

Three-toed Woodpecker: one female first seen Feb 26 in tamarack swamp BWS (RW); two females Mar 4, one Mar 5-12 (mob), one could be approached to within six feet while it worked low on a stub. NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER: one male first seen Feb 26 BWS (RW); a male and female Mar 4 BWS (mob) in same woods where other three-toed species at work had flaked off bark from 30-40 tamarack trees from the snow line up to 30 feet high. Third known occurrence of species Jeff Co in ten years. Eastern Phoebe: first Mar 30. Horned Lark: small numbers scattered thru countryside Dec-Jan, all Prairie; numbers increased after Feb 18 with two Northern seen then.

Blue Jay: numbers seemed lower than usual Jan-Feb. Common Crow: two Dec 17; two Dec 27; two Feb 18; first noticeable influx Mar 4 (DG); numerous Mar 11-31. Black-capped Chickadee and White-breasted Nuthatch: usual winter population. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one at feeder early Mar. Brown Creeper: at feeder Jan 1 thru rest of winter, others during March. Winter Wren: near Gouverneur Dec 17 and Jan 1 (JB). Mockingbird: one Dec 28-Jan 2 Stony Pt (DG). Robin: first migrant Mar 18, not common Wat until Mar 26, peak migration dates Mar 30-31. Eastern Bluebird: first Mar 17 two WC (Tucker); female with no color on breast Mar 24 near Stony Pt (DG); male Mar 30 near Brownville (AA). BOHEMIAN WAXWING: three observed at close range for 30 min with large flock of Cedar Waxwings Mar 18 near Snowshoe Pt (DG)—first Jeff Co report since Apr 1962. Cedar Waxwing: wandering flocks Dec-Jan, increasingly common Mar. Northern Shrike: few scattered records Dec-Feb, last Mar 8.

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: Jan 2 Pt Pen (RW); Jan 15 near Clayton (FC); first spring Mar 19. Redwinged Blackbird: Dec 10, 26, Jan 1, Feb 4; first spring flocks Mar 11. Baltimore Oriole: at feeder Nov 22-Dec 30 (AA)—see Field Note. Common Grackle: first Mar 11 near Wat. Brown-headed Cowbird: winter dates Dec 10, 26, Jan 1, 15, Mar 12; spring flocks Mar 23. Tremendous mixed flock blackbird migration Mar 30-31. Cardinal: several pairs at feeders Wat thru winter. Evening Grosbeak: only reports Dec 1 one female, Jan 11 two males, one female Wat (AA); continues trend of late or non-appearance in alternate years since 1960. Purple Finch: none seen. Common Redpoll: only report one at feeder Dec 22 (AA). Savannah Sparrow: one Jan 2 Pt Pen (RW)—unusual date. Slate-colored Junco: winter dates Jan 1, 21, Mar 14; first spring arr Mar 27; numerous Mar 28-31. Tree Sparrows: present thru winter; THP Mar 31. White-crowned Sparrow: Dec 11 SB (RW)—unusual. Song Sparrow: first Mar 19; uncommon until Mar 27-28. Lapland Longspur: 24 near Limerick Dec 26 (JB); 20 near Balmat Jan 2; 30 near Edwards Jan 2 (AA); six SB Jan 2 (RW). Snow Bunting: Dec 10 to Mar 11; several flocks of more than 200 noted as well as smaller groups usually not mixed with Horned Larks or longspurs.

Please have spring reports in by June 9.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

HARRIET L. DELAFIELD

Dec '66 started out with a heat wave. The record high for this month was 62 degrees on Dec 6. The lowest temperature was zero on the 19th, and the biggest snowfall was 16" over Christmas. At the end of the month there were only 13" of snow on the ground.

Jan was freeze and thaw, freeze and thaw: -4 degrees on the 6th, thaw on the 8th; 8 degrees on the 16th, 40 degrees on the 21st, and so on. Ice conditions made both driving and walking hazardous. By the 22nd a friend reported skiing at Big Tupper to be "like spring skiing."

Feb was generally cold; the lowest we saw our thermometer was -30 degrees on the 13th. There was a thaw on the 14th. Snow depths remained low and no high winds were reported except on the 16th when gusts of up to 75 mph were recorded at Ray Brook. March was mostly mild and uneventful with snowfall considerably below normal.

Bird numbers were way down, especially winter finches. One expert suggested this might be because mast crop was also heavy to the north of us, and this fact combined with relatively high temperatures and low snow depths, allowed the birds to stay in their more northern ranges.

Cardinals seem to be continuing their push northward, unless this was a freak winter. Besides a pair at Bloomingdale there were some unofficial reports from Lake Placid and Tupper Lake. The Brown Thrasher and two Mourning Dove records were unusual. There were above average reports of Snow Buntings and Northern Shrikes.

Observers: EA—Elizabeth Anderson; EB—Elisabeth Barnet; GTC—Greenleaf T Chase; ED—Ethel Dyer; HD—Harriet Delafield; BF—Bill Frenette; JH—Joseph Hart; GK—Grace Kains; JK—Joseph Keji; RM—Ruth Meier; CDT—Count Day Team; FW—Fred Wardenburgh; IW—Isabel Williams; DY—David Young.

Abbreviations: Aus M—Ausable Marsh; RB—Ray Brook; SL—Saranac Lake; TL—Tupper Lake.

LOONS—DUCKS: Horned Grebe: end Dec, early Jan Essex (FW). Great Blue Heron: one Saranac R Mar 30 (D Corl). Canada Goose: 85 L Alice Dec 5 (JH), one end Dec Essex (FW), two L Alice Mar 20 (GTC), 125 Mar 31 Malone (Dayton Foote). Mallard: three Aus M Jan 31 (JH). Black Duck: 80 Aus M Jan 31 (JH); 20 L Alice Mar 20 (GTC). Common Goldeneye: end Dec Essex (FW), 75 Aus M Jan 31 (JH).

HAWKS—OWLS: Red-tailed Hawk: one Titus Mt Mar 29 (GTC). Red-shouldered Hawk: one L Alice Mar 20 (GTC). Rough-legged Hawk: two Pontaufer Dec 3 (JH). Bald Eagle: one Union Falls flow "possible repeat from 1966" (GTC). Peregrine Falcon: Loon L Mt Dec 4 (GTC). Sparrow Hawk: one Mar 16-31 SL (EA, HD). Ruffed Grouse: three Dec 26, one Mar 25 RB (JK); two jumping up from snow after Highbush Cranberry SL Mar 14 (EB). Ring-necked Pheasant: one female end Dec Essex (FW); one female thru period SL (EA, HD). Gray Partridge: four north of Plattsburg, five Cooperville Jan 31, seven Cooperville Feb 7, 12 Malone Feb 8 (JH). American Woodcock: one Mar 29-31 SL (Creta Chase). Herring Gull: end Dec Essex (FW); 25 Aus M Jan 31 (JH). Mourning Dove: one Dec 19 Cooperville (JH); one Jan 14 for two weeks SL (M Brogan). Great Horned Owl: one Deer P Santa Clara (BF). Saw-whet Owl: one Mar 17 SL (M Muncil).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Belted Kingfisher: one Mar 30 Saranac R (D Corl). Pileated Woodpecker: end Dec Essex one (FW); one Heaven's L swamp Dec 4, two together Mar 22 Whitney Pk (BF). Hairy Woodpecker and Downy Woodpeckers: normal. Horned Lark: two Champlain Jan 31 (JH). Tree Swallow: one Mar 31—early RB (GTC). Blue Jay: large numbers all areas, JK refers to this as "The winter of the Blue Jay". Common Crow: one Dec 1, 6, 28 SL (ED); one Feb 2 SL (JH); nine Vermontville Feb 26 (EA, HD); back in small numbers SL

Mar 7 (GK). Black-capped Chickadee: normal. Boreal Chickadee: one Dec 29 SL (EB); four Dec 30 SL (CDT); one Jan 4, four Jan 31 L Clear (HD). White-breasted Nuthatch: few reports of one or two SL (GK) and RB (JK). Red-breasted Nuthatch: more frequent in woods than above. Brown Creeper: reports of one or two thru period, three Dec 30 SL (CDT). Brown Thrasher: one Dec 26-30 SL (ED). Robin: returned Mar 26 RB (JK); Mar 27 SL (HD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: two Feb 14, one Mar 2, two Mar 4 RB (JK). Northern Shrike: reported more frequently than usual particularly during Feb SL and Gabriels (EB, HD, DY). Starling: back all areas early Mar, 300 Mar 11 SL (HD, GK).

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Myrtle Warbler: very late bird seen Dec 2, 6, 10 and 11 even after snowstorm RB (JK). House Sparrow: not such large numbers as other years. Eastern Meadowlark: one Mar 15 RB (GTC). Red-winged Blackbird: few winter reports of single feeder birds; first flock RB Mar 27 (JK); SL Mar 28 (HD); Mar 29 TL (RM). Common Grackle: back late Mar RB (JK), SL (EB). Brown-headed Cowbird: four Mar 11 SL (EB); seven Mar 24 RB (JK). Cardinal: pair thru period Bloomingdale (IW). Evening Grosbeak: Dec 2 three flocks totalling about 200 Loon L (GTC); from then on very few reports of small numbers SL except for 100 Kiwassa Dec 30, Jan 15 and Feb 3 (Emigh, HD, EA); RB, JK reported "plenty around" after Feb 5, from 60 to 160; 50-75 daily at feeder TL (RM). Purple Finch: two to five Feb & Mar SL & Bloomingdale (EB, IW); two by end of Feb RB (JK); five Mar 12, increasing after that, TL (RM). Pine Siskin: one or two Jan 25 thru period RB (JK). American Goldfinch: flock from 40 to 100 all winter TL (RM); 25 to 50 RB (JK); small flocks to 30 SL (ED, HD). Red Crossbill: small flocks thru period Barnum P area (GTC) and RB (JK). Slate-colored Junco: one or two thru period all areas except TL. Tree Sparrow: small numbers thru period SL (HD) and RB (JK). White-throated Sparrow: two Dec 4 thru 25 SL (ED); two Dec 30 (CDT); one all Jan to Feb 12 SL (EB). Song Sparrow: one Dec 22, 25, 30 SL (ED); two singing Mar 31 SL (HD); back Mar 28 RB (JK). Snow Bunting: good numbers SL and L Placid (mob); 20 Dec 19 Cooperville, 20 north of Plattsburgh Feb 7 (JH).

CORRIGENDUM: We regret the words "flying away from nest" found their way into the Fall Season report after Dr Meade's Baltimore Oriole. Naturally there was no nest involved.

The Grackle on Oct. 9 was at Saranac Lake not Madawaska.
Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake, N.Y. 12983

REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

December was nearly average in temperature and precipitation (all data taken at Albany), averaging 27.3°, 0.8° above normal, and totaling 3.04 in., of precipitation, 0.45 in. above normal. January was mild throughout, averaging 27.0°, 4.3° above normal. Precipitation totaled only 1.22 in., 1.25 in. below normal. February and March, on the other hand, were both consistently cold months, averaging 18.0° and 29.0°, 5.7° and 4.0° below normal, respectively. Precipitation totaled 1.76 and 2.56 in., 0.44 and 0.16 in. below normal, respectively.

All observers registered disappointment at the low numbers of many species of landbirds present this winter. The Schenectady Christmas Count recorded the lowest number of species- 37- since 1950. One local field trip held one Jan afternoon near TR attracted about 20 observers who identified *five* species! "What has happened to the birds?" was a common plaint.