

Palm Warbler: Jun 3 Fire Island Light (DF) — netted and banded. Kentucky Warbler: 2 singing males Jun 9 Mianus River Gorge (L. Schore, W. Baumann); male Jul 1 Oakdale (J. Wunderle) — will this species follow the Acadian Flycatcher in reestablishing itself as a breeder in our area? Canada Warbler: pair May 30 — June 27 Oakdale (BG,DP) — nesting? (bred here last year).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Summer Tanager: sub-adult male Jun 30 Oakdale (BG); adult male Jul 9 Great Gull Island (fide D. Duffy) — netted and photographed. Evening Grosbeak: male and 4 females Jul 28 Valley Stream (A. Dignan). Red Crossbill: 5 on 23 May Oakdale (BG). White-winged Crossbill: 2 pairs Jun 3-4 Hampton Bays (DF) — unsuccessfully searched for a week later. White-throated Sparrow: singing bird Jun 19-25 Oakdale (DE).

Note: Please submit fall reports by Dec 10.

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REGIONAL REPORTS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE PUBLISHED IN JULY

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

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As in 1971 April was somewhat cooler than average and with less precipitation than usual, again by several inches. Ice again melted from the smaller bodies of water in early April, from Chautauqua Lake by April 12 and from Lake Erie by mid May (early June a year ago). While some migrants filtered through throughout April, the first significant break in the weather and hence the migration was a severe one; early in the evening of May 2 winds from 45 to 65 miles per hour ripped a narrow pathway across southern Erie and Wyoming Counties and tornadoes touched down briefly at South Wales and near Varysburg. Really mild temperatures did not persist until the third week of May so the retarded foliage, particularly in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties, exposed normally well hidden birds. Temperatures for May were about average but precipitation was again significantly below normal.

Significant points or trends were (1) particularly poor flights of loons and grebes, (2) a mediocre showing of long-legged wading birds, (3) fair to poor numbers and also variety of waterfowl, (4) a protracted hawk flight with few significant counts, (5) another mediocre showing of shorebirds, (6) poor showings of larids and owls again, (7) most insectivorous species were observed from "on schedule" to about one week late, (8) early to average arrival of nearly all vireos and warblers, most of which occurred in moderate to rather small numbers, (9) more Bobolinks and Orchard Orioles than during most years, (10) an excellent variety of winter finches marking the end of a superb flight, (11) high counts of Tree, Fox and Song Sparrows in early April (12) late departure dates for several species, notably Northern Shrike and Tree Sparrow.

Rare species recorded were Cattle Egret, Snowy Egret, White-fronted Goose,

Acadian Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Dickcissel, House Finch, Clay-colored Sparrow and Harris' Sparrow.

Abbreviations: AC—April Count; Alleg—Allegany; Bflo—Buffalo; BOS—Buffalo Ornithological Society; Catt—Cattaraugus; Chaut—Chautauqua; INWR—Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; MC—May Count; OO—Oak Orchard.

Contributors: HRA—Harold and Rachel Axtell; AB—Allen Benton; TB—Thomas Bourne; (L)DB—Lou and Doris Burton; DC—Douglas Carlson; JG—Joseph Grzybowski; PH—Paul Hess; HM—Harold Mitchell; JM—John Morse; AR—Archie Richardson; RSM—Robert Sundell; MMW—Marie and Margaret Wendling.

LOONS—DUCKS: The spring flight of Common Loons was late and very limited with a maximum of only 9 on the BOSMC May 21. Reflecting the sparse numbers was the absence of the Red-throated Loon. Rarely noted in Catt or Alleg County, a Red-necked Grebe was reported May 2 and 3 at Wellsville (LDB, Larson). An excellent count of 400 Horned Grebes came from Foster Lake, Alfred Apr 18 (Klingensmith) and offered the exception to an otherwise poor spring flight. A Double-crested Cormorant was noted again this spring at INWR on May 6 (De-laney). A *CATTLE EGRET* was seen Apr 24 (AB,DC) and Apr 25 (RS, Otto and Gretchen Carlson) in Dunkirk Township and 2 were observed Apr 26 at INWR (HRA, PH et al). Two records of the rare *SNOWY EGRET* were received — individuals May 2 in Dunkirk Township (AB) and May 4 on Four Mile Road, Allegany (JG). A Least Bittern Apr 23 at the Tift Street marsh, Bflo (Goodman, Lewandowski et al), a week earlier than normal, provided the earliest ever arrival date.

On the BOSAC Apr 9 72,096 Canada Geese were reported, mostly from the OO refuge complex; by Apr 25 the population had dropped to 30,000, most of which departed with strong winds May 6; on May 9 1600 were seen and by May 15 all migrants had left, leaving a local population of 200 to 300 (JM). The very rare *WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE* was observed again this spring at the INWR with 2 Apr 12 (HRA et al) and singles Apr 14 (JM,PH) and Apr 16 (HRA et al). Peak numbers of the Snow Goose were 9 on the BOSAC Apr 9 and of the Blue Goose, 14 on the same date, both from the OO refuge complex. Single male European Widgeons were seen Apr 3 at the East Eden pond (TB) and May 21 (late) at the INWR (Wagner). An exceptionally high count of the Bufflehead was 3153 on the region-wide BOSAC Apr 9 (more than four times the 1961-70 average for this count). Ruddy Ducks were sparsely but widely distributed throughout the region in somewhat larger numbers than in recent years; the maximum was 17 on the BOSAC Apr 9. Nearly all other waterfowl numbers appeared moderate to low.

HAWKS—OWLS: Hawks (apparently) mostly slipped through unobserved and the numbers generally were the lowest in several years. The rarely reported Goshawk was observed Apr 1 at Ellicottville (JG) and an adult at a nest near Charlotte, Chaut County Apr 7 and 9 (JG) establishing the fifth breeding site in western New York. Sharp-shinned Hawks provided the only exception to the small numbers mentioned above with peak counts of 118 over Youngstown Apr 12 (W. and H. Klabunde), 63 over Hanover Apr 15 (HRA et al) and 101 from Youngstown to Kuckville Apr 19 (HRA). The peak of the Broad-winged Hawk migration apparently came on Apr 23 but the largest count was only 160 over Hanover (H et al). The region-wide BOSAC Apr 9 listed 68 Rough-legged Hawks. The rare Bald Eagle was noted on Apr 6 immature at INWR (HRA) and adults Apr 8 Allegheny Reservoir (JG) and May 21 over East Oak Hill Road, Frewsburg (RS) — the last two reports could represent the same individual. A Pigeon Hawk was seen May 14 at the Hickox Road, Eden Township, Erie County (TB).

Shorebirds were rather poorly represented and most species were from several days to about two weeks late. Records of particular interest are the following:

<i>Species</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Observer(s)</i>
Semipalmated Plover	May 30	75	INWR	Beebe
Common Snipe	Apr 10	32	Riverside Road, Frewsburg	Pillsburg
Willet	May 2,3	1	mouth of Canadaway Cr., Lk Erie	D. Carlson; A. Benton et al
Greater Yellowlegs	Apr 23	71	Steiner Road, Clarence	Wendlings
Lesser Yellowlegs	Apr 29	11	Hanover	Rew, Buck
Knot	May 30	1	INWR	Morse, Beebe
White-rumped Sandpiper	May 29	10	INWR	Morse
Short-billed Dowitcher	May 21	11	mouth of Bemus Cr., Chaut Lk	D. Carlson

A Great Black-backed Gull at INWR Apr 2 (JM, Delaney) was the first record for the refuge, while 80 Bonaparte's Gulls there Apr 15 represented a high count for that location (JM). The Little Gull was observed Apr 29 at Dunkirk Harbor (Rew, Buck). Caspian Terns at unusual inland locations were singles May 1 at the INWR (Delaney, Olsen) and May 28 at Bemus Point, Chaut Lake (Campbell) in addition to the first records from the Allegheny Reservoir—2 on May 15 and 1 May 25 (Elderkin, Pillsbury).

On the regional BOSAC Apr 9, the following owls were reported: 2 Barn, 1 Snowy, 1 Long-eared and 18 Short-eared. A Long-eared Owl was also noted on the BOSMC May 21.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: The first report of Chimney Swifts was of 7 on Apr 19 at Olean (JG) with widely scattered observations on Apr 20. A count of 7 Red-bellied Woodpeckers along 00 Creek May 12 (Beebe) was noteworthy. An Eastern Kingbird Apr 28 at South Stockton (MMW), marked the arrival for this species. A total of 261 Crested Flycatchers on the region-wide BOSMC May 21 established a new high. Again this year an *ACADIAN FLYCATCHER* was seen and heard at Gowanda May 30 (DC). A noteworthy total of 820 migrating Blue Jays May 6 was counted over Hamburg Township (HRA). Significant counts at single locations were: 19 Winter Wrens Apr 14 at the mouth of Canadaway Creek (DC), 18 Brown Thrashers Apr 23 at the Tift Street marsh, Bflo (HM et al), 50 Ruby-crowned Kinglets Apr 17 in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Bflo (MMW), 300 Cedar Waxwings Apr 19 at Somerset (HRA). An early Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was recorded Apr 20 at Riverside (AR). Later by one week than any previous departure was a Northern Shrike Apr 23 at the Tift Street marsh, Bflo (Inskip). The only Loggerhead Shrike reported was Apr 19 at Somerset (HRA).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: The *WHITE-EYED VIREO* was reported again with individuals May 3 in Olean and May 9 at Allegany (JG). Other vireos arrived on dates more nearly average than during the last two years, Solitary and Warbling Vireos in late Apr and the other three species from early to mid May.

Ten species of warblers arrived during late Apr, all expected at that time. An additional 22 species and one hybrid were reported during May; numbers for most species ranged from moderate to poor. The only significant reports on the BOSMC

May 21 were: 3 "Brewster's," 33 Cerulean, 1 Prairie (Foster Lake, Alfred), 632 Yellowthroat. More Orange-crowned and Parula Warblers were observed in Southern Tier counties than during most years. An adult male Wilson's Warbler at Riverside May 2 (AR) was the earliest record for western New York by six days.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: The third highest spring total of the Bobolink was 1165 on the region-wide BOSMC May 21; an early individual arrived at INWR Apr 29 (JM). The uncommon Orchard Oriole was reported from three localities with two additional unverified reports: immature male May 3 Jamestown (Kibler), pair May 17–25 Cheney's Point, Chaut Lake (Flanders), individual May 23 Hamburg (TB). The count of 80 Rusty Blackbirds on the regional BOSMC May 21 is the largest number recorded on such a late date.

The continually increasing Cardinal population attained a regional high of 921 on the BOSAC Apr 9. A *DICKCISSEL* was observed at a feeder in Springville (S. Smith). Spectacular numbers of Evening Grosbeaks (3217) and Common Redpolls (2602) were recorded on the region-wide BOSAC Apr 9, which also resulted in the last reports of Pine Grosbeak (2) and White-winged Crossbill (17). The last Red Crossbills were 2 in southwestern Alleg County May 21 on the BOSMC. Hundreds of Evening Grosbeaks continued visiting feeders throughout Apr but departed during early May with 42 stragglers listed on the May 21 BOSMC. Two *HOUSE FINCHES* remained at a feeder in Eggertsville until Apr 30 with 1 still present May 21 (Ward). Common Redpolls left most feeders about mid Apr with a female May 3 at Rosburg (DB, Pitzrick) marking the end of the heavy winter flight. In striking contrast with last spring, the Pine Siskin was widely distributed in good numbers with the regional counts listing 343 Apr 9 and 117 May 21; the last siskin reported were 2 at Olean May 24 (JG).

An early Henslow's Sparrow was noted on the earliest normal arrival date Apr 21 in Hamburg Township (TB). A count of 2668 Slate-colored Juncos on the BOSAC Apr 9 was 10 greater than the 1961–70 average but the number of Tree Sparrows (2234) was nearly four times the count average for the decade and up from last year's high of 1558. Missing the latest regional date for the Tree Sparrow by one day was a bird at a feeder in Belmont May 11–14 (LDB). A pair of *CLAY-COLORED SPARROWS* returned again to the Scotch pine plantation at Foster Lake, Alfred where they nested last year and were observed May 11–31 (Brooks et al). The first *HARRIS' SPARROW* noted in spring migration was seen May 15 on the Sturgeon Point Road, Derby (A. Clark et al) which also provided the latest regional record by nine days. A record count of 119 Fox Sparrows occurred on the BOSAC Apr 9 while the number of Song Sparrows on the same count (5220) represented the second highest regional total ever recorded.

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REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS AND LEE MORGAN

Dennis Puleston and Paul Spitzer have been studying the breeding biology of the Osprey in the Northeast over the last few years. Dennis' spring report was full of gloomy comments on what they had found thus far this season — "On the mainland we can find very few viable eggs, and even on Gardiner's Island, where optimum conditions exist, nest after nest is failing, and many of the remaining eggs are suspiciously light. We will know better in early July what the final number of fledglings will be, but it will not be high, I am sure." In addition, Dennis and Paul discovered something new to plague the Ospreys — "We found several adult females