

Eastern Highlands & Upper Ohio River Valley



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The cool, dry March meant that arrival of migrants, from raptors to waterfowl, was close to average. Among waterfowl, numbers of Ross's Geese in Ohio continued to be seen into spring, but puddle duck numbers were unremarkable, other than for Eurasian Wigeon. Egret news was mixed: most species were scarce in the western parts of the Region, but several highland sites posted high counts, and Cattle Egret, a species in decline, was widely reported. Mild temperatures and moderate weather in April allowed songbirds to pass northward with few hindrances, but rains that began in May arrested migration in some areas: 38 species of warblers were reported from northeastern Ohio alone.

Abbreviations: B.D. (Bradford Dam, Bucks, PA); Hoover (Hoover Res., Delaware/Franklin, OH); B.C.S.P. (Buck Creek S.P., Clark OH); B.I.W.A. (Big Island W.A., Marion, OH); C.C.S.P. (Caesar Creek S.P., Warren/Greene, OH); Conneaut (Conneaut Harbor, Ashtabula, OH); C.V.N.P. (Cuyahoga Valley N.P., Cuyahoga/Summit OH); Headlands (Headlands Beach S.P., Lake, OH); Killbuck (Killbuck Marsh W.A., Wayne/Holmes OH); K.P.W.A. (Killdeer Plains W.A., Marion/Wyandot, OH); L.B.L. (Little Blue L., Beaver, PA); L.N. (L. Nockamixon, Bucks, PA); Longbrakes (Longbrake Wetlands, Hardin, OH); Magee (Magee Marsh W.M.A. and Crane Creek S.P. Ottawa/Lucas, OH); M.C.W.M.A. (Middle Creek W.M.A., Lancaster/Lebanon, PA); Metzger (Metzger Marsh W.M.A., Lucas, OH); O.N.W.R. (Ottawa N.W.R., Ottawa/Lucas, OH); P.I.S.P. (Presque Isle S.P., Erie, PA); P.N.R. (Powdermill Nature Reserve, Westmoreland, PA); P.W.T. (Penn Warner Tract, Bucks, PA); Shawnee (Shawnee S.E., Scioto/Adams OH); S.L. (Somerset L., Somerset, PA); Y.C.S.P. (Yellow Creek S.P., Indiana, PA)

WATERFOWL THROUGH CRANES

Greater White-fronted Geese reported in Ohio included 32 at Funk Bottoms W.A., Ashland 19 Mar (J. McCormac et al.), up to 18 in

Warren 5-13 Mar (C. Mathena, M. Ream), 12 at L. Rockwell, Portage 5 Mar (J. Heflich et al.), and 50 at K.P.W.A. 15 Mar (BZ). A 7 Mar Ross's Goose in Paulding, OH (D. & M. Dunakin), a county first, was followed by singles at Slate Run Metropark, Pickaway 16-19 Mar (A. Haslage) and in Auglaize, OH 16-17 Apr (J. Bowers et al.). Three Ross's Geese were at M.C.W.M.A. in early Mar (*fide* AH) and one at L. Ontelaunee, Berks, PA 11 Mar (RK). Up to 110,000 Snow Geese were present at M.C.W.M.A. in early Mar (*fide* AH). In contrast, the w. Snow Goose flight was especially weak, with scattered singles across the landscape. One individual lingered in Tucker, WV 9-23 May (C. Rucker, m.ob.). A Cackling Goose 2 Apr passed a lakewatch in Lake, OH (JP). Little comment was received on the Tundra Swan flight other than a flock of 100 over



This male Varied Thrush was present in Boalsburg, Centre County, Pennsylvania from mid-March (here 26 April) through 1 May 2006. Photograph by Mark Niessner.

Shepardstown, Jefferson, WV 6 Mar (E. Kirschbaum).

Eurasian Wigeons were well reported: single ad. males were observed through 8 Mar at Walborn Res., Stark, OH (C. Fenstermaker et al.); 12 Mar at O.N.W.R. (JP); 18-26 Mar at Metzger Marsh, Lucas, OH (B. Whan et al., N. Fensler et al.); 16 Apr at the nearby Mallard Club Marsh, Lucas, possibly the same bird (JP); 11 Apr at Killbuck, OH (A. Yoder); 9-10 Mar at P.I.S.P. (JM), accompanied by a first-year male; and 17-21 Mar in Chester, PA (m.ob.). Although an occasional vagrant in the w. portion of the Region, the origin of a banded male Cinnamon Teal at B.D. 31 Mar was deemed problematic (AM, m.ob.). A Eurasian Teal was found at John Heinz N.W.R., Philadelphia in early Mar (*fide* AH). Both scaup posted good counts, e.g., 215 Greater Scaup at Forty-Fort, Luzerne, PA 25 Mar (SG), 10,000 scaup (mostly Lesser) on Maumee Bay, Lucas 16 Apr (JP), and 12,000 off East Harbor S.P., Ottawa 11 Mar (JP). The

50 Canvasbacks 25 Mar on Archbold Res., Fulton, OH (J. Diller) and 45 at S.L. 15 Mar (JPa) were strong showings inland. A subpar Ring-necked Duck flight saw about 1000 at Killbuck 19-30 Mar (SS, BG). A strong flight of Redheads through Ohio involved substantial flocks at many reservoirs, but no counts higher than the 400 at C.C.S.P. 15 Mar (J. Lehman) were received. A Bufflehead lingered through 23 May in Wayne (SS); another was at L.N. through 2 Jun (DF). The 25 Surf Scoters across Ohio's inland reservoirs was normal, while 17 Surf Scoters in Pennsylvania 12 Mar-4 May included 6 on the Ohio R. in Allegheny 14 Apr (MV et al.). A White-winged Scoter was noted 18 Mar in Clinton (LG), and 4 were reported across Pennsylvania 25 Mar-22 Apr (m.ob.). The lone Black Scoter was found 25 Apr at K.P.W.A. (M. Misplon).

Northeastern Ohio observers were treated to a widespread fall-out of Long-tailed Ducks: 9 in the Richland/Wayne area 24 Mar (BG, G. Cowell et al.), 8 in Summit 29 Mar (GB), and 4 in Portage that same week (LR). Pennsylvania reports were led by 17 at Forty Fort, Luzerne 25 Mar (SG) and 42 in Armstrong 27-28 Mar (J. & J. Valasek). An average flight of Red-breasted Mergansers was reported, with 1038 at Seneca L., Noble 29 Mar (BG) the high tally inland. The Central Basin flight in Lake peaked at 3600 9 Apr (JP).

The declining Northern Bobwhite rarely receives comment, but 19 at Crown City W.A., OH

28 May (DP), in Appalachia, and 2 at a feeder in Greater Cleveland 18 Mar (*fide* CC) were noteworthy. Known for early spring forays into suburban/urban settings of Cleveland, a Wild Turkey made an incongruous sight 30 Apr on the Cleveland lakefront (SZ). One in a Shaker Heights, OH yard in late Apr remained into the summer period (C. Fazio). A Common Loon remained on Alpine L., Preston, WV (GF) through at least 31 May; 60 at Apple Valley L., Knox 29 Mar (J. Larson) topped the inland reports. A Red-throated Loon in Summit, OH 5 Apr was the only one reported (GB). An average flight of Red-necked Grebes saw one arrival at Alum Creek Res., Delaware, OH 18 Mar (J. Gerbacht, S. Tackett, C. Wood). No flocks greater than 40 were reported for Horned Grebe in Ohio. Single Eared Grebes were on Upper Sandusky Res., Wyandot 24 Mar (RC) and at Conneaut 19 Mar (JP).

American White Pelicans were widespread but not especially numerous in Ohio: 8 over

Pipe Creek W.A., Erie 22 Apr (B. Cullen et al.); 3 at Turtle Creek W.A., Ottawa 15 Apr (SY, S. Burris); and singles at East Fork S.P., Clermont 24-25 Mar (J. Landon, K. Hutton), B.C.S.P. 7 Apr (DO), and C.C.S.P. 17 Apr (RA). The 600 Double-crested Cormorants on Hoover 29 Apr (CB) led inland reports, although 11 on the New R. at Hinton, Summers, WV 20 Mar was a nice local tally (J&JP). A Great Cormorant lingered though the end of May at Martins Creek, Northampton, PA (RW). A female *Anhinga* at Exton, Chester, PA 4 May (C. Chalfant, N. Pulcinella) was the first one photographically documented in that state.

An early American Bittern appeared in Geauga, OH 18 Mar (B. Townsend). The 6 Least Bitterns at Conneaut 26 May (SW) and 6 at P.I.S.P. 14 May were part of the annual late-May flight. A seasonal total of 25 Great Egrets were at P.I.S.P. 1 Apr-24 May (m.ob.). Cattle Egrets were unusually numerous: 11 in Fairfield, OH 22 Apr (J. Watts), 10 in Indiana, PA 24 Apr (fide AH), 6 in Knox, OH 20 Apr (J. Capper, B. Hooper et al.), 3 in Darke, OH 20 May (fide RS), plus singles in Lehigh, PA 19 May (S. Boyce), at P.W.T. 13-18 Apr (H. Eskin), in Clinton, OH 14 Apr (B. Mitchell), in Hocking, OH 25 Apr (J. Fry), and at Greenbottom W.A., Cabell, WV 9 Mar (CEL), the last bird quite early. A Tricolored Heron and a Snowy Egret were at P.I.S.P. 29 May (JM). The only extralimital Snowy Egret in Ohio was at Conneaut 12 May (CH). Inland, Ohio Little Blue Herons appeared in Warren 19-23 May (M. Ream, RA), Delaware 3 May (K. Davis), Richland 23 Apr (R. Troutman), Lorain 10-15 Apr (D. Jones, D. Sheldon, m.ob.), and Conneaut 12 Apr (BG); one was at Greenbottom W.A., Cabell, WV 23 May (J. Tharp II). Little Blue Herons in Pennsylvania included singles in Berks 1 May (T. Clauser, m.ob.), at B.D. 5 May (AM), and in Washington 12-18 May (MV et al.). The Bexley, Franklin, OH pair of Yellow-crowned Night-Herons had arrived at their nest site by 4 Apr (P. Unger). Two ads. were noted 1 May at Killbuck, where they could be found into the summer period (RR, SS, m.ob.). A *Plegadis* ibis was reported from Pickerel Creek W.A., Sandusky, OH 20 May (S. Corbo et al.), while single ad. Glossy Ibis appeared at Slate Run Metropark, Pickaway 1-2 May (G. Stauffer, B. Powell) and Killbuck 7 May (Samuel Weaver et al.). Fifteen Glossy Ibis were at M.C.W.M.A. 11 Mar (ph. RW) and 15 also at P.W.T. 8 Apr (DF). An early concentration of Turkey Vultures at Chilli-cothe, Ross 3 Mar numbered 57 (T. Bain), apparently displacing the local roost of Black Vultures, which had peaked at 80 birds in winter. Black Vultures continue to inch their

way northward in cen. Ohio, with several reports received from Delaware, and are increasing in Preston and Monongalia, WV (GF). Up to 80 Black Vultures came to a yard every evening in Mar for handouts, feeding amongst chickens at Bangor, Northampton, PA (P. Karner, RW).

Single Swallow-tailed Kites were seen in Pennsylvania at Rose Tree Hawkwatch near Media, Delaware 20 Apr (m.ob.) and near Easton, Northampton 24 Apr (A. Koch). Four Mississippi Kites in Pennsylvania included singles at S. Eaton, Luzerne 2 May (WR), Reading, Berks 5 May (RK), Keystone Res., Westmoreland 20 May (F & B. Haas, m.ob.), and Plumstead Twp., Bucks 21 May (B. Webster). A dark-morph Red-tailed Hawk was seen at P.I.S.P. 31 Mar (JM). The raptor flight at Conneaut 31 Mar held 1644 Turkey Vul-



This Little Gull at Presque Isle State Park, Pennsylvania 30 March 2006 was one of up to six present there this spring.

Photograph by Jerry McWilliams.

tures, 156 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 114 Red-tailed Hawks, 12 Rough-legged Hawks, and 85 American Kestrels (BG et al.), while on 22 Apr, 17 Ospreys, a Golden Eagle, 117 Sharp-shinned Hawks, and 1073 Broad-winged Hawks (BG et al.) were tallied. Single Golden Eagles were also reported from K.P.W.A. 12 Mar (BWa) and adjacent B.I.W.A. 2 Apr (K. & J. Davis). A spring total of 149 Golden Eagles at Tussey Mt. Hawkwatch, Huntingdon/Centre, PA was about average (G. Gould), and a late one was seen in Indiana, PA 17 May (M. Cunkleman). Several undetailed reports of extraordinarily early Broad-winged Hawk were received; well documented was one in Summers, WV 7 Apr (J&JP). A Merlin pair was found defending a territory in Bradford, McKean, PA 5 May (L. Ostrander); details on the state's first nesting will follow in the next report.

The pair of King Rails at Magee was observed copulating 23 May (fide MW). A Common Moorhen at McClintic W.A., Mason, WV 23 May (G. Rankin) was locally rare. American Coot failed to elicit comment in Ohio beyond the 500 on Wellington Res., Lorain 13 Apr and 1000 at B.I.W.A. the same day (CB, B.

Simpson); up to 557 at Y.C.S.P. in Apr was considered a notably high number. Sandhill Cranes went mostly unreported other than in small numbers, exceptions being an amazing 53 over State College, Centre, PA 6 Mar (W Cottrell, fide D. Brauning) and 55 total recorded in the Erie/Crawford area. Early were 2 at Greenbottom W.A., Mason, WV 9 Mar (CEL); 4 over Hinckley, Medina 6 May (GL) were locally rare; and 5 loafed at Magee 3-13 May (fide MW). Ohio breeders continue to reclaim ancestral range, as evidenced by 16 at Funk Bottoms, Ashland 29 May (DPI).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS

There was a strong, widespread flight of Semipalmated Plover, led by 104 at Conejohela Flats 25 May (DH). Sample concentrations in Ohio include 95 at B.C.S.P. 6 May (DO), 44 at Killbuck 13 May (GH), 42 at Funk Bottoms W.A., Ashland 17 May (SS), and 56 in Wyandot 27 May (RC). Eight were at a single Berkeley site in the panhandle of West Virginia 24 May (M. Orsie). A modest flight of American Golden-Plovers was reported for Ohio, where 400 were found in Hardin 21 Apr (RC). American Avocets were largely missed in Ohio, with a mere 5 at B.C.S.P. 22 Apr (DO) the only report. Arrivals in Ohio of Greater Yellowlegs 12 Mar in Wayne (BG) and Lesser Yellowlegs 13 Mar in Scioto (BS) were within expectations and reflected the overall average timing of the remainder of the shorebird migration this season. Record numbers of Willets were led by 57 at C.C.S.P. 29 Apr (RA, LG et al.), surpassing a typical seasonal total for the state. In the Highlands, 16 on the Allegheny R. at Fox Chapel, Allegheny, PA 5 May (D. Yagusic et al.) and 2 at Bluestone R., Summers 21 May (J&JP) were good finds. The only flock of Whimbrels reported was 47 at Longbrakes 24 May (BWa); singles in Pennsylvania, unusual away from P.I.S.P., were at L.B.L. 21 May (MV George Malosh) and Berlin, Somerset 23 May (JPa), a county first. The 10 Ruddy Turnstones at Longbrakes 24 May (BWa) furnished a rare double-digit tally inland. Red Knots only make brief appearances in Ohio 2 at Headlands (RH) and 3 at Conneaut (CH), both 25 May. Pectoral Sandpiper, normally reported in the thousands in w. Ohio, was scarce, with just 150 each in Longbrakes 21 Apr (RC); an early report came from Scioto 11 Mar (BS). Six early Least Sandpipers were at L. Arthur, Butler, PA 11-12 Mar (m.ob.); 181 at B.D. 11 May (AM) and 70 at B.C.S.P. 6 May (DO) were modest tallies. Eighteen White-rumped Sandpipers at Conejohela Flats 25 May made a good count (DH)

Inland, no more than 300 Dunlins were reported at Longbrakes 22 May (RC), while the O.N.W.R. flock peaked 10 May at 1830, with some 1400 remaining in Lucas 27 May (B.S.B.O.). Some 150 Semipalmated Sandpipers were at Conneaut 29 May (MV). A Ruff at Sandy Ridge, Lorain 17-26 Apr (J. Mizanin, CC, m.ob.) was a bright spot in an otherwise dull shorebird season. A Stilt Sandpiper at the Longbrakes 14-16 Apr (RC) was accompanied by 4 early Short-billed Dowitchers on the last date. The best tally of 67 Short-billeds came 18 May at L.B.L. (MV), and a Long-billed Dowitcher was reported from B.C.S.P. 6 May (DO). Wilson's Phalarope arrival was marked by one at Pickercreek W.A., Sandusky 24 Apr (VF); the last migrant was reported at P.I.S.P. 26 May (JM, BC). One at Longbrakes 6 May (RC) grew to 3 by season's end (m.ob.). Two Red-necked Phalaropes were at the Imperial Grasslands, Allegheny, PA 19-21 May (MV et al.), Conejohela Flats 25 May (DH), and at Killbuck, OH 13-17 May (GH); one was at Headlands 14 May (P. Keefe et al.). Good counts of Wilson's Snipe came from O.N.W.R., with 100 present 15 Apr (NG); 50 were in Cincinnati 12 Mar (B. Hull).

Gulls' numbers were unimpressive, notable more for their delayed departure than for any concentrations. Two Laughing Gulls appeared at Headlands 25 May (RH), just on the heels of singles at C.C.S.P. 23 May (LG) and Conneaut 21 May (JP). One on the Ohio R. in Allegheny, PA 10 Apr (GM) was rare for the cen. highlands. The unprecedented wintering bird in Lake, OH was last seen 5 Mar (JP). Four Little Gulls were seen in Lake 19 Mar (JP) and 6 at Headlands 1 Apr (PC), with 2 there 3 May (H. Petruschke et al.). Little Gulls in Pennsylvania included one in Lancaster in early Mar (fide AH), one at P.W.T. 8 Apr (DF), and 2 at Y.C.S.P. 18 Apr (MH et al.); up to 6 were at P.I.S.P. 9 Mar-8 Apr (JM et al.). An ad. Black-headed Gull, nearly in breeding plumage, was found on the Cleveland lakefront 2 Apr (SZ, GL). Late Thayer's Gulls appeared at Headlands 25 Apr (RH) and the Cleveland lakefront 30 Apr (SZ), with 3 at P.I.S.P. 10-17 Apr (JM, BC, RS). Central Basin Iceland Gulls were at two Lake sites 19 Apr (G. Cudworth) and 7 May (JP); singles were also in the Eastern Basin at P.I.S.P. 23 Mar-22 Apr (JM). Five at L.N. 22 Mar was a local high count (BE). Glaucous Gulls totaled 10 for the season at P.I.S.P. 1 Mar-29 Apr (JM), and late ones were at P.W.T. 20 May (DF) and P.I.S.P. 22 May (BC). A Great Black-backed Gull × Herring Gull

was at P.I.S.P. 3 & 10 Apr (JM, BC), and 350 Lesser Black-backed Gulls at L.N. 16 Mar was the highest total for that locale (BE). A minor gull flight in Lake 19 Mar included 7 Lesser Black-backed Gulls (JP), and 2 were still at Headlands 25 Apr (RH). One lingered through 25 May at Conneaut, where up to 21 Great Black-backed Gulls also loafed (CH). An ad. California Gull at L.N. 23-25 Mar provided about the 4th record for Pennsylvania (G. Franchois, m.ob.); another ad. wandered to Conneaut 31 Mar (CH).

Single Eurasian Collared-Doves were at Eckville, Berks, PA 16 Apr (D. Barber) and Bay View, Erie, OH 7 May (p.a., CC). In mid-May, one was photographed on a farm near Cambridge, Muskingum, OH (fide R. Hinckle), just the 2nd confirmed for the state. Mourning Doves migrate along the s. shore of



A Snowy Egret and a Tricolored Heron made a rare duo at Presque Isle State Park, Pennsylvania 29 May 2006. Photograph by Jerry McWilliams.

L. Erie, a phenomenon largely overlooked by birders; thus a report of 125 from Dike 14 on the Cleveland lakefront 12 Apr (SZ) was most welcome. Several observers commented on a distinct bimodal passage of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo: for instance, up to 3 appeared in Cabell, WV 23 Apr (DP), yet the species was not widespread across Ohio until 29-30 May (RTh, m.ob.). Two Snowy Owls could be found at Burke Lakefront Airport in Cleveland through 28 Mar (PL), with one lingering 5 Apr. Up to 10 Short-eared Owls were at K.P.W.A. 15 Mar (BZ). Twelve Northern Saw-whet Owls were heard along a "toot route" in McKean, PA 12-13 May (JF). An impressive count of 2000 Common Nighthawks was tallied 20-23 May along the Delaware R. between Morrisville and Washington Crossing, Bucks, PA (J. Maret, P. Brundage, M. Witmer). A Chuck-will's-widow returned for the 3rd summer at Bald Eagle Mt., Centre, PA (D. Thomson), while one put in a brief appearance in Holmes, OH 31 May (fide BG). We received numerous undocumented Mar reports of Ruby-throated Hummingbird; an 11 Apr

arrival in Chillicothe, Ross (DH) is more within the norm.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH FINCHES

An early Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen at Clear Creek Valley, Hocking, OH 30 Apr (RTh). The arrival of Eastern Wood-Pewee within the Region is sometimes clouded by erroneous reports in Mar and early Apr, typically birds heard (not seen) by single observers. Verifiable reports in Ohio are generally not had before 28 Apr, as was the case this year, a few days after the first Acadian Flycatchers were back on territory in s. portions of the Region. Astounding was the record-early appearance of Willow Flycatchers in Ohio 23 Apr, with singing birds seen in Granville, Licking (H. Nagy) and at Ash Cave, Hocking (D. Horn).

Single Loggerhead Shrikes were near Lewisburg, WV 7 Mar-12 May (B. Williams) and near Oberlin, Lorain, OH 22 May (D. Sheldon). Northern Shrikes were widely reported across Ohio in Mar from Ottawa, Auglaize, Lucas, Summit, Wyandot, and Cuyahoga (JP, N. Fensler, C. Spagnoli, E. Mulholland, C. Witt, m.ob.). Bell's Vireo continues its effort to colonize Ohio, with a pair ensconced on the Ohio State campus in Columbus 8 May+ (A. Boone, m.ob.). New sites for the species included Greene 25 May (J. Karlson) and Darke 21-27 May (R. Schieltz et al.). The 157 Red-eyed Vireos at Shawnee 28 Apr (RR) was consistent with past reports

from that location. Several Blue-headed Vireos were back at Pipestem S.P., Summers, WV 29 Mar (J&JP). In this species, it is difficult to separate singing migrants from the first actual local nesters; Roysce noted, for instance, that 5 in Shawnee 30 Mar, singing from sites that have had territories in past years, preceded the main flight of migrants by about a week. Tree Swallows appeared early and in numbers across the Ohio Valley, with 16 at Greenbottom W.A., Cabell, WV 2 Mar (CEI) leading the way. Another early Barn Swallow was one at L. Pymatuning, Ashtabula, OH 11 Mar (PC). A Northern Rough-winged Swallow returned to Hamilton, OH 31 Mar (D. Brinkman).

A Fish Crow at Natrona Heights, Allegheny, PA 23 Apr was rare for sw. Pennsylvania (PH). A Black-capped Chickadee in Delaware, OH 11 Mar (Jack Stenger, JS) may have been a holdover from the winter irruption. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet in Jefferson, WV 6 Mar (C. Del-Colle) may have wintered; one was n. to Shaker Lakes, Cuyahoga, OH 30 Mar (PC), where 171 were counted 21 Apr (VF). A

Sedge Wren at Oakland Mills, Juniata, PA 5 May provided the only report for the season (T. Johnson). Two Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were in Greene, OH by 1 Apr (D. Edens) and one in Allegheny, PA the next day (B. Smith). Gray Catbirds in the C.V.N.P. 5 Mar (E. Kistler), in Summers, WV (J&JP), and in Lake, OH 30 Mar (JP) appeared well before the expected migration, and may have been strays from the winter period; one in Ross, OH 8 Apr (DH) was more likely a very early migrant. A male Varied Thrush was present in Boalsburg, Centre, PA from mid-Mar through 1 May (ph. A. & F. MacEachren, m.ob.). A Swainson's Thrush was at Shawnee 18 Apr (JS et al.), and a Gray-cheeked Thrush was on the Cleveland lakefront 30 Apr (SZ). A modest flight of American Pipits saw 200 in Ross, OH 29 Mar (DH).

A Nashville Warbler was in Columbus 14 Apr (RR). Orange-crowned Warbler arrived in Ohio 12 Apr in Pickaway (RTh) and tarried in Hocking, OH 21 May (GC). Northern Parulas had reached cen. Ohio 9 Apr in Belmont (GC) and 11 Apr in Columbus (RR). A Yellow Warbler appeared 12 Apr in Jane Lew, WV (D. Saeler). A male Audubon's Warbler was well described from Heistand Woods, Van Wert, OH 16 Apr (John & Jean Perchalski), as was another at P.I.S.P. 26 Mar (C. Gehringer). A fallout of 400+ Yellow-rumped Warblers and 95 Palm Warblers at Rushland, Bucks, PA 23 Apr (S. Conyne, F. Gill) was among the few reported for the season. A Yellow Palm Warbler was reported from Sandy Ridge, Lorain, OH 28 Apr (J. Brumfield). A Cerulean Warbler in Beaver, PA 22 Apr (GM) was early. A Black-throated Green Warbler was early in Allegheny, PA 11 Apr (J. & J. Solomon), and one was already nest-building in Hocking, OH 24 Apr (J. Duerr). Two Black-throated Green and 2 Blackburnian Warblers were at Cabwalingo S.E., WV 27 May (DP). Yellow-throated Warblers appeared early across the Ohio R. Valley—singles in Hamilton, OH 31 Mar (D. Brinkman), in Scioto, OH 1 Apr (B. Sparks), in Summers 2 Apr (J&JP), and in Fayette, WV 2 Apr (L. Pollard)—and to the L. Erie Basin 11 Apr (SW). Two Pine Warblers were n. to Mohican S.E., Ashland, OH 30 Mar (BG). It was a record season for Kirtland's Warbler, with no fewer than 5 along the L. Erie shoreline. Four appeared at Headlands, with 2 males present 10 May (RH, m.ob.), a second-year female 22 May (A. Fjelstad et al.), and another female 24 May (RH). The obligatory Magee showstopper had many observers agog 21 May (fide K. Kaufman). Up to 16 Prairie Warblers were counted 18 Apr at Shawnee, where Roysse notes the species is moving into the massive

forest wreckage of the Jan 2002 ice storm. A Black-and-white Warbler was in Fayette, WV 7 Apr (S. Pettrey). A Prothonotary Warbler returned to Hoover 17 Apr (CB). Roysse's survey of Shawnee 28 Apr also included 28 Worm-eating Warblers, 92 Ovenbirds, and 76 Hooded Warblers, all within expectations. Singing Swainson's Warblers at Headlands, OH 20-21 May (one of few records for the L. Erie Basin; LR, JP, m.ob.) and at Roaring Run Natural Area, Westmoreland, PA 25 May provided rare records (Len & Linda Hess). A Louisiana Waterthrush was n. to L. Erie in Lake 28 Mar (JP).

A rather early Scarlet Tanager was in Wood, WV 15 Apr (R. Esker). Two ad. male Western Tanagers were found in Ohio yards, one the Warren/Greene county line 19 Apr (ph. Jim & Annette Arnold), the other in Oregon, Lucas



This Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow visited Presque Isle State Park, Pennsylvania on 4 May 2006.
Photograph by Jerry McWilliams.

12 May (ph. P. Henry). A tally of 116 Eastern Towhees came from Shawnee 18 Apr (JS et al.). Ohio Clay-colored Sparrows included one at Rocky River Metropark, Cuyahoga 21 May (fide K. Metcalf) and 2 at Dike 14, Cleveland 30 Apr (SZ). Vesper Sparrows s. of their range in Ohio included one 6 May at Indian Creek W.A., Brown (JS et al.) and 2 at Crown City 28 May (DP). Two Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows were at Conneaut 26 May (SW). Dark-eyed Junco passage along the L. Erie shoreline peaked at 400 in Cuyahoga, OH 12 Apr (SZ); 2 remained in s. Ohio at Indian Creek W.A., Brown 6 May (JS et al.), while a straggler appeared 30 May along L. Erie in Erie, OH (SY). An Oregon Junco was reported from a Trumbull, OH feeder 1 Apr (A. Bahl). The Harris's Sparrow at Oakland Mills, Juniata, PA remained until 7 May (A. Troyer). Gambel's White-crowned Sparrows were seen at P.I.S.P. 4 May (ph. JM) and at Bradford, McKean, PA the day before (JF L. Fedak). Up to 200 Lapland Longspurs were in Hardin, OH 16 Apr (RC). Painted Buntings in Pennsylvania included a second-year male in Muhlenberg Twp., Berks 21-26 Apr (C. Drasher) and an ad. male in Nicholson Twp.,

Wyoming 13 May (WR). An early Indigo Bunting was in Erie, PA 8 Apr (S. Winterberger). Blue Grosbeaks of note in Ohio included 3 in Ross 31 May (DH), one near Spring Valley W.A., Warren 8-9 May (M. Boyd, m.ob.), and 11 at Crown City 7 May (RR). A Blue Grosbeak at P.I.S.P. 18 May (RW) furnished just the 6th local record. A Dickcissel on Kelleys I., Erie, OH 18 May (PL et al.) and one singing in Pleasantville, Berks, PA 19 May were locally rare (CE).

A Western Meadowlark was in Holmes, OH 17 May (BG). A Baltimore Oriole at Peace Valley Park, Bucks, PA 24 Mar was probably a wintering bird (B. Lishman). The only Yellow-headed Blackbird reported was in Ottawa, OH 15 Apr (NG), where there were 4 Brewer's Blackbirds 11 Mar (JP). A lone female Evening Grosbeak appeared in Ashland, OH 25 Mar (DPI). Two White-winged Crossbills were in Lemon Twp., Wyoming 28 Mar (WR), and one was at Lock Haven, Clinton, PA 23 Mar-5 Apr (J. Schaffer). Nesting Pine Siskins were found at Marilla, McKean, PA 30 Apr (JF).

Observers (subregional editors in boldface)
OHIO: Rick Asamoto (RA), Greg Bennett (GB), Charlie Bombaci (CB), Craig Caldwell (CC), Philip Chaon (PC), Rick Counts (RC), G. Crippen (GC), Victor Fazio (VF), Larry Gara (LG), Neil Gilbert (NG), Bruce Glick (BG), Ray Hannikman (RH), Dave Hess (DH), Craig Holt (CH), Gabe Hostetler (GH), Gabe Leidy (GL), Paula Lozano (PL), Doug Overacker (DO), Donald Plant (DPI), John Pogacnik (JP), Larry Rosche (LR), Robert Roysse (RR), Brad Sparks (BS), Su Snyder (SS), Jay Stenger (JS), Rob Thorn (RTh), Suzanne Wagner (SW), Ben Warner (BWA), Mary Warren (MW), Sheryl Young (SY), Sean Zadar (SZ), Brian Zweibel (BZ). PENNSYLVANIA: Ben Coulter (BC), Catherine Elwell (CE), Bill Etter (BE), Devich Farbotnik (DF), Stan Galanty (SG), Greg Grove (GG), Paul Hess (PH), Margaret Higbee (MH), Armas Hill [Phila. Birdline], Rudy Keller (RK), Robert C. Leberman (RCL), Ken Lebo (KL), Geoff Malosh (GM), Jerry McWilliams (JM), Linda McWilliams (LM), August Mirabella (AM), Judy Mirabella (JM), Jeff Payne (JPa), Tom Pluto (TP), William Reid (WR), Randy Stringer (RS); Mark Vass (MV), Rick Wiltraut (RW). WEST VIRGINIA: C. Ellis (CEI), Gary Felton (GF), David Patick (DP), Jim & Judy Phillips (J&JP). ☪

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