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# The KINGBIRD

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Back Cover – Eastern Kingbird, Montezuma NWR, *Seneca*, 24 May 2020,  
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## REPORT OF THE NEW YORK STATE AVIAN RECORDS COMMITTEE FOR 2016

The New York State Avian Records Committee (hereafter “NYSARC” or the “Committee”) evaluated 68 submissions involving 59 occurrences of New York State review species from 2016. Additionally, the Committee evaluated eight submissions involving eight occurrences of New York State review species from previous years. Reports were received from 35 of the 62 counties in the State. The names of the 62 contributors that submitted materials (written reports, photographs, video and audio recordings, and sketches) are listed alongside accepted reports and again at the end of this document. Where possible, the name(s) of the original finder(s) is (are) included in the narratives. Production of this Annual Report is a team effort. In addition to the contributors referenced above, several people have encouraged and/or helped observers to prepare and submit documentation. We offer sincere gratitude for their assistance to our cause.

### HOW TO SUBMIT REPORTS

Advice on how to prepare and submit a report is provided on the NYSARC pages within the NYSOA web site: <http://nybirds.org/NYSARC/index.htm>. Please also see the discussion on this subject under Committee News, below.

On the NYSARC web pages, a list of species requested for review (The Review List) is provided, along with illustrated copies of previous annual reports. The Committee is very grateful to Carena Pooth (NYSOA Web Master) for updating and continuously improving the NYSARC web site. An on-line reporting form allows observers to compose a written report and attach up to three digital image files (maximum size 7 MB per photo). Documentation (written reports and photographs) and any other correspondence for the Committee can also be sent via email to the NYSARC Secretary, Gary Chapin, at: [nysarc44@nybirds.org](mailto:nysarc44@nybirds.org). As a last resort, you can also use regular mail to get your report to Gary at 125 Pine Springs Drive, Ticonderoga, NY 12883.

### HIGHLIGHTS

After adding eight new species to the State list in the previous two years, things settled down to what would be considered more typical, with just one new addition in 2016, thanks to a Garganey (*Spatula querquedula*) at Montezuma NWR. At the close of 2016, this brought the State list up to 494 species. [Note: subsequent to 2016, the addition of Clark’s Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) and the 2017 demotion of Thayer’s Gull (*Larus glaucooides thayeri*) to subspecific status, leaves the State list currently at 494, with NYSARC still to vote on other potential additions.] A resubmission of a Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) record from 2005 resulted in the addition of a new subspecies for New York, *Somateria mollissima v-nigrum*, also known as Pacific Common Eider. And finally, the Committee voted to add Carolina Parakeet (*Conuropsis carolinensis*) to the hypothetical list for the State.

### COMMITTEE NEWS

The 2016 annual meeting was held via Skype on 10 Feb 2019, six months after the 2015 annual meeting. Note that the annual meeting year refers to the latest reports reviewed at that meeting. For example, at the 2016 annual meeting we mainly reviewed reports of birds

seen in 2016, along with a few reports from earlier years. During the annual meeting we discussed or completed the voting on 11 records. Changes to the review list were also discussed, and it was decided that none were needed at this time. The terms of Patricia Lindsay and James Pawlicki expired at the end of 2019. Pat agreed to take on another three-year term with the Committee, while Jim opted to step down after serving two consecutive three-year terms. A native of the Buffalo area, Jim has been living and working in San Diego for the last couple of years and he thought it appropriate for another New Yorker to take his place at this time. Jim is known for his fantastic field skills, as well as his in-depth knowledge of many difficult identification challenges. And yet, it may have been his level-headed approach to reviewing records that was his most valuable contribution to NYSARC. His practicality on difficult records, as well as his ability to fully grasp the views of those that differed from his own, belied his youth, and made him a valuable, persuasive member of the Committee. There is no question that New York's loss is California's gain. We wish Jim only the best. The newest member of NYSARC is Shawn Billeman. Shawn hails from Long Island and graduated from Cornell University with a B. S. in Biological Sciences. He went on to earn his Ph. D. from the University of Wyoming. Shawn found Wyoming birding to his liking, as he uncovered several significant records in this lightly birded state. He is now back in New York and working at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, as a science editor for the Birds of the World project. We look forward to working with Shawn, who is already fully involved in Committee activities.

Perhaps the most exciting news for the Committee is that we have started reviewing eBird records. We have known for a few years that this is something that we needed to do. Formal submissions to NYSARC have steadily declined while eBird records have grown exponentially. There is clearly a correlation, as eBird has made it easy to not only report a rarity but also to provide documentation for the sighting. Understandably, most birders are not that interested in or do not have the time to make a formal submission to NYSARC, as well as reporting it to eBird. The logistical and technical aspects of eBird review for a Committee composed of only seven voting members and a secretary has proved daunting. However, after much discussion and computer programming assistance from Dean DiTommaso, a path forward became clear. Jay McGowan has taken over the programming aspect and has compiled several spreadsheets, each with a year's worth of eBird reports of species on NYSARC's review list. To give one example, the 2019 spreadsheet contains 2804 individual eBird reports to review. Compare this to the number of formal submissions that NYSARC reviewed for this annual report—only 76! To keep from being overwhelmed by such a workload, the Committee has decided to take some measures to keep it manageable and yet still maintain the high standards of review that is expected of us. These measures will likely change as we gain experience with eBird review, the details of which will be shared in the associated annual reports. Our first year of eBird review is for records from 2019, which we are currently reviewing alongside formal submissions of the same year.

Those faithful contributors to NYSARC, who have made formal submissions to the Committee since its inception in 1977, may now be wondering what they should do. Should they continue to submit reports to NYSARC, report only to eBird, or both? It is apparent that, when it comes to written details, eBird reports of rarities usually do not include the level of detail that formal submissions do. This may be because the report form on the NYSARC web page has several prompts, which serve to remind submitters of what they should include. These prompts are lacking when you fill out an eBird checklist. So, the short answer is that, although it really does not matter if you submit a formal report to NYSARC or if you make out an eBird checklist report, we ask that you include as much

detail as possible no matter how you report. We would urge you to refer to the NYSARC submission form as a reminder for what information to include. Or, better yet, look over the information available on the “How to Document a Rare Bird” page of our web site, <https://nybirds.org/NYSARC/goodreport.htm>.

NYSARC has made tremendous progress on the backlog of formal submissions and we can now claim to have caught up with formal submissions review. As of this writing (June 2020), we are reviewing 2019 formal submissions and 2019 eBird reports. At some point in the future, it may be possible to review records during the same year that they occurred but after being behind for so long, it feels great to have gotten to this point. As we have also spent so much time on getting started with eBird review, we have not yet caught up on our annual reports but we are getting closer. And, of course, it must be remembered that eBird started in 2002 so, going forward, we will have to review past eBird reports, in addition to reports from the current year under review. We have our work cut out for us!

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

## 2016 Reports Accepted

### **Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)**

**2016-50-A/C** One, Arthur J. Hendrickson Park, **Nassau**, 1, 2, 5 Nov 2016, 22 Jan 2017 (Sean Sime, Tim Healy, Linda Rudolph, ph S. Sime, T. Healy, L. Rudolph). eBird 2, 5, 14, 24 Nov, 21, 23, 26 Dec 2016, 1, 6, 18 Jan 2017, 18-22 Feb 2017

Discovered by Tim Healy, Sr., this is believed to be the first record for Nassau County. Although this goose was reported over a nearly four-month period, starting on 1 Nov 2016, there were significant gaps in its dates of occurrence, most notably between 24 Nov and 21 Dec 2016 and between 22 Jan and 18 Feb 2017. This may be due to observers simply not bothering to report it but that is unusual in this age of eBird. It seems more likely that it had other undiscovered locations that it also liked to frequent.

### **Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)**

**2016-4-A** One, Centerport, **Suffolk**, 14-15 Jan (Charleen Turner, ph C. Turner). eBird 15-17, 26, 28, 30, 31 Jan, 2 Feb

**2016-7-A** Three, Riverhead, **Suffolk**, 7 Feb (Derek H. Rogers, ph D. Rogers). eBird 7, 18 Feb

**2016-47-A/B** Two, Litchfield, **Herkimer**, 25, 29 Oct (Thomas Williams, Bill Purcell, ph T. Williams, B. Purcell). eBird 24-29 Oct

The Centerport bird was found by Charlene Turner and seen in the area for about two and a half weeks. A presumed family group of two adults and one immature was found in the Riverhead area by John Sepenoski. Derek Rogers documented these birds with photos and also showed that they were very likely to be the same three birds seen in Connecticut on 3 Jan 2016. The two birds in Herkimer County were found by Thomas Schmidt on 24 Oct and documented for NYSARC by Thomas Williams and Bill Purcell. Starting in the fall of 2017, NYSARC will no longer review reports of this species from the downstate region but will still welcome reports from upstate.

**Garganey (*Spatula querquedula*)**

**2016-21-A/D** One, Montezuma NWR, **Seneca**, 5, 8, 12 Jun (Kimberly Sucey, Sean Sime, Richard Guthrie, Dominic Sherony, ph K. Sucey, Doug Happ). eBird 5-8, 10-12, 16 Jun  
This first record for New York State was discovered by Jay McGowan and Livia Santana. For a full account of this record, see D'Anna, *et al* (2017).

**Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)**

**2016-11-A** One, Port Henry, **Essex**, 7 Apr (Stacy Robinson, ph S. Robinson, Malinda & Glen Chapman). eBird 6, 7, 16, 20, 30 Dec 2015, 1, 3 Jan 2016, 3-8, 13 Feb 2016, 8 Mar 2016, 7, 12, 13, 28, 29 Apr 2016 (includes sightings from Vermont side of lake)

**2016-49-A** One, Conesus Lake, **Livingston**, 4, 5, 11 Apr (Mike Wasilco, ph M. Wasilco). eBird 4-14 Apr

Reports of Tufted Duck in New York have increased in the current century. The species is no longer on NYSARC's review list for downstate areas and upstate regions have seen an increase as well, particularly around Lake Champlain and the Finger Lakes. The long-tufted drake on Lake Champlain was seen over several months on both the New York and Vermont sides (eBird Apr 2020) and documented for NYSARC by Stacy Robinson. Another long-tufted drake was found and documented on Conesus Lake by Mike Wasilco, lingering for eleven days.

**Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)**

**2016-2-A/B** One, Piermont Pier, **Rockland**, 7 Jan (Kenneth M. McDermott, John H. Haas, ph Bruce Nott, J. Haas). eBird 7-10 Jan

Reports of Western Grebe seem to be increasing. The Rockland County bird on the Hudson River was found by John Haas and documented for NYSARC by Haas and Ken McDermott.

**White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*)**

**2016-17-A** One, Jones Beach, **Nassau**, 12 May (Brendan Fogarty, ph B. Fogarty). eBird 12 May

This White-winged Dove was seen in flight by Brendan Fogarty for only ten seconds but that was enough time for him to document the sighting with diagnostic photos. This continues a pattern of this species showing up very briefly in a location, especially on Long Island, with follow-up sighting attempts usually unsuccessful.

**Chuck-will's-widow (*Antrostomus carolinensis*)**

**2016-29-A** One, Queensbury, **Warren**, 17-18 Jun (Ramona Bearor, audio R. Bearor). eBird 17 Jun

This heard-only Chuck-wills-widow was found on a ski hill outside of Glens Falls. A homeowner who lives in the area, Cindy Bishop, was seeking confirmation in identifying an unknown sound, which was unlike the call of the Whip-poor-wills in the area but which, after research, seemed correct for this species. Eventually, Ramona Bearor was contacted and she was able to confirm the identification and obtain a clear audio recording to document the bird for NYSARC. Ms. Bishop related to Ms. Bearor that she had first heard the bird on 26 May and last heard it on 22 Jun. Away from Long Island and New York City, there are very few records of this species in the State.

**Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)**

**2016-54-A** One, Greece, **Monroe**, 13 Dec (Robert P. Yunick)

Homeowners Margaret and Steve Abbott hosted this young female Rufous Hummingbird in their yard. They used a heat lamp to keep the bird's sugar water from freezing. Hummingbird bander, Robert Yunick, was contacted and allowed to capture, measure, and band the bird. Yunick identified it, from appearance and measurements, as a hatching year female Rufous Hummingbird. Unfortunately, only the date of capture of this individual was indicated in the report, so the Committee does not know for how long it was present.

**Calliope Hummingbird (*Selasphorus calliope*)**

**2016-58-A** One, Water Mill, **Suffolk**, 15 Nov – 9 Dec (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 18, 19, 28 Nov.

A juvenile male Calliope Hummingbird frequented the yard of John Shemilt over a 24-day period. Shemilt obtained some excellent photographs to document the occurrence. Adult males are known for their elongated magenta gorget feathers and this bird of the year showed only one such feather but that is diagnostic for this species. There were a few shorter magenta feathers in the center of the gorget. This is only the fourth record for the State and the first since 2004. It is also the first record for Long Island. All four records have been in November-December.

**Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)**

**2016-23-A/B** One, Montezuma NWR, **Seneca**, 18 Jun (Kimberly Sucus, Stacy Robinson, ph K. Sucus, Stacy & Mark Robinson). eBird 18-21 Jun

Although a statewide rarity, Black-necked Stilt is much rarer inland than in coastal regions. Found by Stacy Robinson, this is the first record for the Montezuma NWR wetland complex. It was enjoyed by many over its four-day stay.

**Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)**

**2016-18-A** One, Brewerton, **Onondaga**, 7 May (Dennis Anderson, ph D. Anderson). eBird 7 May

Reports of Piping Plover are increasing in the Great Lakes region, as this species is starting to return to its former nesting locations after being extirpated for decades. Although this bird, found and photographed by Dennis Anderson along the shore of Oneida Lake, was just a one-day migrant, it is a small indicator of the comeback that this species has made.

**Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*)**

**2016-12-A** One, Smith Point County Park, **Suffolk**, 14 Apr (Samantha Robinson)

The Long Island barrier beaches are the most likely place for this species to show up in New York. Fitting the pattern was this bird, discovered by Piping Plover researchers at Smith Point County Park on 14 Apr and documented for NYSARC by Samantha Robinson. The bird apparently was not seen again. This is a record early date in the NYSARC archives but there is one earlier record in eBird, which will be reviewed by NYSARC at a later date.

**Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*)**

**2016-14-A** One, Timber Point Golf Course, Great River, **Suffolk**, 26 Apr (Philip Uruburu, ph P. Uruburu). eBird 26 Apr

Philip Uruburu found this chestnut and black Ruff, which apparently did not linger. Timber Point is well known for the fabulous shorebirds that have been found there and this lovely bird continues that tradition.

**Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)**

**2016-36-A** One, Derby Hill, **Oswego**, 11 Sep (Bill Purcell, ph B. Purcell). eBird 11 Sep



Bill Purcell and Gregg Dashnau had a juvenile Long-tailed Jaeger fly close by as they watched from the famed Derby Hill lookout on the southeastern corner of Lake Ontario. Purcell snapped a diagnostic photo, which he included with his documentation.

### **Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*)**

**2016-6-A** One, Coney Island, Brooklyn, **Kings**, 21 Feb (Joshua Malbin, ph J. Malbin). eBird 21 Feb

While the rarer of the two murre species in the State, Thick-billed Murre is much more likely to be seen from shore than its close cousin, Common Murre (*Uria aalge*), which winters in good numbers ten miles or more off shore. This Thick-billed Murre was first found by Linda Ewing and reported quickly by Joshua Malbin, allowing many people to come and see this one-day wonder. This was the third winter out of the prior four that this species made a winter appearance in coastal Brooklyn, with every one of those sightings being only on one day. In addition to the Brooklyn sighting there were several eBird reports of other birds in 2016, including one at Jamaica Bay, Queens, one at Great Kills Park, Staten Island, four in the Montauk area, and one in Westhampton Beach (eBird Oct 2020). These reports will be reviewed by NYSARC at a future date.

### **California Gull (*Larus californicus*)**

**2016-5-A** One, Brooklyn, **Kings**, 19 Jan (Daniel Frazer, ph D. Frazer). eBird 19 Jan

This first-cycle gull was found by Daniel Frazer on a morning walk along the promenade at Gravesend Bay, and intrigued by it, he took some photos. Later that evening, with the help and confirmation of several gull experts, it was securely identified as a California Gull, the first record for Kings County, and one of very few records (and the only one with physical documentation) on Long Island. It was not seen again, locally at least. Two months later, however, Connecticut was furnished with its first state record, and there is some suggestion that it was this very same individual.

### **Bridled Tern (*Onychoprion anaethetus*)**

**2016-42-A** One, “The Claw”, **Pelagic Zone**, 19 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 19 Aug

**2016-57-A** One, Great Gull Island, **Suffolk**, 13 Aug (Joseph DiCostanzo, ph J. DiCostanzo). eBird 13 Aug

Two Bridled Terns were reported within the confines of New York State this year. One was in the expected context, well offshore, around 90 nautical miles SSE of Shinnecock on Long Island, where a non-adult was found floating on a fishing gear buoy by Shemilt and company. The other was found by tern researchers on Great Gull Island between Orient Point and Connecticut—first spotted by Catherine Neal and then identified by “The Godfather of Great Gull” tern banding, Joe DiCostanzo. This individual was the first of this species detected in the 40 years of every-summer tern banding on the island, and it would herald the start of several summers in a row (as of this writing) where the species was detected on the island, very likely this same individual.

### **Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*)**

**2016-24-A** One, Moriches Inlet, **Suffolk**, 25 Jun (Pete Morris, ph P. Morris, Shai Mitra). eBird 25 Jun

**2016-31-A** One, Ambrose Channel, **Queens**, 23 Jul (Tom Brown)

Pete Morris documented an adult Sandwich Tern from the flats at Moriches Inlet. The barrier beaches of Long Island are the most likely location for this species to appear in the State. Another adult was documented from New York harbor by Tom Brown, who was in

a boat with three other observers. Due to an uptick in records of this species in recent years, NYSARC has removed Sandwich Tern from the review list for downstate areas. However, we still request documentation for this species when seen in upstate areas, where it is extremely rare.

**Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*)**

**2016-25-A** One, Robert Moses State Park, **Suffolk**, 22 May (Pete Morris). eBird 22 May  
**2016-56-A** One, Brownville, **Jefferson**, 6 Dec (Nick Leone)

While seawatching at Robert Moses State Park, Pete Morris and others had an alternate-plumaged Pacific Loon fly past with two Common Loons, providing an excellent comparison. In Guffin Bay on Lake Ontario, Nick Leone had close views of a Pacific Loon, as it swam nearby with Common Loons. Leone aged the bird as an adult in basic plumage, lacking the pale edgings on the back that a juvenile would show. It also had a well-defined chin strap, typical of an adult.

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

**2016-38-A** One, **Pelagic Zone**, 15 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 15 Aug

**2016-39-A** Two, **Pelagic Zone**, 18 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 18 Aug

**2016-40-A** One, **Pelagic Zone**, 19 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 19 Aug

**2016-41-A** One, **Pelagic Zone**, 19 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 19 Aug

Formerly a real “grail” bird for birders in North America, a regular pattern of occurrence off of northeastern North America has now been established, thanks to the advent of regular late-summer boat trips that travel far off shore. This August was particularly good for the species around the shelf edge south of Long Island, as John Shemilt detected five individuals during three trips to “The Claw” (an underwater feature along the edge of the continental shelf) over the course of five days. An especially nice contribution was the photo series of two individuals together. An organized pelagic with more than 40 observers on 29 Aug also detected three individuals a bit farther southwest along the shelf edge at the end of the month, but unfortunately nobody on board submitted those records to the Committee.

**Leach’s Storm-Petrel (*Hydrobates leucorhous*)**

**2016-35-A** One, Hampton Bays, **Suffolk**, 10 Jul (Taylor Sturm, sketch T. Sturm)

This very unexpected coastal record was furnished by Taylor Sturm and Pete Morris, who found this bird flying inside Shinnecock Bay on a lovely sunny summer day, without any obvious causal weather event. One hypothesis for the sporadic summertime reports of this species inside Suffolk County bays, so far from the offshore waters where it is normally found within the State, is that they land on fishing boats at night well off shore, and are discovered and released or simply fly off once the ships return to port. Their natural occurrence is plausible though, since they do breed in nearby Massachusetts, and so occasional in-shore records during breeding season are possible.

**Band-rumped Storm-Petrel (*Hydrobates castro*)**

**2016-45-A** Three, “The Claw”, **Pelagic Zone**, 19 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 19 Aug

Band-rumped Storm-Petrels are deep and warm water specialists which are very rarely seen from shore, but in the past decade or so their distribution off of New York State has been clarified, thanks to the increase in late summer offshore pelagic trips. John Shemilt and company found as many as eight Band-rumped Storm-Petrels in deep water off the continental shelf on 19 Aug, with Shemilt documenting these three birds for NYSARC.

The previously mentioned pelagic trip later in the month also reported a couple of dozen, coming to a fish oil slick, though no reports of these were submitted to NYSARC.

### **Black-capped Petrel (*Pterodroma hasitata*)**

**2016-44-A** One, “The Claw”, **Pelagic Zone**, 19 Aug (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt). eBird 19 Aug

Until the past decade, the true occurrence of Black-capped Petrel within New York waters was poorly known, but as in several of the above species accounts (White-faced Storm-Petrel, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, for example), increased coverage in their typical habitat has shown us that they are to be expected in some quantity off of the continental shelf. Because the increased pelagic coverage has coincided with a dramatic warming of ocean temperatures off shore, it is impossible to know how much of the prior absence of Black-capped Petrel records from off shore was because of true scarcity, or a simple result of insufficient coverage. On the same trip where they scored the Bridled Tern, and White-faced and Band-rumped Storm-Petrels mentioned above, John Shemilt, with Keegan Corcoran and Derek Rogers, encountered and photographed a Black-capped Petrel in the middle of The Claw, 76 nautical miles SSE of Shinnecock Inlet. The aforementioned organized pelagic trip later in August scored double digits of this species, but, alas, the Committee received no timely reports of these.

### **Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)**

**2016-51-A** One, Cayuga Lake, **Seneca**, 17-30 Sep (Gary Chapin, ph G. Chapin). eBird 28 Aug, 17-23, 25, 27, 29, 30 Sep (Cayuga and Seneca Counties); 24 Sep (Tompkins Co.)

This sighting initially came to light for the birding community on 28 Aug, when posted with a photograph on the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s Facebook page by the finder, Michele Merritt. It was not seen again until 17 Sep, when Sarah Toner re-found it while competing in the Montezuma Muckrace with Logan Kahle and Alex Wiebe. It then stuck around the area for two weeks, delighting many upstate birders. It furnished a first Cayuga County record, and then once it resurfaced, provided Seneca County with its first record as well. It seemed very faithful to the north end of Cayuga Lake during its stay, but on 24 Sep, it was seen farther south on the lake, providing Tompkins County with its first record of the species.

### **White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)**

**2016-30-A** One, North Tonawanda, **Niagara**, 18 Jul (Chris Kundl, ph C. Kundl). eBird 18 Jul (Niagara Co.); 15 Jul (Erie Co.)

Chris Kundl was birding with Stefanie Hake at Gratwick Park on the Niagara River, when they were startled to find this one-year-old White Ibis. Based on photographs, this same bird was found three days before this, 33 miles SSW of here at Evangola State Park (Erie Co.), by Matt Nusstein (eBird June 2020).

### **Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*)**

**2016-43-A** One, Bronx Zoo, **Bronx**, 21 Sep (Todd Olson). eBird 21 Sep

Todd Olson spotted a Mississippi Kite heading west over the Bronx Zoo parking lot around midday. Historically a spring migration overshoot phenomenon, Mississippi Kite’s occurrence in the region has increased steadily over the past decade, and there are now irregular nesting records at several locations to the north of Region 10 (Long Island and New York City), so their occurrence in late summer and fall is now much more on the table than it used to be. Still, it is exceptional in the region in autumn, so this 21 Sep record was a fantastic one indeed!

**Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*)**

**2016-9-A** One, Wallkill National Wildlife Preserve, **Orange**, 26 Feb (Linda Scrima, ph L. Scrima)

This adult gray-morph bird was observed for only a brief time before being driven off by Northern Harriers, and not seen again. Fortunately, the observer, Linda Scrima, was able to obtain several diagnostic photos to document the sighting.

**Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)**

**2016-53-A** One, Lido West Preserve, **Nassau**, 13 Nov (Brent Bomkamp, ph B. Bomkamp). eBird 13-14, 16-20, 23-27 Nov, 3-4 Dec

Found by Robert Berlinger on 13 Nov, this bird lingered at this location into early December, allowing many observers to see and photograph it, including Brent Bomkamp, who submitted the record to NYSARC. There was some speculation that a bird found less than three miles away at a known migrant trap during the Southern Nassau CBC on 1 Jan 2017 might have been the same bird. In New York, this vagrant is found almost exclusively in the coastal region, mainly along the outer coast. Here, a general trend of increasing frequency has been documented, but numbers vary greatly year to year. There were two other reports of Ash-throats in eBird this season, both from Kings County, to be reviewed by NYSARC at a later date.

**Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*)**

**2016-15-A** One, Conesus Inlet WMA, **Livingston**, 3 May (Mike Wasilco, ph M. Wasilco). eBird 2-6 May

**2016-48-A/B** One, Bergen, **Genesee**, 28, 31 Oct (Melissa Mance-Coniglio, Mike Wasilco, ph M. Mance-Coniglio, M. Wasilco). eBird 28-31 Oct, 1-6, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23 Nov

Discovered by Ethan Gyllenhaal and Greg Lawrence, the Conesus Inlet bird was a first record for Livingston County and the fourteenth documented in the State. The vast majority of New York's records occur in the fall, as they do in nearby states of New Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts (Burke 1998). Thus, the May date is an unusual one. Though only one report was submitted to NYSARC, by Mike Wasilco, the bird was well-documented and photographed over its five-day stay. Melissa Mance-Coniglio found the Gray Kingbird in Bergen. This long-staying bird was a first Genesee County record and the fifteenth for New York. Of the first nine records in the State, seven were along or near the coast (Burke 1998). However, six of the last seven records have been upstate, making for a rather dramatic shift in location for the species occurrence within the State. Perhaps even more surprising is that of the seven upstate records, six are from a relatively small area near a roughly 75-mile stretch of the New York State Thruway between Batavia and Montezuma, or more simply, in the Erie-Ontario Plain ecozone, as defined in Andrlé and Carroll (1988).

**Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)**

**2016-26-A** One, Rainbow Lake, **Franklin**, 19 Feb (Stacy Robinson, ph S. Robinson). eBird 12 Jan, 19 Feb

Favoring a feeding station on private property where the homeowner asked that it not be advertised, this bird was seen and photographed by only a few lucky birders, and the initial eBird report was withheld until it was thought to have departed in mid-January (eBird Jun 2020). In her documentation for NYSARC, Stacy Robinson reported that the bird had been present for approximately two months. Her 19 Feb sighting is the latest date that we are

aware of. A comment in an eBird report mentions that the bird appeared to have an injured leg (eBird Jun 2020). Interestingly, only 45 miles west of here, near Canton in St. Lawrence County, a Varied Thrush was reported in late January and late February of 2016 (eBird Jun 2020). Since the dates of occurrence of the thrushes at the two locations overlapped, and it is highly unlikely for a passerine to range so widely, it is virtually certain that this was a different individual. And indeed, this is supported by photographs, which show the Canton bird to have much blacker head and breast markings.

**Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*)**

**2016-1-A** One, Brunswick, **Rensselaer**, 2 Jan (Naomi Lloyd, ph N. Lloyd). eBird 2 Jan  
This bird was discovered by Naomi Lloyd, Kathryn Schneider, and Jim de Waal Malefy during the Troy Christmas Bird Count. Historically very rare in winter, Lark Sparrows have increased at that season in recent years, occurring annually in the State since 2012. It is still rare at any season away from the outer coast.

**Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)**

**2016-16-A** One, Greece, **Monroe**, 11 May (Bob & Cathy Marcotte, ph C. Marcotte)  
This striking bird was seen and photographed during the course of only one day at the reporters' feeding station.

**Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*)**

**2016-8-A** One, Milton, **Ulster**, 23 Feb (Pat Palladino, ph P. Palladino). eBird 18, 22, 23, 27-29 Feb, 1-3, 5, 6 Mar  
Identified as an immature male, this bird visited David Baxter's feeding station where many birders were welcome to come and enjoy it. The homeowner first eBirded it on 18 Feb and Pat Palladino submitted documentation to NYSARC. There are fewer than a dozen documented records of this western North American species in the State.

**Swainson's Warbler (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*)**

**2016-27-A** One, Central Park, **New York**, 28 Apr (Deborah Allen, ph D. Allen). eBird 28 Apr  
Katie Kleinpeter spied this mega rarity while birding with Alice Deutsch and Andrew Rubenfeld, who aided in the identification. It was subsequently seen by mobs of birders, some of whom lay belly-down on the ground to get better looks and photos of this skulking and cryptic bird. There are about a dozen accepted reports in the State from 1950 through 2016, in addition to several other published and eBird reports which may be correct. This record is the first since 2006. All records but one are from April and May.

**Virginia's Warbler (*Leiothlypis virginiae*)**

**2016-59-A** One, Rye, **Westchester**, 1 Nov (Thomas W. Burke, ph Stefan Martin). eBird 1 Nov  
Following up on a suspicious chip note while birding at Marshlands Conservancy, Tom Burke was thrilled to discover this super-rarity, only the second accepted State record and an outstanding first record for Westchester County. Fortunately, one diagnostic photo by Stefan Martin was obtained to supplement the excellent description. A second Virginia's Warbler was found this same year in Glenmont, Albany County, on 10 Dec. The report was not submitted to NYSARC but is documented with an article in *The Kingbird*, Vol. 67 (1), pp. 2-6, and a report with photo in eBird will be reviewed by the Committee at a future date.

**“Audubon’s” Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*)**

**2016-52-A** One, Robert Moses SP, Fire Island, **Suffolk**, 6 Nov (Taylor Sturm, ph T. Sturm). eBird 6 Nov

The barrier beaches of Long Island are known for holding an abundance of Yellow-rumped Warblers during migration and at times during winter but the western subspecies, known as “Audubon’s Warbler”, is rarely found there or elsewhere in the State. Birding alone at Robert Moses State Park, Taylor Sturm found this bird skulking in the bayberry, which he was able to lure out for photos by spishing. This female showed the characteristic plain face pattern with two white eye-arcs and restricted pale yellowish throat that did not wrap around to the auriculars. Although a few others were able to see the bird the same day, it was not reported afterwards.

**Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)**

**2016-3-A** One, Constantia, **Oswego**, 5 Jan (Bill Purcell, ph B. Purcell). eBird 5 Jan

This female/immature Summer Tanager turned up at the feeding station of Jeanne DuPre in Oswego County in early winter. Photos were taken that were eventually seen by experienced birders who correctly identified it as this species. Bill Purcell documented the bird for NYSARC, which reportedly had been seen in the yard for about a week. A few other birders saw the tanager along with Purcell on the same day but there are no other reports after this date that we are aware of.

**Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)**

**2016-13-A** One, Rosendale, **Ulster**, 29 Mar (Kenneth M. McDermott, ph Matt Corsaro, Peter Schoenberger). eBird 27-31 Mar, 2-4, 6, 8 Apr

Discovered at their feeding station by homeowners Matt Corsaro and Mira Bowin, this male Western Tanager stayed from about 23 Mar to 10 Apr. It was documented for NYSARC by Ken McDermott. This species is nearly annual in the State, with records roughly evenly split between downstate and upstate regions.

## **2016 Reports Accepted in Revised Form**

**Rufous/Allen’s Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus/sasin*)**

**2016-33-A** One, Elizabeth Morton NWR, **Suffolk**, 29 Aug (Eileen Schwinn, ph E. Schwinn). eBird 28, 29 Aug

This record turned out to be one of the more interesting that we reviewed for 2016. Eileen Schwinn documented the bird for NYSARC, including some nice photos that showed the back and spread tail fairly well. In addition there were other excellent photos in eBird reports. After first round review, the Committee was nearly unanimous that we should accept this as how it was submitted—as a Rufous Hummingbird. This was based on the apparent age of the bird, which most of the Committee believed was an adult male in molt, and the apparent width of the outer rectrices. One reviewer, however, did not feel comfortable with this and convinced the others that we needed expert opinions. So, requests were sent out to hummingbird experts, Sheri Williamson, Steve Howell, Scott Weidensaul, and Fred Bassett. The responses were surprising to the Committee. One thought that it was Rufous, two would not say beyond Rufous/Allen’s, and another believed it was an Allen’s, which has never been confirmed in New York State! The fact that the bird was never captured for measurements is likely the reason that these experts could not reach agreement. Unlike most adult male Rufous Hummingbirds, this bird showed many green feathers on the back. Although this could suggest that this was an Allen’s Hummingbird, adult male Rufous are quite variable and can show a back color from totally rufous to

totally green, although the latter occurs only rarely. The only reliable way to separate adult males of these two species with green backs is by the shape of the tip of rectrix two and the width of rectrix five. Unfortunately, the experts could not agree that the photos showed these features well enough so that they could make a confident identification without measurements. After reviewing the experts' comments, the Committee voted unanimously to accept this record as a Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird.

### ***Pterodroma* species**

**2016-55-A** One, Shinnecock Inlet, **Suffolk**, 5 Sep (Pete Morris)

Formerly considered exceptionally rare anywhere in New York, including pelagic waters, Black-capped Petrel has recently shown itself to be of regular occurrence in offshore waters from about late July to early September. This knowledge has been gained thanks to the efforts of various people who have either organized pelagic trips for birders, particularly See-Life Paulagics, or undertaken such trips on their own, with John Shemilt being at the forefront of the latter. Reports from shore, however, are still exceedingly rare and almost always associated with direct hits or passage very nearby by tropical storms. Peter Morris and company were ocean-watching at Shinnecock Inlet when they encountered this bird. Hurricane Hermine was slowly moving around offshore well to the south and likely accounted for this bird's appearance off the barrier beaches, although it was by no means expected with a storm that was not really that close. It was identified and submitted as a Black-capped Petrel but the bird was distant and the observer admitted that the very similar endangered Bermuda Petrel (*Pterodroma cahow*), also known as Cahow, could not be ruled out. The Committee was also concerned about the possibility that this could have been a Fea's/Zino's Petrel (*Pterodroma feae/madeira*). Although these other possibilities are exceedingly rare in the State (no records of the former and only three of the latter), the Committee felt that these needed to be firmly ruled out. By a unanimous vote, they decided to accept this in a revised form, as *Pterodroma* species.

## **2015 Reports Accepted**

### **Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)**

**2015-71-A** One, Wilson, **Niagara**, 1, 3 May, 4, 13, 14 Jun (Willie D'Anna, ph W. D'Anna). eBird 1-3, 5 May, 3-6, 9, 13, 14 Jun, 5, 15 Jul

**2015-72-A** Two, Wilson, **Niagara**, 19 Jun (Willie D'Anna, ph W. D'Anna). eBird 16, 17, 19, 20, 25, 30 Jun

While birding at the small boat harbor in Wilson, Niagara County, on 1 May, Betsy Potter heard the distinctive song of a Eurasian Collared-Dove. She called Willie D'Anna over and the two of them were able to locate the bird and obtain photographs. This bird was seen by multiple observers over the next six to ten weeks. Hoping for another sighting of the Eurasian Collared-Dove, D'Anna was surprised to hear two birds singing at the site on 19 Jun. He was able to track them down and obtain photos of both birds. This species has undergone a tremendous range expansion within the United States, especially in the south and west, after it colonized Florida from an introduced population in the Bahamas. There was a small colony of this species in Hamlin, Monroe County, for several years but the last sighting was on 3 Jan 2018 (eBird June 2020). Birders were anticipating that the Wilson birds would establish another colony. This was based in part on nearby sightings of this species in May 2014 (Betsy Potter, pers. comm.) and Christmas 2014 (photographed by Charlie Horton). However, this was not to be and shortly after the discovery of the second individual at the site, they disappeared, and there have been no sightings anywhere nearby since 15 Jul 2015 (eBird June 2020). It should be noted that for eBird dates listed above,

only reports of two birds are shown for 2015-72-A, starting with 16 Jun, when Michael McBrien was the first to note two birds at the location (eBird June 2020). All eBird reports of one individual are listed with 2015-71-A. Since it was not possible to distinguish the two birds, it is possible that two birds were present prior to 16 Jun, as well.

### **Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*)**

**2015-73-A** Two, Golden Hill SP, **Niagara**, 12 Nov (Willie D'Anna)

While watching the migration over Lake Ontario, Willie D'Anna and Celeste Morien had two Cave Swallows fly past. A third swallow flying with them was not identified but could well have been this species. This sighting fits into a pattern, over roughly the last two decades, of sightings of this species in November along Lake Ontario, as well as at coastal sites, usually associated with the passage of a strong cold front, as was the case here.

## **2013 Reports Accepted**

### **Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)**

**2013-95-A** One, Fire Island, **Suffolk**, 16 Sep (Pat Palladino, ph P. Palladino). eBird 16 Sep

While observing the raptor migration at the Fire Island Hawk Watch, Pat Palladino and several others were able to watch and photograph this female/immature male Yellow-headed Blackbird, which remained in the area for only about 15 minutes. Birders looking for this rarity later were not successful in finding it until Shai Mitra decided to check the other side of the inlet at Captree State Park. Photos suggest that the Fire Island and Captree birds were one and the same. The bird was only seen on the one day.

## **2005 Reports Accepted**

### **Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima v-nigrum*)**

**2005-62-B** One, Irondequoit Bay, **Monroe**, 13, 17 Nov (Dominic Sherony, ph D. Sherony). eBird 11, 13-15, 20, 21, 23, 27 Nov, 3 Dec

This record was previously accepted by NYSARC. However, the Committee did not vote on the subspecies involved. Dominic Sherony resubmitted the record, identifying the bird as the Pacific subspecies of Common Eider, *S. m. v-nigrum*. The expected subspecies in coastal New York, the only area where Common Eider is of regular occurrence in the State, is *S. m. dresseri*. There are single specimen records of *S. m. borealis* and *S. m. sedentaria* from Long Island and the Niagara River, respectively. Prior to the Irondequoit bird, there had never been a record of *v-nigrum* in New York, and the only records from the eastern third of North America came from Newfoundland, according to eBird (June 2020). Thus, this is quite a remarkable record. The Committee is grateful to Sherony for his efforts in establishing the subspecific identification of this individual, which he has nicely documented in a paper that was published in *The Kingbird* (Sherony and Able 2016). The bird was identified as a female and believed to be in its first year.

## **1966 Reports Accepted, But Origins Uncertain or Unnatural**

### **White-checked Pintail (*Anas bahamensis*)**

**1966-1-A** One, Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, **Queens**, 26 Nov (William C. Rowe)

A distinctive and attractive duck, the White-checked Pintail is, not surprisingly, sometimes kept in captivity. As with most vagrant waterfowl, this must be borne in mind whenever there is an extralimital record. This species is spottily distributed throughout South America and the West Indies. At the time of this sighting, it was known as Bahama Duck.



William Rowe was birding with R. Haven Wiley when they encountered this duck and they knew immediately, from having studied their field guides, what species it was. Afterwards, Wiley wrote to John Bull about their sighting. Bull was apparently aware that the species was reported at Jamaica Bay on that one day only and he indicated that it was presumed to be an escape. Since that time, the species has been added to the State lists of Florida, Virginia, and North Carolina. It certainly seems plausible that a White-cheeked Pintail could arrive naturally from the West Indies to Jamaica Bay, although at this point in time, there is no established pattern of records to the northeast. Lacking that, and with the bird occurring in such a heavily populated area, where the possibility of an escape is greater than most other areas, as well as not knowing whether the bird was banded or had a clipped hallux, the Committee voted unanimously to accept this as origin unnatural or uncertain.

## Species Accepted to the Hypothetical List

### **Carolina Parakeet (*Conuropsis carolinensis*)**

**1780-1-A** “A large flight”, Albany area, Jan 1780; 13 Buffalo, **Erie**, before 20 Dec 1889; “a lot”, West Seneca, **Erie**, various dates before 20 Dec 1889 (Kathryn J. Schneider)

Based on a thoroughly researched paper by Kathryn Schneider, the Committee decided to add Carolina Parakeet to the State’s hypothetical list. For a full account of this submission, see D’Anna, *et al* (2017).

## 2016 Reports Not Accepted

### **King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)**

**2016-10-A** One, Glenmont, **Albany**, 2 Apr

This report involved a bird seen briefly after it flushed from low brush or the ground in front of the observers and dropped into a wetland. The description of what was seen is not at odds with a King Rail and one of the two observers noted that it was larger than the similar Virginia Rail. However, the Committee felt that such a rare bird seen so briefly in flight needed stronger documentation.

### **Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*)**

**2016-28-A** One, Syracuse, **Onondaga**, 7 May

This was an observation of a bird in flight, flying over the NYS Thruway, seen while driving. Although frigatebirds have a very distinctive shape and might well be recognized with a naked-eye observation, the great rarity of such a sighting mandates that a very strong description and/or photos would be needed for the Committee to accept it. The observer noted a large and black bird with a red throat pouch but did not describe the shape of the bird, other than it being distinctive. The description is certainly intriguing but without additional details, the Committee could not be certain that other possibilities were clearly ruled out and they decided against accepting the record.

### **Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*)**

**2016-32-A** One, **Dutchess**, 26 August

This sighting, east of the Hudson River in Dutchess County, was made by a long-time birder and his wife. They watched it soaring over a swamp but this was a naked-eye observation. Although somewhat suggestive of this species, a first State record would need considerably greater detail, probably in addition to photos, to be accepted.

**Nuttall's Woodpecker (*Dryobates nuttallii*)**

**2016-37-A** Four to five, Schenectady, **Schenectady**, summers of 2015 & 2016

Although some of the written details in this report suggested this species, the included photos were diagnostic for Downy Woodpecker.

**Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*)**

**2016-20-A** One, Hadley, **Saratoga**, 17 May

This was a very brief description of a very rare species. The description was somewhat suggestive of a male Mountain Bluebird. However, the observation that it appeared darker than an Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) is at odds for the species. Though the description was also incorrect for Eastern Bluebird, the Committee decided that the documentation was insufficient for acceptance.

**Bicknell's Thrush (*Catharus bicknelli*)**

**2016-19-A** One, Prospect Park, **Kings**, 18 May

Bicknell's Thrush is a notoriously difficult species to identify in migration, being very similar to Gray-cheeked Thrush, both in appearance and vocalizations. The species has a small population and a very restricted breeding range, which includes higher elevations in the Catskills and Adirondacks, as well as Quebec and New Brunswick in Canada (Sibley 2014). If one looks at Bicknell's Thrush in eBird for just the month of May, when it is migrating north from its wintering grounds in the Caribbean, one can see that there are a few records in Florida and several more from Virginia to New Brunswick. Though there are not many records, the migratory corridor is clearly shown by eBird to go right through the New York City metro area, as one might expect. The report that was reviewed, from Prospect Park in Brooklyn, was based upon the song that was heard. The observer reported that he also had Gray-cheeked Thrushes singing in the same area. The difference between the songs of the two species is subtle, with Bicknell's slightly rising in pitch at the end and Gray-cheeked slightly falling. Although the song was not described in much detail, the observer noted that the song "clearly went up at the end" and that the song of the Gray-cheeked "went down". An attempt was apparently made to record the song but that was unsuccessful. Discussion on this record within the Committee was contentious. Some felt that this was a careful observer who accurately described the difference in song between the two species and that the description of this bird's song as rising at the end should be enough for us to accept the record. Others felt strongly that the difference between the songs was subtle and that identification was subject to error by most observers. They argued that records of this species need hard documentation, such as a recording of the song. It was also pointed out that recent research is suggesting that a dramatic decline in the species may be imminent, due to climate change and loss of habitat on the wintering grounds (Townsend, *et al* 2020), and that as this happens, the migratory pathways could change, particularly if local populations start to blink out. As a result, they argued, the requirement for stronger documentation of records of this species becomes even more important. The latter argument won out and the record failed to pass.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)**

**2016-34-A** One, Wanakena, **St. Lawrence**, 26 May

This bird, apparently, allowed close approach but the description was very brief—a bright yellow head and a dark brown body. Unfortunately, there was no mention of white in the wings, which is important for ruling out an aberrant plumage of a common species. Although some Committee members thought this may well have been this species, without additional details, it could not be accepted.

### **Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*)**

**2016-22-A** One, Fort Edward, **Washington**, 20, 26 May

Although this very experienced birder may have seen a male Blue Grosbeak, the description lacked important details, such as the shape of the bill, and whether or not there were rufous wingbars, which the observer admitted he was unable to see. He also heard the bird singing, about a week apart, which might suggest that it was on territory. It seems that the identification was based mainly on the song, which was not described or recorded. Lacking these important details, the Committee decided not to accept the record.

## **2013 Reports Not Accepted**

### **Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria cinnamomea*)**

**2013-96-A** One, Manhasset Valley County Park, **Nassau**, 23 Sep

This was a report of the “western” subspecies of Solitary Sandpiper, *T. s. cinnamomea*. The expected form in the East is the nominate race, *T. s. solitaria*. However, O’Brien, et al (2006) indicate that the winter ranges of the two subspecies apparently broadly overlap, with *cinnamomea* generally in the West and *solitaria* in the East. As is usually the case with subspecies, there is much overlap in the appearance of the two forms, which, obviously, makes it more difficult to know the extent to which *cinnamomea* occurs in the East and, specifically, in New York. This sight report from an experienced observer was intriguing, as the observer emphasized that the spotting on this bird was cinnamon-colored and clearly not whitish. Juveniles of *cinnamomea* show cinnamon spots, whereas *solitaria* show whitish spots. However, the Committee does not know if *solitaria* can sometimes also show cinnamon spots. Other features to look for on a potential *cinnamomea*, in comparison to *solitaria*, are its slightly paler color, broader black tail bars, weaker loreal stripe, and white mottling on the underside of primary 10. With such a difficult identification and, as indicated, not knowing the extent of variation in *solitaria*, photographs are probably necessary for acceptance of this form. After two rounds of review, the Committee decided not to accept this.

## **CONTRIBUTORS**

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## Submitted on behalf of the New York State Avian Records Committee:

Willie D'Anna (Chair), Gary Chapin (Secretary), Thomas W. Burke, Doug Gochfeld, James Pawlicki, Patricia Lindsay, Derek Rogers, and Jay McGowan

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## **PATCH BIRDING RIVERSIDE PARK**

**Alan Drogin  
New York, NY**

This pandemic has forced me into birding the same mile of Riverside Park south of 96<sup>th</sup> Street, just down the block from where I live, almost every day for over two months now. Unable to chase birds throughout the hot spots of New York State this season, the fortunate timing during peak Spring migration at least has provided me with plenty of FOY pleasures. Nevertheless, this routine has shown me that not all nature just passes through affording thrilling chance encounters, but that there is a natural “neighborhood” just outside my door which changes slowly with the seasons. Fortunately, Springtime is when the male birds must stake out a territory and proclaim their constant presence through glorious song in order to attract mates.

It has been my newfound pleasure to recognize the singing 7+ days of individual Towhees, Cardinals, House Finches, and finally the Catbirds in their respective “blocks” (there are just too many House Sparrows, Pigeons, Robins, and Starlings to keep track of). This has been a chance to watch the gradual cessation of White-throated Sparrows, the aggressive courtship of House Sparrows, Robins giving chase, Starlings gathering nest material, and now the constant high-pitched pleas for food from the gaping yellow mouths of awkward fledglings.

I now identify exactly three male Northern Flickers who alert each other with their steady staccato calls of their “turf” across from 82<sup>nd</sup>, 84<sup>th</sup>, and 91<sup>st</sup> Streets. A pair of Downy Woodpeckers whinny in the middle at 86<sup>th</sup>. I’ve found two of the Flickers clearing out respective tree holes in Hippo Playground and just south of River Run Playground. Last week I saw a female sticking her head out.

Since my first walk I have expected every day the loud “teakettle, teakettle teakettle” of the Carolina Wren just north of Hippo Playground. Last Wednesday I saw the wren on a tree stump by the high stone wall, but heard the song from a few yards away—this must be the female mate. But then came a plaintive peep a few yards in the other direction. Then all three swooped to a scrawny sapling across my path—it was the baby getting fed. Dare I say a tinge of grandparental pride?

Stay safe birding.

[Reproduced here from an email sent to the NYS Birds listserv (NYSBirds-L@cornell.edu) on 26 May 2020, with kind permission from the author.]

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—SPRING 2020

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The warm winter experienced in January and February continued into March with average temperatures 5° to 7° F above normal. April also started out above normal but a cold spell after the first week lasted for four weeks. Average April temperatures were -1° to -4° throughout the state except in Region 10 where temperatures were more moderate and averaged 2.7° above normal. This cold trend continued through the first half of May; temperatures were below normal but warmer conditions prevailed for the latter half of the month. Monthly averages for May were generally below average from -1° to -2°. Throughout the state, precipitation was slightly below average overall with plus-or-minus variations in the ten Regions.

The warmer than usual winter that extended into early spring kept water open on inland lakes and reduced ice levels on the Great Lakes, resulting in more overwintering waterfowl, especially in the eastern part of the state and the Finger Lakes region. The colder than normal temperatures in later April and early May delayed the peak migration of Neotropical migrants. Nevertheless, actual first arrival dates for many species were earlier than their long-term average.

The spring season was overshadowed by the novel coronavirus, Covid-19, which first appeared in the western United States in late January but was not recognized as a serious threat until late February. In March this pandemic hit the eastern US; by the end of March, there were over 80,000 cases in New York State. This disease lingered throughout the spring and is still not under control as of this writing in September. Covid-19 had a significant effect on birders. The public was implored to stay home to fight the spread. Field trips were cancelled throughout the state, international birding tours were put on hold, birding club meetings were cancelled, and banding stations had to scale back their schedules and programs. With the beginning of voluntary isolation in March, it is likely that fewer birders were in the field. However, later in spring, outdoor activities without crowds were considered a safe recreational option. Since birding falls into this category, the disease did not impact field visits by small groups. In fact, local birding increased. The timing of this coincided with the beginning of the 2020 Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA) program. The BBA was another incentive to go exploring for birds. Region 5 reported that there was a significant increase in the number of birders submitting checklists to eBird through the spring quarter. It is likely that this trend was seen throughout the state.

Waterfowl migration was long underway by March. The Regional reports indicated that waterfowl counts were typical. From across the state, at least 54 Trumpeter Swans were reported, with highest counts in Regions 2 and 5. Barnacle Goose was reported from Region 10, Ross's Geese were found in five Regions, and Cackling Geese were reported from seven Regions with a maximum of 18 at

a single location in Region 1. Greater White-fronted Geese were well represented in eight Regions. Among the rarer ducks, three Regions reported Tufted Duck and a probable Tufted/scaup hybrid from Region 1. A single Eurasian Green-winged Teal was in Region 1 and Harlequin Ducks were in three Regions. Like some of the uncommon geese, Eurasian Wigeon and Barrow's Goldeneye are uncommon but annual in the state and were generally well distributed. Two Western Grebes were found in the western part of the state: one on Seneca Lake, Region 3, and the other off Lake Ontario in Region 1. All Regions reported Whip-poor-will and there were only two occurrences reported for Chuck-wills-widow, one each in Regions 9 and 10. Reports for Common Nighthawks were very scarce throughout the state except for Regions 8 and 9: a maximum of 33 seen at Stuyvesant and 60 counted at Wallkill River NWR.

A Black Rail was heard calling in Region 9 by Ari Rice on 24 May and the calls were confirmed by a few birders. This rare species is the first record for Orange County, and one of very few records for the state in recent decades. Eight Regions reported normal shorebird migration; the exceptions were in Region 9, and also in Region 2 due to lack of habitat. American Avocets made an appearance in late April to early May in Regions 1, 3, and 6. Piping Plover returned to Sandy Point, Region 5, hopefully to breed again, and a migrant was at Braddock Bay on 18 May. Upland Sandpiper continues to hang on with only four or so likely breeding sites identified this season by the end of May. Higher numbers of Glaucous and Iceland Gulls were reported from Regions 1 and 2 but seen in most Regions. Most of these were gone by April but a late lingering Glaucous Gull appeared to spend the entire summer at Braddock Bay. There was a total of 16 reports for Little Gulls, all from the Regions bordering Lake Ontario or the central Finger Lakes. Two Black-headed Gulls were found in Region 10, an immature at Timber Point and an adult at a nearby pond a week later; another was seen several times in Region 7, first discovered at Willsboro Point. Black-legged Kittiwake was visible from shore at Robert Moses State Park, Suffolk County. Other species seen from the Long Island shore include Thick-billed Murre from Montauk Point on 3 March and a Razorbill from Canarsie Pier on 2 March. A Gull-billed Tern at Robert Moses State Park in western Suffolk County was notable, as this species is rarely seen even short distances east of its regular breeding areas in Queens and Nassau Counties. Another, found far inland at Iroquois NWR, was completely unexpected; this mega rarity was a first record for Region 1 and may well be the first upstate record. It was present for two days. There were four spring reports of Arctic Tern from Long Island. In addition to several late May reports from Long Island, where not unusual, a Parasitic Jaeger was spotted from Fair Haven, Region 5 in mid-April, and a Pomarine Jaeger was resting on Nickerson Beach, Nassau County, at the end of May in Region 10.

A Pacific Loon was seen on 1 March in Suffolk County. White-faced Ibis were present at each end of the state: one in Region 1 on the Niagara River and two or possibly a third in Suffolk County, Region 10. Snowy Egrets were found in four upstate Regions and Little Blue Heron was in Region 5 at Hamlin Marsh

on 3 May. Derby Hill Hawkwatch totaled 82,684 raptors and Braddock Bay's spring count was 51,658. Northern Goshawks are becoming extremely uncommon. The total number for each of these two hawkwatch sites was only four. Rough-legged Hawk numbers were also low, perhaps reflecting early departure. Single Swainson's Hawks were seen at Hamburg on 15 April and Derby Hill on 1 May. A Mississippi Kite was a flyover at Central Park, New York City on 31 May. Black Vultures continue to increase across the state; they were seen in every Region. A Crested Caracara flyover in Kingston, Region 9, was unusual. It was not a flight year for either Northern Saw-whet or Snowy Owls. This spring, there were only 10 reported Snowy Owls based on totaling the maximum seen in each Region.

There were many reports of uncommon passerines and readers should scan the Regional reports. A Western Kingbird at Braddock Bay, Region 2, and a Say's Phoebe at Crown Point, Region 7, highlighted the flycatchers. Olive-sided Flycatchers were noted in all Regions except for Region 10, but eBird reveals a good number of reports from that Region as well. Among thrushes, there were reports of Bicknell's Thrush in Regions 5, 7, 8 and 10 and Townsend's Solitaire from Jefferson, Region 6, and Suffolk County, Region 10. The only Varied Thrush was in Region 10. A Harris's Sparrow visited a feeder location in Lockport, Region 1, and another was in Albany County, Region 8. A high count of 19 Grasshopper Sparrows was reported from Fresh Kills Park, Region 10, one of very few breeding sites left in the Region. There were only a handful of reports for Henslow's Sparrow, all from Chaumont Barrens Preserve in Region 6. Researchers apparently found them at Perch River as well, but no further information was obtained. Though there is some uncertainty about the size of the population and the number of occupied sites in the Region, their status as breeders here is certainly precarious, with loss of habitat contributing to a continuing decline. Lark Sparrow reports came from Regions 5 and 10. Golden-crowned Sparrow was, perhaps, the most unusual sparrow; one was reported from West Winfield in Region 5.

Among warblers, a Kentucky Warbler was banded at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory on 24 May; this species was reported from all counties in Region 10 except one, Nassau County. Reports for Connecticut Warbler came from the area bordering Lake Ontario, Regions 1, 2, and 5. Prothonotary Warblers returned to their known nesting location in western New York and sightings also came from four other Regions. Swainson's Warbler was seen at Muttontown Preserve, Nassau County. Among the more uncommon warblers, there were multiple reports of Yellow-throated Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, and Yellow-breasted Chats. Although uncommon, Summer Tanagers were found in most Regions this spring and were in every county in Region 10. However, a Western Tanager was a fourth Regional record at Point Gratiot, Region 1. Blue Grosbeak was photographed at Seneca Landfill, Region 3, far from their new breeding sites in southeastern New York State. A Painted Bunting persisted from winter in Brooklyn at Plumb Beach and a female was at a feeder in Marcellus, Region 5,



14-16 May. Among grassland species, Dickcissels were recorded in five Regions. Sedge Wrens showed up in six Regions, all in the western half of the state except one in Region 10, where they are quite rare. Four of these reports showed early arrival, between 30 April and 3 May.

Spring migration is always an exciting time. This year’s spring will always be remembered for the Covid-19 pandemic and how it affected us and our birding. As birders got out more, unusual species were definitely being found. Many noteworthy sightings included: Gull-billed Tern in Region 1, Western Kingbird and Piping Plover in Region 2, Blue Grosbeak in Region 3, Snowy Egret in Region 4, Golden-crowned Sparrow and Painted Bunting in Region 5, Townsend’s Solitaire in Region 6, Tufted Duck and Black-headed Gull in Region 7, Harris’s Sparrow and Yellow-headed Blackbird in Region 8, Crested Caracara and Black Rail in Region 9, and many species in Region 10—but the Swainson’s Warbler here is definitely special.

Given that there have been only five state records of Golden-crowned Sparrow accepted by NYSARC thus far, I select this as the bird of the season.

Much of the data in the Regional reports is sourced from eBird: eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD\_relMay-2020. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. May 2020.

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### SPRING ARRIVAL DATES FOR 2020

Region	Species Reported <sup>1</sup>	Seasonality <sup>2</sup> vs. 1987-2019	Advance <sup>3</sup> (Days)	Region vs. Prev. Year	Record Early Spp.
1	92	-4.94	-2.16	-2.04	12
2	93	-2.35	-0.30	0.87	2
3	92	-5.05	-2.77	-2.52	1
4	89	-7.27	0.56	--	3
5	93	-2.86	1.52	-3.50	0
6	92	-4.70	6.35	-0.57	5
7	89	-4.60	8.24	-1.63	0
8	92	-4.54	1.71	1.34	2
9	90	-6.91	-4.54	-1.76	2
10	92	-7.12	-7.23	-4.58	0

<sup>1</sup>Maximum number of species = 93.

<sup>2</sup>Average arrival in a Region compared to that Region’s average 1987-2019.

<sup>3</sup>Average arrival in a Region compared to the average of all Regions.

Given difficulties in estimating arrivals of some species in some Regions, estimates of Seasonality and Advance should be interpreted with caution.

Spring Arrival Dates 2020. Dates in <b>bold</b> font indicate record-early arrivals for the Region.												
Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average	Avg 1987-2020
Wood Duck	29-Feb	2 Mar	26 Feb	2-Mar	3 Mar	7-Mar	5-Mar		18 Feb	21 Mar	2 Mar	10 Mar
Blue-winged Teal	8-Mar	13 Mar	12 Mar	20-Mar	2 Mar	16-Apr	19-Apr	10-Mar	10 Mar	22 Mar	19 Mar	27 Mar
Northern Pintail	<b>20-Jan</b>	10 Feb	<b>16 Feb</b>	1-Mar	2 Mar	7-Mar	5-Mar	4-Mar		1 Mar	23 Feb	5 Mar
Green-winged Teal	2-Mar	23 Feb	29 Feb	5-Mar	3 Mar	13-Mar	8-Mar	5-Mar	9 Feb	1 Mar	1 Mar	12 Mar
Black-billed Cuckoo	15-May	12 May	14 May	24-May	15 May	14-May	21-May	16-May	8 May	3 May	14 May	11 May
Common Nighthawk	10-May	17 May	16 May	22-May	17 May	22-May	20-May	15-May	9 May	29 Apr	14 May	12 May
Chimney Swift	25-Apr	25 Apr	19 Apr	25-Apr	21 Apr	1-May	27-Apr	26-Apr	14 Apr	14 Apr	22 Apr	24 Apr
Ruby-thr Hummingbird	30-Apr	1 May	3 May	2-May	3 May	8-May	2-May	29-Apr	27 Apr	25 Apr	1 May	2 May
Virginia Rail	<b>21-Mar</b>	21 Mar	18 Mar	18-Mar	4 Apr	<b>29-Mar</b>	15-Apr	<b>21-Mar</b>		11 Apr	27 Mar	15 Apr
Sora	19-Apr	12 Apr	17 Apr	23-Mar	8 Apr	20-Apr	2-May	14-Apr	21 Apr	23 Apr	15 Apr	27 Apr
Common Gallinule	17-Apr	15 Apr	11 Apr	15-Apr	16 Apr	24-Apr	25-Apr	20-Apr	12 Apr	15 Apr	17 Apr	25 Apr
Black-bellied Plover	11-May	8 May	11 May	26-May	25 May	21-May	24-May	16-May	19 May	4 Apr	13 May	14 May
Semipalmated Plover	2-May	8 May	7 May	11-May	6 May	16-May	18-May	14-May	2 May	16 Mar	3 May	9 May
Killdeer	23-Feb	18 Feb	2 Mar	25-Feb	3 Mar	26-Feb	22-Mar	1-Mar	9 Feb	18 Feb	26 Feb	4 Mar
Sanderling	30-May	27 May			15 May		19-May				22 May	16 May
Least Sandpiper	30-Apr	30 Apr	25 Apr	30-Apr	29 Apr	4-May	3-May	20-Apr	30 Apr	12 Apr	27 Apr	2 May
Pectoral Sandpiper	15-Mar	29 Mar	1 Apr		23 Mar			8-May	12 Mar	12 Apr	31 Mar	19 Apr
Semipalmated Sandpiper	2-May	17 May	15 May	16-May	9 May	16-May		17-May	11 May	29 Apr	11 May	13 May
American Woodcock	5-Mar	25 Feb	26 Feb	6-Mar	4 Mar	10-Mar	8-Mar	3-Mar	13 Feb	4 Mar	1 Mar	10 Mar
Wilson's Snipe	<b>1-Mar</b>	20 Mar	4 Mar	2-Feb	14 Mar	24-Mar	4-Apr	5-Mar	10 Mar	15 Mar	10 Mar	23 Mar
Spotted Sandpiper	10-Apr	21 Apr	19 Apr	15-Apr	17 Apr	1-May	30-Apr	19-Apr	6 Mar	15 Apr	15 Apr	22 Apr
Solitary Sandpiper	26-Apr	23 Apr	16 Apr	17-Apr	25 Apr	3-May	6-May	18-Apr	25 Apr	15 Apr	23 Apr	25 Apr
Lesser Yellowlegs	15-Mar	2 Apr	1 Apr	16-Apr	27 Mar	29-Apr	2-May	24-Apr	12 Apr	21 Mar	8 Apr	15 Apr
Greater Yellowlegs	24-Mar	19 Mar	27 Mar	22-Mar	29 Mar	21-Apr	11-Apr	6-Apr	30 Mar	18 Mar	30 Mar	5 Apr
Caspian Tern	7-Apr	6 Apr	26 Mar	5-Apr	5 Apr	4-Apr	28-Mar	16-Apr	8 Apr	20 Apr	6 Apr	15 Apr
Black Tern	24-Apr	1 May	29 Apr	14-May	1 May	3-May	25-May	16-May	14 May		7 May	7 May
Common Tern	5-Apr	13 Apr	18 Mar	24-Apr	11 Apr	24-Apr	1-May	16-May	26 Apr	13 Apr	18 Apr	24 Apr
American Bittern	5-Apr	6 Apr	1 Apr		26 Mar	27-Mar	20-Apr	26-Mar	5 Apr	25 Mar	1 Apr	13 Apr
Green Heron	13-Apr	18 Apr	20 Apr	13-Apr	19 Apr	27-Apr	6-May	20-Apr	11 Apr	6 Apr	18 Apr	21 Apr
Osprey	20-Mar	22 Mar	14 Mar	14-Mar	22 Mar	<b>21-Mar</b>	27-Mar	28-Mar	6 Mar	8 Mar	18 Mar	26 Mar
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	21-Mar	1 Apr	3 Mar	15-Mar	7 Mar	29-Mar	28-Mar	24-Mar	5 Apr	11 Mar	20 Mar	1 Apr

Spring Arrival Dates 2020. Dates in <b>bold</b> font indicate record-early arrivals for the Region.												
Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average	Avg 1987-2020
Gr. Crested Flycatcher	29-Apr	30 Apr	1 May	20-Apr	30 Apr	3-May	6-May	1-May	1 May	24 Apr	29 Apr	30 Apr
Eastern Kingbird	25-Apr	25 Apr	30 Apr	29-Apr	30 Apr	2-May	3-May	29-Apr	25 Apr	25 Apr	28 Apr	27 Apr
Olive-sided Flycatcher	17-May	19 May	16 May	25-May	25 May	15-May	17-May	23-May	15 May	11 May	18 May	17 May
Eastern Wood-Pewee	12-May	14 May	11 May	14-May	12 May	19-May	16-May	3-May	5 May	2 May	10 May	9 May
Alder Flycatcher	13-May	13 May	16 May	11-May	13 May	17-May	20-May	15-May	13 May	15 May	14 May	16 May
Willow Flycatcher	13-May	14 May	10 May	15-May	11 May	19-May	17-May	12-May	11 May	8 May	13 May	14 May
Least Flycatcher	29-Apr	30 Apr	30 Apr	2-May	2 May	2-May	2-May	2-May	1 May	19 Apr	29 Apr	30 Apr
Eastern Phoebe	19-Mar	15 Mar	18 Mar	21-Mar	24 Mar	27-Mar	17-Feb	11-Mar	1 Mar	4 Mar	12 Mar	21 Mar
Yellow-throated Vireo	2-May	1 May	29 Apr	30-Apr	26 Apr	6-May	6-May	1-May	28 Apr	18 Apr	29 Apr	3 May
Blue-headed Vireo	14-Apr	<b>9 Apr</b>	7 Apr	<b>6-Apr</b>	25 Apr	28-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr	6 Apr	6 Apr	13 Apr	18 Apr
Warbling Vireo	27-Apr	30 Apr	29 Apr	24-Apr	1 May	3-May	3-May	25-Apr	26 Apr	19 Apr	27 Apr	29 Apr
Red-eyed Vireo	30-Apr	3 May	11 May	10-May	10 May	3-May	3-May	1-May	27 Apr	25 Apr	3 May	3 May
Purple Martin	5-Apr	5 Apr	4 Apr		11 Apr	12-Apr		22-Apr	30 Mar	27 Mar	6 Apr	17 Apr
Tree Swallow	14-Mar	11 Mar	10 Mar	14-Mar	12 Mar	21-Mar	27-Mar	7-Mar	2 Mar	15 Mar	13 Mar	19 Mar
N. Rough-winged Swallow	5-Apr	21 Mar	4 Apr	5-Apr	7 Apr	11-Apr	2-May	1-Apr	26 Mar	21 Mar	4 Apr	12 Apr
Bank Swallow	15-Apr	10 Apr	11 Apr	15-Apr	20 Apr	3-May	15-May	18-Apr	15 Apr	14 Apr	19 Apr	23 Apr
Cliff Swallow	<b>4-Apr</b>	12 Apr	5 Apr	14-Apr	20 Apr	23-Apr	4-May	24-Apr	6 Apr	17 Apr	15 Apr	25 Apr
Barn Swallow	5-Apr	29 Mar	31 Mar	28-Mar	29 Mar	12-Apr	16-Apr	10-Apr	31 Mar	22 Mar	2 Apr	9 Apr
House Wren	<b>27-Mar</b>	17 Apr	6 Apr	14-Apr	17 Apr	18-Apr	26-Apr	17-Apr	<b>21 Mar</b>	8 Mar	7 Apr	20 Apr
Marsh Wren	<b>25-Mar</b>	4 Apr	11 Mar	3-May	2 Apr	20-Apr	2-May	<b>9-Mar</b>	17 Mar	3 Apr	3 Apr	26 Apr
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	12-Apr	12 Apr	7 Apr	13-Apr	12 Apr	23-Apr	2-May	14-Apr	5 Mar	13 Mar	8 Apr	19 Apr
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	28-Mar	<b>28 Mar</b>	6 Mar	20-Mar	9 Mar	11-Apr	28-Mar	27-Mar	<b>1 Mar</b>	5 Apr	22 Mar	5 Apr
Eastern Bluebird						<b>1-Mar</b>			1 Mar	21 Apr	18 Mar	9 Mar
Veery	30-Apr	30 Apr	2 May	1-May	25 Apr	29-Apr	2-May	2-May	1 May	25 Apr	29 Apr	1 May
Swainson's Thrush	6-May	5 May	11 May	14-May	12 May	11-May	2-May	11-May	4 May	2 May	7 May	7 May
Hermit Thrush	28-Mar	24 Mar	31 Mar	1-Mar	5 Apr	<b>2-Apr</b>	8-Mar	7-Mar	5 Apr	25 Mar	22 Mar	6 Apr
Wood Thrush	27-Apr	26 Apr	29 Apr	25-Apr	27 Apr	29-Apr	30-Apr	30-Apr	23 Apr	16 Apr	26 Apr	28 Apr
Gray Catbird	<b>5-Apr</b>	5 Apr	31 Mar	20-Apr	25 Apr	29-Apr	30-Apr	21-Apr	25 Apr	18 Apr	17 Apr	23 Apr
Brown Thrasher	1-Apr	7 Apr	5 Apr	8-Apr	11 Apr	<b>11-Apr</b>	11-Apr	5-Apr	26 Mar	25 Mar	4 Apr	13 Apr
Eastern Towhee	27-Mar	20 Mar	15 Mar	5-Apr	23 Mar	4-Apr	4-Apr	6-Apr	8 Apr	25 Mar	29 Mar	7 Apr
Chipping Sparrow	27-Mar	28 Mar	7 Mar	1-Mar	1 Apr	2-Apr	14-Mar	31-Mar	5 Apr	25 Mar	23 Mar	3 Apr

Spring Arrival Dates 2020. Dates in <b>bold</b> font indicate record-early arrivals for the Region.												
Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average	Avg 1987-2020
Vesper Sparrow	30-Mar	2 Apr	30 Mar	5-Apr	5 Apr	6-Apr	5-Apr	6-Apr	27 Mar	17 Mar	31 Mar	9 Apr
Savannah Sparrow	27-Mar	25 Mar	14 Mar	26-Mar	27 Mar	6-Apr	12-Apr	6-Apr		11 Apr	30 Mar	6 Apr
Lincoln's Sparrow	30-Apr	30 Apr	3 May	1-May	7 May	9-May	3-May	4-May	2 May	1 May	3 May	3 May
White-crowned Sparrow		4 Apr	15 Apr	25-Apr	19 Apr	18-Apr	27-Apr	28-Mar	28 Mar	18 Apr	13 Apr	23 Apr
Bobolink	29-Apr	25 Apr	29 Apr	2-May	30 Apr	2-May	6-May	28-Apr	2 May	29 Apr	30 Apr	1 May
Baltimore Oriole	<b>13-Apr</b>	27 Apr	15 Apr	<b>19-Apr</b>	28 Apr	3-May	6-May	28-Apr	17 Apr	22 Apr	23 Apr	29 Apr
Ovenbird	29-Apr	24 Apr	25 Apr	25-Apr	25 Apr	2-May	3-May	29-Apr	21 Apr	9 Apr	25 Apr	28 Apr
Northern Waterthrush	24-Apr	28 Apr	22 Apr	28-Apr	25 Apr	27-Apr	29-Apr	29-Apr	19 Apr	17 Apr	24 Apr	25 Apr
Black-and-White Warbler	<b>5-Apr</b>	29 Apr	27 Apr	30-Apr	26 Apr	27-Apr	2-May	25-Apr	11 Apr	2 Apr	21 Apr	24 Apr
Tennessee Warbler	6-May	10 May	3 May	12-May	6 May	10-May	13-May	11-May	7 May	29 Apr	7 May	8 May
Nashville Warbler	28-Apr	1 May	29 Apr	2-May	24 Apr	28-Apr	3-May	25-Apr	2 May	5 Apr	26 Apr	28 Apr
Mourning Warbler	10-May	14 May	14 May	9-May	15 May	19-May	22-May	14-May	15 May	12 May	14 May	13 May
Common Yellowthroat	<b>11-Apr</b>	18 Apr	29 Apr	28-Apr	28 Apr	2-May	23-Apr	28-Apr	3 Mar	14 Apr	18 Apr	28 Apr
American Redstart	30-Apr	30 Apr	29 Apr	1-May	2 May	2-May	2-May	1-May	26 Apr	29 Apr	30 Apr	2 May
Cape May Warbler	29-Apr	1 May	5 May	11-May	11 May	1-May	11-May	3-May	3 May	3 May	4 May	6 May
Northern Parula	1-May	30 Apr	1 May	2-May	2 May	5-May	3-May	30-Apr	28 Apr	11 Apr	29 Apr	1 May
Magnolia Warbler	2-May	2 May	3 May	9-May	1 May	5-May	13-May	1-May	4 May	28 Apr	3 May	3 May
Bay-breasted Warbler	14-May	10 May	12 May	12-May	12 May	17-May	15-May	6-May	8 May	2 May	10 May	10 May
Blackburnian Warbler	29-Apr	30 Apr	30 Apr	1-May	30 Apr	8-May	30-Apr	2-May	30 Apr	2 May	1 May	2 May
Yellow Warbler	26-Apr	28 Apr	19 Apr	25-Apr	27 Apr	1-May	30-Apr	25-Apr	20 Apr	6 Apr	23 Apr	25 Apr
Chestnut-sided Warbler	2-May	1 May	2 May	<b>19-Apr</b>	3 May	3-May	11-May	2-May	28 Apr	1 May	1 May	2 May
Blackpoll Warbler	15-May	9 May	6 May	9-May	15 May	16-May	16-May	12-May	9 May	2 May	10 May	11 May
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	29-Apr	27 Apr	30 Apr	30-Apr	30 Apr	3-May	3-May	1-May	26 Apr	8 Apr	27 Apr	30 Apr
Palm Warbler	<b>7-Apr</b>	12 Apr	10 Apr	7-Apr	14 Apr	24-Apr	14-Apr	7-Apr	28 Mar	24 Mar	8 Apr	16 Apr
Pine Warbler	<b>15-Mar</b>	4 Apr	28 Mar	20-Mar	4 Apr	9-Apr	7-Apr	25-Mar	26 Mar	6 Mar	26 Mar	8 Apr
Black-thr Green Warbler	24-Apr	28 Apr	25 Apr	28-Apr	1 May	2-May	2-May	27-Apr	19 Apr	20 Apr	26 Apr	25 Apr
Canada Warbler	15-May	15 May	8 May	8-May	15 May	13-May	16-May	11-May	2 May	2 May	10 May	9 May
Wilson's Warbler	12-May	14 May	11 May	7-May	10 May	18-May		6-May	3 May	3 May	9 May	10 May
Scarlet Tanager	30-Apr	29 Apr	2 May	4-May	3 May	11-May	2-May	29-Apr	28 Apr	21 Apr	30 Apr	3 May
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	26-Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr	25-Apr	28 Apr	24-Apr	2-May	24-Apr	21 Apr	11 Apr	24 Apr	27 Apr
Indigo Bunting	3-May	1 May	26 Apr	1-May	6 May	7-May	14-May	30-Apr	29 Apr	14 Apr	1 May	3 May
Overall Average	14 Apr	16 Apr	14 Apr	17 Apr	18 Apr	23 Apr	25 Apr	18 Apr	12 Apr	9 Apr	17 Apr	22 Apr

## REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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Much like the preceding winter months, March was mild and warmer than usual. The mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 41.3° F, 7.3° above normal, with 3.20" of precipitation, 0.33" above average. There was only 2.1" of snowfall, 10.8" below average. There was little to no ice cover throughout the winter and early spring season for only the sixth time since tracking began in 1927. The only notable weather event was a strong windstorm which brought some damage on the 20<sup>th</sup>. April turned very cool and unsettled, ending the run of mild weather months. The mean temperature was 43.4°, 2.5° below average. Precipitation was 3.54", 0.53" above average, with 4.3" of snowfall, 1.6" above normal. The first half of May was well below normal and then the second half brought summer-like warmth. The average temperature was 56.0°, 0.9° below normal. Rainfall was 3.87", 0.41" above normal and there was even 0.3" of snowfall on 8 May, souring the mood of everyone that day.

The spring of 2020 will be remembered for the COVID-19 pandemic ravaging New York State more than we will remember the birding. Many people took to birding or at least discovering the birds in their yards during this time of increased home confinement. Anecdotally, it seemed that birder activity, beyond backyard birding, was reduced in March and early April but then much greater than normal, especially as spring migration took full stride in May.

It was a memorable spring for some notable rarities and some excellent days of spring migrants stacking up across the Region, especially at traditional migration hot spots.

By far, the most notable of the rarities was a **Gull-billed Tern** that Peter Yoerg saw at Cayuga Pool at Iroquois NWR late on 24 May. Yoerg made a late-night post to GeneseeBirds listserv, which Josh Ketry picked up on and found the tern still present early the next morning on Memorial Day. Many birders raced to see this mega rarity and more than 50 birders reported it in eBird. This was a first for Region 1 and believed to be a first for upstate New York. It was not reported in subsequent days.

Several Glossy Ibises showed up during the first few days of May, which drew birders out to Iroquois NWR where up to four were seen at Kumpf Marsh on the morning of 3 May. TJ Mudd observed a fifth ibis that arrived there and upon closer inspection determined it was a much rarer **White-faced Ibis**, only the third for Region 1. This brought out even more birders on that Sunday afternoon, and good thing since it was not reported afterward. Janet and James Sandefur also reported a Glossy Ibis at Batavia WWTP on 2 May and there were a few later reports that followed around Iroquois NWR.

A **Western Grebe** was found on the Niagara River in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario by Liz Cormack. Many birders saw the grebe over the next few days, 5-7 March, including time the grebe spent on the U.S. side of the river. This was the sixth Regional record.

As noted in the winter season report, waterfowl migration was well underway by the time March began. A Ross's Goose was found at Batavia WWTP 7-8 March by Greg Lawrence and then one at nearby Gypsum Pond in Oakfield on 14 March could have possibly been the same bird. The group of 17 Greater White-fronted Geese continued at Conewango Swamp WMA into early March and there were reports from three other locations in early March. The maximum count of Cackling Goose was 18 at Oakfield on 18 March. Tim Lenz reported a Brant at Bemus Point on Chautauqua Lake on 18 May for the only report; this species is less than annual in spring as Region 1 is west of the typical migration path. Trumpeter Swans were found around Iroquois NWR and Tonawanda WMA as usual for the last few years, as well as reports from two other locations. There were multiple reports of a drake Eurasian Wigeon around Iroquois NWR and Tonawanda WMA, probably representing more than one bird. Joel Spring photographed a **Eurasian Green-winged Teal** on Oak Orchard Creek at Iroquois NWR on 21 March; this form has rarely been documented in Region 1. Joe Mitchell photographed a **putative Tufted Duck hybrid** on 7 March in Buffalo Harbor; this adult male had a short tuft that led Mitchell and others to speculate it was a hybrid with one of the scaup species. A Harlequin Duck was reported from Olean on 19 and 24 April by Keith Neff and Heather Renyck for a rare inland record.

Kirk Vanstrom found a rare-in-spring American Golden-Plover in a field in French Creek on 16 April. Gale VerHague sighted three American Avocets at Dunkirk Harbor on 30 April. There were two Whimbrel reports in late May. There were a few more Ruddy Turnstone reports than usual, including 23 at Bemus Point on 31 May. A Sanderling at Buffalo Harbor was the only spring report. Shorebirds amassed as Cayuga Pool at Iroquois NWR drained slowly in the second half of May, with an estimated 380 Semipalmated Sandpipers and good variety and numbers of shorebirds on 25 May. Long-billed Dowitchers were found at Iroquois NWR 1-2 May and more surprisingly at wetlands in West Seneca on 8 May. Willets were clearly on the move on 3 May with 17 sighted at Clymer and eight at Bemus Point; four were found at Beaver Island SP on 11 May as well. The only reports for Upland Sandpiper were at the regular breeding location adjacent to Tillman Road WMA. Wilson's Phalaropes were found at three locations in May.

There was only a smattering of Iceland, Lesser Black-backed, and Glaucous Gull reports for the season. A Little Gull at Bemus Point on 23 April was a rare inland report away from the Great Lakes and Niagara River. There were two Black Tern reports on the Niagara River in migration away from their only Regional breeding locations at Iroquois NWR and Tonawanda WMA. Five reports of Forster's Tern were more than usual for a spring season.

There were three American White Pelican sightings, including a long staying bird at Oak Orchard WMA plus single day reports at Beaver Island SP and Woodlawn Beach SP. Josh Ketry was startled to see a **Brown Pelican** flying west along the Lake Ontario shoreline at Golden Hill SP late in the afternoon of 21 May; this was the sixth record for the Region.

The drawdown of Cayuga Pool at Iroquois NWR attracted good numbers of Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets in the second half of May. Josh Ketry found a Snowy Egret among them on 23 May that stuck around for a few more days, while nearby at Tonawanda WMA on the same day, Bev Seyler found a Cattle Egret that also stuck around for a few more days.

The highlight at the Hamburg Hawkwatch was a **Swainson's Hawk** on 15 April photographed by Sue Barth; this was the second record for the hawkwatch and for Erie County in consecutive years. After a successful Gull-billed Tern chase, and plenty of other good birds at Iroquois NWR that day, Joe Mitchell found a soaring Swainson's Hawk upon return to his Alden home. Call that a birding day to remember! There were two Golden Eagle sightings at the Hamburg Hawkwatch in late March. The only documented Northern Goshawk report came from Canaseraga in April. Up to four Black Vultures were in Lewiston, their regular location, plus one at Somerset on 3 May.

A few Snowy Owls were reported in March on the breakwalls around Buffalo Harbor with the last report on 6 April. Long-eared Owl was reported from only one location, with multiple reports in Yates. Short-eared Owls were found at five locations, and there were two locations for Northern Saw-whet Owl reports.

Both cuckoo species were late to arrive this spring. There were relatively few Common Nighthawk reports like most recent spring seasons, but Kevin Rybczynski's count of 106 over Buffalo on 24 May was a nice surprise and the highest count in many years. Eastern Whip-poor-will reports were the most I have encountered in the two decades of preparing this Regional account. One factor included targeted searches for them along Lake Ontario by Joel Strong. Three "whips" at Golden Hill SP on the morning of 20 May was remarkable for this species uncommonly detected in Region 1.

A White-eyed Vireo in Amherst on 3 May was the only report. Fish Crows were reported from several locations in Buffalo and a few slightly beyond there. Alec Humann had a group of 11 Fish Crows along the Niagara River in Buffalo to set a Regional maximum count. A Cliff Swallow was early on 4 April; otherwise, the bulk of swallows arrived a little bit later with the cool start to April. Visiting birder Brent Stephenson did not realize that such excitement would follow his discovery of a Sedge Wren at Amherst SP on the early date of 30 April; many birders were able to find the bird that day and the next. One and then two Sedge Wrens at Conewango Swamp WMA in May are consistent with sightings from that location in recent years. Carolina Wrens appear to be on an upswing; the mild winter and early spring had to help. American Pipit reports and numbers were low again compared to typical spring numbers, but more than the very few from the previous spring season.

A handful of Pine Siskin reports was all the season mustered for irruptive finches. There were only a few early March reports of Snow Bunting and a lone Lapland Longspur report, which might be attributed to February's warmth as encouragement for them to move north quicker.

There were some early arriving Field Sparrows, although with a warm winter and a warming climate, this is another species that becomes challenging to determine what is a spring arrival vs. an overwintering bird, or birds that don't winter as far to the south as usual and then return sooner. For the second spring in a row Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from ten locations, a mix of migration spots and likely breeding areas. Vesper Sparrows and Grasshopper Sparrows were found in decent numbers compared to recent springs, including some reports from migration locations. Chris Wood was surprised to hear the soft song of a Nelson's Sparrow, on a very windy afternoon, no less, at Tonawanda WMA on 31 May; this represents a rare spring report. Evelyn Whitlock photographed a **Harris's Sparrow** at her feeder in Lockport on 10 May, which is in line for the usual timing of spring reports.

An early adult male Baltimore Oriole showed up at Laura Szmania's feeders in Aurora on 13-14 April. Orchard Orioles were well reported again; I suspect we will see an expanded distribution for this species in the current breeding bird atlas project.

Warbler migration did not disappoint as good numbers showed up, especially in mid-May. There were two sightings each for Worm-eating Warbler and Yellow-throated Warbler, where the Region sits slightly north of their range. Golden-winged Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, and Prairie Warbler were found in migration more often than in any recent spring; for the first two, I'm not sure if this was an anomaly and/or a function of more active May birders. I suspect it is a trend for Prairie Warbler, though, as I noted the same thing last spring and the species could be expanding north in its range some more. Prothonotary Warbler drew a similar note last year and it was found in migration at three locations in addition to locations at or near Iroquois NWR. Rounding out the less common species were a Connecticut Warbler found at Amherst SP by Brent Stephenson and an "Eastern" Palm Warbler that Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter realized upon closer inspection of their photographs from an outing at Four Mile Creek SP.

A **Summer Tanager** was recorded for the eighth consecutive spring season and 11 out of the last 13 years. David Gordon found one at Forest Lawn Cemetery on 3 May, which allowed other birders to see it throughout the day. Tim Lenz discovered a pale **Western Tanager** on the same day at Point Gratiot, representing the fourth Regional record, all of which have occurred since 2013.

The 85<sup>th</sup> Buffalo Ornithological Society (BOS) April Count was held on 5 April. There was no participation from the Ontario sections due to COVID restrictions, while Batavia WWTP was not visited on the New York side due to inaccessibility, so the numbers were affected accordingly. The species count (141) was slightly above the historical average, while the 87,843 total birds recorded was well low under the circumstances. Despite the reduced coverage there were



still ten record high counts, including Sandhill Crane (30), American Woodcock (60), Bald Eagle (69), Eastern Screech-Owl (13), Barred Owl (30), Red-bellied Woodpecker (339), Pileated Woodpecker (77), Fish Crow (11), Common Raven (48), and Winter Wren (56), plus a first ever Black-and-white Warbler, a very early find by Tim and Caroline Goff at Chestnut Ridge Park. Record low counts were Blue-winged Teal (39) and American Robin (4,912), the former being noted in decline and the latter a function of reduced participation.

The BOS May Count was held on 17 May, including coverage in the Ontario sections. A total of 206 species was tallied and 75,376 birds were recorded, which were about average and higher than recent totals, respectively. High counts over the last 55 years included Trumpeter Swan (5), Bald Eagle (68), Merlin (8), Red-bellied Woodpecker (420), Pileated Woodpecker (68), Yellow-throated Vireo (41), Blue-headed Vireo (104), Common Raven (40), Carolina Wren (51), Winter Wren (31), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (114), Gray Catbird (1706), Nashville Warbler (186), Northern Parula (133), Chestnut-sided Warbler (336), Black-throated Blue Warbler (245), Black-throated Green Warbler (254), Pine Warbler (33), Palm Warbler (145), Ovenbird (310), Northern Cardinal (1140), and Orchard Oriole (36). Lowest counts in the last 55 years included Ring-necked Pheasant (6), Black Tern (3), Vesper Sparrow (1), House Sparrow (1144), and surprisingly not a single cuckoo of either species was recorded on the count.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**ACNC** – Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown, CHAU; **AISP** – Allegany SP, CATT; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **BOSAC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society April Count – 05 Apr; **BOSMC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society May Count – 17 May; **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; **DHSP** – Devil's Hole SP, NIAG; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FMCSP** – Four Mile Creek SP,

NIAG; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **Hamburg HW** – Hamburg Hawkwatch, ERIE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **JDSP** – Joseph Davis SP, NIAG; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **LESP** – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; **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; **PG** – Point Gratiot, CHAU; **RTPI** – Roger Tory Peterson Institute, Jamestown, CHAU; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods Nature Pres, ERIE; **SPWS** – Sinking Ponds Wildlife Sanctuary, ERIE; **Tiftt NP** – Tiftt Nature Pres, ERIE; **TRWMA** – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WFWMA** – Watts Flats WMA, CHAU; **WoBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

#### **WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS**

**Snow Goose:** 50 Lyndonville NIAG 2 Mar; max 210 INWR, 150 EvSP, 45 Portland CHAU 3 Mar; 140 Batavia GENE 4 Mar; 67 Belfast ALLE 19 Mar.

**Ross's Goose:** BWWTP 7, 8 Mar (GL); Oakfield GENE 14 Mar (RS), possibly same as Batavia bird.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** 6, 5 Lyndonville NIAG 1, 2 Mar (JSt); max 17 CSWMA 2 Mar (DC); 2 Somerset NIAG 5 Mar (WD, JSt); 3 BWWTP 8 Mar (PY).

**Brant:** 2 Bemus Pt ChauL 18 May (TiL), unusual location, only report.

**Cackling Goose:** 2 CSWMA 2 Mar; 13, 12 Somerset NIAG 5, 11 Mar (WD); 7 Yates ORLE 12 Mar; max 18 Oakfield GENE 18 Mar (PY).

**Mute Swan:** Pomfret 4-28 Mar; 5 PB 14 Mar; Tiftt NP 21 Mar – 5 May; BeSP 1 Apr – 30 May; 7 Yates ORLE 8 Apr; Cassadaga L CHAU 11 Apr; 5 INWR 8 May; 7 WTSP 15 May; max 9 Lyndonville NIAG 17 May; 7 Carlton ORLE 24 May.

**Trumpeter Swan:** 2 Alexander GENE 4 Mar (DB); max 2, 7, 9 INWR 14 Mar, 26 Apr, 25 May, present throughout season; 8, 2 TWMA 12 Apr, 25 May; Buffalo ERIE 25 Apr (GR).

**Tundra Swan:** max 410 Celoron ChauL, 300 Yates ORLE 2 Mar; 260 INWR 3 Mar; 250 Buffalo NR 6 Mar; 350 Shelby ORLE 10 Mar; last Orchard Park ERIE 10 May.

**Wood Duck:** max 160 Stockton CHAU 22 Apr.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 2 Conewango CATT 8 Mar; max 29 CSWMA 9 Apr.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 100, 98 INWR 2, 20 Apr.

**Gadwall:** max 110 INWR 6 Apr.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** INWR 24-28 Mar, 5, 7, 11 Apr (CM); TWMA 13 May (PY); annual in spring.

**American Wigeon:** 275 INWR 19 Mar; max 550 TWMA 22 Mar (JM).

**American Black Duck:** 17 Batavia GENE 10 Mar; 18 INWR 24 Mar; max 24 CSWMA 18 Apr (ID).

**Northern Pintail:** max 310, 325 INWR 6 Mar, 24 Apr.

**Green-winged Teal:** 122 CSWMA 9 Apr; max 204, 275 INWR 15, 24 Apr.

**“EURASIAN” GREEN-WINGED TEAL:** INWR 21 Mar (JSp ph!), rarely documented in Reg 1.

**Canvasback:** last Dayton CATT 23 Apr.

**Redhead:** max 550 Celoron ChauL 4 Mar; 185, 5 BWWTP 12 Mar, 23 May; 10, 5 TWMA 16, 26 May.

**Ring-necked Duck:** 210 BWWTP 12 Mar; 192 N Harmony ChauL 21 Mar; 160 Pomfret CHAU 21 Mar; max 615 TWMA 25 Mar; 250 Westfield CHAU 4 Apr; 180 TWMA 25 Apr.

**TUFTED DUCK putative hybrid (R1):** BuffH 7 Mar (JM ph!), small tuft on adult male, thought to be hybrid with scaup.

**Greater Scaup:** max 425 BuffH 1 Mar; 137 BWWTP 9 Apr; last 2 BWWTP, DH 24 May.

**Lesser Scaup:** 116 BWWTP 18 Mar; max 220 Bemus Pt ChauL 4 Apr; 2 BWWTP 24 May.

**Harlequin Duck:** NFSP 7, 16 Mar; Olean CATT 19, 24 Apr (KN, HR), unusual location.

**Surf Scoter:** max 4 Wilson NIAG 14 Mar.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 211 FNSP 7 Mar; 2 BuSP 29 Apr; 22 N Harmony ChauL (KV), 27 BuSP 18 May (AH), unusual locations for these numbers and on same date; last 4 Porter NIAG 22 May.

**Black Scoter:** FNSP 6-7 Mar; L Ontario BOSAC; PB 11 Apr; only reports.

**Long-tailed Duck:** 48 Dayton CATT 1 Apr (BR), good inland count; max 178 Wilson NIAG 19 Apr; still plentiful on L Ontario until late May.

**Bufflehead:** 144 Bemus Pt ChauL 4 Apr; 163 Cuba L ALLE, 137 Rushford L ALLE 5 Apr; max 237 BWWTP 9 Apr; 125 BeSP 28 Apr.  
**Common Goldeneye:** max 2500 Unity I NR 5 Mar (JK), possible double counting?; last BeSP 26 May (AH).  
**Hooded Merganser:** max 56, 40 BeSP 7 Mar, 20 Apr; 37 INWR 24 Mar.  
**Common Merganser:** max 78 BWWTP 4 Mar.  
**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 450 Buffalo NR 31 Mar; last LBSP 30 May.  
**Ruddy Duck:** 11, 33 Dayton CATT 28 Mar, 23 Apr; 11 AISP 30 Mar; 46 Bemus Pt ChauL 4 Apr; max 237, 446 BWWTP 9, 12 Apr; 2 TWMA 31 May.  
**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 20 INWR 28 Apr; 2 JDSP 20 May (MM), pair at nest, unusual breeding location.  
**Horned Grebe:** 44 AISP 30 Mar (KB); max 130 N Harmony ChauL 30 Mar (KV); 64 Amherst ERIE 30 Mar; 3 LBSP 16 May; last Willing ALLE 23 May (DC).  
**Red-necked Grebe:** 2 Yates ORLE, DH 8 Mar; 27 GHSP 12 Mar; 20 Wilson NIAG 26 Mar; max 125 Somerset NIAG 7 Apr (WD, BP); N Harmony ChauL 18 Apr; TWMA 3 May; last L Ontario BOSMC.  
**WESTERN GREBE:** FNSP 5-7 Mar (LC, mob), rare, originally found on Ontario side of NR but viewed several times in NY waters; sixth Reg record.  
**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr INWR 16 May, late arriving.  
**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr AmSP 15 May, late arriving.  
**Common Nighthawk:** arr 3 Gerry CHAU 10 May; 9 Grand Island ERIE 24 May; max 106 Buffalo ERIE 24 May (KR), highest spring count in years; few reports.  
**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr Amherst ERIE 25 Apr (BS); 1, 1 Newfane NIAG 1, 27 May; 1, 1 Somerset NIAG 3, 20 May; Jamestown CHAU 12 May (TwL); 1, 3 GHSP 14, 20 May (Jst, MM); Buffalo ERIE 19 May (DG); Shelby ORLE 22 May (DR); Wales ERIE 24 May (DT); good showing.  
**Chimney Swift:** arr 3 Hamburg ERIE 25 Apr.  
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Pomfret CHAU 30 Apr.

#### RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** arr Tift NP 21 Mar (PC), early; 4 BOSAC; max 5 N Harmony CHAU 18 Apr; 4 AmSP 1 May; 4 CSWMA 2 May; 4 West Seneca ERIE 7 May; 4 BMAC 14 May.

**Sora:** arr Tift NP 19 Apr; 4 BeSP 3 May; 4 West Seneca ERIE 4 May; 4 ACNC 27 May.  
**Common Gallinule:** arr Tift NP 17 Apr; max 20 TWMA 26 May.  
**American Coot:** max 50 INWR 27 Mar.  
**Sandhill Crane:** 2, 1, 3 CSWMA 7 Mar, 15 Apr, 19 May; ACNC 12 Mar; 5, 5, 7, 8 INWR 18, 29 Mar, 5 Apr, 10 May; 3 Brocton CHAU 26 Mar; 1, 2 WFWMA 29 Mar, 2 May; 30 BOSAC; 4 Newstead ERIE 11 Apr; 8 Carlton ORLE 12 Apr; 2 Sherman CHAU 12 Apr; 4 FNSP 28 Apr; 2 GHSP 20 May; max 9 TWMA 29 May (Jst).  
**American Avocet:** 3 DH 30 Apr (GV), becoming less rare in spring.  
**Black-bellied Plover:** arr N Harmony CHAU 11 May; 2 INWR, BufH 25 May; CSWMA 31 May.  
**American Golden-Plover:** French Creek CHAU 16, 20 Apr (KV), rare in spring.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** arr CSWMA 2 May; max 55 INWR 24 May.  
**Upland Sandpiper:** 3 TRWMA BOSMC; only location reported.  
**Whimbrel:** arr INWR 25 May (JM); Bemus Pt ChauL 31 May (KV).  
**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr 2 Wilson NIAG 20 May; 1, 2 INWR 22, 30 May; BufH 22 May; CSWMA 31 May; max 23 Bemus Pt ChauL 31 May (KV).  
**Sanderling:** 2 BufH 30 May (JK), only report.  
**Dunlin:** arr 4, max 46 INWR 5 Apr, 2 May.  
**Purple Sandpiper:** BufH 1 Mar (SS), continued from winter.  
**Least Sandpiper:** arr Yates ORLE 30 Apr; 34 CSWMA 9 May; max 62 INWR 22 May.  
**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr BOSMC; Hartland NIAG 19 May (JK), only reports.  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr Sheridan CHAU 15 Mar; max 13 INWR 26 Apr; last INWR 28 May (WD, Jst), a little late.  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr, max 1, 380 INWR 2, 25 May.  
**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr 1, max 1, 5 INWR 25 May; only reports.  
**Long-billed Dowitcher:** 1-2 INWR 1-2 May (RT, KR); West Seneca ERIE 8 May (BZ); rare in spring.  
**American Woodcock:** arr Alden ERIE 5 Mar.  
**Wilson's Snipe:** arr Ischua CATT 1 Mar; max 37 Yates ORLE 18 Apr.  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr Jamestown CHAU 10 Apr.  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr 2 Brant ERIE 26 Apr; max 10 CSWMA 4 May.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr 2 Sheridan CHAU 15 Mar; 40 INWR 28 Apr; max 42 CSWMA, 42 Sheridan CHAU 4 May.

**Willet:** arr 17 Clymer CHAU (KV), 8 Bemus Pt ChauL (TiL) 3 May; 4 BeSP 11 May.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr INWR 24 Mar; 35 Shelby ORLE 28 Apr; max 36 INWR 9 May.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** arr 2 TWMA 13 May (PY); BWWT 23 May (CW, JB); 1, 2 INWR 23, 25 May (MM).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 6000 Buffalo NR 21 Apr (JK); 100 BeSP 6 May; 65 Bemus Pt ChauL 18 May.

**Little Gull:** 3 Lewiston NR 16 Mar; BufH 29 Mar; 3 BOSAC; Bemus Pt ChauL 23 Apr.

**Iceland Gull:** max 5 Centennial P Buffalo ERIE 1 Mar; 3 NPP 1 Mar; 2 NFSP 5 Mar; 2 Barcelona CHAU 7 Mar; Sturgeon Pt ERIE 21 Mar, 3 Apr; 1 DH 28 Mar; Buffalo NR 3, 5 Apr.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 2 Centennial P Buffalo ERIE 1 Mar; max 4 NFSP 5 Mar; 1, 1, 2 DH 13, 28 Mar, 1 May; Sturgeon Pt ERIE 14 Apr; Hamburg ERIE 13 Apr; Wilson NIAG 27 Apr; Bemus Pt ChauL 3 May; 2 Somerset NIAG 22 May.

**Glaucous Gull:** 1, 1 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 3 Mar, 16 Apr; 1, 1, DH 4 Mar, 1 May; BufH 5 Mar; Barcelona CHAU 7 Mar; NPP 5 Apr; Hamburg ERIE 26 Apr; only reports.

**GULL-BILLED TERN (R1):** INWR 24-25 May (PY, JK, mob), first for Reg; *see intro*.

**Caspian Tern:** arr INWR, PB, Barcelona CHAU 7 Apr; 73 DH 9 May; max 182 BufH 30 May.

**Black Tern:** arr 2 INWR 24 Apr; 3 Buffalo NR 29 Apr (HB); Tonawanda NR 10 May (CR); 14 INWR 23 May; max 20 TWMA 25 May.

**Common Tern:** arr 4 BOSAC; max 500 Buffalo NR 30 Apr; 165 FNSP 22 May; 5 INWR 25 May, late migrants.

**Forster's Tern:** arr Buffalo NR 21 Apr (KR); 3 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 26 Apr (SB); max 4 Bemus Pt ChauL 3 May (TiL); Hanover CHAU 15 May (GV); PB 30 May (CW, AG).

## LOONS – PARAKEET

**Red-throated Loon:** 2 Wilson NIAG 5 Mar; 13 Somerset NIAG 7 Apr; BuSP 11 Apr; max 41 L BSP 12 May; 4 FMCSP 16 May; 2 PB 23 May; last 2 Hamburg ERIE 25 May.

**Common Loon:** max 47 Wilson NIAG 19 Apr.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 328 Bemus Pt ChauL 18 Apr; 600 Jamestown ChauL 24 Apr.

**American White Pelican:** OOWMA 27 Apr–24 May (DA, CM); BeSP 10 May (KL); WoBSP 11 May (KR); now annual in spring.

**BROWN PELICAN (R1):** GHSP 21 May (JK), 6<sup>th</sup> Reg record.

**American Bittern:** arr 2 BOSAC; Cuba ALLE 8 Apr (DC); 3 Tiff NP 26 Apr; 3 Hanging Bog WMA ALLE 28 Apr (CHi); West Seneca ERIE 4 May; max 4 TWMA 22 May; TRWMA 26 May.

**Least Bittern:** arr BeSP 2 May; Tiff NP 9 May; 1, 2 TWMA 13, 21 May.

**Great Blue Heron:** 101, 135 Motor I NR 28 Mar, 5 May; max 250 INWR 26 May (JSt).

**Great Egret:** arr 1, 75 BuSP 16 Mar, 25 Apr; max 71, 102 INWR 24 Apr, 26 May.

**Snowy Egret:** INWR 23-26 May (JK, mob), rare.

**Cattle Egret:** TWMA 23-26 May (BSe, mob), rare.

**Green Heron:** arr CSWMA 13 Apr.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr Buffalo ERIE 24 Mar.

**Glossy Ibis:** 2, 4, 1 INWR 1, 3, 25 May (DF, TJM, JK), observed by many; BWWT 2 May (J&JS).

**WHITE-FACED IBIS:** INWR 3 May (TJM, mob), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg record.

**Black Vulture:** 2, 4, 1 Lewiston NIAG 7 Mar, 5 Apr, 20 May, regular location; Somerset NIAG 3 May (WD).

**Turkey Vulture:** max 2627, 1885 Hamburg HW 26, 29 Mar.

**Osprey:** arr Clay Pond WMA CHAU 20 Mar; max 11, 11 Hamburg HW 25, 27 Apr.

**Golden Eagle:** 1, 1 Hamburg HW 25, 26 Mar; only reports.

**Northern Harrier:** max 5 Hamburg HW 27 Apr.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 31 Hamburg HW 20 Apr.

**Northern Goshawk:** Canaseraga ALLE 4 Apr (ID), only report.

**Bald Eagle:** 11, 14, 11 Hamburg HW 25 Apr, 2, 14 May; max 42 Carlton ORLE 3 May (WD, CM, JK); widespread.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 35 Hamburg HW 25 Mar; 27 Carlton ORLE 26 Mar.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr 1, max 1507, 1011 Hamburg HW 6, 27, 28 Apr; 844, 848 Carlton ORLE 2, 3 May (WD, BP).

**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** Hamburg HW 15 Apr (SB ph!); Alden ERIE 25 May (JM ph!); 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Reg records.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 60 Hamburg HW 25 Mar.  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** max 4 Hamburg HW 25 Mar.  
**Snowy Owl:** max 3, last 1 BufH 18 Mar, 6 Apr.  
**Long-eared Owl:** 1, 2 Yates ORLE 9 Mar, 3 Apr (BP), only reports.  
**Short-eared Owl:** Dunkirk Airport CHAU 5 Mar; max 2 Conewango CATT 8 Mar; John White WMA GENE 19 Mar; BufH 26 Mar, 4, 7 Apr; 2, 1 Shelby ORLE 29 Mar, 5 Apr.  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** 1, 1 Yates ORLE 11-12 Mar, 3 Apr (JK, BP); Andover ALLE 25 Mar (ID).  
**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 2, 3 Wendt Beach CP ERIE 14 Mar, 3 Apr; 1, 2 Bennett Beach ERIE 23 Mar, 12 Apr; Carlton ORLE 8 Apr; 3 EvSP 25 Apr; AmSP 15 – 20 May; 4 LBSP 16 May; max 5 FNSP 21 May.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr Bethany GENE 21 Mar.  
**Merlin:** regular sightings thru; Lakewood CHAU 4 Apr thru (TS), nesting again; Artpark SP NIAG 20 May, perhaps last migrant.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** arr Gasport ORLE 1 Mar.

#### FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr 2 LESp, FLC 29 Apr.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** arr Tift NP 25 Apr.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr BOSMC; Willing ALLE 19 May; OOWMA 24 May; Alexander GENE 30 May; only reports.  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr BMAC 12 May.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr Java WYOM 16 May.  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr 2 Hamburg ERIE 19 May; max 9 Chestnut Ridge CP ERIE 30 May.  
**Alder Flycatcher:** arr Hanging Bog WMA CATT/ALLE 13 May.  
**Willow Flycatcher:** arr Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU 13 May.  
**Least Flycatcher:** arr RTPI 29 Apr.  
**Eastern Phoebe:** arr Belfast ALLE 19 Mar.  
**Northern Shrike:** five Mar reports; last INWR BOSAC.  
**White-eyed Vireo:** Amherst ERIE 3 May (TK), only report.  
**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr Granger ALLE 2 May.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr ACNC 14 Apr.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr AISP, Buffalo ERIE 14 May.

**Warbling Vireo:** arr Como L CP ERIE 27 Apr.  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr Orchard Park ERIE 30 Apr (CB), slightly early.  
**Fish Crow:** 1-2 Buffalo ERIE 3-23 Mar (SD), daily occurrence; 1, 1, 1, 1, Buffalo ERIE 4 Mar, 8, 18, 25 Apr; FLC 10 Mar (KR); RWNP 3 Apr (RC); 11 Buffalo NR BOSAC (AH), in one group; 2 Buffalo 6 Apr (JK); 2 Tift NP 29 Apr; Buffalo ERIE 13-18 May.  
**Common Raven:** many reports Mar, Apr  
**Horned Lark:** max 45 Clymer CHAU 4 Apr.  
**Purple Martin:** arr 4 BOSAC; max 62 INWR 17 May.  
**Tree Swallow:** arr 8 OOWMA 14 Mar; max 275 INWR 24 Apr.  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr 4 BOSAC; max 40 BeSP 10 May.  
**Bank Swallow:** arr 2 N Harmony CHAU 15 Apr; max 200 PB 12 May.  
**Cliff Swallow:** arr Grove ALLE 4 Apr (ID), early; max 30 FNSP 28 May.  
**Barn Swallow:** arr 2 BOSAC.  
**House Wren:** arr EvSP 27 Mar (MN); Tift NP 31 Mar; early.  
**Winter Wren:** arr RWNP 21 Mar; AmSP thru May, unusual location for apparent breeding attempt.  
**Sedge Wren:** AmSP 30 Apr – 1 May (BST! mob), early; 1, 2 CSWMA 19, 31 May (TiL, JK).  
**Marsh Wren:** TWMA 12 Mar (PY), early or overwinter?; arr Tift NP 25, 28 Mar.  
**Carolina Wren:** 34 BOSAC; 51 BOSMC  
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr Cold Spring CATT 12 Apr.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** arr Tift NP 8 Mar.  
**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Buffalo ERIE 28 Mar; last Jamestown CHAU 24 May.  
**Veery:** arr Wilson NIAG 30 Apr.  
**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr FLC 15 May.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** arr Amherst ERIE 6 May; max 46 Buffalo ERIE 23 May (JF), nocturnal flight calls; 20 GHSP 24 May.  
**Hermit Thrush:** arr Alma ALLE 28 Mar.  
**Wood Thrush:** arr Portland CHAU 27 Apr.  
**Gray Catbird:** arr 4 BOSAC.  
**Brown Thrasher:** arr Lakewood CHAU 1 Apr.  
**Northern Mockingbird:** 29 BOSAC; 37 BOSMC  
**American Pipit:** arr 2 Sheridan CHAU 14 Mar; 70 Yorkshire CATT 12 Apr; 189 BOSMC; last West Seneca ERIE 21 May.  
**Purple Finch:** 125 BOSAC; 126 BOSMC.

**Pine Siskin:** 1-2, 2, 1 Aurora ERIE 7-26 Mar, 28 Apr, 1, 5 May; 2 Charlotte CHAU 27 Apr; max 6 Alfred ALLE 30 Apr – 8 May; BMAC 10 May; Orchard Park ERIE 13 May; last BOSMC.

**Lapland Longspur:** 2 Yates ORLE 1 Mar; only report.

**Snow Bunting:** max 19 Yates ORLE 1 Mar; few reports.

### NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

**Eastern Towhee:** arr Buffalo ERIE 27 Mar.

**American Tree Sparrow:** last AmSP 1 May.

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr 2 Tift NP 27 Mar.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr Tift NP 26 Apr (RT, KR), early; 3 Porter NIAG 4, 22 May (VR); PG 6 May (GV); BuSP 6 May (TK); 1, 3 Olcott NIAG 9, 22 May; Ripley CHAU 10, 12 (JC); Amherst ERIE 13 May (CHO); Artpark SP NIAG 13, 20 May (MM), new location; BufH 14 May (SS); LBSP 16 May (BC); increasing reports in spring.

**Field Sparrow:** arr 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 1 Mar; Silver Creek CHAU 2 Mar.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr 2 N Harmony CHAU 30 Mar; 11 BOSAC; 3 Sheridan CHAU 8 Apr; max 6 Lyndonville NIAG 11 Apr; 3 Forestville CHAU 17 Apr; 3 CSWMA 4 May; 3 Albion ORLE 20 May; good spring showing.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr 2 BufH 27 Mar.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr LESP, Tift NP 29 Apr; AmSP 30 Apr; notable for three early season sightings when rarely found at migration spots; 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 11 May; Tift NP 16 May; 4 Artpark SP NIAG 21 May; max 6 TRWMA 26 May; 2 BufH 27 May.

**Nelson's Sparrow:** TWMA 31 May (CW!), rare in spring.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr RTPI, BuSP, Tift NP 24 Mar; max 23 FLC 26 Apr (JF), good count.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr Tonawanda ERIE 30 Apr (BH, MR); max 6 PB 14 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** arr Ellery CHAU 17 Mar.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 123 Tift NP 27 Apr.

**HARRIS'S SPARROW:** Lockport NIAG 10 May (EW ph!), at feeder, usual timing for spring records.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** three Mar rpts; cannot determine which is spring arrival; max 60 Buffalo ERIE 15 May.

**Bobolink:** arr 2 Busti CHAU 29 Apr; max 28 Knox Farm SP ERIE 25 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr Ischua CATT 7 Mar.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr Wilson NIAG 30 Apr; max 4 Orangeville WYOM 7 May (T&LS); max 4 GHSP 22 May.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr Aurora ERIE 13, 14 Apr (LS), early; West Seneca ERIE 28 Apr.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 600 Sheridan CHAU 26 Apr.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr Buffalo ERIE 7 Mar; 169, 250 INWR 28 Mar, 24 Apr; 140 Sherman CHAU 4 Apr; max 230, 305 BuSP 16 Apr, 6 May; last BuSP, Buffalo ERIE 18 May.

**Common Grackle:** max 1000 Buffalo ERIE 4 Apr.

**Ovenbird:** arr LESP, PG, Java WYOM 29 Apr; max 10 RWNP 18 May.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** arr PG 29 Apr (GV); AmSP 30 Apr – 1 May (BSt); only reports; annual in spring.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr AISP BOSAC (TB), early.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr Pomfret CHAU 24 Apr; max 7 BMAC 14 May; max 7 BuSP 18 May.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr BeSP 11-14 May (BH, mob); Buffalo ERIE, WTSP, Orangeville WYOM 15 May; 3 BOSMC; Long Point SP ChauL 17 May; max 3 GHSP 20 May (MM); unexpected good showing.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Pomfret CHAU, Chautauqua CHAU 28 Apr.

**“Brewster’s” Warbler:** OOWMA 21 May (PY), only report.

**“Lawrence’s” Warbler:** AmSP 15 May (CR), only report.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Chestnut Ridge CP ERIE BOSAC (T&CG), early; Pomfret CHAU 24 Apr.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** arr Buffalo ERIE 3 May (MR); BeSP 5 May (DS); INWR 6 May thru; 2 TWMA 16 May; LBSP 16 May; Newstead ERIE 31 May (CW), in breeding habitat; good showing.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr Pomfret CHAU 6 May; max 40 Long Point SP ChauL 18 May (TiL).

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr Chautauqua CHAU, BeSP 3 May; max 3 FNSP 18 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr Sturgeon Pt ERIE 28 Apr; max 14 LBSP 16 May.

**Connecticut Warbler:** AmSP 26 May (BSt), rare in spring.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU 10 May.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr Tift NP 11, 12 Apr; ACNC 14 Apr; FLC 26 Apr; on the early side.  
**Hooded Warbler:** arr LBSP 1 May.  
**American Redstart:** arr Jamestown CHAU 30 Apr.  
**Cape May Warbler:** arr 2 LESP 29 Apr; max 20 FMCS 16 May; max 20 Long Point SP ChauL 18 May.  
**Cerulean Warbler:** arr Buffalo ERIE 16 May; AmSP 18 May; NFSP 19 May; GHSP 20 May; 2 PG 26 May; max 10 Newstead ERIE 31 May; more seen in migration than usual.  
**Northern Parula:** arr LESP 1 May; max 14 FNSP 18 May.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** arr AISP, BMAC 2 May.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr 2 WTSP 14 May; max 31 AmSP 18 May.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Pomfret CHAU 29 Apr; max 24 AmSP 18 May.  
**Yellow Warbler:** arr Jamestown CHAU, Buffalo ERIE 26 Apr.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr 3 CSWMA, Zoar Valley MUA CATT 2 May.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr WTSP 15 May.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr N Harmony CHAU, Chautauqua CHAU, FNSP 29 Apr; max 18 GHSP 16 May.  
**Palm Warbler:** arr Buffalo ERIE 7, 8 Apr (CR); BeSP 9 Apr (DS); early.

**“Eastern” Palm Warbler:** FMCS 5 May (WD, BP), only report.  
**Pine Warbler:** arr Yates ORLE 15 Mar; max 6 LESP 29 Apr.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 4 BuSP 28, 31 Mar, wintering; arr 2 SPWS 1 Apr.  
**Yellow-throated Warbler:** arr Amherst ERIE 25 Apr (JSa); Pomfret CHAU 28 Apr (CV); only reports.  
**Prairie Warbler:** arr CSWMA 4 May; FLC 14 May; 4 Yorkshire CATT 16 May; 2 Sprague Brook CP ERIE 16 May; FNSP 18 May; FMCS 19 May; GHSP 20 May; more seen in migration than usual.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr ACNC, 2 Pomfret CHAU 24 Apr.  
**Canada Warbler:** arr Orchard Park ERIE 15 May.  
**Wilson’s Warbler:** arr AISP, FLC 12 May.  
**SUMMER TANAGER (R1):** FLC 3 May (DG), has become annual in spring.  
**Scarlet Tanager:** arr Jamestown CHAU 30 Apr; max 14 Long Point SP ChauL 18 May.  
**WESTERN TANAGER:** PG 3 May (TiL), 4<sup>th</sup> Reg record, all since 2013.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Ashford CATT 26 Apr.  
**Indigo Bunting:** arr Busti CHAU 3 May.



## REGION 2—GENESEE

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As usual, the weather this season played a significant role in the birding picture. March got the season off to a mild, quiet start. Temperatures averaged 40.1° F, 5.8° above normal. There was only one wind event that produced only a bit of isolated damage. Precipitation totaled 1.64", 0.86" below normal, with only 4.1" of snowfall, 12.2" below normal, falling on only four days. Fifteen days reaching ≥ 50° tied the 10<sup>th</sup> most for a March. After a warm first eight days, April brought a cool, weather-active month, with a pressure trough over the Great Lakes and Northeast, sending us a series of cool, wet events. The warmest day was only 68° on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures averaged 42.4°, 3.9° below normal. Precipitation totaled 3.24", 0.51" above normal, with some rainfall on 19 of the month's days. Snowfall was 3.9", right on normal and spaced evenly on 7, 10, and 19 April. Lake Ontario

remained well above normal. Early in the month, plant life was a couple of weeks ahead of typical, but by month's end we were a week behind. May was a schizoid month, split almost perfectly in half; the first half averaging 45.5° and the second 63.8°. The 18.3° difference was the second greatest on record. Overall, temperatures averaged 55.0°, 2.0° below normal. Record lows were set on 5, 9, 12, and 13 May, with record low highs on 9 and 11 May. The first 80° day was the 24<sup>th</sup>, the 12<sup>th</sup> latest for that date. But then a 93° high on the 26<sup>th</sup> was the third warmest May date on record. Precipitation totaled 1.95", 0.95" below normal, with the only heavy rain event 0.77" on the 29<sup>th</sup>. But we also had 0.2" of snow on 9 May, the first May snowfall since 2010 and the ninth latest date. There were five days with measurable snow, tying the most on record for May. A persistent omega block set up in the middle of the country certainly influenced when Gulf migrants would push through and resulted in some interesting bursts of arrivals.

A high-level, general look at the birding picture for the season is interesting. We have already touched on the interesting weather effects. In March, we saw some early arrivals, but then some of the late month species did not appear as the weather cooled. Species for the month and year to date were above average. We were very fortunate to have David Brown back as the official Braddock Bay hawk counter and also a birder interested in documenting all species whenever possible. He had good company and help through the season, though limited a good deal by COVID restrictions. April and May numbers are also complicated by the start of NY Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA) III and the COVID restrictions. The BBA data-entry approach led to more, shorter lists. Overall, April's species total was down very slightly from the 10-year average, but May's up slightly. The number of eBird contributors in May was a phenomenal 610. Looking to other data sources, the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) banding data and the hawkwatch data were at significantly reduced numbers. Jim Adams in his regular monitoring at Oatka Creek Park noted species counts generally at or above his median for each half-month and record high for the second half of May. Yet there did not seem to be any identifiable cause. For species downloads from eBird after culling to Region 2 only, we had March ~ 45,900; April ~72,406; and May ~ 146,266, each of these up on the order of 50% over last year and each record highs for the month. This must certainly impact summaries for the season!

Moving on to specific families and species, we find essentially all waterfowl reported each month. Snow Geese were reported in good numbers in the first half of March but then only as single lingerers into late April and May. Ross's, Greater White-fronted, and Cackling Geese were present in early March, but only Cackling Goose later. Brant arrived record early in March and was present to late May. Puddle duck numbers were good, but no counts really outstanding. Eurasian Wigeon was noted at about seven sites in March but not afterward. The Region's seventh Tufted Duck was reported with photos on 4-20 March at sites on Conesus Lake. Peak counts and departure dates were also typical to low for the diving ducks. Grebes continued present but unremarkable through the season, excepting



for good Red-necked Grebe counts of 356 on 26 March and 507 on 4 April at Hamlin Beach SP and an Eared Grebe found and photographed there on 8 April.

Cuckoos arrived near mid-May and were in good numbers by season's end. As usual now, Common Nighthawk and Eastern Whip-poor-will numbers were low, though calling whip-poor-wills were noted to 24 May. Many observers noted Ruby-throated Hummingbirds as late and generally scarce. It is hard to assess numbers for the species. This year we do not even have the help from any banding at BBBO. Sandhill Crane numbers passing the Braddock Bay Hawkwatch and reported elsewhere remained good through the season.

Spring shorebirding was weak this year. With Lake Ontario levels very high again, lakeshore habitat was scarce. Wet field sites were scattered and unpredictable. The best sites were the barrier beach island off the East Spit of Braddock Bay and a wet field near the Greenway Trail west of Avon in Livingston County. Only five species were reported in March, with good numbers for Killdeer and displaying American Woodcock. April brought the species count to 13, with Willet and Wilson's Phalarope the most interesting additions, though both were one-day events. May produced 24 species, with the most notable the seventh Regional spring Piping Plover at Braddock Bay and scarcer but all nearly annual species: Whimbrel, Upland Sandpiper—not reported until a late 20 May, Sanderling, Long-billed Dowitcher, Willet, and Wilson's and Red-necked Phalaropes. Numbers were generally poor all season.

The larids continued the picture of limited excitement in this season's birding. The first Bonaparte's Gull was reported on 17 March. There were five Little Gull reports in March and April, but no other rarer gulls reported for the season. The usual "winter" gull species Iceland, Lesser Black-backed, and Glaucous, were reported in good numbers in March and April and continued in small numbers to late May and even beyond. Black Tern arrived at a typical 1 May date, but the peak count in the Northern Montezuma WMA (NMWMA), Van Dyne Spoor Rd. area was only six by month's end.

The loon migration noted was weak again this year, with a Red-throated Loon peak of 236 on 31 March and 103 Common Loon on 14 April. Both species were present through May. Double-crested Cormorant numbers were good, with peak counts in mid-April at Braddock Bay and nearby. American White Pelican first appeared on 29 March at Braddock Bay then in scattered reports across the Region in each month. Great Blue Heron and Great Egret had also returned by late March, and Least Bittern was again noted early on 18 April, one day later than last year's record early arrival. Other interesting wader records were: a Snowy Egret passing off Edgemere Drive, Greece, on 20 May and *plegadis* ibis species, with 11 seen passing Braddock Bay, then later Sodus Point, on 11 May and one Glossy Ibis in the NMWMA complex on 29 May.

The raptor scene was also interesting. There were Black Vultures past the Braddock Bay Hawkwatch each month but few elsewhere. Turkey Vulture counts remained high, nearly 85% of the total hawk watch count for March and in line with recent years at 24,545 for the season in spite of overall numbers down a bit.

At the hawkwatch, David Brown was back as the official counter, but typically there were often other competent hawk watchers to help, though corona virus restrictions imposed limitations; a difficult year. The count was off to a good start in March. Arrival dates were typical. Numbers for most species were 2x last year's numbers, and a total of 11,734 was nearly 3x March 2019. Only Red-shouldered Hawk was not up and Rough-legged Hawk low. Moving into April, most counts were about half of last year and Broad-winged Hawk only 1/3. But surprise, American Kestrel was about 2x, the best in many years, and Merlin was up 50%. For the month, only four days produced counts over 1000. May continued weak; only seven days saw > 1000 birds and three of those were on 1-3 May. A bright spot was May totals of 4808 Turkey Vultures, 816 Bald Eagles, and 16,146 Broad-winged Hawks. There were no real raptor rarities this season.

Among the owls, there was only one Snowy Owl reported for the season on 1 March. The biweekly Short-eared Owl surveys out of the DEC's Avon office continued, but only one and two Short-eared Owls were reported on the final two surveys on 14 and 28 April. Jim Adams provided updates on the Manitou (Owl Woods) owl roost counts, with 20 Northern Saw-wet Owls tallied in March, bringing the season's total to 23. None were found in April, leaving the season's total about 20% below average. In March there was only one Long-eared Owl found, and eight were added in April. This total was only about 25% of an average season's, but a surprise five more were added in the period 3-4 May, along with an Eastern Screech-Owl in the "classroom" area on 3-4 May. One more Long-eared Owl was heard calling in an area south of Rochester, where breeding has been noted in the past. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker numbers jumped a bit in late March, but this just serves to illustrate a problem this year with separating new arrivals from over-wintering individuals for several species. Red-headed Woodpecker remained low until May, when at least 50 individuals at 30 locations was a good showing. The three regular local falcons were reported in good numbers through the season, especially so for American Kestrel. The Rochester Peregrine Falcons, followed on the rfalconcam website, hatched four young in May, with one dying shortly after. Fledging occurred after season's end.

Moving on to the passerines, March and April immediately introduce us to some of the major complexities relating to the analyzing of this season's data. Passerine arrivals in March seemed typical for a warm March, some early arrivals but none record early. With many species lingering successfully over the winter, decisions between those and spring arrivals were especially difficult this spring. Work began on NY BBA III, with all data being entered into eBird through the Atlas portal, even at premature dates and for species non-breeding in New York, making assessment of numbers difficult. There were very few early reports of note, the most interesting: Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Common Yellowthroat, and Yellow-rumped Warbler. High counts were few and led by 1650 American Robins on 26 March, 41,000 Red-winged Blackbirds on 22 March, and 5000 Common Grackles on 17 March. Our winter finches were represented by only one report of a lone Pine Siskin in March, three

reports of up to four in April, and a single on 9 May. In April, we find the combined effects of corona virus (people's response in terms of their outdoor activities) and the various effects of weather systems. This shows up most easily in the BBBO banding, with numbers  $< 1/2$  last year's total for the latter half-month of banding, even adding on a 5-day early start this year that boosted the Golden-crowned Kinglet total. How much of this is due to messy weather or to reduced bander effort by mainly only two people or to possible real reductions in bird populations suggested by lower numbers last fall is a difficult call. Many of our late April arrivals were reported on just the last two days of the month with the temperature spike. Only four warbler species were banded, though 18 warbler species were reported compared with 12 species last April. Only Blue-headed Vireo arrived at a record early date on 9 April. There were a few decent swallow counts, but most peak numbers were low. Rarities for the month include: the Region's first spring **Cave Swallow** seen and photographed passing the Braddock Bay Hawkwatch by David Brown and Greg Lawrence on 12 April; a fourth Regional **Bullock's Oriole** photographed at two different feeders near Lyons, Wayne County, on 7-9 April; Yellow-throated Warbler in Ellison Park, Penfield from 27-29 April and at Sandy Bottom Park in Honeoye, Ontario County on 24 April; and two **European Goldfinch** at a Rochester feeder on 21 April, assumed likely escapes.

May rates special attention due to all the migrants and to this year's huge amount of eBird data from NY BBA inputs. All expected passerine species were reported, including 34 species of warblers plus one hybrid and Yellow-breasted Chat. Only the rare Yellow-throated Warbler was missed. The cold and snow in the first half-month pushed many arrival dates into their interquartile ranges in the old Monroe Count Checklist (1985) arrival distributions, whereas recent years have been heavily biased toward the first quartile. The omega block weather pattern in the Midwest led to some interesting bursts of migrants. Flycatchers and Red-eyed Vireo were late and scarce. There was a good burst of relatively early Swainson's Thrushes, but very few Gray-cheeked Thrushes and none banded at BBBO. Some of these comments can be modified a bit by knowledge of banding results from early June. Much detail, including dates and counts and some illustrations of the large numbers of eBird reports for some of the commoner species, can be found in the species section following. Looking again at banding data, the season's total was about 20% below last year's and the lowest of the recent nine years to which I had easy access. Compared with the past eight years, only Bay-breasted Warbler and Blackburnian Warbler showed statistically significantly increased banding numbers, and Dark-eyed Junco, Northern Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, and Wilson's Warbler decreased. Black-capped Chickadee remained on its see-saw schedule, with this a down year and only three banded vs. 232 last spring. Rare passerines in May included: **Western Kingbird**; White-eyed Vireo; Sedge Wren; Clay-colored Sparrow; Yellow-breasted Chat; Prothonotary, Connecticut, Kentucky, and Prairie Warblers; and **Dickcissel**.

As usual, an “interesting” season!

The usual monthly statistical summary gives us totals of species seen: March – 147 vs. a prior 10-year average of 140.8, April – 197 vs. 199.6, and May – 245 vs. 239.2. Rarities were again a bit low, but included the Region’s first spring **Cave Swallow** and a good collection of warblers.

## BRADDOCK BAY HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
<b>Black Vulture</b>	3/13	1	6 dates	6
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>	3/7	4803	3/29	24,545
<b>Mississippi Kite</b>		0		0
<b>Osprey</b>	3/29	26	5/12	162
<b>Golden Eagle</b>	3/8	2	3/17, 4/25, 5/2	16
<b>No. Harrier</b>	3/1	48	3/29	608
<b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b>	3/2	456	4/29	1862
<b>Cooper’s Hawk</b>	3/6	24	3/26	291
<b>No. Goshawk</b>	3/9	1	4 dates	4
<b>Bald Eagle</b>	3/1	106	5/3	1062
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>	3/8	107	3/26	337
<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>	4/7	3779	5/1	20,448
<b>Swainson’s Hawk</b>		0		0
<b>Red-tailed Hawk</b>	3/1	232	3/26	1562
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b>	3/13	6	3/29	28
<b>Am. Kestrel</b>	3/17	279	4/29	636
<b>Merlin</b>	3/13	9	4/29	60
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	3/4	6	4/29	29
<b>Unidentified</b>				0
<b>Short-eared Owl</b>	3/30	2	3/30	2
<b>Total including unidentified:</b>				<b>51,658</b>

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**b** – indicate banded this season, usually at BBBO's Kaiser-Manitou passerine banding station; **BB** – Braddock Bay, MONR; **BB-ES** – East Spit at mouth of Braddock including

newly constructed barrier beach island just off spit; **BB-HW** – Braddock Bay Hawkwatch; **BB-WS** – West Spit of Braddock Bay; **BBBO** – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory; **CIWMA** – Conesus Inlet WMA, LIVI; **ConL** – Conesus L, LIVI; **DEP** – Durand-Eastman P, Rochester; **ED** – off Edgemere Dr., T Greece, MONR; **FFWA** – flooded field west of Avon and north of Rt 5 LIVI; **G** – T Greece, MONR; **H** – T Hamlin, MONR; **HANA** – High Acres Nature Area, T Perinton, MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **HB-W** – Hamlin Beach SP, West end trails; **HB-YC** – Hamlin Beach SP, Yanty Creek trails at east end; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; **IB-S** – Irondequoit Bay south, LaSalle Landing P and nearby; **IB-W** – west side of Irondequoit Bay water and parks; **ICW** – Island Cottage Woods, T Greece, MONR; **LSP** – Letchworth SP; **M** – Manitou Beach area, MONR; **M-OW** – Owl Woods area west of Manitou Beach Rd., MONR; **MAC** – Montezuma Audubon Center, T Savannah, WAYN; **MP** – Mendon Ponds P, MONR; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma WMA, T of Savannah, WAYN; **NMWMA (AR)** – north side of Armitage Rd.; **NMWMA (CR)** – along Carncross Rd. east of Savannah-Spring Lake Rd.; **NMWMA (GBM)** – Guy Baldassarre Marsh, T Savannah; **NMWMA (MRdM)** – Morgan Rd. marshes near DEC field office; **NMWMA (MT)** – Marten Tract off Savannah Spring Lake Rd; **NMWMA (SCU)** – Sandhill Crane Unit, T Savannah, WAYN; **NMWMA (VDSR)** – area along Van Dyne Spoor Rd., T Savannah, WAYN; **OB** – Ontario Beach P, T Charlotte, MONR; **PtB** – Point Breeze, Orleans County at border with Region 1; **Spt** – Sodus Pt, WAYN; **TCEA** – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, T Avon, LIVI; **W** – T of Webster, MONR; **WP** – Webster P.

#### WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

**Snow Goose:** max 100,000+ n of Rt 89/31 WAYN 3 Mar (AJ); max 10000 Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 5 Mar (W&MR); 50,000 n of Rt 31 WAYN 7 Mar (SM); 10000 NMWMA (SCU) 7 Mar (STor); 12300 Second Creek WAYN 8 Mar (LCB, SB); 15009 MAC 11 Mar (AJ); 10000+ NMWMA (AR) 16 Mar (R&SSp); last IBO 13 May (SMe).  
**Ross's Goose:** arr 1 Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 4 Mar (W&MR); Jacobs Rd, H & HB 5 Mar (AGu, 7 oth obs, ph); Lake Ontario Prkwy, H 7 Mar (CW).  
**Greater White-fronted Goose:** 2 BB-HW 4 Mar (DBr); Johnson Rd, T Riga MONR 4 Mar (BriM, JaG), ph; NMWMA (CR) 5 Mar (GD, 5 oth obs).  
 Brant: arr Johnson Rd, T Riga MONR 4 Mar (BriM, JaG), ph; H, sev loc 22-25 Mar (9+ obs, sev ph), would have been record early other than prior, likely same ind; last Spt 20-21 May.  
**Cackling Goose:** 43 rep, 42+ ind 20 loc 1-26 Mar; max 8 Moscow Rd., H 15 Mar (AGu).  
**Canada Goose:** max 14000 BB-HW 3 Mar (DBr).  
**Mute Swan:** 150 BB 3 Mar (JBa); max 152 Buck Pd, G 21 May (MW).  
**Trumpeter Swan:** max 28 NMWMA (CR) 6 Apr.

**Tundra Swan:** max 1050 BB-HW 3 Mar (DBr); last 12 NMWMA (CR) 9 Apr.  
**Blue-winged Teal:** arr NMWMA (CR) 13 Mar.  
**Northern Shoveler:** max 80 NMWMA (CR) 22 Mar; last 2 Peter Smith Rd, T Kendall ORLE 23 May.  
**Gadwall:** max 350 NMWMA (VDSR) 5 Apr (JMcG, LS).  
**Eurasian Wigeon:** arr 1m HB-YC 5 Mar (AGu, 6+ oth obs); 1m IB 6 Mar (JiM, 6+ oth obs, ph); 1m ConL 10 Mar (TBo); 1m NMWMA (MRdM) 10-12 Mar (W&MR, 10+ oth obs, ph); 1m Conesus Inlet WMA 11 Mar (TBo); 1m Genesee Airfield 19 Mar (JK); last 1m & 2 NMWMA (VDSR) 31 Mar (W&MR, BCar).  
**American Wigeon:** 400 NMWMA (VDSR) 19 Mar; max 450 NMWMA (VDSR) 5 Apr.  
**Mallard:** max 425 NMWMA (VDSR) 21 May, low max.  
**American Black Duck:** max 55 NMWMA (VDSR) 22 Mar & NMWMA (MRdM) 5 Apr.  
**Northern Pintail:** max 2000 NMWMA (CR) 13, 15 Mar (sev); last NMWMA (VDSR) 24 May.  
**Green-winged Teal:** max 200 NMWMA (CR+) 21 Mar; last 2 HB 25 May (AGu).  
**Canvasback:** max 100 BB-HW 3, 7 Mar; last Silver L WYOM 9 Apr.

**Redhead:** max 1230 IB-NE 7 Mar (AGu), low max.

**Ring-necked Duck:** 975 NMWMA (MRdM) 14 Mar (JMcG, LS); max 1000 CIWMA 25 Mar (CT).

**TUFTED DUCK:** 1m CL- N 4, 19-20 Mar (TBo, BCar, NK, KRy, DD, KGa), 7th Reg record.

**Greater Scaup:** max 500 BB 2, 8 Mar.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 350 CL-N 19 Mar.

**Surf Scoter:** last 2 HB-YC 17 May.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 98 SPT 14 Mar, low max; last 1 OB 24 May.

**Black Scoter:** last 2 HB 20 May.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 600 off Manitou Beach 8 Mar, low max; 550 HB-YC 16 May.

**Bufflehead:** max 275 Silver L WYOM 8 Apr (NK).

**Common Goldeneye:** last 2 BB 13 May.

**Common Merganser:** max 250 IB-W 6-10 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 800 HB 4 Apr, low max.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 96 NMWMA (SCU) 10 Apr (JGr, AVK).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** arr IB-S 3 Mar; max 75 NMWMA (VDSR) 19 Apr.

**Horned Grebe:** max 61 HB 4 Apr, low max; last 4 HB 20 May.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr 3 off Edgemere Dr, G 8 Mar (JeB, CW); 356 HB 26 Mar (AGu); max 507 HB 4 Apr (AGu); 287 HB 5 Apr (AGu); last 2 HB 6 May.

**EARED GREBE (R2):** 1 ad alt HB 8 Apr (NR, 15+ oth obs, phs).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr Thousand Acre Swamp MONR 17 May.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr Oatka Crk P MONR 12 May.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr BB-HW 16 May.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr 2 M-OW 3 May; last M-OW 24 May.

**Chimney Swift:** arr ICW 25 Apr; max 48 Vick P A MONR 9 May.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Berg RD, T Ontario WAYN 1 May; no banding this spring.

## RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** arr Lake Ontario Prkwy 21 Mar (MB), early.

**Sora:** arr Genesee Valley Greenway 12 Apr.

**Common Gallinule:** arr Beechwood SP WAYN 15 Apr; max 40 NMWMA (VDSR) 24 May (JR).

**American Coot:** max 200 NMWMA (VDSR) 5 Apr (JMcG, LS).

**Sandhill Crane:** total 58 BB-HW 13-29 Mar; max 18 BB-HW 15 Mar; total 40+ at 14+ oth loc Mar; total ~92 sev loc Apr; max 22 BB-HW 12 Apr; total 12 BB-HW 2-12 May; 41 ind 19+ oth loc May.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr FFWA 8 May; max 23 BB-ES 26 May.

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr 2 FFWA 8 May; max 28 FFWA 18 May (BCar).

**Killdeer:** max 95 BB-HW 20 Mar.

**PIPING PLOVER:** BB-ES 18 May (DBr, ph), 7th Reg spring record.

**Upland Sandpiper:** arr Jacobs Rd, H 20 May (AGu, PMar), late arr.

**Whimbrel:** arr BB-ES (JeB, CW) & 2 HB (AGu) 29 May.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr BB-ES 18 May.

**Sanderling:** arr 3 BB-ES 27 May (DBr, RB, GL, JW).

**Dunlin:** arr NMWMA (2 loc) & SPT 5 Apr (JMcG, LS, *et al.*, MT), early; max 40 BB-ES 18 May.

**Least Sandpiper:** arr 5 NMWMA (CR) 30 Apr.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr FFWA 9 May (RB, JW).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr 2 HB 29 Mar; max 10 FFWA 9 May, low max.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr 3 N Hamlin Rd 17 May; max 63 HB 25 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr NMWMA (CR) 29 May; last 2 BB-WS 29 May.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** arr Jones Bridge & Perry Rds LIVI 12 May (J&KGo), early.

**Wilson's Snipe:** arr 2 HB 20 Mar; max 38-44 N Hamlin Rd fields 16-18 Apr (AGu).

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr TCEA 21 Apr.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr T Williamson WAYN 23 Apr (MG).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr NMWMA (CR) 2 Apr; max 175 FFW 8 May (NK).

**Willet:** arr HB-HW 18 Apr (DBr, *et al.*, ph); BB-ES 18 May (DBro, MG, PMar).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr NMWMA (CR) 19 Mar (GD); max 83 NMWMA (CR) 16 Apr; last 4 NMWMA (CR) 24 May.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** arr NMWMA (CR) 29 Apr (10+ obs, phs); FFWA 8-12, 23-24 May (NK, BCar, mob); Moscow Rd, H 24 May (AGu, 12+ oth obs).

**Red-necked Phalarope:** HB 20 (CW).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr BB-HW 17 Mar; max 121 SPT 17 Apr, low max.

**Little Gull:** arr 1 ad BB-HW 24 Mar (DBr); 2 ad HB-YC 28 Mar (AGu); CL 29 Mar (BCar); 1 ad HB 6 Apr (AGu, ph); 1 basic ED 21 Apr (MB, ph).

**Ring-billed Gull:** max 3100 Geneseo airfield 19 Mar (NK).

**Herring Gull:** max 2500 BB-HW 3 Mar (DBr).

**Iceland Gull:** 19+ ind 11 loc 3-30 Mar; total 14 ind 8 loc 2-21 Apr; last SPT 21 May (RSp, KWh).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 12 Martin Rd, H 24 Mar (AGu); 47+ ind 16 loc 4-30 Mar; ~ 30 ind 8 loc 1-26 Apr; max 17 ad, 3 3<sup>rd</sup> sp, 1 1<sup>st</sup> sp Priem Rd, H 20 Apr (AGu); last 1 1<sup>st</sup> sum ED 27 May (JeBa, MB, CW).

**Glaucous Gull:** total 13+ ind 6 loc Mar; 10 ind 4 loc 2-19 Apr; last BB-and nearby 20-21 May (7 obs).

**Herring x Great Black-backed Gull:** IB-S 29 Mar (GL, ph).

**Caspian Tern:** arr 1 ea 5 loc 6 Apr; max 159 NMWMA (CR) 12 May (NK).

**Black Tern:** arr 2 NMWMA (VDSR) 1 May.

**Common Tern:** arr 3 BB-HW 13 Apr; max 85 BB-ES 30 Apr (DBr, GL); OB 12 May.

**Forster's Tern:** arr BB-HW 18 Apr; last BB-ES 27 May.

## LOONS – PARAKEET

**Red-throated Loon:** max 236 HB 31 Mar (AGu); last HB 29 May.

**Common Loon:** max 103 HB 19 Apr, low max; 95 HB 1 May.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** arr Genesee R, T Charlotte 8 Mar; max 1700 ED 29 Apr (MB); 1525 BB-ES 11 May (DBr).

**American White Pelican:** arr 2 NMWMA (MRdM) 29 Mar (W&MR), early; Silver Lake WYOM 18 Apr (RSt, CHi); 3 BB-HW (DBr) & Jacobs Rd, H (AGu, ph) 4 May, hawk watch at 4:42PM, Hamlin only minutes later 13 miles west; NMWMA (VDSR) 6 May (GD, MG, BCar); BB & nearby 28-31 May (DBr, mob, ph).

**American Bittern:** arr SPT 6 Apr (MG).

**Least Bittern:** arr HANA 18 Apr (MG), one day later than last year's record early.

**Great Egret:** arr BB-HW 30 Mar (DBr), early.

**SNOWY EGRET (R2):** passing ED 20 May (JeB, JiB, LBa, CW), rare.

**Green Heron:** arr NMWMA (SCU) 18 Apr.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr IB P – W 17 Apr.

**Glossy Ibis:** NMWMA (GBM) 29 May (W&MR).

**plegadis ibis sp:** 11 BB-hawk watch 11 May (DBr, ph) & passing SPT 39 miles east about 2 hrs later (W&MR).

**Black Vulture:** BB-HW 13, 4, 15 Mar, 7, 8, 19 Apr, 2, 26 May (DBr, *et al.*, phs); Shaker Heights, T Huron WAYN 30 Apr (MT); ED 2 May (JiB), likely same as at hawk watch.

**Turkey Vulture:** total 9959 BB-HW 7-31 Mar; max 4803 BB-HW 29 Mar; total 9772 BB-HW Apr; *intro*.

**Osprey:** arr East Port Bay RD WAYN 22 Mar (W&MR).

**Golden Eagle:** arr N Hamlin Rd (BCar, DD) & BB-HW (DBr, *et al.*) 8 Mar; total ~15 ind 9 loc 8-29 Mar; 10 ind 3 loc 5-27 Apr; 2 BB-HW & just east in G 2 May.

**Northern Goshawk:** arr 1 imm BB-HW 9, 26 Mar; BB-HW 6, 14 Apr; Broadway Rd WAYN 18 Apr (MG); no reports May.

**Bald Eagle:** 610 lines eBird Mar; 587 lines eBird Apr; 861 lines eBird May; max 106 BB-HW 3 May; total 816 BB-HW May.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr BB-HW 7 Apr, early; BB-HW 29 Apr, low Apr max; max 3779 BB-HW 1 May, low max.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** last Beechwood SP WAYN 15 May (W&MR).

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** Bushnell's Basin MONR 8-30 Apr (C&HH), red morph, rare; M-OW 3-4 May, roosting in "classroom" area, unusual loc.

**Snowy Owl:** Bovee Rd, T Riga MONR 1 Mar (GF), only report for season.

**Long-eared Owl:** 1 Canadice area ONTA 8 Mar (B&MH), calling; 1 M-OW 10 Mar; total 8 M-OW 5-15 Apr; total 5 M-OW 3-4 May, ph, surprise late burst; last BBBO 21 May (CW).

**Short-eared Owl:** total 17+ ind 12 loc 24 Mar; last Buckland P, T Brighton MONR 14 Apr.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** total 20 M-OW 4-26 Mar; none banded Apr; season total about 25% of normal; Torpey Hill, Bergen Swamp 21 May, known breeding site; last M-OW 24 May (JeB, AGu, CW).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 1-2 DEP 16-31 Mar, 1, 17-18 Apr; T Conesus LIVI 25 Mar (SMu); 2 CIWMA 25 Apr; total ~ 50 ind 30 loc May.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** total ~ 7 ind 7 loc 4-29 Mar, all potentially overwintering; arr M-OW 1 Apr.



**Northern Flicker:** 59 BB-HW 12 Apr (DBr, *et al.*); max 173 BB-ES 28 Apr (GL); 42-43 BB-ES & BB-WS & HB 3 May (DBr, AGa, AGu).  
**American Kestrel:** 73 BB-HW 29 Mar, high count for recent years; 150 eBird lines Mar, high; max 279 BB-HW 29 Apr; total 454 BB-HW Apr, high; 364 eBird lines Apr, high; 87 BB-HW 1-29 May; 157 eBird lines many oth loc May.  
**Merlin:** max 8 BB-HW 29 Mar; total ~ 44 ind 24 loc Mar; total 31 BB-HW 4-30 Apr; ~ 44 ind many non-HW loc Apr; 14 BB-HW May; total ~ 39 ind 25+ oth loc May.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** total ~ 33 ind 17 loc Mar; total 9 BB-HW 6-29 Apr; total ~ 13 ind 8 oth loc 7-29 Apr; total 9 BB-HW 1-22 May; ~ 14 ind 11 oth loc May; nesting in downtown Rochester, see posts rfalconcam website & *intro*.

#### FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Recall, for species where the only notable record is arrival and that is in the date table, there may be no entry in this section.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr 2 M-OW 30 Apr.

**WESTERN KINGBIRD:** BB-ES 26 May (DBr, GL).

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr Oatka Crk P, MONR 25 Apr (JAd).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr Pinnacle Hill & Thousand Acre Swamp 19 May (KH, R&SSp); total 8 ind 8 loc 19-28 May.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr Nations RD, Genesee LIVI & Manitou Beach Pres 14 May.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr BB-WS 14 May; max b 18 BBBO 25 May; total b 53 BBBO 18-31 May.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr Bergen Swamp GENE & LSP – Wolf Crk 21 May.

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr Highland P ROCH (JFr) & Honeoye Crk WMA ONTA (MG) 13 May, early.

**Willow Flycatcher:** arr 4 loc 14 May.

**“Trail’s” Flycatcher:** max b 30 BBBO 28 May; total b 109 BBBO 23 May thru, good number.

**Least Flycatcher:** arr Grandview Heights, G 30 Apr; total b 78 BBBO 3-28 May, high number b.

**Eastern Phoebe:** arr Caledonia LIVI 15 Mar.

**Northern Shrike:** 5 ind 5 loc 1-25 Mar; last 2 Buckland P, T Brighton MONR & NMWMA (2 loc) 25 Mar, early dep.

**WHITE-EYED VIREO (R2):** HB-YC 17 May (AGu, mob); Whiting Rd NP, Webster 22 May (GF, 11+ oth obs).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr Firehouse Woods, G 1 May, early.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr Persimmon P, T Brighton MONR 9 Apr (RB, JW), Reg record early; total B 9 BBBO 28 Apr-20 May.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr Brown Rd, Wolcott WAYN 5 May.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr CIWMA 3 May; total b 40 M 19–31 May; 954 eBird lines May.

**Blue Jay:** max 450 BB-HW 15 May, low max; total b 83 BBBO 2-22, 31 May.

**Fish Crow:** max 40 nr Northgate Plaza, G 12 Mar (RDob), feeder area.

**Horned Lark:** max 197 BB-HW 29 Mar.

**Purple Martin:** arr 2 Lakeshore Marshes, T Wolcott WAYN 5 Apr.

**Tree Swallow:** arr 2 Pittsford 11 Mar; max 3000 Chimney Bluffs, T Huron WAYN 22 Apr (JiW); 1500 BB-HW 29 Apr (DBr, *et al.*).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr T Bergen GENE 21 Mar (DT), early.

**Bank Swallow:** arr West Port Bay, T Huron WAYN 10 Apr; max 200 PtB ORLE 12 May.

**Cliff Swallow:** arr Hemlock L SP 14 Apr; max Hemlock L SP 18 May (NK).

**CAVE SWALLOW:** 1 Braddock Bay – East Spit 12 Apr (DBr, GL, phs), 1<sup>st</sup> Reg spring record, 3<sup>rd</sup> State spring record.

**Barn Swallow:** arr BB-HW 29 Mar (DBr, *et al.*); max 1000 BB-HW 29 Apr (DBr, *et al.*).  
**swallow sp:** 1500 BB-HW 20 May (GL).

**Black-capped Chickadee:** 1365 eBird lines Mar; 1b BBBO 28 Apr; total b 2 BBBO 17, 22 May; 232 b in 2019 & 6 b in 2018; 2726 eBird lines May.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** total b 0 season.

**Brown Creeper:** 12 Palmer Farm ORLE 12 Mar, good count for date; total b 30 BBBO 5 Apr – 12 May.

**Winter Wren:** arr N Wolcott WAYN 29 Mar (W&MR); max 14 Pinnacle Hill, T Brighton MONR 29 Apr (RB); total b 9 BBBO 5-23 Apr, 18 May.

**Sedge Wren:** 1-3 Beatty Pt, G 27-29 May (CW, mob), rare in recent years.

**Marsh Wren:** 44 NMWMA (GBM) 6 May (GD); mas 50 BB-HW 30 May (BCar, JiM); good counts.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 55 ICW 5 Apr (NK); max b 80 BBBO 8 Apr; total b 243 BBBO 5 Apr–13 May.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr M-OW 28 Mar (PMar); 50 Firehouse Woods, G 1 May; 84 b BBBO 1 May; max b 90 BBBO 12 May; total b 594 BBBO 7 Apr-21, 25, 27 May; last 1 b BBBO 27 May.

**Veery:** arr Abraham Lincoln P, T Penfield 30 Apr.

**Gray-checked Thrush:** arr DEP & Lakeshore Marshes WMA WAYN 17 May; total b 0 BBBO.

**Gray-checked/Bicknell's Thrush:** total b 0 BBBO.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr Abraham Lincoln P, T Penfield 5 May; max b 11 BBBO 21 May, low; total b 54 BBBO 16-30 May.

**Hermit Thrush:** arr Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYH 24 Mar; total b 25 BBBO 5 Apr-19 May.

**Wood Thrush:** arr DEP 26 Apr.

**American Robin:** max 1650 BB-ES 26 Mar (GL); 13 oth rep Mar & 2 oth rep Apr over 100.

**Gray Catbird:** T Mendon 16 Mar; ORLE 19 Mar; Whiting Rd NP, T Webster 28 Mar; all likely overwintering; arr 2 TCEA 5 Apr; max 38 Greenway, T Leicester LIVI 19 May (MW); max b 41 BBBO 21 May; total b 262 BBBO 1-31 May.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 270 HB 29 May (AGu).

**American Pipit:** arr 7 N Hamlin Rd 11 Mar; max 143 Nations Rd LIVI 28 Apr (BHo); 110 Jacobs Rd, H 19 May (AGu); last Jacobs Rd, H & 2 HB 20 May.

**EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH:** 2 Rochester 21 Apr (PD), origin?.

**Pine Siskin:** Rochester Institute of Technology 5 Mar; 1-4 ind 3 loc 19-29 Apr; G 9 May; only "winter finch" reports.

**American Goldfinch:** max 220 LaGrange Rd WYOM 9 May (KKu), good count.

**Lapland Longspur:** last 18 Jacobs Rd, H 1 May (AGu), only May rep.

**Snow Bunting:** max 25 Jacobs Rd, H 10 Mar, low; last 18 BB-HW 26 Mar, early dep.

## NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

**Eastern Towhee:** arr Lakeshore Marshes WMA WAYN 20 Mar.

**American Tree Sparrow:** last Taylor Marsh ONTA 6 May.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr T Pittsford MONR 8-12 May (ST); T Fairport MONR 14-15 May (GLaz, BRoh); 1-4 sev sites Cook Rd, H MONR 21-30 May (mob); 2 Lakeshore Rd ORLE 23 May (SRy); Manitou Beach Pres 26

May (JiM, LM); Carton Rd, Holley ORLE 31 May (AGu).

**Field Sparrow:** arr T Pittsford MONR 21 Mar.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr Gonondagan, T Victor ONTA 25 Mar (DD), early.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr east of Caledonia LIVI 25 Apr.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr Beechwood SP WAYN 14 Mar (JWi); max 21 Pinnacle Hill, T Brighton MONR 12 Apr; last Cobbs Hill P 19 (P.Mar).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr BB-HW 30 Apr; total b 28 BBBO 8-31 May; last 1 b BBBO 31 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 30 Beatty Pt, G 13 Apr (P.Mar).

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 115 Highland P ROCH 30 Apr; max b 14 BBBO 11 May, low; total b 103 BBBO 17 Apr-19 May, low.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 137 Highland P, ROCH 11 Apr, good count.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** 1b BBBO 24 May, also heard and seen 24 May (JiM, JWi).

**Bobolink:** arr Lima-Livonia Townline Rd. LIVI 25 Apr (LKam); max 70 BB-HW 15 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr Nations Rd IBA LIVI 1 Mar.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr T Henrietta MONR 16 Apr.

**BULLOCK'S ORIOLE:** feeders, T Lyons WAYN 7-8, 9 (JBac, LCB, phs), 4<sup>th</sup> Reg record, photos at two feeders, different days, likely same bird.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr T Pittsford MONR & Red Fox Run, T Victor ONTA 27 Apr; 2323 eBird lines May.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 41,000 NMWMA (CR) 22 Mar (NK); 5000 NMWMA (CR) 7 Apr; 4456 eBird lines May.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 325 HB-WE 29 Mar.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr 3 BB 15 Mar (NK); 150 BB-HW 29 Mar (DBr); max 250 NMWMA (Malone Marsh) 31 Mar (BCar); 150 BB-ES 30 Apr; last Church Woods Trail, G (CG) & 3 HB (AGu) 20 May.

**Common Grackle:** max 5000 T Savannah WAYN 17 Mar (JiW); 2000 HB-YC 7 Apr (GL); 3717 eBird lines May.

**blackbird sp:** 12,000 NMWMA (CR) 31 Mar (GD).

**Ovenbird:** arr MP 24 Apr (KMat), early; max 19 T Dalton LIVI 16 May (TB); total B 17 BBBO 14-29 May.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** arr Pinnacle Hill, T Brighton MONR 13-14 May ((RB, JW, 27+ oth obs), scarce spring migr.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr T Irondequoit 14 Apr.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr BB-ES & 1b BBBO 28 Apr; total b 21 BBBO 28 Apr-31 May.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** 1b BBBO 1, 15, 30 May; 8 oth singles 5 oth loc 15- 25 May, good showing for this declining species.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Ganargua Crk Meadow Pres, T Lyons WAYN 27 Apr (NY), early; max 13 MP 19 May.

**“Brewster’s” Warbler:** arr Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 16 May (W&MR); Firehouse Woods, G 19 May (DeH).

**Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler (hybrid):** 1-2 ind 6 loc 9-31 May.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr 5 loc 29 Apr, 7+ obs; total b 22 BBBO 29 Apr–25 May.

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (R2):** NMWMA (AR) 2 May thru (R&SSp, mob, phs), nesting, using nest boxes, also south of road in SENE, Reg 3; NMWMA (CR) 17 May (JM); NMWMA (VDSR) 20 May (JSh).

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr Highland P ROCH 10 May; max 39 Beatty Pt, G 21 May (JeB, JiB, CW); total b 33 BBBO 15-27 May.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** total b 4 BBBO 5, 16, 17, 19 May; total ~ 36 ind 26+ loc 4-25 May, high number for species.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr 3 loc 1 May; max 23 M-OW 15 May (GL); total b 81 BBBO 3-25, 31 May, good number.

**Connecticut Warbler:** Firehouse Woods, G 25 May (JCh, 42+ oth obs); Shaker Heights Pres, T Huron WAYN 27 May (MG).

**Mourning Warbler:** arr Tunley Rd, T Sodus WAYN 14 May; total b 21 BBBO 22-31 May.

**KENTUCKY WARBLER (R2):** 1b BBBO 24 May, locally rare migr.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr Brush Creek Marsh, H 18 Apr (AGu), early; max 21 Lehigh Valley Trail 17 May (JSI); total b 56 BBBO 11-31 May, low number b.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr Pinnacle Hill, T Brighton MONR 30 Apr; max 75+ LSP, both sides 27 May (R&SSp), kept track of count this trip.

**American Redstart:** arr 1-3 M-OW 30 Apr; max 44 HB-W 23 May (AGu); max b 19 BBBO 26 May; total b 126 BBBO 11-31 May.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr M-OW 1 May; max 21 M-OW 15 May (GL); last M-OW 29 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** arr NMWMA (AR) 7 May.

**Northern Parula:** arr M-OW 30 Apr; max 19 Turning Pt P, ROCH 18 May (CW), good count; total b 14 BBBO 3-28 May.

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 2 May (W&MR), early; 80 Firehouse Woods, G 25 (KS); 92 b BBBO 24 May; max b 95 BBBO 25 May; total b 342 BBBO 14-31 May; good numbers.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr Old Browncroft Blvd, T Penfield 10 May; 75 M-OW 24 May (BriM); max b 19 BBBO 24 May, total b 45 BBBO 21-31 May.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr BB-ES 30 Apr; 21 Beatty Pt, G 21 May (JeB, JiB, CW); max b 12 BBBO 24 May; total b 24 BBBO 14-27 May.

**Yellow Warbler:** arr BB 28 Apr; max 42 HB-WE 21, 23 May (AGu); max b 28 BBBO 21 May; total b 141 BBBO 10-31 May; 944 eBird lines May.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr Sandy Bottom P, T Honeoye ONTA 1 May; max b 19 BBBO 25 May; total b 79 BBBO 14-29 May.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr Cobbs Hill P 9 May; max 21 BB-ES 26 May (DBr, GL); total b 31 BBBO 21-31 May, low.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr Cornwall Pres, nr Pultneyville WAYN 27 Apr; max 16 Pinnacle Hill, T Brighton, MONR 19 May (RB, JW); total b 68 M BBBO 5-31 May.

**Palm Warbler:** arr 1-2 Whiting Rd NP, T Webster 12 Apr (CGi, RRe, KM, SRo), early; max 33 HB-YC 15 May (AGu); max b 16 BBBO 1 May; total b 60 BBBO 1-18 May; last BB-ES 26 May.

**Pine Warbler:** arr 2 LSP 4 Apr (BCar), early.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr NMWMA (VDSR) 11 Mar (DK); arr 10 West Port Bay Pt, T Wolcott WAYN (W&MR); 100 Webster P 26 Apr (JBot); 165 Chimney Bluffs, T Huron WAYN 8 May (NK); max 180 HB-YC 15 May (AGu); 150 Beechwood SP WAYN 16 May (KGa); max b 42 BBBO 12 May; total b 97 BBBO 28 Apr - 23 May, good numbers; 1249 eBird lines May.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R2):** Sandy Bottom P, T Honeoye ONTA 24 Apr (LMo, AMcM, 13+ oth obs, phs); Ellison P, T Penfield MONR 27-29 Apr (LM, JiM, 28+ oth obs, phs).

**Prairie Warbler:** arr Indian Fort NP, T Geneseo 2 May (TB); total 13 ind 13 loc 2-29 May, high number, relatively rare in Reg.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr Greenway N Trail LIVI 28 Apr; max 25 Brookdale Pres, T Chili MONR 19 May (JGoe); total b 34 BBBO 3-28 May.  
**Canada Warbler:** arr 1b BBBO & 5 oth loc 15 May; total b 34 BBBO 15-31 May.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** arr 1-2 ind 4 loc 14 May; total b 50 BBBO 16-31 May.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr Volunteer & Lima Rds LIVI 29 Apr (JK); max 10 Cobbs Hill P 18-20 May (7 obs), good count.  
**Northern Cardinal:** 2904 eBird lines Apr; 4550 eBird lines May.  
**Indigo Bunting:** arr G 1 May; total b 35 BBBO 18-31 May.  
**DICKCISSEL (R2):** Ontario Beach 26 May (CW), flyover.



## REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

**Bill Ostrander**

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In Ithaca, the average low temperature in March was 27.9° F, 4.8° above normal. The average high was 43.2°, 5.2° above normal. Total precipitation was 2.15", 0.49" less than normal and snowfall 1.5", 10.2" less than normal. Maximum snow depth was 1" attained on 1 and 24 March. Average low and high temperatures in April were 31.2°, 2.7° below normal, and 50°, 5.5° below normal, respectively. Total precipitation was 3.13", 0.16" less than normal. Total snowfall was 4.5", 1.1" more than normal. Maximum snow depth was 3" on 16 April. In May, the average low temperature was 42.4°, 0.9° below normal. The average high was 65.6°, 1.8° below normal. Total precipitation was 4.00", 0.81" more than normal. The only snow fell 9 May, but was insignificant. The cold front that brought the snow did delay the peak of Neotropical bird migration, but its timing did not seem to affect first arrival dates. Warm fronts passed through on 3, 9, 13, 17, 23, 27, and 30 March, 5, 13, 20, 25, and 29 April, and 3, 11, 15, 27 May.

Many species of waterfowl overwinter on the Finger Lakes. Of those that don't, arrival dates were generally earlier than average. Only the arrival of Surf Scoter on 27 Mar was late. Departures were also normal except that of two Greater Scaup that lingered through 24 May. Single location maximum counts were high for Ross's Goose, Mute Swan, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Lesser Scaup, White-winged Scoter, and Long-tailed Duck.

The first Red-necked Grebe arrived late at Geneva Lakefront Park on 12 March. The last two, also at Geneva Lakefront Park, observed on 30 May, were also late to depart. A **Western Grebe** was observed around the north end of Seneca Lake 23-24 May.

The arrival dates of both Black-billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, and Ruby-throated Hummingbird were all earlier than average. The arrival of Eastern Whip-poor-will was normal, although in recent decades, the species has been

scarce. This spring, two were observed, one in the Town of Dryden and one in the Town of Ithaca.

A Virginia Rail heard at Sperr Memorial Park on 18 March was early. The count of three Soras at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR) was high for that difficult to observe species. The same count of American Avocets at MNWR was high for that rare species.

The arrival of Black-bellied Plover was earlier than average. That of Semipalmated Plover was normal. The first Killdeer was earlier than average. The arrival of Greater Yellowlegs was normal. Spotted and Semipalmated Sandpipers arrived later than average. Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary, Least, and Pectoral Sandpipers, Wilson's Snipe, and American Woodcock arrived earlier than their respective average arrivals. The departure date of 17 May was early for Short-billed Dowitcher. At City Pier in Canandaigua, 44 Red Knots was a high count. The Avocets, the Knots and a Willet and Red-necked Phalarope at Myers Point were the season's rarest shorebirds.

There were several reports of Little Gull on Cayuga Lake and one on Seneca Lake. The last lingered through 25 May, a late date for the Region. Individual Laughing Gulls made brief appearances on Cayuga and Seneca Lakes. Twenty-four Lesser Black-backed Gulls in a field in the Town of Lansing set a Regional high count. A Caspian Tern flying over Monkey Run, Town of Dryden, on 26 March was early.

The maximum counts of Common Loons and Double-crested Cormorants were high. Two American White Pelicans were on Cayuga Lake and the Montezuma Wetlands Complex from late March through most of April. Three were at MNWR and one near the Catharine Valley Trail on 3 May, the last day the species was reported in the Region. Herons were all timely in their arrival dates. A Glossy Ibis that showed up in Queen Catharine Marsh on 26 April was early for that uncommon species.

Black Vulture sightings continue to increase in the Region with many this spring from Tompkins and Chemung Counties and one report from Seneca County. A flock of 13 over Cornell University seen by one observer and by others north of the University was a high count. One over the Town of Van Etten on 30 May was late for this primarily transient species. Broad-winged Hawks also made a good showing with 78 over the Town of Ovid marking the species' arrival on 26 March. That was the Region's record spring high count for a month. Then, on 28 April, 79 passed over a location in the Town of Ithaca. Rough-legged Hawks made an early departure with the last seen on 26 March.

Counts of five Belted Kingfishers, 12 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, 21 Downy Woodpeckers, and 14 Hairy Woodpeckers were all high. It only takes two to tie the Region's spring high count of Peregrine Falcons. This spring, two were at Taughannock Falls State Park for several days in the latter part of April. Two others were at a location in the Town of Seneca Falls on 24 April.

Flycatcher arrivals were generally on time or later than average. A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in Northeast Ithaca on 12 May was early. The only high count

was two Olive-sided Flycatchers in Danby State Forest on 25 May. Like Rough-legged Hawk., the departure of Northern Shrike was early, 11 March. The species had been scarce last winter with none reported after 1 February. At least three were reported in early March and may have been transients.

Blue-headed and Yellow-throated Vireo arrivals were earlier and Warbling and Red-eyed Vireo arrivals were later than average. Red-eyed's was especially late on 11 May when individuals arrived at many locations in the Region. Philadelphia Vireo arrived on 15 May, a late date for that transient species.

All six species of swallows arrived earlier than average. Observers reported high counts of 50 Northern Rough-winged Swallows in the Town of South Bristol and at Salt Point Natural Area. The estimate of 1000 Barn Swallows at Myers Point was also high for the Region.

Observers also reported high counts for Tufted Titmouse and for Brown Creeper. A very early Marsh Wren at Queen Catharine Marsh may have overwintered, but periodic appearances there and then at MNWR made pinpointing another arrival date impossible. House Wren also arrived much earlier than average, though not record early. A rare Sedge Wren was at Goetchicus Wetland Preserve on 2 May. The count of 11 Carolina Wrens on the Eldridge Trail was a high count. Ruby-crowned Kinglets on 6 March at Ridgeway Road Rail Trail and at Lighthouse Point Natural Area (aka, Jetty Woods) were record early.

Hermit Thrushes at Monkey Run on 9 March and at Sapsucker Woods 10 March may have overwintered. The appearance of Hermit Thrushes at three Tompkins County locations on 31 March probably marked the arrival of the species. That date was still earlier than the average. Arrival dates for Veery and for Swainson's and Wood Thrushes were slightly later than the average dates. The count of 42 Eastern Bluebirds in the Town of Torrey was high.

A Gray Catbird at Sapsucker Woods on 31 March tied the Region's record early arrival date. The Region's first Brown Thrasher on 5 April was earlier than the species' average arrival. Eight Brown Thrashers at Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve was a high count.

Pine Siskins made appearances in the Region between early April and mid-May. The count of 130 American Goldfinches in the Town of Dryden was high. The last Snow Bunting was reported flying over Sapsucker Woods, marking an early departure for that species.

The arrivals of Eastern Towhee and of Chipping, Vesper, Savannah, and White-crowned Sparrows were all much earlier than average. Lincoln's Sparrow was slightly later than average. Counts of three Lincoln's Sparrows at a Town of Caroline site and along the Arrowwood Drive trails were high. A Lincoln's Sparrow along the Catharine Valley Trail on 30 May was late. The only Clay-colored Sparrows reported in the Region were three in the Town of Geneva.

The arrival date of Bobolink was near normal. That of Baltimore Oriole was earlier than average. Observers photographed single Yellow-headed Blackbirds in the Town of Starkey and in Watkins Glen.

Most arrival dates for warbler species were within three days of their average arrival dates. Exceptions were Pine, Palm, and Blackpoll Warblers which were more than four days earlier than their averages. High counts were 12 Black-and-white Warblers, 111 Tennessee Warblers, nine Mourning Warblers, 39 Chestnut-sided Warblers, and 20 Black-throated Blue Warblers.

Scarlet Tanager and Rose-breasted Grosbeak were slightly later than average. Indigo Bunting arrived four days earlier than average. A **Summer Tanager** was described at a home in the Town of Big Flats in mid-May. A **Blue Grosbeak** was photographed at the Seneca Landfill in early May. The only Dickcissel was photographed in the Town of Torrey in late May.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**ADt** – Arrowwood Drive trails, TOMP; **AMP** – Atwater Meadows P, ONTA; **BLNA** – Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, TOMP; **CU** – Cornell University; **CVT** – Catharine Valley Trail; **CygL** – Cayuga L; **DSF** – Danby State Forest, TOMP; **GCC** – Geneva Country Club; **GLP** – Geneva Lakefront P; **GWP** – Goetchicus Wetland Pres, TOMP; **HSRw** – Hile School Rd wetland, TOMP; **HO** – Hawthorn Orchard, TOMP; **LPBP** – Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres, TOMP; **LPNA** – Lighthouse Pt Natural Area, TOMP; **LRB** – Lake Rd Bluff, CAYU; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MR** – Monkey Run, TOMP; **MTSP** – Mark Twain SP; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **NEI** – Northeast Ithaca, TOMP; **PCm** – Paines Creek mouth CAYU; **PW** – Palmer Woods, TOMP; **QCM** – Queen Catharine Marsh, SCHU; **RHPP** – Roy H P Pres, TOMP; **SenL** – Seneca L; **SHSF** – Shindagin Hollow State Forest, TOMP; **SLSP** – Seneca L SP; **SPNA** – Salt Pt Natural Area, TOMP; **StP** – Stewart P, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TDan** – T Danby, TOMP; **TDry** – T Dryden, TOMP; **TFay** – T Fayette, SENE; **TGro** – T Groton TOMP; **Tlth** – T Ithaca, TOMP; **Tlan** – T Lansing, TOMP; **TMid** – T Middlesex, YATE; **TOv** – T Ovid, SENE; **TSF** – T Seneca Falls, SENE; **TTor** – T Torrey YATE; **TUly** – T Ulysses TOMP; **TVE** – T Van Etten, CHEM.

### WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

**Ross's Goose:** max 3 TOv 16 Mar (ReS), high; last T Benton YATE 18 Mar.

**Brant:** arr 75 MyPt 15 May; max & last 375 MyPt 18 May.

**Cackling Goose:** max 16 SLSP 2 Mar; last T Hopewell ONTA 3 Apr.

**Mute Swan:** max 19 Large Pd CAYU 7 Apr (ASt), high.

**Tundra Swan:** max 900 Mud Lock CAYU 6 Mar; last T Wheeler STEU 9 May.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 2 TMid 12 Mar; max 36 MNWR 25 Apr.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 1000 MNWR 19 Apr (PMarr), high.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** SLSP 9 Mar; QCM 10 Mar; MNWR 3 Apr; MNWR 3 May.

**American Wigeon:** max 800 MNWR 18 Mar; last MNWR 9 May.

**Northern Pintail:** max 6000 Savannah Mucklands CAYU 7 Mar (JM, LSA), high.

**Canvasback:** max 4500 CygL CAYU 7 Mar; last 2 MNWR 5 May.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 1500 MNWR 18 Mar; last 3 Jim Schug Trail TOMP 19 May.

**Redhead X Ring-necked Duck:** Cross Road Quarry ONTA 21 Mar-4 Apr (TLe, ph).

**Greater Scaup:** max 2500 CygL CAYU 7 Mar; last 2 SLSP 24 May (mob, ph), late.

**Ring-necked Duck X Greater Scaup:** GLP SENE 20 Mar-17 Apr (TLe, ph).

**Lesser Scaup:** max 3500 CygL CAYU 7 Mar (JM, LSA), high; last 4 SLSP 30 May.

**Redhead X scaup sp.:** SLSP 11 Mar (TLe, ph); GLP SENE 21 Mar (TLe, ph).

**Ring-necked Duck X scaup sp.:** SenL SENE 18-20 Mar (TLe, ph); GLP SENE 28 Mar (JM, ph); SenL YATE 31 Mar (TLe, ph).

**Surf Scoter:** arr & max 6 SenL YATE 27 Mar, late; last CygL TOMP 29 Apr; last SenL YATE 29 Apr.

**White-winged Scoter:** arr 2 CygL TOMP 24 Mar; max 52 SenL SENE 15 May (TLe), high; last 24 MyPt 18 May.

**Black Scoter:** GLP SENE 19 Mar; max 2 Carrs Cove CAYU 25 Apr; last GCC SENE 27 Apr.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr 10 SenL SENE 13 Mar; max 175 SenL SENE 24 Mar (TLe), high.

**Horned Grebe:** max 104 StP 27 Mar; last 3 T W Union STEU 17 May.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr GLP SENE 12 Mar, late; max 28 GCC SENE 27 Apr; last 2 GLP SENE 30 May (TLe, ph), late.

**WESTERN GREBE:** SenL SENE 23-24 May (mob, ph).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr Eldridge Wilderness Preserve TOMP 15 May; TVE 15 May; max 3 Keuka L SP 31 May.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr T Hornellsville STEU 14 May; max 7 NEI 22 May.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr TVE 16 May; QCM 16 May; max 3 CU 26 May.



**PHOTO GALLERY  
SPRING 2020**



Common Grackle, Tygert Rd., Voorheesville, *Albany*, 16 May 2020, © Scott Stoner.



Blue-winged X Green-winged Teal (hybrid), Upper Lisle CP, *Broome*, 2 Apr 2020, © Jay McGowan.



Gull-billed Tern, Iroquois NWR-Kumpf Marsh, *Genesee*, 25 May 2020, © Chris Wood.



Golden-crowned Sparrow, West Winfield, *Herkimer*, here 10 Mar 2020, © Wilma Mount.



Swainson's Hawk, Hamburg Hawk Watch, *Erie*, 15 Apr 2020, © Sue Barth.



Cattle Egret, Downs Farm Preserve, *Suffolk*, here 23 Apr 2020, © Jay Rand.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr TDry 3 May (IL); Tith 16-17 May (EB, ph).  
**Chimney Swift:** arr MR 19 Apr; CU 19 Apr; max 110 Geneva 1 May.  
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Canandaigua 3 May; max 4 T Hartsville STEU 18 May.

#### RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** arr Sperr Memorial P CHEM 18 Mar (WBI!), early; max 7 GWP 3 May.  
**Sora:** arr MNWR 17 Apr; max 3 MNWR 20 Apr (DK), high.  
**Common Gallinule:** arr MNWR 11 Apr; max 20 MNWR 17 May.  
**American Avocet:** 3 MNWR 8 May (mob, ph), high.  
**Black-bellied Plover:** arr MNWR 11 May; max 26 GLP SENE 26 May.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** arr 6 MNWR 7 May; max 25 MNWR 30 May.  
**Killdeer:** arr 2 StP 2 Mar; max 22 BLNA.  
**Upland Sandpiper:** arr & max 2 Lott Farm SENE 20 Apr-2 May.  
**Whimbrel:** GLP ONTA 28 May (KGa, ph).  
**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr MyPt 15 May; max 14 MNWR 31 May.  
**Red Knot:** 44 City Pier ONTA 31 May (mob, ph), high.  
**Dunlin:** arr 3 MNWR 1 Apr; max 105 MNWR 15 May.  
**Least Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 25 Apr; max 25 MNWR 16 May.  
**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr T Gorham ONTA 10 May; max 15 MNWR 21 May.  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr 30 MNWR 1 Apr; max 42 MNWR 19 Apr; last MNWR 21 May.  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr 2 MNWR 15 May; max 225 MNWR 30 May.  
**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr 9 Tileyard Road Ponds ONTA 14 May; max 14 Seneca Meadows Wetland Preserve SENE 16 May; last MNWR 17 May, early.  
**Wilson's Snipe:** arr NEI 17 May; max 25 Hanshaw Road Fields TOMP 25 Apr.  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr SenL YATE 19 Apr; max 12 MNWR 20 May.  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr TCar 16 Apr; max 19 GWP 16 May.  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr MNWR 1 Apr; max 80 MNWR 8 May.  
**Willet:** MyPt 20 Apr (CW!).  
**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr 4 MNWR 27 Mar; max 20 TSF 5 May.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** MyPt 18 May (JeC, JM, TO).  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr 2 StP 17 Mar; max LRB CAYU 12 Apr.  
**Little Gull:** arr LRB CAYU 5 Apr; max 2 LRB CAYU 12 Apr; last PCm 25 May (LC, GH, MJ!), late.  
**Laughing Gull:** PCm 23 May (mob, ph); Seneca Yacht Club SENE 26 May (TLe!, ph; ReS).  
**Iceland Gull:** last LRB CAYU 11 Apr; GCC SENE 11 Apr.  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 24 TLan 25 Apr (JM, LSa), high.  
**Glaucous Gull:** last StP 22 Mar.  
**Herring X Glaucous Gull:** LRB CAYU 12 Apr (BCa!).  
**Herring X Great Black-backed Gull;** LPNA 25 Mar (Add!).  
**Caspian Tern:** arr MR 26 Mar (Jessie Barry, CW!), early; max 43 Savannah Mucklands CAYU 2 May.  
**Black Tern:** arr MNWR 29 Apr; max 60 MNWR 15 May; 50 MNWR 24 May.  
**Common Tern:** arr CygL SP 18 Apr; max 60 PCm 23 May.  
**Forster's Tern:** arr MyPt 29 Apr; max 2 MyPt 19 May.

#### LOONS – PARAKEET

**Red-throated Loon:** arr & max 3 GCC SENE 31 Mar; last GCC SENE 8 May.  
**Common Loon:** max 295 GCC SENE 11 Apr (TLe), high.  
**Double-crested Cormorant:** arr 550 Frontenac Harbor Marina TOMP 19 Apr (JM, LSa), high.  
**American White Pelican:** arr 2 CygL CAYU 30 Mar; max & last 3 MNWR 3 May; CVT SCHU 3 May.  
**American Bittern:** arr MNWR 1 Apr; max 3 GWP 3 May; 3 MNWR 8 May; 3 DSF 20 May.  
**Least Bittern:** arr Michigan Hollow Marsh TOMP 3 May.  
**Great Blue Heron:** max 50 TUJy 24 May.  
**Great Egret:** arr 2 MNWR 6 Apr; max 19 MNWR 16 May.  
**Green Heron:** arr HSRw 20 Apr; max 4 TGro 1 May; 4 Jim Schlug Trail TOMP 3 May; 4 HSRw 28 May.  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr MNWR 11 Apr; max 6 AMP 18 May.  
**Glossy Ibis:** arr QCM 26 Apr (MGU, ph), early; MNWR 20-21 May.

**Black Vulture:** arr HSRw 3 Mar; max 13 Hanshaw Road fields TOMP 8 Mar (mob, ph); 13 CU 8 Mar (AN) 8 Mar, high; last TVE 30 May (JoC, MPen!), late.

**Osprey:** arr 2 Post Creek mouth STEU 14 Mar; max 11 MNWR 5 Apr.

**Golden Eagle:** max 4 T Troupsburg STEU 26 Mar; last StP 10 Apr.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** arr 2 TDry 6 Mar; max 6 CU 26 May.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr 78 TOv 26 Mar; max 79 Tlth 28 Apr (BWa), high.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** max & last 4 T Troupsburg TOMP 26 Mar; TOv 26 Mar, early.

**Snowy Owl:** max 2 TFay 1 Mar; 2 Finger Lakes Regional Airport SENE 8 Mar; last TFay 4 Apr.

**Short-eared Owl:** max 5 T Lodi SENE 11 Mar; last Finger Lakes National Forest SENE 11 Apr.

**Belted Kingfisher:** max 5 LPBP 3 Apr (RA); 5 MR 13 Apr (CW), high.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 12 Fall Creek Valley North Natural Area TOMP 26 Mar (JaW); 12 Tuly 5 May (DN), high.

**Downy Woodpecker:** max 21 TCar 21 Mar (SKe), high.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** max 14 TCar 26 May (SP), high.

**Peregrine Falcon:** max 2 Taughannock Falls SP 19-25 Apr (DG); 2 TSF 24 Apr (PMart), high.

#### FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr Tlth 1 May; HO 1 May; SW 1 May; TCar 1 May; max 9 SW 23 May.

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr 2 HSRw 30 Apr; TMid 30 Apr; max 10 MNWR 21 May.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr LPBP 16 May; max 2 DSF 25 May (EB, SKr), high.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr Kime Beach Road Water Plant SENE 11 May; max 10 TDan 30 May.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr NEI 12 May (WH), early; max 2 DSF 25 May.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr NEI 19 May.

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr CVT SCHU 16 May; max 8 DSF 23 & 26 May.

**Willow Flycatcher:** arr T Hector SCHU 10 May; max 9 MNWR 23 May.

**Least Flycatcher:** arr Ithaca 30 Apr; max 14 ADT 19 May.

**Eastern Phoebe:** arr T Lodi SENE 18 Mar; max 10 Dryden L TOMP 22 Apr.

**Northern Shrike:** last Finger Lakes National Forest SCHU 11 Mar, early.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr CU 29 Apr; max 7 MTSP 18 May.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr SHSF 7 Apr (SP), early; max 10 TDry 19 May.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr Pleasant Grove Cemetery TOMP 15 May; StP 15 May, late; max 2 LPNA 18 May; 2 AMP 19 May; last Tlth 27 May.

**Warbling Vireo:** arr Buttermilk Falls SP 29 Apr; 2 MyPt 29 Apr; max 30 SPNA 5 May.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** max 29 TDan 30 May.

**Purple Martin:** arr Seneca Yacht Club 4 Apr; max 76 SenL SCHU 31 May.

**Tree Swallow:** arr StP 10 Mar; max 3000 MNWR 9 May.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr 4 SPNA 4 Apr; Ladoga P TOMP 4 Apr; max 50 T South Briatol ONTA 11 May (KA); 50 SPNA 14 May (WM), high.

**Bank Swallow:** arr MNWR 11 Apr; max 150 MNWR 9 May.

**Cliff Swallow:** arr LRB 5 Apr; max 8 Fitch's Bridge Fishing Access CHEM 16 May.

**Barn Swallow:** arr QCM 31 Mar; max 1000 MyPt 26 Apr (Add, JM), high.

**Tufted Titmouse:** max 25 SW 2 May (TH, Quran Team), high.

**Brown Creeper:** max 15 SHSF 14 Mar (JaW), high.

**House Wren:** arr Ilion TOMP 6 Apr; max 10 T West Union STEU 17 May.

**Sedge Wren:** GWP 2 May (mob, ph).

**Marsh Wren:** arr QCM 11 Mar (JS), early; max 20 MNWR 24 May.

**Carolina Wren:** max 11 Eldridge Trail CHEM 3 May (BO), high.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr T Montezuma CAYU 7 Apr; max 10 StP 9 May; 10 LPNA 16 May.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Ridgeway Road Rail Trail TOMP 6 Mar (TA, ph); LPNA 6 Mar (Jen!), early; max 29 MR 28 Apr.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 42 TTor 22 May (BB), high.

**Veery:** arr PW 2 May; max 17 PW 17 May, nocturnal.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr Connecticut Hill WMA TOMP 16 May; max 5 NEI 26 May, nocturnal.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr 2 NEI 11 May; TGro 11 May; max 33 PW 17 May, nocturnal.

**Hermit Thrush:** MR 9 Mar; SW 10 Mar; arr T1th 31 Mar; Carriage House Apartments TOMP 31 Mar; MR 31 Mar; max 8 Hammond Hill State Forest TOMP 9 May; 8 TVE 9 & 17 May.

**Wood Thrush:** arr TCar 29 Apr; max 12 DSF 16 May; 12 TVE 17 May.

**Gray Catbird:** Ludovico Trail SENE 7 Mar; TCar 14 Mar; arr SW 31 Mar; max 45 HO and E Ithaca Recreation Way TOMP 16 May.

**Brown Thrasher:** arr T Enfield TOMP 5 Apr; max 8 LPBP 25 Apr (JGa), high.

**American Pipit:** max 211 TOv 10 Apr; last GLP ONTA 15 May; TOv 15 May.

**Pine Siskin:** arr TDry 8 Apr; max 3 T Canisteo TOMP 9 May; last Ithaca TOMP 19 May.

**American Goldfinch:** max 130 TDry 7-9 May (CTH), high.

**Lapland Longspur:** max & last 3 TFay 25 Apr;

**Snow Bunting:** max 250 Tlan 1 Mar; last SW 3 Mar, early.

#### NEW WORLD SPARROWS — CARDINALIDS

**Eastern Towhee:** arr BLNA 15 Mar; Ontario Pathways ONTA 15 Mar; max 18 T West Union STEU 16 May.

**American Tree Sparrow:** max 25 Fall Creek Valley North Natural Area TOMP 26 Mar; last 2 TDry 4 May.

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr Cayuga 7 Mar; max 23 TGro 11 May.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** 3 T Geneva ONTA 12-14 May (KGa, ph; ReS).

**Field Sparrow:** arr T1th 29 Mar; max 15 Long Pt SP 2 May.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr MR 30 Mar; max 5 T Locke CAYU 17 Apr.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr BLNA 14 Mar; max 15 BLNA 25 Apr; 15 T1th 25 Apr; 15 TSF 26 Apr; 15 Miller P ONTA 29 May.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr TOv 4 May; max 4 TTor 30 May.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr TVE 13 Mar; max TDry 9 Apr; last Bishop Preserve SENE 30 Apr; MR 30 Apr.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr SPNA 3 May; max 3 TCar 10 May (TA); 3 ADt 16 May (NBa), high; last CVT SCHU 30 May (Mayte Torres, ph), late.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr T Caton STEU 15 Apr; max 19 TDry 9 May; last T Sennett CAYU 24 May.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird:** T Starkey YATE 29 Apr (TSh, ph; FW); Watkins Glen 11-14 May (mob, ph).

**Bobolink:** arr ADt 29 Apr; max 35 TSF 24 & 27 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr Lake Road fields CAYU 8 Mar; max 20 TCar 25 May.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr 2 MyPt 29 Apr; max 6 MyPt 25 Mar; 6 SPNA 27 May.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr Dundee 15 Apr; max 20 SW 16 May (BWa), high.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr 3 CU 2 Mar; 2 TDry 2 Mar; TULY 2 Mar; max 75 HSRw 21 Apr; last 11 T Bradford STEU 14 May; 6 Sampson SP 14 May; 2 Durfee Hill Road TOMP 14 May; 2 CVT SCHU 14 May

**Ovenbird:** arr NEI 25 Apr; max 26 TDan 30 May.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** arr LPBP 16 May; max 2 LPBP 21-22 May.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr Mulholland Wildflower Nature Preserve TOMP 6 Apr; max 7 Robert Treman SP 31 May.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr TFay 22 Apr (DK, ph); max 7 McIlroy Preserve CAYU 27 May.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr LPBP 3 May; last E Ithaca Recreation Way TOMP 18 May.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Campbell Homestead STEU 1 May; MR 1 May; max 10 Freeville railroad bed TOMP 15 May; 10 LPBP 24 May.

**"Brewster's" Warbler:** arr MTSP 12 May; max 2 HO 16 May.

**"Lawrence's" Warbler:** Genung Nature Preserve TOMP 9 May (KMcGo!, LAVL!).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr SW 27 Apr; max 12 SHSF 16 May (TB, MSM, FR); 12 LPBP 21 May (JM, LSa), high.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** arr MNWR 5 May; max 2 MNWR 10-29 May.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr T Dix SCHU 3 May; max 111 F. R. Newman Arboretum TOMP 20 May (SKr), high; last Blue House TOMP 30 May.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr CygL SP 9 May; max 2 Bishop Preserve 14 May; 2 T Geneva ONTA 15 May; 2 SW 16 May; last Sweedler-Lick Brook Preserve 24 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr TTor 29 Apr; max 9 MyPt 17 May.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr PW 14 May; T Howard STEU 14 May; Louis Agassiz Fuertes Bird Sanctuary TOMP 14 May; max 9 AF TOMP 31 May (Sbi, BWa), high.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr Ridgeway Road Rail Trail TOMP 29 Apr; max 22 GWP 24 May.  
**Hooded Warbler:** arr T Phelps ONTA 3 May; max 4 SHSF 17-18 May; 4 TDan 19 May; 4 Tuly 24 May; 4 LPBP 25 May; 4 Hi Tor WMA YATE 27 May.  
**American Redstart:** arr MyPt 29 Apr; max 22 LPNA 16-17 May.  
**Cape May Warbler:** arr LPBP 5 May; Ithaca City Cemetery TOMP 5 May; max 18 NEI 15 May.  
**Cerulean Warbler:** arr 3 MNWR 10 May.  
**Northern Parula:** arr StP 1 May; max 12 SHSF 16 May.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** arr TDry 3 May; Roy H Park Preserve TOMP 3 May; GWP 3 May; max 9 Roy H Park Preserve TOMP 17 May.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr 2 Ontario Pathways ONTA 12 May; max 8 TDry 17 May; last TVE 26 May; NEI 26 May; HO 26 May; TDry 26 Apr.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr MR 30 Apr; max 12 TVE 8 & 17 May.  
**Yellow Warbler:** arr CVT SCHU 19 Apr; max 30 SPNA 14 May; 30 SLSP 15 May.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr 3 LPBP 2 May; T Newfield TOMP 2 May; TCar 2 May; max 39 AF TOMP 31 May (SBi, BWa), high.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr SPNA 6 May; SW 6 May; max 7 Cayuga-Seneca Canal Trail SENE 26 May.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr Adt 30 Apr; Tlth 30 Apr; max 20 SHSF 19 May (IL), high.

**Palm Warbler:** arr MR 10 Apr; max 14 MTSP 13 May; last TOv 19 May; AMP 19 May; StP 19 May; SW 19 May.  
**Pine Warbler:** arr TCar 28 Mar; max 8 TMid 5 May.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr TLAN 28 Mar; T Gorham ONTA 28 Mar; max 90 Tlth 7 May.  
**Prairie Warbler:** arr Kinsella P STEU 1 May; max 14 LPBP 4 & 15 May.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr McIlroy Preserve CAYU 25 Apr; max 20 SHSF 20 May.  
**Canada Warbler:** arr TCar 8 May; max 6 AF SCHU 17 May; 6 SHSF 20 May.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** arr MR 11 May; max 3 AMP 16 May; 3 SPNA 16 May; 3 SW 16 May; 3 TCar 19 May; 3 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 19 May; 3 QCM 19 May.  
**SUMMER TANAGER (R3):** T Big Flats CHEM 17 May (NC!).  
**Scarlet Tanager:** arr TDan 2 May; max 10 TDry 19 May.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr T Covert TOMP 28 Apr; T Woodhull STEU 28 Apr; max 33 PW 17 May.  
**BLUE GROSBEAK (R3):** Seneca Landfill SENE 6-13 May (mob, ph).  
**Indigo Bunting:** TLAN 19 Mar (JHa, ph); arr Tlth 26 Apr; max 6 T Veteran CHEM 21 May; 6 TDan 26 May; 6 AF TOMP 31 May.  
**Dickcissel:** T Tor 28 May thru (mob, ph).

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## REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

**Lance Verderame**

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Weather data obtained from the Binghamton Station showed a high of 67° F on 9 March and a low of 15° on 1 March. The average temperature for the month of March was 38.1° which was 5.3° above normal. March precipitation was 2.35" which was 0.64" below normal. The high temperature for the month of April was 64° on 13 April and the low was 24° on 17 and 22 March. The average temperature for April was 41° which was 4.1° below normal. The average precipitation for the month of April was 4.50" which was 1.07" above normal. For the month of May



the high temperature was 88° on 26 May with the low being 24° on 9 May. The average temperature for the month of May was 54.1° which was 1.7° below normal. The average precipitation for May was 2.91" which was 0.66" below normal.

Once again, as in the winter report, waterfowl were represented well in the period. Cackling Geese were reported from both Broome and Otsego Counties. There were scattered reports of Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall and American Wigeon as well as Canvasback and Redhead. All three scoters were reported including a lone Black Scoter spotted by Chris Wood on Chenango Lake. This species is not recorded often in the spring period. All three expected grebes were reported with six Red-necked Grebes reported from Lisle Park by David Nicosia on 20 April.

Virginia Rails were reported in three counties, as was Sora. In addition to the expected shorebirds for the period a Black-bellied Plover was a nice find at Dorchester Park on 26 May and an Upland Sandpiper on Palmer Road in Cortland County was a welcome sighting of this declining species. A Dunlin spotted from Upper Lisle County Park on 16 May was a nice find as well.

Other interesting reports for the period included Lesser Black-backed Gulls on both 4 and 25 May at the Cortland Gravel Pits. Three records of Least Bittern were nice finds. A Red-headed Woodpecker in Deposit is an excellent record for Delaware County. Also in Delaware County the author spotted the only Northern Shrike for the period, in Deposit. Multiple observers viewed a White-eyed Vireo at Lime Hollow in Cortland County and there were a few rare spring reports of Philadelphia Vireo as well. Also of note were a lone report of Golden-winged Warbler and two records of Yellow-throated Warbler.

The bird of the period is the Snowy Egret found by Rick Bunting on 16 May in Afton, Chenango County. This inland sighting for the Region is an exceptional record.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**ALk** – Allen L, OTSE; **AqPk** – Aquaterra P, BROO; **Bpd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CaHo** – Cannon Hole, T Barton, TIOG; **CanL** – Canadarago L, OTSE; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA; **CG** – Carantuan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **ChenL** – Chenango L, T New Berlin, CHEN; **ChRB** – Chenango Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **CoPk** – Confluence P, Owego, TIOG; **CRes** – Cannonsville Res & outflow, DELA; **CVSP** – Chenango Valley SP, T Fenton, BROO; **DelR** – Delaware Ri, Deposit, DELA; **DorP** – Dorchester P, Whitney Pt, BROO; **FMHW** – Franklin Mt. Hawkwatch, DELA; **FMt** – Franklin Mtn, T Davenport, DELA; **GrwP** – Greenwood CP, BROO; **HCP** – Hillcrest Pits, Port Dickinson, BROO; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **LPSF** – Long Pd SF, CHEN; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **NSpM** – N Spencer Marsh, T Spencer, TIOG; **OtsL** – Otsego L, OTSE; **Pres** – Pepacton Res & outflow, DELA; **SkaL** – Skaneateles L, L (SE), T Scott, CORT; **StPd** – Stupke Pd, T Cortlandville, CORT; **SusRB** – Susquehanna Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **UL** – Upper Lisle, BROO, **ULCP** – Upper Lisle County P, T Triangle, BROO; **WPres** – Whitney Pt Res, BROO.

### WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

**Snow Goose:** 75 Moran Rd 2 Mar (MD); 250 Oneonta OTSE 2 Mar (AVK); 90 BUNP 2 Mar (AB); 150 Nichols TIOG 2 Mar (SC); 150 Broome BROO 2 Mar (DN); 120 Glendale P BROO 8 Mar (MJ); 250 Castle Cr BROO 17 Mar (JWe).

**Brant:** 100 Otsego 15 May (CSt).

**Cackling Goose:** StPd 4 Mar (DG); 12 ULCP 5 Mar (GW,KE,SH, DN); Port Crane Farm Pd 7 Mar (DW,MF,DH); 2 Springfield OTSE 7 Mar (SS); Springfield Ctr OTSE 17 Mar (PFen,CSt).

**Mute Swan:** 4 Whitney Pt BROO 5 April (JWe,DN); 4 ULCP 5 April (JCu,DN,SH); Chenango Forks BROO 16 May (JWe).

**Tundra Swan:** 9 ULCP 2 Mar (GW); StPd 4 Mar (DG); 3 Clark Pd OTSE 9 Mar (PFen); 5 Goodyear Swamp OTSE 9 Mar (JCo); 11 MHL 11 Mar (SC).

**Blue-winged Teal:** site max 8 Enwell BROO 20 April (DN); site max 4 Sherburne Marsh CHEN 21 & 22 April (SH,MD); site max 4 ULCP 25 April (SR); site max 3 Bpd 26 & 27 April (JWe,MR).

**Northern Shoveler:** 10 SusR TIOG 13 Mar (KH); 10 Lisle P BROO 11 Mar (DW); 3 OtsL 20 Mar (PFen,CSt); site max 4 Bpd 25 Mar (JH).

**Gadwall:** 57 Lisle P 13 Mar (DN,SR); 11 Cincinnatis L CHEN 25 Mar (MD); 12 Clark Pd 29 Mar (TB).

**American Wigeon:** 8 HCP 1 Mar (JWe); 7 Murphy Pits BROO 3 Mar (DW); 12 OtsL 12 Mar (KM); 8 West Corners Marsh BROO 27 Mar (AF)

**American Black Duck:** 74 CRes 1 Mar (LV); 30 Bpd 7 Mar (GW); 26 Bpd 29 Mar (GK).

**Northern Pintail:** 10 ULCP 5 Mar (KE,SH); 16 Richfield Springs OTSE 8 Mar (PFei); 18 Lisle P 13 Mar (DN,SR).

**Green-winged Teal:** 24 OtsL 12 Mar (KM); 25 Nichols 16 Mar (DMc); 46 Harford CORT 3 Apr (CW); 26 Sherburne Marsh 8 Apr (MD).

**Canvasback:** Murphy Pits 21 Mar (GK); 4 ULCP 29 Mar (DN); 7 Lisle P 30 Mar (DN); Lockheed Martin Pd TIOG 18 Apr (DG).

**Redhead:** 4 Lake Front P OTSE 1 Mar (EF); 2 Downsville DELA 1 Mar (LV); 2 HCP 1 Mar (JWe,JH); site max 10 Canadarago L 22 Mar (SH); 2 Cincinnatus L CHEN 4 Apr (CW).

**Ring-necked Duck:** 190 Clarke Pd. 11 Mar (PFen); 250 OtsL 12 Mar (KM); 137 CRes 14 Mar (LV); 300 Long Pd CHEN 25 Mar (MD); 420 Allen L OTSE 7 Apr (TB).

**Greater Scaup:** 6 Marathon 12 Mar (DN); 19 Hickories Pk 13 Mar (MR).

**Lesser Scaup:** 181 Allen L 15 April (DMi).  
**Surf Scoter:** 2 Keibel Rd BROO 12 Mar (DN); UCLP 25 Mar (DN); ChenL 25 Apr (MD).

**White-winged Scoter:** Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 16 Apr (CW); 27 Lisle P 18 May (DN).

**Black Scoter:** ChenL 16 Apr (CW).

**Long-tailed Duck:** 16 Lisle Pk 1 Apr (SW); 4 Deans Pd CORT 5 Apr (JCu); 4 ChenL 25 Apr (MD).

**Bufflehead:** 48 ULCP 27 Mar (ATri); 50 Cincinnatus L 21 Apr (SH); 32 CRes 24 Apr (ID).

**Common Goldeneye:** 6 Owego TIOG 1 Mar (DG); 6 CRes 1 Mar (LV); 30 Clarke Pd 14 Mar (PFen,CSt).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 19 Lisle P 13 Mar (JWe,SR,DN); 3 Cortland Gravel Pits 25 Mar (JCo); 14 ULCP 25 Apr (DN).

**Ruddy Duck:** 3 Hickories P 23 Mar (SC); 2 Cincinnatus L 25 Mar (MD); 4 ULCP 12 Apr (JWe).

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** 3 ULCP 29 Mar (DN); 2 Middlefield OTSE 15 Apr (PT).

**Ruffed Grouse:** many reports.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 3 Dorchester P BROO 15 Mar (JWe); 3 Chenango Valley SP BROO 8 Apr (SW).

**Horned Grebe:** 12 Cortland Gravel Pits 25 Mar (JCo); 7 ULCP 25 Mar (DN); 5 Plymouth Res CHEN 27 Mar (MD,CM); 16 Lisle P 8 Apr (DN).

**Red-necked Grebe:** Lockheed Martin Pd 25 Mar (SK); Honeymoon Cottage TIOG 27 Mar (DG); 2 ULCP 5 Apr (DN,SH); Cortland Gravel Pits 16 Apr (CW); 6 Lisle P 20 Apr (DN).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Johnson City BROO 28 May (JH); Oneonta DELA 28 May (CSe); Keibel Rd 30 May (GK); Aquaterra P BROO 31 May (WK); Cuyler Hill SF CORT 31 May (WH); Tubs Hill Rd TIOG 31 May (DMc).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** scattered reports in all counties.

**Common Nighthawk:** nine reports of single birds in the Region.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** many reports.

#### RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** 2 Hancock DELA 12 Apr (LV); 2 CG 19 Apr (MB); 2 BUNP 23 Apr (AB,GC); 3 Bpd 2 May (DN); 2 Sherburne Marsh 24 May (MD).

**Sora:** Boland BROO 20 Apr (DW); Bpd 25 Apr (SW); Whitney Pt 1 May (LH); Victory St Marsh BROO 11 May (VL); Naylor Rd Wetlands OTSE 16 May (CW); 3 Laurens OTSE 21 May (CSe); Apalachin Marsh TIOG 29 May (GW).

**Common Gallinule:** 3 Sherburne Marsh 14 May (MD); MHL 17 May (SC); Richford CORT 18 May (TA); Apalachin Marsh 19 May (DG); Brick Pd TIOG 23 May (DG,TR,DMc).

**American Coot:** 30 Lake Front P 17 Mar (ML); other scattered reports.

**Sandhill Crane:** 5 Preston CHEN 29 Mar (CM); 4 Pharsalia Woods SF CHEN 30 Mar (MD); Plymouth CHEN 5 Apr (MD).

**Black-bellied Plover:** Dorchester P 26 May (RA,BN,AB,VL,DW).

**Semipalmated Plover:** 7 ULCP 15 & 17 May (DN); 5 Murphys Pits 18 May (DN); 18 Kinney Rd TIOG 23 May (DG,DMc).

**Upland Sandpiper:** Palmer Rd CORT 2 May (CW).

**Dunlin:** ULCP 16 May (JWe,VL,RA,JH,DN).

**Least Sandpiper:** 14 Kilroy Rd CHEN 11 May (MD); 33 ULCP 13 May (DW); 7 Sherburne Marsh 14 May (MD); 9 Kinney Rd 12 & 16 May (DMc,DG).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** site max 2 ULCP 25 May (DN); 2 Kinney Rd 16 & 18 May (DG,DMc).

**Wilson's Snipe:** Birdsong Meadows Farm TIOG 19 Mar (ATro); 9 Daisy Hollow Rd 28 Mar (JBa,CW); 17 Murphys Pits 5 Apr (SW); 8 Winton Rd CHEN 26 May (FvM).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** 3 ULCP 9 May (JW); 6 Kinney Rd 11 May (DG); 3 Bpd 11 May (DN).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** 4 Endwell 20 Apr (DN); 3 Depoist DELA 3 May (LV); 3 Harring Bone Blvd TIOG 12 May (GW); 3 Kinney Rd 16 May (DMc).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** 56 CannR25 Apr (ID); 26 ChenL 25 Apr (MD); 25 Lockheed Martin Pd 25 Apr (DMc); 146 ULCP 25 Apr (DN); 190 Lisle Pk 25 Apr (RD).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Cortland Gravel Pits 4 & 25 Mar (JCo).

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 7 Cortland Gravel Pits 25 Mar (JCo); 2 Cortland Gravel Pits 8 Apr (JCo).

**Caspian Tern:** site max Papish Pd CORT 8 Apr (CW); Plymouth Res 9 Apr (CW); 8 ULCP 19 Apr (JWe).

**Black Tern:** ULCP 14 May (DN,JH,DW); Lisle Pk 18 May (DN).

**Common Tern:** Region max 6 Whitney Pt 6 May (DN).

**Forster's Tern:** 1 ULCP 13 Apr (DN); HCP 6 May (DW).

#### LOONS – PARAKEET

**Red-throated Loon:** 2 Lisle P 31 Mar (GW); 6 Lisle Pk 10 Apr (DN); Lisle P 25 Apr (RD); Keibel Rd 1 May (DW).

**Common Loon:** 58 (flyovers) Birdsong Meadows Farm 12 Apr (ATro); other scattered reports from all counties.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 10 Cincinnatus L 8 Apr (JCo); 15 Plymouth Res 10 Apr (CM); 82 (flyovers) Birdsong Meadows Farm 12 Apr (ATro); max site 117 Lisle P 23 Apr (DN); 50 HCP 8 May (JWe).

**American Bittern:** ULCP 18 Apr (CW); Smith Kingsman Rd CHEN 25 Apr (JBa,CW); CG 29 Apr (MB); Apalachin Marsh 30 Apr (DG); Dubbins Cross Rd OTSE 16 May (JWa); Allens Pd 16 May (CW); Broome 16 May (DN).

**Least Bittern:** ULCP 16 May (VL,RA); Sherburne Marsh 24 May (MD); CG 25 May (MB).

**Great Egret:** 2 Winding Riv 8 Apr (ZL); 2 Lockheed Martin Pd 21 Apr (DG).

**Snowy Egret:** Afton CHEN 16 May (RB).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** ULCP 22 Apr (DW,JWe); ULCP 16 May (JWe,JH).

**Black Vulture:** Riverview Cemetery DELA 21 Mar (LV); 2 Stoller Hill Rd OTSE 22 Mar (SS); Endicott BROO 1 May (GW); Palmer Hill Rd DELA 2 May (PG); 3 Route 17 DELA 20 May (MN); 2 Stamford DELA 24 May (RT); Bloomville DELA 24 May (EP); Oneonta 25 May (TJ).

**Golden Eagle:** Birdsong Meadows Farm 5 Mar (ATro); Betty & Wilbur Davis SP 5 Mar (TS); Glimmerglass SP 6 Mar (PFen); W Burlington 22 Mar (TS, JS); W Corners Marsh BROO 6 Apr (MJo); Brick Pd 10 Apr (DG).

**Northern Goshawk:** sensitive Species in eBird but scattered reports throughout period.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** W Burlington 1 Mar (TS,JS); Oneonta 2 Mar (AVK); Murphys Pits 21 Mar (GK); Doing Rd 27 Mar (MD).

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** reports of single birds in all counties in Region.

**Great Horned Owl:** reports in all counties in Region.

**Barred Owl:** many reports.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Calhoun Rd. CHEN 9 Apr (CW).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Deposit 31 May (KN), only record in Region for period.

**American Kestrel:** many reports throughout Region.

**Merlin:** many reports throughout Region.

**Peregrine Falcon:** ULCP 4 Apr (SW); Smith Kingsman Rd 5 Apr (MD); Murphys Pits 5 Apr (SW); Pruit Ln CHEN 12 Apr (MR); CRes 15 Apr (MR); ULCP 25 Apr (DW); Apalachin March 30 Apr (DG); Bainbridge DELA 2 May (JBr); max site 6 Downtown Binghamton BROO 26 May (AB).

## FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Sherburne CHEN 25 May (FvM).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** Spencer TIOG 31 May (TH).

**Northern Shrike:** Deposit Farm Pd 1 Mar (LV).

**White-eyed Vireo:** Lime Hollow CORT 7 May (JJ); Lime Hollow 14 May (JM,JCo).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** King St BROO 21 May (DW); ULCP 22 May (TH).

**Fish Crow:** many reports in the Binghamton area.

**Horned Lark:** 40 Sherburne 1 Mar (SH,MJa,KE); 18 Moran Rd CHEN 2 Mar (MD); 15 E Springfield OTSE (PFen,CST).

**Marsh Wren:** Hancock DELA 3 May (LV); 2 BPd 9 May (MR); 2 ULCP 14 May (DN); Whitney Pt 17 May (DN); 4 Sherburne Marsh 24 May (MD); 2 BPd 29 May (AB).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Brooktondale TIOG 17 May (TA); Otsiningo P BROO 19 May (AB).

**American Pipit:** 25 Cheri A. Lindsey P 24 Mar (AB); 15 Binghamton (GW); 16 Laurel Bank Rd DELA 3 May (LV); 14 Moran Rd 5 May (MD).

**Evening Grosbeak:** Long Pd SF 18 Apr (CW).

**Red Crossbill:** 4 Worchester OTSE 31 May (KA).

**Pine Siskin:** Stoller Hill Rd 14 & 24 Mar (SS); New Michagan SF 3 May (JBa,CW).

**Snow Bunting:** 150 Sherburne 1 Mar (SH,MJa,KE).

## NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

**Vesper Sparrow:** 10 Murphys Pits 4 Apr (SW); 5 Marathon 8 Apr (JCo); 3 Downsville 16 Apr (LV); 3 Moran Rd 20 Apr (MD).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** Moran Rd 1 May (MD); ULCP 3 May (JWe,JH); ULCP 5 May (DW); Thornridge Ln CHEN 10 May (ATri); Nuthatch Hollow Nature Pres BROO 10 May (VL,AB,GC); Richford TIOG 14 May (TA); Lime Hollow 14 May (JM); Smithboro TIOG 16 May (MH); Haber L 17 May (NW); 2 Long Pd SF 17 May (JBa, CW).

**Orchard Oriole:** Owego TIOG 12 May (GW); Binghamton 13 May (KW); L Delaware DELA 14 May (RP); Lime Hollow 14 May (JM); Sherburne 16 May (KRT); Lockheed Martin Pd 23 May (DG); max site 2 ULCP 27 May (ATri).

**Rusty Blackbird:** 18 CG 31 Mar (MB); 11 Mead Pd CHEN 10 Apr (MD); 7 Taylor Valley Rd CORT 11 Apr (CW); max site 7 ULCP 18 May (DN).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Plymouth Res 17 May (CM).

**Tennessee Warbler:** many reports.

**Mourning Warbler:** scattered reports in all counties in Region.

**Hooded Warbler:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**Cape May Warbler:** 7 Riverview Cemetery 15 May (LV); 16 Calhoun Creek SF 16 May (CW); Long Pd SF 17 May (JBa,CW); 6 Binghamton 17 May (JBu).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** Region max 3 BUNP 20 May (AB).

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** Dorchester P 16 May (DN,GW); Chenago Valley SP 18 May (AB).

**Wilson's Warbler:** 2 Cortland CORT 18 May (JJ); many other reports of single birds.

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## REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

**David Wheeler**

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A tumultuous Spring 2020 began with the tenth warmest March on record and very little snow. Average daily high was 49.6 °F, 6.4° above normal, and every day of the month got above freezing. Overnight lows were similarly mild. Early April continued the theme set in March but dramatically broke the warm trend mid-month and finished with an average daily high 3.9° below normal. May became a tale of two seasons with the first half double digits off normal highs and persistent northwest winds during the normal arrival window of many neotropical migrants. The pattern broke on 15 May with a few days of average weather, and the 22<sup>nd</sup> was the first of eight consecutive warm (even hot) days now double digits above average. Variations on south wind were the norm, with migration catching up quickly.

No report on this season would be complete without noting the influence of the growing Coronavirus pandemic. By mid-March schools and businesses were closing and stay-at-home quarantine orders were being issued for most parts of the state that continued through spring. Though outdoor activities were considered lower risk for spread of the virus, impact on birding effort and/or reporting is unknown. Did effort from experienced birders suffer due to the pandemic? Some speculated that with most indoor activity forbidden, birding and other outdoor recreation would surge. Indeed, the Region saw an unprecedented 780 eBird contributors versus 525 the previous spring and only 392 for the winter season just ended. Total records submitted took a similar leap, with 166,182 a new high in the Region for a single season and up 50% (!) compared to a year ago. Will these new birders continue in the future?

With the mild March came plenty of early migrating waterfowl. Snow Goose and dabbling duck numbers peaked in the first week and Matt Brown found a Blue-winged Teal in Port Ontario on 2 March, very early for the species and

nearly two weeks before the next report. Eurasian Wigeon, no longer really a rarity when wigeon are around, was found in four spots. Ross's Goose was seen a few places and Greater White-fronted also. Gary Meyers found two **Barrow's Goldeneye** on Oneida Lake on 22 March, and the **Tufted Duck** at Fair Haven continued from winter. Good diving duck numbers continued on Onondaga Lake while an impressive 3500 Brant stopped in on 18 May. Blue-winged Teal again set up shop on the pond at Sterling Nature Center, likely breeding there and one of the Region's few such pairs.

It was an exceptionally poor year for Common Nighthawk reports, especially on the Ontario lakeshore where virtually no meaningful flight was noted at Derby Hill. Lack of observer presence late in May? This is always a possibility given the late-day timing of nighthawk flights amid the morning emphasis of birding during May. An Eastern Whip-poor-will was found at SUNY Oswego, always an excellent find given their secretive nature. Most marsh birds arrived on time and Sandhill Crane were seen in all the expected places. Piping Plover returned again to Sandy Pond and the pair was joined briefly by a prior year's offspring destined for other parts of the Great Lakes. Early shorebird migration seemed unexceptional with few Ruddy Turnstones, only one Red Knot, and no Whimbrel. Bill Purcell's Oneida lakewatch from Phillips Point yielded a Parasitic Jaeger on 16 May, while Robert Whitman found a Little Gull at Fair Haven on 15 April. Large gull numbers collected on Ditch Bank Road, with 12 Lesser Black-backed seen on 5 April. Black Tern continues to be scarce but put on a good show at Onondaga Lake on 15 May with seven seen. The species status in the Deer Creek Marsh area of Lake Ontario is uncertain. Forster's Tern was again found at Woodman Pond near Hamilton. Common Loon migration was in full swing on 22 April with 836 moving on Oneida Lake. Scott Peterson found an adult **Little Blue Heron** at Hamlin Marsh in Clay on 3 May. The bird was enjoyed by many for several days. Six **Glossy Ibis** landed in a farm field in the Town of Richland on 16 May, found there by Bill Purcell but gone within minutes. Black-crowned Night-Heron continues to be scarce.

Derby Hill's spring hawk count pressed forward with social distancing rules in effect, observers spread around the lookouts. While a new high count of Turkey Vultures was set, record low numbers of Northern Goshawk and Rough-legged Hawk disappointed watchers. Similarly, Golden Eagles were down with only 38 counted. These three species often remain north of the Region in mild winters like that just completed and thus aren't available to be counted. A new single-day Bald Eagle record was set with 152 seen on 25 May. Large flights this late in the count period are comprised of immatures and some adults, mostly of far southern origin where nesting occurs in winter and is thus a post-breeding dispersal of birds seeking cooler places. Broad-winged Hawks put up numbers second only to last year. The author is aware, however, of at least three occasions when the official count was conducted at the 'wrong' lookout as specified in the Derby Hill protocol. On at least one of those days a huge Broad-winged flight south of route 104B was counted from the south lookout in spite of strong south winds. This resulted in

several thousand additional birds that wouldn't have been seen under correct application of the protocol, and thus it is difficult to compare these record numbers to prior years. For current and future counters, awareness and adherence to the official protocol of the site is essential.

Peregrine Falcons were known to nest at least four places in the Region this spring. The heavily-watched pair in Utica hatched two young that could be seen 24/7 thanks to a sophisticated camera system both at the nest box and also capable of being pointed throughout the airspace and adjacent buildings. Matt Perry and Deb Saltis again coordinated the efforts, including the daily 'fledge watch' which kept an eye on the birds during the scary time around first flight. Meanwhile in Syracuse, a new nest box installed on city hall also produced two birds. Little Falls hosted a pair for the third or fourth year using a natural ledge, as did a spot near Syracuse that hatched three young. Peregrines were seen off and on at Oswego Harbor (as they have been for years) but are not known to have nested there yet. The next issue of this report will have an update on the fledglings as they learn to be one of the world's top predators.

While **Black Vulture** was missed this year on the official count, David Wheeler observed one inland of the watch site, noting that it spun tighter, faster circles than any other bird soaring in the sky that day. Scattered reports of the species continue intermittently from the Jamesville area, while on 28 May Deborah Dohne found four in Oakwood Cemetery and the south campus area of Syracuse University. Short-eared and Saw-whet Owl were represented by one report apiece, with Long-eared again missed amid loss of appropriate roosting trees at traditional locales. Red-headed Woodpeckers continued at expected spots. Few Olive-sided Flycatchers were seen, possibly due to overflight on the strong southerly winds of late May. Other flycatchers were late in arriving due to early May's wintry weather. Acadian continues to be known from only a couple locations. Very little Blue Jay or Chickadee migration was noted on the lakeshore. Mary Magistro discovered a pair of Common Ravens nesting in the rafters of a town highway garage. The birds had built an impressive nest that contained three young. An early Sedge Wren was heard singing from a wet swale at Fulton airport by Kevin McGann on 1 May.

While birding the Deer Creek Marsh area near Port Ontario on 23 May, Mickey Scilingo heard a light, springy, song and recognized it as a likely **Bicknell's Thrush** due to the upward inflection of the final phrase. Scilingo also obtained good looks at the bird and provided both audio of the song and photographs to supplement his analysis. Breeding in the Adirondack mountains east of the Region, difficulties in separating the species from Gray-cheeked Thrush during migration have led to few records anywhere in the state away from the nesting grounds. While many are separable in the hand, song and call are considered the most diagnostic under field conditions. Marge Rusk documents four prior records: three sight records from experienced birders and a flight call heard during night migration monitoring. Interestingly, Rusk further notes that

brown thrushes were frequently found dead under TV and radio towers in the 1950s-70s (when access to such places was still possible).

Few finches were reported this season away from traditional areas and little movement was seen at Derby Hill. A male Clay-colored Sparrow returned to the spot it favored last year at Oakwood Cemetery, found by Deborah Dohne. Would it again nest with a Chipping Sparrow and produce hybrid offspring? Another Clay-colored was found singing vigorously at West Barrier Bar County Park on 20 May. David Wheeler found a **Lark Sparrow** there on 22 May, a fifth Regional record and the third for spring. Wheeler previously found the only fall record at the same location in 2011. Meanwhile, the bird overwintering at Matt Brown's feeders near Pulaski was noted up through 12 April. Wilma Mount found a first Regional record **Golden-crowned Sparrow** at her feeders in West Winfield and saw it intermittently through the first week of March. Last confirmed on 10 March, the bird is a mega-rarity for New York state with only four prior records. A former breeder for the Region but now absent, a **Yellow-breasted Chat** was found at Labrador Hollow by Andrew Van Norstrand on 31 May singing vociferously. How long would it stay?

Early May's ugly weather delayed the main pulse of warblers and vireos until at least the second week, if not mid-month. Early-arriving Louisiana Waterthrush beat the weather, being found at the Cedarvale '13-curves' spot on 7 April. A few Golden-winged Warblers were found, possibly still a breeder in the Region. Always scarce in migration, several Orange-crowned Warblers were reported, as was a Prothonotary Warbler at Sterling Nature Center. While paddling the Seneca River near Jordan, Ken Burdick found several other Prothonotaries, presumably nesters. Reports of the species also came from the traditional Howland Island area. A **Connecticut Warbler** was well seen by Deborah Dohne walking on the ground in the brushy dunes at West Barrier Bar park on 24 May. Several Ceruleans held territory in late May at Sterling and it appeared to be a good year there for Hooded Warbler. David Wheeler estimated there might be as many as 15 singing males on the nature center property. On 7 May Dohne heard a **Yellow-throated Warbler** singing on Ditch Bank Road but thought heard-only wasn't enough to confirm the bird. It was found independently a few hours later by Matt Volker in the same place but did not linger. Prairie Warbler was seen in migration and again returned to Green Lakes State Park.

On 14 May Katie Fenlon found a female **Painted Bunting** keeping company with goldfinches at her feeders near Marcellus. Four prior records exist for the Region, half each male/female: on 4 Jun 1978 a female was netted and banded in West Monroe; a female was found at Beaver Lake Nature Center on 22 May 1996; a breeding male on 18 April 2014 in Oswego; and another on 21 May 2019 in the city of Syracuse. Nine total records for Upstate are shown in eBird. The present bird remained for two additional days and was seen by many. Last but not least, the wintering **Dickcissel** (also near Marcellus) was reported by Lisa Mather through 16 April.



This season a total of 254 species and four hybrids was reported, which is three above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights of the season included: Ross's Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, **Tufted Duck**, Barrow's Goldeneye, Piping Plover, Red Knot, Wilson's Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Little Gull, Forster's Tern, **Little Blue Heron**, **Glossy Ibis**, Black Vulture, **Swainson's Hawk**, Sedge Wren, **BICKNELL'S THRUSH**, **Lark Sparrow**, **GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW**, Yellow-breasted Chat, **Connecticut Warbler**, **Yellow-throated Warbler**, **PAINTED BUNTING**, Dickcissel.

Spring 2020 produced 166,182 eBird records for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v5.5. Reports were contributed by 780 people.

### DERBY HILL HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival*	Max	Max Date	Total
<b>Black Vulture</b>	-	-	-	0
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>	1 Mar	5363	30 Mar	32,167
<b>Osprey</b>	24 Mar	94	29 Apr	458
<b>Golden Eagle</b>	5 Mar	5	16, 22, 26 Mar	38
<b>No. Harrier</b>	3 Mar	46	13 Apr	488
<b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b>	2 Mar	448	29 Apr	2920
<b>Cooper's Hawk</b>	5 Mar	26	26 Mar	285
<b>No. Goshawk</b>	14 Mar	2	7 Apr	4
<b>Bald Eagle</b>	1 Mar	152	25 May	1344
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>	1 Mar	103	18 Mar	642
<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>	12 Apr	13,204	2 May	40,929
<b>Swainson's Hawk</b>	-	1	1 May	1
<b>Red-tailed Hawk</b>	1 Mar	310	27 Mar	2815
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b>	3 Mar	11	26 Mar	64
<b>Am. Kestrel</b>	9 Mar	122	29 Apr	470
<b>Merlin</b>	4 Mar	10	30 Apr	71
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	13 Mar	3	29 Apr, 3 May	28
<b>Unidentified</b>	-	-	-	0
<b>Total including unidentified:</b>				<b>82,684</b>
<b>*first migrants at the Hawkwatch</b>				

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## 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 River, Indian Point, L, Neatahwanta; **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HF** – Highland Forest CP; **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 County Landfill; **MexPt** – Mexico Pt SP; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **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 Lake 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; **PSS** – Peter Scott Swamp, Phoenix; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson River P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **Sithe** – trails at Independence P, formerly Sithe Energy, Scriba; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skam** – 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 2 Mar, var num/loc; max 70470 DH 9 Mar; last 53 SkanL 5 Apr; small num thru.

**Ross's Goose:** DB 10 Apr (DWh); max 4 DH 18 Mar; Tully 20-21 Mar (MMn); 2 DH 16 Mar, 7 Apr.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Memphis 1 Mar (TG); Bville 4 Mar (GD).

**Brant:** arr PPT 14 May; max 3500 OnonL 18 May, good num; last OneiL 25 May.

**Cackling Goose:** small nums early Mar, few locs, none after.

**Canada Goose:** max 19336 DH 9 Mar; counts over 1000 var locs, early Mar.

**Mute Swan:** max 54 FH 9 Mar, good num thru; smaller nums east LOnt thru.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 9 SSSP 8 Mar & TR 28 Mar; small nums FH, HI; most reps thru and likely breeding.

**Tundra Swan:** max 59 Brew 1 Mar; last OswH 26 Mar.

**Wood Duck:** arr 7 Pulaski 3 Mar; max DC 9 May.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 2 Pulaski 2 Mar, early, next 15 Mar; max 7 LoopR 25 Apr; SNC & GSC thru, likely breeding.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 30 LoopR 15 Mar & 24 Apr.

**Gadwall:** max 45 LoopR 9 Apr.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** OnonL 9 Mar (SP, GD, DD); HI 15, 20, 22 Mar (mob); Ox Creek 28 Mar (BP, mob); PSS 25 Apr (DD).

**American Wigeon:** max 500 LoopR 22 Mar; last DeWitt 9 May.

**Mallard:** max 250 Port Byron 3 Mar.

**American Black Duck:** max 63 Ox Creek 19 Mar.

**Northern Pintail:** max 4000 LoopR 5 Mar; last LoopR 15 May.

**Green-winged Teal:** arr SSSP 3 Mar; max 110 LoopR 31 Mar.

**Canvasback:** max 15 OnonL 1 Mar; last 2 WP 5 Apr.

**Redhead:** max 800 OnonL 4 Mar; last 2 OnonL 28 Apr.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 1950 HI 15 Mar; last WP 27 May.

**TUFTED DUCK:** FH 2 Mar (DD, DW), FH 4 Mar; cont from winter.

**Greater Scaup:** max 550 Brew 11 Mar; last OnonL 18 May.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 200 OnonL 12 Mar; last WP 27 May.

**Surf Scoter:** small nums OnonL, PPt, WP Apr; last PPt 14 May.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 340 PPt, 16 May; last FH 29 May.

**Black Scoter:** no reps.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 450 DH 16 May; small nums LOnt to late May.

**Bufflehead:** max 93 PPt 9 May; small nums var locs thru.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 235 FH 4 Mar; last SH 29 Apr.

**BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (R5):** 2 OneiL 22 Mar (GM), ad m & 1c m.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 21 DeWitt 6 Mar.

**Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser (hybrid):** Pulaski 2, 4 Mar (MB).

**Common Merganser:** max 1240 OnonL 5 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 661 DH 24 Apr; small nums thru.

**Ruddy Duck:** arr Jamesville 18 Mar; max 17 Fult 1 May; last 2 OnonL 15 May.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** small nums var loc.

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 5 HF 2 May.

**Wild Turkey:** max 63 Orwell 3 Mar.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 10 HI 12 May.

**Horned Grebe:** max 32 OnonL 25 Apr; last 2 DH 16 May.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr 11 PPt 27 Mar; max 21 OnonL 26 Apr; last 2 PPt 15 May.

**Rock Pigeon:** flocks widespread.

**Mourning Dove:** max 41 Dolge 1 Mar; small groups widespread.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr LH 14 May; max 2 SBP 23 May.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr Syr 15 May; max 2 Pulaski 29 May.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr 2 Syr 17 May; max 9 TR 25 May; few reports & poor nums; *intro*.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr DH 2 May; Osw 16 May, unusual loc; 1-2 typ locs north shore OneiL late May.

**Chimney Swift:** arr Port Byron 21 Apr; max 30 DB 10 May.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Clay 3 May; max 5 Cicero 31 May & Williamstown 24 May.

## RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** arr PSS 4 Apr; max 6 Salisbury 20 May.

**Sora:** arr MSI 8 Apr; max 5 Salisbury 20 May.

**Common Gallinule:** arr 2 HI 16 Apr; max 13 HI 21 May.

**American Coot:** max 41 SkanL 14 Mar; last OnonL 28 May; best nums SkanL.

**Sandhill Crane:** arr 3 DH 13 Mar; max 7 DH 4 Apr & HI 12 May; singles & small groups typ locs.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr Const 25 May; max 24 Const 27 May.

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr 5 LoopR 6 May; max 105 LoopR 14 May.

**PIPING PLOVER:** arr SP 23 Apr; max 3 SP 22 May; nesting pair & migrant.

**Killdeer:** arr OnonL 3 Mar; max 25 DH 20 Mar.

**Upland Sandpiper:** Poland 3 May; DB 25 May (GM), unusual loc; only reps.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr SP 10 May (MB); max 2 FH 25, 28 May (DWh); OSP 14 May (SP).

**Red Knot:** Const 16 May (MS); only rep.  
**Sanderling:** arr FH 15 May (DWh); FH 29 May; max 2 SP 25 May (MB); only reps.  
**Dunlin:** arr SP 23 Apr (AK); max 20 FH 15 May (DWh); good num reps.  
**Least Sandpiper:** arr LoopR 29 Apr; max 150 LoopR 14 May.  
**White-rumped Sandpiper:** LoopR 18 May; Bridgeport 18, 20 May; only reps.  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr DB 23 Mar; max 8 DB 20 Apr; last DB 11 May.  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr LoopR 9 May; max 50 LoopR 30 May.  
**Short-billed Dowitcher:** 2 Pennellville 20 May; only rep.  
**American Woodcock:** arr 2 Manlius 4 Mar; max 6 TR 1 Apr & 1 May.  
**Wilson's Snipe:** arr Salisbury 14 Mar; max 35 LoopR 1 Apr, good num.  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr DB 17 Apr; max 14 SBP 18 May.  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr Bridgeport 25 Apr; max 12 Lysander 1 May.  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr 2 DB 27 Mar; max 57 LoopR 12 May.  
**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr DB 29 Mar; max 50 LoopR 6 May.  
**Wilson's Phalarope:** DB 10 May (JC); LoopR 29 May (TL); only reps.  
**Parasitic Jaeger:** PPT 16 May (BP, mob).  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr OSP 21 Mar; max 175 PPT 10 Apr; last 14 OSP 20 May.  
**Little Gull:** FH 15 Apr (RWh).  
**Ring-billed Gull:** max 2000 est, DB 11 Mar, 3 Apr & SkanL 6 Mar.  
**Herring Gull:** max 1200 est DB 4 Mar.  
**Iceland Gull:** max 9 DB 4 Mar; last DB 25 Apr.  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 11 Tully 22 Mar; 12 DB 5 Apr; max 13 Fabius 22 Mar; last DH 30 Apr.  
**Glaucous Gull:** DB 4, 6 Mar & 5, 11 Apr; SSSP 29 Apr; last SP 25 May (MB), late.  
**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 10 Const 5 Apr, low.  
**Caspian Tern:** arr OnonL 5 Apr; max 359 SP (MB).  
**Black Tern:** arr WP 1 May; max 7 OnonL 15 May, good num, unusual loc; few reps, poor nums.  
**Common Tern:** arr OnonL 11 Apr; max 37 PPT 16 May, but no late May reps from Const.  
**Forster's Tern:** 2 WP 3 May (GM, RC); only rep.

## LOONS — PARAKEET

**Red-throated Loon:** max 4 WP 13 Apr, unusual loc; last SP 16 May; low nums.  
**Common Loon:** 70 OnonL 24 Apr; max 836 PPT 22 Apr (BP).  
**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 1200 DH 19 May.  
**American Bittern:** arr OnonL 26 Mar; max 7 DC 21 May.  
**Least Bittern:** arr DC 28 Apr; max 2 DeWitt 25 May.  
**Great Blue Heron:** max 60 GSC colony 5 Apr.  
**Great Egret:** arr SNC 8 Apr; max 4 DH 15 May, DC 17 May, TR 27 May.  
**LITTLE BLUE HERON (R5):** ad CM 3-5 May (SP, ph, mob).  
**Green Heron:** arr T Onondaga 19 Apr; max 5 TR 15 May.  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** SP 1 May; Osw 3 May; CM 9 May; DH 11 May; only reps.  
**GLOSSY IBIS (R5):** 6 Pulaski 16 May (BP).  
**Black Vulture:** Jamesville intermittent late Mar thru; T Mexico 3 May (DWh); 2 OakC & 4 Syr 28 May (DD).  
**Turkey Vulture:** max 5363 DH 30 Mar.  
**Osprey:** arr OnonL, Osw 22 Mar; max 94 DH 29 Apr.  
**Golden Eagle:** arr Old Forge 7 Mar; max 5 DH 16, 26 Mar; last 15 May.  
**Northern Harrier:** max 46 DH 13 Apr.  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 448 DH 29 Apr.  
**Cooper's Hawk:** max 26 DH 26 Mar.  
**Northern Goshawk:** DH 14 Mar; 2 DH 7 Apr; only reports.  
**Bald Eagle:** max 152 DH 25 May, new single-day rec for site.  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** arr T Richland 8 Mar; max 103 DH 18 Mar.  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr 9 DH Apr 12; max 13204 DH 2 May.  
**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** dark morph DH 1 May (KBa).  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 310 DH 27 Mar.  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** max 11 DH 26 Mar; last DH 15 May, all but last 3 birds before 18 Apr.  
**Eastern Screech-Owl:** singles typ locs but few reps.  
**Great Horned Owl:** singles/nesting pairs widespread typ locs.  
**Snowy Owl:** 1-2 Syr Airport thru first wk Mar; only reps.  
**Barred Owl:** singles/nesting pairs widespread typ locs.  
**Long-eared Owl:** no reports.

**Short-eared Owl:** OnonL 26 Mar (DB); only rep.  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Moss Lake 13 Mar (GL); only rep.  
**Belted Kingfisher:** max 5 DeWitt 30 May & DB 3, 30 May; widespread reps.  
**Red-headed Woodpecker:** pairs at established locs Ont & Onei lakeshore; max 4 Scriba 14 May.  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 8 Jamesville 3 May; widespread reps.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr various locs 5 Apr; max 10 Bald Mtn 20 Apr.  
**Downy Woodpecker:** common & widespread throughout Reg.  
**Hairy Woodpecker:** common & widespread throughout Reg.  
**Northern Flicker:** max 214 DH 26 Apr.  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** max 3 var locs; widespread.  
**American Kestrel:** max 122 DH 29 Apr.  
**Merlin:** max 10 DH 30 Apr.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** max 3 DH 29 Apr; pairs nest Syr, Jamesville, Utica, Little Falls.

#### FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr CM 30 Apr; max 8 OSP & GB 19 May & OSP 23 May.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** arr DH 30 Apr, max 88 DH 11 May.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** LH 25-26 May, only rep; poor showing.  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr CM & GLSP 12 May; max 11 WH 27 May.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr Syr 16 May; max 3 FH 25 May (DWh).  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr 2 Noyes Sanc 22 May (KBa); SNC 23 May (DWh, DD) & WH (JB, RK), both locs known nesters; TR 27 May (GD); FH 27 May (RWh) & 29 May (GD); Red Crk 29 May (ST, LC); only reps.  
**Alder Flycatcher:** arr Fabius 13 May; max TR 25 May.  
**Willow Flycatcher:** arr W Monroe 11 May; max 9 OnonL 28 May.  
**Least Flycatcher:** arr CM 2 May; max 10 DH 15 May.  
**Eastern Phoebe:** arr 2 New Hartford 24 Mar; max 8 SBP 8 Apr.  
**Northern Shrike:** few reps singles; last TR 27 Mar.  
**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr SVB 28 Apr; max 7 SNC 26 May.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr DeWitt 25 Apr; max 7 Remsen 11 May.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr SBP 17 May; max 3 FH 25 May.  
**Warbling Vireo:** arr Osw 1 May; max 15 Brutus 28 May.  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr OakC 10 May; max 22 OSP 25 May.  
**Blue Jay:** max 500 DH 14 May, low num & disappointing mig flight in May.  
**American Crow:** max 3152 Pulaski 6 Mar, else disappointing mig flight in early Mar.  
**Fish Crow:** 2 DH 14, 21 May (KBa); 5 DH 29 May (BP); max 8 IH 9 May; continuing reps mostly from known locs and mostly ONON.  
**Common Raven:** many reps throughout Reg; max 10 Pulaski 27 Mar; pair nests in town garage (MMo), 3 young.  
**Horned Lark:** max 70 DH 2 Apr.  
**Purple Martin:** arr 2 Otisco L 11 Apr; max 25 Cicero 26 May.  
**Tree Swallow:** arr DH 12 Mar; max 1750 est DH 30 Apr.  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr DH 7 Apr; max 46 DH 30 Apr.  
**Bank Swallow:** arr 2 Phx 20 Apr; max 2610 est DH 30 Apr.  
**Cliff Swallow:** arr Phx 20 Apr; max 32 DH 30 Apr.  
**Barn Swallow:** arr Syr 29 Mar; max 700 OnonL 26 Apr.  
**Black-capped Chickadee:** widespread throughout Reg; no migratory movement at DH.  
**Tufted Titmouse:** widespread throughout Reg.  
**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 6 Bald Mtn 20 Apr & MH 2 May.  
**White-breasted Nuthatch:** widespread throughout Reg.  
**Brown Creeper:** max 13 SSSP 12 Apr.  
**House Wren:** arr Dolge 17 Apr; max 12 DB 7 May.  
**Winter Wren:** arr Kirkville 8 Mar; max 6 WH 3, 17 May.  
**Sedge Wren:** Fult 1 May (KM), unusual loc; only rep.  
**Marsh Wren:** arr DeWitt 2 Apr; max 12 HI 12 May.  
**Carolina Wren:** DH 5 Apr, unusual loc; max 5 Elbridge 14 May.  
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr OnonL 12 Apr; max 16 DC 17 May.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 30 SP 11 Apr.  
**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr OSP & TR 21 Mar; max 60 DC 1, 12 May; last DC 23 May.  
**Eastern Bluebird:** max 23 TR 18 Apr.

**Veery:** arr 2 DeWitt 25 Apr; max 12 SNC 26 May.  
**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr SBP 16 May; max 2 SNC 26 May; 6 other reps.  
**BICKNELL'S THRUSH:** DC 23 May (MS), 5<sup>th</sup> Reg rec, *intro*.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** arr 2 HI 12 May; max 9 SNC 26 May.  
**Hermit Thrush:** arr OakC 5 Apr; max 60 SBP 26 Apr.  
**Wood Thrush:** arr Syr 27 Apr; max 14 HI 16 May.  
**American Robin:** max 3425 DH 25 Mar.  
**Gray Catbird:** Syr 27 Mar – 26 Apr, likely wintered; arr WP 25 Apr; max 32 DC 17 May  
**Brown Thrasher:** arr TR 11 Apr; max 5 Syr 26 Apr.  
**Northern Mockingbird:** singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON.  
**European Starling:** max 2930 DH 13 Mar.  
**Cedar Waxwing:** max 320 DH 20 May.  
**House Sparrow:** flocks widespread throughout Reg.  
**American Pipit:** arr DB 23 Mar; max 60 DH 5 Apr; last Bridgeport 19 May.  
**House Finch:** small groups widespread throughout Reg.  
**Purple Finch:** max 12 HF 24 Apr; few away from HERK; very little migration at DH.  
**Common Redpoll:** Syr 31 Mar; 3 Sauquoit 3 Apr; TR 14 Apr; only reps.  
**Pine Siskin:** 12 reps 29 Apr-15 May; max 7 Pulaski 2 May; poor nums.  
**American Goldfinch:** max 183 DH 19 May.  
**Snow Bunting:** max 120 T Richland 2 Mar; last 101 Dolge 10 Mar; 6 other reps.

#### NEW WORLD – SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

**Eastern Towhee:** arr Clay & Oriskany 23 Mar; max 12 GLSP 3, 8 May.  
**American Tree Sparrow:** max 32 TR 24 Mar; DC 12 May, late; last DeWitt 14 May at feeder, late.  
**Chipping Sparrow:** wintering birds through Mar; arr var locs 5 Apr; max 26 SBP 29 Apr.  
**Clay-colored Sparrow:** SBP 1 May (KM); OakC 5 May thru (DD); SBP 16 May (DWe); FH 20 May (DWh, ph); SBP 21 May (BP); only reps.  
**Field Sparrow:** Const 16, 21 Mar; arr 6 OnonL 31 Mar; max 26 SBP 1 May, good num.  
**Vesper Sparrow:** arr W Monroe & DH 5 Apr; max 16 T Richland 10 Apr (MB), exc num.

**LARK SPARROW:** Pulaski thru 12 Apr (MB, ph), continues from winter; FH 22 May (DWh, ph), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg rec spring, 5<sup>th</sup> overall.  
**Savannah Sparrow:** arr Erieville 27 Mar; max 12 T Richland 27 Apr.  
**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr DeWitt 3 May; max 5 Rome 17 May.  
**Fox Sparrow:** arr 2 Pompey 13 Mar; max 9 TR 3 Apr; last Osw 29 Apr.  
**Song Sparrow:** max 200 Scriba 28 Mar.  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr TR 7 May; max 4 SNC 18 May.  
**Swamp Sparrow:** Syr 19 Mar; arr CM 29 Mar; max 25 PSS 26 Apr.  
**White-throated Sparrow:** max 80 DC 12 May.  
**White-crowned Sparrow:** Cross Lake thru mid-Apr; Utica 30 Mar – mid-Apr; arr DB 19 Apr; max 30 DH 15 May.  
**GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW:** W Winfield at feeders 3-10 Mar (WM, ph), 1<sup>st</sup> Reg rec & 5<sup>th</sup> for state.  
**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 150 SBP 28 Mar.  
**YELLOW-BREADED CHAT (R5):** LH 31 May (AV, mob).  
**Bobolink:** arr TR 30 Apr; max 132 DH 15 May.  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr T Richland 8 Mar; max 15 Fult 25 Apr.  
**Orchard Oriole:** arr 2 Rome 1 May; max 3 DB 17 May & GLSP 12 May.  
**Baltimore Oriole:** arr Waterville 27 Apr; max 86 DH 17 May.  
**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 21700 DH 13 Mar.  
**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 500 est Memphis 4 Mar.  
**Rusty Blackbird:** arr Dolge 10 Mar; max 827 DH 29 Apr; last Nelson 23 May.  
**Common Grackle:** max 36100 DH 13 Mar.  
**Ovenbird:** arr WH 25 Apr; max 23 GB 19 May.  
**Louisiana Waterthrush:** Cedarvale 7 Apr (DA), early; max 4 Litchfield 7, 16 May; singles/pairs typ locs.  
**Northern Waterthrush:** arr TR 25 Apr; max 11 TR 2 May.  
**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr CM 11 May; GB 13 May; Sithe 15 May; HI 16 May; 2 DH & Richland 17 May; 2 DC 18 May; SNC 18 May; TR 20 May; only reps.  
**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Osw 25 Apr; max 8 Verona 17 May.  
**"Brewster's" Warbler:** 5 reps 8-23 May.  
**"Lawrence's" Warbler:** RCFS 31 May (DBa).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Dolge 26 Apr; max 11 SBP 16 May.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** arr HI 2 May (SY); max 4 HI 24 May thru (JM, LS); Brutus 28 May (KBu); SNC 28 May (SDi), only Ont lakeshore rep; Port Byron 29 May (ST, LC); only reps.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr HI 6 May; max 15 SBP 24 May.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr SBP 15 May (KM); Sithe 16 May (BP, KM); 2 SBP 17 May (GD); OnonL 18 May (GD); FH 19 May (RWh); last FH 25 May (KBa).

**Nashville Warbler:** arr Waterville 24 Apr; max 9 SBP 16 May.

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER (R5):** FH 24 May (DD).

**Mourning Warbler:** arr 2 WH 15 May; max 6 WH 27 May.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr New Hartford 25Apr; max 33 DC 17 May.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr GLSP 3 May; 8 SNC 26 May & WH 27 May; max 10 GB 19 May.

**American Redstart:** arr var locs 2 May; max 30 SNC 22 May thru.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr SNC 30 Apr; next var locs 11 May; max 14 HI 16 May, exc num; last Williamstown 27 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** arr 2 HI 3 May; FH 15 & 24 May; 2 FH 29 May; 2 SNC 22 May thru; max 13 HI 17 May.

**Northern Parula:** arr Little Moose L Adks 2 May; max 18 Sithe 15 May.

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr Rome 1 May; max 30 FH 24 May.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr Rome 12 May; max 13 GLSP 19 May; last SNC 26 May.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr DeWitt 30 Apr; max 12 GLSP 19 May.

**Yellow Warbler:** arr Syr 27 Apr; max 52 HI 17 May.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr CM 3 May; max 14 SBP 18 May.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr Bville 15 May; max 14 FH 26 May.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr Sithe 30 Apr; max 20 RCFS 16 May.

**Palm Warbler:** arr TR 14 May; max 30 DH 15 May; last 2 FH 20 May.

**Pine Warbler:** arr Noyes Sanc 4 Apr; max 5 SSSP 29 Apr.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr OSP 21 Mar; max 2118 DH 18 May, mig flight past lookout.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R5):** DB 7 May (DD, MV, ph).

**Prairie Warbler:** arr Georgetown 7 May; max 2 GLSP 22 May.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr 2 SNC 25 Apr; max 18 GLSP 16 May.

**Canada Warbler:** arr FH 15 May; max 4 FH 24 May.

**Wilson's Warbler:** arr GLSP 10 May; max 4 DH 25 May; last LH 30 May.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr Const & Marietta 3 May; max 24 DH 17 May.

**Northern Cardinal:** max 30 RCFS 21, 31 May; widespread throughout Reg.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr 2 Canastota 25 Apr; max 16 SBP 14 May.

**Indigo Bunting:** arr Deansboro 3 May; max 6 SBP 18 May.

**PAINTED BUNTING:** fem Marcellus 14-16 May (KF, ph, mob), 4<sup>th</sup> Reg rec spring, 5<sup>th</sup> overall, *intro*.



## REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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March started cold, with the temperature on the first day of the season dipping to -9° F in Watertown, but mild conditions prevailed for most of the month, and March's mean temperature of 36.7° was 6.1° above normal. Mild conditions continued to 8 April, but a prolonged cold spell began on 9 April and temperatures were consistently below normal for the following four weeks. Consequently, mean monthly temperatures for April and May were 2.8° and 1.9° below normal,

respectively. Warm temperatures returned for the last half of May, with a seasonal high of 88° on 27 May. The 2.5" of precipitation that fell in March was just 0.2" above normal, but a nearly identical April rainfall total was 0.4" below normal, and the 1.5" that fell in May was just half of average.

Weather conditions were favorable for migration in March and early April, and most species that typically arrive during this period were early. The five species that arrived at record early dates this spring, including Virginia Rail, Osprey, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Bluebird, and Hermit Thrush, all appeared in Region 6 by 11 April. From mid-April to mid-May weather was rarely conducive to migration, and I heard many complaints about the sluggish and delayed pace of arrivals. An exception to the lagging migration was a large wave of migrants that arrived 2-3 May during what seemed like the only favorable nights for northbound migration in a weeks-long span.

Given the widespread perception by Region 6 birders that migration was late, it was surprising to find that arrival data showed that the majority of species actually arrived earlier than average. Of the 93 species that are tracked by *The Kingbird* to monitor the timing of migration, reasonable arrival dates were obtained for 91 species. Of these, 56 species arrived more than two days earlier than long-term average arrival dates, 28 species arrived within two days of normal, and just seven arrived more than two days later than average. Most of these species, especially Neotropical migrants, first arrived at dates comparable to those from the previous few years, but remained scarce for several days to a week or more before becoming widespread. It seems likely that relatively high observer effort this spring resulted in the detection of more early arrivals than is the case most years, and perhaps a relatively more accurate picture of when many species first appeared in the Region.

Waterfowl numbers were about average, with a decent flight but few rarities. There was one report each for **Ross's Goose**, **Greater White-fronted Goose**, and **Cackling Goose**, all from western Jefferson County in March. Oddly, given the especially large numbers of birders present in the Region in May, Brant went entirely unreported. Barrow's Goldeneye was the only unusual duck reported, with a male on Point Peninsula 1 March and a female at Jacques Cartier State Park 19 April.

Shorebird diversity was typically low, but an **American Avocet** found by Betty Hughes and Nick Leone at a farm pond in Clayton on 28 April stayed for a week and was seen by many shorebird-starved birders. Very high water on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River left little habitat for migrating shorebirds, but the East Pool at Wilson Hill WMA was lowered for habitat management and did attract some shorebirds, although nothing unusual. The most noteworthy sighting of the season on the exposed mudflats at Wilson Hill was a group of 74 Semipalmated Plover on 23 May, a fairly high number for Region 6 in spring.

The vole population on Fort Drum was extremely high this spring, contributing to some interesting raptor observations. At least 15-23 Rough-legged Hawks were seen daily in a relatively small area on Fort Drum throughout March



and April, and the total number present was thought to be in excess of 30. During some years when Rough-legged Hawks are present in large numbers on Fort Drum at least one or two remain into the summer, but the last sighting this spring was on 14 May. Two pairs of Short-eared Owls attempted to nest on Fort Drum, and one nest with six eggs was found on 29 April. Northern Harriers seemed unusually abundant as well. Unfortunately, I received no information to indicate whether vole abundance, and resulting raptor numbers, was similarly high elsewhere in the Region.

Easily the songbird of the spring was a **Townsend's Solitaire** that Steven Mix photographed at Robert Wehle State Park on 12 March. Unfortunately, the solitaire was only seen briefly and could not be relocated. Other notable passerine sightings included a handful of Red Crossbills and even fewer White-winged Crossbills in the Adirondacks of southeastern St. Lawrence County. Both species were likely more widespread in the northeastern Adirondacks than these few sightings indicated, but as usual few observers visited this area. Louisiana Waterthrush is typically documented, if at all, at just 1-2 locations a season in Region 6, so 12 reports from seven locations is high. Most of these locations were known or suspected nesting sites for Louisiana Waterthrush, but one found by Eileen Wheeler in Colton appears to be a previously unknown location. Orange-crowned Warbler, always scarce in spring, was also better documented than usual, with one on Fort Drum 15 May, one at Lakeview WMA 16 May, and one at Hammond 16-19 May.

As mentioned previously, birder effort seemed unusually high this spring, although still well below what is typical for more heavily populated regions of New York State. Presumably New York's third Breeding Bird Atlas, which started this year, encouraged many observers to spend more time in the field. The COVID pandemic also seemed to result in some people spending more time birding, as solo birding seemed like a relatively safe activity and a good way to stay sane. Whatever the reason, many birders from other parts of the state visited Region 6, especially Jefferson County and a few favored locations in St. Lawrence County such as Massawepie Mire, continuing a trend for increasing birding visits that has been apparent for several years.

For the season I received reports of 230 species, which is about average for the past few years. Certainly the bird of the season was the American Avocet that many were able to add to their Jefferson County lists. Another plus was the relatively large number of birders that spent time in Region 6, especially during late April and May. Given the higher than usual observer effort it was a little surprising that the season's list wasn't a little longer, but perhaps the sluggish migration when most observers were present was responsible.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**BRV** – Black River Valley; **CB** – Chaumont Barrens Pres; **CCP** – Crooked Creek Pres, T Hammond; **CCSP** – Coles Creek SP; **CU** – Clarkson University, T Potsdam; **CV** – T Cape Vincent; **ED** – El Dorado Shores Pres, T Ellisburg; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Reservation, JEFF & LEWI; **FL** – Fisher’s Landing, T Alexandria; **HH** – Henderson Harbor; **HP** – Hawkins Pt, T Massena; **JCSP** – Jacques Cartier SP; **JEFF** – Jefferson Co; **JRd** – Jericho Road, T Hounsfield; **KC** – Kelsey Creek, T Watertown; **LBSF** – Lonesome Bay State Forest, T Hammond; **LEWI** – Lewis Co; **LGI** – Little Galloo I; **LPd**—Leonard Pd Trail, T Colton; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA; **MM** – Massawepie Mire, T Colton & Piercefield, STLA; **OCP** – Otter Creek Pres, T Alexandria; **PRWMA** – Perch River WMA, JEFF; **PtPen** – Pt Peninsula, T Lyme, JEFF; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, T Massena; **RWSP** – Robert Wehle SP; **SBSP** – Southwick Beach SP; **SLR** – St. Lawrence Ri; **STLA** – St. Lawrence Co; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA.

### WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

**Snow Goose:** northward passage primarily 4-30 March; max 9700 in 1 hour FD 9 Mar.  
**Ross’s Goose:** over FD 26 Mar (JB) only report.  
**Greater White-fronted Goose:** PRWMA 7 Mar (RB) only report.  
**Brant:** no reports.  
**Cackling Goose:** 2 T Lyme 14 Mar (GL) only report.  
**Mute Swan:** max 66 FL  
**Trumpeter Swan:** reports from 12+ locations; max 16 T Redwood 12 Apr (GSe); increasing.  
**Tundra Swan:** max 4 CCSP 7-8 Mar & T Watertown 8 Mar.  
**Wood Duck:** arr ULLWMA 7 Mar.  
**Blue-winged Teal:** arr PRWMA & T Ellisburg 16 Apr.  
**Northern Shoveler:** arr T Lyme 14 Mar.  
**Gadwall:** arr T Watertown 8 Mar.  
**American Wigeon:** arr T Watertown 7 Mar; max 200 WHWMA 20 Apr.  
**Mallard:** max 277 JRd 17 Mar.  
**American Black Duck:** max 49 JRd 7 Mar.

**Northern Pintail:** arr JRd 7 Mar; max JRd 14 Mar.  
**Green-winged Teal:** arr CCSP 13 Mar; max 68 WHWMA 16 May.  
**Redhead:** only 4 reports; max 13 PtPen 8 Mar; low.  
**Ring-necked Duck:** max 925 LWMA 14 Mar.  
**Greater Scaup:** max 870 PtPen 8 Mar.  
**Lesser Scaup:** max 45 PRWMA 1 May.  
**White-winged Scoter:** max 65 HH 14 Mar.  
**Long-tailed Duck:** max 200 CV 8 Mar.  
**Bufflehead:** max 175 JCSP 19 Apr; last Otter Creek preserve 17 May.  
**Common Goldeneye:** max 381 PtPen 1 Mar; last JCSP 2 May.  
**Barrow’s Goldeneye:** m PtPen 1 Mar (GL, photos!); f JCSP 19 Apr (JB).  
**Hooded Merganser:** max 28 WHWMA 12 May; broods SUNY-ESF 22 May & Downerville SF 31 May.  
**Common Merganser:** max 53 HH 14 Mar.  
**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 86 CV 15 Mar.  
**Ruddy Duck:** PRWMA 14 Mar only report.  
**Spruce Grouse:** 2 MM 17 May only report.

**Wild Turkey:** max 70 CV 14 Mar.  
**Pied-billed Grebe:** early arr CCP 21 Mar & T Castorland 22 Mar; widespread arr 4-6 Apr; ad w 2 y FD 20 May early.  
**Horned Grebe:** arr T Watertown 5 Apr; only 2 other reports all singles.  
**Red-necked Grebe:** arr T Watertown 26 Mar; max 5 ULLWMA 14 May.  
**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr LBSF 16 May.  
**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr T Dekalb 14 May.  
**Common Nighthawk:** arr FD 22 May.  
**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr FD 3 May.  
**Chimney Swift:** arr T Watertown 1 May.  
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr T Macomb 8 May.

### RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** arr T Canton 29 Mar (EW, TW); early.  
**Sora:** arr FD 20 Apr.  
**Common Gallinule:** arr PRWMA 24 Apr.  
**American Coot:** 2 ULLWMA 25 Apr only report.  
**Sandhill Crane:** arr LWMA 14 Mar.  
**AMERICAN AVOCET (R6):** T Clayton 28 Apr-4 May (BH, NL, mob, photos!)  
**Black-bellied Plover:** arr WHWMA 21 May.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** arr PRWMA & WHWMA 16 May; max 74 WHWMA 23 May.  
**Killdeer:** widespread arr 14 Mar.  
**Upland Sandpiper:** arr FD 20 Apr.  
**Dunlin:** arr LWMA & WHWMA 16 May; 3 T Lyme 17 May only other report.  
**Least Sandpiper:** arr T Clayton 4 May.  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr WHWMA 16 May.  
**American Woodcock:** arr T Antwerp & T Louisville 10 Mar.  
**Wilson's Snipe:** arr T Canton 24 Mar.  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr T Clayton 1 May.  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr KC 3 May.  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr T Watertown & WHWMA 29 Apr.  
**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr & max 29 BRV 21 Apr.  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 100 T Hammond 9 Apr.  
**Ring-billed Gull:** large influx 6-8 Mar.  
**Herring Gull:** 1247 nests LGI 20 May.  
**Iceland Gull:** T Ellisburg 14 Mar only report.  
**Caspian Tern:** arr PRWMA & T Hammons 14 Apr.  
**Black Tern:** arr ULLWMA 3 May.  
**Common Tern:** arr LBSF 24 Apr.

### LOONS – PARAKEET

**Common Loon:** PtPen 9 Mar likely overwintered; arr CCSP 27 Mar.  
**Double-crested Cormorant:** arr HP 26 Mar.  
**American Bittern:** arr ULLWMA 27 Mar (JB) early.  
**Least Bittern:** arr PtPen 21 May.  
**Great Blue Heron:** arr date difficult to determine because of overwintering birds; increasing last week Mar.  
**Great Egret:** arr SBSP 25 Apr.  
**Green Heron:** arr T Hammond 27 Apr.  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr T Lisbon 2 Apr (JB) early.  
**Osprey:** arr ULLWMA 21 Mar (JB) early.  
**Golden Eagle:** adults T Gouverneur 6 Mar & ULLWMA 24 Mar (JB); imm T Madrid 17 Mar (LD).  
**Northern Harrier:** overwintering birds W JEFF obscure arr dates near L Ontario; arr FD 9 Mar.  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 42 reports.  
**Cooper's Hawk:** 51 reports.  
**Northern Goshawk:** FD 25 Mar only report.  
**Bald Eagle:** 200+ reports throughout R6; max 12 WHWMA 24 May; ubiquitous and still increasing.  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** arr FD 9 Mar.  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr L Bonaparte 17 Apr.  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** nest building T Watertown as early as 3 Mar.  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** max 23 FD 1 Apr where last 14 May.  
**Eastern Screech-Owl:** FD 26 May only report.  
**Snowy Owl:** last T Lyme 22 Mar.  
**Short-eared Owl:** nest w 6 eggs FD 29 Apr (JB).  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** T Canton 30 Apr only report.  
**Belted Kingfisher:** arr FD 19 Mar.  
**Red-headed Woodpecker:** arr T Ellisburg 8 May; T Hammond 24 May.  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** reports from 70+ locations far more than past years.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr T Potsdam 29 Mar.  
**Black-backed Woodpecker:** 3 reports from usual locations SE STLA.  
**Northern Flicker:** arr CU & FD 9 Mar.  
**American Kestrel:** unclear whether birds at nest boxes PtPen overwintered or new arr; arr T Gouverneur 14 Mar.

**Merlin:** 58 reports from at least 28 locations; more than past few years.

**Peregrine Falcon:** about a dozen reports from vicinity of known nesting areas; exception CU 6 Mar.

#### **FLYCATCHERS — SNOW BUNTING**

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr ULLWMA 3 May.

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr T Hammond 2 May.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr FD 15 May.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr T Adams & FD 19 May.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr T Parishville 16 May.

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr MM 17 May.

**Willow Flycatcher:** arr FD 19 May.

**Least Flycatcher:** arr T Leyden 2 May.

**Eastern Phoebe:** arr T Potsdam 27 Mar.

**Northern Shrike:** last LBSF 5 Apr.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr FD 6 May.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr Silver Hill SF 28 Apr.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr PtPen 17 May.

**Warbling Vireo:** widespread arr 3 May.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr FD 3 May.

**Canada Jay:** max 3 Bog River Falls 1 May & MM 19 May.

**Horned Lark:** max 10 T Parishville 1 Mar.

**Purple Martin:** arr CCSP 12 Apr.

**Tree Swallow:** arr PRWMA 21 Mar.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr T Watertown 11 Apr.

**Bank Swallow:** arr FD 3 May.

**Cliff Swallow:** arr RMSP 23 Apr.

**Barn Swallow:** arr CCSP 12 Apr.

**Boreal Chickadee:** T Parishville 13 May only report; seems to be getting harder to find.

**House Wren:** early arr T Canton 18 Apr; widespread arr 28 Apr.

**Winter Wren:** FD 3 Mar likely winter survivor; widespread arr 4 Apr.

**Sedge Wren:** early migrant FD 3 May not found again (ID); next report T Potsdam 28 May (BD).

**Marsh Wren:** arr ULLWMA 20 Apr; scarce before 1 May.

**Carolina Wren:** reports from 3 locations all JEFF.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr T Henderson 23 Apr.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr RRT 11 Apr; last obvious migrant FD 21 May

**Eastern Bluebird:** arr uncertain because of overwintering birds; apparently increasing by 1 Mar.

**TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE:** RWSP 12 Mar (SM, photos!) 2<sup>nd</sup> JEFF record.

**Veery:** early arr T Leyden 29 Apr; scarce before 3 May.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** LBSF 20 May only report.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr T Canton 11 May.

**Hermit Thrush:** arr T Potsdam 2 Apr.

**Wood Thrush:** arr T Leyden 29 Apr.

**Gray Catbird:** arr PRWMA 29 Apr.

**Brown Thrasher:** arr T Huevelton 11 Apr.

**Northern Mockingbird:** arr T Brownville 28 Apr.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 175 RWSP 14 Mar.

**American Pipit:** arr ULLWMA 29 Apr; only 9 reports all singles; low.

**Evening Grosbeak:** 3 Red L 21 May only report.

**Purple Finch:** widely reported thru.

**Red Crossbill:** 4 reports SE STLA; max 6 Long Pond T Colton 28 Mar (ZC & CR).

**White-winged Crossbill:** 2 reports SE STLA; max 9 Emporium Easement T Colton 4 Apr (BB).

**Pine Siskin:** 8 reports; max 8 LPd 22 Mar.

**Snow Bunting:** max 300 T Lowville 6 Mar; last T Copenhagen 3 Apr.

#### **NEW WORLD SPARROWS — CARDINALIDS**

**Eastern Towhee:** arr LWMA 4 Apr.

**American Tree Sparrow:** last T Glenfield 4 May.

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr KC 2 Apr.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr FD 5 May.

**Field Sparrow:** arr LBSF 5 Apr.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr FD 6 Apr.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr FD 6 Apr.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr FD 3 May.

**Henslow's Sparrow:** up to 4/day CB (GD, mob) thru, only report.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr ULLWMA 25 Mar; last KC 26 Apr.

**Song Sparrow:** widespread arr 14 Mar.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr T Hammond 9 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** arr ULLWMA 5 Apr.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr T Lowville 18 Apr; last T Potsdam 29 May.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** scarce outside Adirondacks and Tug Hill after early May.

**Bobolink:** arr T Gouverneur 2 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr RWSP 14 Mar.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr T Lowville 9 May.

**Baltimore Oriole:** widespread arr 3 May.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** arr FD 6 Mar.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr FD 6 Mar; max 300 LBSF 12 May.  
**Common Grackle:** arr KC 5 Mar.  
**Ovenbird:** widespread arr 2 May.  
**Louisiana Waterthrush:** 11 reports from 7 locations more than usual; all from locations with previous reports except T Colton 17 May (EW).  
**Northern Waterthrush:** arr ED 27 Apr.  
**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr ULLWMA 10 May.  
**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr FD 7 May.  
**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr ED 27 Apr.  
**Tennessee Warbler:** arr CV 10 May.  
**Orange-crowned Warbler:** FD 15 May (JB); LWMA 16 May (MBR, photos!); T Hammond 16-19 May (GSe); more than usual in spring.  
**Nashville Warbler:** arr FD 28 Apr.  
**Mourning Warbler:** arr Cedar L 19 May.  
**Common Yellowthroat:** arr T Gouverneur 2 May.  
**Hooded Warbler:** T Ellisburg 17 May only report.  
**American Redstart:** arr T Lawrence 2 May.  
**Cape May Warbler:** arr ULLWMA 1 May.  
**Cerulean Warbler:** arr FD & T Dekalb 15 May.  
**Northern Parula:** arr T Russell 5 May.

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr T Brasher 5 May; only report before 14 May.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr Otter Creek Preserve & T Watertown 17 May.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Silver Hill SF 8 May.  
**Yellow Warbler:** arr Otter Creek Preserve 1 May.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr FD 3 May.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr LWMA 16 May.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** widespread arr 3 May.  
**Palm Warbler:** arr ED 24 Apr; as usual no arr dates from Adirondack breeding sites.  
**Pine Warbler:** arr T Watertown 9 Apr.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** widespread arr 15 Apr.  
**Prairie Warbler:** arr FD 3 May.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr Crooked Creek Preserve 2 May.  
**Canada Warbler:** arr T Parishville 13 May.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** arr T Hammond 18 May; only 5 reports.  
**Scarlet Tanager:** arr T Ellisburg 11 May.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr T Macomb 24 Apr; scarce before May.  
**Indigo Bunting:** arr T Glenfield 7 May.

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## REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

**Bill Krueger**

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The above normal temperatures of January and February continued into March. The northern third of Region 7 was from 5-7° above normal for the month. This departure diminished southward to include almost all of Hamilton County and a narrow belt along the Clinton/Essex border to Lake Champlain where the temperatures were only 3-5° above normal. The High Peaks area was only 1-3° above average. Precipitation (melted equivalent) for the month generally ranged from 2-3" with areas that reached 3-4" astride the Clinton/Franklin County border and in the High Peaks area. The southern half of Hamilton County was the wettest with an average of 4-5".

The warmer than normal temperature trend turned around in April. Most of Region 7 except for Essex County was 1-3° cooler than normal. Essex County was 3-5° colder and the High Peaks region of Essex County was below average by 5-7°. Rainfall for most of the Region was 2-3" with drier (1-2") pockets in the

western portions of Franklin County and wetter (3-4") pockets in the High Peaks region.

Temperatures for Region 7 in May hovered just above or just below normal, +/-1 degree. Once again the High Peaks region was the exception with temperatures 1-3° below normal. However, the general impression was that May was exceptionally cold. It snowed in the Champlain Valley several times, and in Hamilton County it snowed three times in the second week of May alone. The last frost for the Region was actually in June. Precipitation averaged 1-2" in the north of Region 7 and 2-3" in the south including all but a small portion of the High Peaks where precipitation was 3-4" overall.

For the second year in a row Lake Champlain did not freeze over entirely. More than that, in the north end of the lake the permanent ice extended south only to Point au Roche. For the first time in the memory of some long-time residents Treadwell Bay had only intermittent ice cover. Not surprisingly ice out was early as well. By 17 March the ice edge had retreated as far north as Hubble Point, just north of Gilbert Brook Marina. Only a week later the lake was ice free to the border with Canada and its outlet into the Richelieu River. This allowed the returning waterfowl and other early migrants to disperse over larger than normal areas and diminished reports of large concentrations.

Lake Champlain began the season at a level of 96.2' and rose to 97.7' by 15 March where it stayed for a couple of weeks before rising to its maximum of 98.7' on 17 April. An unusually low level for the springtime high, this was more than a foot below flood stage of 100.0'. From there it dropped in three stages to 96.6' on 31 May. At these levels the mud flats at the Chazy Riverlands were exposed for only the last week of May. Noblewood Park also was not at optimum levels. This undoubtedly accounts for the poor showing of shorebird species and the low numbers of individual birds. Notable misses include Pectoral Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher and Dunlin.

The Crown Point Banding Station opened for its 45<sup>th</sup> consecutive year; but due to the pandemic, only after working out an acceptable operational plan, which included eliminating the educational portion of its activities and excluding all visitors. Gordon Howard reported that 641 individuals of fifteen species were banded in the two weeks of the station's operation. Both counts were lower than last year's count when 1095 individuals of nineteen species were banded.

There were two separate reports of **Greater White-fronted Goose**, a species that over the past ten years has been seen roughly once every two years. In a first for Clinton County, three **Trumpeter Swans** were found at Lake Alice in mid-March. Though not seen on every visit, observers found one or two swans for the remainder of the season. Probable breeding was recorded when a pair was noted in mid-April. Found at Point au Roche, a **Eurasian Wigeon** was only the third spring time sighting in the last ten years in Region 7. Two reports of **Tufted Duck**, one from Port Kent and the other from Crown Point over a month apart, suggest the possibility that two individuals had been present. This species, nearly a regular, has been seen in five of the last seven years on the NY side of Lake

Champlain. For only the second time in the last ten years, a **Harlequin Duck** was found in the last week of April at the Essex Ferry.

**Sandhill Crane** was reported from Gabriels in the second week April and three weeks later in early May. A **Black-headed Gull** in brilliantly fresh plumage was also seen twice, first at Willsboro Point then at Port Kent. The four **Red-Throated Loons** at Noblewood Park, an uncommon find this time of year, were a record high count. Hamilton County provided the season's only **Golden Eagle**. The highlight of the season was a **Say's Phoebe** at Crown Point. First seen in Late April, it lingered to 15 May when it was last reported by Gordon Howard and the Crown Point Bird Banding Station. Extirpated from its one-time stronghold at the Clinton County Airport/PAFB, **Grasshopper Sparrow** was a welcome find on Willsboro Point. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** found at the St. Regis Canoe Area was the first record of this species in Region 7 since 2010.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**AM** – Ausable Marsh; **AP** – Ausable Pt; **AT** – Altona; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BC** – Belmont Center; **BRd** – Bigalow Rd.; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd.; **CB** – Cole Bay; **CoH** – Coast Hill; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CR** – Chazy Riverlands; **CRM** – Chapman Rd. marsh; **DS** – Drum Street Rd.; **EAW** – Eight Acre Wood; **EF** – Essex Ferry; **Es** – Essex; **FV** – Fort View; **GRd** – Giddings Rd.; **GU** – The Gulf; **HBO** – Hoisington Brook Outlet; **HS** – Hogback Swamp; **IL** – Intervale Lowlands; **ILk** – Indian L; **JPO** – Jones Pd Outlet; **JS** – Jackson Summit; **LA** – Lake Alice; **LCTM** – Lower La Chute, Ticonderoga Marsh; **LL** – Long L; **LnP** – Lincoln Pd; **LPd** – Long Pd; **LtP** – Lost Pd; **Ma** – Madawaska; **Mal** – Malone; **MB** – Monty Bay; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MO** – Moira; **MR** – Moffitt Rd; **New** – Newcomb; **NO** – Northville; **NP** – Noblewood P; **OH** – Owls Head; **PB** – Plattsburgh; **PC** – Putts Creek; **PD** – Port Douglas; **PH** – Port Henry; **Pi** – Piseco; **PK** – Port Kent; **PR** – Pardy Rd.; **PtR** – Point au Roche; **PS** – Paul Smiths; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **Px** – Paradox; **RP** – Rouses Pt; **SB** – Sandy Beach; **SbB** – Sabattis Bog; **SC** – Sabattis Circle; **SCK** – Scotion Creek; **SL** – Saranac L; **SRCA** – St. Regis Canoe Area; **SRM** – Saranac Ri mouth; **ST** – Stevens Landing; **TFBL** – Ticondaroga Ferry & boat launch; **TI** – Ticonderoga; **UCL** – Upper Chateaugay L; **VTV** – Vermontville; **WD** – Wilcox Dock; **WI**

– Willsboro; **WM** – Wickham Marsh; **WP** – Westport; **WPt** – Willsboro Pt; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp.

#### **WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS**

**Snow Goose:** 1000 PtR 5 Mar (NO).  
**Greater White-fronted Goose:** CP 8 Mar (BMc); PR 12 Mar (SR).  
**Brant:** 70 NP 15 May (GC).  
**Cackling Goose:** CP 9 Mar (GC).  
**TRUMPETER SWAN (R7):** 3 LA 18 Mar (BF, mo); CRM 25 May (AB).  
**Wood Duck:** arr. 2 FV 5 Mar (SR).  
**Blue-winged Teal:** arr, AM 19 Apr (AB).  
**Northern Shoveler:** 2 CR 24 May (AB).  
**Gadwall:** 8 CR 11 Apr (AB).  
**EURASIAN WIGEON (R7):** PtR 21 Mar (AB).  
**American Wigeon:** 10 CR 11 Apr (AB).  
**Northern Pintail:** arr. LCTM 8 Mar (GC); 25 AP 15 Apr (JS).  
**Green-winged Teal:** arr, CP 8 Mar (GC).  
**Canvasback:** no reports.  
**Redhead:** 15 AP 12 Mar (SR).  
**Ring-necked Duck:** 57 AP 12 Mar (SR).  
**TUFTED DUCK:** PK 7 Mar (LM); CP 14 Apr (SR).  
**Greater Scaup:** 44 CP 26 Apr (SW).  
**Lesser Scaup:** 125 SRM 15 Mar (JS, SC).  
**HARLEQUIN DUCK (R7):** EF 24 Apr (DRg).  
**White-winged Scoter:** 19 NP 15 May (GC).  
**Long-tailed Duck:** arr, 7 WPt 14 Apr (DRg).  
**Bufflehead:** 24 MB 2 May (AB).  
**Common Goldeneye:** 600 WM 1 Mar (AA).  
**Barrow's Goldeneye:** 5 GRd 3 Mar (MF).  
**Hooded Merganser:** 6 WP 28 Mar (JS).  
**Common Merganser:** 785 CP 25 Mar (SR).  
**Red-breasted Merganser:** 8 CB 25 Apr (SR).  
**Ruddy Duck:** no reports.  
**Ring-necked Pheasant:** WP 16 Mar (SR).  
**Ruffed Grouse:** PD 7 May (OS), Co-NE.  
**Wild Turkey:** 16 New 21 Mar (ME).  
**Pied-billed Grebe:** CP 19 Mar (SR).  
**Horned Grebe:** 21 AM 19 Apr (AB).  
**Red-necked Grebe:** 2 HBO 28 Mar (SR); 5 PK 9 Apr (SR).  
**Black-billed Cuckoo:** WI 21 May (SR).  
**Common Nighthawk:** arr, ILk 20 May (B&LH).  
**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr, 3 BRR 6 May (G&MC).  
**Chimney Swift:** arr, AM 27 Apr (MD).  
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr, Px 2 May (EG).

#### **RAILS – TROPICBIRDS**

**Virginia Rail:** arr, WM 15 Apr (SR).  
**Sora:** arr, Sck 2 May (AB).  
**Common Gallinule:** arr, 25 PC Apr (SR).  
**American Coot:** no reports.  
**SANDHILL CRANE (R7):** 2 GA 11 Apr (EG); GA 1 May (MD).  
**Black-bellied Plover:** arr, 9 CR 24 May (AB).  
**Semipalmated Plover:** arr, WI 22 May (RB).  
**Killdeer:** arr, 6 Pi 20 Mar (CK).  
**Least Sandpiper:** arr, PH 3 May (SR).  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 6 Mal 19 May (AP).  
**American Woodcock:** arr. TI 8 Mar (GC).  
**Wilson's Snipe:** arr, AP 4 Apr (BMc).  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr, PH 30 Apr (SR).  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr, PS 6 May (BMc).  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr, 3 SL 8 May (BW).  
**Greater Yellowlegs:** MR 11 Apr (AB).  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** WP 15 Apr (DRg); 85 WP 4 May (SR).  
**BLACK-HEADED GULL (R7):** WPt 28 Mar (DRg); PH 11 Apr (SR, BMC).  
**Glaucous Gull:** WD 12 Mar (SR).  
**Great Black-backed Gull:** 4 WM 1 Mar (AA).  
**Caspian Tern:** arr, 5 NP 28 Mar (GC); 61 PH 22 Apr (SR).  
**Black Tern:** arr, 6 CRM 25 May (AB).  
**Common Tern:** WP 1 May (SR).

#### **LOONS – PARAKEET**

**Red-throated Loon:** 4 NP 15 May (GC).  
**Common Loon:** 2 HBO 28 Mar (SR).  
**Double-crested Cormorant:** 800 CP 8 MAY (BMc).  
**American Bittern:** arr, WI 20 Apr (SR).  
**Least Bittern:** arr, WM 10 May (GC).  
**Great Blue Heron:** arr. JPO 4 Mar (BMc).  
**Great Egret:** arr, 2 LCTM 6 Apr (GC).  
**Green Heron:** arr, LCTM 6 May (SR).  
**Black Vulture:** 4 LCTM 8 Mar (GC).  
**Turkey Vulture:** arr, 4 LCTM 8 Mar (GC); 82 PR 4 Apr (AB).  
**Osprey:** arr, 4 CP 27 Mar (SR).  
**GOLDEN EAGLE (R7):** EAW 22 Mar (GL).  
**Northern Harrier:** 2 LA 9 Apr (SR).  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 3 PR 4 Apr (AB).  
**Cooper's Hawk:** 2 BB 6 May (BMc).  
**Northern Goshawk:** 2 TI 21 Mar (LM); EAW 10 Apr (GL).



**Bald Eagle:** 5 EAW 22 Mar (GL); 3 OH 2 May (JT), Co-NY.  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** PR 4 Apr (AB).  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr, CoH 12 Apr (AB).  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** MM 3 May (SR), Co-ON.  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** WP 22 Apr (SR).  
**Eastern Screech Owl:** no reports.  
**Great Horned Owl:** 2 Iv 14 Mar (SR).  
**Barred Owl:** 3 BRR 8 Apr (GCh); 2 Pi 29 May (CK), Co-FL.  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** 2 Px 5 Mar (EG).  
**Belted Kingfisher:** 2 IL 16 May (TD).  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 3 LCTM 8 Mar (GC).  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr, TFBL 28 Mar (MMr).  
**Black-backed Woodpecker:** 2 PS 12 May (EG).  
**Northern Flicker:** 5 AM 17 May (GC).  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** 3 LA 14 May (CV).  
**American Kestrel:** 4 LA 14 May (JO).  
**Merlin:** 2 PB 9 May (PR).  
**Peregrine Falcon:** SRM 3 April (SMc).

#### FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr, 2 CP 6 May (SR).  
**Eastern Kingbird:** arr, BC 3 May (WR).  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr, HS 17 May (SR).  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr, LCTM 16 May (MMr).  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr, 3 JS 16 May (MF).  
**Alder Flycatcher:** arr, ST 20 May (NG).  
**Willow Flycatcher:** arr, TI 17 Mar (MMr).  
**Least Flycatcher:** arr, LRTM 2 May (MMr).  
**Eastern Phoebe:** arr, UCL 26 Mar (AB).  
**SAY'S PHOEBE:** CP 24 Apr-8 May (GC, mo).  
**Northern Shrike:** DS 26 Mar (AB).  
**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr, LCTM 6 May (SR).  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr, Es 18 Apr (GCh).  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** no reports.  
**Warbling Vireo:** arr, PH 3 May (SR).  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr, SRCA 3 May (SMc).  
**Canada Jay:** 2 BB 27 Mar (ZC).  
**Blue Jay:** 475 WPt 15 May (DRg).  
**Common Raven:** 12 EAW 3 Mar (GL).  
**Horned Lark:** Es 26 Apr (J&PT).  
**Purple Martin:** no reports.  
**Tree Swallow:** CP 27 Mar (SR).  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr, LA 2 May (AB).  
**Bank Swallow:** arr, WPt 14 May (DRg).

**Cliff Swallow:** arr, AP 4 May (DR).  
**Barn Swallow:** arr, PPT 16 Apr (SR).  
**Boreal Chickadee:** 8 VTV 1 Mar (MJ).  
**Tufted Titmouse:** PH 2 May (ZC), Co-CN.  
**Brown Creeper:** 4 GU 4 Apr (BB).  
**House Wren:** TI 26 Apr (MMr).  
**Winter Wren:** 2 LCTM 8 Mar (GC).  
**Marsh Wren:** arr, SC 2 May (AB).  
**Carolina Wren:** TFBL 28 Mar (MMr).  
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr, LRTM 2 May (MMr); CP 6 May (SR), Co-CN.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 4 PS 20 Mar (BMc).  
**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr, TFBL 28 Mar (MMr).  
**Eastern Bluebird:** 6 WP 12 Mar (AB).  
**Veery:** arr, LA 2 May (AB).  
**Bicknell's Thrush:** arr, ILk 22 May (MMo).  
**Swainson's Thrush:** 2 Ma 5 May (AB).  
**Hermit Thrush:** arr, 2 LCTM 8 Mar (GC).  
**Wood Thrush:** arr, TI 30 Apr (MMr).  
**Gray Catbird:** arr, BB 3 May (JS).  
**Brown Thrasher:** arr, AT 11 Apr (JO).  
**Northern Mockingbird:** 2 PB 8 Mar (NO, MS).  
**Cedar Waxwing:** 12 NP 19 Apr (AB).  
**American Pipit:** arr, CP 7 Mar (SR).  
**Evening Grosbeak:** 3 Es 30 Mar (BM).  
**Purple Finch:** 15 SB 8 Mar (PS).  
**Common Redpoll:** 4 AT 26 Mar (LC).  
**Red Crossbill:** BRR 21 Mar (GCh).  
**White-winged Crossbill:** BRD 18 Mar (BMc).  
**Pine Siskin:** 16 VTV 1 Mar (NK).  
**Snow Bunting:** 15 WP 1 Mar (J&PT).

#### NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

**Eastern Towhee:** arr, TFBL 4 Apr (MMr).  
**American Tree Sparrow:** 4 AP 12 Mar (MMr).  
**Chipping Sparrow:** arr, TFBL 14 Mar (GC).  
**Field Sparrow:** arr, 2 LA 31 Mar (JOh).  
**Vesper Sparrow:** arr, LL 5 Apr (GD).  
**Savannah Sparrow:** arr, SB 12 Apr (SR).  
**GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (R7):** WP 28 Apr (DRg).  
**Fox Sparrow:** TFBL 18 Mar (MMr).  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr, PS 3 May (BMc).  
**Swamp Sparrow:** arr, WI 10 Apr (MC).  
**White-throated Sparrow:** 12 BB 7 May (BMc).  
**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr, MO 27 Apr (BD).  
**Bobolink:** arr, 4 CP 6 May (GC).  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr, WP 22 Mar (BMc).

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr, 3 LCTM 6 May (SR).  
**Brown-headed Cowbird:** 25 HBO 12 Apr (AB).  
**Rusty Blackbird:** RP 9 Mar (SRo).  
**Ovenbird:** arr, CL 3 May (JH).  
**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr, CP 16 Apr (SR).  
**Northern Waterthrush:** arr, LnP 29 Apr (SR).  
**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr, WRS 19 May (RB).  
**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr, 2 WRS 18 May (SR).  
**“Brewster’s” Warbler:** WRS 28 May (RB, BMc).  
**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr, LA 2 May (AB).  
**Tennessee Warbler:** arr, TI 13 May (MMr).  
**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr, SRCA 14 May (SMc).  
**Nashville Warbler:** arr, 2 BB 3 May (JS).  
**Mourning Warbler:** arr, BC 22 May (N&WR).  
**Common Yellowthroat:** arr, TI 23 Apr (MMr).  
**American Redstart:** arr, WP 2 May (DRg).  
**Cape May Warbler:** arr, 2 PC 11 May (SR).  
**Northern Parula:** arr, 4 Px 3 May (EG).

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr, NO 13 May (AVK).  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr, WPt 15 May (DRg).  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr, Es 30 Apr (DL).  
**Yellow Warbler:** arr, TI 30 Apr (MMr).  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr, BRR 10 May (G&MC).  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr, CH 15 May (SJ).  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr, ES 3 May (G&MC).  
**Palm Warbler:** arr, LL 14 Apr (MC).  
**Pine Warbler:** arr, Es 7 Apr (GC), only report.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr, PtR 14 Mar (JM).  
**Prairie Warbler:** WP 17 May (GC).  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr, New 2 May (JM).  
**Canada Warbler:** arr, LtP 16 May (DB).  
**Wilson’s Warbler:** arr, WI 21 May (DRg); LP 26 May (G&MC).  
**Scarlet Tanager:** arr, LA 2 May (AB).  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr, LRTM 2 May (MMr).  
**Indigo Bunting:** arr, PH 14 May (SR).



## REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Temp	Albany			Glens Falls		
	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Mar	42.3°	47.8°	+7.3°	36.7°	31.3°	+5.4°
Apr	46.6°	47.8°	-1.2°	42.6°	44.6°	-2.0°
May	59.8°	58.3°	+1.5°	55.7°	55.3°	+0.4°

Precip	Albany			Glens Falls		
	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Mar	2.93"	3.21"	-0.28"	2.80"	2.94"	-0.14"
Apr	3.12"	3.17"	-0.05"	3.47"	3.00"	+0.47"
May	1.52"	3.61"	-2.09"	2.90"	3.61"	-0.71"

The weather in March 2020 featured well above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation totals. At Albany only five days were colder than average. The month began with no measurable snow cover, and the only significant storm

resulted in 6.1" of snow on 23 March. It melted within three days. The first week of April continued the very warm conditions, but then an abrupt change in the pattern led to below normal temperatures for the remainder of the month. May opened with several warm days to welcome the start of peak migration, then the cold returned for an extended stay. Every day from 4-14 May was colder than normal. 9 May featured a HIGH temperature of only 45°. Undoubtedly many northbound birds took alternate routes to breeding areas. Normal conditions returned mid-month and even turned very warm to close out May, but for birders anticipating the season it was a bitter disappointment.

Five reports of Greater White-fronted Goose were received during March, from Saratoga, Rensselaer, Washington, and Montgomery Counties. Brant made their quick annual northbound movement, for the most part between 14-20 May. **Trumpeter Swan** was reported in two locations this spring. The first sighting was at Ballston Lake, Saratoga County, two birds photographed by Jeff Nadler on 12 March. A second report, relayed via NYS DEC personnel and followed up by many local observers, indicated a possible breeding pair at Tubbs Pond in the Partridge Run WMA, Albany County. Hopefully more information will be available by summer to indicate an outcome.

Remarkably, a pair of **Tundra Swans** was also seen and photographed by multiple observers on 12 March at Wrights Loop in Saratoga County. That species is a bit more common, if not annual, in the area. Canvasback and Redhead were once again difficult to find during March waterfowl movement. These two species appear to eschew the Upper Hudson Valley as a stopover location, either overwintering close to the Great Lakes or moving directly between coastal areas and inland destinations west of Region 8. A Barrow's Goldeneye was a one-day wonder on 11 April at the Tomhannock Reservoir in Rensselaer County.

Sora reports were notably higher than normal in Spring 2020, and from more locations as well. Common Gallinule was detected in its usual haunts, but a new location was well explored and described this year. Erich Lehner made many repeat visits to Knox Wetland in Albany County during April and May, finding Common Gallinule and Virginia Rail, along with both Least and American Bitterns. Encouraged by these reports, many other birders visited and contributed sightings to document the diversity of species in this high-quality marsh habitat.

Columbia County had the only Regional reports of Sandhill Crane, one in March, another in May.

Shorebird season, such as it is in this mudflat-challenged area, seemed to be typical for numbers and composition. Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, and Short-billed Dowitcher were all welcomed as highlights. Upland Sandpiper continues to hang on in the Region, but with only one well-known annual breeding site, in Montgomery County. Surely there must be others in our rural, agricultural towns, but for a bird that is not shy about making its presence known, reports are nevertheless lacking. Perhaps the third New York State Breeding Atlas will provide better coverage to tease out some fresh sightings.

Black Tern was seen at Saratoga Lake on 16 May, and Common Tern was observed there on that and subsequent days, as well as at Tomhannock Reservoir on 18 May. A **Forster's Tern** appeared at Coeymans Landing, Albany County on 18 May, and was seen by multiple observers throughout the day. This represented perhaps only the fifth sighting in Region 8 in the last thirty-five years.

A **Snowy Egret** made a surprise appearance at the Indian Pond, University at Albany, on 1 May, and was still present the following day. For such a small water body, in an urban setting, a substantial number of good birds have been observed at that location. Speaking of small ponds within the City of Albany, two separate Black-crowned Night-Herons were sighted at Buckingham Pond, the first on 5 April, and the second on 8 May.

An adult **Red-headed Woodpecker** was reported to eBird by a homeowner in Greenfield, Saratoga County on 4-5 May. In addition, Alan Mapes of Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club reported one at his feeders in Saratoga County on the same two dates. Same bird, or a duplicate report? **Acadian Flycatcher** was observed at Rensselaerville State Forest in Albany County once again, as well as in Columbia County, in the Town of Livingston and at Drowned Lands Swamp Conservation Area. All three sightings were from 14 May onwards. Bicknell's Thrush was reported in reasonable numbers from the higher peaks of the Catskill Mountains in Greene County, but one was very well documented in a valley location. Tristan Lowery found what he suspected might be a Bicknell's Thrush at Normanskill Farm on 17 May and was able to observe and record vocalizations of what was presumably the same bird on the following morning. More details are available from the following eBird checklist: <https://ebird.org/atlasny/checklist/S69263347>

Buckingham Pond, the aforementioned location of two Black-crowned Night-Herons this Spring, was also the overwintering spot for a **Harris's Sparrow**, found by Brian Hardiman on 22 March. He continued to observe the bird through early May, by which time it had molted into its bold alternate plumage. This represents the third Harris's Sparrow sighting in the immediate Capital District in the past five years.

Gary Chapin discovered a **Yellow-breasted Chat** on 29 May on New York State Land along Hutton Square Road near the Town of Putnam, Washington County. This area is also notable as one of the last strongholds for Golden-winged Warbler in Region 8. This observer feels that much of northern Washington County has vibrant and varied habitat and is likely under-birded due to its distance from more heavily populated areas, should one be looking for the road less traveled.

A **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was seen for at least a week in the Fort Edward area of Washington County. Found by Thom McLenahan on 20 March, it was photographed by multiple observers in subsequent days.

Arguably the bird-of-the-season, however, was the **Prothonotary Warbler** first heard by Lindsey Duval on 23 May in the linear wetland that abuts the new Surrender March Trail near Schuylerville in Saratoga County. One of the most astute ear-birders in Region 8, she nevertheless wanted visual confirmation of

such a Regional rarity, which she obtained on 30 May. A terrific find in textbook habitat for the species. Mike Birmingham found a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in a mixed flock while he was running an errand in Valatie, Columbia County on 17 May.

A **Summer Tanager** was observed and photographed at a feeding station by a homeowner in Stockport, Columbia County on 6-7 May. This is the second consecutive year the species has been seen in Region 8.

241 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** – Coxsackie 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 300 Fultonville MONT 11 Mar.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Schaghticoke RENS 2 Mar; Cambridge WASH 12 Mar; Northumberland SARA 21 Mar.

**Brant:** max 4000 Germantown COLU 17 May.

**Canada Goose:** max 4000 Stillwater SARA 2 Mar.

**Mute Swan:** max 9 Nassau L RENS 1 Apr.

**TRUMPETER SWAN (R8):** 2 Ballston L SARA 12 Mar (JN); Tubbs Pd ALBA 13-19 May, *intro*.

**Tundra Swan:** 2 Wrights Loop SARA 12 Mar.

**Wood Duck:** max 40 Vosburgh Swamp WMA GREE 13 Mar.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 6 VFNHP 17 Apr.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 13 Stillwater Riverfront Pk SARA 19 Apr.

**Gadwall:** max 16 Stanton Pd ALBA 13 Mar.

**American Wigeon:** max 32 VFNHP 26 Mar.

**Mallard:** max 900 Wrights Loop SARA 19 Mar.  
**American Black Duck:** max 200 Wrights Loop SARA 19 Mar.  
**Northern Pintail:** max 40 Wrights Loop SARA 27 Mar.  
**Green-winged Teal:** max 200 Wrights Loop SARA 28 Mar.  
**Canvasback:** Ft. Miller WASH 4 Mar.  
**Redhead:** max 3 Schaghticoke RENS 7 Mar.  
**Ring-necked Duck:** max 333 Putnam WASH 8 Apr.  
**Greater Scaup:** max 30 VFNHP 11 Mar; Saratoga L SARA 27 Mar.  
**Lesser Scaup:** max 120 Saratoga L SARA 27 Mar.  
**Surf Scoter:** TR 15 May.  
**White-winged Scoter:** max 300 Saratoga L SARA 18 May.  
**Long-tailed Duck:** max 11 AR 31 Mar.  
**Bufflehead:** max 102 BCR 23 Apr.  
**Common Goldeneye:** max 100 Schaghticoke RENS 4 Mar.  
**Barrow's Goldeneye:** TR 11 Apr.  
**Hooded Merganser:** max 30 VFNHP 6 Mar.  
**Common Merganser:** max 1000 Round L SARA 17 Mar.  
**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 7 Saratoga L SARA 16 May.  
**Ruddy Duck:** max 70 BCR 12 Apr.  
**Ruffed Grouse:** max 4 BCR 12 Apr; 4 Putnam WASH 14 Apr; Bolton Landing WARR 5 May.  
**Wild Turkey:** max 70 Livingston COLU 20 Mar.  
**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 5 Stillwater Riverfront Pk SARA 19 Apr.  
**Horned Grebe:** max 9 AR 8 Apr.  
**Red-necked Grebe:** max 24 Hague WARR 9 Apr.  
**Rock Pigeon:** max 78 Schodack RENS 2 Apr.  
**Mourning Dove:** max 36 Altamont ALBA 1 Mar.  
**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** max 2 Hillsdale COLU 25 May; Henry Hudson Pk ALBA 31 May.  
**Black-billed Cuckoo:** max 2 Putnam WASH 17 May; Schodack I SP 21 RENS May; Knox Wetland ALBA 28 May.  
**Common Nighthawk:** max 33 Stuyvesant COLU 20 May, high count.  
**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** max 4 Luther Forest SARA 3 May.  
**Chimney Swift:** max 200 Peebles I SP SARA 13 May.  
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 4 Hillsdale COLU 15 May.

## RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** arr Ancram COLU 9 Mar; max 18 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 6 May.  
**Sora:** arr Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 14 Apr; max 6 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 7 May.  
**Common Gallinule:** arr Knox Wetland ALBA, BCM, Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU, CRM 20 Apr; max 4 Clemons Marsh WASH 17 May.  
**American Coot:** arr Lions Pk, Niskayuna SCHE 5 Mar.  
**Sandhill Crane:** 2 Ancram COLU 26 Mar; L Taghkanic SP COLU 13 May.  
**Black-bellied Plover:** Schaghticoke RENS 16 May; Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 31 May.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** max 23 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 18 May.  
**Killdeer:** arr Cobleskill SCHO 1 Mar; max 17 The Crossings ALBA 16 Mar.  
**Upland Sandpiper:** arr W. Ames Rd., Canajoharie MONT 8 May; max 4 W. Ames Rd., Canajoharie MONT 23 May.  
**Ruddy Turnstone:** Shaker Creek Outlet ALBA 22 May; Gull I, Hague WARR 28 May.  
**Least Sandpiper:** max 27 Watervliet Res ALBA 11 May.  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 3 Schaghticoke RENS 17 May.  
**American Woodcock:** arr Guilderland ALBA 3 Mar; max 10 FR 5 Mar.  
**Wilson's Snipe:** arr Easton WASH 5 Mar; max 22 Wrights Loop SARA 9 Apr.  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr 3 Normanskill Farm ALBA 19 Apr; max 16 Schaghticoke RENS 28 May.  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 8 Schaghticoke RENS 17 May.  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 6 Athens GREE 7 May; Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 17 May.  
**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 4 Vosburgh Swamp WMA GREE 7 May; Fonda MONT 9 May.  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 57 Saratoga L SARA 15 May.  
**Ring-billed Gull:** max 300 Colonie ALBA 7 Mar.  
**Herring Gull:** max 315 Fultonville MONT 7 Mar.  
**Iceland Gull:** last Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 10 Mar.  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** last Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 6 Mar.  
**Glaucous Gull:** last Ft Miller WASH 22 Mar.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 40 Ft Miller WASH 12 Mar.  
**Caspian Tern:** max 11 Saratoga Springs Waterfront Pk SARA 28 Apr.  
**Black Tern:** 2 Saratoga L SARA 16 May.  
**Common Tern:** max 15 Saratoga L SARA 16 May.  
**FORSTER'S TERN (R8):** Coeymans Landing ALBA 18 May (ZS-W & TW), *intro*.

#### LOONS — PARAKEET

**Red-throated Loon:** max 4 TR 21 Apr.  
**Common Loon:** arr Hague WARR 10 Mar; max 37 AR 17 May.  
**Double-crested Cormorant:** arr Schodack I SP RENS 20 Mar; max 123 Troy RENS 16 Apr.  
**Great Cormorant:** arr Germantown COLU 9 Mar; max 3 Germantown COLU 26 Mar.  
**American Bittern:** arr Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 26 Mar; max 6 BCM 20 Apr.  
**Least Bittern:** arr BCM 25 Apr; max 3 BCM 28 Apr.  
**Great Blue Heron:** max 34 TR 19 Apr.  
**Great Egret:** arr Papscaene I SP RENS 1 Apr.  
**Snowy Egret:** Indian Pond, UAlbany ALBA 1-2 May.  
**Green Heron:** arr FR; Athens GREE 20 Apr; max 5 FR 14 May.  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** Buckingham Pd ALBA 5 Apr. & 8-11 May; Stillwater Riverfront Pk SARA 19 Apr; Kingsbury WASH 23 Apr; RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 28 Apr; Lions Pk, Niskayuna SCHE 1 May; Ft Ann WASH 2 May.  
**Black Vulture:** max 19 Guilderland ALBA 7 Mar.  
**Turkey Vulture:** max 149 Guilderland ALBA 7 Mar.  
**Osprey:** arr Brunswick RENS 28 Mar.  
**Golden Eagle:** 2 Livingston COLU 10 Mar, only report.  
**Northern Harrier:** max 4 FtEG 4 May.  
**Bald Eagle:** max 13 Schodack I SP RENS 25 Apr.  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** arr Catskill GREE; Clermont SP COLU 3 Mar.  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr Stuyvesant COLU 1 Apr.  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** last Palatine MONT 14 Mar.  
**Eastern Screech-Owl:** max 3 Coxsackie GREE 28 May.

**Great Horned Owl:** max 4 Livingston COLU 29 Mar.  
**Barred Owl:** max 5 Hunter GREE 5 Apr; Rensselaerville SF ALBA 25 May.  
**Short-eared Owl:** last FtEG 8 Mar.  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Hunter GREE 5 Apr.  
**Belted Kingfisher:** max 4 BCM 26 Mar; TR 14 Apr; Ghent COLU 17 Apr; Schodack I SP RENS 25 Apr.  
**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Greenfield SARA 4-5 May.  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 9 Henry Hudson P ALBA 25 Apr.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 8 Hillsdale COLU 8 Apr.  
**Northern Flicker:** max 9 Normanskill Farm ALBA 29 Apr.  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** max 4 multiple loc.  
**American Kestrel:** max 7 FtEG 28 Mar.  
**Merlin:** max 2, pairs in multiple loc.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** max 4 Collar City Bldg, Troy RENS 15 May.

#### FLYCATCHERS — SNOW BUNTING

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr Livingston COLU 1 May.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** arr VFNHP 29 Apr.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr New Baltimore GREE 23 May.  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr Thompson's L ALBA 3 May.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr Livingston COLU 19 May.  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** Livingston COLU 14 May; Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 25 May; Rensselaerville SF ALBA 27 May.  
**Alder Flycatcher:** arr CRM 15 May; max 8 Strawberry Fields NP MONT 31 May.  
**Willow Flycatcher:** arr SNHP 12 May; max 10 BCM 24 May; Crowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 25 May.  
**Least Flycatcher:** arr Buckingham Pd ALBA, Middleburgh SCHO 2 May.  
**Eastern Phoebe:** arr Guilderland ALBA, Ft Miller WASH 11 Mar; max 11 FR 1 May.  
**Northern Shrike:** BCM 8 Mar; OCA 17 Mar.  
**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr Ancram COLU 1 May.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr multiple loc 19 Apr.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** Olana SHS COLU 8 May; L Taghkanic SP COLU 10 May; Livingston COLU 21 May.

**Warbling Vireo:** arr VFNHP 25 Apr; max 32 VFNHP 22 May.  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr Ancram COLU 1 May; max 33 Edinburg SARA 27 May.  
**Blue Jay:** max 26 New Lebanon COLU 2 May.  
**American Crow:** max 250 Fultonville MONT 1 Mar; FtEG 8 Mar.  
**Fish Crow:** max 36 Schaghticoke RENS 3 Mar.  
**Common Raven:** max 9 Grafton RENS 2 May.  
**Horned Lark:** max 17 Fultonville MONT 11 Mar.  
**Purple Martin:** arr Saratoga Springs Waterfront Pk SARA 22 Apr.  
**Tree Swallow:** arr Loughberry L SARA 7 Mar.  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr FR 1 Apr.  
**Bank Swallow:** arr TR 18 Apr; max 100 Kinderhook COLU 23 May.  
**Cliff Swallow:** arr BCM 24 Apr; max 28 BCR 9 May.  
**Barn Swallow:** arr Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 10 Apr; max 50 Ghent COLU 26 Apr.  
**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 8 multiple loc.  
**Brown Creeper:** max 7 Cherry Plain SP RENS 12 Apr.  
**House Wren:** arr Stillwater SARA 17 Apr.  
**Winter Wren:** max 7 Johnsburg WARR 25 May.  
**Marsh Wren:** arr BCM 9 Mar; max 36 BCM 18 May.  
**Carolina Wren:** max 7 Normanskill Farm ALBA 15 May.  
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr multiple loc 14 Apr; max 11 RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 3 May.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 16 Bethlehem ALBA 8 Apr.  
**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Ghent COLU 27 Mar.  
**Veery:** arr Copake COLU 14 Apr; max 40 Schodack I SP RENS 20 May.  
**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Gull Bay Pres WASH 17 May.  
**Bicknell's Thrush:** Normanskill Farm ALBA 18 May; Plateau Mt GREE 31 May.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** arr Schaghticoke RENS 11 May.  
**Hermit Thrush:** arr FR 7 Mar; max 8 Hillsdale COLU 25 Apr.  
**Wood Thrush:** arr Livingston COLU 30 Apr; max 35 Schodack I SP RENS 20 May.

**Gray Catbird:** arr Schaghticoke RENS 21 Apr; max 49 Schodack I SP RENS 15 May.  
**Brown Thrasher:** arr Woodlawn Pres SCHE 5 Apr; max 4 multiple loc.  
**Northern Mockingbird:** max 10 The Crossings ALBA 5 Apr.  
**Cedar Waxwing:** max 53 Middleburgh SCHO 12 Apr.  
**American Pipit:** max 8 Whitehall WASH 12 May.  
**Evening Grosbeak:** Bolton Landing WARR 23 & 27 May.  
**Purple Finch:** max 12 Summit SCHO 18 Apr.  
**Red Crossbill:** Hague WARR 23 May, only report.  
**Snow Bunting:** last 50 Stone Arabia MONT 1 Mar.

#### NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

**Eastern Towhee:** arr FR 6 Apr; max 18 Claverack COLU 17 May.  
**American Tree Sparrow:** last APBP 23 Apr.  
**Chipping Sparrow:** arr Pine Plains COLU 31 Mar.  
**Clay-colored Sparrow:** Ft. Plain MONT 31 May.  
**Field Sparrow:** arr Livingston COLU 17 Mar; max 25 Claverack COLU 29 Apr.  
**Vesper Sparrow:** arr W. Coxsackie GREE 6 Apr; max 3 Saratoga County Airport SARA 3 May.  
**Savannah Sparrow:** arr Schaghticoke RENS 6 Apr; max 21 Mohawk MONT 7 May.  
**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr OCA 15 May; max 3 OCA 28 May.  
**Fox Sparrow:** arr Loughberry L SARA 9 Mar; max 6 Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 25 Mar.  
**Song Sparrow:** max 65 Normanskill Farm ALBA 1 Apr.  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr FR 4 May.  
**Swamp Sparrow:** max 50 BCM 28 Apr.  
**White-throated Sparrow:** max 63 Normanskill Farm ALBA 11 May.  
**HARRIS'S SPARROW:** Buckingham Pd ALBA 22 Mar- 9 May (BH), *intro*.  
**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr Glenmont ALBA 28 Mar; max 8 Whitehall WASH 12 May.  
**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 60 FR 16 Mar.  
**YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (R8):** Hutton Sq Rd, Putnam WASH 29 May (GC), *intro*.  
**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (R8):** FtEG 20-22 Mar (TMcL), *intro*.



**Bobolink:** arr FtEG 28 Apr; max 50 OCA 30 May.  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr FtEG 8 Mar; max 12 Gansevoort SARA 26 Apr.  
**Orchard Oriole:** arr Normanskill Farm ALBA 3 May; max 7 APBP 28 May.  
**Baltimore Oriole:** arr Yankee Hill Lock MONT 28 Apr; max 20 Grafton Lakes SP RENS 16 May.  
**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 5000 Stillwater SARA 9 Mar.  
**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 4000 Stillwater SARA 9 Mar.  
**Rusty Blackbird:** arr Schaghticoke RENS 3 Mar; max 50 BMB 6 Apr.  
**Common Grackle:** max 9000 Schodack RENS 1 Mar.  
**Ovenbird:** arr Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 29 Apr; max 39 Schodack I SP RENS 15 May.  
**Worm-eating Warbler:** arr Taconic SP COLU, Ancram COLU 3 May; max 3 Deer Mt Nature Trail ALBA 16 May.  
**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr FR, Palenville GREE 5 Apr; max 4 multiple loc.  
**Northern Waterthrush:** arr multiple loc 29 Apr; max 6 Berlin RENS 22 May.  
**Golden-winged Warbler:** Normanskill Farm ALBA 3 May; Hollyhock Hollow Sanc ALBA 17 May; Hutton Sq Rd, Putnam WASH 17 May.  
**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Ghent COLU 2 May; max 7 FR 20 May.  
**“Brewster’s” Warbler:** FR 10 May & 21 May; Whitehall WASH 24 May; Garnsey Pk SARA 26 May; Putnam WASH 30 May.  
**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Elka Pk GREE 25 Apr; max 15 Schodack I SP RENS 22 May.  
**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (R8):** Surrender March Trail SARA 30 May (LD), *intro*.  
**Tennessee Warbler:** arr FR 11 May.  
**Orange-crowned Warbler:** Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 12 Apr.  
**Nashville Warbler:** arr Olana SHS COLU 25 Apr; max 8 Amy’s Pk WARR 11 May.  
**Mourning Warbler:** arr VFNHP 14 May.  
**Common Yellowthroat:** arr Ghent COLU, Sand Lake RENS 28 Apr; max 38 Kingsbury WASH 25 May.  
**Hooded Warbler:** arr OCA 4 May; max 2 Copake COLU 16 May.  
**American Redstart:** arr Kinderhook COLU 1 May; max 60 Schodack I SP RENS 20 May.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 3 May; max 10 Rotterdam SCHE 17 May.  
**Cerulean Warbler:** arr Ancram COLU 3 May; max 5 Schodack I SP RENS 17 May.  
**Northern Parula:** arr Normanskill Farm ALBA 30 Apr; max 13 Washington Pk, Albany ALBA 17 May.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** arr FV 1 May; max 7 Rensselaerville SF ALBA 17 May, Johnsbury WARR 25 May.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr OCA 6 May; max 8 Vale Pk SCHE 19 May.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 2 May; max 15 Padanarum Rd, Bolton WARR 23 May.  
**Yellow Warbler:** arr VFNHP 25 Apr; max 52 Kingsbury WASH 25 May.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr FR 2 May; max 15 OCA 16 May.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr Normanskill Farm ALBA, Hunter GREE 12 May; max 5 Normanskill Farm ALBA 22 May, Indian Head Mt GREE 25 May.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr Ancram COLU 1 May; max 12 Woodlawn Pres SCHE 12 May, Johnsbury WARR 25 May.  
**Palm Warbler:** arr Normanskill Farm ALBA 7 Apr; max 14 VFNHP 29 Apr.  
**Pine Warbler:** arr Canaan COLU 25 Mar; max 6 Putnam WASH 30 May.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr Cobleskill SCHO 4 Apr; max 55 Chatham COLU 29 Apr.  
**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R8):** Valatie COLU 17 May (MB), *intro*.  
**Prairie Warbler:** arr Livingston COLU, New Lebanon COLU 2 May; max 15 APBP 27 May.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr Stratford FULT 27 Apr; max 12 Multiple loc.  
**Canada Warbler:** arr Stuyvesant COLU 11 May; max 5 Edinburg SARA 26 May.  
**Wilson’s Warbler:** arr Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 6 May; max 3 Normanskill Farm ALBA 12 May, VFNHP 17 May.  
**SUMMER TANAGER (R8):** Stockport COLU 6-7 May, *intro*.  
**Scarlet Tanager:** arr Guilderland ALBA 29 Apr; max 12 Ancram COLU 26 May.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Middleburgh SCHO 24 Apr; max 14 APBP 15 May, Schodack I SP RENS 15 May.  
**Indigo Bunting:** arr Rexford SARA 30 Apr; max 7 APBP 28 May.

## REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

**John H. Haas**

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March started out much warmer than normal, setting record high temperatures. Almost all precipitation fell in the form of rain with just a dusting of snow in the highest of elevations. Precipitation was well below normal with only 2.48" falling, 1.09" below average. There was a high of 73° on 9 March and a low of 20° 1 March, an average of 5.6° above normal. April was cooler than normal. A storm on 17 April produced up to four inches of snow in the higher elevations. There was a high of 68° on 7 April and a low of 25° on 17 April, resulting in an average temp of 60°, 5° below normal. There were 3.30" of precipitation, .48" below normal. May continued cold and wet early in the month but dried out later. There was a high of 85° on 15 May and a low of 27° on 9 May. This averaged out to a mean temp of 58.8°, 0.7° below normal. There were 3.47" of precipitation, 0.94" below normal.

Perhaps our busiest season of the year, it got underway quickly this spring due to the very mild winter, but it stopped abruptly when temperatures in April fell. The trend continued into May and that, combined with intense northwest winds, stalled migration, and again perhaps shifted flight paths of migrants.

The Greater White-fronted Goose on Bowman Avenue Pond in Westchester continued at least through 2 March. On 3 March, three Greater White-fronted Geese were found in the Orange County Black Dirt Region. Though seen in several spots that day, they were not reported afterward, but a lone individual was seen on 7 March. On 14 March Gail Benson and Tom Burke found an adult male Eurasian Wigeon at the Bashakill Wildlife Management Area. The bird was across from the Main Boat Launch and was observed by many birders that afternoon. It continued through 6 April.

On 30 May, a **Chuck-will's-widow** was discovered singing in a private neighborhood in Rye, Westchester County. Though the site was not accessible to the public, Tom Burke was able to verify the recording of the bird. It was not reported thereafter.

On 29 May Curt McDermott was made aware of a possible **Black Rail** at the Wallkill River NWR in Orange County as the result of an eBird report submitted on 24 May by Ari Rice. A search on 29 May failed to locate the bird. The following morning Rob Stone and Matt Zeitler searched for the bird and eventually heard it call at approximately 7 and again at 8 a.m. Several local birders were notified, and following a three hour wait, the bird began to call regularly for about an hour. Due to the sensitive status of the species, there was no further release of information on its presence. This is a first record for Orange County and a rare record for the state.

On 20 March, a front from the southwest combined with winds from the southeast resulting in a fallout of waterfowl in Orange and Sullivan Counties. Both scaup species, Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, Long-tailed Duck and Bufflehead, as well Horned and Red-necked Grebes and more, put down throughout the area. The first influx of Bonaparte's Gulls took place that day as well.

On 6 March Elyse and Tom Fuller spotted a pair of Sandhill Cranes flying along the New York State Thruway. This would be the first of many reports of these birds in the Region, with most reports in and around the Black Dirt Region, where they continue to increase their stronghold. The pair from last year returned and again nested (just across the border in New Jersey). This time they hatched two chicks on or about 7 May. They were well photographed, and hopes were high for their success, but this was not to be. Extremely inclement weather struck the Region when they were just a few days old. The chicks were not seen again, and the adults were seen flying freely about the area thereafter.

On 12 March Renee Davis found a Pectoral Sandpiper at Fireman's Park at White Sulphur Springs in Sullivan County. This was a record-setting early date for this species in Sullivan County and tied the early date set last year in Dutchess County for the entire Region. Surprisingly, two days later, a Pectoral Sandpiper was again found in Dutchess County on 14 March by Chet Vincent. On 6 March, Peter Schoenberger found a Spotted Sandpiper at Sleightsburg Spit in Kingston, a record early date for the entire Region. In general, though, there was a poor showing of shorebirds in the Region this spring.

On 1 April Bruce Nott discovered a second basic Iceland Gull at the Newburgh Waterfront. This was right after finding a second basic Lesser Black-backed Gull there on 29 March, which was still present when he spotted the Iceland Gull. Additional Iceland Gulls were seen along the Hudson and south to Long Island Sound at Rye. Similarly, Lesser Black-backed Gulls were reported at the Newburgh Waterfront and in Rye as well.

On 26 March Tom Burke and Gail Benson noted a significant flight of Northern Gannets along the shore at Marshlands Conservancy in Rye. They had 177 gannets pass west on Long Island sound on 27 March. Gannets could also be seen from Rye Town Park and Edith G. Read Nature Preserve and Sanctuary. Impressive flights continued, culminating with 652 gannets being seen on 5 April, with many still seen through the month.

On 16 May Bruce Nott discovered 15 Glossy Ibis at the Rt. 207 Marsh in Orange County, but they were gone the next day.

On 4 April Nelson Willbury viewed a **Crested Caracara** flying over his yard in Kingston. The distinct color pattern, method of flight and silhouette were all characteristic of the species.

On 4 May Tom Burke and Gail Benson found a Clay-colored Sparrow at Rye High School in Westchester County. The bird was reported over the next two days.

The **Summer Tanager** first reported in the winter period continued at least through 6 March in Dutchess County.

On 25 May Joe Rothstein found an adult female Blue Grosbeak at Lenoir Nature Preserve. The bird remained through the following morning.

On 29 March Bonnie Coe spotted a Dickcissel at her backyard feeders. It was well photographed and seen by many local birders, continuing through 4 April.

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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; **CFSP** – Clarence Fahnestock SP, PUTN; **CIOES** – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, DUTC; **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; **LNP** – Lenoir Nature Pres, WEST; **LR** – Larchmont Res, 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 County 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 I Turf Nursery, ORAN; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **RLP** – Rhinecliff Landing P, 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; **VFEP** – Vassar Farms and Ecological Pres, DUTC; **WL** – Wickham L, ORAN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill River NWR, ORAN.

#### **WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS**

**Snow Goose:** 150 KL 6 Mar (KMi); 2 OCBDR 6 Mar (JD).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Bowman Ave Pd WEST 2 Mar (CG); max 3 OCBDR 3-7 Mar (LS, LV, CA), *intro*.

**Brant:** 100 Five Islands P WEST 14 Apr (GB, TBu, JH); max 1000 CPP 1 Apr-31 May (GB, TBu, SCam); 180 Steamboat Riverfront P WEST 14 May (Ginger Bernardin); max 1500 NW 14, 20 May (BN); 900 KP 17 May (FM, DF).

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 4 BSWMA 10 Mar-2 May (SB, JH, KMi, PD, mob); 2 Greens Pd DUTC 6 Apr (KB, SI, DC); WRNWR 11 Apr (RN); Rt 207 Marsh ORAN 14 Apr (BN); 2 Beaver Pd ORAN 16-21 Apr (BN, KMi, AV, mob).

**Northern Shoveler:** 2 KP 9 Mar (FM); max 7 BSWMA 10-27 Mar (JH, KMi, SB, PD, mob); 3 RLSP 9 Mar (MBM); max 6 Huguenot L WEST 8-9 Mar (JR, AR); max 5 Swan L SULL 8-13 Apr (SB, KMi, PD, RDe); max 5 Rt 207 Marsh 11-23 Mar (BN); max 18 WRNWR 13-15 Mar (KMi, LV, DS, ES, mob); 6 Tamarack L DUTC 14 Mar (DC, SJ, AM, mob); 2 MC 20 Mar (KMcG).

**Eurasian Wigeon:** BSWMA 14 Mar – 6 Apr (TBu, GB, SB, JH, mob), *intro*.

**Canvasback:** 23 Washington L ORAN 17 Mar (BN, KMi); 3 Swan L 20 Mar (KMi, JH, PD, RDe).

**Redhead:** 5 Bodine L SULL 1-8 Mar (SG, SB, NH); RR 1-4 Mar (JH, SB, NH); max 12 Lockenhurst Pd ORAN 1-8 Mar (BN, KMi, JD, mob); max 6 RLSP 2-8 Mar (CW, JCI, SK, mob).

**Long-tailed Duck:** Kiamesha L SULL 17-18 Mar (SB, JH, KMi, PD, mob); 2 Orange L ORAN 17 Mar (BN); 6 Swan L 20 Mar (JH); 17 GMP 19 Mar (FM); 17 Washington L 20 Mar (BN); 2 MC 30 May (ME, KC, MT).

**Surf Scoter:** 2 RLP 8 Apr (AM); 2 GL 13 Apr (MZ, LS); Ashokan Res ULST 16 Apr (SCam).

**White-winged Scoter:** 3 EGR 11 Mar (TBu, GB); KL 24 Mar (JH, RDa, PD, KMi, SB); Ashokan Res 5 Apr (PS); max 4 RLP 8 Apr (KB, CP, CFe, SJ); 4 Dennings Pt SP DUTC 15 May (KB, RS, DvZ); 85 Ashokan Res 18 May (PS); BSWMA 19 May (JH, KMi, SB, GB, TBu); Narrowsburg SULL 27 May (CFi).

**Black Scoter:** 2 WL 13 Apr (MZ, LS); Esopus ULST 1-8 Mar (JP, WTo).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** NCR 10 Mar (CR); GMP 5-8 Mar (PS, RM); max 2 KL 17-19 Mar (SB, JH, KMi, RDa).

**Ruddy Duck:** max 12 Orange L 3-11 Mar (BN); max 15 Middletown Res ORAN 8-18 Mar (KMi); KL 11 Mar (JH, SB, PD, KMi); max 20 Lake Carmel PUTN 1-9 Mar (SCam, EJ, SA); 6 Swan L 20 Mar (SB).

**Ruffed Grouse:** Mohonk Pres ULST 22 Mar (MN); BSWMA 17 Apr (SB); Stanfordville DUTC 18 Apr (CP).

**Horned Grebe:** max 27 Orange L 3-23 Mar (BN, KM<sub>i</sub>); max 10 KL 19-21 Mar (JH, KM<sub>i</sub>, SB, RDa); max 9 WL 20-21 Mar (LS, MZ); max 11 EMLH 21 Mar (WTo).

**Red-necked Grebe:** 2 Washington L 19-21 Mar (BN); EGR 16 Mar (AS); max 8 Orange L 5 Apr (BN, MZ, KM<sub>c</sub>); max 18 Mills-Norrie SP DUTC 8 Apr (KB); max 22 River Rd ULST 8 Apr (PS); max 8 RLP 8 Apr (KB, CP, AM, mob); 2 Ashokan Res 8 May (PS, DO, RM).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Fancher Davidge P ORAN 2 May (GC); max 2 SFSP 3-22 May (MZ, WTe, SA, mob); CPP 18 May (PC, JCl, SK); PHP 11-21 May (MR, JAs, SR); BSWMA 24 May (DD, MF).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** SFSP 8 May (SK); VFEP 10 May (DvZ, BM); PHP 11 May (MR); RSP 11 May (JW); BSWMA 15-16 May (JH, SB, LV); WRNWR 30 May (CMc, MZ, LS, JH, BN).

**Common Nighthawk:** Maple Ridge ULST 9 May (AM); max 60 WRNWR 18 May (TBU, GB).

**CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW (R9):** Rye WEST 30 May (Blu Matthews Hancock), *intro*.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** SFSP 26 May (EF, TF); Pine Kill Rd SULL 5 May (LV, JH); Tibbitts Brook P WEST 11 May (TW); Hilltop Acres ULST 16 May (PD, RDe); Cooperstown Rd DUTC 16 May (CP).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** OCBDR 27 Apr (LS); BSWMA 30 Apr (SB).

## RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**BLACK RAIL:** WRNWR 30 May (RSt, MZ, CM, TBU, GB, JH, LS, BN, SCam, MMu, LV), *intro*.

**Clapper Rail:** max 4 MC 27 Mar- 31 May (DJ, GB, TBU, mob).

**Virginia Rail:** max 6 BSWMA 4 Mar- 31 May (SB, JH, KM<sub>i</sub>, mob); max 3 GV 4 Mar-31 May (PS, RM, DR, mob); max 4 VFEP 4 Apr-5 May (AM, DC, DvZ, mob); max 5 SHSR 25 Apr – 5 May (MZ, JH, KFe, SF); WRNWR 18 May (BN, GB, TBU).

**Sora:** max 2 WRNWR 21 Apr-31 May (LS, BN, MZ, mob); BSWMA 9 May (JH); Somers Marsh WEST 15 May (TJ).

**Common Gallinule:** GV 12 Apr-6 May (WTo, JP, PS); max 7 BSWMA 20 Apr-31 May (SB, JH, KM<sub>i</sub>, mob); max 4 WRNWR 28 Apr-31 May (ZM, AV, JC, mob).

**American Coot:** max 143 NCR 1-15 Apr (CR, SK, KB); max 20 Sylvan L DUTC 2-10 Apr

(SJ, CP, AM); max 10 WRNWR 8-12 Apr (FP, RN, ZM); 7 RLSP 14 Apr (CC).

**Sandhill Crane:** 2 Rt 87 ORAN 6 Mar (EF, TF); 2 OCBDR 9 Mar with a max 6 10 Mar- 31 May (LS, DS, ES, LV, mob); Tuxedo ORAN 10 Mar (RA); SSF 21-26 Mar (BN, BF, JH, RDa, MG, KM<sub>i</sub>); 2 Croton-on-Hudson WEST 26 Mar (CR, SCam); 2 Morey Hill Rd ULST 21 May (DO), *intro*.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 2 MC 19-22 May (SCam, BS).

**Sempalmated Plover:** Camel Farm ORAN 8 May (LS); Washington L 10 May (BN); 4 MC 11 May (DJ).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** SS 20-23 May (JY, DW, PS, NM, mob).

**Dunlin:** Hillview Res WEST 14 May (SCam, DS); CPP 16 May (SW).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** Fireman's P SULL 12 Mar (RD, JH, LV, mob); Strever Farm Rd DUTC 14-18 Mar (DvZ, CP, SJ, mob); CPP 20 Apr (GB, TBU), *intro*.

**American Oystercatcher:** max 4 MC 21 Mar -31 May (AS, KM<sub>c</sub>, DJ, mob); 3 Milton Pt WEST 21 Mar (GB, TBU); 2 Five Islands P WEST 26 Mar (LB); max 3 EGR 26 Mar-8 Apr (GB, TBU, KM<sub>c</sub>G).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** Yorktown Heights Rail Trail WEST 18 Apr (BF); 2 Olley P ORAN 25 Apr (BF).

**Willet:** max 4 MC 14 Apr-31 May (SCam, GB, TBU, JH, MMu, mob).

**Spotted Sandpiper:** SS 6 Mar (PS); Cross River Reservoir WEST 20 Apr (GB, TBU), *intro*.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 8 Gardnertown Marsh ORAN 10-17 Mar (BN, KM<sub>i</sub>); max 32 Wisner Rd Wetland ORAN 16-17 Mar (BN, GB, TBU, mob); BSWMA 31 Mar (JH).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** Swan L 20 Mar (JH, PD, RDe); max 6 Washington L 20-21 Mar (BN, PR); Sylvan L DUTC 20 Mar (CP, BM, SJ, DC); EMLH 29 Mar (PS); BSWMA 30 Mar (JH, SB, KM<sub>i</sub>, SA); 4 CPP 31 Mar (SK, SCam, LT, AS, mob); NW 1 Apr (KM<sub>i</sub>, BF); 6 Cornwall Bay ORAN 15 Apr (BN, MZ, JH); NR 22 May (JH).

**Laughing Gull:** 4 MC 10-29 May (PC, JClA); EGR 15-26 May (JC, PC, GB, AS, SCam).

**Iceland Gull:** NW 1 Apr (BN); CPP 5 Apr (PC, CR, SR, mob); 2 EGR 5 Apr (GB, TBU), *intro*.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** NW 29 Mar- 16 Apr (BN, MZ, KM<sub>i</sub>, BF, mob); 2 EGR 5 Apr (GB, TBU); CPP 7 Apr (RL); CPP 17 Apr (RL,

SK, CR, mob); max 3 NW 30 Apr-24 May (BN), *intro*.  
**Least Tern:** CPP 30 Apr (SCam, SR, SK, mob); max 6 EGR 9-29 May (GB, TBu, SK, JH, mob); max 3 MC 9-25 May (KMcG, MB, FG).  
**Caspian Tern:** max 2 RLP 8,16,18 Apr (AM, CFe, DC); KP 8 Apr (FM, DF); NW 15 Apr (MZ, BN, JH); max 2 KP 27-28 Apr (DO, MC, JP, mob).  
**Black Tern:** Washington L 14 May (BN); WRNWR 18 May (BN, RSt, JH, mob).  
**Common Tern:** Ashokan Res 26 Apr (PS, WTo, DO, NW); max 22 EGR 5-21 May (GB, SCam, AS, mob); RSP 9 May (MMo); max 5 MC 5-21 May (FG, VH, MB, mob).  
**Forster's Tern:** max 6 MC 14 Apr-31 May (SCam, GB, TBu, JH, MMu, mob); Ashokan Res 26 Apr (PS, MD, DO); NWF 26 Apr (BN, MZ); SS 23 May (FM, DF, PS).

### LOONS – PARAKEET

**Red-throated Loon:** max 15 EGR 1 Mar-30 Apr (GB, GC, SK, mob); Donahue Memorial P ORAN 4 Apr (MZ); Ashokan Res 8, 15 May (PS, DO, RM); MC 7 May (VH).  
**Common Loon:** max 8 Ashokan Res 20 Mar-4 Apr (PS, FM, DF, mob); Orange L 21 Mar-4 Apr (BN, KMcD, MZ); NR 28-29 Mar (JH).  
**Northern Gannet:** 2 Rye WEST 7 Mar (SCam, LT, KB, mob); max 177 MC 26-27 Mar (GB, TBu); max 652 EGR 26 Mar-30 Apr (GB, TBu), *intro*.  
**Great Cormorant:** max 8 NCR 6-10 Mar (SCam, GB, CR); 4 Verplank WEST 6 Mar (SK); Lake Glenieda PUTN 30 Apr (AM).  
**American Bittern:** max 2 HVRT 4-14 Apr (DvZ, DC, MN); Fancher Davidge P 5 Apr (GC); CIOES 5 Apr (DvZ, BM); Mill Brook Pres ULST 6 Apr (LG); BSWMA 12 Apr (JH); Mud Pd Pound Ridge WEST 4 Apr (TA).  
**Least Bittern:** Belvale L Rd ORAN 29 Apr (JS); CIOES 1-2 May (BM, MK, DC, AM).  
**Great Egret:** Constitution Dr ROCK 22-26 Mar (NB); max 3 MC 20 Mar – 1Apr (KMcG, GB, VH, mob); max 16 EGR 30 Mar.  
**Snowy Egret:** max 5 MC 31 Mar-12 Apr (DJ, GB, TBu, mob); max 2 EGR 5-11 Apr (GB, TBu); Kingston ULST 18-19 Apr (WTo, FM, DF, mob).  
**Little Blue Heron:** MC 22 Apr (SK); Irvington Woods WEST 1 May (PC).  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** max 3 EGR 7 Apr- 31 May (GB, TBu, SK, SR, mob); max 4 Quassaic Creek ORAN 22 Apr-17 May (BN,

MZ); Wappingers Creek DUTC 5 May (SK); 2 Lents Cove P WEST 27 Apr, 23 May (SR).  
**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** max 4 Titus Millpond WEST 11-14 Apr (AS, SK, SR, SCam, MB, PC, mob); VanBurenville Rd ORAN 17 Apr-30 May (JD, KMi, JH, mob).  
**Glossy Ibis:** MC 9 Apr (GB, TBu); BSWMA 29 Apr (LV); 16 CPP 29 Apr (GB, TBu); max 15 Rt 207 Marsh ORAN 16 May (BN, JH), *intro*.  
**Osprey:** Playland L WEST 6 Mar (GB, TBu); Kensico Res WEST 12 Mar (NG); Hook Mt ROCK 18 Mar (AA, LA); Louisa Pd ULST 20 Mar (JY); BSWMA 21 Mar (SB).  
**Golden Eagle:** Pine Plains DUTC 3 Mar (DK); Ulster P ULST 8 Mar (DT); Berkshire Rd DUTC 1 Mar (SM, PL).  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** MC 22 Mar (KMcG).  
**Barn Owl:** OCBDR 27 Mar (LS).  
**Short-eared Owl:** max 5 SGNWR 1-8 Mar (VH, FM, DO, mob).  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** River Rd SULL 5 Mar (RC); Fir Brook SULL 8 Mar (PD, RDe); River Rd 21-25 Mar (RC).  
**CRESTED CARACARA:** Kingston ULST 4 Apr (NW), *intro*.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** Stissing Mt DUTC 1 Apr (DC); Hawks Nest ORAN 4 Apr (WE); Ashokan Res 4 Apr (RM), widespread reports.

### FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** TBWMA 15 May (EA); BMSP 17 May (TZ); Olley P 19 May (BF); PHP 20-22 May (DWe, CP).  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** MC 12 May (EM); LNP 14 May (EF); Burden Pres WEST 15 May (SCam); VFEP 18 May (KB, SR); max 2 BSWMA 19 May (JH, TBu, GB, mob).  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** THMUA 18-22 May (SCar, CP, KB, mob); Dennings Pt DUTC 16 May (DC, SI, SCar); 2 BSWMA 18 May (JH, TBu, GB).  
**Alder Flycatcher:** Ulster P 13 May (DT); Cross River Res WEST 16 May (TJ); Dodge Rd DUTC 16 May (KF, CFe); Fir Brook SULL 22 May (JH).  
**Eastern Kingbird:** RSP 25, 28 Apr (MG, MJ); BSWMA 26 Apr (JH); max 3 CPP 1-31 May (BS, SK, AS, mob).  
**White-eyed Vireo:** Trailway Mud P Rd PUTN 7 Apr (RK); Tarrytown L P WEST 25 Apr (SW); Teatown L Res WEST 26 Apr (KB, KMcG, SM, mob); max 3 PHP 4-30 May (CP, KB, AM, SCar, mob); Kingston 7 May (MD, DO).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** BSWMA 28 Apr (JH).  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** MC 6 Apr (GB, TBu).  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** Ulster P 11 May (DT); THMUA 19, 22 May (KB, DvZ, SR, SCar).  
**Warbling Vireo:** RSP 26 Apr (SK); WRNWR 27 Apr (LS).  
**Purple Martin:** max 2 CPP 7-8 Mar (LT, PC, SK, mob); max 5 Gibson Hill Rd ORAN 7-11 Mar (JS, LV); max 2 Kaisertown Rd ORAN 9-10 Mar (JH, KMi).  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 2 CPP 28 Mar (SR, SK); 12 BSWMA 16 Apr (JH).  
**Tree Swallow:** 50 CPP 4 Mar (SK).  
**Barn Swallow:** CPP 31 Mar (CR, SCam, SK, mob).  
**Bank Swallow:** max 3 Washington L 15 Apr (BN, KMi, BF).  
**Cliff Swallow:** max 15 Cross River Res 6-25 Apr (SB, SCam, MMu, mob); max 4 CPP 22-25 Apr (CR, SR, SK, mob); BSWMA 25 Apr (JH).  
**House Wren:** Belvale ORAN 21 Mar (Dwa); MC 25 Mar (TBu, GB).  
**Marsh Wren:** Scenic Hudson Kukok Lane ULST 25 Apr (DWe); OCBDR 28 Apr (Dwa); CPP 29 Apr (CR); BSWMA 29 Apr (JH); Madam Brett P DUTC 29 Apr (AL).  
**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Ulster P 11 May (DT); Burden Pres 16 May (SCam); Blauvelt SP ROCK 16 May (LS); Harriman SP ROCK 17 May (MJ); max 3 BSWMA 18-21 May (LV, GZ, JH, SB, mob); THMUA 20 May (JAS); Elks Brox P ORAN 25 May (MZ).  
**Bicknell's Thrush:** max 7 Slide Mt ULST 21-31 May (MS, LV, DE, RD, JG).  
**Swainson's Thrush:** Cranberry L Pres WEST 4-5 May (NG); BMSP 10 May (FG); Tarrytown L P 11 May (SR); VFEP 7-8 May (KB, DvZ, CP, MK); BSWMA 11 May (JH, LV).  
**Brown Thrasher:** Hurley ULST 28 Mar (NW); Peretti Rd Millerton DUTC (CP); BSWMA 31 Mar-4 Apr (JH, SB, JD, LV).  
**American Pipit:** max 3 Kenciso Res WEST 1-15 Mar (NG); max 2 AP 11-13 May (JH, SB, PD, LV, KMi); CPP 6, 30 Apr (SK, SCam).

#### NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

**Red Crossbill:** 2 Sloan Gorge ULST 22 Apr (Jcli).  
**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Posquiello Creekside Road ULST 15 Mar (PS); EGR 1 May (GB,

TBu); max 4 SGNWR 1-31 May (GG, AH, BF, mob); CPP 15, 21 May (SCam, LT, SK).  
**Clay-colored Sparrow:** Rye High School WEST 4-6 May (TBu, GB, SC, mob), *intro*.  
**Vesper Sparrow:** Westtown ORAN 1- 8 Mar (LS, BN, JH, mob); 2 Ulster P 8 Mar ULST (DT); CIOES 27 Mar (BM); LNP 30 Mar (JR); Gibson Hill Rd 5 Apr (JS); 4 BSWMA 5 Apr (LV, JH, SB, RDa); Vassar College Campus DUTC 6 Apr (DC); VFEP 6 Apr (KB); Mongaup Valley WMA SULL 21 Apr (JH).  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** Goshen ORAN 3 May (MZ); Cranberry L Pres 15 May (GB, TBu, SCam); BSWMA 17-18 May (KMB, JH).  
**Yellow-breasted Chat:** OMRLMSP 13-15 May (BMA, MR, LM, mob); BSWMA 15 May (GZ, LV, JH, SB, KMi, PD, JD); WRNWR 28 May (LS, RSt).  
**Bobolink:** 5 Wisner Rd ORAN (KMi); 2 RSP 3 May (VH).  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** 2 CPP 14 Mar (MP); max 4 Wisner Rd (AV, MZ, BN, mob); max 12 SGNWR 11 Mar- 1 Apr (TBe, JJ, VH, mob); max 7 Sullivan Grasslands SULL 29 Mar (JH); Shaughnessy Rd DUTC 28-31 Mar (AM, CP).  
**Baltimore Oriole:** Yorktown Heights WEST 17 Apr (DG); max 14 BSWMA 4 May (JH, BN, KMi, GP, TP, mob); max 6 PHP 3-4 May (KB, DvZ, mob).  
**Boat-tailed Grackle:** (female) MC 1 May (GB, TBu).  
**Ovenbird:** Ossining WEST 21 Apr (BS); Nyack ROCK 23 Apr (CW); Goosepond Mt SP ORAN 25 Apr (KA).  
**Blue-winged Warbler:** max 2 BSWMA 1-4 May (LV, JH, PD, SB, mob); max 23 PHP 1-4 May (CFe, MR, MK, KB, mob); max 6 SFSP 2-4 May (WT, MZ, PH, DH, mob); max 3 CPP 2-4 May (CR, SK, AS, mob).  
**Worm-eating Warbler:** SFSP 2 May (SM, PL); Mohonk Pres ULST 2 May (MN); max 5 DR 3-4 May (CC, GL, LL, MB, mob); 4 Elks Brox Memorial P 4 May (KA).  
**Golden-winged Warbler:** max 4 SFSP 4-31 May (EF, TF, PH, SCar, mob).  
**Prothonotary Warbler:** Madam Brett P DUTC 29 Apr (DvZ); BSWMA 1 May (SA, JH).  
**Tennessee Warbler:** max 5 PHP 5-16 May (CFe, DC, SC, mob); max 2 High Banks Pres ULST 9-16 May (JP, WT, MC, mob); max 6 BSWMA 16 May (JH, LV, PD, mob); Dennings Pt SP DUTC 15-16 May (KB, RSec, DvZ).  
**Orange-crowned Warbler:** FPNC 5 May (MD).



**Nashville Warbler:** Hurley ULST 5 May (RH); RSP 4-19 May (SK, MG, JW, mob); max 6 VFEP 5-17 May (KB, MK, CP, mob).  
**Mourning Warbler:** GV 12 May (PS); max 3 BSWMA 16-18 May (DC, JH, PD, mob); Kendridge Farm ORAN 16 May (BN, BS); RSP 16 May (MJ); BMSP 18 May (RL); PHP 15, 25 May (JAs, CF, LV);  
**Hooded Warbler:** Beaver Pd ORAN 2 May (KA); max 3 SFSP 2-3 May (SM, PL, MZ, mob); BSWMA 11-17 May (JH, SB, PD, mob).  
**Cape May Warbler:** WL 3 May (AV); 3 PHP 4 May (Jcli); BSWMA 5 May (SB); max 44 Esopus Bend Nature Pres ULST 14 May (SCh); max 10 BSWMA 16 May (JH, SB, GL).  
**Cerulean Warbler:** DR 29 Apr (RSen); BSWMA 1 May (JH, SB, KMi, mob); SFSP 2 May (GB, TBu).  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** Gumaer Falls Rd SULL 30 Apr (JH, SB); LGC 2 May (BN); 3 Cranberry L Pres 2 May (MJ).  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** TBWMA 28 Apr (SR); BSWMA 1 May (JH); Overlook P DUTC 1 May (DC).  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** RSP 10 May (AS, SCam, MMu, mob); Gibson Hill Rd 11 May (JS); Cranberry L Pres 10 May (KMcG).  
**Louisiana Waterthrush:** Harriman SP ORAN 29 Mar (MK); SFSP 4 Apr (WTe); SSF 4 Apr (BF); 2 BSWMA 4 Apr (KMi); New Paltz ULST 6 Apr (MN).  
**Northern Waterthrush:** 2 SFSP 19 Apr (WTe); max 5 BSWMA 1 May (JH, SB, KMi, mob); max 6 CIOES 1-2 May (SJ, CP, mob).  
**Black- and- white Warbler:** SSF 11 Apr (BF); max 3 BSWMA 28 Apr (SB, JH, JD).

**American Redstart:** Croton Gorge P WEST 26 Apr (SW); BSWMA 28 Apr (JH).  
**Yellow Warbler:** BSWMA 26 Apr (JH); max 8 CPP 2 May (VH).  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** Croton Gorge P 26 Apr (SW); MC 27 Apr (JS).  
**Palm Warbler:** Mud Pd WEST 28 Mar (TA); RLSP 29 Mar (CC); SGNWR 1 Apr (GF); BSWMA 2 Apr (JH).  
**Pine Warbler:** 2 Hook Mt ROCK 26 Mar (LA, AA). widespread.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 250 Esopus Bend Nature Pres 14 May (SCh).  
**Prairie Warbler:** 27 Apr SFSP (TF, EF); RSP 2 May (AS); CPP 29 Apr (CR); CFSP 2 May (MM); PHP 2 May (CFe); Trapps Trail ULST (MN).  
**Canada Warbler:** Hillside Woods and Childrens Village WEST 2-3 May (JAm); BSWMA 5 May (SA).  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** North Mount ULST 19 Apr (BS); max 5 BSWMA 4 May (JH, BN); max 4 PHP 3-4 May (CP, SR, KB, mob).  
**Wilson's Warbler:** SHSR 3 May (EG, BG); Cranberry L Pres 4 May (NG).  
**SUMMER TANAGER:** Myers Corners Rd DUTC 5-6 Mar (KB, SR, BMi), *intro*.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** 2 Gardiner ULST 21 Apr (GP, TP). widespread  
**Blue Grosbeak:** LNP 25-26 May (JR, SK, TS), *intro*.  
**Dickcissel:** Ossining WEST 29 Mar-3 Apr (BC, AS, SK, LT, mob), *intro*.

#### Addendum

Winter Report omission: **Lapland Longspur:** Hillview Res WEST 10 Feb (SCam).



## REGION 10—MARINE

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Weather this season was relatively constant. The end of the winter was well above normal, +4° to 5° F, and those temperatures changed little through April. May lacked its regular summer component and temperatures stayed below average. Precipitation was below or near average, driest in May. There was only trace

snowfall during this period (and back through February), including 23 April, a remarkably late event.

	Central Park			Islip		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Mar	48.0°	42.5°	+5.5°	44.8°	39.3°	+4.5°
Apr	50.3°	53.0°	+2.7°	47.1°	49.1°	-2.0°
May	60.3°	62.4°	-2.1°	57.7°	58.6°	-0.9°

	Central Park			Islip		
Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Mar	3.78"	4.36"	-0.58"	4.20"	4.44"	-0.24"
Apr	4.49"	4.50"	-0.01"	4.57"	4.34"	+0.23"
May	1.65"	4.19"	-2.54"	1.22"	3.78"	-2.56"

A seasonal birding report is usually about birds, but the highs and lows of Spring migration were overshadowed by a human issue. On 1 March, the beginning of this writeup period, the first New Yorker was diagnosed with the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and the ensuing illness called COVID-19. This illness had been first recorded in December 2019, and had proven to be a rare mix of contagious and severe in major outbreaks in Asia and Europe in January and February. A week into March there were 100 cases in Region 10. Two patients succumbed on 14 March. At this time, the severity was apparent to many, and the St. Patrick’s Day parade was postponed indefinitely for the first time in its 259 year run. A few days later there were 1,000 cases. A week after the first deaths there were 10,000 cases. At the end of March there were over 80,000 cases in the state and 1,000 deaths. The public was implored to stay home to fight the spread. Food and cleaning product shortages made necessary grocery runs especially nerve-racking during March. Midway through April, face coverings were (finally) strongly encouraged for necessary public forays. By the end of the month, 300,000 New Yorkers had been diagnosed, and over 18,000 had died. Thankfully New Yorkers had succeeded in “flattening the curve” at this time and cases tapered through the end of the period, even as civil unrest and pleasant weather brought a dichotomy of people back into shared spaces. Unfortunately, the hardship that the Northeast experienced did not prevent other states from later experiencing even greater damage from this illness.

Birding became a welcomed safe activity, but not immediately. A number of species observed in the beginning of the year were not recorded in this period because March coincided with the beginning of voluntary isolation for many. Some species not recorded include Ross’s, Greater White-fronted, and Barnacle Goose, Tundra Swan, Eurasian Wigeon, and Barrow’s Goldeneye, which had all been seen in the weeks leading up to the first wave. The volume of observations was suppressed by many people erring on the side of staying home for a majority of this period. New York began a gradual reopening process in May, and cases

remained low, inspiring confidence to physically isolated activities such as birding. It is therefore hard to determine the cause of both Black and Royal Tern being unrecorded this period.

While spontaneous birding was up to the individual's discretion, organizers of special birding events repeatedly made the judicious decision not to gamble with a novel disease. For that reason, a number of dedicated surveys did not produce all their expected data this season. No charter pelagics were run, and groups that host bird walks forewent them.

A few overwintering rarities continued into this period, including a **Harlequin Duck** in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, a **Thick-billed Murre** at Montauk Point (after a strong midwinter flight of this species), a **Townsend's Solitaire** on the South Fork, and a **Varied Thrush** in Prospect Park. After a winter with many **Painted Bunting** records, at least one individual persisted into this period in Brooklyn, appearing at Plumb Beach 19 March, and then presumably the same bird was at the nearby Salt Marsh Nature Center a few weeks later.

April brought a few unexpected species, including a **Cave Swallow** at Robert Moses on 14 April. This species had been a celebrated late fall migrant, but now seems ambivalent about which seasonal migration brings it east. There were a few other records in the Northeast this Spring. A **Sandhill Crane** was spotted over the north end of Central Park on 29 April, a great record for New York County. After incredible performances the preceding two years, Timber Point failed to produce any East Coast mega shorebirds. However, the annual roaming **White-faced Ibises** there were joined by at least two **Black-headed Gulls** in the last week of April: an immature at Timber Point itself and an adult at a nearby pond a week later. The last day of April brought a **Black-legged Kittiwake** inshore enough to be seen from Robert Moses.

The expected seabirds were seen during dedicated seawatches, especially in Suffolk County. One private offshore trip to the underwater topological feature along the continental shelf edge called The Claw produced a few surprising species on 27 May; both **Dovekie** and **Atlantic Puffin** were recorded. Back on land, May was sandwiched between two boobies. A **Brown Booby** discovered resting in the median of the Ocean Parkway near Gilgo Beach spent the night, and a single adult was noted from a seawatch at Robert Moses on the 28<sup>th</sup>. This species has been noted more frequently in our area in the last few years, with 2019 being a record-breaking flight year. A **Pomarine Jaeger** spent most of 30 May resting on Nickerson Beach before flying off on its own.

Peak neotropical passerine migration was again paltry on average. Despite this, the first two weeks of May hosted an unusual showing of **Cerulean Warbler**. Although this species is always recorded in the Region during migration, it had never been eBirded from all seven R10 counties in the same Spring. Not only that, but every county had at least two records except Kings, which had one, at Greenwood Cemetery. A few individuals lingered, most notably a female at the Henry Ingraham Preserve in Northport, Suffolk, for six days straight. Bizarrely, this species was not reported from either Central or Prospect Parks, which are the

expected places to encounter them. Light southwesterly wind and some light rain brought a refreshing spectacle of migrants to our Region on 16 May. The relative abundance of Cerulean Warblers gave way to an actual abundance of Bay-breasted Warblers. Ryan Zucker encountered **22** on a walk through Central Park that day, and double digits were noted across the Region, particularly in Queens and Kings. In terms of high counts, Ryan's single-checklist total for Bay-breasted Warbler was higher than all but seven other parulids this period, beating Black-throated Green, Pine, Blackpoll, Blackburnian, and Chestnut-sided.

No species officially beat their earliest arrival dates, but a number tied, including Semipalmated Plover, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, House Wren, and Nashville, Yellow, and Black-throated Blue Warblers. A few species, like Eastern Bluebird, appeared to arrive late, but with their average arrival of 11 March, lockdown bias and error was likely. Despite human caution, many species were recorded right around or just before their average arrival date over the last few decades.

Other individual highlights to round out May were a well-documented **Bicknell's Thrush** in Prospect Park on the 16<sup>th</sup>, the first documented **May Dickcissels** for Brooklyn on the 16<sup>th</sup>, **19 Grasshopper Sparrows** on territory at Fresh Kills Park, a **Swainson's Warbler** at the Muttontown Preserve on the 26<sup>th</sup>, a **Nelson's Sparrow** in a smaller north Queens marsh on the 27<sup>th</sup>, **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** at Breezy Point and Fire Island, and a **Mississippi Kite** on the 31<sup>st</sup> over Central Park.

293 species were reported in the Region this Spring, five fewer than last Spring.

The editors are saddened to report the loss of Shelley Vakay, beloved friend, mentor, and long-time member of the Eastern Long Island Audubon Society (ELIAS), formerly Moriches Bay Audubon, who passed away in May at the age of 86. A heartfelt tribute to her, written by Bob Adamo, Sue Benson, MaryLaura Lamont, and Gigi Spates, published in the Fall issue of the ELIAS newsletter, *The Osprey*, expresses the grace, compassion, selflessness, and skill of this special woman, who tirelessly volunteered for many positions and projects within and outside of the Audubon chapter. She participated in many bird walks and Christmas Bird Counts, supported the Quogue Wildlife Sanctuary, and was a member of the board of the Southampton Town Conservation Committee. NYSOA will remember her for partnering with the famous Gil Raynor and other members of their small club to take on the huge task of hosting hundreds of statewide birders at the then Federation of New York Bird Clubs' Annual Meeting in 1982—with the legendary Dennis Puleston as banquet speaker—the last time the meeting was hosted in Suffolk County.

The tribute in its entirety will be posted shortly on the ELIAS website at <http://www.easternlongislandaudubonsociety.org/index.html>

Shelley will be truly missed.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**APEC** – Alley Pd Environmental Center, QUEE; **APP** – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **BPT** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CIC** – Coney I Cr/P, KING; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **CR** – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; **EPCAL** – Calverton Grasslands (former Grumman Property), Calverton, SUFF; **FBF** – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; **FKP** – Fresh Kills P, RICH; **FP** – Forest P, QUEE; **GKP** – Great Kills P, RICH; **HLSP** – Hempstead L SP, NASS; **JBWE** – Jones B SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **KP** – Kissena P, QUEE; **MB** – Mecox Bay/Mecox Inlet, SUFF; **MF** – Miller Field, RICH; **MP** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **OP** – Orient Pt CP, SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **RBA** – NY Rare Bird Alert, **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **Shinn** – Shinnecock Inlet, SUFF; **SPCP** – Smith Pt CP/Old Inlet, SUFF; **SMNC** – Salt Marsh Nature Center at MPB (KING); **SMSP** – Sunken Meadow SP, SUFF; **TP** – Timber Pt Golf Course, Great River, SUFF; **VCP** – Van Cortlandt P, BRON; **VSSP** – Valley Stream SP, NASS.

### WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

**Snow Goose:** max 600, JBWR, 11 Mar (SSM); 500 FBF, 7 Mar (mob).

**Cackling Goose:** VCP, 1-2 Mar (G. Chapin); Brookfield P RICH, 1-2 Mar (ACi, N. Shamban); Arthur Hendrickson P NASS, thru 7 Mar (mob); Maratooka L SUFF 16 Mar (JSe)

**King Eider:** late, OP, thru 10 May (A. Vinson), f present all winter.

**Common Eider:** max 809 Culloden Pt SUFF, 8 Mar (AnW).

**Harlequin Duck:** decent totals: max 6 Pt Lookout NASS, thru 6 Apr (mob); Shinn, 15 Mar (J. Bohrer); 5 OP, thru 24 Apr (mob); imm m Sheepshead Bay, thru 26 Apr (mob), unusual location; 2 SPCP, thru 15 May (KCa).

**Common Goldeneye:** max 32 OP, 6 Mar (AV); low.

**Northern Bobwhite:** reintroduced birds reported from central SUFF and South Fork SUFF.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** only reported from around greater Jamaica Bay, QUEE and KING, and eastern SUFF. Max 4, SMNC, 17 Apr (R. Payne).

**Wild Turkey:** 1 Throgs Neck BRON, 22 Apr (M. Zadrozny), unusual location.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Brookhaven SUFF, 31 May (MSch), early; Ridge SUFF, 6 Apr (BY), early; CP, 18 Apr (ELeO).

**Chuck-will's-widow:** max 3, Fire I SUFF, 27 May (C. Kessler), Owls Head P KING, 3 May

(SBl), only individual recorded in NYC this season.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** max 11, Napeague, 5 May (AnW)

### RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

**Virginia Rail:** max 6, PBP, 31 May (PHo).

**Sora:** only 2 records: Oakwood Bch RICH, 23 Apr (M. Shikhman, ACi); MP, 22 May thru end of period (TS).

**Sandhill Crane:** CP, 29 Apr (TPE, mob), flyover, unusual location.

**American Golden-Plover:** only two: RMSP, 14 Apr (AP); CCP, 4 May (AP).

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr 16 Mar, Fire I SUFF (PA), early.

**Marbled Godwit:** CCP, 29 May (JRa).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** 1, Captree I SUFF, 17-24 Apr (mob).

**Western Sandpiper (Spring):** NB, 20 Mar (mob), surely overwintering.

**POMARINE JAEGER (R10):** NB, 30 May (R. Longiaru, mob).

**Dovekie:** MP, 1 Mar (StB); offshore at 39.8718037,-71.7297363 SUFF, 27 May (JSh, AnW), late.

**THICK-BILLED MURRE:** MP, thru 3 Mar (mob).

**Razorbill:** Canarsie Pier KING, thru 2 Mar (mob), unusual location; dep CCP, 31 Mar (StB).

**ATLANTIC PUFFIN:** offshore at 39.8718037,-71.7297363 SUFF, 27 May (JSh, AnW), late.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** dep RMSP, 30 Apr (TS).

**Black-headed Gull:** imm Sheepshead Bay, thru 4 Mar (mob); imm TP, 24-26 Apr (PJL, mob); ad Brookwood Hall P SUFF, 30 Apr (J. Stocker, PA)

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 337, Fire I SUFF, 17 May (anon).

**Gull-billed Tern:** RMSP, 18 May (AP), unusual in SUFF.

**Black Tern:** no reports this period.

**ARCTIC TERN (R10):** MB, 19, 24 May (ACo, J. Mittermeier); CCP, 20 May (AP); RMSP, 24 May (SSM, PJL).

**Royal Tern:** no reports this period.

**Black Skimmer:** Garden City NASS, 31 May (BF), extremely unusual away from preferred habitat.

#### LOONS – PARAKEET

**PACIFIC LOON:** Culloden Pt SUFF, 1 Mar (RBA).

**BROWN BOOBY:** Gilgo SP SUFF, 1 May (mob), sleeping in median; RMSP, 28 May (J. Klein, AP).

**Northern Gannet:** max 25,000 GKP, 4 Apr (RVE); 17,000 Arden Bch and 8500 Wolfes Pd P RICH 5 Apr (ACi); 4000 Peconic Bay, S Jamesport 4 Apr (MLL), very rare so far west in the bay; 3000 well inside Fire I Inlet 9 Apr (TD), where rarely seen.

**Brown Pelican:** increasing in R10: RMSP, 18 Apr (ChC); OP, 14 May (JSe, KJ Klein).

**American Bittern:** dep Ludlow Creek SUFF, 14 May (MMB).

**Least Bittern:** SMNC, 15 May (SBI); PP, 20-21 May (mob); JBWR, 21 May (CFi); TP, 29 May (TD).

**Tricolored Heron:** Little Neck Bay, QUEE, 22 Apr (SWa, IR), unusual on N Shore.

**Cattle Egret:** Cutchogue SUFF, 22 Apr – 2 May (mob); RMSP, 16 May (PMo, AP); MF, 19 May (ACi).

**WHITE-FACED IBIS:** 2 TP, 15 Apr -14 May (mob); Suffolk Co Env Ctr SUFF, 18 Apr (LN); Captree I SUFF, 28 Apr – 9 May (mob).

**Black Vulture:** incr, obs in all boroughs and entire N Shore of Suffolk.

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** CP, 31 May (mob).

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 5, L Panomoka SUFF, 29 May thru end of period (mob), nest.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** Ocean Pkwy NASS and SUFF, thru 21 Mar (mob), likely multiple birds.

**Barn Owl:** JBWR, thru period (mob), multiple nests.

**Snowy Owl:** not a major flight year: NB, 1 Mar (mob); Shinn, 14 Mar (M. Jensen); SPCP, 18 Mar (KCa)

**Short-eared Owl:** GKP, 11 Mar (J. Gyekis), migrating high midday.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** not a major flight year: Birch Creek Owl Pd CP SUFF, 1 Mar (BBo, TS); Red Cote Pr NASS (SPe); CR, 29 Mar (ACi).

**Pileated Woodpecker:** simultaneous pair of obs in Queens, where unusual: APP, 8 May (L. Weir); FP, 8 May (mob).

#### FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

**Cliff Swallow:** max 14, APEC, 30 May (BF), colony.

**CAVE SWALLOW:** RMSP, 14 Apr (MMB).

**Sedge Wren:** KP, 11 May (EMi, mob).

**TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE:** Three Mile Harbor SUFF, thru 24 Mar (mob).

**BICKNELL'S THRUSH (R10):** PP, 16 May (S. Taylor).

**VARIED THRUSH:** PP, thru 7 Apr (RBA).

**Lapland Longspur:** Brookfield P RICH, 1 Mar (ACi); 2 NB, thru 7 Mar (mob).

**Snow Bunting:** max 30 NB, 1 Mar (K. Drake), low.

#### NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 250 CP, 20 Apr (SCh), incl group of 200.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** CP, 3 May (mob).

**Lark Sparrow:** Red Hook KING, 15 May (R. Fleming).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 19, FKP, 26 May (JRG), known breeding site.

**Seaside Sparrow:** CICP, 8 May (DG), unusual location.

**Nelson's Sparrow:** Udall's Cove QUEE, 27 May (EMi); 2 PB, 27-29 May (mob); SMNC, 28 May (HL).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** max 10 SMNC, 15 May (SBI).

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** many in NYC, Muttontown Pres NASS, 30 May thru end of period (mob).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird:** m, BPT, 15 May (R. Ellard); Fire I SUFF, 29 May (E. Tyrer).

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 60, Cunningham P QUEE, 12 Mar (SWa).

**Boat-tailed Grackle:** max 310, JBWR, 20 Mar (MMB).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Riverside P NEWY, 6-7 May (mob); CP, 15-17 May (mob).

**SWAINSON'S WARBLER:** Muttontown Pres NASS, 26 May (L. Swenson).

**Kentucky Warbler:** reports from all counties except NASS.

**Cerulean Warbler:** oddly not detected in CP or PP, but many records incl: United Nations NEWY, 2 May (AF); IHP, 5 May (NOR, NSo); JBWR, 7 May (CFi, BF); VSSP, 7-9 May (mob); Henry Ingraham Pres, 7-12 May (mob), remarkable duration; Hillview Res, 11 May (SCa); W Sayville residence, 13 May (MGr); VCP 13 May (A. Rice, G. McGee); HLSP, 14 May (AG, JGa); *intro*.

**Northern Parula:** max 117 APP, 11 May (SPe).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** strong showing with double digits at multiple sites, mostly in QUEE and KING: max 22, CP, 16 May (RZ); *intro*.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** records from every R10 county.

**Wilson's Warbler:** max 15, Willowbrook P, RICH (RVe, L. Manne).

**Summer Tanager:** records from every R10 county.

**Scarlet Tanager:** max 52, IHP, 12 May (NOR).

**Blue Grosbeak:** records from every R10 county: 2 EPCAL, 28 May (GB), f nest building.

**PAINTED BUNTING:** PB, 19 Mar (SBI, HL, TPr); SMNC, 7 Apr (HL), possibly same individual; *intro*.

**Dickcissel:** 2 CICP, 16 May (DG), flyovers, first Spring record in eBird for KING.



Fish Crow and Northern Mockingbird, Bay Shore, *Suffolk*, 24 Apr 2020, © Brendan Fogarty.



## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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:

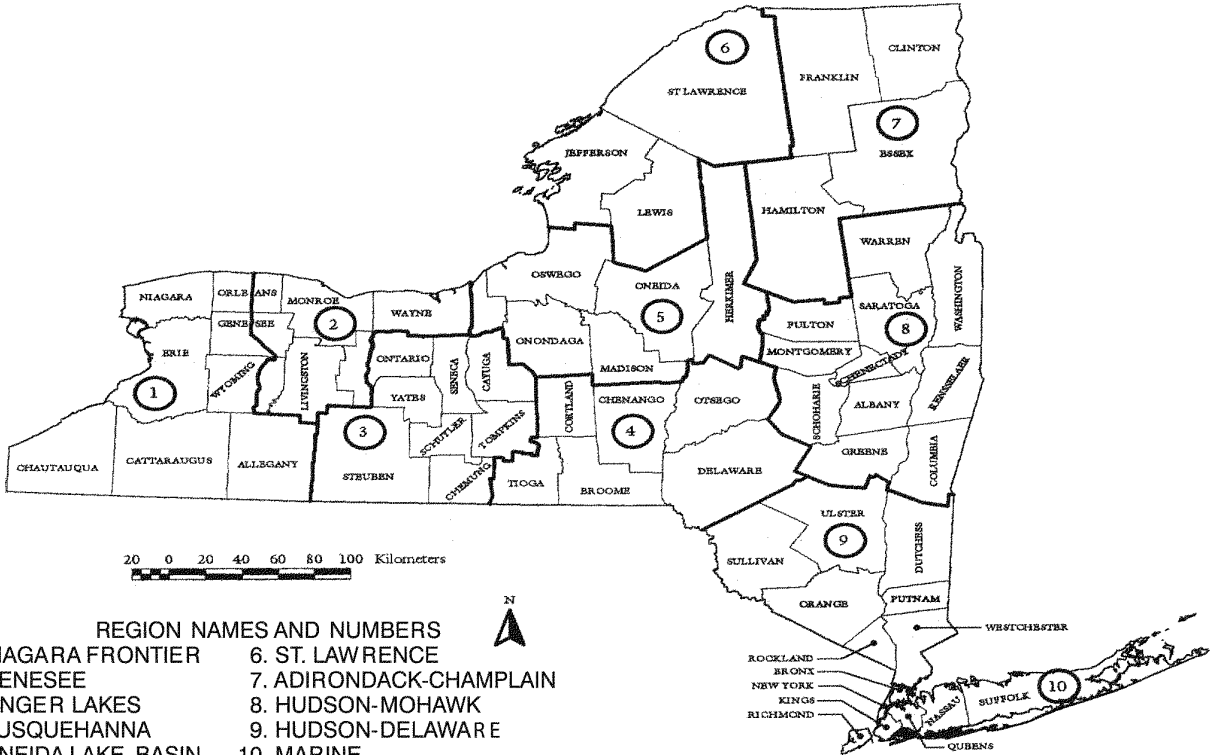
the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia; NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19 from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

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.



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