

## REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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September 2014 was mostly warm and pleasant. Cold front passages on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> may have helped put some migrants down. The average temperature was 63.2° F, 1.0° above normal, while monthly precipitation at Buffalo-Niagara International Airport was 3.13", 0.77" below normal. October was mild other than a strong cold front and lake effect rain 3-5 October. The average temperature was 53.4°, 2.6° above normal, and the monthly precipitation was 4.60", 1.08" above normal. November was cold and brought an epic lake-effect snow event to the Buffalo Southtowns. The average temperature was 37.8°, 2.9° below normal, and the monthly precipitation was 2.58", 1.43" below normal. Snowfall for November came in at 20.5", 11.7" above normal; however, this is very deceiving, as the airport weather station was just north of the lake-effect snows. Some locations received up to seven feet of snow during the back-to-back lake-effect snow storms on 17-21 November. It is difficult to assess the impact of this historic snow event on bird life in the affected area. Marilyn O'Connell, proprietor of a Wild Birds Unlimited store in the heavily hit Southtowns, indicated that a few people told her of finding dead birds that were trapped at bird feeders or otherwise buried by the fast falling snow. Weather information was obtained from National Weather Service monthly summaries for the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport.

What appears to be a continued upward trend in fall reports of Greater White-fronted Geese was evident again this season. There were at least four reports, including a flock of five at Iroquois NWR on 11 November. In the same category, there were three reports of **Ross's Geese** in November. These included a tame juvenile that spent from the 20<sup>th</sup> into the winter months on the swimming beach at Beaver Island SP, one at Dunkirk Harbor on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and two at Gypsum Pond in Oakfield on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Two early Cackling Geese were reported at Point Breeze in Orleans County on 21 September. Brant were scarce, with only three reports from Lake Ontario in early November. The waterfowl highlight was the Region's fourth record of **Tufted Duck**, all occurring in the last two years. A female was found by Alec Humann at LaSalle Park in Buffalo on 23 November and seen again on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Comparing photographs, Pawlicki concluded this was likely the same returning female that was seen from nearby Bird Island Pier in February 2013 and January 2014. Just as notable was the adult male **Common Eider** seen by Chris Wood as it flew east past Shadigee on

the Lake Ontario shore on 2 November. This is only the fifth Regional record of Common Eider and represents the first since 1994 of this primarily saltwater species.

**Eared Grebes** continue to be seen at the Batavia WWTP during the late summer and fall months, with a single arrival on 2 September and a maximum of three on 17 November. Another Eared Grebe found on Lake Erie at Evangola SP on 27 November represents one of only a handful of records for Erie County.

Great Egrets continue to roost in large numbers at the Iroquois NWR complex into early October; the season's high of 176 was counted on 26 September at the Oak Orchard WMA. A surprise find by Alec Humann was a **Cattle Egret** standing with gulls at the end of the Squaw Island pier in Buffalo on the morning of 5 October. It remained there for less than an hour and was last seen flying west across the Niagara River into Fort Erie, Ontario. Compared to historical records, this was the earliest appearance of a fall Cattle Egret, not taking into account late summer sightings.

Lewiston's resident **Black Vultures** were observed off and on throughout the fall, and a new Regional high of 18 was counted there in a mixed roost with Turkey Vultures on 11 October. This is twice the prior maximum of nine that was noted at this location in March 2013.

Rough-legged Hawk reports were scarce, with the first arrival on 4 November. There were no less than five reports of Red-shouldered Hawks in November, which is more than typical and notable considering their localized presence through the winter months.

Kurt Fox found a late Common Gallinule at Iroquois NWR on 11 November, which is the latest on record by two days. Sandhill Crane reports around the Iroquois NWR complex continued over from summer, and what was likely the resident family group was seen regularly at the Oak Orchard WMA in September and October. The season's high of eight was noted at Iroquois NWR on 11 November. Two cranes seen in the Southern Tier in Olean on 23 November were notable for the date and location.

The lowered marsh impoundments at the Tonawanda WMA dried quickly in mid-September and unfortunately did not hold shorebirds through the remainder of the fall season. Just prior to this, small numbers of Baird's Sandpipers and a single **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** were reported there in early September. There were two reports of **Red Knot** this fall, the first from Beaver Island SP on 2 September and then a juvenile that spent the day on the outer breakwall in Buffalo Harbor on 3 September. These are the first Regional records of Red Knot since May 2002, and this scarcity of reports over the last decade certainly reflects the species' marked population decline. Reports of **Red-necked Phalaropes** were made at the Oak Orchard WMA, on the Niagara River in Buffalo, and at Dunkirk Harbor. The individual photographed at Dunkirk Harbor on 1-2 November represents the latest on record by 17 days and a first for the month of November. A **Red Phalarope** was identified with Red-necked Phalaropes in Buffalo on 5 October, although more notable was the Red

Phalarope found at Cuba Lake on 23-24 November by Roy Morris. This is only the third record away from the Niagara River and Great Lakes, including one that occurred last fall, and not surprisingly represents a first for Allegany County. For the first time in several fall seasons, there were no reports of Long-billed Dowitcher.

Typical for October and November, thousands of Bonaparte's Gulls were blown into Buffalo Harbor and the upper Niagara River on days with strong west or southwest winds, of which there were several this season. Seven Little Gulls, two juvenile **Black-legged Kittiwakes**, and up to three juvenile **Sabine's Gulls** were seen near the source of the Niagara River on 5-8 October. An adult **Laughing Gull**, initially found along Bird Island Pier in Buffalo on 18 October, was later seen ranging north to Squaw Island and remained in the vicinity until 29 October. The only report of **Franklin's Gull** this season was an immature seen on 23 September as it flew west along the Lake Ontario shore in the town of Wilson. Reports of large gulls in November included the arrival of Glaucous Gulls on Lakes Erie and Ontario, Iceland Gulls on the Niagara River, and two **Thayer's Gulls** near their traditional location on the lower Niagara River. After a two year absence from the Region, the adult **California Gull** seen and photographed by Gale VerHague at Dunkirk Harbor on 26 November was only the second Regional record away from the Niagara River.

Just as impressive as the gulls in early October were the large numbers of Common Terns blown into the Buffalo area on strong west winds; a high of 1,000 was counted on 8 October. Two later lingered on the Niagara River at Beaver Island SP until 23 November. There were four reports of **Forster's Tern**; most notable was an adult seen with Ring-billed Gulls at Cuba Lake on 13 September, representing another first for Allegany County. A late Black Tern was seen on the Niagara River in Buffalo on 8 October.

There was a good showing of jaegers this fall, with the strong west winds on 4 October bringing at least two Parasitic and one juvenile **Pomarine Jaeger** to Hamburg Town Park on Lake Erie. Other reports of Parasitic Jaegers and "jaeger species" came from Lake Erie at Buffalo Harbor and Woodlawn Beach SP, the Niagara River near Grand Island, and Lake Ontario at Yates, Wilson, and Fort Niagara SP.

In stark contrast to the several reports of Short-eared Owls last fall, there were none made this season. Northern Saw-whet Owls included 13 banded by Dave Junkin at his station in Wethersfield from 11-24 October, and 27 banded by Tom LeBlanc in Frewsburg in October and November. Following last winter's major irruption, **Snowy Owls** began appearing at a few locations starting in mid-November. Some individuals appeared lightly marked compared with most of last winter's birds, supporting the notion that many of these were returning birds that were at least a year old, rather than a new batch of juveniles heading south.

Large numbers of Purple Martins continue to roost at the cattail marsh in the Niagara River just offshore Buckhorn Island SP in late August and early

September. Numbers peaked at an impressive 13,000 on 6 September before tapering to only one individual on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Also notable were the 1,700 Northern Rough-winged Swallows observed foraging over the rapids above Niagara Falls on 18 September. In contrast to recent years, none were seen lingering there past mid-October.

Rare away from the Lake Ontario Plain in Niagara and Orleans Counties, two **Bohemian Waxwings** were found with 600 Cedar Waxwings at the Batavia WWTP by Mike Tetlow on 17 November and were seen again on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Coincidentally, two record late warblers were seen on 16 November. A Black-throated Green Warbler was found by Tim Lenz at Lake Erie SP, and a Nashville Warbler was seen by Peter Yoerg at Buckhorn Island SP. Both sightings were late by nine days. A **Nelson's Sparrow** was found along the bike path adjacent to the SUNY Buffalo North Campus in Amherst during the BOS Count on 11 October, and up to two were at Iroquois NWR in early and mid-October. While searching for Nelson's Sparrows on 22 October, Pawlicki and Joe Mitchell came across a **Le Conte's Sparrow** on the path to hunting blind 36 behind Cayuga Pool at Iroquois NWR. Pawlicki obtained several photos, and the bird was not found again the next day despite searching. This is only the fifth Regional record of Le Conte's Sparrow and first since 1992.

Following the heavy lake-effect snow that buried parts of southern Erie County over the period of 17-21 November, there was a noticeable increase in localized reports of American Pipit, Fox Sparrow, and Rusty Blackbird. All three of these species are regular fall migrants, but are uncommon to rare by mid-November near the tail end of their fall migration period. Several of the pipits were seen along the Lake Erie and Niagara River shores in Buffalo, evidently brought out of inland areas by the heavy snows, while small numbers of both Rusty Blackbird and Fox Sparrow showed up at feeders where they are irregular visitors at best. An Eastern Meadowlark that appeared at a feeder in East Aurora on 29 November was also thought to have been influenced by the heavy lake effect snows from the week prior.

For the second consecutive November, a late **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** appeared at a feeder. An immature male was seen by Lucille Neveu in Silver Creek on 25 and 27 November. In line with the grosbeak, a late adult male **Baltimore Oriole** was first noticed coming to a feeder in the town of Forestville, Chautauqua County on 23 November and lingered into the winter season.

Taken as a whole, winter finch reports were scarce. There were no reports of Pine Grosbeak or crossbills, and Purple Finch numbers were typical for October and November in recent years. A few scattered flocks Pine Siskins were seen, although reports quickly tapered off by the end of the season. There were three reports of Common Redpolls in November. The only report of **Evening Grosbeak** was a single individual coming to a feeder in the town of Wilson on 7 November.

The 79th annual BOS October Count was held on the 11th and compiled by Marcie Jacklin. It was unremarkable weatherwise with seasonal temperatures and partly to mostly cloudy skies. The count recorded 167 species. There were four record high counts - 11 Cackling Geese, 1305 Ruddy Duck, 18 Black Vulture, and 233 Red-bellied Woodpeckers—and no record low counts.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AlSP – Allegany SP, CATT; AmSP – Amherst SP, ERIE; BeSP – Beaver I SP, ERIE; BMAC – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; BOSOC – Buffalo Ornithological Society 11 Oct Count; BufH – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; BuSP – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; BWWT – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant, GENE; CHMUA – Carlton Hill MUA, WYOM; ChauL – Chautauqua L, CHAU; DA – Dunkirk Airport, CHAU; DH – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; DHSP – Devil's Hole SP, NIAG; DLSP – Darien Lakes SP, GENE; EvSP – Evangola SP, ERIE; FMCSP – Four Mile Creek SP, NIAG; FLC – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; INWR – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; LBSP – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; LESP – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; NF – Niagara Falls, NIAG; NFSP – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; NPP – Niagara Power Project on Niagara R, NIAG; NR – Niagara R, ERIE/NIAG; OOWMA – Oak Orchard WMA, ORLE/GENE; PB – Point Breeze, ORLE; PG – Point Gratiot, CHAU; SPNS – Sinking Ponds Nature Sanctuary, ERIE; TBNP – Times Beach NP, Buffalo, ERIE; Tifft NP – Tifft Nature Preserve, Buffalo, ERIE; TRWMA – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; UBNC – SUNY Buffalo N Campus, ERIE; WoBSP – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

### WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

**G. White-fronted Goose:** arr 2, max 5, 2  
INWR 23 Oct, 11, 30 Nov (SB, JW, WD, CM);  
2 Shelby ORLE 22 Nov (WD, SB).

**Snow Goose:** arr Oakfield GENE 22 Oct; 2  
INWR 26 Oct; 25 Freedom CATT 21 Nov; 2  
BWWT 29 Nov.

**ROSS'S GOOSE (R1):** BeSP 20-30 Nov (JP, WW); DH 27 Nov (TiL); 2 Oakfield GENE 29 Nov (PY); rare, good showing for fall.

**Brant:** arr, max 148 FNSP 1 Nov (JP, JMi, WW); 5 LBSP 2 Nov; 3 Yates ORLE 2 Nov; only reports.

**Cackling Goose:** arr 2 PB 21 Sep (RG); 5 E Aurora ERIE 1 Oct; 4 BMAC 10 Oct; 8 Lyndonville ORLE 13 Oct; 3 INWR 22 Oct; max 10, 6 SPNS 2, 14 Nov.

**Mute Swan:** 4 Cassadaga CHAU 18 Sep, 9-23 Nov (GV); Cuba ALLE 20-21 Oct (RM); only reports away from NIAG, ORLE.

**Tundra Swan:** arr 6 Attica WYOM 25 Oct; 7 Tonawanda ERIE 29 Oct; 55 Pomfret CHAU 15 Nov; max 260, 200 BeSP 18, 21 Nov; 200 Marilla ERIE 20 Nov; 125 ChauL 21 Nov; 204 Busti CHAU 23 Nov.

**Wood Duck:** 86 BWWT 3 Sep; 80, max 197 INWR 25 Sep, 9 Oct; 10 Tift NP 4 Nov.

**Gadwall:** max 110 INWR 12 Nov; 47 N Harmony CHAU 16 Nov; 45 Cuba L ALLE 24 Nov.

**Am. Black Duck:** max 28 BWWT 26 Nov.

**Blue-winged Teal:** 80 INWR 25 Sep; max 102 OOWMA 1 Oct; last 12 INWR 22 Oct.

**N. Shoveler:** 207, max 255, 229 BWWT 21 Sep, 8 Oct, 5 Nov (KF, AG, WW).

**N. Pintail:** 32 FNSP 7 Sep, lake migrants; 77 BWWT 2 Oct; max 250 INWR 12 Nov; 30 Cuba L ALLE 23 Nov.

**Green-winged Teal:** 125 INWR 25 Sep; max 337, 135 OOWMA 15 Oct, 10 Nov; 17 Cuba L ALLE 30 Nov.

**Canvasback:** arr INWR 7 Oct.

**Redhead:** 3, 2 BWWT 4, 13 Sep; 7 BufH Oct; 28 N Harmony CHAU 30 Oct; max 85 BufH 23 Nov.

**Ring-necked Duck:** 1, 25 BWWT 3 Sep, 8 Oct; 51 Bethany GENE 6 Nov; max 56 BufH 23 Nov; few Oct reports.

**TUFTED DUCK:** fem BufH 23, 25 Nov (AH, JPI, ph, NYSARC); likely same indiv returning from Feb 2013 and Jan 2014.

**Gr. Scaup:** arr 14 Wilson NIAG 23 Sep; 1300 NF 1 Nov; max 1400 BufH 23 Nov.

**Lesser Scaup:** 2 BWWT 3 Sep; 1, 32 BufH 6 Sep, 23 Nov; 17 Yates ORLE 2 Nov; max 55 BufH 23 Nov.

**COMMON EIDER:** ad m Yates ORLE 2 Nov (CW); lake fly-by, only fifth Reg record and first since 1994.

**Surf Scoter:** arr Hamburg ERIE 4 Oct; 11 Wilson NIAG 10 Oct; 6 NF 1 Nov; 10, 14 BufH 10, 23 Nov.

**White-winged Scoter:** 3 FNSP 7 Sep; 7, max 55 Wilson NIAG 22 Sep, 10 Nov; 35 BufH 23 Nov.

**Black Scoter:** arr 5, 10 BufH 18, 25 Oct; max 38 FNSP 1 Nov; DH 16 Nov; 25, 32 BufH 13, 23 Nov; Cuba L ALLE 30 Nov (TiL).

**Surf/Black Scoter:** 3 Wilson NIAG 22 Sep.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr 3, 110 BufH 21 Sep, 18 Oct (JP, JMi); 230 BufH 23 Nov (AH); 423 FNSP 1 Nov; max 819 Yates ORLE 2 Nov (CW).

**Bufflehead:** arr Wethersfield WYOM 20 Sep.

**Com. Goldeneye:** 236 Yates ORLE 2 Nov; max 750 NF 23 Nov; no reports Sep-Oct.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 118 Cuba L ALLE 24 Nov; 80 DH 27 Nov.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** DH 14 Sep; 410, 350 BufH 18, 26 Oct; 1723 Yates ORLE 2 Nov; max 2100 Hanover CHAU 27 Nov.

**Ruddy Duck:** 2 BuSP 29 Sep; 1248, max 1654 BWWT 8, 15 Oct; 200 ChauL 15 Nov; 20 Cuba L ALLE 26 Nov; Wilson NIAG 29 Nov.

**Red-throated Loon:** arr Hamburg ERIE 5 Oct; max 111 Wilson NIAG 10 Nov.

**Com. Loon:** arr FNSP 7 Sep; max 229 LBSP 11 Oct; 2, 4 AISP, Cuba L ALLE 30 Nov.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 23 Cuba L ALLE 7 Oct; 15 Java WYOM 19 Oct.

**Horned Grebe:** 13, 45 Wilson NIAG 23 Sep, 10 Oct; 4 Alfred ALLE 15 Oct; 60 LESP 16 Nov; 60, max 200 Hanover CHAU, EvSP 27 Nov (TiL).

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr 5 Wilson NIAG 23 Sep (WD); Buffalo NR 8 Oct; BWWT 10, 15 Oct; 4, max 6 FNSP 1, 6 Nov; 2 BuSP 16 Nov.

**Eared Grebe:** 1, 2, max 3 BWWT 2 Sep-10 Oct, 10 Nov, 17 Nov, annual at this location; EvSP 27 Nov (TiL).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 84 INWR 4 Sep; 800 DH 22 Sep; 950, max 1400, 200 BufH 3, 6 Oct, 13 Nov; Cuba L ALLE 24 Nov.

**Am. Bittern:** INWR 2 Oct (CM, SB), only report.

**Least Bittern:** INWR 5 Oct (KF), only report.

**Great Egret:** 162, max 176, 106 OOWMA 21, 26 Sep, 1 Oct (CM, WW), roost location; last INWR 26 Oct.

**Cattle Egret:** Buffalo NR 5 Oct (AH), rare and early for fall sightings.

**Green Heron:** max 6 Tift NP 7 Sep; last BOSOC.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** max 12 Tift NP 7 Sep; 5 OOWMA 24 Sep; 3 Buffalo NR 6 Oct; 2 TWMA 18 Oct; BeSP 24 Nov (LF).

**Black Vulture:** 5, 18, 6 Lewiston NIAG 27 Sep, 11 Oct (CK), 18 Nov; **18** is new Reg max; resident in small numbers at loc.  
**Turkey Vulture:** 3 SPNS 2 Nov; Lancaster ERIE 7 Nov; BWWT 30 Nov; only locations away from Lewiston NIAG beyond Oct.

## HAWKS - LARIDS

**Osprey:** last INWR 25 Oct.  
**Bald Eagle:** 4 FNSP 7 Sep; max 14 INWR 12 Sep; 6 TWMA 11 Oct; 22 BOSOC.  
**N. Goshawk:** imm Forestville CHAU 28 Oct (GV).  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** DLSP GENE 12 Nov; Tift NP 16 Nov; Forestville CHAU 22-30 Nov; Pembroke GENE 28 Nov; Fillmore ALLE 30 Nov; good showing for Nov.  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** last Alexander GENE 27 Sep.  
**Rough-legged Hawk:** arr 3 Charlotte CHAU 4 Nov; no Oct reports.  
**Virginia Rail:** last BWWT 3 Oct.  
**Sora:** BWWT 9 Sep; Pomfret CHAU 14 Sep; last 4 BOSOC (KV).  
**Com. Gallinule:** max 43 INWR 4 Sep; Tift NP 13 Oct; last INWR 11 Nov (KF), record late by two days.  
**Am. Coot:** 90, 78, 60 Tift NP 10 Oct, 4, 11 Nov; 86 S Dayton CATT 26 Oct; max 120 DH 27 Nov.  
**Sandhill Crane:** 3 OOWMA 1, 14 Sep, 15 Oct, 10 Nov; max 8, 7 INWR 5 Oct, 11 Nov; 2 Olean CATT 23 Nov (KN).  
**Black-bellied Plover:** BufH 6 Sep; Barcelona Harbor CHAU 14 Sep; 1, 3 BWTP 14, 17 Nov; last WoBSP 24-27 Sep.  
**Am. Golden-Plover:** OOWMA 1 Sep; BWWT 12 Sep; Attica WYOM 19 Sep; 7 Gainesville ORLE 20 Sep; WoBSP 24-27 Sep; 2 Waterport ORLE 1 Oct; 9 Porter NIAG 4 Oct; last BOSOC.  
**Semipalmated Plover:** max 25 OOWMA 1 Sep; 14 BWWT 6 Sep; last BOSOC.  
**Killdeer:** 9, 2 Cuba L ALLE 26, 30 Nov (TiL), on late side.  
**Spotted Sandpiper:** last Buffalo NR 23 Oct (WW).  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** Aurora ERIE 3 Oct; last OOWMA 4 Oct.  
**Gr. Yellowlegs:** max 11, 2 INWR 1 Oct, 12 Nov; last 2 Cuba L ALLE 17 Nov.  
**Lesser Yellowlegs:** 33, 37 OOWMA 1, 26 Sep; max 98, last 1 OOWMA 1 Oct, 10 Nov.  
**Ruddy Turnstone:** 2 BufH 21 Sep; last DH 5 Oct; only reports.

**RED KNOT (R1):** BeSP 2 Sep (DS); BufH 3 Sep (JP, JMi, WW); first Reg records since 2002.  
**Stilt Sandpiper:** 1-2, last 2 OOWMA 1-17 Sep, 1 Oct (JMc, WW).  
**Sanderling:** max 16 BufH 11 Sep; 2 BWWT 26 Sep (MS), uncommon inland; 3 Hamburg ERIE 3 Oct; last Barcelona Harbor CHAU 5 Oct.  
**Dunlin:** arr 5 OOWMA 15 Oct; UBNC 23 Oct; 2 Yates ORLE 2 Nov; 3 Wilson NIAG 10 Nov; BeSP 21-22 Nov; last Oakfield GENE 29 Nov (PY).  
**Baird's Sandpiper:** OOWMA 1 Sep (KF, PM); 2, 5 TWMA 4, 6 Sep (WD, CM, J&AH); only reports.  
**Least Sandpiper:** last BOSOC.  
**White-rumped Sandpiper:** TWMA 6 Sep (J&AH), OOWMA 18 Sep (WD); only reports.  
**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** TWMA 4, 6 Sep (JMi, WD, J&AH); only reports.  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 14 OOWMA 26 Sep; last DH 14 Oct.  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 12 BWWT 12 Sep.  
**Short-billed Dowitcher:** 3, 5, 1 OOWMA 1, 4, 17 Sep; only reports.  
**Wilson's Snipe:** 2 BMAC 18 Sep; INWR 25 Sep; 12 BOSOC; last Dunkirk CHAU 16 Nov.  
**Am. Woodcock:** Jamestown CHAU 25 Oct; last Hinsdale CATT 22 Nov (JRe).  
**Red-necked Phalarope:** OOWMA 12 Sep (MG); 2 Buffalo NR 5 Oct (AH, SC, SB); DH 1-2 Nov (GV, ph), record late for Reg by 17 days and first for Nov.  
**Red Phalarope:** Buffalo NR 6 Oct (SC); Cuba L ALLE 23-24 Nov (RM, JP, WW, ph), rare inland, first record from ALLE.  
**Red/Red-necked Phalarope:** 2, 1 Buffalo NR 5, 8 Oct (AH, WD).  
**Pomarine Jaeger:** Hamburg ERIE 4 Oct (JP!, JMi, ph); rare.  
**Parasitic Jaeger:** BufH 11 Sep, 8, 18 Oct (JP, JMi); 1, 2 Hamburg ERIE 22 Sep, 4 Oct (JP, JMi); 2 Yates ORLE 8 Oct (KF); Grand I ERIE 25 Oct (RT); max 4, 1, 1 FNSP 18 Oct, 1, 6 Nov (JP, JMi, WW, WD); good showing.  
**Long-tailed/Parasitic Jaeger:** WoBSP 11 Sep (JP, JMi); 3 BufH 21 Sep (JP, JMi).  
**jaeger sp.:** 2, 1, 1 Wilson NIAG 22, 23 Sep, 10 Oct (WD).  
**Black-legged Kittiwake:** 2 juv Buffalo NR 5 Oct (PY, SC, MZ), only report.  
**Sabine's Gull:** 1-3 juv Buffalo NR 5-8 Oct (AH, PY, JP, JMi, mob); 1-2 juv NFSP 18 Oct-

16 Nov (DG, JP, DD, JF, mob), long staying; good showing.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 3700, partially leucistic Buffalo NR 6, 23 Oct (JP); 2500 BuFH 25 Nov; 1200 Lewiston NR 18 Nov; 1000 NFSP 23 Nov.

**Little Gull:** 5, max 7 Buffalo NR 5, 8 Oct; Wilson NIAG 10 Oct; 4 NFSP 18 Oct; 2 BuFH 25 Nov; 2 NF 28 Nov.

**Laughing Gull:** Buffalo NR 18-29 Oct (JP, JMi, PY, ph), rare.

**FRANKLIN'S GULL:** Wilson NIAG 23 Sep (WD), less regular than previously.

**CALIFORNIA GULL:** ad DH 26 Nov (GV, ph).

**Herring Gull:** 478 Cuba L ALLE 24 Sep; known roost location for fall/early winter.

**THAYER'S GULL:** 2 DHSP 28 Nov (WD, BP, SB), only report.

**Iceland Gull:** arr NPP 14 Nov; Cuba L ALLE 24 Nov; max 4 NF 28 Nov; FMCSP 29 Nov.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** WoBSP 6 Sep; 2 Lewiston Res NIAG 7 Sep; 2, 6 NFSP 4 Oct, 23 Nov; Cuba L ALLE 7 Oct, 14, 20, 24 Nov.

**Glaucous Gull:** arr PB 16 Nov; 3 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 28 Nov.

**Caspian Tern:** last Buffalo NR, WoBSP 8 Oct.  
**Black Tern:** Buffalo NR 7 Oct (PY), only report.

**Com. Tern:** 128 FNFP 7 Sep; 463, max 1000 Buffalo NR 5, 8 Oct (AH, WD), impressive counts for Oct; 20 NFSP 20 Oct; 113, 42 Buffalo NR 17, 27 Oct; 2, last 2, 1 BeSP 22, 23 Nov (AH, CG, PY).

**Forster's Tern:** Hamburg ERIE 2 Sep (JF); Cuba L ALLE 13 Sep (JP, ph), first for ALLE; 2, 1 Buffalo NR 6, 8 Oct (DD, JP, JMi).

## PIGEONS – PARROTS

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** SUNY Fredonia 21 Oct (MB, GV, ph), late, only report.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** BeSP 13 Sep (DS); last Jamestown CHAU 17 Sep (TwL); only reports.

**Snowy Owl:** arr 1-2 BuFH 15-30 Nov (AL, AH, JF, JRo); arr DA 15-29 Nov (GV, TiL); Medina ORLE 22 Nov (WD, CM, SB); likely many of the same individuals returning after last winter's irruption.

**Short-eared Owl:** no reports.

**N. Saw-whet Owl:** 27 banded Frewsburg CHAU Oct-Nov (ToL); 13 banded Wethersfield WYOM 11-24 Oct (DJ).

**Com. Nighthawk:** 1-5 at six locations ERIE, GENE, ORLE 2-28 Sep; max 12 E Amherst ERIE 17 Sep; last Buffalo ERIE 6 Oct.

**Chimney Swift:** 97 Buffalo ERIE 6 Sep; last 22 Tiftt NP 7 Oct.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** last 2 BOSOC.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 1-2 at four locations CHAU 3-14 Sep; 1-3 Hamburg ERIE Oct-Nov; 7 BOSOC; only reports.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr AmSP, BuSP 19 Sep; Tiftt NP 30 Nov.

**Merlin:** 1-2 reported from 15 loc Sep-Nov.

**Peregrine Falcon:** 1-2 reported from 9 loc Sep-Nov.

## FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** PG 14 Sep, only report.

**E. Wood-Pewee:** last GENE BOSOC.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** AmSP 2, 14-18 Sep; 2 Tiftt NP 12 Sep; last 2 LES 14 Sep.

**Willow Flycatcher:** last INWR 6 Sep.

**Least Flycatcher:** last Wilson NIAG, 2 BuSP 22 Sep.

**E. Phoebe:** last Tonawanda ERIE 29 Oct.

**Gr. Crested Flycatcher:** last 2 AmSP 18 Sep.

**E. Kingbird:** Yates ORLE 6 Sep; last TBNP 13, 14 Sep.

**N. Shrike:** arr INWR 23 Oct; 12 other reports.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** last INWR 6 Sep.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr AmSP 14 Sep; last Williamsville ERIE 21 Oct.

**Warbling Vireo:** last OOWMA 24 Sep.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** max 5, last AmSP 12 Sep, 10 Oct.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** last AmSP, FLC 7 Oct.

**Com. Raven:** E Aurora ERIE 10 Oct (JRo); Lancaster ERIE 14 Oct (JP); 2, 1 Lewiston Res NIAG 2, 21 Oct (JP, WW, BE); OOWMA 23 Nov (PM, KS); Tonawanda ERIE 28 Nov (AH); continuing upward trend, only reports away from Southern Tier.

**Horned Lark:** 28 Oakfield GENE 3 Sep; 35 DA 16, 29 Nov.

**Purple Martin:** 6500, max 13000, 5000, 1 BuSP 2, 6, 9, 18 Sep (AH, JW, MC); known roost location; last 2 AmSP 3 Oct (RS), late.

**Tree Swallow:** 425 Bethany GENE 4 Sep; max 1000 TWMA 6 Sep (KF); last 200 INWR 2 Oct.

**N. Rough-winged Swallow:** max 1700, last 20 NFSP 18 Sep, 20 Oct (DM, DW, JT).

**Bank Swallow:** max 150, last 50 BWWT 6, 14 Sep (DB, J&AH).

**Cliff Swallow:** BuFH 11 Sep; last 2 BWWT 14 Sep; only reports.

**Barn Swallow:** max 225 BWWT 13 Sep (SC); last 6 OOWMA 18 Sep; no Oct reports.

**House Wren:** last BeSP 19 Oct.  
**Winter Wren:** arr AmSP 12 Sep; max 8 WoBSP 5 Oct; BuSP, Tift NP 30 Nov.  
**Marsh Wren:** last 2 OOWMA 23 Nov.  
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** last AmSP, TBNP, Springville ERIE 13 Sep.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** arr AmSP 25 Sep.  
**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr TBNP, AmSP 13 Sep; 4 locations 5-16 Nov; BeSP 23 Nov.  
**Veery:** AmSP 22 Sep; max 1-9 night-flight calls Tonawanda ERIE 1-30 Sep (PH); last TRWMA BOSOC (RD).  
**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr AmSP 6 Sep; max 12 night-flight calls Grand I ERIE 27 Sep; seven other reports 9-22 Sep; Wilson NIAG 2 Oct, AmSP 5 Oct; 3 FLC 7 Oct; Buffalo ERIE 9 Oct; last 11 BOSOC.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** 11, 10 AmSP 12, 16 Sep; max 100 night-flight calls Portland CHAU 14 Sep (TiL); last 2 Williamsville ERIE, 2 FLC 18 Oct.  
**Hermit Thrush:** arr Lancaster ERIE 26 Sep  
**Wood Thrush:** FLC 7 Oct; 3 PG 10 Oct; last 2 BOSOC.  
**Gray Catbird:** AmSP 27 Oct; last Alfred ALLE 17 Nov.  
**Brown Thrasher:** max 4 AmSP 14 Sep; Sheridan CHAU 5 Oct; last West Seneca ERIE 29 Nov (LH), late.  
**Am. Pipit:** arr 3 BWWTP 12 Sep; max 28 DA 2 Oct; eleven reports 11-30 Nov; 5 Cuba L ALLE 29 Nov.  
**Bohemian Waxwing:** 2 BWWTP 17, 21 Nov (MT, KF), rare; unusual away from L Ontario shoreline.  
**Cedar Waxwing:** max 600, 500 BWWTP 17, 22 Nov (MT, WD).

#### LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

**Lapland Longspur:** arr Cambria NIAG 20 Nov; max 4, 3 Barre, Shelby ORLE 22 Nov; only reports.  
**Snow Bunting:** arr 2 Olcott NIAG 19 Oct; max 250 Shelby ORLE 22 Nov.  
**Ovenbird:** last BOSOC.  
**N. Waterthrush:** last FLC 13 Sep.  
**Blue-winged Warbler:** last LESP 14 Sep.  
**Black-and-white Warbler:** last 5 BOSOC.  
**Tennessee Warbler:** last AmSP 15 Oct.  
**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr AmSP 26 Sep; 6 BOSOC; last Lockport NIAG 23 Oct; five other reports Sep-Oct.  
**Nashville Warbler:** DLSP 21 Oct; 2 banded Alfred ALLE 24 Oct; last BuSP 16 Nov (PY), record late by nine days.

**Connecticut Warbler:** Bethany GENE 8 Oct (DB), rare.  
**Mourning Warbler:** AmSP 1 Oct, only report.  
**Com. Yellowthroat:** 2 BOSOC; last SPNS 2 Nov (LH).  
**Hooded Warbler:** last AmSP, Wilson NIAG 30 Sep.  
**Am. Redstart:** last AmSP 12 Oct.  
**Cape May Warbler:** last 2 Tift NP 10 Oct.  
**N. Parula:** last BOSOC.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** last BMAC 11 Oct.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 9 LESP 14 Sep; last AmSP 10 Oct.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** last WTSP 1 Oct.  
**Yellow Warbler:** last 2 SUNY Fredonia CHAU 16 Sep.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** last Williamsville ERIE BOSOC.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** last Buffalo ERIE 15 Oct.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** last Buffalo ERIE 21 Oct.  
**Palm Warbler:** arr Williamsville ERIE, SPNS 8 Sep; last 3 Tift NP 20 Oct.  
**Pine Warbler:** Buffalo ERIE 18 Oct; last NFSP 30 Nov.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 4, 5 BuSP 16, 20 Nov; only report beyond early Nov.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** AmSP 13 Oct; last LESP 16 Nov (TiL), record late by nine days.  
**Canada Warbler:** last LESP 14 Sep.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** last Pomfret CHAU 13 Oct.

#### TOWHEES – WEAVERS

**Am. Tree Sparrow:** arr 4 INWR 22 Oct.  
**Chipping Sparrow:** SPNS 1 Nov; FNSP 15 Nov; Wilson NIAG 16 Nov; more Nov reports than usual.  
**Field Sparrow:** Wilson NIAG 16 Nov (WD), only report beyond Oct.  
**Vesper Sparrow:** 2 BOSOC; only reports.  
**Savannah Sparrow:** DA 27 Nov (TiL), late.  
**LE CONTE'S SPARROW:** INWR 22 Oct (JP!, JMi, WW!, NYSARC, ph), only fifth Reg record and first since 1992.  
**Nelson's Sparrow:** 1, 2 INWR 2, 22-23 Oct (SB, CM; JP, JMi); Amherst ERIE BOSOC; semi-regular locations in fall.  
**Fox Sparrow:** arr INWR 11 Oct; 12 reports 16-28 Nov; last Cuba ALLE 29 Nov; more reports than usual for second half of Nov.  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr SPNS 8 Sep; last Tonawanda ERIE 29 Oct (JP, WW, ph), record late by one day.

**White-throated Sparrow:** arr Poland CHAU 7 Sep.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr LBSP 28 Sep; Olean CATT 29 Nov.

**Dark-eyed Junco (*J.h. oreganus*):** Colden ERIE 4-28 Nov (J&KL), rare, likely same indiv has returned to location for multiple winters.

**Scarlet Tanager:** last Fredonia CHAU, BuSP, UBNC 1 Oct.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** 2 BOSOC; imm m Silver Creek CHAU 25, 27 Nov (LN, ph), late, at feeder.

**Indigo Bunting:** last 2 Fredonia CHAU, 3 WoBSP 5 Oct.

**Bobolink:** eight reports 4-14 Sep; max 6 INWR 11 Sep; last 6 Wethersfield WYOM BOSOC (ER!), late.

**E. Meadowlark:** 30 BOSOC; East Aurora ERIE 29 Nov, late and at feeder in wake of heavy lake effect snow the week prior.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr BuSP 29 Sep; 291 BOSOC; max 60 INWR 25 Oct; 30 TRWMA 6

Nov; twelve reports 12-22 Nov; 2 BufH 23 Nov.

**C. Grackle:** max 1000 East Aurora ERIE 23 Sep; 6167 BOSOC; Tonawanda ERIE 28 Nov.

**Baltimore Oriole:** Tifft NP 7 Sep; ad m Forestville CHAU 23 Nov thru (SG, ph), late, at feeder well into December.

**Purple Finch:** 82 BOSOC; several scattered reports Oct, Nov.

**Red Crossbill:** no reports.

**White-winged Crossbill:** no reports.

**Com. Redpoll:** arr 50 FNSP 1 Nov (WB); 2 Shelby ORLE 21 Nov; Squaw I ERIE 27 Nov; only reports.

**Pine Siskin:** arr 2 Williamsville ERIE 24 Sep; 5 CHMUA 28 Sep; 18 BOSOC; 10 NFSP 20 Oct; 22 Carlton ORLE 26 Oct; 12 LBSP 2 Nov; 12 Gaines ORLE 23 Nov; max 24 Wilson NIAG 29 Nov.

**Evening Grosbeak:** arr Wilson NIAG 7 Nov (WD), only report.