

REGION 2—GENESEE

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Spring 2018 brought a season of sharp contrasts and at times sighs of relief. March was another cold month, with temperatures averaging 32.2°F, 2.1° below normal. It was the tenth time and second in a row for the March average to be below February's. A persistent storm track to our south and east left us cold until the 26th, after which we finally made the 40s for a few days but with light rain each day. Precipitation totaled 3.02", 0.52" above normal. Light snow fell on 15 days, plus a few heavy snow days added up to 29.4", 13.1" above normal. And, we were only on the fringes of four major nor'easters passing south of us and up the East Coast.

April continued the cold, with the first 10 days the coldest on record for that period and through the fourth week still the second coldest. But a few warm days at the end dropped us to the tenth coldest April. Temperatures averaged 40.8°, 5.5° below normal. Precipitation totaled 3.50", 0.77" above normal, but with 1.34" of that falling on the 16th. Nearly all the snowfall was in the first half of the month and totaled only 5.2". Again, we were lucky, as a windstorm on 3-4 April produced most of its damage to our west and a potential severe ice storm on 14-15 April caused little damage locally. Lake Ontario levels were high and concerning but well below last year's major flood levels. At month's end, leaf out and spring migrants were both well behind normal.

May jumped right to warm; 80° on the 1st! All but three days, 10-12 May, averaged above normal, and May ended the warmest on record averaging 64.4°, 7.6° above normal. Still there were only two records set, a tie of the record high on the 2nd and a new record high low on the 31st. Precipitation totaled 1.70", 1.17" below normal and mostly in the 2nd half of the month and at night and with 0.52" of the total on the 22nd. So a great month to be outdoors birding!

March was really not conducive to migration or to birders venturing out. Yet eBird lines of "records" were typical and species found were near the 10-year average. Moving into April, the major problem was a heavy band of storms across the country to our south and west blocking a major source of our migrants. April's cold left species counts well behind those of the last few years. The quick change to warmth in May caught us up to regular arrival dates and by month's end pushed species totals above average for the month and year to date. The eBird records downloaded for the months were about: 24,200, 47,930, and 89,512, with April and May totals boosted by special birding events.

Turning now to specific families and species, we start with the waterfowl and find nearly all expected species found each month, though a common complaint was poor numbers. Snow Goose numbers remained high in the Region and even much higher in neighboring Region 3 through March. Good

numbers of the scarcer Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, and Cackling Goose were also found, with individuals lingering into April. An early Brant was found on 15 April in the Ontario Beach area by Brian Morse. Eurasian Wigeon continued from early arrivals in February, though March records were only from the NMWMA in this Region. Single males were found in that area and in Hamlin in April. Among the puddle ducks, a peak count of 4000 Northern Pintail in the Carncross Road area of the NMWMA in March and a surprise 28 Northern Shovelers on the Shore Acres Ponds in Hamlin on 7 May were the only standouts. For the diving ducks, 8000 Redheads on Conesus Lake in March, 894 Greater Scaup, and 1340 Long-tailed Ducks in April, 1000 Long-tailed Ducks and 760 Red-breasted Mergansers in May, and King Eiders on 17 and 18 March and 1 April, and a Harlequin Duck on 11 May were highlights. A good variety of waterfowl lingered into May, but Tundra Swan, Canvasback, and Black Scoter were missed in that month.

Red-throated Loon numbers remained low, with the maximum only 27 on 1 April. Common Loon and Horned Grebe were a bit better, with peaks of 577 on 28 April and 458 on 1 April, respectively. Given the generally low loon numbers, an event at Webster Park on 28 April was interesting. I arrived at the lakeshore parking area for a short look at the lake and found a wall of fog parked a quarter mile or so offshore. Inside that line, there were Common Loons on the water everywhere as far as I could see east and west and out to the fog. Most were alternate plumage adults, and they were ignoring the many fishing boats passing back and forth among them. I counted 577 in this area of visibility. Later I moved west to the porch of the Kanatota Lodge and counted what I could see out front, trying to start west of the limit from the lakefront lot and as far west as I could see. The numbers dropped off quickly, though visibility was somewhat better offshore, and the total was only 114. Red-necked Grebe peaked at a low 41 on 2 April. 1000 Double-crested Cormorants were back into Irondequoit Bay by 13 April. American Bitterns were on the early side on 4 and 6 April, on the latter date, a bird walking through the backyard of Martha Zettel and Bill O'Neill in the Town of Rush. Even earlier were Great Egrets in two locations on 27 March and a Green Heron on 30 March. A Cattle Egret was found in the Sodus area by Jim Wood on 5 May and seen by at least nine others on that day. The species is now rare in spring. Black Vulture was reported from the hawkwatch on 9 April and then two each from HANA and from West Walworth on 8 May.

This year the official Braddock Bay hawk counter was Greg Lawrence, with regular help and company from Mike Tetlow and numerous other hawk aficionados. The season was plagued by bad weather from the snow and cold of March to cold in April and then persistent NE breezes in May. The bad weather in March led to the month's total not matching that of the first two days of the watch at the end of February until 19 March. The last two days of the month brought over half the total hawks for the month. The 2340 Turkey Vultures were 79% of all raptors for the month. Only Red-shouldered Hawk at 183 and Red-

tailed Hawk at 275 also made triple digits. No Northern Goshawk was sighted at the hawkwatch, but there were two elsewhere. Two Ospreys arrived right at month's end. There were six Golden Eagle reports from 11-31 March, with four of those away from Braddock Bay. April started very slowly, but Turkey Vultures continued flooding past. Single Northern Goshawks were seen at both Braddock Bay and in Wayne County. A single Broad-winged Hawk was spotted in Henrietta on 19 April followed by the first 110 at the hawkwatch on 21 April, with a peak day of 5675 passing on 24 April. While the month seemed slow, there were eight days with > 1000 birds. May produced hawkwatch highlights of a Mississippi Kite seen from the Frisbee Hill site on 14 May, a rare, immature dark morph Broad-winged Hawk circling overhead on 21 May and seen later that day passing the Derby Hill watch, an immature light morph Swainson's Hawk on 23 May, and a record high single-day count of 115 Bald Eagles on 31 May. There were only two 1000+ bird days in May.

Among the marsh birds, rails were poorly reported as usual, but Common Gallinule was a bit more widely reported and in good numbers in the NMWMA at Van Dyne Spoor with a maximum count of 50 on 29 May. American Coot also was also most numerous in the Van Dyne Spoor area, with a peak count of 80 on 7 April. Sandhill Crane was well reported each month both passing the hawkwatch, > 65 total, and at many other locations, totaling another 52+ individuals.

With the snow and cold, among the shorebirds only a Wilson's Snipe mid month and a Greater Yellowlegs on 30 March were added to a few more sightings each of the early arrivals of February, Killdeer and American Woodcock. Continuing cold in April saw shorebirds slow in arriving, but 11 species were reported with some notable, including a Ruff and Reeve at Carncross Road in the NMWMA found by Wade and Melissa Rowley on 14 April, the Region's 16th record and certainly the same birds as found just outside our Region near Port Byron on 10-12 April. The Reeve was located again in the Van Dyne Spoor area on 15 April, with other sightings on 16 and 20 April back near Port Byron and finally the Ruff in nearly complete alternate plumage at Benning Marsh on 6 May. There were many excellent photos taken of these birds. Habitat was again limited and most shorebird reports were passing birds along the Lake Ontario shore or birds pausing on piers or narrow beaches. Still, 24 species were reported in May. Rarer species included: American Avocet in the NMWMA on 31 May; American Golden-Plover on 27 May; the Region's fifth spring Piping Plover at the East Spit of Braddock Bay found by Brian and Brooke Morse on 1 May and seen by many; a record high count of 27 Willets on logs and stumps in Salmon Creek behind Docksidiers on 7 May; Long-billed Dowitcher on 15 May; and Upland Sandpiper and Wilson's Phalarope, formerly regular and now sometimes missed in spring. Counts were generally not great by historical standards, but the best were: 64 Lesser Yellowlegs, 115 Dunlin, 70 Least Sandpiper, and 183 Semipalmated Sandpiper.

Moving along to the gulls and terns, a Bonaparte's Gull was reported on 1 March but no others until 27 March. A major gull event for the season was triggered by a large fish die-off, mainly gizzard shad, in Irondequoit Bay drawing at times over 10,000 large gulls to the feast. Sample numbers for several dates will be included in the species section of this report, but maxima included: 3000 Ring-billed on 3 April; 7500 Herring, 15 Iceland, 27 Lesser Black-backed, and 8 Glaucous on 8 April; 100 Great Black-backed on 4 March; and a report and photos of a **Yellow-legged/Lesser Blacked Gull** by Andy Guthrie and Tim Lenz on 8 April. In addition, there were high numbers of all the normal winter gull species across the Region in March and April and lingering on into May in small numbers. Other notable gulls were adult Little Gulls off Brown Road on 18 April and near Chimney Bluffs on 5 May, both in Wayne County, and an adult Laughing Gull at the newly constructed barrier beach island at the mouth of Braddock Bay on 25-26 May, found by Brad Carlson and Andy Guthrie and seen and photographed by several others. All the regular terns were well reported, all arriving in April at late-normal dates relative to recent history. The peak count of 38 Black Terns was in the Van Dyne Spoor area, as usual in recent years.

As usual, the non-passerine landbirds grouping provided few real highlights, though there are interesting notes. We can start with no Eurasian Collared-Dove reports this season. Their presence in the Region has been somewhat anomalous relative to increasing numbers in most areas they have invaded. We seem to only retain a few individuals around the Greenwell farm in the Town of Hamlin seen only sporadically by birders. Cuckoo numbers were good, though not unusually high. This winter's Snowy Owl invasion lingered on, with at least 13 individuals at 10 locations in March. One individual near the hawkwatch all day on 2 April was a treat for many observers. One near Retsof in Livingston County on 19 April was thought to be the last until another was reported from just south of Route 104 in the Town of Gaines, Genesee County, on 12 May. The DEC's Short-eared Owl/raptor surveys out of the Avon office found good numbers in March, tapering off in the 10 and 24 April dates. Others birding the Nations Road IBA found good numbers, with a maximum of 27 on 7 March. The usual owl roost surveys in the "Owl Woods" area along Manitou Beach Road were carried out by volunteers through Braddock Bay Raptor Research, with a summary report prepared by Jim Adams. It was a below average year for Long-eared Owl, with 20 reported between a late 28 March arrival and 1 May. Northern Saw-whet Owl numbers were even farther below average, with only two each added in March and April to the three in late February for a very low total of seven. The season was salvaged a bit by the surprise appearance of a Boreal Owl, the 18th Regional record, on 25 April, staying for the day to be observed by over 24 observers and well photographed. Common Nighthawk numbers were poor, with the maximum only 42 on 17 May. E. Whip-poor-will arrived on 28 April, and a few were heard off and on through mid-May. As usual, interesting woodpecker notes are few: nearly all the

Red-headed Woodpecker reports were from Hamlin Beach SP; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports dropped to very few in March before migrants returned in April; and there were good numbers of Northern Flicker migrants reported along the Lake Ontario shore on 24 April—62 at Hamlin Beach SP, 118 passing the BB hawkwatch, and 100 at the West Spit of Braddock Bay, plus 50 off Broadway Road in Wayne County the previous day. Wrapping up this grouping, the regular falcons were all reported in typical numbers at the hawkwatch and elsewhere for the season, with summary numbers in the species section.

Overall, the passerines continued the trend of the past several years, with essentially all expected species for the season reported and “misses” either rarities or related to timing in the various months. March started slowly, with only about six newly arriving species and some of those judgment calls vs. overwintering: Eastern Phoebe, Barn Swallow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Pipit, Field Sparrow, and Eastern Meadowlark. Numbers of half-hardy species continuing were down in this “Starvation Moon”. A surprise was a male Scarlet Tanager in a private location in Wayne County on 17 March (*fide* Dave Spier). April banding was off to a weak start, with only 897 new bands and 654 of those kinglets. Interestingly, the numbers of kinglets banded crossed over from more Golden-crowned to more Ruby-crowned from 23 to 24 April, the same dates Jim Adams noted for the apparent crossover in numbers in Oatka Creek Park. It is also fun to picture handling the 164 Ruby-crowned Kinglets banded on 27 April. Normally these comparisons are missed, as Golden-crowned Kinglets typically have mostly passed by the time the official banding season starts in mid-April; this season was delayed by weather. Another pair of interesting notes is Black-capped Chickadee at zero banded in April and only six for the season vs. 441 and 593, respectively, in 2017 and Winter Wren continuing its seesaw only opposite to the chickadees and with smaller numbers involved. Many passerines arrived at near to normal dates in April, but only 11 species of warblers were reported, where often the number is over 20, and only five individuals of three species were banded! Species often tallied in large numbers passing along the Lake Ontario shore, e.g. Blue Jay, American Crow, and American Robin, were noted in only relatively low peak numbers in both April and May. A **Western Meadowlark**, the first in the Region since 2008, was found in the NMWMA along Armitage by Joe Brin and Renee Kittleman on 14 April and seen by over 108 others by the end of that month and over 60 more in May. The bird stayed to the end of the season and well beyond and often “strayed” south across the road into Seneca County and Region 3 to the delight of the County and Regional listers. A male Yellow-headed Blackbird found by visiting birders Tony DeSantis and Angela Lambert on 4 May in the cattails and often on the lawn with other blackbirds behind restaurants at the NW corner of Irondequoit Bay stayed until 7 May and was enjoyed at close range by over 50 other observers reporting. A second male Yellow-headed Blackbird was found on Church Road in the Town of Hamlin on 19 May by Andy Guthrie.

Moving into May, we jumped right into warmer weather and the arrivals quickly caught up, with most biased toward the first quartile of their arrival date distributions, a trend since we first asked observers to note especially first observation dates for a set of 93 species beginning in 1987. Numbers generally remained low, with many observers noting “too quiet” periods scattered through time and across our geographic Region. Scarcer/rare species reported included: Worm-eating Warbler, “Lawrence’s” Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Clay-colored Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, and Yellow-headed Blackbird. For the season, BBBO banding was the lowest in the past seven years, but only slightly below two years ago, and most species totals were within one standard deviation (STD) of their averages of the past six years. Only five species varied by > 2 STD—House Wren and Ruby-crowned Kinglet up in totals and Least Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler, and Yellow-rumped Warbler down. Sparrows, which were uniformly down last year, were back up closer to average this season. For the whole season, the winter finches were missing other than small numbers of Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin.

Most of the records summarized here are from monthly downloads of eBird data totaling about 161,642 lines of records this season. The geneseebirds or western New York listserv adds on the order of about 5% to the total, and reports from banding and other studies and personal communications add additional information. With events like the Global Big Day in May, the numbers of observers contributing lists to eBird are now typically over 200 most months and exceeded 400 this May. All records add to the picture we can assemble for what occurred in the season. Interested readers can seek more details in summaries online at the hawkcount, BBBO, and RBA websites.

BRADDOCK BAY HAWKWATCH TOTALS

Species	Arrival	Max	Max Date	Total
Black Vulture	9 Apr	1	9 Apr	2
Turkey Vulture	4 Mar	2492	2 Apr	21893
Mississippi Kite	14 May	1	14 May	1
Osprey	31 Mar	17	1 May	99
Bald Eagle	6 Mar	115	31 May	801
N. Harrier	5 Mar	39	21 Apr	268
Sharp-sh. Hawk	15 Mar	355	5 May	1941
Cooper’s Hawk	1 Mar	14	31 Mar	110
N. Goshawk	9 Apr	1	9 Apr	1
Red-shld Hawk	22 Mar	107	31 Mar	250
Swainson’s Hawk	23 May	1	23 May	13
Broad-wngd Hawk	21 Apr	6237	1 May	21518
Red-tailed Hawk	4 Mar	122	31 Mar	1084
Rough-legd Hawk	1 Mar	6	31 Mar	47
GoldenEagle	19 Mar	7	24 Apr	17

Am. Kestrel	18 Mar	25	24 Apr	200
Merlin	25 Mar	6	23 Apr	26
Peregrine Falcon	22 Mar	6	14 May	16

Total including unidentified raptors: 48,276

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

b – indicate banded this season, usually at BBBO’s Kaiser-Manitou passerine banding station; **BB** – Braddock Bay, MONR; **BB-ES** – East Spit at mouth of Braddock including newly constructed barrier beach island just off spit; **BB-HW** – 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, T Perinton; MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **HB-W** – Hamlin Beach SP, West end trails; **HB-YC** – Hamlin Beach SP, Yanty Creek trails at east end; **ICW** - Island Cottage Woods, T Greece, MONR; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; **IB-S** – Irondequoit Bay south, LaSalle Landing P and nearby; **LSP** – Letchworth SP; **M** – Manitou Beach area, MONR; **MP** - Mendon Ponds P, MONR; **NHamRd** – N. Hamlin Road, T Hamlin, MONR; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma WMA, T of Savannah, WAYN; **NMWMA (AR)** – north side of Armitage Rd.; **NMWMA (CR)** – along Carncross Road east of Savannah-Spring Lake Rd.; **NMWMA (MT)** – Marten Tract off Savannah Spring L Rd; **NMWMA (MRdM)** – Morgan Rd. marshes near DEC field office; **NMWMA (VDS)** – area along Van Dyne Spoor, T Savannah, WAYN; **NMWMA (SCU)** – Sandhill Crane Unit, T Savannah, WAYN; **OB** – Ontario Beach P, Charlotte MONR; **OCP** – Oatka Creek P, MONR; **PtB** – Point Breeze, Orleans County at border with Region 1; **SalCrk** – Salmon Creek, T Greece, MONR; **Spt** – Sodus Pt, WAYN; **TCEA** – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, T Avon, LIVI; **W** – T of Webster, MONR; **WP** – Webster P.

WATERFOWL – VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: 5 Jagger Rd, T Palmyra 12 Mar (MG); TCEA 23 Mar (BCar); SalCrk 31 Mar (CW); last 6 Silver L – S WYOM 2 Apr (RSt).

Snow Goose: max 35000 T Piffard LIVI 20 Mar (DBe); 10000 Broadway & Brown Rds WAYN 25-26 Mar (W&MR); 6000 sev loc 5, 26 Mar (sev); last NMWMA (Morgan Rd) 31 May (DDo, W&MR).

Ross's Goose: 3 & max 4 Church Rd, Hamlin 4 Mar (AGu & BCar); 3 Poplar Hill Rd, Lima 25 Mar (BCar); 12 rep, 13 ind 6 loc 4-29 Mar.

Brant: arr OB 15 Apr, early; max 15 Beechwood SP WAYH 22 May.

Cackling Goose: max 26 TCEA 23 Mar (BCar); 39 rep 80 ind 21 loc all Mar; last 3 NHamRd 18 Apr (AGu).

Canada Goose: max 6000 Church Rd, Hamlin 4 Mar (TL, NC).

Mute Swan: max 80 SalCrk 27 Mar; 65 Buck Pnd G 28 Apr; 72 Buck Pnd G 12 May.

Trumpeter Swan: max 12 NMWMA 27 Apr; not as visible as some years.

Tundra Swan: max 218 T Caledonia LIVI 1 Mar (MW); 200 NMWMA (CR) 24 Mar (SB, JMcGo); last G 23 Apr.

Gadwall: max 150 NMWMA (VDS) 7 Apr, low max.

Eurasian Wigeon: 1m NMWMA (CR) 1 Mar (LL, W&MR, DWh); 1m NMWMA (Deep Muck) 6 Mar (GD); 1m NMWMA (MT) 4 Apr (W&MR); 1m N HamRd 18 Apr (AGu, NP).

Am. Wigeon: max 225 NMWMA (Deep Muck) 13 Mar; last NMWMA (MT) 22 May.

Am. Black Duck: max 35 NMWMA (VDS) 7 Apr, very low max.

Mallard: max 200 NMWMA (CR) 1 Mar, low max.

Blue-winged Teal: arr 1-5 BB area 31 Mar, late.

N. Shoveler: 28 Shore Acres Pds, H 7 May (R&SSp), high number for loc & date.

N. Pintail: max 4000 NMWMA (CR) 8 Mar (JWo), good count; last BB – ES 31 May (BCar).

Green-winged Teal: max 145 Geneseo Airfield 14 Apr, low max; NMWMA (MMRdM) 18 May.

Canvasback: last Silver L – S WYOM 28 Apr.

Redhead: max 8100 ConL 15 Mar (MW), good count.

Ring-necked Duck: max 350 NMWMA (Deep Muck) 6 Mar; last BB 17 May.

Greater Scaup: max 894 off Edgemere Dr, G 1 Apr; last BB 5 May.

Lesser Scaup: max 275 ConL 7 Apr (BriM).

Ring-necked Duck x Lesser Scaup: BB-HE 15 Mar (GL, *et al.*).

King Eider: imm m off G 17 & 18 Mar (MBa, JiM); last 1 1st win m off Edgemere Dr, G 1 Apr (JeB, CW).

Harlequin Duck: last 1 m Chimney Bluffs WAYN 11 May (MG). **Surf Scoter:** last HB 20 May.

White-winged Scoter: last HB 12 May, early dep.

Black Scoter: last off Webster 14 Apr, early dep.

Long-tailed Duck: max 1340 off Edgemere Dr, G 1 Apr (JeB, AJ); 1000 BB-ES 17 May (AGu, BCar).

Bufflehead: max 245 off Edgemere Dr, G 1 Apr (JeB, AJ, CW).

Com. Goldeneye: max 202 ConL 6 Mar; Chimney Bluffs WAYN 11 May (MG).

Red-breasted Merganser: max 760 HB 13 May, low max and late for max.

Ruddy Duck: 25 Silver L – S WYOM 2 May.

Ring-necked Pheasant: max 11 Nations Rd survey 13 May (MW), good count for recent years.

Red-throated Loon: max 27 off Edgemere Dr, G 1 Apr, low max; last off Edgemere Dr, G 30 May (JeB), late.

Com. Loon: 146 Cranberry Pd, G 21 Apr; max 577 WP lake parking area 28 Apr (RSp), *intro*; 114 WP Kanatota Lodge and W 28 Apr (RSp), *intro*.

Horned Grebe: max 458 off Edgemere Dr, G 1 Apr (JeB, AJ, CW); last SpT 14 May.

Red-necked Grebe: arr HB 1 Mar (I&WH), early; max 41 HB 2 Apr, low max; last HB 11 May.

Double-crested Cormorant: arr BB-HW 24 Mar; max 1000 IB 13 Apr (ST); 600 HB 30 May (RSp, KW).

Am. Bittern: arr BB-HW 4 Apr (RBU); T Rush MONR 6 Apr (MZ, BO), walking thru backyard, *intro*.

Least Bittern: arr Broadway Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 4 May.

Great Egret: arr SalCrk, T Parma & Cornwall Pres WAYN 30 Mar (R&SSp, JWi).

Green Heron: arr ConL 30 Mar (KC); early.

CATTLE EGRET (R2): Middle Rd, T Sodus and nearby 5 May (JWo, 9 oth obs, ph), now rare in spring.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr Webster 12 Apr (R&SSp), on Rt 104 borrow pit.

Black Vulture: first BB-HW 9 Mar; 2 HANA 8 May (MT); 2 W Walworth WAYN 8 May (MG).

Turkey Vulture: total 2390 BB-HW Mar, 79% of total birds for Mar; max 2492 BB-HW 2 Apr; 1800 Broadway Rd T Wolcott WAYN 11 Apr (W&MR).

HAWKS – LARIDS

Osprey: arr 1-3 HB-HW & nearby 31 Mar. **MISSISSIPPI KITE:** 1 BB-Frisbee Hill 14 May (GL, *et al.*).

Bald Eagle: total 30 BB Mar; 181 BB + approx 160+ other many loc Apr; 74 BB-H 28 Apr, month max; 586 BB + approx 188 other many loc May; max 115 BB-H 31 May, record high 1-day count.

N. Goshawk: Hogan Pt, G 4 Mar (JiM, LM); 1 imm T Rush 18 Mar (MZ); Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 18 Apr (W&MR); Fields Hill Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 5 May (SB, *et al.*).

Broad-winged Hawk: arr 1 T Henrietta 19 Apr (RMac); 110 BB-HW 21 Apr, 1st at hawkwatch; 5675 BB-HW 24 Apr; max 6237 BB-HW 11 May; 1 imm dark morph BB-HW 21 May (GL, *et al.*), soared overhead for good looks by all.

SWAINSON'S HAWK: 1 imm light morph BB-HW 23 May (GL, BW).

Rough-legged Hawk: last BB-H 20 May.

Golden Eagle: arr NMWMA (VDS) 11 Mar (W&MR); 6 ind 5 loc 19-31 Mar; total 12 BB-HW Mar; 8 ind 8 oth loc 11-30 Apr; BB-HW 1, 5, 19 May; Beechwood SP WAYN 9, 22 May (MG, JWo).

Virginia Rail: arr HANA 15 Apr.

Sora: HB-YC 2 Apr (RSp), Reg early.

Com. Gallinule: arr 6 NMWMA (VDS) 20 Apr; max 50 NMWMA (VDS) 29 May.

Am. Coot: max 80 NMWMA (VDS) 7 Apr.

Sandhill Crane: total 23 BB-HW 15-31 Mar; total 19+ at 5 oth loc Mar; total 26 BB-HW 1-28 Apr; 23+ ind 19+ other loc Apr; total 16 BB-HW 1-24 May; 10 ind sev oth migr loc 2-24 May; total 7 at 2 possible breeding loc May.

AM. AVOCET (R2): NMWMA (MRdM) 31 May (RP).

Black-bellied Plover: arr BB-ES 3 May; last 3-4 BB-ES 27 May.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr BB-ES 27 May (BCar, 7 oth obs), rare in spring.

Semipalmated Plover: arr Moscow Rd, H 3 May; max 33 NMWMA (MRdM) 26 May (JMcGo)

PIPING PLOVER: BB-ES 1 May (B&BM, 19 oth obs, ph), 5th Reg spring record.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr NMWMA (CR) 16 Apr.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr Geneseo Airfield 14 Apr (JK); last T Victor MONR 23 May.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr NMWMA (South Butler Unit) 30 Mar (W&MR).

Willet: arr to 27 SalCrk, G 7 May (RSp, DHo, ph, 15+ oth obs); last BB-ES 23 May (BriM).

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr NMWMA (CR) 10 Apr; max 64 T Riga MONR 3 May.

Upland Sandpiper: arr BB-HW 9 May (GL, *et al.*), only rep.

Whimbrel: arr OB 22 May (BCar); last BB-ES 26 May (BCar). **Ruddy Turnstone:** arr BB-ES 12 May (AGu, BriM).

Ruff: arr 1 m & 1 f NMWMA (CR) 14 Apr (W&MR, 13+ oth obs, ph), same birds as near Port Byron 10-12 Apr and seen later, *intro*; 1 f NMWMA (VDS) 15 Apr (SuD, BMC, AnM), *intro*.

Dunlin: arr NMWMA (CR) 8 Apr (BW, DDo); max 115 BB-ES 25 May.

Least Sandpiper: arr Hogan Pt 2 May; max 70 NMWMA (MRdM) 15 May, low max.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 1-2 2 loc H & 1 Spt 22 May; 3 oth rep.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr NMWMA (CR) & 11 Wyoming Flats 14 Apr; last Spt 23 May.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 9 H & 5 Spt 20 May; max 183 BB-ES 28 May (AGu, MG).

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr NMWMA (CR) 22 Apr; last 5 MWMA (MRdM) 15 May.

Long-billed Dowitcher: arr NMWMA (MRdM) 15 May (W&MR), rare in spring.

Wilson's Snipe: 48 NMWMA (Railroad Rd) 15 Apr; max 49 Nations Rd 17 May. arr Nations Rd 20 Mar (DBe).

Wilson's Phalarope: NMWMA (MT) 20 May (DO), only rep.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr 1 Cranberry Pd, G 1 Mar; max 82 SalCrk, G 5 Apr, low max.

Little Gull: arr 1 ad Brown Rd, T Wolcott WAYN 18 Apr (W&MR); 1 ad Chimney Bluffs WAYN 5 May (ShB, *et al.*).

LAUGHING GULL (R2): 1 ad BB-ES 25-26 May (BCar, AGu, ph, 10+ oth obs).

Ring-billed Gull: 1400 IB-S 11 Mar; max 3000 IB – Bay Front 3 Apr (JWo); 1500 IBO 9 Apr (RN); 1400 NHamRd 14 Apr (AGu);

Herring Gull: 2800 IB-S 11 Mar; 5000 IB-S 25 Mar (BriM); max 7500 IB – Bay Front 8 Apr (TL); 6500 IB – LaSalle Landing 8 Apr; 1000 HANA 1 May (DSH).

Iceland Gull: 9 IB-S 31 Mar; total 55+ ind 16 loc Mar; max 15 IB – Bay Front 8 May (AGu, TL); 118 lines in eBird many loc Apr; 6 T Riga MONR 2 May (AGu); last IB_S 6 May.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 10 T Riga MONR 28 Mar; 44+ ind 14 loc Mar; 27 IB – Bay Front 8 May (AGu, TL); 31 - max 33 T Riga MONR 11-12 Apr (BriM); 104 lines in eBird many loc Apr; 11 ind 8 loc 1-26 May.

YELLOW-LEGGED/LESSERBLACK-

BACKED GULL: IB – Bay Front 8 May (AGu, TL, ph), interesting gull.

Glaucous Gull: total 29 ind 13 loc Mar; 4 ind 4 loc Mar; 5 ind 5 loc 16-20 Apr; 8 IB – Bay Front 8 May (AGu, TL); last off Edgemere Dr, G 4 May.

Herring x Glaucous Gull: IB Newport Marina 18 Mar (TL).

Great Black-backed Gull: max 100 IB-S 18 Mar (BH).

Herring x Great Black-backed Gull: OB 15 Apr (BriM).

Caspian Tern: arr Bear Creek Harbor, T Williamson WAYN 2 Apr (W&MR); max 186 BB-ES 1 May; 170 SPt 5 May.

Black Tern: arr NMWMA (MRdM) 20 Apr (W&MR), early; BB-HW 3 May; max 38 NMWMA (VDS) 20 May, good count

Com. Tern: arr 2 NMWMA (CR) 15 Apr; max 96 PtB ORLE 5 May (AVK).

Forster's Tern: arr SPt 19 Apr; 11 Apr (MG, TM), early; 1-3 ind 4 loc 5-27 May.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: no reports.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr White Bridge Rd, T Sparta LIVI & NMWMA (AR) 14 May.

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Church Trail, G 3 May.

Snowy Owl: total 13+ ind 10 loc Mar; BB-HW 2 Apr (mob, ph), sitting in field next to hawkwatch all day; Retsof LIVI 19 Apr; last south of Rt 104, T Gaines GNE 12 May (MM-C).

Long-eared Owl: total 3 M – Owl Woods 28, 30, 31 Mar; WP 22 Apr; max 4 M – Owl Woods 22 Apr; total 16 M – Owl woods Apr; M – Owl Woods 1 May; roost count low at only 16 for the season, *intro*.

Short-eared Owl: max 27 Nations Rd 7 Mar (J&TG); total 42+ ind 8 loc Mar; DEC SEOW Survey data summarized by C. Hoh, *intro*; last BB area & Nations Rd 30 Apr.

BOREAL OWL: M – Owl Woods 25 Apr (NP, ph, 24+ oth obs), 18th Reg record.

N. Saw-whet Owl: total 2 M – Owl Woods 28, 29 Mar; Porter Rd, T Naples, ONTA 6 Apr; total 2 M – Owl Woods 24, 27 Apr; very low total of only 7 for the season in the Owl

Woods roost area, *intro*; pr Ossian State Forest LIVI 13 May.

Com. Nighthawk: arr NMWMA (MRdM) 6 May; max 42 G 17 May (KG), low max.

E. Whip-poor-will: arr M – BBBO 28 Apr (RK), typical arrival; max 5 M – Owl Woods 2 May (GL); last M – Owl Woods 17 May.

Chimney Swift: arr BB-HW 1 May; max 75 Cobbs Hill 12 May (TL).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr BB & Irondequoit 2 May; total b 27 M 4-31 May (BBBO).

Red-headed Woodpecker: nearly all rep from HB Mar & Apr; added 14 oth loc in May, all small numbers.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: singles 2 loc Mar; migr and typical numbers after 2 Apr.

N. Flicker: 50 Broadway Rd WAYN 23 Apr; big movement on 24 Apr – max 118 BB-HW, 100 BB-WS, & 62 HB.

Am. Kestrel: total 70+ ind 38+ loc Mar.

Merlin: total 25 at 21 loc Mar; 21 ind 16 loc Mar; total 13 BB-HW 1-27 Apr; total 22 at 18 oth loc Apr; total 11 BB-HW 2-18 May; 13 ind 11 other loc 2-19 May.

Peregrine Falcon: 13 ind 10 loc 3-26 Mar; 1-27 Mar; total 2 BB-HW 27, 30 Apr; 13 ind 12 oth loc Apr; total 10 BB-HW 1-25 May; 9 ind 8 oth loc 1-31 May; nesting in downtown Rochester, typical, see posts rfalconcam website.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Casey P T Ontario WAYN 9 May (JWi); Rush Oak Openings 20 May (MBe, BCar, JiM, +); Holy Sepulchre Cemetery 25 May (DDa, CG, MG, AGu, BriM); WP 25 May (CK).

E. Wood-Pewee: arr Indian Fort Pres, Geneseo 9 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Bear Creek, T Williamson WAYN & Grandview Heights, G 15 May; total b 44 M 16-31 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: arr Huckleberry Swamp WAYN 13 May.

“Trail’s” Flycatcher: arr 1b M 17 May; max b 45 M 28 May; total b 131 M 17 May thru, good number.

Alder Flycatcher: arr Harter Rd LIVI 16 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr Geneseo & South Conesus LIVI 8 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr HB-YC 24 Apr (RSp), early; total b 30 6-19 May.

E. Phoebe: arr 2 Lakeville LIVI 24 Mar (TB).

N. Shrike: 14+ ind 13 loc Mar; last BB & NMWMA (CR) 21 Apr.

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Indian Fort Pres, Geneseo & Old Duck Inn, T Galen WAYN 4 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr H 24 Apr.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr TCEA 7 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr Cumming Nature Center ONTA 2 May; total b 38 M 14–31 May.

Blue Jay: max 300 BB 5 May, very low max; total b 40 M 2–27 May, back to normal b.

Am. Crow: no large counts again this spring.

Fish Crow: more reports of birds away from the T Charlotte & G area, still mainly not far from the lakeshore, but sev reports well inland.

Purple Martin: arr NMWMA (MRdM) 10 Apr (GDa, MG).

Tree Swallow: max 500 ConL 19 Apr, low max.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr 3 BB-HW & 1 Webster 13 Apr; max 55 CIWMA 11 May.

Bank Swallow: arr North Ponds P, Webster 13 May; max 1500 IB-S 12 May (TL).

Cliff Swallow: arr SPt 16 Apr; max 15 Hemlock L P 18 May.

Barn Swallow: arr off Edgemere Dr, G 31 Mar, early; max 300 ConL 19 Apr.

Black-capped Chickadee: total b 6 M (BBBO) 1–30 May, contrasted with 593 in 2017, *intro*.

Brown Creeper: total b 38 M (BBBO) 19–30 Apr.

Winter Wren: arr BB-WS & Harter Rd, T Sparta LIVI 31 Mar; total b 16 M (BBB) 19 Apr–7 May, an “up” year, *intro*.

Marsh Wren: arr 2 CIWMA 23 Apr; max 28 NMWMA (MRdM) 12 May (AnM).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 40 Beechwood SP WAYN 16 Apr; max b 49 M (BBBO) 23 Apr; total b 236 M (BBBO) 19 Apr–7 May.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr NMWMA (VDS) 29 Mar; max b 164 M (BBBO) 27 Apr; 65 Church Trail, G 28 Apr; total b 740 M (BBBO) 18 Apr–28 May, record high spring b; last 1b M (BBBO) 28 May.

Veery: arr Cobbs Hill & HANA 4 May.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Church Trail, G 14 May; total b 13 M (BBBO) 18–28 May, low; max 4 ICW 22 May, low..

Swainson’s Thrush: arr BB-WS 2 May; max 19 HB-W 22 May (AGu); max b 26 M (BBBO) 25 May; total b 88 M (BBBO) 6–31 May.

Hermit Thrush: total b 37 M (BBBO) 23 Apr – 8 May.

Wood Thrush: arr 2 DEP 28 Apr.

Am. Robin: 400 BB-HW 31 Mar, low max; only 3 oth rep Mar & 7 oth rep Apr over 100.

Gray Catbird: arr BB-WS 23 Apr; max 36 HB-W 12 May (AGu, BriM); max b 24 M (BBBO) 24 May; total b 200 M (BBBO) 5–31 May.

Am. Pipit: arr 7 BB-HW & 1 Beatty Pt, G & 1 Burger P, G 31 Mar; max 66 H 5 May; last 8 Edgemere Dr, G 26 May.

Cedar Waxwing: max 300 BB-WS 26 May.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: max 22 NHamRd 11 Mar; last H 22 Apr.

Snow Bunting: max 85T Caledonia LIVI 14 Mar; last 2 BB-HW 31 Mar.

Ovenbird: arr HANA 27 Apr (BCad).T Bristol ONTA 27 Apr (KK), early.

Worm-eating Warbler: Chimney Bluffs WAYN 3 May (MG); Beechwood SP WAYN 4, 13 May (DDa, JWi, LC-B); rare.

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Nations Rd, Jaycox Crk, Geneseo 22 May SDa).

N. Waterthrush: arr BB-WS 23 Apr; max b 6 M (BBBO) 16 May; total b 43 M (BBBO) 28 Apr–28 May.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr Thousand Acre Swamp, T Penfield MONR 5 May (EK); T Nunda LIVI 6 May (J&SG); Tunley Rd, T Sodus WAYN 6 May (JMcGo); Beechwood SP WAYN 8, 14 May (KGa, 6 oth obs); M – Owl Woods 14, 15 May (BCar, JiM); BB-WS 15 May (MG); 1b M (BBBO) 25 May.

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 sev loc 3 May.

Golden-winged Warbler x Blue-winged Warbler: CIWMA 19 May (KC).

“Brewster’s” Warbler: arr SPt 6 May (JMcGo); Norway Rd GENE 14 May (AGu); MP 15, 16 May (STa, BCar); BB-WS 15 May (MG); .

“LAWRENCE’S” WARBLER: MP 11, 15–24 May (BCar, 8 oth obs); HB-W 12 May (AGu, BriM); rare.

Black-and-white Warbler: total b 25 1–28 May.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (R2): arr NMWMA (AR) 5–31 May (85+ obs, ph), nesting, using nest boxes, also south of road in SENE, Reg 3; CIWMA 8 May (MW).

Tennessee Warbler: arr 2 BB-WS 2 May (AK); max 20 Cobbs Hill P 21 May (DHo); total b 22 M (BBBO) 10–29 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr M (BBBO) 2 May (RK, AK); total 19 ind 15 loc 2–21 May; total b 5 M (BBBO) 9–31 May.

Nashville Warbler: arr Webster Big Field 27 Apr (AGa), early.

Mourning Warbler: total b 25 M (BBBO) 9-31 May.

Kentucky Warbler: Norway Rd GENE 14 May (RSp, DBe); Brick Schoolhouse Rd, T Sodus WAYN 20 May (R&SSp); BB-WS 21 May (MG); rare.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr CIWMA 16 Apr (KC), early; max 24 Amy's Pd WAYN 13 May (RBA field trip); max b 20 M (BBBO) 22 May; total b 139 M (BBBO) 5-31 May.

Hooded Warbler: arr CIWMA 3 May; max 60+ LSP 30 May (RSp, KW), good count.

Am. Redstart: arr 1-3 ind 6 loc 3 May; max 26 HB-W 12, 22 May (AGu, BriM); max b 51 M (BBBO) 22 May; total b 184 M (BBBO) 7-31 May.

Cape May Warbler: arr BB area 2 May; max 27 TCEA 12 May (AS), good count; last Church Trail, G 26 May.

Cerulean Warbler: arr NMWMA (VDS) 2 May (W&MR), early.

N. Parula: arr 4 loc 3 May; last BB-WS 29 May (AdM), late.

Magnolia Warbler: arr 1-2 M – Owl Woods 5 May; max 40 Church Trail, G 17 May; max b 38 M (BBBO) 26 May, low max; total b 237 M (BBBO) 8-31 May.

Yellow Warbler: arr 1-2 ind 4 loc 1 May; max 44 HB-W 12 May (AGu, BriM); max b 13 M (BBBO) 6 May, low max; total b 66 M (BBBO) 1-28 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr North Avon 24 Apr; max b 5 M (BBBO) 22 May; total b 38 M (BBBO) 3-28 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr T Gates MONR 8 May; total b 9 M (BBBO) 15-30 May, low.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 2b M (BBBO) 24 Apr; total b 68 M (BBBO) 24 Apr - 31 May.

Palm Warbler: arr North Ponds P, Webster 19 Apr (JWi); max 35 Church Trail, G 1 May (NK); max b 24 M (BBBO) 7 May; total b 52 M (BBBO) 1-14 May; last Grandview Heights, G 27 May (KGr).

Pine Warbler: arr North Rush MONR 6 Apr (NK), early.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr 2 Church Trail, G 31 Mar (AGa); max 86 HB - W 7 May (RSp); max b 15 M (BBBO) 6 May, low; total b 35 M (BBBO) 27 Apr-25 May, low.

Prairie Warbler: arr M (BBBO) 6 May (8 obs); Beechwood SP WAYN 8. 9 May (KGa, MG); 2 Bonner Rd LIVI 13 May (AS); Nations Rd, Geneseo 13 May (KT); East Rd, LSP 16

May(JG); 1b M (BBBO) 16 May; good number for relatively rare bird in Reg.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Camp Eastman, Rochester 29 Apr.

Canada Warbler: arr Church Trail, G 10 May; total b 47 M (BBBO) 15-31 May.

Wilson's Warbler: arr 2 TCEA 3 May (MW), early; max b 13 B (BBBO) 25 May; total b 95 M (BBBO) 9-30 May.

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1b M (BBBO) 14 May, only report, now locally rare.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

E. Towhee: Rochester 2 Mar (KM), overwin; arr T Canadice ONTA 8 Apr (BH).

Am. Tree Sparrow: max 150 TECA 4 Apr (MW); last BB area 6 May.

Chipping Sparrow: arr NMWMA (CR) 8 Apr.

Clay-colored Sparrow: arr North Avon LIVI 24 Apr (MW), Reg record early; Indian Fort Pres Geneseo 4 May (JK); 1-2 Cook Rd, H 6-26 May (AGu, 16+ oth obs); Nations Rd, Geneseo 7 May (TB, KC); CIWMA 11 May (TB, KC); Lakeshore Rd, T Kendall MONR 14 May (AGu).

Field Sparrow: 3 rep singles 3 loc 2-22 Mar, likely overwinter; Lakeville LIVI & TCEA 2 Apr.

Grasshopper Sparrow: arr North Avon LIVI 24 Apr.

Fox Sparrow: Ellison P, T Penfield MONR 12 Mar, overwintering; last ICW 30 Apr; no high counts reported.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Thousand Acre Swamp, T Penfield 4 May; total b 30 M (BBBO) 9-30 May.

Swamp Sparrow: max 33 CIWMA 23 May (MW), survey.

White-throated Sparrow: max 28 Isaac Gordon Pres, T Pittsford 6 May (NK); total b 102 M (BBBO) 23 Apr-29 May, low.

White-crowned Sparrow: last BB-WS 26 May, often found into June.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 75 Cobbs Hill P 12 Apr & Mt Hope Cemetery, Rochester 13 Apr.

Scarlet Tanager: 1 m private loc WAYN a7 Mar (fide DSp), very early or very rare overwin ind; arr Irondequoit 3 Apr.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 5000 NMWMA (SCU) 28 Mar (KGa).

E. Meadowlark: arr 2 H 1 Mar (AGu), early; max 10 Lakeville LIVI 17 Mar.

WESTERN MEADOWLARK: NMWMA (AR) 14 Apr thru (JBr, RK, mob, ph), first in Reg since 2008, over 168 rep, *intro*.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 1m IB – NW 4-7 May (TD, AL, 50+ oth obs, ph), intro; 1m Church Rd, H 19 May (AGu).

Rusty Blackbird: max 300 NMWMA (CR) 21 Apr (AWie, GDu); 165 BB-HW 24 Apr; May max 37 BB-WS 2 May (AGu); last Church Trail 17 May (JaG).

Com. Grackle: max 5000 NMWMA (CR) 19 Apr (TL).

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 200 Church Trail, G 12 Apr.

Orchard Oriole: arr 3 loc 2 May.

Com. Redpoll: max 11 BB-HW 29 Mar; last T Willianson WAYN 2 Apr.

Pine Siskin: monthly max: 40 WP 18 Mar (TL); 29 M – Owl Woods 23 Apr (BCar); 41 HB 1 May (AGu).