

Derby Hill Hawk Migration Totals - 1984

Species	Arrival	Max - Date	Last	90% Date Range*	Total
Turkey Vulture	23 Feb	161 - 2 Apr	27 May	31 Mar - 29 Apr	1,600
Osprey	4 Apr	78 - 28 Apr	28 May	15 Apr - 12 May	342
Bald Eagle	23 Feb	4 - 20 Mar	20 May		22
Northern Harrier	17 Feb	74 - 14 Apr	28 May	21 Mar - 9 May	914
Sharp-shinned Hawk	16 Mar	3,019 - 28 Apr	28 May	14 Apr - 11 May	11,582
Cooper's Hawk:	23 Feb	64 - 17 Apr	25 May	21 Mar - 6 May	676
Northern Goshawk	17 Feb	36 - 22 Mar	7 May	15 Mar - 26 Apr	174
Red-shouldered Hawk	15 Mar	127 - 22 Mar	11 May	22 Mar - 22 Apr	964
Broad-winged Hawk	17 Apr	16,582 - 28 Apr	28 May	27 Apr - 27 May	39,673
Red-tailed Hawk	17 Feb	1,233 - 17 Apr	28 May	20 Mar - 27 Apr	8,166
Rough-legged Hawk	17 Feb	45 - 28 Apr	11 May	5 Mar - 29 Apr	563
Golden Eagle	22 Mar	22 - 22 Mar	5 May		22
American Kestrel	16 Mar	57 - 13 Apr	25 May	21 Mar - 29 Apr	435
Merlin	1 Apr	9 - 12 Apr	30 Apr		26
Grand total (including unidentified, rarities):					66,409

* Dates between which 90% of all birds passed Derby Hill.

REGION 6 - ST. LAWRENCE

KENNETH L. CROWELL and GERALD A. SMITH

If we had April weather in February, January descended in March. The mean temperature for the first half of the month was 9° F and the mean monthly temperature in Canton was 19° F - ten degrees below normal. The low for the month was -24° F on 8 March, and 22 March was the only day when the temperature in Canton exceeded 50° F. Precipitation was less than half of normal at 1.08 in. Snowfall for the month ranged from seven inches in eastern St. Lawrence Co. to 58 inches at Highmarket on Tug Hill. Major snowstorms occurred on the 14th and 30th, the latter accompanied by the strongest winds of the month. Other wind storms occurred 1, 6-7, 11-12, 17-19, 23-25 and 29-30 March. April was generally mild with temperatures slightly above normal. Extreme temperatures ranged from 16° F at Wanakena on the 1st to 81° F at Massena on the 28th. Fewer than half the days had frost, the last occurring at Canton on the 23rd. Precipitation was about normal (3.67 inches at Canton) with a maximum of 1.28 inches falling on 17 April. Light snow fell on the 8th. A brief cold snap was followed by two weeks of mild, dry weather. There were thunderstorms and local hail on the 17th. The month's coldest weather came during the third week, followed by mild temperatures leading to thunderstorms and high winds on the 28th. May weather was variable, with a distinctly cool, wet flavor. The month began with snow flurries. There were a few spells of two or three warm days,

with a decided change for the better after the 20th; but almost every time the time was ripe for a wave of migrants, the weather closed in. Mean temperatures were more than two degrees below normal. There was rain on 20 days and total rainfall in Canton was five inches - 1.8 inches above normal. Major storms occurred on 4-5, 8-9, and 29 May.

A total of 181 species was reported. There were good numbers of Snow Buntings and Horned Larks in March. There were more Northern Shrikes and redpolls and as many Pine Grosbeaks in March as earlier in the winter. Arrivals of March migrants, including Killdeer, Common Snipe, American Woodcock, American Robin and Common Grackle, were several days late. Marsh birds such as American Bittern, Common Moorhen and ducks arrived about on time in April. In spite of the weather, long distance insectivorous migrants arrived on schedule in May, but numbers were scant till late in the month. Kinglets were late and very few. Twenty-three species of warblers were reported, with few Blackpolls, Magnolias, and Bay-breasteds. With regard to species expanding ranges, Tufted Titmouse and Red-bellied Woodpecker show no increase; there was one migrant (?) gnatcatcher in Potsdam and one at Sandy Pond, and Northern Mockingbirds in Antwerp and Canton. House Finches seem to be preparing for an onslaught. For raptors, there were good numbers of Bald Eagles and Ospreys, but very few Cooper's Hawks. 28 April seems to have been a banner day for hawk migration throughout the region. Flycatchers seem to be in good shape. Especially notable were large numbers of White-crowned Sparrows in mid-May. Virtually all departed the night of 18 May. Reports of rarities point up the problems encountered in a region with few birders and no organized system for confirming sightings out of range or season. Confirmed, subject to NYSARC, were Cattle Egret, Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross' Goose, Wilson's Phalarope and Merlin.

Abbreviations: Jeff Co-Jefferson Co; MSPD-Moses Saunders Power Dam, Massena; PL-Perch Lake Wildlife Management Area; PR-Perch River WMA; Pt Pen-Point Peninsula; RMSP-Robert Moses State Park, Massena; St. Law Co-St. Lawrence Co.; SLR-St. Lawrence River; ULL-Upper and Lower Lakes WMA; WH-Wilson Hill WMA.

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LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: arr Jeff Co 4 April; singles ULL 20 April, Rainbow Falls Res 26 May So. Colton; pairs Pt Pen 2 May, PL 10 May. Pied-billed Grebe: arr WH 8 April; three ULL 26 May. Red-necked Grebe: one SLR near WH 12 May (JVR). Double-crested Cormorant: two Southwick Beach 14 April; five to ten MSPD 16 April thru; one PL 19 April; 25 Southwick Beach 27 May. Am. Bittern: common throughout St. Law Co mid-April thru; four ULL 11 May; three Fine 6 May. Least Bittern: one WH 18 May. Great Blue Heron: "in every block of northern St. Law Co" (JVR); colony at Scott Rd S of Stockholm Ctr abandoned. Great Egret: two PR 20 May (RJW), also one 30 May. **CATTLE EGRET**: one PR 27 May (RJW). Green-backed Heron: 15 reports from No. St. Law. Co. late April thru. Black-crowned Night-Heron: one Jeff Co 14 April; one west of Cornwall I (JVR). Mute Swan: two PR 14-19 April, three 27 May. **GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE**: one Henderson Pond 25-26 March (RJW); first confirmed Regional record. Snow Goose: very large flight; first report 17 Sulphur Springs 29 March; max 100 Massena April, 200 Lowville 18 April, 200 Canton 28 April; seven other reports from St. Law. and Jeff. Co. Canada Goose: 5,000 Lakeview WMA 21 March; 10,000 Henderson Pond 25 March; 6,000

PR 19 April. **ROSS' GOOSE**: one Henderson Pond 25 March (RJW), also on 1 April (DC, JH); first Regional record and only second NYS record, report sent to NYSARC by LC. Wood Duck: arr three Potsdam 15 April; several sightings in Canton thru; four Canton 25 May. Green-winged Teal: 20 near Ellisburg 2 May; one ULL 9 May. Am. Black Duck: max 200 Henderson Pond 25 March. Mallard: seems unusually abundant. N. Pintail: 100 Henderson Pond 25 March; ten Morley 8 April. Green-winged Teal: one Jeff. Co. 31 March; one ULL 11 May. N. Shoveler: one Massena 18 May. Gadwall: arr Jeff. Co. 31 March, WH 21 April. **EURASIAN WIGEON**: male near Woodville 5 May (RJW). Am. Wigeon: arr Jeff. Co. 31 March, Morley 8 April. Canvasback: Jeff. Co. 8 March (SH). Redhead: Jeff. Co. 31 March; pair WH 15 April, only sighting by JVR. Ring-necked Duck: eight PR 19 April; two to six per day WH and ULL. Greater Scaup: pairs PR 27 May, WH 29 May. Lesser Scaup: one to two pairs WH thru May. Oldsquaw: 80 above MSPD 18 May. White-winged Scoter three Stony Pt 4 March. Com. Goldeneye: WH 12 May. Bufflehead: one to two ULL 4-9 April; eight PR 19 April; eight to ten WH late April. Hooded Merganser: three Dexter 1 March; five PR 4 April; five WH 12 May. Com. Merganser: small numbers thru. Red-breasted Merganser: one MSPD 7 April; two Pt Pen 3 May.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: increased numbers from early April thru. Osprey: three migrating PR 19 April (LC); two, one on nest, PR 22 April; male displaying with fish Henderson 29 April (LC); six SLR Massena 28 April; arr Canton 23 April; two Canton 28 April; one ULL 1 May. Bald Eagle: one adult near Dexter 2 April; one Rainbow Falls Res, Colton 29 March (JG); one adult Carry Falls Res, Colton 15 May. N. Harrier: arr three Millens Bay 1 March; max 5 Pt Pen 24 March and 2 May; report of singles Jeff. Co. thru; singles St. Law. Co. thru. Sharp-shinned Hawk: one at feeder in Canton thru April; one Henderson 20 March; 22 SLR Massena 28 April; other sightings from Henderson, PR, ULL. Cooper's Hawk: two PR 19 April; three 22 and 29 April; four 28 April all Henderson (LC); three singles from Brownville and Canton; none Massena (JVR). N. Goshawk: singles PR 19 and 22 April, Henderson 22 April, "the odd one thru" Massena (JVR); pair at nest site south of Canton 2 May (KLC). Red-shouldered Hawk: four Potsdam-Massena area thru May (JVR); two screaming Pierrepont 28 March; pair resident Fine 4 April thru (PO's). Broad-winged Hawk: 375 Henderson 10:30-1:30 28 April; 500 Massena and SLR 28 April; abundant in Fine, pairs in Canton and Colton. Red-tailed Hawk: max 32 PR 19 April, 28 Massena 28 April; two pairs on nests Jeff. Co. (KC, SH). Rough-legged Hawk: several sightings in Jeff. Co. and western St. Law. Co. thru early April; max six PR 19 April; last 19 May (SH). **MERLIN**: one RMSP 28 April (MDiG, JVR). **PEREGRINE FALCON**: one PR 19 April, one Lakeview WMA 27 April (SH, *vide* LC). Gray Partridge: two Massena 19-20 April, only report. Ring-necked Pheasant: female Pierrepont 17 April; two RMSP 16 April; male ULL 26 May. Virginia Rail: pair ULL 2 May; common with tape (JVR). Sora: less common than preceding species (JVR). Am. Coot: one ULL 23 April; one being eaten by N. Harrier WH 18 May. Killdeer: arr Watertown 21 March. Greater Yellowlegs: arr PR 22 April. Lesser Yellowlegs: six Woodville 5 May. Solitary and Spotted Sandpipers and Short-billed Dowitcher: a few reports. Upland Sandpiper: three Massena 28 April; five Pierrepont 8 May. Com. Snipe: arr Henderson 25 March. **WILSON'S PHALAROPE**: male Watertown 20 May (RJW). Bonaparte's Gull: seven 3 April, 12 on 17 April, Hawkin's Pt. Caspian Tern: Jeff. Co. 14 April, three PR, two Pt Pen both 2 May; Eldorado Beach Preserve 30 May. Com. Tern: arr six SLR Massena 28 April; three ULL 10 May. Black Tern: arr three ULL 10 May; two WH 18 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: arr one ULL 26 May. E. Screech-Owl: one RMSP 18 May. Snowy Owl: last two Pillar Pt. 24 March; others in early March at E. Hounsfield, Baggs Corners, Evans Mills. Barred Owl: one Russell in yard 14-15 March; one Canton near Cray Mills 1 May; singles Long Lake 21 May, Aldrich 26 May, both town of Fine. **GREAT GRAY OWL**: one Pope's Mills 8 March (SB). Short-eared Owl: two Dexter Airport 24 March. N. Saw-whet Owl: one Potsdam thru (MDiG); one Massena 17

May. Com. Nighthawk: Potsdam 24 May, only report. Whip-poor-will: arr Canton 10 May; 18 Potsdam-Parishville area 3 hour survey 22 May (MDiG). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Canton 13 May. Red-headed Woodpecker: one Calcium 25 May; one on Rt. 3 at Southwick Beach 26 May; one Stony Pt. 27 May; pair Mummery Rd., Ogdensburg (NS), pair raised young here last year. Red-bellied Woodpecker: one Henderson March and April. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Canton 17 April; four Massena 18 May. No. Flicker: first migrants 14 April (LC).

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Willow Flycatcher: one Eldorado 30 May (SH). E. Phoebe: arr 4 April; six PR 19 April, most in two years (LC). Least Flycatcher: one arr 29 April, early. Horned Lark: flocks thru March, male in Sora flight Canton 10 April; one Canton 26 May. Purple Martin: arr ULL 9 May; arr Henderson and Massena 29 April, late. Tree Swallow: arr 8 April, 3,000 PR 19 April. N. Rough-winged Swallow: pair Canton 10 May. Bank Swallow: arr Pierrepont 6 May; 50 Bank and Tree Swallows killed on Rt. 131 causeway at WH 17 April. Cliff Swallow: ten Hawkins Pt., Massena 22 April; resident at several farms south of Canton in May. Com. Raven: heard at Church Pd. bog, Colton 14 March; two near Cranberry Lake 10 April; two Dead Creek, S. Colton 17 April. Boreal Chickadee: two Potsdam late Feb thru 15 March; one Canton 18 May. Tufted Titmouse: two Henderson thru. Winter Wren: singles Pierrepont 24 April; Stony Pt. 27 April; Watertown 27 May. Golden-crowned Kinglet: three Louisville 21 April; Pierrepont 24 May. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Louisville 21 April; three Canton 29 April. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one Potsdam ca. 12 May, not found again (MDiG); one Sandy Pond 30 May. E. Bluebird: none Potsdam and Massena (JVR, MDiG); arr Potsdam 21 March; two Potsdam 14 April thru, four 21 April and 30-31 May, pair in nest box 31 May (all SC DeG); other reports from Brownville, DeKalb, Pierrepont, Louisville. Hermit Thrush: two Bombay 18 May. Bohemian Waxwing: four 28 March, 500 Dry Hill, Watertown 7 April, "We examined the flock carefully for Cedar Waxwings, 500 is a conservative number." (RW). Cedar Waxwing: 60 Dry Hill 28 March; few elsewhere till late May. N. Shrike: one Adams 21 March; two ULL 30 March; dep 7 April. Loggerhead Shrike: none.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Vireos arrived late. Solitary Vireo: one Louisville 2 May; one WH 18 May. Yellow-throated Vireo: one Jeff. Co. 18 May. Warbling Vireo arr 12 May. Most arrival dates for warblers lay between 11-18 May; following are a few extremes. Golden-winged Warbler: one Helena 29 May; one Pierrepont 31 May. Yellow Warbler: arr Canton 6 May. Black-and-white Warbler: arr Canton 2 May. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Canton 20 April. More interesting sightings included: Blackpoll Warbler: one Louisville 22 May; three Watertown 25 May. Palm Warbler: one Jeff. Co. 27 April (SH), one Louisville 25 May (MB). Cerulean Warbler: one Watertown 25 May. Louisiana Waterthrush: one Watertown 27 May. Mourning Warbler: six Watertown 27 May. Wilson's Warbler: one Watertown 20 May, all Watertown reports from RJW. N. Cardinal: no change. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: good numbers. Am. Tree Sparrow: dep Henderson 1 April; gone from Massena 1 May. Field Sparrow: arr Jeff. Co. 17 May; six Canton 2 May. Vesper Sparrow: seven Potsdam 20 April. Fox Sparrow: two Canton 15 April; singles Louisville 18 April and 1 May. Lincoln's Sparrow: one Massena 19, 20 May (JVR). White-crowned Sparrow: arr Henderson 29 April, dep 20 May; exceptionally abundant. Snow bunting: max 200 Dexter 3 March. Rusty Blackbird: two Henderson 28 April. Pine Grosbeak: eight Canton 6 March; last one male Pierrepont 17 April. House Finch: male Pierrepont 31 March, female 2 April, new record for town (KC); at least four pair Canton thru, almost as abundant as Purple Finch; two pair Potsdam, one courting 16 May (SC); one nesting failed, one fledgling seen Henderson late May (LC); two Louisville 6 May (MB) and one 6 April, three pair 14 April, six males, two females 14 April (JVR) both new records. Red Crossbill: one to two Louisville 21 May. Com. Redpoll: very few, max 12 Potsdam 17 March, one to four Henderson 3 March to 1 April; last one Massena 20 April. Pine Siskin: six to ten at feeders Canton, Massena, Henderson thru 20 May; max 20 Canton mid-April. Evening Grosbeak: last flocks 20 May.

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