

Feb 20-Mar 25. American Goldfinch: good numbers on all CCs; most observers had small numbers, up to about 20, through the winter; maxima 45 Feb 18 L Ont and 43 Feb 25 Eaton about when they left Big Moose, i.e. last there 25 Feb 20. Red Crossbill: on no CC except OF; 40-50 per day in Dec dwindled to 7 Feb 20 Big Moose; about half the low-country observers had up to 8 per day occasionally Jan-Mar. White-winged Crossbill: OF CC, Jan 1 at Green Lakes St Pk near Fayetteville, 3 Mar 3 near Utica, and 14 Mar 31 L Ont, are the only, widely scattered, reports received.

Rufous-sided Towhee: 4 on Dec BBFS but missed on CCs; 1 wintered Fayetteville (B. Knapp) and 1 wintered Syr (B. Stain); 1 Mar 29 New Hartford (VB) may have been an early migrant. Slate-colored Junco: daily counts 13 or less through winter except rather high tallies of 21 Feb 11 and 54 Feb 18 along L Ont. Oregon Junco: 1 Jan Highland Park near Fabius (Suters fide D. W. Crumb). Tree Sparrow: mediocre on all CCs with only 85 on HIGMA despite the acres of sparrow habitat; individuals' counts from 1s per day to max only 81 Jan 14 Oswego Co. Field Sparrow: 3 on Syr CC near Fayetteville to at least Jan 7 (FGS); 1 Jan 3-15 Durhamville (CGS); 3 Jan 21 persisting to Feb 25 S Onon (FGS) is usually hardy for non-feeder supported birds.

White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Syr CC to Feb 25 Fayetteville (J. Maxwell, FGS) is only report. White-throated Sparrow: 6 on Syr, 10 on Oneida, and 1 on HIGMA CC is roughly average though not as good as the past 2 years; 1-9 daily through winter is par for recent years; 1 Jan 7 at a Thendara feeder is unusual. Swamp Sparrow: Syr CC had 4 Fayetteville and 1 Peat Swamp with 2 there Jan 13 (FGS); 1 on HIGMA CC; 1 Jan 13 near Marcellus (CGS) and 1 Jan 21 Eaton (GLC) probably did not persist; 1 Jan 6-25 near S Onon (GAS) and 3 Feb 25 at another S Onon location (FGS) is more unusual; 1 Nov-Apr Sherrill (C. Schultz) was feeder-supported, unlike the above individuals. Song Sparrow: 39 on Syr, 15 on Oswego, 19 on Oneida, and 3 on HIGMA CC is about average; daily counts remained a high 1-16 through winter everywhere but Adir with little Feb attrition. Lapland Longspur: a poor season with only reports 1 each Dec 2 and 28 Oswego Co (FGS), 1 Syr CC, and 6 Jan 11 Clay Twp in great flock of Snow Buntings (GAS). Snow Bunting: 120 Dec 2 L Ont is the only period report over 100 from there; only 10 other counts of 100-500 Dec-Feb, 4 from Cedarville in the S highlands and 5 from not far S of Oneida L; no Mar count over 30; period max 2360 Jan 11 Clay Twp.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

The past winter will long be remembered as a mild one, just as the winter ten years ago is remembered because of the great amount of snow. The spring-like weather in March made us forget the snow storm that caused a postponement of the Christmas count. There were very cold days in January and February. The 20 days of zero or below temperatures is about average for this region. The amount of snow was near normal. However, after each fall of snow there was warm weather to melt most of it and the snow did not accumulate. March came in like a lamb and remained docile except for one snow storm about March 18. The number of spring birds began to increase early in March.

Abbreviations: PRWMA-Perch River Wildlife Management Area; WH-Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area; RM-Robert Moses State Park and Power Dam; SLR-St. Lawrence River; CC-Christmas Count Dec 17 Watertown.

Observers: JB-John Belknap; RB-Richard Brouse; LC-Lee Chamberlaine; FC-Frank Clinch; NL-Nick Leone; JV-Joe VanReit who made most of the observations at SLR, WH, RM and Massena; RW-Robert and June Walker

Corrigenda: *KINGBIRD* XXIII: 1, January 1973, Regional report p 58, Pied-billed Grebe: max 60 Sep 27 PRWMA (not ED.).

LOONS-DUCKS: Horned Grebe: 1 Mar 24 Pillar Pt; 1 Mar 29 SLR. Pied-billed Grebe: 2 Mar 30 WH; 2 Mar 31 PRWMA. Great Blue Heron: 1 seen by 4-5 persons near Watertown Dec, Jan, Feb. Canada Goose: 50 Mar 10 Watertown; 50 Mar 10 SLR; 600 Mar 11 Henderson Pond; 200 Mar 11 flying near Watertown. Mallard: 30 regular Jan RM; 100 Mar 11 Henderson Pond. Black Duck: 140 regular Jan RM. Gadwall: 2 Mar 31 MH. Pintail: 60 11 Henderson Pond; Blue-winged Teal: 6 Mar 31 PRMA. American Widgeon: 16 Mar 28. Shoveler: 6 Mar 31 PRWMA. Ringed-necked Duck: 1 Dec 2 Pillar Pt; 22 Mar 31 PRWMA. Greater Scaup: 1 Jan 27 RM; 6 Mar 30 RM. Common Goldeneye: 28 CC; 120 Jan 20 RM. Bufflehead: 4 Mar 4; 8 Mar 31 WH; 8 Mar 31 PRWMA. Oldsquaw: 28 CC; 16 Mar 11 Stony Pt. Common Scoter: 1 CC (RW). Hooded Merganser: Mar 24 first at WH. Common Merganser: 3700 Jan 16 WH; 20 Feb 4 Pt Peninsula.

HAWKS-OWLS: Goshawk; Dec 3 near Watertown (RW); 1 CC (Nelson); 1 Dec 29 Massena (JV); 1 Mar 24 LC. Red-tailed Hawk: max 10 Dec 23 Watertown. Rough-legged Hawk: a few near Antwerp all winter, max 5 Jan 14 (JB); 7 Dec 23 (RB); less common than some years; none at Massena. Bald Eagle: 1 mature Jan 16 SLR. Marsh Hawk: last Dec 17; first Mar 11. Sparrow Hawk: max 3 Dec 23. Gray Partridge: numbers continue low; 8-11 in one covey all winter RM. Ringed-billed Gull: appeared in numbers Henderson Pond Mar 11. Bonaparte's 11 PRWMA. Killdeer: 2 Mar 4. American Woodcock: first heard Mar 10 Glaucous Gull: max 6 immature Dec 9 RM. Great Black-backed Gull: over 200 Jan 3 RM. Ringed-billed Gull: appeared in numbers Henderson Pond Mar 11. Bonaparte's Gull: Dec 2 near Massena. Mourning Dove: 8 Dec 24. Screech Owl; 3 heard Dec 17. Snowy Owl: 1-3 per day Pt Peninsula, Sackets Harbor, Evens Mills; none Massena; last Mar 25. Short-eared Owl: 1 Mar 25 near PRWMA (NL); 2 next day PRWMA (RB). Belted Kingfisher: 1 Jan 14 Adams-Henderson:

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: Pileated Woodpecker: 1 Dec Massena. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: female 2-3 weeks Dec Thompson Park; male Feb 11 Joseph A. Blake J. Wildlife Sanctuary (RW) where there may have been others during the winter, but an inspection in Mar showed none; there had been much activity on the bark of tamarack trees part of it by Hairy Woodpeckers; Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers have been seen here the past few winters. Horned Lark: seen each month in small numbers. Tree Swallow: Mar 24. Common Crow: 3-5 each month; heavy movement into Tug Hill Mar 28. Boreal Chickadee: 1 Dec 23 Watertown where they are rare (NL). Brown Thrasher: 1 Dec 23 (NL). Robin: 5 Dec 23; 18 Jan 27 Massena; 2 Feb 7; began to return early Mar. Eastern Bluebird: 3 Mar 11 Snowshoe Pt; 1 Mar 28 Highmarket, Lewis Co; also a pair reported as returning in Lewis Co late Mar. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 4 Dec 17-23 Watertown; 1 Jan 27 Massena. Bohemian Waxwing: 1 Dec 18 with Cedar Waxwings Watertown (FC); 20-25 all Bohemian Waxwings Feb 7 Thompson Park (FC) and same number same place Feb 10 (RW) also 30 Cedar Waxwings. Northern Shrike: 1-2 a few times during the winter.

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Myrtle Warbler: 1 Jan 27 Henderson seen under very good conditions for several minutes (LC). Eastern Meadowlark: 3 Dec 23; 3 Mar

11. Redwinged Blackbird: in Dec and Mar 4 and after. Rusty Blackbird: 2 Mar 31 PRWMA. Common Grackle: spring date Mar 11 Stony Pt, Watertown and Massena. Brown-headed Cowbird: 20 seen several times in Dec Watertown; returned to Massena Mar 11. Cardinal: 11 Dec 4 at one time unusual for Watertown; 1 Dec 29 and pair in Mar at Massena where they are rare (JV). Evening Grosbeak: present in good numbers all winter; came earlier than a year ago but somewhat smaller numbers, slight decrease in Mar; 157 Christmas count Dec 29 Massena; 35 at feeder Dec 3 and 60 same feeder Feb 6. Purple Finch: Dec 23 only one. Pine Grosbeak: max at Massena 45 Dec 29; seen a number of places around Gouverneur Jan-Feb; several around Watertown, max 40-50; last at Watertown 4 Mar 10. Common Redpoll: not one after so many a year ago. Pine Siskin: none. American Goldfinch: at feeders especially after Jan; it seems that in the last three years these birds have discovered the benefits of visiting feeders and they have been doing so in increasing numbers. Slate-colored Junco: 5 Dec 5. Tree Sparrow: all winter. White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Dec. White-throated Sparrow: 2 all winter Watertown. Song Sparrow: 1 Dec 7 Massena; 2 CC; 1 Mar 16. Snow Bunting: over 100 Dec 25 Massena; 16 Feb 26 Massena only flocks of any size seen; not seen at Gouverneur; scarce at Massena; few at Watertown.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

This was a mild winter. All December days but one had some type of precipitation at Ray Brook according to Bob Kampf, our local weather observer. A freeze and thaw pattern for December continued thru January. February was cold with 15 days below zero including minus 21 degrees on the 17th and 18th. March was unbelievable with a 35.8 degree mean temperature for the month and no below zero days. Snow total was lowest in 15 years. Bare ground showed on the 8th and continued to show for about 2 weeks, altho snow did still lie deep in the spruce and balsam swamps and other shaded areas. This mild weather may have encouraged some early arrivals.

Observers: GTC—Greenleaf T. Chase; MK— Dr. Marguerite Kingsbury; TM—Ted Mack; RMc—Robert McKinney; RAM—Ruth A. Meier; GP—Glenn Perrigo.

Abbreviations: Ch R—Chubb River near Lake Placid; FF—Franklin Falls; Ind L—Indian Lake; L—lake; Mad—Madawaska Pond near PS; PS—Paul Smiths; SL—Saranac Lake; TL—Tupper Lake.

LOONS—OWLS: Most water was frozen into April. Great Blue Heron: 1 migrating high Mar 17 FF (TM). Black Duck: 2 Mar 31 Mad (TM). Goshawk: 1 Jan 28 FF (TM). Red-tailed Hawk: 1 two weeks earlier than usual Mar 7 Santa Clara (MK). 1 Mar 16 Sabbatis (William Rutherford). Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Mar 3 Beekmantown (TM). Ruffed Grouse: 2 or 3 seen most days in suitable habitat; Dr. Kingsbury had the pleasure of having 2 visit her feeders to search for spilled sunflower seeds. American Woodcock: 1 Mar 11 PS (TM); this exceptionally early bird flushed from a large wet alder patch free of snow. Great Horned Owl: 2 Mar 4 FF (TM). Barred Owl: 1 Mar 25 Black Pond near PS (TM); 1 Mar 31 Mad (TM). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Mar 27 Ch R (GP).

GOATSUCKER—STARLING: Pileated Woodpecker: 1 Dec 3 Newcomb (TM);