

REGION 2—GENESEE

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Winter 2015-16 provided a dramatic contrast with last winter. Long periods of deep snow and cold were replaced by warmth and little snow. The weather patterns were dominated by a very strong El Niño with warm air flow from the west.

December was the warmest on record, smashing the old record by 3.2° F. Temperatures averaged 42.2°, 12.2° above normal. Precipitation was near normal at 2.73", 0.10" above normal. Snowfall was the least on record at 2.3", though the records for this datum only go back to 1926. Except for minor skim ice, all water was open through the Christmas Bird Count season.

January was closer to normal, with temperatures averaging 27.4°, 2.7° above normal, and precipitation 1.52", 0.89" below normal. Snowfall totaled 20.2", 8.0" below normal. Snow fell on 22 days, but only two days saw heavy snow and the 1-day maximum was only 4" and the average on the ground only 1". Surprising in the light of the warm winter, we saw periods of only 24 hours of cold resulting in all the bays and ponds locking up totally in ice.

February provided a huge contrast with last year's coldest ever—17.3° warmer for the fourth warmest February on record. Temperatures averaged 29.5°, 3.1° above normal. It still was cool, with 23 days with the low below freezing and 10 days with even the high below freezing. Precipitation of 3.78" was 1.83" above normal. Snowfall at 28.0" was 6.5" above normal, but the only big snow event was an official 18.3" on the 16th, with another inch the next day. This was the fifth highest calendar day snowfall on record. But temperatures

into the 50s on the 19th sucked the snowpack into the sky or melted it into the ground in short order. A warm last couple of days in the month brought a taste of spring migrants.

Lake Ontario remained largely open, with only a narrow rim of shore ice other than after a period of north winds and the big snow event, when ice extended north to the horizon with only small open patches. The next shift to southwesterly winds blew this out quickly.

Given the warm and relatively open winter—little snow and water open late—it was no surprise that waterfowl provided a number of highlights this season. Waterbirds provided a substantial part of the local CBC totals, with only the Letchworth-Silver Lake Count hurt a bit by a local heavy snowfall on the count day. On the Rochester CBC, record highs were set for Cackling Goose, Trumpeter and Tundra Swans, and Double-crested Cormorant. Maybe the biggest surprise was the lack of high numbers for most waterfowl species in spite of the good variety; back to the old discussions around too much open water so birds not concentrated. The species section will illustrate many of the peak counts. Along this same line, we did not finally see peak numbers for some of the migrant diving ducks in December, expected after their failure to appear in November. However, December brought the first of two major waterbird “events” of the season. On 5, 8, and 12 December, substantial numbers of Red-necked Grebes were found on the water off Hamlin Beach SP, falling off rapidly in numbers to the east and west over distances of 5-10 miles. On the 14th, Bob Spahn counted 1677 Red-necked Grebes on the water just off our lakewatch site there, with visibility a bit over ½ mile either side and limited by fog and haze to on that order offshore. At a point 9 miles east the count was about 100. Dave Tetlow did a more thorough count later that day covering the water visible from the park to Troutburg just west, a total distance of about 4.5 miles, and tallied **6740** birds plus noting later only 100 near Point Breeze 8 miles further west. This eclipses the previous high of 2754 on 4 April 1996 when the passing Fast Ferry flushed birds past Bill Symonds at the lakewatch. It is also in dramatic contrast with historical fall data. Through most of the 1990s, a double digit tally of Red-necked Grebes was a good day. In the past 10+ years, the numbers have been increasing, with a few days with several hundred counted. Nothing like this. This number approaches nearly a third of the higher totals passing Whitefish Point in fall migration in August and September.

Next, we jump back to the start of the checklist and look at Snow Goose. The fall migration seemed slow. None were reported on our three local CBCs, though just outside the Region the Montezuma and Geneva CBCs tallied large numbers. By January, large counts were being reported in the Region, with sites slowly shifting west and north; one large flock moving about and shifting and splitting on occasion--or several? Some of the bigger numbers were seen in the latter half of January when typically all have left for the winter. Only very rarely have we seen a very early move back north by the end of January. And the numbers persisted through February across the Region, with a 50,000 count in

the NMWMA suggesting a spring influx on 28 February. This is the first winter season in this Region for Snow Goose present all season.

This leads back to the January State Waterfowl Count, where the total number of individuals set a record high in the Region. But all of the difference from the previous high is accounted for in a single flock of 15,000 Snow Geese. And most of the increase over prior averages is accounted for in the total goose numbers 5x the 10-year average and > 10x the 1973-2015 average. The overall species variety was very good, but most counts were about average and dabbling ducks, especially Mallard, were relatively low. Other interesting waterbird observations included: quite a few Greater White-fronted Geese and a single Ross's Goose in January and February; several puddle ducks returning in late February; Redhead numbers good on Conesus Lake all winter when open water was available and also found with scaup off the rocky points on the Lake Ontario shore during the waterfowl count where mostly absent in recent years; White-winged Scoter locally in modest numbers, but other scoters scarce; good numbers of Long-tailed Duck; and rarer finds including a King Eider in February, Harlequin Duck in January, and the usual male Barrow's Goldeneye at Point Breeze through the season. Hybrids reported were a Snow x Canada Goose on 5, 7, and 9 February at two locations and a Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser on 24 January and 21-22 February at Braddock Bay.

Other than the story above, loons and grebes were scarce except for the good numbers of Horned Grebes off Wayne County on the Waterfowl Count and Eared Grebes at Pultneyville on 6-8 December and Honeoye Lake on 26 December.

This was not a big winter for diurnal raptors. Highlights included good numbers of Bald Eagle, single Northern Goshawks in January and February, a few more Red-shouldered Hawk reports than in most recent years, and Rough-legged Hawks present, with a fair number of reports but birds not really easy to find. Pulling the falcons from later in the list, we had American Kestrel scarce; Merlin and Peregrine Falcon in good numbers for winter; and a dark **Gyrfalcon** photographed near South Livonia on 21 February by Dianne McCullough but not subsequently relocated, though many searched.

Back to the water's edge and marshes, the usual Virginia Rail was not seen in Mendon Ponds Park (probably too much open water out in the marsh), but Chris Wood located one in the Turning Point Park area along the Genesee River on 2 January. A Common Gallinule found by Jay McGowan and Nathan Goldberg in the Van Dyne Spoor area of the NMWMA on 12 December was about the 15th winter record for the Region. American Coot numbers were poor other than at Van Dyne Spoor early and Conesus Lake through the season. Surprisingly, Sandhill Cranes were present all season, most in the NMWMA, with a peak of 67 there on 4 December, but also 10 seen on 1-4 January in a field north of the village of Honeoye and just west of Taylor Marsh, a new high count for that area.

As usual for winter, shorebirds were scarce. The last “fall” Killdeer were seen on 20 December, then none until singles in Hamlin and at Braddock Bay on 20 and 28 February. Purple Sandpipers were found at Irondequoit Bay Outlet on 2-3 January and two at Sodus Point from 5-9 January. Most surprising was a Long-billed Dowitcher on Salmon Creek, Town of Greece, on 1 January found by Jessie Barry and Chris Wood and seen later by several others. This is record late for the Region. Finally, Bruce Cady found a lingering Wilson’s Snipe in the High Acres Nature Area (HANA) from 14-16 December.

The lack of stable, dependable ice edges on the bays and ponds resulted in fewer than usual reports of our “winter” gulls. Bonaparte’s Gull lingered in small numbers to the end of January, then was not reported in February. Adult Little Gulls were seen at Braddock Bay on 13 December and Ontario Beach on 1 January, but there was no late fall through early January gathering along the Rochester lakeshore. There were a couple of good counts of Herring Gull, but otherwise relatively low numbers for gulls generally. White-winged gulls started slowly, but numbers picked up into double digits in February. Lesser Black-backed Gull was found in good numbers through the season. Gull highlights included adult Thayer’s Gull found at Northrup Creek, Town of Greece, on 1 January by Jessie Barry and Chris Wood and photographed at the Riga landfill on 4 January by Brian Morse. A presumed Herring x Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen on 16 December at the south end of Irondequoit Bay and on 9 January on Long Pond, Town of Greece.

Among the non-passerine landbirds, 1-2 Eurasian Collared-Doves were seen off and on at the Greenwell farm in the Town of Hamlin in January and February. Eastern Screech-Owls were found in the usual good numbers on the CBCs, with a maximum of 64 on the Rochester CBC. Snowy Owls were present mainly at a few regular sites and were way down in numbers from the past two years, but 87 reports of about 27 individuals in January is still a decent number. Long-eared Owl was found on 1 January in Bergen Swamp (a typical location for the date) and then on the last day of the season at the Owl Woods roost area. Short-eared Owls were found in good numbers on the biweekly DEC raptor/owl surveys and by others at the same sites through the season. A N. Saw-whet Owl on the Rochester CBC was a rarity for the count, with possibly the same bird refound on 9 January. Among the woodpeckers, notes of interest included no reports of Red-headed Woodpecker and reports of lingering Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in each month.

For an open winter, the passerine scene was interesting and in some ways a bit surprising. There were some unexpected species for winter, but surprisingly low numbers for most of the half-hardy lingerers. Back to the old “not enough snow cover to push birds to feeders or otherwise concentrate them.” Really?

Let’s tackle the passerines by starting with more detail on the lingering half-hardy species—a bit of a “bag of snakes” due to likely different perceptions among observers. Starting with the species I would consider rarer, we find eight species present in December and add one later. An Eastern Phoebe was found on

8 December. Three State-record-late Cliff Swallows were photographed on 15 December off Webster Park by Mike Gullo. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were found in two locations on 4 and 23 December, then at new locations on 1 January and 7 February. American Pipits are scarce in winter, so as many as 40 on 1 December and birds on 30 January and 28 February were interesting reports. Warblers of any kind have been scarce in recent winters, so a State-late Hooded Warbler was a surprise on the Rochester CBC in Durand-Eastman Park. Eastern Towhees are found fairly regularly in winter, but this year none until two in mid-February. Fox Sparrow is rarely reported here in winter, but there was one on 13 December and another on 26 January. Finally, an immature Baltimore Oriole was found in Durand Eastman Park from 24-26 December by Steve Daniel and Dick Horsey.

Next we have a list of species that are found nearly every winter in small numbers which were seen at least several times this winter: Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark and Rusty Blackbird. Even more regular in my view are: Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, and Song, Swamp, White-throated, and White-crowned Sparrows.

In winter, we also look for some species that irrupt in larger numbers irregularly. None of these were especially numerous this winter. Northern Shrike was present all season with approximately 60 reports over the period peaking in January. Red-breasted Nuthatch and Cedar Waxwing numbers were both low. Lapland Longspur and Snow Bunting were present but hard to evaluate for numbers with little snow cover to push them to road edges. Winter finches were essentially missing, with only scattered reports of Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin and no others.

One more interesting event was a large gathering of blackbirds in late January in the Town of Rush just west of the village of Honeoye Falls. On 28 January Bob and Sue Spahn noted a male Yellow-headed Blackbird with a large mixed flock and passed along the word. Over that day and the next three days, a second immature male Yellow-headed Blackbird was found and peak counts of blackbirds in the area included 16,000 Red-winged Blackbirds, 1750 Common Grackles, a Rusty Blackbird, and 3000 Brown-headed Cowbirds. This location is less than 5 miles south of a site where many blackbirds, including Yellow-headed, were observed last year and 3 miles SW of Brad Carlson's feeders where similar flocks of blackbirds have been seen in recent, prior years.

For the season, we received about 45,638 eBird "records" plus information from other sources such as geneseebirds, the CBC summaries, the Waterfowl Count, and personal communications. The total species count was approximately 150. Species totals for December and January were near their 10-year averages, while February was about 10% above its 10-year average.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BB – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; BB-WS – Braddock Bay – West Spit; CHCBC – Conesus-Hemlock CBC 26 Dec; CL – Conesus L, LIVI; DEP – Durand-Eastman P, MONR; H – T Hamlin, MONR; HBSP – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; IBO – Irondequoit Bay Outlet, MONR; LSLCBC – Letchworth-Silver L CBC on 20 Dec; MP – Mendon Pd P, MONR; NMWMA – Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area, T Savannah, WAYN; PB – Point Breeze, T Carlton, ORLE; RCBC – Rochester Christmas Bird Count on 14 Dec; SB – Sodus Bay, WAYN; SPt - Sodus Pt. WAYN; TCEA – Twin Cedars Environmental Area at Avon DEC offices; WP – Webster Park, MONR.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr 2 NMWMA(Savannah muck) 8 Dec (W&MR); 2 Mendon Ponds P 30 Jan – 10 Feb (JeB, CW, mob), 1-4 ind seen at different times; 2-3 Kings Bend P, Pittsford 6-11 Feb (D&DS, mob), possibly some overlap with Mendon Ponds; 2 North Ponds P, Webster 6-7 Feb (GF, KH); 6 NMWMA (Carncross Rd) 5 Feb (W&MR, JW); 3 NMWMA (VanDyne Spoor) 28 Feb (W&MR).

Snow Goose: 12,500 Reg 2 sectors of Montezuma CBC WAYN 14 Dec; thousands 37 Reg 2 loc all Jan, 65+ rep; 15,000 Avon 16 Jan (JK); 10,000 Livonia Center LIVI 12 Jan (MW); 7500 CL 12 Jan (MW); 5600-7500 Honeoye Fall area 28-30 Jan (sev); 9500 Hamlin 5 Feb (AGu); 7000 Hamlin 28 Feb (AGu); max 50,000 NMWMA (Railroad Rd) 28 Feb (JGK).

Ross's Goose: arr NMWMA(Savannah muck) 9 Jan (W&MR); West Port Bay WAYN 4 Feb (W&MR).

Cackling Goose: 15+ ind 6 loc 4-23 Dec, 9 rep; max 20 HBSP 1 Jan (AGu); 39 ind sev loc all Jan, 22 rep; 16 ind 10 loc all Feb, 11 rep.

Canada Goose: max 13,875 LSLCBC 19 Dec.

Snow x Canada Goose: NMWMA (Carncross Rd) 5 Feb (W&MR, JW); North Ponds P Webster 7, 9 Feb (KH, JW).

Mute Swan: 48 BB-ES 20 Dec; max 67 Sodus Bay bridge 3 Jan (LL); 47 BB 15 Feb; peak counts down some.

Trumpeter Swan: max 34 T Savannah WAYN 14 Dec; 12 BB-ES 20 Dec (R&CS), record high RCBC; 25 NMWMA (T Savannah) 9 Jan (JMc, LS).

Tundra Swan: 100 CL 1 Dec; max 173 NMWMA (Hidden Marsh) 8 Dec (IBA); 76 BB 28 Feb (RMa).

Wood Duck: 2 DEP 1 Jan (PMar); Van Lare Sewage Treatment Plant Rochester 30 Jan (BriM, sev); Genesee R Rochester 30 Jan (GF); arr BB-WS 21 Feb (JiM, LM).

Gadwall: arr 10-14 BB-WS 21 Feb (B&BM, AGu).

Am. Wigeon: max 20 BB 20 Dec; arr 20 BB 21 Feb.

Am. Black Duck: max 358 CL 17 Jan (MW).

Mallard: max 1150 NMWMA (Hidden Marsh) 8 Dec; total 3576 Waterfowl Count 16- 23 Jan, low.

N. Shoveler: 1-2 sev loc thru, unusual in late winter.

N. Pintail: 37 HBSP 1 Jan (NK), high for Jan; arr 3-22 BB area 21 Feb.

Green-winged Teal: 18 Round Pd Greece 1 Jan (JeB, CW), good count for date; 1-2 sev loc thru, scarce in winter, no spring arrival.

Canvasback: max 35 BB-WS 3 Feb, low peak.

Redhead: max 4761 CL 17 Jan (MW), Waterfowl Count, similar thru season.

Ring-necked Duck: max 700 Hemlock L 14 Jan.

Greater Scaup: max 385 BB-WS 7 Feb, low; peaks other months even lower.

Lesser Scaup: max 272 CHCBC 26 Dec, low.

King Eider: 1 fem BB-WS area 6-19 Feb (EG, GL, mob).

Harlequin Duck: 1 imm m Spt 7 Jan (JW, W&MR).

White-winged Scoter: max 225 BB-WS 20 Feb, scarce except here, PtB, & Spt.

Long-tailed Duck: max 3005 RCBC 20 Dec, numbers good thru; total 3814 Waterfowl Count 16-23 Jan.

Bufflehead: max 357 CHCBC 26 Dec.

Com. Goldeneye: max 850 Spt 30 Jan (AL, NM); total 2417 Waterfowl Count 16-23 Jan.

Barrow's Goldeneye: 1 m PB 5 Dec, 15-30 Jan, 7, 14, & 26 Feb, present sev winters, moves from the edge of Region 1 to a mile or so east into Region 2.

Com. Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser: 1m BB-WS 24 Jan (AGu, ph); BB 20-21 Feb (AGu, B&BM)>

Hooded Merganser: max 227 mostly Silver Lake 19 Dec.

Com. Merganser: max 350 Ontario Beach 20 Feb.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 1600 IBO 3 Dec (JiM); total 2055 Waterfowl Count 16-23 Jan.

Ruddy Duck: max 29 CL 17 Jan, low.

Red-throated Loon: max 14 CL 5 Dec (BH), high for loc; scarce thru.

Com. Loon: max 12 Spt 16 Jan; scarce this winter.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 3 IB 16 Dec (R&SS).

Horned Grebe: max 50 HBSP 5 Dec (AGu); total 108 Waterfowl Count 16-23 Jan.

Red-necked Grebe: 637 HBSP 5 Dec (RS); 436 HBSP 8 Dec (AGu); **1677** off lakewatch HBSP 14 Dec (RS); max **6740** HBSP to Troutburg 14 Dec (DTe), State record high, *intro*; 11 HBSP 1 Jan (AGu), late for number.

Eared Grebe: Pultneyville 6-8 Dec (JW); Honeoye L 26 Dec (RS).

Double-crested Cormorant: max 71 RCBC 20 Dec, CBC record high; 29 IB 16 Dec (R&SS), high for date; 11 Summerville Pier 5 Feb (BCar, JG), high for date.

Turkey Vulture: max 15 Bergen 1 Jan, low max.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

N. Harrier: max 9 Nations Rd IBA 6 Feb, good winter count.

N. Goshawk: N. Wolcott WAYN 30 Jan, 3 Feb (W&MR, DF); only reports.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 3 rep Jan; 8 rep Feb; rep up a bit this season.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 39 BB hawkwatch 28 Feb (MT, GL).

Rough-legged Hawk: total 9 sev loc Dec; total 25 at 21 loc Jan; total 20 sev loc Feb.

Virginia Rail: Turning Pt P, Genesee R 2 Jan (CW); none at Mendon Pd Site.

Com. Gallinule: NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 12 Dec (JMc, LS), approx 15th Reg winter record.

Am. Coot: max 185 CL 17 Jan, low max.

Sandhill Crane: max 67 NMWMA (T Savannah) 4 Dec (KB); 7 CHCBC 26 Dec (sev), CBC record high; 50 NMWMA (T Savannah) 28 Dec; 10 CR 37 n of Honeoye, T Richmond ONTA 1, 3-4 Jan (R,S,&CS, BH); 5 T Clyde WAYN 6 Feb (TLe, BWal); not usually present thru.

Killdeer: Seneca P Rochester 20 Dec; last Letchworth SP 22 Dec; arr Hamlin 2o Feb (KS).

Purple Sandpiper: IBO 1-2 Jan (KH, PMar, mob); last 1-2 SPt 5-9 Jan (JW, W&MR, mob).

Long-billed Dowitcher: 1 Salmon Crk, Greece 1 Jan (JeB, CW, *et al.*), Reg record late.

Wilson's Snipe: HANA 14-16 Dec (BCad, *et al.*), late.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 156 Ontario Beach area 1 Jan (JeB, CW), low max; last off Edgemere Dr Greece 31 Jan (BeB, Ji&LB, CW). **Little Gull:** 1 ad BB 13 Dec (GL); 1 ad Ontario Beach area 1 Jan (JeB, CW).

Herring Gull: max 2200 Millseat Landfill T Riga 4 Jan (BriM).

THAYER'S GULL: 1 ad Northrup Crk, Greece 1 Jan (JeB, CW); 1 ad Millseat Landfill T Riga 4 Jan (BriM, ph).

Iceland Gull: approx totals – 6 in Dec, 11 in Jan, & 13 in Feb.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: approx. totals – 13 in Dec, 8 in Jan, & 15 in Feb.

Herring x Lesser Black-backed Gull: IB-S 16 Dec (BriM); Long Pd, Greece 9 Jan (AGu).

Glaucous Gull: totals approx. – 1 in Dec, 6 in Jan, and 7 in Feb.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: 1-2 Greenwell farm, Hamlin 10, 30, 31 Jan, 5-28 Feb (AGu, RGu, CW), site of most records recent yrs

E. Screech-Owl: 64 RCBC 20 Dec; 45 CHCBC 26 Dec, good CBC counts.

Snowy Owl: 3+ three loc 13-31 Dec; ~87 rep, 26 ind six loc Jan; Genesee County airport 3, 7, & 22 Feb; BB 28 Feb.

Long-eared Owl: Linear P, Bergen 1 Jan (GL); Owl Woods, Manitou 29 Feb (JCay), early at site.

Short-eared Owl: max 22 DEC (Avon) owls survey 29 Dec; 36 rep, 24+ ind five loc Jan; *intro.*

N. Saw-whet Owl: RCBC, LMP 20 Dec (CM, AP); DEP 9 Jan (MG); rarely reported in winter.

Belted Kingfisher: 12 rep sev loc 2-28 Jan, good number of rep for winter.

Red-headed Woodpecker: no reports. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** total 8 rep sev loc, good number for winter.

Am. Kestrel: 16 rep, 12 ind Feb, low.

Merlin: total - 13 all Dec; 21 all Jan; 10 all Feb.

GYRFALCON: dark morph S. Livonia LIVI 21 Feb (DM, ph).

Peregrine Falcon: total - 6 all Dec; 6 all Jan; 12 all Feb.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

E. Phoebe: CL 8 Dec (KC), late.

N. Shrike: totals approx - 13 in Dec, 15 in Jan, & 8 in Feb.

Blue Jay: max 486 CHCBC 26 Dec, good total.

Am. Crow: max 24,000 Ford St bridge, Rochester 8 Dec (SSh), higher than later CBC tally; 1500 Pinnacle Rd, T Rush 3 Feb (NK); 1500 SUNY Genesee campus 3 Feb (SB).

FISH CROW (R2): max 14 Summerville Pier 7 Feb (BCar); IBO 30-31 Jan (JeB, CW, KH, PMar); present all winter.

Com. Raven: max 20 CHCBC 26 Dec, CBC record high.

Horned Lark: max 100 Nations Rd IBA 9 Dec (NK).

Cliff Swallow: 3 Webster P at Lake Ontario 15 Dec (MG, ph), State record late.

White-breasted Nuthatch: 214 CHCBC 26 Dec, very good count.

Winter Wren: Oatka Crk P 8 Feb (Jad), first for year; N Wolcott WAYN 16 Feb (W&MR); only reports.

Marsh Wren: Turning Pt P 20 Dec (KH); Taylor Marsh, T Richmond ONTA 26 Dec (DB); Turning Pt P 2 Jan (CW); rare in winter.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Webster P 4 Dec (JW); Beechwoods SP WAYN 23 Dec (NP); Webster P 2 Jan (JeB, CW); Beechwoods SP WAYN 7 Feb (JW); scarce in winter.

Hermit Thrush: totals – 6 in Dec; max 6 Owl Woods, Manitou 2 Jan (CW); 12 seven loc 2-24 Jan; 2 rep 14, 20 Feb.

Gray Catbird: e of Silver Springs 19 Dec (AC, JK); Hamlin 21 Dec (GL, KB); Hemlock L area 26 Dec (BH); N Wolcott WAYN 14, 22 Jan (W&MR); T Huron WAYN 22 Jan (W&MR); scarce in winter.

Am. Pipit: max 40 Nations Rd IBA 1 Dec; T Conesus LIVI 30 Jan (KC); T Rush 30 Jan (KH); arr BB hawkwatch 28 Feb (GL, MT).

Cedar Waxwing: max 160 Webster P (Whiting Rd) 16 Dec (JiM), scarce.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: max 80 H 30 Jan (AGu).

Snow Bunting: max 2000 T Kendall ORLE 22 Jan (DB, RS); 250 Nations Rd IBA 23 Feb (BH).

Com. Yellowthroat: IB-S 16 Dec (BriM); NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 26 Dec (NP).

Hooded Warbler: DEP 20 Dec (JPow, MK, JS), State record late.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: total 5 three loc 5-20 Dec; 2 N Wolcott WAYN 20 Jan (W&MR); MP 4 Feb (MG).

SPARROWS - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: T Ogden MONR 15 Feb (LO, ph); RotterdamRd, T Sodus WAYN 14-15 Feb (JW).

Am. Tree Sparrow: max 110 T Penfield 19 Feb.

Chipping Sparrow: Webster 12 Dec (PMab); N Wolcott WAYN 14-15 Feb (W&MR).

Field Sparrow: Whiting Rd, Webster 4 Dec (JiM); Butcher Rd, T Hilton 20 Dec (R&CS).

Savannah Sparrow: 5 Nations Rd IBA 18 Feb (KG), 1 next day.

Fox Sparrow: Mt Hope Cemetery, Rochester 13 Dec (SG), late; Brown Rd, Wolcott WAYN 26 Jan (W&MR), rare in winter.

White-crowned Sparrow: max 21 N Wolcott WAYN 26 Feb (W&MR).

Dark-eyed Junco: max 44 Nations Rd IBA 18 Feb, low max.

Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco: Webster thru at least 8 Dec (MR, ph).

Red-winged Blackbird: max 16,000 Works Rd & CR 6, T Rush MONR 31 Jan (JeB, CW), high count; 4500 Oak Openings LIVI 30 Jan (JeB, CW), very short distance s on same road as previous record.

E. Meadowlark: Nations Rd IBA 27 Jan (JSt); BB hawkwatch 3 Feb (GL); rare in winter now.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 1 ad m & 1 subad m Works Rd & CR 6, T Rush MONR 28-30 Jan (R&SS, mob, ph), *intro*.

Rusty Blackbird: 4 BB 13 Dec; 1-2 MP 23 Jan – 11 Feb; Manitou 24 Jan; Works Rd & CR 6, T Rush MONR 30 Jan; 1-2 Victor 13, 24 Jan; typical of winter.

Com. Grackle: max 1750 N Avon Rd T Avon LIVI 30 Jan (5 obs).

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 3000 Works Rd & CR 6, T Rush MONR 30 (JeB, CW).

Baltimore Oriole: imm m DEP 24-26 Dec (SD, DH), rare in winter.

Com. Redpoll: max 85 HBSP 8 Dec (AGu); few other rep.

Pine Siskin: max 65 DEP 26 Dec (JiM), rep scattered thru..

