

REGION 4 - SUSQUEHANNA

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The spring season in Binghamton area was drier than average, and temperatures were around normal with the expected lows and peaks. March began colder than average, and about 8" of snow fell on the 2nd, giving us the last significant snowfall of the winter season. A warm spell followed from the 9th to 14th with highs reaching 58° F, then temperatures remained below average to the end of the month. March's highest temperature of 73° F was on the 31st. Precipitation was at a low 1.85", 1.34" below normal. April started out warm and rainy, then turned cold with light snow 4th through the 6th. The rest of April was around average temperatures, with a few peaks reaching 70° F. Precipitation was at 2.61" for the month, 0.88" below average. May repeated the warm trend, dropping below average mid-month, but reached mid to upper 80's for the last 3 days. Precipitation was 1.18" below average, although rain was regular. A storm on 21 May contained sleet in some areas.

Large flights of geese occurred on 8-11 March, Snow Geese were well reported, and some also passed through 25, 26 Mar. Other waterfowl include Tundra Swan, White-winged Scoter, and Ruddy Duck. Reports of American Bittern and Least Bittern are great finds in our Region. Bald Eagles were regularly reported throughout the Region, and an active nest site was discovered in Tioga County. A third active nest has been found in Otsego County. The Merlin pair in Binghamton were seen mating and have not been seen since. Virginia Rails clearly were nesting at Boland Pond and likely at West Corners Marsh, but Sora was only discovered in Otsego County. Shorebird activity was excellent; highlights include Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, and Short-billed Dowitcher. Bonaparte's Gulls appeared in decent numbers, and a Great Black-backed Gull showed up at Dorchester Park for a day, otherwise Gull

reports were minimal. There were no tern reports for the season. Resident owls were regularly present, Saw-whet Owls made appearances, and a Short-eared Owl sighting was a welcome addition. Only a few nighthawks were reported, but both Black 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, which is a known nesting location for this regional rarity. There were 7 Northern Shrike reports, with the last being early April. Common Ravens continue to increase as breeders throughout the area. Numerous breeders were seen/heard in various state forests and parks. Additionally, a large group of 10-34 Common Ravens, presumed to be a group of youngsters, was seen through March and into April in W. Burlington. The birds were apparently feeding on many coyote carcasses.

The Pharsalia Wildlife Management Area/New Michigan State Forest and adjoining state forests in Chenango County continue to be a very underbirded but an incredibly exciting place to bird year round. It's an extensive area of state forest in western 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/Otsellic 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 Region 4 where Swainson's Thrushes can be found nesting. Many northern breeding warblers can be heard in the area along with Pine Siskins, both crossbills, Northern Goshawk, Red-shouldered hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Common Raven, and other northern specialties such as White-throated Sparrows.

Compared with last year's nice crop of rarer breeding warblers, this year paled in comparison with Worm-eating Warbler the only rare for Region species noted. Additionally however, there were two Cape May Warbler and one Wilson's Warbler reports and Cerulean Warblers were again noted breeding in numbers at the south end of Skaneateles Lake.

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

Grasshopper Sparrows were noted breeding again at Long Pond State Forest. It is unknown if Henslow's Sparrows still nest at this location. Additionally, Vesper Sparrows were seen in Burlington.

Red Crossbills were seen in March and April at Chenango Valley State Park. These birds appeared to be medium billed type 1's. In April fledgling Red Crossbills were seen in Richford. These birds appeared to be large billed type 2's. Birds were seen associating with red pine. It is believed that type 2's are the only type in the east that can utilize red pine for nesting. The medium billed type 1's from Chenango Valley State Forest were also associating with

red pine, but no breeding behavior was noted. This is the same general area that Red Crossbills bred from February 2004-September 2005. Based on photos, 2 specimens, and hours in the field listening and noting tree associations, these birds were believed to be mostly medium billed type 1's. Since red pine was the only conifer to produce a good cone crop during winter 2005-2006 Red Crossbills were scarce. In late June/early July 2006 as this report was written, a "bumper crop" of spruce, larch, hemlock and to lesser degree red pine developed. In July and August numbers of Red Crossbills again moved into the state forested areas of Chenango, E. Cortland, and S. Madison and S. Onondaga counties. Based on numerous recordings and some video these birds are believed to be mostly large billed type 2's, with some medium billed birds mixed in (probably left over type 1's). These birds were observed nesting in and feeding on unripened green cones. Feeding of fledglings has also been witnessed. This is the best cone crop in many years, particularly for European larch. There was one flock of White-winged Crossbills reported from Greene on 1 March.

Pine Siskins and Common Redpolls were seen in small flocks of 2-10, with one larger redpoll flock of 10-35 birds noted from W. Burlington thru March. Medium sized flocks of 10-30 and 20-50 Evening Grosbeaks were reported from Northwest Corners and McDonough in Chenango County thru April. Smaller Evening Grosbeak flocks were also reported from Otsego, Delaware, and Cortland counties. This was the best showing for Evening Grosbeaks since the winter of 2001-02, but still nothing in comparison with the period of the mid 70's -early 90's.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AqP – Aquaterra Park, BROO; BCC – Binghamton Country Club; BHL – Buck Horn Lake OTSE; Bpd- Boland Pond; BUNP – Binghamton University Nature Preserve; CVSP - Chenango Valley State Park; FHNC – Finch Hollow Nature Center; GP - Greenwood Park, BROO; LHNC -- Lime Hollow Nature Center; ML – Mirror Lake, TIOG; NuH – Nuthatch Hollow, BROO; OtL – Otsego Lake, OTSE; PharsWMA – Pharsalia Wildlife Management Area; RivR – River Rd., Endwell BROO; SkanL - Skaneateles Lake; UL- Upper Lisle; WCM – West Corners Marsh BROO; WPR – Whitney Point Reservoir, BROO.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Snow Goose: 5 Pitcher CHEN 8 Mar; 90 W.Burlington OTSE 9 Mar; flights BROO 10, 11, 25, 26 Mar; 100 Plymouth CHEN 13 Mar; max 600 CVSP 25 Mar; 400 W.Burlington OTSE 25 Mar; last 90 WPR 26 Mar.

Canada Goose: max 250+ WPR 26 Mar.

Mute Swan: Bpd 5 Mar, only report.

Tundra Swan: SusV 1 Mar (DW).

Wood Duck: 2 Bpd 9 Mar; max 19+ RivR 11 Apr.

Gadwall: arr 3 UL 18 Mar; reports Bpd 19 Mar thru 28 Apr; 2 Clarke Pond OTSE 30 Mar; 2 WPR 26 Mar.

Am. Wigeon: max 20+ WPR 26 Mar; last BROO 18 May.

Am. Black Duck: max 10 BHL 8 Apr.

Blue-winged Teal: Bpd 25 Mar; max 6 UL 12 Apr; 6 rep in Apr; 2 Weaver Lake OTSE 10 May.

N. Shoveler: max 6 SusV 8 Apr; 5 North Norwich CHEN 8 Apr; Bpd 27, 28 Apr.

N. Pintail: arr & max 8 Bpd 9 Mar; 4 Bpd 26 Mar; 4 OTSE 7 Apr.

Green-winged Teal: arr Bpd 9 Mar; max 30+ Bpd 18 Mar; many reports in BROO Mar, Apr; 2 OTSE 3, 9 Apr; last BROO 3 May.

Canvasback: 2 WPR 8 Apr; rare in Region.

Redhead: 6 WPR 26 Mar.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 5 Bpd 8 Mar; max 56+ Bpd 12 Mar; several reports BROO, OTSE 1-20 Apr; last UL 7 May.

Greater Scaup: 57+ HP 25 Mar; 20 WPR 26 Mar.

Lesser Scaup: arr WPR 26 Mar; BHL 29 Mar; max 10 BHL 8 Apr; 3 UL 15 Apr; last 8 BHL 15 Apr.

White-winged Scoter: 13 HP 25 Mar; 20 WPR 26 Mar; 5 Barker BROO 26 Mar.

Long-tailed Duck: 2 BHL 26 Mar; 3 WPR 26 Mar; 15 DorP 8 Apr; 4 BHL 8 Apr; 2 more rep BHL in Apr.

Bufflehead: arr UL 17 Mar; max 15+ HP 25 Mar; last Smithville CHEN 14 Apr.

Com. Goldeneye: arr Bpd 11 Mar; max 3 HP 25 Mar.

Hooded Merganser: max 60+ WPR 26 Mar.

Com. Merganser: max 450+ WPR 26 Mar.

Red-breasted Merganser: 3 DorP 25 Mar; several DorP 8 Apr.

Ruddy Duck: arr & max 3 Bpd 11 Mar; BHL 8, 25 Apr; Bpd thru 17 Mar; 2 WPR 26 Mar.

Ring-necked Pheasant: Nanticoke BROO 28, 29 Mar, near Pheasant farm.

Ruffed Grouse: Maine BROO 8 Mar; Oakley Corners TIOG end of Mar; BHL

20 Apr, 12, 14, 16, 20 May; BROO 6, 18, 28 May; OTSE 8, 16 May.
Wild Turkey: max 35 Lisle BROO 5 Mar.
RED-THROATED LOON: 2 DorP 8 Apr; North Norwich CHEN 8 Apr; UL 28 Apr.
Com. Loon: WPR 26 Mar; SusV 1 Apr; 3 Otsego Lake OTSE 5 Apr; BHL 16 May.
Pied-billed Grebe: arr 2 OTSE 18 Mar; BROO 22, 29 Mar; max 3 BPd 6 Apr, 7, 17 May; North Norwich CHEN 8 Apr; several BROO, OTSE rep Apr; UL 5 May.
Horned Grebe: RivR 21 Mar; 7 WPR 26 Mar; SusV 2 Apr; 2 RivR 20 Apr.
Double-crested Cormorant: arr 4 HP 31 Mar; max 17 RivR 8 Apr.
Am. Bittern: BPd 10 Apr; 2 Weaver Lake OTSE 10 May.
LEAST BITTERN: 2 BUNP 19 May(DA); rare sighting in Region.
Great Egret: BPd 4 Apr, 20 May.
Green Heron: arr BHL 17 Apr.
Turkey Vulture: arr 8-10 Vestal BROO 8 Mar; max 40-50 Otego OTSE 26 May.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: arr BPd 12 Apr; Guilford CHEN 14 Apr; BHL 25-30 Apr; DELA 2, 4 May; 5 BROO rep in Apr, 3 rep in May.
Bald Eagle: several imm Whitney Point BROO 10 Mar; reports at BHL regularly thru; regular BROO rep thru; Cannonsville Reservoir DELA 30 Apr; active nest site Hiawatha Island TIOG 26 May; new active nest site OTSE 28 Mar.
N. Harrier: Lisle BROO 26 Mar; Sherburne CHEN 26 Mar; f W. Burlington OTSE 1 Apr; 3 BROO rep in Apr; Union BROO 14 May; Smithville CHEN 18 May.
N. Goshawk: Conklin BROO 6 May, only report.
Red-shouldered Hawk: Maine BROO 11 Mar, 5 May; Greenwood Park BROO 27 Apr, 5 May; 2 other BROO rep in May.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr Norwich 6 Mar.
Rough-legged Hawk: 4 Lisle BROO 1 Mar; last 3 Taylor, McDonough CHEN 5 Mar; last CORT 20 Apr
Golden Eagle: W.Burlington OTSE 30 Mar, 6 Apr; Harpersfield DELA 3 Apr.
Am. Kestrel: Unadilla OTSE 12 Mar; max 7 BROO 15 Mar.
Merlin: Bainbridge CHEN 18 Mar; Spring Forest Cemetery, Binghamton BROO 9, 19 Apr, pr copulating; Arnold Park, Vestal BROO 3 May; presumed breeders seen CORT 28 Apr.
Peregrine Falcon: Binghamton BROO 17 Apr; Binghamton BROO 3, 7, 16 May.
Virginia Rail: arr BPd 12 Mar, pair observed mutual preening, nest building, copulation in Apr; 2 West Corners Marsh BROO 8 Apr; 3 BROO reports in May.
Sora: Weaver Lake OTSE 10 May.
Com. Moorhen: arr Weaver Lake OTSE 10 May; BPd 28 May; 3 BPd 29 May.
Am. Coot: arr BPd 5 Apr; BUNP 19 Apr; BPd 20 May.
Black-bellied Plover: RivR 23 May (DW)
Semipalmated Plover: SusV 14 May; Bainbridge BROO 14, 25 May; 2 SusV 23 May.
Killdeer: arr 6 Chenango BROO 9 Mar.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr SusV 8 Apr; max 12 UL 15 Apr; 7 other rep.
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 2 UL 20 Apr; SusV 2, 5, 14, 18 May; Bainbridge BROO 14 May.
Solitary Sandpiper: arr Harold Moore Park, Vestal BROO 29 Apr; BPd 30 Apr; Cooperstown OTSE 14 May; 7 BROO rep in May; many regular rep.
Spotted Sandpiper: arr DorP 22 Apr; max 4 SusV 5 May.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: BROO 18 May.
Least Sandpiper: SusV 2, 14 May; BROO 18, 21 May.
Pectoral Sandpiper: RivR 31 May.
Dunlin: RivR 21 May.

Short-billed Dowitcher: SusV 14 May(JS)
Wilson's Snipe: arr BPd 11 Mar; max 6 Barker BROO 18, 26 Mar; 3 Bainbridge BROO 3 Apr; OTSE 9 Apr; W.Burlington OTSE 16 May.
Am. Woodcock: arr Maine BROO 11 Mar.
Bonaparte's Gull: Chenango BROO 25 Mar; 4 RivR 13, 24 Apr; UL 20 Apr; 6 DorP 28, 30 Apr.
Great Black-backed Gull: DorP 11 May.
Caspian Tern: Preble, CORT 22Apr.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Johnson City BROO 7 May; 16 other rep in May.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr Apalachin TIOG 15 May.
E. Screech-Owl: Vestal BROO 10 Mar; 1 Apr; Cooperstown OTSE 21 May.
Great Horned Owl: Chenango BROO 26, 28 Mar; BUNP 12 Apr.
Barred Owl: 2 BHL 6, 11, 26 Apr; Maine BROO 11 Apr; Hawkins Pond BROO 5 May; Oakley Corners TIOG 8 May; OTSE 8 May; Chenango BROO 24 May.
Short-eared Owl: BHL 18 Mar; 2; E. Springfield 20 March; uncommon for Region.
LONG-EARED OWL: 1 E. Springfield 20 March, rare.
N. Saw-whet Owl: Barker BROO 9, 16 Mar; Sherburne CHEN 12 Mar; Kirkwood BROO 29 Mar.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr TIOGA 2 May.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: numerous reports along river valleys and towns <1500'; perhaps increasing.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Cooperstown 1 Apr; increasing rep after 5 Apr.
N. Flicker: scarce in Mar along river valleys becoming increasingly common throughout Apr.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

E. Wood-Pewee: arr UL 20 May; increasing rep after May 25.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER: S. end SkanL mid May.
Alder Flycatcher: arr Chen TIOG 24 May; increasing rep after 25 May.
Willow Flycatcher: arr Upper Lisle 26 May with increasing rep afterwards.
Least Flycatcher: arr 30 Apr Bing.
E. Phoebe: arr CVSP 18 Mar; many rep 25 Mar.
Great-crested Flycatcher: arr. Maine 5 May (BG); increasing rep after 10 May.
E. Kingbird: arr Glen Aubrey 5 May; increasing rep after 7 May.
N. Shrike: 7 scattered rep; last early April.
Yellow-throated Vireo: early arr Bing 21 Apr; increasing rep after 15 May.
Blue-headed Vireo: arr UL 15 Apr; increasing rep after 25 Apr.
Warbling Vireo: arr Endwell 25 Apr; increasing rep after 1 May.
Red-eyed Vireo: arr CVSP 13 May.
Fish Crow: rep of presumed breeders from Endwell, Bing, Vestal & Union.
Com. Raven: 10-34 W. Burlington thru Mar into early Apr; widespread and increasing as a breeder and resident throughout wilder forested high elevation (> 1500') areas of Region, particularly state forest conifer plantations; also nesting on towers and cliffs in Region.
Horned Lark: arrival of singing breeding subspecies flocks and flocks breaking up in Mar; nesting May Newark Valley; max 30 Cincinnatus 10 Mar.
Purple Martin: arr Union 13 May; max 3 Endwell 5 May.
Tree Swallow: arr BP 12 Mar; max 100+ Hillcrest Pits 28 Mar.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Barker 22 Apr.
Bank Swallow: arr BP 24 Apr.
Cliff Swallow: arr Kirkwood 6 May.
Barn Swallow: arr BP 24 Apr.
Tufted Titmouse: increasing nester along many river valleys of Region <1500'.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: widespread throughout high elevation state forests.
Brown Creeper: widespread scattered rep; birds migrating and heard thru Apr.
Carolina Wren: 8 reports from different locations in late Mar thru; nesting along

many of the major river valleys in Region and smaller ravines <1300ft; pair in Scott CORT thru year.

House Wren: arr BUNP 13 Apr.

Winter Wren: overwintered CVSP; fairly common after mid Apr in state forests.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: scarce early Apr and increasing afterwards at high elevation spruce plantations.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr BUNP Apr 2; many rep after 17 Apr.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Oakley Corners 28 Apr; local afterwards along larger low elevation river valleys.

E. Bluebird: locally common before late Mar increasingly common afterwards.

Veery: arr UL 7 May.

Swainson's Thrush: breeders returned to Phars WMA 29 May.

Hermit Thrush: arr Maine 17 Apr.

Wood Thrush: arr Nuthatch Hollow 1 May; widespread 8 May thru.

Am. Robin: max 12 FHNC, low.

Gray Catbird: arr Glen Aubrey 2 May, late arrival.

N. Mockingbird: scattered overwintering birds; migrants arrived April.

Brown Thrasher: arr Burlington 17 Apr; increasing rep late Apr.

Am. Pipit: arr UP 18 Mar.

Cedar Waxwing: decent numbers throughout Mar and slightly increasing afterwards.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr Maine 3 May.
Tennessee Warbler: Bing 5 May, only report.

Nashville Warbler: arr Bing 30 Apr.

N. Parula: arr Bing 5 May; 6 rep.

Yellow Warbler: arr UL 30 Apr increasing after 3 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Conklin 30 Apr.

Magnolia Warbler: arr Oakley Corners last days of Apr.

CAPE MAY WARBLER: 1 Chen TIOG 5 May; 2 rep.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Barker 6 May.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 2 overwintered BROO; arr BUNP 12 Apr; increasing after 20 Apr.

Black-throated Green Warbler:

arr Oakley Corners 23 Apr.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr Barker 6 May.

Pine Warbler: arr CVSP 2 Apr; breeding locations increasing.

Prairie Warbler: arr Glen Aubrey 4 May; local breeder in many locations of southern part of Region.

Palm Warbler: arr Vestal 29 April; few rep.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Roundtop Park 14 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr Kirkwood 6 May; 16 rep.

CERULEAN WARBLER: arr 9 May SkanL; max 6 SkanL May.

Black-and-white Warbler: arr end Apr; 10 rep.

Am. Redstart: arr Conklin 6 May.

Worm-eating Warbler: Barker 6 May, rare for Region, breeding?.

Ovenbird: arr Chen 2 May, increasing numbers afterwards.

N. Waterthrush: arr 23 May Glen Aubrey

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Scott CORT 13 Apr; nests at Jones & Greenwood Park

Mourning Warbler: arr Bing 10 May; fairly widespread uncommon breeder in Region.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr Union 30 Apr.

Hooded Warbler: arr CORT early May; increasing breeding rep CORT & TIOG.

Wilson's Warbler: Glen Aubrey 15 May, only report.

Canada Warbler: arr CORT 15 May; more rep than recent years; max 4 Scott CORT.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr Barker 6 May.

E. Towhee: arr Delhi 19 Apr; many rep 25 Apr thru.

Am. Tree Sparrow: max 10 CORT 1 Mar; last approx 11 Apr.

Chipping Sparrow: arr Bing 11 Apr; max 20+ Bing 11 Apr.

Field Sparrow: arr UL 1 Apr; many rep 15 Apr thru.

Vesper Sparrow: CORT early Apr; 1 Burlington 17 Apr; uncommon.
Savannah Sparrow: arr Glen Aubrey 11 Apr.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: Conklin 25 Apr; few birds Long Pond State Forest.

Fox Sparrow: arr W. Burlington 16 Mar; sev rep late Mar & early Apr.

Song Sparrow: migrants arrived BROO & TIOG 11 Mar.

Swamp Sparrow: overwintered BP; arr UL 1 Apr.

White-throated Sparrow: overwintered in small numbers at handful of locations; arr 22 Apr; commonly bred in cutover areas in most state forests >1500'.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr BUNP 19 Apr; last May 17.

Snow Bunting: max 150+ Preble 15 Mar; last seen 30 Mar CORT.

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

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr OTSE 29 Apr; 20+ reports b/w 29 Apr -1 May.

Indigo Bunting: arr Vestal 30 Apr, early; more common 15 May thru.

Bobolink: arr Conklin 6 May; more common mid May thru.

Red-winged Blackbird: arr in large number beginning of Mar; max 10000+ BP 8 Mar.

E. Meadowlark: arr CORT mid Mar; more arrived late Mar.

Rusty Blackbird: arr UL 25 Mar BP; many WPR early Apr.

Com. Grackle: arr in numbers beginning of Mar; max 1000+ BP 28 Mar.

Brown-headed Cowbird: "many" arr TIOG mid Mar.

ORCHARD ORIOLE: arr UL 14 May; prob. 2 1st yr males Castle Garden Quarry TIOG 30 May.

Baltimore Oriole: arr TIOG 30 Apr.

Purple Finch: arr in numbers mid Apr; max 20+ at feeders late Apr; widespread breeding behavior May above 1000'.

House Finch: small breeding number in towns, hamlets, and farms.

RED CROSSBILL: 6-8 medium billed birds (probably type 1) CVSP Mar-Apr; family group of large billed type 2's with fledglings Richford TIOG Apr; many nesting type 2's and some medium billed type 1s CHEN & CORT June-Sept; *intro*.

White-winged Crossbill: 25 Greene CHEN 1 Mar, only report.

Com. Redpoll: max 10-35 W. Burlington OTSE end Mar; last 29 Mar; ~10 Virgil mid Mar; few scattered rep of 1-4 throughout Region thru late Mar.

Pine Siskin: widespread small numbers of 2-8 throughout Region Mar-early May.

Evening Grosbeak: max 20-50 McDonough Mar-Apr; small flock of 6-12 Truxton CORT Mar-Apr (MY); 10-30 Northwest Corners CHEN Mar-Apr; small flocks of 5-10 scattered DELA & TIOG Mar-Apr; last early May; best showing since 2001-02 but nothing compared to 1970-1990.

Am. Goldfinch: good numbers of 20-40+ across Region Mar-Apr, at many area feeders.

House Sparrow: largely confined to villages, cities and rural farms; declining as a breeder?

