

low numbers reported from few areas; on 5 CCs max 14 Jan 1 FrdCC; singles appeared Jan 1, 9-11 Rise Hill Rd, Ont (feeder) HA,RaA) and Mar 17-31 Fillmore (LW). White-throated Sparrow: 32 BOSCC; 1 Dec 16 StBonCC; 24 Dec 16 JmsCC; 43 Dec 29 ACCC; 8 Dec 29 ScAudC; 75 Dec 29 HEACC; small numbers wintered in most areas with max 20 Jan 1-16 Rose Hill Rd, Ont (feeder) (HA,RaA). Fox Sparrow: first of season 1 Mar 17 Fillmore (LW; singles Mar 26w30 Blm (LB, DB); Mar 26 Blm (Jordan) and Mar 28 Alf (CK). Swamp Sparrow: on one CC: 9 Dec 16 JmsCC and a single in the field Feb 8, 9 Sc(VP). Song Sparrow on eight CCs: 97 Dec 29 ACCC and 46 Dec 16 JmsCC. Lapland Longspur: 1 Jan 1 FrdCC and 2 Dec 29 ACCC; 4 Jan 14 Sc (VP); 55 Feb 10 T/Porter (WM,AM); 1 Feb 13 Hickox Rd, Eden (TB); 10 Mar 26 Posson Rd, Shelby (Olsen) Snow Bunting: 1 Dec 16 BOSCC; 2 Dec 16 JmsCC; 120 Dec 27 OCCC; 561 Dec 29 ACCC; 98 Jan 1 FrdCC very small numbers appeared in Southern Tier section of the region with max 100 Ch area Mar 5 (RK,RhK), 50 Jan 18 Fillmore (KP), and 30 Feb 24 Alf(CK); northern counties reported at least five flocks of between 225 and 500 with max 500 Jan 13 Olcott to Lyndonville (JT, Reckhow) and 500 Mar 25 Posson Rd, Shelby (Olsen, JM).

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Spring reports due June 3. Summer reports due Sept 3.
Amity Lake, Belmont, New York 14813

REGION 2 — GENESEE

THOMAS E. TETLOW

Weather-wise, Rochester experienced a very uneventful season. With the exception of late March, the remainder of the period was average or slightly above in temperature.

Snowfall throughout the period was about average, but like last year, the mild temperature prevented any accumulation.

Rarities include: Common Eider, King Eider, Bald Eagle, Virginia Rail, Red Phalarope, Little Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Dovekie, Hoary Redpoll.

ABBREVIATIONS: BB—Braddocks Bay; ELS—East Lake Shore; GS—Genesee River; HAM—Hamlin; HBSP—Hamlin Beach State Park; IROND—Irondequoit; IB—Irondequoit Bay; IBO—Irondequoit Bal Outlet; LLCC—Little Lakes Christmas Count; LIV—Livonia; RCC—Rochester Christmas Count; WEB—Webster; WJ—Webster Park; WLS—West Lake Shore.

OBSERVERS: RA—Robert Ambrose; J&JC—John and Joyce Connor; KD—Kay Doris; WH—William Hartranft; AK—Allen Kemnitzer; WCL—Walter Listman; JM—J. Madden; PM—Peg Magee; N&LM—Neil and Laura Moon; NP—Neil Prosser; RR—Ruth Reid; JS—Jean Skelly; AS—Ann Stear; DT—Dave Tremmel; R&SO—Richard and Steve O'Hara; GOS—Genesee Ornithological Society; MOB—Many Observers.

LOONS—DUCKS: Most diving ducks were reported in small numbers throughout the period, although some observers reported excellent numbers of Oldsquaws

and White-winged Scoters. Puddle ducks were widely dispersed because of the mild weather, but counts on the Christmas census would indicate a fairly good winter population. The mild days of early March produced several flights of Canada Geese, along with good numbers of all the expected puddle ducks.

Red-throated Loon: 1 Dec 2 WP (AK); 1 Dec 29 IBO (AK); 1 Dec 6-26 WLS (MOB). Great Blue Heron was reported throughout the period—max numbers were 3 Dec 8 Cranberry Pond (N Henderson); 3 Jan 6 IB (MOB). Green Heron: 1 Mar 22 IB (RA)—this bird was approx 3 weeks early for our area. Whistling Swan: single birds were reported in early Mar and by mid-month they were reported in near record numbers; a total count of 61 Mar 23 WLS (GOS) was very high for the lake shore, and the numbers reported in the Genesee River flats in the Avon area were reported as high as 200. Snow Goose: only 2 reports of this uncommon spring migrant in our area—4 Mar 16 IBO (AK); 1 Mar 31 HBSP (RA). Blue-winged Teal: 1-2 Mar 7-10 BB (JS et al) an early report for our area. Wood Duck: single birds were reported throughout the period—max 2 RCC Dec 16. Ring-necked Duck; reported in average numbers, but a single group of 87 on Sodus Bay Mar 14 (KD, PM, AS) is a very good single group count. Redheads were very scarce, but Canvasbacks made one of their best showings in recent years with at least 150 present on BB throughout the second half of Mar. Greater Scaup reported in low numbers throughout period. Oldsquaws: max 1000 Dec 27 ELS (WCL). *COMMON EIDER*: 1 Jan 1, 3, 5, 6 WLS (P Weld et al). *KING EIDER*: female 1 Dec 23 IB (AK); female 1 Dec 27 WLS (WCL); imm male 1 Jan 5, 6 IB (AK, WCL); imm male 1 Jan 6, 12, 13, 14 WLS (AK, WCL et al); imm male 1 Feb 27 IBO (J McNett); imm male 1 Mar 16 IBO (Coffee's, AK, M, A, Sunderlin). Surf and Black Scoter were both reported in low numbers. Ruddy Duck: 1 Jan 24, 26 GR (-&JC). Hooded Merganser: 1 Jan 24, 26 BB (M Carlson et al); 35 Mar 14 Sodus Bay (KD, PM, AS). Common and Red-breasted Mergansers were reported in normal numbers throughout period.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture was a little later than usual with the first birds not being reported until Mar 24. Goshawk: 1 Dec 8 WLS (J&JC); 1 Feb 14 Liv (JM); 1 Feb 19 Liv (JM); 1 Feb 23 Leroy (T Adamson); 1 Dec 27 BB (NP); there were numerous reports in March, but the outstanding number was a max of 24 Mar 23 BB (GOS); it is interesting to note that although Goshawks were reported infrequently in the Dec thru Feb period, J Czech, who carries out a banding operation at his home in Webster, had at least 46 sightings of what he considers were at least 24 individual birds; he managed to band at least 4 birds. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 Dec 30 LLCC; 1 Dec 16 RCC; 1 Dec 4, 6 WEB (J Czech); 1 Feb 4 Liv (JM); 1 Feb 10 Liv (JM); 1 Feb 10 IB (R&SO); 1 Feb 10 HBSP (R&SO); several reports of migrants in Mar. Cooper's Hawk: 6 reports in Dec; 5 reports in Jan; 1 report in Feb; in contrast to the before mentioned birds, most of these were inland reports. Red-tailed Hawk: present in good numbers throughout period. Red-shouldered Hawk; max 29 Mar 23 BB (GOS). Rough-legged Hawk: 2 reports on each of the Dec Christmas counts; 1 Jan 20 HAM (AK); 1 Jan 19 Greece (J&JC); 10 Feb 28 BB (J Claffey), this was our first hawk flight of the season. *BALD EAGLE*: our local birds were unreported during the period and our first and only migrant to be reported was a single adult seen Mar 23 BB (AK). Marsh Hawk, along with the Kestrel, were reported throughout the period in normal numbers. Ruffed Grouse: 4 Dec 30 LLCC; 1 an 13 Scottsville (B Molyneaux, R Reid) —first report in several years from this previously occupied area; 1 Jan 13 Sodus (WH, W Lloyd). Ring-necked Pheasant: winter survival seemed very good in our area. *VIRGINIA RAIL*: 2 Jan 18 IROND (E&M Barnitz); 1 aJn 19 IROND (M Ehlers, N&LM,

D); what is presumed to be the same bird was last seen on Feb 24 by the same observers. Single Killdeer was seen throughout the period, but a total of 10 Dec 16 RCC was a new high for our area. First prize for early American Woodcock went to (R Dobson), he had 1 Mar 5 WEB; second prize—2 Mar 6 Palymra (WH). Dunlin: 2 Dec 9 BB (WCL); 1 Jan 3 BB (M Carlson et al). Sanderling: 1 Dec 8, 9 BB (WCL). *RED PHALAROPE*: 1 Dec 1 WP (AK); 1 Dec 9 BB (WCL). Pomarine Jaeger: 1 Dec 16 BB (WCL). Glaucous Gull: Dec—4 reports—max 4 Dec 31 IBO (WCL, AK); Jan—1 report—max 1 Jan 5 IBO (AK); Feb—2 reports—max 5 Feb 16 IBO (AK, R Hill); Mar—8 reports—max 4 Lake Shore (MOB). Iceland Gull: Dec—2 reports—1 bird ea-IB; Jan—2 reports—1 bird ea-IB; Feb—1 report—1 bird-IB; Mar—3 reports—1 bird ea-IB, BB, Kendall. Great Black-backed, Herring and Ring-billed Gull were present in normal numbers. Bonaparte's Gull: present in all months but Feb with at least 7 birds still present along the lake shore during the second half of Jan. *LITTLE GULL*: 10 Dec 1 IBO (AK, WCL), this is a new high for our area; 5 Dec 8 IBO (AK, WCL); 8 Dec 9 IBO (AK, WCL); 2 Dec 22 (WCL); 2 Dec 31 IBO (WCL); unreported throughout remainder of period. *BLACK-LEGGED KITTI-WAKE*: 1 Jan 24 Charlotte (F. Scheider, J. Connor). *DOVEKIE*: 1 Dec 23 IBO (AK), this bird was last reported in Nov 1965. Screech and Great Horned Owls reported throughout period in normal numbers. Snowy Owl: a single bird was present at BB Feb 9, 10, 28 (MOB); and another (believed to be the same bird) was seen on IB Mar 2, 3 (MOB). Barred Owl: 1 Dec 30 LLCC. Long-eared Owl: 1 Dec 8 HBSP (J Burr, R Clark). Short-eared Owl: 3 Dec 18 Lima (J&A Foster); 1 Jan 5 BB (P Weld) 4 Jan 12 Lima (J&A Foster); 19 Feb 10 Avon (J&JC); 2 Mar 16 Leroy (RA); 9 Mar 25 Avon (J&A Foster). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Mar 23 Greece (NM).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Belted Kingfisher: single birds reported throughout period, max 2 Feb 16 IB (AK). All woodpeckers reported in good numbers; Red-bellied Woodpecker reached a new high on the RCC with a total of 14 birds reported; the LLCC produced 13. Eastern Phoebe: 1 Mar 20 Clarkson (W Symonds). Tree Swallow: 1 Mar 7 Greece (B Molyneaux, RR, JS). Tufted Titmouse: this bird seems to be still on the increase in the Rochester area with a new high of 75 reported on the RCC; in contrast is the report of only 4 birds inland on the LLCC. Carolina Wren and Mockingbird were reported frequently from the lake shore area with the latter being by far the most common. Gray Catbird: 1 Feb 28 WEB (J McNett). Eastern Bluebird: no lake shore reports and only 1 Rochester area report—5 birds Dec 14-21 Perinton (N Brennan)—while the LLCC produced 16 individuals. Northern Shrike: present in good numbers throughout area. one of the few bad features of the winter season was the increase in the number of Starlings on the RCC, G Leubner, compiler, tallied a total of 18,410, an increase of over 10,000 from the previous year.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's): 1 Jan 19-24 Pittsford (MOB), first report for this obsolete species in our area.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Common Grackle: max 20 Dec 1-31 Fairport (G Jones), this is a high count for this often missed winter straggler. Rusty Blackbird: first report—10 Mar 6 WEB (AK), reported in low numbers throughout remainder of period. Evening Grosbeak: numerous reports of small numbers, max number seen during period was 25 Jan 26 Liv (JM). Purple Finch: only 4 reports in the immediate Rochester area, but the LLCC produced no less than 18. No reports of Pine Grosbeaks. *HOARY REDPOLL*: 1 Feb 23 Pittsford (G Meade et al); 1 Mar, 2 3 IROND (DT); 1 Mar 30, 31 IROND (DT); 1 Mar 26 Pittsford (NM); 1 Mar 29 IROND (LM). Common Redpoll: first reported in mid-Jan, thereafter in increasing numbers with max numbers seen in late March; 125 Mar

20 Parma (NP); 150 Mar 25 (B Molyneaux, JS). Pine Siskin: reported throughout period in very low numbers. Red Crossbill: unreported. Whitt-winged Crossbill: reported Jan thru Mar, max number seen - 10 Jan 26 IROND (M Ehlers, DT). Rufous-sided Towhee: several reports of single birds throughout period. Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco; 1 Dec 21 Perinton (D Sherony); 1 Mar 18 - 24 Penfield (G Davis). Chipping Sparrow: 1 Feb 3 Roch (RO). White-crowned Sparrow: 2 birds throughout period in Clarkson (R Clark, W Symonds); 1 Dec 28 IROND (P Zachman); 2 Jan 1 - Feb 28 Lima (J&A Foster). White-throated Sparrow: numerous reports throughout period. Lapland Longspur: several reports of 1 - 4 birds, max 75 Jan 12 Ham (J Claffey); 8 Mar 28 Parma (E Vollmer). Snow Bunting: with only the noted exceptions, this bird was also reported in low numbers throughout the period, max numbers 200 Jan 20 Greece (JS); 2 groups of 500 Mar 30 Lima (J&A Foster).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

The period was generally mild with little snow. The coldest temperatures and heaviest snow were in mid-December. January was mild with a prolonged thaw the last 10 days of the month. With temperatures in the fifties, ducks and geese moved into MNWR from Cayuga Lake until colder weather in early February refroze the marshes. Late February and early March gave promise of an early spring. A 60 degree temperature with a strong southwest wind brought geese and ducks streaming into MNWR on February 22 with "blackbirds" following soon afterwards. But winter did not give up easily. From March 10 to the end of the period cold weather with some snow prevailed.

The gas shortage had its effect on birding. Observers made fewer trips to outlying areas and concentrated on home grounds. We regret that we did not receive the winter report from the Elmira ara. Our two correspondents in the Bath area will be moving out of State. We need one or more observers to cover the Steuben County area.

Monk Parakeets appeared again in Schuyler County. Encouraging was the rise in numbers of Redhead and Canvasback ducks on the WFC. Raptors, while still low with the exception of Red-tails and Kestrels, at least show no further decline. There were numerous sightings of over-wintering Bluebirds perhaps due to the mildness of the winter.

Rarities include Eared Grebe and Merlin. Morgan Jones had an Eared Grebe, a Horned Grebe, and a Red-necked Grebe on Seneca Lake all in the field of his scope at one time. What an opportunity for close comparison!

Remarkable because of their out of season appearance were Turkey Vulture, Dunlin, Barn Swallow and Loggerhead Shrike. Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warblers occasionally over-winter but seldom in as large numbers as at Junius Ponds in Seneca County this winter.

Abbreviations. Cay—Cayuga; Co—County; COS—Cornell Ornithology Seminar; GCC—Geneva Christmas Count; ICC—Ithaca Christmas Count; L—Lake; MCC—Montezuma Christmas Count; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD—Seneca Army Depot; Schy—Schuyler; WFC—Waterfowl Count.

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