

REGION 4 – SUSQUEHANNA

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March was typically cold, with an average temperature of 29° F, 3.7° below normal. Temperatures and regular snowfall kept a good depth, with an additional near 2" on the 28th. The end of March and early April brought higher temperatures and 1.76" of rain fell on 2-3 April, causing serious flooding. Many of our regular birding areas were completely flooded, and some damage was reported. April remained unseasonably warm. The average high was around 60° and the highest temperature was 77° on the 20th. May began cooler than normal, with a few harsh frosts occurring in the first two weeks. Temperatures averaged normal for the remainder of May, but precipitation was a low 2.74" below normal. Overall, spring migration was one of the most dismal in the past 10 years. This was due to an Omega blocking high-pressure system located to our north that kept cool northern winds over central New York for most of the migration period.

Waterfowl were in good numbers, but many, especially dabblers, moved on with the early April flooding. A **Eurasian Wigeon** accommodated many birders with a weeklong stay at Boland Pond in March. A Ruddy Duck, which has become quite uncommon in our Region, showed up in Broome County on 1 May. Long-tailed Duck almost pulled a no-show, with only one report from Otsego County. Missed species were Tundra Swan, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Canvasback and scoters. Waders were well reported, with Great Egret and two Black-crowned Night-Heron sightings. Always great for our Region was a **Glossy Ibis** report from Springfield, Otsego County, on 6 May. In March, two uncommon **Black Vulture** reports in Broome County and a few great Golden Eagle sightings occurred in Otsego County. The Merlin pair in Binghamton reportedly moved to a new nest tree, but no status has been supplied. Additionally, Merlin reports continue to increase in the Cortland area, with sightings throughout the period. There was no status given on the Merlin pair from Endicott. Lastly, the Binghamton Peregrines remained at the same location, but no reports of nesting were provided.

Last year's Sora nest site at Tri-cities Airport was not reused, but several sightings in other locations were reported. An exciting May report of a **Sandhill Crane** in a Tioga County farm field was a brief event and good photos were taken to confirm identification. An immature Black-crowned Night-Heron from the Cortland Waterworks in April was an excellent sighting. Shorebirds were in good variety, but not in great numbers. Same story with gulls and terns, but a **Thayer's Gull** made an appearance along the Chenango River in Binghamton in March. [No details, no comment on this difficult NYSARC review species.] Cuckoo

numbers seemed to be up, but owl reports were low this season. A Great Horned Owl nestling found at Aquaterra Park in Broome County was taken to a rehabilitator after abandonment was assumed.

Throughout the Region, owls were reported in respectable numbers, but neither Northern Saw-whet nor Short-eared owl was reported. Only a few Common Nighthawks were reported, but both Black-billed and Yellow-billed cuckoos were reported in good numbers in response to this year's tent caterpillar outbreak.

An **Acadian Flycatcher** was heard at the southeast end of Skaneateles Lake. At this location, it was a probable nester, which is quite unusual for the Region. There were four Northern Shrike reports, with the last in early April. A **White-eyed Vireo**, another rare and possible nester in the Region, was seen during the first half of May at Nuthatch Hollow. During April, I witnessed dozens to hundreds of migrating Blue Jays moving through Chenango County. Others from adjacent Regions also have commented about the number of migrating Blue Jays this spring. This appears to be a fairly common phenomenon that is more than likely linked with oak acorn crops. Blue Jays are more "irruptive" than has been documented in our avian literature. Additionally, Common Ravens continue to increase as nesters throughout the area. Numerous breeders were seen/heard in various state forests and parks. Ravens seem to prefer nesting on cliffs or even towers, but in recent years they have nested in pine plantations at a number of state forests across the Region and State.

The Pharsalia Wildlife Management Area and surrounding state forests in Chenango County continue to be very underbirded but represent an incredibly exciting place to bird year round. It's an extensive area of state forest in southwestern Chenango County that is recognized as an Audubon IBA. The state forests are nearly continuous from McDonough/German in the south through Pitcher/Pharsalia to Lincklaen/Otselic in the north. The area offers some really great boreal-like birding in the many continuous tracts of coniferous and mixed forest types. Once again, Swainson's Thrushes were heard on nesting grounds in late May. Other than in Delaware County along the edges of the Catskills, the Pharsalia area is the only place in the Region where **Swainson's Thrushes** can be found nesting. To the casual birder or birder who doesn't like climbing hills to see this bird, this is one unusual area where you can walk along the CCC Trucking Road off North Road and hear all four breeding thrushes without climbing in elevation. Lastly, the warblers one often associates with more northerly areas, e.g., Nashville, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Mourning and Canada, can be heard in the area along with Northern Goshawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Common Raven, both crossbills, Pine Siskin and other typically more northern specialties.

There was a handful of warblers seen that are rare to uncommon in the Region: **Golden-winged, Yellow-throated, Cerulean and Kentucky**. In an area where they've been reported historically, I observed a few singing Cerulean Warblers along the ridge at the southeastern tip of Skaneateles Lake. Three Golden-winged Warblers were observed during a fallout at Lime Hollow Nature Center in Cortland on 14 May. An exhausted Kentucky Warbler was found in a driveway in Vestal and in mid April two different singing Yellow-throated Warblers were seen, heard and recorded in Chenango Valley State Park and were still being heard mid May. The recordings were heard by me and by Cornell

ornithologists. Some warbler species, along with other usually observed species, were missed this spring migration. Again, this was due to an Omega blocking high-pressure system located to our north that kept cool northern winds over central New York for most of the migration period.

Birds with a more southern affinity, such as Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren and Northern Cardinal appear to be still increasing in the area. Although most reports are still from river valleys, more and more are coming from higher elevations. **Orchard Oriole**, another southern expansionist and a local rarity, was a good sighting from the Carigan Road, Triangle, area.

Sparrows were well represented, with **Clay-colored**, Grasshopper, Vesper and Lincoln's all being reported. Clay-colored, Grasshopper and Vesper were all observed at the Edwards Hill Road area in Lisle.

By the end of March and beginning of April, **Red Crossbills** were again heard singing on territory in Chenango County. This is the same general area where they nested in February-July 2004. In 2004, birds appeared to be smaller-billed to medium-billed types 3 or 1 and were nesting in white and Norway spruce. This past winter, red pine was the only conifer to produce a "bumper" cone crop. While it is possible that the red pine cone crop could have been enough for these smaller-billed birds to persist in the area, it appeared that the April singing crossbills were a different type (medium- or larger-billed subspecies), based on call and feeding behavior. Type 1s and 2s are more eclectic, thus utilizing everything from harder pines, like red pine, to softer spruce, like white spruce, for nesting. Either way, I'm fairly confident there's been more than one subspecies involved in the past two years' nesting events. Of course, this is all conjecture. In the next season, many birds were again witnessed singing on territory throughout June, July and into August. In late July and early August, juvenile Red Crossbills were seen in the Pharsalia area and heard in the Otselic areas of white spruce. These birds were observed nesting in and feeding on unripened green white spruce cones. Family groups with juveniles were seen feeding on green cones that were just starting to ripen in August. As the literature has stated, one of the fledgling crossbills exhibited a bill that was just starting to cross. Very few of the other finches were observed. There were scattered single Pine Siskins, one Common Redpoll and a few very small flocks of Evening Grosbeaks. One Evening Grosbeak flock of 6-12 was again seen at Morgan Hill State Forest in Truxton, Cortland County, the same location where a flock wintered last year. Higher than usual numbers of **Purple Finches** were seen in March in the same areas mentioned above in Chenango County. Overall, this was a rare irruption year in central New York for Purple Finches. It was not uncommon to see flocks of 20+ feeding on the "bumper" white ash samara crop.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AqP – Aquaterra Park BROO; Barker – T Barker BROO; BCC – Binghamton Country Club; Bpd – Boland Pd [where?]; BUNP – Binghamton University Nature Preserve; CVSP – Chenango Valley SP; DorP – Dorchester P BROO; Ely Par ET – [undefined]; FHNC – Finch Hollow Nature Center; Geo – Georgetown MADI; GP – Greenwood P BROO; HP – [undefined]; LHNC – Lime Hollow Nature Center; ML – Mirror L TIOG; NuH – Nuthatch Hollow BROO; OtL – Otsego L OTSE; PharsWMA – Pharsalia WMA; RivR – [undefined]; SkanL – Skaneateles L; UL – Upper Lisle BROO; WCM – West Corners Marsh BROO; WPR – Whitney Point Res BROO.

WHISTLING-DUCKS — VULTURES

Snow Goose: BUNP 19 Mar; max 1000+ BROO 30 Mar; last 1 lakes in Preble/Homer area CORT 28 May (TF), very late.

Canada Goose: max 1200+ BROO 7 Mar.

Brant: 3 DorP 21 May; 2 DorP 22 May, dark morph?.

Mute Swan: Springfield OTSE 1 Apr, only report.

Wood Duck: arr Bpd/OtL 20 Mar; max 20 OTSE 21 Mar.

Gadwall: arr 2 HP 20 Mar; last Bpd 28 Mar.

EURASIAN WIGEON: Bpd 23-28 Mar (JW).

Am. Wigeon: arr Binghamton 11 Mar; last 4 HP 27 Mar.

Am. Black Duck: last Bpd 14 May; regular in BROO winter/early spring.

N. Pintail: 5 Bpd 18 Mar; last Bpd 27 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: BROO 16 Mar; max 12 Bpd 27 Mar; last 3 Chenango BROO 12 Apr.

Redhead: Cooperstown OTSE 6 Mar; RivR 12 Mar; only reports.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 2 Bpd 18 Mar; max 82 Bpd 2 Apr; last 11 UL 16 Apr.

Greater Scaup: 13 DorP 23 Apr, only report.

Lesser Scaup: arr 2 HP 25 Mar; last HP 30 Mar.

Long-tailed Duck: OTSE 29 Mar, only report.

Bufflehead: arr 6 HP 23 Mar; max 10 RivR 28 Mar; last UL 24 Apr.

Com. Goldeneye: arr RivR 9 Mar; max and last 13 HP 29 Mar; numerous other reports.

Hooded Merganser: max 23 HP 27 Mar; many reports.

Red-breasted Merganser: BROO 23 Mar; UL 26 Mar; only reports.

Com. Merganser: very common CORT on ponds and streams thru Apr; continues increase as nester across Reg.

Ruddy Duck: Vestal BROO 1 May (MP, MF), uncommon.

Ring-necked Pheasant: TIOG Mar & Apr reports; Kirkwood BROO 20 Apr; Chenango BROO 30 Apr.

Ruffed Grouse: CHEN 12 Mar; several reports.

Wild Turkey: max 25 Owego TIOG 19 Mar; many reports of small flocks and singles Apr & May.

Com. Loon: 1 lakes in Preble/Homer CORT 6 Apr, only report.

Red-throated Loon: HP 25 May, only report.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr Binghamton 14 Mar; good number of reports.

Horned Grebe: 2 HP 28 Mar; Vestal 21 Apr; only reports.

Red-necked Grebe: 1 small lake Guilford CHEN 17 May, only report.

Double-crested Cormorant: arr Binghamton BROO 22 Mar; max 10 Vestal BROO 11 Apr; last 2 HP 29 Apr.

Great Blue Heron: arr BROO 2 Mar; max 9 BROO 23 Mar; many reports, but low numbers.

Great Egret: Clarke Pd OTSE 16 Apr, unusual for season.

Green Heron: arr UL 16 Apr; fewer reports than normal.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: imm 22 Apr CORT (SB); TIOG Apr, no date given.

GLOSSY IBIS: Springfield OTSE 6 May (MA).

BLACK VULTURE: Union BROO 12 Mar (JS); Dickinson BROO 21 Mar (BB); rare for Reg.

Turkey Vulture: arr Walton DELA 9 Mar; max 20 Union BROO 12 Mar.

HAWKS—ALCIDS

Osprey: Bpd 7-13 Apr; regular at site in DELA May.

Bald Eagle: max 3 HP 28 Mar; on nest Masonville DELA 9 May; increased reports, most in Mar.

N. Harrier: arr Lisle BROO 18 Mar; 11 other sightings, low.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 2 Lisle BROO 14 Apr; 12 other reports.

Cooper's Hawk: Wolfe P BROO 6 May, only May report; good numbers in Mar & Apr.

N. Goshawk: Pittsfield OTSE 5 Apr; TIOG Apr, no date given; only reports.

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr Chenango BROO 13 Mar; 9 other reports.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr Conklin BROO 15 Apr; good numbers, pairs and courtship reports.

Rough-legged Hawk: last Lisle BROO 23 Apr; 8 other reports.

Golden Eagle: W.Burlington OTSE 16 Mar, 21 Apr (T&JS); Hartwick OTSE 22 Mar (LH&FN); rare reports.

Am. Kestrel: arr HP 25 Mar; well reported.

MERLIN: pr & nest Binghamton 19 Apr, (JQ); 2 other reports, no nest status provided; several spring/summer reports pointing to evidence of nesting pair CORT (MY); *intro*.

Peregrine Falcon: Binghamton 2 Mar; many May reports of Binghamton pr, nesting attempt unsuccessful.

Virginia Rail: arr Bpd 9 Apr; 10 other reports.

Sora: UL 8 May; 5 other reports May.

Com. Moorhen: Spencer TIOG May, no date given.

SANDHILL CRANE: TIOG 14 May (AC&LB); Apalachin TIOG 28 May (LBI).

Semipalmated Plover: 4 Conklin BROO 14 May; max 6 Bainbridge CHEN 20- 25 May; 3 other reports.
Killdeer: arr HP 18 Mar; max 8 Lisle BROO 9 Apr; normal, good numbers.
Greater Yellowlegs: Chenango BROO 8 Apr; max 8 UL 24 Apr; 9 other reports, slightly above average.
Lesser Yellowlegs: UL 14 May; only report.
Solitary Sandpiper: TIOG Apr, no date given; 12 other reports May.
Spotted Sandpiper: arr 5 RivR 29 Apr; regularly reported.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: Binghamton 14 May; Vestal BROO 18, 21 May; only reports.
Least Sandpiper: BROO 17 May; max 20 Bainbridge CHEN 20-25 May.
Pectoral Sandpiper: Vestal BROO 18 May, only report.
Dunlin: Glen Aubrey BROO 15 May; Bainbridge CHEN 25 May; 1 other report.
Wilson's Snipe: arr HP 27 Mar; 6 reports, low.
Am. Woodcock: Maine BROO 23 Mar; 8 other reports, less than usual.
Bonaparte's Gull: 7 DorP 9 Apr; 5 HP 10 Apr; Lisle BROO 15 May.
Herring Gull: 4 Bpd 25 Mar; many Mar reports; no May reports.
THAYER'S GULL: Binghamton 14 Mar (DWindsor). [No details. NYSARC review required.]
Lesser Black-backed Gull: HP 28-29 Mar (DW).
Great Black-backed Gull: W Burlington OTSE 19 Mar; HP 25, 29 Mar; CVSP 27 Mar.
Caspian Tern: UL 15 May.
Com. Tern: 2 DorP 15 May.
Black Tern: 4 southern part of Tully Lakes CORT 29 May (TF), only report.

PIGEONS — WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Maine BROO 11 May (JH); 9 reports; another good year!

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr UL 16 May (PB); 5 reports; mostly from lower elevations than Black-billed; others remarking they appear more common than even last year's good year.

E. Screech-Owl: 4 rep Apalachin TIOG Mar; TIOG Mar & May, scattered along river valleys and farm lands < 1200', occasionally higher.

Great Horned Owl: 2 BUNP 19 Mar; nestling AqP 10 Apr; 2 other reports from BROO.

Barred Owl: 2 Springfield Center OTSE 23 Mar; 8 reports, mainly from swamps 1000-1200' or wet woods >1500'.

Com. Nighthawk: arr Binghamton 10 May (BK); only 3 reports.

Chimney Swift: arr Glen Aubrey 2 May (JW); max 12 Whitney Pt BROO 8 May (JW).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr CHEN 6 May (JW).

Red-bellied Woodpecker: numerous reports along river valleys and towns <1500'; increasing.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr CORT 31 Mar.

FLYCATCHERS — WAXWINGS

E. Wood-Pewee: arr Ely Par NT 16 May.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER: High Vista Preserve s end SkanL 29 May (MY).

Alder Flycatcher: arr Maxiam Rd Binghamton 18 May (DW); increasing reports after 20 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr BROO 18 May (WW).

Least Flycatcher: arr Glen Aubrey BROO 29 Apr (WW).

E. Phoebe: arr Richford 31 Mar (DM).

Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Maine BROO 11 May (JH), very late.

E. Kingbird: arr Maine BROO 3 May (MP, EC, & SKr).

N. Shrike: 4 scattered reports; last Apr; low.

WHITE-EYED VIREO: NuH May 15 (Team BU).

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Barker 8 May (JW).
Blue-headed Vireo: arr Binghamton 17 Apr (ND).
Warbling Vireo: arr Oakley Corners TIOG 2 May (JH).
Philadelphia Vireo: arr Vestal 13 May (GK); only 2 reports.
Red-eyed Vireo: arr 10 May Vestal (EH), early.
Blue Jay: significant flight late Apr thru mid May; groups of 5-20 flying north on south winds not uncommon.
Am. Crow: early nesting Binghamton 13 Mar.
Fish Crow: UL 2 May (JH, JW); BROO 16 May; reports BPd, Hillcrest Pits, Vestal, Binghamton, Maine Apr.
Com. Raven: widespread and increasing nester throughout wilder forests in higher elevations (> 1500'), particularly state forest conifer plantations; also nesting on towers and cliffs.
Horned Lark: arr breeding ssp flocks Mar; nesting May BROO & Lisle (DW); max 36 BROO 9 Mar.
Purple Martin: 6 BCC 31 May (MP).
Tree Swallow: arr Hillcrest Pits BROO 20 Mar (JW); max 175+ CHEN 3 Apr (JW).
N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr BPd 10 Apr (JW).
Bank Swallow: arr & max Susquehanna R Vestal BROO 22 Apr (DW).
Cliff Swallow: arr Triangle 23 Apr (JW); max 4 Binghamton Plaza.
Barn Swallow: arr CORT 2 Apr (TF).
Tufted Titmouse: increasing nester along many river valleys <1500'.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: scarce to uncommon winter & breeding season compared with 2004, even in higher elevation state forests.
Brown Creeper: widespread thru Apr.
Carolina Wren: 19 different locations thruout lowland areas; nesting along many major river valleys; appears to be expanding range into CHEN and OTSE.

House Wren: arr CHEN 29 Apr.
Winter Wren: arr W Chenango Rd BROO 2 Apr (JW); fairly common after mid Apr.
Marsh Wren: BPd 9 Apr (JW, DW).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: uncommon before mid Apr; increasing afterwards at high elevation spruce plantations.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Lisle BROO Apr 9 (JW, DW).
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr CVSP 30 Apr (BK); local afterwards along larger low elevation river valleys.
E. Bluebird: locally common before late Mar; increasingly common afterwards.
Veery: arr UL 8 May (JW,DW).
Gray-cheeked Thrush: a few heard in night migration Otselic 20 May.
Swainson's Thrush: heard in night migration Otselic 20 May; breeders returned to PharsWMA 29 May (MY); *intro*.
Hermit Thrush: arr TIOG 10 Apr (DK).
Wood Thrush: arr Chenango BROO 7 May (VL); widespread 15 May thru.
Am. Robin: max 40 Chenango BROO 23 Apr; widespread in moderate numbers late Mar-Apr.
Gray Catbird: overwintering bird TIOG Mar (CB, JB); arr W Chenango Rd CHEN 2 May (JW).
N. Mockingbird: only 1 overwintering report 16 Mar BROO; arr BROO & TIOG late Apr; 1 at ~1500' Burlington early May.
Brown Thrasher: arr Spring Forest Cemetery 19 Apr (JQ, MP).
Am. Pipit: arr Smith Hill Rd Lisle BROO 30 Mar (BG); max 40 Page Brook Rd Triangle BROO 23 Apr.
Cedar Waxwing: few flocks of 25-30 Mar; nearly absent Apr & May; increasing late May; max 30+ Chenango BROO 27 May.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr Bainbridge 8 May (JH).
GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: arr 3 LHNC 14 May (RB & JM), only report.
Tennessee Warbler: arr Ely Park NT 16 May (DW); 2 reports.
Nashville Warbler: arr W Chenango Rd BROO 6 May.
N. Parula: 18 May Chenango BROO 18 May (JW); 2 reports.
Yellow Warbler: arr Parson Rd Barker 27 Apr (WW).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Endwell BROO 5 May (DW); max 6 BROO 28 May.
Magnolia Warbler: arr UL 14 May (JW).
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Barker 8 May (JW).
Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr CVSP 15 Apr (BK).
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Chenango BROO 27 Apr (JW).
Blackburnian Warbler: arr Barker 8 May (JW).
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: 2 singing m CVSP 20 Apr (NF); at least one still seen and heard 15 May (BK).
Pine Warbler: arr Glenwood Rd Binghamton 1 Apr; nesting Roundtop & Jones parks (MP).
Prairie Warbler: arr TIOG 5 May; local to fairly common nester in southern part.
Palm Warbler: UL 5 May (BG), only report, late arr.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr CVSP 14 May (BG).
Blackpoll Warbler: arr LHNC 22 May (RB).
CERULEAN WARBLER: SkanL 29 May (MY).
Black-and-white Warbler: arr Barker 27 Apr; low numbers and possibly declining.
Am. Redstart: arr UL BROO 8 May (JW).
Ovenbird: arr TIOG 30 Apr.

N. Waterthrush: arr CVSP 19 Apr (JW).
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr mid Apr (DW); nests Jones & Greenwood parks BROO.
KENTUCKY WARBLER: Vestal 13 May, exhausted bird found in driveway but flew away later.
Mourning Warbler: arr BROO 15 May.
Com. Yellowthroat: arr Maine BROO 4 May.
Hooded Warbler: arr BROO 15 May, only report.
Wilson's Warbler: arr Binghamton 13 May; 3 reports a good number.
Canada Warbler: arr Vestal 13 May (GK); 7 reports good numbers compared with recent years.

TANAGERS — WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr Ely Park NT 11 May (WW).
E. Towhee: arr NuH 6 Apr (WW); early; the rest arrived after 19 Apr.
Am. Tree Sparrow: moderate number Mar; last BROO 6 Apr (WW).
Chipping Sparrow: arr Binghamton 7 Apr (DW).
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Edwards Hill Rd Lisle 14 May, very rare.
Field Sparrow: arr Vestal 6 Apr (MP); max 3 Greybark Lane 18 Apr.
Vesper Sparrow: arr & max 3 Chenango BROO 13 Apr (WW); pr Edwards Hill Rd Lisle.
Savannah Sparrow: arr Edwards Hill Rd Lisle 9 Apr (JW, DW).
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Edwards Hill Rd Lisle 14 May (BG); Long Pd SF 29 May.
Fox Sparrow: arr Vestal 20 Mar (DQ); 7 reports.
Song Sparrow: arr Endwell 13 Mar.
Lincoln's Sparrow: UL 14 May (BG), only report.
Swamp Sparrow: arr BPd 6 Apr (BG); several West Corners Swamp 29 Apr.
White-throated Sparrow: overwintered in small numbers; arr mid to late Apr.

White-crowned Sparrow: possible overwintering or early migrant NuH 6 Apr; arr LHNC 2 May (RB).

Dark-eyed Junco: max 23+ Chenango BROO 31 Mar.

Snow Bunting: max 20 BROO 9 Mar, surely more out there in this relatively unbirded Reg; last early Apr.

N. Cardinal: common primarily river valleys; small numbers >1500'.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr TIOG 30 Apr; arr in numbers after 8 May.

Indigo Bunting: arr TIOG 10 May (LB).

Bobolink: arr Maine BROO 7 May (JW); "many" Twining Rd 26 May (JT).

Red-winged Blackbird: arr in numbers Mar; max 10,000+ BPd 30 Mar.

E. Meadowlark: arr BROO Mar 23 (JW,DW).

Rusty Blackbird: arr BPd 26 Mar; max 10+ Glen Aubrey 16 Apr.

Com. Grackle: arr in numbers mid Mar; max 60+ BROO 18 Mar (JW).

Brown-headed Cowbird: a few overwintered, as they do most years; arr BROO 27 Mar.

ORCHARD ORIOLE: ad m Carigan Rd Triangle 18 May (MP, SK, EH).

Baltimore Oriole: arr Spring Forest Cemetery 30 Apr (BK).

Purple Finch: higher than usual numbers CHEN Mar; a rare irruption year in central NY; not uncommon to see flocks of 20+ feeding on "bumper" white ash samara crop; widespread breeding behavior May at >1000'.

RED CROSSBILL: Possible/Probable breeding evidence Mar & Apr, same areas as 2004 nesting event; singing PharsWMA & Otselic Mar & Apr (MY); some appeared to be a different type than in 2004 (medium to larger billed ssp) based on call and feeding behavior; a few feeding on "bumper" red pine cone crop; *intro*.

Com. Redpoll: seen & heard CHEN 1 Apr (MY).

Pine Siskin: a few scattered reports hills >1400' Apr, at feeders.

Am. Goldfinch: numbers moving thru Apr.

Evening Grosbeak: 6-12 Truxton CORT thru early May (MY); intermittent flock DELA Mar & Apr; 3 W Exeter mid Apr; not bad for a non-irruption year.

Addendum (from winter)

VARIED THRUSH: near ad m Homer CORT 6-8 Jan (MY, mob, ph).

