



REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Matt Perry

3787 Dawes Ave., Clinton, NY 13323
mperry63@roadrunner.com

David Wheeler

20 Waterbury Dr., North Syracuse, NY 13212
tigger64@aol.com

Wintery weather was off-again, on-again this season and generally mild, in stark contrast with the two previous winters that were characterized by consistent cold temperatures and near-maximum amounts of ice cover. In Syracuse the average temperature in December was 41° F, a notable 12° warmer than average for that month. Precipitation was 1.6" higher than normal and snowfall for December was 30" less than normal for that notoriously snowy city. January was a little more conventional. In Syracuse the average temperature for the month was nearly 26°, 2.3° warmer than normal. Snowfall rebounded in January and totaled 39", which was 4.8" above the average. February was another rollercoaster ride, and though the average temperature was only 1.7° higher than normal, precipitation was 2.74" higher than average and a total of 25" of snow fell, which is typical for that month. In Syracuse the high temperature for the month was 63°, which came on 28 February, and the low was a thoroughly bone-

chilling - 23°, which occurred on 14 February. On that same date even colder temperatures were recorded in the Region's remote rural valleys.

The lakes that did freeze in the Region froze late. Oneida Lake didn't freeze over until 15 January. Except for its shallow bays, Skaneateles Lake never froze over at all. Otisco Lake, which is normally frozen by Christmas day, remained open until 23 January. Neither Onondaga Lake nor Oswego Harbor froze for any length of time, but both the pond and bay at Fair Haven were frozen; typical even in mild winters. The Utica Marsh's shallow pools are typically locked tight with ice by mid-December, but this winter they remained open and available to ducks at least through the start of the New Year. This lack of ice in the Region provided a respite for waterfowl and their allies, which suffered serious deprivations during the previous two winters. Significant ice cover serves to concentrate birds, and conversely the lack of ice allows flocks and individuals to remain widely dispersed and to remain in areas with plentiful food supplies. This could explain why the season's counts of diving ducks, especially *Aythya* species, weren't very high. According to Gary Lee, even in the Adirondacks the lakes didn't freeze over until 5 January. Still somehow two Common Loons, one on 6 January and the other three days later, managed to be taken by surprise. Both had to be rescued from the ice and relocated to open water. Despite relatively mild conditions and seemingly adequate food resources, the data shows a surprising lack of half-hardy songbirds in the Region. Notable exceptions were American Robins and Brown-headed Cowbirds, which collected in large flocks in some areas.

Good numbers of Snow Geese were found throughout the period, indicating they wintered in or near the Region. By February, some optimistic flocks were seen flying along the Ontario Lakeshore making "test" migrations. A small flock of Brant over Limekiln Lake in the Adirondacks on 2 January was unusual and is the only report for that species. A maximum of nine Trumpeter Swans in the vicinity of Fair Haven State Park on 31 January could be considered a respectable number for that species. Numbers of dabbling ducks were generally good this season. A count of 11 Northern Shovelers at the Utica Marsh at the end of December may have been unprecedented for that location, but it's hard to say definitively since the difficult to access site receives poor coverage. Wayne Fidler located a female King Eider at Selkirk Shores State Park on 6 January. The rarity remained through the balance of the month and was observed by many people. A female Barrow's Goldeneye was found at Brewerton on 2 February by Bill Purcell and remained there for a week.

Loons and grebes were fairly easy to come by throughout the period. An **Eared Grebe** at Oswego Harbor on 28 January was an excellent find by Michael Gullo and the first for the Region since 1998. Though Oswego seems an excellent place for the species, this is only the second time the species has been found there and the twelfth Regional record overall. Previously most were at Onondaga and Oneida Lakes. The Eared Grebe remained at the site for five days giving great looks as it dove close to shore. Greg Dashnau picked out a

Western Grebe at Oswego on 16 December, a first in twenty years and only a third Regional record, and first for the winter season. The bird continued for four days and was widely seen and photographed though many reported the bird had become increasingly distant.

Ruth Florey was surprised to find an **American White Pelican** at the inner harbor of Onondaga Lake on 12 January. Local news outlets made a celebrity of the bird, and its every move was covered on some form of social media. Birders and non-birders alike flocked to see this wonderful bird, which could be enjoyed without expensive optics. While this constituted a first winter record of Am. White Pelican in Region 5, it wasn't unprecedented in the northeast this winter. eBird data shows that several other wayward Am. White Pelicans turned up north of their usual range in January. For virtually its entire two week stay, there was a great amount of speculation regarding the state of the pelican's health. According to observers, diving ducks and gulls seemed to be having little trouble securing fish prey, but the pelican was not seen successfully feeding. Ultimately, on 26 January, the bird expired and its body was retrieved by the DEC. An examination revealed that the pelican was emaciated and hosted parasites on its vital organs. Were these picked up here or did it arrive with them? This was a sad end for a charismatic bird that captured the attention of many. The pelican showed few outward signs of distress and thus capture seemed risky, but the authors cannot help but wonder if intervention might have saved it.

Raptor numbers were unremarkable this period. There was only a single report of Golden Eagle, and Rough-legged Hawk sightings were relatively few. It was determined that an adult Red-tailed Hawk from Syracuse brought to a Wildlife Rehabilitator on 3 January had been intentionally shot with a pellet gun. Despite this incident being conveyed to the New York State Department of Environmental Protection and to United States Fish and Wildlife Service, no investigation was initiated.

Single Dunlin were seen at Fair Haven and Port Ontario on 7 and 17 January, respectively. Was it the same bird working its way along the Lake Ontario shoreline? On 6 December one Purple Sandpiper was found at Fair Haven but never relocated. Less expected was a Wilson's Snipe that Greg Dashnau found at Three Rivers on 7 December. The bird lingered for two days. A total of four Black-legged Kittiwakes were seen over Derby Hill. All occurred between 3 December and 3 January. Bonaparte's Gulls persisted half way into the period and sometimes in respectable numbers. Bill Purcell found a lingering Virginia Rail at the Andrews Rd. feeder canal in DeWitt, always a hot spot for unusual half-hardies.

There was no significant influx of Snowy Owls into the Region this period, although the species was present in a few traditional locations. None were seen after 9 February. On 18 January Jason Lusier found a Long-eared Owl in a park in Syracuse. Short-eared Owls were observed in Verona, Baldwinsville, and Manheim in Herkimer County, but apparently none of them lingered or were

found after 20 January. Single Northern Saw-Whet Owls were seen in three locations, though none could be relocated after their initial discoveries.

A Red-headed Woodpecker was seen frequently near the Lake Ontario shoreline between 17 January and 21 February. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were found at six locations, but it's conceivable that two of those sightings could represent early spring migrants. In early February pairs of Merlin were thought to be establishing breeding territories at Onondaga Park in Syracuse and at a site in Tully. Resident pairs of Peregrine Falcons in Syracuse and Utica both remained on their breeding territories through the winter. Single Peregrines were observed in three other locations.

Northern Shrikes were difficult to come by this winter and were especially rare in the eastern part of the Region. Three Rivers WMA proved to be the only reliable location to find the species. One shrike was seen there repeatedly between 8 December and 28 February.

Despite the mild conditions, relatively few Winter Wrens wintered in the Region. However, David Nash did find a Marsh Wren at the Clay Marsh on 17 December, which was not the first time one had lingered at that location. There was one report of Hermit Thrush and three reports of Gray Catbird, which is less than one might expect given the mild conditions. There were a handful of Bohemian Waxwing sightings this period, all of them near the Lake Ontario shoreline. Our only Yellow-rumped Warbler reports came from Oswego, and there were none after 17 January. There were one or two reports each of Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, and White-crowned Sparrow, none of which persisted long. All in all our quotient of half-hardies just barely contributed to the "mild" complexion of this period.

One of the season's best birds was a female **Summer Tanager** at a Constantia bird feeder between 30 December and 5 January. The bird was brought to the attention of Wayne Fidler through a post on Facebook that involved a mystery bird showing up at a feeding station for about a week. Fortunately photographs were taken before the homeowner restricted access to the site. This represents the sixth Regional record, with all five previous being in May and the last in 1996.

On 16 January, a female **Dickcissel** was found to be keeping company with a flock of 20 House Sparrows at a feeding station in Fulton. The bird, which was sometimes difficult to discern from its similarly-attired flock mates, stayed in the vicinity until at least 2 February. There was no appreciable invasion of winter finches this winter, though Purple Finches and Pine Siskins were fairly well represented. A smattering of reports of Red Crossbills all came from northern Herkimer County where the species is often found in non-invasion years. Reports of Common Redpolls were scarce; all took place in February and all from Oswego County. There were only three reports of Evening Grosbeaks.

A total of 140 species was found this period, which is 10 more than the most recent decade's average. The highlights included: **Greater White-fronted Goose**, Cackling Goose, **Eurasian Wigeon**, King Eider, **Barrow's Goldeneye**,

EARED GREBE, WESTERN GREBE, AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN, Golden Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, Virginia Rail, Dunlin, Purple Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, Black-legged Kittiwake, Bonaparte's Gull, **Snowy Owl**, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, N Saw-whet Owl, Marsh Wren, Bohemian Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, **SUMMER TANAGER, Dickcissel**, and Red Crossbill.

The winter season produced 29,211 eBird records, which were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02.

CONTRIBUTORS

Dennis Anderson, Faith Baker, Adam Bleau (ABl), Brenda Best, Sue Boettger, Carla Bregman, Joseph Brin, Matthew Brown, Ken & Rose Burdick (KRB), Andrea Burke, Bernie Carr, Gerald Case, David Cesari, Gary Chapin, Richard Cohen, Jim D'Angelo, Abby Darrah, Greg Dashnau, Rose DeNeve, Wayne Fidler, Ruth Florey, Elizabeth Frascatore, Louise Gomez, Bill Gruenbaum, Michael Gullo, Barbara & Larry Hall (BLH), Eddie Harlow, Jody Hildreth, Teri Holland, Gene Huggins, Jonathan Kresge, William Kuk, Joshua LaCelle (JaL), Josiah LaCelle, Robert LaCelle III, Gary Lee, Jason Luscier (JLu), Mark Magistro (Mma), Mary Magistro (MM), Sue March, Kevin McGann, Gary Meyers, Eric Moody, David Nash, Cody Nichols, Mitch Nusbaum, Kevin Pace, Neil Paprocki, Matt Perry, Bill Purcell, Margaret Rusk, Linda Salter (LSr), Stephanie & Thomas Schmidt, Mickey Scilingo, Tony Shrimpton, Jean Soprano, Chris Spagnoli, Taylor Sturm, Jim Tarolli (JTa), Judy Thurber (JT), Matt Voelker, Drew Weber (DWe), Lisa Welch, Lydia Wells, David Wheeler (DW), Brian White, Robert G. Williams III, Joe Wing, Judy Wright, Matt Young, Ken Zoller.

ABBREVIATIONS

BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville; Bville – Baldwinsville; Canas – Canastota; Caz – Cavenovia L; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida L at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GLSP – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; Hast – Hastings; HI – Howland I WMA; MCL – Madison County Landfill, T Lincoln; OF – Old Forge; OLC – Onondaga L Creekwalk; OneiL – Oneida L; OnonL – Onondaga L; OswH – Oswego Harbor; OtisL – Otisco L; RCFS – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC – Sterling Nature Center; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; SVB – Sylvan & Verona Beach; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; VBSP – Verona Beach SP; WP – Woodman Pd, Hamilton

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: max 2 Van Buren 3 Dec (JB); 2 BLNC 6 Dec (GD); WP thru 13 Dec (GM, mob).

Snow Goose: max 2895 Belgium 1 Jan; 2045 OSHW 2 Feb, flying east.

Snow Goose X Canada Goose: GLSP 24 Jan (JC).

Brant: small flock OF 2 Jan, only report.

Cackling Goose: max 2 Van Buren 4 Dec (MM); singles at 7 other locs; none after 2 Jan.

Canada Goose: max 4000 BLNC 8 Dec; 3400 Mexico 13 Dec; 3500 Pompey 14 Dec.

Mute Swan: 14 OLC 29 Jan; max 29 FH 22 Feb.

Trumpeter Swan: max 9 FH 31 Jan (MM); 8 OSHW 9 Feb (WF); 5 SSSP 28 Feb (GD); reports from 4 other locs.

Tundra Swan: max 224 Const 26 Dec (BP); 167 SP 17 Jan; 50 FH 17 Jan; good numbers.

Wood Duck: 3 UM 28 Dec; max 4 Fulton 7 Jan – 22 Feb; 3 Belgium 21 Feb; reports from 6 other locs.

Gadwall: max 75 FH 17 Dec, good number; 11 WP 26 Dec; 9 OnonL 22 Jan.

Eurasian Wigeon: W Loop Rd, MNWR 25 Feb (ABI).

Am. Wigeon: max 26 WP 11 Dec; 22 OLC 21 Feb; 18 Brewerton 25 Feb.

Am. Black Duck: 55 WP 26 Dec; 54 Caz 30 Dec; 40 OnonL 16 Jan.

Mallard: 280 FH 17 Dec; max 800 OnonL 10 Feb; 330 OSHW 20 Feb.

Am. Black Duck x Mallard: max 4 WP 3 Jan; singles at 2 other locs.

N. Shoveler: 2 FH 17 Dec; max 11 UM 28 Dec; none after Dec.

N. Pintail: 8 WP 7 Dec; 5 Brewerton 25 Feb; 21 Skan 26 Feb; max 300 W Loop Rd, MNWR 27 Feb.

Green-winged Teal: max 16 Kirkville 6 Dec; 8 Canas 13 Dec; singles at 5 other locs.

Redhead: 300 FH 5 Jan; max 430 OnonL 4 Feb; 300 OSHW 26 Feb.

Canvasback: max 13 WP 26 Dec, OSHW 27 Feb; 11 OLC 21 Feb.

Ring-necked Duck: 52 Const 26 Dec; 79 WP 15 – 18 Dec; max 109 Hatch L 6 Jan.

Greater Scaup: 210 Const 26 Dec; 200 FH 5 Jan; max 300 OSHW 21 – 28 Feb.

Lesser Scaup: 14 Const 26 Dec; max 150 OnonL 16 Jan; 26 OSHW 27 Feb.

Greater/Lesser Scaup: max 250 Const 26 Dec. *Aythya* species: max 350 OnonL 16 Jan.

King Eider: f SSSP 6 – 31 Jan (WF, mob, ph).

Surf Scoter: f DH 15 Dec; f Warren HERK 15 Dec; m DH 3 Jan; only reports.

White-winged Scoter: 28 DH 3 Dec; 12 FH 17 Jan; max 35 OSHW 21 Feb.

Black Scoter: max 4 Port Ontario 23 Dec (KM); 2 OneiL 1 Jan (BP, KM); 2 DH 3 Jan (DW).

Long-tailed Duck: max 350 DH 3 Jan; 105 FH 12 Feb.

Bufflehead: 31 Otisco Lake 5 Dec; max 45 FH 17 Dec; 26 OneiL 9 Jan.

Com. Goldeneye: 88 FH 14 Jan; 182 Otisco Lake 19 Jan; max 230 Brewerton 25 Feb.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (R5): f Brewerton 2 – 9 Feb (BP, mob).

Hooded Merganser: 95 Otisco Lake 5 Dec; max 98 DL 10 Dec; 178 New Woodstock CBC 30 Dec, good number; 60 Belgium 22 Jan.

Com. Merganser: 250 Fulton 23 Dec; max 550 OnonL 4 Feb; 450 Phoenix 14 Feb.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 340 FH 24 Dec; 250 OSHW 15 Jan; 154 DH 27 Feb.

Ruddy Duck: max 15 WP 2 – 19 Dec; 11 BLNC 4 Dec; 5 OnonL 17 Jan; none after 17 Jan.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 TR 20 Dec; 2 Fulton 15 Jan; singles in 5 other areas.

Ruffed Grouse: max 4 Mexico 2 Jan, 1 Feb; 3 Hamilton 7 Feb; most reports south & east of OneiL.

Wild Turkey: 54 Little Falls 29 Dec; 48 Manheim 6 Jan; max 72 SH 30 Jan.

Red-throated Loon: max 8 OSHW 12 Dec; 5 Oswego 17 Dec; 3 SVB 26 Dec.

Com. Loon: 5 FH 16 Dec; 3 OF CBC 19 Dec; max 9 OSHW 17 Jan; 4 OnonL 16, 17 Jan.

Pied-billed Grebe: 2 BLNC 2 – 21 Dec; max 4 UM 20 Dec; 2 Belgium 29 Jan – 1 Feb.

Horned Grebe: 4 DH 11 Dec; max 8 OnonL 21 Jan; most reports from Lake Ontario.

Red-necked Grebe: 2 OSHW 7 – 20 Dec; WP 8 Dec; Otisco Lake 27 Dec.

EARED GREBE (R5): OSHW 28 Jan – 2 Feb (MG, mob, ph), 12th Reg rec, only 2nd for Oswego.

WESTERN GREBE: OSHW 16 – 20 Dec (GD, mob, ph, NYSARC), 3rd Reg rec, 1st for winter.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 28 OSHW 24 Dec, 28 OnonL 1 Feb.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: OnonL 12 – 25 Jan (RF, mob, ph), expired, 1st Reg rec for winter, *intro*.

Great Blue Heron: max 3 WP 26 Dec, 3 OnonL 8 – 25 Jan.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Turkey Vulture: max 28 Fayetteville 6 Dec, good number; arr Belgium 22 Feb.

Golden Eagle: juv Norway 11 Dec (LH, EH), only rep.

Bald Eagle: 6 Minetto 20 Jan; 6 Williamstown 18 Feb; 8 OnonL 27 Feb; max 10 DH 27 – 28 Feb.

N. Harrier: max 2 Cicero 19 Dec; 2 Mindenville, HERK 2 Jan; 2 Dolgeville 11 Jan; 2 Fairfield 6 Feb.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: close to 45 reports of singles.

Cooper's Hawk: about 100 reports of singles.

N. Goshawk: SH 8 - 30 Dec (LS), only rep.

Rough-shouldered Hawk: Georgetown 30 Dec (KRB), only rep.

Red-tailed Hawk: 5 TR 13 Dec; 5 HI 14 Dec; ad Syr 3 Jan, shot, expired; max 35 DH 27 Feb.

Rough-legged Hawk: max 3 SH 30 Dec – 10 Feb; 2 Fairfield 30 Dec – 2 Feb; 2 Pulaski 28 Feb; relatively scarce.

Virginia Rail: De Witt 7 Jan (BP).

Am. Coot: 16 UM 20 Dec; max 35 Skan 13 Jan; 13 OnonL 17 Jan.

Killdeer: arr SFNS 23 Feb; Tully 25 Feb; only reports.

Dunlin: FH 7 Jan (JB); Port Ontario 17 Jan (KM, WF).

Purple Sandpiper: FH 6 Dec (GD), only report.

Wilson's Snipe: TR 7 – 9 Dec (GD), only report.

Black-legged Kittiwake: ad DH 3 Dec (BP); 2 imm DH 15 Dec (DW, BP); imm DH 3 Jan (DW).

Bonaparte's Gull: 50 OnonL 10 Dec; 41 FH 16 Dec; max 140 South Bay, OneiL 27 Dec (KM); none after 15 Jan.

Iceland Gull: 2 MCL 29 Dec – 2 Feb; 2 OswH 17 Jan; max 3 DB 6 Feb, 3 OnonL 8 Feb; 2 OneiL 6 Feb.

Ring-billed Gull: 1033 DH 15 Dec; max 2000 OnonL 19 Dec.

Herring Gull: max 100 VBSP 26 Dec; 850 MCL 29 Dec.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 2 OneiL 6 Feb (DW); singles at six locs.

Glaucous Gull: max 2 Oswego 17 Jan, 2 OnonL 7 – 19 Feb; singles at 6 other locs.

Great Black-backed Gull: 50 VBSP 26 Dec; max 75 OneiL 6 Feb; 50 OnonL 18 Feb.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: 220 Pheonix 15 Jan; 240 Brewerton 26 Jan; max 367 Cicero 26 Jan.

Mourning Dove: max 96 Dolgeville 18 Jan; 55 Const 15 Feb.

E. Screech-Owl: max 4 Skan 3 Jan; 2 Baltimore Woods 3 Jan; singles at 6 other locs.

Great Horned Owl: 2 Manlius 13 Dec – 19 Feb; 2 Mexico 25 Dec; 2 Hannibal 23 Feb; 2 Skan 3 Jan; 2 TR 4 Feb; 2 Erieville 14 Jan – 6 Feb; pair SNC 28 Feb, nesting in heron rookery; widespread reports of singles.

Snowy Owl: Waterville 2 Dec; max 3 OswH 16 Dec; Fulton 17 Dec; Syr Airport 29 Dec – 3 Jan; last Port Ontario 9 Feb.

Barred Owl: 2 New Haven 6 Jan; 2 Port Ontario 28 Feb; singles at 9 other locs.

Long-eared Owl: Syr 18 Jan (JLu), only rep.

Short-eared Owl: Verona 1 Jan; TR 6 – 7 Jan; Bville 7 Jan; max 2 Manheim, HERK 17 Jan, one thru 20 Jan; only reports.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Mexico 9 Dec (WF); Oswego 20 Dec (KM, WF); Manlius 5 Feb (ABl); only reports.

Belted Kingfisher: 2 UM 20 – 28 Dec; 2 Dewitt 9 – 16 Jan; 2 WP 21 Feb.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Scriba 17 Jan – 21 Feb; FH 21 Feb (DW).

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 5 GLSP 5 Dec; max 7 Memphis 4 Feb.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 2 GLSP 20 Feb; singles 5 other locs.

Downy Woodpecker: max 10 HI 14 Dec.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 4 SH 2 Dec, 4 TR 23 Dec.

N. Flicker: max 4 HI 14 – 26 Dec, 4 GLSP 19 Dec; widespread reports.

Pileated Woodpecker: 4 GLSP 6 Dec; max 8 HI 26 Dec.

Am. Kestrel: max 2 Mexico 7 Dec; widespread reports of singles.

Merlin: 2 Tully 2 Feb; max 3 Syr 9 Feb; 2 DH 28 Feb; pairs reported setting up territories.

Peregrine Falcon: pairs hold territory Syr & Utica thru; OswH 29 Jan; Fulton 19 Feb; Phoenix 28 Feb.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

N. Shrike: TR 8 Dec – 28 Feb; singles in expected areas, low numbers.

Blue Jay: 24 Williamstown 5 Feb; 35 Taberg 6 Feb.

Am. Crow: 1500 Utica 15 Feb; max 6250 Syr 19 Dec; 4452 DH 28 Feb.

Fish Crow: Skan 3 Jan; max 7 OnonL 16 Jan.

Com. Raven: max 8 Norway 13 Dec; 4 Erieville 31 Jan; 4 Const 26 Dec; 4 Hast 29 Feb.

Horned Lark: 50 Fabius 23 Jan; max 85 SH 25

Jan; 40 Skan 20 Feb.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 34 Osw 17 Dec; 33 Memphis 4 Feb.

Tufted Titmouse: max 8 DH 20 Dec, 8 Memphis 4 Feb, 8 Chittenango 12 Feb.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 7 Highland Forest 13 Dec, 7 OF 7 Feb.

White-breasted Nuthatch: 7 TR 13 Dec; max 13 HI 14 Dec; 7 Fayetteville 19 Dec; 9 CM 7 Jan.

Brown Creeper: max 3 TR 13 Dec, 3 Mexico 23 Dec, 3 OnonL 16 Jan; 3 DH 17 Jan.

Winter Wren: max 2 Mexico 23 Dec; singles at 4 other locs.

Marsh Wren: CM 17 Dec (DN!), rare in winter.

Carolina Wren: 2 Manlius 14 – 31 Dec; max 3 Camillus 12 Feb; fairly widespread reports of singles.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 4 TR 13 Dec; max 14 Williamstown 26 Dec; 4 OF 7 Feb.

E. Bluebird: 15 Williamstown 13 Dec; max 17 TR 24 Dec.

Hermit Thrush: max 2 RCFS 17 Dec, only loc.

Am. Robin: 110 SFNS 12 Dec; max 300 Sterling Nature Center 26 Dec.

Gray Catbird: Oswego 17 Dec – 17 Jan; SFNS 4 Jan; Elbridge 8 Jan; only reports.

N. Mockingbird: 2 Elbridge 8 Dec; 2 OswH 16 Dec; 2 Skan 18 Jan; max 3 GLSP 7 Feb.

European Starling: 1100 Tully 7 Jan; max 2000 DB 22 Jan.

Bohemian Waxwing: Oswego 7 Dec; max 42 SSSP 22 Feb; several more reports from vicinity of SSSP.

Cedar Waxwing: 70 TR 19 Dec; 80 SFNS 9 Feb; max 160 SSSP 17 Feb.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: Big Moose, HERK 31 Dec; Manlius 4 Jan; max 3 Fabius 23 Jan; SH 25 Jan; Mexico 28 Jan; Pulaski 28 Jan – 20 Feb.

Snow Bunting: max 120 OswH 5 Jan; 75 Bouckville 13 Feb; 80 Fabius 18 Feb.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 4 RCFS 17 Dec; last 17 Jan, same loc.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: 2 SH 8 Dec (LS), only report.

Am. Tree Sparrow: 56 Oswego 17 Dec; max 58 Dolgeville 23 Feb.

Chipping Sparrow: Verona 1 Jan (BB, MV), only report.

Field Sparrow: SH 30 Dec (BP, KM); Memphis 4 Feb (KB); only reports.

Fox Sparrow: 2 SH 8 Dec (LS); Middleville 12 Feb (STS); only reports.

Song Sparrow: max 7 DB 22 Jan; 5 Fairfield 11 Feb.

Swamp Sparrow: 3 Osw 17 Dec, only report.

White-throated Sparrow: max 25 SFNS 12 Dec; 23 Fayetteville 19 Dec.

White-crowned Sparrow: Skan 24 Jan; Marcellus 12 Feb, one other report.

Dark-eyed Junco: 38 Mindenville, HERK 2 Jan; 31 Sterling 14 Jan.

SUMMER TANAGER: f Const 30 Dec – 5 Jan (WF, ph, NYSARC), 6th Reg rec, 1st for winter.

N. Cardinal: max 21 Cicero 15 Feb; 17 Camillus 16 Feb; 17 CM 22 Feb.

DICKCISSEL (R5): Fulton 16 Jan – 2 Feb (GD, ph, mob).

Red-winged Blackbird: 70 DB 12 Dec; max 711 TR 29 Feb; singles and small flocks thru.

E. Meadowlark: Mindenville HERK 2 Jan, only report.

Com. Grackle: 8 DeWitt 16 Jan; 40 Weedsport 28 Feb; max 150 TR 29 Feb.

Brown-headed Cowbird: 103 Salisbury 30 Dec; 200 DB 31 Dec; max 210 Clinton 29 Jan; large flocks overwinter.

Purple Finch: 20 SH 7 Jan; 8 Wilmurt 8 Feb; max 38 Fabius 21 Feb; 31 Dolgeville 24 Feb; many reports of mostly small flocks.

House Finch: 23 SH 5 Dec; max 26 Phoenix 10 Dec.

Red Crossbill: 5 OF 7 Feb; max 8 Atwell, HERK 20 Feb; all sightings from n. HERK.

Com. Redpoll: max 5 Pulaski 17 Feb; 4 SSSP 27 – 28 Feb; very few reports.

Pine Siskin: 40 SH 30 Dec; 40 BLNC 15 – 18 Feb; max 50 SSSP 28 Feb.

Am. Goldfinch: 120 Cazenovia 30 Dec; 120 Mexico 9 Feb; max 127 Dolgeville 19 – 25 Feb.

Evening Grosbeak: Deruyter 30 Dec; Norway 21 Dec; 3 Fairfield 29 Dec.

House Sparrow: max 60 OnonL 19 Dec, 60 Belgium 22 Jan.

DOMESTICS

Graylag Goose: max 5 West Eaton, MADI thru (mob).

Muscovy Duck: 8 Salisbury 27 Feb.