

REGION 2 — GENESEE

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March had its usual mix of conditions. Temperatures were just over 2° below normal with an average of 32°F. Precipitation was just over a half inch below normal at 1.7 inches. Snowfall was slightly below normal and birding was generally good throughout the month. Warm conditions from 21 to 24 Mar carried with them a flurry of arrivals and decent hawk flights. Waterfowl numbers, especially Tundra Swan and Hooded Merganser, were briefly good, but totals diminished quickly. Great Egret, Golden Eagle, and Semipalmated Plover set record early arrivals during the month. Carolina Wren was noteworthy for going unreported during the month. The harsh winter may have taken its toll on this southern species. A few misses included early shorebirds, early Yellow-rumped Warbler and the early sparrows. These kept the monthly species total slightly below the 10 year average. Rarities included Eurasian Wigeon, *Sandhill Crane*, and *Swainson's Hawk*.

April proved to be a most interesting month. The average temperature of 48°F was over 2° higher than usual, and precipitation at 4.08 inches was nearly 1.5 inches above normal. Some periods of significant snowfall slowed the migration. Fortunately, there were several days with southerly breezes in the middle and the end of the month. Totals for the month were generally good, with some early vireo and warbler arrivals and some interesting reports of uncommon species. The total species count for April was one of the highest ever. Water birds were generally poor, even with the arrival of some new species for the spring season. Of interest were reports of loons and grebes at inland locations, and it was a good spring for both of the dark-winged scoters. The hawk flights were very good on certain days. Shorebird totals remained low. Good numbers of Little Gull, Bonaparte's Gull and Common Tern were reported. Record early arrivals included Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-winged, Golden-winged, Yellow, Magnolia, and Connecticut Warblers, American Redstart, Ovenbird, and Common Yellowthroat. The first *Loggerhead Shrike* in recent years was reported, and *Brewer's Blackbird* was also seen this spring. Other rarities for April included Eurasian Wigeon, Fish Crow, Common Raven, Worm-eating Warbler.

May was cooler than usual and just a bit drier. The 54.2°F average temperature for the month was just under 3° below normal. Precipitation was a mere 0.16 inch below normal at 2.56 inches. Weather conditions generally were not great for birding during the first three weeks of May, but the end of the month was much better with some very good birding days. Concentrations in general again seemed to be low. The migration was somewhat varied as is usually the case. There were some interesting

counts of scoters from Hamlin Beach, but water birds in general were scarce. The shorebirding was very poor throughout the period. Little Gull counts were good for spring, but most gulls and terns were poorly reported. There were a couple of Whip-poor-will reports but the species continued to be scarce. Negatives for the passerines were evident for a number of species. Flycatchers and thrushes continued to be of special concern. Philadelphia Vireo was poor and a number of warblers, including Tennessee and Blackpoll Warblers, were noted as scarce. Sparrows, especially Lincoln's, White-throated and White-crowned, also showed reduced totals, and Henslow's Sparrow was not reported. On the plus side were good reports of White-eyed Vireo. There were reports of moving Pine Siskin and Evening Grosbeak through the end of the month. May highlights included a *Mississippi Kite*, *King Rail*, Snowy Owl, Sedge Wren, three reports of Orange-crowned Warbler, two reports of Worm-eating Warbler, two Kentucky Warbler, *LeConte's Sparrow*, and Clay-colored Sparrow.

For the eighteenth consecutive year the hawk watch at Braddock Bay was conducted. A total of 47,633 raptors was counted from March through May, and an additional 594 birds were counted during parts of February and June. The principal observer was Jerry Liquori. Four species had new record high seasonal totals: 8430 Turkey Vulture, 132 Bald Eagle, 35 Merlin, and 22 Peregrine Falcon. Northern Harrier set a new single day high of 403.

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Abbreviations: BB - Braddock Bay; CHP - Cobb's Hill Park; HB - Hamlin Beach State Park; IB - Irondequoit Bay; ICW - Island Cottage Woods; PtB - Pt. Breeze; WL - West Lakeshore (Lake Ontario west of Rochester).

Spring reports: Red-throated Loon: 12 Long Pd 29 Apr (PW), unusual location; last HB 22 May, late. Horned Grebe: arr BB 24 Mar. Red-necked Grebe: arr Manitou 25 Mar; max 25 HB 9 Apr; last HB 12

May. **Double-crested Cormorant**: arr Manitou 25 Mar; max 440 HB 10 May. **Least Bittern**: arr Round Pd 21 May. **Great Egret**: arr Round Pd 24 Mar (JS), record early. **Cattle Egret**: one BB, Hamlin 27 Apr (JL, BM), scarce in recent Years. **Tundra Swan**: max 100 Byron 3 Apr. **Trumpeter Swan**: one of unknown origin Russell Station all Mar; one HB 9 May (WS), likely the same bird. **Snow Goose**: arr four Hamlin 18 Mar. **Brant**: one IB all Mar, wintering bird; one WL 12 May. **N. Shoveler**: arr Greece 8 Mar. **Eurasian Wigeon**: male BB 16 Mar (RO'H); one Parma 1 and 4 Apr (MD, BM), possibly the same bird. **Oldsquaw**: max 2000 HB 19 Apr (WS), good total for a poor year. **Black Scoter**: arr five HB 28 Apr. **Surf Scoter**: arr seven HB 19 Apr. **White-winged Scoter**: max 10,800 HB 18 May (WS), a great total for May. **Bufflehead**: last eight WL 12 May. **Hooded Merganser**: max 150 Greece 26 Mar. **Com. Merganser**: last HB 25 May.

Turkey Vulture: max 891 BB 14 Apr. **Osprey**: max 52 BB 14 Apr. **Mississippi Kite**: one BB 31 May (JL). **Bald Eagle**: max 11 BB 24 Mar, 14 Apr. **Sharp-shinned Hawk**: max 1531 BB 14 Apr. **Cooper's Hawk**: max 210 BB 14 Apr. **N. Goshawk**: max eight BB 14 Mar. **Red-shouldered Hawk**: arr BB 19 Mar; max 288 BB 24 Mar. **Broad-winged Hawk**: arr four BB 14 Apr; max 3737 BB 26 Apr. **Swainson's Hawk**: one Hamlin 12 Apr (BM, B&SS, CS), very early. **Red-tailed Hawk**: max 1409 BB 14 Apr. **Rough-legged Hawk**: max 81 BB 14 Apr; last WL 20 May. **Golden Eagle**: arr BB 8 Mar (JL), record early; max two BB on four dates. **Am. Kestrel**: max 161 BB 15 Apr. **Merlin**: arr BB 24 Mar, max five BB 29 Apr. **Peregrine Falcon**: arr Greece 24 Mar, max three BB 9 May. **King Rail**: one Round Pd 19 May (RS); one Hamlin 22 May (MD, DT, WD'A, BE). **Sandhill Crane**: six BB (JL) and Badgerow (formerly Dewey-Latta) P (BM) 30 Mar. **Semipalmated Plover**: arr Hamlin 27 Mar (TH), record early. **Upland Sandpiper**: arr HB 15 Apr. **Whimbrel**: last BB 27 May. **W. Sandpiper**: arr two Hamlin 25 May [details? - The Editor]. **White-rumped Sandpiper**: arr Hamlin 12 May. **Dunlin**: arr Bergen 1 May. **Short-billed Dowitcher**: arr BB 24 Apr. **Wilson's Phalarope**: arr Hamlin 18 May (RO'H), few reports in recent years. **Little Gull**: arr BB 7 Apr, max four HB 25 May (WS). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 3000 off Durand-Eastman P 23 Apr (R&SS, Peg Beckman). **Iceland Gull**: one HB 1 Mar (WS), one Manitou 14 May (RO'H). **Glaucous Gull**: singles Greece 29 Mar (KG), HB 21 Apr (WS), PtB 22 May, few reports. **Com. Tern**: 202 HB 19 Apr (WS, ER). **Forster's Tern**: arr WL 10 Apr.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr WL 21 May. **Snowy Owl**: one Brighton 22 May (mob), one Greece 27 May (PS), unusual in May. **Whip-poor-will**: arr ICW, Oatka Creek 25 Apr; two May reports; poor total for a once more common species.

Great-crested Flycatcher: arr Greece 23 Apr (KG&CD-G), record early. **Fish Crow**: one Riverside Cemetery 29 Apr (RS). **Com. Raven**: one Webster 21 Apr (D&DT) and 26 Apr (JC). **Winter Wren**: arr one Greece 27 Mar. **Sedge Wren**: one WL 30 May (MD), only report. **Ruby-crowned**

Kinglet: last Manitou 25 May (EB), late. **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr Webster 17 May. **Am. Pipit:** arr WL 20 Mar, last HB 25 May. **Bohemian Waxwing:** last Webster 13 Mar, only report. **Cedar Waxwing:** max 3000 PtB 30 May (WL). **Loggerhead Shrike:** one Hamlin 15 Apr (MD), only report.

White-eyed Vireo: singles CHP 30 Apr (AW), Manitou 7 May (SS), Mendon Ponds 14 May (CC, AC), Manitou 24 May (EB), rare but regular. **Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr BB 24 Apr (JL), record early. **Philadelphia Vireo:** arr Greece 24 May. **Blue-winged Warbler:** arr several sites 27 Apr, record early. **Golden-winged Warbler:** arr Webster 26 Apr (D&DT), record early. **Blue-winged X Golden-winged Warbler:** "Lawrence's" type Genesee Country Nature Center 10 -23 May (SA), same location as last year; "Brewster's" type Greece 10 May (DS). **Orange-crowned Warbler:** singles Rochester 26 Apr (RS), Manitou 9 May (EB), one CHP 10, 16 May (AW), unusual in spring. **Prairie Warbler:** one Ontario County P 30 May (R & SS). **Cerulean Warbler:** arr Williamson 14 May. **Prothonotary Warbler:** arr ICW 25 May. **Worm-eating Warbler:** one near Maxwell Creek WAYN 30 Apr (DS, MT), one CHP 10-12 May, one Greece 22 May, rare but regular. **Kentucky Warbler:** one Letchworth SP 22 May (RS); one Greece 22 May (RS). **Connecticut Warbler:** arr Conesus L 27 Apr (MT) [details?-The Editor], record early, unusual location. **Hooded Warbler:** arr ICW 27 Apr.

Am. Tree Sparrow: last Hogan Pt 10 May (MD). **Clay-colored Sparrow:** one PtB 14-15 May (MD); one BB 24 May (JL). **Field Sparrow:** arr Greece 15 Apr. **LeConte's Sparrow:** one BB 3 May (JB, mob, ph). **Fox Sparrow:** arr BB 1 Apr; last Webster 4 May. **Lincoln's Sparrow:** last Manitou, ICW 27 May. **White-crowned Sparrow:** last ICW 25 May, late. **Lapland Longspur:** max 17 Hamlin 11 Mar; last Hamlin 20 Mar. **Snow Bunting:** max 4000 Elba 12 Mar, last two BB 2 Apr. **E. Meadowlark:** arr BB 22 Mar. **Rusty Blackbird:** arr two Greece 23 Mar. **Brewer's Blackbird:** two Hamlin 8 Apr (MD), one on 10 Apr (MD) and 11 Apr (BM). **Orchard Oriole:** arr BB 29 Apr, singles BB 1 May, WAYN 11 May, Manitou 22 May. **Pine Grosbeak:** last eight Greece 12 Mar. **Com. Redpoll:** last three PtB 19 Apr (WL).

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