

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Winter 2022-23 was characterized by much warmer than usual temperatures and little snowfall. December average maximum temperature was 39.1 °F, 2.0° above normal, and the minimum was 1.5° above at 25.2°. Only eight days failed to break the freezing mark, a preview of things to come. Rainfall was normal but snowfall was 14.2" shy of expected at 16.4". Nine days were partly sunny or better. January wasted no time with winter weather, finishing 5.7° above the typical average max at 37.4°. Even more impressive was the overnight average minimum of 27.1°, 10.6° warmer than normal over the last 30 years. Only four of 31 days failed to pass the freezing mark! Helping the cause, especially the overnight temps, were 28 overcast days and no clear ones. Rain predominated with 4.1" being 1.5" above normal. Snow totals were far below the 34" normal at 10.2" and the most in any 24-hour period was only 2.4". The month completed as ninth warmest in 120 years of climate records. February followed January's example with the average maximum temp of 41.9° being 8.3° above normal, much of this due to a prolonged mid-month warmup. The 15th topped out at 69° and only five days failed to reach freezing. Overnights were 3.9° above expected. Rainfall was average; snow was 8.7" below normal at 21.6" and the best daily accumulation was 6" on the 3rd. With nine partly-sunny days and no clear ones, February finished as tenth warmest on record. The entire season yielded only two days characterized as having 'fair' skies, both of those in December.

Most large bodies of water, even clean and shallow Oneida Lake, failed to achieve a hard, long-lasting freeze-over. As one might expect, there were a number of interesting highlights associated with the mild winter and its effect on species that travel only as far south as needed. An amazing winter 'sweep' of the Region's regularly-occurring dabbling ducks was achieved, including **Eurasian Wigeon** and **Blue-winged Teal**. The wigeon was found by David Wheeler on 27 February along the west shore of Howland Island while the teal was found by Richard Cohen on the 11th at Eaton Brook in Madison County, a record-early date. Impressive concentrations of dabblers were present at unusual locations in December, January (most unusual), and then as spring arrivals during the mid-February warm-up. The Maiden Lane/Towpath Road spot north of Port Byron had 99 Tundra Swan on 30 January while Andrea Burke counted 205 on 22 January at Maple Bay on Oneida Lake. Both spots are normally frozen. Four Wood Duck wintered in the Ditch Bank Road area, while 600 Mallard were there for the annual Winter Waterfowl Count. Though the creek that feeds the ditch stays open all winter the spot does not normally attract these kinds of numbers. Maiden Lane hosted 500+ Mallard on various dates from early January through the end of the period. Ninety American Black Duck were also noted on 30 January and 15 February, with 260 Northern Pintail counted by Reuben Stoltzfus on the latter date. Smaller numbers wintered with an incredible 120 seen by Wheeler at the

Seneca River floodplain on Loop Road on 30 January. Six Green-winged Teal were present the same day, then 13 by 15 February. Sam Beguin and Kristen Haynes found one in Eagle Bay (Adirondacks!) on 29 December and 19 January. Gregg Dashnau followed American Wigeon at Fair Haven through December with 90 starting the month and 15 finishing it, excellent numbers for winter in the Region. An interesting Wood Duck x Mallard hybrid continued at Webster Pond along with many other waterfowl both domestic and wild. Fulton's Lake Neatahwanta featured substantial open water close to shore throughout the season and attracted excellent numbers of ducks, geese, and gulls.

Diving duck numbers and locations were much more typical but not without a few highlights. Dashnau found an adult male **Barrow's Goldeneye** at Oswego Harbor on 5 February, and it was noted until the mid-month warm-up when it may have gone back to Canada. Beaver Lake hosted 280 Hooded Merganser on 5 December and 315 were found at Phillips Point on Oneida Lake's north shore by Bill Purcell on the 8th. On 11 February Wheeler found that the unusual Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser hybrid had returned to the same stretch of the Oneida River in Schroepel for another season. Small groups of Ruddy Duck wintered in typical locations with a maximum of 23 on Onondaga Lake on 5 January. American Coot wintered in expected spots with excellent numbers for the Region, including 53 on Skaneateles Lake for Ken Burdick and David Dubois on 15 January and 67 on Onondaga Lake on 30 December for Santos Rodriguez. Wheeler noted 20 Canvasback passing Derby Hill on 25 December while lakewatching, a good count for the location which does not see many.

Lack of snow prevented the Savannah mucklands to our west from flooding and no concentration of Snow Geese developed there in late winter, much to the disappointment of observers who remembered the spectacle of the previous year. Birds wintering on the Finger Lakes were instead moving during the mid-February warmup (a month earlier than many years) and watchers reported an unusually-strong westerly flight path around mighty Lake Ontario. With the counter not yet present for the spring season at Derby Hill, numbers passing along the species' typical east-end flyway were mostly missed. Would these birds discover hard-frozen ground to our north and return? While this is a frequent scenario that is unique to Snow Geese, it appears most didn't come back. The next issue of this report will present observations from March. Other goose highlights include a **Ross's Goose** found at Woodman Pond by Richard Cohen on 2 December and seen by many. It was a good season for **Greater White-fronted Goose** with John Killiany finding one on Cazenovia Lake on 2 December and Santos Rodriguez catching up with one on the beach at Oneida Shores Park on the 5th. With geese on the move in mid-February, one was noted in Van Buren between 5 and 8 February by Dennis Anderson and Martin Mau, with Bill Purcell adding another at Ox Creek in Oswego county on 19 February. While checking Syracuse's Woodland Reservoir on 15 February, Aidan Perkins discovered and photographed a very rare **Pink-footed Goose** for only a third Regional record and first for winter. This true 'mega' did not return to the reservoir. Roberta Sampere described 10 Brant at Sylvan Beach on 8 December, late for more than one bird. Canada Geese were on the move in big numbers in mid-February. Last but not

least, Gregg Dashnau counted 15 Trumpeter Swans on Lake Neatahwanta on 21 January and Mau and Kevin McGann found 12 on Sandy Pond on the 15th.

Mid-winter Killdeer were found at Fair Haven on 27 December by Tony Shrimpton and Verona Beach on 29 January by Matt Voelker. Devon Yoder saw a Wilson's Snipe at his farm near Peterboro on various dates in January. Late-season lakewatching produced Black-legged Kittiwakes on 1 and 4 December for David Wheeler and Jay McGowan. While birding Oswego Harbor on 25 December, Wheeler found an adult **Little Gull** with 50 Bonaparte's close to shore at the Coast Guard station. Both species are unusual at Oswego. Only four Glaucous Gulls were seen during the period, a low number. Matt Brown noted the return of a Herring x Great Black-backed hybrid at Selkirk Shores on 17 February. Black-crowned Night-Heron sometimes winter along the Onondaga Lake Creekwalk but were not found this year.

Turkey Vulture were noted at expected locations including Jamesville, and their roost spot in suburban evergreens was monitored by Tony Shrimpton near his home in Fayetteville. Black Vulture continued at known locations and joined their more common cousins in the evening. Bryan Rutledge observed eight near the Onondaga county facilities on 10 February, a good number for our area. Jeremy Collison saw two Golden Eagle while birding the Madison county landfill on 2 December. Several others were reported from more expected spots including a bird seen by Lonnie Mast migrating over his farm in Peterboro on 15 February. Kevin Topping's property in Salisbury hosted a Northern Goshawk at the end of February. The only Red-shouldered Hawk reports came from Sterling on 6 December by Robert Whitman and Peterboro on 15 February by Mast. A Snowy Owl at Oswego on 7 January was the only one of the season. Short-eared Owls were again found at the Burnet Road site in Clay slated to be developed for the huge Micron plant. The fields favored by the birds will presumably be lost.

A late Eastern Phoebe was seen in Earlville by Richard Cohen on 14 December. Jessie Moore carefully counted American Crows flying to roost in Syracuse on several dates and had a maximum of 7893 on 27 January. It was not a strong invasion year for **Bohemian Waxwing** but Kevin Topping had small groups from mid-December to the end of the period at his farm in Salisbury, with the best count being 37 on the 23rd. These were the only reports. A decent invasion of Evening Grosbeak occurred with good flocks at expected locations. Meralee Declercq submitted many checklists with photos of the birds at her feeders along Eaton Reservoir during January. Forestport hosted 87 on 26 February for Tim Wing and Matt Voelker. Jonathan Kresge found the season's only **Pine Grosbeak** in McKeever on 30 December, a terrific discovery in a year without much winter-finch irruption. Common Redpolls were scarce and the max was only three. Lapland Longspurs were seen three places. Field birds are always difficult to find in years without a lot of snow.

Fox Sparrow lingered in four locations, the last observed on 24 December. Bobby Wilcox described a very late **Lincoln's Sparrow** at Onondaga Lake Park on 2 December, likely a record for the Region. Eastern Towhee was reported only once, surprising given mild weather. Small numbers of Red-winged Blackbird were reported throughout winter but (along with Common Grackle) arrived by the

thousands between 14 and 22 February. A few early Rusty Blackbird were also noted. Photos of a **Pine Warbler** visiting feeders on Onondaga Hill were posted to Facebook on 27 January by Cindy Christopher, who had been seeing the bird for some time. Though the species winters on the Atlantic coast to New England it is very rare inland and there are only a few prior January records for the Region. Finally, only two detections registered at our MOTUS stations, both Horned Larks picked up in mid-December and early January after having been tagged north of Tadoussac Quebec at the end of September.

This season a total of 139 species and five hybrids were reported, which is two above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: **Ross's Goose**, **Greater White-fronted Goose**, **Pink-footed Goose**, Brant, Blue-winged Teal, **Eurasian Wigeon**, Wood Duck x Mallard (hybrid), **Barrow's Goldeneye**, Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser (hybrid), Black-legged Kittiwake, **Little Gull**, Black Vulture, Golden Eagle, **Bohemian Waxwing**, Evening Grosbeak, **Pine Grosbeak**, Red Crossbill, Lincoln's Sparrow, and Pine Warbler. The only reasonably-expected species missed was King Eider.

Winter 2022-23 produced 59,939 eBird records on 7,863 checklists for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v6.1. Reports were submitted by 603 people. With so many submitting to eBird, the editor would like to share how the 'Contributor' names below are compiled. Names appear in the list if at least one of the following four criteria are met: (1) a person's initials are used in the 'Synopsis' section; (2) a person submits a written list of sightings to the editor; (3) a person is the only one contributing from a particular part of the Region that would otherwise have no reports; or (4) a person submits above a 'participation threshold' number of eBird records which varies by season and was set at 200 for this report. Most listed below qualified under (4) but rest assured that all submissions contribute to this report.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BW** – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **BRH** – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox, MADI; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven SP, 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 Co Park; **HI** – Howland I WMA, CAYU; **HM** – Hamlin Marsh, Clay; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **Jville** – Jamesville; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area; **LOnt** – L Ontario; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison Co Landfill; **MexPt** – Mexico Pt SP; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **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; **OLP** – Onondaga L P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **PB** – Maiden Lane/Towpath Rd & environs, Port Byron; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **Ppt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **PSS** – Peter Scott Swamp, Phoenix; **PV** – Pleasant Valley Pres, T Onondaga; **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; **Sithe** – trails at Independence P, formerly Sithe Energy, Scriba; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skan** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WebP** – Webster Pd, Syracuse; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow, Memphis; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

Snow Goose: 250 Salisbury 4 Dec; 500 Cassville 8 Dec; 900 Pulaski 9 Dec; 435 HI 19 Dec; 300 Marcellus 6 Jan but mostly absent mid-Dec to mid-Feb; arr 1500 SNC 12 Feb; 3300 Pulaski 16 Feb; 5600 Bville 19 Feb; max 9000 Ox Creek OSWE 20 Feb; *intro*.
Ross's Goose: WP 2-10 Dec (RCo); only rep.
Greater White-fronted Goose: Cazenovia L 2 Dec (JKi); OSP 5 Dec (SRo); Van Buren 5-8 Feb (DAn, MMA, mob); Ox Creek OSWE 19-20 Feb (BPu); only reps.
PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: Woodland Res Syr 15 Feb (APe, ph), unexpected loc, not

relocated; 2nd county & 3rd Reg rec, 1st for winter.

Brant: 10 SVB 8 Dec (RSa), only rep and a month later than prev rep.

Cackling Goose: 1-2 at 10 typ locs var dates thru.

Canada Goose: flocks widespread thru; max est 5000 SNC 19 Feb.

Snow Goose x Canada Goose (hybrid): WebP 10 Dec; only rep.

Mute Swan: most reps OnonL & FH; max 105 FH 22 Jan.

Trumpeter Swan: small groups expected locs; max 15 Fulton 21 Jan (GDa); 12 SP 15 Jan (KMc, MMa).

Tundra Swan: 99 Port Byron 30 Jan, unusual loc/date; groups typ locs, best nums OneiL; max 205 OneiL 22 Jan, good num for date.

Wood Duck: 4 DB 15 Jan, 2, 7 Feb; 10 WP 22 Jan, good num; max 12 WebP 10 Dec.

Blue-winged Teal: Eaton Brook MADI 11 Feb (RCo), very early, *intro*.

Northern Shoveler: max 11 FH 2 Dec; last 4 FH 10 Dec; OswH 25 Dec & Fult 1 Jan, late; arr IH 11 Feb; 2 HI 27 Feb; only reps.

Gadwall: groups FH & OnonL thru; max 53 FH 2 Dec.

Eurasian Wigeon: Seneca R HI 27 Feb (DWh).

American Wigeon: max 90 FH 2 Dec, 40 FH 20 Dec, 15 FH 30 Dec (GDa), all good nums for Dec; 1-4 sev typ locs Jan-mid Feb; arr 15 FH 10 Feb; 30 FH 11 Feb; 38 OnonL 13 Feb, good nums for mid-Feb.

Mallard: max 650 LoopR 30 Jan, good num; 600 DB 14 Jan, unusual loc for date; 500 PB 7, 18 Jan, 15 Feb, unusual loc for date; 500+ WebP var dates thru.

Wood Duck x Mallard (hybrid): WebP thru, unusual.

American Black Duck: max 90 PB 30 Jan, 88 PB 15 Feb, good num/unusual loc for date.

Mallard x Am. Black Duck (hybrid): 1-2 sev locs thru; max 6 WebP 24 Jan.

Northern Pintail: small groups winter, var locs thru; 22 FH 30 Dec; 120 LoopR 30 Jan, very large num for date; arr 215 PB 15 Feb; max 260 PB 16 Feb.

Green-winged Teal: small nums few locs thru; 5 LoopR 7 Jan & 6 LoopR 30 Jan, good nums for date; Eagle Bay HERK 29 Dec, 19 Jan (SBe, KHa), unusual loc; arr 4 OnonL 13 Feb, early & 13 LoopR 15 Feb, early and good num.

Canvasback: max 20 DH 25 Dec, good num for loc/date.

Redhead: max est 2000 OnonL 23 Jan.

Ring-necked Duck: max 800 WP 7 Dec.

Greater Scaup: max 267 OswH 29 Jan.

Lesser Scaup: max 200 OnonL 16 Feb.

Greater/Lesser Scaup: max 700 OneiL 8 Dec.

Aythya sp: max 1200 OnonL 13 Jan.

Surf Scoter: DH 1 Dec; 2 OneiL 2 Dec & DH 4 Dec; max 3 OnonL 22 Jan; only reps.

White-winged Scoter: max 100 OswH 23 Feb, fewer at loc than usual.

Black Scoter: max 2-3 SVB 2-16 Dec; DH 25 Dec; SBP 8 Jan; only reps.

Long-tailed Duck: max 500 FH 10 Feb.

Bufflehead: max 30 OnonL 13 Feb & 29 SkanL 19 Feb.

Common Goldeneye: max 400 FH 10 Feb.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (R5): ad male OswH 5-16 Feb (GDa, mob); only rep.

Hooded Merganser: 280 BLNC 5 Dec; max 315 PPt 8 Dec.

Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser (hybrid): OneiR Schroepel 11 Feb (DWh); unusual, *intro*.

Common Merganser: max est 3000 OnonL 19 Feb.

Red-breasted Merganser: max est 2000 FH 22 Jan.

Ruddy Duck: small groups winter thru, much more than usual; max 23 OnonL 5 Jan.

Wild Turkey: max est 130 Hubbardsville MADI 6 Feb.

Ruffed Grouse: small nums var locs, few reps.

Ring-necked Pheasant: small nums var locs, few reps.

Pied-billed Grebe: 1-2 var locs thru; poor nums/few reps.

Horned Grebe: max 12 SkanL 2 Jan.

Red-necked Grebe: 1-3 OnonL 17-25 Jan; only reps.

Rock Pigeon: widespread; max 400 Syr 17 Dec.

Mourning Dove: widespread; 120 OLP 5 Jan; max 175 Canastota 22 Jan.

American Coot: groups winter thru, more than usual; 53 SkanL 15 Jan; max 67 OnonL 30 Dec, exc nums.

Killdeer: FH 27 Dec (TSh); Verona Beach 29 Jan (MVo); arr Schroepel 19 Feb (MSc); Rome 26-27 Feb; only reps.

Wilson's Snipe: Peterboro var dates Jan (DYo); only rep.

Black-legged Kittiwake: DH 1 Dec (DWh, MMa); 2 DH 4 Dec (JMc); only reps.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 50 OswH 25 Dec, unusual loc; last 4 OswH 2 Jan.

Little Gull: ad OswH 25-26 Dec (DWh, ph, mob).

Ring-billed Gull: 1500 OneiL 2 Dec; max est 3000 OnonL 21 Jan.

Herring Gull: 1000 Fulton 16 Feb; max est 1200 DB 22 Jan.

Iceland Gull: max 11 DB 4 Jan.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1-2 typ locs thru; max 3 DB 22 Jan.

Glaucous Gull: arr OswH 25 Dec, late; singles Fulton, OswH, DB 26 Dec – 14 Jan; only reps, fewer than usual.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 91 IH 3 Feb.
Herring Gull x Great Black-backed Gull (hybrid): SSSP 17 Feb (MBr), unusual.

Red-throated Loon: max 3 DH 4 Dec & FH 22 Jan & OswH 27 Dec, 8, 30 Jan; few reps refer only to these locs.

Common Loon: max 40 FH 2 Dec.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 56 IH 17 Dec.

Great Blue Heron: max 4 OnonL 17 Dec & DeWitt 26 Dec.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: no reps.

Black Vulture: 2-6 at known locs incl Jville, Little Falls, Rome; max 8 Jville 10 Feb; Waterville 9 Dec (RWi), unusual loc.

Turkey Vulture: group known loc Jville thru, max 60 Fville roost 2 Dec (TSh); scattered singles/small groups var locs/dates thru; mig arr OSWE, 6 DH & 16 Pulaski 15 Feb.

Golden Eagle: 2 MCL 2 Dec (JCo), unusual loc; Chittenango 3 Feb (CSp); Peterboro 15 Feb (LMA); Poolville & Cazenovia 28 Feb (JMk, JKi), pres mig; only reps.

Northern Harrier: max 4 Cicero 31 Jan & Clay 18 Feb; 2 DH 15 Feb, pres mig.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: singles var locs thru.

Cooper's Hawk: 1-2 widespread thru.

Northern Goshawk: Salisbury 25 Feb (KTo, mob, ph); only rep.

Bald Eagle: max 84 OnonL 26 Feb.

Red-shouldered Hawk: Sterling 6 Dec (RWi); Peterboro 15 Feb (LMA); only reps.

Red-tailed Hawk: widespread; 11 DH & max 34 Pulaski 15 Feb, likely arr migrants.

Rough-legged Hawk: singles var locs 19 Dec thru; max 2 at 5 locs late-Dec to late-Jan.

Eastern Screech-Owl: singles/pairs typical locs.

Great Horned Owl: widespread resident.

Snowy Owl: OswH 7 Jan (BPu; KHa, SBe); only rep.

Barred Owl: widespread resident.

Long-eared Owl: OLP 7, 8 Jan, 4, 7 Feb (mob); only rep.

Short-eared Owl: singles 2 locs HERK 10 Jan, 2 Feb (JKI); Oneida 1-20 Jan (DAn, MVo, mob); 1-max 3 Clay 27 Dec – 12 Feb (TRi, mob) but likely present thereafter; HM 14 Feb (MMA); only reps.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Skan 2 Jan (BPu); only rep.

Belted Kingfisher: 1-2 var locs near open water; max 3 OnonL 5 Jan, 16 Feb.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: widespread resident.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: scattered reps of singles; max 2 Waterville 31 Jan.

Black-backed Woodpecker: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.

Downy Woodpecker: widespread resident.

Hairy Woodpecker: widespread resident.

Northern Flicker: good num winter; max 9 Bville 4 Jan.

Pileated Woodpecker: widespread resident.

American Kestrel: singles var locs thru.

Merlin: singles var locs thru.

Peregrine Falcon: singles/pairs typ locs.

Eastern Phoebe: Earlville 14 Dec (RCO); only rep.

Northern Shrike: singles 11 locs thru.

Canada Jay: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.

Blue Jay: max 30 Osw 18 Dec & Phx 7 Feb.

American Crow: max 7893 Syr 27 Jan (JeM), carefully counted roost flight, *intro*.

Fish Crow: max 8 IH 28 Feb; reps typ locs.

Common Raven: widespread reps; 18 Salisbury 7 Jan; max 19 SP 15 Jan.

Black-capped Chickadee: widespread resident; max 35 Clinton 17 Dec; counts 20+ at some feeders.

Boreal Chickadee: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.

Tufted Titmouse: widespread resident except N HERK & N ONEI; max 16 Mexico 27 Feb.

Horned Lark: max 50 Clinton 20 Dec.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: OLP 4, 17 Dec; OLC 1 Jan; 2 PB 2 Jan; PV 22 Feb; only reps.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1-3 var locs thru; max 4 OLP 29 Jan & Camp Zerbe 12 Feb.

Bohemian Waxwing: 1-8 Salisbury var dates 18 Dec-26 Feb (KTo); max 37 same loc 23 Dec; only reps.

Cedar Waxwing: max 60 Poolville 7 Feb.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: small groups typ locs; max 6 at 4 locs var dates.

White-breasted Nuthatch: widespread resident.

Brown Creeper: small nums typ locs; max 5 OLP 12 Feb.

Winter Wren: singles 9 locs 11 Dec-5 Feb.

Carolina Wren: small nums typ locs, mostly ONON.

Gray Catbird: Fville 17 Dec (BRu); only rep.

Northern Mockingbird: singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON.

European Starling: max est 3000 DB 17, 22 Jan.

Eastern Bluebird: widespread in typ locs; max 19 Poland 5 Dec.

Hermit Thrush: 2 GLSP 17 Dec; 2 HI 19 Dec; FH 20 Dec; Chittenango 28 Dec; Bville 4 Jan; Perryville 5 Jan, 21 Feb; only reps.

American Robin: max 167 SNC 15 Dec.

House Sparrow: flocks widespread resident.

Evening Grosbeak: flocks to 70 at exp locs thru; 72 Eaton Res 2-29 Jan (MDe); max 87 Forestport 26 Feb (MVo, TWi); exc nums, *intro*.

Pine Grosbeak: McKeever 30 Dec (JKr); only rep.

House Finch: widespread resident; max 38 OLP 2 Jan.

Purple Finch: small nums typ locs in Reg highlands; max Cassville 14, 25 Jan.

Common Redpoll: singles 10 locs 14 Dec-28 Feb; max 3 Rome 5 Feb; low nums.

Red Crossbill: MH 10 Dec; max 19 MH 4 Dec; 15 MH 16 Feb.

White-winged Crossbill: no reps.

Pine Siskin: small nums typ locs; max 5 Williamstown 7 Jan.

American Goldfinch: flocks common & widespread; max 100 Bville 13 Jan.

Lapland Longspur: Apulia 14 Jan (KFi, RFi, MFi); Bville 13 Dec (JBr); Peterboro 24 Jan (LMA).

Snow Bunting: flocks typ locs thru; max 150 Bville 19 Feb & Peterboro 24 Jan.

Chipping Sparrow: Manlius 17 Dec-24 Feb (CBr); NSyr 20 Jan (DWh); Syr 6 Jan (ATh), 22 Jan (DWe); only reps.

Field Sparrow: Camillus 23 Jan (MRo); only rep.

American Tree Sparrow: max 50 Canastota 19 Jan.

Fox Sparrow: Marcellus 2 Dec (KFe); RCFS 8 Dec (KHa); Rome 14, 19, 24 Dec (PKu); Verona B 19 Dec (MVo); only reps.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 39 PB 19 Dec.

White-crowned Sparrow: 1-2 few locs thru, incr as winterer in Reg; 4 PB 19 Dec; max 5 Bville 4 Feb.

White-throated Sparrow: max 15 UM 18 Feb.

Song Sparrow: max 9 OLP 2 Dec.

Lincoln's Sparrow: OLP 2 Dec (BWi), well-described, very late.

Swamp Sparrow: 1-2 at 8 locs thru; max 3 Brew 31 Dec.

Eastern Towhee: Osw 10, 21 Feb (RWh); only rep.

Red-winged Blackbird: singles, small flocks typ locs thru; mig arr var locs mid-Feb; max est 6000 Bville 19 Feb; best counts all 14-22 Feb.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 150 DB 17 Feb.

Rusty Blackbird: singles 6 locs 7 Dec - 4 Jan & 5-19 Feb; 5 Verona B 16 Feb; max 10 TR 14 Feb.

Common Grackle: singles a few locs Dec, none in Jan; mig flocks arr 14 Feb; max est 10000 Bville 19 Feb; best counts all 14-22 Feb.

Pine Warbler: Onondaga Hill 27 Jan (CCh, ph) present at feeders for some time, rare in winter.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: Bville 11 Dec & max 4 Bville 18 Dec (GDa); only reps.

