



REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The fall 2016 season was generally warmer than average. In Syracuse the average temperature for the month was 64.8° F, 2.8° warmer than normal. Precipitation for September, which totaled 3.7", matched the historic mean. October was a different story. The average temperature for the month was 51.6°, which is only a degree higher than normal, but total rainfall in October measured 7.69", which was a significant 4.25" above average. Much of the month's rainfall, nearly 4", came in a single 24-hour period on 20–21 October. In terms of temperature, November was slightly more than a degree above normal and rainfall was about an inch below average, but the total snowfall for the month in Syracuse was over 25", which was nearly 16" above average. Nearly 19" of snow fell on 20–21 November.

Despite the slightly warmer than average temperatures, by the latter part of the period it was clear that winter had arrived early and that was reflected in the behavior of birds. At least in much of our Region, many waterfowl species and half-hardy songbirds took the hint and departed, thus reminding us that snow cover is a much more serious threat to the well-being of birds than low temperatures. Even after foraging areas were covered by snow, waterfowl found refuge in the Region's lakes and waterways, which remained largely open. Relatively infrequent winds from the "right" direction resulted in few substantial waterfowl flights. At Derby Hill on 18 October, Bill Purcell observed a flock of 260 Brant flying over on south winds, while another 3,000 of them sat out on the water, apparently waiting for more favorable winds to usher them to the coast. The appearance of a pair of Barnacle Geese, discovered by Thomas and

Stephanie Schmidt on an obscure pond in southern Herkimer County, coincided with the arrival of a weather front that featured the season's strongest winds. The rare geese had no leg bands and the consensus was that they were most likely of wild origin and not escaped exotic fowl. Four previous Regional records were all in April and all singles.

In the latter half of the period it became clear that raptors, particularly Cooper's Hawks and Red-tailed Hawks, appeared to be settling in for the long haul and were preying on a plentiful supply of migrant robins and small rodents, respectively. Many Northern Harriers lingered long into the period and were noted trolling the rural countryside as if migration was the furthest thing from their minds. For the most part the Region's wild food supply was poor and that was particularly true in the Adirondacks and the Adirondack foothills. However, a more than adequate supply of buckthorn berries and wild grapes in the southern half of the Region had the effect of stalling the bulk of the robin migration, thus satiating both them and their predators. Piles of distinctive robin feathers that had been plucked out by Cooper's Hawks became a common sight in many areas.

On 8 November, on a noontime visit to Beaver Lake Nature Center, Gregg Dashnau counted 12 Greater White-fronted Geese among many Canadas for a new Regional maximum. The 19 October report of a single Ross's Goose on Woodman Pond in Madison County was curious since it greatly preceded the main portion of the Snow Goose migration. This may reflect origins farther to the west than north. Although it was seen without any Snow Geese to compare it to, it did share the pond with a Greater White-fronted Goose and a Cackling Goose. The occurrence of the Barnacle Goose in southern Herkimer County brought a small flood of birders to that poorly covered part of the Region. During their forays they found other things of interest including a Greater White-fronted Goose and 12 Cackling Geese. At the same pond that hosted the Barnacle Geese there were a handful of common shorebirds, all apparently remaining late into October. Waterfowl migration was otherwise unexceptional, and there were no other rarities confirmed. Flock sizes of both dabbling and diving ducks were generally below average, with some species like Gadwall, American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, and Hooded Merganser bucking the trend and providing a few respectable high counts. However, scaup counts were especially low, and there were few indications of significant staging taking place involving them or their allies. On a positive note, all three scoter species were found.

In Old Forge in the Adirondacks, Gary Lee reported that a few of the summer season's Common Loon chicks were lingering at their home ponds as late as the first week of November. This is never an advisable tactic in the north country. On 12 November, Ken Burdick picked out an American White Pelican, first fall record, feeding among Mute Swans at Fair Haven State Park. Burdick didn't have his phone with him and so was unable to alert anyone else to the rarity, which didn't remain long. However, on 30 November the bird had

returned to Fair Haven. Apparently in the interim the pelican had been spotted up the Lake Ontario coastline in Jefferson County. Earlier in the month on 2 November, Burdick discovered four Cattle Egrets associating with a group of Black Angus cattle in a field near Skaneateles. Unfortunately, the egrets also seemed to have places to go and weren't relocated. More cooperative was a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron that Thomas McKay found along the Erie Canal at Fayetteville. It remained for five days, allowing great views and photo opportunities to birders.

Observers reported little significant fall hawk migration, normal for our Region because of the dispersed nature of the event. While Derby Hill had a high count of 170 Turkey Vultures on 11 September and seven Sharp-shinned Hawks on 1 November, a report from Fayetteville of 55 Broad-winged Hawks on 16 September provided the Region's maximum for that species. Rough-legged Hawks simultaneously arrived in three different locations on 28 October but were otherwise lightly represented during the period. There was a decent spread of shorebird species peppered throughout the Region, although tallies of any single species were not great. The turf farm in Chittenango was responsible for the Region's only reports of American Golden-Plover. One lingered as late as 26 October. In Cicero, a Hudsonian Godwit was found on 10 October, and the same bird (presumably) was rediscovered two weeks later at nearby Ditch Bank Road, where it remained until 27 October. Despite miserable visibility on the morning of 4 September, Chris Wood managed to identify at least two Buff-breasted Sandpipers at the far side of a field at the Sky High Turf Farm. The birds were not subsequently relocated. Region 5 owes the brief presence of a Red-necked Phalarope at Howland Island on 2 September to a Northern Harrier, which, according to Jay McGowan, flushed the rarity across the river from Wayne County into Cayuga County.

At Derby Hill the best jaeger/kittiwake flights took place on 11 September and 23 October. The season's only confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger, a juvenile photographed by Bill Purcell, flew over on the former date, while six Parasitic Jaegers and three Black-legged Kittiwakes occurred on the latter. At Derby Hill on 20 November, winds of 30–40 MPH resulted in a good flight of waterfowl and gulls. Black-legged Kittiwake and Little Gull were both seen that day as were many of the common gulls. An adult non-breeding Black-headed Gull at Oneida Shores County Park on 4 October was a terrific find by Dennis Anderson. Anderson reported that the rarity's red legs and black-tipped red bill made it stand out among the group of Ring-billed Gulls it was associating with. Unlike most reports of the species, excellent photos were obtained.

There were few Eastern Screech-Owls reported this season, while reports of Great Horned Owls seemed to be on the rise. In Brewerton on 5 September, wildlife rehabilitators Jean and Leonard Soprano had to rescue a particularly cantankerous Great Horned Owl from the soccer net it became entangled in. Fortunately neither the owl nor the rehabilitators were harmed during the process and the bird was able to be released. This was only the latest in a string

of incidents involving Great Horned Owls and soccer nets that the Sopranos have dealt with within a relatively short time period and limited geographic area. It seems clear that, in order to protect owls and perhaps other raptors, soccer nets should be taken down when not in use or somehow made more visible to the birds. The period's two Snowy Owls were both reported as arriving on 16 November, one in Chittenango and the other in Sterling. Unfortunately, the Chittenango owl was struck by a vehicle and killed. A failing Barred Owl that was rescued in Baldwinsville on 1 September was treated for West Nile Virus and was later released, marking a relatively rare instance of a bird that was successfully treated in time. There were three reports of Northern Saw-whet Owls this season. Of those, two were rehabilitation cases. The first one brought in from Baldwinsville on 15 October had been accidentally knocked off its perch by a child that was climbing the tree. The owl fell to the ground and was immediately pounced on by a house cat. An adult intervened just in time to extract the bird before the cat could do any serious damage. Happily, the owl was able to be released back to the wild after a short convalescence. The other case on 15 November in Camden didn't have such a happy ending. Somehow this saw-whet fell into a window well and became trapped. The bird was brought to the Soprano's facility in Pennellville but didn't survive.

On 11 October, a very late Common Nighthawk was seen migrating over the confluence of the Seneca, Oneida, and Oswego Rivers near Phoenix by Gregg Dashnau. Single Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported from two expected locations, but none were reported after the third week of September. At the Bishop Road Hawkwatch site in the Town of Richland, Bill Purcell counted 23 American Kestrels flying over on 23 September. The Region's resident pairs of Peregrine Falcon in Syracuse and Utica were both seen through the period. By the end of November a new pair of adults, unbanded, had been noticed at Oswego Harbor, giving rise to hope they may set up housekeeping in that location come spring.

The season's first Northern Shrike was found in Erieville and six other reports of the species came from around the Region. Gregg Dashnau was surprised to find a juvenile White-eyed Vireo in the vicinity of Phoenix on 4 October. Above average numbers of Philadelphia Vireo were reported, but many of the sightings were accompanied by good quality descriptions and/or pictures. In one case the reporter heard the warning calls and even the song of an individual. This fall, Mickey Scilingo again provided valuable data by keeping a running count of the migrant passerines that flew by his Constantia property. His daily count ran between 7 September and 7 November. His most impressive tallies were of Blue Jays, the bulk of which moved between 15 and 30 September. The total number migrating during the most active two-week period was 8,494. Scilingo's biggest single day (morning) tally was 2,301 Blue Jays on 25 September. On that day, 900 flew over between 8:00 and 9:00 AM. In mid-September, Jean Soprano implicated West Nile Virus as the cause of the death of two American Crows, one from Baldwinsville and one from Brewerton.

Although it seemed like a minor irruption of Red-breasted Nuthatches was underway during the summer period, this fall there was little evidence that the movement strengthened or continued in any appreciable way. Gray-cheeked Thrushes were more numerous than usual this period. The species was found in 12 different areas, with the maximum number of four occurring in Mexico, nocturnal flyovers, and Phoenix on 22 and 27 September, respectively. In the latter location Gregg Dashnau heard the birds calling from the woods along the river at 6:30 AM. In the pre-dawn hour on 22 September, Wayne Fidler heard 21 Swainson's Thrushes fly over his residence near Mexico. Other observers noted that some Swainson's Thrushes were feeding alongside American Robins on the limited amount of black cherries our Region had to offer this fall. The American Robin migration was significant and peaked in late October and early November. Mickey Scilingo counted 1,059 flying by Constantia on 4 November. There were persistent reports of high numbers of robins lingering in areas replete with well-laden buckthorn bushes and wild grapes vines. At Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary in southern Oneida County, the American Mountain Ash trees that normally hold their berries through the first half of winter were stripped bare of their fruit in just a few days, all the work of ravenous robins.

This fall's warbler migration could be characterized as an ongoing trickle that featured a barely discernable peak in mid-September. Insignificant high counts were the rule for most species. At best reckoning, there were only 10-12 Blackburnian Warblers reported for the entire period and less than 20 Black-and-white Warblers. On the positive side, the supply of Tennessee Warblers migrating through the Region has been on the increase in recent years, and that trend continued this period, with maximum numbers of 10 and 8 reported. Wilson's Warbler enjoyed a slight rebound, with a maximum number of four reported in the vicinity of Sandy Pond on 2 September. Singles and groups of two were found in several other locations.

Eastern Towhee reports were relatively numerous and widespread, and some good numbers were tallied. A maximum of nine was counted at Three Rivers WMA in Lysander on 3 October. Vesper Sparrows have been declining as a breeding species in the Region, but this fall single migrants were found at seven locations. It's safe to say the Region is overdue for an invasion of winter finches, but it quickly became apparent this season wasn't going to be it. Purple Finch numbers were quite good, and the species persisted through the period, peaking at the end of October. There were very few reports of Pine Siskins. A maximum number of 15 flew over Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary on 5 November. Reportedly, that flock was headed south. At the same location large flocks of American Goldfinch persisted through the first week of October. Wayne Fidler tallied 1160 of them passing Derby Hill on the morning of 4 October. On Halloween, Joe Sutherland had a leusistic goldfinch visit his bird feeder. Some Evening Grosbeaks did arrive in the Region and were enjoyed by birders before moving on.

A total of 243 species and three hybrids was reported for the season, which is nine more than the recent 10-year average of 235. Highlights included: Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, BARNACLE GOOSE, American White Pelican, Cattle Egret, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Golden Eagle, Hudsonian Godwit, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope, Red Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger, Black-legged Kittiwake, BLACK-HEADED GULL, Little Gull, Snowy Owl, White-eyed Vireo, and Orange-crowned Warbler.

Swan Hummingbird v4.02 was used to process 36,165 eBird records from 241 contributors.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

Adks – Adirondacks (n. HERK); BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville; BRH – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; Bville – Baldwinsville; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida L at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; DL – Delta L; Dolge – Dolgeville, HERK; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GB – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; GLSP – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; GSC – Great Swamp Conservancy, n. MADI; Hast – Hastings; HI – Howland I WMA; MNWR east – Montezuma NWR, CAYU; MRW – McKoons Road Wetland, Youngs Crossing, s. HERK; OF – Old Forge, HERK; OLC – Onondaga L Creekwalk; OneiL – Oneida L; OnonL – Onondaga L; OswH – Oswego Harbor; SBP – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; SHTF – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango, MADI; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC –

Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; SVB – Sylvan & Verona Beach; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; WP – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: WP 7 – 25 Oct; max 12 BLNS 8 – 16 Nov (JB, GD), new Reg max, singles several other locs.
Snow Goose: arr Tully 24 Sep, early; TR 25 Sep; max 500 Fulton 22 Oct.
Ross's Goose: WP 19 – 23 Oct.
Brant: arr 27 FH 9 Oct; max 3260 DH 18 Oct; last 2 OsH 11 Nov.
BARNACLE GOOSE: 2 Litchfield, HERK 24 – 29 Oct (STS!, mob, ph), unbanded, presumed wild, 5th Reg rec, first for fall season; *intro*.
Cackling Goose: arr Verona 26 Sep; max 12 Litchfield, HERK 28 Oct (DWe); max 12 WP 4 Nov (STS); many reports of singles.
Canada Goose: max 5000 WP 19 – 23 Oct.
Snow Goose X Canada Goose: WP 5 Oct.
Mute Swan: max 46 FH 2 Nov.
Trumpeter Swan: max 8 MNWR east 8 Oct; 5 FH 19 Oct. last 2 Palermo, OSWE 14 Nov.
Tundra Swan: arr 7 Cleveland 16 Nov; 10 Const 18 Nov; max 35 OneIL 25 Nov; only reports.
Wood Duck: 48 LD 1 Sep; max 85 HI 17 Sep.
Gadwall: arr 3 WP 24 Sep; 20 WP 25 Oct; max 75 SP 3 Nov; 37 FH 23 Nov.
Am. Wigeon: 75 WP 25 Oct; max 128 FH 23 Nov.
Am. Black Duck: 59 FH 17 Oct; 32 WP 19 Nov; max 106 DH 22 Oct.
Mallard: max 415 FH 23 Nov.
Am. Wigeon X Mallard: Phoenix 9 Oct (GD).
Blue-winged Teal: max 34 DL 1 Sep; 26 WP 24 Sep; 19 UM 9 Oct; last WP 30 Oct; relatively poor numbers.
N. Shoveler: max 20 MNWR east 22 Oct; 8 GSC 6 Nov; singles and small numbers at 7 other locs.
N. Pintail: max 195 FH 14 Oct; 45 DH 22 Oct.
Green-winged Teal: 30 HI 17 Sep; max 68 FH 4 Oct; 63 WP 29 Oct.
Canvasback: FH 29 Oct – 5 Nov, only report.
Redhead: max 21 FH 11 Oct; 15 OnonL 25 Nov; few reports and small numbers.
Ring-necked Duck: 241 Eaton, MADI 2 Nov; max 727 Const 4 Nov.
Greater Scaup: max 34 FH 5 Nov; 12 Fulton 15 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: arr 2 Hinckley Reservoir 15 Sep; max 56 SP 2 Nov; 28 FH 5 Nov; relatively low numbers.

Surf Scoter: arr 6 FH 14 Oct; max 28 DH 23 Oct; 17 Oswego 29 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: arr 2 West Eaton 13 Oct; max 60 DH 23 Oct; 28 SBP 23 Nov.
Black Scoter: arr 6 FH 19 Oct; max 20 DH 23 Oct; 18 SBP 23 Nov.
Surf/Black Scoter: max 100 SP 7 Nov; 20 OsWH 30 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: arr 2 FH 9 Oct; max 200 DH 11 Nov; 19 FH 23 Nov.
Bufflehead: arr 2 WP 20 Oct; 30 SP 4 Nov; max 51 FH 17 Nov.
Com. Goldeneye: arr 2 DH 23 Oct; 15 FH 23 Nov; max 25 Mexico 24 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: 95 Warren, HERK 25 Nov; max 102 BLNC 28 Nov.
Com. Merganser: max 250 OneIL 13 Oct; 71 BLNC 20 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: 200 SNC 2 Nov; 160 DH 2 Nov; max 250 FH 25, 30 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: arr 2 Syr 29 Sep & BLNC 29 Sep; max 25 WP 19 Nov.
Ring-necked Pheasant: 4 SHTF 11 Sep; max 6 SP 17 Sep, 5 Oct.
Ruffed Grouse: max 4 SFNS 2 Oct; 3 Waterville 16 Nov.
Wild Turkey: 32 Litchfield 28 Oct; max 35 DB 23 Nov; relatively small flock sizes.
Red-throated Loon: arr DH 9 Oct; max 5 FH 25 Nov; 3 OnonL 25 Nov.
Com. Loon: 8 Little Moose Lake, Adks 4 Sep; max 45 DH 23 Oct; 13 Const 6 Nov.
Pied-billed Grebe: 6 Weaver Lake, HERK 9 Sep; max 14 FH 28 Sep.
Horned Grebe: arr WP 27 Sep; max 54 FH 23 Nov; 20 Mexico 30 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr DH 23 Oct; 3 FH 23 Nov; max 4 OnonL 25 Nov; six other locs.
Double-crested Cormorant: max 1079 OsWH 30 Sep; 526 TR 9 Oct.
AM. WHITE PELICAN (R5): FH 12, 28, 30 Nov (KB, SP, AJA, GD), of approx 18 Reg rec, 1st for fall season; *intro*.
Am. Bittern: HI 17 Sep; SP 2 Oct; SFNS 4 – 8 Oct; Fairfield 20 Oct; only reports.
Great Blue Heron: max 14 DL 8 Oct; 14 Phoenix 9 Oct.
Great Egret: max 21 GSC 13 Sep; 5 OLC 23 Sep; 9 DL 8 Oct; last Port Byron 22 Oct.
Cattle Egret: 4 Skan 2 Nov (KB). Several dozen prior Reg rec, *intro*.

Green Heron: 4 WP 4 Sep; max 5 Volney 5 Sep; 4 Eaton, MADI 8 Sep; last FH 9 Oct.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 2 OnonL 21 – 27 Sep; last OLC 16 Oct; singles 3 other locs.
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Fayetteville 15 – 19 Sep (TM, mob, ph), 6th Reg rec, first for fall season; *intro*.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Turkey Vulture: max 170 DH 11 Sep; 80 Lenox 17 Sep.
Osprey: max 5 DH 11 Sep; 4 BRH 23 Sep.
Bald Eagle: 5 Pulaski 21 Sep; max 7 DH 22 Oct.
N. Harrier: 2 BRH 15, 23 Sep, 23 Oct; 2 CM 27 Sep, 3 Oct; 2 TR 9 Oct; 2 SFNS 4 Nov; widespread reports.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 7 BRH 23 Sep, 7 DH 1 Nov; 5 Const 26 Sep; 4 SFNS 29 Sep; 4 DH 19 Nov.
Cooper's Hawk: max 3 BRH 23 Sep & Const 24 Sep & DH 1 Nov.
N. Goshawk: DH 1 Nov; SH 8 – 13 (LS); SH 19 Nov; Pulaski 24 Nov; Verona 30 Nov.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 New Haven 5 Sep; WP 22, 24 Sep; SFNS 6 Oct; OnonL 8 Nov; singles at 7 other locs.
Broad-winged Hawk: 20 BRH 15 Sep; max 55 Fayetteville 16 Sep; last Elbridge 5 Oct; relatively few reports.
Red-tailed Hawk: Chittenango 20 Sep (JS), West Nile Virus; 9 BRH 23 Sep; max 54 DH 18 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Litchfield 28 Oct & DB 28 Oct, DeWitt 28 Oct; singles 8 other locs.
Golden Eagle: arr Litchfield, HERK 30 Oct; Kirkland 30 Oct; Cazenovia 2 Nov; Rome 2 Nov; only reports.

Virginia Rail: Volney 5 Sep; HI 16 – 17 Sep; only reports.
Sora: Volney 16 Sep, only report.
Com. Gallinule: 4 Volney 14 Sep; max 5 MNWR east 17 Sep; last OLC 25 Sept; singles at 3 other locs.
Am. Coot: max 40 SP 29 Oct; 17 FH 31 Oct.
Sandhill Crane: max 5 MNWR east 22 Oct; 4 DB 28 Oct; 3 Bville 3 Nov; 2 Palermo 1-15 Sep; 2 DB and vicinity various dates Oct - Nov.
Black-bellied Plover: 3 FH 23 Sep, 17 Oct; max 4 MNWR east 22 Oct; 2 SHTF 26 Oct; last FH 2 Nov; 6 other locs.
Am. Golden-Plover: max 9 SHTF 19 Sep; last SHTF 26 Oct; all reports from same loc.
Semipalmated Plover: 2 Otisco Lake 12 Sep;

max 3 Fayetteville 16 Sep; last TR 9 Oct; low numbers.
Killdeer: max 200 SHTF 4 Sep; 80 Waterville 29 Sep; last DB 25 Nov.
Spotted Sandpiper: 2 DL 1 Sep; max 3 FH 14 Oct; last FH 24 Oct.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 3 Eaton 7 – 8 Sep; last WP 16 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: 8 OnonL 18 Oct; max 12 MNWR east 22 Oct; last Otisco Lake 15 Nov.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 7 WP 19 Oct; max 24 MNWR east 22 Oct; last Cicero 10 Nov.
Hudsonian Godwit: DB 26 – 27 Oct (GC, mob, ph); Cicero 8 – 10 Nov, likely same bird.
Ruddy Turnstone: FH 23 – 28 Sep, only report.
Stilt Sandpiper: HI 2 Sep, only report.
Sanderling: max 18 SP 2 Sep; 16 FH 17 Sep; 5 DH 9 Oct; last FH 7 Nov.
Dunlin: max 29 FH 17 Oct; 3 SP 3 – 18 Nov; last FH 27 Nov; singles at two other locs.
Baird's Sandpiper: New Hartford 16 Sep, unusual loc; FH 14 Oct; only reports.
Least Sandpiper: max 49 DL 1 Sep; 15 TR 12 Sep; 9 Madison 13 Sep; last Litchfield 27 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: SHTF 9 – 10 Sep; 2 DB 30 Oct; only locs.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2 SHTF 4 Sep, *intro*.
Pectoral Sandpiper: 3 SHTF 18 Sep; max 8 MNWR east 22 Oct; 5 DB27 Oct; last 3 DB 31 Oct.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 13 SP 1 Sep; 7 TR 24 Sep; last 2 TR 7 Oct; reports from six other locs.
Short-billed Dowitcher: DL 3 Sep, only report.
Long-billed Dowitcher: 5 Madison 8 Sep (RW), only report.
Wilson's Snipe: 2 Eaton 19 Sep; max 23 MNWR east 30 Oct; last TR 31 Oct.
Am. Woodcock: 4 Phoenix 12 Oct; max 5 MNWR east 29 Oct; last SFNS 5 Nov & Phoenix 5 Nov.
Red-necked Phalarope: HI 2 Sep (JM), only report.
Red Phalarope: Madison 6 – 7 Sep (SH, GM, mob, ph), 1st MADI rec; DH 22 Oct; only reports.
phalarope species: 4 DH 11 Sep.
Parasitic Jaeger: arr DH 22 Oct; max 6 DH 23 Oct; only reports.
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: DH 11 Sep (BP, NYSARC).
Black-legged Kittiwake: max 3 DH 23 Oct (BP, KM, mob); DH 11 Nov; last DH 20 Nov;

only reports.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 350 SVB 17 Sep; 65 SP 24 Nov.

BLACK-HEADED GULL (R5): ad Brewerton 4 Oct (DA!, ph), approx 14th Reg rec; *intro*.

Little Gull: DH 20 Nov (BP), only report.

Ring-billed Gull: max 1300 SVB 13 Oct.

Herring Gull: 252 SB 23 Oct; max 370 DH 20 Nov.

Iceland Gull: arr OswH 11 Nov; 2 OswH 30 Nov; singles at 2 other locs.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: DH 20 Nov (BP, WF); SSSP 24 Nov (WF).

Great Black-backed Gull: max 45 SVB 13 Oct; 20 SP 7 Nov.

Caspian Tern: max 7 Phoenix 1 Sep & DH 11 Sep; last OnonL 18 Oct (CL), late.

Com. Tern: max 3 SP 19, 26 Sep; last 2 SVB 8 Oct; surprisingly few reports.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: 152 Phoenix 5 Oct; 177 Tully 29 Oct.

Mourning Dove: 66 Dolge 8 Sep; max 80 Bville 17 Nov.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Bridgeport 4 Sep; HI 17 Sep; CM 25 Sep; last SFNS 5 Oct, late.

E. Screech-Owl: 2 Marcellus 2 Sep; 2 HI 16 Sep; singles at 7 other locs.

Great Horned Owl: 2 Manlius 12 Sep; 2 TR 6 Oct; 2 Verona 29 Oct; 2 Pompey 13 Nov; 2 Clinton 28 Nov; 2 Fayetteville 29 Nov; better numbers.

Snowy Owl: Chittenango 16 Nov (JS), vehicle strike; Sterling 16 Nov; only reports; *intro*.

Barred Owl: Bville 1 Sep (JS), suspected West Nile Virus, treated & released; 2 Kirkville 3 Sep, 1 Oct; max 3 Williamstown 9 Sep.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Bville 15 Oct (JS), rehab case; Mexico 29 Oct; OLC 31 Oct; Camden 15 November (JS), rehab case; only reports; *intro*.

Com. Nighthawk: max 3 Phoenix 4 Sep; 2 TR 12 Sep; last Phoenix 11 Oct, late (GD); singles at 4 other locs.

E. Whip-poor-will: Belgium 12 Sep, only report.

Chimney Swift: max 20 Syr 2 Sep; last HI 17 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 4 Inlet 2 Sep; 3 SFNS 2 – 12 Sep; 3 WP 4 Sep; last SFNS 25 Sep.

Belted Kingfisher: max 6 SP 2 Sep; 5 Bridgeport 4 Sep.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Bridgeport 4 Sep; SBP 20 Sep; only reports.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 11 Phoenix 25 Sep; max 12 HI 9 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 3 Waterville 9 Sep & New Hartford & 3 Manlius 28 Sep.

Downy Woodpecker: max 10 SFNS 21 Sep – 14 Oct.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 5 Erieville 22 Sep.

N. Flicker: max 18 SH 2 Oct.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 4 HI 17 Sep.

Am. Kestrel: 12 Fairfield 12 Sep; max 23 BRH 23 Sep.

Merlin: 2 DeWitt 10 Sep; 2 SP 1 Oct; 2 Utica 25 Nov.

Peregrine Falcon: resident prs in Utica and Syr thru; pr OswH 30 Nov; singles at 7 other locs.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: DL 1 Sep, only report.

E. Wood-Pewee: max 6 Phoenix 2 Sep; last 2 SP 5 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SFNS 10 Sep; CM SNC 15 Sep; last SFNS 18 Sep; singles at 4 other locs.

Alder Flycatcher: 3 Phoenix 9 Sep, only report.

Willow Flycatcher: 2 Phoenix 6 Sep; last Phoenix 7 Sep; only reports.

Alder/Willow Flycatcher: 2 Syr 4 Sep; 2 Phoenix 16 Sep; last TR 24 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: 2 SFNS 2, 17 Sep; 2 Hast 3 Sep; last TR 2 Oct.

E. Phoebe: max 7 HI 17 Sep; last SP 4 Nov.

Great Crested Flycatcher: 2 TR 2 Sep; 2 Phoenix 1 – 9 Sep; 2 CM 5 Sep; BLNC 19 Sep; last CM 21 Sep.

E. Kingbird: Marcellus 10 Sep, only report.

N. Shrike: arr Erieville 28 Oct; 6 other reports of singles.

White-eyed Vireo: Phoenix 4 Oct (GD), several dozen prior Reg rec.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 4 Sep; 2 TR 2, 8 Sep; 2 DH 5 Sep; 2 HI 17 Sep; last Fayetteville 14 Oct, late.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 HI 17 Sep & CM 21 Sep & SFNS 5 Oct; last OnonL 19 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: max 20 WP 4 Sep; 3 n. Syr 4 Sep; 3 DeWitt 10 Sep; last TR 22 Sep.

Philadelphia Vireo: 2 SFNS 10 Sep; 2 GB 11 Sep; 2 South Bay 17 Sep; 2 HI 17 Sep; 2 TR 25 Sep; last SFNS 3 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 6 SFNS 7 Sep; last Phoenix 4 Oct.

Blue Jay: 215 Hast 24 Sep; max 2301 Const 25 Sep (MS!), significant movement at Const, *intro*.

Am. Crow: Liverpool 15 Sep (JS), West Nile

Virus; Brewerton 20 Sep (JS), West Nile Virus; max 4000 Utica 13 Nov.

Fish Crow: max OLC 29 Sep; 2 Phoenix 12 Nov.

Com. Raven: max 9 Mannsville 3 Nov; widespread reports.

Horned Lark: max 75 Navarino, ONON 20 Nov; 66 DeRuyter 20 Nov.

Purple Martin: 3 HI 17 Sep, only report.

Tree Swallow: max 250 HI 17 Sep; 100 FH 17 Sep; last 13 FH 31 Oct.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 10 HI 17 Sep; last 6 HI 15 Oct; all reports from same loc.

Bank Swallow: max & last 4 FH 17 Sep & HI 17 Sep.

Barn Swallow: max 21 MRW 1 Sep; 20 HI 17 Sep; last WP 26 Sep.

Cliff Swallow: HI 23 Sep, only report.

swallow species: 200 FH 17 Sep.

Black-capped Chickadee: 47 HI 17 Sep; 40 SH 24 Sep; 30 SFNS 9 Sep – 28 Oct.

Tufted Titmouse: max 10 SFNS 30 Sep – 28 Oct & Syr 27 Oct.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 6 BLNC 7 Sep; max 8 SH 24 Sep; 6 Const 25 Sep.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 15 SFNS 22 Sep – 14 Oct; 9 SH 24 Sep; 9 HI 9 Oct.

Brown Creeper: max 5 HI 9 Oct & SFNS 9 Oct; 3 OLC 25 Oct; 3 BLNC 7 Nov.

House Wren: 3 Hast 3 Sep; max 4 TR 2 – 3 Oct; last Fabius 16 Oct.

Winter Wren: max 9 HI 9 Oct; 3 SFNS 19 Oct.

Marsh Wren: max 16 HI 17 Sep; 2 TR 22 Sep; 2 SP 2 Oct; HI 15 Oct; last CM 17 Oct.

Carolina Wren: max 3 Elbridge 5 Oct; most reports west of Oneil.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 3 Phoenix 1 Sep & VBSP 3 Sep; last Phoenix 9 Sep.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 50 FH 9 Oct; 20 SFNS 22 Oct.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr CM 15 Sep; 19 SH 4 Oct; max 20 SFNS 6 Oct; last OLC 19 Nov.

E. Bluebird: 12 HI 15 Oct; max 27 Const 4 Nov; 23 DH 4 Nov.

Veery: max & last 4 Mexico 22 Sep; few reports.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Hast 15 Sep; max 4 Mexico 22 Sep & Phoenix 27 Sep; 2 FH 5 Oct; 2 Const 6 Oct; last Kirkville 16 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: 3 Hast 15 Sep; max 21 Mexico 22 Sep (WF), great number; 3 TR 1 Oct; last SFNS 19 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 31 FH 9 Oct (CW), good number; 6 HI 9 Oct; 5 SFNS 18 Oct.

Wood Thrush: 5 HI 17 Sep; 3 TR 15, 25 Sep;

last Fulton & Const 3 Oct.

Am. Robin: 300 SFNS 28 Oct; 1059 Const 4 Nov; 500 DeWitt 19 Nov.

Gray Catbird: 20 CM 5 Sep; 20 SFNS 9 – 10 Sep; max 21 HI 17 Sep; last WP 15 Nov.

N. Mockingbird: max 7 Hancock Airport, Cicero 27 Sep; no reports east of Oneida Lake.

Brown Thrasher: 3 TR 21 Sep; max 4 SFNS 24 Sep; last SFNS 7 Oct.

European Starling: max 2500 Litchfield, HERK 29 Oct; 2000 DeWitt 28 Nov.

Am. Pipit: max 30 FH 5 Oct, 30 Phoenix 15 Oct, 30 SHTF 29 Oct.

Cedar Waxwing: 110 Phoenix 2 Sep; max 125 SFNS 2 Nov; 119 DH 19 Nov.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: arr MNWR east 22 Oct; OswH 29 – 31 Oct; DB 5 – 6 Nov; only reports.

Snow Bunting: arr FH 11 Oct; max 102 FH 7 Nov; 60 Kirkville 8 Nov.

Ovenbird: max 3 GB 11 Sep; last SFNS 28 Sep.

N. Waterthrush: Bridgeport 4 Sep; SFNS 9, 12 Sep; last SFNS 18 Sep.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 2 SFNS 2 Sep; VBSP 3 Sep; WP 4 Sep; last Hast 8 Sep.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: Trenton, HERK 15 Sep, only report.

Black-and-white Warbler: last WP 17 Oct; less than 20 reports of singles.

Tennessee Warbler: 8 HI 17 Sep; max 10 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; 4 SFNS 22 Sep; last SFNS 7 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr CM 5 Sep; arr Hast 25 Sep; Dolge 27 Sep; TR 1 – 3 Oct; last Syr 27 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: 4 HI 17 Sep; 4 SFNS 30 Sep; max 5 TR 3 Oct; last SH 8 Oct.

Mourning Warbler: SFNS 23 Sep, only report.

Com. Yellowthroat: max 10 Bridgeport 4 Sep & HI 17 Sep; last SP 16 Oct.

Hooded Warbler: 2 Elbridge 1 Sep; 2 Williamstown 23 Sep; last FH 26 Sep.

Am. Redstart: max 4 SH 24 Sep; last Phoenix 4 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: 4 HI 17 Sep; max 5 SH 21 Sep; reports from 6 other locs.

N. Parula: 2 SFNS 15 Sep; last OLC 19 Oct; reports from 6 other locs.

Magnolia Warbler: max 10 Bridgeport 4 Sep; 8 HI 17 Sep; 7 SH 24 Sep; 7 Phoenix 2 Oct; last Mannsville 3 Nov.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 4 Bridgeport 4 Sep & Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; 3 SFNS 15

Sep; last SFNS 24 Sep.

Blackburnian Warbler: 2 Bridgeport 4 Sep; 2 SFNS 10 Sep; last Const 21 Sep; relatively few reports.

Yellow Warbler: 2 Jamesville 6 Sep; max 3 HI 17 Sep; last FH 17 Oct.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 2 Dolge 2 Sep; 2 Waterville 9 Sep; max 3 HI 17 Sep; last Phoenix 1 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 6 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; 4 SFNS 1 Oct; last OLC 1 Nov.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 Moss Lake, Adks 3 Sep; 4 Phoenix 27 Sep; last TR 9 Oct; generally poor numbers.

Palm Warbler: 5 SFNS 24 Sep; max 9 TR 2 Oct; last Kirkville 16 Oct.

Pine Warbler: 2 TR 5 Sep; 2 Waterville 9 Sep; 2 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 19 Sep; last Dolge 19 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 26 OF 21 Sep; max 50 Phoenix 2 Oct; 40 HI 15 Oct.

Prairie Warbler: Waterville 9 Sep, only report.

Black-throated Green Warbler: 8 Bald Mountain, Adks 18 Sep; 7 SFNS 30 Sep; last OLC 31 Oct.

Canada Warbler: SFNS 1, 9 Sep; GB 11 Sep; only reports.

Wilson's Warbler: max 4 SP 2 Sep; 2 Cicero 4 Sep; 2 Phoenix 16 Sep; 2 HI 17 Sep; last Syr 7 Oct.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: 5 Fulton 6 Sep; 5 Hast 12 – 26 Sep; 5 SFNS 19 Sep; max 9 TR 3 Oct; last WP 28 Oct.

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr Port Byron 22 Oct; 12 DB 23 Nov; max 13 Dolge 21 – 24 Nov.

Chipping Sparrow: 17 Elbridge 24 Sep; max 20 BLNC 7 Oct; last SB 23 Nov.

Clay-colored Sparrow: TR 21 Sep (GD), only report.

Field Sparrow: 6 TR 25 Sep – 5 Oct; max 17 GLSP 10 Sep; last 2 DB 28 Oct.

Vesper Sparrow: Litchfield 27 – 29 Oct; DB 28 Oct; Paris 31 Oct; last DB 5 Nov; singles at 5 other locs.

Savannah Sparrow: 4 SHTF 18 Sep; max 8 Bville 3 Oct; last Sherrill 24 Nov.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 DeWitt 10 Sep, only report.

Fox Sparrow: arr 2 CM 10 Oct; 3 SFNS 5 Nov; max 6 Dolge 25 Nov; 3 Cato 27 Oct; last Manlius 26 Nov.

Song Sparrow: 55 TR 25 Sep; max 80 HI 15 Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr DH 8 Sep; 3 SFNS 20 Sep; max 6 TR 6 Oct; last Tully 24 Oct.

Swamp Sparrow: 15 TR 25 Sep; max 35 15 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: 85 TR 6 Oct; max 280 HI 15 Oct (JM).

White-crowned Sparrow: arr SFNS 23 Sep; 13 GB 5 Oct; max 15 TR 9 Oct; last Const 22 Nov.

Dark-eyed Junco: 75 Fairfield 20 Oct; max 80 Parish 20 Nov.

Scarlet Tanager: max 3 SFNS 5 Sep & Phoenix 6 Sep & Const 9 Sep & Waterville 9 Sep; last TR 6 Oct.

N. Cardinal: 10 HI 17 Sep; max 20 SFNS 21 Sep.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 5 WP 4 Sep; 3 SFNS 10 – 30 Sep; last SFNS 5 Oct.

Indigo Bunting: max 3 SHTF 4 Sep & Williamstown 4 Sep, 3 SFNS 20 – 22 Sep & NH 5 Sep; last TR 9 Oct.

Bobolink: 10 SFNS 2, 3, 5, 9 Sep; max 75 SHTF 4 Sep; 15 TR 16 Sep; last SFNS 5 Oct.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 2500 Pennellville 18 Sep & SP 2 Oct; 100 DB 28 Oct.

E. Meadowlark: max 3 DeWitt 10 Sep; 2 GLSP 24 Sep; last Litchfield 29 Oct; singles at 4 other locs.

Rusty Blackbird: 87 HI 9 Oct; 34 TR 9 Oct; 63 CM 26 Oct; max 305 Phoenix 5 Nov; last Cullen, s. HERK 25 Nov.

Com. Grackle: 5000 Pennellville 22 Oct; 6000 Litchfield, s. HERK 25 Oct.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 75 Bridgeport 26 Sep; 50 Fayetteville 27 Nov.

Baltimore Oriole: 2 Phoenix 2 Sep; 2 OLC 4 Sep; max 3 HI 17 Sep; last Const 21 Sep.

blackbird species: max 4500 BLNC 2 Nov.

Purple Finch: 15 SFNS 7 Sep – 3 Oct; 18 Dolge 14 – 26 Oct; max 46 Const 21 Oct.

House Finch: 14 Bville 4 Sep; max 15 Hamilton 20 Nov.

Pine Siskin: 5 Dolge 3 Oct; 9 FH 9 Oct; max 15 SFNS 5 Nov.

Am. Goldfinch: 60 GLSP 10 Sep; 100 SFNS 23 Sep – 8 Oct; Cazenovia 31 Oct, leucistic individual at feeder; max 1160 DH 4 Nov.

Evening Grosbeak: arr 12 Dolge 25 Oct; max 33 Williamstown 30 Oct; 12 SP 31 Oct; 8 DeRuyter 5 Nov; 8 SH 13 Nov.

House Sparrow: 40 SFNS 2 Sep; max 100 Syr 29 Sep.