

REGION 10—MARINE

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Winter in Region 10 was much warmer than usual and mostly dry. At Central Park, the average temperatures in December, January, and February were 5.8°, 6.1° and 5.6° above normal, respectively. While precipitation was at the long-term average for December, both January and February were drier than normal. February recorded less than 50% of the average rainfall. Similar data was recorded at Islip in central Suffolk: temperatures averaged about 5.3° warmer each month, but rainfall was 4.1" below the long term average for the period.

Snow was scarce, with only a single mid-January storm bringing any sizable and long-lasting accumulation. Even that was gone within a week.

The warmer winter pushed phenological clocks forward. As long-time weather-watcher Bob Kurtz put it, “Red-eared Sliders, Spring Peepers, flying insects, singing Fox Sparrow and some cherry blossoms all celebrated the start of spring on January 31st!”

The relative warmth appeared to be responsible for many unusual winter records of species that normally would have perished or moved south. This was epitomized by the attempted overwintering of three **Rufous Hummingbirds** and the occurrence of 16 species of warblers in the Region. The hummingbirds were aided by feeders, as was at least one of the warblers. The first, in Noyac, continued from the fall season and remained until 17 December, when it disappeared abruptly after the formula for its food source changed. The homeowner was convinced to give it protein-rich food. The bird tested the food from all four portals at the feeder and promptly disappeared. The second occurred in Georgica, East Hampton, at a feeder where Rufous Hummingbirds have occurred on two prior winters. This one hung on until 1 February after which it was not seen. The third was discovered at AMNH where it was feeding on flowers of the exotic *Mahonia bealei*. A feeder was also placed in the area, and the bird made it through the period to become the first example of the species successfully overwintering in New York. The presumptuously misguided intentions of wildlife “rehabilitators” who unsuccessfully sought to capture and “save” the bird soon after it was discovered would have precluded this milestone event.

The presence of warblers, some of which should have been in the tropics, was particularly impressive. I have included all reports of most species below to provide documentation of the event. Most of the individuals were encountered in December, but a few were not discovered until January or February. A few survived to the end of the season. The species typically recorded in winter were seen in large numbers. Seventeen Yellow-breasted Chats, 17 Pine Warblers, and nine Common Yellowthroats were tallied. At least 26 Orange-crowned Warblers were present, with several surviving through February. Less common, but seen somewhat regularly in recent years, were eight Nashville Warblers, with three being discovered in January, and three Ovenbirds. A Prairie Warbler lingered in Central Park until 2 December. Remarkably, a male Black-throated Blue Warbler discovered 17 December at a Napeague feeder was still surviving on peanut butter at the end of the period. Other surprises included a Black-and-white Warbler and an American Redstart found at the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens on 13 December; a Yellow Warbler photographed in Brooklyn on 29 December; a Black-throated Green Warbler that spent a week in Inwood Hill Park beginning on 31 December; and a Northern Parula discovered on Staten Island on 28 February, which begged the question of where it had spent the winter. Two other very rare western warblers are discussed below.

Other lingering species seen during the period included Snowy Egret, Green Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Osprey, Broad-winged Hawk, Semipalmated and Piping plovers, American Avocet, Marbled Godwit, Forster's

Tern, many House Wrens, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Vesper Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, and Baltimore Oriole.

A good number of rarities were found this season. **Pink-footed Goose**, which was only added to the New York list in 2007, was reported twice this winter and seems to be becoming more regular in the Region. A **Ross's Goose** found during the fall in Brooklyn continued until 4 December. Two "**Black**" **Brant** were reported, one from Nassau and the other from Brooklyn. A **Barnacle Goose** appeared for eight days in Eastport allowing many people to view it. After several years of being more regular in the Region, only one **Barrow's Goldeneye**, at JBWR, was regularly seen. A female found off City Island, Bronx, was seen once and not thereafter. The **Eared Grebe** found during the fall at JBWR continued until 29 January. Four **Northern Fulmars** seen on a 30 December pelagic trip off Jones Beach were the only report.

A **Gyr Falcon** just north of Jones Beach was photographed by an astonished Carl Safina and then vanished. An adult **Broad-winged Hawk** on the Staten Island Christmas Count should be documented with NYSARC. A **Black Rail** appeared on the Captree Christmas Count. Several reports over the last decade suggest that this species may skulk into the winter in the Region on a regular basis. **American Avocets** appeared in two different locations in Brooklyn and Queens on 3 December; one remained until 10 December. A **Red Phalarope** in the middle of Red Hook, Brooklyn on 17 December must have been a mind-blower for its hard-working discoverers but was a one-day-wonder. **Common Murres** were reported on four different pelagic trips, continuing to add data establishing it as a common wintering resident just offshore. Two reports from the island itself are probably average for recent winters. A lone **Black Guillemot** was reported from Montauk Village on 17 December. Eleven **Atlantic Puffins** were seen 30 December on a pelagic trip off Jones Beach.

A **White-winged Dove** appeared on Staten Island 11-19 February reminding the rest of us of how lottery-like rare birds are at feeders. A **Barred Owl** wintered in Central Park. A Regionally-rare **Pileated Woodpecker** was photographed at Piping Rock Golf Course in Matinecock on 31 December much to the surprise of the birders who were there looking for the **Painted Bunting** present from 17 December-18 January. Pre-Christmas bird count scouting produced a **Sedge Wren** at Orient Beach SP and a **Mountain Bluebird** in Calverton. Both birds were seen by most birders who went to look for them in the weeks following their discovery.

Perhaps the highlight of the season was New York's first record for **Grace's Warbler**, discovered by wunderkinds Andrew Baksh and Doug Gochfeld at Point Lookout during the Southern Nassau CBC on 1 January. Thanks to cell phones and social media word spread quickly and more than 100 people observed the bird within a few hours of its being discovered. It was seen briefly once after a Merlin nearly decapitated it on 3 January. An "**Audubon's**" **Yellow-rumped Warbler** wintered at Sunken Meadow SP from 11 January to 27 February.

A **Clay-colored Sparrow** in Amagansett from 17 December to 3 January continued a trend of this species being seen later in the year. A **Lark Sparrow**

suddenly appeared at a Montauk feeder in early February and disappeared two days later. An **“Oregon” Dark-eyed Junco** was photographed at a Staten Island feeder in January.

The mild winter is presumably implicated in the large number of species found during the period: 218 plus four additional forms, at least three hybrids, and three exotics. Despite the excellent tally, Tundra Swan, Willet, N. Saw Whet Owl, and Nelson’s Sparrow were notable in their absence.

Waterfowl numbers were again poor this season, continuing the recent trend. Greater White-fronted Goose, Cackling Goose, Ring-necked Duck, and Hooded Merganser were the only species whose numbers in the Region appear to be increasing. Highest counts for puddle and bay ducks were notably low. Northern Pintail was not encountered in high numbers except at Tobay Pond. Canvasback has become so scarce that rarely were more than 10-20 reported from a location. Greater Scaup high counts numbered six thousand, not the tens of thousands that were commonplace even ten years ago. Sea duck numbers, especially Common Eiders and all three scoters, were good throughout the Region and not just at Montauk Point. A pair of Trumpeter Swans returned again to a lake in Yaphank for the fourth winter in a row. Ten or more Cackling Geese were reported. Four Eurasian Wigeon and two “Eurasian” Teal were found. King Eiders were scarce including at Montauk.

Gallinaceous birds, except the Wild Turkey, continued to decline. Only one report of N. Bobwhite was received. Loons and grebes were found in good numbers, and Red-necked Grebes seemed easier to find throughout the area as compared with recent years, with good numbers in places like Jamaica Bay. Two Brown Pelicans were found in Nassau during December continuing a trend of recent years. Great Egrets survived the period at several localities.

Black Vulture continued to be regularly seen in the area, particularly on Staten Island. Turkey Vultures have become so regular that they are now under-reported. Bald Eagle numbers held steady this winter with more than 20 reports, many pertaining to adult birds. Similarly Red-shouldered Hawk continues to increase as a wintering species. Rough-legged Hawks were scarce, while American Kestrel continues its precipitous decline, only being regular in Manhattan, Floyd Bennett Field, and in open space from Calverton to Riverhead. While Merlins seemed slightly less common than in recent winters, Peregrine Falcons continue to be seen regularly throughout the Region.

A Semipalmated Plover and Piping Plover overwintered at Jones Inlet, as did American Oystercatcher. Counts of Greater Yellowlegs seemed to be higher than normal on several Christmas Counts. A Marbled Godwit found in Brooklyn on 16 December could not be reproduced the next day on the Christmas Count. Red Knots were scarce again this winter, the only reports from Jones Beach and Moriches Bay. A few Western Sandpipers were spotted in January from Tobay and Jones Inlet.

Little and Black-headed Gulls were scarce. Good numbers of Lesser Black-backed, Iceland, and Glaucous Gulls were uncovered. Laughing Gulls did their annual disappearing act just before Christmas Count season, but one was found on 1 January. Other late species included a Forster’s Tern at Point Lookout on

11 December and 2 Parasitic Jaegers at Fort Tilden on 9 December. A smattering of single Dovkies was reported onshore, while pelagic trips only managed small numbers. Razorbills appeared early at Montauk and then spread themselves throughout the Region in unprecedented numbers. They were reported from every county except New York.

About five Snowy Owls were reported along Long Island's South shore. Much more surprising was a one-day appearance at Pelham Bay Park. Photographs of a particularly stunning bleached-white individual allowed it to be followed as it moved from Fire Island to Jones Beach West End to Breezy Pt. during the course of the winter. Short-eared Owl was difficult to find, and all seven reported did not stay long at one place.

Three Northern Shrikes were reported, one of which was fairly cooperative at Floyd Bennett Field. Common Ravens were reported from every county except Brooklyn and were nesting in the Bronx by season's end. A report of Indigo Bunting in Central Park was unfortunately not well-documented. Three Lincoln's Sparrows and four Dickcissels were recorded during the period. December produced 10 reports of Baltimore Oriole, but an adult male found at Montauk in late February was completely surprising. The few reports of Purple Finch all occurred before mid-December. A Common Redpoll, several Pine Siskins, and a White-winged Crossbill seen between 24 January and 1 February aroused hopes for a late-season winter finch flight that never materialized. Several other passerines were notably less common than usual this winter including Red-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, American Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Lapland Longspur, and Snow Bunting.

Two apparently uncommon hybrid geese were reported during the season. Steve Walter photographed an apparent Brant x Cackling Goose at Flushing Meadow on 23 December, while Doug Gochfeld documented a Brant x Snow Goose at Floyd Bennett Field on 5 January.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AMNH – American Museum of Natural History, NEWY; BLSP – Belmont Lake SP, SUFF; BBYC – Bell Port Bay Yacht Club, SUFF; BPt – Breezy Point, QUEE; BBG – Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, KING; BP – Bryant P NEWY; CSP – Caumsett SP, SUFF; COR – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; CP – Central P, NEWY; FBF – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; HP – Hook Pd, East Hampton SUFF; JBWR – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE-KING; JBWE – Jones Beach West End, NASS; KP – Kissena P, QUEE; LMI – Lake Montauk Inlet & vic; Marra – Marratooka L, Mattituck, SUFF; MiPd – Miller’s Pd, Smithtown, SUFF; MP – Montauk Pt, SUFF; NYBG – New York Botanical Gardens, BRON; PBP – Pelham Bay P, BRON; PRGC – Piping Rock Golf Club, Matinecock, NASS; POJB – Pelagic trip off Jones Beach; PL – Point Lookout, NASS; PPK – Prospect P, KING; RSP – Riverside P, NEWY; Shinn – Shinnecock Bay & Inlet; SPCP – Smith Point CP, SUFF; SMSP – Sunken Meadow SP, SUFF. For other locations mentioned more than once below, the county is given in the first citation but not thereafter.

Christmas Bird Counts referred to below: BKCC – Brooklyn; CPCC – Captree; CSCC – Central Suffolk; MKCC – Montauk; NNCC – Northern Nassau; ORCC – Orient; QUCC – Queens; QWCC – Quogue Watermill; SACC – Sagaponack; SNCC – Southern Nassau.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: Alley Park QUEE 25 Jan (ABk); Holtsville SUFF 21-22 Feb (DR); *intro*.

Greater White-fronted Goose: 3 South Fork SUFF, mainly HP and Deep Hollow, Montauk 1 Dec-11 Feb; 1 NW Suffolk, seen from CSP to Northport 13 Dec-15 Jan (G. Straus, *et al*); ad van Cortlandt P BRON continuing thru 25 Feb; Gerry Park, Roslyn NASS 17 Dec-22 Jan (J. Field); Marra 24 Dec (JSp); Stony Brook Mill Pd 27 Dec; Holtsville 8 Jan (D. LaMagna).

Snow Goose: 700 BKCC 17 Dec.

ROSS’S GOOSE: FBF & Drier Offerman Pk KING thru 4 Dec.

Brant: 23,699 BKCC 17 Dec; 32,225 SNCC 1 Jan; 8500 Captree SP 5 Feb (P JL, SSM).

“Black” Brant: Jones Inlet NASS 28 Jan (PAG, AnW, *et al*); FBF 5 Jan (DG).

BARNACLE GOOSE: Eastport SUFF 7-14 Jan (PP, *et al*), *intro*.

Cackling Goose: 1 HP 4 Dec (SSM, P JL); Bridgehampton to Watermill SUFF 11-24 Dec (K&BRu); max 3 on SACC 18 Dec; NNCBC 17 Dec; BLSP 18 Dec (BB); Connetquot SUFF 18 Dec; Seatuck SUFF 18 Dec; 2 CSP 22 Dec-19 Jan (R. Rossett); MiPd 23 Dec (BBk); Marra 16 Jan; 2 Mecox SUFF 28 Jan (SSM, P JL).

Tundra Swan: none.

Trumpeter Swan: 2 Yaphank 23 Dec-8 Jan (RRK), *intro*.

Eurasian Wigeon: Tottenville RICH 3 Dec-4 Feb (SIW); Gardiner’s I SUFF 17 Dec; JBWR

27 Dec-29 Jan (D. Rankin *et al*); FBF 4-21 Feb (RJ).

Blue-winged Teal: QWCC 17 Dec; SNCC 1 Jan; 2 Mill Pd Bellmore NASS 10 Feb (DG).

N. Shoveler: max 434 SNCC 1 Jan.

N. Pintail: max 145 SNCC 1 Jan, mostly at Tobay Pd.

Green-winged Teal: max 515 SNCC 1 Jan.

“EURASIAN” GREEN-WINGED TEAL: JBWR 29 Jan (DJF); Smith Pd, Rockville Center NASS 4-25 Feb (S. Schellenger).

Canvasback: widespread but in small numbers; rarely more than 10 seen at a location, *intro*.

Redhead: max 75 CPCC 18 Dec; 65 Capri Lk West Islip SUFF 7 Jan (RRK).

Ring-necked Duck: 406 MiPd 27 Feb (J. Turner).

Greater Scaup: 5000+ Cold Spring Harbor SUFF 5 Jan (DR); 6000 Dead Horse Bay KING 14 Feb; small numbers for max counts, *intro*.

Lesser Scaup: 965 Massapequa Lk NASS 26 Feb (SA).

King Eider: f Glen Cove NASS 10 Dec thru (SA); m MP 17 Dec (TWB); m Gardiner’s I 17 Dec; m Mecox 18 Dec (RRV, T. Brown); f MP 1-6 Jan (AC, *et al*); f JBWE 1 Jan (KF, *et al*), *intro*.

Com. Eider: max 1000 MP 15 Jan; 200 Jones Inlet 26 Jan (SS, JG); 250 POJB 28 Jan (PAG, *et al*).

Harlequin Duck: arr Jones Inlet/PL 4 Dec (SA), 3 by 26 Dec cont until 6 on 19 Feb (BB) & 5 thru; imm m Shinn 5-30 Dec (B. Wilson); Orient

Pt SUFF 31 Dec (RRK); m Fort Salonga SUFF 6 Jan (DR); m Glen Cove 3 Feb (MN).

Long-tailed Duck: max 1184 SNCC 1 Jan.

Barrow's Goldeneye: JBWR 3 Dec thru (L. Swenson); f City Island BRON 26 Dec (SW), *intro*.

Com. Merganser: max 27 Dec SMCC, low max count.

Ruddy Duck: 3382 BKCC 17 Dec.

N. Bobwhite: Rocky Point SUFF 25 Jan (V. Eletto), only report, *intro*.

Wild Turkey: large numbers noted in NASS and SUFF.

Red-throated Loon: max 724 Springs to Montauk SUFF 4 Dec (AnW).

Horned Grebe: max 128 Springs to Montauk 4 Dec (AnW).

Red-necked Grebe: widespread: Fort Pond Bay Montauk & vic 3 Dec-18 Feb, max 7 on 28 Jan (SSM, PJJ); Jamaica Bay 9 Dec-18 Feb, max 7 on 8 Jan (TWB, GB) & 8 on 18 Feb (PJ), *intro*.

Eared Grebe: JBWR thru 29 Jan.

N. Fulmar: 4 POJB 30 Dec (RF, RB).

Brown Pelican: Sands Point NASS 12 Dec (G. Quinn); imm Lido Blvd NASS 26 Dec (A. & L. Antony, M. Goldstein), *intro*.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 147 SNCC 1 Jan.

Am. Bittern: small numbers along south shore, mainly Dec & Jan; Sunken Meadow SP 27 Dec SMCC; max 3 SPCP 27 Dec (DG, SBI, SB, DH).

Great Egret: successfully overwintered at sev areas on LI including Staten I, Jones Beach, Shinn, SMSP; max 22 SMCC 27 Dec; 18 SMSP 6 Feb (K&SF); 20 SNCC 1 Jan.

Snowy Egret: 3 QUCC 18 Dec.

Green Heron: PPK 17 Dec-1 Jan; Mt Sinai 27 Dec.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: SNCC 1 Jan.

Black Vulture: 2 Bloomingdale Pk RICH (J. Stetson), perhaps same two seen 3 Jan & 28 Feb; Eastport 27 Dec (fide ES); NYBG 18 Feb (DB); PPK 25 Jan (J. Ascher), *intro*.

Turkey Vulture: 8 rep Dec; 2 rep Jan; 8 rep Feb; max 10 Fresh Kills RICH 2 Dec (MSP); 6 NYBG 17 Dec (DB); 7 NNCC 17 Dec; 10 SICC 17 Dec.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: Dreier-Offerman P KING 2 Dec (Alex Wilson).

Bald Eagle: more than 20 reports; reported from all counties; max 4 Gardiner's I. 17 Dec, *intro*.

N. Goshawk: Mt Loretto RICH 10 Dec (H. Fischer); NYBG 17 Dec (DB).

Red-shouldered Hawk: 3 Gravesend Bay, KING 1 Dec (DG); Camp Hero St Pk, Montauk

18 Dec (JCJr); ad Northville SUFF 1 Jan & 29 Feb (MLL); Calverton 11 Jan (PP); Rosedale QUEE 18 Jan (PSc); COR 25 Jan (ACi); ad Massapequa 3 Feb (K&SF); FBF 18 Feb (PJ), *intro*.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: ad Staten I. 17 Dec (SIW, ACi, D. Eib, MSP), *intro*.

Rough-legged Hawk: 5 Gardiner's I. 17 Dec; Plum Island SUFF 31 Dec (MLL); Poquott SUFF 15 Jan (S. & M. Brody); PBP 12 Feb (M. Carney); scarce.

Am. Kestrel: uncommon; f Shinn 3 Dec (CSt); BP 15 Dec (BCa); COR late Dec-17 Jan (ACi); up to 3 FBF 18 Dec-29 Feb; 2 Calverton 29 Dec-5 Jan (L. Ormand); Hither Hills SP SUFF 7 Jan (RRK); Shoreham sod fields SUFF 15 Jan (RRK); Riverhead sod fields 13 Feb (PD); Upper West Side NEWY 16 Feb (AP); *intro*.

Merlin: small numbers reported throughout Region.

GYRFALCON: gray morph Wantagh Pkwy, Jones Beach 14 Jan (C. Safina, P. Paladines, ph), *intro*.

Peregrine Falcon: good numbers on Christmas Bird Counts and thru.

BLACK RAIL: CPCC 18 Dec (J. Quinlan).

Clapper Rail: very few reports.

Am. Coot: max 280 Patchogue L. 8 Jan (RRK).

Semipalmated Plover: PL/JBWE 15 Jan-27 Feb (A. Guthrie, TWB, GB), *intro*.

Piping Plover: PL/JBWE 4 Dec, 15 Jan-27 Feb (A. Guthrie, TWB, GB), *intro*.

Am. Oystercatcher: Brooklyn 16 Dec; 61 SNCC 1 Jan, mostly from Jones Inlet; 31 JBWE 10 Feb (DG); Great Kills RICH 17 Feb (CB), arr?, *intro*.

Am. Avocet: Coney I. KING 3-10 Dec (HL, RJ); ad f JBWR 3-4 Dec (L. Spitalnik, JK, N. Souirgi), *intro*.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 16 BKCC 17 Dec; 13 QWCC 17 Dec; 20 SNCC 1 Jan; also Accabonac SUFF 12 Feb (K&BRu), *intro*.

Willet: none.

Marbled Godwit: FBF 16 Dec (CF, SB), *intro*.

Red Knot: 40 JBWE 4 Dec; 9 Cupsogue Beach Co Pk SUFF 3 Dec (RRK); 12 CSCC 27 Dec; SNCC 1 Jan; 4 JBWE 10 Feb (DG), *intro*.

Western Sandpiper: JBWE 4 Dec; 3 Tobay Pond 1 Jan (HDM, TWB, *et al*); 2 JBWE 23 Jan (K&SF).

Purple Sandpiper: fairly common and widespread, but no large groups.

Dunlin: max 4642 SNCC 1 Jan; 3200 JBWE 28 Jan (K&SF).

Long-billed Dowitcher: 2 JBWE 9-14 Dec (RJK); HP 18 Dec (A. Auerbach, *et al*); 8 SNCC 1 Jan; 2 JBWE 15 Feb (KF).

Wilson's Snipe: max 7 Georgica SUFF 5 Jan (HDM); 7 Moriches SUFF 5 Feb (PP).

Am. Woodcock: BP 6 Jan; displaying by early Feb.

RED PHALAROPE: Red Hook KING 17 Dec (JZ, *et al*), *intro*.

Black-legged Kittiwake: 127 SPCP 27 Dec (DG, SBI, SB, DH); 40 MP 11 Jan (PMP); 29 POJB 28 Jan (PAG, AnW, *et al*).

Black-headed Gull: ad Owl's Head Treatment Plant KING 23 Dec-11 Feb (TWB, GB); Veteran's Memorial P KING 17-28 Jan (SBI), same ind.

Little Gull: ad PL 10 Dec (TWB, GB); imm Jones Inlet 17 Jan (KF).

Laughing Gull: SNCC 1 Jan.

Iceland Gull: only reported on Long Island, at least 15 ind.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: many through Region; max 5 BBYC 1 Feb (MM).

Glaucous Gull: two 1st y, one 2nd y southwest Brooklyn/FBF/BP thru 10 Feb; Jones Beach 4 Dec (AG); 2 SNCC 1 Jan; imm Sagaponack SUFF 1 Jan (AC); 1st y BBYC1 Feb thru (MM), 2 on 12 Feb (JGI).

"Nelson's" Gull: Calverton 27 Dec (DG, SBI, SB, DH).

Forster's Tern: PL 11 Dec (TWB, GB).

Parasitic Jaeger: 2 Ft. Tilden 9 Dec (SBI).

Dovekie: MP 21 Dec-3 Jan (R&LF, JD); 35 POJB 30 Dec (RF, RB); 6 POJB 8 Jan (PAG); injured Bush Terminal Pier P 13 Jan (fide PD, ph), may be 2nd county record; 12 POJB 28 Jan (PAG, AnW); Culloden Pt Montauk 28 Jan (SSM, PJL); MP 28 Jan (SSM, PJL).

COMMON MURRE: MP 30 Dec (SB, Nick Sly); 3 POJB 30 Dec (RF, RB); 4 POJB 8 Jan (PAG); Massapequa 25 Jan; 86 POJB 28 Jan (PAG, *et al*); Ocean off Queens 5 Feb (AG, *et al*), *intro*.

Razorbill: reported in all counties except New York on both north and south shores of LI; 125 Springs to Montauk, SUFF 4 Dec (AnW); 60 MP 4 Dec (HM, PMP), subsequent numbers at MP mid-Jan thru lower than recent years with no reports higher than 25; 5 NNCBC 17 Dec; City Island 26 Dec (SW); 14 Old Field Pt SUFF 27 Dec; 81 SPCP 27 Dec (DG, SBI, SB, DH); 165 MP 8 Jan; 45 Culloden Pt (K&SF); 3 Lemon Creek Pier RICH 12 Jan (ACi); 100+ JBWE 26 Jan (SS, JG); 481 POJB 28 Jan (PAG, *et al*); PBP 6-19 Feb (RA), 2 on 12 Feb; 53 JBWE 10 Feb (DG); 3 Brooklyn 11 Feb (HL & RJ).

Black Guillemot: Montauk 17 Dec (SSM).

ATLANTIC PUFFIN: 11 POJB 30 Dec (RF, RB).

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: Staten Island 11 Feb thru (ACi).

Monk Parakeet: 53 BKCC 17 Dec; 14 QUCC 18 Dec; 2 CPCC 18 Dec; 24 SNCC 1 Jan; 5 Massapequa 7 Feb (DK).

Barn Owl: JBWR 4 Dec (SA), 10 Jan (K&SF) & 26 Feb; 3 SNCC 1 Jan.

Great Horned Owl: reported from all counties; may be nesting in several NYC parks.

Snowy Owl: Shinn 3 Dec-8 Jan (K&BRu); Hicks Island, Napeague SUFF thru 3 Dec, 28 Jan thru; PBP 3 Dec (DB, *et al*); JBWE 4 Dec (SA); SPCP 14-29 Dec (K. Connolly); Fire Island 18 Dec; distinctive, very white ind later seen at JBWE 1-25 Jan & BPt 4-5 Feb; imm Atlantic Beach NASS 16 Jan (SA); 2 BPt 4 Feb (A. Midland), one thru 15 Feb, *intro*.

Barred Owl: CP 23 Dec-17 Jan.

Long-eared Owl: BKCC 17 Dec; 3 Bridgehampton 18 Dec (RR*Vet al*); PBP 4-31 Jan (JG, SS).

Short-eared Owl: MKCC 17 Dec; SICC 17 Dec; Cedar Beach SUFF 18 Dec (RJK); Wainscott SUFF 18 Dec (JCJr, R. McGrath, R. Gostic); Shinn 24 Dec-2 Jan (RRK); FBF 29 Dec (JZ, A. Baratz); Brookfield Dump & vic RICH 19-20 Feb (M. Shanley).

N. Saw-whet Owl: none.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: Noyac SUFF 1-17 Dec (C. Gaeckle, HDM, J. Shemilt); Georgica 1 Dec-1 Feb (J. Ross, J. Shemilt, *et al*); AMNH 14 Dec thru (N. Burg), feeding on *Mahonia bealei*, *intro*.

Red-headed Woodpecker: COR 13-15 Dec (ACi); CP 22 Dec-28 Feb; imm Baiting Hollow SUFF 28 Nov-22 Jan (J. Levin).

PILEATED WOODPECKER: PRGC 31 Jan (CF, SA, BC, MN), *intro*.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

E. Phoebe: CP 12 Dec thru (AP); Bridgehampton thru; CSCC 27 Dec; Calverton 11 Jan (RB & RF); van Cortlandt Pk 10-11 Feb (TF).

N. Shrike: FBF 4 Dec thru (JGI); Cedar Beach 6 Dec (KF); SICC 17 Dec; Calverton 28 Dec-8 Jan (ES, CF, S. Sime).

Fish Crow: max 460 CPCC 18 Dec.

COMMON RAVEN: 2 NNCBC 17 Dec; 2 Upper West Side, Manhattan 22 Dec-21 Jan; 2 JBWE 22 Dec (K&SF); 2 Hampton Bays SUFF 2 Jan-24 Feb; 2 COR 28 Jan-2 Feb (ACi); Rocky Pt 4 Feb (J. Osterlund); PBP 10 Feb-thru (RA), nest built by 24 Feb; Hicksville NASS 26 Feb (K. O'Leary); Mill Pond Bellmore 27 Feb (SS); *intro*.

Tree Swallow: 1 BKCC 17 Dec; 3 JBWE 27 Feb (K&SF), possibly early migrants.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: scarce.
House Wren: KP 10 Dec; 3 NNCBC 17 Dec; SICC 17 Dec; Seatuck 18 Dec; Watermill 18 Dec; Weld Sanctuary SUFF 23-27 Dec (BBk); Plum Island 31 Dec (MLL).
SEDGE WREN: Orient Beach SP 31 Dec-11 Jan (S. Biasetti, A. Virgin).
Marsh Wren: several in Dec; max 3 Nissequoque R 27 Dec; 3 ORCC 31 Dec; 2 JBWR 28 Jan (R. Campos).
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Coney I. Creek KING 4 Dec (PD, M. Yuan, C. Eliot).
E. Bluebird: max 12 CSP 4 Dec (SA).
MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD: Hulse Landing Rd Calverton SUFF 26 Dec-10 Jan (D. Teta, L. Swenson), *intro*.
Am. Robin: 2401 HP 17 Dec (HDMet *al*), going to roost, with 1000+ on 14 Jan (AnW).
Am. Pipit: max 14 Fort Tilden, QUEE 1 Dec (DG); scarce.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: JBWE 22-23 Jan (BB); FBF 18-19 Jan (RJ, *et al*).
Ovenbird: BP cont with 2 noted 12 Dec-29 Dec (BCa), & 1 thru 11 Jan; RSP 1 Dec (fide TF).
Black-and-white Warbler: BBG 13 Dec-18 Jan (E. Taylor); ORCC 31 Dec.
Orange-crowned Warbler: thru 18 Jan PPK; Canarsie Beach Pk, KING 1 Dec (DG); CP 1 Dec-3 Jan (fide TF); Hook Pond 4 Dec (SSM, PJJ); Babylon SUFF 6 Dec (K&SF); 2 Cedar Beach 10 Dec (JGI); 3 KP 10 Dec, with 2 on 6 Jan, and 1 thru 25 Feb; Swindler Cove Pk NEWY 10 Dec-9 Jan (BCa), 2 on 6-8 Jan (JD); NNCBC 17 Dec; 5 QUCC 17 Dec; 2 SACC 18 Dec; Ft Tryon Pk NEWY 18 Dec (TF, C. Dubin); PBP 26 Dec (SW); SPCP 27 Dec (DG, SBL, SB, DH), 1 of 3 on CSCC; SNCC 1 Jan; Shinn 5 Jan; Jones Beach St Pk 15 Jan; Patchogue Lk SUFF 27-28 Feb (DG, SA), *intro*.
Nashville Warbler: Canarsie Beach Pk 1 Dec (DG); RSP 1 Dec (fide TF); KP 10-18 Dec; Ft Tryon Pk 18 Dec (TF, C. Dubin, A. Messer); MiPd 27 Dec; Inwood Hill Pk 6-7 Jan (C. Wilkinson, *et al*); Bronx Zoo 17 Jan (T. Olson); Alley Pond Park 26-28 Jan (E. Miller), *intro*.
Com. Yellowthroat: RSP 1 Dec (fide TF); Peter's Pond, Bridgehampton SUFF 4 Dec (SM, PJJ); 50th st & 6th Ave NEWY 12 Dec (BCa), 2 on 14 Dec (TF); Highline (mid 20s) NEWY 14 Dec (G. Willow); SICC 17 Dec; Sagaponack SUFF 18 Dec (AnW); 2 Bryant Park 18-25 Dec (A. Bondi), 1 to 3 Jan; SNCC 1 Jan; BPt 23 Feb (DG, *et al*).

Am. Redstart: BBG 13-16 Dec (RB).
N. Parula: Silver Lake RICH 28 Feb (CB) thru.
Yellow Warbler: Marine Park KING 29 Dec (P. Colen, ph), *intro*.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: Lazy Point Napeague 17 Dec (L. Badkin, ph) thru, *intro*.
Palm Warbler: >10 rep Dec, but only 3 thereafter; JBWE 20 Jan (AC); Alley Pond Park 25 Jan (ABk); Owl's Head Wasterwater Treatment Plant KING 20 Feb (JGI).
Pine Warbler: CSP 4 Dec (SA); NNCBC 17 Dec; Fire Island SUFF 18 Dec; 2 SACC 18 Dec; SMSP 27 Dec; 3 CSCC 27 Dec; ORCC 31 Dec; SNCC 1 Jan; Calverton 7 Jan (DR); East Northport SUFF 13 Jan thru (V. Schiappa); 1 Quogue Ref SUFF 21 Jan, 2 on 22 Jan (PP, KF); COR 21 Feb thru (ACi); Patchogue Lk SUFF 27-28 Feb (DG, SA).
Yellow-rumped "Audubon's" Warbler: SMSP 11 Jan-27 Feb (SSM, PJJ), *intro*.
Prairie Warbler: CP 1-2 Dec (fide TF).
GRACE'S WARBLER: PL 1-4 Jan (DG, ABk), first State record when accepted by NYSARC, *intro*.
Black-throated Green Warbler: Inwood Hill Pk 31 Dec-6 Jan (G. Savaresse).
Yellow-breasted Chat: BP thru 16 Jan, with 2 from 3 Dec-2 Jan (B. Wilson), 1 found dead on 3 Jan (SB, N. Sly); Gardiner Park, W. Bayshore SUFF 3 Dec (SSM); East Mecox thru 11 Dec (SSM, PJJ); Peter's Pond, Bridgehampton 4 Dec (SSM); MP 12 Dec (MH, ES), 18 Feb; Amagansett 17 Dec; 2 QWCC 17 Dec; 4 SACC 18 Dec; ORCC 31 Dec; Orient Pt 6 Jan (MH, ES); Fort Wadsworth RICH 16 Jan (CB); Union Sq Pk NEWY 7 Jan thru (JD); Montauk SUFF 3 Feb (VB); Hempstead Lk St Pk NASS 14 Feb thru (B. Anderson).

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Chipping Sparrow: many in Dec and early Jan; Rocky Point 18 Feb (RRK).
Clay-colored Sparrow: Amagansett 17 Dec-3 Jan (HDM, *et al*), *intro*.
Vesper Sparrow: Fire Island 18 Dec; CSP 3 Feb (DK).
Lark Sparrow: Montauk 5-7 Feb (J. Griswold, *et al*).
"Ipswich" Savannah Sparrow: max 4 SPCP 27 Dec (DG, SBL, SB, DH).
Nelson's Sparrow: none.
Saltmarsh Sparrow: BKCC 17 Dec; Shinn 11 Feb (PD, *et al*).
Seaside Sparrow: 2 Shinn 4 Dec; BKCC 17 Dec; Heckscher St P SUFF 18 Dec; SPCP 27 Dec (DG, SBL, SB, DH).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Staten Island 3 Dec (SIW); BP thru 5 Jan (BCa); PRGC 17 Dec-5 Feb (BC).
White-crowned Sparrow: widely scattered, small numbers; Union Sq P 4 Jan-18 Feb (P PSc).

Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco: Staten Island 21 Jan thru (L. Manne, RRV, ph).

Indigo Bunting: CP 29 Dec (fide TF).

PAINTED BUNTING: f PRGC 17 Dec-18 Jan (BC).

Dickcissel: Inwood Hill Pk 18 Dec-25 Jan (JK); Brentwood 25 Dec (JGI); Staten Island 13 Dec thru (L. Manne, RRV); imm f Mastic Beach 22 Jan (S. Swain, CSt).

Rusty Blackbird: max 28 Arshamomaque Pres SUFF 15 Jan (RRK); 28 NYBG 12 Feb (DB).

Com. Grackle: max 1600 Southold SUFF 23 Dec (JSp).

Boat-tailed Grackle: 119 SNCC 1 Jan, of which 92 Tobay Sanctuary NASS (HDM).

Baltimore Oriole: CP 1-28 Dec (fide TF); MP 4 Dec (HM, PMP); KP 10 Dec; BBG 14 Dec (O. Tilevitz), 2 BKCC 17 Dec; Amagansett 17 Dec (HDM); 2 QUCC 18 Dec; SMSP 21 Dec (BBk); Montauk 20-22 Feb (fide VB, ph).

Purple Finch: 3 Fort Tilden 1 Dec (DG); 10 QWCC 17 Dec; NNCC 17 Dec.

White-winged Crossbill: Prospect Pk KING 1 Feb (A. Welz).

Com. Redpoll: Tiana Beach 24 Jan (G. Tudor).

Pine Siskin: 15 Staten Island 2 Dec (ACi); 3 SPCP 27 Dec (fide DG); MP 29 Jan (SSM, PJL); CP 29 Jan (PA, PSc).

Am. Goldfinch: max 135 Fort Tilden 1 Dec (DG).

EXOTICS

Chukar: Flushing Meadow Park 3 Dec (JK, N. Souirgi).

Mitred Parakeet: 10 FP 5 Dec (J. Loscalzo, MN); 11 Kew Gardens QUEE 13 Dec (fide SA).

European Goldfinch: CSP 2-4 Dec (K&SF).

ADDENDA

Double-crested Cormorant: 4290 Georgica to Mecox 30 Oct (HDM).

Long-billed Dowitcher: Scuttlehole Rd, Bridgehampton 3 Nov (HDM).

Hooded Warbler: m Ross School, East Hampton SUFF 9 Oct (HDM).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Southampton Village SUFF 17 Oct (B. Wilson).





This Rufous Hummingbird persisted through the winter in the gardens of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, *New York*. Photograph © Peter Post, 22 Dec 2011. See pp. 185- 194.