

REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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Weather data obtained from the Binghamton Station showed a high of 69° F on 18 March and a low of 7° on 4 March. The average temperature for the month of March was 34.9° which was 2.6° above normal. March precipitation was 3.83" which was 0.78" above normal. The high temperature for the month of April was 77° on 24 April and the low was 23° on 18 April. The average temperature for the month of April was 43.5° which was 1.1° below normal. April precipitation was 4.52" which was 0.89" above normal. The high temperature for the month of May was 86° on 31 May and the low was 33° on 1 May. The average temperature for the month of May was 59.3° which was 2.1° above normal. May precipitation was 3.22" which was 0.56" below normal.

As is the norm for this period, waterfowl were well represented with some very good records reported. Two Ross's Geese were reported in a passing flock of Snow

Geese from Hickories Park near Owego on 5 March. Greater White-fronted Goose was reported from two locations in March. A single Trumpeter Swan was reported on Boland Pond from 21 March until 21 May and a group of three spent from 5 March until 2 April in Deposit. A single Eurasian Wigeon was reported from Upper Lisle County Park on 19 March, but the waterfowl sighting of the period was a **Barnacle Goose** reported and photographed in Sherburne on 3 March. Other waterbird highlights include a very large fallout of loons on the Otselic River as reported from Lisle Park on 16 April when an incredible 69 Red-throated Loons and 227 Common Loons were present after an overnight storm. A count of six Red-necked Grebes at Lake Front Park on Otsego County on 8 April was a good number for this species.

Nightjar numbers were disappointingly low. Only one report of Eastern Whip-poor-will was recorded in the Region, and there were fewer than a dozen reports of Common Nighthawk, most of only a single bird; however, a report of 40 in flight over a farm in Canton on 21 May was encouraging. The declining numbers of these species is of great concern. On a good note it seems that Sandhill Crane continues to nest in Chenango County and appears to possibly be expanding there. During the period fifteen species of shorebirds were reported including a Wilson's Phalarope in Harford on 21 May. A Little Gull reported in Binghamton on 9 April was a very good find.

Other notable sightings for the period include a Short-eared Owl spotted and photographed in Cortland on 11 April. Spring reports of both Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, and especially, Philadelphia Vireo are nice to see. A definitive audio recording of an Acadian Flycatcher is a record of note. The author has been birding Delaware County for the past eight years, and while terrific habitat exists for this species in the county, I have yet to record it there.

After a nice showing of Red Crossbills in the Region this past winter, breeding was confirmed in over a dozen blocks this spring. A Kentucky Warbler found at Beaver Meadow State Forest in Chenango County between 22-30 May is an unexpected rarity. Last but not least was Summer Tanager reported from Walton on 20 May.

While there are many candidates to choose from, my pick for bird of the period goes to the **Barnacle Goose** found by Michael DeWispelaere in Sherburne.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BMF – Birdsong Meadows Farm, Candor, TIOG; **BPd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CanL** – Canadarago L, OTSE; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA; **CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **CGP** – Cortland Gravel Pits, CORT; **ChenL** – Chenango L, T New Berlin, CHEN; **Cortland** – Cortland, CORT; **CRes** – Cannonsville Res & outflow, DELA; **CVSP** – Chenango Valley SP, T Fenton, BROO; **DorP** – Dorchester P, Whitney Pt, BROO; **Endwell** – BROO; **Harford** – CORT; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **Lisle P** – BROO; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **OtsL** – Otsego L, OTSE; **PRes** – Pepacton Res & outflow, DELA; **Sherburne** – CHEN; **StPd** – Stupke Pd, T Cortlandville, CORT; **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO.

Snow Goose: 7500 ULCP 5 Mar (DN); 860 Hickories P TIOG 5 Mar (CWo); 700 Oxford CHEN 7 Mar (MD); 1000 Greene CHEN 7 Mar (MD).

Ross's Goose: 2 Hickories P TIOG 5 Mar (CWo).

Greater White-fronted Goose: 1 Michigan Hill SF TIOG 5 Mar (CWo); 1 StPd 8-17 Mar (mob).

Brant: 147 ULCP 19 May (DN,AT).

BARNACLE GOOSE: Sherburne CHEN 3 Mar (MD).

Cackling Goose: 6 Hickories P 5 Mar (CWo); 6 migr over BMF 5 Mar (ATr); 5 Nichols Boat Launch TIOG 5 Mar (CWo); Summit L OTSE 21 Mar (PF).

Canada Goose: 50,000 migr over BMF 5 Mar (ATr)

Mute Swan: ULCP 16 Mar (DN).

Trumpeter Swan: 2 over BMF 5 Mar (ATr); 3 CRes 5 Mar - 2 Apr (LV,RP,JBr,SCa); BPd 21 Mar - 21 May (mob).

Tundra Swan: 4 Dirty Bird Ranch TIOG 2 Mar (JCor); 5 over BMF 5 Mar (ATr); 41 ULCP 13 Mar (DN,JH).

Wood Duck: many reports throughout entire Region.

Blue-winged Teal: 8 BPd 13 Apr (DW); 9 Endwell 14 Apr (CWi,PS); 6 Brick Pd Wetland Pres TIOG 4 May (DG).

Northern Shoveler: 6 Endwell 3 Mar (SK); 4 Yaman P CORT 6 Mar (CWo); 5 StPd 16 Mar (LC,DG).

Gadwall: 6 BPd 3 Mar (MR); 6 Harold Moore P 8 Mar BROO (GW); 9 StPd 14 Mar (JM); 5 ULCP 19 Mar (DN).

Eurasian Wigeon: ULCP 19 Mar (DN).

American Wigeon: 10 BPd 3 Mar (MR); 32 Nichols TIOG 5 Mar (DG); 16 StPd 14 Mar (JM).

American Black Duck: 40 BPd 5 Mar (GW); 38 ULCP 19 Mar (SD); 78 CRes 20 Mar (LV).

Northern Pintail: 11 StPd 2 Mar (DG); 30 BPd 3 Mar. (MR); 200 Endwell 3 Mar (JH); 117 Nichols TIOG 5 Mar (DG); 12 Springfield Ctr OTSE 21 Mar (PF).

Green-winged Teal: 14 Deposit DELA 20 Mar (LV); 17 Endwell BROO 3 Apr (DN); 15 Sherburne 6 Apr (MD).

Canvasback: 6 Region max StPd 20 Mar (JM); reports of single bird(s) in Binghamton area in Mar.

Redhead: 40 Region max StPd 8 Mar (JM); scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Ring-necked Duck: 100 StPd 11 Mar (JK); 123 CRes 20 Mar (LV); 117 ULCP 26 Mar (DN).

Greater Scaup: 16 Endwell 12 Mar (DN); 8 ULCP 23 Mar (DN).

Lesser Scaup: 13 StPd 15 Mar (CWo); 55 ULCP 8 Apr (DN); other scattered reports throughout Region.

White-winged Scoter: 6 CGP 19 Apr (JM,JCol); 8 ULCP 19 May (DN).

Long-tailed Duck: 38 Lisle P 1 Apr (DN); 40 OtsL 8 Apr (JCol); 28 Long Pd SF CHEN 8 Apr (MD).

Bufflehead: 75 ULCP 19 Mar (DN); 87 PRes 9 Apr (LV); other reports throughout Region.

Common Goldeneye: scattered reports throughout Region.

Hooded Merganser: many reports throughout Region.

Common Merganser: many reports throughout Region.

Red-breasted Merganser: 5 CannR 9 Apr (LV), Region max. Reported in all counties.

Ruddy Duck: 4 Region max DorP 6 May (AT); reports of single birds in TIOG and CHEN counties.

Ruffed Grouse: many reports throughout entire Region.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 Afton CHEN 16 & 24 May (MD); other records of single birds in Region.

Pied-billed Grebe: 3 Brick Pd Wetland Pres TIOG 4 Apr (DM); 3 Aquaterra P BROO 15 Apr (DW); 3 ULCP 22 Apr (DN); 3 Willet CORT 23 Apr (VL).

Horned Grebe: 6 ULCP 8 Apr (DN); other scattered reports throughout Region.

Red-necked Grebe: Otsego L 22 Mar (PF,CS); 6 Lake Front P OTSE 8 Apr (JCol); Long Pd SF CHEN 9 Apr (MD).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: scattered reports in BROO,CHEN,CORT and TIOG counties.

Black-billed Cuckoo: scattered reports in BROO,DELA,CORT,OTSE and TIOG counties, inc 27 in night flight over BMF 28 May (ATr).

Common Nighthawk: 5 Vestal BROO 19 May (FT); 40 over BMF 21 May (ATr); 3 Sidney DELA 22 May (RS).

Eastern Whip-poor-will: Middlefield OTSE 12 May (RW).

Virginia Rail: scattered reports in BROO,CHEN,CORT,OTSE and TIOG counties.

Sora: scattered reports in BROO,CHEN,OTSE and TIOG counties.

Common Gallinule: 8 Region max Sherburne Marsh CHEN 23 May (MD,JS); also reports of single birds in BROO, OTSE and Tioga counties.

American Coot: 40 Region max OtsL 9 Apr. (JW); reports of 1-2 individuals in CORT,BROO & TIOG counties.

Sandhill Crane: 2 Sherburne 6 Apr - 30 May (MD & others), likely breeding pair.; 7 County Rd 18 (CHEN) 15 Apr (MZ), a pair also present at this location on 18 May and behavior suggests breeding at this location as well. It appears this species is becoming an expanding, and consisent, breeder in Chenago County.

Black-bellied Plover: 2 ULCP 19 May (DN).
Semipalmated Plover: 3 Sherburne 17 May (JCol,BW); 6 Deposit 28 May (LV); other reports of 1-2 individuals in BROO, CORT & OTSE counties.

Dunlin: 2 Sherburne 19 May (MD); Deposit 28 May (LV); Harford CORT 28 May (JCol).

Least Sandpiper: 25 max Sherburne 14 May (MD); 75 Region max 19 May (DN); 30 max 24 May Harford (RN).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Harford 26 May (CW,MI,ADo,GVH); 4 max Sherburne 28 May (JCol).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Deposit 4 Apr (LV); ULCP 26 & 31 Apr (DN,GW,VL,DW,MR).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 14 Region max Harford 28 May (JCol); a few reports of 1-2 birds in BROO & CHEN counties.

Wilson's Snipe: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Wilson's Phalarope: Harford 21 May (JCol,mob).

Spotted Sandpiper: 6 Endwell 30 Apr (DN); 10 Murphy Pits BROO 2 May (DW); 6 ULCP 24 May (RM).

Solitary Sandpiper: 7 Endwell 6 May (DN); 7 Murphy Pits BROO 9 May (DW).

Lesser Yellowlegs: 4 Endwell 30 Apr (JW); 4 Sherburne 18 May (MD).

Greater Yellowlegs: scattered reports throughout Region.

Bonaparte's Gull: 210 OtsL 8 Apr (JC); 70 Lisle P 16 Apr (JH); 74 ULCP 23 Apr (DN).

Little Gull: Binghamton BROO 9 Apr (VL,DW).

Ring-billed Gull: many records throughout entire Region.

Herring Gull: scattered records in all counties in Region.

Iceland Gull: 2 CGP 19 Apr (JM,JC).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 2 over BMF 19 Mar (ATr); 4 Song L CORT 23 Mar (CW); 6 Route 281 CORT 16 Apr (KT); 48 CGP 19 Apr (JM,JC).

Great Black-backed Gull: StPd 6 Mar (CW,LC); Cheri A. Lindsey P BROO 6 Mar (SR,RD); Lisle P 27 Mar (DN); CGP 14 Apr (JC).

Caspian Tern: 2 Lisle P 4 May (DN,GW); 6 ChenL 19 May (MD).

Black Tern: DorP 22 May (AT).

Common Tern: ULCP 26 Apr.(GW); 5 Otselic Ri BROO 4 May (DW); 2 Lisle P 6 May (AT).

Forster's Tern: 2 Lisle P 4 May (DN,DW).

Red-throated Loon: 69 Lisle P 16 Apr (DN); 4 CannR 17 Apr (LV).

Common Loon: 227 Lisle P 16 Apr (DN); scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Double-crested Cormorant: 215 Lisle P 14 Apr (DN); scattered reports in all counties in Region.

American Bittern: ULCP 3 Apr (DN); BUNP 16 Apr (MS); ULCP 22 Apr (GS,BS); CVSP 1 May (SD); Finch Hollow Nature Ctr BROO 10 May (SD); Hartwell Pd TIOG 13 May (DG); Lockwood TIOG 13 May (IW).

Least Bittern: ULCP 29 Apr - 2 May (DN,JH,DW); 2 site max Sherburne 17 May (JCol,BW).

Great Egret: CG 6 Apr. (MB); Cortland 7 May (KS); Edmeston OTSE 23 May (MC).

Green Heron: reported throughout entire Region.

Black Vulture: scattered reports of 1-2 individuals in BROO, DELA, OTSE & TIOG counties.

Golden Eagle: scattered reports of single birds in DELA, OTSE & TIOG counties; 2 over BMF 6 Mar (ATr).

Rough-legged Hawk: scattered reports of 1-2 individuals throughout Region.

Eastern Screech-Owl: 3 CVSP 30 May (RA,MM); other scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Great Horned Owl: reported throughout Region.

Short-eared Owl: Cortland 11 Apr. (JCol).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: MHL 14 Apr. (SCo); Hancock DELA 23 Apr. (ADa); Sherburne 16 May (DM,FvM).

Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Sherburne 22 May (MD).

Merlin: many reports throughout entire Region.

Peregrine Falcon: 2 Binghamton 8 Mar.(DN); scattered records of single birds in BROO, CHEN, OTSE & TIOG counties.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: High Vista Pres CORT 29 May (PH).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Pharsalia WMA CHEN 18 May (DN); ULCP 19 May (DN); Afton CHEN 21 May (PM); Glimmerglass SP OTSE 31 May (JF,PF).

Acadian Flycatcher: Maple Grove OTSE 21 May (LG), confirmed by audio recording.

Philadelphia Vireo: Sherburne 18 May (MD); 2 ULCP 19 May (DN); Candor TIOG 22 May (CWo); LHNC 24 May (CH).

Northern Shrike: Milford OTSE 16 Mar (AK).

Fish Crow: reported in all counties but most records from the Nichols/Binghamton area along Susquehanna River.

Horned Lark: 90 Earlville CHEN 1 Mar (MD); 40 Harford 5 Mar (CWo).

Purple Martin: 6 Murphy Pits BROO 9 May (DW); 2 Cherry Valley OTSE 29 May (QS).

Marsh Wren: 3 Bpd 14 May (DN); 3 Sherburne 18-29 May (mob); 3 CanL 25 May (TS,JAS).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: BUNP 21 May (LM); Johnson City BROO 25 May (DN).

Swainson's Thrush: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

American Pipit: 6 Binghamton 9 Mar (GW,SK); a few other scattered reports in Region.

Common Redpoll: 4 Spencer L TIOG 5 Mar (CWo); 3 Cortland 12 Mar (GC); 12 site max New Lisbon (OTSE) 28 Mar (LR).

Red Crossbill: 66 Region max Arctic SF DELA 30 May (LV); a very good year for this species as there were many reports in all counties in the Region, with breeding confirmed in over a dozen Atlas blocks.

White-winged Crossbill: Afton CHEN 9 Mar (MD).

Pine Siskin: reports of small numbers of this species in all counties in Region.

Snow Bunting: 7 Binghamton 10 Mar (MR); four other records of single birds in BROO & CORT counties. Absent in the rest of the Region.

Grasshopper Sparrow: MHL 16 May (SCo); Harford 21 May (CWo); MHL 29 May (SCo).

White-crowned Sparrow: 5 Otsego 9 May (LL); 7 Binghamton 10 May (SK); 6 Vestal 7 May (SO).

Vesper Sparrow: 3 Barker BROO 17 Apr (JW); a few scattered reports of single birds in CHEN, DELA, BROO & TIOG counties.

Lincoln's Sparrow: Chenango 12 May (MD,FvM).

Eastern Meadowlark: 9 Delancy DELA 13 Mar. (LV); 8 MHL 19 Mar. (CWo,JBa); 8 Lockwood TIOG 8 May (IW).

Orchard Oriole: 3 Lockheed Martin Pd TIOG 14 May (DG); scattered reports of single birds in BROO, CHEN & CORT counties.

Orange-crowned Warbler: LHNC 7 May (TB).

Mourning Warbler: reported in all counties.

Kentucky Warbler: Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 22-30 May (mob).

Hooded Warbler: reported in all counties.

Cape May Warbler: scattered reports throughout Region.

Bay-breasted Warbler: scattered reports in all counties in Region.

Blackpoll Warbler: many reports from all counties in Region.

SUMMER TANAGER (R4): Walton DELA 20 May (HS) - the author reviewed pictures of this bird and it appeared to be a 1st summer male.

Dickcissel: Harford 22 May (CWo).