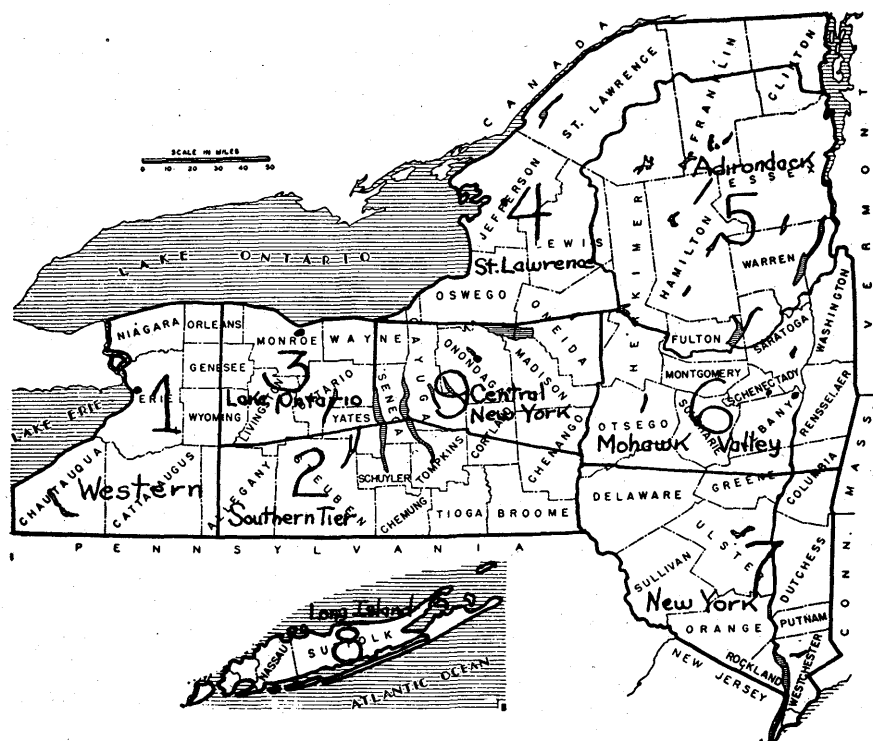


REGIONAL REPORTS OF SPRING MIGRATION



SUMMARY OF SPRING MIGRATION IN NEW YORK STATE

The 1952 spring season was characterized by its normality with most regions reporting arrivals on time and in fair numbers. There were few spectacular waves but throughout the state perhaps the most outstanding warbler movements occurred on May 9-11 (Western New York) and 17-20 (Hudson Valley). Most migration, however, was routine. A summary of some of the highlights follows:

Western New York reported 216 Whistling Swan March 30th near Oak Orchard. Over 500 Red-throated Loons on April 14 at Webster Park (Lake Ontario). Glossy Ibis was reported at Vischers Ponds (Mohawk Valley) on May 17-19, April 19 at Montezuma, and June 5 at Ellisberg (St. Lawrence).

A Yellow Rail was reported south of Ithaca April 25. Snowy Egret May 24, 25 at Braddocks Bay (Lake Ontario). Hawk flights were somewhat lighter this year in numbers recorded — 2800 Broad-wings April 22 and 1500 Sharp-shinned May 11 (Lake Ontario). Fair shorebird flights were reported from Western New York somewhat early, to Long Island, normal.

Almost all regions reported a very low count on Bonaparte's Gulls especially in the western portion of the state where in other years large numbers have been reported on the Niagara River and Lake Ontario. Upland Plover appears to be extending its range with several reports of this species in Northern New York. Ring-billed Gull colonies are increasing on the Islands off Henderson Harbor, N. Y. Noted in every region was the apparent increase of Cuckoos especially Yellow-billed throughout the state. An interesting migration of Saw-whet Owls was observed in early April along Lake Ontario.

Finger Lakes reports an American Three-toed Woodpecker near Seneca Lake April 23. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was reported on May 18 (Lake Ontario).

The Kingbird

Tufted Titmouse was reported from several locations such as Ithaca, Delmar, (Mohawk Valley) Bayside (Long Island) and Palmyra (Lake Ontario). A few return records of Brown-capped Chickadee noted along Lake Ontario shore to the end of May.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher seems to be moving up into New York State to stay as many regions reported the presence of, or nesting of this species. Most regions had a few good Warbler days, but generally the regions reported the waves were not spectacular. The Hudson Valley noted the scarcity of Black poll Warblers as did the Adirondack Region. Worm-eating Warblers were observed in the Elmira area, nesting June 4th, Lake Ontario and Hudson Valley. A new location for Prothonotary Warbler was at Chautauqua Lake (Western New York).

Summer Tanager from April 6-11 at Palisades was a big event (New York). Orchard Oriole is increasing slightly (Long Island) also seen at Ithaca and Ravena (Mohawk Valley). The returning Evening Grosbeaks were observed to leave most of the central and southern part of New York State from May 25-30. Lake Ontario Region reported migrants moving May 6, 11, 18, 24 and 25.

A Western Meadowlark was observed and heard singing from April 25-May 3 about 5 miles south of Rochester (Lake Ontario). White crowned Sparrows were particularly abundant throughout the state and appeared to outnumber White-throats this year. Another Dickcissel reported May 11th (Finger Lakes).

Allan S. Klonick

REGION 1 — WESTERN NEW YORK

Spring arrived in western New York as it should; with balmy weather and plenty of sunshine. During March, the temperature averaged 2.2 degrees above normal, with no storms occurring. On the first day of spring, the temperature reached 51 degrees, 20 degrees higher than last year. The March 31st record was tied with a sizzling 68 degrees. Ice was off Lake Erie and Niagara River unusually early. April was normal, except for a 4.4 degree above average temperature. May too, followed the pattern set by April. While May was about average, the migration was off. There seemed to be about only four good waves. The best one occurred on May 10th. White-crowned Sparrows overflowed everywhere. Little or no rain fell from the last week in May till the middle of June. The first weeks of June were about average. The Spring Duck Census in April turned up many early records, but the Spring Warbler Census in May broke all records for a high species total. A new location for the Prothonotary Warbler was turned up (Anderson) at the eastern end of Chautauqua Lake, where they are nesting. American Brant lingered in Niagara River (Canadian side) until the middle of June.

Loons — Ducks:

Common Loons were down in numbers, although 62 were found in the region on the Duck Census on April 6th. No Red-throated Loons reported. Grebes and herons were about normal, with a record of the American Egret at Lyndonville on April 4 (Smiths). The Whistling Swan migration was widely distributed throughout western New York. Many ponds and lakes entertained them. The maximum, 216, was logged on March 30th, on a **Buffalo Ornithological Society** trip from Buffalo to Oak Orchard Swamp near Medina. Oak Orchard Swamp continued to play host to great flocks of Canada Geese, fifteen thousand being found there on March 23. A Blue Goose spent three weeks at the swamp with the Canadas. A Gadwall by Rog. Sundell and Lenna, was spotted on April 12th, at Chautauqua's Riverside marshes. Blue-winged Teal are holding their own, but the Green-winged Teal is quite an item. Fourteen were found on March 30 at South Dayton (Griffins). European Widgeon showed up at two widely separated ponds. The Harlequin Duck lingered at Niagara Falls until April 6, when it was last spotted. Ruddy Duck are increasing.

Hawks — Owls:

The region witnessed a good hawk flight. Goshawk was reported on two different days in March. 204 Broad-winged Hawks were counted on a **Buffalo Ornithological Society** trip at Portland on April 20. On this same trip, a Golden Eagle was observed.

An early Golden Plover, March 29, was observed near Chautauqua Lake (Sundells et al). The rest of the spring shorebird migration was very good.

White-winged gulls cleared out by April 1st. Bonaparte's Gulls were down in numbers.