

Warbler: first May 12 E'town (GC). Bay-breasted Warbler: first May 19 E'town (GC). Blackpoll Warbler: first May 21 E'town (GC). Ovenbird: first May 15 Whey P (TM). *LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH*: pair May 6 and 16 Port Henry, see also *Kingbird* 17:83, 1967 (GC). Wilson's Warbler: May 19 Port Henry (GC). Canada Warbler: first May 21 E'town (GC).

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS:** Eastern Meadowlark: first Apr 10 on which day it snowed 5 additional inches BML (EPW); 3 Apr 30 Speculator (DM). Baltimore Oriole: first May 8 E'town (GC). Rusty Blackbird: 10 Apr 24 PS (TM). Common Grackle: first Apr 9 BML (EPW). Cowbird: first Apr 1 BML (EPW). Scarlet Tanager: 1 May 4 RB (GTC); 1 May 15 Whey P (TM); 1 May 19 E'town (GC); 1 May 27 Newcomb (TM); 1 May 29 PS (W. Rutherford). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: exceptionally common this year. Evening Grosbeak: a few around most feeders to end of Apr. Purple Finch: most feeders had a few, maximum 18 Apr 15 PS (TM). Pine Siskin: 2 May 19 SL (GTC). Red Crossbill: 5 May 17 Westport (GC); 20 thru May E'town (GC). Savannah Sparrow: first record 4 Apr 9 Chazy (GTC). Slate-colored Junco: first Apr 1 BML (EPW). Tree Sparrow: last report 2 May 5 E'town (GC). White-crowned Sparrow: 8 May 13 Mineville (GC). White-throated Sparrow: first Apr 14 BML (EPW). Fox Sparrow: first Apr 15 PS (TM); 1 May 5 E'town (GC). Lincoln's Sparrow: 2 May 10 Twelfth Tee P, Franklin Co. (GTC); 1 May 19 Port Henry (GC). Song Sparrow: first Apr 7 BML (EPW).

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## REGION 8 — HUDSON—MOHAWK

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The cold weather trend that established itself over the winter period continued into April and May as well. April 1st was the coldest day of the month with the early morning temperature of 19°. The 3rd thru the 11th was an unusually cold period with temperatures well below average and snow accumulation of several inches on the 7th. The cold spell was momentarily broken by two days of warm weather which climaxed to give a 77° reading on April 13th, the high for the month. By April 15th the mean temperature was again several degrees below normal and the trend continued to the end of the month. Up to 10 inches of snow fell April 24th in some sections of Rensselaer county. With this kind of beginning it is not surprising that warblers went unreported in the month of April except for Myrtles on the 25th and Louisiana Waterthrushes on April 30th. Many ponds and lakes were only partially open by the end of the month.

May seemed especially wet because rain fell on thirteen different days, yet the total precipitation of 3.48 inches was normal for the month. Less sunshine than normal coupled with more below normal temperature delayed foliage a week to ten days.

The net effect of this early spring weather was predictable. Late May departure dates of winter transients from the region were noted for American Widgeon, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Oldsquaw, Rough-legged Hawk, Winter Wren, Rusty Blackbird and Pine Grosbeak. Warbler migration was spotty in early May, consequently most species were not observed until May 12 or later.

Rare species for the period include a White-fronted Goose, Brewster's Warbler, Oregon Junco, and a Clay-colored Sparrow. Neither the White-fronted Goose nor the Clay-colored Sparrow have been reported in Region 8 in modern times. Both were observed for a short time by area birders via the rare bird alert.

Observers: DA—D. Allen; GB—G. Bartlett; T&AB—T. & A. Brown; HB—H. Bundy; L&VB—L. & V. Burland; JC—J. Cook; LE—L. Ellis; MF—M. French; BSH—B. S. Havers; WJ—W. Joynson; MK—M. Kent; CK—C. Ketcham; MM—M. Mickle; RM—R. McCullough; REP—R. E. Phillion; WBS—W. B. Sabin; BRS—B. R. Seguin; S&RS—S. & R. Silverman; ST—S. Todd; RPY—R. P. Yumick; S,B,H—B. R. Seguin, G. Bartlett and either B. S. Havers or C. W. Huntley; ADBC—Allan Devoe Bird Club field trip; HMBC—Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club field trip; mob—many observers.

Abbreviations: BCM—Black Creek Marsh; Ca—Castleton; GR—Greenville; HR—Hudson River; IL—Indian Ladder; LG—Lake George; L—Lock; M'ville—Mariaville;; MR—Mohawk River; Nisk—Niskayuna; NWW—Niskayuna Wide Waters; PV—Parkwood Village; PM—Poentic Marsh; Reist S—Henry G. Reist Memorial Sanctuary; RL—Round Lake; SL—Saratoga Lake; SE Mont Co—Southeast Montgomery County; SS—Stockport Station Marsh; SCR—Stony Creek Reservoir; VFWM—Vischer Ferry Wildlife Management Area; VM—Vosburgh Marsh; WR—Watervliet Reservoir; WM—West Mountain; fsm—first spring migrants; lsm—last spring migrants.

LOONS—DUCKS: Cocoon Loon: lsm May 19 RL (GW). No Red-throated Loons reported this spring. Red-necked Grebe: fsm 1 Apr 17 RL and SL (HMBC); max 9 Apr 25 RL and SL (WBS); lsm 1 May 1 WR (DA), 6 May 1 RL and SL (GB, BRS). Horned Grebe: max 50 May 1 SL (S,B,H); lsm May 8 SL (BRS). Double-crested Cormorant: two reports—1 Apr 25 RL (WBS); 1 May 18 HR (T&AB, MM). Green Heron: fsm Apr 14 VFWM (RPY). Common Egret: two reports—both May 15; 1 NWW and VFWM (HMBC); 1 VM (HMBC). Snowy Egret: 1 May 15 Ca (JC, L&VB). American Bittern: fsm 1 Apr 11 Duanesburg—"standing on snow" (DA). Least Bittern: 1 May 15 VM (HMBC). Mute Swan: 2 Apr 12 thru period VFWM (HB, ST, mob); part of this time three birds were present. Canada Goose: migrating thru period; max 700 Apr 17 NWW, RL, SL (HMBC). Blue Goose: 1 Apr 14 SCR (DA). *WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE*: 1 Apr 24–25 SL (BRS, mob); all pertinent field marks noted—first modern record for Region 8. Snow Goose: fsm 5 Apr 5 NWW (BRS); max 25 Apr 9 SS (REP); lsm 2 May 1 SL (GB, BRS). Gadwall: one report only—2 Apr 7 MR (DA). Pintail: lsm 2 May 8 VFWM (HMBC); max 100 Apr 7 VFWM (DA). American Widgeon: lsm 1 May 23 VFWM (BRS); max 15 Apr 7 VFWM (DA). Shoveler: three reports—3 Apr 17 VFWM (RP); 2 Apr 24 Lake Lonely outlet (BRS); 3 May 11 VFWM (BRS). Redhead: three reports—1 Apr 17 SL (HMBC); 5 Apr 25 and 2 May 1 SCR (S,B,H). Ring-necked Duck: lsm May 8 VFWM (HMBC); max 30 Apr 14 SCR (DA). Canvasback: fsm 7 Apr 5 LG (BRS); max 10 Apr 17 SL (HMBC); lsm 2 May 17 SL (BSH, BRS). Scaup Duck: max 100, Greater Apr 17 SL (HMBI); lsm 50 Lesser May 8 SL (S,B,H). Common Goldeneye: lsm 3 May 15 SL (S,B,H); max 40 Apr 17 (HMBC). Bufflehead: lsm 1 May 15 SL (HMBC); max 24 Apr 17 SL (HMBC). Oldsquaw: fsm 10 Apr 10 LK 7 MR (BRS); lsm 1 May 15 SL (S,B,H); max 15 Apr 14 SCR (DA). White-winged Scoter: lsm and max 15 May 8 SL (S,B,H). Surf Scoter: one report—2 May 2 LK 7 MR (S,B,H). No Common Scoters or Ruddy Ducks reported this period. Common Merganser: lsm 2 May 15 LK 7 MR (S,B,H). Red-breasted Merganser: max 10 Apr 17 RL and SL (HMBC); lsm 8 May 15 LK 7 MR and 6 SL (HMBC).

HAWKS—OWLS: Cooper's Hawk: 1 Apr 25 SL (S,B,H); 2 May 15 IL (HMBC). Red-tailed Hawk: max 14 Apr 4 SE Mont Co (DA). Red-shouldered Hawk: max 4 May 1 SL (GB,BRS). Broad-winged Hawk: max 17 May 2 M'ville (DA). Rough-legged Hawk: max 9 Apr 4 SE Mont Co (DA); lsm 1 May 15 M'dale (HMBC). Bald Eagle: 2 ad May 4 Conklingville Dam (fide MK). Marsh Hawk: max 3 Apr 4 SE Mont Co (DA). Osprey: fsm 1 Apr 9 Stuyvesant (REP); max 11 May 6 VFWM (BRS). Sparrow Hawk: max 21 Apr 4 SE Mont Co (DA). Ruffed Grouse and Pheasant: reported quite generally; 1 Ruffed Grouse Apr 17 and 25 Reist S (DA, HMBC). Bobwhite: 1 May 15 M'dale (HMBC). Turkey: 1 May 15 GR (CK).

Virginia Rail and Sora: 3 each May 15 BCM (HMBC). Common Gallinule: 2 May 2 BCM (BRS); 4 May 15 BCM (HMBC). Semipalmated Plover: One report—7 May 15 PM (fide DA). Upland Plover: fsm 1 Apr 25 Craig School, Nisk (S,B,H). Spotted Sandpiper: fsm Apr 18 (S,B,H). Solitary Sandpiper: fsm 1 Apr 17 SL (S,B,H); max 2 May 1 PM (DA); lsm 1 May 23 BCM (WBS). Greater Yellowlegs: fsm 4 Apr 15 BCM (S,B,H); lsm 1 May 23 BCM (WBS). Lesser Yellowlegs: fsm 1 May 2 BCM (S,B,H); lsm 1 May 23 BCM (WBS). Pectoral Sandpiper: no reports. Least Sandpiper: 2 reports—both May 15; 1 NWW and 1 Vly Res (HMBC). Dunlin: 2 reports—both May 15; 4 NWW; 1 BCM (HMBC). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 reports—1 May 15 BCM (HMBC); 3 May 23 BCM (WBS). Great Black-backed Gull: lsm 1 Apr 4 L7 (B,S,H). Herring Gull: several reports May 15 HR (HMBC). Ring-billed Gull: thru period (S,B,H). Bonaparte's Gull: 1 Apr 17 MR L7 (HB & W. J.); 1 May 15 NWW (HMBC). Common Tern: 1 May 23 NWW (BRS). Black Tern: 6 May 8 and 5 May 15 RL (S,B,H). Mourning Dove: thru period. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 May 25 Chatham (MM). Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 Apr 17 VFWM (S,B,H). Screech Owl: 1 Apr 21 WM (MK); 2 May 15 (HMBC). Great Horned Owl: several reports from Apr 30 to May 15 throughout region. Barred Owl: 1 May 15 (ADBC).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: fsm May 15 SCR (HMBC). Common Nighthawk: fsm 1 May 20 Burden Lake (REP); several May 21 PV (BRS). Chimney Swift: fsm May 2 (L&VB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: fsm 1 May 13 Rotterdam (DA); max 5 May 23 IL (HMBC). Belted Kingfisher: 3 Apr 17 SL & RL (RM); thru period. Pileated Woodpecker: "very few thru period" (S,B,H). Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 May 15 M'dale (HMBC); 1 May 29 Rotterdam (M. De-Georgio). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 Apr 11 Loudonville (MF); migration peak noted Apr 17. Eastern Kingbird: fsm 1 May 8 M'ville (DA). Great Crested Flycatcher: 1 May 12 PV (S,B,H). Eastern Phoebe: fsm 1 Apr 10 M'dale (DA). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 reports 1 May 23 Loudonville (MF) and VFWM (BRS). Traill's Flycatcher: fsm 1 May 3 Columbia Co. (S&RS); next report 1 May 16 VFWM (RPY). Least Flycatcher: fsm 1 May 5 VFWM (DA); common mid-May thru period. Eastern Wood Pewee: fsm 1 May 13 Glenville (MM). Olive-sided Flycatcher: none reported. Horned Lark: thru period. Tree Swallow: fsm 8 Apr 3 Schoharie Creek (DA); max 50 May 8 VFWM (HMBC) Bank Swallow: fsm 1 Apr 25 VFWM (S,B,H). Rough-winged Swallow: fsm 1 May 5 Mill Creek (REP). Barn Swallow: fsm Apr 24 SCR (S,B,H). Cliff Swallow: fsm 1 Apr 28 VFWM (DA); locally common in Fulton-Montgomery counties. Purple Martin: fsm Apr 20 Scotia (RM); half dozen colonies estimated in 11 county area. Tufted Titmouse: few reports. Red-breasted Nuthatch: several reports in scattered locations; uncommon. Brown Creeper: reported over area in usual numbers. House Wren: fsm 1 May 5 PM (DA). Winter Wren: fsm 1 Apr 17 Reist S (DA); 4 Apr 20 Averill Park (REP); lsm 1 May 15 (HMBC). Carolina Wren: 1 Apr 30 So Bethlehem (WBS); reported as present all winter (WBS). Long-billed Marsh Wren: fsm 1 May 8 VFWM (RPY); locally common from mid-May thru period. Mockingbird: continues to gain in numbers; reported thru period. Catbird: fsm 1 May 7 VFWM (DA); many reports May 10 on. Brown Thrasher: Apr 17 thru period. Wood Thrush: fsm 1 May 2 PV (BRS). Hermit Thrush: fsm 1 Apr 12 Nisk (RPY); thru period. Swainson's Thrush: fsm 1 May 12 Thatcher Park (DA); 5 groups reported on May 15 (Century Run). Gray-cheeked Thrush: fsm 1 May 4 PV (BRS); 1 May 20 Loudonville (MF). Veery: fsm 1 Reist S (RPC). Eastern Bluebird: reported over scattered locations Apr 1 on. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 male banded May 7 VFWM (RPY); pair banded May 21; are first Gnatcatchers banded at VFWM in 5 years of spring banding. Golden-crowned Kinglet: migration first week in April; 2 groups reporting on May 15 (Century Run). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Apr 17 thru period (S,B,H); max 15 May 5 PM (DA). Water Pipit: 2 Apr 25 LC (SBH); 12 May 16 M'ville (DA). Cedar Waxwing: scarce

thru period; fsm May 15 (Century Run). Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Apr 3 VFWM (B,S,H); 1 Apr 4 SE Mont Co. (DA).

**VIREOS—WARBLERS:** Vireos: Yellow-throated Vireo: fsm 1 May 8 (S,B,H); 1 May 22 VFWM (RPY). Solitary Vireo: fsm 1 May 3 IL (S,B,H); 1 banded at VFWM is first spring record (RPY). Red-eyed Vireo: fsm 1 May 12 IL (DA); very scarce, not one banded at VFWM all May (RPY). Philadelphia Vireo: 3 groups reporting on Century Run. Warbling Vireo: fsm 1 May 7 VFWM (BRS); abundant May 15.

Warblers: Black-and-white Warbler: fsm 1 May 4 Loudonville (MF). Worm-eating Warbler: May 15 IL (mob). Golden-winged Warbler: 1 May 15 Tygert Rd. (S,B,H). Blue-winged Warbler: fsm 1 May 12 M'dale (DA). **BREWSTER'S WARBLER:** 1 reported at W Glenville May 16, 18 (LE, DA). Tennessee Warbler: 1 May 15 Tygert Rd (S,B,H); 4 May 22 Reist S (RPY). Nashville Warbler: several reports, earliest 2 May 12 M'ville (DA). Parula Warbler: May 15, several reports, scattered areas (HMBC). Yellow Warbler: fsm two reports—May 6 VFWM (S,B,H) and FM (DA). Magnolia Warbler: 2 May 12 M'ville (DA). Cape May Warbler: May 15, several areas (mob). Black-throated Blue Warbler: fsm 1 May 14 Loudonville (MF). Myrtle Warbler: many reports; earliest, 10 Apr 25 Reist S (LE). Black-throated Green Warbler: fsm 1 May 2 PV (BRS). Cerulean Warbler: only report May 26 M'ville (DA & HB). Blackburnian Warbler: earliest, a pair on May 12 at Thatcher Park (DA). Chestnut-sided Warbler: several reported May 15 from widespread areas. Bay-breasted Warbler: first reports May 15 (HMBC). Blackpoll Warbler: observed widely May 15 thru period. Prairie Warbler: fsm 1 May 2 Karner (S,B,H). Palm Warbler: May 2–21 (late) VFWM (DA). Ovenbird: fsm 1 May 8 (JC). Northern Waterthrush: fsm 1 May 10 M'ville (DA). Louisiana Waterthrush: several reports; fsm 2 Apr 30 Alcove Res and So Bethlehem (WBS). Mourning Warbler: 1 May 27 Loudonville (MF). Yellowthroat: fsm 2 May 8 Reist S (RPY). Yellow-breasted Chat: several reports; earliest May 12 IL (DA). Wilson's Warbler: fsm May 15 (HMBC). Canada Warbler: May 15 (mob) thru period. American Redstart: fsm 2 reports May 14 Reist S (RPY) and Loudonville (MF).

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS:** Bobolink: fsm 1 May 2 BCM (S,B,H). Orchard Oriole: 1 May 15 Ca (JC). Baltimore Oriole: fsm May 5 (ADBC). Rusty Blackbird: max 20 May 2 VFWM (MRS); fsm 1 May 15 (HMBC). Brown-headed Cowbird: 1 Apr 1; max 47 Apr 21 WM (MK). Scarlet Tanager: May 13 (S&RS). Summer Tanager: 1 report May 21 thru 29 Red Rock (Myra Smilow). Cardinal: thru period. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: common May 6 thru period. Indigo Bunting: fsm 1 May 14 WM (MK). Evening Grosbeak: 24 Apr 5 Averill Park (REP); 2 thru period Jenny Lake (RPY). Purple Finch: fsm 2 Apr 18 Loudonville (MF). House Finch: 2 reports Apr 12 Loudonville (MF) and Nisk (RPY); total of 8 banded thru period Nisk (RPY). Pine Grosbeak: 1 report—1 May 15 BCM (B. Hicks). Common Redpoll: 1 May 15 (ADBC). American Goldfinch: numerous by May 1 (RPY). Rufous-sided Towhee: fsm 2 Apr 30 WM (MK). Savannah Sparrow: 1 Apr 7 M'ville (DA). Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 May 12 M'dale (DA). Vesper Sparrow: 3 Apr 1; 9 Apr 30 WM (MK). Slate-colored Junco: 15 Apr 1; max 110 Apr 30 WM (MK); several reports to May 15. **OREGON JUNCO:** 1 Apr 3 Loudonville (MF). Tree Sparrow: fsm May 28 (ADBC); 1 banded May 1 VFWM, "a very late date" (RPY). **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** 1 May 28 Sacandaga Res (DA & mob); also May 30 (S&A Madison). Chipping Sparrow: Apr 17 thru period. Field Sparrow: 1 Apr 3 Loudonville (MF). White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Apr 23 and 30 WM (MK). White-throated Sparrow: fsm Apr 4 M'dale (S,B,H). Fox Sparrow: 1 Apr 10 M'ville (DA); fsm 4 May 2 Averill Park (RP). Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 May 8 HMBC (RPY); 1 report May 15 (HMBC). Swamp Sparrow: Apr 3–May 31 (S,B,H). Song Sparrow: thru period.

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