

REGION 9 - HUDSON - DELAWARE

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December was dry. Many parts of the Region had under an inch of precipitation. January made up for it. Over 6 inches of precipitation fell over most of the Region, twice the average amount. The first two weeks of the year were cold, but mild throughout the rest of the season. Similar to last year, the lower sections of the Region had nearly no snow and the northern parts of the Region reported most snow was gone weeks earlier than in a normal winter.

By far the best birds of the season were three **Mountain Bluebirds** found in December. Curiously, all were females and spread out across Region 9 in Westchester, Dutchess and Orange counties. The Westchester and Dutchess birds stayed for a month.

The numbers of Great Cormorants continue to increase on the Hudson and inland sites. A Great Egret lingered long enough to be counted on the East Orange CBC. Eurasian Wigeon returned to Premium Mill Pond in Larchmont and stayed for the winter. A Semipalmated Plover was found on the Bronx-West CBC in Larchmont, the count's second record.

Red-headed Woodpecker sightings continue to increase, with an immature spending most of the winter and early spring in Croton Point Park.

There were good numbers of Northern Shrike reports, though none seem to stay put for any length of time.

Five species of warblers were found on the Westchester side of the Bronx-Westchester CBC. They included Yellow-rumped, Palm, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat and Yellow-breasted Chat. An Orange-crowned Warbler was found on the Peekskill count.

Other season highlights include Sora, Scarlet Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BAFT-Bedford Audubon Field Trip, CPP-Croton Point Park, DCCBC-Dutchess County Christmas Bird Count, EGR-Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, EOCBC- Eastern Orange Christmas Bird Count, GA-Galeville Airport, GSCBC- Grennich-Stamford Christmas Bird Count, JBNHS-John Burroughs Natural History Society, LHVBL-Lower Hudson Valley Bird Line, MRG- Mianus River Gorge, PCBC-Peekskill Christmas Bird Count, PCCBC-Putnum County Christmas Bird Count, PP-Piermont Pier, RCCBC-Rockland County Christmas Bird Count, RTWBC-Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club, SCCBC- Sullivan County Christmas Bird Count, SOCBC-Southern Orange Christmas Bird Count.

LOONS-DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: 1 PP 6 Dec; 11 BWCBC 27 Dec.
Com. Loon: 2 Croton Res 31 Jan.
Horned Grebe: 3 Lake Gleneida 10 Jan; 1 Poughkeepsie 10 Jan; 1 Sylvan Lake 5,23,29 Jan; 1 Croton Res 31 Jan.
Red-necked Grebe: 1 EGR 5 Dec; 1 EGR 27 Dec(BWCBC); 1 Larchmont 27 Dec (BWCBC).
N. Gannet: 1 EGR 27 Dec (BWCBC); few EGR 27 Feb.
Great Cormorant: 1 Rockland Lake 6 Dec; 15 Peekskill 16 Jan; 6 Verplank 6 Feb; 8 Jones Piont 8 Feb.
Great Blue Heron: 26 Rye 27 Dec (BWCBC)
Great Egret: 1 Tomahawk Lake ORAN 13-19 Dec (LHVBL,EOCBC).
Black Vulture: 1 Putnam Lake 6 Dec; 1 ORAN 26 Dec; 6 Greenwood Lake 2 Jan; 1 Iona I 16 Jan; 2 Stony Point 16 Jan; 2 Thompkins Cove 4 Feb; 9 New Paltz 7 Feb; 1 Bear Mt 12 Feb; 4 Iona I 15 Feb.
Greater White-fronted Goose: 1 Walkill 10 Jan (LHVBL).
Snow Goose: 1 blue phase, 2 snow Round Pond DUTC 2-7 Jan; 1 Walkill 10

Jan.
Eurasian Wigeon: 1 Larchmont 5 Dec- 21 Jan, 15 Feb; 2 Tarrytown Lakes 12 Dec(LHVBL)
Blue-winged Teal: 2 Amawalk Res 19 Dec, PCBC.
N. Shoveler: 30 Rockland Lake 6 Dec.
N. Pintail: 2 Newburgh 13 Dec.
Canvasback: 200 PP 6 Dec; 52 year low for BWCBC
Redhead: 1 EGR 4 Jan; 2-3 Abel's Pond DUTC 23 Jan, 27-28 Feb.
Ring-necked Duck: numerous reports
Greater Scaup: good numbers at EGR
Lesser Scaup: 1225 EGR 27 Dec, record number (BWCBC)
Surf Scoter: few EGR 5 Dec.
White-winged Scoter: few EGR 5 Dec; 2 DUTC 17-18 Dec (CV).
Black Scoter: few EGR 5 Dec.
Oldsquaw: 1 Round Pond DUTC Dec-Jan (MV,DF,LHVBL).
Bufflehead: 6 PP 6 Dec.
Com. Goldeneye: 1 PP 6 Dec.
Hooded Merganser: 60 Tarrytown Lakes 12 Dec; 65 Newburgh 13 Dec.
Ruddy Duck: 300 PP 6 Dec; good numbers in early Dec.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: well reported from Hudson River; 25 Rio Res 6-7 Feb (BAFT)

N. Goshawk: 1 MRG 20 Dec (GSCBC); 1 MC 27 Dec- 24 Jan

(BWCBC); 1 PUTN 2 Jan (PCCBC); 1

Wawarsing SULL 25 Jan.

Red-shouldered Hawk: few present in WEST, DUTC, SULL; 1 PUTN 2 Jan (PCCBC).

Rough-legged Hawk: 1 CPP 16 Jan; 8 Pine Island 16 Jan; 1 Walkill NWR 27 Feb; 2 Rombout Rd DUTC 6-16 Jan; 4 Walkill NWR 7 Feb; 1 Swan L SULL 9 Feb.

Golden Eagle: 1 Stissing Mt 2 Jan; 1 Stone Ridge ULST 1 Jan (LHVBL); 3 Stissing Mt 24, 31 Jan; 1 WEST 22 Feb; 1 Claryville 26, 27 Feb.

Am. Kestrel: 3 CPP 16 Jan.

Merlin: 1 ROCK 19 Dec (RCCBC); 1 Blue Chip Farm 10 Jan (LHVBL).

Peregrine Falcon: 1 DUTC 19 Dec (DCCBC); 1 Rye 27 Dec (BWCBC); 1 Poughkeepsie 11 Jan (AM,BM); 1 Kensico Res 24 Jan.

Ruffed Grouse: 1 Yonkers 27 Dec (BWCBC).

Clapper Rail: 1 Larchmont 27 Dec (BWCBC).

Sora: 1 PP 7 Jan (LHVBL).

Am. Coot: 2 PP 6 Dec.

Semipalmated Plover: 1 Larchmont 27 Dec (BWCBC, PL).

Killdeer: common in Dec WEST; 2 DUTC 12 Feb.

Am. Oystercatcher: 2 EGR 27 Dec (BWCBC).

Purple Sandpiper: 100 Manor Park, Larchmont 5 Dec.

Am. Woodcock: 1 DUTC 18 Feb.

Iceland Gull: 1 Eastchester 27 Dec (BWCBC); 1-3 Woodbourne 3,4, 13 Feb.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 PP 19 Dec (RCCBC); 1 ORAN 26 Dec (SOCBC); 1 Woodbourne 4 Feb.

Glaucous Gull: 1 Beacon 6 Jan (AM,BM); 1 Woodbourne 4, 15 Feb (LHVBL).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Barred Owl: 1 MRG 20 Dec (GSCBC).

Short-eared Owl: 1 CPP 19 Dec (PCBC); 6 State Line Road, ORAN 21 Dec; 2 CPP 20 Jan; 3 GA 31 Jan; 7 Walkill NWR 27 Feb.

N. Saw-whet Owl: 1 MRG 20 Dec (GSCBC); 2 Youngsville 2 Feb; 1 Vassar Farms 14 Feb.

Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 CPP 19 Dec- 25 Feb (PCBC, LHVBL)); count period bird for EOCBC; 1 Wallkill 31 Jan; 2 Summitville early Feb.

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

E. Phoebe: 1 DUTC 1 Jan (BMA).

N. Shrike: 1 Stormville 19 Dec (DCCBC); 1 Bashakill 27 Dec (SCCBC); 1 Wurtsboro 27 Dec (SCCBC); 1 PUTN 2 Jan (PCCBC); 1 Cohecton 2 Jan; 1 Rombout Rd DUTC 11-12 Feb (CV); 1 Swan Lake SULL 11-13 Feb; 1 Rockefeller SP 19 Feb.

Fish Crow: 2 Thompkins Cove 4 Feb.

Com. Raven: 1 Rockland Lake 19 Dec (RCCBC); 6 PUTN 2 Jan (PCCBC) 30 Blue Hill Road SULL 14 Feb.

Horned Lark: 8 EGR 5 Dec; 430 ORAN 26 Dec (SOCBC)..

Red-breasted Nuthatch: handfull of reports from SULL; 1 DUTC 6-8 Jan, 5-6 Feb (MK).

House Wren: 1 Purchase 20 Dec.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD: 1 Purchase 20 Dec -20 Jan (BW, JU); 1 Middletown 20 Dec- 1 Jan; 1 Northeast 26 Dec-7 Jan, 27 Jan (EA,RN,LHVBL)

Am. Robin: 2000 Newburgh 31 Jan (LHVBL).

Am. Pipit: few EGR 5 Dec; 60 ORAN 26 Dec (SOCBC); 28 CPP 4 Jan.

WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 EGR 13 Dec (LHVBL); 1 CPP 19 Dec (PCBC).

Yellow-rumped warbler: well reported in most counties

Palm Warbler: 1 Yonkers 27 Dec (BWCBC)..

Ovenbird: 1 EGR 27 Dec (BWCBC).

Com. Yellowthroat: 1 EGR 13 Dec (LHVBL); 2 WEST 27 Dec (BWCBC).

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 EGR 27 Dec (BWCBC).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

SCARLET TANAGER: 1 CPP 19-20 Dec (PCBC).

Chipping Sparrow: 2 ROCK 19 Dec (RCCBC); 2 Putnam Valley 27 Feb (LHVBL).

White-crowned Sparrow: 29 ORAN 26 Dec (SOCBC); 1 DUTC 6 Dec (MV).

Lapland Longspur: 1 ORAN 26 Dec (SOCBC); 1 Winchell Mt Road DUTC 24 Jan (LHVBL).

Snow Bunting: few EGR 5 Dec; 128 near Stewart Airport 19 Dec (EOCBC); 30 MC 24 Jan; 60 Baird Park 13 Jan (AP).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 1 Hi View DUTC 6 Dec (AM, BM).

Rusty Blackbird: 1 DUTC 19 Dec (DCCBC).

Pine Siskin: 1 FDR Park 19 Dec, PCBC; 15 Parksville early Jan; 2 Swan Lake SULL 2 Jan; 1 Claryville 3 Jan; no reports after 3 Jan.

Evening Grosbeak: 1 Amawalk Res 17 Dec, PCBC

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