

River May 21, eight Massena area May 23. Yellow: May 10. Magnolia: May 18. Cape May; four Wilson Hill May 13; one Perch River May 23. Black-throated Blue: May 12. Yellow-rumped: May 9. Black-throated Green: May 13. Blackburnian: May 12. Chestnut-sided: May 13. Bay-breasted: 10 Wilson Hill May 19; four near Massena May 21. Blackpoll: May 18. Pine: one Wilson Hill May 13. Ovenbird: May 12. N. Waterthrush: May 13. Com. Yellowthroat: May 12. Am. Redstart: May 12.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: may be down somewhat? E. Meadowlark: thru period. Red-winged Blackbird: 50 on Mar. 17. N. Oriole: First May 12. Rusty Blackbird: none reported. C. Grackle: Mar. 29-late. Scarlet Tanager: May 21. Cardinal: thru. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: First May 9. Indigo Bunting: two on May 21. Evening Grosbeak: thru period. Purple Finch: thru period-may be up in Henderson area. **HOUSE FINCH**: at feeder during April and May-at least seven-but not all at once. After banding a male, I saw three unbanded males at once and later three females. Late in May a male and females came at the same time. Female rarely seen first two weeks in June-nesting?-more often after June 15. (Frank Clinch). Pine Grosbeak: last-eight Massena April 10. Com. Redpoll: 360 banded April 3-May 24 (F. Clinch); last April 30. Pine Siskin: first April 4; last May 19; 203 banded (F. Clinch). Am. Goldfinch: thru. Rufous-sided Towhee: first May 9. Savannah Sparrow: first 5 on April 13; numbers down. Vesper Sparrow: first two Massena April 13; down in numbers. Dark-eyed Junco: max migration numbers April 13 and 14. Tree Sparrow: last May 5. Chipping Sparrow: first April 28. Field Sparrow: first April 17. White-crowned Sparrow: first Henderson April 23; heavy migration May 9. White-throated Sparrow: first April 13. Fox Sparrow: one Watertown April 13. Swamp Sparrow: first April 26.

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REGION 7 - ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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A slow spring caused several people to migrate to the Big Bend and other points south in a desperate attempt to cure cabin fever, which was increasingly prevalent in March. Lake Champlain was still mostly frozen on March 15. High water levels kept most mudflats and jetties in Clinton County covered through the last week in May, so that shorebirding was slow. Newcomb was the coldest spot in the U.S. on April 25 and 26, with 14° F. on both dates. The ice went out at Lower St. Regis Lake on May 9, with a nice first-of-the-season thunderstorm to help it along. Many of our birds arrived before the ice and snow were gone. Some first arrivals at Paul Smiths were: Red-winged Blackbird on April 10, Am. Robin and Killdeer on April 11, and Barn Swallow on April 26. The black flies emerged on May 17. A woodcock at Tupper Lake tried to set some sort of record on February 27, sitting in skidder tracks in over three feet of snow at a logging job according to Philip N. Jackson (*vide* G. Carleton).

Summer people should watch for female Common Goldeneyes with young, because there were more females than usual well into June. Little Polliwog Pond, Echo Pond, and other ponds near Fish Creek may produce more breeding records since one or more females were on each as of June 14.

It was interesting to find a large, open area near Paul Smiths with at least eight Vesper Sparrows on territory. Equally interesting were at least seven Com-

mon Nighthawks displaying nearby—diving and “booming” in a way delightful to see at close quarters. The absence of humans and their associated pets lets the birds breed in relative security on open ground, as they did before gravel roofs and fenced-in power substations became a necessity in more heavily populated areas. The high coyote population doesn't seem to be interfering with them seriously so far.

This was quite a season for aberrant birds. An extremely pale Marsh Hawk was staying near Paul Smiths and producing many questions about white hawks. Equally as puzzling was a white Common Crow with a black face. Then there was a Tupper Lake White-throated Sparrow at Mrs. Delehanty's that had a trace of yellow lores, an indistinctly streaked crown, no white throat, and most of the head, neck and bib charcoal as in Harris' Sparrow. A singing Vesper Sparrow at Paul Smiths had no white outer tail feathers; just when you think you can recognize a few birds in your area you get hit with a few oddities like these.

Abbreviations: Bruce Beehler, Walter Chapman, Chazy Landing, Charlie Delehanty, Bruno and Dee DeSimone, Elizabethtown, Steph Farrington, Colin Fink, Southern Hamilton County, Hal Klein, William Kreuger, Ferdinand LaFrance, Phoebe MacDougal, Margaret and Robert McKinney, Ray Payson, Paul Smiths, John (Mike) Peterson, Plattsburgh, Steve Sanford, Chris Spies, Lester Sweatt, Pat Tabor, Tupper Lake, Phil Warren.

LOONS—DUCKS: It was interesting to see that resident loons arrived on many of their home waters exactly the same day the ice went out. Perhaps they wait on open water in Lake Champlain and take scouting trips. Pied-billed Grebe: one Tupper April 4 (CD). **GLOSSY IBIS:** one Platts alternately flapping and gliding as it flew toward the Saranac River. It looked solid black with a decurved bill (Charles Mitchell, Jr.). This seems to be a first regional record. Snow Goose: one injured bird stayed at Paul Smiths into May. Gadwall: two pair thru May Ch Lg (PW, RP, SS). Five Pintails, four Blue-winged Teals and one American Wigeon at Tupper on April 18 were all good finds since these are scarce away from the Champlain Valley (CD). Ring-necked Duck: max 29 Tupper May 2 (CD); four Long Lake May 27 (M & R Mc). Bufflehead: max 37 Ch Lg April 23 (HK, PW); 13 Tupper April 24 (CD). Oldsquaw: male and female Simon Pond and two females Little Tupper May 6 (CD). Black Scoter: one adult male on a bit of fast open water on Lake Abanakee March 4 (M & R Mc). Rare but does occur in Hamilton County. Hooded Merganser: good numbers. Red-breasted Merganser: six in Clinton County where it is rare (PW) and three Tupper May 2 where it is still more rare (CD).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: two Everton Falls Preserve April 13; two Paul Smiths early May (Bob Rottner) were probably headed elsewhere. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 29. Cooper's Hawk: four. Red-tailed Hawk: one Newcomb in early March must have had slim pickings (WC). Red-shouldered Hawk: two at Coot Hill Hawk Lookout; two Hamilton May 27 (BDS). Bald Eagle: one Newcomb April 2 (WC); one imm Tupper April 23 and one adult Tupper May 7, both (CD). Marsh Hawk: total of six including a mated pair in Champlain Valley: one Hamilton (BDS); two including male staying thru May at Paul Smiths. Osprey: about 20 noted including an active nest at Little Polliwog Pond near Fish Creek. A male Merlin was carefully documented as to falcon-shaped narrow pointed wings and strongly barred tail at Ausable Point April 26 for the first spring record for Clinton County. Semipalmated Plover: five Tupper May 21 (CD). Common Snipe: banner year at Paul Smiths. Dunlin: two Ch Lg May 6 (SS, RP, HK, PW). A **PURPLE SANDPIPER** was seen on March 29 walking down Rt. 22 at Essex and was carefully identified as to size, dark color, slightly decurved yellow bill and yellow legs (PM, LS). Least Sandpiper: three Tupper May 21 and one Semipalmated Sandpiper Tupper May 21, both (CD). Bonaparte's Gull: three Tupper April 21 (CD) a good find there. Black Tern: two Ch Lg May 20 (WK) and no breeders at Lake Alice (PW) but six Tupper May 21 (CD) is encouraging.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Great Horned Owl: pair Willsboro Point (CF). A late Snowy Owl was at Lake Placid March 16 (SF). Saw-whet Owls were absent after being so numerous last year. Perhaps they are erratic breeders like Red Crossbills. Whip-poor-will: one Hamilton May 20 (BDS); eight between Wilmington and Jay (M & R Mc). A Belted Kingfisher April 9 and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker April 7 at Paul Smiths and Rainbow Lake respectively were a big deal when you consider that on April 10 it was -1 degree F. only moving water was open, and snow lay deep. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: three Ferd's Bog May 6 (CS, FL). Northern Three-toed Woodpecker: one as preceding.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Alder Flycatcher: good numbers. Horned Lark: one Tupper March 15 and then six March 17 were pioneers. Gray Jay: a few Paul Smiths. Blue Jay: as several people noted they were absent until spring weather came. Common Raven: 20 ravens fledged according to Paul Bishop who located the Paul Smiths nest. Tufted Titmouse: 1 Cadyville (Fran Howe). Gray-cheeked Thrush: R Mc reports none heard at or near mountain tops May 27-29. Eastern Bluebird: none Tupper and perhaps 10 Paul Smiths. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one May 13 Ausable Point (mob); two pair there May 27 (SS). Water Pipit: one Tupper May 21 (CD). Bohemian Waxwing: the Essex flock that stayed several months left April 20 and the last of the Beekmantown birds left April 22. Northern Shrike: one Tupper March (CD); one imm E'town late March (BB, JP); one Paul Smiths April 18.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: pair building a nest at Lake Alice. Eaton lists this species as a rare summer resident in Clinton County. Philadelphia Vireo: one singing and yellowish breast noted at Lyon Mountain May 20. This seems to be a first record for Clinton County (RP, HK). Tennessee Warbler: one Hamilton May 20 (BDS). Northern Parula: excellent numbers, just listen near any body of water with conifers along the shore. Yellow-rumped Warbler: one Tupper and one Paul Smiths on April 26 were first warblers for the Region even beating the Champlain Valley by one day. They are especially appreciated when you are still looking at snow. Bay-breasted Warbler: three Tupper May 21 (CD). Palm Warbler: one Tupper May 13 (CD). Blackpoll Warbler: good numbers. Wilson's Warbler: one male Ausable Point May 21 (Sue Sullivan).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Northern Oriole: numbers still good. Rusty Blackbird: a few in the bog ponds and beaver flows if there are plenty of trees near the water. Cardinal: 64 in region according to Fran Howe. Purple Finch: 42 Tupper May 6, many since (CD). House Finch: many at Platts but still no breeding record. Pine Grosbeak: more in early March than Evening Grosbeak in many areas. Hoary Redpoll: one Platts April 3 had pure white rump and almost no side streaking. It was chunkier than the 160 Common Redpolls with it (PW); one banded E'town April 13 with similar characteristics (JP, PT). Common Redpoll: literally thousands as they moved thru our region from further south. Pine Siskin: eight Tupper May 13 (CD). Vesper Sparrow: two Tupper April 14 (CD); five Ausable Point April 26 (SS); one April 29 Chazy (RP, SS, PW). Fox Sparrow: two at Tupper and two at Ausable Point. These are scarce in spring. Snow Bunting: one Tupper March 28.

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REGION 8 - HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Century Run enthusiasts did a lot of worrying as the big day approached. March-like weather persisted through April and into May. Many folks began to