

REGION 1 – NIAGARA FRONTIER

Mike Morgante

59 Briar Hill Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127

morgm@adelphia.net

March 2007 was colder than normal during the first twenty days but was milder during the rest of the month. The average temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 35.0° F, 0.7° above average. There was 2.61" of precipitation, 0.38" below average, along with 5.4" of snow, 7.0" less than average. The eastern basin of Lake Erie remained frozen throughout the month. It was the coldest April in ten years, with a winter-like cold stretch between the 5th and 18th resulting from a deep upper low set up over eastern North America. The average temperature was 42.5° F, 2.8° below average. Precipitation was 2.96", 0.08" below average, with 2.3" of snow at Buffalo, but there was heavy snowfall in the hills south of Buffalo. Spring growth was about a week behind schedule, and it took until the 29th for the eastern basin of Lake Erie, including harbors, to be ice free, about two weeks later than average. The average temperature in May was 59.2° F, 2.2° above normal. The precipitation was 0.87", 2.48" below normal, resulting in a remarkably dry month. Other than some chilly days around the third weekend in May, there was mostly seasonable weather throughout the month.

Many of the first waterfowl arrivals were during the second week of March, especially after a long-awaited warm front on the 13th. There was only a modest showing of Snow Geese this spring, with only three reports of 40 or more and no reports beyond March. There were two reports of **Greater White-fronted Geese**, including a group of up to five seen on multiple days in April, plus one report of four **Cackling Geese**. Both of these species are now annual in spring. There were two reports of Brant in May, which are reported less than annually in spring. There were three **Eurasian Wigeon** reports, making for the third consecutive spring with multiple sightings of this increasingly regular rarity. On 17 March, Dennis Russell was very surprised to find a **Ruddy Shelduck** in a seasonally flooded field in Clarence along with Canada Geese, Mallards, and American Wigeons. The bird could not be re-found, and, while the greatest likelihood is that it was an escaped exotic bird, it is interesting to note its occurrence with other migratory waterfowl during the primary waterfowl migration period.

Migrating Turkey Vultures are increasing in numbers with the best evidence provided by the numbers tallied at the Region's hawk watches, Hamburg and Ripley. There were several days in late March and early April with thousands counted, including 26 March, when approximately 2,500 vultures were sighted

at both hawk watches. Many of these birds were likely counted at both locations, as the watch sites are on the same flight path near the Lake Erie shoreline. One **Black Vulture** was observed at the Ripley watch on 8 May. The cold weather of early April slowed raptor migration down considerably and slightly delayed the arrival and peak of Broad-winged Hawks. The peak days for migrant Broad-wingeds were 23 April and 29 April this spring.

Bald Eagles returned to many of the now regular nesting locations, and a new nest was found along Tonawanda Creek in Genesee County. The new nest was visible from a bridge on a state highway, and the DEC and the DOT had to post signs to reduce cars from stopping once word of the nest spread in the local community. Peregrine Falcons nested in downtown Buffalo and in the gorge near Niagara Falls (Canadian side) again. For the third year in a row, Peregrines were observed in potential territorial behavior near the Buffalo Psychiatric Center and the west side of Buffalo. On 4 May, Alec Humann witnessed a mid-air prey exchange and subsequent copulation. However, nesting has not been documented. **Merlins** returned to nest on the west side of Buffalo for the third consecutive spring.

Besides delaying migration, the prolonged cold spell in early April was especially hard on several species. According to Paul Hess, the wildlife biologist at Iroquois NWR, a total of 233 dead Tree Swallows was found in nest boxes between the 10th and the 18th. The swallows had gathered in the boxes for warmth. Even though it is a common species, it may take several years for the local population to rebuild its numbers. Several birders indicated that Eastern Phoebes were also adversely affected by the cold spell, as they were found seeking warmth next to houses and other structures, foraging just inches over available open water, and even found tame along roadsides. Jeff Reed indicated that phoebes were absent in southern Cattaraugus County following the cold spell, and he found none during the B.O.S. May Count there. With snow on the ground over much of the Region on the weekend of 7-8 April and the following Sunday, 15 April, there was some very interesting roadside birding and feeder activity. Robins, Wilson's Snipe, Killdeer, and sparrows, among other species, were found in large numbers along snow-covered roadsides. Some of Willie D'Anna's roadside totals from April 8 along the Lake Ontario Plain in Somerset and Yates included 345 Dark-eyed Juncos, 139 Wilson's Snipe, and six Vesper Sparrows. Fox Sparrows were found in much higher numbers than usual during the cold spell, including D'Anna's Regional record count of 31 in the towns of Porter and Wilson. Double-digit totals were made at multiple locations throughout the Region. Vesper Sparrows rarely visit feeders, so five of them at Terry Mosher's feeders in Pomfret were certainly a result of the April cold and snow. After the cold spell ended, the backlog of migrants started to come through. By month's end, migration seemed to be back on a normal schedule, and many new arrivals appeared during the last five days of the month.

It was a good spring for rare waders, and migrant **Sandhill Cranes** are being found with increased regularity. A **Cattle Egret** was present for several

days in North Harmony after it was initially found by Kirk Vanstrom on 8 May. Ron and Sue Hacker found a **Snowy Egret** along the Niagara River in Niagara Falls during the B.O.S. May Count on the 20th. Several observers saw the **Tricolored Heron** at Iroquois NWR that was initially found by Tom and Susan O'Donnell on 28 May. Jim Pawlicki spotted a small, long-legged, all dark heron flying northwest just before dusk on 14 April at Iroquois NWR. Pawlicki surmised that the bird was probably a Little Blue Heron and wondered if the Little Blue Heron found in the Toronto area less than a week later was the same bird. Two ibises were observed over multiple days in mid-May, with one at Iroquois NWR and one at Tiff Nature Preserve. Only one sighting was strong enough to identify and document as **Glossy Ibis**, although both birds were probably this species.

There was excellent shorebird habitat and concentrations at Ruddy Marsh at Tonawanda WMA and Kumph Marsh at nearby Iroquois NWR. Most shorebird records were from these two locations, as many birders checked the areas frequently. The first rarity at these spots was a **Marbled Godwit** found by Bill Watson at Ruddy Marsh on 5 May. The bird lingered for two more days and was seen by many. This is only the second spring record for the Region. On 27 May, Willie D'Anna found a **Stilt Sandpiper** at Kumph Marsh, only the fourth spring record for the Region. Also at Kumph Marsh, a pair of **Wilson's Phalaropes** was observed several times 20-28 May. Bill Watson and Peter Yoerg witnessed the pair copulating. No subsequent breeding behavior was seen and the birds were not seen beyond the 28th. Earlier in the season, Linda McElvany and Mike Zebehazy independently found an **American Golden-Plover** at Batavia WWTP in late April. While regular in late summer and fall, it is very rare in spring.

Passerine migration seemed to be fairly steady and on schedule in May. Warbler highlights included one **Kentucky Warbler**, one **Yellow-breasted Chat**, and a **Yellow-throated Warbler** at Allegany State Park where it has bred for the past few years. While they were certainly not numerous, it was encouraging to get more **Common Nighthawk** reports than the past few spring seasons.

There were several notable spring rarities this year. A **Western Meadowlark** was present for at least several weeks near one of the Ripley Hawk Watch stations. Many birders were able to see and hear it, and it was the first documented occurrence in the Region since 1992. Photographs of an adult male **Black-headed Grosbeak** at a feeder in Newfane circuitously and belatedly made their way to Jim Pawlicki. The bird was present 5-11 May, which was frustrating news for the many local birders that would have likely gone to see this handsome rarity if news of the sighting had traveled faster. If properly documented, this will be the second record for the Region. Another exciting feeder find was a **Lark Bunting** on 19 May in Blasdell. Tina Schulz did not recognize the black bird with white wings on the ground beneath her feeder. She identified the bird after reviewing a field guide and called her co-worker,

Danielle Pecoraro, at a Wild Birds Unlimited store, who came and verified the identification. This is only the third occurrence of Lark Bunting in the Region.

The B.O.S. April Count on 15 April tallied 141 species and was compiled by Mike Hamilton. There were eight record high counts since the 1935 inception including: Gadwall, Double-crested Cormorant, Virginia Rail, Sandhill Crane, Wilson's Snipe, Little Gull, Fox Sparrow, and American Goldfinch. No record low counts were recorded, but this is misleading as there were few observers and much less territory covered in the earliest years of the count. While the count date was slightly later than usual because Easter fell on the second Sunday of April this year, there was unseasonably cold weather, strong winds, and snow and fog in many parts of the B.O.S. study area. All said, it made for a very unusual April Count this year.

The B.O.S. May Count on 20 May was conducted on a chilly day with much fog, mist, and light rain. A total of 210 species was observed, tied for third highest in count history. The count compiler was Bob DeLeon. Thirteen species were recorded at their highest total ever (since 1935): Common Merganser, Wild Turkey, Great Egret, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Glaucous Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Blue-headed Vireo, Gray Catbird, and Hooded Warbler. One species, Golden-crowned Kinglet, was recorded at its lowest total (0) in count history.

CONTRIBUTORS

Connie Adams, Tim Baird, H.M. Bateman, Doug Beattie, Jan Beglinger (JaB), Jim Berry, Chris Betrus, Elizabeth Brooks, Bruce Chilton, Lewis Crowell, Willie D'Anna, Elaine Dart, Len DeFrancisco, Brett Ewald, Kurt Fox, Mike & Sylvia Galas (M&SG), Ron & Sue Hacker, Doug Happ, Paul Hess - INWR, Linda Holmes, Jim Horn, Alec Humann, Karen & Jim Landau (K&JiL), Lynne Landon, Jerry Lazarczyk (JLa), Tom LeBlanc, Jeremy Linden (JLi), H. Link, David Mark, Linda McElvany, Joe Mitchell, Mike Morgante, Terry Mosher, Dave Neveu, Marilyn O'Connell, Susan & Tom O'Donnell, Jim Pawlicki, Danielle Pecoraro, Matthew Pestinger, Betsy Potter, Fran Rew, Dennis Russell, Richard Salembier, Gail Seamans, Tina Schulz, Debbie Sharon, Bob Spahn, Kirk Vanstrom, William Watson, Peter Yoerg, Mike Zebchazy.

ABBREVIATIONS

AISP – Allegany SP, CATT; AmSP – Amherst SP, ERIE; BeSP – Beaver I SP, ERIE; BOSAC – Buffalo Ornithological Society April Count, 15 April; BOSMC – Buffalo Ornithological Society May Count, 20 May; BuSP – Buckhorn Island SP, ERIE; BWWTP – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant,

GENE; DH – Dunkirk Harbor; FMCSF – Four Mile Creek SP, NIAG; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; GHSP – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; Hamburg HW – Hamburg Hawk Watch, ERIE; INWR – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; LESP – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; MI – Motor I NR, ERIE; NF – Niagara Falls NIAG; NR – Niagara R; OOWMA – Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area, GENE; PG – Point Gratiot, CHAU; Ripley HW – Ripley Hawk Watch, CHAU; SPNS – Sinking Ponds Nature Sanctuary, ERIE; TBNP – Times Beach Nature Preserve, ERIE; Tift NP – Tift Nature Preserve, ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area, GENE/NIAG; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: 2 OOWMA 19 Mar (PY); 4,5 INWR 4,7 Apr (MG, GS; JP); now annual in spring.

Snow Goose: arr DH 6 Mar; max 70 Alfred ALLE 11 Mar (EB); 60 wh, 7 bl Yates ORLE & Somerset NIAG 18 Mar; 48 Alexander GENE 23 Mar; modest showing; no reports beyond Mar.

CACKLING GOOSE: 4 INWR 7 Apr (JP), only report, regular in spring at this location in recent years.

Brant: 28 Wilson NIAG 13 May (WD), resting flock observed on L Ontario far from shore; 3 NIAG BOSMC; only reports.

Mute Swan: reported only from now regular locations.

Tundra Swan: arr 8 INWR 10 Mar; 225 Hamburg HW 12 Mar; 108 Newstead ERIE 15 Mar; 185 TWMA 19 Mar (PY); max 600 Hartland NIAG 22 Mar (MP); last Hamburg HW 24 Apr.

Wood Duck: arr 10 Fredonia CHAU 14 Mar; max 65 Brant ERIE 21 Mar (DN).

Gadwall: 197 BOSAC, historical count maximum.

EURASIAN WIGEON: OOWMA 19 Mar (PY); INWR 31 Mar (JP, JaB); Alexander GENE 17 Apr (ED, DB, JLa); third consecutive spring with multiple reports.

Am. Wigeon: arr 2 WTSP 10 Mar; max 780 OOWMA 14 Apr (JP).

Blue-winged Teal: arr OOWMA 19 Mar.

N. Shoveler: arr 2 Pomfret CHAU 14 Mar; max 58 BWWT 28 Mar; 46 INWR 23 Apr; TBNP 17 May.

N. Pintail: arr Buffalo ERIE 7 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: arr 3 BeSP 10 Mar.

Canvasback: arr TWMA 13 Mar; max 9160 Grand I NR 15 Mar (JLa); last Buffalo Harbor ERIE 1 May.

Redhead: max 700 Grand I NR 15 Mar (JLa); arr 2 Tift NP 26 Mar.

Ring-necked Duck: arr Belmont ALLE 13 Mar; 300 Grand I NR 15 Mar; 264 OOWMA 24 Mar; 5 BWWT 27 May; last TWMA 30 May (WW).

Greater Scaup: last 14 BOSMC.

Lesser Scaup: arr 2 Fredonia CHAU 14 Mar; last BWWT 27 May.

Surf Scoter: 18 DH 5,17 Mar (DN, TM); SPNS 6 Apr; 4 BOSAC; 2,3 BWWT 25,30 Apr (MZ, BS); 3 Dayton CATT 28 Apr (JM), rare inland; last 2 FNSP 7 May.

White-winged Scoter: last 6 BOSMC.

Black Scoter: DH 2, 6, 31 Mar; 2 FNSP 21 Apr (LL); only reports.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 2 Allegheny Res CATT 24 Mar; BWWT 28 Mar; Dayton CATT 31 Mar; last 4 BOSMC.

Bufflehead: 269 Dayton CATT 31 Mar (DN), good inland count; last 2 BOSMC.

Com. Goldeneye: arr TWMA 13 Mar; last Buffalo Harbor ERIE 1 May.

Hooded Merganser: arr 2 TWMA 13 Mar.

Com. Merganser: max 254 Sheridan CHAU 31 Mar; 123 BOSMC, historical count maximum; BWWT 25 May, unusual location for date.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 5000 Buffalo Harbor ERIE 21 Apr (RS), counts rarely made in Apr when abundant on L Erie.

Ruddy Duck: arr Pomfret CHAU 16 Mar (JLi); 82 BWWT 28 Mar; 62 INWR 23 Apr; max 111 BWWT 5 May; 35 BWWT 27 May, lingering.

Red-throated Loon: arr GHSP 11 Mar; Youngstown NIAG 18 Mar; 9 FMCSF 23 Mar (WD); last BOSMC.

Com. Loon: arr DH 22 Mar; 45 Hamburg HW 2 Apr, good flight.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr 3 INWR 24 Mar.

Horned Grebe: arr Almond ALLE 10 Mar; max 41 DH 8 Apr.

Red-necked Grebe: arr Tonawanda ERIE 3 Mar; DH 5,6 Mar; Alfred ALLE 7 Apr; 14 FMCSF 23 Mar; max 30 GHSP 31 Mar (WD); 1,1 INWR 7,20 Apr; 31 BOSAC; BWWT 21 Apr; last 11 NF 13 May (WD), unusual count for location and time of year.

Double-crested Cormorant: arr INWR, 2 Gasport ORLE 31 Mar; 645 DH 8 Apr; 4054 BOSAC, yet another historical count maximum.

Am. Bittern: arr TWMA 1 Apr; Brown's Marsh ALLE 12 Apr; Pomfret CHAU 3 May (TM), only reports away from INWR complex.

Least Bittern: INWR 27, 29 May, only reports.

Great Egret: arr MI 30 Mar; Hanover CHAU 12 May; 45 + 29 n MI 14 May; Dunkirk CHAU 19 May; 22 TWMA 29 May.

SNOWY EGRET: NF 20,21 May (R&SH, JLa, WW), consistent with most spring sightings in late May.

TRICOLORED HERON: INWR 28-30 May (S&TO, mob), 7th Regional record.

CATTLE EGRET: N Harmony CHAU 8-12 May (KV), rare but almost annual in spring.

Green Heron: arr 2 BOSAC.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: DH 22 Mar; max 274 ad + 214 n MI 18 Apr.

GLOSSY IBIS: INWR 17 May (PH, JP), only sighting confirmed to species.

PLEGADIS IBIS SP.: Tift NP 19, 21 (DH; WD, BP); INWR 20 May; not observed well enough to confirm to species.

BLACK VULTURE: Ripley HW 8 May (LD), nearly annual in spring.

Turkey Vulture: arr 4 PG, Hamburg ERIE, Alexander GENE 3 Mar; max 2503 Hamburg HW, 2453 Ripley HW 26 Mar, big movement for one day.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: arr 2 Allegheny Res CATT 24 Mar; max 18 Hamburg HW 20 Apr; 4 nests INWR & vicinity.

Bald Eagle: too numerous to report all nesting locations; new nest found in Alexander GENE 23 Mar (DB, KF); 19 BOSAC; max 17 Ripley HW 29 Apr; 17 BOSMC.

N. Goshawk: arr Ripley HW 25 Mar; Lyndonville NIAG 21 Apr (WD); max 3

Hamburg HW 29 Apr (JiL); last Ripley HW 8 May (MG).

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr 5 Hamburg HW 12 Mar; max 78 Ripley HW 26 Mar.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr Eden ERIE 16 Apr; max 4322 Ripley HW 23 Apr; 1130 Ripley HW 29 Apr; 776 Hamburg HW 29 Apr; 115 Hamburg HW 24 May, good late count.

Red-tailed Hawk: dark-morph (Western form) Hamburg HW 3 Apr (WD), rarely seen in Region.

Rough-legged Hawk: 8 Lockport NIAG 15 Mar; max 30 Dayton CATT 31 Mar (DN).

Golden Eagle: arr Ripley HW 21 Mar; Hamburg HW 3 Apr (FR); Silver Creek CHAU 30 Apr (MO); Hamburg HW 8 May (BC).

Merlin: max 5 Buffalo ERIE 1 Mar, 2 continued at SUNY Buffalo thru 13 May; arr Niagara NIAG 7 Mar; DH 21 Mar (DN); Pomfret CHAU 6 Apr (TM); 5 BOSAC; 2 Buffalo ERIE 27 Apr (AH), returned to last year's nesting area; Pine Hill SF CATT 29 Apr; 3 BOSMC.

Peregrine Falcon: 2 ad + 4 yg Buffalo ERIE thru, from annual nest location downtown; arr Hamburg HW 13 Mar; Grand I NR 22 Mar; Tonawanda ERIE 4 Apr; Buffalo Psych Center ERIE 12 Apr, territorial behavior, 4 May (AH), pair display and copulating nearby, but no nesting found; MI 23 Apr; INWR 28 Apr, 6,17 May; NF 5-20 May, nest found on Canadian side near Falls; 9 BOSMC; last Hamburg HW 22 May.

Virginia Rail: arr SPNS 6 Apr (LH).

Sora: arr BOSAC.

Com. Moorhen: arr 2 INWR 7 Apr (MG, JLa), early; 4 BWWT 9 May, one of very few breeding locations away from INWR.

Am. Coot: arr 5 TWMA 13 Mar.

Sandhill Crane: arr, max 20 Youngstown NIAG 14 Mar (LL); Wilson NIAG 14 Mar (BE); 2 Silver Creek CHAU 24 Mar (DN); 2 Ripley HW 25 Mar; 9 Hamburg HW 25 Mar; 4 BOSAC; Watts Flats WMA 5 May (JB); Tift NP 6 May (MM); 14 Hamburg HW 10 May (FR); INWR 12, 28 May; 2 BOSMC.

Black-bellied Plover: arr INWR 18 May; Tift NP 24 May; max 9 INWR 30 May.

AM. GOLDEN-PLOVER: BWWT 25 Apr (MZ!, LM); rarely reported in spring.

Semipalmated Plover: arr Clarence ERIE 3 May (M&SG); max 63 TWMA 18 May (WW); 40 INWR 25 Apr.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr INWR 28 Mar; max 60 BWWT 25 Apr.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr INWR 29 Mar; max 165 TWMA 5 May; last 2 INWR 30 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr Albion ORLE 22 Apr; max 15 TWMA 6 May.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr BOSAC.

Upland Sandpiper: arr 2 Amity ALLE (HB, JH); 2 Colden ERIE 26 May (K&JL); Tillman WMA ERIE 27 May (WD, BP), only reports.

MARbled GODWIT: TWMA 5-7 May (WW, WD, M&SG), very rare, only 2nd spring record for Region.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 4 TWMA 6 May (M&SG; PY), slightly early; Hartland NIAG 7 May; max 65 TWMA 30 May.

Least Sandpiper: arr BWWT 25 Apr (MZ); max 200 INWR 12 May; 96 Yates ORLE 12 May.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 4 INWR 25 May (MM), only report.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 8 Kiantone CHAU 30 Mar (DN).

Purple Sandpiper: 2 max NF 20 Mar thru 20 May, on the late side; traditional location for spring reports.

Dunlin: arr BOSAC; 7 BWWT 25 Apr; max 43 TWMA 18 May.

STILT SANDPIPER: INWR 27-28 May (WD, BP), very rarely found in spring, only fourth spring record for Region.

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 3 BOSMC; INWR 27 May, only reports.

Wilson's Snipe: arr 2 Dayton CATT 28 Mar; 54 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 31 Mar; max 139 Wilson NIAG to Yates ORLE 8 Apr (WD, BP), weather fallout; 341 BOSAC, historical count maximum; INWR 30 May.

Am. Woodcock: arr Pomfret CHAU 13 Mar.

Wilson's Phalarope: 1-2 INWR 20-28 May (PY, WD, WW, DM), pair observed copulating once.

Little Gull: max 19 Lewiston NR 17 Mar; 5 max Buffalo Harbor ERIE 4-28 Apr; 4 NF 9 Apr; BeSP 12 Apr; 22 BOSAC, historical count maximum; last 6 Lewiston NR 2 May (WD).

Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Riverwalk ALLE 23 Mar (JH), unusual location.

Iceland Gull: Porter NIAG 4, 22 Mar; max 2 DH 17 Mar – 10 May; 2 BeSP 24 Mar; 4 BOSAC; 2 Wilson NIAG 12 May; BOSMC; last 2 Olcott NIAG 22 May (BP,WD).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: BeSP 18 Mar; DH 31 Mar - 9 May; Barcelona CHAU 9 May; 3 BOSMC; last 3 Olcott NIAG, 1 Wilson NIAG 22 May (WD, BP).

Glaucous Gull: 2 Porter NIAG 4 Mar; DH 6 Mar, 29 Apr, 2 May; last 2 BOSMC.

Caspian Tern: arr 2 DH 31 Mar (DN), record early; max 131 DH 29 Apr.

Com. Tern: arr 2 Buffalo NIAG 8 Apr; 3 Lancaster ERIE 12 Apr (MM), rare inland; max 1000 Buffalo ERIE 6 May.

Forster's Tern: Grand 1 NR NIAG 23 Apr (DS), only report.

Black Tern: arr TWMA 3 May; 15 INWR 5 May; Buffalo NR 6 May (JP); max 21 TWMA 18 May.

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Bethany GENE 9 May.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr WTSP 17 May.

Long-eared Owl: max 3 GHSP 13-18 Mar; 2, 1 WTSP 22 Mar, 10 Apr; Williamsville ERIE 24 Apr (RS); only reports.

Short-eared Owl: 2, 4 Lockport NIAG 31 Mar, 10 Apr (JP), only reports.

Com. Nighthawk: arr 3 Buffalo ERIE 11 May; Watts Flats WMA CHAU 16 May; 6 TWMA 17 May; Bennington WYOM 18 May; 8 WTSP 19 May; 6 BOSMC; Lancaster ERIE 29 May; Youngstown NIAG 30 May.

Whip-poor-will: Wilson NIAG 3 May (WD, BP), only report.

Chimney Swift: arr Hamburg HW 22 Apr.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr E

Aurora ERIE 2 May.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Tift NP 23 Mar.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Youngstown NIAG 5 May; Dunkirk CHAU 8 May; 4 PG 9 May; 2 LESP 9 May; BeSP 9 May; 3 Hamburg ERIE 10 May; 2 Silver Creek CHAU 13,20 May; 5 max FNPS 18-31 May (LL).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr AISP 17 May (TB, TL); SPNS 22 May (LH), only reports.

E. Wood-Pewee: arr Bethany GENE 9 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Sheridan CHAU 12 May; AISP 16 May; 2 AmSP 16, 18 May; 2 BOSMC; Tillman WMA ERIE 28 May; only reports.

Acadian Flycatcher: arr INWR, Tonawanda Ind Res 19 May; max 6 Chestnut Ridge P ERIE 26 May (MM); INWR 30 May.

Alder Flycatcher: arr AISP 17 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr LESP 9 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr AmSP 27 Apr.

E. Phoebe: arr Pomfret CHAU 17 Mar; impacted by cold Apr weather, see *intro*.

Gr. Crested Flycatcher: arr Orchard Park ERIE 1 May.

E. Kingbird: arr Pomfret CHAU 27 Apr.

N. Shrike: last Somerset NIAG 8 Apr (BP, WD).

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Wilson NIAG 11 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr 2 AmSP 23 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: arr 2 AmSP 28 Apr.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr AISP 16 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr AmSP 3 May.

Com. Raven: Darien GENE 7 Mar, 2 Apr; Gerry CHAU 13 Apr; Ripley CHAU 2 May; Bennington WYOM 8, 30 May; Royalton NIAG 19 May; only reports outside ALLE, CATT.

Purple Martin: arr Grand I ERIE 3 Apr.

Tree Swallow: arr 20 Royalton NIAG 15 Mar; devastated by prolonged cold spell in first half of Apr, see *intro*.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr 2 BOSAC.

Bank Swallow: arr 3 BWWT 25 Apr.

Cliff Swallow: arr 2 BWWT 25 Apr; 30 nests FNSP 29 May, new location (LL).

Barn Swallow: arr 5 BOSAC.

Carolina Wren: 13 BOSAC and 23 BOSMC; slightly down from recent years.

House Wren: arr Tift NP, BeSP, AmSP 26 Apr.

Winter Wren: arr Tift NP 30 Mar.

Marsh Wren: arr INWR 28 Apr.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr 2 Tift NP 26 Mar.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Grand I ERIE 5 Apr.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Sheridan CHAU 22 Apr.

Veery: arr Alexander GENE 29 Apr.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Arkwright CHAU 19 May; 6 BOSMC; 2 Wilson NIAG 22 May; only reports.

Swainson's Thrush: arr Chestnut Ridge P ERIE 5 May.

Hermit Thrush: GHSP 13 Mar; Pomfret CHAU 17 Mar; arr Alfred ALLE 27 Mar.

Wood Thrush: arr Wilson NIAG 28 Apr.

Gray Catbird: arr FNSP 21 Apr.

Brown Thrasher: arr Hamburg ERIE 26 Mar (FR); TBNP 27 Mar (JM); both slightly early.

Am. Pipit: arr 2 Hamburg HW 12 Mar; last TWMA 29 May (WD), on the late side.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr PG 29 Apr.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr ORLE BOSMC, only report.

"Brewster's" Warbler: Red House CATT 17 May (TB, TL), only report.

Tennessee Warbler: arr 3 Alexander GENE 4 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr PG 30 Apr (JLi); 2 Wilson NIAG 4 May (BP); FNSP 18 May; only reports.

Nashville Warbler: arr AmSP 27 Apr.

N. Parula: arr Wilson NIAG 4 May.

Yellow Warbler: arr Alexander GENE 26 Apr.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Watts Flats WMA CHAU 5 May.

Magnolia Warbler: arr multiple locations 5 May.

Cape May Warbler: arr LESP, PG 9 May; four other reports.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Tift NP 30 Apr.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 2 BuSP 4 Mar; arr SPNS 6 Apr; max 250 FNSP 6 May (LL).

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 2 AmSP 25 Apr.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr AmSP 26 Apr (RS), early.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: AISP 13 May thru (JP, RS), observed in previous breeding area.

Pine Warbler: arr W Falls ERIE 31 Mar (CB); Bennington WYOM 5-9 Apr; 5 Sheridan CHAU 22 Apr; 5 Ripley CHAU 29 Apr.

Prairie Warbler: arr Tift NP 4 May; Pomfret CHAU 9 May; BeSP 10 May; AmSP 16 May; last NF 21 May; more migrants in non-breeding areas than usual; max 10 Yorkshire CATT 28 May (MM).

Palm Warbler: arr Alexander GENE 17 Apr; last 2 Wilson NIAG 22 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 2 Stiglmeir P ERIE 7 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr AISP, AmSP, Tift NP 10 May.
Cerulean Warbler: arr TWMA 5 May; Pomfret CHAU 21 May, only location away from INWR and AISP areas.
Black-and-white Warbler: arr Wilson NIAG 27 Apr.
Am. Redstart: arr INWR, AISP, Watts Flats WMA CHAU 6 May.
Prothonotary Warbler: TWMA 12,18,19 May, has bred in this area in recent years.
Ovenbird: arr Wilson NIAG 4 May.
N. Waterthrush: arr TWMA, Watts Flats WMA CHAU 5 May.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr AISP 25 Apr.
KENTUCKY WARBLER: Tift NP 26 May (DH), nearly annual in spring.
Mourning Warbler: arr AmSP 16 May.
C. Yellowthroat: arr BuSP 30 Apr.
Hooded Warbler: arr Chestnut Ridge P ERIE 5 May.
Wilson's Warbler: arr LESP 9 May.
Canada Warbler: arr BeSP 13 May.
Yellow-breasted Chat: FMCSF 22 May (WD,BP), only spring report, increased reports in NIAG in recent years.

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr Bethany GENE, BeSP 8 May.
E. Towhee: arr Amity ALLE, Tift NP 23 Mar.
Am. Tree Sparrow: last Alfred ALLE 21 Apr.
Chipping Sparrow: arr Buffalo ERIE 26 Mar.
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: CHAU BOSMC; 2 Andover ALLE 30 May (EB); only reports.
Field Sparrow: Wilson NIAG 10 Mar (RS); arr Wilson NIAG 30 Mar.
Vesper Sparrow: arr 2 Hamburg ERIE 2 Apr; 2,5,3 Pomfret CHAU 5,8,13 Apr (TM); Dunkirk Airport CHAU 7 Apr; 6 Somerset NIAG & Yates ORLE 8 Apr; 30 BOSAC; 4 Alma ALLE 28 Apr; Newfane NIAG 12 May; Wilson NIAG 22 May; 2 Alexander GENE 30 May; more reports than usual.
LARK BUNTING: Blasdel ERIE 19 May (TS, DP), at feeder, third record for Region.
Savannah Sparrow: arr 7 Dunkirk Airport CHAU, 2 Belmont ALLE 31 Mar.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 19 BOSMC; 4 Tillman WMA ERIE 27 May; Yorkshire CATT 28 May (MM); only reports.
Henslow's Sparrow: Lancaster ERIE May (CA), traditional location.
Fox Sparrow: arr 2 Clymer CHAU, Houghton ALLE 16 Mar; Pomfret CHAU 17 Mar; max 31 Porter & Wilson NIAG 7 Apr (WD), record count for Reg following snow event; 14 Wilson NIAG 8 Apr (WD), at one feeder; 16 BuSP 8 Apr (LC); 11 Tift NP 14 Apr (RS); 165 BOSAC, historical count maximum.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Tift NP 4 May.
Swamp Sparrow: arr Tift NP 30 Mar.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr 2 Sheridan CHAU 29 Apr; last Wilson NIAG 30 May.
Dark-eyed Junco: 345 Wilson NIAG to Yates ORLE 8 Apr (WD, BP), mostly on roadsides.
Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco (*J. h. oregonus*): Wilson NIAG 6, 9 Apr (WD), females rarely documented.
Lapland Longspur: 2 Yates ORLE 17 Mar; 50 Oakfield GENE 7 Apr (S&TO, MG); 16 BOSAC; only reports.
Snow Bunting: 2 Yates ORLE 17 Mar; only report.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr Bethany GENE 24 Apr; Wilson NIAG 27 Apr.
BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK: Newfane NIAG 5-11 May (*vide* JP), only 2nd in Reg, see *intro*.
Indigo Bunting: arr Colden ERIE 26 Apr (KL), early; Alma ALLE 30 Apr (HL).
Bobolink: arr Olean CATT, Pomfret CHAU 4 May.
E. Meadowlark: arr Wilson NIAG 10 Mar.
W. MEADOWLARK: Ripley CHAU 22 Apr - 12 May (TB, WD, JP, mob), first documented report since 1992.
Rusty Blackbird: arr 3 Colden ERIE 16 Mar; max 24 Hartland NIAG 31 Mar; last 2 ALLE BOSMC.
Orchard Oriole: arr Silver Creek CHAU 5 May; 2 LESP 9 May; PG 9 May; 2 WTSP 11 May; Porter NIAG 17 May.
Baltimore Oriole: arr Colden ERIE, Buffalo ERIE 30 Apr.
Purple Finch: max 16 Pomfret CHAU 4 Mar; 334 BOSAC; 187 BOSMC; moderate numbers.
Pine Siskin: 1, 1 Wilson NIAG 24 Apr, 11 May, only reports.
Evening Grosbeak: 4 ALLE BOSMC, only report.

EXOTICS

Chukar: Hamburg ERIE 24-25 Mar, release or escape.

Ruddy Shelduck: Clarence ERIE 17 Mar (DR), observed in seasonally flooded fields with Mallards, Canada Geese, and Am. Wigeons.

===