

## REGION 2—GENESEE

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Again we see year-to-year contrasts and the birding scene heavily influenced by the weather. The warm winter spilled over into a warm start to spring in March. After a cool first week, the 8<sup>th</sup> brought the first 70° F day of the season followed by a record high 75° on the 9<sup>th</sup> and record high lows on 9, 10, and 13 March. For the month, temperatures averaged 40.1°, 5.8° above normal, for the 13<sup>th</sup> warmest March on record. Precipitation at 1.82" was 0.68" below normal, with 3.2" of snowfall the 11<sup>th</sup> lowest on record for the month. Light rain fell on two thirds of the days in the last three weeks of the month, with wind storms in the final few days. April switched gears to persistent cold for the first half and the most snowfall for an April since 1995 at 8.8", 4.9" above normal and more than each of December, January, and March this year. Mid-month saw a week of warmth and a burst of migrant arrivals, but temperatures for the month averaged 42.3°, 4.0° below normal, and precipitation at 1.56" was 1.17" below normal. There were rain and snow showers on about half the days, but only one day with over half an inch. The warm shot brought good passerine banding to BBBO in their opening week, but no break from a weak month at the hawkwatch, where only the 27<sup>th</sup> was a really good day. Late in the month trees near the lakeshore looked like it was still March. May began with cool periods for the first three weeks, with slow-moving cold fronts bringing showers and even snow pellets on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The last 10 days finally turned warmer with bursts of migrants and a taste of summer. The first 80° day was on the 12<sup>th</sup>, with a 91° day on the 28<sup>th</sup> about three weeks early. Temperatures averaged 58.5°, 1.5° above normal, and precipitation at 2.93" was just 0.06" above average, however, over half the rain fell on the 29<sup>th</sup>, with the rest of the month relatively dry.

The open winter and warm March led to a great deal of observer activity and a record-tying species count for March. All expected waterfowl were reported, the hawk count was the second highest in the past 10 years, and there was a good selection of the typical early arrivals. There were a few early April arrivals in spite of the cold, then the burst mid-month, and finally more in the last few days. For the month, approximately 43,218 eBird records was a good total after over 29,000 for March. May saw too many days with northerly components to the winds. Migration was "clumpy"; good at the right place and time, but near zero nearby at those same times. May numbers were low in most family groups, though species counts were high and eBird reports exceeded 64,000. Events like Migratory Bird Day and Global Big Day reported through eBird add to the volume of records. For the season, each month's species total exceeded the respective 10-year average for the month—March: 148 vs. 138.2; April: 203 vs. 195.8; and May: 243 vs. 233.1.

Moving along to looking at our families in detail, we start with waterfowl. This year the peak counts for Snow Goose in March exceeded those for Canada Goose, with a couple of 10,000 Snow Goose reports. With that many geese around, it was not surprising to have reports of the rarer Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, and Cackling Goose and also reports of Snow x Canada Goose on 7 March and 31 May. However, Brant was missed for the season, contrasting with neighboring Regions 1 and 5. The Tundra Swan passage was good, with a maximum of 1300 on the Groveland Flats, a typical site historically for the bulk of their movement through the SW corner of our Region. Trumpeter Swan reports have decreased, especially later in the season when we hope to see breeding pairs. Puddle duck numbers were generally poor throughout the season and across the Region other than several good counts for Northern Pintail. By May there were almost no noteworthy sightings. The highlight of this group was record observations of Eurasian Wigeon; record early on 3, 12, and 17 March. Birds continued to 17 April, with as many as four males at a single site. Other hybrid waterfowl included a Eurasian x American Wigeon and Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal. Diving duck peak counts were also modest at best. Only reports of 800 and 970 Long-tailed Ducks, 450 Common Mergansers, and 1100 Red-breasted Mergansers really approach historically noteworthy. Other interesting records include: the Region's sixth Tufted Duck, a male found by Mike Wasilco on Conesus Lake on 4 April and seen by many to 14 April; King Eiders from 3-8 March and 9-16 April; and good numbers of Bufflehead on Honeoye Lake on 6 March and Conesus Lake on 4 May.

Loon and grebe numbers were relatively poor, with even a maximum of 625 Common Loon historically fairly low. It is hard to tell how much of this is population change or migration related and how much is related to no regular, concerted lakewatch. Among the herons and egrets, American Bittern and Great Egret arrived toward the early end of their date ranges in late March, and two Glossy Ibis seen by many 29-30 March in the Carncross Road area of the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) were record early for our Region, though they were reported even earlier in adjacent Region 3 in the Montezuma NWR. Black Vulture made it back onto our Regional reports again on 30 March at the HANA area, then through the season at several other sites. Turkey Vulture numbers again remained very high at the Braddock Bay hawkwatch (see the hawkwatch table). 82% of the March hawkwatch total was 7588 Turkey Vultures.

Moving to the raptors, Osprey started things off with a record early Regional arrival found by Steven Benedict and Linda Clark-Benedict on 7 March at the Morgan Road area of the NMWMA. Ryan MacLean was the official hawk counter at Braddock Bay this spring. As noted above, he started out with a good March. However, after that things slowed dramatically with the cold April and then mainly northerly breezes of May. Fortunately, there were a couple of good days for Broad-winged Hawk on 27 and 30 April, pushing that species' count past Turkey Vulture to stay for the year—back to normal after

last year. May saw some good pulses on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>, with the 25<sup>th</sup> bringing a Mississippi Kite and two Swainson's Hawks, one of these latter also seen on the 26<sup>th</sup> passing the Derby Hill hawkwatch to our east. By season's end, Peregrine Falcon numbers reached a record high and shortly after (actually just past month's end) the Bald Eagle count followed suit. Black Vulture, Northern Goshawk, and Red-shouldered Hawk remained at relatively low counts. The Sandhill Cranes passing the hawkwatch were not specifically tallied closely for the season. Counts overall were down across the Region and there were few reports with any details around potential breeding, though birds were seen in the usual sites.

Among the shorebirds, the expected early species all arrived during March, or earlier in the case of Killdeer. Some were very early, though none record early. In April, shorebird variety and numbers were both very low, with only 11 species recorded. May continued poor for numbers, but the Region's third spring Piping Plover was seen passing Hamlin Beach SP on 27 May by Brad Carlson, and both Willet and Whimbrel were reported, plus the less rare but relatively scarce-in-spring species: Stilt Sandpiper, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, and Long-billed Dowitcher. Wilson's Phalarope was the only expected spring species missed.

Gulls and terns continued the litany of relative scarcity, while seeing all of the regular spring species reported. The white-winged gulls of winter saw fewer than normal lingering into spring, but Iceland Gull continued to 13 May, an adult Thayer's Gull was reported on 10 May, and an Iceland x Thayer's Gull was seen and photographed in the period 8-15 March. Adult Little Gulls were reported in April and May, and Lesser Black-backed Gull numbers were high through the season, with the total on the order of 100 individuals. The terns all appeared at expected April arrival dates, and good peak counts included 222 Caspian Terns on 4 May and 34 Black Terns on 7 May, the latter in their last breeding stronghold in the Van Dyne Spoor area of the NMWMA.

Among the non-passerine landbirds, we start with reports of 1-2 Eurasian Collared-Doves, all from the Greenwell farm in the Town of Hamlin in the date ranges 12-27 March and 7-24 April. It is interesting that this species that has spread widely around the country seems to barely hang on here. Snowy Owls lingered at only the Genesee County Airport near Batavia and on the Greenwell farm in Hamlin, with the last date 12 March at the latter location. The Long-eared and N. Saw-whet Owl picture was interesting and a bit confusing this spring. The roost counts in the "Owl Woods" area along Manitou Beach Road found only low numbers from 10 March through 23 April; totals of 11 Long-eared and 18 N. Saw-whet owls were tallied. Yet N. Saw-whet Owls were banded nearby (0.2-0.4 miles ENE) ) at the BBBO passerine banding area from 7-29 March, and 26 had been banded by 12 March, with 12 banded on just that date, by which time only two had been found roosting. By the 29 March, 37 had been banded. Clearly there was a large difference between those trapped in the evenings and those roosting nearby. This detail was provided by Jim Adams in a

seasonal summary report of the owl roost monitoring effort (Jim Adams, "Braddock Bay Raptor Research Owl Woods 2016 Roost Survey Results," July 17, 2016, 14 pp.). The DEC Short-eared Owl monitoring effort continued with its biweekly counts to late April, with good counts through the period. A major surprise was Christina Hoh, the DEC leader of the owl monitoring project, finding a freshly dead **Barn Owl** on I-390 near the Rush Exit on 6 April. The species is very rarely reported locally anymore. Both E. Whip-poor-will and Common Nighthawk reports were low this spring, though Whip-poor-will reports were scattered from 17 April to 17 May, and there was one very good count of 142 Common Nighthawks on 27 May by Andy Guthrie at the Greenwell farm area. 53 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds is about average for recent springs at BBBO. The first Red-headed Woodpecker report for the year was not until 1 April, which is late. Reports of all three of our regular falcons were typical of recent years. Peregrine Falcon nesting was underway and being closely monitored on the downtown Rochester nesting box (see <http://rfalconcam.com> for details), but we awaited news confirming continued local Merlin nesting.

The passerine story follows along with those above for other groups. There were early arrivals of Tree Swallow, Eastern Phoebe, and Fox Sparrow in the first half of March, then ten other species later in the month, mostly in the last week and none record early. There were many early arrivals in April, six of which were prior to the record early dates of the 1985 Monroe County Checklist arrival date distributions, but all having even earlier arrival dates in years in the intervening 30-year span; we clearly need an update of the distributions. The BBBO passerine banding station started off with a great first week into the 16-22 April warm spell, with three days with more than 100 birds banded. After that banding was much slower for most of the season and no more days reached that level until 13 May. The total banded was the least in the past five years, with most species running from average to half or less for totals. The species section of this report following will include some peak and total numbers for illustration.

Still, all the fairly regular passerine species except for Kentucky Warbler and Connecticut Warbler were reported this spring. Given all this, it was interesting that Bay-breasted and Black-throated Blue Warblers jumped up a bit, but then in contrast Orange-crowned Warbler dropped from a record high 18 banded last year to a more normal one banded this spring. The season included a good number of rarer records: the Region's third Gray Kingbird found at the Conesus Lake inlet WMA on 2 May by Greg Lawrence and Ethan Gyllenhaal and seen by many through the 4<sup>th</sup>; White-eyed Vireo; Worm-eating, Prothonotary, and Yellow-throated Warblers; the Region's twelfth Harris's Sparrow at a feeder in Kendall, Orleans County, from 7-9 May; a "Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow found by Andy Guthrie on 7 May on Center Road in Orleans County; a Summer Tanager banded at BBBO on 16 May and seen there through the 18<sup>th</sup>; and a passing Dickcissel at Hamlin Beach SP heard by both

Andy Guthrie and Chris Wood on 28 May. With people tracking the status of Rusty Blackbird, it is worth noting that we had a fairly good number of reports, with a maximum of 800 at the West Spit of Braddock Bay on 21 April. While we observe, as others do, that numbers are way down from those of the not-too-distant past, this maximum is on the high end of comparable reports going back to the early 1950s here. Winter finches included only a few Common Redpolls through a last report on 17 April and Pine Siskins in mainly small numbers but with a maximum of 166 on 18 April.

We celebrate our hawk watch and at times talk about the waterbird movement along the lake, but most people often overlook some other annual large movements, such as Blue Jays, American Crows, and American Robins as well as the general flood of passerines sampled by the banding effort. Recording these depends on someone with the time and interest taking/making the time to actually record data. A few counts will be included as illustrations.

Overall, the season was interesting, as are all for one reason or another. The general theme of good species counts with increasing numbers of reports to eBird but mainly low peak counts for many species is a concerning trend. As noted in previous Regional reports, some care is needed in examining high counts to take into account the level of aggregation—length of time and size of area covered—in the various counts. Still the concern remains, numbers of individuals of many species are (note dropping the use of the “weasel words”, “seem to be”) seriously decreasing. Knowledgeable observers can still go to the right places at the right times and build month, year, and county lists comparable with past years, but those tallies mean little relative to tracking what is going on.

**BRADDOCK BAY HAWKWATCH TOTALS**

| Species                               | Arrival | Max  | Max Date      | Total  |
|---------------------------------------|---------|------|---------------|--------|
| Black Vulture                         | 18 Apr  | 1    | 18 Apr        | 1      |
| Turkey Vulture                        | 3 Mar   | 2409 | 1 Apr         | 25718  |
| Mississippi Kite                      | 25 May  | 1    | 25 May        | 1      |
| Osprey                                | 26 Mar  | 18   | 3 May         | 182    |
| Bald Eagle                            | 4 Mar   | 62   | 27 May        | 664    |
| N. Harrier                            | 5 Mar   | 48   | 15 Apr        | 587    |
| Sharp-sh. Hawk                        | 9 Mar   | 432  | 30 Apr        | 4402   |
| Cooper's Hawk                         | 8 Mar   | 25   | 30 Apr        | 311    |
| N. Goshawk                            | 9 Mar   | 1    | 10 dates      | 10     |
| Red-shld Hawk                         | 9 Mar   | 240  | 17 Mar        | 404    |
| Swainson's Hawk                       | 25 May  | 2    | 25 May        | 2      |
| Broad-wngd Hawk                       | 16 Apr  | 9835 | 27 Apr        | 32932  |
| Red-tailed Hawk                       | 1 Mar   | 154  | 9 Mar         | 2049   |
| Rough-legd Hawk                       | 6 Mar   | 12   | 9 Mar         | 60     |
| GoldenEagle                           | 17 Mar  | 4    | 3 May         | 24     |
| Am. Kestrel                           | 9 Mar   | 46   | 16 Apr        | 301    |
| Merlin                                | 8 Mar   | 3    | 9 Mar, 22 Apr | 27     |
| Peregrine Falcon                      | 6 Mar   | 7    | 4 May         | 51     |
| Total including unidentified raptors: |         |      |               | 67,726 |

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Wasilco, Ann Watson, Bridget Watts, Kinsley Whittum, Joe Wing, Chris Wood.  
[In addition there were over 300 other casual eBird observers.]

## ABBREVIATIONS

b – indicates banded this season, usually at BBBO's Kaiser-Manitou passerine banding station; BB – Braddock Bay, MONR; BB-H – Braddock Bay Hawkwatch; BB-WS – West Spit of Braddock Bay; BBBO – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory; CIWMA – Conesus Inlet WMA, LIVI; ConL – Conesus L, LIVI; DEP – Durand-Eastman P, Rochester; ED – off Edgemere Dr., T Greece, MONR; G – T Greece, MONR; H – T Hamlin, MONR; HANA – High Acres Nature Area, MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; ICW – Island Cottage Woods, T Greece, MONR; IBO – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; LSP – Letchworth SP; M – Manitou Beach area, MONR; MP – Mendon Ponds P, MONR; NMWMA – Northern Montezuma WMA, T of Savannah, WAYN; NMWMA (AR) – north side of Armitage Rd.; NMWMA (CM) – Colvin Marsh area near MAC; NMWMA (CR) – along Carncross Road east of Savannah-Spring Lake Rd.; NMWMA (MT) – Marten Tract off Savannah Spring Lake Rd; NMWMA (RR) – Railroad Rd area between Morgan Rd and Van Dyne Spoor; NMWMA (VDS) – area along Van Dyne Spoor, T Savannah, WAYN; NMWMA (SCU) – Sandhill Crane Unit, T Savannah, WAYN; OB – Ontario Beach P, Charlotte, MONR; PtB – Point Breeze, Orleans County at border with Region 1; SB – Sodus Bay, WAYN; SC – Salmon Creek, T Greece, MONR; SPt – Sodus Pt, WAYN; TCEA – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, T Avon, LIVI; W – T of Webster, MONR.

### WATERFOWL – VULTURES

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** 2 Groveland Flats LIVI 4 Mar (MW, SBa, WD'A, CMo); last 3 PtB 6 Mar (GL).

**Snow Goose:** 7000 Rt 36 LIVI 2 Mar; max 10000 NMWMA (CR) 4 Mar (W&MR); max 10000 Groveland Flats LIVI 4 Mar (R&SS); last 1 NMWMA (SCU & VDS) thru 31 May (mob), injured bird.

**Ross's Goose:** HB 8 Mar (ID).

**Snow x Canada Goose:** 1 SC 7 Mar (BriM); SB 31 May (W&MR).

**Brant:** none.

**Cackling Goose:** total approx 33 many loc 5 Mar – 23 Apr; max 10 SC 5 Mar (AGu).

**Canada Goose:** max 5560 HB 8 Mar, low max.

**Mute Swan:** max 52 SC 7 Mar; 44 Buck Pnd T Greece 21 May.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 5 NMWMA 11 Mar & 13 Apr; again fewer repts across Reg than in recent years.

**Tundra Swan:** max 1300 Groveland Flats 4 Mar (R&SS); 583 BB 8 Mar (RM), high for loc; last 2 NMWMA (CR) & 4 Nations Rd IBA 1 Apr.

**Wood Duck:** max 105 CIWMA 28 May (MW), marsh survey.

**Gadwall:** max 100 BB 4 Apr; max 100 NMWMA (VDS) 2 Apr (JMc, LS).

**Eurasian Wigeon:** arr 1m Groveland Flats LIVI 3 Mar (JK), Reg record early; 1m muckland WAYN 12 Mar (W&MR, ph), before prior record early; 1m Beechwood SP WAYN 17 Mar (JW), before prior record early; 1m CIWMA 22-31 Mar (DBea, mob, ph); 1-2m E. Swamp Rd, Conesus 1-10 Apr (MW, mob); max 4m E. Swamp Rd, Conesus 4 Apr (J&BV); 1m NMWMA (MT) (1-13 Apr (GD, mob); last 1m BB-WS 17 Apr (GL, EG, AGu, RB, JeB).

**Eurasian x Am. Wigeon:** 1m NMWMA (CR) 27 Mar (JMcG, LS), arr 4-16 sev loc 10 Mar; max 180 BB 28 Mar, low; last Greece 25 May.

**Am. Wigeon:** max 300 NMWMA (VDS) 2 Apr & NMWMA (MT) 10 Apr (JMcG, LS), good counts.

**Am. Black Duck:** max 80 NMWMA (VDS) 2 Apr (JMcG, LS), low max.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 2 Sodus 11 Mar.

**BLUE-WINGED X CINNAMON TEAL (R2):** NMWMA (RR) 24 Mar (AB).

**N. Pintail:** max 1620 NMWMA (CR) 19 Mar (AL, NM); last 1 NMWMA (CM) & 11 NMWMA (RR) 4 May.

**Green-winged Teal:** arr 3-7 sev loc 4 Mar; last 3 NMWMA (VDS) 23 May.

**Canvasback:** max 100 ConL 19 Mar; last ConL 2 May.

**Redhead:** max 350 ConL 11 Mar.

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 279 Burger P, Greece 25 Mar; 260 NMWMA (VDS) 2 Apr; last 3 NMWMA (VDS) 10 May.

**TUFTED DUCK:** 1 m ConL 4-14 Apr (MW, mob, ph), 4<sup>th</sup> Reg record.

**Greater Scaup:** max 500 off Manitou Beach, Greece 6 Mar; last 4 Cranberry Pnd, Greece 14 May.

**Lesser Scaup:** max 300 ConL 4 Apr; last 2 Cranberry Pnd, Greece 14 May.

**King Eider:** 1 f IBO 3-5 Mar (JiM, *et al.*); 1 f off Manitou Beach, Greece 6 Mar (NK); 1 f BB-WS 8 Mar (DD); 1 f PtB 9-10 Apr (KMcGa, GL); last 1 f off Manitou Beach, Greece 16 Apr (mob).

**Surf Scoter:** last 1 PtB 10 May, early departure.

**White-winged Scoter:** max 125 BB-WS 10 Mar, low max; last HB 26 May.

**Black Scoter:** last off Manitou Beach, Greece 2 May.

**Long-tailed Duck:** 970 off OB 8 Mar; max 980 ED 14 May (Ji&LB).

**Bufflehead:** max 165 Sandy Bottom P, Honeoye L 6 Mar (BH); 160 CIWMA 4 May (TL, NG, SBu, JMcC); last HB 25 May.

**Com. Goldeneye:** last BB-WS 20 May.

**Hooded Merganser:** 1 ad f + 7 yng Bushnell's Basin pond 31 May (C&HH), don't receive many breeding records.

**Com. Merganser:** max 450 off OB 6 Mar.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 1100 ED 17 Apr (JeB).

**Ruddy Duck:** max 65 Sandy Bottom P, Honeoye L 12 Apr (BH); last Cranberry Pnd, Greece 28 May (sev).

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** max 13 Nations Rd IBA survey 29 May (MW), high for recent years.

**Red-throated Loon:** max 17 ED 17 Apr, low; last 4 HB 29 May (AGu), late.

**Com. Loon:** max 625 ED 23 Apr (Je, Ji, & LB, CW).

**Horned Grebe:** max 80 Silver Lake North 24 Mar; last 1 HB 19 May.

**Red-necked Grebe:** max 54 HB 8 Mar, low max; last 6 HB 10 May.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** arr 1-5 sev loc 26 Mar; max 900 IB west side boat launch 19 Apr (AGA).

**Am. Bittern:** arr ED 26 Mar (JeB, CW).

**Least Bittern:** arr HANA 30 Apr (JPow, MG), early.

**Great Egret:** arr BB-H 25 Mar (GL, JRy, *et al.*), early.

**Green Heron:** arr NMWMA (MT) 9 Apr.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** arr NMWMA (MT) 9 Apr.

**Glossy Ibis:** 2 NMWMA (CR) 29-30 Mar-2 Apr (mob, ph), Reg record early, though seen earlier nearby in Region 3.

## HAWKS – LARIDS

**Black Vulture:** arr HANA 30 Mar (JPow); T Ontario WAYN 16 Apr (JW); BB-H 18 Apr (RM, *et al.*); 3 LSP 22-27 Apr (EK, *et al.*); T Nunda LIVI 12 May (EB); DEP 25 May (JSle).

**Turkey Vulture:** 1654 BB 28 Mar (RM, *et al.*); 1059 Broadway Rd, T Wolcott 27 Mar (BP); max 2409 BB 1 Apr (RM, *et al.*); 1091 Broadway Rd, T Wolcott 7 Apr (BPu); .

**Osprey:** arr 1 NMWMA (Morgan Rd) 7 Mar (SBe, LC-B), Reg record early.

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** 1 BB-H 25 May (RM, MT, ES, ph), near ad.

**Bald Eagle:** 117 BB + 12 others many loc Mar; 81 BB + approx. 108 other many loc Apr; 472 BB + approx. 131 other many loc May; **664** for the season passing BB-H was a new record high.

**N. Goshawk:** 10 singles BB-H 9 Mar – 6 May; approx 6 rep away from BB.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** arr 3 BB-H 16 Apr (RM, *et al.*). **SWAINSON'S HAWK:** lt morph sub ad & drk morph ad BB-H 25 May (DNI, MT, RM, *et al.*).

**Rough-legged Hawk:** last BB-H 7 May.

**Golden Eagle:** arr NMWMA (Savannah Mucklands) 12 Mar; approx 18 rep away from BB 12 Mar-21 May; last 1 HB 21 May.

**Sandhill Crane:** arr 2 NMWMA (Morgan Rd) 7 Mar (KK); approx 35 BB-H thru season; 59 rep of 46+ ind other loc thru season, likely some overlap across months, especially in breeding loc.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr HB 19 May; last HB 27 May.

**PIPING PLOVER:** HB 27 (BCar), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg spring record, flyby.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 17 BB-ES 13 May, good count now.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr south Caledonia 9 Apr, early; last 2 HANA 24 May.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr NMWMA 19 Mar (MG), early; last 2 Hogan Pt, Greece 18 May.

**Willet:** 3 PtB 1 May (SBa, GL); 1 BB 2 Apr (AGu, KS).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr 1-15 sev loc 1 Apr; last HANA 20 May.

**Upland Sandpiper:** arr SC 23 Apr (JeB, CW).

**Whimbrel:** 2 Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 5 May (W&MR), ties Reg record early, only report.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr HB & SPt 19 May.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** arr HB 13 May (AGu), rare in spring

**Sanderling:** arr SPt 25-27 May (W&MR, JW, *et al.*), sometimes missed in spring.

**Dunlin:** arr Nations Rd 26 Mar (JPow, *et al.*), Reg record early; 2-6 NMWMA (VDS) 31 Mar (JPow, mob), very early; max 184 SPt 25 May (W&MR).

**Least Sandpiper:** arr.2 HANA 28 Apr; max 30 NMWMA 18 May, low.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr TCEA 20 May (MW); 2 Groveland Hill Pnd LIVI 28 May (MW).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr 4 Sand Rd, T W Bloomfield ONTA 20 Mar (MT), early; max 68 NMWMA (CR) 2 Apr (KMcGa); last SPt 27 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr 3 Groveland Hill Pnd LIVI 3 May; last 3 SPt 26 May.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** 4 NMWMA (CM) 3 May (JW), rare in spring.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 84 Peter Smith Rd, T Kendall ORLE 26 Apr (GL).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** none.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr 50 HB 8 Mar; max 60 SB 4 Apr, low max.

**Little Gull:** arr 1 ad SB 4 Apr (W&MR, ph); 1 ad ED 27 May (CW).

**THAYER'S GULL:** 1 ad Martin Rd, Hamlin 10 Apr (LT).

**THAYER'S GULL/ICELAND GULL:** Hamlin 8-15 Mar (ID, AL, NM, AGu, ph), ID?

**Iceland Gull:** 7 rep, 5 ind sev loc 6-17 Mar; approx 10 ind sev loc 10-23 Apr; total 6 sev loc 1-14 May; last 1 H 14 May (AGu).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 28 rep, 23 ind sev loc thru Mar; approx 42+ ind 18+ loc thru

Apr; max 8 Hamlin 16-18 Apr & Hamlin 1 May (AGu); approx 36+ ind sev loc 1-26 May.

**Glaucous Gull:** 6 rep, 6 ind many loc 2-27 Mar; approx 8 at 6 loc 8-30 Apr.

**Caspian Tern:** arr 1 IBO & SB 9 Apr; max 222 IBO 4 May (PMar).

**Black Tern:** arr 2 NMWMA (VDS) 23 Apr (W&MR), early; max 34 NMWMA (VDS) 7 May, good count

**Com. Tern:** arr 2 ED 17 Apr (JeB).

**Forster's Tern:** arr 2 BB 8 Apr (FN), early; last PtB 23 May (RS, KW).

## PIGEONS – PARROTS

**EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE:** 1-2

Greenwell farm, Hamlin 12-27 Mar; 1

Greenwell farm, Hamlin 7, 12, 24 May.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr BB-WS & Oak Leaf Ln MONR 13 May; max 15 Hamlin 27 May (AGu), good count.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr sev loc 14 May; max 15 Hamlin 27 May (AGu), good count.

**BARN OWL:** 1 I-390 near Rush Exit 6 Apr (Cho), freshly killed, rare locally.

**Snowy Owl:** Genesee County Airport, Batavia 3 Mar; last Greenwell farm, Church Rd, Hamlin 12 Mar.

**Long-eared Owl:** total roost count 11 M (Owl Woods) 29 Feb-23 Apr, *intro*.

**Short-eared Owl:** max 15 DEC SEOW Survey 8 Mar, data from C. Hoh, *intro*; last NMWMA (MT) 17 Apr.

**N. Saw-whet Owl:** total roost count 18 M (Owl Woods) 10 Mar – 23 Apr, *intro*; 37 banded at the BBBO site 7-29 Mar; max b 12 M (Owl Woods) 12 Mar, *intro*.

**Com. Nighthawk:** arr Grand View Ln, Greece 12 May; max 142 Church Rd, Hamlin 27 May (AGu), good count.

**E. Whip-poor-will:** arr ICW 17 Apr (BB); last M (BBBO) 19 May.

**Chimney Swift:** arr HANA 24 Apr.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr South Conesus 24 Apr (KC), very early; total b 53 M 12-29 May (BBBO), typical of recent years.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** arr CIWMA 1 Apr, late for arr; max 10 HB 21 May, still the best site locally.

**Merlin:** 19 rep, 20 ind sev loc 8-30 Mar; total 14 incl hawkwatch 2-27 Apr; total incl hawkwatch 21 sev loc 2-29 May; no reports of nesting in Reg.

**Peregrine Falcon:** total 4 BB-H + 6 sev other loc 6-30 Mar; total 13 BB-H + 6 sev other loc 2-27 Apr; total 34 BB-H + 11 sev other loc 2-

29 May; **hawkwatch total of 51** was Record high for the season; nesting in downtown Rochester, typical, see posts rfalconcam website.

## FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr Powder Mills P MONR 14 May (KS, 8 others); Riverside Cemetery, Rochester 17 May (DD); Whiting Rd NP, Webster 27 May (GF).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr BB-WS 14 May; total b 28 M 25 May thru.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** arr Norway Rd GENE 24 May, late arr.

**“Trail’s” Flycatcher:** arr 1b M 13 May; max b 37 M 27 May; total b 129 M 13 May thru.

**Alder Flycatcher:** max 10 ICW 27 May (RS).

**Least Flycatcher:** total b 48 7-30 May.

**E. Phoebe:** arr IB – West 9 Mar (RS), early.

**GRAY KINGBIRD:** 1 CIWMA 2-4 May (EG, GL, mob, ph), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg record.

**N. Shrike:** 5 rep, 4 ind sev loc 5-27 Mar; last NMWMA (VDS) 10 Apr.

**White-eyed Vireo:** arr Highland P, Rochester 10 May (KH, 6 others), rare.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** arr HANA 27 Apr (BCad), early.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr Whiting Rd NP, Webster 20 Apr (EG, GL), early.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr Hamlin 12 May; last Ontario Center Greenway P WAYN 30 May, early for last.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** total b 63 M 21–31 May; max 29 HHSpencer SRA ONTA 30 May, indicative of forest numbers.

**Blue Jay:** 1450 BB-H 7 May (JPow), good count; 690 Hamlin 7 May (AGu), decent count, same day; max 1500 BB-WS 13 May (BriM, AGu), modest max; 947 HB 21 May (JN, CW, JSo); 1000 HB 27 May (BCar); numbers illustrate movement thru month.

**Am. Crow:** max 1000 Broadway Rd, Wolcott WAYN 8 Mar, low max.

**Fish Crow:** 1- 8 Charlotte area thru; max 11 Dewey Ave/Dobson Rd, Greece thru (RD); 1 downtown Rochester 13 Mar (FM); Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 11 May (W&MR); showing up in more locations.

**Horned Lark:** max 156 Hamlin 15 Apr.

**Purple Martin:** arr MAC 30 Mar (CL); max 60 Hemlock L 4 May.

**Tree Swallow:** arr 1 BB-H 9 Mar; max 900 CIWMA 2 Apr (MT).

**N. Rough-winged Swallow:** arr SC 26 Mar (JeB, CW), early; max 100 CIWMA 2 May.

**Bank Swallow:** arr 2 BB-H 2 Apr; max 650 HB 19 May (AGu).

**Barn Swallow:** arr 1 Burger P, Greece & 2 BB-H 27 Mar.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** total b 7 M 15 Apr – 7 May, illustrates a “down” year.

**Brown Creeper:** total b 79 M (BBBO) 15 Apr–3 May.

**Winter Wren:** arr 1 Beechwood SP WAYN & 2 Ellison P 19 Mar; again scarce.

**SEDGE WREN (R2):** 1 Mendon Pnds P 8 May (J&AH), only rep.

**Marsh Wren:** arr NMWMA (CR) 24 Mar (BMc), early.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 75 M (Owl Woods) 17 Apr (BCar); max b 57 M (BBBO) 17 Apr; total b 230 15 Apr–16 May.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Livonia LIVI 7 Apr; max b 77 M (BBBO) 21 Apr; total b 532 M (BBBO) 15 Apr–21 May; last 1 Church Trail, Greece 22 May.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr 1 Webster 13 May; total b 7 M (BBBO) 26–29 May, very low.

**Gray-cheeked/Bicknell’s Thrush:** total b 3 M (BBBO) 25–29 May, low.

**Swainson’s Thrush:** arr Cobbs Hill, Rochester 9 May; max b 37 M (BBBO) 26 May; total b 112 M (BBBO) 13–31 May; **max 66** Hamlin 27 May (AGu), night calls.

**Hermit Thrush:** arr 2 Fields Hill Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 22 Mar; total b 35 M (BBBO) 15 Apr – 21 May.

**Wood Thrush:** arr LSP & South Conesus 24 Apr, early.

**Am. Robin:** 520 HB 8 Mar; 616 BB-WS 27 Mar; only 4 other counts over 100; max 1000 BB-WS 21 Apr (LT), low max - contrast with max 21,572 HB 2 Apr 2015.

**Gray Catbird:** arr BB-WS 17 Apr; total b 230 M (BBBO) 3–31 May; max b 32 M (BBBO) 25 May; max 35 HB – YC 26 May.

**Am. Pipit:** max 110 Church Rd, Hamlin 12 Mar; last 1 HB 26 May.

**Cedar Waxwing:** 760 HB 27 May (AGu); max 7230 HB 29 May (AGu); 1565 OB 29 May (CW).

## LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

**Lapland Longspur:** max 41 Hamlin 26 Mar; last HB 19 May (AGu).

**Snow Bunting:** max 120 Hamlin 7 Mar; last Hamlin 27 Mar.

**Ovenbird:** arr Honoye Crk WMA 28 Apr (BH), early.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** Grand View Ln, Greece 22 May (KG). rare but almost annual.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr 2 Jersey Hill Rd, Honeoye ONTA 27 Apr.

**N. Waterthrush:** total b 46 M (BBBO) 21 Apr-30 May.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr Fire House & Church Trails, Greece (KG, RM, JPow) & U. of Rochester (EG) 7 May; Fire House Trail, Greece 14 May (AGu, KS); Center Rd, T Murray ORLE 28 May (AGu, CW).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** arr T Bristol ONTA 27 Apr (KKi), early.

**Golden-winged Warbler x Blue-winged Warbler:** Highland P, Rochester 12 May (KH), f not fitting either named hybrid well.

**“Brewster’s” Warbler:** T Gates MONR 8 May; Mendon Pnds P MONR 15 May.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** max 14 BB – WS 14 May (AGa).

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (R2):** arr HANA 3 May (JRe); 1-2 NMWMA (AR) 6 May thru (DCar, 58+ others).

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr Nations Rd 6 May; max 23 River Rd survey LIVI 14 May (MW); total b 24 M (BBBO) 12 May thru.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr Braddock Bay P 4 May (BW); 1b M (BBBO) 1May, only one banded; 5 other rep all lakeshore loc 8-21 May.

**Nashville Warbler:** total b 20 M (BBBO) 4-25 May.

**Mourning Warbler:** arr CIWMA 12 May; total b 27 M (BBBO) 17 May thru.

**Com. Yellowthroat:** arr NMWMA (AR) 26 Apr (W&MR), early; max b 26 M (BBBO) 21 May; 25 M 21 May; max 26 HB-YC 26 May; total b 134 M (BBBO) 27 Apr-31 May.

**Hooded Warbler:** arr Mendon Pnds P 4 May.

**Am. Redstart:** arr TCEA 28 Apr (MW), early; max b 30 M (BBBO) 21 May; 36 HB–YC 21 May (AGu); max 54 HB–YC 26 May (RS); total b 172 M (BBBO) 9-31 May; fewer this spring.

**Cape May Warbler:** last Firehouse Woods, Greece 29 May.

**Cerulean Warbler:** arr NMWMA (VDS) 3 May; found in expected sites.

**N. Parula:** last Church Trail, Greece 27 May.

**Magnolia Warbler:** max b 58 M (BBBO) 13 May; total b 246 M (BBBO) 10-30 May.

**Yellow Warbler:** arr Bushnell’s Basin T Pittsford 22 Apr (C&HH), very early; max 54 BB–WS 14 (AGa); max b 13 M (BBBO) 17 May; total b 91 M (BBBO) 1-30 May.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** total b 40 M (BBBO) 8-28 May.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** total b 35 M (BBBO) 21-31 May.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** total b 98 M (BBBO) 8-30 May.

**Palm Warbler:** arr BB 14 Apr (DTe), early; total b 35 M (BBBO) 22 Apr-22 May; last M (BBBO) 25 May (JRu); none identified as “Yellow” Palm this spring.

**Pine Warbler:** Rochester 8 Mar (AdM), likely overwintering; arr T Victor 2 Apr (AGa), early.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr 2 DEP 15 Mar (JSle), early; max 102 BB - WS 13 May (AGu); total b 29 M (BBBO) 18 Apr-22 May.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R2):** BB – WS 28 May (ST), rare

**Prairie Warbler:** arr HH Spencer SRA – South 10 May (KKi); Lake Ave, Rochester 16 May (AGa); HB 21 May (JN, JSo, CW); T Conesus 30 May (AC).

**Canada Warbler:** total b 18 M (BBBO) 12-28 May.

**Wilson’s Warbler:** total b 57 M (BBBO) 13-31 May.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** MP 14 May (J&AH, AGu, PMar, MG), now rare locally.

## TOWHEES – WEAVERS

**E. Towhee:** Rochester 17 Mar (AdM), early.

**Am. Tree Sparrow:** last CIWMA & HANA 4 May.

**Chipping Sparrow:** T Pittsford 5 Mar (PMar); HANA 9 Mar (PMab); arr Hamlin 28 Mar.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** arr BB – H 6 May (RM, *et al.*); 1-2 Cook Rd, T Hamlin (17 obs); MAC 12 May (CL, DG, JTh); T York LIVI 27 May (AC); T Kendall ORLE 28 May (AGu, CW).

**Field Sparrow:** T Ontario WAYN 28 Mar.

**Savannah Sparrow:** SC 26 Mar (CW), early.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr T York LIVI 20 Apr (MW).

**Fox Sparrow:** arr North Pnds P, Webster 14 Mar (JW); last T Ontario WAYN 3 May (JW); no high counts reported.

**Lincoln’s Sparrow:** Max b 21 M (BBBO) 26 May; total b 71 M (BBBO) 10-30 May.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 32 CIWMA 12 May.

**White-throated Sparrow:** total b 126 M (BBBO) 16 Apr-24 May, low; last T York LIVI 27 May. 1b M 24 May.

**HARRIS’S SPARROW:** 1 ad m Center Rd, T Kendall ORLE 7-9 May (K&JR, AGu, 9 others, ph), 12<sup>th</sup> Reg record, very hospitable homeowners.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** last Church Trails, Greece 28 May, often found into June.

**“GAMBEL’S” WHITE-CROWNED**

**SPARROW:** Center Rd, T Kendall ORLE 7 May (AGu, ph).

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 150 Mt Hope Cemetery, Rochester 11 Apr.

**SUMMER TANAGER:** 1b M (BBBO) 16-18 May, lingered to be seen by many.

**Scarlet Tanager:** arr Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 27 Apr (W&MR), early; max 14 BB-WS 12 May (AGu), good count.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr Greece 22 Apr (LB). **DICKCISSEL:** HB 28 May (AGu, CW), calling while passing.

**Bobolink:** max 75 Nations Rd survey 29 May (MW).

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 4000 T Macedon WAYN 19 Mar.

**E. Meadowlark:** arr BB-H 8 Mar.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 180 BB-WS 27 Mar; 150 CIWMA 30 Mar; 120 BB-WS 16 Apr; max 800 BB-WS 21 Apr (LT); May max 15 IB – South 2 May; last 1 & 3 HB 27 May; sample counts.

**Com. Grackle:** max 1095 HB 8 Mar.

**Orchard Oriole:** arr 2 Lakeshore Marshes, T Sodus WAYN 5 May (W&MR).

**Baltimore Oriole:** max 63 BB-WS 12 May (AGu); 56 BB-WS 14 May (AGa).

**Com. Redpoll:** last Hamlin 17 Apr.

**Pine Siskin:** max 166 Hamlin 18 Apr (AGu).