

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The fall season was warmer and somewhat drier than normal with relatively few storms systems directly affecting the Region. In September the average temperature in Syracuse was 63.8° F which is 1.8° warmer than usual. Total rainfall for the month was 1.6", which is 2.09" less than normal. In terms of temperatures, October provided the greatest departure from the norm, with an average of 54.9°, which is fully 4.3° warmer than normal. October saw 4.54" of rain in Syracuse, which is only slightly more than average. The greatest 24-hour period of rainfall took place on 15-16 October and amounted to 1.7". In November the average temperature reverted to being nearly a degree cooler, at 39.7°. Rainfall was down more than an inch and the snowfall total was 11".

Maximum snow depth in Syracuse was 5" on 29 November. In the Adirondack village of Old Forge, Gary Lee reported that 10" of snow fell on 19 November. Temperatures there hovered around 10° in the final week of the period.

This fall the winds that birders rely on to usher migrants by our hills and lakeshores and to the Region's traditional staging areas were fickle at best and afforded few remarkable days of observing. Although most expected species were represented, the high tallies of waterfowl, with few exceptions, were unimpressive. On some of the more sizable water bodies like Oneida Lake, occasional large rafts of ducks were present, but too far out to be accurately identified in scopes. Data showed the high count for "scaup species" was far greater than for either Greater or Lesser Scaup. Maximum numbers for virtually all waterfowl species were low, with some exceptions. The sweet spot for observing Brant flights was the north lookout at Derby Hill, where on the morning of 19 October, Bill Purcell counted 2,185. The same morning 456 Black Ducks, 352 White-winged Scoters, and 194 Long-tailed Ducks were tallied. There were only two sightings of American Bittern for the season, with two birds seen at Sandy Pond on 4 October. Great Egrets were thin on the ground but on 17 September nine were counted near Loop Road in the eastern section of Montezuma NWR. Black-crowned Night-Herons were again found at Onondaga Lake, but none lingered beyond 13 October. Two were also seen at Sterling Nature Center on 27 September.

Migrating raptors were not plentiful in the Region, and there were few notable sightings. Hawk watching on south winds, a juvenile **Mississippi Kite** was seen and photographed by David Wheeler and Jim Tarolli as it flew east over Derby Hill's North Lookout. At the Bishop Road Hawk Watch west of Pulaski, Bill Purcell did have at least one really good day. Northeast wind is the magic one for raptor flights at the spot, and those were the conditions on 22 October. Logging 6.5 hours of effort that day, Purcell racked up decent counts of Turkey Vulture (1,607), Golden Eagle (2), Bald Eagle (10), Northern Harrier (14), Sharp-shinned Hawk (18) and Red-tailed Hawk (598). 2,570 American Crows were also taking advantage of favorable winds. Jean Soprano reported that on 26 November an adult female Cooper's Hawk was brought into her wildlife rehabilitation center in Pennellville (Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center - KKWC). The hawk had flown into an open chicken pen where it became trapped. Somehow the raptor remained there undetected for around two weeks. It surely would have perished but the pen was stocked with chickens! She managed to polish off four of her chicken roommates before finally being discovered by the owners of the poultry. By that time the hawk had effectively destroyed its own primary and tail feathers by trying to escape through the chicken wire. The Cooper's Hawk remains at the KKWC facility, but is expected to be released after it regrows its flight feathers. Linda Salter contributed the only Northern Goshawk sighting for the season, which does little to alleviate concerns about that declining species. Not counting Red-tailed Hawks, buteo numbers were low. Only seven reports of Red-shouldered Hawks were received.

A total of around 16 Rough-legged Hawks was reported from across the Region, which is not a lot. Given the apparent spike in the population of voles and other small rodents in parts of the Region, a greater influx of Rough-legs could easily be supported.

This fall only very modest numbers of the expected shorebird species were encountered, and they were almost exclusively found on the Lake Ontario shoreline—primarily at Fair Haven and to a lesser degree at Sandy Pond. In our species synopsis, American Golden-Plover, Red Knot and White-rumped Sandpiper are represented by single individuals. Other “common” species like Lesser Yellowlegs and Greater Yellowlegs had maximum numbers of three and four respectively. On the brighter side, between 3-9 November, one and sometimes two Purple Sandpipers were found at the traditional spot on the south side of the breakwall at Fair Haven. As is too often the case in recent years, Lake Delta was never drawn down and virtually no shorebirds were reported. Jim D’Angelo, Director of the Sterling Nature Center, announced that as a trial the Center had begun drawing down one of their ponds in an effort to create shorebird habitat. It is not known how successful the attempt was, but the editors of this report applaud the concept. When habitat is available (often inadvertently, when farm fields become flooded) shorebirds will take advantage of it, including sometimes sizable flocks that feature good species diversity. Perhaps this sort of wetland management for shorebirds could be taken up as a worthy cause by the Region’s Wildlife Management Areas or bird conservation organizations.

Numbers of gulls and their allies were also wanting this fall. The Madison County Landfill, often a hotspot for gull watching, was unproductive and/or poorly covered; our data shows few noteworthy occurrences there. At Derby Hill on 11 September, Kevin McGann counted 12 Parasitic Jaegers, virtually the Region’s entire allotment for the season as it turned out. Also from Derby Hill, Gerry Smith reported a Black-legged Kittiwake during the first week of November, the only sighting. Little Gull was seen a few times throughout fall during lakewatches, and Wade and Melissa Rowley reported one flying by Fair Haven. Sightings of Iceland Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, and Glaucous Gull were infrequent, and no large gull movements were reported from the Ontario lakeshore. On 24 November, Dave Wheeler and Jim Tarolli photographed a probable **Black-headed Gull** flying west near the breakwall at Fair Haven. The bird was not studied in the field and inferring identity from photographs can be tricky business, but it did show an all-orange/red bill which Bonaparte’s should never have. At the same spot, Wheeler was lucky to find seven Forster’s Terns flying together on 7 October, an excellent count for the Region.

The Snowy Owl that summered in the Region continued at a Town of Clay shopping plaza until 9 November, when the oft-photographed bird was found perched on a low fence and in desperate shape. At the time it was presumed hit by a car. The faltering bird was captured and brought to KKWC for rehabilitation where it was determined to be severely malnourished and missing

a rear talon on the back of one foot (a crucial appendage for securing prey). Unfortunately the bird was deemed too far gone and had to be euthanized. During its summer stay, which was not particularly hot, the bird never showed any obvious distress which might be attributed to weather. One could wonder if the season had an indirect negative impact in some way on the bird's health, but the editors continue to recommend against intervention for out-of-season Snowies when the bird is not otherwise showing signs of distress. Interestingly, another Snowy was reported back at the same location within a few weeks but didn't linger. Soprano also reported that an immature Barred Owl, which came into KKWC from a DeWitt park on 8 September, suffered from what she termed a most unusual birth defect and one which could only be revealed by x-ray. The bird was missing the bones and talons from its rear-facing toe on both feet. Though the missing talons were clear to the unaided eye, the presence of normal flesh on the toes masked the deformity. A handicap of this nature would make hunting virtually impossible for this individual and explained the emaciated state of the bird. Soprano speculated that the bird's condition wouldn't have become acute until after its parents had ceased feeding it. Could it have perched? On 13 September a presumptive Long-eared Owl was located at Howland Island, and, encouragingly, there were reports from four separate locations of Northern Saw-whet Owls. David Cesari found one in Rome on 6 October while another returned to a traditional spot at Beaver Lake Nature Center on 24 October.

Gregg Dashnau continued his study of Common Nighthawks that use Three Rivers WMA as a migratory stopover site, with very interesting results. Tirelessly observing over 54 nights (beginning 15 August) the count continued from summer with a peak of 54 birds for fall on 1 September (refer to the Summer 2014 Region 5 *Kingbird* report for August totals). Since some birds were roosting at the site, total numbers would not reflect an exact count of distinct migrants, but Dashnau estimated ~350 different birds may have been involved over the whole migration. Following several more good counts in early September, the number of birds seen feeding each night, starting on 6 September and continued through the end of the month, stabilized at 12-20. Other birders enjoyed the spectacle, sometimes starting an hour before sunset, and often featuring close birds. Presumably all juveniles, the birds continued far later than expected and survived some nasty evenings by nighthawk standards. The number seen quickly dwindled when cooler weather arrived in earnest, and the last two were seen on 5 October. After two days with no nighthawks, Dashnau wrapped up for the season with a summary and bar-charts of the count which capture Three Rivers as a significant migratory stopover habitat for this declining species. It's surmised that the birds follow upstate New York's extensive system of connected rivers and lakes, and that the buggy 100 Acre Marsh (aka Green Pond) serves as a navigational waypoint, roosting, and feeding area. Did lingering birds eventually continue their migration or did they perish when moths became scarce? Probably only the birds know. A final note of interest: while normally very vocal during spring and summer, none were

heard making “peent” calls during the survey period, only a soft buzzy contact call between birds was heard.

There were 16 total reports of Peregrine Falcons in the Region, almost all migrants. The resident pairs in both Syracuse and Utica were observed through the end of the period. The last of three offspring of the Utica pair finally departed her parent’s territory during the first week of September for points unknown. A **White-eyed Vireo** found on 2 November in the brush around Derby Hill was a nice discovery by Wayne Fidler. His “spishing” drew the rarity out into the open where it afforded great views but apparently had places to go and was not relocated. A reported lack of mast in the northern forest likely was the cause for some typical wintering species to vacate the area in favor of more southern and possibly western regions. Though data doesn’t suggest an irruption of Red-breasted Nuthatches, numbers do indicate a significant movement of Blue Jays. Repeating his efforts from last fall, Mickey Scilingo devoted time to counting Blue Jays migrating over his Constantia residence. On 21 September, he reported that the jays “passed over in multiple waves and at several different elevations, with most moving east to west, which is typical of fall migration movement at this end of Oneida Lake.” In just over three hours Scilingo counted 1,309 Blue Jays migrating. A few days later, on the morning of the 24th, he noted a more substantial movement of jays. Again they flew in multiple levels, but this time they were flying in a near-constant stream. In 30 minutes he counted 1,824 jays and was certain he wasn’t getting them all. Forty-five minutes spent counting on the morning of the 25th yielded another 1,400 Blue Jays, and 1,272 were tallied the next day. Taken together, between 21 September and 3 October, Scilingo had counted 7,652 Blue Jays passing along the shore of Oneida Lake. Within that same time frame, on 23 September, Bill Purcell counted 1,412 flying over his Hastings residence.

Another fantastic bird and first Region 5 record was a **Townsend’s Solitaire** found by Brian White on 22 November at his own Chickadee Hill Wildlife Sanctuary located in Erieville in Southern Madison County. White had previous experience with this species in the West and was confident in his ID of the bird, which didn’t linger long enough to provide good substantiating evidence. Lack of food, and specifically a lack of juniper berries in the area, gave little hope the bird would return. Miraculously, a week later on 30 November, White relocated the Solitaire in the small marsh near his driveway. It continued into the winter period and was enjoyed by many grateful birders. There were four reports of single Gray-cheeked Thrushes. On 30 September while birding the Onondaga Lake Creek Walk, Dennis Anderson was fortunate to find a Gray-cheeked in close proximity to a Swainson’s Thrush, which served to help clinch the identification of both species.

Snow Bunting and Horned Lark numbers seemed low this fall. Lapland Longspur showed at six different locations and occasionally in the company of American Pipits. There were at least two notable movements of neotropicals reported. On 7 September Brenda Best estimated more than 100 birds comprised

the mixed flock foraging around her Durhamville residence. The birds' persistent flitting and reshuffling made them difficult to count; besides two Philadelphia Vireos, an impressive 18 warbler species (including Cape May) were ultimately singled out of the crowd. Doubtless, some of the season's high counts might have derived from that eclectic flock if the birds themselves had been more cooperative! On 12 September a second wave was noted by birders. On that day a long hike at Three Rivers WMA enabled Gregg Dashnau to find four Philadelphia Vireos, three Lincoln's Sparrows, and 16 warbler species including 11 Wilson's. Joe Brin and Bill Purcell came across a similar spread of species at Beaver Lake Nature Center. In Southern Oneida County, Matt Perry noted that Tennessee Warblers are becoming far more commonly seen in migration. Just a few years ago only a handful of Tennessees might be encountered during the entire fall migration period, but now they are reliably found within foraging flocks. Perry also noted that the numbers of Black-throated Green Warblers traveling in these flocks have been greatly reduced. A very late female Northern Parula was found by Wayne Fidler at Derby Hill on 8 November. It was seen and photographed by multiple observers before departing on the 12th. Two days later, an unconfirmed report of the species on Onondaga Hill in Syracuse could possibly refer to the same bird continuing its journey southward.

Janet McGraw noticed a late grosbeak at her Syracuse feeders on 17 November. Rose-breasted occasionally lingers but Black-headed is also a possibility that should be considered. Photographs are essential for what can be a very tough ID. There were numerous reports from across the Region of Fox Sparrows remaining through the end of the period, which may represent a growing trend for that species. On 8 October Drew Weber found and photographed a female/juvenile **Dickcissel** in a weedy field alongside Onondaga Lake's inner harbor. High wind made things difficult for observers later in the day but some caught a glimpse. Blackbird congregations again reached immense proportions in some of the Region's wetlands. At Clay Marsh on 4 November, David Wheeler was presented with a "cloud" of mostly Red-winged Blackbirds flying to roost. He estimated the total flock at around 40,000. Common Grackles and Rusty Blackbirds also contributed, but it was impossible to accurately count or estimate fractions by species. Large flocks of primarily Red-winged Blackbirds were tallied at Three Rivers WMA and at two other locations in Madison County. This fall the only winter finch species that manifested itself in any numbers was Pine Siskin, but their presence was highly localized and usually short-lived. Wayne Fidler had a high count of 134 siskins over Derby Hill on 24 October. There were only two reports of Common Redpolls, which taken together amounted to a grand total of three individuals for the season. Evening Grosbeak showed up only at our Region's most stalwart traditional sites, but even those flocks were not sizable.

Though this report concerns itself with birds, it's worth mentioning a Monarch butterfly roost discovered by Wayne Fidler on 10 September at Derby

Hill, which contained over 150 individuals. This fascinating phenomenon was also photographed by Mary and Mark Magistro and seems worthy of noting in any naturalist's journal, especially given the Monarch's current conservation challenges.

This season a total of 230 species was reported for the season, which is four less than the recent 10-year average of 234. Highlights included: Cackling Goose, Golden Eagle, **MISSISSIPPI KITE**, Ruddy Turnstone, **Red Knot**, Purple Sandpiper, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Black-legged Kittiwake, **Black-headed Gull**, Little Gull, Forster's Tern, Snowy Owl, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, N. Saw-whet Owl, **White-eyed Vireo**, **TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE**, Orange-crowned Warbler, **Connecticut Warbler**, and **Dickcissel**.

Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02 was used to process 27,843 eBird records from 148 contributors.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

Adks – Adirondacks, (n. HERK); BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville; BRH – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; Bville – Baldwinsville; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida Lake at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; Dvl – Durhamville; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GB – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; GLSP – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; GSC – Great

Swamp Conservancy, n. MADI; HA – Hancock Airport; Hast – Hastings; HI – Howland Is WMA; LN – Lake Neatahwanta, Fulton; LO – Lake Ontario; NH – New Haven; OF – Old Forge; OLC – Onondaga Lake Creekwalk; OneiL – Oneida Lake; OnonL – Onondaga Lake; OswH – Oswego Harbor; Pville – Pennellville; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; SHTF – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango, MADI; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; SPd – Sandy Pd; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; SVB – Sylvan & Verona Beach; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; VBSP – Verona Beach SP; Volney – County Route 6 Wetlands, Volney; WP – Woodman Pond, Hamilton.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: arr SHTF 26 Oct, prior reports of singles from OnonL & Skan, likely birds that summered; max 450 BLNC 11 Nov.

Brant: arr 15 OswH 4 Oct; max 2185 DH 19 Oct; last OnonL 24 Nov.

Cackling Goose: arr DH 9 Oct; max 5 WP 19 Nov (RC); about 10 reports.

Trumpeter Swan: 5 FH 29 Oct, 3 Nov; 2 Volney thru 3 Nov.

Tundra Swan: arr FH & Const 3 Nov; 89 Bridgeport 19 Nov; max 180 Bridgeport 22 Nov (AB).

Wood Duck: max 133 DH 10 Sep (WF); 37 LN 13 Sep; 35 HI 25 Sep.

Gadwall: arr Canas 7 Sep; 32 FH 6 Nov; max 185 FH 8 Nov (JM); 15 WP 22 Nov; around 50 reports.

Am. Wigeon: arr DH 6 Sep; max 165 FH 8 Nov (JM).

Am. Black Duck: max 465 DH 19 Oct (BP), good number; 100 FH 8 Nov.

Blue-winged Teal: max 30 Volney 23, 24 Sep; last 3 GSC 27 Oct; low counts & relatively few reports.

N. Shoveler: arr TR 17 Sep; 5 BLNC 9 Oct; max 6 Const 26 Oct; last 2 FH 28 Nov; low counts & relatively few reports.

N. Pintail: max 200 DH 9 Oct (DW); 50 FH 8 Nov.

Green-winged Teal: 55 Volney 22 Sep; max 80 SP 4 Oct; 32 BLNC 30 Oct.

Canvasback: arr DH 19 Oct; Bridgeport 22 Nov; max 3 DH 28 Nov; only reports.

Redhead: arr 6 FH 22 Sep; 29 Skan 26 Nov; max 100 DH 28 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 3 OswH 19 Sep; max 237 Tully 8 Nov (GH); 180 DeRuyter 22 Nov; best counts s. ONON & s. MADI.

Greater Scaup: arr WP 16 Sep; max 92 DH 19 Oct; 17 LN 1 Nov.

Lesser Scaup: arr 2 FH 8 Oct; 14 FH 1 Nov;

max 60 Bridgeport 22 Nov.

scaup sp: max 350 DeRuyter 19 Nov; 200 OneiL 29 Nov.

Surf Scoter: arr 7 DH 9 Oct; max 9 DH 19 Oct; last DH, BLNC 14 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr 3 DH 6 Sep, early; max 352 DH 19 Oct (BP); nearly all reports from LO.

Black Scoter: arr 3 DH 18 Oct; 15 DH 19 Oct; max 22 SSSP 26 Nov; low numbers.

Surf/Black Scoter: max 30 SP 23 Nov; 20 DH 14 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 31 DH 18 Oct; max 200 DH 12 Nov; almost all reports from LO.

Bufflehead: arr Skan 19 Oct; 52 BLNC 2 Nov; max 75 FH 10 Nov.

Com. Goldeneye: arr 5 FH 23 Oct; 43 Tuscarora Lake, Nelson; max 73 OneiL 19 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: max 110 Bridgeport 22 Nov (AB); 60 DeRuyter 22 Nov; 68 OnonL 29 Nov.

Com. Merganser: 100 FH 10 Nov; max 102 BLNC 30 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr 2 DH 11 Sep; 110 DH 12 Nov; 150 OswH 14 Nov; max 1090 FH 16 Nov (BP).

Ruddy Duck: arr 12 BLNC 7 Oct; 25 WP 10 Oct, 7 Nov; max 44 BLNC 28 Oct; 26 SP 23 Nov.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 3 Waterville 23 Sep; max 5 Elbridge 20 Nov; 4 other reports.

Ruffed Grouse: max 2 Mexico 1 Oct & SFNS 4, 9 Nov; widespread reports of singles.

Red-throated Loon: arr DH 8 Nov; max 4 FH 25 Nov; only 2 reports away from FH.

Com. Loon: 10 OF 29 Sep; max 26 DH 26 Oct (BP); 9 FH 25 Nov.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 15 WP 8 Oct; 11 FH 8 Oct; 11 Bridgeport 22 Nov.

Horned Grebe: arr 2 OswH 9 Sep; max 17 DH 9 Oct (KM); 11 FH 31 Oct; 10 OnonL 19 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: arr 3 OswH 4 Oct; max 8 DH 9 Oct; 4 BLNC 20 Oct.

Am. Bittern: TR 21 Sep; max & last 2 SP 4 Oct; only reports.

Great Blue Heron: 6 Bville 5 Sep; 6 SNC 27 Sep; max 38 TR 1 Oct (GD).

Great Egret: 2 HI 1 Sep; max 9 Loop Road e. MNWR 17 Sep (WG); 2 GSC 13, 14 Oct; last DB 30 Oct; most reports from w. half of Reg.

Green Heron: max 4 TR 18 Sep, 4 Volney 23 Sep; last e. Syr 17 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 2 SNC 27 Sep (JD) & OLC 12, 13 Oct; singles OLC thru 13 Oct.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Turkey Vulture: 100 OnonL 10 Oct; 138 DH 18 Oct; max 1607 BRH 22 Oct; 218 BRH 23 Oct.

Osprey: max 3 OswH 9, 11 Sep; Liverpool 30 Sep, dead by nest site; last BLNC 7 Nov (DA), late.

MISSISSIPPI KITE: DH 5 Sep (DW, JT, ph, NYSARC), *intro.* 4th Regional record, 2nd fall record.

Golden Eagle: arr Const 19 Oct; max 4 BRH 23 Oct (BP); 2 other sightings – also at BRH.

Bald Eagle: 7 SP 1 Sep; 6 DH 22 Sep; max 10 BRH 22 Oct; 6 FH 7 Nov.

N. Harrier: 3 Const 12 Oct; max 14 BRH 22 Oct; 3 GSC 30 Oct; relatively few reports.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 4 DH 14 Oct; max 18 BRH 22 Oct.

Cooper's Hawk: 4 DH 14 Oct; max 5 BRH 22 Oct.

N. Goshawk: SH 22 Oct (LS), only report.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 5 BRH 22 Oct; only 6 other reports of singles.

Broad-winged Hawk: 5 GLSP 1 Sep; max 6 HA 19 Sep; last 26 Sep TR; low counts & relatively few reports.

Red-tailed Hawk: 68 DH 14 Oct; max 598 BRH 22 Oct (BP).

Rough-legged Hawk: arr Warners 23 Oct; max 3 BRH 23 Oct; around 12 other singles.

Virginia Rail: HI 25 Sep (KB, TR), only report.

Com. Gallinule: 10 Volney 7 Sep; 12 HI 14 Sep; max 24 Loop Road e. Montezuma NWR 17 Sep (WG); last Richfield, HERK 16 Oct (LG).

Am. Coot: arr 30 FH 8 Oct; max 200 FH 3 Nov (JT); 50 UM 11 Nov; 50 WP 22 Nov.

Sandhill Crane: 2 TR 4 Sep (GD), only report.

Black-bellied Plover: max 2 SHTF 7 Sep & FH 19, 26 Sep; last FH 6 Nov.

Am. Golden-Plover: FH 19 Sep (BM), only report.

Semipalmated Plover: 6 SP 1 Sep; max 12 SP 7 Sep; 3 FH 10 Sep, 8 Oct; all but one report from LO.

Killdeer: max 41 Mexico 7 Sep; 40 Bville 4 Oct; last Mexico 23 Nov.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 2 Mexico 21 Sep; less than 10 reports of singles thru 26 Sep.

Solitary Sandpiper: last Skan 10 Oct; only 3 other reports.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 4 HI 25 Sep; last 6 Weedsport 24 Nov; about 10 other reports of singles.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 3 OnonL 6 Sep & Canas 30 Sep; last OnonL 8 Oct; around 6 other reports.

Ruddy Turnstone: singles SP, FH, thru 6 Sep; max & last 3 OswH 9 Sep.

Red Knot: FH 10 Sep (DW), only report.

Sanderling: max 54 SP 7 Sep (JTh); 35 DH 7 Sep; 12 FH 4 Oct; last FH 8 Nov; all reports from LO.

Dunlin: 7 FH 4 Oct; max 8 SP 1 Nov; last 2 FH 29 Nov (WMR).

Purple Sandpiper: arr & max 2 FH 3 Nov (mob); singles at same loc thru 9 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: max 2 FH 10 Sep (DW, JT); last FH 31 Oct (GD!, ph), late.

Least Sandpiper: max 5 OswH 9 Sep; 2 Oneil 9 Sep; 2 FH 10 Sep; last FH 19 Sep.

White-rumped Sandpiper: FH 10 Sep (DW, JT), only report.

Pectoral Sandpiper: FH 10 Sep; Volney 24 Sep; last Bville 4 Oct; only reports.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 5 FH 10 Sep; last FH 7 Oct; all reports from LO.

Wilson's Snipe: last BLNC 30 Oct; 3 other singles.

Am. Woodcock: max 4 TR 17, 26, 29 Sep; last Pville 28 Oct.

Pomarine Jaeger: DH 19 Oct (DW, WF), only report.

Parasitic Jaeger: max 12 DH 11 Sep (KM), good number; 3 DH 8 Oct (DW); last 2 DH 26 Oct (KM).

Parasitic/Long-tailed Jaeger: 2 DH 6, 11 Sep. **jaeger species:** 2 DH 6 Sep.

Black-legged Kittiwake: DH first week of Nov (GS).

Bonaparte's Gull: 68 DH 26 Oct; 68 FH 8 Nov; max 350 Oneil 29 Nov (DW).

BLACK-HEADED GULL (R5): FH 24 Nov (DW, JT, ph), *intro.*

Little Gull: arr DH 7 Sep (DWe, WF); max 3 DH 26 Oct (KM, BP, DW); DH 18, 26 Oct; FH

10 Oct (WMR); last DH 14 Nov (DW, JT).
Iceland Gull: arr DH 26 Oct (DW, BP, WF, KM, KB); OneiL 29 Nov (DW); only reports.
Ring-billed Gull: 500 SB 16 Sep; 500 OLC 17 Sep; max 700 Skan 12 Oct; 500 DH 14 Nov; 500 DB 22 Nov.
Herring Gull: 200 OswH 11 Sep; 100 DH 14 Nov; max 300 OneiL 29 Nov.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: OswH 24 Oct (WF), only report.
Glaucous Gull: arr FH 16 Nov (BM, mob); SP 23 Nov (BP); DH 28 Nov (DW, WF); only reports.
Great Black-backed Gull: 14 DH 12 Nov; max 35 OneiL 29 Nov.
Caspian Tern: 12 SP 1 Sep; max 13 FH 2 Sep; last 2 OnonL 13 Sep.
Black Tern: DH 11 Sep (WF, DW, DWe, KM), only report.
Com. Tern: max 4 DH 22 Sep; last FH 29 Oct (GD); 5 reports.
Forster's Tern: DH 16 Sep, 8 Oct (KM, DW); max 7 FH 7 Oct (DW, ph), exc num; 2 FH 4 Nov (JA).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

E. Screech-Owl: 2 Bridgeport 27 Sep; max 3 Skan 12 Oct; 9 reports of singles.
Great Horned Owl: 2 Manlius 28 Sep; 2 Mexico 28 Sep; 2 Bville 3 Nov; 2 NSyr 11 Oct; singles at 10 other locs.
Snowy Owl: Clay thru 9 Nov (mob), continues from summer, *intro*; arr Little Falls 19 Nov; singles at 3 locs.
Barred Owl: 3 TR 27 Sep; max 4 Camden 29 Sep (JL); OF 30 Sep (GL), found dead in lake; 2 GLSP 12 Oct; 2 DH 9 Nov; 2 SFNS 23 Nov.
Long-eared Owl: HI 13 Sep (TR), only report.
Short-eared Owl: arr TR 16 Oct (GD); Chittenango 26 Oct (CW); only reports.
N. Saw-whet Owl: GB 5 Oct (WF); Rome 6 Oct (DC); BLNS 24 Oct (JT, GD); Mexico 7 Nov.
Com. Nighthawk: max 48 TR 1 Sep (GD!), good num thru Sep, *intro*; 27 Camden 1 Sep (JL); last 2 TR 5 Oct.
Chimney Swift: max 11 LN 20 Sep; last Hast 23 Sep; reports from 7 locs.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 3 TR 12 Sep; last Dolgeville 29 Sep.
Belted Kingfisher: 3 HI 1 Sep; 3 OnonL 12 Sep; 3 FH 17 Sep; max 4 Richfield 18 Sep.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 8 HI 25 Sep; max 12 Mexico 23 Nov.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 3 Manlius 2 Oct (CB).

N. Flicker: 10 GLSP 7 Sep; 9 CM 8 Oct; 8 HA 20 Sep; max 21 TR 12 Sep.
Pileated Woodpecker: 3 SFNS 4 Sep – 5 Nov; max 4 GLSP 21 Sep.
Am. Kestrel: max 4 BRH 22 Oct; mostly singles and small numbers from expected areas.
Merlin: max 2 Bville 11, 21 Sep; 2 CM 8 Oct; at least 37 reports of singles.
Peregrine Falcon: max 4 DH 18 Oct (WF); pair Syr 1 Nov; pair Utica thru, last of 3 fledglings departs after 2 Sep; 16 reports of migrants.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: SFNS 9 Sep, only report.
E. Wood-Pewee: 6 HI 1 Sep; max 8 TR 12 Sep; last Fairfield 1 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SFNS 4 Sep; 5 singles reported thru 23 Sep.
Alder/Willow Flycatcher: 2 TR 16, 23 Sep, last 2 GLSP 27 Sep.
Least Flycatcher: 5 SFNS 5 Sep; max 6 TR 12 Sep; relatively few reports.
E. Phoebe: max 5 TR 14 Sep; DB 25 Oct; last GLSP 25 Nov, late.
Great Crested Flycatcher: max 2 TR 1 – 14 Sep; 2 Mexico 4 Sep; last TR 19 Sep.
E. Kingbird: Mexico 2 Sep; TR 4 Sep; last Cold Brook 6 Sep; only reports.
N. Shrike: arr SH 14 Nov (BP); Bville 30 Nov (GD); only reports.
WHITE-EYED VIREO (R5): DH 2 Nov (WF).
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 2 TR 1 – 15 Sep, 2 GLSP 6 Sep & LN 7 Sep; last TR 18 Sep; 6 reports of singles from other locs.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 TR 23 Sep; 3 SFNS 4 Oct; 3 Const 12 Oct; last Const 25 Oct.
Warbling Vireo: 3 OLC 2 Sep; max 4 Van Buren 6 Sep & LN 7 Sep.
Philadelphia Vireo: 2 Dville 7 Sep; 2 SFNS 12 Sep; 2 BLNC 12 Sep; max 4 TR 12 Sep; 2 HA 19 Sep; last HA 2 Oct; over 26 reports of singles.
Red-eyed Vireo: 5 SFNS 1 – 12 Sep; 5 Manlius 1 Sep; max 6 Camden 4 Sep; 5 Verona 14 Sep; last SSSP 10 Oct.
Blue Jay: 1412 Hastings 23 Sep (BP); max 1824 Const 24 Sep (MS), notable migration, *intro*.
Am. Crow: max 2570 BRH 22 Oct (BP).
Fish Crow: OnonL 8, 29 Sep, only reports.
Com. Raven: 6 Cold Brook 3 Oct; max 7 Skan 23 Oct (MI); 6 Florence 14 Nov (JC); widespread reports.

Horned Lark: max 80 Pulaski 14 Nov; 50 Port Byron 14 Nov; 50 Bville 15 Nov.

Purple Martin: TR 6 Sep; last Const 8 Sep; only reports.

Tree Swallow: Port Byron 1 Sep; max & last 85 Volney 5 Oct.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: Sterling 2 Sep, only report.

Bank Swallow: 3 TR 13 Sep, only report.

Barn Swallow: 23 Sterling 2 Sep; max 33 HI 4 Sep; last 2 Fulton 20 Sep.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 14 SH 2 Sep; 8 Boylston 31 Oct; mostly small numbers in expected places, no discernable irruption.

Brown Creeper: max 8 BLNC 12 Oct.

House Wren: max 6 Mexico 7 Sep & TR 1 Oct; last Madison 17 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 7 SFNS 13 Oct; 4 TR 13, 20 Oct; 4 GB 19 Oct.

Marsh Wren: LN 13 Sep; max 5 TR 21 Sep, 7 Oct; last TR 20 Oct (GD).

Carolina Wren: max 4 HI 13 Sep; 3 LN 5 Oct; 3 Fayetteville 12 Oct; OF thru 26 Nov, uncommon in Adks at high elevations.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 2 TR 8 Sep & OLC 14 Sep; last Dewitt 15 Sep (WG); 4 other reports of singles.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 16 BLNC 9 Oct; 12 SFNS 13 Oct; 15 TR 13 Oct.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr HA 19 Sep; 10 GB 5, 19 Oct; 10 SFNS 14 Oct; max 40 TR 20 Oct (GD); last Elbridge 28 Nov (KB).

E. Bluebird: max 35 Camden 29 Sep; 28 Const 27 Oct; 25 DH 8 Nov.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE: SH 22 Nov thru (BW!, ph, mob, NYSARC), 1st Reg Rec.

Veery: max 3 HI 1 Sep; 2 TR 2 Sep; Const 7 Sep; last HA 16 Sep (DA); only reports.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Hast 24 Sep (BP); Syr 25 Sep (DWe); OLC 30 Sep (DA); last Mexico 1 Oct (WF); only reports.

Swainson's Thrush: 4 Hast 24 Sep; 3 Mexico 1 Oct; max 5 TR 9 Oct; last Const 20 Oct; reports from 5 other locs.

Hermit Thrush: 6 TR 9 Oct; max 9 GB 20 Oct (JB); Rome 28 Nov (DC); relatively few reports.

Wood Thrush: 3 Mexico 28 Sep; max 9 GB 8 Sep (GD); 3 Cont 9 Oct; last Clinton 13 Oct (MP).

Gray Catbird: 15 HA 16 Sep; max 35 HA 19 Sep; 19 CM 23 Sep; 15 HI 25 Sep; last 2 UM 11 Nov.

N. Mockingbird: max 6 OnonL 25 Sep; 4 GLSP 27 Sep; no reports from eastern half of Reg.

Brown Thrasher: max 5 SFNS 3 Sep & HA 19 Sep; last HA 25 Sep.

Am. Pipit: first 8 OswH 9 Sep; max 170 Skan 7 Nov; widespread reports of mostly small numbers.

Cedar Waxwing: max 100 TR 1 Sep; 50 SFNS 25 Oct; 50 Bville 8, 9 Nov; 83 SSSP 23 Nov.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: arr FH 15 Oct (GD); SHTF 26 Oct; FH 8 Nov; OswH 14 Nov; Bville 15 Nov; max 4 Little Falls 22 Nov (LH).

Snow Bunting: arr 6 FH 23 Oct; max 91 FH 3 Nov; 75 Verona 14 Nov; 75 SFNS 17 Nov.

Ovenbird: max 2 Mexico 4 Sep & Hast 8, 9 Sep; last SFNS 12 Oct; reports from 9 locs.

Blue-winged Warbler: singles SH, SFNS, TR; last Hast 7 Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: 2 TR 2 - 12 Sep; 2 Camden 4 Sep; max 3 HI 4 Sep; 2 BLNC 12 Sep; last TR 8 Oct; relatively few reports.

Tennessee Warbler: 4 SFNS 3 Sep; 4 Hast 7 Sep; max 5 TR 12 Sep; last OLC 7 Oct; over 40 reports.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr LN 20 Sep; singles TR, OLC & Hast; last GB 19 Oct (GD).

Nashville Warbler: max 13 TR 12 Sep; 5 Manlius 12 Sep; 6 SFNS 28 Sep.

Connecticut Warbler: Mexico 15 Sep (WF).

Mourning Warbler: Dvl 7 Sep; GSC 13 Sep; BLNC 13 Sep; OLC 13 Sep; last DH 28 Sep.

Com. Yellowthroat: 7 SFNS 4 Sep; 8 Hast 7 Sep; max 9 TR 12 Sep; 7 HA 19 Sep; last SFNS 13 Oct.

Hooded Warbler: max 2 SFNS 5 Sep & BLNC 12 Sep; last SFNS 25 Sep; reports from 6 locs.

Am. Redstart: 3 Camden 4 Sep; max 5 TR 12 Sep; last Madison 17 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: arr 2 Sep SH; max 4 OLC 18 Sep (DWe); last BLNC 21 Sep; singles at 6 other locs.

N. Parula: max 3 OLC 9 Sep; 2 TR 12 Sep; 2 Syr 23 Sep; DH 8 -12 Nov (WF, mob, ph), late.

Magnolia Warbler: 7 SH 2 Sep; 7 SFNS 4 Sep; max 15 TR 12 Sep; 10 CM 23 Sep; last GLSP 12 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: 2 BLNC 11, 12 Sep; max 3 TR 12 Sep; 2 HA 19 Sep; singles at 9 other locs.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 9 TR 12 Sep; 2 Manlius 12 Sep; 2 Bridgeport 27 Sep; 2 BLNC 12 Sep; last Dolgeville 2 Oct; low counts.

Yellow Warbler: singles at 7 locs; last DH 10 Nov (BP), very late.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 6 SH 2 Sep; max 9

TR 12 Sep; last TR 2 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr TR 1 Sep; max 10 OLC 26 Sep; last St. Johnsville 12 Oct; generally low counts.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: 4 SH 7 Sep; max 6 TR 12 Sep; last TR 10 Oct; singles at 11 locs; poor numbers.

Palm Warbler: 5 TR 12 Sep; 15 LN 13 Sep; max 16 Syr 25 Sep (DWe), good number; last DH 24 Oct.

Pine Warbler: 2 Camden 4 Sep; max 3 TR 8 Sep; 2 Salisbury Center 12 Sep; 2 Manlius 16 Sep; last Clinton 20 Nov (MP), visits bird feeder.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 22 Bridgeport 27 Sep; max 34 Mexico 16 Oct; 23 Manlius 17 Oct.

Black-throated Green Warbler: 5 Camden 4 Sep; max 12 TR 12 Sep; 11 HA 19 Sep; last 2 TR 9 Oct; low counts.

Canada Warbler: max 3 Camden 4 Sep & TR 12 Sep; last Bville 16 Sep; about 10 reports.

Wilson's Warbler: 3 Hast 8, 9 Sep; max 11 TR 12 Sep (GD); 3 BLNC 12 Sep; last TR 1 Oct.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: max 16 TR 29 Sep (JB), good number; 10 Mexico 1 Oct; last DH 24 Oct; generally good numbers.

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr Syr 20 Oct; max 21 Dolgeville 20 Nov & DB 22 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: 32 Hast 3 Sep; 30 Syr 23 Sep; 30 BLNC 13 Oct; max 35 HA 20 Oct; last Jamesville 23 Nov.

Field Sparrow: max 21 TR 19 Sep; 6 GLSP 27 Sep; last Bville 19 Nov.

Vesper Sparrow: SSSP 19 Oct (BP); Syr 20 Oct (DWe); max & last 2 Salisbury 24 Oct (LH); Tully 24 Oct (GH).

Savannah Sparrow: 16 Bville 25 Sep; max 25 Syr 13 Oct (DWe), good number; last 24 Oct Salisbury.

Fox Sparrow: arr GB 19 Oct; 6 GB 20 Oct; max 8 TR 22 Oct; 5 BLNC 29 Oct; last Dolgeville & Liverpool 29 Nov.

Song Sparrow: 42 West Monroe 24 Sep; max 120 TR 2 Oct; 60 Syr 20 Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr 3 TR 12 Sep; max 6 DB 1 Oct (TS); 4 TR 9 Oct; 3 Syr 25 Sep; last Fayetteville 29 Oct.

Swamp Sparrow: 7 West Monroe 24 Sep; 7 TR 2 Oct; max 15 Syr 20 Oct; last OLC 25 Nov.

White-throated Sparrow: 75 SFNS 12, 25 Oct; max 80 TR 13, 20 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr TR 23 Sep; 30 Dolgeville 12 Oct; 13 GB 19 Oct; max 50 Syr 20 Oct; last Parish 23 Nov.

Dark-eyed Junco: 87 GB 19 Oct; max 92 Pulaski 21 Nov; 76 Mexico 21 Nov.

Scarlet Tanager: 2 GLSP 7 Sep; 2 GLSP 7 Sep; 2 SFNS 9 Sep; max 4 TR 12 Sep; 2 HI 13 Sep; last SFNS 1 Oct.

N. Cardinal: 10 TR 15 Sep; max 11 OLC 25 Nov.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 7 SFNS 4 Sep; 6 Minoa 11 Sep; 6 TR 12 Sep; last SFNS 4 Oct;

Rose-breasted Grosbeak/BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK: Syracuse 17 Nov (JMw), *intro*.

Indigo Bunting: max 6 Camden 3 Sep; 3 Bville 25 Sep, 4 Oct; last OnonL 8 Oct; found at only 6 locs.

Dickcissel: OnonL 8 Oct (DWe, ph, mob), f. or juv.

Bobolink: max 3 SFNS 1 Sep; last SFNS 23 Sep; singles at only 2 other locs.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 10,000 TR 26 Oct; 6,250 Chittenango 26 Oct; 3250 SHSF 26 Oct.

E. Meadowlark: max 14 BRH 19 Oct; 4 HA 20 Oct; last Pompey 25 Oct; singles & small numbers at 5 other locs.

Rusty Blackbird: arr 60 TR 4 Oct; 50 CM 13 Oct; 300 TR 22 Oct; last Pulaski 26 Nov.

Com. Grackle: max 10,000 Central Square 23 Oct; 4,300 Parish 23 Oct; last 6 Skan 28 Nov.

Brown-headed Cowbird: 100 Skan 12 Oct; max 180 DB 25 Oct.

Baltimore Oriole: max 2 SFNS 1 Sep & LN 7 Sep; last CM 23 Sep.

blackbird species: max 40,000 CM 20 Oct, 4 Nov.

Purple Finch: 31 Dolgeville 4 Oct; max 44 Const 19 Oct (MS).

House Finch: 26 TR 12 Oct; max 35 HA 20 Oct; 16 DB 25 Oct.

Com. Redpoll: 2 Marietta 27 Nov (PH); BLNC 29 Nov (JB); only reports.

Pine Siskin: arr Const 26 Sep; 18 Tully 20 Oct; max 134 DH 24 Oct; 13 Hast 31 Oct; mostly singles and small flocks.

Am. Goldfinch: 100 GLSP 12 Sep; 100 SFNS 21 Oct; max 198 DH 24 Oct.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 7 Dolgeville 26 Oct (BLH); DH 8 Nov (WF); max 15 SH 14 Nov (LS); only 3 locs.

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