

REGION 1 – NIAGARA FRONTIER

MIKE MORGANTE

16 Lakeside Crescent, Lancaster NY 14086

December 2000 saw a continuation of the cold and snowy end to November. The average temperature for the month was 22.1° F, which was 7.0° below normal. Monthly precipitation at Buffalo-Niagara International Airport was 3.76" and it was the seventh snowiest December, with 50.3", 26" more than usual. A very strong cold front on the 12th brought 60+ mph winds and the highest Lake Erie levels since 1985.

January was mild and dry, offering a respite from the previous two months. The average temperature was 27°, 3.4° above normal, and the monthly precipitation was 2.15", 0.55" below normal, with 19.6" of it snow, 6" less than normal. The ground remained snow-covered from the November and December snowfalls. Lake Erie was frozen by the end of the month.

February was also moderate. The average temperature was 28.2°, 4° above normal, and the monthly precipitation was normal at 2.33". Only 9.8" of snow fell, which was 6" less than normal. Lake Erie remained frozen all month. Some brief warm-ups in February may have been factors in early reports of Turkey Vulture, Killdeer and Red-winged Blackbird.

Vivian Pitzrick reported a good cone crop as well as a good supply of mast and wild grape, gray-barked dogwood, buckthorn and thornapple fruits in Allegany Co.

The Type E botulism outbreak among waterfowl along Lake Erie continued into the beginning of the winter season. NYSDEC, with assistance from a volunteer group, began removing carcasses from accessible areas of the shoreline. This effort began on 1 December and ended on 7 December when snowfall, ice and lake swells made further retrieval of the birds impossible. A total of 1110 birds, including 106 Common Loons, 424 Red-breasted Mergansers and 427 Ring-billed Gulls, were picked up and submitted to the NYSDEC's Wildlife Pathologist.

When Lake Erie froze over in January, as typical, the concentration of waterfowl at the mouth of the Niagara River increased dramatically. No extreme rarities were found this winter. However, a female King Eider, observed several times with Canvasbacks along the Niagara, was a very unusual occurrence. Four Mute Swans along the Niagara River were also high for Region 1, still remarkable given the higher counts in nearby Region 2 and elsewhere on the Great Lakes. A large group of Tundra Swans again wintered along the Niagara in the vicinity of Strawberry Island and Beaver Island State Park; this occurrence has become regular in the last few years and such numbers had not previously been recorded in winter.

A little farther north along the Niagara, in the vicinity of Navy Island and Buckhorn Island State Park, Bald Eagles wintered in increased numbers, including six observed on 18 February. Bald Eagles were also reported with more frequency elsewhere this winter and a pair built a nest at Cayuga Pool, giving Iroquois NWR a second active nest.

Merlins were recorded in record numbers this winter. Four wintered at the SUNY Buffalo campus, a traditional roosting location. Another was observed several times at the Buffalo State College campus.

Good numbers of gulls remained on the Niagara River for much of December. Gordon Bellerby had a maximum count of 11,880 Bonaparte's Gulls on 9 December, and he observed a Black-headed Gull a few days later on the 13th. California and Sabine's gulls lingered into December with multiple sightings. David Suggs reported tens of thousands of gulls coming to roost in the Buffalo Harbor area on 15 January. This occurrence was probably influenced by the freezing of Lake Erie waters.

More Snowy Owls were reported than in recent winters. There were also a handful of reports for Long-eared, Short-eared and Northern Saw-whet owls. Northern Shrikes were widely distributed throughout the season.

Despite the very rough weather of late November and December, many "half-hardies" were reported. Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Hermit Thrushes were reported with increased frequency and Carolina Wrens were recorded in respectable numbers. Remarkably, three Pine Warblers wintered in the Region. One in Pomfret was likely the same bird that wintered there last year.

Finches were rather scarce this winter. Pine Siskins were reported in low numbers and Purple Finches wintered in good numbers at Southern Tier feeders. There were only two reports of Evening Grosbeaks, single reports of both crossbill species and no redpoll reports.

Jim Landau again compiled the local CBC data this year. He reported that the only noteworthy 11-year high count this year was of Double-crested Cormorant. Despite a new count circle in the Region, in Wilson, Niagara County, noteworthy 11-year low counts were: Wood Duck, Bufflehead, Ring-necked Pheasant, Ring-billed Gull, Rock Dove, Great Horned Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Finch and House Sparrow.

The winter season produced some good rarities. Brendan Klick observed an alcid on Lake Ontario at Olcott on 10 December. He suspected that the bird was either a Razorbill or a murre. Obviously, any alcid report in this Region is extremely rare. The previous week, Klick and Don Harris observed a Northern Gannet flying west on Lake Ontario from Golden Hill State Park. Doug Happ and Mike Zebehazy found a Varied Thrush in the Town of Mansfield while conducting some early season Atlas work. Other rarities included Harlequin Duck, Bohemian Waxwing, Fox Sparrow, "Oregon" Junco and Brewer's Blackbird.

I would like to thank Ken Roblee of NYSDEC for his information on the botulism outbreak and Jim Landau for his CBC report.

CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Andrie, Gordon Bellerby, Allen Benton, William Broderick, Bill Burch, Willie D'Anna, Michael DeSha, Dean DiTommaso, Kurt Fox, Paul Fuhrmann,

Joanne Goetz, Doug Happ, Tom Harper, Dave Junkin, Brendan Klick, Hans Kunze, Tom LeBlanc, Jim Landau, Karen Landau, Dick Miga, Mike Morgante, Terry Mosher, Vivian Pitzrick, Ed Ratajczak, Fran Rew, Don Roberson, Richard Rosche, Tom Simmons, Richard Sowinski, David Suggs (Buffalo RBA), Bob Sundell, Roberta Vallone, William Watson, Peter Yoerg, Mike Zebehazy.

ABBREVIATIONS

ALSP – Allegany SP CATT; BuSP – Buckhorn Island SP ERIE; BWWTP – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant GENE; DH – Dunkirk Harbor CHAU; FMCSPP – Four Mile Creek SP NIAG; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP NIAG; GHSP – Golden Hill SP NIAG; GI – Goat Island NIAG; INWR – Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge GENE/ORLE; NF – Niagara Falls NIAG; NPP – Niagara Power Project on Niagara River, Lewiston NIAG; NR – Niagara River; OOWMA – Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area GENE; SPNS – Sinking Ponds Nature Sanctuary, East Aurora ERIE; Tift NP – Tift Nature Preserve, Buffalo ERIE.

LOONS – DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: last 11 Porter NIAG 15 Dec; no Jan or Feb reports.

Com. Loon: last Lewiston NR 15 Dec; no Jan or Feb reports; *intro*.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 11 DH 7 Jan; good count for winter.

Horned Grebe: max 27 Shadigee ORLE 13 Jan.

EARED GREBE: DH 8 Dec (DM); fourth for Region in 2000.

NORTHERN GANNET: GHSP 3 Dec (BK!), flying west on L Ontario; fourth report ever on Region 1 L Ontario, all since 1990. [RREd: Amazing, given that more that that number appears in some years and the species is nearly annual both east and west of Region 1.]

Double-crested Cormorant: max 80 DH 24 Feb; several reports of singles on NR.

Great Blue Heron: max 36 Motor I NR 2 Feb (BB).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: DH 4 Feb (PY), unexpected winter location; Buffalo ERIE 13 Feb (PY); nearly annual in winter in Buffalo.

Turkey Vulture: arr Pomfret CHAU 7 Feb (TM!); Orchard P ERIE 9 Feb (JL!).

Snow Goose: 2 blue morph Porter NIAG

27 Dec (MM); unusual in winter.

Mute Swan: 2 Barcelona Harbor CHAU 7 Jan; 2 Olcott NIAG 14 Jan; max 4 NR Buffalo 14-20 Jan (DR, BB).

Tundra Swan: max 138 Strawberry I NR 18 Jan (DR, BB); similar numbers have wintered annually on this part of the NR in recent years.

Wood Duck: Wilson NIAG 10 Dec (KF); Silver Creek ERIE 14 Jan (FR); max 3 Amherst ERIE 15 Jan (BK).

N. Pintail: max 24 DH 3 Feb (TM), good winter count; 2 reports of singles ERIE.

Green-winged Teal: DH 8 Jan (DM); 2 Machias CATT 21 Jan (BK, RS), only reports beyond Dec.

Canvasback: max 6800 Grand I NR 15 Jan (BK).

Redhead: 880 Grand I NR 15 Jan (BK); max 1000 GHSP 24 Feb (DS); BWWTP 28 Feb (WW), likely migrant.

Ring-necked Duck: max 25 Buffalo NR 8 Jan (PY); 10 BuSP 28 Jan (PY).

Greater Scaup: max 3500 GHSP 24 Feb (DS).

Lesser Scaup: max 450 Buffalo Harbor ERIE 23 Jan (BK), very high winter count.

KING EIDER: fem NR Buffalo 7 Jan

(PY), 27 Feb (TH); rare on NR.
HARLEQUIN DUCK: fem NF 2, 3 Dec (WD), same bird as Nov report.
Surf Scoter: max 3 DH 3 Feb (TM); only report beyond Dec.
Black Scoter: NR Buffalo 20 Jan (WD!); only report.
Ruddy Duck: max 5 Buffalo Harbor ERIE 12 Jan (BK); 2 DH 28 Jan (BK), 11 Feb (RA).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: 2 at nest INWR 24 Jan (WW); max 9 Salamanca CATT 8 Feb (TL); 6 observed from Grand I NR 18 Feb (BB); increased sightings along NR; Arcade WYOM 18 Feb (DH, MZ); Clarence ERIE 28 Feb (WW).
N. Goshawk: Panama CHAU 14 Dec (TS); Jamestown CHAU 1 Jan (BS); AISP 14 Jan (BK!); imm Bond L NIAG 29 Jan (BK!); more reports than usual.
Red-shouldered Hawk: Buffalo ERIE 7 Dec (PY), late migrant; Jamestown CHAU 6, 14 Jan (TM, BK); Elma ERIE 20 Jan (PF).
Rough-legged Hawk: max 6 S. Dayton CATT 21 Jan (FR); well reported thru.
Merlin: max 4 SUNY Buffalo campus ERIE 29 Dec (PY!), new max count at this winter roost location; Yates ORLE 2 Jan (BK!); Buffalo ERIE 24 Jan (BK!).
Peregrine Falcon: several sightings in Buffalo near nesting area.
Am. Coot: max 130 DH 14 Jan.
Killdeer: arr Pomfret CHAU 9 Feb (TM); Portland CHAU 11 Feb (RA).
Com. Snipe: 2 Jamestown CBC 17 Dec; Gerry CHAU 14 Jan (BK!), at historical wintering locations.
Little Gull: max 23 NR 12 Feb (GB).
BLACK-HEADED GULL: NR 13 Dec (GB), only report.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 11,880 NR 9 Dec (GB), peak for fall migration; 1470 NR 12 Feb (GB), counted at Niagara-on-the-Lake flypast.
CALIFORNIA GULL: ad NF 2 Dec

(MM!); ad NPP 10 Dec (WD! BK!); continued from Nov.
Iceland Gull: max 5 Buffalo 23 Jan; Somerset NIAG 18 Feb (PY), few reports from L Ontario.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: FMCSP 15 Dec; Wilson NIAG 21 Dec; max 3 Buffalo 8 Jan.
Glaucous Gull: 3 Porter NIAG 27 Dec; 3 NPP 1 Jan; 3 FNPS 24 Jan.
SABINE'S GULL: juv NF thru Dec 6 (WD!, GB, WW!); juv Whirlpool NR thru Dec 3 (WD! BK!); few historical Dec records.
ALCID sp.: Olcott NIAG 10 Dec (BK!); any alcid report very rare for Region.

DOVES – WOODPECKERS

Snowy Owl: NF Airport NIAG 9-21 Dec (WD); Arcade WYOM 20 Dec- 20 Jan (RV); Yates ORLE 30 Dec- 28 Jan (KF); 2 Eagle WYOM 2 Jan (RR); 2 Wheatfield NIAG 28 Jan (PY).
Long-eared Owl: 4 Porter NIAG 27 Dec; 2 Bond L NIAG 3 Feb; 2 Cherry Creek CHAU 3 Feb (RR); 10 Porter NIAG 18 Feb (BK); 4 Clarence ERIE 20 Feb.
Short-eared Owl: 10 Niagara NIAG 9 Dec (WB); 2 Shelby ORLE 10 Dec (KF); Yates 2 Jan (BK); 6 Wheatfield NIAG 14 Jan (JL, KL).
N. Saw-whet Owl: FMCSP 3, 11 Feb (BK); GHSP 3 Feb (BK); Somerset NIAG 3 Feb (BK).
Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Lakeside Beach SP ORLE 2 Jan (BK); Pt Gratiot CHAU 14 Jan (TS); only winter reports.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Fredonia CHAU 21 Dec (JG); unusual in winter.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

N. Shrike: numerous reports throughout Region.
Com. Raven: 2 Wethersfield WYOM 24 Jan (DJ); Franklinville CATT 26 Feb (MD).
Carolina Wren: 6 Jamestown CBC

CHAU 17 Dec; 6 Hamburg CBC ERIE 31 Dec; reported from 8 other locations.
Winter Wren: 2 Porter NIAG 27 Dec; Porter NIAG 13 Jan (BK), last reports.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Porter NIAG 27 Dec (MM!); L Erie SP CHAU 7 Jan (BK!); Grand I ERIE 12 Jan (BK!); Tiff NP 13 Feb (ER!); good number of reports.
Eastern Bluebird: max 25 NIAG 16 Jan.
Hermit Thrush: Lancaster ERIE 22 Dec thru (MM); FMCSP 27 Dec; Yates ORLE 2 Jan; Lewiston NIAG 10 Jan; Bond L NIAG 17 Jan-3 Feb (BK); more reports than usual.
VARIED THRUSH: Mansfield CATT 24 Feb (DH! MZ!); fourth verified report since 1990.
Am. Pipit: Jamestown CBC 17 Dec; late.
BOHEMIAN WAXWING: FNSP 1 Dec (BK!), carryover from Nov.

WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 16 OOWMA 23 Dec (MM); 6 Porter NIAG 27 Dec; 35 L Erie SP CHAU 7 Jan (BK); 9 BuSP 12 Jan; 6 other reports.
PINE WARBLER: Pomfret CHAU 2 Dec-19 Feb, at same feeder as wintered last year; Orchard Park ERIE 21-31 Dec (DH!); Bond L NIAG 27 Dec, 27 Jan (MM! WD!); good winter showing.

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

E. Towhee: Darien GENE thru (TH), only a few winter in Region.
Chipping Sparrow: Grand I CBC 17 Dec; Hamburg CBC 31 Dec; unusual in winter.
Savannah Sparrow: 2 Pomfret CHAU 2 Dec (TM!), rare in winter.
FOX SPARROW: Genesee Co. P 7 Jan (HK), unverified; only 3 previous verified Jan records.
Swamp Sparrow: 6 OOWMA 23 Dec; 2 Porter NIAG 27 Dec; Hamburg CBC 31

Jan; 2 Wilson NIAG 19 Jan; decent winter numbers.

White-crowned Sparrow: max 9 Porter NIAG 18 Feb.

Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco: Eden ERIE thru (RA!), continued from Nov at feeder; Oak Orchard CBC 23 Dec, unverified.

Lapland Longspur: max 18 Oakfield GENE 11 Jan (BK); 7 Yates ORLE 28 Jan; Evans ERIE 4 Feb.

Snow Bunting: max 100 Porter NIAG 3 Jan (HK).

Red-winged Blackbird: SPNS 15 Jan; 3 Buffalo 21 Jan; arr Lancaster ERIE 12 Feb.

E. Meadowlark: 3 Ridgeway NIAG 21, 30 Dec (KF), only report.

Rusty Blackbird: Franklinville CATT 3 Feb (MD), at feeder.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: Fredonia CHAU 25 Dec (AB); unverified.

Com. Grackle: 3 East Aurora ERIE 1-31 Dec; arr 2 SPNS 26 Feb.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 77 Kenmore ERIE 13 Dec; 75 Buffalo ERIE 25 Dec.

Purple Finch: 10 Alfred ALLE 20 Jan; 6 Darien GENE 16-28 Feb; 11 Franklinville CATT 17 Feb; 4 other reports of singles besides CBCs.

Red Crossbill: W. Almond ALLE 20 Jan (BK), only report.

White-winged Crossbill: Amherst ERIE 25 Jan (Buffalo RBA), only report.

Pine Siskin: Somerset NIAG 3 Dec; 17 Hamburg CBC 31 Dec; 2 Amity L ALLE 14 Jan; 3 Alfred ALLE 20 Jan; Franklinville CATT 17 Feb; Boston ERIE 24 Feb.

Evening Grosbeak: Alexander GENE 14 Dec (KF); 4 Hamburg CBC 31 Dec; only reports.

morgmmm@aol.com

REGION 2 – GENESEE

KEVIN C. GRIFFITH

61 Grandview Lane, Rochester NY 14612

The season was characterized by snow. It wasn't that we had significant amounts of snow on any single days, but it fell regularly in small amounts. The winter started very cold, with a December average of 22.6°F, 6.5° below normal. It was the sixth coldest December in the last 100 years. Total precipitation for the month reached 2.45", slightly below normal. Snowfall totaled 38.8", 17.2" above normal. A deep low-pressure system on the 12th of the month brought gusty winds and some tree damage. Another such front passed on the 17th-18th. The end of the month saw the Region on the western fringe of a major East Coast storm. Compared with December, January was quite tranquil. The average temperature was 26.6°, 3° higher than normal. Precipitation was a scant 0.13" below normal at 1.95". Snowfall was light but consistent, totaling 21.6", 3.5" less than normal. Once again, we were spared any significant winter weather in February. No major systems were noted and no significant meteorological events occurred. The average temperature was 28.6°, a full 4° above normal. Total precipitation amounted to 2.26", a mere 0.16" above normal. Snowfall was just about average at 23.3".

Despite the cold December, the Rochester Christmas Bird Count broke the 100 species mark for the first time with a total of 105. Certainly one of the highlights was the Least Bittern found in the Cranberry Pond marsh by Dave Tetlow. Waterbirds in general were quite good, helping raise the total. The cold didn't seem to bother the lingering "half-hardies" as a number of good finds occurred on the count. The Little Lakes CBC saw a more frozen landscape and therefore waterbirds were fewer than normal and the total reached 78 species. The total for the Letchworth-Silver Lake CBC was 68.

An event that added to the total for the season was a concentrated effort by Mike Davids and Dave Tetlow to do a "Big February." This can often be a difficult month to build a high total. They managed to reach 125 species. The Regional total for the month was 126. Diligent lakewatch observation by William Symonds from Hamlin Beach State Park throughout the season was also a big plus.

Red-throated Loons lingered during the season, with more reports from January and February than typical. Common Loons were less numerous. Horned Grebe numbers were quite good this season. Northern Gannet from Hamlin Beach on 3 December was a late date. The usual one or two Double-crested Cormorants were evident through the season. Great Blue Herons were able to find open water and some remained throughout the season. The number of waterfowl species was good, but numbers of individuals were not very high. Four Greater White-fronted Geese in Victor were quite a surprise. Two Brant on the Rochester CBC were also a good find. Mute Swan numbers continued to build, and once again Trumpeter Swans wintered at Irondequoit Bay. Two carried yellow wing tags, while the third did not. The usual large rafts of Greater Scaup were missing this year. King Eider reports

from Hamlin Beach were excellent. This trend continues at least partly as a result of better coverage at that location throughout the year. A male Barrow's Goldeneye found by Dave Tetlow at Sodus Bay was another highlight.

Accipiters were seen regularly, with a record number of Cooper's Hawks tallied on the Little Lakes CBC. Rough-legged Hawks were pretty good from the midpoint to the end of the season. They were very regular in the more southerly agricultural areas of the Region. Merlin and Peregrine Falcon were once again reported, continuing the recent trend of winter sightings. The Purple Sandpiper on the Rochester CBC was a good find. Dunlin, Common Snipe and Red Phalarope rounded out the late or wintering shorebirds of the season. Gulls were generally pretty good, with Thayer's and Lesser Black-backed being reported from the Detection Systems' Pond in Perinton. The usual concentrations of Bonaparte's Gulls never materialized on Lake Ontario and consequently neither did many reports of Little Gull.

One of the major highlights of the Little Lakes CBC was the record number of owls. New highs were established for E. Screech-Owl, Barred and N. Saw-whet owls. [RREd: This was due to a combination of a serious effort by observers in one of the count sectors and a night when owls responded well.] Snowy Owls put in regular appearances and Short-eared Owls were located in their usual haunts.

Red-headed Woodpecker was reported from the usual Nations Road location. A record high 32 Pileated Woodpeckers were tallied on the Little Lakes CBC.

It was a generally good winter for Northern Shrike, with consistent reports from around the area. Marsh Wren and Ruby-crowned Kinglet were good finds on the CBCs. The wrens were also found in February. Hermit Thrush sightings were somewhat limited, and a Gray Catbird in December was unusual yet nearly regular. A second catbird wintered in Rush. Northern Mockingbirds continued to be reported in good numbers. Yellow-rumped Warblers and Common Yellowthroats were found on two of the three CBCs.

Sparrows of note included Chipping, Field, Savannah and Fox. There were very high counts for White-crowned Sparrows, continuing a recent wintering trend. Snow Buntings and Lapland Longspurs were quite evident throughout the period. A review continues of birds in the Nations Road area which were reported as possible Chestnut-collared Longspurs. The birds were carefully studied at close range, but no written reports have yet been received for evaluation. The Dickcissel in North Chili in January was a super find.

A few blackbirds were located on the CBCs, but no really high concentrations were noted. Rusty Blackbird was found on two of the three CBCs. Winter finches were certainly not abundant, but scattered individuals were noted during the season.

CONTRIBUTORS

Jack & Jean Barlett, Jessie & Jim Barry, Fred Beltz, John Boettcher, Carolyn Cass, Ellen & Jim Cavagnaro, Belma Cerosaletti, Diane Chamberlain, Anne Clarridge, Kathleen Dalton, Mike Davids, Frank & Robert Dobson, Colleen Dox-Griffith, Bob

Easterly, Jeannine & Kurt Fox, Kevin Griffith, Bill Hallahan, Chris & Helen Haller, Greg Hartenstein, Jim Kimball, John Lehr, Gerry Leubner, Judy MacLean, Cindy Marino, Jane & Max Mason, Chita & Robert McKinney, Dan Niven, Richard O'Hara, John Pachuta, Tom Painting, Betty & Bill Powell, Ed & Kim Sheidlower, Dominic Sherony, Cathy, Robert & Susan Spahn, Jeff & Paul Spindler, Allan, Dan, David & Grace Strong, William Symonds, Steve Taylor, David, JoAnn, Justin, Kathy & Mike Tetlow, Marian & William Thompson, Glenn & Sue Webster, Bruce Zoller.

ABBREVIATIONS

BB – Braddock Bay MONR; BE – Bergen Swamp GENE; CH – Ontario Beach, Charlotte MONR; CL – Conesus Lake LIVI; DE – Durand-Eastman Park MONR; G – Greece MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach SP MONR; HL – Hemlock L LIVI/ONTA; HoL – Honoeye L ONTA; HP – Hogan Pt, Greece MONR; IB – Irondequoit Bay MONR; K – Kendall ORLE; LLCBC – Little Lakes CBC; LSLCBC – Letchworth-Silver Lake CBC; LW – Letchworth SP; M – Manitou MONR; MP – Mendon Ponds MONR; NR – Nations Road, Avon LIVI; NYSWC – New York State Waterfowl Census; P – Perinton MONR; PE – Penfield MONR; RCBC – Rochester CBC; RH – Rattlesnake Hill Wildlife Management Area LIVI; SB – Sodus Bay WAYN; V – Victor ONTA.

LOONS – DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: max 18 RCBC 17 Dec.
Com. Loon: max 5 RCBC 17 Dec.
Horned Grebe: max 283 L Ontario offshore 13-14 Jan NYSWC.
Red-necked Grebe: HB 11 Jan.
N. Gannet: HB 3 Dec (WS), last report for the year.
LEAST BITTERN: BB (Cranberry Pd) 17 Dec (DT), record late.
Great Blue Heron: max 17 Turning Pt P 28 Jan.
Turkey Vulture: LW 1 Jan.
Greater White-fronted Goose: 4 V 3-10 Dec (FB, JM0, ph).
Brant: 2 CH 17 Dec, uncommon in winter.
Mute Swan: max 164 RCBC 17 Dec, unfortunately.
Trumpeter Swan: 3 RCBC at IB 17 Dec, 2 with wing tags.
Am. Wigeon: max 11 CL 14 Jan.
N. Shoveler: IB 17 Dec; 26-27 Jan.
N. Pintail: PE 14 Jan; SB 16 Jan.

Green-winged Teal: 2 Caledonia 15 Jan.
King Eider: max 5 HB 11 Dec (WS); SB 13 Dec (DS); HB 16 Dec (WS); 2 HB 19 Dec (WS); all females; 2 HB 11 Jan (WS); HB 12 Jan (WS); imm males; HB 1 Feb (WS), subad male; HB 4 Feb (WS); HB 19 Feb (WS); females; 3 HB 20 Feb (DT, MD), ad male and 2 females.
White-winged Scoter: max 1818 HB 20 Feb.
Barrow's Goldeneye: SB 14 Feb, male (DT).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: max 4 LW 1 Jan (DT, MD), 2 ad, 1 subad, 1 imm.
N. Goshawk: G 19 Feb; scarce.
Red-shouldered Hawk: G 14 Dec (DT); imm Carlton 28 Jan (DT, MD), unusual at this time of year.
Merlin: BB 15 Dec; PE 30 Dec; IB 13 Jan; Perry 19 Feb.
Peregrine Falcon: IB 17 Dec (CM, C&RM, JL); IB 13 Jan (DT, MD); 2 Rochester 14 Jan (DT, MD); Rochester

18 Feb (DT,MD).

Virginia Rail: MP 3 Feb (DT, MD), usual wintering locale.

Sora: 2 MP 3 Feb (DT, MD), only report of season, prior wintering locale.

Killdeer: arr G 16 Feb.

Purple Sandpiper: IB 17 Dec (MD, DT), late.

Dunlin: IB 2 Dec (R&SS).

Com. Snipe: CL 15 Jan (MD, DT), only report.

Am. Woodcock: 3 BE 26 Feb, arrival or wintering?

Red Phalarope: 2 HB 10 Dec (WS), uncommon.

Little Gull: ad HB 3 Jan (WS); HB 15 Feb (WS); HB 27 Feb (WS); scarce.

Thayer's Gull: ad P 2 Dec (DS).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 3 P 1-31 Dec (DS); IB 17 Dec (DT, MD); IB 26 Dec (R&SS); P 2 Jan (DS); IB 4 Jan (KG); P 20 Jan (MD, DT); 3 P 24 Feb (DT, MD); all ad.

Iceland Gull: max 8 P Dec (DS).

Glaucous Gull: singles reported from many locations thru.

DOVES – WOODPECKERS

E. Screech-Owl: max 60 LLCBC 30 Dec.

Barred Owl: max 5 HoL 30 Dec; 2 BE 11 Feb.

Long-eared Owl: G 17 Dec; HoL 30 Dec; HL 30 Dec; 2 BE 26 Feb.

N. Saw-whet Owl: 2 HoL 30 Dec (LLCBC); BE 26 Feb.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: T Stafford all Jan (J&MM).

Pileated Woodpecker: max 32 LLCBC 30 Dec.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

N. Shrike: max 6 L Ontario Pkwy 14 Jan.

Com. Raven: LW 3 Feb (DT, MD), only report.

Marsh Wren: 2 G 17 Dec; CL 30 Dec, 15 Jan; 2 MP 3 Feb; uncommon in

winter.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: IB 17 Dec.

Hermit Thrush: M 17 Dec; CL 30 Dec; HB 14 Jan; uncommon.

Am. Robin: max 3000+ MP all Jan.

Gray Catbird: G 16 Dec (KG), Rush 15 Jan, 3 Feb (DT, MD); uncommon in winter.

Brown Thrasher: Parma 4 Jan (KG), only report.

WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 6 RCBC 17 Dec.

Com. Yellowthroat: max 2 RCBC 17 Dec.

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

E. Towhee: Silver L 17 Feb, only report.

Chipping Sparrow: NR 26 Dec (DS); Irondequoit 30 Dec, 1 Jan (TP); NR 17 Feb (DT, MD); uncommon.

Field Sparrow: CL 30 Dec; CL 17 Feb; Leicester 22 Feb; (all DT, MD).

Savannah Sparrow: NR 11, 21 Feb (DT, MD).

Fox Sparrow: HP 16-17 Dec; Brighton 2-5 Feb.

White-crowned Sparrow: max 112 Leicester 17 Feb.

Lapland Longspur: max 100+ York 17 Feb; Geneseo, Leicester 22 Feb.

Snow Bunting: max 8000 West Bloomfield 7 Feb.

DICKCISSEL: N Chili 10 Jan (DT).

Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco: RCBC 17 Dec (F&RD).

Rusty Blackbird: MP 20 Jan; scarce.

Purple Finch: 3 RH 11 Feb, only report.

Red Crossbill: HB 14 Jan; DE 25 Feb.

White-winged Crossbill: 2 HB 20; HB 24 Feb; only reports.

Com. Redpoll: max 30 K 24 Jan (DT, MD), only report.

Evening Grosbeak: RH 11 Feb, only report.

ckgrif@localnet.com