

REGION 2 - GENESEE

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The season started out rather mild and dry but finished off wet. March was described as "lamblike". It was Rochester's warmest March in 27 years with an average of 41.2 °F. This was nearly 7° higher than normal. Only six days during the month were cooler than normal. Precipitation was 2.04", a departure from normal of - 0.24". Snowfall was about normal due to two moderate snowfalls.

April was cool and wet. The final week of the month was called "perfect" and helped salvage the month. The average temperature of 45.1°F was almost a degree below normal. Precipitation was often and heavy. The total of 4.35" was 1.74" on the plus side. Three periods of rain tallied over an inch and kept things pretty soggy. Snowfall was nearly normal at 5.6", but it melted soon after falling.

May continued the soggy, overcast trend. It turned out to be the cloudiest May since 1973. The average temperature was 59.5°F, 2.4° above normal. The first two weeks were warm, but the last two averaged quite cool. Rainfall was just under 2" above normal at 4.70". It was the 10th wettest May in the last 100 years. The majority of the rain fell between the 9th and the 18th and included some very heavy downpours.

The spring migration was characterized by spurts and stalls. There were periods of high activity followed by the usual lulls. The Hamlin Beach Lakewatch again provided the Region with consistent coverage of the lake. The banding stations at Kaiser-Manitou Beach and Yanty Creek at Hamlin Beach State Park gave us a good picture of the movement of some passerine species. There were some high counts of Red-throated Loons, but Common Loons were about average. Horned Grebe numbers were also good, but Red-necked Grebes were down from recent annual totals. There were fewer reports of Greater White-fronted Goose this year, but Snow Goose reports were good. Puddle duck numbers were very poor this spring. They apparently just kept moving through the Region after early arrivals in February. Divers were okay, with some good spring counts of scoters from the lakewatch. A record early Least Bittern was observed in Cuylerville in April. Black-crowned Night-Herons seemed down.

The hawk flight was about average. There were some good days as usual, but a large number of days with light north winds which kept totals down. Counts of eagles, especially Golden, continued to be promising. The local nesting Peregrine Falcons once again took up residence on Kodak Tower and produced four offspring. Sandhill Cranes continued their showing during the spring

migration with numerous sightings of multiple individuals. A group of neck banded individuals from the Canadian introduction project spent a few days feeding along the lakeshore, preceded by sightings near Montezuma NWR in March and near Iroquois NWR later in April. Shorebirds were very low, with an interesting Whimbrel flight and our third spring record of Hudsonian Godwit the only surprises. It was a generally poor spring for gulls, with few large concentrations and few lingering white-winged gulls. Lesser Black-backed Gull continued to be reported regularly. We can now expect this species at almost any time during the year. Terns arrived fairly early, but numbers were low.

Cuckoos arrived early this spring and were found in good numbers. The owl migration was okay. Long-eared Owl numbers were up this spring. N. Saw-whets were about average, with a juvenile found dead at Hogan Point in May near where birds were heard calling beginning in mid-February. Common Nighthawk continued its downward trend, but Whip-poor-will reports seemed slightly up. Amazing numbers of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were reported at the banding stations.

The passerine migration experienced highs and lows as usual. Overall it was a moderate migration. While some species came early, the numbers continued to be less than spectacular. Flycatchers were low, with only a single report of Olive-sided Flycatcher. Acadian continued to be found at the traditional sites. A Loggerhead Shrike in Wayne County may prove to be interesting for the breeding season. White-eyed Vireos continued to be reported from the banding stations, as has been the case in recent years. Other vireos were down. There was only a single report of Common Raven this spring. Sedge Wren was unreported. Kinglet numbers were okay but not great. Thrushes seemed particularly low this spring.

Warbler numbers were moderate, with no reports of Prothonotary or Connecticut. All of the usual sparrows were reported, but there were no reports of large numbers of White-throated and White-crowned sparrows. Some observers reported excellent numbers of Fox Sparrows. An American Tree Sparrow in May was late. Clay-colored Sparrow has returned Mendon Ponds Park for the third year in the last five. Orchard Oriole was again in residence in Geneseo, and Baltimore Oriole was well-reported. Accompanying good numbers of Common Redpoll, it was one of the best seasons on record for Hoary. Pine Siskins lingered on through the season and were widely reported.

The season ended up with a total of 250 species. Rarities for the season included Eared Grebe, Glossy Ibis, Eurasian Wigeon, Harlequin Duck, Hudsonian Godwit, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BB - Braddock Bay, C - Charlotte (Ontario Beach), CH - Cobbs Hill, CU - Cuylerville, G - Greece, H - Hamlin, HB - Hamlin Beach State Park, HP - Hogan Point (Greece), IC - Island Cottage Woods, M - Manitou, MP- Mendon Ponds Park, NR- Nations Road (Avon), P - Perinton, PA -Parma, R - Rochester, S - Savannah (Wayne Co.), W - Webster, WL - West Lakeshore, YC- Yanty Creek (Hamlin Beach State Park).

LOONS - WATERFOWL

Red-throated Loon: max 220 HB 26 Mar; last 2 HB 16 May.

Com. Loon: max 1424 HB 7 Apr.

Horned Grebe: max 163 HB 14 Apr; last 1 HB 17 May.

Red-necked Grebe: max 51 HB 30 Mar; 7 P 8 Apr (DS), unusual location; 7 MP 20 Apr (CC,AC), unusual location

EARED GREBE: 1 HB 14-15 Apr (WS).

Double-crested Cormorant: arr 4 HB 4 Mar.

Least Bittern: arr 1 NR 22 Apr (JK), record early.

Great Egret: arr 1 BB 6 Apr.

Snowy Egret: 1 Henrietta 25 May

(KG), only report.

Cattle Egret: 1 BB 16 May (RO'H), only report.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr 1 BB 15 Apr.

Glossy Ibis: 1 BB 18 May (RO'H), only report.

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr 1 H 4 Mar (SSk).

Snow Goose: max 330 HB 19 Mar. Brant: max 80 HB 31 May (WS), excellent spring total

Trumpeter Swan: 1 MP 4 Mar (AC); 5 South Butler (WAYN) 22 Apr (RS).

Tundra Swan: max 172 Medina 14 Mar; last 1 HB 24 Apr.

Eurasian Wigeon: 1 BB 9 Mar.

Canvasback: max 21 HB 1 Apr, low

this year.

HARLEQUIN DUCK: 1 Parma 23 Mar (RS), imm male; 1 HB 24 Apr (WS), imm male.

Surf Scoter: max 65 HB 30 Apr; last 17 HB 2 May.

White-winged Scoter: max 534 HB 14 Apr.

Black Scoter: max 6 HB 30 Apr; last 2 HB 28 May

Bufflehead: last 2 HB 13 May.

Com. Goldeneye: last 2 WL 2 May.

Ruddy Duck: arr 1 BB 23 Mar; max 29 BB 21 Apr.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

N. Goshawk: arr 1 BB 8 Mar.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr 25 BB 14 Apr.

Rough-legged Hawk: last 1 G 4 May.

Golden Eagle: arr 1 P 8 Mar (DT).

Merlin: last 1 HB 16 May.

Peregrine Falcon: 6 R 1-31 May, 2ad, 4yg nesting on Kodak Tower.

Sandhill Crane: arr 1 BB 7 Mar; 4 BB 22 Mar; 4 BB 25 Mar; 3 HB 7 Apr; 1 MP 13 Apr, unusual location; 5 S 22 Apr; 4 BB 6 May; 1 HB 24 May.

Upland Sandpiper: arr BB 15 Apr.

Whimbrel: max 15 HB 25 May (WS), large spring total.

Hudsonian Godwit: arr 2 HB 26 May (WS), unusual in spring.

Ruddy Turnstone: arr 2 C 13 May.

Dunlin: arr 15 S 22 Apr; max 90 HB 25 May.

Little Gull: max 7 HB 31 Mar; 1 P 18 Apr, 2nd summer (DS)

Iceland Gull: 3 1st yr P 9 Apr.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 P 9 Apr (DS), ad; 1 HB 24 Apr (WS), imm; 2 ad C May (RS).

Glaucous Gull: last 11st yr P 11 Apr.

Caspian Tern: arr 2 HB 1 Apr (JL,WS), record early.

Forster's Tern: arr 2 BB 14 Apr; max 4 HB 24 May.

DOVES - WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr 1 CH 6 May.

Barred Owl: 1 CU 24 Mar.

Long-eared Owl: arr 1 M 9 Mar; last 1 BB 5 May.

N. Saw-whet: 1juv HP 17 May (DT), dead, suggests breeding locally.

Whip-poor-will: arr 1 HP 15 Apr; 1 M 25 May, late migrant.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: total 417 netted at Yanty Creek and Kaiser-Manitou Beach banding stations thru season.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Greece 28 May (KD), only report

Acadian Flycatcher: arr 1 Letchworth 21 May.

N. Shrike: last 1 NR 2 Apr.

White-eyed Vireo: 1 YC 20 May (DB); 1 M 31 May (RMc).

Philadelphia Vireo: arr 1 M 8 May.

Com. Raven: 1 G 3 May (KG), only report.

Winter Wren: arr 2 W 29 Mar.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: last 1 M 31 May, quite late.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr 1 IC 18 May.

Am. Pipit: arr 2 CU 12 Mar.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 IC 4 May.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr 1 YC 3 May.

Tennessee Warbler: max 25 CH 11 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr 1 M 6 May.

Nashville Warbler: max 21 M 1 May.

N. Parula: max 5 CH 15 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 12 CH 11 May.

Magnolia Warbler: max 37 M 8 May.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 19 CH 14 May.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr 3 W 11 Apr.

Yellow-rumped "Audubon's"

Warbler: 1 HB 12 Apr (TH).

Prairie Warbler: arr 1 M 4 May.

Palm Warbler: max 39 M 8 May; last 1 M 16 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 29 CH 17 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 14 CH 29 May.

Cerulean Warbler: arr, max 15 NR 7 May (JK)

Am. Redstart: max 29 M 22 May.

Worm-eating Warbler: 1 Webster 13 May (RS), only report.

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 1 NR 16 Apr.

Kentucky Warbler: arr 1 CH 8 May (AW,DS); 1 IC 13 May (RS).

Hooded Warbler: arr 1 IC 5 May.

Wilson's Warbler: max 22 M 22 May.

Yellow-breasted Chat: arr 1 M 8 May; 1 NR 14 May.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: last 1 Penfield 15 May.

Clay-colored Sparrow: 1-2 MP 11-31 May (RA), site where present last summer.

Field Sparrow: arr 1 NR 12 Apr.

Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 2 NR 29 Apr.

Henslow's Sparrow: arr 1 NR 29 Apr.

Fox Sparrow: arr 1 HP 8 Mar; last 1 M 5 May.

Swamp Sparrow: arr 1 BB 25 Mar.

White-crowned Sparrow: last 1 G 26 May.

Lapland Longspur: max 25 H 25 Mar (DS, GC).

Eastern Meadowlark: arr 1 BB 8 Mar.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 1 H 7-8 Mar (SSk, DT).

Orchard Oriole: arr 1 Geneseo 2 May.

Baltimore Oriole: max 25 WL 13 May.

White-winged Crossbill: max 2 HP 9 Mar.

Hoary Redpoll: 2 G 7 Mar (KG), 1 W 8 Mar (D&DT).

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