellent showing at feeders throughout the Region, peaking in early

Nov, but by the month's end they had almost completely disappeared. Exciting was a report of Pine Grosbeak. We hoped this was a sign of what was to come. Finally, Common Redpoll appeared widely in November. One flock of Red Crossbill was seen. American Goldfinch showed signs of a major movement, as their numbers changed in concert with Pine Siskin numbers. Finally, rounding out the list of winter finches found in the Region was a persistent White-winged Crossbill.

Four Lesser Black-backed Gull were reported from the Region this fall, three of which are returns to locations where they wintered in previous years. The Golden Eagle that winter at Stissing Mountain DUTC arrived on time this fall in early November.

Common Raven southward range expansion continues. This fall three passed the Hook Mt. Hawk Watch in ROCK simultaneously and two passed the Butler Hawk watch in n WEST in Sep and Nov. Further north, two frequented Mt. Peter hawk watch all fall and up to 16 were seen regularly at Claryville SULL, where they are resident. This fall produced a spectacular White-crowned Sparrow flight in the Region. Reports of 10 to 25 a day were not uncommon during the species' peak migration period. One report of over 100 from 16 Oct at SUNY at Purchase WEST was most impressive!

Although the list of great rarities provides no new Regional records, several species have only a few prior records. The male *Tufted Duck* arrived at Playland Lake in Rye on 12 Nov to spend its third consecutive winter there amongst the thousands of scaup that had already arrived on the lake. *Black Vulture* was reported from the usual locations. An *American Avocet* was seen briefly at Marshland Conservancy in Rye on 4 Sep. This provided Marshlands Conservancy with its first record and Region 9 with its fourth record for the species. Another *Rufous Hummingbird* was reported from an ULST feeder, where it was photographed extensively, including a fanned-tailed portrait to rule out Allen's Hummingbird. A *Clay-colored Sparrow* was reported from a DUTC feeder on 14 Nov. The northeast experienced an invasion of *Bullock's* race of Northern *Oriole*, beginning late this fall. Region 9 was not left out. One was found in s WEST on 1 Nov (PL). When the party returned to look for the Bullock's race the next day, a Baltimore race Northern Oriole was present in the same area (PL&SF). Only slightly less unexpected were two Hudsonian Godwit found on the Delaware R for a first SULL county record on 25 Oct. Both Black Tern and a most cooperative Sedge Wren were found in WEST. Other species of note this

season are Eurasian Wigeon, Snowy Owl, Caspian Tern Northern Shrike and Dickcissel.

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Abbreviations: BSHW - Butler Sanctuary Hawk Watch, WEST; DTR - Doodletown Road, ROCK; EGR - Edith G. Read Sanctuary, Rye; HMHW - Hook Mountain Hawk Watch, ROCK; MC - Marshlands Conservancy, Rye, WEST; MPHWS - Mt Peter Hawk Watch, ORAN; PL - Playland Lake and offshore areas, Rye, WEST.

Fall Reports: **Com. Loon:** twelve MC 10 Oct. **Red-throated Loon:** one MC 30 Oct. **Great Cormorant:** arr 26 Oct PL; four Hudson R WEST 8 Nov, 20 by month's end. **Am. Bittern:** two reports DUTC 1 and 23 Oct. **Great Egret:** max 25 MC 11 Sep. **Snowy Egret:** max 160 MC 11 Sep, many more than usual. **Little Blue Heron:** one MC 9-26 Sep; imm PL 16 Oct. **Tricolored Heron:** one Hudson R ULST 21 Aug. **Green Heron:** last DUTC 27 Oct. **Brant:** 560 10 Oct MC. **Green-winged Teal:** over 30 central WEST by late Nov. **Eurasian Wigeon:** male Rockland L 13 Oct (IB). **N. Shoveler:** three WEST 6 Nov. **Canvasback:** arr PL 26 Oct. **Redhead:** arr PL 25 Oct. **Tufted Duck:** *intro* (TWB). **Greater Scaup:** 4,000 PL by 23 Nov. **Black Scoter:** two PL 11 Oct. **White-winged Scoter:** one PL 26 Oct.

Hawk watch totals:

	MPHW	BSHW	HMHW
Black Vulture	4		
Turkey Vulture	112	308	172
Osprey	182	283	244
Bald Eagle	3	26	23
N. Harrier	62	105	141
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1268	1914	2426
Cooper's Hawk	75	218	52
N. Goshawk	3	15	16
Red-shouldered Hawk	48	51	38
Broad-winged Hawk	2812	7602	2847
Red-tailed Hawk	245	392	36

Rough-legged Hawk		2	
Golden Eagle	9	5	2
Am. Kestrel	351	489	597
Merlin	7	19	53
Peregrine Falcon	3	21	14
TOTAL	5277	11508	6666

Black Vulture: one DUTC 9 Oct (JB); one frequented MPHWH area all fall (JC); one Stony Pt ROCK 22 Nov (LHVBL). **Clapper Rail:** max four MC all season. **Virginia Rail:** one MC all season; one n DUTC 29 Nov. **Sora:** four MC in Oct. **Black-bellied Plover:** max 45 MC 27 Oct. **Am. Golden-Plover:** low numbers MC through 8 Oct; eight Sullivan County Airport 19 Sep; seven Warren Sod Farm ORAN 16 Sep. **Killdeer:** 194 Warren Sod Farm ORAN 2 Sep; 175 Merion Sod Farm ORAN 16 Sep. **Am. Oystercatcher:** MC three 5-7 Sep. **Am. Avocet:** intro (D&TF!, NYSARC). **Hudsonian Godwit:** intro (KS). **Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 40 MC 7 Sep. **W. Sandpiper:** one-three MC all Sep. **White-rumped Sandpiper:** two MC 11 Sep, 1 MC 16 Oct. **Least Sandpiper:** 20 MC 7 Sep. **Stilt Sandpiper:** imm MC 6-7 Sep, ad MC 9 Sep. **Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** one Warren Sod Farm 2 Sep (JPT). **Laughing Gull:** last coastal WEST 12 Nov. **Bonaparte's Gull:** two Hudson R n DUTC 3 Nov. **Glaucous Gull:** one Woodbourne SULL 30 Nov (VF). **Lesser Black-backed Gull:** arr Rye 26 Sep, second arr Rye 11 Oct; one Kensico Res WEST 25 Sep, 4 Nov, no history there for species; one ROCK 3 Nov. **Caspian Tern:** two 8 Oct MC (TWB). **Com. Tern:** 50 PL 25 Sep. **Forster's Tern:** 38 MC 21 Sep. **Black Tern:** four Kensico Res White Plains 3 Sep (MU), seldom reported.

Snowy Owl: one Tappan Zee Bridge ROCK 3 Nov; one Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge 20 Nov; one DUTC 8-23 Nov. **Long-eared Owl:** one DUTC 21 Nov. **Rufous Hummingbird:** ad female at feeder Saugerties ULST 24 Sep-16 Oct (Arnette Heidcamp!, JPA, AG, ph, NYSARC). **Red-headed Woodpecker:** one BSHW 25 Sep.

E. Kingbird: one DUTC 16 Oct, late. **Tree Swallow:** last n WEST 14 Nov. **Com. Raven:** intro. **Sedge Wren:** one MC 24 Sep (TWB, AB), sang for fifteen minutes atop *Spartina alterniflora*. **N. Shrike:** one SULL 27 Nov (BM).

White-eyed Vireo: one n DUTC 22 Sep. **Philadelphia Vireo:** one banded SULL 18 Sep (VF). **Mourning Warbler:** two n WEST 4 Sep. **Hooded Warbler:** two still singing DTR 6 Sep (EDT); two BSHW 5 Sep. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** female at feeder DUTC 25 Nov, late. **Dickcissel:** one WEST 24 Sep (LS); one DUTC 13 Oct. **Am. Tree Sparrow:** arr 2 Nov.

Clay-colored Sparrow: *intro* (ROM). **Vesper Sparrow:** four individuals DUTC in Oct; two MC late Oct. **White-crowned Sparrow:** *intro*. **Lapland Longspur:** five MC 28 Oct, first record there; one PL 25 Nov. **N. Oriole:** *intro*. **Pine Grosbeak:** four DUTC 17 Oct. **Purple Finch:** *intro*. **Red Crossbill:** 22 Ashokan Res ULST 15 Nov. **White-winged Crossbill:** imm male at feeder PUTN after 28 Nov (Drew Gress). **Com. Redpoll:** arr n WEST 2 Nov; max 50 DUTC 29 Nov. **Pine Siskin:** *intro*. **Evening Grosbeak:** *intro*.

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REGION 10 — MARINE

SEYMOUR SCHIFF AND ALVIN WOLLIN

The temperature for the period was about normal for the fall. A record low of 44°F was set on 20 Sep and two record highs were set on 14 and 15 Nov, when the temperature was 80°F. This was the latest date by at least two weeks when the temperature had reached 80° or higher. October was slightly wetter and slightly colder, but otherwise without distinguishing characteristics. However, the pattern of frontal passages this fall was more normal than it was last year, and as a consequence, the hawk flights were better on Long Island.

Both *Newsday* and *The New York Times* had articles in early December on this fall's influx of exceptionally large numbers of Snow Goose on the East End. The winter range of these geese has been gradually shifting north from Delaware to New Jersey and perhaps now is extending into New York. According to the articles there were 1000 geese between Sagaponack and Sag Harbor at the period's end.

On 10 Oct your Regional editors were birding with friends in the Zachs Bay area when the sky suddenly filled with birds. All the shorebirds, geese and gulls in the vicinity exploded into the air. About fifteen seconds later an immature Bald Eagle glided over. (A similarly plumaged bird had passed over the Fire Island Hawk Watch approximately 30 minutes before and is presumed to be the same bird.) The sharp-eyed birds saw the eagle long before we did and acted accordingly. Large hawks will flush birds, but nothing like an eagle will.

A preliminary report on the results of this Fall's Fire Island Hawk Watch was received from Drew Panko. The total hawks reported for the season was 6101, approximately 20% more than last year and even exceeded the best total for the preceding 10 years. The increase this year

is due primarily to American Kestrel, which increased 40% over last year, even surpassing the prior 10 years' high. American Kestrel, which numbered just over half the total hawks, continues to be scarce in our Region in spite of these very heartening migration counts. Northern Harrier numbers also increased. The only major decrease was Sharp-shinned Hawk, down 12%.

Steve Walter reported the results of the Fort Tilden Hawk Watch. A total of 6840 hawks was seen, but over a slightly longer period of time. Here too was a substantial increase in numbers over last year, 33% more. The species which fared well mirrored the Fire Island results, with increased numbers of Northern Harrier and American Kestrel, but the increase in total numbers is attributed primarily to Sharp-shinned Hawk at Fort Tilden. While many of the birds at Fort Tilden also could have passed by Fire Island, this is not certain. To determine whether the same hawks appear at both hawk watches, observations of two less common species, Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon, should to be particularly useful, but a correlation is uncertain. There were more falcons and fewer eagles at Fire Island, and counts and dates do not overlap with sufficient regularity at the two sites. The data we have seen do not answer the question for these species and the answer cannot be determined for the other species.

Several observers, including J. Askildsen, A. Lauro, P. Buckley, and E. Salzman, reported results of a pelagic trip 90 miles south of Montauk Point on 11 Sep. The trip produced the following list: three Cory's Shearwater, two Manx Shearwater, four to six *Audubon's Shearwater*, 30 Wilson's Storm-Petrel, six to eight Pomarine Jaeger, two *Long-tailed Jaeger*, one *Bridled Tern*, three to five Black Tern, and four Merlin.

There was a large influx of Black Tern in early September, and there were exceptionally large groups of migrant Tree Swallow all fall. Pine Siskin first appeared on 11 Oct, and was last reported on 8 Nov, a short migration period without any lingering. Many migrant American Goldfinch appeared this Fall. Evening Grosbeak had a short migration period with good numbers for the first time in several years, but by early Nov all were gone.

This fall there were multiple reports of a bird not yet on the New York State List. Not one, but several *Rufous Hummingbird* were reported. All were carefully observed, photographed, and identified by seasoned observers. All the records are late in the fall, coming long after Ruby-throated Hummingbird are usually seen, although any hummingbird so late would warrant comment. From the East End comes two reports of *Thayer's Gull*. An *Ash-throated Flycatcher* at Jones

Beach West End was exceptionally tame, and afforded the paparazzi the opportunity of a lifetime. Besides sitting motionless in the open in full sun, the bird was obliging enough to call at intervals leaving no possible doubt as to what it was. There was another report of this species at Riverdale. Another spectacular find has been relegated to last place in the list of most significant events of the season, but only because it is a repeat and an unprecedented one at that. A, or perhaps we should say "the," *Spotted Redshank* returned to the Knapp Street and Avenue X roost on 30 Nov for the second winter in a row. Other great rarities reported include *American White Pelican*, *Northern Wheatear*, Sedge Wren and *Brewer's Blackbird*.

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Abbreviations: CB - Cedar Beach; CP - Central Park; FTHW - Fort Tilden Hawk Watch; JBWR - Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; JBSP - Jones Beach State Park; JBWE - Jones Beach West End; JFKWS - J. F. Kennedy (Tobay) Wildlife Sanctuary; MH - Montauk Harbor; MPt - Montauk Point; NYRBA - New York Rare Bird Alert; RMSP - Robert Moses State Park; ShIn - Shinnecock Inlet; SI - Staten Island, SPtP - Smith Point Park; WH - Wave Hill, Riverdale.

Fall reports: **Red-necked Grebe:** three Smith Pt Beach 11 Nov (JR, JC). **Cory's Shearwater:** one MPt 17 Oct (NYRBA). **Greater Shearwater:** two MPt 17 Oct, 20 on 24 Oct (NYRBA). **Manx Shearwater:** *intro*. **Audubon's Shearwater:** *intro*. **Wilson's Storm-Petrel:** *intro*. **Am. White Pelican:** two over JBWR 2 Nov (*fide* AL). **Brown Pelican:** one on Hudson R off Manhattan 7 Sep (JG), one ShIn 12 Sep (James Jac Quin). **Tundra Swan:** two Hook Pd 11 Nov, five there 18 Nov (NYRBA). **Greater White-fronted Goose:** imm L Panamoka 22 Nov (JR). **Snow Goose:** *intro*. **Wood Duck:** one Silver L Pd Baldwin 24 Nov (SD). **Eurasian Wigeon:** one JBWR 4 Sep, two after 11 Nov; one Loft Pd Baldwin mid Oct; one Mattituck 29 Nov (NYRBA). **Tufted Duck:** one JBWR 28 Sep-3 Oct (Larry Plotnick, mob); one-two Grumman Pd, Manorville 17-31 Oct (JC, BA, mob). **Com. Eider:** two MPt 12 Sep building to 75 on 24 Nov (NYRBA). **Harlequin Duck:** six returned to the Long Beach side of Jones Inlet on 21 Nov (EL, AW), two MPt 24 Nov (NYRBA). **White-winged Scoter:** one in Zachs Bay JBSP 1 Sep (PM).

Turkey Vulture: one FTHW 10 Oct, three Caumsett SP 14 Nov (PM), one flying over Baldwin 14 Nov (SS), four Glen Cove Golf Course (RC).

Bald Eagle: *intro*; five FTHW 11 Sep; nine Pelham Bay P 19 Sep; one Cow Meadow, Freeport 20 Sep (PM); one JFKWS 3 Oct, none seen at Fire I hawk watch that day (PM); one Fire I 5 Oct; one Lawrence Marsh 7 Nov; one JBWR 16 Nov; one over Bellmore 20 Nov (PM). **N. Harrier:** *intro*. **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** *intro*. **N. Goshawk:** max four Fire I 1 Nov. **Am. Kestrel:** *intro*. **Merlin:** *intro*. **Peregrine Falcon:** *intro*. **N. Bobwhite:** eighteen Edgewood Property, Deer P (JF), increasingly scarce. **Virginia Rail:** one Lindenhurst 11 Sep (RL), one JFKWS 20 Sep (PM), three Sands Pt 17 Oct (Glenn Quinn). **Sora:** one Lindenhurst 11 Sep (RL). **Am. Golden-Plover:** max 30 Cutchogue sod farms 2 Sep (PG). **Am. Oystercatcher:** max 125 JBWR 3 Oct (NYRBA). **Am. Avocet:** one JBWR 23 Sep-3 Oct (mob). **Spotted Redshank:** *intro*, one JBWR 3 Oct (no details). **Solitary Sandpiper:** one CB 26 Sep (JF). **Upland Sandpiper:** 25 Doctor's Path 5 Sep (NYRBA). **Whimbrel:** several CB mid to late Sep. **Hudsonian Godwit:** several reported. **Marbled Godwit:** several reported. **Baird's Sandpiper:** several reported. **Purple Sandpiper:** arr Democrat Pt 16 Oct (JF). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** max 11 Cutchogue sod farms 5 Sep (PG). **Ruff:** one JBWR 4 Sep (no details). **Red-necked Phalarope:** one JBWR 10 Oct (NYRBA). **Parasitic Jaeger:** one MPt 17 Oct, 13 Nov (NYRBA). **Long-tailed Jaeger:** *intro*. **Little Gull:** one MH 11 Nov (AL). **Com. Black-headed Gull:** one Sag Harbor 5 Sep, one Mecox 18 Sep (both AL). **Thayer's Gull:** one MPt 20 Nov (Tony Lauro); one MH 27 Nov (Jim Ash). **Iceland Gull:** one MPt 11 Nov, one MH 18 Nov, three MPt 20 Nov (NYRBA). **Lesser Black-backed Gull:** one Glen Cove 11 Oct, two MPt after 11 Nov, one SPtP 30 Oct and 18 Nov (NYRBA). **Caspian Tern:** a few mid Sep to mid Oct. **Royal Tern:** one Aquebogue 7 Sep (BA), one Great Kills P SI 10 Sep (HF); others along the south shore, more numerous than the preceding. **Bridled Tern:** *intro*. **Black Tern:** five Fire I 4 Sep; seven JBWR, 82 Wainscott Pd, 20 Sagg Pd, four FTHW, all 5 Sep; 121 off FTHW, 25 Fire I Inlet 6 Sep; 76 Wainscott Pd 12 Sep; eight FTHW and three Fire I In 18 Sep; three JFKWS 20 Sep (PM). **Razorbill:** one MPt 24 Nov (NYRBA).

Snowy Owl: one SI 3 Nov, one Long Beach 8 Nov, one ShIn after 11 Nov, one Riverhead 22 Nov, one Breezy Pt 27 Nov (NYRBA). **Long-eared Owl:** one CP 28 Oct, 13 Nov (NYRBA). **Short-eared Owl:** one Gilgo (BA), one JBWE 27 Nov, scarce. **Rufous Hummingbird:** one WH 16 Nov (Betty Loeb); imm male, "female" Manhattan 18-24 Nov (T Burke, Hugh McGuinness, mob); one at a feeder Queens 22-24 Nov (Tony Lauro). **Red-headed Woodpecker:** a number of migrants along the barrier beaches mid Sep to early Oct.

Ash-throated Flycatcher: one, also heard calling, in shrubbery surrounding the West End #2 parking field at JBSP 2-7 Nov (JQ, JF, ph,

mob); one WH 18 Nov (T. Burke, Hugh McGuinness, Joe DiCostanzo, mob). **W. Kingbird**: one JBWE 1 Oct, one Zachs Bay 11-18 Oct (mob). **Sedge Wren**: one Douglaston, Queens 24 Oct (LS), one RMSP (AL); seldom reported. **N. Wheatear**: one JBWE 18 Sep (AL), one Great Gull I 18 Sep (Roger Pasquier), one Inwood Hill P 22-28 Sep (Nathaniel Berkins, mob). **E. Bluebird**: 50 Fire I and 30 FTHW 7 Oct, flight day. **Loggerhead Shrike**: one Suffolk Co Community College 20-21 Sep (AB).

Golden-winged Warbler: one JBWE 29 Sep (JF), rare on Long I and very rare on the barrier beach. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: one CP 21 Sep and 1 Oct, one RMSP 10-13 Oct (JF, mob), one Zachs Bay 24 Oct. **Bay-breasted Warbler**: one Long Beach feeder to 9 Nov. **Prothonotary Warbler**: one Clove L P SI 9 Sep (HF). **Connecticut Warbler**: one CP 6 Sep, one Clove L P SI 13 Sep (HF), one JBWE 20-23 Sep (NYRBA). **Yellow-breasted Chat**: two MPt 12 Sep; one RMSP after early Oct, one JBWE after mid Sep (NYRBA).

Summer Tanager: three College Pt Lot 29 Sep (LS). **Blue Grosbeak**: one MPt 12 Sep, one RMSP 26 Sep, one JBWE 3 Oct, one RMSP 3-15 Oct, one College Pt 6 Oct (LS). **Dickcissel**: one RMSP 14 Sep, one JBWE after 4 Oct. **Clay-colored Sparrow**: one Baldwin 25 Sep (SS), others reported. **Vesper Sparrow**: present 17-31 Oct. **Lark Sparrow**: two Fire I 10 Sep (HR, LS), one SPtP 7 Oct (JC, JR). **Grasshopper Sparrow**: one RMSP 7 Oct (JF). **Henslow's Sparrow**: one SPtP 11 Oct (JC). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: several into Oct. **Lapland Longspur**: one SPtP 15 Oct, one CB 30 Oct, two CB 17 Nov (NYRBA). **Brewer's Blackbird**: one CP at Azalea Pd feeders (Sharon Freedman, mob).

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