

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

David Wheeler

20 Waterbury Dr., North Syracuse, NY 13212
tigger64@aol.com

After a hot and dry summer, the Fall 2020 season started with a dry September and above average temperatures averaging 74.9 ° F, 2.7° over normal. Only 1.5" of rain fell, 2.2" less than expected. Fair or partly sunny skies were seen 23 of 30 days. October was a touch above average in temperature but very typical with 3.5" of rain and only 14 of 31 days fair or partly sunny. Fog was reported more than half the days, at 18. Typical conditions didn't last long though. November average highs of 55.7° were a whopping 7.3° above average. Precipitation, both rain and snow, was substantially below average. The season inherited dry conditions and low water levels from summer. Both Sandy Pond and Delta Lake had dry areas not seen in years, the Carl Island shoal spreading to nearly the south spit at Sandy and Delta parched as far west as the state park. More shoreline emerged at Onondaga Lake but because it is part of the regulated canal system no large mud flats formed. Ditto for Oneida Lake, though the Sylvan and Verona beach areas were more exposed than normal. Fair Haven's West Barrier Bar continued to have a sandy edge, a situation almost unimaginable in high-water years.

Fall 2020 was an absolutely epic season for rarities, scarce passage migrants, shorebirds, and winter finches, finishing **30 species** above the recent 10 year average and even besting Spring 2020 by 11 species! Andrea Burke found a **Pink-footed Goose** at the Old Fly Marsh preserve near Fabius on 15 November but before word got out it was found independently by Drew Weber. The bird lingered to 21 November and was twitched by many. It was a second Regional record and first for Onondaga County. Attention to spots on the way to Fabius yielded a Ross's Goose for Robert and Rita Reed at the ponds in Tully. This bird also stayed long enough for others to see, while in the Utica area Elizabeth

Frascatore observed one on 10 November. Brant and dabbling duck numbers were unremarkable. While lakewatching on 2 November David Wheeler counted six King Eiders heading west. Three were subsequently found close in at Fair Haven. John Germain photographed a juvenile Harlequin Duck on the west breakwall there on 11 September, an unexpectedly early date for the species but perhaps an annual occurrence as young birds disperse.

The **Eurasian Collared-Dove** in Rome continued from late August and was last seen on 6 September. The bird had been present for several months and lack of continued observer effort may explain the dearth of reports. In late November hummingbird feeders still active at homes in the Cold Springs area southeast of Baldwinsville attracted an immature female **Rufous Hummingbird**. The bird's presence eventually became known to the birding community and more details will be given in the next report. How long would it stay?

The presence of excellent shorebird habitat at Sandy Pond did not disappoint. Matt Brown made daily trips to the Carl Island shoal as it grew throughout the season and found most of the species expected and associated with the Lake Ontario shoreline. Highlights include Whimbrel on 10 and 17 September, nine Hudsonian Godwits on the 29th (lesser numbers were seen on numerous days from mid to late September), and as many as four Red Knots seen on various dates also in September. Stilt Sandpiper, like the species above, is often missed in the Region, but this year was found at Onondaga Lake early in the month. Brown contributed two sightings from Sandy Pond. While lakewatching on 2 November David Wheeler saw four Purple Sandpipers traveling west with groups of Dunlin. Gregg Dashnau found three at Sunset Bay Park on 24 November, an unusual location for the species. Single birds were seen at the more expected Fair Haven location. Always elusive, Buff-breasted Sandpiper was found near Skaneateles by Drew Weber while Gary Chapin found one near Hinckley (Herkimer County), and Brown added one for Sandy Pond. All three locations are unusual. Wheeler found **Western Sandpiper** at Fair Haven on 3 and 13 September, while Brown found them at Sandy on 16 and 17 September. While leaving the pond together on 10 September, Brown and Wheeler were delighted when a **Red Phalarope** landed near their boat and began spinning. Two more were seen at Derby Hill on each of two dates later in the season. Brown added Red-necked Phalarope to his Sandy Pond list with two on 12 September and another on the 17th.

Meanwhile Delta Lake was so dry and the flats so extensive that wet edge habitat was hard to find and mostly distant and unreachable. Shorebird numbers were consequently disappointing with none of the large numbers expected of the spot in good years. Delta's 'sweet spot' of mud and observer distance likely came before the peak of fall migration, a very unusual occurrence. Bill Purcell saw a Whimbrel on 1 September and Gary Chapin contributed the Region's only Long-billed Dowitcher on 22 September. Distance and heat shimmer made flocks of peeps unidentifiable while the lake bottom was too dry for shorebirds but not firm enough for walking. Some muddy edges emerged along the Onondaga Lake west shore but were insufficient to attract large numbers of birds. Often reliable farm fields such as those on Ditch Bank Road were either parched or planted.

The Derby Hill lakewatch seemed very average but still produced all three jaeger species. Assembled observers agreed on a Long-tailed Jaeger on 7 October, while David Wheeler was there at the right time on 2 November to see a Pomarine Jaeger and four Black-legged Kittiwakes. Jay McGowan and Livia Santana saw one the next day at Fair Haven. Meanwhile at the relatively cozy confines of Onondaga Lake, a **Sabine's Gull** was found on 31 October by Gregg Dashnau, Fred Leff, and Tony Carapella. The bird attracted 61 birders from all over the state during its four day stay, and was often very close and even

walking around on land near the amphitheatre. Onondaga Lake had previously hosted a Sabine's Gull on 18 September 1980. Drew Weber, Sarah Dzielski, and Nick Bonomo saw another Sabine's on 14 November from Derby Hill, a traditional location where it has been seen 2-3 times per decade during lakewatches. Matt Brown found the only Little Gull of the season on 29 October and 6-7 November at Sandy Pond. Among big numbers of Ring-billed Gulls at Ditch Bank Road Gregg Dashnau found a **Franklin's Gull** on 17 November. The spot had hosted a first county record a few months earlier in June. Same bird returning? Mickey Scilingo found a Forster's Tern on Oneida Lake from Constantia on 1 September and Dashnau saw two at Fair Haven on 27 October. Last but not least in seabird highlights, Dashnau observed a second Regional record **Magnificent Frigatebird** from the east/west breakwall at Fair Haven on 27 October. The bird was leaving Little Sodus Bay and flew up the channel into Lake Ontario, not to be seen again. Like several other prior sightings of the species in upstate New York, the encounter was not related to a hurricane passage in the traditional sense where the storm veers inland along the mid-Atlantic states and passes west of the Region. Was its presence weather-related nonetheless? No extreme conditions were noted prior. Is the species a regular fall visitor to the Great Lakes without weather assist? Does it get here via the Mississippi Valley or Atlantic coast?

Two **American White Pelicans** found on Tuscarora Lake the last day of the prior period continued on 1 September but were not seen after. A Great Egret was present at Onondaga Lake throughout much of the period and was still there on 28 November, practically a winter record! Drew Weber found an immature **Glossy/White-faced Ibis** there on 11 October. Difficulty in separating the two in fall requires the bird to be considered unknown as to species. A discussion of this matter is contained in Kenn Kaufman's classic *Advanced Birding* (Peterson Field Guides). It stayed at least eight days providing good opportunity for study with various opinions and birder frustration over its identity. Reports of Black Vulture came from Little Falls and Fayetteville, two intermittent but expected locations. Golden Eagle was seen migrating from four locations, while both Long-eared and Short-eared Owl were reported.

Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen at six locations in September. Northern Shrike was reported at 12 different locations, a good showing for our Region. Mickey Scilingo's annual Blue Jay watch along Oneida Lake's north shore tallied an amazing 8,040 birds migrating on 22 September, plus 147 Black-capped Chickadees on 26 September. Over a 12 day period spanning 15-27 September, Scilingo counted a total of 31,073 Blue Jays, his best in years. Such a big flight foretold the movement of other irruptives, as seen below. Five Philadelphia Vireos at Three Rivers was a good count. On 14 November, Dave Baldrini observed a **Varied Thrush** in Constantia but the bird didn't stay long. The sighting is the second for Oswego County and fourth overall for Region 5. It is also the first for the Region in fall.

It was to be a great year for winter irruptives with all the expected species represented. Evening Grosbeaks arrived on 9 October and were soon being spotted throughout the Region rather than only in the southern highlands and Herkimer County. By the end of the period the movement was being considered the strongest in a decade. Pine Siskins migrated during the usual mid-October-mid-November timeframe in substantial numbers. Redpolls soon followed and large flocks were spotted throughout the Region in November. Careful looking at redpoll flocks yielded the expected Hoary. **Pine Grosbeak** hasn't been seen in the area for years but soon showed in small numbers, the first being noted at Onondaga Lake Park's west shore on 3 November. A few were seen through the month but numbers were less than hoped for. Red Crossbills continued at the Morgan Hill State Forest spot on Shackham Road and were reported from several other locations. A few White-winged

joined them on 9 October and on 25 October 12 were seen at Fair Haven. Was a huge year for them in the making? Bohemian Waxwing was first spotted on 24 November and more soon followed with 15 seen by Kevin Topping at his preserve near Salisbury in Herkimer County. In the past, Bohemians sometimes outnumbered Cedars. Would that happen this winter? Purple Finch flocks greatly exceeded those reported last fall both in the Dolgeville area and in the southern highlands where exceptional observer effort at the Shackham Road crossbill spot yielded excellent numbers. The species was not particularly abundant elsewhere, however, as it prefers upland areas to the Lake Ontario plain. American Goldfinch flocks were larger than usual with an impressive 450 estimated at the southwest corner of Onondaga Lake on 26 October. Many substantial groups were reported. Last but not least, Red-breasted Nuthatches were also seen in larger numbers than usual and also benefited from increased birder effort in the southern highlands. In a mile's distance on Shackham Road, 27 were counted on 22 November. How would numbers at this location compare in years when it received little attention?

Clay-colored Sparrow was reported only once, typical for fall when a non-singing bird is inconspicuous. Chris Spagnoli found one in Manlius on 18 October. Chris Wood located a **Nelson's Sparrow** at Howland Island on 10 October, a great find for the Region though a logical place given the species' habitat preference. A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was described by Iliana Dafeo from the Cedarvale area of South Onondaga on 6 September. Golden-winged Warbler is scarce in the Region and two reports of seemingly pure birds were received. Michael Gruver found one near Point Rock (Oneida County) on 3 September while Gary Meyers spotted one on the 9th. Orange-crowned Warbler was reliable at Onondaga Lake Park's west shore and seen a few other places as well. Kevin Topping contributed a **Connecticut Warbler** on 13 September from Herkimer County while Steve Schwab found one on 3 October in Elbridge. One of the Region's scarcest passage migrants, both birds were seen well. A very late Yellow Warbler was reported on 31 October from Onondaga Lake Park while a Blackburnian lingered until the 24th. Last but not least, Josh Stasik found a **Yellow-throated Warbler** on 8 September in Marcellus.

This season a total of 265 species and one hybrid was reported, which is an incredible 30 species (!) above the recent 10-year average for the season and Region. Highlights included: Ross's Goose, **Pink-footed Goose**, Greater White-fronted Goose, King Eider, Harlequin Duck, **Eurasian Collared-Dove**, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Purple Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, **Western Sandpiper**, **Long-billed Dowitcher**, Red-necked Phalarope, **Red Phalarope**, Long-tailed Jaeger, **Sabine's Gull**, Little Gull, **Franklin's Gull**, Forster's Tern, **Magnificent Frigatebird**, American White Pelican, **Glossy/White-faced Ibis**, Black Vulture, **Varied Thrush**, Bohemian Waxwing, **Pine Grosbeak**, Hoary Redpoll, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, **Nelson's Sparrow**, **Yellow-breasted Chat**, **Connecticut Warbler**, and **Yellow-throated Warbler**.

Fall 2020 produced 90,906 eBird records for Region 5 (twice the number compared to fall 2019) and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v5.5. Reports were contributed by 498 people, versus 313 for fall 2019.

CONTRIBUTORS

Carol Adams, Dennis Anderson, Faith Baker, David Baldrini (DBa), Sue Boettger, Carla Bregman, David Bohrer, Nick Bonomo (NB), Joseph Brin, Matthew Brown (MB), Ken Burdick, Andrea Burke (AB), Mark Burns (MBu), Lori Burritt, Tony Carapella (TC), Bruce Carpenter, Bernie Carr, Jerry Case, Gary Chapin (GC), Larry Chen, Richard Cohen, Jeremy Collison, Karl Curtis, Iliana Dafeo (ID), Gregg Dashnau (GD), Deborah Dohne,

Sarah Dzielski (SD), Kaye Fenlon, Elizabeth Frascatore (EF), John Germain (JG), Barbara Gordon (BGo), Bill Gruenbaum, Michael Gruver (MG), Barbara & Larry Hall, Sam Heinrich (SH), Tyler Hodges, Harmon Hoff, Michael Howell (MHo), Mike Hudson (MHu), John Killiany (JK), Renee Kittleman, Alison Kocak, Christine Lamont, Gary Lee, Fred Leff (FL), Beverly Levreault, Jason Lusier, Doug Mason, Kevin McGann (KM), Jay McGowan (JM), Tom McKay, Gary Meyers (GM), John Moore, Wilma Mount, David Nash, Aidan Perkins, Matt Perry, Scott Peterson, John Pumilio, Bill Purcell (BP), Robert & Rita Reed (RRR), Amanda Relyea, Paul Richardson, Carter Riley, Santos Rodriguez, Linda Salter, Livia Santana (LS), Steve Schwab (SS), Mickey Scilingo (MS), Ida Sheppard, Tony Shrimpton, Kent Skaggs (KS), Chris Spagnoli (CS), Josh Stasik (JS), Rick Stevens, Faith Thompson, Judy Thurber, Kevin Topping (KT), Sasha Torman, Andrew Van Norstrand, Matt Voelker, Drew Weber (DWe), David Wheeler (DWh), Terry White, Robert Whitman, Robert G. Williams III, Chris Wood (CW), Judy Wright, Matt Young (MY).

ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **BRH** – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **BW** – Baltimore Woods Nature Center; **CM** – Clay Marsh, Clay; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego Ri, Indian Pt, L Neatahwanta **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HF** – Highland Forest CP; **HI** – Howland Island WMA, CAYU; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area; **L Ont** – L Ontario; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison County Landfill; **MexPt** – Mexico Pt SP; **MHSF** – Morgan Hill State Forest; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Road Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L & Onondaga L P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **PPt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson Ri P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skane** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TNP** – Tuscarora Nature P, MADI; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: arr 2 BRH 11 Sep; max 280 SP 22 Nov.
Ross's Goose: Utica 10 Nov (EF); Tully 21-24 Nov (RRR, mob, ph).
PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: Fabius 15-21 Nov (AB, DWe, mob, ph), 1st county & 2nd Reg rec.
Brant: arr DH 30 Sep; 350 OSP 10 Oct; max 713 DH 24 Oct; groups Oct, singles Nov.
Cackling Goose: arr OSP 3 Oct; 2 Van Buren

& Fulton 27 Oct; 3 OnonL 24 Nov; max 8 Syr 24 Nov, migrating.

Canada Goose: max 3000 WP; large flocks mid Oct thru.

Mute Swan: max 73 FH; small nums typ locs incl SP, OnonL.

Trumpeter Swan: max 4 FH & vicinity Nov & HI 19 Sep; only locs.

Tundra Swan: arr 2 WP 16 Oct; max 173 Const 14 Nov.

Wood Duck: max 45 DL 1 Sep; peak Sep/early Oct; small nums thru.

Blue-winged Teal: max 54 SP 3 Sep; last OnonL 19 Nov; most gone by late Oct.

Northern Shoveler: max 19 FH 27 Nov.

Gadwall: arr SP 9 Sep; max 140 FH 3, 21 Nov.

American Wigeon: max 450 FH 24 Oct.

Mallard: 400 SP 21 Nov; max 518 FH 21 Nov.

American Black Duck: max 74 DH 24 Oct.

Northern Pintail: max 95 DH 24 Oct.

Green-winged Teal: max 88 DH 24 Oct.

Canvasback: arr 2 FH 8 Nov; max 14 FH 11 Nov; 8 OswH 14 Nov; only reps.

Redhead: arr 2 OLP 1 Oct; max 70 OnonL 29 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: 740 Dutcher Pond, Const 8 Nov; max 850 WP 15 Nov; best nums mid Oct thru.

Greater Scaup: arr SP 16 Sep; max 81 PPt 28 Oct.

Lesser Scaup: arr FH 17 Sep; max 95 FH 27 Nov.

Greater/Lesser Scaup: max 600 OneiL 31 Oct.

King Eider: arr & max 6 DH 2 Nov (DWh); 3 FH 3-7 Nov (mob); only reps.

Harlequin Duck: FH 11 Sep (JG, ph), unusually early; only rep.

Surf Scoter: arr DH 30 Sep; max 6 SP 8 Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr 6 FH 5 Oct; max 120 SP 8 Nov.

Black Scoter: arr 2 PPt 19 Oct; max 185 SP 8 Nov, exc count.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 3 FH 17 Oct; max est 1000 SP 22, 24 Nov.

Bufflehead: arr 2 FH 11 Oct; max 300 OnonL 31 Oct, exc count.

Common Goldeneye: arr MPSP 26 Sep; max 125 OneiL 5 Nov.

Hooded Merganser: 137 Otisco L 28 Nov; max est 200 BLNC 28 Nov.

Common Merganser: 150 SVB 11 Nov; max est 200 BLNC 28 Nov.

Red-breasted Merganser: est 500 FH 25 Nov; max est 600 DH 31 Oct.

Ruddy Duck: arr 6 Fulton 29 Sep; 45 WP 30 Oct; max 52 BLNC 22 Oct.

Ring-necked Pheasant: typ nums & locs.

Ruffed Grouse: typ nums & locs.

Wild Turkey: typ nums & locs.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 23 FH 29 Sep.

Horned Grebe: arr 3 WP 2 Oct; max 17 FH 27 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: arr DH 7 Oct; max 4 FH 3 Nov.

Rock Pigeon: typ nums & locs.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: Rome 1-6 Sep (mob), continuing from prev period.

Mourning Dove: typ nums & locs; max 150 Bville 12 Oct.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: singles 8 locs; last Marcellus 26 Sep.

Black-billed Cuckoo: CM 9 Sep; Oneida 27 Sep; only reps.

Common Nighthawk: max 9 Syr 9 Sep; last FH 17 Sep, hit by car.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: no reps (typical).

Chimney Swift: max 3 Const 6 Sep; last HI 27 Sep; few sightings, low nums.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 8 Elbridge 9 Sep; last Fabius 26 Sep.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: imm f Bville starting late Nov thru (BGo, mob).

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: singles 6 locs; last Pulaski 24 Oct.

Sora: MSI 2 Sep; HI 5, 19 Sep; last OLP 11 Oct.

Common Gallinule: max 17 OnonL 13 Sep; last OnonL 9 Nov.

American Coot: 40 OnonL 27 Nov, good num; 200 FH 3 Nov, exc num; best counts mid Oct thru.

Sandhill Crane: max 3 HI 5 Sep; 2 DB 15 Sep; 2 HI 27 Sep; HI 12 Oct; Waterville 27-30 Oct; 2 Syr 24 Nov, flyover; only reps.

Black-bellied Plover: 10-20 SP Oct; max 23 DL 14 Oct.

American Golden-Plover: max 2 DL 24 Sep & SP 29 Sep & Remsen 21 Sep; last SP 29 Oct (MB).

Semipalmated Plover: 18 SP 3, 17 Sep; max 23 Hinckley 9 Sep; last SP 11 Nov.

Killdeer: max 80 BRH 6 Oct.

Upland Sandpiper: no reps.

Whimbrel: DL 1 Sep (BP); SP 10 Sep (MB); 3 SP 17 Sep (MB); only reps.

Hudsonian Godwit: 5 SP 17 Sep (MB); max 9 SP 29 Sep (MB); 1-3 var dates SP Oct; last SP 3 Oct (MB).

Ruddy Turnstone: FH 4, 14 Sep (DWh) & 1 Oct (DWh); SP 10 Sep; DL 11 Sep (KS); OswH 17 Sep (GD); only reps.

Red Knot: max 4 SP 3, 4 Sep (MB); 1-3 SP 17, 18 Sep (MB); last 3 19 Sep (MB).

Stilt Sandpiper: OLP 4, 8 Sep (mob); 1 SP 12 Sep (MB); 2 SP 17 Sep (MB); only reps.

Sanderling: 21 FH 3 Sep (DWh); max 143 SP 17 Sep (MB); good flocks SP var dates Sep, singles/small groups var locs Sep - Oct; 13 SP

11 Nov (MB) last 2 SP 22 Nov (MB).

Dunlin: arr Marcellus 10 Sep; max 203 SP 11 Nov; last 3 FH 13 Nov.

Purple Sandpiper: arr & max 4 DH 2 Nov (DWh, ph); 3 SBP 24 Nov (GD); last 2 FH 27 Nov (GD); singles FH var dates Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: DL 1, 2 Sep; SP 9, 10 Sep; MSI 26 Sep; only reps.

Least Sandpiper: max 22 DL 26 Sep; small nums through Sep; last Van Buren 11 Oct.

White-rumped Sandpiper: max 5 SP 7 Nov; last 2 SP 14 Nov.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Skan 3, 4 Sep (DWe); Hinckley 9 Sep, unusual loc (GC); SP 12 Sep (MB).

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 21 SP 17 Sep; last HI 17 Sep.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 68 SP 17 Sep; last SP 23 Oct.

WESTERN SANDPIPER: FH 3 Sep (DWh, ph) & 13 Sep (DWh, ph); 1-2 SP 16, 17 Sep (MB, ph); SP 19 Sep (JM, LS, ph).

Short-billed Dowitcher: DL (KS) & SP (MB) 11 Sep; only reps.

Long-billed Dowitcher: DL 22 Sep (GC); only rep.

American Woodcock: 1-2 var locs Sep-Oct; max 3 TR 25 Oct; last Jville 12 Nov.

Wilson's Snipe: 10 reps singles typ locs; max 3 HI 12 Sep; last OLP 3 Nov.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 2 var locs Sep, poor count; singles var locs Sep; last Fulton 4-14 Nov (GD), very late but possibly injured.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 9 Fulton 3 Sep; last Fulton 4 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 25 HI 17 Oct; last 2 Weatherby Pond HERK 28 Oct.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 15 DL 13, 26 Sep; last FH 27 Nov.

Wilson's Phalarope: no reps.

Red-necked Phalarope: 2 SP 12 Sep (MB); SP 17 Sep (MB, DWh); only reps.

Red Phalarope: SP 10 Sep (MB, DWh); 2 DH 7 Oct (DWh, GD, BP); 2 DH 2 Nov (DWh); only reps.

Pomarine Jaeger: DH 2 Nov (DWh).

Parasitic Jaeger: FH 30 Sep (DWh) & 24 Oct (JM, LS); SNC 17 Oct (CW); max 3 DH 7 Oct (DWh, mob); last DH 2 Nov (mob).

Long-tailed Jaeger: DH 7 Oct (mob).

Black-legged Kittiwake: 4 DH 2 Nov (DWh); FH 3 Nov (JM, LS).

SABINE'S GULL (R5): OnonL 31 Oct – 3 Nov (GD, FL, TC); DH 14 Nov (DWe, SD, NB); 2nd county rec and 3rd away from DH.

Bonaparte's Gull: 126 SP 6 Nov; 132 DH 16

Nov; max 180 OSP 1 Oct.

Little Gull: SP 29 Oct, 6-7 Nov (MB).

FRANKLIN'S GULL (R5): DB 17 Nov (GD, ph).

Ring-billed Gull: max est 6000 OLP 29 Nov; typ nums at usual locs.

Herring Gull: max 416 SP 3 Nov.

Iceland Gull: arr DH 2 Nov; max 2 DB 15 Nov; singles typ locs.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: SVB 15 Sep; FH 1 Oct; 2 DH 2 Nov; DB 15, 22, 29 Nov; only reps.

Glaucous Gull: arr FH 6 Nov; SP 14 Nov; DB 15 Nov; SP 20 Nov; DB 22 Nov; only reps.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 45 SVB 10 Sep.

Caspian Tern: 20 OnonL 4 Sep; max 73 SP 3 Sep; 20-55 SP var dates early Sep; 6 FH 1 Oct; last FH 2 Oct.

Black Tern: no reps.

Common Tern: 10 OnonL 18 Sep; max 23 OSP 1 Oct; lower nums and earlier departure from OnonL.

Forster's Tern: Const 1 Sep (MS); 2 FH 27 Oct (GD); only reps.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Red-throated Loon: arr OnonL 13 Oct; max 8 OnonL 27 Nov.

Common Loon: 76 OneiL 30 Oct; max 307 DH 16 Nov.

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: FH 27 Oct (GD, ph), 1st county & 2nd Reg rec, *intro*.

Double-crested Cormorant: max est 1500 OneiL 27 Sep & OnonL 26 Sep.

American White Pelican: 2 Tuscarora L MADI 1 Sep (mob), cont from prev per.

American Bittern: Amboy 1 Sep; TR 6 Sep; Cazenovia 14 Oct; only reps.

Least Bittern: no reps.

Great Blue Heron: max 25 SVB 23 Sep.

Great Egret: 1-2 var locs Sep-Oct; max 9 DL 5 Sep; last OLP 28 Nov, late.

Green Heron: max 4 HI 9 Sep & Syr 17 Sep; last Van Buren 7 Oct.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Syr 6 Sep; 2 OLC 15 Sep; OLC 25 Sep; SP 19 Sep; FH 14 Oct.

GLOSSY/WHITE-FACED IBIS: imm OLP 11-19 Oct (DWe, mob), *intro*.

Black Vulture: 3 Little Falls 4 Sep; 4 Little Falls 12 Oct (MHu); Fayetteville 21 Nov (SH); 2 Little Falls 28 Nov (KT).

Turkey Vulture: max 982 BRH 6 Oct.

Osprey: max 8 BRH 11 Sep; OSP 25-30 Oct,

late; last Manlius 5 Nov, late.

Golden Eagle: arr BRH 25 Oct (BP); BLNC 28 Oct (GD); Syr 30 Oct (DWe); SH 5, 14, 28 Nov.

Northern Harrier: max 7 SP 27 Sep, migrating.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 15 BRH 17 Sep.

Cooper's Hawk: max 4 Const 21 Sep.

Northern Goshawk: ADK 12 Sep, 8 Nov; DH 10, 14 Nov; only reps.

Bald Eagle: max 18 BRH 11 Sep; singles, small nums daily in Reg.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 11 OLP 25 Oct, migrating; last

Broad-winged Hawk: max 136 BRH 17 Sep; Syr 8 Oct; last Syr 30 Oct, very late.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 81 BRH 30 Oct.

Rough-legged Hawk: arr 2 FH 27 Oct; max 4 DH 14 Nov; singles var locs Nov.

Eastern Screech-Owl: max 4 HI 10 Oct.

Great Horned Owl: max 4 HI 19 Sep.

Snowy Owl: arr FH 5 Nov; 2 OshW 21 Nov; FH 21 Nov; SP 22 Nov.

Barred Owl: max 3 Erieville 12 Sep.

Long-eared Owl: Fabius 29 Nov (CS); only rep.

Short-eared Owl: arr OLP 19 Oct; TR 23 Oct; FH 29 Oct; Oneida 14-29 Nov; only reps.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Remsen 3 Nov; Jamesville 22 Nov; only reps.

Belted Kingfisher: max 6 SP 19 Sep.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Elbridge 20 Nov; scattered reps mostly known locs.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 6 Salisbury 26 Sep.

Black-backed Woodpecker: no reps.

Downy Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.

Hairy Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.

Northern Flicker: max 10 Rome 7 Oct; singles thru.

Pileated Woodpecker: typ nums throughout period & reg.

American Kestrel: max 10 BRH 17 Sep; family groups Sep, singles thru.

Merlin: max 2 var locs/dates; singles var locs thru.

Peregrine Falcon: singles/pairs expected locs thru.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 RRP 6 Sep;

last Williamstown 30 Sep.

Eastern Kingbird: max 5 Nelson 3 Sep; last DeWitt 18 Sep.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 6 singles in Sep; last Cazenovia 20 Sep.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 12 BW 6 Sep; last OakC 9 Oct.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: singles var locs Sep; last Salisbury 1 Oct.

Acadian Flycatcher: no reps.

Alder Flycatcher: no reps.

Willow Flycatcher: TR 3 Sep; only rep.

Least Flycatcher: max 3 Fabius 12 Sep; 1-2 var locs Sep; last OSP 1 Oct.

empidonax sp: small nums reported Sep.

Eastern Phoebe: max 9 Marcellus 26 Sep; last Elbridge 12 Nov.

Northern Shrike: arr TR 26 Oct; singles rep 12 locs.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 2 var locs Sep; last Williamstown 30 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 FH 5 Oct & TR 19 Sep & Salisbury 26 Sep; last OLP 31 Oct.

Philadelphian Vireo: max 5 TR 19 Sep, good num; last 2 OSP 1 Oct.

Warbling Vireo: max 5 SP 11 Sep & OLP 7 Sep; last HI 10 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 28 GLSP 22 Sep; last OakC 19 Oct.

Canada Jay: no reps.

Blue Jay: max 8040 Const 22 Sep (MS), migrating, 31,073 counted in 12 days.

American Crow: max est 5000 Fabius 21 Nov; est 2000 Syr Nov roost flights.

Fish Crow: ; reps from known locs incl Bville, Phoenix, Rome, & OnonL.

Common Raven: max 14 Const 10 Nov; many reps thru.

Horned Lark: max 30 Richfield Springs 30 Oct; small flocks at typ locs thru.

Purple Martin: max 5 HI 19 Sep; small nums 4 other reps.

Tree Swallow: max 250 HI 5 Sep; last 25 HI 17 Oct; small flocks Sep – mid Oct.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 60 Port Byron 13 Sep; last 2 HI 3 Oct; 2 other reps.

Bank Swallow: max 5 Port Byron 13 Sep; last HI 19 Sep; singles 3 other locs.

Cliff Swallow: OLP 16 Sep; only rep.

Barn Swallow: max 50 Fabius 2 Sep; last HI 10 Oct; small nums var locs Sep.

Black-capped Chickadee: 119 Const 25 Sep (MS), migrating; max 147 Const 26 Sep (MS), migrating; else typ nums throughout period & reg.

Boreal Chickadee: no reps.
Tufted Titmouse: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 27 MHSF 22 Nov, good nums at loc thru & throughout Reg.
White-breasted Nuthatch: typ nums throughout period & Reg.
Brown Creeper: max 5 FH 5 Oct; typ nums throughout period & Reg.
House Wren: max 10 TR 19 Sep; last 3 TR 25 Oct, late.
Winter Wren: 5 FH 5 Oct; max 9 HI 10 Oct; small nums thru.
Sedge Wren: no reps.
Marsh Wren: max 7 HI 19 Sep; small nums typ locs.
Carolina Wren: typ nums throughout period & reg.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 2 var locs early Sep; last Verona 9 Oct, late.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 40 FH 4 Oct; max 55 OakC 21 Oct; typ nums thru.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Erieville 11 Sep; max 40 FH 4 Oct & SP 3 Oct.
Eastern Bluebird: max 47 Const 3 Nov, migrating; typ locs & nums.
Veery: max 5 ADK 11 Sep; last Williamstown 27 Sep.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr RRP 3 Sep; max 5 Clay by NFC 2 Oct; last Kirkville 25 Oct, late.
Swainson's Thrush: max 22 ADK 11 Sep; last Const 15 Oct.
Hermit Thrush: max 7 OakC 12 Oct.
Wood Thrush: max 4 HI 19 Sep; last Kirkland 2 Oct.
American Robin: max 1796 Const 7 Nov, migrating.
VARIED THRUSH: Const 14 Nov (DBa), 4th Reg rec & 1st for season, 2nd county rec.
Gray Catbird: max 30 North Syr 22 Sep.
Brown Thrasher: max 6 BLNC 17 Sep; last Hamilton 10 Nov.
Northern Mockingbird: typ nums/locs.
European Starling: typical flocks widespread.
Bohemian Waxwing: arr 2 Scriba 24 Nov (GD); 15 Salisbury 26-27 Nov (KT); max 22 Salisbury 29 Nov (KT); 2 other reps.
Cedar Waxwing: max 150 Scriba 14 Nov.
House Sparrow: typ nums throughout period & reg.
American Pipit: arr 8 SP 11 Sep; max 200 Bville 12 Oct, good num; last 3 SP 26 Nov; good nums rep at typ locs.
Evening Grosbeak: arr Salisbury 9 Oct; max 34 Dolge 1 Nov; strong irruption year, good nums var locs throughout Reg; *intro*.

PINE GROSBEEK (R5): arr OLP 3 Nov (mob); max 5 New Woodstock 25 Nov (MY) & Bville 18 Nov (KM); 1-2 at 6 other locs; *intro*.
House Finch: max 34 TR 22 Oct; typ nums throughout period & reg.
Purple Finch: max 67 MHSF 3 Oct; good num typ locs SH & HERK.
Common Redpoll: arr 2 Central Square 17 Oct; 152 SP 7 Nov; max 300 T Fenner 28 Nov; good nums var locs throughout Reg.
Hoary Redpoll: OLP 4 Nov thru (mob); OSP 13 Nov (SD, NB); DB 28 Nov (MBu); 2 T Fenner 28 Nov (DWe).
Red Crossbill: max 125 MHSF 22 Nov, exc count, flocks continuing at loc; reps several other locs.
White-winged Crossbill: arr MHSF 9 Oct (MY); max 12 MHSF 25 Oct (SD) & FH 7 Nov (GD); reps several other locs.
Pine Siskin: max 151 MHSF 11 Oct; good nums Oct-mid Nov throughout Reg, smaller nums thereafter.
American Goldfinch: max 450 OLP 26 Oct, exc num; good nums thru Reg & period.
Lapland Longspur: arr FH 4 Oct (DWh); max 4 DL 9 Oct (KS); SP 14 Oct (MB); 1-2 at 4 other locs.
Snow Bunting: arr 3 FH 17 Oct; max 209 SP 6 Nov.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 10 GB 1 Oct; last Fabius 17 Nov.
American Tree Sparrow: arr TR 22 Oct; max 35 OLP 28 Nov.
Chipping Sparrow: max 30 OakC 29 Sep; last Elbridge 19 Nov; small nums into mid Nov at feeders.
Clay-colored Sparrow: Manlius 18 Oct (CS); only rep.
Field Sparrow: max 8 Syr 20 Sep.
Vesper Sparrow: max 2 BRH 23, 24, 29 Oct; singles 7 other locs.
Savannah Sparrow: max 3 OLP 8, 21 Oct; last OLP 31 Oct.
Grasshopper Sparrow: no reps.
NELSON'S SPARROW (R5): HI 10 Oct (CW), 14th Reg rec, 3rd for loc.
Fox Sparrow: arr Williamstown 5 Oct; 12 TR 26 Oct; max 13 WMonroe 27 Oct; last Elbridge 26 Nov.
Song Sparrow: 40 HI 10 Oct & OLP 6 Oct; max 52 TR 3 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Erieville 11 Sep; max 5 OLP 5, 6, 9 Sep & TR 10 Sep; last OLP 12

Nov, late.

Swamp Sparrow: max 46 HI 10 Oct.

White-throated Sparrow: max 165 TR 3 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: arr OLP 21 Sep; 30 TR 10 Oct; max 40 Salisbury 9 Oct.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 85 Syr 30 Oct; nums thru Reg and period.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT(R5): South Onondaga 6 Sep (ID).

Bobolink: max 32 MSI 11 Sep; last TR 4 Oct; small nums typ locs Sep.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 19 BRH 11 Sep; last TR 5 Nov.

Orchard Oriole: no reps.

Baltimore Oriole: max 3 Marcellus 5 Sep; last Williamstown 28 Sep.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 6439 BRH 11 Oct, but see blackbird sp below; typ nums thru Reg and period.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 200 Bville 1 Nov; typ nums thru Reg and period.

Rusty Blackbird: arr 3 TR 26 Sep; max 110 CM 21 Oct; last 5 Waterville 27 Nov.

Common Grackle: max est 20000 TR 23 Oct, migrating, but see blackbird sp below; typ nums thru Reg and period.

Blackbird sp: max est 50000 CM 23 Oct (DWh) & OLP 8 Nov (GD), presumed mostly Red-winged and Grackle; counts > 10000 several typ locs.

Ovenbird: max 4 Salisbury 5 Sep; last TR 3 Oct; three dozen recs 1-2 early-mid Sep.

Louisiana Waterthrush: no reps (typical).

Northern Waterthrush: 2 SP 19 Sep; FH 30 Sep, late; Syr 6 Oct, late; only reps.

Golden-winged Warbler: Point Rock ONEI 3 Sep (MG); Hamilton 9 Sep (GM); only reps.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 2 BLNC 17 Sep; last Erie Canal near Rome Sand Plains 20 Sep; 7 other reps Sep.

Black-and-white Warbler: max 4 MHSF 6 Sep; last OakC 21 Oct.

Prothonotary Warbler: no reps.

Tennessee Warbler: max 13 HI 27 Sep; last CM 2 Nov, late.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr TR 20 Sep; last OLP 29 Nov; 14 locs total, all singles.

Nashville Warbler: max 8 GLSP 22 Sep; last OakC 28 Oct.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (R5): Elbridge 3 Oct (SS); Salisbury HERK 13 Sep (KT), 3rd county rec.

Mourning Warbler: singles rep 7 locs.

Common Yellowthroat: max 15 TR 12 Sep; last OLP 27 Oct; singles/small groups to mid

Oct.

Hooded Warbler: max 5 BW 3, 11 Sep; last Cazenovia 21 Sep; 1-2 several other locs early Sep.

American Redstart: max 4 at 3 locs mid-Sep; Westvale 11 Oct, late; GB 17 Oct, late; small nums thru late Sep.

Cape May Warbler: max 5 Skaneateles 9 Sep & Fabius 10 Sep; last FH 10 Oct; 1-4 var locs Sep.

Cerulean Warbler: Cazenovia 18 Sep (JK); only rep.

Northern Parula: max 7 SP 19 Sep; last OLP 8 Nov, late; 1-2 var locs Sep – mid Oct.

Magnolia Warbler: max 10 Fabius 10 Sep; last TR 22 Oct, late.

Bay-breasted Warbler: max 6 FH 16 Sep; last Van Buren 11 Oct; 1-3 var locs mostly Sep.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 7 BW 6 Sep; WP 11 Oct, late; 1-3 var locs Sep.

Yellow Warbler: 3 SP 21 Sep; max 7 SP 19 Sep; OLP 11 Oct, late; FH 17 Oct, very late; last OLP 31 Oct, very late; singles rep Sep but bulk of migration done.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 4 HF 11 Sep; last Fabius 2 Oct.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 30 FH 29 Sep – 1 Oct; 12 OLP 13 Oct; last FH 24 Oct; best counts late Sep/early Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 Bubb L HERK 1 Sep; last TR 26 Oct, late.

Palm Warbler: arr North Bay 11 Sep; max 8 OLP 24 Sep & HI 3 Oct; last CM 25 Oct.

Pine Warbler: max 6 n HERK 13 Sep; last FH 17 Oct.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 150 SP 19 Sep; last FH 23 Nov.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R5): Marcellus 8 Sep (JS).

Prairie Warbler: no reps.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 9 SP 19 Sep; last Van Buren & FH 16 Oct.

Canada Warbler: singles 14 locs Sep; last SP 15 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: max 3 SP 3, 9 Sep & TR 26 Sep; last Salisbury 9 Oct.

Scarlet Tanager: max 3 var locs Sep; last OLC 8 Oct.

Northern Cardinal: typ nums throughout period & reg.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 8 SFNS 13 Sep; last Marcellus 31 Oct, very late.

Indigo Bunting: max 4 BW 6, 11 Sep & Tully 5 Sep; last Clinton 10 Oct, late.