

The

KINGBIRD

New York State
Ornithological
Association, Inc.
Vol. 67 No. 1
March 2017



THE KINGBIRD (ISSN 0023-1606), published quarterly (March, June, September, December), is a peer-reviewed publication of the New York State Ornithological Association, Inc., which has been organized to further the study of bird life and to disseminate knowledge thereof, to educate the public in the need for conserving natural resources, and to document the ornithology of the state and maintain the official *Checklist of the Birds of New York State*.

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The KINGBIRD

PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 67 No. 1

March 2017

pp. 1-80

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Front Cover – Gray Kingbird, Bergen, *Monroe*, 13 Nov 2016, © Willie D’Anna.

Back Cover – Western Kingbird, Jones Beach SP, *Nassau*, 19 Nov 2016, © Ken Feustel.

THE CURIOUS CASE OF THE FIRST SPECIMEN RECORD OF VIRGINIA'S WARBLER (*OREOTHLYPIS VIRGINIAE*) FROM EASTERN NORTH AMERICA

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Virginia's Warbler (*Oreothlypis virginiae*) is a little-studied bird that breeds in the piñon-juniper (*Pinus edulis-Juniperus* sp.) and oak (*Quercus*) woodlands of the Intermountain West and Southwest regions of the United States, and winters in mountainous southwestern Mexico (Olson and Martin 1999). It has recently expanded its breeding range at its northeastern periphery, establishing a breeding population in the Black Hills of South Dakota in the late 1990s, some 370 km from the nearest breeders in Wyoming (Bubac and Spellman 2016). The Black Hills population and the populations in the Guadalupe Mountains and Davis Mountains of western Texas mark the easternmost extent of the breeding range.

Virginia's Warbler is a regular vagrant to the west coast, with many records from coastal southern California and some as far north as Oregon (Olson and Martin 1999). In contrast, there are only about 20 documented records from east of the Mississippi River, from various seasons and widely scattered sites, extending as far east as Newfoundland, the Atlantic coast of the United States, and the Bahamas (Table 1). All of the eastern North American records involve single birds observed in a single place, usually for only one or two days, but in some cases, especially during late fall and winter, for up to several weeks.

There are no known specimens of Virginia's Warbler from anywhere east of Kansas, although there is an egg set attributed to this species at the Cornell University Museum of Vertebrates (CUMV 37824) collected by W. C. Thro at Southport, Chemung County, NY, on 27 May 1893. This is an unfathomable breeding record for Virginia's Warbler, and it seems likely that either the eggs are from a misidentified nest or the CUMV catalog is in error; the original collector's data (notes, nest card, egg-set data slips, etc.) were not saved when the data were transcribed to the electronic catalog by an unknown person in the 1990s (C. M. Dardia, pers. com.).

Table 1. Documented records of Virginia’s Warbler (*Oreothlypis virginiae*) in eastern North America.

Date(s)	Locality	Source
16 May 1958	Point Pelee NP, <i>Essex</i> , ON	Dow 1962
9-11 May 1974	Pelee Island, <i>Essex</i> , ON	Wormington 1986
3-4 May 1975	Point Pelee NP, <i>Essex</i> , ON	Wormington 1986
8 Mar 1993	Dover Sound, Grand Bahama, Bahamas	eBird (<i>El Pitirre</i> 1994)
13 May 1993	Dearborn, <i>Wayne</i> , MI	Chu 1995
21-22 Sep 1994	Goose Bay, Labrador, NL	Mactavish 1994
17 Sep 1997	Kennesaw Mt. NBP, <i>Cobb</i> , GA	Davis 1998
21 May 1998	Monhegan Island, <i>Lincoln</i> , ME	Perkins 1998
29 Aug 2001	Thunder Cape Bird Obs., Thunder Bay, ON	Roy 2002
14 May 2003	Port Lambton, <i>Lambton</i> , ON	Crins 2004
25 Jun 2006	Pitsfield Banding Station, <i>Kalamazoo</i> , MI	Putnam 2007
8 Oct 2006	Walkers Farm, <i>Bristol</i> , RI	Mitra et al. 2010
10-15 Feb 2007	Harper’s Ferry, <i>Jefferson</i> , WV	Fazio & Wiltraut 2007
15 Jan+ 2010	Valdosta, <i>Lowndes</i> , GA	Blankenship & Southern 2010
8 Nov 2011	Monhegan Island, <i>Lincoln</i> , ME	Persons et al. 2015
26 Jan-25 Mar 2012	Pickering Creek Aud. Center, <i>Talbot</i> , MD	Davis 2013
31 Oct-30 Nov 2012	Alley Pond Park, <i>Queens</i> , NY	Wilson et al. 2014
14 Nov-2 Dec 2013	St. John’s, Newfoundland, NL	Seeler 2015
29-30 May 2014	Monhegan Island, <i>Lincoln</i> , ME	Hanisek 2015
1 Nov 2016	Marshlands Conservancy, <i>Westchester</i> , NY	Bochnik 2017

The first fully documented New York State record of Virginia’s Warbler involved a bird that was observed at Alley Pond Park, Queens County from 31 October to 30 November 2012 and accepted by the New York State Avian Records Committee (NYSARC; Wilson et al. 2014). In 2016, Virginia’s Warbler was reported in two locations in New York. The first was seen by many birders at the Marshlands Conservancy in Westchester County, on 1 November. Good quality photographs and descriptions have been submitted for consideration by NYSARC. The second was found by RPG on 10 December, in Glenmont, Albany County, under curious circumstances that raise interesting questions regarding the origin of the bird and that we now describe.

On the afternoon of 10 December 2016, RPG was checking out some household building supplies at the Lowe’s home improvement store in Glenmont, Albany County, NY, when he caught a glimpse of a small bird darting in and out of a display of poinsettias near the checkout lanes. His first impression was of Common Yellowthroat, but when it reappeared giving a second look, the general appearance suggested Orange-crowned Warbler. The bird was observed and photographed gleaning the flower buds in the poinsettias

(Figure 1, p. 42). With the help of a sales associate who produced a handled net, the bird was cornered and captured. With the bird in hand, RPG realized that he was holding a Virginia's Warbler. Failing to reach a licensed wildlife rehabilitator to evaluate the bird's condition to be sure it was well enough to release back to the wild, RPG took the bird home and gave it sugar-water. The bird readily drank and quickly perked up. That evening a rehabber was located and the bird was transferred to their care. Unfortunately, the bird did not survive the night and was returned the next day to RPG, who gave it to JJK for preservation as a museum specimen.

The Glenmont Virginia's Warbler was prepared as a traditional study skin with detached spread wing, partial skeleton, and frozen tissues (heart, skeletal muscle, liver, brain); all preparations are cataloged as NYSM 19236 (Figure 2, p. 42). The bird weighed 6.2 g and had no fat, but it was not emaciated. It had a fully pneumatized skull, lacked a bursa of Fabricius, lacked molt limits, and showed truncated (vs. pointed) tips to the outer rectrices and primaries—all indications of an adult passerine (although skull pneumaticization can complete as early as 1 October in hatch-year birds: Pyle 1997). Internal organs were fresh and easily observed under 12X magnification, but no gonads were seen. Given that testes of even juvenile males are always visible, whereas the smooth undifferentiated ovary of young females is often hard to see, even under high magnification, the absence of visible gonads is most consistent with a hatch-year female—and arguably more consistent with even an adult female than with a male of any age. Finally, the rufous crown and yellow breast patches conspicuously present in NYSM 19236 are generally absent or very inconspicuous in hatch-year females (Pyle 1997, Dunn and Garrett 1997). Thus, the sum of evidence points to an adult (AHY) female.

The attempted rescue and eventual salvage of this bird that surely would have died anyway is a remarkable event, and the specimen, deposited in a public museum where it is freely available for study in perpetuity, is a valuable contribution to ornithology. So far as we know, NYSM 19236 is the only specimen record of Virginia's Warbler from eastern North America. The preservation of the skin and spread wing will enable independent assessment of the age and sex of the bird, and the frozen tissues could be used to definitively determine its sex with sex-chromosome specific DNA markers.

The variety of tissues we have preserved may enable researchers to investigate the most intriguing mystery surrounding this doomed bird found among the poinsettias in a suburban Lowe's: Is this a case of natural dispersal or might the bird have hitched a ride on a truck among the plants and products destined for the store? One might compare the hydrogen isotope signature present in the bird's feathers, which would record the approximate geographic location where the bird underwent its prebasic molt, to the signature in a tissue with faster turnover such as its blood, which would record its approximate location over the preceding three weeks, the average turnover time for a bird's blood cells. If the two tissue types are found to have the same hydrogen isotope

ratio, one could infer that the bird remained in its breeding/molting region in the three-week period prior to its discovery in upstate New York, and thus might have been assisted in its travels to its final resting place. We have not chosen to pursue such laboratory analyses, but by salvaging and preparing the specimen we have made these, and perhaps other investigations possible. We did inquire with the store's garden-center manager and learned that the most recent shipment of poinsettias predated the discovery of the bird by one week, but that these were grown in a greenhouse at a wholesaler in eastern Pennsylvania. Their only other plants at the store were house plants delivered from Florida several weeks prior to the discovery. Given that no deliveries came from anywhere near the range of Virginia's Warbler and that the sighting occurred at a time of year that is consistent with previous records in northeastern North America, we speculate that the bird was a natural vagrant, rather than a hitchhiker.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to thank Charles Dardia for information on the CUMV egg specimen attributed to Virginia's Warbler, Louis Bevier and Willie D'Anna for help with sourcing prior records, two anonymous reviewers for suggestions improving the manuscript, and Shai Mitra for sharing his thoughts on vagrant warblers and for encouraging us to submit this report to *The Kingbird*.

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**EARLIEST RECORDED NESTING ATTEMPT OF
RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*)
IN NEW YORK CITY – SPRING 2016**

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Data presented in DeCandido and Allen (2015) show that in the last decade, Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) nests in New York City (NYC) each year, likely in at least three boroughs (Bronx, Queens and Staten Island). Prior to 2016, the earliest known nesting of this species in NYC related to a female observed on a nest on 24 May 2012, in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, by R. Manian:

<http://citybirder.blogspot.com/2012/06/brooklyn-hummingbirds.html>

On 14 May 2016, one of us (JMW) observed a female Ruby-throated Hummingbird building a nest at the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) in Bronx County. The almost complete nest (Fig. 1) was built facing southeast in the outer branches of a 7.5m tall, non-native alder tree along the south edge of the more southern of the Twin Lakes. The location of this nest is approximately 50 meters from Boulder Bridge where Ruby-throated Hummingbird also nested in 1924. See Williams 1924 for detailed information about that nest; see Britton 1907 for information about Boulder Bridge.

Subsequent visits by JMW to the nest tree on 21 May and again on 28 May suggested that the nest had been abandoned, because no hummingbirds were seen on, in, or near the nest. The nest itself remained intact, and we were able to photograph it in June. On 25 June 2016, while leading a bird walk at NYBG, we found and Deborah Allen photographed an adult female Ruby-throated Hummingbird approximately 50 meters from the abandoned nest and returning to the same perch on the west side of Boulder Bridge. Her behavior suggested to us that she was nesting somewhere else in that same area.

Historical and contemporary breeding records of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds presented in DeCandido and Allen (2015) show that the hummingbird nest discovered by JMW at NYBG on 14 May 2016 is the earliest attempted nesting of this species in New York City: “Females have been seen sitting on nests as early as 24 May 2012; (Prospect Park, Kings County); 30

May 1924 (NYBG, Bronx County); 1 June 2014 (Central Park, New York County); and as late as 14 June 2011 (Richmond County). Young have left the nest from approximately 19-23 June 2012 (Prospect Park, Kings County) and 30 June to 2 July 1924 (NYBG, Bronx County).



Figure 1. Female Ruby-throated Hummingbird at her nest in the New York Botanical Garden (Bronx County) on 14 May 2016. Photograph © Jeffrey M. Ward.

Female Ruby-throated Hummingbirds usually lay eggs before their nest is 100% complete (Robinson et al. 1996). Judging by the size of the nest in Figure 1 on 14 May 2016, it seems to us that this female would have laid eggs in the next few days. Robinson et al. (1996) give 12-14 days as the incubation period, with eggs “hatching asynchronously by 1-3 days.” Assuming the eggs were laid on 16 May, the young would have fledged approximately 15 to 20 June, a few days earlier than the young from the 2012 nest in Prospect Park, Kings County.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the following people for their assistance and advice: Jeffrey M. Ward thanks his girlfriend, Cassandra Alicea, for accompanying him to NYBG to look for birds. We thank Deborah Allen for aging the adult female hummingbird in her photo of 25 June 2016. Finally, we thank the members of the Bob Bird Walks for helping us discover and study migrant and nesting birds in New York City.

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Dr. Stephen Woodman Eaton

NYSOA lost a long-time member with the death of Dr. Stephen W. Eaton on February 16, 2017 at 98 years of age. Dr. Eaton had been a member of this organization since 1952. Until his later years, he and his wife Betty were regular attendees at our Annual Meetings. A strong supporter of The Federation/NYSOA, Steve was editor of *The Kingbird* from 1953 until 1956. He was a Seasonal Highlights Editor for nine editions of *The Kingbird*, and was a Regional Editor for Region 1 (Niagara Frontier) 29 times. He chaired the Federation's Bibliography Committee and contributed to many of their annual reports. Dr. Eaton was a charter member of The Cattaraugus County Bird Club that joined the Federation in 1976.

Steve Eaton was the son of Elon Howard Eaton, author of the two volume *Birds of New York* (1910). Steve was a veteran who served with the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II in southeast Asia. Eaton earned his doctorate at Cornell University in 1949 having studied ornithology, botany, and mammalogy. He then joined the faculty of St. Bonaventure University in Allegany New York. Until his retirement from St. Bonaventure in 1984, Dr. Eaton was a major professor for 22 master's candidates and 8 doctoral students in biology and botany.

Dr. Eaton wrote and published over 100 scientific papers. He authored *The Birds of Cattaraugus County New York* and co-authored *A Flora of the Vascular Plants of Cattaraugus County, New York*. Steve was a contributor on the multivolume series *Birds of North America*, writing accounts for Wild Turkey and Northern Waterthrush.

He was the contributing author for 18 species and co-author for two species accounts in *Bull's Birds of New York State* (1998). Eaton did field work on both New York breeding bird atlas projects and was the author of 44 species accounts in the first atlas (*The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*, 1988).

Stephen Eaton was instrumental in the reintroduction of the Wild Turkey in New York State. Starting in 1965, he participated in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Breeding Bird Survey and continued to cover his route until his acute hearing began to wane in the in the 1980s. He had a strong environmental ethic and served on the board of Western New York's Nature Conservancy. Following his retirement from St. Bonaventure, he worked to find a more environmentally sound alternative to aerial pesticide spraying for mosquito control along the Allegheny River Valley in Cattaraugus County. In retirement, he led many groups on field trips for birders and nature enthusiasts in western New York. He was instrumental in the founding of the Pfeiffer Nature Center in Portville, NY (a NYSOA member organization).

Dr. Eaton was a consummate naturalist and valued teacher. He is survived by his wife Betty and a foster son, Dr. Robert J. Ketterman, along with a large number of former students, colleagues, and friends whose lives were enriched by this man.

REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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The warm and pleasant summer conditions continued with the sixth warmest September on record. The average temperature was 67.0° F, 4.8° above normal, and the monthly precipitation at Buffalo-Niagara International Airport was 3.53", 0.37" below normal. October was mostly mild with unsettled weather bringing rain to ease the major drought conditions. The average temperature was 54.4°, 3.6° above normal, and the monthly precipitation was 4.41", 0.89" above normal. November was mild save for a brief cold spell. The average temperature was 45.1°, 4.4° above normal, the monthly precipitation was 3.35", 0.66" below normal, and only 0.9" of snow, (7.0" below normal), fell. The only day with strong winds was on the 10th during passage of a cold front. Weather information was obtained from National Weather Service monthly summaries for the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport.

The mild weather seemed to prolong summer a bit and also push back some of the goose, swan, diving duck, and gull migrants. Some examples included low numbers of Tundra Swan, Canvasback, large gulls, and Bonaparte's Gulls that in many previous years would grow to large numbers in November, but this year these species' peak numbers occurred beyond the fall season.

Up to four Ross's Geese were observed together at the Gypsum Pond in Oakfield, representing a maximum count for the Region. A large assemblage of geese occurred at this location in November representing most of the other semi-regular goose species as well, including the season maxima of 18 Cackling Geese and four **Greater White-fronted Geese**. Greater White-fronted Geese were found at three other locations, about the new normal for fall seasons. **Brant** reports along Lake Ontario were unremarkable, and it was unusual for the maximum count (19) to come from Lake Erie instead. **Trumpeter Swans** were reported at Iroquois NWR and Oak Orchard WMA, which by geography, could have been the same individual. Besides a few reports starting in late October, Tundra Swans were just starting to show up on their Niagara River wintering stronghold in late November.

The duck migration was unremarkable. **Harlequin Duck** is becoming more regular in recent years. Up to four were regularly observed from Niagara Falls SP, and there were sightings of two at Buffalo and one at Point Breeze this season. The Buffalo Ornithological Society is counting on the harlequins to show up for the NYSOA Annual Meeting and Birder's Conference in Niagara Falls in November 2017. Counts of Red-necked Grebes and Horned Grebes were relatively low. **Eared Grebes** were present at Batavia WWTP well into

November, with an unusually high count of six from a few observers in mid-November.

The maximum count of Great Egrets at the Oak Orchard WMA roost was 160. There were two **Cattle Egret** reports, with one on a breakwall at Dunkirk Harbor on 19 October and another in a Somerset field on 5 November.

Up to seven **Black Vultures** were observed in Lewiston. More surprising was the large number of Turkey Vultures remaining in November in the Niagara Gorge area, with 300 counted on 10 November. Rough-legged Hawks were scarce. The fall season raptor highlight was a **Golden Eagle** over Buffalo Harbor, photographed by Sue Barth on 23 October.

It was a relatively average fall shorebird season but with several highlights. Two **American Avocets** in Lewiston on the slightly late date of 14 October were unexpected and a nice find by Beverly Seyler. **Red Knots** are getting increasingly difficult to find, so reports of four and then one at Buffalo Harbor in September by Joe Mitchell were notable. Joe also had two record late Least Sandpipers on 29 October. Other highlights included Celeste Morien's find of a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** in the Town of Shelby, three **Long-billed Dowitchers** at Tonawanda WMA, two **Red-necked Phalarope** reports, and a **Red Phalarope** at Barcelona on 20 November.

There were not many strong wind events pushing gulls and jaegers into the east end of Lake Erie this season, but the few sightings of less common species were still generally associated with windy days, including three reports of **Black-legged Kittiwake**, two reports of juvenile **Sabine's Gulls**, as well as a few **Little Gull** sightings. Bonaparte's Gulls were not especially numerous in November compared with other years, nor were the large gulls, including no reports of Glaucous Gull. There were two **Thayer's Gull** reports including conclusive photographs. A **Long-tailed Jaeger** on 8 September certainly made the day for Alec Humann and Sue Barth, which followed a sighting in August from the same location of the Erie Basin Marina tower. Several **Parasitic Jaeger** and unidentified jaegers rounded out the season report.

David Junkin banded 26 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** in Wethersfield this fall. There were no reports of Snowy, Short-eared, or Long-eared Owls. A late **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was well described in Angelica on 3 November. I'm naturally suspicious of heard-only cuckoos in the fall season due to confusion with chipmunk calls, as some fall reports can be attributed to this, so it is reaffirming to have photos and/or a good description of actual sighting.

What was very likely the same **Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird** as last year (2015) made an extended appearance in the yard of Julie Heilman in Poland, Chautauqua County. To my knowledge, birders were not made aware of the occurrence of this hummingbird that was present from 8 August through at least 16 November. Photos from 2015 could not be conclusively identified to species, and it was considered an adult female.

There were **Fish Crow** reports from Olcott and also coming to the crow roost in Buffalo. I feel like I write it each season, but Common Raven sightings

are occurring more often in previously unexpected locations. The high count of **Purple Martins** coming to roost at Grass Island, the cattail marsh just offshore in the Niagara River at Buckhorn Island SP, was 3,500 on 13 September. On a side note, Grass Island is facing increased pressure from boaters, and it wouldn't take much for them to ruin this short season martin roost and valuable habitat for other wildlife and vegetation.

Red-breasted Nuthatches irrupted this year, and they were widespread back to late August. Sue Barth photographed a wren at Amherst SP on 21 September and pretty much assumed it was a Marsh Wren because it was found in cattails, but others later reviewed her photos and determined it was a **Sedge Wren** that was on the late side. There was one report of **Bohemian Waxwings** along the Lake Ontario shoreline.

A **Worm-eating Warbler** photographed by Shelley Seidman at Times Beach NP on 4 September was the highlight of the fall warblers. This was only the fifth fall record for the Region. A **Connecticut Warbler** was a nice find by Kevin Rybczynski at Tiff NP on 20 September. A **Nelson's Sparrow** found by Greg Lawrence at Gouinlock's Preserve in Attica on 26 October is a first for at least the Region 1 portion of Wyoming County. Alec Humann encouraged birders to get out to look for rarities on 18 November and then found the Region's **latest ever Scarlet Tanager** at Buckhorn Island SP. Few finches made it south this fall with only small numbers of **Pine Siskins** plus a single report of an **Evening Grosbeak** at a feeder in Lewiston.

The 81st annual BOS October Count was held on the 8th and compiled by Marcie Jacklin. Temperatures dropped throughout the day, and light rain in the morning made for a poor count day. The count recorded 163 species. Record high counts included 740 Wood Duck, 712 Common Merganser, 7188 Double-crested Cormorant, 110 Great Egret, 34 Bald Eagle, 17 Sandhill Crane, 2 Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 32 Eastern Screech-Owl, 17 Peregrine Falcon, 2 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (in Ontario sections), and 2 Hooded Warbler. There were no record low counts.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AmSP – Amherst SP, ERIE; BeSP – Beaver I SP, ERIE; BMAC – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; BOSOC – Buffalo Ornithological Society 8 Oct Count; BufH – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; BuSP – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; BWWTP – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant, GENE; ChauL – Chautauqua L, CHAU; DH – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; EvSP – Evangola SP, ERIE; FMCS – Four Mile Creek SP, NIAG; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; GHSP – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; INWR – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; LBSP – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; LESP – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; NF – Niagara Falls, NIAG; NFSP – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; NPP – Niagara Power Project on Niagara R, NIAG; NR – Niagara R, ERIE/NIAG; OOWMA – Oak Orchard WMA, ORLE/GENE; PB – Point Breeze, ORLE; PG – Point Gratiot, CHAU; SPWS – Sinking Ponds Wildlife Sanctuary, ERIE; TBNP – Times Beach NP, Buffalo, ERIE; Tiff NP – Tiff Nature Preserve, Buffalo, ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; WoBSP – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr OOWMA 14 Oct (WD, CMO, SB); DH 23 Oct – 23 Nov (GV); Bond L CP NIAG 17-18 Nov (BS); max 4 Oakfield GENE 28-29 Nov (AH, KM).

Snow Goose: arr 2 Shelby ORLE 26 Sep; DH 10, 14 Oct; BMAC 18, 20 Oct; 4 Sturgeon Pt ERIE, max 15 TWMA 22 Oct; Attica WYOM 26 Oct; 3, 5, 8 Oakfield GENE 29 Oct, 23, 28 Nov; INWR 5 Nov; OOWMA 8 Nov; Wethersfield WYOM 19 Nov.

ROSS'S GOOSE (R1): 3, 4 Oakfield GENE 23, 26-28 Nov (JM, SB), record count.

Brant: arr 15 GHSP 10 Oct; BWWTP 22 Oct (KSu); 11 Sturgeon Pt ERIE (SB), max 19 Hamburg ERIE 22 Oct (JM).

Cackling Goose: arr BuSP 21 Sep; 6, 3 SPWS 3 Oct, 8 Nov (LH); 3 BOSOC; 2 LBSP 9 Oct; 1, 4 BWWTP 14 Oct, 2 Nov; 3, 1 Tiff NP 15, 18 Oct; 5 OOWMA 8 Nov; max 18, 11 Oakfield GENE 25, 26 Nov (PY, AG); 9 PB 26 Nov.

Mute Swan: max 7 WTSP 13 Nov; Cassadaga CHAU 6, 12 Nov, only report away from L Ontario.

Trumpeter Swan: OOWMA 14 Oct (CMo); INWR 18, 29, 30 Nov; only reports.

Tundra Swan: arr 4 ChauL, 3 OOWMA 28 Oct; max 37 BeSP NR 21 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 209 INWR, 125 BWWTP 30 Sep.

Gadwall: 50 BWWTP 29 Oct; max 227 INWR 18 Nov (CMo).

Am. Wigeon: 150 INWR, max 200 TWMA 29 Oct.

Am. Black Duck: max 73 BWWTP 23 Nov.

Blue-winged Teal: max 50 BWWTP 1 Sep (RR); last 2 BWWTP 23 Nov (DBea).

N. Shoveler: 224, 300, max 382 BWWTP 30 Sep, 29 Oct, 27 Nov.

N. Pintail: max 174 Wilson NIAG 24 Sep; 135 GHSP 10 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: 98 TWMA 12 Sep; max 113 TWMA 7 Oct; 100 INWR 6 Nov.

Canvasback: max 70 NF 29 Nov; few reports; apparent late arriving this fall.

Redhead: max 50 Ellery ChauL & NF 26 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: arr BuSP 6 Sep; max 200 Attica WYOM 26 Oct.

Greater Scaup: BWWTP 18 Sep, lingering; arr 8 Wilson NIAG 24 Sep.

Lesser Scaup: arr Wilson 24 Sep.

Harlequin Duck: arr NFSP 25 Oct, max 4 at this location thru (CK); 2 Buffalo NR 19 Nov (WD); PB 23-26 Nov (GL).

Surf Scoter: arr Buffalo NR 27 Sep; 16 GHSP 10 Oct; max 45 Buffalo NR 18 Oct; 31 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 22 Oct.

White-winged Scoter: arr 11 Wilson NIAG 24 Sep; max 63 GHSP 10 Oct; 59 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 22 Oct; 25 Buffalo NR 6 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr 32 WoBSP & 4 Buffalo NR 13 Oct; 3 EvSP 15 Oct; 2 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 22 Oct; Olcott NIAG 1 Nov; 5 DH 30 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr BOSOC; max 350 Buffalo NR 19 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr Sturgeon Pt ERIE 14 Oct; 142 Ellery ChauL 14 Nov; max 2390 Buffalo NR 19 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr NFSP 19 Oct; max 300 NF 26 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: 87 S Dayton CATT & 80 DH 24 Nov; max 141 Cuba L ALLE 25 Nov.

Com. Merganser: 350 LESP 7 Nov; max 500 Barcelona CHAU 20 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr Barcelona CHAU 11 Sep; max 430 FNFP 16 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: 126, 600, 496 BWWTP 30 Sep, 29 Oct, 2 Nov; 32 Langford ERIE 22 Oct; 128 ChauL 28 Oct; 5 Cuba L ALLE 25 Nov.

Red-throated Loon: arr 4 BOSOC; NF 18 Oct; ChauL 28 Oct; 6 FNFP 16 Nov; 7 PB 17 Nov; BWWTP 26 Nov (AG, JB, CW); DH 29 Nov.

Com. Loon: FNFP 1, 14 Sep; max 45 GHSP 9 Oct.

Horned Grebe: arr 2 Wilson NIAG 21 Sep; INWR 30 Sep; max 18 DH 8 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: FNFP 1 Sep (WD); Wilson NIAG 24 Sep; 5 BOSOC; 6 GHSP 9 Oct; 2 Yates ORLE 17 Nov; PB 23, 26 Nov; DH 28 Nov.

Eared Grebe: max 6 BWWTP 13 Nov; at least two present 1 Sep thru 20 Nov.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 1800 BufH 16 Oct.

Am. Bittern: Batavia GENE 8 Sep; INWR 17 Sep; Amherst ERIE 9 Oct; last INWR 29 Oct.

Great Egret: max 160, 127, 120 OOWMA 5, 17 Sep, 3 Oct (CMr, CMo, WD), roost location; 109 TWMA 11 Sep; last INWR 1 Nov (RR).

Cattle Egret: DH 19 Oct (RSt), on breakwall; Somerset NIAG 5 Nov (TM).

Green Heron: last 4 BOSOC.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 21 TWMA 12 Sep.

Black Vulture: 3, 7, 6 Lewiston NIAG 23 Sep, 29 Oct, 26 Nov, regular at location; FNFP 16 Oct.

Turkey Vulture: 300 NPP 10 Nov, good count for date; Alden ERIE 25 Nov.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Osprey: last AmSP 2 Nov.

Bald Eagle: widespread reports; 34 BOSOC; max 4 DH 25 Oct.

Red-shouldered Hawk: BOSOC; Wales ERIE 31 Oct; no Nov reports.

Broad-winged Hawk: 2 Wales ERIE 5 Sep; Salamanca CATT, Tiffit NP 11 Sep; last BOSOC; only reports.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr Dunkirk Airport CHAU 1 Nov; few reports.

Golden Eagle: BufH 23 Oct (SB, ph), only report.

Virginia Rail: last 3 N Harmony CHAU 24 Sep.

Sora: N Harmony CHAU 24 Sep; BWWTP 11 Oct; last 2 INWR 14 Oct.

Com. Gallinule: max 35 INWR 5 Sep; last 2 INWR 14 Oct.

Am. Coot: 100, max 300 Mayville ChauL 2, 23 Oct; 65 DH 24 Oct; 126 Celeron ChauL 27 Nov.

Am. Avocet: 2 Lewiston NIAG 14 Oct (BS), on the later side.

Sandhill Crane: multiple reports in Sep, Oct at and near INWR; max 8 John White WMA GENE 16 Sep (GL); 17 BOSOC; 5 INWR 17 Nov.

Black-bellied Plover: eight loc; max 16 BufH 25 Sep (JM); last 2 BWWTP 26 Oct.

Am. Golden-Plover: nine loc; max 35 Batavia GENE 19 Sep; last Hamburg ERIE 19 Nov (PY).

Semipalmated Plover: 26 Tiffit NP 11 Sep; max 30 BufH 18 Sep; last 3 BWWTP 14 Oct.

Killdeer: max 107 Shelby ORLE 4 Sep.

Spotted Sandpiper: last Pomfret CHAU 28 Oct (GV).

Solitary Sandpiper: max 6, 6 Lewiston NIAG 7, 9 Sep; last N Harmony CHAU 24 Sep.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 24 TWMA 13 Sep; last Bond L CP NIAG 7 Nov.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 84 TWMA 3 Sep; last TWMA 3 Nov.

Ruddy Turnstone: 6 BufH 8 Sep; Buffalo NR 27 Sep; only reports.

Red Knot: 4, 1 BufH 5, 18 Sep (JM), increasingly rare.

Stilt Sandpiper: 8, 8 TWMA 3, 5 Sep; 4 Lewiston NIAG 7 Sep; Bond L CP NIAG 16 Sep; INWR 14 Oct; last 2 TWMA 15 Oct.

Sanderling: six loc; max 8 DH 10 Sep; last 2 BOSOC.

Dunlin: max 20 TWMA 31 Oct.

Baird's Sandpiper: BufH 2 Oct, only report.
Least Sandpiper: last 2 TWMA 29 Oct (JM), late.

White-rumped Sandpiper: BufH 5 Sep; 2, 2 TWMA 9 Sep, 31 Oct; last 2 BWWTP 2-3 Nov.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Shelby ORLE 3 Sep (CMo); only report.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 23, last 12 TWMA 2 Sep, 31 Oct.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 40 Batavia GENE 14 Sep; 30 BufH 18 Sep.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 4, 2 Lewiston NIAG 1, 14 Sep; 3 TWMA, 2 BufH 5 Sep; last Bond L CP NIAG 16 Sep.

Long-billed Dowitcher: 3 TWMA 9 Oct (PY), only report.

Wilson's Snipe: last 2 TWMA 3 Nov.

Red-necked Phalarope: TWMA 2-5 Sep (WD); last BOSOC; only reports.

Red Phalarope: Barcelona CHAU 20 Nov (SB); only report.

Parasitic Jaeger: GHSP 10 Oct (WD); 1, 1 Buffalo NR 13, 19 Nov (JM, WD, SB); only reports.

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: BufH 8 Sep (AH!), SB), rare; 2nd of year for this loc.

jaeger species: 2, 2 FNSP 1, 14 Sep; Wilson NIAG 24 Sep; BOSOC.

Black-legged Kittiwake: arr WoBSP 5 Nov (DD); NPP 6 Nov (RT, KR); Buffalo NR 13 Nov (JM, PY); only reports; all juvs.

Sabine's Gull: 1, 1 Buffalo NR 29 Oct, 13 Nov (PY), juvs; only reports.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 1200 NPP 19 Nov; low max for fall season.

Little Gull: arr NFSP 30 Oct; 2, 2 Buffalo NR 13, 19 Nov; FNSP 16 Nov; 2 NPP 19 Nov.

THAYER'S GULL: NPP 20 Nov (CK, ph); Lewiston NR 22 Nov (WD, ph), only reports with details.

Iceland Gull: arr NFSP 11 Nov; max 6 NPP 19 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 9 NFSP 30 Sep; nearly present throughout year at this loc; 5 Cuba L ALLE 13 Oct (TL); eight other loc.

Glaucous Gull: no reports.

Caspian Tern: max 16 Tonawanda ERIE 17 Sep; last 4 BOSOC.

Black Tern: FNSP 8 Sep; BWWT, Alma ALLE 11 Sep; only reports.

Com. Tern: max 161 FNSP; last BufH 13 Nov.

Forster's Tern: WoBSP 5 Nov (DD), only report.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Bond L CP 2 Sep; 2 BOSOC; Angelica ALLE 3 Nov (KSc), well described, late.

Black-billed Cuckoo: last Tiff NP 15 Sep (DSh).

Snowy Owl: no reports.

Short-eared Owl: no reports.

N. Saw-whet Owl: 26 banded Wethersfield WYOM 4 Oct – 5 Nov (DJ); BMAC 30 Oct.

Com. Nighthawk: 10 Lockport NIAG 7 Sep; max 14 TWMA 11 Sep; only double digit reports; last 8 OOWMA 3 Oct.

Chimney Swift: last 3 Lockport NIAG, AmSP 8 Oct.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Grand I ERIE 5 Oct.

RUFOUS/ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD: Kennedy CHAU 8 Aug thru at least 16 Nov (JH), possibly same bird at loc previous fall.

Red-headed Woodpecker: five loc; max 4 FNSP 5, 10 Sep.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr 3 Buffalo ERIE 24 Sep.

Merlin: 10-15 loc each month.

Peregrine Falcon: too many reports to summarize.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: BuSP 1 Sep; WTSP 2 Sep; AmSP 3 Sep; 2 Gaines ORLE 6 Sep (DBem); good showing.

E. Wood-Pewee: last Newfane NIAG 13 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last FMCS 27 Sep.

Willow Flycatcher: last LBSP 1 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: last Amherst ERIE 11 Sep.

E. Phoebe: last LBSP, Dunkirk Airport CHAU 26 Oct.

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU, Bond L CP NIAG 15 Sep.

E. Kingbird: last Newfane NIAG 14 Sep.

N. Shrike: arr TWMA 28 Oct; few reports.

Yellow-throated Vireo: last 2 Gaines ORLE 20 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: last Sheridan CHAU 25 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: last AmSP 4 Oct (RSa), late.

Philadelphia Vireo: Ellicottville CATT 4 Sep; 2 Attica WYOM 12 Sep; 2 FMCS 18 Sep; last AmSP 4 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: last E Aurora ERIE 15 Oct.

FISH CROW: Olcott NIAG 2 Sep (CK); Buffalo ERIE 5, 28 Nov (PY); continued increase in reports.

Com. Raven: 2 WoBSP 12 Sep (SB); GHSP 14 Oct; 2 Tonawanda ERIE 25 Oct, 14 Nov; Grand I ERIE 3 Nov; 2 Shelby ORLE 21 Nov; continuing increase in north.

Purple Martin: 1800, max 3500 BuSP 6, 13 Sep (CMo, AH), entering night roost; last 5 OOWMA BOSOC (GL).

Tree Swallow: max 1000 BWWT 16 Sep; last 18 OOWMA & 5 INWR 28 Oct.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: last NFSP 28 Oct.

Bank Swallow: last 2 BWWT 19 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: last WTSP 16 Sep.
Barn Swallow: last LBSP 16 Oct.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 10 FNPS 10 Sep; widespread.
House Wren: last BeSP 11 Oct
Winter Wren: arr 2 INWR 19 Sep.
SEDGE WREN (R1): AmSP 21 Sep (SB, photo), late.
Marsh Wren: 2, 1 Tift NP 17, 19 Nov (SS); TWMA 23 Nov (JM); only reports beyond Oct.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last Tift NP 19 Sep.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr FNPS 8 Sep.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr AmSP, Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU 15 Sep.
Veery: last BufH 10 Oct (SS, ph).
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Wilson NIAG 12 Sep; last 2 BOSOC.
Swainson's Thrush: last LBSP 16 Oct.
Wood Thrush: last BOSOC.
Gray Catbird: Ashford CATT 2 Nov; Wethersfield WYOM 5 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.
Brown Thrasher: last Tift NP 19 Nov.
Am. Pipit: arr 16 BufH, 2 Porter NIAG 25 Sep; max 35 Bethany GENE 7 Nov.
Bohemian Waxwing: 17 Sunset Beach ORLE 5 Nov (MS), only report.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: arr Newfane NIAG 8 Nov, only report.
Snow Bunting: arr 2 Dunkirk CHAU 23 Oct; max 100 Somerset NIAG 1 Nov; max 100 Newfane NIAG 8 Nov.
Ovenbird: last AmSP 4 Oct.
WORM-EATING WARBLER (R1): TBNP 4 Sep (SS, ph), fifth fall record.
N. Waterthrush: last WoBSP 29 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last N Harmony CHAU 19 Sep.
"Brewster's" Warbler: Gaines ORLE 6 Sep (DBem), rarely reported in fall.
Black-and-white Warbler: last Buffalo ERIE 24 Sep.
Tennessee Warbler: last BufH, Sheridan CHAU 9 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: last FNPS 21 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: last AmSP, BufH 11 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: Tift NP 20 Sep (KR, SB), rare.
Mourning Warbler: five reports; last PG, Tift NP 19 Sep.

Com. Yellowthroat: last Birdsall ALLE 29 Oct.
Hooded Warbler: 4 LBSP 4 Sep; 4 LESP 19 Sep; last 2 BOSOC.
Am. Redstart: last 3 BOSOC.
Cape May Warbler: last 3 BOSOC.
N. Parula: last Wellsville ALLE 23 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: last AmSP 11 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: last BOSOC.
Blackburnian Warbler: last Amherst ERIE 17 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: last WoBSP 25 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last BOSOC.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 13 BuSP 19 Sep (AH); last Tift NP 19 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last BufH 9 Oct.
Palm Warbler: last Wellsville ALLE 23 Oct.
Pine Warbler: last 2 Forestville CHAU 10 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: five loc Nov.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last 2 AmSP 9 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last 2 LESP 11 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: arr FNPS, BuSP 1 Sep; last 2 BOSOC.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: last BufH 23 Oct.
Field Sparrow: Sheridan CHAU 5 Nov; SPWS 15 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: last TWMA 3 Nov.
Nelson's Sparrow: Attica WYOM 26 Oct (GL), only report.
Fox Sparrow: arr AmSP, Newfane NIAG 9 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr BufH 5 Sep.
White-throated Sparrow: arr LBSP 10 Sep.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr 2 LBSP 22 Sep; max 75 Sheridan CHAU 10 Oct.
Scarlet Tanager: last BuSP 18 Nov (AH), 2nd Nov report, record late.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Batavia GENE 20 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: last WoBSP 30 Sep.
Bobolink: 25 BWWT 1 Sep (RR); last E Amherst ERIE 4 Sep.
Rusty Blackbird: arr Hamburg ERIE 19 Sep; max 318 OOWMA 3 Oct; 197 INWR 7 Oct; 120 TWMA 22 Oct.
Baltimore Oriole: last BuSP 9 Sep.
Pine Siskin: arr Wilson NIAG 25 Sep; max 9 Shelby ORLE 21 Nov; few reports.
Evening Grosbeak: Lewiston NIAG 31 Oct (BS), at feeder, only report.

REGION 2—GENESEEE

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It was a warm autumn, with the overall average temperature 55.4° F, 4.4° above average and the third warmest on record. September brought a few short cool periods, and a high of only 64° on the 24th broke a string of 102 consecutive days with highs above 70°. Still, an average of 66.8° was 5.0° above normal and made it the ninth warmest September recorded. October saw a gradual transition from summer to the unsettled weather of fall, with a warm first two-thirds then a cool final third. The first dip below freezing was not until the 31st, and temperatures averaged 54.2°, 3.6° above normal. November continued persistently mild, with only a brief cold spell around the 20th. Temperatures averaged 45.2°, 4.7° above normal for the tenth warmest November on record.

September rainfall at 2.30" was 1.08" below normal, and 1.76" of that fell on 17-18 September. But it was a bit of a break in the drought. October brought 5.26" of rain, 2.54" above normal for the ninth wettest October and even more help in drought relief. Some rain fell on 20 days of the month and 2.53" on the 21st was a record for the date. November precipitation at 2.60" was only 0.34" below normal. The first big snowfall from 20-21 November dropped 15" of lake effect snow in the Rochester area, but the month's total was just 15.9", still 7.7" above normal. The fall ended at the 19th wettest on record. All through the season, there were no major fronts to push migration.

The fall migration seemed slow and weak much of the time, but numbers of species found each month were well above the months' 10-year averages: September - 219 (213.1), October - 211 (198.5), and November - 160 (148.5). Arrival dates, in common with recent years, were mostly in the first quartile and departures split between the interquartile range and fourth quartile of their historical distributions. Peak counts were generally low, but essentially all expected species were located. Certainly, a large part of the good reporting is due to more use of eBird, with about 21,778, 19,110, and 14,235 lines of records, respectively, by month. Additional data came from the BBBO banding data, geneseebirds reports, and personal communications. About 256 full species were reported plus two subspecies, one hybrid, two with species ID not certain, and one likely escape or release (a Northern Bobwhite).

Proceeding to details, we start with the waterfowl. Generally, fall arrivals were near the early end of their distributions, with quite a few of the puddle ducks having been already moving in August. Only Canvasback was record early on 4 October. Peak numbers were mostly low and often outliers from all other reported numbers. This fall did not bring either Greater White-fronted Goose or Ross's Goose to our Region, and the usual Barrow's Goldeneye at Point Breeze was not reported. There was a Barrow's/Common Goldeneye at

Hamlin Beach State Park on 25 November. Snow Geese were few through season's end. Brant numbers were up a bit from last fall, but the peak count of 400 was low by historical standards. Cackling Goose arrived on 9 October and was reported in numbers typical of recent years through the season. As usual, there were also numbers of "intermediate" geese noted with no efforts made to separate. *B. canadensis parvipes* from *B. hutchinsii taverneri*. All three regular swan species were reported in expected numbers and locations. Puddle duck numbers were unexceptional, with several of the best counts late in the season at Round Pond in the Town of Greece. A count of 541 Northern Pintail passing the Hamlin Beach lakewatch was respectable but still historically relatively low. There was only one Eurasian Wigeon report at a late date of 5 November. Diving duck arrivals were mostly scattered through September into half of October. Numbers were low, with the best being 614 Long-tailed Ducks on 30 October and 2842 Red-breasted Mergansers on 22 November at the Hamlin Beach lakewatch. About ten King Eiders were found at several sites beginning on 24 October, and a female Harlequin Duck found at Irondequoit Bay Outlet on 13 November by an RBA field trip remained through season's end. Scaup, Redhead, and Ring-necked Ducks were only seen in low numbers near Lake Ontario and increased later in the Finger Lakes to our south, typical of recent years.

Loon and grebe numbers were poor all season, yet the first 100+ count of Common Loon was 105 at an early date of 27 September, with the highest count only 226 on 9 October. The best Red-throated Loon total was 200 on 23 October. A count of 354 Red-necked Grebes on 30 October would have been relatively high for fall until very recent years, with some much higher numbers now but typically in very late November into early December.

Other waterbird reports of special interest included: good numbers of Double-crested Cormorant through the fall, not surprising with the big colony now on Irondequoit Bay; a high 92 Great Blue Herons at NMWMA (Morgan Road Marshes) on 12 September; an American White Pelican found by Mike Gullo on Round Pond at a record late 10-11 November; an immature Little Blue Heron at Maxwell Creek, Wayne County, for several days 3-9 October after being found by Mike Gullo; the usual November Cattle Egrets missing from this Region, though found in two sites only a few miles outside; 45 Black-crowned Night-Herons at the NMWMA (Morgan Road Marshes) on 1 September; and a *plegadis* ibis species seen by Dave Tetlow on Salmon Creek, Town of Greece, on 19 October. Black Vulture records were a single at the High Acres Nature Area (HANA), Town of Perinton, on 31 October, and a few lingering in Letchworth State Park on 27 November.

Noteworthy raptor records were few, but of note were: a late Osprey on 6 November at HANA; good numbers of Bald Eagles; two Northern Goshawks each in September and October; only a few Red-shouldered Hawks seen, the last on 18 November at the Conesus Lake Inlet WMA; a decent count of Red-tailed Hawks at Braddock Bay on 8 September; and the first Rough-legged Hawk of

the season on 1 November, and only nine seen for the season. There were no late Broad-winged Hawks this season. Merlin and Peregrine Falcon numbers were good each month of the season. Moving to nocturnal raptors: we had no Snowy Owl reports, but Short-eared Owls arrived at Ganondagan on 14 October and 10 were found on the first DEC owl survey of the fall on 22 November, Long-eared Owl was found in N. Wolcott, Wayne County, and N. Saw-whet Owl was seen each month, with four banded at BBBO on 16 October and one seen, heard, and photographed by Mike Gullo at Hamlin beach SP on 28 November. Northern Shrike arrived on 26 October in the Nations Road area, with half a dozen more reports in the second half of November.

Marsh bird reports were the usual few, with the most interesting: departure dates for Sora and Common Gallinule on 8 and 11 October, respectively; a surprise, late Virginia Rail in the Brush Creek marshes on the Parma/Hilton town line on 25 November; and good numbers of lingering Sandhill Cranes, with 70-79 reported on the Region 2 side of Armitage Road, Town of Savannah, Wayne County in the NMWMA on 13 and 29-30 November.

Shorebird variety was good, with 26 species in September, dropping to 19 species in October, and with 10 species hanging on to typical departure dates in November. Of the nearly regular species, only Upland Sandpiper and the rarer Hudsonian Godwit and Red Knot were missed, and Willet, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and Western Sandpiper were reported this fall. Generally numbers were relatively low, but some of the better counts included: 119 Killdeer in Hamlin on 5 September; 60 Lesser Yellowlegs on 1 September, 90 Least Sandpipers on 6 September, 40 Semipalmated Sandpipers on 17 September, and 4 Red-necked Phalaropes on 1 September, all at the NMWMA (Morgan Rd. Marshes); 90 least Sandpipers at the Montezuma Audubon Center on 1 September; 10-11 Long Dowitchers on 22-23 October; and 21 Wilson's Snipe on 17 September. Purple Sandpiper arrived on 11 November at Sodus Point and two more were seen briefly at Irondequoit Bay Outlet on 19 November. An American Woodcock on 22 November at HANA was unusual for birding records, though probably not so for hunters in the fall.

The gulls and terns provided fewer than usual highlights, but still there were interesting observations. After no jaegers in September, there were eight Parasitic and a jaeger species in October and one each Pomarine and Parasitic plus two more jaeger species in November. Black-legged Kittiwakes were reported in a bit above average total numbers on five dates in October and November, with rarely reported adult birds on 6 November at Hamlin Beach SP and 22 November off Edgemere Drive, Town of Greece. Passing Bonaparte's Gull numbers were very poor, but a few good collections were noted on mudflats in October and November. An adult Little Gull was seen near the Summerville Pier on 29 October by George Ford, and immature Franklin's Gulls were seen at Northrup Creek, Town of Greece, on 1 October by Andy Guthrie and Pat Martin and at LaSalle Landing Park at the south end of Irondequoit Bay on 9 October by Kim Hartquist, Brad Carlson, and Kevin Rybczynski. Among

the scarcer winter gulls, we again had Lesser Black-backed Gull each month increasing to at least 24 individuals in November, Iceland Gull arriving on 30 October, and Glaucous Gull arriving on 22 November. The regular terns were reported to typical departure dates, with a last Black Tern on 23 September and Forster's Tern to 4 October. Caspian Tern and Common Tern were last reported on 18 and 19 October, respectively.

The non-passerine landbirds, other than the falcons and owls treated earlier, are often poorly reported, but this fall brought a number of interesting records. Eurasian Collared-Dove was spotted in each month at the usual Greenwell farm site in the Town of Hamlin on surprisingly few occasions given the number of birders passing and looking. Both cuckoos were last reported on 7 October. Common Nighthawk reporting was slim this fall, with the peak 43 on 19 September and a last date to only 22 September. Similarly, Chimney Swift reports were poor, with a peak count of just 56 on 1 October and a last date of 6 October, both observations away from the usual Greiggsville school site. There were no Ruby-throated hummingbird or Red-headed Woodpecker reports after September.

Now for the special records. A HY female Rufous Hummingbird appeared at a Town of Greece feeder in the third week of October. The homeowners have kept a hummingbird feeder up late for years and finally had a special visitor. With no connection to the local birding community, they finally sent an email to Scott Weidensaul, who contacted Bob Yunick in Albany, who has long banded wintering hummers. He made arrangements to visit and captured, ID'd, and banded the bird on 13 December. The location was such that general birder access was not possible. Unfortunately, the bird was not seen after a morning feeding on 17 December, the day before the Rochester Christmas Bird Count. The homeowners kept the heater lamps up on the roosting location and feeder for over a week in case the bird might return, but it did not. Next, we had several late Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports, but on 19 November Chris Wood and Jessie Barry were birding Webster Park and found and photographed an apparent Yellow-breasted x Red-naped Sapsucker. A few others found and photographed it later that day and on 23 November. The bird certainly showed visual characteristics of both species.

Among the passerines, we again find all the expected regularly occurring species and a few interesting rarities recorded, with only a very few irregulars missed. The missed included just a few early departing warblers that don't often make it to September, Grasshopper and Nelson's Sparrows, and the several winter finches simply not here this fall. Special rarities included the Region's fourth Gray Kingbird found by Melissa Mance-Coniglio in the Town of Bergen, far western Monroe County, on 28 October and seen and photographed by many through 23 November; single Cave Swallows on 19 and 20 November at Hamlin Beach SP seen by Dave Tetlow and Kim Hartquist and then by Chris Wood, part of a weak movement of a few birds to the eastern Great Lakes at that time; Bicknell's Thrush banded at BBBO on 22 and 23 September; and the Region's

First Dark-eyed “Pink-sided” Junco found by Andy Guthrie in Hamlin Beach SP on 24 November and seen and photographed by many through the rest of the season and beyond. Interestingly, the junco was found only a very short distance from where a “Gray-headed” Junco was found on the same date in 1990. That bird stayed into February 1991.

Less rare but still either increasingly scarce or very irregular were: four Olive-sided Flycatchers in September; White-eyed Vireo banded at BBBO on 27 September and then another banded at the late date of 2 November; Bohemian Waxwing on 31 October at Hamlin Beach plus a likely flock of 12 passing offshore in Town of Greece on 13 November; Connecticut Warbler on 9 September and 5 October; Yellow-breasted Chat banded at BBBO on 28 October; Clay-colored Sparrow during the Montezuma Muck Race on 17 September; and Evening Grosbeak in late October and in several places in November.

Most departures were split between the interquartile ranges and fourth quartiles of their old (to 1984) distributions, with only five species at later dates, though all of these have been reported later yet in one or more intervening years. Among the notable later departures were: Orange-crowned Warbler to 18 November; Bay-breasted Warbler to 16 October; Yellow Warbler to 15 October; Blackpoll Warbler to 24 October; and a record late Swainson’s Thrush photographed at Ellison Park, Town of Perinton, on 15 November by Lauri Mattle. Regular half hardies reported to late November included Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Eastern Towhee, and Fox Sparrow. Generally, peak numbers for most species were relatively low. An apparent irruption of Red-breasted Nuthatches in late summer fell off to the species being scarce this fall. Orange-crowned Warbler was well reported in 18 records, only three of which were banded at BBBO this season. Both swallow and blackbird gatherings reported this fall did not rise to anywhere near historical highs.

BBBO banding records provide a chance to make quantitative comparisons. This also provides an opportunity to illustrate the need to use care in this type of effort. This fall, eleven species were banded in numbers that look high relative to their totals for the last five fall seasons. However, if one looks more critically and compares this season’s numbers with the past five season’s averages, none of the differences are statistically significant using two standard deviations or more as a criterion. A problem is that the variances in numbers of birds banded year to year are often large, so that only very large changes can be detected as anything different from this normal variability. Either gathering data over many years to possibly improve the variance or examining the data to remove single events that produce numbers outside the normal distribution for specific reasons will reduce this problem. Overall, the number banded this fall was only slightly above the 5-year average at 4962 birds. There were 12 days, six each in September and October, with numbers of birds banded above 100. The only day higher was with 388 banded on 31 October, but 340 of these were American

Goldfinch, with only 27 prior and 28 the next day banded all fall. Among the other interesting notes are Black-capped Chickadee continuing its annual seesaw, with this year a high at 236 after last year only 50, and Blackpoll Warbler back to a high 471 banded. 2011 saw Blackpoll jump to a surprise 760 banded after most years nearer to 100. The next four years dropped back to only 60 banded last year. In the Region 2 report in *The Kingbird*: Vol. 62, No.1, p. 35, the reader was referred for some more discussion to “Returning to the Tropics: The Epic Autumn Flight of the Blackpoll Warbler” by James Baird, pp. 63-77 in *Gatherings of Angels: Migrating Birds and Their Ecology*, ed. Kenneth P. Parkes, Cornell University Press: Ithaca, NY, 1999. We have much to learn. In our analyses we need to stop and think about what statistics are really appropriate or valid with respect to our data. Maybe some of the numbers don't really come from the same random distribution. Maybe if the variance is high we need to think of specific causes and try to remove or control those before looking at the changes. Not all calculations one might make are either useful or valid.

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ABBREVIATIONS

b – banded; BB – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; BB-WS – west spit at the mouth of Braddock Bay; BBBO – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, usually banding station near end of Manitou Beach Rd west of Braddock Bay; BCH – Bear Creek Harbor and off shore, WAYN; CL – Conesus L, LIVI; DEP – Durand-Eastman P, MONR; G – T Greece, MONR; HANA – High Acres Nature Area, T Perinton, MONR; H – T Hamlin, MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; HB-WE – West End Trail in HB includes Devil's Nose area; IB-S – LaSalle Landing P, South end of Irondequoit Bay; M – along Manitou Beach Rd NE of Parkway including the BBBO banding station, MONR; MAC – Montezuma Audubon Center, T Savannah, WAYN; NMWMA – Northern Montezuma WMA (formerly Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex), WAYN; NMWMA (MRdM) – Morgan Rd Marshes area; NMWMA (SCU) – Sandhill Crane Unit; NMWMA (VDS) – Van Dyne Spoor area; OB – Ontario Beach, Charlotte, MONR; OCP - Oatka Creek P, MONR; PB – Point Breeze area, ORLE, nw border of Regions 1 & 2; SPt – Sodus Pt, WAYN; TCEA – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, Avon DEC; WP – Webster P, MONR.

WATERFOWL – VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: no reports.

Snow Goose: arr 1 HB 2 Oct, with large flock of Canada Geese. **Ross's Goose:** no reports.

Brant: arr 23 West Port Bay WAYN & 62 BB-ES 9 Oct; max 400 SPt 17 Oct; last 20 Wolcott WAYN 22 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr 3 Red Creek Pd WAYN 9 Oct (CW); max 14 HB 14 & 17 Nov; total approx 26 at 7 loc 9-31 Oct; total approx 30 sev loc 5-27 Nov.

Mute Swan: max 46 IBO 26 Nov.

Trumpeter Swan: max 34 MAC 6 Nov (JF, CSz), good count.

Tundra Swan: arr 2 HB 10 Oct; max 89 G (Round Pd) 21 Nov (CW).

Wood Duck: max 145 NMWMA (VDS) 22 Oct.

Gadwall: max 156 G (Round Pd) 22 Nov (AGu).

Eurasian Wigeon: m G (Round Pd) 5 Nov (JeB, CW).

Am. Wigeon: arr HB 5 Sep; 310 G (Round Pd) 29 Oct (KG), good count; max 519 G (Round Pd) 5 Nov (JeB, CW).

Am. Black Duck: max 49 G (Round Pd) 22 Nov, low
Mallard: max 300 HANA 18 Nov (BCad), interesting date and loc for max.
Blue-winged Teal: max 30 NMWMA (MRdM) 2 Sep; last 5 T Groveland LIVI 20 Oct.
N. Shoveler: max 54 Northrup Crk, G 21 Nov.
N. Pintail: max 541 HB 10 Oct, low max.
Green-winged Teal: max 159 G (Northrup Crk) 15 Oct (JeB, CW).
Canvasback: arr G (Salmon Crk) 4 Sep (NK), local record early; max 8 T Groveland LIVI 13 Nov, very low.
Redhead: arr BB 28 Sep; max 250 T Groveland LIVI 10 Nov, low max.
Ring-necked Duck: arr CL Inlet 15 Sep; max 42 T G (Round Pd) 21 Nov, low.
Greater Scaup: arr 2 HB 22 Sep; max 69 BB 22 Nov, low.
Lesser Scaup: arr HB 24 Sep; max 240 Sandy Bottom P, Honeoye ONTA 13 Nov.
King Eider: arr 1 f HB 24 Oct (RS); 2 f HB 6 Nov (JeB, AGu, CW, ph); f off Edgemere Dr, G 20 Nov (JeB, JiB, CW); f off Edgemere Dr, G 21 Nov (JeB, JiB, CW), diff bird; 2 f off Manitou Beach Rd, G 22 Nov (CW); 2 f HB 23 Nov (CW); imm m off Manitou Beach Rd, G 29 Nov (LyB, RB, NK).
Harlequin Duck: arr f IBO 13-30 Nov (KS, RBA field trip, 57+ other obs, ph); f Bear Crk Harbor WAYN 22 Nov (JW, ph); f PB 23-26 Nov (MG, GL, 7 other obs, ph).
Surf Scoter: arr 7 HB 25 Sep; max 19 off Manitou Rd, G 3 Nov, low.
White-winged Scoter: arr 5 HB 2 Sep (AGu, WD'A, DS), early; max 243 HB 23 Oct, low max.
Black Scoter: arr 3 HB 9 Oct; max 403 HB 29 Nov (JiM, LM), good count.
Long-tailed Duck: arr HB 3 Oct; max 614 HB 30 Oct; 572 HB 6 Nov; 598 off Edgemere Dr, G 22 Nov.
Bufflehead: arr 3 HB 17 Oct; max 155 Sandy Bottom P, Honeoye L ONTA 25 Nov (BH).
Com. Goldeneye: arr 10 T Groveland LIVI 19 Oct; max 504 off Edgemere Dr, G 22 Nov (JeB, JiB, LiB, CW).
Common/Barrow's Goldeneye: f HB 25 Nov (JMcG).
Barrow's Goldeneye: no reports.
Hooded Merganser: max 300 CL 23 Nov (JK), good count.
Red-breasted Merganser: arr HB 4 Sep (AGu), early; 2842 HB 22 Nov (JeB, JiB, LiB, CW); 2600 Long Pd, G 23 Nov (KG).

Ruddy Duck: arr 4 Sandy Bottom P, Honeoye L ONTA 18 Sep (B&BM), early; max 140 Sandy Bottom P, Honeoye L ONTA 20 Oct (GL, EG).
Red-throated Loon: arr 2 HB 25 Sep (AGu), early; max 200 HB 23 Oct, low max, early for max.
Com. Loon: arr 2 off DEP 3 Sep; 105 HB 27 Sep (AGu), 1st date over 100; max 226 HB 9 Oct, low max, early for max.
Horned Grebe: arr 2 HB 21 Sep; max 157 off Edgemere Dr, G 22 Nov, low max.
Red-necked Grebe: max 354 HB 30 Oct (AGu), early for this high; 74 HB 27 Nov, low relative to recent late peaks.
AM. WHITE PELICAN: 1 ad Round Pd, G 10-11 Nov (MG, 9+ other obs, many ph), Reg record late.
Double-crested Cormorant: max 2500 off Edgemere Dr, G 10 Sep (JeB, JiB, LiB); 1700 off Ontario Beach 28 Sep (GL).
Am. Bittern: last HB 9 Oct, unusual loc.
Great Egret: max 92 NMWMA (MRdM) 12 Sep (MF, MW); last U Rochester 2 Nov (EG).
LITTLE BLUE HERON (R2): imm Maxwell Crk WAYN 3-9 Oct (MG, 10 other obs).
CATTLE EGRET (R2): none in Reg, though sev just outside in typical Nov time.
Green Heron: last IB-S & T Williamson WAYN 7 Oct. Beechwoods SP WAYN 15 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 45 NMWMA (MRdM) 1 Sep (MW), good count; last 2 NMWMA (MRdM) 2 Oct.
plegadis ibis species: Salmon Crk, G 12 Oct (DTe).
Black Vulture: HANA 31 Oct (MG); 4 LSP 27 Nov (MN), present thru summer.
Turkey Vulture: max 71 LSP 25 Sep.

HAWKS – LARIDS

Osprey: last HANA 6 Nov (DH), late.
Bald Eagle: 5 ad OCP 10 Oct (JAd), unusual for loc; approx 105 rep, 81 ind many loc Oct; approx 68 rep, 55 ind many loc Nov; good numbers.
N. Goshawk: WP 15 Sep (RS); G 15 Sep (KG); 1 imm HB 31 Oct (MG, RS, ST); Glover Rd, T Sodus 31 Oct (W. & M. Rowley).
Red-shouldered Hawk: only 7 rep.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 30 BB 8 Sep; last singles 2 loc LIVI 26 Sep.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 137 BB 8 Sep, last of rep of fall movement.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr 1 Summerville Pier 1 Nov; only 8 others scattered thru Nov.

Virginia Rail: last Brush Crk Marsh, Parma/Hamlin townline 25 Nov (CW), late.
Sora: last CL Inlet 8 Oct. G (Round Pond) 26 Oct.
Com. Gallinule: last 3 NMWMA (VDS) 13 Oct.
Sandhill Crane: 70 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) area 13 Nov (LL); max 74-79 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) area 29-30 Nov (DK, PB, KG), high numbers, late.
Black-bellied Plover: last Salmon Crk, G 20 Nov, ph.
Am. Golden-Plover: max 26 H (Jacobs Rd) 1 Oct (AGu); last Salmon Crk, G 14 Nov.
Semipalmated Plover: max 33 Shore Acres, H 2 Sep; last IB-S 19 Oct.
Killdeer: max 119 H 5 Sep (W&MR); last 4 IB-S 28 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: last IB-S 14 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: last BB 8 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: last Salmon Crk, G 22 Nov, ph.
Willet: 2 SPT 23 Sep (W&MR).
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 60 NMWMA (MRdM) 1 Sep; last Buck Pd, G & 2 NMWMA (VDS) 22 Oct.
Whimbrel: last SPT 21 Sep (W&MR, JiM, JW, JW), ph.
Ruddy Turnstone: last BB 26 Sep.
Stilt Sandpiper: max 9 NMWMA (MRdM) 1 Sep; last 3 Northrup Crk, G 16 Oct.
Sanderling: max 36 OB 3 Sep (JiM); last 7 HB 17 Oct.
Dunlin: max 55 SPT 17 Oct (MG), low max; last 3 Salmon Crk, G 19 Nov.
Purple Sandpiper: arr SPT 11 Nov (W&MR); 2 IBO 19 Nov (JeB, CW, JiM, MG, ph).
Baird's Sandpiper: last 1 Salmon Crk, G 8 Oct.
Least Sandpiper: max 90 MAC 1 Sep & NMWMA (MRdM) 6 Sep, low max; last 2 IB-S 19 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: max 18 IB-S 13 Oct (GF, JiM, LM); last Hemlock L-S ONTA 7 Nov.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: last SPT 2 Sep (W&MR, JW, ph).
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 40 Salmon Crk, G 19 Oct, low max; last Hemlock L-S ONTA 7 Nov.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 40 NMWMA (MRdM) 17 Sep, low max; last IB-S 19 Oct.
Western Sandpiper: SPT 18 Sep (MG, ph), only report.
Short-billed Dowitcher: last Shore Acres, H 11 Sep.

Long-billed Dowitcher: max & last 10-11 NMWMA (VDS) 22-23 Oct (JMcG, SP).
Wilson's Snipe: max 21 Salmon Crk, G 17 Oct (KG); last 4 Beechwoods SP WAYN 14 Nov (JW).
Am. Woodcock: HANA 1 Nov (MG), not many late fall birder reports.
Red-necked Phalarope: 4 NMWMA (MRdM) 1 Sep (MW, ph), 1-4 cont thru 9 Sep (mob); Summerville Pier 14 Sep (GL).
Pomarine Jaeger: imm OB area 19 Nov (CW), only report.
Parasitic Jaeger: total approx 8 HB 9-19 Oct (mob); imm HB 26 Nov (JeB, CW).
jaeger species: imm HB 9 Oct; imm HB 6, 13 Nov.
Black-legged Kittiwake: arr imm HB 9 Oct (AGu, 7 other obs); 2 imm HB 30 Oct (AGu); ad HB 6 Nov (JeB, AGu, CW); 2 imm HB 11 Nov (MG, ph); ad off Edgemere Dr, G 22 Nov (JeB, JiB, LB, CW); ad rare here.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 290 Northrup Crk, G 5 Oct; 267 IB-S 19 Nov
Little Gull: 1 ad Summerville Pier 29 Oct (GF).
FRANKLIN'S GULL: 1 1st win Northrup Crk, G 1 Oct (AGu, PMar); imm IB-S 9 Oct (KH, BCar, KR).
Herring Gull: max 2000 Mill Seat landfill, T Riga 23 Nov (AGu, BriM).
Iceland Gull: arr 1 imm T Bergen & HB 30 Oct; 2 Mill Seat landfill, T Riga 23 Nov (AGu, BriM).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: total 8 at 3 loc 4-28 Sep; total 7 at 3 loc 3-14 Oct; 12 rep, 24 ind sev loc 5-27 Nov.
Glaucous Gull: arr 1 1st win HB 22 Nov; OB area 23 Nov, only reports.
Caspian Tern: last Northrup Crk, G 18 Oct.
Black Tern: last HB 23 Sep (AGuRCI).
Com. Tern: max 11 HB 21 Sep, low max; last 2 IBO 19 Oct.
Forster's Tern: last SPT 4 Oct (MT, DS).

PIGEONS – PARROTS

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: 1-3 H (Greenwell farm) 4 Sep, 30 Oct, 6, 26, 27 Nov, surprising how infrequently seen given the number of birders who pass here looking.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last 2b BBBO 7 Oct.
Black-billed Cuckoo: last Avon fishing access site 7 Oct.
Long-eared Owl: N. Wolcott WAYN 19 Sep (W&MR), seldom reported away from Bergen Swamp and special counts.

Short-eared Owl: arr Ganondagan 14 Oct; max 5 NMWMA (MRdM) 23 Nov.
N. Saw-whet Owl: N Wolcott WAYN 12 Sep (W&MR), seldom reported away from M or special counts; 4b M 10 Oct (BBBO); HB 19 Nov (MG), heard, seen, & ph.
Com. Nighthawk: max 43 T Gates MONR 19 Sep (B&BM); last T Gates MONR 22 Sep.
Chimney Swift: max 56 IB-S 1 Oct, low max; last 2 Fairport MONR 6 Oct.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Honeoye Falls 30 Sep; total b 4 BBBO 4-22 Sep.
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: HY f G third week Oct thru (M&SA), at feeder with heaters, not reported to birders & b (RY) until 13 Dec, 3rd Reg report, *intro*.
Red-headed Woodpecker: last HB 25 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: WP 30 Nov (JiM).
YELLOW-BELLIED x RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER: WP 19 Nov (JeB, CW, ph; JMcG, SB, ph); WP 23 Nov (AGu); photos on eBird, *intro*.
Am. Kestrel: 12 rep, 13 ind sev loc Nov, low.
Merlin: 28 rep, 25 ind sev loc Sep; total 22 sev loc 1-30 Oct; 19 rep, 20 ind sev loc Nov.
Peregrine Falcon: 24 rep, 20 ind sev loc Sep; total 14 sev loc 7-28 Oct; 12 rep, 12 ind sev loc Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: HB 4 Sep; Ellison P, T Penfield 4 Sep; Riverside Cemetery, ROCH 7 Sep; last LSP 27 Sep.
E. Wood-Pewee: last G & South Conesus LIVI 4 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: total b 37 BBBO 1-27 Sep; last 1b BBBO 27 Sep.
Alder Flycatcher: last 2 Ganondagan 10 Sep.
Willow Flycatcher: last CL Inlet 20 Sep (KC).
“Trail’s Flycatcher: last 1b BBBO 11 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: last 1b BBBO 25 Sep.
E. Phoebe: last Ontario Center Greenway PWAYN 31 Oct (JW).
Great Crested Flycatcher: last BBBO 20 Sep.
E. Kingbird: last 2 CL Inlet 29 Sep.
GRAY KINGBIRD: imm m T Bergen MONR 28 Oct-23 Nov (MM-C, 75+ other obs, many ph), 4th Reg record, *intro*.
N. Shrike: arr Nations Rd IBA 26 Oct; 6 rep 6 ind sev loc 16-28 Nov.
WHITE-EYED VIREO (R2): 1b BBBO 27 Sep; 1b BBBO 2 Nov (BBBO), late.
Yellow-throated Vireo: last CL Inlet 20 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: last 1b BBBO 18 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: last 2 Four Mile Crk Pres, Webster 22 Sep.
Philadelphia Vireo: total b 20 BBBO 2 Sep - 1 Oct; last BBBO 3 Oct.
Red-eyed Vireo: total b 68 BBBO 1 Sep - 12 Oct last 1b BBBO 12 Oct. M 12 Oct.
Fish Crow: 1-6 OB area all season; Longridge Ave, G 25 Nov (LyB).
Purple Martin: last 2 NMWMA (MRdM) 18 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 5000 NMWMA (SCU) 16 Sep, low max; last 5 West Port Bay WAYN 28 Oct.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: last IB-S 27 Oct.
Bank Swallow: last 2 IB-S 9 Oct.
Cliff Swallow: last 4 Honeoye Falls 19 Oct.
CAVE SWALLOW: arr HB 19 Nov (DTe, KH); last HB 20 Nov (CW), *intro*.
Barn Swallow: last IB-S 16 Oct.
Black-capped Chickadee: max 45 North Rush 30 Oct (NK); max b 34 BBBO 31 Oct; total b 6 in Sep, 200 in Oct, 10 in Nov 2 Sep – 1 Nov, *intro*.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: early thoughts of irruption fizzled; max 10 M (Owl Woods) 10 Sep; highest after that 5 scattered across Reg and season. .
Brown Creeper: total b 54 BBBO 15 Sep – 29 Oct.
House Wren: last 1b BBBO 10 Oct.
Winter Wren: arr migr G 4 Sep, early; total b 47 BBBO 13 Sep-28 Oct.
Marsh Wren: last Northrup Crk, G 30 Oct.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last M 10 Oct.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr 2 HB 22 Sep; max 35 HB 9 Oct (RB), low max; max b 26 BBBO 10 Oct; total b 204 BBBO 24 Sep – 31 Oct.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr 2 WP 15 Sep; max 53 BBBO 10 Oct (sev), low max; max b 48 BBBO 10 Oct; total b 328 BBBO 15 Sep - 31 Oct.
Veery: total b 14 BBBO 1-22 Sep; last North Rush MONR 28 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr HB-WE 1 Sep; max b 20 BBBO 25 Sep; total b 117 BBBO 12 Sep- last 8 Oct; last South Conesus 14 Oct.
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell’s Thrush: max b 17 M 25 Sep; total b 86 BBBO 13 Sep - last 3 Oct.
BICKNELL’S THRUSH: 1b BBBO 22 Oct & 23 Oct.
Swainson’s Thrush: max 21 T Gates MONR 4 Oct; max b 21 BBBO 22 Sep; total b 165 BBBO 5 Sep - 16 Oct; last Ellison P, T Penfield 15 Nov (LM, ph), Reg record late.

Hermit Thrush: arr migr 2 HB-WE 5 Sep; max 44 HB-WE 14 Oct (RS); 35 HB-WE 19 Oct (RS, DB); max b 34 BBBO 17 Oct; total b 253 BBBO 25 Sep – 1 Nov; 5 WP 19 Nov (JeB, CW), good for so late.

Wood Thrush: last HB-WE 2 Oct.

Am. Robin: max 679 HB 13 Nov (AGU); 500 Walworth WAYN 28 Oct (RB).

Gray Catbird: max 47 WP 7 Sep (RS); 30 HB-WE 12 Sep (RS); total b 102 BBBO 1 Sep - 29 Oct; last 1-2 HB 23-26 Nov (JeB, CW, JMcG, JW).

Brown Thrasher: last Whiting Rd Pres, Webster 11 Oct.

Am. Pipit: arr North Rush & 2 NMWMA (MRdM) 11 Sep; last HB 30 Nov (JW).

Bohemian Waxwing: HB 31 Oct (AGU, MG), only report

Bohemian/Cedar Waxwing: 12 off Rigney Bluff, G 13 Nov, too far out over lake for certain ID.

Cedar Waxwing: max 150 Honeoye Falls 19 Nov, scarce.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: arr Jacobs Rd, H 9 Oct.

Snow Bunting: arr HB-WE 9 Oct; max 150 T Byron GENE 21 Nov.

Ovenbird: total b 19 BBBO 3 Sep – last 4 Oct.

N. Waterthrush: last 2b BBBO 22Sep.

Blue-winged Warbler: last HB-WE 11 Sep.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: last 1b BBBO 1 Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: last M (Owl Woods) 8 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: last 2 HANA 15 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr 1 HANA 25 Sep; 18 ind 15 loc 26 Sep – 15 Oct; last WP 18 Nov (JiM, LM), late.

Nashville Warbler: total b 37 1 Sep – last 13 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: arr 1 Beatty Pt, G 9 Sep (BriM, ph); TCEA 5 Oct (MW); only reports.

Mourning Warbler: last 1b BBBO 3 Oct, late.

Com. Yellowthroat: total b 74 BBBO 2 Sep – 8 Oct; last Church Trail, G 25 Nov (CW), late.

Hooded Warbler: last Mumford GENE & Chimney Bluffs WAYN 24 Sep.

Am. Redstart: total b 39 M 1 Sep – 28 Sep; last M (Owl Woods) 8 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: last G 28 Sep.

N. Parula: last CL Inlet 6 Oct.

Magnolia Warbler: max b 34 BBBO 15 Sep; total b 252 BBBO 1 Sep - 8 Oct; last HB-WE 9 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: total b 37 BBBO 1 Sep - last 16 Oct, late.

Blackburnian Warbler: last BBBO 22 Sep.

Yellow Warbler: 1b BBBO 1 Oct, late; TCEA 3 Oct (MW), late; last BBBO 15 Oct, recap, very late.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last 1 imm Beechwoods SP WAYN 10 Oct (R&SS).

Blackpoll Warbler: max b 51 BBBO 28 Sep; max 40 BBBO 3 Oct (GL); total b 470 BBBO 4 Sep - 17 Oct; last 2 BBBO 24 Oct (GL), back to large numbers.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: total b 44 BBBO 1 Sep – 10 Oct; last U Rochester 17 Oct (EG).

Palm Warbler: arr G 4 Sep; last Honeoye Falls & Huff & Reed Rds ONTA 9 Oct; none banded this fall.

Pine Warbler: max 8 HB 9 Sep (AGU); last CL Inlet 20 Oct (KC).

Prairie Warbler: last Honeoye Creek WMA 5 Sep (KK).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: total b 38 BBBO 4 Sep – 17 Oct; last 2 HB 25 Nov (JMcG), late.

Black-throated Green Warbler: total b 22 BBBO 1 Sep – last 2b 10 Oct.

Canada Warbler: last South Conesus LIVI 27 Sep.

Wilson’s Warbler: total b 43 BBBO 1-28 Sep; last Village of Webster 1 Oct.

Yellow-breasted Chat: last 1 imm f banded BBBO 28 Oct, late.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

E. Towhee: Honeoye Falls 7-24 Nov (BCar), late; Beatty Pt, G 25 Nov (CW), late.

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr 2 HANA & Canal P, G 15 Oct.

Chipping Sparrow: last HB-WE 25 Nov (JeB, CW).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Reed Rd, T Clyde WAYN 17 Sep (Wind Birders), during Montezuma Muck Race.

Vesper Sparrow: last North Pds P, Webster 28 Oct (MG).

Fox Sparrow: arr WP 7 Oct (RS); last N Wolcott WAYN 30 Nov (W&MR).

Lincoln’s Sparrow: arr HB-WE 3 Sep (RS); total b 18 BBBO 15 Sep – 10 Oct; last Bristol Hills ONTA 29 Oct (EG, GL).

White-throated Sparrow: arr 1b BBBO & 3 Beechwoods SP WAYN 9 Sep; max b 38 BBBO 10 Oct; total b 380 BBBO 9 Sep – 31 Oct; max 70 HB-WE 11 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr Webster & 1b + 3 BBBO & HB 24 Sep; max 47 North Rush 10 Oct (NK).

Dark-eyed Junco: max 316 HB-WE 9 Oct (TL, TA, IC, DWeb); max b 75 BBBO 9 Oct; total b 170 BBBO 24 Sep – 26 Oct.

DARK-EYED “PINK-SIDED” JUNCO: HB 24 Nov thru (AGu, mob, many ph), 1st Reg record, *intro*.

Scarlet Tanager: last T Gates MONR & Cumming Nature Center ONTA 1 Oct.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Bushnell’s Basin MONR 3 Oct (C&HH).

Indigo Bunting: last HB-WE 9 Oct (R&SS), late.

Bobolink: last Bennett Rd, T Parma 5 Oct.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 10,000 NMWMA (VDS) 17 Sep (BMcQ, *et al.*); 9000 NMWMA (Savannah) 22 Oct (JMcG).

E. Meadowlark: last NMWMA (Guy Baldassarre Marsh) 25 Oct.

Rusty Blackbird: arr NMWMA (MRdM) 17 Sep; max 370 BBP 20 Oct (DTe); 41 Round Pd, G 5 Nov; there were about 10 loc with variable flocks to above 10 ind totaling about 400 more ind above those two flocks cited, with about 80 different reports scattered thru the season and Region.

Com. Grackle: max 2500 Nations Rd IBA 26 Oct.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 500 NMWMA (Savannah) 22 Oct & T Sweden MONR 16 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: last G 16 Sep.

Red Crossbill: arr HB 14 Nov (RS); T Hemlock ONTA 17 Nov (BH); only reports.

Com. Redpoll: arr HB 7 Nov; 9 other rep 1-5 ind sev loc 8-28 Nov.

Pine Siskin: max 55 HB 28 Nov (MG).

Am. Goldfinch: max b 340 BBBO 31 Oct; 28b BBBO 1 Nov; total b only 396 for the fall.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 10 HB 29 Oct (AGu); 1-2 six loc 1-26 Nov; irregular visitor now.

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REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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Fall 2016 was warm and dry, prolonging a severe drought in the Finger Lakes Region. In Ithaca, the average temperature in September 2016 was 63° F, 3° above normal. In October, the average was 51°, 2.3° above normal. November’s average was 41°, 1.4° above normal. September precipitation was only 0.1", 3.68" below normal. October precipitation was 0.2", 3.4" below normal, and November precipitation was 0.4", 2.76" below normal.

Numbers of swans and geese were relatively low. Rarities included Greater White-fronted Goose and Ross’s Goose, just single day occurrences of each. In contrast, there were numerous reports of Cackling Goose throughout the Region including a high count of nine at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. Duck numbers were good, with high counts for several species: Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Redhead, Greater Scaup, and Lesser Scaup.

At Frontenac Park, Jay McGowan found the season’s only Eared Grebe in late November. Sarah Toner rediscovered the Region’s first Brown Booby on Cayuga Lake. The bird first appeared in August and stayed through the end of September.

The drought led to low numbers of Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets. As many as seven Cattle Egrets were in the vicinity of Montezuma NWR in November. In Dryden, Dan Serpiello spotted the only Black Vulture to be reported.

Rails and their kin were much in evidence at Montezuma NWR, with high counts for Virginia Rail, Common Gallinule, American Coot, and Sandhill Crane. There was a good variety of shorebirds in the Region, but numbers were generally low. The drought conditions eliminated some of the usual habitat while creating habitat in areas that are normally too full of water to attract shorebirds. Both reports of Whimbrel came from the north end of Seneca Lake. Tim Lenz had the only sighting of Red Phalarope, a bird at Taughannock Falls State Park.

Iceland Gulls appeared at scattered locations in the Region. Five Lesser Black-backed Gulls attracted to compost piles in the Town of Dryden was a high count for fall. Tern numbers were low through the season.

While five Eastern Screech-Owls and three Barred Owls are not big numbers, they were Regionally high fall counts for single locations. A Long-eared Owl was observed in Northeast Ithaca. Single Short-eared Owls were found at a handful of scattered locations. The Hammond Hill Owl Banding Station had a peak of six Northern Saw-whet Owls in a single night. Migrating Common Nighthawks were fairly numerous in the Region, with a maximum of 55 spotted at Montezuma NWR in mid-September.

Chris Wood found the only Red-headed Woodpecker, in Hi Tor Wildlife Management Area. Maximum counts of Downy Woodpecker and Northern Flicker were high. Among falcons, three Merlins in Geneva produced the high count for that species.

The warm season seemed responsible for numerous late records of migrating songbirds. The late September report of a Great Crested Flycatcher, because of its lateness in the season, was the most unusual report among the flycatchers. Brooke Morse photographed a White-eyed Vireo along the Ontario Pathways. Jay McGowan and Livia Santana photographed a very late Warbling Vireo in late November at Salt Point in Lansing. Not nearly as extreme was the late Red-eyed Vireo that Adriaan Dokter found at Jetty Woods in Ithaca in late October. Swallows seemed to depart in a timelier manner than other passerines. The high count of Tufted Titmouse in the Town of Dryden might signal a rebound by this species after two very harsh winters, 2013-14 and 2014-15.

The first Lapland Longspur of the season was spotted in early October. The first Snow Bunting arrived in mid-October.

Like the vireos, several warblers lingered late. Very late were Northern Waterthrush to mid-October and Cape May Warbler to late October. Cape May Warblers were also widely reported and often occurred in small flocks—amazing for a species that I had to list as a rarity for several years. Other late departures were recorded for Tennessee, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Palm, Black-throated Green, and Canada Warblers. Golden-winged Warblers appeared in

Ithaca and Northeast Ithaca. The latter was another very late bird in mid-November. The Region produced five reports of Connecticut Warbler. Ian Davies, Marshall Iliff, and Brad Walker patiently counted the passage of 1,594 Yellow-rumped Warblers past their vantage point in the Town of Danby on 4 October.

All the reports of Nelson's Sparrow came from the Cornell Research Ponds in the first half of October. A probably injured Scarlet Tanager was at Salt Point in Lansing from 20-27 November. Shai Mitra heard the season's first Dickcissel at the NYSOA Annual Conference in Elmira in September. Two Bobolinks at Montezuma NWR on 16 October were quite late.

Winter finches were generally scarce. However, Ian Davies counted 62 Purple Finches in Danby. Observers only reported Red Crossbills twice and Common Redpoll once. The maximum count for Pine Siskin was only eight. The big news was fairly numerous reports of small numbers of Evening Grosbeaks that made a month-long incursion into the region.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BLNA – Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, TOMP; CayL – Cayuga L; CRPd – Cornell Research Pds, TOMP; CU – Cornell University, TOMP; FLNF – Finger Lakes National Forest; HT – Hi Tor WMA, YATE; LPSP – Long Pt SP; MNWR – Montezuma NWR; MR – Monkey Run, TOMP; MyPt – Myers Pt, TOMP; NEI – Northeast Ithaca; OLI – Owasco L Inlet, CAYU; PW – Palmer Woods, TOMP; QCM – Queen Catharine Marsh, SCHU RHPP – Roy H Park Preserve, TOMP; SLSP – Seneca L SP; SPt – Salt Pt, TOMP; SSP – Sampson SP; StP – Stewart P, TOMP; SW – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; TCar – T Caroline, TOMP; TDan – T Danby, TOMP; TDry – T Dryden, TOMP; WG – Watkins Glen.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

(R3): 3 SLSP 6 Nov (mob!, ph).

Snow Goose: arr MNWR 11 Sep (KK), early; max 2500 Executive Links SENE 30 Nov.

ROSS'S GOOSE (R3): Great Gully Cove Pd CAYU 9 Oct (CW, ph).

Brant: arr StP 9 Oct; max 120 Burdett 22 Oct; last SLSP 13 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr T Ithaca TOMP 28 Sep; max 9 MNWR 2 Oct (JMcG), high.

Canada Goose: max 5000 MNWR 9 Oct-6 Nov, low.

Mute Swan: 2 CayL, T Seneca Falls SENE 29 Oct-29 Nov, only report.

Tundra Swan: arr MNWR 15 Oct; max 212 MNWR 27 Nov.

Gadwall: max 1800 MNWR 25 Nov (JMcG), high.

Eurasian Wigeon: arr 17 Sep MNWR (mob); max 3 MNWR 6 Nov (Sbi, JMcG, BW), high; last MNWR 19 Nov.

Blue-winged Teal: max 72 MNWR 25 Sep; last 2 MNWR 6 Nov.

N. Shoveler: max 500 MNWR 22 Oct (JMcG), high.

N. Pintail: max 5700 MNWR 6 Nov.

Canvasback: arr MNWR 26 Oct.

Redhead: max 5250 MNWR 27 Nov (JeB, CW), high.

Greater Scaup: arr CayL, T Springport CAYU 24 Sep; max 300 MNWR 22 Oct (JMcG), high.

Lesser Scaup: arr MNWR 16 Sep; max 7000 MNWR 18 Nov (DSH, MTe), high.

Surf Scoter: arr Woodville Boat Launch, Canandaigua L ONTA 18 Oct; max 4 OLI 30 Oct; 4 SLSP 30 Oct; last East Shore P CAYU 26 Nov (WH), late.

White-winged Scoter: arr 2 Taughannock Falls SP 10 Oct; MyPt 10 Oct; max 8 Red Jacket Yacht Club SENE 5 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr 6 StP 19 Oct TOMP; MyPt 19 Oct; max 40 SLSP 30 Oct.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 2 SLSP 28 Oct; max 7 MNWR 13 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr MNWR 22 Oct; max 60 Harris P CAYU 6 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr MNWR 22 Oct; max 75 SSP 27 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr Milliken Station TOMP 24 Sep; max 80 Aurora 25 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: arr Park Station P CHEM 13 Sep (WB), early; max 279 MNWR 12 Nov.

Red-throated Loon: arr PW 28 Oct; max 3 Red Jacket Yacht Club SENE 5 Nov.

Horned Grebe: arr CayL, T Springport CAYU 23 Sep; max 7 Aurora 13 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: arr MNWR 19 Sep; max 2 Dryden L TOMP6 Nov; 2 OLI 7 Nov.

EARED GREBE (R3): Frontenac P CAYU 25 Nov (JMcG!).

BROWN BOOBY: CayL thru 30 Sep (mob!,ph).

Am. Bittern: last MNWR 27 Nov.

Least Bittern: last CU 3 Oct (mob!), nocturnal, late.

Great Egret: max 6 MNWR 9 Sep, low; last MNWR 13 Nov.

CATTLE EGRET (R3): arr 7 Goose Haven 4 Nov (mob, ph); MNWR 4 Nov (DDa, JMcG, ph); last 2 T Tyre SENE 30 Nov (JAK!, BoMc).

Green Heron: max 13 TDan 3 Oct, nocturnal; last StP 17 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: last MNWR 12 Nov.

BLACK VULTURE (R3): TDry 11 Sep (DSe!).

Turkey Vulture: 200 CU 5 Oct (JCo); max 204 T Moravia CAYU 10 Oct (TR), high; last SPt 27 Nov.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Osprey: max 4 MNWR 3-4 Sep; last CU 27 Oct.

N. Goshawk: max 2 FLNF 5 Sep.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 13 Boggy Bottom TOMP 16 Sep; last T Dryden 28 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr MNWR 15 Oct.

Golden Eagle: arr Allan H Treman State Marine P TOMP 3 Nov.

Virginia Rail: max & last 8 MNWR 9 Oct (BL), high.

Sora: max 3 max & last 3 MNWR 9 Oct.

Com. Gallinule: max 250 MNWR 25 Sep (RC), high; last MNWR 1 Nov.

Am. Coot: max 2500 MNWR 18 Nov (DSh, MTe), high.

Sandhill Crane: max 73 MNWR 12 Nov (DDo), high.

Black-bellied Plover: max 4 MNWR 16-17 Sep, low; last SLSP 30 Oct.

Am. Golden-Plover: last MNWR 9 Oct.

Semipalmated Plover: max 10 MNWR 17 Sep, low; last 2 MNWR 28 Sep.

Upland Sandpiper: FLNF SCHU 5 Sep (CW); TDan 20 Sep (ID, LSe), late, only reports.

WHIMBREL (R3): Seneca L, C Geneva 6 Sep (CJ!); SLSP 15 Sep (DK, ph).

Ruddy Turnstone: OLI 2 Sep (CW); Elmira (BO); MNWR 2-5 Sep (mob), only reports.

Stilt Sandpiper: max & last 4 MNWR 11 Oct.

Sanderling: max 2 Lakefront P ONTA 5 Sep; 2 MyPt 9 Sep; last StP 1 Nov.

Dunlin: arr 4 MNWR 15 Sep; max 20 MNWR 15 Oct, low; last MNWR 13 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: max 2 QCM 5-7 Sep; last MNWR 28 Sep.

Least Sandpiper: max 45 QCM 7 Sep; last SLSP 30 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: max 5 MNWR 10 Oct; last MNWR 20 Nov.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 18 MNWR 15 & 24 Sep; last SLSP 24 Oct.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 10 MNWR 9 Oct; last Moravia 19 Oct.

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 10 MNWR 27 Sep; last 2 MNWR 4 Oct.

Long-billed Dowitcher: max 18 MNWR 1 Oct; last MNWR 23 Oct.

Wilson's Snipe: max 11 MNWR 15 Oct; last TDry 22 Nov (DSe), late.

Am. Woodcock: max 2 HT 23 Oct; last RHPP 2 Nov.

Wilson's Phalarope: MNWR 11 & 18 Sep (mob), only reports.

Red-necked Phalarope: OLI 2 Sep (CW); MNWR 22 Sep (DDa); OLI 2 Oct (JeB, CW!), only reports.

RED PHALAROPE (R3): Taughannock Falls SP 24 Sep (TL!).

Spotted Sandpiper: max 4 MNWR 11 Sep; last MyPt 8 Oct.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 9 CRPd 6 Sep; last MNWR 15 Oct.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 35 MNWR 5 Sep; last MNWR 19 Nov.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 100 MNWR 24 Sep; last MNWR 20 Nov.

Iceland Gull: arr Wyers Pt SENE 10 Nov (SHe, LK, TL), late; CU 10 Nov (FM); Stevenson Road Compost Piles TOMP 19-25 Nov (JMcG, KMcGo, LSA); Elmira 25 Nov (BO), only reports.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 5 Stevenson Road Compost Piles TOMP 20 Sep (GP), high; 4 STP 20 Oct.
Caspian Tern: max 11 MNWR 5 Sep; last 3 STP 9 Oct.
Com. Tern: StP 1 Sep (KRo); max 10 MyPt 9 Sep (JMcG); 2 Seneca L, WG 9 Sep (TL); last MNWR 9 Oct (BL), only reports.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last StP 18 Oct.
Black-billed Cuckoo: HT 3 Sep (CW); TDan 11 Sep (ID, AJ); MNWR 17 Sep (JoBa, DB).
E. Screech-Owl: max 5 CU 11 Sep (ADr, SDz, MK, AWi), high.
Barred Owl: max 3 TDan 19 Sep (ID), high.
LONG-EARED OWL (R3): NEI 23 Nov (JMcG, KMcGo, LSA, TSchu).
Short-eared Owl: arr T Ulysses TOMP 18 Oct.
N. Saw-whet Owl: max 6 Hammond Hill Banding Station TOMP 4 Oct (WB), high.
Com. Nighthawk: max 55 MNWR 16 Sep; last MNWR 1 Oct.
Chimney Swift: max 30 MNWR 14 Sep; last North Mill Pd CAYU 1 Oct.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 6 FLNF SCHU 2 Sep; last WG 2 Oct.
Red-headed Woodpecker: HT 3 Sep (CW), only report.
Downy Woodpecker: max 18 SW 18 Sep (CP), high.
N. Flicker: max 26 MNWR 28 Sep (JO), high.
Merlin: max 3 Geneva 7 Sep (JN), high.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last SW 15 Sep.
E. Wood-Pewee: max 6 OLI 2 Sep; last Tareyton P TOMP 8 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 2 FLNF SENE 5 Sep; last BLNA 26 Sep.
Alder Flycatcher: max 2 TDry 4 Sep (JFi), high; last FLNF SENE, 5 Sep.
Willow Flycatcher: last FLNF SCHU 3 Sep; T Middlesex YATE 3 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: last LPSP 3 Oct.
E. Phoebe: last MNWR 12 Nov.
Great Crested Flycatcher: last Louis Agassiz Fuertes Bird Sanctuary TOMP 27 Sep (TL), late.
E. Kingbird: max 4 MNWR 4 Sep (SSh), high; last Sperr Memorial P CHEM 11 Sep.

N. Shrike: arr CRPd 17 Nov thru; TDry 19 Nov; max 2 T Fayette SENE 30 Nov (DK), high; MNWR 30 Nov.
WHITE-EYED VIREO (R3): Ontario Pathways ONTA 28 Sep (BroM ph!).
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 3 Big Flats Trail CHEM 10 Sep (PL), high; last TCar 17 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 6 PW 9 Oct; last Louis Agassiz Fuertes Bird Sanctuary TOMP 5 Nov.
Warbling Vireo: max 14 MyPt 6 Sep (JMcG), high; last SPT 26 Nov (JMcG, LSA, ph), very late.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 3 MNWR 5 Sep; 3 PW 15 Sep; last LPSP 3 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 12 PW 4 Sep; last Jetty Woods TOMP 23 Oct (ADo), late.
Purple Martin: max & last 18 MNWR 25 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 5000 MNWR 8 Oct; last T Covert SENE 27 Oct.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 72 MNWR 1 Oct; last MNWR 11 Oct.

Bank Swallow: max 150 MNWR 4 Sep; last 4 MNWR 1 Oct.
Cliff Swallow: max 5 MNWR 17 Sep; last MNWR 26 Sep.

Barn Swallow: max 100 MNWR 17 Sep; last MNWR 30 Sep.
Tufted Titmouse: max 15 MR 24 Sep (CW), high.
House Wren: max 5 RHPP 3 Sep; 5 PW 5 Sep; last BLNA 19 Oct.
Winter Wren: max 11 OLI 5 Oct (JeB, CW), high.
Marsh Wren: max 8 MNWR 4 Sep; 8 MNWR 1 Oct.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 4 Jetty Woods TOMP 3-4 Sep; last SW 15 Sep.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr TCar 11 Sep; max 25 PW 9 Oct; last SPT 14 Nov.
Veery: max 23 TDan 15 Sep, nocturnal; last CU 4 Oct.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: max 65 TDan 3 Oct, nocturnal; last CU 8 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: max 450 NEI 3 Oct, nocturnal; last 3 CU 13 Oct, nocturnal; MR 13 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 6 TCar 8 Oct; last PW 12 Nov.
Wood Thrush: max 6 TDan 3 Oct, nocturnal; last T Erin CHEM 8 Oct.
Am. Robin: max 1000 T Ulysses TOMP 5 Nov (LAvL), high.

Gray Catbird: max 30 MNWR 18 Sep; QCM 19 Nov.
Brown Thrasher: max 9 LPSP 16 Sep; last Durland Preserve TOMP 20 Nov.
Am. Pipit: arr 2 CRPd 15 Sep; max 60 Liddell Lab and Pds TOMP 29 Oct; last MR 28 Nov.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: arr MNWR 2 Oct; max 2 Mt Pleasant TOMP 12 Nov; 2 T Newfield TOMP.
Snow Bunting: arr MNWR 19 Oct; max 6 CRPd 18 Nov.
Ovenbird: max 4 FLNF SENE 5 Sep; last SW 9 Oct.
N. Waterthrush: last Buttermilk Falls SP 16 Oct (EMG!), very late.
GOLDEN WINGED WARBLER (R3): SPt 9 Sep (JMcG, ph); NEI 11 Nov (TSchu!).
“Brewster’s” Warbler (hybrid): SPt 9-15 Sep (JMcG, ph), only report.
Black-and-white Warbler: last PW 9 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: max 10 StP 5 Oct; last 4 StP 19 Oct (JMcG, ph), late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr Ontario Pathways ONTA 13 Sep; last OLI 30 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: max 8 PW 11 Sep; last FLNF SENE Oct 18.
CONNECTICUT WARBLER (R3): FLNF SENE 5 Sep (CW!); Philip R Dankert Village P TOMP 10 Sep (DJM, ph); NEI 14 Sep (KRo!); FLNF 15 Sep (LK, TL, ph); SW 30 Sep (MC!).
Mourning Warbler: last MR 25 Sep.
Com. Yellowthroat: max 20 Dunlop Meadow Natural Area TOMP 16 Sep; last OLI 30 Oct.
Hooded Warbler: max 4 Stid Hill WMA 18 Sep (BriM, BroM), high; last OLI 5 Oct.
Am. Redstart: max 8 PW 1 Sep; last SW 11 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: max 9 RHPP 14 Sep; last StP 27 Oct (TL), very late.
N. Parula: max 8 TDan 3 Oct, nocturnal; last PW 9 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: max 19 SSP 4 Sep; last PW 9 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 12 SSP 4 Sep (LK, TL, ST, AWi), high; last SPt 6 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 5 Cornell Community Garden Plots TOMP 1 Sep; last NEI 7 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: max 6 Sperr Memorial P CHEM 9 Sep; last SPt 14 Nov (JMcG, ph), late.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 4 PW 1 Sep; last PW 14 Oct (JCo, ph), late.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 5 Hog Hole TOMP 2 Oct; last TDan 18 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 4 TDan 19 Sep, nocturnal; last StP 10 Oct.
Palm Warbler: arr StP 4 Sep (JMcG, ph, KMcGo, KRo), early; max 29 TDan 24 Sep (TA, ID, AJ), high; last MNWR 12 Nov (LK, AKr, ST), late.
Pine Warbler: max 7 Harris Hill P CHEM 10 Sep; 7 Park Station P CHEM 11 Sep; last MR 14 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 1594 T Danby 4 Oct (ID, MI, BW), high.
Prairie Warbler: max 2 RHPP 5 Sep; last RHPP 18 Sep.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 21 TDan 24 Sep; last SLSP 24 Oct (TL, ph), late.
Canada Warbler: max 2 Cornell Community Garden Plots TOMP 1 Sep; last CU 4 Oct (TL, LSe!), nocturnal, late.
Wilson’s Warbler: max 4 MNWR 4 Sep; last SPt 6 Oct.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Grasshopper Sparrow: CU 3 Oct (mob!), nocturnal, only report.
NELSON’S SPARROW (R3): arr CRPd 4 Oct; max 3 CRPd 11 Oct (JMcG, MSa, AVN), high; last CRPd 13 Oct.
Am. Tree Sparrow: arr CRPd 19 Oct; max 90 MNWR 25 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: max 38 T Gorham ONTA 3 Sep; 38 BLNA 21 Sep; last NEI 15 Nov.
Field Sparrow: max 15 SSP 4 Sep; last MNWR 25 Nov (JMcG), late.
Vesper Sparrow: max 6 BLNA 23 Oct (KRo), high; last TDry 4 Nov.
Savannah Sparrow: max 120 FLNF SENE 15 Sep; last TDry 23 Nov.
Fox Sparrow: arr Ludovico Trail SENE 10 Oct; max 11 TDry 6 Nov; last Cayuga Heights 26 Nov; 2 T Starkey YATE 26 Nov; 3 TDry 26 Nov.
Lincoln’s Sparrow: arr TCar 7 Sep; max 4 FLNF SENE 3 Oct; last CRPd 4 Nov.
Swamp Sparrow: max 51 OLI 25 Sep (CW), high.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr BLNA 26 Sep; max 13 T Lansing TOMP 4 Oct; last T Covert SENE 29 Nov (JS, ph), late.
Scarlet Tanager: max 6 PW 11 Sep; last SPt 20-27 Nov (BoMc, AMi), injured, very late.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 50 T Danby 11 Sep, nocturnal; last Cayuga Heights 11 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: max 4 Mt Pleasant TOMP 1 Sep; last OLI 5 Oct; MyPt, 5 Oct.

Dickcissel: arr Elmira 10 Sep; last MR 4 Oct; CU 4 Oct, nocturnal.

Bobolink: max 210 WG 3 Sep; last 2 MNWR 16 Oct (JMi), late.

E. Meadowlark: max 35 Tompkins County Airport 6 Oct; last MNWR 12 Nov.

Rusty Blackbird: arr CRPd 15 Sep; max Hile School Road Wetland TOMP 31 Oct; last SW 26 Nov (GaCh, AMi, LMob), late.

Baltimore Oriole: max 4 PW 1 Sep (ST), high; last Finger Lakes Community College ONTA 12 Sep; MR 12 Sep.

Purple Finch: max 62 TDan 10 Oct (ID), high.
Red Crossbill: arr Bear Swamp State Forest 10 Sep (CW), early; MR 5 Oct (JeB, CW), only reports.

Com. Redpoll: SPt 28 Nov (JMcG), only report.

Pine Siskin: max 8 MNWR 29 Oct.

Evening Grosbeak: arr T Cayuta SCHU 20 Oct; max 8 T Canandaigua ONTA 29 Oct; last TDry 20 Nov.



REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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September 2016 was warmer and drier than normal. In fact, September was the tenth warmest since 1950. October was about average regarding temperature but was wetter than average. November was warmer and drier than average but had the second greatest November total snowfall.

On 10 October at Dorchester Park there were six White-winged Scoters, a Surf Scoter, a Long-tailed Duck, and 32 Ruddy Ducks. Hurricane Matthew had just gone up the coast and at that time was heading out into the Atlantic. It seems likely that these ducks were in landlocked Broome County because of the effects of Hurricane Matthew.

Later in the season 200 Ring-necked Ducks were seen on Long Pond on 21 November by Mike DeWispelaere during a winter storm. Apparently, they had been forced down by strong winds which were gusting to 40 miles per hour. On 25 October, 11 Common Loons were seen on Canadaroga Lake which was a maximum for the Region.

A Cattle Egret was found on 23 October on the banks of the Chenango River in Binghamton, and perhaps the same one was later downstream on 12 November near the Susquehanna River in Vestal. Another Cattle Egret was seen in Chenango County on 25 October on a farm amidst cattle (naturally). Great Egrets were also seen in good numbers along the Susquehanna and Chenango Rivers mostly in September. However, a few stragglers were seen as late as 16 November.

Moving on to raptors, Andy Mason reports that numbers from the Franklin Mountain hawk watch were somewhat down again this year. The total count was 4,688 raptors, which was 10% below the 15-year average of 5,210. However

Broad-winged Hawks were 42% above their 15-year averages with 2,060, and on 20 September, 1,089 Broad-wings were counted, which was the high daily total for the season. The high count for last year was 480 on 15 September. The total number of Bald Eagles at 197 was 22% above average. Osprey recorded at 52 was about the same as last year's total of 54. Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Cooper's Hawks were all down significantly from their 15-year averages. Golden Eagles were 37% above their average, with 231 tallied. On 11 November an amazing 57 Golden Eagles were sighted. Last year the maximum daily sighting was 26 on both 30 October and 14 November.

One aspect of the decline noted above at the Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch is that the observation hours in 2016 were 26% below the 15-year average. However, when the hawks per hour (HPH) statistic is considered, the total number of all raptors seen per hour seen is 21% greater than the 15-year average of seven HPH (that is seven hawks per hour!). What is odd is that the number of Red-tailed Hawks seems to be decreasing, which runs counter to most birders' experiences. In reference to this purported decline of Red-tailed Hawks, Andy Mason states: "This continues a trend observed at other ridge sites over the past decade and may be a result of this species becoming less migratory rather than a population decline. Audubon Christmas Bird Counts in NY State show Red-tail counts holding steady over the past 15 years."

In Chenango County in the Town of McDonough, Mike Murray reported a probable breeding pair of Sandhill Cranes with two colts, and later Mike Dewispelaere photographed all four. Residents reported that the birds had been there at least three years in season.

Regarding shorebirds, Dave Nicosia found a Buff-breasted Sandpiper on 6 September on the Susquehanna River in Endwell. The bird stayed for five days and was seen and photographed by many observers. An American Golden-Plover was found on 15 September on the Chenango River in Binghamton and stayed for roughly a week. On 1 September, Lance Verderame sighted an Upland Sandpiper in a Downsville field, and later on 9 October he photographed a Red Phalarope from Bridge Street in Downsville. On 23 November, Glenn Wilson found and photographed a Herring x Glaucous Gull at Dorchester Park. This was a first for our Region and required outside consultation from Dr. Kevin McGowan at Cornell.

A White-eyed Vireo was seen and photographed along the Susquehanna River in Endicott on 24 November, making a happy Thanksgiving for some birders. Warbler diversity continued to be good, with 27 species recorded. For the two preceding years the total number of species was also 27. Marty Borko saw a Connecticut Warbler on 9 September at the Carantouan Greenway in Tioga County.

On 28 October, American Tree Sparrows made their first appearance of the season at the Carantouan Greenway. A flock of 10 Rusty Blackbirds was reported from Upper Lisle Park on 19 October, and there were 17 other scattered reports of this declining species.

There were 10 reports of Pine Siskins, mostly with small numbers. So far this does not appear to be an irruption year. There were two sightings of Evening Grosbeaks at feeders in Tioga and Cortland Counties.

In Broome County, George Chiu recorded 231 species for 2016, which was a record for the county. In total on eBird there were 232 species seen in 2016, and George recorded 231 of those. Most birds were documented with photographs and some with digital recordings and excellent descriptions. George also quickly shared his sightings with other birders through RBA texts and e-mails.

In summary, 213 species (209 last year) were reported this season, with some interesting rarities for the Region. I also want to acknowledge and thank Bill Ostrander who sorted eBird data to identify arrivals, last dates, and high counts.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AqPk – Aquaterra P, BROO; BoPd – Boland Pd, BROO; BUNP – Binghamton University Nature Preserve, BROO; CanL – Canadarago L, OTSE; CannR – Cannonsville Res, DELA; ChenL – Chenango L, CHEN; DorP – Dorchester P, BROO; FMHW – Franklin Mt. Hawkwatch, DELA; GrwP – Greenwood County P, BROO; LHNC – Lime Hollow Nature Center, CORT; LPSF – Long Pond SF, CHEN; MHL – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; OtsL – Otsego L, OTSE; SkaL – Skaneateles L, CORT; SusR – Susquehanna R, BROO; UL – Upper Lisle, BROO; WRRd – West River Rd, Marathon, CORT.

PHOTO GALLERY FALL 2016



Pink-footed Goose, Valley Stream, *Nassau*, 5 Nov 2016, © Peter Paul.



Ash-throated Flycatcher, Lido Beach, *Nassau*, 14 Nov 2016, © Stan Furtak.



Black-throated Green Warbler, Wilson, *Niagara*, 28 Sep 2016, © Willie D'Anna.



Blackburnian Warbler, Seneca Mills, *Yates*, © Chris Wood.



Two Baltimore Orioles showing diet-related erythrism. Top: Dansville, *Monroe*, 24 Aug 2016, © Colleen Green; bottom: Jones Beach West End, *Nassau*, 12 Sep 2016, © Ken Feustel. Laura Kammermeir shared news of the Dansville bird, and Andrea Patterson reported several similar birds banded at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory on 27 Aug: <https://braddockbaybirdobservatory.wordpress.com/2016/08/27/enough-orioles-for-a-baseball-team/> Also see “Diet-Induced Plumage Erythrism in Baltimore Orioles as a Result of the Spread of Introduced Shrubs” by Jocelyn Hudon, Dan Derbyshire, Seabrooke Leckie, and Tom Flinn (2013). *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 125: 88-96.



Figure 1 (top): an iPhone photo of the Virginia's Warbler found among the poinsettias in the Lowe's home improvement store in Glenmont, NY, on December 10, 2016; Figure 2 (bottom): ventral, side, and dorsal views of the skin of NYSM 19236. See article pp. 2-6.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Brant: max 70 FMHW 4 Nov, flyover.
Cackling Goose: max 3 Goodale L CORT 29 Oct.
Mute Swan: SusR 3-26 Nov.
Canvasback: max 4 UL 6 Nov.
Redhead: max 2 CanL 25 Oct.
Ring-necked Duck: max 200 LPSF 21 Nov (MD).
Surf Scoter: DorP 10 Oct, mob; Round Pond Smithville CHEN 14 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: max 6 DorP 10 Oct; Pepacton Res DELA 30 Oct -5 Nov.
Black Scoter: UL 26 Oct; SusR 5 Nov; ChenL 8-28 Nov; SkaL 17 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: arr DorP 10 Oct; max 4 SusR 27 Oct.
Ruddy Duck: max 32 DorP 10 Oct.
Red-throated Loon: Pepacton Res DELA 9-23 Oct.
Com. Loon: max 11 CanL 25 Oct.
Red-necked Grebe: max 2 Pepacton Res DELA 27 Nov.
Least Bittern: Sherburne Railroad Marsh CHEN 1 Sep.
Great Egret: 163 reports, most in Sep; last 16 Nov SusR.
Cattle Egret: SusR and Chenango R BROO 23 Oct -16 Nov; CHEN 25 Oct, farm with cattle.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: Glimmerglass SP OTSE 16 Oct.
Turkey Vulture: total 465 FMHW, 12% above avg.

HAWKS – LARIDS

FMHW totals cover 22 Aug to 1 Jan; averages reflect 2001-2015 data, *intro*.
Osprey: total 52 FMHW, 57% below avg.
Bald Eagle: total 197 FMHW, 22% above avg; many other rep; very widespread.
N. Harrier: total 36 FMHW, 46% below avg.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: total 301 FMHW, 43% below avg.
Cooper's Hawk: total 52 FMHW, 48% below avg.
N. Goshawk: total 7 FMHW, 67% below avg.
Red-shouldered Hawk: total 22 FMHW, 60% below avg.
Broad-winged Hawk: total 2060 FMHW, 42% above avg.
Red-tailed Hawk: total 1132 FMHW, 41% below avg; many other rep.

Rough-legged Hawk: total 2 FMHW, 75% below avg.
Golden Eagle: total 231 FMHW, 37% above avg.
Sora: UL 7 Oct, photos.
Com. Gallinule: Sherburne Railroad Marsh CHEN 1 Sep; BoPd 3-6 Sep.
Sandhill Crane: 4 Town of McDonough CHEN 21 Aug, photos (MD, MM); 4 Doing Rd CHEN 15 Oct.
Am. Golden-Plover: Chenango R, Binghamton BROO 15-22 Sep, photos.
Upland Sandpiper: Bridge St, Downs ville DELA 1 Sep (LV).
Sanderling: Chenango R, Binghamton BROO 10-11 Sep, photos.
Buff-Breasted Sandpiper: SusR BROO 6-11 Sep (DN, ph, mob).
Red Phalarope: Bridge St, Downs ville DELA 9 Oct, ph (LV).
Herring x Glaucous Gull (hybrid): DorP 23 Nov, ph (GW).

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Com. Nighthawk: max 43 BUNP 7 Sep; 14 other scattered rep.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last DELA 25 Sep.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Lisle P BROO 15 Sep, ph, audio (GC).
Am. Kestrel: total 57 FMHW, 42% below avg.
Merlin: total 33 FMHW, 33% above avg.
Peregrine Falcon: total 14 FMHW, 14% below avg; many rep from Binghamton BROO of resident downtown pair.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

N. Shrike: arr Arnold Rd BROO 1 Nov.
White-eyed Vireo: SusR 24-25 Nov (mob, ph).
Horned Lark: max 25 Carantouan Greenway TIOG 23 Nov.
Winter Wren: max 2 Milford SF OTSE 6 Sep; max 2 LPSF 25 Oct.
Veery: max night flight 15 Johnson City BROO 12 Sep (DN).
Gray-cheeked Thrush: max night flight 8 Johnson City BROO 12 Sep (DN).
Swainson's Thrush: max night flight 56 Johnson City BROO 12 Sep (DN).

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Snow Bunting: max 6 DorP 27 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: Carantouan Greenway
TIOG 9 Sep (MB).
Mourning Warbler: LHNC 9 Sep.
Hooded Warbler: UL 15 Sep.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 Glimmerglass SP
OTSE 12 Sep; Tower Rd, McDonough CHEN
1 Sep.

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr 2 Carantouan
Greenway TIOG 28 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: max 5 Stone Quarry, RT 79
BROO 27 Oct.
Rusty Blackbird: 10 UL 19 Oct; 17 other rep
with small numbers.
Pine Siskin: max 3 CHEN 23 Sep; 11 other
scattered rep.
Evening Grosbeak: 6 Virgil CORT 27 Oct; 6
Tubbs Hill Rd TIOG 29 Oct.



REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The fall 2016 season was generally warmer than average. In Syracuse the average temperature for the month was 64.8° F, 2.8° warmer than normal. Precipitation for September, which totaled 3.7", matched the historic mean. October was a different story. The average temperature for the month was 51.6°, which is only a degree higher than normal, but total rainfall in October measured 7.69", which was a significant 4.25" above average. Much of the month's rainfall, nearly 4", came in a single 24-hour period on 20–21 October. In terms of temperature, November was slightly more than a degree above normal and rainfall was about an inch below average, but the total snowfall for the month in Syracuse was over 25", which was nearly 16" above average. Nearly 19" of snow fell on 20–21 November.

Despite the slightly warmer than average temperatures, by the latter part of the period it was clear that winter had arrived early and that was reflected in the behavior of birds. At least in much of our Region, many waterfowl species and half-hardy songbirds took the hint and departed, thus reminding us that snow cover is a much more serious threat to the well-being of birds than low temperatures. Even after foraging areas were covered by snow, waterfowl found refuge in the Region's lakes and waterways, which remained largely open. Relatively infrequent winds from the "right" direction resulted in few substantial waterfowl flights. At Derby Hill on 18 October, Bill Purcell observed a flock of 260 Brant flying over on south winds, while another 3,000 of them sat out on the water, apparently waiting for more favorable winds to usher them to the coast. The appearance of a pair of Barnacle Geese, discovered by Thomas and

Stephanie Schmidt on an obscure pond in southern Herkimer County, coincided with the arrival of a weather front that featured the season's strongest winds. The rare geese had no leg bands and the consensus was that they were most likely of wild origin and not escaped exotic fowl. Four previous Regional records were all in April and all singles.

In the latter half of the period it became clear that raptors, particularly Cooper's Hawks and Red-tailed Hawks, appeared to be settling in for the long haul and were preying on a plentiful supply of migrant robins and small rodents, respectively. Many Northern Harriers lingered long into the period and were noted trolling the rural countryside as if migration was the furthest thing from their minds. For the most part the Region's wild food supply was poor and that was particularly true in the Adirondacks and the Adirondack foothills. However, a more than adequate supply of buckthorn berries and wild grapes in the southern half of the Region had the effect of stalling the bulk of the robin migration, thus satiating both them and their predators. Piles of distinctive robin feathers that had been plucked out by Cooper's Hawks became a common sight in many areas.

On 8 November, on a noontime visit to Beaver Lake Nature Center, Gregg Dashnau counted 12 Greater White-fronted Geese among many Canadas for a new Regional maximum. The 19 October report of a single Ross's Goose on Woodman Pond in Madison County was curious since it greatly preceded the main portion of the Snow Goose migration. This may reflect origins farther to the west than north. Although it was seen without any Snow Geese to compare it to, it did share the pond with a Greater White-fronted Goose and a Cackling Goose. The occurrence of the Barnacle Goose in southern Herkimer County brought a small flood of birders to that poorly covered part of the Region. During their forays they found other things of interest including a Greater White-fronted Goose and 12 Cackling Geese. At the same pond that hosted the Barnacle Geese there were a handful of common shorebirds, all apparently remaining late into October. Waterfowl migration was otherwise unexceptional, and there were no other rarities confirmed. Flock sizes of both dabbling and diving ducks were generally below average, with some species like Gadwall, American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, and Hooded Merganser bucking the trend and providing a few respectable high counts. However, scaup counts were especially low, and there were few indications of significant staging taking place involving them or their allies. On a positive note, all three scoter species were found.

In Old Forge in the Adirondacks, Gary Lee reported that a few of the summer season's Common Loon chicks were lingering at their home ponds as late as the first week of November. This is never an advisable tactic in the north country. On 12 November, Ken Burdick picked out an American White Pelican, first fall record, feeding among Mute Swans at Fair Haven State Park. Burdick didn't have his phone with him and so was unable to alert anyone else to the rarity, which didn't remain long. However, on 30 November the bird had

returned to Fair Haven. Apparently in the interim the pelican had been spotted up the Lake Ontario coastline in Jefferson County. Earlier in the month on 2 November, Burdick discovered four Cattle Egrets associating with a group of Black Angus cattle in a field near Skaneateles. Unfortunately, the egrets also seemed to have places to go and weren't relocated. More cooperative was a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron that Thomas McKay found along the Erie Canal at Fayetteville. It remained for five days, allowing great views and photo opportunities to birders.

Observers reported little significant fall hawk migration, normal for our Region because of the dispersed nature of the event. While Derby Hill had a high count of 170 Turkey Vultures on 11 September and seven Sharp-shinned Hawks on 1 November, a report from Fayetteville of 55 Broad-winged Hawks on 16 September provided the Region's maximum for that species. Rough-legged Hawks simultaneously arrived in three different locations on 28 October but were otherwise lightly represented during the period. There was a decent spread of shorebird species peppered throughout the Region, although tallies of any single species were not great. The turf farm in Chittenango was responsible for the Region's only reports of American Golden-Plover. One lingered as late as 26 October. In Cicero, a Hudsonian Godwit was found on 10 October, and the same bird (presumably) was rediscovered two weeks later at nearby Ditch Bank Road, where it remained until 27 October. Despite miserable visibility on the morning of 4 September, Chris Wood managed to identify at least two Buff-breasted Sandpipers at the far side of a field at the Sky High Turf Farm. The birds were not subsequently relocated. Region 5 owes the brief presence of a Red-necked Phalarope at Howland Island on 2 September to a Northern Harrier, which, according to Jay McGowan, flushed the rarity across the river from Wayne County into Cayuga County.

At Derby Hill the best jaeger/kittiwake flights took place on 11 September and 23 October. The season's only confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger, a juvenile photographed by Bill Purcell, flew over on the former date, while six Parasitic Jaegers and three Black-legged Kittiwakes occurred on the latter. At Derby Hill on 20 November, winds of 30–40 MPH resulted in a good flight of waterfowl and gulls. Black-legged Kittiwake and Little Gull were both seen that day as were many of the common gulls. An adult non-breeding Black-headed Gull at Oneida Shores County Park on 4 October was a terrific find by Dennis Anderson. Anderson reported that the rarity's red legs and black-tipped red bill made it stand out among the group of Ring-billed Gulls it was associating with. Unlike most reports of the species, excellent photos were obtained.

There were few Eastern Screech-Owls reported this season, while reports of Great Horned Owls seemed to be on the rise. In Brewerton on 5 September, wildlife rehabilitators Jean and Leonard Soprano had to rescue a particularly cantankerous Great Horned Owl from the soccer net it became entangled in. Fortunately neither the owl nor the rehabilitators were harmed during the process and the bird was able to be released. This was only the latest in a string

of incidents involving Great Horned Owls and soccer nets that the Sopranos have dealt with within a relatively short time period and limited geographic area. It seems clear that, in order to protect owls and perhaps other raptors, soccer nets should be taken down when not in use or somehow made more visible to the birds. The period's two Snowy Owls were both reported as arriving on 16 November, one in Chittenango and the other in Sterling. Unfortunately, the Chittenango owl was struck by a vehicle and killed. A failing Barred Owl that was rescued in Baldwinsville on 1 September was treated for West Nile Virus and was later released, marking a relatively rare instance of a bird that was successfully treated in time. There were three reports of Northern Saw-whet Owls this season. Of those, two were rehabilitation cases. The first one brought in from Baldwinsville on 15 October had been accidentally knocked off its perch by a child that was climbing the tree. The owl fell to the ground and was immediately pounced on by a house cat. An adult intervened just in time to extract the bird before the cat could do any serious damage. Happily, the owl was able to be released back to the wild after a short convalescence. The other case on 15 November in Camden didn't have such a happy ending. Somehow this saw-whet fell into a window well and became trapped. The bird was brought to the Soprano's facility in Pennellville but didn't survive.

On 11 October, a very late Common Nighthawk was seen migrating over the confluence of the Seneca, Oneida, and Oswego Rivers near Phoenix by Gregg Dashnau. Single Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported from two expected locations, but none were reported after the third week of September. At the Bishop Road Hawkwatch site in the Town of Richland, Bill Purcell counted 23 American Kestrels flying over on 23 September. The Region's resident pairs of Peregrine Falcon in Syracuse and Utica were both seen through the period. By the end of November a new pair of adults, unbanded, had been noticed at Oswego Harbor, giving rise to hope they may set up housekeeping in that location come spring.

The season's first Northern Shrike was found in Erieville and six other reports of the species came from around the Region. Gregg Dashnau was surprised to find a juvenile White-eyed Vireo in the vicinity of Phoenix on 4 October. Above average numbers of Philadelphia Vireo were reported, but many of the sightings were accompanied by good quality descriptions and/or pictures. In one case the reporter heard the warning calls and even the song of an individual. This fall, Mickey Scilingo again provided valuable data by keeping a running count of the migrant passerines that flew by his Constantia property. His daily count ran between 7 September and 7 November. His most impressive tallies were of Blue Jays, the bulk of which moved between 15 and 30 September. The total number migrating during the most active two-week period was 8,494. Scilingo's biggest single day (morning) tally was 2,301 Blue Jays on 25 September. On that day, 900 flew over between 8:00 and 9:00 AM. In mid-September, Jean Soprano implicated West Nile Virus as the cause of the death of two American Crows, one from Baldwinsville and one from Brewerton.

Although it seemed like a minor irruption of Red-breasted Nuthatches was underway during the summer period, this fall there was little evidence that the movement strengthened or continued in any appreciable way. Gray-cheeked Thrushes were more numerous than usual this period. The species was found in 12 different areas, with the maximum number of four occurring in Mexico, nocturnal flyovers, and Phoenix on 22 and 27 September, respectively. In the latter location Gregg Dashnau heard the birds calling from the woods along the river at 6:30 AM. In the pre-dawn hour on 22 September, Wayne Fidler heard 21 Swainson's Thrushes fly over his residence near Mexico. Other observers noted that some Swainson's Thrushes were feeding alongside American Robins on the limited amount of black cherries our Region had to offer this fall. The American Robin migration was significant and peaked in late October and early November. Mickey Scilingo counted 1,059 flying by Constantia on 4 November. There were persistent reports of high numbers of robins lingering in areas replete with well-laden buckthorn bushes and wild grapes vines. At Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary in southern Oneida County, the American Mountain Ash trees that normally hold their berries through the first half of winter were stripped bare of their fruit in just a few days, all the work of ravenous robins.

This fall's warbler migration could be characterized as an ongoing trickle that featured a barely discernable peak in mid-September. Insignificant high counts were the rule for most species. At best reckoning, there were only 10-12 Blackburnian Warblers reported for the entire period and less than 20 Black-and-white Warblers. On the positive side, the supply of Tennessee Warblers migrating through the Region has been on the increase in recent years, and that trend continued this period, with maximum numbers of 10 and 8 reported. Wilson's Warbler enjoyed a slight rebound, with a maximum number of four reported in the vicinity of Sandy Pond on 2 September. Singles and groups of two were found in several other locations.

Eastern Towhee reports were relatively numerous and widespread, and some good numbers were tallied. A maximum of nine was counted at Three Rivers WMA in Lysander on 3 October. Vesper Sparrows have been declining as a breeding species in the Region, but this fall single migrants were found at seven locations. It's safe to say the Region is overdue for an invasion of winter finches, but it quickly became apparent this season wasn't going to be it. Purple Finch numbers were quite good, and the species persisted through the period, peaking at the end of October. There were very few reports of Pine Siskins. A maximum number of 15 flew over Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary on 5 November. Reportedly, that flock was headed south. At the same location large flocks of American Goldfinch persisted through the first week of October. Wayne Fidler tallied 1160 of them passing Derby Hill on the morning of 4 October. On Halloween, Joe Sutherland had a leucisctic goldfinch visit his bird feeder. Some Evening Grosbeaks did arrive in the Region and were enjoyed by birders before moving on.

A total of 243 species and three hybrids was reported for the season, which is nine more than the recent 10-year average of 235. Highlights included: Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, BARNACLE GOOSE, American White Pelican, Cattle Egret, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Golden Eagle, Hudsonian Godwit, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope, Red Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger, Black-legged Kittiwake, BLACK-HEADED GULL, Little Gull, Snowy Owl, White-eyed Vireo, and Orange-crowned Warbler.

Swan Hummingbird v4.02 was used to process 36,165 eBird records from 241 contributors.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

Adks – Adirondacks (n. HERK); BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville; BRH – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; Bville – Baldwinsville; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida L at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; DL – Delta L; Dolge – Dolgeville, HERK; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GB – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; GLSP – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; GSC – Great Swamp Conservancy, n. MADI; Hast – Hastings; HI – Howland I WMA; MNWR east – Montezuma NWR, CAYU; MRW – McKoons Road Wetland, Youngs Crossing, s. HERK; OF – Old Forge, HERK; OLC – Onondaga L Creekwalk; OneiL – Oneida L; OnonL – Onondaga L; OswH – Oswego Harbor; SBP – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; SHTF – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango, MADI; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC –

Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; SVB – Sylvan & Verona Beach; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; WP – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: WP 7 – 25 Oct; max 12 BLNS 8 – 16 Nov (JB, GD), new Reg max, singles several other locs.
Snow Goose: arr Tully 24 Sep, early; TR 25 Sep; max 500 Fulton 22 Oct.
Ross's Goose: WP 19 – 23 Oct.
Brant: arr 27 FH 9 Oct; max 3260 DH 18 Oct; last 2 OsH 11 Nov.
BARNACLE GOOSE: 2 Litchfield, HERK 24 – 29 Oct (STS!, mob, ph), unbanded, presumed wild, 5th Reg rec, first for fall season; *intro*.
Cackling Goose: arr Verona 26 Sep; max 12 Litchfield, HERK 28 Oct (DWe); max 12 WP 4 Nov (STS); many reports of singles.
Canada Goose: max 5000 WP 19 – 23 Oct.
Snow Goose X Canada Goose: WP 5 Oct.
Mute Swan: max 46 FH 2 Nov.
Trumpeter Swan: max 8 MNWR east 8 Oct; 5 FH 19 Oct. last 2 Palermo, OSWE 14 Nov.
Tundra Swan: arr 7 Cleveland 16 Nov; 10 Const 18 Nov; max 35 OneiL 25 Nov; only reports.
Wood Duck: 48 LD 1 Sep; max 85 HI 17 Sep.
Gadwall: arr 3 WP 24 Sep; 20 WP 25 Oct; max 75 SP 3 Nov; 37 FH 23 Nov.
Am. Wigeon: 75 WP 25 Oct; max 128 FH 23 Nov.
Am. Black Duck: 59 FH 17 Oct; 32 WP 19 Nov; max 106 DH 22 Oct.
Mallard: max 415 FH 23 Nov.
Am. Wigeon X Mallard: Phoenix 9 Oct (GD).
Blue-winged Teal: max 34 DL 1 Sep; 26 WP 24 Sep; 19 UM 9 Oct; last WP 30 Oct; relatively poor numbers.
N. Shoveler: max 20 MNWR east 22 Oct; 8 GSC 6 Nov; singles and small numbers at 7 other locs.
N. Pintail: max 195 FH 14 Oct; 45 DH 22 Oct.
Green-winged Teal: 30 HI 17 Sep; max 68 FH 4 Oct; 63 WP 29 Oct.
Canvasback: FH 29 Oct – 5 Nov, only report.
Redhead: max 21 FH 11 Oct; 15 OnonL 25 Nov; few reports and small numbers.
Ring-necked Duck: 241 Eaton, MADI 2 Nov; max 727 Const 4 Nov.
Greater Scaup: max 34 FH 5 Nov; 12 Fulton 15 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: arr 2 Hinckley Reservoir 15 Sep; max 56 SP 2 Nov; 28 FH 5 Nov; relatively low numbers.

Surf Scoter: arr 6 FH 14 Oct; max 28 DH 23 Oct; 17 Oswego 29 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: arr 2 West Eaton 13 Oct; max 60 DH 23 Oct; 28 SBP 23 Nov.
Black Scoter: arr 6 FH 19 Oct; max 20 DH 23 Oct; 18 SBP 23 Nov.
Surf/Black Scoter: max 100 SP 7 Nov; 20 OswH 30 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: arr 2 FH 9 Oct; max 200 DH 11 Nov; 19 FH 23 Nov.
Bufflehead: arr 2 WP 20 Oct; 30 SP 4 Nov; max 51 FH 17 Nov.
Com. Goldeneye: arr 2 DH 23 Oct; 15 FH 23 Nov; max 25 Mexico 24 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: 95 Warren, HERK 25 Nov; max 102 BLNC 28 Nov.
Com. Merganser: max 250 OneiL 13 Oct; 71 BLNC 20 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: 200 SNC 2 Nov; 160 DH 2 Nov; max 250 FH 25, 30 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: arr 2 Syr 29 Sep & BLNC 29 Sep; max 25 WP 19 Nov.
Ring-necked Pheasant: 4 SHTF 11 Sep; max 6 SP 17 Sep, 5 Oct.
Ruffed Grouse: max 4 SFNS 2 Oct; 3 Waterville 16 Nov.
Wild Turkey: 32 Litchfield 28 Oct; max 35 DB 23 Nov; relatively small flock sizes.
Red-throated Loon: arr DH 9 Oct; max 5 FH 25 Nov; 3 OnonL 25 Nov.
Com. Loon: 8 Little Moose Lake, Adks 4 Sep; max 45 DH 23 Oct; 13 Const 6 Nov.
Pied-billed Grebe: 6 Weaver Lake, HERK 9 Sep; max 14 FH 28 Sep.
Horned Grebe: arr WP 27 Sep; max 54 FH 23 Nov; 20 Mexico 30 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr DH 23 Oct; 3 FH 23 Nov; max 4 OnonL 25 Nov; six other locs.
Double-crested Cormorant: max 1079 OswH 30 Sep; 526 TR 9 Oct.
AM. WHITE PELICAN (R5): FH 12, 28, 30 Nov (KB, SP, AJA, GD), of approx 18 Reg rec, 1st for fall season; *intro*.
Am. Bittern: HI 17 Sep; SP 2 Oct; SFNS 4 – 8 Oct; Fairfield 20 Oct; only reports.
Great Blue Heron: max 14 DL 8 Oct; 14 Phoenix 9 Oct.
Great Egret: max 21 GSC 13 Sep; 5 OLC 23 Sep; 9 DL 8 Oct; last Port Byron 22 Oct.
Cattle Egret: 4 Skan 2 Nov (KB). Several dozen prior Reg rec, *intro*.

Green Heron: 4 WP 4 Sep; max 5 Volney 5 Sep; 4 Eaton, MADI 8 Sep; last FH 9 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 2 OnonL 21 – 27 Sep; last OLC 16 Oct; singles 3 other locs.
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Fayetteville 15 – 19 Sep (TM, mob, ph), 6th Reg rec, first for fall season; *intro*.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Turkey Vulture: max 170 DH 11 Sep; 80 Lenox 17 Sep.
Osprey: max 5 DH 11 Sep; 4 BRH 23 Sep.
Bald Eagle: 5 Pulaski 21 Sep; max 7 DH 22 Oct.
N. Harrier: 2 BRH 15, 23 Sep, 23 Oct; 2 CM 27 Sep, 3 Oct; 2 TR 9 Oct; 2 SFNS 4 Nov; widespread reports.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 7 BRH 23 Sep, 7 DH 1 Nov; 5 Const 26 Sep; 4 SFNS 29 Sep; 4 DH 19 Nov.
Cooper's Hawk: max 3 BRH 23 Sep & Const 24 Sep & DH 1 Nov.
N. Goshawk: DH 1 Nov; SH 8 – 13 (LS); SH 19 Nov; Pulaski 24 Nov; Verona 30 Nov.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 New Haven 5 Sep; WP 22, 24 Sep; SFNS 6 Oct; OnonL 8 Nov; singles at 7 other locs.
Broad-winged Hawk: 20 BRH 15 Sep; max 55 Fayetteville 16 Sep; last Elbridge 5 Oct; relatively few reports.
Red-tailed Hawk: Chittenango 20 Sep (JS), West Nile Virus; 9 BRH 23 Sep; max 54 DH 18 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Litchfield 28 Oct & DB 28 Oct, DeWitt 28 Oct; singles 8 other locs.
Golden Eagle: arr Litchfield, HERK 30 Oct; Kirkland 30 Oct; Cazenovia 2 Nov; Rome 2 Nov; only reports.
Virginia Rail: Volney 5 Sep; HI 16 – 17 Sep; only reports.
Sora: Volney 16 Sep, only report.
Com. Gallinule: 4 Volney 14 Sep; max 5 MNWR east 17 Sep; last OLC 25 Sept; singles at 3 other locs.
Am. Coot: max 40 SP 29 Oct; 17 FH 31 Oct.
Sandhill Crane: max 5 MNWR east 22 Oct; 4 DB 28 Oct; 3 Bville 3 Nov; 2 Palermo 1-15 Sep; 2 DB and vicinity various dates Oct - Nov.
Black-bellied Plover: 3 FH 23 Sep, 17 Oct; max 4 MNWR east 22 Oct; 2 SHTF 26 Oct; last FH 2 Nov; 6 other locs.
Am. Golden-Plover: max 9 SHTF 19 Sep; last SHTF 26 Oct; all reports from same loc.
Semipalmated Plover: 2 Otisco Lake 12 Sep;

max 3 Fayetteville 16 Sep; last TR 9 Oct; low numbers.
Killdeer: max 200 SHTF 4 Sep; 80 Waterville 29 Sep; last DB 25 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: 2 DL 1 Sep; max 3 FH 14 Oct; last FH 24 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 3 Eaton 7 – 8 Sep; last WP 16 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: 8 OnonL 18 Oct; max 12 MNWR east 22 Oct; last Otisco Lake 15 Nov.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 7 WP 19 Oct; max 24 MNWR east 22 Oct; last Cicero 10 Nov.
Hudsonian Godwit: DB 26 – 27 Oct (GC, mob, ph); Cicero 8 – 10 Nov, likely same bird.
Ruddy Turnstone: FH 23 – 28 Sep, only report.
Stilt Sandpiper: HI 2 Sep, only report.
Sanderling: max 18 SP 2 Sep; 16 FH 17 Sep; 5 DH 9 Oct; last FH 7 Nov.
Dunlin: max 29 FH 17 Oct; 3 SP 3 – 18 Nov; last FH 27 Nov; singles at two other locs.
Baird's Sandpiper: New Hartford 16 Sep, unusual loc; FH 14 Oct; only reports.
Least Sandpiper: max 49 DL 1 Sep; 15 TR 12 Sep; 9 Madison 13 Sep; last Litchfield 27 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: SHTF 9 – 10 Sep; 2 DB 30 Oct; only locs.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2 SHTF 4 Sep, *intro*.
Pectoral Sandpiper: 3 SHTF 18 Sep; max 8 MNWR east 22 Oct; 5 DB27 Oct; last 3 DB 31 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 13 SP 1 Sep; 7 TR 24 Sep; last 2 TR 7 Oct; reports from six other locs.
Short-billed Dowitcher: DL 3 Sep, only report.
Long-billed Dowitcher: 5 Madison 8 Sep (RW), only report.
Wilson's Snipe: 2 Eaton 19 Sep; max 23 MNWR east 30 Oct; last TR 31 Oct.
Am. Woodcock: 4 Phoenix 12 Oct; max 5 MNWR east 29 Oct; last SFNS 5 Nov & Phoenix 5 Nov.
Red-necked Phalarope: HI 2 Sep (JM), only report.
Red Phalarope: Madison 6 – 7 Sep (SH, GM, mob, ph), 1st MADI rec; DH 22 Oct; only reports.
phalarope species: 4 DH 11 Sep.
Parasitic Jaeger: arr DH 22 Oct; max 6 DH 23 Oct; only reports.
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: DH 11 Sep (BP, NYSARC).
Black-legged Kittiwake: max 3 DH 23 Oct (BP, KM, mob); DH 11 Nov; last DH 20 Nov;

only reports.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 350 SVB 17 Sep; 65 SP 24 Nov.

BLACK-HEADED GULL (R5): ad Brewerton 4 Oct (DA!, ph), approx 14th Reg rec; *intro*.

Little Gull: DH 20 Nov (BP), only report.

Ring-billed Gull: max 1300 SVB 13 Oct.

Herring Gull: 252 SB 23 Oct; max 370 DH 20 Nov.

Iceland Gull: arr OswH 11 Nov; 2 OswH 30 Nov; singles at 2 other locs.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: DH 20 Nov (BP, WF); SSSP 24 Nov (WF).

Great Black-backed Gull: max 45 SVB 13 Oct; 20 SP 7 Nov.

Caspian Tern: max 7 Phoenix 1 Sep & DH 11 Sep; last OnonL 18 Oct (CL), late.

Com. Tern: max 3 SP 19, 26 Sep; last 2 SVB 8 Oct; surprisingly few reports.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: 152 Phoenix 5 Oct; 177 Tully 29 Oct.

Mourning Dove: 66 Dolge 8 Sep; max 80 Bville 17 Nov.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Bridgeport 4 Sep; HI 17 Sep; CM 25 Sep; last SFNS 5 Oct, late.

E. Screech-Owl: 2 Marcellus 2 Sep; 2 HI 16 Sep; singles at 7 other locs.

Great Horned Owl: 2 Manlius 12 Sep; 2 TR 6 Oct; 2 Verona 29 Oct; 2 Pompey 13 Nov; 2 Clinton 28 Nov; 2 Fayetteville 29 Nov; better numbers.

Snowy Owl: Chittenango 16 Nov (JS), vehicle strike; Sterling 16 Nov; only reports; *intro*.

Barred Owl: Bville 1 Sep (JS), suspected West Nile Virus, treated & released; 2 Kirkville 3 Sep, 1 Oct; max 3 Williamstown 9 Sep.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Bville 15 Oct (JS), rehab case; Mexico 29 Oct; OLC 31 Oct; Camden 15 November (JS), rehab case; only reports; *intro*.

Com. Nighthawk: max 3 Phoenix 4 Sep; 2 TR 12 Sep; last Phoenix 11 Oct, late (GD); singles at 4 other locs.

E. Whip-poor-will: Belgium 12 Sep, only report.

Chimney Swift: max 20 Syr 2 Sep; last HI 17 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 4 Inlet 2 Sep; 3 SFNS 2 – 12 Sep; 3 WP 4 Sep; last SFNS 25 Sep.

Belted Kingfisher: max 6 SP 2 Sep; 5 Bridgeport 4 Sep.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Bridgeport 4 Sep; SBP 20 Sep; only reports.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 11 Phoenix 25 Sep; max 12 HI 9 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 3 Waterville 9 Sep & New Hartford & 3 Manlius 28 Sep.

Downy Woodpecker: max 10 SFNS 21 Sep – 14 Oct.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 5 Erieville 22 Sep.

N. Flicker: max 18 SH 2 Oct.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 4 HI 17 Sep.

Am. Kestrel: 12 Fairfield 12 Sep; max 23 BRH 23 Sep.

Merlin: 2 DeWitt 10 Sep; 2 SP 1 Oct; 2 Utica 25 Nov.

Peregrine Falcon: resident prs in Utica and Syr thru; pr OswH 30 Nov; singles at 7 other locs.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: DL 1 Sep, only report.

E. Wood-Pewee: max 6 Phoenix 2 Sep; last 2 SP 5 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SFNS 10 Sep; CM SNC 15 Sep; last SFNS 18 Sep; singles at 4 other locs.

Alder Flycatcher: 3 Phoenix 9 Sep, only report.

Willow Flycatcher: 2 Phoenix 6 Sep; last Phoenix 7 Sep; only reports.

Alder/Willow Flycatcher: 2 Syr 4 Sep; 2 Phoenix 16 Sep; last TR 24 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: 2 SFNS 2, 17 Sep; 2 Hast 3 Sep; last TR 2 Oct.

E. Phoebe: max 7 HI 17 Sep; last SP 4 Nov.

Great Crested Flycatcher: 2 TR 2 Sep; 2 Phoenix 1 – 9 Sep; 2 CM 5 Sep; BLNC 19 Sep; last CM 21 Sep.

E. Kingbird: Marcellus 10 Sep, only report.

N. Shrike: arr Erieville 28 Oct; 6 other reports of singles.

White-eyed Vireo: Phoenix 4 Oct (GD), several dozen prior Reg rec.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 4 Sep; 2 TR 2, 8 Sep; 2 DH 5 Sep; 2 HI 17 Sep; last Fayetteville 14 Oct, late.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 HI 17 Sep & CM 21 Sep & SFNS 5 Oct; last OnonL 19 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: max 20 WP 4 Sep; 3 n. Syr 4 Sep; 3 DeWitt 10 Sep; last TR 22 Sep.

Philadelphia Vireo: 2 SFNS 10 Sep; 2 GB 11 Sep; 2 South Bay 17 Sep; 2 HI 17 Sep; 2 TR 25 Sep; last SFNS 3 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 6 SFNS 7 Sep; last Phoenix 4 Oct.

Blue Jay: 215 Hast 24 Sep; max 2301 Const 25 Sep (MS!), significant movement at Const, *intro*.

Am. Crow: Liverpool 15 Sep (JS), West Nile

Virus; Brewerton 20 Sep (JS), West Nile Virus; max 4000 Utica 13 Nov.

Fish Crow: max OLC 29 Sep; 2 Phoenix 12 Nov.

Com. Raven: max 9 Mannsville 3 Nov; widespread reports.

Horned Lark: max 75 Navarino, ONON 20 Nov; 66 DeRuyter 20 Nov.

Purple Martin: 3 HI 17 Sep, only report.

Tree Swallow: max 250 HI 17 Sep; 100 FH 17 Sep; last 13 FH 31 Oct.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 10 HI 17 Sep; last 6 HI 15 Oct; all reports from same loc.

Bank Swallow: max & last 4 FH 17 Sep & HI 17 Sep.

Barn Swallow: max 21 MRW 1 Sep; 20 HI 17 Sep; last WP 26 Sep.

Cliff Swallow: HI 23 Sep, only report.

swallow species: 200 FH 17 Sep.

Black-capped Chickadee: 47 HI 17 Sep; 40 SH 24 Sep; 30 SFNS 9 Sep – 28 Oct.

Tufted Titmouse: max 10 SFNS 30 Sep – 28 Oct & Syr 27 Oct.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 6 BLNC 7 Sep; max 8 SH 24 Sep; 6 Const 25 Sep.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 15 SFNS 22 Sep – 14 Oct; 9 SH 24 Sep; 9 HI 9 Oct.

Brown Creeper: max 5 HI 9 Oct & SFNS 9 Oct; 3 OLC 25 Oct; 3 BLNC 7 Nov.

House Wren: 3 Hast 3 Sep; max 4 TR 2 – 3 Oct; last Fabius 16 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 9 HI 9 Oct; 3 SFNS 19 Oct.

Marsh Wren: max 16 HI 17 Sep; 2 TR 22 Sep; 2 SP 2 Oct; HI 15 Oct; last CM 17 Oct.

Carolina Wren: max 3 Elbridge 5 Oct; most reports west of Oneil.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 3 Phoenix 1 Sep & VBSP 3 Sep; last Phoenix 9 Sep.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 50 FH 9 Oct; 20 SFNS 22 Oct.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr CM 15 Sep; 19 SH 4 Oct; max 20 SFNS 6 Oct; last OLC 19 Nov.

E. Bluebird: 12 HI 15 Oct; max 27 Const 4 Nov; 23 DH 4 Nov.

Veery: max & last 4 Mexico 22 Sep; few reports.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Hast 15 Sep; max 4 Mexico 22 Sep & Phoenix 27 Sep; 2 FH 5 Oct; 2 Const 6 Oct; last Kirkville 16 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: 3 Hast 15 Sep; max 21 Mexico 22 Sep (WF), great number; 3 TR 1 Oct; last SFNS 19 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 31 FH 9 Oct (CW), good number; 6 HI 9 Oct; 5 SFNS 18 Oct.

Wood Thrush: 5 HI 17 Sep; 3 TR 15, 25 Sep;

last Fulton & Const 3 Oct.

Am. Robin: 300 SFNS 28 Oct; 1059 Const 4 Nov; 500 DeWitt 19 Nov.

Gray Catbird: 20 CM 5 Sep; 20 SFNS 9 – 10 Sep; max 21 HI 17 Sep; last WP 15 Nov.

N. Mockingbird: max 7 Hancock Airport, Cicero 27 Sep; no reports east of Oneida Lake.

Brown Thrasher: 3 TR 21 Sep; max 4 SFNS 24 Sep; last SFNS 7 Oct.

European Starling: max 2500 Litchfield, HERK 29 Oct; 2000 DeWitt 28 Nov.

Am. Pipit: max 30 FH 5 Oct, 30 Phoenix 15 Oct, 30 SHTF 29 Oct.

Cedar Waxwing: 110 Phoenix 2 Sep; max 125 SFNS 2 Nov; 119 DH 19 Nov.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: arr MNWR east 22 Oct; OswH 29 – 31 Oct; DB 5 – 6 Nov; only reports.

Snow Bunting: arr FH 11 Oct; max 102 FH 7 Nov; 60 Kirkville 8 Nov.

Ovenbird: max 3 GB 11 Sep; last SFNS 28 Sep.

N. Waterthrush: Bridgeport 4 Sep; SFNS 9, 12 Sep; last SFNS 18 Sep.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 2 SFNS 2 Sep; VBSP 3 Sep; WP 4 Sep; last Hast 8 Sep.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: Trenton, HERK 15 Sep, only report.

Black-and-white Warbler: last WP 17 Oct; less than 20 reports of singles.

Tennessee Warbler: 8 HI 17 Sep; max 10 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; 4 SFNS 22 Sep; last SFNS 7 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr CM 5 Sep; arr Hast 25 Sep; Dolge 27 Sep; TR 1 – 3 Oct; last Syr 27 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: 4 HI 17 Sep; 4 SFNS 30 Sep; max 5 TR 3 Oct; last SH 8 Oct.

Mourning Warbler: SFNS 23 Sep, only report.

Com. Yellowthroat: max 10 Bridgeport 4 Sep & HI 17 Sep; last SP 16 Oct.

Hooded Warbler: 2 Elbridge 1 Sep; 2 Williamstown 23 Sep; last FH 26 Sep.

Am. Redstart: max 4 SH 24 Sep; last Phoenix 4 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: 4 HI 17 Sep; max 5 SH 21 Sep; reports from 6 other locs.

N. Parula: 2 SFNS 15 Sep; last OLC 19 Oct; reports from 6 other locs.

Magnolia Warbler: max 10 Bridgeport 4 Sep; 8 HI 17 Sep; 7 SH 24 Sep; 7 Phoenix 2 Oct; last Mannsville 3 Nov.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 4 Bridgeport 4 Sep & Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; 3 SFNS 15

Sep; last SFNS 24 Sep.
Blackburnian Warbler: 2 Bridgeport 4 Sep; 2 SFNS 10 Sep; last Const 21 Sep; relatively few reports.
Yellow Warbler: 2 Jamesville 6 Sep; max 3 HI 17 Sep; last FH 17 Oct.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: 2 Dolge 2 Sep; 2 Waterville 9 Sep; max 3 HI 17 Sep; last Phoenix 1 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 6 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; 4 SFNS 1 Oct; last OLC 1 Nov.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 Moss Lake, Adks 3 Sep; 4 Phoenix 27 Sep; last TR 9 Oct; generally poor numbers.
Palm Warbler: 5 SFNS 24 Sep; max 9 TR 2 Oct; last Kirkville 16 Oct.
Pine Warbler: 2 TR 5 Sep; 2 Waterville 9 Sep; 2 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; last Dolge 19 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 26 OF 21 Sep; max 50 Phoenix 2 Oct; 40 HI 15 Oct.
Prairie Warbler: Waterville 9 Sep, only report.
Black-throated Green Warbler: 8 Bald Mountain, Adks 18 Sep; 7 SFNS 30 Sep; last OLC 31 Oct.
Canada Warbler: SFNS 1, 9 Sep; GB 11 Sep; only reports.
Wilson's Warbler: max 4 SP 2 Sep; 2 Cicero 4 Sep; 2 Phoenix 16 Sep; 2 HI 17 Sep; last Syr 7 Oct.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: 5 Fulton 6 Sep; 5 Hast 12 – 26 Sep; 5 SFNS 19 Sep; max 9 TR 3 Oct; last WP 28 Oct.
Am. Tree Sparrow: arr Port Byron 22 Oct; 12 DB 23 Nov; max 13 Dolge 21 – 24 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: 17 Elbridge 24 Sep; max 20 BLNC 7 Oct; last SB 23 Nov.
Clay-colored Sparrow: TR 21 Sep (GD), only report.
Field Sparrow: 6 TR 25 Sep – 5 Oct; max 17 GLSP 10 Sep; last 2 DB 28 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: Litchfield 27 – 29 Oct; DB 28 Oct; Paris 31 Oct; last DB 5 Nov; singles at 5 other locs.
Savannah Sparrow: 4 SHTF 18 Sep; max 8 Bville 3 Oct; last Sherrill 24 Nov.
Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 DeWitt 10 Sep, only report.
Fox Sparrow: arr 2 CM 10 Oct; 3 SFNS 5 Nov; max 6 Dolge 25 Nov; 3 Cato 27 Oct; last Manlius 26 Nov.

Song Sparrow: 55 TR 25 Sep; max 80 HI 15 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr DH 8 Sep; 3 SFNS 20 Sep; max 6 TR 6 Oct; last Tully 24 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: 15 TR 25 Sep; max 35 15 Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: 85 TR 6 Oct; max 280 HI 15 Oct (JM).
White-crowned Sparrow: arr SFNS 23 Sep; 13 GB 5 Oct; max 15 TR 9 Oct; last Const 22 Nov.
Dark-eyed Junco: 75 Fairfield 20 Oct; max 80 Parish 20 Nov.
Scarlet Tanager: max 3 SFNS 5 Sep & Phoenix 6 Sep & Const 9 Sep & Waterville 9 Sep; last TR 6 Oct.
N. Cardinal: 10 HI 17 Sep; max 20 SFNS 21 Sep.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 5 WP 4 Sep; 3 SFNS 10 – 30 Sep; last SFNS 5 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: max 3 SHTF 4 Sep & Williamstown 4 Sep, 3 SFNS 20 – 22 Sep & NH 5 Sep; last TR 9 Oct.
Bobolink: 10 SFNS 2, 3, 5, 9 Sep; max 75 SHTF 4 Sep; 15 TR 16 Sep; last SFNS 5 Oct.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 2500 Pennellville 18 Sep & SP 2 Oct; 100 DB 28 Oct.
E. Meadowlark: max 3 DeWitt 10 Sep; 2 GLSP 24 Sep; last Litchfield 29 Oct; singles at 4 other locs.
Rusty Blackbird: 87 HI 9 Oct; 34 TR 9 Oct; 63 CM 26 Oct; max 305 Phoenix 5 Nov; last Cullen, s. HERK 25 Nov.
Com. Grackle: 5000 Pennellville 22 Oct; 6000 Litchfield, s. HERK 25 Oct.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 75 Bridgeport 26 Sep; 50 Fayetteville 27 Nov.
Baltimore Oriole: 2 Phoenix 2 Sep; 2 OLC 4 Sep; max 3 HI 17 Sep; last Const 21 Sep.
blackbird species: max 4500 BLNC 2 Nov.
Purple Finch: 15 SFNS 7 Sep – 3 Oct; 18 Dolge 14 – 26 Oct; max 46 Const 21 Oct.
House Finch: 14 Bville 4 Sep; max 15 Hamilton 20 Nov.
Pine Siskin: 5 Dolge 3 Oct; 9 FH 9 Oct; max 15 SFNS 5 Nov.
Am. Goldfinch: 60 GLSP 10 Sep; 100 SFNS 23 Sep – 8 Oct; Cazenovia 31 Oct, leucistic individual at feeder; max 1160 DH 4 Nov.
Evening Grosbeak: arr 12 Dolge 25 Oct; max 33 Williamstown 30 Oct; 12 SP 31 Oct; 8 DeRuyter 5 Nov; 8 SH 13 Nov.
House Sparrow: 40 SFNS 2 Sep; max 100 Syr 29 Sep.

REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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It was another warm fall, with monthly mean temperatures ranging between two and five degrees warmer than average. September and November were relatively dry, but October was modestly wetter than normal. Widespread dry to drought conditions persisted through September, with most bodies of water very low and many small ponds and wetlands entirely dry until heavy rain during the third week of October filled many ponds. Despite generally dry conditions, water levels remained very high on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River all fall, leaving relatively little exposed shoreline.

As seems to be becoming the new norm, Snow Geese were virtually absent from Region 6 all fall, and Canada Goose numbers were also low. A single Cackling Goose in Watertown on 31 October was the only unusual goose reported. Ducks were plentiful, especially at Wilson Hill WMA, where the annual *Aythya* gathering was among the best seen in years, including more than 5400 Ring-necked Ducks and 2300 Redhead, the latter being about four times the typical maximum fall tally at this site. The season's only Eurasian Wigeon was also at Wilson Hill on 20 October. No other rare waterfowl were noted.

An American White Pelican that wandered around the eastern end of Lake Ontario for much of the fall put in a brief appearance on Black River Bay, where Wayne Fidler was lucky enough to be the only birder who saw it in Region 6. A gathering of Great Egrets at Perch River WMA through early October peaked at 28 in late September, far more than is usually seen in Jefferson County. Conversely, scattered single Great Egrets were in northeastern St. Lawrence County, but the large groups seen in this area in past years went unreported. Sandhill Cranes continued from the summer at Perch River and Wilson Hill WMAs, and two migrants were in a Dekalb cornfield on 22 November.

Shorebirds were tough to find, as most traditional shorebird spots had either too little or too much water. The main exception was Perch River WMA, where continuing low water provided habitat for a wide assortment of shorebirds, with particularly high counts of both yellowlegs. Rarely seen in Region 6, Long-billed Dowitchers were at Perch River on 23 September and 7 October. Shorebird numbers remained relatively high at Perch River until mid-October's heavy rains flooded the mudflats on Stone Mills Pool.

Aerial insectivores were very scarce throughout the fall, perhaps because dry conditions resulted in reduced abundance of flying insects. Tree Swallows were most conspicuously absent, with only two reports Regionally for the entire season and a maximum count of 65 individuals. Comparing Tree Swallow numbers between 2015 and 2016 at the Stone Mills Pool at Perch River WMA provides a particularly stark contrast. During September of 2015, Tree Swallow

counts at this site ranged between 250 and 1000 per day through the entire month, but in September 2016 not a single swallow was detected on weekly visits to this site. Barn Swallows were similarly scarce Region-wide, and unlike many years, Chimney Swifts, Bank Swallows, and Northern Rough-winged Swallows all seemed to disappear well before the beginning of the fall reporting season.

As it was during the fall of 2015, the passerine migration was very slow with few large movements noted. In fact on many mornings it seemed like virtually no birds were moving at all, even when conditions seemed good for migration. The main exception was during a few days at the end of September and beginning of October, when songbird volume is often the highest. During this period a seasonally typical mix of sparrows, warblers, and thrushes was widely reported moving in very large numbers. A few species lingered into the fall later than is typical, including a Black-throated Green Warbler in Hounsfield on 17 October and a Magnolia Warbler at El Dorado on 23 October.

Although no significant irruption of northern finches had developed by the end of the season, a surprising number of such species was detected at least once. Modest numbers of Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks were observed throughout the season, with the latter species being most numerous in the Brasher State Forest. One report each of Pine Grosbeak, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, and Common Redpoll made for greater finch diversity than during many years. Three reports of Bohemian Waxwing from the Brasher area rounded out the northern irruptives.

For the season I received reports of 224 species, one more than last year and one fewer than the year before that, so very much an average tally. That this year's species total was not below average was something of a surprise, given the many species that typically linger into early September but went unreported this season. True rarities certainly didn't make up the difference; rather the continued increase in reports coming from eBirders likely resulted in a higher than usual number of detections of species that are regular but in very low numbers. Finally, the bird of the season was certainly the American White Pelican, but unfortunately only one person saw it in Region 6.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AFWMA – Ashland Flats WMA; BI – Barnhart I, T Massena; BRB – Black River Bay; CCSP – Coles Creek SP; CV – T Cape Vincent; ED – El Dorado Shores Preserve, T Ellisburg; FD – Fort Drum Military Installation; ICNC – Indian Creek Nature Center, T Canton; KC – Kelsey Creek, T Watertown; LWMA – Lakeview WMA; MP – Montario Pt, T Ellisburg, JEFF; RMSP – Robert Moses SP, T Massena; PilPt – Pillar Pt, JEFF; PRGC – Partridge Run Golf Course trail, T Canton; PRWMA – Perch River WMA; PtPen – Point Peninsula, JEFF; SLR – St. Lawrence River; StPt – Stony Pt, T Henderson, JEFF; ULLWMA – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; WBSP – Westcott Beach SP; WHWMA – Wilson Hill WMA; WISP – Wellesley I SP; WP – Whalen P, T Louisville.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Snow Goose: max 50 T Colton 25 Sep; 5 rep of 1-2 ind each; virtually no movement thru.

Brant: arr MP 23 Oct; max 100 RMSP 10 Nov; few reports.

Cackling Goose: T Watertown 31 Oct (BM), only report.

Canada Goose: fewer than usual.

Mute Swan: max 34 T Clayton 7 Nov.

Trumpeter Swan: SLR T Ogdensburg 2 Sep; 5 Dexter Marsh 17 Oct; only reports away from nesting sites at PRWMA & ULLWMA.

Tundra Swan: arr BRB by 23 Oct; max 193 BRB 25 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 60 PRWMA 9 Sep.

Gadwall: max 180 PRWMA 23 Oct.

Eurasian Wigeon: WHWMA 20 Oct (JB), only report.

Am. Wigeon: max 740 WHWMA 29 Oct.

Am. Black Duck: max 95 MP 11 Nov.

Blue-winged Teal: max 120 ULLWMA 9 Oct.

N. Shoveler: max 15 PRWMA 17 Nov.

N. Pintail: max 56 WHWMA 29-30 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max WP 24 Sep.

Canvasback: WHWMA 20 Oct, only report.

Redhead: max 2340 WHWMA 20 Oct (JB), high.

Ring-necked Duck: max 5470 WHWMA 20 Oct (JB).

Greater Scaup: arr & max 300 CV 1 Oct.

Lesser Scaup: max 200 WHWMA 10 Oct.

Surf Scoter: 11 rep 15 Oct - 19 Nov; max 23 MP 23 Oct.

White-winged Scoter: arr 14 Oct; max 40 WBSP 17 Nov.

Black Scoter: 17 rep 22 Oct - 27 Nov; max 26 WBSP 19 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr PtPen 22 Oct; max 250 MP 26 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr Lake Ozonia 2 Oct; max 65 PtPen 19 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr ULLWMA 25 Oct; max 112 BRB 27 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 76 T Hounsefield 10 Nov.

Com. Merganser: max 101 CCSP 15 Oct.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 400 Guffin Bay 27 Nov (DW).

Ruddy Duck: 7 rep; max 6 PRWMA 17 Nov.

Red-throated Loon: max 8 BRB 26 Nov (NL).

Com. Loon: max 108 BRB 3 Nov (NL).

Pied-billed Grebe: max 83 ULLWMA 9 Oct (JB).

Horned Grebe: max 24 PtPen 28 Oct.

Red-necked Grebe: 16 rep 14 Oct thru; max 7 CCSP 14 Oct (BD).

Double-crested Cormorant: max 340 CCSP 24 Sep.

AM. WHITE PELICAN: BRB 28 Nov (WF, photos!).

Am. Bittern: 3 rep; last 3 ICNC 2 Oct.

Great Egret: max 28 PRWMA 23 Sep (JB), high for JEFF.

Green Heron: last ICNC 2 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 7 PRWMA 28 Sep; last ICNC 2 Oct.

Turkey Vulture: max 140 T Canton 12 Sep; last T Leray 4 Nov.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Osprey: last T Chaumont 15 Oct.

N. Harrier: fewer than usual after Sep.

N. Goshawk: T Potsdam 14 Nov, only report.

Red-shouldered Hawk: last T Colton 13 October.

Broad-winged Hawk: max & last 6 PtPen 24 Sep.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr PtPen 17 Oct.
Golden Eagle: T Canton 30 Oct (TW), only report.
Virginia Rail: no reports.
Sora: no reports.
Com. Gallinule: last PRWMA 28 Sep.
Am. Coot: singles 14 & 17 Sep PRWMA, only reports.
Sandhill Crane: PRWMA thru 28 Sep (mob); 3 WHWMA thru 14 Oct (BD, TW); last 2 T Dekalb 22 Nov (JB).
Black-bellied Plover: max 13 PtPen 14 Oct.
Am. Golden-Plover: 2 PRWMA 16 Sep (JB); WHWMA 24 Sep (JB); only reports.
Semipalmated Plover: max 15 PRWMA 2 Sep.
Killdeer: max 22 PRWMA 2 Sep.
Spotted Sandpiper: only 4 reports; max & last 4 ED 5 Sep.
Solitary Sandpiper: 5 reports 1-3/day at swamp on private property T Canton thru 2 Oct; 2 sites FD only other reports; unusually scarce.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 61 PRWMA 7 Oct (JB).
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 71 PRWMA 23 Sep (JB).
Whimbrel: ED 5-6 Sep (AS, RB), only reports.
Ruddy Turnstone: 3 LWMA 16 Oct; BI 30 Oct; only reports.
Stilt Sandpiper: 3 PRWMA 4 Sep (SK), only report.
Sanderling: max 25 StPt 4 Sep.
Dunlin: max 10 WHWMA 15 Oct.
Baird's Sandpiper: 4 rep 2 - 16 Sep PRWMA, where max 3 on 9 Sep (JB, SK); ED 2 Sep (JB).
Least Sandpiper: max 22 PRWMA 2 Sep; last PilPt 4 Nov (NL), late.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 19 PRWMA 23 Sep & 10 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 15 PRWMA 4 Sep.
Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 PRWMA 23 Sep, only report.
Long-billed Dowitcher: 2 PRWMA 23 Sep (JB); PRWMA 7 Oct (JB); rare Region 6.
Wilson's Snipe: 2 rep of 4 ind; extremely low.
Am. Woodcock: scarcely reported by birders but encountered by hunters through mid Nov at least.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 199 PtPen 23 Oct.
Little Gull: PtPen 22 Oct (NL), only report.
Iceland Gull: arr BI 30 Oct (JB, BD); 3 rep W JEFF, where max 2 Guffin Bay 27 Nov (DW).
Herring Gull: max 350 BI 30 Oct.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: BI 30 Oct (JB, BD); Guffin Bay 27 Nov.
Glaucous Gull: BRB 27 Nov (WF), only report.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 30 BI 30 Oct.
Caspian Tern: last WHWMA 24 Sep.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: FD 1 Sep, only report.
E. Screech-Owl: T Lyme 23 Sep; WISP 3 Oct; only reports.
Snowy Owl: arr PtPen & T Brownville 25 Nov (WF); 3 other rep late Nov.
N. Saw-whet Owl: 3 rep 23 Sep - 17 Oct.
Com. Nighthawk: last CV 8 Oct (DM), late; no other reports after 6 Sep.
E. Whip-poor-will: T Croghan 4 & 5 Sep; only reports.
Chimney Swift: no reports.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last CV 26 Sep.
Red-headed Woodpecker: max 18 FD 6 Sep, where breeders apparently departed by mid-September; KC 23 Sep, only report away from FD.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last KC 7 Oct.
Am. Kestrel: nearly absent except for W JEFF after Oct.
Merlin: about 25 rep from throughout Region.
Peregrine Falcon: PRWMA 2 & 28 Sep; T Watertown 6 Oct; WHWMA 10 Oct; FD 18 Oct; ULLWMA 25 Oct; only reports away from Massena nest site where present thru.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Five Ponds Wilderness 3 Sep; FD 8 Sep; only reports.
E. Wood-Pewee: last T Watertown 21 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: FD 19 Sep, only report.
Willow Flycatcher: last FD 15 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: last FD 15 Sep.
E. Phoebe: last FD 2 Nov.
Great Crested Flycatcher: last FD 23 Sep.
E. Kingbird: last FD 6 Sep.
N. Shrike: arr ICNC 29 Oct.
Yellow-throated Vireo: last T Croghan 10 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: last T Lowville 16 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: last ICNC 25 Sep.
Philadelphia Vireo: 9 rep of 12 ind 4 - 25 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: last KC 4 Oct.
Horned Lark: max 30 T Hounsfield 22 Nov.
Tree Swallow: only 2 rep; max & last 65 LWMA 16 Sep; shockingly scarce.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: no reports.

Barn Swallow: only 5 rep; max & last 30 LWMA 16 Sep.
House Wren: last T Canton 7 Oct.
Winter Wren: 3 rep JEFF last week Nov, more than usual for so late.
Marsh Wren: last FD 15 Sep.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 23 Low's Ridge-Upper Dam trail 1 Oct.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 16 FD 6 Nov.
E. Bluebird: max 12 T Canton 29 Sep.
Veery: last T Canton 18 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: 4 rep; max 2 ICNC 25 Sep.
Swainson's Thrush: last RMSP 9 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: last FD 18 Nov.
Wood Thrush: last T Croghan 10 Sep.
Am.n Robin: max 170 ULLWMA 29 Oct.
Gray Catbird: last FD 7 Oct.
Brown Thrasher: last KC 28 Sep.
N. Mockingbird: T Hounsfield 28 Sep, only report.
Am. Pipit: max 24 PRWMA 12 Oct; 9 additional reports 1-3; low.
Bohemian Waxwing: 275 Brasher SF 15 Nov (HW); 2 singles from same area; only reports.
Cedar Waxwing: max 67 T Watertown 8 Nov.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: PtPen 22 Nov, only report.
Snow Bunting: arr PtPen 23 Oct.
Ovenbird: last KC 4 Oct.
N. Waterthrush: last ICNC 17 Sep.
Golden-winged Warbler: last T Hammond 1 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last FD 19 Sep (JB), late.
Black-and-white Warbler: last CV 21 Sep.
Tennessee Warbler: last CV 5 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: 5 rep of 7 individuals 17 Sep - 11 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: last 3 FD 7 Oct.
Mourning Warbler: FD 12 Sep (JB), only report.
Com. Yellowthroat: last ULLWMA 28 Oct (JB), late.
Am. Redstart: last FD 20 Sep.
Cape May Warbler: last FD 19 Sep.
N. Parula: last T Croghan 3 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: last ED 23 Oct (JB, ph!), late.
Bay-breasted Warbler: last ICNC 25 Sep.
Blackburnian Warbler: last T Lyme 24 Sep.
Yellow Warbler: last T Lyme 24 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last FD 23 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: last FD 6 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: last T Clayton 26 Sep.
Palm Warbler: max & last 9 FD 7 Oct.
Pine Warbler: last T Lyme 24 Sep.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 210 FD 7 Oct; last PRGC 5 Nov.
Prairie Warbler: last T Clayton 4 Sep.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last T Hounsfield 17 Oct (AB), late.
Canada Warbler: last T Canton 23 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last KC 30 Sep.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: last T Watertown 19 Oct.
Am. Tree Sparrow: arr ED 23 Oct.
Chipping Sparrow: last 4 PRGC 5 Nov.
Clay-colored Sparrow: FD 6 Sep, only report.
Field Sparrow: last PtPen 28 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: last FD 1 Nov.
Savannah Sparrow: last T Croghan 19 Oct.
Fox Sparrow: arr FD 11 Oct; max 12 FD 27 Oct; last T Canton 26 Nov.
Song Sparrow: no reports after 8 Nov.
Lincoln's Sparrow: 6 rep 15 Sep - 14 Oct; max 5 FD 7 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: last 2 T Potsdam 7 Nov.
White-throated Sparrow: max 85 FD 11 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr FD 23 Sep; last T Croghan 19 Oct.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 250 T Lowville 16 Oct.
Scarlet Tanager: last KC 28 Sep.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last ICNC 6 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: last FD 22 Sep.
Bobolink: last 2 heard over ICNC 17 Sep.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 3500 ULLWMA 16 Oct.
E. Meadowlark: last PilPt 4 Nov.
Rusty Blackbird: arr FD 15 Sep; max 225 PRWMA 17 Oct; last ICNC 16 Nov.
Com. Grackle: max 1200 AFWMA 15 Oct.
Brown-headed Cowbird: PtPen 24 Sep, only report!
Baltimore Oriole: last T Croghan 9 Sep.
Pine Grosbeak: 2 T Colton 27 Nov (KO), only report.
Purple Finch: scarce after mid-November.
Red Crossbill: FD 2 Nov (JB), only report.
White-winged Crossbill: CCSP 24 Sep (JB), only report.
Com. Redpoll: PRGC 5 Nov (JB), only report.
Pine Siskin: modest flight mostly Oct; max 30 LWMA 16 Oct, remaining reports all single digits.
Evening Grosbeak: up to 32/day Brasher SF 18 Nov thru; 10 scattered reports 1-5 migrating.

REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

No report was received this season. Region 7 reports will resume with the Spring 2017 season.



REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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September 2016 was warm and dry in Region 8. The continuation of less than normal precipitation led to designations of “abnormally dry” or “moderate drought” for the area. Albany was 4.2° F above normal, and total monthly precipitation was a paltry 2.18", only two-thirds of normal. October averaged 2.7° above average, with a rainfall deficit of 0.78". The first area-wide snowfall occurred on 27 October. Drought conditions worsened to “moderate” or “severe” throughout the eleven county Region by the end of the month. November was a more typical month, with average temperatures slightly above normal, and precipitation at Albany just below normal. Drought conditions remained unchanged from October.

Two observations of Greater White-fronted Goose were reported in November 2016, both by Lindsey Duval. The first was at Riley Cove on Saratoga Lake on 4 November. The second occurred at Hudson Crossing Park on 24 November.

Bill Cook related a very interesting rarity from Columbia County that was present from 26-30 November: “An Eared Grebe spent several days at the end of the month on Copake Lake. It was originally misidentified by all observers, including myself, as a Horned Grebe simply because no one considered anything else. The winter plumages of Horned and Eared grebes are similar and the western species had never been encountered in Columbia County before. Fortunately, Leigh McBride took a picture of it and posted it on eBird. The ever-watchful and sharp-eyed Andrew Guthrie saw the picture and identified the bird. The subtle differences noted were the narrow, sharp, slightly upturned bill, the black cap extending below the eye and the fact that the bird floated higher in the water than a Horned Grebe.”

An immature Sandhill Crane was spotted feeding in the soybean fields along Staats Island Rd. in Schodack, Rensselaer County on 7-8 November. This species continues to be observed with increasing frequency in Region 8, with at

least one sighting in eight of the first eleven months this year. Are there already breeding pairs present in the area?

The Ruddy Turnstone found by Liz Curley on 31 August continued the following day, allowing four more observers an opportunity to study this Regional rarity.

Short-eared Owls were plentiful at the Washington County Grasslands in Fort Edward beginning in mid-November. By late in the month, as many as twenty individuals were being reported on some evenings. Unfortunately, some observers wanted to get too close to the birds, and NYS DEC stepped in, closing some areas to all foot traffic and putting personnel on the ground to monitor the situation.

Evening Grosbeak reports were scattered across the Region from mid-October through mid-November, but mostly of one to three birds. No northern “finch” irruption was detected by the end of November, with no redpolls, Pine Grosbeaks, or crossbills reported.

Bob Yunick filed his Fall banding season report, excerpted as follows:

“1) Purple Finch nesting season at Jenny Lake (JL), Town of Corinth, Saratoga Co., NY at 1250 ft. elevation in the Adirondack State Park. Last banded 10/6 for a season total (Apr-Oct) of 166 captures: 125 banded and 41 returns (oldest ret. was 11y, 1m, and 6 males and 2 females were 5 or more years old). The 166 captures was 9th from the bottom in 47 yrs. of banding at this location. Production of young was disappointing: only 27 imm. banded (also 9th from the bottom) even though 48 ad. females were captured (33 banded and 15 ret.). Total PUFIs banded at this site in 47 years stands at 13,242.

2) Ruby-throated Hummingbird nesting season at JL ended with last banded on 9/5, but sightings also on 9/9 and 9/16. Total captures May-Sep was 65 (57 banded, 8 ret.), 51 were ad. including 40 females and only 11 males, but only 6 imm. were banded...not an impressive season.

3) Black-capped Chickadee irruption at JL in progress. Numbers banded by month were 1 in Jul, 4 in Aug, 4 in Sep, 8 in Oct and 35 in Nov. Ret. birds banded in previous years began appearing in Sep, increased to 9 in Oct and 18 in Nov so that by 11/30: 52 had been banded, 36 ret. captured for a Jul-Nov total of 88 birds compared to a total of 57 for all of the previous year. Significantly, this irruption is one characterized by a preponderance of adults, 61.4%, over imm., 38.6% as of 11/30; had been 65/35 in early Oct. Oldest ret. captured so far is 8y, 5m.

Total captures (newly banded, new returns, and repeat captures) were in single digits during banded sessions in Sep and early Oct then escalated as follows: 16 on 10/26, 24 on 11/8, 29 on 11/14, and 31 on 11/23.”

CONTRIBUTORS

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Steve Chorvas, Jeremy Collison, Bill Cook, Alan Devoe Bird Club recent sightings, Amanda Dillon, Craig Driggs, Bruce Dudek, Lindsey Duval, Larry Federman, Debra Ferguson, Mark Fitzsimmons, Brianna Gary, Bernie & Chris Grossman, Rich Guthrie, HMBirds Yahoo Group, Larry & Barbara Hall, David Harrison, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Naomi Lloyd, Tristan Lowery, Larry Main, Alan Mapes, Leigh McBride, Thom McClenahan, Steve Mesick, Joyce Miller, Frank Mitchell, Frank Murphy, Jenny Murtaugh, Bill Ostrander, Ellen Pemrick, Will Raup, Gregg Recer, Neal Reilly, John Roosenberg, Jeanette Roundy, Kathy Schneider, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, Marian Sole, George Steele, Scott Stoner, Craig Thompson, Alison Van Keuren, Phil Whitney, Tom & Colleen Williams, Donna Wright, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

ABBREVIATIONS

APBP – Albany Pine Bush Preserve, ALBA; AR – Alcove Res, ALBA; BCM – Black Creek Marsh, ALBA; BCR – Basic Creek Res, ALBA; BMB – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; CCGP – Cossackie Creek Grasslands Preserve, GREE; CF – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; CL – Collins L, SCHE; CRM – Cline Rd. Marsh, FULT; FR – Five Rivers EEC, ALBA; FtEG – Ft. Edward Grasslands, WASH; FV – Franklinton Vlaie, SCHO; HP – Huyck Preserve, ALBA; OCA – Ooms Conservation Area, COLU; PRWMA – Partridge Run WMA, ALBA; SNHP – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; TR – Tomhannock Res, RENN; VFNHP – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Preserve, SARA; WMP – Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanctuary, COLU.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

(R8): Saratoga L 4 Nov (LD); Hudson Crossing Park SARA 24 Nov (LD).

Snow Goose: max 60 Easton WASH 14 Nov.

Brant: max 14 Henry Hudson Park ALBA 24 Oct.

Gadwall: max 25 BCR 23 Nov.

Am. Wigeon: max 270 Stanton Pd ALBA 23 Oct.

Am. Black Duck: max 85 Galway L SARA 23 Oct.

Blue-winged Teal: max 2 VFNHP 13 Sep, very low numbers.

N. Shoveler: max 10 Stanton Pd ALBA 2 Nov.

N. Pintail: max 16 Stanton Pd ALBA 30 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 150 BCR 23 Oct.

Canvasback: max 2 BCR 27 Nov.

Redhead: max 2 Galway L SARA 26 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: arr Loughberry L SARA 25 Sep; max 530 Loughberry L SARA 7 Nov.

Greater Scaup: arr Loughberry L SARA 17 Oct; max 60 Saratoga L SARA 19 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: arr Cohoes ALBA 14 Oct; max 100 Saratoga L SARA 19 Nov.

Surf Scoter: arr, max 6 AR 17 Oct; 3 Corning Preserve ALBA 24-28 Oct.

White-winged Scoter: arr AR 17 Oct; max 35 Saratoga L SARA 10 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr TR 11 Oct; max 30 AR 26 Oct.

Long-tailed Duck: arr TR 24 Oct; max 11 Saratoga L SARA 10 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr BMB 12 Oct; max 125 Saratoga L SARA 26 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr Ft Edward Yacht Basin WASH 24 Oct; max 70 Saratoga L SARA 26 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 230 BCR 12 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr Lake George WARR 13 Oct; max 7 Saratoga L SARA 26 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: arr BCR 2 Oct; max 1100 BCR 23 Oct.

Red-throated Loon: arr Saratoga L SARA 4 Nov.

Horned Grebe: arr Galway L SARA 29 Oct; max 8 Saratoga L SARA 10 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr E Canada L MONT 11 Sep, early; max 8 Saratoga L SARA 10 Nov.
EARED GREBE (R8): Copake L COLU 26-30 Nov, *intro*.
Am. Bittern: last 2 White Creek WASH 23 Sep, NFC.
Great Egret: last Colonie Town Park ALBA 30 Nov, late.
Green Heron: last CCGP 30 Oct, late.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: last 5 TR 15 Oct.

HAWKS – LARIDS

Osprey: last OCA 18 Nov.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 322 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 17 Sep.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Ft Edward Yacht Basin WASH 24 Oct.
Golden Eagle: max 3 Cambridge WASH, 1 imm, 2 ad.
Virginia Rail: last BMB 15 Oct.
Com. Gallinule: max 5 East Bay WMA WASH 25 Sep.
Am. Coot: max 3 AR 20 Oct.
SANDHILL CRANE (R8): imm Staats Island Rd RENN 7 Nov (MA).
Black-bellied Plover: Corning Preserve ALBA 15 Sep; Cohoes Flats ALBA 2 Oct; TR 11 Nov.
Semipalmated Plover: last Blockhouse Park SARA 4 Sep.
Killdeer: last Saratoga L SARA 17 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: last The Crossings ALBA 11 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: last HP 10 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: last TR 11 Nov.
Lesser Yellowlegs: last BCR 20 Oct.
RUDDY TURNSTONE (R8): CF 1 Sep.
Least Sandpiper: last TR 12 Oct.
Pectoral Sandpiper: last TR 12 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: last Great Sacandaga L FULT 10 Sep.
Caspian Tern: max 3 Crescent Power Station ALBA 2 Sep.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Snowy Owl: Germantown COLU 9 Nov.
Short-eared Owl: arr FtEG 14 Nov; max 20 FtEG 25 Nov.
N. Saw-whet Owl: max 8 APBP 11 Oct, banded (AD).
Com. Nighthawk: last 12 Coxsackie Boat Launch GREE 20 Sep.
Chimney Swift: last Robinson Pond COLU 16 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Copake Falls COLU 4 Oct.
Am. Kestrel: max 8 FtEG 16 Sep.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Brookview RENN 5 Sep; SNHP 8 Sep; Hillsdale COLU 10 Sep; Eldridge Swamp SF WASH 10 Sep; Saratoga Spa SP SARA 15 Sep.
E. Wood-Pewee: last Corning Preserve ALBA 10 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last Colonie ALBA 4 Oct, late.
Alder Flycatcher: last BMB 4 Sep; Sprakers MONT 4 Sep, only reports, early migrant.
Willow Flycatcher: last BMB 4 Sep, only report, early migrant.
E. Phoebe: last Galway L SARA 2 Nov.
Great Crested Flycatcher: last VFNHP 15 Sep.
E. Kingbird: last Craryville COLU 2 Oct.
N. Shrike: arr Duanesburg SCHE 28 Nov (AVK).
Yellow-throated Vireo: last APBP 24 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: last Cambridge WASH 18 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: last APBP 29 Sep.
Philadelphia Vireo: 20 reports 1 Sep- 6 Oct.
Red-eyed Vireo: last Staalesen Vanderheyden Preserve RENN 19 Oct.
Horned Lark: max 80 Kinderhook COLU 19 Nov.
Tree Swallow: last 2 FtEG 19 Oct.
Bank Swallow: 3 reports 2 Sep - 4 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: 3 reports 4 Sep - 13 Sep.
Barn Swallow: last 12 Stuyvesant COLU 17 Sep.
House Wren: last Round L SARA 6 Nov.
Marsh Wren: last VFNHP 19 Nov.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 5 reports 2 Sep - 10 Sep.
Veery: last Ushers SARA 15 Oct.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: APBP 21 Sep, banded (AD); FR 25 Sep; APBP 26 Sep; Lk Taghkanic COLU 25 Oct, late; max 14 White Creek WASH 23 Sep, nocturnal flight calls.
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush: Tivoli L ALBA 24 Sep.
Swainson's Thrush: last Copake Falls COLU 25 Oct.
Wood Thrush: last Glenco Mills COLU 20 Oct.
Gray Catbird: max 31 FR 4 Sep; 31 BMB 4 Sep.

Brown Thrasher: last FR 26 Sep.
Am. Pipit: arr CF 12 Sep; max 135 Appleby Rd ALBA 16 Oct.
Bohemian Waxwing: Cambridge WASH 14 Oct, only report.
Cedar Waxwing: max 200 BCR 8 Oct.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Snow Bunting: arr Great Sacandaga L FULT 29 Oct; max 30 Kinderhook COLU 19 Nov.
Ovenbird: last Papscaanee Island NP RENN 3 Oct.
N. Waterthrush: last FR 15 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last Cambridge WASH 14 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: last Guilderland ALBA 15 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: 19 reports 4 Sep - 20 Oct; max 3 FR 15 Sep.
Orange-crowned Warbler: 8 reports 17 Sep - 21 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: last Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail Scotia SCHE 12 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: 7 reports 9 Sep - 2 Oct; max 2 APBP 9 Sep, banded (AD).
Mourning Warbler: Petersburg Pass SF SCHO 4 Sep, only report.
Com. Yellowthroat: last 3 Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail Scotia SCHE 12 Oct.
Am. Redstart: last Normanskill Farm ALBA 8 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: 7 reports 2 Sep - 3 Oct.
N. Parula: 32 reports 4 Sep - 3 Oct; max 4 Featherstonehaugh SF SCHE 12 Sep.
Magnolia Warbler: last Berlin RENN 16 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 11 reports 4 Sep - 3 Oct; max 7! Featherstonehaugh SF SCHE 12 Sep, high count.
Blackburnian Warbler: 11 reports 4 Sep - 24 Sep.
Yellow Warbler: 7 reports 5 Sep - 3 Oct.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last Albany ALBA 30 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: last CF; Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail Scotia SCHE; Cambridge WASH 12 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last BCR 8 Oct.

Palm Warbler: last FtEG WASH 22 Oct; max 14! Troy Landfill RENN, high count.
Pine Warbler: last TR 16 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: last Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail Scotia SCHE 19 Oct; max 120! TR 11 Oct, high count.
Prairie Warbler: 8 reports 4 Sep - 26 Sep.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last Corning Preserve ALBA; Henry Hudson Park ALBA 10 Oct.
Canada Warbler: 7 reports 1 Sep - 21 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last FR 8 Oct.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr BCR 2 Nov.
Fox Sparrow: arr Cambridge WASH 12 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr Fultonville MONT 25 Sep; max 9 Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail Scotia SCHE 6 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: 2 Cocksackie GREE 23 Oct; St. Johnsville MONT 28 Oct; CCGP 31 Oct; only reports.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr W Sand Lake RENN 7 Sep; last 2 Coveville SARA 25 Oct.
E. Towhee: max 13 SNHP 20 Sep.
Scarlet Tanager: last Guilderland ALBA 2 Oct.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Stockport Flats COLU 8 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: last Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail Scotia SCHE 12 Oct.
Bobolink: last 2 Catskill GREE 16 Oct, late; max 35 Papscaanee Isl NP RENN 4 Sep.
E. Meadowlark: max 6 OCA 26 Sep.
Rusty Blackbird: max 90 Coveville SARA 24 Oct.
Baltimore Oriole: 4 reports 3 Sep - 15 Sep; very late bird at seed feeder Albany ALBA 21 Nov.
Red Crossbill: Rensselaerville SF ALBA 6 Oct.
Com. Redpoll: no reports.
Pine Siskin: 8 reports 28 Sep - 25 Nov; max 8 T Providence SARA 5 Oct.
Evening Grosbeak: 9 reports 10 Oct - 20 Nov; max 5 Cambridge WASH 13 Nov.



REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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September was warm and very dry, continuing the worsening drought conditions. Less than an inch of rain fell on Poughkeepsie. The average temperature was 2.9° F above normal. October was also dry but only slightly warmer than normal. Only 2.54" of precipitation fell. Mid-month saw a warm spell, with Poughkeepsie reaching 84° on 18 October. The low for the month was 25° on 26 October. The year-to-date precipitation deficit for the Region now ranged from 8-11 inches. November started warm, reaching 71° on the 2nd and 3rd, followed by expected temperatures for most of the month. Dutchess County had two 6" snowstorms, one on the 17th followed by another on the 20th. It was finally wetter than normal, with 4.73" of rain, 1.25" more than average.

Numbers were way down at the area hawk watches, especially for Broad-winged Hawks. Data showed that they migrated further inland. Chestnut Ridge's best Broad-wing day totaled only 237 on 26 September. Hook Mt. and Mount Peter each had a little over 2200 on 21 September. Northern Goshawk numbers were up, with five passing Hook Mt. on 4 November and 19 for the season. No hawk watch reported Rough-legged hawk.

Carena Pooth and Herb Thompson found and described a RED PHALAROPE on Hunns Lake in Red Hook on 23 October. A few other observers were able to view and photograph the bird. The bird could not be located the next day. This is Dutchess County's fourth record.

An ongoing N. Saw-whet Owl banding project by the Sullivan County Audubon Society set a record with 140 owls netted, 127 banded and 13 previously banded.

Some observers noted a lack of warbler migration during the middle of September. Yellow-breasted Chats and Orange-crowned Warblers made appearances in October.

On Tuesday, 1 November, Tom Burke and Gail Benson found a **VIRGINIA'S WARBLER** at Marshlands Conservancy in Rye. This second New York State record, if accepted by NYSARC, was found feeding in goldenrod with a good gathering of other birds. It was very elusive but calling at times and occasionally flying into the widely spaced crabapple trees. The warbler was ultimately enjoyed by most of the gathered birders up through late afternoon and was active enough that at least one photo was obtained. Searches on subsequent days did not relocate the bird.

Other notable species included Hudsonian Godwit and Lark Sparrow.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Pt P; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; HVRT – Harlem Valley Rail Trail; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; RNC – Rye Nature Center; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: Ryder P, Amenia 16, 18 Oct (JCl, CV); Pawling 28-30 Oct (M&GD); Westchester CC 25, 26 Nov (ND, LT); Turtle Bay Rd, Black Dirt Region 30 Nov (BN).

Snow Goose: Camel Farm 2 Sep, early.
Brant: arr CPP 27 Sep.

Cackling Goose: 1-2 Amenia 11 Oct, 5, 8, 19 Nov (CP, BM, AP, CV); Wallkill 6-11 Nov (MD, KMcd, WT, JPr); Blue Chip Farm 6, 11 Nov (KMcd, MD); 2 New Paltz 19 Nov (JCl).

Wood Duck: max 112 Bashakill 3 Sep.

Blue-winged Teal: max 34 Bashakill 9 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 110 Bashakill 19 Oct.

Redhead: 2 Ashokan Res 11 Oct (PS); 2 Tivoli Bays 17 Oct (SR).

Ring-necked Duck: summering bird Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hawthorne, continued into September; arr Wappingers L 6 Oct.

Greater Scaup: arr Hunns L 17 Oct.

Surf Scoter: Swan L 5 Nov (JH); 2 EGR 9 Nov (TB); Ashokan Res 19 Nov (PS).

White-winged Scoter: 4 Ashokan Res 10 Oct (MD); Neversink Res 11 Oct (JH); Ashokan Res 4 Nov (MD, JPr).

Black Scoter: Ashokan Res 9 Oct (JPr, WT); 8 Neversink Res 11 Oct (MD, JH); Neversink Res 23 Oct; Swan L 5 Nov (JH); CPP 14 Nov (EM); 3 Kingston 20 Nov (MD).

Long-tailed Duck: Ashokan Res 11 Oct (PS); Saugerties 26 Nov (DFe, FM); Ashokan Res 26 Nov (JCl)

Red-breasted Merganser: Ashokan Res 5 Nov (MD, JPr); Sleightsburgh 8 Nov (JY).

Ring-necked Pheasant: Poughkeepsie 26 Sep; Lafayetteville MUA 28 Sep.

Ruffed Grouse: Buttercup E 5 Oct.

Red-throated Loon: Denning's Pt 2, 23 Nov (CV); 2 Ashokan Res 25-30 Nov (PS, MD, JPr, WT).

Red-necked Grebe: Yankee L 22 Oct (JH); Sylvan L 28 Oct (BM, CP); Ashokan Res 26 Nov (MD).

Great Cormorant: arr Piermont Pier 25 Oct.

Great Egret: Wappingers L 7 Nov (SJ), late for inland loc.

Little Blue Heron: Bashakill 24 Sep (SB, BN) 3rd SULL record; MC 5 Oct (TB).

Cattle Egret: Union Center Rd Ulster Park 25 Oct (KW), ph.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Osprey: CPP thru 19 Nov.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 135 Hook 11 Oct.

N. Goshawk: juv Hook Mt 3 Sep (DG), early; 1-2 Hook Mt 8, 26, 29 Sep, 15 Oct, 2, 5, 6, 8, 10-12 Nov; Livingston Manor 18 Sep; Chestnut Ridge 29 Sep, 24, 31 Oct, 1, 5, 12 Nov; Mohonk Preserve 3 Oct.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 18 Mount Peter 26 Oct; 19 Chestnut Ridge 1 Nov; 22 Hook Mt 8 Nov.

Broad-winged Hawk: low numbers at the area hawk watches. Prevailing wind sent most birds further inland. 2279 Mount Peter 21 Sep; 2212 Hook Mt 21 Sep; 237 Chestnut Ridge 26 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: no hawk watch rep.

Golden Eagle: Chestnut Ridge 25 Sep, 3 Oct, early; Mohonk Preserve 7 Oct; Saugerties 19 Oct; Mount Peter 29 Oct, 7 Nov; Dover 29, 30 Oct, 10, 24 Nov; 2 Hook Mt 6, 23 Nov; Hoot Mt 18 Nov; Woodstock 19 Nov; 2 Dover 30 Nov.

Com. Gallinule: max 3 Bashakill 17 Sep; HVRT, Millerton 18, 30 Sep, 2 Oct.

Sandhill Crane: Poquiello Creekside Rd, Ulster 3 Sep (PS); Minisink 25 Sep (JB); Chester 27 Sep (JS); Six and a Half Station Sanct 26-29 Oct (KA); 8 Millbrook 30 Oct (AP); 13 EGR 23 Nov (KMcG).

Am. Oystercatcher: 7 MC 3 Sep.

Black-bellied Plover: Round P Amenia 17-19 Sep; Piermont Pier 7 Oct; 2-4 Ashokan Res 12, 16, 20 Oct.

Am. Golden-Plover: 9 Black Dirt Region 2 Sep; Saugerties 1 Oct; 1-5 Ashokan Res 8, 10, 12 Oct; 17 Ashokan Res 16 Oct.

Spotted Sandpiper: Esopus Meadows 23 Oct; Larchmont Res 23 Oct.

Hudsonian Godwit: Strauss Marsh, Amenia 5-8 Nov (AP, BM, CV).

Ruddy Turnstone: EGR 16 Oct; 12 EGR 2 Nov.

Sanderling: Kingston 4 Sep; Ashokan Res 12-19 Oct.

Dunlin: 2 Bashakill 14 Oct; 6 Ashokan Res 16 Oct; Morningside P 23 Oct (JH).

Least Sandpiper: 3 Citgo Pond, Goshen 27 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Ashokan Res 8, 12, 16-20 Oct (PS,MD,FM).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2-3 Black Dirt Region 2, 4, 11 Sep.

Pectoral Sandpiper: Pine Plains 1 Sep; Wallkill NWR 2 Sep; 3 Ashokan Res 7 Oct; Ashokan Res 16, 19 Oct; 5 Ashokan Res 19 Oct; Morningside P 23 Oct.

Western Sandpiper: 2 Piermont Pier 11 Sep (VH).

RED PHALAROPE (R9): Hunns Lake, Red Hook 23 Oct, ph (CP, HT, SJ, MR, KMcD, BN, DK, BM), 4th record DUTC.

Bonaparte's Gull: Kingston 4, 10-11 Sep; EGR 6,19 Sep.

Laughing Gull: 200 EGR 4 Sep; 4 EGR 20 Nov.

Iceland Gull: McEnroes Compost Area. Millerton 4-30 Nov (CV, CP, HT, DK).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: McEnroes Compost Area. Millerton 20 Nov (JA).

Black Tern: 2 Esopus Meadows Lighthouse Park 10 Sep (MG).

Com. Tern: 200 Rye 6 Sep; Esopus Meadows Lighthouse Park 13 Oct, ph.

Forster's Tern: 4 Piermont Pier 10 Sep; 11 MC 9 Oct; 9 EGR 12 Nov.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Long-eared Owl: Livingston Manor 9 Nov.

Short-eared Owl: 7 SGNWR 28 Oct; Hurley 4 Nov.

N. Saw-whet Owl: 4 Mohonk 4 Oct; 5 calling in yard Willow 18 Oct; 2 Summitville 31 Oct; Bashakill 13 Nov; 140 netted SULL, record high, *intro*.

Com. Nighthawk: max 438 Stony Point 1 Sep; 40 Woodstock 9 Sep; lingered late, a few reports in early Oct.

E. Whip-poor-will: 2 Rochester 2 Sep; Bashakill 3 Sep; Rochester 4-15 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Harstdale 14 Oct (SM).

Am. Kestrel: 35 CPP 30 Sep.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: CPP 10 Sep; Hook Mt 12 Sep.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Wurtsboro 4 Sep; Esopus 4 Sep; Wappingers 7 Sep.

N. Shrike: SGNWR 30 Oct (MD, KMcD); Galeville Town P 6 Nov (MD, JPr, WT); Amenia 25 Nov (AP).

Philadelphia Vireo: CPP 4 Sep (LT); Bashakill 10, 12, 17 Sep; Mabbettsville 12 Sep (AP); Minnewaska SP 13 Sep (SB); MC 15 Sep; HVRT, Amenia 28 Sep (CP); HVRT, Millerton 28 Sep (JClo, AL, BC, RaD); Ulster 1 Oct (MD).

Black-capped Chickadee: flights 18 Oct, 1 Nov; max 79 Mount Peter Hawk Watch 18 Oct.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Buttercup West 17 Sep (JClI); Kakiat P 25 Sep (CW); Minnewaska SP 27 Sep, 13 Oct (SB); Bashakill 15 Oct (JH); LaGrange 17 Oct (MK); Kingston 22 Oct (MD).

Am. Pipit: 20 CPP 24 Sep; 250 Marbletown 2 Oct; 60 Greig Farm 10, 30 Oct; 80 Bashakill 13 Oct; 60 Ulster P 2 Nov; 25 Mount Peter 6 Nov.

Cedar Waxwing: max 100 Buttercup.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: Galeville Town P 6 Nov (MD, JPr, WT); Millerton 19 Nov (JA).

Snow Bunting: Piermont Pier 24 Oct; 2 Woodstock 27 Oct; Ashokan Res 5 Nov; 31 CPP 12 Nov.

Ovenbird: 2 Rockefeller SP Preserve 4 Nov, ph.

Black-and-white Warbler: Kingston Pt 22 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: Bashakill 2 Oct; Marbletown 2 Oct; MC 8 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: last Tarrytown L 2 Nov.

VIRGINIA'S WARBLER: MC 1 Nov (TB, GBe), ph, 2nd State record pending NYSARC acceptance, *intro*.

Connecticut Warbler: Teatown L Reservation 22 Sep (LT, HS); Wallkill River NWR 23, 25 Sep, 6 Oct (MZ, JB, SB, BN, LS).

Cap May Warbler: Esopus 4 Sep; 4 Mount Peter 10 Sep; Wappingers 18 Sep; Bashakill 30 Sep.

N. Parula: Esopus Meadows 16 Oct.

Magnolia Warbler: Stone Barns Center 26 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Nuclear L 22 Sep; Wappingers 24 Sep; Stony Kill 28 Sep.

Yellow Warbler: Bashakill 13 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: Rockefeller SP Preserve 31 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Stone Barns Center 26 Oct.

Pine Warbler: Rockefeller SP 11, 19 Nov.

Canada Warbler: Congers 6 Oct, late.

Wilson's Warbler: Dennings Pt 28 Nov.

Yellow-breasted Chat: MC 11-14 Oct; MC 29-31 Oct.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: max 5 Dover Plains 25 Oct.

LARK SPARROW: Rockefeller P 12 Oct (DHan).

Nelson's Sparrow: 4 MC 9 Oct; CPP 23 Oct; 2 MC 16 Oct; MC 17 Oct.

Saltmarsh Sparrow: MC 9 Oct.

Fox Sparrow: arr Kingston Pt 6 Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow: max 9 Marbletown 29 Oct; Kensico Res 6 Nov.

White-crowned Sparrow: max 9 Marbletown 29 Oct.

Blue Grosbeak: MC 7 Oct (TB, GBe); MC 12 Oct (GBe).

Dickcissel: 1-3 Poquiello Creekside Rd, Marbletown 1, 2 Oct (PS, MD, DS, WT, SR, JPr, DHay, ph); Wallkill R NWR 5 Oct (BN, KA).

Bobolink: thru almost mid Oct, last Stony Kill Farm 8 Oct.

Rusty Blackbird: 50 HVRT, Millerton 28 Sep; 200 Bashakill 13 Oct.

Purple Finch: good numbers arrlast week Oct; max 43 Prun Sanc 28 Oct.

Com. Redpoll: West Hurley 20 Nov (MD); 2 Kingston 25 Nov (JCr).

Evening Grosbeak: Stanfordsville 12 Sep (DK); Reese P 17 Sep (KHa); Lagrangeville 18 Sep (AP). West Hurley 28 Oct (MM); 2 Woodstock 31 Oct (PS); 2 Lagrange 3 Nov (CV); 8 Mohonk Preserve 8 Nov (ZS); Rock Hill 14 Nov (TM); Newburgh 23 Nov (SW).

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REGION 10—MARINE

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November was the 17th month in a row with average temperatures above the long-term average in our Region. This year average monthly temperatures were mostly 2-3° F above the long-term average, but the average temperature in Central Park in September (71.8°) was 3.8° above normal. Continuing the pattern of recent years, the fall was also drier than normal. A moderate drought lingered through most of the season following a dry summer. While November was wetter than normal in Central Park—5.41" of rain fell, 1.39" above normal—rainfall throughout the Region was otherwise below or near normal. The greatest monthly deficit was 1.49" in Central Park in September, when 2.79" of rain fell.

Post-tropical Cyclone Hermine lingered at sea south of eastern Long Island from 4-6 September, bringing tropical-storm-force winds to Long Island 5-6 September and then passing well to the east. Sea watches on eastern Long Island on 5 September were productive. Sightings at five eastern Long Island locations from Flying Point Beach and Mecox Inlet in Mecox east to Shinnecock (Tiana Beach and Shinnecock Inlet) and Amagansett produced similar results. Notably, a Black-capped Petrel seen flying east at Shinnecock Inlet by Pat Lindsay, Shai Mitra, Pete Morris, and Taylor Sturm was seen a short while later at Amagansett by Anthony Collerton. Cory's, Sooty (late), and Manx Shearwaters were seen at multiple locations as was Parasitic Jaeger. Nadir Souirgi had a Brown Booby and Great Shearwater at Flying Point Beach. Black Terns were also seen in good numbers during the storm. Much further west at Jones Beach, Shawn and Mary Beth Billerman saw a Pomarine Jaeger and Parasitic Jaeger, but there were few other seabirds reported west.

An offshore pelagic trip on 17 September to waters south of Shinnecock produced Audubon's Shearwater and Long-tailed Jaeger, among more common seabirds.

Cold front passages on 25 September and 10 October produced notable coastal flights and good concentrations of lingering birds. For example, six Red-bellied Woodpeckers, two Common Ravens, and over 10,000 Tree Swallows were noted migrating on the Nassau and western Suffolk County barrier islands on 25 September. The 10 October flight produced four Bald Eagles, two Broad-winged Hawks, 55 Rusty Blackbirds, 63 Purple Finches, a Greater White-fronted Goose, and a Cackling Goose, among good numbers of more common migrants at Ft. Tilden, Queens County. 10 October also was a good day at the Fire Island Hawk Watch, with 382 total hawks including notable counts of Merlin (215) and Osprey (17), and 110 American Kestrels, which, sadly, is a big number these days.

The 35th year of the Fire Island Hawk Watch produced 2224 total hawks, 34% below the average of the previous 20 years despite the fourth highest effort, 470 hours, over an extended season—75 count days. Only 300 American Kestrels were counted, 67% below the average of the previous 20 years. Sharp-shinned Hawks numbered 195, 44% below the 20-year average. It was also a poor year for Northern Harrier (195 counted, 30% below the 20-year average), Merlin (1016, -22%), and Peregrine (121, -37%). On the other hand, there were 55 Cooper's Hawks counted, 63% above the 20-year average. A record count of 10 Bald Eagles was 170% above the 20-year average. Two Northern Goshawks passed the hawk watch on 28 October, and FIHW's first two Black Vultures ever were counted, along with one Turkey Vulture.

As discussed in last year's Region 10 fall season report, based on an analysis of data from both inland and coastal hawk watches in the northeast by FIHW compiler Drew Panko, it is likely that the low numbers of American Kestrels and Sharp-shinned Hawks reflect population declines, while the numbers of Merlin and Peregrine reflect weather patterns that are not conducive to coastal flights. Populations of Cooper's Hawk and Bald Eagle have been increasing. Northern Harrier numbers were low for the second straight year. Further analysis might help clarify why.

Once again, there were a number of notable counts at FIHW late in the season which probably reflect later migration due to climate change. Examples include 13 Northern Harriers and 17 Merlins among 45 total hawks on 6 November, and 20 total hawks on 10 November including six Northern Harriers and nine Sharp-shinned Hawks. The shift to later migration is also evident in the passerine diversity toward the latter part of the migration. For example, at least 16 species of warblers were recorded in Central Park on 10 October, at least 12 species on 24 October, and at least 7 species on 30 October.

Waterfowl numbers were once again low. Peak waterfowl abundance in our area has shifted from late fall into the winter season over the past several years. The maxima of virtually all of our wintering species were quite low by historical standards. Scaup numbers were exceptionally low, especially given their great abundance in recent years. The maxima of Canvasback and Redhead were only six. A decent flight of sea ducks was observed in eastern Suffolk County on 23 November, with several seasonal maxima recorded. But the numbers were not particularly great. Red-throated Loons were present in good numbers, greatly outnumbering Common Loons. Wood Duck is doing well in our area, and a good number of Blue-winged Teal were present at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge in September.

It was a decent grasspiper season on the sod fields in Riverhead, Suffolk County. Buff-breasted Sandpiper numbers were reasonably good, and American Golden-Plover numbers were higher than in recent years. However, the only report of Upland Sandpiper was an unusual and not particularly comforting one: a nocturnal migrant attracted to the beams of light of the "Tribute to Lights" at the World Trade Center in Manhattan.

With the exception of Purple Finch, which was present in good numbers, there were few irruptive winter finches this fall. The maximum of Pine Siskins was 16, and there were a few Red Crossbills (maximum seven). Even American Goldfinches were in low numbers, with a maximum of 908 migrating on 12 November at Robert Moses State Park, Fire Island. Surprisingly, three Common Redpolls were reported in Manhattan on 23 November, and an adult male Evening Grosbeak was seen by a few fortunate birders at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn on 7 November. Red-breasted Nuthatches irrupted in large numbers this fall. They were birders' constant companions in the pines at the barrier beaches and many other locations beginning in early September. The maximum was 175 at Robert Moses State Park on 29 October. There were no reports of Long-eared Owl or Northern Saw-whet Owl.

Bald Eagles gathered this fall at Beaver Lake, Mill Neck, Nassau County to feed on Atlantic Menhaden that apparently had become trapped in the lake in large numbers. Many died. The eagles, a maximum of seven, were present for most of the season as reported by Barbara Connolly. This is a remarkable occurrence for Long Island.

305 species were recorded in the Region this fall. Among them were some additional rarities of note. A Pink-footed Goose, initially photographed by Tim Healy's dad, stayed at Hendrickson Park, Valley Stream, Nassau County through the season and was enjoyed by many. Todd Olson spotted a Mississippi Kite at the Bronx Zoo on 21 September. Kite sightings in our area are particularly rare in the fall. Anthony Ciancimino photographed a Franklin's Gull at Wolfe's Pond Park, Staten Island on 4 October. An immature Sandwich Tern was at Great Gull Island, Suffolk County on 7 September. The third late-October White-winged Dove in the history of the Fire Island Hawk Watch flew by on the 25th as reported by Bob Kurtz. There were three *Selasphorus* hummingbirds in the Region this fall. Two were not identified to species. The third, a Rufous Hummingbird, was photographed at the Marine Nature Study Area, Oceanside, Nassau County on 6 October as reported by Sy Schiff. At least two, and probably three or more, Pileated Woodpeckers are resident on Staten Island, seen mostly in the Mount Loretto area. There were three Ash-throated Flycatchers in the Region this fall. One found by Bobby Berlinger at Lido West Town Park, Nassau County on 13 November was reliable there through the season. Another, found by Mike Shanley at Wolfe's Pond Park on 1 November, stayed until the 2nd and was also enjoyed by many. The third was at Bushwick Inlet, Williamsburg, Brooklyn on 19-20 November, a private and somewhat inaccessible location. The only Cave Swallow of the season flew by the Fire Island Hawk Watch on 6 November. That same day an "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped Warbler was spotted at Robert Moses State Park by Taylor Sturm. Seth Wollney and Dave Eib found a gorgeous adult male Western Tanager at Conference House Park, Staten Island on 24 November. It stayed until the 28th. Cedric Duhade found another Western Tanager at City Hall Park in lower Manhattan on 22 November. It remained there through November, bringing the

additional flavor of hordes of birders looking up at the trees in this bustling location. The substantial record of rare birds found in small patches of green in Manhattan was augmented this fall by two Yellow-breasted Chats, one at Trinity Church in lower Manhattan and the other at St. Paul's Cathedral, literally within eyeshot of the Western Tanager. Both chats were present for most of November.

The teams competing in the third annual Seatuck Birding Challenge on 24 September tallied a record 168 species including Common Gallinule, American Golden-Plover, Baird's Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Parasitic Jaeger, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Caspian Tern, Royal Tern, Eastern Screech-Owl, Great-horned Owl, Common Nighthawk, Philadelphia Vireo, Clay-colored Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, and an impressive 23 species of warblers highlighted by Cape May, Canada, Blue-winged, and Wilson's. The top high school team was once again Team Mennecke. Among the adult teams, Pteam Ptarmigeddon repeated their 2015 triumph with a record 118 species. The Captree Counters finished right on Ptarmigeddon's tarsi with 117 species, and the author's team, the W.T. Hornadays, were within sight of the dense feathering on said tarsi, in third place with 110 species. The Seatuck Birding Challenge is sponsored by the Seatuck Environmental Association, a NYSOA member club. For more information, contact Seatuck through their website at seatuck.org.

There were 197,000 eBird records for *Kingbird* Region 10 this fall season. The author wishes to thank Bill Ostrander, who has taken over the task of compiling the records in a useful format for the *Kingbird* Regional reports.

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Proniewych, Anne Purcell, Glen Quinn, Peter Reisfeld, Jeff Ritter, Derek Rogers, Jack Rothman (JRo), Karen Rubenstein (KRu), Mike Scheibel (MSch), Steve Schellenger (SSc), Sy Schiff (SyS), Eileen Schwinn (EiS); Avery Scott, John Sepenoski (JSe), Mike Shanley (MSh), John Shemilt (JSh), Sean Sime, Nadir Souirgi, Jordan Spindel (JSp), Jeff Stetson (JSt), Lee Stocker, Gary Strauss, Taylor Sturm, Paul Sweet, Robert Taylor, John Turner, Richard Veit, Joe Viglietta, Steve Walter, Gabriel Willow, Alex Wilson (AxW), Angus Wilson (AnW), Seth Ian Wollney, Byron Young, Michael Yuan, Michael Zito.

ABBREVIATIONS

APP – Alley Pd P, QUEE; BgEg – Big Egg Marsh, Broad Channel, QUEE; BLSP – Belmont L SP, SUFF; BPP – Baisley Pd P, QUEE; BPT – Breezy Pt, QUEE; BRY – Bryant P, NEWY; CB – Cedar B, Babylon, SUFF; CCP – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; CHP – Conference House P, RICH; CIC – Coney I Cr/P, KING; CP – Central Park, NEWY; CR – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; CRSP – Connetquot R SP, SUFF; CVP – Calvert Vaux P, KING (formerly Drier-Offerman P); Ed – Sod fields on Edwards Av north of Route 25, Riverhead, SUFF; EPCAL – Calverton Grasslands (former Grumman Property), Calverton, SUFF; FBF – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; FIHW – Fire Island Hawk Watch, Robert Moses SP, SUFF; FKP – Fresh Kills P, RICH; FMCP – Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, QUEE; FP – Forest Park, QUEE; FT – Fort Tilden, QUEE; FWP – Ft. Washington P, NEWY; GBP – Goethal’s Bridge Pd, RICH; GBy – Gravesend Bay, KING; GKP – Great Kills P, RICH; GWC – Greenwood Cemetery, KING; HLSP – Hempstead L SP, NASS; HP – Hook Pd, East Hampton, SUFF; HSP – Heckscher SP, SUFF; IHP – Inwood Hill P, NEWY; JBSP – Jones Beach SP, NASS; JBWE – West End, Jones Beach SP, NASS; JBWR – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; KP – Kissena Park, QUEE; Mass – Massapequa Preserve, NASS; MB – Mecox Bay/Mecox Inlet, SUFF; MLUA – Mt. Loretto Unique Area, RICH; MNSA – Marine Nature Study Area, Oceanside, NASS; MP – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; Nick – Nickerson B, Lido B, NASS; NYBG – New York Botanical Garden, BRON; PB – Plumb Beach, KING; PBP – Pelham Bay P, BRON; PL – Patchogue L, Patchogue, SUFF; PP – Prospect P, KING; RI – Randall’s I, NEWY; RMSP – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; RP – Jacob Riis P, QUEE; Rt 105 – Sod fields south of Sound Av between Route 105 and Doctor’s Path, Riverhead, SUFF; Sag – Sagaponack Pd/Inlet, SUFF; SBC – Seatuck Birding Challenge; Shinn – Shinnecock Inlet, SUFF; SPCP – Smith Pt CP, SUFF; SPP – Southards Pd P, West Babylon, SUFF; SMSP – Sunken Meadow SP, SUFF; VCP – Van Cortlandt P, BRON; VSh – Venetian Shores P, Lindenhurst, SUFF; VSSP – Valley Stream SP, NASS; WPP – Wolfe’s Pd P, RICH.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: Hendrickson P, Valley Stream, NASS 1 Nov thru (TH, mob).

Greater White-fronted Goose: FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM), migr; BLSP 3 Nov (RBA).
Snow Goose: max 200 JBWR 26 Nov (JDi).

Brant: max 5000 JBWR 26 Nov (JDi).
Cackling Goose: JBWE 10 Oct (TH, mob); FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM); IHP 23 Oct (Ryan Zucker, ph); Caumsett SP, SUFF 30 Oct (Philip Magnussen); Bronx Zoo, BRON 7 Nov (TO); Hendrickson P 13 Nov (AS) Oakleigh Av. Farm Field, SUFF 25 Nov (DR).
Canada Goose: max 2000 Riverhead, SUFF 15 Nov (SSM).
Mute Swan: max 207 MB 6 Nov (AnW).
Tundra Swan: Mill Dam P, Halesite, SUFF 20 Nov (PPa)
Wood Duck: max 51 Miller's Pd, Smithtown, SUFF 8 Oct (SSM, PJJ).
 Gadwall: max 213 Patchogue L, SUFF 12 Nov (BY).
Eurasian Wigeon: JBWR 28 Sep – 26 Oct (AB, RBA); Blydenburgh CP, SUFF 8 Oct (RBA); Marine P, KING 15 Oct – 4 Nov (RBA); Miller's Pd, Smithtown, SUFF 24 Oct (RBA); Fresh Pd Rd, Ft. Salonga, SUFF 26 Oct (RBA); Frank Melville P, Setauket, SUFF 29 Oct – 4 Nov (RBA); Patchogue L, SUFF 6 Nov (KC).
Blue-winged Teal: max 78 JBWR 7 Sep (SC).
N. Shoveler: max 250 JBWR 29 Sep (John Haas).
N. Pintail: max 20 Mill Pd, Oyster Bay, NASS 28 Oct (BBo).
Green-winged Teal: max 200 HLSP 19 Oct (EB).
Canvasback: all reps: max 6 Seatuck Cr, Eastport, SUFF 6 Nov (KC); Arahamomaque Pd Pres, Southold, SUFF 12 Nov (P. Lauber); Centerport Pd, SUFF 15-20 Nov (BBo, PPa); 2 Eastport L, SUFF 25 Nov (S. Newbert, *et al.*).
Redhead: all reps: 3 HLSP 5 Nov (SSch); max 6 Patchogue L 7 Nov (JGI); 4 L Capri, W. Islip, SUFF 14-24 Nov (mob); 2 JBWR 22 Nov (T. Van Duynes).
Ring-necked Duck: max 40 Eastport L 25 Nov (S. Newbert, *et al.*).
Greater Scaup: max 86 JBWR 19 Nov (CF), low number.
Lesser Scaup: max 11 Swan L, Patchogue, SUFF 9 Nov (BY), low number.
King Eider: fem Bayville 9-16 Nov (*fide* BF); fem Orient Pt., SUFF 11-19 Nov (JSe, SA, MN).
Com. Eider: max 158 Camp Hero SP, Montauk, SUFF 23 Nov (KF, SF).
Harlequin Duck: fem Jones Inlet, NASS 31 Oct (KF, SF), thereafter 2-3 thru; fem Shinn 11-12 Nov (MC); 4 Orient Pt 24 Nov (JSe).
Surf Scoter: max 1810 MP 23 Nov (KF, SF), large number.

White-winged Scoter: max 253 Orient Pt 10 Oct (JSe).
Black Scoter: max 4325 MP 23 Nov (KF, SF), large number.
Bufflehead: max 370 PBP 26 Nov (RAR).
Hooded Merganser: max 210 HLSP 17 Nov (J. Landesberg).
Com. Merganser: 5 Dune Rd, E Quogue, SUFF 25 Nov (Bruce King), only rep.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 400 Annadale, RICH 18 Nov (SIW).
Ruddy Duck: max 250 JBWR 14 Nov (T.B. Laskowski).
N. Bobwhite: max 22 Greentree Estate, Manhasset, NASS (private) 24 Sep (SP, *et al.*); 8 Avalon East Farm Pres, Stony Brook, SUFF 30 Sep (MZ); introduced.
Red-throated Loon: max 249 Hither Hills SP, Napeague, SUFF 27 Nov (AnW), large number.
Com. Loon: max 111 Lido West Town P, Lido B, NASS 27 Nov (AnW).
Horned Grebe: max 75 Annadale 18 Nov (SIW).
Red-necked Grebe: 3 JBWE 5 Nov (M. Schrimpf); Fort Pd, Montauk, SUFF 24-25 Nov (SSM, PJJ, TM)
BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: Shinn 5 Sep (PJJ, PM, SSM, TS); Amagansett, SUFF 5 Sep (AC); same bird; intro.
Cory's Shearwater: 18 MB 5 Sep (PJJ); 5 Shinn 5 Sep (PJJ, PM, SSM, TS); 3 Tiana B, SUFF 5 Sep (PJJ, PM, SSM, TS); 2 Amagansett 5 Sep (AC); *intro*; 3 RMSP 29 Sep (RBA).
Great Shearwater: 2 Flying Pt. B, Mecox, SUFF 5 Sep (NS); 5 pelagic s Shinn 17 Sep (RBA); *intro*; 5 pelagic s Montauk 2 Nov (RBA).
Sooty Shearwater: 2 Flying Pt B 5 Sep (NS); 2 Amagansett 5 Sep (AC), late; *intro*.
Manx Shearwater: MB 5 Sep (PJJ); 4 Shinn 5 Sep (PJJ, PM, SSM, TS); Amagansett 5 Sep (AC); 3 Flying Pt B 5 Sep (NS); 4 Tiana B 5 Sep (PJJ, PM, SSM, TS); *intro*.
AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: Pelagic s Shinn 17 Sep (RBA).
Wilson's Storm-Petrel: 12 pelagic s Shinn 17 Sep (RBA).
BROWN BOOBY: Flying Pt B 5 Sep (NS), pending NYSARC review.
N. Gannet: max 7500 RMSP 5 Nov (PM, TS).
Am. Bittern: CP 10 Sep (*fide* TF); 2 Tobay B, NASS 16 Oct (RBA).
Least Bittern: Mill Pd P, Bellmore, NASS 11 Sep (Mary Jane Russell).

Great Egret: max 176 Cedar B Marina, Babylon, SUFF 2 Oct (SSM, PJJ), large number.

Tricolored Heron: Moriches Bay, SUFF 3 Sep (SSM, PJJ); MNSA20 Oct (SP).

Cattle Egret: VCP 15 Oct (NS); Mt. Loretto, RICH 16 Oct (SIW); 1-2 FBF/FT/RP 22 Oct - 6 Nov (RJ, PPa, mob); Caumsett SP 29 Oct (AG, *et al.*); Yaphank, SUFF 5 Nov (EiS, MH); PBP 12 Nov (Jared Cole).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 43 Camman's Pd P, Merrick, NASS 20 Nov (DF), large number.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: max 22 Camman's Pd P 24 Sep (SA, MN, *et al.*), SBC.

Black Vulture: FIHW 4 Sep (*fide DP*); FIHW/Oak B, Babylon, SUFF 2 Oct (*fide DP*, JGI); very rare on barrier beach; 6 CP 23 Oct (TF)

Turkey Vulture: FIHW 4 Nov (*fide DP*), rare on barrier beach; 108 IHP 23 Oct (Ryan Zucker); 120 CP 23 Oct (TF); 26 Riverhead, SUFF 5 Nov (RA); large numbers.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Osprey: 349 FIHW, 1.6% above the 20-year average (*fide DP*); 101 FIHW 24 Sep (*fide DP*), large number.

MISSISSIPPI KITE: Bronx Zoo 21 Sep (TO).

Bald Eagle: 10 FIHW, 170% above 20-year average (*fide DP*); otherwise appx. 30 reps involving at least 70 individuals, incl: up to 7 present Beaver L, Mill Neck, SUFF 1-30 Oct (BCo); 6 Beaver L, Mill Neck 14 Nov (MN, SA, BCo); feeding on Atlantic Menhaden; 4 CP 29 Sep (*fide TF*); 4 CP 10 Oct (DA, *et al.*); 4 FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM); max 18 IHP 23 Oct (Ryan Zucker), large number; 8 CP 28 Oct (RBA).

N. Harrier: 159 FIHW, 30% below 20-year average; 13 FIHW 6 Nov (*fide DP*); 6 FIHW 10 Nov (*fide DP*); large numbers for date.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 195 FIHW, 44% below 20-year average; 9 FIHW 10 Nov (*fide DP*), large number for date.

Cooper's Hawk: 55 FIHW, 63% above 20-year average.

N. Goshawk: 2 FIHW 28 Oct (*fide DP*); PBP 20 Nov (MB, RAR); JBWE 26 Nov (SyS, JGi).

Red-shouldered Hawk: CP 23 Oct (TF).

Broad-winged Hawk: 2 FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM), rare on barrier beach.

Red-tailed Hawk: 6 FIHW, 35-year maximum (*fide DP*).

Rough-legged Hawk: Mott Lane Marsh, Brookhaven, SUFF 8 Nov (DR); Town Lane, Amagansett, SUFF 19 Nov (KRu); Sammy's Beach, East Hampton, SUFF 14 Nov (AA); JBSP 24 Nov (AnW).

Virginia Rail: CP 9-22 Sep (*fide Ape*, RBA); PP 20 Oct (*fide JM*).

Sora: JBWE 13 Sep (BF); Dune Rd, E. Quogue, SUFF 18 Sep (RBA).

Com. Moorhen: 2 River Rd, RICH 3-10 Sep (ACi, IG); 2 Mass 20-24 Sep (RT, mob), 1 thru 28 Sep (RBA).

Am. Avocet: 3 North Channel Bridge, Howard Beach, QUEE 3 Sep (DF).

Am. Oystercatcher: max 800 JBWE 24 Sep (SP), large number.

Am. Golden-Plover: 64 Baiting Hollow, Riverhead, SUFF 2 Sep (RA, AC); max 70 Baiting Hollow 3 Sep (RJK); 30 Rt 105 3 Sep (RBA); 60 Baiting Hollow 4 Sep (MC); 8 Nick 8 Sep (PP); JBWR 24 Sep (SSM, PJJ, *et al.*), SBC; 2 MB 25 Sep (MY); JBWE 10 Oct (TH); FT/BBF 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM, RBA), flyover; 11 Baiting Hollow 10 Oct (RA).

Lesser Yellowlegs: 20 RMSP 9 Oct (RBA), late, unusual loc.

Upland Sandpiper: Tribute in Light Memorial at World Trade Center, NEWY 12 Sep (Ben Barkley).

Whimbrel: CCP 11 Sep (AB); 2 CCP 12 Sep (LS); GKP 1 Oct (ACi).

Hudsonian Godwit: MB 6 Sep (KF, EiS, mob).

Marbled Godwit: max 13 Old Inlet, Bellport Bay, SUFF 2 Sep (DR), large number; Nick 2 Sep (PP, ABo); Fire I Inlet, SUFF 17 Sep - 2 Oct (JGI, mob); 3 Ruffle Bar, Jamaica Bay, KING 17 Sep - 16 Oct (MB); JBWE 21 Oct (DK, mob); 2 Shinn 3 Nov (RBA); 2 Ruffle Bar 13 Nov (MB).

Red Knot: 160 Camp Anchor, Lido B, NASS 8 Sep (BF); 158 CCP 11 Sep (AB); max 250 Pt. Lookout, NASS 2 Oct (AB, RK).

Stilt Sandpiper: 3 JBWE 2 Sep (KF, SF), unusual loc; max 4 JBWR 20 Sep (SS), low number.

Baird's Sandpiper: 2 Rt 105 3 Sep (RBA); JBWE 4 Sep (RT); Sag 5 Sep (PJJ); 2 BPT 5 Sep (AB); Tiana B 5 Sep (RBA); JBWR 17 Oct (SW, TWB, GB, mob), late, one-eyed, taken & shared by two peregrines.

White-rumped Sandpiper: appx 15 reps; max 11 MB 5 Sep (PJJ, *et al.*); 2 MB 5 Nov (KF, SF), last.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2 Rt 105 2 Sep (DF, RJK); 2 JBWE 2 Sep (KF, SF); 3 Baiting

Hollow 2 Sep (EiS, *et al.*); max 17 Riverhead, Edwards Ave east to Rt 105 3 Sep (KF, SF); 10 Baiting Hollow 3 Sep (RBA); 6 Rt 105 4 Sep (MC); Miller Field, RICH 5 Sep (SIW); 3 JBWE 7 Sep (BF, *et al.*); PB 10 Sep (RJ); 10 Baiting Hollow 10 Sep (KC).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 3 JBWR 28 Sep (AB); 2 FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM); PB 23 Oct (RBA).

Western Sandpiper: 2 JBWE 2 Sep (KF, SF); CCP 12 Sep (LS).

Long-billed Dowitcher: Richmond Cr., RICH 3 Sep (ACi); 2 JBWR 28 Sep (AB); 2-10 Santapogue Cr., Babylon, SUFF 12-30 Oct (PM, RBA, SA, MN).

Wilson's Phalarope: Cow Meadow P, Freeport, NASS 8 Oct (GS).

Red-necked Phalarope: JBWE 7 Sep (Glen Wilson, mob); 6 pelagic s Shinn 17 Sep (RBA).

Pomarine Jaeger: JBWE 5 Sep (SMB, MBB), *intro*; RMSP 29 Sep (SSM), very rare from shore.

Parasitic Jaeger: 4 Flying Pt B 5 Sep (NS); Shinn 5 Sep (PJL, PM, SSM, TS); Ama 5 Sep (AC); 6 Tiana B 5 Sep (PJL, PM, SSM, TS); RMSP 24 Sep (SSM, PJL, *et al.*), SBC; 2 RMSP 25 Sep (KF); FIHW 26 Sep (RJK); pelagic s Montauk 2 Nov (RBA); MP 11 Nov (KF, SF).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: 3 pelagic s Shinn 17 Sep (RBA).

Razorbill: Montauk, SUFF 25 Nov (KG).

Black-legged Kittiwake: 8 pelagic s Montauk 2 Nov (RBA).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 518 Ama 5 Nov (AnW).

Little Gull: 1st win MP 23 Nov (KF, SF).

Laughing Gull: max 3500 FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM); 3000 PB 25 Oct (SSM).

FRANKLIN'S GULL (R10): WPP 4 Oct (ACi), ph.

Iceland Gull: PBP 20 Nov (MB, RAr).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Appx 30 reps incl: 8 JBSP 5 Sep (BF, SMB); 8 RMSP 19 Sep (SSM), 1 juv, 2 1st sum/2 win, 5 imm; 10 JBWE 20 Sep (SyS); Pt Lookout 24 Sep (SA, MN, *et al.*), SBC; 15 barrier beach RMSP to JBWE 29 Sep (SSM), all imm; max 40 barrier beach, Pt. Lookout to RMSP 30 Sep (RBA); 2 Randall's I, NEWY 9 Oct (RBA); 15 JBSP 9 Oct (RBA); 6 JBWE 31 Oct (KF, SF).

Glaucous Gull: Lido B 13 Nov (BF, TH).

Gull-billed Tern: JBWE 4 Sep (RJK); Black Wall Marsh, Jamaica Bay, KING 10 Sep (MB).

Caspian Tern: 2 JBWE 4 Sep (RT); MB 5 Sep (PJL); 2 BPT 5-14 Sep (AB); JBWR 8 Sep (SC); 4 JBWR 20 Sep (RBA); MB 25 Sep

(MY); WPP 2 Oct (SIW); 2 JBWE 4 Oct (TH); 2 RMSP 9 Oct (RBA); GKP 31 Oct (RV), late.

Black Tern: MB 5 Sep (PJL); 7 Shinn 5 Sep (PJL, TS, PM); max 20 Tiana B 5 Sep (RBA); 16 Flying Pt B 5 Sep (NS); *intro* JBWE 28 Sep (BF); FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM), late.

Roseate Tern: JBSP 5 Sep (SMB, BF).

Royal Tern: appx 40 reps incl: 17 Davis P, Patchogue, SUFF 6 Sep (JHr), unusual loc; 96 CCP 17 Sep (RBA); 3 Black Wall Marsh 10 Sep (MB), unusual loc; max 234 Old Inlet, Bellport Bay 11 Sep (AnW, DR); 2 JBSP 24 Sep (SA, MN, *et al.*), SBC; 3 HSP 24 Sep (SA, MN, *et al.*), SBC; 38 Midland B, RICH 28 Sep (CB); 14 Goldsmith's Inlet, Southold, SUFF 25 Oct (RBA), unusual loc; 88 PB 25 Sep (SSM); 25 FT/RP 29 Oct (SA, CF); 2 Iron Pier, Northville, SUFF 6 Nov (KC); GKP 14 Nov (TF), last.

SANDWICH TERN: imm Great Gull I, SUFF 7 Sep (RBA).

Black Skimmer: max 350 B 59th St., Rockaway, QUEE 5 Sep (CF).

PIGEONS – PARROTS

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: FIHW 25 Oct (RJK).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: DOP 4 Nov (RBA), late.

Snowy Owl: JBWE 23-27 Nov (mob).

Long-eared Owl: No reps.

Short-eared Owl: BPT 21-22 Nov (R. Ellard, IG), only rep.

N. Saw-whet Owl: no reps.

Com. Nighthawk: appx 20 reps incl: 13 Greentree Estate 1 Sep (SP); max 86 Cow Harbor P, Northport, SUFF 8 Sep (PPa); 39 Greentree Estate 7 Sep (SP), noted both feeding and migr; 25 Wading R, SUFF 7 Oct (DK); 60 Mill Pd, Setauket, SUFF 8 Oct (JT, *et al.*).

E. Whip-poor-will: EPCAL 3 Sep (AnW).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: MNSA 6 Oct (*vide* SyS), ph.

RUFOUS/ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD: RMSP 23 Oct (BBo, TS); Aquebogue, SUFF 22 Nov thru (*vide* EiS), present for appx one month prior.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Greentree Estate 7 Sep (SP); CP 12-18 Sep (SC, mob); 2 CP 18-28 Oct (*vide* DA, TF, RBA), ad & imm, imm thru 11 Nov; MLUA 23-30 Oct (HF, mob); imm JBWE 31 Oct (KF, SF); ad KP 31 Oct thru (CCo, mob); RMSP 2 Nov (RBA); Owl's Head P, KING 4 Nov (RBA); imm KP 6 Nov (CF);

ad Blydenburgh CP, Smithtown, SUFF 18-26 Nov (VP, TM); imm SMSP 19 Nov (RBA).
PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10): CR/Mt. Loretto thru incl 2 CR 24 Nov (ACi).

Am. Kestrel: 300 FIHW, 67% below 20-year average (*vide DP*).

Merlin: 1016 FIHW, 22% below 20-year average (*vide DP*); 17 FIHW 6 Nov (*vide DP*), large number for date.

Peregrine Falcon: 121 FIHW, 37% below 20-year average.

Monk Parakeet: max 52 Valley Stream Village Hall P, Valley Stream, NASS 13 Nov (RJK).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: PP 8 Sep (RBA); Mass 21 Sep (RT), late.

Alder Flycatcher: Uplands Farm Pres, Cold Spring Harbor, SUFF 20 Sep (DR).

“EMPIDONAX SP.” FLYCATCHER: CP 28 Oct (mob), ph DA.

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: WPP 1-2 Nov (MSh, mob); Lido West Town P 13 Nov thru (BB, mob); Bushwick Inlet, Williamsburg, KING 19-20 Nov (*vide PS*).

Western Kingbird: JBWE 19 Nov (KF, mob), only rep.

N. Shrike: no reps.

White-eyed Vireo: CP 24 Oct (L. Hertzog, ph), late.

Philadelphia Vireo: at least 15 reps involving at least 21 ind incl 4 CP 15 Sep (*vide TF*), large number.

Com. Raven: widespread reps thru, mostly 1-2 birds; FIHW 11 Oct (RJK); RMSP 12 Sep (KF, SF); 2 FIHW 25 Sep (RJK); rare on barrier beach; pr present Bloomfield, RICH noted 1 Oct (DE); pr present Sands Pt Pres, NASS 25 Sep – 31 Oct (GQ); pr present Bush Terminal Piers P, KING thru; 3 Queens Hospital Center, Flushing, QUEE 17 Oct (CF); max 7 SMSP 26 Oct, large number.

Purple Martin: max 12 Great Gull I 1 Sep (JDi).

Cliff Swallow: Orient Pt 20 Nov (JSe), late.

CAVE SWALLOW: FIHW 6 Nov (RBA), only rep.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: widespread irruption noted from early Sep; max 175 RMSP 29 Oct (TS), large number.

Marsh Wren: 2 Greentree 11 Oct (SP), unusual loc.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: CP 16 Oct (JSp); Randall’s I 28 Nov (TF); late.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: appx 15 reps 7 Sep – 19 Oct, max 2.

Gray-cheeked/Bicknell’s Thrush: 6 reps 10 Sep – 25 Oct.

Am. Pipit: max 122 RMSP 31 Oct (KF, SF).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: JBWE 30 Oct (*vide JV*); 2 JBWE 31 Oct (KF, SF); 3 JBWE 3 Nov (RP); max 6 JBWE 8-24 Nov (mob); 2 FBF 17 Nov (IG); Miller Field 19 Nov (ACi, MK).

Louisiana Waterthrush: CLP 2-3 Sep (HF, G. Boquio); PP 8 Sep (K. Toomey, G. Keri); Dam Pd, E. Marion, SUFF 11 Sep (JSe), rare on eastern L.I., late.

Golden-winged Warbler: CP 3-4 Sep (TF); PBP 5 Sep (JRo); Oakland L, Bayside, QUEE 6 Oct (Irene Bareis).

Orange-crowned Warbler: appx 20 reps, first PP 8 Sep (RBA), early.

Connecticut Warbler: APP 2 Sep (*vide PR*); CP 6 Sep (JSp, mob); CP 9 Sep (*vide TF*); PP 15 Sep (SS); PBP 21 Sep (MB); CP 21 Sep (JRo, *et al.*); World Trade Center, NEWY 22 Sep (BC, mob); Garvies Pt Pres, Glen Cove, NASS 23 Sep (*vide BF*); CP 24 Sep (RBA); CP 28 Sep (RBA); MLUA 3 Oct (JSt); Trinity Church, NEWY 11 Oct (BC).

Mourning Warbler: JBWE 22-23 Oct (KC, TH), ph, late.

Hooded Warbler: appx 10 reps incl fem MLUA 3 Oct (RV), late.

“AUDUBON’S” YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: RMSP 6 Nov (TS).

Yellow-breasted Chat: 16 reps incl: Trinity Church 3 Nov thru (BC, mob); St. Paul’s Cathedral, NEWY 8-28 Nov (SS, PP, mob); unusual locs.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: appx 15 reps, fewer than recent years, incl: KP 24 Sep (RBA); Greentree Estate 6 Oct (SP); 2 JBWE 14-15 Oct (MZ, RC); RMSP 29-30 Oct (MN, SA), last.

Vesper Sparrow: CP 25 Sep (*vide TF*); CP 4 Oct (*vide TF*); KP 16 Oct (PR); JBWE 25-26 Oct (DK, MZ); 3 KP 30 Oct (PR, JR, *et al.*); PP 5 Nov (RBA); KP 5-6 Nov (PR, CF); JBWE 5-11 Nov (TH, BF, MZ); Willow L, Flushing, QUEE 11-27 Nov (CF, SA); Caumsett SP 17 Nov (RT).

Lark Sparrow: more than usual: RMSP 2 Sep (SSM); GWC 17 Sep (JM); FIHW 18-22 Sep (MN, RBA); Gilgo B, Babylon, SUFF 2 Oct (RPx); CP 4 Oct (*vide TF*); GWC 13 Oct

(RBA); JBSP 15 Oct (KF); Garden City, NASS 2 Nov (RBA).

Grasshopper Sparrow: Ft. Wadsworth, RICH 11-13 Oct (IG).

Nelson's Sparrow: max 9 PB 11 Oct (SB); 3 Greentree Estate 11 Oct (SP); GWC 7 Nov (SS); unusual locs.

Song Sparrow: 214 Greentree Estate 11 Oct (SP), large number.

Lincoln's Sparrow: appx 40 reps incl: CP 3 Sep (TF), early; Greentree Estate 24 Sep (SP, *et al.*), SBC; 2 Greentree Estate 6-11 Oct (SP); World Trade Center 17 Oct (BC), unusual loc.

Summer Tanager: JBWE 26 Sep (RBA), ph; CP 9 Oct (RBA).

Scarlet Tanager: CP 26 Oct (*vide* TF), late.

WESTERN TANAGER: City Hall P, NEWY 22 Nov thru (Cedric Duhade, mob), ph; ad m CHP 24-28 Nov (SIW, DE, mob).

Blue Grosbeak: appx 15 reps incl: 5 MLUA/CHP 13 Sep (RV), large number; 2 Greentree Estate 15 Sep (SP); 3 Greentree Estate 11 Oct (SP).

Dickcissel: more than usual: RMSP 8 Sep (RBA); JBWE 12 Sep (TH); RMSP 12 Sep (KF, SF); RMSP 25 Sep (PJJ, SA, mob); CHP 1 Oct (ACi); JBWE 4 Oct (TH); Greentree Estate 11 Oct (SP); JBWE 15 Oct (KF); Chandler Estate, Mt. Sinai, SUFF 26 Oct (Aidan Perkins); Mill Dam P, Huntington,

SUFF 28 Oct (PPa); RMSP 29 Oct (RBA); CP 30 Oct (RBA); Coney I Cr, KING 4 Nov (RBA); WPP 19 Nov (ACi).

Rusty Blackbird: max 55 migr FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM).

Boat-tailed Grackle: max 180 Captree I, SUFF 2 Oct (SSM, PJJ).

Orchard Oriole: CP 14 Sep (*vide* TF); Barrett B, Fire I, SUFF 25 Sep (DR); late.

Purple Finch: widespread in good numbers thru; over 40 reps incl: 3 RMSP 2 Sep (SSM); max 63 migr FT 10 Oct (DG, SB, SSM); 20 MLUA/CHP 30 Oct (RV); 20 migr JBWE 31 Oct (SA); 15 CHP 5 Nov (RV).

Red Crossbill: a few migr late in the season: FIHW 17 Nov (RJK); JBWE 18 Nov (BF); 5-6 JBWE 19 Nov (RBA); Lido B 23 Nov (Menachem Goldstein); 7 JBWE 27 Nov (SSch).

Com. Redpoll: 3 E 52 St., NEWY 23 Nov (AF), unusual loc.

Pine Siskin: migr in very small numbers, e.g. 4 RMSP 25 Sep (SSM, *et al.*); MLUA 26 Oct (RV); 3 JBWE 31 Oct (SA); 3 JBWE 5 Nov (TH, BF); max 16 RMSP 23 Nov (BBo); JBWE 27 Nov (SW).

Am. Goldfinch: max 908 RMSP 12 Nov (SSM).

EVENING GROSBEEK (R10): ad m GWC 7 Nov (SS, *et al.*).



STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

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

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.

REPORTING DEADLINES

Winter Season: December, January, February

Deadline is 7 March

Spring Season: March, April, May

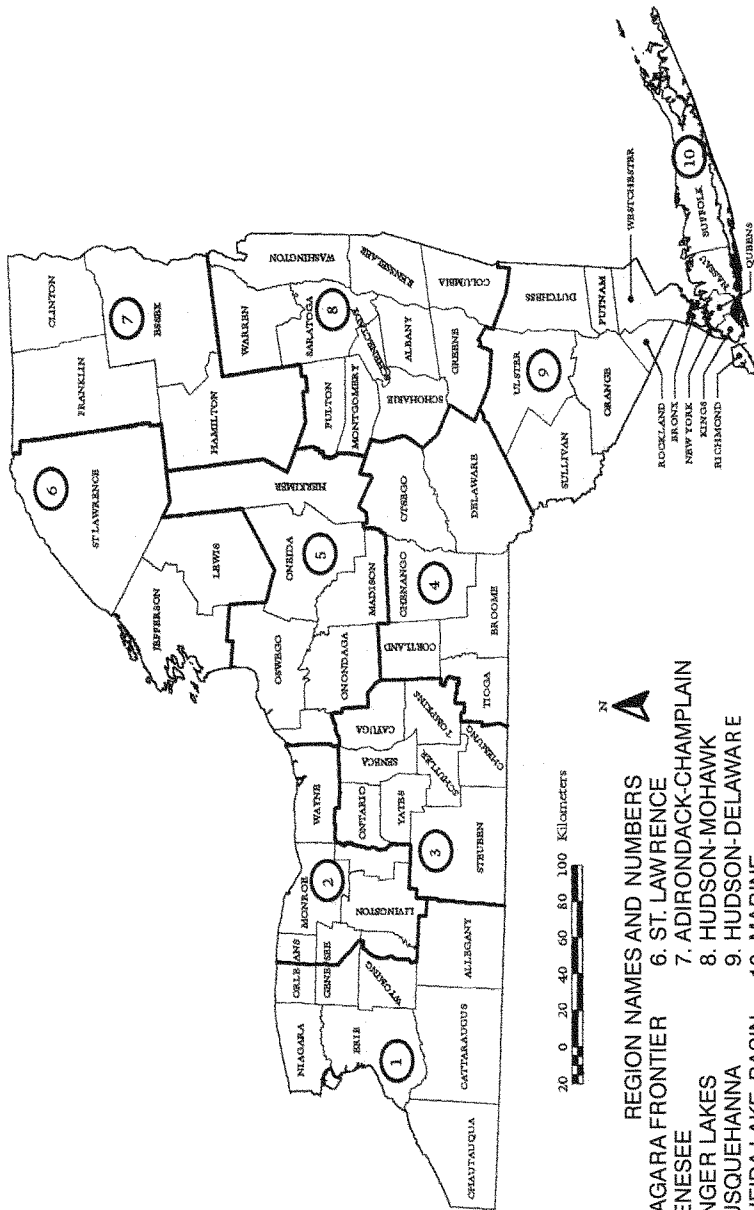
Deadline is 7 June

Summer Season: June, July, August

Deadline is 7 September

Fall Season: September, October, November

Deadline is 7 December



20 0 20 40 60 80 100 Kilometers
 N
REGION NAMES AND NUMBERS
 1. NIAGARA FRONTIER
 2. GENESEE
 3. FINGER LAKES
 4. SUSQUEHANNA
 5. ONEIDA LAKE BASIN
 6. ST. LAWRENCE
 7. ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN
 8. HUDSON-MOHAWK
 9. HUDSON-DELAWARE
 10. MARINE

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