

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The fall 2012 season was somewhat warmer and drier than normal following a warm, dry summer. In September a total of 3.11" of rain fell in Syracuse, which is 0.58" less than normal. Regions to the east of Syracuse received noticeably less precipitation during September. In October the average temperature in Syracuse was 62.6° F, which is 2.6° above normal, and rainfall was approximately one half inch below normal. November broke the warming trend with an average temperature of 39.3°, which is 1.3° cooler than normal. However, rainfall at only 1.41" was 2.12" less than normal. For the period only 2.8" of snow fell, most of which fell on a single day in late November.

In the waning days of October, Hurricane *Sandy* merged with low pressure to become "Superstorm *Sandy*" coming ashore in northern New Jersey. As *Sandy* moved inland it threatened to bring high winds and heavy rain to our Region and the hope of entrained or displaced avian rarities. Ultimately we experienced very little of the storm's deleterious effects, with little rain and strong (but not historic) east winds. Though adjacent Regions upstate found exciting species, our best and brightest birders surveyed the usual spots around Lake Ontario but came up with nothing that could be attributed with certainty to the storm. This rather disappointing outcome may have been related to the unusual easterly direction of the wind, and it was speculated that lakes whose

long direction spanned north to south may have intercepted more of the east wind and thus been more productive.

Water levels throughout the Region remained low following a dry summer. The large sandbar stretching out from Carl Island at Sandy Pond received little birder coverage after a busy summer. Delta Lake in Oneida County remained drawn down, but unfortunately few shorebirds availed themselves of the exposed mud flats. Some waterfowl did find a haven there, and in the latter part of September, over 100 Wood Duck and decent numbers of both common teal species were found. Bald Eagle also took advantage of the habitat at Delta, as did a small contingent of Great Egret. For the most part, waterfowl migration in the Region was unremarkable. However, Brant numbers were good around the Lake Ontario shoreline. On 12 October, 4,140 Brant went by Derby Hill. 436 Northern Pintail also passed by the same morning. The more common diving duck species staged in the usual locations on Oneida Lake and Lake Ontario. Gene Huggins monitored the waxing and waning of waterfowl populations in the Tully Lakes Area. There, Ring-necked Duck peaked at 376 on 3 November. Pied-billed Grebe numbers were relatively good throughout the Region, and some groups lingered through the end of October. Horned Grebe also appeared in many places and in decent numbers, but high counts were limited to Lake Ontario.

The Bishop Road Hawk Watch near Pulaski suffered from a lack of northeast winds, with virtually no good hawk flights noted. Migrant raptor numbers were average for fall, but the lack of weather fronts made for few instances of concentration. Consistent with the trend of recent years, Bald Eagle sightings were widespread and numerous. A maximum of 16 Broad-winged Hawks were seen in West Winfield on 16 September. Rough-legged Hawk arrived at the end of October but wasn't especially common. Winds with a southerly component produced small hawk flights at Derby Hill.

Shorebirds were not found in abundance, and many of the less common but expected species were missed altogether; limited coverage of hotspots like Sandy Pond and Fair Haven undoubtedly played a role. A relatively-late White-rumped Sandpiper was found by Bill Purcell at Selkirk Shores SP in Oswego on 8 November, where it remained for at least two days. American Woodcock were encountered in fairly good numbers at the beginning of November. Purple Sandpiper (a.k.a. the "Pumpkin Piper") arrived on time in the days preceding Halloween but was not seen after. Red and Red-necked Phalaropes are expected but never guaranteed and careful looking turned up both this fall on Lake Ontario.

The Region's four common rail species were all reported this fall and in relatively good numbers. Twenty Common Gallinule were seen in Volney on 2 September, and Wayne Fidler is commended for his coverage of this excellent marsh-bird spot. American Coot numbers were low, with a maximum of 40 at Woodman Pond in Madison County on 9 November. Ten Sandhill Cranes winging over Cicero were undoubtedly headed for the Montezuma Wetlands Complex.

West and northwest wind lakewatches at Derby Hill produced disappointing numbers but a decent variety of expected species. An adult **Northern Gannet** flyby on 21 October was possibly the same bird seen from Hamlin Beach on 1 September and by Tony Shrimpton from Stony Point on 13 October. It is of particular interest since most inland gannet records are of juveniles. If the same bird, perhaps it challenges our assumption that gannets don't live long on fresh water.

Later in the day Ken Burdick spotted an adult Pomarine Jaeger, with full tail streamers, that was eventually in the same scope view with a juvenile **Long-tailed Jaeger**, providing a once-in-a-lifetime direct comparison of the two species. The Long-tailed remained in Mexico Bay for the duration of the watch and allowed extensive study and photographs. Amidst all this excitement and for the second year in a row, a **Franklin's Gull** passed going west. Only two reports of Parasitic Jaeger is very low for recent years. A big shoreline gull flight finally happened on 24 November, with the highlight an adult Little Gull. An Iceland Gull on 30 October was earlier than usual but carefully identified. Drew Weber treated many to a Forster's Tern at the Onondaga Lake Marina on 29 September, while Bill Gruenbaum and Sue Boettcher found one in the same place on 5 November.

There were relatively few owl sightings and no northern owls were reported. In the latter half of November, a Northern Saw-whet Owl was found in a grove of conifers at Beaver Lake Nature Center. The species has been encountered in this same location in previous years.

Probably the single best find of the season was an adult male **Rufous Hummingbird**, which first appeared on 16 September at the Phoenix, Onondaga County, residence of Anne Dillon Gray. The identification of the bird was confirmed by personnel at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and many birders from around the state came to see and photograph this gorgeous bird, which remained throughout the fall. The bird was banded and determined to be an AHY (after-hatching-year) male. Many thanks to Anne for her hospitality and care of the bird throughout its stay. It will be interesting to see if it returns in 2013.

The increasingly uncommon Red-headed Woodpecker continues to hang on in our Region, and three very vocal individuals were seen at Fairhaven on 12 September. Merlin sightings were fairly numerous and widespread this season, and Peregrine Falcon were seen migrating and in their urban territories in expected numbers. A new pair has apparently claimed downtown Utica as their territory. 11 October brought an impressive nine Peregrines past Derby Hill on strong winds.

In Scriba on 27 November, a Northern Shrike was seen pursuing songbirds including Bluebird and Snow Bunting. Many observers picked out migrant Philadelphia Vireo, while the more normally common Blue-headed Vireo proved more elusive. On 16 September Mickey Scilingo counted 2,262 Blue Jays as they migrated in small groups along the north shore of Oneida Lake. There are continuing indications that Common Raven may be expanding its range in the suburbs south of Utica, as some of that area's former agricultural

land evolves into forested habitat. Horned Lark seemed to be quite scarce in the Region, but a flock of 280 was seen Pennellville on 30 November. Swainson's Thrush sightings were common and fairly widespread, and 20 Hermit Thrush were found at Sunset Bay Park in Oswego on 24 October, a good count.

South winds brought 44 **Cave Swallows** by Derby Hill on 12 November, which is an excellent single day count for this species. The species was first seen in Region 5 in fall 2005 and has become a quite predictable annual visitor for those who study the continent's wind currents. It is worth noting that Cave Swallows passing Derby Hill are seen heading east, while the flight direction at Hamlin Beach near Rochester is often mostly, if not entirely, westbound. Are they the same birds having turned around?

A minor irruption of Red-breasted Nuthatch was indicated this fall and is likely the result of the species pushing out of areas with poor food reserves. Bohemian Waxwings were noted primarily at Derby Hill, but a few small flocks were also discovered in other areas. Cedar Waxwings were not commonly encountered, which speaks again to the general lack of winter food supplies in the wild this year.

The migration of common warbler species was unremarkable, and few species were found in any number, which is typical for our Region in recent years. On 14 October, Joe Brin found three Orange-crowned Warbler at Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area at a power line cut; this is a superb one day count for our Region. A **Kentucky Warbler** was located by David Nash at the Clay Marsh on 9 September. On 24 October a very late Ovenbird was found at Sunset Bay Park in Scriba during an excellent fallout of species typical for the date. A Tennessee Warbler on 7 November is almost certainly a record-late date. On 20 November, the "Tuesday Birders" found and photographed a very late Northern Parula at Selkirk Shores SP, also presumed to be a new record-late date.

The Onondaga Lake Creekwalk is fast establishing itself as a hotspot for late-fall passerines. Andrew VanNorstrand discovered a first-Regional-record "**Audubon's**" **Yellow-rumped Warbler** foraging with a mixed flock of chickadees and two "Myrtle" Yellow-rumps on 27 November. The "Audubon's" Warbler remained and was seen by many in subsequent days as the number of Myrtles grew to about ten. The Yellow-rumps are a candidate for splitting by the AOU, and Audubon's may eventually enjoy full species status. Also at the end of November, a lingering Wilson's Warbler was found by Joe Carey, and a Common Yellowthroat was located in this same area.

Sparrow migration was good this season, and there were some noteworthy high counts reported. Tree Sparrow arrived on 23 October, and four Vesper Sparrows were located in different areas. Both Fox Sparrow and Lincoln Sparrow showed up in better than average numbers this fall. Twelve Fox Sparrows were found by Matt Perry at Spring Farm CARES Nature Sanctuary in Clinton on 25 October, and the same number was found at Three Rivers Wildlife Management area on the very next day. A well-described Dickcissel was found in Pompey Center on 11 September and another in Whitestown on 29 September. On 3 November, a **Harris's Sparrow** appeared at a Canastota bird

feeder and was identified by Ruth Kuryla, the homeowner. Many observers enjoyed the bird until it was reportedly killed by a cat. Many thanks to Ruth for allowing visitors to see the bird before its unfortunate demise.

Derby Hill now hosts a “flower pot” night-migration microphone with data available, typically the morning after, at Bill Evans' website, www.oldbird.org. It is part of a transect spanning eastern North America. The availability of timely counts can be a tremendous aid to birders in evaluating the intensity of the passerine migration. Peak migration nights as recorded by the microphone occurred on 5-6 September with 374 flight calls, 26-27 September with 341, 27-28 September with 657, 12-13 October with 344, and 23-24 October with 729 flight calls. These counts coincided well with daytime ground observation, and indeed the morning of 24 October produced excellent birding at Sunset Bay Park. A breakdown of the species distribution is beyond the scope of this report and not included in the summary data section.

Gary Lee provided a report from northern Herkimer County in which he noted: “We had four inches of snow on the ground the last week of November. Ice went in and out of small ponds a few times. Anyone who had a feeder open got cardinals for the first time ever. One feeder in Thendara still has three pairs.” Gary also banded 16 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at the Stillwater Hotel.

Numerous people commented on the remarkable passage of *icterids* this fall. 15,000 Common Grackles were counted in Baldwinsville on 23 October and 7,000 Red-winged Blackbirds in North Syracuse on 30 October. Rusty Blackbirds are often the odd-man-out in these blackbird high counts, but this year a flock of at least 220 was observed at Cicero Library on 19 October.

Jim Tarolli and David Wheeler watched blackbird roost-flights at the Clay Marsh during October, starting about an hour before dusk. Peak flight days produced difficult-to-estimate numbers of Red-wings, Grackles, and Rusties with only a few Starlings mixed in. Many rivers of birds passed over the Henry Clay Blvd. overlook and queued in trees throughout the marsh before swirling about in massive clouds and descending into the reeds to roost. A strategy for estimating numbers needs to be developed, but the overall count on peak days in late October was thought to be at least 100,000 birds. What fraction of the total refers to each species?

A good winter finch invasion year was predicted and seemed to be coming true in mid-fall, but a lack of food reserves may cause many to continue out of the area. A few Pine Grosbeaks were found as were both crossbill species, White-winged in particular flying by Derby Hill in small flocks. An influx of Evening Grosbeaks into the heart of the Region was welcomed by all, most especially by newer birders seeing this now uncommon and irregular visitor for the first time. Common Redpoll, Pine Siskin, and Evening Grosbeak at the location hosting the Rufous Hummingbird made for an interesting juxtaposition of species. The end of the season found redpolls and siskins widespread and possibly settling in for the winter.

A total of 238 species was found in Region 5 during the fall 2012 season. Highlights were an adult Northern Gannet, Little Gull, **Franklin's Gull**, **Long-**

tailed Jaeger, an adult male **Rufous Hummingbird**, Kentucky Warbler, “**Audubon's**” **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, Dickcissel, and **Harris's Sparrow**.

A final note - the use of eBird for data reporting has increased dramatically as the tool has become ubiquitous among birders. eBird records for New York State have doubled every two years since 2004, with 362,800 reports being condensed by *Kingbird* Regional Editors for fall 2012. In Region 5, the season produced 27,832 eBird records, which were processed in a first use of a data-analysis software tool called “Swan Swan Hummingbird” developed by David Wheeler. This is at version 3.21 as of this writing. The software provides various functionalities in examining this huge database and will hopefully aid in future *Kingbird* reports as the amount of eBird data continues to grow.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

Bville – Baldwinsville; BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center; BRH – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; CM – Clay Marsh; Caz – Cazenovia L; DL – Delta L; DH – Derby Hill; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay and vicinity; GLSP – Green Lakes SP; HI – Howland Island WMA; MCL – Madison County landfill, T Lincoln; T's Scriba and New Haven; NSyr – North Syracuse; OneiL – Oneida Lake; OnonL – Onondaga L; Osw – Oswego Harbor; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; SHF – Sky High Sod Farms, T Sullivan; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; Skan – Skaneateles; SPd – Sandy Pd; SR – Stillwater Reservoir; SBP – Sunset Bay Park, Scriba; SVB – Sylvan and Verona

Beach; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA; UM – Utica Marsh; VB – Van Buren; WM – West Monroe; WPd – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Snow Goose: arr 24 Sept; max 500 SFNS 26 Nov; no large flights reported.

Brant: arr 6 Oct; max 4140 DH 12 Oct; 770 FH 31 Oct; last flock DeRuyter Reservoir 27 Nov.

Cackling Goose: VB 26 Oct (JTa!, ph); 2 Sunset Lake 24 Oct; 2 WPd 27 Oct.

Mute Swan: max 47 FH 7 Nov.

Trumpeter Swan: max 7 Volney 3 Sept, at least 1 thru 17 Nov, injured; 4 Caz 30 Nov.

Tundra Swan: arr 17 Nov; max 24 Oneil 25 Nov.

Wood Duck: good numbers at DL in Sept; max 400 DL 15 Sept.

Gadwall: arr OnonL 5 Sept; max 14 FH 24 Oct.

Am. Wigeon: arr Richfield Springs 8 Sept; max 58 DH 11 Oct.

Am. Black Duck: max 130 DH 12 Oct.

Am. Black Duck X Mallard (hybrid): 2 reports.

Blue-winged Teal: max 25 DL & DH 6 Sept; 20 HI 8 Sept; last 2 Tully Lakes 3 Nov.

N. Shoveler: arr 8 Sept; max 15 UM 22 Nov.

N. Pintail: arr 3 Sept; max 1050 DH 11 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 100 Rte 481 ponds 10 Oct (TB); 75 DL 6 Sept.

Canvasback: no reports.

Redhead: arr & max 26 DH 21 Oct.

Ring-necked Duck: arr WPd 28 Sept; max 376 Tully ponds 3 Nov.

Greater Scaup: arr Osw 10 Sept (JTa, DW); max 400 SVB 6 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: arr 3 DH 23 Sept; max 75 OnonL 10 Nov.

scaup sp: 1000 SVB 30 Oct.

Surf Scoter: arr DH 6 Oct; max 80 FH.

White-winged Scoter: arr Osw 11 Sept; max 142 DH 2 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr DH 11 Oct; max 980 FH 31 Oct (BP).

Long-tailed Duck: arr DH 12 Oct; max 920 DH 24 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr FH 24 Oct; max 214 SSSP 28 Oct.

Com. Goldeneye: arr Osw 11 Sept (WF); max 115 Oneil 25 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 103 Otisco Lake 17 Nov.

Com. Merganser: max 108 SVB 3 Oct.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr 16 DH 23 Sept; max 240 DH 2 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: arr WPd 28 Sept; max 200 BLNC 30 Oct; good numbers reported.

N. Bobwhite: 4 Poland Village 24 October (LB), likely released in the vicinity.

Ring-necked Pheasant: max 3 TR 16 Nov, some reports come from suspected release sites.

Ruffed Grouse: max 4 Bradley Brook Reservoir 13 Sept; singles/small numbers not uncommon.

Red-throated Loon: arr DH 21 Oct; max 5 SSSP 28 Oct; few reports.

Com. Loon: arr Oneil 22 Sept; max 157 DH 2 Nov; 67 same location 3 Nov.

Pied-billed Grebe: 23 OnonL 24 Oct; max 26 OnonL 30 Oct; good numbers.

Horned Grebe: arr DH 1 Oct; 75 DH 27 Oct; max 170 DH 16 Nov; good numbers.

Red-necked Grebe: arr DH 11 Oct; max 8 DH 27 Oct.

NORTHERN GANNET (R5): adult DH 21 Oct (BP, KB), adults very rare on Great Lakes, *intro*.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 2200 Osw 31 Oct.

Am. Bittern: only 3 reported; last Volney 21 Sept.

Least Bittern: 1 Longbranch Park 11 Sept, only report.

Great Egret: max 11 DL 15 Sept; last 30 Oct FH.

Green Heron: max 12 OnonL 5 Sept; last Syr 9 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: New Haven 17 Sept, only report.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Turkey Vulture: 125 BRH 7 Oct; max 180 same loc 12 Oct.

Osprey: max 3 HI 8 Sept; DH 27 Oct; Pennellville 23 Nov (TH); Hamilton 25 Nov (RC), very late.

N. Harrier: max 3 CM 12 Oct.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 28 DH 11 Nov.

Cooper's Hawk: 5 DH 12 Nov.

N. Goshawk: max 2 CM 8 Oct; few reports.

Bald Eagle: 5 DH 3 Sept; 7 DH 3 Nov; max 9 Hinckley Reservoir 28 Nov.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 3 DH 13 Oct; last 2 Mexico 18 Nov.

Broad-winged Hawk: 7 DH 3 Sept; max 16 West Winfield 16 Sept; last SFNS 2 Oct.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 22 DH 3 Sept; 21 BRH 12 Oct.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr Fairfield 14 Oct; max 3 BRH 14 Nov.

Golden Eagle: Cleveland 30 Oct (BB, MV); SBP 31 Oct (WF); only reports.

Virginia Rail: last & max 2 Volney 4 Oct; 4 records only.

Sora: last & max Volney 4 Oct; all 4 records Volney location.

Com. Gallinule: max 23 Volney 11 Sept; same loc thru 30 Oct.

Am. Coot: max 60 WPd 13 Nov; 50 Skan 17 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: 1 Herkimer 21 Sept; 2 Columbia Center 30 Oct & 4 Nov; max 10 Cicero 17 Nov, flying west (DW).

Black-bellied Plover: 5 DL 27 Sept; max & last 12 Bville 17 Oct.

Am. Golden Plover: max 9 SHF 9 Sept; last Kirkville 18 Sept; few reports.

Semipalmated Plover: max 10 Lenox 15 Sept; last FH 24 Oct.

Killdeer: max 92 Verona 23 Sept; last OnonL 27 Nov; good numbers.

Spotted Sandpiper: last SBP 26 Sept; few reports and singles only.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 4 Redfield 2 Sept; last TR 14 Oct.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 8 Redfield 1 Sept; last SSSP 2 Nov.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 26 Redfield 1 Sept; last 2 SSSP 13 Nov.

Sanderling: max 15 Osw 8 Sept; last 2 SSSP 28 Oct & 5 FH 28 Oct; only 4 reports.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max and last 15 DL 15 Sept; few reports

Least Sandpiper: max 27 DL 10 Sept; last DL 27 Sept.

White-rumped Sandpiper: last SSSP 10 Nov; few reports. only singles.

Baird's Sandpiper: DL 19-27 Sept (MP); only report.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 18 DL 13 Sept; last OnonL 27 Sept.

Purple Sandpiper: SSSP 28 Oct, only report.

Dunlin: max & last 8 SVB 30 Oct.

Stilt Sandpiper: last Columbia Center 5 Oct; few report, only singles.

Wilson's Snipe: max 12 Dolgeville 3 Oct; last Volney 6 Nov.

Am. Woodcock: max 5 SFNS 3 Nov; last 11 Nov same loc.

Red-necked Phalarope: Oswego 22 Sept (BP), only report.

Red Phalarope: DH 6 Oct (DW, KM, GS); SVB 1 Nov (BB!, mob); last DH 2 Nov (DW).

Black-legged Kittiwake: 2 DH 2 Nov; 2 (juv & ad) DH 3 Nov (DW!); last DH 24 Nov.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 144 DH 24 Nov; last 3 OnonL 28 Nov.

Little Gull: adults, DH 2 Nov (BP, WF)) & 24 Nov (DW, mob).

FRANKLIN'S GULL: first-winter DH 21 Oct (DW, KB, BP, DWe, ph, NYSARC).

Ring-billed Gull: 2500 Osw 31 Oct; max 5200 DH 24 Nov, excellent flight.

Herring Gull: 550 MCL 13 Nov; max 700 DH 24 Nov, good number.

Iceland Gull: arr SVB 30 Oct (DW!), early; 2 DH 13 Nov & 24 Nov; MCL 23 & 30 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: arr Osw 7 Sept (WF); DH 23 Sept; singles MCL thru Nov.

Glaucous Gull: arr MCL 23 Nov; MCL 30 Nov.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 165 MCL 13 Nov.

Caspian Tern: max 9 DH 23 Sept; last SVB 3 Oct.

Com. Tern: max 3 DH 23 Sept; last DH 1 Nov.

Forster's Tern: DH 23 Sept (BP); OnonL 29 Sept (DWe), OnonL 5 Nov (WG, SB); last DH 14 Nov (DN).

Pomarine Jaeger: ad DH 21 Oct (KB, BP, DW, DWe); Pulaski 7 Nov (TC); last DH 24 Nov.

Parasitic Jaeger: DH 1 Oct; ad DH 21 Oct; only 2 reported – much fewer than recent years.

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: juv DH 21 Oct (KB, BP, DW, DWe, ph, NYSARC).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: only 4 reports of singles, thru mid-Sept.

Black-billed Cuckoo: only 5 reports of singles, thru mid-Sept.

E. Screech-Owl: max 4 HI 8 Sept; widespread reports of singles & pairs.

Great Horned Owl: max 2 Fayetteville 14 Sept; few reports.

Barred Owl: max 2 HI 8 Sept; singles found in scattered areas.

N. Saw-whet Owl: max 3 Waterville 6 Oct; 2 BLNC 27 Nov thru.

Com. Nighthawk: max 8 Tully 1 Sept; last Schiller Park 16 Sept; only 3 reports.

Chimney Swift: max 8 GLSP 1 Sept; last DH 8 Sept; only 4 reports

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 16 banded SR 2 Sept (GL); last SFNS 25 Sept.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: ad male Phoenix 16 Sept thru (ADG!, mob, ph, NYSARC).

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 3 FH 12 Sept; last Bville 20 Oct; few reported.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 4 SBP 26 Sept; last HI 11 Oct.

N. Flicker: max 13 Hastings 25 Sept.

Am. Kestrel: max 5 Griffiss Technology Park, Rome 7 Oct.

Merlin: max 2 Big Moose 5 Sept, 2 OnonL 18 Oct, widespread singles.

Peregrine Falcon: max 9 DH 11 Oct (WF, BP, DW), prob. a new Reg high if all different birds; new pr at Utica site 1 Sept.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: four reports; last N. Syr 6 Sept.

E. Wood-Pewee: max 7 HI 8 Sept; last Dolgeville 30 Sept.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: a few singles; last Waterville 23 Sept.

Least Flycatcher: max 2 HI 8 Sept; last SVB 25 Sept.

empidonax sp: 31 records for Sept, some early Sept records may be "Traill's."

E. Phoebe: max 7 SVB 22 Sept; last Barry Park, Syr 1 Nov.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 2 SVB 20 Sept; last CM 24 Sept.

E. Kingbird: max 2 Hastings 1 Sept; last Central Square 10 Sept.

N. Shrike: arr Constantia 26 Oct; SL 11 Nov; TR 11 Nov; Mexico 10 Nov; Scriba 26 Nov; Erieville 27 Nov.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 4 HI 8 Sept; last Noyes Sanctuary 14 Sept.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 Camden 2 Oct; last Camden 28 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: max 12 Barry Park, Syr 9 Sept, good number; last 2 SBP 26 Sept.

Philadelphia Vireo: max 3 HI 8 Sept; last Nelson Swamp 28 Sept; 33 reports.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 21 Camden 9 Sept; last DH 6 Oct.

Blue Jay: max 2,262 north shore of OneiL, Constantia 16 Sept, flying west.

Fish Crow: max 3 OnonL 21 Nov; few reported, none from Sept or Oct.

Com. Raven: max 9 Hastings 3 Sept; singles & pairs SFNS thru, unusual loc.

Horned Lark: few reports; max 280 Pennelville 30 Nov.

Purple Martin: max & last 6 HI 8 Sept; only 7 reports

Tree Swallow: max 500 HI 8 Sept; last DH 12 Nov.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 35 HI 8 Sept; last 2 DH 14 Oct, only 7 reports.

Bank Swallow: max 52 HI 8 Sept; last 2 OnonL 9 Sept.

Cliff Swallow: only 2 reports of singles; last HI 8 Sept.

CAVE SWALLOW: 5 DH 11 Nov (WF, BP); 44 DH 12 Nov (BP); 6 DH 13 Nov (AVN); 1 DH 19 Nov (WF, BP); last BP 23 Nov (TC), unusual loc.

Barn Swallow: max 65 HI 8 Sept; last DH 26 Oct.

swallow sp: 1000 HI 8 Sept.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 30 Syr 7 Oct; minor irruption, widespread reports.

Brown Creeper: max 5 Camden 3 Oct.

House Wren: last 2 SFNS 12 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 9 SBP 26 Sept.

Marsh Wren: max 3 Volney 4 Oct; last Dewitt 9 Oct.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max & last 3 HI 8 Sept; few reports.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 23 CM 24 Oct; max 24 OnonL 27 Oct.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Camden 9 Sept; max 20 FH & Manlius 7 Oct; last SVB 10 Nov.

E. Bluebird: max 25 HI 8 Sept; Camden 29 Oct.

Veery: singles early Sept; last Constantia 16 Sept; only 8 reports.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: 5 singles second half Sept; last Hastings 29 Sept; only 5 reports.

Swainson's Thrush: arr Mexico 5 Sept; max 5 TR 21 Sept; last TR 15 Oct (JTa!, ph).

Hermit Thrush: max 20 SBP 24 Oct (WF); last Manlius 22 Nov.

Wood Thrush: max 5 Camden 15 Sept; last Hamilton 20 Oct (RC), late.

Am. Robin: max 266 SVB 1 Oct.

Gray Catbird: max 22 CM 17 Sept; last Dolgeville 22 Nov.

N. Mockingbird: max 4 Osw 8 Sept.

Brown Thrasher: max 3 NSyr 6 Sept; last Hastings 12 Oct.

Am. Pipit: max 85 BRH 7 Oct; last SFNS 23 Nov, possibly injured.

Bohemian Waxwing: arr 2 NSyr 4 Nov (DWe); max 49 DH 11 Nov (WF).

Cedar Waxwing: max 211 DH 11 Nov.

LONGSPURS-WARBLED

Lapland Longspur: arr & max 4 DH 24 Oct; 2 Pennellville 30 Nov - only reports.

Snow Bunting: arr 6 DH 11 Oct; max 88 FH 31 Oct.

Ovenbird: max 3 HI 7 Sept; last SBP 24 Oct (WF), very late.

N. Waterthrush: no reports.

Blue-winged Warbler: 3 records early Sept.

Black-and-white Warbler: max 3 SVB 5 Sept; last Noyes Sanctuary 26 Sept.

Tennessee Warbler: max 5 OneiL 22 Sept; last Manlius 7 Nov (AVN), very late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: first SVB 20 Sept; max & last 3 TR 14 Oct (JB).

Nashville Warbler: max 10 OneiL 22 Sept; last SFNS & TR 12 Oct.

Mourning Warbler: a few singles; last Hamilton 5 Oct.

KENTUCKY WARBLER (R5): CM 9 Sept (DN).

Com. Yellowthroat: max 9 Mexico 1 Sept; last Syr 28 Nov (AVN), late.

Hooded Warbler: last SBP 26 Sept.

Am. Redstart: max 5 Camden 2 Sept; last TR 9 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: last SBP 26 Sept.

N. Parula: max 5 SBP 26 Sept; Selkirk 20 Nov (RD!, mob, ph), very late.

Magnolia Warbler: max 12 HI 8 Sept; last HI 8 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 6 Camden 10 Sept; 4 OnonL 15 Sept; last Dolgeville 2 Oct.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 25 Oneil 22 Sept, great number; last Dolgeville 28 Sept.

Yellow Warbler: last OnonL 27 Sept, relatively late.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last SFNS 26 Sept.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 30 Oneil 22 Sept, good number; last TR 16 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 4 SBP 26 Sept; last OSP 27 Sept

Palm Warbler: max 10 Bville 19 Sept & Hastings 8 Oct; last OnonL 16 Oct.

Pine Warbler: max 3 SVB 1 Sept; last New Woodstock 20 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 55 SFNS 12 Oct; last 2 OnonL 30 Nov.

“AUDUBON'S” YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: OnonL 27 Nov thru (AVN!, mob, ph), first Reg record.

Prairie Warbler: Oneil 22 Sept, only report.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 20 Oneil 22 Sept; last 2 OnonL 9 Oct.

Canada Warbler: max 3 HI 7 Sept; last Bridgeport 25 Sept.

Wilson's Warbler: max 4 Hastings 7 Sept; last Syr 28 Nov thru (JC!, mob, ph), very late.

SPARROWS - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: max 8 Mexico 30 Sept; last SFNS 30 Oct.

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr DH 23 Oct; max 40 Mexico 12 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: max 60 Syr 9 Sept; last 2 Camden and Canastota 4 Nov.

Field Sparrow: max 6 GLSP 21 Sept; max 6 TR 10 Oct, 16 Oct; last 2 CM 21 Oct.

Vesper Sparrow: 3 Mexico 20 Oct; max 4 Sandy Creek 3 Nov; last Oswego 5 Nov.

Savannah Sparrow: max 26 Fabius 9 Sept, good number; last Mexico 28 Oct.

Fox Sparrow: max 15 Camden 31 Oct; good numbers; last SFNS 24 Nov.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr 9 Sept; max 8 Mexico 7 Oct; last SFNS 13 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: max 180 Hastings 8 Oct; 126 TR 12 Oct; leucistic bird VB 7 Oct.

HARRIS'S SPARROW: Canastota 3-10 Nov (RK!, mob, ph, NYSARC), likely killed by cat.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr Dolgeville 24 Sept; max 25 TR 9 Oct; last Phoenix 21 Nov.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 250 Ohio 28 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: max 4 HI 8 Sept; last Camden 2 Oct.

N. Cardinal: max 30 Whitestown 3 Sept; 6 Thendara late Nov (GL), very unusual.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 5 Nelson 3 Sept; last Dolgeville 1 Oct.

Indigo Bunting: max 8 Bville 19 Sept; last Clinton 5 Oct; few reports.

Dickcissel: Pompey 11 Sept (DH!); Whitestown 29 Sept (FV).

Bobolink: 2 HI 8 Sept; last SFNS 14 Sept; only reports.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 7,000 NSyr 30 Oct.

E. Meadowlark: 7 Oswego Co Airport 30 Sept; last Dempster Bch 5 Nov; few reports.

Rusty Blackbird: arr OnonL 16 Sept; max 220 Cicero 19 Oct; last 10 CM 17 Nov.

Com. Grackle: max 15,000 Bville 23 Oct.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 150 HI 2 Sept.

Baltimore Oriole: max 2 West Winfield 7 Sept; last Hastings 17 Sept; few reports.

blackbird sp: est. 100,000 mostly Grackles and Red-wings, mixed flock roost at CM 20 Oct - 5 Nov (DW, JT).

Pine Grosbeak: max 5 New Woodstock 24 Nov; 3 DH 18 Nov.

Purple Finch: max 34 Dolgeville 1 Sept; 30 SFNS 11 Oct; less common in most areas after mid October.

House Finch: max 50 Skaneateles 13 Nov; numbers improving for this species.

Red Crossbill: 11 DH 3 Sept; last DH 19 Nov.

White-winged Crossbill: Highland Forest 21 Oct; max 35 DH 11 Nov.

Com. Redpoll: arr Stillwater Reservoir 5 Nov; max 115 Mexico 18 Nov.

Pine Siskin: arr Williamstown 13 Sept; max 100 same loc, 24 Oct.

Am. Goldfinch: max 742 DH 11 Nov (WF), good number.

Evening Grosbeak: arr Constantia 17 Sept; max 24 Mexico 23 Oct; reports widespread.

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