

The Ohio Cardinal is a quarterly publication devoted to the study and appreciation of Ohio's birdlife.

The Ohio Cardinal exists to provide a permanent and timely record of the abundance and distribution of birds in Ohio; to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state; to provide information on identification of birds; and to provide information on birding areas within Ohio.

The Ohio Cardinal invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports and photographs are welcome from any area of the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied upon request. Unusual species should be documented, and forms to do so are available upon request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

Seasonal Report Due Dates Winter (Dec.-Feb.)-March 25 Spring (Mar.-May)-June 25 Summer (June-July)-August 25 Autumn (Aug.-Nov.)-December 25	Please send all reports to: Bill Whan 223 E. Tulane Road Columbus, OH 43202 billwhan@columbus.rr.com
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On the Cover: An adult lesser black-backed gull in winter plumage, photographed in Cleveland on 5 Mar by John Pogacnik. The yellow legs do not show in this photo, but the heavy dark streaking around the head and the dark mantle, still noticeably lighter than the blacker exposed primaries, indicate this species.

Winter 2004-2005 Overview and Reports

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Spring seemed so long delayed it was easy to forget that winter was warmer than average. Despite memorable storms, of ice or snow depending on the region, what is usually our coldest month was warmer than average by 3.7° in Cincinnati, 2.4° in Columbus, and 1.7° in Cleveland. January was also extraordinarily wet, with precipitation in Columbus 6.42, Cincinnati 3.68, and Cleveland 3.41 inches above normal. Flooding was widespread across the state. Earlier, December had been a bit drier than normal downstate, but was Cleveland's eighth wettest ever, with 4.47 inches of precipitation, and the snowiest in recorded history, with 35.1 inches. Winds there peaked at 62 mph on the 7th. February, though it too was markedly warmer than average (by 3.5° in Cincinnati, 2.0° in Columbus, and 2.5° in Cleveland), was a bit drier than normal, to the relief of many.

A warm wet winter supported stays by waterfowl. We had pretty good numbers of half-hardy species and odd lingerers, and snow and ice cover did not seem to kill many edge-of-range birds like Carolina wrens. Lake Erie did not freeze extensively until well into January, and until that time nearly half the sightings of scarcer gulls came from the Western Basin, whereupon near-shore concentrations of gulls and waterfowl became easy to study farther east well into March.

Ten or fifteen years ago, tundra swans were first confirmed as wintering in the NW Lake Erie marshes, but this year midwinter reports of more than the odd bird or two came from several other locales; sandhill cranes have a similar schedule, and this winter ~60 were seen in January and early February. Huge rafts of common mergansers overshadowed red-breasteds on Lake Erie for a while, and numbers of pintails and redheads leading the northbound hordes were very encouraging. Winter vulture roosts continued to prosper. Merlins kept finding new urban cemeteries for wintering grounds, and one wonders if a pair might nest in time to come. With a handful of exceptions, only large gulls were present mid-January through mid-February, and except for a couple of California gulls rare species went unreported. Winter hummingbirds have come to seem routine, but homeowners girding for hordes of birders coming to see their rufous hummingbirds are still surprised when no one shows up.

This makes all the more valuable the contributions of researchers who document these birds, and folks who keep feeders full and then report hummers. Six warbler species were reported. Over the past eight years, 16 warbler species are on record in winter: orange-crowned, Nashville, yellow, Cape May, black-throated blue, yellow-rumped, yellow-throated, pine, palm, black-and-white, American redstart, ovenbird, northern waterthrush, Louisiana waterthrush, common yellowthroat, and Wilson's.

Rare review species reported were western grebe, gyrfalcon, prairie falcon, California gull (2), rufous hummingbird (4), loggerhead shrike, and varied thrush (2). Out-of-season birds—a pelican, a couple of white-eyed vireos, an ovenbird, a Wilson's warbler, a lesser yellowlegs, woodcocks—profited from fairly mild conditions to stay late or arrive early. Any promise of irruptives from the north, such as winter finches or the many northern owls seen elsewhere, went unfulfilled. Because documentation was not always available for rarer species and unusual numbers, we have not completely incorporated CBC data into the reports that follow.

We borrowed Rob Harlan's time machine, and after a few false starts with this balky device (ask me about the Wisconsin glacial period in this part of Ohio some time) had a look at Ohio's winter of 20 years ago. In the relevant issue of *The Cardinal*, able compiler Larry Rosche related a report of a green heron near Dayton 1-2 Dec, a brant at Lorain 6 Dec, three blue-winged teals at Ottawa through 30 Dec, and a couple of king eiders. Other observations notable at the time included a black vulture in Highland Co, a turkey vulture near Wooster in Dec, and 13 bald eagles during the season, along with three merlins and a gyr. The Cincinnati CBC had 137 bobwhites (*CBCs totaled 20 statewide this time*). Four purple sandpipers (*a review species at the time*) were reported along the lakefront, three of them in January, and a long-billed dowitcher lasted through 1 Dec at Turtle Creek. Gulls in a winter when very little of Lake Erie froze included one Franklin's, six little gulls, a black-headed gull, eight Thayer's gulls, six Iceland gulls, at least six lesser black-backed gulls, numbers of glaucous gulls, up to ten black-legged kittiwakes (!), and thousands of Bonaparte's gulls through mid-January. Killdeer Plains had up to ten long-eared owls (27 Jan), and 16 short-ears haunted MBSP (*two remained on 31 May 1985*). A barn swallow was found in Lucas County 16 Dec. Five thousand crows for the Mansfield CBC was noteworthy. The Cincinnati CBC found 486 Carolina wrens (*it was 229 this year*). A varied thrush wintered in Ottawa Co. The Lake St Marys CBC reported 546 meadowlarks (*the CBC total for the entire state this winter was 234*). Five yellow-headed blackbirds were reported (*none this winter, and only one last fall*), and reports of evening grosbeaks came from "only" three counties (*we had one Ohio report this winter*). Five present-day review species were tallied.

We gratefully acknowledge the invaluable help of Troy Shively, who designed and prepared this issue for printing.

Corrigenda:

Omitted from the previous issue were two records of **Say's phoebe**: one was found at a **Holmes** farm 14 Oct-20 Nov 2004 (m obs, ph) and another at Dike 14 in **Cleveland** 23-24 Oct (m obs, ph). Details are with the OBRC.

Embarrassingly, a correction of a corrigendum: the third correction in the last issue (p. 2 of Vol 28, #1) should read "the first redstart date should of course..."

For the Record:

Thick-billed Murre: Robert Foppe discovered an Ohio specimen of this species in the Canadian Museum of Natural History. The bird was found far inland from Lake Erie at **Belmont Lk** in **Belmont** (present site of **Barkcamp SP**) in Nov 1899 and collected by the famed naturalist and Boy Scouts founder Ernest Thompson Seton. This is the first known Ohio specimen from this year (see *Cardinal* 27(2):85-92).

Chuck-will's-widow: Foppe also found, this time in the collection of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, an extraordinarily early record of this species: specimen #35258, which was found dead on a **Cincinnati** street on 28 Feb 1994.

Smith's Longspur: Foppe located two Smith's longspur specimens at the Field Museum in Chicago: both were collected at the **Oxford** airport, one 4/20/50, the other 3/27/54. These should be added to the list in the article on this species in *Cardinal* 25(3):134, for a total of 42 known Ohio specimens.

The Reports follow the nomenclature and taxonomic order of the 7th edition of the *AOU Check-list of North American Birds* (1998), including the 45th Supplement (July 2004). Underlined names of species indicate those on the OBRC Review List; documentation is needed to add reports of these species to official state records, or to attributed records in the Reports. When supplied, county names appear *italicized*. Unless numbers are specified, sightings refer to single birds. Abbreviations, conventions, and symbols used in the Reports should be readily understood, with the possible exceptions of the following: ad=adult; alt=alternate (breeding) plumage; BCSP=Buck Ck SP in *Clark*; BIWA=Big Isl WA in *Marion*; BSBO=Black Swamp Bird Observatory; CBC=Christmas Bird Count; CCE=Crane Ck estuary in ONWR; CVNP=Cuyahoga Valley Natl Pk in *Cuyahoga* and *Summit*; Dike 14=the Gordon Park impoundment in Cleveland; EFSP=East Fork SP in *Clermont*; eop=end of the period, in this case 28 Feb 2005; EHSP=East Hbr SP in *Ottawa*; fide="in trust of," said of data conveyed on behalf of another person; Gilmore Ponds is in *Butler*; GLSM=Grand Lk St Marys in *Mercer/Auglaize*, HBSP=Headlands Beach SP in *Lake*; HBSNP=Headlands Beach SNP in *Lake*; HWSP=Hueston Wds SP (*Butler/Preble*); imm=immature; Killbuck=Killbuck Marsh WA in *Wayne/Holmes*; KPWA=Killdeer Plains WA in *Wyandot*; LSR=Lakeshore Reservation (MP) in *Lake*; Magee=Magee Marsh WA in *Ottawa/Lucas*; MBSP=Maumee Bay SP in *Lucas*; MP=Metropark; m obs=many observers; MWW=Miami-Whitewater Wetlands in *Hamilton*; NCR=North Chagrin Res'n in *Cuyahoga*; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; OBRC=Ohio Bird Records Committee; ODOV=Ohio Division of Wildlife; ONWR=Ottawa NWR in *Ottawa/Lucas*; ONWRC=monthly bird census at ONWR; PCWA=Pickereel Ck WA in *Sandusky*; ph=photograph, PP=Power Plant, Res=Reservoir; Res'n=Reservation; SF=State Forest; SNP=State Nature Preserve; SP=State Park; SVWA=Spring Valley WA in *Greene/Warren*; The Wilds=large reclaimed strip-mines with grasslands managed for exotic quadrupeds in *Muskingum*; VOA=the former Voice of America property in *Butler*; WA=Wildlife Area.

Greater white-fronted goose: Good numbers. Migrants included one at **Pt Clinton** 8 Dec (N. Bixler), two at **ONWR** 12 Dec (J. Pogacnik), and 11 at **KPWA** 15 Dec (V. Fazio). B. Whan et al. had one in **Ross** 1 Jan. On 15 Jan, R. Counts found two at **Upper Sandusky** and R. Royse two at **KPWA**, possibly the same birds. During Feb, D. Kramer saw one in n. **Tuscarawas** the 6th and R. Schieltz five in **Darke** the 21st.

Snow goose: Reported in small numbers throughout the western part of the state through Dec, but thereafter mostly in the NW marshes, with **ONWR** census numbers of 27 on 2 Jan and 24 on 6 Feb, where a small band overwinters.

Cackling goose: Said to be most numerous as a fall migrant, three were reported at **HWSP** 5 Dec (J. Stenger), one in **Auglaize** 7 Dec (J. Bowers), two in **Pt Clinton** 8 Dec (N. Bixler), three at **HWSP** 16 Dec (B. Pratt), four in **Butler** 17 Dec (M. Busam), and five in **Knox** 21 Dec (J. Larson). Later were five in **Wyandot** 16 (Larson)-17 Jan (R. Counts), two in **Columbus** 20 Jan (D. Linzell) with four there 21 Jan (A. Sewell), five at **Camp Dennison (Hamilton)** 22 Jan (B. Foppe), then another at **Pt Clinton** 13 Feb (J. Pogacnik), and one at **KPWA** 27 Feb (R. Sempier). Thirty-odd seems a lot; or is it more common than we thought? Beginning with the next season, documentation will be required for records of this species, and observers are asked to get photos.

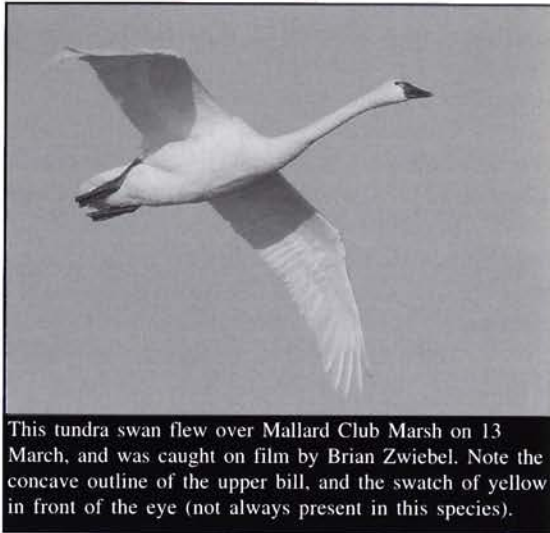
Mute swan: No unusually large numbers were noted at its customary winter haunts. Now that its protection via the Migratory Bird Treaty Act has been withdrawn, lethal controls may reduce its numbers, though in the absence of real migration in this exotic species we may not see decreases in Ohio in the immediate future.

Tundra swan: Wintered in the NW marshes as usual, with **ONWR** census numbers of 538 on 5 Dec, 298 on 2 Jan, and 186 on 6 Feb. Noteworthy among 19 reports from January were four in **Conneaut** the 1st (J. Pogacnik) and 124 for the **Gypsum** CBC the same day, 576 for the 2 Jan Ottawa CBC, 105 in **Wyandot** the 14th (R. Counts), and 60 over **Columbus** on the 24th (B. Conlon). B. Morrison reported one possibly overwintering at **Walborn Res.**, and dozens were regular in the **Killdeer** area through the period. During the last week of the period, major northwestward movements brought numerous reports of hundreds, mostly near **Lake Erie**.

Wood duck: A few persisted in open water, such as two pairs on the Scioto in **Columbus** 23 Jan (B. Royse), another quartet below the Mohawk Dam in **Coshocton** 15 Feb (L. Yoder), as well as the customary few at **Castalia** (m obs).

Gadwall: On 4 Dec, 282 remained at **Ottawa** for the census. Forty-six for the **Gypsum** CBC was a good number for 1 Jan. Numbers at **Camp Dennison** peaked at 110 on 26 Dec, and 20-30 wintered there (B. Foppe et al.).

Eurasian wigeon: An early one seen 26 Feb in **Killbuck Marsh** probably lingered into the spring period there (A. Troyer).



This tundra swan flew over Mallard Club Marsh on 13 March, and was caught on film by Brian Zwiebel. Note the concave outline of the upper bill, and the swatch of yellow in front of the eye (not always present in this species).

American wigeon: Wintered at **Castalia** of course, where 62 spent 16 Dec (V. Fazio), with a few through the period at **Hoover Res** (R. Thorn) and 15-30 at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe et al.).

Blue-winged teal: A drake was at **Wellington Res** 4 Dec (R. Hatfield, m obs), and one quite tardy 16 Dec at **Port Clinton** (C. Caldwell)

Northern shoveler: Moderate numbers overwintered at **Castalia**, with as many as 51 on 16 Dec (V. Fazio), and **Camp Dennison** had numbers in the 20s through the season (B. Foppe et al.).

Northern pintail: A few hung around with open water: four in **Seneca** 3 Jan (V. Fazio), eight in **Stark** 9 Jan (B. Morrison), 13 at **KPWA** 15 Jan (C. Bombaci), even one at E 55th St in **Cleveland** 4 Jan (D&J Hoffman). Encouraging numbers returned in late Feb around the state as migrants.

Green-winged teal: Scattered birds were found throughout winter's first half: one at **Lk Phippen** in **Portage** 29 Dec (L. Rosche), two at **Camp Dennison** 1 Jan and one 8 Jan (B. Foppe), and one in **Knox** 2 Jan (B. Morrison).

Canvasback: No four-figure reports came from **Lake Erie**, and few three-figure ones. Inland, one was at **Summit Lk** 13 Jan (L. Rosche), 21 in **Coshocton** 5 Feb (L. Yoder), 28 at **Camp Dennison** 6 Feb (B. Foppe), and three in **Adams** 19 Feb (L. Gara). At **Mosquito Lk** in **Trumbull**, 61 were a nice find on 21 Feb (D. Hochadel).

Redhead: Most reports from **Lake Erie**, with a first February record for **Kelleys Isl** of seven on the 28th (T. Bartlett). Inland, one was at **Summit Lk** 13 Jan (L. Rosche), and **Camp Dennison** hosted them winter-long, as many as 50 in Jan and 80 in early Feb (B. Foppe). Satisfying numbers moved through later, with the first big flock 203 in **Coshocton** on the 15th (L. Yoder).

Ring-necked duck: At **Wellington Res.**, 640+ on 2 Dec (V. Fazio) dwindled to 25 by 1 Jan (R&S Harlan). A healthy 625 for the 26 Dec **Cincinnati** CBC was enabled by 600 at **Camp Dennison** (J. Stenger); they wintered here, with the lowest Jan count 91 on the 31st. By 27 Feb, 350+ eager returnees could be found at **Killbuck** (B. Whan).

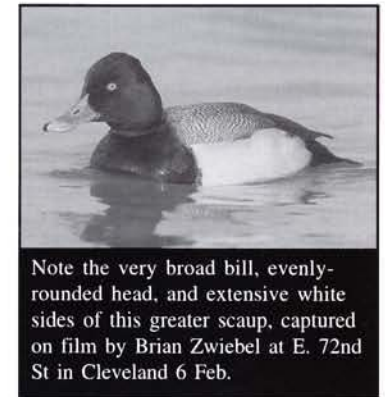
Greater scaup: The largest number from **Lake Erie** was ~200 in **Lucas** 5 Feb (D. Overacker) in a warm winter. A few were noted from time to time at a fair number of inland spots, e.g. two-three regularly seen throughout the winter at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe et al.).

Lesser scaup: Appeared mostly in scattered groups of up to several hundred along the Lakefront. A dozen or so wintered at **Camp Dennison** in **Hamilton** (B. Foppe), and numerous migrants appeared in many spots during the last week of Feb.

Harlequin duck: An imm male passed LSR in **Lake** 4 Dec (J. Pogacnik), and a female was spotted at **Eastlake** 28 (N. Anderson) and 29 Jan (Pogacnik).

Surf scoter: Forty-nine reported, sixteen of them inland, with a high count of 14 along the Lakefront west of **Cleveland** 28 Dec (P. Lozano), where 12 remained at **Rocky River Pk** the following day (B. Finkelstein). Latest was a male at **Caesar Ck SP** 21 Feb (L. Gara).

White-winged scoter: All reports: imm female **Hoover Res** 31 Dec (R. McNulty)-12 Jan (m obs); **Sandusky Bay** 15 Jan (R. Morton); **Avon Lk** 28 Jan (C. Pierce)-30 Jan (V. Fazio); **Eastlake** 5 Feb (N Anderson)-6 Feb (J. Pogacnik); two at **LSR** 23 Jan (Pogacnik).



Note the very broad bill, evenly-rounded head, and extensive white sides of this greater scaup, captured on film by Brian Zwiebel at E. 72nd St in Cleveland 6 Feb.

Black scoter: Sparsely reported this season. At **LSR J. Pogacnik** witnessed one 4 Dec and two 21 Dec. Herman had one Dec 17-18 at **Clear Fk Res.** P. Lozano found four at **Rocky River** 28 Dec and six there 10 Jan. N. Anderson noted one at **Sims Park** in **Euclid** 22 Jan.

Long-tailed duck: Twelve reported, half inland. The high count was four at **Summit Lk** in **Akron** 9 Jan (G. Bennett), where one remained as late as 30 Jan (m obs, ph). Another persistent bird was at **EFSP** 28 Jan (M. Miller)-12 Feb (J. Brown). Latest was a drake at **Caesar Ck SP** 20 Feb (N. Smith).

Bufflehead: Numbers and distribution pretty much as usual, with a high count from **Kelleys Island** of 761 on 9 Dec (V. Fazio). Unusual inland numbers came from **Camp Dennison** (where else?), with 20-25 through the period (m obs).

Common goldeneye: Appeared in good numbers for the CBCs, with 717 for the **Lake Erie Isl** 19 Dec, 513 for **Lakewood** 26 Dec, and 414 for **Gypsum** 1 Jan. The **Kelleys Isl** census of 23 Jan had 415, and 509 on that of 28 Feb. (T. Bartlett). Five to ten wintered at **Hoover Res** mid-Dec—mid-Feb (R. Thorn). On 30 Jan, 28 were in **Butler** (J. Stenger), and 77 at **Mohawk Dam** in **Coshocton** on 12 Feb must have been among the first wave of migrants (L. Yoder).

Hooded merganser: Few reports after a final push south, when 465+ were at **Hoover Res** 9 Dec (R. Thorn), with 191 remaining for the 18 Dec CBC there. During Jan the high count was only 10, on the 25th at **Camp Dennison's** waterfowl extravaganza (B. Foppe).

Common merganser: Conditions favored large concentrations later in the season after western Lake Erie froze (though 588 remained for the **ONWR** census 2 Jan) and many counts in the thousands were made in January, the most dramatic on the 20th, when V. Fazio tallied 3600 in **Cleveland**, 675 in **Lorain**, and 920+ in **Avon Lake**; 3200 were at the latter location on 2 Feb in the warm water plume (B. Whan). Inland, a raft of 217 was noteworthy at **Hoover Res** on 26 Feb (C. Bombaci).

Red-breasted merganser: Present in the customary throngs. D&J Hoffman counted ~10,000 off **Eastlake** and an equal number off **Cleveland** 10 Dec, but near-shore ice put most out of sight by mid-Jan. Mergansers often segregate themselves by sex outside the nesting season, and many males do not attain alternate plumage until their second fall.

Ruddy duck: After migrant flocks (e.g., 880 at **Wellington Res** 2 Dec seen by V. Fazio), and lingering flocklets (25 at **Wellington** 1 Jan by R&S Harlan) passed, became customarily scarce. Interesting sightings included six near **Wilmington** 10 Jan (L. Gara) one at **Summit Lk** in **Akron** 13 Jan (L. Rosche), and 8-10 through the period at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe et al.).



Not everyone noticed that two long-tailed ducks lingered at Summit Lake, but Linda Stoller did, and took this photo of a male on 20 Jan. Note its paler overall appearance, the white scapulars, and the two-toned bill.



This female long-tailed duck shows pale-fringed dark scapulars, an overall darker look, and a bill lacking a pale stripe. Photo by Linda Stoller at Summit Lake in Akron 20 January 2005.

Hybrid ducks: The following apparent hybrids were reported: 9 Jan at **Conneaut**, a common merganser X common goldeneye (V. Fazio, ph), 12 Feb at **Bayshore PP, Lucas**, a tufted duck X scaup (J. Pogacnik), 13 Feb at **Port Clinton**, a common goldeneye X hooded merganser (J. Pogacnik, 14 Feb N. Bixler), and 19 Feb at **Lorain** a likely American wigeon X scaup (S. Zadar, ph).

Red-throated loon: A juv plied **Nimisila Res, Summit**, 1 Dec (G. Bennett), one passed **Vermilion** the next day (V. Fazio), and one hunted **BCSP** on the 4th (D. Overacker). J. Pogacnik had one flying by **LSR** 11 Dec, and a very rare mid-winter bird there 23 Jan.

Common loon: Sizeable fall passages persisted 2 Dec at **Vermilion**, with 77 (V. Fazio). One lingered at **Hoover Res** 1 Jan (R. Thorn), and at **Salisbury** in **Lucas** 2 Jan (T. Kemp). Another at **Caesar Ck SP** 12 Feb was early rather than late (C. Barnett).

Pied-billed grebe: Small numbers reported from many locations, with a high of 33 on the **Cincinnati** CBC of 26 Dec. Half a dozen wintered at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe et al.), and **Summit Lk** had 10 on 3 Jan (L. Rosche) and five on 23 Jan (R&S Harlan). One was present at **E. 72nd St** in **Cleveland** on 6 Feb (L. Deininger).

Horned Grebe: Twenty-four migrants dived off **Kelleys Isl** 9 Dec for the high count (V. Fazio), and a few appeared in ones and twos through Jan at open areas along the Lake and at inland reservoirs. Two in **Coshocton** 12 Feb (L. Yoder) either overwintered or were early migrants.

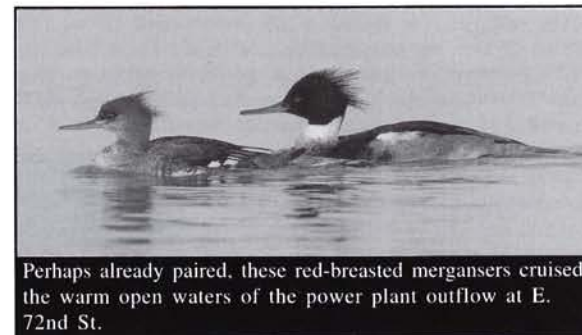
Red-necked grebe: Rather late was one on the **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC of 2 Jan, and one in **Lake** 29 Jan (J. Pogacnik) was very much so. A storm grounded one in **Holmes** on 22 Jan (a first county record); found in a weakened state, it was taken to a rehabilitation facility where it did not survive.

Western grebe: Last fall's individual at **Caesar Creek SP** was last reported 8 Dec (S. Landes).

American white pelican: A young bird rumored to be wounded and present in the area since summer was seen repeatedly in **Erie**, and last reported from **Lorain** on 27 Jan (C. Caldwell). Still more mysterious was an adult in the **Maumee R** south of **Toledo** 19 (J. McKinny *vide* G. Links) through 21 Feb (J&B Cullen *vide* Links, ph), Ohio's earliest in 100+ years.

Double-crested cormorant: At **Sandusky**, 177 persisted through 9 Dec (V. Fazio), and 69 in **Hamilton** (CBC) on 11 Dec were surely southbound, though 56 tarried for the **Lakewood** CBC of 26 Dec. One was in **Delaware** 28 Dec (B. Shively), and a few singletons were seen along the **Lakefront** through the period (m obs). Nineteen on 19 Dec was an all-time high for the **Toledo** CBC.

Great egret: The only report was of two in **Dublin, Franklin** 12 Dec (R. Thorn).



Perhaps already paired, these red-breasted mergansers cruised the warm open waters of the power plant outflow at E. 72nd St.

Black-crowned night-heron: Hardy enough, seen 17 Dec for the **Hamilton-Fairfield CBC**; in **Cleveland's Flats** 30 Dec (seven) then 5 (19) and 11 (35) Jan and 20 Feb (19) by P. Lozano; the high count of 55 in **Sandusky** 30 Dec (S. Young); one in **Wayne** 6 Jan (E. Snively); four in **Columbus** 12 Jan (P. McSweeney); and in **Lorain** two on 29 Jan (S. Snyder) and eight on 6 Feb (J. Pogacnik).

Black vulture: The **Hamilton** MP count tallied 129 on 11 Dec, and the **Adams** counters had 196 on 18 Dec; the new **Hocking** CBC found 41 on 2 Jan. D. Dister counted 30 on 1 Jan at a traditional roost, the warm roof of the **HWSP** lodge. O. Troyer had 22 in **Coshocton** 7 Jan. The established **Granville** roost numbered 25-30 on 16 Feb (S. Woolard), and the **Batavia** roost in **Clermont** 85 on 27 Feb (B. Foppe).

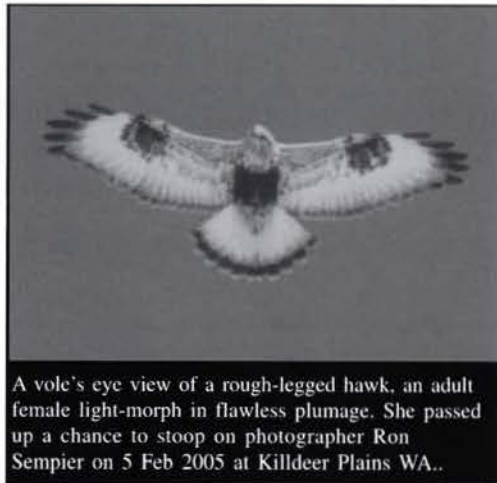
Turkey vulture: Late migrants included two in **Columbus** 13 Dec (B. Conlon) and one in **Bellefontaine** 17 Dec (M. Misplon). Unafraid of iconoclasm, L. Rosche reported the species present all winter at **Hinckley MP**. Wintering birds range widely, no doubt explaining 19 patrolling the **Wilds** on 15 Jan (L. Brumbaugh). The **Cincinnati** CBC tallied 185 on 26 Dec, and the **Ragersville** count 245 on the 28th. At other known roosting spots were 20 on the **HWSP** lodge 1 Jan (D. Dister), 130 in e. **Holmes** 9 Jan (E. Schlabach), and 140 at the **Clermont** roost near **Batavia** 17 Feb (B. Foppe).

Osprey: Different individuals were photographed in **Darke** 12 Dec (K. Schieltz) and **Clark** 15 Dec (B. Menker), for unusual winter records, rarely documented on film.

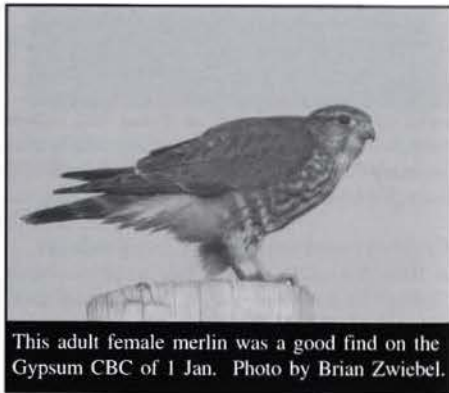
Bald eagle: The Division of Wildlife's mid-winter survey found 366 birds (a bit less than last year's 372) with 247 adults, in 55 of 88 counties. Young birds were found feeding on carrion on several occasions. By the end of the period, the ODOW had located 116 active nests (versus last year's total of 108), and 72 had eggs under incubation.

Northern harrier: Widely reported in habitat, with good numbers of 30+ at the **Wilds** 14 Dec (L. Gardella), 22 at **KPWA** 8 Dec (R. Sempier), 30 at **BIWA** 15 Dec (V. Fazio), and 46 for the 28 Dec **Ragersville** CBC. The statewide CBC total was 290.

Northern goshawk: At **LSR** in **Lake**, J. Pogacnik had an imm 11 Dec, and an adult 30 Dec and 17 Jan. H. Petruschke saw an adult at close quarters in **Kirtland** 26 Dec, and J. Brumfield photographed an adult at the **Wilds** 1 Jan. Unusual and perhaps a first county record was an adult photographed and seen repeatedly in **Hocking** during the week of 16-22 Jan (P. Knoop *fide* J. Watts).



A vole's eye view of a rough-legged hawk, an adult female light-morph in flawless plumage. She passed up a chance to stoop on photographer Ron Sempier on 5 Feb 2005 at Killdeer Plains WA.



This adult female merlin was a good find on the Gypsum CBC of 1 Jan. Photo by Brian Zwiebel.

Red-shouldered hawk: B. Zwiebel detected an early migrant 15 Feb in **Lucas**. J. Faulkner, true to his raptorial name, found no fewer than six locals calling and circling his place in **Perry** 20 Feb.

Red-tailed hawk: Dark-morph birds were found on **Kelleys Isl** 9 Dec (V. Fazio), at **Hoover Res** 10 Dec (R. Richards), in **Auglaize** 26 Dec (J. Bowers), and near **Bellefontaine** in **Logan** 28 Feb (T. Shively).

Rough-legged hawk: In many locations numbers fluctuated, as rough-leggeds moved elsewhere when ground iced over or rodent prey diminished. At and near the **Wilds**, with its hilly and well-drained grasslands (almost an oxymoron outside reclaimed strip mines in Ohio), high counts stayed around 40 (m obs).

Golden eagle: Found only at the **Wilds**, with at least one adult and one subadult reported sporadically throughout the period, but far less reliable than last winter.

Merlin: This species prefers stands of mature conifers, most often found (or at least searched by observers) in urban cemeteries in Ohio. L. During the period, L. Gardella had at least three males and two females in **Cleveland's** Calvary Cemetery, L. Brumbaugh one of each at Spring Grove Cemetery in **Cincinnati**, N. Cade one at St. Joseph Cemetery in **Cincinnati**, D&J Hoffman one at Lake View Cemetery in **Cleveland**, S. McNamee one near Forest Cemetery in **Toledo**, and D. Chasar one near Forest Cemetery in **Northfield** (**Summit**). Most of these were seen repeatedly; brief sightings came from ten other locations. Aaron Boone offered these good details for what he and John Kuenzli considered a "prairie" merlin *F. c. richardsonii* seen at **Killdeer Plains** 21 Feb: taking it at first glance for a female kestrel, they soon noticed the following: overall pale sandy-brown coloration, lack of a definable "mustache" mark, a distinct white supercilium, head and nape lightly streaked with dark, strikingly banded tail with alternating dark and white (approximately four relatively wide whitebands), yellow cere and feet, underparts with distinct light brown vertical stripes, feathering on thighs lacking any noticeable color, upperparts sandy-brown with tawny-brown feather edges (most noticeable in flight, this lent the bird a slight rusty hue), flight style very direct and powerful (like merlin, not buoyant like kestrel), and undersides of wings checkered but not as darkly as a *columbarius* merlin, with proportionally more white in the flight feathers.

Gyr Falcon: A gray-morph bird was reported toting a murdered mourning dove near the **Guernsey/Noble** line not far from the **Wilds** 25 Jan; details are with the OBRC.

Peregrine falcon: Four on the 19 Dec **Toledo** CBC was a record Ohio CBC high count.

Prairie falcon: If, as seems likely, this was the same bird as last winter's, had it arrived in the fall of 2003 as it did in 2004? Either way, it apparently did not stay nearly as long at **The Wilds** this time as previously (19 Mar 2004), with the latest reports coming from 28 (D. Plant et al.) and 29 Jan (B. Crow et al.). On 25 Jan, volunteers from the Ohio Wildlife Center went to nw **Fairfield** responding to a call from a person who reported an incapacitated bird that had been under his porch since 22 Jan; they returned with what proved to be an emaciated (526 g. vs. 800 g.) adult female (wing chord 338 mm) prairie falcon that had been shot, and which died while under care 1 Feb (R. Stillwell). The specimen has been preserved. This bird was found only ~20 mi from Ohio's first accepted record of this species, also found with gunshot wounds, and only one day earlier in January of 1983 in southern **Franklin**. In light of reliable reports of a prairie falcon, also thought to be an adult female, at **The Wilds** ~50 mi away in **Muskingum** on dates subsequent to the capture of this bird, it seems Ohio had two *Falco mexicanus* simultaneously this season.

Virginia rail: One was calling near **Holmesville**, **Holmes** on 4 Jan, before the flooding began (S. Snyder). Found every winter recently at this spot.

American coot: Migrant numbers as high as 460 were seen 2 Dec at **Wellington Res** (V. Fazio). As usual, a few persisted at ice-free spots along the **Lake Erie** shore through the period. Many wintered in **Hamilton**, with numbers at **Camp Dennison** of 810 on 26 Dec (J. Stenger), 400 on 23 Jan (F. Renfrow), 150 on 16 Feb (Renfrow) and 528 on 27 Feb (B. Foppe), when the first was noted up at **CPNWR** by the census team.

Sandhill crane: Over 2000 reported during the period, with a high count of ~1000 on 14 Dec in **Hamilton** (B. Wharton), and 44 for the CBCs. D. Kline saw seven in **Holmes** 1 Jan. Four birds remained near **Dayton** 22 Jan (D. Dister). A flock variously reported in numbers from 12 to 26 (29 Dec-at least 8 Jan) in **Medina** was reported by S&R Harlan to contain eight birds distinctly smaller than the others on 1 Jan, suggesting the "lesser" form.

Killdeer: The **Portsmouth** CBC reported 147 for 18 Dec. Midwinter birds included one in **Tuscarawas** 8 Jan (E. Schlabach), two in **Butler** 22 Jan (J. Lehman), two at **Caesar Ck SP** 5 Feb (L. Gara), three at **BCSP** 6 Feb (D. Overacker), and one in **Medina** 9 Feb (R. Harlan).

Lesser yellowlegs: One found near **Gilmore Ponds, Butler** 20 Feb (C. Saunders) remained through the 27th (m obs) for a very early record.

Dunlin: Found in **Wyandot** 2 Dec (R. Counts), with 17 for the ONWR census 5 Dec, eight in **Lake** 19 Dec (J. Pogacnik), and one each for the 18 Dec **Ashtabula** CBC and the **Knox** CBC (20 Dec, J. Larson).

Wilson's snipe: The **Toledo** CBC's was its first (on 19 Dec, when J. Larson had one in **Knox** and B. Finkelstein five at the **Cuyahoga** airport); the high count was 14 for the 18 Dec **Wilmot** CBC, with six remaining for the 23 Dec **Cleveland** CBC; the CBC total was 31 statewide. Later, S. Snyder had two in **Holmes** 4 Jan, D. Dister found one in **Butler** 7 Jan, and J. Lehman another at a seep at **SVWA** 16 Jan.

American woodcock: First detected early near **Yellow Springs** 8 Feb (S. Patterson *vide* J. Karlson), with another the following day in **Lorain** (B. Segedi), and then on the 11th two in **Ashtabula** (H. Petruschke) and several over the few days before in **Vinton** (L. Andrews). On 15 Feb J. Ritzenthaler found one unconscious in a **Columbus** street, which later that day flew off upon being released near **Springfield**.

Little gull: J. Pogacnik saw an adult passing **LSR** 23 Dec, and a second-year bird there on 1 Jan. P. Lozano had one at **Rocky River Pk** 12 Jan.

Bonaparte's gull: D&J Hoffman estimated 10,000 at **E 72nd in Cleveland** 1 Dec, and V. Fazio an astonishing 64,000, nearly all adults, at **Lorain** harbor the following day. The last large group at **Lake Erie** was 1000+ in Fairport Hbr 17 Jan, a good number of which witnessed by K. Metcalf rising and heading south. A lone bird haunted **E 72nd St** as late as 30 Jan (Fazio). Inland, 35 tardy migrants passed over **EFSP** 12 Jan (B. Foppe).

Ring-billed gull: V. Fazio estimated 51,000 at **Lorain** 2 Dec (~98.5% adults), and J. Pogacnik watched 45,230 pass **LSR** on 19 Dec. Most departed the **Lakefront**, with 50-100 passing the colder periods at **E 72nd in Cleveland** (J&D Hoffman). A flock of ~1100 was unusual at **Cowan Lk** 23 Feb (B. Powell), probably all northbound migrants.



This saw-whet owl does its best to avoid being seen, but couldn't hide from Ron Sempier. The bird was found at Killdeer Plains on 27 Feb.

California gull: Many saw an adult found 8 Jan at **E 72nd in Cleveland**, but a third-winter bird at **Indian Lake** beach, **Logan**, 28 Feb had only one observer. Details are with the OBRC.

Herring gull: Very numerous at open water during late Jan and Feb along the **Erie Lakefront**. At **Camp Dennison**, 17 was a good local number 24 Jan (B. Foppe).

Thayer's gull: Two passed **LSR** 19 Dec and one 23 Dec (J. Pogacnik), and an adult **Huron** the following day (V. Fazio). The **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC had one 2 Jan. One was off **Kelleys Isl** 23 Jan (T. Bartlett). The bulk of the sightings came from **E 72nd St in Cleveland**, beginning with a 2nd-year bird 8 Jan (B. Winger), and birds of all age classes through the eop (m obs).

Iceland gull: Seen at **LSR** 19 & 31 Dec and 14 Jan (J. Pogacnik), at **Eastlake** 18 Dec (N. Barber), and on the 2 Jan **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC, with multiple sightings of all age classes at **E 72nd St. in Cleveland** through the period (m obs).

Lesser black-backed gull: Noticed in somewhat smaller numbers than in recent winters at Lakefront spots in the Central Basin, with a high count of three 14 Jan at **LSR** (J. Pogacnik). In the Western Basin, four were found for the 19 Dec **Toledo** CBC. Farther inland, four were found on the 2 Jan **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC, one at **Oberlin Res** (13 Dec V. Fazio, 29 Dec L. Rosche, 1 Jan S. Snyder), and one way down in **Tuscarawas** 11 Feb (T&B Sponseller). An adult with pink legs was repeatedly observed at **E 72nd St in Cleveland** in Jan, last reported the 31st (J. Larson).

Glaucous gull: Many reports, of multiple birds of all age classes, emerged from **E 72nd St**, but the high count of 14, 11 of them adults, came from **Avon Lk** 30 Jan (plus four at **E 72nd, V. Fazio**). One for the 28 Feb **Kelleys Isl** count may have been a first for the area (T. Bartlett). Near **Toledo**, one was seen on the **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC of 2 Jan, and another at **Farnsworth MP** on 6 Feb (D. Dister).

Hybrid gulls: Herring X great black-backed gull: One, or perhaps two, seen 8 Jan at **E. 55th St in Cleveland** (T. Shively, B. Whan) were later fairly regularly seen among the throngs at **E 72nd St** (V. Fazio, J. Pogacnik, S. Zadar, et al., ph). Two were never seen at the same time, though close to it, and some reported the two had noticeably different markings. Given the rarity of this hybrid, and the fact that both were adults, it may be two came from the same clutch. Herring X glaucous gull ("Nelson's" gull): just one reported, an adult at **E 72nd St in Cleveland** 6 Feb (J. Pogacnik).

Barn owl: Two 15 Dec (V. Fazio, ph) were unusual at **KPWA**.

Eastern screech-owl: Excellent preparation gave the **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC team North America's second-highest CBC total ever of this species, 197 on 2 Jan.

Snowy owl: Three spotted on breakwalls of the **Bayshore PP in Lucas** on 19 Dec tied a record for the **Toledo** CBC. While homeland security concerns apparently excluded birders from the spot, armed men who claimed to be hunting ducks were permitted entry.

Long-eared Owl: At **ONWR**, one was found 28 Nov-5 Dec, then two 2 Jan-6 Feb in deciduous trees (J. Volker). A traditional **Williams** spot held five 26 Feb (J. Grabmeier), and another in **Holmes** two on 17 Feb (J.A. Miller). Only one was found with any regularity in the **KPWA** "owl grove" (Jan-Mar, m obs), but 4-8 were seen nearby at another roost through early Feb (m obs).

Short-eared owl: Seen in expected numbers in expected places, with **KPWA** birds numbering 10-20 and those at the **Wilds** 20-30 among the more fruitful areas. Highly unusual was one roosting daily in D. Hochadel's barn in **Trumbull** 26 Jan-7 Feb.

Northern saw-whet owl: The **Ross** project banded its last of the season, and the 45th, on 5 Dec (K. Sieg), offering a hint of its real abundance in migration. Seven other individuals detected without using lures or nets (in **Lucas, Lake, Logan, Ottawa, Tuscarawas, and Wyandot**) were rather more than usual.

Chuck-will's-widow: One was captured alive and under-nourished in **Miami Twp, Clermont** on 12 Dec, and after rehabilitation released into the wild in **Florida** 21 Dec; see J. Hays's note in this issue. An amazing record.

Rufous hummingbird: Three remained from the fall season: the **Knox** bird was last seen 4 Dec (*vide* A. Chartier), the **Muskingum** bird, back for its second consecutive winter, lasted through 17 Dec (*vide* A. Chartier), and the **Ross** bird persisted through 18 Dec (L. Brady *vide* A. Chartier). In a new record, a bird reportedly in **Cincinnati** since early Oct was captured 9 Jan and found to be wearing a band placed 9 Jan 2003 in **Americus, Georgia** on an adult @&, which makes this bird at least two years and seven months old; it stayed at this feeder through 15 Jan (*vide* A. Chartier, J. Hays). The Ohio late record is 23 Jan.

Yellow-bellied sapsucker: Quite a few reported statewide throughout the period, as witnessed in part by 139 CBC records.

Pileated woodpecker: A count-week bird in **Toledo** was a first for the local CBC.

Eastern phoebe: A number of reports came from CBCs in southern counties. J. Habig had one at **SVWA** on 21 Feb for the first reported arrival.

Loggerhead shrike: One was photographed for the **Kingston** CBC 1 Jan, and later seen by D. Hess on 23 Jan.

Northern shrike: Reported in normal numbers season-long in the top three tiers of counties. The southernmost report came from **Muskingum** on 15 Jan (J. Grabmeier).

White-eyed vireo: Exceedingly rare in December, two reports came from the 19th: a bird in **Kent** (L. Rosche) and another a first for the **Toledo** CBC.

American crow: F. Renfrow estimated the **Cincinnati** roost at ~20,000, up from ~18,000 last winter, but down from ~70,000 a few years ago.

Horned lark: Large single-observer counts included ~500 in **Champaign** 31 Jan (T. Shively) and 425+ in **Wyandot** 2 Feb (R. Counts).

Red-breasted nuthatch: Quite a few birds frequented feeders throughout the state this winter, but there were no compelling signs of new irruptions from the north.

Brown creeper: Most high counts came from the south, with 44 on the **Hamilton** parks count of 11 Dec, and 33 on the 26 Dec **Cincinnati** CBC, but the highest came from farther north, with 72 on the **Millersburg** count of 1 Jan.

Marsh wren: A rare winter inland record came from **Killbuck Marsh** 4 Jan (B. Morrison et al.).

Ruby-crowned kinglet: A report of five at two spots in one day in **Clermont** on 8 Jan (K. Robinson) was remarkable.

Hermit thrush: Good numbers were in the south, witness 24 for the **Cincinnati** CBC of 26 Dec, and **Kelleys Isl** always has some, such as three on the 9 Dec count there (T. Bartlett) and one on the **Cleveland** CBC of 18 Dec was nice.

American Robin: On 19 Dec 377 was the **Toledo** CBC's second-highest count ever.



Red-Headed woodpeckers can be found in many woodlots at Killdeer Plains. This one relished a favorite, a red oak acorn, in December 2004. Photo by Ron Sempier.

Varied thrush: The **Medina** bird of fall remained fitfully through at least 1 Dec (D. Riffle). A female in **Carroll** seen 26 Feb (W. Sarno) was said to have been present since ~16 Dec (C. Ickes), and persisted through the eop. Details are with the OBRC.

Gray catbird: On **Kelleys Isl** 9 Dec (V. Fazio), two in **Toledo** for the 19 Dec CBC (the state high count for the season), in **Butler** 17 Dec (M. Busam), on the **Hoover Res** CBC 18 Dec and at **Gilmore Ponds** 18 Dec (S. Pawlowski), the latest report came from 28 Jan (B. Wilson, ph) in **Oxford**.

Brown thrasher: Reports came from the **Hoover Res** CBC on 18 Dec and the 28 Dec **Ragersville** CBC during count week. One was photographed in Geauga and persisted through at least 22 Dec (C. Martin).

American pipit: Later records include 11 on 28 Dec in **Tuscarawas** (E. Schlabach), one in **Hocking** 2 Jan (J. Fry), 12 at the **VOA** in **Butler** 30 Jan (J. Van Coney), one in **Conneaut** 1 Jan (G. Bennett), one in **Delaware** 3 Jan (R. Thorn), three near **Dayton** 23 Jan (N. Smith), two at **Camp Dennison** 6 Feb (B. Foppe), and a remarkable 40-50 in northern **Tuscarawas** 7 Feb (D. Kramer). **Cape May warbler:** Unexpected but not unprecedented was one in eastern **Holmes** 18 Dec (F. Miller)

Pine warbler: Winter records came from **Holden Arb** 11 Dec (B. Sparks), **Hamilton** (N. Cade) 17 Dec, **Cuyahoga Falls** CBC 19 Dec, **Kent** 19 Dec (L. Rosche), **Brown** (D. Morse) 24 Dec, one and possibly three in **Parma Hts** 10 Jan-11 Feb (S. Zadar, ph), one in **Rocky River** 16 Jan-9 Mar (J. Andes, ph), one in **Lucas** 30 Jan (M. Anderson), and one 28 Feb in **Adams** (P. Whan, ph).

Palm Warbler: One of the eastern race showed up in **Holmes** 18 Dec (Mark Weaver)

Ovenbird: A very rare winter record came from **Leroy Twp** in **Lake**, from 3-14 Dec (D. Seman)

Common yellowthroat: One was observed at **Killbuck Marsh** 4 Jan (S. Snyder et al.).

Wilson's warbler: An adult male was found by the **Hamilton-Fairfield** CBC team on 18 Dec in **West Chester, Butler** for Ohio's first or second December record of this species.

Scarlet Tanager: One spent 12-24 Dec at a **Holmes** feeder (Marlin Weaver, ph). This is a new late Ohio record.

Chipping sparrow: Records other than from CBCs: on 23 Dec, one in **Clermont** (D. Morse) and another in **Tuscarawas** (E. Schlabach), one near **Dayton** 26 Dec (N. Smith), one west of **Cincinnati** 31 Dec (L. Peyton), one in **Wyandot** 10 Jan (R. Counts), and two in **Hamilton** 15 Jan and 3 Feb, then four on 8 Feb (all K. Westendorf).

Field Sparrow: The **Cincinnati** CBC had the high count, 51, on 26 Dec.

Vesper Sparrow: One spent 17-29 Dec at a **Holmes** feeder (Marlin Weaver)

Savannah sparrow: Reports from the north included one for the **Toledo** CBC 19 Dec (their second ever), another at a **Wood** feeder 8 Jan (C. Anderson), one at a **Knox** feeder 11 Feb (J. Larson), and several that overwintered in e. **Holmes**, with a max of 14 on 29 Jan (E. Schlabach).



This northern shrike, photographed by Brian Zwiebel at Maumee Bay SP on 15 Feb, shows a characteristically narrow frontal mask, vermiculations on the undersides, and overall very pale coloration; the bill structure seems fairly delicate for this species.

Grasshopper sparrow: Weird but not without precedent was one carefully observed at the VOA site in *Butler* 31 Dec (M. Busam).

Fox sparrow: Found at many winter dates in over twenty counties statewide, as far north as *Cuyahoga* (J&D Hoffman). A few overwintered in the south, where the high count of six came on the *Cincinnati* CBC of 26 Dec; by 26 Feb three were in song at *Gilmore Ponds, Butler* (M. Busam).

Lincoln's sparrow: The *Toledo* CBC of 19 Dec reported one, the count's third ever.

Swamp sparrow: A hardy sparrow, 27 were at *Springville Marsh* in *Seneca* 16 Dec (V. Fazio). In the southwest, 92 showed up for the *Hamilton* MP count of 11 Dec, and 45 for the *Cincinnati* CBC of 26 Dec.

White-throated sparrow: The *Cincinnati* CBC of 26 Dec racked up 920. **White-throated sparrow:** The *Cincinnati* CBC of 26 Dec racked up 920.

White-crowned sparrow: Its highest numbers came from CBCs in *Tuscarawas* at *Ragersville* on 26 Dec with 483, and in *Holmes* at *Millersburg* on 1 Jan, with 669.

Lapland longspur: By Jan widespread, with 51 on the *ONWRC* of the 2nd, 240 in *Seneca* on the 3rd (V. Fazio), 200+ in *Wyandot* the 12th (R. Counts) and ~350 in *Champaign* on the 31st (T. Shively). Small numbers reached the southwest through the period.

Snow bunting: First noted 3 Dec with one at *Mosquito Lk* (D. Hochadel), numbers reached 250 in *Tuscarawas* 28 Dec (E. Schlabach), 109 for the *Ottawa NWR* census 2 Jan, 500+ in *Wyandot* 12 Jan (R. Counts), 250+ in *Champaign* 31 Jan (T. Shively), and up to 200 in *Butler* on 29 Dec (P. Wharton, M. Busam).

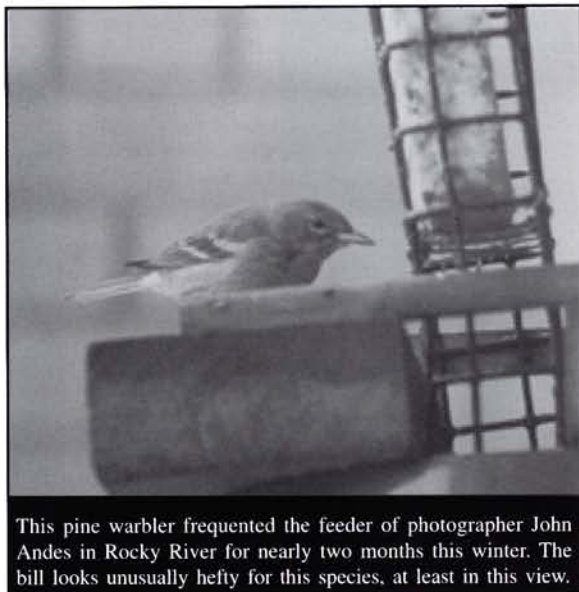
Eastern meadowlark: Late in the period numbers exceeding 100 were seen in the *Wilds* (m obs).

Rusty blackbird: The *Wilmot* CBC counted 297 in *Stark* on 18 Dec, and on 12 Jan ~200 gathered at *Gilmore Ponds* (F. Renfrow).

Brewer's blackbird: Three on 26 Dec was the second record of this species for the *Cincinnati* CBC. G. Links had two on 11 Feb, and J. Pogacnik three the following day, in fields of *Oregon Twp, Lucas*, the closest thing to a hot spot this species has in Ohio.

Brown-headed cowbird: The best—or at least largest—number was 2064 for the *Gypsum* CBC of 1 Jan.

Baltimore oriole: An adult female showed up in a back yard in *Cincinnati* in late February, and stayed into the following period (B. White *vide* M. Busam, ph).



This pine warbler frequented the feeder of photographer John Andes in *Rocky River* for nearly two months this winter. The bill looks unusually hefty for this species, at least in this view.

Purple finch: A pretty good year for this species, occurring over a wide area and with some consistency. Winter numbers best in the south as usual: the *Hamilton* MP count accumulated 67 on 11 Dec, and the *Adams* CBC 120 on 18 Dec.

White-winged crossbill: Only one report, a male in *Butler Twp, Montgomery*, on 2 Feb (D. Dister).

Common redpoll: Puny numbers overall. V. Fazio found the first two, at *Wellington Res* 2 Dec. Three were in *Rocky River* 23 Dec (P. Lozano), one in *Lake* 19 Dec (J. Pogacnik), two in *Wayne* 9-15 Jan (R. Miller), one in *Ashland* 25-30 Jan (T. Leslie), one in *Cleveland* 1 Feb (R. Rickard), and another in *Erie* 3 Feb (N. Bixler), and one in *Holmes* 24 Feb (*vide* D. Kline). Ten were reported by CBCs.

Pine siskin: Not widespread. Good numbers, all at feeders, came from *Clermont* (~50, D. Morse 18 Dec), *Cuyahoga* (15 at *NCR*, B. Finkelstein 19 Dec), *Coshocton* (20 on 25 Dec, L. Yoder), and *Hocking* (29 on 22 Feb, J. Fry). **Evening grosbeak:** B. Stambaugh reported two in *Holmes* 7 Dec. Contributors:

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