

## REGION 10—MARINE

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|      | Central Park |        |           | Islip |        |           |
|------|--------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Temp | Mean         | Normal | Deviation | Mean  | Normal | Deviation |
| Dec  | 43.8°        | 39.1°  | +4.7°     | 41.7° | 37.1°  | +4.6°     |
| Jan  | 30.3°        | 33.7°  | -3.4°     | 28.8° | 31.9°  | -3.1°     |
| Feb  | 32.3°        | 35.9°  | +1.4°     | 34.7° | 33.3°  | +1.4°     |

| Precip | Total | Normal | Deviation | Total | Normal | Deviation |
|--------|-------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Dec    | 1.39" | 4.38"  | -2.99"    | 1.37" | 4.71"  | -3.34"    |
| Jan    | 4.29" | 3.64"  | +0.65"    | 5.37" | 3.66"  | +1.71"    |
| Feb    | 3.23" | 3.19"  | +0.04"    | 3.61" | 3.29"  | +0.32"    |

As in recent years, December was warm, with temperatures generally in the 40s; the first, evanescent, snowfall was on 24 December. Only in January did the temperature drop into the 20s, the average in late January and early February. A blizzard on 29 January was the only heavy snowfall.

Among the usual wintering waterfowl, the low abundance of some species was notable. The fall-off of Common Eider was most striking: only 39 were tallied on the Montauk CBC (usually over 2,000), and the usual high numbers at Shinnecock Inlet reached a maximum of only 64 in late February. Likewise, only 232 Surf Scoters and 1,271 Black Scoters were recorded on the Montauk CBC, well below counts in recent years, and the highest reports from Long Island after that were 48 Surf and 350 Black Scoters at Montauk. White-winged Scoters, however, showed much their usual abundance in Long Island Sound. The

Southern Nassau CBC recorded low counts for all these species and for Bufflehead (90, down from a ten-year average of 315), Greater Scaup, Long-tailed Duck, and Ruddy Duck, as well as Red-throated Loon and Common Loon (only three, compared to the previous minimum of 94). The decline of Tundra Swan was complete: the small numbers that have long overwintered at Hook Pond (Suffolk) finally dwindled to zero.

Some respectable tallies of Greater Scaup were recorded, including 5,000 at the East Islip Marina (Suffolk) on 19 December. The maximum count of Lesser Scaup was 2,000 in Babylon (Suffolk). The abundance of other *Aythya* species was about average, although a count of 390 Canvasback in Queens was heartening for this declining species. A Tufted Duck x scaup hybrid at the same location was noteworthy. Robust numbers of Green-winged Teal and Wood Duck (62 lingering on the Bronx Zoo grounds until late February) were recorded, but American Wigeon has declined in many areas. Among uncommon but expected species were single Blue-winged Teal in five locations, Eurasian Wigeon in four, and Harlequin Duck in eight, with an exceptional high count of seven in Red Hook (Kings). At least 34 Cackling Geese were spotted, mostly in large flocks of Canada Goose.

Other than *Anatidae*, water birds from the north included Horned Grebe, mostly in modest numbers, and single Red-necked Grebes at eight locations across the length of the Region. A high count of 61 Common Loons at Breezy Point (Queens) was not exceptional, but the 94 Red-throated Loons at Hook Pond (Suffolk) was notable. Among alcids, as many as nine Dovekies were recorded among several sightings, mostly at Montauk; among many reports of Razorbill, a maximum count of 226 signaled a return to the norm from last winter's plenty. Thick-billed Murres were seen at at least seven locations from Kings to Suffolk, at least one Black Guillemot was reported at Culloden Point near Montauk, and there were single reports of Common Murre and Atlantic Puffin (both offshore). Great Cormorants were seen at five traditional locations in Bronx, Kings, and Suffolk. Only a few sightings of Black-legged Kittiwake were reported, all from Montauk, and although Bonaparte's Gulls were seen at many sites, the maximum count was only 90 (at Ditch Plains, a traditional site in Suffolk); this species has shown a pronounced, steady decline. Lesser Black-backed Gull, in contrast, is overwintering in small but increasing numbers, while the plentiful reports of Iceland and Glaucous Gulls suggest they are holding steady or perhaps increasing. A puzzling gull found by Patrice Domeischel at Oldfield Point (Suffolk) was likely a Herring Gull of the European subspecies (*Larus argentatus argentatus*), as explained in the Notes and Observations article on pp. 136-139.

Land birds visiting the Region from farther north included several Rough-legged Hawks and a multitude of Snowy Owls, reported from at least 40 locations in all counties except New York; five birds were seen on 22 December at Smith Point County Park (Suffolk) and at least three were seen near Shinnecock. Most other owl sightings are (properly) not in the public record, but eBird reports do include a Long-eared Owl in Green-wood Cemetery, Kings, and single Short-

eared Owls at six locations; however, the numbers at EPCAL, the former Grumman site (Suffolk) have declined over the last few years to one in winter 2020-2021 and zero in 2021-2022. Northern Saw-whet Owls were reported from at least 11 locations in four counties, with multiple birds heard at several sites. Barred Owl is not known to breed in the Region at this time, but there were several reports of one, probably the same bird, at Pelham Bay Park (Bronx). Barn Owl is known to be resident at several sites in the Region.

Of the two Northern Shrikes found in the Region, one stayed throughout the period on the North Fork of Long Island and another was seen in Nassau. Lapland Longspurs were seen at six sites in Queens and Long Island, and eight were seen on the CBC in Staten Island. The distribution and numbers of Snow Buntings and of American Tree Sparrows were similar to those in recent years. The most notable sparrow numbers were of White-throated Sparrow, which was exceptionally abundant in many areas; for example, the Southern Nassau CBC recorded 1,285, contrasting with the 10-year mean, 490. Red-breasted Nuthatch was abundant for the second winter in a row. There were many records of Purple Finch, although nowhere in abundance; similarly, of the many, widespread reports of Pine Siskin, all except one were single-digit counts. Single Red Crossbills were seen at Jamaica Bay and central Suffolk, and there were two single-digit reports of White-winged Crossbill. A single redpoll, of undetermined species, flew over Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.

Many warm-weather species lingered at least into the early, warmer part of the winter. Among water birds and shorebirds were good numbers of Wood Ducks in a few locations, four Blue-winged Teal, Clapper Rail in seven locations and Virginia Rail also in seven, and two Common Gallinules (one returning for at least the third winter). Among the expected shorebirds were American Oystercatcher, Black-bellied Plover, Killdeer, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Long-billed Dowitcher (six returning to their usual site in Nassau), Greater Yellowlegs, and Wilson's Snipe. There were 49 Regional reports of American Woodcock between 1 December and 17 February, and 87 in the 11 days thereafter, perhaps including some returning migrants. More unexpected were Semipalmated and Piping Plovers in mid-winter, a Whimbrel, Western and Least Sandpipers, Short-billed Dowitcher, and Lesser Yellowlegs. Lingered larids included Laughing Gulls and a single Black Skimmer. American Bitterns were seen at five locations, and Great Egrets were widespread, especially in December. More unusual were Snowy Egrets at four sites, one of which stayed through the season; two Cattle Egrets; a Green Heron on 27 December; and Yellow-crowned Night-Herons at five sites, with one on Randall's Island until at least 9 February.

Among the many lingering land birds were at least 11 Ospreys, as late as 9 February, and a Broad-winged Hawk in January. Tree Swallows were abundant at certain shore points, as usual. Large flocks of Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, and Brown-headed Cowbird were seen in Suffolk, although the maximum count of Common Grackle (2,245) was in Manhattan. Flocks of 100 or more Boat-tailed Grackles, a relative newcomer to the Region's winter avifauna,

were seen at 25 sites in five counties. Eastern Meadowlark occurred in suitable sites throughout the Region. Gray Catbird was abundant; for example, 49 were tallied on the Southern Nassau CBC, well above the recent average of 14. Eastern Bluebird was reported from 73 sites in Suffolk and 10 sites elsewhere, with a maximum of 47 in East Hampton. Less common or unusual lingering species included several Blue-headed Vireos, Marsh Wrens, Yellow-breasted Chats, and Baltimore Orioles, and single Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Veery, and Wood Thrush.

Among notable sparrows were several reports each of Chipping, Clay-colored, Vesper, Lincoln's, Grasshopper, and Saltmarsh, as well as single Lark and Seaside Sparrows. A remarkable list of 15 species of warblers was compiled over the season, including not only the expected Yellow-rumped, Palm, Pine, and Orange-crowned Warblers, but also Ovenbird, Black-and-white, Nashville, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Cape May, Northern Parula, Blackpoll, Black-throated Blue, Prairie, and Wilson's Warblers. Five Dickcissels were reported in as many counties. Although our corvids are seen year-round, Fish Crow numbers decrease during winter. The only reported roosting aggregation of this species was in Garden City (Nassau), where 2,200 were estimated on 11 February. The maximum number of American Crows reported was 163. Common Raven is now abundant and ubiquitous throughout the Region.

Having saved the good wine for last, we turn to uncommon or rare species. At least seven Barrow's Goldeneyes were found, including a male returning to Crab Meadow Beach (Suffolk) for at least a fourth winter. Single male King Eiders lingered at Shinnecock Inlet and at Great Kills Park (Richmond) throughout the season. Six Sandhill Cranes flew over Pelham Bay Park in December. At least one Western Kingbird frequented the Lake Montauk area at the same time as an Ash-throated Flycatcher in Owl's Head Park (Kings), but surely the Gray Kingbird in Great Kills Park in Richmond was the star tyrannid. Two Western Tanagers were found in Manhattan (New York); the one in Carl Schurz Park was almost certainly the same bird as last winter's. A Henslow's Sparrow in Greenwood Cemetery (Kings) was most unusual. A Pacific Loon photographed in Bayard Cutting Arboretum (Suffolk) unfortunately drifted downstream and could not be refound. At least six Black-headed Gulls were spotted in four counties, and two Short-billed Gulls (split from Common) were found in Staten Island and along the Brooklyn shore. One candidate for the title of rarest was an adult Slaty-backed Gull that frequented the Jacqueline Onassis Reservoir in Central Park for about three weeks, photographed first by Brad Balliett and called to wide attention by Evan Schumann. The other candidate was the one-day Northern Lapwing found by Mike Vedder on 18 December at Santapogue Creek in Babylon, and relocated, after it flew out, by Tim Healy on a golf course to the east. Winter in Region 10 is always rewarding!

## CONTRIBUTORS

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many others who have contributed sightings during this time. (Note: anonymous and pseudonymous eBird reports are generally not included.)

## ABBREVIATIONS

**BBP** – Brooklyn Bridge P, KING; **BPt** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **BZ** – Bronx Zoo, BRON; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CBC** – Christmas Bird Count; **CIC** – Coney I Creek/P, KING; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **DR** – Dune Rd, CCP to Shinn, SUFF; **EPCAL** – Calverton Grasslands (former Grumman Property), Calverton, SUFF; **et seq.** – observers who saw a bird after the discoverer (from *et sequentes*, “and persons following”); **FBF** – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; **FKP** – Fresh Kills P, RICH; **GBY** – Gravesend Bay, KING; **GI** – Gardiner’s I SUFF; **GKP** – Great Kills P, RICH; **GwC** – Greenwood Cemetery, KING; **HLSP** – Hempstead L SP, NASS; **IHP** – Inwood Hill P, NEWY; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWE** – West End, Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **JFKMWS** – John F Kennedy Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary, NASS; **Mon** – Montauk, T of East Hampton, SUFF; **MP** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **NB** – Nickerson Beach, NASS; **OMNSA** – Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, NASS; **PatchL** – Patchogue L, Patchogue, SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PL** – Point Lookout, NASS; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **RBA** – NY Rare Bird Alert; **RI** – Randalls I, NEWY; **Riv** – Riverhead, SUFF; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **SC** – Santapogue Creek, SUFF; **SCFED** – Suffolk County Farm & Education Center, SUFF; **Shinn** – Shinnecock In, SUFF; **SMNC** – Salt Marsh Nature Center at Marine P, KING **VCP** – Van Cortlandt P, BRON.

**Snow Goose:** max 600 JBWR 5 Feb (DGo, SSI).

**ROSS’S GOOSE (R10):** 2 Eastport SUFF 6 Jan (SSM, PJL); 2 Riv sod fields 15-17 Jan (J. Rand).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Hook Pd, East Hampton SUFF 19 Dec (AnW); Centerport SUFF 24 Dec (TJS) thru; Bridgehampton SUFF 9 Jan 9 (PJL *et al.*); Riv sod fields 13 Jan (SSM, PJL); Sunken Meadow SP SUFF 8 Feb (DC); Mon 13-17 Jan (DC).

**PINK-FOOTED GOOSE:** Bridgehampton SUFF 6 Dec - 9 Jan (MSch *et al.*); Stony Brook Univ SUFF 10- 27 Jan (I. Ahuvia *et seq.*); Riv sod fields 21 Jan (KFeu, SFeu); Southampton SUFF 7 Feb (H. Collins); LI North Fork 28 Jan (B. Bolduc).

**Brant:** max 40,000 JBWR 4 Dec (JMcG).

**Cackling Goose:** 7 locs in RICH, 7 in NASS, 20 in SUFF; 3 Caumsett SP SUFF 11 Dec (BF), otherwise singletons.

**Canada Goose:** max 2000 Stony Brook SUFF 11 Dec (J Rand).

**Mute Swan:** 125 Watermill SUFF 9 Jan (CG).

**Wood Duck:** max 66 BZ 16 Jan (T Olson).

**Blue-winged Teal:** HLSP 11 Dec - 6 Jan (B. Belford); Mill Pd, Bellmore NASS 13 Dec (C.

Houck); PatchL 1 Dec-28 – 28 Jan (DF); Eastport SUFF 27 Dec (S. Biasetti).

**Northern Shoveler:** max 450 CP 14 Jan (K Topping).

**Gadwall:** max 400 Swan L, Patchogue SUFF 18 Jan (DC).

**Eurasian Wigeon:** Bush Terminal Piers P KING 16 Jan – 28 Feb (S. Blodgett *et seq.*); JBWR 5 Dec - 27 Feb (JMcG); Oyster Bay NASS 7 Dec - 14 Jan (BG); PatchL 3-28 Jan (APe).

**American Wigeon:** max 380 JBWR 4 Dec (JMcG).

**Mallard:** max 660 Mattituck SUFF 17 Jan (J Brooks Jr.).

**American Black Duck:** max 500 Tobay Beach P NASS 28 Jan (M. Chitulescu).

**Northern Pintail:** max 45 PatchL 16 Feb (M. Higgiston).

**Green-winged Teal:** max 300 26<sup>th</sup> Ward wastewater treatment plant KING 18 Dec (J. Malbin).

**Canvasback:** 1 site in RICH, 1 in NEWY, 4 in QUEE, 2 in NASS, 20 in SUFF; max 380 Watermill SUFF 17 Feb (M. Higgiston).

**Redhead:** Baisley Pd P QUEE 13 Dec thru; max 74 24 Dec (CF); 27 Babylon SUFF 24 Jan

(E. Schwinn); Amityville SUFF max 67 2 Feb (EMu).

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 609 PatchL 4 Jan (PjL).

**TUFTED DUCK (R10) x scaup sp:** World's Fair marina QUEE 8 Dec (CF *et al.*).

**Greater Scaup:** max 5000 East Islip marina SUFF 19 Dec ((ABk).

**Lesser Scaup:** max 2000 SC 8 Jan (J. Rand).

**King Eider:** GKP 2 Dec thru (CF *et seq.*); Shinn 28 Dec thru (KFeu *et seq.*).

**Common Eider:** max 78 DR (KFeu, SFeu).

**Harlequin Duck:** max 7 Red Hook KING 28 Dec (P. Paul *et al.*); at PL 7 Dec thru, max 6 25 Jan (W. Shafer); 5 sites in SUFF, max 3 Shinn 19 Jan (E. Schwinn, M. Higgiston).

**Surf Scoter:** max 200 Lemon Creek RICH 2 Jan (ACi).

**White-winged Scoter:** max 1500 Riv 19 Dec (P. Bealle).

**Black Scoter:** max 350 MP 17 Jan (C. Hinkle).

**Long-tailed Duck:** max 2000 BPt 24 Feb.

**Bufflehead:** max 350 JBWR 4 Dec (JMcG).

**Common Goldeneye:** max 250 Arden Ave RICH 17 Jan (ACi).

**Barrow's Goldeneye:** Crab Meadow Beach SUFF 6-30 Jan (KFeu, SFeu); Cedar Beach SUFF 14 Jan (APe); Wildwood SP SUFF (B. Bolduc); Cedar Pt CP SUFF 26 Dec (CG).

**Hooded Merganser:** max 210 HLSP 13 Dec (E. Becher).

**Common Merganser:** max 216 L

Ronkonkoma SUFF 27 Feb (PjL, SSM).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 275 JBSP 26 Jan (KFeu & SFeu).

**Ruddy Duck:** max 1200 Eastport SUFF 6 Jan (SSM, PjL); 1200 CP 13 Jan (J. Wooten).

**Wild Turkey:** many sites in RICH, SUFF.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** max 55 Orient SUFF 12 Feb (J Rand), likely stocked for hunting.

**Northern Bobwhite:** max 12 East Farm Pres, Stony Brook SUFF, known release program; other singletons in a few sites in SUFF, NASS, likely lucky escapes from stocks for hunting.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 8 sites in RICH, 1 BRON, 3 NEWY, 6 KING, 5 QUEE, 1 NASS, 36 SUFF.

**Horned Grebe:** max 108 FBF 31 Jan (DGo, P. Paul).

**Red-necked Grebe:** 2 JBWE 13 Dec (N. Zachary); Culloden Pt SUFF 9 Jan (SSM, PjL, DF), 22 Jan (CG).

**Rock Pigeon:** throughout.

**Mourning Dove:** max 200 QUEE 19 Dec (A. Scott).

**Clapper Rail:** Saw Mill Creek RICH 18 Dec (C. Barron); Brookfield P RICH 22 Jan (ACi); SMNC 15 Dec - 28 Feb (HL); 1-2 JBWR 1-18 Dec; Lawrence NASS 2 Jan (MA); OMNSA 30 Dec - 9 Feb (M. Farina); Bayville NASS 4 Feb (K. Winters); DR 25 Jan (SFeu & KFeu).

**Virginia Rail:** 2 River Rd RICH 18 Dec (ACi); Brookfield P RICH 18 Dec (ACi); Massapequa Pres NASS 11 Dec (J. Rand); 6 Mon 16 Jan; Makamah Pres SUFF 20 Jan (JGI); SCFED 15 Dec (E. Goodman); Oakdale SUFF 19 Dec (MMcB); 3 Swan Ri Pres, E Patchogue SUFF 12 Jan - 8 Feb (DMM, TMo *et seq.*).

**Common Gallinule:** Bellmore Mill Pd NASS 4 Dec thru (K. Long); 2, same site 5-27 Feb (J. Garzero).

**American Coot:** max 50 Baisley P QUEE 31 Dec (CF).

**SANDHILL CRANE (R10):** 6 PBP 28 Dec (J. Rothman).

**American Oystercatcher:** 68 FBF 3 Dec (HL); 2 JBWR 22 Jan (A. Schroeder); 6 Cow Meadow P NASS 2 Jan (MMcB); JBWE 2 Dec - 24 Feb, max 47 (2 Dec, LW); 5 Oak Beach SUFF 4 Dec (T. Connell); 7 Ponquogue Br SUFF 3-10 Dec (L Betti, PD).

**NORTHERN LAPWING:** 1 SC 18 Dec (M. Vedder *et seq.*); *intro.*

**Black-bellied Plover:** 4 locs in RICH; max 42 FBF 11 Dec (HL, MY); NB max 51 6 Jan (BG); 97 PL 24 Jan (JWP); 20 CCP 4 Dec (N. Henderson).

**Killdeer:** many sites; max 25 Goethals Br Pd RICH 27 Feb (ACi).

**Semipalmated Plover:** Sammy's Beach SUFF 9 Dec (AColl); JBWE 2 Jan (S. Camillieri *et al.*).

**Piping Plover:** JBWE 21 Dec (K. Werner); PL 27 Jan (J. Suzuki, J. Wooten); 3 RMSP 2 Feb (PjL, SSM).

**Whimbrel:** DR 12 Feb (G. Hershkovics).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** 4 sites in RICH, 1 NEWY, 3 QUEE, 7 NASS, 18 SUFF; high counts 46 Hither Hills Campground SUFF 18 Dec (APe), 93 Gardiners Bay 27 Jan (A. Farnsworth), 311 GI 2 Feb (A. Farnsworth).

**Red Knot:** 11 sites in KING, NASS, QUEE, thru; 74 on Brooklyn CBC (FBF and JBWR)

19 Dec; max single count 25 JBWE 12 Jan (M. Zito).

**Sanderling:** high counts 350 JBSP 1 Dec (KFeu), 500 BPt 18 Dec (HL, T. Preston); 1100 Brooklyn CBC 18 Dec, record high.

**Dunlin:** max 4000 JFKMWS 26 Feb (BG, JWP).

**Purple Sandpiper:** 4 sites in RICH, 1 BRON, 1 NEWY, 9 KING, 6 QUEE, 7 NASS; 15 SUFF; max 60 JBWE 25 Jan (E. Becher).

**Least Sandpiper:** GKP 26 Feb (ACi).

**Western Sandpiper:** PL 7 Dec (E. Becher); OMNSA 2 Jan (MA).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** JBWE 1 Dec (KFeu), 19 Dec (JMcG), 8 Jan (D. Hannay); PL 6 Jan (BG); NB 21 Feb (KFeu); SC 18-20 Dec (BF).

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** 6 SC 9 Dec (F&SMu) dwindling to 1 on 26 Jan; JBWE 25 Jan (E. Becher).

**American Woodcock:** all counties in Dec and in late Feb; Jan and early Feb reports RI 11 Jan (N. Mendoza); Baldwin Harbor P NASS P 2 Jan (SSM), JFKMWS 2 Jan; Stony Brook SUFF 25 Jan (DC), North Fork Pres SUFF 19 Jan (DC).

**Wilson's Snipe:** Brookfield P RICH 27 Jan (ACi), and 6 here 2 Feb (K. Rossi); SMNC 6 Dec (HL); Alley Pd P QUEE 24 Jan (K. Wing); Glen Cove NASS 26 Jan - 11 Feb (BG); 17 sites in SUFF, thru; max 7 Georgica Cove Hollow SUFF 5 Feb (AnW).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** 5 Goethals Bridge P RICH 17 Dec, 1 on 8 Jan (ACi); HLSP 1-9 Dec (E. Becher).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** 1 site in RICH, 4 in KING, 7 in QUEE, ca. 30 in NASS, ca. 32 in SUFF, thru; high counts 17 SC 16 Dec, 17 Cedar Pt SUFF 28 Dec, 42 Rockville Ctr NASS 16 Dec.

**Dovekie:** MP reports 9 Jan – 16 Feb: 9 9 Jan (PJL, SSM); 3 17 Jan (P. Markee), 3 16 Feb (SSM, PJL); 2 Culloden Pt SUFF 14 Jan (TMO, DMM).

**Common Murre:** 4 Hudson Shelf 21 Feb. (E. Martin).

**THICK-BILLED MURRE:** 17 Jan CIC (SSi); 17 Jan Bellport SUFF (MSch, EMu); Shinn 22 Jan (TMO); Tiana Beach SUFF 22 Jan (DF); Fort Tilden QUEE 24 Jan (CF), 28 Jan Shinn (P. Aitken); Tiana Beach SUFF 2 Feb (E. Schwinn); GKP 4-10 Feb (ACi); GBy 20 Feb (R. Manian, D. Hrehowsik); JBWE 26 Feb (T. Derrick).

**Razorbill:** 2 sites in KING, 3 in QUEE; 7 in NASS, 12 in SUFF. MP reports 5 Dec thru, max 226 8 Jan (JGI *et al.*).

**Black Guillemot:** Culloden Pt SUFF 22 Jan (AColl, P. Ribolow).

**ATLANTIC PUFFIN:** 2 Hudson Valley Shelf 21 Feb. (E. Martin).

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** MP reports: 30 (max) 9 Jan (SSM, PJL, DF); 23 Jan (A. Burke); 4 4 Jan (SSM); 23 Feb (P. Markee).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** 24 sites in RICH, KING, QUEE, NASS, SUFF (13 sites); max 90 Ditch Plains, Mon 21 Feb (LW).

**Black-headed Gull:** 2, sites on coast of KING 22 Dec-thru, 2 together Plumb Beach KING 19 Feb (J. Malbin); RI 20 Jan (E. Leonardi); JBWE 8-22 Jan (PJL, SSM); GI 18 Dec (AnW); Setauket SUFF 19 Jan thru (PD).

**Laughing Gull:** 48 PL 1 Dec; 77 (max) BPt 4 Dec (HL); 36 JBWE 5 Dec (E. Becher); GBy 8 Dec (S. Blodgett); 3 BPt 1 Dec (J. Thorp); last CIC 2 Jan (D. Hrehowsik *et al.*).

**SHORT-BILLED GULL:** KING shore sites 21-31 Dec (ABk *et seq.*).

**COMMON/SHORT-BILLED GULL:** Miller Field RICH 17 Jan (R. Veit *et seq.*). RV notes “the small bill, splotchy head and wing tip pattern combine to favor *L.c brachyrhynchus*”....

**Ring-billed Gull:** max 5230 BBP 24 Feb (DGO).

**Herring Gull:** max 800 CP 2 Feb (R. Messbauer). Reports of hybrids between Herring and Iceland, Lesser Black-backed, and Glaucous; adult evidently European *L. a. argentatus*, Oldfield Pt SUFF 22 Feb thru (PD *et seq.*); *intro*.

**Iceland Gull:** 3 sites in RICH, 2 in NEWY (3 birds), 3 in KING ( $\geq 4$  birds); 3 in NASS, 20 in SUFF ( $> 25$  birds); throughout period.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** PP 15 Dec (R. Mandelbaum); Southard's Pd SUFF 15 Dec (C. Cammarota); 2 Atlantic Beach NASS 2 Jan (DF); Sheepshead Bay KING 9 Jan (T. Preston); CP (rep. T. Fiore); DR 29 Jan (DF); 6 JBSP 29 Jan (KFeu, SFeu); Oldfield Pt SUFF 21 Feb (K. Coyle); Stony Brook SUFF 21 Feb (PD).

**SLATY-BACKED GULL:** CP 31 Jan – 18 Feb (B. Balliett, E. Schumann *et al.*), *intro*.

**Glaucous Gull:** 3 sites in RICH, 1 in BRON, 2 in NEWY,  $\geq 2$  in KING, 2 in QUEE, 1 in NASS, 7 in SUFF; max 3 Bellport SUFF 21 Jan (T. Connell).

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 300 Midland Beach RICH 1 Jan (ACi).

**Black Skimmer:** Coney I KING 5 Dec (P. Paul *et al.*).

**Red-throated Loon:** max 94 Hook Pd SUFF 5 Dec (J. Milton).

**PACIFIC LOON:** Bayard Cutting Arboretum, Oakdale SUFF 19 Feb (JGI).

**Common Loon:** 58 JBSP 2 Feb (A. Honeywood).

**Northern Gannet:** max 3500 GKP 10 Dec (ACi).

**Great Cormorant:** 4 Orient Pt SUFF 5 Dec (J. Rand); 12 FBF 11 Dec (HL); 8 PBP 2 Jan (P. Horan); 16 Orient Pt SUFF 14 Jan (SSM); 6 MP 5 Jan (AnW); max 35 BPT 30 Jan (SSI, DGo).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 250 Seaside Nature P RICH 12 Dec (T. Winston, D. Spawn).

**American Bittern:** JBWR 12 Dec - 16 Feb; JFKMWS 12 Jan thru (M. Zito); Northville SUFF 19 Dec (ML Lamont); 1-2 DR 12 Jan - 5 Feb (KFeu, SFeu *et al.*).

**Great Blue Heron:** throughout Region and period.

**Great Egret:** 6 sites in RICH, 4 in BRON, 2 in KING, 6 in QUEE, 19 in NASS, 68 in SUFF (thru).

**Snowy Egret:** Southampton SUFF 5 Dec (DMM, TMo); Setauket Harbor SUFF 26 Dec - 24 Feb (PD *et seq.*); Captree 1 SUFF 11 Dec (PJJ).

**Cattle Egret:** 11 Dec JBWE (P. Horan); Caumsett SP SUFF 17 Dec 18 Dec. (D. McDowell, *fide* SFeu).

**Green Heron:** Timber Point Golf Course SP SUFF 27 Dec (PJJ).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 1 site in RICH, 12 in BRON, 4 in KING, 7 in QUEE, 12 in NASS, 20 in SUFF (thru); max 75 Cammans Pd P Merrick NASS 3 Dec (M. Ventresca).

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** RI 1 Dec - 9 Feb (2 on 5 Dec) (M B. Kooper); World's Fair Marina QUEE 19-22 Dec (D. Spawn); Camman's Pd P (NASS) 17 Dec - 4 Jan (F. Nicoletti); JBWR 18 Dec (SSI); 3 Moriches Bay SUFF 27 Dec - 4 Jan (F&SMu).

**Black Vulture:** 16 sites in RICH, to 21 Feb; 4 in BRON; 4 in NEWY, max count 19 IHP 12

Dec (D. Aronov); 2 in KING thru; 4 in QUEE; 2 in NASS; 7 in SUFF.

**Turkey Vulture:** many records throughout; max count 48 Riv 24 Dec (K. J. Klein).

**Osprey:** 9 records in RICH, BRON, NASS, SUFF 5 Dec - 9 Feb (Feb record Mon, L. Watts).

**Northern Harrier:** throughout.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** throughout.

**Cooper's Hawk:** throughout.

**Bald Eagle:** many records throughout.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 6 sites in RICH, 4 in BRON, 4 NEWY, 8 in KING, 3 in QUEE, 3 in NASS, 11 in SUFF; max count 3 CP 19 Dec, R. Zucker).

**Broad-winged Hawk:** PP 16 Jan (R. Goldberg *et al.*).

**Red-tailed Hawk:** abundant throughout.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** single birds GI 16 Dec (AnW); Ferry Pt P BRON 12 Jan (P. Horan); EPCAL 5-10 Feb (PJJ, SSM); Riv sod fields 10 Feb (R. Valente); Short's Pd SUFF (R. Valente).

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 95 eBird records, incl. 1 site in BRON, 1 in NEWY, 9 in RICH, 1 in KING, 2 in QUEE, 17 in NASS, >48 in SUFF.

**Great Horned Owl:** many sites, all counties. Noted on eggs 25 Jan, Northville SUFF (ML. Lamont).

**Snowy Owl:** 1 site in BRON, 1 in RICH, 4 in QUEE (max count 4, BPT 22 Jan, M. Epstein), 6 in KING, 5 in NASS, ca. 23 in SUFF, incl. counts of 3 in Shinn (7 Dec, S. Savage; 13 Dec, R. Haimes), 3 CCP (27 Dec, R. Valente), 2 Shagwong Pt Mon 18 Dec (TH, T. Ambrico), 3 GI 18 Dec (AnW); 5 Smith Pt CP SUFF 22 Dec 9 (K. Cashman).

**BARRED OWL (R10):** 10 reports (1 bird?) PBP 14 Dec - 2 Jan.

**Long-eared Owl:** GwC 5 Dec (m.ob.); no other public reports.

**Short-eared Owl:** Edgemere landfill QUEE 19-30 Dec (CF *et al.*); JBWE 8 Jan (SSM, PJJ); JFKMWS 26 Feb (BG); CCP 11 Feb (F&SMu); Sagaponack Pd SUFF 11 Feb (CG); Napeague SP SUFF 16 Feb (F&SMu).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** reports 8 Dec - 22 Jan at 1 site in NEWY, 1 in QUEE, 3 in NASS, 7 in SUFF.

**Belted Kingfisher:** 2,017 eBird lists, throughout Region.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 1 PBP 26 Dec (M.Chitulescu and I. Resnick).  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 7,234 eBird lists.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 2,303 eBird lists.  
**Downy Woodpecker:** 7,836 eBird lists.  
**Hairy Woodpecker:** 1,683 eBird lists.  
**Northern Flicker:** throughout.  
**PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10):** VCP 3 Dec (S. Keelan), 3 Jan (T. Graves); 7 sites in RICH; 1 QUEE 7 Jan (“*Fratercula arctica*”, note: reluctantly citing pseudonym only because of importance of record.)

**American Kestrel:** many records in NEWY, KING, inland QUEE; 13 sites in NASS, 33 in SUFF. Max count 5, FBF 12 Dec (J. Thorpe).  
**Merlin:** many records throughout.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** many records, especially in NEWY and along coast to MP, denser to the west.

**Monk Parakeet:** 1 site in RICH, 1 in NEWY, 5 in BRON, 5 in KING (max count 29, GwC), 10 in QUEE (max 10 in Kissena Corridor P QUEE), 21 in NASS (max 54 Norman J. Levy P), 18 in western SUFF (max 26 Irmisch P).

**ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER:** Owl’s Head P KING 17 Dec – 7 Jan (A. Ferino, R. Manian).

**Western Kingbird:** W Lake Dr Mon 18-19 Dec (discovered during CBC, MMcB, M. D. McBrien *et seq.*); E Lake Dr Mon 8-9 Jan (JGL, V. Bustamante).

**GRAY KINGBIRD:** GKP cont from 29 Nov – 8 Dec (found by out-of-state birders C. Cremer, N. Pietrunti and subsequently seen by mob); *intro*.

**Eastern Phoebe:** 1 record RICH (1 Dec); 1 NEWY (12 Dec - 30 Jan); 2 KING 4 Dec – 27 Jan; 3 QUEE (10 Dec – 11 Jan); 2 NASS (4 Dec, 19 Dec); 13 SUFF (to 20 Feb).

**Blue-headed Vireo:** singles GwC 3 Dec (M. Silber); FBF 11 Dec (MY), 14 Jan (R. Fleming, J. Gramm); Orchard Beach BRON 26 Dec (EMu); Gardiner P SUFF 21 Dec (PJL, SSM).

**NORTHERN SHRIKE (R10):** North Fork Pres SUFF 2 Dec (K. J. Klein) thru; Norman Levy Pres NASS 21-23 Dec (B. Belford).

**Blue Jay:** throughout.

**American Crow:** max 163 PP 14 Feb (T. Russo).

**Fish Crow:** max 2200 Garden City NASS roost 11 Feb (R. Proniewych, DF).

**Common Raven:** 27 sites in RICH, 16 BRON, ca. 40 NEWY, ca. 40 KING, ca. 45 QUEE, ca. 80 NASS, ca. 140 SUFF.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** max 50 Elizabeth A. Morton NWR SUFF 12 Feb (I. Ahuvia).

**Tufted Titmouse:** max 30 East Hampton SUFF 17 Jan (AColl).

**Horned Lark:** max 150 Calverton SUFF 27 Dec 9 (J. Bohrer, D. Bohrer).

**Tree Swallow:** shore points in RICH, KING, QUEE, NASS, SUFF, thru; max 1000 Bpt 18 Dec (MY).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** records throughout; thru.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** records throughout; thru.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 1670 IHP 7 Dec (D. Aronov).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 1 site in RICH, 3 BRON, 1 NEWY, 18 NASS, 50 SUFF, thru; high counts 14 JBWE 3 Dec (J. Rothman), 16 JBWE 2 Jan (LW).

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** throughout.

**Brown Creeper:** all counties; max 10 CP 8 Dec (S. Freytes).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** CP 4 Dec (B. Stadler).

**House Wren:** single birds North Fork SUFF 3 Dec 9 (J. Sepenoski); Mashomack Pres. SUFF 4 Dec (N. Hamblet); CP 5 Dec (A. Burke); Spring Creek P KING 12 Dec (J. Malbin); BBP 14 Dec (H. Wolf); 18 Dec GI (TJS).

**Winter Wren:** throughout.

**Marsh Wren:** RICH: 3 sites, latest 27 Jan; NASS 5 sites, to 4 Jan; SUFF 14 sites, to 26 Jan (Heckscher SP SUFF, KFeu & SFeu); max 4 SMNC 10 Feb (HL).

**Carolina Wren:** throughout. 171 count on Southern Nassau CBC (10-year mean = 79).

**Gray Catbird:** max 16 BBP 29 Dec (H. Wolf); 18 GI 18 Dec (TJS).

**Brown Thrasher:** 4 sites in RICH, 1 in BRON, 1 in NEWY (CP, thru), 3 in QUEE, 6 in NASS (to 20 Feb), 26 in SUFF.

**Northern Mockingbird:** throughout.

**European Starling:** max 1600 FKP 8 Dec (R. Zucker).

**Eastern Bluebird:** 3 sites in RICH, 2 in KING, 1 in QUEE, 4 in NASS, 73 in SUFF (thru); max 47 Northwest Harbor CP SUFF 26 Dec (Orient CBC).

**Veery:** Calverton SUFF 27 Dec (E. Schwinn).

**Hermit Thrush:** many records throughout.

**Wood Thrush:** Bella Abzug P NEWY 5 Dec (L. LaBella).

**American Robin:** counts in the hundreds at multiple sites in RICH, SUFF; max 5400 Sag Harbor SUFF 31 Dec (CG).

**House Sparrow:** throughout.

**American Pipit:** 4 sites in RICH, 3 in NEWY, 4 in QUEE, 5 in NASS, 26 in SUFF; max 100 Calverton SUFF 30 Jan (DC).

**House Finch:** max 135 KINGS 28 Jan (DGo).

**Purple Finch:** 9 sites in RICH, 3 in BRON, 2 in KING, 4 in QUEE, 10 in NASS, 11 in SUFF; max 11 SCFED 28 Jan (DC).

**Common Redpoll:** 1 "Common/Hoary" JBWR 6 Feb (DGo, SSi).

**Red Crossbill:** JBWE 12 Dec (J. Gold); Central Suffolk CBC (E. Schwinn, compiler).

**White-winged Crossbill:** 6 RMSP 3 Dec (V. Pellegrino), 1 EPCAL 6 Feb (MMcB).

**Pine Siskin:** 4 reports in KING, 4 in QUEE, 11 in SUFF; 5 Dec - 24 Feb; mostly single-digit counts, max 40 Avalon Pres SUFF 24 Feb (TMO).

**American Goldfinch:** max 94 Head of the Harbor SUFF 27 Dec (PD, L. Betti).

**Lapland Longspur:** 8 Freshkills P RICH 18 Dec (R. Zucker); 1 BPT 8 Jan (SSi); 1-3 NB 7 Dec - 27 Feb (various); PL 22 Dec (V. Pellegrino); JBSP 1-27 Feb (various); RMSP 23 Dec (SSM, PJL).

**Snow Bunting:** many coastal sites in all counties except BRON; entire period; max 122 Port Jefferson SUFF 6 Jan (A. Colucci).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** RI 11 Dec (G. Willow); EPCAL 31 Jan (TMO); Mattituck SUFF 1 Feb (B. Bolduc); Calverton SUFF 3 Feb (K. Coyle); Southold SUFF 30 Jan. (J. Sepenoski).

**Lark Sparrow:** Hendrix Creek KING 19 Dec (R. Cech, CBC).

**Chipping Sparrow:** multiple sites in all counties, thru; max 21 Nissequoque Ri SP SUFF 27 Dec (LW).

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** single birds at 8 sites in SUFF 19 Dec - 6 Feb.

**Field Sparrow:** multiple sites, all counties.

**Fox Sparrow:** max 25 PBP 6 Feb (M. Chitulescu).

**American Tree Sparrow:** many sites, all counties; max 25 GKP 24 Feb (BJ Dooley).

**Dark-eyed Junco:** throughout; max 112 Kings Pt P NASS 26 Dec (R. Taylor).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** all counties except NEWY; max 17 Calverton SUFF 3 Jan (K. Coyle).

**White-throated Sparrow:** abundant throughout; max 270 Sands Pt NASS 18 Dec (G. Quinn).

**Vesper Sparrow:** 2 PL 1 Dec (BG); 4 CCP 30 Dec (T. Mansfield); 2 FKP 14 Dec (J. Ramirez-Garofalo); 4 SCFED 6 Jan (PD) to 21 Feb; Caumsett SP SUFF 2 Feb (KFeu, SFeu); Shinn 9 Feb (P. Aitken).

**Seaside Sparrow:** DR 1 Feb (KFeu, SFeu).

**Nelson's Sparrow:** SMNC 16 Dec (HL); OMNSA 2 Jan (MA, ph.).

**Saltmarsh Sparrow:** OMNSA 2 Jan (MA, ph.); DR 31 Jan (TMO).

**HENSLOW'S SPARROW:** GwC 5 Dec (T. Russo *et al.*).

**Savannah Sparrow:** throughout. Max 30 FKP 14 Dec (J. Ramirez-Garofalo).

**Song Sparrow:** throughout.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** Governor's I NEWY 5 Dec (A. Barry); Orient SUFF 5 Dec (B. Bolduc); Greeley Sq NEWY 28 Feb (R. Poerner).

**Swamp Sparrow:** many sites, thru; max 23 GI 18 Dec (TJS).

**Eastern Towhee:** 6 sites in RICH, 6 BRON, 5 NEWY, 5 KING, 9 QUEE, 9 NASS, 90 SUFF; thru.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Bella Abzug P NEWY 5-17 Dec (L. LaBella); Governor's I NEWY 14 Dec (MB. Kooper); Calvert Vaux P KING 4 Dec (A. Ferino); Norman Levy P NASS 29-31 Dec (LW, M. Watros); Culloden Pt SUFF 18 Dec thru (MMcB); Mon 23-28 Jan (PD, L. Betti); Theodore Roosevelt CP SUFF 28 Jan (S. Biasetti *et al.*).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** 1-4 PBP 2 Dec - 19 Feb (P. Horan); 1-4 Shirley Chisholm SP KING 18 Dec - 22 Feb (J. Malbin); 28 Edgemere Landfill QUEE 19 Dec (MA); 3

sites in NASS, 19 in SUFF, incl. EPCAL (max 23, 10 Feb, J. Rand), GI (30, 24 Feb, A. Farnsworth).

**Baltimore Oriole:** 1 site in RICH, 5 in KING (to 17 Feb), 1 in QUEE, 6 in NASS, 6 in SUFF).

**Red-winged Blackbird:** in 370 eBird lists, throughout Region; max 1000 Oregon Rd, Southold SUFF 12 Feb (MSch).

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** throughout; max 300 East Hampton 23 Jan (AColl).

**Rusty Blackbird:** 9 sites in RICH, 4 in BRON, 2 in NEWY, 1 in KING, 5 in QUEE, 13 in NASS, 32 in SUFF; max 36 VCP 24 Feb (M. Waldron).

**Common Grackle:** records throughout Region, several counts 2000 or more; max 2245 Fort Washington NEWY 12 Dec (A. Burke, A. Cunningham).

**Boat-tailed Grackle:** coastal sites in RICH, BRON, QUEE, NASS, SUFF; thru; max 703 JBWR 19 Dec (E. Miller *et al.*).

**Ovenbird:** singles in 6 sites in NEWY, to 22 Jan (L. LaBella).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** CP 1-6 Dec (S. Holliday, D. B. Yolton *et al.*); RI 18 Dec (D. Aronov); Corona P QUEE 19 Dec (A. Scott).

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** 8 sites in RICH, 3 in BRON, 5 in NEWY, 7 in KING, 6 in QUEE, 8 in NASS, 16 in SUFF; latest 5 Feb.

**Nashville Warbler:** Sherman Creek P NEWY 5 Dec (B. Balliett); CoOp City BRON 30 Dec (R. Aracil); S. Nassau CBC 2 Jan (S. Camillieri).

**Common Yellowthroat:** Shirley SUFF 29 Dec (APe); Brooklyn Bridge P KING 14 Dec (H. Wolf); 8 sites in NEWY, last 17 Jan (A. Auerbach).

**American Redstart:** CP 8 Dec (m.ob.); PP 1 Dec - 4 Jan (m. ob.); Dyker Beach P KING 4 Jan (T. Preston).

**Cape May Warbler:** Hofstra Univ NASS 2 Jan (C. Eliot, M. Grey).

**Northern Parula:** Tanglewood Pres NASS 1 Dec (ph.); PP 9 Dec - 2 Jan (m. ob.); VCP 12 Dec (T. Trombone).

**Blackpoll Warbler:** Centerport SUFF 5 Dec, found dead (A. Laurie).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** Conference House P RICH 5-23 Dec (R. Veit).

**Palm Warbler:** 16 records in RICH, NEWY, KING, NASS, latest 8 Jan (Goethals Bridge P RICH (ACi)).

**Pine Warbler:** 2 sites in RICH, 1 in NEWY, 3 in KING, 1 in QUEE, 13 in SUFF; latest CP 15 Feb (A. Deutsch).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** all counties, plentiful especially near coast; max 300 JBSP 1 Feb (E. Becher).

**Prairie Warbler:** RI 5 Dec (A. Cunningham).

**Wilson's Warbler:** PP 4-12 Dec (L. Ewing).

**WESTERN TANAGER:** Carl Schurz P NEWY 1 Dec thru (m. ob.); Clinton Comm Garden NEWY 13 Dec - 22 Jan (A. Burke *et al.*); CP 15-16 Dec (K. John).

**Northern Cardinal:** abundant throughout.

**Dickcissel:** OMNSA 1 Dec - 4 Jan (m. ob.); IHP 5-19 Dec (W. Andermann); PP 24 Dec - 8 Feb (m. ob.); Chester Ave RICH 13 Feb (M. Shanley).

## EXOTICS

**European Goldfinch:** PP 12 Dec-27 Jan (1-3 birds); Arthur Sommers P KING 28 Dec - 2 Feb (2 birds); GwC 16-26 Dec (1 bird).

