

REGION 9 - HUDSON-DELAWARE

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December was generally warm and without snow. The first snow didn't occur till 13 Jan. After that, we had a hard freeze, reaching -10 F in the northern sections of Region 9. February warmed to near normal temperatures.

The second Rockland County record for Greater White-fronted Goose was reported by Jessie Trabank in Ascension Cemetery in Monsey on 19 Dec. It stayed for about a week. A second, possibly the same individual, was found at the Blue Chip farm in Ulster on 9 Jan and relocated in Walkill 31 Jan.

Two egrets lasted into December, a Great Egret in Sullivan County on 9 Dec and a Snowy Egret was found on the Bronx-Westchester CBC in New Rochelle 26 Dec.

Galeville Airport in Ulster County has now officially renamed the Shawangunk Grassland National Wildlife Refuge. This report will refer to the site as Galeville. The new name will be used beginning with the spring report.

The Southern Orange County CBC mirrored the continuing increase of Black Vultures in Region 9 with a whopping 45 on 26 Dec. There were also 49 Turkey Vultures recorded on that same count, testifying for the growing tendency for both species to overwinter.

Wintering Bald Eagles on the Hudson River were in unprecedented numbers. Up to 56 individuals were sighted, possibly more, on a single day.

There was a moderate influx of Rough-legged Hawks, Northern Shrikes, and winter finches. Good numbers of Common Redpolls and Pine Siskins were found, along with single reports of Red and White-winged crossbills and Pine Grosbeak

Fish Crows lingered further north this year, with birds being found on the inland CBC counts of Eastern Orange, Rockland and Putnam counties.

An interesting sight was a partial albinistic American Crow with white wings, reported by Irene Warshauer just outside New Paltz on 9 Jan.

Other notable species include: Eurasian Wigeon, Merlin, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Baltimore Oriole

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BWCBC - Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count (West. only), CPP- Croton Point Park, EGR-Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, EOCBC - Eastern Orange County Christmas Bird Count, GA-Galeville Airport (Shawangunk Grassland National Wildlife Refuge), KP-Kakiat Park, MCBC - Monicello Christmas Bird Count, PCBC - Peekskill Christmas Bird Count, PCCBC - Putnam County Christmas Bird Count, PP-Piermont Pier, RCCBC - Rockland County Christmas Bird Count, RNC-Rye Nature Center, SOCBC - Southern Orange County Christmas Bird Count.

LOONS-DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: max 19 EGR 24 Jan; 3 Peekskill 26 Feb.
Red-necked Grebe: 1 New Rochelle 26 Dec.
Northern Gannet: 3 BWCBC 26 Dec.
Great Cormorant: 15 Peekskill 26 Feb.
Great Blue Heron: max 19 EGR 20 Dec.
Great Egret: 1 Callicoon Access Area 9 Dec.
Snowy Egret: 1 New Rochelle 26 Dec (DP).
Black Vulture: many reports west of Hudson; 45 SOCBC 26 Dec, very high; 2 PCCBC 2 Jan; 4 Peekskill 18 Dec, 12 Feb; 6 New Croton Dam 12 Feb.
Turkey Vulture: 49 SOCBC 26 Dec; many other reports throughout Region.
Greater White-fronted Goose: 1 Ascension Cemetery, Monsey 19- 14 Dec (JT,CW), 2nd ROCK record; 1 Blue Chip Farm 9 Jan (JM,KM); 1 Wallkill River 31 Jan (JM,KM).
Snow Goose: 1 Salt Point thru Dec; 2 CPP 21 Dec; 1 Round Pond, DUTC 2,12 Jan.
Brant: 15 EGR 1 Jan; 8 Rye 16 Feb.
Eurasian Wigeon: 1 New Rochelle 26 Dec; 1 EGR 1 Jan; 1 New Rochelle 23 Jan, 6 Feb.
Canvasback: 400 Kingston 16 Jan; 154 EGR 31 Jan.
Redhead: 6 EGR 23 Dec.
Ring-necked Duck: 150 Stissing Lake 5 Dec; 2 EGR 1 Jan.
Greater Scaup: 4900 EGR 15 Jan.
Lesser Scaup: 1200 EGR 15 Jan.
Black Scoter: 5 BWCBC 26 Dec.
Surf Scoter: 2 BWCBC 26 Dec.
Oldsquaw: 1 Sylvan Lake 1-6 Dec; 2 EOCBC 18 Dec.
Com. Goldeneye: 30 EGR 1 Jan
Red-breasted Merganser: 2 PP 21 Dec
Ruddy Duck: 225 EGR 23 Dec.

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: 32 Delaware River area 16 Jan; 30 Hudson River 30 Jan; 14 Chelsea 30 Jan; 56 Hudson River 12 Feb (JAs); 40 Peekskill 21 Feb.
N. Harrier: 1 Thompson Pond 5 Dec; 1 Swan Lake 1,13 Dec; 1 Wurtsboro early Dec; 1 Rye 23 Jan; 2 Stissing Mt 27 Feb.
N. Goshawk: 1 DUTC 26 Dec; 1 MC 24

Dec; 1 Rye Nature Center 1 26 Dec; 1 Verbank 1-3 Jan; 1 MC 23 Jan, 8 Feb; 1 GA 30 Jan, 5 Feb.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 EOCBC 18 Dec; 1 EGR 26, 31 Dec; 2 SOCBC 26 Dec; 1 Pawling 1 Jan; 1 Wappinger Falls 1-6 Feb; 1 MC 1 Jan, 18 Feb.
Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Eastchester 26 Dec; 1 CPP 15 Jan; 1 Stissing Mt 2 Feb; 3 GA 30 Jan, 5 Feb.
Golden Eagle: 2 Stissing Mt 5 Dec; 1 Thompson Pond 29 Jan.
Merlin: 1 Eastchester 26 Dec; 1 DUTC 2 Jan; 1 Millbrook 4 Jan.
Peregrine Falcon: 1 EOCBC 18 Dec; 1 RCCBC 19 Dec; 1 SOCBC 26 Dec; 2 EGR 26,29 Dec; 1-2 Poughkeepsie all winter.
N. Bobwhite: 2 DUTC 27 Dec.
Purple Sandpiper: 30 EGR 23 Jan.
Dunlin: 78 MC 31 Dec.
Am. Woodcock: 1 FDR estate 22 Jan, early.
Bonaparte's Gull: 60 Rye 23 Dec.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 RCCBC 19 Dec; 1 EOCBC Dec.
Glaucous Gull: 1 Wallkill River 30 Jan.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Long-eared Owl: 1 EGR 16 Feb.
Short-eared Owl: 8 GA 4 Dec-29 Feb; 1-2 CPP 12-26 Feb.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: many widespread reports.

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

E. Phoebe: 1 MCBC 26 Dec; 1 SOCBC 26 Dec.
N. Shrike: 1 Vassar Farm 3, 29 Dec, 6-27 Feb; 1 Woodbourne 16 Dec; 1 SOCBC 26 Dec; 1 CPP 1 Jan; 4 PCCBC 2 Jan; other scattered sightings in DUTC.
Fish Crow: 1 EOCBC 18 Dec; 18 RCCBC 19 Dec; 1 PCCBC 2 Jan; some present all winter in WEST
Com. Raven: 1 CPP 12 Feb; 1 Bear Mt Scenic Overlook 12 Feb, many reports west of Hudson.
Horned Lark: 120 DUTC 2 Feb.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: few around in WEST.
Sedge Wren: 1 MC 26 Dec - 1 Jan (TB).
Marsh Wren: 1 MC 21 Dec; 1 MC 1 Jan.

Am. Pipit: 1 ULST 18 Dec; few CPP 15 Jan.

WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler: scattered reports.

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 MC 17, 26, 29 Dec; 1 PCBC 18 Dec.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

E. Towhee: 1 Rye 5 Jan.

Savannah "Ipswich" Sparrow: 1 EGR 26-28 Dec.

Fox Sparrow: max 10 MC 21 Dec; 11 MC 23 Jan.

White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Rhinebeck 27 Jan.

Snow Bunting: 5 EGR 22 Dec; 1 Gretna 29 Dec; 2 Vassar Farm 9 Feb.

E. Meadowlark: 5 GA 15 Jan.

Rusty Blackbird: 8 Neversink early Dec; 2 PCBC 18 Dec; 1 RCCBC 19 Dec; 17 SOCBC 26 Dec; 1 PCCBC 2 Jan; 1 Rye 19 Jan - 7 Feb.

Baltimore Oriole: 1 DUTC 25 Dec; 1 Rye 17 Jan.

Pine Grosbeak: 2 PCCBC 2 Jan.

Purple Finch: few reports from WEST and DUTC.

Red Crossbill: 1 PCBC 18 Dec.

White-winged Crossbill: 8 Swan Lake 11 Dec

Com. Redpoll: 120 Hurleyville 4 Dec; 5 EGR 24 Dec; 54 Swan Lake 14 Dec; 30 Cape Pond 20 Dec; 20 Wanasink 26 Dec; 89 SOCBC 26 Dec; 11 Woodstock 27 Dec; 75 Rhinebeck 27 Jan; 80 DUTC 2 Feb; 40 Katonah 12 Feb; other scattered reports from DUTC.

Pine Siskin: 1 Croton 2 Dec - 28 Feb; 1-11 Rye 20 Dec - 3 Feb; 14 PCBC 18 Dec; 2 Wurtsboro 26 Dec; 5 Vassar Farm 28 Feb.

Evening Grosbeak: scattered report from SULL in Dec; 17 Woodstock 23 Dec.

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