

The

# KINGBIRD

New York State  
Ornithological  
Association, Inc.  
Vol. 74 No. 4  
December 2024



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

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- Requests for single copies and back issues (\$5.00 each): New York State Ornithological Association, Inc., P.O. Box 335, Amityville, NY 11701.
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Carena Pooth 2026  
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Charlie Scheim 2025



# The KINGBIRD

PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 74 No. 4

December 2024

pp. 321-428

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*Editor – S. S. Mitra*

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*Circulation Manager – Patricia Aitken*

Front Cover – Eastern Kingbird, Green-Wood Cemetery, Kings, 21 Apr 2024, © Seth Barr.

Back Cover – Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Goetchius Wetland Preserve, Tompkins, 18 May 2024, © Michael Friga.

## **NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC. 77th ANNUAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**

The 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the New York Ornithological Association (NYSOA) was held on 15 September 2024, a virtual meeting via Zoom, with President Anne Swaim presiding and 81 attendees participating.

Anne Swaim called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., and presented an overview of NYSOA focus areas, draft goals, and upcoming projects. These include Ornithology: maintaining NYS bird records and encouraging NYS ornithological research; Birding: promoting NYS birding and fostering interest and appreciation of birds through NYSOA projects and our member organizations; and Conservation: advocating for NYS birds and their habitats. Long term and short term goals to accomplish these focus areas include: revitalizing a research grant program using recent bequest funds; having a NYS Bird of the Year; continuing support for the Breeding Bird Atlas; regional birding events (already in progress); an expanded Speakers Bureau; continuing NYSOA involvement in regional issues; and continuing strategic affiliations with habitat conservation efforts.\* NYSOA welcomes members to help with accomplishing these strategic plan initiatives; it is not necessary to join the Board to do this.

\*Supplementary documents to this overview, as well as to the committee and financial reports and other matters discussed at this meeting can be accessed here: <https://nybirds.org/docs2024>

**Roll Call** – Alison Kocek performed a roll call of delegates; a quorum was reached with 38 present.

**Approval of 2023 Minutes** – Carena Pooth made a motion to approve the 2023 NYSOA Annual Meeting minutes. John Loz seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report and Audit Report – Anne Swaim**

NYSOA does not currently have a Treasurer. Anne thanked the new accountants for this year's financial report. The 2024 total income was \$21,393.91 with an actual income of \$47,750.41 which is well above the expected budget thanks to bequests. 2023 actual expenses were \$4,415.26, above the budgeted expense of \$29,952.00. Memberships make a big difference in supporting NYSOA and its initiatives. Anne thanked the Auditing Committee (Stephen Chang, Thomas Burke, and Peter Capainolo) who have examined these documents as of December 31, 2023 and deemed they fairly present the financial condition of NYSOA and the results of its operations for the year.

## Committee Reports

### ***Conservation – Anne Swaim on behalf of Andy Mason***

Anne thanked Andy Mason, Joan Collins, Brian Dugan, Brendan Fogarty, and Mary Beth Warburton for their work on the committee this past year. This committee took action on the Birds and Bees Protection Act; circulated information on the question of Barred Owls vs. Spotted Owls in the Pacific Northwest; urged the Governor to sign the horseshoe crab legislation; wrote a letter in support of the New York City Plover Project to protect Piping Plover at Rockaway Beach; joined as a member of the Jamaica Bay Refuge Task Force; and worked to protect the EPCAL grasslands on Long Island. Andy prepared *New York Birders* columns to share these important issues with the membership.

### ***County and State Listing – Carena Pooth***

Carena recounted that the County and State listing project started in 1992, a fun and friendly competition that focuses on NY life listing for all participants. Carena asked that anyone wishing to submit their County List Report for 2024, please get the list in by March 1, 2025, and to please use the online submission form if at all possible; the paper version will be in the next *New York Birders* issue.

### ***Website and Information Services – Carena Pooth***

*The Kingbird* searchable archive online is a frequently accessed tool. For anyone wishing to look up information about birds or birders in NYS, this is a good resource and is updated through 2022 currently. The New York State Avian Record Committee's (NYSARC) 2019 and 2020 reports are now posted on the website. The CBC Calendar will be updated for 2024/25; Carena asked that CBC coordinators please share their information with her.

### ***Membership – Pat Aitken***

Pat reported that membership has held fairly steady. She encourages clubs that have not renewed to please do so (the organization lost five recently). There are currently 360 dues paying members and 42 member clubs.

### ***New York State Young Birders Club – Carena Pooth for Roseanne Vinson***

The Adult Chair of the club, Rosanne Vinson, was unable to attend. The club continues to have ~50 young birders and seven adult volunteers. The average age of members is 14. Fifteen trips were scheduled for this year; two were cancelled due to weather. Carena thanked all of the donors, supporting adult members, and partner organizations for their generous support.

### ***Publications:***

#### ***The Kingbird – Shai Mitra***

Shai presented the Emanuel Levine Memorial Award for best 2023 *Kingbird* article to John Confer *et al.* for “Banding Northern Saw-whet Owls (*Aegolius*

*acadicus*) at a field station in Central New York State”. Shai noted his willingness to serve as Chair of the Publications Committee. In 2023, six issues of *The Kingbird* were published (normally there are four annually). In 2024, a total of five will be published which will bring the publication up to date and on schedule by January 2025.

*New York Birders* – Anne Swaim for Dan Miller

Anne noted that the *New York Birders* Winter issue deadline is November 1; those interested to be listed in the Speakers Bureau were asked to please share their information soon.

*Checklist of the Birds of New York State* – Carena Pooth

Carena reported that the 2025 NYSOA checklist booklet will follow the 65<sup>th</sup> supplement published by the American Ornithological Society (AOS), incorporating five splits and three lumps. NYSARC review list changes, including removal of 11 species and several review code updates, will be included in the new booklet as well.

### **Research:**

*NYS Breeding Bird Atlas III* – Julie Hart

Julie presented a synopsis of the Atlas effort. 2024 was the last year of field work for the Atlas. All but three of the most remote and inaccessible Center-East Blocks were completed which far exceeded expectations. Raw data maps of interest: Red-bellied Woodpecker expansion northward across the state along with Tufted Titmouse and Carolina Wren, these likely due to more feeders and warmer winters. Sandhill Crane has also expanded its range from no breeders in the first Atlas, a handful of breeding points in the second Atlas, and now populations in many areas across the state, likely due to wetland restoration efforts. Eastern Meadowlark breeding range appears to have declined, likely due to loss of grassland habitat, especially in Central NY. Barn Swallow has also shown declines across the state, likely due to loss of insect prey. American Three-toed Woodpecker appears to possibly be extirpated from the state; there was no documentation of the species despite targeted efforts using broadcast call playbacks. Additional efforts may be performed next year to confirm this. A single Mississippi Kite pair began breeding in the state during this Atlas which is a far northern record for this species. Next step: aiming for a book and a website that will hopefully be out in early 2028. Currently working to collect external datasets; the data will be vetted, analyzed, and mapped and then writing will begin to complete the publication.

Summary statistics were presented, listing 4,331 atlasers, 578,222 checklists, 1,662 completed blocks, and 233 confirmed species to date (additional species probable or possible as well).

## Election of Officers and Directors

### Alison Kocek

The NYSOA 2024 Nominating Committee, consisting of Anne Swaim (Chair), Bob Adamo, and Charlie Scheim, presented the slate below to serve as NYSOA Officers with terms expiring in 2025, and five Directors with terms expiring in 2026.

#### **Officers:** (Terms expire in 2025)

President: Anne Swaim

Vice President: Sean Camillieri

Treasurer: Vacant

Recording Secretary: Alison Kocek

#### **Directors:** (Terms expire in 2026)

Tim Healy

Alison Kocek

John Loz

Carena Pooth

Steve Rappaport

Charlie Scheim made a motion to approve the Officers and Directors, which was seconded by Randi Minetor and approved unanimously.

## Election of Nominating and Auditing Committees

The following committee slates for 2025 were recommended by the NYSOA Board of Directors for the delegates' approval.

#### **Auditing Committee:**

Steven Chang (Chair)

Thomas W. Burke

Peter Capainolo

#### **Nominating Committee:**

Anne Swaim

Patricia Aitken

Charlie Scheim

Debbie Mullins made a motion to approve the Nominating Committee, which was seconded by Shai Mitra and approved unanimously.

Charlie Scheim made a motion to approve the Auditing Committee which was seconded by Randi Minetor and approved unanimously.

### Old Business

None

### New Business:

NYSOA's 2025 Annual Meeting will be held in-person on 19-21 September, hosted by the Cayuga Bird Club in downtown Ithaca with Keynote Speaker Peter Kaestner presenting "In Search of the Orange-tufted Spiderhunter".

## **Adjournment**

John Loz made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Chita McKinney and unanimously approved at 5:51 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alison Kocek, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was followed by a special program, “Raptor Quest: Chasing America’s Raptors” by Scott Harris, followed by the New York State Young Birders Club bird quiz.

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## **NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS**

### **An American Flamingo at Georgica Pond, Suffolk County, New York, 31 May 2024**

On 31 May 2024, Cathy Blinken observed an American Flamingo at Georgica Pond, in eastern Suffolk County, Long Island, NY. She reported the bird to a local newspaper, the *East Hampton Star*, where journalist and birder Christopher Gangemi followed up by joining Cathy to observe the bird and alerting several local birders, including the author. Its species identity was confirmed, and the bird remained through the next day. It was not observed there on 2 June, but remarkably, this same individual was photographed on the afternoon of 2 June at Dennis Chapin Beach, Barnstable County, MA (Cape Cod Rarities eBird), identifiable from details of its wing coverts, with groups of brighter and duller pink feathers producing a slightly irregular and distinctive pattern. It could not be found there the next day. On 5 June, the same American Flamingo was photographed and posted online on the bayside marshes near Cedar Beach, in southwestern Suffolk County, Long Island. Lisa Wollerstein communicated this information to the birding community, and Ari Weiss was able to re-find it in the marshes north of Oak Beach, where it was viewed by many. The flamingo returned to Georgica Pond and was seen daily there 10-29 June. It was absent there 30 June through 2 July, during which period, an American Flamingo was seen (but not photographed for individual identification) at Cape Henlopen, DE by Bruce Peterjohn (DE Bird Records eBird).

The flamingo returned to Georgica on 3 July and was seen there most days through 8 July. It could not be found on 9 July and was unreported through 13 July, but it was photographed at Georgica on 14 July. In a bizarre repetition of the events of 2 June, the flamingo was missing from Georgica on 15 July, on which date it was found again at Dennis Chapin Beach, on Cape Cod, by Mary Jo Foti (eBird). It was seen there by many on that date only. On 18 July, this same bird

was found at Briggs Marsh, Newport County, RI by Kate Johnson (eBird), and it was seen there daily through 28 July and last reported 12 August, by Alex Damiano (eBird).

Following Hurricane *Idalia*'s landfall on Florida's Gulf coast on 30 August 2023, scores of American Flamingos appeared throughout eastern North America in summer and fall 2023, with records as far north as Pennsylvania and Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin (Davis and Ramirez-Garofalo 2024). Birds have remained in Florida since then, and the present record, and also a sight record from the Hudson River in Ulster County (see below), are believed to be related to this incursion.

But there have been many prior occurrences of American Flamingo in NYS. Although all were suspected of being escapes from captivity, little or no evidence of captive origin is cited in most cases, and the dates and locations of many appear consistent with natural vagrancy, based on current knowledge. In particular, the records from 1964 and 1965 occurred during a period of multiple occurrences in nearby Massachusetts and elsewhere (Veit and Petersen 1993).

Many contemporary observers were completely unaware of this historical record, only part of which was captured by John Bull in his *Birds of the New York Area* (1964) and *Birds of New York State* (1974), under his "Hypothetical" category. Having dispensed even with this, Levine's *Bull's Birds of New York State* (1998) omits all reference to the species. The following is a list of published records of American Flamingos in NYS.

**about 1915, Speonk, Suffolk County**

*Birds of the New York Area*, p. 471; John Bull

"shot by duck hunters... mounted specimen still in Westhampton."

Described by Leroy Wilcox as "in bright plumage" and was considered by Bull to have "possibly wandered north or was hurricane borne, but of this we cannot be certain."

**3 Oct 1931, Shinnecock Bay, Suffolk County**

*Birds of the New York Area*, p. 471; John Bull

collected by Leroy Wilcox, who described it as "somewhat faded" and regarded by Bull as "presumably escaped from captivity."

**14 Nov 1964, Hudson River shore near Coxsackie, Greene County**

*The Kingbird* 15: p. 49, 1965; Peter P. Wickham

"the bird was able to fly and was seen by numerous observers in this vicinity until it was captured Nov 25 and turned over (alive) to the Delmar Game Farm; it seems probable that this bird is non-feral, although its origin has not been determined with certainty."

**2 Sep 1965, Mecox Bay; 9 Sep-16 Oct, Shinnecock Inlet, Suffolk County**

*The Kingbird* 16: pp. 60-61, 1966; Thomas H. Davis and Fred Heath  
“probably an escape.”

**18 Nov 1970, Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge and elsewhere**

*The Kingbird* 21: p. 17; Region 3 Fall 1970; Dorothy McIlroy and Sally Hoyt Spofford

“An American Flamingo appeared at MNWR on November 18 (DM, mob), probably the same one reported in September south of Holcomb, at Iroquois Refuge and in mid-October at Verona Beach on Oneida Lake. It stayed at Montezuma until Nov 23, was seen flying west of Syracuse, found at Onondaga Lake where it finally died. On November 25 the specimen was brought to the Laboratory of Ornithology where an autopsy was performed. The whole body was covered with diesel oil; trachea and windpipe were coated with light oil and a clot of waxy material found in the digestive tract just ahead of the gizzard. Such clots are usually associated with ingestion of petroleum products. From the condition of the scales on the tarsus, James Tate suggests it was an escape, although the plumage was in excellent condition.”

**11 Nov 1978, Bellport (Peat Hole), Suffolk County**

Peg Hart, pers. comm. and *The Advance* (archives): “I grew up in a house next to the Peat Hole in Bellport; my mom still lives there. One day in the, [sic] I was playing in the yard and looked up to see a beautiful flamingo standing in the shallow water, near the sluiceway to the bay. I was 11 and ran excitedly to tell my dad who came out to see for himself. Dad called Art Cooley and much excitement ensued! Our yard was very lively that week and while many photographs were taken, we would be hard pressed to locate one.”

*The Kingbird* 29: pp. 57-58; Barbara J. Spencer

“The origin and status of an American Flamingo in good plumage, found in Bellport Nov. 11 and seen frequently in the Bellport-Brookhaven area for two weeks, is unknown. Three late fall occurrences in Canada (1969, 1973, 1977) have been thought to have been storm-related vagrants by some.”

**3 Oct 1987, Watkins Glen, Schuyler County**

*The Kingbird* 38: 36; C. K. Melin.

“A flamingo appeared at Watkins Glen, following strong north winds, on 3 Oct, where many people observed this very tame, probably escaped bird until it disappeared the following day”

**Second week of August, 2009, Croton Point Park, Westchester County**

*The Kingbird* 59: 387; Michael Bochnik

“Rich Guthrie posted on the New York Birding List a second hand report of a banded flamingo observed and photographed at Croton Point in the second week of August. Curiously a banded American Flamingo was observed in Rhode Island

on 6 August with a band on its left leg. I contacted the naturalist at Croton Point Park but he was unable to confirm who saw and took the photo. The photo showed a Flamingo, pale pink, foraging among some Canada Geese in a wetland pool. The bird had a band. It was there one day and then gone the next.”

**1 Oct 2023, Ulster County**

Sara Stokes reported a flamingo flying up the Hudson River in northern Ulster County. Many Region 8 birders staked out various spots among the river, but did not relocate a flamingo (Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, pers. comm.).

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**Shaibal S. Mitra**, Bay Shore

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**Experiencing a Total Eclipse and Its Effect on Wildlife**

All across New York State, birders, naturalists, and skywatchers—indeed, anyone with an interest in such a rare phenomenon—eagerly awaited the total solar eclipse of 8 April 2024. The arc of “totality” stretched from the western southern tier counties, up through the Ontario lakeshore, north of the Syracuse area, the Adirondacks, and into the St. Lawrence and Champlain valleys. South of that arc, the rest of the state would experience less than totality, ranging downward to just under 90% in Region 10. Some areas experienced cloud cover that obscured or lessened the view and the contrast for observers, but even so, bird behavior was

affected and noted, as has been documented in *The Kingbird* for some prior eclipses (a partial solar eclipse 21 August 2017 in Dutchess County, *The Kingbird* 68: pp. 15-18, Steven G. Platt and Thomas Rainwater; an annular eclipse at the Crown Point, Essex County banding station, *The Kingbird* 44: 234, John M. C. Peterson). Following are accounts of the 2024 event, shared by some of the Regional Editors and other birders in the state.

David Wheeler in Region 5 captures the experience there, as 150 people gathered to witness the event:

The total solar eclipse of 8 April was an unprecedented moment for the Region. Birders eagerly awaited the event throughout Region 5, primed by tales from prior eclipses of dawn/dusk chorus and other interesting bird behaviors. At Derby Hill a strong flight of hawks occurred throughout the morning as a misty cloud layer joined the moon in obscuring the sun. Direct sun and thermals were lost and the flight slowed to a trickle as those assembled awaited the mid-afternoon main event. As noted in my report, a Swainson's Hawk was the last raptor to pass, presumably a lucky coincidence as the species has been seen going by late in the day on prior occasions. Birds disappeared and went quiet in the minutes preceding totality and failed to return to any degree after. Few if any were heard to vocalize on either side of darkness, though the 8 April date meant there were limited numbers of songbirds about. Still, the author expected Red-winged Blackbird, Song Sparrow, American Robin, and residents such as Tufted Titmouse, Black-capped Chickadee, and Northern Cardinal might be heard singing. The lack of direct sun may have blunted the impact of totality. A small flock of Common Grackles were the only birds seen, perched attentively but quietly in a bare tree throughout, their silhouettes still visible in the darkness. Only they seemed to know daylight would return.

Jeff Bolsinger in Region 6 writes:

Much of Region 6 was within the path of totality for 8 April's solar eclipse, and a number of birders commented on bird behavior during this event. The most frequent comments referred to woodcock peenting or Eastern Screech-Owls and Barred Owls vocalizing during or shortly before totality. In Canton I noticed Turkey Vultures flying to a traditional roost site just as the moon fully covered the sun. At nearby Upper and Lower Lakes WMA David Harrison noted that a Common Loon "started calling wildly at totality". Caleb Centanni and Courtney Kelly Jett said that it seemed like all of the thousands of Ring-billed Gulls they had seen foraging in farm fields on their drive to Southwick Beach State Park flew to Lake Ontario all at once during the total eclipse, only to return inland after the sun reappeared.

Celeste Morien relates a similar observation of Ring-billed Gull behavior from Region 1, excerpted here:

On solar eclipse afternoon, my husband and I drove south a distance of four miles to a little cemetery on a high spot in Oakfield, NY that we had scouted out in January.... There was a good view of the horizon. We had heavy to intermittent cloud cover, but good views of the 30% shaded out sun. What I noticed was the interesting nearby gull behavior. Across the road, an ambitious farmer was early in plowing. There were approximately 250 Ring-billed Gulls foraging in the plowed furrows. When the sky began to gradually darken, American Robins began giving alarm calls. The gulls took flight in groups and seeing them overhead I noted they were headed northward, presumably to Lake Ontario, to spend the night in safety on the water. During three and a half minutes of totality we couldn't see the gulls, only lights on the nearby farm outbuildings and on the farmer's tractor. (They never stopped plowing!) There was too much cloud cover for a view of totality, but the drop in temperature, the complete darkness, and the ring of sunset at the horizon made for a phenomenal experience. I could hear the gulls' cries increasing in the darkness. It was as if they were plunged into a situation they weren't familiar with. Anthropomorphizing there, hard to avoid! When the light returned, it revealed many gulls, far overhead milling in circles, uncertain of their next move. In just a short time, the gulls were returning to feast on unearthed treasure in the farm field.

And Joan Collins of Long Lake in Region 7 shares her magical experience, excerpted here:

I am still on a high from experiencing the total solar eclipse! Talking with lots of birders, the decision for everyone was where to be located during this 8 April afternoon event. I made a decision by Sunday morning that my husband and I would boat 10 miles to the north end of Long Lake, to Turtle Beach—one of my favorite places in the Adirondacks. I wanted a place with certain habitats and one where we might actually be alone so I could hear wildlife....

The forecast was for 75% clouds, so I didn't expect to see the eclipse. But as we boated north, I saw the cloud line end and it was sunny at Turtle Beach, right to the very end of the event when clouds moved in. We ended up with a perfect view of the eclipse.

However...we were not alone. A surgeon from Albany (along with two guests) flew his private plane, one that can land on water or land, to the beach. Like me, he said it is his favorite beach in the Adirondacks....After the eclipse, a lot of private planes flew overhead and I guess that was one way to avoid congested roads (for those who happen to have private planes, that is).

It was 60° with calm winds and there was no snow on the beach. The sand was warm enough to go barefoot, which is all very odd for 8 April. And the fact that we could boat 10 miles on the lake that early is a first. Two days before the eclipse we heard there was still ice blocking the way to the north end, so we didn't know if we could actually get to that spot....

Before totality: Many birds vocalized: Pine Siskins, Brown Creeper (singing), Golden-crowned Kinglets, Black-capped Chickadees. About 25 minutes before totality, a calling Red Crossbill flew across the lake from east to west. There was a brief, two-minute interval of quiet about 20 minutes before totality which was a sudden change. But things started back up again after that brief, silent lull. A few beaver splashes were heard in the marsh behind the beach peninsula. Pine Siskins and Black-capped Chickadees started up again. Common Ravens gave very loud calls and flew back and forth over the marsh behind the peninsula. A Song Sparrow began to sing, then a second one began to sing also, and continued to sing. During this time, I heard a rhythmic tapping sound, four taps over and over again...When I could tell it was across the river, I gave up trying to walk to it. It will remain a mystery...maybe a nuthatch or woodpecker, but the rhythmic nature was perplexing.

A few minutes before totality: Song Sparrows switched to calling from singing. An American Robin began calling. A fish leapt out of the lake (not sure if this is significant or not!). Pine Siskins and Black-capped Chickadees continued to vocalize. A Northern Saw-whet Owl began tooting to the east of the spot where Long Lake empties into the Raquette River. But it did not continue tooting during totality.

Totality: The American Robin began singing. The Pine Siskins and Black-capped Chickadees continued to call, which surprised me. A Barred Owl hooted just south of us and west of the lake.

After totality: It was really active after totality—and even my non-birder husband noticed the level of vocal activity, which was like dawn. American Robins were singing and calling; Red-breasted Nuthatches were very vocal; Common Grackles appeared in the marsh and vocalized; Common Ravens were vocal; a lot of Herring Gulls suddenly vocalized and were flying around; a Bald Eagle flew across the lake to the island where its mate is on eggs...a calling Red Crossbill flew across the lake from west to east (likely the same one from before totality?); a Bufflehead pair (migrants) were in the cove vocalizing and diving; Black-capped Chickadees vocalized; two Tree Swallows (first of season for me) flew low over the lake calling; Pine Siskins began vocalizing about 20 minutes after totality. At this point in my notes, I wrote that all the birds were chatty like at dawn!...

Golden-crowned Kinglets joined in about 30 minutes past totality. Another Red Crossbill flew across the lake at 40 minutes past. Three

Common Mergansers flew into the outlet about 50 minutes past. A Red-winged Blackbird began to call in the marsh. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker began drumming, also about 50 minutes past. A few minutes later I heard a Spring Peeper for the first time during the event. Nearly 70 minutes past totality I noted it had finally become quiet and we boated back....

This is the first total solar eclipse I've ever experienced and it is nearly impossible to describe how the light changed (and hard to capture in photos). It was fascinating! I expected it would get dark gradually, but it was really abrupt. And after the 3+ minutes of total darkness, it abruptly became light, but again, hard to describe the light. The surgeon noted that it was like someone suddenly shining a bright flashlight on us!

Here are some observations from our son and his family at their Willsboro home, near Lake Champlain. They have a lot of chickens! They roam around outside all day and head into the coop when it begins to get dark. My son said the chickens started to head for the coop, but it got dark so fast, that they didn't make it and they looked lost! (I read a similar account of chicken behavior from a prior eclipse—not having enough time to actually get to the coop!) He said they also noted crickets started up during totality. My nearly 4-year old grandson was very animated about the whole event...I think he will actually remember it.

I hope everyone got to experience this remarkable event. I can now understand why people become eclipse chasers around the world!

Other observers' notes provided to the Editor include a Short-eared Owl flying around Braddock Bay before and after the eclipse (David Brown and Kim Steininger), and in the Tug Hill region, a group of Tree Swallows flying low together as if going to roost just before totality, dead silence during totality ("...even Spring Peepers were completely silent. Super eerie."), then with the return of light, Song Sparrows beginning to singing as if it was dawn and the frogs starting to peep again (Alex Trifunovic). Conversely, Dmitris Salas, also in the Tug Hill region, reported that the Spring Peepers got incredibly loud at totality! Dennis Anderson in Liverpool had a mostly cloudy sky, but at the start of the eclipse he noticed Ring-billed Gulls flying southwest to northeast on their evening flight path, and an American Robin that began to sing, then stopped when the total eclipse occurred. When it was over, the robin "started singing a weird, almost dawn-song type of song". And a Song Sparrow that started singing when it was almost over "seemed liked it wasn't coincidence". With Rochester clouded in, Nick Kachala traveled to the Pennsylvania/Ohio border along Lake Erie looking for bluer skies. He reported a flock of 15 Killdeer that got progressively noisier and noisier as the skies darkened and then took flight during totality.

Shai Mitra and I had our own fun, fashioning the pinhole box and occasionally donning the cardboard safety glasses while sheltering in our secret hide out at Robert Moses State Park on Long Island. Here, we were in the

approximately 89% zone of totality, but it did get very gloomy. There weren't many birds around that day, but we noted that the Mourning Doves, Fish Crows, a Northern Mockingbird, and a Song Sparrow continued to sing and vocalize during the peak of the eclipse, which was unexpected, and that the American Oystercatchers did start getting very excited, flying around and calling excitedly, just before.

I hope many of you had your own special moments and observations with this unique event. The next total solar eclipse that will be visible in the state will be on 22 August 2044!!

**Patricia J. Lindsay**, Bay Shore

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## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—SPRING 2024**

**Michael F. Cooper**

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At the risk of sounding like a broken record, the spring season of 2024 goes down in history as another of the warmest ever on record. Temperatures in all Regions were above average—often far above average. For the most part, precipitation amounts were closer to average.

These high temperatures followed a very warm winter, and the effects were obvious and widespread. Migrant waterfowl arrived early and moved on quickly. Snow and Canada Geese and Tundra Swans all received favorable comments from Regional editors, especially those in the western Regions. A single day count of 200,000 Canadas in Region 4 is pretty impressive, although I'm not sure that everyone would view it as a positive comment!

Along with these large flocks we had a typical assortment of the spicier species—Ross's and Cackling Geese and Trumpeter Swans were well represented, while Greater White-fronteds were detected in lower numbers. Readers should check out the Region 5 report for an interesting discussion of blue morph of Ross's Goose, and possible hybrids with Snow Goose.

Similar comments can be made about ducks around the state—an early movement, good numbers, and a pretty normal scattering of rarities. Highlights included King Eider in Region 5 and a scattering of Tufted Ducks. Point Lookout, a reliable Harlequin Duck location in Region 10, raised some eyebrows when the flock there rose to 23 birds by early March, far beyond the normal half-dozen or so. A pair of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks in Region 1 were a one-day-wonder.

After somehow missing out on the great flamingo-palooza of 2023, New York finally registered one bird at Georgica Pond in Region 10 on the last day of

May. This American Flamingo remained through most of June and was enjoyed by thousands of birders and non-birders during its stay.

Common Nighthawks and Whip-poor-wills seemed to be nicely spread around the state. A Chuck-will's-widow audio recorded in Region 9 was a nice find, but three separate reports from Region 5 are closer to mind-boggling! These were the first Regional records since 2003. Region 10 had two hummingbird holdovers from the winter season—a Rufous that lingered into April and the first state record Allen's that just made it into early March.

King Rail in Region 2 was a great find, while in Region 10, birders are dealing with the apparent hybrid offspring of a King x Clapper pairing of a couple of years ago. Sandhill Cranes are firmly established as part of the avifauna in many Regions. This season's high count was 49 birds at the Northern Montezuma WMA in Region 2.

Unusual spring shorebirds included a Stilt Sandpiper in Region 1, a Marbled Godwit in Region 2, and a scattering of American Golden-Plovers in Regions 2, 3 and 10. Unusual away from the coast, Sanderlings, Dunlin, and Ruddy Turnstones were found at a number of scattered inland locations. Best of the group were an American Avocet in Region 2 and a Black-necked Stilt in Region 10. Inland Piping Plovers were found in Regions 5 and 6, with unsuccessful breeding recorded at the latter site.

Two Parasitic Jaegers were photographed in Region 3 for one of the few spring records there, and a jaeger sp. was a great rarity for Hamlin Beach in Region 2. There were no mind-boggling gull rarities reported for the season, but Little Gulls were widely scattered and well represented. A Black-legged Kittiwake in Region 2 was considered to be a rare spring record. Probably the best among the larids was the Roseate Tern photographed in Region 3 on 10 May and re-found the next day. This was the first definitive record for the species in the Region, and one of very few anywhere away from the immediate coast. Interestingly, in July a Roseate was photographed in Ohio at Huron Lighthouse and another (or more likely the same) a week later at Presque Isle in Pennsylvania—both locations along the south shore of Lake Erie. A Sandwich Tern at Nickerson Beach in Region 10 on 24 May was a bit early. Least Terns were found in Region 9, including one that provided a third Rockland County record, and in Region 5 for a second Regional record.

Neotropical Cormorants were recorded from three Regions this season and six Regions reported American White Pelicans. A Tricolored Heron was a nice find in Orange County in Region 9, but a flyby at Braddock Bay in Region 2 was a great rarity for that area. A count of 528 Northern Gannets on 20 May in Region 9 was exceptional.

Swainson's Hawks seemed to be more numerous and widespread than normal, with records coming from five Regions. Hawk watchers in Region 2 recorded six different individuals, while in Region 4 the tally was four different birds. The overwintering Swainson's in Region 10 was last reported on 7 March. A Red-tailed x Red-shouldered Hawk hybrid was well documented in Region 5.

Swallow-tailed Kites were reported from Regions 2, 9, and 10. Coincidentally, the same three Regions recorded Mississippi Kites. Eight Regions recorded Golden Eagles, including a seasonal tally of 51 from Braddock Bay Hawk Watch in Region 2.

Passerine migration was early in response to the warm weather. To quote the Region 1 editors, “There were many ‘early’ arrival reports again, which we’re getting accustomed to in a warming climate”. In fact, that Region reported an unprecedented 15 species with record-early arrivals! The same could be said throughout the state. The Spring Arrivals Tables and discussion, elsewhere in this issue, provides a thorough overview of this remarkable pattern.

Species such as White-eyed Vireos and Worm-eating Warblers seem to be well represented north of their traditional ranges. Blue Grosbeaks in Regions 2, 3, and 6, would seem to be part of the same trend. A Swainson’s Warbler was present in late April in Region 10, where it is now a nearly annual occurrence. The same could be said for Painted Bunting, one of which lingered from the winter season.

After a light showing this winter, the finch scene was pretty slow again, with the exception of Red Crossbills, which were widespread and seemed to be showing in decent numbers. Some Regions also reported pretty good numbers of Pine Siskins.

Several species that generally seem to be in trouble in recent years continue to receive mixed comments. A couple of nice flocks of Rusty Blackbirds were found, while Golden-winged Warbler reports were mixed at best.

For a spring migration season, there seemed to be relatively few bona-fide rarities around. Some of the best that have not yet been mentioned include a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Region 3, two sightings of Black-billed Magpie in Region 2—a really spectacular vagrant that seems to be much rarer than one would think, and a Golden-crowned Sparrow, also in Region 2. A Townsend’s Solitaire photographed in Region 6 was another great find. In Region 10, a Lazuli Bunting appeared at a feeder and was on show for about a week.

It’s worth checking the Region 10 account for the details about a Black-throated Gray Warbler which might have gone undetected if not for the fact that it was singing the song of Yellow-throated Warbler!

Outshining these remarkable records, though, is the previously mentioned American Flamingo from eastern Long Island. Not only did this spectacular visitor linger long enough for many birders to see it, but it also filled the role of ambassador to the non-birding community. Aside from all that, it provided a last minute “save.” Just as we thought we were going to be left out of the “flamingo club” after nearly all the other eastern states had their membership cards stamped, the big pink guy dropped in to be our Bird of the Season.

Thanks for reading and have a great 2025.

Editor’s note: Another highlight of the season for many was the total solar eclipse on 8 April. The reaction of the avifauna to the mid-day darkening is documented in the Notes and Observations piece on page 329.

## SPRING ARRIVAL DATES FOR 2024

Spring 2024 was another early one in New York State, with average arrival dates for the 93 study species record-early statewide and in six of the ten reporting Regions. Compared to their historical averages from 1987-2023, the ten Regions varied from 5.3 days earlier (Region 8) to 8.3 days earlier (Region 9), and the statewide average was more than seven days earlier. No fewer than 33 of the 93 species that we track were record-early in terms of their average statewide arrival dates. Region 1, the Niagara Frontier, reported an astonishing 15 record-early species, and all Regions reported at least three.

The current system of tracking of migration dates in New York State dates to 1987, when then-Editor of *The Kingbird* Paul DeBenedictis described the motivation for the project, identified potential obstacles, and laid down the framework for data collection (“Editorial: Regional Boundaries and Migration Dates; *The Kingbird* 37: 9-24). Initially fall departure dates were collected as well though this was discontinued at some point between 1996 and the start of my tenure as Editor in 2004.

The 93 species whose spring arrival dates we are still tracking were originally chosen as those occurring and discernible as spring migrants statewide, but careful examination of the data across species and Regions reveals that some species (especially shorebirds) are simply not recorded in all Regions every year, and that others (for example, waterfowl, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Eastern Bluebird) are now over-wintering so widely and commonly that it is difficult or impossible to discern migratory arrival dates at least in some Regions in some years. The omission of one or more of these wintering species, whose migration dates tend to be early, from a given Region’s list will tend to bias that Region’s yearly average across species slightly upward (later than it should be), and the omission of species in “early” Regions (like Regions 1 and 10) will likewise bias those species’ averages across Regions upward (later). At the same time, when very early dates involving birds that over-wintered undetected are reported as spring arrival dates, averages are biased downward (earlier than they should be).

One solution is to choose for analysis a subset of the 93 species for which the spring arrival data are most accurate and complete across Regions. How this might be done most effectively will be discussed with the Regional Editors, and suggestions from anyone interested in this endeavor are of course welcome. For now, we will continue to collect data as best we can for the full suite of species, but beginning with the 2025 Spring Season, we will begin to extract, analyze, and publish statistics based on a core set of widespread species whose arrival dates can be discerned most accurately.

| Region     | Species Evaluated <sup>1</sup> | Reg. Avg. 2024 | Region vs. NYS 2024 <sup>2</sup> | 2024 vs. Avg. 1987-2023 <sup>3</sup> | Reg. Avg. 2024 vs. 2023 <sup>4</sup> | Record Early Spp. |
|------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1</b>   | 91                             | <b>11-Apr</b>  | -2.7                             | -8.0                                 | -3.4                                 | 15                |
| <b>2</b>   | 93                             | <b>12-Apr</b>  | -1.9                             | -6.4                                 | -2.5                                 | 4                 |
| <b>3</b>   | 92                             | <b>12-Apr</b>  | -1.7                             | -6.4                                 | -1.1                                 | 6                 |
| <b>4</b>   | 87                             | 17-Apr         | 2.8                              | -6.3                                 | -0.7                                 | 4                 |
| <b>5</b>   | 92                             | <b>14-Apr</b>  | 0.4                              | -6.3                                 | -1.7                                 | 4                 |
| <b>6</b>   | 88                             | 21-Apr         | 7.0                              | -5.7                                 | -0.9                                 | 5                 |
| <b>7</b>   | 92                             | <b>20-Apr</b>  | 6.1                              | -8.1                                 | -4.6                                 | 3                 |
| <b>8</b>   | 88                             | 17-Apr         | 3.0                              | -5.3                                 | 0.5                                  | 3                 |
| <b>9</b>   | 92                             | 11-Apr         | -2.7                             | -8.3                                 | 1.8                                  | 3                 |
| <b>10</b>  | 80                             | <b>11-Apr</b>  | -3.2                             | -7.3                                 | 0.1                                  | 3                 |
| <b>NYS</b> | 93                             | <b>14-Apr</b>  | .                                | -7.1                                 | -1.8                                 | 33                |

<sup>1</sup>Maximum number of species = 93; a species might not be evaluated in a Region if over-wintering birds obscured the arrival of migrants, or if the species was not detected at all during the season. Omission of species can affect a Region’s overall average; for instance if one or two very early migrants were not evaluated, the Region’s average date would be biased upward.

<sup>2</sup>Average arrival in a Region compared to the average of all Regions, in 2023 (days).

<sup>3</sup>Average arrival in a Region compared to that Region’s average, 1987-2023 (days).

<sup>4</sup>Each Region’s average arrival date, averaged across species, is more sensitive to the omission of one or more species than is the statewide average for each species, averaged across Regions.

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| Spring Arrival Dates 2024. Dates in <b>bold</b> font indicate record-early arrivals for the Region. |               |               |              |               |               |               |              |               |               |         |               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------|---------------|---------------|
| Species                                                                                             | Region 1      | Region 2      | Region 3     | Region 4      | Region 5      | Region 6      | Region 7     | Region 8      | Region 9      | Reg. 10 | NYS Avg       | Avg 1987-2023 |
| Wood Duck                                                                                           | <b>27 Jan</b> | 15 Mar        | 23 Feb       | 23 Feb        | 23 Feb        | <b>22 Feb</b> | 2 Mar        | 1 Mar         | 10 Feb        |         | 22 Feb        | 8 Mar         |
| Blue-winged Teal                                                                                    | 23 Mar        | 16 Mar        | 4 Mar        | 20 Mar        | 14 Mar        | 15 Mar        | 27 Mar       | 18 Mar        | 13 Mar        | 10 Mar  | 16 Mar        | 26 Mar        |
| Northern Pintail                                                                                    | 29 Jan        | 10 Feb        | <b>2 Feb</b> | <b>10 Feb</b> | <b>12 Feb</b> | 27 Feb        | 2 Mar        |               | 19 Feb        |         | <b>13 Feb</b> | 3 Mar         |
| Green-winged Teal                                                                                   | 30 Jan        | 21 Feb        | 8 Feb        |               | <b>9 Feb</b>  | 6 Mar         | 14 Mar       |               | 17 Feb        |         | <b>18 Feb</b> | 11 Mar        |
| Black-billed Cuckoo                                                                                 | 7 May         | 11 May        | 29 Apr       | 9 May         | 7 May         | 14 May        | 14 May       | 24 Apr        | 30 Apr        | 6 May   | 6 May         | 11 May        |
| Common Nighthawk                                                                                    | 10 May        | 7 May         | 6 May        | 11 May        | 14 May        | 16 May        | 15 May       | 14 May        | 15 Apr        | 6 May   | 8 May         | 12 May        |
| Chimney Swift                                                                                       | 16 Apr        | 17 Apr        | 17 Apr       | 27 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 30 Apr       | 24 Apr        | <b>3 Apr</b>  | 13 Apr  | 20 Apr        | 23 Apr        |
| Ruby-thr. Hummingbird                                                                               | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 29 Apr       | 29 Apr        | 28 Apr        | <b>30 Apr</b> | 2 May        | 25 Apr        | 20 Apr        | 15 Apr  | 26 Apr        | 1 May         |
| Virginia Rail                                                                                       | 3 Apr         | 7 Apr         | 26 Apr       | <b>17 Mar</b> | 18 Mar        | 14 Apr        | <b>1 Apr</b> | <b>1 Mar</b>  | 3 Mar         | 31 Mar  | <b>27 Mar</b> | 13 Apr        |
| Sora                                                                                                | 15 Apr        | 12 Apr        | 14 Apr       | 20 Apr        | 14 Apr        | 16 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 15 Apr        | 15 Apr        | 14 Apr  | 16 Apr        | 26 Apr        |
| Common Gallinule                                                                                    | <b>4 Apr</b>  | 1 Apr         | 12 Apr       | 25 Apr        | 14 Apr        | 19 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 17 Apr        | 12 Apr        | 19 May  | 18 Apr        | 24 Apr        |
| Black-bellied Plover                                                                                | 11 May        | 5 May         | 11 May       |               | 7 May         | 18 May        | <b>1 May</b> | 18 May        | 10 May        |         | 10 May        | 14 May        |
| Killdeer                                                                                            | 21 Feb        | 22 Feb        | 9 Feb        | 25 Feb        | 20 Feb        | 28 Feb        | 4 Mar        | 28 Feb        | 4 Mar         | 17 Feb  | 23 Feb        | 2 Mar         |
| Semipalmated Plover                                                                                 | 4 May         | 4 May         | 4 May        | 2 May         | 4 May         | 11 May        | 5 May        | 3 May         | 28 Apr        | 11 Apr  | 1 May         | 8 May         |
| Sanderling                                                                                          | 25 May        | <b>4 Apr</b>  | 9 May        |               | 18 May        |               |              |               | 27 May        |         | 10 May        | 15 May        |
| Least Sandpiper                                                                                     | 24 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 24 Apr       | 29 Apr        | 30 Apr        | 7 May         | 7 May        | 4 May         | 12 Apr        | 12 Apr  | 26 Apr        | 2 May         |
| Pectoral Sandpiper                                                                                  | 30 Mar        | 1 Apr         | 31 Mar       |               | 28 Apr        |               | 7 May        | 1 May         | 16 Mar        | 26 Mar  | 9 Apr         | 17 Apr        |
| Semipalmated Sandpiper                                                                              | 12 May        | 29 Apr        | 30 Apr       | 18 May        | 11 May        |               | 26 May       | 14 May        | 6 May         | 28 Apr  | 9 May         | 13 May        |
| American Woodcock                                                                                   | <b>12 Feb</b> | 27 Feb        | 7 Feb        | 4 Mar         | 18 Feb        | 28 Feb        | 4 Mar        | 27 Feb        | 23 Feb        |         | 23 Feb        | 9 Mar         |
| Wilson's Snipe                                                                                      | <b>27 Feb</b> | 2 Mar         | <b>1 Mar</b> | 5 Mar         | 9 Mar         | 14 Mar        | 26 Mar       | 3 Mar         | 23 Feb        | 6 Mar   | <b>5 Mar</b>  | 22 Mar        |
| Spotted Sandpiper                                                                                   | 11 Apr        | 18 Apr        | 9 Apr        | 20 Apr        | 15 Apr        | 23 Apr        | 29 Apr       | 15 Apr        | 1 Apr         | 13 Apr  | 15 Apr        | 21 Apr        |
| Solitary Sandpiper                                                                                  | 14 Apr        | 15 Apr        | 8 Apr        | 10 Apr        | 12 Apr        | 7 May         | 1 May        | 12 Apr        | 11 Apr        | 12 Apr  | <b>16 Apr</b> | 24 Apr        |
| Lesser Yellowlegs                                                                                   | 18 Mar        | 8 Mar         | 1 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 31 Mar        | 27 Apr        | 24 Apr       | 13 Apr        | 7 Apr         | 5 Apr   | 6 Apr         | 14 Apr        |
| Greater Yellowlegs                                                                                  | 30 Mar        | <b>7 Mar</b>  | 16 Mar       | 8 Apr         | 7 Mar         | 9 Apr         | 6 Apr        | <b>17 Mar</b> | <b>29 Feb</b> |         | <b>21 Mar</b> | 4 Apr         |
| Caspian Tern                                                                                        | 3 Apr         | <b>28 Mar</b> | 4 Apr        | 9 Apr         | 27 Mar        | 8 Apr         | 14 Mar       | 15 Apr        | 30 Mar        | 10 Apr  | <b>2 Apr</b>  | 14 Apr        |
| Black Tern                                                                                          | 22 Apr        | 15 Apr        | 23 Apr       | 5 May         | 24 Apr        | 30 Apr        | 7 May        | 25 May        | 12 May        | 4 May   | 1 May         | 7 May         |
| Common Tern                                                                                         | 5 Apr         | 12 Apr        | 20 Apr       | 5 May         | 12 Apr        | 21 Apr        | 9 May        | 6 May         | 3 May         | 8 Apr   | 22 Apr        | 24 Apr        |
| American Bittern                                                                                    | 25 Mar        | 30 Mar        | 6 Apr        | 20 Apr        | 30 Mar        | 9 Apr         | 6 Apr        | 8 Apr         | 18 Apr        | 15 Apr  | 7 Apr         | 12 Apr        |
| Green Heron                                                                                         | 16 Apr        | 18 Apr        | 16 Apr       | 18 Apr        | 18 Apr        | 19 Apr        | 29 Apr       | 17 Apr        | 9 Apr         | 9 Apr   | 16 Apr        | 20 Apr        |
| Osprey                                                                                              | 18 Mar        | 17 Mar        | 15 Mar       | 30 Mar        | 17 Mar        | 27 Mar        | 31 Mar       | 29 Mar        | 8 Mar         | 3 Mar   | 19 Mar        | 26 Mar        |
| Yellow-bellied Sapsucker                                                                            | 26 Mar        | 23 Mar        | 7 Mar        | 26 Mar        | 12 Mar        | 6 Apr         | 28 Mar       |               | 1 Apr         |         | 23 Mar        | 31 Mar        |

| Spring Arrival Dates 2024. Dates in <b>bold</b> font indicate record-early arrivals for the Region. |               |          |              |               |          |          |          |          |               |               |               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Species                                                                                             | Region 1      | Region 2 | Region 3     | Region 4      | Region 5 | Region 6 | Region 7 | Region 8 | Region 9      | Reg. 10       | NYS Avg       | Avg 1987-2023 |
| Great Crested Flycatcher                                                                            | 26 Apr        | 27 Apr   | 26 Apr       | 29 Apr        | 23 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 19 Apr        | 18 Apr        | <b>25 Apr</b> | 30 Apr        |
| Eastern Kingbird                                                                                    | 20 Apr        | 21 Apr   | 9 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 23 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 6 Apr    | 23 Apr   | 19 Apr        | 5 Apr         | <b>17 Apr</b> | 27 Apr        |
| Olive-sided Flycatcher                                                                              | 16 May        | 18 May   | 13 May       | 30 May        | 13 May   | 15 May   | 4 May    | 8 May    | 9 May         | 7 May         | 13 May        | 17 May        |
| Eastern Wood-Pewee                                                                                  | <b>1 May</b>  | 6 May    | 4 May        | 2 May         | 2 May    | 10 May   | 11 May   | 2 May    | 2 May         | 28 Apr        | <b>3 May</b>  | 8 May         |
| Alder Flycatcher                                                                                    | 12 May        | 12 May   | 7 May        | 8 May         | 10 May   | 10 May   | 12 May   | 10 May   | 16 May        | 19 May        | 11 May        | 15 May        |
| Willow Flycatcher                                                                                   | <b>8 May</b>  | 5 May    | 9 May        | 9 May         | 9 May    | 17 May   | 16 May   | 4 May    | 7 May         | 7 May         | 9 May         | 13 May        |
| Least Flycatcher                                                                                    | <b>23 Apr</b> | 28 Apr   | 21 Apr       | 28 Apr        | 25 Apr   | 28 Apr   | 28 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 23 Apr        | 24 Apr        | <b>25 Apr</b> | 30 Apr        |
| Eastern Phoebe                                                                                      | <b>15 Feb</b> | 15 Mar   | 15 Mar       | 15 Mar        | 5 Mar    | 26 Mar   | 5 Mar    | 8 Mar    | 26 Mar        | 14 Mar        | 11 Mar        | 20 Mar        |
| Yellow-throated Vireo                                                                               | 29 Apr        | 30 Apr   | 27 Apr       | 29 Apr        | 25 Apr   | 2 May    | 13 May   | 28 Apr   | 21 Apr        | 16 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 2 May         |
| Blue-headed Vireo                                                                                   | 11 Apr        | 16 Apr   | 9 Apr        | 12 Apr        | 17 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 16 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 10 Apr        | 3 Apr         | 12 Apr        | 17 Apr        |
| Warbling Vireo                                                                                      | 26 Apr        | 23 Apr   | 23 Apr       | 21 Apr        | 22 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 21 Apr   | 20 Apr        | 13 Apr        | <b>21 Apr</b> | 28 Apr        |
| Red-eyed Vireo                                                                                      | 29 Apr        | 28 Apr   | 30 Apr       | 30 Apr        | 30 Apr   | 2 May    | 6 May    | 30 Apr   | 29 Apr        | 24 Apr        | <b>29 Apr</b> | 3 May         |
| Bank Swallow                                                                                        | 12 Apr        | 8 Apr    | 15 Apr       | 18 Apr        | 15 Apr   | 2 May    | 24 Apr   | 14 Apr   | 19 Apr        | 16 Apr        | 17 Apr        | 22 Apr        |
| Tree Swallow                                                                                        | <b>28 Feb</b> | 4 Mar    | <b>5 Mar</b> | 14 Mar        | 5 Mar    | 17 Mar   | 7 Mar    | 5 Mar    | 29 Feb        | 10 Mar        | <b>6 Mar</b>  | 18 Mar        |
| N. Rough-winged Swallow                                                                             | 5 Apr         | 7 Apr    | 2 Apr        | 9 Apr         | 8 Apr    | 15 Apr   | 9 Apr    | 8 Apr    | 29 Mar        | 28 Mar        | 5 Apr         | 11 Apr        |
| Purple Martin                                                                                       | 1 Apr         | 2 Apr    | 1 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 8 Apr    | 22 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 15 Apr   | 9 Apr         | 27 Feb        | 7 Apr         | 16 Apr        |
| Barn Swallow                                                                                        | <b>18 Mar</b> | 15 Mar   | 21 Mar       | 1 Apr         | 7 Apr    | 8 Apr    | 8 Apr    | 8 Apr    | 17 Mar        | 29 Mar        | <b>28 Mar</b> | 8 Apr         |
| Cliff Swallow                                                                                       | 9 Apr         | 17 Apr   | 3 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 17 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 1 May    | 24 Apr   | 8 Apr         | 20 Apr        | 17 Apr        | 24 Apr        |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet                                                                                | 30 Mar        | 30 Mar   | 27 Mar       | 8 Apr         | 25 Mar   | 9 Apr    | 4 Mar    | 28 Mar   | 30 Mar        | 30 Mar        | 28 Mar        | 5 Apr         |
| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher                                                                               | 14 Apr        | 15 Apr   | 15 Apr       | 16 Apr        | 12 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 11 May   | 13 Apr   | 1 Apr         | 16 Mar        | 13 Apr        | 18 Apr        |
| House Wren                                                                                          | 9 Apr         | 10 Apr   | 14 Apr       | 14 Apr        | 14 Apr   | 22 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 30 Mar        | 13 Mar        | 9 Apr         | 19 Apr        |
| Marsh Wren                                                                                          | <b>13 Mar</b> | 8 Apr    | 1 Apr        | <b>20 Mar</b> | 7 Apr    | 25 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 8 Apr    | <b>14 Mar</b> | 14 Apr        | 4 Apr         | 24 Apr        |
| Gray Catbird                                                                                        |               | 6 Apr    | 18 Apr       | 18 Apr        | 20 Apr   | 28 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 28 Mar        |               | 15 Apr        | 22 Apr        |
| Brown Thrasher                                                                                      | 4 Apr         | 8 Apr    | 9 Apr        | 9 Apr         | 9 Apr    | 14 Apr   | 10 Apr   | 9 Apr    | 8 Mar         | 13 Mar        | 3 Apr         | 12 Apr        |
| Eastern Bluebird                                                                                    |               | 8 Mar    |              |               |          |          | 2 Mar    |          |               | <b>16 Feb</b> | 28 Feb        | 9 Mar         |
| Veery                                                                                               | 29 Apr        | 2 May    | 20 Apr       | 29 Apr        | 26 Apr   | 2 May    | 28 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 26 Apr        | 16 Apr        | 26 Apr        | 1 May         |
| Swainson's Thrush                                                                                   | 26 Apr        | 1 May    | 6 May        | 2 May         | 4 May    | 4 May    | 10 May   | 1 May    | 28 Apr        | <b>16 Apr</b> | <b>30 Apr</b> | 7 May         |
| Hermit Thrush                                                                                       | 16 Mar        | 2 Apr    | 31 Mar       | 25 Mar        | 6 Apr    | 8 Apr    | 23 Mar   | 4 Apr    | 8 Apr         |               | 30 Mar        | 5 Apr         |
| Wood Thrush                                                                                         | 23 Apr        | 27 Apr   | 27 Apr       | 28 Apr        | 23 Apr   | 28 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 23 Apr   | 19 Apr        | 13 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 28 Apr        |
| Chipping Sparrow                                                                                    | 29 Mar        | 22 Mar   | 24 Mar       | 14 Mar        | 26 Mar   | 9 Apr    | 14 Mar   | 7 Apr    | 1 Apr         |               | 26 Mar        | 2 Apr         |
| White-crowned Sparrow                                                                               | 5 Apr         | 16 Apr   | 27 Apr       | 25 Mar        | 26 Mar   | 19 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 28 Apr        | 18 Apr        | 13 Apr        | 22 Apr        |

| Spring Arrival Dates 2024. Dates in <b>bold</b> font indicate record-early arrivals for the Region. |               |               |               |               |               |              |               |               |          |               |               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Species                                                                                             | Region 1      | Region 2      | Region 3      | Region 4      | Region 5      | Region 6     | Region 7      | Region 8      | Region 9 | Reg. 10       | NYS Avg       | Avg 1987-2023 |
| Vesper Sparrow                                                                                      | 30 Mar        | 26 Mar        | 29 Mar        | 9 Apr         | 8 Apr         | 9 Apr        | 9 Apr         | 6 Apr         | 9 Apr    | 30 Mar        | 4 Apr         | 8 Apr         |
| Savannah Sparrow                                                                                    | 7 Apr         | 27 Mar        | 6 Apr         | 28 Mar        | 9 Apr         | 6 Apr        | 9 Apr         | 6 Apr         | 31 Mar   |               | 4 Apr         | 5 Apr         |
| Lincoln's Sparrow                                                                                   | 30 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        |               | 4 May         | 9 May        | 3 May         | 28 Apr        | 10 Apr   | 26 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 3 May         |
| Eastern Towhee                                                                                      | 8 Mar         | 16 Mar        | 9 Apr         | 26 Mar        | 27 Mar        | 8 Apr        | 6 Apr         | 26 Mar        | 8 Apr    |               | 28 Mar        | 6 Apr         |
| Bobolink                                                                                            | <b>25 Apr</b> | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 1 May        | 2 May         | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr   | 2 May         | <b>28 Apr</b> | 1 May         |
| Baltimore Oriole                                                                                    | 14 Apr        | 17 Apr        | 19 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 29 Apr       | 2 May         | 21 Apr        | 21 Apr   | 15 Apr        | <b>22 Apr</b> | 28 Apr        |
| Ovenbird                                                                                            | <b>15 Apr</b> | 26 Apr        | 25 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 27 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 21 Apr   | 14 Apr        | <b>23 Apr</b> | 28 Apr        |
| Northern Waterthrush                                                                                | 20 Apr        | 23 Apr        | 15 Apr        | 21 Apr        | 22 Apr        | 25 Apr       | 25 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 17 Apr   | 14 Apr        | <b>20 Apr</b> | 25 Apr        |
| Black-and-white Warbler                                                                             | 25 Apr        | 22 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 22 Apr        | 26 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 30 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 17 Apr   | 9 Apr         | 23 Apr        | 23 Apr        |
| Tennessee Warbler                                                                                   | 28 Apr        | 30 Apr        | <b>28 Apr</b> | <b>30 Apr</b> | <b>26 Apr</b> | 3 May        | 10 May        | 1 May         | 29 Apr   | 25 Apr        | <b>30 Apr</b> | 7 May         |
| Nashville Warbler                                                                                   | <b>19 Apr</b> | 20 Apr        | 22 Apr        | 25 Apr        | 21 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 30 Apr        | 25 Apr        | 24 Apr   | 16 Apr        | 23 Apr        | 28 Apr        |
| Mourning Warbler                                                                                    | <b>2 May</b>  | 4 May         | 5 May         | 8 May         | 8 May         | 14 May       | 15 May        | 9 May         | 9 May    | 9 May         | <b>8 May</b>  | 13 May        |
| Common Yellowthroat                                                                                 | 24 Apr        | 22 Apr        | 19 Apr        | 26 Apr        | 19 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 1 May         | 16 Apr        | 30 Apr   | 7 Apr         | 22 Apr        | 28 Apr        |
| American Redstart                                                                                   | 28 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 26 Apr        | 30 Apr       | 2 May         | 27 Apr        | 17 Apr   | 27 Apr        | <b>27 Apr</b> | 1 May         |
| Cape May Warbler                                                                                    | 29 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 3 May        | 1 May         | 30 Apr        | 29 Apr   | 28 Apr        | <b>29 Apr</b> | 6 May         |
| Northern Parula                                                                                     | 23 Apr        | 23 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 30 Apr       | 25 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 16 Apr   | 9 Apr         | <b>23 Apr</b> | 30 Apr        |
| Magnolia Warbler                                                                                    | 30 Apr        | 2 May         | 30 Apr        | 30 Apr        | 1 May         | 6 May        | 2 May         | 30 Apr        | 29 Apr   | 27 Apr        | 30 Apr        | 3 May         |
| Bay-breasted Warbler                                                                                | 4 May         | 4 May         | 3 May         | 7 May         | 1 May         | 3 May        | 11 May        | 2 May         | 30 Apr   | 28 Apr        | <b>3 May</b>  | 9 May         |
| Blackburnian Warbler                                                                                | 27 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 6 May        | 30 Apr        | <b>24 Apr</b> | 28 Apr   | 28 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 1 May         |
| Yellow Warbler                                                                                      | 21 Apr        | 17 Apr        | 20 Apr        | 21 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 28 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 20 Apr   | 14 Apr        | 21 Apr        | 25 Apr        |
| Chestnut-sided Warbler                                                                              | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 30 Apr        | 30 Apr       | 6 May         | 29 Apr        | 29 Apr   | <b>15 Apr</b> | 28 Apr        | 2 May         |
| Blackpoll Warbler                                                                                   | 8 May         | 8 May         | 6 May         | 11 May        | 8 May         | <b>3 May</b> | 11 May        | 7 May         | 30 Apr   | 28 Apr        | <b>6 May</b>  | 10 May        |
| Black-thr. Blue Warbler                                                                             | 28 Apr        | 28 Apr        | <b>14 Apr</b> | 27 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 2 May        | 30 Apr        | 27 Apr        | 24 Apr   | 24 Apr        | <b>26 Apr</b> | 30 Apr        |
| Palm Warbler                                                                                        | 11 Apr        | 8 Apr         | 7 Apr         | 15 Apr        | 9 Apr         |              | 9 Apr         | 28 Mar        | 7 Apr    | 14 Mar        | 5 Apr         | 14 Apr        |
| Pine Warbler                                                                                        | 31 Mar        | 14 Mar        | 15 Mar        | 22 Mar        | 31 Mar        | 10 Apr       | 21 Mar        | 25 Mar        | 4 Apr    | 12 Mar        | <b>24 Mar</b> | 6 Apr         |
| Black-thr. Green Warbler                                                                            | 16 Apr        | 23 Apr        | 16 Apr        | 23 Apr        | 25 Apr        | 28 Apr       | 28 Apr        | 24 Apr        | 23 Apr   | 14 Apr        | 22 Apr        | 24 Apr        |
| Canada Warbler                                                                                      | 4 May         | <b>1 May</b>  | <b>1 May</b>  | 1 May         | 9 May         | 6 May        | 9 May         | 30 Apr        | 29 Apr   | 29 Apr        | <b>2 May</b>  | 9 May         |
| Wilson's Warbler                                                                                    | 4 May         | 29 Apr        | 2 May         | 9 May         | 3 May         | 7 May        | 9 May         | 1 May         | 3 May    | 29 Apr        | <b>3 May</b>  | 10 May        |
| Scarlet Tanager                                                                                     | 28 Apr        | 30 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 28 Apr        | 29 Apr        | <b>1 May</b> | 3 May         | 27 Apr        | 28 Apr   | 16 Apr        | <b>27 Apr</b> | 3 May         |
| Rose-breasted Grosbeak                                                                              | 18 Apr        | 19 Apr        | 23 Apr        | 24 Apr        | <b>19 Apr</b> | 26 Apr       | 28 Apr        | 21 Apr        | 24 Apr   | 13 Apr        | 21 Apr        | 27 Apr        |
| Indigo Bunting                                                                                      | 28 Apr        | 26 Apr        | 26 Apr        | 29 Apr        | 29 Apr        | <b>1 May</b> | <b>4 May</b>  | 28 Apr        | 25 Apr   | 8 Apr         | <b>26 Apr</b> | 2 May         |
| Avg Arrival in Region                                                                               | <b>11 Apr</b> | <b>12 Apr</b> | <b>12 Apr</b> | 17 Apr        | <b>14 Apr</b> | 21 Apr       | <b>20 Apr</b> | 17 Apr        | 11 Apr   | <b>9 Apr</b>  | <b>14 Apr</b> | 21 Apr        |

## REGIONAL REPORTS, SPRING 2024

Much of the data in the Regional reports is sourced from eBird:  
eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD\_relMay-2024. Cornell Lab of Ornithology,  
Ithaca, New York. May 2024.



### REGION 1 – NIAGARA FRONTIER

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The Spring of 2024 can be described as very mild, with all three months in the top ten warmest on record for the Region. Most of March was mild with a week of winter weather thrown in to remind us how variable this month can be. It finished as the ninth warmest on record with a mean temperature of 40.8° F (6.7° above normal) and 2.11" of precipitation (0.78" below normal). A total of 11.2" of snow fell in March, which was 2.9" below normal. April continued the mild weather trend. Despite the absence of any severe weather events, it was a wet month with a total of 4.58" of precipitation (1.21" above normal). The mean temperature of 50.0° was 4.4° above average, making it the eighth warmest on record. May was the fourth warmest on record, with a mean temperature of 63.7°, which was 5.8° above normal. The 2.61" of precipitation was 0.76" below normal.

Despite the mild late winter temperatures leading to early migration, the Region enjoyed a nice showing of waterfowl. Highlights included a pair of **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks** found by Ellen Tomczak on 2 May in Delaware Park, Buffalo. Some exceptionally large Snow Geese flocks by Region 1 standards were found along the Lake Ontario Plain in Niagara and Orleans Counties in March, the largest of which was estimated at 4,800. Amongst the plentiful Snow Geese, the now annual Ross's Geese were found, with three reports of one to two birds each. Greater White-fronted Goose seemed a little harder to come by this spring than most recent years, with just four, all single bird reports, for the season. Cackling Geese made a decent showing with a maximum of eight birds in Niagara County on 2 March. The northbound flocks of Tundra Swans are a much anticipated sign of spring migration and a flock of 335 at Iroquois NWR was a nice treat on 1 March. A nice variety of dabbling and diving ducks continued moving through the Region in spring, though there were no large flocks exceeding 1,000. A drake Eurasian Wigeon was found at Tonawanda WMA on 16 March

and was most likely the same individual reported through 25 March and again on 7 and 14 April. A handful of Harlequin Duck reports came from Fort Niagara SP in March and April and the last was reported on 10 May from Niagara Falls. No King Eiders were reported this spring.

The first Eastern Whip-poor-will was reported on 27 April, followed by four more reports. A Virginia Rail on 5 March at Batavia WWTP may represent an early arrival or possibly an overwintering individual taking advantage of the mild winter. There were a good number of Sandhill Cranes reported, with a maximum count of 11 from Tonawanda WMA on 17 March.

Shorebird highlights were rather sparse compared to most spring seasons. Notable absences were Red Knot, Willet, and Upland Sandpiper. The only Whimbrel report was three birds from Niagara County on 22 May. A Stilt Sandpiper on 18 May was a “rare-for-spring” sighting in Niagara County. Other highlights included the last of the season sighting of three Purple Sandpipers at Buffalo Harbor on 13 April, a single Long-billed Dowitcher in Jamestown on 20-21 April, two Wilson’s Phalarope reports, and a nice count of 16 Short-billed Dowitchers.

There were few gull highlights in spring, the most notable of which was a Laughing Gull found by Sue Barth at Sturgeon Point in Erie County on 5 May. Another highlight was a Black-legged Kittiwake at Fort Niagara SP from 30-31 March. Oddly, there were only two Little Gull reports, both from April, along the Niagara River and fewer Bonaparte’s Gulls than normal, with a maximum count of just 250 for the season. Iceland Gulls were reported along the Niagara River and Lake Erie shoreline, with a nice count of ten from the Niagara Power Project on 2 March. Several Glaucous Gulls were reported during the spring season; the last of which occurred on 12 May. The first Black Terns arrived on 22 April, with an impressive count of 42 at Iroquois NWR on 9 May, a well-known breeding location for this species. There was a nice showing of Forster’s Terns in April and May, with a maximum count of three from Chautauqua County on 29 April.

A nice count of 67 Red-throated Loons was made along Lake Ontario on 14 April. Shelley Seidman photographed two American White Pelicans as they flew past her along Buffalo Harbor 13 April. What was likely one of the same birds hung out in the area long enough to be counted during the BOS April Bird Count the next day and NYSDEC staff recorded one hanging around Strawberry Island until 26 April. Locally breeding waders began arriving by mid March. A Snowy Egret was found by Devin Banning in Chautauqua County on 9 May. Two days later, possibly the same bird was found by Katelyn Davis and others at the Audubon Community Nature Center. A Glossy Ibis at Iroquois NWR was a nice find by Doug Rabjohns on 18 May, which remained in the area until the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Most raptor highlights came from the Hamburg Hawk Watch where a maximum count of 5,499 Turkey Vultures occurred on 6 April, an immature Golden Eagle was tallied on 6 April, and Jim Landau identified a Swainson’s Hawk on 1 May. Fewer Black Vultures than usual were sighted near Lewiston, where regular, with a seasonal maximum of only three.

A Snowy Owl at Tonawanda WMA on 1 March was the only report for the season, which followed very few winter reports. The only Long-eared Owl report was from Yates on 5 March. Short-eared Owls were reported from seven locations, mostly the same spots as the winter season, with a maximum of eight at Shelby, and the last on 11 April. Eight Northern Saw-whet Owl reports were the most of any spring season report, which followed some late winter sightings. It is possible that this species was present in better numbers than usual; however, it is more likely that the increased reports were due to local birders targeting them. The season's reports were bookended by saw-whets that Tom Kerr found during owl prowl outings at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center and Allegany State Park.

Passerine migration was strong in late April and the first half of May. There were many "early" arrival reports again, which we're getting accustomed to in a warming climate.

A White-eyed Vireo found by Kevin Rybczynski and Rebecca Ploeger at Forest Lawn Cemetery on April 29 was the only report for the season. The last Northern Shrike report was from 7 April. Fish Crows remained in the Buffalo area winter roost into March, along with a few into April. Reports from Alfred and Jamestown are evidence this species is continuing to expand in range, as there are few previous reports from the Southern Tier counties. One at Krull County Park and three at Lakeside Beach State Park in May are consistent with some movements along Lake Ontario in recent years.

On 7 May, Katelyn Davis photographed an unusual swallow that was nesting with a female Barn Swallow under a gazebo in Erie County. After seeing the bird in flight and perched, it was deemed a hybrid Barn x Cliff Swallow, showing characteristics of both species. The forked tail was smaller than a typical Barn Swallow and was punctuated with a tan rump patch. Structurally, the bird was more similar to Cliff Swallow but made mostly Barn Swallow vocalizations with a Cliff Swallow-esque rattle at the end, as noted by Davis. Cody King reported the only Sedge Wren of the season, from Iroquois NWR on 19 May, which is one of the most reliable locations for this unpredictable species. Finch reports were rather sparse, but crossbills and Common Redpolls were some nice highlights. There were four Red Crossbill reports, all from Allegany County, with a maximum count of six on 18 May. The only White-winged Crossbill report came from Krull CP on 2 March. There were just two Common Redpoll reports, one of which was a long-staying individual at a feeder in Erie County from 2 March to 7 April. Pine Siskins were found in higher numbers compared to last year, with a maximum count of 35 and a handful of other counts above 20. There were no Evening Grosbeaks reported.

Some nice flocks of Lapland Longspurs were reported in March and April with a maximum count of 64 from Orleans County on 23 March. No large Snow Bunting flocks were reported, with the highest count being just 15 on 21 March. Grasshopper Sparrow arrived on 26 April and were reported from several known breeding locations. Mike Adriaansen found a **Lark Sparrow** at Evangola SP on 14 May and got the word out quick enough to allow a handful of other birders to

get a look at this regional rarity. Clay-colored Sparrows first showed up at their Krull CP breeding grounds on 28 April and were reported from four other locations. Vesper Sparrow, which is becoming harder to find as a local breeder in the Region, was reported from several locations, many of which were likely passing migrants. A male Oregon-type Junco was photographed in Buffalo on 14 April. A Fox Sparrow was on the late side by lingering until at least 27 May at Tift Nature Preserve.

The first Baltimore Orioles were counted on 14 April during the BOS April Count, a first time this species was recorded for the count and four days earlier than last year's first report. A nice count of 100 Rusty Blackbirds was made on 20 May at Oak Orchard WMA.

Jennifer Dunn found a Worm-eating Warbler during the BOS May Count at Joseph Davis SP on 19 May, which is a rare species for the Region and reported subannually. Only five Golden-winged Warblers were reported, a species getting more and more difficult to find due to its population decline. No Connecticut or Yellow-throated Warblers were reported.

A male Summer Tanager was found at Tift Nature Preserve by Zach Almond on 8 May, with probably the same bird seen there one week later. A Rose-breasted Grosbeak photographed by Phil Bens at a feeder in Gerry on 3 March was surprising; perhaps it overwintered well to the north of usual. Another unusual feeder bird was a Dickcissel that graced the Wilson yard and feeder of Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter 19-22 April.

The 89<sup>th</sup> annual BOS April Count was held on 14 April. Weather conditions started out mild with mostly south winds. Temperatures and wind speeds increased as the day progressed, with temperatures reaching a high of 65° by the evening and winds speeds peaking at 24 mph by early afternoon. This count, compiled by Joel Strong, includes both Region 1 and the adjacent area to the west in Ontario, Canada. During the count 217 volunteers managed to find an impressive 151 bird species totaling 101,233 individual birds. Record high counts were made for 13 species, likely due to the later count date and mild spring weather: Trumpeter Swan (16), Solitary Sandpiper (2), Common Tern (410), Great Egret (266), Osprey (81), Bald Eagle (118), Eastern Screech-Owl (13), Red-bellied Woodpecker (433), Merlin (20), Marsh Wren (8), Carolina Wren (132), Eastern Bluebird (325), Swamp Sparrow (518). Notable firsts for the count included American White Pelican and Baltimore Oriole.

The annual BOS May Count was held on 19 May on a cool day with moderate east/northeast winds and a high of 66°. This count was compiled by Robert L. DeLeon. Totals of 207 species and 61,406 birds were recorded. Record high counts (since 1965 when the counts received more geographic coverage) were set for: Canvasback (12), Least Bittern (7), Merlin (10), Eastern Wood-Pewee (228), Alder Flycatcher (80), Warbling Vireo (597), Cliff Swallow (265), Carolina Wren (140), Pine Warbler (51), Bay-breasted Warbler (151), Blackpoll Warbler (233), and American Redstart (521), and Ovenbird (370). Many of these species are part of increasing trends in recent years. Record low counts included

Ring-necked Pheasant (1), Chipping Sparrow (544), and Common Grackle (1,555), interestingly the second year in a row for record low grackle counts.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**ACNC** – Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown, CHAU; **AISP** – Allegany SP, CATT; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **BOSAC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society April Count – 14 Apr; **BOSMC** – Buffalo Ornithological Society May Count – 19 May; **Bond L CP** – Bond L CP, NIAG; **BufH** – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; **BuSP** – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; **BWWTP** – Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, GENE; **ChauL** – Chautauqua L, CHAU; **CHMUA** – Carlton Hill Multiple Use Area, GENE/WYOM; **CSWMA** – Conewango Swamp WMA, CATT; **DH** – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; **DHSP** – Devil's Hole SP, NIAG; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FMCSP** – Four Mile Creek SP, NIAG; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **Hamburg HW** – Hamburg Hawk Watch, ERIE; **HBWMA** – Hanging Bog WMA, ALLE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **JDSP** – Joseph Davis SP, NIAG; **JWWMA** – John White WMA, GENE; **Krull CP** – Krull CP, NIAG; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **MI** – Motor I, ERIE; **NF** – Niagara Falls, NIAG; **NFSP** – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; **NPP** – Niagara Power Project on Niagara R, NIAG; **NR** – Niagara Ri; **OOWMA** – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; **PB** – Point Breeze, ORLE; **PG** – Point Gratiot, CHAU; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods Nature Pres, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach Nature Pres, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tift NP** – Tift Nature Pres, ERIE; **TRWMA** – Tillman Rd WMA, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WFWMA** – Watts Flats WMA, CHAU; **WBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:** 2 Buffalo ERIE 2 May (ET, mob), highly visible location for one day, has become annual.

**Snow Goose:** 200 Derby ERIE 1 Mar; max 4800 Lyndonville ORLE 2 Mar (JSt), much higher max than usual; 4000 Yates ORLE 5 Mar (BC); last 2 Somerset NIAG 16 Apr.

**Ross's Goose:** Yates ORLE 8-10 Mar (RC, JSt, AGu); Porter NIAG 20 Mar (PM); 2

Lyndonville ORLE 16-25 Mar (JSt); annual in spring.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Millers ORLE 12 Mar; INWR 22 Mar; Dayton CATT 30 Mar; last Jamestown CHAU 18-21 Apr (GB).

**Cackling Goose:** max 8 Somerset NIAG 2 Mar; 2 INWR 3 Mar; 4 Lyndonville ORLE 24 Mar; 2 BeSP 27 Mar; last INWR 10 Apr.

**Canada Goose:** max 3000 Sanborn NIAG 2 Mar.

**Mute Swan:** 10 Yates ORLE 8 Mar; 2 WFWMA 15 Apr; max 14 WTSP 20 May.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 9, 10 INWR 30 Mar, 30 May; Tift NP 2 Apr.

**Tundra Swan:** max 335 INWR 1 Mar; 95 Holland ERIE 4 Mar; 87 Keeney Swamp State Forest ALLE, 69 ACNC 13 Mar; 24 Cuba L ALLE 1 Apr; BWWT 25 Apr; last 2 FNSP 11 May.

**Wood Duck:** 40 Cuba L ALLE 27 Mar; 63 BWWT 28 May; max 75 Buffalo ERIE 31 May.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 12 S Dayton CATT 23 Mar; max 23 BWWT, 18 Pomfret CHAU 13 Apr.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 200 BWWT 17 Mar; 78 INWR 13 Apr.

**Gadwall:** 65 INWR 19 Mar; 50 Celoron ChauL 24, 28 Mar; max 68 BWWT 3 Apr; 60 NFSP 5 Apr; BufH 25, 31 May.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** TWMA 16-25 Mar, 7, 14 Apr (GC, mob), probably same drake for all sightings.

**American Wigeon:** max 320 TWMA 25 Mar.

**Mallard:** max 105 CSWMA 17 Mar.

**American Black Duck:** max 19 CSWMA 12 Mar; 18 OOWMA 24 Mar.

**Northern Pintail:** max 750 INWR 1 Mar (KL, BS); 135 TWMA 7 Apr; NF 25 May.

**Green-winged Teal:** 65 Lyndonville ORLE 18 Mar; max 78 BWWT 1 Apr.

**Canvasback:** max 353 DH 1 Mar; 12 BWWT 15 Mar; NF 25, 26 May.

**Redhead:** max 300 Lakewood ChauL 15 Mar; 122 BWWT 17 Mar; 100 BufH 18 Mar; 8 INWR 8 May; NF 25, 26 May.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 650, 500 TWMA 1, 26 Mar; 300 Lakewood ChauL 15 Mar; 161 BWWT 7 Apr; 6 INWR 27 May.

**Greater Scaup:** max 450 BeSP 1 Mar; 400 Lakewood ChauL 15 Mar; BufH 31 May.

**Lesser Scaup:** 450 Lakewood ChauL, 298 BWWT 28 Mar; max 500 Celoron ChauL 3 Apr; 2 BufH 31 May.

**King Eider:** no reports.

**Harlequin Duck:** FNSP 3, 30 Mar, 5 Apr; last NF 10 May.

**Surf Scoter:** 3 FNSP 1, 7 Mar; NIAG BOSOC; last BufH 31 May (MM, SS), late; only reports.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 400 FNSP 2 Mar; last 2 Olcott NIAG 27 May.

**Black Scoter:** max 6, 9 FNSP 2, 9 Mar; last PB 14 Apr.

**Long-tailed Duck:** 100 FNSP 1 Mar; 88 BWWT 15 Mar, good count for location; max 250 PB 7 Apr; last Olcott NIAG 25 May.

**Bufflehead:** 219 BWWT 11 Apr; max 300 Buffalo NR 16 Apr; INWR 30 Mar.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 255 BuSP 2 Mar; last Allen L State Forest ALLE 19 May.

**Hooded Merganser:** 41 TWMA 20 Mar; max 42 BeSP 28 Mar.

**Common Merganser:** max 100 Tonawanda NR ERIE 22 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 1000 Tonawanda NR ERIE 17 Mar; 900 GHSP 12 Apr; max 1200 Wilson NIAG 14 Apr.

**Ruddy Duck:** 19 Rushford ALLE 15 Mar; max 333, 416, 109 BWWT 28 Mar, 21 Apr, 15 May; 100 Lakewood ChauL 30 Mar; 200 N Harmony ChauL 13 Apr; INWR, 9 Chautauqua ChauL 30 May.

**Wild Turkey:** max 34 Sinclairville CHAU 21 Mar; max 34 Evans ERIE 24 Mar.

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 4 Grove ALLE 14 Apr; max 4 Busti CHAU 23 May.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** 29 eBird sightings with max of 1.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 16 INWR 11 May.

**Horned Grebe:** 32 Rushford ALLE 15 Mar; max 47 BWWT 17 Mar; 20 GHSP 24 Mar; 17 AISP 15 Apr; last INWR 26-29 May.

**Red-necked Grebe:** 10 LBSP 5 Mar; Arkwright CHAU 16-21 Mar; INWR 17-18 Mar; max 59 Olcott NIAG 23 Mar; 40 GHSP 24 Mar; last Olcott NIAG 29 Apr.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr BMAC 14 May; 36 eBird sightings.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr 3 AISP 7 May; 70 eBird sightings.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr 1, 8 Buffalo ERIE 10, 21 May; 6 Gerry CHAU, 5 Lyndonville ORLE 16 May; max 9 INWR 23 May.  
**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr Lancaster ERIE 27 Apr; 1, 1 Buffalo ERIE 28, 29 Apr; Jamestown CHAU 6 May; Tift NP 7-10 May.

**Chimney Swift:** arr Tift NP 16 Apr; max 40 BuSP 13 May.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Gerry CHAU, Lancaster ERIE 28 Apr.

**Virginia Rail:** BWWT 5-28 Mar (JSo), overwinter or early arrival?; max 8 INWR 31 May.

**Sora:** arr Tift NP 15 Apr; max 3 N Harmony CHAU 10 May.

**Common Gallinule:** arr INWR 4 Apr; max 15, 15 INWR 1, 30 May.

**American Coot:** max 100 INWR 25 Mar; 73 DH 3 Apr.

**Sandhill Crane:** max 11 TWMA 17 Mar; 6, 8, 7 INWR 1 Mar, 8 Apr, 6 May; 4, 4 WFWMA 3 Mar, 15 Apr; 2 ACNC 4 Mar; 4 Lancaster ERIE 10 Mar; 4 Orchard P ERIE 8 Apr; 4 BMAC 26 Apr.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr Hartland NIAG 11 May 2 Wilson NIAG 13 May; Somerset NIAG 16 May; max 8 INWR 23 May.

**Killdeer:** max 16 Carlton ORLE 23 Mar.

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr 2 BMAC, Hartland NIAG 4 May; max 47 TWMA 14 May.

**Upland Sandpiper:** no reports.

**Whimbrel:** arr 3 Wheatfield NIAG 22 May (JJ), only report.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr, max 8 Chautauqua ChauL 22 May (TL); 2 WBSP 23 May; PB 30 May; Barcelona CHAU 31 May.

**Red Knot:** no reports.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** Somerset NIAG 18 May (WD, JSt), rare in spring.

**Sanderling:** arr 4 Chautauqua ChauL 25 May (TL); 2 Buffalo NR 27 May (PM); 5 Barcelona CHAU 31 May (JC).

**Dunlin:** arr INWR 1 Apr (PM), slightly early; max 25 Somerset NIAG 20 May; 18 INWR 21 May.

**Purple Sandpiper:** last 3 BufH 13 Apr (PY).

**Least Sandpiper:** arr Yates ORLE 24 Apr; max 177 INWR 14 May.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr 2 Somerset NIAG 13 May (BC); max 3 INWR 30 May (KD, DB); only reports.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr, max 52 Forestville CHAU 30 Mar (GV); last TWMA, Somerset NIAG 13 May.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr Wheatfield NIAG 12 May; max 26 INWR 20 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr Amherst ERIE 6 May (CH); max 16 Wheatfield NIAG 12 May (BH); 5 TWMA, 2 Tift NP 13 May; 9 INWR 23 May.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** Kiantone CHAU 20-21 Apr (NS ph!); only report.

**American Woodcock:** max 7 Forestville CHAU 17 Mar.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 20 CSWMA 17 Mar.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr BWWT 11 Apr.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr BOSAC.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr INWR 18 Mar (DS, PM); max 40 Kiantone CHAU 20 Apr.

**Willet:** no reports.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr 6 INWR 30 Mar; 44 Kiantone CHAU 20 Apr; max 69 INWR 25 Apr.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** arr Somerset NIAG 13 May (BC); INWR 19 May (AGa, mob).

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** FNFP 30-31 Mar, only reports.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 250 Lewiston NR 1 Mar.

**Little Gull:** Lewiston NR 6 Apr; BuSP 16 Apr; only reports; fewer than usual.

**Laughing Gull:** Sturgeon Pt ERIE 5 May (SB ph!), rare.

**Ring-billed Gull:** abundant near nesting colonies BufH, NF.

**Herring Gull:** breeding BufH.

**Iceland Gull:** 3 NFSP 1 Mar; max 10 NPP 2 Mar; 2 DH 24 Mar; 2 Chaffee ERIE 31 Mar; last NFSP 25 May.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 4 NFSP 1 Mar; Celoron ChauL 24 Mar; Warsaw WYOM 26 Mar (BC); 4 Chaffee ERIE 31 Mar; max 5

Lockport NIAG 14 Apr (RG), in a field;  
Olcott NIAG 27 May.

**Glaucous Gull:** 2 NPP, 2 NFSP 2 Mar; 2  
Chaffee ERIE 31 Mar; DH 1 Apr; Hamburg  
ERIE 4 Apr; WBSP 7 Apr; Barcelona  
CHAU 12 Apr; Gasport NIAG 13 Apr; last  
NFSP 12 May.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 4 DH 1  
Mar; max 4 WBSP 16, 23 May.

**Caspian Tern:** arr 3 DH 3 Apr; max 175  
BufH 24 May, at nesting colony.

**Black Tern:** arr 6, max 42 INWR 22 Apr, 9  
May.

**Common Tern:** arr 2 Barcelona CHAU 5  
Apr; 160 BeSP 27 Apr; max 200 BufH 24  
May.

**Forster's Tern:** arr BMAC 12 Apr; 1, 2  
BufH 13, 19 Apr; Silver Creek CHAU 13  
Apr; max 3 Barcelona CHAU 29 Apr (GB);  
WBSP 2 May; 2 PB 17 May; Olcott NIAG  
25 May; good showing.

**Red-throated Loon:** max 67 Wilson NIAG  
14 Apr (WD).

**Common Loon:** Olcott NIAG 2 Mar; 3  
ChauL 24 Mar; max 46 Prendergast Pt  
ChauL 14 Apr.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 500  
BufH 14 Apr.

**American White Pelican:** 2 BufH 13 Apr  
(SS ph!), reports in following days likely the  
same birds, as well as Strawberry I NR thru  
26 Apr.

**American Bittern:** arr TiffT NP 25 Mar  
(CG), slightly early; max 4 TWMA 2 May.

**Least Bittern:** arr TBNP 30 Apr (SD);  
reported from four other locs in May.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 155 MI 14 Apr,  
heronry.

**Great Egret:** arr NF 12 Mar; max 113 MI  
14 Apr, heronry.

**Snowy Egret:** Canadaway Creek NP CHAU  
9 May (DB, NS); ACNC 11 May (KD, DB),  
possibly same bird.

**Green Heron:** arr Belfast ALLE 16 Apr.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** BufH thru  
31 Mar, overwintered along Buffalo R.; arr  
2, max 28 NFSP 4, 30 Apr.

**Glossy Ibis:** INWR 18-24 May (DR, mob),  
seen by many.

**Black Vulture:** max 3 Lewiston NIAG 4  
Mar, lower max than usual for this location;  
2 FNFP 12 May.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 3133, 5499 Hamburg  
HW 25 Mar, 6 Apr.

**Osprey:** arr Cassadaga CHAU 18 Mar; max  
12 Hamburg HW 10 Apr.

**Golden Eagle:** Hamburg HW 6 Apr (JL,  
AH), only report.

**Northern Harrier:** max 9 Carlton ORLE  
23 Apr (BC), hawkwatch.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 132 Carlton  
ORLE 23 Apr.

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 12 Hamburg HW 16  
Mar.

**American Goshawk:** no accepted reports.

**Bald Eagle:** max 11 INWR 30 Mar; max 11  
Carlton ORLE 23 Apr.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 12, 12  
Hamburg HW 16, 28 Mar.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr Cuba ALLE 8  
Apr; max 1566 Hamburg HW 18 Apr; 1218  
Carlton ORLE 23 Apr.

**Swainson's Hawk (R1):** Hamburg HW 1  
May (JL!), rare.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 92 Carlton ORLE  
14 Apr.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** max 3 Conewango  
CATT 2 Apr.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 220 eBird reports.

**Great Horned Owl:** 225 eBird reports.

**Snowy Owl:** TWMA 1 Mar (CMo, KL),  
only report.

**Barred Owl:** 381 eBird reports.

**Long-eared Owl:** Yates ORLE 5 Mar (BC),  
only report.

**Short-eared Owl:** Middleport NIAG 2 Mar;  
1-2 Jamestown Airport CHAU 3 Mar – 6  
Apr; 2 JWWMA 5 Mar; BufH 6 Mar; max 8  
Shelby ORLE 24 Mar; 3 Conewango CATT  
24 Mar; last Leon CATT 11 Apr.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** 1-2 BMAC 1-7  
Mar (TK); West Valley CATT 2 Mar (JRo);  
2 Hinsdale CATT 3 Mar (JRa); Gainesville  
WYOM, Pike WYOM 4 Mar (CR); S  
Dayton CATT 21 Mar (GV); Franklinville

CATT 28 Mar (CR); AISP 31 May (TK); good showing.

**Belted Kingfisher:** 86 BOSAC; 55 BOSMC.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 6, 7 Cazenovia P ERIE 30 Apr, 6 May; max 9 PG 5 May (KD, DB).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 433 BOSAC; 364 BOSMC.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 128 BOSAC; 69 BOSMC.

**Downy Woodpecker:** 317 BOSAC; 161 BOSMC.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** 90 BOSAC; 80 BOSMC.

**Northern Flicker:** 901 BOSAC; 322 BOSMC.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** 52 BOSAC; 60 BOSMC.

**American Kestrel:** 132 BOSAC; 40 BOSMC.

**Merlin:** 20 BOSAC; 10 BOSMC.

**Peregrine Falcon:** 11 BOSAC; 19 BOSMC.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr AmSP 26 Apr.

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr Varysburg WYOM 20 Apr.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr Tift NP 16 May; five other reports.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr Chautauqua CHAU, Newstead ERIE 1 May.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr BufH 15 May.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr Genesee CP GENE 6 May.

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr East Aurora ERIE 12 May.

**Willow Flycatcher:** arr Tift NP 8 May.

**Least Flycatcher:** arr Chautauqua CHAU 23 Apr (JB), banded, slightly early.

**Eastern Phoebe:** max 10 OOWMA 5 Apr.

**White-eyed Vireo:** arr FLC 29 Apr (KR, RP), only report.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr FLC 29 Apr.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr HBWMA 11 Apr.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr 2 RWNP 9 May.

**Warbling Vireo:** arr multiple locs 26 Apr.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr Tift NP, Houghton ALLE 29 Apr.

**Northern Shrike:** last Alder Bottom WMA CHAU 7 Apr.

**Blue Jay:** max 514 GHSP 11 May.

**American Crow:** max 100 Evans ERIE 11 Mar.

**Fish Crow:** 1-4 Tift NP 1-15 Mar; 2, 1 Buffalo ERIE 15, 23 Apr; Alfred ALLE 23 Apr (FB); Jamestown CHAU 1 May (GB); Krull CP 11 May (TK, MA); 3 LBSP 17 May (NS); wider geographic spread for reports.

**Common Raven:** expanding.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** 898 BOSAC; 619 BOSMC.

**Tufted Titmouse:** 268 BOSAC; 268 BOSMC.

**Horned Lark:** max 86 Sheridan CHAU 14 Mar; 50 Conewango CATT 24 Mar; 35 Shelby ORLE 20 Apr.

**Bank Swallow:** arr BMAC 12 Apr; max 200 FMCSP 6 May.

**Tree Swallow:** max 244 OOWMA 29 Mar.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr BeSP 5 Apr; max 75 Buffalo ERIE 20 Apr.

**Purple Martin:** arr BWWT 1 Apr; max 100 BeSP 10 May.

**Barn Swallow:** arr INWR 18 Mar (PM), early; max 100 Lockport NIAG 2 May.

**Cliff Swallow:** arr BufH 9 Apr; max 350 N Tonawanda NR NIAG 19 May (CMi).

**Barn Swallow x Cliff Swallow:** Amherst ERIE 7 May thru (KD ph!), hybrid.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Grand I ERIE, Tift NP 30 Mar; last Arkwright CHAU 24 May.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 32 LBSP 14 Apr.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 190 Wilson NIAG 27 May.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 7 Emery CP ERIE 19 May, lower numbers than usual.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** max 15  
CHMUA 14 Apr.

**Brown Creeper:** max 11 FLC 10 Apr.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr 6 BOSAC.

**House Wren:** arr Orchard P ERIE 9 Apr.

**Winter Wren:** max 5 BuSP 14 Apr.

**Sedge Wren:** INWR 19 May (CK), only  
report.

**Marsh Wren:** 1-2 INWR 13-30 Mar,  
overwinter or early arrival?

**Carolina Wren:** 132 BOSAC; 140  
BOSMC.

**Gray Catbird:** reported from 10 locations  
in March; evidence of overwintering.

**Brown Thrasher:** arr Buffalo ERIE 4 Apr.

**Northern Mockingbird:** 42 BOSAC; 50  
BOSMC.

**European Starling:** max 800 S Dayton  
CATT 21 Mar.

**Veery:** arr multiple locations 29 Apr.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr FLC 14 May.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr Tift NP 26 Apr  
(RT, RP), slightly early.

**Hermit Thrush:** arr S Dayton CATT, Zoar  
Valley MUA CATT 16 Mar.

**Wood Thrush:** arr Canadaway Creek  
WMA 23 Apr.

**American Pipit:** 35 Sheridan CHAU 20  
Mar; 35 Genesee CP GENE 30 Apr; max 70  
Somerset NIAG 13 May; last BOSMC.

**Evening Grosbeak:** no reports.

**House Finch:** max 20 Buffalo ERIE 21  
May.

**Purple Finch:** max 10 Newfane NIAG 1  
Mar.

**Common Redpoll:** last West Seneca ERIE  
2 Mar – 7 Apr; Jamestown CHAU 24 Mar;  
Buffalo ERIE 1 Apr; only reports.

**Red Crossbill:** 2 Keeney Swamp SF ALLE  
12 Mar; 2 Houghton ALLE 11 Apr; 5  
Angelica ALLE 14 Apr; max 6 HBWMA 18  
May.

**White-winged Crossbill:** Krull CP 2 Mar,  
only report.

**Pine Siskin:** max 35 Alfred ALLE 23 Mar;  
25 Jamestown CHAU 25 Mar; 24 Wales  
ERIE 30 Apr; 33 Wilson NIAG 24 May.

**American Goldfinch:** max 140 Forestville  
CHAU 22 Mar.

**Lapland Longspur:** 23 Lyndonville ORLE,  
max 64 Yates ORLE 23 Mar; 10 Sherman  
CHAU 30 Mar; last 10 Shelby ORLE 20  
Apr.

**Snow Bunting:** 15 Lyndonville ORLE 21  
Mar; last 11 Westfield CHAU 25 Mar.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr Canaseraga  
ALLE 26 Apr; 2, 3 TRWMA 30 Apr, 23  
May; 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 4 May; 3  
Yates ORLE 25 May.

**LARK SPARROW (R1):** EvSP 14 May  
(MA ph!), rare.

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr West Falls ERIE 29  
Mar.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr 2, max 5 Krull  
CP 28 Apr, 4 May; TBNP 6 May (KR, RP);  
Buffalo ERIE 10-16 May (SS); 2 Somerset  
NIAG 18 May (VR); Jamestown Airport  
CHAU 25 May (KD, DB).

**Field Sparrow:** 2 Bond L CP 2 Mar; 2  
Forestville CHAU 3 Mar; possibly  
overwintered; arr 2 WBSP 27 Mar.

**Fox Sparrow:** South Ripley CHAU 10 Mar;  
BeSP 15 Mar; Yates ORLE 16 Mar; Yates  
ORLE 16 Mar; TWMA 20 Mar; 5 AISP 22  
Mar; arriving earlier?; max 7 LBSP 14 Mar;  
Tift NP 22, 27 May (RS, SD ph!), late.

**American Tree Sparrow:** last Tift NP 2  
May.

**“OREGON” DARK-EYED JUNCO:**

BufH 14 Apr (SS ph!), male.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 6 Portland  
CHAU 23, 30 Mar; arr Buffalo ERIE 5 Apr;  
max 19 PG 5 May.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 117  
Stiglmeier P ERIE 27 Apr.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr 2 Forestville CHAU  
30 Mar; 1, 4 Brant ERIE 1, 30 Apr; 2  
Fredonia CHAU 16 Apr; 2 Elba GENE 7  
May; Charlotte CHAU 18 May; Shelby  
ORLE 19 May.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr 3 TRWMA 7 Apr,  
late arrival.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr AmSP 30 Apr; last  
Hamburg ERIE 20 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** 2 TWMA 4 Mar, likely overwinter; arr 2 BufH 27 Mar.  
**Eastern Towhee:** arr Portland CHAU 8 Mar.

**Bobolink:** arr Orchard P ERIE 25 Apr; max 58 Charlotte CHAU 18 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 16 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 23 Mar.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr 2 Jamestown CHAU 27 Apr.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr 2 Belmont ALLE BOSAC (BK!), early.

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 100 OOWMA; last 2 Attica WYOM 20 May.

**Ovenbird:** arr Tift NP 15 Apr, early.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** JDSP BOSMC (JD!), only report.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr Ripley CHAU, Portland CHAU 8 Apr.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr RWNP 20 Apr.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr AmSP, TRWMA, Grand I ERIE 4 May; GHSP 11 May; PG 19 May; last BOSMC; only reports.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU 28 Apr.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Alma ALLE 25 Apr.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** 1, 3 TWMA 9, 20 May, known breeding area.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr Grand I ERIE 28 Apr.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr WBSP 18 Apr (SB), early; Houghton ALLE (IC), Hamburg HW (SB) 23 Apr; Tift NP 26 Apr; 2 BufH 6 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr WTSP, Tift NP 19 Apr, early.

**Connecticut Warbler:** no reports.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr Forestville CHAU 2 May (GV), slightly early.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr multiple locations 24 Apr.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr Zoar Valley MUA CATT 1 May.

**American Redstart:** arr ACNC 28 Apr.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr BeSP, BufH 29 Apr; max 8 Porter NIAG 8 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** arr Newstead ERIE 29 Apr.

**Northern Parula:** arr FLC 23 Apr.

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr FLC 30 Apr.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr multiple locations 4 May.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Zoar Valley MUA CATT 27 Apr.

**Yellow Warbler:** arr multiple locations 21 Apr.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr 2 Belfast ALLE 28 Apr.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr Olean CATT, Tift NP 8 May.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr 2 Tift NP, Boston ERIE 28 Apr.

**Palm Warbler:** arr Tift NP 11 Apr; last Cheektowaga ERIE 22 May.

**Pine Warbler:** arr Colden ERIE 31 Mar.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 10 OOWMA 5 Mar; max 225 Porter NIAG 30 Apr.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** no reports.

**Prairie Warbler:** arr PG 28 Apr; GHSP 18 May; max 6 Yorkshire CATT 20 May.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr Houghton ALLE 16 Apr.

**Canada Warbler:** arr FLC 4 May.

**Wilson's Warbler:** arr TRWMA 4 May.

**Summer Tanager:** Tift NP 8, 15 May (ZA, KR), male.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr North Harmony CHAU 28 Apr.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Gerry CHAU 3 Mar (PB ph!), very early or overwintered?; 3 Olean CATT 18 Apr.

**Indigo Bunting:** arr Stockton CHAU, 2 Ripley CHAU 28 Apr.

**Dickcissel:** Wilson NIAG 19-22 Apr (WD, BP), at feeder, rare.

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## REGION 2—GENESEE

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March 2024 came in like a lamb and went out like a lion. February's extremely mild temperatures continued into the first week of the month, with record high temperatures of 72°F on 4 March and 74° on 5 March. Temperatures averaged 41.5°, 6.3° above average. The only period with actual winter weather was 18-24 March, when lake effect bands deposited as much as 6" in areas of Monroe County. Precipitation totaled 1.94", 0.55" below average, continuing the below-average trend that started in December 2023. Snowfall totaled 9.1", 8.8" below average, which grew the seasonal deficit to 47.3".

April was mild. Temperatures averaged 49.1, 2.3° above average. April was wetter—a welcomed end to the abnormal dryness of the previous four months. Precipitation totaled 4.35", or 1.36" above average. The only snowfall for the month was 0.9" on 4-5 April. A weekend of cloudless skies followed the Region's last snowfall, but these sunny skies did not hold, and by the afternoon on Monday, 8 April, clouds obstructed the total solar eclipse. Temperatures turned cooler, yet dry, to give a pleasant end to the month.

May was overall very pleasant. Temperatures averaged 63.3, 4.5° above average. The month ranked the fourth warmest May since records have been kept (1871), but many nights, especially in the first half of the month and the last few days of the month, were cooler than normal. The Rochester airport measured 3.14" of precipitation, 0.28" above average. Most of this rainfall accumulated in a few large-scale rain events, the largest of which occurred on 17 May, where 1.44" of precipitation was recorded. Major fog events were noted on the morning of 16 May and all day near Lake Ontario on 19 May.

Migratory geese numbers peaked two weeks earlier than in 2023. The highest counts of Canada Geese and Snow Geese were reported on 4 March, and by the end of that week, the largest flocks had left the Region. Tundra Swans followed suit, with a peak of 219 on 4 March. As typical of March, Braddock Bay and the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) held the largest migrant duck numbers. Counts generally seemed lower, as dabbling ducks had begun moving two to three weeks earlier than the baseline due to the usually warm February. Consequently, the high counts of Gadwall (100), Northern Shoveler (168), Mallard (200), and Northern Pintail (800) in early March appeared lower than in past years. David Brown found single male Eurasian Wigeons at Braddock Bay on 12-16 March and 8-10 April. Two additional Eurasian Wigeons were noted in the NMWMA on 8 April and 26 April, respectively.

Silver Lake in Wyoming County splendidly received consistent coverage throughout the season, which contributed to notable inland counts of species such as Bufflehead and Long-tailed Duck. Mark Miller reported the only rarity among

the diving ducks, a single Harlequin Duck, on 28 March from West Port Bay in Wayne County, which continued until at least 1 April. By May, Canada Geese were already well into their first broods, and movements of Brant were noted on 12 May (200, Braddock Bay) and 18 May (500, NMWMA).

Horned Grebe numbers were the highest on Silver Lake (144, 18 March). Andy Guthrie reported 82 Red-necked Grebes in a short period of time from the Hamlin Beach SP Lakewatch on 26 March. An early Virginia Rail at Ellison Park on 8 March sparked debate about whether it was an early arrival or an overwintering bird found late in the season. Somewhat unusual, no major loon flights were observed on Lake Ontario in April, although a count of 137 Common Loons on Conesus Lake on 4 April stood out. This anomaly may have resulted from minimal loon-counting effort rather than an actual absence of loons along the lakeshore.

The month of May proved productive for rare waterbirds. Reuben Stoltzfus and Tim Lenz found a **King Rail** along Carncross Road on 23-24 May. David Brown spotted an **American White Pelican** from the Braddock Bay Hawk Watch on 7 May. Four more **American White Pelicans** moved past the Hawk Watch on 21 May. David Brown, Kim Steininger, and Greg Sanda were treated to an exceptionally rare **Tricolored Heron** flyby from the Hawk Watch on 11 May. Joe Wing reported a single **Western Cattle Egret** from Lakeside Road in Ontario on 4 May. David Brown and Kim Steininger also reported a flyby **Glossy/White-faced Ibis** from the Hawk Watch on 8 May.

Killdeer and American Woodcock arrived in late February this year—early, but not unprecedented. A Greater Yellowlegs along Carncross Road on 7 March was record-early by two days. Seventeen shorebird species were noted in April. April's noteworthy sightings included a Sanderling that passed the East Spit on 4 April (record-early), an American Avocet found by Dave Tetlow on 21-22 April at the Martin Road transient pond in Hamlin, eight American Golden-Plovers around the Savannah Mucklands on 17 April (previously in Region 3 across the road in days prior), two Upland Sandpipers overhead together near Edgemere Drive in Greece on 28 April, and a **Marbled Godwit** found by Gregg Dashnau in the NMWMA at Carncross Road on 24-25 April.

Another spring of high Lake Ontario waters made accessing the Braddock Bay Barrier Island via the East Spit in search of shorebirds difficult. Instead, birders relied on scoping the barrier beaches from the end of the West Spit, often with success. Noteworthy reports for May included Sanderlings, a Willet, and Ruddy Turnstones. Many of the smaller peeps, plovers, yellowlegs, and Short-billed Dowitchers were also found in the flooded fields of the lakeshore plains east and west of Rochester, flooded fields and shallow ponds of the Genesee area, and good shorebird habitat along Carncross Road in the NMWMA.

A genuine surprise came on 17 March when Chris Wood and Jessie Barry reported a **Black-legged Kittiwake** from the Greece lakeshore with the comments "exceptional on this date." Digging into the paper records, one previous March record exists: 6 March 1970 from Braddock Bay. Only a handful of other Black-

legged Kittiwake records exist for April and May. The incursion of Bonaparte's Gull in early April carried at least one **Little Gull**, discovered by Nick Kachala on Silver Lake on 5 April. Andy Guthrie reported a very rare spring jaeger, not identified to species, from the Hamlin Beach Lakewatch on 20 April. There were only two Laughing Gull records this spring (12 May at Braddock Bay and 28 May at Sodus Point). Great Black-backed Gull became Regionally scarce by late April and nearly nonexistent by May, with the only record for May being two birds on 1 May—very unusual.

The Braddock Bay Hawk Watch welcomed back David Brown for his sixth (and final) season as the official hawk counter. The count ran from 1 March through 31 May. David had a rewarding first month, with an **American Goshawk** on 26 March and a record-breaking 17 Golden Eagles for March. David wrote that one of the most exciting moments of the month was having a visual on four Golden Eagles at once. The days with the highest counts were 25 March (1,340 raptors) and 27 March (1,965 raptors), respectively. Brad Carlson and Kyle Gage reported another **American Goshawk** from Wetmore Road in Springwater on 4 March. Just a few Northern Saw-whet Owls and Long-eared Owls were found in the daily owl surveys at Owl Woods.

The Braddock Bay Hawk Watch continued strong for April, with 44,483 new birds tallied. Days that stood out include: 6 April (3,887 raptors, majority Turkey Vulture), 10 April (3,322 raptors, majority Turkey Vulture plus 279 Sharp-shinned Hawks), 16 April (1,157 raptors, first major Broad-winged Hawk flight with 938 counted), 18 April (3,286 raptors, good Broad-winged Hawk flight with 2,798), 19 April (12,292 raptors, exceptional Broad-winged Hawk flight with 10,901, most in one single hour, 783 Sharp-shinned Hawk), 23 April (5,912 raptors), and 28 April (4,561 raptors). An impressive six different **Swainson's Hawks** were seen around the Region this season. Five passed hawk watches (two from Braddock Bay), but one dark juvenile was observed from Tyre Road near the NMWMA by at least 95 birders between 16-22 April.

The Braddock Bay Hawk Watch ended on 31 May with 69,476 raptors tallied. Highlights included two **Mississippi Kites** (1 May and 16 May). High counts of note for May from the Hawk Watch included 110 Bald Eagles on 2 May and 2,472 Broad-winged Hawks on 14 May. Adding to the impressive raptors for May, Don Bemont photographed a **Swallow-tailed Kite** along Lime Kiln Road in Albion on 7 May.

A surprise came on 27 March when Jim Wood photographed a **Black-billed Magpie** at Beechwood State Park. The bird was not relocated despite much effort. The only other record of Black-billed Magpie for Region 2 comes from Braddock Bay's West Spit on 20 March 1949 by Walt Listman. Marsh Wrens were noted as singing by the end of March and early April. Whether these represent true arrivals or excited overwintering birds vocalizing on warm days is difficult to determine.

Brad Carlson photographed a **Bohemian Waxwing** in Mendon with a flock of Cedar Waxwings on 10 April. A morning flight watch party on 28 April tallied 97 Lapland Longspurs and a Dickcissel along the Greece lakeshore. A Henrietta

homeowner posted photographs of Region 2's first **Golden-crowned Sparrow** to the Rochester Birding Community Group Facebook page on 28 April. The bird was present at a private residence from 17-24 April. Andy Guthrie reported a Yellow-throated Warbler from Hamlin Beach SP on 18 April. Carolina Fraser posted photographs of a window-strike **Worm-eating Warbler** to the Rochester Birding Community Group Facebook page on 28 April. A **Western Tanager** was photographed at a private feeder in Greece on 30 April.

For May, the diversity and abundance of neotropical migrants seemed comparable to recent years. Andy Guthrie found a **Loggerhead Shrike** along Jacobs Road in Hamlin on 14 May, which was only seen by a few observers for a couple of hours. Roger Clark found a **White-eyed Vireo** at Badgerow Park on 9-11 May. To everyone's surprise, another (or the same?) **Black-billed Magpie** was seen by many in the Braddock Bay area on the morning and early afternoon of 22 May. Christina Hoh reported a singing Sedge Wren from Martens Tract in the NMWMA on 6 May, which was joined by a second individual by the end of the month. Red Crossbills were reported from the Towns of Sodus, Greece, and Hamlin. A homeowner near Summerville photographed a one-day-wonder **Blue Grosbeak** on 6 May. Efforts driving around the neighborhood and a stakeout performed by a few birders the next day failed to turn up the Blue Grosbeak. The last Blue Grosbeak in Region 2 was seen in Hamlin on 11 May 1991. Neal Reilly and David Brown found a **Summer Tanager** along the Lakeview Community Church Trail on the evening of 4 May.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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Luanne Pignataro, Jay Powell, Derek Pulhamus, Doug & Elizabeth Rabjohns, Carolyn Ragan, Rosemary Reilly, Neal Reilly, Michael Rizzo, Susan Roberts, Chris Rockwell, Brian Rohrs, Andrew Romanowski, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Shawn Ryan, Robert Ryan, Jennifer Rycenga, Anne Salverda, Greg & Shannon Sanda, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Rob Sielaff, Susan Smith, Dave Spier, Kim Steininger, Rick Stevens, Reuben Stoltzfus, Kimberly Sucy, June Summers, Stephen Taylor, David Tetlow, Michael Tetlow, Eunice Thein, Nathan Ukens, Tom & Jeanne Verhulst, Mike Wasilco, Joe Wing, Chris Wood, Jim Wood, Charlie Woodruff, and Ryan Zucker.

1,292 observers submitted eBird data inside Region 2 for this season—all cannot be listed here.

BRADDOCK BAY HAWKWATCH TOTALS

| Species                 | Arrival | Max    | Max Date             | Total  |
|-------------------------|---------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| Black Vulture           | 3/16    | 1      | 3/16, 4/6, 5/8, 5/21 | 4      |
| Turkey Vulture          | 3/1     | 3,790  | 4/6                  | 28,111 |
| Mississippi Kite        | 5/1     | 1      | 5/1, 5/16            | 2      |
| Osprey                  | 3/25    | 14     | 4/19                 | 113    |
| Golden Eagle            | 3/1     | 8      | 3/26                 | 51     |
| No. Harrier             | 3/5     | 58     | 4/10                 | 599    |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk      | 3/5     | 783    | 4/19                 | 3,353  |
| Cooper’s Hawk           | 3/1     | 14     | 3/13, 3/26           | 205    |
| American Goshawk        | 3/26    | 1      | 3/26                 | 1      |
| Bald Eagle              | 3/1     | 143    | 5/21                 | 1,431  |
| Red-shouldered Hawk     | 4/5     | 77     | 3/13                 | 349    |
| Broad-winged Hawk       | 4/10    | 10,901 | 4/19                 | 33,567 |
| Swainson’s Hawk         | 4/10    | 1      | 4/10, 4/28           | 2      |
| Red-tailed Hawk         | 3/1     | 113    | 4/10                 | 1,280  |
| Rough-legged Hawk       | 3/5     | 3      | 4/28                 | 32     |
| Am. Kestrel             | 3/5     | 46     | 4/10                 | 307    |
| Merlin                  | 3/4     | 4      | 4/15                 | 37     |
| Peregrine Falcon        | 3/10    | 4      | 5/13                 | 31     |
| Unidentified            |         |        |                      | 0      |
| Short-eared Owl         |         | 1      | 4/8                  | 1      |
|                         |         |        |                      |        |
| Total incl unidentified |         |        |                      | 69,476 |

ABBREVIATIONS

**Bpt** – Beatty Pt, T Greece, MONR; **BB** – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; **BB-ES** or **WS** – East Spit or West Spit at the mouth of Braddock Bay; **BB-HW** – at or from Braddock Bay hawk watch; **BB-OW** – Owl Woods off Manitou Beach Rd; **CL** – Conesus L, LIVI; **ED** – off Edgemere Dr, T Greece, MONR; **G** – T Greece, MONR; **H** – T Hamlin, MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **IBA** – Important Bird Area; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet, MONR; **IB-S** – Irondequoit Bay south end, including LaSalle Landing P area; **LSMWMA** – Lake Shore Marshes WMA, WAYN; **LSP** – Letchworth SP; **MRd** – Martin

Rd flooded fields, T Hamlin, MONR; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma WMA, T Savannah, WAYN; **NMWMA (AR)** – Armitage Rd; **NMWMA (CR)** – Carncross Rd area flooded fields; **NMWMA (DM)** – Deep Muck and Mitigation Marsh; **NMWMA (MAC)** – Montezuma Audubon Center; **NMWMA (VDS)** – woods and wetlands along Van Dyne Spoor Rd; **OB** – Ontario Beach, T Charlotte, MONR; **SL** – Silver L, WYOM; **SPt** – Sodus Pt, WAYN; **TCEA** – Twin Cedars Environmental Area at Avon DEC offices.

**Snow Goose:** max 3,000 NMWMA (CR) 4 May; last Carey L WAYN 7 May.  
**Ross's Goose:** ad T Kendall 2 Mar; last BB 7 April.  
**Brant:** arr 200 BB 12 May; max 500 NMWMA (AR) 18 May; last NMWMA (CR) 24 May.  
**Cackling Goose:** max 7 Highland P 11 Mar; last Groveland Hill Rd Pd 3 Apr.  
**Canada Goose:** max 3,000 NMWMA (CR) 4 Mar.  
**Mute Swan:** max 144 BB-ES 8 Mar.  
**Trumpeter Swan:** max 40 NMWMA (CR) 5 May.  
**Tundra Swan:** max 219 BB 4 Mar; last NMWMA (CR) 5 May.  
**Wood Duck:** arr 3 CL 15 Feb; max 106 NMWMA (CR) 24 May.  
**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 2 BB Salmon Creek 16 Mar; max 23 H 15 Apr.  
**Northern Shoveler:** max 168 NMWMA (DM) 31 Mar; last 2 NMWMA (VDS) 15 May.  
**Gadwall:** max 123 BB 6 Apr; last Goodwin P G 28 May.  
**Eurasian Wigeon:** BB 12-16 Mar; BB 8-10 Apr; NMWMA 8 Apr; NMWMA 26 Apr.  
**American Wigeon:** max 150 BB 26 Mar & 4 Apr, low.  
**Mallard:** max 200 NMWMA (CR) 14 Mar, low.  
**American Black Duck:** max 50 NMWMA (West Shore Trail) 3 Mar.  
**Northern Pintail:** arr flocks >20 NMWMA ~10 Feb; max 800 NMWMA (CR) 8 Mar, low; last NMWMA (CR) 11 May.  
**Green-winged Teal:** arr Hemlock L 21 Feb; max 253 BPt 16 Mar.  
**Canvasback:** max 70 BB 29 Mar; last BB 23 Apr.  
**Redhead:** max 350 BB-ES 2-3 Mar; last non-breeder ED 12 May.  
**Ring-necked Duck:** max 600 Honeoye L 24 Mar; last BB-WS 29 May.  
**Greater Scaup:** max 100 BB 2 Mar; last in Jun.  
**Lesser Scaup:** max 325 SL 26 Mar; last in Jun.  
**Harlequin Duck:** ad m West Port Bay 28 Mar thru 1 Apr (MMi + 2 others).

**Surf Scoter:** last 2 OB 4 May.  
**White-winged Scoter:** last Lighthouse Rd T Parma 18 May.  
**Black Scoter:** last 2 Ontario Blvd, T Parma 30 Apr.  
**Long-tailed Duck:** max 545 OB 12 May, last in Jun.  
**Bufflehead:** max 200 SL 31 Mar; last BB 25 May.  
**Common Goldeneye:** max 200 Roder Rd x Flatrocks Rd Lakewatch WAYN 3 Mar; last NMWMA 21 Apr.  
**Hooded Merganser:** max 57 SL 24 Mar.  
**Common Merganser:** max 200 IB 16 Mar.  
**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 1,425 IBO 2 Mar.  
**Ruddy Duck:** max 196 SL; last in Jun.  
**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 45 NMWMA (DVS) 26 May.  
**Horned Grebe:** max 144 SL; last Chimney Bluffs SP 23 May.  
**Red-necked Grebe:** max 94 HB 1 Apr (AGu).  
**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr LSP & Indian Fort Nature Pres 16 May.  
**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr NMWMA (AR) 11 May.  
**Common Nighthawk:** arr Lakeview Church Trail G 7 May; max 30 BB 22 May.  
**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr T Palmyra 22 Apr (MGU); max BB-OW 27 Apr; last BPt 11 May.  
**Chimney Swift:** arr LSMWMA 17 Apr; max 60 Rochester 29 Apr.  
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr 29 Apr 2 T Bristol 29 Apr.  
**KING RAIL:** NMWMA (CR) 23-24 May (TL, ReS + others).  
**Virginia Rail:** arr NMWMA (AR) ~7 Apr.  
**Sora:** arr NMWMA (VDS) 12 Apr.  
**Common Gallinule:** arr NMWMA (DM) 1 Apr; max 25 NMWMA (VDS) 26 May.  
**American Coot:** max 80 BB 8 Apr.

**Sandhill Crane:** max 38 Savannah Spring Lake Rd T Savannah 16 Mar.

**American Avocet:** ad m MRd 21-22 Apr (DT + mob).

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr NMWMA (CR) 5 May; max & last 2 BB-ES 27 May.

**American Golden-Plover:** 8 Savannah Mucklands WAYN 17 Apr, crossed into Region 2 from Region 3.

**Killdeer:** max 45 BB-HW 9 Mar.

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr BB-WS 4 May; max 19 NMWMA (CR) 7 May.

**Upland Sandpiper:** 2 ED 28 Apr (only spring record).

**Whimbrel:** arr Spt 23 May (only spring record).

**Marbled Godwit:** NMWMA (CR) 24-25 Apr (GDa + mob).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr BB-ES 9 May; max 8 Spt 23 May.

**Purple Sandpiper:** last Spt 10 Mar (W&MR).

**Red Knot:** no reports.

**Sanderling:** arr BB-ES 4 Apr, record early (Dbr, KSt).

**Dunlin:** arr BPt 31 Mar; max 50 NMWMA (CR) 11 May.

**Least Sandpiper:** arr 2 MRd 27 Apr; max 39 MRd 12 May.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr Jones Bridge Rd T Leicester 9 May; max 2 Spt 27 May.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr BB-ES 1 Apr; max 20 Genesee St Flooded Field LIVI 22 Apr; last T Ontario 13 May.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr Genesee St Flooded Field LIVI 29 Apr; max 35 BB-ES 28 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr MRd 27 Apr; max & last 3 BB-ES 21 May.

**American Woodcock:** max 10 Gosnell Big Woods Pres T Webster 28 Apr.

**Wilson's Snipe:** arr 2 Cook Rd x Redman Rd H 2 Mar; max 30 Pratt Rd transient Pd T Sodus 8 Apr; last NMWMA (CR) 24 May.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr 2 ED 18 Apr.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr Tunley Rd WAYN 15 Apr; max 9 Westphal Rd MONR 29 Apr; last 2 NMWMA (CR) 25 May.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr NMWMA (CR) 8 Mar; max 98 MRd 27 Apr; last NMWMA (CR) 30 May.

**Willet:** BB-ES 10 May (J&KG).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr NMWMA (CR) 7 Mar (record early); max 60 NMWMA (CR) 21 Apr; last 2 NMWMA (CR) 25 May.

**jaeger sp:** HB 20 Apr (exceptionally rare in spring) (AGu).

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** ad ED 17 Mar (exceptionally rare in spring) (ChrW & JeB).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 284 SL 19 Apr.

**Little Gull:** ad SL 10 Apr (!).

**Laughing Gull:** BB 12 May (JeB); Spt 28 May (MGU).

**Iceland Gull:** last H 27 Apr.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 9 MRd 1 Apr (AGu).

**Glaucous Gull:** last H 17 Apr.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 9 IB-S 5 Mar; scarce in Apr & May.

**Caspian Tern:** arr Spt 28 Mar; max 150 Spt 15 May.

**Black Tern:** arr 2 NMWMA (CR) 24 Apr; max 45 NMWMA (VDS) 15 May.

**Common Tern:** arr 5 HB 12 Apr; max 11 BB 27 Apr.

**Forster's Tern:** arr HB & BB 12 Apr; max 7 BB 23 May.

**Red-throated Loon:** max 13 BB-WS 20 Apr.

**Common Loon:** max 137 CL 4 Apr (TBo).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 2,000 BB-HW 29 Apr.

**American White Pelican:** BB & OB 6-7 May (Dbr, KSt); 4 BB 21 May (Dbr, KSt, + mob).

**American Bittern:** arr NMWMA (VDS) 30 Mar.

**Least Bittern:** arr NMWMA (VDS) 25 Apr.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 25 NNMWMA (VDS) 22 May.

**Great Egret:** arr 2 BB-ES 4 Apr.

**TRICOLORED HERON :** BB-HW 11 May (Dbr, KSt, GS).

**Western Cattle Egret:** Lakeside Rd T Ontario 4 May (JWi).

**Green Heron:** arr BB-HW 18 Apr; max 7 BB-WS 21 May.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr NMWMA (VDS) 25 Apr.

**Glossy/White-faced Ibis:** BB-WS 8 May (Dbr & KSt).

**Black Vulture:** BB-HW 16 Mar; G 18 Mar; BB-HW 6 Apr; LSMWMA 8 Apr; T Victor 23 Apr; BB-HW 8 May; BB-HW/WS 16 May; BB-HW 21 May.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 3,790 BB-HW 6 Apr (Dbr, KSt); 28,111 BB-HW season total (Dbr, KSt).

**Osprey:** arr East Port Bay 17 Mar; 113 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** Lime Kiln Rd T Albion 7 May (DoB).

**Golden Eagle:** last BB-HW 13 May; 51 BB-HW season total, high (DBr, KSt).

**Northern Harrier:** 599 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 783 BB-HW 19 Apr; 3,353 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 22 LSMWMA 8 Apr; 205 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**American Goshawk:** Wetmore x Townline Rds T Springwater 4 Mar (BCar); imm BB-HW 26 Mar (DBr, KSt).

**Bald Eagle:** max 110 BB-HW 2 May; 1,431 BB-HW season total, new record (DBr, KSt).

**Mississippi Kite (R2):** ad BB-HW 1 May (DBr, KSt); sub ad BB-HW Frisbee Hill 16 May (DBr, KSt).

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** arr LSMWMA 1 Mar; max 78 BB-HW 13 Mar; 349 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr 2 LSMWMA 8 Apr; max 10,901 BB-HW 19 Apr; 33,567 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**Swainson's Hawk (R2):** dark morph BB-HW 10 Apr (DBr, KSt); dark morph LSMWMA 11 Apr; light morph ED 19 Apr (ChrW, JeB); dark morph Tyre Rd NMWMA 16-22 April; light imm BB 28 Apr thru 5 May (DBr, KSt, + mob); light morph Beechwood SP 14 May (MGU).

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 113 BB-HW 10 Apr; 1,280 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**Rough-legged Hawk:** last BB-HW 21 May; 32 BB-HW season total (DBr, KSt).

**Long-eared Owl:** sev BB-OW spring raptor surveys.

**Short-eared Owl:** last BB-ES 13 Apr.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** last BB-OW 2 May.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** max 3 BB-WS 14 May.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr (uptick in reports) starting ~23 Mar; large increase in overwintering population in recent years.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr sev locs lakeshore 27 Apr; max 21 Zurich Bog 11 May.

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr NMWMA (Colvin Marsh) 21 Apr.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr T Chili 18 May; 7 total birds in May.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr T Perinton 6 May.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr BB-OW 18 May.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr Sodus Bay Shaker Heights Pres 7 May.

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr Beechwood SP 12 May.

**Willow Flycatcher:** arr Lakeview Community Church Trail 5 May.

**Least Flycatcher:** arr BB-ES & LSMWA 28 Apr.

**Eastern Phoebe:** arr NMWMA (CR) 15 Mar.

**White-eyed Vireo:** Badgerow P G 9-11 May (RCI + mob).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr sev locs 30 Apr.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr High Tor WMA 16 Apr.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr Lakeview Community Church Trail 4 May.

**Warbling Vireo:** arr Highland P 23 Apr.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr BB-OW 28 Apr.

**LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE:** Jacobs Rd H 14 May (AGU + mob).

**Northern Shrike:** last NMWMA (VDS) 1 Apr.

**Blue Jay:** max 2,500 BB-HW 2 May (BCar).

**BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE:** Beechwood SP 27 Mar (JWo), photographed; BB 22 May (BCar + mob).

**Fish Crow:** max 17 Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Rochester 15 Apr.

**Horned Lark:** max 85 BB-HW 7 Apr.

**Bank Swallow:** arr T Savannah 8 Apr; max 250 LSMWMA 11 May.

**Tree Swallow:** arr NMWMA (CR) 4 Mar; max 200 BB-HW 19 Apr.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr BB-ES 7 Apr; max 20 Genesee Valley WMA 1 May.

**Purple Martin:** arr 2 NMWMA (MAC) 2 Apr; max 36 NMWMA (MAC) 3 May.

**Barn Swallow:** arr BB-HW 15 Mar; max 165 ED 10 May.

**Cliff Swallow:** arr BB-ES 17 Apr; max 9 Hemlock L 24 May.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr NMWMA (VDS) 30 Mar; max 71 BB-ES 22 Apr; last BB-OW 21 May.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 100 BB-OW 8 Apr.

**Bohemian Waxwing:** Sibleyville Nature Reserve T Mendon 10 Apr (BCar).

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 185 BB-WS 21 May.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr T Ontario 15 Apr.

**House Wren:** arr LSP 10 Apr.

**Winter Wren:** max 7 lakeshore 19-21 Apr.  
**Sedge Wren:** arr NMWMA (Martens Tract) 6 May, 2 present after 20 May.  
**Marsh Wren:** arr sev locs ~8 Apr; max 30 NMWMA (CR) 26 May.

**Gray Catbird:** arr NMWMA (DM) 6 Apr, slightly early.  
**Brown Thrasher:** arr Newco Dr H & BB-OW 8 Apr.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 40 T Perinton 22 Mar.  
**Veery:** arr sev locs 2 May.  
**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr Cobbs Hill P 14 May; max 1 sev locs 14-26 May, very low.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** arr Firehouse Woods G 1 May; max 8 Lakeview Community Church Trail 20 May, very low.  
**Hermit Thrush:** arr sev locs 2 Apr.  
**Wood Thrush:** arr NMWMA (AR) 14 Apr; max 18 Zurich Bog 7 May.  
**American Robin:** max 400 BB-HW 26 Mar.

**American Pipit:** arr sev locs lakeshore G 8 Mar; max 90 Tyre Rd T Clyde 16 Apr.

**Evening Grosbeak:** arr North Ave T Hilton 27 Apr; max 3 T Wolcott 1 May; last MONR (specific unknown) 14 May.  
**Purple Finch:** max 75 BB-HW 19 Apr.  
**Red Crossbill:** 6 SPt 20 May (MGU); 1 G 25 May (ChrW); 1 HB 31 May (AGU).  
**Pine Siskin:** max 70 Hemlock L 31 Mar.

**Lapland Longspur:** max 97 ED 28 Apr (ChrW, JeB, AGU); last 4 ED 11 May.  
**Snow Bunting:** last BB-ES 4 Apr.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr T Bloomfield 28 Apr.  
**Chipping Sparrow:** arr T Bloomfield 22 Mar.  
**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr Nations Rd T Avon & Cook Rd H 3 May.  
**Field Sparrow:** arr NMWMA (MAC) 12 Mar.  
**Fox Sparrow:** arr BB 8 Mar; max 16 8 Apr; last G 2 May.  
**American Tree Sparrow:** last BB-HW 4 May.  
**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 64 Newco Dr H 8 Apr.  
**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr (large uptick in reports) ~16 Apr; max 33 BB-HW 5 May; last sev locs 27 May.  
**GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW:** ad T Henrietta 17-24 Apr, first for Region 2, photographed (SSm).  
**White-throated Sparrow:** max 75 Whiting Rd Nature Pres 10 May.  
**Vesper Sparrow:** arr Moscow Rd H 27 Mar (AGU); max 6 Nations Rd IBA T Avon 26 Apr.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr H 27 Mar; max 24 Nations Rd IBA T Avon 26 Apr.  
**Song Sparrow:** max 36 Newco Dr H 8 Apr.  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr T Gates 28 Apr; last Village of Gananda 30 May.  
**Swamp Sparrow:** max 35 NMWMA (CR) 26 Apr.  
**Eastern Towhee:** arr Beechwood SP 16 Mar.

**Bobolink:** arr ED 28 Apr; max 20 Nations Rd IBA T Avon 11 May, low.  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr HB 4 Mar; max 22 Jacobs Rd H 23 Mar.  
**Orchard Oriole:** arr T Caledonia 27 Apr.  
**Baltimore Oriole:** arr LSMWMA 17 Apr.  
**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 3,000 T Savannah 2 Mar, low.  
**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 125 BB-HW 3 Apr.  
**Rusty Blackbird:** arr sev locs lakeshore 2 Mar.  
**Common Grackle:** max 2,000 NMWMA (VDS) 3 Mar.

**Ovenbird:** arr Hipp Brook Pres 26 Apr.  
**Worm-eating Warbler:** window strike University of Rochester 28 Apr (CF).  
**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr LSP 11 Apr.  
**Northern Waterthrush:** arr 2 NMWMA (AR) 23 Apr.  
**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr Northhampton P & T Ogden 30 Apr; many reps in May.  
**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr 5 lakeshore locs 28 Apr.  
**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Highland P 22 Apr.  
**Prothonotary Warbler:** arr NMWMA (AR) 9 May.  
**Tennessee Warbler:** arr 2 Oatka Creek P 30 Apr.  
**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr TCEA & Cobbs Hill P 1 May.  
**Nashville Warbler:** arr BB-WS 20 Apr.  
**Mourning Warbler:** arr T Elba 4 May.  
**Common Yellowthroat:** arr Webster P 22 Apr.  
**Hooded Warbler:** arr Hemlock L 27 Apr.  
**American Redstart:** arr ED 28 Apr.  
**Cape May Warbler:** arr BB-OW & Whiting Rd Nature Pres 28 Apr.  
**Cerulean Warbler:** arr 2 NMWMA (VDS) 2 May.  
**Northern Parula:** arr NMWMA (AR) 23 Apr.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** arr 2 LSP 2 May.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr T Henrietta 4 May.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr HB 27 Apr.  
**Yellow Warbler:** arr LSMWMA 17 Apr.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr sev locs 29 Apr.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr sev locs 8 May.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr Oatka  
Creek P 28 Apr.

**Palm Warbler:** arr Gosnell Big Woods  
Preserve 8 Apr.

**Pine Warbler:** arr Cobbs Hill P 14 Mar, 2-3  
weeks early.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 100 IB-S 9  
May.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** HB 18 Apr (AGu).

**Prairie Warbler:** arr Wetmore x Townline Rd  
T Springwater 29 Apr.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr 2  
Firehouse Woods G 23 Apr.

**Canada Warbler:** arr T Wolcott 1 May.

**Wilson's Warbler:** NMWMA (AR) 29 Apr.

**Summer Tanager:** f Lakeview Community  
Church Trail 4 May (DBr, KSt + mob).

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr LSP 30 Apr.

**Western Tanager:** ad m G 30 Apr,  
photographed (JF).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr T Wyoming 19  
Apr.

**BLUE GROSBEAK:** 1<sup>st</sup> summer m T  
Irondequoit 6 May, photographed (PPi).

**Indigo Bunting:** arr Indian Fort NP 26 Apr.

**Dickcissel:** ED 28 Apr (ChrW, JeB, AGu).

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## REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

**Bill Ostrander**

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In the Finger Lakes Region, Spring 2024 was warmer than normal. March and April were somewhat wetter than normal with less snow than normal. May was drier than normal and was free of snow. At Ithaca, the average low temperature in March was 27.4° F, 5.6° above normal. The average high temperature was 47°, 6.2° above normal. Total precipitation was 3.35", 0.57" more than normal and total snowfall was 4.1", 7.9" less than normal. Maximum snow depth was 2" and measurable snow cover was present on six days. Warm fronts passed through on 2, 5, 9, 13, 14, 17, 26, and 31 March.

In April, the average low temperature was 35.7°, 2.8° above normal. The average high temperature was 55.9°, 1.4° above normal. There was 3.52" of precipitation, just 0.12" more than normal. Only a trace amount of snow fell. Warm fronts went through on 9, 10, 15, 24, 27, and 29 April.

The average low temperature in May was 49.8°, 5.8° above normal. The average high temperature was 71.3°, 4.0° above normal. Total rainfall was 2.07", 1.13" less than normal. Warm fronts went through on 4, 7, 12, 14, 15, 17, 20, and 21 May.

Goose and Tundra Swan migration peaked in early March. In early April, Adam Farid recorded a high count of three Ross's Geese in the Town of Seneca. Mid-May brought relatively large numbers of Brant into the Region. Jay McGowan estimated a spring high count at Myers Point including birds both on the water and flying over. Duck species that had their spring peaks in early March were Mallard, American Black Duck, Northern Pintail, Canvasback, Redhead, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, and

Red-breasted Merganser. American Wigeon and Hooded Merganser numbers peaked in mid-March. Green-winged Teal peaked in late March. Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Ring-necked Duck, and Ruddy Duck peaked in early April. Blue-winged Teal peaked in mid-April. Long-tailed Duck and Bufflehead peaked in late April. Surf Scoter peaked in early May with Adam Farid reporting a high count on Seneca Lake near Geneva. White-winged Scoter peaked in mid-May.

The highest counts of Horned Grebe came from Taughannock Falls State Park in mid-March, of Pied-billed Grebe from Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) throughout April, and of Red-necked Grebe from Seneca Lake in early April. The highest counts of Common Loon were at Long Point State Park in early April and of Red-throated Loon on Seneca Lake in early May. Jay McGowan photographed a **Pacific Loon** at Long Point State Park in mid-May. It was the first report of the species in the Region since a single report in November 2021. Kyle and Margaret Gage photographed a Tufted Duck at City Pier in Canandaigua in mid-March.

Common Nighthawk migration peaked in mid-May. Reports of Eastern Whip-poor-will came from three locations, each in a different county ranging from late April to mid-May.

Chris Tessaglia-Hymes found early Virginia Rails 13 March. Laurie Michelman found a new spring high count of Sandhill Cranes at Montezuma NWR in mid-March. Dave Kennedy located a small flock of the rare-in-spring American Golden-Plover in the Savannah Mucklands on the early date of 5 April and Michael Gullo found that the flock had grown to eight for a new spring high count by mid-May. The only other early arriving shorebird was the Wilson's Snipe that Brad Walker found on 1 March. Jay McGowan found a Long-billed Dowitcher in mid-May. Mark Miller located a Wilson's Phalarope in late April.

The highest counts of Wilson's Snipe and of Pectoral Sandpiper were tallied in late March. Lesser Yellowlegs peaked in late April. Solitary and Least Sandpipers and Greater Yellowlegs numbers peaked in early May. Semipalmated Plover, Whimbrel, Short-billed Dowitcher, and Dunlin all peaked in mid-May. Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, and Sanderling peaked in late May. White-rumped Sandpiper and Semipalmated Sandpiper numbers began to peak in mid-May and continued into late May.

Jay McGowan photographed two **Parasitic Jaegers** at Myers Point in late April, making this the tenth Regional report of the species in *The Kingbird*. Single Little Gulls were reported from Cayuga and Seneca Lakes from mid-April through mid-May. Debbie van Zyl found a Franklin's Gull at Montezuma NWR in early May. Reuben Stoltzfus spotted a Laughing Gull at Seneca Lake State Park in mid-May. Jeremy Collison turned in a high count of Lesser Black-backed Gulls at the Stevenson Road compost piles in late March. Bonaparte's Gull migration peaked in late April.

Jay McGowan also photographed a **Roseate Tern** at Myers Point on 10 May and again at Frontenac Harbor the following day. These photographs constitute the first tangible evidence of Roseate Tern in the Region. A 1984 report from Elmira was not accepted by NYSARC and a report from Keuka Lake cited by E. H. Eaton in 1910 was subsequently rejected by John Bull (Helen Hays, Bull's *Birds of New York State* 1998, E. Levine, Ed.). Jay and Kevin McGowan

recorded a high count of Common Terns in mid-May. Other than a mid-April report of a Forster's Tern, the rest of the Forster's Tern reports came from early to mid-May.

Meena Haribal encountered three American White Pelicans and a high count of American Bitterns at Montezuma NWR in mid-May while conducting a marsh bird survey. Also at Montezuma NWR, Dave Kennedy found a Snowy Egret in early May and Madison Carr photographed a Glossy Ibis in mid-May. Mike Tetlow painstakingly counted the number of occupied nests in the large heronry at the Refuge's Tschache Pool. Not included in his count of 296 were second birds on the nests, birds foraging in the marsh, nor nests obscured from his view by intervening foliage.

The most exciting raptor of the season was a **Swainson's Hawk** near Montezuma NWR in mid- to late April. Chris Tessaglia-Hymes submitted the first photograph of the bird. Previous records in the Region were a bird observed in Etna 3 May 1970 and one observed at Mount Pleasant 20 April 1993. Jon Corcoran and Melissa Penta had a high count of Broad-winged Hawks in mid-April. Alexander Feinberg reported a high count of Eastern Screech-Owls in late May. Peregrine Falcons again nested at Taughannock Falls State Park. Golden Eagle migration peaked in early March. Short-eared Owls lingered to mid-April.

A spring high count of three Red-headed Woodpeckers was achieved at two locations. High counts were also reported for Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, and Pileated Woodpecker. An apparently migrating Yellow-bellied Sapsucker arrived on the early date of 7 March.

At the Goetchius Wetland Preserve, Michael Friga photographed the Region's second **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** in mid-May. The Region's first was near Moravia 17-18 November 2008. Bob McGuire and Joshua Snodgrass reported a high count of Eastern Wood-Pewees in late May. Migration of Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers commenced in mid-May and continued through the end of the season. Donna Carter photographed an early-arriving Philadelphia Vireo 5 May. Most observations of Philadelphia Vireo were in mid-May. Dave Kennedy photographed a Tree Swallow that arrived early on 5 March. Courtney Kelly Jett reported a high count of Tufted Titmice in mid-April. Puja Sharma and Andrew Spencer reported a high count of Winter Wrens in early May and Nate Badger reported a high count of Marsh Wrens in late May.

Swainson's Thrush migration peaked in mid-May and Gray-cheeked Thrush migration peaked in late May. Christy Hyman found a high count of Eastern Bluebirds and a high count of House Sparrows in early March.

Two reports of single Evening Grosbeaks both came from Steuben County. Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins were common throughout the Region. Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from three locations, all in May. Fox Sparrows peaked in late March, White-crowned Sparrows in late April, White-throated Sparrows in early May, and Lincoln's Sparrows in early to mid-May. Flocks of Rusty Blackbirds were present throughout the Region from late March through late April.

Golden-winged Warblers were reported from five locations including two reports by Jon Corcoran and Melissa Penta in the Town of Van Etten and by Chris Wood at Monkey Run on the early date of 29 April. Jody Enck saw an early

Tennessee Warbler on 28 April. An Eaton Birding Society field trip turned up an early Black-throated Blue Warbler on 14 April. Brad Carlson had a high count of ten Mourning Warblers at Bear Swamp State Forest. Brad Walker found a high count of nine Canada Warblers at Arnot Forest and a Cayuga Bird Club field trip to Shindagin Hollow State Forest matched that number. Observations of single Orange-crowned Warblers were scattered from late April through late May. Palm Warblers peaked in late April, Cape May Warblers and Northern Parulas in early May, Tennessee, Bay-breasted, and Blackpoll Warblers in mid-May. Wilson's Warblers steadily passed through the Region through the whole month of May.

Tom Vawter found a **Blue Grosbeak** in the Town of Lansing in late April. There have been twelve reports of Blue Grosbeak in previous Region 3 reports in *The Kingbird*. There were two reports of Dickcissel: a nocturnal migrant that Jay McGowan heard over Northeast Ithaca in late May and one found by Tim Lenz and Reuben Stoltzfus that was present for at least a week in the Town of Fayette in late May. Courtney Kelly Jett had a high count of Northern Cardinals at the F. R. Newman Arboretum.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**AF** – Arnot Forest; **BL** – Beebe L, TOMP; **BLNA** – Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, TOMP; **CLSP** – Cayuga L SP; **CU** – Cornell University; **CytG** – Cayuta Gulf, SCHU; **DSF** – Danby State Forest, TOMP; **FrH** – Frontenac Harbor, CAYU; **FrP** – Frontenac P, CAYU; **GWP** – Goetchius Wetland Pres, TOMP; **HH** – Hog Hole at TSMP; **HHSF** – Hammond Hill State Forest, TOMP; **HP** – Harris P, CAYU; **HRW** – Herman Rd Wetlands, TOMP; **HSRW** – Hile School Rd Wetland, TOMP; **ITA** – Ithaca Tompkins Airport, TOMP; **LPBP** – Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres, TOMP; **LRPF** – Leet Rd Pond and Fields, ONTA; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MR** – Monkey Run, TOMP; **MtP** – Mount Pleasant, TOMP; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **NA** – F. R. Newman Arboretum, TOMP; **NEI** – Northeast Ithaca, TOMP; **OP** – Ontario Pathways, ONTA; **QCM** – Queen Catharine Marsh, SCHU; **SavM** – Savannah Mucklands, SENE; **SenL** – Seneca L; **SHSF** – Shindagin Hollow State Forest, TOMP; **SPNA** – Salt Pt Natural Area, TOMP; **SRCP** – Stevenson Rd Compost Piles, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCam** – T Cameron, STEU; **TCan** – T Canandaigua, ONTA; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TCor** – T Corning, STEU; **TDan** – T Danby, TOMP; **TDry** – T Dryden, TOMP; **TFay** – T Fayette, SENE; **TFSP** – Taughannock Falls SP; **TLan** – T Lansing, TOMP; **TMid** – T Middlesex, YATE; **TOv** –

T Ovid, SENE; **TPhe** – T Phelps, ONTA; **TRea** – T Reading, SCHU; **TSem** – T Sempronius, CAYU; **TSMP** – Allan H. Treman State Marine P, TOMP; **TTyr** – T Tyre, SENE; **TUly** – T Ulysses, TOMP; **TVE** – T Van Etten, CHEM.

**Snow Goose:** max 25,000 CLSP 3 Mar.

**Ross's Goose:** max 3 T Seneca ONTA 1 Apr (AFa!, ph), high; last Island P CAYU 7 Apr.

**Brant:** arr SenL SENE 10 May; max 2660 MyPt 18 May (JMc, rec), high; last MNWR 20 May.

**Cackling Goose:** max 22 SW 4 Mar; last 2 MNWR 9 Apr.

**Canada Goose:** max 40,000 TVE 4 Mar.

**Mute Swan:** max 14 CLSP 22 Mar.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 8 MNWR 23 Apr; 8 MNWR 11 May; 8 MNWR 27 May.

**Tundra Swan:** max 554 MNWR 3 Mar; last MNWR 10 Apr.

**Wood Duck:** max 34 LPBP 19 May.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 2 CLSP 4 Mar; 2

MNWR 4 Mar; max 60 MNWR 20 Apr.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 110 MNWR 8 Apr; last 3 MNWR 18 May.

**Gadwall:** max 114 TTyr 5Apr.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** max & last 2 MNWR 7 Apr.

**American Wigeon:** max 116 MNWR 14 Mar.

**Mallard:** max 150 Stewart P TOMP 1 Mar.

**American Black Duck:** max 144 MNWR 3 Mar.

**Northern Pintail:** max 280 MNWR 3 Mar.

**Green-winged Teal:** max 804 MNWR 31 Mar.

**Canvasback:** max 4500 MNWR 5 Mar.

**Redhead:** max 1000 CLSP 2 Mar.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 227 Jones Rd Gravel Pit STEU 6 Apr.

**TUFTED DUCK (R3):** City Pier ONTA 16 Mar (K. Gage, M. Gage, ph).

**Greater Scaup:** max 200 FrP 2 Mar.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 400 FrP 2 Mar; 400 T Seneca Falls SENE 3 Mar.

**Surf Scoter:** arr HP 16 Apr; max 14 SenL SENE 10 May (AFa!), high; last Ontario Beach P ONTA 17 May.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 15 Geneva Lakefront P ONTA 18 May; last 10 SenL SENE 20 May.

**Black Scoter:** arr HP 16 Apr; last SenL SP 11 May.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 66 Seneca Yacht Club SENE 23 Apr.

**Bufflehead:** max 135 SenL SP 24 Apr.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 80 FrP 2 Mar.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 100 L Salubria STEU 17 Mar.

**Common Merganser:** max 102 TSMP 1 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 230 Sheldrake Pt SENE 3 Mar.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 108 CLSP 1 Apr.

**Northern Bobwhite:** 2 TDry 12 May (E. Inigo Elias!).

**Wild Turkey:** max 31 TCam 2 Apr.

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 8 Erwin WMA STEU 28 May.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 20 MNWR 2-26 Apr.

**Horned Grebe:** max 36 TFSP 17 Mar.

**Red-necked Grebe:** max 4 SenL SENE 9 May; last 2 Geneva Country Club SENE 23 May.

**Rock Pigeon:** max 100 TRea 27 May.

**Mourning Dove:** max 33 MtP 24 Mar.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr Trumansburg 23 Apr; max 4 Newtown Battlefield SP 18 May.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr TLAN 29 Apr (H. Mills, rec), early; max 19 NEI 22 May, nocturnal.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr TDan 6 May; max 19 NEI 20 May.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** HSRW 21-22 Apr; T Lindley STEU 15 May; TPhe 20 May.

**Chimney Swift:** arr TUly 17 Apr; max 75 Belle Sherman Elementary TOMP 10 May.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr TDry 29 Apr; Bath 29 Apr; T Dix SCHU 29 Apr; TDan 29 Apr.

**Virginia Rail:** 2 Etna Lane Cattail Marsh TOMP 13 Mar (CTH), early; max 6 QCM 26 Apr.

**Sora:** arr 2 MNWR 14 Apr.

**Common Gallinule:** arr MNWR 12 Apr; max 12 MNWR 16 May.

**American Coot:** max 350 Canandaigua L ONTA 17 Mar.

**Sandhill Crane:** max 49 MNWR 16 Mar (LMi, ph), high.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr City Pier ONTA 11 May; max 22 MNWR 23 May.

**American Golden-Plover:** arr 5 SavM 5 Apr (DK, ph), early; max 8 SavM 17 Apr (M. Gullo, ph), high.  
**Killdeer:** max 28 SavM 6 Apr.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** arr 5 MNWR 4 May; max 40 MNWR 18 May.

**Whimbrel:** arr MyPt 18 May; max 47 MNWR 18 May.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr 2 MyPt 8 May; max 17 SenL SP 23 May; 17 Guyanoga Marsh YATE 30 May.

**Sanderling:** arr 3 SenL SP 9 May; 2 MyPt 9 May; 7 SenL SP 28 May.

**Dunlin:** arr 6 SavM 5 Apr; max 160 MNWR 18 May.

**Least Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 24 Apr; max 250 MNWR 7 May.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 18 May.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr & max 10 MNWR 31 Mar,

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 30 Apr; max 20 MNWR 18 May; 20 TCan 24 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr MyPt 8 May; max 22 MNWR 18 May.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** MNWR 18 May (JMc!).

**American Woodcock:** max 12 ITA 19 Apr.

**Wilson's Snipe:** arr BLNA 1 Mar (BW!), early; max 16 HRW 26 Mar.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr Ithaca Res TOMP 9 Apr; max 11 SenL SENE 9 May.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 8 Apr; max 6 MNWR 5 May.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr TCan 1 Apr; max 30 MNWR 27 Apr.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr MNWR 16 Mar; max 54 MNWR 4 May.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** MNWR 22 Apr (MaMi, ph).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** 2 MyPt 8 May (JMc!, ph).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr 2 HH 17 Mar; max 206 SenL SP 24 Apr.

**Little Gull:** arr TSMP 19 Apr; last SenL SP 20 May.

**Laughing Gull:** SenL SP 20 May (RSt!).

**Franklin's Gull:** MNWR 4 May (D. van Zyl, ph).

**Ring-billed Gull:** max 1000 T Seneca ONTA 8 Mar,

**Herring Gull:** max 650 SRCP 23 Mar.

**Iceland Gull:** last BL 10 Mar.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 27 SRCP 23 Mar (J. Collison), high.

**Glaucous Gull:** SRCP 12 Mar; LRPF 18 Mar; LRPF 10 Apr.

**Herring Gull x Glaucous Gull (hybrid):** SRCP 10 Mar (S. Rackowski!, ph).

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 39 TSMP 2 Mar.

**Caspian Tern:** arr MyPt 4 Apr; max 62 MNWR 27 Apr.

**Black Tern:** arr 3 MNWR 23 Apr; max 37 MNWR 11 May.

**ROSEATE TERN:** MyPt 10 May (JMc!, ph; mob); FrH 11 May (JMc, ph; A. Jiang, T. Schulenberg).

**Common Tern:** arr SenL SENE 20 Apr; max 90 FrH 12 May (JMc!, ph, K. McGowan), high.

**Forster's Tern:** arr TOv 14 Apr; max 2 SenL SENE 8-10 May; last HP 18 May.

**Red-throated Loon:** max 3 SenL SENE 3 May; last SenL SENE 29 May.

**PACIFIC LOON (R3):** Long Pt SP 18 May (JMc!, ph).

**Common Loon:** max 40 Long Pt SP 4 Apr.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 500 FrH 4 May; 500 FrH 12 May.

**American White Pelican:** 3 MNWR 11 May (G. Cunningham!).

**American Bittern:** arr MNWR 6 Apr; max 4 MNWR 11 May (M. Haribal), high.

**Least Bittern:** arr Hanley Biological Field Pres SENE 30 Apr.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 296 MNWR 15 May (M. Tetlow!), high.

**Great Egret:** arr NA 30 Mar; max 7 MNWR 27 Apr; 7 HH 2 May.

**Snowy Egret:** MNWR 7 May (DK, ph; mob).

**Green Heron:** arr SPNA 16 Apr; max 7 HSRW 17 May (JMc), high.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr MNWR 13 Apr; max 5 MNWR 25 May.

**Glossy Ibis:** MNWR 15-19 May (A. Belford, M. Carr, ph, A. DeLario-Brown).

**Black Vulture:** max 9 Caton Swamp STEU 29 Apr.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 80 Gateway Plaza TOMP 20 Mar.

**Osprey:** arr MNWR 15 Mar; max 12 MNWR 14 Apr.

**Golden Eagle:** max 4 BL 4 Mar; last MNWR 8 Apr.

**Northern Harrier:** max 14 TPhe.4 Mar.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 3 SW 29 Apr.  
**Cooper's Hawk:** max 3 BLNA 1 Mar; 3 BLNA 8 Mar.  
**Bald Eagle:** max 33 SavM 10 Mar.  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr TDry 9 Apr; max 450 TVE 19 Apr (JoC, MPe!), high.  
**SWAINSON'S HAWK (R3):** TTyr 16-27 Apr (CTH, ph; mob), third Regional record.  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 13 CU 8 Mar, low.  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** max 2 TCam 29 Mar; last T Jerusalem YATE 22 Apr.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** max 6 Ithaca 21 May (A. Feinberg!), high.  
**Great Horned Owl:** max 4 T Catharine SCHU 1 Apr; 4 MNWR 28 Apr.  
**Barred Owl:** max 4 SHSF 1 Apr; 4 TCam 29 May.  
**Long-eared Owl:** T Hartsville STEU 9 Apr.  
**Short-eared Owl:** max 6 TPhe 5 Mar; last 2 TCan 14 Apr; 2 ITA 14 Apr.

**Belted Kingfisher:** max 6 Dryden L TOMP 2 May.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** max 3 CLSP 2 May (MaMi!); 3 T Potter YATE 18 May (H. Heizyk), high.  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 14 NA 18 May (S. Krasnoff), high.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr T Manchester ONTA 7 Mar (R. Fergus), early; max 17 SHSF 3 May.  
**Downy Woodpecker:** max 10 TDry 17 Apr; 10 MNWR 25 Apr; 10 TDry 10 May.  
**Hairy Woodpecker:** max 12 SW 12 Mar.  
**Northern Flicker:** max 21 MtP 14 Apr (CTH!), high.  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** max 6 BLNA 21 Apr (A. Dokter), high.

**Peregrine Falcon:** max 5 TFSP 26 Apr-9 May.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr NEI 26 Apr; max 11 SW 16 May.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** arr TMid 9 Apr; max 6 SPNA 14 May; 6 HSRW 15-30 May.  
**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** GWP 18 May (M. Friga, ph), second Regional record.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr TVE 13 May.  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr Bath 4 May; max 16 TRea 28 May (B. McGuire, J. Snodgrass), high.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr Montezuma Heritage P CAYU 14 May; TOv 14 May; max 2 TDry 29 May.  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr CytG 16 May; SW 16 May; max 6 CytG 24 May.

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr TDry 7 May; max 7 Dryden L TOMP 26 May.  
**Willow Flycatcher:** arr Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 9 May; max 6 MNWR 21 May; 6 MNWR 25 May.  
**Least Flycatcher:** arr SW 21 Apr; max 7 T Bath STEU 14 May.  
**Eastern Phoebe:** arr Mulholland Wildflower Pres TOMP 15 Mar; max 9 SW 26 Apr.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr TCam 27 Apr; max 6 LPBP 17 May.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr Tuly 9 Apr; max 8 HHFS 28 Apr.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr CLSP 5 May (D. Carter, ph), early; max 2 TOv 12 May; last TFay 25 May.  
**Warbling Vireo:** arr MyPt 23 Apr; max 17 HH 3 May.  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr TVE 30 Apr; max 30 CytG 13 May; 30 AF SCHU 19 May; 30 CytG 19 May.

**Northern Shrike:** last MNWR 24 Mar.

**Blue Jay:** max 98 Hawthorn Orchard TOMP 1 May.  
**American Crow:** max 500 Auburn 3 Mar.  
**Fish Crow:** max 24 SW 2 Apr.  
**Common Raven:** max 22 MtP 14 Apr.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** max 50 NA 18 Apr.  
**Tufted Titmouse:** max 28 NA 18 Apr (CKJ), high.

**Horned Lark:** max 200 T Scipio CAYU 24 Mar.

**Bank Swallow:** arr SRCP 15 Apr; 60 MyPt 9 May; 60 HRW 31 May.  
**Tree Swallow:** arr TTyr 5 Mar (DK, ph), early; max 400 Ladoga P TOMP 13 May.  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr 2 MyPt 2 Apr; max 60 TFSP 20 Apr.  
**Purple Martin:** arr 2 MNWR 1 Apr; max 82 MNWR 21 May.  
**Barn Swallow:** arr Varick Winery SENE 21 Mar; max 400 MyPt 9 May.  
**Cliff Swallow:** arr MyPt 3 Apr; max 20 Woodville Boat Launch ONTA 25 May.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr GWP 27 Mar; max 34 NA 18 Apr.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 12 SW 28 Mar; 12 Watkins Glen SP 10 Apr.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 176 Ithaca 5 Mar.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 14 Summerhill State Forest CAYU 30 Mar.  
**White-breasted Nuthatch:** max 11 TCar 2 May,

**Brown Creeper:** max 6 NA 5 Apr; 6 TVE 28 May.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr 2 Ithaca 15 Apr; TCar 15 Apr; MNWR 15 Apr; SPNA 15 Apr; max 5 SPNA 7 May; 5 MNWR 15 May; 5 Owasco L In CAYU 25 May.

**House Wren:** arr Caswell Rd Grasslands TOMP 14 Apr; TDry 14 Apr; max 12 Lighthouse Pt Natural Area TOMP 5 May.

**Winter Wren:** max 7 SHSF 3 May (PSH, ASp), high.

**Marsh Wren:** arr MNWR 1 Apr; max 60 MNWR 21 May (N. Badger!), high.

**Carolina Wren:** max 8 Lighthouse Pt Natural Area TOMP 17 Mar.

**Gray Catbird:** arr T Elmira CHEM 18 Apr; max 28 TDry 14 May.

**Brown Thrasher:** arr T Hartsville STEU 9 Apr; max 5 TCam 27 Apr; 5 LPBP 21 Apr; 5 TCam 25 Apr; 5 LPBP 11 May.

**Northern Mockingbird:** max 6 T Varick SENE 16 Apr; 6 TOv 9 May; 6 TOv 20 May; 6 T Big Flats CHEM 22 May.

**European Starling:** max 1000 LRPf 29 Mar.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 21 TCar 7 Mar (CHY), high.

**Veery:** arr OP 20 Apr; max 11 DSF 11 May.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr SW 15 May; max 4 NEI 22 May, nocturnal; last 2 NEI 25 May, nocturnal.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr SW 6 May; max 95 NEI 18 May, nocturnal.

**Hermit Thrush:** arr Cayuga-Seneca Canal Trail SENE 31 Mar; max 5 DSF 20 Apr; 5 Palmer Woods TOMP 24 Apr; 5 HHSF 28 Apr.

**Wood Thrush:** arr Palmer Woods TOMP 27 Apr; Tuly 27 Apr; max 20 Finger Lakes National Forest SCHU 9 May.

**American Robin:** max 256 CU 26 Mar.

**House Sparrow:** max 52 TCar 7 Mar (CHY), high.

**American Pipit:** arr 23 MtP 3 Mar; max 145 T Bath STEU 22 Apr; last TFay 26 May.

**Evening Grosbeak:** T Prattsburg STEU 18 Apr; TCam 27 Apr.

**House Finch:** max 26 TOv 14 Apr.

**Purple Finch:** max 22 TVE 28-29 Apr.

**Red Crossbill:** max 17 TCam 29 May.

**Pine Siskin:** max 200 TCor STEU 15 Mar.

**American Goldfinch:** max 91 TDry 29 Mar.

**Lapland Longspur:** max 15 SavM 6 Apr; last TFay 23 Apr.

**Snow Bunting:** max 35 T Milo YATE 2 Mar; last 30 TCan 24 Mar.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr TOv 28 Apr; max 4 TOv 11 May; 4 TFay 24 May; 4 TFay 29 May.

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr TCam 24 Mar; max 40 NA 21 Apr.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** Geneva 9 May; CU 9 May; TFay 26-29 May; Dunlop Meadow Natural Area TOMP 31 May.

**Field Sparrow:** arr 2 T Ledyard CAYU 1 Mar; max 17 TOv 8 May.

**Fox Sparrow:** max 9 T Summerhill CAYU 23 Mar; last MNWR 26 Apr.

**American Tree Sparrow:** max 20 SW 5 Mar; last MNWR 28 Apr.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 100 TDan 22 Mar.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr T Thurston STEU 27 Apr; max 17 TDry 30 Apr; last 3 Bath 20 May.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 68 TOv 1 May.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr TFay 29 Mar; max 6 HRW 19 Apr.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr 3 GWP 6 Apr; max 30 MtP 23 May.

**Song Sparrow:** max 55 NA 18 Apr.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr MNWR 29 Apr; max 2 TOv 9 May; last TOv 20 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 30 QCM 26 Apr; 30 MNWR 29 Apr.

**Eastern Towhee:** arr TVE 9 Apr; max 16 TCor STEU 1 May; 16 TCor 16 May.

**Bobolink:** arr MR 29 Apr; max 30 T Ledyard CAYU 12 May; 30 MtP 17 May; 30 TCar 23 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr T Big Flats CHEM 4 Mar; Tlan 4 Mar; max 16 ITA 19 Apr.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr T Enfield TOMP 28 Apr; max 8 Keuka College YATE 11 May.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr Bath 19 Apr; max 16 OP 7 May.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 20,000 MNWR 3 Mar,

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 109 SW 16 Apr.

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 120 HSRW 22 Mar; 120 QCM 26 Apr; last 2 MNWR 11 May.

**Common Grackle:** max 850 HSRW 22 Mar.

**Ovenbird:** arr T Jerusalem YATE 25 Apr; max 33 DSF 4 May.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** arr DSF 7 May; max 3 DSF 25 May.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr Hi Tor WMA 8 Apr; max 4 CytG 18 Apr; 4 AF SCHU 7 May; 4 Robert Treman SP 17 May.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr BL 15 Apr; max 4 SW 3-31 May; 4 Robert Treman SP 3 May.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr TVE 29 Apr (JoC, rec; MPe); MR 29 Apr (C. Wood!), early; TCar 6 May; NEI 6 May; max & last 2 Bear Swamp State Forest CAYU 7 May.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr SPNA 28 Apr; max 14 Bosque Nemi TOMP 11 May.

**“Brewster’s” Warbler (hybrid):** Tsem 20 May (T. Riley!).

**“Lawrence’s” Warbler (hybrid):** TCar 1 May (M. Witmer!); TDry 18 May (C. Centanni!).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Jennings Pd TOMP 27 Apr; max 4 SHSF 1 May.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** arr MNWR 13 May; max 2 MNWR 18 May.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr SPNA 28 Apr (J. Enck), early; max 22 CLSP 18 May; last OP 29 May.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr E Road Airport SENE 29 Apr; CU 29 Apr; last T Lodi SENE 21 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr Ithaca 22 Apr; max 10 T Scipio CAYU 1 May.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr CLSP 5 May; max 10 Bear Swamp State Forest CAYU 19 May (B. Carlson!, ph), high.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr TCar 19 Apr; max 31 T Newfield TOMP 19 May.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr TVE 29 Apr; max 8 Newtown Battlefield SP 18 May.

**American Redstart:** arr HHSF 28 Apr; max 30 Owasco L In 25 May.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr TSMP 28 Apr; max 8 MtP 8 May; last HSRW 29 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** arr MNWR 2 May; max 5 MNWR 18 May.

**Northern Parula:** arr Steege Hill Nature Pres CHEM 28 Apr; max 8 DSF 9 May.

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr TDan 30 Apr; max 11 Roy H Park Pres TOMP 11 May.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr W Hill State Forest STEU 3 May; max 10 CLSP 12 May; last TRea 29 May.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Roy H Park Pres TOMP 28 Apr; HHSF 28 Apr; max 14 TVE 20 May.

**Yellow Warbler:** arr MR 20 Apr; max 23 Hanley Biological Field Pres SENE 30 Apr; 23 MNWR 18 May.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr NA 29 Apr; T Newfield TOMP 29 Apr; max 22 Tsem 21 May.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr SW 6 May; max 8 Penn Yan Village Boat Launch YATE 15 May.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr TMid 14 Apr (mob!), early; max 13 SHSF 11 May.

**Palm Warbler:** arr TMid 7 Apr; max 18 SPNA 29 Apr; last Montezuma Heritage P CAYU 18 May.

**Pine Warbler:** arr TCar 15 Mar; max 7 MR 16 May.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr Van Riper Conservation Area SENE 31 Mar; max 64 TOv 9 May.

**Prairie Warbler:** arr 2 LPBP 28 Apr; max 8 LPBP 6 May.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr MR 16 Apr; max 12 DSF 9 May.

**Canada Warbler:** arr TCar 1 May (S. Kelling!); MR 1 May (B. Ryerson!), early; max 9 AF SCHU 19 May (BW); 9 SHSF 25 May (mob), high.

**Wilson’s Warbler:** arr CLSP 2 May; max 2 SW 13-16 May; 2 Sampson SP 31 May.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr 2 Stewart P TOMP 28 Apr; max 12 MtP 8 May.

**Northern Cardinal:** max 46 NA 18 Apr (CKJ!), high.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Cayuga Heights 23 Apr; max 14 TCar 25 Apr; 14 TVE 11 May; 14 Tsem 13 May.

**BLUE GROSBEAK:** TLan 23-24 Apr (T. Vawter, mob, ph).

**Indigo Bunting:** arr T Wheeler STEU 26 Apr; max 11 T Gorham ONTA 26 May.

**Dickcissel:** NEI 22 May (JMc!), nocturnal; TFay 23-29 May (TL, RSt. mob, ph)

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## REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

**Jeremy Collison**

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An El Niño winter led to the Region experiencing above average warmth, and March began with minimal snow on the ground and further above average temperatures. Weather data obtained from the Binghamton Station showed a high of 69° F on 13 March and a low of 16° on 22 March. The average temperature for March was 39.6°, 7.3° above normal and marking the fifth warmest for the weather station recorded. More notably is the period from 1-15 March which was the warmest on record for the station. March precipitation was 4.70", 0.65" above normal. Snowfall was 8.0" which was 8.4" below normal. Snow was usually not present except for a period midmonth with up to two inches present when temperatures remained lower for about a week. The Susquehanna River gauge only briefly reached above 10 feet on 10 March, the highest it would reach until later in summer, likely due to a lack of winter snowpack to melt and close-to-average precipitation.

The high temperature for the month of April was 83° on 30 April and the low was 27° on 25 April. The average temperature for April was 48.3°, 3.7° above normal and marking "only" the eleventh warmest April for the station. Precipitation was 4.23", 0.6" above normal. Snowfall totaled 0.6" which is 3.2" below average. Snowfall only occurred during the first week of the month and didn't stay for long.

For the month of May the high temperature was 84° on 22 May and the low was 42° on 12 May. The average temperature was 60.5°, 4.3° above normal and marking the seventh warmest on record for the station. The precipitation for May was 4.35", 0.57" above normal and no snowfall was recorded throughout the month. For the overall three-month period it was the third warmest and seventh wettest on record for the station and birds generally arrived a bit earlier than average as expected.

For the season overall, most expected species were recorded at least once. Some notable misses, undoubtedly due to the generally sparse and uneven coverage of this Region, include Lincoln's Sparrow, Pectoral Sandpiper, American Goshawk, and Iceland Gull. Also notable is a lack of a good raptor flight day, with nobody reporting any notable high counts of migrant raptors.

The Region began March with a couple of continuing birds which, while not full species, warrant mention: **Common x Barrow's Goldeneye** below Cannonsville Reservoir and an intergrade "**Myrtle**" x "**Audubon's**" **Yellow-rumped Warbler** in Sherburne visiting a feeder. The minor finch movements noted in winter remained evident, with Red Crossbill and Pine Siskins widely scattered. The warm winter and spring helped prompt some species to migrate earlier than average, including particularly early Virginia Rail and Marsh Wren in mid-March. Goose migration commenced and promptly finished quickly, with Adam Troyer recording an impressive 200,000 (that's hundred thousand!) Canada Geese in a single day over Birdsong Meadow Farm, along with a **Ross's Goose**

and many Cackling Geese. Among the many other migrating waterbirds gathering on the Whitney Point reservoir by mid-late March, David Nicosia spotted an **Eared Grebe** which is only the third record for Broome County and the Region as a whole in eBird.

With many early migrants already north, a brief cooler period early in the month, and neotropical migrants too far south to know about the warmer spring, migration proceeded in trickles during most of April. By the end of the month, though, migrants arrived en masse with birds arriving in the southern US finding their path north already ready. Many species appeared to arrive everywhere all at once with 29 April particularly notable for arrivals, with a bonus sharp-looking **Golden-winged Warbler**. A particularly early Tennessee Warbler was found only a day later.

May brought more rarities along with the rest of migration. Nocturnal flight call listening by Adam Troyer paid off with the only Region record of **Black-crowned Night-Heron** this season. Wet weather helped bring down large numbers of Common Terns in the Region on 5 May, with up to 45 seen at once at Upper Lisle County Park, along with an uncommon Black Tern and a rare **Forster's Tern**. A couple of days later, Pete Fenner had two **Little Gulls** on the uncommonly visited Canadarago Lake. The rarity of the season, at least to me, is another David Nicosia find at Upper Lisle County Park in mid-May. He found a singing **Yellow-breasted Chat** which is among scant few records for the Region as a whole, and which also stayed for many other birders to enjoy into the summer.

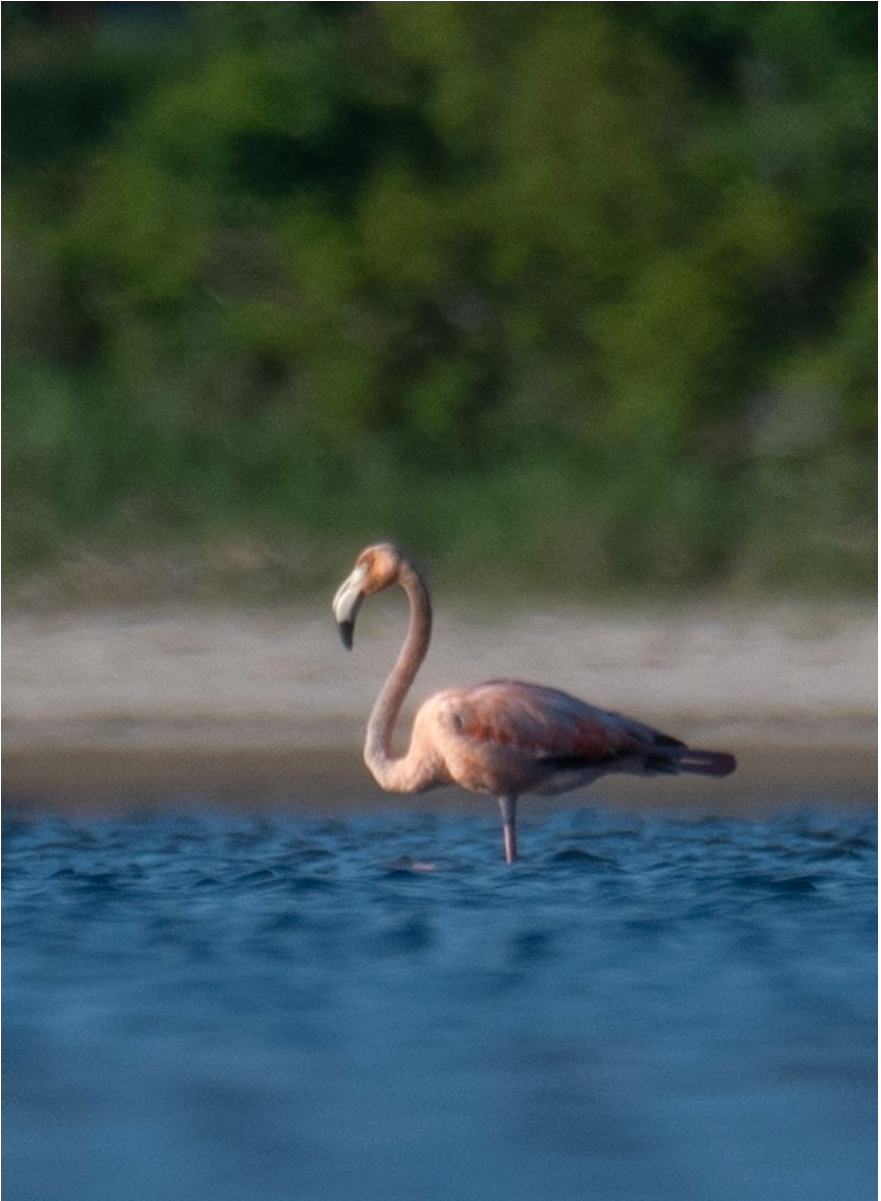
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## ABBREVIATIONS

**AqPk** – Aquaterra P, BROO; **BMF** – Birdsong Meadow Farm, TIOG; **BPd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BrPdPres** – Brick Pd Wetland Pres, TIOG; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CanL** – Canadarago L, OTSE; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA;

**PHOTO GALLERY**  
**Spring 2024**



Highlights Editor's pick for Bird of the Season and first accepted NYSARC record for NYS: American Flamingo, Georgica Pond, *Suffolk*, 31 May 2024, © Jay Rand. See note on pp. 326.



Top: Lazuli Bunting, Flanders, *Suffolk*, here 21 Apr 2024, © Donna Schulman.

Bottom: American Woodcock, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar, *Albany*, 16 May 2024, © Scott Stoner.



Top: Townsend's Solitaire, North South Lake Area, *Greene*, 17 Mar 2024,  
© Adrian Burke.

Bottom: Swainson's Warbler, Brooklyn Bridge Park, *Kings*, 20 Apr 2024,  
© Ryan Candee.



Total eclipse, 8 Apr 2024. Top: Turkey Vulture, Derby Hill, *Oswego*, © Kennedy Sullivan. Bottom: Long Lake, *Hamilton*, Joan Collins. See note on pp. 329.

**CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **ChRB** – Chenango Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **CoPk** – Confluence P, Owego, TIOG; **CornLn** – Cornell Lane Teaching Barns/Fields, CORT; **CRes** – Cannonsville Res outflow, DELA; **CVSP** – Chenango Valley SP, T Fenton, BROO; **DorP** – Dorchester P, Whitney Pt, BROO; **Fmt** – Franklin Mt, T Davenport, DELA; **GlimSP** – Glimmerglass SP, OTSE; **HPdSF** – Hawkins Pd State Forest, BROO; **JenkSF** – Jenksville State Forest, TIOG; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **LMPd** – Lockheed Martin Pd, TIOG; **LPSF** – Long Pd State Forest, CHEN; **MTPk** – Millbrook Town P, CHEN; **MurP** – Murphys Pits, BROO; **NMSF** – New Michigan State Forest, CHEN; **NSpM** – N Spencer Marsh, T Spencer, TIOG; **PRes** – Pepacton Res & outflow, DELA; **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO; **WPres** – Whitney Pt Res, BROO; **WHPk** – William Hill P, BROO.

**Snow Goose:** high count 650 Lisle BROO 1 Mar (JSw); reports from all counties in Region.

**ROSS'S GOOSE (R4):** BMF 4 Mar (AdTr).

**Brant:** WHPk 12 May (JaHo, LH); 50 ULCP 18 May (JaHo); DorP 19 May (DN, SR, JW).

**Cackling Goose:** 15 BMF 4 Mar (AdTr).

**Canada Goose:** high count 200,000 BMF 4 Mar (AdTr).

**Mute Swan:** 2 ChRB 13 Apr (AB, RB); Schnurbusch P BROO 29 Apr (JB).

**Trumpeter Swan:** escapee bird present at BPd.

**Tundra Swan:** CoPk 23 Mar (DG).

**Wood Duck:** high count 52 BrPdPres 26 Mar (DG); many reports throughout Region.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr BPd 20 Mar (MJ); high count 10 BPd 22 Apr (SD); last 2 Sherburne CHEN 13 May (MD, TS).

**Northern Shoveler:** high count 18 WPres 17 Mar (SD); scattered reports in BROO, CHEN, DELA, TIOG.

**Gadwall:** scattered reports in Region except CORT.

**American Wigeon:** high count 38 ULCP 22 Mar (AlTr); many reports throughout Region.

**Mallard:** many reports throughout Region.

**American Black Duck:** high count 64 Walton DELA 1 Mar (LV); many reports throughout Region.

**Northern Pintail:** high count 50 ULCP 17 Mar (LH); scattered reports in BROO, CHEN, TIOG.

**Green-winged Teal:** high count 116 ULCP 22 Mar (JaHo); scattered reports throughout Region.

**Canvasback:** CannR 10 Mar (JoRo).

**Redhead:** 14 ULCP 14 Mar (DN); 5 WHPk 17 Mar (LH); MTPk 18 Mar (MD, JMcK); Hodges Pd DELA 23 Mar (LV).

**Ring-necked Duck:** high count 325 LPSF 24 Mar (MD); many reports throughout Region.

**Greater Scaup:** scattered reports in BROO, CHEN, CORT, TIOG.

**Lesser Scaup:** high count WPres 17 Mar (LH); scattered reports throughout Region.

**White-winged Scoter:** 2 WPres & ULCP 7 Apr (mob); 15 WPres 19 Apr (DN); 2 CanL 24 Apr (BC); 10 CannR 6 May (LV); 7 CanL 8 May (PF).

**Long-tailed Duck:** high count 55 WPres 23 Mar (SD, JaHo, DN); scattered reports throughout Region except for OTSE.

**Bufflehead:** high count 66 WPres 11 Apr (AlTr); many reports throughout Region.

**Common Goldeneye:** high count 17 CRes 1 Mar (LV); scattered reports in all counties except TIOG.

**Common Goldeneye x Barrow's Goldeneye (hybrid):** CannR 1-17 Mar (LV).

**Hooded Merganser:** high count 25 BrPdPres 30 & 31 May (DG); many reports throughout Region.

**Common Merganser:** many reports throughout Region.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** high count 23 ULCP 31 Mar (DN); reports mostly in BROO with occasional reports in CHEM, DELA, OTSE, TIOG.

**Ruddy Duck:** high count 17 ULCP 20 Apr (DN); scattered reports from BROO & CHEN.

**Wild Turkey:** high count 68 McClure BROO 21 Mar (KM); many reports throughout the Region.

**Ruffed Grouse:** scattered reports throughout the Region.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** reports from BROO, CORT, DELA, OTSE.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** scattered reports throughout Region except CORT.

**Horned Grebe:** high count 45 WPres 17 Mar (SD); scattered reports in BROO, CHEN, DELA, TIOG; last DorP 9 May (VL).

**Red-necked Grebe:** 2 WPres 6 Apr (VL, JaHo, LH, DW).

**EARED GREBE (R4):** WPres 23 Mar (DN).

**Rock Pigeon:** many reports throughout the Region.

**Mourning Dove:** many reports throughout the Region.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr BMF 2 May (AdTr), nocturnal flight call.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr Waverly TIOG 9 May (MB).

**Common Nighthawk:** arr Newark Valley TIOG 11 May (DG); high count 4 ULCP 16 May (JG); last Conklin BROO 28 May (JW).

**Chimney Swift:** arr 2 BPd 27 Apr (DN); Daisy Hollow Rd CORT 27 Apr (JC); max 24 ULCP 12 May (DN).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr multiple locations BROO & TIOG 29 Apr (mob).

**Virginia Rail:** arr BPd 17 Mar (JW); reports from all six counties in Region.

**Sora:** arr NSpM 20 Apr (SCo); scattered reports from BROO, CHEN, TIOG.

**Common Gallinule:** arr 2 Sherburne CHEN 25 Apr (MD); scattered reports from BROO, CHEN, TIOG, OTSE.

**American Coot:** high count 27 Lake Front P OTSE 13 Mar (AS); reports from BROO, DELA, OTSE.

**Sandhill Crane:** arr 2 Oxford CHEN 8 Mar (JK); high count 15 ULCP 22 Mar (AITr); scattered reports in CHEN & TIOG.

**Killdeer:** many reports throughout Region; arrived 23 Feb.

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr ULCP 2 May (VL, SR); scattered reports from BROO, CHEN, DELA, TIOG.

**Dunlin:** arr ULCP 4-6 May (JaHo, DN), up to 2 present seen by mob; ULCP 18 May (JaHo, DMcC); NSpM 12 May (SCo); 3 NSpM 18 May (JC, SCo), one cont 19 May (SCo, JMcG); 2 CornLn 19 May (PMcN).

**Least Sandpiper:** arr NSpM 29 Apr (SCo); high count 32 Sherburne CHEN 19 May (MD); reports from all counties in Region except OTSE.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** NSpM 18 May (SCo, JC); Sherburne CHEN 19 May (MD), up to 3 until 24 May.

**American Woodcock:** arr 4 Mar, several reports BROO & CHEN; scattered reports throughout Region.

**Wilson's Snipe:** arr 2 Johnson City BROO 5 Mar (MJ); scattered reports throughout Region.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr many reports 20 Apr BROO & TIOG.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr NSpM 10 Apr (SCo), ULCP 10 Apr (JaHo, LH).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr many reports 24 Apr BROO & TIOG; high count 13 NSpM 28 Apr (SCo).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr NSpM 8 Apr (SCo); scattered reports throughout Region except CORT.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** high count 63 ULCP 17 Apr (SBo); scattered reports throughout Region.

**LITTLE GULL (R4):** 2 CanL 7 May (PF).

**Ring-billed Gull:** many reports throughout Region.

**American Herring Gull:** scattered reports from BROO, CHEN, CORT, OTSE.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** high count 20 Preble CORT 30 Mar (KT); reports from BROO CORT TIOG.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 3 Broome Co Landfill BROO 1 Apr (JW, SK), single bird reported 15 & 17 Apr.

**Caspian Tern:** ULCP 9 Apr (RM, DN); high count 5 ULCP 8 May (DN); occasional reports from BROO.

**Black Tern:** ULCP 5 May (DN), lingered to 6 May.

**Common Tern:** arr many observers & counts DorP 5 May; high count 45 ULCP 5 May (VL); reports from BROO & OTSE in May.

**FORSTER'S TERN (R4):** DorP 5 May (DN, SR).

**Red-throated Loon:** 3 DorP 11 Apr (SK, VL); CoPk 28 Apr (DG); GlimSP 7 May (PF).

**Common Loon:** high count 27 CanL 24 Apr (BC); many reports scattered throughout Region.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** arr ULCP 14 Mar (DN); high count 150 WPRes 5 Apr (DN).

**American Bittern:** arr ULCP 20 Apr (DN); reports from BROO, CHEN, CORT, TIOG.

**Least Bittern:** BPd 16 May (VL); BPd 19 May (JoRo); CG 19 May (mob).

**Great Blue Heron:** many reports scattered throughout Region.

**Great Egret:** Greene CHEN 1 Apr (MD); Exeter OTSE 28 Apr (DA).

**Green Heron:** arr LMPd 18 Apr (DG).

**BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (R4):** BMF 2 May (AdTr), nocturnal flight call.

**Black Vulture:** high count 3 Johnson City BROO 3 Mar (VL); scattered reports throughout Region except CHEN.

**Turkey Vulture:** high count 35 BUNP 16 Mar (JeDi); many reports throughout Region.

**Osprey:** arr Robert V. Riddell SP OTSE 30 Mar (TG), NSpM 30 Mar (SCo); many reports throughout Region.

**Golden Eagle:** scattered reports in BROO, DELA, OTSE, TIOG.

**Northern Harrier:** many reports throughout Region.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**Cooper's Hawk:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**Bald Eagle:** high count 17 CanL 7 May (TS, JAS); many reports throughout Region.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** high count 3 Betty & Wilbur SP OTSE 26 Mar (TS); scattered reports throughout Region except CORT.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr CannR 10 Apr (HaSu).

**Red-tailed Hawk:** many reports throughout Region.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** reports from DELA, OTSE, TIOG; last NSpM 29 Mar (SCo).

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**Great Horned Owl:** scattered reports throughout Region except CORT, active nest known at NSpM young noted 18 Apr (SCo).

**Barred Owl:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**Short-eared Owl:** 2 Candor TIOG 2 Mar (KS).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** reports from CHEN, OTSE, TIOG.

**Belted Kingfisher:** many reports throughout Region.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Michigan Hill Rd Richford TIOG (KR, JMcG, JG); Unadilla OTSE 4 & 6 May (PJ).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** many reports throughout Region.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr Apalachin TIOG 26 Mar (CWol); high count 11 Richford TIOG 17 Apr (DMcC).

**Downy Woodpecker:** many reports throughout Region.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** many reports throughout Region.

**Northern Flicker:** many reports throughout Region.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** many reports throughout Region.

**American Kestrel:** many reports throughout Region.

**Merlin:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**Peregrine Falcon:** reports from BROO, CHEN, CORT, DELA.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr many locations in Region 29 Apr (mob).

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr CG 24 Apr (MB); high count 12 ULCP 14 May (DN).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Walton DELA 30 May (SC).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr Oxford CHEN 2 May (AbTa).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** CanL 18 May (Anonymous); JenkSF 31 May (JY).

**Acadian Flycatcher:** Hulbert Hollow Rd TIOG 29 May (MP), seen by mob.

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr 2 AqPk 8 May (SD), ULCP 8 May (DN).

**Willow Flycatcher:** arr BpD 9 May (SD).

**Least Flycatcher:** arr Oxford CHEN 28 Apr (CP), Lockwood TIOG 28 Apr (MB).

**Eastern Phoebe:** arr Vestal BROO 15 Mar (GK).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr many locations in Region 29 Apr (mob).

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr BMF 12 Apr (AdTr).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** ULCP 14 & 19 May (DN, SR).

**Warbling Vireo:** arr NSpM 21 Apr (SCo); high count 20 ULCP 8 May (DN).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr BROO & OTSE 30 Apr (mob); high count 54 Pharsalia WMA CHEN 30 May (DN).

**Northern Shrike:** Lisle BROO 3 Mar (MJ); McDonough CHEN 7 Mar (MD); Cooperstown OTSE 31 Mar (LK).

**Blue Jay:** many reports throughout Region.

**American Crow:** many reports throughout Region.

**Fish Crow:** high count 50 Vestal BROO 28 Mar (JW); scattered reports throughout Region primarily BROO & TIOG.

**Common Raven:** high count 20 Broome Co Landfill BROO 4 May (JW).

**Black-capped Chickadee:** many reports throughout Region.

**Tufted Titmouse:** many reports throughout Region.

**Horned Lark:** high count 150 CornLn 21 Mar (DMcC); reports from all counties in Region.

**Bank Swallow:** arr ChRB 18 Apr (JW); high count 30 Lisle BROO 20 May (JoRo, DH).  
**Tree Swallow:** arr multiple locations in BROO 14 Mar (mob); high count 200 WPres 5 May (DN).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr 4 MurP 9 Apr (VL); high count 20 BPd 14 Apr (DN).

**Purple Martin:** arr Owego TIOG 24 Apr (DG); WPres 5 May (DN); WPres 9 May (MK); NSpM 23 May (SCo).

**Barn Swallow:** arr Sherburne CHEN 1 Apr (MD), high count 150 WPres 5 May (DN).

**Cliff Swallow:** arr BPd 24 Apr (MN); high count 26 PRes 25 May (JiDa); reports from all counties in Region.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Hunts Pd New Berlin CHEN 8 Apr (TH); high count 28 ULCP 20 Apr (DN).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** high count 24 Pharsalia WMA CHEN 16 May (DN).

**Cedar Waxwing:** many reports throughout Region, primarily in May.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** high count 13 HPdSF 25 May (DN).

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** many reports throughout Region.

**Brown Creeper:** high count 9 NMSF 17 Mar (JoHo).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr BPd 16 Apr (PS).

**House Wren:** arr Oxford CHEN 14 Apr (CP); many reports throughout Region.

**Winter Wren:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**Marsh Wren:** arr BPd 20 Mar (MJ); scattered reports in BROO, CHEN, OTSE, TIOG.

**Carolina Wren:** many reports throughout Region.

**Gray Catbird:** arr NSpM 18 Apr (SCo); high count 35 ULCP 20 May (DN).

**Brown Thrasher:** arr Binghamton BROO 9 Apr (BW, KW).

**Northern Mockingbird:** scattered reports throughout Region.

**European Starling:** high count 7000 BPd 12 Mar (DN); many reports throughout Region.

**Eastern Bluebird:** present during winter, many reports throughout Region.

**Veery:** arr Walton DELA 29 Apr (HeSm), Windsor BROO 29 Apr (CS); high count 12 ULCP 20 May (DN).

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr Chlorinator Rd OTSE 2 May (ML); high count 75 BMF 19 May (AdTr), nocturnal flight calls.

**Hermit Thrush:** arr AqPk 25 Mar (SD), BPd 25 Mar (SBo).

**Wood Thrush:** arr many locations in Region 28 Apr (mob).

**American Robin:** high count 500 Nanticoke BROO 28 Mar (DW); many reports throughout Region.

**House Sparrow:** many reports throughout Region.

**American Pipit:** arr Lisle BROO 3 Mar (SBo); high count 26 Sherburne CHEN 21 Mar (MD); scattered reports throughout Region except OTSE.

**House Finch:** many reports throughout Region.

**Purple Finch:** high count 12 King St BROO 29 Apr (DN); many reports throughout Region.

**Red Crossbill:** high count 5 Tuller Hill SF CORT 19 May (JG); widely scattered reports from all counties in Region.

**Pine Siskin:** high count 36 Scott CORT 7 Mar (PH); widespread throughout Region through spring migration.

**American Goldfinch:** high count 65 Oxford CHEN 23 Mar (MD); many reports throughout Region.

**Lapland Longspur:** 2 Lisle BROO 11 Mar (DW).

**Snow Bunting:** Springfield OTSE 24 Mar (Anonymous).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Nichols TIOG 26 & 27 May (DG).

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr Unadilla DELA 14 Mar (RS).

**Field Sparrow:** arr ULCP 3 Mar (JW).

**Fox Sparrow:** arr Beaver Dam SF TIOG 5 Mar (DMcC); last Richford TIOG 14 Apr (DMcC).

**American Tree Sparrow:** last Brookwood Pt OTSE 25 Apr (JeMu).

**Dark-eyed Junco:** high count 55 Oxford CHEN 29 Mar (MD).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr LHNC 25 Mar (DG).

**White-throated Sparrow:** high count 50 CG 25 & 26 Apr (MB).

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr LMPd 9 Apr (DMcC), BMF 9 Apr (AdTr); high count 3 CornLn 14

Apr (ChWo); several other reports CORT & TIOG.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr Lisle BROO 28 Mar (DW); high count 12 CornLn 27 Apr (JC).

**Song Sparrow:** high count 50 ULCP 26 Mar & 9 Apr (DN).

**Swamp Sparrow:** high count 31 Roxbury DELA 30 Apr (LV).

**Eastern Towhee:** arr CannR 26 Mar (SC).

**YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (R4):** ULCP 17 May (DN), seen by mob into summer.

**Bobolink:** arr BMF 27 Apr (AdTr); high count 20 Andes DELA 26 May (JiDa).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr ULCP 10 Mar (DN); high count 13 Daisy Hollow Rd CORT 22 Mar (ChWo).

**Orchard Oriole:** arr Candor TIOG 28 Apr (RD); scattered reports in Region except DELA & OTSE.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr NSpM 27 Apr (SCo); high count 14 ULCP 8 & 14 May (DN).

**Red-winged Blackbird:** high count 3000 BPd 12 Mar (DN); many reports throughout Region.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** high count 500 BPd 12 Mar (DN); many reports throughout Region.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr NSpM 10 Mar (SCo); high count 6 ULCP 23 Mar (DN); last

Hartwick OTSE 5 May (SSu).

**Common Grackle:** high count 15000 BPd 12 Mar (DN); many reports throughout Region.

**Ovenbird:** arr CVSP 27 Apr (VL); high count 55 Pharsalia WMA CHEN 30 May (DN).

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr multiple locations in Region 10 Apr (mob); high count 5 Griggs Gulf State Forest CORT 30 May (ChWo, BS).

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr CVSP 21 Apr (JaHo, LH).

**GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (R4):** Willis Rd BROO 29 Apr (DN).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr multiple locations 29 Apr (mob); high count 20 ULCP 8 & 20 May (DN).

**“BREWSTER’S” WARBLER (hybrid) (R4):** Oxford CHEN 11 May (JoHo), cont into June.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Oxford CHEN 22 Apr (MD).

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr Greene CHEN 30 Apr (AlTr).

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** Cortland CORT 8 May (SBr).

**Nashville Warbler:** arr ULCP 25 Apr (DW); high count 10 Richford TIOG 2 May (DMcC).

**Mourning Warbler:** arr Pitcher CHEN 8 May (RC); high count 8 Pharsalia WMA CHEN 30 May (DN).

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr Hartwick & Cooperstown OTSE 26 Apr (SSu, JeMu); high count 35 ULCP 20 May (DN).

**Hooded Warbler:** arr Dorman Rd BROO 3 May (DN).

**American Redstart:** arr multiple locations 29 Apr (mob); high count 18 ULCP 20 May (DN).

**Cape May Warbler:** arr Bovina DELA 29 Apr (RP).

**Northern Parula:** arr multiple locations BROO 29 Apr (mob).

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr LHNC 30 Apr (JMcG, JG, NR); high count 18 Pharsalia WMA CHEN 16 May (DN).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr HPdSF 7 May (DN); high count 6 BUNP 11 May (JeDi).

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Danby State Forest TIOG 27 Apr (GHK); high count 33 Pharsalia WMA CHEN 30 May (DN).

**Yellow Warbler:** arr NSpM 21 Apr (SCo); high count 40 ULCP 8 & 14 & 20 May (DN).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr multiple locations 29 Apr (mob); high count 48 Pharsalia WMA 30 May (DN).

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr many locations in Region 11 May (mob).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr King St BROO 27 Apr (DN); high count 17 Pharsalia Woods SF CHEN 28 May (DB, RZ).

**Palm Warbler:** arr 2 Hartwick OTSE 15 Apr (SSu), FMT 15 Apr (Anonymous).

**Pine Warbler:** arr Swift Rd Binghamton BROO 22 Mar (MD, SK, RY).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr Binghamton BROO 6 Apr (LD); high count 45 LHNC 30 Apr (JMcG, JG, NR).

**“Myrtle” Warbler x “Audubon’s” Warbler (hybrid)** cont from winter Sherburne CHEN 28 Mar (MD).

**Prairie Warbler:** arr multiple locations 29 Apr (mob).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr Flemingville TIOG 23 Apr (DG); high count 11 Pharsalia WMA CHEN 30 May (DN).

**Canada Warbler:** arr Jones P BROO 1 May (SD); high count 18 Griggs Gulf State Forest CORT 30 May (ChWo, BS).

**Wilson’s Warbler:** arr LPSF 9 May (MD, RY); scattered reports BROO, CHEN, DELA.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr SUNY Broome BROO 28 Apr (VL); high count 8 King St BROO 17 May (DN).

**Northern Cardinal:** many reports throughout Region.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Flemingville  
TIOG 24 Apr (CC), Lisle BROO 24 Apr (SSt).

**Indigo Bunting:** arr South Otselic CHEN 29  
Apr (MFP); high count 9 ULCP 15 & 19 May  
(DN).



## REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

**David Wheeler**

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Spring 2024 continued the theme of 'warmer than average' as seen through data provided by the National Weather Service. The average maximum temperature in March of 49.9° F was 7.5° above the recent 30-year average (1991-2020) for Syracuse. The average daily minimum was 6.9° above expected at 32.1°, these temperatures even more impressive since the climate-normal is based only on relatively recent years. Only three days failed to reach the freezing mark, six fewer than normal, while 14 overnights dropped below 32°, 10 fewer than normal. Rainfall throughout the entire period was close to expected. Snowfall was less and the entire annual snow season ended at less than half of average. Bad weather in March was concentrated in the second half of the month, likely preventing a new record, but still managing to finish eighth warmest based on 122 years of record-keeping. April max temperatures were 3.2° above normal at 59.6° with minimums a similar 3.6° higher at 39.8°. Only three overnights fell below freezing, eight more than usual. May's average maximum of 74.9° was 5.7° high and the minimums were 7.1° above normal at 47.3°. The month finished as second warmest and off the record by only 0.1°.

After a strong showing in February, Snow Goose moved on 3-4 March and tailed off quickly thereafter. The period also gave multiple Ross's Goose traveling with them over Derby Hill. Santos Rodriguez photographed an interesting goose in Baldwinsville on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and made a convincing case for ('white') Ross's x ('blue') Snow Goose hybrid, describing it as having a Ross's head on a 'blue' Snow body. Indeed, the pictures provide direct comparison with Snow Goose and show a small-billed, short-necked, all-white head/neck attached to an intermediate-sized body with blue-morph characteristics. As with many hybrids involving similar-looking species, one can only presume the parental combination here and could speculate about 'blue' x 'white' Snow (inconsistent with the bird on size and head structure) or 'blue' x 'white' Ross's, which seems possible but inconsistent on size. Most importantly, the bird did not resemble standard handbook depictions of 'blue' Ross's Goose, especially where the head pattern and size are concerned. Loyal readers of the Region 5 report will recall a discussion of the 'blue' form of Ross's in *The Kingbird* December 2023 (Vol. 73 No. 4) which covers the Spring 2023 season. Of particular interest is speculation about the origin of this very rare color-morph, some researchers believing that 'blue' Ross's may all be hybrids. The distinctiveness of birds such as this provide another data point in the discussion

as evidence of Ross's breeding with 'blue' Snow as well as an outcome which differs from most concepts of 'blue' Ross's. While a number of hybrid records exist for the Montezuma area, this is a first for the Region and even more unusual for seeming to involve both color morphs.

Only one Greater White-fronted Goose was found this season, a bird mixed in with Canada Goose at Beaver Lake on 3 March for Drew Weber. A few Cackling Goose were reported, presumably of 'Richardson's' type. Dennis Anderson found the season's only Eurasian Wigeon on 25 March at Old Fly Marsh Nature Preserve. As with Lesser Black-backed Gull, the number of these seen annually in North America raises questions about whether they may now be breeding here. A first-Regional-record Eurasian x American Wigeon hybrid was found at the Volney wetlands on 13 March by Kayla and Bob Fisk, males of this particular form being readily identifiable but seen less often than pure Eurasian types. How many birds reaching the New World make their way back to the Old? The scarcity of hybrids may mean that many do return home to nest. Do these same birds come back to North America the following year, and if so, why have some Eurasian Wigeon developed this behavior when other ducks occupying a similar range have mostly not? Readers may note that many well-known hybrid waterfowl have recently been added to the Region 5 checklist (the author was surprised to discover the wigeon, goldeneye, and white geese were not already included).

As noted in the weather section, early March continued the mild pattern established in February, followed by a long mid-month return to winter conditions. The bulk of dabbling ducks moved in the early portion with those not getting through in time becoming conspicuous on area waters. The timing of diving ducks coincides with the opening of waters farther north than the range of most dabblers, and thus is much later. The two Onondaga Lake Harlequin Duck continued through at least 6 April, while a King Eider was photographed at Fair Haven on the 14<sup>th</sup> by an unknown observer. White-winged Scoter and Brant numbers maxed in mid-May. Small flocks of Long-tailed Duck and Red-breasted Merganser were still relatively easy to find on Lake Ontario during the last week of the spring season.

It would prove an exciting year for **Chuck-will's-widow**, doubling the number of individuals found in the 21 years since the Region-first bird set up shop in the backyard woods of Bob, Melinda, and Kayla Fisk in late May 2003. Onondaga County got its first when Gretchen Dillon recorded one calling in Syracuse's Oakwood Cemetery on 6 May, while Madison County got in on the fun with one in Peterboro on the 13<sup>th</sup> for James Weaver (reported to the Editor on his behalf by Lonnie Mast). Up in Oswego, yet another was recorded calling by Dan Baldassarre on 20 May. Eastern Whip-poor-will were reported from the usual locations plus one found inside the Clay Home Depot on 9 May by Bob Fisk. Employees thought it had been in the store for about a week. The bird was rescued but in a compromised state and later perished after being taken to a wildlife rehabilitator. Common Nighthawk arrived at Derby Hill on 14 May with the best flight giving 61 birds on 25 May.

Virginia Rail arrived early for Dave Nash at the Hamlin Marsh on 18 March. Onondaga Lake saw 62 American Coot still present on 15 April. Five Sandhill

Crane passed Derby Hill on 1 March and nine were seen at Peter Scott Swamp on 7 April. Piping Plover returned to Sandy Pond on 21 April for David Wheeler and Kennedy Sullivan. Upland Sandpiper was reported only once, from the Deerfield grasslands on 1 May, by Margaret Fusco. Whimbrel and Red Knot went unreported from the usual hotspots at Sandy, Fair Haven, and Oneida Lake. Surprisingly, Pectoral Sandpiper was only found once during the entire season. Rare anywhere in the Region and certainly for Sandy, a **Wilson's Phalarope** was found separately by Kennedy Sullivan and Matt Brown on 15 May. Brown added the more-expected Red-necked Phalarope on 20 May and two Long-billed Dowitcher on 14 May. Some good numbers and early arrivals were noted for other species. Sandy Pond gave 521 Dunlin to Brown and Martin Mau on 23 May, an excellent number for the spot. Ten Ruddy Turnstone had been seen the previous day. While surveying the Oswego County Airport in Fulton Gregg Dashnau found an early-arriving Greater Yellowlegs on 7 March. Last but not least, Wheeler and Brandon Brogle watched with surprise as 36 Short-billed Dowitcher passed Derby Hill flying north onto the Lake on 21 May. Like loons and a few other species headed for the water rather than the east Lakeshore, these passed perpendicular to the familiar flight path taken by birds moving along the south shoreline.

It would be a good season for unusual gulls and terns. Little Gull checked in for Gregg Dashnau and Drew Weber on 30 April at Oneida Shores Park, while a **Franklin's Gull** was seen by many there on 12 May after being found by Dennis Anderson. Historical records showed this to be the fourth Onondaga County report, the last being in 1974. At Sandy Pond, Matt Brown added a **Laughing Gull** on 27 May. Thirteen Lesser Black-backed Gull was a good count for John McKay at the Madison County Landfill on 16 March. Only one Glaucous Gull was reported. Sandy came through with another rarity on 31 May in the form of a **Least Tern** found by Brown. It is a second record for the Region. Mickey Scilingo had the first and maximum count of nine Black Tern from Constantia on 24 April, while two were seen by Dashnau in Fulton on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May, an unusual location. Forster's Tern was represented by sightings at Sandy on 12 April and 31 May and Woodman Pond on 18 April.

Derby Hill hosted about 150 people for its first-ever total solar eclipse on 8 April. Though intermittent cloud cover somewhat obscured the main event, it was a great day for hawk migration and rarities including 2465 Turkey Vulture, a Black Vulture, two Golden Eagle, American Goshawk, 271 Red-tailed Hawk, two Rough-legged Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, and all the regular raptor species. Interesting effects of the eclipse on bird behavior at this site are included with others from around the state in a note on page 329.

As virtually the last bird before totality, a **Swainson's Hawk** flew low and slow over the lookout. Seven Sandhill Cranes also delighted onlookers. Bird of the day was a **Neotropic Cormorant** flying to the Lake with a small group of Double-crested spotted by David Wheeler, who then pointed it out to birders in the crowd near count headquarters including Brandon Brogle and Kennedy Sullivan. The bird was a bit distant to resolve the exact face pattern but observers noted all the salient structural field marks including small size, short neck, and long tail. This is a first record for Region 5 but must survive NYSARC scrutiny to be 'official'. Aside from the excitement of this particular day, Golden Eagle put

in a strong showing with 110 counted on the season, exactly double the recent 10-year average. Rough-legged were a letdown, likely due to a mild winter having forced fewer birds south of the watch site, coming in with less than half of the recent average. Swainson's Hawk was better than average with four for the season. A very rare **Red-shouldered x Red-tailed Hawk** hybrid was photographed by Brogle and Wheeler as it passed low over South Lookout on 14 March. Subsequent analysis by raptor luminaries confirmed the identification. It is the second record of this hybrid for the site. As always, counts and summary tables for the hawk count are available at [hawkcount.org](http://hawkcount.org).

An **American White Pelican** was found at Sandy Pond on 2 May by Matt Brown. Possibly the same bird was seen by Brandon Brogle flying west past Derby Hill on 6 May. Alison Koczek found a **Snowy Egret** on the jetty at Port Ontario on 7 May. Brogle, Wheeler, and Sullivan were able to see it perched on the signal tower there while looking from the bluff at Derby Hill, a distance of approximately four miles. Olive-sided Flycatcher was found twice during the period and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher only five times. Acadian Flycatcher was not reported from the traditional location at Whiskey Hollow; hopefully another pair will find the location. Reports from unusual locations included Fair Haven Beach State Park and the fishing access spot at Toad Harbor. A **White-eyed Vireo** was found by Santos Rodriguez at St. Mary's Cemetery in Syracuse on 30 April. A late Northern Shrike was photographed by Clyde Thomson in the town of Ohio on 2 April. Fish Crow went back and forth by Derby Hill as their presence increases on the Lakeshore, while 15 were seen at Oneida Shores Park. Boonville gave 65 Common Raven to Bill Purcell on 25 May. Unfortunately there was no real migratory flight of Black-capped Chickadee seen at Derby Hill.

None of the three boreal nesters presumed resident in northern Herkimer County were reported this season. The first Tree Swallow passed Derby on 5 March, a record-early date. Kevin Topping continued to get **Bohemian Waxwing** in Salisbury during non-irruption years with a max of 42 on 3 March. The Region's only known Sedge Wren returned to Durhamville by 18 May, while a new spot in nearby Verona was found the same day by Dennis Anderson, Tim Wing, and Matt Voelker. It was another year with few Gray-cheeked Thrush, Gregg Dashnau finding the only one on 15 May at Sterling Nature Center. American Robin flights at Derby Hill are always a highlight of early spring, with 2000 on 4 March. Purple Finch and Pine Siskin passed the hill in mid-April with 500 on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 75 on the 17<sup>th</sup>, respectively, as the maxima. Common Redpoll went unreported and Evening Grosbeak only once with two in Pulaski on 19 April. Red Crossbill continue at Morgan Hill and Adirondack locations and Peter Roy found several at the Rome Sand Plains. Brandon Brogle grabbed three calling Lapland Longspur out of the sky at Derby's South Lookout, while a few Clay-colored Sparrow were noted in expected places.

Eastern Meadowlark arrived on 3 March, earlier than usual. Decent flights of the abundant blackbirds happened early in the month as well. No great morning flights of Baltimore Oriole happened in May for observers at Derby Hill. Robert Whitman saw and recorded a **Worm-eating Warbler** at Fair Haven on 20 May, while at Woodford State Forest, Tom and Jo Ann Salo recorded one while working on the Breeding Bird Atlas. Although some were heard-only, Golden-

winged Warbler was represented much more than usual in recent years with at least 10 individuals reported. Prothonotary Warbler returned to the swampy woods of Toad Harbor while Ken Burdick found two singing at the Frost Hill Marsh on 23 May. Sunset Bay Park turned in some good warbler days for birders, while over at Derby Hill 650 Yellow-rumped passed on 30 April. No really large morning flights were noted in May. Prairie Warbler returned to Green Lakes SP but was otherwise seen only by Kennedy Sullivan at Derby on 4 May and Kayla, Bob, and Melinda Fisk on the county trail in Volney on 6 May, an unusual location. Last but not least, **Yellow-throated Warbler** was documented in excellent field notes by Hunter Collins in Tully on 19 April. Another was found by Anthony Russo at Oakwood Cemetery in Syracuse on 5 May.

Region 5 currently has five operating MOTUS stations located at Derby Hill, Three Rivers WMA, Rome WMA, Utica Zoo, and a site four miles south of Williamstown known as 'Fassler'. These register radio-tagged birds that fly through their 15-km-diameter circle of detection. Highlights include 19 different Sharp-shinned Hawks tagged at Braddock Bay and picked up by Derby Hill on various dates between 12 April and 3 May, typically 1-3 days after tagging. An Eastern Towhee flew by Derby on 12 April, its journey having begun on the 9<sup>th</sup> near Kingstown MD where it was tagged on 15 November. Another had a similar story. A Golden-winged Warbler checked in on 7 May, having come from Long Point, Ontario, the previous day and likely headed for Fort Drum where it had been tagged a year earlier. A Wood Thrush tagged on the wintering grounds in Costa Rica on 18 March arrived at Derby on 13 May. Stations at Utica and Rome picked up a Short-billed Dowitcher tagged a week earlier on the Delaware Bay. A receiver at Northern Montezuma WMA registered a Baltimore Oriole on 27 April. It had been tagged on 7 February near Charleston SC. Last but not least, a Cerulean Warbler was tagged on 17 May at Howland Island as part of the Cerulean Warbler Female Movement Ecology and Survival project.

This season a total of 258 species and five hybrids were reported, which is six above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: Ross's Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, Eurasian x American Wigeon hybrid, King Eider, Harlequin Duck, **Chuck-will's-widow**, Long-billed Dowitcher, **Wilson's Phalarope**, Red-necked Phalarope, Little Gull, **Laughing Gull**, **Franklin's Gull**, **Least Tern**, **Neotropic Cormorant**, **American White Pelican**, **Snowy Egret**, Black Vulture, Swainson's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk x Red-tailed Hawk hybrid, **White-eyed Vireo**, Sedge Wren, Bohemian Waxwing, Evening Grosbeak, Clay-colored Sparrow, **Worm-eating Warbler**, Golden-winged Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, **Yellow-throated Warbler**.

Spring 2024 produced 185,740 eBird records on 12,777 checklists for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v6.2. Reports were submitted by 1130 people. With so many submitting to eBird, the Editor would like to share how the 'Contributor' names below are compiled. Names appear in the list if at least one of the following four criteria are met: (1) a person's initials are used in the 'Synopsis' section; (2) a person submits a written list of sightings to the Editor; (3) a person is the only one contributing from a part of the Region that would otherwise have no reports; or (4) a person submits above a 'participation threshold' number of eBird records which varies by season and was

set at 400 for this report. Most listed below qualified under (4) but rest assured that all submissions contribute to this report.

DERBY HILL HAWKWATCH TOTALS

| Species                 | Arr* | Max  | Max Date        | Total  |
|-------------------------|------|------|-----------------|--------|
| Black Vulture           | -    | 2    | 2/27, 3/1       | 8      |
| Turkey Vulture          | 2/21 | 3738 | 4/7             | 28,579 |
| Osprey                  | 3/26 | 30   | 4/19            | 339    |
| Golden Eagle            | 2/27 | 12   | 3/27            | 110    |
| No. Harrier             | 2/21 | 45   | 4/19            | 550    |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk      | 2/27 | 654  | 4/19            | 2983   |
| Cooper's Hawk           | 2/27 | 36   | 3/25            | 279    |
| No. Goshawk             | 3/5  | 1    | -               | 4      |
| Bald Eagle              | 2/27 | 83   | 5/14            | 1064   |
| Red-shouldered Hawk     | 2/25 | 85   | 3/12            | 586    |
| Broad-winged Hawk       | 4/9  | 7015 | 4/20            | 31,421 |
| Swainson's Hawk         | -    | 1    | -               | 4      |
| Red-tailed Hawk         | 2/21 | 400  | 4/9             | 2630   |
| Rough-legged Hawk       | 2/27 | 6    | 2/27            | 56     |
| Am. Kestrel             | 3/4  | 58   | 4/11            | 350    |
| Merlin                  | 2/21 | 4    | 4/7, 4/16, 4/17 | 54     |
| Peregrine Falcon        | 3/3  | 3    | 4/29            | 23     |
| Unidentified            | -    | -    | -               | 71     |
|                         |      |      |                 |        |
| Total incl unidentified |      |      |                 | 69,111 |

\*first migrants at the Hawkwatch

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**ADK** – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BW** – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox, MADI; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fulton** – Fulton area including Oswego Ri, Indian Pt, L Neatahwanta; **Gerber** – Gerber Topsoil, Bridgeport; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HI** – Howland I WMA, CAYU; **HM** – Hamlin Marsh, Clay; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison County Landfill; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Road Wetland, Columbia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OLP** – Onondaga Lake P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **Osw/OswH** – Oswego/Oswego Harbor; **PpT** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **PSS** – Peter Scott Swamp, Phoenix; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **Sbury** – T Salisbury private property; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse locs not otherwise specified; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **WM** – W Monroe, incl Depot Rd & Toad Harbor; **WeavL** – Weaver L, Warren, HERK; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow, Memphis; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

**Snow Goose:** max 21,525 DH 3 Mar; 10615 DH 4 Mar, nums drop quickly after; singles only after 7 Apr; last WWinfield 25 May.

**Ross's Goose:** 3 DH 3 Mar (mob); 2 DH 5 Mar (mob); only reps.

**Snow Goose x Ross's Goose (hybrid):** Bville 3 Mar (SRo, ph), presumed blue Snow x Ross's, *intro*.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** BLNC 3 Mar (DWe), only rep.

**Brant:** arr 57 Const & OSP 30 Apr, early; max 350 DH 25 May; last 40 SP 27 May.

**Cackling Goose:** max 3 DH 4 Mar & last 15 Mar.

**Canada Goose:** max 6600 DH 4 Mar; nums thru.

**Mute Swan:** most reps OnonL & FH; max 60 FH 16 Mar.

**Trumpeter Swan:** var expected locs; max 30 HI 27 Apr.

**Tundra Swan:** max 17 DH 4 Mar; HI 5 May; Peterboro 11 May (LMa), very late.

**Wood Duck:** max 30 DB 22 Mar.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr Volney 14 Mar; max 8 UM 9 Apr.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 34 P Byron 17 Mar; last 2 Fulton 18 May.

**Gadwall:** max 34 OLP 1 Mar.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** Pompey 25-26 Mar (DAn, mob).

**American Wigeon:** max 80 HI 3 Mar; last OLP 15 May.

**Eurasian x American Wigeon (hybrid):** Volney 13 Mar (KFi, RFi), 1<sup>st</sup> Reg rec.

**Mallard:** max 500 HI 3 Mar.

**American Black Duck:** max 60 HI 3 Mar.

**Mallard x American Black Duck (hybrid):** P Byron 8 Mar, only rep.

**Northern Pintail:** max 1000 HI 3 Mar; last 2 HI 26 Apr.

**Green-winged Teal:** max 172 Vienna 31 Mar.  
**Canvasback:** OneiL 24 Mar; last 2 FH 28 Mar; only reps.

**Redhead:** max 68 OnonL 3 Mar; last 12 OSP 12 May.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 350 DL 16 Mar; last 2 TR 18 May.

**Greater Scaup:** max 1100 Const 7 Apr; last Brew 30 May.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 120 OneiL 17 Apr; last OneiL 25 May.

**Greater/Lesser Scaup:** max est 1900 PPt 15 Mar.

**King Eider:** FH 14 Apr (Unk, ph), only rep.

**Harlequin Duck:** 2 OnonL cont from winter thru 6 Apr.

**Surf Scoter:** max 4 PPt 19 Apr; last DH 26 May.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 608 OSP 11 May, good num; last OneiL 31 May, late.

**Black Scoter:** no reps.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 125 FH 8 Apr; flocks to mid-May; last 5 DH 21 May.

**Bufflehead:** max 120 PPt 28 Mar; last flocks early-May, small nums thru.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 20 OLP 3 Mar, low; last SP 30 May but nests N HERK.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 54 FH 25 Mar.

**Common Merganser:** max 125 Earlville 8 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 300 DH 13 May; last flocks mid-May, small nums thru.

**Ruddy Duck:** arr 6 WP 15 Mar; max 57 Fulton 21 Apr; 16 Fulton 23 May, late for num, & last 28 May.

**Northern Bobwhite:** TR 20 Mar, presumed escape/release.

**Wild Turkey:** max 48 Pulaski 2 Mar.

**Ruffed Grouse:** small nums var locs; max 5 SFNS 11 May & Erieville 16 May.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** small nums var locs, most presumably released by state.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 7 UM 31 May.

**Horned Grebe:** max 27 OnonL 11 Apr; last DH 26 May.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr OnonL & OSP 31 Mar; max 19 PPt 16 Apr; last 2 Const 25 May.

**Rock Pigeon:** flocks widespread.

**Mourning Dove:** widespread; max 20 sev locs/dates.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr Syr & WM 11 May then singles thru.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr BW 7 May then 1-2 thru; max 4 GLSP 17 May.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr 5 DH 14 May; max 61 DH 25 May.

**CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW:** OakC 6 May (GDi, audio), 1<sup>st</sup> county rec; Peterboro 13 May (JWe), 1<sup>st</sup> county rec; Osw 20 May (DBe, audio); 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup> Reg recs.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr Const 2 May; 1-4 exp locs May; max 6 Camden 21 May; NY Mills 11 May (JRi), unusual loc; Clay 8-9 May (RFi), *intro*.

**Chimney Swift:** arr 2 DH 27 Apr; max 45 OLC 7 May.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Cazenovia 28 Apr; max 6 DH 14 May.

**Virginia Rail:** arr HM 18 Mar (DNa), early; max 14 WM 20 May.

**Sora:** arr TR 14 Apr; max 3 Brew 15-18 May & Phoenix 1 May.

**Common Gallinule:** arr 3 TR 14 Apr; max 5 WeavL 3, 25 May.

**American Coot:** max 62 OnonL 15 Apr; last flocks mid-Apr, small nums thru.

**Sandhill Crane:** 5 DH 1 Mar; max 9 PSS 7 Apr; 4 DH 27 May.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr 2 SP 7 May; max 29 SP 26 May.

**Killdeer:** max 31 Sbury 17 Mar.

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr sev locs 4 May; max 51 SP 21 May.

**Piping Plover:** arr SP 21 Apr; max 2 SP 22 Apr; single cont thru.

**Upland Sandpiper:** Deerfield 1 May (MFu); only rep.

**Whimbrel:** no reports.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr & max 10 SP 22 May.

**Red Knot:** no reports.

**Sanderling:** arr OLP 18 May; max 6 SP 30 May.

**Dunlin:** arr SP 10 Apr; 406 SP 22 May; max 521 SP 23 May (MMa, MBr), exc num.

**Least Sandpiper:** arr Gerber 30 Apr; max 68 SP 13 May.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr SP 23 May; max 4 SP 29 May.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** 2 MSI 28 Apr (GMe), only (!) rep.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** arr 22 SP 11 May; max 63 SP 24 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr 6 SP 14 May; max 36 DH 21 May (DWh, BBr, ph), unusual loc.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** 2 SP 14 May (MBr), presumed late; only rep.

**American Woodcock:** max 12 TR 6 Apr.

**Wilson's Snipe:** arr Sbury 9 Mar; max 11 Gerber 14 Apr.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr OLP 15 Apr; max 12 FH 9 May.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr Gerber 12 Apr; max 21 SHTF 12 May; last Brew 18 May.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr 2 DH 31 Mar; max 48 Gerber 1 May.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr Fulton 7 Mar, early; max 34 LoopR 18 Apr.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** SP 15, 20 May (MBr, KSu); rare in Reg.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** SP 20 May (MBr).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr 4 Cicero 16 Mar; max 100 OSP 18 Apr.

**Little Gull:** OSP 30 Apr (DWe, GDa).

**LAUGHING GULL (R5):** SP 27 May (MBr, ph).

**FRANKLIN'S GULL (R5):** OSP 12 May (DAn, ph, mob), 4<sup>th</sup> county rec.

**Ring-billed Gull:** max est 1300 DB 19 Mar.

**Herring Gull:** max est 310 MCL 27 Mar.

**Iceland Gull:** singles 5 locs 12 Mar - last 2 Apr, low.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 13 MCL 16 Mar (JMy); small nums typ locs to 24 Apr.

**Glaucous Gull:** DB 19 Mar, only rep, low.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 10 Const 18 Apr, low.

**LEAST TERN (R5):** SP 31 May (MBr, mob, ph), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg rec.

**Caspian Tern:** arr SP 27 Mar; max 326 SP 3 May.

**Black Tern:** arr & max 9 Const 24 Apr (MSc), early for num; DeWitt Marsh 6 May, unusual loc; 2 Fulton 28 May, unusual loc; 1-2 sev exp locs May.

**Common Tern:** arr 2 SP 12 Apr; max 40 OSP 20 May.

**Forster's Tern:** arr SP 12 Apr (MBr); WP 18 Apr (GMe); SP 31 May; only reps.

**Red-throated Loon:** 2 OnonL 1 Mar; DC 10 Apr; SNC 5 May; WP 6 May thru; only reps, low.

**Common Loon:** mig arr late-Mar; max 22 FH 18 Apr.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** main mig mid-Apr to mid-May; max 897 SP 14 May.

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT:** DH 8 Apr (DWh, BBr, KSu), *intro*, 1<sup>st</sup> Reg rec, NYSARC.

**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN (R5):** SP 2-3 May (MBr); DH 6 May (BBr).

**American Bittern:** arr HM 30 Mar; max 7 WeavL 3 May; reps typ locs.

**Least Bittern:** arr HM 26 Apr; max 7 WeavL 25 May (TJS).

**Great Blue Heron:** max 65 Osw 17 May; highest nums all at breeding sites.

**Great Egret:** arr Osw 2 Apr; max 6 SNC 26 Apr.

**SNOWY EGRET (R5):** P Ontario 7 May (AKo, mob).

**Green Heron:** arr Little Falls 18 Apr; max 12 OSP 30 Apr.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** WP 17 Apr (GMe); OnonL 18 May (TSh); only reps.

**Black Vulture:** reps continue known locs Jamesville, Oneida, Little Falls; 1-2 DH 1, 5 Mar, 8 Apr, 22 May; 2 Cazenovia 24 May (JKi), unusual loc.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 3738 DH 7 Apr.

**Osprey:** arr Fayetteville 17 Mar; max 30 DH 19 Apr.

**Golden Eagle:** 5 DH 1 Mar; 11 DH 5 Mar; max 12 DH 27 Mar; last 8 DH 12 Apr.

**Northern Harrier:** max 45 DH 19 Apr.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 654 DH 19 Apr.

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 36 DH 25 Mar.

**Northern Goshawk:** DH 5, 8 Mar; only reps.

**Bald Eagle:** max 83 DH 14 May.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 85 DH 12 Mar.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr 3 locs Ont Lakeshore 8 Apr; max 9065 FH 20 Apr.

**SWAINSON'S HAWK (R5):** DH 8, 9, 16, 20 Apr (BBr, DWh, mob).

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 400 DH 9 Apr.

**Red-shouldered x Red-tailed Hawk (hybrid):** DH 14 Mar (BBr, DWh, ph), *intro*.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** max 5 DH 16 Mar; last DH 6 May.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** singles/pairs typical locs.

**Great Horned Owl:** widespread resident.

**Snowy Owl:** no reps.

**Barred Owl:** widespread resident.

**Long-eared Owl:** no reps.

**Short-eared Owl:** Warren 26 Mar (RGr); Sauquoit 30 Mar (RWi); only reps.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Hamilton 29 Apr (GMe); 3 other reps but none with descr.

**Belted Kingfisher:** widespread; max 8 SNC 9 Apr.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** reps from established locs.  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** widespread resident.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** mig arr late-Mar; max 10 Utica 10 Apr.  
**Black-backed Woodpecker:** no reps but presumed resident N HERK.  
**Downy Woodpecker:** widespread resident.  
**Hairy Woodpecker:** widespread resident.  
**Northern Flicker:** small nums Mar, winterers; mig arr early-Apr; max 175 DH 17 Apr.  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** widespread resident.

**American Kestrel:** max 58 DH 11 Apr.  
**Merlin:** max 4 DH var dates, else 1-3 var locs/dates thru.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** singles/nesting pairs typ locs; 1-3 DH var dates, mig.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr TR 23 Apr; max 11 BLNC 25 May.

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr DH 23 Apr; max 25 DH 3 May.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr Erieville 13 May; SFNS 19 May; only reps.  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr Syr 2 May; max 15 Clark Res 26 May.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr OF 20 May; singles 4 other locs 25-27 May, low.  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr SNC 15 May; singles/pairs known locs but not rep from traditional WH loc; WM 28 May thru, unusual loc.  
**Alder Flycatcher:** arr SVB 10 May; max 5 Durhamville 20 May.  
**Willow Flycatcher:** arr OLP 9 May; max 15 DB 20 May.  
**Least Flycatcher:** arr WP 25 Apr; max 9 Hubbardsville 24 May.  
**Eastern Phoebe:** arr 5 Mar Bville & Cazenovia, early; max 9 OakC 10 Apr.

**WHITE-EYED VIREO (R5):** Syr 30 Apr (SRo, ph).  
**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr Clinton 25 Apr; max 5 WM 2 May & SBP 15 May.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr WP 17 Apr; max 5 SFNS 1 May.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr Cazenovia 7 May; singles 6 other locs 8-20 May, low.  
**Warbling Vireo:** arr MW 22 Apr; max 11 OSP 30 Apr.  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr GLSP 30 Apr; max 28 WH 14 May.

**Northern Shrike:** reps 8 locs thru late-Mar; last T Ohio 2 Apr (CTh, ph).

**Canada Jay:** no reps but presumed resident N HERK.

**Blue Jay:** max 1500 DH 30 Apr, mig flight.  
**American Crow:** max 8800 DH 4 Mar, mig flight.

**Fish Crow:** max 15 OSP 7 Apr (SRo), good num, unusual loc; 1-5 DH var dates; reps typ locs.

**Common Raven:** max 65 Boonville 25 May (BPu), exc num; widespread reps.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** widespread resident; max 30 BLNC 28 Apr; little mig flight at DH.

**Boreal Chickadee:** no reps but presumed resident N HERK.

**Tufted Titmouse:** widespread resident except N HERK & N ONEI.

**Horned Lark:** max est 120 DH 7 Apr.

**Bank Swallow:** arr DC 15 Apr; max 100 Taberg 18 May.

**Tree Swallow:** arr DH 5 Mar, early; max 400 Cicero 24 Mar.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr Pulaski 8 Apr; max 25 FH 18 Apr.

**Purple Martin:** arr DH & FH 8 Apr; max 14 P Ontario 7 May.

**Barn Swallow:** arr Van Buren 7 Apr; max 60 OLP 10 May.

**Cliff Swallow:** arr Pulaski 17 Apr; max 12 WM 13 May.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr OLP 25 Mar; max 64 Syr 24 Apr; last Osw 20 May.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 22 Osw 17 Apr.

**Bohemian Waxwing:** 36 Sbury 2 Mar (KTo); max 42 Sbury 3 Mar (KTo); 4 Sbury 9-10 Mar (KTo).

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 600 DH 21 May; best nums Mar and late-May.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** small groups typ locs; max 12 Earlville 30 Apr, 6 May.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** widespread resident.

**Brown Creeper:** max 18 Osw 17 Apr; main movement mid-Apr.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr Marcy 12 Apr; max 8 OSP 27 Apr.

**House Wren:** arr T Ohio 14 Apr; max 10 SBP 11 May.

**Winter Wren:** mid-Mar birds early mig or local winterers, main arr early-Apr; max 4 Camden 8 Apr, low.

**Sedge Wren:** 3 Verona 18 May (DAn, TWi, MVo), new loc; 1-3 Durhamville 18-21 May; only reps.

**Marsh Wren:** arr PSS 7 Apr; max 29 WeavL 25 May (TJS).

**Carolina Wren:** small nums typ locs, mostly ONON.

**Gray Catbird:** Bville 26 Mar, poss winterer; arr Syr 20 Apr; max 27 HI 4 May.

**Brown Thrasher:** arr Hastings 9 Apr; max 7 GLSP 17 May.

**Northern Mockingbird:** singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON.

**European Starling:** max est 1800 MCL 16 Mar.

**Eastern Bluebird:** widespread; max 30 DH 23 Apr, 27 May.

**Veery:** arr OSP 26 Apr; max 11 Hubbardsville 24 May.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** SNC 15 May (GDa), only rep.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr RCFS 4 May; max 4 SNC 17 May.

**Hermit Thrush:** OLC 19 Mar & Sbury 24 Mar poss winterers; arr sev locs 6 Apr; max 31 Syr 24 Apr (APe), exc num.

**Wood Thrush:** arr Syr 23 Apr; max 20 Erieville 7 May.

**American Robin:** max 2000 DH 4 Mar, mig flight; best nums Mar to early-Apr.

**House Sparrow:** flocks widespread resident.

**American Pipit:** DH 4 Mar else arr DH 7 Apr; max 50 DB 8 May; last SP 24 May.

**Evening Grosbeak:** 2 Pulaski 19 Apr (MBr); only rep.

**House Finch:** widespread resident; max 30 DH 25 Mar.

**Purple Finch:** max est 500 DH 14 Apr, morning flight.

**Common Redpoll:** no reps.

**Red Crossbill:** small nums typ locs MH & ADK var dates thru; max 10 T Webb ADK 26 May (MRo); 1-2 Rome 21, 28 Apr (PRO).

**White-winged Crossbill:** no reps.

**Pine Siskin:** small flocks typ locs; max 75 DH 17 Apr; 36 Dolgeville 18 Apr (Efr).

**American Goldfinch:** flocks common & widespread; max 150 DH 4 May.

**Lapland Longspur:** 3 DH 6 Apr; DH 7 Apr; 2 Pulaski 7 Apr; only reps.

**Snow Bunting:** max 3 DH 25 Mar, low; last 2 Bville 25 Mar; only 5 reps.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr 2 DeWitt 29 Apr; max 4 Richland 25 May.

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr Osw 26 Mar; max 30 Syr 30 Apr.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr Lysander 1 May (RWh) thru; Rome 4-5 May (mob); DH 17 May (DWh); Syr 19 May (CGo); only reps.

**Field Sparrow:** OLP 1 Mar, early; arr Syr 24 Mar; max 15 TR 17 May.

**Fox Sparrow:** sev early-Mar reps likely wintered nearby; arr var locs mid-Mar; max 7 Forestport 24 Mar; last OSP 27 Apr.

**American Tree Sparrow:** max 19 HI 10 Mar; last DC 1 May.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 100 SNC 8 Apr.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** DH 5-14 Mar, early for site; Mar to early-Apr reps presumed winterers; mig arr mid/late-Apr; max 32 DC 29 Apr; last Lee Center 30 May.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max est 175 Manlius 2 May.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr 2 DH 8 Apr; max 8 Sbury 21 Apr.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr Peterboro & SP 9 Apr; max 10 T Fenner 18 May.

**Song Sparrow:** main mig movement during late-Mar & Apr; max 64 OLP 9 Apr.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr N Syr 4 May; max 2 DH 15 May; last 2 SBP 19 May; but nest N HERK.

**Swamp Sparrow:** early-Mar reps presumed local winterers; mig arr late-Mar; max 20 WeavL 3 May.

**Eastern Towhee:** WP 2-3 Mar likely wintered nearby; arr Bville 27 Mar; max 13 GLSP 19 May.

**Bobolink:** arr SFNS 28 Apr; max 85 DH 13 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr DH 3 Mar; max 12 Rome 12 May.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr sev locs 30 Apr; max 4 GLSP 18 May.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr Bville 27 Apr; max 30 DH 7 May, morning flight, low num.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max est 12000 DH 4 Mar, mig flight.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max est 500 DH 17 Apr, mig flight.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr 31 DH 5 Mar; max 140 Cicero 27 Apr; 100 DH 9, 19 Apr mig flight.

**Common Grackle:** max est 25000 DH 4 Mar, mig flight; small group are only birds to remain

in sight during eclipse totality DH 8 Apr (DWh).

**blackbird sp:** max est 8000 DH 14 Mar.

**Ovenbird:** arr BLNC & Clinton 27 Apr; max 31 Erieville 6 May.

**WORM-EATING WARBLER (R5):** FH 20 May (RWh, audio), seen; Woodford SF 17 May (TJS, audio), heard-only by experienced birders.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr Pompey 16 Apr; max 3 Orwell 30 Apr.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr BLNC & TR 22 Apr; max 8 TR 28 April & Hubbardsville 24 May.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr Syr 29 Apr; reps 10-12 locs var dates May, much more than usual, some heard-only.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr DH 28 Apr; max 7 GLSP 12 May.

**“Brewster’s Warbler” (hybrid):** SNC 4, 17 May.

**“Lawrence’s Warbler” (hybrid):** Pulaski 11 May.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr Fayetteville 26 Apr; max 6 Thendara 4 May.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** 2 Conquest 23, 25 May (KBu, MGu); WM 27 May thru, trad loc; only reps.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr OSP 26 Apr; max 12 OSP 14 May; last OSP 28 May.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr OSP 24 Apr; reps 6 locs 5-11 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr Syr 21 Apr; max 9 Syr 9 May.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr SFNS 8 May; max 3 var locs/dates May.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr WP 19 Apr; max 34 GLSP 15 May.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr FH 3 May; max 8 SNC 15 May.

**American Redstart:** arr GLSP 26 Apr; max 23 SNC 15 May.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr OakC 29 Apr; max 10 SFNS 11 May; last DH 22 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** arr HI 29 Apr; max 10 HI 26 May; other reps expected locs.

**Northern Parula:** arr Const 28 Apr; max 11 Syr 9 May.

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr Syr 1 May; max 5 Earlville 17 May.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr DC 1 May; max 12 SFNS 14 May; last HV 29 May.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr 5 MH 29 Apr; max 22 MH 2 May.

**Yellow Warbler:** arr OSP 24 Apr; max 32 OLC 10 May.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr Syr 30 Apr; max 20 New Woodstock 18 May.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr var locs 8 May; max 10 FH 20 May; last HI 28 May.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr 2 OakC 29 Apr; max 10 MH 2 May.

**Palm Warbler:** arr TR 9 Apr; max 12 sev locs 29 Apr – 1 May; last OSP 14 May but nests N HERK.

**Pine Warbler:** arr Hastings 31 Mar; max 10 Rome 28 Apr.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** winterers sev locs Mar; arr early-Apr; max est 650 DH 30 Apr, morning flight.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R5):** Tully 19 Apr (HCo), exc field notes; OakC 5 May (ARu, mob).

**Prairie Warbler:** arr DH 4 May (KSu); Volney 6 May (KFi, RFi, MFi); 1-3 GLSP 14-20 May, known loc; only reps.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr Jamesville 25 Apr; max 15 New Woodstock 18 May.

**Canada Warbler:** arr SNC 9 May; max 5 New Woodstock 18 May.

**Wilson’s Warbler:** arr Cazenovia 3 May; max 2 var locs mid-May.

**warbler sp:** max 200 DH 30 Apr, morning flight.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr BLNC 29 Apr; max 11 Alder Crk 12 May.

**Northern Cardinal:** widespread resident.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Marcellus 19 Apr, early; max 14 HI 4 May.



## REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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Winter's mild weather carried on through the spring, with all three months averaging warmer than average. March had the greatest departure from normal, as Watertown's mean temperature of 36.1° F was 5.5° above average. April's mean temperature of 45.4° was a more modest 1.4° above normal, and while the month saw temperatures rise as high as 72° on 10 April, there were several cool spells, the longest running from 20-27 April, including the month's lowest temperature of 26° on 25 April. May's mean of 60.5° was 3.5° above normal, with highs reaching above 70° half of the month and as high as 88° on 23 May. The 11.1" of precipitation for the season was 1.1" above normal and relatively evenly distributed across the spring, with both March and May rainfall totals within 0.25" of average, and April's total 0.9" above normal.

Much of Region 6 was within the path of totality for 8 April's solar eclipse, and a number of birders commented on bird behavior during this event. Some of these observations are included among others from around the state in a note on page 329.

Migration was active with most species arriving relatively early. Early-season migrants such as Killdeer and several species of blackbird were already present in Region 6 by the beginning of March, and heavy migration on the nights of 8-9 and 9-10 April brought many short and medium distance migrants at or near record early dates. The heaviest pulses of migrants came on the nights of 26-27 and 29-30 April, bringing waves of neotropical migrants that normally do not show up until a few days or even a week into May. Migration was very active between 1 and 18 May, with large waves of new arrivals coming every 2-4 days.

Of the species that *Kingbird* Regional Editors track annually to monitor the relative timing of migration, reasonable arrival dates were documented for 88 species. Of these, 16 species arrived within two days of long-term average arrival dates, 69 species arrived more than two days earlier than average, and just three species arrived more than two days late. These latter three species—Common Gallinule, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Purple Martin—all typically arrive around the same time in mid to late April. Five species tied or set record early arrival dates, including a mix of short-to-medium distance and neotropical migrants: Wood Duck, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Blackpoll Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, and Indigo Bunting. Eastern Bluebird was among the species for which arrival dates were not obtained, in this case because bluebirds were unusually abundant throughout the winter with no obvious increase in numbers noted during the period when migrating bluebirds most likely arrived.

The northbound goose migration was well underway at the start of the spring reporting season, with numbers peaking during the first week of March. Among the thousands of Snow Geese observed passing over Fort Drum on 4 March was the season's only **Ross's Goose**. There was just a single **Cackling Goose** report

as well, found by Jeremy Collison in the Black River floodplains near Lowville on 17 March, where typically large numbers of waterfowl were observed. By this date the bulk of the goose migration was over and no other rare geese were reported. Duck numbers were about average, the only rarity being a male **Eurasian Wigeon** Brian Miller found at Perch River WMA on 22 April that was seen by many birders through 28 April.

The shorebird migration was lackluster yet again, with generally low numbers and diversity. A Short-billed Dowitcher at Perch River WMA on 17 May, hardly a rarity, was the least common passage migrant reported. Perhaps the most notable stopover migrant shorebird was the 27 Solitary Sandpipers Drew Weber counted at a wetland in West Turin. The most exciting shorebird news was that a pair of **Piping Plovers** had returned to Lakeview Wildlife Management Area by 21 April and the female laid four eggs. Unfortunately, soon after she began incubating she was lost to a predator, and her mate was the only Piping Plover seen at Lakeview for the remainder of the season.

Although Black Vulture has become virtually annual in recent years, Region 6 has had far fewer reports than adjacent areas in New York and Ontario, so it was gratifying to see three reports of four individuals this spring. Santi Tabares saw two in Lowville on 8 April, then Sam Heinrich and Tayler Brooks observed one at Lakeview Wildlife Management Area on 11 May. The final Black Vulture was encountered independently by two groups of birders at Chaumont Barrens on 25 May. As for other notable raptors, five reports of six Golden Eagles, all between 13 March and 16 April, is about average for recent years. Three American Goshawks is a little more than usual. Jaden Thompson saw an adult goshawk on U.S. Highway 11 in Antwerp on 8 April, likely a migrant but this sighting was not that far from a recent nest location on Fort Drum. I saw a juvenile goshawk at Hickory Lake State Forest on 19 April and Adam Bleau heard one vocalizing in the Winona Experimental Forest in Ellisburg on 21 April.

After several years of poorly documented reports from Sackets Harbor, Raymond Spahn and others firmly established the presence of at least one pair of Fish Crows in this village throughout the spring, and nesting seems likely here and elsewhere near Lake Ontario. Another Fish Crow in the Lyonsdale area in Lewis County marks the third spring in a row with a sighting in the Black River Valley, where nesting seems possible as well. Also apparently increasing in Region 6, Orchard Orioles were reported from eleven locations, more than twice what is usually reported, with sightings in all three counties.

Red Crossbills continued from the winter, with most reports coming from Lewis County and portions of Jefferson County on or immediately east of Fort Drum. Again, Call Types 2, 4, and 12 were confirmed from recordings, with adults of Type 12 feeding young at different locations on Fort Drum on 2 and 8 April. Among other irruptive finches, Pine Siskins were widespread in mostly modest numbers, but as was the case over the winter, Evening Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, and White-winged Crossbill were reported just once or twice each.

Among the spring's rarities was a *Plegadis* ibis Winston Gedicks photographed in West Turin on 7 May, likely a Glossy but the photograph lacked sufficient detail to rule out White-faced. On 1 May while checking on the Lakeview Piping Plovers Kennedy Sullivan spotted a male **Yellow-headed**

**Blackbird** foraging on the beach, the second spring report in two years. On 6 May Jayla White photographed a male **Blue Grosbeak** at a feeder in Henderson. On 19 May Raymond Spahn found two **White-eyed Vireos** at Robert Wehle State Park and managed to get a recording of one them singing. Not as rare but still scarce in spring, Orange-crowned Warblers were at Fort Drum on 30 April and 11 May.

Lewis County is the least birded county in Region 6 and among the least visited by birders in all of New York. Local birders including Mandi Roggie, Isaac Worrall, and Elijah Moser, and visitors from other regions, especially Bill Purcell, Gregg Dashnau, and Jeremy Collison have significantly added to our understanding of the counties' birds over the past few years. However, a checklist submitted on 10 April by David Harrison stood out for the number of species hard to find in the county. Among the birds David saw on this visit were 13 Horned Grebes, 12 Red-necked Grebes, and one Redhead, all species that most long-time Lewis County listers are missing, as well as the only Ruddy Duck in the eBird database for the county.

For the season I received reports of 237 species, 3.8 species higher than the most recent ten-year mean but identical to last spring's total. Certainly, the highlights in terms of rarities were White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Blue Grosbeak, but all were seen by just one observer, and the high point for most birders was likely the sheer numbers of migrants moving this spring. Once again shorebirds were disappointing, but the loss of the Piping Plover nest at Lakeview was most unfortunate.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**ADK** – Adirondacks; **AFWMA** – Ashland Flats WMA, JEFF; **BI** – Barnhart I, STLA; **BPWMA** – Black Pd WMA, JEFF; **BRB** – Black Ri Bay, JEFF; **BRV** – Black Ri Valley, LEWI; **CBr** – Chaumont Barrens Pres, JEFF; **CCSP** – Coles Creek SP, STLA; **CV** – T Cape Vincent, STLA; **CWF** – Canton Wastewater Treatment Facility, STLA; **ED** – El Dorado Shores Pres, JEFF; **FCWMA** – Fish Creek WMA, STLA; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Reservation, JEFF & LEWI; **ICNC** – Indian Creek Nature Center, STLA; **JCSP** – Jacques Cartier SP, STLA; **JEFF** – Jefferson Co; **JLT** – Janack's Landing Trail, STLA;

**KC** – Kelsey Creek, JEFF; **LEWI**—Lewis Co; **LPSP** – Long Pt SP, JEFF; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA, JEFF; **MM** – Massawepie Mire, STLA; **PRWMA** – Perch Ri WMA, JEFF; **RRT** – Remington Recreation Trail, STLA; **RWSP** – Robert G. Wehle SP, JEFF; **SBSP** – Southwick Beach SP, JEFF; **SLR** – St. Lawrence Ri; **SLV** – St. Lawrence Valley; **STLA** – St. Lawrence Co; **StPt** – Stony Pt, JEFF; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, STLA; **WBSP** – Westcott Beach SP, JEFF; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA, STLA; **WP** – Whalen P, STLA.

**Snow Goose:** max over FD 9520 4 Mar; few after 15 Mar but stragglers L Ontario include 4 T Ellisburg 18 Apr & last ED 17 May.

**Ross's Goose:** over FD 4 Mar (JSB).

**Brant:** T Henderson 26 Apr; 40 over FD 21 May; only reports.

**Cackling Goose:** Ridge Rd BRV 17 Mar (J. Collison) only report.

**Mute Swan:** max 45 Chippewa Bay 3 May; up to 40/day LWMA to early May; increasing L Ontario & SLR.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 40 ULLWMA 6 Apr.

**Tundra Swan:** max and last 69 WP 9 Mar.

**Wood Duck:** max 22 T Alexandria 11 May.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr PRWMA 15 Mar; max 8 AFWMA 24 May.

**Northern Shoveler:** arr Ridge Rd BRV 11 Mar; max 30 Ridge Rd BRV 19 Apr.

**Gadwall:** max 10 PRWMA 22 Mar.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** PRWMA 22-28 Apr (B. Miller, mob, photos!).

**American Wigeon:** max 238 WHWMA 6 Apr.

**Mallard:** max 156 Ridge Rd BRV 6 Mar.

**American Black Duck:** max 180 Ridge Rd BRV 17 Mar.

**Northern Pintail:** max 215 Ridge Rd BRV 10 Apr.

**Green-winged Teal:** arr Ridge Rd BRV 6 Mar; max 190 Ridge Rd BRV 17 Mar.

**Redhead:** max 35 WHWMA 6 Apr.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 870 WHWMA 6 Apr.

**Greater Scaup:** max 1200 LPSP 17 Mar.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 25 PRWMA 20 Apr.

**Surf Scoter:** max 12 ED 11 May; last ED 17 May.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 43 WBSP 5 Mar; last StPt 17 May.

**Black Scoter:** last ED 17 May.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 250 LPSP 17 Mar.

**Bufflehead:** max 89 JCSP 16 Mar.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 90 Wilson Hill Causeway 9 Mar.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 14 PRWMA 24 Mar.

**Common Merganser:** max 101 Wilson Hill Causeway 9 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 155 StPt 17 May.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 11 BRB 24 Mar (R. Brouse).

**Wild Turkey:** max 87 T Canton 2 Mar.

**Spruce Grouse:** no reports.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** arr Ridge Rd BRV 6 Mar.

**Horned Grebe:** max 13 L Bonaparte 10 Apr.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr LWMA 8 Apr; max 12 L Bonaparte 10 Apr (D. Harrison).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr FD 14 May.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr FD 14 May.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr FD 16 May.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr FD & T Gouverneur 26 Apr.

**Chimney Swift:** arr ICNC 28 Apr.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr CV 30 Apr, record early.

**Virginia Rail:** arr FCWMA 14 Apr.

**Sora:** arr PRWMA 16 Apr; max 5 PRWMA 18 May.

**Common Gallinule:** arr T Watertown 19 Apr; max 16 PRWMA 17 May.

**American Coot:** arr PRWMA 17 Mar; max 5 PRWMA 26 Apr.

**Sandhill Crane:** arr Sissy Danforth Trail 13 Mar; max 17 T Canton 24 Mar; another 27 reports from 19 loc; increase accelerating.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr WHWMA 18 May; max 11 ED 22 May.

**Semipalmated Plover:** arr 11 May T West Turin; max 12 WHWMA 12 May.

**Piping Plover:** arr LWMA 21 Apr where f laid 4 eggs but nest attempt failed after f predated.

**Upland Sandpiper:** arr FD 2 May; T Clayton 25 May only report away from FD (D. Benvent, H. Truong, R. Zucker).

**Dunlin:** arr CWF 11 May; max 15 WHWMA 23 May.

**Least Sandpiper:** arr ED 7 May; max 11 ED 20 May.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** 2 WHWMA 19 May & 4 T Turin 21 May only reports.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 2 LWMA 28 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** PRWMA 17 May only report.

**Wilson's Snipe:** arr T Lewis 14 Mar.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr FD 23 Apr.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** widespread arr 7 May; max 27 T West Turin 11 May (D. Weber), high.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr & max 15 Fish I P T Brownville 27 Apr.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr T Antwerp 9 Apr; max 30 Fish I Park T Brownville 27 Apr.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr BPWMA 9 Mar; max 35 Sawmill Bay 23 Apr; 25 L Bonaparte 4 May high for LEWI (G. Dashnau).

**Iceland Gull:** 1<sup>st</sup> cycle BI 6 Apr (JSB).

**Glaucous Gull:** 1<sup>st</sup> cycle BI 5-6 Apr (B. Dixon, JSB).

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 8 BI 5 Apr.

**Caspian Tern:** arr WBSP 8 Apr.

**Black Tern:** arr PRWMA 30 Apr.

**Common Tern:** arr ULLWMA 21 Apr.

**Common Loon:** CCSP 1 Mar & RWSP 3 Mar, possibly overwintering birds; 1<sup>st</sup> certain new arr Flat Rock T Fine 12 Mar; most arr after 5 Apr.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** arr Chippewa Bay 16 Mar.

**American Bittern:** arr FD & T Canton 9 Apr.

**Least Bittern:** arr Beaver Meadows T Watertown 4 May.

**Great Blue Heron:** arr T Canton & T Lyme 17 Mar.

**Great Egret:** arr PRWMA 1 Apr; at least 17 Murphy I colony 16 Apr.

**Green Heron:** arr CV 19 Apr.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr Murphy I 13 Apr.

**GLOSSY/WHITE-FACED IBIS (R6):** T West Turin 7 May (W. Gedicks, photos!).

**Black Vulture:** 2 T Lowville 8 Apr (S. Tabares); LWMA 11 May (S. Heinrich, T. Brooks); CBr 25 May (I. Worral, E. Moser, H. Truong, R. Zucker, D. Benvent); rare but increasing R6.

**Osprey:** arr CV 27 Mar.

**Golden Eagle:** Stone Valley Rec Area 13 Mar (B. Dixon); CV 20 Mar (T. Peffer); T Antwerp

10 Apr (JSB); T Massena 13 Apr (R.

Scranton); 2 SLR T Massena 16 Apr.

**American Goshawk:** ad T Antwerp 8 Apr (J. Thompson); juv Hickory L SF 19 Apr (JSB); vocalizing Winona Experimental Forest 21 Apr (A. Bleau).

**Bald Eagle:** seemingly ubiquitous throughout.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** arr T Canton & Black R Trail T Rutland 14 Mar.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr T Fine 8 Apr.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** last FD 10 May (JSB, J. McKay).

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** reports from 11 loc, more than usual.

**Short-eared Owl:** max 5 CV 3 Mar; last 4 AFWMA 9 Apr.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** MM 18 May only report.

**Belted Kingfisher:** arr date unclear because of overwintering birds.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** arr FD 1 May.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** increasingly widespread SLV.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr T Brasher 6 Apr.

**Black-backed Woodpecker:** MM 19 May & 2 MM 26 May only reports.

**American Kestrel:** scarce before 15 Mar.

**Merlin:** 100+ reports from 60+ loc.

**Peregrine Falcon:** T Canton 26 Mar (W. Gallup); T Pitcairn 16 May (J. Moore); T Lowville 21 May (M. Roggie); T Dekalb 25 May (J. Collison); only reports away from SLR nest sites.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr T Ellisburg & T Fowler 30 Apr.

**Eastern Kingbird:** arr FD & PRWMA 29 Apr.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr JLT 15 May; 4 more reports.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr T Fowler 10 May.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr JLT 15 May

**Alder Flycatcher:** arr FD 10 May.

**Willow Flycatcher:** widespread; arr 17 May.

**Least Flycatcher:** arr ICNC 28 Apr.

**Eastern Phoebe:** early arr T Ellisburg 10 Mar; arr T Canton & T Potsdam 26 Mar.

**WHITE-EYED VIREO (R6):** RWSP 19 May (R. Spahn, rec!).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr FD 2 May.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr T Fowler 20 Apr.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr FD 3 May.

**Warbling Vireo:** arr FD 29 Apr.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr FD 2 May.

**Northern Shrike:** last T Lowville 7 Apr.

**Canada Jay:** max 3 MM 19 & 26 May, only loc.

**Fish Crow:** 1-2/day Sackets Harbor T Hounsfield 26 Mar to 14 May (R. Spahn, mob); LWMA 21 Apr (D. Wheeler); T Lyonsdale 22 May (A. Craft); breeding JEFF & LEWI?

**Boreal Chickadee:** none; now very scarce STLA portion ADK.

**Horned Lark:** max 50 T Denmark 8 Apr.

**Bank Swallow:** arr PRWMA 2 May.

**Tree Swallow:** arr PRWMA 17 Mar.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr LWMA 15 Apr.

**Purple Martin:** arr PRWMA 22 Apr.

**Barn Swallow:** arr PRWMA & T Hammond 8 Apr.

**Cliff Swallow:** arr BI 26 Apr.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Whetstone Gulf Res 9 Apr; last outside ADK RRT 30 May (R. Gould), late.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 26 FD 10 Apr.

**Bohemian Waxwing:** max 120 T Madrid 6 Apr; last 20 T Waddington 8 Apr.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 70 T Madrid 6 Apr.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr T Henderson 20 Apr.

**House Wren:** arr KC & T Canton 22 Apr.

**Winter Wren:** 2 Chippewa Bay Pres 16, Mar possibly winter survivors; widespread arr 8 Apr.

**Sedge Wren:** 2 arr FD 10 May (JSB); Eel Pd Rd T Stockholm 12 May (JSB); Marshall Rd T Lisbon 19 May (JSB) in field mowed by end month.

**Marsh Wren:** arr PRWMA 25 Apr.

**Carolina Wren:** 37 reports from 29 loc, more than recent years.

**Gray Catbird:** early ind ICNC (mob) 16 Apr & LWMA 21 Apr (K. Sullivan); widespread arr 28 Apr.

**Brown Thrasher:** arr T Brownville 14 Apr.

**Northern Mockingbird:** 11 loc JEFF 15 Mar thru; T Clare 5 May (B. Dixon) scarce STLA; T West Turin 13 & 22 May (D. Earl) scarce LEWI.

**Eastern Bluebird:** high winter numbers obscured arr.

**Veery:** arr T Canton 2 May.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr SBSP 4 May.

**Hermit Thrush:** T Madrid 27 Mar early arr or winter survivor; main arr SBSP 8 Apr.

**Wood Thrush:** arr CBr & ICNC 28 Apr.

**American Pipit:** just 8 reports of 1-2 each 2-11 May; low.

**Evening Grosbeak:** RRT 15 Apr; at feeders T Wilna 25 May & 4 T Alexandria 26 May; only reports.

**Purple Finch:** max 14 T West Turin 23 Mar.

**Common Redpoll:** 6 T West Turin 23 Mar; only report.

**Red Crossbill:** Type 2 ad feeding juv different loc FD 2 & 8 Feb (JSB); max 25 Sand Flats SF 11 May; reports from another 16 loc mostly LEWI.

**White-winged Crossbill:** 2 MM 19 May (A. Spencer, P. Sharma) only report.

**Pine Siskin:** max 30 T Carthage 8 Apr; widespread thru.

**Snow Bunting:** max 27 T Lyme 20 Mar; last 8 PRWMA 21 Mar; only reports.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr FD 30 Apr.

**Chipping Sparrow:** arr T Watertown 9 Apr.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr FD 2 May where 10+ per day thru (JSB, mob); up to 3/day Swamp Road T Lyme 7 May thru (B. Miller, mob); Lowville Forest Demonstration Area 11 May (D. Weber) rare LEWI; LWMA 17 May (JSB); CBr 26 May (R. Brouse, R. Lewis).

**Field Sparrow:** early arr FD 15 Mar; main arr T Watertown 30 Mar.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr T Croghan 21 Mar; max 11 FD 10 Apr; last T Champion 30 Apr.

**American Tree Sparrow:** last T Lowville 3 May.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 125 FD 10 Apr.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr T Champion 19 Apr; last T West Turin 24 May.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr T Hounsfield 8 Apr.

**Henslow's Sparrow:** PRWMA 25 May R. Zucker, D. Benvent, H. Truong) & 2 PRWMA 26 May (J. McKay) only reports.

**Savannah Sparrow:** early arr T Alexandria 15 Mar (L. Berg) & ED 30 Mar (E. Reynolds & T. Maron), only reports before main arr T Massena 6 Apr.

**Song Sparrow:** numerous overwintering birds obscure arr date.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr T Potsdam 9 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** arr T Canton 31 Mar.

**Eastern Towhee:** arr T Diana 8 Apr.

**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (R6):** m LWMA 1 May (K. Sullivan, photos!).

**Bobolink:** arr T Oswegatchie 1 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr T Brownville 10 Mar.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr T West Martinsburg 6 May (I. Worrall) & 2 Lowville Forestry Demo Area 11 May (D. Weber) among scarce but increasing LEWI reports; T Massena 14 May (A. Larrow); pr WP 18-24 May (B. Dixon, mob); 10 ind from 7 loc W JEFF where well established; increasing.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr T Lyme 29 Apr.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr T Canton 4 Mar; max 80 T Alexandria 7 Apr; last outside ADK T Alexandria & T West Turin 11 May; JLT 15 May (B. Carr) & MM 19 May (A. Spencer, P. Sharma) possible nesting loc.

**Ovenbird:** arr ICNC 28 Apr.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr T Harrisburg 30 Apr (M. Roggie); 16 additional reports from 11 loc more than usual.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr FD 25 Apr.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr FD 2 May.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr FD 30 Apr.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** widespread arr 28 Apr.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr SBSP 3 May.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** FD 30 Apr (JSB) & 11 May (T. Brooks, S. Heinrich) only reports.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr T Lisbon 28 Apr.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr T Ellisburg 14 May.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr FD & ICNC 28 Apr.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr LWMA 6 May; 9 reports from 6 loc more than usual.

**American Redstart:** arr FD 30 Apr.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr FD & ULLWMA 3 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** arr T Dekalb 3 May.

**Northern Parula:** widespread arr 30 Apr.

**Magnolia Warbler:** arr FD & Soft Maple Res 6 May.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr ULLWMA 3 May.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** widespread arr 6 May.

**Yellow Warbler:** early arr T Ellisburg 22 Apr (I. Mazzocchi); widespread arr 28 Apr.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr FD 30 Apr.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr StPt 3 May.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr T Henderson 2 May.

**Palm Warbler:** earliest report ADK 7 MM 22 Apr but arr clearly missed; 1<sup>st</sup> report away from breeding grounds Blake Sanctuary 25 Apr.

**Pine Warbler:** arr FD & T Croghan 10 Apr.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr RWSP 9 Apr.

**Prairie Warbler:** arr FD 1 May; T Lyonsdale 28 May rare LEWI report (A. Craft).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr T Potsdam 28 Apr.

**Canada Warbler:** arr FD 6 May.

**Wilson's Warbler:** arr T Parishville 7 May.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr T Watertown 1 May.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr T Philadelphia 26 Apr.

**BLUE GROSBEAK:** at T Henderson feeder 6 May (J. White, photos!).

**Indigo Bunting:** arr T Henderson 1 May

## REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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Spring 2024 weather seems to have followed a continuing trend of early warming and not-so-lion-like entrance, with March revealing a few well above average temperatures. One day, early in March, recorded a high in the upper fifties. Brief cooling trends in mid to late March brought flurries but nothing really amounted to measurable levels. As noted in the chart above, March and May temperature deviations in Saranac Lake area, and to a lesser degree in Plattsburg area, show significant leanings to the warmer side. April brought its own version of near-normal temperatures with only slight deviations from the norm along the eastern

half of the Lake Champlain Valley. But Saranac Lake area saw multiple April days with highs above 55° and 60° F. May seems to have built on this warming trend with multiple days of highs in the seventies with one day, late in the month, hitting a high of upper eighties.

|      | Plattsburg |        |           | Saranac Lake |        |           |
|------|------------|--------|-----------|--------------|--------|-----------|
| Temp | Mean       | Normal | Deviation | Mean         | Normal | Deviation |
| Mar  | 35.7°      | 30.2°  | +5.5°     | 31.4°        | 24.1°  | +7.3°     |
| Apr  | 44.3°      | 43.5°  | +0.8°     | 41.0°        | 38.2°  | +2.8°     |
| May  | 60.2°      | 56.0°  | +4.2°     | 55.4°        | 50.5°  | +4.9°     |

| Precip | Total | Normal | Deviation | Mean  | Normal | Deviation |
|--------|-------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Mar    | 2.58" | 1.33"  | +1.25"    | 1.98" | 2.04"  | -0.06"    |
| Apr    | 3.17" | 2.55"  | +0.62"    | 3.42" | 3.09"  | +0.33"    |
| May    | 1.78" | 2.88"  | -1.10"    | 3.11" | 3.70"  | -0.59"    |

Precipitation levels fluctuated a bit with higher amounts noted in March for Plattsburgh area, and then a drop to below normal levels into May. Saranac Lake area was a bit opposite with slightly below normal levels to start the spring, then a wet April brought up levels, only to followed by a drier May. Do April showers and warmer days now bring earlier May migrants?

Lake Champlain water levels overall were higher than normal for March through early May (~1.8' above norm) and this follows from a higher-than-average lake level from the summer and fall of 2023. A lower-than-average snowpack in the Adirondack mountains translated to a slower rise of lake levels and then, in May, a moderating trend of drier weather allowed for a slight drop in levels, but still, lake levels were measuring about 1.5' above average for the first half of 2024. Likewise, Lake Champlain water temperatures remained above average throughout the spring season.

Region 7 birders anxiously await the waterfowl movements as the season progresses from the overwintering scaup-goldeneye norms of Lake Champlain to a building diversity of puddle ducks and north-bound scoters by early spring. Mid-March brought the first noticeable north-bound movements of Snow Goose, along with one Ross’s Goose, two Cackling Goose in March and April, and about 100 Brant in late May within Essex, Franklin, and Clinton Counties. A scattering of Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Green-winged Teal, Northern Pintail, and American Wigeon around the Region 7 counties, as well as a late **Tufted Duck**, Long-tailed Duck, Harlequin Duck, Black Scoter, and Ruddy Duck sightings on Lake Champlain, rounded out the spring waterfowl reports.

March revealed several overwintering Northern Shrike. 30 March saw the arrival of a breeding pair of Sandhill Cranes to Tupper Lake, and May followed with a few sightings of aerial-feeding Common Nighthawks and calling Eastern Whip-poor-will.

Other note-worthy spring sightings of the North Country found Bonaparte’s Gull still in low numbers along Lake Champlain; however, numerous April and early May sightings well inland to Tupper Lake, Lake Clear, Lower & Upper Saranac Lakes, Lower St. Regis at Paul Smiths, and Indian Lake could be setting

a growing trend of this species visiting Adirondack lakes at ice-out times. Statistically ice-out times are getting earlier each spring. Saranac Lake reported an early spring visit from a Caspian Tern on 13 April. A migratory **White-rumped Sandpiper** was spotted at Noblewood Park along Lake Champlain on 27 May, making for an earlier-than-usual visit to the sandy spits found there. Most eBird postings show sightings of this species in late August, September, and into October along Lake Champlain but a well photographed White-rumped was spotted in June of 2022. While scanning farm fields in northern Franklin Co, birders spotted a second county record **Upland Sandpiper** on 1 May. On 23 Apr, Clinton County had an unusual first spring visit from a **Western Cattle Egret**. Most of Region 7 sightings of this species are from the October-November time frame. In mid-April four Rusty Blackbird were seen and heard at a small wetland in Tupper Lake, while a max count of 70 was tallied at the Lake Alice WMA in Clinton Co.

It is worth mentioning the winter finch holdovers from the '23-'24 winter as spring progressed. A birder in Chateaugay (Franklin Co.) reported Pine Grosbeaks, and in Lewis (Essex Co.) reports came in of Evening Grosbeaks. Within the thicker coniferous forests of Franklin Co., Red and White-winged Crossbills continued in notable numbers and evidence of breeding populations were observed. But it was the Pine Siskin that still held high numbers in Region 7, and no doubt, breeding populations were present into the spring season.

On 16 May a **Cerulean Warbler** was spotted in Altona. It looks like that is a second record for Clinton County. Also, a backyard sighting of an **Orange-crowned Warbler** in Essex County will become the second spring record for Region 7.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**AFR** – Altona Flat Rock, CLIN; **AFT** – Art Farm Trail, ESSE; **ALTrst** – Adirondack Land Trust, ESSE; **AMWMA** – Ausable Marsh WMA, CLIN; **ART** – Adirondack Rail Trail, ESSE; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog, FRAN; **BBB** – Bulwagga Bay Beach, ESSE; **BMRd** – Blue Mountain Rd, FRAN; **BuRd** – Burdick Rd, ESSE; **CPSHS** – Crown Pt State Historic Site, ESSE; **CRd** – Cross Rd, ESSE; **CRi** – Chazy Riverlands, CLIN; **CZ** – Chazy, CLIN; **Ess** – T Essex, ESSE; **FCov** – Fort Covington, FRAN; **GBM** – Gilbert Brook Marina, CLIN; **HBO** – Hoisington Brook Outlet, ESSE; **HRd** – Hobart Rd, FRAN;

**InL** – Indian L, HAMI; **KB** – Kings Bay, CLIN; **KBWMA** – Kings Bay WMA, CLIN; **LAWMA** – Lake Alice WMA, CLIN; **LCRTM** – La Chute Ri Ticonderoga Marsh, ESSE; **LP** – Lake Placid, ESSE; **LPl** – Lake Pleasant, HAMI; **MB** – Monty’s Bay, CLIN; **MRd** – Moffitt Rd, CLIN; **NP** – Noblewood P, ESSE; **NRRd** – Norman Ridge Rd, FRAN; **OPRd** – Oregon Plains Rd, FRAN; **PaRd** – Pardy Rd, CLIN; **PCW** – Putnum Creek Wetlands, ESSE; **PH** – Port Henry, ESSE; **PL** – Plattsburgh, CLIN; **PS** – Paul Smiths, FRAN; **PSC** – Paul Smiths College, FRAN; **PtAR** – Point Au Roche SP, CLIN; **SCRd** – Sabbatis Circle Rd, HAMI; **SL** – Saranac L, FRAN; **SRM** – Saranac Ri Mouth, CLIN; **TFBL** – Ticonderoga Ferry and Boat Launch, ESSE; **Ti** – Ticonderoga, ESSE; **TL** – Tupper L, FRAN; **TLMP** – Tupper L Municipal P, FRAN; **TRd** – Trimble Rd, ESSE; **WBrd** – Whallons Bay Rd, ESSE; **WD** – Wilcox Dock, CLIN; **Wil** – Willsboro, ESSE; **WiPt** – Willsboro Pt, ESSE; **Wmt** – Whiteface Mt, ESSE; **WMWMA** – Wickham Marsh WMA, CLIN; **WP** – Westport ESSE; **WPBL** – Westport Boat Launch, ESSE; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp, ESSE.

**Snow Goose:** max 1500 Stone Quarry FRAN 22 Mar (NM); 200 GBM 4 Mar (StR).

**Ross’s Goose:** Burke, FRAN 21 Mar (PMc).

**Brant:** 90 AMWMA 30 May (R. Reed).

**Cackling Goose:** KB 25 Mar (PMc); RRd 13 Apr (DHR).

**Canada Goose:** max 2200 Stone Quarry FRAN 22 Mar (NM).

**Trumpeter Swan:** 2 FCov 28 Apr (NM).

**Wood Duck:** 22 LCRTM 26 Mar (EGe).

**Blue-winged Teal:** 8 FCov 30 Apr (JSt).

**Northern Shoveler:** 18 FCov 21 Apr (NM).

**Gadwall:** 34 FCov 21 Apr (NM).

**American Wigeon:** 17 AMWMA 27 Mar (StR).

**Mallard:** max 196 PaRd 4 Mar (StR)

**American Black Duck:** 64 PaRd 4 Mar (StR)

**Northern Pintail:** max 25 FCov 26 Apr (B. Miner).

**Green-winged Teal:** max 41 PaRd 27 Mar (StR).

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 200 KBWMA 29 Mar (D. Peters).

**TUFTED DUCK (R7):** AMWMA 4 Mar (StR); CPSHS 8 Apr (T. Gilbert).

**Greater Scaup:** max 500 CPSHS (JMcG).

**Lesser Scaup:** max 150 KBWMA 8 Apr (C. Pooth).

**Harlequin Duck:** BBB 3 Mar (CV).

**White-winged Scoter:** 4 InL 20 May (A. Adami, W. Burket).

**Black Scoter:** CPSHS 9 Apr (C. Gabel).

**Long-tailed Duck:** 2 TLMP 4 May (GD).

**Bufflehead:** max 40 TLMP 24 Apr (NM).

**Common Goldeneye:** max 30 NP 17 Apr (M. Bodine).

**Hooded Merganser:** 11 Church Pd FRAN 27 May (G. Smith).

**Common Merganser:** max 550 PH 25 Mar (StR).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 23 WiPt (DHR).

**Ruddy Duck:** 2 KB 16 May (StR).

**Wild Turkey:** max 40 Hobart Rd FRAN 25 Apr (M. Bodine).

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 10 Belmont FRAN 15 Apr (RH).

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** 2 WRS 1 May (StR).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 6 AMWMA 11 May (V. Rojas).

**Horned Grebe:** max 47 NP 28 Mar (DHR).

**Red-necked Grebe:** max 31 WiPt 15 Apr (DHR).

**Rock Pigeon:** max 38 SL 5 Mar (NM).

**Mourning Dove:** max 25 PaRd 2 Mar (C. Malin).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Schroon L ESSE 21 May (GLCH, MCH); FCov 2 May (NM); Wil 26 May (DHR).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** Willis L HAMI 14 May (K. Chaisson); CPSHS 19 May (StR); InL 25 May (GLCH, MCH); PH 26 May (StR); Wil 26 May (MMe).

**Common Nighthawk:** max 5 AFR 24 May (A. Bedard).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** max 8 AFR 15 May (M. Brockway, CB).

**Chimney Swift:** max 450 TL 28 May (NM).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 6 WP 11 May (D. Van Olpen).

**Virginia Rail:** 4 Ensign Pd ESSE 2 May (StR); 4 SCRd 13 May (GD).

**Sora:** FCov 28 Apr (NM); 7 May (StR); 9 May (JB, JSt); AMWMA 12 May (C. Malin); FCov 25 May (D. Moore).

**Common Gallinule:** max 4 FCov 28 Apr (NM); 4 AMWMA 12 May (C. Malin); 4 AMWMA 25 May (K McGrath).  
**American Coot:** WPBL 3 Mar (JB); 4 Mar (StR); LCRTM 26 Mar (EGe).  
**Sandhill Crane:** 3 Wil 8 Apr (DHR); 3 MRd 9 Apr (DHR).  
**Black-bellied Plover:** max 5 CZ 26 May (J Patterson).  
**Killdeer:** 5 Burke FRAN 27 Mar (PMc); 5 BBB 23 May (StR).  
**Semipalmated Plover:** 5 FCov 23 May (NM).  
**UPLAND SANDPIPER (R7):** Brushton FRAN 1 May (T. Wheeler).  
**Dunlin:** max 8 NP 26 May (DHR).  
**Least Sandpiper:** max 30 FCov 9 May (JB, JSt).  
**WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (R7):** NP 27 May (MMe).  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** FCov 7 May (StR).  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 6 NP 27 May (MMe).  
**American Woodcock:** max 8 Ti 27 Mar (GLCH, MCH).  
**Wilson's Snipe:** 4 FCov 7 May (StR).  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 7 Schroom L shore ESSE 21 May (GLCH, MCH).  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 4 AMWMA 10 May (C. Malin).  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 50 FCov 7 May (StR).  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 85 BBB 11 Apr (StR); 34 TLMP 10 Apr (NM); 12 Lake Clear FRAN (NM); 4 Up Saranac L FRAN 5 Apr (S. Cihan); 20 NP 6 May (DHR).  
**Ring-billed Gull:** max 750 Stone Quarry FRAN 22 Mar (NM).  
**Herring Gull:** max 24 BBB 19 Apr (StR).  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** NP 1 May (DHR).  
**Great Black-backed Gull:** 3 PtAR 9 Apr (N. Pultorak).  
**Caspian Tern:** max 52 BBB ESSE 19 Apr (StR).  
**Black Tern:** 4 LAWMA 8 May (C. Malin).  
**Common Tern:** 4 KBWMA 19 May (B. Hooker, A. Hooker).  
**Common Loon:** max 11 Pt Kent ESSE 25 Apr (StR).  
**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 580 CPSHS 9 Apr (StR).  
**American Bittern:** max 4 AMWMA 16 May (C. Malin); 4 PSC 5 May (P. Jones).

**Least Bittern:** AMWMA 25 May (K. McGrath).  
**Great Blue Heron:** max 12 Big Pd ESSE 16 Apr (EGe, GLCH, MCH).  
**Great Egret:** max 30 FCov 7 May (StR).  
**Snowy Egret:** Schroom Ri ESSE 7 May (J. Fuerst).  
**WESTERN CATTLE EGRET (R7):** Miner Inst CLIN 23 Apr (A. Bedard).  
**Green Heron:** 2 FCov 23 May (NM).  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** AMWMA 25 Apr (StR); 7 May (C. Malin); 16 May (C. Malin); 20 May (N. Pultorak); FCov 23 May (NM).  
**Black Vulture:** max 24 Ti 2 Mar (MY).  
**Turkey Vulture:** max 36 PL 8 Apr (R. Reed).  
**Osprey:** max 5 CPSHS 8 Apr (S. Decker); mob in all counties.  
**Golden Eagle:** Middle Rd ESSE 21 Mar (DHR); Studley Hill Rd FRAN 13 Apr (RH).  
**Northern Harrier:** max 2 Malone-D airport 15 Mar, mob in all counties.  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** mob in all counties.  
**Cooper's Hawk:** max 2 PH 1 Apr (StR); Big Wolf Rd FRAN 8 Apr (K. Wodell).  
**Bald Eagle:** max 4 Brighton FRAN 22 May (C. Yarnell); InL (MMo).  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 2 Inlet HAMI 24 Mar (GL); ART 27 May (W. Earley).  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** max 5 BB 25 May (M. Ingles).  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 50 AMWMA 31 Mar (C. Malin).  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** Malone-D Airport FRAN 2 & 5 Mar, 27 & 28 Mar (PMc); Ti 9 Apr (StR).  
**Eastern Screech-Owl:** AFR 10 May & 24 May (A. Bedard).  
**Great Horned Owl:** PH 18 Apr (StR); Wil 18 Apr & 26 May (DHR); SCRd 18 Apr & 4 May (GD); Ti 28 Apr (GLCH, MCH).  
**Barred Owl:** multiple observations (38) throughout all Region 7 counties.  
**Short-eared Owl:** 3 Malone-D Airport 22 Mar (NM), 24 Mar (VR), 28 Mar (JSt).  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Ti 12 Mar (GLCH, MCH); Ledge Hill Rd 16 Mar (StR).  
**Belted Kingfisher:** 5 Saranac Ri 26 Apr (SP, JP).  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 4 BuRd 11 Mar (StR).  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 8 Rt 73 New Russia 25 May (J. Feura).

**Black-backed Woodpecker:** max 4 OPRd 31 Mar (E. Kagan).

**Downy Woodpecker:** max 7 CPSHS 27 Apr (CV).

**Hairy Woodpecker:** max 6 InL 25 May (GLCH, MCH).

**Northern Flicker:** 14 Speculator P HAMI 17 Apr (GD).

**Pileated Woodpecker:** max 3 Heaven Hill Trls 14 Apr (BMc); LCRTM 21 May, (GaCh).

**American Kestrel:** max 10 NRRrd 18 Apr (BMi).

**Merlin:** max 3 HAMI; mob Region 7 counties.

**Peregrine Falcon:** 3 ESSE, 2 HAMI.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** max 12 AMWMA 10 May (N Pultorak).

**Eastern Kingbird:** max 7 AFR 17 May (DHR, GaCh); LCRTM 21 May (GaCh).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** 3 BMRd 28 May (NM).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** max 5 CPSHS 19 May (StR).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** max 8 BB 23 May (RB).

**Alder Flycatcher:** max 22 ART 31 May (LM).

**Willow Flycatcher:** 2 St Regis Falls 21 May (T Wheeler); AMWMA 26 May; AFT 31 May (H. Noble).

**Least Flycatcher:** max 12 LAWMA 9 May.

**Eastern Phoebe:** max 12 Schroon L ESSE 21 May (GLCH, MCH).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** 3 LCRTM 21 May (GaCh).

**Blue-headed Vireo:** max 10 Gulf Brook Rd 7 May; Lewey L Campgrd 12 May (L Duval).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** 3 Chapel Pd 17 May (P. Waanders).

**Warbling Vireo:** max 17 LCRTM 21 May (GaCh).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** max 27 ART 31 May (LM).

**Northern Shrike:** Saranac Ri 3 Mar (JSt); BuRd 5 Mar (GLCH, MCH); Malone 9 Mar (NH); Churubusco 12 May (J. Enck); Westport/Essex farm fields 12-17 Mar (DHR); Malone 28 Mar (PMc); Malone 8 Apr (F. Hutter).

**Canada Jay:** (mob) max 12 Eight Acre Wood In1 Mar (GL).

**Blue Jay:** max 40 AMWMA 11 May (M. Brockway).

**American Crow:** max 4000 Malone 1 Mar (NM).

**Fish Crow:** 10 Ti 16 Apr (StR).

**Common Raven:** max 20 Sulphur Spr Rd FRAN 26 Apr (BMi).

**Black-capped Chickadee:** max 40 InL 4 Mar (C. Centanni).

**Boreal Chickadee:** max 13 BRRd 1 Apr (E. Kagan).

**Tufted Titmouse:** 7 Boquet Ri-Tims Trl ESSE 28 Apr (JSt).

**Horned Lark:** max 45 CR 24 Malone 24 Mar (J. McKay).

**Bank Swallow:** 10 CZ 24 Apr (C. Gilman).

**Tree Swallow:** max 130 WMWMA 1 May (StR).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 10 West Chazy 24 Apr (C Gilman).

**Purple Martin:** Chazy Riverlands 25 Apr (StR).

**Barn Swallow:** max 30 NP 1 May (DHR).

**Cliff Swallow:** 2 WBRd 2 May (StR); AMWMA 12 May (C. Malin).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** max 45 AMWMA 2 May (StR).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 15 BB 27 Apr (I. Sawatis).

**Bohemian Waxwing:** max 100 Pelon Rd InL 3 Mar (MMo).

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 80 Lewey L campgrd 23 May (L Duval).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 13 Inlet HAMI 8 Mar (J. Kresge).

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** 7 PtAR 9 Apr (N. Pultorak).

**Brown Creeper:** max 7 Horseshoe Pd Rd 16 Mar (GLCH, MCH); widespread.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** mob in Region 7 counties 11 May-25 May.

**House Wren:** max 7 Keene Valley 24 May (DN).

**Winter Wren:** max 9 ART 20 May (LM).

**Sedge Wren:** Speculator P HAMI 11 May (GaCh).

**Marsh Wren:** max 21 AMWMA 20 May (N Pultorak); mob 25 Apr - 30 May.

**Carolina Wren:** mob in FRAN, ESSE, CLIN.

**Gray Catbird:** max 12 CPSHS 14 May (StR).

**Brown Thrasher:** max 6 Sacandaga P Trl HAMI 12 May (L. Duval).

**Northern Mockingbird:** 2 SRM 14 Mar (BMc); 7 May (E. Roberts); 14 May (GaCh);

18 May (B. Jones); Cemetery Rd Keene 23 May (DN).

**European Starling:** max 7000 US-11 Malone 22 Mar (NM).

**Eastern Bluebird:** 6 BuRd 16 Mar (StR); BB 25 May (D. Moore).

**Veery:** 6 Keene Vly 24 May (DN).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Newcomb Hwy Dept ESSE 24 May (R. Buckert).

**Bicknell's Thrush:** max 12 WMt 17 May (P Waanders); mob WMt ESSE.

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 6 WMt 25 May (J. Askildsen).

**Hermit Thrush:** max 8 Alder Brook CLIN 14 May (S. Muller).

**Wood Thrush:** max 8 CPSHS 19 May (StR).

**American Robin:** max 55 Keene Valley 9 Apr (T. Schulenberg).

**House Sparrow:** max 13 Beggs Pt ESSE 23 May (StR).

**American Pipit:** max 75 ALTrst 3 May (DHR).

**Evening Grosbeak:** 5 Lewis ESSE 23 May (DN).

**Pine Grosbeak:** 5 Chateaugay FRAN 6 Mar (J. Roy).

**House Finch:** 10 Morrisonville CLIN 28 Mar (C. Malin).

**Purple Finch:** max 35 Inlet HAMI 26 Apr (GL).

**Common Redpoll:** max 30 InL 7 Apr (C. Catto).

**Red Crossbill:** 27 Rainbow L 18 May (JB).

**White-winged Crossbill:** 6 OPRd 31 Mar (E. Kagan); BB 16 Apr (NM).

**Pine Siskin:** max 500 Keene ESSE 5 Apr (DHR); mob within the Region 7 counties.

**American Goldfinch:** max 55 TFBL 29 May (StR).

**Snow Bunting:** max 55 CZ 24 Mar (A. Bedard).

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 38 TL 4 May (G. Gallagher).

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** FCov 5 May (NM).

**Field Sparrow:** max 15 Ess (E. Witman).

**Fox Sparrow:** 3 BuRd 11 Apr (GLCH, MCH); Ray Brook 16 Apr (M. Cantwell).

**American Tree Sparrow:** 8 Ellenburg CLIN 20 Mar (M. Newhouse).

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 100 Roosevelt Truck Trl HAMI 27 Apr (R. Hanlon).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 8 PL 1 May (T. Sturm); PSC 3 May (NM).

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 50 AMWMA 2 May (StR).

**Vesper Sparrow:** 4 Piseco Airport HAMI 17 Apr (JeCo); HRd 25 Apr (MaBo).

**Savannah Sparrow:** max 25 Champlain CLIN 28 May (K. Case).

**Song Sparrow:** max 38 CPSHS 9 Apr (StR).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** 4 BB 23 May (R. Buckert).

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 20 PCW 16 Apr (StR).

**Eastern Towhee:** 16 AFR 17 May (DHR, GaCh).

**Bobolink:** 20 NRrd Rd 23 May (BMi).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 20 Brushton FRAN 2 May (NM).

**Orchard Oriole:** 2 CPSHS 13 May (GLCH, MCH); 25 May (StR); 27 May (StR).

**Baltimore Oriole:** max 10 LAWMA 9 May (N. Pultorak); 20 May AMWMA (N. Pultorak).

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 800 Ellenburg CLIN 20 Mar (M. Newhouse).

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** 15 CZ 15 Apr (K. Snyder).

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 70 LAWMA 22 Apr (K. Dernier).

**Common Grackle:** max 400 CZ 12 Mar (NM).

**Ovenbird:** max 29 LPlé 31 May (L. Duval).

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** max 4 Highlands Rd ESSE 24 Apr (DHR).

**Northern Waterthrush:** max 7 ART 20 May (LM).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** 2 AFT 31 May (BMc).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** max 4 Wil 12 May (DHR).

**Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler:** 2 Wil 8 May (DHR); mob 4 - 29 May Wil (DHR, StR, CV).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** max 9 LPlé 31 May (L. Duval).

**Tennessee Warbler:** max 7 CPSHS 14 May (StR).

**ORANGE CROWNED WARBLER (R7):** PH 3 May (StR).

**Nashville Warbler:** max 24 BB 28 May (M. Hausler).

**Mourning Warbler:** 3 ALTrst 22 May (DHR); 30 May Franklin FRAN (StR).

**Common Yellowthroat:** max 24 ART 20 May (LM).

**American Redstart:** max 12 CPSHS 14 May (StR).

**Cape May Warbler:** 4 CPSHS 14 May (StR).

**CERULEAN WARBLER (R7):** Altona CLIN 16 May (StR).  
**Northern Parula:** 9 ART 31 May (LM).  
**Magnolia Warbler:** max 19 ART 31 May (LM).  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 6 LPlE 12 May (L. Duval).  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** max 13 LPlE 25 May (L. Duval).  
**Yellow Warbler:** 20 AMWMA 4 May (C. Malin); 16 May (C. Malin).  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** max 15 Altona CLIN 23 May (E. Myskowski).  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** max 17 WMt Hwy 27 May (R. Zucker).  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** max 19 North Hudson ESSE 7 May (E. Myskowski).  
**Palm Warbler:** max 25 BB 23 May (W. Earley).

**Pine Warbler:** 9 AFR 17 May (DHR, GaCh).  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 100 AMWMA 4 May (C. Malin).  
**Prairie Warbler:** 3 Mt Defiance ESSE 11 May (StR).  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 16 North Hudson ESSE 7 May (E. Myskowski).  
**Canada Warbler:** max 9 BMRd 26 May (R. Zucker).  
**Wilson's Warbler:** 2 CPSHS 14 May (StR); Malone 15 May (W. Rogers).  
**Scarlet Tanager:** 5 Mt Defiance ESSE 11 May (StR).  
**Northern Cardinal:** max 15 Ess 11 May (E. Witman).  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** max 7 Ti 5 May (GLCH, MCH).  
**Indigo Bunting:** 5 LPlE 31 May (L. Duval).

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**REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK**

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|      | Albany |        |           | Glens Falls |        |           |
|------|--------|--------|-----------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| Temp | Mean   | Normal | Deviation | Mean        | Normal | Deviation |
| Mar  | 40.9°  | 35.7°  | +5.2°     | 37.0°       | 31.7°  | +5.3°     |
| Apr  | 49.5°  | 48.1°  | +1.4°     | 45.3°       | 44.6°  | +0.7°     |
| May  | 64.8°  | 59.6°  | +5.2°     | 60.9°       | 56.5°  | +4.4°     |

| Precip | Total | Normal | Deviation | Total | Normal | Deviation |
|--------|-------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Mar    | 6.34" | 3.09"  | +3.25"    | 5.58" | 2.79"  | +2.79"    |
| Apr    | 3.54" | 3.11"  | +0.43"    | 2.57" | 3.10"  | -0.53"    |
| May    | 3.14" | 3.41"  | -0.27"    | 3.56" | 3.35"  | +0.21"    |

March 2024 was much warmer than normal, and very wet as well with double the average rainfall. April had temperatures and precipitation amounts close to the long-term average. May was very warm again, while rainfall was close to normal. March had only 6.6" of snow, with a late 2.6" snowfall at Albany on 4 April.

Brant made the annual jailbreak from the coast to the breeding grounds a bit earlier in May this season, and there were only a few reports from Region 8 to mark the passage. A **Tufted Duck** was observed on Saratoga Lake in Saratoga County in the first half of March. It is possible this was the same individual that was present there in January but went unreported the following month. Barrow's Goldeneye was also reported in the waterfowl flotilla that had gathered on Saratoga Lake in early March.

The first report of Ruby-throated Hummingbird was received on 25 April from a homeowner in Troy, Rensselaer County, with a larger Regional influx taking place on 29 April. Sandhill Crane was noted in Schodack, Rensselaer County on 28 April, with two rusty-colored birds seen in a stubble corn field. A single individual overflowed a farm in Livingston, Columbia County on 30 April. Upland Sandpiper was photographed at a traditional breeding location near Ames in Montgomery County on 19 May. Gary Chapin documented a Little Gull flying over Lake George in Warren County near Silver Bay on 1 May. He also found a Black Tern at Bob & Betty Cummings Memorial Park in Washington County on 25 May. A Common Tern was photographed at Schoharie Crossing Boat Launch in Montgomery County on 6 May. A group of five Glossy Ibis were seen circling low over Westmere, Albany County on 27 April. They gradually gained altitude and flew off to the north. A single bird was noted along the Hudson River floodplain in Schodack, Rensselaer County on 9-10 May, followed by an observation of a single individual at Wrights Loop, Saratoga County, along the Hudson River, two days later.

A surprise Red-headed Woodpecker was photographed by the finder at Cohoes Flats, Albany County on 21 May. That same observer, Michael Ingles, had found a White-eyed Vireo at Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Preserve, Saratoga County, on 28 April. Rich Guthrie also found a White-eyed Vireo at Papscanee Island Nature Preserve, Rensselaer County, on 11 May. Region 8 is at the northern edge of the breeding range for Acadian Flycatcher, but it is reported annually at a few locations, including Lake Taghkanic State Park in Columbia County, where one was seen vocalizing on 20 May. Boreal Chickadee was reported from Gore Mountain near North Creek in Warren County in mid-March, and again in mid-May. Tomas Kay found a **Townsend's Solitaire** at North-South Lake Campground in Greene County on 16 March. The bird was present again the following day, allowing some photographs to be obtained. Three Bohemian Waxwing were noted at a gas station near Lake George Village, Warren County, on 3 March, another reminder to "bird every bird." Clay-colored Sparrow continues to make inroads to Region 8 with three reports in May, one each in Columbia, Montgomery, and Washington Counties. Cerulean Warbler was reported again this year from its local stronghold at Schodack Island State Park IBA in Rensselaer County, but also from just farther north at Papscanee Island State Park, a welcome expansion. One was also noted at a former breeding location at Max V. Shaul State Park in Schoharie County, where access had been lost for several years due to a landslide and road closure. A Dickcissel was photographed coming to a bird feeding station near Johnstown, Fulton County on 21 April.

234 species were reported during the period.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Alden, Susan Beaudoin, Gary Chapin, Jeremy Collison, Alison Daly, Bill Cook, Matt & Brianna Denoncour, Alan Devoe Bird Club recent sightings, Amanda Dillon, David DiSiena, Craig Driggs, Alan Dupuis, Lindsey Duval, Scott Fackenthall, Larry Federman, Debra Ferguson, Mark Fitzsimmons, Rich Guthrie, HMBirds Groups.io, David Halm,

David Harrison, Julie Hart, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, Michael Ingles, Tomas Kay, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Naomi Lloyd, Tristan Lowery, Alan Mapes, Leigh McBride, Thom McClenahan, Frank Mitchell, Ellen Pemrick, Will Raup, Gregg Recer & Cathy Graichen, Neal Reilly, Stacy Robinson, John Roosenberg, Jeanette Roundy, Matthew Rymkiewicz, Daniel Schlaepfer, Kathy Schneider, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, Marian Sole, George Steele, Larry Steele, Scott Stoner, Alison Van Keuren, Rich White, Tom & Colleen Williams, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**APBP** – Albany Pine Bush Pres, ALBA; **AR** – Alcove Res, ALBA; **B&BCMP** – Bob & Betty Cummings Memorial P, WASH; **BCR** – Basic Creek Res, ALBA; **BMB** – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; **CF** – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; **FR** – Five Rivers EEC, ALBA; **FtEG** – Fort Edward Grasslands, WASH; **RL** – Round L, SARA; **SchISP** – Schodack I SP, RENS; **SIRd** – Staats I Rd, RENS; **SL** – Saratoga L, SARA; **SNHP** – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; **SPd** – Stanton Pd, ALBA; **TR** – Tomhannock Res, RENS; **VFNHP** – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Pres, SARA; **WL** – Wrights Loop, SARA.

**Snow Goose:** max 180 E Greenbush RENS 15 Mar.

**Brant:** max 150 New Baltimore GREE 11 May.

**Canada Goose:** max 2203 B&BCMP 8 Mar.

**Mute Swan:** max 7 Nassau L RENS 1 Mar.

**Wood Duck:** max 56 VFNHP 26 Mar.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 7 VFNHP 9 Apr.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 11 Carlisle SCHO 31 Mar.

**Gadwall:** max 45 SPd ALBA 16 Mar.

**American Wigeon:** max 27 WL 29 Mar.

**Mallard:** max 121 VFNHP 1 Mar.

**American Black Duck:** max 42 VFNHP 2 Mar.

**Northern Pintail:** max 76 VFNHP 1 Mar.

**Green-winged Teal:** max 250 WL 7 Apr.

**Canvasback:** 8 SL 3 Mar.

**Redhead:** max 7 SL 19 Mar.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 250 Loughberry L SARA 13 Mar.

**TUFTED DUCK (R8):** SL 3-13 Mar.

**Greater Scaup:** max 150 SL 20 Apr.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 650 SL 7 Apr.

**White-winged Scoter:** 6 RL 18 Apr.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 16 E Canada L MONT 19 Apr.

**Bufflehead:** max 80 SL 13 Mar; 80 BCR 26 Mar.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 500 SL 3 Mar.

**Barrow's Goldeneye:** SL 3 Mar.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 22 TR 24 Mar.

**Common Merganser:** max 1000 B&BCMP 4 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 9 L George WARR 26 Apr.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 160 BCR 26 Mar.

**Wild Turkey:** max 62 Ft Ann WASH 30 Mar.

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 6 Mallet Pd SCHO 29 Apr.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 6 VFNHP 23 Apr.

**Horned Grebe:** max 8 B&BCMP 19 Apr.

**Red-necked Grebe:** max 6 RL 5 Apr; 6 L George WARR 24 Apr.

**Rock Pigeon:** max 100 SPd 26 Mar.

**Mourning Dove:** max 25 Normanskill Farm ALBA 28 Apr.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr L Taghkanic SP COLU 30 Apr; max 4 L Taghkanic SP COLU 7 May.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr Altamont ALBA 1 May; max 3 mult loc.

**Common Nighthawk:** arr 4 Stuyvesant COLU 14 May; max 7 mult loc.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** arr Schodack RENS 25 Apr; max 7 Malta SARA 18 May.

**Chimney Swift:** arr Easton WASH 24 Apr; max 100 Troy RENS 4 May.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr Troy RENS 25 Apr; max 4 mult loc.

**Virginia Rail:** arr 2 Knox Wetland ALBA 1 Mar, early; max 4 mult loc.

**Sora:** arr Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 15 Apr; max 3 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 29 Apr.

**Common Gallinule:** arr VFNHP 17 Apr; max 4 Carlisle SCHO 19 May.  
**American Coot:** max 1 mult loc.

**Sandhill Crane:** 2 SIRD 28 Apr; 1 Livingston COLU 30 Apr.

**Black-bellied Plover:** CF 18 May.  
**Killdeer:** arr 1 Mar mult loc; max 27 SIRD 27 Mar.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** max 13 CF 23 May.

**Upland Sandpiper:** arr Canajoharie MONT 19 May.

**Dunlin:** max 9 Cambridge WASH 2 May.  
**Least Sandpiper:** max 65 The Crossings ALBA 14 May.  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 2 Cambridge WASH 1 May.  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 2 CF 21 May.  
**American Woodcock:** max 12 Clifton P SARA 16 Mar.  
**Wilson's Snipe:** arr 2 Ghent COLU 3 Mar; max 24 SIRD 22 Mar.  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** arr Corning Riverfront P ALBA 15 Apr; max 8 Schoharie Crossing Boat Launch MONT 18 May.  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr Cobleskill SCHO 12 Apr; max 38 The Crossings ALBA 8 May.  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 20 WL 7 May.  
**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 24 WL 10 May.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 111 Cocksackie Boat Launch GREE 16 Apr.  
**Little Gull:** Silver Bay WARR 1 May.  
**Ring-billed Gull:** max 550 WL 9 Mar.  
**Herring Gull:** max 200 Cohoes ALBA 1 Mar.  
**Iceland Gull:** Cohoes ALBA 1 Mar.  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Corning Riverfront P ALBA 6 Apr.  
**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 4 Glen MONT 3 Mar.  
**Caspian Tern:** arr RL 1 May; max 9 SL 29 Apr.  
**Black Tern:** B&BCMP 21 May, only report.  
**Common Tern:** Glen MONT 6 May, only report.

**Red-throated Loon:** TR 1 May.  
**Common Loon:** max 6 SL 6 Apr.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 247 SL 29 Apr.

**American White Pelican:** Coeymans ALBA 31 May.

**American Bittern:** arr 2 Knox Wetland ALBA 8 Apr; max 4 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 18 May.

**Least Bittern:** arr VFNHP 26 Apr; max 2 mult loc.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 26 Schuylerville SARA 30 Apr.

**Great Egret:** arr Cohoes ALBA 31 Mar; max 3 RL 3 May.

**Green Heron:** arr Tamarac RENS 17 Apr; max 4 FR 11 May.

**Glossy Ibis:** 5 Guilderland ALBA 27 Apr; 1 SIRD 9 May; 1 WL 12 May.

**Black Vulture:** max 25 Voorheesville ALBA 1 Apr.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 70 Saratoga Springs SARA 7 Apr.

**Osprey:** arr Queensbury WARR 29 Mar; max 6 B&BCMP 20 Apr.

**Golden Eagle:** Dolgeville FULT 4 Mar; Padanarum Rd WARR 24 Mar.

**Northern Harrier:** max 10 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 8 Mar.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 2 mult loc.

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 2 mult loc.

**American Goshawk:** W Sand L RENS 14 Mar.

**Bald Eagle:** max 27 B&BCMP 6 Mar.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 3 mult loc.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr T Knox ALBA 10 Apr; max 4 Altamont ALBA 17 Apr.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 14 Troy RENS 11 May.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** max 3 T Root MONT 3 Mar; last Guilderland ALBA 5 Apr.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** singletons mult loc.

**Great Horned Owl:** max 3 mult loc.

**Barred Owl:** max 6 Grafton RENS 30 May.

**Short-eared Owl:** max 9 FtEG 24 Mar; last Sprakers MONT 8 Apr.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** max 2 SNHP 15 Mar; 2 FR 19 Mar; last Stratford FULT 24 May.

**Belted Kingfisher:** max 4 Archer Vly SARA 22 Apr.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Salem WASH 29 Apr; CF 21 May.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 15 VFNHP 11 May.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 13 Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanc COLU 27 Apr.

**Downy Woodpecker:** max 13 Albany Rural Cem ALBA 20 Apr.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** max 7 mult loc.  
**Northern Flicker:** max 12 mult loc.  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** max 6 APBP 7 May.

**American Kestrel:** max 4 FtEG 13 Apr; 4 Ancram COLU 14 Apr.  
**Merlin:** max 2 mult loc.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** max 5 Dunn Mem Bridge ALBA 16 May.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** arr Woods Hollow NP SARA 24 Apr; max 9 Niskayuna SCHE 20 May.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** arr T Clifton Park SARA 23 Apr; max 9 Ft Ann WASH 19 May.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr Guilderland ALBA 8 May.  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** arr 2 T Knox ALBA 2 May; max 10 mult loc.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr 2 Schaeffer Trail WARR 17 May.  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** L Taghkanic SP COLU 20 May, only report.  
**Alder Flycatcher:** arr BMB 10 May; max 9 Mosher Marsh Pres MONT 22 May.  
**Willow Flycatcher:** arr VFNHP 4 May; max 4 mult loc.  
**Least Flycatcher:** arr Ancram COLU 25 Apr; max 11 Ancram COLU 1 May.  
**Eastern Phoebe:** arr Livingston COLU 8 Mar; max 12 mult loc.

**White-eyed Vireo:** VFNHP 28 Apr; Papscanee I NP RENS 11 May.  
**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr T Florida MONT 28 Apr; max 6 mult loc.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr Cairo GREE 13 Apr; max 10 Warrensburg WARR 1 May.  
**Warbling Vireo:** arr VFNHP 21 Apr; max 35 Rotterdam SCHE 1 May.  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** arr 2 Schuylerville SARA 30 Apr; max 23 Warrensburg WARR 17 May.

**Northern Shrike:** Knox Wetland ALBA 10-14 Mar; Cocksackie Creek Grasslands Pres GREE 14 Mar; Cobleskill Res SCHO 28 Mar; last Johnsbury WARR 29 Mar.

**Blue Jay:** max 83 Stockport Flats COLU 2 May.  
**American Crow:** max 1300 Amsterdam MONT 1 Mar.  
**Fish Crow:** max 62 Niskayuna SCHE 1 Apr.  
**Common Raven:** max 18 Clarksville ALBA 18 May.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** max 35 Amy's P WARR 4 Mar.

**Boreal Chickadee:** Gore Mt WARR 16 Mar; 4 Schaeffer Trail WARR 17 May.  
**Tufted Titmouse:** max 15 mult loc.

**Horned Lark:** max 100 Stone Arabia MONT 4 Apr; last N Greenbush RENS 23 Apr.

**Bank Swallow:** arr VFNHP 14 Apr; max 30 Saratoga Springs SARA 13 May.  
**Tree Swallow:** arr Hillsdale COLU 5 Mar; max 500 VFNHP 12 Apr.  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** arr RL 8 Apr; max 25 VFNHP 6 May.  
**Purple Martin:** arr Saratoga Springs SARA 15 Apr; max 19 Saratoga Springs SARA 19 May.  
**Barn Swallow:** arr Hillsdale COLU 8 Apr; max 40 TR 21 Apr.  
**Cliff Swallow:** arr Ashland GREE 24 Apr; max 19 AR 19 May.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr 2 Halfmoon SARA 28 Mar; max 58 Woods Hollow NP SARA 26 Apr.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 43 Ballston Spa SARA 7 Apr.

**Bohemian Waxwing:** 50 Ward Marsh WASH 2 Mar; 35 Clemons Marsh WASH 3 Mar; 3 Rt 9 Queensbury WARR 3 Mar.  
**Cedar Waxwing:** max 65 B&BCMP 26 May.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 18 Amy's P WARR 4 Mar.  
**White-breasted Nuthatch:** max 22 SNHP 13 Mar.

**Brown Creeper:** max 15 Woods Hollow NP SARA 21 Apr.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr VFNHP 13 Apr; max 12 Chatham COLU 12 May.

**Carolina Wren:** max 10 mult loc.  
**House Wren:** Lake George WARR 8 Mar, overwintered; arr VFNHP 11 Apr; max 10 Garnsey P SARA 4 May.  
**Winter Wren:** max 12 Plateau Mt GREE 26 May.  
**Marsh Wren:** Vosburgh Marsh WMA 3 Mar; Champlain Canal WASH 17 Mar; Kingsbury WASH 31 Mar, all overwintered; arr VFNHP 8 Apr; max 20 Carlisle SCHO 18 May.

**Gray Catbird:** max 40 VFNHP 6 May.  
**Brown Thrasher:** arr Livingston COLU 9 Apr; Garnsey P SARA 9 Apr; max 6 APBP 3 May.  
**Northern Mockingbird:** max 6 mult loc.

**European Starling:** max 600 SPd 2 Apr.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 12 mult loc.  
**TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE:** North-South L  
Campgrd GREE 16-18 Mar (TK), *intro*.

**Veery:** arr Ghent COLU 29 Apr; max 16  
SchISP 16 May.

**Bicknell's Thrush:** arr 2 Plateau Mt GREE 26  
May; 2 Hunte Mt GREE 28 May.

Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush: Buckingham  
Pd ALBA 22 May (TL).

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr mult loc 1 May; max  
2 mult loc.

**Hermit Thrush:** max 6 J B Thacher SP ALBA  
26 Apr.

**Wood Thrush:** arr Ghent COLU 23 Apr; max  
18 SchISP 7 May.

**American Robin:** max 260 SIRd 26 Mar.

**House Sparrow:** max 75 Troy RENS 4 May.

**American Pipit:** arr 15 SIRd 23 Mar.

**Evening Grosbeak:** max 5 Padanarum Rd  
WARR 7 Apr.

**House Finch:** max 50 Hillsdale COLU 4 Apr.

**Purple Finch:** max 30 Elka Park GREE 6 Apr.

**Red Crossbill:** max 21 APBP 29 Apr.

**Pine Siskin:** max 380 Saratoga Spa SP SARA  
28 Mar.

**American Goldfinch:** max 97 T  
Northumberland SARA 28 Mar.

**Lapland Longspur:** no reports

**Snow Bunting:** max 6 Knox ALBA 24 Mar;  
last Halfmoon TP SARA 24 Mar.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr mult loc 4 May;  
max 4 Ghent COLU 4 May.

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 28 The Crossings  
ALBA 26 Apr.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** Livingston COLU 3  
May; FtEG 16 May; 2 Ft Plain MONT 19 May.

**Field Sparrow:** max 20 SNHP 25 Apr.

**American Tree Sparrow:** max 15 Niskayuna  
SCHE 1 Mar; last 2 RL 18 May.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr Stephentown RENS 13 Mar;  
max 10 Mine Kill SP SCHO 26 Mar; last 2  
Woods Hollow NP SARA 19 Apr.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 114 Padanarum Rd  
WARR 25 Mar.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr VFNHP 13  
Apr; max 10 FtEG 27 Apr.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 74  
Warrensburg WARR 1 May.

**Vesper Sparrow:** arr Appleby Rd ALBA 6  
Apr; max 6 Schoharie Crossing Boat Launch  
MONT 19 Apr.

**Savannah Sparrow:** arr Appleby Rd ALBA 6  
Apr; max 18 RL 17 Apr.

**Song Sparrow:** max 51 VFNHP 26 Apr.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr Ft Ann WASH 28  
Apr; max 2 APBP 1 May; last APBP 20 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 59 BMB 25 Apr.

**Eastern Towhee:** arr Kinderhook COLU 26  
Mar; max 25 L Taghkanic SP COLU 2 May.

**Bobolink:** arr Cocksackie GREE 28 Apr; max  
40 Carlisle SCHO 20 May.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** arr 2 SNHP 9 Mar;  
max 26 Gage Rd ALBA 24 Mar.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr Ancram COLU 27 Apr;  
max 6 APBP 7 May.

**Baltimore Oriole:** arr VFNHP 21 Apr; max 14  
VFNHP 4 May.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 750 BMB 4 Mar.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 300 Pittstown  
RENS 12 Mar.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr 3 Charlton SARA 2 Mar;  
40 VFNHP 18 Mar; 50 T Mohawk MONT 22  
Mar; 15 BMB 29 Mar; 40 Papscaeney I NP  
RENS 16 Apr; 50 BMB 28 Apr.

**Common Grackle:** max 5000 Wilton Wildlife  
Pres SARA 16 Mar.

**Ovenbird:** arr Anchor Diamond P SARA 24  
Apr; max 33 J B Thacher SP ALBA 8 May.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** arr Deer Mt NT  
ALBA 2 May; max 4 Deer Mt NT ALBA 19  
May.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr Anchor Diamond  
P SARA 8 Apr; max 7 Wolf Hollow Pres  
SCHE 19 Apr.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr Stockport Flats  
COLU 24 Apr; max 5 VFNHP 30 Apr.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr 2 Whitehall  
WASH 6 May; max 2 Whitehall WASH 6  
May; 2 Dresden WASH 28 May.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr Ghent COLU 26  
Apr; max 10 Overmountain Cons Area COLU  
6 May.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** arr 2 SchISP 24  
Apr; max 15 Overmountain Cons Area COLU  
3 May.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr mult loc 1 May; max  
8 Mt Tom SF WASH 18 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr Germantown COLU  
25 Apr; max 11 Rotterdam SCHE 1 May.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr Hague WARR 9  
May; max 4 Hague WARR 16 May.

**Common Yellowthroat:** arr Ghent COLU 16  
Apr; max 30 FR 11 May.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr Altamont ALBA 2 May;  
max 4 Fultonham SCHO 22 May.

**American Redstart:** arr Max V Shaul SP  
SCHO 27 Apr; max 40 SchISP 7 May.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr Buckingham Pd ALBA 30 Apr; FR 30 Apr; max 5 Silver Bay WARR 9 May.  
**Cerulean Warbler:** arr 4 SchISP 12 May; max 4 SchISP 12 May.  
**Northern Parula:** arr mult loc 28 Apr; max 11 Niskayuna SCHE 3 May.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** arr mult loc 30 Apr; max 10 Daketown Forest SARA 20 May.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr Indian Kill NP SCHE 2 May; max 3 T Day SARA 9 May.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Johnstown FULT 24 Apr; max 15 Pack Demo Forest WARR 8 May.  
**Yellow Warbler:** arr mult loc 24 Apr; max 54 VFNHP 11 May.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr Ancram COLU 29 Apr; max 19 Rensselaerville SF ALBA 25 May.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr mult loc 7 May; max 6 Hunter Mt GREE 19 May.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr FR 27 Apr; max 14 Leonard Mt SF SCHO 19 May.

**Palm Warbler:** arr Hillsdale COLU 28 Mar; max 6 Woods Hollow NP SARA 26 Apr.  
**Pine Warbler:** arr Glenville SCHE 25 Mar; max 10 mult loc.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 89 VFNHP 28 Apr.  
**Prairie Warbler:** arr mult loc 29 Apr; max 15 APBP 19 May.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr mult loc 24 Apr; max 23 Schaeffer Trail WARR 17 May.  
**Canada Warbler:** arr Livingston COLU 30 Apr, early; max 7 Mayfield FULT 28 May.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** arr VFNHP 1 May.  
**Scarlet Tanager:** arr Chatham COLU 27 Apr; max 8 J B Thacher SP ALBA 14 May; 8 Mt Tom SF WASH 19 May.  
**Northern Cardinal:** max 20 Garnsey P SARA 14 Apr.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr T Sand Lake RENS 21 Apr; max 12 APBP 7 May.  
**Indigo Bunting:** arr mult loc 28 Apr; max 9 Daketown Forest SARA 20 May.  
**Dickcissel:** Johnstown FULT 21 Apr.

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## REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

**John H. Haas**

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Spring was overall a warm wet period. March was warmer and wetter than usual with a high of 72° F on 14 March and a low of 18° on 22 March for an average of 43.3°, 5.7° above normal. There was a total of 6.01" of precipitation, 2.92" above normal. April was relatively warm, but dryer than usual. There was a high of 81° on 29 April and a low of 28° on 8 April for an average of 50.4°, 1.4° above normal. There was a total of 3.23" of precipitation, .39" below normal. May was warm and wet with a high of 81° on 22 May and a low of 40° on 13 May for an average of 63.2°, 3.7° above normal. There was a total of 4.37" of precipitation, .9" above normal.

Continuing waterfowl from the winter period included the Greater White-fronted Goose at Bowman Ave Pond/Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary in Westchester, several Cackling Geese around the Region and the ongoing **Trumpeter Swan** in Rockland County. On 10 March Jennifer Morton located a Ross's Goose at James Baird SP in Dutchess County; the bird remained for three days. On 20 March the author spotted nine Tundra Swans on the Neversink Reservoir, the only report of the period. On 14 March Peter Schoenberger picked

a Eurasian Wigeon out of a small flock of wigeon on the Ashokan Reservoir. Not a deep-water species, it didn't linger long. On 28 March Bruce Nott spotted a Eurasian Green-winged Teal among 700 Green-winged Teal at Wallkill River NWR. It was seen several times over the next two weeks.

On 20 May Samantha and Vincent Cassetta heard a **Chuck-will's-widow** singing at Hilltop Hanover Farms and Environmental Center in Westchester County. They made excellent recordings before the bird flew off.

As many as nine Sandhill Cranes frequented the Orange County Black Dirt Region through the end of May. No breeding was noted this year.

On 28 March Zach Schwartz-Weinstein discovered three American Oystercatchers on Piermont Pier, the first of several reports this period. On 27 May Bruce Nott spotted the only Sanderling for the period on Cornwall Bay. On 26 May Linda Pistolessi found a White-rumped Sandpiper at Piermont Pier. The following morning it was joined by a second bird. On 27 May the author picked a White-rumped Sandpiper out of a small group of shorebirds at Six and a Half Station Road Sanctuary in Orange County.

On 20 April Jeanne Cimorelli spotted and photographed a **Little Gull** on Orange Lake that proved to be a first record for Orange County. The bird relocated to Plum Point on the Hudson where it remained most of the day with an abundance of Bonaparte's Gulls and was seen by a tremendous number of birders. Ultimately flying north, it was also viewed by many in Dutchess County.

Once again Caspian Terns made an excellent showing in the Region and there were a few records for each of the four other tern species as well. On 26 May Ruogu Li photographed a **Least Tern** at Piermont Pier. This is a surprising third record for Rockland County. On 12 May Peter Schoenberger spotted two Black Terns on the Ashokan Reservoir, the only report for the period.

On 20 May Gail Benson and Tom Burke counted an amazing 528 Northern Gannets passing Edith G. Read Nature Center in Westchester County.

On 2 May Bruce Nott picked the **Neotropic Cormorant** out of a gathering of Cormorants on the Newburgh Waterfront. This is the third year the bird has returned, moving between Orange and Dutchess Counties. An unusually high number of Great Cormorants frequented the area this spring as well.

On 14 April Max Chirlin found an adult Little Blue Heron at Larchmont Reservoir in Westchester County. Quite likely the same bird was spotted a couple of weeks later at Marshlands Conservancy. The four birds seen by Carol Weiss at the Children's Park in Chestnut Ridge were impressive. Perhaps more impressive were a pair of Little Blue Herons found at Six and a Half Station Road in Orange County on 27 May by Matt Zeitler and David Hultgren. This was the first record of two adult birds for the county. On 13 May Karen Miller spotted a Glossy Ibis on the Beaver Pond on Pine Hill Rd in Orange County, one of several records this period. When Linda Scrima arrived to see the ibis, she came upon a **Tri-colored Heron** in the same location. Both were enjoyed by many observers, the Tri-colored remaining for eight days. On 20 May a birding group in Dutchess County spotted two Snowy Egrets flying north along the Hudson River. A **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** found in Hurley; Ulster County on 13 May by Laurel Sutherlin is only the second documented record for the county.

The Long-eared Owl in Montgomery at an undisclosed location remained well into the spring period.

On 29 April Ryan Mandelbaum spotted a **Swallow-tailed Kite** flying over Yorktown Heights in Westchester County. He got a distant photo. The following day, presumably the same bird was seen by Tait Johansson and his group in North Salem, Westchester. The bird wasn't seen again. On 26 May Steve Glover and Darlene McNeil had brief but diagnostic views of a **Mississippi Kite** in Dutchess County.

The **Loggerhead Shrike** was seen regularly at the Shawangunk Grasslands NWR 1-17 March. After a period of a couple of weeks with no reports, Ken McDermott spotted it once again just out from Galeville Park on 4 April.

Red Crossbills continued throughout the Region in lower numbers than the winter period and were suspected of breeding again.

On 7 March Stu Landesberg spotted a male Yellow-headed Blackbird at Croton Point Park. Very cooperative, it was seen by many birders. Unfortunately, it was seen flying out first thing the next morning. On 31 March Jeff Ellerbusch picked a male Yellow-headed Blackbird out of a large flock of blackbirds in the Orange County Black Dirt Region. The bird continued for several days when Linda Scrima photographed two birds together. They continued well into April. Yet a third report came from Dutchess County of a bird seen briefly at a feeder there, providing the Region its best season ever for this species.

On 21 April Michael Levin photographed and recorded the only Boat-tailed Grackle reported this spring at Marshlands Conservancy.

On 17 May Travis Greaves spotted a **Lark Sparrow** feeding on the ballfield at Kingston Point. The bird remained two days and was seen by many. This is a rare spring record for this species in the Region.

On 8 May Scott Baldinger and Gary Zylkuski came upon the Prothonotary Warbler on the Stop Sign Trail at the Bashakill WMA. The bird's return brings the hope that the pair will successfully breed here again this year. On 18 May Douglas Morel heard a **Kentucky Warbler** singing at Jones Point in Rockland County. The bird was ultimately seen by many and continued through 21 May. A second Kentucky Warbler was found on 29 May by Bruce Nott on Mine Road in Orange County. On 19 May Avery and Brooklyn P were able to photograph a **Yellow-throated Warbler** attacking its own image in the windows of their home and then landing on the hood of their car. It wasn't seen thereafter.

On 4 May Barbara Thomascall spotted a **Summer Tanager** on Bull Road near Bull Pond, Orange County. It could not be relocated. On 1 May Tait Johansson's group found an immature **Blue Grosbeak** on the Dean's Bridge powerline cut. On 22 May Duncan Woolston heard a singing Blue Grosbeak in Ulster Park, Ulster County. He was able to view, photograph, and record it, the second sighting ever in the park. Additionally, Stella Miller and Gene Herskovics also heard a singing Blue Grosbeak in Rockland County which they were then able to photograph as well.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS,

**AR** – Ashokan Res, ULST; **BW** – Beacon Waterfront, DUTC; **BCF** – Blue Chip Farm, ULST; **BP** – Browns Pd, ORAN; **BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA, SULL; **CF** – Camel Farm, ORAN; **CFSP** – Clarence Fahnestock SP, PUTN; **CIOES** – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, DUTC; **CPP** – Croton Pt P, WEST; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, WEST; **FDRSP** – Franklin D. Roosevelt SP, WEST; **GMP** – Glasco Mini P, ULST; **GL** – Glenmere L, ORAN; **GV** – Great Vly WMA, ULST; **HSP** – Harriman SP, ROCK; **HVRT** – Harlem Valley Rail Trail, DUTC; **KCP** – Kakiat CP, ROCK; **KL** – Kiamesha L, SULL; **KP** – Kingston Pt, ULST; **LR** – Larchmont Res, WEST; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MNSP** – Mills-Norrie SP, DUTC; **MR** – Mine Road, ORAN; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **NR** – Neversink Res, SULL; **NW** – Newburgh Waterfront, ORAN; **OCBDR** – Orange County Black Dirt Region, ORAN; **OL** – Orange L, ORAN; **PHP** – Peach Hill P, DUTC; **PITN** – Pine Island Turf Nursery, ORAN; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **SDRT** – Sand Dock Rd Trail, DUTC; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP, ORAN; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Rd, ORAN; **SS** – Sleightsburg Spit, ULST; **TBWMA** – Tivoli Bays WMA, DUTC; **UP** – Ulster P, Ulster; **WRNWR** – Wallkill Ri NWR, ORAN; **ws reps** – widespread reports.

**Snow Goose:** 400-477 CF 1-31 Mar; 1-700 WRNWR 1-31, max 700 4 Mar.

**Ross's Goose:** James Baird SP DUTC 10-12 Mar (J. Morton), *intro*.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Bowman Ave Pd WEST 1-3 Mar, *intro*.

**Brant:** max 29 EGR 1 Mar.

**Cackling Goose:** Airmont ROCK 2-3 Mar; Bowman Ave Pd WEST 1-3 Mar; CF 4

Mar; Dockside P PUTN 4 Mar; BCF 6 Mar, *intro*.

**TRUMPETER SWAN:** Lake Tappan ROCK 1-5 Mar, *intro*.

**Tundra Swan:** 9 NR 20 Mar (J. Haas), *intro*.

**Wood Duck:** 1- 80 BSWMA 1-31 Mar; ws reps.

**Blue-winged Teal:** SHSR 13-17 Mar; max 2 WRNWR 13-17 Mar; 2 MP 20-26 Mar; Teatown L Res WEST 24-27 Mar; ws reps.

**Northern Shoveler:** 6 WRNWR 1-13 Mar; 1-3 BSWMA 6-31 Mar; ws reps.

**Gadwall:** 21 Beaver Pd ORAN 4 Mar; max 33 Stone Ridge Pd ULST 1-12 Mar; ws reps.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** AR 14 Mar (P. Schoenberger), *intro*.

**American Wigeon:** 70 WRNWR 1-12 Mar; 7 GV 1-12 Mar; ws reps.

**American Black Duck:** ws reps.

**Northern Pintail:** max 100 WRNWR 1-12 Mar, 18 BSWMA 1-8 Mar; 9 Strever Farm DUTC 2-12 Mar; ws reps.

**Green-winged Teal:** 12 Barrett Pd PUTN 1-12 Mar; 1-1000 WRNWR 1 Mar-30 Apr, max 1000 4 April; ws reps.

**Canvasback:** max 16 PP 2-3 Mar; 2 BSWMA 9 Mar.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 600 BSWMA 1-10 Mar; ws reps.

**Greater Scaup:** max 62 EGR 1-16 Mar; 7 SS 15 Mar; ws reps.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 194 EGR 1-16 Mar; ws reps.

**Surf Scoter:** 2 EGR 6 Apr; AR 24 Apr.

**White-winged Scoter:** 3 Plum Pt ORAN 28 Mar; max 24 AR 17 Apr - 15 May; 2 KL 18 Apr; 6 SDRT 15 May.

**Black Scoter:** 6 EGR 16 Mar.

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 35 EGR 1-4 Feb; NR 4 Mar; 3 PP 15 Mar; 9 KL 23 Mar; ws reps.

**Bufflehead:** max 30 CPP 1-16 Mar; ws reps.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 75 GMP 1-15 Mar; 11 RR 1-15 Mar; 8 Lippencott Rd ULST 6 Mar; ws reps.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 2 RLSP 2 Mar; max 45 EGR 1-16 Mar; Neversink Ri SULL 10 May; ws reps.

**Ruffed Grouse:** Kenneth Wilson Campground ULST 22-28 Mar; CFSP 25 Mar.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 2 RLSP 3 Mar; ws reps.

**Horned Grebe:** 10 EGR 1 Mar; max 9 OL ORAN 2-17 Mar; 9 Swan L SULL 17 Mar; ws reps.

**Red-necked Grebe:** 4 OL 3 Apr; KL 20 Apr.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Garrison Institute PUTN 29 Apr; ws reps.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** RSP 30 Apr; ws reps.

**Common Nighthawk:** Suffern ROCK 14 Apr; 11 BSWMA 10 May; 35 Rosendale Bridge ULST 15 May; ws reps.

**CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW:** Hilltop Hanover Farms and Environmental Center WEST 20 May (V. and S. Cassetta), *intro*.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** MR 18 Apr; 2 Kerhonkson ULST 29 Apr; max 7 HSP 29 Apr - 3 May; Pine Kill Rd SULL 6 May.

**Chimney Swift:** 5 Quaker Bridge WEST 3 Apr; ws reps.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** Suffern ROCK 20 Apr; ws reps.

**Clapper Rail:** max 2 MC 14 Mar - 31 May.

**Virginia Rail:** max 2 Kendridge Farm ORAN 22-26 Mar; ws reps.

**Sora:** Sharon Station Rd DUTC 16 Mar.

**Common Gallinule:** BSWMA 12 Apr; ws reps.

**American Coot:** 7 SHSR 3 Mar-31 May; max 47 RLSP 1 Mar-31 May; 39 WRNWR 4 Mar - 7 Apr; ws reps.

**Sandhill Crane:** max 9 OCBDR 1 Mar-31 May, *intro*.

**American Oystercatcher:** max 3 EGR 17 Mar; 3 PP 28 Mar; PP 14, 26 May, *intro*.

**Black-bellied Plover:** PP 10 May; 2 CPP 10 May; 9 Kingston Pt 24 May.

**Killdeer:** max 5 PITN 3 Mar; ws reps.

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 27 MC 28 Apr - 14 May; ws reps.

**Upland Sandpiper:** SGNWR 30 Apr.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** max 3 PP 26 May.

**Sanderling:** Cornwall Bay ORAN 27 May, *intro*.

**Dunlin:** EGR 6 Apr; 2 WRNWR 14 Apr; 2 CF 29 Apr.

**Purple Sandpiper:** max 14 Milton Pt WEST 17-31 Mar.

**Least Sandpiper:** CF 24 Apr; max 10 CPP 30 Apr; ws reps.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** PP 26 May; SHSR 27 May.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 3 WRNWR 16-25 Mar.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 12 MC 6-18 May; 2 PP 14, 21 May; Lake Tappan ROCK 18-19 May.

**American Woodcock:** ws reps.

**Wilson's Snipe:** 2 Gardnertown Rd ORAN 2 Mar; ws reps.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** SDRT 1 Apr; ws reps.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** CIEOS 11 Apr; ws reps.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** CF 7 Apr; ws reps.

**Willet:** max 8 MC 13 Apr-31 May.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** Mamaroneck WEST 14 Mar; ws reps.

**LITTLE GULL (R9):** OL/Cornwall Bay ORAN 20 Apr (J. Cimorelli), *intro*.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** Shadow's Marina DUTC 11 Mar; 116 AR 10 Apr; ws reps.

**Laughing Gull:** KP 12 Apr.

**Herring Gull:** max 550 NW 1-16 Mar; ws reps.

**Iceland Gull:** 2 NW 10-11 Mar; KP 13 Mar.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 2 CF 3 Mar; NW 10-11 Mar; Hudson Highlands SP PUTN 7 May.

**Least Tern:** max 2 MC 8-14 May; PP 26 May, *intro*.

**Caspian Tern:** 2 SS 30 Mar; Rhinebeck DUTC 30 Mar-1 Apr; Greenwood L ORAN 1 Apr; NW 5 Apr; ws reps.

**Black Tern:** AR 12 May, *intro*.

**Common Tern:** max 5 MC 3 May, 2 KP 7 May; 3 Swan L SULL 10 May; MNSP 12 May; Rhinecliff Landing P DUTC 15 May.

**Forster's Tern:** max 8 MC 10 Apr - 31 May.

**Red-throated Loon:** Haverstraw Bay CP ROCK 13 Mar; max 5 EGR 1 Mar - 7 Apr; 2 GL 11 Apr.

**Common Loon:** max 6 Kensico L WEST 13-20 Mar; ws reps.

**Northern Gannet:** 1-528 EGR 19 Mar-4 Apr, max 528 20 Mar, *intro*.

**Great Cormorant:** 3 Global Oil Terminal ORAN 3 Mar - 5 May; max 7 EGR 1-10 Mar; CPP 7-26 Mar; 4 Ossining WEST 8 Mar; Hudson Highlands SP 3 May; CPP 13, 23 May, *intro*.

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT:** NW/BW 2-31 May (B. Nott), *intro*.

**American Bittern:** BSWMA 20 Apr; William Clough Pres PUTN 23-26 Apr.

**Least Bittern:** RLSP 2-5 May; PP 2 May; SFSP 6 May.

**Great Egret:** Lake Tappan ROCK 1-6 Mar; 2 Kensico L WEST 20 Mar; ws reps.

**Snowy Egret:** max 2 Titus Mill Pd WEST 31 Mar - 1 Apr; Gibson Hill Rd ORAN 9-12 May; TBWMA 20 May, *intro*.

**Little Blue Heron:** LR 14 Apr, MC 2-3 May; max 4 Children's P Chestnut Ridge WEST 16 May; 2 SHSR 27-28 May, *intro*.

**TRI-COLORED HERON (R9):** Beaver Pd ORAN 13-20 May (L. Scrima), *intro*.

**Green Heron:** UP 9 Apr; ws reps.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** EGR 6 Apr; Croton Falls Res PUTN 15 Apr; Quassaic Creek ORAN 25 Apr.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** max 7 New Rochelle WEST 31 Mar-15 May; 2 Hopewell Junction DUTC 30 Apr; Hurley ULST 14 May, *intro*.

**Glossy Ibis:** Gibson Hill Swamp ORAN 21 Apr; 2 SUNY Purchase WEST 7, 14 May; Beaver Pd ORAN 13 May; Rockland Psychiatric Center Pd ROCK 18 May, *intro*.

**Osprey:** CPP 8 Mar; ws reps.

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** Watson Research Center WEST 30 Apr (R. Mandelbaum); North Salem WEST 1 May, *intro*.

**Golden Eagle:** WRNWR 3 Mar; HVRT 9 Mar.

**MISSISSIPPI KITE (R9):** Taconic Parkway DUTC 26 May (S. Glover, D. McNeil), *intro*.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** 34 BSWMA 11 Apr; ws reps.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** Millbrook DUTC 1-6 Mar; OCBDR 1-17 Mar; CPP 31 Mar.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** BSWMA 1-31 Mar; max 2 CPP 1-3 Mar.

**Great Horned Owl:** max 2 SGNWR 1-31 Mar; max 2 CPP 1-15 Mar; ws reps.

**Long-eared Owl:** Montgomery ORAN Mar-18 Apr, *intro*.

**Short-eared Owl:** 6 SGNWR 1 Mar-26 Apr\*; max 7 OCBDR 1 Mar - 4 Apr. (\*late April reports hidden by eBird).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 2 Lake Welch ROCK 1-2 Mar; BP 2 Mar; max 2 CPP 1 Mar-1 Apr; ws reps.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** ws reps.

**American Kestrel:** ws reps.

**Merlin:** OCBDR 1-31 Mar; CPP 7-29 Mar; ws reps.

**Peregrine Falcon:** 2 Hawks Nest ORAN 28 Mar; ws reps.

**Monk Parakeet:** max 11 Five Islands P WEST 1-31 Mar; max 10 Titus Millpond WEST 1 Mar-31 May.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** West Clove Mt Rd DUTC 9 May; KCP 11 May; SFSP 11-18 May; HSP 14 May; ws reps.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** SFSP 4 May.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** HSP 9 May; Gumaer Falls Rd SULL 10 May; BSWMA 13 May; HSP 28-29 May.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** BSWMA 4 May; ws reps.

**Alder Flycatcher:** Kenneth Wilson Campground ULST 16 May; PHP 17 May; ws reps.

**Willow Flycatcher:** 7 May Muscoot Res WEST; 2 BSWMA 9 May; ws reps.

**Least Flycatcher:** West Point Foundry Pres PUTN 25 Apr; ws reps.

**Eastern Phoebe:** Esopus ULST 3 Mar; max 2 BSWMA 13 Mar; ws reps.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** CPP 19 Apr; ws reps.

**Eastern Kingbird:** 2 RSP 19 Apr; ws reps.

**White-eyed Vireo:** KCP 10 Apr; Katherine Gormon Pd ROCK 10-28 Apr; RSP 16 Apr-8 May; CPP 21-25 May; PHP 28 Apr-6 May; ws reps.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** Kennedy-Dells CP ROCK 21 Apr; ws reps.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** KCP 10 Apr; ws reps.

**Warbling Vireo:** Rosendale ULST 20 Apr; ws reps.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** BSWMA 29 Apr; ws early reps.

**LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE:** SGNWR 1-17 Mar; 4 Apr, *intro*.

**Northern Shrike:** WRNWR 4-28 Mar; West Saugerties Turnpike ULST 9 Mar; Deep Hollow Rd DUTC 20 Mar.

**Horned Lark:** max 90 OCBDR 16 Mar; ws reps in low numbers.

**Bank Swallow:** OL 19 Apr.

**Tree Swallow:** max 150 CPP 29 Feb-10 Mar; ws reps.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** NW 29 Mar; ws reps.

**Purple Martin:** max 30 Gibson Hill Rd ORAN 9 Apr, all the usual locations.

**Barn Swallow:** GV 17 Mar.

**Cliff Swallow:** 2 Cross River Res WEST 8 Apr.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** Rosendale ULST 1 Apr; ws reps.

**House Wren:** SGNWR 9 Apr; ws reps.

**Marsh Wren:** PP 6 Mar; max 2 Empire State Trail PUTN 31 Mar; SHSR 31 Mar; ws reps.

**Gray Catbird:** max 4 KCP 1-31 Mar; ws reps.

**Brown Thrasher:** New Rochelle WEST 8-14 Mar; 3 BSWMA 11 Apr; ws reps.

**Eastern Bluebird:** ws reps.

**Veery:** 2 BSWMA 28 Apr; ws reps.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Millerton DUTC 11 May; HSP 11 May; BSWMA 13-14 May, several reports.

**Swainson's Thrush:** CPP 28 Apr, 3 BSWMA 10-11 May; ws reps.

**Hermit Thrush:** ws reps.

**Wood Thrush:** Lenoir Pres WEST 19 Apr; ws reps.

**American Pipit:** 3 CPP 1-31 Mar; ws reps.

**Purple Finch:** ws reps.

**Red Crossbill:** 6 Minnewaska SP ULST 3-9 Mar; 2 Warwick ORAN 16 Mar; max 8 Kenneth Wilson Campground ULST 28-31 Mar; 2 Lake DeVenoge SULL 29 Mar; ws reps.

**Pine Siskin:** max 14 Long Pd Trail SULL 3 Mar; 6 Hasbrouck SULL 4 Mar; ws reps.

**Lapland Longspur:** 3 OCBDR 16 Mar.

**Snow Bunting:** 4 EGR 4 Mar; CPP 9 Mar.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Lenoir Pres WEST 21 Apr; max 5 SGNWR 25 Apr-31 May; OCBDR 4-31 May; NR 23-31 May.

**LARK SPARROW (R9):** KP 17-18 May (T. Greaves), *intro*.

**Fox Sparrow:** 11 MR 26 Mar; ws reps.

**American Tree Sparrow:** 3 BSWMA 7 Apr, late.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 5 RSP 26 Apr; 5 SHSR 1 May; ws reps.

**Vesper Sparrow:** 5 Woodstock ULST 9 Apr; CIOES 12 Apr; max 3 Hurley Mt Rd ULST 16-18 Apr.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** CIOES 10 Apr; ws reps.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird:** CPP 7 Mar (S. Landesburg); max 2 OCBDR 31 Mar - 20 Apr (J. Ellerbusch); Wappingers Falls DUTC 2 Apr (D. Lahey), *intro*.

**Bobolink:** CPP 1 May; ws reps.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 24 SGNWR 1 Mar - 31 May; ws reps.

**Orchard Oriole:** max 4 UP 29 Apr-1 May; 2 PHP 29 Apr - 1 May; max 2 SDRT 29 Apr-1 May; ws reps.

**Baltimore Oriole:** RSP 21 Apr; ws reps.

**Rusty Blackbird:** max 70 BSWMA 31 Mar; ws reps.

**BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE:** MC 21 Apr (M. Levin), *intro*.

**Ovenbird:** Lake Sabago ROCK 21 Apr.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** Shaupeneak Ridge ULST 15 Apr; ws reps.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** O & W Rail Trail ULST 5 Apr; ws reps.

**Northern Waterthrush:** FDRSP WEST 17 Apr; ws reps.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** SFSP 2-7 May.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** Vassar Farm and Ecological Pres DUTC 25 Apr; ws reps.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** Nichols Pres WEST 17 Apr.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** 8-31 May BSWMA, *intro*.

**Tennessee Warbler:** 2 MNSP 1 May; 3 BSWMA 3-8 May; ws reps.

**Nashville Warbler:** RSP 21 Apr.

**Mourning Warbler:** Woodstock ULST 9 May; TBWMA 9 May; UP 10 May; Weils Rd DUTC 11 May; ws reps.

**KENTUCKY WARBLER (R9):** Jones Pt ROCK 18-21 May (D. Morel); MR 29-31 May (B. Nott), *intro*.

**Common Yellowthroat:** Pawling DUTC 30 Mar; ws reps.

**Hooded Warbler:** CPP 24 Apr; ws reps.

**American Redstart:** CPP 17 Apr.

**Cape May Warbler:** 4 MNSP 30 Apr; 2 BSWMA 4-10 May; max 2 CPP 7-11 May; ws reps.

**Cerulean Warbler:** RSP 20 Apr; Hudson Highlands SP WEST 20 Apr; ws reps.

**Northern Parula:** Eldred SULL 16 Apr; 4 KCP 17 Apr; ws reps.

**Magnolia Warbler:** Woodlands School WEST 29 Apr; ws reps.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 2 RSP 2-9 May; 2 Rifton ULST 10-11 May; ws reps.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** 8 Gumaer Falls Rd SULL 2 May; ws reps.

**Yellow Warbler:** Hurleyville Swamp SULL 9 Apr; ws reps.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** BSWMA 29 Apr; max 14 Wolf Brook Multiple Use Area SULL 3 May; ws reps.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** MNSP 30 Apr; ws reps.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** Browns Pd ORAN 24 Apr; ws reps.

**Palm Warbler:** NW 21 Mar; ws reps.

**Pine Warbler:** CPP 9 Mar; ws reps.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 2 RLSP 9-25 Mar; ws reps.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R9):** Olive ULST 19 May (AP, BP), *intro*.

**Prairie Warbler:** RSP 21 Apr; max 18 Wolf Brook MUA SULL 3 May; ws reps.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** Minnewaska SP ULST 23 Apr.

**Canada Warbler:** Tallman Mt SP ROCK 29 Apr; ws reps.

**Wilson's Warbler:** NW 1-26 Mar; ws reps.

**SUMMER TANAGER (9):** Bull Pd ORAN 4 May (B. Thomascall), *intro*.

**Scarlet Tanager:** PHP 28 Apr; ws reps.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** Spring Valley ROCK 19 Apr; ws reps.

**BLUE GROSBEAK:** Deans Bridge North Salem WEST 1 May (S. Camillieri); UP ULST 22 May (D. Woolston); Ramapo Powerlines ROCK 25 May; Glynwood Farm PUTN 27 May (S. Rappaport), *intro*.

**Indigo Bunting:** Burden Pres WEST 21 Apr; ws reps.

## REGION 10—MARINE

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For this spring period we saw above average temperatures across the board, with the most pronounced deviation in March, with Islip reporting almost six degrees more warmth than average. March was also remarkable in having roughly five inches more precipitation. None of it was snow. Persistent periods of winds with an easterly component were likely responsible for lower than expected numbers of migrants and few notable flight days, especially along the coast.

|      | Central Park |        |           | Islip |        |           |
|------|--------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Temp | Mean         | Normal | Deviation | Mean  | Normal | Deviation |
| Mar  | 48.1°        | 42.8°  | +5.3°     | 45.7° | 39.9°  | +5.8°     |
| Apr  | 55.6°        | 53.7°  | +1.9°     | 50.5° | 49.7°  | +0.8°     |
| May  | 65.0°        | 63.2°  | +1.8°     | 61.3° | 59.5°  | +1.8°     |

| Precip | Total | Normal | Deviation | Total | Normal | Deviation |
|--------|-------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Mar    | 9.06" | 4.29"  | +4.77"    | 9.54" | 4.51"  | +5.03"    |
| Apr    | 3.47" | 4.09"  | -0.62"    | 3.45" | 4.06"  | -0.61"    |
| May    | 4.11" | 3.96"  | +0.15"    | 4.67" | 3.28"  | +1.39"    |

This period always has a number of lingering winter rarities, many not being sought as much with year listers well satiated by the start of this period. Some classic wintering species included a **Western Grebe** off the south end of Staten Island and a **Tufted Duck** in the traditional *Aythya* stronghold of the western Great South Bay in Suffolk. **Black-headed Gull** has remained a reliable winter species, sometimes lingering well into the spring, and this year was no exception with many individuals documented nicely. A **Painted Bunting** lingered into the period at Hempstead Lake. Less anticipated in this category include the returning **Swainson's Hawk**, which decided that the industrial Brooklyn waterfront was worth another visit this year. It was most reliably seen at a recycling center. Also odd but preceded was the presence of the "Bro" Goose, a hybrid Brant and Snow Goose, which has been coming to the Canarsie Pier area since 2012 or earlier (formerly with a second individual). If there was any question about the state of the weather in the preceding period, it could be neatly answered by the bold persistence of two hummingbirds: a **Rufous Hummingbird** in Brooklyn and the continuing state-first **Allen's Hummingbird** in a yard near Riverhead.

There are often interesting trends of migrants earlier in the season. Before they left, Harlequin Duck numbers had soared to their highest levels in decades, and no fewer than 23 in a single group at Point Lookout made it into this period. A returning female at Sunset Cove Park in Jamaica Bay lingered almost to the end of the period. Although it's always hard to be certain, the presence of an Eastern Bluebird at Robert Moses in the middle of February strongly suggested a record-early arrival.

April became busy with arriving birds quickly. Large waterbirds showed some distinct pulses, including a few Tricolored Herons passing through deep parts of the city, including one on Staten Island in April, one in Brooklyn in May, and another sniffing around the heron colony on North Brother Island between Randall's Island and the Bronx for a couple of days in late May. **Western Cattle Egrets** also appeared at a few locations around R10. A **Brown Pelican** in the middle of April near Jones Inlet was a surprisingly early record, and an **American White Pelican** spotted from the Staten Island Ferry in the first days of May unblocked the species for several counties. A **White-winged Dove** blasted by Breezy Point in mid April but was not seen again. Two Mississippi Kites is nearly a low count for this season, but a **Swallow-tailed Kite** over Brooklyn made up for it. Another great bird in that county was a **Swainson's Warbler** that found a comically small piece of habitat at Brooklyn Bridge Park and obliged for many. Two Neotropical migrants beat their earliest arrival days slightly, Swainson's Thrush (16 April) and Chestnut-sided Warbler (15 Apr).

No pelagics were run in this period but there was some oceanic coverage, as there oftentimes is. Usually there is a birder on a government vessel out there but this time it was simply one going on fishing charters. They had some decent success and provided the lion's share of records for many of the expected species, including Red and Red-necked Phalarope, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Northern Fulmar, Atlantic Puffin, Dovekie, and Thick-billed and Common Murre, all seen in either inshore waters or near the Hudson Canyon.

As migration peaked in May, a few birds of note were spotted. Not unexpected but always a huge treat to find was a **Black-necked Stilt** out in the kayak-accessible parts of Jamaica Bay. A **Wilson's Phalarope** and a **Yellow-headed Blackbird**, both at Sunset Cove and **Sandwich Tern** at Nickerson Beach represented occurrences of species that have more records from later in the warm season. **Western Tanager** was another species not so frequently seen in May at their best, but there was one at Hudson River Park in Manhattan. Yet another in this category, also from Manhattan, was a **Pacific Loon** that overflowed Randall's Island. A **Neotropic Cormorant** was possibly a returning bird to Staten Island, but was only seen briefly. **Bicknell's Thrush** made its nearly annual appearance in Central Park, and that species is surely just going to be harder to encounter on migration. The last in this category of May highlights might be a hybrid King x Clapper Rail, surely the offspring of a mixed species pair that has been seen near the Great River area in recent years. With every year their identification will surely be more and more vexing at this location.

This season's top honors go to three especially interesting sightings. At the very end of the period, western Suffolk birders were enjoying a locally quite rare Kentucky Warbler at Heckscher State Park when the song of a Yellow-throated Warbler also rang out. While that species is often seen in that area, the singer was still sought out, and good thing it was. Some birders were highly surprised to see a **Black-throated Gray Warbler** belting out the wrong song. If anyone runs into this individual again I imagine NYSARC would like to interrogate it. Sometimes birding is strange. Sometimes the good bird is right in your yard. That's what happened to a Flanders resident who noticed a small but colorful bird interrupting her usual sparrows at her feeders. It turned out to be a spectacular male **Lazuli**

**Bunting** and it stuck around long enough for many dozens of people to catch a quick view, and even for some, a snippet of audio. Neither of these wonderful records can touch the last bird of note for the season. Once a dream bird to encounter, it became a whole lot more likely after a hurricane last fall stirred many of them from a large colony in Yucatan Mexico, and states all across the east and Midwest got their first, or first more confidently wild, records. It is unclear if this excursion of **American Flamingo** resulted in more deaths than returns home, but at least one was still exploring the Atlantic Coast and was spotted at Georgica Pond by a resident on the last day of the period. Thankfully a bird so incredibly different than any in our Region was a good candidate to be picked up by the tens of thousands of amateur wildlife enthusiasts across the Region, and it finally worked out. Many of our local community would get to enjoy this bird the following June. It seemed to be about a year old, which would place it within the cohort of juveniles that were dispersed the following season, and gave a great show over the many days of its stay.

302 species were recorded this period.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

**APP** – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **Bpt** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **CHP** – Conference House P, RICH; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **FP** – Forest P, QUEE; **GovI** – Governors I, NEWY; **GwC** – Green-Wood Cemetery, KING; **HLSP** – Hempstead L SP, NASS; **HSP** – Heckscher SP, SUFF; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **MF** – Miller Field, RICH; **NB** – Nickerson Beach, NASS; **PlumbB** – Plumb Beach, KING; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **PtL** – Pt Lookout, NASS; **RanI** – Randall’s I, NEWY; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **WPP** – Wolfe’s Pd P, RICH.

**Ross’s Goose:** JBWR 15 Mar (eBirder: “Nico| Little Ground-jay”), in Snow Goose flock, ph.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Riverhead sod area SUFF thru 3 Mar (mob), cont all winter.

**Brant x Snow Goose (hybrid):** Canarsie Pier KING thru 26 Apr (mob), *intro*.

**Cackling Goose:** MF 6 Mar (C. Hagen); Gramercy NEWY 15 Mar (ACu), flyover.

**TUFTED DUCK:** Ludlow Creek SUFF thru 8 Mar (mob), cont from winter.

**King Eider:** imm m Montauk SP SUFF 20-21 Mar (J. Allison).

**Harlequin Duck:** max 23 PtL 4 Mar (J. Ancona), dep 25 May Sunset Cove P QUEE (mob), *intro*.

**Northern Bobwhite:** several reports from SUFF, most likely reintroduced individuals.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** individuals from RICH, KING, and SUFF.

**AMERICAN FLAMINGO:** Georgica Pd SUFF 31 May (C. Blinken, mob), *intro*.

**WESTERN GREBE:** CHP thru 31 Mar (mob), cont from winter.

**WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** BPt 14 Apr (SSi).

**RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD:** PP thru 15 Apr (mob), cont from winter.

**ALLEN’S HUMMINGBIRD:** Riverhead yard thru 7 Mar (fide M. Zilnicki), cont from winter.

**KING RAIL:** Timber Pt SUFF 4 May (mob, ph, fide LW-W).

**King Rail x Clapper Rail hybrid:** Timber Pt SUFF 18 May (DCh, A. Macchiarola, mob), *intro*.

**Black-necked Stilt:** Ruffle Bar KING 26 May (JMaI, L. DeMarco), from kayak.

**American Golden-Plover:** BPt 9 May (B. Forbes), ph; Lido Passive Pres NASS 20-22 May (P. Shure, J. Landesberg), ph.

**Red Knot:** max 175 JBSP 18 May (M. Perrin).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** Sunset Cove P QUEE 17 May (R. Messbauer).

**Red-necked Phalarope:** 5 pelagic coordinates 39.4964, -72.3805 SUFF 12 May (M. Zambardino); JBWR 20-25 May (eBirder "Nate L-S", mob); *intro*.

**Red Phalarope:** 2 pelagic coordinates 39.4964, -72.3805 SUFF (M. Zambardino), *intro*.

**Parasitic Jaeger:** arr RMSP 8 May (PJL).

**Atlantic Puffin:** 4 pelagic coordinates 39.4964, -72.3805 and 3 at 39.9022, -72.6436 SUFF 12 May (M. Zambardino), *intro*.

**Dovekie:** 2 waters off Westhampton B SUFF 13 Mar (M. Zambardino); 3 pelagic coordinates 39.4964, -72.3805 SUFF and 1 at 39.5473, -72.3032 SUFF 12 May (M. Zambardino), *intro*.

**Thick-billed Murre:** JBSP 10 Mar (mob), loafing on beach; Wantagh P NASS 30 Apr - 1 May (G. Mullen, R. Kopitsch, mob), unusual loc.

**Common Murre:** waters off Westhampton B SUFF 13 Mar (M. Zambardino); pelagic coordinates 40.1613, -73.1960 and 40.2525, -73.4215 SUFF 6 Apr (mob), pelagic.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 800 CHP 16 Apr (RvE).

**Black-headed Gull:** Setauket SUFF thru 13 Mar (mob); Gilgo Beach SUFF 17 Mar (PJL, SSM); Jacob Riis P QUEE 23 Mar (JMaI); Sheepshead Bay KING 24-31 Mar (mob); Terrel R C P, SUFF 6 Apr (KJK); Coney I Creek KING 11 Apr (A. Ferino); 2 JBSP/PtL thru 7 Apr (mob), JBSP 28 May (KFe, mob).

**Glaucous Gull:** all in the city, Hunts Pt Landing BRON thru 10 Mar; WPP 14 Mar (SWol, mob); GovI 15 Mar (L. Goggin).

**Arctic Tern:** PlumbB 19 May (S. Medina, mob); NB 26 May (D. Woolston, mob).

**SANDWICH TERN (R10):** NB 24 May (PJL, mob).

**PACIFIC LOON (R10):** RanI 18 May (ACu, DAR), flyover.

**Wilson's Storm-Petrel:** 1000 estimated around Hudson Canyon area SUFF 12 May (M. Zambardino).

**Norther Fulmar:** RMSP 13 Apr (SSM), exceptional from land; several around Hudson Canyon area SUFF 12 May (M. Zambardino).

**Northern Gannet:** max 12,000 CHP 12 Mar (RvE).

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT:** WPP area 13 May (W. Donnelly, ACi), likely returning bird.

**American White Pelican:** pts around New York Harbor RICH, KING, and NEWY 2-7 May (W. Thompson, mob).

**Brown Pelican:** arr NB and JBSP 14 Apr (Bfo, F. Fogarty, A. Milillo), early; JBSP inlet 21 May (M. Brody); Fire I East SUFF 29 May (B. Moldashel).

**Tricolored Heron:** *intro*, reports from all counties, including Matrix Global Logistics P RICH 4 Apr (ACi); Bush Terminals Piers P KING 21 May (ABk); RanI/S Brother I BRON 25 May (ACu, mob).

**Cattle Egret:** Hawley Pd SUFF 14 Apr (C. Witek); Mastic SUFF 24 Apr (M. Firestone); Patchogue Ferry Terminal SUFF 9 May (T. Kuliberda).

**Glossy Ibis x White-faced Ibis (hybrid):** Captree I SUFF 14 May (FMu, SMu), *intro*.

**Black Vulture:** many BRON, NEWY, RICH, several KING, QUEE, NASS, and SUFF.

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** Saltmarsh Nature Ctr KING 4 May (eBirder "G Mode"), ph.

**MISSISSIPPI KITE (R10):** GwC/PP 21 May (mob); FP 23 May (R. Fleming)

**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** Sims Municipal Recycling Center KING thru 7 Mar (mob), *intro*.

**Barred Owl:** Wagner College RICH 17 Apr (H. Fischer); High Rock P RICH 11-17 May (mob).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** only 1, Preston Pd SUFF 7 Mar (H. Ye), singing.

**Short-eared Owl:** only 1, Shirley Chisholm SP 14 Mar (A. Ferino, M. Silber), flyover migrant.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** several locations in RICH, also 2 Shu Swamp Pres NASS entire period (mob), m and f; APP 16 Apr, 6 May (I. Resnick, mob); Ft Greene P KING 28 Apr (B. Vatr, J. Kramer-Duffield); FP 18, 23 May (mob); Van Cortlandt P BRON thru 5 May (RAR); Govl 27 Apr (D. Ringer, mob).

**Acadian Flycatcher:** multiple in city parks, Fire I SUFF 24 May (eBirder “Jill J”), very rare from barrier, audio from Sunken Forest area.

**Alder Flycatcher:** singles from all counties except BRON.

**Eastern Bluebird:** arr RMSP 16 Feb (K. Long), R10 earliest date for likely migrant.

**BICKNELL’S THRUSH:** CP 11-19 May (B. van Doren, mob).

**Swainson’s Thrush:** arr APP 16 Apr (MAc).

**Red Crossbill:** High Rock P RICH 3 Mar (ACi); Robert Cushman Murphy CP SUFF 2 May (JRRan); 2 David Sarnoff Pres SUFF 2 May (M. Brincka).

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** CP 2-3 May (mob).

**Lark Sparrow:** JBWR 13 May (CFi); Rocky Pt High School SUFF 16 May (JRRan); Mattituck SUFF thru 24 Mar (BBol).

**CORRECTION:** In the winter 2023-34 report, the discovery of the Red-headed Woodpecker at Elizabeth Morton NWR on 30 December should have been attributed to MaryLaura Lamont.

**Nelson’s Sparrow:** PlumbB 25 May (L. Ewing).

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Water Mill SUFF 26 May (PJL).

#### **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD**

**(R10):** Sunset Cove P QUEE 10-17 May (L. Gaugler, mob).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** PP 11 May (mob); CP 13 May (eBirder “Jess S”).

**SWAINSON’S WARBLER:** Brooklyn Bridge P KING 19-25 Apr (J. Gramm, mob).

**Kentucky Warbler:** multiple in city parks, HSP 28 May thru end of period (M. Vedder, mob).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr HLSP 15 Apr (J. Landesberg), R10 all time earliest.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** arr Bayard Cutting Arboretum SUFF 7 Apr (LW-W, mob), returning breeder.

#### **BLACK-THROATED GRAY**

**WARBLER:** HSP 29-30 May (KJK, JGI, mob), *intro*.

**Summer Tanager:** many migrants, including more in eastern SUFF than prior years.

**WESTERN TANAGER (R10):** Hudson Ri P NEWY 15-16 May (R. Jacobs, mob).

**LAZULI BUNTING:** Flanders SUFF ~15-22 Apr (M. Rocco, mob), *intro*.

**PAINTED BUNTING (R10):** HLSP thru 29 Mar (S. Jannazzo, mob), continuing from Feb.

#### **EXOTICS**

**European Goldfinch:** traditional areas in KING near PP only.

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## REPORTING YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Observers are strongly encouraged to report their findings directly to the Regional Editors, to help identify significant trends. Summary reports of observations; impressions of notable patterns in the weather, timing of migration, unusual scarcity or abundance of particular species, etc.; and notable individual records are highly valued. For maximum usefulness, send in reports no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the end of each season:

15 March, 15 June, 15 September, and 15 December.

## STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in **BOLD**; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in UPPER CASE letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! – details seen by Regional Editor; **ad** – adult; **alt** – alternate plumage; **arr** – arrival or first of season; **BBA** – Breeding Bird Atlas; **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:

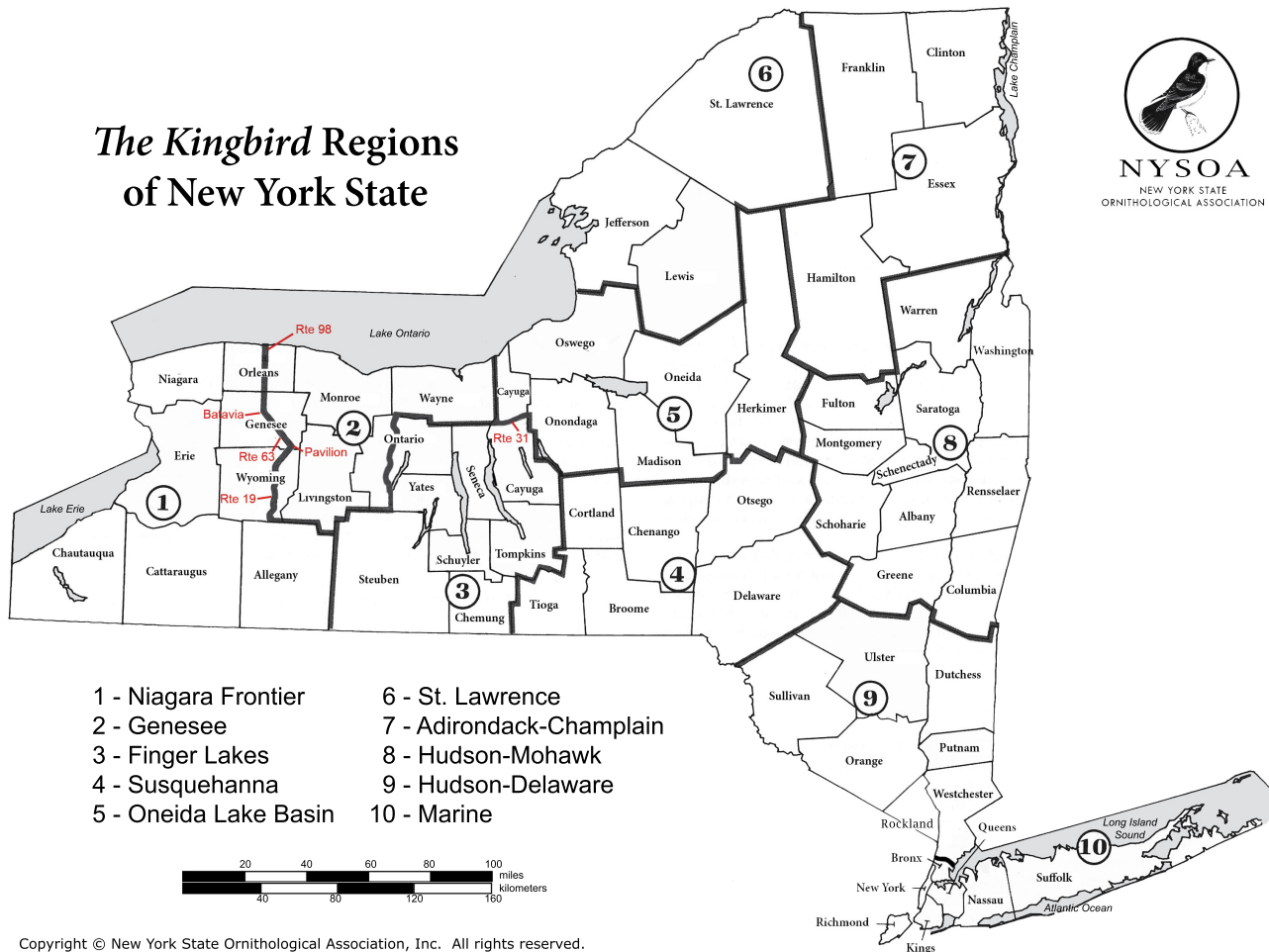
the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia; NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19 from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

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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