

REGION 4 — ST. LAWRENCE.

The 1951 spring migration season progressed normally in this area. In general birds arrived on time or somewhat earlier than usual. Ice went out early and movement of ducks and other water birds was correspondingly early. May was warmer and dryer than normal and nesting activities got off to a good start.

LOONS — DUCKS:

Double-crested Cormorant — Returned to nest on Gull Island, despite being driven away a year ago. Brant — Three seen in St. Lawrence River

near Clayton, May 20 (J. A. Blake Jr.) Whistling Swan — Two seen along shore of Lake Ontario in southern Jefferson Co. about April 5 (J. E. Wilson).

HAWKS — OWLS:

Marsh Hawk — 1st reported March 19 (early).

Black-bellied Plover — One seen near Canton, June 9 (W. E. Curtis).

Wilson Snipe — Appeared to be more numerous than usual during the spring migration. A pair seen near Potsdam, June 7, appeared to have a nest nearby. Common Tern, Black Tern — both are becoming increasingly common as breeding birds in the Thousand Island region.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES:

Loggerhead Shrike first seen March 27 (early).

VIREOS — WARBLERS:

Warbler migrations rather light — none of the rarer varieties reported.

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS:

Bronzed Grackle and Cowbird appeared to be unusually numerous this spring.

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