

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

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The weather was cold and wet for most of the period. Over 7 inches of snow fell during the first 7 days of April, half of it on the 6th and appreciable snow cover lasted until the 10th. The rest of April and May to about the 20th were for the most part cool and rainy.

Our usual modest waterfowl migration was about normal, but the shorebird migration was practically non-existent. Small land birds were generally late, none more so than the cuckoos.

Mockingbirds and House Finches continue to thrive. The Monk Parakeet at Conklin is at least holding out, and possibly the solo appearances are because the other bird is at a nest. Otherwise two Pigeon Hawks and two Hooded Warblers come closest to being rarities.

Abbreviations used: Bing—Binghamton. CF—Chenango Forks; NV—Newark Valley; WP—Whitney Point.

Observers initials: LB—Les Bemont; MB—Margaret Bowman; LC—Mrs. Lynn Clark; GC—Gail Corderman; A,MD—Anna and Marilyn Davis; MD—Mary Bobinsky; SH—Shirley Hartman; EH—Elva Hawken; LH—Louise Hover; EK—Eugene Kirch; D,ML—Dwight and Margaret Lynch; HM—Harriet Marsi; JN—John New; R,RP—Robert and Rita Pantle; KS—Kay Sanford; MS—Mary Sheffield; TBC—Tioga Bird Club; MV—Marian Vanderlip; E,FV—E. and F. Vermilya; EW—Elizabeth Washburn; DW—Don Weber; CW—Cora Wellman; R,SW—Ruth and Sally White; EvW—Evelyn Williams; KW—Kathryn Wilson; IW—Irene Wright.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: numerous reports of migrants all during Apr to May 21 Owego (HM, et. al.). Horned Grebe: 1 Apr 2 Oneonta (KW); a dozen more reports to Apr 26 Milford (CW). Pied-billed Grebe: 15 reports from 2 Apr 4 Oneonta (MD,IW,KW) to Apr 29 NV (LH). Green Heron: Apr 20 Candor (DW). Least Bittern: 1 May 11 Sherburne (R,SW), rarely seen in Region. American Bittern: Apr 29 Bing area (D. Newton). Canada Goose: migrants through May 13; 2 staying along East Branch Delaware River at end of May (MB). Snow Goose: 25 Candor (A. Reed), rested on pond for about 2 hours. Gadwall: 3 Apr 8 WP (MS). Green-winged Teal: 3 Apr 16 Sherburne (R,SW), the last. Blue-winged Teal: quite common through Apr; several May 21 at Apalachin (LB, et. al.). American Widgeon: 20 Apr 9 Chenango Bridge and Upper Lisle (A,MD), high count; 1 Apr 16 Sherburne (R,SW), last. Ring-necked Duck: 150 Apr 8 WP (MS), high count; 31 Apr 28 Milford (CW), last. Canvasback: 1 Apr 20 Oneonta (MD), the last. Scaup (sp.—): 33 Apr 15 WP (A,MD), highest count; 18 Apr 20 Oneonta (MD), the last. Common Goldeneye: 4 Apr 22 Oneonta (MB,IW,CW, KW), the only ones after Apr 15. Buffhead: 10 Apr 8 WP (A,MD), highest count; Apr 27 Candor (DW), last. Oldsquaw: 2 Apr 2 Oneonta (KW); 15 Apr 15 WP (A,MD), highest count; 2 Apr 16 WP (A,MD), the last. Hooded Merganser: 12 or more Apr 8 WP (MS), high count; Apr 25 Candor (DW), last. Common Merganser: 7 still at East Branch May 25 (MB), the only ones after Apr 23; 2 Apr 4 Oneonta (MD,IW,KW); at WP until Apr 12 (HM, et. al.).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Apr 12 Oneonta (KW), the only report before Apr 28, Vestal Center (HM, EW); several May reports all from Delaware and Otsego Counties. Goshawk: Apr 14 Owego (D,ML); Apr 21 Candor (R,RP); Apr 29 Bing (GC,EK). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 reports. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Apr and 3 May records. Broad-winged Hawk: Apr 15 Bing (W. Corderman). Bald Eagle: Apr 8 Candor (A. Reed); an immature bird Apr 11 Kirkwood, near Bing (T. Strickwald); 1 May 7 Pepacton Reservoir (KS). Marsh Hawk: 5 Apr records, the last Apr 28 at Oxford (A. Stratton). Osprey: Apr 2 Candor (R,RP); 21 reports

Apr 15 to May 23 from the whole Region. Pigeon Hawk: 1 Apr 30 Walton (SH); 1 Apalachin May 21 (HM, et. al.). Bobwhite: 34 released at Candor Apr 14 (DW). Turkey: reported in Apr at Owego (EvW), Candor (DW) and Richford (B. Gormels). Virginia Rail: Apr 6 to 9 NV (D,ML,LH). Common Snipe: 19 Apr 7 NV (D,ML,LH). Spotted Sandpiper: Apr 9 Candor (DW), early; next report Apr 29 Oneonta (KS, et. al.); in May estimated to be 1 pair per half mile of Beaverkill at East Branch (MB). Solitary Sandpiper: 5 May 12 Milford (CW). Greater Yellowlegs: Apr 16 WP (MS); 3 more reports to May 13. Dunlin: 1 May 14 Owego (TBC), early and the only one reported. Least Sandpiper: May 29 Smithville Flats (MS), the only report. Bonaparte's Gull: 26 Apr 15 Norwich (R,SW) and 20 more the same day at WP (MS, A,MD), the highest counts in the Region in years; last date Apr 26 Milford (CW). Common Tern: 2 Apr 17 Endicott (HM); 3 May 14 Owego (TBC). Black Tern: May 20 Owego (C. Howard). Monk Parakeet: at least 1 still coming to feeder at Conklin, near Bing, in mid May (HM). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: May 21 Bing, the only report. Black-billed Cuckoo: none in May.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: 1 May 4 Oneonta (E,FV); 1 May 17 East Branch (MB). Common Nighthawk: May 14 Owego (TBC), first date. Chimney Swift: Apr 27 NV (LH); 30 at Berkshire Apr 29 (D,ML); not common until May 4. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: May 4 Franklin, southwest of Oneonta (LC); no more until May 10. Yellow-shafted Flicker: migrants Apr 9 Endwell (LB). Pileated Woodpecker: 12 reports. Red-headed Woodpecker: May 11 and 29 CF (A,MD); 1 May 27 Sherburne (R,SW). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Apr 2 CF (A,MD). Eastern Kingbird: 2 Apr 30 Sherburne (R,SW), early. Great Crested Flycatcher: May 11 Delhi (LC). Traill's Flycatcher: 1 May 12 near Walton (SH). Least Flycatcher: 1 banded May 2 Vestal (EH). Wood Pewee: May 11 Delhi (LC), early. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 May 25 Milford (CW), the only report. Tree Swallow: Apr 4 Owego (R,RP), a little late. Bank Swallow: Apr 19 Milford (IW). Rough-winged Swallow: 1 Apr 24 Sherburne (R,SW). Barn Swallow: Apr 15 NV (LH). Cliff Swallow: 1 May 14 Owego (TBC); seemingly scarce. Purple Martin: Apr 24 Owego (C. and J. Baldwin). Red-breasted Nuthatch: regular in small numbers all through Apr to May 14; still at Oneonta May 20 (JN, et. al.). House Wren: Apr 25 Vestal (EH), Winter Wren: Apr 16 French Tract, south of Bing (GC); quite a few through May 1; 2 May 13 at Crumhorn Lake, near Oneonta (MD, et. al.); 4 pairs appear to be nesting at East Branch (MB). Carolina Wren: Apr 10 Oneonta (IW). Mockingbird: reported at Vestal (MV); Choconut Center (MS); Windsor (MS); CF (A,MD); Endwell (Florence Linaberry); Owego (C. and J. Baldwin); NV (D,ML); Oxford (A. Stratton); Delhi (LC); West Davenport (M. More and Laurens (E. Dyer). Brown Thrasher: Apr 4 Oneonta (E,FV), the only report before Apr 18. Wood Thrush: 2 banded Apr 30 Vestal (GC). Hermit Thrush: Apr 15 CF (A,MD). Swainson's Thrush: 1 banded May 8 Vestal (GC); 1 singing at Choconut Center May 27 (MS); only two other reports. Gray-checked Thrush: May 17 Delhi (LC), the only report. Veery: May 7 CF (A,MD). Eastern Bluebird: 17 counted May 14 Owego (TBC); some improvement in numbers over recent years. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 Apr 26 Oneonta (E,FV); 2 May 11 Sherburne (R,SW); May 17 and 22 CF (A,MD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: last 1 May 14 Owego (TBC). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Apr 15 CF (A,MD) to May 20 Oneonta (JN, et. al.). Water Pipit: Apr 9 NV (LH). Loggerhead Shrike: Apr 8 WP (MS); in same area Apr 12, 15 and 16 but from color differences not always the same bird.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: May 13 Walton (LC). Solitary Vireo: Apr 28 Owego (D,ML). Red-eyed Vireo: May 12 near Walton (SH). Philadelphia Vireo: 2 May 14 Owego (TBC); 1 banded May 17 Vestal (GC). Warbling Vireo: NV (LH), no more until May 13. Black-and-white Warbler: Apr 26 CF (A,MD). Worm-eating Warbler: May 21 Endwell (LB), the only report. Golden-winged Warbler: May 12 CF (A,MD); May 21 Norwich (R,SW), unusual there.

Blue-winged Warbler: May 17 Delhi (LC); May 27 Choconut Center (MS). Tennessee Warbler: 1 May 16 Vestal (GC), banded; fairly numerous to May 24. Nashville Warbler: Apr 29 CF (A,MD). Parula Warbler: May 11 East Branch 2 (MB) and Oneonta 1 (D. Erbe); 5 other reports, the last at Apalachin May 21. Yellow Warbler: Apr 24 NV (LH). Magnolia Warbler: May 6 West Davenport, near Oneonta (L. Seacord, et. al.); next reports May 10. Cape May Warbler: May 9 CF (A,MD); 25 May 15 and 20 May 16 East Branch (MB), the best counts of fairly numerous reports; May 21 the last date. Black-throated Blue Warbler: May 7 Vestal (Mr. and Mrs. Warren Williams) and CF (A,MD). Myrtle Warbler: Apr 19 Candor (DW); estimated 200 May 12 Milford (CW); May 28 still at Windsor (MS). Black-throated Green Warbler: Apr 30 Oxford (MS) and CF (A,MD). Blackburnian Warbler: May 9 CF (A,MD) and Vestal (GC). Chestnut-sided Warbler: May 9 Vestal (GC), 1 banded. Bay-breasted Warbler: May 12 Walton (SH); last date May 22 East Branch (MB). Blackpoll Warbler: May 16 East Branch (MB). Prairie Warbler: 1 May 15 singing at East Branch (MB); May 31 Vestal Center (EW), 100 yards or so from site occupied the last few years. Palm Warbler: Apr 26 and 27 CF (A,MD); May 2 Candor (DW). Ovenbird: May 5 Oneonta (D. Erbe). Northern Waterthrush: Apr 25 Milford (CW). Louisiana Waterthrush: Apr 17 Hinman's Corners, north of Bing (MS). Mourning Warbler: 2 males May 16 East Branch (MB); May 21 Apalachin (LB); May 23 Walton (LC). Yellowthroat: May 2 Vestal (EH), 1 banded. Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 May 8 Vestal (EH), banded. Hooded Warbler: 1 May 14 Owego (TBC); May 17 Delhi (LC). Wilson's Warbler: 1 May 6 Sherburne (R,SW); 1 May 14 Owego (TBC); 2 May 17 East Branch (MB); no other reports. Canada Warbler: May 12 East Branch (MB). American Redstart: May 6 CF (A,MD).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: May 6 Owego (EvW). Baltimore Oriole: Apr 30 Candor (DW). Rusty Blackbird: Apr 1 CF (A,MD); Apr 30 Oxford (MS), the first and last of 5 reports. Scarlet Tanager: 1 May 6 Oneonta area (CW, et. al.). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Apr 23 Oneonta (IW), at feeder. Indigo Bunting: May 8 Bing (Mrs. Warren Anderson), early. Evening Grosbeak: last reported May 15 at Vestal (MV) and CF (A,MD). Purple Finch: plentiful from about Apr 20 to May 23. House Finch: 2 Apr 1 Oneonta (MD); 1 Apr 30 NV (LH), female; "a few" May 9 Walton (B. Carpenter, M. Combs); all of May at Endwell (Florence Linaberry); 1 May 13, 14 and 15 Vestal Center (EW). Pine Grosbeak: Apr 1 Walton (SH); 2 Apr 8 WP (C. Howard); 1 Apr 14 Oneonta (MD). Common Redpoll: 6 May 14 Owego (TBC), the only ones after Apr 30. Pine Siskin: common through May 17, last date May 21. Red Crossbill: Apr 18 and 19 Vestal (MC); 3 May 16 Vestal (GC). White-winged Crossbill: 1 Apr 12 Vestal (GC); banded; Apr 28 Vestal (MC); last date May 21. Rufous-sided Towhee: Apr 10 Candor (R,RP). Savannah Sparrow: Apr 6 Delhi (LC). Henslow's Sparrow: Apr 29 Candor (R,RP); only 2 other reports. Grasshopper Sparrow: May 2 Delhi (LC). Vesper Sparrow: Apr 6 Delhi (LC). Slate-colored Junco: bulk of migrants gone after May 3. Tree Sparrow: May 6 NV (LH), the only report after Apr 30. Chipping Sparrow: Apr 13 Vestal (MV); sharp increase in numbers Apr 20. Field Sparrow: Apr 7 NV (Warren and Louise Dean, LH). White-crowned Sparrow: Apr 30 NV (LH); numerous until May 18; May 21 the last date. White-throated Sparrow: common Apr 19 to May 13; still singing at East Branch May 31 (MB). Fox Sparrow: May 6 NV (LH), nowhere else after Apr 27. Lincoln's Sparrow: 2 banded May 8 Vestal (GC); 1 banded May 12 Endwell (LB); 1 banded May 16 Vestal (EH). Swamp Sparrow: Apr 20 Candor (DW).

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