

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—SPRING 2008

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Spring is typically one of the easier seasons to summarize. Winter is ending, so we have the departure of the winter visitors. Then everyone is excited about warming temperatures and the arrival of spring migrants and lots of records are submitted. The regional highlights summarize the observations of birds that are eagerly awaited and tracked annually across the State. Often there are surprises, as rarities appear and special behaviors are noted. This spring also presented an opportunity to look at some issues around data, historical and new, relating to record dates and high counts, as there were many of each this spring.

This spring saw a relatively uniform weather picture across most of the State, with only Regions 9 and 10 less variable and extreme than the others. Early March brought a warm shot to some Regions, but also the last of the winter's snowfall for most of the State, and then cold temperatures for much of the month. In most Regions ponds and lakes remained frozen until early April, then ice out came quickly and a bit early. March also saw an ice storm in Region 7, with power outages in the Adirondacks and some distress for birds in the area. April began cool but then switched to a touch of summer for a few days to two weeks, with the month's average temperatures 5-7° above normal in all but Regions 9 and 10. This brought many early passerine arrivals across the State. May then shifted back to cool, 2-3° below normal all across the state. This resulted in late arrival dates for some of the normally later-arriving species. Precipitation was above normal in all regions in March and moderately below in nearly all for April and May.

### WINTER ENDING

An attempt to look at reports as a part of winter ending forces recognition of the fact that the spring season really does have some of the same fuzzy edges as the other seasons. Many waterfowl are mainly winter visitors over much of the State but may also be, additionally or even only, spring and fall migrants in some Regions and local breeders in others. Recent trends of waterfowl departing from wintering areas earlier and migrants arriving earlier and lingering for shorter times continued to be noted this spring. In a few Regions the cold into March delayed arrivals a bit, but still most species pushed through by the end of April, with lingering birds in May few. Canada and Snow geese moved heavily in late

March and early April. Peak Snow Goose counts were back in the eastern half of the state, the historical norm. Lingering winter waterfowl rarities included: Pink-footed Goose, Barnacle Goose, and "Black" Brant in Region 10; Greater White-fronted Goose in six Regions; at least 10 Ross's Geese in four Regions; Cackling Goose noted in eight Regions; more than 15 Eurasian Wigeons in five Regions; Green-winged "Eurasian" Teal in Regions 3, 5, & 10; Barrow's Goldeneye in Regions 2 & 8; and special hybrids—dark morph Snow x Ross's Goose in Region 3 and Northern Pintail x Gadwall in Region 4. There has been some concern over numbers of several waterfowl species, and, despite deficiencies in the data, Am. Black Duck and Blue-winged Teal numbers seem low and Northern Pintail produced only one sizable count noted in Region 6. Scaup and scoter numbers were low except for good counts in Region 10.

Both regular loons saw some good counts on Lake Ontario and in Region 10, but Common Loon was flagged as very low in Region 4. An alternate plumaged Pacific Loon was observed in Region 2 on 23 May. There was a record high inland count for Horned Grebe and another 1000+ count for Red-necked Grebe, both on 27 March in Region 2, a bit early for peak counts. The rarer Eared and Western grebes were noted only as singles in Region 10.

Continuing with another messy, overlapping group, gulls did not elicit many special notes from the Regional editors, so we have the wintering birds and rarities as highlights. Iceland and Glaucous gulls were noted in four Regions each, lingering into April and early May. Thayer's Gull was noted in Region 2 and a Slaty-backed Gull in Region 3. Laughing Gull was noted as a rarity in Regions 1 & 5 and Franklin's Gull in Region 2. Little Gull was found only to the west in Regions 1, 2, & 3, and Black-headed only in Region 10. Bonaparte's Gull numbers were noted low where comments were made. Lesser Black-backed Gull, now regular in almost every month, was found in five Regions totaling at least 10 individuals. Great Black-backed Gull is of some concern due to losses to botulism, but at least one high count was tallied in Region 1.

Looking at the typical winter visitors, we find Rough-legged Hawk noted in all but one Region, with departure dates very late March into April except later for Regions with spring hawk watches. There was a lone Gyrfalcon in Region 1 and a Great Gray Owl in Region 6 for a few days. Northern Shrike left at typical late March and April dates. Bohemian Waxwing lingered in six Regions to dates ranging from 18 March to 15 April. Am. Tree Sparrow departed over a narrower window of 13 to 24 April. Lapland Longspur mainly exited in March and Snow Bunting from 17 March to 15 April. After a good fall and winter for winter finches, we saw: Pine Grosbeak gone by 7 April; Red Crossbills mostly gone by the end of April, except for nesting in Region 4 and possibly Region 10; White-winged Crossbill in Regions 1, 4, & 5, with nesting in Region 4; Common Redpoll noted in all but Region 6 and departing late March to early May; a few notes on "Greater" Redpoll separated from other Common Redpolls in Regions 4 & 7; a few more Hoary Redpoll reports in five Regions; and Pine Siskin and Evening Grosbeak in most Regions, with reports in several into May, typical for

both species. Matt Young in the Region 4 report discusses types of Red Crossbill observed this spring and in 2006.

For the final winter-ending note, an ice storm in Region 7 produced a heavy crust on deep snow, negatively impacting many species, but especially resulting in a number of Barred Owls being brought in for rehab and later release.

## SPRING MIGRATION

First a look at the major groups, often awaited with great anticipation by many birders—hawks, shorebirds, terns, and the various families of passerines.

The bulk of the data for hawks comes from the two major spring hawk watches, Braddock Bay and Derby Hill. Summary data for these sites are remarkably similar, with arrivals and peaks often on the same or close by dates. The overall totals differ only by the differences in total for Turkey Vulture and Broad-winged Hawk; variations among the other species are typical of those seen regularly and wash out in the totals. Both watches show Turkey Vultures at record high numbers for the season. Each had a rare species not recorded at the other—Swainson's Hawk at Braddock Bay and Mississippi Kite, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional record, at Derby Hill. Comparing this spring's numbers at Braddock Bay to the site's long-term data, nearly all species were tallied at average to above numbers relative to the past 10 years, though most were well below their peaks in the late 70s and early 80s, especially the accipiters, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Am. Kestrel. Northern Goshawk was simply low. Looking at the rest of the hawk data: Black Vulture was observed in seven Regions, with over 26 individuals noted; Golden Eagle was commented on as "good" in eight Regions, with multiple reports in nearly all; and Merlin was noted in all but Region 9, with nesting in Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 and suspected in 6. Interestingly, Peregrine Falcon was no longer reported in several Regions where the species clearly nests; no longer noteworthy?!

Caspian, Common, and Forster's terns were flagged as down a bit, though they were observed in nearly all Regions except for only four Regions for Forster's. Caspian Tern is also noteworthy for arrival at record early dates in four Regions and an average arrival date 11 days early relative to the 22-year average. Black Tern remains scarce. A Least Tern in Region 3 was only the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional record. The rest of the tern list is typically recorded only in Region 10, where variety and numbers were good this spring. An intriguing note from Region 5 asks if a late May surge of 186 *Sterna* terns at Oneida Lake might contain some overlooked Arctic Terns passing through.

For shorebirds, over much of upstate a common complaint was lack of habitat and low numbers for most species and a few species missed. But in Region 7 the late May drop of Lake Champlain yielded good mudflats and some interesting records. Region 10 birders located nearly every species expected in spring plus a few rarities. So overall the State list for spring was covered well.

Rarer species inland for spring included: Am. Golden-Plover in Regions 1 & 2; Sanderling in Regions 1 & 7; Marbled Godwit in Regions 6 & 7; Purple Sandpiper in Regions 1, 2, 5, & 9; and Long-billed Dowitcher in Regions 1, 2 & 10. Wilson's Phalarope was scarce. In Region 10, rarities included Wilson's Plover and Black-necked Stilt. Very high to State record high counts were tallied for Killdeer in Region 2, Solitary Sandpiper in Region 5, Ruddy Turnstone in Region 10, and Semipalmated Sandpiper in several Regions in late May.

Moving on to the passerines, many species arrived at record early dates in one or several Regions, especially species typically arriving in the last half of April. Species expected in mid-May or later were often noted arriving late. More will follow on arrival dates under a separate heading. Working through the passerine families, we start with flycatchers. There were several record early dates, including a tie of the State record early date for Willow Flycatcher on 30 April. Olive-sided Flycatcher was noted in seven Regions, though with few reports except in Regions 9 & 10. Least Flycatcher arrived early across the State, though nowhere record early. Eastern Kingbird was also an early arrival. In contrast, Alder Flycatcher was average to late in arriving. The lone rarity was Scissor-tailed Flycatcher on two dates in late May in Region 10. Vireos of note included White-eyed Vireo found in five Regions and State record early on 18 March in Region 10. Red-eyed Vireo was State record early inland on 16 April in Region 3. There were several very high counts of migrating swallows, especially in Region 2, with a State record high count for N. Rough-winged Swallow. State record highs were also tallied for Blue Jay in Region 5 and American Robin in Region 2 and very high counts for Horned Lark and American Pipit in Region 2. Sedge Wren was reported only in Regions 5 & 6 and Golden-crowned Kinglet was flagged as very low in Region 2. Thrushes were noted generally as low in number and a bit late, especially Gray-checked. Bicknell's Thrush was reported only from Regions 7 & 10.

Warblers were well reported, with all regularly occurring species observed. Of the 22 species in the arrival date tables, 13 arrived at statistically significant early dates averaged across the 10 Regions vs. their 22-year averages. All but one species, Blackpoll Warbler, averaged early. There were 23 Regional record early arrival dates for just the warbler species in the table. A State record high count was tallied for Yellow Warbler in Region 2. Looking at trends, we find Golden-winged Warbler noted low, but still observed in seven Regions; "Lawrence's" Warbler with 8 individuals in four Regions; at least 34 Orange-crowned Warblers from six Regions; Cape May Warbler noted in all but one Region; Yellow-throated Warbler in Regions 1, 2, & 10; Bay-breasted flagged as low; Prothonotary in five Regions, with 12 reports in Region 10 alone; Kentucky in only Regions 1 & 10; Connecticut only in Region 1; and Yellow-breasted Chat in only Regions 9 & 10.

Continuing through the checklist, Scarlet Tanager was tallied at a State record high count in Region 2 on 14 May, while Summer Tanager appeared in

Regions 1, 9, and 10 and a very rare Western Tanager was observed in Region 10. Among the sparrows, we find: Clay-colored in five Regions, Lark Sparrow in Region 10, Henslow's only in Regions 6 & 7, Nelson's Sharp-tailed in Regions 2 & 10, Fox Sparrow numbers average to low, and no really good counts noted for White-throated and White-crowned. A Painted Bunting was located in Region 10 and a State record high was tallied for Indigo Bunting in Region 2. Finally, among the icterids we have a rare Western Meadowlark in Region 2, notes on Rusty Blackbird as a species of concern from nearly all Regions, some good blackbird counts, a state record high count for Baltimore Oriole in Region 2, and the Scott's Oriole relocated in Region 10 from the end of March into early April.

Non-passerines of note included; the usual substantial collection of interesting seabirds observed in Region 10; Great Cormorant in Regions 5, 8, 9, and 10; a first Regional record of Anhinga soaring over Region 4; and an assortment of herons and egrets, most regular in Region 10 and found only there this season, except for Cattle Egret in Region 7 and Tricolored Heron in Region 1. Moving on we find both cuckoos well reported in most Regions, the usual few owl notes, and a surprising State record high spring count of 510 for Common Nighthawk on 28 May in Region 2—especially surprising given the dismal numbers for the species for many years at any season.

A must read is the account of Double-crested Cormorant "control" episodes at the Crown Point Important Bird Area in the Region 7 introductory section.

## RARITIES

Most of the rarities have been woven into the family reviews above. This would be the place to select a BOTS Award species for spring, but the contenders are either carry-over species from previous seasons, formerly rare species now regular, or single observer birds with no indication of documentation to NYSARC; none of which I would consider suitable for a season's BOTS. This then results in the BOTS Award going to the multitude of early arriving migrants of this very early spring.

## EARLY ARRIVALS AND RECORD HIGH COUNTS

The large number of early arrivals and record high counts of this season open the door to some discussion of the arrival date tables and of the need for, but problems with, data in general.

The arrival date tables were begun by Paul DeBenedictis, *Kingbird* editor, in 1987 and have now been gathered for the same 93 species for 22 years. These allow us some assessment of migration timing. This year, for one of very few years over this period, the average arrival date for all species over all Regions was significantly early (at 2 standard deviations) vs. the 22-year average. Additionally for the first time, each of the 10 Regions, averaged over all species,

yielded a date early relative to the 22-year average for the Region. Then we find 84 of the 93 species early averaged over the 10 Regions and only nine species late vs. the species' 22-year average. Of these, 46 of the early dates and only two of the late dates are statistically significant. Of the late species, Common Nighthawk is in trouble, so late detection of its small numbers is probably not surprising. Looking more carefully at the details for Eastern Bluebird suggests that its apparent lateness may be simply due to an artifact of reporting. In most of the early cases, the species was reported early across the state and often at record early dates in one or more Regions.

One can question and debate the details of the methodology for arriving at some of this summary information due to issues such as a few species not even recorded in one or more Regions for the season or some Regional editors not able or willing to try to separate an arrival date from dates for overwintering birds of some species. These details might/would alter some of the averages or standard deviations. Way back, I tried carefully correcting all of the data for each year for several years for each of these potential impacts and found that averages over all the Regions and/or years ended up very little affected. In specific cases one needs to look at the data details for a single species, but generally it is not worthwhile when assessing the overall picture.

All of the record high counts come from watches in Regions 2 and 5, the hawk watches and a lakewatch. In Region 2, the hawkwatcher, Dave Tetlow, attempted to count all of the species passing this year and on 14 May even moved to the old satellite watch at the base of the west spit of Braddock Bay to catch the hordes of passerines migrating. The results in all of these cases show the potential still there if more observers would take the time to actually carry out counts over substantial periods of time when they encounter big movements or large groundings. Of course, this depends on the time an individual has available for birding, the interest or inclination of the observer, and the skill set. Some hawkwatchers see the world only as raptors and raptor food and show little interest in the food unless it is being pursued by a raptor. Some birders are simply not interested in counting. It is also not possible to count numbers of many species at the same time without a very high skill level in both identification and counting.

Finally, my attempt to put these various apparent State records into historical perspective led to the feeling that the time is fast approaching when we will need to embark on another update of the data in a new State bird book. In searching the most recent book for data for so many species, it unfortunately became painfully apparent that for many species the authors either did not follow instructions relative to providing summary data or did not research the data carefully. For these species, a new author or set of authors will be faced with the task of going clear back to 1975 in their research. Without immersion in the data for many years, the Regional editor or other researcher of records now is left not knowing which numbers are really correct and which not.

|                        | Spring Arrival Dates                                        |          |          |          |          | 2008     | Waterbirds |          |          |           |         |            |  |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|------------|--|
| Species                | Region 1                                                    | Region 2 | Region 3 | Region 4 | Region 5 | Region 6 | Region 7   | Region 8 | Region 9 | Region 10 | Average | 22-Yr. Ave |  |
| American Bittern       | 13 Apr                                                      | 4 Apr    | 12 Apr   |          | 4 Apr    | 9 Apr    | 17 Apr     | 3 May    | 26 Apr   |           | 14 Apr  | 15 Apr     |  |
| Green Heron            | 13 Apr                                                      | 18 Apr   | 17 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 15 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 19 Apr     | 19 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 12 Apr    | 19 Apr  | 22 Apr     |  |
| Wood Duck              | 27 Feb                                                      | 4 Mar    |          | 4 Mar    | 23 Mar   | 23 Mar   | 22 Mar     | 8 Mar    |          |           | 11 Mar  | 13 Mar     |  |
| Green-winged Teal      | 16 Mar                                                      | 3 Mar    | 4 Mar    | 4 Mar    | 24 Mar   | 6 Apr    | 28 Mar     | 10 Mar   | 16 Mar   |           | 15 Mar  | 17 Mar     |  |
| Northern Pintail       | 17 Feb                                                      | 3 Mar    | 4 Mar    | 4 Mar    | 11 Mar   | 15 Mar   | 18 Mar     | 2 Mar    | 15 Mar   |           | 6 Mar   | 7 Mar      |  |
| Blue-winged Teal       | 27 Mar                                                      | 13 Mar   | 21 Mar   | 26 Mar   | 1 Apr    | 6 Apr    | 14 Apr     | 21 Mar   | 16 Mar   | 21 Mar    | 25 Mar  | 29 Mar     |  |
| Osprey                 | 24 Mar                                                      | 30 Mar   | 16 Mar   | 5 Apr    | 24 Mar   | 6 Apr    | 11 Apr     | 10 Apr   | 16 Mar   | 9 Mar     | 27 Mar  | 28 Mar     |  |
| Virginia Rail          | 13 Apr                                                      | 19 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 14 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 25 Apr     | 18 Apr   | 27 Mar   |           | 14 Apr  | 18 Apr     |  |
| Sora                   | 13 Apr                                                      | 20 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 5 May    | 19 Apr   |          |            | 23 Apr   | 4 May    |           | 23 Apr  | 29 Apr     |  |
| Common Moorhen         | 13 Apr                                                      | 3 May    | 30 Apr   | 5 May    | 22 Apr   |          | 8 May      | 3 May    | 2 May    |           | 29 Apr  | 26 Apr     |  |
| Black-bellied Plover   | 19 Apr                                                      | 4 May    | 26 Apr   | 26 May   | 26 May   |          | 10 May     | 31 May   | 6 May    |           | 11 May  | 13 May     |  |
| Semipalmated Plover    | 3 May                                                       | 26 Apr   | 3 May    | 7 May    | 6 May    |          | 14 May     | 15 May   | 2 May    | 11 Apr    | 3 May   | 10 May     |  |
| Killdeer               | 1 Mar                                                       | 24 Feb   | 3 Mar    | 6 Mar    | 2 Mar    | 6 Mar    | 16 Mar     | 6 Mar    |          | 15 Mar    | 5 Mar   | 5 Mar      |  |
| Greater Yellowlegs     | 3 Apr                                                       | 30 Mar   | 24 Mar   | 6 Apr    | 8 Apr    |          | 21 Apr     | 12 Apr   | 16 Apr   |           | 7 Apr   | 7 Apr      |  |
| Lesser Yellowlegs      | 3 Apr                                                       | 11 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 1 May    | 8 Apr    | 29 Mar   | 18 Apr     | 3 May    | 15 Apr   | 24 Apr    | 15 Apr  | 18 Apr     |  |
| Solitary Sandpiper     | 19 Apr                                                      | 26 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 23 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 6 May    | 10 May     | 26 Apr   | 2 May    | 21 Apr    | 26 Apr  | 26 Apr     |  |
| Spotted Sandpiper      | 13 Apr                                                      | 15 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 23 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 5 May    | 26 Apr     | 19 Apr   | 16 Apr   | 12 Apr    | 19 Apr  | 24 Apr     |  |
| Sanderling             | 18 May                                                      |          |          |          |          |          | 14 May     |          |          |           | 16 May  | 17 May     |  |
| Semipalmated Sandpiper | 18 May                                                      | 14 May   | 16 May   | 7 May    | 17 May   |          | 26 May     | 17 May   | 8 May    | 30 Apr    | 13 May  | 13 May     |  |
| Least Sandpiper        | 4 May                                                       | 11 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 6 May    | 2 May    | 11 May     | 8 May    | 23 Apr   | 20 Apr    | 28 Apr  | 4 May      |  |
| Pectoral Sandpiper     | 13 Apr                                                      | 31 Mar   | 9 Apr    |          | 12 Apr   |          | 14 May     |          | 17 Apr   |           | 15 Apr  | 21 Apr     |  |
| Wilson's Snipe         | 29 Mar                                                      | 24 Mar   | 6 Mar    | 4 Apr    | 14 Mar   | 8 Apr    | 9 Apr      | 21 Mar   | 27 Mar   | 21 Mar    | 25 Mar  | 24 Mar     |  |
| American Woodcock      | 19 Mar                                                      | 14 Mar   | 6 Mar    | 15 Mar   | 10 Mar   | 27 Mar   | 23 Mar     | 6 Mar    | 1 Mar    |           | 13 Mar  | 11 Mar     |  |
| Caspian Tern           | 9 Apr                                                       | 1 Apr    | 25 Mar   | 25 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 16 Apr     |          | 12 Apr   | 9 Apr     | 10 Apr  | 21 Apr     |  |
| Common Tern            | 6 Apr                                                       | 15 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 21 May   | 20 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 10 May     | 17 May   | 6 May    | 24 Apr    | 27 Apr  | 27 Apr     |  |
| Black Tern             | 26 Apr                                                      | 3 May    | 28 Apr   |          | 8 May    | 5 May    | 23 May     | 17 May   |          | 4 May     | 6 May   | 8 May      |  |
| Marsh Wren             | 27 Apr                                                      | 26 Apr   | 16 Apr   |          | 5 May    | 25 May   | 10 May     | 3 May    | 16 Mar   |           | 27 Apr  | 30 Apr     |  |
|                        | Dates in bold type are record early arrivals for the Region |          |          |          |          |          |            |          |          |           |         |            |  |

| Spring Arrival Dates 2008 Landbirds                          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |           |         |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|------------|
| Species                                                      | Region 1 | Region 2 | Region 3 | Region 4 | Region 5 | Region 6 | Region 7 | Region 8 | Region 9 | Region 10 | Average | 22-Yr. Ave |
| Black-billed Cuckoo                                          | 6 May    | 10 May   | 3 May    | 17 May   | 27 Apr   | 16 May   | 27 May   | 17 May   | 4 May    | 7 May     | 10 May  | 12 May     |
| Common Nighthawk                                             | 25 May   | 11 May   | 20 Apr   | 28 May   | 24 May   |          | 29 May   | 20 May   | 10 May   | 13 May    | 16 May  | 12 May     |
| Chimney Swift                                                | 23 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 19 Apr   |          | 20 Apr   | 7 May    | 2 May    | 1 May    | 5 May    | 14 Apr    | 25 Apr  | 25 Apr     |
| Ruby-thr Hummingbird                                         | 29 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 28 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 12 May   | 5 May    | 4 May    | 29 Apr   | 24 Apr    | 29 Apr  | 3 May      |
| Yellow-bellied Sapsucker                                     | 4 Apr    | 7 Apr    |          | 30 Mar   | 27 Mar   | 9 Apr    | 9 Apr    | 20 Mar   | 28 Mar   |           | 1 Apr   | 3 Apr      |
| Olive-sided Flycatcher                                       | 13 May   | 26 May   | 24 May   |          |          | 25 May   | 25 May   | 5 May    | 10 May   | 14 May    | 17 May  | 18 May     |
| Eastern Wood-Pewee                                           | 8 May    | 6 May    | 8 May    | 22 May   | 13 May   | 5 May    | 21 Apr   | 16 May   | 10 May   | 7 May     | 8 May   | 9 May      |
| Alder Flycatcher                                             | 24 May   | 20 May   | 17 May   | 23 May   | 17 May   | 15 May   | 21 May   | 11 May   | 17 May   | 17 May    | 18 May  | 17 May     |
| Willow Flycatcher                                            | 16 May   | 13 May   | 16 May   | 17 May   | 30 Apr   | 24 May   |          | 15 May   | 2 May    | 2 May     | 11 May  | 15 May     |
| Least Flycatcher                                             | 30 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 6 May    | 27 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 24 Apr    | 28 Apr  | 1 May      |
| Eastern Phoebe                                               | 29 Mar   | 18 Mar   | 3 Mar    | 29 Mar   | 20 Mar   | 6 Apr    | 27 Mar   | 23 Mar   | 1 Mar    | 12 Mar    | 19 Mar  | 22 Mar     |
| Gr. Crested Flycatcher                                       | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 13 May   | 27 Apr   | 2 May    | 8 May    | 5 May    | 18 Apr   | 24 Apr    | 29 Apr  | 1 May      |
| Eastern Kingbird                                             | 29 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 16 Apr   | 1 May    | 3 May    | 26 Apr   | 1 May    | 23 Apr   | 24 Apr    | 26 Apr  | 28 Apr     |
| Purple Martin                                                | 11 Apr   | 3 Apr    | 31 Mar   |          | 7 Apr    | 19 Apr   | 10 May   | 17 May   | 16 Apr   | 21 Mar    | 14 Apr  | 17 Apr     |
| Tree Swallow                                                 | 27 Mar   | 13 Mar   | 14 Mar   | 16 Mar   | 15 Mar   | 4 Apr    | 4 Apr    | 25 Feb   | 6 Mar    | 7 Mar     | 16 Mar  | 21 Mar     |
| N. Rough-winged Swallow                                      | 6 Apr    | 3 Apr    | 10 Apr   | 22 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 21 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 2 Apr     | 12 Apr  | 15 Apr     |
| Bank Swallow                                                 | 20 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 28 Apr   | 5 May    | 15 May   | 19 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 13 Apr    | 23 Apr  | 25 Apr     |
| Cliff Swallow                                                | 26 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 15 May   | 26 Apr   | 2 May    | 14 May   | 2 May    | 27 Apr   | 21 Apr    | 29 Apr  | 27 Apr     |
| Barn Swallow                                                 | 29 Mar   | 3 Apr    | 3 Apr    | 13 Apr   | 5 Apr    | 10 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 13 Apr    | 8 Apr   | 11 Apr     |
| House Wren                                                   | 17 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 17 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 23 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 22 Apr   | 19 Apr    | 20 Apr  | 22 Apr     |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet                                         | 7 Apr    | 4 Apr    | 29 Mar   | 8 Apr    | 10 Apr   | 14 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 29 Mar   |          | 12 Mar    | 3 Apr   | 6 Apr      |
| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher                                        | 13 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 2 May    |          | 10 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 2 Apr     | 16 Apr  | 21 Apr     |
| Eastern Bluebird                                             |          |          |          |          | 10 Mar   | 25 Mar   | 22 Mar   |          |          | 6 Mar     | 15 Mar  | 9 Mar      |
| Veery                                                        | 2 May    | 26 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 2 May    | 6 May    | 27 Apr   | 3 May    | 2 May    | 15 Apr    | 29 Apr  | 2 May      |
| Swainson's Thrush                                            | 6 May    | 5 May    | 11 May   |          | 4 May    |          | 27 Apr   | 3 May    | 4 May    | 2 May     | 4 May   | 8 May      |
| Hermit Thrush                                                | 7 Apr    | 9 Apr    |          | 11 Apr   | 17 Mar   | 8 Apr    | 9 Apr    | 10 Apr   |          |           | 5 Apr   | 7 Apr      |
| Wood Thrush                                                  | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 2 May    | 7 May    | 3 May    | 15 Apr   | 26 Apr    | 27 Apr  | 29 Apr     |
| Gray Catbird                                                 | 15 Apr   | 26 Apr   |          | 1 May    | 26 Apr   | 3 May    | 9 May    | 23 Apr   | 14 Mar   | 25 Apr    | 22 Apr  | 25 Apr     |
| Brown Thrasher                                               | 8 Apr    | 16 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 12 Apr   |           | 14 Apr  | 16 Apr     |
| Blue-headed Vireo                                            | 17 Apr   | 17 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 14 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 21 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 12 Apr    | 16 Apr  | 19 Apr     |
| Yellow-throated Vireo                                        | 8 May    | 3 May    | 26 Apr   | 3 May    | 26 Apr   | 3 May    | 25 May   | 5 May    | 26 Apr   | 25 Apr    | 3 May   | 4 May      |
| Warbling Vireo                                               | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 16 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 3 May    | 8 May    | 27 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr    | 27 Apr  | 30 Apr     |
| Red-eyed Vireo                                               | 10 May   | 3 May    | 16 Apr   | 2 May    | 27 Apr   | 10 May   | 16 May   | 23 Apr   | 2 May    | 26 Apr    | 1 May   | 4 May      |
| Dates in bold type are record early arrivals for the Region. |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |           |         |            |

|                                                                     | Spring Arrival Dates |          |          |          | 2008     | Landbirds (cont'd) |          |          |          |           |         |            |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|------------|--|--|
| Species                                                             | Region 1             | Region 2 | Region 3 | Region 4 | Region 5 | Region 6           | Region 7 | Region 8 | Region 9 | Region 10 | Average | 22-Yr. Ave |  |  |
| Tennessee Warbler                                                   | 8 May                | 2 May    | 4 May    | 15 May   | 3 May    | 7 May              | 16 May   | 22 May   | 3 May    | 3 May     | 8 May   | 9 May      |  |  |
| Nashville Warbler                                                   | 25 Apr               | 19 Apr   | 23 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 28 Apr             | 21 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 19 Apr    | 23 Apr  | 29 Apr     |  |  |
| Northern Parula                                                     | 3 May                | 7 May    | 16 Apr   | 14 May   | 3 May    | 8 May              | 10 May   | 3 May    | 2 May    | 12 Apr    | 1 May   | 3 May      |  |  |
| Yellow Warbler                                                      | 25 Apr               | 22 Apr   | 21 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 27 Apr             | 6 May    | 22 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 17 Apr    | 24 Apr  | 27 Apr     |  |  |
| Chestnut-sided Warbler                                              | 1 May                | 2 May    | 26 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 3 May              | 10 May   | 27 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 27 Apr    | 29 Apr  | 3 May      |  |  |
| Magnolia Warbler                                                    | 27 Apr               | 2 May    | 3 May    | 3 May    | 3 May    | 8 May              | 12 May   | 7 May    | 19 Apr   | 25 Apr    | 1 May   | 5 May      |  |  |
| Cape May Warbler                                                    | 30 Apr               | 26 Apr   | 3 May    | 15 May   | 15 May   | 18 May             |          | 17 May   | 7 May    | 24 Apr    | 7 May   | 8 May      |  |  |
| Black-thr. Blue Warbler                                             | 29 Apr               | 26 Apr   | 2 May    | 30 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 3 May              | 5 May    | 3 May    | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr    | 29 Apr  | 1 May      |  |  |
| Black-thr Green Warbler                                             | 23 Apr               | 18 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 26 Apr             | 28 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 19 Apr    | 22 Apr  | 25 Apr     |  |  |
| Blackburnian Warbler                                                | 27 Apr               | 29 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 29 Apr   | 6 May              | 4 May    | 8 May    | 19 Apr   | 26 Apr    | 28 Apr  | 3 May      |  |  |
| Pine Warbler                                                        | 11 Apr               | 15 Apr   | 1 Apr    | 3 Apr    | 6 Apr    | 13 Apr             | 19 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 6 Mar     | 6 Apr   | 11 Apr     |  |  |
| Palm Warbler                                                        | 20 Apr               | 11 Apr   | 14 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 17 Apr   |                    | 25 Apr   | 15 Apr   | 11 Apr   | 23 Mar    | 13 Apr  | 18 Apr     |  |  |
| Bay-breasted Warbler                                                | 3 May                | 2 May    | 8 May    | 14 May   | 14 May   | 18 May             | 21 May   |          | 7 May    | 3 May     | 10 May  | 10 May     |  |  |
| Blackpoll Warbler                                                   | 13 May               | 17 May   | 8 May    | 20 May   | 15 May   | 20 May             | 25 May   | 10 May   | 15 May   | 27 Apr    | 14 May  | 12 May     |  |  |
| Black-and-White Warbler                                             | 25 Apr               | 26 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 27 Apr             | 25 Apr   | 19 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 12 Apr    | 23 Apr  | 25 Apr     |  |  |
| American Redstart                                                   | 3 May                | 2 May    | 3 May    | 3 May    | 3 May    | 29 Apr             | 10 May   | 3 May    | 30 Apr   | 26 Apr    | 2 May   | 3 May      |  |  |
| Ovenbird                                                            | 27 Apr               | 26 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 28 Apr             | 4 May    | 6 May    | 20 Apr   | 16 Apr    | 26 Apr  | 30 Apr     |  |  |
| Northern Waterthrush                                                | 26 Apr               | 19 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 3 May    | 22 Apr   | 30 Apr             | 25 Apr   | 10 Apr   | 6 Apr    | 11 Apr    | 20 Apr  | 26 Apr     |  |  |
| Mourning Warbler                                                    | 13 May               | 5 May    | 12 May   | 19 May   | 14 May   | 15 May             | 11 May   | 31 May   | 3 May    | 22 May    | 14 May  | 15 May     |  |  |
| Common Yellowthroat                                                 | 29 Apr               | 26 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 23 Apr   | 6 May              | 6 May    | 20 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 19 Apr    | 27 Apr  | 30 Apr     |  |  |
| Wilson's Warbler                                                    | 4 May                | 11 May   | 12 May   |          | 8 May    | 17 May             | 21 May   | 10 May   | 14 May   | 24 Apr    | 10 May  | 11 May     |  |  |
| Canada Warbler                                                      | 14 May               | 15 May   | 4 May    | 13 May   | 10 May   | 14 May             | 13 May   | 15 May   | 5 May    | 2 May     | 10 May  | 11 May     |  |  |
| Scarlet Tanager                                                     | 6 May                | 3 May    | 3 May    | 5 May    | 4 May    | 5 May              | 10 May   | 7 May    | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr    | 3 May   | 4 May      |  |  |
| Rose-breasted Grosbeak                                              | 26 Apr               | 28 Apr   | 25 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 1 May              | 5 May    | 27 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 20 Apr    | 26 Apr  | 28 Apr     |  |  |
| Indigo Bunting                                                      | 29 Apr               | 6 May    | 28 Apr   | 30 Apr   | 6 May    | 14 May             | 12 May   | 12 May   | 25 Apr   | 21 Apr    | 3 May   | 4 May      |  |  |
| Eastern Towhee                                                      | 3 Apr                | 7 Apr    | 15 Mar   | 13 Apr   | 20 Mar   | 17 Apr             | 23 Apr   | 13 Apr   |          | 12 Apr    | 6 Apr   | 10 Apr     |  |  |
| Chipping Sparrow                                                    | 9 Apr                | 6 Apr    | 11 Mar   | 10 Apr   | 8 Apr    | 17 Apr             | 10 Apr   | 13 Apr   | 5 Mar    | 2 Apr     | 2 Apr   | 5 Apr      |  |  |
| Vesper Sparrow                                                      | 13 Apr               | 1 Apr    | 3 Apr    | 10 Apr   | 12 Apr   | 30 Mar             | 7 May    | 16 Mar   | 26 Apr   | 10 Apr    | 9 Apr   | 11 Apr     |  |  |
| Savannah Sparrow                                                    | 10 Apr               | 31 Mar   | 2 Apr    | 10 Apr   | 5 Apr    | 6 Apr              | 9 Apr    | 16 Apr   | 16 Mar   | 11 Apr    | 5 Apr   | 8 Apr      |  |  |
| Lincoln's Sparrow                                                   | 25 Apr               | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 7 May    | 3 May    |                    | 6 May    | 8 May    | 28 Apr   | 2 May     | 1 May   | 4 May      |  |  |
| White-crowned Sparrow                                               | 23 Apr               | 26 Apr   |          | 30 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 24 Mar             | 6 May    | 16 Apr   | 13 Apr   |           | 20 Apr  | 25 Apr     |  |  |
| Bobolink                                                            | 1 May                | 26 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 2 May    | 26 Apr   | 1 May              | 8 May    | 5 May    | 2 May    | 2 May     | 1 May   | 2 May      |  |  |
| Baltimore Oriole                                                    | 26 Apr               | 26 Apr   | 26 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 27 Apr             | 29 Apr   | 27 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 18 Apr    | 25 Apr  | 30 Apr     |  |  |
| Overall Average                                                     | 20 Apr               | 18 Apr   | 16 Apr   | 24 Apr   | 20 Apr   | 25 Apr             | 29 Apr   | 23 Apr   | 18 Apr   | 16 Apr    | 21 Apr  | 23 Apr     |  |  |
| Dates in <b>bold type</b> are record early arrivals for the Region. |                      |          |          |          |          |                    |          |          |          |           |         |            |  |  |

## Seasonality and Advance

| <b>Region</b> | <b>Species<br/>Reported</b> | <b>Seasonality<br/>vs 1987-2007</b> | <b>Advance<br/>(Days)</b> | <b>Regional<br/>Record Early</b> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1             | 92                          | -1.04                               | -1.31                     | 5                                |
| 2             | 91                          | -1.24                               | -2.57                     | 2                                |
| 3             | 86                          | -3.64                               | -4.5                      | 8                                |
| 4             | 83                          | -1.87                               | 2.81                      | 4                                |
| 5             | 91                          | -2.25                               | -1.45                     | 8                                |
| 6             | 81                          | -5.67                               | 3.9                       | 10                               |
| 7             | 89                          | -0.82                               | 8.26                      | 4                                |
| 8             | 88                          | -1.32                               | 2.19                      | 4                                |
| 9             | 85                          | -2.54                               | -2.69                     | 8                                |
| 10            | 76                          | -1.84                               | -4.65                     | 5                                |

Possible number of species = 93. Minus implies average arrival in a Region this year was earlier than the Region's 22-year average (Seasonality) or earlier than the average of all Regions (Advance). Given difficulties in estimating arrivals of some species in some Regions, Seasonality for those Regions and Advance for all Regions may mean little.