

REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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The chill of winter continued in March 2015. The mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 29.2° F, 4.8° below normal, and with only one day that made it to the 50s. There was 1.44" of precipitation, 1.43" below average. Snowfall was 9.6", 3.3" below average. Lake Erie and inland ponds remained frozen throughout the month. It was a mostly typical April, which was a relief after the prolonged cold. The mean temperature was 45.8°, only 0.1° below average. Precipitation was 2.70", 0.31" below average. Snowfall was 0.3", 2.4" below normal. The middle of the month was warm, but the last week and half was cold which stifled migration. Lake Erie had an ice out date of 18 April, which is close to normal. May was very warm and dry. The average temperature was 62.6°, 5.7° above normal. Rainfall was 3.50", 0.04" below normal, but there were only two rain events all month. The 2.44" of rain on the 31st was the second greatest calendar rainfall event in May.

Similar to last spring, waterfowl migration progressed slowly in March, no doubt influenced by the continuation of below average temperatures and lingering ice from February. Large concentrations of geese were found primarily on the Lake Ontario Plain in Niagara and Orleans Counties, where counts of 5,350 and 3,000 Snow Geese were made on 25 and 29 March, respectively. There was only one report of **Greater White-fronted Goose** this spring, while small numbers of Cackling Geese continue to have a regular presence in flocks of Canada Geese. Single **Ross's Geese** were seen within flocks of Canada Geese in Newstead on 26 March and Somerset on 5 April and continue to be an expected sight in spring.

Ducks were highlighted by a female **King Eider** present for at least two weeks at Buffalo Harbor in early March, as well as a **Harlequin Duck** on the Niagara River near Unity (formerly Squaw) Island that continued over from February. There were four reports of **Eurasian Wigeon**, one each at Dunkirk Harbor and the nearby Berry Rd. marsh in Pomfret in late March, and then two reports in April from the Iroquois NWR complex. Also seen was a male **hybrid Eurasian x American Wigeon** at Goose Pond (Stafford Marsh) on the Oak Orchard WMA on 3 April. Photographs showed it appearing very similar to Eurasian Wigeon but with greenish iridescence and subtle contrast on the face, and peachy-buff coloration extending on the sides, features that suggested American Wigeon influence. While visiting Wilson-Tuscarora SP on 29 May,

Charles Horton photographed an unusual duck that turned out to be the Region's fourth record of **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**, all since 2009. The bird frequented the shoreline and private docks near the mouth of the western branch of Twelve-Mile Creek and lingered into the summer season, allowing many to see and photograph this cooperative "tree duck".

While driving westbound along the I-90 in the town of Dunkirk during the early morning of 23 April, Pawlicki observed a flock of 12 Double-crested Cormorants that contained one smaller cormorant as they flew west along the highway. He was able to pull over to the shoulder and watch as the flock flew directly overhead, confirming that the small cormorant was indeed a **Neotropic Cormorant**, a Regional first and second for the State. Later that same morning, Gale VerHague briefly relocated the bird approximately four miles to the southwest at Lake Erie SP and then again with Sue Barth at a pond along Van Buren Road in the nearby town of Pomfret. Many observers made it to the Van Buren Road pond over the next two days where it was regularly seen swimming and loafing on the shoreline amongst Double-crested Cormorants.

Golden Eagles put in a good showing this spring, with a total of 10 reports in March and April, three of which were away from lakeshore sites. Ospreys and Bald Eagles continue to be an increasingly regular sight throughout the Region in April and May. The 18 Bald Eagles seen flying past the Hamburg Hawkwatch on 13 April was the site's all-time highest single day count.

The shorebird migration in April and May was a mixed bag, with average diversity and generally below average numbers. After a slow start, several notable observations were made from Batavia WWTP in late May, highlighted by a **Wilson's Phalarope** on the 22nd, single **Whimbrels** on the 22nd and 28th, and a flock of 15 Ruddy Turnstones on the 25th. A flock of nine Whimbrels briefly touched down at the Tonawanda WMA on the 28th as well. Eight Short-billed Dowitchers photographed at Conewango Swamp WMA in central Cattaraugus County on the 20th was especially notable for the location. The only reports of **Willet** and **White-rumped Sandpiper** were both from the Tonawanda WMA on 30 May.

Numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls on the Niagara River were notably low this spring, and no counts of over 350 were made from either the upper or lower river. There were only two reports of Little Gulls from Lewiston in March, compared with three reports from the Lake Erie shore in April, where less common. **Black Terns** were numerous around the Iroquois NWR complex, and a count of 56 made there on 17 May is hopefully a precursor to a productive breeding season. Away from Iroquois, small numbers of migrant Black Terns were also noted in late May at the Batavia WWTP, Chautauqua Lake, and a small wetland in the town of Middlebury. Common Terns arrived at Buffalo Harbor on 4 April, but numbers there and along the upper Niagara River were much lower than normal in April and May. Connie Adams of the NYSDEC reported many fewer nests and many failed nesting attempts on the breakwalls in Buffalo Harbor by late May. The lower numbers of Common Terns at the

Buffalo Harbor colony perhaps influenced some higher counts in other locations, such as the 95 seen at Dunkirk Harbor on 25 April and 45 noted at Chautauqua Lake on 13 May. Five sightings of **Forster's Tern** in late April and early May were more than usual for spring, with observations from Cuba Lake in Allegany County, Chautauqua Lake, Batavia WWTP, and the Lake Erie shore in Dunkirk.

While birding with Willie D'Anna at Wilson Harbor on 1 May, Betsy Potter heard what she quickly recognized as the song of a **Eurasian Collared-Dove**. D'Anna then found the bird perched nearby at the Wilson Boathouse Restaurant and obtained several photographs. Reports at this location, where the dove was often heard singing and seen chasing Mourning Doves, were made up until 5 May. This makes the third sighting of this species in this general vicinity of Wilson Harbor within the last year, with the initial sighting in August 2014 followed by another in January 2015, all of which may pertain to the same individual. Further sightings of this individual as well as a second individual into the summer season would lead one to suspect that the first confirmed breeding of the species for the Region is not far behind.

After this winter's "return flight" of **Snowy Owls** from the large irruption of winter '13-'14, a small number of observations continued into March and April. The spring's maximum of four was seen on the ice at Buffalo Harbor on 2 April. An individual photographed by Jan Errick along the Niagara River at Beaver Island SP on 31 May was the Region's latest record at the time of observation.

Perhaps the most unexpected sighting this spring was the male **Black-backed Woodpecker** photographed by Kathleen Thomas at Reinstein Woods NP in suburban Cheektowaga on 26 May. Many searched heavily for the bird during the following two days, but it was not seen again. Those searching noted that a large number of ash trees at the preserve and in the general vicinity were infested with the non-native emerald ash borer beetle, and it was speculated whether this played a role in the bird's appearance at this location. This represents the first sighting of a Black-backed Woodpecker in the Region since 1976, when the last outbreak of the Dutch Elm disease infected many trees across much of the northeastern U.S., leading to sightings of both Black-backed and American Three-toed Woodpeckers in stands of dead and dying trees outside their normal ranges.

Also unexpected was the **Say's Phoebe** that Joe Mitchell identified in a wooded wetland at Conewango Swamp WMA during the BOS April Count. The phoebe stuck around the rest of the afternoon allowing for some successful chases. This is only the second Regional record and the first for spring. While it is better known as a fall vagrant to the east, there have been April reports in the last decade from generally proximate areas as Presque Isle, PA; northeast Ohio; and Long Point and Toronto, Ontario.

Beyond the rarities, it was generally considered a good spring songbird migration, albeit slow through most of March, slow again in mid-April, but

caught up in early to mid-May. There were few noticeably “early” arrivals this year compared with other recent spring seasons. However, a Philadelphia Vireo photographed by Glenn Adams at Four Mile Creek SP on 4 May was the earliest on record.

While warbler migrant numbers were considered decent for recent years, there were few sightings of the rare and less common species. **Connecticut Warblers** at Canadaway Creek WMA and Forest Lawn Cemetery represent the rarest finds this spring. The latter was found by Richard Salembier, and a few with a lot of a patience were eventually rewarded with looks. There were three **Golden-winged Warbler** sightings within a three day span. **Prothonotary Warblers** were found at the traditional nesting location in Tonawanda WMA. While not an especially rare species, a **Louisiana Waterthrush** was a nice find at Forest Lawn Cemetery, as they are rarely recorded in migration in this Region.

Pine Siskins were relatively common in April and May, but otherwise there were few of the winter finches around. Similar to winter, Common Redpolls were present in small numbers with the exception of a congregation at the D’Anna/Potter feeders in Wilson that swelled to 67 in late March. Willie D’Anna identified and photographed a **Hoary Redpoll** on 1 April, which, no fooling, may become the last Regional record, as this species is soon expected to be lumped with Common Redpoll. Only one Evening Grosbeak was reported this spring.

The B.O.S. April Count was held on 12 April, and a total of 155 species was recorded. The Say’s Phoebe was a first count record as was a male Rufous Hummingbird in the Ontario portion of the BOS Study Area. There were five record high counts since the 1935 inception including: Cackling Goose (17), Peregrine Falcon (11), Sandhill Crane (13), Red-bellied Woodpecker (282), and Fish Crow (6; all in Ontario).

The B.O.S. May Count was held on May 17. The full compilation was not available at the time of writing.

We lost two prominent birders in our community this spring with the passing of Bill Watson and Terry Yonker. A tribute to Bill written by Willie D’Anna was published in the previous issue of *The Kingbird*. His name/initials appeared as often as anyone in the Region 1 accounts over the past several decades, which was the result of his love for birds, dedicated record keeping, and commitment to get out birding seemingly every other day. Terry was a stalwart in the local birding and conservation community including serving as President of the Buffalo Ornithological Society from 2001-2005. They will be missed.

CONTRIBUTORS

Glenn Adams, Rick Bacher, Sue Barth, Doug Beattie, Jim Berry, Willie D’Anna, Jan Errick, Joe Fell, Kurt Fox, Chris Gainey, Andy Guthrie, Joanne Goetz, Ethan Gylenhaal, Becky Harbinson, Carol Hardenburg (CHa), Fred Harrington, Linda Holmes, Charles

Horton (CHo), Alec Humann, Tom Kerr, Jim & Karen Landau, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Jay McGowan (JMc), Joe Mitchell (JMi), Mike Morgante, Celeste Morien, Roy Morris, David Nicosia, James Pawlicki, Betsy Potter, Gil Randell, Ken Reichman (KRe), Kevin Rybczynski (KRy), Richard Salembier (RSa), Shawn Salim (SSa), James Sawusch, Shelly Seidman (SSe), Debbie Sharon (DSH), Alex Shiperd, Tom Simmons, Robert Spahn (RSp), James Styne, David and Debbie Suggs, Holly Sweeney, Kathleen Thomas, Gale VerHague, Kirk Vanstrom, Jonathan Weber, Kinsley Whittum, Peter Yoerg.

ABBREVIATIONS

AmSP – Amherst SP, ERIE; BeSP – Beaver I SP, ERIE; BMAC – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; BOSAC – Buffalo Ornithological Society April Count – 12 April; BOSMC – Buffalo Ornithological Society May Count – 17 May; BufH – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; BWWT – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant, GENE; ChauL – Chautauqua L, CHAU; CHMUA – Carlton Hill Multiple Use Area, GENE/WYOM; CSWMA – Conewango Swamp, WMA CATT; DH – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; FLC – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo ERIE; FMCSP – Four Mile Creek SP, NIAG; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; Hamburg HW – Hamburg Hawk Watch, ERIE; INWR – Iroquois, NWR GENE/ORLE; JAS – Jamestown Audubon Sanctuary, CHAU; LBSP – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; LESP – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; NR – Niagara R; OOWMA – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; PB – Point Breeze, ORLE; PG – Point Gratiot, CHAU; RWNP – Reinstein Woods NP, ERIE; Ripley HW – Ripley Hawk Watch, CHAU; SPNS – Sinking Ponds NS, ERIE; Tift NP – Tift Nature Preserve, ERIE; TRWMA – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; WFWMA – Watts Flats WMA, CHAU; WoBSP – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK:

WTSP 29 May (CHo, ph); continued into June; 4th Reg. record, all since 2009.

Greater White-fronted Goose: Newfane NIAG 29 Mar (PY), only report.

Snow Goose: arr 85 DH 3 Mar; max 5350 Carlton ORLE 25 Mar (WD); 1500 Medina ORLE 27 Mar; 2070 Royalton NIAG 28 Mar; 3000 Somerset NIAG 29 Mar; 1350 INWR 1 Apr, 20 Hamburg HW 6 Apr; last INWR 25 May, injured; flocks of up to a few thousand becoming annual in spring.

ROSS'S GOOSE (R1): Newstead ERIE 26 Mar (JMi!, ph); Somerset NIAG 5 Apr (JW, ph); now nearly annual in spring.

Cackling Goose: arr 10 Somerset NIAG 16 Mar; 7 Sheridan CHAU 17 Mar; max 17 Newstead ERIE 24 Mar; East Aurora ERIE 1 Apr; 17 BOSAC; last 6 Somerset NIAG 15 Apr.

Mute Swan: 1-6 DH 7-24 Mar; 2 BeSP 15, 18 Mar; 2 Middleport NIAG 25 Mar; Pomfret

CHAU 25 Mar-10 Apr; only reports away from L Ontario shore where regular.

Trumpeter Swan: FNSP 10 Mar, wing-tagged (WD, BP); DH 4-5 Apr (GV, JG); TWMA 11, 21 Apr, 27 May (GL, KF, CM); INWR 7 May (CM); BWWT 23 May (CM, SB); only reports.

Tundra Swan: arr 2 Ashford CATT 10 Mar; 140 Yates ORLE 25 Mar; 140, 73 INWR 27 Mar, 1 Apr; 6 Tift NP 4 Apr; last 2 Findley L CHAU 16 May; low numbers compared to typical spring counts.

Wood Duck: arr Olean CATT 8 Mar; max 100 WFWMA 29 Mar (JB).

Gadwall: BufH 13 Mar; 12 Pomfret CHAU 16 Mar; max 39, 36 OOWMA 7, 30 Apr.

Eurasian Wigeon: DH 28 Mar (TL); Pomfret CHAU 29, 30 Mar (GV, SSa, BH); OOWMA 13-14, 18 Apr (PY, DB, JP); INWR 24-25 Apr (JS, GA, WD, BP).

Eurasian x Am. Wigeon: m OOWMA 3 Apr (CM, ph); rare, features much like Eurasian, but showing traces of American influence.

Am. Wigeon: 5 BufH 13 Mar; 33 Celeron ChauL 2 Apr, max 100 INWR 10 Apr.

Blue-winged Teal: arr Orchard Park ERIE 10 Mar; 1, 2 FLC 12-26 Mar, 2 May; 8, 15 Pomfret CHAU 27 Mar, 14 Apr; max 16 Batavia GENE 8 Apr; 83 BOSAC; 8 BOSMC.

N. Shoveler: arr Olcott NIAG 14 Mar; Yates ORLE 16 Mar; 20, max 27 OOWMA 3, 12 Apr; 2 BWWT 26 May.

N. Pintail: arr 28 Wilson NIAG 10 Mar; 100 DH 28 Mar; 445, max 573, 348 INWR 10, 17 Apr, 1 May; 60 Elba GENE 11 Apr; last 2 BWWT 23 May.

Green-winged Teal: arr BufH 13 Mar; 100 Elba GENE 11 Apr; max 162, 68 INWR 17 Apr, 1 May.

Canvasback: 8 FLC 1 Mar; arr 17 BWWT 4 Mar; 150 DH 28 Mar; 35 BufH 9, 15 Apr; Findley L CHAU 16 May; BufH 24 May.

Redhead: arr 3, 83 BWWT 4, 17 Mar; max 300 BeSP 21 Mar; 80 Celeron ChauL 29 Mar; 100 TWMA 4 Apr; 2 BWWT 4 May; BuSP 16 May.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 12 Orchard Park ERIE, 1 Wilson NIAG 10 Mar; max 142 TWMA 30 Mar; 159 BWWT 4 Apr; 119 INWR 1 May; last N Harmony CHAU 23 May.

Greater Scaup: max 1500, 1100, 450 BufH 1, 13 Mar, 2 Apr; last WTSP 17 May (WD).

Lesser Scaup: 120 Buffalo NR 8 Mar; 35 LBSP 6 Apr; max 158, 33, 2 BWWT 11 Apr, 2, 30 May.

King Eider: f BufH 1, 13 Mar (JP, WD, SB), only report.

Harlequin Duck: f 1, 8 Mar (JP, AG), continuing from winter, only report.

Surf Scoter: 4, 2 DH 7, 11 Mar; Buffalo NR 8 Mar; FNBP 20 Mar; PB 28 Mar; 2 Wilson NIAG 16 Apr; 2 Cuba L ALLE 27 Apr; last BWWT, max 9 Somerset NIAG 2 May.

White-winged Scoter: BWWT 5 Mar, uncommon inland; max 115 FNBP 10 Mar; 55 BufH 13 Mar; 49 Wilson NIAG 25 Apr; 2 Cuba L ALLE 27 Apr; 8, 2 FMCS 30 Apr, 7 May.

Black Scoter: 1, 2 BufH 1-31 Mar, 1-2 Apr (JP, BP, J&KL, JMI); Buffalo NR 8 Mar (JP, AG); only reports.

Long-tailed Duck: 125 Buffalo NR 8 Mar; max 730 Wilson NIAG 25 Apr; 400 FMCS 30 Apr; 926 BOSMC; last 124 LBSP 18 May.

Bufflehead: max 410 Buffalo NR 7 Mar; 142, 38, last 1 BWWT 11 Apr, 2, 30 May; 50 Cuba L ALLE 17 Apr.

Com. Goldeneye: max 1260 Buffalo ERIE 1 Mar; 320 DH 28 Mar; Porter NIAG 7 May; last 3 BOSMC.

Hooded Merganser: arr 2 BWWT 4 Mar; max 50 DH 28 Mar; 26 Pomfret CHAU 6 Apr; 28, 6 Tift NP 9 Apr, 28 May.

Com. Merganser: 40 FLC 1 Mar; max 250 Buffalo NR 19 Mar; 69, 2 BWWT 4 Apr, 28 May.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 1000 DH, LESP 25, 26 Apr (JMc, TL); 225 Wilson NIAG 5 May; 11 Lewiston Res NIAG 22 May.

Ruddy Duck: arr 2 Orchard Park ERIE 10 Mar; max 163 Olcott NIAG 17 Mar (JW!), record count for L Ontario; 25 DH 17, 31 Mar; 95, 34 BWWT 23 Apr, 5 May; 115 Mayville ChauL 25 Apr (TL).

Red-throated Loon: 2 DH 6, 14 Mar; 14 FMCS 10 Mar; 23, 3, last 1 BufH 13 Mar, 1 Apr, 24 May (JP); 4 Lewiston Res 22 Mar; BMAC 19 Apr, rare inland; 66 Wilson NIAG 25 Apr; 195 BOSMC; 5 LBSP 14 May.

Com. Loon: Buffalo NR 5 Mar; 133 BOSAC; 87 Wilson NIAG 25 Apr; 114 BOSMC; Grand I NR 30 Mar.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr BWWT 13 Mar; 125 BOSAC.

Horned Grebe: 5 BufH 13 Mar; 24, 49 DH 28 Mar, 4 Apr; 40 Cuba L ALLE 18 Apr; max 190 Mayville ChauL 25 Apr (TL); 17, last 1 BWWT 4, 28 May (CM, DB), late.

Red-necked Grebe: BufH 7 Mar; FMCS, FNBP 10 Mar; max 125 L Ontario Olcott to Yates (WD); 40 Wilson NIAG 25 Apr; 7 Somerset NIAG 2 May; TRWMA 9 May; last BWWT 23 May (DB), late.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: Dunkirk CHAU 23 Apr (JP!, ph), fly-over; Pomfret CHAU 23-25 Apr (GV, SB, WD!, mob, ph); 1st Reg and 2nd State record, *intro*.

Double-crested Cormorant: arr 54 Hamburg HW 23 Mar; 7 Wellsville ALLE 26 Mar; 800, max 1800 DH, PG 25 Apr (JMc, TL); 600 FMCS 30 Apr; 450 PB 9 May.

Am. Bittern: arr INWR 11 Apr; 1-2 Tift NP 13-16 Apr; BWWT 1 May; max 6 INWR 21 May (CM, SB).

Least Bittern: arr Tift NP 8 May; 1, 2 INWR 25, 27 May.

Great Blue Heron: 85, max 112 Tonawanda NR 5, 12 Apr.

Great Egret: arr BeSP 27 Mar; Pomfret CHAU 1 Apr; 2 WFWMA 5 Apr; 8, 17 OOWMA 25, 28 May; max 53 Tonawanda NR 17 May (AH).

Green Heron: arr FLC 10 Apr.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 DH 9 Mar; 3 Buffalo NR 22 Mar; max 52, 29 Tonawanda NR 12 Apr, 17 May; 2 FLC 16 May; 2 WoBSP 24 May.

Black Vulture: max 7, 5 Lewiston NIAG 16, 31 Mar (DSh, JF), regular location where resident all year; JDSP 30 Apr (TK); Ripley HW 9 May (GR); Lewiston Res 22 May (JP).
Turkey Vulture: max 3484, 2867, 1879 Ripley HW, LBSP, Hamburg HW 2 Apr.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Osprey: arr Hamburg HW 28 Mar; max 26 Hamburg HW 6 Apr.
Bald Eagle: 12 DH 7 Mar; 10 INWR 3 Apr; max 18 Hamburg HW 13 Apr.
N. Harrier: max 12 Ripley HW 20 Apr.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 128, 121 Ripley HW 2, 13 Apr.
N. Goshawk: Ripley HW 29 Mar (GR); S Buffalo BOSAC (KRY); only reports.
Red-shouldered Hawk: East Aurora ERIE 1 Mar (SB); Cuba ALLE 6 Mar; max 74 Ripley HW, 55 Hamburg HW 29 Mar.
Broad-winged Hawk: arr 2, max 1860, 1303 Ripley HW 11, 20, 21 Apr.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 140 Ripley HW 29 Mar.
Rough-legged Hawk: 3 Cuba ALLE 28 Mar; max 8 LBSP 2 Apr; last Alden ERIE 29 Apr.
Golden Eagle: 1, 1 Ripley HW 19 Mar, 26 Apr (GR); Alden ERIE 28 Mar (D&DS); LBSP 2, 13 Apr (GL, PY); SPNS 9 Apr (LH); BOSAC; Hamburg HW 16 Apr (JL); Tift NP 19 Apr (PY); INWR 26 Apr (TL), good distribution of sightings.
Virginia Rail: arr, max 4 Tift NP 12, 19 Apr; 2 Cuba ALLE 16, 21 Apr; Pomfret CHAU 26 Apr; 2 CSWMA, BWWT 18, 30 May.
Sora: arr INWR 18 Apr; BWWT 19 Apr; Pomfret CHAU 26 Apr; max 4 JAS 2 May; Tift NP 16 May; WFWMA 17 May.
Com. Gallinule: arr max 15 INWR 12 Apr, 14 May; JAS 2 May; 3 Tift NP 28 May.
Am. Coot: arr Orchard Park ERIE 10 Mar; max 100 DH 14 Mar; 8 Pomfret CHAU 6 Apr; 65 INWR 24 Apr; WFWMA 8 May; Tift NP 18 May.
Sandhill Crane: arr Sheridan CHAU, Hamburg HW 16 Mar; 1-2 INWR 30 Mar-25 May; 2, 1 JAS 4 Apr, 15 May; 2 Somerset NIAG 9 Apr; 1-2 Shelby ORLE 19-21 Apr; Harmony CHAU 25 Apr; 3 SPNS 4 May.
Black-bellied Plover: no reports.
Semipalmated Plover: arr Newstead ERIE 6 May; max 14 BWWT 22 May.
Spotted Sandpiper: arr BOSAC; max 31 BWWT 17 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr BOSAC; Newstead ERIE 18 Apr; max 9 Sheridan CHAU 6 May (GV); 6 Hanging Bog WMA ALLE 7 May; last 2 Cheektowaga ERIE 22 May.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr 4, max 30, last 1 INWR 3, 11 Apr, 28 May; 24 Dunkirk CHAU 22 Apr; 25 Elba GENE 25 Apr.
Willet: TWMA 30 May (JP, JMi), only report.
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 3 INWR 5 Apr; max 12 Sherman CHAU 5 May; last BWWT 25 May.
Upland Sandpiper: arr 1-2 N Java WYOM 12 Apr-23 May; TRWMA 14 Apr, 9 May; regular locations.
Whimbrel: 1, 1 BWWT 22, 28 May (JMi, JP, BH); 9 TWMA 28 May (RSp, KW).
Ruddy Turnstone: arr Hamburg ERIE 10 May; PB 17 May; 3 BufH 24 May; max 15, 12 BWWT 25, 28 May; TWMA 30 May.
Sanderling: 2 BWWT 28 May, rare inland; 4 DH 30 May; only reports.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr PB 16 May; max 54 BWWT 26 May; 52 TWMA 30 May.
Least Sandpiper: arr 3 Sherman CHAU 5 May; max 163 INWR 7 May; 106, 39 BWWT 14, 22 May; last 5 OOWMA 28 May.
White-rumped Sandpiper: TWMA 30 May (JP, JMi), only report.
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 3, max 11 INWR 5, 17 Apr.
Dunlin: arr, 19 INWR 13, 21 Apr; 5 Lewiston Res NIAG 22 May; max 25 BWWT 23 May.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 3, 1-2 BWWT 17, 22-24 May (KF, JMi, JP); Newstead ERIE 18 May (JMi); max 8 CSWMA 20 May (AS).
Wilson's Snipe: arr 4 Portland CHAU 24 Mar; max 80 Sheridan CHAU 5 Apr.
Am. Woodcock: arr Jamestown CHAU 9 Mar; max 8 Grand I 19 Apr.
Wilson's Phalarope: BWWT 22 May (JMi, JP), only report.
Bonaparte's Gull: arr 160 Buffalo NR 21 Mar; max 500 DH 25 Apr; 65 Wilson NIAG 3 May; 90 Ellery CHAU 14 May; low numbers on Niagara R Mar-Apr.
Little Gull: arr 1, 4 Lewiston NR 24, 29 Mar; BufH 11 Apr; PG 23 Apr; DH 24 Apr; few reports.
Herring Gull: max 1200 FMCSP 10 Mar, 1200 Lewiston Res NIAG 22 Mar.
Iceland Gull: 2 Belmont ALLE 7 Mar (RM); max 9, 2 DH 8 Mar, 25 Apr (JP, AG, BP); BeSP 21 Mar; INWR 4 Apr (GL, EG); 2 BWWT 4 Apr (GL, EG); LES 26 Apr; Hamburg HW 26 Apr; FMCSP 7 May; last Porter NIAG 12 May.

Lesser Black-b. Gull: Grand I NR 14 Mar; DH 28 Mar, 27 Apr, 1 May; 1, 4 BeSP 31 Mar, 13 Apr; Celeron ChauL 2 Apr; INWR 4, 11 Apr; 4 Wilson NIAG 22 Apr; 2 FMCSP 30 Apr; 2 Porter NIAG 12 May; Lewiston Res NIAG 22 May; now more widespread in spring.

Glaucous Gull: 2 BuFH 7 Mar; 3, 2 DH 17 Mar, 25 Apr; FLC 16 Mar; 3, last 1 Lewiston Res NIAG 22 Mar, 22 May; BeSP 25 Mar; INWR 3 Apr; BWWT 4 Apr; FMCSP 30 Apr; Porter NIAG 12 May.

Caspian Tern: arr 2 Olcott NIAG 11 Apr; max 55 DH 1 May.

Black Tern: arr 11, max 56, 25 INWR 1, 14, 27 May (CM, DN, MM); 2 BWWT 23 May (DB); 6 ChauL 24 May (PF); Middlebury WYOM 28 May (DB), unusual location.

Com. Tern: arr 1, 150 BuFH 4 Apr, 24 May; 95 DH 25 Apr; 198 WoBSP 9 May; 45 ChauL 13 May; low #'s in Apr-May on Niagara R and at colony in BuFH.

Forster's Tern: arr Cuba L ALLE 25 Apr (TL); 2 PG 26 Apr (TL); BWWT 30 Apr (GL); DH 1 May (JP); 2 ChauL 5 May (KV); good showing.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: Wilson NIAG 1-5 May (WD!, BP, mob, ph); 4th Reg record, likely same individual seen nearby in winter.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr BOSMC.

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr INWR 9 May.

Snowy Owl: Grand Island ERIE, Shelby ORLE 5 Mar; Lewiston Res NIAG 8, 22 Mar; 1, 4 BuFH 10 Mar, 2 Apr; Cambria NIAG 18 Mar; Somersed NIAG 10 Apr; BeSP 31 May (JE, ph), late; good showing after "return-flight" during winter.

Barred Owl: Tift NP 14 May (DSh), unusual location.

Long-eared Owl: 2 WTSP 30 Mar (BP), only report.

Short-eared Owl: Ransomville NIAG 3 Mar; 4, 2 Shelby ORLE 18 Mar, 14 Apr, known wintering site; BWWT 28 Mar; Tift NP 12 Apr; last Waterport ORLE 22 Apr; good showing of migrants.

N. Saw-whet Owl: WTSP 21, 31 Mar, 3 Apr (BP, WD, SB), only reports.

Com. Nighthawk: arr 10, 29 Celeron CHAU 16, 23 May (TS); arr Cambria NIAG 16 May; slight uptick in reports compared with recent springs.

Chimney Swift: arr Hamburg HW 26 Apr; max 170 Goat I 31 May.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr 2 Chautauqua CHAU 29 Apr, slightly early.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Hamburg ERIE 1 Mar-31 Apr, cont from winter; 3, 2 LBSP 2 Apr, 16 May; 3 PG 9 May; 2 LESP 10, 16 May; WTSP 19 May; 2 EVSP 29 May.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr multiple locations 2 Apr.

BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER: m RWNP 26 May (KT, ph), very unexpected, *intro*, first in Reg since 1976.

Am. Kestrel: max 29 Ripley HW 2 Apr.

Merlin: sev rep migr Mar-Apr; 2, 1 Celeron CHAU 18, 26 May (TS), known breeding site; LBSP 16, 30 May.

Peregrine Falcon: several reports Mar-May near known breeding sites; 4 Hamburg HW 9 Apr; Tonawanda ERIE 12 Apr; LBSP 13 Apr; 2, 1 Lewiston Res 14 Apr, 7 May; INWR 24 Apr; 2 DH 25 Apr, new breeding location; Lockport NIAG 11 May, possible breeding nearby; 11 BOSMC, new high count.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr 1, 1, 1 FLC 8, 16, 26 May (AH, HS, AH); BOSMC; AISP 31 May (CM, *et al.*).

E. Wood-Pewee: arr INWR, Newstead ERIE 5 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr AmSP 9 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: arr Middlebury WYOM 10 May (DB); max 3 INWR 25 May.

Alder Flycatcher: arr 15 BOSMC.

Willow Flycatcher: arr FLC, Tift NP, INWR 9 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr Elba GENE 25 Apr.

E. Phoebe: arr Amherst ERIE 25 Mar.

SAY'S PHOEBE: CSWMA 12 Apr (JMi! mob); second for Reg.

Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Forestville CHAU 1 May.

E. Kingbird: arr 2 BMAC 28 Apr.

N. Shrike: last INWR 4 Apr.

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 3 Batavia GENE, 2 Pomfret CHAU 4 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr Alfred ALLE 18 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: arr FLC 29 Apr.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr FMCSP 4 May (GA, ph), record early.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr FLC, 2 Newstead ERIE 5 May.

FISH CROW (R1): WTSP 3 May (WD!), 2nd record for NIAG.

Com. Raven: Hamburg HW 12 Mar;
Tonawanda ERIE 16 Apr, apparent nesting
again; 2 Newfane NIAG, consistent with recent
increase in northern counties.
Purple Martin: arr 2 Forestville CHAU 1 Apr.
Tree Swallow: arr 10 Alexander GENE, 4
Gerry CHAU 9 Mar.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr 2 FLC 10 Apr.
Bank Swallow: arr 14 BOSAC.
Cliff Swallow: arr 2 Tift NP 21 Apr.
Barn Swallow: arr Buffalo ERIE, 2 BWTP 3
Apr.
House Wren: arr Eden ERIE 12 Apr (FH!),
early.
Winter Wren: Wellsville ALLE 10 Mar; arr
Buffalo ERIE 2 Apr.
Marsh Wren: arr OOWMA 14 Apr.
Carolina Wren: only 24 on BOSAC and 19
BOSMC; could be indicative of toll from harsh
winter after record of 75 on last year's Apr
count.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr 3 BOSAC.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr Westfield
CHAU 28 Mar.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Alma ALLE,
WTSP, Amherst ERIE 9 Apr.
Veery: arr Portland CHAU 2 May.
Gray-checked Thrush: arr Wilson NIAG 8
May.
Swainson's Thrush: arr FLC 4 May.
Hermit Thrush: arr Tift NP 6 Apr.
Wood Thrush: arr Shelby ORLE 30 Apr.
Gray Catbird: 2 BOSAC, arrivals?; FLC 18
Apr.
Brown Thrasher: arr 15 BOSAC.
Am. Pipit: arr Dunkirk 11 Mar; last 8 BOSMC.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: 15 Shelby ORLE 2 Mar;
Sheridan CHAU 20 Mar; only reports.
Snow Bunting: max 300 Wilson NIAG 1 Mar;
last 2 LBSP 2 Apr.
Ovenbird: arr Harmony CHAU 1 May.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr N Harmony
CHAU 11 Apr; FLC 6 May (SB, photo),
unusual location.
N. Waterthrush: arr 3 Portland CHAU 26 Apr.
Golden-winged Warbler: arr LESP 7 May
(Cha); Tift NP 8 May (RB); LBSP 9 May
(GL); only reports.
Blue-winged Warbler: arr INWR, E Aurora
ERIE 3 May.
"Brewster's" Warbler: AmSP (RSa), only
report.
Black-and-white Warbler: arr BeSP 19 Apr.

Prothonotary Warbler: TWMA 8-25 May,
regular breeding location.
Tennessee Warbler: arr Batavia GENE 3 May.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr Wilson NIAG
3 May.
Nashville Warbler: arr FLC 29 Apr.
Connecticut Warbler: Canadaway Creek
WMA CHAU 23 May (GV); FLC 25 May
(RSa, JP); only reports, rare.
Mourning Warbler: arr BMAC, CHMUA,
Bethany GENE 10 May.
Com. Yellowthroat: arr Harmony CHAU 18
Apr (JB), early.
Hooded Warbler: arr 2 BMAC, 2 Newstead
ERIE, INWR 5 May.
Am. Redstart: arr AISP, Colden ERIE 3 May.
Cape May Warbler: arr FLC, AmSP 3 May;
last FLC 22 May.
Cerulean Warbler: arr 2 INWR 5 May;
Alexander GENE 16 May.
N. Parula: arr AISP, FLC 2 May.
Magnolia Warbler: arr Jamestown CHAU 2
May.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr FLC 5 May.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr Pomfret CHAU 1
May.
Yellow Warbler: arr FLC 24 Apr.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr multiple
locations 4 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr 2 INWR 8 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr multiple
locations 3 May.
Palm Warbler: arr Tift NP 19 Apr; last
Bethany GENE 22 May.
Pine Warbler: arr 2 Orchard Park ERIE 8 Apr;
5 BOSAC.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr 6 BOSAC.
Yellow-throated Warbler: no reports after
excellent showing last few years.
Prairie Warbler: arr Ashford CATT, Portland
CHAU 6 May.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 6
Portland CHAU 26 Apr.
Canada Warbler: arr Andover ALLE, Wilson
NIAG 8 May.
Wilson's Warbler: arr FLC, Wilson NIAG 8
May.
Yellow-breasted Chat: no reports.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

E. Towhee: arr PG 4 Apr.
Am. Tree Sparrow: last 4 Bethany GENE 3
May.
Chipping Sparrow: Independence ALLE 7-21
Mar (KRe), at feeder; arr Bethany GENE 1 Apr.

Clay-colored Sparrow: arr 7 BOSMC;
 Machias CATT 28 May (CM); only reports.
Field Sparrow: arr 3 Tift NP, RWNP 2 Apr.
Vesper Sparrow: arr FLC, Sheridan CHAU 5
 Apr.
Savannah Sparrow: arr Tift NP 6 Apr.
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 1, 2 Dunkirk 8, 9
 May; TRWMA 9 May; Middlebury WYOM 11,
 26 May.
Fox Sparrow: arr Independence ALLE 21 Mar;
 last Tift NP 15 May.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr FLC 4 May; last Tift
 NP 24 May.
Swamp Sparrow: arr 5 Caneadea ALLE 28
 Mar.
White-crowned Sparrow: 10 Sheridan CHAU
 4 Mar; 5 Bethany GENE 5 Mar; 1-2 Wilson
 NIAG 1-31 Mar; arr West Seneca ERIE 15 Apr.
Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco (*J.h. oreganus*):
 Colden ERIE thru 31 Mar (J&KL).
Scarlet Tanager: arr Jamestown CHAU 4
 May.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr Gerry CHAU 28
 Apr.
Indigo Bunting: arr Amherst ERIE 3 May.

Bobolink: arr Dunkirk CHAU, Bethany GENE
 3 May.
Red-winged Blackbird: arr Orchard Park 2
 Mar, late arrival.
E. Meadowlark: arr Hamburg HW 16 Mar.
Rusty Blackbird: arr Wellsville ALLE 20 Mar;
 last BOSMC.
Com. Grackle: arr Portland CHAU 5 Mar, late
 arrival.
Orchard Oriole: arr Portland CHAU 30 Apr.
Baltimore Oriole: arr Tift NP 30 Apr.
Com. Redpoll: max 67 Wilson NIAG 25 Mar;
 scattered reports of 10 or less in Mar and early
 Apr; last Wilson NIAG 25 Apr (WD).
HOARY REDPOLL (R1): Wilson NIAG 1
 Apr (WD!, photo), only report this
 winter/spring.
Pine Siskin: few reports in Mar; reports and
 numbers swelled in Apr and May; max 70, 78
 Wilson NIAG 14 Apr, 4 May.
Evening Grosbeak: Independence ALLE 18
 Mar (KRe), only report.

EXOTICS

European Goldfinch: Newstead ERIE 13 Apr
 (JS); reported without details; assumed escapee.