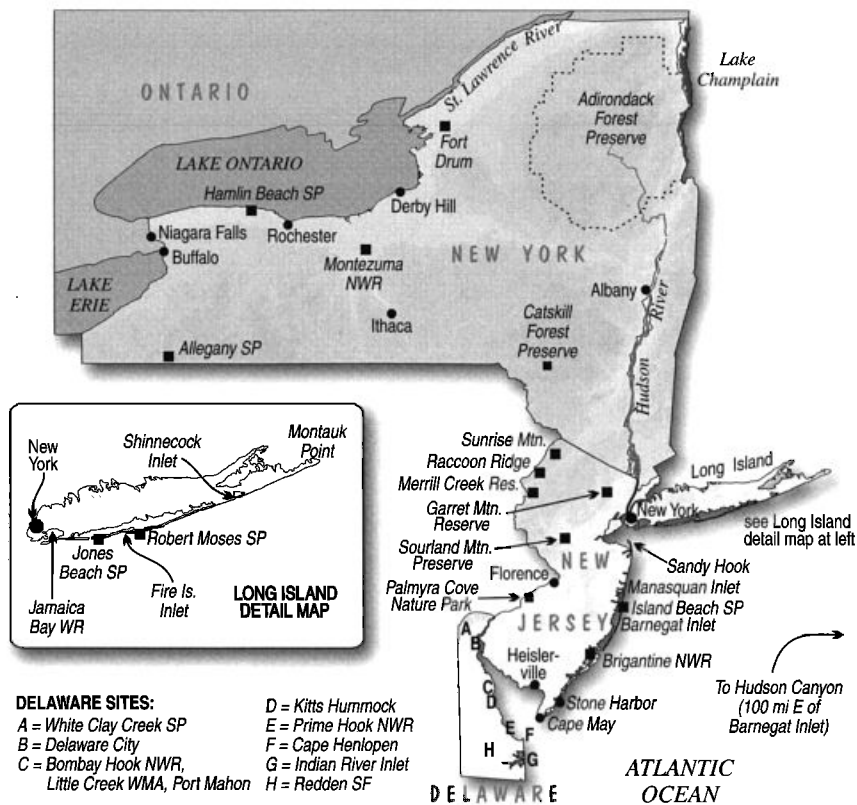


Hudson-Delaware



The weather during spring 2004 in the Region was generally characterized as warm and wet throughout. Exceptions to this general pattern included a sunny and dry May in the Adirondack-Champlain region, and the hottest May on record in New Jersey. Exceptionally heavy rain fell 22–24 May, resulting in localized flooding in the Hudson River Valley and in a major fallout of shorebirds in western New York 23 May. Major hawk flights occurred on 24 March in the Niagara region, 6–7 April at Sandy Hook, NJ and in the Niagara Frontier region, and on 19 April at Braddock Bay on Lake Ontario. Major waves of migrating passerines were noted at Sandy Hook on 21 and 28 March, in Central Park on 18, 23, and 29 April and on 4, 9, 20, and 26 May. The best passerine flight of the spring at Cape May occurred 10 May, and thereafter the passerine migration was deemed poor due to continuously sunny weather, southwesterly or southerly winds, with few or no “grounding” fronts.

Abbreviations: Batavia (W.T.P., *Genesee*, NY); Braddock Bay (B.O., Rochester, NY); Brigantine (Forsythe N.W.R., *Atlantic*, NJ); Bombay Hook (N.W.R., DE); Captree (S.P., Long I., NY); Chazy (Chazy R., *Clinton*, NY); Derby Hill (Hawkwatch, *Oswego*, NY); Hamburg (Hawkwatch, near Buffalo, NY); Hamlin Beach (S.P., near Rochester, NY); I.N.W.R. (Iroquois N.W.R., *Genesee/Orleans*, NY); Jamaica Bay (Wildlife Refuge, Gateway N.P., New York City); Jones Beach (S.P., Long I., NY); Moriches (Moriches Bay & Inlet, Long I., NY); Little Creek (W.M.A., *Kent*, DE); Montauk (Montauk Pt., NY); Riis (Jacob Riis Park, Queens, New York City); Ripley (Hawkwatch, *Chautauqua*, NY); Sagaponack (Pond, Bridgehampton, Long I., NY); Sandy Hook (Sandy Hook Unit/Gateway National Recreation Area, NJ); Shinnecock (Shinnecock Bay and Inlet, Long I., NY); Ted Harvey (Ted Harvey C.A./Logan Lane Tract, DE).

LOONS THROUGH PELICANS

A basic-plumaged Pacific Loon 18 May at Tiana Beach, Shinnecock Bay, LI (PAB, AB, SM, PL) was the only one reported. High counts of Red-necked Grebes on L. Ontario included 1487 between Hamlin Beach and Kendall 4 Apr (RSp, WS) and 665 between Parma and Hamlin 7 Apr (RSp); counts of similar magnitude from the same locations were inadvertently omitted from the spring 2003 report. A count of 62 migrants passing Rye, NY 18 Apr was an impressive total for w. Long I. Sound (TWB et al.). Two Eared Grebes were found, one at Batavia 8 May (KF)

Richard R. Veit

Biology Department
CSI-CUNY
2800 Victory Boulevard
Staten Island, New York 10314
(veitrr2003@yahoo.com)

Joseph C. Burgiel

331 Alpine Court
Stanhope, New Jersey 07874
(burgiel@alum.mit.edu)

David A. Cutler

1003 Livezey Lane
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119
(david@dcipaper.com)

Steve Kelling

Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, New York 14850
(stk2@cornell.edu)

Robert O. Paxton

460 Riverside Drive, Apt. 72
New York, New York 10027
(rop1@columbia.edu)

and another at Dewey Beach, DE 17 Mar (AGo). A Western Grebe was present off Staten I. 8 Mar–10 Apr (Phil Brown); this was possibly the same individual present at the same location two years ago, but the number of records of this w. species in the Northeast in recent years suggests that multiple individuals have been involved. Eight Northern Fulmars were seen from a boat s. of Montauk 8 Mar (MW). An unidentified albatross was seen from a boat 8 km s. of Moriches Inlet 23 May (MW). A pelagic trip to Hudson Canyon 22–23 May produced 3 Leach's Storm-Petrels, 2 Manx Shearwaters, and a "few" Cory's Shearwaters. Single American White Pelicans in Cumberland, NJ 7 Mar (L. Kenney, J. & L. Jones) and at Prime Hook, DE 30 Apr–8 May (MEG, ES) were the only ones reported in the Region, but others were seen in neighboring states. Two Anhingas soared over the Holly Forest at Sandy Hook, NJ 15 May (SB, RK).

HERONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

Least Bitterns seemed more widely reported than usual: a migrant was seen sitting in a Prospect Park (Brooklyn, NY) tree 9 Apr (Rob Jett), up to 2 were at a traditional nesting location at Jamaica Bay through much of May, and one was seen at a not-so-traditional location at Mecox Bay, Long I. 23–28 May (HM). Forty-six Great Egrets along the Niagara R. 29 Apr was an exceptionally large concentration for that location (*vide* DFS). Some 150 Glossy Ibis counted at Port Norris, NJ 13 Apr (T. Klock) was the largest aggregation reported. Single White-faced Ibis were in n. Cape May, NJ 13–15 May (m. ob.) and at Jamaica Bay 16 May (AW).

Black Vultures continue to increase, with 5 reported outside of their area of regular occurrence, which extends from the lower Hudson R. Valley, n. to Derby Hill and Hamburg, Erie, and e. to Montauk.

Nine Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks were seen flying in off the ocean at Cape May and continuing on to the w. 25 May (Tom Collins, Seth Kellogg et al.). Nearly



Purple Gallinules are very rare visitors to New Jersey, with most birds recorded in the spring and late fall. This bird was in the marshes along the Stone Harbor causeway 2 May 2004. Photograph by Rick Wiltraut.

all North American geese continue to increase and expand at least their nonbreeding ranges. About 10 Regional Greater White-fronted Geese included several in the Niagara region through 9 Apr (Paul Hess, m. ob.), 2 at Staten I., NY throughout Mar (M. Shanley et al.), and one at Mannington, NJ 20–30 Mar (CK et al.). Impressive counts of Snow Geese included 530,000 passing over Derby Hill 26 Mar, an estimated 1,000,000 at Montezuma N.W.R. 11 Mar (JM), and 20,000 at Merrill Creek Res., NJ 14 Mar (SB). About 15 Ross's Geese were reported, including 4 in the Niagara region, 2–3 near Rochester, and 5 between Delaware and New Jersey. Cackling Geese are certainly more numerous in the Region than they were 10 years

ago; groups of 9 at Newstead, Erie, NY 6–14 Mar and 10 at Hartland, Niagara, NY 7–14 Mar (WW, PY) represent high spring counts for that area, and singles were seen at Chazy 22 Apr (BK) and at Montauk 15 Mar (HM). At least 5 Black Brant were found: multiple sightings in the Brooklyn/Staten I./Sandy Hook area 7 Mar–13 Apr (AW, RRV, SB, TBo et al.) involved a minimum of 2 and perhaps as many as 5 birds, while another was at Indian River Inlet, DE 7 Mar (FR). Interestingly, no Brant were seen in westernmost New York, but 2165 passed Derby Hill 20 May (RSp). A Barnacle Goose on the Hoosic R. near Albany, NY continued from the winter season (m.ob.) and was likely a vagrant rather than an escapee, considering the current population growth of that species. A Trumpeter Swan at I.N.W.R. throughout May (Gail Seamans), as

with other state records, certainly derived from local releases or stocking projects (see Carroll, D., and B. L. Swift. 2000. *Kingbird* 50: 232–236). Higher counts of Tundra Swan included 350 at Whitesbog, NJ 1 Mar (Len Little) and 661 at I.N.W.R. 14 Mar (WW). One on the Central Park Res. in Manhattan was unusual for that location (Alex Wilson, L. Spitalnik).

Eight Eurasian Wigeons were reported, a near-average total, as were 5 Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal. An intergrade Common Teal x Green-winged Teal was at Hempstead L., Long I. 7–21 Mar (B. Berlinger, SM, PL). Two male Cinnamon Teal were found in upstate New York: 14–15 May at I.N.W.R. (Bill Broderick, WW, Don Harris) and 25 Mar near Rochester (G. Buell, R. Pack, m.ob.). These dates of occurrence closely match those of other vagrants to the East; there are perhaps 10 other records of this species for New York. The Tufted Duck that spent much of the winter at Fairhaven in the Oneida L. Basin remained until 20 Mar. The more southerly King Eiders reported were singles at Cape Henlopen, DE 7 Mar and Sandy Hook NJ 9–15 May (MF; late). Common Eiders nested for the 3rd year in a row on tiny islets off Fisher's I., NY; this year, four nests were found (G. Williams). These are the southernmost nests of this species in the world. A flock

SA Each spring, numbers of scoters congregate in Delaware Bay prior to their onward migration toward the breeding areas. This year, however, numbers there eclipsed all previous totals. In early Mar, numbers of all three species were estimated in the tens of thousands, with Black and Surf numerically dominating the White-wingeds, as is usual. The scoters were most easily seen from the beach between Cape May Pt. and the Cape May ferry landing. All observers agreed that there was a spatial segregation among species, Blacks closest to shore, and the proportions of Surfs and White-wingeds increasing with distance from land. A sample tally from 9 Mar noted 100,000 Surf, 35,000 Black, 1300 White-winged, 50,000 unidentified 9 Mar (MO'B). The flocks grew to an estimated 250,000 birds by the middle of Mar, then gradually dwindled through rest of the month. To put these numbers in perspective, the eastern North American population of Black Scoters was estimated at 100,000 in 2002 (roughly the same in the Pacific), while Surf Scoters were estimated at up to 400,000 and White-wingeds at about a million (Delaney, S., and D. Scott. 2002. *Waterfowl Population Estimates*). Thus, the scoters staging in Delaware Bay this spring could represent about 15 per cent of the combined North American populations.

of 200 seen from a boat off Montauk 6 Mar (MW) was larger than normal for recent years, though far below the numbers of 1997. Larger flocks of Harlequin Ducks included 22 at Barnegat Inlet, NJ 29 Mar, 8 at Pt. Lookout, Long I. 10 Apr, and 8 at Cold Spring jetties, *Cape May*, NJ 14 Mar (m.ob.); a late individual was at Cape Henlopen, DE 17 May (MEG). A rare dark-morph Ruddy Duck was at Braddock Bay 29–30 Apr (TSM, m.ob.).

HAWKS THROUGH GROUSE

Major flights of migrating hawks occurred 24 Mar at the Hamburg Hawkwatch (300 Turkey Vultures, 49 Red-shouldered Hawks, and 34 Red-tailed Hawks), 6–7 Apr at Sandy Hook (250 total), 7 Apr at Hamburg (400 Turkey Vultures), 11 Apr at Niagara (4 Golden Eagles), and finally 19 Apr at Braddock Bay (11,639 Broad-winged Hawks, 1447 Turkey Vultures, 1136 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 571 Red-tailed Hawks, and 136 Rough-legged Hawks among a total of 14 species of raptors). Swallow-tailed Kites appeared at Cape May 20 Apr (C. Bauer) and 12–13 May (PEL, m.ob.), White Clay Creek S.P., DE 2 May (Joe Swertinski, Carol Leigh Ralph), Prime Hook N.W.R., DE (ES), and Sandy Hook (Joe Carragher), the latter both 12 May. At least 8 Mississippi Kites appeared at Cape May, with peak numbers 12–20 May (Alan Bennett, M.K. Adams, m.ob.), 2 were at Sandy Hook 15 May (SB), and a single bird was seen at Princeton 29 May (SB). This influx of kites was perhaps related to an emergence of 17-year cicadas (of “Brood X”) beginning in mid-May in the southernmost parts of the Region. Bald Eagle numbers also were up, with a seasonal total of 366 over Braddock Bay and 46 in the Niagara region. Three Swainson’s Hawks were reported: a light-morph ad. at Braddock Bay 16 Apr, one over Derby Hill 24 May, and a light-morph imm. over Braddock Bay 26 May. Two out of four nests of Red-tailed Hawks in and around Central Park, New York were successful (R. Davis, B. Hart), and another was found on a Bronx fire es-

cape, where 2 chicks were removed by the state’s environmental conservation department (C. Nadeski). Golden Eagles were reported in above-average numbers throughout the Region, including seasonal totals of 6 in the Adirondack–Champlain region, 6 in Niagara, 18 at Braddock Bay, and 55 at Derby Hill. An American Kestrel

newed interest in ditching salt marshes for mosquito control, a very destructive practice and one not convincingly linked to reduction of mosquito populations (Teal, J., and M. Teal. 1969. *The Life and Death of the Salt Marsh*. New York: Ballantine). A King Rail was seen at Mt. Loretto, Staten I., NY 24 Apr (SW), and 5 were at Reedy Pt.



Representing a first spring record for the East Coast, this Sage Thrasher was at Oceanville, New Jersey 27 April 2004. Photograph by Shelley Spanwick.

was discovered building a nest on a building adjacent to Manhattan’s Central Park 22 May (DA); this is encouraging news in light of the species’ declining populations. The Rochester area Gyrfalcon remained at Sodus Point until 1 Mar, and another was seen flying over Braddock Bay 30 Mar.

RAILS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

Rails in general were poorly reported this spring. Exemplifying this pattern was a complete lack of rails (even Clappers, which are usually common there) along the Port Mahon Road in Delaware. Part of the reason for the decline is undoubtedly the re-

Bridge, DE 5 May (DAC, HTA). An obliging Purple Gallinule spent 15 Apr–17 May in a handball-court-sized patch of marsh and backyard near Stone Harbor, NJ (Marney Mohr, m.ob.). Common Moorhens have declined so much in the Region that a single bird reported near Fire I. Inlet, NY 24 Apr (J. Fritz) was considered worth reporting. Sandhill Cranes continue to expand explosively; 59 were counted over the Ripley Hawkwatch, 17 were noted in the Rochester area during the spring, 8 were in the Oneida Lake Basin, and 2 were found s. to Sussex, NJ 14 Mar.

A Wilson’s Plover on Sandy Pond, Oswego, NY 21 May (David Wheeler, Kevin McGann) is the first inland record for New York, although others have been seen near the Great Lakes, e.g., in Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Ohio. American Avocet concentrations included a below-average 400 at Ted Harvey, DE 29 Mar. The northernmost Black-necked Stilts were singles at Cook’s Beach Rd., *Cape May* and Brigantine, both 12 May. A Western Willet lingered at Heislerville, NJ 5 May (JD, CS); a Willet unidentified to subspecies was seen at Batavia 8 May (KF), where rare. Seven Whimbrels at Chazy 23 May (M. Medler) were the first recorded in spring in the

SA There is some encouraging news from Delaware Bay in that the Interstate Fishery Management Plan of the Horseshoe Crab Management Board has imposed limits on the horseshoe crab fishery in Delaware Bay. Nonetheless, numbers of Red Knots continue to plummet rapidly. These birds do not seem have “gone elsewhere”—extensive aircraft surveys of the entire East Coast this spring could not locate the knots, and birders in Virginia and the Carolinas report seeing almost none this season. This is a species in crisis: without immediate action, it could very soon move from being one of our most abundant to one of our Region’s rarest North American migrant shorebirds.

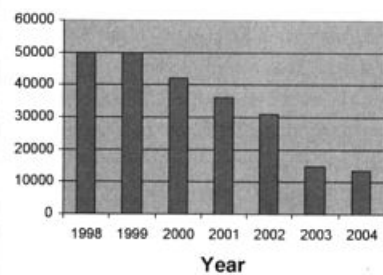


Figure 1. Numbers of Red Knots using the Delaware Bay shore in late May and June, 1998–2004. Source: New Jersey Endangered and Nongame Species Program.

Adirondack–Champlain region since 1969, and a total of 216 passing by Hamlin Beach furnished a record inland count for spring (DT, TSm). The rarest shorebird of the spring was a Bar-tailed Godwit at Mecox Bay, Long I. 28–29 May (Ken & Sue Feustel, m.ob.). A similar bird, perhaps the same individual, appeared at Monomoy, MA later in Jun.

Unusual spring shorebirds from the Rochester area included 2 Western Sandpipers 21 May (WS) and a remarkable 4 Baird's Sandpipers 30 May (MT); the latter would be the highest spring count ever for the Region. A total of 2240 Dunlin flying past Hamlin Beach 23 May provided a very high inland count for the state (DT, TSm). There were 7 Ruffs this spring, all at coastal localities, and 3 Curlew Sandpipers, all in coastal Delaware. Two Stilt Sandpipers at Sagaponack Pond 27 Apr–9 May were unusual that far n. on the coast in spring (HM et al.). A Red Phalarope at Sandy Hook 3 Apr was early for a migrant, and Red-necked Phalaropes included 2 on the Delaware R. at Palmyra (PD) and one at I.N.W.R. 16 May (D. Harris, J. Pawlicki).

GULLS THROUGH ALCIDS

Single Parasitic Jaegers were at Cape May 26–27 Apr (PEL). Single Franklin's Gulls were at Schroepel, Oswego, NY 25 May (KM, J. Thurber) and Fortescue, NJ 31 May (MO'B). Twenty-one Little Gulls were reported, with a maximum of 8 at Niagara Falls, and 3 Black-headed Gulls were found between Niagara and Pt. Lookout, Long I. Counts of Glaucous (12), Iceland (17), and Thayer's (2) Gulls seemed high for the spring season; the only concentration was of 4 Icelands at Wilmington, while the southernmost Glaucous was at Cape May. A Glaucous Gull x Herring Gull hybrid was identified at Cape May 14 Mar (P. A. Guris). The highest count of Lesser Black-backed Gulls was of 48 at Pittstown, Hunterdon, NJ 18 Apr.

Two Sandwich Terns appeared at Shinnecock Bay 31 May (MW). Most unusual was an Arctic Tern seen at Spruce Run Res., NJ 28 Apr (FS, RK); Arctic Terns are rarely seen at inland locations at any time, but this one represents the earliest record for either New York or New Jersey by some two weeks. The Arctic was seen in the company of a Forster's and 2 Common Terns. Another 2 Arctic Terns at Chazy 17 May were a bit more on schedule but still unusual for an inland site (H. & R. Booth). Several Arctic Terns were seen at the coast between Cape May and Mecox Bay, Long I. in mid- to late May; onshore

sightings of this species in spring continue to increase, probably a result of increased observer awareness and increased sea-watching activity at this season. Counts of Razorbills included 15 off Montauk 6 Mar and 10 off Cape May 14 Mar (PEL); a Common Murre was seen at Port Monmouth, NJ 6 Mar (DF).



This Wilson's Plover at Sandy Pond, Oswego County, New York 21 May 2004 furnished the first inland record for New York. Photograph by Bill Purcell.

DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Three or 4 White-winged Doves were found this spring: at Sandy Hook 1 May (SB), at Cape May 5–6 & 13 May (B. & E. Schuhl; m.ob.), and at Rehoboth, DE 15 May (L. Safir). The Snowy Owl at the Indian R. Inlet, DE remained until 13 Mar



Swainson's Warblers seem to be increasing as vagrants past the northern limit of their range. This bird was banded and photographed at Island Beach State Park, New Jersey on 20 May 2004. Photograph by Bob Prantle.

(m.ob.). A Great Gray Owl was picked up and brought to a rehabilitator in Clay, Onondaga, NY on the rather late date of 16 Apr. Northern Saw-whet Owls were numerous in the Niagara Frontier region, where 9 calling birds were in Wyoming, and 9 others were found roosting in Niagara during the Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

A Red-bellied Woodpecker was unusually far n. at Willsboro, NY in the Adirondack–Champlain region. Both American Three-toed and Black-backed Woodpeckers were found at more-or-less regular locations in the Adirondacks, but one Black-backed was a bit s. of known breeding range at South L., Herkimer, NY (BP).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS

Scissor-tailed Flycatchers appeared at Cape May 15–16 (B. Thompson, J. Gordon, PEL) & 29 May (Steve Zeigler, m.ob.); one was at Ocean City, NJ 23 May (D. Regensberg). A Loggerhead Shrike in Hartland, Niagara 27 Mar provided one of the very few Regional records in recent years (WD, WW et al.). Given the genuine rarity of the species in the Region, great care should be taken in identification of shrikes in the

field. A Philadelphia Vireo in Belleplain S. F., NJ 24 Apr ties the earliest spring record for New Jersey (T. Brown, JS). An impressive count of 1100 Fish Crows was made at Mannington Marsh, NJ 13 Mar (SK). A Common Raven appeared s. to Sandy Hook 23 Mar (SB). Locally breeding ravens included 6 at High Point S.P., NJ, a regular site. Concentrations of nesting Cliff Swallows included 30–40 nests at L. Parsippany, NJ 6 May (SB) and 114 nests at Tonawanda, NY 20 Apr (DFS).

WRENS THROUGH WAXWINGS

Two Sedge Wrens were found at their traditional nesting site in Niagara (P. Hess, S. & T. O'Donnell). A Sage Thrasher was present 27 Apr at Oceanville, NJ (near Brigantine), where it was nicely photographed (R. Blair); this provides one of a handful of records for anywhere in the Northeast, the 3rd for the state, and the first spring record for the East Coast. Lingering flocks of Bohemian Waxwings included 250 at Adams, Oswego, NY 8 Mar (RC) and 50 in Plattsburgh, NY 2 Mar (E. Fitts). A handful of single birds in New Jersey included one that remained at Sandy Hook 4–23 Mar. The last bird was joined by a peculiar individual judged to be a Cedar Waxwing x Bohemian Waxwing hybrid (PAB, RRV).

WARBLERS

Thirteen Golden-winged Warblers were reported, with the main concentration not unexpectedly detected in the Niagara region. Of the hybrid forms, 7 Lawrence's and 6 Brewster's Warblers were reported. We urge observers to submit *all* reports of these rare and declining warblers. Orange-crowned Warblers continue their upward trend in the Region: 12 were banded at Braddock Bay, 4 more were seen in the Niagara region, and another 5 were scattered s. to Central Park and cen. New Jersey (cf. 10 total for the Region last year). Worm-eating Warblers farther n. than usual included 4 in May in the Rochester area, one at Saranac L., NY 30 Apr (T. Dudones), one in the Oneida L. Basin 29 Apr, and one at Niagara 1 May. Kentucky Warblers were reported in the Rochester area in May, and a high total of 14 came from Central Park, including one early on 23 Apr (DA). Yellow-throated Warblers n. of typical range were noted at Derby Hill 23 Apr, at Niagara 16 May, and at Rochester 1 May. A Cerulean Warbler in Central Park 18 Apr (R. Pasquier) furnished the earliest date ever for New York by three days. Continuing the roster of s. warblers, 3 Swainson's Warblers were found in the Region: singles on Staten I., NY 20 May (H. Fisher), Island Beach S.P., NJ 20 May (G. Smith), and at Cape May 23–25 May (KL, GM). Connecticut Warblers were seen in the Rochester area 18 & 23 May. The rarest of the season was the MacGillivray's Warbler 7 May (E. Miller, m. ob.) in Forest Park, Queens, the 2nd or 3rd documented record for New York.

TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

Summer Tanager totals included 6 in Central Park, one in E. Quogue, Long I. 9 May, and another on the Grumman property on Long I., a location where the species has nested in the past. A Clay-colored Sparrow wintered at Taylor Refuge, Burlington, NJ through 3 Apr, and coastal migrants were seen at Jones Beach 20 Apr and Jamaica Bay 13 May; 4 each were reported in the Niagara and Rochester areas during May. Two Henslow's Sparrows were heard singing at Lancaster, NY in an area where they have bred in the past; the species has become very scarce in upstate New York since the mid-1990s. Several observers on Long I. commented on an apparent increase in the numbers of Grasshopper

Sparrows present at traditional nesting sites. Single Harris's Sparrows were noted at West Seneca, NY 17 May and Jamaica Bay 15 May (B. Legirstrom, L. White). A junco at Jamaica Bay 11 Apr (RRV, TWB, JS, E. Silverman et al.) was clearly not a typical Slate-colored Junco; observers felt it was either an individual of the enigmatic *cismontanus* from the n. Rocky Mountains or a Pink-sided Junco from the cen.



Another vagrant at Island Beach State Park, New Jersey this spring was this apparent female Bullock's Oriole photographed on 27 April 2004.
Photograph by Alex Tongas.

Rockies. A female Snow Bunting was late at Brigantine 1–3 May (m.ob.). Four Painted Buntings were found: Southhold, Long I. 17–18 Apr (HM), Buffalo, NY 12 May (male; N. & P. Vigyikan), Sandy Hook, NJ 12 May (female; TBo), and Sandy Hook 19 May (male; Ken Klapper, TBo). Dickcissels were at Montauk 30 Apr (HM) and Cape May, NJ 12–13 May (SB).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH FINCHES

A Western Meadowlark was heard in Bennington, Wyoming, NY 27 Mar (KF). Yellow-headed Blackbirds were at Derby Hill 23 Apr and at Port Penn, DE 6 Apr. A female Bullock's Oriole was well photographed at Island Beach S.P., NJ 26–27 Apr (AT, FL, J. Hanley). Following a big fall flight, large numbers of Purple Finches were recorded just about everywhere in the area, with some peak counts including 15 at Northville, Long I. 22 Apr and 17 at Ashford in the Niagara region 25 Apr, and a maximum of 750 over Derby Hill 10 May. The only White-winged Crossbill reported was one in Columbia, NY 11 Apr. Hoary Redpolls continued through Mar at several n. locations: 7 were at L. Placid 17 Mar, and 6 were at Georgetown, NY 20 Mar. Small groups of Evening Grosbeaks were seen in Apr s. to the Hudson-Mohawk region of New York, and two Buffalo area censuses in Apr and May each recorded 14 birds.

Observers (subregional compilers in bold-face): Henry T. Armistead, Deborah Allen (Central Park, New York City), Pete Bacinski (New Jersey), Andrew Baldelli, Scott Barnes (North Coast Region, NJ: Sandy Hook Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 553, Ft. Hancock, NJ 07732), Chris Bennett (Sussex, DE: Cape Henlopen S.P., 42 Cape Henlopen Dr., Lewes, DE 19958), Michael Bochnik (Hudson-Delaware, NY: 86 Empire St., Yonkers, NY 10704), Tom Boyle (TBo), P. A. Buckley, Thomas W. Burke (New York Rare Bird Alert), Terry Clarke (N.Y.C. area), Richard Crossley, Willie D'Anna, Jim Dowdell, Paul Driver (sw NJ: 915 Melrose Ave., Elkins Park, PA 19027), Andrew P. Ednie (New Castle and Kent, DE: 59 Lawson Ave., Claymont, DE 19703), Vince Elia (South Coast and Delaware Bay Regions, NJ: CMBO R&E Center, 600 Rte 47 North, Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08120), Mike Fahay, Kurt Fox, Don Freiday, Mark S. Garland (Cape May NJ), Kevin C. Griffith (Genesee Region, NY: 61 Grandview Lane, Rochester, NY 14612), Anthony Gonzon (AGo), Mary E. Gustafson, Andy Guthrie, Armas Hill (Philadelphia Birdline), Richard Kane, Sandra Keller, Chip Krilowicz, Bill Krueger, Robert J. Kurtz, Laurie Larson (New Jersey), Anthony J. Lauro, Paul E. Lehman (PEL), Fred Lesser, Patricia Lindsay, Karl Lukens, Kevin McGann, Jay McGowan, Hugh McGuinness (Eastern L.I., NY: P.O. Box 3005, Southampton, NY 11969), Shai Mitra, Mike Morgante (Niagara Frontier region, NY: Briar Hill Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127), George Myers, Michael O'Brian, Bill Ostrander (Finger Lakes region, NY: 80 Westmont Ave., Elmira, NY 14904), John M. C. Peterson (Adirondack-Champlain Region, NY: 477 County Rte 8, Elizabethtown, NY 12932), Bill Purcell (Oneida Lake Basin, NY: 281 Baum Road, Hastings, NY 13076), Rick Radis (Piedmont Region, NJ: 69 Ogden Ave., Rockaway, NJ 07866), Frank Rohrbacher, Tom Salo (TSA; Susquehanna Region, NY: 5145 State Highway 51, W. Burlington, NY 13482), Jarrod Santora, Sy Schiff (L.I., NY: 603 Mead Terrace, S. Hempstead, NY 11550), Mickey Scilingo, Frank Sencher (nw NJ: 43 Church Rd. Milford, NJ 08848), Ed Sigda, T. Smart (TSm), Robert Spahn (RSp) (Genesee Ornithological Society), Tom Sudol (TSu), Clay Sutton, Pat Sutton (Cape May Bird Observatory), W. Symonds, David Tetlow, Mike Tetlow, Alex Tongas, Matt Victoria, Mike Wasilco, William Watson, Angus Wilson, Alvin Wollin (AWo) (L.I., NY: 4 Meadow Lane, Rockville Center, NY 11570), Seth Woolney, Will Yandik (Hudson-Mohawk NY: 269 Schneider Road, Hudson, NY 12534), Peter Yoerg, Robert P. Yunick. ●