

REGION 9 – HUDSON-DELAWARE

Michael Bochnik

86 Empire Street, Yonkers NY 10704

BochnikM@cs.com

March temperatures were near normal, but winter refused to go quietly. A snowstorm on 26 March brought back birds around the feeders. Snow finally melted away in Dutchess County by the end of March, but was followed by some snow in early April. Ulster County snow persisted in protected high elevation ravines until 15 April. The snow finally met its end when temperatures reached into the eighties on 15 and 16 April. May was 2°F to 3° cooler than average, mainly due to a cold snap at the normal peak of migration. Liberty had lows in the 30's between 15 and 20 May. This led to a generally lackluster migration. Precipitation was slightly below average.

There was an incredible influx of Red-necked Grebes inland on 1 March. Forty-five were on Peekskill Bay and 12 were present off the bathing beach at Croton Point, with two quite a way up the Croton River, just below the Croton Dam. This was followed by many single digit reports throughout March and April, with the last sighting on 4 May.

Dutchess County had its first **Glossy Ibis** since 1991 when Carena Pooth found one in Pleasant Valley at a farm pond on 25 March. An adult Little Blue Heron made an unusual and early appearance in Rockland County on 5 April at Piermont Pier. Two made a more typical appearance at Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary on 3 May.

The hawkwatch at Hook Mountain had a great showing of 1063 hawks consisting of 13 species on 27 April. Later that evening, Long Island Sound's spring scoter count off Rye counted 85 White-winged Scoters moving north and 11 Red-necked Grebes.

Double-crested Cormorants are now breeding inland, away from the known sites in Long Island Sound. Carol Weiss reported 50-60 nests on Lake DeForest in Rockland County, and eight nests were found by Berna and Stan Lincoln in Muscoot Reservoir in Westchester.

Andy Guthrie found a **Manx Shearwater** heading south off Rye Beach on 26 May. Forty-five minutes later it was seen heading north by Guthrie, Tom Burke and Gail Benson. This will be the first record for Westchester County. A Manx/Audubon's type shearwater was reported from the Hudson River on 11 April 1990, but no NYSARC report was ever submitted.

The wintering Clay-colored Sparrow in Rhinebeck continued through 20 April. Jane Vecchione found a Clay-colored Sparrow at Spring Farm at Mohonk Preserve on 30 May. This species is becoming a very rare but regular breeder in the Region.

CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Alden, David Arner, John Askildsen, Gail Benson, Andrew Block, Frank Bonanno, Tom Burke, Steve Chorvas, Judy Cinquina, Renee Davis, Lin Fagan, Larry Federman, Tom Fiore, Carol & Ken Fredericks, Misha Fredericks, Valerie Freer, Scott Graber, Andy Guthrie, Mary Harrington, John Haas, Barry Haydasz, Barbara Herrgesell, Kevin Holcomb, Brian Houser, Kelli Jewell, Tait Johansson, Rodney Johnson, Steve Kahl, Bob Kendall, Mary Key, David Klauber, Kelly Liao, Berna & Stan Lincoln, Jeff Lucas, Bob May, Richard Nelson, Carena Pooth, Peter Relson, Kristen Smith, Selden Spencer, Chris Tessaglia-Hymes, John Tramonano, Jim Utter, Jane Vecchione, Chet Vincent, Bill Wallace, Steve Walter, Carol Weiss, Matt Young, John & Mary Yrizarry.

ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Pt P; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy Rye; RNC – Rye Nature Center; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR; WRNWR – Wallkill Ri NWR.

LOONS – DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: max 34 EGR 20 Apr; last MC 23 May.

Horned Grebe: Putnam L 2, 3 Apr; max 18 EGR 13 Apr.

Red-necked Grebe: 45 Peekskill Bay 1 Mar (JA, TJ, MY); 12 CPP 1 Mar; Norrie Pt 28-29 Mar & 1-23 Apr (JL, C&KF);

11 moving north EGR 27 Apr (TB); last 4 EGR 4 May (TB).

MANX SHEARWATER: Rye Beach 26 May (AG, TB, GB).

N. Gannet: EGR 28 Mar (BW); max 4 EGR 13 Apr (TB).

Double-crested Cormorant: 50-60 nests L DeForest 2 May (CW); 8 nests Muscoot

Res WEST (B&SL).

Am. Bittern: arr Bashakill 10 Apr;
Crugers 1 30 Apr.

Least Bittern: Bashakill 14 May.

Great Egret: arr New Rochelle 24 Mar; 4
nests L DeForest 2 May (CW).

Snowy Egret: arr MC 13 Apr.

Little Blue Heron: Piermont Pier 5 Apr
(CW), early; 2 EGR 3 May.

Green Heron: arr Larchmont Res 16 Apr.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: nest L
DeForest 2 May.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: MC 27
May (TB).

Glossy Ibis: Pleasant Valley 25 Mar (CP).

Black Vulture: Ward Pound Ridge 26
Mar, 3, 16 Apr; Great Swamp 26 Apr.

Snow Goose: 50 Great Swamp 26 Mar.

Canada Goose: first goslings 28 Apr.

Brant: max 1000 Hudson Ri 27 May.

Blue-winged Teal: arr Arboris Swamp
DUTC 4 Apr.

Canvasback: 114 Hudson Ri 12 Mar.

Ring-necked Duck: 22 EGR 22 Mar; 55
L Walton DUTC 26 Mar; 52 Stissing L 1
Apr; 75 WRNWR 4 Apr.

Greater Scaup: last EGR 4 May

Lesser Scaup: 40 EGR 22 Mar.

White-winged Scoter: 85 EGR 27 Apr
(TB); 64 EGR 4 May (TB).

Long-tailed Duck: max 300 EGR 13 Apr
(TB).

Bufflehead: ORAN 16 May.

Red-breasted Merganser: 4 Crugers I 26
Mar; sev Cedar L DUTC 29 Mar; last
EGR 3 May.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: arr inland DUTC 25 Mar; arr
MC 13 Apr; 18 Hook Mt 24 Apr.

Bald Eagle: 3 Hook Mt 24 Apr.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 10 Hook Mt 24
Apr; 24 Hook Mt 27 Apr.

N. Goshawk: Ward Pound Ridge 3 Apr.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr Hook Mt 15
Apr; 500 + Hook Mt 24 Apr; 974 Hook
Mt 27 Apr (SW).

Golden Eagle: Stissing Mt 16 Mar (CV).

Am. Kestrel: 12 Hook Mt 27 Apr.

Merlin: Millbrook 9 Mar; EGR 28 Mar;
10 Hook Mt 27 Apr.

Clapper Rail: 1-3 MC 12, 15, 27 May.

Virginia Rail: arr Bashakill 12 Apr.

Sora: arr Bashakill 2 May.

Com. Moorhen: arr Bashakill 8 May;
low numbers.

Black-bellied Plover: max 12 MC 27
May.

Semipalmated Plover: Mamakating
Transfer Station SULL 24 May (JH).

Killdeer: arr WRNWR 5 Mar.

Am. Oystercatcher: arr MC 2 May.

Greater Yellowlegs: 6 WRNWR 15 May;
max 22 MC 15 May.

Lesser Yellowlegs: 3 MC 23 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr MC & Bashakill
2 May; 5 WRNWR 15 May.

Upland Sandpiper: MC 2 May (TB); arr
SGNWR 4 May.

Ruddy Turnstone: max 5 MC 27 May.

Least Sandpiper: arr Thompson Pd 19
Apr.

Pectoral Sandpiper: 3 WRNWR 4 Apr
(SK); 15 WRNWR 8 Apr (J&MY).

Purple Sandpiper: max 45 Rye 27 Apr;
last 5 Rye 27 May.

Dunlin: WRNWR 8 Apr (J&MY); MC
30 May.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 MC 27 May.

Wilson's Snipe: 45 WRNWR 4 Apr
(SK); 28 Buttercup West Sanctuary 10
Apr (LFe).

Am. Woodcock: first displays Yonkers 14
Mar, late.

Laughing Gull: arr MC 30 Apr.

Bonaparte's Gull: Poughkeepsie 3 Apr
(CV); max 25 EGR 13 Apr.

Forster's Tern: 2 MC 30 Apr; 5 MC 2
May; 4 MC 27 May.

Least Tern: 3 MC 2 May; 2 MC 27 May.

Black Tern: SULL 9-11 May (JH).

DOVES – WOODPECKERS

Monk Parakeet: 5 Glen I 17 Mar (AB);
6 MC 21 Apr; Bronx population
expanding north along sound shore.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr 3 Doodletown Rd 10 May.

Long-eared Owl: rescued from deer netting LaGrange 6 Mar (BK).

Whip-poor-will: arr Bashakill 3 May.

Red-headed Woodpecker: pr New Paltz 22 April (BHo); Pawling 23 May (KL).

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Doodletown Rd 11, 15, 18 May; Bashakill 22 May; Ellenville 27 May; Amenia 28 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Bashakill 14 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: RNC 27 May; Amenia 28 May; MC 29 May; Pawling Nature Preserve 30-31 May.

Alder Flycatcher: RNC 27 May; 2 Rockefeller U Field Station 29 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr Bashakill 2 May.

E. Phoebe: arr Kakiat P 16 Mar; arr DUTC 21 Mar.

White-eyed Vireo: arr 13 May.

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 27 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: arr Rockefeller Preserve 30 Apr.

Purple Martin: Brewster 16 Apr; 2 Verbank 30 Apr; Bashakill 8 May; MC 27 May.

Tree Swallow: arr 13 Mar.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Bashakill & MC 13 Apr.

Brown Creeper: 12 Bashakill 13 Apr.

House Wren: arr MC 28 Apr.

Marsh Wren: arr MC 2 May; max 5 MC 27 May.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr RNC 16 Apr.

Veery: arr 16 Apr.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Rhinebeck 7 May; RNC 27 May.

Bicknell's Thrush: 1 singing MC 21-25 May (TB).

Cedar Waxwing: flocks moving north 30 Mar-5 Apr.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr Sprain Ridge P 29 Apr.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr Sterling Forest 4 May; Bashakill 25 May; Ellenville 27 May.

Blackburnian Warbler: many Bashakill 3 May.

Yellow-throated Warbler: RNC 15 May.

Pine Warbler: Katohah 17 Mar, early (JA); arr Bashakill 13 Apr.

Prairie Warbler: arr Bashakill 2 May.

Palm Warbler: arr Bashakill 12 Apr.

Cerulean Warbler: arr Doodletown Rd 28 Apr.

Black-and-white Warbler: arr RNC 16 Apr.

Am. Redstart: arr Bashakill 2 May.

Worm-eating Warbler: arr 2 May.

N. Waterthrush: arr New Paltz 22 Apr.

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr New Paltz 15 Apr.

Kentucky Warbler: Vassar Farm 4, 23 May (PR, C&KF).

Mourning Warbler: arr SULL 9-11 May; Ellenville 27 May ; MC 28-29 May.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr MC 30 Apr.

Hooded Warbler: arr RNC 16 Apr; 8 Doodletown 4 May.

Canada Warbler: arr Doodletown Rd 10 May.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Ellenville 27 May (JH, RD, VF).

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: last 13 Apr.

Chipping Sparrow: arr Congers 13 Mar.

Clay-colored Sparrow: continued in Rhinebeck thru 20 Apr (KS); Spring Farm Mohonk Preserve 30 May (JV).

Vesper Sparrow: New Paltz 22 April (BHo).

Grasshopper Sparrow: SGNWR 15 May (KH).

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow: MC 15, 27 May.

Seaside Sparrow: MC 30 Apr, 5 May (TB).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Brewster 12 May (BW); Bashakill 14 May (JC).

White-crowned Sparrow: Doodletown 7

May; Bashakill 8 May; Brewster 9-16
May.

Bobolink: arr SGNWR 4 May.

Orchard Oriole: arr 30 Apr; numerous
reports May.

Baltimore Oriole: arr Rockefeller

Preserve 28 Apr.

Purple Finch: Brewster thru.

(914) 785-3840 (work)

(914) 237-9331 (home)