

1974 FEDERATION STATEWIDE SPRING MIGRATION COUNT

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Between May 11 and 19, 1974 eighteen member clubs of the Federation and groups of individuals conducted spring migration peak counts and submitted their results for this compilation. This was the first of what is hoped will become an annual event. It can provide not only fun for the participants but valuable information about the distribution and occurrence of resident and transient species in New York state.

Minimal rules were set up for this first count. Counting groups were free to choose a date that suited them best, to cover whatever territory in a 24 hour period they wished but to submit supporting details on unusual observations.

As the table that follows shows, 249 species and one hybrid were tallied. The extraordinarily late Tree Sparrows were thoroughly documented on the same count which reported a Fox Sparrow without any supporting details—it is therefore not included. The Black Rail at Oak Beach Marsh responded to a cassette tape recorder playback of its own protest calls and approached to within 5 feet of the observers!

There is no question that this total does not include all the species which were or might have been present in the state during the count period.

"Missed" breeding species were Spruce Grouse, Gray Partridge, American Oystercatcher, Barn Owl, Short-eared Owl, Saw-whet Owl, Black-backed 3-toed Woodpecker, Northern 3-toed Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Common Raven, Boreal Chickadee and Short-billed Marsh Wren. Cause for concern is the "almost missed" status of the Loggerhead Shrike with only a single bird seen in the entire state! What is happening to this species? Several other species were seen on only one or two counts but these mostly were species whose range is quite restricted or specialized at all times, e.g. Willet, Red Knot, Little Gull, etc.

"Missed migrants" were Greater Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Gannet, Black Scoter, Whimbrel, Red Phalarope, Northern Phalarope, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Yellow-throated Warbler.

"Missed, possible rarities" were such species as Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Gull-billed Tern, Chuck-wills-widow, Blue Grosbeak and several others.

An Adirondacks "Big Day" covering the Madawaska black spruce bog area near Paul Smith's and "Ferd's" Bog near Eagle Bay could have added 5 or 6 breeding species, and a pelagic "Big Day" off Montauk might have secured 6 to 8 more species.

The total of "missed" breeders and migrants is 23 which brings the number of species possibly occurring during the spring peak to 272. If we permit ourselves a bit of license and assume that there may have been at least 3 "possible rarities" somewhere in the state we arrive at 275 species as a total. This is 67% of the total number of species (410) recorded for New York state (according to Bull-1974).

In 1975 the dates for the statewide spring count will be the period between May 10th and 25th, inclusive. All member clubs are urged to participate this year and to submit their results to Ms. Cheryl Boise, Granville Hill Road, Sherburne, N.Y. 13460 with a copy to Thomas Davis, 9446 85th Road, Woodhaven, N.Y. 11421.

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Counting Society or Group	Date	No. of Participants	County(ies) or Area Covered	Common Loon	Red-throated Loon	Horned Grebe	Pied-billed Grebe	Double-cr. Cormorant	
1	May 16	5	Chautauqua	0	0	0	0	0	Lake Erie Bird Club
2	May 19	126	Allegany	6	0	0	4	0	Allegany Bird Club
3	May 19	50	Monroe, Wayne, Orleans, Genesee, Ontario, Livingston, Cayuga	*	0	*	*	0	Genesee Ornithological Soc.
4	May 19	11	Wayne, Orleans, Seneca	2	0	0	1	0	Eaton Ornithological Soc.
5	May 18	10 parties	Region 5	*	*	*	0	0	Onondaga Audubon Soc.
6	May 19	?	Broome, Tioga	0	0	0	0	0	Triple Cities Naturalists Club
7	May 11	22	Oneida, Herkimer, Madison	0	0	0	1	0	Oneida Bird Club
8	May 18	?	Delaware, Otsego	0	0	0	0	0	Delaware-Otsego Audubon Soc.
9	May 17	10	Essex	1	0	0	0	0	High Peaks Audubon Soc.
10	May 18	25	Schenectady, Saratoga, Albany	*	*	0	0	*	Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club
11	May 12	15	Ulster	0	0	0	0	0	John Burroughs Nat. History Soc.
12	May 18	26	Dutchess	0	0	0	0	*	R. T. Waterman Bird Club
13	May 11	11	Sullivan	0	0	0	1	0	Sullivan Co. Audubon Soc.
14	May 17-18	25	Orange, Rockland, Sullivan	*	0	0	*	0	Edgar A. Mearns Bird Club
15	May 12	7	Kings	0	0	0	0	0	Brooklyn Bird Club
16	May 11	?	Alley Pond Park, Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	0	0	0	0	*	Queens Co. Bird Club
17	May 12	4	Dutchess, Queens, Nassau, Suffolk	0	1	0	0	*	T. Davis, D. Finch, P. Lehman, R. Smart
18	May 18	25	Queens	0	0	0	0	0	Lyman Langdon Audubon Soc.

[illegible]

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Common Merganser	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turkey Vulture	*	16	*	10	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	1	*	0	0	*	0
Goshawk	0	1	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	2	*	2	*	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cooper's Hawk	*	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-tailed Hawk	*	81	*	13+	*	*	7	*	0	*	0	*	4	*	0	0	5	0
Red-shouldered Hawk	*	13	*	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Broad-winged Hawk	*	17	*	*	*	*	0	*	4	0	*	*	3	*	0	0	1	0
Bald Eagle	0	0	*	1imm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1ad	0	0	0	0	0
Marsh Hawk	*	11	*	1	*	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	1	0
Osprey	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	*	0	0	0	0	1	*	0	0	0	0
Merlin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kestrel	*	30	*	10+	*	*	9	*	2	*	0	*	1	*	0	*	1	0
Ruffed Grouse	0	21	*	*	*	*	1	*	6	*	*	*	0	*	0	0	1	0
Bobwhite	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	*	*	*	0
Ring-necked Pheasant	*	8	*	26+	*	*	0	*	2	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	*	0
Turkey	0	37	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clapper Rail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
Virginia Rail	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	2	0
Sora	*	1	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	1	0
Black Rail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Common Gallinule	0	2	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	4	*	0	*	*	0
Coot	*	1	*	8	*	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
Semipalmated Plover	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	0
Piping Plover	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0
Killdeer	*	171	*	51	*	*	2	*	8	*	*	*	2	*	*	*	*	0
Black-bellied Plover	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
Ruddy Turnstone	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
Woodcock	0	5	*	0	*	*	1	*	1	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	2	0
Common Snipe	*	6	*	4	*	*	1	0	1	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Upland Sandpiper	*	1	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Spotted Sandpiper	*	28	*	12+	*	*	4	*	4	*	*	*	5	*	*	*	*	*
Solitary Sandpiper	*	7	*	0	*	*	6	*	1	*	*	*	2	*	0	*	0	0
Willet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Greater Yellow-legs	0	0	*	5	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	*	1	*	*	*	*	0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Purple Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0
Pectoral Sandpiper	*	0	*	1	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	1	0
White-rumped Sandpiper	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
Least Sandpiper	0	0	*	12+	*	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	*	0
Dunlin	0	0	*	112	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0
Short-billed Dowitcher	0	0	*	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	0
Semipalmated Sandpiper	0	0	*	28+	*	0	1	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	0
Hudsonian Godwit	0	0	*	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ruff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Sanderling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0
Wilson's Phalarope	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Glaucous Gull	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0
Great Black-backed Gull	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	*	*	*	0
Herring Gull	*	22	*	29+	*	*	0	*	8	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	0
Ring-billed Gull	*	0	*	29+	*	*	0	0	66	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	0
Laughing Gull	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
Bonaparte's Gull	*	0	*	*	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Gull	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Common Tern	*	0	*	2	*	0	1	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	*	1500+	0
Roseate Tern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
Least Tern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	0
Caspian Tern	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Tern	0	0	*	3	*	0	1	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Black Skimmer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
Rock Dove	*	496	*	30+	*	*	28	*	0	*	*	*	0	0	*	0	*	*
Mourning Dove	*	205	*	35+	*	*	11	*	5	*	*	*	4	*	*	*	*	*
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	0	5	0	0	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Black-billed Cuckoo	0	14	*	3	0	*	0	*	1	*	*	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Screech Owl	0	3	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0	0	0	0	1	0
Great Horned Owl	0	6	*	3+	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Barred Owl	0	2	*	0	*	*	0	*	2	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	4	0
Long-eared Owl	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whip-poor-will	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	1	0
Nighthawk	*	9	*	0	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Chimney Swift	*	1100	*	37+	*	*	1	*	16	*	*	*	10	*	*	*	*	*
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	*	67	*	4+	*	*	2	*	13	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	0
Belted Kingfisher	*	46	*	7+	*	*	5	*	2	*	*	*	5	*	0	0	*	0
Yellow-shafted Flicker	*	163	*	30+	*	*	6	*	13	*	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Pileated Woodpecker	0	9	*	*	*	*	0	*	4	*	*	*	1	*	0	0	1	0
Red-bellied Woodpecker	0	6	*	10+	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Red-headed Woodpecker	*	13	*	1+	*	*	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	*	11	*	0	*	*	2	*	2	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Hairy Woodpecker	*	98	*	5+	*	*	2	*	5	*	*	*	1	*	0	*	*	*
Downy Woodpecker	*	109	*	20+	*	*	6	*	7	*	*	*	5	*	*	*	*	*
Eastern Kingbird	*	186	*	16+	*	*	3	*	9	*	*	*	15	*	*	*	*	*
Great Crested Flycatcher	*	54	*	5+	*	*	3	*	6	*	*	*	6	*	0	*	*	*
Phoebe	*	186	*	19	*	*	6	*	15	*	*	*	12	*	0	0	*	0
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	2	0
Acadian Flycatcher	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Willow Flycatcher	] *	0	*	2+	*	*	0	] *	0	] *	] *	] *	0	] *	0	0	0	0
Alder Flycatcher		4	*	0	*	*	0		0				0		0	0	0	0
Least Flycatcher	*	53	*	2+	*	*	0	*	6	*	*	*	9	*	*	*	*	0
Wood Pewee	*	28	*	6+	*	*	0	*	3	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	*	*
Olive-sided Flycatcher	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horned Lark	*	24	*	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	*	0
Tree Swallow	*	313	*	185+	*	*	14	*	74	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
Bank Swallow	*	122	*	127	*	*	0	*	2	*	*	*	25	*	0	0	*	0
Rough-winged Swallow	*	31	*	6+	*	*	2	*	4	*	*	*	2	*	0	0	0	0
Barn Swallow	*	962	*	122+	*	*	31	*	88	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
Cliff Swallow	0	90	*	*	*	*	0	*	1	*	*	*	20	*	0	0	1	0
Purple Martin	*	318	*	81+	*	*	0	0	17	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	3	0
Blue Jay	*	608	*	34+	*	*	16	*	28	*	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	*
Common Crow	*	674	*	42+	*	*	17	*	18	*	*	*	15	*	*	*	*	*
Fish Crow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	0	*	0	*	2	*
Black-capped Chickadee	*	482	*	35+	*	*	18	*	23	*	*	*	10	*	0	*	*	*
Tufted Titmouse	0	1	*	3	*	*	0	*	0	*	*	*	2	*	0	*	*	*
White-br. Nuthatch	*	170	*	10+	*	*	3	*	6	*	*	*	5	*	0	*	*	*
Red-br. Nuthatch	0	5	*	*	*	*	0	*	10	*	*	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Brown Creeper	0	11	*	2	*	*	1	*	2	*	*	*	1	0	0	0	*	0
House Wren	*	225	*	48+	*	*	3	*	15	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	*	*
Winter Wren	0	8	*	0	*	*	6	*	6	*	*	*	0	0	0	0	*	0
Carolina Wren	0	2	0	0	*	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	1	0
Long-billed Marsh Wren	0	0	*	3	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	*	0
Mockingbird	0	0	*	5+	*	*	0	*	1	*	0	*	3	*	*	*	*	*
Gray Catbird	*	274	*	100+	*	*	1	*	10	*	*	*	9	*	*	*	*	*
Brown Thrasher	*	57	*	7+	*	*	1	*	9	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Robin	* 2330		* 158+	*	*		36	*	71	*	*	*	40	*	*	*	*	*
Wood Thrush	* 125		* 28+	*	*	*	6	*	8	*	*	*	12	*	*	*	*	*
Hermit Thrush	0 18		* *	*	*	*	0	*	1	*	*	0	1	*	*	*	0	0
Swainson's Thrush	* 1		* 5+	*	*	*	0	*	1	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*
Gray-cheeked Thrush	* 2		* 1	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	1	0
Veery	* 15		* 2+	*	*	*	1	*	4	*	*	*	4	*	0	*	*	*
Eastern Bluebird	0 57		* 6+	*	*	*	0	*	5	*	*	*	2	*	0	0	2	0
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	* 0		* 0	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	*	*	10	*	*	*	1	0
Golden-crowned Kinglet	* 15		0 *	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	* 12		* *	*	*	*	1	*	4	*	*	0	4	*	0	*	0	0
Water Pipit	0 6		* 0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cedar Waxwing	* 60		* *	*	*	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Loggerhead Shrike	0 0		0 0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Starling	* 1356		* 600+	*	*	*	30	*	198	*	*	*	40	*	*	*	*	*
White-eyed Vireo	* 0		0 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	3	0
Yellow-throated Vireo	0 1		* 0	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	*	*	6	*	*	*	*	0
Solitary Vireo	* 5		* *	*	*	*	0	*	3	*	0	0	1	0	*	*	0	0
Red-eyed Vireo	* 104		* 19+	*	*	*	0	*	3	*	0	*	0	*	*	*	*	*
Philadelphia Vireo	* 4		* 5+	*	*	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Warbling Vireo	* 10		* 17+	*	*	*	0	*	5	*	*	*	3	*	*	0	*	0
Black-and-white Warbler	* 4		* 1	*	*	*	0	*	3	*	*	*	15	*	*	*	*	0
Prothonotary Warbler	* 1		* 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Worm-eating Warbler	0 0		* 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0	*	0	0	1	*
Golden-winged Warbler	0 3		* 0	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	*	*	6	*	0	0	5	*
Blue-winged Warbler	* 34		* 1	*	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	6	*	0	*	*	0
Brewster's Warbler	0 1		0 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tennessee Warbler	* 10		* 1+	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	*	*
Orange-crowned Warbler	0 0		0 *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nashville Warbler	* 22		* 2	*	*	*	0	*	8	*	*	*	4	*	0	*	1	0
Northern Parula Warbler	0 0		* 0	*	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	10	*	*	*	*	*
Yellow Warbler	* 373		* 107+	*	*	*	5	*	13	*	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	*
Magnolia Warbler	* 41		* 6+	*	*	*	0	*	3	*	*	*	4	*	0	*	*	*
Cape May Warbler	* 33		* 5+	*	*	*	0	*	4	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	2	0
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	* 1		* 4	*	*	*	3	*	3	*	*	*	8	*	*	*	*	*
Yellow-rumped Warbler	* 81		* 19+	*	*	*	10	*	14	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Black-thr. Green Warbler	* 46		* 5+	*	*	*	4	*	5	*	*	*	12	*	*	*	*	*
Cerulean Warbler	0 0		* 1	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	1	*
Blackburnian Warbler	* 37		* 16+	*	*	*	4	*	5	*	0	*	1	*	*	*	*	*

[illegible]

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
White-winged Crossbill	0	1	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rufous-sided Towhee	*	265	*	11+	*	*	3	*	4	*	*	*	25	*	*	*	*	*
Savannah Sparrow	*	45	*	4+	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	5	*	*	*	*	0
Grasshopper Sparrow	0	4	*	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	2	0
Henslow's Sparrow	*	2	*	0	*	*	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0
Seaside Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	*	0
Vesper Sparrow	*	32	*	3	*	0	2	*	1	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dark-eyed Junco	0	40	*	*	*	*	10	*	2	*	*	0	3	*	0	*	0	0
Tree Sparrow	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chipping Sparrow	*	527	*	42+	*	*	12	*	30	*	*	*	60	*	*	*	*	0
Field Sparrow	*	212	*	54+	*	*	9	*	4	*	*	*	30	*	0	*	*	0
White-crowned Sparrow	*	86	*	5+	*	*	7	*	12	0	*	*	20	*	0	*	2	0
White-throated Sparrow	*	41	*	*	*	*	7	*	15	*	*	*	25	*	*	*	*	*
Lincoln's Sparrow	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swamp Sparrow	*	16	*	7	*	*	0	*	0	*	*	*	4	*	*	*	*	0
Song Sparrow	*	893	*	147+	*	*	11	*	17	*	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	0

Total No. of Species	125	154	192	149	184	137	76	130	98	155	94	153	105	148	90	120	173	63
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* Reported but no numbers given