

ner); two Sheldrake 30 May (M. Boynton). Evening Grosbeak: a big regionwide influx March-May; max 300 Danby 6 May. Purple Finch: good movement April-May. House Finch: the swelling tide of these birds rolls on and on. Pine Grosbeak: one on the EBD for the second time in 32 years; at the seminars it was last reported 5 Apr. Com. Redpoll: departed mostly in Mar. or Apr but stayed until mid-May at Sen Falls. Pine Siskin: a widespread influx lasted until late May. Unlike last year, trapped females showed no brood patches. Red Crossbill: two Elmira 11 Mar; Ithaca 12 Apr; Phelps 11 May; 15 GBD. White-winged Crossbill: reported from Elmira, Ithaca, Penn Yan, Sen Falls, and Phelps, which had the latest bird on 16 May. Savannah Sparrow: a bird believed to be the dark northern form was south of Sen Falls 18 May (WB). It was the typical Savannah size, shape and markings but was much darker. Grasshopper Sparrow: one Ithaca 12 May; one Clifton Springs 16 May; EBD; very scarce at Penn Yan. Henslow's Sparrow: Ithaca 12 May; Pine City 31 May; Penn Yan very scarce. Vesper Sparrow: a few more reports than in recent years. Tree Sparrow: last bird sighted was at a feeder north of MNWR 30 Apr. Lincoln's Sparrow: one Horseheads 12 and 15 May; one Myers Point 15 May. Snow Bunting: large flock Phelps 2 Mar; "a few thousand" at King Ferry 6 Mar; 75 Sen Co 7 Mar; last birds Union Springs 12 Apr.

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REGION 4 – SUSQUEHANNA

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Region Four experienced a March of cold nights, cool days and a few severe weather changes. On the night of 10 March, after a week of tenacious winter, an abrupt south wind ushered in warm sunshine and premature dreams of spring. In the town of Union, a flock of 250 Snow Buntings and 200 Horned Larks, monitored all winter and seen on the tenth, departed for the north, leaving only four Horned Larks to be counted on 11 March (FL). On the 12th and 13th, throughout the area a steady stream of large flocks of geese was sufficiently spectacular to catch the attention of radio announcers and news reporters. A general thaw set in. Streams and rivers, overflowing their banks, created shallow sidewaters where dabbling ducks fed and divers rested. A return by the 15th to nighttime subfreezing temperatures and daytime thirties controlled the run-off, thus maintaining the expanded river condition for almost three weeks. River-watching became a popular lunchtime sport. Records of most ducks were good, but no Northern Shovelers were reported.

On the 25th, a Whip-poor-will, rare for this area, was heard in Vestal. "Just at dusk, the loud, tremulous 'whip-poor-will' call was iterated three or four times, followed by a pause of about five minutes. A second set of 'whip-poor-will' calls was followed by a similar pause. Finally a third set of calls and then no more. Apparently the bird, after resting here for the day, called prior to setting off on another leg of its nocturnal migration." (RM).

On the 27th, back to lower teen thermometer readings until the 31st, when a wild rainstorm with warm winds up to 45 mph moved us into April with 40° temperatures. A blustery west wind on 4 April once more reclaimed the land for winter. All still waters refroze and on 6 and 7 April the heaviest storm of the

season covered the area with what was registered officially as nine inches of snow, but which drifted deeply everywhere. Early returnees had severe going. On the fourth, thousands of Tree Swallows were seen from two Susquehanna River bridges six miles apart "scudding low over the rough waters, fighting the wind and dipping down into the racing current, possibly after some sort of insect hatch." (RM). An Endwell observer on the sixth watched 20 Tree Swallows hovering about one nest box (JK). Feeding station reports of Fox Sparrows proliferated.

Gradually, warm south winds displaced the cold. On 12 April one lucky observer, checking out a report that Goodyear Lake was open, was rewarded by spotting 18 Red-necked Grebes about 100 yards offshore. "Most, but not all, were in breeding plumage, the light effectively catching the contrast of black head, white throat and dark reddish neck" (MD). The remainder of April was cool with no showers but one big rainstorm.

Early May was a poet's dream of spring. A high pressure system refused to be dislodged for nearly three weeks. However, instead of producing spectacular waves of migrants, the ridge seemed to check the migration. Woodland warblers did not arrive in large numbers until the 12th and then, bunched together, rushed through and were on their hurried way by the 22nd. At a station in Vestal, over 100 Tennessee Warblers were banded between 17-22 May. This classic spring ended finally when a low from the west on the 22nd brought rain that lasted intermittently for the rest of the period.

Meanwhile, several rarities had shown up. A Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen by a Windsor farmwife atop the barn ridgepole (Mrs. WM). A Black-crowned Night Heron, absent here for many years, was observed in an Endwell swamp. At the very end of the period an Acadian Flycatcher was reported from the Preble Swamp with no details but a follow-up promised (DC, JH, JP). From Endwell came the sighting of a Henslow's Sparrow, borderline here between very uncommon and rare. Three Goshawks and seven Bald Eagles lent excitement to an otherwise late, slow hawk migration. No Red-shouldered Hawks were reported. A Fish Crow, having spent the spring in Vestal, left on 27 May (GK). Meanwhile feeder reports of Common Redpolls, Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks continued strong thru April. May reports of the latter two were frequent through mid-month, then dwindled out.

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Abbreviations: CCBC—Cortland Co. Bird Club; DBC—Delhi Bird Club; DOAS—Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society; NCBC—Naturalists Club of Broome Co.; OPM—Oneonta-Portlandville-Milford area; WPR—Whitney Point Reservoir.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: 12 reports; first 3 Apr, last 31 May; 11 Broome Co., one

OPM. Red-necked Grebe: one 30 Mar WPR; one 9 Apr WPR; 18 12 Apr Goodyear Lake (MD). Horned Grebe: 15 reports; first 21 Mar WPR, last eight 25 Apr WPR; two other Mar reports from Susquehanna River, Vestal; remainder were Apr reports, two Binghamton, two OPM. Pied-billed Grebe: 13 reports; first 21 Mar, Susquehanna R, Vestal, last two 17 Apr Chenango Forks, OPM; two other Mar reports Broome Co; five Apr reports, three Broome Co, two OPM. Great Blue Heron: many; first 21 Mar. Green Heron: nine reports; first 24 Apr DOAS; two others OPM, rest Broome Co. **BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON**: one 13 May IBM Swamp, Endwell (JK). Am. Bittern: none. Whistling Swan: three mid-Mar, Cortland Co, one 29 Mar Chenango R. Binghamton (J & MD). Canada Goose: large flocks thru 12-13 Mar; after that reports sparse and scattered, mostly Mar and Apr; last 15 May. Black Duck: 16 reports scattered thru period; 12 Broome Co, one Cortland, three OPM. Gadwall: six reports 22 Mar-3 Apr, all Broome Co. Pintail: eight reports, first 20 Mar, last 27 Mar, all Broome Co. Green-winged Teal: eight reports; first 26 Mar, last 23 Apr; one Bainbridge, four OPM, three Broome Co. Blue-winged Teal: nine reports, first 5 Mar, last 17 Apr; seven Broome Co, two OPM. Am. Wigeon: six reports; first 19 Mar, last 31 Mar, all Broome Co. No. Shoveler: none. Wood Duck: 18 reports, first 1 Apr; eight Broome Co, one Cortland Co, eight OPM, one Otselic. Redhead: one 15 Mar Cannonsville (SD). Ring-necked Duck: 20 reports; first 18 Mar, last 17 Apr; one Bainbridge, 16 Broome Co, three OPM. Canvasback: five reports; first 18 Mar, last 26 Mar, all Broome Co. Greater Scaup: one report; 15 Mar Cannonsville. Lesser Scaup: six reports; first 10 Mar, last 15 May; all Broome Co, except last which was Cortland Co. Com. Goldeneye: 16 reports; first 3 Mar, last 14 Apr; 14 Broome Co, two OPM. Bufflehead: 17 reports; first 3 Mar, last 16 Apr, all Broome Co. Oldsquaw: one report of two birds, 26 Mar WPR (RM). Black Scoter: one report of three birds, 12 Apr Goodyear Lake (MD). Ruddy Duck: one report of one bird 22 Mar Susquehanna R, Vestal (HM). Hooded Merganser: 21 reports; first 20 Mar, last 14 Apr; 18 Broome Co, one Cannonsville, two OPM. Com. Merganser: 23 reports; first 3 Mar, last 10 May; 19 Broome Co, one Delhi, one E. Sidney Dam, one Otselic R, one Wellsbridge. Red-breasted Merganser: six reports; first 21 Mar, last 9 Apr; five Broome Co, one OPM.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: very frequent; first 14 Mar, max 20, 15 Apr. Delaware Co (JL). **GOSHAWK**: one 25 Mar Norwich (JL); one 11 Apr Walton (SH); one 9 May Otselic, on nest (DM). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 13 reports thru. Cooper's Hawk: 23 reports thru. Red-tailed Hawk: frequent thru. Red-shouldered Hawk: none. Broad-winged Hawk: 11 reports; first 15 Apr, 9 May confirmed nest Otselic (DM). Rough-legged Hawk: three reports; 7 Mar Vestal; 14 Mar OPM, 21 Mar Otselic. **BALD EAGLE**: six reports (seven birds); 18 Apr Apalachin (RH); 27 Apr Delhi (GD); 24 Apr Marathon (KB); 6 May 2 imm Vestal Center (FL, BB); 15 May Carr Hill, Cortland Co (J & RP); 27 May Cannonsville, imm (DOAS). Marsh Hawk: eight reports; first 23 Mar; one report Otselic R between 13 Apr and 2 May "seventeen separate sightings on 13 different days." (DM). Osprey: 20 reports; first 28 Mar, last 12 May. Am. Kestrel: very frequent. Ruffed Grouse: 15 reports thru. Bobwhite: one report, 16 May Delhi (SC). Ring-necked Pheasant: ten reports scattered thru period; eight Broome Co, one Cortland Co, one Hamden. Turkey: 12 reports; thru period; seven Broome Co, one Delancy, two Delhi, one Oneonta, one Pharsalia. Rails: none. Gallinules: none. Am. Coots: none. Semipalmated Plover: none. Killdeer: frequent 13 Mar thru. Am. Woodcock: 17 reports; first 20 Mar; nine Broome Co, eight Chenango Co. Com. Snipe: ten reports; first 28 Mar; five Broome Co, five OPM. **UPLAND SANDPIPER**: one report of four birds seen in a field in Cortlandville in the general area where they have been found for at least three years. Spotted Sandpiper: ten reports; first 17 Apr, scattered thru area, on a Vestal farm two birds have been sighted from 6 May thru. They appear to be nesting (GK). Solitary Sandpiper: nine reports, first 4 May, last 18 May; five Broome Co, four OPM. Greater Yellowlegs: five reports; first 24 Apr Hartwick, 27 Apr Milford; 8 May, 13 May, 16 May, all Broome Co. Lesser Yellowlegs: five reports; first 14 Apr WPR, all others May, last 16 May; two OPM, one Upper Lisle, one Vestal. Least Sandpiper: four reports; 4 May thru 18 May, all OPM (MD, KW). Herring Gull: 18 reports; first 1 Mar, last 1 May; mostly OPM and Broome Co, but one Cooperstown. Ring-billed Gull: 11 reports, first 19

Mar when over 100 were counted on the Susquehanna R near Owego; on 20 Mar an equally large number was observed on the Susquehanna R near Vestal; last date 16 May; seven reports Broome Co. one Cannonsville, one Cortland Co, one Otselec R. Bonaparte's Gull: only report 16 Apr Upper Lisle (A & MD). Com. Tern: none.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: eight reports, first 15 May, all Broome Co except one 22 May of two individuals Delhi (SC). This is a high count and may be related to the increase of Gypsy Moths in Southern Tier. Black-billed Cuckoo: 11 reports; first 15 May; eight Southern Tier (where Gypsy Moths are on the increase), one Delhi, one Guilford, one Norwich. Screech Owl: two reports, 11 Mar Otselec (DM); 24 May Chenango Forks (A & MD). Great Horned Owl: four reports thru. Barred Owl: three reports; 27 Apr OPM (MD, KW), 16 May N. Colesville, Chenango Co. (JS), 18 May Otselec (DM). **WHIP-POOR-WILL:** one report; 25 Mar Vestal (RM). Com. Nighthawk: eight reports, first 8 May; five Broome Co, one Cortland Co, two Norwich. Numbers were light in all reports. No birds reported from Otsego or Delaware Cos. These species should be watched. Chimney Swift: ten reports, first 3 May, Binghamton. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 13 reports; first 13 May, Cortland. Belted Kingfisher: 17 reports thru. Com. Flicker: 20 reports thru. Pileated Woodpecker: ten reports thru. Red-bellied Woodpecker: three reports, one Newark Valley, off and on all period (LD), one 26 May Lime Hollow Cortland in the morning (CN), one May 26 in afternoon Cortlandville about three miles distant from Lime Hollow (same bird?) (CN). Red-headed Woodpecker: two reports; two individuals 16 May, Cortland Co, no specific location (BM, BT); two individuals, 29 May Cortlandville (CN). This species unusual for this area in general but reported before from Cortland Co. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 17 reports, first (except for one which wintered here) 6 Apr; all areas.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Kingbird: first 25 Apr. Great Crested Flycatcher: first 12 May. E. Phoebe: first 24 Mar. **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER:** one report; 31 May Tinker Falls in n.e. Cortland Co. (DC, JH, JP), just south of Labrador Pond on east side of NY Route 91. Willow Flycatcher: two reports; 16 May, 19 May, both Broome Co. Alder Flycatcher: five reports; 15 May, 16 May, 19 May, all Broome Co; 22 May Pharsalia; 25 May Norwich. Traill's Flycatcher: one report: banded bird, Vestal, no song heard (HM). Least Flycatcher: first 1 May. E. Wood Pewee: first 27 Apr. Olive-sided Flycatcher: three reports, 18 May, 30 May, 31 May, all Norwich (JL). Horned Lark: two flocks of over 100 10 Mar; after that pairs. Tree Swallow: first 14 Mar. Bank Swallow: only two reports; 15 May, CCBC, 16 May BRNC. Rough-winged Swallow: six reports; first 28 Apr. Barn Swallow: first 31 Mar. Cliff Swallow: four reports: 24 Apr Otselec, 4 and 7 May OPM, 16 May BCNC. Purple Martin: five reports; 16 Apr Town of Union, 24 Apr Endwell, 5 May Endwell, 15 May CCBC, 16 May BCNC. **FISH CROW:** one report; one individual seen and heard all spring thru 27 May Vestal (GK). Tufted Titmouse: several Mar and Apr reports, only one May, 16 May BCNC. Red-breasted Nuthatch: eight reports: Delhi, OPM, Maryland, Broome Co. Brown Creeper: seven reports; three Broome Co, one each Cortland Co., Guilford, Middlefield, OPM, House Wren: first 22 Apr. Winter Wren: two reports; 7 May OPM (MD, KW), 15 May CCBC. Carolina Wren: three reports; 1 Apr, 17 Apr, 12 May, all Broome Co. Mockingbird: seven reports; Apalachin, Broome Co, Delhi, OPM, Middlefield. Gray Catbird: first 1 May. Brown Thrasher: first 22 Apr. Am. Robin: first probable migrant: 5 Mar. Wood Thrush: first 7 May. Hermit Thrush: four reports; 4 Apr Vestal, 7 May Vestal, 13 May OPM, 20 May Otselec. Swainson's Thrush: ten reports; first 8 May Chenango Forks, one Binghamton, one Maryland, three Norwich, four Vestal. Gray-cheeked Thrush: two 16 May, 18 May, banding station in Vestal, no other reports. Veery: first 27 Apr. E. Bluebird: 22 reports, many of nestings, first 14 Mar. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: five reports, first 27 Apr Preble, a pair, probably nesting, two Broome Co, one Cortland Co, one OPM. Golden-crowned Kinglet: eight reports, first 3 Mar, last 29 May; often in small bands of six or eight. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: first 15 Apr, last 22 May. Water Pipit: two reports; 18 Apr Valonia Springs (JS), 15 May CCBC. Cedar Waxwing: 12 reports, 2, 4 and 21 Apr, no others until 15 May, then only in small flocks.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: 13 reports, first 4 May, last 29 May, six

Broome Co, one Cortland Co, one Delhi, four OPM, one Pharsalia. Solitary Vireo: 19 reports thru region; first 19 Apr, last 22 May. Red-eyed Vireo: first 12 May. Philadelphia Vireo: three reports; 16 May BCNC, 19 and 20 May banding station Vestal. Warbling Vireo: 14 reports thru region; first 4 May. Black-and-white Warbler: 18 reports, first 1 May. Worm-eating Warbler: none. Golden-winged Warbler: 11 reports; first 6 May, 10 Broome Co, one Hartwick. "Brewster's" Warbler: three reports; first 14 May, two Broome Co, one Hartwick. Blue-winged Warbler: 23 reports, first 8 May, 17 Broome Co, four Chenango Co, one Cortland Co, one Hartwick. Tennessee Warbler: many reports, first 12 May, last 25 May, 102 banded at a Vestal banding station between 17 and 22 May; max 39 18 May (HM). Nashville Warbler: 17 reports, first 5 May, last 31 May. No. Parula: eight reports; first 1 May, last 29 May. Yellow Warbler: thru. Magnolia Warbler: 21 reports; first 10 May, last 31 May. Cape May Warbler: nine reports; first 7 May, last 18 May; 7 Broome Co, one Cortland Co, one Norwich. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 13 reports, first 7 May, last 25 May; all areas. Yellow-rumped Warbler: many reports, first 16 Apr, last 18 May, max 61 7 May OPM (MD, KW). Black-throated Green Warbler: many reports thru; first 6 May, max 12 15 May, Maryland (MD, KW). Blackburnian Warbler: 28 reports thru; first 7 May, last 29 May. Chestnut-sided Warbler: many reports thru, first 7 May. Bay-breasted Warbler: first 12 May, Vestal, one 19 May Vestal and five 25 May Norwich, only reports. Blackpoll Warbler: 11 reports, first 14 May Norwich, all rest Broome Co, last 29 May. Prairie Warbler: ten reports, first 2 May; eight Broome Co, 2 Norwich. Ovenbird: thru; first 7 May. No. Waterthrush: 11 reports; first 7 May, last 22 May; eight Broome Co, one CCBC, one OPM, one Pharsalia. Louisiana Waterthrush: ten reports, first 28 Apr, five Broome Co, three Maryland, one OPM, one Otselic. Mourning Warbler: six reports, first 17 May, last 28 May; one Norwich, three Pharsalia, two Vestal. Com. Yellowthroat: thru, first 27 Apr. Yellow-breasted Chat: four reports, first 6 May, all Vestal. Wilson's Warbler: six reports, first 6 May, last 27 May; three Broome Co, one Norwich; one OPM, one Otselic. Canada Warbler: 15 reports; first 18 May, four Broome Co, two Norwich, eight OPM, one Pharsalia. Am. Redstart: thru, first 4 May.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: thru first 7 May. E. Meadowlark: thru, first 14 Mar. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD**: one report, 13 May. Windsor: a farmwife, very familiar with Red-wings, "heard a different call," "looked on the ridgepole of one of the farm buildings, saw a blackbird with a yellow head." (Mrs. WM). Red-winged Blackbird: thru, first 2 Mar. No. Oriole: thru, first 1 May. Rusty Blackbird: one report, 18 Apr Milford (MD, KW). Com. Grackle: thru, first 1 Mar. Brown-headed Cowbird: thru, first 9 Mar. Scarlet Tanager: thru, first 10 May. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: thru, first 7 May. Indigo Bunting: thru, first 8 May. Evening Grosbeak: many reports, off and on all Mar and Apr; 15 reports in May, some fair size, 30 7 May OPM; last 31 May, one bird Norwich (JL). Purple Finch: thru. House Finch: thru. Pine Grosbeak: seven reports, last 16 Mar Milford (MD). Com. Redpoll: many reports in Mar and Apr, one report of two birds 22 May Delhi (JD, DB). Hoary Redpoll: one 5 Mar Norwich; holdover from winter report. Pine Siskin: thru, large flocks all Mar and Apr, gradually decreasing in May, last one 31 May Endwell (FL). White-winged Crossbill: four reports, last 26 Apr Delhi (MC); one other Delhi, one Oneonta, one Vestal. Rufous-sided Towhee: thru, first 16 Apr. Savannah Sparrow: thru, first 26 Mar. Grasshopper Sparrow: four reports, two Apalachin (JS), one BCNC, one Vestal Center (SD). **HENSLOW'S SPARROW**: 16 May Endwell (LB) only report. Vesper Sparrow: eight reports, first 20 Apr Delhi (MC), last 22 May Pharsalia (JL). Dark-eyed Junco: many, first probable migrants 13 Mar, peak 24 to 27 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: thru, first 9 Apr Delhi. Field Sparrow, thru; first 4 Apr, Norwich, Chenango Forks. White-crowned Sparrow: many, first 3 May, last 22 May. White-throated Sparrow: many all winter; probable first migrant flock 30 Mar Vestal (GK). Fox Sparrow: 24 reports, first 24 Mar, last 12, most of these feeding station reports between 4-11 Apr, a week of bitter cold and snow. Lincoln's Sparrow: three reports, one 16 May from a banding station in north-central Vestal (GK), two from a banding station in east Vestal (HM). Swamp Sparrow: 14 reports, first 24 Apr OPM. Song Sparrow: many all winter; first probable migrant flock 12 Mar Vestal (GK). Snow Bunting: last date 10 Mar.

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