

## **REGION 10 - MARINE**

**Seth Ausubel**

49 Sentinel Road, Washington Crossing, PA 18977  
birdherpbug@gmail.com

While March and April were colder than normal, May was warmer than normal. The average temperature at Central Park in March was 40.1°F, 2.4° below normal, and in April 49.4°, 3.6° below normal. The average temperature in May was 66.9°, 4.5° above normal. The temperature in Central Park on 3 May hit 92°, after a low of 48° on 1 May. Precipitation was generally very close to normal throughout the season. The exception was Islip, which reported 7.67" of precipitation in March, 3.23" above normal. March also featured several harsh snow storms. Despite an abundance of cloudy and drizzly weather in May, Central Park received only 3.53" of rainfall, 0.66" below normal.

From the perspective of seeing lots of migrant songbirds, it was a very good season. In the first half of May several weak frontal systems produced lots of clouds and modest rainfall, apparently inducing birds to stop and linger in our area without the weather being poor enough to hamper the birding. A couple of warm days on 13-14 April, followed by a significant storm on 15-16 April, produced good birds for several days, including numerous reports of Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, and Yellow-throated Warbler.

Land bird diversity peaked on 4 May, with at least 26 species of warblers reported in Central Park, and again on 13 May, with at least 23 species reported.

A good incursion of Yellow-throated Warblers occurred this season, especially 12-17 April, when at least a dozen birds were reported in the Region. At least two singing males stayed at Bayard-Cutting Arboretum, Great River, Suffolk County, through the season.

An effort by Steve Walter to conduct a spring hawk watch at Alley Pond Environmental Center in Bayside, Queens County produced some interesting results. These included 186 Turkey Vultures on 31 March, and six Bald Eagles during the week of 9 April. These numbers are previously unheard of on Long Island. He also had a Broad-winged Hawk on 11 April, a rarity on Long Island.

A kettle of 40 Broad-winged Hawks was reported from Central Park on 23 April.

In the mega-rarity department, the **Kirtland's Warbler** found in Central Park by Kevin Topping may top the list. The bird fed actively, at times singing, from 11-13 May in nearly-bare trees on the west side of the reservoir. It was enjoyed by many hundreds of birders. This is New York's third record, with the first two in 2014, and hopefully a harbinger of more, as conservation efforts in its breeding habitat in Michigan and Wisconsin continue. Also memorable was that the Kirtland's Warbler shared the park with truly impressive numbers of warblers and other migrant songbirds, a migration that seemed reminiscent of the "good old days". While it may seem difficult to top this mega-rarity, this season saw the third state record of **Wood Sandpiper**. Found in a puddle on the Timber Point Golf Course, Great River, Suffolk County by Pat Lindsay on the tail end of the storm late on 16 April, it was seen by a handful of birders until it disappeared the next day.

Also notable was New York City's first record of nesting Pileated Woodpecker since sometime in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, in Staten Island's Greenbelt.

299 species were reported in the Region this spring.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Adamo, Patricia Aitken, Deborah Allen, Bob Anderson, Seth Ausubel, Andrew Baksh, Catherine Barron, Rob Bate, David Barrett (DBa); Debbie Becker, Gail Benson, Bobby Berlingeri, Orhan Birol, Shane Blodgett, Brent Bomkamp (BBo), Ardith Bondi (ABi), Thomas W. Burke, Ben Cacace, Cesar Castillo (CCo), Steve Chang, Anthony Ciancimino (ACi), Anthony Collerton, Mike Cooper, Joseph DiCostanzo (JDi), Peter Dorosh, Alan Drogen, Dave Eib, Mike Farina, Andrew Farnsworth, Ken Feustel, Suzy Feustel, Corey Finger, Tom Fiore, Howie Fischer, Brendan Fogarty, Richard Fried, Karen Fung (KFu), Doug Futuyma, John Gaglione (JGa), Arie Gilbert, Paul Gildersleeve (PGi), Joe Giunta (JGi), John Gluth (JGl), Doug Gochfeld, Isaac Grant, Dawn Hannay, Tim Healy, John Heidecker (JHr), Mike Higgiston, Patrick Horan, Joel Horman, Dennis Hrehowsik (DHr), Sam Jannazzo, Phil Jeffrey, Rob Jett, Ed Johnson, Rich Kelly, Gus Keri, Marie King, Mary Laura Lamont, Anthony J. Lauro, Patricia J. Lindsay, John Loch, Heydi Lopes, Roberta Manion, Peter Martin, Michael McBrien (MMcB), Eric Miller, Stella Miller, Karlo Mirth, Shaibal S. Mitra, Pete Morris (PMo), Michael Mulqueen, Mary Normandia, Luke Ormand, Bill Ostrander, Patrick Palladino (PPa); Peter Paul (PPI), Robert Paxton (RPx), Anders Peltomaa (APe), Tom Perlman, Stephane Perrault, Peter Post, Robert Proniewych, Anne Purcell, Glen Quinn, Jose Ramirez-Garofalo, Peter Reisfeld, Ian Resnick, Jeff Ritter, Derek Rogers, Kevin Rogers (KR0), Bobby Rossetti, Mike Scheibel (MSch), Steve Schellenger (SSc), Sy Schiff (SyS), John Sepenoski (JSe), Mike Shanley (MSh), John Shemilt (JSh), Sean Sime, Nadir

Souirgi, Taylor Sturm, John Turner, Richard Veit, Joe Viglietta, Steve Walter, Gabriel Willow, Alex Wilson, Angus Wilson, Seth Ian Wollney.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**APEC** – Alley Pond Environmental Center, Bayside, QUEE; **APP** – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **BPP** – Baisley Pd P, QUEE; **BPT** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **BRy** – Bryant P, NEWY; **CB** – Cedar B, Babylon, SUFF; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CHP** – Conference House P, RICH; **CIC** – Coney I Cr/P, KING; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **CR** – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; **CRSP** – Connetquot R SP, SUFF; **CVP** – Calvert Vaux P, KING (formerly Drier-Offerman P); **Ed** – Sod fields on Edwards Av north of Route 25, Riverhead, SUFF; **EPCAL** – Calverton Grasslands (former Grumman Property), Calverton, SUFF; **FBF** – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; **FIHW** – Fire Island Hawk Watch, Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **FKP** – Fresh Kills P, RICH; **FMCP** – Flushing Meadows-Corona P, QUEE; **FP** – Forest P, QUEE; **FT** – Fort Tilden, QUEE; **FWP** – Ft. Washington P, NEWY; **GBP** – Goethal’s Bridge Pd, RICH; **GBy** – Gravesend Bay, KING; **GKP** – Great Kills P, RICH; **GwC** – Green-wood Cemetery, KING; **HLSP** – Hempstead L SP, NASS; **HP** – Hook Pd, East Hampton, SUFF; **HSP** – Heckscher SP, SUFF; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWE** – West End, Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **KP** – Kissena P, QUEE; **Mass** – Massapequa Preserve, NASS; **MB** – Mecox Bay/Mecox Inlet, SUFF; **MLUA** – Mt. Loretto Unique Area, RICH; **MNSA** – Marine Nature Study Area, Oceanside, NASS; **MP** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **NYBG** – New York Botanical Garden, BRON; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PL** – Patchogue L, Patchogue, SUFF; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **RI** – Randall’s I, NEWY; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **RP** – Jacob Riis P, QUEE; **Rt 105** – Sod fields south of Sound Av between Route 105 and Doctor’s Path, Riverhead, SUFF; **Sag** – Sagaponack Pd/Inlet, SUFF; **Shinn** – Shinnecock In, SUFF; **SPCP** – Smith Pt CP, SUFF; **SPP** – Southards Pd P, West Babylon, SUFF; **SMSP** – Sunken Meadow SP, SUFF; **VCP** – Van Cortlandt P, BRON; **VSh** – Venetian Shores P, Lindenhurst, SUFF; **VSSP** – Valley Stream SP, NASS; **WPP** – Wolfe’s Pd P, RICH.

### WATERFOWL - VULTURES

#### BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK:

CVP 16 May (AxW).

**PINK-FOOTED GOOSE:** Montauk, SUFF thru 11 Mar (mob).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** HLSP thru 18 Mar (RBA); Tung-Ting Pd, Northport, SUFF thru 24 Mar (RBA).

**ROSS’S GOOSE (R10):** Riverhead SUFF thru Mar 4 (RA).

**Brant:** “Dark Bellied” *Branta bernicla* *bernicla* 12 Apr CIC (DG, *et al.*), ph.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** Marine Park, KING thru 30 Mar (RBA); Mill Cr, RICH thru 5 Mar (RBA); 2 Brooklyn Army Terminal, KING 31 Mar (AB), m&f.

**“EURASIAN” GREEN-WINGED TEAL (R10):** Willowbrook Pd, RICH 24 Mar (EJ).

**Redhead:** 2 APP thru 11 Apr (SW), m&f, unusual loc.

**Harlequin Duck:** 3 Pt Lookout, NASS thru 5 Apr (RBA); drake Orient Pt, SUFF thru 3 May (RBA).

**N. Bobwhite:** 2 Orient Pt., SUFF 3 May (JSe).

**PACIFIC LOON:** Amagansett, SUFF 28 Apr (AnW); Nickerson B, NASS 28 May (KF, SF, DF).

**Com. Loon:** max 277 Tiana B, SUFF 16 Apr (DR).

**Red-necked Grebe:** APP thru 11 Apr (SW); Pt Lookout 6-11 Mar (SW, mob); PP 4 mar (RBA); Marne Park 6 Mar (RBA); 2 Sebonac Inlet, SUFF 17 Mar (P. Maldonado); Lido B 24 Mar (KRo); 2 Gravesend Bay, KING 30 Mar (AB); 2 Gravesend Bay 12 Apr (DG, *et al.*).

**Sooty Shearwater:** 19 RMSP 18 May SSM; 240 pelagic coordinates 40.712, -72.485 28 May (JL).

**Manx Shearwater:** pelagic coordinates 40.712, -72.485 28 May (JL).

**Wilson's Storm-Petrel:** 193 pelagic coordinates 40.712, -72.485 28 May (JL).

**Brown Pelican:** Orient Pt 8 May (JSe).

**Am. Bittern:** CP 30-31 Mar (RBA, DA), early migr; CHP 11 Apr (SIW), unusual loc.

**Great Egret:** 2 Midland B, RICH 3 May (RBA).

**Glossy Ibis:** arr 30 Mar.

**WHITE-FACED IBIS:** 2 MNSA 19 Apr (MF); Cow Meadow P, Freeport, NASS 20 Apr (BF).

**Black Vulture:** 3 Riverhead 6 Mar (RA); 8 IHP 3 Mar (NS, *et al.*); Sea Cliff, NASS 15 Mar (*vide* ABi); 3 Riverhead 26 Mar (RA).

**Turkey Vulture:** 55 Riverhead 18 Mar (RA); 24 Riverhead 26 Mar (RA); 85 Miller Field, RICH 30 Mar (SIW); max 186 APEC 31 Mar (SW); 7 Greentree Estate, Manhasset, NASS 12 Apr (SP); large numbers for L.I.

## HAWKS - LARIDS

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** HLSP 9 May (RK, mob); East Hampton, SUFF 26 May (AC); HLSP 28 May (TH).

**Bald Eagle:** 6 migr APEC 9-16 Apr (SW)

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** pr nested N. Great River, SUFF (*vide* PJJ), rare on L.I.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** APEC 11 Apr (SW), rare on L.I.; 40 CP 23 Apr (Sharon Kramer Loew), migr in kettle.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** Riverhead 18 Mar (RA); 2 EPCAL thru 26 Mar (mob)

**Sora:** CP 4 May (mob).

**SANDHILL CRANE (R10):** Suffolk County Farm, Yaphank, SUFF 7-9 Apr (KF, SF, mob).

**Am. Golden-Plover:** Lido Preserve, Lido B, NASS 20 May (J. Landesberg, PA).

**WOOD SANDPIPER:** Timber Pt Golf Club, Great River, SUFF 16-17 Apr (PJJ, mob), 3<sup>rd</sup> NY State record.

**Whimbrel:** BPt 14 Apr (RBA); “White-rumped” BPt 15 Apr (CCo), ph, likely “European” Whimbrel, *Numenius phaeopus phaeopus*; HSP 18 Apr (RBA); 32 GKP 23 May (EJ), large num.

**Red Knot:** max 440 Little Egg Marsh, Broad Channel, QUEE 14 May (M. Fiurst).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** Timber Pt 6 May (SSM, PJJ), rare in spring.

**RUFF:** HSP 22-23 May (PJJ, mob).

**Am. Woodcock:** several displaying BRY, early Mar – 9 Apr (AD), unusual loc; 3 Southold, SUFF 2 Apr (L. Normandia), ad w 2 fledglings.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** 6 pelagic coordinates 40.571, -71.631 25 May (JL); BPt 26 May (JRG).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** 940 CVP 16 Apr (SS), large num.

**Black-headed Gull:** imm Gravesend Bay 3-29 Mar (AB, SB, SS); imm Marine Park 5-20 Mar (RBA); ad CIC 7 Mar (RBA) ad CIC 29 Mar (SB); WPP 31 Mar (JRG, SIW, ACi).

**Little Gull:** WPP 31 Mar (SIW); 2 WPP 6 Apr (ACi); 3 ad WPP 11 Apr (SIW, JRG); Gravesend Bay 16 Apr (IG).

**MEW GULL:** ad Gravesend Bay 2 Mar (SB); ad FBF 16-17 Mar (SS), *Larus canus brachyrhynchus*; ad Brooklyn Army Terminal 18 Mar (AB), ph.

**Iceland Gull:** Bush Terminal Piers P, KING 6 Mar (RBA); Lemon Cr, RICH 10 Mar (RV); American Veterans Memorial Pier, KING 22 Mar (RBA); Gravesend Bay 29 Mar (SB, SS); CIC 29-30 Mar (SB, AB); WPP 10 Apr (ACi); GKP 14 Apr (RBA); Miller Field 25 Apr (HF).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** MP 3 Mar (RBA); RMSP 5 Mar (RBA); ad SPCP 17 Mar (MLL); 2 CVP 30 Mar (AB); CIC30 Mar – 4 Apr (AB, SS); ad Coney I, KING 4 Apr (SS); 5 WPP 10 Apr (ACi); 10 Miller Field 16 Apr (IG); 2 CIC 16 Apr (AB); 9 FBF 16 Apr (SS); CP 26 Apr (PP); max 38 RMSP 19 May (KF, SF).

**Glaucous Gull:** East Marion, SUFF 3 Mar (RBA).

**Gull-billed Tern:** 3 Nickerson B 22 May, 1-2 rep there thru late May.

**Caspian Tern:** 3 GKP 14 Apr (RBA); 2 Southaven CP, SUFF 27-29 Apr (JGI).

**Black Tern:** Rockaway B, QUEE 26 May (CF); CCP 26 May (PMo, TS).

**Roseate Tern:** PB 19 May (PPI), unusual loc; 3000 Great Gull I, SUFF 27 May (L. Beausoleil).

**ARCTIC TERN:** PB 19 May (PPI); ad Nickerson B 23 May (SSM).

**Pomarine Jaeger:** Pt Lookout 16 Apr (BA), ph, found in parking lot.

**THICK-BILLED MURRE:** Great Gull I, SUFF 25 Apr (*fide* JDi), found dead on beach.

**Razorbill:** imm SPCP 17 Mar (MLL); 31 RMSP 28 Mar (KF, SF).

**ATLANTIC PUFFIN:** New Inlet, Fire I, SUFF 7 Apr, found dead on beach (MLL), ph.

## PIGEONS – PARROTS

**WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** CCP 30 May (S. Sullivan, E. Zawatski).

**Barn Owl:** CP ca. 19 Apr (DA, *et al.*), unusual loc.

**Snowy Owl:** 3 Bpt 11 Mar (CF); 3 Shin 29 Mar (AnW); Kenny's B, Southold, SUFF 31 Mar (P. Normandia), unusual loc; Pt Lookout thru 5 Apr (RBA); Great Gull I 28-29 Apr (RBA).

**Barred Owl:** Fisher's I, SUFF 10 Mar (BBo, BF, PMo, TS).

**Short-eared Owl:** Orient B SP, SUFF 31 Mar (JSe).

**N. Saw-whet Owl:** Makamah pres, Huntington, SUFF 7 Apr (TS).

**Chuck-will's-widow:** CP 4 May (AC, mob); 3 Quogue, SUFF 28 May (KF, SF), calling from different locs.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 2 ad JBWE 2 May (SW); CP 3-6 May (mob); FP 7 May (KM); Cunningham P, QUEE 7-11 May (SW); Bayport, SUFF 20 May (L. Stocker).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 26 Greentree Estate 1 Apr (SP), large num; 2 JBWE 2 May (SW), 14 RMSP 2 May (SSM), migr to west, rare on barrier island.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** 7 Greentree Estate 1 Apr (SP), large num.

**PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10):** pr nested, Greenbelt, RICH (*fide* SIW, T. Dulski), **first known nest in NYC since early 1800s;** Caumsett SP, SUFF 25 May (KF).

## FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** CP 13 May (DA, *et al.*); CP 15 May (DA, *et al.*); Ridgewood Reservoir, QUEE 20 May (CF); CP 21 May (DA, *et al.*).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** CP 22 May (DA, *et al.*).

**COMMON RAVEN (R10):** pr nested Arthur Ashe Stadium, FMCP (*fide* CF); pr nested Otsego Town P, Dix Hills, SUFF (*fide* PJL); pr nested Brookhaven National Laboratory, SUFF (*fide* PJL); Oakland L, QUEE 12 Mar (IR); Riverhead 4 Apr (RA); 2 FMCP 1 May (SA, MN); Greentree Estate 5 May (SP, *et al.*).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** 29 Greentree Estate 1 Apr (SP); 63 Greentree Estate 12 Apr (SP); large #s.

**BICKNELL'S THRUSH:** CP 16 May (DA, *et al.*); FP 20 May (CF); CLP 21 May (HF); singing.

## LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

**Ovenbird:** 39 Greentree Estate 13 May (SP), large #.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr 30 Mar; FP 3 May (SA, mob); APP 4 May (CCo); late.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** Frank Melville P, Setauket, SUFF 28 Apr (J. Eggers); HLSP 30 Apr – 5 May (mob); CP 4-6 May (mob); Allison Pd P, RICH 2 May (DE); CLP 3 May (EJ); CP 7 May (DA, *et al.*); CP 13 May (DA, *et al.*); FP 29 May (SW), late.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** APP 4 Apr (*fide* PR); Crocheron P, QUEE 19-20 Apr (RBA); NYBG 22 Apr (GW, *et al.*).

**Mourning Warbler:** CP 15 May (*fide* DA); Madison Square P, NEWY 16 May (E. Goodman, mob), unusual loc; BRY 17-19 May (mob); CP 25 May (DA, *et al.*); FP 26 May (SW).

**Kentucky Warbler:** PP 28 Apr (RJ); CP 6 May (mob); FP 10 May (SW); CP 11 May (DA, *et al.*); Madison Square P 17 May (TP), unusual loc.

**KIRTLAND'S WARBLER:** CP 11-13 May (Kevin Topping, mob), 3<sup>rd</sup> NY State record.

**Cerulean Warbler:** HLSP 5-6 May (mob); CP 14 May (APe).

**Pine Warbler:** 2 APP 6 Mar (SW); 31 Greentree Estate 19 Apr (SP), large #.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** PBP 7 Apr (GW, *et al.*), early; Willowbrook P 12-13 Apr (RV); CP 13 Apr (*fide* DBa); Owl's Head P, KING 13 Apr (GK); 2 PBP 13 Apr (PH, J. Ward); JBWE 14 Apr PP; PP 14 Apr (DHR); CP 14-15 Apr (RBA); 2 PP 16-17 Apr (RBA); 2 Bayard-Cutting Arboretum, Great River, SUFF 17 Apr – thru (KF, JGI, mob), males singing on territory; High Rock P, RICH 19 Apr (RV); HLSP 27 Apr – 3 May (mob); Crocheron P 29 Apr (EM, *et al.*); Fuchs Pd Pres, Northport, Ft.

Salonga, SUFF 1 May (RBA); Willowbrook P 2 May (RV).

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** JBWR 5 May (BBo); South Shore Nature Center, Islip, SUFF 11 May (JGI); Quogue Wildlife Refuge, Quogue, SUFF 15 May (MH).

#### TOWHEES - WEAVERS

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** RMSP 3 May (RBA); CP 5 May (mob); KP 9 May (CCo, KM).

**Vesper Sparrow:** CP 7-8 Apr (mob).

**Lark Sparrow:** Shore Rd P, KING 18-20 May (mob).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** APP 29 Apr (SP).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** about 12 reps incl CP 4 May (MN, SA); CP 5 May (PJ); BRY 19 May (DF).

**Summer Tanager:** Stony Brook, SUFF 17 Apr (M. Furst), ph; HLSP 17-18 Apr (RP, PR); VCP 17-18 Apr (*fide* DH); GwC 18-20 Apr (RB); CP 22 Apr (KFu); CP 26 Apr (DA, *et al.*); CP 2 May (T. Winston); Oceanside, NASS 4 May (SyS); 2 CP 5 May (PP); FP 6-7 May (MN, *et al.*); CLP 6-7 May (HF); CP 7

may (DA, *et al.*); FP 7 May (mob); BPt 20 May (DG); FP 26 May (SW).

**WESTERN TANAGER:** PP 16 April (RBA); Brookhaven, SUFF 2 May (RBA).

**Blue Grosbeak:** Ridge, SUFF 17 Apr (JH); GwC 18-20 Apr (RB); RMSP 22 Apr (PA); Crocheron P 22 Apr (PR); Southaven CP 23-25 Apr (GQ, MH); fem Southaven CP 3 May (MH); fem FP 5-9 May (CF, CCo, SW, mob); MLUA 6 May (RV); CP 7-10 May (DA, *et al.*).

**Dickcissel:** m Lutheran Cemetery, Middle Village, QUEE 3 May (D. Cavallero, *fide* KM), ph HSP 23 May (RBA).

**Boat-tailed Grackle:** 216 JBWR 24 Mar (TP), large #; fem CP 25 Mar – 4 Apr (*fide* DA, RBA), unusual loc).

**Orchard Oriole:** 9 RMSP 2 May (SSM), large num.

**Pine Siskin:** Humes Estate, Mill Neck, NASS 2-7 May (SM).

#### EXOTICS

**European Goldfinch:** 6 Governor's Island, NEWY thru 16 Mar (BC).

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