

1 Dec 27 Massena (DA); 2 Jan 14 (TM). Great Black-backed Gull: WIC 6; 12 Dec 27 Massena and 20 there Feb 2. Herring Gull: Watertown and Massena in Dec. Ring-billed Gull: 37 Dec 27 Massena (DA). Mourning Dove: 2 Dec 5 near Watertown; 3 all winter at feeder in Watertown; 1 near Adams early Mar. Screech Owl: Mar 15 Mill Creek. Great Horned Owl: Watertown and Massena. Snowy Owl: scarce in many parts of region; 4 WCC; 2 Dec 27 Massena; 2 often seen on Route 177, Lewis Co; 1 Dec 10 Clayton; 1 Mar 9 Dexter; most common near Lake Ontario where 3 or 4 could be seen in one day at Pillar Pt or Point Peninsula; max 7 Dec 26 at Pillar Pt (RB). Barred Owl: Morristown. Saw-whet Owl: Feb 25 Watertown (Houghton).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Belted Kingfisher: 1 WIC; 1 Jan 1 Pillar Pt (RB). Yellow-shafted Flicker: 1 seen frequently all winter in Watertown. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: at Joseph A. Blake, Jr. Wildlife Sanctuary near Watertown, 2 Jan 14, 1 Mar 11 and 19, on tamarack trees (FC). Common Raven: Mar 2 William Stumpf farm, Town of Cape Vincent, Jefferson Co. (W. Mosenteen). Crow: WCC 77, a high count; 3 frequently in Watertown all winter; 2 Jan 13 Hammond. Boreal Chickadee: 1 Mar 26 Wanakena (DA). Mockingbird: 1 near Watertown seen about once a week all winter (P. Biggers). *SAGE THRASHER* Dec 27 Massena (DA); last seen Jan 14. Robin: an unusually large numbers of reports of Robins all winter, especially around Watertown. Golden-crowned Kinglet: Dec 29 Massena. Bohemian Waxwing: 1 Watertown Jan 20-22 (RW). Cedar Waxwing: 60 Mar 1 Watertown; flocks 5 to 30 late Jan to late Mar. Northern Shrike: 1 WCC; about normal Dec-Jan, rather scarce later.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Meadowlark: more common than most winters, 1 Dec 18 Black River; 1 Jan 21 Wellesley Island; 3 Theresa Feb 25; 3 to 15 seen in Jan and Feb near Brownville; several small flocks, total about 40 birds Mar 25. Redwinged Blackbird: WCC 3; first Mar 1. Common Grackle: began returning about Mar 21. Brown-headed Cowbird: 3 WCC; 3 WIC; 5 Mar 24. Evening Grosbeak: common all winter, greatest numbers at feeders between Jan 15 and about Mar 15; 800 banded in one location Jan 14 to Mar 31, but many more were never banded (FC). Purple Finch: very few seen. Pine Grosbeak: first Dec 27 Gouverneur and Dec 29 Massena, last Mar 28; from 5 to 19 daily in Feb Town of Montague, Lewis Co; several others reported in small numbers in Jan and Feb. Common Redpoll: 19 WCC; 260 WIC; very large numbers at feeders, especially after mid-Feb. Pine Siskin: small to good numbers at some feeders the latter part of period. American Goldfinch: at several feeders. White-winged Crossbill: Dec 29 Massena (DA). Slate-colored Junco: WCC 6, also 2 or 3 at feeders during winter. White-throated Sparrow: WCC 3; also 20 at feeder Jan 3 near Watertown which is unusual at this time of year; 2 at another feeder all winter. Song Sparrow: WCC 5; 2 or 3 all winter; increase in numbers starting about Mar 23. Snow Bunting: about average numbers.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

This was a mild winter for snow depth and cold. December usually has several severely cold days, but a record high average of 21.4 degrees was recorded in Ray Brook. January had the highest average high recording in 14 years, 19.1. The coldest day was 33.5 below on February 23 which is unusually late for severe cold according to Bob Kampf, the weather observer. Winds over 20 MPH were recorded on at least 7 days, once reaching 65 MPH in gusts.

This was a good northern finch and Snowy Owl year. It was also a good year for the usual feeder birds, quite a change from the previous winter. Most water stayed frozen as usual so waterfowl were scarce.

Observers: GTC—Greenleaf T. Chase; SE—Stephen Everett; RM—Robert McKinney; RAM—Ruth A. Meier; TM—Ted Mack; WR—William Rutherford.

Abbreviations: L—lake; LP—Lake Placid; P—pond; Pltsby—Plattsburg; PS—Paul Smiths; Pt—point; SL—Saranac Lake; TL—Tupper Lake.

LOONS—DUCKS: Black Duck: 1 Jan 15 Pltsbg (SE,TM). American Goldeneye: 10 Jan 15 Pltsbg (SE,TM).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: 1 Jan 9 Black P,PS (WR). Rough-legged Hawk: 2 Jan 15 Mooers (SE,TM); 1 Feb 18 Witherbee (SE). Sparrow Hawk: 1 Jan 15 Rouses Pt (SE,TM). *BALD EAGLE*: 1 Feb 26 Mineville, soaring fairly high (C. A. Petty). Ruffed Grouse: 1 Dec 11 PS (TM); 4 Jan 26 Franklin Falls (TM). Great Black-backed Gull: 1 Jan 15 Chazy Landing (SE,TM). Herring Gull: 1 Jan 15 Pltsbg (SE,TM); 2 Mar 1 PS (SE). Ring-billed Gull: 1 Mar PS (SE). Snowy Owl: 1 Dec 10 TL (GTC); 2 Feb 7 Big Chazy River (GTC); 1 Mar 1 Crown Pt (GTC). Great Horned Owl: 1 Jan L Clear (TM). Barred Owl: 1 Jan 8 L Clear (TM); 1 Mar 27 Indian L (RM). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Mar 18 PS (WR).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Hairy Woodpecker: 1 Jan 3 LP (SE). Horned Lark: 25 Jan 15 Pltsbg (SE,TM); first migrants—8 Mar 1 PS (SE); 10 Mar 1 Ray Brook (GTC). Blue Jay: max at feeders—16 PS (WR); 16 TL (RAM). Common Raven: 1 seen for 10 days in mid Jan and again on Feb 25 Middle SL to Lower SL; wedge-shaped tail seen as it patrolled roads for dead birds (GTC). Common Crow: first probably not wintering at a dump—4 Mar 1 PS (SE). Black-capped Chickadee: max 50 Feb TL (RAM). White-breasted Nuthatch: 3 Mar 18 Indian L (RM); 1 thru winter TL (RAM). Red-breasted Nuthatch: a few at feeders. Brown Creeper: 1 Jan 22 Marcy Dam (TM). Golden-crowned Kinglet: a few in several areas thru winter. Starling: arrived TL Mar 3 (RAM).

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Redwinged Blackbird: 20 Jan 15 Pt au Rouche (SE, TM); first migrant—1 Mar 20 TL (RAM); 1 Mar 27 Indian L (RM). Brown-headed Cowbird: 150 Jan 15 Pt au Rouche (SE,TM). Evening Grosbeak: people with feeders went broke buying sunflower seed; max 150 TL (RAM). Purple Finch: one report—1 Feb 26 SL (GTC). Pine Grosbeak: widely reported—15 Jan 3 LP (SE); max 33 Jan 15 Redford to Rouses Pt (SE,TM); 15 Mar 27 Indian L (RM). Common Redpoll: fairly common all winter—max 150 TL (RAM). Pine Siskin: a few at feeders—max 20 Jan 15 Chazy Landing (SE,TM). American Goldfinch: stayed at feeders more than usual this winter. Red Crossbill: only report—small flock Mar 31 Childwold (RAM). White-winged Crossbill: only report—large flock Dec 14 Childwold (RAM). Slate-colored Junco: first—1 Mar 25 PS (TM); 1 Mar 25 TL (RAM). Tree Sparrow: a few at feeders all winter. Song Sparrow: 1 Jan 22 PS (TM); 1 Feb 18 PS (SE). Snow Bunting: 100 Jan 3 LP (SE).

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REGION 8 HUDSON-MOHAWK

RICHARD E. PHILION

The weather systems responsible for a mild November prevailed during the months of December and January and provided the region with unusual mid-winter conditions. The mean temperature for December was 30°, a + 3.5° departure from normal. A high temperature of 55° was recorded on December 16 while the low for