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CONTENTS

Report of the New York State Avian Records Committee for 2015 2

A Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) in New York City during a
region-wide influx
José R. Ramírez-Garfalo 22

Notes and Observations:
Historic Golden Eagle day at Franklin Mountain hawkwatch
Andy Mason 27

Highlights of the Season, Fall 2018
Mike Cooper 28

Regional Reports 32

Photo Gallery 53

Standard Regional Report Abbreviations, Reporting Deadlines
and Map of Reporting Regions 107

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Front Cover – Western Kingbird, Springville, *Erie*, 24 Oct, 2018, © Jim Pawlicki.

Back Cover – Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, New Scotland, *Albany*, 17 Oct 2018, © Sue Barth.

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK STATE AVIAN RECORDS COMMITTEE FOR 2015

The New York State Avian Records Committee (hereafter “NYSARC” or the “Committee”) reviewed 70 occurrences of review species involving 113 separate submissions from 2015 and seven occurrences from previous years involving seven submissions. Nine of the 70 occurrences in 2015, involving 16 submissions, were of potential first state records. Reports were received from 25 of the 62 counties plus the pelagic region. The number of reports accompanied by photographs, audio, and video remains high and, naturally, benefits the value of the archive. The Committee wishes to remind readers that reports submitted to listservs, local bird clubs, rare bird alerts (RBAs) and even *The Kingbird* Regional Editors are not necessarily passed along to NYSARC. Doing so, therefore, remains the responsibility of the observer(s). The growing use of the Internet and mobile phones, as well as eBird, has had a very positive impact on the timely dissemination of rare bird sightings and has made it easier for birders to locate rarities found by others. The Committee has always held that receipt of multiple independent reports provides a much fuller documentation of the sighting and can in some cases increase the likelihood of acceptance. We therefore urge ALL observers, not just the finder, to submit written reports and/or photographs. The names of the 92 contributors that submitted materials (written reports, photographs, audio, video, and sketches) are listed alongside accepted reports and again at the end of this document. Where possible, the name(s) of the original finder(s) is (are) included in the narratives. Production of this Annual Report is a team effort. In addition to the contributors referenced above, several *Kingbird* Regional Editors have helped observers to prepare and submit documentation. A special thanks goes to Mike Morgante (Region 1 Editor) for forwarding important documentation.

HOW TO SUBMIT REPORTS

Advice on how to prepare and submit a report is provided on the NYSARC pages within the NYSOA web site: <http://nybirds.org/NYSARC/index.htm>

Here, a list of species requested for review by NYSARC (The Review List) is provided along with illustrated copies of previous annual reports. The Committee is very grateful to Carena Pooth (NYSOA Web Master) for updating and continuously improving the NYSARC web site. An on-line reporting form allows observers to compose a written report and attach up to five digital image files. Documentation (written reports and photographs) and any other correspondence for the Committee can also be sent via email to NYSARC secretary, Gary Chapin, at: nysarc44@nybirds.org. As a last resort, you can also use regular mail to get your report to Gary:

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HIGHLIGHTS

It seems almost inconceivable, but for the second consecutive year, four new species were added to the *Checklist of the Birds of New York State*: Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*), Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*), Pacific-slope Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*), and Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*). As of the end of 2015, this brings the State list up to 493 species. [Note: subsequent to 2015, additions of Garganey (*Spatula querquedula*) and Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*), as well as the 2017 demotion of Thayer's Gull (*Larus glaucooides thayeri*) to subspecific status, elevates the State list currently to 494, with NYSARC still to vote on other potential additions.] Although not a new species, New York's first record of "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis harlani*) was found in 2003 but only recently identified. A year after the first record, we added the second Fea's Petrel (*Pterodroma feae*), and two years after the first Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*), we added three more records. A few other highlights were an inland Clapper Rail (*Rallus crepitans*), a very famous Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*), and a large influx of Franklin's Gulls (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*).

COMMITTEE NEWS

The 2015 annual meeting was held via Skype on 23 Sep 2018. As with the 2014 annual meeting, this meeting was held only six months after the previous one, as we continue to make progress on our backlog, essentially completing one year of records review in half the time. Note that the annual meeting year refers to the latest reports reviewed at that meeting. For example, at the 2015 annual meeting we mainly reviewed reports of birds seen in 2015, along with a few reports from earlier years. During the annual meeting we discussed or completed the voting for some 20 or so records. We also decided to review prior Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) records in the State and vote on the subspecies. In the past the Committee has, for the most part, voted only on the species and ignored the subspecies, but since the Mew Gull subspecies are fairly well differentiated, the Committee decided that this would be a worthwhile task. The Committee discussed some of the procedures that will be needed in order to incorporate review of eBird records, and we are moving closer to that goal. Changes to the review list were discussed, and it was decided that none were needed at this time. The terms of Andy Guthrie, Doug Gochfeld and Derek Rogers expired at the end of 2018. Doug and Derek agreed to continue on the Committee, and both accepted another three-year term. After many years of service, Andy Guthrie opted to step down and give someone else an opportunity. Andy has been a stalwart on the *The Kingbird* 2019 March; 69 (1)

Committee since 2005. His take on difficult reviews has been extremely practical, well thought out, and his arguments very persuasive. This same mindset has been brought to bear on all other Committee matters as well. In short, Andy has been an invaluable member of NYSARC, and we will miss him. Jay McGowan has big shoes to fill, but he was the clear choice of the Committee to replace Andy, and we are pleased that Jay has accepted and that he has been approved by the NYSOA Board. As of this writing (Mar 2019), Jay is already fully involved in Committee activities.

NOTE: In the reports accepted, listed below, the range of dates for a record may not be known based only on the submitted material. Accepted eBird reports may extend the known range of dates and if the NYSARC also finds these reports acceptable, the eBird range of dates are listed along with the NYSARC record submission.

2015 Reports Accepted

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

2015-27-A One, Wilson Tuscarora State Park, **Niagara**, 3 Jun (Christopher Kundl, ph C. Kundl). eBird 2 Jun-19 Jul

2015-38-A/B Two, Nickerson Beach, **Nassau**, 21 Jul (Brent Bomkamp, Pat Palladino, ph B. Bomkamp)

A local photographer, Charlie Horton, was at one of his most frequently watched patches, the mouth of Twelve Mile Creek in Wilson-Tuscarora State Park, when he discovered this Black-bellied Whistling-Duck on 28 May. Although the word did not get out to birders until 2 Jun, the bird stuck around for several weeks, allowing almost everyone who desired to a chance to go and see it. The late Chris Kundl documented the record for NYSARC. The two birds at Nickerson Beach were discovered by a park employee and were only seen on the one day, 21 Jul.

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

2015-1-A/B One, Riverhead Sod Farms, **Suffolk**, 3, 11 Jan (Angus Wilson, Willie D'Anna, ph John Shemilt, W. D'Anna). eBird 1 Jan-28 Feb

The large flocks of Canada Geese (*A. canadensis*) in the Riverhead area of Eastern Long Island continue to attract one or more Pink-footed Geese most winters. This bird stayed around at least two months. A sighting in the area on 9 Nov 2014 (eBird) could have been the same individual, but it would seem unusual that it could escape detection until the following New Year's Day.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)

2015-61-A/B One, Oswego, **Oswego**, 16 Dec (Kevin McGann, Bill Purcell, ph K. McGann, B. Purcell). eBird 16, 17, 20 Dec

This Western Grebe at Oswego Harbor was discovered by Gregg Dashnau on 16 Dec and was seen by a small group of birders during its brief stay in the area.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*)

2015-58-A One, Pelham Bay Park, **Bronx**, 23 Nov (Richard Aracil, ph R. Aracil)

Richard Aracil found and documented this record for NYSARC. Like many others of this species in the State, this individual did not linger beyond the day of its discovery. This appears to represent the first record for the Bronx.

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)

2015-42-A/B One, Fort Jackson, **St. Lawrence**, 23 Jul (Nick Leone, Eileen Wheeler, ph E. Wheeler)

Eileen Cardinal found this adult male Rufous Hummingbird at her feeding station on 22 Jul, and she contacted Jeff Bolsinger, who in turn contacted Nick Leone and Eileen Wheeler. Leone and Wheeler were able to see the bird the following day, and they documented the sighting for NYSARC. The bird was only seen on those two days.

Clapper Rail (*Rallus crepitans*)

2015-32-A One, Great Vly WMA, **Ulster**, 26 Apr (Steve M. Chorvas, ph S. Chorvas). eBird 26, 28 Apr

This record represents a very rare sighting of an inland Clapper Rail in New York and at a site where a King Rail (*R. elegans*) had been documented only two years prior (D'Anna *et al.* 2017b). It provided excellent views alongside a much smaller Virginia Rail (*R. limicola*). It was not reported after 28 Apr.

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*)

2015-23-A One, Staten Island, **Richmond**, 16-17 May (David Eib, ph D. Eib)

This female/faeder male Ruff was discovered by David Eib, Seth Wollney and Maya Shikhman and provided what is believed to be the first record for Staten Island. The bird stayed for just two days.

South Polar Skua (*Stercorarius maccormicki*)

2015-31-A/B Three, Southwest of Hudson Canyon, **Pelagic**, 1 Jun (Sean Sime, Doug Gochfeld, ph S. Sime, D. Gochfeld)

2015-35-A One, Pelagic waters of Suffolk County, **Pelagic**, 1 Jun (Doug Gochfeld, ph D. Gochfeld)

Certainly, one of the highlights of the See Life Paulagics pelagic trip out of Brooklyn on 1 Jun was these four South Polar Skuas. Three were seen together (2015-31) and the fourth (2015-35) was found in much shallower water.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)

2015-33-A/B One, Breezy Point, **Queens**, 18 Jun (Doug Gochfeld, Sean Sime)

Near the end of a long seawatch, this adult Long-tailed Jaeger came into view from the east and flew westerly past Doug Gochfeld and Sean Sime. They studied it carefully in their scopes, and although photos of this distant bird were

attempted, the observers were stymied in that effort. Nevertheless, the Committee was convinced by the two thorough reports provided by these very experienced seawatchers.

Common Murre (*Uria aalge*)

2015-2-A One, Jones Beach, **Nassau**, 11 Jan (Seth Ausubel)

Seth Ausubel discovered this Common Murre in basic plumage at Jones Beach State Park and watched it until it drifted far to the east of him. Only a few other birders were able to see the murre that morning.

Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*)

2015-6-A One, Montauk, **Suffolk**, 20, 21 Jan (Michael S. Scheibel, ph M. Scheibel). eBird 20-23 Jan

2015-9-A One, Coney Island, **Kings**, 12 Feb (Shane Blodgett, ph S. Blodgett)

Michael Scheibel discovered the basic plumaged Thick-billed Murre at Lake Montauk inlet. The bird stayed in the area for a few days, allowing a handful of other birders to see it. The Coney Island bird was found by Shane Blodgett and was only observed by a couple of other birders, not being found on subsequent days.

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*)

2015-34-A/B One, Breezy Point, **Queens**, 18 Jun (Doug Gochfeld, Sean Sime, ph D. Gochfeld, S. Sime)

2015-57-A One, East Quogue, **Suffolk**, 22 Nov (Seth Ausubel)

While spending several hours at Breezy Point, conducting a productive seawatch and studying the birds attracted to the tern colony, Gochfeld and Sime found a molting Sabine's Gull resting on the beach. This appears to be just the second record for New York City, with the only prior record occurring 14 Oct 1926 in Brooklyn (Bull 1964). The bird in East Quogue was found by Seth Ausubel and watched as it flew past over the ocean. It was an adult in basic plumage.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)

2015-21-A One, Rochester, **Monroe**, 7 May (Ethan Gyllenhaal)

2015-53-A/C One, Venetian Shores Park, **Suffolk**, 13 Nov (Peter Morris, Brent Bomkamp, Seymour (Sy) Schiff/Joseph Giunta, ph P. Morris, S. Schiff)

2015-54-A Six, Derby Hill, **Oswego**, 13 Nov (Bill Purcell). eBird 13-14 Nov

2015-67-A Two, Captree State Park, **Suffolk**, 13 Nov (Seymour (Sy) Schiff/Joseph Giunta, ph S. Schiff)

2015-68-A One, Point Lookout, **Nassau**, 13 Nov (Seymour (Sy) Schiff/Joseph Giunta, ph S. Schiff)

2015-69-A Two, Robert Moses State Park, **Suffolk**, 13 Nov (Pat Palladino, ph P. Palladino)

Franklin's Gull is nearly annual in New York State, especially along the Niagara River, and, as a result, NYSARC will no longer review upstate reports after 2017. Elsewhere, however, it remains a very rare species. In some years during

the fall migration, numbers of Franklin's Gulls may be pushed eastward by westerly winds associated with strong cold fronts. 2015 was such a year, and the result was a spectacular incursion of this species, not only in New York, but along the entire eastern seaboard from Florida to New Brunswick and Quebec, Canada. The five fall records that were documented for NYSARC include four from coastal locations and one from Lake Ontario, with the maximum number seen at one site being six individuals. A quick check of the eBird species map for Franklin's Gull (Mar 2019) shows about a dozen locations with Franklin's Gulls in the western half of the State during 2015, about 20 sites in the coastal region, and one more site near Glens Falls in Warren County. Almost all of the Franklin's Gulls seen in New York were discovered on 13 Nov and most were one-day wonders. Franklin's Gull is much rarer in the spring, when Ethan Gyllenhaal and Greg Lawrence found an adult along the shore of Lake Ontario in Rochester on 7 May (2015-21).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus brachyrhynchus*)

2015-8-A One, Brooklyn, **Kings**, 9 Feb (Shane Blodgett, ph S. Blodgett)

Shane Blodgett is a shining example of how one can become good at finding rare gulls, combining knowledge, skill and patience. Scanning through the mass of Ring-billed Gulls at the Veteran's Memorial Pier in Brooklyn, Blodgett found this Mew Gull of the North American race, believed to be in its second cycle. This bird was apparently not reported after this day. Another Mew Gull, this being a first-cycle individual, was also present in the Brooklyn area during the same winter (eBird Feb 2019) but was not documented for NYSARC.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)

2015-28-A One, Nickerson Beach, **Nassau**, 10 Jun (John H. Haas, ph J. Haas)

2015-29-A One, Nickerson Beach, **Nassau**, 8 Jun (Joseph Viglietta, ph J. Viglietta). eBird 9 Jun

Two different Arctic Terns were found at Nickerson Beach within two days of each other. Viglietta documented an adult and Haas documented a first-cycle individual. The flats at Moriches Inlet, much further east on Long Island, are known for attracting this species every year in late spring/early summer. However, there are relatively few records from further west, though we might expect more appearing at tern colonies as birders become accustomed to looking for the fine details necessary to pick them out from the abundant Common Tern (*S. hirundo*).

White-faced Storm-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*)

2015-41-A One, Block Canyon N 40°01.363', W 71°21.292', **Pelagic**, 21 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt)

The Committee is grateful to John Shemilt for documenting yet another White-faced Storm-Petrel in the pelagic waters off New York. The work of Shemilt and Paul Guris/See Life Paulagics has greatly increased our understanding of bird

life in the pelagic zone. Due in large part to their efforts, it now seems that this species may be a regular visitor in late summer to our waters.

Fea's Petrel (*Pterodroma feae*)

2015-40-A One, 76 nm SSE of Shinnecock, **Pelagic**, 18 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt)

Providing the second record within a year, as well as just the second fully-accepted record in New York, this Fea's Petrel was found in pelagic waters and nicely photo-documented by John Shemilt. See Wilson *et al.* (2016) for a thorough discussion of the considerations involved in accepting records of this species.

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

2015-14-A/D One, Pomfret/Fredonia, **Chautauqua**, 23, 25 Apr (Kayo J. Roy, Willie D'Anna, James Pawlicki, ph W. D'Anna, J. Pawlicki). eBird 23-25 Apr

2015-39-A/B One, Buffalo, **Erie**, 15 Jul (James Pawlicki, Gates Dupont, ph J. Pawlicki, G. Dupont)

2015-70-A One, Motor Island WMA, **Erie**, 13 May (Ryan Bakelaar, ph R. Bakelaar)

All three records of Neotropic Cormorant this year came from the western edge of the State. While driving on the New York State Thruway near Fredonia, Jim Pawlicki noticed a much smaller cormorant flying along the Thruway with Double-crested Cormorants (*P. auritus*). Pulling over, he watched the bird fly nearly directly overhead, confirming its small size, as well as its shape, and noting a small bit of white on the throat near the base of the bill. Getting back into his vehicle and driving past the flock of cormorants, Pawlicki again pulled over and obtained a helpful cell phone image that shows the bird's substantially smaller size. Pawlicki spread the word immediately to birders, and a few hours later Gale VerHague relocated the Neotropic Cormorant at Lake Erie State Park. Subsequently, the bird was found at a private pond in the Town of Pomfret, where it was seen by several birders over the course of the next couple of days. The Motor Island Neotropic Cormorant was a specimen that was collected at the Double-crested Cormorant colony on the island and documented by Department of Environmental Conservation technician, Ryan Bakelaar. On 13 Jul Pawlicki and Dean DiTommaso were studying a distant small cormorant at Buffalo Harbor, which they considered could be a Neotropic Cormorant, but the great distance did not allow them to rule out the possibility of a runt Double-crested Cormorant nor a hybrid. Two days later, following up on this sighting, Pawlicki and Gates Dupont located what appeared to be a different bird but one which they could confirm was a Neotropic Cormorant. Unlike the bird that Pawlicki and DiTommaso observed, which appeared to be an adult, this bird was an immature. Using cell phones, Pawlicki was able to direct Dupont, who was in a kayak, to the spot where he could see the Neotropic Cormorant on the breakwall. Dupont was able to obtain some soft video to help document the

record. Prior to these three records, the only record in the State was from Hamlin Beach State Park in 2013 (Wilson *et al.* 2016).

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)

2015-55-A One, Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, **Queens**, 14 Nov (Marianne Ofenloch, ph M. Ofenloch). eBird 14 Nov-20 Dec

Marianne Ofenloch and Regina Volz discovered this American White Pelican flying over the west pond at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. eBird reports indicated that up to two birds were seen at the refuge after this date. Due to an increase in reports in recent years, NYSARC is no longer requesting documentation for this distinctive species.

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)

2015-22-A/C One, Thorne Preserve/Gardiner County Park, **Suffolk**, 20-21 May (Derek Rogers, Pete Morris, Michael S. Scheibel, ph D. Rogers, P. Morris, M. Scheibel)

This Little Egret, the first in New York, was discovered by Pete Morris at Gardiner County Park. See Morris (2015) and D'Anna *et al.* (2017a) for a full account of this record.

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)

2015-44-A/C One, Prospect Park/Greenwood Cemetery, **Kings**, 11-12 Oct (Klemens Gasser, Ryan Morrissey, Pamela Langford, ph K. Gasser, R. Morrissey, P. Langford)

2015-48-A/B One, Staten Island, **Richmond**, 18 Oct (Arie Gilbert, Catherine Barron, ph A. Gilbert)

The subadult White Ibis in Brooklyn was first observed by Klemens Gasser as it flew overhead at Prospect Park, then was seen on the ground the next day at nearby Green-Wood Cemetery. A week later another subadult was found at River Road on Staten Island but was only observed the one day. Although the two ibises were similar, the Committee felt that the primary molt pattern differentiated them, and thus, they were kept as two records.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*)

2015-49-A One, Captree Island, **Suffolk**, 18 Jun (Arie Gilbert). eBird 18 Jun-14 Jul

This alternate-plumaged adult White-faced Ibis was discovered by Arie Gilbert and Phil Uruburu and stayed in the area for nearly a month.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*)

2015-24-A/B One, Sterling Forest, **Orange**, 16 May (Pete Morris, Taylor Sturm)

2015-25-A One, Highland Mills, **Orange**, 26 May (Tom Brown)

Pete Morris, Taylor Sturm, Tim Dunn, and John Gluth had a relatively brief view of a flying adult Mississippi Kite at Sterling Forest. Although they did not

have time to obtain a photo, they studied the bird carefully to confirm the identification. The bird was apparently observed later that day by the Queens County Bird Club but was not seen on subsequent days. Although it was a life-bird for him, Morris noted in his report that the species was “firmly on my radar” for the day, as a number of birds had been reported recently and the southerly airflow and warm temperatures they were experiencing he knew to be conducive to bringing these raptors north into the region. The Highland Mills kite was observed by a very experienced birder at a family gathering; the detailed description indicated that this was a subadult bird.

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*)

2015-4-A/B One, Bear Mountain State Park, **Rockland**, 5 Jan (Edwin McGowan, Gerhard Patsch)

2015-12-A One, Montgomery, **Orange**, 10-14 Apr (Kenneth M. McDermott, ph Mary Buskey, Matt Zeitler, Peter Schuyler, Jess Deitz). eBird 10-16 Apr

2015-66-A One, Seaford, **Nassau**, 10 Jan (Steve Schellenger, ph Charles Sammut)

These three records of Caracara constitute the first and only records for New York. For a detailed account of all three records, see D’Anna *et al.* (2017a).

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*)

2015-7-A/B One, Town of Shawangunk, **Ulster** 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15-18 Feb (Eamon Freiburger, Kenneth M. McDermott, ph E. Freiburger) & Town of Montgomery, **Orange**, 20, 22 Feb (Kenneth M. McDermott, ph Drew Schuyler)

2015-65-A One, Town of Shawangunk, **Ulster**, 25 Dec (Kenneth M. McDermott)

Eamon Freiburger discovered the white-morph Gyr Falcon in Ulster County, where it was seen by numerous birders over the following two weeks. The bird moved to Orange County on 20 Feb, where Ken McDermott and Drew Schuyler were able to document it. The following winter, McDermott documented what appeared to be the same bird, this time back in Ulster County (2015-65).

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)

2015-64-A One, Montauk, **Suffolk**, 19 Dec 2015- 1 Jan 2016 (Brent Bomkamp)

This Ash-throated Flycatcher was discovered by John Gluth during the Montauk CBC and seen by several CBC participants that day. The bird lingered at the site until the last report, by Brent Bomkamp, on 1 Jan 2016.

Pacific-slope Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*)

2015-56-A/D One, Central Park, **New York**, 18, 21, 22 Nov (Peter Paul, Jack Rothman, Ardith Bondi, Richard Guthrie, ph Robert Rovulo, A. Bondi, R. Guthrie, video Tim Healy, audio P. Paul)

This Pacific-slope Flycatcher at Central Park constitutes the first record for New York. See D’Anna *et al.* (2017a) for a full account.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*)

2015-18-A One, Conewango Swamp WMA, **Cattaraugus**, 12 Apr (Willie D'Anna, ph W. D'Anna)

While working on the "April Bird Count" for the Buffalo Ornithological Society, Joe Mitchell found this Say's Phoebe at Conewango Swamp WMA. Joe alerted other birders immediately, and several were able to travel to see the bird that day. Most records of Say's Phoebe in the East are in the fall and winter (Burke 1998). This is only the second spring record in New York, the first being on 26 Apr 2013 in Brooklyn.

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*)

2015-63-A Two, Pelham Bay Park, **Bronx**, 14-15 Nov (Richard Aracil)

Richard Aracil and Matthieu Benoit discovered these Cave Swallows, and Aracil managed to get diagnostic photos of one bird on 14 Nov. Although Aracil only reported two Cave Swallows as being definitively identified over the two-day period, he indicated that five other swallows that were not observed as well were also likely this species.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*)

2015-47-A/I One, John Boyd Thacher State Park, Voorheesville, **Albany**, 20-26 Oct (Thomas Williams, John Kent, Richard Guthrie, Jeremy Collison, Susan Joseph, Terry Bain, Arie Gilbert, Gregg Recer, Bill Purcell, ph T. Williams, J. Kent, R. Guthrie, J. Collison, A. Gilbert, G. Recer, B. Purcell). eBird 20 Oct-8 Nov

This Townsend's Solitaire at John Boyd Thacher State Park was well-documented subsequent to its discovery by Craig Thompson and Ro Woodard.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)

2015-10-A One, Great River, **Suffolk**, 13-21 Mar (Kathaleen Rogers, ph K. Rogers)

Kathaleen Rogers documented this adult male Varied Thrush that visited her feeding station for nine days.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*)

2015-36-A/E One, Wilton, **Saratoga**, 5 Jul (John Kent, Thomas Williams, Will Raup, Susan Beaudoin, David W. Harrison, ph J. Kent, Naomi Lloyd). eBird 2-7 Jul

Brendan Hathaway found this Lark Sparrow on 2 Jul at the Wilton Wildlife Preserve, and several birders were able to see it and document it over the following days.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)

2015-52-A One, Loudonville, **Albany**, 14 Nov (Jeremy Collison, ph J. Collison). eBird 11-29 Nov

Pastor John Paarlberg discovered this adult Harris's Sparrow at his feeding station, and Richard Guthrie arranged access to the yard for birders. As a token of appreciation, several birders brought food items to donate to the local church's food pantry, a positive result for both birders and community residents.

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*)

2015-51-A One, Norfolk, **St. Lawrence**, 16-28 Oct (Nora Lee, ph N. Lee)

This constitutes the first and only record of Bronzed Cowbird to date in New York. For a full account, see D'Anna *et al.* (2017a).

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*)

2015-13-A One, Hawthorne, **Westchester**, 23 Apr (Jeff Seneca, ph J. Seneca)

Birding by himself at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Jeff Seneca found and photographed what turned out to be his life Black-throated Gray Warbler. There are now about 18 records in New York, with those about equally split between downstate and upstate.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

2015-5-A One, Rocky Point, **Suffolk**, 28-30 Jan (Sean Keenan, ph S. Keenan)

2015-20-A One, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, **Kings**, 12 May (Shane Blodgett, ph S. Blodgett)

The adult female Western Tanager at Rocky Point showed up at the feeding station of Sean Keenan and lingered for three days before departing. Another female was found in Prospect Park by Rob Jett and documented for NYSARC by Shane Blodgett.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*)

2015-26-A/B Two, Dover Plains, **Dutchess**, 27 May (Barbara Mansell, Susan Joseph)

A "pair" of Blue Grosbeaks was found by these observers at Dover Plains. With the reports lacking photos, the Committee was at first skeptical of this record. However, considering that these experienced birders also saw and recorded the similar but smaller and more expected Indigo Bunting (*P. cyanea*) at the same location, Committee members were led to accept the record.

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*)

2015-19-A One, Robert Moses State Park, **Suffolk**, 8 May (Jason Natti, video Nicole Natti)

2015-60-A/E One, Prospect Park, **Kings**, 29 Nov-2 Jan 2016 (Richard Guthrie, Paul Chung, Debra Van Enkenvoort, Sean Sime, Kenneth M. McDermott, ph R. Guthrie, P. Chung, S. Sime, Curt McDermott). eBird 29 Nov-3 Jan 2016

Jason and Nicole Natti discovered and obtained video evidence of the adult male Painted Bunting at the Coast Guard station in Robert Moses State Park. Unfortunately, since this was a gated community, it did not allow for other birders to see this striking bird. On the other hand, the well-documented adult

male at Prospect Park was seen by hundreds, if not thousands, of observers, and featured prominently in newspaper and other media outlets. For discovering this stunning bird, Keir Randall receiving adulation from countless birders and casual observers alike. It was less certain that the bunting felt similarly toward Randall, though it did not appear to openly resent its new-found celebrity, as it lingered for nearly five weeks.

2015 Report Accepted But Origins Unknown or Unnatural

European Greenfinch (*Chloris chloris*)

2015-15-A One, Saugerties, **Ulster**, 2 May (Robert Michaud, ph R. Michaud)

This bird was observed at the feeding station of Robert Michaud, where a good photo of the bird was obtained. The Committee was in complete agreement that the photo showed a European Greenfinch. Although the photo indicated no obvious signs of captivity, the Committee felt that it was unlikely to be of natural origin. There are no accepted records of this species in North America, though there are several of birds believed to be escapes or releases [see, for example, Wilson *et al.* (2012) and Wilson *et al.* (2013)]. The species is only partially migratory in its native European range and is considered a short-distance migrant, at best (Wilson *et al.* 2012). Thus, it is not considered to be a very likely candidate for vagrancy to North America.

2013 Reports Accepted

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

2013-93-A One, Sheldrake Lake, Larchmont, **Westchester**, 26 Feb (Andrew Baksh, ph A. Baksh). eBird 16 Feb-24 Mar

This record was documented for NYSARC by Andrew Baksh. One eBird report indicated that the goose was found on 15 Feb, but the person who discovered the bird was not indicated in any of the reports. Another, or possibly the same, Barnacle Goose was at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx from late November into the first week of January 2013 (2012-95). The NYSARC removed Barnacle Goose from its downstate review list in 2017.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*)

2013-94-A One, Gilgo Beach, **Suffolk**, 17 Feb (Andrew Baksh, ph A. Baksh). eBird 17 Feb-9 Mar

Andrew Baksh documented this exciting gray-morph Gyr Falcon for NYSARC and included two diagnostic images, one of the bird in flight. The Gyr had been found earlier in the day by Pat Lindsay.

2012 Report Accepted

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

2012-95-D One, Van Cortlandt Park, **Bronx**, 5 Jan 2013 (Andrew Baksh, ph A. Baksh). eBird 25 Nov 2012-6 Jan 2013

This report documented a previously accepted record of a Barnacle Goose at this location.

2011 Report Accepted

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)

2011-156-A Two, Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, **Queens**, 10 Aug (Shane Blodgett, ph S. Blodgett)

Shane Blodgett discovered these two immature White Ibis early in the morning at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Unfortunately, the birds did not linger, and only a couple of other birders managed to see them before they took flight. This now makes an incredible five records of White Ibis in New York in 2011, although it is conceivable that two of those pertain to the same individual (Wilson *et al.* 2013). Records of this species in the State have increased markedly since 2008.

2003 Report Accepted

“Harlan’s” Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis harlani*)

2003-93-A One, Braddock Bay, **Monroe**, 1 May (Daena Ford, ph John Newhouse)

The Committee is indebted to Daena Ford, co-director of Braddock Bay Raptor Research, for submitting the excellent documentation for this record, and also to Jerry Liguori, who first identified the bird. The record involves what was at first thought to be a dark-morph Red-tailed Hawk that was captured and banded at Braddock Bay by John Newhouse. In October of 2013, Luke Tiller, a former official raptor counter at the Braddock Bay Hawkwatch, wrote a blog post about dark buteos occurring at Braddock Bay, with photos. In July of 2014, raptor expert, Jerry Liguori, after having noticed the post, informed Luke that the individual of this record was actually a “Harlan’s” Hawk, a different subspecies of Red-tailed Hawk. “Harlan’s” Hawks breed in Alaska and the Northwest Territories of Canada and winter from British Columbia to the southern Great Plains and Texas (Liguori 2005). In September of 2014, Liguori followed up with his own blog post about this bird, indicating why this individual was a “Harlan’s” Hawk and not another form of Red-tailed Hawk. Ford compiled expert commentary on this bird from Liguori, Frank Nicoletti, and William Clark. All three experts explained why they were convinced that this was a “Harlan’s” Hawk. The record was unanimously accepted by the Committee, and this is believed to be the first photo-documented record of this form in New York (Dodge and Nicoletti 1998). There are no previous records accepted by

NYSARC and, also, none in eBird for New York. Nevertheless, this form has been reported previously at hawk-watches in the State, and some of these may be valid.

1985 Report Accepted

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

1985-48-A One, Brewster, **Putnam**, 27 Aug (John Askildsen)

This old record of a Wood Stork in Putnam County was documented with a solid description by John Askildsen. Askildsen's report indicates that the bird was originally found by a non-birder, Ted Gass, on 23 Aug but that birders were not made aware of it until 27 Aug. Unfortunately, it was found dead the next day. Photos of the bird were reportedly obtained, and the specimen was collected. However, the Committee's attempts to locate this hard documentation, in order to further strengthen the record, were in vain. This record is mentioned in *The Kingbird* (Treacy 1985). If any readers have additional information on the whereabouts of the photos or specimen, the Committee would appreciate hearing about it.

2015 Reports Not Accepted

Cinnamon Teal (*Spatula cyanoptera*)

2015-50-A One, Montezuma NWR, **Seneca**, 2 Nov

This report documented a surprising bird seen along the Montezuma NWR wildlife drive. Originally found by James Osborn on 1 Nov, the bird stayed around for several days, allowing for much study and many photographs. It was originally considered to be a Cinnamon Teal in transitional plumage, as documented in this report, but with better views and photographs, it was then thought to be a hybrid Blue-winged (*S. discors*) x Cinnamon Teal. This duck was quite similar to a male Cinnamon Teal with its reddish plumage and a bill that was slightly larger and more spatulate than on a Blue-winged Teal. While the reddish plumage was not as warm and saturated in color as a basic plumaged adult male, some thought this could be explained by the bird being in "eclipse" plumage. However, other traits suggesting one parent being a Blue-winged Teal included a slightly paler area at the base of the bill, a slightly paler "hip" patch, and black spotting on the flanks. After some discussion about this report at the annual meeting, the Committee was unanimous in its agreement that the bird was most likely a hybrid. This is not the first such hybrid believed to be seen in New York. Sherony (1998) and Bull (1974) list a total of five occurrences.

"Eurasian" Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca crecca*)

2015-3-A One, Hempstead, **Nassau**, 17 Jan

This report documented a male Green-winged Teal that appeared to lack a vertical white bar at the side of the breast. The observer concluded from this that

the duck was not the expected American form, *A. c. carolinensis*, but must be of the Eurasian subspecies, *A. c. crecca*. While the Committee agrees that the lack of the vertical white bar on this bird is somewhat unusual, it does not, in and of itself, mean that it must be of the Eurasian subspecies. The photos that were included with the report were somewhat underexposed, making it difficult to firmly assess the subspecies. However, the stronger pale markings on the head that *crecca* shows are not apparent in the photos, nor is the horizontal stripe on the lower scapulars. As a result, the Committee was not convinced that this was a “Eurasian” Green-winged Teal.

“Selasphorus” Hummingbird (*Selasphorus species*)

2015-43-A One, Wappinger Falls, **Dutchess**, 9 Aug

This was a second-hand report of a bird that was identified as belonging to the *Selasphorus* hummingbird genus, which, in North America, includes Rufous (*S. rufus*), Allen’s (*S. sasin*) and Broad-tailed (*S. platycercus*) Hummingbirds. The submitter is an experienced hummingbird bander, but he did not see the bird and was only able to see photographs of it, one of which he forwarded to the Committee. Interestingly, the same residence that hosted this bird also hosted a hatching-year female Rufous Hummingbird on 9 Nov 2012, a record that was accepted by NYSARC (2012-88). In this case, however, the Committee was not convinced that this was not an immature male Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*), and they sought the opinion of hummingbird expert, Sheri Williamson. Williamson’s response was convincing to the Committee: “The long, notched tail with no evidence of rufous coloration is enough to rule out all of the *Selasphorus*, and the overall proportions, tail shape and color, dark mask, finely speckled gorget, and dull tawny wash on the underparts are all consistent with a juvenile male Ruby-throated.”

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*)

2015-45-A One, Town of Plattsburgh, **Clinton**, 15 Oct

This was a sight-only report that included a fairly thorough description of what was observed. A majority of the Committee believed that this was an acceptable report. However, this can be a difficult identification, and those opposed to accepting it brought up what was not observed, such as a paler nape, as well as the possibility that this could be a runt Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) or even a Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*). After three rounds of review, the majority were not able to sway the two additional members necessary to accept the record.

Yellow-nosed Albatross (*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*)

2015-11-A One, Niagara Falls, **Niagara**, 24 Mar

This bird was viewed by a party of four that was dining at a restaurant along the Niagara River. The bird was observed drifting past on a small ice floe. Although a large gull was considered by the submitter, he felt that it was ruled out by the

black bill on this bird. It was apparent to the Committee that the observer was quite inexperienced and did not realize that an immature gull can show a black bill. Indeed, it is highly likely that the observers were watching a Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*), which is consistent with the description. A Yellow-nosed Albatross here would be unprecedented for the location and the time of year, and thus, would require very strong documentation, which was lacking in this report.

Black-browed Albatross (*Thalassarche melanophris*)

2015-62-A/B One, Montauk Point, **Suffolk**, 15 Dec

This was an interesting report involving submissions from two experienced birders who were seawatching at Montauk Point. One submission in particular was pretty thorough, describing what was observed and how the identification was arrived at. This long-winged seabird with dark wings above and below, a dark back, and a white head, neck, and rump could have been an albatross. However, some Committee members were concerned that Northern Gannet (*Morus bassanus*) was ruled out mainly on the basis of plumage. Gannets can show a bewildering variety of plumages between juvenile and adult, not all of which are shown in the field guides. Committee members found photos of Northern Gannets that seemed very similar to the description provided of the bird under review. Unfortunately, the observers were unable to obtain photographs, which might have helped, even though the bird was fairly distant. As a potential first State record, documentation needs to be exceptionally strong, and these reports did not quite meet that threshold.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)

2015-37-A One, Colonie, **Albany**, 11 Jul

This report of a bird seen only from the neck up at close range while it was swimming and diving in the Mohawk River was not at odds with an Anhinga, especially the long thin curved neck and yellow sharply pointed bill. However, such an exceptional rarity requires a complete description of the entire bird, and perhaps photos as well. The Committee was unable to accept the report.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)

2015-16-A One, Ausable State Park, **Clinton**, 3 May

An experienced hawk-watcher saw this reported bird, both perched and in flight. He stressed the dramatic dihedral shape of the wings in flight, which he felt ruled out other Eastern North American *buteos*. However, his plumage description did not seem consistent with a Swainson's Hawk, particularly the thin patagial marks noted on the undersides of the wings. At least one reviewer noted that the description was not at odds with a "Kridler's" Red-tailed Hawk (*B. jamaicensis borealis* pale morph), which also would be a very unusual sighting. Other Committee members simply were not swayed by the report.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*)

2015-46-A One, Jamesville, **Onondaga** 17 Oct

This was a one-minute naked-eye observation of a bird in flight with a Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) very close by for size comparison. The observer is a long-time raptor enthusiast, having served as the official counter at various North American raptor migration sites, including Derby Hill in New York State. Unfortunately, the identification was based only on size, shape, and flight style, as little of the plumage pattern could be assessed. The brevity of the observation and the lack of optics were concerns of the Committee, and some felt that stronger documentation was needed for such an early observation date. There is also the possibility that this could have been a falconer's bird, some of which are actually hybrids, and which the observer himself admitted he could not rule out with the views that he had. With these shortcomings, the Committee was unable to accept the record.

Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*)

2015-17-A One, Town of Sardinia, **Erie**, 2 May

This was a very brief report from a self-proclaimed non-bird-watcher. There was no description of size or shape, and the only information provided was that the bird had a blue body with a black crown. This falls far short of what is needed to document any rare bird, much less a potential first State record.

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni hornemanni*)

2015-30-A One, Cape Vincent Village, **Jefferson**, 2-3 Apr

This was a compelling report, and some Committee members were initially in favor of acceptance. There was no disagreement that this was a Hoary Redpoll, but the nominate subspecies reported here is extremely rare in New York. In fact, there are no records that have been accepted by NYSARC. The bird was described as a "very light, white redpoll", which stood out immediately to the observer. Having identified Hoary Redpolls in the past, the observer was struck by how much whiter this bird seemed. He also noted its slightly larger size than the accompanying Common Redpolls (*A. flammea*). *A. h. hornemanni* often appears considerably larger than *A. flammea*. The bird was apparently a male, as the observer noted a pink wash on the breast. The expected form of Hoary Redpoll in New York is *A. h. exilipes*, which, although whiter than Common Redpoll, is often quite similar. While this could have been *hornemanni*, the Committee felt that such a difficult identification needed to be documented better, preferably with clear photographs of the bird, and after discussion, the record was not accepted. It should be noted that this form has likely occurred in New York or will occur at some point (Brinkley 1998), as there are well documented records in southern Ontario and other nearby states. eBird (Mar 2019) shows four records in New York, but only one checklist has photos that appear to strongly support this form.

“Pink-sided” Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis mearnsi*)

2015-59-A One, Perinton, **Monroe**, 30 Nov

This bird was observed by two very experienced birders and documented nicely with several photos. It was a contentious record, with the Committee voting in favor after the first round of review by a vote of five to two, one vote shy of acceptance. Points noted against the identification were that the pink sides were not as broad as typical for this form and the simple fact that it was an immature bird, as told by the streaks on the back—junco subspecies are even more variable in immature plumage. In the end the Committee decided to seek outside comment from western birders familiar with the “Oregon” and “Pink-sided” Junco complex. Two of those experts agreed with the dissenters that this was an intergrade of some type, while the third thought that the bird was fine for a “Pink-sided” Junco. Features noted by the experts as being off for a good “Pink-sided” Junco were gray intruding into the pinkish flanks and less white in the tail than expected. The fact that the bird showed a whitish wingbar was also thought to possibly indicate a hybrid, although immatures can also show wingbars. Hybridization between the various subspecies is quite common, producing individuals that can be difficult or impossible to pigeon-hole into a subspecies or hybrid group. The record was turned down in the final round of review. The Committee thanks Tony Leukering, Steve Mlodinow and Bill Schmoker for providing comments.

2012 Reports Not Accepted

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*)

2012-125-A One, Staten Island, **Richmond**, 4 Nov

The differences between Lazuli and Indigo (*P. cyanea*) Buntings in non-breeding plumage are often quite subtle, and the individual reported here falls into that category. The submission consisted of a brief description and two photographs taken by another observer. Both photos show the bird in almost the same position, with the bird in profile. Obviously, photos from additional angles could have been helpful. Some Committee members believed this was an immature male bunting, and several thought that what could be seen in the photos was better for Indigo Bunting. Given the difficulty of this identification, as well as the possibility of a hybrid, documentation needs to be very strong for acceptance, which the Committee was unable to do. There has only been one accepted record of Lazuli Bunting in New York, an adult male in Genesee County in March of 1998.

CONTRIBUTORS

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A BROWN BOOBY (*SULA LEUCOGASTER*) IN NEW YORK CITY DURING A REGION-WIDE INFLUX

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Abstract—Brown Boobies (*Sula leucogaster*) are pantropically distributed seabirds that are regularly found as vagrants in northeastern North America (Schreiber and Norton 2002). Here I detail the sighting and identification of an adult Brown Booby at The Narrows, a tidal strait between the New York City boroughs of Staten Island and Brooklyn. This observation represents the first record of this species within Richmond County waters, the third record for New York City overall, and one of the 19 records in northeastern North America during the year 2018.

The morning of 2 October 2018 was partly cloudy and warm, with temperatures expected to rise to 77 degrees Fahrenheit by mid-day. At about 0950 hrs, I was birding the northern shoreline of Fort Wadsworth, an active military installation and park within Gateway National Recreation Area, Staten Island Unit. I originally intended to search the brushy fields in the low-lying areas of the Fort, but my attention quickly turned to a large flock of gulls moving between The Narrows and the Lower New York Bay. At approximately 1010 hrs, the gulls moved to the Upper Bay from the base of the Verrazzano Bridge. While I scanned the flock, I noticed a dark-colored, long-winged bird flying south toward my location. As it flew closer, I noted its deep wing-beats, uniform chocolate-brown color on its upper-parts, and large pale bill and face. Realizing that the bird was a Brown Booby, I put my phone camera to the eyepiece of my binoculars and recorded about 15 seconds of it in flight before losing sight of the bird behind two large boats that were passing close to the shoreline. I turned to the Lower Bay to scan the nearby mixed flock of gulls but was unable to find the bird. After about an hour of searching with two other observers, the bird was not re-located, and in the following hours, no Brown Boobies were reported locally.

In identifying a Brown Booby in this area, the possibility of confusion with juvenile Northern Gannets (*Morus bassanus*) and juvenile Masked Boobies (*Sula dactylatra*) must be addressed. Although no Northern Gannets were reported in the Lower Bay on 2 October, they are seasonally quite common in the area, with up to several thousand individuals being seen at a time during the late-fall and winter months (pers. obs.). Unlike a juvenile Northern Gannet, the bird I observed had uniformly chocolate-brown upper-parts and lacked any white speckling or patches, as would be present on a subadult Northern Gannet (Harrison 1983, Sibley 2014). Masked Boobies have recently been found on at least two occasions in Massachusetts (e.g., 10 Sep 2015: Garvey *et al.* 2017),

Table 1. Records of vagrant Brown Boobies (*Sula leucogaster*) in northeastern North America in 2018, compiled using the eBird database (Sullivan *et al.* 2009).

Date(s)	Location	Age	eBird ID
25 Feb	Shark River Inlet, Monmouth, NJ	Juv	S43183410
28 May	Atlantic Ocean, Shelburne, NS	Juv	S46904956
2 Jun	Schoodic Island waters, Hancock, ME	Juv	S46236868
8 Jul	Atlantic Ocean, Halifax, NS	Ad	S47195082
23 Jul	Philadelphia Airport, Philadelphia, PA	Juv	S47371043
27 Jul	Gulf of St. Lawrence, QC	Ad	S47582019
30 Jul	Atlantic Ocean, Suffolk, NY	Ad	S47566187
30 Jul	Atlantic Ocean, Nantucket, MA	Ad	S47555678
4-28 Aug	Bay of Fundy, Digby, NS	Ad	S47674128
7 Aug	Menemsha Harbor, Dukes, MA	Juv	S47713131
14 Aug	Atlantic Ocean, Nantucket, MA	Ad	S47853933
17-20 Aug	Onota Lake, Berkshire, MA	Juv	S47898257
19 Aug	Race Point, Barnstable, MA	Juv	S47945822
27 Aug	Atlantic Ocean, Ocean, NJ	Ad	S48294755
2 Sep	Andrew's Point, Essex, MA	Ad	S48243843
7 Sep	Atlantic Ocean, Halifax, NS	Ad	S48749233
22-26 Sep	Cape Island, Cape May, NJ	Juv	S48668039
2 Oct	The Narrows, Richmond, NY	Ad	S48896928
8 Oct	Northumberland Strait, Pictou, NS	Juv	S49070371

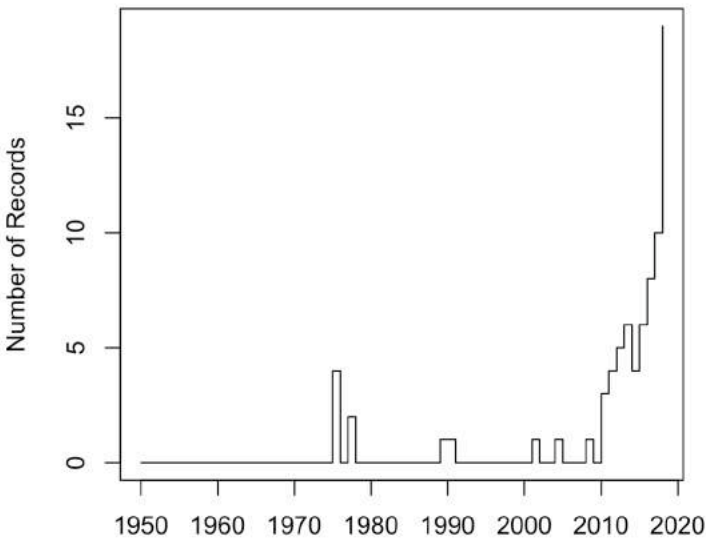


Figure 1. Records of vagrant Brown Boobies in northeastern North America 1950-2018.

twice in New Jersey (Wenzelburger 2004, Boyle 2011, Hanson *et al.* 2017), with possible sightings in Rhode Island (Nisbet *et al.* 2013) and New York (Schiff and Wollin 1995). A juvenile Masked Booby would show white uppertail coverts and a white collar, both of which this bird lacked (Harrison 1983, Sibley 2014). Given how low this bird was flying along the surface of the water, I was unable to get a clear view of its underside, but the completely pale bill is indicative of the bird being in at least its second-year (Pyle 2008). The video I was able to record, while not definitive in terms of separating Brown from Masked Booby due to the picture quality, shows a dark Booby with characteristic deep wing-beats, flying (and gliding) low over the water.

In northeastern North America, records of vagrant Brown Boobies date back to at least the mid- to late-nineteenth century, with the earliest specimens being collected in 1878 in Cape Cod, Massachusetts (Veit and Petersen 1993) and sometime prior to 1893 in Moriches Bay, New York (Dutcher 1893). A review of records from northeastern North America (Atlantic Canada, New England, New York, New Jersey; Tufts 1986; Veit and Petersen 1993; Levine 1998; Boyle 2011), demonstrates sharp increases in the number of records since the later-half of the twentieth century (Nisbet *et al.* 2013; see Figure 1), and in 2018 alone there were at least 19 reports of this species in the Northeast (Table 1). Of these reports, none were storm related, which is also true for most prior regional records of this species (Veit and Petersen 1993, Boyle 2011, Nisbet *et al.* 2013).

Vagrancy is often driven by population growth in some part of a species' range (Veit 2000, 2008). Although the last breeding seabird census conducted in the Caribbean reported a decline in their population (Bradley and Norton 2009), there is a possibility that, more recently, this population of Brown Boobies has grown, or that a more distant population might be the source for recent records in the Northeast. The increasing frequency of Brown Boobies in the Northeast might be related to climate change, which has been found to affect the at-sea distribution of seabirds worldwide (Hyrenbach and Veit 2003, Péron *et al.* 2010).

The sighting described here represents the first record of Brown Booby for Richmond County and the third record overall for New York City, with the previous two being from Queens; at Riis Beach, on 29 September 1977 (Richard and Chevalier 1978), and at Fort Tilden Beach on 29 August 2014 (NYSARC 2018).

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NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

HISTORIC GOLDEN EAGLE DAY AT FRANKLIN MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH

The largest single-day flight of Golden Eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) in eastern North America, according to records of the Hawk Migration Association of North America (www.hawkcount.org), took place on 25 October 2018 at the Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch near Oneonta, NY. A total of 128 Golden Eagles was tallied by counters Peter Fauth and Becky Gretton and witnessed by numerous visitors. Many of the birds were documented in photographs by Curt Morgan.

The big day was preceded four days earlier by a flight of 41 goldens which briefly stood as the highest October count at the site. The day was also bracketed by counts of 24 on 24 Oct. and 19 on 26 Oct. Total Golden Eagles for October was 254, well above the 175 season total average in the 17 years since full-time counting began at the lookout, and even above the previous seasonal high of 252 in 2005.

This unprecedented movement of Golden Eagles in October came two weeks prior to the traditional fall migration peak in mid-November. Other eastern hawk watches known for significant Golden Eagle counts, including Hawk Mountain, Allegheny Front and Waggoner's Gap in Pennsylvania, also reported October totals considerably higher than normal.

No cause for this large, early and widespread movement is immediately apparent. A review of summer and fall 2018 weather records for October in the province of Quebec, where most eastern Golden Eagles nest, showed precipitation well below normal, with more snow cover than usual in October (www.nohrsc.noaa.gov/nsa/). However, October temperatures were normal (www.climat.meteo.gc.ca). Food supply could potentially be a factor, but no measure of this is readily available.

Golden Eagles do often move in a concentrated fashion in migration. Franklin Mountain has recorded 31 dates with counts of 20 birds or higher over the past two decades, including the previous single-day high of 71 on 11 Nov. 2005, a count of 57 on 11 Nov. 2016, and several counts in the 30s and 40s. The previous eastern North American record was 74, counted at Allegheny Front on 24 October 2015. Interestingly, the count at Allegheny was 66 Golden Eagles on the day following the record count of 128 at Franklin Mountain, following a consistent trend at the two sites.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—FALL 2018

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All across the state, it seems like almost everyone experienced a warmer than normal September and early October. Temperatures finally moved toward normal later in October and generally became downright chilly by November. The remnants of Hurricane Florence passed over central parts of the state in mid September, bringing as much as nine inches of rain to parts of Region 7. Precipitation was more of a mixed bag until November, when almost everyone received more rain or snow than is normal.

The erratic nature of the weather conditions throughout the state makes it difficult to find meaningful trends in the timing and quantities of birds moving through on fall migration. With warm temperatures extending well into the fall season, waterfowl were later to arrive on the scene, as was noted in Region 2, where waterfowl numbers were generally considered low and arrival times later than normal. The exception here is the Snow Goose, an Arctic-nesting goose, which seems to come in earlier each year. In this case, even though we know that overall Snow Goose numbers are exploding, the fall season data can make it seem as if they are in trouble. Over in Region 7, it was noted that while Snow Goose numbers typically reach 50,000 into December, this fall numbers were down to a few thousand by the end of November due to heavy snow cover. Through much of Region 5, the Snow Goose movement was “barely discernible” and in Region 6 “very few” were reported. Otherwise, waterfowl were generally characterized as being late in arriving and low in diversity and overall numbers and the cold November temperatures pushed waterfowl out of some Regions ahead of their normal departure dates.

The few highlights seemed to mostly come out of Region 2, with good counts of Ring-necked Ducks at Round Pond, Hooded Mergansers at Honeoye Lake, and Long-tailed Duck and Red-breasted Mergansers at Hamlin Beach. Waterfowl “rarities” were scattered through most of the state, with Eurasian Wigeon reported from six Regions, and Tufted Duck from three. Two Common Eiders in coastal Region 9 must be a reflection of big increases seen in Region 10. A Barnacle Goose in Region 10 is now to be expected, while a Pink-footed in Region 7 was just the third Regional record. A count of 81 Red-necked Grebes in Region 2 continues a trend of high fall counts there.

A Common Nighthawk Watch in Suffolk County in Region 10 had a peak count of 306 on 11 September. A Chuck-will’s Widow in Central Park made for a very rare fall observation. Yellow-billed Cuckoos were mentioned in several reports, both for good numbers (Region 1, ten reports) and for late dates (Region 5, 9 November and Region 8, 10 November). 540 Chimney Swifts at a school in Livingston County (Region 2) constitutes a high count, and a few lingered elsewhere in the Region through 2 November. Three in Region 1 on 12

November were likewise very late. Mild temperatures through October may have allowed these species and others to linger beyond their normal departure dates. A Rufous Hummingbird brought to rehabbers provided a third record for Region 5.

A Purple Gallinule lingered for several days in Brooklyn, Region 10, and a count of 500 Common Gallinules at Montezuma WMA in Region 2 was a great number. As noted in the summer reports, Sandhill Crane is now an established, widespread part of the state's avifauna, with records from eight of ten Regions and a max of 134 at the Savannah Mucklands in Region 3.

Shorebird diversity was generally considered to be good, but numbers were low. Jeff Bolsinger in Region 6 noted that "Shorebirds were surprisingly scarce given the seeming abundance of foraging habitat...". Low numbers were mentioned throughout—"counts were poor" (Region 2), "numbers were relatively low" (Region 3), "grasspipers' were perhaps at an all-time low" and "numbers of other sandpipers were generally very low" (Region 10). Unlike the situation with Snow Geese, where we know the overall population is booming and occasional low numbers can be written off, shorebird numbers should be of genuine concern. Good finds away from the coast included scattered Red Knots, Ruddy Turnstones and Red Phalaropes.

Virtually all the comments made about gulls mentioned disappointing numbers and diversity. Sabine's in Regions 1 and 4 were among the rarer species mentioned, the latter representing the first record in eBird for Broome County. A scattering of Little Gulls was found in several Regions, including four reports in Region 5. The other usual but uncommon species—Glaucous, Iceland and Lesser Black-backed—were also picked up in small numbers. As expected, the best mix came from Region 1, with Black-legged Kittiwake, Sabine's, Little, Franklin's and both white-winged species turning up. Robert Moses SP in Region 10 produced high counts of Lesser Black-backs, including a peak of 107 on 10 September, as local birders continue to key in on the timing and weather conditions that produce beach fallouts of this species.

Parasitic Jaegers were reported from a scattering of mostly expected locations, and in Region 10 there were three separate reports of Pomarine Jaeger on 25 September, the same stormy day that a Northern Fulmar was seen from the shore in Queens. Storm birding that day also turned up all four expected shearwater species.

Four reports of Pacific Loon from upstate locations seems remarkable, among them a bird found in Chaumont Bay (Region 6) by Nick Leone. This marks the seventh consecutive year that Nick has found one at that location! I'm very tempted to say that he has a knack for finding them, but I won't. At Hamlin Beach a good peak count of 1,977 Red-throated Loons was mentioned in contrast to a disappointing Common Loon peak of only 230.

Very rare, a Brown Booby at the Verrazano Narrows is discussed at length elsewhere in this issue (pp. 22-26). A Northern Gannet reported from Derby Hill

in Region 5 is a great bird away from the tidewater areas. Up to six were seen from Playland Park in Region 9 at the western end of the Long Island Sound.

Cattle Egrets, which at one time seemed poised to stampede across North America, have become quite scarce in recent years. This fall, however, reports were received from nine of ten Regions, perhaps a sign of a resurgence? Little Blue Herons were scattered through the upstate areas, with reports coming from Regions 2, 3, 8 and 9. Tricolored Heron has dropped off the radar over the past couple of years. The only report for the season was one late bird at Jamaica Bay on 15 November. A Least Bittern at Buck Pond in Region 2 on 21 November was a record late observation for the Region. An adult White Ibis at Tobay was a nice record for this less than annual rarity.

Probably the hawkwatch highlight of the season came from Franklin Mountain in Region 4 where 128 Golden Eagles were counted on 25 October, a one day record for eastern North America. See page 27 for a write-up of this remarkable event. Overall, the numbers of raptors recorded at that site was slightly above average. Broad-winged Hawks did well at hawk watches in Regions 4, 8 and 9, and over at Fire Island in Region 10 all species came in above their 20 year averages except Peregrine Falcon, which was slightly below. A Mississippi Kite on Staten Island was notable.

23 Northern Saw-whet Owls banded at Caroline in Region 3 on 30 October set a new Regional record, while over in Region 8 on the same night the season's high count of 12 Saw-whets was captured at the Albany Pine Bush Preserve. Hamlin College in Region 5 had their peak count of 28 birds on 26 October. See that Regional report for an interesting breakdown of sex and age data for these owls and also for a discussion of owls and hawks injured or killed by traps set out for fur-bearing mammals.

A Black-backed Woodpecker at Ferd's Bog in Region 7 was the only one reported for the state this season. Three Pileated Woodpeckers on Staten Island may represent a movement of this species into Region 10, where it has historically been very rare. Red-bellied Woodpeckers continue their expansion, with a record 288 tallied in Region 1.

A Western Kingbird in Concord provided a tenth record for Region 1. Two November empid flycatchers in Region 2 are intriguing, but could not be identified to species. Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers received positive mentions in a couple of Regions. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Region 8 became quite a celebrity by sticking around for at least 10 days, during which time it was seen by many birders and non-birders alike. Also excellent was a third Regional record for Say's Phoebe in Region 2. Region 10 racked up some great flycatcher records as well, with a handful of Western Kingbirds, Scissor-tailed Flycatchers at Montauk (possibly two separate birds) and one at Point Lookout, an Ash-throated Flycatcher at Heckscher SP and, best of all, a Gray Kingbird at Jones Beach. This last, unfortunately, turned out to be a one-hour wonder, much to the frustration of a horde of birders who rushed to the scene.

Elsewhere in Region 10, a Northern Wheatear entertained a m.ob. of birders at Heckscher SP, while a Varied Thrush was brought to rehabbers after striking a window in Manhattan. A Bohemian Waxwing on the north shore of Suffolk County was a great find.

The extended warm period seems to have had its effect on a wide range of passerines, with many reports of warblers, vireos, flycatchers, thrushes, sparrows, etc. lingering well beyond their normal departure dates. Just as a sample, in Region 1, Red-eyed Vireos and Baltimore Orioles lingered into November, a Hooded Warbler was photographed 17 and 18 November, and a Yellow Warbler stayed around until 18 November. In Region 2, a Warbling Vireo was quite late 24 October, but while there was a nice sampling of late-lingering birds, overall numbers were thought to be down. In Region 3, November warblers included Northern Parula and Blackpoll, and in Region 5, a Blackpoll was found on 15 November, a record late date. Also in Region 5, a House Wren found on 9 November was reportedly only the fourth Nov/Dec upstate record for the species. In Region 6, late lingering songbirds included Nashville and Hooded Warbler. 39 Philadelphia Vireos for Region 6 was twice the previous seasonal high count. Still in Region 6, Orange-crowned Warblers not only stayed beyond their normal departure times, but also passed through in much larger numbers than is normal. 28 reports was said to be more than double the normal tally. Orange-crowned numbers were also up in Regions 5 and 9. In Region 10, many warbler species lingered beyond their normal departure dates, including 11 species still present in November. An Audubon's Yellow-rumped Warbler was photographed in Region 5.

The widely anticipated winter finch flight sort of materialized with Pine Siskin occurring in decent numbers over large parts of the state. There were widespread reports of Evening Grosbeak, with a high count of 68 coming from Summerhill in Region 3. Elsewhere they were present in low numbers, but that's still enough to send birders scrambling for a glimpse after many years of near absence. Red Crossbills and Common Redpolls were found in many areas, but almost always in small scattered groups. Pine Grosbeaks were found in generally low numbers in Regions 1, 2 and 6. Purple Finches staged a major irruption in Region 10, with a peak count of 2,216 on 30 October at Robert Moses SP. Dickcissels were found in at least five Regions, with six reports from Region 9. Rare sparrows included a Nelson's in Region 2 and another at Fort Drum in Region 6, a LeConte's in Region 8 and a Harris's in Central Park, Region 10.

I think it's safe to say that for many birders, fall migration brings the excitement of numbers swelled by the season's hatchlings and the promise of unexpected rarities waiting to be discovered. In searching for a Bird of the Season, I'm struck by the fact that we're a little lean on true rarities this season. Probably the best birds were either one-time sightings, like the LeConte's Sparrow in Region 8, or, like the Gray Kingbird in Region 10, disappeared before they could be admired by more than a handful of lucky observers. I kind

of like the idea of a bird like the Region 8 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, a bird that had the decency to stick around for more than 10 days—and this being a species notorious for being a one-day wonder. So, this Scissor-tail is my BOTS. Please read Larry Alden’s account in Region 8 about how he was lucky to get a second shot at this bird, and then how it showed well for birder and non-birder alike. Larry talks about this “teachable moment”, and I think that really elevates the value of this bird. Also, I hope this Scissor-tail can teach proper bird etiquette to any Gray Kingbird it may meet in the future. Thank you and good birding!

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REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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September 2018 was warm and closed out the warmest 5-month stretch ever recorded in Buffalo. The average temperature was 67.2°F, 5.0° above normal, and the monthly precipitation at Buffalo-Niagara International Airport was 3.58", 0.32" below normal. The first 10 days of October were warm, while the remainder was cool and damp. Fall foliage was delayed by several weeks following the warm summer. The average temperature was 50.5°, 0.3° below normal, and the monthly precipitation was 4.23", 0.71" above normal. One tenth of an inch of snow fell on the 20th, which seemed early for recent years but was still 0.8" below the long term monthly average. November was cold and dreary. The average temperature was 35.5°, 5.2° below normal, which was the eleventh coolest November on record. The monthly precipitation was 4.90", 0.89" above normal, and 13.4" of snow fell, 5.5" above normal. Notable weather events included strong gusty winds on the 6th and a brief arctic air mass around Thanksgiving. Weather information was obtained from National Weather Service monthly summaries for the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport.

The highlight from the fall waterfowl season was clearly the Region’s third **Tufted Duck** record. Sue Barth found a female among scaup on the Buffalo waterfront at LaSalle Park on 18 November. The duck was regular but never a ‘sure thing’ at this location into early December. It’s notable that all Regional sightings have been of immatures or females and all since 2013.

An early **Greater White-fronted Goose** was found on 19 September, and there were several other fall reports consistent with recent years. There were a few **Brant** reports away from Lake Ontario, including one that stayed at Black Rock Canal Park and four at Times Beach Nature Preserve that allowed easy sightings for many birders. There were also the more usual sightings along Lake Ontario. A **Eurasian Wigeon** was documented among many American Wigeon on 21 October at Iroquois NWR by Celeste Morien. Fall reports of Eurasian

Wigeon have been rare even as spring reports are on an increasing trend. **Harlequin Ducks** returned again to the rapids above Niagara Falls, where regular in recent years. Thirty **Black Scoters** at Dunkirk Harbor on 5 October are notable for number, location, and for being on the early side. An **Eared Grebe** was found at Batavia WWTP in October, keeping the annual trend alive for occurrence at this location back into the 1990s.

I'm often skeptical of 'heard only' cuckoo reports in the fall, as I know some birders mistake chipmunk calls for them, but they do occur into October. This season provided a surprising ten reports of **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (plus one **Black-billed Cuckoo**) in September and October, including some with photographs. Whether this is an anomaly related to the warm weather and/or related to increased presence is uncertain. There were three Chimney Swifts identified at Batavia WWTP on 12 November, marking a late record for this species. Again, we have to wonder if the warm summer and early fall had something to do with it.

Alec Humann identified the fall season's lone **Upland Sandpiper** by its call at night as it flew over Buffalo on 6 September. The Buffalo Waterfront hosted a **Whimbrel**, one or two **Red Knots**, and one or more **Willetts** in September. Four Willetts were also found at Dunkirk Harbor on 1 September. A smattering of **Baird's Sandpiper** and **White-rumped Sandpiper** reports occurred in the fall season as usual.

Perhaps the most notable item with gulls this season was the relatively low number of both small and large gulls on the Niagara River compared to usual seasons. The maximum Bonaparte's Gull count was only 750, while the usual large influx of Herring Gull and other large gull species didn't occur in November. There were late arrivals and low report numbers for Iceland and Glaucous Gulls. A few sightings of some uncommon but regular fall species kept things interesting. There were one to three **Black-legged Kittiwakes** on the Niagara River and one **Sabine's Gull** report at Buffalo. One to two Little Gulls were found at Batavia WWTP in late October, an unusual location. **Franklin's Gulls** were found on consecutive days in Somerset and at Woodlawn Beach SP. The last Common Tern report was 19 November, and there were four **Forster's Tern** reports this season. **Parasitic Jaegers** were reported on five occasions from Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.

Four reports of **Cattle Egret** were good and consistent in the window of mid-October to early November. There were up to five **Black Vultures** in Lewiston this season and two reports of two in nearby Lockport. Rough-legged Hawk was scarce this fall.

An early **Snowy Owl** was sighted in Wilson on 21 October. The only other reports were of one at Lakeside Beach SP and up to three throughout November on the Buffalo Waterfront. **Long-eared Owls** were found in Colden and Porter, while **Short-eared Owls** were found at three locations. **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were identified in three locations, including the Erie Basin Marina in Buffalo where Shelley Seidman watched a Cooper's Hawk take one as prey.

Josh Ketry found a **Western Kingbird** in the Town of Concord on 17 October. It stuck around for another week allowing many birders to get a look at our tenth Regional record of this species. A **Least Flycatcher** was documented at Times Beach NP until the slightly late date of 4 October. September reports included four of **Olive-sided Flycatcher** and seven of **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**. Two Red-eyed Vireo sightings in early November were late. Northern Rough-winged Swallows were present in good numbers at Niagara Falls SP and held on until the third week of November.

Evening Grosbeaks made their best showing in the last ten or so years, delighting those whose feeders were visited. It was apparent that the grosbeaks were not sticking around for long, as the feeder visits were a few days at most. Single **Pine Grosbeaks** were found in late November near the Lake Ontario shoreline for the first Regional records since 2013. David Crowe photographed a **Red Crossbill** at Hanging Bog WMA on 19 October, also marking our first record since 2013. There were seven reports of **Common Redpolls**, and **Pine Siskins** were fairly regular but not in huge numbers this fall. American Goldfinches were also on the move, with migration flights noted along Lake Ontario in late October and early November.

Clay-colored Sparrow was found at Olcott into September, while Sue Barth photographed a migrant at Times Beach NP. Two **Grasshopper Sparrow** reports were more than usual for this species in fall. There were two **Baltimore Oriole** reports beyond the normal September departures, including feeder visitors in Hamburg in October and Orchard Park in November.

The warm weather and delayed fall foliage may have had something to do with some later warbler reports than normal. The season's only **Golden-winged Warbler** was late at 29 September. A **Connecticut Warbler** was found by Gale VerHague at Canadaway Creek WMA on the late side at 13 October. Most remarkable was a female **Hooded Warbler** photographed by Wendy Bale in her Kiantone yard on 17 and 18 November, our latest record. There were several **Yellow Warbler** reports later than typical, including one that lingered at Times Beach NP until 18 November.

The 83rd BOS October Count was held on the 13th and compiled by Marcie Jacklin. A total of 190 birders contributed to recording 157 species. Record high counts included two Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 22 Sandhill Crane, 928 Turkey Vulture, 32 Cooper's Hawk, 288 Red-bellied Woodpecker (up from last year's record of 256), and 245 Northern Rough-winged Swallow. American Black Duck had a record low of 34 (down from last year's record low of 43), and Ring-necked Pheasant had a record low of four.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AISP – Allegany SP, CATT; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BOSOC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society 13 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; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **HBWMA** – Hanging Bog WMA, ALLE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **JAS** – Jamestown Audubon Society, CHAU; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **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; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods NP, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach NP, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tiftt NP** – Tiftt Nature Preserve, Buffalo, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WoBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WATERFOWL - HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr INWR 29 Sep; 5 BOSOC; max 5 Alfred ALLE 19 Nov; six other reports 1-2 each.

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr Wilson NIAG 19 Sep (WD!), early; 3, 3 INWR 6, 10 Oct; max 3, 4 Oakfield GENE 21-23, 30 Oct. **Brant:** arr 1, 8 Buffalo NR 28 Sep-2 Oct, 20 Oct; 4 TBNP 14-23 Oct; DH 19 Oct; 3 PB 20 Oct; 5 GHSP 27 Oct; max 50 LBSP 26 Oct; 18 Somerset NIAG 28 Oct.

Cackling Goose: arr BufH 27-30 Sep; 3 Middleport NIAG 6 Oct; max Oakfield GENE 21 Oct; 10 Lyndonville NIAG 25 Oct; BWWTP 6 Nov; Cuba L ALLE 8, 12 Nov; GHSP 24 Nov.

Mute Swan: 7 WTSP 20 Oct; DH 2 Oct-19 Nov; max 8 FNSP 11 Nov; Cassadaga CHAU 25 Nov.

Trumpeter Swan: 6-9 INWR 3-27 Oct, cont from summer.

Tundra Swan: arr 2 TWMA 24 Oct; max 320 NFSP 23 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 222 TWMA 11 Sep; 108 BWWTP 11 Sep.

Blue-winged Teal: max 15 INWR 6 Oct; last OOWMA 3 Nov.

N. Shoveler: max 202, 221 BWWTP 6, 23 Oct.

Gadwall: max 75 Tiftt NP 18 Oct.

EURASIAN WIGEON (R1): INWR 21 Oct (CM ph), rarely reported in fall.

Am. Wigeon: max 200, 250 INWR 10, 21 Oct.

Am. Black Duck: 34 BOSOC, record low for 2nd straight year; max 22 Wilson NIAG 17 Oct.

N. Pintail: max 253 INWR 19 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 240 INWR 21 Oct.

Canvasback: arr 3 BOSOC; max 7200 NFSP 23 Nov (CW, JBa).

Redhead: max 376, 1200 Ellery ChauL 25 Oct, 18 Nov (WS); 300 Buffalo NR 30 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 4 Buffalo ERIE 30 Sep; max 220 INWR 6 Oct.

TUFTED DUCK: f BufH 18-30 Nov (SBA! mob); third Reg record.

Greater Scaup: arr Buffalo NR 3 Sep; max 500 NF 20 Oct.

Lesser Scaup: arr DH 29 Sep; max 1000 Ellery ChauL 25 Oct (WS).

Harlequin Duck: arr 3 NFSP 4, 25 Nov (TK, mob); regular at this location in recent years.

Surf Scoter: arr Somerset NIAG, Olcott NIAG 29 Oct; max 31 Buffalo NR 15 Oct; 25 Wilson NIAG 17 Oct; N Harmony CHAU 13 Nov (KV); DH 19 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr 5 GHSP 27 Sep; max 532 Wilson NIAG 17 Oct; Ellery ChauL 18 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr, max 30 DH 5 Oct; 6 Buffalo NR 17 Oct; 2 LBSP 23 Oct; 5 Somerset NIAG 28 Oct; 6 BufH 3 Nov; Ellery ChauL 18 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 13 BOSOC; 300 BufH 23 Oct; Olean CATT (KH), unusual loc; max 325 Lewiston NR 23 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr Amherst ERIE 6 Oct; max 600 BufH 26 Oct; 400 Buffalo NR 26 Oct; 115 Cuba L ALLE 11 Nov; 326 Ellery ChauL 12 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr 7 Wilson NIAG 16 Oct; max 750 NFSP 25 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: 111, 125 INWR 25 Oct, 9 Nov; max 236 Ellery ChauL 11 Nov; 115 Cuba L ALLE 11 Nov; 110 S Dayton CATT 22 Nov.

Com. Merganser: max 500 DH 5 Oct.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 405 GHSP 24 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: max 11, 494, 238 BWWT 11 Sep, 17 Oct, 1 Nov; 71 Cuba L ALLE 25 Oct; 50 S Dayton CATT 4 Nov.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 30 INWR.

Horned Grebe: arr BuSP 19 Sep; max 100, 161 WoBSP 25, 26 Oct; 46 LBSP 26 Oct; 26 DH 19 Nov; 26 BufH 30 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: arr 3, 9 GHSP 3, 30 Oct; 2 Ellery ChauL 25 Oct; Cuba L ALLE 30 Oct; 1, 2 DH 11, 19 Nov; Buffalo NR 17 Nov; 6 LBSP 20 Nov; Grand I NR ERIE 22 Nov; max 13 GHSP 24 Nov; BufH 24, 30 Nov.

Eared Grebe: BWWT 5-21 Oct (KG); regular at this location.

Mourning Dove: 253 TWMA 11 Sep (WD, CM), high count.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: ten Sep & Oct rpts, more than usual; last NFSP 16 Oct.

Black-billed Cuckoo: last Arkwright CHAU 23 Sep (GV).

Com. Nighthawk: max 11 TWMA 11 Sep; last 4 OOWMA 25 Sep.

Chimney Swift: 19, 2 Yates ORLE 22, 25 Oct (WD); 5 INWR 25 Oct (PH); last 3 BWWT 12 Nov (WT, DM, JP); later reports than usual.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Grand I ERIE 11 Oct.

RAILS - LARIDS

Virginia Rail: last INWR 6 Oct.

Sora: 2 JAS 12 Sep; last 2 BWWT 6 Oct.

Com. Gallinule: max 19, last 1 INWR 15 Sep, 20 Oct.

Am. Coot: max 155, 251 Celoron ChauL 5, 30 Oct; 53 INWR 24 Oct; 127 N Harmony ChauL 1 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: 2 OOWMA 2 Sep; INWR 14 Sep; Ellery CHAU 5 Oct (JBe); max 6, 9 INWR 13, 18 Oct; 2 TWMA 25 Oct.

Black-bellied Plover: max 4 Wilson NIAG 15 Oct; last 2 Celoron ChauL 17 Oct.

Am. Golden-Plover: max 8 Basom GENE 4 Sep; last 2 Wilson NIAG 15 Oct.

Semipalmated Plover: max 16 TWMA 28 Sep; last BWWT 22 Oct.

Killdeer: max 134 Oakfield GENE 2 Sep.

Upland Sandpiper: last Buffalo ERIE 6 Sep (AH), nocturnal flight call.

Whimbrel: BufH 3 Sep (JK, SSi), only report.

Ruddy Turnstone: 2 Buffalo NR 1 Sep; max 3, 8 BufH 6, 16 Sep (AH).

Red Knot: Buffalo NR 1-3 Sep (AH); BufH 18 Sep (JK); only reports.

Sanderling: max 15, last 2 BufH 16 Sep, 4 Nov.

Dunlin: max 55 John White WMA GENE 23 Oct; last NFSP 25 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: max 4 INWR 2 Sep; Somerset NIAG 10 Sep; Buffalo NR 10 Sep; only reports.

Least Sandpiper: max 25 TWMA 28 Sep; last 2 INWR 18 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Wilson NIAG 16 Sep; INWR 30 Sep; TWMA 18 Oct; max 3 Oakfield GENE 21 Oct; last Lockport NIAG 24, 26 Oct.

Pectoral Sandpiper: 16 INWR 2 Sep; max 60 TWMA 18 Oct; last Newstead ERIE 1 Nov (JM).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 17 BufH 16 Sep; last BWWT 27 Oct.

Dowitcher species: 4 TWMA 2 Sep, only dowitcher report.

Wilson's Snipe: max 33 Amherst ERIE 18 Oct, 21, last 1 Lockport NIAG 18 Oct, 4 Nov.

Spotted Sandpiper: last Buffalo ERIE 25 Oct.

Solitary Sandpiper: last INWR 11 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 30 INWR 2 Sep; last Cuba L ALLE 12 Nov.

Willet: max 4 DH 1 Sep; 1, 1, 1 BufH 6, 7, 14 Sep.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 22 TWMA 28 Sep; last Cuba L ALLE 15 Nov.

Parasitic Jaeger: arr GHSP 27 Sep (WD); Wilson NIAG 17 Oct (WD); LBSP 26 Oct (CM); Hamburg ERIE 3 Nov (JM); BufH 7 Nov (KR).

Black-legged Kittiwake: arr 1, 1, 1 Buffalo NR 29, 31 Oct, 23 Nov; only reports.

Sabine's Gull: Buffalo NR 31 Oct (KR, TM), only report.

Bonaparte's Gull: 750 Buffalo NR 15 Oct; max 1000 Hanover CHAU 26 Oct; 500 NPP 11 Nov; 600 Lewiston NR 22 Nov; relatively low numbers on NR for season.

Little Gull: 2-3 Buffalo NR 13 Oct-28 Nov; 1-2 BWWT 21 Oct-1 Nov (DB, CR, MT, mob), unusual location; Wilson NIAG 23 Oct; max 6 BufH 10 Nov (JM); Ellery ChauL 12 Nov (WS), unusual location; 1, 1 Lewiston NR 12, 29 Nov.

Franklin's Gull: Somerset NIAG 22 Oct (WD); WoBSP 23-25 Oct (SBa); only reports.

Iceland Gull: arr GHSP 23 Nov, late arrival.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 4, 7 NFSP 17 Sep, 23 Nov; 1, 2 WoBSP 18 & 30 Sep, 5 Oct; 4, 2 Cuba L ALLE 4 Oct, 10 & 30 Nov; Celoron ChauL 29 Nov (KV).

Glaucous Gull: arr Buffalo NR 11 Nov; NFSP 29 Nov; only reports.

Caspian Tern: max 27 DH 11 Sep; last 2 BWWT 14 Oct.

Com. Tern: max 70 DH 11 Sep, 70, 40 Grand Island NR 16 Oct, 2 Nov; 31 Buffalo NR 27 Oct; last 2 BufH 19 Nov.

Forster's Tern: max 2 Hamburg ERIE 13 Sep; BufH 13 Sep; DH 29 Sep; INWR 18 Oct.

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: arr GHSP 12 Oct; Buffalo NR 21 Oct; max 33 GHSP 24 Nov; BufH 30 Nov.

Com. Loon: Buffalo NR 8 Sep; 25 GHSP 25 Sep; max 51 Wilson NIAG 24 Oct; 23 PG 12 Nov.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 1200, 1527 BufH 16 Sep, 20 Oct.

Am. Bittern: last 3 INWR 6 Oct.

Least Bittern: 1-3 TBNP 2-14 Sep (SSi); 3 INWR 2 Sep (AG); last OOWMA 18 Oct (MR).

Great Egret: max 421 TWMA 15 Sep (CM); last INWR 9 Nov.

Cattle Egret: INWR 10 Oct (CM); Busti CHAU 22, 28 Oct (TL, JBe); BufH 2 Nov (DM; MK); DH 2 Nov (GV); continues trend of good showing in recent years.

Green Heron: last BOSOC.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Buffalo NR 2 Nov; BufH 18, 19 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.

Black Vulture: 3, 5 Lewiston NIAG 9 Sep, 29 Nov, regular at location; 2 Lockport NIAG 18, 22 Oct (J&AS, MG).

Osprey: last Orchard Park ERIE 3 Nov (CB).

Bald Eagle: widespread reports; 43 BOSOC.

Broad-winged Hawk: Arkwright CHAU 23 Sep; Fredonia CHAU 9 Oct; last BOSOC.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr INWR 17 Oct; few reports.

Snowy Owl: arr Wilson NIAG 21 Oct (MF), early; LBSP 2 Nov; 1-3 BufH 3-30 Nov.

Barred Owl: Tift NP 25 Oct (DS), unusual loc.

Long-eared Owl: Colden ERIE 18 Sep (SH); Porter NIAG 25 Nov (PY); only reports.

Short-eared Owl: arr GHSP 30 Oct; Dunkirk Airport CHAU 29 Nov; max 2 Shelby ORLE 29 Nov; only reports.

N. Saw-whet Owl: 1, 2 banded Wethersfield WYOM 4, 13 Oct (DJ); BufH 22 Oct (SSi), taken by Cooper's Hawk; Alden ERIE 9 Nov (JM).

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 5 FNFP 20 Sep; 4 EvSP 8 Oct; Sheridan CHAU 12 Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last RWNP 17 Sep.

Myiarchus flycatcher: Carlton Hill MUA WYOM BOSOC; likely late Great Crested but could not rule out Ash-throated based on description.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: HBWMA 5 Sep; last Arkwright CHAU, FLC, GHSP 8 Sep.

E. Wood-Pewee: last 2 BOSOC.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last Alma ALLE 15 Sep; 6 other reports; good showing.

Least Flycatcher: last TBNP 1-4 Oct (SBa), late.

E. Phoebe: last AmSP 19 Nov.

WESTERN KINGBIRD: Concord ERIE 17-24 Oct (JK, mob), 10th Reg record.

E. Kingbird: last Grand Island ERIE 16 Sep.

N. Shrike: arr Somerset NIAG 22 Oct.

Yellow-throated Vireo: last HBWMA ALLE 23 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: last Unity I ERIE & Carlton ORLE 26 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: last BuSP 27 Sep.
Philadelphia Vireo: last WoBSP BOSOC (SBa ph).
Red-eyed Vireo: Wilson NIAG 4 Nov (MM); Wales ERIE 9 Nov (CC, ph); late.
Com. Raven: becoming more regular throughout Reg.
Horned Lark: max 164 Wellsville ALLE 22 Nov.
Purple Martin: last 2 Chautauqua CHAU 2 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 180 INWR 6 Oct; last 3, 2 BWWT 12, 20 Nov.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 400, 350, last 5 NFSP 22 Sep, 24 Oct, 18 Nov.
Bank Swallow: last 5 WoBSP 10 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: last WoBSP 10 Sep.
Barn Swallow: max 80 BWWT 11 Sep; last 2 Shelby ORLE 9 Oct.
House Wren: last TBNP 22 Oct.
Winter Wren: arr AmSP 20 Sep.
Marsh Wren: OOWMA 3 Nov; Tonawanda ERIE 18 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last TBNP 15 Sep.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr AmSP 12 Sep.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr AmSP & Orchard Park ERIE 9 Sep.
Veery: last AmSP 25 Sep.
Gray-checked Thrush: max 12 AISP 5 Oct (SM, PL), nocturnal flight calls; last 2 LBSP 14 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: last Arkwright CHAU 23 Oct.
Wood Thrush: last Tiff NP 27 Sep.
Brown Thrasher: last BufH 20 Oct.
Gray Catbird: BWWT 12 Nov; RWNP 19 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.
Am. Pipit: arr Grand Island ERIE 24 Sep; max 35 Sheridan CHAU 7 Oct; max 35 Cuba L ALLE 13 Nov.
Evening Grosbeak: arr Somerset NIAG 30 Oct; WTSP 31 Oct; 6 Attica WYOM 3 Nov; 7 Orchard Park ERIE 11 Nov; max 11 Alfred ALLE 18 Nov; 5 Caneadea ALLE 22 Nov; 10 Chestnut Ridge P ERIE 25 Nov; 1-4 at 10 other locs in Nov.
Pine Grosbeak: arr Wilson NIAG 23 Nov (WD); Olcott NIAG 29 Nov (WD, BP); first reports since 2013.
Purple Finch: max 16 Wellsville ALLE 21 Oct.

Com. Redpoll: arr 4 LBSP 30 Oct; max 11 WTSP 31 Oct; five Nov reports.
Red Crossbill: HBWMA 19 Oct (DC ph), first report since 2013.
Pine Siskin: Lakewood CHAU 14 Sep (TS); Wilson NIAG 16 Sep (BP); max 25 Cattaraugus CATT 3 Nov; fairly regular in Oct, Nov.
Am. Goldfinch: max 126 LBSP 4 Nov.
Lapland Longspur: arr Buffalo NR 19 Oct; Lockport NIAG 26 Oct; 3 Attica WYOM 29 Oct; 1, 3 Sheridan CHAU 2, 21 Nov; 2, 1 Java WYOM 17, 18 Nov.
Snow Bunting: arr 12 Yates ORLE 20 Oct; max 35 Attica WYOM 23 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr 3 Ellery CHAU 19 Oct.
Chipping Sparrow: 3 loc Nov.
Clay-colored Sparrow: 2 Olcott NIAG 11 Sep (WD, BP), continued from summer, breeding location; TBNP 24 Sep (SBa ph).
Field Sparrow: TBNP 5 Nov, only report beyond Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: BufH 21 Oct; 2 BWWT 21 Oct (DB); only reports.
Grasshopper Sparrow: INWR 14 Sep (CM); last Newfane NIAG 8 Oct (JS); not often reported in fall.
Fox Sparrow: arr 2 BOSOC; max 6 INWR 21 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr GHSP 2 Sep; last Arkwright CHAU 23 Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: arr INWR 7 Sep.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr HBWMA 28 Sep.
Bobolink: max 36 INWR 2 Sep; last 2 Sherman CHAU 3 Sep.
Baltimore Oriole: Hamburg ERIE 26 Oct (JV); Orchard Park ERIE 17, 18 Nov (R&LM, RF ph); late, feeder visitors.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 6000 OOWMA 1 Nov (MW).
Rusty Blackbird: arr 2 TBNP & Tiff NP 23 Sep; max 35 TWMA 30 Oct.
Com. Grackle: max 9000 OOWMA 1 Nov (MW).
Ovenbird: last TBNP 3 Oct.
N. Waterthrush: last Leon CATT 14 Oct.
Golden-winged Warbler: BuSP 29 Sep (AH), late, only report.
Blue-winged Warbler: last HBWMA 17 Sep.
“Brewster’s” Warbler: GHSP 2 Sep (BP, WD), rarely reported in fall.

Black-and-white Warbler: last Bond Lake CP NIAG 2 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: last Buffalo ERIE 25 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr BWWT 18 Sep; last AmSP 26 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: max 9 BuSP 11 Sep; last AmSP 26 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU BOSOC (GV); on the late side.
Mourning Warbler: four Sep reports.
Com. Yellowthroat: last Carlton ORLE 26 Oct.
Hooded Warbler: Kiantone CHAU 17, 18 Nov (WB ph), record late.
Am. Redstart: last WoSP 25 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: last 4 BOSOC.
N. Parula: last TBNP 5 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: last Tift NP 18 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: last BeSP 17 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last TBNP 3 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: Tift NP 27 Sep; 3 DH 30 Sep (GV); last TBNP 2, 3 Oct, 18 Nov (SBa ph), late.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last AmSP 30 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: last NFSP 24 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Amherst ERIE 21 Oct.
Palm Warbler: arr BWWT 4 Sep; last WoBSP 28 Oct.
Pine Warbler: last Forestville CHAU 1 Nov (GV), only report beyond Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 11, 6 BuSP 12, 28 Nov; GHSP 23 Nov; Grand Island ERIE 29 Nov.
Prairie Warbler: last Alfred ALLE 9 Sep (FB), banded.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last 3 BOSOC.
Canada Warbler: last TBNP 14 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last Lewiston NIAG 21 Oct (WD ph), late.
Scarlet Tanager: last TBNP 3 Oct.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Orchard Park ERIE 25 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: GHSP 18 Sep; last TBNP 16 Oct.

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REGION 2—GENESEE

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Another warm and pleasant fall through October, then the other shoe dropped. September was warm, with temperatures above average on 22 days and the average 67.7°F, 5.9° above normal. There were two records hit, with a high minimum of 73° on the 2nd a tie with the old record, and 92° on the 21st both a record high and the 22nd 90°+ day for the year. Precipitation at 2.81" was 0.57" below average. October extended the warmth another 10 days, then turned cold and damp. Temperatures averaged 50.9°, 0.3° above normal. The period from the 8th-10th saw three days in a row above 80°, with record highs set on the 9th and 10th and the 72° on the 9th an all-time high for October. Two to three inches of rain fell in the first 10 days followed by cold, gray skies and much light rain and drizzle for the rest of the month; the official total was 3.38", 1.11" above normal. The first snow fell right on normal on the 18th, but only 0.1". The first freeze occurred on 30 October. November gave us a taste of a good, old-fashioned early winter month—mostly cool, cloudy, and damp. Temperatures averaged 36.4°, 4.1° below normal. A drop to 7° on Thanksgiving on the 22nd was the coldest on record for that holiday, and a drop to 4° the next morning was

the coldest ever for that early in the season. Precipitation totaled 4.54", 1.60" above normal, with snowfall 17.4", 10.1" above normal. The cold and snow resulted in many ponds and bays freezing and pushing out many of the waterfowl.

Generally this season, we saw a continuation of recent trends—warmth extending later, leaves coloring and falling later, waterfowl slow to arrive and in generally lower numbers, and reduced banding numbers. However, we ended the season with a surprise taste of winter. Records submitted, now mainly through eBird, were enhanced by the NYSOA annual meeting held in Rochester on 5-7 October. The number of eBird lines of data for that month increased to about 30,786, 50% above the number for October 2017, while September and November downloads were more typical at 23,432 and 20,781, respectively. Species counts for the months were all well above their 10-year averages: September – 221 vs. 215.8, October – 214 vs. 203.0, a new record high, and November – 160 vs. 151.8. Interestingly, few rarities were located this fall and many of those noted are fairly regular now, just scarce enough to warrant noting.

And now on to working through the new checklist order for a second time; still starts with the Waterfowl. Essentially all expected waterfowl species were at least reported in each month. However, waterfowl continued their clear trends to generally later fall arrivals and lower peak counts. The best early peak counts for puddle ducks came from the Van Dyne Spoor area of the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) in southern Wayne County. The best counts were for American Wigeon, Mallard, Northern Pintail, and Green-winged Teal in October. Also in October, there was a nice gathering of waterfowl on Round Pond in the Town of Greece, with a male Eurasian Wigeon present from 1 October-5 November. This collection also included some diving ducks, with 275 Ring-necked Ducks on 23 October a good count for there. Otherwise, diving ducks were typically noted in low peak counts, with the best passing the Hamlin Beach State Park lakewatch, many on 11 November: Long-tailed Duck – 3,730, Red-breasted Merganser – 6,245, and Horned Grebe – 178. Bill Howe also noted a good flock of 348 Hooded Mergansers on Honeoye Lake on 18 November. A Red-necked Grebe count of 81 on 21 November would have been good historically, but recently fall peak counts have jumped dramatically, as will be seen for December. Snow Goose, Brant, and Cackling Goose each continued their trend to early arrival in later September, and Greater White-fronted Goose was located by Rick Stevens at two locations in Wyoming County in early November. Both King Eider and Harlequin Duck were reported in November.

In the new checklist order, we next arrive at the goatsuckers, with no really good counts for Common Nighthawk but a 9 October departure. Once again, Chimney Swifts massed at the York Central School in Greiggsville, Livingston County, with Jim Kimball noting a peak of 540 there on 4 October. Chimney Swifts continued on for a new record late date on 22 October by Bill Howe in the Town of Canadice, Ontario County, quickly surpassed by even later records

from Durand-Eastman Park in Rochester on 30 October (Sheryl Gracewski and Mike Gullo) and 2 November (Dick Horsey). Ruby-throated Hummingbird made it to 6 October, but an intriguing, unidentified hummingbird was seen on 20 October in the Town of Conesus, Livingston County by Lynne Parsons. Touching on the rails and relatives, notable are: up to 500 Common Gallinules still being counted in the Van Dyne Spoor area to 22 September, with 321 American Coot reported there on 9 October, and Sandhill Cranes at several areas through season's end, with a maximum of 59 along Armitage Road in the NMWMA on 2 November.

This fall, shorebird diversity was reasonably good through the season, though counts were poor. An example is the high count of only 26 for American Golden-Plover. There was a decent count of 155 Dunlin in October and 76 into November, but these are still poor by historical standards. There were no other counts of note. Interesting reports included: Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, and Buff-breasted Sandpiper in September; Red Phalarope early on 9-12 September and then again on 23 October; and Wilson's Phalarope to a record late 11 October at the south end of Irondequoit Bay. Shorebird departures were at typical dates, with 10 species present into November, though surprisingly neither Black-bellied Plover nor American Golden-Plover made it past late October. The Larids too provided little of great note. It was a decent fall for jaegers, though only Parasitic Jaeger (16 reports) was identified to species, with eight other reports of jaeger species. Three Parasitic Jaegers were noted passing the lakewatch on three different dates. A lone immature Black-legged Kittiwake was spotted on 10 November. Passing Bonaparte's Gulls were low in number, but there were some good congregations on mudflats at Northrup Creek, Salmon Creek, and at Irondequoit Bay south. Among the rarer gulls, adult Little Gulls were noted passing the Hamlin Beach lakewatch, at Northrup Creek, at Buck Pond in Greece, and at the south end of Irondequoit Bay, with the total approximately eight. An immature Laughing Gull was found at Hamlin Beach on 24 September and seen by five observers. Lesser Black-backed Gull numbers were typical of recent years, with 7, 4, and 12 for the respective months of the season. Both Iceland and Glaucous Gulls arrived at typical mid-November dates. Tern numbers and departure dates were also typical. As usual, details for these regular occurrences will be noted in the species section.

In the new order, we now move to loons, where a good count of 1,977 Red-throated Loons was tallied at Hamlin Beach on 11 November, as usual later than the peak Common Loon maximum on 20 October, though that latter count was a relatively poor 230. Also on 11 November, the group of Jessie Barry, Andy Guthrie, and Chris Wood spotted a rare **Pacific Loon** off the Hamlin Beach lakewatch. Good counts of Double-crested Cormorant were also noted passing the lakewatch, with 1,110 on 15 September and 1,065 on 13 October, but there were also 2,200 off Slater Creek in Greece on 23 October. Among the herons, Mitchell Barry found a record late Least Bittern at Buck Pond, Greece on 21 November, subsequently seen by other family members. A Great Egret

showed up late at Round Pond, Greece from 17-20 November. An immature Little Blue Heron was found at the south end of Irondequoit Bay by Peggy Mabb on 13 September and stayed until the 18th to be seen by many. Again, Cattle Egrets made an early November appearance, with birds seen at the Armitage Road area of the NMWMA on 2 November, Pocock Road, Town of Bergen on 3 November, and in the Town of Williamson, Wayne County on 13 November.

Among the raptors, there were singles of Black Vulture reported on 30 September in Caledonia and 25 October in Victor; an Osprey to the late date of 9 November; good numbers of Bald Eagles; three reports of Northern Goshawk; a very early Rough-legged Hawk on 28 September, with the next on 20 October, and only a few more in November; and a rare, fall Golden Eagle seen by Dave Odell at his B & B, the old Duck Inn, near the NMWMA on 8 October. Snowy Owl arrived at Sodus Point on 28 October, but there were only two more locations with later reports, Braddock Bay on 3-6 November and north of Batavia on 29-30 November. Short-eared Owl was first reported on 8 November, but by 20 November, the first DEC owl survey tallied 20 birds. Typically there are few fall N. Saw-whet Owl reports for this Region, so two in September and a banded bird at Braddock Bay on 10 October were good. We have had serious fall banding efforts on occasion with many more than these numbers banded.

Finally, the passerine story also continues with recent trends influenced by weather and bird population trends. In both September and October, essentially all expected passerine species were recorded. A very few that might have seemed missing for October, on checking, were seen to only occasionally persist into that month. There were very few good counts for any species this season. There were a good number of late individuals into November, with Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Wood Thrush, Fox Sparrow, and Pine Warbler interesting. Record late species included a Warbling Vireo in the Van Dyne Spoor area on 24 October and two *empidonax* flycatchers, one by Wade and Melissa Rowley in the Van Dyne Spoor area on 2 November and one by Robert, Susan, and Cathy Spahn in the Yanty Creek area of Hamlin Beach SP on 12 November. Unfortunately, in neither case were photographs obtained, and identification to species was not made. Overall, there were good numbers of later species suggested by 22 species of warblers into October or later and 21 half-hardy species recorded in November. Still, new bands at BBBO were at their lowest level in the past eight years and only Eastern Phoebe, Blue-headed Vireo, and Purple Finch were banded in numbers statistically significantly above their averages for those years. Sample numbers are included in the species section. Rare passerines included: the Region's third **Say's Phoebe** found at the East Spit of Braddock Bay by Eunice Thein on 21 September and seen by many observers on that and the next day; a Cave Swallow photographed by Mike Gullo at Sodus Point on 9 November; Nelson's Sparrow at Burger Park on 14-15 October found by Mike Gullo and Pat Martin and seen by at least 11 others;

and a Dickcissel heard by Andy Guthrie near his home in the Town of Hamlin on 15 September.

Looking to some of the possible late fall-early winter irruptive species, we see decent numbers of Northern Shrike beginning on 3 October; a little burst of Red-breasted Nuthatches in September but not persisting; several Bohemian Waxwing reports in November; and then a tantalizing start to the winter finches. Evening Grosbeak arrived on 26 October and then was seen off and on through November in small numbers, never persisting long in one location but totaling about 67 individuals, the best showing in many years. A female Pine Grosbeak spent much of the period 24-30 November in the orchard area of Durand-Eastman Park, with birders searching for it also reporting both crossbills. Common Redpoll was also hit and miss, but a high count was a flock of 140. We could hope for more to come next season!

In summary, an interesting season with enough to keep birders looking and many eyes still detecting nearly all the expected species. The trends to falls staying warmer later and counts of individuals for most species lower continue.

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ABBREVIATIONS

b – banded; **BB** – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; **BB-ES** – east 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; **HB-YC** – Yanty Creek trail area at east end of park; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; **IB-S** – LaSalle Landing P, South end of Irondequoit Bay; **M** – along Manitou Beach Rd NE of Lake Ontario Parkway including the BBBO banding station, MONR; **MAC** – Montezuma Audubon Center, T Savannah, WAYN; **MP** – Mendon Ponds P MONR; **NC** – Northrup Creek mudflats and marsh south of Long Pnd, Greece; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma WMA (formerly Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex), WAYN; **NMWMA (MRd)** – 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, n. border of Regions 1 & 2; **SalC** – Salmon Creek mudflats area inland from BB;

Spt – Sodus Pt, WAYN; **TCEA** – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, Avon DEC; **W** – Town of Webster, MONR; **WP** – Webster P, MONR.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr 11 Irondequoit 23 Sep, early; max 80 Honeoye Rd, T Canadice ONTA 21 Nov.

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr Burke Hill & Smith Rds WYOM 8 Nov (RSt, ph); Silver Lake- N WYOM (RSt).

Brant: arr 15 off Greece & 130 SPT 24 Sep (JiB & MG, W&MR), early; max 138 HB 21 Oct, low; last IBO 11-14 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr HB 22 Sep (AGa, *et al.*, ph), early; max 17 HB 2 Nov (AGu); 15 Jacobs Rd, H 20 Oct (AGu); ~38 ind 8 loc 4-30 Oct; ~61 ind 12 loc 2-27 Nov; good showing.

Canada Goose: max 7000 TCEA 6 Nov.

Mute Swan: max 184 IB – N 19 Nov (AGu, TH, CW).

Trumpeter Swan: max 25 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 24 Nov (JGo).

Tundra Swan: arr 16 Round Pd, G 18 Oct; max 118 CL 15 Nov (TBo).

Wood Duck: max 67 NMWMA (MRd) 1 Sep, low fall max.

Blue-winged Teal: max 50 NMWMA (VDS) 22 Sep & NMWMA (SCU) 13 Oct; last 2 SalC 25 Oct.

N. Shoveler: max 125 NMWMA (VDS) 7 Oct (LBe, RB), good count; 28 Round Pd, G 12 Nov (KGr), good count for date.

Gadwall: max 200 NMWMA (VDS) 13 Oct (STo, MKir, WVH); 194 NC 21 Nov (CW).

Eurasian Wigeon: 1 m Round Pd, G 1 Oct-5 Nov (JMi, LMa, mob).

Am. Wigeon: max 1350 NMWMA (SCU) 12 Oct (AVK); 460 Round Pd, G 3 Nov (JeB, CW); 400 Round Pnd, G 8 Oct (LBe, RB, CGi, NK); good counts.

Mallard: max 2500 NMWMA (SCU) 12 Oct (AVK).

Am. Black Duck: max 80 Eagle Cliff WAYN (MG).

N. Pintail: max 1250 NMWMA (VDS) 7 Nov (LBe, RB) HB 16 Oct, low max.

Green-winged Teal: max 800 NMWMA (SCU) 12 Oct (AVK).

dabbling ducks: 5000 NMWMA (VDS) 16 Oct (DK).

Canvasback: arr 3 HB 12 Oct.

Redhead: max 2500 CL 17 Nov (JK).

Ring-necked Duck: 275 Round Pd, G) 21 Oct (KGr); max 400 Hemlock L 29 Nov (BHo).

Greater Scaup: arr 4 HB 8 Sep; max 400 IBO 25 Nov (NK), low max.

Lesser Scaup: arr IBO 10 Sep; max 70 Sodus Bay 2 Nov, low max.

King Eider: 1 f HB 11 Nov (JeB, CW).

Harlequin Duck: arr Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 5 Nov (W&MR); 2 imm f HB21 Nov (CW).

Surf Scoter: arr HB 22 Sep; max 24 HB 13 Oct, low max.

White-winged Scoter: arr HB 5 Sep; max 481 HB 11 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr 3 SPT 1 Oct; max 7 HB 5 Nov, very low max.

Long-tailed Duck: arr HB 12 Oct; max 3730 HB 11 Nov (JeB, CW, AGu, PMar).

Bufflehead: arr 4 Groveland Hill Rd LIVI 11 Oct; 140 CL 17 Nov (JK); max 165 SPT 25 Nov (TH, CW).

Com. Goldeneye: arr HB 6 Oct; max 192 Hemlock L LIVI 29 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 348 Honeoye L ONTA 18 Nov (BHo); 214 IB – S 21 Nov (CW); good counts.

Com. Merganser: max 200 Buck Pnd, G 21 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 6245 HB 11 Nov (JeB, CW, AGu, PM); 5000 Buck Pnd, G 20 Nov (RSp).

Ruddy Duck: BB-ES 6 Sep (BCar), early; max 90 Silver L – S WYOM 26 Oct; 80 Sandy Bottom P, Honeoye ONTA 30 Oct.

Horned Grebe: arr HB 5 Sep; max 178 HB 11 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: max 81 HB 21 Nov (CW), low relative to recent late peaks, *intro*.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last BB – Burger P 18 Oct (SGr).

Com. Nighthawk: last 3 Crittenden P Rochester 9 Oct.

Chimney Swift: 350 Piffard LIVI 16 Sep (RMi); 480 York Central School, Greiggsville 24 Sep (JK); max 540 York Central School, Greiggsville 4 Oct (JK); last 2 Purcell Rd, T Canadice ONTA 22 Oct (BHo), Reg record late; 2 DE 30 Oct (SGr, MG) & 2 DE 2 Nov (DH), Reg record late.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Leicester LIVI & North Rush MONR 6 Oct.

hummingbird sp.: T Conesus LIVI 20 Oct (LP), intriguing, but not ID'd to species.

RAILS - LARIDS

Virginia Rail: last 2 BB – Burger P 13 Oct.
Sora: last Pittsford MONR 6 Oct.
Com. Gallinule: max 500 NMWMA (VDS) 22 Sep (JMcG, LS); last 2 NMWMA (VDS) 18 Oct.
Am. Coot: max 325 NMWMA (VDS) 7 Oct (LBe, RB).
Sandhill Crane: max 59 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 2 Nov (DK); 8 T Rush MONR 15 Nov (MZ); 9 decreasing to 1 NC 17-21 Nov (B&BM, mob); 2 Ashley Rd, T Livonia ONTA 3, 23, 25 Nov (mob).
Black-bellied Plover: last SaLC 26 Oct.
Am. Golden-Plover: max 26 T Avon LIVI 7 Sep, low max; last Redman Rd, T Hamlin 21 Oct, early dep.
Semipalmated Plover: last SaLC 4 Nov.
Killdeer: max 101 Cy Farms area T Byron GENE 2 Sep, low max; last Dalton Rd, T Nunda, LIVI 23 Nov (JGo).
Whimbrel: BB-ES 9, 12, 21 Sep (MG, AGU, JiM, LMa, JMcG, LS).
Hudsonian Godwit: arr NMWMA (SCU) 12 Oct (AVK); last IB – S 19 Oct (SG, GF).
Ruddy Turnstone: last HB 30 Sep.
Red Knot: IB – S 23 Oct (CGi).
Silt Sandpiper: last Newark WAYN 10 Oct.
Sanderling: max 23 BB-ES 9 Sep; last IBO 27 Nov (PM).
Dunlin: max 155 SaLC 22 Oct, low max; 76 SaLC 4 Nov, good count for date; last SaLC 21 Nov.
Baird's Sandpiper: last 2 Jones Bridge & Perry Rds area LIVI 22 Oct.
Least Sandpiper: last SaLC 20 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: last IB – S 22 Nov.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr BB-ES 11 Sep (DSh, GF).
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 30 Canadice L – S ONTA 20 Oct & Jones Bridge & Perry Rds area LIVI 23 Oct, low max; last SaLC 4 Nov.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 37 BB-ES 9 Sep, low max; last T Williamson WAYN 9 Nov.
Short-billed Dowitcher: last 2 SaLC 29 Oct (KF).
Long-billed Dowitcher: arr MAC 12 Sep; last MAC 15 Sep, early dep.
Am. Woodcock: last MP 3 Nov, not many late fall birder reports.
Wilson's Snipe: last SaLC 21 Oct.
Spotted Sandpiper: last HB 19 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: last Jones Bridge & Perry Rds area LIVI 22 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: last SaLC 3 Nov.
Greater Yellowlegs: last 2 BB 11 Nov, (AGU, CW, ph).
Wilson's Phalarope: last IB – S 5-11 Oct (JWi, 46+ oth obs), Reg record late.
Red Phalarope: arr BB-ES 9-12 Sep (CGo, mob), early; last Sodus Bay 25 Oct (MG, *et al.*).
Parasitic Jaeger: arr BB-ES 9 Sep; BB-ES 11, 15 Sep; 3 HB 22 Sep; 2 HB 29 Sep; HB 6 Oct; 3 HB 11, 13 Oct; West Port Bay WAYN 12 Oct; off Edgemere Dr, G 3, 10 Nov.
jaeger sp.: 3 HB 8 Sep; HB 22, 30 Sep, 1 Oct; off Edgemere Dr, G 29 Sep; PtB 20 Oct.
Black-legged Kittiwake: arr 1 imm HB 10 Nov (LK, STo).
Bonaparte's Gull: max 348 IB – S 10 Nov (LK); 330 NC 13 Oct.
Little Gull: arr 1 ad HB 13 Oct (JeB, AGU, TL, LSe); arr 1 ad NC 13 Oct (JeB, AGU, TL, LSe, BCar, ph); 1 ad HB 14 Oct (JeB, AGU, TL, LSe, BCar); 2 ad IB – S 21 Nov (CW); 2 ad Buck Pnd, G 21 Nov (JeB, CW); 3 ad Buck Pnd, G 21 Nov (MiB).
LAUGHING GULL (R2): 1 imm HB 29 Sep (PMar, DSh, SGr, TNa, AGU).
Ring-billed Gull: max 4000 Groveland Flats LIVI 5 Nov (JK).
Herring Gull: max 1270 IB – S 21 Nov (CW).
Iceland Gull: arr HB 21 Nov.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: total 6 at 4 loc 2-30 Sep; total 4 at 3 loc 6-20 Oct; 14 rep, 12 ind 7 loc 5-23 Nov.
Glaucous Gull: arr IBO 15 Nov.
Caspian Tern: last BB-ES 16 Oct.
Black Tern: last HB 14 Sep.
Com. Tern: max 96 HB 3 Sep; last 2 BB-ES 4 Nov (JeB, CW).
Forster's Tern: last Silver L – S 19 Oct (RSt).

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: arr 2 HB 6 Oct; max 1977 HB 11 Nov (JeB, CW, AGU, PMar), good count.
PACIFIC LOON: HB 11 Nov (JeB, CW, AGU).
Com. Loon: 93 HB 22 Sep, good count for date; 150 HB 13 Oct, 1st date over 100; max 230 HB 20 Oct, low max.
Double-crested Cormorant: max 2200 off Slater Crk, G 23 Oct (KGR); 200 Broadway & Brown Rds, T Wolcott WAYN 8 Nov (W&MR), good count for date.
Least Bittern: last Buck Pd, G 21 Nov (MiB, SBa, JeB, CW), Reg record late.

Great Egret: last Round Pd, G 17-20 Nov (BriM, JiM, RSp), late.
LITTLE BLUE HERON (R2): 1 imm IB – S 13-18 Sep (PMab, mob).
CATTLE EGRET (R2): arr NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 2 Nov (GL, BCar, MG, JWi); Pocock Rd, T Bergen GENE 3 Nov (JPoc, *fide* MM-C); T Williamson WAYN 13 Nov (LD, ph).
Green Heron: last BB – Burger P 18 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: last Long Pnd, G 14 Oct.
Black Vulture: Cal – Mum High School LIVI 30 Sep (KC); School Rd, Victor (DD, CJ).
Osprey: last HANA 9 Nov (KC), late.
Golden Eagle: 1 ad Old Duck Inn, T Tyre WAYN 3 Oct (DO), rare in fall.
N. Goshawk: Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 24 Sep (W&MR); 1 imm 4 Nov (CW); 1 imm IBO 11 Nov (AGa).
Bald Eagle: 184 line eBird many loc Sep; 259 lines eBird many loc Oct; 94 rep, 79 ind many loc Nov; good numbers.
Red-shouldered Hawk: only 3 rep.
Broad-winged Hawk: CL Inlet WAYN 1 Oct, only rep.
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: arr Beechwood SP WAYN 28 Sep (JWo), early; next T Rush MONR 20 Oct.
Snowy Owl: arr SPT 28 Oct (CCon); BB-ES 5-6 Nov; n of Batavia 29-30 Nov.
Short-eared Owl: arr Geneseo airfield 8 Nov; max 8 Sand Rd, W. Bloomfield 20 Nov.
N. Saw-whet Owl: T Conesus LIVI 3 Sep (KC); Manitou - Owl Woods 30 Sep (RN, LC, JAd); 1 b M – BBBO 10 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: total 19 ind 18 loc 2-24 Nov, good number late in season.
Am. Kestrel: ~22 ind 20+ loc Oct; 8 ind at 6 loc Nov.
Merlin: total ~41 ind 19 loc 8-30 Sep; total ~36 at 21+ loc Oct; 26 rep, 24 ind 19 loc Nov.
Peregrine Falcon: total ~25 ind 14 loc 3-30 Sep; total ~23 at 17+ loc Oct; 15 rep, 15 ind 13 loc Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 18 Sep.
E. Kingbird: last T York LIVI 22 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: last NMWMA (VDS) 15 Sep.
E. Wood-Pewee: last NMWMA (VDS) 18 Oct (W&MR).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: total b 9 BBBO 4-23 Sep.
Willow Flycatcher: last BB-ES 14 Sep (DH).
“Trail’s Flycatcher: last HANA 4 Oct
Least Flycatcher: last 1b BBBO 3 Oct.
Empidonax sp.: NMWMA (VDA) 2 Nov (W&MR), record late; HB – YC 12 Nov (R, S, & CSp), record late, *intro*.
E. Phoebe: total b 20 30 Sep -23 Oct, high number b; last Whiting Rd Nature Preserve, W 17 Oct.
SAY’S PHOEBE: BB-ES 21-22 Sep (ET, mob, many ph), 3rd Reg record.
N. Shrike: arr BB – Burger P 14 Oct; 11 rep 9 ind 7 loc 14-30 Nov.
Yellow-throated Vireo: last Garner Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 29 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: total b 22 BBBO 19 Sep – 23 Oct; last HB – YC 12 Nov (RB, AGu, PM), late.
Philadelphia Vireo: total b 8 BBBO 4 Sep – 3 Oct; last Purcell Rd, T Canadice ONTA 20 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: last NMWMA (VDS) 24 Oct (DK), Reg record late.
Red-eyed Vireo: total b 48 BBBO 1 Sep - 4 Oct; last HB 6 Oct.
Am. Crow: max 1000 Highland P, Rochester 25 Nov, low max.
Purple Martin: last 1-4 MAC 15 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 5000 Nations Rd area 24 Sep; last 2 Silver L WYOM 28 Oct.
Rough-winged Swallow: 6 Oatka Creek P 7 Nov (JAd), late; 15 Caledonia Fish Hatchery 10 Nov & last 7 Caledonia Fish Hatchery 10 Nov (RSt), late.
Bank Swallow: last NMWMA (MRd) 30 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: last Crusoe L, T Savannah WAYN 13 Sep, early dep.
CAVE SWALLOW: SPT 9 Nov (MG, ph), only report.
Barn Swallow: max 300 NMWMA (Marten Tract) 21 Sep; last IB – S 1 Oct.
Black-capped Chickadee: total b 20 BBBO 1 Sep – 26 Oct, low, especially for a normally high year.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 18 WP 3 Sep, only count > 10, low max.
Brown Creeper: total b 40 BBBO 18 Sep – 30 Oct.
House Wren: last 2 BB – Burger P & M – Owl Woods 14 Oct.
Winter Wren: arr G 17 Sep; total b 14 BBBO 22 Sep - 16 Oct, low; last IB – S 24 Nov.
Marsh Wren: last Northrup Creek, G 18 Nov (TL), late.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last Round Pnd, G 20 Oct (BriM).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 55 BB 30 Sep (LBe, RB); max b 25 BBBO 5 Oct, low max; total b 157 BBBO 27 Sep – 30 Oct.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr T Livonia LIVI 7 Sep; max 57 HB 6 Oct; max b 49 BBBO 5 Oct, low max; total b 315 BBBO 22 Sep-30 Oct; last BB-ES 18 Nov (TL), late.

Veery: total b 11 BBBO 1-18 Sep; last Highland P, Rochester 6 Oct.

Gray-checked Thrush: arr Manitowish – Owl Woods 1 Sep; max 24 H 15 Sep; max b 6 BBBO 20 & 30 Sep; total b 41 BBBO 16 Sep - 8 Oct, low; last Oatka Creek P 20 Oct.

Gray-checked/Bicknell's Thrush: max b 10 M 17 Sep; total b 17 BBBO 17 Sep-last 6 Oct, low.

Swainson's Thrush: max 120 H 15 Sep (AGu), night calls; max b 17 BBBO 3 Oct; total b 130 BBBO 1 Sep-last 14 Oct; last 3 DEP & 1 G 20 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 20 BBBO 21 Oct, low max; max b 25 BBBO 14 Oct; total b 203 BBBO 27 Sep-30 Oct; 5 WO 11 Nov, good number for date.

Wood Thrush: NMWMA (VDS) 2 Nov (W&MR), late.

Am. Robin: max 488 T Gates MONR 24 Nov (BriM).

Gray Catbird: max 31 WP 13 Sep (RSp); 30 MP 16 Sep (TL); total b 94 BBBO 1 Sep - 19 Oct; last T Gates MONR 23 Nov (NK).

Brown Thrasher: last G 3 Nov.

Bohemian Waxwing: arr Whiting Rd Nature Preserve, W 11 Nov (CGi, ET, ph); WP 12-13 Nov (MG, 4 oth obs); 2 HB 19 Nov (MG, 8 oth obs, ph).

Cedar Waxwing: max 320 DEP 23 Nov.

Am. Pipit: arr 1-2 BB-ES 15 Sep; max 70 Jones Bridge & Perry Rds LIVI 23 & 25 Oct (JK); last 2 Nations Rd, Avon 20 Nov (NK).

Evening Grosbeak: arr DEP 1 26 Oct; max 11 H 6 Nov (AGu), good count for recent years; 28 rep, 67 ind 19 loc 1-27 Nov; best showing in many years.

Pine Grosbeak: 1 f DEP 24-30 Nov (GL, mob, ph).

Purple Finch: total b 24 BBBO 5-24 Oct, high number banded.

Com. Redpoll: arr 1b BBBO 30 Oct; max 140 H 30 Nov (AGu).

Red Crossbill: WP 29 Sep (R&SSp), early or summer wanderer; arr DEP 4 Nov; HB – WE 10 Nov; only reps.

White-winged Crossbill: arr DEP 23 Nov; 2 DEP 25 Nov; only reps.

Pine Siskin: arr Rochester 5 Sep; max 25 Bear Creek, Wayne Co. 24 Nov; max 25 T Sodus Wayne Co. 29 Nov; low counts.

Am. Goldfinch: max b 15 BBBO 6 Oct; total b 64 4 Sep – 30 Oct; max 470 HB 4 Nov (AGu).

Lapland Longspur: arr BB-ES & IBO 22 Sep.

Snow Bunting: arr 2-10 at 4 loc 21 Oct; max 120 H 13 Nov (AGu).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

E. Towhee: last CL Inlet WMA 19 Nov (KC), late.

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr Rochester & T Savannah WAYN 19 Oct.

Chipping Sparrow: last HB 4 Nov (KH).

Field Sparrow: max 18 Genesee Valley Greenway 19, 20 Oct (BHo, JK); last T Livonia LIVI 18 Nov (TBo).

Savannah Sparrow: last Bennet Rd, T Parma MONR 4 Nov.

NELSON'S SPARROW (R2): Burger P, G 14-15 Oct (MG, PMar, 11+ oth obs).

Fox Sparrow: arr 3 Burger P, G 8 Oct; many thru Nov.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Ellison P, T Penfield 9 Sep; total b 4 BBBO 9 Sep-5 Oct, low; last Eagle Cliff Farm WAYN 26 Oct (MG), late.

White-throated Sparrow: max 85 Genesee Valley Greenway 19, 20 Oct (BHo, JK); max b 57 BBBO 5 Oct; total b 455 BBBO 4 Sep-30 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr 4 HANA 28 Sep; max 30 Webster Arboretum 25 Oct (RR).

Dark-eyed Junco: max 80 DEP 29 Oct (SGr); max b 29 BBBO 5 Oct; total b 61 BBBO 18 Sep – 30 Oct.

Bobolink: last 3 H 15 Sep.

E. Meadowlark: last 2 MAC 20 Oct.

Baltimore Oriole: last T Savannah WAYN 15 Sep.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 1200 MP 3 Nov.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 500 Roseburgh Rd, T Groveland LIVI 23 Oct.

Rusty Blackbird: arr T Conesus LIVI 27 Sep; max 70 Rochester 17 Oct, low max; 44 rep, 317+ ind 28 loc Oct; 15 rep, 34 ind 11 loc 1-19 Nov (13 obs); late max 16 Burger P, G 12 Nov; last 4 T Victor ONTA 19 Nov (BaB).

Com. Grackle: max 2500 T Canadice ONTA 6 Oct (BHo).

blackbird sp.: max 3800 NMWMA (VDS) 28 Oct (JeB, GVH).

Ovenbird: total b 11 BBBO 1-27 Sep; last Churchville 5 Oct.
Louisiana Waterthrush: 1b BBBO 14 Sep, rarely reported near lakeshore.
N. Waterthrush: last 1b BBBO 20 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last 2 Dansville LIVI 18 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: last Purcell Rd, T Canadice ONTA 4 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: last Dalton Rd, T Nunda LIVI & Sherburne P, T Walworth WAYN 8 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr HBWP 18 Sep; total 5 ind 5 loc 18-30 Sep; total 6 b BBBO 1-18 Oct; total 16 at 12 oth loc 3-28 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: total b 10 9 Sep-6 Oct; last Webster Arboretum 23 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: last HANA 3 Oct (DH, RR).
Mourning Warbler: last NMWMA (VDS) 22 Sep.
Com. Yellowthroat: total b 59 BBBO 1 Sep-5 Oct; last BB 24 Oct.
Hooded Warbler: last Chimney Bluffs WAYN 1 Oct.
Am. Redstart: total b 27 BBBO 1-30 Sep; last DEP 6 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: last 1b BBBO 24 Oct, late.
N. Parula: last NMWMA (VDS) 20 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: max b 31 BBBO 9 Sep; total b 192 BBBO 1 Sep-3 Oct; max obs 16 M - Owl Woods 8 Sep; last M - Owl Woods & CL Inlet WMA LIVI 14 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: total b 16 BBBO 2 Sep – 2 Oct; last Hemlock L - S 6 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last Pittsford Trails MONR 7 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: none b after 29 Aug; last Kings Bend P, T Pittsford MONR 3 Oct.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last IB – S 3 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: max b 51 BBBO 28 Sep; 45b BBBO 21 Sep; 43b BBBO 4 Oct; total b 446 BBBO 2 Sep-last 21 Oct, high number banded.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 11 G 2 Sep (KG); total b 33 BBBO 3 Sep-6 Oct; last HB 14 Oct.
Palm Warbler: arr G 1 Sep; max 10 HANA 3 Oct (KG); last IB – S 23 (CGi). Oct.
Pine Warbler: max 18 HB 7 Sep (AGu); last HB 23 Nov (CGo), late.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 35 IB – S 6 Oct (NK); G (Canal P) H 14 Oct; total b 15 BBBO 3 Sep-10 Oct; last DEP 25 Nov (NK), late.
Black-throated Green Warbler: total b 15 BBBO 8-25 Sep; last 2 BB 9 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last TCEA 27 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: total b 24 BBBO 1 Sep-last 4 Oct; last T Wolcott WAYN 6 Oct.
Scarlet Tanager: last Purcell Rd, T Canadice ONTA 5 Oct.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Fowlerville LIVI 28 Sep.
Indigo Bunting: last South Conesus LIVI 3 Oct.
DICKCISSEL (R2): H 15 Sep (AGu), flyover calling.

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REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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The 2018 fall season began warmer than normal but became colder than normal. The entire season was wetter than normal. The average high temperature in September was 73.5°F, 2.4° above normal. The average low was 54.7°, 5.7° above normal. Total precipitation was 5.36", 1.67" more than normal. The average high temperature in October was 56°, 3° below normal, but the average low was 40.8°, 1.5° above normal. October's total precipitation was 5.35", 1.93" more than normal. A trace amount of snow fell on one occasion, so total

snowfall was 0.4" below normal. November's average high temperature was 40.7°, 7.5° below normal. The average low was 27.6°, 4.1° below normal. Total precipitation was 4.13", 0.97" more than normal. Total snowfall was 18.8", 14.3" more than normal. Snow depth reached a peak on 16 November when 9" of new snow fell.

The timing of waterfowl migration was normal. Observers recorded one slightly late date for only one species—Brant. On the other hand, high numbers were reported for several species: Snow Goose, Trumpeter Swan, Tundra Swan, Wood Duck, Northern Shoveler, Redhead, and Bufflehead. The most unusual waterfowl were hybrids. The Barnacle X Cackling Goose hybrid and its apparent traveling companion, a Snow X Canada Goose hybrid, made another brief appearance at Seneca Lake State Park for the third migration season in a row. Another Snow X Canada Goose hybrid was at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge for nearly a month. Jay McGowan picked out a Ring-necked Duck X scaup (sp.) hybrid at Montezuma in late October. Other notable waterfowl were Eurasian Wigeons at Montezuma NWR through October and into November and a Tufted Duck also at Montezuma NWR for a week in late October and early November.

Jay McGowan and Livia Santana recorded a high count of Rock Pigeons in Groton. Jeremy Smith recorded a season high count of Chimney Swifts in Ithaca. At Montezuma NWR, Dave Kennedy counted 134 Sandhill Cranes, the most ever in the Region.

Shorebird migration proceeded at a normal pace, although a Semipalmated Plover lingered until 3 November, a White-rumped Sandpiper lingered until 20 November, and a Greater Yellowlegs lingered until 25 November. Numbers were relatively low. Nevertheless, the diversity was good, with observers reporting 26 species. The most exciting finds were a Red Knot that continued through 4 September at Myers Point, a Buff-breasted Sandpiper that continued at Montezuma NWR through 15 September, and a Red Phalarope that made an appearance at Montezuma NWR on 9 October. The best Larids were a Laughing Gull at a McDonald's in Horseheads and an early arriving Iceland Gull at Cayuga Lake State Park in October.

Heron highlights included three American Bitterns at Montezuma NWR, several Cattle Egret sightings, and a Little Blue Heron in Queen Catharine Marsh in early September. Black Vultures continued to make appearances in the Region. Jeremy Collison patiently counted 1,030 migrating Turkey Vultures migrating past the Cornell University campus on 5 October. The main hawk highlight was 657 Broad-winged Hawks migrating over the Town of Danby on 12 September.

Another report of Barn Owl came from the same location in the Town of Thurston in Steuben County as other reports of the species earlier in the year. The count of 23 Northern Saw-whet Owls banded at the banding station in the Town of Caroline on 30 October was a new fall high count for the Region.

Season high counts of six Belted Kingfishers came from locations in Schuyler and Yates Counties. McGowan Woods in Tompkins County held the high count of 14 Red-bellied Woodpeckers. The only report of Red-headed Woodpecker was from the Robert Trent Jones Golf Course in Tompkins County. Three Merlins was a high count for the fall season, and observers reported that number at Ithaca City Cemetery, Cornell University, and Montezuma NWR.

Finding two Olive-sided Flycatchers at the same location in the fall is unusual in this Region. Jay McGowan and Livia Santana reported that many from two locations in the Finger Lakes National Forest on 8 September and a group of observers found that many in the Town of Jerusalem on 15 September. Diane Morton had a high count of 10 Eastern Wood-Pewees at Sapsucker Woods in early September. Ken Rosenberg photographed a late Eastern Wood-Pewee at Ladoga Park on 21 October. Gerald Fix and Cynthia King observed a very late Great Crested Flycatcher at close range in Sapsucker Woods on 6 October. Jay McGowan found a seasonal high of four Eastern Kingbirds on 2 September at McDaniel Preserve.

Three Yellow-throated Vireos at Hi Tor Wildlife Management Area in mid-September was a seasonal high count. Appropriately, Jay McGowan found a new high count of 1,000 Blue Jays migrating past Myers Point, also in mid-September. Gates Dupont's 8,000 American Crows at a site in the Town of Aurelius was also a seasonal high count. Swallow numbers for all species were way down from past years. Observers also reported high counts of Tufted Titmice at a location in Tompkins County and of Red-breasted Nuthatches at Sampson State Park.

A Marsh Wren at Montezuma NWR on 17 November was quite late. Maximum counts of thrushes came largely from nocturnal counts, but none of the counts were particularly high. Mark Chao found the high count of 14 Northern Mockingbirds at the Cornell Community Garden Plots—a good number for a species that this author thinks may be dwindling in the Region.

The fall arrival of “winter” finches is always of interest. The first Evening Grosbeak appeared in early October, and the maximum count of 68 in the Town of Summerhill was a great number for recent years. Some Common Redpolls were reported in the Region, and 70 Pine Siskins was a seasonal high count. A single Red Crossbill report came from Bluegrass Lane Natural Area.

Observers recorded high counts for three species of sparrow: Field, Nelson's, and Swamp. Liz Slote found four Baltimore Orioles at a Town of Caroline location in early September for a high count of that species. Observers also recorded high counts for Nashville Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Northern Parula (nocturnal count), Magnolia Warbler, and Blackpoll Warbler (nocturnal count). Tim Lenz found a late Tennessee Warbler on 20 October. Paul Rodewald described a late Mourning Warbler that he found on 14 October. Donna Carter photographed a late Northern Parula on 2 November. Also on that day, Logan Kahle and Tim Lenz found a late Blackpoll Warbler. The most unusual passerine was the Black-headed X Rose-breasted Grosbeak that

continued to visit a feeder in the Town of Rathbone through 18 September. Since first being photographed by Noel Sylvester in August, the underparts of this male bird became more orange and the breast became rosier.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BLNA – Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, TOMP; **CCGP** – Cornell Community Garden Plots, TOMP; **CU** – Cornell University; **FLNF** – Finger Lakes National Forest; **FrPt** – Frontenac Pt, SENE; **Gen** – Geneva; **HHSF** – Hammond Hill State Forest; **HT** – Hi Tor; **Ith** – Ithaca; **KeuL** – Keuka L; **LPBP** – Lindsay-

**PHOTO GALLERY
FALL 2018**



Northern Wheatear, Heckscher SP, *Suffolk*, 28 Oct 2018, © Lisa Nasta.



Eastern Bluebird, Corinth, *Saratoga*, 24 Nov 2018, © Scott Stoner.



Gray Kingbird, Jones Beach West End, *Nassau*, 10 Nov 2018, © Donna Schulman.



Red Phalarope, Braddock Bay, East Spit, *Monroe*, 9 Sep 2018, © Christopher Goetz.



Purple Gallinule, Prospect Park, *Kings*, 22 Oct 2018, © Paige Linden-Brams.



Golden Eagles, Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch, *Delaware*, 25 Oct 2018, © Curt Morgan. See note p. 27.

Parsons Biodiversity Preserve, TOMP, **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **PW** – Palmer Woods, TOMP; **SenL** – Seneca L; **Smp** – Sampson; **StP** – Stewart P, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TDan** – T Danby, TOMP; **TDry** – T Dryden, TOMP; **TErw** – T Erwin, STEU; **Tith** – T Ithaca, TOMP; **TLod** – T Lodi, SENE.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr 2 Tith 25 Sep; max 20,000 T Varick SENE 21 Nov (TH), high.

Brant: arr MyPt 12 Oct; max 220 MyPt 21 Oct; last SW 29 Nov (FPO), late.

Cackling Goose: arr MNWR 28 Sep; max 21 SenL SP 19 Nov.

BARNACLE X CACKLING GOOSE (R3): SenL SP 19 Nov (TL, ph).

SNOW X CANADA GOOSE (R3): MNWR 6 Oct-2 Nov (TL, ph, JMcG, LSa); SenL SP 19 Nov (TL, ph).

Trumpeter Swan: max 20 MNWR 5-8 Nov (TL), high.

Tundra Swan: arr 2 MNWR 23 Oct; max 1950 MNWR 25 Nov (JMcG, LSa), high.

Wood Duck: max 600 MNWR 16 Sep (TL), high.

Blue-winged Teal: max 30 MNWR 5 Sep; 30 MNWR 22 Sep; last MNWR 7 Nov.

N. Shoveler: max 364 MNWR 4 Nov (CGou), high; last 2 MNWR 17 Nov.

EURASIAN WIGEON (R3): 1-2 MNWR 30 Sep-10 Nov (mob).

Canvasback: arr 2 MNWR 13 Oct; max 640 MNWR 2 Nov.

Redhead: max 12,000 StP 25 Nov (JCo), high.

TUFTED DUCK: MNWR 28 Oct-3 Nov (mob, ph).

Greater Scaup: arr Lakefront P ONTA 22 Sep; max 200 MNWR 28 Oct.

Lesser Scaup: arr MNWR 22 Sep; max 3000 MNWR 30 Oct.

RING-NECKED DUCK X SCAUP sp. (R3): MNWR 28 Oct (JMcG!).

Surf Scoter: arr 2 MyPt 1 Oct; max 8 MyPt 15 Oct; last 5 E Shore P TOMP 22 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr 2 KeuL SP 14 Oct; max 8 Long Pt SP 28 Oct; 8 SenL, Gen 3 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr SenL SP 20 Oct; max 12 SenL, Gen 3 Nov; last MyPt 7 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr Gen Country Club ONTA 21 Oct; max 4 SenL SP 19 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr 12 SenL SP 18 Oct; StP 18 Oct; max 200 Cayuga L, Ith 10 Nov (AD), high.

Com. Goldeneye: arr 4 SenL SP 21 Oct; max 60 Lake Rd Bluff CAYU 25 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr HT WMA YATE 22 Sep; max 12 Lake Rd Bluff CAYU 25 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: arr MNWR 24 Sep; max 300 MNWR 23-28 Oct.

Horned Grebe: arr StP 13 Oct; max 8 Lakefront P ONTA 24 Oct.

Red-necked Grebe: arr Taughannock Falls SP 18 Sep; max 3 Ith Yacht Club TOMP 4 Nov.

Rock Pigeon: max 300 T Groton TOMP 24 Nov (JMcG, LSa), high.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last TDry 22 Oct.

Black-billed Cuckoo: last MNWR 14 Sep.

Com. Nighthawk: max 9 Elmira Dam CHEM 1 Sep; last Smp SP 30 Sep; TDry 30 Sep.

Chimney Swift: max 100 Ith 13 Sep (JSm), high; last 2 MNWR 3 Oct.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 10 FLNF SENE 7 Sep; last CCGP 29 Sep.

RAILS - LARIDS

Virginia Rail: max 3 Hillview Rd Wetland TOMP 5 Sep; last MNWR 16 Oct.

Sora: max 6 MNWR 9 Sep; last Ridge Rd Rail Trail TOMP 30 Sep.

Com. Gallinule: max 100 MNWR 4 Sep; last 2 MNWR 14 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: max 134 Savannah Mucklands SENE 19 Nov (DK), high.

Black-bellied Plover: max 8 MNWR 5 Oct; last 3 MNWR 21 Oct.

Am. Golden-Plover: max 3 MNWR 9 Sep-7 Oct; last MNWR 21 Oct.

Semipalmated Plover: max 30 MNWR 8 Sep; last MNWR 3 Nov (TL), late.

Killdeer: max 68 MyPt 17 Sep; last T Summerhill CAYU 18 Nov.

Hudsonian Godwit: arr MNWR 4 Oct; last MNWR 22 Oct.

RED KNOT (R3): MyPt thru 4 Sep (mob, ph).

Stilt Sandpiper: max 5 MNWR 1-18 Sep; last 2 MNWR 13 Oct.

Sanderling: max 4 MNWR 19 Sep; last MNWR 20 Oct.

Dunlin: max 265 MNWR 20 Oct; last MyPt 13 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: max 6 MNWR 1 Sep; last MNWR 22 Sep.

Least Sandpiper: max 55 MNWR 15 Sep; last 7 Riser Rd Swamp ONTA 23 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: max 16 MNWR 19 Sep; last MyPt 20 Nov (JMcG), late.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (R3): MNWR thru 15 Sep, (mob, ph).

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 85 MNWR 7 Oct; last T Tyre SENE 6 Nov.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 40 2 Sep; last 2 MNWR 29 Oct; MyPt 29 Oct.

WESTERN SANDPIPER (R3): MNWR 14 Sep (DK!).

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 12 MNWR 19 Sep; last MNWR 4 Oct.

Long-billed Dowitcher: max 20 MNWR 14 Oct; last MNWR 27 Oct.

Am. Woodcock: max 3 MNWR 17 Oct; last T Ovid SENE 3 Nov.

Wilson's Snipe: max 9 MNWR 20 Sep; last TDry 16 Nov.

Wilson's Phalarope: max 2 MNWR 5-6 Sep (Kyle Gage, TL, PMa), high; last MNWR 18 Sep.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 6 MNWR (RBo), high; last MyPt 26 Oct.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 5 MNWR 6 Sep; last 2 Newman Golf Course TOMP 6 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 35 MNWR 22 Sep; 3 T Tyre SENE 6 Nov.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 35 MNWR 5 Oct; last MNWR 25 Nov (JMcG, LSa), late.

RED PHALAROPE (R3): MNWR 9 Oct (MGu!).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 60 Gen Country Club ONTA 21 Oct (TL), high; last FrPt 20 Nov.

LAUGHING GULL (R3): Horseheads 21 Sep (EHo!).

Iceland Gull: arr Cayuga L SP 23 Oct (KR!), early.

Caspian Tern: max 18 StP 3 Sep; last 2 StP 6 Oct.

Black Tern: last SenL SP 6 Sep.

Com. Tern: max 8 Harris P CAYU 19 Sep; last 2 MNWR 20 Oct.

Forster's Tern: 2 MyPt 18 Sep.

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: arr FrPt 5 Nov.

Am. Bittern: max 3 MNWR 14 Sep (mob), high; last MNWR 13 Oct.

Least Bittern: last MNWR 15 Sep.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (R3): Queen Catharine Marsh SCHU 2-6 Sep (mob, ph).

Cattle Egret: arr MNWR 12 Oct; max 6 TERw 31 Oct (JFa, NS, ph), high; last Goose Haven SENE 15 Nov.

Green Heron: max 8 CU 6 Sep, nocturnal migrants; last SW 19 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 6 MNWR 12 Oct; last 2 MNWR 8 Nov.

Black Vulture: max 2 Stevenson Rd Compost Piles TOMP 6 Sep; 2 Buttermilk Falls SP 5 Oct; last CU 16 Oct, early.

Turkey Vulture: max 1030 CU 5 Oct (JCo), high.

Osprey: max 6 MNWR 1-6 Sep; last Minier's Pd CHEM 27 Oct.

Golden Eagle: arr Buttermilk Falls SP 5 Oct; max 2 TDry 20 Oct; last Elmira 10 Nov.

Red-shouldered Hawk: last SW 4 Nov.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 657 TDan 12 Sep; last 6 CU 14 Oct.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr T Hopewell ONTA 15 Oct; max 2 MNWR 19 Oct.

BARN OWL (R3): T Thurston STEU 22 Sep (DB!).

Snowy Owl: T Seneca 1 Nov.

Barred Owl: max 3 TDry 22 Sep; 3 T Catlin CHEM 23 Oct.

Short-eared Owl: TDry 28 Oct; FLNF SENE 28 Nov.

N. Saw-whet Owl: max 23 TCar 30 Oct (PMcN), banded, high.

Belted Kingfisher: max 6 Queen Catharine Marsh SCHU 3 Sep (MT); 6 HT WMA YATE 22 Sep (Jon Gross), high.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Robert Trent Jones Golf Course TOMP 22 Oct.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 14 McGowan Woods TOMP 30 Sep (Wyatt Westerkamp), high.

Am. Kestrel: max 15 MNWR 14 Sep; 15 Greensprings Natural Cemetery Preserve TOMP 7 Oct.

Merlin: max 3 Ith City Cemetery 12 Sep (LCh); 3 CU 5 Oct (JCo); 3 MNWR 7 Oct (JBr, RK), high.

FLYCATCHERS - SNOW BUNTINGS

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 2 Ith City Cemetery TOMP 9 Sep (LCh, EL), high; last SW 6 Oct (GF, CK), late.

E. Kingbird: max 4 McDaniel Preserve TOMP 2 Sep (JMcG), high; last StP 18 Sep.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: max 2 FLNF SCHU 8 Sep (JMcG, LSa); 2 FLNF SENE 8 Sep (JMcG, LSa); last 2 T Jerusalem YATE 15 Sep (mob), high; MNWR 15 Sep.

E. Wood-Pewee: max 10 SW 9 Sep (DM), high; last Ladoga P TOMP 21 Oct (KR!, ph, TS!), late.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 2 MNWR 15 Sep; last TDan 22 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: last PW 29 Sep.
E. Phoebe: max 10 BLNA 7 Sep; last T Sempronius CAYU 18 Nov; MyPt 18 Nov.
N. Shrike: arr FLNF SENE 8 Nov.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 3 HT WMA YATE 15 Sep (mob), high; last Big Flats Trail CHEM 29 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 8 PW 5 Oct; last Ontario Pathways ONTA 26 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 4 Edward L Cliff Preserve TOMP 9 & 20 Sep; 4 MNWR 15 Sep; 4 SenL SP 17 Sep; last CU 11 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: max 11 SenL SP 17 Sep; last Tlth 6 Oct.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 15 KeuL SP 2 Nov; 15 SW 13 Sep; last TDry 13 Oct.
Blue Jay: max 1000 MyPt 18 Sep (JMcG), high.
Am. Crow: max 8000 T Aurelius CAYU 26 Oct (GDu), high.
Purple Martin: max 100 MNWR 12 Sep; last MNWR 14 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 4000 MNWR 11 Oct; last 2 MNWR 2 Nov.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 150 MNWR 6 Sep; last SenL SP 29 Oct.
Bank Swallow: max 1000 MNWR 2 Sep; last MNWR 6 Oct.
Cliff Swallow: max & last 10 MyPt 10 Sep.
Barn Swallow: max 30 MyPt 11 Sep; last MNWR 11 Oct.
Tufted Titmouse: max 15 Monkey Run TOMP 13 Sep (EHu, GDu, CS), high.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 26 Smp SP SENE 15 Sep (JMcG, LSa), high.
House Wren: max 5 PW 20 Sep; last FLNF SENE 19 Oct.
Marsh Wren: max 10 MNWR 7 Sep; last MNWR 17 Nov (CW), late.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 4 MNWR 1 Sep; last SW 26 Sep.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 26 BLNA 15 Nov; last TDry 28 Nov; Monkey Run TOMP 28 Nov.
Veery: max 15 NE Ith 7 Sep, nocturnal; last 4 T Catlin CHEM 1 Oct; 2 CU 1 Oct, nocturnal.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: max 300 CU 1 Oct, nocturnal; last CU 11 Oct, nocturnal; Tlth 11 Oct; FLNF SENE 11 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: max 600 CU 1 Oct, nocturnal; last HHSF 14 Oct; Tlth 14 Oct; T Enfield 14 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 5 TLod 13 Oct; last T Dix SCHU 25 Nov.

Wood Thrush: max 18 NE Ith 29 Sep, nocturnal; last TDry 7 Oct.
Gray Catbird: max 30 Smp SP 15 Sep; last CU 27 Nov.
Brown Thrasher: max 9 LPBP 16 Sep; last HHSF 6 Oct.
N. Mockingbird: max 14 CCGP 11 Sep (MaCh), high.
Am. Pipit: arr 2 MNWR 15 Sep; max 30 T Veteran CHEM 12 Oct; 30 BLNA 21 Oct; 30 T Fayette SENE 15 Nov; last T Big Flats CHEM 20 Nov.
Evening Grosbeak: arr TCar 7 Oct; max 68 T Summerhill CAYU 18 Nov.
Purple Finch: max 48 SW 12 Oct.
Com. Redpoll: arr TDry 27 Oct; max 18 TDry 17 Nov.
Red Crossbill: BLNA 17 Nov (KR!).
Pine Siskin: arr SW 12 Sep; max 70 Ith (JDi, AD), high.
Lapland Longspur: arr TDry 5 Oct; MNWR 5 Nov; FLNF SENE 8 Nov; T Genoa CAYU 18 Nov.
Snow Bunting: arr MNWR 21 Oct; SenL SP 21 Oct; max 70 T Aurelius CAYU 17 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

E. Towhee: max 15 Bare Hill Unique Area YATE 15 Sep; last TERw 16 Nov.
Am. Tree Sparrow: arr T Romulus SENE 12 Oct; max 55 BLNA 16 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: max 80 Robert Trent Jones Golf Course TOMP 5 Sep.
Field Sparrow: max 32 FLNF SCHU 8 Sep (JMcG, LSa), high; last TERw 30 Nov.
Vesper Sparrow: max 3 BLNA 25 Oct; last BLNA 3 Nov.
Savannah Sparrow: max 62 FLNF SENE 23 Sep; last T Cayuta SCHU 20 Nov.
Nelson's Sparrow: arr MNWR 27 Sep; max 4 TDry 5-8 Oct (mob, JMcG, ph), high; last TDry 25 Oct.
Fox Sparrow: arr Dryden L P TOMP 9 Oct; max 8 Ridgeway Rd Rail Trail TOMP 4 Nov.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr BLNA 7 Sep; max 4 TDry 28 Sep; 4 TDry 13 Oct; last Personius Woods CHEM 23 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: max 55 Dryden L P TOMP 9 Oct (CW), high.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr MNWR 28 Sep; max 10 TDry 6 Oct; 10 MNWR 23 Oct.
Bobolink: max 1000 MNWR 1 Sep; last CCGP 8 Oct.
E. Meadowlark: max 18 TLod 8 Sep; last T Veteran CHEM 20 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: max 4 TCar 3 Sep (LSI), high.

Rusty Blackbird: arr TCar 27 Sep; max 62 T Covert SENE 31 Oct; last SW 20 Nov.

Ovenbird: max 10 CU 18 Sep, nocturnal; last T Groton TOMP 8 Oct.

N. Waterthrush: max 2 SW 6 Sep; last SW 5 Oct.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 2 Tlth 3 Sep; last SW 22 Sep.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: Danby State Forest TOMP 5 Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: max 3 BLNA 7 Sep; 3 SW 11 Sep; last CU 13 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: max 8 Tunison Rd Pd SENE 5 Oct; last Whitlock Preserve SENE 20 Oct (TL!), late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr MNWR 13 Sep; max 2 SenL SP 24 Oct; last FLNF SENE 28 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: max 12 Arnot Forest TOMP 15 Sep (BW), high; last CU 26 Oct; BLNA 26 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: arr T Montezuma CAYU 12 Sep; Durland Preserve TOMP 23 Sep; last Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 28 Sep; Willard WMA SENE 28 Sep.

Mourning Warbler: last Robert Treman SP 14 Oct (PR!), late.

Com. Yellowthroat: max 40 Arnot Forest TOPM 15 Sep; last MNWR 12 Nov.

Hooded Warbler: max 4 KeuL SP 2-15 Sep; last CU 1 Oct.

Am. Redstart: max 12 CU 18 Sep, nocturnal; last BLNA 11 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: max 16 Roy H Park Preserve TOMP 3 Sep (SBa, JMcG), high; last Hog Hole TOMP 19 Oct; TDry 19 Oct.

N. Parula: max 14 CU 18 Sep (ID, LSe, BVD), nocturnal, high; last 2 SenL SP 2 Nov (DC, ph), late.

Magnolia Warbler: max 38 Smp SP 15 Sep (JMcG, LSa), high; last Ith Children’s Garden TOMP 14 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 9 LPBP 16 Sep; last 2 StP 5 Oct.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 6 SW 7 Sep; last LPBP 6 Oct.

Yellow Warbler: last BLNA 13 Oct.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 7 SW 7 Sep; last 2 CU TOMP 1 Oct, nocturnal; TDry 1 Oct, nocturnal.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr Tlth 2 Sep; max 18 CU 1 Oct (JMcG, LSa), nocturnal, high; last FrPt 2 Nov (LK, TL!), late.

Black-throated Warbler: max 20 CU 1 Oct, nocturnal; last 3 CU 11 Oct; BLNA 11 Oct; SW 11 Oct.

Palm Warbler: arr MNWR 7 Sep; BLNA 7 Sep; max 15 Lansing Center Trail TOMP 28 Sep; last FLNF SENE 2 Nov.

Pine Warbler: max 5 HHSF 8 Sep; last SenL SP 18 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 50 BLNA 10 Oct; 50 Ridgeway Rd Rail Trail TOMP 14 Oct.

Prairie Warbler: max 3 LPBP 16 Sep; last LPBP 29 Sep.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 12 Edwards L Cliff Preserve TOMP 9 Sep; last CU 13 Oct; T Sempronius CAYU 13 Oct; TLod 13 Oct.

Canada Warbler: max 3 CU 15 Sep; last CU 23 Sep.

Wilson’s Warbler: max 3 Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 17 Sep; 3 SW 25 Sep; last MNWR 20 Oct; Smp SP 20 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: max 9 CU 1 Oct, nocturnal; last TDry 8 Oct.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 55 TDan 19 Sep, nocturnal; last 3 CU 11 Oct, nocturnal.

BLACK-HEADED X ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (R3): T Rathbone STEU thru 18 Sep (JFa, NS, ph).

Indigo Bunting: max 4 TDry 8 Sep; last TDry 13 Oct.

Dickcissel: NE Ith 29 Sep; TDry 1 Oct; last CU 11 Oct, nocturnal.

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REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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September 2018 was warmer and wetter than normal. In fact, September was the seventh warmest since 1950 and the third wettest. October was about average regarding temperature and was a little wetter than average. November was about 5.7° cooler than average and was the second wettest and third snowiest November.

The true puzzle of this year's fall migration was in the large increase in Golden Eagles counted at the Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch (FMHW) especially in the second half of October. Andy Mason reported that 250 were counted from the 16th to the 31st of October. On 25 October 128 Golden Eagles were counted, setting a single day record for eastern North America. The usual peak of migration is two weeks later. The cause of this movement is unknown. Andy reports that the summer and fall weather in Quebec, the home of most of the Golden Eagles, was very dry, so perhaps prey was scarce. In any event the total count of Golden Eagles was 323, which was only surpassed by Allegheny Front Hawk Watch in Pennsylvania which had 386 in 2015. [See article p. 27.]

Other species showing increased numbers above the long-term average were: Turkey Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, and Peregrine Falcon. Red-tailed Hawk numbers did increase from the last season's low numbers. Also fifteen Black Vulture were counted this fall vs. six last season and just two in all the years previous to that. In total, 5,172 raptors were counted, which is slightly above average for the FMHW. Thanks to Andy Mason for summarizing all the above information regarding the hawk watch.

In Tioga County Adam Troyer was also counting migratory birds which flew over his farm. On 13 September he counted 774 Broad-winged Hawks and 12 Ospreys. To quote Adam: "What a day—I saw the first Broadwing around noon. After that they started coming in kettles with the largest having 68 birds." He also saw 65 Common Loons on 11 November and 30 Brant on 14 October.

A Greater White-fronted Goose was spotted at Dorchester Park in Broome County by Jon Weeks on 3 October. Many birders were able to see and photograph this bird, as it remained at the park for about two weeks. It was in the company of a great many Canada Geese. This is the second fall in a row that one was found at Dorchester Park. Another discovery at Dorchester Park was of a Sabine's Gull, again by Jon Weeks on 25 September, which he photographed. This is a first eBird record for Broome County, though there are some records of this species seen on Cayuga Lake, which has a similar latitude.

In Chenango County in the Town of Plymouth three adult Sandhill Cranes were photographed in hay fields in September. In November a flock of eleven

Sandhills was spotted migrating over Binghamton University. Two Cattle Egrets were seen and photographed in the Region in late October and early November.

Regarding shorebirds, many observed a White-rumped Sandpiper in mid-September in Dorchester Park. Another White-rumped was also spotted in a farm pond near Deposit in October. American Golden-Plovers were found in a few different locations in Chenango County, also in mid-September. A Baird's Sandpiper was well photographed in Bainbridge on 12 September. In another uncommon sighting for the Region, a Ruddy Turnstone was seen and photographed on 14 September at Glimmerglass State Park.

There were many reports of Evening Grosbeaks in late October and through November, mostly at feeders throughout the Region. Pine Siskins were also widely reported. There were just a few scattered reports of Red Crossbills and Common Redpolls. So far this does appear to be an irruption year for Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins.

A Yellow-Breasted Chat was discovered on 22 September at the Unadilla boat launch in Delaware County. A flock of a dozen Rusty Blackbirds was reported from the Michigan Hollow Lake in Tioga County on 30 October, which was a maximum count for this declining species.

Warbler diversity was down a bit this season, with 27 species recorded. Last year the number of species seen was 29, but for the three preceding years, the total number of species was 27.

In summary, 216 species vs. 214 last year were reported, 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; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, CORT; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **OtsL** – Otsego L, OTSE; **PepR** – Pepacton Res, OTSE; **SkaL** – Skaneateles L, CORT; **SusR** – Susquehanna R, BROO; **TomakRd** – Tomak Rd, TIOG; **UL** – Upper Lisle, BROO.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: max 150 Johnson City BROO 18 Nov; 150 Binghamton Airport BROO 19 Nov; 150 MHL 20 Nov.

Greater White-fronted Goose (R4): DorP 3-25 Oct (JW, ph, mob).

Brant: max 111 FMHW 21 Oct; 30 TomakRd 14 Nov (AT).

Tundra Swan: max 2 MHL 13 Nov (ph).

Surf Scoter: max 2 gravel pits Whitney Point BROO 20 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr Bloody Pd CORT 5 Nov; last gravel pits Cortland CORT 30 Nov.

Black Scoter: Chenango L CHEN Nov 5-15.

Long-tailed Duck: max 18 PepR 4 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: max 24 SkaL 20 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 24 DorP 16 Oct.

Ruddy Duck: max 18 Plymouth Res CHEN 28 Oct.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 4 DorP 11 Nov.

Horned Grebe: max 8 DorP 1 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: max 2 PepR 4 Nov.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 5 scattered rep most from Sep and early Oct.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Stoller Hill Rd OTSE 2 Sep, only rep.

Com. Nighthawk: max 41 SusR 15 Sep; most reports from SusR.

Chimney Swift: max 350 SusR 8 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last DELA 23 Sep; Stoller Hill Rd OTSE 23 Sep.

RAILS – LARIDS

Virginia Rail: MHL 6 Sep; Sherburne Railroad Marsh CHEN 9 Sep.

Sora: BoPd 30 Sep, only report.

Com. Gallinule: max and last 3 Sherburne Railroad Marsh CHEN 12 Sep.

Am. Coot: max 14 OtsL 19 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: max 11 BUNP 15 Nov, flyover; 3 Balf Rd CHEN 3-24 Sep.

Am. Golden-Plover: T Smyrna CHEN 12-17 Sep; Kilroy Rd CHEN 13-15 Sep.

Ruddy Turnstone: Glimmerglass SP OTSE 14 Sep, ph.

Baird's Sandpiper: Ireland Rd CHEN 12 Sep, ph.

White-rumped Sandpiper: DorP 14-15 Sep (JW, MD, mob, ph); Deposit DELA 20 Oct (LV).

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 14 BoPd 19 Oct.

SABINE'S GULL (R4): DorP 25 Sep (JW, ph).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 17 DorP 20 Oct.

Greater Black-backed Gull: max 4 Cortland Gravel Pit CORT 26 Nov.

Caspian Tern: 2 DorP 8 Sep; Glimmerglass SP OTSE 7 Sep.

Com. Tern: max 4 DorP 18 Sep; Kilroy Rd CHEN 11 Sep.

Forster's Tern: 4 PepR 8 Sep, only rep.

LOONS – PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: 2 CannR 23 Oct; DorP 26 Oct-20 Nov; Millbrook Town P CHEN 15 Nov, ph.

Com. Loon: max 65 TomakRd 11 Nov, flyover (AT); 17 MHL 30 Oct.

Am. Bittern: Carantouan Greenway TIOG 28 Sep; MHL 7 Oct.

Great Egret: max 7 Marshall Andrews P CHEN 8 Sep; last MHL 20 Oct.

Cattle Egret: Goodrich Rd TIOG 27-31 Oct, (DG, ph, mob); T Laurens OTSE 7 Nov.

NOTE: FMHW totals cover 26 Aug to 30 Dec; averages reflect 2001-2017 data, *intro*.

Black Vulture: total 15 FMHW, last year 6, slow increase.

Turkey Vulture: total 832 FMHW, 87% above avg.
Osprey: total 83 FMHW, 27% below avg; 12 TomakRd 13 Sep (AT).
Golden Eagle: total 323 FMHW, 85% above avg; max 128 FMHW 25 Oct, E. North America high single day count, *intro*. [Also see write-up on p. 27.]
N. Harrier: total 48 FMHW, 23% below avg.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: total 418 FMHW, 17% below avg.
Cooper's Hawk: total 64 FMHW, 31% below avg.
N. Goshawk: total 15 FMHW, 23% below avg.
Bald Eagle: total 166 FMHW, 1% below avg; many other rep; very widespread.
Red-shouldered Hawk: total 42 FMHW, 17% below avg.
Broad-winged Hawk: total 1749 FMHW, 19% above avg; 774 TomakRD 13 Sep (AT).
Red-tailed Hawk: total 1147 FMHW, 37% below avg; many other rep.
Rough-legged Hawk: total 2 FMHW, 73% below avg.
Snowy Owl: Vestal BROO 25 Oct, flyover.
Am. Kestrel: total 156 FMHW, 65% above avg; 9 TomakRD 12 Oct.
Merlin: total 53 FMHW, 102% above avg.
Peregrine Falcon: total 28 FMHW, 75% above avg; many rep from Binghamton BROO of resident downtown pair.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Barden Rd TIOG 6 Sep; Downs ville DELA 9 Sep; Kilroy Rd CHEN 11 Sep; MHL 28-29 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: T Union BROO 11 Sep; Downs ville DELA 15 Sep.
N. Shrike: 5 scattered rep, all in Nov.

Horned Lark: max 65 Covered Bridge Rd DELA 17 Nov.
Winter Wren: max 5 LHNC 2 Oct.
Marsh Wren: max 4 MHL 12 Oct; TomakRd 24 Sep.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Downs ville DELA 2 Sep, only rep.
Veery: last Johnson City BROO (NFC) 20 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: last Johnson City BROO (NFC) 5 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: last BUNP 18 Oct.
Evening Grosbeak: max 72 Homer CORT 18 Nov; many scattered rep at feeders in Nov.
Com. Redpoll: max 3 Balsam Swamp SF CHEN 28 Oct; TomakRd 25 & 30 Oct.
Red Crossbill: max 2 SkaL 20 Nov; DorP 18 Nov.
Pine Siskin: max 34 T Spencer TIOG 20 Nov; 97 other scattered reports most at feeders.
Lapland Longspur: 2 Laurel Bank Rd DELA 17 Nov; North Rd CHEN 10 Nov.
Snow Bunting: max 25 Whitney Point 28 Nov; 17 other rep in Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

Am. Tree Sparrow: max 6 TIOG 10 Nov.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr 2 Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 9 Sep; last TomakRD 5 Nov.
Vesper Sparrow: max 6 River Rd Downs ville DELA 28 Oct; Fairfield Rd TIOG 21 Oct.
Yellow-breasted Chat: Unadilla Boat Launch DELA 22 Sep.
Rusty Blackbird: max 12 MHL 30 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: max 6 LHNC 28 Sep.
Mourning Warbler: TomakRd 3 Sep.
Hooded Warbler: Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 9 Sep, MHL 21 Sep.

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REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The fall season began on a warm note. In Syracuse a high of 92.5°F, was recorded on 5 September. The average temperature for the month was 65.6°, 3.6° higher than normal. Rainfall for September was 3.25", which is close to the historic average. Climate data for October was unremarkable, with all temps and precipitation values tracking close to average. November was a different beast altogether. The average temperature in Syracuse was 34.5°, slightly more than 6° below normal. By mid-month the Region plunged into early winter with all the trimmings. A 15-16 November storm deposited close to 11 inches of snow over much of the Region. An unseasonable -1° was recorded in Syracuse on the day after Thanksgiving and the mercury dipped even lower in high elevations and rural valleys. On that same day a bone chilling -26° was recorded in Old Forge in the Adirondacks. There, a foot of wet snow fell on 27 November and reportedly damaged many trees.

Especially warm weather and the lack of significant fronts pushing through the Region resulted in a sluggish songbird migration—at least by some accounts. Some neotropicals lingered at stopover habitat for a prolonged period and availed themselves of insect and fruit resources. In southern Oneida County, one birder reported seeing what he suspected were the same Ovenbirds and Swainson's Thrushes (among other species) day after day. In the same area, groves of fruit-laden Black Cherry trees were picked clean by persistent mixed foraging flocks heavy with Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, American Robins, and Purple Finches. Northerly winds on 8 September allowed Matt Brown to witness a diverse collection of migrating raptors from Bishop Road west of Pulaski. On 19 September, favorable winds again produced a decent raptor flight at the same site. Like the previous flight it was relatively light on Broad-winged Hawks. Snow Goose migration seemed on track to start early (late November), but in much of the Region it was barely discernable. Like the bulk of the Broad-winged Hawk flight, the geese largely bypassed the Region. According to Bill Purcell, the fall gull movement over Derby Hill was disappointing and featured few of the season's specialties, most notably kittiwakes and jaegers. Regarding the dearth of Purple Sandpiper reports, Purcell recalled the words of the late legendary birder and long-time Region 5 editor Fritz Scheider, who told him that once the ice starts forming on the shoreline rocks, Purple Sandpipers become hard to find. Freezing of the Region's wetlands in mid-November drove

waterfowl onto larger lakes with ample open water, but rendered the birds not always so visible.

Waterfowl migration was largely unremarkable, with no rarities found, nor were any significant high counts reported. Both common teal species were poorly represented. A maximum number of only six Blue-winged Teal was tallied at Sandy Pond on 4 September. Although counts of diving ducks were also down, oft missed Canvasbacks were observed in several locations. All three scoter species were also found, albeit in modest numbers. Contrary to the season's trend, high counts of Hooded Mergansers were impressive, with a maximum of 158 observed on Otisco Lake on 19 November. A runner-up high tally of 120 was found in West Eaton on 15 November. Once again, Ruddy Duck numbers were low with the maximum of only 15 reported from Woodman Pond on 24 October. A single N. Bobwhite seen momentarily in a Cleveland yard (north of Oneida Lake) on 10 October was almost certainly of domestic origin. The NYSDEC's promotion of raise-and-release programs for bobwhites continues to show no sign of fostering a self-sustaining population in the Region.

There were four reports of Yellow-billed Cuckoos during the period. The last one, submitted by Deborah Dohne, was observed and photographed along Onondaga Lake on 9 November and was record late for the species in Region 5. The sighting occurred more than a month after the next latest report. Further research revealed a pattern of late fall 'reverse migration' where a few Yellow-billed Cuckoos that presumably passed weeks earlier end up back in the Great Lakes Region. On 27 October an immature male **Rufous Hummingbird** (found in Constantia) was brought to Kindred Kingdoms Wildlife Center in Pennellville. There, wildlife rehabilitators Jean and Len Soprano oversaw its recovery. This is only the third Regional record of the species, all in fall, though an adult male bird in 2012 continued into and through the winter season.

Although the number of shorebirds found this period was relatively low, the number of species encountered was average. Single Whimbrel were found on the Lake Ontario shoreline: at Fair Haven on 2 September and Sandy Pond on 9 September. Both Red Phalarope and Red-necked Phalarope were also found this period. On 3 October Sarah Dzielski photographed a Red Phalarope at Oneida Shores Park, the bird essentially straddling the Onondaga/Oswego county line. A second Red Phalarope was seen by multiple observers as it flew over Derby Hill on 10 November. A Red-necked Phalarope found in Marcellus on 8 September remained for three days and was seen by several birders.

Bill Purcell reported that, with few exceptions, the Derby Hill gull flight was lackluster. Only one Black-legged Kittiwake flew by, on 21 November, and merely a handful of Parasitic Jaegers were tallied, four on 17 October and two on 3 November. On 7 November at Oswego Harbor, a possible Pomarine Jaeger was observed trying to force gulls with full crops to disgorge. Birders compared notes but felt the bird was too far out to be sure. Sylvan Beach has traditionally been the Region's most reliable place to encounter large quantities of

Bonaparte's Gulls, and this fall the birds did not disappoint. On 4 November, 600 Bonaparte's Gulls were counted. Single **Little Gulls** were observed flying over Derby Hill on three dates between 17 October and 14 November. A Little Gull lingered at the south end of Onondaga Lake between 11 and 15 November and was seen by many birders. At Sandy Pond on 11 November, Matthew Brown saw and photographed a **Forster's Tern** as it stood on a sand spit with Common Terns.

On a small lake near Old Forge in northern Herkimer County on 7 October, Gary Lee counted 71 Common Loons—obviously staging. According to Lee, that was the highest count he had ever had at that location. He further reported that one Common Loon with offspring remained in the Adirondacks through at least the start of October. On 3 November at Derby Hill, David Wheeler saw an adult **Northern Gannet** flying low to the water. Although the rarity was seen only at a great distance, Wheeler said it was unmistakable and provided a description. On 6 October, Gregg Dashnau saw two cormorants flying together during his watch at the Three Rivers confluence. One was substantially larger than the other and “beyond normal size variation” for Double-crested Cormorant. He thought the larger one was a good candidate for **Great Cormorant** but stopped short given the lack of confirming field marks.

Only one American Bittern was encountered this period, in Old Forge on 9 September. Reports of **Cattle Egret** came from opposite ends of the Region, east and west. Barbara and Larry Hall saw two Cattle Egrets foraging in a cow pasture in Little Falls. The birds were photographed several times between 8 and 10 November. The other Cattle Egret was found by Matt Brown north of Pulaski on 14 November. A single adult Black-crowned Night-Heron was observed from near Onondaga Lake between 11 and 14 September. The location continues to be the Region's most reliable place to find night-herons.

Generally, the numbers of raptors migrating over the Region was unimpressive. A low number of Golden Eagles, only three, was tallied this period, which was interesting considering the record number of Golden Eagles counted at Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch in adjacent Region 4 during the latter part of October. To no one's surprise, Northern Goshawks were hard to come by this period. In the southern highlands of Madison County, near the hamlet of Sheds, at least one adult Northern Goshawk was seen hunting the vicinity of Linda Salter's birdfeeders on several occasions. The season's first Rough-legged Hawk arrived in Syracuse on 16 October. A maximum count of three passed over the Bishop Road Hawkwatch on 26 October and 4 November. Single Rough-legs were reported from only 10 other locations. Relatively few Eastern Screech-Owls were reported this fall. On 30 November, Wildlife Rehabilitator Jean Soprano received an E. Screech-Owl that had been injured by a trap presumably set for furbearers. The owl came from Elbridge. Another one of the Region's rehabilitators, Deb Saltis in Town of Herkimer, reported receiving two Red-tailed Hawks that were injured by traps. One came from Waterville on 5 November and the other from Schuyler on 8 November. Both hawks died from

injuries sustained. Unfortunately, it's not unusual for raptors to be caught in traps baited with meat and it's safe to say that we only hear about a small percentage of the victims. Most simply die or are maimed and discarded. These raptors are collateral damage to a trapping sport that is actively promoted by the NYSDEC but typically receives little to no oversight and is far more brutal than other methods of 'harvesting' wildlife.

The first Snowy Owl of the season arrived in Lysander on 2 November. With only two subsequent reports, it became clear it was not going to be a big invasion year for Snowies. Christopher Briggs, a Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at Hamilton College, undertook a Northern Saw-whet Owl banding project in forested land owned by the college in the Town of Kirkland. Over the course of three evenings in late October, Briggs and his assistants caught, banded, and released 44 Northern Saw-whets, 28 of which were caught on the evening of 26 October. Of the 44 examined, 30 were clearly female, three were clearly male, and 11 were of indeterminate sex. 29 were determined to be hatch-year birds; six were second-year, and nine were older than second-year. This was the second year Briggs undertook this excellent project and he hopes to continue it in future fall seasons. A N. Saw-whet Owl died after colliding with a vehicle in Orwell, Oswego County on 9 November.

Sightings of Red-headed Woodpeckers came from three locations, two on the Lake Ontario shoreline, and none were reported after 9 October. There were widespread reports of Merlins this fall. A maximum number of four was tallied near Pulaski by Matt Brown on 4 November. Two Merlins were seen in the vicinity of their nest in Constantia on 23 September. The resident pair of Peregrine Falcons in Utica remained on territory through the period. There were several reports of the pair dealing with migrant interlopers (other Peregrines) and evicting them from the territory. In Syracuse, reports on the presence of the resident pair were sporadic. Another pair of adults (unbanded) was recovered in the Syracuse area; both had been trapped inside open exhaust stacks. The male was rescued alive and brought to Kindred Kingdoms Wildlife Center on 8 October. Unfortunately, the female had expired before discovery. It's speculated that the male entered the second stack while investigating distress calls from the trapped female. Following treatment, the recovered male was subsequently released to the wild.

Migrating Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were more in evidence than usual. The species was found in a dozen locations through 18 September. An intriguing 6 October report of Loggerhead Shrike migrating near Pulaski went unconfirmed after the editors could not reach the observer for details. A Northern Shrike was found by Deborah Dohne at Onondaga Lake on 19 November. The bird continued until the end of the fall reporting season. Will it make the west shore its winter home? Mickey Scilingo did an exemplary job monitoring the migrant songbirds that passed along the north shore of Oneida Lake and by his Constantia property. Most notable was the significant movement of Blue Jays. In fourteen sessions between 16 September and 14

October, Scilingo tallied 10,275 migrating jays. The heaviest flights took place between 24-27 September. He counted 2,339 on 23 September, 2,263 on 24 September, and 2,725 on 27 September. Scilingo's records show that the bulk of the movement took place between 8 and 10 AM on those days. Scilingo also detected a significant push of Black-capped Chickadees, counting 74 on 27 September and 59 on 14 October. Although large numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches were not tallied in any one location, the sheer number of reports and the unusual places they were being found was testament to their irruption. A maximum count of nine was tallied near Sandy Pond on 4 September. The number of Winter Wren reports was down this period. The high count was six and came from Highland Forest in southern Onondaga County on 9 October.

Gray-cheeked Thrushes were especially hard to come by. Reports came from only three locations. The movement of American Robins was barely discernable to most of us, but that was not the case in Constantia, where Mickey Scilingo had two good days. The biggest influx happened on 30 October when 2,031 robins flew along the Oneida lakeshore. The heaviest part of the flight occurred between 8:00 and 8:35 AM. The robins were part of a larger movement of songbirds that took place that morning. At least 81 Eastern Bluebirds passed through as well. Scilingo wrote that it was difficult to get an exact number and he was certain that he undercounted. There were relatively few reports of Brown Thrashers this fall. The last one was observed in Camillus on 13 October.

An irruption of winter finches was predicted in the Region, however their numbers were anything but widely distributed. Evening Grosbeaks began showing up at bird feeders on 17 October, but only became reliable visitors in the Region's higher elevations. Common Redpolls arrived on 11 November but were reported in very few areas. White-winged Crossbills arrived on 31 October but never attained appreciable numbers. As is typical, the supply of Pine Siskins was much greater than the other winter finches, and the species was much more evenly distributed throughout the Region. Reports of Vesper Sparrow came from five areas, the last in Van Buren on 20 November. A single Grasshopper Sparrow was reported from Utica on 18 October, late for the species.

Counts of Eastern Meadowlarks rarely exceed single digits in recent years, but a dozen were tallied at the Bishop Road Hawkwatch on 9 September. Through the end of November, an adult male Baltimore Oriole visited Linda Salter's property near the Madison County hamlet of Sheds. There, the brightly plumaged neotropical "non-migrant" was treated like a king and feasted on jelly and the flesh of ripe oranges. Why would he ever want to leave? There were some respectable flights of blackbirds this period, with the largest flocks moving in the latter half of October. The best number was 15,700 Common Grackles counted in Mexico on 24 October.

Warbler migration was typical of recent years. It featured a decent spread of species but, generally, the tallies of individuals were low. Matt Perry remarked that he could usually still find all the same species he was able to record ten and twenty years before, but in order to do so he needed to walk ten

times as far. Orange-crowned Warblers were found at nine locations, which is better than average. Bill Purcell counted 10 Cape May Warblers at his Hastings property on the first day of September. At the Onondaga Lake Creekwalk, Deborah Dohne also noticed good numbers of Cape Mays especially given the short distance of the walk. Nearby she found a very late House Wren. Mostly gone by the second week of October, the bird was found on 9 November. While still found in fair numbers in November along the Atlantic coast, the species is exceptionally rare in upstate NY, with only three prior records for late fall: 1 December 1951 and 1960, and 7 November 1974. Dohne also contributed a record-late Blackpoll Warbler on 15 November. Prone to linger into late fall before undertaking a heroic migration, the sighting is three weeks later than the next latest, a 25 October bird also found by Dohne and enjoying brief record-late status until the November sighting. Same bird? Like House Wren, the species rarely lingers upstate. Although the high counts of Bay-breasted Warblers were not particularly impressive, reports of the species were numerous and widespread. Reports of Bays were nearly twice as numerous as those of Blackburnian Warblers, which seems odd. High counts of the latter species also never exceeded two. An “**Audubon’s**” **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was observed and photographed in East Syracuse on 12 October by Jen Fabian. One day later, a hybrid Myrtle x Audubon’s Yellow-rump was photographed at Three Rivers WMA. On 10 October at the Three Rivers confluence, Gregg Dashnau first heard and then observed two **Dickcissels** passing over him. It was a brief encounter but Dashnau was confident of the ID.

Deborah Dohne continues to monitor developments along the west shore of Onondaga Lake and summarized in a report to the editors. In it she wrote “Water was high all fall, both in the lake and Onondaga and Nine Mile creeks. Not as good for shorebirds this year. Some recently planted vegetation is starting to mature. Frogs were found along the West Shore; I have never seen them at the lake before. Significant clearcutting along the West Shore Trail was done, and a massive sea of asphalt paved over formerly grassy State Fair lots that have attracted plovers and other grass-pipers in the past. The woods that were cut have regularly held four Wood Thrush, presumably breeders, on that section of the trail. They’ll likely return in spring to find their territories gone.” On the positive side, Dohne further noted an excellent concentration of sparrows, robins, and other half-hardies continuing through November and with seemingly little reason to leave the brushy areas. The lake itself is of course tremendously important to migrating and wintering waterfowl. We look forward to continued reports on the lake-cleanup effort and alteration of the landscape.

A total of 240 species and one hybrid was reported for the season, which is five more than the recent 10-year average of 235. Highlights included: **Rufous Hummingbird**, Whimbrel, Golden Eagle, Red-necked Phalarope, Red Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Black-legged Kittiwake, Little Gull, Forster’s Tern, **Northern Gannet**, **Cattle Egret**, Snowy Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Evening Grosbeak, Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler

(Audubon's), and Dickcissel.

Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02 was used to process 43,912 eBird records from 297 contributors.

The editors of Region 5 note with sadness the passing of Marge Rusk on 20 September 2018. Marge had a hand in virtually every bird conservation project that took place in the Region for over 60 years. She oversaw and/or participated in Christmas Bird Counts, Breeding Bird Survey routes, both NYS Breeding Bird Atlases, Winter Waterfowl counts, Birdathons, and more. She was a former Kingbird Region 5 editor and a dedicated contributor for many decades. She was very active in the Onondaga Audubon Society and served as the chapter's delegate to NYSOA annual meetings. Marge was a first-class birder and conservationist, generous with her knowledge, and a keeper of the oral history of birding in the central NY area. She was considered a mentor to many of Region 5's most active birders and conservationists. In 2017, Marge's contributions to bird conservation and record keeping were recognized by the Kirkland Bird Club when she was awarded their annual Conservation Award. To this day, the editors still consult Marge's large box of seasonal records when compiling quarterly reports. Her summaries providing first, last, and notable counts and locations for all four seasons and all species known to the Region, span an incredible 60+ years. Marge's legacy lives on in the respect for birds and conservation she fostered in so many others. As the 'Hooded Warbler' she closed every Birdathon 'big day' by ceremoniously lowering her yellow and black scarf. We were fortunate to know her.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

Adks – Adirondacks (n. HERK); **BLNC** – Beaver L 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; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **Hast** – Hastings; **HI** – Howland I WMA; **MNWR east** – Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **OF** – Old Forge, HERK; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Ppt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango, MADI; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **TRC** – Three Rivers Confluence, Phoenix; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WATERFOWL - HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr 5 SP 2 Oct; max 1680 hast 20 Nov; relatively few reps.

Brant: arr FH 27 Sep; 320 WP 13 Oct; max 855 DH 16 Oct; last SVB 22 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr & max 6 WP 7 Oct; 4 SP 26 Oct; 4 Sangerfield 9 Nov.

Canada Goose: max 4200 WP 7 Oct; 3870 Hast 20 Nov.

Mute Swan: max 32 FH 22 Oct.

Trumpeter Swan: 2 FH 7 Sep; max 10 FH 4 Nov; 4 OnonL 30 Nov.

Tundra Swan: arr 3 FH 28 Oct; max 207 PPT 14 Nov; 17 TR 29 Nov; best numbers from OneiL.

Wood Duck: max 50 UM 2 Sep; 31 DL 13 Sep.

Blue-winged Teal: max 6 SP 4 Sep; last WP 15 Oct; few reps.

N. Shoveler: arr 2 MNWR east 4 Oct; 8 UM 2 Nov; max 9 OLC 12 Nov.

Gadwall: arr MNWR east 4 Oct; 20 UM 2 Nov; max 40 FH 4 Nov.

Am. Wigeon: arr 3 OnonL 7 Sep; max 83 WP 1 Nov; 78 DH 21 Nov.

Mallard: 230 FH 22 Oct; max 250 SVB 24 Nov.

Am. Black Duck: max 113 DH 21 Oct; 93 Altmar 15 Nov.

N. Pintail: arr FH 8 Sep; max 314 DH 16 Oct; 16 WP 12 Nov.

Green-winged Teal: max 24 TR 3 Nov; 15 UM 2 Nov.

Canvasback: arr DH 17 Oct; 5 WP 19 Nov; max 13 West Monroe 30 Nov; reps from 3 other locs.

Redhead: arr Brew 3 Oct; 27 Otisco Lake 19 Nov; max 100 OnonL 30 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 8 Great Swamp Conservancy 6 Oct; max 680 Const 11 Nov; 450 WP 12 Nov.

Greater Scaup: arr WP 16 Oct; max 20 DH 10 Nov; 13 OnonL 15 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: arr 3 OswH 23 Sep; 39 WP 9 Nov; max 62 OnonL 14 Nov.

Greater Scaup/Lesser Scaup: 800 Cleveland 11 Nov.

aythya species: 350 OnonL 25 Nov.

Surf Scoter: arr 3 OF 8 Oct; max 29 DH 12 Oct; 11 SVB 5 Nov; relatively widespread.

White-winged Scoter: 3 FH 9 Sep; 22 SSSP 8 Oct; max 24 DH 20 Oct.

Black Scoter: arr SSSP 8 Oct; 5 SVB 5 Nov; max 14 SP 15 Nov.

Surf Scoter/Black Scoter: 35 Cavenovia 18 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr FH 17 Oct; 300 SP 2 Nov; max 630 DH 10 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr DH 17 Oct; max 68 SVB 5 Nov; 45 DH 10 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr 2 DH 20 Oct; 32 West Eaton 15 Nov; max 100 Otisco Lake 25 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: 120 West Eaton 15 Nov; max 158 Otisco Lake 19 Nov.

Com. Merganser: 400 SVB 6 Oct; max 420 FH 24 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr 2 SP 5 Oct; 210 FH 31 Oct; max 250 OswH 15 Nov.

Com. Merganser/Red-breasted Merganser: 110 Jamesville 22 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: arr DeWitt 8 Oct; max 15 WP 24 Oct; low numbers.

N. Bobwhite: Cleveland 10 Oct, only rep.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 West Monroe 24 Oct; max 3 TR 3 Nov; singles 8 other locs.

Ruffed Grouse: max 9 SFNS 4 Sep; low

numbers.

Wild Turkey: 25 Little Falls 9 Nov; max 39 Pine Meadow OSWE 13 Nov.
Pied-billed Grebe: 7 WP 29 Oct; max 19 OnonL 19 Nov.
Horned Grebe: arr OnonL, DH 20 Oct; 29 FH 22 Oct; max 30 DH 4 Nov; 13 OnonL 30 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr WP 9 Oct; 4 DH 28 Oct; max 11 OnonL 20 Nov.
Rock Pigeon: 200 Bville 16 Nov; max 215 Tully 24 Nov.
Mourning Dove: 51 Richland 2 Nov; 56 Syr 24 Oct; max 90 Dolge 24 Nov.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Elbridge 9 Sep; Baltimore Woods 29 Sep; Port Ontario 7 Oct; last OnonL 9 Nov (DD), record late for Reg.
Com. Nighthawk: max 7 Syr 15 Sep; last Syr 18 Sep; singles from 8 other locs.
Chimney Swift: max 10 Elbridge 5 Sep; 6 GLSP 8 Sep; last 2 Syr 17 Sep.
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: Const 27 Oct (JS, ph), 3rd Reg rec, *intro*.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 6 Pulaski 1-2 Sep; max 7 Pulaski 8 Sep; last Marcellus 27 Sep.

RAILS - LARIDS

Virginia Rail: 2 SH 5-11 Sep; last SH 17 Sep; reps from two other locs.
Sora: HI 15 Sep, only report.
Com. Gallinule: 5 UM 9 Sep; max 7 OnonL 7 Sep; 5 HI 15 Sep; last UM 8 Oct.
Am. Coot: max 13 WP 1 & 6 Nov; last 5 OnonL 25 Nov; few reps.
Sandhill Crane: 2 SHTF 16 Sep; 2 HI 23 Sep; max 3 Port Byron 21 Nov.
Black-bellied Plover: 4 Stillwater Reservoir 20 Sep; max 7 SP 2 Oct; last DH 10 Nov.
Am. Golden-Plover: max 14 SP 1 Oct; last SP 5 Oct; singles 4 other locs.
Semipalmated Plover: 3 FH 2 Sep; max 28 SP 7 Sep; last 5 SP 6 Oct.
Killdeer: max 60 SHTF 16 Sep; 46 Syr 2 Oct; last 3 OnonL 15 Nov.
Whimbrel: FH 2 Sep (DD); SP 9 Sep (MB).
Ruddy Turnstone: max 4 SP 4 Sep; last SP 22 Sep; only reps.
Red Knot: max 4 SP 12 Sep; last SP 2 Oct.
Stilt Sandpiper: SP 4 Sep, only rep.
Sanderling: max FH 7 Sep; 12 DH 18 Oct; last FH 7 Nov.
Dunlin: 19 OswH 18 Oct; max 40 SP 6 Nov; 13 DH 10 Nov; last FH 17 Nov.
Baird's Sandpiper: SP 3 Sep, only rep.
Least Sandpiper: 9 SP 4 Sep; max 11 Marcellus 8 Sep; 7 SHTF 9 Sep; last OnonL 25

Sep.

White-rumped Sandpiper: max 4 SP 5 Sep; last FH 27 Oct; Waterville 11 Sep.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 12 Bridgeport 5 Oct; 7 DeWitt 26 Oct; last DeWitt 29 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 7 SHTF 2 Sep; max 30 SP 8 Sep; last OnonL 28 Oct.
Short-billed Dowitcher: 6 SP 3-5 Sep; max 7 Marcellus 8 Sep; last SP 16 Sep.
Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher: 4 SP 2 Sep; MNWR east 4 Oct.
Am. Woodcock: max 5 TR 10 Oct; last SFNS 1 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: 2 HI 7 Oct; last TR 10 Oct; only reps.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 3 Marcellus 9 Sep & 3 West Eaton 13 Sep; last Brew 14 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: 4 Manlius 9 – 17 Sep; max 6 West Eaton 16 Sep; last Lake Julia, ONEI 20 Oct.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 9 SP 5 Sep & 9 Marcellus 9 Sep; last Fayetteville 19 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: 8 Marcellus 9 Sep; max 20 Stillwater Reservoir 20 Sep; last OnonL 12 Nov.
Lesser Yellowlegs/Greater Yellowlegs: max 7 Macellus 9 Sep & 7 SP 10 Sep.
Red-necked Phalarope: Marcellus 8 – 11 Sep (AB, mob, ph).
Red Phalarope: Brew 3 Oct (SD, ph); DH 10 Nov (mob).
Parasitic Jaeger: arr & max 4 DH 17 Oct (DW); 2 DH 3 Nov (BP, DW); only reps.
Pomarine/Parasitic Jaeger: OswH 7 Nov (GD, DW).
jaeger species: FH 22 Sep (KM); DH 21 Nov (DW).
Black-legged Kittiwake: DH 21 Nov (BP, DD), only rep.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 600 SVB 4 Nov (DW); 200 OnonL 12 Nov (DW).
Little Gull: DH 17 Oct (BP, mob); OnonL 11-15 Nov (DW, DD, mob); DH 10 Nov (KM, mob); DH 14 Nov (SP, ph).
Ring-billed Gull: 1000 OnonL 30 Oct; max 2000 SVB 4 Nov.
Herring Gull: 142 DH 20 Oct; max 250 SVB 4 Nov.
Iceland Gull: arr OswH 31 Oct-18 Nov; Phoenix 19 Nov; DH 27 Nov; SSSP 27 Nov; only reps.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: arr DH 21 Oct; DH 3 Nov; DH 4 Nov; max 2 SVB 4-7 Nov; DH 21 Nov.
Glaucous Gull: arr FH 4 Nov; FH 15 Nov; max 3 DH 21 Nov; OswH 23 Nov.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 45 SVB 1 Oct; 23 SP 11 Nov.
Caspian Tern: max 36 SP 4 Sep; last OswH 11 Oct.
Com. Tern: 111 SP 4 Sep; max 118 SVB 10 Sep; last SP 11 Nov.
Forster's Tern: SP 11 Nov (MB, ph).

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: arr 2 DH 12 Oct; 4 OnonL 19 Nov; max 9 DH 21 Nov.
Com. Loon: max 71 OF 7 Oct (GL), high count for loc; 66 DH 21 Nov (DD).
NORTHERN GANNET (R5): DH 3 Nov (DW!), ad.
Double-crested Cormorant: 900 OswH 25 Oct; max 1250 FH 26 Oct.
Great/Double-crested Cormorant: TRC 6 Oct (GD), *intro*.
Am. Bittern: OF 9 Sep, only rep.
Great Blue Heron: max 11 SP 9 Sep; 8 TRC 20 Nov.
Great Egret: max 10 Memphis 21 Sep; 6 DB 6 Oct; Kirkville 5 Nov.
CATTLE EGRET (R5): 2 Little Falls 9-10 Nov; Pulaski 14 Nov (MB, ph).
Green Heron: 6 West Monroe 1 Sep; max 7 UM 11 Sep.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: OLC 11-14 Sep (DD).
Turkey Vulture: max 478 Pulaski 5 Oct; 168 BRH 7 Oct; 241 TRC 8 Oct.
Osprey: max 6 TRC 1 Sep & 6 TRC 8 Sep & 6 BRH 19 Sep; last WP 20 Oct.
Bald Eagle: 31 BRH 8 Sep; max 35 BRH 19 Sep; 24 Pulaski 5 Oct.
N. Harrier: 6 BRH 8 Sep; max 21 Pulaski 5 Oct (MB), good number; 6 BRH 7 Oct.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 11 BRH 8 Sep; 11 BRH 19 Sep; max 45 Pulaski 5 Oct.
Cooper's Hawk: 3 TRC 29 Sep; 3 Pulaski 5 Oct; max 7 Brew 14 Oct.
N. Goshawk: Sheds intermittent thru (LS); only reports.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 10 Pulaski 5 Oct; 3 Const 14 Oct; singles 8 other locs.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 204 BRH 8 Sep; 77 DB 9 Sep; 99 BRH 19 Sep; last BRH 7 Oct.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 142 Pulaski 5 Oct; 66 Brew 14 Oct; 49 BRH 4 Nov.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Syr 16 Oct; max 3 BRH 26 Oct & 3 BRH 4 Nov; singles 10 other locs.
Golden Eagle: arr Const 14 Oct; BRH 4 Nov; Mindenville 10 Nov; only reps.
E. Screech-Owl: max 2 Marcellus 9 Sep;

Elbridge 30 Nov (JS), injured by trap; singles 12 other locs.
Great Horned Owl: 2 Fayetteville 23 Sep-18 Nov; 2 Hast 23 Oct; 2 Hamilton 30 Nov.
Snowy Owl: arr Lysander 2 Nov; Oneida 13 Nov; OnonL 24-25 Nov.
Barred Owl: 2 HI 15 Sep; 2 Syr 1 Oct.
N. Saw-whet Owl: max 28 Kirkland 16 Oct (CB!), banded, *intro*. Orwell 9 Nov (JS), expired following impact.
Belted Kingfisher: max 3 OF 9 Sept & 3 DB 9 Sep & 3 Richfield Springs 12 Sep & 3 HI 15 Sep.
Red-headed Woodpecker: DH 5 Sep; max 3 FH 16 Sep; 2 Utica 9 Oct; only reps.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 7 Const 27 Sep; max 14 TRC 4 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 8 TRC 28 Sep-3 Oct; 5 OnonL 5 Oct.
Downy Woodpecker: 7 TRC 3 Oct; max 9 HI 7 Oct.
Hairy Woodpecker: max 5 Pulaski 15 Sep & 5 CM 3 Oct & 5 WP 26 Oct.
N. Flicker: 13 OnonL 14 Sep; max 21 TRC 28 Sep.
Pileated Woodpecker: max 5 Marcellus 7 Sep; 4 SFNS 7 Sep.
Am. Kestrel: 12 BRH 8 Sep; max 14 BRH 19 Sep; 11 Pulaski 5 Oct.
Merlin: 2 GLSP 8 Sep; 2 SFNS 17 Sep; 2 Const 23 Sep; max 4 Pulaski 5 Oct; 2 Sangerfield 4 Nov; widespread reps.
Peregrine Falcon: 2 BRH 8 Sep; 2 BRH 19 Sep; resident pr Utica thru; max 3 Pulaski 5 Oct; Syr 8 Oct (JS), ad, m, unbanded, liberated from chimney, *intro*; 2 Syr 12 Oct; 2 DH 21 Oct.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: 2 Sauquoit 2 Sep; 2 SFNS 6 Sep; 2 TRC 1-2 Sep; last Rice Creek Field Station 18 Nov.
E. Kingbird: max 3 OLC 11 Sep; last OLC 12 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: Syr 1-2 Sep; SH 11 Sep; only reps.
E. Wood-Pewee: 6 Sauquoit 2 Sep; max 7 TRC 17 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SFNS 1-14 Sep; HI 15 Sep; last Syr 18 Sep; singles 9 other locs.
Alder Flycatcher: 2 Pulaski 1-2 Sep, only report.
Willow Flycatcher: 2 TRC 1 Sep; last CM 6 Sep.
Alder/Willow Flycatcher: max 3 TRC 8 Sep; 2 HI 15 Sep; last Dolge 29 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: 3 Sauquoit 2 Sep; max 4 Pulaski 4 Sep; 3 SFNS 6 Sep; last SFNS, TR 6 Oct.

Empidonax species: max 7 GLSP 8 Sep; last Syr 15 Sep.

E. Phoebe: max 7 Pulaski 7 Oct; 6 HI 7 Oct.

N. Shrike: arr DeWitt 8 Oct; singles at 7 other locs.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 3 SP 2 Sep; 3 Brew 5 Sep; last & max 5 HI 15 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: 3 TRC 28 Sep; 3 SH 5 Oct; max 4 SFNS 6 Oct; last FH 26 Oct.

Philadelphia Vireo: 2 GLSP 8 Sep; 2 TRC 8-19 Sep; 2 HI 15 Sep; last TR 28 Sep.

Warbling Vireo: max 6 WP 4 Sep & 6 HI 15 Sep; last TR 27 Sep.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 8 SFNS 1 Sep; 7 TRC 12-15 Sep; last SFNS 8 Oct.

Blue Jay: 2339 Const 23 Sep; 2263 Const 24 Sep; max 2725 Const 27 Sep (MS), great numbers.

Am. Crow: max 670 BRH 26 Oct; 600 Syr 30 Oct.

Fish Crow: 2 OnonL 4 Nov; all reps from same loc.

Com. Raven: 5 DH 17 Sep; max 6 Const 24 Sep; 6 Pulaski 30 Oct.

Horned Lark: 60 BRH 10 Nov; max 156 Elbridge 17 Nov.

Purple Martin: Hast 15 Sep, only rep.

Tree Swallow: 120 BRH 9 Sep; 60 SP 9 Sep; max 250 HI 7 Oct; last OnonL 14 Nov.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: 2 OswH 11 Sep; last & max 18 HI 7 Oct.

Bank Swallow: 8 SVB 10 Sep; max 10 OswH 11 Sep; last FH 27 Oct.

Cliff Swallow: SP 9 Sep, only rep.

Barn Swallow: 25 Richfield Springs 1 Sep; max 50 OLC 2 Sep; last HI 7 Oct.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 74 Const 27 Sep; 59 Const 14 Oct, migrant flights.

Tufted Titmouse: 6 Brew 5 Sep; max 10 Const 30 Sep; 6 Elbridge 22 Nov.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 9 Pulaski 4 Sep; 6 GLSP 8 Sep; 6 Const 23 Sep.

White-breasted Nuthatch: 12 Const 27 Sep; max 15 Syr 8 Oct.

Brown Creeper: 4 SFNS 10 Oct; 2 FH 4 Nov.

House Wren: max 5 SFNS 5-8 Sep; 4 Elbridge 9 Sep.

Winter Wren: 4 SFNS 6 Oct; max 6 SH 9 Oct; 3 TR 16 Oct.

Marsh Wren: max 6 HI 15 Sep; 2 TR 20 Sep; last Marcellus 10 Oct; reps from 2 other areas.

Carolina Wren: max 3 HI 15 Sep & 3 OnonL 20 Nov; 2 Poolville 3-23 Sep.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: TRC 1 Sep; GLSP 1 Sep; Pulaski 4 Sep; last Syr 15 Sep.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 16 Syr 14 Oct; 12 SFNS 6-9 Oct; max 25 OnonL 9 Nov.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 25 Brew 9 Oct & 25 TRC 14 Oct; 22 Brew 14 Oct; last Syr 21 Nov.

E. Bluebird: 40 HI 7 Oct; max 81 Const 30 Oct; 31 Const 4 Nov.

Veery: max 2 TRC 12 Sep & 2 HI 15 Sep; last TRC 30 Sep; relatively few reps.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: max 4 HI 15 Sep; last 3 Syr 29 Sep; TRC 17 & 19 Sep (GD).

Swainson's Thrush: max 13 HI 15 Sep; 2 SFNS 18-24 Sep; 3 Syr 19 Sep; last Brew 18 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: 3 Moss Lake, Adks 6 Sep; max 4 SFNS 18-19 Oct & 4 TRC 18 Oct; 3 Syr 28 Oct.

Wood Thrush: max 8 HI 15 Sep; 2 SFNS 11-19 Sep; 2 TRC 4-17 Sep; last SFNS 30 Sep.

Am. Robin: 225 TRC 22 Oct; max 2031 Const 30 Oct (MS); 850 Const 4 Nov.

Gray Catbird: max 25 UM 9-11 Sep; 19 HI 15 Sep; last OnonL 9 Nov.

Brown Thrasher: 2 SFNS 6-13 Sep; max 3 West Winfield 17 Sep; 2 TRC 17 Sep; last Camillus 13 Oct; relatively few reps.

N. Mockingbird: 2 Canastota 6 Oct; max 6 Syr 8 Nov; most reps south and west of OneiL.

European Starling: 1500 Fort Plain 19 Sep; max est 8000 DeWitt 15 Nov.

Cedar Waxwing: 70 SFNS 17 Oct; max 100 TRC 22 Oct; 73 Noyes Sanctuary 18 Nov.

House Sparrow: max 60 Syr 3 Sep.

Am. Pipit: arr DB 6 Oct; max 8 OLC 12 Nov; reps from 5 other locs.

Evening Grosbeak: arr Dolge 17 Oct; 38 Dolge 17 Nov; 53 Georgetown 18 Nov (LS); max 71 Pulaski 22 Nov; many reps from higher elevations.

House Finch: 20 DH 7 Oct; max 25 Camillus 16 Nov.

Purple Finch: max 30 Dolge 9 Sep; 18 SFNS 12-19 Sep.

Com. Repoll: arr Pulaski 11 Nov; 41 TRC 18 Nov; max 44 Tully 24 Nov.

White-winged Crossbill: arr & max 3 SFNS 31 Oct; singles 4 other locs.

Pine Siskin: arr Dolge 8 Sep; 50 Pulaski 1 Nov; max 80 Dolge 7 Nov.

Am. Goldfinch: max 200 SFNS 11 Oct; 75 OnonL 19 Oct.

Lapland Longspur: arr & max 2 OswH 11 Nov & 2 DH 10 Nov; Elbridge 17 Nov; only reports.

Snow Bunting: arr FH 20 Oct; 80 Richland 5 Nov; max 186 Fairfield 24 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

E. Towhee: max 8 SFNS 18 Sep; 5 TR 12-28 Sep.

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr TR 26 Oct; max 30 OnonL 19 – 24 Nov; 16 Tully 25 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: max 85 Jamesville 13 Sep; 45 DH 7 Oct.

Field Sparrow: max 12 GLSP 8 Sep; 9 Minoa 18 Oct; OnonL 24 Nov.

Vesper Sparrow: Dolge 4 Sep; TR 14 Oct; Cleveland 14 Oct; last Van Buren 20 Nov.

Savannah Sparrow: max 7 SHTF 16 Sep; 4 Richland 7 Oct; last OnonL 5 Nov.

Grasshopper Sparrow: Pulaski 18 Oct (MP), only rep.

Fox Sparrow: arr Dolge 17 Oct; 4 Const 14-16 Nov; max 12 Three Mile Bay WMA 14 Nov.

Song Sparrow: 40 TR 5 Oct; max 150 HI 7 Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Dolge 14 Sep; max 8 TR 5 Oct; 2 SH 5 Oct; 2 Pulaski 7 Oct.

Swamp Sparrow: 5 TR 30 Sep; max 30 HI 7 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: max 124 SH 5 Oct; 105 TR 5 Oct; 70 HI 7 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr Pulaski 28 Sep; 19 Dolge 20 Oct; max 30 Pulaski 24 Oct.

Dark-eyed Junco: 75 Lycoming 21 Oct; max 149 Const 4 Nov.

Bobolink: 2 Sauquoit 2 Sep; max 35 SFNS 1 Sep; last Pulaski 7 Oct; few reps.

E. Meadowlark: max 12 BRH 9 Sep; 3 Const 24 Sep; last 2 Dolge 30 Oct.

Baltimore Oriole: 9 Elbridge 1 Sep; max 23 Const 2 Sep; Sheds MAD1 ad male at feeders thru period (LS), very late, *intro*.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 3500 26 Oct; 1310 TRC 31 Oct.

Brown-headed Cowbird: 50 OnonL 7 Sep; max 100 Syr 17 Sep.

Rusty Blackbird: 25 Brew 23 Oct; max 181 TRC 9 Nov; last Dolge 13 Nov.

Com. Grackle: 5700 Hast 17 Oct; 5000 BLNC 19 Oct; 5000 SFNS 21 Oct; max 15700 Mexico 24 Oct (BP).

blackbird species: max 15000 Syr 30 Oct.

Ovenbird: max 2 SFNS 1-23 Sep; 2 Sauquoit 2 Sep; 2 Cicero 1 Oct; last TR 6 Oct.

N. Waterthrush: SFNS 6 Sep, only rep.

Golden-winged Warbler: SFNS 6 Sep, only rep.

Blue-winged Warbler: Hast 2-5 Sep; SFNS 4

Sep; only reps.

Black-and-white Warbler: 2 SFNS 4 Sep; max 4 GLSP 8 Sep; 2 TRC 8-12 Sep; last Syr 6 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: max 11 HI 15 Sep; 6 SFNS 19-28 Sep; last Kirkville 12 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr HI 15 Sep; max 2 Brew 14 Oct & 2 SP 26 Oct; last FH & SP 26 Oct; singles 5 other locs.

Nashville Warbler: 5 TRC 8 Sep; 5 SFNS 23 Sep; 5 TR 5 Oct; max 6 DH 7 Oct; TRC 23 Oct.

Mourning Warbler: Hast 2 Sep; SFNS 4 Sep; last TR 11 Oct; only reps.

Com. Yellowthroat: 8 SFNS 7-15 Sep; max 12 UM 9 Sep; last Dolge 29 Oct.

Hooded Warbler: max 2 SFNS 1 Sep & 2 Pulaski 2 Sep; last SFNS 28 Sep.

Am. Redstart: 5 SFNS 6 Sep; max 7 TRC 8 Sep; last Oneil 28 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: max 10 Hast 1 Sep (BP); 8 Syr 14 Sep; 3 OLC 15 Sep; last Pulaski 9 Oct.

N. Parula: max 5 OLC 15 Sep; 3 Brew 19 Sep; 3 SFNS 19 Sep; last OLC 16 Oct.

Magnolia Warbler: max 10 TRC 8 Sep; 6 SFNS 18 Sep; 8 Const 27 Sep; last Kirkville 12 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 5 HI 15 Sep; 4 Brew 19 Sep; 3 TRC 28 Sep; last Toad Harbor 14 Oct.

Blackburnian Warbler: 2 BLNC 4 Sep; 2 SFNS 4-7 Sep; 2 VBSP 9 Sep; 2 SH 13 Sep; last DH 6 Oct.

Yellow Warbler: max 4 FH 2 Sep; last OnonL 30 Sep (DD).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 5 Erieville 2-4 Sep; 3 Fulton 8 Sep; 3 HI 15 Sep; TR 29 Sep.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr Erieville, BLNC 4 Sep; max 5 OLC 15 Sep-5 Oct & 5 TRC 28 Sep; 25 Oct OLC (DD), very late; 15 Nov OLC (DD), rec late for Reg.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: 5 SFNS 19 Sep; max 10 Marcy 4 Oct; last Syr 24 Oct.

Palm Warbler: arr UM 15 Sep; 3 Mindenville 3 Oct; max 5 SH 5 Oct; last Pulaski 24 Oct.

Pine Warbler: max 4 SH 13 Sep & 4 Pulaski 28 Sep; 3 SSSP 6 Oct; last Syr 21 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 35 UM 7 Oct; max 55 Brew 14 Oct; 33 Const 14 Oct.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER

(AUDUBON'S): Syr 12 Oct (JF, SP), 5th Reg rec.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's x Myrtle intergrade): TR 13 Oct (EM, ph), 1st Reg rec.

Prairie Warbler: Dolge 14 Sep, only report.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 7 GLSP
8 Sep; 5 TRC 8 Sep; 6 SFNS 20-28 Sep; last
SFNS 20 Oct.
Canada Warbler: max 2 Pulaski 4 Sep & 2
SFNS 5-6 Sep & 2 TRC 8 Sep; last Manlius 8
Oct.
Wilson's Warbler: max 5 SFNS 5 Sep & 5
TRC 12 Sep; Pulaski 22 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: 4 SFNS 12 Sep; max 6 HI
15 Sep.
N. Cardinal: 12 Syr 6 Sep; max 15 UM 9-11
Sep; 12 Westmoreland 27 Nov.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 10 SFNS 15 –
17 Sep; last Alder Creek & Syr 6 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: max 8 OnonL 14 Sep; 3 Van
Buren 13 Sep; last 3 Van Buren 4 Oct.
DICKCISSEL: 2 TR 10 Oct (GD).

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REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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September was very warm, with high temperatures exceeding 80°F in Watertown on twelve days, including a seasonal high of 92° on 5 September. Temperatures were more seasonable through October and the first half of November, but the last three weeks of the season were much colder than average, with low temperatures dropping to -7° on the nights of 21-22 and 22-23 November, very early for subzero temperatures. September was dry throughout Region 6, but, while precipitation totals for Watertown were 1-2 inches below normal in October and November, much of the Region was much wetter than average both months.

Waterfowl numbers and diversity were generally unexceptional. For yet another fall season, very few Snow Geese were reported in Region 6. One Greater White-fronted Goose at the Canton sewage ponds on 14 October and a Richardson's Cackling Goose at Upper and Lower Lakes WMA 17-19 October were the only unusual goose reports of the season. On 27 October one Eurasian Wigeon was at Wilson Hill WMA, where this species has been found annually for about a decade. Unlike most recent falls, both Canvasback and King Eider were unreported, and maximum counts of most regular duck species were lower than usual.

Nick Leone has found a **Pacific Loon** in Chaumont Bay or Guffins Bay annually since 2012 and this year saw one in Chaumont Bay on 21 October. Surprisingly, a second Pacific Loon turned up in the St. Lawrence River at Waddington on 17 November, an apparent first record for St. Lawrence County. A high count of seven Red-throated Loons at Tibbetts Point on 20 October was a decent count for Region 6, but Nick Leone's high Common Loon count of 44 in the bay complex west of Watertown was about one-third his normal maximum count, and counts from elsewhere on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River were similarly low.

Shorebirds were surprisingly scarce given the seeming abundance of foraging habitat that resulted from continuing dry conditions through September. For instance low water at the Stone Mills Pool at Perch River WMA exposed vast mudflats that appeared ideal for large flocks of shorebirds, but most visitors noted modest numbers and relative low diversity. Yellowlegs were present on the Stone Mills Pool in decent numbers well into October and were joined by a smattering of other species, most notably two Stilt Sandpipers on 21 September. In typical fashion, most visits to the Lake Ontario shoreline turned up few to no shorebirds, but there were a few nice surprises, including the season's only Ruddy Turnstones, which Eileen Wheeler saw at El Dorado on 5 September and a Regionally rare **Purple Sandpiper** that Logan Kahle saw flying from a jetty at Mud Bay in Cape Vincent on 20 October. The usual autumn drawdown of the St. Lawrence River between the Iroquois and Robert Moses dams exposed extensive mudflats that were reliably good for shorebirds for several weeks, leading to the season's only phalarope sightings: one Red-necked Phalarope, which Hollis White photographed at Robert Moses State Park on 23 September, and a Wilson's Phalarope at Coles Creek State Park on 27 October.

For most of the season the fall passerine migration seemed about average, and there certainly wasn't anything like the spectacular pulse of warblers that was seen on Fort Drum during late August and early September last year. A few species seemed more abundant than usual. The **39** Philadelphia Vireos reported this fall is twice the previous maximum seasonal tally and three times the seasonal average for the past 15 years. It includes a daily high count of six at Fort Drum on 13 September. Similarly, the 28 Orange-crowned Warblers documented this fall is well more than double typical fall tallies. During most years, the last Orange-crowned Warbler report comes before 23 October, but this year eight reports came after this date, including a bird I found in Canton on 4 November and one Steve Kelling saw on Point Peninsula on 11 November. A number of other songbirds lingered past typical departure dates, most notably Nashville Warbler, with numerous reports in mid October and one on Point Peninsula as late as 18 November. A Hooded Warbler on Fort Drum on 5 October was a very rare fall sighting for Region 6.

As expected, several finch species irrupted into northern New York, although numbers were generally modest. Evening Grosbeaks first arrived on 5 October, and by the end of the month were widespread in Region 6 in low numbers, creating much excitement based on the number of people who happily told me they had Evening Grosbeaks at their feeders for the first time in many years. Common Redpolls started filtering in during late October, and on 26 October the first Pine Grosbeak was heard over El Dorado. The main influx of Pine Grosbeaks did not arrive until mid-November, and few were seen in the Region away from central and northern St. Lawrence County. Pine Siskins were widely reported, but there were just two Red Crossbill and one White-winged Crossbill reports, all of birds heard flying over Fort Drum.

Rarities not previously mentioned include a **Dickcissel** heard over El Dorado on 14 September and a **Nelson's Sparrow** in a Fort Drum marsh on 24 September. This latter sighting is the third record involving four individual Nelson's Sparrows on Fort Drum since 2014. It seems likely that this species occurs in Region 6 more frequently than records suggest. On 22 October, an **intergrade Northern Flicker** was at Fort Drum, a male showing a red malar stripe and yellow feather shafts. Unfortunately this flicker was only seen briefly and could not be relocated or photographed.

For the season, I received reports of 238 species, the highest fall tally by eight species over the last 15 years and perhaps the highest ever documented in Region 6. This high species tally is largely thanks to the continued increase in the number of birders visiting the Region from elsewhere, raising the odds that rarities or low-density migrants will be detected. It should also be noted that prior to about 2005 there really was no consistent effort to document every species that was reported in the Region each season. Many historic Region 6 reports seem to show a lack of occurrence or reporting for numerous species that surely were present.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BI – Barnhart I, T Massena; **BRB** – Black River Bay; **BRV** – Black River Valley; **CCSP** – Coles Creek SP; **CV** – T Cape Vincent; **CWF** – Canton Wastewater Treatment Facility; **ED** – El Dorado Preserve; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Installation; **JEFF** – Jefferson County; **HH** – Henderson Harbor; **HP** – Hawkins Pt, T Massena; **ICNC** – Indian Creek Nature Center, T Canton; **JCSP** – Jacques Cartier SP; **KC** – Kelsey Creek, T Watertown; **LPSP** – Long Pt SP; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA; **MM** – Massawepie Mire; **MP** – Montario Pt, T Ellisburg; **OCP** – Otter Creek Preserve, T Alexandria; **PilPt** – Pillar Pt, JEFF; **PRWMA** – Perch R WMA; **PtPen** – Pt Peninsula, JEFF; **RBP** – Red Barn Preserve, T Morristown; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, T Massena; **RRT** – Remington Recreation Trail, T Canton; **RWSP** – Robert G. Wehle SP; **SBSP** – Southwick Beach SP; **SLR** – St. Lawrence R; **TP** – Tibbetts Pt, T Cape Vincent; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA; **WP** – Whalen P, T Louisville.

WATERFOWL - HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr FD 5 Oct; only 7 other reports; max 250 each T Croghan & T Pinckney 18 Nov; no significant flight by end Nov.

Greater White-fronted Goose: CWF 14 Oct (JB), only report.

Brant: arr & max 325 MP 15 Oct; last 3 JCSP 11 Nov.

“Richardson’s” Cackling Goose: ULLWMA 17-19 Oct (JB), only report.

Mute Swan: 2-6/day W JEFF thru; no other reports.

Trumpeter Swan: rep from 6 loc, including new sites in T Rossie & T Theresa.

Tundra Swan: arr ED 26 Oct; max 300 PtPen 24 Nov.

Wood Duck: last 5 BRV 9 Nov.

Blue-winged Teal: max 120 PRWMA 2 Sep; last ULLWMA 18 Oct.

N. Shoveler: max 4 PRWMA 26 Oct, low.

Gadwall: max 90 PRWMA 26 Oct.

Eurasian Wigeon: transitional m WHWMA 27 Oct (JB), only report.

Am. Wigeon: max 1125 WHWMA 27 Oct, high.

Am. Black Duck: max 120 WHWMA 27 Oct.

N. Pintail: max 210 WHWMA 8 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 685 WP 30 Sep.

Canvasback: no reports.

Redhead: max 160 WHWMA 12 Oct, low.

Ring-necked Duck: max 3045 WHWMA 8 Oct.

Greater Scaup: max 700 LPSP 11 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: max 34 WHWMA 8 Oct.

Surf Scoter: arr PtPen 7 Oct; max 7 SBSP 26 Oct.

White-winged Scoter: arr SLR T Louisville 8 Oct; max 14 MP 26 Oct.

Black Scoter: arr PtPen 7 Oct; max 32 JCSP 14 Oct.

Long-tailed Duck: arr BRB 8 Oct; max 340 MP 15 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr ULLWMA 18 Oct; max 50 PtPen 18 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr FD 18 Oct; max 94 PtPen 17 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 86 T Louisville 9 Nov.

Com. Merganser: max 79 PilPt 26 Oct.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 161 TP 20 Oct.

Ruddy Duck: ULLWMA 2 Sep & 8-18 Oct; SLR T Massena 4 Nov; only reports.

Spruce Grouse: 3 MM 2 Sep.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 62 ULLWMA 14 Sep; last T Watertown 17 Nov.

Horned Grebe: arr SLR T Hammond 23 Sep; max 8 ED 26 Oct.

Red-necked Grebe: arr SLR T Hammond 23 Sep; 3 rep, max 2 incl SLR T Hammond 26 Sep, CCSP 21 Oct, & ED 26 Oct.

Black-billed Cuckoo: last T Louisville 12 Oct.

Com. Nighthawk: last T Adams 7 Sep.

E. Whip-poor-will: 3 T Croghan 2 Sep, only report.

Chimney Swift: last PWMA & RWSP 2 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last CV 19 Sep.

RAILS - LARIDS

Virginia Rail: last PRWMA 22 Sep.

Sora: last PRWMA 24 Sep.

Com. Gallinule: max 12 PRWMA 4 Sep; last WHWMA 3 Oct.

Am. Coot: last CV 22 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: WHWMA 1 & 9 Sep; FD 11 Sep; 2 ULLMWA 18 Sep & 2 Oct; PRWMA 22 Sep; ED 26 Oct; last RRT 14 Nov.

Black-bellied Plover: max & last 19 LWMA 2 Nov.

Am. Golden-Plover: Thousand Islands Park 15 Sep; WP 15 Sep; only reports.

Semipalmated Plover: max 59 WHWMA 16 Sep; last WP 27 Oct.

Killdeer: last 2 PtSal 21 Oct.

Upland Sandpiper: heard over T Potsdam 30 Sep (NK), only report.

Ruddy Turnstone: 2 ED 5 Sep (EW) only report.

Stilt Sandpiper: 2 PRWMA 21 Sep (JB), only report.

Sanderling: max 22 ED 8 Sep; last 2 SLR T Massena 4 Nov.

Dunlin: max & last 124 LWMA 2 Nov.

Purple Sandpiper: CV 20 Oct (LK), rarely documented R6.

Baird’s Sandpiper: BI 5 Sep; PRWMA 9 Sep; FD 24 Sep; only reports.

Least Sandpiper: max 53 WP 1 Sep; last WHWMA 8 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: PRWMA 13 Sep; ED 16 Sep & 21 Oct; last 5 SLR T Massena 4 Nov.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 8 PRWMA 24 Sep; last WHWMA 4 Nov.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 9 PRWMA 20 Sep.

Short-billed Dowitcher: PRWMA 4 & 21 Sep; WP 16-18 Sep; only reports.
Wilson's Snipe: last PRWMA 13 Oct; unusually scarce.
Spotted Sandpiper: last WHWMA 29 Sep.
Solitary Sandpiper: last T Canton 27 Oct.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 54 PRWMA 21 Sep; last LWMA 2 Nov.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 32 PRWMA 13-26 Oct; last CV 10 Nov.
Wilson's Phalarope: CCSP 27 Oct (JB), only report.
Red-necked Phalarope: RMSF 23 Sep (HW, photos!), only report.
Parasitic Jaeger: TP 20 Oct (LK), only report.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 45 HH 14 Sep.
Iceland Gull: HP 17 Nov & PtPen 30 Nov; only reports.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: HP 17 Nov, only report.
Glaucous Gull: 2 CV 8 Sep (GF), rare before Nov.
Caspian Tern: last CV 23 Sep.
Com. Tern: last ED 8 Sep.

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: arr SLR T Massena 8 Oct; max 7 TP 20 Oct.
PACIFIC LOON: T Lyme 21 Oct (NL); SLR off Little Sucker Brook Park 17 Nov (JB, EW).
Com. Loon: max 44 PilPt 26 Oct.
Am. Bittern: last RBP 14 Oct.
Great Egret: max 50 ULLWMA 26 Sep; last PRWMA 13 Oct.
Green Heron: last CV 24 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: last PRWMA 22 Sep.
Turkey Vulture: scarce after 4 Nov; last T Lowville 24 Nov.
Osprey: last LWMA 18 Oct.
N. Goshawk: RRT 11-15 Oct, only report.
Red-shouldered Hawk: last T Philadelphia 13 Oct.
Broad-winged Hawk: last FD 27 Sep.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr PtPen 20 Oct.
Golden Eagle: CCSP 27 Oct, only report.
E. Screech-Owl: 4 reports.
Snowy Owl: arr T Lyme 29 Oct.
Short-eared Owl: 6 PtPen 18 Nov thru.
N. Saw-whet Owl: T Canton 7 Sep, only report.
Red-headed Woodpecker: max 10 FD 12 Sep, where last 27 Sep; T Brownville 19 Oct (AB); last T Lowville 27 Oct (EM).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: scarce after 4 Oct; last PtPen 11 Nov (SK).

N. FLICKER "INTERGRADE": as m FD 22 Oct red malar stripe & yellow flight feather shafts.

Merlin: 32 rep, 27+ ind.
Peregrine Falcon: ICNC 19 Sep; 2 PRWMA thru 26 Oct; only reports away from SLR T Massena & T Louisville and T Watertown, where resident.

FLYCATCHERS - SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last FD 17 Sep.
E. Kingbird: last PRWMA 9 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: last T Canton 16 Sep.
E. Wood-Pewee: last PtPen 22 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last FD 5 Sep.
Alder Flycatcher: last T Croghan 2 Sep.
Willow Flycatcher: last RRT 3 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: last PtPen 20 Oct (LK), late.
E. Phoebe: generally absent by 4 Nov; T Leray 29 Nov (JB), late.
N. Shrike: arr FD 24 Oct.
Yellow-throated Vireo: last FD 13 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: last PtPen 20 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: 21 FD 4 - 27 Sep, incl max 6 on 13 Sep, high; 18 from 12 additional loc, more than usual; last ULLWMA 3 Oct; *intro*.
Warbling Vireo: last RRT 23 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: last CUT 10 Oct.
Horned Lark: max 29 T Madrid 18 Nov.
Tree Swallow: last PtPen 29 Oct.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: last 2 LWMA 12 Sep.
Bank Swallow: last PRWMA & RWSP 5 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: last PRWMA 10 Sep.
Barn Swallow: last 4 LWMA 12 Sep.
House Wren: last FD 11 Oct.
Winter Wren: last PtPen 18 Nov.
Sedge Wren: last FD 3 Oct.
Marsh Wren: last FD 17 Sep.
Carolina Wren: 9 rep, 4 ind all W JEFF.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last PRWMA 2 Sep.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: migr arr 20 Sep; max 17 ED 26 Oct.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr FD 4 Sep; last FD 20 Nov.
Veery: last FD 13 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: nocturnal migr over T Canton & T Potsdam 19 & 30 Sep & 1 Oct; last FD 2 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: last FD 18 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: last FD 30 Oct.
Wood Thrush: last T Croghan 27 Sep.
Gray Catbird: last FD 16 Oct.
Brown Thrasher: last RRT 8 Oct.
N. Mockingbird: PtPen 22 Sep, only report.

Bohemian Waxwing: 4 CUT 18 Nov (NK), only report.
Cedar Waxwing: max 135 ED 26 Oct.
Am. Pipit: max 5 ED 26 Oct; last CV 17 Nov.
Evening Grosbeak: arr T Croghan 5 Oct; widespread in low numbers by late Oct; max 22 T Pinckney 9 Nov.
Pine Grosbeak: early arr ED 26 Oct, only report until T Madrid 17 Nov; max 16 ULLWMA 24 Nov.
Purple Finch: steady southbound migration late Sep thru early Nov; max 22 FD 5 Oct.
Com. Redpoll: arr FD 22 Oct.
Red Crossbill: FD 12 Sep & 18 Oct; only reports.
White-winged Crossbill: FD 22 Oct, only report.
Pine Siskin: widespread thru; max 40 LWMA 2 Nov.
Lapland Longspur: arr T Clayton 14 Oct; max 6 CV 22 Nov.
Snow Bunting: arr FD 22 Oct.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

E. Towhee: scarce after 3 Oct; last CV 20 Nov (DM).
Am. Tree Sparrow: arr FD 23 Oct.
Chipping Sparrow: max 150 FD 15 Oct; last KC 9 Nov.
Field Sparrow: last FD 22 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: last T Watertown 20 Nov.
Savannah Sparrow: last PtPen & WHWMA 21 Oct.
NELSON'S SPARROW (R6): FD 24 Sep (JB), where 4th record & 3rd in 5 years.
Fox Sparrow: arr WHWMA 22 Sep; max 26 FD 23 Oct; last T Croghan 17 Nov.
Song Sparrow: mostly scarce after 5 Nov, but many near L Ontario thru.
Lincoln's Sparrow: last FD 22 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: scarce after mid-Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: max 165 FD 11 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr WHWMA 29 Sep; last T Lowville 24 Nov.
Dark-eyed Junco: arr PtPen 22 Sep.
Bobolink: last WHWMA 22 Sep.
E. Meadowlark: last FD 1 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: last FD 17 Sep.
Rusty Blackbird: arr PRWMA & RRT 22 Sep; max 40 FD 2 Nov, low; last T Canton 10 Nov.
Com. Grackle: scarce after 10 Nov.
Ovenbird: last WHWMA 3 Oct.
N. Waterthrush: last ED 14 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last FD 17 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: last FD 15 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: last FD 5 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr PtPen 22 Sep; 13 FD 27 Sep - 25 Oct, more than usual; last PtPen 11 Nov, late; 13 ind, 8 additional loc; excellent year, *intro*.
Nashville Warbler: 2 FD 18 Oct (JB) late; PtPen 18 Nov, very late (LK, KE).
Com. Yellowthroat: generally absent by 4 Oct, but a few lingered to late Oct; last FD 29 Nov.
Hooded Warbler: FD 5 Oct (JB), rarely reported during fall.
Am. Redstart: last PtPen 22 Sep.
Cape May Warbler: generally absent after 3 Oct, but 1 at KC feeder 29 Oct - 19 Nov (RB, DM, photos!).
N. Parula: max 25 PtPen 22 Sep; last ICNC 6 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: last Murray I 6 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: last FD 3 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last OCP 3 Oct (JG), late.
Yellow Warbler: last FD & KC 11 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last CV 20 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: last FD 9 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last FD 5 Oct.
Palm Warbler: last T Canton 12 Oct.
Pine Warbler: last FD 15 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: last T Massena 6 Nov.
Prairie Warbler: last ED 14 Sep.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last FD 11 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last ED 14 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last T Watertown 27 Sep.
Scarlet Tanager: last FD 3 Oct.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last RRT 3 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: last PtPen 22 Sep.
DICKCISSEL (R6): heard over ED 14 Sep (JB).

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REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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August's hot, dry weather continued throughout September and beyond. Temperatures in Region 7 averaged 3° to 5° hotter than normal except in the High Peaks region, where they were only 1° to 3° warmer. Rainfall totals in September ranged from 4" in the north near the border with Canada to 5" in the south of Essex County. There was a dramatic increase to 9" at the southern end of Hamilton County due in part to the remnants of Hurricane Florence.

In October temperatures moderated slightly, but rainfall totals remained low. Near normal temperatures in the north and south of Region 7 sandwiched temperatures that were 1° to 3° above normal in the central area. However, rainfall totals in the Champlain Valley were only 3" to 4", but 4" to 5" for the month for the remainder of the Region. In the western portion of Hamilton County the totals increased to 6".

November was cold and wet. Temperatures were 3° to 5° colder than normal in the eastern half of the Region and 5° to 7° colder in the western half. Precipitation totals (melted equivalent) ranged from 4" to 5" in the north to 7" to 8" in southern Hamilton County. Winter Storm Avery on the 16th dumped over 12" of snow in the Champlain Valley and considerably more in the mountains. This snow cover, three to four weeks or more earlier than usual, caused the bulk of the Snow Geese to leave early. Normally the upwards of 50,000 individuals that use the Champlain Valley as a staging area on their way south linger well into December. With the corn fields under all that much snow, the bulk of them left within a week. There were a few thousand individuals that lingered past Thanksgiving, but overall the numbers were well below normal.

As expected the variation of the level of Lake Champlain closely mirrored precipitation events. It began in September at the unusually low level of 94.2□. At that level the mudflats at Laurin's Pool in the north were dry and shorebird activity was vanishingly small. Fortunately, the opposite was true at Noblewood Park, where shorebirds found an increase in suitable habitat. A low of about 93.8□ was recorded in the last week of September. The October high was still below 94.8□. With the advent of the November rains, the lake level rose sharply, but the rate of rise tapered off when the rain changed to snow. The month ended with the level at 96.1□.

This year's Winter Finch Forecast predicted, "This is an irruption (flight) year for winter finches." Reports up to the end of November were encouraging and appeared to confirm the predictions for Pine and Evening Grosbeaks, Pine Siskin, Purple Finch, and Common Redpoll. However, as of the end of the season, there had been no reports of either Hoary Redpoll or either crossbill.

For the second year in a row **Pink-footed Goose** was found in Clinton

County on 25-26 September. This was only the second record for the county and the third for Region 7, all this year and last. It is possible that the east winds of 23-24 September contributed to its wandering off course. A **Tufted Duck** from Port Henry continued the string of nearly yearly appearances of this species in the Champlain Valley. A **Pacific Loon** on Treadwell Bay was only the third record for Clinton County and the fourth for Region 7. A **Brown Booby**, possibly the same bird seen in Vermont, landed on the mast of a sailboat on Long Lake and posed for photos while it lingered for a time. A **Cattle Egret**, rare in fall, spent three days on a farm in Beekmantown just before winter storm Avery blanketed the area. A single **Golden Eagle** in Cadyville was the Region's only record. A **Snowy Owl** on 29 October was an early record for Clinton County.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AIC – Adirondack Interpretive Center; **AP** – Ausable Pt; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd; **CA** – Cadyville; **CFB** – Conroy Farm, Beekmantown; **CH** – Cumberland Head; **CL** – Clorojast; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CPd** – Connery Pd; **CR** – Chazy Riverlands; **CTH** – Coot Hill; **FB** – Ferd's Bog; **FtC** – Fort Covington Marsh; **GMt** – Giant Mt; **HB** – Holsington Beach; **IL** – Indian L; **KN** – Keene; **LC** – La Chute; **LLk** – Long L; **LPd** – Long Pd; **Mad** – Madawaska Pd; **MF** – Mooers Forks; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MPCR** – Moose Pd Club Rd; **MR** – Moffitt Rd; **MRC** – Malone Rec Center; **NF** – N. Farm Rd; **NP** – Noblewood P; **PB** – Plattsburgh Bay; **PH** – Port Henry; **PL** – Plattsburgh; **PS** – Paul Smiths; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **RL** – Round L; **RP** – Rouses Pt; **RW** – Rugar Woods; **SL** – Saranac L; **SLB** – Silver L Bog; **SP** – Shaw Pd; **SPB** – Spring Pd Bog; **SPe** – Speculator; **SR** – Salmon R; **TI** – Ticonderoga; **TL** – Tupper L; **TRB** – Treadwell Bay; **WB** – Wallons Bay; **WD** – Wilcox Dock; **WP** – Westport; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp; **WV** – Westville.

WATERFOWL - HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr CR 8 Sep (SR).

Ross's Goose: HB 22 Sep (J&PT); 2 KB 29 Oct (SR).

Greater White-fronted Goose: RP 8 Nov (ED).

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: MF 25 SEP (ED); MF 26 SEP (GC, SR).

Brant: 93 CP 14 OCT (SR).
Cackling Goose: 5 PB 16 OCT (SR).
Canada Goose: 300 PB 17 Oct.
Wood Duck: 46 LC 4 Sep (SR).
Blue-winged Teal: 27 LC 4 Sep (SR).
N. Shoveler: CP 11 Sep (SR).
Gadwall: 6 CP 11 Sep (SR).
Am. Wigeon: 13 CP 27 Sep (SR).
Am. Black Duck: 34 CP 11 Sep (SR).
N. Pintail: 14 CP 27 Sep (SR).
Green-winged Teal: 83 CP 27 Sep (SR)
Redhead: CP 11 Sep (SR).
Ring-necked Duck: 5 SP 12 Sep (KC).
TUFTED DUCK: PH 29 Nov (ED).
Greater Scaup: 25 PB 16 Oct (SR).
Lesser Scaup: 12 AP 20 Oct (AB).
scaup sp: 900 PB 10 Nov.
Surf Scoter: 5 PB 16 Oct (SR).
White-winged Scoter: 40 PH 13 Oct (SR).
Black Scoter: PH 12 Sep (SR); IL 22 Oct (JT), rare FRAN.
Long-tailed Duck: PB 29 Oct (BMc); IL 8 Oct (JT), v. rare FRAN.
Bufflehead: 2 CP 27 Sep (SR).
Com. Goldeneye: 2 HB 18 Sep (RB).
Barrow's Goldeneye: PH 28 Nov (SR).
Hooded Merganser: 14 CR 27 Oct.
Com. Merganser: 24 WP 1 Oct (SR).
Red-breasted Merganser: 8 NP 22 Sep (SR); 16 TRB 8 Nov (HK).
Ruddy Duck: TI 28 Oct (GC).
Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 WRS 15 Oct (SR)
Ruffed Grouse: 6 LPd 13 Sep (KC).
Spruce Grouse: SPB 16 Sep (JL).
Wild Turkey: 15 MF 26 Sep (GC).
Pied-billed Grebe: LC 4 Sep (SR).
Horned Grebe: 2 CH 18 Oct.
Red-necked Grebe: CH 13 Oct.
Com. Nighthawk: 3 TI 9 Sep (GC).
E. Whip-poor-will: BRR 18 Sep (GCh).
Chimney Swift: TI 9 Sep (MC).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 2 BRR 11 Sep (GCh).

RAILS - LARIDS

Com. Gallinule: CR 16 Sep (SR).
Am. Coot: LC 27 Sep (GC).
Black-bellied Plover: NP 18 Oct (SR).
Am. Golden-Plover: AP 20 Oct (AB).
Semipalmated Plover: AP 22 SEP (MB).
Stilt Sandpiper: LC 30 Sep (AB).
Sanderling: 4 NP 22 Sep (SR).
Dunlin: AP 15 Oct (KM).
Baird's Sandpiper: CR 8 Sep (SR).
Least Sandpiper: 7 CR 8 Sep (SR).
White-rumped Sandpiper: TI 16 Sep (GC).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: WV 18 Sep (HW); LC 29 Sep (GC).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 6 CR 26 Sep (GC).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: CR 8 Sep.
Am. Woodcock: CPd 6 Oct (GCh); SPe 31 Oct (RS).
Wilson's Snipe: CR 8 Sep (SR).
Spotted Sandpiper: AP 17 Sep (LM).
Solitary Sandpiper: 3 AP 17 Sep (LM).
Lesser Yellowlegs: 2 WD 24 Sep; 9 LC 17 Sep (SR).
Greater Yellowlegs: 4 AP 15 Sep.
Bonaparte's Gull: 40 NP 2 Sep (MM).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: CP 11-27 Sep (SR), continuing.
Glaucous Gull: WD 29 N0v (SR).
Great Black-backed Gull: 6 PB 24 Oct.
Caspian Tern: 13 LC 4 Sep (SR); 2 CR 26 Sep (ED).
Com. Tern: 19 NP 2 Sep (MM).

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: AP 20 Oct (AB); IL 22 - 26 Oct (JT), v. rare Fran.
PACIFIC LOON: 2 TRB 8 Nov (HK).
Com. Loon: 31 LC 1 Oct (GL, NS).
BROWN BOOBY: LLk 2 Sep (BL).
Double-crested Cormorant: 550 CP 11 Sep (SR); 400 CR 26 Sep (ED).
GREAT CORMORANT (R7): TRB 16 Sep (HK).
Am. Bittern: CR 8 Sep (SR).
Great Blue Heron: 4 TI 9 Sep (MC); 9 LC 17 Sep (SR).
Great Egret: 2 CR 8 Sep (SR).
CATTLE EGRET (R7): CFB 11-14 Nov (NO, PC, MS), rare in fall.
Green Heron: 6 LC 4 Sep (SR).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 9 LC 17 Sep (SR).
Black Vulture: 3 CTH 15 Sep (NO, MS); 8 TI 9 Nov (GCh).
Turkey Vulture: 2 AP 25 Sep (ED).
Osprey: 2 CP 11 Sep (SR); LC 1 Oct (AB).
GOLDEN EAGLE (R7): CA 21 Sep (MB).
N. Harrier: NF 26 Sep (SR).
Sharp-shinned Hawk: CR 8 Sep (SR).
Cooper's Hawk: CH 15 Oct (SJ).
Bald Eagle: 2 CA 21 Sep (MB).
Red-shouldered Hawk: WP 22 Sep (J&PT).
Broad-winged Hawk: CL 18 Sep (JHaa).
Red-tailed Hawk: LC 4 Sep (SR).
Rough-legged Hawk: FtC 8 Oct (ABr).
E. Screech-Owl: CP 11 Sep (SR).
Great Horned Owl: 2 AIC 7 Sep (AB).
Snowy Owl: PB 29 Oct (ED), early Clin date.

Barred Owl: CTH 9 Sep (SR).
N. Saw-whet Owl: MPCR 7 Sep (AB).
Belted Kingfisher: CR 26 Sep (GC).
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 5 CP 11 Sep (SR); AP 17 Sep (LM).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: FB 27 Sep (MMo).
Black-backed Woodpecker: FB 27 Sep (MMo).
N. Flicker: 3 RL 12 Sep (AB).
Pileated Woodpecker: TL 7 Sep (AB).
Am. Kestrel: 2 LC 11 Sep (AB).
Merlin: AP 16 Oct (SR).
Peregrine Falcon: AP 25 Sep (ED); SR 16 Oct (SR).

FLYCATCHERS - SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: CP 11 Sep (SR).
E. Kingbird: 2 WP 4 Sep (LM).
Olive-sided Flycatcher: KN 5 Sep (J&PT).
E. Wood-Pewee: CTH 9 Sep (SR).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: KN 16 Sep (J&PT).
Least Flycatcher: CP 11 Sep (SR).
E. Phoebe: 7 AP 18 Sep (ED).
N. Shrike: ES 7 Nov (SR).
Yellow-throated Vireo: MM 5 Sep (SR).
Blue-headed Vireo: Mad 4 Oct (KM).
Philadelphia Vireo: LC 4 Sep (JHaa).
Warbling Vireo: 2 CP 18 Sep (MM).
Red-eyed Vireo: CL 11 Sep (AB).
Canada Jay: 5 BB 7 Oct (BMc).
Fish Crow: HB 13 Sep (CV).
Com. Raven: LC 16 Sep (BB).
Horned Lark: NF 26 Sep (SR).
Tree Swallow: 20 TI 9 Sep MC).
N. Rough-winged Swallow: 6 CP 26 Sep (JC).
Bank Swallow: 108 LC 17 Sep (SR).
Cliff Swallow: TI 4 Sep (CV).
Barn Swallow: 2 TI 16 Sep (GC).
Boreal Chickadee: LC 9 Oct (AB).
Tufted Titmouse: AP 16 Oct (ED).
Brown Creeper: SLB 3 Oct (KM).
House Wren: MRC 3 Oct (GC).
Winter Wren: SLB 3 Oct (KM).
Marsh Wren: 2 LC 17 Sep (SR).
Carolina Wren: 2 LC 4 Sep (SR).
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: LC 4 Sep (SR).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 3 LC 16 Sep (AB).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 2 PTr 29 Oct (SR).
Veery: 2 MPCR 7 Sep (AB).
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush: 25 LP 1 Oct (AB).
Swainson's Thrush: MPCR 7 Sep (AB); 50 LP 1 Oct (AB).
Hermit Thrush: 6 LC 13 Oct (AB).
Wood Thrush: WRS 3 Sep (MM).

Gray Catbird: TI 9 Sep (GC).
Brown Thrasher: GMt 8 Sep (OB).
N. Mockingbird: WP 1 Oct (SR).
Bohemian Waxwing: LP 13 Nov (AB).
Cedar Waxwing: CP 22 Sep (MM).
Am. Pipit: 11 AP 25 Oct.
Evening Grosbeak: 2 PS 24 Sep BMc); MM 2 Oct (SR).
House Finch: 19 CP 27 Sep (SR).
Purple Finch: PL 21 Oct (CM).
Com. Redpoll: arr 6 WP 27 Oct (SR).
Lapland Longspur: AP 21 Oct (SR).
Snow Bunting: 14 PH 28 Oct (SR).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

E. Towhee: CP 10 Oct (SR).
Am. Tree Sparrow: WP 27 Oct (SR).
Chipping Sparrow: 3 BRR 11 Sep (GCh)
Field Sparrow: NP 6 Oct (MM).
Vesper Sparrow: 3 WP 27 Oct (SR).
Savannah Sparrow: AP 14 Oct (GS), late Clin date.
Fox Sparrow: LC 13 Oct (AB).
Lincoln's Sparrow: LC 27 Sep (GC).
Swamp Sparrow: AP 25 Sep (ED).
White-throated Sparrow: 8 LC 1 Oct (AB).
White-crowned Sparrow: 2 CP 26 Sep (JC).
Bobolink: 4 WRS 3 Sep (MM).
E. Meadowlark: CR 31 Oct (BK).
Baltimore Oriole: LC 4 Sep (SR).
Brown-headed Cowbird: 3 TI 30 Sep (GC).
Rusty Blackbird: LC 1 Oct (GL, NS); WB 9 Nov (RB).
Ovenbird: 2 WRS 3 Sep (MM).
Black-and-white Warbler: 4 WRS 3 Sep (MM).
Tennessee Warbler: CTH 9 Sep (SR).
Orange-crowned Warbler: TI 30 Sep (GC); AP 14 Oct (GS).
Nashville Warbler: WRS 3 Sep (MM).
Mourning Warbler: KN 4 Sep (J&PT).
Com. Yellowthroat: 7 WRS 3 Sep (MM).
Am. Redstart: WRS 4 Sep (MM).
Cape May Warbler: CTH 9 Sep (SR).
N. Parula: CTH 9 Sep (SR).
Magnolia Warbler: 4 WRS 4 Sep (MM); AP 16 Oct (ED).
Bay-breasted Warbler: KN 4 Sep (J&PT).
Blackburnian Warbler: CP 22 Oct (MM).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: CTH 9 Sep (SR).
Blackpoll Warbler: AP 14 Oct (GS).
Black-throated Blue Warbler: MM 5 Sep (SR).
Palm Warbler: 2 AP 18 Sep (ED).
Pine Warbler: LC 4 Sep (SR).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 42 CP 27 Sep (SR).
Black-throated Green Warbler: WRS 4 Sep (MM).
Canada Warbler: RW 13 Sep (MB).
Wilson's Warbler: MM 5 Sep (SR).

Scarlet Tanager: MM 5 Sep (SR).
N. Cardinal: 4 CP 27 Sep (SR).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: CL 4 Sep (JHaa).
Indigo Bunting: 3 BRR 11 Sep (GCh).

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REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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September 2018 was warmer and wetter than normal. At Albany, the temperature was 5.3°F above average, with a rainfall surplus of 2.32". There were no significant cold air intrusions, and the lowest temperature was only 43° on 30 September. October ended up very close to the long-term averages, at +1.0° and +0.09" above normal. After a mild opening week November turned cold and wet and stayed that way. Albany was 2.7° colder than normal with 5.59" of precipitation, 2.30" more than normal. 10.4" of snow fell in small batches during the second half of the month. Thanksgiving Day was remarkably cold with a high of only 19°. Local water bodies stayed mostly ice-free thanks to a final week above freezing.

Greater White-fronted Goose was reported three times, with a single bird near Schaghticoke on 22 October, then again on 15 November. A week later another report was received from Hedges Lake near Greenwich. It is possible this was a single individual moving around that area with Canada Geese. Brant moved through the area primarily on 13-17 October this fall, a very narrow window that is typical for the species returning to the wintering grounds. Only a few reports of Redhead were received, and Canvasback was absent, a common occurrence. The same could be said about scoters, with only White-winged Scoter in any numbers. Horned and Red-necked Grebe reports seemed less than normal as well. Dabbling ducks were found in typical locations and numbers for the most part.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo was observed in several spots through October, with a very late bird seen on 10 November along the Hudson River in Columbia County.

Shorebird movement continued into October, with Dunlin seen in a few locations. Stacy Robinson observed 13 White-rumped Sandpipers at Bob & Betty Cummings Memorial Park, which is located along southern Lake Champlain near Putnam, Washington County on 22 October. A very late White-rumped Sandpiper was found at Galway Lake on 13 November. Pectoral Sandpiper numbers were average, but both species of yellowlegs were observed in reduced numbers.

Rich Guthrie had a single Common Tern along River Rd. in Greene County on 18 September. Stacy Robinson found a **Cattle Egret** resting mid-river in the Hudson at Stillwater on 24 October. There were a couple of sightings of Black-crowned Night-Heron in the first half of September. Three were seen along the Champlain Canal corridor in northern Washington County. The other sighting was an adult and a juvenile at Carter's Pond WMA.

Migrating Broad-winged Hawks put on a show throughout September. The Helderberg Hawk Watch at the overlook in John Boyd Thacher SP had good numbers all month, with a maximum of 204 Broad-winged Hawks seen on 19 September. Northern Saw-whet Owl banding continued again this fall at Albany Pine Bush Preserve. The largest number banded in a single night for the season was 12 on 30 October.

Unquestionably the bird of the season was a **SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** found by Larry Alden on 8 October, feeding in and around a weedy field in New Scotland, Albany County. From Larry's eBird report: "Large flycatcher about the size and shape of a mockingbird with noticeably longer tail perched on electric line by 646 Krumkill Road. Tail was not as long as adult male, so it was likely a female or juvenile. Light grayish throat and breast with buffy flanks. Black wings...Darker gray mask on light gray head. I believe this bird may have been at this location for at least a week, as I remember driving by some day last week and noting a bird with a long tail and thinking, "That's a pretty long tail for a mockingbird," but driving on without circling back to figure out what it was. Today was different. In my haste to get word out, the bird disappeared while I was typing on my phone and I didn't even get to see it fly!" At least 80 birders from around the state and a few from out-of-state made the trek to see this rarity. It was also an excellent "teachable moment" for the many residents and passersby who stopped to inquire about the assembled crowd pointing optics into a farm field like so many paparazzi. The bird lingered until 18 October, and was not observed thereafter.

A widespread irruption of Evening Grosbeaks into the Northeast began in mid-October. Many observers were delighted to once again see these gregarious birds at their feeders. Numbers increased through the end of November.

On the morning of 5 October, I arrived at the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center to observe bird banding. Warbler activity was winding down for the season, and the influx of sparrows had begun. As I headed up the path towards the station, I watched a sparrow pop up onto a split rail fence. It was facing me, some fifty feet away. It had distinctive ochre from the throat that streaked into the clean white breast and underparts. There were a few fine dark streaks on the flanks. The face seemed to be ochre as well, with a thin line behind the eye. After a minute, it hopped to the ground and disappeared into the bluestem grass in the parking lot. I knew right away that it was a species I hadn't seen before. After perusing various field guides, the best fit was **LECONTE'S SPARROW**, which I had never anticipated seeing in the Region. The only other candidate was Nelson's Sparrow, but it would have been even more orange-faced and

more heavily streaked and unlikely in this very dry habitat. This was the first reported observation of the species in the Region in recent years. A search for the bird on the following day was unsuccessful.

220 species were reported during the period.

CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Alden, Will Aubrey, Ramona Bearor, Susan Beaudoin, Katie Bird, Mike Birmingham, Matt Brunelle, Nancy Castillo, Gary Chapin, Glen & Malinda Chapman, Steve Chorvas, Jeremy Collison, Bill Cook, Andrea Denton, Alan Devoe Bird Club recent sightings, Amanda Dillon, Pete Doherty, Craig Driggs, Bruce Dudek, Alan Dupuis, Lindsey Duval, Larry Federman, Peter Feinberg, Debra Ferguson, Mark Fitzsimmons, Brianna Gary, Bernie & Chris Grossman, Rich Guthrie, Larry & Barbara Hall, David Harrison, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, HMBirds Yahoo Group, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Naomi Lloyd, Tristan Lowery, Larry Main, Alan Mapes, Leigh McBride, Thom McClenahan, Mike McGraw, Steve Mesick, Joyce Miller, Frank Mitchell, Frank Murphy, Jenny Murtaugh, Ellen Pemrick, Will Raup, Gregg Recer, Neal Reilly, Stacy Robinson, John Roosenberg, Jeanette Roundy, Lydia Schereen, Tom Schmidt, 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** – Cocksackie 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 - HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: max 8000 L George WASH 22 Nov.

Brant: max 300 Four Mile Pt GREE 16 Oct.

Mute Swan: max 7 BCR 19 Oct- 11 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 60 VFNHP 17 Sep.

Blue-winged Teal: max 9 VFNHP 3 Oct.

N. Shoveler: max 10 Stanton Pd ALBA 5 Nov.

Gadwall: max 40 Stanton Pd ALBA 3 Nov.

Am. Wigeon: max 152 Stanton Pd ALBA 23 Oct.

Mallard: max 375 Niskayuna SCHE 29 Nov.

Am. Black Duck: max 64 Petersburg RENS 30 Nov.

N. Pintail: max 26 Stanton Pd ALBA 3 Nov.

Green-winged Teal: max 75 VFNHP 28 Oct.

Redhead: max 3 BCR 7 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: max 690 Loughberry L SARA 9 Nov.
Greater Scaup: max 10 Loughberry L SARA 17 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: max 140 Saratoga L SARA 28 Nov.
Surf Scoter: BCR 4 Nov, only report.
White-winged Scoter: max 10 Saratoga L SARA 15 Nov.
Black Scoter: max 35 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 28 Oct.
Long-tailed Duck: max 127 AR 3 Nov.
Bufflehead: max 120 Saratoga L SARA 28 Oct.
Com. Goldeneye: max 750 Saratoga L SARA 28 Oct.
Hooded Merganser: max 225 Saratoga L SARA 15 Nov.
Com. Merganser: max 700 TR 27 Nov; Round L SARA 28 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 9 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 14 Oct.
Ruddy Duck: max 497 BCR 4 Nov.
Ruffed Grouse: max 8 Prattsville GREE 30 Sep.
Wild Turkey: max 25 T Root MONT 20 Sep.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 6 Cossayuna L WASH 4 Nov
Horned Grebe: max 3 T Hauge WARR 24 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: max 3 Snyder L RENS 30 Oct; T Hauge WARR 18-20 Nov; Saratoga L SARA 20 Nov.
Rock Pigeon: max 500 FtEG 15 Nov.
Mourning Dove: max 110 Wrights Loop SARA 7 Nov.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last Lewis A. Swyer Preserve COLU 10 Nov.
Black-billed Cuckoo: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 29 Sep.
Com. Nighthawk: max 26 Edinburg SARA 2 Sep; last 2 Sleepy Hollow L GREE 29 Sep.
Chimney Swift: last 6 RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 9 Oct.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Rexford SARA 9 Oct.

RAILS - LARIDS

Virginia Rail: last CRM 3 Oct.
Com. Gallinule: max 4 Carters Pd WMA WASH 15 Sep; last VFNHP 28 Sep.
Am. Coot: max 4 Saratoga L SARA 8 Nov; last 2 Stanton Pd ALBA 21 Nov.
Black-bellied Plover: Blockhouse P SARA 2 Oct; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 6 Nov.

Semipalmated Plover: max 16 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Oct; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 30 Oct.
Killdeer: max 58 CCGP 1 Sep; last S Albany Airport ALBA 4 Nov.
Sanderling: nr CCGP 7 Sep.
Dunlin: max, last 23 BCR 28 Oct.
Least Sandpiper: max 7 Scotia SCHE 19 Sep; last Schaghticoke RENS 21 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: max 13 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 22 Oct; last Galway L SARA 13 Nov.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 4 Clemons WASH 7 Oct; Malta SARA 16 Oct; last BCR 28 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max, last 14 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 22 Oct.
Am. Woodcock: last Guilderland ALBA 7 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: last 3 Copake L COLU 8 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: last 2 Ft Edward WASH 21 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: last 4 TR 26 Sep.
Lesser Yellowlegs: last 2 Clemons WASH 7 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: last 2 BCR 28 Oct.
Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Copake L COLU 19-20 Oct.
Caspian Tern: Wright's Ferry Launch WASH 16 Sep.
Com. Tern: Athens GREE 16 Sep.

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: Saratoga L SARA 28 Oct; Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 17 Nov.
Com. Loon: max 18 Bolton WARR 23 Oct.
Least Bittern: BMB 1 Sep, only report.
Great Blue Heron: max 18 Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 12 Sep.
Great Egret: max 15 Vosburgh Swamp WMA GREE 1 Sep; last 2 Schaghticoke RENS 25 Oct.
Little Blue Heron: Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 2-9 Sep.
Cattle Egret: Blockhouse P SARA 24 Oct (SR), *intro*.
Green Heron: max 7 Clemons WASH 1 Sep; last FR 29 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 3 Clemons WASH 1 Sep; 2 Carters Pd WMA WASH 15 Sep.
Black Vulture: max 47 Copake COLU 24 Nov.
Turkey Vulture: max 73 Cobleskill SCHO 16 Oct.
Osprey: last Six Mile Waterworks P ALBA 14 Nov.

Golden Eagle: Elka P GREE 4 Nov; Pittstown RENS 11 Nov; Summit SCHO 11 Nov; FR 23 Nov.

N. Harrier: max 3 Helderberg Hawkwatch ALBA 13 Sep; Overmountain Cons Area COLU 22 Sep; TR 4 Nov; Livingston COLU 29 Nov.

N. Goshawk: 10 reports of singles.

Bald Eagle: max 15 Helderberg Hawkwatch ALBA 22 Sep.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 3 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 22 Sep.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 204 Helderberg Hawkwatch ALBA 19 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr Fultonville MONT 29 Oct.

E. Screech-Owl: max 3 Guilderland ALBA 2 Oct.

Great Horned Owl: max 2 Guilderland ALBA 20 Oct; Hoosick RENS 11 Nov; E. Greenbush RENS 17 Nov; Feura Bush ALBA 18 Nov.

Barred Owl: max 4 Cambridge WASH 1 Sep.

N. Saw-whet Owl: max 12 APBP 30 Oct, bird banding ops.

Belted Kingfisher: max 4 BCR 16 Sep.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 6 Cambridge WASH 1 Sep.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 9 Vosburgh Swamp WMA GREE 1 Sep.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 6 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 15 Sep.

N. Flicker: max 18 Overmountain Cons Area 23 Sep.

Am. Kestrel: max 7 Helderberg Hawkwatch ALBA 19 Sep.

Merlin: max 3 CF 1 Sep.

Peregrine Falcon: max 3 Helderberg Hawkwatch ALBA 27 Sep; APBP 1 Oct; Corning riverfront P ALBA 7 Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Selkirk ALBA 13 Sep.

E. Kingbird: last Grafton RENS 15 Sep.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: New Scotland ALBA 8-18 Oct (LA) mob, NYSARC, *intro*.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Overmountain Cons Area COLU 3 Sep; APBP 7-17 Sep; Colonie ALBA 7 Sep; FR 8 Sep; Four Mile Pt Preserve GREE 9 Sep; Saratoga Spa SP SARA 12-13 Sep.

E. Wood-pewee: last Clifton Pk SARA 7 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 18 Sep.

“Trail’s” Flycatcher: last APBP 10 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: max 6 Buckingham Pd ALBA 9 Sep; last Wilton Wildlife Preserve SARA 18 Oct, late.

E. Phoebe: max 16 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 16 Sep.

N. Shrike: BCM 12 Nov; Hague WARR 20 Nov; Kingsbury WASH 24 Nov.

Yellow-throated Vireo: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 17 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 8 APBP 5 Oct; last APBP 24 Oct.

Philadelphia Vireo: last APBP 12 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 29 Sep

Red-eyed Vireo: last APBP 12 Oct.

Blue Jay: max 120 Nutten Hooke COLU 29 Sep.

Fish Crow: max 85 CCGP 10 Oct.

Com. Raven: max 9 Helderberg Hawkwatch ALBA 13 Sep.

Horned Lark: max 200 Kinderhook COLU 15 Nov; Northumberland SARA 19 Nov; Overmountain Cons Area COLU 24 Nov.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: last 10 CF 8 Oct.

Tree Swallow: max 1060 New Baltimore GREE 18 Sep.

Bank Swallow: last VFNHP 12 Sep.

Cliff Swallow: last W Coxsackie GREE 1 Sep.

Barn Swallow: last Blockhouse P SARA 2 Oct.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 14 APBP 6 Oct.

Brown Creeper: max 4 Bolton WARR 29 Sep.

House Wren: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU; Ann Lee Pd ALBA 13 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 2 Fox Preserve ALBA 4 Oct; Overmountain Cons Area COLU 8 Oct; RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 27 Nov.

Marsh Wren: max 5 RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 23 Sep.

Carolina Wren: max 6 Henry Hudson P ALBA 8 Oct; RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 9 Oct.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last Coveville SARA 5 Oct.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 15 Corning Riverfront P ALBA 22 Oct.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Selkirk ALBA 7 Sep.

E. Bluebird: max 25 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 30 Sep; Round L Preserve SARA 4 Oct.

Veery: last Kingsbury WASH 8 Oct.

Swainson’s Thrush: last Malta SARA 27 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 4 Malta Tech P SARA 12 Oct; Indian Kill NP SCHE 23 Oct.

Wood Thrush: last Palenville GREE 9 Oct.

Gray Catbird: max 36 FR 15 Sep.

Brown Thrasher: last Clermont SP COLU 14 Oct.
N. Mockingbird: max 9 Coxsackie GREE 1 Sep.
Bohemian Waxwing: 7 Hague WARR 20 Nov.
Cedar Waxwing: max 210 Galway SARA 5 Nov.
Am. Pipit: max 43 Copake COLU 2 Nov.
Evening Grosbeak: max 92 Summit SCHO 29 Nov, irruption year.
Pine Grosbeak: Hague WARR 20 Nov.
Purple Finch: max 20 Catskill GREE 16 Oct
Com. Redpoll: arr Moreau SARA 28 Oct; max 7 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 18 Nov.
Red Crossbill: max 10 Rensselaerville SF ALBA 4 Nov.
White-winged Crossbill: 7 nr Pleasant L FULT 5 Nov.
Pine Siskin: max 50 New Baltimore GREE 7 Nov.
Lapland Longspur: arr Catskill GREE 18 Nov.
Snow Bunting: arr Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 25 Oct.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

E. Towhee: max 10 Garnsey P SARA 19 Sep.
Am. Tree Sparrow: arr BMB 18 Oct; max 24 Niskayuna SCHE 30 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: max 32 Prattsville GREE 29 Sep.
Field Sparrow: max 20 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 30 Sep.
Vesper Sparrow: max 8 Coxsackie GREE 21 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: max 40 Overmountain Cons AREA 23 Sep.
LECONTE'S SPARROW: APBP 5 Oct (TW), pending review NYSARC, *intro*.
Fox Sparrow: arr VFNHP 18 Oct; BMB 18 Oct.
Song Sparrow: max 75 Glenville SCHE 21 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Garnsey P SARA 19 Sep.
Swamp Sparrow: max 14 Coveville SARA 27 Sep.
White-throated Sparrow: max 100 Glenville SCHE 21 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr Johnsbury WARR 27 Sep; max 16 Putnam WASH 7 Oct; Fultonville MONT 24 Oct.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 85 Ft Miller WASH 22 Nov.

Bobolink: max 32 Vosburgh Swamp WMA GREE 1 Sep; last Livingston COLU 14 Sep.
E. Meadowlark: Oppenheim FULT 5 Sep; CCGP 10 Oct.
Baltimore Oriole: last 3 Hudson Crossing P SARA 3 Sep.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 1700 Wrights Loop SARA 7 Nov.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 500 Copake COLU 7 Nov; Fultonville MONT 20 Nov.
Rusty Blackbird: arr BMB 28 Sep; max 40 BMB 10 Nov.
Com. Grackle: max 600 White Creek WASH 27 Oct.
Ovenbird: last RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 9 Oct.
N. Waterthrush: last RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 23 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last Jackson WASH 2 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: last Fultonville MONT 10 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: last Petersburg RENS 21 Oct, late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: max 3 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 14 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 13 Oct.
Mourning Warbler: last Livingston COLU 2 Oct.
Com. Yellowthroat: max 20 Palenville GREE 14 Sep.
Am. Redstart: max 9 Buckingham Pd ALBA 9 Sep.
Cape May Warbler: last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 6 Oct.
N. Parula: last Woodlawn Preserve SCHE; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH; Hague WARR 7 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: last New Scotland ALBA 14 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 6 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 23 Sep.
Yellow Warbler: last Fultonville MONT 24 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last Hillsdale COLU 2 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: last Copake COLU 30 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 14 Oct.
Palm Warbler: last 2 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 25 Oct.

Pine Warbler: last 2 New Forge SF COLU 11 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 40 Hillsdale COLU 17 Oct.

Prairie Warbler: last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 30 Sep.

Black-throated Green Warbler: last Glenville SCHE 21 Oct.

Canada Warbler: last Summit SCHO 19 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last Fultonville MONT 24 Sep.

Scarlet Tanager: last FR 3 Oct.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Elka P GREE 10 Oct.

Indigo Bunting: last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 7 Oct.

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REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The fall season was a series of ups and downs weather wise. September had a high of 93°F on the 9th and a low of 43° on the 30th; overall the month was 0.4° below normal. Precipitation was close to normal with 5.62", 0.74" above normal. October was somewhat cooler, with a high of 81° on the 10th and a low of 28° on the 26th, 1.6° below normal for the month. Precipitation was 3.4", 1.07" below normal. November had a high of 69° on the 2nd and a low of 6° on the 23rd, and the month's average was 6.7° below normal. Precipitation was 7.55", a significant 4.08" above normal. Much of the period experienced intense winds from the southwest, altering some migration patterns in our Region. Rusty Blackbirds, for example, were barely reported, sticking much closer to the coast throughout migration, seemingly pushed there by the wind.

Following two exciting seasons with some exceptional birds, fall was rather quiet. Cackling Geese came on the scene in late October and November. They are being reported much more frequently and reliably with an increase in birders experienced with the species. Sullivan County had its first long-staying individual with a cooperative bird that remained for nine days at the Bashakill State Wildlife Management Area. A Eurasian Wigeon made a brief appearance at Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge on 19 November. Clapper Rails lingered well into the season with at least two remaining into November at Marshlands Conservancy. Sandhill Cranes continued their increase in the area, seen many times throughout the period.

A Little Blue Heron was found by Bill Fiero in late August at Stewart Forest State Park and continued through the 13th of September. Sticking with waders, a Cattle Egret was found at Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge on 28 October by Matt Zeitler. It continued through 13 November.

There was one report of Snowy Owl during the period. The bird was found by Barbara Mansell at Clinton's Corners in Dutchess County and remained for four days, being seen by many observers.

The much anticipated “Winter Finch Irruption” got started in late October and November with Pine Siskin and Evening Grosbeak showing up Region-wide in decent numbers.

A Yellow-breasted Chat found at the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge by Tom Burke and Gail Benson 30 September lingered only through the following morning. Connecticut Warblers were scarce this season with only two reported, one at Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge on 29 September and another on Clove Valley Road in Ulster County. Orange-crowned Warblers were well represented this fall with at least three in Sullivan County, one in Ulster and two in Westchester County.

Dickcissels were well represented too, with at least six reported around the Region.

CONTRIBUTORS

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CHESTNUT RIDGE HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	13 Sep	9	5 Oct	86
Turkey Vulture	4 Sep	403	20 Oct	3414
Osprey	1 Sep	41	15 Sep	314
Golden Eagle	20 Oct	1	20 Oct	3
No. Harrier	7 Sep	8	29 Oct	103
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6 Sep	140	14 Oct	1932
Cooper's Hawk	1 Sep	37	10 Oct	346
No. Goshawk	26 Oct	1	26 Oct	2
Bald Eagle	1 Sep	13	15 Sep	159
Red-shouldered Hawk	5 Sep	45	18 Nov	272
Broad-winged Hawk	1 Sep	2389	22 Sep	4278
Red-tailed Hawk	1 Sep	43	26 Oct	454
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	1 Sep	72	15 Sep	446
Merlin	6 Sep	6	18 Oct	84
Peregrine Falcon	5 Sep	4	29 Sep	27
Unidentified				151
Total including unidentified:				12,071

HOOK MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	27 Sep	16	7 Oct	127
Turkey Vulture	29 Sep	158	22 Oct	780
Osprey	31 Aug	8	12 Oct	166
Golden Eagle	18 Oct	3	25 Oct	8
No. Harrier	7 Sep	8	12 Oct	112
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9 Sep	235	5 Oct	2337
Cooper's Hawk	4 Sep	36	5 Oct	204
No. Goshawk	4 Nov	2	4 Nov	5
Bald Eagle	31 Aug	7	13 Oct	159
Red-shouldered Hawk	22 Sep	78	26 Oct	439
Broad-winged Hawk	8 Sep	1079	22 Sep	3279
Red-tailed Hawk	31 Aug	24	25 Oct	200
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	1 Sep	19	19 Sep	217
Merlin	4 Sep	8	19 Sep	94
Peregrine Falcon	13 Sep	5	23 Oct	37
Unidentified				3
Total including unidentified:				8,167

ABBREVIATIONS

AP – Apollo Plaza; **BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA; **CPP** – Croton Pt P; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; **EMLH** – Esopus Meadows Light House; **FPNC** – Forsythe P and Nature Center; **GL** – Glenmere L; **GV** – Great Vly WMA; **HVRT** – Harlem Valley Rail Trail; **KP** – Kingston Pt; **LM** – Liberty Marsh; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy; **MP** – Morningside P; **MPHW** – Mount Peter Hawk Watch; **OCBDR** – Orange County Black Dirt Region; **OMRLMSP** – Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills SP; **PP** – Piermont Pier; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP; **RNC** – Rye Nature Center; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Road; **WRNWR** – Wallkill River NWR.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: 250 SGNWR 18 Nov (CSp); 850 OCBDR 18 Nov (MZe); 19 CPP 22 Nov (MRi).

Brant: 120 Hudson Highlands SP 5 Oct (KBa); 250 MPHW 13 Oct (MZe); 66 BSWMA 15 Oct (JHaa); 95 KP 16 Oct (DWe); 600 Hudson Valley Rail Trail 16 Oct (CShe); max 300 EGR 28 Nov (NG).

Cackling Goose: WRNWR 21 Oct (LScr); SHSR 4 Nov (KA); 4 Lavelle Road, Amenia 23 Oct (CP, HT); BSWMA 13-21 Nov (JHaa, SBa, KMi, PD); Blue Chip Farms 24 Nov (PSch, DF, FM), *intro*.

Eurasian Wigeon: WRNWR 19 Nov (LScr, KD), *intro*.

Canvasback: 5 MP 20 Oct (JHaa, KMi, DB); 15 CPP 4 Nov (ASw, DvZ); Chadwick L 20 Nov (BNo); 7 EMLH 20 Nov (MD); 30 CPP 30 Nov (KR).

Redhead: Wickham L 30 Oct (MZe); 2 Chadwick L 20-22 Nov (BNo).

Surf Scoter: 2 Yankee L 23 Oct-5 Nov (JHaa, SBa, PD); Wickham L 24 Oct (MZe); 2 EMLH 24-25 Nov (MD, mob).

White-winged Scoter: 5 Wickham L 9 Oct (LScr); Kensico Res 1 Nov (NG); EMLH 20-24 Nov (MD, mob); KP 24-25 Nov (PD, mob); max 4 EGR 24 Nov (GB).

Long-tailed Duck: 2 KP 20 Oct (FM, DF); Sylvan L 29 Oct (CP); 24 Oct EGR (GB); max 7 OMRLMSP 10 Nov (CP); 4 Neversink Res 4 Nov (JHaa, KMi); 16 Ashokan Res 10 Nov (NM); Orange L 22 Nov (BNo).

Ruffed Grouse: 3 Slide Mt. 20 Sep (MJan); Gardiner 20 Sep (LVV); Sam's Pt. 22 Oct (MC, MBow); Cooper L 28 Oct (FM); Muhlig Rd. 15 Nov (PD); Minnewaska SP 27 Nov (NM).

Horned Grebe: Swan L 20 Oct (JHaa); Yankee L 23-27 Oct (JHaa); Wickham L 24 Oct (MZe); Walton L 2 Nov (JS); 2 PP 10 Nov

(CCo); Kiamesha L 17 Nov (JHaa); EMLH 18 Nov (JY); 2 EGR 23 Nov (GB, TBu); Ashokan Promenade 25 Nov (JU, mob).

Red-necked Grebe: Swan L 20 Oct-4 Nov (JHaa, KMi, SBa, DB); max 2 Kensico Res 21 Oct-8 Nov (NG); Wanaksink L 22 Oct (JHaa, SBa); 2 Ashokan Res 5 Nov (NM); SHSR 11 Nov (KA); Washington L 20 Nov (BNo); Lake Tappan 22 Nov (FD); Neversink Res 20 Nov (PD).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 2 BSWMA 6 Sep (JHaa); Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary 23 Sep (GLE); CPP 14 Oct (SRap); Minnewaska SP 16 Oct (SBa, KA, CSp); RSP 26 Oct (VH).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Angel Fly Preserve 6 Sep (BNi); WRNWR 15 Sep (KA); CPP 20 Oct (DP); Dennings Pt. 22 Oct (SRo).

Common Nighthawk: 23 OCBDR 1 Sep (GB); 16 SGNWR 1 Sep (JJ); 9 MC 4 Sep (GB); 2 Peach Hill P 9 Sep (CCha); 2 Gibson Hill Rd 15 Sep (JS); 6 Harcourt Sanctuary 10 Oct (DWe).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: BSWMA 1 Oct (SBa).

RAILS - LARIDS

Clapper Rail: 2 MC 4 Sep (GB); 2 MC 10 Oct (GB, TBu); 2 MC 1 Nov (GB), *intro*.

Virginia Rail: GV 5 Sep (PSch); BSWMA 27 Sep (KMi); Thompon Pd Preserve 29 Nov (SRo).

Common Gallinule: BSWMA 1 Oct (JHaa); WRNWR 7 Oct (MZe); Pine Hill Rd. 14 Oct (KMi, DB); Constitution Marsh 1 Nov (CR, LG); SHSR 4 Nov (AP).

Sandhill Crane: 2 Pine Island Turf Nursery 12 Sep (KMcd); 2 WRNWR 21 Sep (KMi); 2 WRNWR 2 Oct (LScr); 12 WRNWR 10 Nov (LScr); 6 Chestnut Ridge Hawk Watch 18 Nov (TJ), *intro*.

Black-bellied Plover: OCBDR 2 Sep (FP); PP 14 Sep (LP); Sheffield Hill Rd Amenia 28 Sep

(CP, BM); 2 Ashokan Res 20 Oct (PSch, JP); GV 21 Oct (PSch, SRO).

American Golden-Plover: WRNWR 7 Sep (MOF); max 10 OCBDR 23 Sep (NH).

Semipalmated Plover: MP 23 Sep (PD, JHaa); 3 Ulster County Fair Grounds 2 Sep (GF); 3 PP 4 Sep (EE); 2 GL 4 Sep (KA); OCBDR 5 Sep (EZ); 3 WRNWR 9 Sep (MD); 8 EGR 11 Sep (GB, TBu); AP 14 Sep (NH).

Sanderling: 2 PP 27 Sep (KR); OCBDR 6 Oct and 27 Oct (MZe); GV 22 Oct (CSp).

Dunlin: CPP 7 Oct (ASw); 8 EGR 18 Oct (GB); SGNWR 19 Oct (CSp); 5 MP 18 Oct (JHaa, PD); AP 19 Oct (SBA, JHaa, KMi); 2 PP 20 Oct (TSt); 3 GL 21 Oct (MZe); 18 Glennere L 28 Oct (MZe, KL).

Baird's Sandpiper: AP 3-6 Sep (PD, JHaa, SBA, KMi, NH, MZe); max 3 OCBDR 3-9 Sep (WT, GB, mob); GV 9 Sep (PSch, RM).

White-rumped Sandpiper: MP 11 Sep (JHaa, KMi, PD); max 2 GV 19-22 Oct (PSch, mob); Ashokan Res Spillway Dam 22 Oct (FM); Malden Mini P 25 Oct (WT); Fording Place Rd 26 Oct (PSch); max 3 GL 27-28 Oct (MZe).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: max 6 OCBDR 1-15 Sep (LScr, GB, JB, KMcD, FP, KMi, mob).

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 11 OCBDR 8 Sep-19 Oct (MZe, FP, mob); max 5 Sullivan County Community College 11-29 Oct (PD, JHaa, KMi); max 10 CPP (ASw, DvZ, mob); max 7 Strevor Farm 9-28 Oct (BM, CP, mob); max 25 GV 8 Sep-22 Oct (PSch, CSp, mob); max 3 Lake Carmel 26-31 Oct (AMA); max 4 Resnick Rd 16 Oct-4 Nov (JHaa, KMi); max 2 WRNWR 9 Sep (NH).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 6 GV 5 Sep-22 Oct (PSch, RM, CSp); max 4 MP 7 Sep-18 Oct (JHaa, PD, KMi); max 3 EGR 7-21 Sep (GB, TBu); max 7 CPP 19-22 Oct (BStr, SRap, MStr); 5 PP 3 Sep (CCo); 3 WRNWR 4-8 Sep (EZ, DSpan).

Short-billed Dowitcher: MP 11 Sep (JHaa, KMi); WRNWR 9 Sep (MD).

Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Swan L 20-30 Oct (JHaa, KMi, SBA); max 6 Ashokan Res 21-22 Oct (RM); 2 KP 17 Nov (FM, DF); 4 CPP 4 Nov (ASw, DvZ); PP 30 Oct (VH); 2 GL 21 Oct (KA); OCBDR 10 Nov (MZe, LScr).

Caspian Tern: max 3 PP 26 Sep-7 Oct (EE, KR, mob); 2 Yorktown Heights Rail Trail 8 Sep (BNi, TJ).

LOONS - PARROTS

Red-throated Loon: max 45 EGR 22 Oct-28 Nov (GB, mob); CPP 28 Oct (KMcGr);

Browns Pond 20 Nov (BNo); Washington L 25 Nov (BNo).

American Bittern: SGNWR 2 Sep (K.Fung); Berea Rd 11 Sep (BF); WRNWR 16 Sep-11 Nov (LScr, GB, ML, MZe, MOF); max 2 BSWMA 16 Sep-8 Oct (PD, JHaa, KMi, SBA); RSP 29 Sep (LMan); SGNWR 19 Oct (CSp); MC 2 Nov (GB, TBu); Congers L Memorial P 4 Nov (CCo); SGNWR 24 Nov (MC, CCha).

Little Blue Heron: SFSP 1-13 Sep (BF, KA, KMcD, mob); WRNWR 9 Sep (MD), *intro*.

Cattle Egret: WRNWR 28 Oct-13 Nov (MZe, ML, LScr, JHaa, mob), *intro*.

Black Vulture to Osprey: see Chestnut Ridge and Hook Mt Hawkwatch charts above.

Golden Eagle: 2 Slide Mt 10 Oct (LD); MC 24 Oct (GB); MPH 30 Oct (JCI); 2 I-84 Overlook HW (AA, LA); Mohonk Preserve HW 31 Oct (ZNS); see also Chestnut Ridge and Hook Mt Hawkwatch charts above.

Northern Harrier to Cooper's Hawk: see Chestnut Ridge and Hook Mt Hawkwatch charts above.

Northern Goshawk: Slide Mt 17 Sep (BSw); MPH 17 Oct (AA, LA); see also Chestnut Ridge and Hook Mt Hawkwatch charts above.

Bald Eagle to Red-tailed Hawk: see Chestnut Ridge and Hook Mt Hawkwatch charts above.

Rough-legged Hawk: 3 Turkey Mt P 23 Nov (SH); OCBDR 24 Nov (KA); Tanzman Rd 30 Nov (JHaa, SBA); max 3 SGNWR 31 Oct-30 Nov (SWa, DWe, PSch, mob).

American Kestrel to Peregrine Falcon: see Chestnut Ridge and Hook Mt Hawkwatch charts above.

Snowy Owl: Clinton's Corners Dutchess Co. 31 Oct-3 Nov (BM, CP, mob), *intro*.

Short-eared Owl: max 7 SGNWR 17 Oct-30 Nov (CSp, mob); CPP 28 Oct (SRap, LTr).

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 3 1 Sep-18 Nov (GL, DB, mob); 2 Catskill P 30 Sep (DO, DSpe); Rondout Res 9-10 Nov (JHaa, PD); max 5 VanNostrand Swamp 23 Nov (DB, SSi).

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: OCBDR 1 Sep (SBA); GL 3 Sep (KA); Aden Rd 14 Sep (SSu); WRNWR 15 Sep (LScr, KA).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: High Banks Preserve 9 Sep (FM); Bear Mt 15 Sep (DL); MPH 15 Sep (LScr, MZe, RHan); Peach Hill 15 Sep (AL); Crawford Walking Trail 19 Sep (TBe); WRNWR 19 Sep (AMA); MC 2 Oct (GB).

Philadelphia Vireo: BSWMA 8 Sep (JHaa, PD); High Banks Preserve 9 Sep (DF, FM, WT); SFSP 14 Sep (TBe); 2 Kukuk Lane 23 Sep (WT, MD); SHSR 24 Sep (KA); WRNWR 16 Oct (LScr).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: 2 Kukuk Lane 15 Sep (MD); Yankee L 28 Sep (JHaa); RSP 4 Oct (MGro); Whip-poor-will P 7 Oct (AMi, S. Miller); Goose Pond South 8 Oct (KA); McDonald Rd 9 Oct (JHaa, SBA); BSWMA 17 Oct (JHaa, PD); Wonder L SP 24 Oct (VH).

Swainson's Thrush: MPHW 8 Sep (MZe); max 3 BSWMA 9 Sep-26 Oct (SBA, JHaa, mob); MC 15-17 Sep (MSt, GB, SLes); SHSR 23 Sep (KA); 3 Mohonk Preserve 30 Sep (GF, CK); Constitution Marsh 9 Oct (KBA); RSP 19 Oct (ASw); FPNC 10 Oct (MD).

American Pipit: 16 Andrew Haight Rd 4 Oct (JA); 13 RLSP 25 Oct (AW); 8 Harbour I Preserve 27 Oct (GB); 40 CPP 28 Oct (KBA, LTr, PC); 3 North Highland P 29 Oct (KBA, RB); 90 OCBDR 27 Oct (MZe); 40 BSWMA 16 Nov (JHaa, SBA); 15 Kensico Res 16 Nov (NG); 8 Fording Place Rd 17 Nov (FM, DF, RM).

Evening Grosbeak: 4 Hunt-Parker Sanctuary 11 Nov (SWr, BStr, mob); max 6 FPNC 17 Nov (DH, PSch, WT, JP); 15 Home 18 Nov (LMar); 10 BSWMA 21 Nov (SBA); 5 Brothers Rd 30 Nov (CP); 18 Tanzman Rd 30 Nov (JHaa, SBA), *intro*.

Purple Finch: 3 RSP 17 Sep (ASw, mob); 7 FPNC 18 Sep (MD); 5 RLSP 17 Oct (AW); 5 Constitution Marsh 24 Sep (KB); 13 CPP 6 Oct (KB, mob); max 38 BSWMA 15 Oct (SBA, mob); max 3 Brothers Rd 28 Oct (CP); 15 MC 31 Oct (GB); 4 Harcourt Sanctuary 10 Nov (DWe).

Pine Siskin: 8 MC 18 Oct (GB); max 240 27 Oct (SBA, JHaa, mob); 40 Mohonk Mt House 28 Oct (GL); 15 Kensico Res 2 Nov (NG); 26 RSP 15 Nov (HS); 7 Brothers Rd 17 Nov (CP), *intro*.

Lapland Longspur: max 2 OCBDR 10 Oct-18 Nov (MZe, LScr, KMi, FP); CPP 17 Nov (CR, LTr, GB, mob); max 4 Beechwoods 17-19 Nov (JHaa, SBA, PD, KMi, DB); Hillview Res 23 Nov (NG).

Snow Bunting: 14 Catskill P 28 Oct (RB); 30 Neversink Res 16 Nov (SSu); max 28 EGR 16-24 Nov (GB, mob); 20 CPP 17 Nov (GB, KMcGr); 40 Ashokan Res 18 Nov (CSp); max

25 Beechwoods 17-19 Nov (JHaa, PD, SBA); 2 Rockefeller Lane 21 Nov (ASw, DvZ, SRo); max 19 Stringham P 21-22 Nov (AMA, DK, SI).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

Vesper Sparrow: 2 OCBDR 1 Sep (MZe); max 5 BSWMA 18-28 Oct (JHaa, SBA, KMi, PD, KMcD); 5 SGNWR 21 Oct (MRi); max 6 CPP 17-30 Oct (ASw, BNo, KB, mob); 3 Clements Rd 25 Oct (JHaa); 5 RSP 26 Oct (VH).

Lincoln's Sparrow: max 2 BSWMA 19 Sep-8 Oct (PD, JHa, SBA, AL); 2 Harcourt Sanctuary 20 Oct (DWe); 2 Goose Pd Mt SP 8-9 Oct (KA, BNo, AL); CPP 22 Oct (ASw, mob); 3 MC 31 Oct (DJ, GB).

Yellow-breasted Chat: WRNWR 30 Sep-1 Oct (GB, KMi), *intro*.

Rusty Blackbird: 2 SFSP 29 Oct (BF); 3 SHSR 6-11 Nov (KA); 2 BSWMA 8 Nov (KMi, SBA); 35 WRNWR 4 Nov (AL), *intro*.

Tennessee Warbler: Depot Hill 5-7 Sep (CP); 2 FPNC 20 Sep (MD); 3 BSWMA 23 Sep (KMi); 2 RSP 8 Oct (ASw, mob); MC 29 Oct (ASw, BNo, mob).

Connecticut Warbler: WRNWR 20 Sep (KA); Clove Valley Rd 6 Sep (ZNS), *intro*.

Hooded Warbler: Minnewaska SP 4 Sep (SBA, KA); 2 SFSP 8 Sep (GB); BSWMA 19 Sep (KMi).

Cape May Warbler: BSWMA 8 Sep (SBA); Yorktown Heights Rail Trail 8 Sep (BNI, TJ); WRNWR 23 Sep (LScr, MZe); MC 1 Oct (GB); SHSR 1 Oct (KA); 3 Constitution Marsh 3 Oct (KB); 2 RSP 8 Oct (ASw, mob); CPP 9 Oct (ASw). Widespread reports this season.

Orange-crowned Warbler: Clements Rd 11 Oct (JHaa); Rt 28 Kingston 11 Oct (MSche); McDonald Rd 17 Oct (PD); BSWMA 24-28 Oct (JHaa, NH); 2 MC 12 Nov (GB), *intro*.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Depot Hill 4 Sep (CP); max 4 BSWMA 16 Sep (S. Altman, JHaa, SBA); Merriwald Club & L 17 Oct (NH); RSP 19 Sep (EE); SHSR 24 Sep (KA); RLSP 4 Oct (SBA).

Dickcissel: WRNWR 17 Sep (LScr); FPNC 20 Sep (MD); CPP 28 Oct (MSt, BSt); SGNWR 29 Sep (SWa); Catskill P 30 Sep (PSch, CSp, mob); Carmel High School 3 Oct (AMA), *intro*.

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REGION 10 - MARINE

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It was a cold and wet fall, a departure from the warm and dry conditions of recent years. But it was also more conducive to good birding results than any recent year. A series of cold fronts followed by northwesterly winds produced a number of good migratory flights, especially in mid to late October. Many irruptive species were on the move in large numbers too. A respectable total of 309 species was recorded in the Region, excluding exotics and introduced, non-established birds.

September's average temperature was 70.7°F at Central Park, 2.7° above normal. September was wetter than normal. 6.19" of rain fell at Central Park, about 2" above normal. October was closer to normal. For example, the average temperature at JFK Airport was 0.9° above normal at 57.9°, and rainfall was 0.3" below normal at 3.32". But rainfall was about 2" above normal at Islip. November was much more extreme. Precipitation was way above normal. A record 8.42" of liquid equivalent was recorded at Islip, 4.75" above normal. Over 4" of snow fell throughout the Region on 15 November. The 6.4" in Central Park was the second snowiest November day on record and the most so early in the season. Not surprisingly, November was cold, too. The average temperature at Central Park was 44.4°, 3.3° below normal.

It was a good year at the Fire Island Hawk Watch, in marked contrast to recent years. 4,054 total hawks were counted, 31% above the average of the past 10 years. All-time seasonal maxima were recorded for Cooper's Hawk (84) and Bald Eagle (14). A hopeful sign, after years of poor counts in part due to population losses, was that numbers of Sharp-shinned Hawk and American Kestrel were up. Counts of 480 were tallied for the former, 49% above the average of the previous 20 years, and 985 for the latter, 15% above. There were also notable counts of Northern Harrier (249) and Merlin (1,590). The only species counted below its 20-year average was Peregrine Falcon (-11%). Favorable weather conditions certainly contributed to the results. After a modest start through early October, there were six big flight days in mid-late October topped by 432 total hawks on 12 October and 426 on 24 October.

Birders in Region 10 enjoyed a much better winter finch flight this season than any in the past decade or so, though not necessarily by historical standards. Most remarkable was the record-setting irruption of Purple Finches. They were present throughout the season and virtually ubiquitous for most of it. The irruption peaked in late October culminating with a remarkable 2,216 counted on the morning of 30 October at Robert Moses State Park, Suffolk County. There was a sizable irruption of Pine Siskins, too, though not record-setting. The season also saw a few **Evening Grosbeaks**, with individuals sticking in spots

long enough to afford birders good viewing opportunities. This species has been almost completely absent from Region 10 for many years. There were a few Red Crossbills, mostly seen briefly along the barrier beaches. There were two Common Redpoll reports, and a lone **Bohemian Waxwing**. Among the more common irruptive species numbers were fairly impressive. Red-breasted Nuthatches were widespread in good numbers, with some individual counts over 100. 71 Red-bellied Woodpeckers were counted at Robert Moses State Park on 14 October.

Numbers of migrating “grasspipers” were perhaps at an all-time low in the Region. Among a small number of reports, the maximum of Buff-breasted Sandpipers was three and of American Golden-Plovers only two. An Upland Sandpiper in migration at Robert Moses State Park on 19 September was a surprise, this species having become very rare in Region 10. Numbers of other shorebirds were generally very low. For example, the maximum of Semipalmated Sandpipers was only 600 and of Short-billed Dowitcher a paltry 85. It is possible that the high water levels at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge’s East Pond affected these numbers somewhat, either by discouraging the birds, or the birders from visiting the north end.

The few pelagic trips this fall were less productive than in recent years, the most notable report a very late Sooty Shearwater offshore on 4 November. However, there were some very good pelagic bird sightings from shore, including a Northern Fulmar at Riis Park, Queens, and three separate reports of Pomarine Jaeger. Both of these species were seen when stormy weather produced a widespread seabird spectacle on 25 September.

The early-fall passage of Lesser Black-backed Gulls, mostly immature birds, along the barrier beaches is being well documented. The maximum count was 107 at Robert Moses State Park on 10 September. This species becomes quite rare here through the winter.

Despite the cold temperatures, 20 species of warblers were recorded in the Region well into November, most of them substantially later than their normal departure dates.

As usual, there were a number of notable rarities in the Region. A **Barnacle Goose** was in Riverhead, Suffolk County from 24 November through the season. A **Brown Booby** was reported from the Verrazano Narrows on 2 October (see article elsewhere in this issue), and an adult **White Ibis** was reported at Tobay Beach, Nassau County on 16 September. A **Mississippi Kite** was spotted at Clove Lakes Park, Staten Island on 17 September. A juvenile **Golden Eagle** was seen at Inwood Hill Park, Manhattan on 21 October. A juvenile **Purple Gallinule** was discovered at the lake in Prospect Park, Brooklyn on 19 October, where it stayed until the 22nd. A **Sandhill Crane** was a flyover at Inwood Hill Park on 16 October. A few **Pileated Woodpeckers** are established in Staten Island, though still very rare on Long Island. There was an **Ash-throated Flycatcher** at Heckscher State Park, Suffolk County from 31 October-2 November. A **Gray Kingbird** was a very nice surprise for a few birders who

were in the right place at the right time at Jones Beach West End on 10 November. It was gone within an hour. There were several reports of **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**. One, at Deep Hollow, Montauk, Suffolk County was seen by many on 20-21 October. This was probably the same bird that was seen there again on 4 November. Another one, on 10 November at Point Lookout, Nassau County, was seen only briefly, coinciding with the excitement of the Gray Kingbird across Jones Inlet. A **Northern Wheatear** was seen by many at Heckscher State Park on 28 October and remained through at least the 30th. A **Varied Thrush** was a window strike victim on 4 November at 57th Street and Central Park West, Manhattan. It was taken to rehab, fate unknown. The above-mentioned **Bohemian Waxwing** was seen briefly at Crab Meadow Beach, Northport, Suffolk County on 29 November. A **Harris's Sparrow** was seen at Central Park on 4 November.

The author wishes to thank Bill Ostrander, who has taken on the task of organizing eBird data into a format usable for compiling Kingbird Regional reports. The use of this data has become indispensable for providing an accurate picture of the avifauna of Region 10.

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ABBREVIATIONS

APEC – Alley Pd Environmental Center, QUEE; **APP** – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **BPP** – Baisley Pd P, QUEE; **BPT** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **BRY** – Bryant P, NEWY; **CB** – Cedar Beach, Babylon, SUFF; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CHP** – Conference House P, RICH; **CIC** – Coney I Creek/P, KING; **CP** – Central P, 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 Ave 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 P, 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; **Gtree** – Greentree Estate, Manhasset, NASS; **GwC** – Green-wood Cemetery, KING; **HLSP** – Hempstead L SP, NASS; **HP** – Hook Pd, East Hampton, SUFF; **HSP** – Heckscher SP, SUFF; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWE** – West End, Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **KP** – Kissena P, QUEE; **Mass** – Massapequa Preserve, NASS; **MB** – Mecox Bay/Mecox Inlet, SUFF; **MF** – Miller Field, RICH; **MLUA** – Mt. Loretto Unique Area, RICH; **MNSA** – Marine Nature Study Area, Oceanside, NASS; **MP** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **NYBG** – New York Botanical Garden, BRON; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PL** – Patchogue L, Patchogue, SUFF; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **RBA** – NY Rare Bird Alert, **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; **Shinn** – Shinnecock Inlet, SUFF; **SPCP** – Smith Pt CP/Old Inlet, SUFF; **SPP** – Southards Pd P, West Babylon, SUFF; **SMSP** – Sunken Meadow SP, SUFF; **TP** – Timber Pt Golf Course, Great River, SUFF; **VCP** – Van Cortlandt P, BRON; **VSh** – Venetian Shores P, Lindenhurst, SUFF; **VSSP** – Valley Stream SP, NASS; **WPP** – Wolfe’s Pd P, RICH.

WATERFOWL - HUMMINGBIRDS

Greater White-fronted Goose: 3 Rt 105 24-25 Nov (SSM, PJJ, JSe).

“Black” Brant: FT 19-22 Nov (SN, AB).

BARNACLE GOOSE: Rt 105 24 Nov thru (SSM, PJJ, mob).

Cackling Goose: Bay CP, East Rockaway, NASS 23 Sep (RBA), early; MF 18 Oct (RV); 3 MF 24 Nov (RV); Rt 105 24 Nov (SSM, PJJ).

Mute Swan: max 156 MB 24 Nov (AnW).

Tundra Swan: 2 Georgica, SUFF 22-24 Nov (JRo).

Wood Duck: max 80 HLSP 18 Oct (mob), large number.

Eurasian Wigeon: Marine Park, KING 19 Oct-18 Nov (RBA); Blydenburgh CP, Smithtown, SUFF 18 Nov (RBA); JBWR 21 Nov (RBA); Avon L, Amityville, SUFF 23 Nov-thru (RBA); CR 27-28 Nov (ACi).

Canvasback: appx 10 reps; max 16, Tung Ting Pd, Centerport, SUFF 21 Nov (M. Jensen).

Redhead: max 65 Baisley Pd P, QUEE 23 Nov (R. Evon).

Greater Scaup: max 130 City I, BRON 24 Nov (RAR, MB), few.

King Eider: Shinn 2-6 Sep (KC, S. Newbert, S. Stuart).

Com. Eider: max 300 MP 16 Nov (M. Harvey), few relative to recent years.

Harlequin Duck: Orient Pt, SUFF 19 Oct (RBA); RP 27 Oct (SSi, DG, PPaul); Fisher's I, Suff 27 Oct (RBA); Pt. Lookout, NASS 1 Nov (RBA); 2 Pt Lookout 7 Nov (SyS, JGi); max 5 Pt Lookout 10 Nov (JGi).

Com. Merganser: appx 15 reps; max 12 PBP 22-23 Nov (RAR).

Ruddy Duck: max 1022 Hendrix Cr, KING 24 Nov (TPr).

N. Bobwhite: 3 distinct reps, all likely released.

Ring-necked Pheasant: Still present at scattered locs such as KP and Edgemere, QUEE.

Red-necked Grebe: PB 1 Nov (RBA); 2 MLUA 4 Nov (HF, mob); 2 FT 11 Nov (DG, SBa, mob).

Com. Nighthawk: 306 Setauket, SUFF 11 Sep (JT, *et al.*); 114 Setauket 18 Sep (JT, *et al.*);

Chuck-will's-widow: CP 22 Sep (RBA), very rare in fall.

E. Whip-poor-will: Edgewood Preserve, SUFF 13-15 Sep (TS, PMo).

Chimney Swift: 4 Heartland Village, RICH 2 Nov (DE), late.

RAILS – LARIDS

Virginia Rail: PP 19 Sep (RB, mob).

Sora: JBWR 8-13 Sep (mob); BRY 14 Sep (AD); 2 JBWR 16 Sep (RT, mob);

PURPLE GALLINULE: juv PP 19-22 Oct (SSi, mob).

Com. Gallinule: Mass 21 Sep (JOS).

SANDHILL CRANE (R10): IHP 16 Oct (RBA).

Am. Avocet: not reported.

Am. Oystercatcher: max 500 JBWE 15 Sep (K. Topping).

Am. Golden-Plover: very few; max 2: Eastport, SUFF 1-2 Sep (JGI, ES); MF 13 Sep (ACi); HSP 13 Sep (PJJ); 2 MB 21 Sep (KF, SF); MF 21 Sep (T. Gabe); MF 23 Sep (RV); HSP 21 Sep (KF, SF); FT 22 Sep (MB); 2 MF 3 Oct (JRG).

Upland Sandpiper: RMSP 19 Sep (SSM).

Whimbrel: BPt 7-8 Sep (PPaul, MB); 6 MF 10 Sep (ACi); 3 MF 11 Sep (EJ); 2 MF 14 Sep (HF); 4 Jamaica Bay, QUEE 16 Sep (RBA); 4 FT 30 Sep (CCo).

Hudsonian Godwit: More than recent years: 2 JBWR 2-9 Sep (DF, mob); 3 JBWR 8 Sep (RV); 2 JBWE 10-14 Sep (TH, mob); JBWR 13 Sep (RV); Eastport 16 Sep (ES); 2 Eastport 21 Sep (KF, SF); MB 21 Sep (KF, SF); 3 JBWR 24 Sep (RV); 2-3 MF 19-22 Oct (RV, mob); Sag 27 Oct (AnW).

Marbled Godwit: 2 CCP 1 Sep (KC); JBWR 1-3 Sep (KM, mob); JBWE 11-12 Sep (TH, mob); CCP 16 Sep (MSch); 5 JBWE 20 Sep (TWB); 6 JBWE 7 Oct (RPx); max 7 JBWE 19 Oct (JGi); 4-5 JBWE thru 9 Nov, 3 thru 18 Nov, 2 thru 30 Nov.

Red Knot: max 103 Pt Lookout 13 Oct (TWB, GB).

Stilt Sandpiper: max 20 JBWR 3 Sep (E. Gaillard); HSP 13 Sep (PJJ), usual loc.

Baird's Sandpiper: Fewer than 10 reps; 2 Riverhead 3 Sep (mob); 1-2 BPt 21-28 Sep (RBA, PPaul); 3 BPt 29 Sep (PPaul).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: few; Riverhead 2-3 Sep (TH, AC); max 3 Riverhead 8 Sep (RA); JBWR 8 Sep (DF); HSP 13 Sep (PJJ); 2 Eastport 16 Sep (ES).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 600 JBWR 2 Sep (DF), few; 16 GBP 2 Nov (SSM); 11 GBP 5 Nov (RV); 7 GBP 8 Nov (RV); late.

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 85 JBWR 3 Sep (TH), few.

Long-billed Dowitcher: JBWR 3 Sep (AB); JBWR 8 Sep (RV); 2 ad JBWR 24 Sep (RV); max 8 Santapogue Cr, W. Babylon, SUFF (R. Valente); 4 Santapogue Cr 18-25 Oct.

Wilson's Phalarope: JBWR 1-3 Sep (JR, MY).

Red-necked Phalarope: Sag 8 Sep (AnW); Fisher's I 27 Oct (RBA).

Pomarine Jaeger: MB 1 Sep (SSM); Great Gull I, SUFF 23 Sep (RBA); RMSP 26 Oct (RBA); very rare from shore.

Parasitic Jaeger: 5 CCP 1 Sep (KC); 3 MB 21 Sep (KF, SF); RMSP 25 Sep (SSM); 10 Sag 25 Sep (RBA); max 12 RMSP 26 Oct (SSM);

JBSP 28 Sep (SW); 10 RMSP 26 Oct (RBA); 8 RP 27 Oct (SSi, DG, PPau); RMSP 15 Nov (SSM).

Razorbill: Orient Pt – New London Ferry, SUFF 20 Nov (MSf); SPCP 21 Nov (RBA).

Black-legged Kittiwake: juv FT 22 Sep (MB); Sag 25 Sep (RBA); 9 FT 13 Oct (RBA); 8 RMSP 26 Oct (RBA).

Bonaparte's Gull: juv RMSP 25 Sep (SSM); 600 RMSP 26 Oct (SSM); max 1000 RMSP 9 Nov (SSM).

Black-headed Gull: 1st win Sag 27 Oct (AnW); Old Field, SUFF 19 Nov (MSf), returning ad.

Little Gull: juv RMSP 15 Nov (SSM).

Iceland Gull: imm MB 26 Nov (EJ).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 107 RMSP 10 Sep (SSM); 43 JBWE 10 Sep (TH); 92 Old Inlet, Fire Island, SUFF 15 Sep (KC); 60 RMSP 25 Sep (SSM); 62 JBWE 25 Sep (SSM); 60 SPCP 25 Sep (RBA); 22 RMSP 27 Oct (SSM); large nums; 7 JBWE 7 Nov (SyS, JGi); Arden Av., RICH 24 Nov thru (SIW), ad returning for 12th year.

Glaucous Gull: 1st cy PBP 23-25 Nov (RAR, MB).

Caspian Tern: 3 JBWR 3 Sep (TH); 2 GKP 3 Sep (ACi); 2 BPt 8 Sep (MB); 2 JBWR 13 Sep (RV); max 6 MB 15 Sep (JGi); JBWR 24 Sep (RV); 3 JBSP 28 Sep (SW); BPt 29 Sep (PPau); 2 RP 27 Oct (SSi, DG, PPau).

Black Tern: 6 CCP 1 Sep (KC); max 11 RMSP 7 Sep (DF); Gin B, Montauk, SUFF 27 Oct (AnW); 2 RP 27 Oct (SSi, DG, PPau), late.

Com. Tern: 2 Montauk Inlet, SUFF 18 Nov (TM, SBi), late.

Royal Tern: 4 BPt 7 Sep (PPau); 60 SPCP 25 Sep (RBA); 8 BPt 29 Sep (PPau); 12 VSh 1 Oct (SyS, JGi); 18 MB 18 Oct (RBA); 44 RP 27 Oct (SSi, DG, PPau); max 100 CCP 3 Nov (KC); last 21 Nov.

Black Skimmer: max 480 Nickerson B, NASS 9 Sep (DF).

LOONS - PARROTS

N Fulmar: RP 25 Sep (SSi, DG), very rare from shore.

Cory's Shearwater: Shin 1 Sep (KC); 50 CCP 1 Sep (KC); max 300 MB 2 Sep (SSM), large num; 12 1 mi off MP 17 Sep (OB); 2 Fort Pond Bay, Montauk, SUFF 17 Sep (OB); 2 MB 21 Sep (KF, SF); 10 RMSP 25 Sep (SSM); 72 Sag 25 Sep (RBA); 25 SPCP 25 Sep (RBA).

Sooty Shearwater: MB 3 Sep (SSM, PJL, PMo); Sag 25 Sep (DR), late; Brooklyn VI Pelagic Trip, NASS 4 Nov (BF, TS), very late.

Great Shearwater: 23 RMSP 25 Sep (KF); RP 25 Sep (SSi, DG); 3 Sag 25 Sep (RBA); 2 SPCP 25 Sep (RBA); JBSP 28 Sep (SW).

Manx Shearwater: Shin 1 Sep (KC); Fort Pond Bay 17 Sep (OB); RMSP 25 Sep (SSM); 4 Sag 25 Sep (DR).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: 2 Brooklyn VI Pelagic Trip, SUFF 4 Nov (DG, *et al.*).

BROWN BOOBY: Verrazano Narrows 2 Oct (JRG!); see article this issue.

Double-crested Cormorant: 2958 RP 27 Oct (SSi, DG, PPau), large number.

Am. Bittern: PP 21 Oct (RB); Gilgo B, SUFF 16 Nov (SA, RK).

Tricolored Heron: JBWE 15 Nov (RV), late.

Cattle Egret: JBSP 20 Oct (RBA); 4 Southold 28 Oct (JSe); 2 Cutchogue, SUFF 29 Oct (A. Ratay); 2 TP 2-3 Nov (KF); 2 Bellport, SUFF 4 Nov (LS); Pt Lookout 10 Nov (SW) 2 Wainscott, SUFF 10 Nov (JRo).

WHITE IBIS: ad Tobay B, NASS 16 Sep (*vide* RPx).

Black Vulture: max 5 CP 23 Oct (SC, mob); 5 CR25 Oct (ACi).

Turkey Vulture: 41 Northville, SUFF 12 Oct (MLL); 54 Northville 13 Oct (MLL); large numbers for L.I.

Osprey: 496 FIHW (*vide* DP), 31% above 20-yr avg.

GOLDEN EAGLE (R10): juv IHP 21 Oct (RZ).

N. Harrier: 249 FIHW (*vide* DP), 8% above 20-yr avg.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 480 FIHW (*vide* DP), 49% above 20-yr avg.

Cooper's Hawk: 84 FIHW (*vide* DP), 126% above 20-yr avg, 37-year max.

N. Goshawk: imm PBP 10 Nov (MB), ph!; Tobay B 11 Nov (BF), ph.

Bald Eagle: 14 FIHW (*vide* DP), 37-year max.

MISSISSIPPI KITE: CLP 17 Sep (HF).

Red-shouldered Hawk: GTree 14 Oct (SP); FT 18 Oct (SW); rare on L.I.

Broad-winged Hawk: 329 IHP 22 Sep (NO), large num for R10; 5 FT 18 Oct (SW), rare on L.I.

Great Horned Owl: 6 GTree 14 Oct (SP).

Snowy Owl: JBWE 22 Nov thru (mob)

Barred Owl: 2 CP 29 Sep thru (mob).

Long-eared Owl: CP 1 Nov thru (mob).

Short-eared Owl: Randall's I, NEWY 22 Nov (DBa), unusual loc.

N. Saw-whet Owl: CP 4 Nov thru (mob).

Red-headed Woodpecker: Appx 12 reps incl several of two birds.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 26 RMSP 30 Sep (*fide* SSM); 71 RMSP 14 Oct (SSM, mob); large numbers; unusual barrier beach flight.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 15 GTree 14 Oct (SP), large number.

Hairy Woodpecker: 8 GTree 30 Sep (SP), large number.

N. Flicker: 1200 RMSP 22 Oct (KF, SF); 400 RMSP 25 Oct (SSM, mob); large numbers.

PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10): 3 reps RICH incl 2 High Rock P.

Am. Kestrel: 985 FIHW (*fide* DP), 15% above 20-yr avg; 3 GTree 30 Sep (SP).

Merlin: 1590 FIHW (*fide* DP), 21% above 20-yr avg.

Peregrine Falcon: 172 FIHW (*fide* DP), 11% below 20-yr avg.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: HSP 31 Oct-2 Nov (JQ, mob).

Western Kingbird: MNSA 1 Sep (MF); APEC 15 Sep (AD, *et al.*); JBWE 19 Sep (RP); 2 Hallock SP Preserve, Laurel, SUFF 3 Oct (JHaa); Marine Park, KING 8 Oct (HL).

GRAY KINGBIRD: JBWE 10 Nov (PR, BV, mob).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: Deep Hollow, Montauk, SUFF 20-21 Oct (JGi, mob); Deep Hollow 4 Nov (JRoss, same bird?); Pt Lookout 10 Nov (SSch).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: appx 15 reps; Marine P 14 Oct (RBA), late.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Owls Head P 26 Oct (SBa), ph, late.

Alder Flycatcher: Sag 2 Sep (SSM); Brookhaven, SUFF 9 Sep (BBo);

Arasomomaque Preserve Southold, SUFF 12 Sep (JSe).

Empidonax sp.: SMSP 12 Nov (B. Bull), ph!, likely a Least Flycatcher.

E. Phoebe: 85 GTree 30 Sep (SP); 65 GTree 14 Oct (SP); large numbers.

N. Shrike: juv FT 11 Nov (DG, mob); Marine P 17 Nov (J. Salas).

Philadelphia Vireo: CIC 15 Sep (RBA); JBWE 15 Sep (RBA); Southard's Pd, Babylon, SUFF 15 Sep (RBA); 2 RMSP 30 Sep (PMo, TS); Shelter I, SUFF 17 Oct (OB).

Com. Raven: 2 CIC 4 Sep (SSi); 2 Wertheim NWR, Shirley, SUFF 29 Sep (MLL); Staten I Industrial Park 5 Oct (CH); JBWE 7 Oct (RPx); 4 Northville 16-17 Oct (MLL), noted in

area thru; 6 Gtree 21 Oct (SP, *et al.*), large num; 2 William Floyd Estate, Mastic B, SUFF 18 Nov (MLL); 2 CR 26 Nov (RV); now under-reported.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Widespread irruption; 26 CIC 4 Sep (SSi); 9 GTree 20 Sep (SP); 104 RMSP 14 Oct (SSM, mob).

Winter Wren: PP 7 Sep (SSi), early.

Marsh Wren: 2 GTree 20 Sep (SP), unusual loc.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR: HSP 28-30 Oct (LN, mob).

Veery: GTree 30 Sep (SP), late.

Swainson's Thrush: 94 Lynbrook, NASS 3 Oct (TH), large num, nocturnal flight call count.

Hermit Thrush: GTree 30 Sep (SP), early.

VARIED THRUSH: 57th St. & Central Park West, NEWY 4 Nov (*fide* DB), window strike taken to rehab.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING (R10): Crab Meadow B, Northport, SUFF 29 Nov (TS).

EVENING GROSBEAK (R10): m SMSP 24-27 Oct (TS, mob); 2 SMSP 28 Oct, mf, m thru 30 Oct (RBA); 2 CP 25 Oct (NS); Setauket 25 Oct (RBA); Midland B, RICK 28 Oct (ACi); 12 CP 8 Nov (DA); FT 11 Nov (DG); RMSP 11 Nov (BF); JBWE 15 Nov (RV); Wading R, SUFF 17 Oct (RBA); JBWE 18 Nov (TH); CP 19 Nov (RBA).

Purple Finch: present thru incl major irruption late Oct: 37 RMSP 14 Oct (SSM, mob); 27 GTree 14 Oct (SP); 1147 FT 19 Oct (SBa); 1500 RMSP 25 Oct (SSM, mob); 2216 RMSP 30 Oct (SSM); 71 JBWE 18 Nov (TH); 5 JBWR 22 Nov (AB); 4 CP 24 Nov (*fide* DA).

Red Crossbill: MF 30 Oct (RV); 2 MB 31 Oct (IG); 3 RMSP 11 Nov (BF); 5 Tobay B 16 Nov (SA, RK); 14 JBWE 21 Nov (RBA); 2 FBF 21 Nov (RBA).

Com. Redpoll: RMSP 31 Oct (RBA); 2 FT 22 Nov (RBA).

Pine Siskin: substantial irruption incl: 83 RMSP 14 Oct (SSM, mob); 1000 RMSP 25 Oct (SSM, mob); 2690 RMSP 30 Oct (SSM); 50 Grymes Hill, RICH 9 Nov (HF), at feeder; max 5238 RMSP 11 Nov (BF, mob); 5 Northville 17 Nov (MLL); 2 William Floyd Estate, Mastic Beach, SUFF (MLL); 374 JBWE 18 Nov (TH); 25 CP 24 Nov (DA) 30 CR 26 Nov (RV).

Am. Goldfinch: 1320 RMSP 30 Oct (SSM); 1253 JBWE 18 Nov (TH).

Lapland Longspur: several reps from 21 Oct.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Chipping Sparrow: 91 GTree 20 Sep (SP); 60 GTree 30 Sep (SP); 81 GTree 14 Oct (SP); large numbers.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Appx 30 reps incl: GTree 14 Oct (SP); max 3 RMSP 9 Oct (KF, SF); 2 KP 25 Oct (PR).

Vesper Sparrow: appx 40 reps incl: 4 MF 21 Oct (JRG); max 8 VCP 3 Nov (NS), large num.

Lark Sparrow: appx 10 reps incl: Governor's I 1 Sep (BC); FBF 3 Sep (TP); DOP 15 Sep (RBA); Owl's Head P, KING 20 Sep (RBA); FBF 23 Sep (RBA); CP 27 Sep (RBA); JBWE 13-28 Oct (RBA).

Savannah Sparrow: 50+ in one farm field, Northville, SUFF 17 Nov (MLL).

Grasshopper Sparrow: Shore Rd P, KING 21 Sep (G. Keri); PP 19 Oct PPaul); RMSP 22 Oct (KF); JBWE 24 Oct (B. Belford, *et al.*).

Song Sparrow: 219 GTree 14 Oct (SP), large number.

Swamp Sparrow: 23 GTree 30 Sep (SP), large number; 214 GTree 14 Oct (SP), record count for NY.

White-throated Sparrow: 1500 RMSP 25 Oct (DF), large num.

HARRIS'S SPARROW: CP 4 Nov (*fide* DBa).

White-crowned Sparrow: 59 Hither Hills SP, SUFF 28 Oct (AnW), large num.

"Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow: juv Cedar Grove B, RICH 23 Oct (RV).

Yellow-breasted Chat: appx 20 reps incl: City Hall P, NEWY 23-29 Oct (RBA), unusual loc.

Boat-tailed Grackle: max 300 Charles Memorial P, Howard Beach, QUEE 17&24 Nov (R. Serio).

Ovenbird: 2 Union Square P, NEWY 21 Nov (RBA), late.

Worm-eating Warbler: Gardiner CP, SUFF 12 Nov (KF), late.

Louisiana Waterthrush: PP 15 Sep (DHr, RM), rare in fall, late.

Black-and-white Warbler: IHP 12 Nov (NO), late.

Tennessee Warbler: Pt. Lookout 10 Nov (MZ), late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: appx 60 reps incl: GTree 14 Oct (SP); 2 APP 28 Oct (PR).

Connecticut Warbler: appx 10 reps incl: Northville 1 Sep (MLL); PP 7 Sep (SSi); Governor's I, NEWY 8 Sep (GW); JBWE 11 Sep (TH); CP 23 Sep (RBA).

Mourning Warbler: Nassau-Suffolk Trail, Plainview, NASS 21 Oct (PR), late.

Am. Redstart: GTree 14 Oct (SP), late; JBWE 7 Nov (RK, mob), very late.

Cape May Warbler: Madison Square P, NEWY 20 Nov (RBA), late, unusual loc.

Cerulean Warbler: CP 20-22 Sep (RBA), rare in fall.

N. Parula: 2 JBWE 17-18 Nov (TH), late.

Magnolia Warbler: CLP 30 Oct – 1 Nov (HF); PP 10 Nov (M. Brauer), late.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 10,000 RMSP 30 Oct (SSM).

Yellow-throated Warbler: EPCAL 22 Sep (RBA).

Black-throated Green Warbler: CLP 1 Nov (HF); GwC 11 Nov (M. Wills); late.

Wilson's Warbler: CLP 1 Nov (HF); IHP 12 Nov (NO), late.

Summer Tanager: CLP19 Oct (GB).

Blue Grosbeak: GTree 20 Sep (SP); 2 Gtree 30 Sep (SP); GTree 14 Oct (SP).

Indigo Bunting: 31 GTree 30 Sep (SP), large number.

Dickcissel: Appx 35 reps incl: 3 RMSP 19 Sep (SSM); 2 GTree 20 Sep (SP); 2 Marine P 6 Oct (HL); 2 RMSP 8 Oct (KF, SF); GTree 14 Oct (SP); JBWE 18 Nov (TH); CHP 19 Nov (ACi).

EXOTICS

Mandarin Duck: CP 10 Oct thru (mob), widely reported in media.

European Goldfinch: 5 CIC 4 Sep (SSi), noted in flight of migrant landbirds.

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

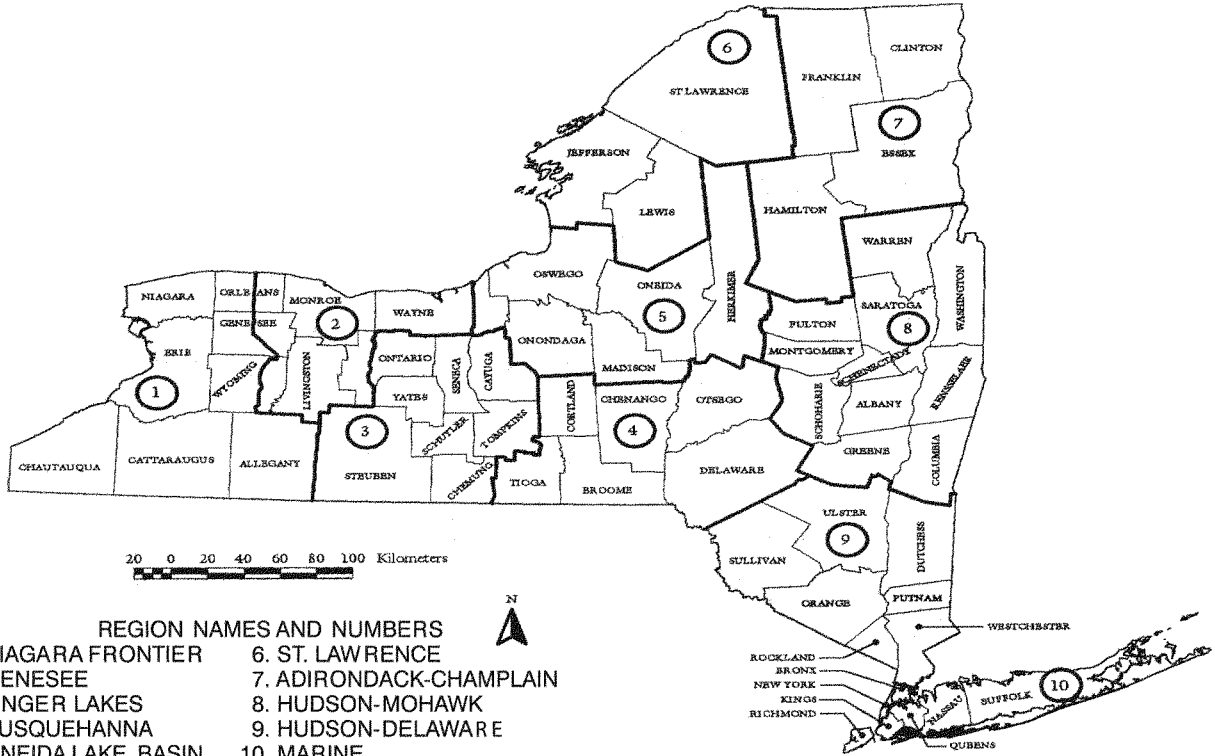
Deadline is 7 June

Summer Season: June, July, August

Deadline is 7 September

Fall Season: September, October, November

Deadline is 7 December



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Auditing:

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