

(SH) only report. Ruffed Grouse: one to three per day 6-24 May. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr two Watertown 4 May, max 49 PR 6 May (R & JW), excellent count for spring. Upland Sandpiper: max two Watertown 6 May. Ruddy Turnstone: three Eaglewing I, SLR, 21 May, only report. White-rumped Sandpiper: one WH 31 May (JVR), very unusual in spring. Dunlin: max 57 SLR 21 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: two SLR 21 May, only report. Bonaparte's Gull: 12 near Chippewa Pt, SLR, 21 May, only report. Ring-billed Gull: arr Hen 15 Mar, population way up; it is possible to see 20,000 feeding in plowed fields around Hen in a very short time (LBC). Caspian Tern: arr one LWMA 19 Apr (SH).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: three reports from SLaw. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: singles Dekalb 30 May (FR) and Louisville (MB) unusual as preceding species more common. Com. Nighthawk: arr Potsdam 16 May and courting 17 May; four moving through Pierrepont 28 May. Whip-poor-will: seven Hermon 12 May (JG).

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: one ULL 10 May, unusual. Willow Flycatcher: two Stockholm 21 May (FR) indicates range expansion in this species. Purple Martin: max 40 Massena 23 Apr. Winter Wren: two LWMA 13 Apr and one LWMA 19 Apr were probably migrants, but two Massena 26 May reflect regular breeding in pine woodlands. Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 13 LWMA 13 Apr.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: arr Louisville 25 Apr; one WH 30 May is late. Philadelphia Vireo: three Louisville (MB), unusual. Cape May Warbler: none.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Indigo Bunting: one Heuvelton 14 May, subad male Pierrepont 28 May only reports. Field Sparrow: arr Stockholm 14 Apr; 9 sightings Jeff. Vesper Sparrow: arr Pierrepont 24 Apr, three pairs resident there 17 May; none Hen (LC). Grasshopper Sparrow: none! Henslow's Sparrow: none! White-crowned Sparrow: arr Hen 29 Apr, last E. Boylston 17 May; far fewer than last year. Rusty Blackbird: 100 ULL 22 Apr. White-winged Crossbill: one Potsdam 9-23 Apr. Com. Redpoll: max 110 Canton 1 Mar (M & EH), last Southwick SP 19 Apr. Pine Grosbeak: last six Canton 4 Mar. Evening Grosbeak: numbers increasing, last 18 May.

KLC—RD 4, Box 97, Canton, New York 13617

GAS—DHBO, Sage Creek Rd., Mexico, New York 13114

REGION 7 – ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

JOHN M. C. PETERSON

Active observers gave the season mixed reviews. Reports often were so contradictory that the hyphenated Adirondack-Champlain Region seemed split into high and low elevation regions. Near Tupper Lake (el. 1,556') Charlie Delehanty noted, "Migration was *early* this year," while the hawk watch data from Coot Hill (el. 1,095') and bird banding results from neighboring Crown Point Peninsula (el. 162') portrayed a delayed movement. Covering Essex County areas near Port Henry and Moriah (el. 500') with his usual activity, Geoffrey Carleton had come up with only nine species of warblers by the end of May, noting, "It is most

discouraging." In Franklin County on 18 May Ted Mack and Christie & Larry Yox did a "century run" of 104 species, including 16 warblers; on 31 May Ted found 102 species with Ken & Virginia West, including 15 warblers. Consider, too, the Veery: Delehanty emphatically reported, "NONE!," while on 24 May near Paradox (el. 903') Merry Baker noted, "Love all the Veeries in the area," and the editor's woods near Elizabethtown (el. 705') rang with the songs of several.

The weather was almost as confusing. Seasonal degree days were running about 2% warmer than average during early Mar, and the first major thaw on St. Patrick's Day began to melt the two to six feet of snow that had accumulated in the woods. Then the first day of Spring brought a cold wave that saw temperatures drop to -9°F at Saranac Lake by the morning of 21 Mar. Thermometers bounced from 19° below average to 17° above normal by Palm Sunday, and as the jet stream swung north it pushed the mercury to a high of 65°F at Plattsburgh on 26 Mar. The month had 40% sunshine.

April began cold and wet, and even though conditions improved by mid-month, light northeasterly winds prevailed, holding back both hawks and land-birds. On the afternoon of 13 Apr, with winds shifting to southwesterly, Theodore Mack had 20 N. Harriers and a Broad-winged Hawk pass his lookout on Haystack Mountain, Franklin Co, plus a record flight of 67 Common Ravens moving east, including 48 at once kettling over nearby Kate Mountain. The Coot Hill hawk watch was visited on eight days during Apr, including six days of consecutive coverage from 15 Apr. The season was moderately successful, producing at least 236 hawks of a dozen species. On 20 Apr the winds blew from the SSE, bringing the highest daily total of 84 raptors of seven species. The best variety came on 26 Apr, when nine species were tallied, plus nine Com. Ravens over Bulwagga Mountain. The last day of observation was 27 Apr.

The retarded spring migration was not confined to raptors. Bird-banding operations were conducted on Crown Point Peninsula from 8-14 May. Although variety was good, there were no major waves of migrant landbirds. A total of 95 individuals of 30 species were banded. The tally was far short of last year's 429 individuals, and although the species total tied for the second best ever in terms of variety, 14 of those species were represented by a single bird. There were three returns of birds banded last year: Great Crested Flycatcher, Gray Catbird, and Northern Oriole.

An eight-person team from High Peaks Audubon conducted the census of Ring-billed Gulls on Island "C" of the Four Brothers Islands in Lake Champlain on 24 May counting 15,081 active nests. Two Snow Geese were also present on the island when the team arrived. The census of the other three islands was conducted on 26 May by the wildlife manager and three wardens. A total of 110 Double-crested Cormorant nests had been completed or were under construction, 105 on Island "A", five on Island "B". There are an estimated 30 Black-crowned Night-Heron nests on three islands. Herring Gulls are doing well on all islands, due largely to rather low lake conditions this spring. Great Black-backed Gulls are on all four islands, and Canada Geese had two goslings on Island "A". There are also nesting Mallards and Com. Mergansers, and a mixed flock of migrant shorebirds was feeding on the shingle beach of Island "D".

A Red-tailed Hawk found shot in Clinton Co was successfully rehabilitated by Drs. Craig & Suzanne Russell, banded, and released. A Barred Owl apparently struck by a motor vehicle in Essex Co was treated by the same Westport veterinarians for a fractured leg and wing. A wayward Red-necked Grebe landed inside the Ray Brook Correctional Facility on 4 Apr, but was released by the NYS DEC on Lake Flower the same day.

Eagles made a remarkable showing. The first Bald Eagle was feeding on a deer carcass at Tupper Lake on 4 Mar. By 31 Mar there had been sightings of five birds (3 ad, 2 subad) there, including an im with yellow wing-marker probably hacked nearby. Three Bald Eagles at Upper Saranac Lake on 3 Apr may have involved the same birds. Franklin Falls-Union Falls had three Bald Eagles (first-year, second-year, near ad) on 27 Mar, while Bay Pond had two ad on 27 Mar and two im on 29 Mar. Singles were reported from the Moose River Plains, Raquette Lake, and Lake Champlain at Ticonderoga during Mar-Apr. A wing-tagged im was seen again at Tupper Lake on 17 May. On 19 May, following a night of thunderstorms, a young bird with yellow/blue marker was found feeding on goats killed by lightning near Whallonsburg, Essex Co; this eagle had been hacked near Tupper Lake in 1985. The first Golden Eagle arrived at the outlet of Mitchell Ponds, Hamilton Co, on 19 Mar. A mated pair of ad Golden Eagles were touching talons in flight at Bay Pond, Franklin Co, on 29 Mar. In Essex Co, a migrant ad was at Port Henry on 6 May and another passed Coot Hill hawk watch on 15 Apr. Seasonal totals came to at least 16 Bald Eagles and five Golden Eagles, a most encouraging showing.

A total of about 177 species were recorded. Unfortunately, no reports were received from Clinton Co for the season.

Contributors: Nick Bailey, Russell Bailey, Merry Baker, Thomas Barber, Dirck & Mary Benson, Marvin Bissell, Kevin Boyle, John Brant, Geoffrey Carleton, Ann & Walter Chapman, Glen & Malinda Chapman, Dewey & Joan Clark, Charlie Delehanty, John D. Delehanty, John E. Delehanty, Susan Delehanty, Katherine Eagleson, Nan Eagleson, Greg Furness, Emily & Jack Geddes, Ed Grant, Robert Hagar, Julia Hammond, Gordon Howard, Elsbeth Johnson, Barbara Kunzi, Anne Lacy, Bruce & Connie Landon, Gary Lee, Theodore Mack, Eileen McKenna, Shirley Meisburger, John Peterson, Charles & Delia Pratt, Gary Randorf, Martin Roddy, William Rutherford, David Rutkowski, Elinore Schuck, James Sotis, Gen Sutter, Ken & Virginia West, Hollis White, Christie & Larry Yox.

LOONS-DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: Webb Royce Swamp, Esse, 27 Apr (TM, JP) only report. Red-necked Grebe: max six L Flower (Esse/Fran) 7 Apr, three Big Tupper L 9 Apr, last Port Henry 17 Apr. Double-crested Cormorant: 36 migrants passed Coot Hill 20 Apr. Am. Wigeon: pair St. Regis R, Hogansburg, 18 May (TM, C & LY). Redhead: St. Regis R 8 May (HW). Ring-necked Duck: arr three L Alice, Clin, 30 Mar (TM). Greater Scaup: arr three Tupper L 2 Apr. Lesser Scaup: male, Moody Pd, Esse, 17-18 Apr. White-winged Scoter: Newcomb 17 May (A & WC). Com. Goldeneye: arr 15 Tupper L 24 Mar. Bufflehead: arr two Tupper L 31 Mar, last Westport 27 Apr. Red-breasted Merganser: hen Four Brothers Islands 26 May.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr Moriah 28 Mar. Osprey: max three Coot Hill 20 Apr. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 22 Coot Hill 20 Apr. Broad-winged Hawk: arr two Auger Pd, Esse, 29 Mar (D & JC), max 21 Coot Hill 27 Apr. Red-tailed Hawk: max 19 Coot Hill 20 Apr. Merlin: max two Coot Hill 15 Apr. Peregrine Falcon: one nestling banded near Keene Valley, one nestling near Wilmington, subad male seen at cliff site near Westport.

Wild Turkey: male Paradox 26 Mar, male Coot Hill 26 Apr, male Westport early May, **Moose R. Plains, Hami**, 30 May (GL) suggests continued penetration of Region. Greater Yellowlegs: four migrants over Crown Pt peninsula 10 May. Solitary Sandpiper: Newcomb 17 May. Upland Sandpiper: Moriah 18 May. Semipalmated Sandpiper: two Four Brothers I "D" 26 May. Least Sandpiper: 15 Four Brothers I "D" 26 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: Four Brothers I "D" 26 May (JP).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Long-eared Owl: calling near Westport (DT). N. Saw-whet Owl: calling near Elizabethtown 29 Mar (JP). Three-toed Woodpecker: Ferd's Bog 29 May. Black-backed Woodpecker: Ferd's Bog 30 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Horned Lark: migrants Bay Pd, Fran, 14 Mar (BL), Newcomb, Esse, 17 Mar (WC). Gray Jay: roadkill found Rt. 28 Long Lake 5 Mar (WC); feeding on dead deer Moose R Plains daily in Mar (GL); one Sly Pd, Hami, 25 Mar (GL)—high elevation. Com. Raven: two at deer carcass Tupper L 2 Mar (CD), y Hami site 4 Apr (GL), and brooding y at Tahawus mine cliff, Esse, 12 Apr (WC). Boreal Chickadee: two, Newcomb feeder (A & WC); also Eighth L carry, Sabattis Bog, Sly Pd. Tufted Titmouse: male L Placid 22-25 Apr, Elizabethtown 29 Apr, and Crown Pt 11 May. Brown Creeper: singing near Elizabethtown 14 Mar (JP). Brown Thrasher: arr Crown Pt peninsula 26 Apr (TM, JP). Water Pipit: nine Newcomb 17 May (MB, A & WC).

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: arr Paradox 21 Apr, nest-building 9 May (MB). Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Port Henry 6 May (GC). Warbling Vireo: arr Port Henry 6 May (GC). Philadelphia Vireo: arr Tupper L 18 May (CD). Red-eyed Vireo: arr Paradox 13 May (MB). Blue-winged/Golden-winged Warbler: *bee-buzz-bz* song-type Paradox 29 May (MB). Tennessee Warbler: migrants Paradox 17 May (MB) and Elizabethtown 19 May (JP). Nashville Warbler: arr Tupper L 29 Apr (CD), one banded Crown Pt. N. Parula: arr Crown Pt 10 May (JP). Yellow Warbler: arr Paradox 7 May (MB), six banded Crown Pt. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Paradox 5 May (MB). Magnolia Warbler: arr Elk L, Esse, 9 May (MB); one banded Crown Pt. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Tupper L 6 May (CD). Yellow-rumped Warbler: record early Inlet, Hami, 1 Apr (GL); migrant wave Port Henry 6 May; ten banded Crown Pt. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Paradox 28 Apr (MB). Blackburnian Warbler: arr Paradox 30 Apr (MB). Pine Warbler: arr Saranac L 26 Apr (D & MB). (Western) Palm Warbler: record max 12 Crown Pt 8 May, plus two banded 9-10 May (JP). Blackpoll Warbler: arr Fran 18 May (TM, C & LY). Black-and-white Warbler: arr Elizabethtown 29 Apr (JP). Am. Redstart: one banded Crown Point 11 May (JP). Ovenbird: arr Paradox 5 May (MB). N. Waterthrush: arr Paradox 5 May (MB). Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Elizabethtown 29 Apr (JP). Mourning Warbler: arr Fran 31 May (TM, K & VW). Com. Yellowthroat: arr Paradox 10 May (MB), three banded Crown Pt. Canada Warbler: Fran 18 May (TM, C & LY).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Am. Tree Sparrow: last two Tupper L 18 Apr (CD). Chipping Sparrow: early arr Paradox 29 Mar (MB). Field Sparrow: arr two Tahawus 12 Apr (WC). Vesper Sparrow: early transient Newcomb 2 Apr (WC). Savannah Sparrow: arr Tupper L 10 Apr (CD). Fox Sparrow: arr Tupper L 8 Apr (CD), last six Bombay, Fran, 21 Apr (HW). Song Sparrow: arr Ticonderoga 17 Mar (MC). Lincoln's Sparrow: one banded Crown Pt 13 May. Swamp Sparrow: arr Saranac L 27 Apr (D & MB). White-throated Sparrow: arr Bay Pd 23 Mar (BL), 14 banded Crown Pt 8-13 May. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Hogansburg 2 May (HW), 12 banded Crown Pt 9-13 May, last Inlet 17 May (GL). Dark-eyed Junco: many migrants in Region from 20 Mar, max 107 Tupper L 11 Apr (CD). Snow Bunting: Inlet and Tupper L in Mar. Red-winged Blackbird: arr Tupper L 11 Mar. E. Meadowlark: early arr Westport 2 Mar (C & DP). Rusty Blackbird: 15 Bombay 21 Apr (HW). **ORCHARD ORIOLE**: subad male singing Crown Pt peninsula 11-13 May (TB, GH, JP). N. Oriole: arr Cheever, Port Henry, Tupper L 6 May. Pine Grosbeak: max 13 Tupper L 13 Mar, last 28 Mar. Purple Finch: returned Paradox 26 Mar, courtship display

4 May (MB). House Finch: arr Newcomb 18 Mar, Tupper L 25 Apr. Com. Redpoll: max flocks of 100 Newcomb and Tupper L during Mar, last Newcomb 3 Apr. **HOARY RED-POLL**: one Elizabethtown 15 Mar (KE). Pine Siskin: 20 Auger Pd 28 Mar, migrant flocks widely reported during early May. Evening Grosbeak: large flocks early May, female mate-feeding male Paradox 10 May (MB), male in display flight Elizabethtown early May (JP).

Discovery Farm, R.D. 1, Elizabethtown, New York 12932

There is no Region 8 report because we have no Region 8 Editor.

REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Warm days from mid-March through April brought the foliage out early. Low-land maples were in full leaf by 20 Apr, almost two weeks early. Cold days in early Mar froze the Hudson in the northern part of the Region from the 7th through the 16th, when it opened again. May was warmer than usual, but not excessively so and not enough to discourage birding.

Precipitation in Mar was largely restricted to three days in mid-month and was about a third of normal. April precipitation was only slightly above normal, but the surprise was an all day snowfall on the 23rd. Anywhere from two to eight inches fell depending on the elevation. 24 Apr was a beautiful day! Your reporter, who was counting hawks from a lawn chair perched on eight inches of snow atop Mt. Peter, watched that snow melt completely away around him by the day's end.

May was a beautiful month with well below normal precipitation. The only significant rain was about an inch that fell from the 20th to the 23rd. Although rain did little to dampen the fervor of most birders, the dearth of birds did. Several veteran correspondents expressed dismay and true concern for the continually dropping numbers of birds in recent years, and the complete absence of certain species. "Why?" was asked by many, and no answers were forthcoming.

Bob Deed reported warbler waves in Rockland during late Apr and again on 7 and 17 May, with the latter date the best. All other correspondents noted the movement on 17 May but not on the earlier dates. Luckily, 17 May coincided with the "Big Day" activities of most local clubs. The 162 species found by the Waterman Club broke their previous high of 160 for that count, set in 1972. Otis Waterman reported that most of the warblers found were moving up the Harlem Valley bordering the east side of the county and not on the west along the Hudson Valley.

The icing of the Hudson in Mar slowed the departure of a few species of