

male in Hadley, MA 29 May (G. LeBaron) must have come as a pleasant surprise. A well-described female Western Tanager was reported from Kennebunk, York, ME 21 May (D. Doubleday et al.), and a 2nd report of a Western Tanager, lacking details, came from Portsmouth, NH 20 May (J. Beaudain, D. Casey).

### SPARROWS THROUGH FINCHES

Clay-colored Sparrows numbered 2 in Vermont, 3 in Maine, and 4 in Massachusetts. The Vermont and Maine birds appeared in May, but all the Bay State birds were reported much earlier, between 8 Mar and 6 Apr. Most of these individuals probably overwintered in the Region. It has been several years since no Clay-colored Sparrows were found in Massachusetts in May. Two **Harris's Sparrows**, both in Massachusetts, were in S. Dartmouth 24 Mar—7 Apr (S. Bolton et al., ph.) and Salisbury 18 May (J. Hoye et al.). A good (for spring) flight of White-crowned Sparrows included an above-average 26 at Plum I. 7 May (RSH). Single Lark Sparrows were in Middlebury, VT 8 Apr (J. Peterson) and at Monhegan 19-23 May (G. Dennis et al.).

Buntings made a big splash this spring. Three **Painted Buntings** in the Region included 2 in Maine: a female type that was banded at Appledore I., York 28 May (D. Holmes et al.) and a male (presumably adult) at Biddeford Pool, York 30 May (B. Chappell et al.). The 3rd Painted was in Lexington, MA 28 Mar (R. Gantside). But the headliner was the male **Lazuli Bunting** at Nantucket 5-10 May (M. Aguiar et al., ph.). The only previous record for this species in the Region was from Maine.

Western Meadowlark was a more regular visitor to New England up until roughly 20 years ago, but more recently, its appearances here have become sporadic and few, perhaps reflecting the downward trend in all North American meadowlark populations. A singing Western was noted in Turner, *Androscoggin*, ME 18 May (JD). The only Yellow-headed Blackbird report came from Chatham, MA 17-18 May (P. Bailey), and the season-high count of 7 Boat-tailed Grackles, 21-30 Apr, came from their only known New England breeding site in Stratford, *Fairfield*, Connecticut (PC). Crossbills that were late to retreat from points south (barely) of the three northern-tier states included 4 Reds in Salisbury, MA 22 May (I. Lynch) and 2 White-wingeds in Monroe, MA 18 May (ML).

### EXOTICS

Three Whooper Swans in Ipswich, *Essex*, MA 1 Mar (JB) were known to be escapees or proge-

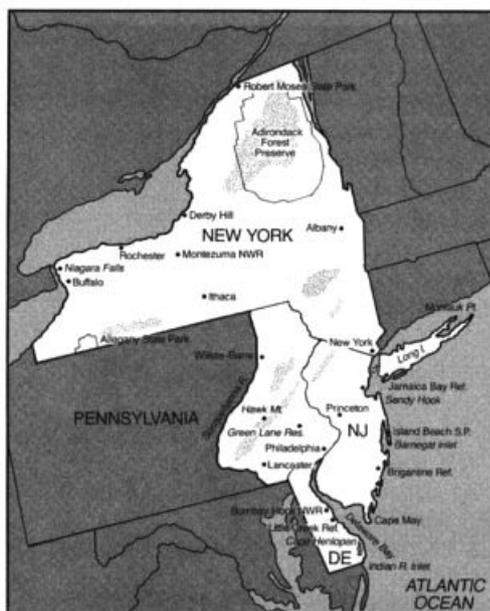
ny thereof. A European Goldfinch visited a feeding station in Hulls Cove, Mt. Desert I., ME on an unspecified date in May (*fide* WT), almost certainly a former captive. Finally, a Nutmeg Mannikin spiced up (pun intended) a yard in York, ME 24 May (J. Raynor, L. Bevier, ph.).

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# Hudson-Delaware



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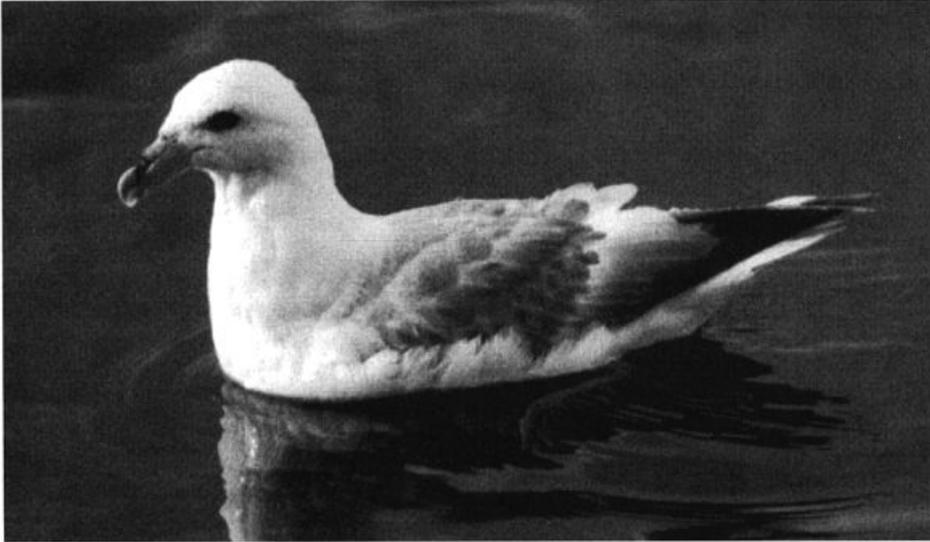
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**F**ollowing a very warm, dry winter, March saw a return to more nearly normal weather conditions. While April's average temperature was also about normal, 8-19 April was a very warm period, with heat-wave conditions in the southern areas

15-17 April. The temperature in New York City reached a record 96° Fahrenheit. A cold front on the 19th ended the heat and brought northerly and westerly winds for most of the rest of the season. May was cool and wet, and with the prevailing wind direction, hawkwatch totals were depressed. May nonetheless produced one of the best spring migrations along the coast in many years. In particular, a spectacular wave on 10 May extended from coastal Virginia through Long Island.

Highlights of the season included reports of Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Ferruginous Hawk, Black-throated Gray Warbler, and Townsend's Warbler in New York; Pacific Loon, Sabine's Gull, Vermilion Flycatcher, and Swainson's Warbler in New Jersey; and, remaining from last season, a Dusky Flycatcher in Delaware. Also notable were Western Grebe and inland Arctic Tern in New York; and Eurasian Whimbrel in New Jersey.



Northern Fulmars are often recorded well into spring off the northern East Coast of the United States. This bird was photographed 27 May 2002 at the Hudson Canyon (off New York and New Jersey), where 50 were seen on 19 May and 13 on 27 May. *Photograph by Rick Wiltraut.*

**Abbreviations:** Bombay Hook (Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, *Kent*, DE); Brigantine (Brigantine Unit, Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, *Atlantic*, NJ); Cape Henlopen (Cape Henlopen S.P., *Sussex*, DE); Hamlin Beach (Hamlin Beach S.P., *Monroe*, NY); Sandy Hook (Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area, *Monmouth*, NJ); S.C.M.M. (South Cape May Meadow, W. Cape May, NJ); W. A. (Wildlife Area).

### LOONS THROUGH VULTURES

A **Pacific Loon** at Sandy Hook 19-20 Apr (†DW, BD, George Dempster) provided New Jersey's 10th record, pending approval. Though more frequently reported in recent years, this is still a rare species and still a potentially difficult identification problem. Unusually high one-day counts of Red-necked

Grebes were made at lakes in upstate New York. One hundred were at Hamlin Beach on L. Ontario 29 Mar (WS), 22 at Brewerton, *Oswego* on Oneida L. 6 Apr, 24 at Collins L. *Schenectady* 8 Apr, and 25 off Wickham Marsh W.M.A., *Clinton* on L. Champlain 14 Apr (Dana Rohleder). Last season's warm winter and low number of reports suggest that most Red-necked Grebes remained n. of here, so the origin of these birds is puzzling. Six Eared Grebes was a normal count; 3 in New Jersey was high for that state, with one each in New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Staten I., NY harbored a Western Grebe 1-9 Apr (Lauren & Chris Nussi, m. ob.). Most state records of this rare species are from upstate. A pelagic trip from Pt. Pleasant, *Ocean*, NJ to the Hudson Canyon on 19 May turned up 50 Northern Fulmars (FONT), while another trip on the

same boat on 27 May had 22 Manx Shearwaters (FONT), both excellent counts but neither of them new records. The two highest totals of Sooty Shearwaters were both from shore, 224 at the Avalon sea-watch, *Cape May*, NJ 25 May and 175 near Shinnecock Inlet, *Suffolk*, NY 26 May (TWB, RJK). Participants on the 27 May pelagic trip to the Hudson Canyon were treated to a Leach's Storm-Petrel (FONT), a regular but not often observed migrant well offshore.

Three American White Pelicans visited the L. Ontario shore just w. of Rochester 3-9 May (†Cathy Ryan, m. ob.). Three, just possibly the same ones, were observed at four different locations in *Niagara*, NY 29 Apr (Angie McCaughey), and 11, 14 (†WD'A), & 16 May, another was reported offshore from Cape May 30 May from the *Cape May Whale Watcher* (Kelly Robbins). This rare species has over the last 25 years become a more frequent visitor, both in w. New York, not far from sw. Ontario breeding grounds, and at coastal locations, though there is a marked decline in records since the mid-1990s. Brown Pelicans were present in good numbers along the shores of Delaware and New Jersey, with peaks of 20 at Cape Henlopen 26 May (m. ob.), at Indian R Inlet, *Sussex*, DE 27 May (MG), and in Delaware Bay off the New Jersey shore 30 May (Clay Sutton, Jim Watson). A hybrid between Little Blue Heron and another *Egretta* species, having three plumes and found 22 Apr at Bombay Hook (MG), remained about three weeks. There was much speculation about its other parent. Cattle Egret remains in very small numbers, with only two reports in double digits: 31 at Port Penn, *New Castle*, DE 30 Mar (AE) and 12 at Cape May Court House, NJ (Paul Lehman); a dozen other reports were mostly of singles.

**SA** In Mar, 2 dusky-bellied brant that apparently were neither Black Brant (*nigricans*) nor Dark-bellied Brant (nominate *bernicle*) were found and photographed on w. Long I., NY: the first at Jones Inlet, *Nassau* 7-16 Mar (SM), and the 2nd at Jacob Riis Park, *Queens*, 14-16 Mar (PAB, SM). On 17 Mar, 3 brant with dark bellies were found at these same locations (AnW, AG, TWB, G. Benson) which could have included one or both of the above individuals.

Examination of skins at the American Museum of Natural History on 15 Mar by PAB and SM confirmed that both closely matched the type described by Lawrence in 1846 (from one shot at Egg Harbor, NJ) as "*nigricans*" (currently known as Black Brant) but which Delacour and Zimmer in 1952 considered a unique taxon whose breeding area was unknown. Subsequently, a population of brant closely resembling Lawrence's type was found breeding in the western Canadian High Arctic on the Parry Islands (chiefly on Melville and Prince Patrick Islands) and wintering largely in the Padilla Bay portion of Puget Sound. In the last 15 years, birds known to be from that breeding population have also been detected as far afield as Baja California, Iceland, and Northern Ireland. Showing characteristics of both *nigricans* and *hrota* (Atlantic Brant or Pale-bellied Brant), and thus erroneously considered "intermediates" or "hybrids" between them, such "Gray-bellied Brant" are either yet to be named taxonomically or are indeed Lawrence's *nigricans*. The single mtDNA study to date concluded that Gray-bellieds are genetically unique and that they have been isolated from Black Brant for at least 400,000 years. A paper by the observers illustrating Long Island's first 2 apparent Gray-bellied Brant and discussing details of its relationship to Lawrence's brant will appear in a future issue of this journal, as will a second paper discussing the newly discovered status of Dark-bellied Brant (nominate *bernicle*) in North America. Thanks are due to P. A. Buckley for the above information and to Angus Wilson for a very helpful discussion.

## WATERFOWL

An ad. **Black-bellied Whistling Duck** was found at a Cooks Lane farm pond at Water Mill, *Suffolk*, NY 8 May (PAB) and remained in the area (m. ob.) until 18 May. With numerous appearances from the Great Plains eastward, this species appears to be extending its range. This, together with the mid-May appearance, strengthens the probability that this individual is wild. Reports of only 6 Greater White-fronted Geese and 8 Ross's Geese came in, below recent standards for both species. Eight Canada Geese of race *hutchinsii* 3 Mar at Iroquois N.W.R., *Genesee/Orleans*, NY (MM) may well be a record-high spring count for the Region. Up to 3 **Barnacle Geese** remained on Long I., NY into Mar. Another appeared 1-3 Mar at Royalton, *Niagara*, NY (Carl Mrozek, Mike Galas); though seen by several observers, it received no documentation. Eight reports totaling 10 reintroduced Trumpeter Swans—all but one from New York counties bordering L. Ontario or L. Erie—was typical of recent years.

Seven Common Teal were reported, 3 each in New York and New Jersey, and one in Delaware. One at Tobay, *Nassau*, NY 31 Mar was accompanied by a Common x Green-winged hybrid. And Tufted Duck x scaup hybrids remained from last season into early Mar at Rehoboth Beach, *Sussex*, DE (MG, Steve Noyes) and Massapequa, *Suffolk*, NY. The only King Eiders were both at Montauk Pt, *Suffolk*, NY: one imm. male 3 & 10 Mar (m. ob.) and one 24 Mar (AB, HM, Brian Kane, Patrick Santanello). As usual, Common Eiders remained into Mar on Long I.; a pair frequented Cape Henlopen until 9 Mar (Ed Sigda, Maurice Barnhill). A storm on 14 Apr brought a big inland fallout of Bufflehead on the following day: at L. Ontelaunee, *Berks*, PA were 1020 (Matt Spence, Steve Fordyce), at Culvers L. *Sussex*, NJ 600 (Fred Tetlow), and at L. Musconetcong, *Morris/Sussex*, NJ 100 (Tom Halliwell). Lastly, 2 Barrow's Goldeneye were reported, a male until 27 Mar at Bayville, *Nassau*, NY and a female 13 Mar at Sandy Hook.

## RAPTORS THROUGH CRANES

April brought 3 Swallow-tailed Kites to New Jersey: 1 Apr at Sandy Hook (Dave Whitting), 18 Apr at Cape May Pt. (Mark Garland et al.), and 20 Apr at Sandy Hook (BD, DW, SB, et al.). About a third of New Jersey's approximately 60 records have been at Cape May, with Sandy Hook a distant second. Sixteen Mississippi Kites were reported, 2 in New York, 8 in New Jersey, 5 in Pennsylvania, and one in Delaware. As usual, the hotspot was

Cape May, with 1-4 present daily 11-24 May. A Swainson's Hawk was observed 12 Apr at Parma, *Monroe*, NY (†RS); and another at the Ripley hawkwatch, *Chautauqua*, NY 18 Apr (†LD) provided the 2nd documented record for the state's Niagara Frontier Region. But certainly the most surprising raptor report of the season was of a **Ferruginous Hawk** 11 Apr also at the Ripley hawkwatch (†LD, †William Dietz, †Tom Simmons, Jack Sherwood). Seen in direct comparison with Red-tailed Hawk and Turkey Vulture with descriptions from three observers, if accepted this will become the first confirmed record for New York and the Region as well.

The only report of Yellow Rail came from an old if restricted hotspot, Old Landing at Bombay Hook 19 May (JL). Black Rails were reported calling at Bombay Hook 30 Apr (JL), at Jakes Landing, *Cumberland*, NJ 4-11 May (4 birds; m. ob.), and at Port Mahon, *Kent*, DE 16 May (MG). With over 50 reported, all but 10 from nw. New York, Sandhill Cranes continued their recent trend in spring migration. Of particular interest was a pair seen regularly commuting to and from Ft. Dix, *Ocean*, NJ in late May (Fred Virrazzi) and suspected of breeding. Farthest afield was one migrating past the Cape Henlopen hawkwatch 13 Apr (*vide* Bruce Lantz).

## SHOREBIRDS THROUGH ALCIDS

Forty-five Piping Plovers at Pike's Beach, *Suffolk*, NY 7 Apr (Paul Gillen) was a very encouraging count, and one well inland at Conejehola Flats, *Lancaster*, PA 31 May (Bob Schutsky) was a surprise. Black-necked Stilts in Delaware raised no eyebrows. But in New York 2 at Oceanside, *Nassau* 11-25 May (Marina Nature Study Area personnel) and one at Freeport, *Nassau* 12-27 May (AnW et al.), and in New Jersey one at the PSE&G impoundments at Bivalve, *Cumberland*, 6 May (MF), 2 at S.C.M.M. 21 May (TP), and 3 at Brigantine 30 May were more unusual. Brigantine hosted a **Eurasian Whimbrel** 2-7 May (John Danzenbaker) among over 100 of the North American race. Outstanding were 3 Curlew Sandpipers. Two of them (assuming all the Delaware reports were of the same 2) moved between three *Kent*, DE locations; both were seen at Little Creek W. A. 16 May (MG, BGP), one of them 24 May (AE) at Woodland Beach W. A. and both on 25 May (Frank Rohrbacher), and one of them at Bombay Hook 28 May (*vide* Andy Urquhart). The other was at Brigantine 18-21 May (Mike Gochfeld, m. ob.). A badly misplaced Stilt Sandpiper, very rare in spring in Pennsylvania, appeared at Falls Twp., *Bucks* 20-25 May (DF). Five to 6



This South Polar Skua, photographed 19 May 2002 at the Hudson Canyon, was one of four seen that day, which ties the highest Regional total. Photograph by Rick Wiltraut.

Ruffs, all in Delaware, made a good count for the season. Delaware typically hosts more of this species than any of the other three states in the Region. A Wilson's Phalarope visited Falls Twp., PA 11 May (DF) for the 2nd consecutive spring, the 6th *Bucks* record. Two males and a female were at Chazy R. *Clinton*, NY 29 May (BK, CM), where the species nested or attempted to nest each year from 1993 to 1997.

Four South Polar Skuas on the 19 May pelagic trip to Hudson Canyon (FONT) delighted observers, tying the highest Regional total at least since the 1970s. The 27 May pelagic trip to Hudson Canyon (FONT) encountered all three species of jaeger. A **Pomarine Jaeger** at Ft. Niagara S.P., *Niagara*, NY 30 Mar (WD'A) provided a first spring record for the state's Niagara Frontier Region. Spring jaegers are very rare here (MM). A Laughing Gull at Liverpool, *Onondaga*, NY 17 May (†David Wheeler) and a Franklin's Gull at nearby Syracuse 18 May (†Matt Young) were 5th spring records for both species for the Oneida Lake Basin. An ad. Thayer's Gull at Wilmington, DE 11 (MG) & 23 Mar (†Matt Sharp) was only the 3rd or 4th for the state,



A Sabine's Gull photographed at Sandy Hook, New Jersey 22 May 2002 was present intermittently 9-27 May. This bird constituted the twelfth state record but only the third in spring. Photograph by Rick Wiltraut.

and a first-winter individual was reported at Peace Valley Park, Bucks, PA 3 Mar (DF). A well documented and photographed **Sabine's Gull** at Sandy Hook 9, 18-24, & 27 May (Tom Grunenfelder, TB et al.) is New Jersey's 12th. Single Roseate Terns were reported at Sandy Hook 25-26 May (George Nixon et al.), where they are rare, and at Cape Henlopen 30 May (MG), where they are occasional. Very unusual was a report of 2 Arctic Terns at Hamlin Beach 5 May (†WS, †Mike Davids, details to the New York State Avian Records Committee). There are only a very few inland records of Arctic Tern in the entire Region.

A single Dovekie in a small creek near Shinnecock Inlet, Suffolk, NY 3 Mar (TWB, vt. AG) was the only one reported. Two Razorbills lingering at Montauk Pt. S.P., Suffolk, NY 10 Mar (AB) were unsurprising, but more unusual were 2 reported at Sandy Hook 27 Mar (DW, BD), perhaps returning from the major winter concentration of the species off North Carolina's Outer Banks.

### DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS

A small colony of 4-5 Eurasian Collared-Doves continues at Selbyville, Sussex, DE (v. o.). Last winter's White-winged Dove at Cape May remained in the area until 1 May (m. ob.). With nearly 50 reported in the Region and at least three nesting pairs in New Jersey, Northern Saw-whet Owls exceeded their strong showing of last year. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds too were well represented. High counts included 17 at feeders in Hague, Warren, NY 29 May (Ruth Lamb), and 20 at

the Derby Hill hawkwatch, Oswego, NY 30 May. And 35 were banded with 28 more returns in May at Jenny L., Saratoga, NY (Robert Yunick), both new records at the location. Red-headed Woodpeckers continued their spectacular showing of last winter, with more than 70 reported, most in New York and New Jersey, and nesting pairs at several new locations. Ferd's Bog, Hamilton, NY produced a Three-toed Woodpecker 20 May (GL) and a Black-backed Woodpecker 4 (William Lenhart) & 20 May (GL). Even at this location, one of the best in the Region for both species, the Three-toed Woodpecker is rare, while the Black-backed is uncommon.

### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS

The winter season's **Dusky Flycatcher** at Cedar Swamp W. A., New Castle, DE was last seen 10 Mar (MG) but reported calling 30 Mar (BGP). An elusive, imm. male **Vermilion Flycatcher** at Stone Harbor, Cape May, NJ 13-15 May (vt. MF et al.) provided the state with its first record, and the Region with its 3rd. This individual could be a migratory overshoot either from sw. U.S.A. or from farther south.

Reports of nearly 20 Philadelphia Vireos were almost unprecedented away from w. and n. New York, where they are more regular if not common. A single observer noted 5, possibly with some duplication, at Sandy Hook 13-27 May (TB) and photographed 2 of them. Normally fewer than a half-dozen spring migrants can be expected of this species in the se. portion of the Region, where it is rare at this season. Common Ravens continue to increase

in nw. New Jersey highlands, but most unusual was one at Sandy Hook 8 Apr, seen regularly through the end of the month and sporadically through May (DW, Pete Both). This was Sandy Hook's 2nd spring raven and one of only a handful of modern records from the New Jersey coast; there are no U. S. coastal records south of Sandy Hook from the past 70 years or so.

Of nearly 40 reports of Gray-cheeked and Bicknell's Thrushes, a few with details, 30 were reported as Gray-cheeked, 3 as Bicknell's, and 6 as Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's. The identification of these two species is more complicated than most people realize, and good details, including description or recording of full song, are essential to determining their spring statuses. A Varied Thrush at Greenwich, Washington, NY 25 Mar (*vide* Barbara Putnam) was probably one that had wintered farther south. Recently, there have been one or more records in the Region each year, most in winter. Bohemian Waxwings from the past winter's irruption in upstate New York held over in lesser numbers with 250 at Frankfort, Herkimer, until 15 Mar (Brenda Best) and several flocks ranging from 20 to 80 in the Oneida Lake Basin and Adirondack-Champlain region. A flock of 50 at Plattsburgh, Clinton, NY on 14-15 May (CM), with the last nearby on 18 May (Rick Mickelson), extended the previous New York late date by a full month.

Curiously, reports of Brewster's Warbler, when taken together with those of Lawrence's Warbler (8 each), approached the total for Golden-winged Warbler, one of the parent species of these hybrid types. Are observers just more interested in the hybrids, or is Golden-winged Warbler in that much trouble? Tennessee Warblers, though still reported in small numbers, improved slightly for the second consecutive year. Cape May Warbler numbers once again remained low. A male **Black-throated Gray Warbler** was banded and photographed at the Kaiser-Manitou banding station, Monroe, NY 30 Apr (Braddock Bay Bird Observatory) for the first record in the state's Genesee Region. New York has about 10 previous records. New York has about 10 previous records. Two **Townsend's Warblers** were reported also in New York, an imm. female at Braddock Bay, Monroe 13 Apr (†B. Ewald) and an ad. male at Massapequa, Suffolk 14 Apr (Pat Jones) that remained for several days. New York has fewer than 10 accepted records of this species, most of them in spring. The Yellow-throated Warbler that wintered at Wissler Run Pk., Lancaster, PA remained until 7 Mar (DH). In the se. end of the Region, Prothonotary Warblers made their best showing in years with more than 30 reported, about half,

including several reports of nesting, from n. New Jersey and New York, n. of normal breeding areas. A **Swainson's Warbler** near Jake's Landing, *Cape May*, NJ 1-25 May (Karen Johnson, PS, m. ob.) was the state's 11th. Of the 10 previous state records, all but two have been in spring, and one individual remained for more than nine weeks. Mourning Warblers were well represented, with about 40 reported.

### TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

Reports of 6 Clay-colored Sparrows were better than average, with 2 in the Cape May area, one of them a holdover from the winter season, one on Long I., 2 in New York's Hudson-Delaware region, and one in the Oneida L. Basin, NY. Both of last winter's Lark Sparrows remained into Mar, the one at Benjamin Rush S P in Philadelphia leaving early in the month, and the one at Cape May Court House remaining until 18 Mar. Very rare in spring, another was at Sandy Hook 8 May (DW, SB). There are fewer than 10 spring records in New Jersey. Henslow's Sparrows, nowhere recently common in the Region, were almost nonexistent. Single individuals in Seneca Falls, *Seneca*, NY 27 Apr (Gary Chapin, DS) and in Genesee, *Livingston*, NY 19 May (Tom Hampson, Jim Meade, John Olson) provided the only reports. In their W. Nicholson, *Luzerne*, PA redoubt of recent years, none were present. Reid scoured suitable habitat in ne. PA all season with no success. Fox Sparrows were very much in evidence, the highest count was 74 at State Game Land 110, on the Kittatinny Ridge, *Berks*, PA 17 Mar (Tom Clauser, Kerry Grimm). Four Oregon Juncos was an above-average number, with 3 in New York, and one in Pennsylvania, all with at least some documentation.

An imm. male Painted Bunting at Greece, *Monroe*, NY 11-15 May (Chris Gates, ph. DS) was the first record for the state's Genesee Region. Another Painted Bunting was photographed at Sandy Hook 21 May (TB). New York has about 30 previous records and New Jersey 20. Typically rare in spring in the se. corner of the Region, 8 Dickcissels made a strong showing. Three were at S.C.M.M. 8 May (Richard Crossley), one at Cape May 10-11 May (Michael O'Brien, Louise Zemaitis), one at W Cape May, NJ 20-24 May (m. ob.), one near Prime Hook N.W.R. *Sussex*, DE 27 May (BGP, MG), and 2 near Harrington, *Sussex*, DE 27 May (MG).

Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds were the only ones reported, one at Bashakill Marsh, *Sullivan*, NY 10 Mar (Renee Davis, Lois Head), and one near Odessa, *New Castle*, DE 30 Mar (Alison Ellicott) and 5 Apr (Eric Braun). The only Brewer's Blackbirds, all at Hamlin,

*Monroe*, NY, were a male 8 Apr (†Steve Taylor, †RS, m. ob.) and possibly the same male with a female 14-17 Apr (†KG, m. ob.). This site has hosted Brewer's Blackbirds nearly annually for two decades. A flock of 60 Pine Grosbeaks remained from last winter's upstate New York invasion until 2 Mar at Frankfort, *Herkimer*, NY (David Neveau), with small numbers at several other locations. And one individual was reported at Penfield, *Monroe*, NY 21 May (Fred Beltz), which could be a new record late date.

Even after a fairly poor winter for them, small numbers of Red Crossbills were widely scattered, with several reports from the New Jersey pine barrens. In particular, a pair was seen nest building in Wharton S.F., *Burlington*, NJ 5 May (Tom Bailey), but the nest was later abandoned. Small numbers of White-winged Crossbills were also widely scattered, though some were definitely holdovers at sites where they had wintered, and a pair with fledged young in *Clinton*, NY (BK, CM, Charles Mitchell, Jr.) provided the first confirmed breeding record for the county. Following last winter's large numbers in upstate New York, many Common Redpolls remained into the season. The high count was 500 in Florida, *Montgomery*, NY 21 Mar (Tom Palmer), with five other reports in double or triple figures, and some individuals lingering into Apr. Seven accompanying Hoary Redpolls were reported, all but one from the Adirondacks. The high count of Pine Siskins was 100 at Hamlin Beach 29 Mar (WS), with scattered additional reports mostly of small numbers. The picture was similar for Evening Grosbeaks. The peak count was 150 at Georgetown, *Madison*, NY, with eight reports in double figures and many of smaller numbers, most of them in New York.

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