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Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *Field Notes* are keyed on page 295.

# appalachian region



## GEORGE A. HALL

**S**urely a weird winter should be followed by a weird spring. If the season wasn't weird it was at least mixed up, both in weather and in birds. Can we blame it all on that "Latino infant" that has been in all the headlines? The last cold weather came in early March, and from mid-March to mid-May it was warm and rainy, with an April precipitation at Pittsburgh of 4.98 inches. Late May was warm and drier than normal. There were no major cold fronts to cause fallouts of migrants, but there were a series of heavy summerlike storms which caused flooding at some places. Plant development, including tree leaves, was more than two weeks ahead of schedule.

In March the migration was about on time, and a major cold front did cause a big fallout of waterfowl March 14. In April and early May, the migration fell behind schedule by as much as two weeks. When the warblers did come they were hard to see in the fully leaved out trees. But there was a

great paradox. While the bulk arrival of most passerine migrants was later than normal, there was a long list of very early arrival dates for individual birds. Some migrants were still passing through in the first week of June.

Most observers felt that migrants were in low numbers, but by the end of the period it appeared that the local breeding species were in near normal numbers, which suggests that in the absence of severe weather to ground them, and with the advanced plant development providing adequate food, the majority of migrants overflew the Region.

The only major banding station operating, Powermill Nature Reserve, banded only 1932 birds, lowest of the past 10 years. Of 46 species analyzed, 14 were one standard deviation (S.D.) below normal. These included nine Neotropicals migrants and Brown-headed Cowbird, House Finch, Field Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, and Song Sparrow. The other 32 species were netted in statistically average numbers (RCL, RM).

**Abbreviations:** B.L. (*Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co, TN*); G.R.W.A. (*Grand R. Wildlife Area, Trumbull Co., OH*); G.S.M.N.P. (*Great Smoky Mountains N.P., NC/TN*); G.B.W.M.A. (*Green Bottom W.M.A., Cabell Co., WV*); P.I.S.P. (*Presque Isle S.P., Erie Co, PA*); P.N.R. (*Powdermill Nature Reserve, Westmoreland Co., PA*); R.C.B.L. (*Robert C. Byrd Lock, Ohio R., Mason Co., WV*); S.H.L. (*South Holston L., Washington Co./Sullivan Co., TN*); Y.C.S.P. (*Yellow Creek S.P., Indiana Co., PA*).

## LOONS TO IBIS

A Red-throated Loon was at Rose Valley L., PA, May 13 (P&GS). Common Loons were more numerous than in recent years, with a peak count of 41 at L. Arthur, PA, Apr. 26 (DD, DY). Many remained into May with the latest May 16 at Mosquito L., OH (NB). Eighteen Pied-billed Grebes at Mt. Horeb, *Augusta*, VA, Apr. 21 provided a new high local spring count (YL). A young Pied-bill was seen at Geneva Marsh, *Crawford*, PA, May 31 (RFL), and breeding was also probable at the G.R.W.A. (CB). Horned Grebes were in low numbers at Meander Res., OH (CB), but were more numerous at most places, with a remarkable 1246 in *Crawford*, PA, Apr. 12 (RFL). Five reports of Red-necked Grebes were more than usual. The wintering Eared Grebes at S.H.L. were last seen Mar. 30 (WC), and three were seen in *Wise*, VA, Mar. 20 (RP).

Double-crested Cormorants were widespread but in somewhat lower numbers than in the recent past. A formal point count at Huntington, WV, tallied 45% fewer birds than last year (HS). An Am. White Pelican was seen at P.I.S.P. Mar. 22 (DD, DY).

American Bitterns were reported from 9 locations, with at least 14 seen during the season at P.I.S.P. (JM). Least Bitterns were found at P.I.S.P. May 16 & 19–25 (JM, DHo); New Castle, PA, through May (BW); G.R.W.A., OH, May 31 (CB); G.B.W.M.A. May 24 (HS); and B.L. Apr. 21 and May 17 (KC, LW). Three large nesting colonies of Great Blue Herons in w. Pennsylvania had more nests than last year (DB). Great Egrets were widely reported but in less-than-normal spring numbers. A Snowy Egret was seen near Fallston, *Beaver*, PA, Apr. 15 (SK). A **Tricolored Heron** was at Pymatuning, PA, Apr. 26 and later (RFL). A Cattle Egret was reported from G.B.W.M.A. Apr. 22 & 23 (WA, HS). A Black-crowned Night-Heron at B.L. May 9 was unusual there (KC). A Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was at Elizabethton, TN, May 17 (GWa).

A Glossy Ibis graced B L May 9 (KC)

and 7 *Plegadis ibis* were seen flying over another *Hamilton*, TN, area May 13 (KC). More unusual was the Glossy Ibis at Mosquito L., OH, May 6 (ph., CB).

## WATERFOWL

Waterfowl migration was very diffuse. Most places had few ducks, but there were some concentrations. In the absence of ice, the diving duck population on Presque Isle Bay, PA, built up to 60,000 birds, with about 70% Red-breasted Mergansers. A major cold front produced a notable fallout Mar. 14 at L. Somerset, PA (AM), and L. Arthur, PA (GW). In *Augusta*, VA, 10 species had record-high spring daily counts. An unusual number of waterfowl remained in the Region at the end of May.

Three areas reported peak numbers of Tundra Swans Mar. 1: 170 at Pymatuning L., PA (RFL); 150 at Beaver Run Res., *Westmoreland*, PA (DL); and 150 in *Centre*, PA (RH). A Mute Swan was at L. Somerset, PA, Mar. 1 (AM) and another at the Pymatuning Fish Hatchery Apr. 26–May 11 (RFL).

A Greater White-fronted Goose at Stuart's Draft, *Augusta*, VA, Mar. 17 (YL) may have been the bird seen there in December and January. The only report of Snow Geese was a flock of 40 over State College, PA, Feb. 28 (MM). The high count of Canada Geese at Pymatuning L. was 2270 Mar. 7 (RFL). Young geese hatched 1–2 weeks early at Pymatuning (RFL).

Dabbling Ducks were in moderate numbers, with new seasonal highs of 84 Am. Black Ducks and 232 Mallards in *Augusta*, VA, Mar. 10 (YL). At Conneaut Marsh, PA, 303 Am. Wigeons were seen Mar. 15 (RFL), and a **Eurasian Wigeon** was at L. Arthur, PA, Mar. 14–23 (MWi). There were a number of late May records of Blue-winged Teal.

Except for Com. Goldeneye, most diving ducks were in good numbers. Of special interest were the 535 Canvasbacks and 333 Redheads at L. Arthur, PA, Mar. 14 (GW). Other notable concentrations were 1375 Ring-necked Ducks at Conneaut Marsh, PA, Mar. 21 (RFL), and 1000 Lesser Scaup and 1000 Ruddy Ducks at L. Arthur Mar. 14. The Bufflehead was in remarkably high numbers, topped off by 3349 in *Crawford*, PA, and 3000 at the Pymatuning Spillway Apr. 12 (RFL). It was a good spring for the usually rare "sea ducks." Fifteen Greater Scaup at Derry L., *Westmoreland*, PA, Mar. 14 (DBy) was a high number. Oldsquaws were reported from Woodcock L., PA, Apr. 28 (RFL); *Warren*, PA, Apr. 16 (BH); Colyer L., PA, Mar. 22 (GK, BR); S Avis, PA, Mar. 28

(G&PS); L. Arthur, PA, Mar. 15 (GW); *Lawrence*, PA, Apr. 15 (G&BD); and Y.C.S.P. Mar. 28 (SG). Up to six Black Scoters were at P.I.S.P. until Mar. 30 (JM), and four were seen at L. Arthur, PA, Mar. 14 (GW). Surf Scoters were found at Land-O-Lakes, *Crawford*, PA, Apr. 12 (LC), and there were several late records: Kahle L., *Venango*, PA, May 3–17 (GE); Rose Valley L., PA, May 13 (P&GS); L. Arthur, PA, Apr. 26 (DD, DY) and May 9 (GW); and Pittsburgh May 15 (CT). White-winged Scoters were at P.I.S.P. Mar. 14–22 (JM); *Warren*, PA, Apr. 3 (DW), Colyer L., PA, Mar. 13 (BT); L. Arthur, PA, Mar. 16 (GW, SM); and *Cabell*, WV, May 24 (HS).

## RAPTORS THROUGH CRANES

Ospreys were widely reported in migration. Reintroduction programs have been successful, with 6 nestings reported from w. Pennsylvania, as well as one in *Wood*, WV (JE). Sightings of Bald Eagles have become too numerous to list individually. There were 18 active nests in w. Pennsylvania (DB). In West Virginia, 6 nests produced nine young (CS). A nesting at Nickajack Dam, TN, resulted in one young (KC). A severe storm May 31 blew down a nest in *Butler*, PA, which had been active for 8 years. The single young was badly injured and was turned over to a rehabilitator (*vide PH*).

Northern Harrier sightings in *Augusta*, VA, Mar. 13 (YL) and *Wood*, WV, Apr. 13 (RJ) were locally noteworthy. A male and three–four females were engaged in courtship flights at Imperial, PA (CT), but nesting could not be verified (PH). The only reports of N. Goshawks were singles near Meadville, PA, Mar. 22 (RFL), at Y.C.S.P. Mar. 31 (MH); and at Natrona Heights, PA, Apr. 2 (PH). Broad-winged Hawks at P.N.R. Apr. 10 (RCL, RM) and *Augusta* Apr. 12 (YL) were early. The species has declined greatly in the 5 counties of the Pittsburgh area (PH). A **Swainson's Hawk** was seen on the Soddy Mt. hawk watch, *Hamilton*, TN, Apr. 11 (WH). The only Rough-legged Hawk was one in *Crawford*, PA, Mar. 7 & 15 (RFL, IF). Through Mar. 31, the Tussey Mt., PA, hawk watch counted 94 Golden Eagles, with 20 Mar. 6 (DBr). A Golden Eagle was sighted at L. Somerset, PA, Apr. 3 (M & EW).

The four Merlins wintering in a Pittsburgh park became three, last seen Apr. 17 (BHi). Merlin sightings came from 6 locations in w. Pennsylvania and *Hamilton*, TN, May 9 (R&DS). A new female paired with downtown Pittsburgh's male Peregrine, and

they raised four young which were banded May 8. The nesting was about a month earlier than in the past (DB). The pair in the Oakland district of Pittsburgh was thought to have nested on the University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning (*vide* PH). Peregrines also nested in G.S.M.N.P. (*vide* DM) and again at the Chickamauga Dam, TN (*vide* KC), and may have nested in *Unicoi*, TN (FA, PW). Sightings of Peregrines were reported from near Meadville, PA, Apr. 12 (RFL) and *Wood*, WV, Apr. 26 (BM).

The origin of the Ring-necked Pheasant seen on the Migration Count in *Wood*, WV, May 9 (JE) is questionable, as is the status of the N. Bobwhite at *Conneaut L.*, PA, May 11 (RFL). A bobwhite in *Mason*, WV, May 16 was noteworthy (WA).

A King Rail was at G.B.W.M.A. May 6 & 7 (WA). There were reports of Virginia Rails from 9 locations, and Soras from 10. The 25 Soras reported from B.L. was the largest number ever for that area (KC). Common Moorhens were reported from 7 of the same locations. Once a rarity in this Region, Sandhill Crane reports continue to increase: 14 at N. Liberty, PA, Mar. 21 (GW); seven at Geneva Marsh, PA (DD); four at Mosquito L., OH, May 24 (CB); two each at P.I.S.P. Mar. 27 (GC) and Glades, PA (DD, DY); and one at Kahle L., PA, Mar. 4-5 (G&DE).

## SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS

The shorebird flight was not very heavy, although the mild weather did result in some early arrival dates. There were a few reports of rarer species. Three Am. Golden-Plovers were seen at L. Somerset, PA, Apr. 27 (RCL). Single Willets were seen at P.I.S.P. May 15 (JM), Mt. Horeb, VA, May 9 (YL), and *Hamilton*, TN, May 9 (WH), and five were at Huntington, WV, May 11 (WA et al.) Upland Sandpipers were reported from 5 w. Pennsylvania counties. A Whimbrel was seen at P.I.S.P. May 25 (JM) and two at Mt. Horeb, VA, May 27, for first *Augusta* record (YL). The 15 Marbled Godwits at R.C.B.L. Apr. 19 furnished the 4th record for the state (MG, WA). White-rumped Sandpipers were found at P.I.S.P. May 19 (SK), Y.C.S.P. May 27-28 (GC), Mt. Horeb, VA, May 5 & 9 (YL), and B.L. May 4 (KC). Thirteen Baird's Sandpipers (rare in spring) were at Y.C.S.P. May 31 (GC), and four Stilt Sandpipers were seen in *Washington*, TN, May 24 (RK). Dunlin and Com. Snipe were more widely reported than usual.

A Laughing Gull at Mt. Horeb, VA, Apr. 29 (AL) was a first for *Augusta*. Up to two Little Gulls were at P.I.S.P. Mar. 2-15 (JM)

The largest Bonaparte's Gull count was 43 at Huntington, WV, Apr. 13 (HS), but the species was widely reported and one at Wise, VA, Mar. 20 provided the 3rd *Wise* record (RP). The only large concentrations of Ring-billed Gulls reported were 925 at Pymatuning L., PA, Mar. 7 (RFL) and several hundred on the New R. in s. West Virginia during March (JP). Thirty Herring Gulls at Pymatuning L. Mar. 7 (RFL) was a good number away from L. Erie, and the colony on the bridge structures on the Allegheny R. at Pittsburgh had 6 nests (PH). From P.I.S.P. came a report of a Thayer's Gull Mar. 25 (JM) and three Glaucous Gulls Mar. 7-22 (JM, EK, DD).

Caspian Terns were found at Kahle L., PA, May 17 (GE); L. Arthur, PA, Apr. 26 (DY, DD); Y.C.S.P. May 5-30 (MH); *Que-mahoning Res.*, PA, Apr. 1 (E&MW); L. Somerset Apr. 20 (AM) & 28 (RCL), and in *Botetourt*, VA, May 19 (KK). Twenty Com. Terns were reported from 8 locations, and 60 Forster's Terns from 7 locations. Black Terns made 3 nesting attempts at the historic breeding site at Hartstown Marsh, PA (DB). Other sightings came from P.I.S.P. May 23 (MFi); *Edinboro L.*, PA, May 2 (JH); Kahle L., PA, May 17 (GE); *Starbrick*, PA, Apr. 14 (DW); Y.C.S.P. May 31 (GC); and Mt. Horeb, VA, May 9 & 11 (YL).

## CUCKOOS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS

Both cuckoo species were in low numbers. In *Lawrence*, PA, two nest boxes intended for an owl reintroduction project were taken over by wild Barn Owls before the captives could be released (BW). Barn Owls were present at 2 sites at Johnson City, TN (FA), and fresh remains were found at P.I.S.P. May 17 (JM). Two Great-horned Owls nests in *Warren*, PA, each fledged two young (DW). Most obliging was a **Snowy Owl** in the reporter's backyard at Meadville, PA, Mar. 7 (RFL). A single Long-eared Owl Mar. 26 and two Apr. 11 were at P.I.S.P. (DD), and two were seen Apr. 4 at Montour Preserve, PA (P&GS). A pair of Short-eared Owls were seen in courtship flight Apr. 5 at Imperial, PA (CT); confirmation of nesting was not possible. Short-eared Owls did nest at Volant, *Lawrence*, PA for the 2nd year (SB). Five N. Saw-whet Owls were recorded at P.I.S.P. Mar. 26-Apr. 3 (DD), and they were observed at 2 locations in *Centre*, PA, Mar. 2 & 8 (v.o.), in *Venango*, PA, Mar. 25 (JS), and Y.C.S.P. Mar. 28 (SG).

The Com. Nighthawk was in low numbers or absent at most places, but there were more reports of Whip-poor-wills than in recent years. An early Ruby-throated Hum-

mingbird was at Staunton, VA, Apr. 9 (MB), but it was generally in lower-than-normal numbers, with only 50 banded at P.N.R., the lowest since 1993 (RM, RCL). The Rufous Hummingbird present at a feeder in Delmont, PA, since fall was last seen Mar. 31 (RCL, RM). Only one Red-headed Woodpecker was found at the traditional sites at Mosquito L., OH (CB). There were 6 other reports: *Lawrence* and *Allegheny*, PA (PH), *Somerset*, PA, May 10 (AM); *Wood*, WV, Apr. 28 (SR) and May 9 (JE); and *Augusta*, VA, May 9 (*vide* YL).

There were more Olive-sided Flycatchers reports than usual. The E. Wood Pewee continues to decline over much of the Region, but few reporters commented on this. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher bandings at P.N.R. were more than one S.D. below the long-term average (RM, RCL). Two Alder Flycatchers, rare and local in w. Pennsylvania, were reported from L. Arthur May 9 (GW). Others were at Beechwood Farms May 30 (MFi), Y.C.S.P. May 27 (GC), and Glades, *Butler*, with seven singing males May 24 (P&DH). Three singing male Willow Flycatchers at Blairsville, GA, May 15 & 22 may indicate a new nesting area (DF, GB). Singing Willow Flycatchers at 2 locations in *Augusta*, VA, May 17 & 29 (YL) were noteworthy. Another flycatcher that seems to be declining without much comment is the Great Crested Flycatcher.

## SWALLOWS THROUGH PIPITS

Tree Swallows were early nest builders at Staunton, VA, Apr. 7 (YL). Bank Swallows are seldom found in the Region, so a flock of 20+ at a quarry in *Somerset*, PA, May 7 was noteworthy (AM). The Cliff Swallow continues to increase in its newly acquired s. range. They nested again at Beech Fork S.P. and Dam in *Wayne*, WV (HS). A new high count of 130+ was at Mt. Horeb, VA, May 9 (AL), and later a colony of 60+ nests was found at the same place (YL). The 4 nests located in *Botetourt*, VA, furnished the 2nd local nesting in the past 80 years. (KK, BK).

At the Soddy Mt. hawk watch, 2144 Blue Jays were counted April 25-27 (WH). A flock of 21 Fish Crows was seen at Harrisonburg, VA, Mar. 25 (MGS), and three were listed on the *Allegany*, MD, Migration Count (*vide* MT). There were 4 nests of Com. Raven in *Somerset*, PA (AM). The first nesting for *Venango*, PA, fledged two (RSt), and three fledglings being fed in *Greene*, PA (RB), furnished a first for that county and one of few breeding records away from the mountains or mountain valleys. A nesting

was reported from *Augusta*, VA (YL), and ravens seen at Brasstown Bald and Horsetrough Mt., both GA, in late May (DF) hint at further range expansion.

Red-breasted Nuthatches left over from winter were widely reported, and for the 3rd year they were nesting at the Red R. Gorge, *Wolfe*, KY (FR). Two Brown Creeper nests in *Butler*, PA provided county firsts (GW). With little mortality during the mild winter, Carolina Wren populations continued to increase in the north, with nesting as far north as Warren, OH (CB). Another season passed without a report of Bewick's Wren. House Wren bandings at P.N.R. were one S.D. below the ten-year average (RCL, RM), and they were in lower-than-normal numbers elsewhere. The only reports of Sedge Wren came from B.L. May 4 (KC) & 9 (JH). Marsh Wrens were at G.R.W.A. May 31 (CB); L. Arthur, PA, May 9 (GW); Glades, PA, May 24 (P&DH); P.N.R. May 1 & 14 (banded; RCL, RM), and Stuart's Draft, VA, May 16 (YL).

Migrating spotted thrushes were in very low numbers. At P.N.R., Swainson Thrush bandings were the poorest in 10 years (RCL, RM). Resident Wood Thrushes were in about normal numbers, although generally late. From the north came several reports of N. Mockingbirds: P.I.S.P. Apr.17–May 14 (BM, DD); Fairview, PA, May 28 (JM); Irvine, *Warren*, PA, May 15 (RW); *Venango*, PA, May 6 (JS); and Niles, OH, Mar. 21 (CB). American Pipits were widely reported and included some sizable flocks. On May 3 a pipit was noted feeding on the mudflats with the shorebirds in *Somerset*, PA (AM).

## SHRIKES THROUGH FINCHES

A N. Shrike was seen at the Akeley State Game Lands, *Warren*, PA, Mar. 14 (BH), and the only report of Loggerhead Shrike was of a May nest with young in *Botetourt*, VA (BK, KK). Blue-headed Vireos nested in *Wolfe*, KY, May 28 (FR), and nests were found on the Appalachian Trail in *Macon*, NC, May 5 and Vogel S.P., GA, May 11 (DF). Four singing Yellow-throated Vireos were counted in one mile of trail in Shenandoah N.P. (MGS).

In the past this account has stressed the differences of opinion about the warbler flight, but this year there was almost complete unanimity—the warbler flight was, to borrow a word from the late *Field Notes* editor Robert Arbib, pediculous. There were an unusual number of extremely early single birds, e.g. N. Waterthrush Mar. 27 in *Butler*, PA (GW); Blackburnian Apr. 12 at Stuart's Draft (JBr); and Blue-winged April 15 in *Westmoreland*, PA (M&EW). But the general arrival of most species was a week or more late, and migrants were still going through in early June. At P.N.R., a Blackpoll was banded June 8 and a Wilson's June 11 (RM, RCL). Those species that breed in the Region appeared to be in normal or slightly below normal numbers when they finally arrived, but the transient migrants—Tennessee, Bay-Breasted and Cape May—were in very low numbers and not widespread. This suggests that the northern birds flew over without stopping. There was also some suggestion of overflights by normally southern species: Yellow-throated Warbler at *Warren*, PA, Apr. 21 (DW) and

crowned Warbler was seen at P.I.S.P. Apr. 25 (JM) and May 16–19 (DH, JH, WS), and two were banded at P.N.R. Apr. 16 & 29 (RCL, RM). Connecticut Warbler was found at P.I.S.P. May 24 (RK), at Fox Chapel, PA, May 9 (MAT), and *Hamilton*, TN, May 17 (KC). Swainson's Warblers were also reported at Booker T. Washington S.P., TN, May 4 (KC) and 2 locations in *Wolfe*, KY (FR).

A Summer Tanager at P.N.R. May 7 (RCL, RM) may be an example of "overshoot" by southern forms. Blue Grosbeaks were reported from *Wood*, WV, Apr. 22 (AA, SM), at G.B.W.M.A. May 9 (MG, WA, JF), and *Augusta*, VA, May 9 (*vide* YL). Dickcissels were found May 9 at Ashton, *Mason*, WV (WA, MG), and May 13 in the *Washington*, TN, area (RK).

On Apr. 18, 20 singing male E. Towhees and 14 singing male Field Sparrows were counted in a 500-acre park in *Allegheny*, PA, where the long-term averages are seven and three, respectively. (PH). Over 100 Chipping Sparrows were banded at a station at Jefferson, PA (RB). A census of birds in extensive grasslands at Barkeyville, *Butler*, PA, counted 109 Savannah Sparrows, 37 Grasshopper Sparrows, and 44 Henslow's Sparrows (GW). This may be the start of an important monitoring project. Henslow's Sparrows were reported from *Venango*, PA, Apr. 13 (RSt) and in *Garrett*, MD, May 9 (RR). The only report of Lapland Longspurs was three at Bessemer, PA (G&BD).

Moderate numbers of the "northern finch" invaders remained in the Region. Both crossbill species were present in small flocks through March and into April, with a few dates in May. The only reports s. of Pennsylvania were of two Red Crossbills at Waynesboro, VA, Mar 11 (RSn) and White-winged Crossbills at Cathedral S.P., WV, May 16 and Swallow Falls, S.P., MD, May 17 (RR).

Pine Siskins were present throughout the Region well into May, with a high of 250 on Roan Mt., TN, May 3 (GWa). A flock of 25 was present May 3 near Blairsville, GA, where they had not been seen before (DF). As frequently happens after a siskin invasion, a few birds nest well s. of range. Young birds were being fed at Pipestem, WV, May 23 (JP), and a siskin gathering nesting material was seen in *Venango* May 3 (JS). Small numbers of Evening Grosbeaks remained until mid-May. Most were in w Pennsylvania, but reports came from *Allegheny*, MD; *Wood* and *Cabell*, WV; and *Augusta*, VA.



**Is it worth stopping to look at dead birds that you find? Sometimes, yes, it is. This bedraggled remnant, found on the Lake Erie shore in Fairview Township, Pennsylvania, February 24, 1998, turned out to establish the second state record for Band-rumped Storm-Petrel. What this seabird was doing on the Great Lakes in February is anybody's guess. Photograph/ Jerry McWilliams**

Swallow Falls S.P., MD, May 17 (RR); Prairie Warbler at P.I.S.P. May 14 (JH); Swainson's Warbler near Loyalhanna Res., PA, May 9 onward (m.ob.); and Kentucky Warbler at Pittsfield, PA, May 19 (JK).

The Yellow-throated Warbler continues to increase in its recently acquired n. range. The Cerulean Warbler appears to be doing well at

the s.e. portion of its range.

A "Lawrence's" Warbler was banded at P.N.R. May 7 (RM, RCL) and "Brewster's" Warblers were seen at P.I.S.P. May 14 (JM) and *Allegheny*, MD, May 9 (*vide* MT). The rare-in-spring Orange-

## ADDENDUM

On Feb. 24 the remains of a **Band-rumped Storm-Petrel** were picked up on the L. Erie shore in Fairview Twp., PA., the 2nd occurrence in Pennsylvania (\* ph., *fide* JM).

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# western great lakes region



## JIM GRANLUND

Observers categorized the spring migration as being poor throughout the Region. As is often true, this may have been a result of the unusual weather during the period. In general, March was mild early and cold and stormy late. A late-March storm in Minnesota was responsible for killing or injuring hundreds of birds. Mild weather returned in April, with near normal to slightly above-average temperatures and precipitation. The first half of May was much warmer than normal, but temperatures were cooler than average in the latter half of the month. The early warm weather resulted in the early arrival of many species. The warm weather also resulted in trees leafing-out early, making detection of migrant songbirds very difficult. Even though most observers found the migration uneventful, a surprising number of interesting species were reported, including first state records for Eurasian Collared-Dove in both Minnesota and Wisconsin,

Black-bellied Whistling Duck in Wisconsin, and Eurasian Tree Sparrow in Michigan.

**Abbreviations:** M.B.R.C. (*Michigan Bird Records Committee*); W.P.B.O. (*Whitefish Point Bird Observatory, Chippewa Co., MI*).

## LOONS TO IBISES

Record early for Wisconsin were several Red-throated Loons Mar. 7 at Cleveland, *Manitowoc* (DT, CS), while the latest birds were five May 24 at Wisconsin Pt., *Superior* (DT). Minnesota reported Red-throated Loons from May 16–31 in *St. Louis*, where they peaked at five May 16 (FN et al.), and an individual May 27 in *Cook* (KH, MH). At W.P.B.O. there were 937 Red-throated Loons reported between Apr. 16 and May 31, with a peak of 82 May 24. More unusual in Michigan were singles inland Apr. 21–22 at *Sleepy Hollow S.P., Clinton* (MO), and May 1 in *Hillsdale* (RH). In Minnesota, a Pacific Loon was present May 16–31 in *St. Louis*, while individuals were seen May 5 & 22 at W.P.B.O. in Michigan. There were 3