

REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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Weather data obtained from the Binghamton Station showed a high of 60° F on 16 December and a low of 15° on 20 December. The average temperature for the month of December was 34.2° which was 6.1° above normal. December precipitation was 2.85" which was 0.23" below normal. The high temperature for the month of January was 51° on 1 January and the low was -10° on 22 January. The average temperature for January was 17.6° which was 4.9° below normal. January precipitation was 1.90" which was 0.72" below normal. For the month of February the high temperature was 56° on 22 February and a low of 1° on 6 and

14 February. The average temperature was 25.2° which was 0.7° below normal. The precipitation for February was 3.33" which was 0.92" above normal.

As usual, waterfowl was very well represented in the period with some very nice reports. Trumpeter Swans were reported in both Broome and Delaware Counties. To the best of my knowledge the three birds found in Delaware County are a first county record. Both Broome and Delaware Counties also had the only reports of Cackling Goose. Both Mute and Tundra Swan were reported in the Region as well. Sea ducks such as White-winged Scoter, Long-tailed Duck, and Red-breasted Merganser were reported throughout the Region.

It is always fun in winter to look for gulls and this year five species were reported. There was only one report of Bonaparte's Gull (4) On Boland Pond. This year they were dumping waste close to Route 10 at the Delaware Waste Facility. There was a Regional high of 350 Ring-billed Gulls found there on 5 December. Also found there by the author was a crisp looking first-year Iceland Gull on 5 February. A Region-high 45 Herring Gulls were present at Skaneateles Lake on 21 February, and last but not least, two Great Black-backed Gulls were recorded at Cortland Gravel Pits on 26 February.

The irruption of Red Crossbills in the state this winter, mainly in the Adirondacks, reached Region 4 as well, and among the many, widespread reports were observations of singing, courtship, and display, indicating possible or probable nesting.

Other interesting reports for the period include a very late Spotted Sandpiper, seen and photographed by Glenn Wilson at Dorchester Park on 28 December. While very scarce, there were some scattered reports of Common Redpolls and Evening Grosbeaks in the Region. Northern Shrike was report in a few locations as well.

My pick for bird(s) of the Region for the period goes to the two Short-eared Owls reported in the Newark Valley Area in Tioga County. The birds were originally found by Adam Troyer.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ALk – Allen L, OTSE; **AqPk** – Aquaterra P, BROO; **BCBC** – Binghamton CBC, BROO; **BMF** – Birdsong Meadows Farm, TIOG; **Bpd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CaHo** – Cannon Hole, T Barton, TIOG; **CanL** – Canadadago L, OTSE; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA; **CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **ChenL** – Chenango L, T New Berlin, CHEN; **ChRB** – Chenango Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **CoPk** – Confluence P, Owego, TIOG; **CRes** – Cannonsville Res & outflow, DELA; **CVSP** – Chenango Valley SP, T Fenton, BROO; **DelR** – Delaware Ri, Deposit, DELA; **DorP** – Dorchester P, Whitney Pt, BROO; **FMHW** – Franklin Mt Hawkwatch, DELA; **Fmt** – Franklin Mt, T Davenport, DELA; **GrwP** – Greenwood CP, BROO; **HCP** – Hillcrest Pits, Port Dickenson, BROO; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **LPSF** – Long Pd State Forest, CHEN; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **NSpM** – N Spencer Marsh, T Spencer, TIOG; **OnCBC** – Oneonta CBC, OTSE/DELA; **OtsL** – Otsego L, OTSE; **OwCBC** – Owego CBC, TIOG; **PRes** – Pepacton Res & outflow, DELA; **SCBC** – Sherburne CBC, CHEN (mostly); **SkaL** – Skaneateles L, L (SE), T Scott, CORT; **SStBS** – Spring Street Bird Sanctuary, BROO; **StPd** – Stupke Pd, T Cortlandville, CORT; **SusRB** – Susquehanna Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **UL** – Upper Lisle, BROO, **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO; **WPRes** – Whitney Pt Res, BROO.

Snow Goose: 400 ULCP 21 Feb. (DN,DW); 500 LHNC 22 Feb. (DG); 250 Binghamton (BROO) 23 Feb. (JW).

Cackling Goose: Deposit (DELA) 11 Dec. (LV); Brick Pd Wetland Pres (BROO) 1 Jan.(DG).

Canada Goose: 680 ULCP 5 Dec. (JG); 725 StPd 7 Dec. (DG); 700 CRes 12 Feb. (LV).

Mute Swan: 2 Deposit 20 Feb. (MS,HF); 15 SkaL 21 Feb. (MB).

Trumpeter Swan: 3 Deposit 12-27 Feb. (LV, mob); Bpd & HCP 5 Dec - 25 Feb. (WK,mob).

Tundra Swan: 4 CG 24 Feb. (MB); 2 Deans Pd (CORT) 26 Feb. (CW).

Wood Duck: 2 Whitney Pt 18 Feb. (GW); 2 Marathon (CORT) 24 Feb. (CW); 4 Nichols Boat Launch (TIOG) 27 Feb. (DM).

Northern Shoveler: ChenL 3-15 Dec. (MD); 2 HCP 3 Jan. (DG).

Gadwall: 14 site max SkaL 23 Jan. (PH); 7 HCP 15 Feb. (JW); 6 CRes 27 Feb. (MM).

American Wigeon: 13 site max SkaL 21 Feb. (ST,LC); 6 HCP 18 Feb. (MR).

Mallard: 150 Owego (TIOG) 31 Jan. (DG); 172 Deposit 5 Feb. (LV); 200 CRes 13 Feb. (JHa).

American Black Duck: 40 site max 8 Dec. (JHo); 40 Oxford (CHEN) 28 Jan. (MD); 142 site max CRes 13 Feb. (LV).

Northern Pintail: 8 site max Bpd 3 Jan. (DG); 3 Oxford 23 Feb. (MD); 6 Deposit 26 Feb. (LV).

Green-winged Teal: 2 CanL 30 Dec. (JR); 3 Downsville (DELA) 5 Feb. (JVG); 3 BPD 12 Feb. (DN).

Canvasback: SkaL 18 Jan. (PH); SkaL 22 Feb. (JM).

Redhead: 10 site max OtsL 7 Jan. (SS); 4 site max Downsville 29 Jan. (LV); 2600 region max SkaL 22 Feb. (JM).

Ring-necked Duck: 350 Allen Lk (OTSE) 6 Dec. (TB); 177 site max CRes 20 Feb. (LV); 122 SkaL 26 Feb. (CW).

Greater Scaup: 6 CanL 30 Dec. (JR); 8 CRes 1 Jan. (LV); 16 PRes 8 Jan. (LV).

Lesser Scaup: 18 site max SkaL 18 Jan. (PH); small numbers scattered throughout Region.

White-winged Scoter: PRes 5 Dec. (LV); HCP 24 Dec. (DN); ULCP 29 Jan. (DN,ATri); 4 SkaL 29 Jan. (PH).

Long-tailed Duck: 2 PRes 5 Dec. (LV); multiple reports of single individuals in BROO and OTSE counties.

Bufflehead: 16 Nanticoke L (BROO) 16 Dec. (VL); 36 site max CanL 10 Jan. (SS); 30 CRes 21 Jan. (MR).

Common Goldeneye: 38 CanL 30 Dec. (JR); 65 site max CanL 13 Jan. (ML); 140 site max SkaL 18 Jan. (PH)

Hooded Merganser: reported in all counties in Region

Common Merganser: reported in all counties in Region

Red-breasted Merganser: 7 OtsL 17 Dec. (TB); PRes 8 Jan. (LV); 2 CG 23 Feb. (MB).

Ruddy Duck: UCLP 28 Dec. (DN); HCP 14-Jan. (mob); Downsview 15 Jan. (LV).

Wild Turkey: many reports throughout entire Region.

Ruffed Grouse: scattered reports throughout entire Region.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 Cortland (CORT) 29 Dec. (BD); 3 Michigan Hill State Forest (TIOG) 1 Feb. (SD); multiple reports of single birds in BROO county.

Pied-billed Grebe: HCP 18 Dec. (DG); CanL 30 Dec. (JR); Chugnut R Walk (BROO) 21 Jan. (MJ).

Horned Grebe: CanL 1 Jan. (ML); SkaL 21 Feb. (JC,PH).

Red-necked Grebe: ULCP 28-30 Dec. (DN,ATri,VI,JHo).

American Coot: Papish Pd (CORT) 12 Dec. (CW); 82 site max OtsL 7 Jan. (SS) present in numbers at this location throughout period; HCP 19 Feb. (JHo); StPd 22-26 Feb. (ST,LC,DG).

Killdeer: Kilroy Rd. (CHEN) 16 Dec. (MD); Huizinga Farms (TIOG) 21 Feb. (DG); MHL 22 Feb. (SC); HCP 26 Feb. (DN).

Spotted Sandpiper: DorP (BROO) 28 Dec. (GW), very late.

Bonaparte's Gull: 4 BPd 26 Dec. (DN).

Ring-billed Gull: 350 site max Delaware Cty Waste Facility (DELA) 5 Dec. (LV); 227 site max SkaL 18 Dec. (MY,BM); 220 William Beers Rd (DELA) 2 Jan. (CS,SB).

Herring Gull: 40 site max ULCP 28 Dec. (ATri); 45 site max SkaL 21 Feb. (ST,LC).

Iceland Gull: Delaware County Solid Waste Facility 5 Feb. (LV).

Great Black-backed Gull: 2 Cortland Gravel Pits (CORT) 26 Feb. (CW).

Red-throated Loon: CannR 5 Dec. (LV); HCP 7 Jan. (RA,DN,JW,DW); DorP 8 Jan. (GW).

Common Loon: 2 CanL 17 Dec. (TB); scattered reports of single birds throughout Region.

Double-crested Cormorant: OtsL 10 Dec. (SS); DorP 10-24 Dec. (DA,DN,GW); Oneonta (OTSE) 15 Jan. (MG); Deposit 16 Jan. (LV).

Great Blue Heron: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Turkey Vulture: ULCP 21 Feb. (DN,DW); 7 Endwell (BROO) 21 Feb. (MPH); a few other scattered reports of single birds in BROO.

Golden Eagle: scattered reports of single birds throughout Region.

Northern Harrier: numerous reports of mostly single birds throughout Region.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: reported in all counties in Region.

Cooper's Hawk: reported in all counties in Region.

Northern Goshawk: ChenL 3 Dec. (MD); Oxford 9 Dec. (MD); Richford (TIOG) 11 Jan. (DM).

Bald Eagle: common throughout entire Region.

Red-shouldered Hawk: scattered reports of single birds in BROO, CHEN, DELA and TIOG counties.

Rough-legged Hawk: 2 Meredith 29 Jan. (LV); 2 Kilroy Rd (CHEN) 1 Feb. MD); 2 E. River Rd (TIOG) 13 Feb. (DG); many other reports throughout entire Region.

Eastern Screech-Owl: scattered reports in BROO, CHEN, OTSE and DELA.

Great Horned Owl: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Snowy Owl: ill bird captured in New Berlin (CHEN) on 1 Jan. (KD). The bird was brought to a rehab center and subsequently brought to Cornell. Happily the bird recovered from dehydration, an injured wing, and rat poison and was released on the finder's farm in Otsego Cty on 31 Jan. (Pictures of release on eBird). A tough bird indeed.

Barred Owl: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Short-eared Owl: Center Lisle 10 Dec. (DG); 2 Newark Valley TIOG 10 Dec, 3-8 Jan. (ATro,WB,DG,DM).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Hancock (DELA) 8 Jan. (LV); Deposit 22 Feb. (LV).

Belted Kingfisher: reported in all counties in Region.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: LPSF 21 Dec. (ATri); Fly Creek (OTSE) 24 Dec. (DM); Bainbridge 30 Jan (RB); cluster of reports in Binghamton area as well.

Northern Flicker: reported in all counties in Region. Majority in BROO and TIOG.

American Kestrel: reported throughout entire Region.

Merlin: DorP 1 Dec. (WK); Cortland 6 Dec. (DG); Springfield Ctr (OTSE) 13 Jan (ML); other reports of single birds in BROO and TIOG counties.

Peregrine Falcon: 2 Region max Binghamton 1 Jan – 6 Feb. (WK); reports of single birds in CHEN, CORT, OTSE and TIOG.

Northern Shrike: LPSF 20 Dec. (MD); Vestal (BROO) 28 Dec.-16 Jan. (MJ, mob); BMF 6 Jan (ATro); ULSP 11 Jan. (GW); Cincinnati (CORT) 9 Feb. (SD).

Fish Crow: Lisle 1 Jan. (DW); many reports in BROO and TIOG along SusRB.

Horned Lark: 100 Region max Currie Valley Dairy 26 Feb. (ST,LC); reported in all counties in Region.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: BPd 13 Jan. (DN).

Cedar Waxwing: 200 Region max Whitney Pt. (BROO) 1 Jan. (JW); many other reports throughout entire Region.

Winter Wren: 2 BUNP 18 Dec. (SW); 2 SkaL 18 Dec. (BM,MY); 2 Downsville 12 Feb. (LV).

Marsh Wren: BPd 20 Dec. - 2 Jan. (DN,mob).

Brown Thrasher: Chenango Forks (CHEN) 8 Feb. (LH).

Northern Mockingbird: BMF throughout period (ATro); StPd 21 Dec.-26 Feb. (ST,LC,DG); W. Newark (TIOG) 15 Jan. (MJ); Richford (TIOG) 23 Jan. (JM).

Hermit Thrush: BUNP 14-18 Dec. (SW,BJ); Victory St. Marsh (BROO) 4 Jan. (DN); Johnson City (BROO) 5 Jan. (GW); Anson Rd. (BROO) 9 Jan. (MJ).

American Pipit: Binghamton 19-27 Jan. (DW,GW,mob).

Evening Grosbeak: S. Otselic (CHEN) 16 Jan. (MF); Franklin (DELA) 18 Feb. (JH); Papish Pd 26 Feb. (CW).

Common Redpoll: Scott (CORT) 20 Feb. (PH); 2 Hobart (DELA) 20 Feb. (LL); 3 High Vista Pres. (CORT) 26 Feb. (CW).

Red Crossbill: 14 site max Beaver Dam State Forest (TIOGA) 12 Jan. (WB); 15 Region max Pitcher Springs State Forest 13 Feb. (DN); many, widespread reports 8 Dec – 26 Feb, involving all counties with the exception of OTSE, possibly nesting, *intro*.

Pine Siskin: reported in small numbers in all counties in Region.

Lapland Longspur: Huizinga Farm 9 Feb. (DM).

Snow Bunting: 27 Delancey (DELA) 29 Jan. (LV); 30 Richfield Springs (OTSE) 1 Feb. (AS); 50 Currie Valley Dairy (CORT) 26 Feb. (ST,LC).

Chipping Sparrow: 3 MHL 28 Feb. (WB).
Field Sparrow: Downsville 2-22 Jan. (LV); ULCP 13 Jan. (DW).

Fox Sparrow: Oneonta (OTSE) 16 Dec. (SB); 2 Stoller Hill Rd (OTSE) 16 Feb.

(SS); 2 Georgetown (CHEN) 19 Feb. (VH); Scott 28 Feb. (PH).

White-crowned Sparrow: Owego (TIOG) 1 Jan (DG); MHL 4 Jan. (SC).

Savannah Sparrow: MHL 20 Jan.-6 Feb. (SC,DG).

Eastern Towhee: Delhi 10 Jan. (ER); Rogers Environmental Ctr. 22 Jan. (JP); LHNC 1-4 Feb. (DG,PH); McGraw (CORT) 18-20 Feb. (DH).

Eastern Meadowlark: Lisle (BROO) 20-22 Jan. (DN, JH, mob); Bainbridge (CHEN) 20-22 Jan. (RB).

Brown-headed Cowbird: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Rusty Blackbird: Mead Pd (CHEN) 18 Dec. (ATri); 2 Sherburne (CHEN) 18 Jan. (MD); Wilson Hollow Rd (DELA) 20 Feb. (LV); 15 site max LHNC 28 Feb. (PH).

Common Grackle: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: Newark Valley (TIOG) 4 Dec. (CK); Marathon (CORT) 24 Feb. (CW).