

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPRING SEASON

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The spring of 1995 brought very interesting birding all across the State. It was generally dry to near drought everywhere, with April in Region 4 the only month that specifically indicated even slightly above average precipitation. Most reports showed rainfall 1/3 to 2/3 the norm. This generally produced easy conditions for birding. March started the season on a warm note, following on the heels of a very warm winter. That combination brought a scattering of record early arrival dates across the State. April was cold, most nearly average in Region 10, with north winds much of the time over most of the State delaying some migrants and damping hawk flights in the western part of the State. May warmed to nearly average temperatures over most of the State, a bit cooler in Regions 6, 7, 8, and 9, with the little rain that fell coming in bursts after cool spells which had dammed the flow of migrants for days. Storms crossing the State 10 through 13 May after a long cool spell produced some of the best migrant fallout in many years, and many high counts for a wide variety of species were obtained. Lesser, more local, but still impressive birding days were noted 17, 19-21, and 24 May.

This season is the most difficult I have had to summarize. The lists of high counts and early arrivals to be checked relative to published extremes and the many rarities are the most in nearly 20 years. This season's records will drive many of the authors of the next *Bull's Birds of New York* back to their manuscripts to add extreme dates and maxima. In this limited space, it is impossible to list all here without simply repeating the Regional Reports. Thus, I am forced to attempt an analysis plus provide a quick taste of some of the wealth of information contained in the Regional reports. The reader should remember several cautions. First, we are now 20 years past the publication of John Bull's *Birds of New York State* and there is not sufficient time to check all *Kingbird* issues for the extreme dates and counts, so my comments will be relative to Bull's information and my fallible memory of the intervening years' data. Next, there is variation in the degree of experience, interest, and screening applied to records among the Regional Reports. This summary is an additional, informal filter evident in my commentary or the lack thereof. Finally, high counts are difficult to compare both between Regions and with historical reports, because the effort expended and the area covered usually are not indicated. I generally refer the reader to the specific Regional Reports for comparisons over time by that Regional Editor. In most cases, it may be assumed that high counts are from individuals or single parties at one place, but not all single site tallies are distinguished from totals obtained by a group covering many sites in a Region. *It is relatively hard to gather*

numerical data about to bird populations that are both comparable and useful over time and space. We perhaps should treat these reports as much as fun and an aid to knowing when and where to enjoy birds as an attempt to gather scientific data.

Starting with the water birds, and at sea at that, the Region 10 report summarizes a fantastic, late winter pelagic trip. Highlights include State record highs for Northern Fulmar, *Common Murre*, and *Atlantic Puffin* and large numbers for other species plus an encounter with *Great Skua*. Otherwise, loon and grebe counts were not particularly good, but Region 2 did record a *Pacific Loon* and Regions 5 and 10 noted Eared Grebe, in the latter case in the company of both Horned and Red-necked Grebes. Inland, numbers of Double-crested Cormorant eclipse those in Bull's book, 3120 the peak this year found in Region 5. The warm winter and early March saw open water at early dates in many Regions. Waterfowl responded well, with many species returning early and also on their breeding areas early. Inland regions noted better variety and numbers than for many springs. Highlights include the continued appearance of Greater White-fronted Goose, with birds in Regions 1, 2, 5, and 9; a *Ross' s Goose* in Region 7; *Barnacle Goose* in Region 2; Snow Goose in every Region, with particularly good counts in Regions 3, 4, 5, and 6; a first nesting of N. Shoveler in Region 9; Eurasian Wigeon in seven Regions, lingering to late May in Region 3; Harlequin Duck upstate in Regions 2 and 3; unusual many inland reports of Surf and Black Scoters for spring; and a Common Goldeneye with a brood on the water by May in Region 7. Negatives included low counts in multiple Regions for Brant, Blue-winged Teal, Canvasback, and Redhead.

Wading birds were well represented. Herons and egrets continued the flow of interesting records, with the best a first confirmed upstate nesting of Great Egret in Region 1; Snowy Egret in Regions 1, 2, 3, and 4; Little Blue Heron in Region 5; *Tricolored Heron* in Region 3; Cattle Egret in five regions; and Green Heron at a State record early date in Region 4. *King Rail* was found in Regions 2 and 9; and *Sandhill Crane* produced records from Regions 1, 2, 5, and 10. Shorebirds had mixed reviews. The dry spring brought habitat to some Regions usually lacking it, with many very early arrivals and many species not reported in years. In other Regions, habitat was reduced to dried field puddles. Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge in Region 3 and the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge complex in Region 1 contained drawn down pools that attracted excellent concentrations at times. Still the overall picture was not very good for many species, such as Short-billed Dowitcher. Hitting only the cream of the highlights, we find the *Northern Lapwing* present to mid Mar in Region 10; record early dates for Upland Sandpiper in Region 7 and for Least Sandpiper in Region 9; over 2000 Dunlin in Region 3; and a

Curlew Sandpiper in Region 10. Jaegers, gulls, and terns provided several interesting notes, with a very rare *Long-tailed Jaeger* in Region 10; Laughing Gull upstate in Regions 1 and 2; several great spring counts for Little Gull in Region 1; Common Black-headed Gull in Regions 1 and 9; *Ross's Gull* in Regions 2 and 10, the former a Regional first; Lesser Black-backed Gull in Regions 2, 3, 8, and 9; Iceland Gull through late May in several Regions; Caspian Tern early in Regions 1, 2, and 5; record early inland arrivals for Forster's Tern in Region 2 and for Black Tern in Region 1, with very high counts for recent years of Black Tern in Regions 1 and 6. The latter counts may be anomalies. The species remains in serious trouble in the Northeast in general and New York in particular.

The cold north winds of late March and April reduced the numbers of raptors reported, particularly at the hawk watches in western New York, yet Derby Hill set high counts for many species and many other excellent records flowed in across the state. The most interesting were the peak Turkey Vulture count in Region 2; record early Osprey at Derby Hill in Region 5 and a high May count in Region 2; high counts for Northern Harrier along the south shore of Lake Ontario; a continued drop in Sharp-shinned Hawk totals; a good peak Cooper's Hawk at Derby Hill; *Swainson's Hawk* at both Derby Hill and Braddock's Bay; State record high totals both for one day and the season for Red-tailed Hawk at Derby Hill; a very high Golden Eagle count in Region 3; an inland record high total of 53 Merlin at Derby Hill; and *Gyr Falcon* persisting to March in Regions 1 and 7. There were more owl reports than typical, with Barn Owl in Regions 1 and 9, a lone Snowy Owl from Region 5, Short-eared Owl noted in nine Regions, and N. Saw-whet Owl in seven Regions.

Ring-necked Pheasant reports were all negative, but Wild turkey populations are still expanding. Spruce Grouse was located at a historic site in Region 6. Another notable game bird was a *White-winged Dove* in Region 10. Cuckoo numbers, especially Yellow-billed, were good in most Regions. Goatsuckers continue their declines. There were generally few comments about woodpeckers.

As usual, the huge passerine order produced a wide variation in impressions from across the State. There were a very large number of early dates, very high counts, and some spectacular fallout, of warblers in particular, in April in Region 10 and during the 10-13 May period nearly everywhere as a major frontal system passed after a period of weather unfavorable to migration. These are not reasons for great optimism! Apart from the moments of great excitement, often highly local, the season featured many days with nearly empty woods and fields.

Arrival Dates Seasonality and Advance			
Region	Species Reported	Seasonality (days)	Advance (days)
Region 1	92	1.2	-0.9
Region 2	93	2.4	-1.5
Region 3	92	-2.3	-3.3
Region 4	87	0.3	2.3
Region 5	93	-2.4	-2.6
Region 6	89	-2.0	5.9
Region 7	89	-4.6	4.2
Region 8	92	-2.8	-0.7
Region 9	61	0.5	-0.7
Region 10	73	2.2	-2.8

Seasonality measures the average difference (in days) between this year's arrival dates and the long term average dates for the *same* Region. *Advance* measures the average difference between this year's arrivals dates in one Region and the arrival dates averaged over all ten Regions. Negative values mean early.

The arrival date tables barely reflect these trends. After deleting the dates likely to be overwintering birds and the incredible dates reported without details in the Regional reports [*Editor's note* —the final tables were not available to the Highlights Editor, but the preliminary results closely resemble those in final version], we find arrivals very close to our recent 8-year averages for both water birds and land birds. Only the average date for land birds is significantly later this year than last year's. Among the individual species, only Solitary Sandpiper, Great Crested Flycatcher, Tree Swallow, and Cape May Warbler were statistically significantly late, and only Eastern Wood-Pewee, Solitary Vireo, and Northern Waterthrush were early.

As usual, many families and species received too few reports to indicate trends, so we can move along to a few of the best, including mixed reviews for flycatchers and swallows, but Yellow-bellied Flycatcher noted scarce everywhere reported; several Regionally early swallow arrivals; Fish Crow continuing to expand inland in Regions 3, 4, 5, and 8; Common Raven increasing, noted in seven Regions; Carolina Wren numbers remain down; Sedge Wren in Regions 4 and 6, the former the first report in over 15 years; record early Swainson's Thrush in Region 7; a record high for Wood Thrush in Region 5; the peak American

Spring Arrivals 1995

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average
Black-billed Cuckoo	17 May	17 May	13 May	16 May	19 May	12 May	17 May	17 May	13 May		15 May
Common Nighthawk	18 May	29 Apr	22 May	19 May	19 May		4 May	17 May			14 May
Chimney Swift	25 Apr	21 Apr	19 Apr	21 Apr	18 Apr	1 May	3 May	19 Apr	3 May	23 Apr	24 Apr
Ruby-thr Hummingbird	4 May	8 May	10 May	11 May	10 May	14 May	10 May	6 May		6 May	8 May
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	8 Apr	8 Apr	2 Apr	4 Apr	8 Apr	15 Apr	14 Apr	7 Apr		7 Mar	4 Apr
Olive-sided Flycatcher	27 May	17 May	24 May	20 May	10 May	28 May	28 Apr	18 May	13 May	22 May	17 May
Eastern Wood-Pewee	13 May	11 May	7 May	6 May	5 May	6 May	21 Apr	4 May	13 May	12 May	6 May
Alder Flycatcher	19 May	17 May	11 May	15 May	17 May	25 May	18 May	17 May			17 May
Willow Flycatcher	14 May	13 May	11 May	19 May	17 May	26 May	30 May	13 May		13 May	17 May
Least Flycatcher	29 Apr	2 May	26 Apr	3 May	25 Apr	2 May	8 May	30 Apr	12 May	20 May	3 May
Eastern Phoebe	16 Mar	14 Mar	15 Mar	15 Mar	4 Mar	23 Mar	27 Mar	14 Mar	15 Mar	18 Mar	16 Mar
Gr. Crested Flycatcher	7 May	4 May	5 May	11 May	2 May	6 May	10 May	6 May	22 Apr	4 May	4 May
Eastern Kingbird	26 Apr	30 Apr	30 Apr	24 Apr	27 Apr	3 May	2 May	30 Apr	3 May	20 Apr	28 Apr
Purple Martin	16 Apr	13 Apr	19 Apr	1 May	16 Apr	25 Apr	19 Apr	29 Apr	4 May	23 Apr	22 Apr
Tree Swallow	20 Apr	15 Mar	27 Mar	27 Feb	12 Mar	27 Mar	11 Apr	8 Mar	16 Mar	15 Mar	21 Mar
N. Rough-winged Swallow	16 Apr	2 Apr	12 Apr	10 Apr	16 Apr	3 May	20 Apr	9 Apr	9 Apr	17 Apr	14 Apr
Bank Swallow	16 Apr	17 Apr	20 Apr	30 Apr	16 Apr	18 Apr	27 Apr	12 Apr			19 Apr
Cliff Swallow	29 Apr	11 Apr	5 May	2 May	18 Apr	26 May	1 May	22 Apr	16 Apr		27 Apr
Barn Swallow	9 Apr	11 Apr	10 Apr	17 Apr	2 Apr	18 Apr	16 Apr	14 Apr	8 Apr	13 Apr	11 Apr
House Wren	21 Apr	22 Apr	20 Apr	26 Apr	25 Apr	23 Apr	20 Apr	24 Apr	28 Apr	23 Apr	23 Apr
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	9 Apr	11 Apr	1 Apr	16 Apr	15 Apr	14 Apr	21 Apr	14 Apr	4 Apr	19 Mar	9 Apr
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	18 Apr	20 Apr	19 Apr	23 Apr	19 Apr	1 May	29 Apr	20 Apr	11 Apr	6 Apr	19 Apr
Eastern Bluebird		15 Mar		1 Mar	6 Mar	21 Mar	19 Mar	4 Mar			11 Mar
Veery	9 May	27 Apr	9 May	24 Apr	22 Apr	8 May	25 Apr	6 May	3 May	1 May	1 May
Swainson's Thrush	12 May	10 May	11 May	20 May	15 May	29 Apr	15 Apr	17 May		12 May	9 May
Hermit Thrush	9 Apr	8 Apr	16 Apr	14 Apr	12 Apr	21 Apr	9 Apr	1 Apr		9 Apr	11 Apr
Wood Thrush	29 Apr	26 Apr	28 Apr	2 May	18 Apr	4 May	30 Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr	27 Apr	27 Apr
Gray Catbird	9 Apr	16 Apr	22 Apr	27 Apr	9 Apr	3 May	1 May	19 Apr		23 Apr	21 Apr
Brown Thrasher	19 Apr	21 Apr	11 Apr	23 Apr	19 Apr	20 Apr	29 Apr	21 Apr	11 Apr	9 Apr	18 Apr
Solitary Vireo	21 Apr	22 Apr	17 Apr	18 Apr	19 Apr	27 Apr	14 Mar	18 Apr	12 Apr	19 Apr	15 Apr
Yellow-throated Vireo	10 May	5 May	26 Apr	4 May	29 Apr	13 May	30 Apr	9 May	4 May	13 May	5 May
Warbling Vireo	29 Apr	6 May	23 Apr	7 May	1 May	13 May	8 May	30 Apr	4 May	4 May	3 May
Red-eyed Vireo	13 May	9 May	8 May	24 Apr	7 May	15 May	5 May	27 Apr	30 Apr	27 Apr	4 May

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average
Tennessee Warbler	10 May	10 May	2 May	19 May	13 May	15 May	10 May	13 May	18 May	13 May	12 May
Nashville Warbler	4 May	26 Apr	28 Apr	30 Apr	27 Apr	9 May	26 Apr	30 Apr		7 May	30 Apr
Northern Parula	20 Apr	9 May	10 May	30 Apr	7 May	16 May	13 May	29 Apr	28 Apr	27 Apr	3 May
Yellow Warbler	27 Apr	27 Apr	21 Apr	26 Apr	23 Apr	3 May	29 Apr	26 Apr	25 Apr	9 Apr	24 Apr
Chestnut-sided Warbler	10 May	9 May	1 May	12 May	3 May	12 May	8 May	29 Apr		7 May	6 May
Magnolia Warbler	5 May	10 May	10 May	12 May	10 May	13 May	30 Apr	4 May		4 May	7 May
Cape May Warbler	10 May	10 May	1 May	20 May	10 May	15 May	20 May	9 May		13 May	12 May
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	2 May	2 May	27 Apr	30 Apr	29 Apr	13 May	1 May	2 May	4 May	29 Apr	1 May
Black-thr Green Warbler	27 Apr	20 Apr	27 Apr	12 Apr	27 Apr	2 May	2 May	22 Apr	4 May	23 Apr	25 Apr
Blackburnian Warbler	10 May	5 May	9 May	21 Apr	16 May	8 May	13 May	28 Apr	4 May	12 May	6 May
Pine Warbler	16 Apr	12 Apr	17 Mar	19 Apr	11 Apr	21 Apr	19 Apr	5 Apr	4 Apr	27 Mar	8 Apr
Palm Warbler	27 Apr	12 Apr	15 Apr	5 May	19 Apr	1 May	2 May	6 Apr	10 Apr	9 Apr	19 Apr
Bay-breasted Warbler	13 May	11 May	10 May	13 May	14 May	14 May	15 May	13 May	11 May	12 May	12 May
Blackpoll Warbler	14 May	13 May	10 May	13 May	16 May	22 May	16 May	17 May	12 May	26 Apr	12 May
Black-and-white Warbler	27 Apr	23 Apr	24 Apr	22 Apr	27 Apr	29 Apr	29 Apr	23 Apr	20 Apr	20 Apr	24 Apr
American Redstart	7 May	3 May	28 Apr	4 May	2 May	12 May	14 May	30 Apr		29 Apr	4 May
Ovenbird	29 Apr	28 Apr	29 Apr	29 Apr	2 May	5 May	2 May	30 Apr	28 Apr	29 Apr	30 Apr
Northern Waterthrush	27 Apr	20 Apr	22 Apr	22 Apr	20 Apr	1 May	29 Apr	27 Apr	26 Apr	13 Apr	23 Apr
Mourning Warbler	10 May	12 May	13 May	13 May	14 May		22 May	13 May	19 May		14 May
Common Yellowthroat	30 Apr	3 May	28 Apr	30 Apr	26 Apr	6 May	29 Apr	29 Apr		27 Apr	29 Apr
Wilson's Warbler	11 May	11 May	11 May	13 May	2 May	23 May	18 May	17 May	12 May	11 May	12 May
Canada Warbler	6 May	10 May	10 May	13 May	9 May	21 May	16 May	13 May		12 May	12 May
Scarlet Tanager	10 May	10 May	6 May	10 May	2 May	13 May	13 May	5 May		30 Apr	7 May
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	7 May	7 May	22 Apr	22 Apr	27 Apr	22 Apr	9 May	29 Apr	3 May	23 Apr	29 Apr
Indigo Bunting	14 May	10 May	24 Apr	11 May	9 May	21 May	7 May	9 May		22 Apr	7 May
Rufous-sided Towhee	24 Mar	18 Mar	8 Apr	5 Apr	13 Apr	17 Apr	6 Apr	8 Apr		17 Apr	6 Apr
Chipping Sparrow	1 Apr	12 Apr	7 Apr	10 Apr	4 Apr	23 Apr	4 Apr	8 Apr	1 Apr	9 Apr	7 Apr
Vesper Sparrow	3 Apr	5 May	5 Apr	30 Apr	11 Apr	21 Apr	10 Apr	14 Apr		12 Mar	12 Apr
Savannah Sparrow	9 Apr	16 Mar	9 Apr	16 Apr	12 Apr	22 Apr	12 Apr	14 Apr	17 Apr		10 Apr
Lincoln's Sparrow	10 May	10 May	10 May	8 May	11 May	21 May	26 Apr	18 May			10 May
White-crowned Sparrow	9 Apr	28 Apr	30 Apr	1 May	21 Apr	6 May	25 Apr	8 Apr	11 May	6 May	26 Apr
Bobolink	29 Apr	4 May	29 Apr	7 May	27 Apr	29 Apr	12 May	2 May	4 May	12 May	3 May
Northern Oriole	5 May	6 May	30 Apr	10 May	23 Apr	21 Apr	29 Apr	28 Apr		30 Apr	30 Apr

Bold Regional Record Early

Italics

Also isolated earlier report(s).

Waterbird Arrivals

1995

Species	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Region 10	Average
American Bittern	15 Apr	12 Apr	15 Apr	26 Mar	16 Apr	27 Apr	17 Apr	9 Apr			13 Apr
Green Heron	20 Apr	29 Apr	21 Apr	23 Mar	30 Apr	28 Apr	3 May	18 Apr	23 Apr	19 Apr	21 Apr
Wood Duck	14 Mar	14 Mar	8 Mar	11 Mar	2 Mar	11 Mar	18 Mar	8 Mar	30 Mar	13 Mar	12 Mar
Green-winged Teal	12 Mar	14 Mar	8 Mar	16 Mar	1 Mar	16 Mar	23 Mar	13 Mar	13 Mar		12 Mar
Northern Pintail	9 Mar	5 Mar	25 Feb	19 Mar	1 Mar	13 Mar	14 Mar	11 Mar	9 Mar		8 Mar
Blue-winged Teal	21 Mar	15 Mar	26 Mar	23 Mar	10 Mar	29 Mar	22 Apr	19 Mar	11 Apr	8 Apr	27 Mar
Osprey	3 Apr	3 Apr	2 Apr	17 Mar	21 Mar	10 Apr	18 Apr	12 Apr	11 Apr	17 Mar	2 Apr
Virginia Rail	17 Apr	23 Apr	20 Mar	19 May	4 Apr	24 Apr	29 Apr	2 Apr			17 Apr
Sora	23 Apr	27 Apr	22 Apr		25 Apr	30 Apr	2 May	29 Apr		16 Apr	25 Apr
Common Moorhen	8 Apr	22 Apr	14 Apr	13 May	23 Apr	20 Apr	13 May	9 Apr		13 May	25 Apr
Black-bellied Plover	29 Apr	30 Apr	22 Apr		26 May			2 May	12 May		5 May
Semipalmated Plover	7 May	9 May	27 Apr	15 May	14 May	20 May	22 May	20 May	4 May	4 May	11 May
Killdeer	4 Mar	7 Mar	5 Mar	5 Mar	5 Mar	12 Mar	14 Mar	6 Mar			7 Mar
Greater Yellowlegs	9 Apr	8 Apr	8 Apr	15 Apr	25 Mar	16 Apr	22 Apr	9 Apr	17 Mar		7 Apr
Lesser Yellowlegs	9 Apr	12 Apr	14 Apr	28 Apr	1 Apr	1 May	20 Apr	22 Apr	8 Apr	13 May	18 Apr
Solitary Sandpiper	27 Apr	27 Apr	22 Apr	27 Apr	23 Apr	13 May	14 May	30 Apr	9 May	22 Apr	30 Apr
Spotted Sandpiper	23 Apr	27 Apr	17 Apr	23 Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr	29 Apr	23 Apr		27 Apr	24 Apr
Sanderling	21 May	21 May	15 May		23 Apr						12 May
Semipalmated Sandpiper	14 May	12 May	27 Apr		17 May	20 May	22 May	20 May	11 May	10 May	13 May
Least Sandpiper	7 May	6 May	27 Apr	18 May	19 Apr	20 May	14 May	7 May	4 Apr	4 May	3 May
Pectoral Sandpiper	9 Apr	31 Mar	14 Apr		15 Apr	16 Apr	26 May	9 Apr	4 Mar	1 Apr	10 Apr
Common Snipe	19 Mar	28 Mar	20 Mar	4 Apr	19 Mar	23 Mar	12 Apr	8 Apr	24 Mar		27 Mar
American Woodcock	10 Mar	11 Mar	14 Mar	5 May	4 Mar	19 Mar	15 Mar	16 Mar		3 Mar	17 Mar
Caspian Tern	12 Apr	8 Apr	9 Apr		15 Apr	17 Apr		22 Apr	13 May		18 Apr
Common Tern	15 Apr	12 Apr	27 Apr	19 May	7 May	26 Apr	11 May	20 May	3 May	9 Apr	29 Apr
Black Tern	22 Apr	2 May	30 Apr	19 May	13 May	1 May		12 May	12 May		6 May
Marsh Wren	29 Apr	27 Apr	24 Apr	19 May	30 Apr	30 Apr	3 May	11 May		11 May	3 May

Bold Regional Record Early

Italics Also isolated earlier report(s).

Robin count past Derby Hill in Region 5; a Varied Thrush in Region 10; and *Loggerhead Shrike* reported only in Region 8.

There are so many special vireo and warbler records that only rarities and extremes for the State can be noted here. White-eyed Vireo appeared in five Regions; Solitary Vireo set a high in Region 1, but an amazingly early bird in Region 7 was unaccompanied by details. Also early were Yellow-throated Vireo in Region 10; Warbling Vireo in Region 3, while Philadelphia Vireo set a spring high in Region 5. Good Yellow Warbler counts came from Region 3 and Region 5, and a late March Yellow Warbler report from Region 4 was a month ahead of the next record, which also broke the former Regional record. Also early was Cerulean Warbler in Region 1. The 252 Magnolia Warbler banded on one day in Region 2 must have kept workers busy. Other exceptional counts were obtained for Black-and-white Warbler in Region 2 and for Hooded Warbler in Region 1. Unexpected were Orange-crowned Warbler in six Regions, an *Audubon's Yellow-rumped Warbler* in Region 3, *Yellow-throated Warbler* in Regions 7, 8, and 10; Kentucky Warbler in six Regions; and Connecticut Warbler in five Regions. Again, there were too many other very high counts and early dates to do justice to all. Nearly every warbler was noteworthy somewhere. Very low Tennessee and Cape May Warbler counts produced concern in many Regions.

A record high for Scarlet Tanager came from Region 5. Early Rose-breasted Grosbeak was noted in Region 6, but an extremely early Indigo Bunting in Region 3 could have overwintered at a feeder. Unexpected were Regional firsts for Clay-colored and *LeConte's Sparrow* in Region 4; *Blue Grosbeak* and Dickcissel in Region 5; Western Meadowlark in Region 1. White-crowned Sparrow set a record high in Region 5, which had huge two day mid March counts for Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, and Brown-headed Cowbird at Derby Hill. Yellow-headed Blackbird was noted in Regions 1 and 3 and *Brewer's Blackbird* in Regions 2 and 3. The winter finches were scarce except for crossbills in the northern Regions, with Region 7 noting breeding and a mix of Red Crossbill subspecies identified from specimens gathered from roadkills.

The tally of Peregrine Falcon nest sites around NYC appears in the Region 10 report. In the Region 1 report, find note of successful foster brooding of a nest of Eastern Bluebird. In Region 6, lots of Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows were found on night surveys. A ground nesting American Robin is described in Region 7.

With so many notable reports, no single species stands out as the highlight of this season, but the flashback provided by many species on at least a few days at a few locales in all Regions this spring brought happy remembrance of their former abundance.

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