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ROBIN'S DAY: A FAMILY TRADITION BECOMES CITIZEN SCIENCE

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Citizen Science, the engagement of the general public or amateur scientists to collect scientific data, has been shown to be a useful tool to supplement and enhance data acquisition by professionals (see Devictor et al. 2010). Whether engaging wildlife enthusiasts to map the spatial distribution of Chacma baboons in the anthropogenic landscapes of South Africa (Pédarros et al. 2020) or using hunter questionnaires to monitor the demographics of migratory quail in Spain (Nadal et al. 2020), studies such as these are able to gather data that would be too logistically difficult, impossible (without time travel!) or expensive to collect by researchers themselves. Devictor and colleagues (2010) particularly advocate for the importance of citizen science programs for biogeography research, as these data must be collected over large spatial and/or temporal scales. In addition to the utility of this method of data collection, there is the added benefit that engaging the public directly in conservation efforts likely increases their feeling of connection to nature and the scientific process.

Global Climate Change (GCC) is the biggest current threat to most wildlife species (IPCC 2014) and understanding its effect on the distribution and migratory patterns of animals is critical to stem the resultant loss of species. Changes in range distributions in response to GCC have been widely documented (Chen et al. 2011). In addition to spatial shifts, temporal shifts in emergence and migration of animal species are expected and have been documented as phenology adjusts to changes in temperature-related triggers (Parmesan 2007, Kovach et al. 2013, Matthysen et al. 2011). Documenting phenological shifts is important to species conservation, as trophic mismatches may be occurring across taxa (Saino et al. 2011, Jones et al. 2010). However, the magnitude of response to climate change differs profoundly for different species (Ovaskainen et al. 2013). The drivers of this variability are not well understood and so work in this area will benefit from more local data on individual species' responses to climate change over long time

periods. Migratory species are particularly of interest, as they are likely to be responsive to changes in temperature, if their migration is timed to seasonality. Long-term data sets of single species' spring arrival times are rare, but data like this is especially suited to citizen science, especially for charismatic species such as birds. Here, we present a forty-three-year continuous dataset of spring arrival times of the American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) to a town in Western New York (Penfield). These data were collected as part of a family tradition, which is described in detail below.

METHODS

Data collection--Richard Blazey—engineer, inventor, gadget and bird enthusiast and father to three children—began what would become an important annual family tradition back in 1976 a few years after his youngest was born. Robin's Day is marked by the first confirmed sighting of an American Robin in the back yard of the Blazey family, who reside in Penfield, Monroe County, New York. In Western New York, winters are long and any signs of spring are met with great joy (and no small amount of relief!). But in the Blazey household, the first returning robin of the year might also bring a bit of cash and an excuse for a party. Beginning after Christmas, a can of loose change is kept in their house and coins tossed in as they are found in pockets at the end of the day, ultimately becoming the prize money given to the family member who has guessed the closest date to the arrival of the first robin of the season (see photo, p. 52). Bets are placed when the collection can is brought out and dutifully put onto the calendar. On the day of the first robin sighting, a cake is baked and served (see photo, p. 52), the winner announced and awarded their cash—usually \$10 to \$20—and the family celebrates this harbinger of spring.

The Blazeys have been celebrating the holiday for forty-three years, with family participants now spanning generations and coasts. And still, the cakes are made, celebrations had and money distributed. What perhaps distinguishes this from just a quaint family tradition is the plaques that Mr. Blazey has kept to commemorate the winners and dates of arrival of their rosy-chested feathered friend. Dates from these plaques were extracted and entered into a spreadsheet for analysis.

Data analysis--We performed a simple linear regression with arrival date and year to ascertain if any patterns were present. In addition, we extracted temperature data from the nearest meteorological station (at Greater Rochester International Airport) for the period November through February and calculated the four-month 'midwinter' average prior to each year's competition. We then regressed arrival day against mid-winter temperature to further investigate if temperature was, in fact, an important predictor of arrival day.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A simple linear regression (Fig. 1) is highly significant ($p = 0.00078$), with a slope of -0.34 days per year. This means that robins have been arriving, on average one day earlier every three years. The trend only explains 24% of the yearly variation, but that is not unexpected (and illustrates the difference between ‘climate’ and ‘weather’).

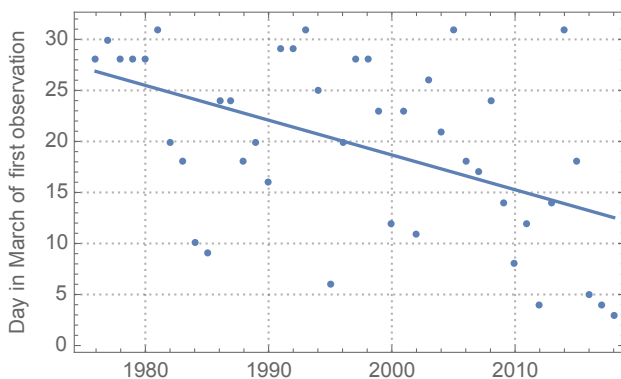


Figure 1: Spring arrival dates of American Robins at a Penfield, Monroe County, NY home, from 1976-2019.

One might ask what the evidence is that this is the result of climate change. We extracted from the nearest meteorological station (at Greater Rochester International Airport) temperature data for the period November through February and calculated the four-month ‘midwinter’ average prior to each year’s competition. There is good evidence ($p = 0.061$) that winter temperatures have indeed been rising overall, by about one degree every 27.5 years. Even then, the fact that robin arrivals have been getting earlier and temperatures have been rising might still be coincidence. However, regressing arrival day against mid-winter temperature (Fig. 2) confirms that temperature is a significant ($p = 0.00031$) and important predictor of arrival day, and supports our hypothesis that the Blazey’s annual family competition secretly signaled the approaching global catastrophe that is climate change.

This is certainly not the first dataset to document phenological shifts in bird migration correlated with increasing winter temperatures (e.g., Marra et al. 2005, Moller et al. 2008, Jonzen et al. 2006, Balbontin et al. 2009), but few species in North America have data from such a long time series from a single location and many rely on indirect methods such as remote sensing due to lack of observational data (Horton et al. 2020). Horton and colleagues (2020) suggest that large scale studies are lacking due to limitations in access to appropriate data. Still, the

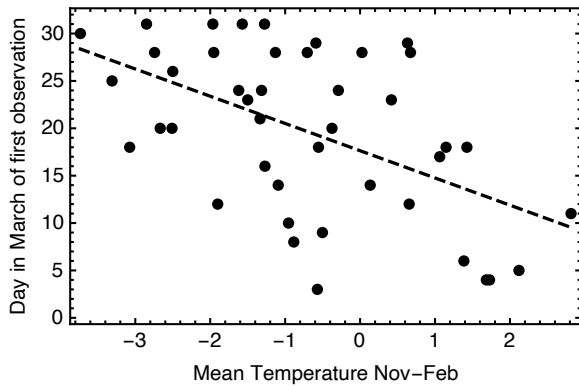


Figure 2: Spring arrival of American Robins in western NYS is associated with average temperature in the preceding winter.

significance of this analysis is less about the single additional data point it provides, but rather in how these data were collected. Garcia-del-Amo and colleagues have written about the importance and utility of involving local residents particularly in climate research (2020). The more eyes that are watching for changes in phenology, the more likely they will be documented! Imagine if more families in zones of migration instituted these fun family traditions, documenting the first arrival of whichever species they choose year after year? Such data would be a boon to phenological research. A reason to celebrate for families and scientists alike – bring on the cake and coins!

Postscript. It is with great sadness that we must report that Richard N. Blazey passed away on June 1st, 2019 after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. This paper is a tribute to his ingenuity, his love of birds, and most importantly, his love for family.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to thank Christy Blazey for giving us access to the family plaques containing the arrival dates. Thanks also to Jackie, Deb and Chip Blazey for their contributions of photographs and detailed descriptions of the Robin’s Day tradition.

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PATCH BIRDING
GROWING UP ON LIDO BEACH:
“THE EXCITEMENT OF DISCOVERY”

Robert Berlingeri
Elmont, NY

The year was 1961. As a small child, it was my first experience with what was always referred to as “The Beach”. Long Island’s South Shore, with all of its fine sand, sprawling dunes and ocean waves. It was a very exciting time to take in all of these things with all the senses. Aside from all the fascinating visuals, there were different scents and sounds to be taken in that weren’t part of suburbia, all of which contain memories that have lasted a lifetime. I was way more fortunate than others of that age to have had the luxury of spending 45 consecutive summers at the very same location, in Point Lookout Town Park (PLTP) in Southern Nassau County, just west of Jones Inlet. The first cabanas were built at PLTP in 1957 to be rented exclusively to Town of Hempstead residents. Once a cabana was rented in those days, the tenant was immediately “Grandfathered in” as long as the original occupant could produce proof of residence to the Town of Hempstead for consecutive years on end. By the early 1980s, the “Grandfather” clause was eliminated to new tenants and replaced with a finite duration of up to three consecutive years of occupancy. We as a family were fortunate to have held on to that cabana for so long, and for me, it was so much more.... What I’ve written in this piece is my personal effort to describe “The Excitement of Discovery” within the roughly three mile stretch from the town of Point Lookout west to the Long Beach Hotel, which I commonly refer to as “The Lido Beach Strip”.

The rather quiet and somewhat private Town of Point Lookout borders with Jones Inlet and Reynolds Channel. Moving west on the Lido Beach Strip, beach clubs and complexes are as follows: Malibu Beach Club, Nickerson Beach (named after the highly regarded former Nassau County Executive Eugene H. Nickerson in 2002, and formerly known as Nassau Beach), Camp Anchor Town Park, Lido District Town Park (formerly known and still sometimes referred to as Atlantic Beach) and Lido West Town Park. The western edge of the strip ends at the Long Beach Hotel property, a large pink building which still maintains its attractive appearance today. Throughout the strip, there were shells, insects, crabs, driftwood and grasses, but it was the birds that constantly had me fascinated at a very young age. This was ultimately how I really got hooked on avian life. It was the excitement of finding something completely different, way before considering identification to species. Probably in late August of about 1973, I saw my very first Laughing Gulls in basic plumage while not knowing what they were, a group of four in a tight pack slightly apart from the other familiar gulls. I asked my Dad, the stoic individual that he was: “What kind of birds are they?” He paused, took

a drag on a cigarette and answered: "I don't know Bob. – Why don't you ask them?" So Dad wasn't too helpful with identifying birds in any capacity, though he was supportive of my interests. My mother knew more. When Sanderlings began to show up in numbers at the water's edge around the same time, she would simply call them "Sandpipers", which was good enough for me. While swimming in the ocean in July, we'd see small birds hovering over the water at close range, then making a quick dive and flying off. My aunt would exclaim: "look at the baby seagulls!" Somehow, even at that age, I wasn't convinced that they were gulls. This was my first experience with Least Terns. It was more about observing everything, about so many experiences like this at such a young age, that really did the trick. With so many discoveries like this, I grew more and more interested in determining exactly what the individual species were while paying close attention to subtle field marks, flight styles, preferred habitat and perhaps more than anything else, vocalizations.

Cabana neighbors weren't very helpful in my profound interest in birds. There was plenty of teasing and ridicule along the way. One episode sticks in my mind with one particular tenant. By the late 80s when American Oystercatchers had expanded their range northward, typical noisy flight displays were common throughout the summer which interfered with this woman's involvement with her beloved Paperback Novel. She'd complain: "Bobby – would you please tell your lousy Piping Plovers to go somewhere else!" At least she knew something about the publicized awareness of an endangered species, but she wasn't anxious about any further details, so the nose went back to the book. Busted again. My sister also had something to say about the birds around us, both at the beach and in our hometown away from the coast in southwest Nassau County. I found comfort in her just knowing the difference between a Red-winged Blackbird and a Common Grackle. We didn't have access to any reliable field guides that served us very well in the 60s, but we DID have something very precious, and it still remains in the family to this day. It's a rather skinny 8" x 11" hard cover titled "An Illustration to BIRDS" by John Kiernan with illustrations by Don Eckelberry, copyright 1946 by Doubleday & Co. Inc. This book was designed for beginners, but basic enough to be useful in its own way for children, as well as generally covering birds of North America. This provided us with a useful tool for our purposes, and whether we knew it or not, practically served as a prerequisite for the more detailed field guides to follow in the early 70s.

Of course, there were many other activities associated with summer fun at the beach, and I was in the thick of it. Frisbee, baseball, volleyball, horseshoes, card games, swimming, body-surfing, good food and all of those summertime one hit wonders on the AM radio were all fond memories. I was a long-haired Beach Boy looking like I could be in Led Zeppelin, with a guitar and a girlfriend or two, while casually taking in the bird life that was constantly around. The summer of 1976 opened up so many opportunities, which for the first time extended into the rest of the calendar year now that I was driving. The next phase of discovery would be even more exciting because I literally had everything to myself.



Charlie Held, Steve Tetro, and Bobby Berlingeri, Point Lookout, 1991. Photo copyright Zephyrus, 1991.

Nobody wanted to be at the beach during the “off season”. It was a time when I was craving solitude, so I was content with my own company while finding exciting new things along the way. By 1987 through 1988, the winter brought me to another hobby: metal detecting. Some call it “coin hunting” which made perfect “sense”, pun intended. With extreme erosion occurring at PLTP during this period, there was a lot more than “cents”. It was quite a thrill to unearth currency from up to 100 years ago including Indian Head pennies, Liberty and Buffalo nickels, Barber and Mercury dimes, Liberty Standing quarters, three different half-dollar pieces, as well as many other historic items, but there was more to it. . . . Though I was busy listening for tones from the detector that could indicate a good find, I began noticing these “tern-like” birds that were streaming east in numbers. I knew they couldn’t be terns at this time of the year, so I surmised that this was my first encounter with Bonaparte’s Gulls. To my frustration, there were ZERO birders on the beach in those days, but in time, that all gradually changed. By 1994-1995, thousands of Bonaparte’s congregated on the Point Lookout side of Jones Inlet. With the New York Rare Bird Alert now publicizing this event, 10s if not 100s of birders were now on to what became a spectacle with a number of rarities mixing in, including multiple Black-headed, Little, Iceland and Glaucous Gulls. But the real prize for many on hand was the appearance of the ultra-rare

Ross's Gull. Harlequin Ducks became fairly reliable around the Point Lookout jetties as well, much to the delight of many birders and non-birders alike.

There are so many memories from my years at the beach that I can add, but way too many to include in this writing. I'll mention a few. In early April of about 1974 or so, I heard a distant, ambient series of prolonged, disheveled tinkling notes coming from a field between the PLTP cabanas and the maintenance building complex, all of which still exist as they were today—my first experience with a Horned Lark vocalization. In about 1982 and a few years beyond, Willets nested at this patch along with about 20-50 pairs of Least Terns. February of 1982 brought a group of sparrow-like birds to the gravel parking lot directly behind my cabana. They were creeping rather nervously and abruptly while searching for tidbits. 17 Lapland Longspurs. Whimbrel were seen in the area of PLTP which many of us today refer to as "The Rock Pile". One winter in the 80s brought me my first Snowy Owl, perched atop one of the cabana buildings, then flying off. Over the decades, there was much shifting of sand. Dredging projects created sandbars, peninsulas and all kinds of pooling, especially around the Nickerson Beach area which always had nesting Least Terns and Piping Plovers. Occasionally a Gull-billed Tern would visit. It wasn't until the 80s when Common Terns, Oystercatchers and Black Skimmers would nest here. These colonies were always ramped off and monitored for as long as I can remember. My first Baird's Sandpiper's turned up around a tidal pool in the late 80s in late August. Four birds together, perhaps a family group standing tall and alert, while doing some head bobbing. As a pre-adolescent, I remember seeing these stick-like pre-historic looking birds, flying low over the marsh off the Meadowbrook Parkway on the way to the beach, that took years to identify. Glossy Ibis. I can go on and on....

I conclude by noting how birding has exploded in its popularity over the last two decades with so much technology being used in so many ways. It seems as though people don't have to "drop everything" at a given moment to watch or listen to a bird as it passes through. Those moments I've described briefly put me in my own world while challenging myself (often without optics) to identify birds completely on my own. These experiences will forever remain irreplaceable. Often, many birds went by unidentified, but the memory of a call note, flight style, habitat preference or anything else associated with birds remained etched in my mind. It would sometimes take years and several repeated observations to determine an ID of a given species through the process of elimination. No matter how long it took, it was still "The Excitement of Discovery". Much of that special feeling continues today while teaching others how to find and identify birds, which for me is actually more rewarding than chasing down rarities, which seemingly has come to the forefront of birding in recent times. For many of us, it's more about "getting that bird" for the year rather than birding itself. With on-the-spot listservs, apps and texts, many people have become *chasers* rather than *birders*, which often becomes tedious and rudimentary while offering little to science. No doubt, we all chase from time to time, but I strongly feel as though much of the chasing that's become commonplace these days should be left to

those who've spent a lifetime pursuing and identifying birds. One of my mentors, the highly accomplished late, great Manny Levine, comes to mind. I remember a day about 25 years ago when a few of us were at Jones Beach on an afternoon break exchanging pleasantries when word came in with news of a Yellow-breasted Chat recently found in the area. One of us said: "You wanna go for it?" Manny quickly replied with his gruff voice in an ornery tone, "Oh...I've seen Chats before"....I gently urge birders to remember what got us here in the first place, especially for those who've gained interest in birds later in life: it's that "kid in the candy store" type feeling, while exuding a look of wonderment when finding something different. After a lifetime of birding, at least to some capacity, I'm still learning little subtle details about our resident species and expected migrants regarding appearance at different times of the year, vocalizations, habitat preferences, behavior, and much, much more. Hearing the Savannah Sparrow song away from breeding grounds, seeing an adult male King Eider or a flyover Black Vulture on Long Island could be as exciting as seeing a life bird, or getting that "tick" for one's year list. Find one of your favorite places to bird for a few hours and get into your own world. Let the birds come to you and you may find a lot more than you expected, even if it's as simple as familiarizing yourself with the many varying call notes of the Carolina Wren. Rarities will come in their own good time.... It's all about "The Excitement of Discovery".



FIFTY YEARS AGO IN

The KINGBIRD

A Raven Specimen from St. Lawrence County: On March 3, 1969, a Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) was caught in a beaver trap in southern St. Lawrence County. The location is on Jenny Creek, near the Pitcairn-Finetown line, about seven miles east of Harrisville. The bird was turned over to a Conservation Department employee and was in turn given to the science department of Jefferson Community College, outer Coffeen St. Watertown.

The Common Raven is occasionally reported from the western Adirondack region, its status being that of a straggler. There has been speculation that a few pairs may have bred in the Adirondacks in recent times, and the discovery of an active nest in Essex County in 1968 was of particular interest. This is thoroughly documented in the October 1969 issue of the “Kingbird” (pages 198-9) together with pertinent data on the occurrence of the Raven in New York State.

J. B. Belknap, 92 Clinton St. Gouverneur, N. Y. 13642.

This note originally appeared in Volume XX, No. 1, January 1970, on pages 14-15.



EDITOR'S NOTE

The issue you are reading begins the 70th volume of *The Kingbird* and is the first issue to be delivered digitally to members and subscribers preferring that medium. This milestone strikes me as an appropriate opportunity to reflect on several aspects of the print-digital divide that has shaped so much of the past 16 years I've served as Editor.

Two tedious but important record-keeping functions are accomplished in this issue and will be included in the initial issues of each volume. First, the corrigenda from the previous volume (and older volumes, if other mistakes come to light) are explained here. Although these will be corrected in the online journal, it is important that they be made visible and easy to find, as long as *The Kingbird* is used, to provide explication and resolution in case an error propagates into other publications or media. Similarly, a statement will be made in the first issue of each volume concerning the species sequence used in the Regional Reports. Changing the sequence of presentation every year provides almost no benefits, but it imposes serious costs to the writers, editors, and, especially, the future users of the reports. Browsing past *Kingbird* issues, my taxonomic brain is such (i.e., aged enough) that I can easily adapt back into the pre-1983 AOU sequence that fills so many volumes of our journal. In contrast, each one-off sequence that differs from

all preceding and all following it not only looks alien when introduced, but will be both unfamiliar and inaccurate for all future readers. Thus, in deference to those who will look back on these pages, perhaps looking for records of a particular species over a particular period, we will maintain at least a modicum of stability from year to year. Thus last year's sequence, although obsolete, will be retained in Volume 70. Digital searches, of course, are unaffected either way.

"Fifty Years Ago in *The Kingbird*," a feature that was published for several years about a decade ago, returns in this issue. It offers us insights into both the dynamic and the enduring aspects of the missions of our community and our organization. More recently, we have initiated a new feature, under the banner "Patch Birding," which also offers views into the habits, values, and mores of our community. The four installments of this series published to date have elicited a relatively large amount of direct feedback to me—more than most items published in *The Kingbird*. Most of the reactions have been very positive; readers have enjoyed seeing a shared activity through the eyes of others. But some have questioned whether these inherently subjective and personal essays fit within the mission of *The Kingbird*, and that of NYSOA more generally. It is important to stress that these pieces do not purport to represent the organization directly, nor to express NYSOA's preferences (if it has such) regarding best practices in birding. Instead, they are meant to communicate the diverse ways in which the authors view their craft—the motives and methods of the people who have built the knowledge of New York State birds recorded in these 70 volumes. I believe that they "further the study of bird life and ... document the ornithology of the state" and in doing so add value to this journal.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS III

The Breeding Bird Atlas III is underway. Information and contact information for Regional coordinators can be found on the NYSOA web page.

CORRIGENDA

Please make note of the following corrections to errors in Volumes 67 (2017) and 69 (2019) of *The Kingbird*. These will be corrected in the digital archive, accessible at nybirds.org.

KB 67.3 September 2017

p. 254 In the N. Parula entry, the extra space between arr and **11 Apr** and the empty parentheses should be removed

KB 69.1 March 2019

p. 3 Under Highlights, sixth line, the scientific name for Garganey should read *Spatula querquedula*

p. 95 In Hook Mountain Hawkwatch Totals, the number 2337 in the table for Sharp-shinned Hawk should be right-justified

KB 69.2 June 2019

p. 109 On the Contents page, Winter Waterfowl Count should read January 2019

p. 119 The Waterfowl Count table contains errors. Under Bill Ostrander's contact info, the following paragraph will be inserted:

[Editor's Note—Due to slight variations in the template files used in compiling this report, some of the species totals for Region 10 were incorrectly published here. These errors affected the summary as well, therefore the entire corrected report was reprinted in the following issue, *Kingbird* 69: 211-215.]

p. 131 First full paragraph, sixth line, should read ... in Region 3. (Highlights of the Season – Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in Ithaca, not Region 4)

p. 153 Photo credit should read Claire Formanski

p. 156 Photo caption should read Hermit Thrush, Jones Beach West End, Nassau...

KB 69.3 September 2019

p. 219 Under the Arrival Dates table, second line should read ...33-year average.

KB 69.4 December 2019

p. 336 In the third full paragraph (Woodpeckers...), second line should read ...Regions 1, 2 and 3, and a pair seen...



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—FALL 2019

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As I sit here writing today, with most of the state and most of the world on quarantine lockdown, it's hard to imagine the carefree world of the fall of 2019, when we were birding wherever we wanted to, and in groups, at that! Unfortunately, even in those better days, the data coming in from all of you around the state reflected an overall decline in birdlife—both in terms of species and quantities. Most of the positive comments reflect temporary favorable conditions which are part of long-term troubling trends—unseasonably warm weather encouraged migrants to linger, vagrants from the south or southwest are becoming more regular, high water levels favor puddle duck populations in a few areas, and so on. But these positive comments were far outnumbered by the negative—for waterfowl, shorebirds, passerines and even gulls.

First, for the weather. September temperature reports ranged from average in a few Regions to above average in most, and that carried over into October, with all but one Region recording higher than average temps. Everybody reported a colder than average November, when the enjoyment of autumn's lingering landbirds came to its inevitable halt. Most Regions were likewise similar in precipitation reports, with September and November almost uniformly dry and every Region reporting a wetter than average October.

Puddle duck numbers were strong at the Northern Montezuma WMA in Region 2, but elsewhere the best Regional comments regarding waterfowl numbers were along these lines: from Region 1—“mostly typical”, Region 5—“unremarkable” and Region 6—“unexceptional”. A few species were given favorable mentions, for example American Wigeon numbers were better than normal at Wilson Hill WMA in Region 6, and there were good numbers of scaup in Region 8 with better than average scoter numbers there as well. Good numbers of Redhead were reported from Region 2, with a maximum count of 5,000 at Conesus Lake. Waterfowl concentrations at Montezuma NWR included a Pintail count of 6,200 while the peak Ring-necked Duck count was 9,000. 375 Ruddy Ducks was an excellent tally at Basic Creek Reservoir in Region 8. Rare ducks were, well, rare, with the only Tufted Duck being a female in Region 1 and one Eurasian Wigeon in Region 3 and a small handful in Region 10. A few King Eiders and Harlequin Ducks were scattered across the state. One of the latter, an adult male at Oswego Harbor was apparently a real stunner, bringing about gasps of ecstasy and, dare I say, histrionics, from those lucky enough to observe it. A hybrid Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser was found in Chenango in Region 4, where it also put on a nice show for birders and photographers.

Cackling Geese were recorded in nine of ten Regions, Greater White-fronted Geese in six of ten. Ross's Geese were reported from Regions 2 and 3, each with one bird, and Region 7 with two reports totaling seven birds. Trumpeter Swans

are well established in the western parts of the state, with as many as 20 scattered across Regions 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6.

A count of 259 Horned Grebes at the El Dorado Preserve in Region 6 must have been an impressive sight. In Region 3 an early high count of Common Loon was recorded at 344 birds. Pacific Loons were great finds at Beechwood SP in Region 2 and at Seneca Lake in Region 3.

Looking at the chickens, a couple of Northern Bobwhites at opposite ends of the state must be survivors of reintroduction programs. Slightly larger scatterings of Ring-necked Pheasants and Ruffed Grouse were also detected. Spruce Grouse were found in both Region 6 at Massawepie Mire and at Madawaska in Region 7, including a max of four individuals in one report. Does that sound a bit more encouraging than the reports of recent years?

Northern Fulmars were recorded during a September pelagic trip out of Brooklyn. A Brown Booby was seen from shore during a seawatch at Robert Moses SP in Region 10, part of a north Atlantic-wide irruption. An unidentified sulid seen a month later at the same location was thought to possibly be a Masked Booby, a bird that is probably an overdue addition to the state list.

Two upstate Great Cormorants were great finds, one in Region 5 and another that lingered for weeks in Region 7. American White Pelicans were again widespread in small numbers, occurring in five Regions with multiples in Region 1. Brown Pelicans were seen in all Region 10 counties except Manhattan and the Bronx, with a maximum of 15 on Staten Island.

Least Bitterns lingered well into October in Regions 1, 2 and 3. At Braddock Bay, Great Egret on 30 November was surprising, while a Snowy on 23 November in Region 9 was very late. A Little Blue Heron lingered in Region 9 until 5 November, a Regional record. A Yellow-crowned Night Heron in Region 5 was a nice Regional rarity, well documented by a patient observer. White Ibis is a great bird anywhere in the state, and one at Montezuma in Region 3 attracted birders for several days. The state's only White-faced Ibis for the season appeared in Region 2, the second record for that Region.

The rise of the Black Vulture may have slowed a bit this season, with none reported in Regions 2 and 4. Some of the downstate hawk watches still showed decent counts, and this is probably more of a "blip" than a trend. Golden Eagle numbers were down slightly at Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch in Region 4, but elsewhere numbers continue to be encouraging, with reports from eight of ten Regions. In Region 3, 10 birds in less than one hour were noted at one location, and even Region 10 had three reports. Broad-winged Hawk numbers were noted as high at two hawk watches, Helderberg in Region 8 and Franklin Mountain. A Swainson's Hawk was photographed in the Black Dirt Region in Orange County and a report of another in Region 7 is pending review.

Nine Regions reported Virginia Rail and eight reported Sora, not a bad showing. A rail photographed at the Marine Nature Study Area in Region 10 may have been a King, although a hybrid with Clapper could not be ruled out. Sandhill Cranes were reported from nine of ten Regions, further indication of their newly

achieved status as a regular part of the state's avifauna. A Purple Gallinule was a one-day-wonder at Central Park, in Region 10.

Comments from Regional editors painted the shorebird migration as generally poor with scattered highlights. American Golden-Plover was reported from every Region, but large flocks failed to appear again. An American Avocet in Region 1 on 24 October was on the late side, while down in Region 10, Avocet was reported from at least seven locations. Marbled Godwit was a good find in Region 2, as were Hudsonians in Regions 5 and 8, the latter being the first record since 2004. A scattering of all three phalaropes was found across the state, with the latest being Reds in Region 6 on 2 November and in Region 8 on 6 November. Last year we noted that Peregrine Falcons were killing and storing cuckoos on building ledges. This season Buffalo City Hall became the final stop for another tough-to-find species, as Peregrines switched up the menu—check the Region 1 report for details.

Numbers for gulls and terns were generally poor, but as usual there were a few highlights. A Sabine's Gull in Region 1 was somewhat expected, but one on Lake Champlain in Region 7 was more unusual. Upstate, Black-headed Gulls were found in Regions 1 and 6, and Little Gull flew past Derby Hill. Regions 2 and 8 both reported Franklin's Gulls and Region 3 had two Laughing Gulls. Iceland Gulls were reported from nine Regions and Lesser Black-backed from eight.

Terns were mentioned mainly for staying later than normal, with "many" Common Terns into November (Region 1), Forster's into November in several Regions, and a Black Tern on 3 November in Region 6. Three Sandwich Terns on eastern Long Island were part of a movement of birds, normally associated with tropical storms, that this year were found apart from adverse weather conditions.

Parasitic Jaegers were reported from six Regions, including around two dozen in Region 2. That sounds like an excellent seasonal tally. There was also one report of Pomarine there as well. In Region 7, Lake Champlain produced both Parasitic and Long-tailed on the same day. An unidentified alcid photographed at a distance in Region 2 sounds intriguing.

A Rufous Hummingbird was identified in Region 1, a first record for Cattaraugus County. Unidentified Rufous/Allen's Hummingbirds were found in Regions 1 and 4, and a non-identifiable desiccated hummer was picked up in Region 2 in early November. Woodpecker numbers were generally typical, with Red-bellied continuing to establish itself upstate. Black-backed was reported from Regions 6 and 7.

Olive-sided Flycatchers were found in nine Regions, and comments were surprisingly favorable for this declining species. See the Region 8 account for a discussion of this species' status. *Empidonax* flycatchers also seemed to be slightly above normal and staying a little later than normal, probably connected to a warmer early fall. As part of a decent flight of western flycatchers statewide, two Say's Phoebes were reported, one each in Regions 4 and 10. Ash-throated Flycatcher has become more or less annual now in Region 10, and this fall five

different birds were reported, one on Staten Island and four on Long Island. Western Kingbirds were recorded from four Regions, with seven birds found in Region 10 alone. Northern Shrikes were widely reported but mostly in unimpressive numbers, with nine Regions recording them.

Mild temperatures allowed many passerine species to linger well into October and even November. White-eyed Vireos were found in several upstate Regions where they are normally quite rare. One at Onondaga Lake was found by birders looking for the previously reported Yellow-crowned Night Heron—a mini Patagonia Picnic Table Effect in play there. Very late were one in Region 2 on 15 November and another in Region 3 on 27 November. A Philadelphia Vireo on 9 November provided a late record for Region 1. A Bank Swallow at Montezuma NWR in Region 3 set a late record. A Cave Swallow in Region 2 was the only one reported statewide, a statement that would have been nonsensical not so many years ago! Increasingly scarce, Boreal Chickadee was reported from Regions 6 and 7.

Sedge Wren is always a good bird in New York, especially away from their very limited breeding areas. One at Sandy Pond in Region 5 and another in the Bronx were great finds. A Region 3 count of 1,600 Swainson's Thrushes passing overhead at night seems extraordinary, but we're only just starting to peek into this fascinating aspect of birding, and only after accumulating a lot more data will we begin to understand what is "normal" for many species.

Comments on the warbler migration seemed to generally run from "unexceptional" to "better than average", but again there was a lot of commentary regarding late records. Among the warblers mentioned as staying beyond normal departure dates included Tennessee, Nashville, Mourning, American Redstart, Northern Parula, Magnolia and Bay-breasted. In Region 10, eight Ovenbirds were found in November in New York City parks.

Most Regions reported decent sparrow flights starting in early- to mid-October. Among the rarities was a first Region 1 record for Spotted Towhee at Tiff Nature Preserve on 17 November. Lark Sparrows in Region 3 and 9 were good finds, a LeConte's in Region 7 was a second record for the Region, coming on the heels of the first record two months earlier. LeConte's were also found in Regions 1 and 9. Nelson's Sparrows were found in seven Regions, which would seem to be a surprisingly strong showing. Are we just getting better at working out sparrows, maybe with the assistance of digital photography?

A Summer Tanager on 1 October was late in Region 9, but one in Region 2 on 28 November was exceptional. 34 Scarlet Tanagers at Bluegrass Lane in Region 3 must have been quite a sight!

There were a number of impressive blackbird tallies. An observer at Rome in Region 5 estimated a single flock of blackbirds at 200,000 birds! A flock of 1,500 Rusty Blackbirds in the Oneida Lake area of Region 5 is probably more than most of us will see in a lifetime. Also in Region 5, a count of 648 Bobolinks is very impressive. A Yellow-headed Blackbird was reported from Region 8, and an

audio recording of a meadowlark in Region 10 seems to support the identification of Western.

Painted Buntings undertook a widespread incursion into the northeast, with virtually all birds being green females or young males. One made it to the Jamaica Bay Refuge in Region 10. Winter finches were almost completely absent statewide. Red Crossbill was recorded from two Regions, while White-winged went unreported. Pine Siskins were reported from eight Regions, but no large flocks were detected.

Although a number of decent birds were found, there were very few true rarities. Even species that just a few years ago would have been off the charts, like Brown Booby or Cave Swallow, are not so surprising anymore. So, for this season, Bird of the Season goes to a species that has turned up twice in the past year—Golden-crowned Sparrow. In December of 2018, the fourth New York State record of this species was found in Downsville, in Region 4. This season another was found in Sayville, Suffolk County in Region 10. The earlier bird was not included in this column when it should have been, but the birding gods have insisted, and now these two outstanding records are given the recognition they deserve. Hundreds of birders enjoyed these rarities.

Hopefully by the time you read this we will once again be gathering with friends to enjoy great birds and good times.

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REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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September 2019 was pleasant but with several heavy rain events. The mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 65.2° F, 3.0° above normal, with 6.28" of precipitation, 2.38" above average. October continued the mild but wet trend. The mean temperature was 52.3°, 1.5° above average. Precipitation was 5.83", 2.31" above average with rain falling on more than half the days. The weather turned very cold in November. The average temperature was 35.8°, 4.9° below normal. Precipitation was 1.97", 2.04" below normal, with 12.6" of snow, 7.9" of which that fell on Veterans Day. Strong southwest winds brought high seiche events to Lake Erie on the 1st and 27th, while polar air reached the area on the 12th and 13th. The multiple strong seiche events caused significant damage to Times Beach Nature Preserve and the Bird Island Pier, closing portions of both locations that are popular with birders.

Fall waterfowl migration was mostly typical for recent years. The same as last fall, the highlight was a female **Tufted Duck** as viewed from LaSalle Park (recently renamed Ralph Wilson Centennial Park) in Buffalo on 15-18 November. It was found by Kevin Rybczynski and represents the fourth Regional record, all since 2013. It's possible this was the same bird as last year as it was in the same location and similar timing. A female King Eider found at close range in Olcott Harbor 15-19 November by Joel Strong was another highlight. Up to three Harlequin Ducks were found at "the usual spot" off Three Sisters Islands at Niagara Falls SP, while one at Dunkirk Harbor and two on the Niagara River off Unity Island were good finds in November. One White-winged Scoter and three Surf Scoters at Cuba Lake on 18 October were notable for their inland location.

There were a handful of Snow Goose and Cackling Goose reports. There were only two Brant sightings, both in Buffalo Harbor area with surprisingly no reports from Lake Ontario. Tundra Swans arrived in the last few days of October and numbers picked up in November. Trumpeter Swans remained regularly visible at Iroquois NWR with up to 13 reported; these likely represent the family groups that bred there in the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

Shorebird numbers and diversity were not especially good at any locations this fall but there were some notable reports throughout the season. An American Avocet found by Mike Zebehazy in Blasdell on 24 October was later than most Regional sightings. Buffalo Harbor produced a few Whimbrel sightings in early September, the season's lone Red Knot on 11 September, and three Purple Sandpipers arriving on 25 November. Up to five Long-billed Dowitchers were reported at Iroquois NWR from the last week of September through October. All three phalarope species were found this season. A Wilson's Phalarope and a Red-necked Phalarope were both one day sightings at Oak Orchard WMA in early September. A Red Phalarope found by Bev Seyler on the Niagara River at Fort Niagara SP on 17 October allowed some birders to chase this Regionally uncommon species. A Red/Red-necked Phalarope was also sighted on the Niagara River at Buffalo. The most unusual shorebird report came from Kevin Rybczynski who on 14 November found six dead American Woodcocks high atop Buffalo City Hall when he was there for a photography shoot. Each woodcock was placed in a separate location, undoubtedly by a Peregrine Falcon. Take a look for yourself at:

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S61443131>

Two Parasitic Jaegers were found on the Niagara River in Buffalo on 27 October while an unidentified jaeger was at Dunkirk Harbor in November. Interesting gull sightings included Black-legged Kittiwakes at Dunkirk Harbor and Buffalo Harbor in mid-November, a juvenile Sabine's Gull on the Niagara River off Unity Island on 27 October, and a Black-headed Gull found by Jean Iron at the Whirlpool on 30 November. Tim Lenz and Sarah Toner counted 21 Lesser

Black-backed Gulls at Cuba Lake on 18 October, an impressive tally, even more so for an inland location. They noted that many different ages were represented.

Up to four Forster's Terns were found on the Niagara River in Buffalo among many Common Terns from mid-October into early November. Ryan Griffiths carefully identified an Arctic Tern late in the afternoon on 27 October, but alas, it stayed close to the Ontario shoreline of the Niagara River and thus not actually seen in New York waters, but still worthy of a mention here.

American White Pelican reports have been increasing in spring, summer, and fall over the past decade. There were several reports in October including multiple sightings from Buffalo locations that makes it uncertain how many pelicans were present. One at Tift NP was observed by many 20 October-3 November. Two American White Pelicans at Browns Marsh in Wellsville caused a stir of excitement for Allegany County birders. Initially found by Frederic Beaudry on 16 October, they were reported through 25 October.

Up to 17 Sandhill Cranes were sighted around Iroquois NWR this fall as sightings and numbers continue to increase. Black Vultures continued around Lewiston with a maximum of five reported this season, while one found by TJ Mudd in Cheektowaga on 6 October was notable as it was well away from the Lewiston area. At least one Snowy Owl showed up in Buffalo Harbor in November where it was reported on several days. There was only one report of Short-eared Owl, while David Junkin again had the only fall Northern Saw-whet Owl reports as he banded nine over two October nights on his Wethersfield property.

Gale VerHague noticed that a hummingbird that appeared in her Forestville yard didn't seem like the usual Ruby-throated. The bird remained for two weeks in October during which time Gale and visiting birders took photographs, but the identification could only be narrowed to **Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird**. A great sighting and yard bird nonetheless! The following month a **Rufous Hummingbird** enjoyed a three week stay in the yard of Nancy and Lee Hintz in West Valley, marking the first Cattaraugus County record.

Eastern Whip-poor-wills are rarely reported in Region 1 in the fall season, which made two reports this fall a nice surprise. Gale VerHague heard one calling in her Forestville yard while Josh Ketry came across one on the forest floor at Tift NP. White-eyed Vireos were found at Tift NP in September and Lake Erie SP in October; this species has oddly showed up more often in the fall season than the spring season over the past decade. A Philadelphia Vireo photographed at Audubon Community Nature Center in Jamestown was record late on **9 November**.

It was a very poor fall season for finches. None of the northerly species irrupted and there were only three reports of Pine Siskin.

Brad Felton photographed a towhee at Tift Nature Preserve on 17 November that was identified as the Region's first **Spotted Towhee**. Despite multiple searches in the following days the bird was not refound. The heavy snowfall on Veterans Day likely influenced a spate of excellent sparrow sightings

in the days after. Gale VerHague photographed a **LeConte's Sparrow** along a roadside at Dunkirk Airport on 12 November, which represented the sixth Regional record. The birders that showed up in search of the LeConte's found two Grasshopper Sparrows, a Savannah Sparrow, and a Vesper Sparrow in the same area! Vesper Sparrows were found at three other locations in November. Tim Lenz found a Nelson's Sparrow in Chautauqua on 19 October for the only report this season.

A Connecticut Warbler found by Tom Kerr at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center stuck around a few days and allowed birders to catch up with the rare skulker, and two were even reported in the same location the next day. A record late Mourning Warbler was photographed by Shelley Seidman on **3 November** on the Buffalo waterfront. Seidman also had a handful of sightings of a Prairie Warbler spanning from early September through late November around the Buffalo waterfront, which photographs revealed to be the same bird. Other late sightings included American Redstart, Northern Parula, and Indigo Bunting, all in early November.

The 84th BOS October Count was held on 12 October on a day slightly cooler than normal and with gusty afternoon winds. Marcie Jacklin was the compiler. A total of 174 birders contributed to recording 146 species and 78,236 birds. Record high counts were tallied for Trumpeter Swan (14), Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird (1), Bald Eagle (56), Cooper's Hawk (34), Purple Martin (28), and Baltimore Oriole (1). Record low counts included Ring-necked Pheasant (2) and Dark-eyed Junco (115). Purple Martin is not typically found beyond September in Region 1, so finding them coming out of the marshes at Iroquois NWR was somewhat of a surprise addition to the count totals this year.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACNC – Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown, CHAU; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **BOSOC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society 12 Oct

Count; **BufH** – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; **BuSP** – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; **BWWTP** – Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, GENE; **ChauL** – Chautauqua L, CHAU; **CSWMA** – Conewango Swamp WMA, CATT; **DH** – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **Hamburg HW** – Hamburg Hawk Watch, ERIE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **LESP** – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; **NF** – Niagara Falls, NIAG; **NFSP** – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; **NPP** – Niagara Power Project on Niagara R, NIAG; **NR** – Niagara R; **OOWMA** – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; **PB** – Point Breeze, ORLE; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods Nature Pres, ERIE; **SPWS** – Sinking Ponds Wildlife Sanctuary, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach NP, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tift NP** – Tift Nature Pres, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WoBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WATERFOWL-HUMMINGBIRDS

Snov Goose: arr BOSOC; 3 Oakfield GENE 20 Oct; Lyndonville NIAG 23 Oct; Somerset NIAG 30 Oct; INWR 4 Nov; max 75 OOWMA 7 Nov (MW); ACNC 23 Nov.

Brant: 4 Unity I NR 9 Nov (D&TM); BufH 18 Nov; only reports.

Cackling Goose: arr 2 BMAC 11 Oct; 2 Attica WYOM 15 Oct; 5 INWR 19 Oct; Lyndonville NIAG 29 Nov.

Mute Swan: DH 1 Sep thru; 7 PB 15 Sep; max 11 WTSP 8 Oct; 7 Wilson NIAG 15 Oct; 9 Waterport ORLE 19 Oct.

Trumpeter Swan: 9-13 INWR 1 Sep thru, includes 7 yg of year.

Tundra Swan: arr Portland CHAU 24 Oct; 67 ACNC 8 Nov; max 150 Chautauqua CHAU 22 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 72 Keeney Swamp SF ALLE 11 Oct.

Blue-winged Teal: max 72 INWR 25 Sep; last BufH 17 Nov.

Northern Shoveler: max 96, 199, 191 BWWTP 26 Sep, 31 Oct, 3 Nov.

Gadwall: max 55, 63 Tift NP 26 Oct, 10 Nov; 53 INWR 8 Nov; 21 Cuba L ALLE 24 Nov.

American Wigeon: max 601, 270 INWR 30 Oct, 8 Nov.

American Black Duck: 15 Wilson NIAG 18 Oct; max 153 OOWMA 29 Nov.

Northern Pintail: 22 Wilson NIAG 15 Oct; max 41, 26 INWR 25 Oct, 8 Nov.

Green-winged Teal: max 360 INWR 18 Oct.

Canvasback: arr 2 NF, 6 BWWTP 3 Nov.

Redhead: 2 BWWTP 26 Sep; 60, 69 Ellery ChauL 29 Oct, 18 Nov; max 200 BufH 12 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: 132 INWR 4 Oct; max 175 TWMA 17 Oct.

TUFTED DUCK (R1): fem LaSalle P Buffalo ERIE 15-18 Nov (KR), 4th Reg record, all since 2013, conceivably multiple sightings of same bird(s).

Greater Scaup: max 500 BufH 18 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: Tonawanda NR ERIE13-16 Sep; BWWTP 20 Sep; max 1826 Ellery ChauL 9 Nov (WS).

King Eider: Olcott NIAG 15-19 Nov (JSt); only report.

Harlequin Duck: 1, 3 NFSP 24 Oct, 27 Nov, regular location; DH 5 Nov (GV); 2 Unity I NR 30 Nov (AG, CW).

Surf Scoter: arr 1, 12, 6 Buffalo NR 16, 23 Oct, 1 Nov; 3 Cuba L ALLE 18 Oct (TL, ST); max 18 Wilson NIAG 18 Oct; 8 PB 3 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: max 237 Wilson NIAG 18 Oct; Cuba L ALLE 18 Oct (TL, ST).

Black Scoter: arr 3 DH, 24 Buffalo NR 17 Oct; EvSP 2 Nov; BufH 9, 16 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 2 Somerset NIAG 26 Oct; max 530 BufH 30 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr BWWTP 11 Oct; 143 Ellery ChauL 8 Nov; max 770 BufH 30 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: 147 Ellery ChauL 18 Nov; max 150 BufH 30 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: 137 INWR 8 Nov; 250 Chautauqua ChauL 22 Nov; max 263 Dayton CATT 28 Nov.

Common Merganser: 152 Cuba L ALLE 19 Nov; 162 BWWTP 22 Nov; max 350 Dayton CATT 28 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 850 WTSP 11 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: 130 Dayton CATT 18 Oct; 163 Ellery ChauL 30 Oct; max 559 BWWTP 31 Oct; 450 Chautauqua ChauL 3 Nov.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 25, 23 INWR 25 Sep, 25 Oct.
Horned Grebe: 8 GHSP 23 Oct; max 63, 40 DH 15, 30 Nov; 42 WoBSP 19 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr 1, 1, 1 BufH 17 Oct, 16, 29 Nov; Sturgeon Pt ERIE 30 Oct; Olcott NIAG 18 Nov.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Tiftt NP 4 Oct; last Buffalo ERIE 5 Oct.
Common Nighthawk: max 12 OOWMA 2 Sep; max 12 BeSP 6 Sep; last Buffalo ERIE 18 Sep.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: Forestville CHAU 3 Sep (GV), calling; Tiftt NP 19 Sep (JK), sighted; few reports received in fall.
Chimney Swift: last 14 INWR BOSOC.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Grand Island ERIE 15 Oct (AH).
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: West Valley CATT 6-26 Nov (N&LH, SB ph!), first record for CATT.
RUFIOUS/ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD: Forestville CHAU 6-20 Oct (GV), despite many photos the ID could not be determined.

RAILS-LARIDS

Virginia Rail: BMAC 10 Sep; Pomfret CHAU 3 Oct; TBNP 5 Oct; INWR 10 Oct; last BWWTP 19 Oct.
Sora: last INWR 14 Oct.
Common Gallinule: max 94 INWR 10 Sep; last Tiftt NP 28 Oct.
American Coot: max 290 INWR 30 Oct; 250 Chautauqua ChauL 22 Nov.
Sandhill Crane: 10, 6 Shelby ORLE 24, 29 Sep; 3, 15, 16 INWR 25 Sep, 11 Oct, 27 Nov; 2 CSWMA 28 Oct (AL); max 17 Alabama GENE 29 Nov (TJM).
American Avocet: Blasdell ERIE 24 Oct (MZ), on the late side.
Black-bellied Plover: 3 BufH 2, 11 Sep; DH 27 Sep; 3 BuSP 3 Oct; INWR 30 Oct; last BufH 3 Nov.
American Golden-Plover: Somerset NIAG 14 Sep; max 26 Alabama GENE 16 Sep; 2 Sheridan CHAU 22 Sep; INWR 30 Sep; last Wethersfield WYOM 15-19 Nov (D&SJ, MK).
Semipalmated Plover: max 15 BufH 4 Sep; last Yates ORLE 13 Oct.
Killdeer: 102 N Collins ERIE 7 Nov (SB), good count for date.
Whimbrel: 1, 2 BufH 2, 6 Sep (SB); only reports.

Ruddy Turnstone: Sheridan CHAU 12, 14 Sep; last 4, 1 BufH 21, 23 Sep.
Red Knot: BufH 11 Sep (SB, TK), only report.
Stilt Sandpiper: last 1, 1 OOWMA 3, 22 Sep.
Sanderling: 22 DH 5 Sep; 38 BufH 11 Sep; last 3 BufH 20 Nov.
Dunlin: 6 INWR 30 Oct; max 47 Unity I NR 1 Nov; 16 WoBSP 14 Nov; BWWTP 19 Nov.
Purple Sandpiper: arr 3 BufH 25 Nov (PY).
Baird's Sandpiper: Ischua CATT 1 Sep (JR); BufH 4 Sep; last 2 Somerset NIAG 15 Sep.
Least Sandpiper: max 54 INWR 5 Sep; last 4 INWR BOSOC.
White-rumped Sandpiper: no reports.
Pectoral Sandpiper: 13 OOWMA 5 Sep; max 15 INWR 29 Sep; last 2 BWWTP 19 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 14 BufH 1 Sep; last Alabama GENE 16 Sep.
Short-billed Dowitcher: last OOWMA 2 Sep; only report.
Long-billed Dowitcher: 1-5 INWR 22 Sep – 30 Oct (PY, CM), only reports.
American Woodcock: at least 6 dead Buffalo ERIE 14 Nov (KR), captured by Peregrine; *see intro*.
Wilson's Snipe: max 18 New Albion ALLE 26 Oct.
Spotted Sandpiper: last Unity I NR 27 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: last Hanging Bog WMA ALLE 21 Sep.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 33 OOWMA 5 Sep; max 37 INWR 10 Sep.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 12 OOWMA 5 Sep; last INWR 3 Nov.
Wilson's Phalarope: OOWMA 7 Sep (PY); only report.
Red-necked Phalarope: OOWMA 2 Sep (BP, WD); only report.
Red Phalarope: FNSP 17 Oct (BS, mob), irregular.
Red/Red-necked Phalarope: Buffalo NR 23 Oct, during wind event.
Parasitic Jaeger: 2 Buffalo NR 27 Oct (PY), only report.
jaeger sp.: DH 11 Nov (TM), only report.
Black-legged Kittiwake: arr DH 16 Nov (KG); BufH 19, 20 Nov (SS).
Sabine's Gull: Unity I NR 27 Oct (PY), only report.
Bonaparte's Gull: 900 Unity I NR 1 Nov; max 1000 Lewiston NR 9 Nov.
Black-headed Gull: Whirlpool SP NR 30 Nov (JI, WD), only report.
Little Gull: max 5 NF 16 Oct (WD, BP); 2 Hanover CHAU 2 Nov; Sturgeon Pt ERIE 3

Nov; DH 11 Nov; last three only reports away from NR.

Iceland Gull: arr Unity I NR15 Nov; max 6 NPP 28 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 2 WoBSP 11 Sep; max 21 Cuba L ALLE 18 Oct (TL, ST), remarkable inland count.

Glaucous Gull: arr BufH 20 Nov; three other reports.

Caspian Tern: max 90 BufH 1 Sep; last Wilson NIAG 18 Oct.

Black Tern: last Buffalo NR 17 Oct (SB, JF, JK).

Common Tern: max 46 Wilson NIAG 12 Sep; 40 Unity I NR 27 Oct; last 1, 1 Unity I NR, DH 16 Nov.

Forster's Tern: 1-4 Buffalo NR 17 Oct – 4 Nov; good showing for season.

LOONS-FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: arr 3 Wilson NIAG 14 Oct; 2 Bennett Beach ERIE 19 Oct; max 108 WTSP 21 Nov (WD); Oakfield GENE 29 Nov (JM).

Common Loon: 93 Wilson NIAG 15 Oct; max 176 Olcott 2 Nov.

Double-crested Cormorant: 1100, 3600 BufH 23 Sep, 13 Oct; max 4500 DH 17 Oct (GV).

American White Pelican: 3 Buffalo ERIE 14 Oct; South Park L Buffalo ERIE 15 Oct; 2 Wellsville ALLE 16-25 Oct (FB, mob); Buffalo R ERIE 19 Oct; Tift NP 20 Oct – 3 Nov (mob); BufH 28 Oct; uncertain how many birds were around Buffalo.

American Bittern: 2 Alabama GENE 7 Sep; INWR 10, 15 Sep, 14, 28 Oct; Tift NP 18 Sep; TWMA 19 Oct; only reports.

Least Bittern: DH 2 Sep; max 5, 4 TBNP 2, 8 Sep (SS, JRB); last TBNP 9 Oct.

Great Egret: max 104 INWR 13 Oct; last 2 INWR 4 Nov.

Green Heron: last TWMA 29 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: TWMA 16 Nov; FNSP 29 Nov; only reports beyond Oct.

Black Vulture: max 4, 5 Lewiston NIAG 3 Oct, 30 Nov; Cheektowaga ERIE 6 Oct (TJM), unusual location.

Turkey Vulture: 73 BufH 3 Nov (JP, JM), migrants.

Osprey: last ACNC 21 Oct.

Northern Harrier: max 6 INWR 13 Oct.

Bald Eagle: well reported; max 8 TWMA 5 Oct.

Broad-winged Hawk: last Sunnyside Marsh Pres CHAU 24 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr Forestville CHAU 2 Nov.

Snowy Owl: arr BufH 8, 20, 24 Nov.

Short-eared Owl: arr 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 19 Nov (GV), only report.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: 2, 7 Wethersfield WYOM 18, 20 Oct (DJ), banded.

Red-headed Woodpecker: reported from seven locations.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: three reports beyond Oct.

Peregrine Falcon: Chautauqua ChauL 20 Oct (TL); INWR 1 Nov; Barcelona CHAU 28 Nov; reports away from breeding areas.

FLYCATCHERS-SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Hanover CHAU 21 Sep.

Eastern Kingbird: last Tonawanda ERIE 13 Sep.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last Canadaway Creek WMA 14 Sep; 3 other reports.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: last AmSP 25 Oct (JSa), late.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last Batavia GENE 27 Sep; 8 other reports.

Willow Flycatcher: last LBSP 6 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: last INWR 30 Sep.

Eastern Phoebe: 5 reports beyond Oct.

Northern Shrike: arr Pomfret CHAU 24 Oct; only 3 other reports.

White-eyed Vireo: Tift NP 12-13 Sep (DS, DD); LESP 26 Oct (GV); more regular in fall than spring in recent years.

Yellow-throated Vireo: last 2 BMAC 25 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: last FLC 3 Nov.

Philadelphia Vireo: last ACNC 9 Nov (J&JP ph!), record late.

Warbling Vireo: Gaines ORLE 4 Oct (DBem); last Buffalo ERIE 5 Oct (JRB), late.

Red-eyed Vireo: last BOSOC.

Fish Crow: 1-2 LaSalle P Buffalo ERIE 5 Nov (JK, SB); record numbers just across NR in Ontario.

Common Raven: continued spread throughout northern portion of Reg.

Horned Lark: max 150 Brant ERIE 13 Nov.

Purple Martin: last 28 INWR BOSOC.

Tree Swallow: last INWR, BWWTP 20 Oct.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: last NF 10 Nov.

Bank Swallow: last INWR 30 Sep.

Barn Swallow: max 210 BWWTP 1 Sep; last BOSOC.

House Wren: last Sturgeon Pt ERIE 14 Oct.

Winter Wren: arr Bond L CP NIAG 27 Sep; 5 WoBSP 6 Nov; 4 BeSP 10 Nov; max reports beyond Oct.

Marsh Wren: last TWMA 31 Oct.

Carolina Wren: 18 BOSOC.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last EvSP 18 Sep.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr 4 Forestville CHAU 29 Sep.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Bethany GENE 5 Sep.

Veery: last Buffalo ERIE 25 Sep, nocturnal flight call.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: last Carlton ORLE 8 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: last EvSP 15 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: well reported Oct, Nov.

Wood Thrush: last FLC 6 Oct.

Gray Catbird: reported from five locations in Nov.

Brown Thrasher: last Unity I NR 10, 11 Nov.

American Pipit: arr LaSalle P Buffalo ERIE 3 Oct; max 37 Attica WYOM.

Purple Finch: max 15 Orchard Park ERIE 7 Sep.

Pine Siskin: arr Waterport ORLE 11 Oct; Boston ERIE 12 Nov; Buffalo ERIE 19 Nov; only reports.

American Goldfinch: max 171 Carlton ORLE 5 Nov.

Lapland Longspur: arr 3 Brant ERIE 13 Nov; only report.

Snow Bunting: arr BWWTP 28 Oct; max 80 WTSP 21 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

SPOTTED TOWHEE: Tiftt NP 17 Nov (BF ph!), 1st Reg record.

Eastern Towhee: eight reports beyond Oct.

American Tree Sparrow: arr Tiftt NP 28 Oct; max 80 Olcott NIAG 23 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: reported from 19 locations in Nov; much more than usual; max 10 Cuba ALLE 3 Nov; 8 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 12 Nov.

Field Sparrow: reported from 5 locations in Nov.

Vesper Sparrow: 1, 1 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 15 Oct, 12 Nov; Forestville CHAU 9 Nov (GV); Pomfret CHAU 15, 16 Nov (GV, JG); Sheridan CHAU 18 Nov (GV); late.

Savannah Sparrow: 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 12 Nov (CR); LaSalle P Buffalo ERIE 13-16 Nov (KR); only Nov reports, late.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 12 Nov (CR, JK, KR), late.

LeCONTE'S SPARROW: Dunkirk Airport CHAU 12 Nov (GV ph!), 6th Reg record.

Nelson's Sparrow: Chautauqua CHAU 19, 20 Oct (TL), nearly annual in fall.

Fox Sparrow: 4 Cuba ALLE 10, 13 Nov; 4 Portland CHAU 14 Nov; max 6 Ellicott CHAU 15 Nov; 4 Grand Island ERIE 16, 17 Nov.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Hanging Bog WMA ALLE, RWNP 9 Sep; last Bird Swamp CATT 14 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: arr Bond L CP NIAG 20 Sep.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr Bond L CP NIAG 25 Sep.

Bobolink: last Krull P NIAG 5 Sep.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 9 Somerset NIAG 5 Oct; last 2 Jamestown Airport CHAU 1 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: last 2 BeSP 17 Sep.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 750 TWMA 31 Oct.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 145 Shelby ORLE 31 Oct.

Rusty Blackbird: arr Carlton Hill MUA WYOM 24 Sep; max 75 TWMA 19 Oct.

Common Grackle: max 475 BuSP 3 Sep; 400 SPWS 27 Oct.

Ovenbird: last Forestville CHAU 20 Oct.

Northern Waterthrush: last Ellery CHAU 10 Sep.

Blue-winged Warbler: last Bond L CP NIAG 16 Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: last FLC 28 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: last Chaffee ERIE 14 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr AmSP 16 Sep; last WoBSP 6 Nov.

Nashville Warbler: max 11 AmSP 29 Sep; last AmSP 25 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: 1, 2, 1 BMAC 24, 25, 26 Sep (TK), only report.

Mourning Warbler: four Sep reports; last BufH 3 Nov (SS, ph!), record late.

Common Yellowthroat: last Tiftt NP 20 Oct.

Hooded Warbler: last Unity I NR ERIE 13 Oct (JF).

American Redstart: max 12 Tiftt NP 24 Sep; last Rushford ALLE 2 Nov (KS).

Cape May Warbler: last Genesee CP GENE 20 Oct.

Northern Parula: last Sturgeon Pt ERIE 8 Nov (SB), late.

Magnolia Warbler: last Sturgeon Pt ERIE 30 Oct (SB), late.

Bay-breasted Warbler: last WTSP 7 Oct.

Blackburnian Warbler: last Bethany GENE 15 Oct (DBea).

Yellow Warbler: last WTSP 18 Sep.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last TBNP, Brant ERIE 5 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr Grand Island ERIE 1 Sep; last BuSP 18 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr TBNP, WTSP, Wilson NIAG 1 Sep; last Gaines ORLE 13 Oct.

Palm Warbler: arr BuffH 13 Sep; last Hanging Bog WMA ALLE 21 Oct.

Pine Warbler: Orchard Park ERIE 16, 17 Nov (SB), only report beyond Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 15 BuSP 19 Nov, max report in Nov.

Prairie Warbler: BuffH 9, 19, 29 Sep, 30 Oct, 28, 29 Nov (SS), determined to be same bird based on photographs.

Black-throated Green Warbler: last BOSOC.
Canada Warbler: last Charlotte CHAU 15 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: last BeSP 5 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: last AmSP 8 Oct.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last INWR, LBSP 10 Oct.

Indigo Bunting: BeSP 16 Sep; 2 AmSP 4 Oct; Buffalo ERIE 5 Oct; Orchard Park ERIE 7 Oct; last Bennett Beach ERIE 2 Nov (JP, JM), late; more fall reports than usual.



REGION 2—GENESEE

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The fall season of 2019 saw a seesaw of weather, with the overall average warm and with above average rainfall and snowfall. September began with the first 11 days cool and the final 19 days 10° F warmer. Temperatures averaged 64.6°, 2.8° above normal. Precipitation at 3.01" was 0.37" below normal, with 0.64" on each 1-2 and 10 September. October was again split, with the first half flat and near average and the second half well above average temperatures. Overall, temperatures averaged 53.6°, 3.0° above normal. There were record highs set for both the high and low temperatures on 1 October, with the 88° high only the ninth time that high in October and the first time since 1951. The first killing frost occurred on the 19th. Precipitation totaled 4.84", 2.12" above normal. Six days with > 0.50" of rain tied a record number, and 1.09" on 31 October was a record for the date. Strong winds accompanied that storm and resulted in many local power outages into the beginning of November. This also introduced a surge of Arctic cold and below normal temperatures for the next three weeks before a warmup peaking in the 60s on 27 November. Temperatures averaged 35.0°, 5.5° below normal. The first half month was the coldest such period on record, and the month overall the 11th coldest. The high only reaching 31° on the 8th tied the record for the earliest date completely below freezing, and six days with highs < 32° tied that record for a November. Precipitation totaled 1.84", 1.11" below normal. Snowfall at 17.8" was 10.5" above normal. Records were set for snowfall on 11 and 12 November, and it was the sixth snowiest November. Most local

ponds and smaller bays froze, pushing out waterfowl, and numbers of many lingering land birds also appeared to drop following this period.

The general birding scene clearly reflected the weather effects. In addition, there were other effects with less clear cause noted in local records and in comments such as those accompanying the regular daily observations of Jim Adams in Oatka Creek Park and in local and Regional banding observations. The monthly downloads of eBird records at September—22,017, October—17,589, and November—7,554 were all down from 2018, a change from the long trend of increases. October does serve to remind us to use caution in analyses. That month's download was about 50% down from 2018, BUT in 2018 we hosted the NYSOA annual meeting, with many visiting birders. This year also saw a month of heavy rains, and Lake Ontario remained at very high levels, affecting waterbird and shorebird habitats and timing. Interestingly, new bands for October at the BBBO banding station were about 40% below the prior 8-year average, though only three species actually showed changes more than two standard deviations (STD) from their averages and two of those three were increases. Not simple; much to study and think about.

As in other recent years, month by month essentially all expected waterfowl species were reported, and again generally numbers were poor but with some significant exceptions. September migration was relatively slow. Not really unusual among the waterfowl, though Canvasback was recorded at a record early fall arrival date on the 7th. Puddle duck numbers were decent in the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) – Van Dyne Spoor Rd. and the Sandhill Crane Unit, used almost totally interchangeably. A Snow Goose lingering through summer was seen off and on, and in November numbers finally picked up, with 2400 seen near Lyons on the 22nd and 7800 near the Old Duck Inn in the Town of Tyre on the 24th, both locations in Wayne County. An exotic record was Bar-headed Goose seen on 21 October at the ponds near the DEC offices in Avon. Rare geese were scarce, but a Greater White-fronted Goose was found on 18 October in the Town of Hamlin, Monroe County; Ross's Goose was seen with the Snow Geese in Lyons; and Cackling Geese were well reported starting on 3 October. Mute Swan numbers remained high in both the Braddock Bay and Irondequoit Bay areas. Trumpeter Swan numbers remain as in recent years, and the peak counts for migrant Tundra Swans were 185 in the NMWMA on 6 November and 140 on Conesus Lake on 18 November. Puddle ducks peaked in October, with good numbers for several species in the NMWMA on 5 October. Diving duck numbers were generally poor, other than Redhead on Conesus Lake in mid-November and some Red-breasted Merganser counts on Lake Ontario east of Sodus Bay in late November. King Eider at three locations in early November is an interesting but almost annual occurrence. Maxima for grebes were modest at 90 Pied-billed on 30 October in the NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.) area, 128 Horned on 29 October off Hamlin Beach SP, and 62 Red-necked on 20 November also off Hamlin Beach SP.

Following the new taxonomic order, we next note Chimney Swift to 5 October but without the usual big, late roost spectacles being noted. Ruby-throated Hummingbird also continued into October on the 9th, plus a desiccated hummingbird specimen was found on the RIT campus on 2 November. Common Gallinule and American Coot numbers were back to more normal levels in the NMWMA after last year's bonanza. Sandhill Crane again persisted in large numbers in the NMWMA to late November, with a maximum in this Region of 128 north of Rt. 89 east of East Road on 15 November. Individuals were noted in other areas to month's end, too.

High lake levels and little rainfall in August and September left us with little good shorebird habitat. Most reports came from a few exposed beaches and piers. Numbers were poor. In September, we had a few reports of less common species, with four reports of single Whimbrels, two reports for Hudsonian Godwit, one Red Knot, and the only Buff-breasted Sandpiper for the fall. The Marbled Godwit reported in August at Braddock Bay continued to be reported to 9 September. Only 16 species of shorebirds were reported in October, with typical departure dates and no special species. November also had few species reported and only Wilson's Snipe after 9 November other than Purple Sandpiper arriving on 7-10 November at Irondequoit Bay Outlet and again seen near month's end at both Sodus Point and off the Town of Greece in Monroe County. 393 Dunlin passing Hamlin Beach on 1 November was a good count, but relatively low in historical context.

Gulls and terns continued the story of routine records, with generally low numbers and few really special occurrences. Parasitic Jaeger was reported in good numbers, with about 17 in September, another six in October, and finally one on 1 November. There was also a Pomarine Jaeger at Sodus Point on 16 September and a jaeger not identified to species on 26 November. The only Black-legged Kittiwake of the season was spotted at Hamlin Beach SP on 18 October, and an adult Franklin's Gull was found and photographed by Monica Herrmann and Jay Greenberg at Ontario Beach on 25 September and seen by a few more birders through 1 October. Rounding out the more interesting gull notes, there were two adult Little Gulls in November, Iceland and Glaucous Gulls after mid-November, and many reports of Lesser Black-backed Gull each month. Tern numbers and departures were unremarkable other than a late 1-2 Forster's Terns on 1-3 November on Buck Pond, Town of Greece, seen by several birders.

Loon numbers were generally below average through the season, so it was interesting to note an early Red-throated Loon on 21 September; an early high count of 344 Common Loons on 15 September, a time when we are looking for the first count over 100 for the season; and a rare **Pacific Loon** seen and photographed off Beechwood SP, Wayne County on 20 November by Tim Lenz, Logan Kahle, Archie J., and Benjamin Hack. Double-crested Cormorant peak numbers dropped off through the season from 2000 at Braddock Bay in September to 250 at Sodus Point in November. An American White Pelican at the Twin Cedars Environmental Area at the DEC office in Avon on 4 November was only

the third Regional November record. Great Egret to 30 November was getting late. This fall there were no reports of the recently regular appearance of Cattle Egret in early November. Another surprise in this grouping was a **White-faced Ibis**, the Region's second, found at LaSalle Landing Park at the south end of Irondequoit Bay on 18 October by Joanna Klima and seen and photographed off and on over the next five days by at least 24 other observers. Unfortunately, it spent much of the time out of sight in the marshes south of Empire Blvd.

Moving to the raptors, we again find the story of low numbers and missing birds dominating. The organized summer hawkwatch had ended, so no big numbers were noted passing Braddock Bay. There were no Black Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, or Rough-legged Hawk reports for the season. There was only one Northern Goshawk, seen on 10 November, and the last Broad-winged Hawk was seen on 29 September. Even Bald Eagle numbers dropped quite a bit in October. Bright spots were a late Osprey photographed on 16 October and Bald Eagle records back up in November. Moving to nocturnal raptors, we start at Oatka Creek Park, with Jim Adams finding and photographing his first red morph Eastern Screech-Owl at a roost hole on 27 September. It continued there until a last sighting on 8 October. We had no Snowy Owl reports by season's end. The first of few Short-eared Owl reports was on 6 November. There was a N. Saw-whet Owl banding effort at the BBBO station, and 15 owls were banded there from 7-18 October. In addition two rarely-reported-in-fall, other than when banding, N. Saw-whet Owls were found elsewhere in November. Wrapping up the non-passerines, we had very few reports of Red-headed Woodpecker, but a good movement of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers in late September. All three regular falcon species were well reported in September and October and dropped in November. A bit out of order, Northern Shrike was first reported on 28 October, but only another seven reports of about six individuals were received in November.

As usual, passerines provide about half of our records, and all really expected species for the season were reported. As noted earlier, reports and banding numbers were way down from both recent-years' averages and from last year. Departure dates were typical, a mix of earlier and later dates in comparisons, and most maximum counts were on the low side. The species section below will list a selection of records from the mass of data. Here I will summarize observations and records I hope are interesting. September brought a good showing for the now-scarce Olive-sided Flycatcher, and flycatchers in general were reported in good numbers to relatively late departures dates, with five species last seen in October or later. Least Flycatcher was one of only three species with a 2+ STD change in number banded, an increase. A **Western Kingbird** (after some discussion of details), the 16th Regional record, was seen by Jim Miles and Lauri Mattle in Ellison Park on 16 September. For a couple of notable vireo records, the first White-eyed Vireo of the year was found on 15 November by James Goetz near his home in the Town of Mendon, and Warbling Vireo, recorded record late in November last year, was last reported on 29

September this fall. Tree Swallows were seen at scattered dates into November near Buck Pond in the Town of Greece, and a **Cave Swallow** was found there by Chris Wood on 27 November and seen by several others shortly after. Peak thrush numbers were low.

Among the few high counts were 1425 American Robins and 1086 American Goldfinch tallied by David Tetlow on 18 November in Hamlin Beach SP along with the season's only Bohemian Waxwing he spotted there that day. Winter finches were a no show. Nelson's Sparrow at both Burger Park (near Braddock Bay) and at the Geneseo airfield were good finds. Blackbird numbers were generally poor through the season, other than a large mixed flock of 10,000 Red-winged Blackbirds and 4000 Common Grackles in Mendon Ponds Park and 3500 Brown-headed Cowbirds on Lacey Road in Livingston County on 12 October. The warbler migration was good, with 27 species reported in September and 20 species continuing into October. Only Yellow-rumped Warbler was recorded in November. Three Connecticut Warblers, two of them banded at BBBO and the third seen by several birders in Owl Woods on 8-9 September, is a good showing. Orange-crowned Warbler was reported in the usual late September into October period, but only seven were tallied this fall and only one was banded at BBBO. Earlier we noted only three species banded in numbers > 2 STD from their 8-year averages. Two were warblers, Common Yellowthroat low and Black-throated Green Warbler high. Blackpoll Warbler again serves as a learning tool showing the need for care in dealing with numbers. The 8-year average is 351 banded. This year only 80 were banded, the second lowest year in the period, but numbers vary greatly year to year for this species and one STD is 248! Wrapping up the passerines near end of season, Augie Kramer found a female **Summer Tanager** on the West Spit of Braddock Bay on 28 November. It was subsequently seen and photographed by Jessie and Mitchell Barry and Chris Wood.

After all the tales of scarcity and the impacts of the November cold and snow, half hardies remained in decent numbers late in November for: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, Chipping Sparrow, and Yellow-rumped Warbler. It will be interesting to see what real winter brings! Jim Adams in his Oatka Creek Park reports noted not much obvious effect on birds present there after the snow and that also it was a great season for wild fruit in the park—food for lingering birds.

After all the notes of low numbers, the species totals vs. their 10-year averages by month were: September – 217 vs. 217.7, October – 194 vs. 205.0, and November 154 vs. 153.2. Only October off much and a very rainy month.

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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; CL – Conesus L, LIVI; DEP – Durand-Eastman P, MONR; G – T Greece, MONR; H – T Hamlin, MONR; HANA – High Acres Nature Area, T. Perinton, 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; ICW – Island Cottage Woods birding hotspot, T. Greece; 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; NMWMA – Northern Montezuma WMA (formerly Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex), WAYN; NMWMA (CRd) – Carncross Rd; NMWMA (MRd) – Morgan Rd Marshes area; NMWMA (SCU) – Sandhill Crane Unit; NMWMA (VDSRd.) – Van Dyne Spoor Rd. area; OB – Ontario Beach, Charlotte, MONR; OCP - Oatka Creek P, MONR; PB – Point Breeze area, ORLE, n. border of Regions 1 & 2; RIT – Rochester Institute of Technology; SaC – Salmon Creek mudflats area inland from BB; SPT – Sodus Pt, WAYN; TCEA – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, Avon DEC; W – T of Webster, MONR; WP – Webster P, MONR.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: NMWMA (VDSRd) 1-2 Sep, continuing summer birds; arr 2 Bovee Rd, T Riga, MONR 3 Oct (BriM); 2400 T Lyons, WAYN 22 Nov (TLe, LK); max 7800 near Old Duck Inn, T Tyre, WAYN 24 Nov(DO).

Ross’s Goose: arr T Lyons, WAYN 22 Nov (LK).

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr H Hamlin Rd 18 Oct (LBe, CGi, RRe).

Brant: arr 2 HBSP 4 Oct (PMar, SGr, DSh); max 500 Brown Rd, T Wolcott, WAYN 18 Oct (W&MR); 180 HBSP 1 Nov; last Sodus Bay 29 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr Bovee Rd, T Riga, MONR 3 Oct; total ~ 15 at 5 loc 3-28 Oct; 21 rep. ~ 33 ind 12 loc Nov; max 11 TCEA 4 Nov (BCar).

Canada Goose: max 3565 TCEA 4 Nov.

Mute Swan: max 155 BB 17 Nov; 84 IB – S 19 Oct; examples of too many in wintering areas.

Trumpeter Swan: max 34 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 3 Nov (JMcG, LS), sample of fall gathering.

Tundra Swan: arr off Edgemere Dr, G 4 Oct; max 185 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 6 Nov (LK); 140 CL – N 18 Nov (MG), typical for loc.

Wood Duck: max 150 NMWMA (VDSRd) 7 Sep (RB, NK), fall max.

Blue-winged Teal: max 181 NMWMA (SCU) 5 Sep (MW), good count; last 3 IB – S 20 Oct.

Northern Shoveler: max 15 IB P – W 19 Nov, low max, ties max from other months.

Gadwall: max 90 BB 30 Nov, low max.

American Wigeon: max 5000 NMWMA (VDSRd) 5 Oct (JMcG, LS), good count

Mallard: max 1500 NMWMA (VDSRd) 5 Oct (JMcG, LS).

American Black Duck: max 75 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 3 Nov (JMcG, LS).

Northern Pintail: max 1000 NWMA (VDSRd) 5 Oct (JMcG, LS).

Green-winged Teal: max 8000 NMWMA (VDSRd) 5 Oct (JMcG, LS); very good count.

Canvasback: arr NMWMA (SCU) 7 Sep (TH, MJ), Reg. record early.

Redhead: arr 2 BB 6 Sep (MB); max 5000 CL 15 Nov (RSp, TS).

Ring-necked Duck: 300 Round Pd, G 4 Nov (SGr).

Greater Scaup: arr 2 BB-ES 4 Sep (B&BM), early; max 250 OB area 28 Nov, low max.

Lesser Scaup: arr IBO 10 Sep; max 94 off Edgemere Dr, G 28 Nov, low max.

King Eider: f HB 3 Nov (AGu, RRe); f Beechwood SP, WAYN 3 Nov (TLe, LK, ArJ, BHa); f Brown Rd, T Wolcott, WAYN 6 Nov (W&MR).

Surf Scoter: arr HB 20 Sep, early; max 70 HB 18 Oct, low max.

White-winged Scoter: arr HB 18 Sep; max 341 HB 18 Oct, low max.

Black Scoter: arr HB 24 Sep; max 27 HB 2 Nov, low max.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 6 HB 14 Oct; max 382 off E Manitou Rd, G 20 Nov (KG), low max.

Bufflehead: arr 5 HB & 1 Bear Crk, WAYN 18 Oct; max 75 SPT 7 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: arr TCEA & 2 Bear Crk, WAYN 18 Oct; max 75 BB 29 Nov, low max.

Hooded Merganser: max 200 IB-S 20 Nov (SGr).

Common Merganser: max 150 SPT 12 Oct.

Red-breasted Merganser: 500 HB 18 Oct; max 1500 Port Bay, WAYN 18 Nov (W&MR); 1110 West Port Bay, WAYN 21 Nov (LK); good counts.

Ruddy Duck: arr NMWMA (VDSRd) 4 Sep (JKe), early; max 89 Walker Rd, T Leroy 5 Nov (DBea).

Northern Bobwhite: 1 T Mendon 3 Oct (PMar), likely release.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 90 NMWMA (VDSRd) 30 Oct (GD).

Horned Grebe: max 128 HB 29 Oct.

Red-necked Grebe: 15 HB 15 Sep (AGu), good number for date; max 62 HB 20 Nov (AGu), low relative to recent late peaks.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last Genesee Valley Greenway 28 Sep (JKi).

Black-billed Cuckoo: last Lakeshore Marshes, T Wolcott, WAYN 20 Sep (RRo).

Common Nighthawk: max 24 Critenden P, Rochester 3 Sep; last 2 Honeoye Falls 25 Sep.

Chimney Swift: last 3 Rochester 5 Oct; no large counts.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Livonia, LIVI 9 Oct (TBo).

hummingbird sp.: desiccated specimen RIT campus 2 Nov (EW), not ID'd to species.

RAILS - LARIDS

Virginia Rail: last Long Pd, G 21 Nov (JMo), late.

Sora: last NMWMA (SCU) 3 Nov (LK, ArJ, BHa), late.

Common Gallinule: max 44 NMWMA (SCU) 5 Sep, sharp contrast with last year; last 2 NMWMA (VDS) 26 Oct (JMcG, LS).

American Coot: max 200 NMWMA (VDSRd) 7 Oct (W&MR).

Sandhill Crane: 49 NMWMA (MRd) 21 Oct, fall gathering begun; max 128 NMWMA (Rt 89 E of East Rd) 15 Nov (DK); 3 Reed Rd, T Richmond, ONTA 18 Nov (BHo); 1 Beatty Pt, G 27 Nov (CW).

Black-bellied Plover: last 2 BB-ES 7 Oct, early dep.

American Golden-Plover: last BB 9 Oct, early dep.

Semipalmated Plover: last 2 SPT 15 Oct, early dep.

Killdeer: max 55 Church Rd, H 14 Sep, low max; Caledonia, LIVI 7 Nov.

Whimbrel: Edgemere Dr, G 1 Sep (JeB, JiB); BB 7 Sep (JeB, MB, AGu, CW); Summerville Pier 10 Sep (CGi, MG, GL); last SPT 20 Sep (CV, JWi).

Hudsonian Godwit: arr BB-ES 7 Sep (JMcG); last HB 18 Sep (AGu).

MARbled GODWIT (R2): BB area thru 9 Sep (mob, many ph).

Ruddy Turnstone: last SPT 30 Sep.

Red Knot: last 15 Sep (JeB, JiB, MB).

Stilt Sandpiper: last Hogan Pt, G 20 Sep.

Sanderling: last 2 SPT 3 Nov (TLe, LK, ArJ, BHa).

Dunlin: max 393 HB 1 Nov (MG); last 2 Buck Pd Crk, G & OB 9 Nov.

Purple Sandpiper: arr IBO 7-10 Nov (DSH, mob, phs); SPT 25-29 Nov. MG, 6 oth obs); 1 flyby off Edgemere Dr, G 28 Nov (JeB, JiB, LiB, MB, AGu, CW).

Baird's Sandpiper: last BB-ES 21 Sep.

Least Sandpiper: last 2 BB-ES 1 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: last SPT 23 Oct.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Redman Rd, H 21 Sep (AGu), only rep.

Pectoral Sandpiper: last 7 NMWMA (CRd) 30 Oct.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last Brown Rd, T Wolcott, WAYN 18 Oct.

WESTERN SANDPIPER: 1 imm pier off Manitou Beach Rd, G 17 Sep (RSp).

Short-billed Dowitcher: last NMWMA (Albano-Torrey Marsh) 15 Oct (MJ).

Long-billed Dowitcher: last NMWMA (CRd) 1 Nov (MG).

American Woodcock: last MP 18 Oct, few late fall birder reports.

Wilson's Snipe: last Burger P, G 28 Nov.

Spotted Sandpiper: last West Port Bay Pt, WAYN 18 Oct.

Solitary Sandpiper: last North Pd P, W 11 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: last 1- 4 sev NMWMA loc 3 Nov.

Greater Yellowlegs: last NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 6 Nov (LK).

Pomarine Jaeger: SPt 16Sep (MG).

Parasitic Jaeger: total ~ 17 ind 6 loc 7-29 Sep; total 6 ind 5 loc 4-24 Oct; last HB 1 Nov.

jaeger species: Bear Crk, WAYN 18 Oct.

alcid species: 1 off Pultneyville harbor, WAYN 26 Nov (JWi), distant ph.

Black-legged Kittiwake: arr 1HB 18 Oct (AGu), only rep.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 95 IB-S 16 Nov, low max.

Little Gull: arr 1 ad Buck Pd, G 7 Nov (JeB, JiB, MB); 1 ad OB 9 Nov (BriM).

FRANKLIN'S GULL (R2): 1 ad OB 25 Sep, 1 Oct (MH, ph, JG, ScK, ph).

Ring-billed Gull: max 3500 CL 12 Nov (TBo).

Iceland Gull: arr IBO 16 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: total 17 ind 6 loc 3-21 Sep; total ~ 11 ind 4 loc 2-27 Oct; max 7 Bovee Rd, T Riga, MONR 3 Oct (BriM); total ~ 8 ind 6 loc 5-26 Nov.

Glaucous Gull: arr HB 22 Nov.

Caspian Tern: last off Edgemere Dr, G 17 Oct.

Black Tern: last 2 NMWMA (Albano-Torrey Marsh) 15 Sep.

Common Tern: max 96 HB 3 Sep; last 5-13 HB & SPt 29 Sep.

Forster's Tern: last 1-2 Buck Pd, G 1-3 Nov (JeB, AGu, CW, PMar), late.

LOONS - FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: arr 3 HB 21 Sep (AGu), early; max 70 HB 20 Nov, low max.

PACIFIC LOON: Beechwood SP, WAYN 3 Nov (TLe, LK, ArJ, BHa, phs).

Common Loon: 344 HB 15 Sep (AGu), high count for date; max 375 Beechwood SP, WAYN 3 Nov, low max.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 2000 BB-ES 16 Sep, good count; 250 Buck Pd, G (JiB) & SPt (TLe) 2 Nov, good counts for date.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN (R2): TCEA 4 Nov (MW, CHO, BCAR, KZ, TBo), late, 3rd Reg Nov record.

American Bittern: last NMWMA (SCU) 3 Nov (LK, ArJ, BHa), late, *intro*.

Least Bittern: last Beatty Pt, G 19 Oct (LBe).

Great Egret: last BB 30 Nov (JeB, JiB), late.

Green Heron: last T Nunda, LIVI 20 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: last 5 NMWMA (SCU) 3 Nov (LK, ArJ, BHa).

WHITE-FACED IBIS: IB-S 18-23 Oct (JKI, 24+ oth obs, many ph), 2nd Reg record, *intro*.

Black Vulture: no reports.

Turkey Vulture: max 134 Mt. Morris Dam, LIVI 30 Sep (Sc&ShK), good count.

Osprey: last Black Crk, Churchville 16 Nov (PI, ph), late.

Northern Goshawk: imm HB 10 Nov (AGu, ph).

Bald Eagle: 183 lines eBird many loc Sep; 110 lines eBird many loc Oct; 148 lines eBird many loc Nov; good numbers.

Red-shouldered Hawk: only 4 rep of singles Sep.

Broad-winged Hawk: last Rochester 29 Sep

Short-eared Owl: arr Nations Rd IBA, LIVI 6 Nov.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Porter Rd, T Naples, ONTA 3 Oct (RSm); 15 b M (Owl Woods) 7-18 Oct (BBBO), *intro*; DEP 10 Nov (JiM, LM); M (Owl Woods) 23 Nov (NK); typically few fall rep.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 12 G 25 Sep (KG), good migr count; 7 rep Nov.

American Kestrel: ~17 ind 18 loc Sep; ~19 ind 17+ loc Oct; 7 ind 6 loc 7-30 Nov.

Merlin: total ~26 ind 15 loc Sep; total ~25 ind 19+ loc Oct; ~15 ind 14 loc Nov.

Peregrine Falcon: total ~16 ind 12+ loc Sep; total ~23 ind 20+ loc Oct; 9 rep, 9 ind 7 loc Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last M (Owl Woods) 25 Sep.

WESTERN KINGBIRD: Ellison P, T Penfield 21 Sep (JiM, LM), 16th Reg record, some discussion.

Eastern Kingbird: last T Nunda LIVI 11 Oct.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Ellison P, T Penfield 2 Sep (JiM); Tinker Nature P 4 Sep (PW); last T Wolcott, WAYN 7 Sep (JMcG, LS).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: last Conesus Inlet WMA 7 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: total b 20 BBBO 2-25 Sep.
Willow Flycatcher: last Firehouse Woods, G 27 Sep (LBe, ET).
“Traill’s” Flycatcher: total b 4 BBBO 2-14 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: total b 22 BBBO 1-13 Sep; last Beechwood SP, WAYN 1 Oct.
empidonax flycatcher: Lucien Morin P, T Penfield 1 Oct (JiM); DEP 6 Oct (LBru).
Eastern Phoebe: total b 8 24 Sep -15-20 Oct; last Caledonia Fish Hatchery 9 Nov (RSt).
Northern Shrike: arr IB-S 28 Oct; 7 rep, 6 ind 6 loc 6-29 Nov.
WHITE-EYED VIREO (R2): Dixon Woods (private), T Mendon 15 Nov (JGo).
Yellow-throated Vireo: last Beechwood SP, WAYN & Walworth, WAYN 1 Oct.
Blue-headed Vireo: total b 7 BBBO 29 Sep-4 Oct; last Cranberry Pd Nature Trail & T Canadice, ONTA 20 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: total b 8 BBBO 10-22 Sep; last Lucien Morin P, T Penfield 1 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: last T Gates, MONR 29 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: total b 59 BBBO 1 Sep-13 Oct; last 2 Hogan PT, G & T Mendon 8 Oct.
Horned Lark: max 88 Jones Rd, Avon 2 Nov, low max.
Purple Martin: last 5 MAC 10 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 500 West Port Bay, WAYN 5 Oct, low max; 15 Buck Pd. G 3 Nov (JeB); 2 Church Trail, G 29 Nov (RB, NK).
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: last 8 NMWMA (VDSRd) 5 Oct.
Bank Swallow: last 2 T Caledonia, LIVI & NMWMA (SCU) 15 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: last NMWMA (VDSRd) 11 Oct.
CAVE SWALLOW: Beatty Pt, G 27 Nov (CW, JeB, JiB), *intro*, only report.
Barn Swallow: last BB & 2 NMWMA (VDSRd) 5 Oct.
Black-capped Chickadee: total b 18 BBBO 4 Sep-28 Oct, low.
Brown Creeper: total b 36 BBBO 28 Sep-28 Oct.
House Wren: last T Nunda, LIVI 11 Oct.
Winter Wren: total b 28 BBBO 10 Sep - 31 Oct, low; max 22 HB-WE 29Sep; total ~22 ind 17 loc 2-29 Nov, very good late numbers.
Marsh Wren: last Sandra L. Frankel NP, T Brighton, MONR 21 Nov (TL), late.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last G 28 Sep, early dep.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr M (Owl Woods) 9 Sep; max b 30 BBBO 26 Oct; total b 136 BBBO 29 Sep-31 Oct.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr MP 1 Sep; max 65 SPT 5 Oct (TLe); max b 62 BBBO 18 Oct; total b 238 BBBO 12 Sep-28 Oct; last Casey P, T Ontario, WAYN 15 Nov (JWi), late.
Veery: total b 8 BBBO 1-24 Sep; last M (Owl Woods) 6 Oct.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Manitou (Owl Woods) 11 Sep; max 10 Walworth, WAYN 25 Sep; max b 6 BBBO 28 Sep; total b 49 BBBO 17 Sep-10 Oct, low; last HB 13 Oct.
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell’s Thrush: total b 11 BBBO 17 Sep - last 5 Oct, low.
Swainson’s Thrush: max 27 Walworth, WAYN 25 Sep, low max; max b 4 BBBO 4 Oct, very low max; total b 65 BBBO 8 Sep-18 Oct, low; last 2 Beatty Pt, G 19 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: arr NMWMA (MRd) 6 Sep; max b 32 BBBO 19 Oct; total b 140 BBBO 27 Sep-31 Oct; total 13 ind 11 loc 2-29 Nov.
Wood Thrush: last Webster & 1b BBBO 8 Oct.
American Robin: max 1425 HB 18 Nov (DTe).
Gray Catbird: 29 Whiting Rd NP, W 7 Sep (GF); max 32 Whiting Rd NP, W 15 Sep (GF); total b 100 BBBO 1 Sep-24 Oct; 5 rep, 4 ind 4 loc 2-26 Nov.
Brown Thrasher: last Beatty Pt, G 9 Oct.
Bohemian Waxwing: HB 18 Nov (DTe), only rep.
Cedar Waxwing: max 47 Beechwood SP, WAYN 26 Nov, low max.
American Pipit: arr BB 8 Sep; max 40 Jones Bridge & Perry Rds, LIVI 3 Nov (JKi); last Beatty Pt, G 27 Nov (CW).
Pine Siskin: arr BBBO 19 Oct; max 48 DEP 10 Nov (JiM, LM).
American Goldfinch: max b 39 BBBO 28 Oct; total b 61 6 Sep-29 Oct; max 1086 HB 18 Nov (DTe).
Lapland Longspur: arr Hemlock L - S, ONTA 28 Oct (BHo).
Snow Bunting: arr IBO 20 Oct; max 86 HB 3 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: last Whiting Rd NP, W 23 Nov (SG), late.
American Tree Sparrow: arr 2 N Wolcott, WAYN 10 Oct (W&MR); max 34 Honeoye Falls 14 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: max 20 Nations Rd IBA 4 Oct; last La Casa Mocha, Fairport 24 Nov (GaL, BR).

Field Sparrow: last Plank Rd, T Penfield 17 Nov (AGa).

Vesper Sparrow: last Jacobs & Redman Rds, H 14 Oct (RB, NK).

Savannah Sparrow: last T Avon, LIVI 5 Nov.

NELSON'S SPARROW (R2): 2 Burger P, G 11 Oct (JuH, GL, PMar); Burger P, G 14 Oct (CHO); Geneseo Airfield 26 Oct (JKi).

Fox Sparrow: arr MP 11 Oct; last Church Trail, G 27 Nov (CW).

Song Sparrow: total b 47 BBBO 1 Sep-31 Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Honeoye Falls 20 Sep; last Jones Bridge & Perry Rds, LIVI 2 Nov (JKi), late.

White-throated Sparrow: arr Chimney Bluffs, WAYN 16 Sep; 52 HB-WE 29 Sep (AGu); max 60 Beechwood SP, WAYN 5 Oct (TLe); max b 31 BBBO 19 Oct; total b 309 BBBO 19 Sep-31 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr 2 Plank Rd, T Penfield 18 Sep.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 80 DEP 29 Oct (SGr); max b 53 BBBO 25 Oct; total b 78 BBBO 1-31 Oct.

Bobolink: last Burger P, G 13 Oct.

Eastern Meadowlark: last Burrow Rd, T Walworth, WAYN 14 Nov (MG).

Baltimore Oriole: last 2 Beechwood SP, WAYN 16 Sep.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 10,000 MP 12 Oct (JMo).

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 3500 Lacey Rd, LIVI 12 Oct (NK).

Rusty Blackbird: arr HB 25 Sep; max 83 NMWMA (Marten Tract) 17 Oct, low max; last Cook & Redman Rds, H 29 Nov (CW).

Common Grackle: max 4000 MP 12 Oct (JMo).

Ovenbird: total b 7 BBBO 9-28 Sep; last T Gates, MONR 6 Oct.

Northern Waterthrush: total b 12 BBBO 1 - 25 Sep; last Spencerport 29 Sep (KLAC).

Blue-winged Warbler: last T Nunda, LIVI 25 Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: last Webster P 4 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: last HANA 10 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr T Livonia, LIVI 27-28 Sep (TBo); TCEA 30 Sep (MW); 1b BBBO 4 Oct, only ind banded this fall; total 6 ind 6 oth loc 1-19 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: total b 27 9 Sep-21 Oct; last 1b BBBO & Webster Arboretum 21 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: M (Owl Woods) 8-9 Sep (AGu, CW, JaG, RRe); 1b BBBO 4, 19 Sep.

Mourning Warbler: last 1b BBBO 16 Sep.

Common Yellowthroat: total b 43 BBBO 1 Sep – last 19 Oct; last BB 24 Oct.

Hooded Warbler: last Fawn Ridge, T Bristol & T Canadice, ONTA 8 Oct.

American Redstart: total b 55 BBBO 1-28 Sep, last 14 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: last T Nunda, LIVI 8 Oct, early dep.

Northern Parula: arr T Canadice, ONTA 8 Sep; last HB-WE 13 Oct.

Magnolia Warbler: max b 26 BBBO 17 Sep; total b 169 BBBO 3 Sep – last 24 Oct; max obs 24 M - Owl Woods 8 Sep (AGu, CW).

Bay-breasted Warbler: total b 36 BBBO 13-30 Sep; last Beechwood SP, WAYN 5 Oct.

Blackburnian Warbler: last Lucien Morin P, T Penfield 6 Oct.

Yellow Warbler: last Rochester & G 29 Sep. Kings Bend P, T Pittsford MONR 3 Oct.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last 2b BBBO & G & HB 25 Sep.

Blackpoll Warbler: max b 16 BBBO 14 Sep, low max; total b 80 BBBO 4 Sep-4 Oct, low; last 3 Highland P, Rochester 5 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: total b 64 BBBO 3 Sep – last 14 Oct; last HB 14 Oct.

Palm Warbler: arr HB 15 Sep; last T Livonia, LIVI 14 Oct (TBo).

Pine Warbler: max 15 DEP 3 Sep (ET); last HB 15 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 39 MP 5 Oct (CGo); total b 9 BBBO 27 Sep-24 Oct; last 2 MP 27 Nov (CGo), late.

Prairie Warbler: 1b BBBO 21 Sep, scarce in fall.

Black-throated Green Warbler: total b 27 BBBO 1-9 Oct; last RIT 15 Oct.

Canada Warbler: last G 24 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: total b 23 BBBO 1-24 Sep; last Irondequoit & Livonia 2 Oct.

SUMMER TANAGER: BB-WS 28 Oct (AKr, JeB, MB, CW, ph).

Scarlet Tanager: last MP 7 Oct.

Northern Cardinal: total b 20 BBBO 1 Sep-28 Oct.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Ellison P, T Penfield 3 Oct.

Indigo Bunting: last 2 Genesee Valley Greenway 5 Oct.

EXOTICS

Bar-headed Goose: TCEA 21 Oct (MW, 4 other obs, ph), likely escape.

Chukar: 3 T Mendon 7 Oct (PMar), likely releases.



REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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Overall, September 2019 had about normal temperatures, but was drier than normal. The average high temperature in September was 72.1° F, 1.0° above normal. The average low was 47.4°, 1.6° below normal. Total precipitation was 1.78", 1.91" less than normal. Cold fronts passed through on the 8th, 13th, 25th, 27th, and 30th. October was slightly warmer than normal and much wetter. The average high temperature was 60.0°, 1.0° above normal. The average low was 40.0°, 1.7° above normal. Total precipitation was 5.35", 1.93" more than normal. Cold fronts passed through 3, 13, 18, 23, and 26 October. November was much colder than normal and a little drier. The average high temperature in November was 41.6°, 5.9° below normal. The average low was 26.6°, 5.1° below normal. Total precipitation was 2.53", 0.63" less than normal. Total snowfall was 4", 0.5" less than normal. Maximum snow depth of 2" occurred on the 13th. Cold fronts passed through 2, 8, 12, 17, 23, and 29 November.

The arrival dates in mid-October of the first migrating Snow Geese and Brant were late. The arrival of a Cackling Goose in mid-September was early. The departure of the last flock of Brant at the end of November was late. Maximum counts of Mute, Trumpeter, and Tundra Swans were all high. A single Greater White-fronted Goose lingered at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR) for 11 days in late October and a single Ross's Goose appeared in the Town of Fayette in late November. The maximum counts were high for four species of ducks: Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup, and Common Merganser. The maximum count of four Black Scoters was low for that species. There was a high number of Pied-billed Grebes at MNWR.

The fall gathering of Sandhill Cranes at MNWR continued to grow this year with a new high count of 164. A good variety of shorebirds passed through the Region, but no high counts were reported for any species. The most interesting shorebirds were an Upland Sandpiper on Mt. Pleasant, a Purple Sandpiper at Myers Point, and a Red-necked Phalarope at MNWR. Maximum counts of Caspian Terns in mid-September and of Bonaparte's and Lesser Black-backed Gulls in mid-October were all high. Jay McGowan photographed the season's only Forster's Tern at Myers Point on the late date of 31 October. One Black Tern

lingered at MNWR until 1 September. Single Laughing Gulls visited MNWR in early and mid-September and the Elmira Dam on 12 October.

Tim Lenz found a **Pacific Loon** at the Dresden Overlook on Seneca Lake on 10 November. Jay McGowan reported the high count of 2700 Double-crested Cormorants at Stewart Park in Ithaca in mid-September. An American White Pelican was at MNWR through the first half of September. Among the wading birds, Gregg Dashnau's count of Great Egrets at MNWR was the only high count. Late lingerers were a Least Bittern in late October at MNWR and a Black-crowned Night-Heron at the end of November at Stewart Park. Rarities were a Snowy Egret, a **White Ibis**, and a Glossy Ibis all in early September and all at MNWR.

Ospreys migrated out of the Region early with the last one reported 19 October. Shawn Billerman, Jay McGowan, Livia Santana, and Brad Walker witnessed a flight of 10 Golden Eagles in less than an hour past the Bluegrass Lane Natural Area. Other high counts of raptors were three Barred Owls at Hammond Hill State Forest and three Merlins at two locations—The Center at Horseheads and a location in the Town of Lansing.

Observers reported high counts of 10 Belted Kingfishers at the Ithaca Yacht Club, 15 Red-bellied Woodpeckers at a site in the Town of Ulysses, and four Olive-sided Flycatchers at a location in the Town of Van Etten. Individuals of three species of flycatchers had late departures. An Olive-sided Flycatcher was in the Town of Van Etten on 20 September, a Great Crested Flycatcher was in Northeast Ithaca on 27 September, and an Eastern Wood-Pewee was in the Town of Danby on 15 October. Four Yellow-throated Vireos at MNWR and 32 Red-eyed Vireos at Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve were high counts. Late vireos were two Yellow-throated Vireos at Atwater Meadows on 8 October and a Red-eyed Vireo at Stewart Park on 19 October. Single White-eyed Vireos were in Ithaca 22-24 October and in the Town of Tyre on 27 November, a late date for this rare species.

The expansion of Fish Crows throughout the Region, from south to north, seems complete with a high count of 63 coming from Lakefront Park at the north end of Seneca Lake. Although numbers are not as high as they once were, Montezuma NWR continues to be the main congregation site in the Region for swallows prior to migration. The season yielded no high numbers. There was one late record, a Bank Swallow at MNWR on 19 October.

Observers reported high counts of Tufted Titmouse, 16 in the Town of Van Etten; Carolina Wren, 10 at Monkey Run in the Town of Dryden; and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, seven at Myers Point. A House Wren in the Town of Lansing on 2 November was late. As usual, observers monitored nocturnal migrants in Tompkins County and had a high count of 1600 Swainson's Thrushes over the Pinkney Road Hydroponics Building. All the thrush species left the Region by normal dates.

One hundred House Sparrows at the Triangle Diner was a high count. High counts of true sparrows were 22 Eastern Towhees at Tanglewood Nature Center

& Museum, eight Vesper Sparrows and 300 Song Sparrows at Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve, six Nelson's Sparrows at the Cornell Research Ponds, and 70 Swamp Sparrows at MNWR. A Field Sparrow in the Town of Dryden on 28 November was late. Michael Mandrachia photographed a **Lark Sparrow** in the Town of Reading on 27 September.

A Palm Warbler at the Caswell Road Grasslands on 2 September was an early arrival. The only high count among the warblers was five Wilson's Warblers at Cornell University. A Golden-winged Warbler at Dryden Lake on 18 September, two Tennessee Warblers and a Northern Parula in Ithaca on 23 October, an American Redstart in the Town of Caroline on 20 October, a Magnolia Warbler at Stewart Park 19-21 November, and a Black-throated Green Warbler in the Town of Lansing on 26 October were all late lingerers. Finally, a high count of 34 Scarlet Tanagers was reported at Bluegrass Lane Natural Area on 2 October.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BLNA – Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, TOMP; **CygL** – Cayuga L; **CU** – Cornell University; **DP** – Durland Pres, TOMP; **ESP** – East Shore P, TOMP; **FLNF** – Finger Lakes National Forest; **HHSF** – Hammond Hill State Forest, TOMP; **LP** – Lakefront P; **LPBP** – Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres, TOMP; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MR** – Monkey Run, TOMP; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **NEI** – Northeast Ithaca; **RHPP** – Roy H P Pres, TOMP; **SLSP** – Seneca L SP; **SRCP** – Stevenson Road Compost Piles, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TDan** – T Danby, TOMP; **TDry** – T Dryden, TOMP; **TFay** – T Fayette, SENE; **THec** – T Hector, SCHU; **TLan** – T Lansing, TOMP; **TVE** – T Van Etten, CHEM.

WATERFOWL-HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr 15 MNWR 24 Oct, late; max 12,000 Seneca L, T Benton YATE 24 Nov.

Ross's Goose: TFay 29 Nov (JDi, ADo!).

Greater White-fronted Goose: MNWR 20-30 Oct (mob).

Brant: arr & max 287 MyPt 18 Oct, late, migr; last 12 MNWR 30 Nov (RV), late.

Cackling Goose: arr BLNA 14 Sep (CW), early; max 15 T Tyre SENE 26 Oct; last Park Station P CHEM 21 Nov.

Mute Swan: max 9 CygL 5 Oct-28 Nov (JMc, LSa), high.

Trumpeter Swan: max 20 MNWR 6 Nov (JP), high.

Tundra Swan: arr MNWR 13 Oct; max 3000 CygL, T Seneca Falls SENE 23 Nov (JMc, LSa), high.

Blue-winged Teal: max 60 MNWR 21 Sep; last 2 Sperr Memorial P CHEM 9 Nov.

Eurasian Wigeon: arr MNWR 1 Sep (mob, ph), early; max 3 MNWR 30 Oct; last MNWR 3 Nov.

Northern Pintail: max 6200 MNWR 3 Nov (ArJ, LK, BMa), high.

Ring-necked Duck: max 9000 MNWR 3 Nov (JMc, LSa), high.

Greater Scaup: max 325 Twin Oaks Campground CAYU 17 Nov, (SD), high.

Surf Scoter: arr 2 LP SENE 2 Oct; max 10 Lake Road Bluffs CAYU 26 Oct; last 4 Wyers Pt SENE 12 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr 11 Geneva 4 Oct; max 14 T Varick SENE 19 Oct; last 2 MyPt 28 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr & max 4 MNWR 18 Oct, low; last ESP 28 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr Geneva Country Club SENE 18 Oct; max 15 ESP 30 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr 20 Geneva 25 Oct; 2 StP 25 Oct; 2 Dresden 25 Oct; 2 MyPt 25 Oct; MNWR 25 Oct; max 100 CygL SP 29 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: arr 2 SLSP 7 Oct; max 105 Skaneateles L CAYU 8 Nov.

Common Merganser: max 282 Chemung Ri, Elmira 27 Nov (BO), high.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr MyPt 4 Oct; max 40 Wyers Pt SENE 12 Nov.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 250 MNWR 1 Sep (JMc), high.

Horned Grebe: arr Geneva 11 Oct; max 4 Geneva 25 Oct.

Red-necked Grebe: arr Geneva Country Club SENE 18 Oct; max 3 MyPt 30 Oct.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last T Starkey YATE 9 Oct.

Black-billed Cuckoo: last BLNA 28 Sep.

Common Nighthawk: max 6 TDry 8 Sep; last SW 23 Sep.

Chimney Swift: max 15 MNWR 9 Sep; last Thompson P TOMP 22 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 7 FLNF SENE 5 Sep; last CU 8 Oct.

RAILS-LARIDS

Virginia Rail: max 2 MNWR 7 Sep; last MNWR 19 Oct.

Sora: last Palmer Woods TOMP 14 Oct; Cayuta L Outlet SCHU 14 Oct.

Common Gallinule: max 50 MNWR 1 Sep; last MNWR 6 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: max 164 MNWR 23 Nov (CW), high.

Black-bellied Plover: max & last 3 MNWR 13 Oct, low.

American Golden-Plover: max 18 TFay 3 Sep; last MNWR 7 Oct.

Semipalmated Plover: max 60 MNWR 20 Sep; last 4 MNWR 30 Sep.

Killdeer: max 75 TFay 3 Sep; last 2 Sullivanville Dam CHEM 16 Nov.

Upland Sandpiper: Mt Pleasant TOMP 15 Sep.

Ruddy Turnstone: LP ONTA 3 Nov (mob, ph); LP SENE 3 Nov (mob, ph), late.

Stilt Sandpiper: max 12 MNWR 7 Sep; last MNWR 14 Oct.

Sanderling: max 5 LP ONTA 7 Sep; last White Lighthouse Jetty TOMP 5 Oct.

Dunlin: max 90 MNWR 25 Oct; last MNWR 6 Nov.

Purple Sandpiper: MyPt 4 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: max & last 4 MNWR 19 Sep.

Least Sandpiper: max 50 MNWR 1-4 Sep; last MNWR 21 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: max 5 MNWR 7 Sep; last MNWR 22 Oct.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 30 MNWR 11 Sep; last MNWR 30 Oct.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 125 MNWR 1 Sep; last 2 MNWR 12 Oct.

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 21 MNWR 25 Sep; last 4 MNWR 5 Oct.

Long-billed Dowitcher: max 31 MNWR 6 Oct; last MNWR 3 Nov.

American Woodcock: max 3 HHFS 5 Sep; 3 BLNA 24 Oct; last SW 6 Nov.

Wilson's Snipe: max 28 MNWR 18 Sep; last T Phelps ONTA 23 Nov (TLI), late.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 3 StP 8 Sep; 3 MNWR 25 Sep; last SLSP SENE 1 Nov.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 3 MNWR 7 Sep; 3 Risser Road Swamp ONTA 10 Sep; last MNWR 7 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 110 MNWR 1 Sep; last 2 MNWR 3 Nov.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 120 MNWR 11 Sep; last MNWR 8 Nov.

Red-necked Phalarope: MNWR 1-4 Sep; MNWR 10 Sep.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 92 CygL, T Seneca Falls SENE 19 Oct (JMc, LSa), high.

Laughing Gull: MNWR 1-5, 17 Sep; Elmira Dam CHEM 16 Oct.

Iceland Gull: arr SRCP 16 Nov, late; max 2 CygL SP 23 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 7 SRCP 5 & 12 Oct (KMc), high.

Herring x Lesser Black-backed Gull (hybrid): SRCP 6 Nov.

Herring x Great Black-backed Gull (hybrid): SRCP 6 Nov.

Caspian Tern: max 22 StP 16 Sep (CW), high; last MyPt, 12 Oct.

Black Tern: last MNWR 1 Sep.

Forster's Tern: MyPt 31 Oct (JMc!, ph), late.

LOONS-FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: arr CU 18 Oct; max 33 ESP 28 Nov.

PACIFIC LOON: Seneca L, Dresden Overlook YATE 10 Nov (TL!).
Double-crested Cormorant: max 2700 StP 10 Sep (JMc), high.
American White Pelican: MNWR 1-16 Sep.
American Bittern: last MNWR 5 Nov.
Last Bittern: last MNWR 24 Oct (DK, ph), late.
Great Egret: max 180 MNWR 1 Sep (GD), high; last MNWR 30 Oct.
Snowy Egret: MNWR 1 Sep (mob).
Green Heron: max 7 MNWR 1 Sep; 7 Ithaca 29 Sep, nocturnal migrants; last StP 31 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 8 MNWR 6 Sep; last StP 30 Nov (CC, MarC, ph, KR), late.
WHITE IBIS: MNWR 1-4 Sep (mob!).
Glossy Ibis: arr MNWR 11 Sep; last MNWR 26 Sep (MD), late.
Black Vulture: arr TCar 11 Oct; max 4 BLNA 3 Nov (MeM!), high; last NEI 22 Nov (TSc!), late.
Turkey Vulture: max 606 NEI 8 Oct.
Osprey: max 10 MNWR 7 Sep; 10 TDan 15 Sep; last Thec 19 Oct; Cinnamon L State Forest SCHU 19 Oct; Cornell Research Pds TOMP 19 Oct, early.
Golden Eagle: arr TDan 5 Oct; max 10 BLNA 17 Nov (SBi, JMc, LSa, BW)}, high.
Northern Goshawk: RHPP 25 Oct; SW 10 Nov.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 2539 TDan 15 Sep; last SW 8 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Thec 3 Nov, late.
Snowy Owl: arr TFay 15 Nov.
Barred Owl: max 3 HHSF 25 Sep (CW), high.
Short-eared Owl: arr T Phelps ONTA 9 Nov.
Belted Kingfisher: max 10 Ithaca Yacht Club 9 Sep (LH), high.
Red-headed Woodpecker: max 2 Trumansburg 4 Sep; last Shindagin Hollow State Forest TOMP 30 Oct.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 15 T Ulysses TOMP 11 Oct (KK, DM), high.
Merlin: max 3 The Center at Horseheads 28 Sep (SGi, BO); 3 TLAN 4 Oct (NBa), high.

FLYCATCHERS-SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last NEI 27 Sep (KR!), late.
Eastern Kingbird: last LPBP 15 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: max 4 TVE 3 Sep (JCo), high; last TVE 20 Sep (JCo), late.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 10 TVE 2 Sep; last TDan 15 Oct (RR), late.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last SW 4 Oct.
Acadian Flycatcher: last DP 7 Sep.
Alder Flycatcher: last DP 7 Sep.
Willow Flycatcher: max 2 T Farmington ONTA 3 Sep; last T Farmington ONTA 4 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: max TVE 5 Sep; last Bluegrass Natural Area TOMP 29 Sep; Ford Hill TOMP 29 Sep.
Eastern Phoebe: max 10 LPBP 15 Sep; 10 Bluegrass Natural Area TOMP 20 Oct; last StP 24 Nov.
Northern Shrike: arr TDry 9 Oct.
White-eyed Vireo: Ithaca 22-24 Oct (mob, ph); T Tyre SENE 27 Nov (DK, ph), late.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 4 MNWR 1 Sep (GL, JMc), high; last 2 Atwater Meadows ONTA 8 Oct (DDo!), late.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 8 TVE 27 Sep; last TCar 3 Nov.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 4 CU 15 Sep; BLNA 11 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: max 12 SLSP 3 Sep; last MNWR 8 Oct.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 32 LPBP 15 Sep (JMc), high; last StP 19 Nov (JMc, ph; TSc; CW, ph), late.
Fish Crow: max 63 LP ONTA 9 Nov (TL), high.
Purple Martin: max 100 T Tyre 1 Sep; last 10 MNWR 7 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 8000 MNWR 5 October; last 30 MNWR 24 Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 100 MNWR 7 & 16 Sep; last StP 19 Oct; MNWR 19 Oct; Lake Road Bluff CAYU 19 Oct.
Bank Swallow: max 1000 MNWR 1 Sep; last MNWR 19 Oct (JMc!, LSa), late.
Cliff Swallow: max 3 MNWR 3 Oct; last MNWR 15 Oct.
Barn Swallow: max 500 MNWR 1 Sep; last MNWR 15 Oct.
Tufted Titmouse: max 16 TVE 11 Sep (JCo, MPe), high.
House Wren: max 8 BLNA 9 Sep; last TLAN 2 Nov (JEA!), late.
Marsh Wren: max 5 MNWR 8 Sep; 5 MNWR 15 Sep; last MNWR 26 Oct.
Carolina Wren: max 10 MR 20 Sep (CW), high.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 7 MyPt 11 Sep (JMc), high; last T Hornellsville STEU 16 Sep; TFay 16 Sep.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 35 MNWR 13 Oct; 35 Bluegrass Natural Area TOMP 20 Oct; last TDry 27 Nov.

Veery: max 80 NEI 3 Sep, nocturnal migrants; last Pinkney Road Hydroponics Building TOMP 2 Oct, nocturnal migrant.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr MR 9 Sep; max 110 Pinkney Road Hydroponics Building TOMP 2 Oct, nocturnal migrants; last Atwater Meadows ONTA 18 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: max 1600 Pinkney Road Hydroponics Building TOMP 2 Oct (JMc, BW), high; last SW 1 Nov.

Hermit Thrush: max 7 Cornell Research Pds TOMP 10 Oct; last TDry 27 Nov.

Wood Thrush: max 47 BLNA 2 Oct, nocturnal migrants; last CU 24 Oct.

Gray Catbird: max 30 Edwards L Cliff Pres TOMP 19 Sep; last CU 19 Nov.

Brown Thrasher: max 6 LPBP 15 Sep; last CU 8 Oct; TLan 8 Oct.

House Sparrow: max 100 Triangle Diner CAYU 26 Oct (JMc, LSa), hgh.

American Pipit: max 3 BLNA 16 Sep; max 41MNWR 15 Oct; last MyPt 28 Nov.

Evening Grosbeak: CU 30 Oct (ArJ!).

Common Redpoll: 2 Owasco L Inlet CAYU 16 Nov (CW).

Red Crossbill: Bear Swamp State Forest CAYU 29 Sep (CW); Summerhill State Forest CAYU 13 Oct (JMc, LSa).

Pine Siskin: arr 2 T Ithaca 13 Sep; max 40 CU 23 Oct.

Lapland Longspur: 8 TFay 14 Nov (TL, ph).

Snow Bunting: arr MNWR 19 Oct, late; max 100 TFay 14 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS- CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 22 Tanglewood Nature Center & Museum CHEM 5 Sep (BO), high; last BLNA 27 Nov.

American Tree Sparrow: arr DP 30 Oct; max 25 Owasco L Inlet CAYU 16 Nov.

Field Sparrow: max 20 Arnot Forest TOMP 5 Oct; last TDry 28 Nov (JE!), late.

Vesper Sparrow: max 8 BLNA 20 Oct (JMc), high; last BLNA 16 Nov.

LARK SPARROW (R3): T Reading SCHU 27 Sep (MMand!, ph).

Savannah Sparrow: max 52 FLNF SENE 3 Oct; last MNWR 23 Nov.

Nelson's Sparrow: arr 2 Cornell Research Pds TOMP 1 Oct; max 6 Cornell Research Pds TOMP 10 Oct (JMc), high; last StP 23 Oct.

Fox Sparrow: arr MNWR 19 Oct; max 16 TDry 7 Nov; last BLNA 27 Nov.

Song Sparrow: max 300 BLNA 20 Oct (JMc), high..

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Tanglewood Nature Center & Museum CHEM 5 Sep; max 9 BLNA 25 Sep; 9 BLNA 5 Oct; last FLNF SCHU 23 Nov.

Swamp Sparrow: max 70 MNWR 3 Oct (TL), high.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr MNWR 18 Sep; max 16 T Ovid SENE 20 Oct; last T Ovid SENE 29 Nov.

Bobolink: max 150 MNWR 8 Sep; 150 MNWR 15 Sep; last BLNA 10 Oct.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 12 Ithaca Tompkins Airport 11 Oct; last T Ovid TOMP 25 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: max 3 T Enfield TOMP 3 Sep; 3 Queen Catharine Marsh 4 Sep; last TDry 29 Sep.

Rusty Blackbird: arr 6 MNWR 22 Sep; max 120 MNWR 30 Oct.

Ovenbird: max 5 Eldridge Wilderness Pres 22 Sep; last SW 7 Oct.

Northern Waterthrush: last TLan 24 Sep;

Golden-winged Warbler: TDry 1 Sep; CU 2 Sep; T Ithaca TOMP 14 Sep; Mt Pleasant TOMP 15 Sep; Dryden L TOMP 18 Sep (CW!), late.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 3 FLNF SENE 5 Sep; last Dryden L TOMP 22 Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: max 6 TVE 15 Sep; last Palmer Woods TOMP 12 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: max 13 HHSF 18 Sep; last 2 Ithaca 23 Oct (JMc, ph), late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr Bear Swamp State Forest CAYU 29 Sep; last East Road Airport 15 Nov.

Nashville Warbler: max 10 TVE 15 Sep; last SW 16 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: arr Dryden Rail Trail TOMP 2 Sep; last T Ovid 28 Sep.

Mourning Warbler: last MNWR 29 Sep.

Common Yellowthroat: max 16 DP 3 Sep; 16 Arnot Forest TOMP 8 Sep; last BLNA 5 Nov.

Hooded Warbler: last BLNA 5 Oct.

American Redstart: max 6 MR 2 Sep; last TCar 20 Oct (CE), late.

Cape May Warbler: max 10 RHPP 6 Sep; last T Enfield TOMP 8 Oct.

Cerulean Warbler: last TVE 3 Sep.

Northern Parula: arr TCar 4 Sep; max 6 SLSP SENE 3 Oct; last Ithaca 23 Oct (KE, JMc, ph, CW), late.

Magnolia Warbler: max 13 LPBP 15 Sep; last StP 19-21 Nov (JMc, ph, TSc, CW, ph), late.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 10 TVE 15 Sep; last TLan 9 Oct.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 5 Texas Hollow State Forest SCHU 1 Sep; last T Covert SENE 3 Oct.

Yellow Warbler: max 8 StP 2 Sep; last Hog Hole TOMP 15 Oct.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last T Lan 9 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 5 Ontario Pathways ONTA 16 Sep; last MyPt 25 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 7 CU 16 Sep; 7 Pinckney Road Hydroponics Building TOMP 2 Oct, nocturnal migrants; last NEI 14 Oct.

Palm Warbler: arr Caswell Road Grasslands TOMP 2 Sep (CW!), early; max 17 BLNA 5 Oct; last NEI 28 Oct.

Pine Warbler: max 3 DIL Woods TOMP 30 Sep; 3 SW 4 Oct; last THeC 14 Oct; Sampson SP 14 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 40 BLNA 20 Oct.

Prairie Warbler: max 3 LPBP 5 Sep; last Edwards L Cliff Pres TOMP 29 Sep.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 12 Newtown Battlefield SP 28 Sep; last T Lan 26 Oct (JMc, L Sa), late.

Canada Warbler: max 2 CU 2 Sep; MR 2 Sep; last CU 24 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: max 5 CU 1 Sep (ArJ, B Ma), high; last Allan H Treman State Marine P TOMP 6 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: max 34 BLNA 2 Oct (ADo, KR), high; last TVE 8 Oct.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 80 Pinckney Road Hydroponics Building TOMP 2 Oct; last BLNA 8 Oct.

Indigo Bunting: max 5 RHPP 6 Sep; 5 Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 14 Sep; last Cornell Community Garden Plots TOMP 12 Oct.

Dickcissel: MNWR 1 Sep; Hile School Road Wetland TOMP 26 Sep.



REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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September 2019 was warmer and drier than normal. October was above average regarding temperature and very wet. In fact, October 2019 was the third wettest October since 1950 (when the current record period begins). November was about 5.5° F cooler than average, and was the fifth coldest and eighth driest November.

This year's Golden Eagle fall migration at Franklin Mountain was far different from last season's count. Last year Andy Mason reported that 323 were counted, with a large number (254) observed in October, and with peak numbers two weeks earlier than normal. This year only one Golden Eagle was sighted in October—the average for October is around 50 sightings. However, Andy reports that 157 were seen in November, bringing the total for the year to 166 which is slightly below the long-term average. The reason for this change is unknown.

Raptor species showing greatly increased numbers were Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, and Broad-winged Hawk. The total Broad-winged Hawk count was 2,422, which is 63 percent above average. Red-tailed Hawk numbers were about half the long-term average. The Red-tailed Hawk decline in numbers is puzzling for this relatively common raptor, and this drop seems to be the case across many eastern hawk watches. No Black Vulture were counted this fall (there were 15 last season and six in fall season of 2017). We had thought we had an upward trend for BVs. In total, 5,237 raptors were counted, which is above the average for the

Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch. (Thanks to Andy Mason for summarizing all the above information regarding the hawk watch). If you need more statistics regarding raptors, you can refer to the species list following the narrative.

In Tioga County Adam Troyer was also counting migratory birds that flew over his farm. On 15 September he counted 1,758 Broad-winged Hawks and seven Ospreys. He also saw 198 Common Loons on 29 November. He said, "This was one of my best loon flights ever. From 9:30 to 11 AM there were two tight flocks of 47 in each flock and many smaller flocks."

A trio of Cackling Geese were spotted and photographed at a north Norwich marsh in Chenango County in early October. Black, Surf, and White-winged Scoters were reported in the Region in October and November. A video was recorded and uploaded to eBird of Surf Scoters on the Susquehanna River in Endicott. A hybrid Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser was discovered on Mead Pond in Chenango by Mike DeWispelaere, and was photographed by many.

In Chenango County in the Town of Plymouth, six adult Sandhill Cranes were seen and photographed in the grasslands in late September and October. It looked as though three local birds were joined by three migrants. No juveniles were seen.

Regarding shorebirds, American Golden-Plovers were found in a couple different locations in Chenango County in the last week of September. A Baird's Sandpiper was photographed on 11 September foraging in the Susquehanna River near Vestal.

A Say's Phoebe was seen by Adam Troyer on 11 October on his farm in Tioga County, and there he also saw a Western Kingbird on 16 September which was well photographed by others. The details of the Say's Phoebe and the Western Kingbird sighting were submitted to NYSARC.

A Nelson's Sparrow was discovered on 5 October at Brick Pond in Tioga County. Five Rusty Blackbirds were reported from the Tri-Cities Airport in Endicott on 3 November, which was a maximum count for this declining species for the season.

Warbler diversity was about average this season, with 28 species recorded. Last year the number of species seen was 27, and preceding year was 29. The highlight was Connecticut Warblers seen in two different locations in the Region in mid-September.

In summary, 211 species vs. 216 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.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AqPk – Aquaterra P, BROO; **BoPd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, 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; **NNMH** – North Norwich Marsh, CHEN; **OtsL** – Otsego L, OTSE; **PepR** – Pepacton Res, DELA; **SkaL** – Skaneateles L, CORT; **SusR** – Susquehanna R, BROO; **TomakRd** – Tomak Rd, TIOG; **UL** – Upper Lisle, BROO.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: max 250 Johnson City BROO 18 Oct; 129 FMHW 16 Nov.

Brant: max 175 Mead Pd CHEN 18 Oct; 110 DorP 31 Oct.

Cackling Goose: 3 NNMH 30 Sep -5 Oct, ph.

Mute Swan: Susquehanna R Bainbridge CHEN 20 Nov, ph, only rep.

Tundra Swan: max 24 West Creek Rd TIOG 4 Nov.

Surf Scoter: max 3 Susquehanna R Endicott BROO 18 Oct, video.

White-winged Scoter: max 5 PepR 29 Nov.

Black Scoter: max 7 Plymouth Res CHEN Oct 19.

Long-tailed Duck: max 5 PepR 16 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: max 30 OtsL 29 Nov.

Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser: Mead Pd CHEN 9-16 Nov, (ph, mob, MD).

Red-breasted Merganser: max 9 DorP 16 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: max 9 DorP 10 Oct.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 7 Tully L CORT 20 Oct.

Horned Grebe: max 4 DorP 24 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: CannR 27 Oct.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 2 BUNP 8 Sep, only rep.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 3 scattered rep in Sep.

Common Nighthawk: max 22 SusR Johnson City BROO 2 Sep; 15 Binghamton University BROO 3 Sep, most sightings along rivers.

Chimney Swift: last Choconut Center P BROO 14 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last DELA 25 Sep.

RUFOUS/ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD:

CORT 17 Sep-23 Oct, at feeder, despite many photos the ID is still uncertain.

**PHOTO GALLERY
FALL 2019**



Northern Cardinals, private residence, *Albany*, 26 Sep (top) & 6 Oct 2019, © Scott Stoner.



Golden-crowned Sparrow, Brookside CP, *Suffolk*, 15 Nov 2019, © Patty Orgera.



LeConte's Sparrow, Chazy Riverlands, *Clinton*, 25 Oct 2019, © Derek Rogers. First county record.



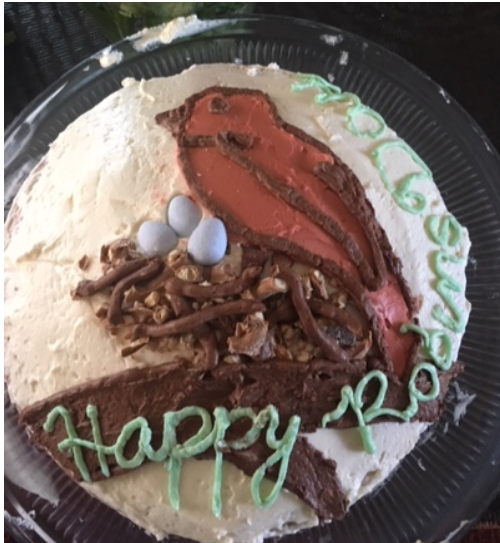
This duck at Mead Pond, *Chenango* was thought to be a hybrid Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser. Left: 9 Nov © Mike DeWispelaere; right: 16 Nov © Jay McGowan.



Iceland Gull, Ossining, *Westchester*, 9 Nov 2019, © Robert H. Lewis.



Red-necked Phalarope, Noblewood Park, *Essex*, 6 Sep 2019, © Derek Rogers.



Top: The Robin's Day collection can used to keep loose change ("the winnings") and record arrival predictions of family members, kept in the Blazey home in Penfield, Monroe County, NY. Drawing by Christy Blazey, age 7. Photo © Jackie Blazey.

Bottom: A Robin's Day cake, baked each year to celebrate the arrival of American Robins at the Blazey home in Penfield, Monroe County, NY. This cake was created by daughter Deb Blazey-Martin & family at her home in Boston, MA. Photo © Deb Blazey-Martin. See article pp. 2-7 in this issue.

RAILS – LARIDS

Virginia Rail: max 4 NNMH 5 Sep.
Common Gallinule: max 7 NNMH CHEN 9 Sep.
American Coot: max 36 OtsL 6 Nov.
Sandhill Crane: max 6 Doing Rd CHEN 27 Sep-23 Oct.
American Golden-Plover: max 2 T New Berlin CHEN 24 Sep; NNMH CHEN 23-25 Sep, ph.
Sanderling: CannR 1 Sep, only rep.
Baird's Sandpiper: SusR Vestal CHEN 11 Sep, ph.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 5 NNMH 8 Oct.
Wilson's Snipe: max 10 NNMH 9 Sep.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: UL 15 Sep, only rep.
Greater Black-backed Gull: LHNC 20 Oct, only rep.
Black Tern: CannR 2 Sep, lone rep.
Common Tern: SusR Vestal 20 Sep; 2 OtsL 6 Nov, ph.
Forster's Tern: SusR 16 Sep, ph, only rep.

LOONS – FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: 2 CannR 16 Nov; 2 TomakRd 29 Nov; PepR 19 Oct; Plymouth Res CHEN 12 Nov, ph.
Common Loon: max 198 TomakRd 29 Nov, flyover (AT); 92 TomakRD 3 Nov, flyover; 9 PepR 19 Oct.
Great Egret: max 12 William Hill P BROO 14 Sep.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: UL 15 Sep; Creamery Rd Tioga 27 Sep; LHNC 2 Oct.
NOTE: FMHW totals cover 26 August to 5 Jan; averages reflect 2001 to 2018 data, *intro*.
Black Vulture: total 0 FMHW, last year 15. Just 2 rep in Oct from OTSE.
Turkey Vulture: total 928 FMHW, 99% above avg.
Osprey: total 42 FMHW, 62% below avg; 7 TomakRd 15 Sep (AT).
Golden Eagle: total 166 FMHW, 9% below avg; 3 TomakRd 29 Oct & 13 Nov.
Northern Harrier: total 49 FMHW, 20% below avg; 4 TomakRd 29 Sep.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: total 271 FMHW, 46% below avg.
Cooper's Hawk: total 50 FMHW, 46% below avg.
Northern Goshawk: total 5 FMHW, 74% below avg; TomakRd 15 Nov.
Bald Eagle: total 201 FMHW, 20% above avg; many other rep; very widespread.

Red-shouldered Hawk: total 49 FMHW, 2% below avg.
Broad-winged Hawk: total 2422 FMHW, 63% above avg; 1758 TomakRd 15 Sep (AT).
Red-tailed Hawk: total 922 FMHW, 48% below avg; 5 TomakRd 19 Oct; many other rep.
Rough-legged Hawk: total 1 FMHW, 86% below avg.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: Trout Ponds P TIOG 3 Sep; Stupke Pd CORT 4 Nov, mobbed by songbirds.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Cornell Hollow Rd BROO 19 Nov, only rep.
American Kestrel: total 73 FMHW, 25% below avg; 7 TomakRD 29 Sep.
Merlin: total 28 FMHW, 1% above avg.
Peregrine Falcon: total 17 FMHW, 2% above avg; many rep from Binghamton BROO of resident downtown pair.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTINGS

WESTERN KINGBIRD (R4): TomakRd 16 Sep, ph, mob, (AT).
Olive-sided Flycatcher: 8 scattered rep in early to mid Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: AqPk 16 Sep.
SAY'S PHOEBE: TomakRd 11 Oct, well seen, submitted to NYSARC, (AT).
Horned Lark: max 120 Millbrook T P CHEN 16 Nov.
Winter Wren: max 5 Oakley Corners SF TIOG 5 Oct.
Marsh Wren: max 2 MHL 15 Sep; 2 BoPd 20 Oct.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: T Bovina DELA 3 Sep; Chenango Valley State P BROO 14 Sep.
Veery: last Unadilla Boat Launch DELA 30 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: 2 Oxford CHEN (NFC) 25 Sep.
Swainson's Thrush: Johnson City BROO (NFC) 5 Oct.
American Pipit: max 30 Smithville Flats CHEN 23 Oct.
Pine Siskin: max 4 Johnson City BROO 1 Sep, flyover; 2 Endicott BROO 16 Nov, feeder; only reports (97 reports last fall).
Lapland Longspur: Millbrook T P CHEN 16 Nov; only rep.
Snow Bunting: max 6 DorP 23 Nov; 8 other scattered rep in Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS- CARDINALIDS

American Tree Sparrow: max 25 UL 22 Nov.

Clay-colored Sparrow: TomakRd 25 Sep
(AT), only rep.

Vesper Sparrow: max 3 TomakRd 29 Oct-2
Nov; last 2 Sunset Dr CHEN 15 Nov, ph.

Grasshopper Sparrow: TomakRd 23 Sep
(AT), only rep.

Nelson's Sparrow: Brick Pd TIOG 5 Oct
(CW), only rep.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr MHL 15 Sep; last
Robert Nichol Nature P DELA 26 OCT.

Rusty Blackbird: max 5 Anson Rd BROO 3
Nov.

Tennessee Warbler: max 6 LHNC 17 Sep.

Orange-crowned Warbler: 6 rep in late Sep
& Oct, most in BROO.

Connecticut Warbler: MHL 15 Sep, (CW);
UL 22 Sep, (DN).

Mourning Warbler: Beals Pond Rd DELA 1
Sep; TomakRd 20-24 Sep; UL 30 Sep.

Hooded Warbler: SUNY Delhi DELA 5 Sep;
Cannon Hole TIOG 28 Sep.

Cape May Warbler: max 16 Riverview
Cemetery DELA 14 Sep.



REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Fall 2019 kicked off with average precipitation and slightly warmer temperatures for September, 2.3° F higher than normal. October continued the trend at 2.7° warmer, but at 6.88" was twice the average rainfall. Several days near the end of the month delivered over an inch of rain. November was cooler than usual by a substantial 5.2° with only 1.2" of rain, 2.3" below normal. 6.6" of snow was recorded, 2.9" less than our recent average.

The early-fall duck migration was unremarkable, possibly caused by high water levels continuing from summer in our best dabbling duck locales. Sam Hough and Gary Meyers found an early Greater White-fronted Goose near Woodman Pond on 28 September, with Meyers finding three at the same place but on a more typical date of 9 November. Small numbers of early Snow Geese arrived in October and November but no huge flight was reported through the end of the season. Bill Purcell contributed the season's only King Eider while lakewatching from Derby Hill on 12 November. Highlight of the season's waterfowl was unquestionably a gorgeous Harlequin Duck found on 17 November by Kaye Fenlon and Mary Magistro at Oswego Harbor. A breeding adult male, the bird was so bright and bold that many observers wondered aloud if they had ever really seen the plumage before. Birders from throughout the upstate NY area enjoyed it through the 24th.

While hoping for Common Nighthawks during a dusk visit to Three Rivers WMA on 10 September, Gregg Dashnau suddenly heard the loud calling of a Whip-poor-will. The species is rarely reported in fall but Dashnau noted the night as "warm and buggy" and could see the bird's silhouette as it hawked insects. Chimney Swifts are not so optimistic about the food supply and leave our area in late summer. Only nine reports from early September were submitted. Several late

Common Gallinules were spotted nearly a month after the previous sightings. While birding Sandy Pond on 25 November, Matt Brown had the good fortune to see 30 Sandhill Cranes passing over. Lightning struck twice for Brown who later saw the same flock passing the Pine Grove Road boat launch at Selkirk Shores. Robert Williams reported nine from the Skaneateles Falls area on 11 November and Sam Hough contributed two from the Lakeport turf farm on 22 September. Are they nesting in northern Madison County?

The fall shorebird season was poor in our Region, with very high water levels continuing on Lake Ontario and Onondaga Lake. Buff-breasted Sandpiper was found at Ditch Bank Road on 2 September by Drew Weber, but did not linger, while Chris Wood observed a Whimbrel passing Fair Haven on the 14th. Matt Brown found a Hudsonian Godwit at Sandy Pond on 6 September. Meanwhile, Gary Meyers reported Long-billed Dowitcher from the Madison Street Impoundment in Hamilton throughout September. While kayaking the south end of Onondaga Lake, Ronda Roaring found a small mud flat with five Long-billed on 8 October. Deborah Dohne saw three flying by the Nine Mile Creek outlet on the 11th. Although Montezuma enjoys good numbers, Long-billed Dowitcher is rare for Region 5. While lakewatching from Derby Hill on 1 November, observers were treated to an excellent shorebird flight along the lakeshore. Dominated by Dunlin, 1482 birds flew by in flocks ranging from 5-50 birds. 17 Black-bellied Plover were also seen, plus a few Sanderlings and two Greater Yellowlegs. This day was also the best day of a bad lakewatch season, with a Little Gull and 6-8 Parasitic Jaegers seen. At Fair Haven on 10 November, Deborah Dohne had a close encounter with the species as it worked its way along the interior breakwall. Black-legged Kittiwake was missed altogether, but what would December bring?

The east end of Oneida Lake hosts huge numbers of gulls every year during the October-November time frame, and this year was no exception. David Wheeler kept track of the chaos and thought there might be 5000 gulls in the four mile stretch from south bay to north bay. While going gull-by-gull through the Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls that populate the rocky breakwalls, Wheeler found an immature **Great Cormorant** on 24 October. It stayed for three more days. Derby Hill failed to produce any big gull flights, at least during the few days appropriate for observing. Matt Brown contributed the season's only Forster's Tern on 26 October from Sandy Pond. A **White Pelican** found in Fulton was taken into rehab by Jean Soprano on 27 September. While birding the west shore trail at Onondaga Lake, Deborah Dohne found a roosting **Yellow-crowned Night-heron** on 9 October. The immature bird was hard to see, and in an unusual area not historically associated with the lake's few BCNH. Showing great patience, Dohne eventually got good photographs and the bird was seen intermittently over the next few days.

The Bishop Road Hawk Watch near Pulaski produced typical numbers of migrating hawks, including a Golden Eagle on 19 October. Mickey Scilingo reported a bird flying by Derby Hill on 1 September, and added two more from the north shore of Oneida Lake on 6 November. Kaye Fenlon photographed one

in Marcellus on 10 November, while Gregg Dashnau described long scope views at Onondaga Lake on 11 November. Still another was reported from Canastota on 17 November, rounding out a good fall season for the species. Karl Curtis found two **Black Vulture** on 10 October at the Jamesville spot familiar for winter Turkey Vultures, and added a single on 18 November. Deborah Dohne lucked out at Onondaga Lake on 25 September when she saw a Red-headed Woodpecker migrating with Blue Jays, a sight familiar from Derby Hill in May when the woodpecker can be surprisingly inconspicuous passing during a big jay flight. While checking for the Yellow-crowned Night-heron at Onondaga Lake on 15 October, Dohne found a **White-eyed Vireo** amidst a flock of mostly Golden-crowned Kinglets. As expected, the birds left on favorable overnight winds.

Always unusual in fall, a Sedge Wren was seen by Bill Purcell and Matt Brown on 19-20 September at Sandy Island Beach. American Pipits were reported between 4 September and 14 November with an excellent count of 35 tallied on 26 October in Verona. No irruption of Pine Siskin occurred in October and only one report was filed, four birds on 10 October, possibly local nesters in the Dolgeville area. Fall's only Common Redpolls were seen by Deborah Dohne at Oakwood Cemetery on 13 November following a strong cold front. Dohne noted the temperature that morning at 15° F, very cold for the date. Would this be an irruption year for redpolls? Earlier in the season, Dohne caught up with a molting juvenile Clay-colored x Chipping Sparrow hybrid on 6 September, presumably one of the birds hatched nearby in July (refer to Deborah's article and the Summer report in the previous issue of *The Kingbird* for more details). Always scarce in Region 5, a single Lapland Longspur was seen in the Baldwinsville area between 11 and 14 November. Back at Onondaga Lake a small drainage basin in the State Fair upper parking lot produced sparrows on 12-13 October, most notably a **Nelson's Sparrow** seen and heard calling by Dohne and Gregg Dashnau. The species is reported less than annually in Region 5.

An excellent count of 648 Bobolinks were observed flying in to roost in goldenrod at Three Rivers WMA on 5 September, while a spot in Baldwinsville birded by Joe Brin and Renee Kittleman hosted a very late single on 19 October. Along Oneida Lake's north shore in Constantia, Mickey Scilingo intercepted several strong flights of blackbirds and grackles. 1500 Rusties and 40,000 Common Grackles were estimated on 24 October, and 80,000 blackbird species in mixed flocks on 30 October. In Rome, Bruce Carpenter estimated 200,000 birds on 1 November, writing in his field notes that the flock was "as wide as a football field and went on for two minutes." Flights of this magnitude are possible at Clay Marsh during the same time frame, but David Wheeler notes it was not covered this year.

Fall warbler migration was unexceptional overall this year. Kevin McGann found a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in Baldwinsville on 5 September while several species lingered later than usual. Mickey Scilingo spotted a Tennessee while birding Deer Creek marsh on 20 October, and a very late Nashville was seen at Van Buren Park by Gregg Dashnau on 13 November. The cattails along

Onondaga Lake's west shore again produced a late Common Yellowthroat for Deborah Dohne on 17 November. A single report of Prairie Warbler came from Constantia on 26 September and Orange-crowned was represented at the usual locations.

This season a total of 236 species and two hybrids was reported, which is one above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights of the season included: Greater White-fronted Goose, King Eider, Harlequin Duck, Sandhill Crane, Whimbrel, **Hudsonian Godwit**, **Long-billed Dowitcher**, Little Gull, Forster's Tern, **Great Cormorant**, **American White Pelican**, **Yellow-crowned Night Heron**, **Black Vulture**, **White-eyed Vireo**, Sedge Wren, Clay-colored x Chipping Sparrow (hybrid), **Nelson's Sparrow**, and **Yellow-throated Warbler**.

Fall 2019 produced 45,198 eBird records for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v5.1. Reports were contributed by 313 people.

CONTRIBUTORS

Dennis Anderson, Sue Boettger, David Bohrer (DB), Carla Bregman, Joseph Brin (JB), Matthew Brown (MB), Ken & Rose Burdick, Andrea Burke, Mark Burns, Bruce Carpenter (BrC), Bernie Carr, Jerry Case, David Cesari, Richard Cohen, Karl Curtis (KC), Jim D'Angelo, Gregg Dashnau (GD), Amanda Dillon (AD), Rose DeNeve, Deborah Dohne (DD), Sarah Dzielski (SD), Jane Fagerland, Kaye Fenlon (KF), Elizabeth Frascatore (EF), Bill Gruenbaum, Barbara & Larry Hall, Tyler Hodges, Sam Hough (SH), Gene Huggins, Molly Jacobson (MJ), Timothy Johnston, Renee Kittleman (RK), Alison Kocek, Gary Lee, Fred Leff (FL), Jason Luscier, Mary Magistro (MM), Kevin McGann (KM), Jay McGowan, Tom McKay, Gary Meyers (GM), John Moore, David Nash, Scott Peterson, Matt Perry, Bill Purcell (BP), Paul Richardson, Ronda Roaring (RR), Linda Salter, Steve Schwab, Mickey Scilingo (MS), Ida Sheppard, Tony Shrimpton, Gerald Smith, Jean Soprano (JS), Judy Thurber, Matt Voelker (MV), Drew Weber (DWe), Tom Weickert, Terry White, David Wheeler (DWh), Robert Whitman, Robert G. Williams III (RWi), Chris Wood (CW), Judy Wright.

ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **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; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego Ri, Indian Pt, L Neatahwanta; **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HF** – Highland Forest Co P; **HI** – Howland I WMA, CAYU; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area;

LOnt – L Ontario; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison Co. Landfill; **MexPt** – Mexico Pt SP; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Road Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L & Onondaga L P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **Ppt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson Ri P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skani** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TNP** – Tuscarora Nature P, MADI; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WATERFOWL-HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr WP 25 Sep; max 300 Rome.
Greater White-fronted Goose: WP 28 Sep (GM, SH, ph); 3 WP 9 Nov (GM).
Brant: arr 46 OswH 4 Oct; 805 OswH 1 Nov; max 1164 DH 1 Nov.
Cackling Goose: arr WP 27 Sep (GM); max 3 OswH 25 Nov (FL).
Canada Goose: max 5000 Fult 19 Nov (BP).
Mute Swan: max 50 FH 19 Nov; small nums elsewhere.
Trumpeter Swan: 7 TR 11 Oct; 4 FH 20 Oct.
Tundra Swan: arr SP 8 Oct; max 320 Const 11 Nov.
Wood Duck: max 43 UM 2 Oct; peak early Oct; small nums thru.
Blue-winged Teal: max 8 OnonL 29 Sep; last TR 15 Oct.
Northern Shoveler: max 9 WP 4 Nov.
Gadwall: arr 5 OnonL 29 Sep; max 28 OnonL 24 Nov.
Eurasian Wigeon: no reps.
American Wigeon: arr 3 FH 15 Sep; max 120 DH 1 Nov.
Mallard: 220 OswH 26 Oct; max 233 WP 18 Nov.
American Black Duck: 64 WP 16 Nov; 66 DH 1 Nov; 70 DH 12 Nov; 100 BLNC 13 Nov.
Northern Pintail: 1245 DH 17 Oct; 2336 DH 1 Nov (BP).
Green-winged Teal: max 52 WP; best counts all WP
Canvasback: arr 12 Oct Little Falls; max 2 PPT 6 Nov.

Redhead: arr 3 PPT 6 Nov; max 50 OnonL 19, 30 Nov.
Ring-necked Duck: arr FH 16 Sep; max 850 WP 18 Nov; good nums WP thru Nov.
Greater Scaup: arr FH 15 Sep; max 800 OneiL 30 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: arr FH 16 Sep; max 214 PPT 30 Oct.
King Eider: DH 12 Nov (BP), only rep.
Harlequin Duck: OswH 17-24 Nov (KF, MM, ph).
Surf Scoter: arr OswH 18 Oct; max 20 PPT 30 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: arr OswH 4 Oct; 214 OswH 18 Oct; 296 Port Ontario 18 Oct.
Black Scoter: arr 2 DH 1 Nov; 10 DH 3 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: arr 9 Port Ontario 18 Oct; max 300 OswH 23 Nov.
Bufflehead: arr WP 18 Nov; 61 SSSP 30 Nov; max 65 SVB 26 Oct.
Common Goldeneye: arr FH, DH 1 Nov; max 75 OneiL.
Hooded Merganser: 120 Cazenovia 18 Nov; 167 SP 18 Nov; 173 BLNC 10 Nov; 270 Bradley Brook Res (GM), good nums on SH lakes.
Common Merganser: 300 SVB 5 Oct; 300 Fult 18 Nov; max 450 Fult; 19-28 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: small nums LOnt Sep-Oct; 100-250 DH, OswH thru Nov.
Ruddy Duck: arr WP 18 Oct; 36 Marietta 10 Nov; max 64 Marietta 27 Oct.
Ring-necked Pheasant: max 4 TR 19 Oct.
Ruffed Grouse: max 4 Lafayette 23 Nov.
Wild Turkey: max 35 Oneida 23 Nov.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 16 OnonL 2 Nov.
Horned Grebe: arr 3 UM 15 Oct; max 8 DH 1 Nov, FH 3 Nov, OswH 23 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr 2 SSSP 12 Oct; 4 OnonL 28 Oct & 29 Nov; max 5 Port Ontario 18 Oct.
Rock Pigeon: max 300 Bville 18 Sep.
Mourning Dove: 84 DB 2 Sep.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: OakC 28 Sep (DD); Liverpool 5 Oct (DB); late dates.
Black-billed Cuckoo: no reps.
Common Nighthawk: max 3 Pulaski 2 Sep (MB); last 2 Syr 19 Sep (DD).
Eastern Whip-poor-will: TR 10 Sep (GD), rare in fall.
Chimney Swift: max & last 10 Syr 12 Sep; few sightings, low nums.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 5 SFNS 12 Sep; last 2 Marcellus 5 Oct.

RAILS-LARIDS

Virginia Rail: max 4 HI 7 Sep; last TR 5 Oct; few reps.
Sora: HI 1 Sep; MSI 2, 8 Sep & last 14 Sep; only reps.
Common Gallinule: max 20 OnonL 12 Sep; OnonL 28 Oct & 24 Nov; last Earlville 30 Nov, late.
American Coot: 14 WP 11 Nov; max 33 OnonL 6 Nov; good nums OnonL & WP thru Nov.
Sandhill Crane: 2 HI 7 & 21 Sep (MJ); 2 Cato 8 Sep (AD); 2 SHTF 22 Sep (SH); 9 Skan Falls 11 Nov (RWi); max 30 SSSP & SP 25 Nov (MB).
Black-bellied Plover: arr FH 14 Sep; SP 8, 18, 19 Oct; max 17 DH 1 Nov (BP); only reps.
American Golden-Plover: 2 SHTF 7 Sep, only rep.
Semipalmated Plover: max 5 Kirkville 6 Sep; last OSP 26 Sep.
Killdeer: max 61 Bville.
Upland Sandpiper: no reps.
Whimbrel: FH 14 Sep (CW), only rep.
Hudsonian Godwit: SP 6 Oct (MB), only rep.
Ruddy Turnstone: 4 OswH 2 Sep; OswH 4 Sep, only reps.
Red Knot: no reps.
Stilt Sandpiper: no reps.
Sanderling: 15 DH 4 Sep; max 16 SP 15 Sep; 10 DH 1 Nov.
Dunlin: arr 8 Oct SP; max 1482 DH 1 Nov, massive flight; last DH 6 Nov.
Purple Sandpiper: no reps.
Baird's Sandpiper: no reps.

Least Sandpiper: max 9 MSI 7 Sep; last 4 MSI 22 Sep.
White-rumped Sandpiper: no reps.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: DB 2 Sep (DWe, BP), only rep.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 3 MSI 14 Sep; last Marcellus 5 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 3 MSI 3 Sep; last OnonL 29 Sep; very few reps.
Short-billed Dowitcher: no reps.
Long-billed Dowitcher: MSI 4-25 Sep (SH, GM); 3 OnonL 11 Oct (DD); 5 OnonL 8 Oct (RR); rare to very rare in Reg, esp multiples.
American Woodcock: max 2 TR 6 Sep-1 Oct; last WP 4 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: max 2 MSI 8 Sep; last Skaneateles 5 Oct.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 2 several locs Sep; last OnonL 13 Oct
Solitary Sandpiper: max 4 several locs Sep; last Mindenville HERK 21 Oct.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 34 Marcellus 5 Oct; last WP 22 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 8 OnonL 2 Oct; last 2 OnonL 3 Nov.
Wilson's Phalarope: no reps.
Red-necked Phalarope: no reps.
Red Phalarope: no reps.
Pomarine Jaeger: no reps.
Parasitic Jaeger: DH 17 Oct (MB); 8 DH 1 Nov (BP, DWh, MB); FH 10 Nov (DD).
Black-legged Kittiwake: no reps.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 350 SVB 25 Oct; typ nums at usual locs.
Little Gull: DH 1 Nov (BP, DWh); 2 DH 22 Nov (BP, DWh); only reps.
Ring-billed Gull: max est 2000-3000 SVB 25-26 Oct; typ nums at usual locs.
Herring Gull: 620 MCL 30 Nov; 800 SVB 25 Oct; no big flights in period at DH lakewatch.
Iceland Gull: arr Const 6 Nov (MS); a few singles rep at typ locs.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 4 SVB 25 Oct, incl 2 juv (DWh, ph); singles typ locs thru.
Glaucous Gull: arr OswH 22 Nov (DWh, GD); SP 30 Nov (MB); only reps.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 55 SVB 25 Oct; typ nums at usual locs.
Caspian Tern: max 34 SP 3 Sep; last OnonL 29 Sep.
Black Tern: SVB 2 Sep; only rep.
Common Tern: max 60 SVB 2 Sep; last SP 8 Oct; lower nums and earlier departure from OneiL.
Forster's Tern: SP 26 Oct (MB); only rep.

LOONS-FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: arr DH 1 Nov; max 31 OnonL 29 Nov (GD).
Common Loon: max 50 DH 22 Nov; best nums late Oct-mid Nov.
Double-crested Cormorant: max est 2000 SP 18 Oct, big flight (MB).
GREAT CORMORANT: SVB 24-27 Oct (DWh, ph); 1st Reg rec away from LOnt shore.
American White Pelican: Fult 27 Sep, taken to rehab (JS).
American Bittern: Clay 3 Sep; Fult 4 Sep; only reps.
Least Bittern: 2 HI 1 Sep; HI 6-7 Sep; only reps.
Great Blue Heron: max 12 OSP 29 Sep.
Great Egret: 11 OnonL 2 Oct (DD) max 13 WP 3 Sep & MSI 17, 22 Sep (GM); last 2 WP 28 Oct.
Green Heron: max 5 MSI 14 Sep; last SP 19 Oct (MB).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: TR 5 Sep; Fayetteville 21 Oct; Van Buren P 24 Nov, late & unusual loc (GD); only reps.
YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: juv OnonL west shore 9-12 Oct (DD!), ph, mob) found roosting, interesting loc.
Black Vulture: 2 Jamesville 10 Oct (KC); Jamesville 18 Nov (KC); only reps.
Turkey Vulture: max 678 BRH 26 Oct; good nums BRH Oct and DB Sep.
Osprey: max 7 BRH 29 Sep; last WP 21 Oct.
Golden Eagle: DH 1 Sep (MS), early; BRH 19 Oct (MB); 2 Const 6 Nov (MS); Marcellus 10 Nov (KF, ph); OnonL 11 Nov (GD), unusual loc; Canastota 17 Nov (KM, MV).
Northern Harrier: max 5 BRH 26 Oct.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 8 BRH 29 Oct.
Cooper's Hawk: max 4 Fayetteville 14 Sep, family group.
Northern Goshawk: no reps.
Bald Eagle: max 11 Pulaski 3 Sep & BRH 29 Sep.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 8 reps of singles scattered thru period; no real flight at BRH.
Broad-winged Hawk: 183 BRH 12 Sep; max 272 TSullivan 13 Sep; last TR 30 Sep.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 149 BRH 26 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr & max 4 BRH 26 Oct; 11 other reps, mostly 2nd half of Nov.
Eastern Screech-Owl: max 4 HI 1 Sep.
Great Horned Owl: max 5 HI 7 Sep.
Barred Owl: max 3 Pulaski 17 Sep.
Long-eared Owl: No reps.
Short-eared Owl: No reps.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: No reps.

Belted Kingfisher: max 6 SNC 22 Sep.
Red-headed Woodpecker: OLC 25 Sep (DD), unusual loc; SP 9, 14 Sep unusual loc; SVB & FH thru period, known breeding locs; only reps.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 4 TR 30 Sep.
Black-backed Woodpecker: no reps.
Downy Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & Reg.
Hairy Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & Reg.
Northern Flicker: 14 OakC 3 Oct; max 15 RRP 22 Sep; best nums Sep, singles thru.
Pileated Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & Reg.
American Kestrel: max 8 BRH 12 Sep; family groups Sep, singles thru.
Merlin: pairs at 4 locs Sep, singles thru.
Peregrine Falcon: pair OswH Oct; singles various locs thru.

FLYCATCHERS-SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 HI 7 Sep; last Lakeport 11 Sep.
Eastern Kingbird: max 3 Waterville 4 Sep; last SP 15 Sep; 5 other reps early Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: singles in Sep; last 2 GLSP 26 Sep.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 16 HI 1 Sep; last SP 14 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 2 TR 13 Sep; last Pulaski 22 Sep.
Acadian Flycatcher: no reps.
Alder Flycatcher: no reps.
Willow Flycatcher: 4 reports early Sep.
Alder/Willow Flycatcher: 6 reports Sep.
Least Flycatcher: max 5 SFNS 7 Sep; last Hamilton 25 Sep.
empidonax sp: small nums reported Sep; last OakC 1 Oct.
Eastern Phoebe: 6 OnonL 19 Oct, max 7 Barneveld 19 Sep; last OnonL, SVB 28 Oct.
Northern Shrike: arr SVB 26 Oct (DD); 12 recs various locs thru.
WHITE-EYED VIREO: OnonL west shore 15 Oct (DD!), ph, mob).
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 4 HI 7 Sep; last TNP 1 Oct.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 FH 9 Oct; TR 7 Nov; last Bville 9 Nov.
Philadelphia Vireo: 4 LH 21 Sep (DD); max 6 LH 21 Sep (CW), excellent num; last OSP 29 Sep (SD).

Warbling Vireo: max 9 WP 11 Sep; last RRP 22 Sep.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 9 SFNS 19 Sep; last HV 18 Oct.

Canada Jay: no reps.

Blue Jay: max 58 Const 26 Sep; no big flight along Oneil this period.

American Crow: 1560 BRH (BP), migrating; max 6900 OakC 24 Nov (DD), eve roost flight.

Fish Crow: T Salina 2 Oct (DWh), unusual loc; max 4 OnonL 21 Nov; reps from known locs incl Bville & Inner Harbor.

Common Raven: 9 DH 10 Sep; max 10 OswH 18 Oct; many reps thru.

Horned Lark: max 100 Bville 12 Nov; small flocks at typ locs thru.

Purple Martin: max & last 8 MSI 10 Sep; 4 other reps.

Tree Swallow: max 400 5 Oct; typ nums & locs thru mid Oct; last OnonL 2 Nov (GD).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 10 HI 7 Sep; last 4 HI 5 Oct; 2 other reps.

Bank Swallow: max 7 HI 1 Sep; last 4 HI 7 Sep; 6 other reps.

Cliff Swallow: no reps.

Barn Swallow: max 31 Fairfield 1 Sep; typ nums & locs; last 3 SSSP 15 Sep.

Black-capped Chickadee: typ nums throughout period & Reg.

Boreal Chickadee: no reps.

Tufted Titmouse: typ nums throughout period & Reg.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 10 Little Falls 15 Nov; typ nums & locs thru, no big movement.

White-breasted Nuthatch: typ nums throughout period & Reg.

Brown Creeper: 4 FH 5 Oct; max 7 TR 7 Nov; small nums thru.

House Wren: max 12 TR 27 Sep; last Lake Julia & Dolge 23 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 7 OSP 12 Oct; small nums thru.

Sedge Wren: SP 19-20 Sep (BP, MB), very rare in fall.

Marsh Wren: max 3 HI 1 Sep-5 Oct; last West Monroe 26 Oct.

Carolina Wren: typ nums throughout period & Reg.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 4 HI 1 Sep; last RRP 19 Sep.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 25 TR 4 Nov; typ nums thru.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr DeRuyter 2 Sep; max 26 OSP 12 Oct; last OnonL 24 Nov.

Eastern Bluebird: 34 Const (MS) 6 Nov; max 74 Const 9 Nov (MS), migrating.

Veery: max 27 HI 7 Sep, NFC; last LH 18 Sep; 6 other reps small nums.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr HI 7 Sep NFC; RRP 18 Sep; Kirkland 25 Sep; last TR 28 Sep; only reps.

Swainson's Thrush: max 14 HI 7 Sep NFC; last SP 13 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 9 HV 18 Oct; last OnonL 14 Nov.

Wood Thrush: max 16 HI 7 Sep NFC; SFNS 14 Oct; last Fayetteville 21 Oct, late.

American Robin: max 1662 Const 9 Nov (MS), migrating.

Gray Catbird: max 27 TR 27 Sep; last Fayetteville 18 Nov, late.

Brown Thrasher: max 8 SFNS 19 Sep; last Liverpool 17 Oct.

Northern Mockingbird: MSI 17 Sep (GM), unusual loc; max 5 Warners 8 Sep; all other reps ONON, mostly absent east part of Reg.

European Starling: max 2000 Cicero 14 Sep.

Cedar Waxwing: max 45 WP 5 Oct.

House Sparrow: typ nums throughout period & Reg.

American Pipit: arr OswH 4 Sep; max 35 Verona 26 Oct; last BRH 14 Nov.

Evening Grosbeak: no reps.

House Finch: typ nums throughout period & Reg.

Purple Finch: max 11 Dolge 1 Sep; most recs typ locs, no sign of widespread movement.

Common Redpoll: 7 OakC 13 Nov (DD); only rep.

Red Crossbill: no reps.

White-winged Crossbill: no reps.

Pine Siskin: 4 Dolge 10 Oct (EF); only report, no sign of irruption.

American Goldfinch: 145 Const 26 Oct; max 220 Dolge 7 Oct; nums thru Reg & period.

Lapland Longspur: no reps.

Snow Bunting: arr SP 26 Oct; max 150 BRH 14 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 8 TR 11 Oct; last Manlius 3 Nov.

American Tree Sparrow: arr 4 Marietta 27 Oct; max 38 DB 30 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: max 36 OakC 28 Sep; small nums continue into late Nov at feeders.

Chipping x Clay-colored Sparrow (hybrid): OakC 6 Sep, molting juv known to have hatched at loc, *intro*.

Field Sparrow: max 12 OnonL 27 Oct; last OnonL 17 Nov.
Vesper Sparrow: 3 DB 26 Oct & BRH 10 Nov; max 4 Durhamville 19 Oct; last Bville 14 Nov.
Savannah Sparrow: max 10 Bville 19 Oct; last Dolge 12 Nov.
Grasshopper Sparrow: no reps.
NELSON'S SPARROW: OnonL west shore 12-13 Oct (DD, GD), seen & heard call, *intro*.
Fox Sparrow: arr BLNC 23 Oct; max 7 Const 15 Nov; last OnonL 27 Nov.
Song Sparrow: 60 TR 27 Sep & 12 Oct; max 94 OnonL 19 Oct, good num; nums thru reg and period.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr HI 7 Sep; max 7 TR 2 Oct (GD), good num; last Little Falls 21 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: max 28 TR 10 Oct; last TR 25 Nov.
White-throated Sparrow: max 68 OSP 12 Oct; nums thru Reg and period.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr Dolge 20 Sep; max 19 TR 2 Oct; last 3 DB 30 Nov.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 53 Const 12 Nov; nums thru Reg and period.
Bobolink: 45 HI 7 Sep; max 648 TR 5 Sep (GD), roost flight, *intro*; 7 TR 5 Oct; last Bville 19 Oct (JB, RK), very late.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 11 BRH 2 Oct (MB); last 3 Caughdenoy 15 Nov (BP).
Orchard Oriole: no reps.
Baltimore Oriole: max 2 HI 1 Sep; last 15 Sep.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 5000 Bville 11 Nov, but see blackbird sp below; nums thru Reg and period.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 220 Mexico 28 Oct (BP); nums thru Reg and period.
Rusty Blackbird: 87 DB 30 Sep; max 1500 Const 24 Oct (MS), migrating; last 7 WP 23 Nov.
Common Grackle: est 12000 Bville 11 Nov (GD); 14520 Hastings 26 Oct (BP); 40000 Const 24 Oct (MS), max 45000 Const 30 Oct (MS), migrating.
Blackbird sp: est 40000 Const 30 Oct (MS); est 200000 Rome 1 Nov (BrC), presumed mostly Red-winged and Grackle, *intro*; no coverage this fall at Clay Marsh (DWh).
Ovenbird: max 3 SFNS 15 Sep; last 2 TR 29 Sep.
Louisiana Waterthrush: no reps.
Northern Waterthrush: 2 SSSP 15 Sep, only rep.
Golden-winged Warbler: no reps.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 3 HI 1 Sep; last Pompey 17 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 3 HI 1 Sep; last Liverpool 2 Oct.
Prothonotary Warbler: no reps.
Tennessee Warbler: max 7 Hastings 14 Sep; 2 Fabius 10 Oct; last DC 20 Oct (MS), late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr GB 4 Oct; last OnonL 18 Nov (DD); 8 reps total, all singles.
Nashville Warbler: max 5 SFNS 22 Sep; last Van Buren 13 Nov (GD), very late; small nums to mid Oct.
Mourning Warbler: SFNS 3 Sep; FH 15 Sep; OakC 16 Sep; TNP 19 Sep; only reps.
Common Yellowthroat: max 15 HI 7 Sep; 2 OLC 2 Nov (DD); last OnonL 17 Nov (DD); small nums to mid Oct.
Hooded Warbler: last SFNS 19 Sep; 6 total reports, all singles.
American Redstart: max 6 HI 1 Sep; SBP, Const 4 Oct; last Waterville 9 Oct, late; small nums thru late Sep.
Cape May Warbler: arr HI 1 Sep; max 7 OSP 29 Sep; last WP 5 Oct; main movement mid-late Sep.
Cerulean Warbler: HI 1 Sep; only rep.
Northern Parula: max 4 OakC 16 Sep; last Fabius 10 Oct; main movement mid-late Sep.
Magnolia Warbler: 10 TNP 9 Sep; last OSP 12 Oct; main movement mid-late Sep.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr HI 1 Sep; max 7 MexPt 14 Sep; last OakC 3 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 3 MexPt & TR 14 Sep; last Bald Mt ADK 5 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: max 4 FH 1 Sep; last OSP 23 Sep; 10 other reps early Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 5 HI 7 Sep & TNP 9 Sep; last GB 4 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr HI 7 Sep; max 5 SFNS 18 Sep; last Dolge 17 Oct; small nums to early Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 2 var locs mid-late Sep; last Fabius 10 Oct.
Palm Warbler: max 21 OnonL 29 Sep (GD), good num; last Waterville 12 Nov; main movement late Sep-mid Oct.
Pine Warbler: max 3 SSSP 15 Sep & Const 25 Sep; last Cazenovia 19 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 49 OSP 14 Oct (SD); small nums thru but main movement mid-Oct.
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: Bville 5 Sep (KM).
Prairie Warbler: Const 26 Sep (MS); only rep.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 12 OSP 29 Sep (SD); last Rome 12 Oct; main movement to early Oct.

Canada Warbler: last RRP 19 Sep; 10 other reps of singles.

Wilson's Warbler: max 2 var locs, all mid Sep; last TR 30 Sep.

Scarlet Tanager: max 3 FH 15 Sep; last RCFS 3 Oct.

Northern Cardinal: typ nums throughout period & Reg.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 12 DB 2 Sep, good num; last Dolge 6 Oct; main movement to late Sep.

Indigo Bunting: max 6 HI 1 Sep; last OnonL 5 Oct; main movement mid Sep.



REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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Watertown's mean monthly temperature for September was 59.6° F, almost exactly the long term mean for the month, and the 3.35" of precipitation that fell was within 0.4" of normal. October's mean temperature was 2.5° above normal, which wasn't as exceptional as the 7.8" of rain Watertown received, which was 4.2" above normal. November was much drier, with about half of normal precipitation, but was also very cold with a mean temperature of 32.0°, or 6.3° below normal. The arrival of cold weather was unusually abrupt this fall, when after a week-and-a-half of nights with low temperatures in the 20s and 30s, the mercury dropped to 8° on 12 November and -7° on 13 November, the latter a whopping 31° colder than average for the date. Below normal temperatures lasted the rest of the month, although there was only one additional night below zero.

A relatively warm October may have contributed to the presence of some passerines for a week or two after typical departure dates, but the sudden and extreme cold snap in mid-November surely had a dramatic impact on birds. Nearly all still water in the Region iced over early and virtually overnight, pushing waterfowl and waterbirds out of places where they often linger to late November or early December. Overall bird abundance seemed lower than usual during the latter half of November, especially for waterfowl and water birds.

For yet another autumn hardly any Snow Geese were reported passing through Region 6, and waterfowl numbers were generally unexceptional. For only the second year in the last decade no Eurasian Wigeon were reported, despite the presence of higher than usual wigeon numbers at Wilson Hill WMA, where Eurasian Wigeon is nearly annual. Scaup numbers were especially low, and the rafts of multiple thousands of mostly Greater Scaup that typically congregate in Black River Bay during the fall went unreported. Numbers of many water birds seemed uncharacteristically low, for instance maximum loon counts at several traditional gathering sites were much less than half of normal. One exception was

Horned Grebe, with a high count of **259** off El Dorado on 21 October, far more than is reported most seasons in Region 6.

Continuing very high water on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, and the lack of any lowered pools at the Region's Wildlife Management Areas, resulted in even fewer shorebirds than usual. Shorebirds were scarce even when extensive shorebird habitat was available, such as along the St. Lawrence River between the Iroquois and Moses-Saunders dams during periods of low water in September and October. Despite this general scarcity there were a few notable sightings, highlighted by a Regionally rare **Purple Sandpiper** at El Dorado on 25 October and three Red Phalaropes off Montario Point 2 November. A group of 14 American Golden-Plover Matthew Brown found at Lakeview WMA on 5 October was another highlight.

Certainly the most unusual bird of the fall was a **Black-headed Gull** Steve Kelling saw off Tibbetts Point on 4 November. Parasitic Jaegers were at El Dorado on 18 October and Sacketts Harbor on 1 November. Presumably jaegers occur in Region 6 more frequently than sparse records suggest, but are missed because few observers spend any time watching Lake Ontario in Jefferson County. Black Terns are rare anywhere in Region 6 after August, and sightings at Upper and Lower Lakes on 2 September and along the Black River in the town of Rutland on 3 November seem to be the first documented reports for the fall season since the 1980s, although this could well be a function of poor reporting rather than an absence of terns.

In terms of volume the songbird flight seemed about average to slightly below average, with a fairly steady but generally low volume passage of birds. All of the expected passerines were reported, mostly in low to average numbers, although a few species of boreal wood-warbler seemed a bit more common than usual, including Tennessee, Cape May, and Bay-breasted Warblers. Numbers of Philadelphia Vireo and Orange-crowned Warbler, two species that were unusually abundant during the fall of 2018, reverted to normal. Several species seemed to linger later than usual, including a very late Bay-breasted Warbler at Indian Creek Nature Center on 23 October. Late October also saw an unusually heavy sparrow flight, with the season's largest groups of Song Sparrows at a time when this species is usually declining rapidly, and a significant push of Vesper Sparrows.

There was a handful of irruptive finch reports, but overall little sign of a significant irruption. Flocks of Red Crossbills were known to be in the Adirondacks by September, but were only reported twice in southwestern St. Lawrence County and nowhere else in Region 6. Only five Pine Siskin reports and two single Common Redpolls illustrate the general scarcity of finches. Many birders were hoping for an echo of the previous year's terrific Evening Grosbeak flight, but one heard over Fort Drum on 8 October was the season's only report. Bohemian Waxwings also failed to show.

For the season I received reports of 219 species, three species below the average for the previous decade, but well below the record-high 238 species documented during fall 2018. Few species stood out as being particularly unusual,

with Black-headed Gull being the clear stand-out, but as is so often the case none of the season's more unusual birds was seen by anybody other than the original observer.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BI – Barnhart I, T Massena, STLA; **BRB** – Black River Bay; **CCSP** – Coles Creek SP; **CV** – T Cape Vincent; **CWF** – Canton Wastewater Treatment Facility; **ED** – El Dorado Pres, T Ellensburg; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Reservation, JEFF & LEWI; **HH** – Henderson Harbor; **HP** – Hawkins Pt, T Massena; **ICNC** – Indian Creek Nature Center, T Canton, STLA; **JCSP** – Jacques Cartier SP; **JEFF** – Jefferson Co; **LEWI** – Lewis Co; **LPSP** – Long Point SP; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA; **MM** – Massawepie Mire, T Colton & Piercefield, STLA; **MP** – Montario Pt, T Ellensburg; **OEC** – Oswegatchie Education Center, T Croghan; **PilPt** – Pillar Pt, JEFF; **PRWMA** – Perch Ri WMA, JEFF; **PtPen** – Pt Peninsula, T Lyme, JEFF; **RRT** – Remington Recreation Trail, T Canton; **SBSP** – Southwick Beach SP; **SH** – Sackett's Harbor; **SLR** – St. Lawrence Ri; **STLA** – St. Lawrence Co.; **TP** – Tibbetts Pt, T CV; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; **WBSP** – Westcott Beach SP; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA; **WISP** – Wellesley I SP; **WP** – Whalen P, T Louisville.

WATERFOWL-HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: single with Canada Geese WP 29 Sep only report before 19 Oct; max 70 WBSP 29 Nov; only 7 other reports mostly 1-3 each; very poor flight.
Brant: 8 reports between 18 Oct & 4 Nov; max 72 T Canton 2 Nov.
Cackling Goose: 4 Cranberry L T Ellensburg 18 Oct (DW, CW).
Mute Swan: max 12 BRB 1 Sep.
Trumpeter Swan: max 13 ULLWMA 6 Oct.
Tundra Swan: max 220 BRB 29 Nov.
Wood Duck: max 60 ULLWMA 27 Sep; no reports after 30 Oct.

Blue-winged Teal: max 360 PRWMA 14 Sep; last 2 PRWMA 2 Nov.
Northern Shoveler: max 8 WHWMA 14 Oct.
Gadwall: max 52 PRWMA 2 Nov.
American Wigeon: max 950 WHWMA 15 Oct.
Mallard: max 140 WHWMA 21 Sep.
American Black Duck: max 30 WHWMA 9 Nov.
Northern Pintail: max 55 CCSP 3 Nov.
Green-winged Teal: max 187 WHWMA 29 Sep.
Canvasback: WHWMA 9 Nov only report.
Redhead: max 1385 WHWMA 9 Nov.
Ring-necked Duck: max 3740 WHWMA 3 Nov.

Greater Scaup: max 175 LPSP 2 Nov low.
Lesser Scaup: max 35 PRWMA 2 Nov.
Surf Scoter: max 38 TP 3 Nov.
White-winged Scoter: max 18 WBSP 29 Nov.
Black Scoter: max 28 ED 19 Oct.
Long-tailed Duck: max 390 MP 29 Nov.
Bufflehead: widespread arr 19 Oct; max 62 PilPt 30 Nov.
Common Goldeneye: arr WHWMA 6 Oct; max 75 BI 16 Nov & HH 29 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: max 58 SLR T Massena 17 Nov.
Common Merganser: max 55 HP 30 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 140 TP 3 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: WHWMA 29 Sep; ULLWMA 23 Oct; BRB 20 Nov; only reports.
Spruce Grouse: max 4 MM 19 Oct; 3 other reports MM 12 Sep to 8 Dec.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 52 ULLWMA 19 Oct; last ULLWMA 11 Nov.
Horned Grebe: max 259 ED 21 Oct (JB).
Red-necked Grebe: arr OEC 7 Sep; max 5 JCSP 19 & 27 Oct.
Black-billed Cuckoo: last T Croghan 18 Sep.
Common Nighthawk: max 73 FD 3 Sep; last 2 T Canton 13 Sep.
Chimney Swift: last RRT 9 Sep.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last T Pamela 24 Sep.

RAILS-LARIDS

Virginia Rail: ULLWMA 2 Sep only report.
Sora: last 2 ULLWMA 27 Sep.
Common Gallinule: max 25 PRWMA 14 Sep; last 2 LWMA 11 Oct.
American Coot: max 5 PRWMA 19 Oct.
Sandhill Crane: TP 3 Nov only report.
Black-bellied Plover: Clarkson Univ 16 Sep; LWMA 19 Oct; SBSP 28 Oct; only reports.
American Golden-Plover: BI 14 Sep; ULLWMA 27 Sep; max 14 LWMA 5 Oct (MB).
Semipalmated Plover: max 14 BI 14 Sep; last ED 21 Oct.
Killdeer: max 32 T Canton 1 Sep; last SLR T Massena 13 Oct.
Sanderling: max 10 LWMA 8 Oct; only 2 other reports.
Dunlin: singles LPSP 20 Oct & SBSP 2 Nov low.
Purple Sandpiper: ED 25 Oct (JB).
Baird's Sandpiper: WHWMA 11 Oct only report.
Least Sandpiper: max 4 WHWMA 1 Sep; only 4 other reports low.

White-rumped Sandpiper: WHWMA 11 Oct only report.
Pectoral Sandpiper: 4 WHWMA 1 Sep only report; low.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 3 T Canton 1 Sep; only 3 other reports.
American Woodcock: no reports after 1 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: none reported!
Spotted Sandpiper: last 3 CWF 12 Sep.
Solitary Sandpiper: last over Clarkson Univ 16 Sep.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 9 WHWMA 21 Sep; last T Waddington 14 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 4 WP 21 Sep & PRWMA 20 Oct; last LPSP 29 Oct.
Red Phalarope: 3 MP 2 Nov (JB).
Parasitic Jaeger: ED 18 Oct (CW, DW); SHB 1 Nov (GS); only reports.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 31 SBSP 2 Nov.
BLACK-HEADED GULL (R6): TP 4 Nov (SK).
Herring Gull: max 2000 BI 19 Oct.
Iceland Gull: BI 9 Nov (JB) only report.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: SH 2 Nov; HP 16 & 30 Nov; only reports.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 350 HP 30 Nov.
Caspian Tern: last 2 WP 29 Sep.
Black Tern: ULLWMA 2 Sep (JB); last T Rutland 3 Sep (SM); rare after Aug.
Common Tern: last 4 CV 14 Sep.

LOONS-FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: SH 2 Nov; TP 3 Nov;
Common Loon: max 28 BI 19 Oct.
Double-crested Cormorant: max 1800 MP 18 Oct.
American Bittern: last LPSP 20 Oct.
Least Bittern: WP 1 Sep (BD, JB); last heard over OEC 7 Sep (JC).
Great Egret: max 5 WP 7 Sep; last T Canton 22 Sep.
Green Heron: last CV 6 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: CV 8 Sep only report.
Turkey Vulture: max 300 T Ogdensburg 4 Oct.
Osprey: last WHWMA 20 Oct.
Golden Eagle: ad T Massena 9 Nov.
Red-shouldered Hawk: last FD 18 Oct.
Broad-winged Hawk: last Soft Maple Res 22 Sep.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr WBSP 4 Oct.
Eastern Screech-Owl: 4 reports all NW JEFF.

Snowy Owl: arr T Hammond 12 Nov.
Short-eared Owl: 2 T Lowville 12 Nov (MR) only report.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: CV 20 Oct; FD 25 Oct; only reports.
Belted Kingfisher: scarce after 25 Oct.
Red-headed Woodpecker: ED 7 Sep (DD); LPSP 6 & 23 Nov (RB, SK).
Red-bellied Woodpecker: reports from 18 locations; still most common W JEFF but slowly increasing elsewhere.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last Clarkson Univ 29 Oct.
Black-backed Woodpecker: max 2 MM 19 Oct.
Northern Flicker: scarce after 30 Oct.
American Kestrel: scarce away from NW JEFF after late Oct.
Merlin: at least 31 reports from 17 locations.
Peregrine Falcon: LWMA 6 Sep; L Ozonia 19 Sep; WHWMA 6 & 13 Oct; FD 8 Oct; only reports away from downtown Watertown and RMSP where resident.

FLYCATCHERS-SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last RRT 7 Sep.
Eastern Kingbird: last CV & PtPen 8 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: no reports.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: last RRT 29 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last T Croghan 25 Sep.
Alder Flycatcher: last T Croghan 10 Sep.
Willow Flycatcher: last ED & LWMA 7 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: last FD 26 Sep.
Eastern Phoebe: last FD 4 Nov.
Northern Shrike: arr T Hammond 10 Nov; different locations FD 14 & 18 Nov only other reports.
Yellow-throated Vireo: last WISP 22 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: last T Waddington 20 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: last FD 3 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: last FD 24 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: last ICNC 12 Oct.
Canada Jay: max 8 MM 19 Oct & 24 Nov.
Horned Lark: max 50 CV 3 Nov.
Tree Swallow: max 420 ULLWMA 27 Sep; last ED 18 Oct; fewer reports than expected.
Barn Swallow: max 40 LWMA 6 Sep; last T Clayton 7 Sep.
Tufted Titmouse: 9 locations mostly W JEFF.
House Wren: last FD 10 Oct.
Winter Wren: migrants moving by 16 Sep.
Marsh Wren: no reports after 19 Oct.
Carolina Wren: FD 19 Nov only report.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Obvious migrants moving by 29 Sep.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr ED 7 Sep; max 43 FD 15 & 18 Oct; last StPt 29 Nov.
Eastern Bluebird: max 30 FD 15 Oct.
Veery: last LWMA 15 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: FD 24 Sep only report.
Swainson's Thrush: last T Canton 15 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: largely absent after 4 Nov; last T Croghan 30 Nov (MR).
Wood Thrush: last T FD 24 Sep.
American Robin: max 375 FD 30 Oct.
Gray Catbird: last FD 18 Oct.
North Thrasher: last FD 15 Oct.
Northern Mockingbird: T Colton 15 Nov (LD) only report.
Bohemian Waxwing: no reports.
Cedar Waxwing: max 105 FD 24 Sep.
American Pipit: max 14 FD 31 Oct.
Evening Grosbeak: over FD 8 Oct; only report.
House Finch: max 16 SH 26 Nov; few reports away from W JEFF.
Purple Finch: max 26 MM 19 Oct.
Common Redpoll: singles Clarkson Univ 8 Nov & CV 13 Nov only reports.
Red Crossbill: 6 Emporium Easement T Colton 5 Oct (BB); 7 MM 24 Nov (BD); only reports.
Pine Siskin: max 9 MM 19 Oct; singles from 4 other widely scattered locations.
Lapland Longspur: 2 arr FD 18 Oct.
Snow Bunting: arr ED 21 Oct.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: last FD 4 Nov.
American Tree Sparrow: arr T Carthage 25 Oct.
Chipping Sparrow: last T Canton 18 Nov.
Field Sparrow: last FD 31 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: max 46 FD 24 Sep; largely departed FD sandplain grasslands where breed by 23 Oct; up to 14/day FD old hayfield habitat where rare in summer 23-29 Oct; last FD 30 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: last FD 29 Oct.
Fox Sparrow: arr FD 30 Sep; max 13 FD 7 Nov; last T Orleans & T Potsdam 13 Nov.
Song Sparrow: flock 65+ FD 23 Oct high for late Oct; scarce after 7 Nov.
Lincoln's Sparrow: last FD 24 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: largely absent after 31 Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: max 95 FD 15 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: ar FD 23 Sep; max 6 PtPen 5 Oct & T Canton 13 Oct; last FD 29 Oct.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 105 FD 4 Nov.
Bobolink: last heard over RRT 13 Sep.
Eastern Meadowlark: last T Philadelphia 18 Nov.
Baltimore Oriole: last CV 4 Sep.
Red-winged Blackbird: few reports after 15 Nov.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 85 T Henderson 18 Oct.
Rusty Blackbird: arr Grand Lakes Reserve & ULLWMA 22 Sep; max 175 ICNC 5 Oct; last Lonesome Bay SF 10 Nov.
Common Grackle: max 800 WHWMA 19 Oct; no reports after 11 Nov.
Ovenbird: last T Colton 4 Oct.
Northern Waterthrush: last PtPen 14 Sep.
Golden-winged Warbler: last FD 3 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last FD 16 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: last FD 23 Sep.
Tennessee Warbler: last FD 10 Sep.
Orange-crowned Warbler: 2 Alcoa Ponds T Massena 2 Oct; singles FD 3, 10 & 15 Oct; LWMA 11 Oct; only reports; far fewer than fall 2018.
Nashville Warbler: last RRT 15 Oct (JB); late.
Mourning Warbler: last heard over Clarkson Univ 3 Sep.

Common Yellowthroat: last FD 24 Oct.
American Redstart: last FD 30 Sep.
Cape May Warbler: last FD 3 Oct.
Northern Parula: last FD 18 Oct (JB); late.
Magnolia Warbler: last ED 5 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: last ICNC 23 Oct (NP); late
Blackburnian Warbler: last FD 3 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: last Chaumont Bay 14 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last FD 26 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: last FD 3 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last T Waddington 11 Oct.
Palm Warbler: last FD 23 Oct.
Pine Warbler: max 55 FD 4 Oct; last FD 18 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 250 FD 3 Oct; last obvious migrants FD 4 Nov; 3 StPt 29 Nov probable overwintering birds.
Prairie Warbler: 3 Limerick Cedars Pres 8 Sep only report.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last FD 15 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last FD 23 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last FD 24 Sep.
Scarlet Tanager: last Grindstone 1 28 Sep.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: female at T Champion feeder thru Nov (SM) only report after 30 Sep.
Indigo Bunting: last FD 3 Sep.



REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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The below average temperatures of August moderated somewhat in September. Overall they were within a degree of normal for the entire Region save for a cooler pocket which included Lake Placid and Saranac Lake where the temperatures averaged 1-3° below normal. Most of Region 7 received 3-4" of rain. The exceptions were the lower Lake Champlain Valley which was drier and got only 2-3" of rain and two pockets, the Lake Placid/Saranac Lake area and the northwest corner of Franklin County, which had totals of 4-5".

October was an exceptionally wet month. It began normally, but three rain events of 3+ inches between 16 and 31 October changed that dramatically. The first, a bomb cyclone according to the weather service, also produced the season's

first snow on White Face Mountain. The second and third were nearly back to back on 27 and 31 October and also produced snow in the mountains. Most areas of Region 7 averaged 6-7" of precipitation with the western areas of Franklin and Hamilton Counties getting 5-6". The hardest hit areas were the southern portions of Region 7 which got over 7". Rains so heavy and so close together soaked the ground and insured that runoff would be high. This was reflected in a large, abrupt increase in the water level of Lake Champlain (see below). October was significantly warmer than usual with temperatures up to 3° above normal. Only the high peaks were near normal.

In contrast, November was a cold month. The Lake Placid/Saranac Lake area averaged more than 7° below normal. The rest of Region 7 was 5-7° lower except for the southern portion of Hamilton County which was 3-5° shy of normal. Precipitation (liquid equivalent) in the Lake Champlain Valley averaged 3-5" and increased to 5-6" everywhere else but the High Peaks, where 6-7" fell. On 5 November a coastal nor'easter had only a glancing effect on the area's weather. However, a reprise of last year's (16 Nov. 2018) snowstorm on 11 November left 6-8" of snow in the Champlain Valley and more in the mountains. This had the happy result of bringing several species to the roadsides. One observer wrote: "...[T]oday was by far the most Horned Larks and Snow Buntings I have ever seen. Thousands at both Chazy Riverlands and along N. Farm Rd. where [recently harvested] corn littered the edges of the roads. I also saw [Am] Pipits and Lapland Longspurs....".

Until the heavy rains of the second half of October the level of Lake Champlain fluctuated in the narrow range of 94.2' - 94.7', low for this time of year. At this level the mud flats of the Chazy Riverlands were high and dry. As a result shorebird sightings were the exception. However, this improved conditions for shorebirds at Noblewood Park, which provided the bulk of all sightings for Region 7. After the two storms at the end of October the graph of the lake shows a precipitous 1.8' increase in four days to the season's high of 97.6'. It stayed above 97' for all of November.

Observers found **Sandhill Crane** in October at Indian Lake and in Franklin County. Fall was a good season for pelagic species on Lake Champlain with sightings of both **Parasitic** and **Long-tailed Jaegers** on 15 September and **Sabine's Gull** the following day. A single **Great Cormorant** lingered for nearly two weeks in Essex County providing extended opportunities for listers and photographers. A single **Swainson's Hawk** was reported from the Town of Malone and reported to NYSARC, whose decision is pending. **Golden Eagle** was seen in Essex County in October. It was an exceptional season for *ammodramus* sparrows. A very rare **LeConte's Sparrow**, found at the Chazy Riverlands, was only the second record for Region 7 (The first was 12 Aug 2019) and the first for Clinton County. A brilliant adult, the bird was photographed extensively while perched in plain sight for as many as five minutes. The next day and in the same general area observers found a **Nelson's Sparrow**.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AIC – Adirondack Information Center; **AFT** – Art Farm Trail (CATS); **AM** – Ausable Marsh; **AOT** – Ancient Oaks Trail (CATS); **AP** – Ausable Pt; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BC** – Belmont Center; **BL** – Brooktrout L; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd; **BT** – Bobcat Trail; **BTI** – Brown’s Tract Inlet; **BWB** – Bulwaga Bay; **CH** – Cumberland Head; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CR** – Chazy Riverlands; **CZL** – Chazy; **DPR** – Dickson Pt Rd.; **FR** – Floodwood Rd; **Fran** – Franklin Co; **GO** – Gothics; **HB** – Holsington Beach; **HF** – Hulls Falls Rd; **HPt** – Hatch Pt; **HR** – Highlands Rd; **ILk** – Indian L; **KB** – Kings Bay; **KN** – Keene; **KV** – Keene Valley; **LCP** – Lake Champlain pelagic; **LCTM** – Lower La Chute & Ti Marsh; **LMt** – Lyon Mt; **LSL** – Lower Saraanac L; **MB** – Monty’s Bay; **ML** – Meacham L; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MMt** – Moxham Mt; **MoR** – Moody Rd; **MP** – Madawaska Pd; **MR** – Moffitt Rd; **MRP** – Malone Rec P; **MRR** – Mary Riley Rd; **MtB** – Mount Baker; **MtJ** – Mount Jo; **MtM** – Mount Marcy; **NFR** – N. Farm Rd; **NP** – Noblewood P; **PB** – Plattsburgh; **PH** – Port Henry; **PK** – Port Kent; **PL** – Piseco L; **PR** – Point au Roche; **PtF** – Point au Fer; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **RL** – Raquette L; **RP** – Rouses Pt; **SP** – Shaw Pd; **SPE** – Speculator; **SPt** – Stony Pt; **SRC** – St. Regis Canoe Area; **SRN** – Saranac Ri Mouth; **StR** – Stetson Rd; **TFBL** – Ticonderoga Ferry and Boat Landing; **TG** – The Gulf; **TI** – Ticonderoga; **VI** – Valcour I; **WB** – Wallons Bay; **WC** – Wild Center; **WM** – Wickham Marsh; **WMt** – Whiteface Mt; **WP** – Westport; **WPt** – Willsboro Pt.; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp; **WV** – Westville.

WATERFOWL-HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: PtR 17 Sep (BP).

Ross’s Goose: 2 MRP 19 Oct (AB); 5 StR 9 Nov (SR).

Greater White-fronted Goose: AP 23 Nov (SR).

Brant: HB 29 Nov (RB).

Cackling Goose: 3 MRP 19 Oct (AB); 9 MRR 2 Nov (GC).

Wood Duck: 75 LCTM 9 Oct (SR).
Blue-winged Teal: 46 LCTM 15 Sep (G&MC).
Northern Shoveler: 2 CP 5 Oct (SR).
Gadwall: 3 CP 28 Sep (SR).
American Wigeon: WP 10 Oct (SR).
American Black Duck: 53 CP 3 Oct (SR).
Northern Pintail: 3 CP 5 Oct (SR).
Green-winged Teal: 40 CR 2 Nov (AB).
Canvasback: PK 26 Oct (SR); CP 21 Nov (GC).
Redhead: arr, 3 PK 21 Oct (SR); 25 CZL 31 Oct (JM).
Ring-necked Duck: 41 SP 28 Oct (KT); 195 CP 17 Nov (SR).
Greater Scaup: 400 WM 2 Nov (BMc).
Lesser Scaup: 800 WM 2 Nov (BMc).
Surf Scoter: arr, 3 PK 21 Oct (SR).
White-winged Scoter: 4 WD 26 Oct (SR).
Black Scoter: arr, 8 MB 19 Oct (BMc).
Long-tailed Duck: arr, CP 21 Oct (SR).
Bufflehead: 168 NP 18 Nov (SR).
Common Goldeneye: 138 CP 17 Nov (SR).
Barrow's Goldeneye: NP 26-30 Oct (GC); 2 CP 17 Nov (SR).
Hooded Merganser: 89 CP 21 Nov (SR).
Common Merganser: 38 WM 2 Nov (BMc); 225 TFBL 17 Nov (GC).
Red-breasted Merganser: 6 NP 13 Sep (GC).
Ring-necked Pheasant: KN 9 Sep (J&PT); LA 11 Oct (NO).
Ruffed Grouse: 9 ML 8 Oct (BB).
Spruce Grouse: MP 3 Nov (MF).
Wild Turkey: 36 WB 26 Nov (J&PT).
Pied-billed Grebe: 6 KV 23 Sep (DH).
Horned Grebe: 4 NP 3 Oct (SR).
Red-necked Grebe: LCP 15 Sep (AS); 8 LSL 22 Sep (JM).
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: MMt 5 Oct (DS).
Black-billed Cuckoo: SRCA 15 Sep (SMc).
Common Nighthawk: 5 WP 3 Sep (DRg).
Eastern Whip-poor-will: BRR 25 Sep (GCh).
Chimney Swift: AM 2 Sep (ID).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: BRR 18 Sep (MC).

RAILS-LARIDS

Common Gallinule: 2 LCTM 9 Sep (GC).
American Coot: 2 PL 30 Nov (EF), early.
SANDHILL CRANE: ILk 10 Oct (WM); 2 Fran 31 Oct (HW).
Black-bellied Plover: CP 27 Sep (SR).
American Golden Plover: 2 WP 11 Sep (SR); 5 HB 16 Sep (LM).
Semipalmated Plover: CR 6 Sep (BK).

Stilt Sandpiper: MRR 12 Sep (EW).
Sanderling: NP 2 Sep (DRg).
Dunlin: 3 FtC 2 Nov (GC).
Baird's Sandpiper: NP 1 Sep (ID).
Least Sandpiper: HB 15 Sep (BMc).
White-rumped Sandpiper: NP 5 Sep (DRg).
Pectoral Sandpiper: NP 6 Sep (GC).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: NP 12 Sep (GC).
Short-billed Dowitcher: FtC 7 Sep (HW).
Long-billed Dowitcher: Fran 30 Sep (HW), Fran. first; 2 PH 28 Oct (SR), late.
American Woodcock: BB 5 Sep (RG).
Wilson's Snipe: 4 LCTM 15 Sep (G&MC); 14 MRR 22 Sep (JS).
Spotted Sandpiper: 4 CP 27 Sep (SR).
Solitary Sandpiper: NP 13 Sep (GC).
Lesser Yellowlegs: 16 LCTM 9 Sep (GC).
Greater Yellowlegs: 5 Es 7 Sep (SR); 18 CR 25 Oct (DRg).
Red-necked Phalarope: NP 6 Sep (DRg).
PARASITIC JAEGER: NP 12 Sep (GC); HPT 16 Sep (DRg); 2 LCP 15 Sep (AS).
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: 2 LCP 15 Sep (AS).
Pomarine/Parasitic Jaeger: WPt 8 Sep (DRg).
SABINE'S GULL: WPt 16 Sep (DRg).
Bonaparte's Gull: 380 WPt 8 Sep (DRg).
Little Gull: WPt 8 Sep (DRg); 5 NP 13 Sep (GC).
Ring-billed Gull: 800 CR 10 Sep (BS).
Iceland Gull: WD 23 Nov (SR).
Glaucous Gull: SRM 23 Nov (SR).
Great Black-backed Gull: 18 SRM 17 Nov (TL).
Caspian Tern: AP 7 Sep (TD).
Black Tern: NP 2 Sep (MM).
Common Tern: 71 WPt 8 Sep (DRg).

LOONS-FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: BWB 21 Oct (SR).
Common Loon: 2 SL 19 Sep (MJ), CO-FL; 27 PtR 8 Oct (BK).
Double-crested Cormorant: 1300 LCP 15 Sep (AS).
GREAT CORMORANT: SPt 25 Nov (BK); WP 18-30 Nov (DRg), Essex first.
American Bittern: BB 28 Sep (RS).
Great Blue Heron: 8 LCTM 30 Sep (SR).
Great Egret: 17 CP 22 Sep (KA).
Cattle Egret: CR 2 Nov (AB).
Green Heron: 12 DPR 6 Sep (YA).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 LCTM 9 Sep (GC).
Black Vulture: 3 TI 23 Oct (GC); 7 LCTM 5 Nov (SR).

Turkey Vulture: 36 LCTM 1 Oct (GC).
Osprey: TI 24 Sep (G&MC).
GOLDEN EAGLE: AFT 8 Nov (DRg).
Northern Harrier: Ftc 26 Oct (JS).
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 2 SRC 30 Sep (SMc).
Cooper's Hawk: 2 LCTM 9 Oct (SR).
Northern Goshawk: CH 29 Sep (BK).
Bald Eagle: 4 DPR 6 Sep (YA).
Red-shouldered Hawk: BRR 17 Sep (G&MC).
Broad-winged Hawk: BB 22 Sep (TD).
SWAINSON'S HAWK: MoR 9 Nov (JT), NYSARC decision pending.
Red-tailed Hawk: 2 HB 9 Oct (J&PT); CH 2 Nov (NO, MS).
Rough-legged Hawk: WV 26 Oct (HW).
Eastern Screech Owl: PC 30 Sep (GC).
Great Horned Owl: PtR 17 Sep (BP).
Barred Owl: 2 WP 14 Oct (DRg).
Long-eared Owl: RL 25 Sep (GL).
Northern Saw-whet Owl: 2 BL 12 Oct (CS).
Belted Kingfisher: 5 LCTM 9 Sep (GC).
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 4 LCTM 9 Sep (GC).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 3 BB 15 Sep (TR).
Black-backed Woodpecker: 3 BTI 19 Oct (BL).
Northern Flicker: 20 Es 17 Sep (CF).
Pileated Woodpecker: 2 AM 14 Sep (BB).
American Kestrel: 2 RP 13 Sep (RSc).
Merlin: SL 15 Oct (JS).
Peregrine Falcon: PB 31 Oct (SR).

FLYCATCHERS-SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: VI 6 Sep (JS).
Eastern Kingbird: BRR 7 Sep (G&MC).
Olive-sided Flycatcher: HF 3 Sep (J&PT).
Eastern Wood-Pewee: MM 21 Sep (SR).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: HF 5 Oct (J&PT).
Alder Flycatcher: BB 5 Sep (JL).
Willow Flycatcher: no reports.
Least Flycatcher: 2 AIC 15 Sep (JL)
Eastern Phoebe: 3 BB 5 Sep (JL), CO-CF.
Northern Shrike: AFT 7 Nov (DRg).
Yellow-throated Vireo: 2 LCTM 9 Sep (GC).
Blue-headed Vireo: PtR 24 Sep (JH).
Philadelphia Vireo: PtR 17 Sep (BP).
Warbling Vireo: KN 30 Sep (J&PT).
Red-eyed Vireo: CP 5 Oct (SR).
Canada Jay: 8 BB 27 Sep (LS, CS).
Blue Jay: 15 TG 13 Oct (BB).
Common Raven: 4 SL 6 Sep (JL).
Horned Lark: 4 WF 29 Sep (MJ); 1000+ NFR 16 Nov (SR).
Purple Martin: no reports.
Tree Swallow: 28 CP 5 Oct (SR).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: TI 15 Sep, only report.
Bank Swallow: 30 AM 2 Sep (ID).
Cliff Swallow: 7 AM 2 Sep (ID).
Barn Swallow: 20 NP 2 Sep (DRg).
Boreal Chickadee: 3 GO 7 Sep (DD).
Tufted Titmouse: 12 PC 30 Sep (GC).
House Wren: HB 12 Oct (J&PT).
Winter Wren: MM 26 Oct (SR).
Marsh Wren: CR 26 Oct (SR), late.
Carolina Wren: 4 LCTM 30 Sep (SR).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 16 MtM 16 Sep (MD).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 7 BB 3 Oct (KM).
Eastern Bluebird: CH 12 Nov (SJ).
Veery: WRS 15 Sep (MM).
Gray-cheeked Thrush: RL 22 Sep (GL).
Bicknell's Thrush: GO 7 Sep (DD); 8 MtM 16 Sep (MD).
Swainson's Thrush: 30 Es 16 Sep (MD); AIC 23 Sep (CD), late.
Hermit Thrush: 3 WC 10 Sep (JL), CO-FY.
Wood Thrush: AOT 15 Sep (MM).
Gray Catbird: 2 BB 25 Sep (JS), CO-FL.
Brown Thrasher: LA 19 Sep (GR).
Northern Mockingbird: WP 8 Oct (RB).
Cedar Waxwing: 24 BRR 7 Sep (G&MC).
American Pipit: 2 CR 6 Sep (BK); 5 CR 26 Oct (BMc).
Evening Grosbeak: ES 9 Oct (DRg).
Purple Finch: 8 SL 11 Nov (EG).
Lapland Longspur: 2 MR 12 Nov (DRg).
Snow Bunting: 50 PR 9 Oct (SR); 1000+ NFR 16 Nov (SR).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: BRR 28 Oct (G&MC).
American Tree Sparrow: 3 BB 29 Oct (TR).
Chipping Sparrow: 25 CP 2 Sep (GC); BRR 3 Nov (MC).
Field Sparrow: MM 18 Oct (SR).
Vesper Sparrow: ES 9 Oct (DRg); WP 16 Nov (SR).
Savannah Sparrow: 2 AOT 14 Oct (DRg); SPC 7 Nov (A&MM).
LECONTE'S SPARROW: CR 25 OCT (DRg).
NELSON'S SPARROW: CR 26 Oct (BMc).
Fox Sparrow: LA 19 Sep (GR), early.
Lincoln's Sparrow: 2 BB 10 Sep (EL).
Swamp Sparrow: 13 LA 19 Sep (GR); LA 9 Nov (SR), late.
White-throated Sparrow: 18 BB 3 Oct (KM).
White-crowned Sparrow: NP 26 Sep (SR).
Dark-eyed Junco: 9 MP 1 Oct (KM); CO-FL.

Bobolink: 20 FtC 2 Sep (HW).
Eastern Meadowlark: WP 5 Sep (SR); CP 21 Oct (SR).
Baltimore Oriole: no reports.
Red-winged Blackbird: 500 MR 9 Nov (SR).
Brown-headed Cowbird: 6 WV 14 Nov (HW).
Rusty Blackbird: LCTM 30 Sep (SR); 24 AM 26 Oct (KT).
Ovenbird: CP 28 Sep (SR).
Northern Waterthrush: NP 3 Sep (DRg), only report.
Black and White Warbler: 3 PtR 17 Sep (BP).
Tennessee Warbler: LMt 10 Sep (LS).
Orange-crowned Warbler: MtJ 17 Sep (DDn); CP 8 Oct (SR).
Nashville Warbler: 8 BB 3 Sep (JS); CP 5 Oct (SR).
Mourning Warbler: 2 MtB 4 Sep (JL); only report.
Common Yellowthroat: 6 AM 14 Sep (BB); KB 2 Oct (KM).
American Redstart: KB 10 Sep (BS); 3 CP 28 Sep (SR).

Cape May Warbler: EC 4 Sep (BvK).
Northern Parula: PS 1 Oct (KM).
Magnolia Warbler: 5 PtR 9 Sep (BP).
Bay-breasted Warbler: LMt 10 Sep (LR); 4 MtM 16 Sep (MD).
Blackburnian Warbler: 4 MtM 16 Sep (MD).
Yellow Warbler: CP 27 Sep (SR).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: BRR 20 Sep (GCh).
Blackpoll Warbler: 8 MtM 16 Sep (MD).
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 4 FR 7 Sep (JL), CO-FY.
Palm Warbler: 10 BB 21 Sep (BMc).
Pine Warbler: HR 21 Oct (SR).
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 20 BB 1 Oct (DY).
Black-throated Green Warbler: 8 MtM 16 Sep (MD).
Canada Warbler: 2 BB 5 Sep (JL).
Wilson's Warbler: BC 17 Sep (NR).
Scarlet Tanager: CP 28 Sep (SR).
Northern Cardinal: 2 NP 16 Sep (BP), CO-FY.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: BC 25 Sep (NR).
Indigo Bunting: BT 9 Oct (DRg), late.



REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Temp	Albany			Glens Falls		
	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Sep	63.8°	61.9°	+1.9°	59.0°	58.5°	+0.5°
Oct	53.6°	49.7°	+3.9°	49.6°	46.7°	+2.9°
Nov	36.7°	39.7°	-3.0°	32.3°	36.9°	-4.6°

Precip	Albany			Glens Falls		
	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Sep	2.23"	3.30"	-1.07"	2.06"	3.38"	-1.32"
Oct	7.48"	3.68"	+3.80"	7.85"	3.51"	+4.34"
Nov	2.82"	3.29"	-0.47"	2.63"	3.31"	-0.68"

September 2019 featured near normal temperatures and below normal precipitation in the Region 8 counties. Albany recorded nearly two inches of rainfall by the 4th, and very little the rest of the month. October offered more than double the average precipitation total, along with above normal temperatures. The

mercury did not drop to freezing at Albany during the month. November drew a sharp contrast with the preceding month with below normal temperatures and somewhat drier than average precipitation amounts. The first half of November was quite cold. The first measurable snowfall at Albany occurred on the 12th. Only 2.3" had fallen by month's end, despite the cold conditions.

The bird of the season was a **Hudsonian Godwit** discovered at Cohoes Flats on 3 October by Naomi Lloyd. It stayed on the rock flats for the rest of the afternoon and had moved on by the following morning. The last report of this species in the Region was in 2004. Equally compelling was a **Western Kingbird** found at Black Creek Marsh on 21 September by Frank Mitchell. Jeremy Collison was able to relocate and photograph the bird the following morning. Other interesting reports were a **Dickcissel** observed by Will Yandik at his family farm in Livingston, Columbia County on 6 September; a group of five **American Golden-Plover** at the River Rd. grasslands in Coxsackie, Greene County on 3 October, reported by Taylor Sturm; a **Yellow-headed Blackbird** seen with a flock of Brown-headed Cowbirds along the Hudson River at Athens, Greene County on 24 October; a pair of **Red Phalarope** at the Alcove Reservoir, Albany County, seen by Zach Schwartz-Weinstein on 6 November; and an apparent juvenile **Franklin's Gull** photographed by Marianne Friers along the Mohawk River at the Yankee Hill Lock in Montgomery County on 3 November.

A Greater White-fronted Goose showed up at Cobleskill Reservoir in Schoharie County and stayed for two weeks in mid-October. Flocks of Brant were noted from the southern end of Lake Champlain several times throughout the second half of October but passed undetected in the rest of the Region this autumn. Dabbling duck observations seemed steady, with Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon and Northern Pintail seen in typical numbers and locations. Among *aythya* ducks, Canvasback and Redhead sightings were nearly nil (one and two, respectively). Ring-necked Ducks and the two scaups were noted frequently, with Loughberry Lake in Saratoga County continuing its high-count hold on those species. Reports of Surf, White-winged and Black Scoter were more numerous this season, from mid-October to mid-November. Long-tailed Duck numbers seemed way down. Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, and merganser sp. sightings were in line with expectations. Lastly, Ruddy Duck continued its fondness for Basic Creek Reservoir in Albany County, with several hundred reported at any given time between mid-October and the end of the period.

Pied-billed Grebe were widespread in small numbers throughout the area. Horned and Red-necked Grebe were few and far between, as is often the case during fall migration. Shorebirds of interest, in addition to the rarities noted above, included Sanderling (early Sept.) and White-rumped Sandpiper (mid-Oct.), both observed at the southern end of Lake Champlain in Washington County.

An Iceland Gull was observed at The Crossings Park in Colonie, Albany County, on 29 November, and a Glaucous Gull was reported from the southern end of Lake Champlain on 26 November.

There was one sighting of Sandhill Crane during the period, a single individual that turned up at Kinderhook Lake in Columbia County on 16 November.

The Helderberg Hawkwatch, conducted from the overlook at John Boyd Thacher State Park in the Town of New Scotland, Albany County, reported a high count of 586 Broad-winged Hawks migrating on 13 September. Two days later a total of 314 was recorded.

Julie Hart observed a late Yellow-billed Cuckoo on 5 October during a hike up Moxham Mountain in Essex County. Mike Nicosia had a very late Grasshopper Sparrow at Overmountain Conservation Area in Columbia County on 28 October. The species is observed there during the breeding season as well. Vesper Sparrow reports were numerous this fall season, with reports from at least seven counties in the Region.

Fall warbler migration seemed to stretch a bit later into October than usual for several species, perhaps due to the mild weather. Orange-crowned Warbler was reported from Washington, Saratoga and Albany Counties. David Harrison had a Connecticut Warbler at Garnsey Park in Saratoga County on 25 September.

Bill Cook shared some interesting insights, as excerpted from the September 2019 issue of *The Warbler*, the monthly publication of the Alan Devoe Bird Club of Columbia County:

“At least six individual **Olive-sided Flycatchers** sighted this month is more than usual. Boreal breeding conditions may have been good this year. As mentioned in last September’s report, the population of this boreal flycatcher is, however, declining. In its breeding range, entirely in North America, surveys have shown a steady decrease since 1966. In New York, it has declined by one third between the two Altas projects, 1980 and 2000. It disappeared completely from Greene County. The reason for this decline is probably loss of habitat in its winter range in South America since its breeding range has been little altered during this time period. A second hypothesis is the reduction of its food supply since the bees that make up a large proportion of its diet may have been reduced by introduced diseases and parasites.”

Bob Yunick submitted his Field Notes for Fall 2019, some excerpts follow:

“The following are observations from my feeding/banding locations in the Schenectady, NY area: 1) feeder in my yard (yard) at Schenectady; and my Adirondack feeding/banding operation at Jenny Lake (JL) at 1250 ft elev., 5 mi W of the Village of Corinth, Saratoga Co, NY; as well as raptor banding locations 3) in the Towns of Florida (TF) and Glen (TG) in Montgomery Co, NY (MC); and 4) Town of Ft. Edward (FE) in Washington Co, NY and Town of Northumberland (NUL) in Saratoga Co, NY. Birding at Helderberg Hawk Watch (HHW), New Salem, Albany Co, NY.

Highlights

1) Jenny Lake banding - as I wrote last year at this time: what a difference a year makes! Last year the difference was upbeat with several species irrupting while this year, after a disappointing breeding season, this fall and winter look to be also disappointing.

Last year at this time 71 Blk-c Chickadees had been captured, this year only 17 (13 banded and 4 returns from previous years) with 12 of the 13 new birds being immatures (Hatching-Year or HY). Overall, the total catch including returns was 70.6 % HY. First banding was on 8/31, then 8 in Oct and 4 in Nov. The max. number on any one date was 10 occurring on 10/28 (4 banded, 2 returns and 4 repeats of this year) and on 11/29 (3 banded, 2 returns and 5 repeats). Sunflower seed consumption last year went from ~300 g/day in Sep to a Nov peak of 1250 g/day on the 12th, while this year in the same period it has varied slightly above or below 100 g/day. Further evidence of the bird drought was on 9/15 when 4 ½ mist nets at the feeders open for 2 1/3 hrs failed to catch a bird. Last year at this time, a 49-yr record 29 Tufted Titmice had been captured Aug through Nov. with 19 of them in Nov. This year, I have not banded a Titmouse since 2/2/19, but managed one return capture on 3/1/19 and another on 5/4/19, but no HYs have appeared. Last year at this time, 14 Wh-br Nuthatches had been banded Sep through Nov. This year, I have not banded one since 4/11/19; and while 3 previously banded Wh-breasts were recaptured during the breeding season, no HYs have appeared.

Similarly, 12 Red-breasts had been captured last year Aug through Nov, while this year 3 HYs were banded Jun-Aug and 2 of them have been repeatedly recaptured through this period along with one return adult, never more than 2 at any one banding session.

Purple Finch breeding at JL continued to decline to record lows in the 50 years I have banded them at this location. A record low of 15 ad F were captured (9 banded, 6 returns) as well as a record low 32 ad M (23 banded, 9 returns). The 6 HYs banded tied last year's record low. The oldest return was a M 8yr-2mo old. So far, in the 50 years I have banded at this site, 13,413 PUFIs have been banded, a max of 803 in 1973 and a peak HY year of 338 in 1988, all downhill from there especially in the 1990s starting in 1992 when only 25 HYs were banded, attributable to global warming. This bird, a lover of cool forests, has not been able to replace enough young to maintain the recruitment necessary to sustain its prior abundance. The last R-thr Hummer recorded at JL was sighting on 9/1. One-hr trapping sessions on 9/6 and 9/13 produced no captures, last bird banded was on 8/30, a total of 38 ad (14 M and 24 F) which produced a very disappointing 3 HYs banded! Sugar water consumption 4/22 through 9/29 was a near-record 28-yr low of 3989 g, exceeded only by 3664 g in 1992, the 1st year I began recording consumption. Peak years were 30,495 g in 2003 and 29,621g in 2002 when 185 and 139 hummers, respectively were captured. 2019 was not a good Hummer year."

223 species were reported during the period.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

APBP – Albany Pine Bush Pres, 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 Pres, 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 Pres, 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 Pres, SARA; **WMP** – Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanctuary, COLU.

WATERFOWL-HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: max 156 Greenwich WASH 9 Nov.
Greater White-fronted Goose: Cobleskill Res SCHO 8 Oct.
Brant: max 132 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 18 Oct.
Wood Duck: max 38 TR 23 Oct.
American Black Duck: max 57 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 26 Oct.
Northern Pintail: max 9 Stanton Pd ALBA 2 Nov.
Green-winged Teal: max 110 VFNHP 10 Oct.
Ring-necked Duck: max 575 Loughberry L SARA 26 Nov.
Greater Scaup: max 8 Loughberry L SARA 26 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: max 28 Saratoga L SARA 26 Nov.
Surf Scoter: 4 Snyder L RENS 2 Nov; 3 E Canada L MONT 18 Oct; 2 Nassau L RENS 22 Oct; L George WARR 26 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: 13 L George WARR 1 Oct; 12 E Canada L MONT 11 Nov.
Black Scoter: 16 Duane L SCHE 2 Nov; 15 Nassau L RENS 2 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: max 4 Duane L SCHE 1 Nov.
Bufflehead: max 60 BCR 7 Nov.
Common Goldeneye: max 90 AR 17 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 200 Saratoga L SARA 23 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: 4 Moreau L SARA 28 Oct.
Ruddy Duck: max 375 BCR 7 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: max 3 L George WARR 18 Oct.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last Hillsdale COLU 2 Oct.
Black-billed Cuckoo: last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 28 Sept.
Common Nighthawk: max 84 Guilderland ALBA 3 Sep; last W Sand L RENS 23 Sep.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: max 5 Malta Tech Park SARA 21 Jun.
Chimney Swift: last 6 Clermont SP COLU 15; Glenmont ALBA 15 Sep.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Johnstown FULT 2 Oct.

RAILS-LARIDS

Virginia Rail: last CRM 25 Oct.
Sora: last 2 BCM 13 Oct.
Common Gallinule: last 3 Carters Pond WMA WASH 8 Sep.
American Coot: Stanton Pd ALBA 19 Oct; Cobleskill Res SCHO 1 Nov; Ft Ann WASH 18 Nov.
Sandhill Crane: Kinderhook L COLU 16 Nov.

American Golden-Plover: 5 Cossackie GREE 3 Nov; Sleepy Hollow L GREE 8 Oct; Athens GREE 9 Nov.

Semipalmated Plover: last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem Pk WASH 30 Oct.

Killdeer: max 150 Valatie COLU 16 Sep.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (R8): CF 3 Oct.

Sanderling: max 2 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 2 Sep.

Least Sandpiper: max 9 Peebles I SARA 3 Sep.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 18 Oct.

Pectoral Sandpiper: last Athens GREE 8 Oct.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 5 Cohoes ALBA 6 Sep.

American Woodcock: last APBP 31 Oct.

Wilson's Snipe: last T Oppenheim FULT 31 Oct.

Spotted Sandpiper: last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem Pk WASH 14 Oct.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 8 HP 8 Sep; last Easton WASH 15 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 6 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem Pk WASH 10 Sep; last Wrights Loop SARA 6 Nov.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 5 Schaghticoke RENS 17 Sep; last Schaghticoke RENS 6 Nov.

RED PHALAROPE (R8): AR 6 Nov.

Bonaparte's Gull: last Yankee Hill Lock Mont 5 Nov.

FRANKLIN'S GULL (R8): Yankee Hill Lock Mont 3 Nov.

Ring-billed Gull: max 565 Peck L FULT 2 Nov.

Herring Gull: max 100 Cohoes ALBA 30 Nov.

Iceland Gull: Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 28 Nov; The Crossings ALBA 29 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 2 Sep, out of season.

Glaucous Gull: Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 26 Nov.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 20 Cohoes ALBA 30 Nov.

Caspian Tern: 2 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Sep.

Black Tern: E Canada L MONT 18 Oct.

LOONS-FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: Upper Blenheim-Gilboa Res SCHO 20 Oct; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 14 & 28 Nov.

Common Loon: max 5 L George WARR 1 Oct.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 247 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 11 Oct.

American Bittern: VFNHP 20 Sep; BMB 12 Oct.

Great Blue Heron: max 13 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 18 Nov.

Great Egret: max 16 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 11 Sep; last 3 Menands ALBA 7 Nov.

Green Heron: max 8 TR 6 Sep; last Vosburgh Swamp WMA GREE 13 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 3 Carters Pond WMA 7 Sep.

Black Vulture: max 43 Guilderland ALBA 14 Nov.

Turkey Vulture: max 100 Guilderland ALBA 10 Sep.

Osprey: max 6 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 12 Sep; last Germantown COLU 21 Nov

Golden Eagle: E Nassau COLU 8 Nov; Greenwich WASH 9 Nov; Summit SCHO 13 Nov.

Northern Harrier: max 3 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 22 Oct; CCGP 17 Nov; Fultonville MONT 23 Nov.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 14 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 13 Sep.

Cooper's Hawk: max 8 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 16 Sep.

Northern Goshawk: ad Summit SCHO 1 Nov, only report.

Bald Eagle: max 12 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 9 Sep.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 Stillwater SARA 25 Sep.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 586 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 13 Sep; last Livingston COLU 26 Oct.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 30 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 18 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr Summit SCHO 13 Nov.

Great Horned Owl: max 3 FR 13 Oct.

Barred Owl: max 3 Greenfield SARA 11 Sep.

Belted Kingfisher: max 4 Stillwater Sch Nature Trail SARA 1 Sep.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 12 Hillsdale COLU 20 Sep.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 5 Hague WARR 15 Sep.

Downy Woodpecker: max 14 VFNHP 12 Oct.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 4 Henry Hudson Pk ALBA 13 Sep.

Northern Flicker: max 11 APBP 3 Oct.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 4 Henry Hudson Pk ALBA 19 Nov.

American Kestrel: max 7 T Root MONT 4 Sep; Livingston COLU 10 Sep; 4 Ft Edward WASH 18 Sep.

Merlin: max 2 mult loc.

Peregrine Falcon: max 8 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 12 Sep.

FLYCATCHERS-SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Glenville SCHE 24 Sep.

WESTERN KINGBIRD: BCM 21-22 Sep, *intro*, NYSARC.

Eastern Kingbird: max 3 FR 1 Sep; last FR 1 Oct, late.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 2 Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 8 Sep; Overmountain Cons Area COLU 17 Sep; 2 Esperance MONT 20 Sep; Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 21 Sep; Sand Lake RENS 22 Sep. **Eastern Wood-Pewee:** max 11 Saratoga Spa SP SARA 1 Sep; last Tawasentha Pk ALBA 8 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 5 Sep; APBP 6 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: max 4 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 5 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 16 Sep.

Eastern Phoebe: max 16 Hillsdale COLU 16 Sep; last Hillsdale COLU 1 Nov.

Northern Shrike: Putnam WASH 5 Nov; Mountain Top Arboretum GREE 9 Nov.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 5 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 5 Sep; last VFNHP 25 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 5 mult loc; last Malta SARA 27 Oct.

Philadelphia Vireo: max 6 Jabe Pd WARR 15 Sep; last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 2 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: max 10 Halfmoon SARA 10 Sep; last 2 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 30 Sep.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 15 Jabe Pd WARR 15 Sep; last Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail ALBA 28 Oct, late.

Blue Jay: max 36 FR 5 Oct.

Fish Crow: max 12 Cocksackie GREE 6 Oct.

Horned Lark: max 60 Claverack COLU 6 Oct.

Common Raven: max 55 Thacher Park overlook ALBA 13 Sep.

Horned Lark: max 60 Claverack COLU 6 Oct.

Tree Swallow: max 1000 Pittstown RENS 23 Sep.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: last 2 APBP 5 Sep.

Bank Swallow: last 2 Hudson COLU 3 Sep.

Cliff Swallow: St. Johnsville MONT 3 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 3 Oct, late.

Barn Swallow: max 50 Hudson COLU 3 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 19 Sep.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 34 APBP 15 Sep.

Tufted Titmouse: max 23 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 21 Sep.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 14 Amy's Park WARR 13 Oct.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 13 VFNHP 16 Nov.

Brown Creeper: max 3 mult loc.

House Wren: last APBP 8 Nov, late.

Winter Wren: max 5 Bolton WARR 27 Sep.

Marsh Wren: max 6 BCM 13 Oct.

Carolina Wren: max 9 Normanskill Farm ALBA 5 Sep.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last Ballston Spa SARA 28 Sep.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 39 Loughberry L SARA 5 Sep.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 18 APBP 22 Oct.

Eastern Bluebird: max 36 Ft Ann WASH 2 Nov.

Veery: last Stillwater SARA 25 Sep.

Swainson's Thrush: last Queensbury WARR 9 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 6 mult loc.

Wood Thrush: last Charlton SARA 14 Oct, late.

Gray Catbird: max 48 BMB 1 Sep.

Brown Thrasher: last Ghent COLU 9 Oct.

Northern Mockingbird: max 6 APBP 23 Oct.

Cedar Waxwing: max 110 Hunter GREE 15 Nov.

American Pipit: max 100 Cocksackie GREE 27 Oct.

House Finch: max 47 Colonie ALBA 19 Nov.

Purple Finch: max 6 mult loc.

Lapland Longspur: Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 5 Nov, only report.

Snow Bunting: arr Wrights Loop SARA 24 Oct; max 45 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 18 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 16 APBP 29 Sep; last APBP 28 Oct.

American Tree Sparrow: arr Johnstown FULT 26 Oct; max 14 Coveville SARA 26 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: max 40 Petersburg RENS 10 Oct.
Field Sparrow: max 15 Hillsdale COLU 1 Sep; last Livingston COLU 21 Nov.
Vesper Sparrow: max 4 Normanskill Farm ALBA 2 Nov; last Meads Ln ALBA 9 Nov.
Savannah Sparrow: max 15 Overmountain Cons Area 22 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 5 Nov.
Grasshopper Sparrow: Overmountain Cons Area COLU 28 Oct.
Fox Sparrow: arr Schoharie Crossing MONT 21 Oct; max 3 John Boyd Thacher SP VC ALBA 3 Nov.
Song Sparrow: max 50 Glenville SCHE 19 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: last Normanskill Farm ALBA 26 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: max 50 BCM 22 Sep.
White-throated Sparrow: max 225 VFNHP 12 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: max 4 mult loc.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 38 APBP 28 Oct.
YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (R8): Breezy Pt, Athens GREE 24 Oct.
Bobolink: max 35 Saratoga Spa SP SARA 5 Sep; last Livingston COLU 24 Sep.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 12 Ames MONT 14 Sep; last Fultonville MONT 28 Oct.
Baltimore Oriole: last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 22 Sep.
Rusty Blackbird: max 293 BMB 20 Oct, high count.
Ovenbird: max 4 Cohotate Pres GREE 9 Sep; last Poestenkill RENS 23 OCT, late.
Northern Waterthrush: last Schoharie Crossing SHS 30 Sep.
Golden-winged Warbler: Hannacroix Creek Pres GREE 27 Sep.
Blue-winged Warbler: last RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 16 Sep.
Black-and-white Warbler: last Esperance SCHO 9 Oct.
Tennessee Warbler: max 12 APBP 15 Sep; last Collins L SCHE 23 Oct, late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: Bolton WARR 15 Sep; VFNHP 24 Sep; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 14-16 Oct; Garnsey P SARA 18 Oct; FR 21 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: max 5 Woodlawn Pres SCHE 29 Sep; last Glenville SCHE 19 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: Garnsey P SARA 25 Sep, only report.
Mourning Warbler: Bolton WARR 15 Sep, only report.
Common Yellowthroat: max 15 VFNHP 17 Sep.
American Redstart: max 7 Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 8 Sep; last Claverack COLU 6 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: max 5 APBP 25 Sep; last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 5 Oct.
Northern Parula: max 8 Woodlawn Pres SCHE 29 Sep; last 2 APBP 9 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: max 13 VFNHP 19 Sep; last 2 Fox Pres ALBA 12 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 6 APBP 15 Sep; last 2 Normanskill Farm ALBA 3 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last Esperance SCHO 5 Oct.
Yellow Warbler: last APBP 25 Sep, late.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last Guilderland ALBA 4 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 9 APBP 25 Sep.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 4 Oct; last Bolton Warr 12 Oct.
Palm Warbler: max 12 VFNHP 8 Oct; last APBP 31 Oct.
Pine Warbler: max 9 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 1 Sep; last Corning Riverfront P ALBA 28 Nov.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 43 Normanskill Farm ALBA 12 Oct.
Prairie Warbler: last Woodlawn Pres SCHE 29 Sep.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 16 Petersburg RENS 21 Sep; last Glenville SCHE 19 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last Oppenheim FULT 25 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last 2 Fultonville MONT 4 Oct.
Scarlet Tanager: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 5 Oct.
Northern Cardinal: max 14 FR 5 Oct.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 6 Normanskill Farm 10 Sep; last Niskayuna SCHE 3 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: max 5 Helderberg-Hudson RT ALBA 13 Sep; last Livingston COLU 21 Oct.
Dickcissel (R8): Livingston COLU 6 Sep.

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REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The fall season began with the eighth driest September on record according to the National Weather Service. September had a high of 92° F on 23 September and a low of 38° on 19 September, 2.4° above average. Precipitation was well below average with only 1.08", 3.2" below normal. October was cooler and wetter; rain and high winds dominated much of the month. There was a high of 88° on 2 October and the low of 28° on 5 October. There was an average of 5.33" of rain overall, .86" above normal. November started out mild, with a high of 70° on 1 November, but quickly turned cold. A deep freeze occurred on 13 November with a low of 15° and a dusting of snow in the upper elevations. The average temp was 4.3° below normal. Precipitation was 3.37", 0.1" below average. And, importantly, much of the period experienced alternating winds from the southwest to east northeast, once again altering migration in our Region.

Interesting waterfowl during the period included Cackling Geese in early October and continuing throughout the period. The season's first Greater White-fronted Goose was in the Orange County Black Dirt Region discovered by Linda Scrima on 5 November. A second was found on 12 November by Bruce Nott on Lake Osiris, also Orange County. A third was found on 25 November by Ken McDermott on Wallkill Road.

Three Sandhill Cranes were reported in the Orange County Black Dirt Region early September through mid-November, and an additional three Sandhills stayed along the Harlem Valley Rail Trail from late October through early November.

Shorebirds were scarce this period, in fact many areas experienced historically low numbers. The highlight was a juvenile Long-billed Dowitcher found by Peter Schoenberger at Great Vly on 22 September. Eventually three birds were nicely documented with photos and continued well into October. Several Stilt Sandpipers were also good finds.

An early Iceland Gull was spotted at Croton Point Park on 9 November by Peter Post. This was followed by two Iceland Gulls found at Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary in Rye, one remaining for nearly a week.

Following a good showing of Little Blue Herons over the summer, they completely disappeared in late August. Surprisingly, there were several unusually late records lingering into November, the first at Marshlands Conservancy on 5 October and another, found by Nick Giordano, at Byram Ridge Lake in Westchester on 25 October and still present on 5 November, a Regional record late date. A late Snowy Egret was discovered at Five Islands Park 23 November by Frank Guida.

On 14 October, Scott Angus photographed a young hawk in the Orange County Black Dirt Region. Analysis of the photos revealed it to be a young Swainson’s Hawk, which unfortunately was not seen again.

Anthony Macchiarola discovered a Clay-colored Sparrow in LaGrangeville on 5 October, and a second Clay-colored was found in November in Ulster County by Peter Schoenberger. On 18 September Anthony Macchiarola observed a **Lark Sparrow** at Carmel High School in Putnam County. Later, a second and most accommodating **Lark Sparrow** was found at Six and a Half Station Road in Goshen on 29 September by Kathy Ashman—this cooperative bird allowed for excellent photos. On 27 September ZN Smith photographed a **LeConte’s Sparrow** on Hurley Mountain Road, Ulster County; unfortunately, further searches failed to relocate the bird. A Yellow-breasted Chat found in Dutchess County on 23 September by Debbie van Zyl was followed by another at Marshlands Conservancy through November. Connecticut Warblers were well represented, with at least six reported in the Region. Several Orange-crowned Warblers were uncovered, the last well into November.

Michael Bochnik spotted a very late Summer Tanager in Yonkers on 1 October, and Sean Camillieri found a likewise late Blue Grosbeak at Hillview Reservoir on 24 September. Both birds are rare in the Region at any time. A total of seven Dickcissels was reported in the Region during the period.

CHESTNUT RIDGE HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	14 Oct	8	17 Oct	29
Turkey Vulture	9 Sep	153	26 Oct	2589
Osprey	25 Aug	33	28 Sep	233
Golden Eagle	1 Nov	4	11 Nov	9
No. Harrier	7 Sep	5	4 Oct	59
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1 Sep	75	9 Sep	1414
Cooper’s Hawk	25 Aug	24	13 Oct	248
No. Goshawk	30 Sep	1	30 Sep	2
Bald Eagle	3 Sep	8	4 Oct	137
Red-shouldered Hawk	25 Aug	45	9 Nov	439
Broad-winged Hawk	25 Aug	944	17 Sep	3363
Red-tailed Hawk	25 Aug	16	13 Nov	168
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	5 Sep	17	22 Sep	240
Merlin	7 Sep	7	19 Oct	101
Peregrine Falcon	10 Sep	3	30 Sep	25
Unidentified				151
Total including unidentified:				9207

HOOK MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	10 Sep	24	21 Oct	36
Turkey Vulture	5 Oct	68	21 Oct	232
Osprey	3 Sep	10	7 Sep	133
Golden Eagle	6 Nov	1	6 Nov	1
No. Harrier	8 Sep	4	20 Sep	35
Sharp-shinned Hawk	31 Aug	105	5 Oct	799
Cooper's Hawk	7 Sep	17	5 Oct	132
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	31 Aug	11	15 Sep	119
Red-shouldered Hawk	7 Sep	26	21 Oct	54
Broad-winged Hawk	3 Sep	390	16 Sep	873
Red-tailed Hawk	15 Sep	4	15 Oct	22
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	5 Sep	17	5 Oct	139
Merlin	7 Sep	3	7 Sep	21
Peregrine Falcon	10 Sep	10	6 Oct	24
Unidentified				8
Total including unidentified:				2628

MOUNT PETER HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	10 Sep	25	3 Nov	136
Turkey Vulture	9 Sep	123	26 Oct	426
Osprey	1 Sep	12	28 Sep	123
Golden Eagle	15 Oct	2	2 Nov	9
No. Harrier	1 Sep	4	7 Sep	27
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1 Sep	45	5 Oct	693
Cooper's Hawk	5 Sep	6	18 Sep	82
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	2 Sep	30	3 Nov	163
Red-shouldered Hawk	5 Sep	25	8 Nov	203
Broad-winged Hawk	1 Sep	2096	18 Sep	7360
Red-tailed Hawk	2 Sep	160	8 Nov	443
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	7 Sep	14	24 Sep	85
Merlin	7 Sep	2	7 Sep	8
Peregrine Falcon	2 Sep	2	3 Nov	14
Unidentified				28
Total including unidentified:				9800

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ABBREVIATIONS

AP – Apollo Plaza, SULL; **BCF** – Blue Chip Farm, ULST; **BFAS** – Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary, DUTC; **BMSP** – Bear Mountain SP, ROCK; **BP** – Browns Pd, ORAN; **BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA, SULL; **CIOES** – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, DUTC; **CFSP** – Clarence Fahnestock SP, PUTN; **CMACS** – Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary, DUTC; **CPP** –

Croton Pt P, WEST; **DHCLP** – D and H Canal Linear P, SULL; **DR** – Doodletown Rd, ROCK; **DRT** – Dutchess Rail Trail, DUTC; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, WEST; **EMLH** – Esopus Meadows Light House, ULST; **FPNC** – Forsythe P and Nature Center, ULST; **GL** – Glenmere L, ORAN; **GMP** – Glasco Mini P, ULST; **GV** – Great Vly WMA, ULST; **HS** – Harcourt Sanctuary, ULST; **HVRT** – Harlem Valley Rail Trail, DUTC; **II** – Iona I, ROCK; **KL** – Kiamesha L, SULL; **KP** – Kingston Pt, ULST; **LGC** – Laurel Grove Cemetery, ORAN; **LM** – Liberty Marsh, ORAN; **LR** – Larchmont Res, WEST; **LNP** – Lenoir Nature Pres, WEST; **MRCC** – Mariondale Retreat and Conference Center, WEST; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MF** – Muscoot Farm, WEST; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **MPHW** – Mount Peter Hawk Watch, ORAN; **NCR** – New Croton Res, WEST; **NR** – Neversink Res, SULL; **NW** – Newburgh Waterfront, ORAN; **OCBDR** – Orange Co. Black Dirt Region, ORAN; **OINP** – Oscawana I Nature Pres, WEST; **OMRLMSP** – Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills SP, DUTC; **PHP** – Peach Hill P, DUTC; **PITN** – Pine Island Turf Nursery, ORAN; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **RL** – Rhinecliff Landing, DUTC; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **RNC** – Rye Nature Center, WEST; **RR** – Rondout Res, SULL; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP, ORAN; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Road, ORAN; **SS** – Sleightsburg Spit, ULST; **SSF** – Stewart State Forest, ORAN; **TBWMA** – Tivoli Bays WMA, DUTC; **THMUA** – Taconic-Hereford Multiple Use Area, DUTC; **WL** – Wickham L, ORAN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill R NWR, ORAN.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: Woodbury Lane ORAN 14 Oct (BH); EGR 20 Oct (TK); Huguenot L WEST 23-28 Oct (LB); 600 Mt Peter Hawkwatch ORAN 13 Nov (AA, LA); 143 Dennings Pt DUTC 13 Nov (SI, LK); 383 Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch WEST 13 Nov (RA).
Greater White-fronted Goose: OCBDR 5 Nov (LS); Lake Osiris ORAN 12-25 Nov (BNo), KMi, KMCD, AW, mob); Spring L Hurley ULST 12 Nov (MD); Wallkill Rd ORAN 25 Nov (KMCD, BNo), *intro*.
Brant: 30 LNP 5 Oct (MH); 30 GL 12 Oct (KA, KMi, mob); Stoney Kill Farm DUTC 19 Oct (CP, DvZ, BM); 27 MPH 12 Oct (MZ); max 107 EGR 18 Oct-2 Nov (GBen, TB, CM).
Cackling Goose: Kingston ULST 6 Oct (MD); Sharon Station Rd Amenia DUTC 6 Oct (CP); Drake Rd Pd DUTC 5 Oct (SCam); Goshen Res ORAN 27 Oct (MZ); Hunns L DUTC 4 Nov (BM); State School Rd Warwick ORAN 5 Nov (KA, KMi); Wappinger L DUTC 8 Nov (DSt); BCF 12 Nov (BNo); Spring L ULST 20 Nov (WT); Rye WEST 30 Nov (JG, JM, LS), *intro*.

Canvasback: Swan L SULL 8 Nov (JH, KMi); max 136 MRCC 9-29 Nov (AS, SKA, SR, mob); 2 PP 20 Nov (BK); 6 EMLH 23 Nov (MD, DW, WT, mob).
Redhead: Vassar Farm and Ecological Pres DUTC 3 Oct (OB); 2 WL 9 Nov (KA); max 2 Kenozia L ULST 9-20 Nov (NM, MC, WT, mob); max 3 MRCC 15-28 Nov (CR, SK, mob).
Ring-necked Duck: Kensico Res WEST 3 Sep-6 Oct (NG); 12 Mud Pd WEST 11 Oct (TA); 12 Gibson Hill Rd ORAN (JS, JVG).
Surf Scoter: 2 Uncas L SULL 19 Oct (LB); 4 Kensico Res 20 Oct (NG, SKe); 5 EGR 22 Oct (GBen, TB); 2 RR 29 Oct (JH, KMi, SB); Orange L ORAN 3 Nov (BNo, KA, mob); Brown's Pd ORAN 21-27 Nov (BNo, KA).
White-winged Scoter: 2 NR 8 Oct (JH); Swan L 18 Oct (JH, SB, KMi); max 4 NR 20 Sep (JH, KMi, PD, SB); Orange L 16 Nov (MZ, LS, BNo); Kingston Pt ULST 23 Nov (KB, MD, DW, mob); MC 20 Nov (VH); RL 23 Nov (KB, DC, DvZ).
Black Scoter: max 5 NR 20 Oct (JH, KMi, PD, SBA); 19 Cornwall Bay ORAN 2 Nov

(BNo, KA, mob); 14 Orange L ORAN 3 Nov (BNo, KA, KMcd, mob); max 35 Ashokan Res ULST 2 Nov (DW, WT, PD, mob); 19 Cornwall Bay 2 Nov (BNo, KA, LA); 19 Plum Pt ORAN (BNo, KA); Yankee L SULL 8 Nov (JH).

Long-tailed Duck: max 4 Orange L 8-21 Nov (BNo, MZ, LS); 2 Ashokan Res 15-23 Nov (PS, SS); 2 EGR 25 Nov (GBen, TB).

Bufflehead: RR 1 Sep-27 Oct (JH, NH); 9 Sylvan L DUTC 26 Oct (CP); 8 WL 27 Oct (MZ).

Ruddy Duck: 2 MP 25 Sep (JH); Washington L ORAN 8 Oct (BNo); 18 MRCC 8 Oct (SK); 3 Abel's Pd Verbank DUTC 14 Oct (AM); 5 Sylvan L DUTC 18 Sep (CP); max 15 Swan L 19-31 Oct (JH, KM, SB).

Ruffed Grouse: Sky Top Tower ULST 29 Oct (FD); Swan L 12 Oct (NF); Balsam L Mountain ULST 14 Oct (SCar); Lake Devenoge SULL 20 Oct (NH); Frost Valley ULST 22 Oct (NO).

Horned Grebe: max 3 Ashokan Res 20 Sep-5 Oct (DH, DWe); 2 Orange L 8 Oct (BNo); Swan L 19 Oct-9 Nov (JH, KM, SB); Kensico Res WEST 20 Oct (NG); 3 KL 29 Oct (JH, KM, SB); 4 Ashokan Res 29 Oct (DO).

Red-necked Grebe: Cross River Res WEST 28 Oct-5 Nov (SCam, SWr); Sylvan L DUTC 31 Oct (CP); Kensico Res 8 Nov (NG); Washington L 25-26 Nov (BNo, KM); WL 25 Nov (KA).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 2 BSWMA 3-21 Sep (JH, LA, BNo, SB, mob); FPNC 10 Sep (MD); Rye 11 Sep (SO); DR 2 Sep (ME); Dennings Pt SP DUTC 20 Sep (GC); Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 22 Oct (RA); RLSP 9 Nov (AVK).

Black-billed Cuckoo: BSWMA 3-16 Sep (JH, BNo); Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway WEST 24 Sep (BN); Ulster P ULST 27 Sep (DT); BSWMA 3 Oct (KM); OCBDR 1 Nov (KM).

Common Nighthawk: max 2 CPP 8-9 Sep (AS, SWr, mob); 16 MC 8 Sep (GBen, TB); max 121 Chestnut Ridge Hawk Watch 9 Sep (RA); 7 North Highland P PUTN 9 Sep (AM); 15 BSWMA 10 Sep (JH).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Yonkers WEST 1 Oct (MBo); Scarsdale WEST 4-11 Oct (SM).

RAILS – LARIDS

Clapper Rail: MC 2-28 Sep (GBen, DJ); MC 15 Oct (GBen, TB).

Virginia Rail: BSWMA 6-12 Sep (SB); WRNWR 18 Sep (SA); Weston Rd Swamp ULST 15 Sep (AVK, JG); WRNWR 7 Oct (GC); HVRT 3 Nov (JA).

Sora: GV 13 Sep (JG, AVK); WRNWR 17-18 Sep (EF, SAN); PP 14 Oct (RO).

Common Gallinule: max 4 BSWMA 1-21 Sep (JH, SB, mob); max 15 WRNWR 3-21 Sep (LS, MZ, mob).

American Coot: max 40 Sylvan L 20 Oct-28 Nov (CP, KB, DvZ, mob); max 53 RLSP 24 Oct-25 Nov (AW, CC, mob); max 50 BSWMA 30 Oct-7 Nov (JH, KM, SB, mob); max 100 NCR 1-27 Nov (MSt, BSt, LT, mob); max 12 Chadwick L P ORAN 15-25 Nov (BNo, KA, AW).

Sandhill Crane: 2 PITN 1-14 Sep (KMcd, JH, SCam); 2 OCBDR 6 Sep (BNo, TB, GBen); 2 PITN 8 Sep (FP, PC); 2 WRNWR 25-27 Sep (LS, KA, JM, MR); max 3 WRNWR 6 Oct-12 Nov (CA, GC, KA, mob); 3 HVRT 29 Oct-6 Nov (BM, DK, LM mob); 2 Ashokan Rail Trail ULST 30 Nov (WT), *intro*.

American Oystercatcher: 3 MC 3 Sep (GBen, TB); max 3 Five Islands P WEST 10 Sep -5 Oct (LG, GC, mob).

Black-bellied Plover: 2 PITN 5 Oct (SCam, KB, mob); max 5 Rye Town P WEST 5-25 Oct (NB, KMcd, GBen); 2 EGR 18 Oct (GBen TB); 2 MC 1-2 Nov (GBen, TB).

American Golden-Plover: Hillview Res WEST 4 Sep (SCam); 2 PITN 8 Sep (FP, PCI); 30 OCBDR 14 Sep (KM, DB, mob); Hillview Res 2 Oct (SCam); GL 5 Oct (MZ); CPP 5 Oct (RL).

Semipalmated Plover: GV 22 Sep (PD); OCBDR 7-9 Sep (DSt, DT, JD); CPP 1 Sep (KB); 6 MC 17 Sep (DJ); 5 EGR 3 Sep (GBen, TB).

Ruddy Turnstone: 2 Rye Town P WEST 12 Sep (GBen, TB); max 4 Rye Town P 16-18 Oct (SCam, BSt, GBen, TB).

Stilt Sandpiper: Beaver Pd ORAN 1 Sep (BNo, MZ, LS, JH, KM); Citgo Pd 1 Oct (MZ); Citgo P 8 Oct (MZ), *intro*.

Sanderling: 2 SS 9 Sep (JY, MF); Dennings Pt 9 Sep (RV).

Dunlin: Citgo Pd 30 Sept (FP); WRNWR 26 Sep (JM).

Baird's Sandpiper: GV 3-8 Sep (FM, PS, RM); OCBDR 6-9 Sep (RS, LS, KA, mob); Beaver Pd 12 Sep (KA).

Least Sandpiper: max 5 GV 18-19 Oct (PS, RM); 2 GL 20 Oct (MZ); Washington L 21-25 Oct (BNo); 2 Barrett Pd PUTN 25 Oct (SCam,

KB, mob); 6 WRNWR 26 Oct (KA); GV 1 Nov (PS).

White-rumped Sandpiper: SHSR 23 Sep (MZ, JH, BNo, mob); SHSR 1 Oct (MZ); Ashokan Res 21 Oct (FM).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2 OCBDR 6-7 Sep (RS, LS, JH, mob); GV 13 Sep (PS, BF, PM, mob).

Pectoral Sandpiper: WRNWR 7 Sep (KA, BNo, MB, mob); 9 GV 22 Sep (PS, WT, PD, mob); 4 MP 29 Sep (JH); SHSR 1 Oct (MZ).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 Beaver Pd 6 Sep (BNo, JH, KMi); max 3 Citgo Pd 8 Sep-1 Oct (KA, MZ).

Short-billed Dowitcher: MC 5 Sep (GBen, TB); GV 22 Sep (PS, WT, mob); WRNWR 26 Sep (JMi).

Long-billed Dowitcher: max 3 GV 22 Sep-11 Oct (PS, WT, PD, mob), *intro*.

Solitary Sandpiper: Gibson Hill Rd 24 Sep (JS); OCBDR 6 Oct (GC); SFSP 13 Oct (BNo); GL 13 Oct (FP); max 2 Kendridge Farm ORAN 7-10 Oct (BNo); SSF 13 Oct (BNo); Barrett Pd 25 Oct (SCam).

Red Phalarope: Kensico Res 7 Oct (JL).

Bonaparte's Gull: 12 Hudson Ri DUTC 22 Sep (LVV); NR 15 Oct (JH); max 2 CPP 19 Oct (BNo, GP, JB, AW); Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 19 Oct (RA); 3 Ashokan Res 2 Nov (WT, FM, DF, mob); Orange L 3 Nov (KMi); Washington L 3 Nov (BNo).

Laughing Gull: 25 Kirby Lane Pd WEST 31 Oct (GBen, TB); 5 Milton Pt. WEST 18 Oct (GBen, TB); 98 EGR 31 Oct (GBen, TB); 3 Croton Res WEST 10 Nov (LT); 3 EGR 13 Nov (GBen, TB, SCam); max 11 EGR 23-25 Nov (GBen, SK, FG, mob).

Iceland Gull: CPP 9 Nov (PP, RL, LT, AS, mob); max 2 EGR 18-23 Nov (GBen, TB, SCam, mob), *intro*.

Caspian Tern: SS 9 Sep (JY).

Forster's Tern: max 16 MC 10-16 Oct (GBen, EM, PC, mob); max 5 EGR 11-17 Oct (GBen, TB, MSt, BSt).

LOONS - FALCONS

Red-throated Loon: CPP 6 Oct (SWr); Cross River Res WEST 7 Oct (SCam); Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 18 Oct (RA); Rye Town P 13 Nov (SCam); 3 EGR 14 Nov (GBen, TB); max 48 Orange L 19 Nov (BNo, KMi); max 3 KL 19-20 Nov (SB, KMi); WL 18-20 Nov (LS, KA).

Great Cormorant: max 10 EGR 7 Oct-23 Nov (GBen, TB, NG, SK, mob); max 2 New

Croton Res 4-11 Nov (LT, SK); Brown's Pd 9-27 Nov (BNo, KMcd, JC, mob); Congers Memorial P ROCK 17 Nov (PM).

American Bittern: WRNWR 13 Sep (MO).

Great Egret: Sharon Station Rd DUTC 3 Nov (CP, DvZ); max 5 WRNWR 1-12 Nov (CaIb, BS, LS); Stanfordsville DUTC 6 Nov (DK); Conklin Hill Rd DUTC 8 Nov (DK).

Snowy Egret: Five Islands P 1 Nov (LBo); Five Islands P 23 Nov (FGu), *intro*.

Little Blue Heron: MC 5 Oct (VH); Byram Ridge L WEST 25 Oct-5 Nov (NG) late, *intro*.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Hudson Ri DUTC 22 Sep (LVV); Bowdoin Co P DUTC 22 Sep (LF); WRNWR 6-26 Sep (KA, SAN, JM); EGR 10-12 Oct (KMcd, MSt, BSt); Ulster Co Fairgrounds ULST 14 Oct (GF, CK); Haverstraw Bay ROCK 20 Oct (AW); EGR 29 Oct (VH); EGR 6 Nov (GBen, TB).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: max 2 Five Islands P 14-20 Sep (BNI, VH).

Osprey: Conklin Hill Rd DUTCH 3-5 Nov (DvZ, CP, DK); CPP 5 Nov (RL, SK); MC 5-6 Nov (NG, DJ); Rye Town P 5 Nov (SCam); MC 7 Nov (GBen, TB, KMcd); RSP 11 Nov (GBer, EG, KWil); Chadwick L ORAN 15 Nov (BNo); MC 20 Nov (VH). See also hawkwatch charts above.

Golden Eagle: Catskill Forest Pres ULST 14 Oct (DH); MPHW 15 Oct (JCI); SFSP 23 Oct (EF); Pine Plains DUTC 29 Oct- 3 Nov (DK, AM); Pine Plains 13 Nov (BM, KF, CF); Clove Rd Unionvale DUTC 16 Nov (DK); Saugerties ULST 16 Nov (RM); Thompson Pd Pres DUTC 17 Nov (KB, DvZ). See also hawkwatch charts above.

Northern Goshawk: Hurlay Mt Rd ULST 25 Sep (WY); Mohonk Pres ULST 30 Sep (KMa); Kensico Res 16 Nov (NG). See also hawkwatch charts above.

Bald Eagle to Red-shouldered Hawk: See hawkwatch charts above.

Broad-winged Hawk: 3764 Bear Mt Hawkwatch 16 Sep (GP). See also hawkwatch charts above.

Red-tailed Hawk: See hawkwatch charts above.

SWAINSON'S HAWK: OCBDR 14 Oct (SAn), *intro*.

Rough-legged Hawk: OCBDR 17 Oct (RV); OCBDR 17 Nov (KMcd, JC).

American Kestrel and Merlin: See hawkwatch charts above.

Peregrine Falcon: BFAS 6 Oct (BB, KF, CF, mob); MP 8 Oct (JH). Widespread in Hudson Valley. See also hawkwatch charts above.

Short-eared Owl: CPP 13 Oct (RL); max 7 SGNWR 9-30 Nov (KMcD, SL, BK, mob); 3 OCBDR 25 Nov (KMcD); Weston Rd Swamp ULST 29 Nov (GF).

Red-headed Woodpecker: MF 1 Sep (YH); max 3 Vassar Farms and Ecological Pres DUTC 11 Sep-29 Nov (CP, AS, DvZ, mob); RR 18 Sep (DS); LNP 28 Sep (MB); Wilderstein Historic Site DUTC 16 Oct (KF, CF, MK, mob); max 12 Weston Rd Swamp 1 Sep-29 Oct (MD, MS, JG, mob).

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: CMACS 1 Sep (JA); max 2 CFSP 2-20 Sep (AM, DvZ, SR, mob); Ward Pound Ridge Reservation WEST 4 Sep (BNi); BSWMA 5 Sep (KMj); WRNWR 7 Sep (KA, BNo, MB); BSWMA 7 Sep (PD); CPP 12 Sep (LT); RSP 25 Sep (BNi).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 Mohonk Pres ULST 2 Sep (GF); 2 BSWMA 3 Sep (JH, SB); FPNC 10 Sep (MD); CFSP 15 Sep (AM); Depot Hill DUTC 20 Sep (CP, DvZ).

Northern Shrike: Wisner Rd ORAN 17 Nov (MZ).

White-eyed Vireo: 2 Harriman SP ORAN 1 Sep (WM); Depot Hill 9 Sep (CP); CPP 12 Sep (SKa, AS); WRNWR 26 Sep (LS); Newburgh ORAN 27 Sep (BNo); EGR 23 Oct (BS); Ramapo River Fishing Access ORAN 1 Nov (EF).

Blue-headed Vireo: Rhinebeck DUTC 23 Nov (DvZ, KB, CP).

Philadelphia Vireo: max 2 BSWMA 5-20 Sep (JH, SB, SA, mob); RSP 9 Sep (GBen, TB); 2 FPNC 11 Sep (MD); CFSP 18 Sep (SR); CFSP 18 Sep (SR, KB, LJ); High Banks Pres ULST 21 Sep (FM); Depot Hill 22-26 Sep (DC, AM, CP, mob); 2 Montgomery Place Historic Site DUTC 25 Sep (KF, CF, DC, mob); max 2 WRNWR 27-28 Sep (KA, BNo, LA, mob).

Tree Swallow: 2 HVRT 30 Oct (DC); 4 Gibson Hill Rd 31 Oct (JS).

Marsh Wren: SHSR 26 Nov (KA).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: MC 1 Nov (EM).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: SFSP 13 Sep (EF); CFSP 21 Sep (GC); Panther Mt ULST 18 Sep (DS); BSWMA 25 Sep (JH); Chadwick L P 25 Sep (KA, MB, mob); Kukok Lane ULST 29 Sep (MD); RSP 19 Oct (VH); BSWMA 28 Oct (JH).

Swainson's Thrush: SHSR 16 Sep (KA); BSWMA 17 Sep (JH, KMj); CPP 28 Sep (LT); Depot Hill 28 Sep (AM, CP); CMACS 3 Oct (KB, CR).

American Pipit: 11 Ulster P ULST 15 Sep (DT); 3 SHSR 24 Sep (JH, BNo, KMj); 13 NR 8 Oct (JH); max 35 CPP 9 Oct (AS, CR, SKa); GL 20 Oct (MZ); Barrett Pd 20 Oct (KB).

Purple Finch: Hopewell Junction DUTC 21 Sep (DSt); Goosepond South ORAN 14 Oct (KA); EGR 12 Oct (MSt, BSt); 5 CPP 13 Oct (SWi, LF); Woodstock Artist Cemetery ULST 19 Oct (GF).

Pine Siskin: Hunt Parker Sanctuary WEST 4 Oct (TJ); 6 Route 116 Purdy's WEST (JF); Marbletown ULST 21 Oct (FM).

Snow Bunting: GV 2 Nov (PS); max 20 CPP 3-19 Nov (JP, RL, LT, PH, mob); 10 NR 9 Nov (RS); Kripple Bush ULST 10 Nov (FM, DF); 12 Rockefeller Lane DUTC 17 Nov (KB, DvZ).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

Clay-colored Sparrow: LaGrangeville DUTC 5 Oct (AM); Posquillo Creekside Rd ULST 8-9 Nov (PS).

Vesper Sparrow: CPP 5 Oct (SKa, SR, LT, mob); LaGrangeville DUTC 6 Oct (CP, DvZ, BM); OCBDR 11 Oct (KA); Stony Kill Farm EEC DUTC 2 Oct (DvZ); Kendridge Farm ORAN 2 Oct (AA); 2 Resnick Rd SULL 10 Oct (JH); 2 WRNWR 11 Oct (KA); Kendridge Farm 21 Oct (BNo); WRNWR 8 Nov (KMj).

LARK SPARROW (R9): Carmel High School PUTN 18 Sep (AM); SHSR 29-30 Sep (KA, MZ, KMj, BNo, mob), *intro*.

Grasshopper Sparrow: OCBDR 3 Sep (LS); SGNWR 10 Sep (CK); Stoney Kill Farm EEC 2 Oct (DvZ); Stoney Kill Farm EEC 19 Oct (DvZ, BM).

LECONTE'S SPARROW: Hurley Mountain Rd ULST 27 Sep (ZNS), *intro*.

Nelson's Sparrow: max 3 MC 8-16 Oct (KMcGr, GBen, TB, PC, mob); CPP 11 Oct (KB, CR, SK, SR).

Saltmarsh Sparrow: EGR 20 Oct (TK).

Lincoln's Sparrow: 2 BSWMA 14 Sep (JH); 2 BSWMA 20-21 Sep. (NH, SB, mob); WRNWR 20 Sep (KW); TBWMA. 20 Sep (GC); MC 30 Sep (TB, GBen); 2 Ulster P 9 Nov (DT); HS 11 Nov (DW).

Yellow-breasted Chat: Tanglewood Drive DUTC 23 Sep (DvZ); MC 14 Oct (TB); MC

18-30 Nov (KMcG, GBen, TB, SCam, FGU, mob), *intro*.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 7 SGNWR 15 Sep-12 Oct (RB, NE, mob); max 4 CPP 9 Oct-2 Nov (SKa, LF, SWi, mob); Stoney Kill Farm 9 Oct (AL, mob); Resnick Rd SULL 10 Oct (JH).
Orchard Oriole: 2 CPP 1 Sep (LT); Teatown L Reservation WEST 10 Sep (SCam).
Rusty Blackbird: CFSP 20 Sep (SCam, KB, EJ); 3 Yorktown Bike Path WEST 5 Oct (SR, SKa, mob); max 170 BSWMA 6 Oct-22 Nov (JH, SB, KMi); max 6 GL 6-20 Oct (MZ, KA); 8 Dobbs Ferry WEST 18 Oct (KT); max 40 Barrett Pd PUTN 20 Oct (AM, KB).
Worm-eating Warbler: Depot Hill 3 Sep (CP); Tall Mountain SP ROCK 7 Sep (AR); BSWMA 13-15 Sep (JH, KMi, SB).
Blue-winged Warbler: RSP 17 Sep (AR).
Tennessee Warbler: 2 BSWMA 15 Sep (JH, SB); max 2 WRNWR 13-20 Sep (JC, KA, LS, mob); max 9 Panther Mt 18 Sep (DS); max 2 CIES 19 Sep (KF, CF); max 2 Depot Hill 1-20 Sep (CP, DvZ); max 4 RSP 7-9 Sep (GBen, TB, AS, mob).
Orange-crowned Warbler: FPNC 25 Sep (MD); WRNWR 30 Sep (KA); CPP 25 Oct (RL); max 2 MC 26-27 Oct (GBen, TB); MC 4, 7 Nov (TB, GBen).
Connecticut Warbler: Ninham Mt SF PUTN 13 Sep (JB); WRNWR 20 Sep (RS); Depot Hill

24 Sep (AL); 2 BSWMA 25 Sep (SB, JM); Upton L Christian School ULST 25 Sep (JC); Tillson L ULST 27 Sep (TC, JV); CPP 5 Oct (The Salmons, AS).
Hooded Warbler: BSWMA 15 Sep (JH, SB).
Cape May Warbler: Yankee L SULL 16 Sep (JH); max 2 WRNWR 7-20 Sep (KA, BN, MB, mob); Franklin D. Roosevelt SP WEST 18 Sep (AS).
Northern Parula: CPP 10 Nov (BS, MST).
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 4 BSWMA 11-20 Sep (SB, JH, SAl); max 2 Dennings Pt SP DUTC 6-8 Sep (BM, MK, AL); max 3 CFSP (KB, EJ); max 3 RSP 5-20 Sep (VH, GBen, MGro).
Black-throated Green Warbler: MC 1 Nov (GBen, TB); Hurley ULST 10 Nov (RH).
Wilson's Warbler: Greystone WEST 6 Nov (JR).
Summer Tanager: Yonkers WEST 1 Oct (MBo), *intro*.
Scarlet Tanager: Croton Falls Res WEST 31 Oct (SCam).
Blue Grosbeak: Hillview Res WEST 24 Sep (SCam), *intro*.
Dickcissel: MC 8 Sep (GBen, TB); LNP 18 Sep (MBo); Posquillo Creekside Rd ULST 27 Sep (PS); LNP 13 Oct (MB); CPP 13 Oct (LT, KB, mob); Posquillo Creekside Rd 3, 8 Nov (PS).



REGION 10—MARINE

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September and October were warmer than average, peaking with Islip recording 3.6° F above average in October. November was an irreverent month with Central Park approaching both its all time high and low within ten degrees each, hitting 69° on the 1st and 20° three weeks later (the records were set in 1990 and 1989, respectively). September was very dry across Region 10, receiving about a fifth of its usual rainfall. November was nearly as dry, slightly above average totals in October partially offset these losses. A persistent easterly component to the wind steered many migrants inland, and so migrant volume was generally light on Long Island.

	Central Park			Islip		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Sep	70.4°	68.0°	+2.4°	67.1°	65.6°	+1.5°
Oct	59.9°	56.9°	+3.0°	57.9°	54.3°	+3.6°
Nov	43.9°	47.7°	-3.8°	41.8°	45.1°	-3.3°
Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Sep	0.95"	4.28"	-3.33"	0.61"	3.58"	-2.97"
Oct	6.15"	40.4"	+1.75"	5.92"	3.79"	+2.13"
Nov	1.95"	4.02"	-2.07"	1.81"	3.67"	-1.81"

In September 2019 a landmark study was published in the *Journal Science*. “Decline of North American Avifauna” (Rosenberg et al.) considered many sources of data before concluding that the total population of North American birds has declined by nearly three billion individuals, or 29%, since 1970. As horrific and troubling as those numbers are, they are likely to surprise neither the ornithology nor birding communities, which understand the mounting pressures on wildlife. This will not be the last alarming study and we all must not succumb to despondency when there is plenty we can do to help the birds that remain. Hopefully more of the general public is aware of the dramatic losses we have been recording for decades.

A local-scale blight of recent years has been availability of migratory shorebird habitat. Simple yet repeated mismanagement of the East Pond of Jamaica Bay continued this year, keeping the habitat they require submerged. Shorebirds have been found in numbers at other relatively close sites, including the Jones Beach dune ponds and the Orchard Beach parking lot puddles, but these sites are not to the same scale and water levels are more variable. This season’s rising shorebirding spot was the Jerome Park Reservoir in the western Bronx. Water levels remained low through the end of September, attracting species like American Golden-Plover, Western, White-rumped, Pectoral, and Baird’s Sandpiper, and Wilson’s Phalarope (in August). County listing enthusiasts were delighted to add some very hard species in that 42-square mile urban county. One species in higher supply this year was American Avocet, which was found at multiple coastal locations in four counties, with birds at Jamaica Bay lingering for nearly two months.

There were not many procellarids to see this season, but there were some seabirding highlights. Brown Pelicans continue to increase in Region 10 waters, with up to 15 seen off Staten Island. Brown Boobies irrupted northward this year, with many showing up across the eastern half of the continent, both inland and coastal, and some even debuting in western Europe. One **Brown Booby** was spotted from a seawatch at Robert Moses State Park on 2 September. Most of these sightings seemed to be independent of the tropical storms that would usually carry this species north. Another sighting that was pretty shocking without the immediate context of a tropical system was three **Sandwich Terns** that spent a few hours on the beach by Sagaponack. Hurricane Dorian had passed well

offshore on 6 September. Several storms brought in numbers of jaegers inshore, even in to New York City waters.

Nighthawk migration was improved this year. Four Harbors Audubon launched their Goatsucker Initiative in 2017, which has included a Common Nighthawk Watch from the stone bridge in the village of Setauket. They have recorded nighthawks each evening from 27 August to 6 October every year since. This year they recorded a record 2,757 individuals, 34% more than the year before. Averaging over their 71.2 hours of effort, a nighthawk was seen every 38.6 seconds!

The Seatuck Challenge, in its sixth year of competition, took place later in September this year. The nagging easterly component to the wind kept the birding from its full potential, but four new birds were added to the running list: Lesser Scaup, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Winter Wren, and White-crowned Sparrow. 157 species were found on the day. “The Outlaws” saw 113 species on the day and took home the precious trophy. I want to thank the Seatuck Environmental Organization for making this very fun event such a hit.

Another tradition upheld was the lingering of various migrants in city parks. Bryant Park hosted a Prothonotary Warbler in October, and a Veery into mid-November. Union Square Park had a Mourning Warbler in late October (concurrent with a Saltmarsh Sparrow!). Ovenbirds were seen in eight different parks in November, and single Magnolia and Black-and-white Warblers were seen at coastal parks in the beginning of the month.

As Bald Eagles increase around the Region, the occasional Golden Eagle joins. Although regular at some hawkwatches in the East, they rarely approach the coast or cross the Long Island Sound. This season there was one seen over Staten Island and two over Suffolk. A more regular but irruptive bird of prey, Northern Shrike, was scarce this year; the only report was at Caumsett on 14 November. Other non-passerine highlights were a number of **Ash-throated Flycatchers**, a **Say’s Phoebe** seen in morning flight at Jones Beach, and a juvenile **Purple Gallinule** seen for only one day only in Central Park. A rail photographed at the Marine Nature Study Area in Oceanside appeared to be a King Rail. The site has had hybrid Clapper and King Rails in previous years (but none in the last few), and the bird’s plumage was messy, so it is hard to eliminate a hybrid, and is listed in this report under *Rallus* sp.

For rare passerines, November began with a **Painted Bunting** at the visitor center at Jamaica Bay. Individuals were also seen in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and in December, Pennsylvania as well. New individuals were found in Region 10 and the Northeast through the beginning of winter. Painted Bunting joined the eclectic irruption squad for this season featuring Brown Booby, American Avocet, and Ash-throated Flycatcher. There was one more surprise species irrupting this season, and one spent a long time in Suffolk County. Golden-crowned Sparrow had been seen in Maryland in October and then Cape May, New Jersey in the middle of November. Photos were posted online (the same day that the Cape May bird was found) showing another **Golden-**

crowned Sparrow had already been at Brookside County Park in Sayville, Suffolk County for at least a day. Between 17 and 24 November, hundreds of birders came to this narrow park along Green Creek to see the cooperative sparrow attending an easily-accessed feeding station.

303 species were reported in the Region this season.

FIRE ISLAND HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture				0
Turkey Vulture				0
Osprey	8/24	85	9/17	418
Golden Eagle				0
No. Harrier	8/24	8	9/29	113
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/15	10	10/18	130
Cooper’s Hawk	9/7	9	10/26	71
No. Goshawk				0
Bald Eagle	9/16	2	9/29, 11/13, 11/29	8
Red-shouldered Hawk				0
Broad-winged Hawk				0
Red-tailed Hawk	11/8	1	11/8, 11/16, 11/23	3
Rough-legged Hawk				0
Am. Kestrel	8/24	133	10/4	423
Merlin	8/24	193	10/4	884
Peregrine Falcon	9/7	20	9/29	103
Unidentified				4
Total including unidentified:				2162

Region 10, and indeed the entire natural history community, lost a key figure and dear friend when Rich Kelly passed away on 6 September, 2019 after a valiant battle with cancer. A wonderful, comprehensive tribute to Rich can be found in the Long Island Botanical Society’s Quarterly Newsletter, Vol. 30, No. 1, containing more anecdotes and accolades than can be included here. We wish to share a sentiment from Sean Sime to Doug Futuyama, Rich’s longtime CBC partner, which poignantly captures how many of us feel when we think of Rich:

“There are many reasons we choose to watch birds. For some it is the beauty of these winged jewels, for others it is the science and numbers that draw us, the chase, the community. For me it is a combination of all these things.

There is an order, and reassurance in the seasons. Cues like the first spring day our local patches are alive with sound, or the first true cold front that slips through in July, invisible to the people around us, but to the initiated, a canon blast sounding the beginning of fall migration. The CBCs and their compilation dinners are an extension of this. Walking through the front door of Otto’s and hearing the din of

laughter and voices sharing in the experiences of the day...it is seared in my memory. I can close my eyes and see it whenever I choose.

It is a slice of perfection. In the simplest terms, it's the way it should be.

Each time we find a chair of a friend empty we mourn not only their loss, but struggle to reconcile our feelings of sadness—that this thing we hold so dear is temporarily tarnished. We are forced to acknowledge how fragile our slice of perfection really is.

The decades of comradery and shared history make obvious to me that no matter what brought us to birds, birds brought us into each other's lives. I want you to know that you are a part of mine. While you may not get to walk your CBC territory with Rich, you will find him in nature whenever you look.”

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ABBREVIATIONS

APEC – Alley Pd Environmental Center, QUEE; **APP** – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **BBrB** – Brooklyn Bridge P, KING; **BBYC** – Bellport Bay Yacht Club, SUFF; **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 Cr/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 P, 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** – Greenwood Cemetery, KING; **HLSP** – Hempstead L SP, NASS; **HP** – Hook Pd, East Hampton, SUFF; **HSP** – Heckscher SP, SUFF; **JBWE** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **KP** – Kissena P, QUEE; **Mass** – Massapequa Pres, 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

Cackling Goose: 2 Arthur J. Hendrickson P, NASS 10 Nov thru (TH, mob), returning individuals; max 7 MF 11 Nov (JRG); Orient Pt, SUFF 11 Nov (JSep); Great Pd, SUFF 15 Nov (JSep); JBWE 14 Nov (MG); Brightwaters L, SUFF 22 Nov (KFe); Farmingdale State College, SUFF 27 Nov (BF).

Mute Swan: max 207 JBWR (ABk), max for fall 2018 was 156.

Tundra Swan: 1 Oak Beach, SUFF 2 Nov (PMo); 3 JBWR, 23 Nov thru (mob).

Eurasian Wigeon: JBWR 30 Sep thru (mob), sporadic reports until Nov; Mill Pd Sayville, SUFF 28-31 Oct (mob); Sayre P, SUFF 6 Nov (CG); Bush Terminals P, KING 25 Nov (ABk); Deep Hole Creek, SUFF 30 Nov (JLe, HB).

Canvasback: max 25 Eastport L, 10-26 Nov (mob); 4 Centerport, SUFF 20 Nov (BF); 2 Baisley Pd, QUEE 22-30 Nov (mob), only 1 seen after first obs; 1 Little Neck Bay, QUEE 25 Nov (“Marcia A.”); 20 World’s Fair Marina, QUEE 30 Nov (mob).

Redhead: max 27 Baisley Pd, QUEE 16 Nov (CF, SA), down from fall 2018 R10 max of 65 there.

King Eider: f Orient 29 Sep-12 Oct (mob); f RMSP 3 Nov (mob); with CANG in parking lot; imm m Shinn 18 Nov (KCa, EIG).

Common Eider: max 2000 Shinn 25 Nov (PJJ, SSM).

Harlequin Duck: Orient 21 Oct (JS); Coney I, KING 10 Nov (DHr, RoM); Jones Inlet, NASS 16 Nov thru (mob); max 5.

Northern Bobwhite: several reports in SUFF from known reintroductions only.

Ring-necked Pheasant: few individuals from 8 locations, low counts even at traditional sites.

Red-necked Grebe: Sands Pt, NASS 17 Nov (GQ); Coney I, KING 19 Nov (AxW, LW, TPp); Plumb Beach, KING 30 Nov (PPau); **Common Nighthawk:** max 281 Setauket, SUFF 5 Sep (PaD, *et al.*).

Chimney Swift: CP 26 Nov (EdG), late.

RAILS – LARIDS

Virginia Rail: mostly migrants out of habitat, Brooklyn Heights, KING 25 Sep (RyC), bird captured in subway; Abingdon Sq Pk, NEWY 28 Sep-4 Oct (mob); BPB 4 Oct (PH); RP 16 Oct (SSi, DG), deceased; Ft. Wadsworth, RICH 11 Nov (MBK); BPT 11 Nov (LiS); Point Times Square, NEWY 12 Nov (“Joe”, Twitter: @sadtragicclown), bird photographed then captured in Duane Read store and was brief internet sensation; Arshamomaque 24-26 Nov (JSep, PeL, SBi).

Sora: JBWR 3 Sep-1 Oct (mob); OMNSA 10 Sep (BiB); Madison Sq P, NEWY 30 Sep-1 Oct (mob); Saltmarsh Nature Center, KING 2 Oct (SSM, AHo); MP 9 Nov (TH), late.

Rallus sp.: 1 OMNSA 10 Sep (“Jay Koolpix”), ph, *intro*.

PURPLE GALLINULE: juv CP 2 Nov (mob).

Common Gallinule: more reports than usual: JBWR 12 Sep-1 Oct (ABk); Blydenburg P, SUFF 30 Sep, 16 Oct (SMu); HLSP 24 Oct, 20 Nov (mob); Mill Pd, Bellmore, NASS 10 Nov thru (mob); Baisley Pd P, QUEE 16 Nov (SA, CFi); Lotus L, SUFF 21-25 Nov (VG, mob).

American Avocet: many: Sagaponack Pd, SUFF 10-16 Sep (mob); max 3 JBWR 18 Sep-10 Nov (mob); MF 25-30 Oct (mob); 2 OMNSA 26 Oct (BF, PPal, TH); Santapogue Creek, SUFF 4 Nov (mob); Mecox Inlet, SUFF 1-9 Nov (mob); 1 East Channel Islands, NASS 6 Nov (AK), likely one of the OMNSA birds.

American Golden-Plover: no major flocks in Riverhead sod farms area for second year in a row; max 21 12 Oct Eastport sod fields (MLL); max 3 Jerome Res, BRON 14-24 Sep (mob).

Upland Sandpiper: midtown Manhattan, NEWY 13 Sep (AF), predawn NFC from highrise.

Hudsonian Godwit: few: max 5 JBWR 3 Sep-10 Oct (mob); OMNSA 28 Sep-5 Oct (mob).

Marbled Godwit: NB 7 Sep (KCh); max 5 JBWE 14 Sep-19 Nov (mob); 4 CCP 14-17 Sep

(mob); JBWR 9 Oct (ACo, M. Passman, ABk); Oak Beach, SUFF 28 Sep (SSM); Plumb Beach, KING 12 Oct (mob); Big Egg Marsh area by kayak, KING 20-26 Oct (JMu, LD).

Red Knot: max 83 JBWE 4 Nov (PjL, SSM).

Baird's Sandpiper: HSP 1-4 Sep (mob); JBWR 7 Sep (mob); Nickerson Beach, NASS 7-11 Sep (mob); Jerome P Res, BRON 14-15 Sep (mob), unusual location; Mexoc Inlet, USSF 28 Sep (AnW, ACo).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Rockaway Beach, QUEE 2 Sep (TK); Mecox Inlet 7-8 Sep (ACo, AnW, AA), Sagaponack 8 Sep (JRo, MB) JBWR 24 Sep (ACo); HSP 6-9 Sep (mob).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 87 JBWR 14 Sep (MP), low.

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 61 JBWR 1 Oct (ABk), low.

Long-billed Dowitcher: max 5 Santapogue Creek, SUFF 1 Sep-10 Oct; OMNSA 10-13 Sep, 26 Nov (mob); Gilgo Beach, SUFF 17 Sep (KFe); JBWR 18 Sep-27 Oct (mob); Captree, SUFF 28 Sep (mob); JBWE 2-3 Nov (mob); Timber Pt, SUFF 21-29 Nov (JGI, KFe)

Wilson's Phalarope: RMSP 8 Sep (SSM, PM, TS), flyby at unusual loc; JBWR 18-24 Sep (ABk, ACo); Moriches Bay, SUFF 30 Sep (MM).

Red-necked Phalarope: 6 pelagic coordinates: 40.079,-73.038, SUFF 22 Sep (mob), pelagic from Brooklyn.

Pomarine Jaeger: pelagic coordinates: 39.163,-71.737, SUFF 22 Sep (mob), Brooklyn pelagic; RP 16 Oct (DG, SSI), very rare from shore.

Parasitic Jaeger: tied max 13 RMSP 20 Oct (PjL, SSM); 13 RP 27 Oct (CF)i, rare from western LI.

Razorbill: RMSP 5 Nov (SF, KFe).

Black-legged Kittiwake: RP 16, 27, 31 Oct (mob), rare from western LI; RMSP 27 Oct, 5 Nov (PMo; SF, KFe); East Hampton Main Beach, SUFF 27 Oct (AnW).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 300 Camp Hero, SUFF 11 Nov (AnW).

Black-headed Gull: Setauket, SUFF 19, 21 Nov (KCa; PaD).

Iceland Gull: offshore Shagwong Pt, SUFF 14 Nov (F. Durso); Clifton Railway, RICH 23 Nov thru (mob); Shinn 24 Nov (PjL, SSM).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 52 RMSP 2 Nov (TH), CP 27 Nov (A. Auerbach, A. Hale), rarer in the city; Liberty Island, NEWY (S. Kellogg).

Caspian Tern: max 6 JWBR 1 Oct (ABk).

Black Tern: Great Gull I, SUFF 7-9 Sep (JD); Orient area, SUFF 9-10 Sep (JS, SSM); Sagaponack, SUFF 10 Sep (MSb); Shinn 14 Sep (GB); JBWE 16-17 Sep (RH, KFe); **Common Tern:** dep MP, 31 Oct (KFe).

Royal Tern: max 196 RP 16 Oct (DG, SSI); dep FT 11 Nov (CF).

SANDWICH TERN: 3 Sagaponack, SUFF 13 Sep (mob), very unusual context of resting on beach without any associated with a storm.

LOONS - FALCONS

Northern Fulmar: none from shore; max 14 pelagic coordinates 39.163,-71.737 22 Sep (mob), Brooklyn pelagic.

Cory's Shearwater: offshore Montauk, SUFF 3 Sep (F. Durso); SPCP 12 Sep (K. Cashman); Sagaponack 14 Sep (KFe, ACo); offshore Gardiner's I, SUFF 14 Sep (F. Durso); multiple offshore SUFF 22 Sep (mob), Brooklyn pelagic; RMSP 12 Oct (PjL, SSM).

Great Shearwater: Cedar Beach Brookhaven, SUFF 2 Sep (APe), very rare in LI Sound; dep offshore SUFF 22 Sep (mob), Brooklyn pelagic.

Manx Shearwater: dep offshore Montauk, SUFF 14 Sep (F. Durso).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: no reports from shore; dep Lower New York Bay, KING 6 Oct (M. Papula).

Sulid sp.: RMSP 4 Oct (SSI), consistent with ad Masked Booby (!).

BROWN BOOBY: RMSP 2 Sep (PM, TS), intro.

Great Cormorant: max 19 Orient, SUFF (AnW).

Brown Pelican: multiple inds in all counties except NEWY and BRON.

American White Pelican: JBWR 16-24 Oct (mob).

American Bittern: besides migrants at typical coastal sites, VCP 10 Sep (DK), unusual loc; GKP 25 Oct (CBa), unusual location; East Village backyard, NEWY 8 Nov (anon), very unusual loc.

Tricolored Heron: dep Cow Meadow 30 Oct (BiB).

Turkey Vulture: kettle of 53 over Riverhead 12 Oct (MLL).

Black Vulture: 2 Riverhead 2-23 Nov (mob); multiple reports in all boroughs except QUEE. **Osprey:** season total 418 FIHW (mob), above average.

GOLDEN EAGLE (R10): Brookfield P, RICH 9 Nov (CBa, APu); Laurel Ridge

Setauket Woods Pres, SUFF 9 Nov (NSt); undisclosed South Fork location, SUFF location, 24 Nov (CYR), imm.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: season total 130 FIHW (mob), low.

Northern Goshawk: East Hampton, SUFF (AnW), only report.

Bald Eagle: increasing, seen throughout R10, 547 eBird records.

Red-shouldered Hawk: many records in each borough, West Brook Pond, SUFF 9 Sep (VG); JBWE 6 Nov (SSi); Gardiner Co. P, SUFF 23-26 Nov (MR, RH);

Broad-winged Hawk: max 16 midtown Manhattan, NEWY 4 Oct (AF); Melville, SUFF 23 Oct (BF), only record away from NYC, late; PBP 23 Oct (PH), late.

Snowy Owl: few, Shinn 18-23 Nov (KCa, CG); JBWE 30 Nov (mob).

Barred Owl: IHP 11 Oct (SPa).

Short-eared Owl: Brookhaven, SUFF 21 Oct (RH).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: few, Fuchs Pd, SUFF 28 Sep (mob); max 3 Stillwell Woods, NASS 19 Oct (TH); JBWE 17 Nov (PaD).

Red-headed Woodpecker: reports from all counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: CP 5 Oct (JMu, LM), morning flight count.

Northern Flicker: max 283 RMSP 25 Sep (MMB), low.

PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10): few reports from BRON and RICH only.

American Kestrel: season total 423 FIHW (mob), low.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: Shore Road P, KING 28 Oct (GK), Ft. Wadsworth, RICH 11 Nov (mob); Suffolk Co. Farm Center, SUFF 15-16 Nov (mob); Bayswater P, QUEE 25 Nov (LiS); Riverhead, SUFF 30 Nov (APe).

Western Kingbird: RMSP 9 Sep (BG, PJJ); Rockaway B, QUEE 14 Sep (CFi); RMSP 21 Sep (KT, JGl); Brookfield P, RICH 11-14 Oct (mob); West Meadow, SUFF 14-15 Oct (mob); 2 JBWE 2-23 Nov (mob).

kingbird sp.: CIC 19 Oct (DG); Cedar Beach Babylon, SUFF 2 Nov (PMo); likely WEKI.

Alder Flycatcher: FT 7 Sep (GL); CR 8 Sep (ACi); PP 9 Sep (JMa, PPau, GK).

SAY'S PHOEBE: JBWE 19 Oct (TH), flyby.

Northern Shrike: Caumsett SP, SUFF 14 Nov (KFe, SF); T. Roosevelt P, SUFF 29 Nov (ACo).

Common Raven: reports across all areas of all counties; max 9 JBWE (mob), single group.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: few reports this season.

Winter Wren: arr CP 13 Sep (AA, AHa).

SEDGE WREN (R10): PBP 5 Oct (RA, mob), first eBird record for BRON.

Veery: BRY thru 21 Nov (mob), late.

Hermit Thrush: CP 30 Sep (KFu), early.

VARIED THRUSH: APEC 18 Oct (EMi)

Purple Finch: few reports, max 10 IHP 19 Oct (NSo).

Pine Siskin: few reports, max 11 CCP 25 Nov (BY).

American Goldfinch: max 676 RMSP 29 Nov (SSM).

Lapland Longspur: arr RMSP 12 Oct (PJJ, SSM); max 9 Riverhead, SUFF 27 Nov (PJJ, SSM).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Chipping Sparrow: many lingering into beginning of winter in all counties.

Clay-colored Sparrow: multiple in each county except BRON; max 2 JBWE 18 Oct (KFe).

Vesper Sparrow: max 8 Caumsett SP, SUFF 26 Oct (NSt), high count.

Lark Sparrow: 1-3 ind in each county except QUEE.

Savannah Sparrow: max 114 Caumsett SP, SUFF 23 Oct (JMi, KFe).

Grasshopper Sparrow: EPCAL 20 Sep (J. Milton), last report on breeding ground; CP 18 Oct (mob); GWC 19-24 Oct (mob).

Saltmarsh Sparrow: Union Sq P, 25 Oct-1 Nov (mob), rare out of habitat and away from immediate coast.

Song Sparrow: 185 GTree 19 Oct (SPe), large number.

Swamp Sparrow: 242 GTree 19 Oct (SPe), just shy of 258 state high count from this location last year.

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW: Brookside CP, SUFF 15-25 Nov Patty Orgera, mob), first for SUFF, first on LI since 1995 (fide SSM).

Yellow-breasted Chat: one or more inds in each county.

The Kingbird 2020 March; 70 (1)

WESTERN MEADOWLARK: Crab Meadow Beach, SUFF 9 Nov (TS), audio.

Rusty Blackbird: max 15 APEC 15 Nov (LiS), low.

Boat-tailed Grackle: Merrill L Sanctuary, SUFF 14 Oct (AL), rare around Gardiner's Bay; APEC 26 Oct-15 Nov (mob), late at small, disjunct breeding colony; West Meadow Pres, SUFF 16 Oct (MSb), very local along LI sound; max 350 Charles Memorial P, QUEE 19 Oct (RSe).

Ovenbird: freq overwinterer and lingerer in city parks, with Nov sightings in 8(!) microparks, with additional sightings: PP 21 Nov (KD); and NYBG 22 Nov (TO); CP thru end of period (mob).

"Brewster's" Warbler (hybrid): SPP 1 Sep (PMo).

Black-and-white Warbler: Canarsie Beach P, KING 11 Nov (PP), late.

Prothonotary Warbler: BRY 10 Oct (mob), late.

Connecticut Warbler: reports from seven locations in NYC, only reports on LI morning flight: RMSP 25 Sep (MMb); RMSP 13 Oct (mob).

Mourning Warbler: Union Square P, NEWY 27 Oct (mob), late.

Magnolia Warbler: JBWE 3 Nov (BBE), late.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Uplands Farm, SUFF 24 Oct (RO), late.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: CP thru (mob).

Pine Warbler: max 18 Southaven Co. P 18 Sep (GQ).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 15,000 RMSP 19 Oct (SSM, PMo, TS).

Summer Tanager: singles CP 1 Sep, 1-2, 11 Oct, 15 Nov (mob); FP 15 Sep (JeL, DaL); GWC 30 Sep-1 Oct (mob).

Blue Grosbeak: at least 14 records across all counties.

Indigo Bunting: 36 GTree 30 Sep (SPe), large number.

PAINTED BUNTING: f-type JBWR 3-4 Nov (mob).

Dickcissel: reports from all R10 counties.

EXOTICS

Lined Seedeater: Charles Mem P, QUEE 7 Sep-8 Oct (mob), banded.

European Goldfinch: groups of 1-2 reported from PP and coastal Brooklyn, also Governor's I, NEWY; Northwest Harbor, SUFF 23 Nov (ACo), briefly visited feeder.



REPORTING YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Observers are strongly encouraged to report their findings directly to the Regional Editors, to help identify significant trends. Summary reports of observations; impressions of notable patterns in the weather, timing of migration, unusual scarcity or abundance of particular species, etc.; and notable individual records are highly valued. For maximum usefulness, send in reports no later than the 15th day of the month following the end of each season:

15 March, 15 June, 15 September, and 15 December.

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; arr – arrival or first of season; BBS – Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS – bird of the season; CBC – Christmas Bird Count; Co – County; I – Island; imm – immature; intro – see introduction to report; juv – juvenile; L – Lake; max – maximum; mob – multiple observers; Mt – Mountain; 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; Pres – Preserve; Pt – Point; Res – Reservoir; Ri – River; SP – State Park; spm – specimen; subad – subadult; T – Town of; thru – throughout period; Twn – township; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; y – young.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS CODES

These codes are listed in ascending order to highest breeding codes.

POSSIBLE: H – in appropriate habitat; S – singing bird.

PROBABLE: S7 – singing male present 7+ days; M – multiple (7+) singing males; P – pair in suitable habitat; T – territorial defense; C – courtship, display, or copulation; N – visiting probable nest site; A – agitated behavior; B – woodpecker/wren nest building.

CONFIRMED: PE – physiological evidence; CN – carrying nesting material; NB – nest building; DD – distraction display; UN – used nest; ON – occupied nest; FL – recently fledged and precocial young; CF – carrying food; FY – feeding young; FS – carrying fecal sac; NE nest with eggs; NY – nest with 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.

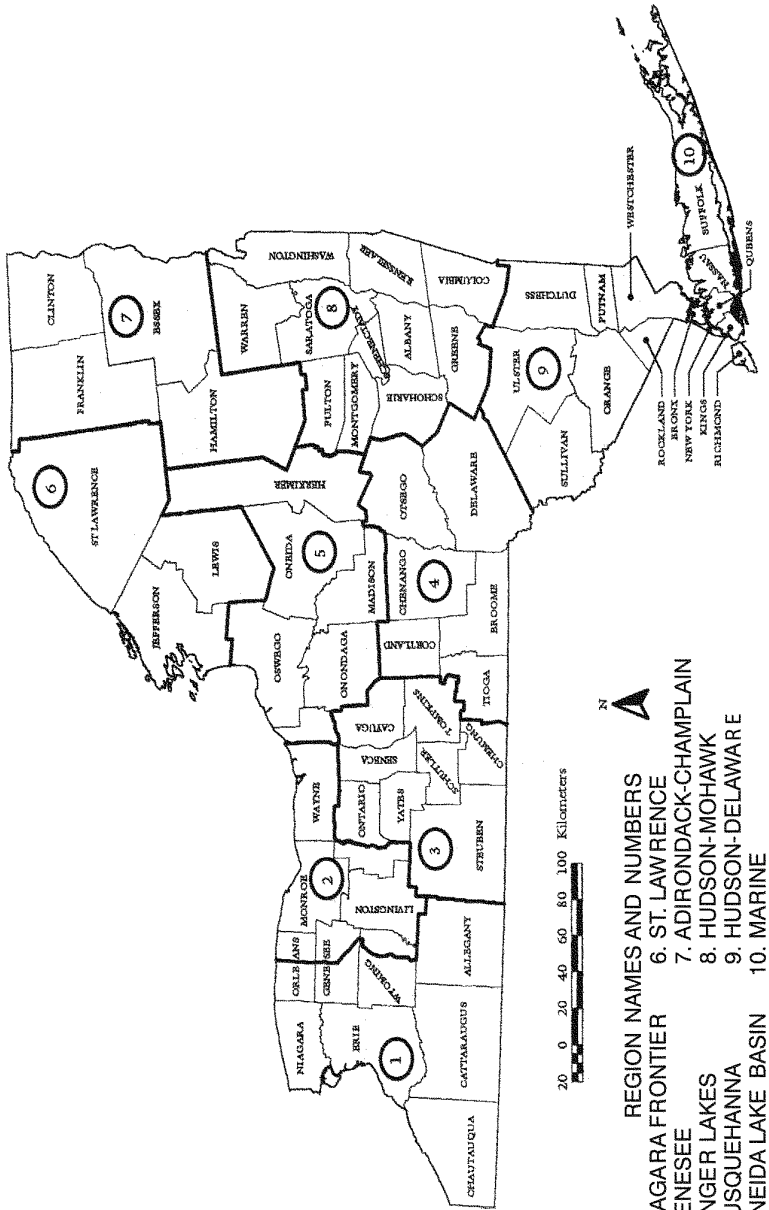
Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

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.

The Kingbird 2020 March; 70 (1)



- REGION NAMES AND NUMBERS**
- 1. NIAGARA FRONTIER
 - 2. GENESEE
 - 3. FINGER LAKES
 - 4. SUSQUEHANNA
 - 5. ONEIDA LAKE BASIN
 - 6. ST. LAWRENCE
 - 7. ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN
 - 8. HUDSON-MOHAWK
 - 9. HUDSON-DELAWARE
 - 10. MARINE

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