

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

This April had an all-time record low overall average temperature for the month, 32.5 degrees. The previous low, according to Bob Kampf, our local weatherman, was 34 degrees. The coldest April day was minus five on the fifth. Total snowfall for the month was a modest 8½ inches. May produced an overall average temperature of 53.3 degrees with snowfall only on the eleventh. The ice went out of Lower St. Regis Lake on this day.

Observers: GC—Geoffrey Carleton; JC—Janet Chapman; GTC—Greenleaf T. Chase; SE—Steven Everett; FL—Ferdinand LaFrance, Dorothy Crumb, Terry and Todd Farnham; TM—Ted Mack; RM—Ruth Meier; WR—William Rutherford.

Abbreviations: BTP—Browns Tract Ponds area; Br—Brandon (near Paul Smiths); FC—Fish Creek area; Mad—Madawaska; PS—Paul Smiths; TL—Tupper Lake.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 2 May 7 TL (TM). Pied-billed Grebe: 1 May 13 Mad (SE). Great Blue Heron: at least 7 reported. American Bittern: first Apr 25 PS (WR); 1 May 1 PS (SE); 1 May 1 PS (TM); 1 May 13 Mad (SE); 1 May 17 PS (TM). Canada Goose: first Apr 6 when several landed on ice of Lower St. Regis Lake and stayed a short time before flying off to the south (WR). Black Duck: widely reported, max 30 May 13 Mad (SE); 1 May 20 Lake Colden in a small area not iced over and quacking continually (TM). Green-winged Teal: 1 May 27 BTP (FL), a noteworthy bird in the boreal zone. Wood Duck: first 2 Apr 13 Br (TM); 1 May 13 FC (TM). Ring-necked Duck: good numbers, max 8 May 1 Mad (SE). Hooded Merganser: 1 Apr 25 PS (SE); 1 May 1 Mad (SE). American Merganser: 1 Apr 25 PS (SE); 2 May 13 FC (TM).

HAWKS—OWLS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Apr 19 PS (SE). Red-tailed Hawk: not reported. Broad-winged Hawk: 1 Apr 25 PS (SE); 1 Apr 30 Lake Placid (TM); 1 May 1 PS (SE); 1 May 7 TL (TM). *GOLDEN EAGLE*: 1 Apr 12 and 1 Apr 14 at two locations in Franklin Co. (GTC). Bald Eagle: 1 Apr 1 Northville (GTC); 1 Apr Franklin Co. (GTC). Osprey: 1 Apr 23 Br (TM); 1 May 13 Mad (SE). Sparrow Hawk: 1 May TL (JC). Spruce Grouse: 2 May 13 Mad (SE). Ruffed Grouse: drumming birds widely reported. Sora: 1 May 1 PS (SE), seldom reported in Adirondack region. Killdeer: first 4 Apr 13 Gabriels (TM). Woodcock: first May 1 PS (SE); good numbers of birds later. Common Snipe: first May 1 PS (SE); good numbers later. Spotted Sandpiper: several reported. Mourning Dove: 2 May 13 Br (SE); 3 May 15 PS (SE); 1 May 20 Gabriels (TM); 2 May TL (JC), an uncommon bird in Adirondacks. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 May 29 TO (RM). Screech Owl: 1 Apr 25 PS (SE). Great Horned Owl: few reports. Barred Owl: good numbers. Saw-whet Owl: 1 Apr 18 PS (SE); 1 Apr 25 PS (SE); 1 May 6 Newcomb (TM).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 1 May 23 TL (RM); 1 May TL (JC). Belted Kingfisher: first reported 1 Apr 23 Br (TM). Yellow-shafted Flicker: first 1 Apr 13 PS (SE). Pileated Woodpecker: a few. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: first 1 Apr 22 PS (TM). *NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER*: 1 male May 27 BTP (FL), same place as last year. Eastern Kingbird: first 1 May 13 Mad (SE). Eastern Phoebe: first 1 Apr 14 Wanakena (SE); 4 Apr 18 PS (SE). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 May 27 BTP (FL). Tree Swallow: first 1 Apr 14 TL (RM); 1 Apr 18 PS (SE). Rough-winged Swallow: first 1 May 1 PS (SE). Barn Swallow: 1 May 1 PS (SE). Cliff Swallow: first—several May 13 PS (SE). Gray Jay: several May 13 Mad (SE); 2 May 27 BTP (FL). Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 7 May 27 BTP (FL). Brown Creeper: 1 May

1 PS (SE); 1 May 13 Mad (SE); 1 May 27 BTP (FL). Winter Wren: several noted. Brown Thrasher: first 1 Apr 22 PS (SE, TM). Robin: first migrants—a few Apr 6 Plattsburgh (WR); more seen both in migration and nesting than is usual. Hermit Thrush: 2 singing May 1 PS (TM). Olive-backed Thrush: max 20 May TL (JC). Veery: first 1 May 7 Elizabethtown (GC). Eastern Bluebird: first 1 Apr 14 TL (SE); 3 Apr 18 PS (SE). Water Pipit: 1 May 11 feeding on ice of Lake Placid 200 feet from shore (GC); 2 May 13 Mad (SE). Northern Shrike: 1 Apr 6 Malone (WR); 1 Apr 11 PS (SE); 1 Apr 12 PS (Frank Graves).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: 1 May 13 Mad (SE); 1 May 15 PS (SE); 1 May 27 BTP (FL). Red-eyed Vireo: first reported May 13. Black-and-white Warbler: good numbers. Nashville Warbler: good numbers. Parula Warbler: 1 May 17 PS (SE, TM). Magnolia Warbler: only one report—1 May 27 BTP (FL). Black-throated Blue Warbler: numbers down. Myrtle Warbler: more than usual. Black-throated Green Warbler: numbers down. Blackburnian Warbler: 2 May 27 BTP (FL). Bay-breasted Warbler: 1 May 13 FC (TM). Palm Warbler: 1 May 13 Mad (SE). American Redstart: unusually common.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: 2 May 13 Mad (SE); 4 May 16 TL (RM). Eastern Meadowlark: first Apr 6 Malone (WR); 2 Apr 19 PS (SE). Baltimore Oriole: 1 May 17 PS (TM); 2 May TL (JC). Rusty Blackbird: max 15 Apr 19 PS (SE). Scarlet Tanager: 2 May 27 BTP (FL). Cardinal: 1 Crown Point, 1 Westport, 2 Elizabethtown, all in May (GC). Evening Grosbeak: max 75 May 5 TL (RM). Purple Finch: good numbers, increasing after Apr 15. Pine Grosbeak: 3 Apr 10 Upper Saranac Lake (RM). Common Redpoll: still at TL on Apr 18 (RM). Pine Siskin: several May 1 PS (SE); several May 13 Mad (SE). Red Crossbill: 6 May 5 Childwold (RM). White-winged Crossbill: several Apr TL (JC). Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 May 1 PS (SE); 1 May 10 TL (RM). Vesper Sparrow: 5 Apr 14 PS (SE). Chipping Sparrow: max 65 in two flocks May 7 Newcomb (TM). *CLAY-COLORED SPARROW*: 1 May 20 Gabriels (SE, TM), face pattern and crown stripes clearly seen and bird was buzzing. White-crowned Sparrow: max 30 May 13 Mad (SE). Fox Sparrow: a few reported. Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 May 13 Mad (SE); 6 May 27 BTP (FL).

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REGION 8 HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Late winter weather gripped region 8 well into mid-April with low temperature records falling on the 5th (16°), 8th (20°) and 26th (24°). April 15th saw many ponds and lakes still partly ice-bound. A surge of warm air sent the temperature climbing to a record 80° on the 19th ushering in waves of normally early arriving migrants and at the same time purged the area of its unusually large population of Redpolls and Siskins. Precipitation during the month was 0.86 inches above normal.

May temperatures were about normal (Albany Airport) but precipitation was 5.98 inches or 2.51 inches above average. In summary the spring period was a week to ten days behind normal but from the century run returns few regulars were missing with the exception of shorebird.

Rarities noted during the period: White-eyed Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, House Finch, Hoary Redpoll.

Observers: DA—D Allen; T&AB—T & A Brown; JC—J Cook; LE—L Ellis GE—G Erlenback; MF—M French; M&AG—M & A Giddings; A&DH—A & D