

REGION 2—GENESEE

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A see-saw winter, with periods of cold and substantial snowfall followed by warmth and melting back to bare ground and even green grass. This provided variable and interesting weather. Snow depth on the ground was never great for long this winter. December started with six days above normal, then an arctic surge to below freezing every night through mid-month, so that by Christmas Bird Count (CBC) time most bays and ponds were totally frozen. A brief thaw 18-23 December was followed by snow 23-25 December and a white Christmas. Temperatures averaged 26.0°F, 4.8° below normal, for the coldest December since 2000. Precipitation was 2.24", 0.39" below normal, but snowfall added up to 34.7", 12.9" above normal. There were 11 days with 1" or more snowfall and six lake effect snow events, bringing snowfall to points east and southeast of Lake Ontario to well above the official total.

January continued the cold of December through the first week, then jumped to well above normal. Arctic cold and snow followed from 12-18 January, then a longer warm stretch lasting to month's end. Temperatures averaged 25.0°, 0.3° above normal. Records were set in both directions, with a record low high of 5° on the 5th and a record high low of 44° on the 11th followed by a record high of 60° on the 12th. Precipitation totaled 3.11", 0.72" above normal, with 32.9" of snowfall, 4.7" above normal. But things varied, with 2-3" of snow each day 4-6 January, heavy rain 11-12 January, then cold and 12.8" of snow on 13 January. After that, < 1" of snow until 6.7" from 29-30 January.

February was again WARM, the second warmest on record following last year's warmest. Temperatures averaged 33.6°, 7.2° above normal. Record highs were set at 71° on the 20th, 67° on the 21st, and 64° on the 28th. There was also a record high low on the 20th. This also included a cold start for the first week and a half of the month. Precipitation totaled 2.15", 0.20" above normal, with snowfall 15.7", 5.8" below normal. The snow arrived in three events over 6-7 and 9-10 February, with only 0.8" over the rest of the month. There was some rain or snow on all but three days of the month, but the last half of the month brought a preview taste of spring.

Records in general suggest strong effects from the weather, in the CBCs and waterfowl count to half hardies dropping from 16 species in December to ten in January then to seven in February. February brought a clear early spring movement starting on about the 18th, with 20 February and after, and especially 28 February, bringing many early arrivals. The month's eBird downloads were about 17,111 for December, 27,816 for January, and 19,348 in February for a total of 64,275 for the season. The January total is boosted by birders starting

their new year-lists and February by the Great Backyard Bird Count, while in December many of the CBC records are not entered into eBird. Data from listservs, the various counts, and private contributions are included in this summary.

The three local CBCs provided an illustration of weather effects. After a short warm spell, early December's cold froze most of the bays, ponds, and smaller lakes. Then, on the specific dates, first we had heavy snow in the hills south of Rochester on 16 December for the Letchworth-Silver Lake CBC. Observer turnout was reduced, but those out worked hard, especially compiler Douglas Bassett, and 66 species were tallied, with five Green-winged Teal as a new species and 12 Cackling Geese and 18 Gadwall as new high counts. The next day, the Rochester CBC saw better weather, but the lack of open water resulted in a low average count of 91 species, with two more added during the count week. Record highs were set for King Eider (2), Red-breasted Merganser (2165), Red-necked Grebe (10), Bald Eagle (7), Snowy Owl (5), Red-bellied Woodpecker (192), and Yellow-rumped Warbler (28). However the overall number of individuals dropped substantially when the usual flight of American Crows to roost in the circle could not be located. A week later back in the Finger Lakes area south of Rochester, the Conesus-Hemlock CBC on 23 December started with steady light rain increasing through the morning, changing briefly to freezing rain, then to steady snow for the afternoon. Still observers turned up a high average 87 species, with five more added during count week. A House Wren coming to a feeder was new for the count, and record highs were set for Wood Duck (5) and Northern Shoveler (3). On into January, again early cold closed up all but the largest lakes, and with waterfowl season still open, snow, cold, and wind resulted in the lowest total counted in 30 years, only 12,885 individuals, though 29 species was still decent variety.

Moving on to working through the various families, we start with all the really expected waterfowl reported, though numbers were low through December and January and on until a burst of arrivals in February's taste of early spring. Still, there were some good counts early, with many Cackling Geese in December, good swan counts, several good counts for Long-tailed Duck and Red-breasted Merganser, and a couple of good Red-necked Grebe counts in early December. King Eider was present again through most of the season, Harlequin Duck in December through early January, and female Barrow's Goldeneye near Rochester in January and at Sodus Point in February. Late February brought a large influx of waterfowl, mostly to the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) in southern Wayne County but also elsewhere, with good numbers of Greater White-fronted Goose, large numbers of Snow Goose, Ross's Goose, some large puddle duck numbers, and record early arrival dates for Wood Duck and Eurasian Wigeon. Diversity remained low. Other interesting waterbird notes included few loons and Double-crested Cormorant on Irondequoit Bay, with good monthly maxima for winter of 23, 9, and 32 for the three months, respectively. Those cormorants were joined

by the Region's ~21st **Great Cormorant** record, an immature found at the old Newport House marina on Irondequoit Bay on 30 December by Candy Giles and Kim Hartquist and seen there daily until 11 January and again on 17 January, and afterward from 19-28 January at Sodus Point, Wayne County. 46 Great Blue Herons in a farm field near Caledonia on 9 December was a surprise for Mike Wasilco. Afterwards numbers seemed low except for occasional good counts at the Caledonia Fish Hatchery.

The Braddock Bay hawkwatch started on 27 February, with this year's official counter Greg Lawrence. The 27th brought the first Black Vulture of the year, and, with a good migration day on the 28th, the watch tallied a good 167 raptors in those two early days. Some good counts were also noted for other early migrants, including waterfowl, gulls, Killdeer, and two Common Ravens. Bald Eagle numbers were good all season in many areas but especially at Irondequoit Bay, where up to 28 individuals were counted from single points on several days and a rare-for-winter immature Golden Eagle was reported off and on through most of the season. Another interesting raptor was a Red-shouldered Hawk found at Hogan Point in Burger Park on 1 January by Dave Tetlow and seen by many there all month. Northern Goshawk was reported only on 10 December and 3 January. Rough-legged Hawk numbers were scattered and moderate through the season. The regular falcons saw American Kestrel relatively scarce through the season and Merlin and Peregrine Falcon in numbers typical of recent winters. The bird of the season was the Region's first **Crested Caracara** not even seen by any birders but captured on a trailcam at the home of Paul McNamara in the Town of Ontario in Wayne County on 1 February.

This season, there were no reports of the usual Virginia Rail from Mendon Ponds Park or elsewhere, and American Coot numbers were low. Sandhill Crane lingered in record high numbers for our Region, with up to 107 in the NMWMA along Armitage Road, Wayne County on 2-3 December, though even higher counts were tallied nearby in Region 3. Nine cranes were seen near the Village of Honeoye on the Conesus-Hemlock CBC on 23 December, then three were seen at Taylor Marsh nearby on 18 February, one each at three locations in the NMWMA on 24-28 February, and five in the Town of Wolcott, Wayne County on 28 February.

Shorebirds were scarce, as in most years in winter. Killdeer lingered to 9 December and arrived for spring at a record early date of 20 February in both West Walworth, Wayne County, found by Mike Gullo, and Nations Road, Livingston County, found by Nick Kachala. Wilson's Snipe on 26 December and 12 January were at late dates, and American Woodcock was first reported at Hogan Point on 23 February by Dave Tetlow and then in the NMWMA area on 28 February, both early but not unprecedented dates.

An unusually long-staying immature Black-legged Kittiwake from 11-21 December at Sodus Point provided a good chance for many to see and photograph the species. It is usually seen in the Region as individuals passing

along the south shore of Lake Ontario. Bonaparte's Gull peaked at an unusually low maximum of 70 on 9 December, and after that there was only one report of five at West Port Bay, Wayne County on 30 January. With few Bonaparte's around, it is no surprise that one Little Gull on 27 January at Sodus Point was the only other rarer small gull reported. There were good numbers of our regular winter gulls—Iceland, Lesser Black-backed, and Glaucous. These were noted in numbers at Irondequoit Bay, the piers at the Genesee River mouth, Braddock Bay, and the Mill Seat Landfill in the Town of Riga. The February thaw exposed a major fish die-off in Irondequoit Bay, and gulls congregated there, with maxima there later in the month of 4600 Herring, 11 Iceland, three Lesser Black-backed, five Glaucous, and 272 Great Black-backed Gulls, the latter counted by Greg Lawrence on 24 February. Interestingly, no longer considered a species, only one report appeared as Iceland (Thayer's) Gull seen and photographed by Andy Guthrie at the end of East Manitou Road on 28 January.

Moving on to the non-passerine landbirds, an elusive Eurasian Collared-Dove at the Greenwell Farm in the Town of Hamlin was only reported on 17 and 30 December and 3 January. This year we have more than the usual interesting owl news. There was a good total of 86 Eastern Screech-Owls on the Rochester CBC and even 26 on the Conesus-Hemlock CBC, which is due mainly to only very light rain for those out in the 3 AM time frame. A major Snowy Owl invasion can be summarized in 43+ individuals at 28+ locations in December, 40+ at 26+ in January, and 21+ at 20+ in February. The usual DEC Short-eared Owl surveys were conducted biweekly when weather allowed and produced a steady 1.5-2.0 birds per site surveyed through the season, a bit lower than last year later in the season. In January, all observers reported about 24 Short-eared Owls from 12 locations. Long-eared Owl is rarely reported in winter and especially other than on CBCs, so two reports from the Nunda area, Livingston County on 11 January and 20 February were interesting. Similarly for a N. Saw-whet Owl in the Town of York, Livingston County, seen and heard by Jim Kimball on 20 February. N. Saw-whet Owls were located on 3, 8, 20, 25-26, and 29 December in the usual Owl Woods area along Manitou Beach Road, and the spring owl survey there began in late February and located two on 26 February and one on the 27th. Belted Kingfisher is often scarce in this season, so ten at eight locations in January was good, with still eight in seven locations in February. Red-headed Woodpecker was found all winter in the usual locations in Hamlin Beach State Park, with the maximum six there on 3 December. The only other report was one in Albion, Orleans County on 12 January. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker could be the "poster child" for this winter's effect on half hardies—14 at 10 locations in December, seven at seven locations in January, and only two reports in February.

After a warm fall and a warm start to very early December, the list and numbers of half-hardy lingerers were high, 16 species, including: Eastern Phoebe, Tree Swallow, House Wren, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, American Pipit, Eastern Towhee,

Chipping Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, and Rusty Blackbird. Details may be found in the species section. By January, the list was down to nine species, but a Fox Sparrow found in Ellison Park, Town of Penfield by Lauri Mattle and Jim Miles on 20 and 21 January was added. By February, numbers of all such species had dropped, and the list of half-hardies was down to seven species, with Fox Sparrow still present to 10 February and a Tree Swallow, likely a migrant, reported with the big movement on 28 February. Generally, numbers were low for typical winter species, with examples of peaks: only 160 American Robins in February (only 80 in the earlier months), 95 Cedar Waxwings, and the only big blackbird counts totaling 3000 each of Red-winged Blackbird and Common Grackle on Wiley Road in the NMWMA by Deborah Dohne with the migration on 28 February. White-crowned Sparrow counts were high, with maxima of 68 on Cook Road, Town of Hamlin on 1 January by Andy Guthrie.

The possible winter irruptives were scarce, though Northern Shrike was present all season with 13-17 individuals reported each month. Fish Crow continues as a localized resident, with a maximum of 19 near North Gate Plaza in the Town of Greece on 9 January by Dave Tetlow and regular reports from Bob Dobson, a nearby resident. Red-breasted Nuthatch had very few double digit reports, though it would take quite a bit of work to clearly separate the effects of low numbers from reports at many separate sites versus larger areas. The only Bohemian Waxwing was one seen in Hamlin Beach SP by Dave Tetlow on 10 January. The only real passerine rarity reported was a male Yellow-headed Blackbird seen on Huston Road in the Nations Road area, Livingston County on 27 January. Large quantities of spruce cones gave hope to arrival of winter finches, but nothing really materialized beyond some Common Redpolls and Pine Siskins, with modest peaks in January, and a lone Evening Grosbeak in December.

Species totals for the months and their 10-year averages were: December – 136 (130.5), January – 129 (126.3), and February – 128 (116.0). Species of special note included: Greater White-fronted Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, King Eider, Harlequin Duck, Barrow's Goldeneye, **Great Cormorant**, Golden Eagle, Sandhill Crane, Black-legged Kittiwake, Little Gull, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Snowy Owl, Long-eared Owl, **Crested Caracara**, Orange-crowned Warbler, Fox Sparrow, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Time for another brief reminder touching on why one might want some summary when there is the eBird database available. A simple question like "How many Bald Eagles were in the Region in January?" is very difficult to answer. The eBird download has 350 "records" = lines, if I was totally accurate in eliminating the data from parts of counties not in Region 2. Next, start by just looking at Irondequoit Bay. Over the month there were 219 "records" from 13 different named sites around the Bay, though some of the sites are essentially the same, just assigned different names. The highest number of individual Bald Eagles seen at one time from one spot was 28, with several 27s. So how many

Bald Eagles were seen on just this Bay? Trying to work through even this one species takes quite a bit of time and the best I could come up with is about 91 birds? Clearly almost anyone else working through this will make different judgment calls and arrive at a different number. It is not an exact process, but without a try we have no idea of the number from just looking at the raw data. Gathering lots of data is “good”, but without some effort at trying to analyze it, it is not very useful and maybe even confusing.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BB – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; **BB - HW** – at or from Braddock Bay hawkwatch; **CHCBC** – Conesus-Hemlock CBC 23 Dec; **CL** – Conesus L, LIVI; **DEP** – Durand-Eastman P, MONR; **G** – T Greece; **H** – T Hamlin, MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet, MONR; **IB - NH** – Irondequoit Bay near Newport House Marina, MONR; **IB - S** – Irondequoit Bay south end, including LaSalle Landing P area; **LSLCBC** – Letchworth-Silver L CBC on 16 Dec; **MP** – Mendon Pond P, MONR; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma WMA, T Savannah, WAYN; **NMWMA (AR)** – north side of Armitage Rd; **NMWMA (CR)** – Carnecross Rd area flooded fields; **NMWMA (MR)** – Morgan Rd marshes area; **NMWMA (SM)** – Savannah mucklands area along Rt 31 SE of Savannah; **NMWMA (VDS)** – woods and wetlands along Van Dyne Spoor; **RCBC** – Rochester CBC on 17 Dec; **SBotP** – Sandy Bottom P, T Honeoye, ONTA; **SPT** – Sodus Pt., WAYN; **TCEA** – Twin Cedars Environmental Area at Avon DEC offices; **WWTP** – waste water treatment plant; **WP** – Webster P, MONR.

WATERFOWL – VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: arr 6-8 BB 15-17 Feb (8 obs); IB – LaSalle landing 18 Feb (PMar); 2 T Leicester, LIVI 24 Feb (RSt); 6-11 NMWMA (CR) 24 Feb (14 obs); 9 BB- HW 27 Feb (GL, *et.al.*); 2 T Webster 28 Feb (JiM, JWi).

Snow Goose: 200 NMWMA (CR) 5 Dec; last 11 Lyons WAYN 21 Jan (DWh, DDo); arr 1, 30, 75 NMWMA (3 loc) 20 Feb; max 50,000 NMWMA (Railroad Rd) 21 Feb (KGa); 15000-20000 Wiley Rd, T Savannah 28 Feb (DoC, DDo).

Ross's Goose: arr 2 NMWMA (CR) 24 Feb (GD); HB 25 Feb (GL); 3 NMWMA (SM) 26 Feb (W&MR); NMWMA (VDS) 27 Feb (GD).

Cackling Goose: 18 rep, 39 ind 12 loc 1-28 Dec; max 15 TCEA 1 Dec (MW); 2 T Caledonia 10 Jan (MW), only Jan rep; 18 rep, 31 ind 14 loc 15F-28 Feb; 10 BB-HW 28 Feb.

Canada Goose: max 10395 BB-HW 28 Feb (GL, *et.al.*).

Mute Swan: max 207 IB-N 17 Jan (JBo, RSp).

Trumpeter Swan: 25 NMWMA (CR) 2 Dec; 18 NMWMA (T Savanah) 15 Jan; max 28 NMWMA (VDS) 21 Feb (W&MR).

Tundra Swan: 63 CL 20 Dec; max 327 BB-HW 28 Feb (GL, *et.al.*); 234 MP 28 Feb (PMar); 308 NMWMA (CR) 28 Feb (GD).

Wood Duck: 5 CHCBC 23 Dec (JK, AC), CBC record high; Hemlock L 1 Jan; Van Lare WWTP, ROCH 8 Jan; arr 2 Kings Bend P, T Pittsford 18 Feb (BCar), Reg record early.

Gadwall: max 128 Round Pd Greece 3 Dec (CW); 100 NMWMA (CR) 25 Feb (GL, LM, JiM); 94 BB-HW 28 Feb (GL, *et.al.*), good counts.

Eurasian Wigeon: arr 3 m NMWMA (CR) **24 Feb** (GD), record early; 1-2 NMWMA (CR) **24F**-28 Feb (13+ obs).

Am. Wigeon: max 54 Round Pd Greece 3 Dec (CW); arr 1, 2 BB, 16 Feb (AGu, BriM); max 1200 NMWMA (CR) 25 Feb (JGK).

Am. Black Duck: max 400 NMWMA (CR) 25 Feb (JMcGo).

Mallard: max 800 NMWMA (CR) 25 Feb (JMcGo).
Nations Rd IBA 15 Jan (MW); relatively scarce all season.

N. Shoveler: 1 Caledonia Fish Hatchery 2 Jan (DTe), scarce in winter; arr 1-5 sev loc 21 Feb, early.

N. Pintail: 3-4 Caledonia Fish Hatchery 1-2 Feb (R&SS, DTe); BB 15 Feb (sev), early; 1500 NMWMA (SM) 21 Feb 21 Feb (MG, *et al.*); max 5000 NMWMA (CR) 25 Feb (JMcGo), high count.

Green-winged Teal: 5 Silver L 23 Dec (DB), new CHCBC; 11 Caledonia Fish Hatchery 2 Jan (DTe), scarce in winter; arr 3 Kings Bend P, T Pittsford 16 Feb (PMar), early.

Canvasback: many reports, but most 1-2 ind; max 17 BB 21 Feb.

Redhead: max 3000 CL 9, 20 Dec; 580 IB – N 4 Feb, later season peak with CL mostly frozen.

Ring-necked Duck: 150 Hemlock L 1 Jan, in small open spot; max 200 NMWMA (CR) 23 Feb, low max.

Greater Scaup: max 550 SPT 21 Jan, low max.

Lesser Scaup: max 100 IB – N 18 Dec, low max.

King Eider: 1 imm m off sites from BB to IB on S shore of lake Ontario 9, 18, 30 Dec, 7-10, 21, 28 Jan, 4-11 Feb, many obs & ph; 1 f off Irondequoit & Webster 18, 21 Dec; 1 imm m+5 f mouth of Genesee R 9-12 Jan; 1 imm m SPT 27-29 Jan, 1-6 Jan.

Harlequin Duck: 1 f IBO 17, 24 Dec, 4 Jan (JiM, C&JG, KSc, NM); 2 m West Port Bay WAYN 15, 21 Dec (W&MR).

White-winged Scoter: max 195 off sand Bar P, Webster 21 Dec, low; generally scarce.

Black Scoter: max 33 off E. Manitou Rd, Greece 2 Dec.

Long-tailed Duck: 974 off Irondequoit 9 Dec; max 1500 off E. Manitou, Greece 24 Jan; 620 off Rigney Bluff, Greece 21 Feb; good monthly peaks.

Bufflehead: max 150 CL 9 Dec (TB, CG, KSu).

Com. Goldeneye: max 500 IBO 20 Jan (TL).

Barrow's Goldeneye: arr 1 f off E. Manitou Rd, Greece 1 Jan (KH, PMar, 10 oth obs) & 5 oth loc 1, 14, 25-29 Jan (8 obs); 1 f SPT 3-12 Feb (JMcGo, 16+ oth obs).

Hooded Merganser: max 245 CL 21 Dec (MW).

Com. Merganser: max 678 IB 17 Jan (JBo, RSp); 600 IB – N 17 Feb (RSp).

Red-breasted Merganser: max 2375 B. Forman P, Pultneyville WAYN 2 Dec (JeB, CW); 2195 HB 3 Dec (JeB, CW, AGu).

Ruddy Duck: max 7 Round Pd, Greece 3 Dec, scarce this winter.

Red-throated Loon: max 24 Sandbar P, Webster 2 Dec.

Com. Loon: max 26 SPT 2 Dec.

Horned Grebe: max 34 B. Forman P, Pultneyville WAYN 2 Dec (JeB, CW), low max.

Red-necked Grebe: 732 HB 2 Dec (AGu); max 866 HB 9 Dec (AKr, GL); good counts; IBO 9-23 Jan (KGr, mob); 5 HB 18 Feb (BCar, AGu); scarce midwinter.

Double-crested Cormorant: 23 IB – NH 1 Dec (JiM); 9 IB – NH 3 Jan (DSH); max 32 G – Rigney Bluff 21 Feb (KG); good numbers for winter.

GREAT CORMORANT: 1 imm IB (mostly at Newport House marina) 30 Dec – 11, 17 Jan (CG, KH, 75+ oth obs, many ph), 21st Reg record; 1 imm SPT 19-28 Jan (MG, 30+ oth obs, ph), same individual.

Great Blue Heron: max 46 T Caledonia 9 Dec (MW), flock in the corner of a cornfield.

BLACK VULTURE (R2): arr BB - HW 27 Feb (AGu, GL, *et al.*), early.

Turkey Vulture: 34 Pittsford 6 Dec; 32 T Riga 29 Jan; max 67 BB – HW 28 Feb.

HAWKS – LARIDS

Bald Eagle: approx. 72 ind Dec; 350 lines eBird Jan; max single location 28 IB 11 Jan (PMar, AP); 172 lines eBird Feb.

N. Goshawk: 1 imm BB 10 Dec (CW, AGu); 1 T Gates 3 Jan (LBr); now scarce any time.

Red-shouldered Hawk: singles 5 loc LIVI Jan (KC, TB); 1 G – Hogan Pt 1-31 Jan (DTe, mob), interesting loc; ~ 9 ind 3 loc Feb; max 5 BB – HW 28 Feb.

Rough-legged Hawk: ~ 13 ind 11 loc 2-27 Dec; ~ 24 ind 17 loc Jan; ~ 24 ind 16 loc Feb; max 8 BB (HW) 27 Feb (MT).

Golden Eagle: 1 imm IB 5, 17, 30-31 Dec, all Jan & 4-20 Feb (mob); rare in winter.

Virginia Rail: no reports.

Am. Coot: max 60 CL 9 Dec, low.

Sandhill Crane: max 107, 105 NMWMA (AR) 2, 3 Dec (JL, DNu); 84, 90 NMWMA (SM) 5 Dec (MG, W&MR); 9 CHCBC –

Honeoye Crk WM 23 Dec (KK, MM, WS), CBC record high; 3 Taylor Marsh ONTA 18 Feb (KK); 1 NMWMA (3 loc) 24-28 Feb (5 obs); 5 T Wolcott WAYN 28 Feb (W&MR).

Killdeer: last T Livonia LIVI 9 Dec (KK); arr Nations Rd IBA (NK) & near West Walworth WAYN (MG) **20 Feb**, record early.

Wilson's Snipe: last NMWMA (MR) 26 Dec (BCar), late; T Ogden MONR 12 Jan (DTe), scarce midwinter.

Am. Woodcock: arr G – Hogan Pt **23 Feb** (DTe), early; NMWMA (Wright Rd) 28 Feb (KG), early.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (R2): 1 imm SPt 11-21 Dec (JWi, 27+oth obs, many ph), unusually long staying.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 70 IB-S 9 Dec, low max; last 5 West Port Bay WAYN 30 Jan (W&MR).

Little Gull: 1 ad SPt 27 Jan (BP), only rep.

Ring-billed Gull: max 2150 G - Salmon Crk 3 Dec.

Herring Gull: 3000 Mill Seat Landfill, T Riga 22 Dec; max 4600 IB 24 Feb (GL).

Iceland Gull: ~ 24 ind 10 loc Dec; max 11 Millseat Landfill, T Riga 29 Dec (AGu); ~ 43 ind 18 loc 2-27 Jan; 9 BB 27 Jan (AGu); ~ 37+ ind 18 loc Feb; max 11 IB 24 Feb (GL).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: ~ 22 ind 13 loc Dec; max 6 Mill Seat Landfill, T Riga 22 Dec (BriM); 10 ind 7 loc 7-28 Jan; ~ 23+ ind 15 loc Feb.

Glaucous Gull: ~ 15 ind 8 loc 2-29 Dec; max 7 Mill Seat Landfill, T Riga 29 Dec (AGu); ~ 26 ind 16 loc 2-27 Jan; ~ 16 ind 9 loc 4-26 Feb.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 272 IB 24 Feb (GL), high count.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: Greenwell farm, Hamlin 17, 30 Dec, 3 Jan (MG, JiM, AGu), site of most records recent yrs

E. Screech-Owl: 86 RCBC 17 Dec; 26

CHCBC 23 Dec, in spite of light rain.

Snowy Owl: ~ 43 ind 28+ loc Dec; ~ 125 rep, 40+ ind 26+ loc Jan; 21+ ind 20+ loc Feb.

Long-eared Owl: Dalton Rd, T Nunda LIVI 11 Jan (S&TG); T Nunda 20 Feb (JK); few rep in winter.

Short-eared Owl: 6 Nations Rd IBAT Avon 10 Dec; ~ 24 ind 12 loc Jan; 9 Nations Rd IBA 10, 14 Jan; max 12 Nations Rd IBA 2 Feb (CGo).

N. Saw-whet Owl: singles Owl Woods, Manitou 3, 8, 20, 25-26, 29 Dec (AGu, CW, DHo, CGi, LH, GL, Jod), ph, usually few rep

in Dec; T York, LIVI 20 Feb (JK), seen & heard; arr 2 Owl Woods, Manitou 26 Feb (8+ obs), 1 still seen next day.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 6 HB 3 Dec (JeB, AGu, CW, JD), present in park most winters, 1-4 there rest of season; Carlton T P ORLE 12 Jan (DBe), only other rep.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: total ~ 14 ind 14 loc 3-31 Dec; 7 ind 7 loc Jan; 3 ind 2 loc 2-13 Feb; good numbers for winter;.

CRESTED CARACARA: T Ontario WAYN 1 Feb, 1st Reg record, captured on trailcam at home of Paul McNamara.

Am. Kestrel: totals - 17 in Dec, 14 in Jan, and 12 in Feb; slow decrease thru.

Merlin: totals – 15 in Dec, 27 in Jan, and 14 in Feb; good for winter.

Peregrine Falcon: totals – 11 in Dec, 11 in Jan, and 13 in Feb; max 3 IB – NH 8 Jan, seen by many observing Great Cormorant.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

E. Phoebe: HB 9 Dec (LoK, AL, GL), rare in winter.

N. Shrike: ~ 13 ind 10 loc Dec; ~ 21 ind 17 loc Jan; ~ 13 ind 11 loc 2-23 Feb.

Am. Crow: max 700 Lehigh Station Rd, T Henrietta 1 Feb, winter roost not located and counted this year.

FISH CROW (R2): max 19 G - Northgate Plaza 9 Feb (DTe), now the peak wintering location.

Horned Lark: max 250 H - Moscow Rd 30 Dec; 200 H – West Fork 14 Jan; good counts.

Tree Swallow: last 7 West Port Bay WAYN 8 Dec (W&MR), late; arr NMWMA (CR) 28 Feb (JWi), early.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 16 HB 10 Jan, few double digit counts all winter.

HOUSE WREN (R2): T Richmond, ONTA (F&EJ), at feeder, 1st for CHCBC, record late.

Winter Wren: 26+ ind 13 loc 2-29 Dec; 12 ind 11 loc Jan; 5+ ind 5 loc 3-21 Feb.

Marsh Wren: total 6 ind 5 loc 2-10 Dec.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: total 64 ind 22+ loc Jan, decent number.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: MP 27 Dec (CGo); Flint Hill Cemetery MONR 20 Jan (RSt); scarce in winter.

Hermit Thrush: 8 ind 4 loc 8-30 Dec; 3; 1 WP 20; 21 Jan; MP 1, 9 Feb, good winter numbers.

Am. Robin: Lehigh Valley Trail, T Rush 14 Feb, low max.

Gray Catbird: 5 ind 3 loc 1-23 Dec; BB 3 Jan (R&SS); Beechwood SP WAYN 8 Jan (MG); G

11 Jan (DTe); Manitou – Owl Woods 17 Feb (AGa); scarce in winter.

Am. Pipit: last Reed Rd ONTA 24 Dec (BH, ph).

Bohemian Waxwing: HB 10 Jan (DTe), only report.

Cedar Waxwing: max 95 HB 3 Dec, low numbers this winter.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: max 15 H 13 Feb, low max, again scarce all season.

Snow Bunting: max 500 H – Moscow Rd 14 Jan (JiM, LM); 300 H 11 Feb (AGu).

Orange-crowned Warbler: G – Church Trail 2, 9 Dec (CW, JeB).

Com. Yellowthroat: Conesus Inlet 6 Dec (MW).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 14 G – Church Trail 10 Dec (AGu, CW); 12 G – Beatty Pt 17 Dec (GL); 11 oth rep, 6 oth ind 6 loc 3-23 Dec; 13 ind 5 loc 2-29 Jan; 10 G – Church Trail 10 Jan (GL), max for month; 2 G – Church Trail 3 Feb (AGu); 2 Gosnell Big Woods, Webster 11 Feb (RN); 4 Caledonia Fish Hatchery 17 Feb (RSt); good showing for winter.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

E. Towhee: G – Church Trail 2 Dec (CW); WP 9 Dec (RSp).

Am. Tree Sparrow: max 80 WAYN 8 Jan, low.

Chipping Sparrow: T Livonia LIVI 22 Dec (J&BV); T Lima LIVI 9 Jan (SSt); rare in winter.

Savannah Sparrow: 1-6 Perry Rd LIVI 24 Dec, 1-16 Jan; N Wolcott WAYN 27 Dec (W&MR); scarce & local in winter.

Fox Sparrow: Ellison P, T Penfield 20-21 Jan, 10 Feb (JiM, LM), rare in winter.

White-throated Sparrow: max 25 MP 25 Jan, low max.

White-crowned Sparrow: 22 H – Cook Rd 28 Dec (AGu); max 68 H – Cook Rd 1 Jan (AGu); good numbers for winter.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 47 Riverside Cemetery, Rochester 2 Dec, low max.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 3000 NMWMA (Wiley Rd) 28 Feb (DDo); low numbers most of season.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (R2): m Huston Rd LIVI 27 Jan (Tuck).

Rusty Blackbird: 3 HB 3 Dec; G – Beatty Pt 9 Dec; 3; 2 DEP 1; 2 Jan (R&SS; DTe); Honeoye Falls 16-18 Jan (BCar); MP 7 Feb (PMar); typically overwinters in small numbers.

Com. Grackle: max 3000 NMWMA (Wiley Rd) 28 Feb (DDo), low numbers most of season.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 450 T Caledonia LIVI 21 Jan (BCar).

Com. Redpoll: max 64 HB 10 Jan (MG); 2 H 23 Feb, only Feb rep; scattered few rep this winter.

Pine Siskin: max 37 T Canadice ONTA; small numbers thru.

Evening Grosbeak: Beechwood SP 9 Dec (MG), only report.