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MULTIPLE DIMENSIONS OF PASSERINE MORNING FLIGHT IN CENTRAL NEW YORK STATE: SPECIES, NUMBERS, DIRECTION, AND ALTITUDE

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This is a recap of 2020 fall migration morning flight observations of passerines made from an inland site in the Town of Danby, southern Tompkins County, central New York State (lat: 42.34324, long: -76.50394). Beginning 6 Aug, I sampled migratory flight activity for at least a short period each morning, logging as best I could numbers, flight direction, general altitude, and behavior characteristics for each species. The count site is about eight miles directly south of the south end of Cayuga Lake, on the weathered south-southeastern rim of the Lake Ontario Basin. At 488 m above sea level, it also is a point along the zig-zag northern reaches of the Appalachian-Allegheny Plateau. With a nearly unobstructed view to the northwest, north, and northeast, one looks out northward across a hayfield and patchy forested landscape, terrain that generally descends in altitude for about 100 km to Lake Ontario.

As I begin this write-up it is 18 Dec, a few days before the start of winter and a day after a major snowstorm has blanketed much of northeastern U.S. The count site received 38 cm of snow, with 76 cm in Tioga County (16 km to the south) and 101 cm in Broome County (55 km to the southeast). The snow is too deep for me to walk to the count site, so I drive. Normally I would park off the side of the road, but in order to do so this morning I first need to shovel out a space in the dense wall of snow created by the plow. The few people who drive by regularly have seen me scanning with binoculars from the site each morning for four months. Perhaps then I was just a curiosity; now I imagine they see a madman vigorously shoveling snow on the edge of a field. The urgency and excitement this morning is driven by possibility: will the Red Crossbills that have occupied pinecone-laden eastern NY in the great finch irruption of 2020 pick up camp and move out now that part of their food supply (cones on the ground) is suddenly buried under snow? Will the curious westward pulse of Purple Finches that has occurred over the past two weeks continue, now more than a month after the main wave passed? How long will the Cedar Waxwing flight persist? Will any Pine Grosbeaks or Bohemian Waxwings drift south? I am in a ready state of mind where the next bird I see may be the leading edge of a continental movement.

This year's regular daily count was possible because my family and I have been largely homebound during the Covid-19 pandemic. The count was not intended to be precisely consistent regarding the start time relative to sunrise or in the length of time surveyed. I generally aimed to be at the watch site in the 15 minutes before sunrise and count for at least 30 minutes. If steady morning flight

continued, I stayed until it had diminished, usually less than two hours; for exceptional flight mornings I stayed longer. On average over the 133 days of the survey reported here, I counted just under 1.5 hours per morning, and the starting time was within 15 minutes of local sunrise on all but eleven mornings. Figure 1 shows how my count period varied in length during the season.

I approached the count with a preliminary goal of establishing a baseline for flight activity of common migrant species like Cedar Waxwing and American Robin. I used a pair of Celestron NatureDX 8x42s, preferring a relatively wide field of view for helping quickly find birds passing over in the sky and for estimating the number of individuals in flocks.

The following are season accounts for selected passerine species for which I logged at least 20 individuals. Each species summary includes a graph showing the weekly rate of passage, with the number of the species counted during the week divided by the number of hours surveyed during the week. In the narrative for each species, flight altitude is reported as distance above ground level at the count site. Information on other species and more details regarding this count are available by accessing the “Cayuga South” migration count site at www.trektellen.nl

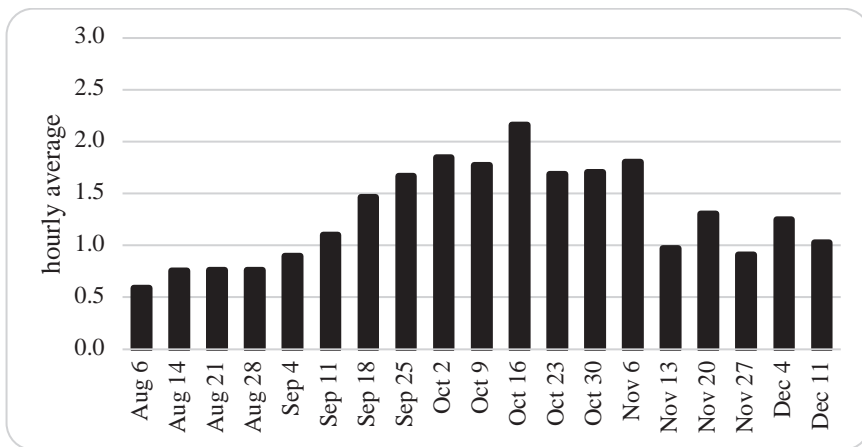


Figure 1. Average coverage per morning (total = 171 hours) at a Danby, Tompkins, NY, morning flight site, by count week, 6 Aug-17 Dec 2020.

Northern Flicker The flight was characterized by a slow onset to the peak week of the season, which began 2 Oct. Regular morning flight activity occurred between mid-September and mid-October and 80% of the flight occurred in the two weeks from 22 Sep to 6 Oct. The largest morning total was 12 on 3 Oct and the largest group passing together was three. Flickers often appeared from the east and headed west to northwest. Flight altitude was less than 40 m and the range of detection was up to 500 m to the north and northwest.

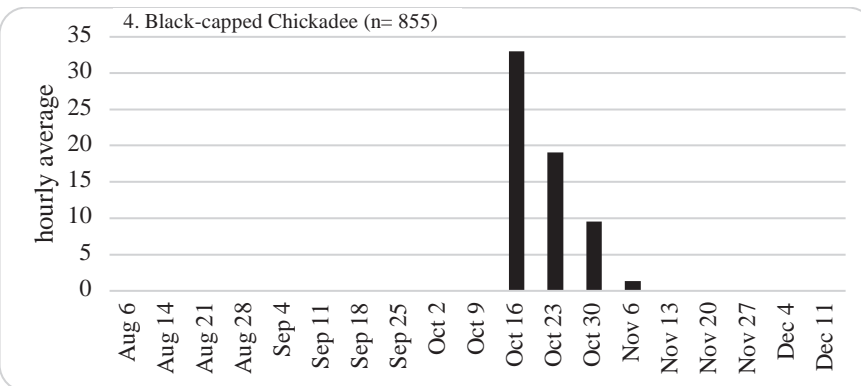
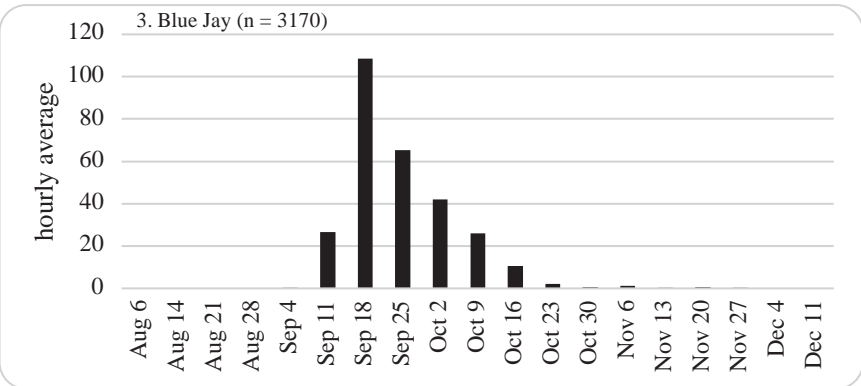
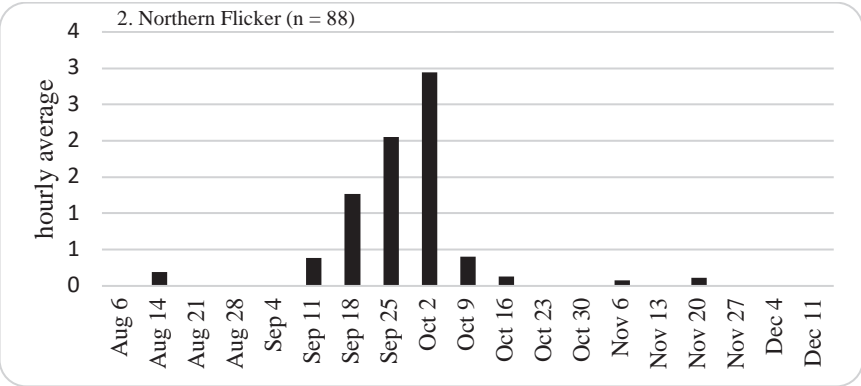
Blue Jay The flight was characterized by a sudden onset to peak flight density. Their movement got going in the week of 11 Sep and the peak flight occurred the next week (18-24 Sep). The bulk (92%) of the flight occurred over 30 days 15 Sep through 14 Oct, with 72% in the 17-day period 18 Sep-4 Oct. The largest flight morning was 18 Sep with 288 in 1.5 hours. That day also had the largest flock of the season, 58. Flight direction was predominantly toward the south or southwest. Later in the morning count period, a regular stream of singles (never flocks) often was seen flying eastward. In many cases these birds had what appeared to be acorns in their mouths. Since this seemed like a flight associated with feeding and not migration, these birds were not tallied in the count.

Jays migrated every morning during the peak flight period regardless of wind direction, even into strong southerly headwinds. In the latter cases, flight altitude would be low, with largish flocks passing just 3-12 m over the watch site. On mornings with northerly winds, flight altitude could be surprisingly high with a few flocks estimated to be passing at least 150 m overhead. In general, they passed at less than 60 m.

Most jays were counted as they passed from left to right over the swale or ridge to the north. Because of the Blue Jay's distinctive individual manner of flight and flock spacing, individuals could be detected and counted out to ~550 m to the north and northwest.

Black-capped Chickadee Chickadee migration was an unexpected phenomenon at the count site. A few small local flocks had been present in the woods nearby, with no more than eight typically noted in a morning through 18 Oct. But an increase in activity was noticed 19 Oct. It became apparent that chickadee flocks were moving southward toward the count site along the forest edge to the north, then turning and following the edge's bend to the southwest and crossing the road right behind the watch site. This species' flight, which occurred largely on six mornings during the brief period 19 Oct-6 Nov, is described in daily detail here. On 19 Oct three noisy flocks of 10, 18, and 11 crossed the road in 1.7 hours of counting. On 20 Oct, flocks of 12 and 31 passed in about two hours of counting. Then on 21 Oct, 34 flocks totaling 417 individuals passed in 4.7 hours, one flock having 53 individuals. There was another sizeable movement of 156 on 25 Oct and a combined pulse of 114 on the mornings of 2 and 3 Nov. The last apparent migrants were noted 6 Nov.

The Black-capped Chickadee movement spanned about three weeks, characterized by a sudden onset to peak passage rate. The direction of flight was predominantly toward the southwest. Flocks streamed through the forest at treetop level or through the mid-story, most crossing the road at 3-12 m. Counting was performed without binoculars within 30 m of the crossing location. Wind direction did not seem to play a role in whether migration occurred—in the largest flight morning flocks were pressing forward into a moderately strong southerly headwind.



Figures 2-4. Hourly passages of Northern Flicker, Blue Jay, and Black-capped Chickadee at a Danby, *Tompkins*, NY morning flight site, by count week, 6 Aug-17 Dec 2020.

Nuthatches Both species were regularly present in the woods nearby, but the appearance in mid-August of Red-breasted, and in mid-September of White-breasted, well above the trees in southbound flight left no doubt migration was occurring. White-breasted migration was first noted about a month later than that of Red-breasted and was more prevalent later in the season.

Red-breasted was observed as singles and groups up to three, usually in southbound migration less than 60 m high, but occasionally moving northwesterly. In one instance, three individuals took off together from trees just north of the count site. They circled up quite high, until only visible with binoculars, then headed straight northwest. White-breasted was observed as singles or pairs, often quite high (up to ~60 m), but always in straight southbound migration. Both species were only detected in morning flight in light wind conditions.

American Robin This was the most abundant species and had two distinct seasonal peaks of morning flight activity. There was a small pulse in the latter two weeks of August and a larger more protracted pulse that built during the month of October, peaking in the last week, and then diminished through November.

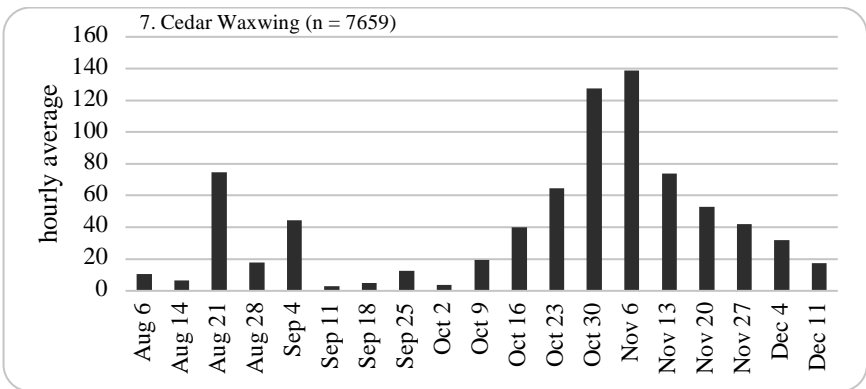
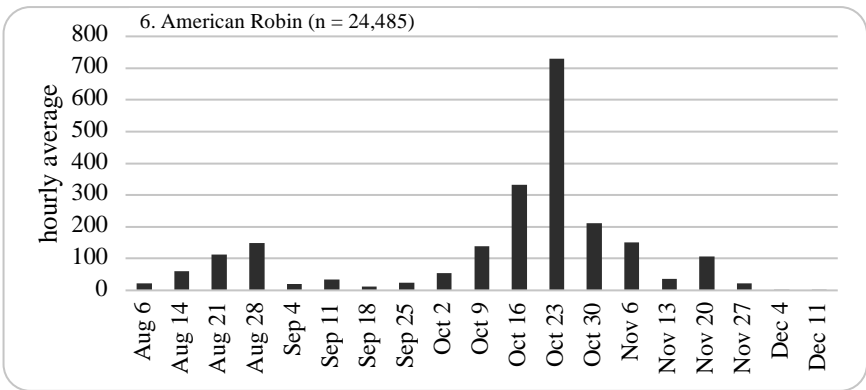
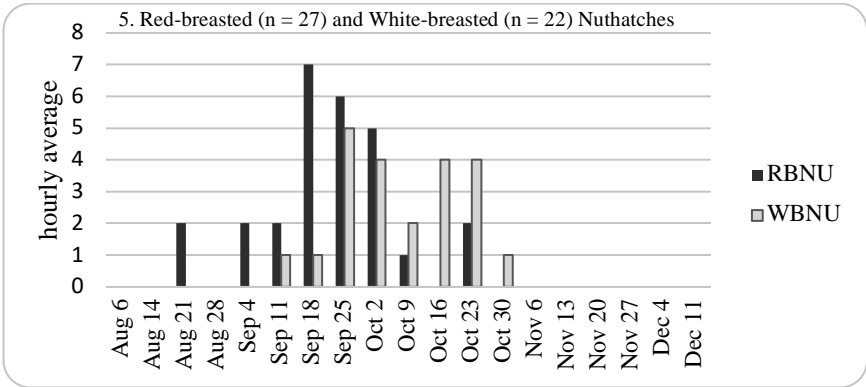
The largest flight documented in the first peak was 260 on 26 Aug. The largest flight documented in the second peak was 2370 on 26 Oct, and 59% of the season's total occurred 16 Oct-1 Nov. The largest flock size of the season was around 300 on multiple occasions, but during the peak flight mornings flocks streamed past closely following one another almost in a continuous stream. Flight direction was predominantly toward the west (+/- 10 degrees), but there were also substantial flights toward southeast and south.

Robins seemed to move every morning during the peak periods, regardless of wind direction, even with strong westerly headwinds and snow. Altitude was highly variable, but largely below 60 m. In November during northerly winds, large flocks of robins appeared from the north in high (150+ m) southbound flight.

Robins were counted as they passed from left to right over the swale or ridge to the north. They also regularly arrived from due east and flew over the count site heading directly west. Their often-distinctive flight pattern and loose flock association enabled counting out to ~500 m to the north and northwest. During high density flights, counting was made by estimating blocks of 10 or 50 birds.

Cedar Waxwing This species had two peaks in flight activity—a small pulse in the two-week period from 21 Aug–4 Sep and a larger more protracted pulse from 9 Oct to early December. The largest flight documented in the first peak was 210 on 31 Aug. The largest flight documented in the second peak was 545 on 7 Nov. The largest flock size of the season was around 35 on multiple occasions. Flight direction was predominantly toward the west.

Cedar Waxwings seemed to be migrating every morning during the peak flight periods regardless of wind direction, even with strong westerly headwinds and snow. Flight altitude was mostly below 60 m.



Figures 5-7. Hourly passages of Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatches, American Robin, and Cedar Waxwing at a Danby, *Tompkins*, NY morning flight site, by count week, 6 Aug-17 Dec 2020.

Waxwings were counted as they passed from left to right over the swale and ridge to the north. They also regularly arrived from due east and flew over the count site heading directly west. Their often-distinctive tight flock formation enabled counting out to ~500 m to the north and northwest, but the constantly shifting individual positions made precise counting difficult. Count totals for mid-to-large flocks were estimated to the nearest five.

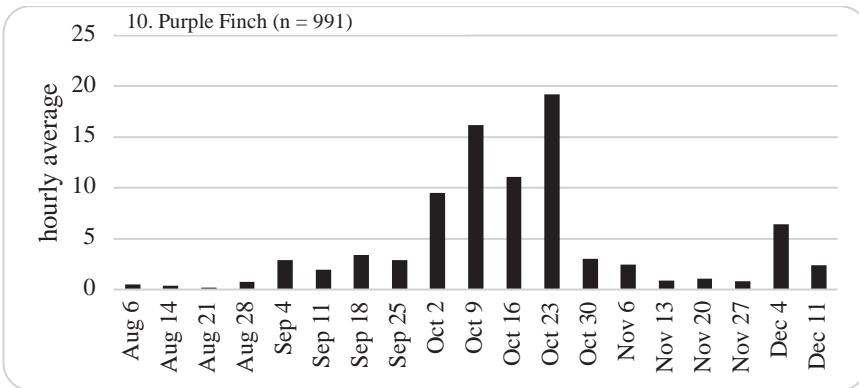
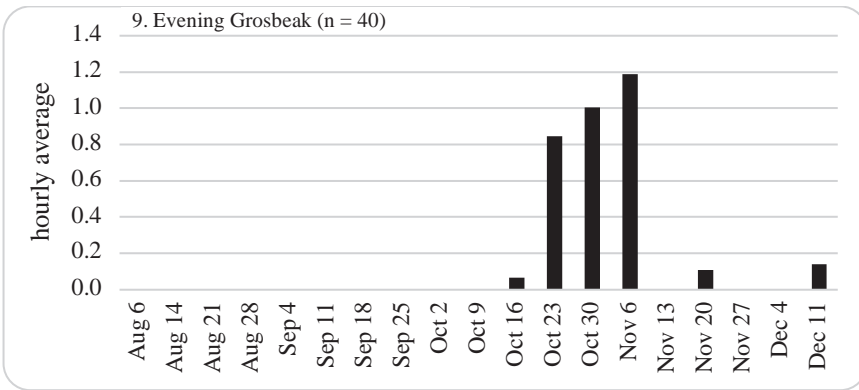
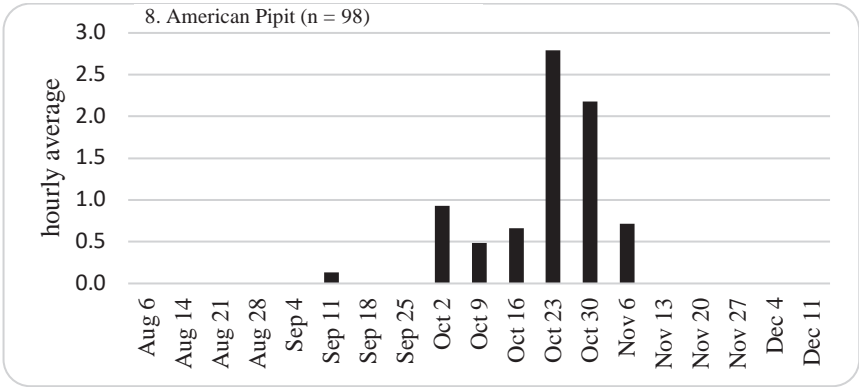
American Pipit Pipits were observed passing regularly in small numbers from October through mid-November, with a peak in the last week of October and first week of November. The highest morning total was 16 on 25 Oct. Their direction of flight was toward the south and altitude of flight at least up to 60 m. In many cases, calls were heard overhead but the birds could not be located. Pipits were not counted unless calls helped confirm ID and numbers. The range of detection was less than 120 m. Many distant birds suspected of being pipits were recorded as passerine sp.

Evening Grosbeak 95% of the season's observations occurred on 12 mornings from 22 Oct through 10 Nov. Most were singles; the largest flock was six. Many singles were heard-only and their direction of flight was variable or undetermined. The most common direction of flight seemed to be toward the west or northwest.

Purple Finch This species breeds in small numbers in the vicinity of the count site, and these are likely the source of occasional flyovers documented throughout August. Morning flight activity was greater in September than August, suggesting migration was underway, and the peak flight of the season occurred throughout October. The species was a relatively scarce flyover during November, but there was a distinct increase of morning flight activity in the first half of December.

During the main flight in October, birds arrived primarily from the northeast, heading southwest. The late flight in December was nearly all moving straight west. The peak flight period was difficult to determine because countability varied a lot with wind direction and sky cover. With tail winds, birds often passed over up to at least 60 m and could be difficult to locate—calls were heard but nothing seen, so only one individual was often logged in cases when there were likely small flocks passing over. Also, cloud cover made for easier counting than blue sky. The peak flight morning, 151 in 2.6 hrs. on 23 Oct, occurred as Purple Finches were flying into a moderately strong southerly headwind with a cloudy background. They were passing relatively low, mostly less than 30 m, and were relatively easy to find in the sky and count. The day prior (22 Oct), 80 were counted in 2.4 hrs. but there was a north wind and mostly clear sky—birds were flying high and difficult to find. The total likely would have been substantially higher on the 22nd if counting conditions had been better. The largest flock size during the season was 14.

Individuals counted in the study were largely detected and identified by call as they passed within 150 m of the count site. Many distant or silent birds were



Figures 8-10. Hourly passages of American Pipit, Evening Grosbeak, and Purple Finch at a Danby, *Tompkins*, NY morning flight site, by count week, 6 Aug-17 Dec 2020.

recorded as finch sp. or passerine sp., but confidence in counting unheard, seen-only Purple Finches passing at a distance increased during the season as familiarity improved with their relatively chunky, short-tailed silhouette and often loosely spaced positions of individuals in flocks.

Common Redpoll The redpoll flight started with a few singles in the first week of November (4 and 7 Nov), then five separate flocks totaling 79 on 8 Nov. 55% (145) of the season's total of 265 occurred over three consecutive mornings from 8-10 Nov. Nearly all flocks arrived from the east and headed straight west. Wandering singles first thing in the morning moved in all directions. The largest flock size of the season was 20 and flight altitude of passing redpolls was below 60 m.

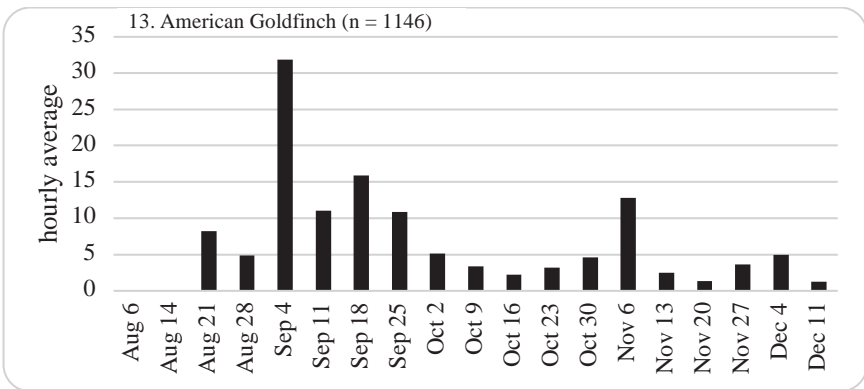
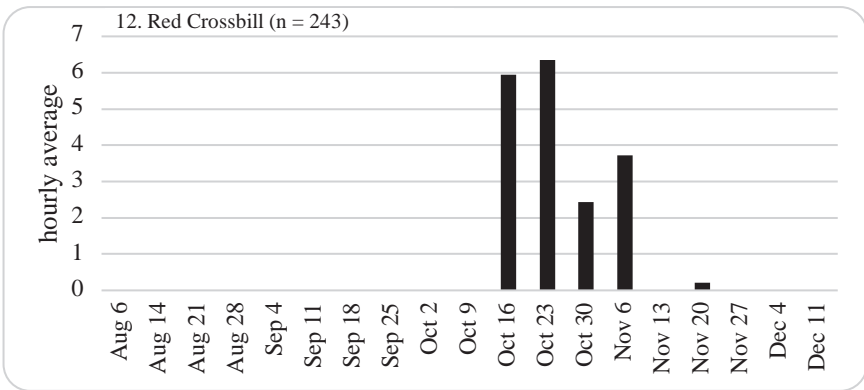
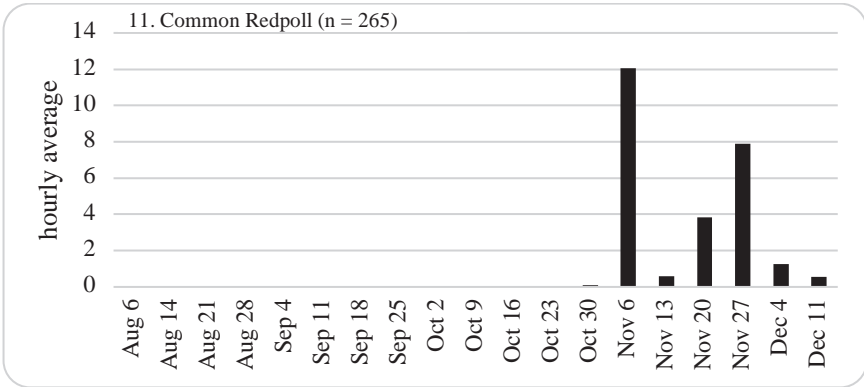
Red Crossbill The Red Crossbill flight began 20 Oct with a flock of 14, then on the 22nd and 23rd eight independent flocks passed over, estimated with 123 individuals in total (largest flock size ~45). During the first two weeks of November passage continued in lower numbers, and after that there were only a few individual flyovers. 87% were headed straight west. Some of the flocks passed over surprisingly high above the count site, the highest at least 60 m. Most of the type-determined birds were the eastern Type-10 population. Several early flocks were of undetermined type. The only southbound flock noted was of 16 birds that sounded like Type-3. A few Type-3 calls were also recorded within a different mixed-type flock and spectrographically verified by Matt Young. Type-2 birds were in the area but were not heard at the count site.

American Goldfinch This species commonly breeds and winters near the count site, and local flight activity can contaminate migration counts. Generally, local goldfinches can be recognized by flight call types and by flock size, behavior, and direction, but there is likely some local clutter in the migration data reported here.

Southbound migration activity took shape in the first week of September and continued through the month. There was a lull in migratory flight activity through October followed by a small peak in the first two weeks of November. The last small flocks of migrants were noted on 6 Dec. The largest flock size of the season was 18. Flight direction was more than 85% straight south and flight altitude appeared to be less than 60 m.

American Goldfinch was the most challenging species to find in the sky over the count site, and the season total is certainly a substantial underestimate. Calls were often heard overhead but no birds seen, defaulting to a minimum estimate of one.

Pine Siskin This species was first detected 21 Sep, and morning flight activity increased steadily to the peak period, 6-12 Oct, when 63% of the season total passed over. The magnitude of the flight diminished rapidly after the peak and



Figures 11-13. Hourly passages of Common Redpoll, Red Crossbill, and American Goldfinch at a Danby, *Tompkins*, NY morning flight site, by count week, 6 Aug-17 Dec 2020.

persisted at a low level through mid-November, with just an occasional single after that. The largest flock size of the season was ~40.

More than 95% of the flocks moved past the count site from west to east less than 50 m high. Wandering singles first thing in the morning moved in all directions.

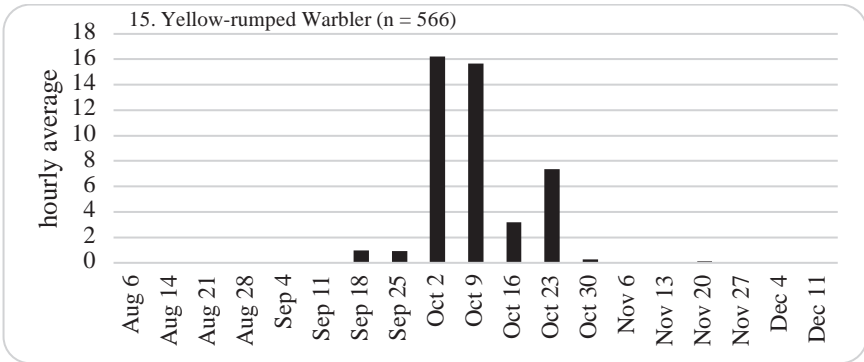
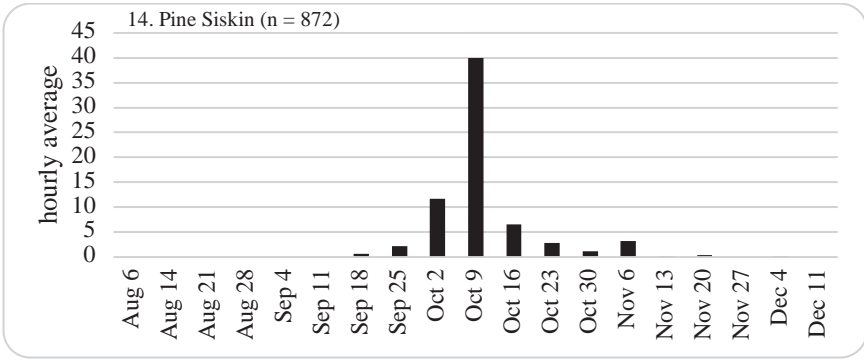
Yellow-rumped Warbler This species was first detected 24 Sep and 32% of the season total passed in three mornings (2-4 Oct). Flight direction was toward the south and flight altitude was largely below 60 m. Yellow-rumped were not counted unless calls helped confirm ID of an individual or a flock. The range of detection was less than 120 m and many distant birds suspected of being Yellow-rumped ended up classified as passerine sp.

DISCUSSION

The more one counts, the more one understands the flight dynamics of the site, and that in turn affects one's count method: where in the sky and on which species one allocates attention. Initially, my "absorbing concern" was counting Cedar Waxwings and American Robins. When I realized nuthatches were on the wing, my search routine changed a bit—each distant small passerine now needed to be evaluated. When I realized a major boreal finch irruption was underway, that expanded my scope and supercharged my attention. When I noticed a stream of chickadee flocks crossing behind the watch site, I adjusted to listen for flocks approaching from the east. As I heard them approaching, I would step out into the road and look south to count them as they crossed, reducing attention to potential robin and waxwing passage to the north. The chickadee movement now took top priority because of its novelty, yet when a crossbill flock was heard approaching, there was no hesitation in breaking off from counting chickadees. Both were equally high priority, but crossbills were more fleeting, typically passing by in less than 15 seconds; if I wanted to get a number, I had to see the flock.

There were mornings in late October and early November when the attention demands of different components of the flight were overwhelming to the point where precision in counting some species was reduced—the robin and waxwing flight was in peak passage to the north, seven species of finches were arriving from three different directions, nuthatches were trickling by overhead, and chickadees streaming past behind me. All the while I was thinking I must keep watch for early Common Loons passing overhead or to either side.

Bird counts are potential protein for conservation efforts. In this regard, one strives in counting to be a robot, minimizing variables that might affect accuracy and consistency. If I am fortunate enough to be able to count another fall, I will bring a more evolved counting protocol gained from this year's sojourn. It would be an improved count, so this would need to be considered when comparing the numbers with this year. But the relative species composition, migration peaks, and direction of flight should stand up well for future comparison.



Figures 14-15. Hourly passages of Pine Siskin and Yellow-rumped Warbler at a Danby, *Tompkins*, NY morning flight site, by count week, 6 Aug-17 Dec 2020.

There are more than 1000 morning flight count sites in Europe while perhaps only a few dozen in North America, several of which are conducted on the ocean coast of Long Island (S. Mitra, pers. comm.). But morning flight occurs everywhere in New York State. If you can view of the landscape from a site close to your home and can carve out an hour first thing in the morning during any portion of the migration periods, you can tune in to the flow and start laying a record for intra- and inter-station comparison. Indeed, there is elegance and economy in morning flight data; it is a powerful independent index for certain bird populations, and even short surveys can sample a relatively large number of birds. Of course, there is also an intangible element that may lead one to watch or count morning flight... for pure wonder and enjoyment, and accordingly for tapping into the marvelous ether of our ancient relationship with birds and their migrations.

As I conclude this report it is mid-January. Morning flight has diminished at my count site except for occasional southward pulses of Canada and Snow Geese, and an ongoing enigmatic westward flow of small flocks of Cedar Waxwings and Purple Finches.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

An Exceptional Finch Flight on Long Island's North Fork

We all observed that this fall's migration was a good one for Pine Siskin, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, etc. However, 8 November, 2020 in my yard in Northville (in the eastern section of Riverhead along Long Island Sound) was quite unprecedented. By 7:00 a.m. my husband and I noticed that the yard, front and back, was full of Pine Siskins and American Goldfinches, all freely mixing together. These actively feeding birds were on stalks of showy goldenrod and rough goldenrod, and New England asters, as well as all over the grassy ground and in every feeder on the property. By the best guess and fairly accurate counting we concluded we had about 500 birds in tight concentrations. This immense, hungry flock must have come in over Long Island Sound on the calm, clear night that just passed as we did not have anything like this the day before. Did they all fly together overnight from Canada and New England?

Obviously, finding agreeable food and favorable conditions abounding, they stayed in force through the day. These birds were so thick on the ground we had to shoo them away from the feeder areas so as not to step on them. They drained the feeders several times, as well as feasting on seed on the ground. They had no fear of us or our dog and unfortunately the dog stepped on one siskin which did not move out of the way. We assumed most of these birds had never seen people before; you could walk right up to them and pet some of them as they were feeding. Of course, I partook of the privilege of doing so several times, as I couldn't help myself! These birds started to leave the yard area by about 4:00 p.m. The next day none were in the yard; apparently they had moved on overnight again. I consider this a very exciting event, which we were fortunate to observe, witness and document with photographs (see photo, p. 52)—and one we will probably never see again, at least not in numbers like these!

MaryLaura Lamont, Northville, NY

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PATCH BIRDING SOUTH SHORE ROOTS

Bob Grover
West Islip, NY

I was inspired to write this by my friend Bobby Berlingeri, who wrote about his experiences growing up in Lido Beach (*The Kingbird*, 70:1), and how they inspired his love of birds and nature. This essay is mostly based on the eulogy I delivered at my Dad's funeral a decade ago. I delivered that talk with no notes—just from the heart—so regrettably, I have no record to rely on. Maybe this article will help me to recreate that talk.

When I was a child, my family would spend weekends at Cedar Beach, in southwest Suffolk County. The Captree Bridge connecting the mainland to Captree Island and then to Ocean Parkway by way of the drawbridge, had not yet been constructed, so we had to go all the way from Babylon to Wantagh, and south over those bridges, through Jones

Beach, and east to Cedar. My father was an ocean lifeguard and avid surfer, so we would spend long summer days there sitting on the beach and playing in the surf. One day, when I was only about five, I decided to expand my horizons and explore. I wandered west a few hundred feet and was suddenly attacked. Little did I know at the time, nor was I capable of understanding, that I had wandered into the famous (though not yet at the time) Cedar Beach Tern Colony. I was freaking out and crying hysterically when my Dad, who had been watching, scooped me up in his arms and carefully walked me out of the colony. I recall asking him, "What are these birds and why are they so mean?". He replied that they were terns, and that they were not mean. He explained that they were defending their nests and that they were beautiful seabirds to be appreciated. From that moment on, I was fascinated by wildlife and nature.

A couple of years later, the town opened Overlook Beach, to the east of Cedar. In addition, the state opened the Captree Bridge, taking about a half hour off our trip to the beach. My Dad wanted to try out the surf there so that was our destination on one beautiful, clear summer day. By then, I had begun to acquire some rudimentary knowledge of geography. As we sat on our beach blanket, I looked across the ocean, but I saw land not too far away. I was astounded. "Is that Europe?", I asked. My dad explained that it was the end of Fire Island, and how that island had grown five miles from a former position all the way east by the barely visible lighthouse, due to the movement of sand and surf. And now, from that moment on, I was also fascinated by coastal geology. Slowly but surely, my educational and vocational pursuits were being forged. Before long, I was reading Charles Darwin, Marston Bates, and others, which just jazzed me up further.

As time went on, my Dad's interests started to shift from surfing to sailing, and this opened an entire new aspect to my pursuit of natural history. More on that shortly. The transition to sailing was gradual, and we kept up a tradition, on Sunday mornings after church in late winter and early spring, of going over to Captree State Park to walk down the dock and enjoy an ice cream cone. On one memorable Sunday, we were driving back home, going north across Captree Island, when my Dad calls out, "Look at the Snowy Owl, it looks just like the cigar box!". The owl was flying north, paralleling us, so we got great looks. I was mesmerized, and my Dad talked about it for days.

When I was a young teen, my Dad bought me a surfboard, not like the wooden boards he used to build, but a modern fiberglass board, which hangs proudly in our den today. A couple of years later he bought me a 16-foot Lyman skiff with an outboard. Very quickly that boat taught me the meaning of the term "chick magnet", but I digress. I used to load my surfboard onto the skiff and shoot across the bay to Cedar Beach to surf. Full circle. That trip brought me across the eelgrass beds in the shallows off Lindenhurst, which were locally called The Flats. I got into the habit of slowing down and staring into the clear bay waters at the abundant marine life. Before too long I was purchasing a mask, snorkel, and fins to keep on the boat. Instead of staring, I would anchor and dive down into this amazing ecosystem, collecting all manner of invertebrates to bring home and identify. This also gave me time to just sit and study the diving behavior of my once-feared terns and gain insight into their natural history.

My boat opened other avenues of nature exploration, as well. I could anchor and wade in to various bay islands, some manmade dredge spoil islands and some natural flood tide deposits from former tidal inlets, of which I learned there were many before they were all filled in to construct Ocean Parkway. I still have a collection of old maps and nautical charts depicting the location and configuration of those inlets. Exploring those islands taught me lessons like there are no such things as "sea gulls", but rather more specific names of individual species, and that the immature plumages of these birds was not dirt!

The south shore of Long Island provides myriad opportunities to learn about the natural world, and my wife Michelle and I made a point of keeping that tradition and lore alive in our two sons, both now fathers and educators. My quest to learn about nature continues to this day, but it is all because of the foundation constructed for me by my father.

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FIFTY YEARS AGO IN

The **KINGBIRD**

Bar-tailed Godwit at Moriches, L.I. While accompanying a Vermont friend, Mrs. John McCormick, on an annual shore-birding trip, Mrs. Crispin Cooke and I were birding on an island straddling Moriches Inlet, Suffolk Co., commonly known as Bird Island, on Mon., May 10th, 1971. As we approached the extensive mudflats on the west end in squally rain and wind, we spotted an unusual Godwit feeding near Black-bellied Plovers. About 4” longer in body than they and 2” taller, it was rather a slender bird and not big enough to be a Marbled. It had a rusty chestnut neck and breast, light brown reticulated back, and its rump showed a white arrow up the back above a tail narrowly barred crossways with grey-brown (much like the Dowitcher pattern and not at all like a Hudsonian.) This we saw easily when the bird stretched a wing and tail at close range. Its legs were blue-grey and its face light tan with no eye-line and a bland expression. The bill was long, upturned, and two-toned, pinkish at the base and dark grey at the tip. It fed often in an upward shovelling manner that I have noticed in Marbled Godwits. Though not as brightly colored as the illustration in Peterson’s *Birds of Britain and Europe*, (rainy day perhaps?) it was easily identifiable as a Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) in spring plumage. Interestingly enough, though there are five recorded sightings in the northeastern U.S.. two in Mass. in 1907 and 1937, two in southern N.J., the last one (though a Nov. bird) was in 1946 in the very same area! (John Bull, *Birds of the New York Area*)

Mrs. Joseph B. Conolly Jr., 68 Wheatley Road, Glen Head, L.I., N.Y. 11545

Ed Note—This godwit was seen again at Bird Island on May 12 by Dennis Puleston. His comments confirm the details given above by Mrs. Conolly. Also, a Bar-tailed Godwit was present at Port Canaveral, Florida from October to at least late February. A Black-tailed Godwit was present at the Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge from June into August. In early August all four of the world’s godwits—Marbled, Bar-tailed, Hudsonian and Black-tailed—were observed at that Refuge.

This note originally appeared in Volume XXI, No. 3, July 1971, on pages 142-143.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

As noted here a year ago in Volume 70, Number 1, page 13, the initial issues of each volume now serve basic record-keeping duties for the journal: the corrigenda from the previous volume (and older volumes, if other mistakes come to light—but see below) are explained here, so that errors are accessible and interpretable, in case they propagate into other publications or media. Similarly, for the convenience of readers browsing hard copy of the Regional Reports for species of interest, the species sequence is specified here (unchanged from Volumes 69 and 70).

“Fifty Years Ago in *The Kingbird*,” a feature resumed a year ago, continues in the present issue, as does the Patch Birding column, offering views into the habits, values, and mores of our community. Barbara Conolly’s note, reprinted above, holds great interest at many levels. Several simple errors, involving spelling, capitalization of group names, commas, periods, and parentheses, are reproduced here exactly (Pat and I quadruple-proofed them), and these artifacts of the pre-digital era will not, at least under my Editorship, be altered in the online archive. They convey fascinating information about how *The Kingbird* was produced. Far from being a demerit to Editor Joseph W. Taylor, these glitches illustrate the remarkable diligence and skill that allowed this note to be delivered just two months after the observation in question, in an age when almost all the correspondence was achieved via the United States Postal Service. Another level of significance resides in the archaic attitudes toward gender preserved here. These are not errors but rather issues engaging the attention of well-meaning people, then and now. In fact, some related issues were detected at the eleventh hour in the present issue and remedied just in time! Finally, I can’t resist reflecting on this note’s effects on me personally, heightening my urge to write a Patch Birding essay of my own about the Moriches Inlet flats. In this regard, I offer one corrigendum and one addendum to Barbara’s note—not in the formal forum below, but directly in my role as Editor. It is my judgement that the last sentence, retaining the style of the day, should read, “Interestingly enough, though, there are five prior recorded sightings in the northeastern U.S.: two in Mass. in 1907 and 1937, two in southern N.J., and the most recent one (and first for New York, though a Nov. bird) was in 1946, in the very same area as the present record!” To which might be added, in the spirit of Joe Taylor’s delight in the confluence of four species of godwits at one place and one time, my own, almost religious, excitement in noting the predilection of this one rare godwit species for this one special site across the decades, as New York’s third record of Bar-tailed Godwit was also recorded at Moriches Inlet, 17-18 Aug 1974 (*The Kingbird* 25: 27-28).

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CORRIGENDA

Please make note of the following corrections to errors in *The Kingbird*. Some editorial errors will be corrected in the digital archive, accessible at nybirds.org, and are indicated here by underline.

KB 66.1 March 2016

p. 14 A reference in the third paragraph, third line should read “(Figure 1, p. 45)”

p. 15 Figure references in the first and second paragraphs should read “(Figure 2, p. 46)” and “(Figure 3, p. 46)” respectively.

KB 68.1 March 2018

p. 5 Second line should read “between January and June arises from the specimen from Cumberland County, NJ in”

KB 68.2 June 2018

p. 136 The figure should be labeled “Figure 7”

KB 70.1 March 2020

p. 1 The title reading “Editor’s Note” should read “Editor’s Note and Corrigenda”

KB 70.3 September 2020

p. 211 In the Swainson’s Warbler entry, an observer’s name is misspelled; the correct spelling is “Deutsch” not “Deutch”

p. 256 The caption should read “Blue-winged X Green-winged Teal...”

p. 284 In the fourth paragraph, fourth line, an incorrect number of species was reported. A correction was printed in KB 70.4 on p. 380.

KB 70.4 December 2020

p. 325 In the second paragraph, the last line should read “also a strong supporter of the New York State Young Birders Club.”

p. 364 The captions for photos C and D were reversed. The caption should read: “Photos clockwise from top left. A: The pair on 3 May; B: A mate chase on 9 Jun; C: Panting on the nest on 22 Jun; D: Mating on 19 Jun.”

p. 381 In the Abbreviations section, the initial letter was omitted in “Point au Roche”

p. 408 The entry for Savannah Sparrow is incomplete. An addendum is included in the Region 10 report in the present issue, KB 71.1, p. 98.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—FALL 2020

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Fall of 2020 was characterized by roughly average temps in September and October, with September being just slightly warmer and drier than normal, and October being slightly warmer and wetter than normal. November temperatures, however, remained well above average across the state, with precipitation levels just below expected levels. Except for a few periods following heavy rains, mainly in October, shorelines were exposed, providing better than average shorebirding opportunities while limiting numbers of non-grazing waterfowl.

Several Regional editors declared the fall 2020 season as one of the most interesting migration periods they’ve seen in many years. Overall, good numbers of migrants were found. These good overall numbers were accompanied by some fantastic rarities. After several years of selecting from a few, widely scattered rare birds to highlight, this season

there were really too many to mention. If there was ever a time to read every Regional report, this was the season to do so. You'll find comments like "this was an excellent season for birding. Each month saw the species count close to record high..." from Robert Spahn in Region 2, and from David Wheeler in Region 5, "Fall 2020 was an absolutely epic season for rarities, scarce passage migrants, shorebirds, and winter finches, finishing 30 species above the recent 10 year average...". William Kuk in Region 4 attributed increases in numbers of observations to "more birding due to the pandemic, the breeding bird atlas, and to the growth of eBird."

Several species which have been trending upwards in recent years continued to do so. American White Pelicans were reported from six Regions, Trumpeter Swans from six, Black-bellied Whistling Ducks from Region 3, with multiples at three locations, and a Brown Booby from Region 9 and two from Region 10. Sandhill Cranes were found in eight Regions, with high counts of 150 in the Region 2 section of Montezuma NWR and 187 in the Region 3 section. Cackling Geese were reported from nine Regions while Pink-footed was reported from two, including a second Regional record for Region 5. A family group of Barnacle X Cackling Goose hybrids made an appearance in Orange County in Region 9 after having been detected in Massachusetts and Connecticut earlier in the fall. Cave Swallows were recorded from four Regions, including multiples in Region 10.

Several species that have been trending downward continued to do so. American Golden-Plover is one, and although it was reported in small numbers from all ten Regions, the double- and triple-digit flocks of Long Island have been missing for some years now. Single Upland Sandpipers were reported from just three Regions. Brendan Fogarty in Region 10 noted "few records of larger species like godwits and avocets, and all the sod farm shorebirds were once again in single-digit flocks." A single record of two Spruce Grouse in Region 6 and one other eBird entry from Region 7 were the only reports of this sensitive species. Two additional species, both of them found in reduced numbers, but maybe not actually in trouble, are Red-tailed Hawk and Snow Goose. The latter has been mentioned in recent seasons as having bypassed traditional sites, and again in fall 2020, Jeff Bolsinger mentioned that they "largely missed Region 6." Next door in Region 7, a max count of 10,000 probably indicates that there is just some location-shifting going on. Overall, they seem to be doing well. More puzzling are the comments from Region 4 about Red-tails. This season, Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch saw a 60% falloff from the average count. See that account for details on similar drops at other major northeast hawk watches. Again, Red-tailed Hawk as a species seems to be plentiful, but is there a problem with the populations that migrate through our area?

Back on the positive side, there seemed to be a coordination of incursions of species that we normally think of as irruptive. Snowy Owls seemed to be preparing for a decent winter showing, with all but one Region reporting them. Birds began showing up in the first few days of November. Rough-legged Hawks were reported from all 10 Regions, not always in great numbers, but still a pretty widespread distribution.

Of course, there's one group of birds that immediately comes to mind when we think of irruptives—namely, winter finches. After a few winters of good flights of Evening Grosbeaks and crossbills, this fall it seemed that all the players got on the same page. Following closely on the heels of early precursor flights of Red-breasted Nuthatch and Black-capped Chickadees, huge numbers of Pine Siskins flooded through the state often accompanied by good counts of Purple Finches. Most of the other winter finches followed, led by Common Redpoll and Red Crossbill. Also recorded, but in numbers closer to normal, were Pine Grosbeak, White-winged Crossbill and Hoary Redpoll. The Region 1 report mentions that this was often considered "the best irruptive finch flight in decades."

The editors there give a summary of Red Crossbill call types identified in the area. To give some idea of the extent of this flight, all Regions reported Evening Grosbeak, Red Crossbill, and Common Redpoll, nine reported White-winged Crossbill, and seven reported Pine Grosbeak and Hoary Redpoll! In his Region 10 report, Brendan Fogarty gives a nice summary of continent-wide events that may have some connection to our experiences in New York.

As mentioned up top, Regional editors lauded the fall 2020 season, sometimes for quantity, sometimes for quality, and sometimes both. Good waterfowl records included King Eider, with max counts of 11 in Region 2 and six in Region 5. One in Region 4 provided a rare inland record. A juvenile Harlequin Duck in Region 5 was surprisingly early on 11 September. Is it safe to assume it belongs to the eastern Canada breeding population?

Good shorebird habitat in several Regions yielded many nice records. A Western Sandpiper at the Allegheny Reservoir was a great find in Region 1. A Purple Sandpiper in Region 7 was the seventh record since 1950 and a Hudsonian Godwit at Dorchester Park provided a first Regional eBird record for Region 4. The extensive Region 5 account of the shorebirding season is worth a read.

While we're hanging out at the waterfront, this is probably a good place to mention that Region 1 had its third record of **Purple Gallinule**—a bird photographed at an elementary school! Sabine's Gulls were found in three Regions, a **Magnificent Frigatebird** was seen flying into Lake Ontario in Region 5, and a **Neotropical Cormorant** in Region 1 was the third record there.

Two **Swainson's Hawks** in Region 10 were exceptional, as was a **Mississippi Kite** in Region 1. At Franklin Mountain, Bald Eagles hit an all-time high of 248, while Golden Eagles were slightly better than average. As always, it's worth going back and reading through each of the hawk watch reports, where hard data is available to make seasonal comparisons.

Many Regions recorded late passerines, probably encouraged to linger by mild November temperatures. These are widely scattered through the Regional reports. A couple of species seemed to have many more mentions than we normally see. Eight Regions reported Nelson's Sparrows—are we just getting better at figuring that bird out? Also recorded from eight Regions was Connecticut Warbler, with reports from at least 40 locations in Region 10 alone. Additionally, as mentioned several times, there were many records of exceptional Regional rarities, such as a single Boreal Chickadee seen and audio recorded in Warren County in Region 8 providing the first Regional record in ten years, and quite a few statewide rare birds. For more details of both, it's really worth going through the Regional reports, but I'll try to mention a handful of birds not listed previously that could easily be Bird of the Season most years.

For starters, a **Sage Thrasher** in Columbia County in Region 8, a **Say's Phoebe** in Region 4, or a **Black-throated Gray Warbler** in Region 10 would all be BOTS contenders. Also in Region 10, an empid identified by recorded calls as **Pacific-slope Flycatcher** is at least as rare (if not quite as dramatic) as the **Painted Redstart** seen by many observers in Brooklyn. However, this time around, I think I would have to give the nod to Region 9, where a **Fork-tailed Flycatcher** not only was **not** the best bird, it wasn't even the best flycatcher. I'd give BOTS this time around to the **Tropical Kingbird** found at Dobb's Ferry, a long overdue first state record, a great bird that had the decency to hang around for a second day, to be enjoyed by many.

REGIONAL REPORTS—FALL 2020

Much of the data in these Regional reports was sourced from eBird: eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relNov-2020. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Nov 2020.

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REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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The warm and dry conditions continued from summer in September 2020. The mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 64.4° F, 2.2° above normal, with 3.40" of precipitation, 0.50" below average. September had the greatest average wind speed in ten years including strong winds on the 7th with a cold front. October had many damp days and two strong cold fronts on the 7th and 23rd, the latter with record breaking warmth ahead of it. The mean temperature was 51.8°, 1.0° above average. Precipitation was 3.60", 0.08" above average, plus a trace of snow. November was warm and mild. The mean temperature was 46.5°, 5.8° above normal and the sixth warmest November on record. Rainfall was 2.81", 1.20" below normal and there was only 0.8" of snow, 7.1" below average.

In a fall season with many highlights, the irruptive finch flight drew the most collective excitement among the Region's birders. In terms of the species involved and overall numbers, veteran birders considered it the best irruptive finch flight in decades. A makeshift "finch watch" was established at Krull County Park, as open fields with great sightlines adjacent to a large conifer plantation near the Lake Ontario shoreline provided an excellent viewing location for flyover finches that sometimes dropped in for foraging. Birders amassed by the dozens and many newer birders picked up multiple lifers. Red Crossbills were the most notable of the species as it was the largest irruption in 50+ years, including multiple counts around 100 from Krull CP in early November. Most call recordings were identified to Type 10 ("Sitka Spruce"), while Mike Morgante recorded one or more Type 4s ("Douglas Fir") within a group of Type 10s at Krull CP, and Tim Lenz recorded Type 2s ("Ponderosa Pine") at Lake Erie SP. White-winged Crossbills appeared in lower numbers and with less frequency than the Reds, and the maximum count of 28 at Krull CP was in a mixed crossbill foraging flock. Evening Grosbeaks first appeared in mid-October and were reported from 26 locations by the end of the month; maximum counts of 45 were made at Krull CP and Lake Erie SP in early November. Lone Pine Grosbeaks were identified by Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter at Krull CP on two dates in November, but this species did not otherwise join the finch irruption Regionally. There were some good flight days for Common Redpolls with a maximum count of 303 at Krull CP on 13 November. Three Hoary Redpolls were documented in November. Pine Siskins

were part of the irruption but in modest numbers. American Goldfinches were moving as well, with a count of 318 at Krull CP on the morning of 6 November. Other than some redpolls, it did not appear that the irruptive finches stuck around the Region.

The Region enjoyed several highlights during the fall waterfowl migration including two sightings of Ross's Goose. An individual found by Joel Strong in Somerset accommodated local birders for five days on 12-16 October, while a second individual was found by John Hayward in Amity on 16 November. This species has become near annual in the fall for the Region. There were several reports of Snow Goose throughout the Region, including an early sighting on 14 September at Iroquois NWR. A Snow x Ross's Goose hybrid was found by Celeste Morien on 23 October at INWR and documented well with photographs. There were several Cackling Goose reports, all from interior locations. Brant were reported from both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, represented by just four sightings for the season. Rounding out the goose highlights were three Greater White-fronted Geese reported at INWR from 18 October to 1 November and another in Wilson on 18 November. This is another species whose frequency appears to be increasing in the Region.

Tundra Swans arrived on 28 October, increasing to a seasonal high count of 125 by 26 November at Beaver Island SP. Both adult and juvenile Trumpeter Swans were reported from INWR throughout the fall season with a high of 12 individuals on 10 October. Handfuls of all three scoter species were reported from both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Surf Scoter reports from Dayton Gravel Ponds and Batavia WWTP represent notable inland reports. Joe Fell discovered four King Eiders along the Niagara River in Buffalo. These long-staying birds remained from 8-30 November, allowing many the opportunity to observe this Regional rarity. Wrapping up the waterfowl highlights were two male Harlequin Ducks, both from the Niagara River. The first was reported at its "usual spot" off Three Sisters Islands at Niagara Falls SP on 8 November and another from Buffalo on 21 and 27 November.

A **Purple Gallinule** was photographed next to an elementary school in Franklinville by Levi O'Brien on 23 October. This shocker of a sighting represents the Region's third record.

Shorebird numbers were not especially high within the Region, but there were several notable reports. Josh Ketry found and photographed Cattaraugus County's third record of **Western Sandpiper** at the recently drawn down Allegheny Reservoir. This location also produced the Region's only fall reports of Stilt Sandpiper. Several sightings of up to four Red-necked Phalaropes were reported from the Buffalo portion of the Niagara River in September and October. These sightings coincided with strong southwest winds and rain events, which tend to funnel this species to the extreme northeast end of Lake Erie and into the Niagara River, where savvy birders await. Celeste Morien found the season's only Regionally rare Red Phalarope on 2 October at BWWTP. The only Buff-breasted Sandpiper was found by Josh Ketry at Buffalo Harbor on 7 September. Two Red Knots were reported this season, both from Lake Erie on 5 and 16 September. Two sightings of American Avocets were reported in the fall, also from Lake Erie; a group of three at Buffalo Harbor on 29 September found by Kevin Rybczynski and two from Dunkirk Harbor on 16 October found by Gale VerHague. Tom Kerr reported the only fall Upland Sandpiper when he detected its nocturnal flight call in West Seneca on 6 September. There were three reports of Baird's Sandpiper within the Region, all from interior locations.

Up to three Parasitic Jaegers and two rare **Long-tailed Jaegers** were reported from the Niagara River at Buffalo during the same, strong southwest wind and rain events that produced Red-necked Phalaropes as described above. Knowing the funneling effect these weather patterns have on jaegers in Lake Erie, local birders gathered at the strategically

located West Side Rowing Club in anticipation of the wind-blown birds. Their efforts paid off with close looks at both species of jaeger. Lake Ontario also produced three reports of Parasitic Jaegers from various shoreline locations in Niagara County.

Gulls did not disappoint area birders during the fall season. Regional highlights included a very accommodating and close Sabine's Gull found by Bruce Hoover at the Union Ship Canal, which delighted area birders from 27-30 November. Three Laughing Gulls were sighted within the Region; two from Lake Erie/Niagara River locations and another from Batavia WWTP. A **Mew Gull** was found by Jamie Spence from the Canadian side of Niagara Falls, but flew on both sides of the boundary. Based on photographs, this bird is believed to be of the Eurasian subspecies *canus* or *heinei*. Other gull highlights included the arrival of the much anticipated "white-wingers", Iceland and Glaucous Gulls, as well as a seasonal high count of five Little Gulls. A high count of 15 Lesser Black-backed Gulls from Cuba Lake is notable, but even more so due to its inland location. On the tern front, a seasonal high count of 10 Black Terns was reported from the Niagara River at Buffalo and the only Forster's Tern report was from Iroquois NWR on 14 October.

On 17 October, Karen Lee Lewis noticed a hummingbird utilizing her *Salvia* and *Cuphea* plants in her East Amherst yard which showed rusty coloration on its flanks, consistent with a *Selasphorus* hummingbird. Thanks to photos from her and Kevin Rybczynski, it was determined this was an adult, female **Rufous Hummingbird**, ending a 15-year dry spell for this species in Erie County. This long-staying hummingbird remained until 1 November, giving several birders the opportunity to enjoy this rare visitor from the west. A second Erie County *Selasphorus* hummingbird was found by Jim and Karen Landau in their Colden yard on 23 October. This young male continued until 5 November; however, despite numerous birders and photographs, no clear open-tail shot was captured, which is necessary to differentiate Allen's and Rufous Hummingbirds. Thus, this individual had to be left as **Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird**.

Kyle Gage identified a **Neotropic Cormorant** at Batavia WWTP on 5 September and many birders showed up to see this rarity during its weeklong stay. An American White Pelican continued from the summer, and possibly the same bird from the spring, at Oak Orchard WMA through 10 October. A Cattle Egret was found on the Lake Erie shoreline at Dunkirk on 16 October and then was joined by another later in the day. A Cattle Egret at Iroquois NWR was more cooperative, seen often at Kumpf Marsh between 25 October and 10 November.

Black Vultures continued around Lewiston with a maximum of six reported this season. Joe Fell reported a Golden Eagle over Buffalo on 25 October. Josh Ketry documented a briefly observed **Mississippi Kite** over Beaver Island SP on 12 September, the fifth for the Region and second this year.

SUNY Fredonia students Devin Banning and Katelyn Davis found a **Barn Owl** on campus that was observed frequenting a small meadow and visible in the glow of nearby parking lot lighting, as well as on occasional flights elsewhere. Some observers felt two birds were present, raising the possibility of breeding activity since Barn Owls have been known to nest throughout the year. While likely under detected due to their nocturnal nature, this species has rarely been documented in the Region this century. A Snowy Owl arrived in Buffalo Harbor in November and they were not reported from other locations. Short-eared Owls were reported from multiple locations, including up to 12 in Conewango that marked the highest Regional numbers in some time. Indefatigable David Junkin banded 45 Northern Saw-whet Owls this fall on his Wethersfield property, while there were reports from three other locations.

There were a few more Olive-sided Flycatcher and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher reports this season than usual, and a Least Flycatcher photographed in Sheridan was on the late side on 6 October. Multiple White-eyed Vireos were found this fall, again! This species continues to occur more often in the fall season than the spring season lately; reverse migration seems the most likely reason for the fall sightings. Sightings were made 14 October at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo and 8 and 10 November at Amherst SP. There were some slightly late reports for Yellow-throated Vireo and Warbling Vireo.

The night roost of Purple Martins at Grass Island in the Niagara River at Beaver Island SP included an estimate of 15,000 martins descending at dusk on 1 September. A **Cave Swallow** was sighted by several observers and photographed by Brad Carlson at Krull CP as it flew west early in the morning of 8 November. Cedar Waxwings were counted in good numbers at the Krull CP “finch watch” in early November. Red-breasted Nuthatches continued their increased numbers from the irruption that started in August.

Fall season sparrow highlights included multiple Nelson’s Sparrow reports. Joe Mitchell found two at Conewango Swamp WMA on 4 October and Bruce Robinson and Josh Ketry had one there on 14 October, along with a late Bobolink. Sue Barth had a Nelson’s Sparrow at the recently restored East River Marsh at Beaver Island SP on 13 October. Two Clay-colored Sparrows were found at Artpark SP where the species was present in spring and summer. An adult male Baltimore Oriole was photographed at Amherst SP over several dates in late October and mid-November.

The trend of increasing numbers of late warbler sightings continued this year. November sightings were made for Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, and Blackburnian Warbler; see details in the records compilation. The first fall Regional record of Prothonotary Warbler was made by Melanie Streeter when she photographed an apparent adult male from the Wag Trail just south of Wellsville on 18 October. Three Connecticut Warbler sightings in September were also notable. Other late passerine sightings included Scarlet Tanager on 24 October and Indigo Bunting on 25 October.

The 85th BOS October Count was held on 10 October on a warm and windy day. Marcie Jacklin was the compiler of this count that includes both Region 1 and an adjacent area in Ontario. A total of 196 birders contributed to recording 163 species and 103,856 birds. Record high counts were tallied for Gadwall (221), Double-crested Cormorant (7,597), American White Pelican (1), Cooper’s Hawk (38), Merlin (12), Baltimore Oriole (1), and Northern Parula (4). There were no record low counts. Among the high counts, it is notable that this was the second year in a row for a high count for Cooper’s Hawk. Merlin and Gadwall both appear to be increasing in fall in recent years as well. I also suspect that the record high cormorant count included some double counting of birds on the Buffalo waterfront.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACNC – Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown, CHAU; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **BOSOC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society 10 Oct Count; **BufH** – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; **BuSP** – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; **BWWTP** – Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, GENE; **ChauL** – Chautauqua L, CHAU; **CSWMA** – Conewango Swamp WMA, CATT; **DH** – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **HBWMA** – Hanging Bog WMA, ALLE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **Krull CP** – Krull CP, NIAG; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **NF** – Niagara Falls, NIAG; **NFSP** – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; **NPP** – Niagara Power Project on Niagara R, NIAG; **NR** – Niagara R; **OOWMA** – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; **PB** – Point Breeze, ORLE; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods Nature Pres, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach Nature Pres, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tift NP** – Tift Nature Pres, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WoBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr INWR 14 Sep (BC), early; Somerset NIAG 29 Sep, 10-13 Oct (JSt); Dayton CATT 14 Oct; 14 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 25 Oct (SB); BMAC 28 Oct; max 30 Caneadea ALLE 7 Nov (AB); six other Nov records 1-2 each.

Ross's Goose: Somerset NIAG 12-16 Oct (JSt ph!); Amity ALLE 16 Nov (JH); has become near annual in fall.

Snow x Ross's Goose: INWR 23 Oct (CM, KG), identified as hybrid through photo review.

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr 3 INWR 18 Oct - 1 Nov (CM); Wilson NIAG 18 Nov (NS).

Brant: arr Porter NIAG 25 Oct; max 18 FNSP 30 Oct; 2 DH 3, 13 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr 3 N Collins ERIE 9 Oct; 4, 4, 2 INWR 16, 31 Oct, 7 Nov; 5 OOWMA 3 Nov; Dayton CATT 12 Nov; Cassadaga CHAU 27 Nov.

Mute Swan: BeSP 2, 8, 25 Sep. 18 Oct; max 16 Carlton ORLE 29 Sep; 7 Wilson NIAG 16

Oct; DH 2, 27 Nov; Cassadaga CHAU 7 Nov; 3 Mayville ChauL 8 Nov; 8 PB 21 Nov; 5 WTSP 22 Nov.

Trumpeter Swan: 2 Hanover CHAU 1, 30 Sep, 11 Nov (GV, JP); max 12, 11 INWR 10 Oct, 20 Nov; 2 RWNP 30 Oct (CH).

Tundra Swan: arr 6 INWR, 5 Wilson NIAG 28 Oct; 40 Shelby ORLE 11 Nov; 72 Celeron ChauL 16 Nov; 104 BeSP 20 Nov; max 125 NF 26 Nov.

Wood Duck: 92 Tift NP 8 Sep; 79 BWWTP 14 Sep; max 804, 381 TWMA 24 Sep, 15 Oct (CM, MW), coming to roost near dusk.

Blue-winged Teal: 30 BufH 3 Sep; 30 BWWTP 5 Sep; 72 TWMA 1 Oct (MW); last 10 BWWTP 4 Nov.

Northern Shoveler: max 125, 143, 125 BWWTP 9 Sep, 27 Oct, 5 Nov; 3 Jamestown CHAU 22 Nov; 4 INWR 28 Nov.

Gadwall: 89, 81 Tift NP 22 Oct, 21 Nov; max 158 INWR 1 Nov; 50 DH 21 Nov; 70 TWMA 25 Nov.

American Wigeon: max 315 INWR 16 Oct; 71 OOWMA 7 Nov.

Mallard: max 542 TWMA 1 Oct (MW).

American Black Duck: 16 GHSP 28 Oct; 15 Machias CATT 8 Nov; max 26 INWR 20 Nov; 21 BWWTP 27 Nov.

Northern Pintail: 84 TWMA 4 Oct; max 103 GHSP 25 Oct; 20 INWR 25 Nov; 7 BuFH 29 Nov.

Green-winged Teal: max 153 TWMA 1 Oct; 68 Dayton CATT 24 Oct; 130 INWR 20 Nov; 21 Cuba L ALLE 21 Nov.

Canvasback: BWWTP 14, 17 Sep (BC, VR); 2, 5 Dayton CATT 23, 25 Oct; max 1600 NF 27 Nov.

Redhead: 1, 11 BWWTP 6, 27 Sep; 5 BuSP 25 Sep; 44, 100 Ellery ChauL 17 Oct, 27 Nov; max 150 NF 26 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: Tiftt NP 6 Sep; 31 BWWTP 3 Oct; max 170, 100 Dayton CATT 17 Oct, 1 Nov; 97 N Collins ERIE 7 Nov; 75 NF 26 Nov.

Greater Scaup: arr 13 GHSP 3 Oct; max 500 BuFH 1 Nov; 200 DH 22 Nov; max 500 NF 27 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: BWWTP 11 Sep; 11 LBSP 14 Sep; max 1200, 1000 Ellery ChauL 13, 27 Nov.

King Eider: 4 Buffalo NR 8-30 Nov (JF, mob).

Harlequin Duck: NFSP 8, 29 Nov (JSt, JSk), regular location; Buffalo NR 21, 27 Nov (CH, MR).

Surf Scoter: arr 1, max 22 Buffalo NR 30 Sep, 24 Oct; EvSP 12 Oct; 2 Dayton CATT, 2 BWWTP 14 Oct; 2, 2 DH 28 Oct, 9 Nov; 4 BuFH 8 Nov; 2 Olcott, NIAG 8 Nov; 2 FNSP 26 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: Barcelona CHAU 1 Sep (GV); 2 Buffalo NR 30 Sep; 37 GHSP 24 Oct; N Collins ERIE 7 Nov; 3 Ellery ChauL 14 Nov; 2 Cassadaga CHAU 25 Nov; max 120 FNSP 27 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr 3 Buffalo NR 11 Oct; 14, 8 BuFH 22 Oct, 8 Nov; 11 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 25 Oct; max 41 GHSP 25 Oct; 22 DH 3 Nov; 6 LBSP 8 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr Wilson NIAG 12 Oct; 179 GHSP 28 Oct; max 500 BuFH 21 Nov.

Bufflehead: 1, 152, 76 BWWTP 6 Sep, 30 Oct, 5 Nov; 68 GHSP 28 Oct; max 1100 Buffalo NR 15 Nov; 170 FNSP 22 Nov; 180 N Harmony ChauL 22 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: 2 WoBSP 12 Sep; 1, 125 FNSP 18 Sep, 27 Nov; 59 GHSP 28 Oct; 130 Ellery ChauL 7 Nov; max 500 NF 26 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: 49, 132 INWR 30 Oct, 6 Nov; max 170 Dayton CATT 11 Nov; 150 Cuba L ALLE 21 Nov; 122 DH 27 Nov.

Common Merganser: 111 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 3 Oct; max 200 Dayton CATT 4 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: 17 LBSP 15 Sep; 611 GHSP 28 Oct; 450 Olcott NIAG 8 Nov; max 650 LESP 13 Nov; 300 Barcelona CHAU 16 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: 32, 947, 635 BWWTP 27 Sep, 30 Oct, 3 Nov (DBea, VR); 3, 100 N Harmony ChauL 29 Sep, 22 Nov; 83, 324, 100 Dayton CATT 4, 14 Oct, 1 Nov (JM, JoK).

Pied-billed Grebe: max 21 TWMA 24 Sep; 14, 17, 12 N Collins ERIE 4, 18 Oct, 7 Nov; 14 Celoron ChauL 31 Oct.

Horned Grebe: arr BuSP 24 Sep; Olean CATT 28 Sep; 11 Salamanca CATT 22 Oct; 26 GHSP 28 Oct; 28 PB 9 Nov; max 34 DH 27 Nov; 21 Ellery ChauL 27 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: arr 2, 9 GHSP 3, 28 Oct; 2 Buffalo ERIE 13 Oct; 1, 2 Dayton CATT 18 Oct (JoK, BR); 2 BeSP 3 Nov; Cuba L ALLE 24 Nov; five other Nov records.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1, 2 Fredonia CHAU 11 Sep, 3 Oct; Dunkirk CHAU 25 Sep; last INWR 10 Oct.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Allegheny Res CATT 5, 9 Sep; Sturgeon Pt ERIE 10 Sep; Krull CP 11 Sep; Tiftt NP 14 Sep; last CSWMA 6 Oct (BR ph!).

Common Nighthawk: 3, 12, 1 Grand Island ERIE 1, 9, 16 Sep; 6, 15, 7 BeSP 1, 2, 5 Sep; 2 Silver Creek CHAU 3 Sep; 7 OOWMA 6 Sep; last 3 Ripley CHAU 5 Oct.

Chimney Swift: max 480 INWR 6 Sep (JG *et al.*), impressive count.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Grand Island ERIE 13 Oct.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: East Amherst ERIE 17 Oct – 1 Nov (KLL, mob), first year female based on ID from many photos.

RUFIOUS/ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD: Colden ERIE 23 Oct – 5 Nov (J&KL), apparent male but inconclusive to species.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: max 4 Tiftt NP 3 Sep; 3 Chautauqua CHAU 6 Sep; BWWTP, TWMA 27 Oct; 2 BeSP 4 Nov; last OOWMA 7 Nov.

Sora: max, last 3, 1 Tiftt NP 20 Sept, 7 Nov; 3 INWR 29 Sep; BeSP 20 Oct.

PURPLE GALLINULE: Franklinville CATT 23 Oct (LO ph!), photographed at an elementary school, third Reg record.

Common Gallinule: 45, 50 TWMA 6, 24 Sep; 35 OOWMA 6 Sep; last INWR 23 Oct.

American Coot: max 231 TWMA 21 Oct; 150 TWMA 5 Nov; 111 Celeron ChauL 13 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: 6 Shelby ORLE 1 Sep; 4 Allegheny Res CATT 16 Sep (JoK); 4 CSWMA 21 Sep; max 14, 20, 16, 20 INWR 9, 10, 31 Oct, 22 Nov (CM, LWS, LB).

American Avocet: 3 BufH 29 Sep (KR); last 2 DH 16 Oct (GV).

Black-bellied Plover: 4 BufH 19 Sep; max 8 Allegheny Res CATT 23 Sep; 2 GHSP 28 Oct; 2 Somerset NIAG 31 Oct.

American Golden-Plover: INWR 6 Sep; 12 Shelby ORLE 12 Sep; 3 BufH 15 Sep; Wilson NIAG 19 Sep; 4 Allegheny Res CATT 23 Sep (JoK); Sheridan CHAU 8, 9 Oct; last TWMA 27 Oct.

Semipalmated Plover: 20 Allegheny Res CATT 9 Sep (JoK); 14, last 2 BufH 3, 23 Oct.

Upland Sandpiper: West Seneca ERIE 6 Sep (TK), nocturnal flight calls.

Ruddy Turnstone: Barcelona CHAU 8 Sep; 2 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 10 Sep; 2 BWWTP 12 Sep; 6, 5 BufH 13, 23 Sep; last 2, 1 DH 30 Sep, 5 Oct.

Red Knot: Barcelona CHAU 5 Sep (CV); last 4 BufH 16 Sep (KR).

Stilt Sandpiper: 1, 1 Allegheny Res CATT 14, 26 Sep (BR, JM), only reports.

Sanderling: 14, 28 BufH 4, 5 Sep; 13 Barcelona CHAU 5 Sep; 19 Allegheny Res CATT 13 Sep (KB), good total for inland; 3, 5 DH 5 Oct, 2 Nov; 2 Olcott NIAG 31 Oct.

Dunlin: max 58 WoBSP 26 Oct; 35, 36 INWR 28 Oct, 8 Nov; last BWWTP 29 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: N Harmony CHAU 6 Sep (KV); 2 INWR 6 Sep (PY); Newfane NIAG 6 Sep (JoK); only reports.

Least Sandpiper: last Dayton CATT 19 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: BWWTP 1, 3 Nov; only report.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: BufH 7 Sep (JoK, mob), only report.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 25 Allegheny Res CATT 21 Sep (KB); 17 BMAC 1 Oct; last Machias CATT 11 Nov (JR).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 1, 7 BMAC 1, 10 Oct (JRB, SC).

WESTERN SANDPIPER (R1): Allegheny Res CATT 16 Sep (JoK ph!), rare.

American Woodcock: Buffalo ERIE 31 Oct, outside downtown buildings; Amherst ERIE 3 Nov; last Yorkshire CATT 7 Nov.

Wilson's Snipe: last Ripley CHAU 18 Nov.

Spotted Sandpiper: last Amherst ERIE 12 Oct.

Solitary Sandpiper: last Somerset NIAG 21 Oct (JS), late.

Lesser Yellowlegs: last 2 CSWMA 10 Nov.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 28 OOWMA 9 Oct; last Cuba ALLE 15 Nov.

Red-necked Phalarope: 3, 3, 4, 1 Buffalo NR 7, 13, 30 Sep, 7 Oct (JM, TJM, AHu), during strong wind events; BWWTP 2-3 Oct.

Red Phalarope: BWWTP 2 Oct (CM ph!), rare.

Parasitic Jaeger: 2, 3, 3 Buffalo NR 13, 30 Sep, 7 Oct (GL, JoK, AHu), during wind events; 2 Wilson NIAG 16 Oct; Olcott NIAG 20 Oct; GHSP 24 Oct.

LONG-TAILED JAEGER (R1): 1, 2 Buffalo NR 30 Sep, 7 Oct (JoK, AHu), rare.

Jaeger sp.: 2 BufH 7 Sep (PY); 2 BOSOC.

Black-legged Kittiwake: BufH 1, 20 Nov (JM, KR); Whirlpool NR NIAG 24 Nov (BO); only reports.

Sabine's Gull: Buffalo ERIE 27-30 Nov (BH, mob), well observed by many.

Bonaparte's Gull: 450, 390 Buffalo NR 30 Sep, 16 Nov; 400 FNFP 17 Oct; max 800, 325 DH 28 Oct, 9 Nov.

Little Gull: max 1, 1, 2, 5 Buffalo NR 7, 30 Sep, 7 Oct, 16 Nov; DH 9, 20 Nov; 2 BeSP 20 Nov.

Laughing Gull: BufH 2 Sep (SB); BWWTP 5-14 Sep, 2-3 Oct (JC, mob); Buffalo NR 7 Sep (AHu), continued from late Aug.

MEW GULL: NF 23, 24 Nov (JSp, MJ ph!), seen from Ontario side but also in NY waters, thought to one of the Eurasian subspecies *canus* or *heinei*.

Herring Gull: 500 Cuba L ALLE 21 Nov, good count for inland.

Iceland Gull: arr Wilson NIAG 3 Nov; WoBSP 20 Nov; Cuba L ALLE 21 Nov; NFSP 25 Nov; DH 27 Nov; 2 NPP 29 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Barcelona CHAU 7 Sep; WoBSP 16 Sep; LBSP 19 Sep; 2, 5 NFSP 30 Sep, 25 Nov; DH 4 Oct; 2 WoBSP 22 Oct; Olcott NIAG 28 Oct; max 15 Cuba ALLE 21 Nov (TiL), excellent inland count; Sardinia ERIE 30 Nov (JoK).

Glaucous Gull: arr Krull CP 1, 20, 21 Nov; NFSP 24 Nov; only reports.

Caspian Tern: max 25, last 3 BeSP 7 Sep, 9 Oct.

Black Tern: 1, max 10, 2, last 1 Buffalo NR 2, 7, 30 Sep, 7 Oct; BWWTP 13 Sep (MJ).

Common Tern: max 119 Buffalo NR 13 Sep; 17 Wilson NIAG 1 Oct; DH 26 Oct; last BufH 9 Nov.

Forster's Tern: INWR 14 Oct (VR), only report.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: arr Wilson NIAG 16 Oct; 9 Olcott NIAG 31 Oct; max 60 Olcott NIAG 4 Nov; 9 PB 15 Nov.

Common Loon: 5 Wilson NIAG 12 Sep; max 96 GHSP 24 Oct; 11 Krull CP 29 Nov.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: BWWTP 5-12 Sep (KG, mob), third documented Reg report.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 2750, 3300 BufH 22 Sep, 6 Oct; 2800 DH 22 Oct; 400 BufH 1 Nov.

American White Pelican: OOWMA 3, 27 Sep, 1, 10 Oct, continuing from summer.

American Bittern: Tiftt NP 4 Sep; INWR 19 Sep; TWMA 24 Sep; RWNP 25 Sep; Lewiston NIAG 14 Oct (JRB); BeSP 17 Oct, 5 Nov; TWMA 27 Oct; last CSWMA 7 Nov.

Least Bittern: TBNP 1 Sep; Tiftt NP 3, 19 Sep; TWMA 6 Sep; only reports.

Great Egret: last 76, 1 INWR 3 Sep, 8 Nov; max 137 TWMA 24 Sep.

Cattle Egret: 1-2 DH 16 Oct (GV, BR); INWR 25 Oct – 10 Nov (AHe, mob), long staying bird.

Green Heron: last New Albion ALLE 22 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: last S Buffalo ERIE 17 Oct.

Black Vulture: max 6, 4 Lewiston NIAG 4 Oct, 14 Nov (WD, BP).

Turkey Vulture: 24 Lewiston NIAG 25 Nov, max beyond Oct.

Osprey: last INWR 3 Nov.

Golden Eagle: Buffalo ERIE 25 Oct (JF), rare.

MISSISSIPPI KITE: BeSP 12 Sep (JoK), brief flyover; fifth Reg record.

Red-shouldered Hawk: only three reports beyond Oct.

Broad-winged Hawk: last Jamestown CHAU 23 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr 2 INWR 27 Oct; 3 CSWMA 29 Nov (JM)

BARN OWL (R1): 1-2 Fredonia, CHAU 11-21 Nov (DBa, KD, GV, mob), rare.

Snowy Owl: arr BH 21 Nov.

Barred Owl: Buffalo ERIE 19 Oct (SS), unusual location.

Long-eared Owl: no reports.

Short-eared Owl: arr BuSP 27 Oct (AHu); 6 Jamestown CHAU 23 Nov; max 12 Conewango CATT 28 Nov (DC); 5 INWR 29 Nov.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: total 45 banded Wethersfield WYOM 7 Oct -21 Nov (DJ); Wilson NIAG 8 Oct (BP, WD); 1, 2 Forestville CHAU 26 Oct, 6 Nov (GV); Jamestown CHAU 8 Nov (JB).

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 3 FNSP 12 Sep; Tiftt NP 1 Oct; last Orchard Park ERIE 6 Oct.

Peregrine Falcon: max 4 INWR 1 Sep (PH); Dayton CATT 22 Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Fredonia CHAU 25 Sep.

Eastern Kingbird: last Keeney Swamp ALLE 20 Sep.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: AmSP 3 Sep; Allegheny Res CATT 6 Sep; last Charlotte CHAU, BeSP, NFSP 12 Sep (GV, JoK, HS, BK).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: last BOSOC.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: eight Sep reports; last WoBSP 3 Oct (SB, ph!).

Least Flycatcher: last Sheridan CHAU 6 Oct (GV ph!), late.

Eastern Phoebe: last Sardinia ERIE 7 Nov.

Northern Shrike: arr GHSP, INWR 31 Oct.

White-eyed Vireo: FLC 14 Oct (DM, SP); AmSP 8, 10 Nov (AG, SB); fall reports outnumber spring reports in recent years.

Yellow-throated Vireo: WTSP 2 Oct (WD, BP); last 2 AmSP 5 Oct (RSh, SH ph!), late.

Blue-headed Vireo: last BufH 3 Nov.

Philadelphia Vireo: max 2, 3 AmSP 6, 14 Sep; 2 WoBSP 12 Sep; last AmSP 10 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: last AmSP 5 Oct (CH, RSh, SH), late.

Red-eyed Vireo: last WoBSP 15 Oct.

Fish Crow: 2, 3 Buffalo ERIE 5, 28 Nov (SD, AHu); 3 FLC 19 Nov (AHu); has become regular in Buffalo in winter and spring in recent years.

Common Raven: max 7 Yates ORLE 24 Oct.

Horned Lark: 192 Shelby ORLE 4 Sep.

Purple Martin: max 15000, 10000 BuSP 1, 3 Sep (AHu, MN, TK), coming to night roost at Grass Island; last 2 BWWTP 13 Sep.

Tree Swallow: max 1000, 600 BWWTP 6 Sep, 16 Oct; 500 INWR 6 Sep; 2 last BWWTP 5 Nov.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: last 2 BWWTP 27 Oct.

Bank Swallow: max 40, last 1 BWWTP 5, 14 Sep.

Cliff Swallow: last 2 BWWTP 13 Sep.

CAVE SWALLOW: Krull CP 8 Nov (BC, MM, mob ph!), rare.

Barn Swallow: last 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 26 Sep.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: increased numbers with irruption.

House Wren: last BuSP 22 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 5 AmSP 10 Nov (SB).

Marsh Wren: BeSP 4 Nov (VR); Ellicottville CATT 7 Nov (JaK); late.

Carolina Wren: 44 BOSOC, seems on the upswing.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last BeSP 4 Nov (RT ph!), late.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr WoBSP 25 Sep.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr LESP 6 Sep.

Veery: max 50 Chautauqua CHAU 6 Sep (TiL), nocturnal flight calls; last Wilson NIAG 29 Sep.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr LESP 9 Sep; max 3 LBSP 26 Sep (DBem); last BeSP 16 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: max 25 Chautauqua CHAU 6 Sep (TiL), nocturnal flight calls; 12 GHSP 16 Sep; last Bethany GENE 21 Oct.

Wood Thrush: last Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU 13 Oct (GV).

Gray Catbird: nine Nov reports indicative of species lingering longer.

Brown Thrasher: last BOSOC.

Cedar Waxwing: 350 LBSP 18 Oct; 423, 860 Krull CP 6, 10 Nov, big flights; 600 BWWTP 24 Nov.

American Pipit: arr Allegheny Res CATT 12 Sep; max 135 Somerset NIAG 20 Oct.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 6 Wilson NIAG 16 Oct; 21 Shelby ORLE 24 Oct; 21 GHSP 25 Oct; reports from 26 locations in Oct; max 45 Krull CP 5 Nov; max 45 LESP 10 Nov.

Pine Grosbeak: Krull CP 5, 26 Nov (WD, BP); only reports.

House Finch: max 79 Hamburg ERIE (PE), impressive count.

Purple Finch: 13 Orchard Park ERIE 3 Sep; max 14 LESP 23 Sep; max 14 INWR 28 Oct.

Common Redpoll: arr 15 GHSP, 6 BWWTP 31 Oct; max 303, 275 Krull CP 13, 21 Nov; 110 Jamestown CHAU 14 Nov; 175 LESP 25 Nov.

Hoary Redpoll: BWWTP 5 Nov (BC); BufH 12 Nov (JoK); Sturgeon Point, ERIE 19 Nov (SB); rare, all documented with photos.

Red Crossbill: arr 4 GHSP 25 Oct; max 115, 90, 21 Krull CP 8, 9, 21 Nov; mostly Type 10s but one recording each of Types 2 and 4; *intro*.

White-winged Crossbill: arr 1, 18, 28 Krull CP 3, 6, 21 Nov; 10 FNSP 26 Nov; 4 BWWTP 29 Nov.

Pine Siskin: arr 4 LESP, 2 Grand Island ERIE, East Amherst ERIE 23 Sep; 82, 66 Krull CP 6, 8 Nov; max 106 Newfane NIAG 22 Nov; 75 Wilson NIAG 26 Nov.

American Goldfinch: max 318 Krull CP 6 Nov (MM, mob), good flight count.

Lapland Longspur: arr Somerset NIAG BOSOC; only report.

Snow Bunting: arr 9 WTSP, Buffalo NR 25 Oct; max 98, 328 Krull CP 6, 21 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: last RWNP 11 Nov.

American Tree Sparrow: arr BeSP 20 Oct.

Chipping Sparrow: BufH, Hanover CHAU 11 Nov, last Nov reports.

Clay-colored Sparrow: 2 Lewiston NIAG 4 Oct (WD, BP), present at location in summer.

Field Sparrow: Sheridan CHAU 22 Nov, last Nov report.

Vesper Sparrow: Ischua CATT, BWWTP 4 Oct, only report.

Savannah Sparrow: Tift NP 9 Nov; Fredonia CHAU 21 Nov (TiL); only Nov reports.

Nelson's Sparrow: 2, 1 CSWMA 4, 14 Oct (JM, BR, JoK); BeSP 13 Oct (SB); within typical timeframe of fall reports.

Fox Sparrow: arr BuSP 7 Oct; 4 Rushford ALLE 3 Nov; max 7 Machias CATT 8 Nov; max 7 Ripley CHAU 12 Nov; 4 Ashford CATT 16 Nov.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr HBWMA 8 Sep; last BeSP 26 Oct.

Swamp Sparrow: max 35 CSWMA 14 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: arr Wilson NIAG 11 Sep; max 74 LESP 24 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: max 47 Sheridan CHAU 14 Oct.

Bobolink: max 40, 50 INWR 8, 10 Sep; last CSWMA 14 Oct (BR, JoK), late.

Eastern Meadowlark: 4 Conewango CATT 12 Nov (BR); Krull CP 26 Nov (WD, BP); only Nov reports.

Baltimore Oriole: Tift NP 14 Sep; AmSP 31 Oct, 14-15 Nov (JSa, CH), late.

Red-winged Blackbird: 800 TWMA 6 Sep; max 7000 INWR 24 Oct; 400 Pomfret CHAU 4 Nov.

Rusty Blackbird: arr Tift NP 19 Sep; 100 Shelby ORLE 21 Oct; 38 BuSP 26 Oct; 75 INWR 27 Oct; max 150 TWMA 8 Nov (MW).

Common Grackle: 800 Shelby ORLE 1 Sep; max 2000 Royalton NIAG 18 Oct.
Ovenbird: FNSP 8 Sep; last AmSP, Tift NP 5 Oct.
Northern Waterthrush: last WoBSP 25 Sep.
Golden-winged Warbler: no reports.
Blue-winged Warbler: last Allegheny Res CATT 28 Sep (JoK).
Black-and-white Warbler: last Bethany GENE 21 Oct.
Prothonotary Warbler: Willing ALLE 18 Oct (MS ph!), first fall Reg record.
Tennessee Warbler: max 11 WoBSP 12 Sep; BufH 26 Oct; RWNP 11 Nov (NJ), late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr BWWTP 5 Sep; six Oct reports; Genesee CP GENE 27 Nov (BC), late.
Nashville Warbler: max 9 WoBSP 12 Sep; last AmSP 31 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: AmSP 8 Sep (RSa); BeSP 11 Sep (SB); Allegheny Res CATT 23 Sep (JoK); good showing.
Mourning Warbler: last Sardinia ERIE 27 Sep; five other Sep reports.
Common Yellowthroat: RWNP 31 Oct; BWWTP 22 Nov (CB); Tift NP 29 Nov (JJ); good showing for late season birds.
Hooded Warbler: max 5 INWR 8 Sep; RWNP 1 Oct; last HBWMA 9 Oct.
American Redstart: last Buffalo ERIE 26 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: 12 Long Pt SP CHAU 13 Sep (KV); max 30, 10 Chautauqua CHAU 17, 23 Sep (KV); last BufH 21 Oct.
Northern Parula: BufH 27 Oct; last Sheldon WYOM 4 Nov (GJD), late.

Magnolia Warbler: last ACNC 7 Nov (RSt), late.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 12 WTSP 8 Sep; last BufH 2 Nov (SS), late.
Blackburnian Warbler: NFSP 27 Nov (ToL), late.
Yellow Warbler: BusP 29 Sep (AHu); last Tift NP 9 Oct (JE), late.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last Bethany GENE 14 Oct.
Blackpoll Warbler: 12 Chautauqua CHAU 23 Sep; max 17 WTSP 26 Sep (WD, BP); last Buffalo ERIE 24 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Allegheny Res CATT 22 Oct.
Palm Warbler: arr BWWTP 6 Sep; last BeSP 19 Oct.
Pine Warbler: max 8 Charlotte CHAU 1 Sep; 6 AISP 4 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 89 BuSP 5 Oct; 12 BuSP 3 Nov; 16 BeSP 5 Nov.
Prairie Warbler: Gerry CHAU 1 Sep; last LESP 6 Sep (TiL).
Black-throated Green Warbler: last 2 AmSP 25 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last Tift NP, Forestville CHAU 12 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last Willing ALLE 9 Oct.
Scarlet Tanager: max 5 LESP, 5 Darien Lakes SP GENE 6 Sep; last AmSP 24 Oct (CH), late.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Portville ALLE 5 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: 3, 1 BeSP 28, 30 Sep; EvSP 12 Oct; last TBNP 25 Oct (JE ph), late.

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REGION 2—GENESEE

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Fall 2020 saw a pleasant, seasonal-to-mild period of weather. September brought a plunge to tying record cold on 18 and 19 September, with an early frost away from Lake Ontario. Temperatures averaged 62.2° F, 0.4° above normal, and precipitation totaled 2.29", 1.09" below normal, with ¾ of that falling on the last two days of the month. October began cool and continued warming through days ideal for viewing the fall color show to a peak at a record 80° on 23 October. A sharp cold front late that day led to colder temperatures for the rest of the month, with a few flurries and the first hard freeze on 31 October.

Temperatures averaged 50.9°, 0.3° above normal, and precipitation totaled 2.76", 0.04" above average. Nine days of rain, 19-27 October was a record length stretch for an October. The really mild autumn showed in November, with the period 4-10 November running 10° above normal. Temperatures averaged 45.5°, 5.0° above normal, for the ninth warmest November on record. Record highs occurred on the 9th and 10th at 77° and 78°, respectively, and the latter a warmest on record for so late in the season. Precipitation at 2.28" was 0.66" below average. Rain turned to snow on 1 November, and 0.99" of rain fell on 30 November, with the rest of the precipitation scattered between. Snowfall totaled only 1.2", 6.1" below normal and in great contrast with the same month a year earlier.

Generally, starting with the weather, this was an excellent season for birding. Each month saw the species count close to record high, with 219 species in October a new high. Relative to their 10-year averages by month we had: September – 220 vs. 218.4, October – 219 vs. 203.5, and November 165 vs. 154.3. The eBird downloads for our Region were well above those of last year, with September's 34,413 lines of data up 56%, October at 36,559 lines more than double, and November at 29,372 lines up 67%. Some of this may be due to small drops in those numbers last year, but these are large increases. Other causes include more people enjoying birding as a safe outdoor activity in this year of COVID and likely also a continuation of bird listing or data-gathering related to Breeding Bird Atlas activity. But then, as a more natural set of causes, we have the warm fall, many species lingering on to later departure dates, most of the winter finches arriving in October and all present in November, an influx of owls in the usual spring roosting area in Owl Woods, and a good number of rarer species. The increase also showed in banding numbers at the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) site, up 75% over 2019 through October and banding in November pushing that to up 78%. There was also still a decent collection of warblers into November. But for all the late birds in October, eight species late relative to the 1984 Monroe County Checklist, only one species, Mourning Warbler, set a record late date. In addition, Jim Adams noted in his series of data from Oatka Creek Park that the species counts by half month for that site were at or near records highs until dropping back to normal in the latter half of November.

Moving to the usual sets of species, we start with waterfowl and hit basically the same broken record as in recent years—essentially all really expected species were reported in each month of the season, and generally numbers and especially peak counts were low. As usual, there are interesting details to add. In September, Snow Goose, Brant, and the scoters arrived at fairly early dates. Only Mallard and Red-breasted Merganser were reported at counts >100. Some of the depressed counts are certainly due to the low water levels in the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA), where peaks are often tallied. Into October, the picture was no clear misses and Greater White-fronted Goose, Cackling Goose, and Harlequin Duck as rarer records. November was similar, with Ross's Goose, Blue-winged Teal, and Eurasian Wigeon almost regular and missed. Most numbers remained low, but quite a few species had one good count and a few species several decent counts. King Eider was reported in good numbers, with up to 11 off Wayne County, and there were three Harlequin Ducks reported. Both Horned and Red-necked Grebes had good peak counts.

The mix of species following waterfowl to Sandhill Crane had few noteworthy observations; typical. Of some note were: no large Common Nighthawk numbers and the usual large Chimney Swift spectacle at the York Central School in Griegsville missed, leaving 100 at the south end of Irondequoit Bay the high for that species. With the low water in the NMWMA area, the large numbers of American Coot and Common Gallinule of recent years were missed. A bright spot was Sandhill Crane in the NMWMA (Van Dyne

Spoor Rd.) area with up to 70 in October, but with a new Regional high of 150 reported in November, with higher yet counts in nearby Region 3.

As usual, the shorebird picture was interesting. Lake Ontario levels dropping provided mudflats and sandbars along the south lakeshore and in its bays, but lack of heavy rains limited the farm-field and NMWMA habitat. So all season, the bulk of the records are from the areas near Lake Ontario, with the barrier beach at the mouth of Braddock Bay a prime site. Species variety was good through the season, with 25 to 20 to still 16 species through the three months. Counts were generally poor other than a few Dunlin counts in October and November. Stilt Sandpiper was missed in the Region for the season. Among the more interesting observations were: Upland Sandpiper, Whimbrel, Red Knot, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and a count of four Red-necked Phalaropes passing Hamlin beach in September. In October, 1-3 Hudsonian Godwits on the barrier beach island until the 17th and Purple Sandpiper at the south end of Irondequoit Bay at month's end drew the most attention. By November, lingering Purple Sandpiper and a long-staying Red Phalarope at the south end of Irondequoit Bay were best. Departures were typical, other than a Spotted Sandpiper and a Lesser Yellowlegs a bit late.

The regular gulls and terns of the area provided no real highlights, with species recorded as expected and numbers modest to low. Passing Bonaparte's Gull numbers were low, so no Little Gull reports is not a surprise. In contrast, it was a very good fall for jaegers, with Parasitic at 63 in September, ~ 14 in October, and one more on 1 November. In addition, there were one Long-tailed Jaeger on 4 September, an adult on 16 September, and two Long-tailed/Parasitic on 5 September. There were also ten jaegers not identified to species in September and one in October. Rarer or otherwise interesting gulls included: three different Black-legged Kittiwakes scattered across the Region along the Lake Ontario shore; two immature **Sabine's Gulls (R2)** passing Hamlin Beach on 14 September; an immature Laughing Gull on 4 September and two more photographed on 4 and 9 October; good numbers of Lesser Black-backed Gulls each month; and Iceland and Glaucous Gulls arriving in November on the 1st and 17th, respectively.

The loon movement was generally disappointing, with only one Red-throated and a peak of 34 Common Loons in September, when we often see the first 100+ count for a day. Common Loons peaked at 217 in October, then Andy Guthrie caught a good Red-throated Loon movement of 1051 past Hamlin Beach on 25 November. The best Double-crested Cormorant gatherings were in feeding frenzies off Hamlin Beach. The lone Northern Gannet report was from Tim Lenz and Davey Walters lakewatching at Beechwood State Park in Wayne County. These observers also reported a **Neotropic/Double-crested Cormorant** passing this area on 12 September. Two **American White Pelicans** were seen and photographed passing the Braddock Bay barrier island on 1 September, and Mitchell Barry contacted Andy Guthrie at home south of Hamlin Beach where he later spotted them to the north as they flew by headed west. Kim Hartquist spotted a very rare **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** at the barrier beach on 25 September, and it was seen there by a few others that day and then off and on around Braddock through the 29th. The Region's third **White-faced Ibis** was found by Sheryl Gracewski and Tom Nash on Salmon Creek just inland from Braddock Bay on 7 October and seen and photographed there by many that day. On 23 October, Jessie Barry, Jim Barry, and Chris Wood spotted a *plegadis* ibis species passing off the Greece shore over Lake Ontario. Black-crowned Night-Heron provided a late departure date on 23 November.

Typical of this time of year, the raptors through the rest of the non-passerine species provided few noteworthy observations. Among the raptors, the missing and scarce included the usual, no Black Vultures or Northern Goshawks, only a few Red-shouldered Hawks,

and Broad-winged Hawk absent after September. Bald Eagle numbers remained good. Rough-legged Hawk arrived as four reports starting on 23 October, then about 30 more records for November. Jumping ahead, all three regular falcons were reported each month in good numbers from many locations. Merlin numbers were especially good. Moving into the owls, we had only Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Barred Owl in September. Short-eared Owl arrived on 10 October, with good numbers reported on regular DEC owl surveys later. Four Snowy Owls were reported from 6-11 November, then a fifth was added, photographed on the roof at BBBO on 24 November. The big story was a surprising influx of Northern Saw-whet Owls. Eleven were tallied in the Manitou-Owl Woods area in October and 19 more were found there in November. Also nearby at the BBBO site, 25 N. Saw-whet Owls were banded from 5-21 November, with 18 of those banded on the 21st, and eight more were banded from 5-14 November. Additionally, one was recorded calling in Zurich Bog, Wayne County, on 6 November by Tim Lenz. One negative in the owl event was that a long-staying, tolerant Barred Owl in the Owl Woods area received too close and long attention from several photographers, who showed no regard for birding/photography ethics. Finishing this grouping of species, Red-headed Woodpecker was not reported in November, and Northern Shrike arrived, with at least eight individuals at six locations in November.

Passerines too showed a strong fall migration, with all expected species reported and numbers of species reported and banded substantially up from the previous year. The migration push was strong from the last half of September through October and into November, with good numbers of half-hardies lingering at season's end. Many species that often depart near 1 October were reported into the month, though a couple flycatcher and swallow species and Bobolink, typically on that list, were not reported after September. This year, 31 species of warblers were recorded in September and still 25 species in October and even six species into November. There are so many interesting passerine observations that I must just pick a few to expand upon here, then note data samples in the species section following and reference the Rochester Birding Association's monthly reports on their website for more detail. Starting in September, we find warblers highlighting the rarer species, with two rare-in-fall Worm-eating Warblers; one Prothonotary Warbler banded; six Orange-crowned Warblers, none banded; six Connecticut Warblers, four of these banded at BBBO; **Yellow-throated Warblers** at the Church & Firehouse trails in Greece on 5, 6, and 12 September and possibly one of these at Kevin Griffith's yard nearby on 15 September; and two Prairie Warblers. October brought 15 more Orange-crowned Warblers, still none banded; one Connecticut Warbler banded on 1 October; and a record late Mourning Warbler photographed in Durand-Eastman Park on 17 October by Greg Lawrence. November added late Orange-crowned Warbler and Northern Parula and record late Tennessee Warbler on 26 November and Blackpoll Warbler on 27 November. Checking with other rare species, we find: two **Cave Swallows** seen passing Hamlin Beach on 6 November by Andy Guthrie; **Nelson's Sparrows** at three sites in October and found record late at the Geneseo Airfield on 8 November by Jim Kimball and seen there the next day by Terry Bohling and Brad Carlson; and a Dickcissel photographed in Livonia by Terry Bohling on 28 October. Most of the winter finches arrived in late October and Pine Grosbeak and Hoary Redpoll completed the group in November. On 19 November, Dominic Sherony photographed a **Common "Greater" Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea rostrata*) at the Braddock Bay barrier beach island, for the first report of that subspecies here in many years. Among the lingering half-hardy species in November, some illustrations of numbers are: 32 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 35 Hermit Thrushes, 35 Winter Wrens, and 15 Gray Catbirds. The Black-capped Chickadee

influx is illustrated by a maximum count of 1036 on 7 November, and for Red-breasted Nuthatch 710 lines in eBird records in November vs. 45 lines in 2019.

Banding at BBBO just west of Braddock near the Lake Ontario shore provides a great deal of data, sometimes hard to summarize. Trying to apply statistics, changes can be hard to detect due to high variances in annual numbers for a variety of reasons. In September, species with high numbers banded, some of the highest here noted with () after the species name, were: Philadelphia Vireo (38), Red-eyed Vireo (108), Gray-cheeked Thrush (78), Swainson's Thrush (327), Gray Catbird, White-throated Sparrow (416), Ovenbird, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Magnolia Warbler (206), Bay-breasted Warbler (70), and Blackpoll Warbler (316). In October, the banded numbers for nine species were > two standard deviations more than their averages for the past nine years: Philadelphia and Red-eyed Vireos; Black-capped Chickadee; Swainson's Thrush; Worm-eating Warbler (only 2); Cape May, Bay-breasted, and Blackburnian Warblers; and Purple Finch. All were increases.

The overall picture this fall of increased numbers and good variety is a combination of a warm fall with great birding weather; lots of people birding— a safe COVID-time activity, post BBA activity, ..., a winter finch year; and a variety of rare species visiting. May we have many more of these seasons.

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ABBREVIATIONS

b – banded; **BB** – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; **BB-ES** or **BB-WS** – east or west spit at the mouth of Braddock Bay; **BB-HW** – Braddock Bay hawkwatch; **BBBO** – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, banding station near end of Manitou Beach Rd west of Braddock Bay; **CL** – Conesus L, LIVI; **G** – T Greece, MONR; **H** – T Hamlin, MONR; **HANA** – High Acres Nature Area, T. Perinton, MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **HB-WE** – West End Trail in HB includes Devil’s Nose area; **HB-YC** – Yanty Creek trail area at east end of park; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; **IB-S** – LaSalle Landing P, South end of Irondequoit Bay; **IB P-W** – Irondequoit Bay P West, T of Irondequoit along SW side of the bay, MONR; **M** – along Manitou Beach Rd NE of Lake Ontario Parkway including the BBBO banding station, MONR; **MP** – Mendon Ponds P MONR; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma WMA (formerly Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex), WAYN; **NMWMA (CRd)** – Carncross Rd; **NMWMA (SCU)** – Sandhill Crane Unit; **NMWMA (VDSRd)** – Van Dyne Spoor Rd. area; **OB** – Ontario Beach area, Charlotte, MONR; **Spt** – Sodus Pt, WAYN; **TCEA** – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, Avon DEC; **W** – Town of Webster, MONR; **WP** – Webster P, MONR.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr 3 HB 18 Sep; max 18 HB 12 Nov.

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr HB 24, 30 Oct (BCar, mob); 1 N. Hamlin Rd. 28 Oct (NU); HB 8-9 Nov (DHo, BCar); Hemlock L SP 11 Nov (TBo).

Brant: arr 2 SPt 17 Sep (MG); max 1046 SPt 24 Oct (JMcG, LS); last Pultneyville Harbor WAYN 10 Nov (DD).

Cackling Goose: arr 5 HB 2 Oct (MG); max 6 Everhart Rd. Pnd WAYN 17 Oct (TLe, MI) & Perry Public Beach 25 Nov (NK); total ~ 40 ind 5 loc 2-30 Oct (5+ obs); 27 rep, ~ 32 ind 12 loc Nov (20+ obs).

Canada Goose: max 25000 N Hamlin Rd. nr Westphal Rd. 25 Oct (R&SSp); 8500 Perry Public Beach 25 Nov (NK).

Mute Swan: max 144 IB-S 21, 23 Nov.

Trumpeter Swan: max 25 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 3 Nov (JMcG, LS).

Tundra Swan: arr 7 Burger P, G 5 Oct; max 87 CL – N 17 Nov (TBo), typical for loc.

Wood Duck: max 78 BB – ES 25 Sep (KH, PMar), fall max.

Blue-winged Teal: max 65 BB-ES 2 Sep (GL), good count for loc; last 2-3 CL-N 3 Oct.

Northern Shoveler: max 46 NMWMA (West Shore Trail) 14 Nov (MC, DSi), good number for date.

Gadwall: max 160 Buck Pnd, G 27 Nov, good count.

Eurasian Wigeon: arr 1 ad m HB 8 Oct (AGu, 6 oth obs).

American Wigeon: max 140 Round Pnd, G 16 Nov (JMi), low max.

Mallard: 1500 NWMA (SCU) 14 Nov (JMcG, LS); 1400 IB-S 21 Nov (JMcG); max 3077 NMWMA (SCU) 25 Nov (IBA Monitoring).

American Black Duck: max 125 NMWMA (SCU) 25 Nov (IBA Monitoring).

Northern Pintail: max 3100 NWMA (Armitage Rd) 23 Oct (BVD, SD), good count.

Mallard x Northern Pintail: IB – S 21 Nov (JMcG).

Green-winged Teal: max 140 HB 25 Oct (AGu), low max.

Canvasback: arr 2 IB-S 15 Oct.

Redhead: max 1530 Groveland Hill Pnd LIVI 23 Nov (NK).

Ring-necked Duck: max 120 Round Pd, G 16 Nov (JiM).

Greater Scaup: max 150 Round Pd, G 16 Nov, low max.

Lesser Scaup: max 105 HB 27 Nov, low max.

Aythya sp.: max 500 Northrup Crk, G 25 Nov (RB).

King Eider: 1 f E Manitou Rd Overlook, G 3, 24-28 Nov (MB, mob), phs; **max 11** Beechwood SP WAYN 3 Nov (TLe, DW), high count; 5 Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 8 Nov (W&MR); 1 f HB 22 Nov (AGu); 1 imm m HB 27 Nov (AGu).

Harlequin Duck: arr 1 f HB 21 Oct (AGu); 1 f HB 15 Nov (BCar); 1-2 f E Manitou Rd Overlook, G 23-29 Nov (JiM, mob), phs.

Surf Scoter: arr HB 19 Sep (AGu), early.

White-winged Scoter: arr 2 off Edgemere Dr, G & 3, 5 HB 18 Sep; max 103 HB 3 Nov, low max.

Black Scoter: arr off Lakeshore DR, W 27 Sep (DM); max 95 E Manitou Rd Overlook, G 3 Nov (RB, JWa).

Long-tailed Duck: arr 3-4 HB 8 Oct; max 1505 HB 3 Nov (GL), good count.

Bufflehead: arr BB – ES 3 Oct; max 180 Silver L – S WYOM 25 Nov (NK).

Common Goldeneye: arr 2 BB – ES 12 Oct; max 120 BB 29 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 165 Silver L – S WYOM 25 Nov (NK).

Common Merganser: max 100 off Cornwall Pres WAYN 17 Oct, low max.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 2530 HB 3Nov (GL); 1520 HB 22 Nov (AGu); good counts.

duck sp.: max 5000 NMWMA (VDSRd) 13 Nov (MJ, BHa, JHu).

Pied-billed Grebe: max 56 IB P - W 3 Nov (JiM).

Horned Grebe: max 452 HB 3 Nov (AGu), good count.

Red-necked Grebe: max 440 15 HB 27 Nov (AGu), good count.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last MP 1 Oct (MSc).

Black-billed Cuckoo: last Hemlock L – S 4 Oct (GL).

Common Nighthawk: max 12 Honeoye Falls 2 Sep; last Silver L – S WYOM 23 Sep.

Chimney Swift: max 100 IB – S 11 Sep, low max; last Ellison P, T Penfield 1 Oct.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Rochester 11 Oct (JoP).

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: MP 24 Nov (NK), late, typical wintering area.

Sora: last Ellison P, T Penfield 9 Oct.

Common Gallinule: last 2 HANA 22 Oct (DSh).

American Coot: max 300 BB – ES 23 Oct (TBU).

Sandhill Crane: 70 NMWMA (VDSRd) 23 Oct (DK); max 150 NMWMA (VDSRd) 10 Nov (AJ), very high count, but more reported just outside this Reg.

Black-bellied Plover: last BB-ES 12 Nov (NU).

American Golden-Plover: last NMWMA (VDSRd) 21 Oct.

Semipalmated Plover: last 2 SPT 19 Nov (PMar).

Killdeer: max 139 Nations Rd IBA 7 Sep.

Upland Sandpiper: last BB –HW 23 Sep (KMCD), only record.

Whimbrel: HB 11 Sep (BHa, GH, JHu, MJ); last Webster Golf Club 26 Sep (GF).

Hudsonian Godwit: 1-3 BB-ES & nr 1-17 Sep (ST, mob), many phs.

Ruddy Turnstone: max 10 BB – ES 7 Sep; last SPT 4Oct.

Red Knot: last OB 16 Sep (KMj, J&TV).

Stilt Sandpiper: no reports.

Sanderling: max 38 BB – ES 9 Sep (JGo); last SPT 12 Nov (DW).

Dunlin: max 197 BB - ES 31 Oct (JGo).

Purple Sandpiper: arr IBO 28 Oct (NU, AGu, GL, ph); IBO 29 Oct (JiM, mob, phs); 1-2 BB-ES 14; 27-28 Nov (mob); SPT 21 Nov (MG, JMcG, phs); IBO 25 Nov (A&CGu, NU, phs).

Baird's Sandpiper: last SPT 12 Sep.

Least Sandpiper: last Salmon Crk, G & BB-ES 2-4 Nov (KG, GL, PMar, SG).

White-rumped Sandpiper: last BB – ES 17 Nov (NU).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Cy farms area GENE 7 Oct (RB, JWa, NR, DBea), only rep.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 42 Hemlock L – S 25 Oct (BCar); last BB-ES 16 Nov (Nu, KB).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last BB – ES 10 Nov (6 obs).

Short-billed Dowitcher: last Salmon Crk, G 5 Oct.

Long-billed Dowitcher: arr 2 BB-ES 27 Sep; last NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 22 Oct (MG).

Wilson's Snipe: last Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Rochester & NMWMA (Martens Tract) 14 Nov.

Spotted Sandpiper: last SPt 6 Nov (MG, ph), late.

Solitary Sandpiper: last TCEA 20 Oct (MW).

Lesser Yellowlegs: last IB – S 12 Nov (JiM).

Red-necked Phalarope: arr BB – ES 13 Sep (JiM, LM, 3 oth obs); 4 HB 16 Sep (AGu), passing.

Red Phalarope: IB-S 18-30 Nov (JiM, mob), many phs.

Parasitic Jaeger: total ~ 63 ind 4 loc 4-28 Sep; max 9 HB 7 Sep (AGu, *et al.*); 1 ea off Edgemere Dr, G 22, 23 Oct (JiB, JeB, CW); 7 singles HB 2-16 Oct (6 obs); 3 HB 17 Oct (GT); Beechwood SP WAYN 17 Oct (TLe, MD); 1; 2 SPt 15; 29 Oct (AT; JW); last HB 1 Nov.

Long-tailed Jaeger: 1 HB 4 Sep (6 obs); 1 ad HB 16 Oct (JiM, DSh).

Parasitic/Long-tailed Jaeger: 2 HB 5 Sep (AGu, DSh); HB 8 Oct (AGu, BCar, KH).

jaeger species: total 10 ind HB 4-21 Sep (7 obs); HB 8 Oct (SG, JiM, PMar).

Black-legged Kittiwake: arr 1 imm Beechwood SP WAYN 3 Nov (TLe, phs); 1 ad off Broadway Rd, WAYN 12 Nov (MG) 1imm HB 24 Nov (AGu, ph).

SABINE'S GULL (R2): 2 imm HB 14 Sep (RSto, 7 oth obs);

Bonaparte's Gull: max 295 IB-S 21 Nov (JMcG).

Little Gull: no reports.

LAUGHING GULL (R2): 1 imm HB 4 Sep (AGu); 1 ad Salmon Crk, G 4 Oct (8 obs, phs); OB 9 Oct (LBe, ph).

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

Iceland Gull: arr HB 1 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: total ~ 13 ind 5 loc Sep (16+ obs); 12 rep, 16 ind 8 loc 1-29 Oct (14+ obs); 6 rep, 6 ind 4 loc 7-26 Nov (4 obs).

Glaucous Gull: arr HB 17 Nov.

Caspian Tern: max 40 BB-ES 1 Sep, low max; last OB 24 Oct (NU).

Black Tern: last Hemlock L 4 Sep.

Common Tern: max 94 HB & SPt 29 Sep (SG); last OB 24 Oct (NU).

Forster's Tern: last OB 10 Oct (SG).

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: arr HB 24 Sep (AGu), early; max 1051 HB 25 Nov (AGu), good count.

Common Loon: Sep max 34 24 Sep, often 1st 100+ count by about this date; max 216 HB 24 Oct, low max.

Northern Gannet: Beechwood SP WAYN 12 Nov (TLe, DW), only rep.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 1100 OB 23 Oct (JiM, LM). Sep, good count; 250 Buck Pnd, G (JiB) & SPt (TLe) 2 Nov, good counts for date.

NEOTROPIC/DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: SPt 12 Sep (TLe, DW).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN (R2): 2 BB- ES then later H 1 Oct (MB, then A&DGu), *intro*.

Least Bittern: last Salmon Crk, G 23 Sep.

Great Egret: max 77 NMWMA(CR) 2 Sep (SD), good count.

Green Heron: last CL WMA 14 Oct (OA).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (R2): 1 imm BB – ES later BB 25; 29 Sep (KH, mob, ph), rare in Reg. *intro*.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: last Old Duck Inn, T Tyre WAYN 23 Nov (DO), late.

WHITE-FACED IBIS: Salmon Crk, G 7 Oct (SG, TN, mob), phs, 3rd Reg record.

plegadis ibis sp.: off Edgemere Dr, G 23 Oct (JeB, JiB, CW).

Black Vulture: no reports.

Osprey: last CL WMA 23 Oct (OA).

Bald Eagle: 238 lines eBird many loc Sep; 181 lines eBird many loc Oct; 183 lines eBird many loc Nov; good numbers.

Northern Goshawk: no reports.

Red-shouldered Hawk: Old Stone Lane, G 20 Oct (JRy), interesting loc; only ~ 9 rep for season.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr HB 23 Oct (AGu); total ~ 30 many loc Nov, good showing.

Snowy Owl: arr SPt 6 Nov (MG, ph); IBO 8 Nov (JiM, ET, mob, phs); BB – ES 9 Oct (GL, NU); BBBO on roof 23 Nov (MRe, ph, *fade* AP).

Barred Owl: M – Owl Woods 23-30 Oct (mob, phs), many failed birding and photo ethics with this bird, *intro*.
Short-eared Owl: arr 1-2 BB – ES 10 Oct; max 7 Buckland P, MONR 29 Nov (GL, MP).
Northern Saw-whet Owl: total 11 M – Owl Woods 16-31 Oct (count team, *fide* JAd); max 3 M – Owl Woods 23 Oct (count team); total b 25 BBBO 5-21 Oct (owl banders); max b 18 BBBO 21 Oct (owl banders); total ~19 M – Owl Woods Nov (counters); total b 8 BBBO 5, 9, 14 Nov (owl banders); Zurich Bog WAYN 6 Nov (TLe), heard calling and recorded.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 10 Whiting Rd NP, W 3 Oct (8+ obs).
American Kestrel: ~53 ind 30 loc Sep; ~27 ind 21 loc Oct; 10 ind 10 loc 5-24 Nov (16+ obs).
Merlin: total ~56 ind 30 loc Sep; total ~41 ind 26+ loc Oct; ~40 ind 29 loc Nov.
Peregrine Falcon: total ~18+ ind 11+ loc Sep; total ~29 ind 23+ loc Oct; 12 ind 10 loc Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: total 10 ind 10 loc 1-28 Sep (19 obs).
Eastern Wood-Pewee: last Webster Village 10 Oct (GF).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: total b 20 BBBO 1-19 Sep; last Ellison P, T Penfield & NMWMA (SCU) 3 Oct.
Willow Flycatcher: last Beechwood SP WAYN 26 Sep (JWi).
“Traill’s” Flycatcher: total b 5 BBBO 2-25 Sep; last 1b BBBO 2 Oct, recap 6 Oct.
Least Flycatcher: total b 7 BBBO 8-23 Sep; last Burger P, G 3 Oct.
Eastern Phoebe: total b 9 BBBO 3-27 Oct; last Mission Rd, T Conesus LIVI 2 Nov (BCar).
Great Crested Flycatcher: last Beechwood SP WAYN 25 Sep (JWo).
Eastern Kingbird: last near Clyde WAYN 26 Sep.
Northern Shrike: arr Burger P, G 28 Oct (BCar); 14 rep, ~7 ind 6 loc 3-29 Nov (18+ obs).
Yellow-throated Vireo: last Durand-Eastman P 20 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: last HB – campground 24 Oct (4 obs).
Philadelphia Vireo: total b 38 BBBO 1-28 Sep; last 1b BBBO 20 Oct, late.
Warbling Vireo: last HB 4 Oct (AGu), late.
Red-eyed Vireo: total b 118 BBBO 1 Sep – 8 Oct; last Rochester 24 Oct (MMo).

Common Raven: max 15 Frost Hill Rd, T Naples ONTA 5 Nov (KK), phs on trail cam.
Horned Lark: max 64 HB 23 Oct, low max.
Purple Martin: last BB – ES 7 Sep.
Tree Swallow: max 750 BB – ES 5 Sep, low max; last 15 Sonyea LIVI & 2 NMWMA (VDSRd) 23 Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 640 NMWMA (VDSRd) 23 Sep (JMcG); last 30 NMWMA (VDSRd) 10 Oct (DK).
Bank Swallow: last 50 NMWMA (Malone Marsh) 29 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: last SPt 13 Sep.
CAVE SWALLOW: 2 HB 6 Nov (AGu), only report.
Barn Swallow: last BB – ES 15 Oct.
swallow sp.: max 1000 NMWMA (VDSRd) 2 Oct (RP).
Black-capped Chickadee: total b 544 BBBO 5 Sep – 14 Nov; max b 169 BBBO 27 Oct; 153 b BBBO 25 Oct; 414 HB 6 Nov (AGu); max 1036 BB – WS 7 Nov (GL).
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 710 eBird lines Nov, contrasting with 45 line for Nov 2019.
Brown Creeper: total b 30 BBBO 1–31 Oct.
House Wren: last Fairport MONR & Beechwood SP WAYN 9 Oct.
Winter Wren: total b 13 BBBO 19 Sep – 27 Oct; max 13 HB-WE 11 Oct (AGu); total ~35+ ind 23 loc Nov, very good late numbers.
Marsh Wren: last IB – S 25 Nov (JiM, DSh), late.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: IB P – W 6 Nov (JiM); BB – WS 7; 24 Nov (GL), late.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr Turning Point P, Rochester 3 Sep; max 55 HB – YC 3 Oct (AGu); max b 16 BBBO 22 Oct; total b 99 BBBO 3-31 Oct.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Ellison P, T Penfield 3 Sep; max 62 HB – YC 11 Oct (AGu); max b 27 BBBO 9 Oct; total b 171 BBBO 11 Sep – 31 Oct; ~32 ind 18 loc 1-27 Nov (18+ obs), many for so late.
Veery: total b 25 BBBO 1-28 Sep; last 1 recap BBBO 5 Oct. **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr HB 6 Sep; max b 21 BBBO 26 Sep; total b 100 BBBO 5 Sep – 6 Oct, low; last HB – campground 29 Oct (DBem, RSp).
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell’s Thrush: total b 33 BBBO 15 Sep – 5 Oct; last 1 recap BBBO 14 Oct.
Swainson’s Thrush: 24 Webster P 19 Sep (R&SSp); max 25 HB – YC 24 Sep (DBem, RSp); Walworth, WAYN 25 Sep; max b 47 BBBO 24 Oct; total b 401 BBBO 3 Sep – 12 Oct; last Whiting Rd NP, W 30 Oct (AGa).

Hermit Thrush: arr HB – YC 9 Sep; max b 33 BBBO 9 Oct; max 16 Webster P 14 Oct (NU); total b 201 BBBO 17 Sep – 31 Oct; ~35 ind 21 loc Nov; Nov max 7 Webster P 6 Nov (RSp).

Wood Thrush: last Durand-Eastman P 10 Oct.

American Robin: max 325 HB – campground 25 Nov (GL).

Gray Catbird: max 24 Whiting Rd NP, W 3 Sep (GF); total b 102 BBBO 1 Sep – 24 Oct; ~15 ind 12 loc 3-27 Nov, many for so late.

Brown Thrasher: last Ellison P, T Penfield 31 Oct (JiM).

Bohemian Waxwing: 2 M – Owl Woods 20 Nov (NU), only rep.

Cedar Waxwing: max 635 Beechwood SP WAYN 9 Nov (TLE); 440 HB – YC 10 Nov (AGu).

American Pipit: max 90 Nations Rd IBA28 Oct (TBo); 40 Jones Bridge & Perry Rds, LIVI 7 Nov (JKi).

Evening Grosbeak: arr Ellison P, T Penfield 12 Oct (JiM); max 81 HB 23 Oct (AGu); 27 HB - YC 6 Nov (AGu).

Pine Grosbeak: arr Webster P – campground area 6 Nov (AGa, JaG, RR).

Purple Finch: total b 30 BBBO 12-30 Sep, usually few banded.

Common Redpoll: arr Grandview Heights, G 13-15 Oct (KG); max 141 HB 9 Nov (AGu).

COMMON “GREATER” REDPOLL: BB – ES 19 Nov (DSh, ph), first report locally in many years, see photo p. 52, *intro*.

Hoary Redpoll: BB-ES 14 Nov (KH, PMar, phs) & 19 Nov (DS, ph. p. 52), only reps.

Common/Hoary Redpoll: BB-ES 20, 23 Nov (DMcD, NK, phs).

Red Crossbill: arr Webster P 18 Oct (GL, DMcD); max 76 HB 6 Nov (AGu).

White-winged Crossbill: arr 1-4 M – Owl Woods 11 Oct (GL, mob, phs); max 34 M – Owl Woods 3 Nov (6 obs).

Pine Siskin: 125 BB-ES 25 Sep (JiM); max 210 HB 23 Oct (AGu) & HB – campground 29 Oct (DBem, RSp); 120 T Sodus WAYN 16 Nov (JWo); some good counts.

American Goldfinch: total b 27 BBBO 6-31 Oct; max 295 HB 6 Nov (AGu).

Lapland Longspur: arr 2 NMWMA (SCU) 23 Sep (JMcG); max 12 T Caledonia LIVI 25 Oct.

Snow Bunting: arr 20 Buck Pnd, G 24 Oct (MB); max 225 HB 20 Nov (PMar, KG).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: last Ellison P, T Penfield 27 Nov (JiM, LM), late.

American Tree Sparrow: arr HANA 21 Oct (JiM); max 34 CL Inlet WMA 26 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: max 50 HB 30 Sep (AGu).

NELSON’S SPARROW (R2): 2 Burger P, G 2-4 Oct (PMar, mob, ph); BB – ES 4 Oct (JeB, JiB, MB, VR); Buck Pnd, G 17 Oct (JeB, MBa); Geneseo Airfield 8 Nov (JKi), seen again 9 Nov (TBo, BCar), Reg record late.

Fox Sparrow: arr M – Owl Woods & Barry Property, T Clarendon GENE 11 Oct; max 12 Wright Rd, T Savannah WAYN 13 Nov (MJ, BHa, JHu).

Song Sparrow: max 55 Beechwood SP WAYN 9 Oct (TLE); total b 35 BBBO 2 Sep – 26 Oct.

Lincoln’s Sparrow: arr Lake Rd, W 11 Sep; total B 8 BBBO 11-29 Sep; last Beatty Pt, G 23)ct (JeB, CW).

White-throated Sparrow: arr G 8 Sep (KG); 120 Beechwood SP WAYN 19 Sep (TLE); max 200 Beechwood SP, WAYN 9 Oct (TLE); max b 81 BBBO 24 Sep; 67 b BBBO 4 Oct; total b 764 BBBO 14 Sep – 31 Oct; Nov max 40 Beechwood SP, WAYN 7 Nov (TLE).

White-crowned Sparrow: arr 2 Palmer Farms ORLE 22 Sep. **Dark-eyed Junco:** arr T Irondequoit 9 Sep; max 100 Webster Arboretum 23 Oct (RR, ET); total b 22 BBBO 2-29 Oct.

Bobolink: last 2 NMWMW (VDSRd) 29 Sep.

Eastern Meadowlark: last T Bloomfield ONTA 8 Nov (L&PK).

Baltimore Oriole: last 2 Northampton P, T Ogden 27 Sep (AS).

Red-winged Blackbird: max 5000 NMWMW (VDSRd) 24 Sep (BCar).

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 400 NMWMW (VDSRd) 17 Sep (TLE).

Rusty Blackbird: arr NMWMW (SCU) 23 Sep; max 90 Geneseo Airfield 9 Nov (TBo, BCar).

Common Grackle: max 5000 Rochester 21 Oct (ML).

blackbird sp.: max 10,000 NMWMW (SCU) 23 Sep (JMcG).

Ovenbird: total b 18 BBBO 2-27 Sep; last Hemlock L ONTA 12 Oct (KA).

Worm-eating Warbler: 1 ea b BBBO 14; 19 Sep, very rare in fall.

Northern Waterthrush: total b 6 BBBO 2-25 Sep; HANA 5 Oct.

Blue-winged Warbler: last 1b BBBO 1 Oct.

Black-and-white Warbler: last Fairport 2 Oct.

Prothonotary Warbler: 1b BBBO 2 Sep, rare in fall.

Tennessee Warbler: total b 12 BBBO 6-21 Sep, 12 Oct; last Churchville dam MONR 26 Nov (PI, ph), Reg record late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: total 21 ind 21 loc 15 Sep – 30 Oct, good number, none banded.

Nashville Warbler: total b 27 BBBO 4-24 Sep, 3, 16 Oct; last BB – ES 28 Oct (JSl).

Connecticut Warbler: Beechwood SP WAYN 24 Sep (JWi); TCEA 25 Oct (BCar, MW); 1 ea b BBBO 15, 16, 24, 26 Sep, 1 Oct; high number of reps.

Mourning Warbler: last Durand-Eastman P 17 Oct (GL, ph), Reg record late.

Common Yellowthroat: max 20 Honeoye L WMA 8 Sep (BHo); total b 58 BBBO 1 Sep – 3 Oct; last 2 CL Inlet WMA LVI 17 Nov (OA), late.

Hooded Warbler: last Fawn Ridge, T Bristol ONTA 11 Oct (KK).

American Redstart: total b 59 BBBO 1- 28 Sep. 1 Oct; last singles 3 loc 3 Oct (mob).

Cape May Warbler: last Hogan Pt, G 24 Oct (DTe).

Northern Parula: total b 22 BBBO 1 Sep – 4 Oct; max 19 Beechwood SP WAYN 12 Sep (TLc, DW); last Durand-Eastman P 9 Nov (SG), late.

Magnolia Warbler: max b 25 BBBO 15 Sep; total b 213 BBBO 1 Sep – 4 Oct; last Chimney Bluffs WAYN 24 Oct (DW).

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 22 Webster P – campground 12 Sep (AGa); total b 73 BBBO 2 Sep – 5 Oct; last 2 Casey P, T Ontario WAYN 8 Oct (JWi).

Blackburnian Warbler: last 1b BBBO 4 Oct.

Yellow Warbler: last HANA 9 Oct (MBr), late.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: total b 11 BBBO 1- 25 Sep; last TCEA 6 Oct (BCar).

Blackpoll Warbler: max b 34 BBBO 26 Sep; max 20 BB – ES 4 Oct (JiM, LM); total b 417 BBBO 2 Sep – 20 Oct; 1 recap BBBO 29 Oct; last MP – Quaker Pd 27 Nov (AS, ph), Reg record late.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: total b 56 BBBO 2 Sep – 6 Oct, 20, 24 Oct.

Palm Warbler: arr OB 7 Sep (AGu); last HANA 21 Oct (DSh).

Pine Warbler: max 15 DEP 3 Sep (ET); last Webster P 21 Oct (SG).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 54 BB-ES 3 Oct (GL); total b 33 BBBO 15 Sep - 14 Oct; 35 rep, ~ 43 ind 23 loc Nov (24+ obs), many lingering late.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R2): Lakeview Community Church & Firehouse trails, G 5, 6, 12 Sep (JCu, JGa, JiM, LM); Grandview Heights, G 15 Sep (KG), possibly same ind.

Prairie Warbler: Nunda-Dalton Rd LIVI 19 Sep (JGo); N Wolcott WAYN 19 Sep (W&MR); scarce in fall.

Black-throated Green Warbler: total b 27 BBBO 1 – 9 Oct; last BB – WS 23 Oct (BriM).

Canada Warbler: last CL Inlet WMA 18 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: total b 28 BBBO 9-26 Sep; last HANA 9 Oct (DSh).

Scarlet Tanager: last Beechwood SP WAYN 9 Oct (TLc).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last HB – YC 6 Oct (AGu).

Indigo Bunting: last Beatty Pt, G 23 Oct (JeB, CW), late.

Dickcissel: T Livonia LIVI 28 Oct (TBo, ph), rare.

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REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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In Ithaca, the average high temperature in September was 71.6° F, 0.5° above normal. The average low temperature was 46.7°, 2.3° below normal. Total rainfall was 1.82", 1.87" less than normal. Cold fronts passed through the Region September 12, 15, 19, and 30. In October, the average high temperature was 58.9°, 0.1° below normal, and the average low was 49.7°, 1.0° above normal. Total precipitation was 3.70", 0.28" more than normal. Cold

fronts passed through on October 9, 12, 17, 25, and 31. The average high temperature in November was 52.6°, 5.1° above normal, and the average low was 33.1°, 1.4° above normal. Total precipitation was 2.31", 0.85" less than normal. Total snowfall was 1.8", 2.7" less than normal. There were two days with measurable snow cover with a maximum depth of 2" on 19 November. Cold fronts passed through on November 12, 17, 22, 24, and 28.

The cold front on 25 October pushed large numbers of Canada Geese and many Brant and Common Loons southward. The front on 24 November also prompted a large migration of Canada Geese with a high count of 20,000 reported over the Town of Van Etten. Other high counts reported for waterfowl species were four Greater White-fronted Geese, 30 Trumpeter Swans, 400 Northern Shovelers, 180 Buffleheads, 290 Hooded Mergansers, and 360 Common Mergansers. Waterfowl rarities included **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks** that appeared at two locations in early September and at another in late October. Ross's Geese were at two locations in late November. The only Greater White-fronted Geese were at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge in late November.

Montezuma NWR continues to be a late fall gathering place for Sandhill Cranes, with a high count of 187 in 2020. The only unusual count of shorebirds was the low count of five American Golden-Plovers. The variety was good with 28 species reported. Rarities included Ruddy Turnstones, Red Knots, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and Red-necked Phalaropes in early September, a Whimbrel and Red Phalarope in mid-September, and American Avocets and Hudsonian Godwits in late September.

A high count of 32 Caspian Terns was reported at Montezuma NWR in early September. The last report of Caspian Tern was 12 October, a late departure date. The season's first report of Iceland Gull came on the late date of 19 November. The best bird of the season was an immature **Long-tailed Jaeger** first spotted by Jay McGowan and Ken Rosenberg over Northeast Ithaca and then by Tristan Herwood and Chris Sayers from Bluegrass Lane Natural Area in early September. This appears to be the third record for the Region. Chris Wood observed one at Myers Point 26 August 2010. Cornell University has a specimen of one that was found in Ithaca 8 March 1942 (Chao 2010: Region 3—Finger Lakes. *The Kingbird* 60: 329).

Four American Bitterns and 50 Black-crowned Night-Herons, all at Montezuma NWR, were high counts. A Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was in Penn Yan 4 October, but found dead five days later, apparently electrocuted on power lines.

The season's first cold front produced a flight of 1500 Broad-winged Hawks over the Town of Lansing on 12 September. Four Black Vultures in the Town of Erwin in late September was a fall high count. Five Barred Owls in the Town of Caroline and four Short-eared Owls in the Town of Phelps were high counts.

Ten Belted Kingfishers at Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve and 12 Red-bellied Woodpeckers in the Town of Caroline were high counts. The last report of Red-headed Woodpecker came from the Town of Erwin in mid-September.

It took only two Alder Flycatchers to be a high count for that species. Late departures were the story for flycatchers. The last date for Eastern Kingbird was 3 October; for Least Flycatcher, 11 October; for Great Crested Flycatcher, 4 November; and for Eastern Wood-pewee, 5 November.

The count of four Yellow-throated Vireos at Montezuma NWR was high. A Philadelphia Vireo on 12 October and a Blue-headed Vireo on 10 November were late. John Garrett found a White-eyed Vireo at Sullivanville Dam in early October.

The high count of 100 Fish Crows at Geneva was remarkable for being in the northern part of the Region where the species' occurrence has been relatively recent. Robert Buckert

and Jules Wagner found and photographed a **Cave Swallow** at Almond Lake in early November. This was probably the first record of the species in Steuben County.

Poor cone crops in Canada pushed large numbers of Black-capped Chickadees and Red-breasted Nuthatches southward. This was reflected in high counts for both species; William Evans counted 417 Black-capped Chickadees migrating past a location in the Town of Danby, and Chris Wood counted 32 Red-breasted Nuthatches in Bear Swamp State Forest. Jeff Gerbracht's 21 Tufted Titmice at Durland Preserve was also a high count.

Sedge Wrens occurred at multiple locations in Tompkins County. The last on 20 October was a late report for the Region. A Marsh Wren at Montezuma NWR on 28 November was also late. Days after counting hundreds of chickadees, William Evans counted 2370 American Robins migrating by the same location in the Town of Danby. Bill Brown turned in high counts of 120 House Sparrows in the Town of Torrey and 800 American Pipits in the Town of Benton.

All species of winter finches were reported in the Region. Counts of 150 Purple Finches, 180 Common Redpolls, 120 Red Crossbills, and 150 Pine Siskins were all high counts. A Pine Grosbeak was at Summerhill State Forest in late November. A Hoary Redpoll was in the Town of Fayette in mid-November and another was at Mount Pleasant in late November.

Late occurrences of sparrows included a Grasshopper Sparrow at Dryden Lake on 15 October, Field Sparrows at Bluegrass Lane Natural Area and in the Town of Ovid on 29 November, and White-crowned Sparrows in the Town of Ovid on 29 Ovid. A Clay-colored Sparrow was at Reynolds State Game Farm in mid-October. A Bobolink at Montezuma NWR was late on 22 October.

High counts of Warblers were two Northern Waterthrushes in Sapsucker Woods and 21 Tennessee Warblers at Long Point (Yates County). Late departures were numerous: Golden-winged Warbler on 2 October; Bay-breasted Warbler and Black-throated Blue Warbler on 22 October; Chestnut-sided Warbler on 27 October; Black-and-white Warbler on 29 October; Wilson's Warbler on 31 October; American Redstart, Blackpoll Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, and Black-throated Green Warbler on 1 November; Cape May Warbler on 4 November; Northern Parula on 9 November; and Tennessee Warbler on 27 November.

A **Summer Tanager** was at Durland Preserve in late October. The season's only Dickcissel was at Bluegrass Lane Natural Area in mid-October.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BL – Beebe L, TOMP; **BDT** – Black Diamond Trail, TOMP; **BLNA** – Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, TOMP; **Cygl** – Cayuga L; **DP** – Durland Pres, TOMP; **EFGA** – Etna Fringed Gentian Area, TOMP; **FLNF** – Finger Lakes National Forest, SENE; **HH** – Hog Hole, TOMP; **LPBP** – Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres, TOMP; **LP** – Long Pt, YATE; **LPNA** – Lighthouse Pt Natural Area, TOMP; **LPSP** – Long Pt SP; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MR** – Monkey Run, TOMP; **MtP** – Mt Pleasant, TOMP; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **NEI** – Northeast Ithaca, TOMP; **PW** – Palmer Woods, TOMP; **RHPP** – Roy H P Pres, TOMP; **SLSP** – Seneca L SP; **SPNA** – Salt Pt Natural Area, TOMP; **SSSF** – Summerhill State Forest, CAYU; **SSP** – Sampson SP; **StP** – Stewart P, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TDan** – T Danby, TOMP; **TDry** – T Dryden, TOMP; **TFay** – T Fayette, SENE; **THec** – T Hector, SCHU; **Tith** – T Ithaca, TOMP; **TOV** – T Ovid, SENE; **TTyr** – T Tyre, SENE; **TVE** – T Van Etten, CHEM.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK:

arr TDry 6 Sep (NM, ph); max 4 MNWR 9 Sep (JKi, ph; TLe, ph; SPo, ph); last 3 Hanley Biological Field Preserve SENE 28 Oct (AFa, ph; JM, ph).

Snow Goose: arr 24 PW 27 Oct, late; max 2600 TFay 28 Nov.

Ross's Goose: T Varick SENE 27 Nov; 2 TFay 28 Nov.

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr MNWR 28 Nov, late; max 4 MNWR 29 Nov (GD, JGK), high.

Brant: arr 30 Cygl TOMP 12 Oct; 19 MyPt 12 Oct; max 450 TTyr 24 Oct; last 32 Kendal at Ithaca 24 Nov; TCar 24 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr MNWR 26 Sep; max 19 MNWR 29 Nov.

Barnacle X Cackling Goose (hybrid): MNWR 31 Oct-29 Nov (mob, ph).

Canada Goose: max 20,000 TVE 24 Nov (JCor), high.

Snow X Canada Goose (hybrid): LPNA 8 Nov (KR!).

Trumpeter Swan: max 30 TTyr 24 Oct (JM, LSa), high.

Tundra Swan: arr 2 MNWR 27 Oct; max 650 MNWR 28 Nov.

Blue-winged Teal: max 300 MNWR 10 Sep; last 2 MNWR 20 Nov.

Northern Shoveler: max 400 MNWR 24 Oct (David Siena), high.

Eurasian Wigeon: arr MNWR 10 Sep; max 2 MNWR 13 & 18 Sep; last MNWR 26 Oct.
Ring-necked Duck: arr 7 MNWR 8 Sep; max 1700 MNWR 21 Nov.
Redhead X scaup sp. (hybrid): 2 MNWR 14 Nov (JM, ph; LSa).
Surf Scoter: arr Long Pt SP 6 Oct; max 11 StP 6 Nov; last 3 StP 26 Nov (JM); 2 MyPt 26 Nov (JM), late.
White-winged Scoter: arr SLSP 4 Oct; max 20 Geneva 18 Nov.
Black Scoter: arr 3 Seneca Yacht Club SENE 4 Oct; max 38 StP 1 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: arr 5 SLSP 28 Oct; max 7 Taughannock Falls SP 12 Nov; 7 SLSP SENE 22 Nov.
Bufflehead: arr SLSP 28 Oct; max 180 SLSP 22 Nov (DWa), high.
Common Goldeneye: arr 5 StP 25 Oct; max 20 Wyers Pt SENE 28 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: max 290 LPNA 18 Nov (JD, AD), high.
Common Merganser: max 360 MNWR 13 Nov (DSh, MT), high.
Red-breasted Merganser: arr T Varick SENE 18 Sep; max 15 SLSP 16 Nov.
Ruffed Grouse: max 7 Ridgway Road Rail Trail 13 Sep (JGa, BR), high.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last TTYr 8 Oct.
Black-billed Cuckoo: last TTh 1 Oct.
Common Nighthawk: max 9 MNWR 4 Sep; last 2 MNWR 28 Sep; TTYr 28 Sep.
Chimney Swift: max 70 One Franklin Square ONTA 3 Sep; last MNWR 4 Oct.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 11 BLNA 5 Sep; last Cornell University 2 Oct.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: max 3 MNWR 10 Sep; 3 MNWR 17 Sep; last MNWR 8 Nov.
Sora: max 4 MNWR 13 Sep; last MNWR 18 Oct.
Common Gallinule: max 100 MNWR 15 Sep; last HH 10 Nov.
Sandhill Crane: max 187 MNWR 28 Nov (JM), high.
American Avocet: 3 MyPt 29 Sep (mob, ph).
Black-bellied Plover: max 13 Herwood's Hollow TOMP 24 Oct; last MyPt 2 Nov; PW 2 Nov.
American Golden-Plover: max 5 King Ferry CAYU 12 Oct, low; last 2 TFay 6 Nov.
Semipalmated Plover: max 40 MNWR 19 Sep; last Seneca L YATE 11 Oct.
Killdeer: max 100 Paines Creek CAYU 9 Sep; last Champlin Beach STEU 20 Nov.

Whimbrel: LP 19 Sep.
Hudsonian Godwit: max 3 MNWR 22 Sep; last MNWR 29 Sep.
Ruddy Turnstone: SLSP SENE 2-5 Sep; Elmira Holiday Inn CHEM 3 Sep.
Red Knot: 1-2 SLSP SENE 1-7 Sep.
Stilt Sandpiper: max 4 MNWR 27 Sep; last MNWR 3 Oct.
Sanderling: max 10 Senecs L SP SENE 13 Sep; last SLSP 28 Oct.
Dunlin: arr 12 MNWR 3 Oct; max 112 HH 25 Oct.
Baird's Sandpiper: max 2 Risser Road Swamp ONTA 1 Sep; 2 MNWR 6 Sep; 2 MNWR 10 Sep; last MNWR 21 Sep.
Least Sandpiper: max 75 MNWR 1 Sep; last SLSP 17 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: max 3 MNWR 6 Sep; last MNWR 30 Nov (MG, BWo!), late.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: MNWR 6-8 Sep.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 70 MNWR 18 Sep; last SW 9 Nov.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 120 MNWR 6 Sep; last 2 MNWR 18 Oct.
Short-billed Dowitcher: max 12 MNWR 28 Sep; last 2 MNWR 29 Sep.
Long-billed Dowitcher: max 25 MNWR 13 Nov; last 12 MNWR 15 Nov.
American Woodcock: max 6 TDry 24 Sep; last T Tuscarors STEU 26 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: max 5 MNWR 30 Oct; last BLNA 6 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 5 T Canandaigua ONTA 1 Sep; last Ithaca 8 Nov (NT!), late.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 15 LPBP 1 Sep; last SLSP 7 Nov (DWA, ph), late.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 80 MNWR 5 Sep; last MNWR 13 Nov.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 96 MNWR 15 Sep; last 3 MNWR 28 Nov (LSu, AY!), late.
Red-necked Phalarope: 1-2 MNWR 5-7 Sep.
Red Phalarope: LP 11 Sep; StP 19 Sep.
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: NEI 8 Sep (JM!, ph; KR!).
Iceland Gull: arr Seneca L SCHU 19 Nov, late.
Caspian Tern: max 32 MNWR 3 Sep (TLc), high; last CygL TOMP 12 Oct (JM, ph), late.
Black Tern: max 14 MyPt 2 Sep; last Long Pt SP 6 Sep.
Common Tern: max & last 2 StP 5 Oct.
Forster's Tern: CygL TOMP 5 Sep.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: arr Cass P TOMP 24 Oct; max 7 German Brothers Marina ONTA 12 Nov.

American Bittern: max 4 MNWR 20 Sep (Lance Verderame), high; last Allan H Treman State Marine P TOMP 30 Oct.

Least Bittern: max 2 MNWR 10 Sep; last TDry 24 Sep.

Great Egret: max 69 MNWR 17 Sep; last 2 MNWR 24 Oct.

Green Heron: max 11 Hile School Road Wetland TOMP 9 Sep; last SLSP 21 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 50 MNWR 14 Sep (MoJ), high.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Penn Yan Village Boat Launch YATE 4 Oct (mob, ph); Indian Pnes P YATE 9 Oct (BBr, ph).

Black Vulture: max 4 T Erwin STEU 23 Sep (BiH!), high.

Osprey: max 5 MNWR 6 Sep; last MNWR 7 Nov.

Golden Eagle: arr Gleason Meadows CHEM 10 Oct; max 2 NEI 25 Oct.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 8 MtP 25 Oct (mob).

Broad-winged Hawk: max 1500 T Lansing TOMP 12 Sep, last MtP 3 Oct.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr TDry 7 Oct; max 2 MtP 25 Oct.

Snowy Owl: arr Seneca Yacht Club SENE 15 Nov.

Barred Owl: max 5 TCar 13 Oct (JCon), high.

Short-eared Owl: arr BLNA 24 Oct; max 4 T Phelps ONTA 14 Nov (MMi), high.

Belted Kingfisher: max 10 LPBP 1 Sep (BrH, JS), high.

Red-headed Woodpecker: last T Erwin STEU 19-20 Sep.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 12 TCar 21 Oct (SKe), high.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last BDT 4 Nov (DN, ph), late.

Eastern Kingbird: last TOv 3 Oct (RSt!), late..

Olive-sided Flycatcher: max 2 West Bluff YATE 10 Sep; last TCar 16 Sep.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 6 TVE 10 Sep; last BDT 5 Nov (JGa, ph;JM, ph), late.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 2 LP 19 Sep; last BLNA 6 Oct.

Alder Flycatcher: max & last 2 TCar 5 Sep (JF), high.

Willow Flycatcher: last TOv 16 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: max 4 Willard WMA SENE 5 Sep; 4 Edwards L Cliffs Preserve TOMP 8 Sep; last Queen Catharine Marsh SCHU 11 Oct (JGa, ph; MSi), late.

Eastern Phoebe: max 12 Sullivanville Dam CHEM 11 Oct; last Frontenac Pt SENE 14 Nov.

Northern Shrike: arr T Ledyard CAYU 6 Oct.

White-eyed Vireo: Sullivanville Dam CHEM 4 Oct (JGa, ph).

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 4 MNWR 6 Sep (JM, DrWe), high; last T Niles CAYU 26 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 6 BLNA 26 Sep; last SLSP 10 Nov (TLe!), late.

Philadelphia Vireo: max 8 HH 20 Sep (JGa), high; last BL 12 Oct (EL!), late.

Warbling Vireo: max 12 SLSP 9-10 Sep; last HH 3 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 30 LPNA 10 Sep; last T Starkey YATE 22 Oct; Tlth 22 Oct.

Fish Crow: max 100 One Franklin Square ONTA 12 Oct (TLe), high.

Purple Martin: max 80 MNWR 10 Sep; last 3 MNWR 19 Sep.

Tree Swallow: max 10,000 MNWR 10 Sep; last Lansing Center Trail TOMP 12 Nov.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 15 MNWR 2 Sep; last 2 Verdi Burch Bird Refuge 14 Oct.

Bank Swallow: max 300 MNWR 13 Sep; last 130 MNWR 29 Sep.

Cliff Swallow: last MNWR 6 Sep.

CAVE SWALLOW: Almond L STEU 1 Nov (RB, ph; JWa).

Barn Swallow: max 200 MNWR 5 Sep; last 6 MNWR 26 Oct.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 417 TDan 21 Oct (WE), high.

Tufted Titmouse: max 21 DP 29 Oct (JGe), high.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 32 Bear Swamp State Forest CAYU 11 Oct (CW), high.

House Wren: max 8 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 6 Sep; 8 Edwards L Cliffs Preserve TOMP 12 Sep.

Sedge Wren: max 5 EFGA 15 Sep (JGa, ph); last TDry 20 Oct (TH!), late.

Marsh Wren: max 19 MNWR 19 Sep (SO), high; last MNWR 28 Nov (JM, LSa), late.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 2 SPNA 2 Sep; 2 BDT 8 Sep; last Little Salmon Creek CAYU 2 Oct.

Veery: max 30 MtP11 Sep, nocturnal; last Mundy Wildflower Garden TOMP 27 Sep.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr TCar 8 Sep; max 15 NEI 17 & 29 Sep, nocturnal; last MR 11 Oct; BL 11 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: max 400 MtP 11 Sep, nocturnal; last NEI 22 Oct, nocturnal; Corning Community College 22 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 37 NEI 20 Oct, nocturnal; last Last Stand Meadow TOMP 28 Nov (CH), late.

Wood Thrush: max 18 NEI 17 Sep, nocturnal; last MR 20 Oct.

American Robin: max 2370 TDan 26 Oct (WE), high.

Gray Catbird: max 30 MNWR 16 Sep; last SW 27 Nov.

Brown Thrasher: max 4 LPBP 6 & 15 Sep; 4 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 16 Sep; last Tlth 23 Oct.

House Sparrow: max 120 T Torrey YATE 20 Nov (BBr), high.

American Pipit: arr TDan 17 Sep; max 800 T Benton YATE 19 Oct (BBr), high.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 2 TDry 24 Sep; max 40 TVE 7 Nov.

Pine Grosbeak: SSF 22 Nov (MY).

Purple Finch: max 151 TDan 23 Oct (WE), high.

Common Redpoll: arr T Phelps YATE 29 Oct; max 180 SSF 22 Nov (PR, Matt Young), high.

Hoary Redpoll: TFay 20 Nov (Dave Kennedy, ph); MtP 26 Nov (Jeremy Collison!).

Red Crossbill: arr 4 Cornell Botanic Garden TOMP 6 Sep (Jalen Winstanley!), early; max 120 SSF 22 Nov (PR, MY), high.

White-winged Crossbill: arr Hammond Hill State Forest TOMP 7 Nov; max 11 SSF 22 Nov.

Pine Siskin: arr RHPP 18 Sep; max 150 Ithaca 13 Oct (AD), high.

Lapland Longspur: arr TFay 20 Oct; max 7 MNWR 31 Oct.

Snow Bunting: arr MNWR 13 Oct (RM!), early; max 150 Savannah Mucklands SENE 12 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 20 Arnot Forest TOMP 3 Oct; FLNF SENE 14 Nov.

American Tree Sparrow: arr Steam Mill Fen TOMP 17 Oct; max 20 MNWR 8 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: max 50 SSP 18 Sep; 50 Robert Trent Jones Gof Course TOMP 22 Sep.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Reynolds State Game Farm TOMP 16 Oct (JCon!).

Field Sparrow: max 30 FLNF SENE 18 Sep; last 2 BLNA 29 Nov (TSc!); TOV 29 Nov (RSt), late.

Vesper Sparrow: max & last 6 T Romulus SENE 28 Oct.

Savannah Sparrow: max 20 TFay 9 Sep; 20 T Lansing TOMP 15 Sep; 20 BLNA 19 Sep; 20 Cornell University 27 Sep; last BL 13 Nov.

Grasshopper Sparrow: last Dryden L TOMP 15 Oct (CW!), late.

Nelson's Sparrow: arr BLNA 26 Sep; last Owasco L Inlet CAYU 23 Oct.

Fox Sparrow: arr TCar 9 Oct; max 18 FLNF SENE 31 Oct; 18 TDry 1 Nov.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Carriage House Apartments TOMP 2 Sep; max 5 LP 20 Sep; 5 EFGA 1 Oct; last Thec 6 Nov.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr SW 21 Sep; max 27 BLNA 14 Oct; last 2 TOV 29 Nov (RSt), late.

Bobolink: max 100 MNWR 6 Sep; last MNWR 22 Oct (Richard Garrigus, ph), late.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 24 TDry 20 Oct; last Gleason Meadows CHEM 7 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: last SPNA 8 Nov (SY), late.

Rusty Blackbird: arr StP 21 Sep; max 75 Hile School Road Wetland TOMP 22 Oct.

Ovenbird: max 4 Genung Nature Preserve TOMP 7 Sep; 4 Danby State Forest TOMP 12 Sep; last TCar 16 Oct.

Northern Waterthrush: max 2 SW 17-18 Sep (HF, HG, CTH), high; last StP 30 Sep.

Golden-winged Warbler: TVE 8 Sep; TCar 2 Oct (SKe!), late.

Blue-winged Warbler: last T Farmington ONTA 22 Sep.

"Brewster's" Warbler: Thec 10 Sep (KHa, ph).

Black-and-white Warbler: max 8 TVE 9 Sep; last HH 29 Oct (JGa, ph; CH), late.

Tennessee Warbler: max 21 LP 20 Sep (DWa), high; last Thec 27 Nov (NS!), late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr SLSP 20 Sep; max 2 LP 20 Sep; 2 BL 13 Oct; 2 PW 15 Oct; last T Waterloo SENE 31 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: max 13 SPNA 4 Sep (DT); 13 LP 20 Sep (DWa), high; last PW 31 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: HH 4 Sep; TVE 9 Sep; Greensprings Natural Cemetery Preserve TOMP 20 Sep; MyPt 22 Sep.

Mourning Warbler: last Comstock Knoll TOMP 2 Oct.

Common Yellowthroat: max 24 RHPP 12 Sep; last MNWR 14 Nov.

Hooded Warbler: max 3 MR 11 Sep; 3 Danby State Forest TOMP 12 Sep; last Owasco L Inlet Area 6 Oct.

American Redstart: max 7 Ridgeway Road Rail Trail TOMP 13 Sep; last SPNA 1 Nov (JM, ph), late.

Cape May Warbler: max 12 RHPP 16 Sep; last LPNA 4 Nov (JM!), late.

Cerulean Warbler: TDry 8 Sep (NBa, ph).

Northern Parula: max 10 SSP 18 Sep; last 2 SPNA 9 Nov (SPo, ph), late.

Magnolia Warbler: max 15 RHPP 12 Sep; 15 RHPP 16 Sep; last HH 21 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 8 SSP 18 Sep; last HH 22 Oct (mob, ph), late.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 6 TDry 22 Sep; 6 TVE 11 Sep; last SPNA 1 Nov (JM, ph), late.

Yellow Warbler: max 5 StP 22 Sep; last Ithaca 19 Oct.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 4 TVE 9 Sep; last EFGA 27 Oct (JGa, ph), late.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 26 LP 20 Sep (DWa), late; last SPNA 1 Nov (JM, ph), late.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 5 LPBP 14 Sep; last TITH 22 Oct (PH, TH!), late.

Palm Warbler: arr StP 4 Sep (CZ!), early; max 17 BLNA 26 Sep; last LPNA 3 Nov.

Pine Warbler: max 8 Robert Trent Jones Golf Course TOMP 15 Sep; last LP 20 Oct; SPCA Fields TOMP 20 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 100 SW 1 Oct (Brad Walker), high; last 3 T Fay 26 Nov.

Prairie Warbler: max 10 LPBP 3 Sep (JCu, JGa, BR), high; last SPNA 24 Sep.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 14 Buttermilk Falls SP 30 Sep; last StP 1 Nov (mob, ph), late.

Canada Warbler: max 2 TDry 9 Sep; last Lagoon P ONTA 18 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: max 4 Robert Trent Jones Golf Course TOMP 12 Sep; 4 HH 20 Sep; last SLSF 31 Oct (HK, FK, ph), late.

SUMMER Tanager (R3): DP 26-30 Oct (mob, ph).

Scarlet Tanager: max 7 DP 11 Sep; last T Ulysses TOMP 9 Oct.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 40 NEI 14 Sep, nocturnal; last T Ithaca 22 Oct.

Indigo Bunting: max 3 Sweedler Lick Brook Preserve TOMP 18 Sep; 3 TCar 19 Sep; last LPNA 31 Oct.

Dickcissel: BLNA 20 Oct (mob, ph).

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REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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September 2020 was slightly warmer and somewhat drier than normal. October was above average regarding temperature and wetter than average. November was about 4.5° warmer than average, and slightly drier than normal. In fact, November was the seventh warmest since 1951 which is when the current period of record-keeping started.

This year's Golden Eagle total of 187 for the fall migration at Franklin Mountain was slightly better than the long-term average, with the highest counts coming in November. Raptor species with above average numbers were Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, and Broad-winged Hawk. The total Broad-winged Hawk count was 2,951, which is 92% above average. Andy Mason, who heads the Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch, reports that the Bald Eagle count set a record for Franklin Mountain with a total of 248 for the season. However Red-tailed Hawk numbers continue to drop with a 60% decrease from the average. This is, of course, very puzzling since Red-tailed Hawks seem relatively common. Andy reports, "It is little consolation, but other sites such as Hawk Mountain and Waggoner's Gap in Pennsylvania, Derby Hill on Lake Ontario and Pack Monadnock in New Hampshire have also experienced precipitous drops, and all-time or near lows in Red-

tail numbers.” However, in total, 5,438 raptors were counted, which is above the average for the FMHW. If you need more statistics regarding raptors, you can refer to the species list following the narrative and to the new chart showing maximums and first arrival dates.

In Tioga County Adam Troyer was also counting migratory birds that flew over his farm. On 14 September he counted 1,300 Broad-winged Hawks, 19 American Kestrels, and 11 Sharp-shinned Hawks. He also saw 204 Common Loons on 14 November. His family’s farm is called Birdsong Meadows Farm for good reason.

Black, Surf, and White-winged Scoters were all reported in the Region in October. Then, on 8 November, David Nicosia discovered a female-type King Eider in the Whitney Point Reservoir visible from Keibel Road. The bird was diving fairly close to shore which made for good views for the many birders who came to see this inland rarity. It remained in this same location till 11 November, apparently staying because it enjoyed the local crayfish; one observer saw the eider eat two in the hour that he was there. This was the first eBird record for this species for the Region.

An immature ibis was discovered by Jon Weeks on 27 September behind the Binghamton Plaza where the Chenango River widens out, and so can be a good place to find shorebirds. At first this bird was thought to be a Glossy Ibis since it seemed that for an immature ibis, eye color was definitive in regard to species. Many excellent photos were taken, but after much consultation the ibis was deemed to be a Glossy/White-faced Ibis. The species remained unknown, but the bird was still observed and photographed by many during its 20-day stay in Binghamton.

In Chenango County, 21 Sandhill Cranes were seen and photographed flying or at least attempting to fly over a marshy area in Sherburne in November. According to Mike DeWispelaere, “Big surprise was a flyover flock of Sandhill Crane fighting against the south winds...they kept pushing on despite the slow progress. My first sighting of a migrating flock in the county.”

Regarding shorebirds, a Hudsonian Godwit was sighted on 11 September at Dorchester Park by David Nicosia. This was the first eBird record for the Region though there have been sightings in nearby Tompkins County and at Montezuma NWR. Later in the season the Whitney Point Reservoir’s water level was lowered for dam maintenance so this created good shorebird habitat along Dorchester Park (southern part of the reservoir), Keibel Road (western section), and Upper Lisle County Park (the northern section). As a result there were good numbers (for the Region) of American Golden-Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Greater Yellowlegs, White-rumped Sandpiper (2), and other species. Even a Franklin’s Gull was spotted on the mudflats.

A **Say’s Phoebe** was seen by Adam Troyer on 23 September on his farm in Tioga County, and this bird was seen and photographed by others. However, it only was observed that one day. This was the second year in a row in which a Say’s Phoebe was found on his farm, and is the only record in eBird for the Region for this species.

First came the Red-breasted Nuthatches and Pine Siskins in good numbers. Then Evening Grosbeaks were reported in October both at feeders, and in the field foraging on box elder seeds. Red Crossbills and Common Redpolls were observed in the Region in November with maximum counts. Also noted in October were a large number of Black-capped Chickadees which were seen at Dorchester Park by at least six different observers. Estimates ranged from 45 to 600 chickadees at the park; normally one might expect to see ten to fifteen. It is not certain how widespread this movement was or if any other Regions experienced something similar. This was plainly an irruption year for many species.

PHOTO GALLERY
FALL 2020



Painted Redstart, Floyd Bennett Field, *Kings*, 18 Oct 2020, © Donna Schulman.



Two of Fall 2020's rarest birds belonged to cryptic species-pairs and were provisionally identified to species by careful study, recording, and analysis of vocalizations, pending review. Top: New York State's first Tropical Kingbird, Dobbs Ferry, *Westchester*, 28 Oct 2020 © Tom Warren. Bottom: Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Kissena Park, *Queens*, 3 Nov 2020, © Michael Zito.



Say's Phoebe, Birdsong Meadows Farm, Candor, *Tioga*, 23 Sep 2020, © Gary Kohlenberg.



Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Ashokan Reservoir, *Ulster*, 18 Oct 2020 © Jay McGowan.



Sage Thrasher, Ooms Conservation Area, *Columbia*, 10 Nov 2020 © Meryl Ackley.



Pine Siskins and American Goldfinches, Northville, *Suffolk*, 8 Nov 2020 © MaryLaura Lamont. See note on p. 14.



The Common Redpoll above the Hoary Redpoll shown here was thought to represent the regionally rare and poorly documented subspecies *Acanthis flammea rostrata* ("Greater Redpoll"), based on its large size, large bill, heavy streaking, and extensively dark face. From the east spit at the mouth of Braddock Bay, *Monroe*, 19 Nov 2020, © Dominic Sherony.

Warbler diversity was about average this season, with 28 species recorded. Last year the number of species seen was 28, and preceding year was 27. The highlight was Connecticut Warblers seen in three different locations in the Region in September. A **Summer Tanager** was observed and photographed by Renee DePrato on 23 November on her feeder in Binghamton. There were only two other reports ever in eBird of this species in the Region. Also, a Dickcissel was reported from Long Pond State Forest in October, and was first detected by its “flatulent call”.

In summary, 226 species vs. 211 last year were reported, with some interesting rarities for the Region. The number of observations increased by 50% from last season to 49,280. This increase may be due to more birding due to the pandemic, the breeding bird atlas, and to the growth of eBird. I also want to acknowledge and thank Bill Ostrander, who sorted eBird data to identify arrivals, last dates, and high counts.

FRANKLIN MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	11/21	1	11/21	1
Turkey Vulture	9/30	107	10/23	603
Osprey	8/30	6	09/26	55
Golden Eagle	10/23	29	11/18	187
No. Harrier	9/14	6	10/31	44
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/30	70	10/8	424
Cooper’s Hawk	9/11	6	10/8	55
No. Goshawk	9/6	1	9/6	5
Bald Eagle	8/30	38	11/12	248
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/10	3	10/9	25
Broad-winged Hawk	8/30	912	9/11	2951
Swainson’s Hawk				
Red-tailed Hawk	8/31	83	11/2	698
Rough-legged Hawk	11/3	1	11/3	2
Am. Kestrel	8/30	9	10/1	82
Merlin	9/9	3	10/6	17
Peregrine Falcon	9/8	2	10/24	12
Unidentified				29
Total including unidentified:				5438

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AqPk – Aqua Terra P, BROO; **Bpd** – Boland Pond, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA; **CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; DorP – Dorchester P, BROO; FLT – Finger Lakes Trail; **FMHW** – Franklin Mt Hawk Watch, DELA; **KeibelRd** – Keibel Rd, BROO; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **NMSF** – New Michigan State Forest, CHEN; **OtsL** – Otsego L, OTSE; **SHM** – Sherburne Railroad Grade Marsh, CHEN; **SusRB** – Susquehanna Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **TomakRd** – Bird Song Meadows Farm, Tomak Rd, T Candor, TIOG; **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO; **WHP** – William Hill P, Johnson City, BROO.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: max 45 MHL 24 Nov.
Brant: max 1350 OTSE 24 Oct; 150 Long Pond SF CHEN 25 Oct.
Cackling Goose: 2 TomakRd 25 Oct, flyover.
Tundra Swan: max 7 T Scott CORT 18 Nov.
King Eider: KeibelRd 8-11 Nov, ph, mob, (DN).
Surf Scoter: OtsL 31 Oct-1 Nov, ph, mob.
White-winged Scoter: max 2 Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 28-29 Oct.
Black Scoter: Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 29 Oct.
Long-tailed Duck: max 6 KeibelRd 5 Nov.
Common Goldeneye: max 39 Allen L OTSE 6 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 16 KeibelRd 30 Oct.
Ruddy Duck: max 75 ULCP 30 Oct.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 7 ULCP 8 Oct.
Horned Grebe: max 2 KeibelRd 12 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: Skaneateles L CORT 16 Nov.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: LHNC 7 Sep; ULCP 21 Sep.
Black-billed Cuckoo: no reports.
Common Nighthawk: max 31 TomakRd 9 Sep; 8 Upper Mill Pd TIOG 9 Sep; last SusRB

24 Sep, most sightings along rivers or bodies of water.

Chimney Swift: last 2 Stupke Pd CORT 11 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Death Valley Rd BROO 6 Oct, ph.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: max 2 Perkins Pd SF CHEN 19 Sep.
Sora: max 2 ULCP 4 Oct.
Common Gallinule: SHM 19 Sep, only report.
American Coot: max 32 OtsL 25 Nov.
Sandhill Crane: max 21 SHM 19 Nov, flyover, ph, (MD).
Black-bellied Plover: max 3 DorP 18 Sep; 3 DorP 18-22 Oct.
American Golden-Plover: max 5 ULCP 4 Oct, ph.
Hudsonian Godwit: DorP 11 Sep, (DN).
Sanderling: DorP 1-11 Sep; ULCP 9 Oct.
Dunlin: max 101 KeibelRd 30 Oct, exact count from photos.
Baird's Sandpiper: Stupke Pd CORT 22-23 Oct, ph.
White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 ULCP 31 Oct, ph; Stupke Pd CORT 31 Oct-1 Nov, ph.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 12 ULCP 9 Oct.

Long-billed Dowitcher: Chenango R Binghamton BROO 12 Sep.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 31 ULCP 31 Oct.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 12 ULCP 31 Oct-1 Nov, ph.
Franklin's Gull: ULCP 7 Oct.
Greater Black-backed Gull: T Scott CORT 15 & 18 Nov, only reports.
Caspian Tern: max 5 DorP 11 Sep.
Common Tern: 4 ULCP 2 Sep, only report.
Forster's Tern: max 4 ULCP 3 Oct.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: Skaneateles L CORT 27 Nov; ULCP 2 Nov; TomakRd 14 Nov; flyover.
Common Loon: max 204 TomakRd 14 Nov; 73 T Scott CORT 18 Nov; both reports are of flyovers.
Great Egret: max 7 Chenango R Binghamton BROO 13 & 28 & 30 Sep.
Cattle Egret: Long Creek Rd TIOG 2 Nov, ph, only report.
Glossy/White-faced Ibis: Chenango R Binghamton BROO 27 Sep -17 Oct, mob, *intro*, ph, (JW), despite great photos species was not determined.
NOTE: FMHW totals cover 30 August to 1 Jan; averages reflect 2001 to 2019 data, *intro*.
Black Vulture: total 1 FMHW; just 4 other scattered reports.
Turkey Vulture: total 603 FMHW, 23% above avg; 80 TomakRd 24 Oct.
Osprey: total 55 FMHW, 49% below avg.
Golden Eagle: total 187 FMHW, 3% above avg; 5 TomakRd 31 Oct.
Northern Harrier: total 44 FMHW, 28% below avg; 4 TomakRd 25 Oct.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: total 424 FMHW, 13% below avg; 11 TomakRd 14 Sep.
Cooper's Hawk: total 55 FMHW, 39% below avg.
Northern Goshawk: total 5 FMHW, 73% below avg.
Bald Eagle: total 248 FMHW, 47% above avg; many other rep; very widespread.
Red-shouldered Hawk: total 25 FMHW, 50% below avg.
Broad-winged Hawk: total 2951 FMHW, 92% above avg; 1300 TomakRd 14 Sep (ATro).
Red-tailed Hawk: total 698 FMHW, 60% below avg; many other rep.
Rough-legged Hawk: total 2 FMHW, 70% below avg.

American Kestrel: total 82 FMHW, 15% below avg; 19 TomakRd 14 Sep.
Merlin: total 17 FMHW, 39% below avg.
Peregrine Falcon: total 12 FMHW, 28% below avg; many rep from Binghamton BROO of resident downtown pair.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: FLT CORT 7 Sep, audio recording-singing in fall is rare; max 5 TomakRd 6-29 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 2 Glimmerglass SP OTSE 12 Sep; 7 other scattered reports in Sep.
SAY'S PHOEBE: TomakRd 23 Sep, mob, ph, (ATro), second year in a row that one was seen here.
Northern Shrike: arr Tripp Hill Rd OTSE 21 Nov, ph.
Black-capped Chickadees: estimates of 45-600 DorP 17-25 Oct, by 6 different observers, mass movement.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 28 Chenango Valley SP 28 Nov; 691 reports this season vs 59 last season-though the total number of observations this season was roughly 150% of last fall's; this is an irruption year.
Horned Lark: max 125 Edwards Hill Rd BROO 23 Nov.
Winter Wren: max 5 LHNC 9 Oct; 5 Griggs Gulf SF CORT 11 Oct.
Marsh Wren: last BoPd 28 Nov, late.
Veery: last CG 20 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: max 4 Masonville DELA (NFC) 26 Sep.
Swainson's Thrush: max 19 Masonville DELA (NFC) 26 Sep.
American Pipit: max 110 Van Alstine Rd OTSE 21 Oct; 100 Cherry Valley Hill Rd BROO 11 Oct.
Evening Grosbeak: max 50 Stage Rd CHEN 29 Oct, feeder; arr 5 T Marathon CORT 17 Oct, feeder; 129 reports thru Region, irruption year.
Common Redpoll: max 50 Ridge Rd CHEN 15 Nov; arr 4 LHNC 7 Nov; 46 reports thru Region, irruption year.
Red Crossbill: max 13 Morgan Hill SF CORT 7 Nov, ph; 13 FMHW 12 Nov; arr 8 Perkins Pond SF CHEN 12 Sep; 24 reports thru Region except OTSE, irruption year.
White-winged Crossbill: 2 Morgan Hill SF CORT 25 Nov.
Pine Siskin: max 120 T Scott CORT 20 Oct; arr FLT CHEN 12 Sep; 187 reports thru Region, irruption year (last year 2 reports).

Lapland Longspur: max 4 Van Alstine Rd OTSE 2 Nov, ph; 3 other reports.
Snow Bunting: max 40 Oxford CHEN 18 Nov; 10 other scattered reports in late Oct & Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Grasshopper Sparrow: TomakRd 24 Sep-6 Oct (ATro), only report.
Clay-colored Sparrow: TomakRd 2 Oct (ATro), only report.
American Tree Sparrow: max 27 Victory St Johnson City BROO 22 Nov.
Vesper Sparrow: max 3 TomakRd 12 Oct; last Van Alstine Rd OTSE 31 Oct.
Nelson's Sparrow: West River Rd CORT 2 Oct (CW), only report.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Tubbs Hill Rd TIOG 9 Sep; last 2 Daisy Hollow Rd CORT 22 Oct.

Rusty Blackbird: max 6 MHL 25 Oct; 6 Daisy Hollow Rd CORT 22 Oct; 6 Richfield OTSE 12 Oct, ph.
Tennessee Warbler: max 5 LHNC 4 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: 10 reports thru the Region in Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: LHNC 7 Sep, ph; Wolfe Park BROO 12 Sep; Otselic SF CHEN 19 Sep.
Mourning Warbler: 4 reports from SF's in CORT & CHEN in early Sep; TomakRd 18 Sep.
Hooded Warbler: max 3 Baker School House SF CORT 7 Sep, FL.
Cape May Warbler: max 10 Johnson City BROO 8 Sep.
SUMMER TANAGER (R4): Binghamton BROO 23 Nov, feeder, ph, (RD).
Dickcissel: Long Pond SF CHEN 3 Oct, "first detected by flatulent call", (CW).

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REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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After a hot and dry summer, the Fall 2020 season started with a dry September and above average temperatures averaging 74.9 ° F, 2.7° over normal. Only 1.5" of rain fell, 2.2" less than expected. Fair or partly sunny skies were seen 23 of 30 days. October was a touch above average in temperature but very typical with 3.5" of rain and only 14 of 31 days fair or partly sunny. Fog was reported more than half the days, at 18. Typical conditions didn't last long though. November average highs of 55.7° were a whopping 7.3° above average. Precipitation, both rain and snow, was substantially below average. The season inherited dry conditions and low water levels from summer. Both Sandy Pond and Delta Lake had dry areas not seen in years, the Carl Island shoal spreading to nearly the south spit at Sandy and Delta parched as far west as the state park. More shoreline emerged at Onondaga Lake but because it is part of the regulated canal system no large mud flats formed. Ditto for Oneida Lake, though the Sylvan and Verona beach areas were more exposed than normal. Fair Haven's West Barrier Bar continued to have a sandy edge, a situation almost unimaginable in high-water years.

Fall 2020 was an absolutely epic season for rarities, scarce passage migrants, shorebirds, and winter finches, finishing **30 species** above the recent 10 year average and even besting Spring 2020 by 11 species! Andrea Burke found a **Pink-footed Goose** at the Old Fly Marsh preserve near Fabius on 15 November but before word got out it was found independently by Drew Weber. The bird lingered to 21 November and was twitched by many. It was a second Regional record and first for Onondaga County. Attention to spots on the way to Fabius yielded a Ross's Goose for Robert and Rita Reed at the ponds in Tully. This bird also stayed long enough for others to see, while in the Utica area Elizabeth

Frascatore observed one on 10 November. Brant and dabbling duck numbers were unremarkable. While lakewatching on 2 November David Wheeler counted six King Eiders heading west. Three were subsequently found close in at Fair Haven. John Germain photographed a juvenile Harlequin Duck on the west breakwall there on 11 September, an unexpectedly early date for the species but perhaps an annual occurrence as young birds disperse.

The **Eurasian Collared-Dove** in Rome continued from late August and was last seen on 6 September. The bird had been present for several months and lack of continued observer effort may explain the dearth of reports. In late November hummingbird feeders still active at homes in the Cold Springs area southeast of Baldwinsville attracted an immature female **Rufous Hummingbird**. The bird's presence eventually became known to the birding community and more details will be given in the next report. How long would it stay?

The presence of excellent shorebird habitat at Sandy Pond did not disappoint. Matt Brown made daily trips to the Carl Island shoal as it grew throughout the season and found most of the species expected and associated with the Lake Ontario shoreline. Highlights include Whimbrel on 10 and 17 September, nine Hudsonian Godwits on the 29th (lesser numbers were seen on numerous days from mid to late September), and as many as four Red Knots seen on various dates also in September. Stilt Sandpiper, like the species above, is often missed in the Region, but this year was found at Onondaga Lake early in the month. Brown contributed two sightings from Sandy Pond. While lakewatching on 2 November David Wheeler saw four Purple Sandpipers traveling west with groups of Dunlin. Gregg Dashnau found three at Sunset Bay Park on 24 November, an unusual location for the species. Single birds were seen at the more expected Fair Haven location. Always elusive, Buff-breasted Sandpiper was found near Skaneateles by Drew Weber while Gary Chapin found one near Hinckley (Herkimer County), and Brown added one for Sandy Pond. All three locations are unusual. Wheeler found **Western Sandpiper** at Fair Haven on 3 and 13 September, while Brown found them at Sandy on 16 and 17 September. While leaving the pond together on 10 September, Brown and Wheeler were delighted when a **Red Phalarope** landed near their boat and began spinning. Two more were seen at Derby Hill on each of two dates later in the season. Brown added Red-necked Phalarope to his Sandy Pond list with two on 12 September and another on the 17th.

Meanwhile Delta Lake was so dry and the flats so extensive that wet edge habitat was hard to find and mostly distant and unreachable. Shorebird numbers were consequently disappointing with none of the large numbers expected of the spot in good years. Delta's 'sweet spot' of mud and observer distance likely came before the peak of fall migration, a very unusual occurrence. Bill Purcell saw a Whimbrel on 1 September and Gary Chapin contributed the Region's only Long-billed Dowitcher on 22 September. Distance and heat shimmer made flocks of peeps unidentifiable while the lake bottom was too dry for shorebirds but not firm enough for walking. Some muddy edges emerged along the Onondaga Lake west shore but were insufficient to attract large numbers of birds. Often reliable farm fields such as those on Ditch Bank Road were either parched or planted.

The Derby Hill lakewatch seemed very average but still produced all three jaeger species. Assembled observers agreed on a Long-tailed Jaeger on 7 October, while David Wheeler was there at the right time on 2 November to see a Pomarine Jaeger and four Black-legged Kittiwakes. Jay McGowan and Livia Santana saw one the next day at Fair Haven. Meanwhile at the relatively cozy confines of Onondaga Lake, a **Sabine's Gull** was found on 31 October by Gregg Dashnau, Fred Leff, and Tony Carapella. The bird attracted 61 birders from all over the state during its four day stay, and was often very close and even

walking around on land near the amphitheatre. Onondaga Lake had previously hosted a Sabine's Gull on 18 September 1980. Drew Weber, Sarah Dzielski, and Nick Bonomo saw another Sabine's on 14 November from Derby Hill, a traditional location where it has been seen 2-3 times per decade during lakewatches. Matt Brown found the only Little Gull of the season on 29 October and 6-7 November at Sandy Pond. Among big numbers of Ring-billed Gulls at Ditch Bank Road Gregg Dashnau found a **Franklin's Gull** on 17 November. The spot had hosted a first county record a few months earlier in June. Same bird returning? Mickey Scilingo found a Forster's Tern on Oneida Lake from Constantia on 1 September and Dashnau saw two at Fair Haven on 27 October. Last but not least in seabird highlights, Dashnau observed a second Regional record **Magnificent Frigatebird** from the east/west breakwall at Fair Haven on 27 October. The bird was leaving Little Sodus Bay and flew up the channel into Lake Ontario, not to be seen again. Like several other prior sightings of the species in upstate New York, the encounter was not related to a hurricane passage in the traditional sense where the storm veers inland along the mid-Atlantic states and passes west of the Region. Was its presence weather-related nonetheless? No extreme conditions were noted prior. Is the species a regular fall visitor to the Great Lakes without weather assist? Does it get here via the Mississippi Valley or Atlantic coast?

Two **American White Pelicans** found on Tuscarora Lake the last day of the prior period continued on 1 September but were not seen after. A Great Egret was present at Onondaga Lake throughout much of the period and was still there on 28 November, practically a winter record! Drew Weber found an immature **Glossy/White-faced Ibis** there on 11 October. Difficulty in separating the two in fall requires the bird to be considered unknown as to species. A discussion of this matter is contained in Kenn Kaufman's classic *Advanced Birding* (Peterson Field Guides). It stayed at least eight days providing good opportunity for study with various opinions and birder frustration over its identity. Reports of Black Vulture came from Little Falls and Fayetteville, two intermittent but expected locations. Golden Eagle was seen migrating from four locations, while both Long-eared and Short-eared Owl were reported.

Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen at six locations in September. Northern Shrike was reported at 12 different locations, a good showing for our Region. Mickey Scilingo's annual Blue Jay watch along Oneida Lake's north shore tallied an amazing 8,040 birds migrating on 22 September, plus 147 Black-capped Chickadees on 26 September. Over a 12 day period spanning 15-27 September, Scilingo counted a total of 31,073 Blue Jays, his best in years. Such a big flight foretold the movement of other irruptives, as seen below. Five Philadelphia Vireos at Three Rivers was a good count. On 14 November, Dave Baldrini observed a **Varied Thrush** in Constantia but the bird didn't stay long. The sighting is the second for Oswego County and fourth overall for Region 5. It is also the first for the Region in fall.

It was to be a great year for winter irruptives with all the expected species represented. Evening Grosbeaks arrived on 9 October and were soon being spotted throughout the Region rather than only in the southern highlands and Herkimer County. By the end of the period the movement was being considered the strongest in a decade. Pine Siskins migrated during the usual mid-October-mid-November timeframe in substantial numbers. Redpolls soon followed and large flocks were spotted throughout the Region in November. Careful looking at redpoll flocks yielded the expected Hoary. **Pine Grosbeak** hasn't been seen in the area for years but soon showed in small numbers, the first being noted at Onondaga Lake Park's west shore on 3 November. A few were seen through the month but numbers were less than hoped for. Red Crossbills continued at the Morgan Hill State Forest spot on Shackham Road and were reported from several other locations. A few White-winged

joined them on 9 October and on 25 October 12 were seen at Fair Haven. Was a huge year for them in the making? Bohemian Waxwing was first spotted on 24 November and more soon followed with 15 seen by Kevin Topping at his preserve near Salisbury in Herkimer County. In the past, Bohemians sometimes outnumbered Cedars. Would that happen this winter? Purple Finch flocks greatly exceeded those reported last fall both in the Dolgeville area and in the southern highlands where exceptional observer effort at the Shackham Road crossbill spot yielded excellent numbers. The species was not particularly abundant elsewhere, however, as it prefers upland areas to the Lake Ontario plain. American Goldfinch flocks were larger than usual with an impressive 450 estimated at the southwest corner of Onondaga Lake on 26 October. Many substantial groups were reported. Last but not least, Red-breasted Nuthatches were also seen in larger numbers than usual and also benefited from increased birder effort in the southern highlands. In a mile's distance on Shackham Road, 27 were counted on 22 November. How would numbers at this location compare in years when it received little attention?

Clay-colored Sparrow was reported only once, typical for fall when a non-singing bird is inconspicuous. Chris Spagnoli found one in Manlius on 18 October. Chris Wood located a **Nelson's Sparrow** at Howland Island on 10 October, a great find for the Region though a logical place given the species' habitat preference. A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was described by Iliana Dafeo from the Cedarvale area of South Onondaga on 6 September. Golden-winged Warbler is scarce in the Region and two reports of seemingly pure birds were received. Michael Gruver found one near Point Rock (Oneida County) on 3 September while Gary Meyers spotted one on the 9th. Orange-crowned Warbler was reliable at Onondaga Lake Park's west shore and seen a few other places as well. Kevin Topping contributed a **Connecticut Warbler** on 13 September from Herkimer County while Steve Schwab found one on 3 October in Elbridge. One of the Region's scarcest passage migrants, both birds were seen well. A very late Yellow Warbler was reported on 31 October from Onondaga Lake Park while a Blackburnian lingered until the 24th. Last but not least, Josh Stasik found a **Yellow-throated Warbler** on 8 September in Marcellus.

This season a total of 265 species and one hybrid was reported, which is an incredible 30 species (!) above the recent 10-year average for the season and Region. Highlights included: Ross's Goose, **Pink-footed Goose**, Greater White-fronted Goose, King Eider, Harlequin Duck, **Eurasian Collared-Dove**, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Purple Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, **Western Sandpiper**, **Long-billed Dowitcher**, Red-necked Phalarope, **Red Phalarope**, Long-tailed Jaeger, **Sabine's Gull**, Little Gull, **Franklin's Gull**, Forster's Tern, **Magnificent Frigatebird**, American White Pelican, **Glossy/White-faced Ibis**, Black Vulture, **Varied Thrush**, Bohemian Waxwing, **Pine Grosbeak**, Hoary Redpoll, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, **Nelson's Sparrow**, **Yellow-breasted Chat**, **Connecticut Warbler**, and **Yellow-throated Warbler**.

Fall 2020 produced 90,906 eBird records for Region 5 (twice the number compared to fall 2019) and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v5.5. Reports were contributed by 498 people, versus 313 for fall 2019.

CONTRIBUTORS

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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; **BW** – Baltimore Woods Nature Center; **CM** – Clay Marsh, Clay; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego Ri, Indian Pt, L Neatahwanta **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HF** – Highland Forest CP; **HI** – Howland Island 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; **MHSF** – Morgan Hill State Forest; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Road Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L & Onondaga L P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **Ppt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson Ri P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **SkAn** – 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 BRH 11 Sep; max 280 SP 22 Nov.
Ross's Goose: Utica 10 Nov (EF); Tully 21-24 Nov (RRR, mob, ph).
PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: Fabius 15-21 Nov (AB, DWe, mob, ph), 1st county & 2nd Reg rec.
Brant: arr DH 30 Sep; 350 OSP 10 Oct; max 713 DH 24 Oct; groups Oct, singles Nov.
Cackling Goose: arr OSP 3 Oct; 2 Van Buren

& Fulton 27 Oct; 3 OnonL 24 Nov; max 8 Syr 24 Nov, migrating.

Canada Goose: max 3000 WP; large flocks mid Oct thru.

Mute Swan: max 73 FH; small nums typ locs incl SP, OnonL.

Trumpeter Swan: max 4 FH & vicinity Nov & HI 19 Sep; only locs.

Tundra Swan: arr 2 WP 16 Oct; max 173 Const 14 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 45 DL 1 Sep; peak Sep/early Oct; small nums thru.

Blue-winged Teal: max 54 SP 3 Sep; last OnonL 19 Nov; most gone by late Oct.

Northern Shoveler: max 19 FH 27 Nov.

Gadwall: arr SP 9 Sep; max 140 FH 3, 21 Nov.

American Wigeon: max 450 FH 24 Oct.

Mallard: 400 SP 21 Nov; max 518 FH 21 Nov.

American Black Duck: max 74 DH 24 Oct.

Northern Pintail: max 95 DH 24 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 88 DH 24 Oct.

Canvasback: arr 2 FH 8 Nov; max 14 FH 11 Nov; 8 OswH 14 Nov; only reps.

Redhead: arr 2 OLP 1 Oct; max 70 OnonL 29 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: 740 Dutcher Pond, Const 8 Nov; max 850 WP 15 Nov; best nums mid Oct thru.

Greater Scaup: arr SP 16 Sep; max 81 PPt 28 Oct.

Lesser Scaup: arr FH 17 Sep; max 95 FH 27 Nov.

Greater/Lesser Scaup: max 600 OneIL 31 Oct.

King Eider: arr & max 6 DH 2 Nov (DWh); 3 FH 3-7 Nov (mob); only reps.

Harlequin Duck: FH 11 Sep (JG, ph), unusually early; only rep.

Surf Scoter: arr DH 30 Sep; max 6 SP 8 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr 6 FH 5 Oct; max 120 SP 8 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr 2 PPt 19 Oct; max 185 SP 8 Nov, exc count.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 3 FH 17 Oct; max est 1000 SP 22, 24 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr 2 FH 11 Oct; max 300 OnonL 31 Oct, exc count.

Common Goldeneye: arr MPSP 26 Sep; max 125 OneIL 5 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: 137 Otisco L 28 Nov; max est 200 BLNC 28 Nov.

Common Merganser: 150 SVB 11 Nov; max est 200 BLNC 28 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: est 500 FH 25 Nov; max est 600 DH 31 Oct.

Ruddy Duck: arr 6 Fulton 29 Sep; 45 WP 30 Oct; max 52 BLNC 22 Oct.

Ring-necked Pheasant: typ nums & locs.

Ruffed Grouse: typ nums & locs.

Wild Turkey: typ nums & locs.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 23 FH 29 Sep.

Horned Grebe: arr 3 WP 2 Oct; max 17 FH 27 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: arr DH 7 Oct; max 4 FH 3 Nov.

Rock Pigeon: typ nums & locs.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: Rome 1-6 Sep (mob), continuing from prev period.

Mourning Dove: typ nums & locs; max 150 Bville 12 Oct.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: singles 8 locs; last Marcellus 26 Sep.

Black-billed Cuckoo: CM 9 Sep; Oneida 27 Sep; only reps.

Common Nighthawk: max 9 Syr 9 Sep; last FH 17 Sep, hit by car.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: no reps (typical).

Chimney Swift: max 3 Const 6 Sep; last HI 27 Sep; few sightings, low nums.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 8 Elbridge 9 Sep; last Fabius 26 Sep.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: imm f Bville starting late Nov thru (BGo, mob).

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: singles 6 locs; last Pulaski 24 Oct.

Sora: MSI 2 Sep; HI 5, 19 Sep; last OLP 11 Oct.

Common Gallinule: max 17 OnonL 13 Sep; last OnonL 9 Nov.

American Coot: 40 OnonL 27 Nov, good num; 200 FH 3 Nov, exc num; best counts mid Oct thru.

Sandhill Crane: max 3 HI 5 Sep; 2 DB 15 Sep; 2 HI 27 Sep; HI 12 Oct; Waterville 27-30 Oct; 2 Syr 24 Nov, flyover; only reps.

Black-bellied Plover: 10-20 SP Oct; max 23 DL 14 Oct.

American Golden-Plover: max 2 DL 24 Sep & SP 29 Sep & Remsen 21 Sep; last SP 29 Oct (MB).

Semipalmated Plover: 18 SP 3, 17 Sep; max 23 Hinckley 9 Sep; last SP 11 Nov.

Killdeer: max 80 BRH 6 Oct.

Upland Sandpiper: no reps.

Whimbrel: DL 1 Sep (BP); SP 10 Sep (MB); 3 SP 17 Sep (MB); only reps.

Hudsonian Godwit: 5 SP 17 Sep (MB); max 9 SP 29 Sep (MB); 1-3 var dates SP Oct; last SP 3 Oct (MB).

Ruddy Turnstone: FH 4, 14 Sep (DWh) & 1 Oct (DWh); SP 10 Sep; DL 11 Sep (KS); OswH 17 Sep (GD); only reps.

Red Knot: max 4 SP 3, 4 Sep (MB); 1-3 SP 17, 18 Sep (MB); last 3 19 Sep (MB).

Stilt Sandpiper: OLP 4, 8 Sep (mob); 1 SP 12 Sep (MB); 2 SP 17 Sep (MB); only reps.

Sanderling: 21 FH 3 Sep (DWh); max 143 SP 17 Sep (MB); good flocks SP var dates Sep, singles/small groups var locs Sep - Oct; 13 SP

11 Nov (MB) last 2 SP 22 Nov (MB).
Dunlin: arr Marcellus 10 Sep; max 203 SP 11 Nov; last 3 FH 13 Nov.
Purple Sandpiper: arr & max 4 DH 2 Nov (DWh, ph); 3 SBP 24 Nov (GD); last 2 FH 27 Nov (GD); singles FH var dates Nov.
Baird's Sandpiper: DL 1, 2 Sep; SP 9, 10 Sep; MSI 26 Sep; only reps.
Least Sandpiper: max 22 DL 26 Sep; small nums through Sep; last Van Buren 11 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: max 5 SP 7 Nov; last 2 SP 14 Nov.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Skan 3, 4 Sep (DWe); Hinckley 9 Sep, unusual loc (GC); SP 12 Sep (MB).
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 21 SP 17 Sep; last HI 17 Sep.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 68 SP 17 Sep; last SP 23 Oct.
WESTERN SANDPIPER: FH 3 Sep (DWh, ph) & 13 Sep (DWh, ph); 1-2 SP 16, 17 Sep (MB, ph); SP 19 Sep (JM, LS, ph).
Short-billed Dowitcher: DL (KS) & SP (MB) 11 Sep; only reps.
Long-billed Dowitcher: DL 22 Sep (GC); only rep.
American Woodcock: 1-2 var locs Sep-Oct; max 3 TR 25 Oct; last Jville 12 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: 10 reps singles typ locs; max 3 HI 12 Sep; last OLP 3 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 2 var locs Sep, poor count; singles var locs Sep; last Fulton 4-14 Nov (GD), very late but possibly injured.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 9 Fulton 3 Sep; last Fulton 4 Oct.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 25 HI 17 Oct; last 2 Weatherby Pond HERK 28 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 15 DL 13, 26 Sep; last FH 27 Nov.
Wilson's Phalarope: no reps.
Red-necked Phalarope: 2 SP 12 Sep (MB); SP 17 Sep (MB, DWh); only reps.
Red Phalarope: SP 10 Sep (MB, DWh); 2 DH 7 Oct (DWh, GD, BP); 2 DH 2 Nov (DWh); only reps.
Pomarine Jaeger: DH 2 Nov (DWh).
Parasitic Jaeger: FH 30 Sep (DWh) & 24 Oct (JM, LS); SNC 17 Oct (CW); max 3 DH 7 Oct (DWh, mob); last DH 2 Nov (mob).
Long-tailed Jaeger: DH 7 Oct (mob).
Black-legged Kittiwake: 4 DH 2 Nov (DWh); FH 3 Nov (JM, LS).
SABINE'S GULL (R5): OnonL 31 Oct – 3 Nov (GD, FL, TC); DH 14 Nov (DWe, SD, NB); 2nd county rec and 3rd away from DH.
Bonaparte's Gull: 126 SP 6 Nov; 132 DH 16

Nov; max 180 OSP 1 Oct.
Little Gull: SP 29 Oct, 6-7 Nov (MB).
FRANKLIN'S GULL (R5): DB 17 Nov (GD, ph).
Ring-billed Gull: max est 6000 OLP 29 Nov; typ nums at usual locs.
Herring Gull: max 416 SP 3 Nov.
Iceland Gull: arr DH 2 Nov; max 2 DB 15 Nov; singles typ locs.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: SVB 15 Sep; FH 1 Oct; 2 DH 2 Nov; DB 15, 22, 29 Nov; only reps.
Glaucous Gull: arr FH 6 Nov; SP 14 Nov; DB 15 Nov; SP 20 Nov; DB 22 Nov; only reps.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 45 SVB 10 Sep.
Caspian Tern: 20 OnonL 4 Sep; max 73 SP 3 Sep; 20-55 SP var dates early Sep; 6 FH 1 Oct; last FH 2 Oct.
Black Tern: no reps.
Common Tern: 10 OnonL 18 Sep; max 23 OSP 1 Oct; lower nums and earlier departure from OneiL.
Forster's Tern: Const 1 Sep (MS); 2 FH 27 Oct (GD); only reps.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: arr OnonL 13 Oct; max 8 OnonL 27 Nov.
Common Loon: 76 OneiL 30 Oct; max 307 DH 16 Nov.
MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: FH 27 Oct (GD, ph), 1st county & 2nd Reg rec, *intro*.
Double-crested Cormorant: max est 1500 OneiL 27 Sep & OnonL 26 Sep.
American White Pelican: 2 Tuscarora L MADI 1 Sep (mob), cont from prev rep.
American Bittern: Amboy 1 Sep; TR 6 Sep; Cazenovia 14 Oct; only reps.
Least Bittern: no reps.
Great Blue Heron: max 25 SVB 23 Sep.
Great Egret: 1-2 var locs Sep-Oct; max 9 DL 5 Sep; last OLP 28 Nov, late.
Green Heron: max 4 HI 9 Sep & Syr 17 Sep; last Van Buren 7 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: Syr 6 Sep; 2 OLC 15 Sep; OLC 25 Sep; SP 19 Sep; FH 14 Oct.
GLOSSY/WHITE-FACED IBIS: imm OLP 11-19 Oct (DWe, mob), *intro*.
Black Vulture: 3 Little Falls 4 Sep; 4 Little Falls 12 Oct (MHu); Fayetteville 21 Nov (SH); 2 Little Falls 28 Nov (KT).
Turkey Vulture: max 982 BRH 6 Oct.
Osprey: max 8 BRH 11 Sep; OSP 25-30 Oct,

late; last Manlius 5 Nov, late.
Golden Eagle: arr BRH 25 Oct (BP); BLNC 28 Oct (GD); Syr 30 Oct (DWe); SH 5, 14, 28 Nov.
Northern Harrier: max 7 SP 27 Sep, migrating.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 15 BRH 17 Sep.
Cooper's Hawk: max 4 Const 21 Sep.
Northern Goshawk: ADK 12 Sep, 8 Nov; DH 10, 14 Nov; only reps.
Bald Eagle: max 18 BRH 11 Sep; singles, small nums daily in Reg.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 11 OLP 25 Oct, migrating; last
Broad-winged Hawk: max 136 BRH 17 Sep; Syr 8 Oct; last Syr 30 Oct, very late.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 81 BRH 30 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr 2 FH 27 Oct; max 4 DH 14 Nov; singles var locs Nov.
Eastern Screech-Owl: max 4 HI 10 Oct.
Great Horned Owl: max 4 HI 19 Sep.
Snowy Owl: arr FH 5 Nov; 2 OswH 21 Nov; FH 21 Nov; SP 22 Nov.
Barred Owl: max 3 Erieville 12 Sep.
Long-eared Owl: Fabius 29 Nov (CS); only rep.
Short-eared Owl: arr OLP 19 Oct; TR 23 Oct; FH 29 Oct; Oneida 14-29 Nov; only reps.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: Remsen 3 Nov; Jamesville 22 Nov; only reps.
Belted Kingfisher: max 6 SP 19 Sep.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Elbridge 20 Nov; scattered reps mostly known locs.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 6 Salisbury 26 Sep.
Black-backed Woodpecker: no reps.
Downy Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Hairy Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Northern Flicker: max 10 Rome 7 Oct; singles thru.
Pileated Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.
American Kestrel: max 10 BRH 17 Sep; family groups Sep, singles thru.
Merlin: max 2 var locs/dates; singles var locs thru.
Peregrine Falcon: singles/pairs expected locs thru.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 RRP 6 Sep;

last Williamstown 30 Sep.
Eastern Kingbird: max 5 Nelson 3 Sep; last DeWitt 18 Sep.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: 6 singles in Sep; last Cazenovia 20 Sep.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 12 BW 6 Sep; last OakC 9 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: singles var locs Sep; last Salisbury 1 Oct.
Acadian Flycatcher: no reps.
Alder Flycatcher: no reps.
Willow Flycatcher: TR 3 Sep; only rep.
Least Flycatcher: max 3 Fabius 12 Sep; 1-2 var locs Sep; last OSP 1 Oct.
empidonax sp: small nums reported Sep.
Eastern Phoebe: max 9 Marcellus 26 Sep; last Elbridge 12 Nov.
Northern Shrike: arr TR 26 Oct; singles rep 12 locs.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 2 var locs Sep; last Williamstown 30 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 FH 5 Oct & TR 19 Sep & Salisbury 26 Sep; last OLP 31 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 5 TR 19 Sep, good num; last 2 OSP 1 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: max 5 SP 11 Sep & OLP 7 Sep; last HI 10 Oct.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 28 GLSP 22 Sep; last OakC 19 Oct.
Canada Jay: no reps.
Blue Jay: max 8040 Const 22 Sep (MS), migrating, 31,073 counted in 12 days.
American Crow: max est 5000 Fabius 21 Nov; est 2000 Syr Nov roost flights.
Fish Crow: ; reps from known locs incl Bville, Phoenix, Rome, & OnonL.
Common Raven: max 14 Const 10 Nov; many reps thru.
Horned Lark: max 30 Richfield Springs 30 Oct; small flocks at typ locs thru.
Purple Martin: max 5 HI 19 Sep; small nums 4 other reps.
Tree Swallow: max 250 HI 5 Sep; last 25 HI 17 Oct; small flocks Sep – mid Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 60 Port Byron 13 Sep; last 2 HI 3 Oct; 2 other reps.
Bank Swallow: max 5 Port Byron 13 Sep; last HI 19 Sep; singles 3 other locs.
Cliff Swallow: OLP 16 Sep; only rep.
Barn Swallow: max 50 Fabius 2 Sep; last HI 10 Oct; small nums var locs Sep.
Black-capped Chickadee: 119 Const 25 Sep (MS), migrating; max 147 Const 26 Sep (MS), migrating; else typ nums throughout period & reg.

Boreal Chickadee: no reps.
Tufted Titmouse: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 27 MHSF 22 Nov, good nums at loc thru & throughout Reg.
White-breasted Nuthatch: typ nums throughout period & Reg.
Brown Creeper: max 5 FH 5 Oct; typ nums throughout period & Reg.
House Wren: max 10 TR 19 Sep; last 3 TR 25 Oct, late.
Winter Wren: 5 FH 5 Oct; max 9 HI 10 Oct; small nums thru.
Sedge Wren: no reps.
Marsh Wren: max 7 HI 19 Sep; small nums typ locs.
Carolina Wren: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 2 var locs early Sep; last Verona 9 Oct, late.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 40 FH 4 Oct; max 55 OakC 21 Oct; typ nums thru.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Erieville 11 Sep; max 40 FH 4 Oct & SP 3 Oct.
Eastern Bluebird: max 47 Const 3 Nov, migrating; typ locs & nums.
Veery: max 5 ADK 11 Sep; last Williamstown 27 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr RRP 3 Sep; max 5 Clay by NFC 2 Oct; last Kirkville 25 Oct, late.
Swainson's Thrush: max 22 ADK 11 Sep; last Const 15 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 7 OakC 12 Oct.
Wood Thrush: max 4 HI 19 Sep; last Kirkland 2 Oct.
American Robin: max 1796 Const 7 Nov, migrating.
VARIED THRUSH: Const 14 Nov (DBa), 4th Reg rec & 1st for season, 2nd county rec.
Gray Catbird: max 30 North Syr 22 Sep.
Brown Thrasher: max 6 BLNC 17 Sep; last Hamilton 10 Nov.
Northern Mockingbird: typ nums/locs.
European Starling: typical flocks widespread.
Bohemian Waxwing: arr 2 Scriba 24 Nov (GD); 15 Salisbury 26-27 Nov (KT); max 22 Salisbury 29 Nov (KT); 2 other reps.
Cedar Waxwing: max 150 Scriba 14 Nov.
House Sparrow: typ nums throughout period & reg.
American Pipit: arr 8 SP 11 Sep; max 200 Bville 12 Oct, good num; last 3 SP 26 Nov; good nums rep at typ locs.
Evening Grosbeak: arr Salisbury 9 Oct; max 34 Dolge 1 Nov; strong irruption year, good nums var locs throughout Reg; *intro*.

PINE GROSBEAK (R5): arr OLP 3 Nov (mob); max 5 New Woodstock 25 Nov (MY) & Bville 18 Nov (KM); 1-2 at 6 other locs; *intro*.
House Finch: max 34 TR 22 Oct; typ nums throughout period & reg.
Purple Finch: max 67 MHSF 3 Oct; good num typ locs SH & HERK.
Common Redpoll: arr 2 Central Square 17 Oct; 152 SP 7 Nov; max 300 T Fenner 28 Nov; good nums var locs throughout Reg.
Hoary Redpoll: OLP 4 Nov thru (mob); OSP 13 Nov (SD, NB); DB 28 Nov (MBu); 2 T Fenner 28 Nov (DWe).
Red Crossbill: max 125 MHSF 22 Nov, exc count, flocks continuing at loc; reps several other locs.
White-winged Crossbill: arr MHSF 9 Oct (MY); max 12 MHSF 25 Oct (SD) & FH 7 Nov (GD); reps several other locs.
Pine Siskin: max 151 MHSF 11 Oct; good nums Oct-mid Nov throughout Reg, smaller nums thereafter.
American Goldfinch: max 450 OLP 26 Oct, exc num; good nums thru Reg & period.
Lapland Longspur: arr FH 4 Oct (DWh); max 4 DL 9 Oct (KS); SP 14 Oct (MB); 1-2 at 4 other locs.
Snow Bunting: arr 3 FH 17 Oct; max 209 SP 6 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 10 GB 1 Oct; last Fabius 17 Nov.
American Tree Sparrow: arr TR 22 Oct; max 35 OLP 28 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: max 30 OakC 29 Sep; last Elbridge 19 Nov; small nums into mid Nov at feeders.
Clay-colored Sparrow: Manlius 18 Oct (CS); only rep.
Field Sparrow: max 8 Syr 20 Sep.
Vesper Sparrow: max 2 BRH 23, 24, 29 Oct; singles 7 other locs.
Savannah Sparrow: max 3 OLP 8, 21 Oct; last OLP 31 Oct.
Grasshopper Sparrow: no reps.
NELSON'S SPARROW (R5): HI 10 Oct (CW), 14th Reg rec, 3rd for loc.
Fox Sparrow: arr Williamstown 5 Oct; 12 TR 26 Oct; max 13 WMonroe 27 Oct; last Elbridge 26 Nov.
Song Sparrow: 40 HI 10 Oct & OLP 6 Oct; max 52 TR 3 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Erieville 11 Sep; max 5 OLP 5, 6, 9 Sep & TR 10 Sep; last OLP 12

Nov, late.

Swamp Sparrow: max 46 HI 10 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: max 165 TR 3 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr OLP 21 Sep; 30 TR 10 Oct; max 40 Salisbury 9 Oct.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 85 Syr 30 Oct; nums thru Reg and period.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT(R5): South Onondaga 6 Sep (ID).

Bobolink: max 32 MSI 11 Sep; last TR 4 Oct; small nums typ locs Sep.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 19 BRH 11 Sep; last TR 5 Nov.

Orchard Oriole: no reps.

Baltimore Oriole: max 3 Marcellus 5 Sep; last Williamstown 28 Sep.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 6439 BRH 11 Oct, but see blackbird sp below; typ nums thru Reg and period.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 200 Bville 1 Nov; typ nums thru Reg and period.

Rusty Blackbird: arr 3 TR 26 Sep; max 110 CM 21 Oct; last 5 Waterville 27 Nov.

Common Grackle: max est 20000 TR 23 Oct, migrating, but see blackbird sp below; typ nums thru Reg and period.

Blackbird sp: max est 50000 CM 23 Oct (DWh) & OLP 8 Nov (GD), presumed mostly Red-winged and Grackle; counts > 10000 several typ locs.

Ovenbird: max 4 Salisbury 5 Sep; last TR 3 Oct; three dozen recs 1-2 early-mid Sep.

Louisiana Waterthrush: no reps (typical).

Northern Waterthrush: 2 SP 19 Sep; FH 30 Sep, late; Syr 6 Oct, late; only reps.

Golden-winged Warbler: Point Rock ONEI 3 Sep (MG); Hamilton 9 Sep (GM); only reps.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 2 BLNC 17 Sep; last Erie Canal near Rome Sand Plains 20 Sep; 7 other reps Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: max 4 MHSF 6 Sep; last OakC 21 Oct.

Prothonotary Warbler: no reps.

Tennessee Warbler: max 13 HI 27 Sep; last CM 2 Nov, late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr TR 20 Sep; last OLP 29 Nov; 14 locs total, all singles.

Nashville Warbler: max 8 GLSP 22 Sep; last OakC 28 Oct.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (R5): Elbridge 3 Oct (SS); Salisbury HERK 13 Sep (KT), 3rd county rec.

Mourning Warbler: singles rep 7 locs.

Common Yellowthroat: max 15 TR 12 Sep; last OLP 27 Oct; singles/small groups to mid

Oct.

Hooded Warbler: max 5 BW 3, 11 Sep; last Cazenovia 21 Sep; 1-2 several other locs early Sep.

American Redstart: max 4 at 3 locs mid-Sep; Westvale 11 Oct, late; GB 17 Oct, late; small nums thru late Sep.

Cape May Warbler: max 5 Skaneateles 9 Sep & Fabius 10 Sep; last FH 10 Oct; 1-4 var locs Sep.

Cerulean Warbler: Cazenovia 18 Sep (JK); only rep.

Northern Parula: max 7 SP 19 Sep; last OLP 8 Nov, late; 1-2 var locs Sep – mid Oct.

Magnolia Warbler: max 10 Fabius 10 Sep; last TR 22 Oct, late.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 6 FH 16 Sep; last Van Buren 11 Oct; 1-3 var locs mostly Sep.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 7 BW 6 Sep; WP 11 Oct, late; 1-3 var locs Sep.

Yellow Warbler: 3 SP 21 Sep; max 7 SP 19 Sep; OLP 11 Oct, late; FH 17 Oct, very late; last OLP 31 Oct, very late; singles rep Sep but bulk of migration done.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 4 HF 11 Sep; last Fabius 2 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 30 FH 29 Sep – 1 Oct; 12 OLP 13 Oct; last FH 24 Oct; best counts late Sep/early Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 Bubb L HERK 1 Sep; last TR 26 Oct, late.

Palm Warbler: arr North Bay 11 Sep; max 8 OLP 24 Sep & HI 3 Oct; last CM 25 Oct.

Pine Warbler: max 6 n HERK 13 Sep; last FH 17 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 150 SP 19 Sep; last FH 23 Nov.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R5): Marcellus 8 Sep (JS).

Prairie Warbler: no reps.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 9 SP 19 Sep; last Van Buren & FH 16 Oct.

Canada Warbler: singles 14 locs Sep; last SP 15 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: max 3 SP 3, 9 Sep & TR 26 Sep; last Salisbury 9 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: max 3 var locs Sep; last OLC 8 Oct.

Northern Cardinal: typ nums throughout period & reg.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 8 SFNS 13 Sep; last Marcellus 31 Oct, very late.

Indigo Bunting: max 4 BW 6, 11 Sep & Tully 5 Sep; last Clinton 10 Oct, late.

REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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The fall's weather was something of a mixed bag, but was generally mild and dry. Mean monthly temperatures for September and October were within 0.5° F of normal, but November was 5.6° above normal. During a stretch from 5 to 11 November daily temperatures exceeded long-term averages by 11° to 18° each day, and reached 76° on 10 November. September and November were both relatively dry, with a combined total of 4.1" of precipitation, about 3.4" below normal and less than the 4.9" of rain that fell in October, the latter 1.2" above normal. Unlike many years winter weather did not settle in by the end of November, although there were a few chilly nights with temperatures dropping to as low as 16° on 18 November.

Waterfowl were generally unexceptional, especially the Snow Geese, which largely missed Region 6 as evident by the seasonal maximum of 12 individuals. Brant also were unusually scarce. Goose highlights included a Greater White-fronted Goose periodically seen on the St. Lawrence River in Massena for two weeks in late October and early November, and two reports of Cackling Geese. No rare ducks were observed, and duck numbers seemed generally low except at Wilson Hill WMA, where the annual *Aythya* rafts were larger than usual, with as many as 8750 Ring-necked Ducks and 2400 Redhead, with good numbers of dabbling ducks as well. Green-winged Teal were especially abundant at Wilson Hill, and the high count there of 1700, while unusually high for Region 6, was thought to be very conservative. The most unusual duck of the season was a female Red-crested Pochard among the *Aythya* rafts at Wilson Hill, surely an escapee.

Shorebird diversity was relatively high for Region 6, as was the number of locations where shorebirds were reported, but numbers of several usually common species were poor. The three juvenile **Hudsonian Godwits** that appeared at Whalen Park exceeded the total number reported in Region 6 over the previous decade. Whalen Park was among the most active shorebird sites Regionally this season, especially in October and early November, when Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, and White-rumped Sandpiper lingered later than usual. Lewis County birders continued to enjoy the locally unusual shorebird show at the Whetstone Gulf Reservoir that included such county rarities as a Stilt Sandpiper on 9 September and American Golden-Plover 21-25 September. The El Dorado Shores Preserve and Perch River WMA also had decent numbers of shorebirds, including Baird's Sandpipers at both locations. Bill Munro photographed a Red-necked Phalarope on the St. Lawrence River on 10 September, for the only phalarope report of the season. Despite the relative abundance of shorebirds, Least Sandpipers and especially Semipalmated Sandpipers were unusually scarce, with a maximum count of the latter of two individuals.

Jefferson County has never had much of a lake watching tradition, but efforts by Steve Kelling at Tibbits Point paid off on 15 October when an immature **Black-legged Kittiwake** flew by close to shore allowing quite good photographs. The **Brown Pelican** found at Dark Island shoals in late August was last seen on 2 September. A search by boat of all of all of the shoals and rocks in the vicinity on 3 September failed to turn up the pelican, but did net the last Black Tern of the season.

The passerine migration was about average, with a few decent waves of migrants interspersed by lengthy periods of modest movement. Many species seemed to linger later in the fall than usual, especially late examples including a Least Flycatcher on Fort Drum

and a Philadelphia Vireo at Long Point State Park on 14 October, and a House Wren in Alexandria on 23 October. A Brown Thrasher on Fort Drum 23 September was late, and another that appeared in a Canton yard on 11 November looked like it was going to attempt to overwinter, as did a Baltimore Oriole that showed up at a Rodman feeder on 25 November. In contrast to these late birds, swallows vanished early, with the last Tree and Barn Swallows reports on 12 September, after which no swallows of any species were reported.

Every species of northeastern finch moved through Region 6 this fall. Evening Grosbeaks appeared throughout the Region in mid-October and were reported at many feeders. The first Pine Grosbeak of the year was heard over Fort Drum on 13 October, but the majority of reports came from northern-most St. Lawrence County, where groups of up to 13 were seen by the end of November. An early White-winged Crossbill was at Whalen Park on the St. Lawrence River on 11 September, but the bulk of the crossbill flight came in late October and November, when groups of up to 25 Red Crossbills and 18 White-winged Crossbills were reported from many locations, especially near Lake Ontario. Common Redpolls were present in good numbers by early November, with Hoary Redpolls picked out of two flocks on Fort Drum on 13 and 24 November. For much of the fall it seemed impossible to spend any time outside without hearing Pine Siskins overhead.

The warbler migration was about average, with reasonably good numbers but no especially large pulses noted. On 5 September, while hiking the Cranberry Lake 50, Chris Wood found a Connecticut Warbler near Glasby Pond. Connecticut Warblers are rarely detected in Region 6, although a few probably sneak through most years, perhaps including in the Adirondacks. A Golden-winged Warbler on Fort Drum 8 September was a few days later than is typical, and surprisingly came from a location where no Blue-winged Warblers were found after August, unlike most recent years when the latter species has been fairly common through at least the first week of September. The 11 Orange-crowned Warblers seen between mid-September and mid-October is an above average tally, but not surprising given the number of birders afield.

The 233 species reported this fall is about nine above the most recent ten-year average, and the second-highest autumn tally in at least 15 years. The number of birders reporting to eBird in Region 6 continues to increase, which no doubt is the primary reason for this season's relatively high species tally. The continuing **Brown Pelican** was the highlight of the season, although this author wishes it would have stuck around for at least one more day. More cooperative were the Regionally rare **Hudsonian Godwits** at Whalen Park, including at least two that remained long enough for many St. Lawrence County birders to see it.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AFWMA – Ashland Flats WMA; **BPWMA** – Black Pd WMA; **CCSP** – Coles Creek SP; **CV** – T Cape Vincent; **CWF** – Canton Wastewater Treatment Facility; **DIS** – Dark Island Shoals; **ED** – El Dorado Shores Pres, T Ellisburg; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Reservation, JEFF & LEWI; **ICNC** – Indian Creek Nature Center, T Canton, STLA; **JEFF** – Jefferson County; **KC** – Kelsey Creek, T Watertown; **KPSP** – Kring Pt SP; **LBSF** – Lonesome Bay State Forest, T Hammond; **LEWI** – Lewis County; **LPSP** – Long Pt SP; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA; **MM** – Massawepie Mire, T Colton & Piercefield, STLA; **MP** – Montario Pt, T Ellisburg; **PiPt** – Pillar Pt, JEFF; **PRWMA** – Perch Ri WMA, JEFF; **PtPen** – Pt Peninsula, T Lyme, JEFF; **RLT** – Richard’s Landing Trail, T Massena; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, T Massena; **RRT** – Remington Recreation Trail, T Canton; **RWSP** – Robert Wehle SP; **SBSP** – Southwick Beach SP; **SLR** – St. Lawrence Ri; **STLA** – St. Lawrence County; **StPt** – Stony Pt, T Henderson, JEFF; **TP** – Tibbits Pt, T Cape Vincent; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; **WBSP** – Westcott Beach SP; **WGR** – Whetstone Gulf Res; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA; **WISP** – Wellesley I SP; **WP** – Whalen P, T Louisville.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: only 16 reports 18 Sep thru; max 12 T Lowville 4 Nov (low).

Greater White-fronted Goose: RLT 23 Oct to 7 Nov (JB, mob).

Brant: arr TP 14 Oct; max 200 TP 25 Oct; only 2 other reports; low.

Cackling Goose: T Canton 9 Oct (NK, photos!); 3 FD 24 Nov (JB!); only reports.

Canada Goose: max 10880 FD 24 Nov heaviest flight of season.

Mute Swan: max 19 T Clayton 31 Oct.

Trumpeter Swan: max 10 PRWMA 25 Oct & Chippewa Bay 30 Oct.

Tundra Swan: arr TP 14 Oct; max 375 PtPen 27 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 136 LBSF 6 Sep; last LBSF 27 Nov.

Blue-winged Teal: max 340 WHWMA 27 Sep; last 4 WHWMA 17 Oct.

Northern Shoveler: max 10 CWF 14 Sep; last WHWMA 15 Nov.

Gadwall: max 40 WHWMA 9 Nov.

American Wigeon: max 1800 WHWMA 24 Oct; scarce after 15 Nov.

Mallard: max 1595 WHWMA 14 Nov.

American Black Duck: max 150 WHWMA 17 Oct.

Northern Pintail: max 510 WHWMA 11 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 1700 WHWMA 11 Oct, high.

Canvasback: f WHWMA 6-11 Nov only report.

Redhead: max 2400 WHWMA 24 Oct.

Ring-necked Duck: max 8750 WHWMA 7 Nov.

Greater Scaup: max 180 CV 14 Oct.

Lesser Scaup: max 18 WHWMA 24 Oct.

Surf Scoter: max 25 BPWMA 19 Nov; 3 other reports 1-2 each.

White-winged Scoter: max 125 ED 27 Nov.

Black Scoter: max 23 MP 27 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr TP 4 Oct; max 1540 MP 27 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr WHWMA 17 Oct; max 80 PtPen 22 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: 3 arr Little Hammond Point 19 Sep (GS) early; next RLT 17 Oct; max 110 WBSP 27 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 75 Coles Creek T Louisville 10 Nov.

Common Merganser: max 148 Little Sucker Brook T Waddington 22 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 197 StPt 27 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: SLR T Massena 21 Sep; WHWMA 9-11 Nov; only reports.

Spruce Grouse: 2 MM 26 Sep (BB) only report.

Wild Turkey: max 54 T West Turin 28 Sep.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 47 ULLWMA 12 Oct; last WHWMA 15 Nov.

Horned Grebe: arr CV 6 Sep; max 4 WBSP 7 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: arr WHWMA 20 Sep; max 2 RLT 23 Oct.

Mourning Dove: max 76 T Lyme 27 Nov.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last CV 22 Sep.

Black-billed Cuckoo: last Cranberry L 3 Sep.

Common Nighthawk: max 15 LBSF 15 Sep; last CV 16 Sep.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: last FD 1 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last T Massena 21 Sep.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: last FD 21 Sep.

Sora: last WHWMA 27 Sep.

Common Gallinule: max 20 PRWMA 4 Sep; last FD 21 Sep.

American Coot: max 171 WHWMA 31 Oct; singles RLT 17 Oct & AFWMA 14 Oct only other locations.

Sandhill Crane: 4 ULLWMA 19 Sep; T Croghan 2 Oct; only reports.

Black-bellied Plover: max 18 WP 7 Nov; last ED 27 Nov (JB) late.

American Golden-Plover: max 3 RLT 20 Sep; WGR 21-25 Sep (GC, RiR, RoR) rare LEWI; 10 additional reports JEFF & STLA.

Semipalmated Plover: max 24 PRWMA 3 Sep; last WHWMA 25 Oct.

Killdeer: max 74 WGR9 Sep.

Hudsonian Godwit: juvs WP 20 Sep (JB), 3-4 Oct (BD, JB, mob) & 9 Nov (NK, TW, EW); excellent showing.

Ruddy Turnstone: 3 DIS 19 Sep (GSe) only report.

Stilt Sandpiper: PRWMA 3 Sep; WGR 9 Sep (GC) rare LEWI; only reports.

Sanderling: max 57 ED 25 Sep; last ED 7 Nov; 35 additional reports more than usual.

Dunlin: max 75 LWMA 10 Nov; last WP 29 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: PRWMA 4 & 23 Sep; ED 19-21 Sep; WHWMA 20 Sep.

Least Sandpiper: max 14 PRWMA 4 Sep.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 3 WP 8-11 Nov where last 14 Nov.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 28 WP 24 Sep; last ED 7 Nov.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: about 12 reports 1-2 each JEFF; low.

American Woodcock: last FD 22 Sep.

Wilson's Snipe: last 3 Little Sucker Brook Park 19 Oct.

Spotted Sandpiper: last ICNC 28 Sep.

Solitary Sandpiper: last 2 LWMA 23 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 10 WP 24 Sep; last 3 AFWMA 14 Oct.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 10 WGF 17 Sep; last T Louisville 20 Nov.

Red-necked Phalarope: T Clayton 10 Sep (BMu, photos!).

Black-legged Kittiwake: imm TP 15 Oct (SK, photos!).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 30 PilPt 4 Oct.

Iceland Gull: T Henderson 29 Nov only report.

Lesser Black-backed Gull:

Great Black-backed Gull: max 41 T Lyme 25 Nov.

Caspian Tern: last 2 RLT 24 Sep.

Black Tern: last DIS 3 Sep.

Common Tern: last 2 RLT 24 Sep.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: max 3 CCSP 15 Nov; 6 additional observations L Ontario & SLR 31 Oct thru.

Common Loon: max 24 SLR Massena 18 Oct.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 2000 DIS 6 Sep;

BROWN PELICAN: juv found late Aug DIS continued to 2 Sep (mob, photos!).

American Bittern: last WP 24 Sep.

Least Bittern: last live LWMA 6 Sep; fresh carcass BPWMA 4 Nov (JC, photo!).

Great Egret: max 14 T Canton 28 Sep; last T Canton 28 Oct.

Green Heron: last WP 27 Sep.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: last 5 ULLWMA 19 Sep.

Turkey Vulture: last T Leray 8 Nov.

Osprey: last WISP 3 Oct.

Golden Eagle: 2 Frech Creek WMA 19 Sep (DD); Low's Ridge-Upper Dam trail 31 Oct (BB); ad FD 12 Nov (JB); WGR 13 Nov (MR).

Northern Harrier: many reports 5-10/day NW JEFF thru; mostly 1-3/day elsewhere thru.

Northern Goshawk: Dead Creek Flow trail 5 Sep.

Red-shouldered Hawk: last 2 RMSP 24 Oct only report after Sep.

Broad-winged Hawk: last 2 T Massena 21 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr FD 15 Oct.

Eastern Screech-Owl: Cranberry L 3 Sep (CW) unusual location; 3 reports NW JEFF where regular.

Snowy Owl: arr FD 13 Nov; 2 T Lyme 21-25 Nov & T Parishville 25 Nov only other reports.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: CV 14 Oct only report.
Red-headed Woodpecker: max 6 FD 4 Sep; 3 T Ellisburg 18 Sep high for anyplace away from FD.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 100+ reports expansion continues.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: T Potsdam 8 Nov & KC 21 Nov only reports after 14 Oct.
Black-backed Woodpecker: 2 Cranberry L 3-4 Sep & Horseshoe L 16 Oct only reports.
American Kestrel: more than usual lingering at end Nov.
Merlin: 50 reports of which only 5 in Nov.
Peregrine Falcon: 20 reports from 11 locations.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last T Hammond 15 Sep.
Eastern Kingbird: max 15 FD 4 Sep; last FD 10 Sep
Olive-sided Flycatcher: Cranberry L 4 Sep only report.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: last ICNC 28 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last T Henderson 24 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: scarce after 23 Sep; last FD 14 Oct (JB) late.
Eastern Phoebe: last KC & T Canton 23 Oct.
Northern Shrike: arr FD 29 Oct.
Yellow-throated Vireo: last Clarkson Univ & FD 22 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: widespread departure 14 Oct; last Bog River Falls T Piercefield 22 Oct (JVG) late.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 8 T Hammond 12 Sep (GSm) high; 44 additional reports more than usual; last LPSP 14 Oct (SK) late.
Warbling Vireo: last ICNC 28 Sep.
Red-eyed Vireo: last Red Barn Preserve T Morristown 4 Oct.
Canada Jay: max 8 MM 8 Nov.
Blue Jay: conspicuous migration 15-26 Sep.
Horned Lark: arr FD & T Canton 14 Oct; max 67 FD 12 Nov.
Tree Swallow: max & last 105 ULLWMA 12 Sep; unusually scarce.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: last ULLWMA 12 Sep.
Bank Swallow: last LWMA 6 Sep.
Cliff Swallow: last LWMA 6 Sep.
Barn Swallow: last 10 ULLWMA 12 Sep.

Tufted Titmouse: several dozen reports from about 24 locations; gradually increasing away from W JEFF stronghold.
House Wren: scarce after 5 Oct; last T Alexandria 23 Oct (ML) late.
Winter Wren: 3 T Ellisburg & Henderson 27 Nov good tally for so late.
Marsh Wren: last WHWMA 3 Oct.
Carolina Wren: 18 reports from 9 locations most in any one season during ebird era; max 3 T Hammond 30 Oct.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last ICNC 10 Sep (EW) late.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: migrants arr T Croghan 12 Sep.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Peavine Swamp trail 5 Sep possible breeder (CW); migrants arr T Hammond 11 Sep; last RRT 8 Nov.
Eastern Bluebird: max 18 RWSP 8 Oct;
Veery: 1st FD 17 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: last ICNC 9 Oct.
Swainson's Thrush: last Clarkson Univ 16 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: scarce after Oct.
Wood Thrush: last WHWMA 3 Oct.
Gray Catbird: scarce after 6 Oct; last FD 29 Oct.
Brown Thrasher: scarce after 23 Sep; last T Canton 11 Nov thru.
Bohemian Waxwing: arr FD 13 Nov; 11 T Lawrence 25 Nov only other report.
Cedar Waxwing: max 77 FD 17 Sep.
American Pipit: max 260 T Canton 9 Oct (NK) high; last WBSP 4 Nov.
Evening Grosbeak: widespread arr 18 Oct; max 40 T Canton 19 Oct.
Pine Grosbeak: arr FD 13 Oct; max 13 RLT 14 Nov.
House Finch: max 10 CV 15 Nov.
Purple Finch: scarce after mid-Nov.
Common Redpoll: arr RRT 25 Oct; max 390 FD 12 Nov.
Hoary Redpoll: FD 13 & 24 Nov (JB) only reports.
Red Crossbill: max 25 PtPen 7 Nov (SK); 20 other reports
White-winged Crossbill: arr WP 11 Sep (JB) only report before mid-Oct; max 18 ED 7 Nov (JT); 11 other reports.
Pine Siskin: max 78 FD 14 Oct.
American Goldfinch: max 150 T W Turin 9 Sep; only report > 40.
Lapland Longspur: arr RLT 23 Oct.
Snow Bunting: arr RLT 23 Oct; max 130 RLT 31 Oct.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: last PtPen 24 Oct.
American Tree Sparrow: arr T Canton 14 Oct.
Chipping Sparrow: scarce after 26 Oct; T Canton 26 Nov (BB) overwintering bird.
Clay-colored Sparrow: last WISP 19 Sep.
Field Sparrow: last FD 14 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: last FD 29 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: last T Lyme 25 Oct.
Fox Sparrow: arr ICNC 19 Sep (JB) early; max 19 FD 29 Oct; last CV 22 Nov.
Lincoln's Sparrow: last FD 14 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: scarce after 23 Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: max 150 FD 22 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr RRT 19 Sep; CV 22 Nov (KR) only report after 29 Oct.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 140 FD 29 Oct.
Bobolink: scarce after 8 Sep; last FD 22 Sep.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 24 RLT 17 Oct; last AFWMA 25 Oct.
Baltimore Oriole: no reports after 5 Sep except T Rodman feeder 25 Nov thru (HH, photos!).
Red-winged Blackbird: max 1650 ULLWMA 11 Oct.
Brown-headed Cowbird: scarce after Oct.
Rusty Blackbird: max 120 T Canton 4 Nov.
Common Grackle: max 3000 KPSP 15 Sep.
Ovenbird: last T Rodman 29 Oct.
Northern Waterthrush: last LPSP 26 Sep (SK) late.
Golden-winged Warbler: last FD 8 Sep.
"Brewster's" Warbler: FD 8 Sep only report.
Black-and-white Warbler: last ICNC 28 Sep.
Tennessee Warbler: last FD 22 Oct (JB) late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: 11 between 22 Sep & 22 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: last FD 15 Oct.
Connecticut Warbler: Glasby Pond 5 Sep (CW!) rarely seen R6.
Mourning Warbler: T Clayton 19 Sep (DD) only report.
Common Yellowthroat: last FD 29 Oct.
American Redstart: last Hitchins Pond 28 Sep.
Cape May Warbler: last Hitchins Pond 4 Oct.
Northern Parula: last FD 5 Oct.
Magnolia Warbler: last FD 6 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: last CV 4 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last LPSP 28 Sep.
Yellow Warbler: last FD 28 Sep.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: last CV 22 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: last T Lyme 14 Oct.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last SBSP 11 Oct.
Palm Warbler: last RWSP 11 Oct.
Pine Warbler: last FD 5 Oct.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: last WBSP 4 Nov.
Prairie Warbler: FD 1 Sep only report.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last CV & FD 14 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last T Lyme 23 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last RRT 6 Oct.
Scarlet Tanager: last FD 2 Oct.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last T West Carthage 7 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: last RRT 1 Oct.

EXOTICS

Red-crested Pochard: f WHWMA 17-25 Oct then RLT 31 Oct (JB, BD, NK, mob).

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REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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In September Region 7's average temperatures were within a degree of normal except in the High Peaks region where they were 1-3° below normal for the month. The High Peaks also stood out as the wettest area of Region 7 with 3-4" of rainfall. Overall precipitation in Region 7 was from 2-3" except along the border with Canada, which was drier and received only 1-2".

Temperatures in October remained near normal, averaging less than a degree of

deviation up or down almost everywhere in Region 7. The exceptions were a pocket in central Clinton County from Lake Champlain into Franklin County which was 1-3° warmer than normal, and a small area including Lake Placid and Saranac Lake which was 1-3° cooler than average. Precipitation varied wildly across the Region; in October most of the Champlain Valley averaged 2-3", while northeastern Franklin County measured 5-6" of rain. Otherwise rainfall averaged 3-4" everywhere except in the Lake Placid/Saranac Lake area and much of the rest of Franklin County where it averaged 4-5".

November was an exceptionally warm month, especially in the northern portion of Region 7. Along the border with Canada and well into Franklin and Clinton Counties average temperatures were 5-7° above normal. This deviation from normal diminished to the south through a zone across Clinton and Franklin Counties where temperatures were only 3-5° above normal. In almost all of Essex and Hamilton Counties temperatures averaged only 1-3° above normal with the exception of the High Peaks where there was little deviation from the norm. In the Champlain Valley and the western half of Franklin County precipitation (melted equivalent) ranged from 1-2". The rest of Region 7 received 2-3" except for the High Peaks which got 3-4".

The water level of Lake Champlain continued the steady decline of the summer throughout September, reflecting the lower than normal rainfall totals cited above. The already low value of 94.5' on 1 September dropped to 93.65' at the end of the month. Heavy rains at the beginning of October resulted in a one day increase to 93.9' (3"). From there it drifted randomly up and down to 94.2' on 30 November. At these levels the mud flats at the Chazy Riverlands were high and dry, but additional shorebird habitat was exposed at Noblewood Park and the Ausable River delta.

The Winter Finch Forecast suggested that this would not be a flight year for Pine Grosbeak except for some small movement from poor crop areas. Despite the forecast, a steady Regional influx of the species began on 7 November when three individuals were discovered at Webb Royce Swamp in Essex. By the end of the season, Pine Grosbeak was widespread and well represented in each of the four counties in Region 7. The forecast that Red Crossbills would drift south was verified by more than twenty reports. Six records of White-winged Crossbills came mostly from Bloomingdale Bog. November marked the beginning of an historic flight year for redpolls, especially in the Champlain Valley where a maximum of 200 individuals was found foraging in a hayfield in Essex on 27 November. This same flock hosted at least two Hoary Redpolls. Additional single Hoary Redpolls were documented further north and south of this location. Also, as predicted, it was a good flight year for Evening Grosbeak and a poor one for Bohemian Waxwing, with only two reports of the latter.

Pink-footed Goose has almost become a regular. After its first Region 7 appearance at two separate locations in 2017, it has been reported each of the following years. This year's record was from the same Franklin County site as the first. Photographic evidence that the 2020 and 2017 sightings were of the same bird has been submitted to NYSARC. Reports of **Trumpeter Swan**, which first appeared in Region 7 in March of this year, continued into the fall with a report of an individual bird in September and a family group of two adults and two immatures in November.

A **Whimbrel** found at Plattsburgh City Beach/Cumberland Bay SP was present for a week. Rare for Region 7, this was the first record since 2011 according to eBird and only the tenth in the last 56 years in the other available records. The **Purple Sandpiper** found at Stony Point in Clinton County constituted the only eBird record in the last ten years and was only the seventh for the Region dating from the inception of *The Kingbird* in 1950. The **Herring Gull X Great Black-backed Gull** hybrid present in July and August was seen

again in October. Since 2010 Region 7 has averaged one **Golden Eagle** sighting each fall. This fall's total of six reports is a remarkably strong showing. After its nine day spring stay at Crown Point (a Region 7 first), **Say's Phoebe** reappeared at the same location for a single day in November. It is not known whether these sightings were of the same bird. **Fox Sparrow** also had remarkably strong fall showing with 26 eBird reports. For comparison there were four in 2019, 13 in 2018 and one in 2017. The **Orange-crowned Warbler** found at Crown Point was only the tenth fall record in the last ten years.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AFR – Altona Flat Rock; **AFT** – Art Farm Trail; **AHR** – Angier Hill Rd; **AM** – Ausable Marsh WMA; **AP** – Ausable Pt; **APN** – Ausable Point, north of entrance; **ARD** – Ausable Ri Delta; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BMR** – Blue Mt Rd; **BRM** – Boquet Ri Mouth; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd; **CHSP** – Cumberland Head SP; **CMt** – Catamount Mt; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CpP** – Carpenter's Pd; **CR** – Chazy Riverlands; **Rd** – Christian Rd; **CRW** – Cemetery Rd. Wetlands; **CtH** – Coot Hill; **DMA** – Dewey Mt Area; **EC** – Essex Co; **EG** – Eilers Grove; **Es** – Essex; **Et** – Elizabethtown; **FMR** – Four Mile Rd; **FrC** – Franklin County; **FRd** – Forestdale Rd; **GCB** – Gadway Cement Barrons; **GCBL** – Great Chazy Boat Launch; **GPK** – Grace Peak; **Ham** – Hamilton Co; **HB** – Holsington Beach; **HPd** – Hutchings Pd; **ILk** – Indian L; **Inl** – Inlet; **IR** – Indian Ri; **KB** – Kings Bay; **KLK** – Kiwassa L; **LA** – Lake Alice; **LCo** – Lake Colby; **LCTM** – Lower La Chute Ticonderoga Marsh; **LF** – Lake Flower; **Mad** – Madawaska; **Mal** – Malone; **MBM** – Monty Bay Marina; **ML** – Meacham L; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MMt** – Macomb Mt; **MRP** – Malone Rec P; **MRR** – Mary Riley Rd; **NP** – Noblewood P; **OPd** – Osgood Pd; **OR** – Osgood Ri; **PA** – Piseco Airport; **PB** – Plattsburgh; **PCB** – Plattsburgh City Beach; **PCo** – Pickets Corners; **PD** – Port Douglas; **PPd** – Putnam Pd; **PS** – Paul Smiths; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **RB** – Ray Brook; **RL** – Raquette L; **RMt** – Rattlesnake Mt; **RP** – Rouses Pt; **SB** – Sandy Beach; **SC** – Sabattis Circle Rd; **SF** – Schuyler Falls; **SP** – Stony Pt; **SPk** – Santanoni Peak; **SRCA** – Saint Regis Canoe Area; **SRg** – Seward Range; **SRM** – Saranac Ri mouth; **TFBL** – Ticonderoga Ferry and boat launch; **TI** – Ticonderoga; **TL** – Tupper L; **TR** – Trimble Rd; **UCR** – Upper Chubb Ri; **WI** – Willsboro; **WME** – lake east of Wickham Marsh; **WP** – Westport; **WPt** – Wilsboro Pt; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: PCo 23 Sep (KH); 10,000 CR 11 Nov (BK).
Ross's Goose: KB 7 Nov (SR).
Greater White-fronted Goose: MRP 18 Oct (SR).
PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: MRP 21 Nov (JHo); MRP 24 Nov (SR).
Brant: 127 CP 9 Oct (RR).
Cackling Goose: 11 MRP 18 Oct (SR).
TRUMPETER SWAN (R7): SRM 27 Sep (BK); 4 AP 21 Nov (KJ).
Wood Duck: 73 LCTM 21 Sep (SR).
Blue-winged Teal: 25 CR 1 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Northern Shoveler: 9 CP 10 Sep (SR).
Gadwall: 4 CP 10 Oct (JS).
American Wigeon: 14 CP 11 Oct (JB).
American Black Duck: OPd 9 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Northern Pintail: 23 CP 9 Nov (ME).
Green-winged Teal: 6 CR 1 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Canvasback: KB 12 Nov (SR).
Redhead: 6 AM 10 Oct (LM).
Ring-necked Duck: 88 TL 29 Sep (AB).
Greater Scaup: 200 PCB 17 Oct (AB).
Lesser Scaup: 125 GCBL 12 Nov (SR).
Surf Scoter: ML 3 Oct (CF).
White-winged Scoter: PCB 16 Oct (DRg).
Black Scoter: arr, CP 3 Oct (SR); 27 SB 25 Oct (SR).
Long-tailed Duck: AM 10 Oct (LM); 11 SB 25 Oct (SR).
Bufflehead: 24 LCo 12 Nov (JS).
Common Goldeneye: 67 NP 12 Nov (SR).
Barrow's Goldeneye: SRM 29 Oct (SR); NP 8 Nov (SR).
Hooded Merganser: 40 SRCA 3 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Common Merganser: 41 LF 23 Nov (JHo).
Red-breasted Merganser: 24 SP 7 Nov (SR).
Ring-necked Pheasant: 3 CRd 29 Nov (BMc).
Ruffed Grouse: 11 FMR 29 Nov (BBg).
Wild Turkey: 13 Inl 12 Sep (AK), Co-FL.
Pied-billed Grebe: 4 CR 1 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Horned Grebe: CP 15 Sep (JHa); 11 Np 3 Oct (MM).
Red-necked Grebe: WME 17 Sep (SR).
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: PS 11 Sep (ML).
Black-billed Cuckoo: HB 6 Sep BMc).
Common Nighthawk: 2 SRd 8 Sep (GD).
Eastern Whip-poor-will: WI 5 Sep (MM).
Chimney Swift: 4 PtR 1 Sep (AB).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: BRR 9 Sep (G&MC).

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Sora: SRd 8 Sep (GD).
Common Gallinule: LCTM 21 Sep (SR).
American Coot: 21 CP 29 Oct (JE).
Black-bellied Plover: RL 12 Sep (GL), v. rare Hami, ph; 3 KB 17 Sep (SR).
American Golden Plover: APN 13 Sep (DRg); RL 12 Sep (GL), rare Hami, ph.
Semipalmated Plover: 11 ARD 4 Sep (DRg).
WHIMBREL (R7): PCB 5-12 Sep (AB).
Ruddy Turnstone: NP 16 Sep (MG).
Sanderling: 14 ARD 4 Sep (DRg).
Dunlin: 22 APN 18 Oct (SR).
PURPLE SANDPIPER (R7): SP 7 Nov (SR).
Baird's Sandpiper: 3 ARD 4 Sep (DRg); KB 17 Sep (SR).
Least Sandpiper: 13 ARD 4 Sep (DRg).
White-rumped Sandpiper: CP 1 Oct (SR).
Pectoral Sandpiper: MRR 3 Sep (SR).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 ARD 4 Sep (DRg).
Long-billed Dowitcher: MBM 12 Sep (AB).
American Woodcock: MM 31 Oct (SR).
Wilson's Snipe: 2 GCBL 12 Nov (SR).
Spotted Sandpiper: 6 CP 1 Sep (SR).
Solitary Sandpiper: 3 AP 3 Sep (EP).
Lesser Yellowlegs: 3 AM 6 Sep (LM).
Greater Yellowlegs: 3 AM 6 Sep (LM).
Red-necked Phalarope: KLK 13 Sep (LK), ph.
Bonaparte's Gull: 180 WI 4 Sep (MM).
Little Gull: 2 ARD 3 Sep (DRg).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: SRM 6 & 17 Sep (DRg, SR); 2 CP 3 Oct (SR).
Glaucous Gull: SRM 19 Nov (SR).
Great Black-backed Gull: 31 SRM 24 Nov (JS).
HERRING X GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL: NP 2 Oct (DRg).
Caspian Tern: 6 CR 1 Sep (AB).
Common Tern: 2 SB 17 Oct (SR).

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: SB 21 Oct (SR).
Common Loon: 13 LCI 15 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Double-crested Cormorant: 3000 PtF 6 Sep (GF).
American Bittern: SC 4 Oct (M&SP).
Great Blue Heron: MRP 26 Nov (JS).
Great Egret: 12 CP 11 Sep (SR).
Green Heron: CP 11 Oct (JB).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 7 LCTM 5 Sep (AB), Co-FL.

Black Vulture: C&H 23 Sep (NO, MS); 24 TI 25 Nov (JR).
Turkey Vulture: 18 TI 7 Oct (GC).
Osprey: 2 AM 14 Oct (OS).
GOLDEN EAGLE (R7): PpD 16 Sep (KMCA); Ham 6 Nov (GF); WRS 7 Nov (JB, ML, BMC); SF 10 Nov (TF); GCB 14 Nov (ABd); 2 Mal 15 Nov (AB, JB).
Northern Harrier: CR 12 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: AM 5 Sep (KMc); OR 9 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Cooper's Hawk: BRR 14 Oct (G&MC).
Northern Goshawk: MMt 5 Sep (NK); IR 15 Sep (AVK); ML 27 Nov (JCh).
Bald Eagle: OPd 9 Sep (AB), Co-FL; 3 CP 30 Nov (ZC).
Red-shouldered Hawk: Et 9 Oct (RB).
Broad-winged Hawk: LCo 8 Sep (AB); Co-FL; 12 CP 15 Sep (JH).
Red-tailed Hawk: 3 RMT 22 Sep (OS).
Rough-legged Hawk: AP 25 Oct (JS).
Eastern Screech Owl: LA 12 Sep (AB).
Great Horned Owl: 2 TI 4 Oct (MMr).
Snowy Owl: CR 13 Nov (JP).
Barred Owl: 2 PtR 1 Oct (GFG).
Northern Saw-whet Owl: RB 12 Oct (AB).
Belted Kingfisher: MRP 24 Nov (SR).
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 2 NP 5 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 3 NP 5 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Black-backed Woodpecker: BMR 23 Sep (CG); BB 11 Nov (TD).
Pileated Woodpecker: 3 AM 20 Sep (BBg).
American Kestrel: 6 FRd 3 Sep (SR).
Merlin: 3 BB 29 Sep.
Peregrine Falcon: SRM 30 Sep (LS, CS).

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: CP 10 Sep (SR).
Eastern Kingbird: LP 2 Sep (RE).
Olive-sided Flycatcher: NP 14 Sep (BB).
Eastern Wood-Pewee: TI 18 Oct (MMr), late.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SC 8 Sep (GD).
Least Flycatcher: SB 26 Sep (SR).
Eastern Phoebe: 2 NP 5 Sep (AB), Co-FL; CPF 29 Nov (OS), late.
SAY'S PHOEBE: CP 15 Nov (SH).
N. Shrike: AFT 25 Oct (DRg).
Yellow-throated Vireo: PpD 1 Sep (KMCA).
Blue-headed Vireo: 3 LCo 8 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Philadelphia Vireo: FRd 3 Sep (SR); LA 22 Sep (KA).
Warbling Vireo: 5 WP 5 Sep (OS).

Red-eyed Vireo: 10 LCo 4 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Canada Jay: 4 OR 9 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Fish Crow: 3 CHSP 6 Sep (AB), Co-FL; 22 PB 17 Sep (SR), Co-FY.
Common Raven: 26 CRW 26 Oct (LM).
Horned Lark: 62 CP 11 Nov (SR).
Tree Swallow: 20 CP 15 Sep (JHa).
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 2 LCo 4 Sep (AB).
Bank Swallow: CP 1 Sep (SR).
Barn Swallow: 2 CP 10 Sep (ED).
Boreal Chickadee: 12 SRg 26 Sep (NK); many other scattered reports.
Tufted Titmouse: 3 Par 13 Sep (EG), Co-FL.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 12 NP 5 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
House Wren: 4 MM 2 Sep (SR).
Winter Wren: 2 Mad 15 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Marsh Wren: 8 LCTM 5 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Carolina Wren: 4 MM 3 Sep (SR), Co-FY.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: LCTM 5 Sep (AB).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 5 LCo 13 Sep (AB); Co-FL.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 5 SPk 27 Sep (JR).
Veery: 2 PS 1 Sep (PS).
Gray-cheeked Thrush: RL 19 Sep (GLW).
Bicknell's Thrush: GPk 5 Sep (NK).
Swainson's Thrush: 33 PS 14 Sep (ML).
Hermit Thrush: CP 1 Nov (SR).
Wood Thrush: SB 28 Sep (SR).
Gray Catbird: KB 7 Nov (PP), late.
Brown Thrasher: 2 Es 20 Sep (DRg).
Northern Mockingbird: SRM 7 Nov (SR).
Bohemian Waxwing: WP 10 Nov (JT, PT); max 33 WP 19-22 Nov (SR, BMC, JS, JB, RB).
Cedar Waxwing: 25 LP 29 Oct (SR).
American Pipit: WPt 5 Sep (MM); 80 TR 28 Oct (SR).
Evening Grosbeak: 4 AFT 9 Oct (DRg); 75 FR 19 Nov (JF).
Pine Grosbeak: arr 3 WRS 7 Sep (BMc, ML, JB, ph), max 30 MRP 29 Nov, reps in all counties.
Purple Finch: 4 SRCA 5 Oct (SMc).
Common Redpoll: arr BB 11 Oct (mob, ph); max 200 CRd 27 Nov (DRg); *intro*.
Hoary Redpoll: 2 CRd 27 Nov (DRg, ph); WPt 28 Nov (DRg); AHR 28 Nov (SR).
Red Crossbill (type 10): TBFL 18 Sep (GC).
White-winged Crossbill: arr 2 EG 20 Oct (BMc); max 9 BB 5-25 Nov (BMc); 7 DMA 9 Nov (JS).
American Goldfinch: 5 Par 13 Sep (EG); Co-FL.
Lapland Longspur: 5 PA 22 Nov (CK).
Snow Bunting: 49 CP 30 Oct (OS).

**NEW WORLD SPARROWS –
CARDINALIDS**

Eastern Towhee: SL 4 Oct (JS).
American Tree Sparrow: PS 27 Oct (ML).
Chipping Sparrow: 25 NP 4 Sep (MM); 3 HB 7 Nov (BMc).
Field Sparrow: 2 WP 27 Oct (OS).
Vesper Sparrow: 2 KN 21 Oct (LM).
Savannah Sparrow: 2 CP 4 Oct (JS).
Fox Sparrow: BRR 16 Oct (G&MC); 6 BRR 31 Oct (G&MC).
Lincoln’s Sparrow: 4 PG 11 Sep (OS).
Swamp Sparrow: LCTM 5 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
White-throated Sparrow: 21 TI 17 Oct (MMr).
White-crowned Sparrow: TL 23 Sep (GL).
Dark-eyed Junco: 250 PS 28 Oct (ML).
Eastern Meadowlark: 2 RP 16 Sep (SRo).
Baltimore Oriole: 3 CP 1 Sep (SR).
Brown-headed Cowbird: 14 WP 7 Nov (RB).
Rusty Blackbird: 2 LA 23 Sep (SR).
Ovenbird: Cat 3 Oct (ZC).
Northern Waterthrush: EC 18 Sep (BB).
Black and White Warbler: 4 Fed 3 Sep (SR).
Tennessee Warbler: By 18 Oct (AB), late.
Orange-crowned Warbler: CP 24 Sep (SR), rare.
Nashville Warbler: SB 6 Nov (SR), late.
Mourning Warbler: CP 5 Sep (SR).
Common Yellowthroat: 4 BB 12 Sep (JS).

American Redstart: HPd 28 Sep (KS).
Cape May Warbler: 6 SCR 8 Sep (GD).
Northern Parula: 5 LCo 8 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Magnolia Warbler: 3 WI 11 Sep (BG).
Bay-breasted Warbler: PD 18 Oct (DRg), late.
Blackburnian Warbler: 1 LCo 13 Sep (AB); Co-FL.
Yellow Warbler: Es 20 Sep (DRg).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: WPt 19 Sep (DRg).
Blackpoll Warbler: 6 LMt 11 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 2 Ilk 12 Sep (AK), Co-FY.
Palm Warbler: 2 LCo 13 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Pine Warbler: 2 SRCA 24 Sep (MC).
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 20 LMt 11 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Prairie Warbler: TI 24 Sep (MMR).
Black-throated Green Warbler: 5 LCo 13 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Canada Warbler: UCR 9 Sep(G&MC).
Wilson’s Warbler: CpP 5 Sep (JL); CP 24 Sep (SR).
Scarlet Tanager: BRR 7 Oct (MC).
Northern Cardinal: 3 MM 4 Sep (SR),Co-FY.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: LCo 8 Sep (AB), Co-FL.
Indigo Bunting: ILk 7 Nov (MMo).

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REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Temp	Albany			Glens Falls		
	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Sep	59.7°	61.9°	-2.2°	58.1°	58.5°	-0.4°
Oct	48.9°	49.8°	-0.9°	48.4°	46.7°	+1.7°
Nov	41.0°	42.3°	+1.3°	40.1°	36.9°	+3.2°
Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Sep	2.63"	3.30"	-0.67"	2.80"	3.38"	-0.58"
Oct	3.13"	3.68"	-0.55"	2.59"	3.51"	-0.92"
Nov	3.69"	3.29"	+0.40"	3.61"	3.31"	+0.30"

The weather in September 2020 was primarily warm and dry, despite a cold spell during the third week. Overnight temperatures touched freezing twice but no sub-freezing lows were recorded at Albany. Two inches of rain fell over the last two days of September, accounting for most of the monthly total in an otherwise abnormally dry period. October featured near-normal temperatures and rainfall on balance. The last week of the month turned cold, and the first measurable snowfall occurred on the 30th. November 2020 had some wild swings up and down but both temperature and precipitation ended up near the long-term average. Only a trace of snow was tallied at Albany.

The bird of the season was most definitely the **Sage Thrasher** found on 4 November by Barbara Sylvester, at Ooms Conservation Area near Chatham, Columbia County. She spotted an unusual bird, photographed it, and shared an image to the “What’s This Bird” Facebook Group for identification help. Many birders from around the state were able to observe and photograph this bird, as it was very loyal to a particular area at the edge of Sutherland Pond, where it would often pop up to eat buckthorn fruits to the delight of photographers.

Honorable mention goes to the **Nelson’s Sparrow** found by Naomi Lloyd and the Thursday Morning Group at the Lisha Kill outlet beneath the Ferry Rd. bridge in Niskayuna on 22 October. Although not particularly rare in much of the rest of New York State, Region 8 had not had one reported since the 1960s! The bird was spotted briefly the following morning as well.

A large movement of Tundra Swans was noted throughout southern New England and eastern New York on 28 November. Twenty-six were spotted resting on the Great Sacandaga Reservoir near the boat launch in Broadalbin, eight at Loughberry Lake in Saratoga Springs, and a pair at Round Lake Preserve in Saratoga County. A single Common Tern was reported from Saratoga Lake on 4 October. **Red-headed Woodpecker** was observed in two locations this fall. David Harrison had a flyover bird at Cobleskill Reservoir, Schoharie County on 30 September. Jeff Nadler watched an adult bird alight on a tree trunk as he was driving near the south entrance to Saratoga National Historical Park on 22 October.

As the irruption of winter finches and cohorts continued to develop through the autumn, Gary Chapin was observing a group of **White-winged Crossbills**, Common Redpolls and Pine Siskins on 22 November at Amy’s Park, which is located north of Bolton in Warren County. At one point he realized that he was hearing the wheezy call of a **Boreal Chickadee** among a group of Black-capped Chickadees nearby. He was able to get brief, but diagnostic looks at the bird, and obtained a snippet of audio recording before it moved on. He was at 1075 feet elevation at the time. This is one of only a handful of recent encounters in Region 8, the last being in 2010 at Partridge Run State Forest in Albany County (approximate elevation 1700 feet).

Evening Grosbeaks became an early component of the “winter” invasion toward the end of October. Multiple reports arrived on 22 October and the species was suddenly widespread thereafter. Common Redpoll was next, arriving in good numbers area-wide in the first week of November, with a report of **Hoary Redpoll** at Bog Meadow Brook in Saratoga County on 22 November. **Pine Grosbeak** followed, favoring previously utilized locations in Warren County, although a few ventured as far south as Albany County. Even **White-winged Crossbill** joined the roster of irruptors, moving into the Region in small numbers.

Marion Sole was pleasantly surprised by a **Yellow-breasted Chat** that popped up right in front of her in a thicket at Overmountain Conservation Area in Columbia County

on 21 October. The location is along the northern boundary of the current expected range of that elusive species in our area.

231 species were reported during the period.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

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

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: max 250 Charlton SARA 23 Nov.
Greater White-fronted Goose: Brunswick RENS 19 Oct; Schaghticoke RENS 31 Oct; Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 17 Nov.
Brant: max 304 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 27 Oct.
Canada Goose: max 4176 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 27 Oct.
Mute Swan: max 6 BCR 28 Nov.
Tundra Swan: 26 Great Sacandaga L Boat Launch FULT 28 Nov; 8 Loughberry L SARA 28 Nov; 2 Round L Pres SARA 28 Nov.
Wood Duck: max 75 Wagers Pd SARA 17 Sep.
Blue-winged Teal: max 68 Cohoes Flats ALBA 23 Sep.

Northern Shoveler: max 9 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 24 Oct.
Gadwall: max 78 Stanton Pd ALBA 26 Oct.
American Wigeon: max 121 Stanton Pd ALBA 16 Oct.
Mallard: max 434 Saratoga L SARA 19 Nov.
American Black Duck: max 49 Clemons Marsh WASH 15 Nov.
Northern Pintail: max 16 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Oct.
Green-winged Teal: max 179 Clemons Marsh WASH 15 Nov.
Redhead: 3 Nassau L RENS 29 Oct; 2 BCR 4 Nov; 2 Loughberry L SARA 28 Nov.
Ring-necked Duck: max 600 Loughberry L SARA 30 Nov.
Greater Scaup: max 15 Loughberry L SARA 11 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: max 250 Loughberry L SARA 20 Nov.
Surf Scoter: 5 Copkae L COLU 26 Oct; 4 Saratoga L SARA 24 Oct; 2 Galway L SARA 26 Oct; 2 Rexford SARA 26 Oct; 2 Saratoga L SARA 28 Oct; 2 Great Sacandaga Res FULT 28 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: max 17 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 27 Oct.
Black Scoter: max 112 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 25 Oct.
Long-tailed Duck: max 3 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 27 Oct.
Bufflehead: max 53 BCR 21 Nov.
Common Goldeneye: max 65 Blockhouse P SARA 21 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: max 130 Galway L SARA 15 Nov.
Common Merganser: max 500 TR 8 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: 8 Great Sacandaga Res FULT 28 Oct; 6 Stony Kill, Chatham COLU 9 Oct.
Ruddy Duck: max 425 BCR 14 Oct.
Ruffed Grouse: max 5 Shaker Mt WF FULT 26 Sep.
Wild Turkey: max 56 Ft Ann WASH 30 Nov.
Pied-billed Grebe: 4 Cossayuna L WASH 31 Oct.
Horned Grebe: max 3 Copake L COLU 22 Oct.
Red-necked Grebe: max 3 TR 17 Oct.
Rock Pigeon: max 270 Overlook P, Cohoes ALBA 28 Nov.
Mourning Dove: max 84 Normanskill Farm ALBA 8 Nov.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last Colonie ALBA 12 Oct.
Black-billed Cuckoo: last Kinderhook COLU 18 Oct, late.
Common Nighthawk: last Hoosick Falls RENS 29 Sep.
Chimney Swift: max 45 Round L Pres SARA 1 Sep; last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 25 Sep.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 6 Corkscrew Rail Trail RENS 5 Sep; last Yankee Hill Lock MONT 6 Oct.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: max 3 Clemons Marsh WASH 15 Sep; last Knox Wetland ALBA 9 Nov.
Sora: max 3 CRM 3 Sep; last Clemons Marsh WASH 28 Sep.
Common Gallinule: max 3 Bowmaker Pd SCHO 7 Sep; last East Bay WMA 6 Oct.

American Coot: 24 Clermont SP COLU 20 Oct; 7 Robinson Pd COLU 19 Oct; 3 Stanton Pd ALBA 31 Oct.
Black-bellied Plover: CF 22 Sep.
American Golden-Plover: 2 CF 21-25 Sep.
Semipalmated Plover: max 22 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 2 Oct; last Clemons Marsh WASH 9 Nov, late.
Killdeer: max 40 The Crossings ALBA 18 Sep; last Queensbury WARR 29 Nov, late.
Ruddy Turnstone: CF 7 Sep.
Stilt Sandpiper: Clemons Marsh Wash 28 Sep.
Sanderling: 4 CF 21 Sep.
Dunlin: 8 TR 27 Oct; 6 Watervliet Res ALBA 26 Oct; 4 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 8 Nov.
Least Sandpiper: max 60 Clemons Marsh WASH 28 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 6 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 8-9 Nov.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: CF 8 Sep.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 39 Clemons Marsh WASH 28 Sep; last TR 7 Nov.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 15 Center Hill Pd COLU 2 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 6 Oct.
American Woodcock: max 3 APBP 22 Sep; last Helderberg Workshop ALBA 31 Oct.
Wilson's Snipe: max 3 Clemons Marsh WASH 15 Sep; last APBP 25 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 20 Great Sacandaga Res FULT 25 Sep; last 4 Peebles I SP SARA 14 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 6 Schaghticoke RENS 13 Sep; last Schenectady Co Forest Pres SCHE 8 Nov, late.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 30 Clemons Marsh WASH 28 Sep; last Schenectady Co Forest Pres SCHE 8 Nov, late.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 20 Clemons Marsh WASH 28 Sep; last Clemons Marsh WASH 15 Nov.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 15 Amsterdam MONT 15 Sep; last Overlook P, Cohoes ALBA 14 Nov.
Ring-billed Gull: max 993 CF 3 Oct.
Herring Gull: max 79 Corning Riverfront P ALBA 8 Nov.
Iceland Gull: arr Saratoga L SARA 29 Oct.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: arr CF 3 Nov.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 36 Overlook P, Cohoes ALBA 28 Nov.
Caspian Tern: max 2 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 1-4 Sep.

Common Tern: Saratoga L SARA 4 Oct.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: 2 Ballston L SARA 1 Nov; Saratoga L SARA 17 Nov; Great Sacandaga Res FULT 28 Nov.

Common Loon: max 10 Saratoga L SARA 31 Oct.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 250 Olana SHS COLU 5 Oct.

American White Pelican: Hudson COLU 21-25 Jul.

American Bittern: last Catskill GREE 20 Sep.

Great Blue Heron: max 17 Clemons Marsh WASH 1 Oct.

Great Egret: max 26 Clemons Marsh WASH 1 Oct; last Colonie Mohawk River P ALBA 1 Nov.

Green Heron: max 5 Clemons Marsh WASH 7 Sep; last VFNHP 8 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: CF 16 Sep; last Clemons Marsh WASH 9 Nov, late.

Black Vulture: max 17 Copake COLU 24 Oct.

Turkey Vulture: max 170 Livingston COLU 6 Oct.

Osprey: max 5 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 18 Sep; last TR 19 Nov, late.

Golden Eagle: arr White Creek WASH 4 Oct.

Northern Harrier: max 4 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 25 Oct.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 8 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 16 Sep.

Cooper's Hawk: max 10 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 19 Sep.

Bald Eagle: max 16 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 18 Sep.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 1148 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 14 Sep; last West L FULT 21 Oct.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 38 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 19 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Nov.

Eastern Screech-Owl: max 2 Athens GREE 26 Sep; Voorheesville ALBA 11 Oct.

Great Horned Owl: max 4 Ballston SARA 18 Nov.

Snowy Owl: arr Mohawk MONT 2 Nov, only report.

Barred Owl: max 4 Ft Ann WASH 4 Oct; Rensselaerville SF ALBA 9 Oct.

Short-eared Owl: arr FtEG 20 Nov.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: arr Amy's P WASH 26 Sep.

Belted Kingfisher: max 5 Clemons Marsh WASH 15 Sep; Ft Ann WASH 19 Sep.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (R8):

Cobleskill Res SCHO 30 Sep (DH); SNHP 22 Oct (JN), *intro*.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 11 Ft Miller WASH 21 Nov.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 7 Hague WARR 15 Sep.

Downy Woodpecker: max 12 Normanskill Farm ALBA 11 Nov.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 6 Hunter GREE 22 Oct.

Northern Flicker: 25 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 25 Sep; 16 APBP 8 Sep.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 4 Queensbury WARR 10 Sep.

American Kestrel: max 7 Helderberg Hawk Watch ALBA 18 Sep.

Merlin: max 2 mult loc.

Peregrine Falcon: max 3 SNHP 3 Oct.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Hillsdale COLU 17 Sep.

Eastern Kingbird: last FR 13 Sep.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last Petersburg COLU 15 Sep.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 8 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area RENS 1 Sep; last APBP 8 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last Queensbury WARR 27 Sep.

Alder Flycatcher: last Bowerman's Bog FULT 25 Sep, late.

Willow Flycatcher: Jefferson SCHO 3 Sep; Ft Ann WASH 14 Sep, only reports.

Least Flycatcher: max 4 Charleston MONT 7 Sep; last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Oct.

Eastern Phoebe: max 21 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 25 Sep.

Northern Shrike: arr Putnam WASH 14 Nov.

Yellow-throated Vireo: last Schaghticoke RENS 26 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: last Ft Ann WASH 30 Oct.

Philadelphia Vireo: last Henry Hudson P ALBA 14 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: last Poestenkill RENS 3 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: last WMP 7 Nov, late.

Blue Jay: max 166 Champlain Canal WASH 23 Sep, migrants.

American Crow: max 1554 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 25 Oct.

Fish Crow: max 60 Kinderhook COLU 25 Sep.

Common Raven: max 8 Indian Head Wilderness Area GREE 20 Sep.
Horned Lark: max 110 Germantown COLU 17 Nov.
Tree Swallow: max 150 Nassau L RENS 6 Sep; last Ft Miller WASH 29 Oct.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 30 Stockport COLU 15 Sep; last 4 SNHP 3 Oct.
Bank Swallow: Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 1 Sep, only report.
Barn Swallow: max 12 Athens GREE 4 Sep; OCA 9-10 Nov, late.
Black-capped Chickadee: max 64 Kinderhook Creek Pres RENS 18 Oct.
BOREAL CHICKADEE (R8): Amy's P WARR 22 Nov (GC), *intro*.
Tufted Titmouse: max 24 Boice Fam P SARA 28 Nov.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 58 Kinderhook Creek Pres RENS 18 Oct; at least 181 reports of 10+.
White-breasted Nuthatch: max 17 SNHP 27 Nov.
Brown Creeper: max 8 Hudson Pointe NP WARR 10 Nov.
House Wren: last Glenville SCHE 29 Oct.
Winter Wren: max 7 APBP 9 Oct.
Marsh Wren: max 9 Clemons Marsh WASH 12 Sep; last VFNHP 24 Oct.
Carolina Wren: max 12 Normanskill Farm ALBA 14 Nov.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 3 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 5 Sep; last Peebles I SP ALBA 1 Oct.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 47 New Lebanon COLU 9 Oct.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 38 APBP 9 Oct.
Eastern Bluebird: max 60 OCA 6 Nov.
Veery: max 9 Corkscrew Rail Trail RENS 5 Sep; last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 25 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: Brant Lake WARR 26 Sep; Siegel-Kline Kill Cons Area COLU 30 Sep.
Swainson's Thrush: 65 Green Acres Farm COLU 26 Sep, *NFC*; last Summit SCHO 23 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 14 APBP 14 Oct.
Wood Thrush: last Siegel-Kline Kill Cons Area 17 Oct.
American Robin: max 680 OCA 11 Nov.
Gray Catbird: max 42 Corkscrew Rail Trail COLU 15 Sep.
Brown Thrasher: max 4 FR 17 Sep; last Catskill GREE 25 Oct.
SAGE THRASHER: OCA 4-18 Nov (BS), *intro*.

Northern Mockingbird: max 7 Rensselaer Tech Park RENS 5 Oct.
Bohemian Waxwing: 33 Putnam WASH 23 Nov; 3 Hague Town Beach WARR 10 Nov.
Cedar Waxwing: max 214 OCA 6 Nov.
House Sparrow: max 72 Corning Riverfront ALBA 20 Sep.
American Pipit: max 100 Coeymans ALBA 9 Oct.
Evening Grosbeak: max 97 Summit SCHO 28 Nov; arr mult loc 22 Oct.
Pine Grosbeak: max 25 Queensbury WARR 29 Nov; arr Hague Town Beach WARR 11 Nov.
House Finch: max 40 Putnam WASH 5 Oct.
Purple Finch: max 35 FR 17 Sep.
Common Redpoll: max 90 E Chatham COLU 19 Nov; arr mult loc 4 Nov.
Hoary Redpoll: 2 BMB 22 Nov.
Red Crossbill: max 24 SNHP 29 Nov.
White-winged Crossbill: max 25 Amy's P WARR 25 Nov; arr Archer Vly SARA 14 Nov.
Pine Siskin: max 325 Shaker Museum, Mt Lebanon COLU 12 Oct.
American Goldfinch: max 82 Ghent COLU 15 Oct.
Snow Bunting: max 55 Kingsbury WASH 20 Nov; arr mult loc 25 Oct.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 10 FR 17 Sep; last APBP 21 Nov.
American Tree Sparrow: arr Mosher Marsh Pres MONT 27 Oct; max 55 Kingsbury WASH 25 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: max 58 New Lebanon COLU 16 Sep.
Clay-colored Sparrow: 2 Knickerbocker Rd, Schaghticoke RENS 23 Oct.
Field Sparrow: max 16 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 9 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: max 4 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 22 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: max 20 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 9 Oct.
Grasshopper Sparrow: Overmountain Cons Area COLU 6 Nov, late.
NELSON'S SPARROW (R8): 22 Oct Niskayuna SCHE, *intro*.
Fox Sparrow: arr Corkscrew Rail Trail RENS 9 Oct; max 6 Hudson Pointe NP WARR 10 Nov.
NELSON'S SPARROW (R8): Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail, Ferry Rd brdg SCHE 22-23 Oct (NL), *intro*.

Song Sparrow: max 75 Kinderhook COLU 12 Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 9 Sep; max 10 Charlton SARA 26 Sep; last FR 24 Oct.

Swamp Sparrow: max 25 Hutton Sq Rd SL WASH 5 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: max 240 Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 9 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr Yankee Hill Lock MONT 21 Sep; max 24 SNHP 11 Oct.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 140 Ft Ann WASH 30 Oct.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (R8): Overmountain Cons Area COLU 21 Oct (MS), *intro*.

Bobolink: max 200 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 3 Sep; last Schaghticoke RENS 20 Sep.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 5 Perth FULT 26 Sep; last Florida MONT 23 Oct.

Baltimore Oriole: last Glenville SCHE 25 Sep; a few stragglers thereafter.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 5000 Stillwater Riverfront P SARA 24 Oct.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 700 New Baltimore GREE 8 Oct.

Rusty Blackbird: 42 BMB 15 Oct; 30 East Bay WMA WASH 21 Oct.

Common Grackle: max 11000 Stillwater Riverfront P SARA 24 Oct.

Ovenbird: max 7 Hague WARR 13 Sep; last Bolton Landing WARR 11 Oct.

Northern Waterthrush: last FR 19 Sep.

Blue-winged Warbler: last Coxsackie GREE 9 Sep.

"Brewster's" Warbler: Schaghticoke RENS 14 Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: last APBP 22 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: max 14 FR 4 Oct; last Champlain Canal Trail SARA 3 Nov, late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr Schaghticoke RENS 25 Sep; last FR 1 Nov.

Nashville Warbler: last Dresden WASH 24 Oct.

Mourning Warbler: last Overmountain Cons Area COLU 14 Oct.

Common Yellowthroat: max 23 Corkscrew Rail Trail RENS 5 Sep; last RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 8 Nov.

American Redstart: last New Lebanon COLU 1 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: last Saratoga Spa SP SARA 5 Oct.

Northern Parula: last FR 31 Oct, late.

Magnolia Warbler: last three loc 22 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: last Clemons Marsh WASH 5 Oct.

Blackburnian Warbler: last L Taghkanic SP COLU 11 Oct.

Yellow Warbler: last Normanskill Farm ALBA 17 Oct, late.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last WMP 7 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: last New Baltimore GREE 23 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Charlton SARA 17 Oct.

Palm Warbler: last 2 OCA 7 Nov.

Pine Warbler: last Voorheesville ALBA 10 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 70 Cobleskill Res SCHO 17 Oct.

Prairie Warbler: last Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 26 Sep.

Black-throated Green Warbler: last FR 1 Nov, late.

Canada Warbler: last FR 21 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: last Schaghticoke RENS 7 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: last VFNHP 8 Oct.

Northern Cardinal: max 23 FR 12 Nov.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Summit SCHO 1-10 Nov, late feeder bird.

Indigo Bunting: last Zim Smith Trail SARA 27 Oct, late.

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REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The fall season began with heavy rain on 1-2 September. That rain was followed by a dry period lasting until the very end of the month. On 29-30 September, heavy rain occurred again, breaking the temporary drought. There was a high of 85° F on 8 September and a

low of 31° on 21 September, 1.4° above average. Including the above noted storms, precipitation was below average with 3.32", 0.96" below normal. October was cooler, but it continued to be dry. There was a high of 77° on 10 October and a low of 23° on 31 October. There was an average of 3.38" of precipitation overall, 1.09" below normal. Higher elevations received up to two inches of snow on 31 October. November started out cold with up to two inches of snow, again in the higher elevations, on 2 November. It warmed quickly with record setting high temps by the end of the first week. That pattern of highs and lows continued through the month. There was a high of 78° on 9 November but another quick turnaround saw a low of 18° on 19 November. The average temp was 6° above normal. Precipitation was 3.07", 0.4" below average.

As is typical of the fall season, many great birds were found. This year, Region 9 certainly got its share.

There were few reports of interesting waterfowl for most of the period, but there was a nice showing the last week of November. Gail Benson and Tom Burke found a returning Greater White-fronted Goose at Bowman Avenue Pond in Westchester on 27 November. An exceptional report occurred on 24 November when Bruce Nott found an adult **Barnacle Goose** at the Camel Farm in Orange County. As birders assembled to see the bird, it became apparent there was a family group of five individuals, four immature hybrid birds (Barnacle x Cackling) following an adult Barnacle. Making the event even more interesting was the fact that this group had been reported several other times this fall—first in Massachusetts, later in Connecticut, and finally in Orange County. They continued through the end of the period. Cackling Geese also made a late showing with just a few reported in the Region. Two Tundra Swans were found at the Camel Farm on 30 November by Matt VanDyk.

New York State experienced a nice incursion of **Rufous Hummingbirds** this fall, with two of them occurring in our Region. On 20 November Bob Yunick banded an immature female Rufous at an undisclosed location in Putnam County. The bird had been present at a feeder since 10 October. On 25 October, Alayna Vreeland spotted an adult male Rufous Hummingbird coming to her feeder, which she had been maintaining just in case of such an occurrence. Several birders were able to see the bird, a particularly vibrant individual. Most of our Rufous Hummingbirds are immatures, but this adult male glowed in the sunlight!

As has become the norm, Sandhill Cranes were reported in the Orange County Black Dirt Region throughout the period. Migrating Sandhills in Westchester County were seen on several occasions in November as well.

Once again, the fall shorebird showing in the Region was poor for at least the third year in a row, with American Golden-Plover setting an all-time low; a few appeared late in the season. The only Iceland Gull was spotted at Kingston Point on 3 November by Nelson Wilbury.

The adult **Brown Booby** at the Ashokan Reservoir continued through 16 September, drawing birders from around the Region, and the long-staying American White Pelican continued through 3 October, making a trip to the Ashokan Reservoir even more productive. Indeed, on 2 September, while birders were enjoying these rarities, two Western Willets were found, making three Regional rarities present there that day.

On 9 November, Linda Scrima photographed two Cattle Egrets flying north over the platform at Wallkill River NWR. Almost certainly the same two birds were found at Croton Point Park on 12 November by Charlie Roberto. This time the birds remained throughout the day to the delight of many.

On 5 November Richard Ward found an immature Snowy Owl at Edith G. Read Nature Sanctuary in Westchester County. The bird was seen several times that day, but not

relocated afterward. A second Snowy Owl was seen at a restricted location in Westchester as well.

On 27 October Tom Warren found a **Tropical Kingbird** in Dobbs Ferry, Westchester County. The bird was quite vocal, its calls recorded by Julian Amsellem, ruling out other species of kingbirds. The bird continued the following day, attracting birders from all over New York for this first state record.

On 17 October, Cedric Martin photographed a **Fork-tailed Flycatcher** on the bike path at the Ashokan Reservoir. Word did not get out until late in the day. The next morning, several birders were present when the bird was relocated by Lance Verderame. The bird was seen off and on over the next two hours, when it suddenly disappeared and, despite considerable effort, was not seen again. This was a first record for Ulster County and for Region 9.

It was a good fall for winter finches, Pine Siskins, Red Crossbills, Evening Grosbeaks and Common Redpolls all coming on the scene early and in good numbers. Dickcissels were seen throughout the period.

CHESTNUT RIDGE HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	6 Oct	10	14 Oct	41
Turkey Vulture	12 Sep	409	25 Oct	3423
Osprey	26 Aug	22	12 Sep	248
Golden Eagle	27 Oct	2	27 Oct	14
No. Harrier	5 Sep	12	23 Sep	138
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8 Sep	245	8 Oct	2123
Cooper's Hawk	1 Sep	54	9 Oct	473
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	28 Aug	10	19 Sep	233
Red-shouldered Hawk	19 Sep	98	4 Nov	802
Broad-winged Hawk	26 Aug	1159	18 Sep	3140
Red-tailed Hawk	5 Sep	22	3 Nov	207
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	26 Aug	35	23 Sep	368
Merlin	30 Aug	8	8 Oct	90
Peregrine Falcon	28 Aug	5	15 Oct	37
Unidentified				124
Total including unidentified:				11,461

HOOK MOUNTAIN HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	4 Sep	41	31 Oct	201
Turkey Vulture	12 Sep	152	10 Oct	972
Osprey	22 Aug	30	9 Sep	302
Golden Eagle	17 Oct	2	3 Nov	8

No. Harrier	26 Aug	7	10 Oct	124
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1 Sep	140	9 Oct	1357
Cooper's Hawk	31 Aug	18	24 Oct	223
No. Goshawk	25 Oct	1	25 Oct	1
Bald Eagle	26 Aug	15	19 Sep	291
Red-shouldered Hawk	13 Sep	77	31 Oct	390
Broad-winged Hawk	26 Aug	2618	19 Sep	4590
Red-tailed Hawk	11 Sep	24	18 Nov	269
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	26 Aug	45	12 Sep	370
Merlin	31 Aug	6	12 Oct	66
Peregrine Falcon	11 Sep	3	11 Oct	27
Unidentified				16
Total including unidentified:				9207

MOUNT PETER HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	15 Sep	23	14 Oct	109
Turkey Vulture	4 Sep	204	27 Oct	850
Osprey	30 Aug	21	18 Sep	121
Golden Eagle	17 Oct	1	17 Oct	1
No. Harrier	4 Sep	4	11 Oct	42
Sharp-shinned Hawk	30 Aug	70	9 Oct	1048
Cooper's Hawk	3 Sep	8	10 Oct	85
No. Goshawk	0	0	0	0
Bald Eagle	30 Aug	14	14 Sep	177
Red-shouldered Hawk	3 Sep	21	25 Oct	149
Broad-winged Hawk	30 Aug	1357	18 Sep	3864
Red-tailed Hawk	6 Oct	208	3 Nov	465
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	0	0
Am. Kestrel	3 Sep	14	18 Sep	121
Merlin	6 Sep	3	14 Sep	20
Peregrine Falcon	16 Sep	2	18 Sep	13
Unidentified				30
Total including unidentified:				7095

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ABBREVIATIONS

AP – Apollo Plaza, SULL; **AR** – Ashokan Res, ULST; **BCF** – Blue Chip Farm, ULST; **BFAS** – Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary, DUTC; **BMSP** – Bear Mt 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; **HWCV** – Hillside Woods and Children's Village, WEST; **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; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MF** – Muscoot Farm, WEST; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **MPHW** – Mount Peter Hawk Watch, ORAN; **MRCC** – Mariondale Retreat and Conference Center, WEST; **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; **RL** – Rhinecliff Landing, DUTC; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **RNC** – Rye Nature Center, WEST; **RR** – Rondout Res, SULL; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP, ORAN; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Road, ORAN; **SS** – Sleightsburg

Spit, ULST; **SSF** – Stewart State Forest, ORAN; **TBWMA** – Tivoli Bays WMA, DUTC; **THMUA** – Taconic-Hereford Multiple Use Area, DUTC; **WL** – Wickham L, ORAN; **WFPF** - West Point Foundry Pres, PUTN; **WRNWR** – Walkill R NWR, ORAN.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: 4 OCBDR 29 Oct (MZ); max 17 OCBDR 30 Nov (KMi, BN, JH).

Greater White-fronted Goose: Bowman Ave Pd WEST 27-30 Nov (GB, TB, TW, SM, mob).

Brant: 40 RSP 5 Oct (EC); 49 Cornwall Bay ORAN 8 Oct (BN); 20 Hudson Highlands SP PUTN 8 Oct (DA); max 11 EGR 9-10 Oct (GB, TB, AS, mob); 140 Swan L SULL 25 Oct (JH).

BARNACLE GOOSE (R9): Camel Farm ORAN 24-30 Nov (BN, LS, MZ, mob), *intro*.

Cackling Goose: 2 Abel's Pd DUTC 17 Oct (DvZ); max 2 Camel Farm 25-30 Nov (LS, MC, CC, mob); HVRT 25 Nov (MC, CC, LCh); Rudd Pd DUTC 28 Nov (CC).

BARNACLE GOOSE x Cackling Goose: 4 Camel Farm ORAN 24-30 Nov, imms with ad Barnacle Goose; *intro*.

Tundra Swan: 2 Camel Farm 30 Nov (MZ, LS, KMi, BN, JH).

Blue-winged Teal: max 7 GV 1-4 Sep (PS, FM); max 16 EMLH 1-2 Sep (DW, NS); MP 2-10 Sep (JH); 5 Kensico Res WEST 4 Sep (KS).

Green-winged Teal: max 18 GV 1-3 Sep (PS); 2 EMLH 1-2 Sep (DW, NS); 4 Beaver Pd ORAN 1 Sep (BN); max 3 Barrett Pd PUTN 2-3 Sep (NS, KB, CR).

Northern Pintail: 5 GV 16 Oct (PS); 14 KL 26 Oct (JH); max 14 BSWMA 26 Oct – 19 Nov (JH, SB); 7 WL 26 Oct (KA).

Canvasback: Abel's Pd 16-23 Oct (DK, BM, SJ, mob); max 65 MRCC 4-10 Nov (TW, JA, NZ, mob); Orange L ORAN 12 Nov (BN); 65 CPP 22 Nov (LT, KL); max 75 MRCC 4-30 Nov (TW, BS, JA, mob).

Redhead: max 5 Sylvan L DUTC 28 Oct- 3 Nov (CP, JD, KB, mob); MRCC 7 Nov (JA, TW); 3 MRCC 28 Nov (JAitchison).

Ring-necked Duck: 2 Sylvan L 22 Sep (CP); 3 CPP 4 Oct (LT); max 18 WL 11 Oct – 3 Nov (KA, AV, DB); max 138 Tompson P Pres DUTC 19 Oct – 11 Nov (CV, KF, CF, mob); max 31 BSWMA 21 Oct-30 Nov (JH, KMi, SB); 25 Orange L 26 Oct (BN, GB, TB); max 25 MRCC 4-11 Nov (TW, JA, CR, KMcG).

Surf Scoter: Cooper L ULST 11 Oct (FM, DF); EGR 15 Oct (GB, TB); 3 NR 25 Oct (PD, JH); 3 Orange L 25 Oct (BN, KMi, KMcD); AR 31 Oct (WT, DW); 2 MRCC 9 -12 Nov

(AS, CR, KB, mob); KL 13 Nov (JH, KMi, SB).

White-winged Scoter: 4 AR 9 Oct (SM); max 12 Cornwall Bay ORAN 22 Oct (DB, BN, CP); Lake Carmel PUTN 22 Oct (MM, SC, AM, NS); max 10 NR 25-26 Oct (JH, KMi, PD); 16 Rondout Res ULST 26 Oct (JH); max 4 White P MUA PUTN 31 Oct – 2 Nov (SC, MM, KB, mob); AR 6 Nov (RM, JC); 8 Rye Town P WEST 12 Nov (KB); EMLH 21 Nov (JY).

Black Scoter: 20 Cornwall Bay 22 Oct (BN); CPP 24 Oct (DC, NS); max 15 Round L ORAN 26 Oct (BN, KMi, KMcD); AR 30 Oct (RM); MRCC 9-11 Nov (KL, SK, LT, mob); 6 Charles Rider P ULST 20 Nov (WT).

Long-tailed Duck: RR ULST 26 Oct (JH); 9 Hyde P Train St DUTC 18 Nov (DC); WL 22 Nov (KA, KMi, MZ); max 4 EGR 24-30 Nov (KMcG, GB, KB, SR).

Red-breasted Merganser: 3 Dennings Pt SP DUTC 9 Oct (SI); Orange L 31 Oct (BN); Sylvan L 31 Oct (CP); CPP 28 Nov (MGr).

Ruddy Duck: 2 PP 5 Sep (CW); 5 KL 2 Oct (JH); GV 2-4 Oct (PS); max 11 Sylvan L 2-4 Oct (CP); max 16 Swan L 29 Oct -27 Nov (JH).

Horned Grebe: max 10 AR 9-25 Oct (SM, DW, JM, mob); 8 AR 9 Oct (SM); KL 13 Nov (SB, KMi, PD); CPP 15 Nov (NZ); Sylvan L 17 Oct (CP, BM, DvZ); PP 22 Nov (ME).

Red-necked Grebe: Orange L 8 Oct (BN, KMi, YH); AR 30 Oct – 6 Nov (RM, JCli, PM); Rye Playland WEST 29 Nov (JWallace). **Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** BSWMA 16 Sep (JH); max 2 OMRLMSP 16-17 Sep (JClo, DC); CPP 13-22 Nov (LT, SK, MBo, mob).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Hastings-on-Hudson WEST 9 Sep (KR); Prunyn Sactuary WEST 20 Sep (MGol); Hartwood SULL 21 Sep (VB).

Common Nighthawk: 300 Stone Ridge 2 Sep (AG); 102 BSWMA 3 Sep (PD, KMi); 11 New Platz 24 Sep ULST (DW); 11 WRNWR 25 Sep (LV); 2 MC 17 Oct (GB, TB).

Chimney Swift: 10 Maple Ridge ULST 3 Oct (AM); 2 PHP 8 Oct (KB); 10 Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch WEST 10 Oct (RA); 19 MC 3 Oct (GB, TB).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 9 Oct (RA).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: PUTN 10 Oct – 20 Nov (RY); Greenwood L ORAN 25-30 Oct (AV, LV, LS, KMcD, mob), *intro*.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Clapper Rail: max 7 MC 2 Sep -10 Nov (GB, TB, NS, mob).

Virginia Rail: BSWMA 7-29 Sep (NS, GB, TB, SB, mob); Orange Heritage Trail ORAN 10 Oct (SC, MM, KB); Yorktown Bike Path Wetlands WEST 3-28 Sep (SR, PC, SK); Millbrook School Rd DUTC 20-22 Sep (DK); II 13 Nov (ME).

Sora: Muscoot Res WEST 25 Oct (JA).

Common Gallinule: max 5 WRNWR 3-22 Sep (TW, MRy, SC, mob); BSWMA 24 Sep (SB); Muscoot Res 24 Oct (SR, NS, SC, mob), late.

American Coot: EMLH 2 Oct (DF, JSu); 3 SHSR 6 Oct (KA); Sylvan L 10 Oct (DvZ, BM, CP, mob); max 36 NCR 20-21 Oct (MM, KL); 27 BSWMA 21-30 Oct (JH, SB, KMi, PD); 95 NCR 12 Nov (LO).

Sandhill Crane: max 6 OCBDR 2 Sep-30 Nov (KMi, SC, JM, mob); 2 RSP 18 Sep (FG); 3 RLSP 27 Oct (AW); 9 CPP 20 Nov (JCI); 4 CPP 22 Nov (RDo).

American Oystercatcher: MC 3 Sep (VH); 5 Five Islands P WEST 6-17 Sept (VH, BN).

Black-bellied Plover: WRNWR 3 Sep (TW); MC 10 Sep (GB, TB); max 7 OCBDR 29 Oct-1 Nov (MZ, KMi, FP, mob); CPP 1 Nov (AS, DvZ, VL, LC); max 4 MC 10 Sep-20 Nov (GB, EC, KMcG, mob).

American Golden-Plover: Missionlands Rd ORAN 12 Sep (JB, KMi, KMcD, mob); AR 23 Sep (RM); max 2 AR 14-23 Oct (PS, FM); max 3 PP 23-26 Oct (CW, JT); max 4 OCBDR 30-31 Oct (BN, MZ, KMi); AR 1 Nov (JClI).

Semipalmated Plover: 5 Titicus Res WEST 1 Sep (SC); max 3 PP 2-20 Sep (CW, LP, CC, mob); max 5 MC 2-24 Sep (GB, TB); 13 Sep Harbor Square P WEST (LT); Swan L SULL 13 Oct (JH, SB).

Sanderling: max 3 New Rochelle WEST (KC); max 5 PP 6, 8 Sep (LP); Dobbs Ferry Landing WEST 7 Sep (TW); 6 AR 30 Oct (PS, RM).

Ruddy Turnstone: PP 5 Sep (CW); 5 Dobbs Ferry Landing 7 Sep (TW); EMLH 9 Sep (JY); LNP 8 Nov (MBo).

Upland Sandpiper: CPP 10 Sep (GB, NG, SC).

Stilt Sandpiper: Camel Farm 6-7 Sep (MZ, BN, KA); Swan L 13-15 Oct (JH, SB, PD).

Dunlin: 5 BSWMA 20 Sep (JH); WRNWR 10 Oct (SC, MM, KB); MC 10 Oct (SR, LT); 6 BSWMA 27-30 Oct (JH); 3 Rt 17K Pd ORAN 27 Oct (KMcD); max 15 OCBDR 29-31 Oct (MZ, KMi, FP, mob); max 4 MC 10 Oct – 20 Nov (SR, LT, GB, mob).

Purple Sandpiper: 3 New Rochelle 31 Oct (MBo, JL); max 5 EGR 15-26 Nov (JW, KMcG, GB); max 5 Rye Town P 25-27 Nov (KB, SR, PC).

Baird's Sandpiper: MP 1 Sep (JH).

Least Sandpiper: 2 MC 1 Oct (GB, TB), late.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 Beaver Pd (MZ, BT, LS, KMi).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: CPP 9-10 Sep (RL, AS, SK, mob); 2 Skinner Ln ORAN 13 Sep (MZ, KMi, GB, TB, mob).

Pectoral Sandpiper: MP 2 Sep (JH); OCBDR 2 Sep (BN); 12 AR 2 Sep (PS, AM); max 4 Camel Farm 5-12 Sep (SC, BN, MZ, mob); MP 8 Sep (JH); max 2 Barrett Pd PUTN 2 Sep (CR, KB, YH, mob); 4 MP 10 Sep (JH); 5 Swan L 13 Oct (JH, SB); max 7 OCBDR 29 Sep-1 Nov (MZ, BN, KMi, mob); Orange L 9-13 Nov (BN).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 63 AP 2 Sep (KMi, JH); 37 MC 9 Sep (GB, TB); max 2 MC 10-13 Oct (GB, SR, LT).

Western Sandpiper: MC 9-10 Sep (GB, TB).

Short-billed Dowitcher: GV 8-13 Sep (PS, RM, JP, WT).

Willet: 2 AR 2 Sep (SK, RM, WT, PS).

Parasitic Jaeger: EGR 27 Sep (GB, TB).

Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Orange L 12 Oct (BN); MP 16 Oct (JH); PP 21 Oct (CW); Sylvan L 28 Oct (MK); 3 Swan L 1 Nov (JH); 15 Wickham Town P ORAN 12 Nov (LS); 4 Lake Carmel PUTN 12 Nov (AM); 7 KP 12 Nov (DW).

Laughing Gull: max 130 MC 1-16 Sep (GB, TB, MT, mob); NWF 7 Sep (BN, JCa); 4 CPP 8 Sep (LT); 55 EGR 27 Sep (GB, TB); 3 EGR 17 Nov (GB, TB); EGR 27 Nov (TB, GB).

Iceland Gull: KP 3 Nov (NW).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: AR 13-16 Nov (PS, WT, RM).

Caspian Tern: max 7 AR 6-9 Sep (DS, ES, KVD, mob); PP 28 Sep, 1 Oct (SM, ME); 2 Meadow and Rowley's Bridge Trail WEST 28 Sep (TW, JA); 6 Plum Pt ORAN 2 Oct (BN, KA, KMi).

Common Tern: max 20 MC 1-16 Sep (JSe, GB, EM); EGR 27 Sep (GB, TB).

Forster's Tern: max 18 EGR 27-28 Sep (GB, TB).

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: Kencisco Res WEST 2, 14 Oct (KS); AR 18 Oct – 16 Nov (DvZ, AP, WT); Lake Tappan ROCK 17 Oct (ME); TBWMA 5 Nov (DC); MRCC 9-17 Nov (AS, KB, CR, mob); KL 13 Nov (JH, SB, KMi, PD); max 12 EGR 11-28 Nov (GB, MT, KMcG, mob).

Common Loon: max 6 AR 1-16 Sep (DO, MZ, JCl, mob); Minnewaska Trail ULST 10 Sep (CK); 5 NR 2 Oct (JH), widespread reports.

BROWN BOOBY: AR 1-16 Sep (PS, WT, FM, mob), *intro*.

Great Cormorant: EGR 1-2 Oct (GB, TB); 2 EGR 11 Oct (GB, TB); Lake Carmel 27 Oct-3 Nov (NS, AM, SC, MM).

American White Pelican: AR 1 Sep- 3 Oct (DT, SK, SR, mob), *intro*.

American Bittern: Maple Ridge ULST 1 Sep (AM); Fly Pd DUTC 3 Sep (CV).

Least Bittern: 3 SHSR 2 Sep (DH); Deans Bridge North Salem WEST 10 Sep (BN).

Great Egret: max 18 MC 1-16 Sep (GB, TB); max 18 Esopus Meadows Pres ULST 6-16 Sep (BS, DT, FM, mob), lower than usual numbers, but widespread.

Snowy Egret: max 9 MC 2 Sep (GB, TB); 2 WRNWR 3 Sep (TW); EGR 6-9 Nov (NG, GB, TB, mob); MC 6 Nov (NG); EGR 6-12 Nov (GB, TB).

Little Blue Heron: Twin Lakes P WEST 4 Sep (SO); EMLH 7 Sep (FW); MC 6 Nov (NG).

Tricolored Heron: 10 Sep Mohegan L WEST (LT).

Cattle Egret: 2 WRNWR 9 Nov (LS); 2 CPP 12 November (CR, LT, SK, mob), *intro*.

Black-crowned Night-heron: WRNWR 1 Sep (KA); max 2 Harbor Square P WEST 13-18 Sep (LT); PP 8 Sep (SM); max 9 EGR 10-27 Sep (GB, TB, JCh, CM); max 12 MC 2-15 Sep (GB, NS, VH).

Yellow-crowned Night-heron: CPP 4-5 Sep (JP, RL); 6 Five Islands P WEST 6 Sep (VH); Hommocks Conservation Area WEST 7, 16 Sep (AJ).

Osprey: White Pd MUA 31 Oct (SC, MM); Madam Brett P DUTC 1-3 Nov (HM); EGR 1 Nov (GL, KMcG); EGR 10 Nov (GB, TB); CPP 16, 20 Nov (TW, MGr). See also hawkwatch charts above.

Golden Eagle: I 84 Overlook ORAN 3 Nov (AA); HVRT 24-25 Nov (DK, MC, CC, LC), See also hawkwatch charts above.

Northern Goshawk: LNP 15 Nov (MB); See also hawkwatch charts above.

Bald Eagle to Red-tailed Hawk: See hawkwatch charts above.

Rough-legged Hawk: BMSP 10 Nov (CW); Yorktown Heights WEST 14 Nov (JA); OCBDR 16-27 Nov (KMi, MZ, LS); I 84 Overlook 21 Nov (AA).

American Kestrel and Merlin: See hawkwatch charts above.

Peregrine Falcon: Widespread reports. See hawkwatch charts above.

Snowy Owl: EGR 5 Nov (RW, JCh, GB, SC); Hillview Res 25 Nov (SC), *intro*.

Short-eared Owl: Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 8 Oct (RA); max 10 SGNWR 10-11 Oct (RStob, PD, mob); MC 17 Oct (GB, TB).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: 12-13 Sep Barryville SULL (MS); Sloan Gorge ULST 7, 20 Nov (PS); Cooper's L Woodstock ULST 26 Nov (PS).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Lasdon P and Arboretum WEST 3 Sep (CE), now breeding and occurring regularly in Westchester.

Red-headed Woodpecker: MC 14 Sep (GB, TB); Dobbs Ferry WEST 11 Oct (JW); Pine St PUTN 1 Nov (MRI).

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

TROPICAL KINGBIRD: Dobbs Ferry WEST 27-28 Oct (TW, JA, LV, mob), *intro*.

Eastern Kingbird: HNA Palisades Conference Center ROCK 29 Sep (MT), late.

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER: AR 17-18 Oct (CM, LV, JH, PS, mob), *intro*.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Kingston 13 Sep (MDe); Yorktown Bike Path Wetlands WEST 22 Sep (KL); Kendridge Farm ORAN 4 Oct (AL); Stoney Kill Farm EEC DUTC 12-26 Sep (CK).

Northern Shrike: Awosting L ULST 28 Nov (DN).

Blue Headed Vireo: Myers Pres WEST 21 Nov (CR).

Philadelphia Vireo: max 2 BSWMA 6-15 Sep (PD, SB, KMi, mob); WRNWR 3-9 Sep (KA, LS, LV); RSP 3-9 Sep (SK, SR, AS, mob); MC 14, 21 Sep (TBu, GBen); EMLH 16 Sep (JY, FM, DF); MC 12 Oct (GBen, TBi); 2 Supreme Ct Saugerties ULST 20 Sep (RM).

Warbling Vireo: CFSP 20 Sep (SR, SC), many late reports in Sep.

Tree Swallow: 65 BSWMA 15 Sep (JH, SB); 3 Weston Rd ULST 10 Oct (GF); max 12

BSWMA 3-10 Oct (SB, JH, PD, mob); max 100 Orange L 3-9 Oct (BN).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Mahopac PUTN 2 Sep (NS), first of many ongoing reports.

Sedge Wren: Kukuk Ln ULST 3 Oct (FM, DF).

Marsh Wren: BSWMA 4 Oct (JH, SB); max 3 GV 1 Sep -5 Oct (PS, RM); max 2 MC 1 Sep - 1 Oct (GB, NS, FG).

Veery: MC 21 Oct (SC), late.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Upper Brook Rd ORAN 7-15 Sep (KA, BN); Dobbs Ferry 24 Sep (JA); 2 North Highland P PUTN 29 Sep (CR).

Swainson's Thrush: max 8 BSWMA 7-15 Sep (JH, SB, KMi, mob), widespread.

Wood Thrush: HWCV 10 Oct (JA); Hastings-on-Hudson 10 Oct (JW); Garrison PUTN 11 Nov (RB).

American Pipit: max 12 GV 12 Sep- 10 Oct (PS, RM); max 36 Stoney Kill Farm EEC 19 Sep-17 Oct (DvZ, CP, BM, mob); max 17 BSWMA 23 Sep-21 Oct (JH, SB, KMi, mob); max 45 CPP 18-25 Sep (LT, GB, SM, mob); 14 SGNWR 20 Oct (RH).

Evening Grosbeak: 3 Campbell Hall ORAN 24 Oct (JF); 6 Roscoe SULL 28 Oct (MGor); 10 Lake Osiris Rd ORAN 31 Oct (BF); 11 Pine Plains DUTC 31 Oct (DvZ, AS); 11 BSWMA 1 Nov (SB); 6 Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 1 Nov (RA).

Purple Finch: 10 BFAS 15 Sep (JC, MK); max 5 PHP 16-23 Sep (KV, SR, DvZ); max 8 Stoney Kill Farm EEC 12 Sep-5 Oct (DC, BM, AM); 11 BSWMA 5 Oct (JH); 5 Pruyin Sanctuary 5 Oct (AS), widespread.

Common Redpoll: 20 Stone Ridge 7 Nov (DN); max 14 Stone House ULST 8-30 Nov (ER, PM); 20 Woodard Rd SULL 9 Nov (JH); Pruyin Sanctuary 14, 21 Nov (SC); 50 Resnick Rd SULL 21 Nov (NH); 4 RLSP 24 Nov (ME); max 200 Gabel Rd SULL 27 Nov (JH), *intro*.

Red Crossbill: max 7 Merriwald SULL 7 Sep - 29 Nov (NH, JH); max 3 Rt 42 Forestburgh SULL 10 Oct (NH, PD, SB); Hartwood 20 Oct (VB); Cold Spring DUTC 3 Nov (SC, MM); 3 Boxbaum Rd ORAN 8 Nov (RSton); 10 EMLH 21 Nov (JY, DvZ, RDa, mob); 4 Big Hill ROCK 15 Nov (DP); 6 Reservoir #3 ORAN 21 Nov (MZ); Saugerties ULST 22 Nov (PS); Res #3 28 Nov ORAN (MZ). Widespread reports.

White-winged Crossbill: Woodstock ULST 14 Nov (PS).

Pine Siskin: Liberty SULL 3 Sep (PLB); Teatown Reservation WEST 7 Sep (SR, SK, KL); 2 Forestburgh SULL 27 Sep (NH); Catskill P ULST 30 Sep (PS); Mountain View Rd DUTC 30 Sep (KB); 60 Forestburgh 5 Oct (JH); max 120 BSWMA 8-9 Oct (JH, SB, LV).

Lapland Longspur: CPP 23-25 Sep (RL, SK, SR, mob); Davenport Farm ULST 23 Oct (PS); max 3 OCBDR 31 Oct (MZ, LS); 2 Long Rd SULL 31 Oct (JH); CPP 4 Nov (TW); Overlook P DUTC 4-5 Nov (CF, DC, DvZ, mob); Davenport Farm 21 Nov (PS); max 3 OCBDR 26-30 Nov (LS, BN, DT, mob).

Snow Bunting: max 2 Posquillo Creekside Rd ULST 10, 17 Oct (PS); max 7 BSWMA 1 Nov (JH, SB); 4 Smith Rd 2 Nov (JH); 9 Stone Ridge ULST 2 Nov (SW); max 10 OCBDR 31 Oct -10 Nov (LS, MZ, BN, FP), max 31 CPP 31 Oct - 13 Nov (NG, SK, GB, mob); 13 Davenport Farm 21 Nov (PS).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Vesper Sparrow: Goshen ORAN 25 Sep (BT); Hurley Mt Rd ULST 26 Sep (PS, RM); Stoney Kill Farm EEC 9-10 Oct (KB, DvZ, BM, mob); BSWMA 11, 15, 21 Oct (JH, SB); max 2 CPP 14 Oct (RL, KMcG, AS, mob).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Stony Kill Farm EEC 18-22 Sep (CC, DS, ES, mob); PITN 1 Oct (BN, LS); EGR 9-11 Oct (GB, TB).

Nelson's Sparrow: EGR 30 Sep (GB, TB); MC 1-19 Oct (GB, TB, PC, KMcG, mob).

Saltmarsh Sparrow: MC 7-19 Oct (PC, SR, LT, mob).

Grasshopper Sparrow: Ulster County Fairgrounds ULST 25 Sep (AP).

Lincoln's Sparrow: BSWMA 15 Sep (SB); CPP 15-26 Sep (LT, AS, PC, mob); max 7 WRNWR 24-26 Sep (LS); 3 CPP 4 Oct (AS, SW, CA); max 4 RSP 12 Sep-4 Oct (JA, RL, TW, mob); BSWMA 3 Nov (JH).

White-crowned Sparrow: LNP 19 Sep (JR); Stoney Kill Farm EEC 21-22 Sep (KB, DvZ, SR), many early reports.

Rusty Blackbird: CIOES 19 Sep (JA); max 70 BSWMA 10 Oct- 3 Nov (SB, KMi, JH, mob); 5 Barrett Pd (SC, MM, KB); 21 Orange L 26 Oct (BN, GB, TB); max 80 BSWMA 1-7 Nov (SB, JH); 4 SGNWR 14 Nov (KMcD).

Worm-eating Warbler: Kendridge Farm 1-3 Sep (BN); Pinecliff Sanctuary WEST 4 Sep (MGol).

Blue-winged Warbler: BSWMA 11 Sep (LV); RSP 15 Sep (PC); HWCC 15 Sep (SC).

Tennessee Warbler: max 8 RSP 1-12 Sep (GB, AS, LT, mob); CPP 1-11 Sep (KB, AS, mob); CPP 1-8 Nov (SR, KB, LT, mob).
Orange-crowned Warbler: Forestburgh 16 Sep (NH); Dobbs Ferry Landing 25 Sep (JA); BSWMA 3 Oct (LV); CPP 31 Oct (TJ, GL); Stone Ridge ULST 7 Nov (DN).
Connecticut Warbler: WRNWR 8 Sep (LS); Posquiello Creekside Rd 16 Sep (PS); Ulster P ULST 19 Sep (DT); WRNWR 3-4 Oct (RSton, LV, LS); WPPF 5 Oct (SC, GB, TB, AV).
Mourning Warbler: max 2 WRNWR 2-25 Sep (KA, LS, LV, mob); RLSP 8 Sep (VH); Meadow and Rowley's Bridge Trail 28 Sep (JA); max 2 Stoney Kill Farm EEC 12-14 Sep (SR, KB, DvZ, DC); WPPF 6-9 Oct (OG, CR, AV, mob).
Hooded Warbler: Hook Mt ROCK 5 Sep (ME); BSWMA 8 Sep (JH); Wonder L SP PUTN 8 Sep (SC, MM); Kendridge Farm 12 Sep (BN); 2 DRT 27 Sep (SI, LK).
Cape May Warbler: max 3 Hook Mt (TB, KB, ME); 2 RSP 7 Sep (NS, VH).
Bay-breasted Warbler: BSWMA 13 Sep (SB); Muscoot Farm WEST 4 Sep (KMCA); Esopus Bend Nature Pres ULST 12 Sep (DF).

Blackburnian Warbler: Lamont Campus ROCK 2 Oct (LP); Ludlow Woods DUTC 2 Oct (DK).
Yellow Warbler: KP 11 Oct (DF); Orange L 12 Oct (BN).
Magnolia Warbler: BSWMA 4 Nov (SB, DB).
Blackpoll Warbler: CPP 31 Oct – 6 Nov (LT, SC, MM); Hyde P DUTC 13 Nov (DC).
Pine Warbler: CPP 7 Nov (JA, TW); Hillview Res WEST 5 Nov (SC); MRCC 9 Nov (KMCG).
Black-throated Green Warbler: MC 4 Nov (GB, TB).
Wilson's Warbler: Stoney Kill Farm EEC 7 Sep (CK); WRNWR 11 Sep (LS); CSFP 12 Sep (AM); BSWMA 11 Oct (JH, JS); EGR 19-21 Oct (GB, TB).
Scarlet Tanager: Kukok Lane 5 Oct (BN); Haverstraw Bay ROCK 6 Oct (AW); WPPF 10 Oct (PC, JC).
Dickcissel: CPP 5 Sep (KB, LT, MU, RS); Kukuk Ln 6 Sep (NW); Stoney Kill Farm EEC 16-18 Sep (CP, DvZ, DC, mob); Glynwood Farm PUTN 26 Sep (KB, SC); Hillview Res 2 Oct (SC); EGR 9-11 Oct (GB, TB, SR, mob); MC 11 Nov (SO); OMRLMSP 24-25 Nov (KF, CF, JClo).

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REGION 10—MARINE

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Precipitation totals were close to or often above their averages for the city and Long Island this season. Temperatures were seasonal in September but strayed above average as the season progressed, with the most pronounced variance in November. The only tropical storms passed through the Region in the summer.

Temp	Central Park			Islip		
	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Sep	68.8°	68.0°	+0.8°	67.0°	65.6°	+1.4°
Oct	57.9°	56.9°	+1.0°	56.8°	54.3°	+2.5°
Nov	52.9°	47.7°	+5.2°	49.4°	45.1°	+4.3°
Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Sep	3.94"	4.28"	-0.34"	3.87"	3.58"	+0.29"
Oct	5.05"	4.40"	0.65"	4.89"	3.78"	+1.10"
Nov	3.99"	4.02"	-0.03"	4.68"	3.67"	+1.01"

The COVID-19 pandemic that began early in the spring of 2020 continued to affect millions of people around the world, but in the Region cases dropped significantly over the summer. By the beginning of the period, many outdoor activities and limited indoor services had resumed, and the traffic looked to be close to its old vigor. Cases began increasing in October, mostly replacing the regular influenza, and continued an expected upward trend. At the end of the period, daily new cases in New York State were approaching the peak levels from April, but this time cases were being reported more or less evenly across the state instead of primarily downstate. The relatively good news was that local deaths were lagging and fewer hospitals were full. In contrast with the spring, birding coverage was strong in all counties.

Conditions around North America gave some early signals that this season could produce some unusual species or quantities in the Region. California saw its largest wildfire season in modern history by land burned, raging from spring through the fall, burning 4% of the entire state, and bringing visible ash to the Region in mid-September. An intense drought gripped the Southwest during this period. Entire flocks of insectivorous birds like swallows were found dead, fallen out of the sky, starved. Even some elevational migrants like Clark's Nutcracker were reported to move into the plains. Red-breasted Nuthatches flooded our Region in August, and Purple Finch followed shortly after. Winter finches began appearing ahead of schedule in September at known migration bottlenecks to our north like Tadoussac, Quebec. Even some of our traditionally more sedentary species showed signs of irruption in the Region, including chickadees south into the Region and Northern Cardinal north into Canada. Later in the season, a few rare alcids suggested potential movement of that group. Movement seemed to be the norm this season, but a few groups did not participate strongly, including shorebirds, northward dispersing waders, and southward dispersing northern forest owls.

The period begins just after peak shorebird migration, but there were few records of larger species like godwits and avocets, and all the sod farm shorebirds were once again in single-digit flocks. With the help of persistent advocates such as Andrew Baksh, the East Pond of Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge drained and evaporated a little better than last year and did have some flats for shorebirds. Peeps and yellowlegs seemed to take the most advantage of the flats while dowitchers were scarce. Although **Wilson's Phalarope** did appear on the pond, Red-necked Phalarope did not and was not reported in the Region this period. Jamaica Bay also produced a few non-shorebird highlights early in the season, such as one-day wonder **LeConte's Sparrow**, **Black-throated Gray Warbler**, and **Swainson's Hawk**. Another Swainson's Hawk was seen on Governors Island, along with a **Western Kingbird**. Another early fall surprise was a juvenile **Red-necked Grebe** in Gravesend Bay, Brooklyn.

The mornings with northwest wind that had been hard to catch in recent years seemed to return to a more normal level, and produced some wonderful flights along the coast. Several locations around coastal New York City, the barrier beaches of Long Island, and even the North Shore produced some great counts of migrants in morning flight, with hundreds of warblers on the right days in September. One species much more readily detected this way is **Connecticut Warbler**, and while this did occur this season it was less critical for detection, as the species was encountered repeatedly all around the Region! Individuals were spotted in no fewer than 40 locations across all seven counties, with a minority confiding and lingering for days. Other interesting volumes were a count of 220 Black-capped Chickadees migrating past Battery Harris at Fort Tilden and 49 Northern Cardinals migrating along at Robert Moses. The cardinals were following the route of southbound migrants, so it is not clear if these birds may have contributed to the Canada

influx. Raptors also showed well this season, with American Kestrel numbers on the upswing. The Fire Island Hawk watch tallied 1,155 kestrels, their highest since 2016, and before that 2002. The second highest seasonal Osprey count was also recorded from that location.

October brought the rarest species, including another **LeConte's Sparrow** at Conference House Park, and one **Henslow's Sparrow** each in Central Park and at Breezy Point. Other highlights from the latter location were a small flyby group of **Harlequin Duck**, and a **Sandhill Crane** migrating high over New York Bay. Rare flycatchers began appearing in the last days of October, including the first of several **Ash-throated Flycatchers**. An *Empidonax* that appeared in Kissena Park, Queens, was suggestive of Pacific-slope or Cordilleran Flycatcher. It was cooperative and both a fecal sample and audio recording of the position call were obtained. Labs have still been delayed by the pandemic and no analysis has been completed yet, but the recorded calls are apparently diagnostic for **Pacific-slope Flycatcher**. In Suffolk, both **Long-tailed** and **Pomarine Jaegers** were seen from Robert Moses and a **Rufous Hummingbird** attending feeders at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum was banded there. The individual highlight of this month and surely the season as well was a **Painted Redstart** encountered at Floyd Bennet Field. This celebrated vagrant was part of a small but clear push of this species north and east, with several others recorded around the eastern half of North America. Last and possibly least was a male **Yellow-headed Blackbird** encountered in Flushing, Queens with severely and seemingly intentionally damaged flight feathers. They are not sought as a pet as their song resembles a buzzsaw, but this one might have been marketed falsely as its more talented South American counterpart, the Yellow-hooded Blackbird. Sadly, the bird avoided rescue and disappeared.

November began with a single **Golden Eagle** that delighted observers from Inwood Hill Park in northern Manhattan to southern Staten Island on the 3rd. Inwood Hill also proved to be a good vantage for surprises moving along the Hudson River, including a **Brown Booby** and **Black-legged Kittiwake**. Another **Brown Booby** was observed around Quogue in Suffolk. A **Western Tanager** was cooperative at Green-wood Cemetery for nearly two weeks. A few species often absent from our waters, like **Dovekie**, **Thick-billed Murre**, and Bonaparte's Gull were reported ahead of a winter push. Another irruptive species, **Cave Swallow**, appeared in multiple locations after a quick window of southwesterlies, but only on the 17th and 18th. But the month was dominated by an exceptional finch flight. **Pine Siskins** were truly abundant across the Region, with nearly continuous flocks of several hundred flowing along the coast on some mornings. Extraordinarily rare in the Region for years, **Evening Grosbeaks** were not common but were the most accessible they have been in well over a decade. As the period wrapped up, **Red Crossbill** and **Common Redpoll** numbers crescendoed as well. White-winged Crossbill, Pine Grosbeak, and Hoary Redpoll irrupted too, but did not make it to the Region.

319 species were reported in the Region this season, up from 303 last autumn.

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ABBREVIATIONS

APP – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **Bpt** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **CHP** – Conference House P, RICH; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **CR** – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; **FBF** – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; **FIHW** – Fire Island Hawk Watch, Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **FKP** – Fresh Kills P, RICH; **FMCP** – Flushing Meadows-Corona P, QUEE; **FP** – Forest P, QUEE; **FT** – Fort Tilden, QUEE; **GwC** – Green-Wood Cemetery, KING; **HLSP** – Hempstead L SP, NASS; **HP** – Hook Pd, East Hampton, SUFF; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **KP** – Kissena P, QUEE; **MF** – Miller Field, RICH; **MP** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **OP** – Orient Pt CP, SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PL** – Point Lookout, NASS; **PlumbB** – Plumb Beach, KING; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **RI** – Randall’s I, NEWY; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **Sag** – Sagaponack Pd, SUFF; **SPCP** – Smith Pt CP/Old In, SUFF; **SMSP** – Sunken Meadow SP, SUFF; **SPP** – Southards Pd P, Babylon, SUFF; **TRCP** – Terrell R CP, Center Moriches, SUFF; **VCP** – Van Cortlandt P, BRON; **WPP** – Wolfe’s Pd P, RICH.

FIRE ISLAND HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture				0
Turkey Vulture				0
Osprey	8/26	142	9/14, 9/18	685
Golden Eagle				0
No. Harrier	8/20	23	10/8	182
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/12	25	10/17	166
Cooper’s Hawk	9/14	5	10/27	44
No. Goshawk	11/17	1	11/17	1
Bald Eagle	10/5	6	10/25	14
Red-shouldered Hawk	11/18	1	11/18	1
Broad-winged Hawk				0
Red-tailed Hawk	9/19	1		4
Rough-legged Hawk				0
Am. Kestrel	9/5	204	10/8	1,155
Merlin	9/5	153	9/18	1,099
Peregrine Falcon	9/13	28	10/8	187
Unidentified				9
Total including unidentified:				3,547

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Cackling Goose: Maratooka L, SUFF 16 Oct (JSep); MF 29 Oct – 29 Nov (ACi); RI 13-15 Nov (mob), Upper West Side, NEWY 3 Nov (RZ), migr; 2 Great Pd, SUFF 14 Nov (JSep); HP 14 Nov (JMi); Shorts Pd, SUFF 29 Nov (CGa, LGa, MGa).

Greater White-fronted Goose: WPP 3-8 Nov (mob); Northport, SUFF 11 Nov thru end of period (mob); HP 14-15 Nov (mob).

Mute Swan: max 130 JBWR (TH and KFe), down from fall R10 max 207 in in 2019.

Tundra Swan: aside from one individual at JBWR, all flocks near end of period: 10

Oregon Rd, SUFF 13 Nov (mob); 4 PBP 16 Nov (PHo); 11 FBF, 28 Nov (RPy); max 11 JBWR, 28 Nov (BBeL); 11 RMSP, 28 Nov (mob); 22 SPCP, 28 Nov (PDom, APe, DC) 5 Battery P, NEWY 29 Nov (TO).

Eurasian Wigeon: JBWR 11 Sep thru end of period (mob); West L, SUFF 25 Oct – 11 Nov (mob); APP 8 Nov thru end of period (mob), unusual location at Oakland L; Centerport, SUFF 11 Nov thru end of period.

Canvasback: arr 11 Oct: max 12 Eastport L, 22 Nov (EiS); beside flocks slowly gathering at 3 traditional sites (Flushing, QUEE; Northport, SUFF; Eastport, SUFF), only one other report: m JBWR, 25 Nov thru end of period (mob).

Redhead: max 13 Baisley Pd, QUEE 19 Nov (CFi), continued decline, down from fall 2018 R10 max of 65 there.

King Eider: imm m BPt area, 7 Nov thru end of period (mob); f FBF, 11-12 Nov (mob).

Harlequin Duck: 3 BPt 24 Oct (DG); max 7 PL 14 Nov thru end of period (mob).

Barrow's Goldeneye: f Frank Melville Mem P, 27 Nov thru end of period (R. Roses, mob), unusual freshwater location.

Northern Bobwhite: several reports in SUFF from known reintroductions but some in historical areas; 1 HLSF 12 Nov (EB), only representative of Nassau reintroduction efforts.

Ring-necked Pheasant: few individuals from RICH, KING, and SUFF; max 5 Saltmarsh Marine Nature Center, KING, 29 Sep (AVB).

Red-necked Grebe: juv Calvert Vaux P, KING 7 Sep (N. Peyrafitte); Spring Ck P, QUEE 10-11 Nov (mob); PlumbB and Dead Horse Pt, KING, 15 Nov thru end of period (DG, mob); BPt 17 Nov (DG); 2 Lemon Ck Pier, RICH, 22 Nov (ACi); 2 Gravesend Bay, KING 28 Nov thru end of period.

EARED GREBE (R10): JBWR 31 Oct thru end of period (mob).

Common Nighthawk: max 184 Stone Bridge Nighthawk Watch, SUFF 5 Sep (JosL, *et al.*), season total of 2,242.

Chimney Swift: max 650 KP 16 Sep (CFi).

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF, 30 Oct – 25 Nov (A. Raimondo, mob), banded by Anthony Hill of N. Am. Banding Council.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Sora: dep PBP 9 Nov (RAR, JMCM), late.

SANDHILL CRANE (R10): BPt 25 Oct (DG), flyover.

American Avocet: unlike the many last fall, only one: JBWR 29 Sep – 6 Oct (ABk, mob).
American Golden-Plover: no major flocks in Riv sod farms area for third year in a row: max 6 MF 29 Sep (RVe); RI 9-16 Oct (mob), first record for NEWY in eBird.

Hudsonian Godwit: 6 MB, 4 Sep SUFF (mob); 4 RMSP 17 Sep (ChC).

Marbled Godwit: OMNSA 9-11 Sep (MF, mob); max 2 RMSP 13-16 (MMb, ChC); JBWR 16 Sep (MCh).

Red Knot: max 97 Lido B, NASS 7 Sep (BF).

Baird's Sandpiper: Riv 1 Sep (AV); MB 6-10, 26 Sep RMSP (mob); 3-11 Sep (PSh, mob); JBWR 7, 18 Sep (mob); JBSP 11 Sep (SBI, MBB); RMSP; MP 12 Sep (UM).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: max 4 Oregon Rd, SUFF 1 Sep (JSep).

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 29 RMSP 13 Sep (MMb), low.

Long-billed Dowitcher: many, max 9 Amityville Ck, SUFF 15-17 Oct (MMb).

Wilson's Phalarope: Sag 5 Sep (NSt, ACo); JBWR 7, 12 Sep, 7-9 Oct (mob).

Red Phalarope: Stuyvescent Cove P, NEWY 12 Sep (mob), unusual loc.

POMARINE JAEGER (R10): RMSP 13 Nov (PJL, SSM), very rare from shore.

Parasitic Jaeger: away from South Shore locs: "pelagic" coordinates (40.953996, -73.423817), SUFF 12 Sep (BBo, BF, TS), rare in LI Sound; BPt 11 Nov (ABu), rare in NYC.

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: RMSP 23 Oct (SSM), very rare from shore.

Dovekie: offshore near MP, SUFF 29 Nov (FD), early.

THICK-BILLED MURRE: RMSP 25 Nov (TS), early, briefly stranded.

Razorbill: arr SPCP, SUFF 4 Nov (MMb).

Black-legged Kittiwake: IHP 14 Nov (NSo, NOr), unusual loc; max 26 SPCP 29 Nov (MMb).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 225 Napeague, SUFF 28 Nov (AnW).

Little Gull: RMSP 14 Nov (JGI).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 53 RMSP 12 Oct (MMb).

Caspian Tern: max 5 BPt 5 Sep (SSi); RI 6 Sep (TH).

Black Tern: JBWR 2 Sep (DG); OP 2 Sep (JSep); BPt 11 Sep (PPau); TRCP 20-21 Oct (NSt, PDo); JBSP 10 Nov (KJK), late.

Royal Tern: max 225 TRCP 17 Oct (mob); dep WPP 26 Nov (ACi).

LOONS – PARAKEET

NORTHERN FULMAR (R10): pelagic coordinates (40.484444, -72.873889) 25 Sep (C. Witek).

Manx Shearwater: only two: RMSP 18 Oct (mob); pelagic coordinates (40.391, -72.352), SUFF 9 Nov (NSt).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: dep pelagic coordinates (40.391, -72.352), SUFF 9 Nov (NSt).

BROWN BOOBY: IHP 22 Nov (NOR, NSo, M. Ross); East Quogue Marine P area, SUFF 29 Oct -1 Nov (mob).

Great Cormorant: max 35 PBP (mob).

Brown Pelican: none, to contrast last year.

American White Pelican: TRCP 17, 18 Oct (mob); JBWR 19 Oct – 1 Nov (mob).

American Bittern: besides migr at typical coastal locs: IHP 25 Sep (NOR, BBa, DK); Corona, QUEE 8 Oct (TH), flyover; PBP 13 Oct – 8 Nov (mob); RI 17 Oct (SiB, DZ), 4 Nov (CQ).

Least Bittern: max 2 JBWR 7 Sep (ABk).

Cattle Egret: SUFF County Farm & Education Ctr, SUFF 24-26 Oct (mob).

Black Vulture: many reports in BRON, NEWY, and RICH; singles elsewhere else besides traditional roost at Riv.

Osprey: season total 685 FIHW (mob), second highest after 836 in 2017.

GOLDEN EAGLE (R10): apparent single imm migr south: IHP, Riverside P, and Nelson A. Rockefeller Jr P, NEWY, and also CR and Tottenville, RICH 3 Nov (mob); Hillview Res, BRON 4 Nov (SCam), also imm.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: season total 166 FIHW (mob), low.

Northern Goshawk: RMSP 7 Nov (PJJ, SSM); Bpt 24 Nov (HL, MY); Ft Wadsworth, RICH 24 Nov (JRG).

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 28 CP 27 Oct (ABu), NEWY high count on eBird.

Broad-winged Hawk: only NYC: max 60 IHP 18 Sep (LL).

SWAINSON'S HAWK: JBWR 19 Sep (DCh); Gov's I, NEWY 26 Sep (BCa).

Rough-legged Hawk: Sag 9 Oct (ACo).

Snowy Owl: modest flight beginning on Suffolk beaches, arr 7 Nov; also two unusual reports: Massapequa, NASS 11 Nov (via RoT), injured bird rescued and photographed in suburban area; Hillview Reservoir, BRON 25 Nov (SCa);

Barred Owl: CP 9 Oct thru end of period (mob); IHP 19 Nov thru end of period (mob).

Long-eared Owl: JBSP 14 Nov (PMar); GwC 29 Nov (KTo).

Short-eared Owl: sev in habitat in NASS, SUFF, but also migr: Southard's Pd P, SUFF 25 Oct (PMo); 2 PlumbB 27 Oct (JMa); FBF 30 Oct (DHR, RoM); Shirley Chisholm SP, KING 7 Nov (DG).

Northern Flicker: max 1,568 RMSP 3 Oct (MMb).

PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10): sev, RICH only.

American Kestrel: max 239 FT 8 Oct (SWa) season total of 1,155 FIWH (mob); *intro*.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

PACIFIC-SLOPE FLYCATCHER: KP 31 Oct – 7 Nov (M. Gottlieb, mob), diagnostic calls recorded and fecal specimen obtained but yet to be analyzed.

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: sev, Ft Washington P, NEWY 9 Nov (anon), eBirded on behalf of observer and prob second sighting later that week; GwC 14-29 Nov (mob); Children's Museum, KING 28 Nov (Twitter: @dinodood15); Lido Passive Pres, NASS (CB, DPa); CHP 29-30 Nov (mob); FP 28-29 Nov (mob);

Western Kingbird: Govs I, NEWY 26 Sep – 5 Oct (mob); RMSP 2-3 Oct (mob); FT 17 Oct (GL, KE); Mt Loretto Unique Area, RICH 28 Nov (mob).

kingbird sp.: BPT 17 Nov (DG), yellow-bellied sp.

Blue Jay: ~ 500 migr past Hallock SP Pres, SUFF 26 Sep (MLL).

Common Raven: reports across all areas of all counties; max 27 Flax Pd, SUFF (NSt), single group.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 220 BPT 7 Nov (CF, SA, MN), *intro*.

CAVE SWALLOW: FT 17-18 Nov (BF, mob); PlumbB 17 Nov (JMa); 3 BPT 17 Nov (DG); 3 FBF 17-18 Nov (mob), roosting; JBSP 18-19 Nov (mob).

SEDGE WREN (R10): 4, FKP thru 4 Oct (mob), bred here.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 25 Oct; max 49 Arshomomaque Pres, SUFF 8 Nov (JS), *intro*.

Purple Finch: max "hundreds" Hallock SP Pres SUFF 10 Oct (MLL); 118 High-Rock P, RICH 31 Oct (CBa), *intro*.

Common Redpoll: arr 31 Oct; max 19 Crab Meadow B, SUFF 29 Nov (TS), *intro*.

Red Crossbill: arr 18 Oct; "Douglas-fir"/Type 4 recorded at Roosevelt Estate CP SUFF 21

Nov (D. Rogers); max 350 JBSP 21 Nov (LWW), *intro*.
Pine Siskin: arr 20 Sep; max 6,575 BPt 15 Oct (DG), *intro*; 200+ Northville yard 8 Oct (MLL) unprecedented fallout, see p. 14.
American Goldfinch: max 8,037 RMSP 21 Nov (TSa); 200+ Northville yard 8 Oct (MLL) unprecedented fallout, see p. 14.
Lapland Longspur: many: arr RMSP 26 Sep (SSM, AR), Cupsogue CP SUFF 26 Sep (DF, MCo, SSM, PJJ); Kings Pt, NASS 2 Oct (MMb), unusual loc.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Clay-colored Sparrow: multiple in each county.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 7,714 RMSP 8 Nov (mob).
Vesper Sparrow: max 8 VCP 31 Oct (NSo).
LECONTE'S SPARROW: JBWR 24 Sep (FC); CHP 25-27 Oct (mob).
Lark Sparrow: multiple in each county except BRON and RICH: max 2 FBF 8 Sep (LE).
Nelson's Sparrow: max 12 PlumbB 23 Oct (TPr).
Savannah Sparrow: max 300 FKP 9 Nov (JRG).
HENSLOW'S SPARROW (R10): CP 3 Oct (mob); BPt 25 Oct (DG).
Song Sparrow: max 300 CHP 25 Oct (mob).
Swamp Sparrow: max 247 Greentree Estate, NASS 17 Oct (SPe), near state high count of 258 from this location in 2018.
Yellow-breasted Chat: one or more inds in each county except NASS.
Boat-tailed Grackle: nowhere away from South Shore locs: max 440 Charles Memorial P, QUEE 21 Nov (RSe).
Rusty Blackbird: max 27 FT 18 Nov (mob), low.
YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (R10): m FMCP, 16 Sep – 29 Nov (mob), *intro*.
Bobolink: max 280 Race Pt, SUFF 4 Sep (AD).
Worm-eating Warbler: dep Hoyt Town P, SUFF 31 Sep (NSo).
Golden-winged Warbler: GWC 2, 17 Sep (mob); PP 9 Sep (ME, LE); CP 22 Sep (mob); FP 26-27 (mob).
Blue-winged Warbler: dep CP 11 Oct (DHo).
Prothonotary Warbler: Battery P, NEW 17 Sep (CMr).

Tennessee Warbler: late: IHP 14 Nov thru end of period (mob).
Connecticut Warbler: many: 10 SUFF, 6 NASS, 10 QUEE, 6 KING, 1 RICH, 2 BRON, and 6 NEWY, *intro*.
American Redstart: Bellport, SUFF 6 Nov (TA).
Cape May Warbler: IHP 25-28 Nov (mob), late.
Northern Parula: ~ 50 in Northville SUFF yard 25, 26 Sep (MLL).
Magnolia Warbler: Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF 11 Nov (KJK), late.
BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER: JBWR 4 Sep (R&L Taubman, mob).
PAINTED REDSTART: FBF 18 Oct (R. Payne, mob).
Summer Tanager: East R P, NEWY 19 Sep (NB); CP 19-23 Oct, (TPI, GP, "Jordana M").
Scarlet Tanager: GWC 5 Nov (eBird user "krolwing"), ph, late.
WESTERN Tanager: GwC 13-25 Nov (E. Leonardi, mob).
Blue Grosbeak: reported from over 20 locations across all counties except BRON.
Northern Cardinal: max 49 RMSP 31 Oct (MMb, SSM, PJJ), *intro*.
Dickcissel: reports from all counties: max 3 Coney Is Ck, KING 5 Sep (JH).

EXOTICS

Lined Seedeater: APP 12-21 Sep (mob), unbanded at Oakland L, QUEE.
European Goldfinch: thru, sev from KING and also: FMCP 5-11 Sep (JoK); VCP 14-15 Sep (KW, PHO).

ADDENDUM TO THE SUMMER 2020 REPORT

In the Savannah Sparrow entry, the text indicated here in bold was omitted in error:
Savannah Sparrow: Jun reps confined to NYC mounds and grass/farmlands in the Calverton-Riverhead-North Fork strip, except for 6 Republic Airport and 14 St. Charles Cemetery, both Farmingdale, SUFF 6 Jun (CJC: M. Cooper). More widespread reports late Aug indicative of migrants, *intro*.

REPORTING YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Observers are strongly encouraged to report their findings directly to the Regional Editors, to help identify significant trends. Summary reports of observations; impressions of notable patterns in the weather, timing of migration, unusual scarcity or abundance of particular species, etc.; and notable individual records are highly valued. For maximum usefulness, send in reports no later than the 15th day of the month following the end of each season:

15 March, 15 June, 15 September, and 15 December.

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in BOLD; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in UPPER CASE letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! – details seen by Regional Editor; ad – adult; alt – alternate plumage; arr – arrival or first of season; BBS – Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS – bird of the season; CBC – Christmas Bird Count; Co – County; I – Island; imm – immature; intro – see introduction to report; juv – juvenile; L – Lake; max – maximum; mob – multiple observers; Mt – Mountain; NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC – report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P – park; Pd – Pond; ph – photographed; Pres – Preserve; Pt – Point; Res – Reservoir; Ri – River; SP – State Park; spm – specimen; subad – subadult; T – Town of; thru – throughout period; Twn – township; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; y – young.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS CODES

These codes are listed in ascending order to highest breeding codes.

POSSIBLE: H – in appropriate habitat; S – singing bird.

PROBABLE: S7 – singing male present 7+ days; M – multiple (7+) singing males; P – pair in suitable habitat; T – territorial defense; C – courtship, display, or copulation; N – visiting probable nest site; A – agitated behavior; B – woodpecker/wren nest building.

CONFIRMED: PE – physiological evidence; CN – carrying nesting material; NB – nest building; DD – distraction display; UN – used nest; ON – occupied nest; FL – recently fledged and precocial young; CF – carrying food; FY – feeding young; FS – carrying fecal sac; NE nest with eggs; NY – nest with young.

REPORTING REGIONS

Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, except at:

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties:

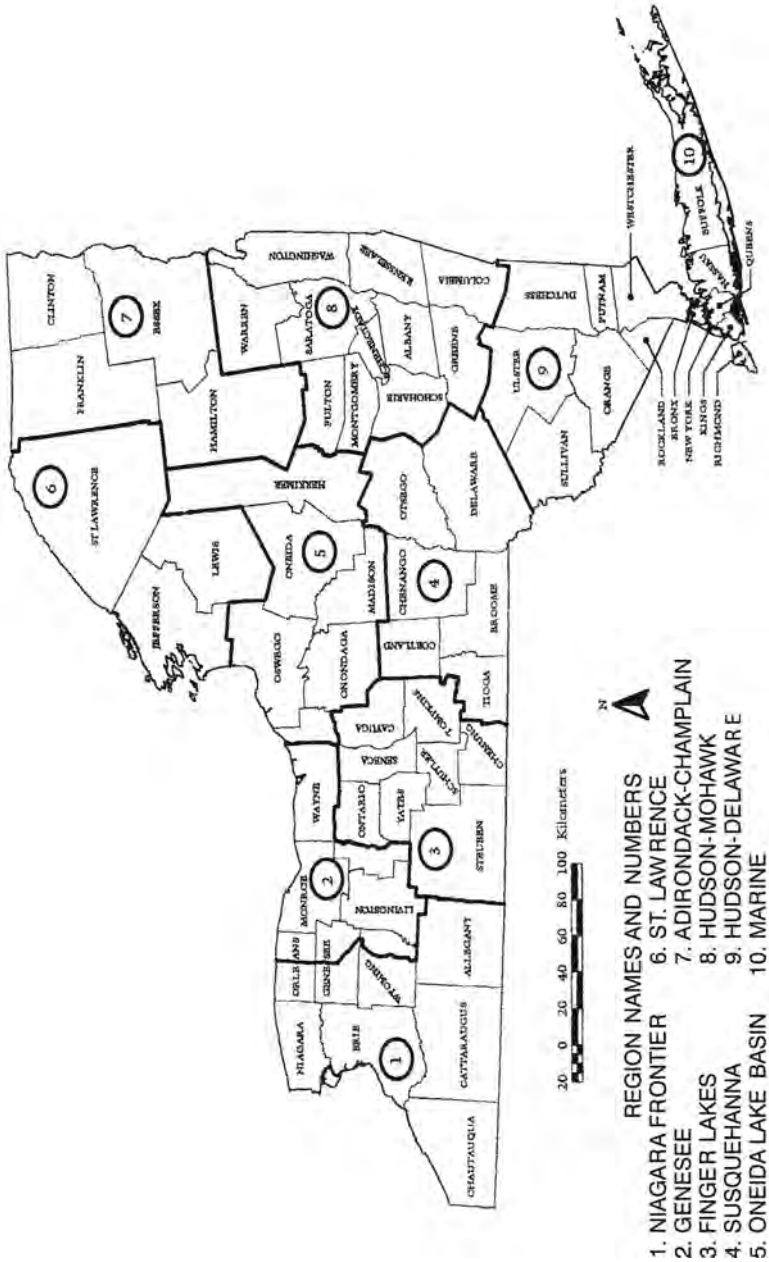
the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia; NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19 from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64 from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21 from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County:

the boundary is NY Route 31.



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