

March 2016 Sightings Report

A mild month was offset a bit by a cool first week. The 8th brought the first 70° day of the season, with 2 more to follow. A record high was set on the 9th at 75°, with record high lows on the 9th, 10th, and 31st. Temperatures averaged 40.1 °F, 5.8° above normal and the 13th warmest on record. Precipitation totaled 1.82", 0.68" below normal, with 3.2" of snowfall, 13.1" below normal, 11th least snowfall on record for the month. There was light rain on 14 days of the last three weeks of the month. The month ended with several wind storms in the final few days.

The warm March after an open winter and many observers out searching the region resulted in a species count tying the previous high set in 2012. All really expected waterfowl were found, some in good numbers, the hawk watch count was the second highest in the past 10 years, and a nice selection of the usual early spring arrivals made it before month's end. More than 29,000 records were reported to eBird for the month for this region.

This year, the peak Snow Goose count exceeded that for Canada Goose. Tundra Swan numbers were good both in the usual Groveland Flats area and elsewhere in the region. Peak counts were modest for most waterfowl and are captured in the Noteworthy Records table. Eurasian Wigeons at four locations in the region is exceptional. There were also several hybrid waterfowl noted. Through month's end, loon and grebe numbers were on the low side. Part of that may be lack of a regular lake watch counting them. Two Glossy Ibises in the wet fields on Carncross Road on the 29th-30th were record early for the region, though they were first seen on the 26th just south into Region 3. Jay Powell's Black Vulture over HANA on the 30th was a first for the year.

The official counter at the hawk watch this year is Ryan MacLean. The weather was generally conducive to a steady flow of raptors and vultures, though, as in other recent years, Turkey Vulture accounted for about 82% of the 9262 total. In the past 10 years, only in 2011 did the total for March exceed this. Only one Northern Goshawk was recorded at Braddock and two elsewhere. Similarly

for Golden Eagle: only 4 at the hawk watch and 3 others. Sandhill Cranes were reported at several areas across the region, but no serious effort was made to keep track of the overall count.

The expected early shorebirds were reported: Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Dunlin (early), Pectoral Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, and American Woodcock. With most ice off the lakeshore ponds and bays, the usual congregations of gulls were weak, but all of the regulars were reported. A bird to keep observers searching and studying was a Thayer's/Iceland Gull in Hamlin from the 8th to 15th.

Snowy Owls were reported only at Genesee County Airport near Batavia and on Church Road in Hamlin. Counts of roosting migrant owls, Long-eared and Northern Saw-whet, in the Owl Woods area on Manitou Beach Road were low. No more than 2 were found on any single day. The DEC Short-eared Owl Surveys out of the Avon office continued, with good counts on the 8th (15) and 22nd (11). At month's end, there were still no Red-headed Woodpecker reports for the year! Yellow-bellied Sapsucker continued through the winter, with new spring birds added. The 3 regular falcons were all reported in typical numbers at the hawk watch and elsewhere.

Passerine arrivals began with Tree Swallow, Eastern Phoebe, and Fox Sparrow in the first half of the month and another 10 species, mostly swallows and sparrows, added mainly in the last week of the month. The only "winter finch" reported was Pine Siskin, though Purple Finch numbers also jumped up a bit this month.

Please send your records by the 5th of the month to Lynn Bergmeyer, 187 Longridge Ave., Rochester, NY 14616.

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>10-year Average (2006-2015)</u>
Species for March	48	133	138.2
New for the year	<u>21</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>17.6</u>
Total for the year to date	160	146	151.2

Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee

Observers: Jim Adams, Janet Akin, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Jim Barry, Liz Barry, Sue Barth, Bob Beal, Doug Beattie, Don Bemont, Steven Benedict, Linda Clark-Benedict, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Adam Bleau, John Boettcher, Lynn Braband, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Gary Chapin, Robert Cicotta, Kelly Close, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Doug Daniels, Willie D'Anna, Elaine Dart, Ian Davies, Bob Dobson, Wayne Fidler, Mark & Kelly Fitzsimmons, Daena Ford, George Ford, Drew Fowler, Kyle Gage, Andy Garland, Nathan Goldberg, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Bill Gruenbaum, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Judy Gurley, Andrew Guthrie, Anita Gwara, Ethan Gyllenhaal, Helen & Chris Haller, Dave & Vanna Harding, Claire Hartl, Kim Hartquist, Jim & Allison Healy, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Carolyn Jacobs, Nichlas Kachala, Logan Kahle, Laura Kammermeier, Jim Kimball, Kathy Kirsch, J. Gary Kohlenberg, Chris Lajewski, Tom Lathrop, Leona Lauster, Greg Lawrence, Alexander Lees, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Mark Lyons, Peggy Mabb, Garrett MacDonald, Ryan MacLean, Bill Maier, Melissa Mance-Coniglio, Cindy Marino, David Marsh, Pat Martin, Lauri Mattle, Kevin McGann, Jay McGowan, Bob Mcguire, Chita McKinney, Ferne Merrill, Jim Miles, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Linda Mott, Nargila Moura, Dave Nutter, Annie O'Reilly, Joe Ovsiovitch, Michael Palermo, Andrea Patterson, Norma Platt, Jon Podoliak, Jay Powell, David Prill, Bill Purcell, Carolyn Ragan, RBA Field Trips, Dave Robertson, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Kevin Rybczynski, Jennifer Rycenga, Zaphir Shamma, Livia Santana, Michael Scheibel, Shirley Shaw, Judy Slein, Tom Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Donna Mason-Spier, Chris Stanger, Joseph Stevenson, Kim Sucs, Joyce Testa, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Brian Tuttle, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, Joe Wing, Chris Wood.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

MARCH 2016

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
<u>Greater White-fr. Goose</u>	2	4	Groveland Flats (Livingston Co.)	M. Wasilco, S.Barth, W.D'Anna, C.Morien
<u>Greater White-fr. Goose</u>	3	6L	Point Breeze	G. Lawrence
Snow Goose	<u>7000</u>	2	36 North	K. Close
Snow Goose	<u>max 10,000</u>	4	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	W. & M. Rowley
<u>Ross's Goose</u>	1	8	Hamlin Beach SP	I. Davies
<u>Cackling Goose</u>	<u>total ~30</u>	5-27	many	mob
<u>Cackling Goose</u>	<u>max 10</u>	5	Greece (Salmon Creek)	A. Guthrie
Canada Goose	<u>max 5560, low</u>	8	Hamlin Beach SP	I. Davies, A. Lees, N. Moura
<u>Snow x Canada Goose</u>	1	7	Greece (Salmon Creek)	Bri. Morse
Mute Swan	<u>max 52</u>	7	Greece (Salmon Creek)	K. Hartquist
Tundra Swan	<u>max 583</u>	8	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Wood Duck	<u>max 70</u>	9	Conesus Inlet WMA	M. Wasilco
Gadwall	4	3FS	Caledonia	M. Wasilco
<u>Eurasian Wigeon</u>	1 m	<u>3F, RE</u>	Groveland Flats (Livingston Co.)	J. Kimball
<u>Eurasian Wigeon ph</u>	1 m	<u>12, RE</u>	Mucklands (Wayne Co.)	W. & M. Rowley
<u>Eurasian Wigeon</u>	1 m	<u>17, RE</u>	Beechwood SP (Wayne Co.)	M. Gullo
<u>Eurasian Wigeon ph</u>	1 m	<u>22-31</u>	Conesus Inlet WMA - E	D. Beattie, mob
<u>Eurasian x American Wigeon</u>	1m	27	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
American Wigeon	<u>max 200</u>	20	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	T. Lenz, L. Kahle
Blue-winged Teal	2	11F	Sodus	J. Wing
<u>Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal</u>	1	24	NMWMA (Railroad Rd)	A. Bleau
Northern Pintail	<u>max 1620</u>	19	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	A. Lees, N. Moura
Green-winged Teal	3-7	4FS	sev	sev
Canvasback	<u>max 100</u>	19	Conesus Lake	A. O'Reilly
Redhead	<u>max 350</u>	11	Conesus Lake	M. Wasilco
Ring-necked Duck	<u>max 279</u>	25	Greece (Burger Park)	G. Lawrence, J. Rycenga
Greater Scaup	<u>max 500</u>	6	off Manitou Beach	N. Kachala
<u>King Eider</u>	1 f	3-5	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	J. Miles, <i>et al.</i>
<u>King Eider</u>	1 f	6	off Manitou Beach	N. Kachala
<u>King Eider</u>	1 f	8	Braddock Bay - West Spit	D. Daniels
White-winged Scoter	<u>max 125</u>	10	Braddock Bay - West Spit	S. Barth, C. Morien
Long-tailed Duck	<u>max 970</u>	8	off Ontario Beach	I. Davies, A. Lees, N. Moura
Bufflehead	<u>max 165</u>	6	Sandy Bottom P - Honeoye Lake	B. Howe
Common Goldeneye	<u>max 154</u>	6	Point Breeze	G. Lawrence
Common Merganser	<u>max 450</u>	6	off Ontario Beach	R. Buckert
Red-breasted Merganser	<u>max 430</u>	8	Hamlin Beach SP	I. Davies, A. Lees, N. Moura
Ruddy Duck	<u>max 54</u>	26	Sandy Bottom P - Honeoye Lake	B. Howe
Horned Grebe	<u>max 80</u>	24	Silver Lake - N	B. Purcell
Red-necked Grebe	<u>max 54</u>	8	Hamlin Beach SP	I. Davies, A. Lees, N. Moura
Double-crested Cormorant	1-5	26FS	sev	sev
American Bittern	1	<u>26F-27</u>	Greece (Edgemere Dr)	C. Wood, Je. Barry
Great Egret	1	25F	Braddock - hawkwatch	G. Lawrence, J. Rycenga, <i>et al.</i>
<u>Glossy Ibis ph</u>	2	<u>29F-30</u>	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	mob; Seneca Co. on 26th
<u>Black Vulture</u>	1	30F	HANA	J. Powell
Turkey Vulture	<u>max 1654</u>	28	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Turkey Vulture	<u>1059</u>	27	Broadway Rd, T. Huron	D. Robertson
Turkey Vulture	<u>total 7588</u>	all month	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Osprey	1	<u>7F</u>	NMWMA (Morgan Rd)	S. Benedict, L. Clark-Benedict
Osprey	1	<u>26</u>	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch + sev	mob
Bald Eagle	<u>total 59</u>	all month	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

MARCH 2016 (continued)

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
N. Goshawk	1	8	Greece (Salmon Creek)	P. Martin
N. Goshawk	1	9	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
N. Goshawk	1	28	Beechwood SP (Wayne Co.)	J. Wing
Red-shouldered Hawk	<u>max 240</u>	17	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>max 154</u>	9	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Rough-legged Hawk	<u>max 12</u>	9	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Golden Eagle	1	12F <u>17,26,28,3</u>	NMWMA (Savannah Mucklands)	D. NutterTetlow
Golden Eagle	1 ea	<u>0</u>	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Golden Eagle	1	29	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	J. Wing
Golden Eagle	1	30	Broadway Rd, T. Huron	B. Carlson
Sandhill Crane	30 rep; ~20 ind	7-31	9+ loc	mob
Killdeer	1-2	10F	sev	sev
Greater Yellowlegs	1	19F	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	M. Gullo
Dunlin	1	26F, RE	Nations Rd (Avon)	J. Powell, <i>et al.</i>
Dunlin	2-6	31	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. Powell, mob.
Pectoral Sandpiper	4	20F	Sand Rd (W Bloomfield)	M. Tetlow
Wilson's Snipe	<u>max 25</u>	26	Nations Rd (Avon)	M. Tetlow
Wilson's Snipe	1	6F	Newark	S. Benedict,
American Woodcock	2 ea	6F	HANA & Walworth	J. Powell
Bonaparte's Gull	50	8FS	Hamlin Beach SP	I. Davies, A. Lees, N. Moura
Iceland Gull	<u>7 rep, 5 ind</u>	6-17	sev	sev
Iceland/Thayer's Gull ph	1	8-15	Hamlin	I. Davies, A. Lees, N. Moura, A. Guthrie
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<u>28 rep, 23 ind</u>	all month	sev	sev
Glaucous Gull	<u>6 rep, 6 ind</u>	2-27	sev	sev
Eurasian Collared-Dove	1-2	<u>12-27F</u>	Hamlin (Greenwell Farm)	6 obs
Snowy Owl	1	3	Genesee Co. Airport (Batavia)	G. Lawrence, C. Hartl
Snowy Owl	1	12	Hamlin (Greenwell Farm)	J. Powell, <i>et al.</i>
Long-eared Owl	<u>total 5</u>	10-26	Manitou (Owl Woods)	count team
Long-eared Owl	<u>total b xx</u>			
Short-eared Owl	<u>max 15</u>	8	DEC Avon area surveys	sev
N. Saw-whet Owl	<u>total 12</u>	<u>10-31</u>	Manitou (Owl Woods)	count team
N. Saw-whet Owl	<u>max b 12</u>			
N. Saw-whet Owl	<u>total b xx</u>			
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	20FS	North Rush	N. Kachala
Merlin	<u>19 rep of ~21</u>	8-30	sev	sev
Peregrine Falcon	<u>8 rep of ~8</u>	13-21	sev	sev
Eastern Phoebe	1	12F	Greece (Frisbee Hill)	M. Tetlow, R. Buckert
Northern Shrike	<u>5 rep of ~4</u>	5-27	sev	sev
Northern Shrike	1	27L	Nations Rd. IBA	D. Beattie
American Crow	<u>max 1000</u>	8	Broadway Rd, T. Huron	W. & M. Rowley
Fish Crow	<u>8</u>	6	Charlotte	K. Sucey, RBA Field Trip
Fish Crow	<u>max 11</u>	10	Greece	R. Dobson
Fish Crow	1	13	downtown Rochester	F. Merrill
Purple Martin	1	30F	Montezuma Audubon Center	C. Lajewski
Tree Swallow	1	9F	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	mob
Tree Swallow	<u>max 195</u>	28	Conesus Inlet WMA	N. Kachala
N. Rough-winged Swallow	1	26F	Greece (Salmon Creek)	Je Barry, C. Wood
Barn Swallow	1	27F	Greece (Burger P)	J. Miles, L. Mattle
Barn Swallow	2	27F	Braddock Bay - hawkwatch	E. Gyllenhaal, G. Lawrence

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

MARCH 2016 (continued)

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Winter Wren	1	19F	Beechwood SP (Wayne Co.)	S. Benedict, L. Clark-Benedict
Winter Wren	2	19F	Ellison Park	J. Miles, L. Mattle
Marsh Wren	3	24F	NMWMA (Carcross Rd)	B. MaGuire
Golden-crowned Kinglet	max 50	27	Manitou (Owl Woods)	K. Sucey, RBA Field Trip
Hermit Thrush	2	22FS	Wolcott (Fields Hill Rd)	W. & M. Rowley
American Robin	<u>max 616</u>	27	Braddock Bay - West Spit	Je. Barry, C. Wood
American Pipit	<u>max 110</u>	12	Hamlin (Church Rd)	K. Sucey, RBA Field Trip
Lapland Longspur	<u>max 41</u>	26	Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Snow Bunting	<u>max 120</u>	7	Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Pine Warbler	1	8F	Rochester	A. Mitchell
Yellow-rumped Warbler	2	15FS	Durand-Eastman Park	J. Slein
Eastern Towhee	1	17FS	Rochester	A. Mitchell
Chipping Sparrow	1	5	Pittsford	P. Martin
Chipping Sparrow	1	9	HANA	P. Mabb
Chipping Sparrow	1	28FS	Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Field Sparrow	1	28FS	T Ontario (Wayne Co.)	J. Wing
Vesper Sparrow	1	27F	Braddock Bay - West Spit	Je. Barry, C. Wood
Savannah Sparrow	1	26FS	Greece (Salmon Creek)	C. Wood
Fox Sparrow	1	14FS	North Ponds Park (Webster)	J. Wing
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>max 4000</u>	19	T Macedon (Wayne Co.)	J. Powell
Eastern Meadowlark	1	21F	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	C. Wood
Rusty Blackbird	180	27	Braddock Bay - West Spit	Je. Barry, C. Wood
Rusty Blackbird	<u>150</u>	30	Conesus Inlet WMA	M. Wasilco
Common Grackle	<u>max 1095</u>	8	Hamlin Beach SP	I. Davies, A. Lees, N. Moura N. Goldberg, T. Lenz, G. MacDonald
Pine Siskin	<u>max 100</u>	19	Nunda (Livingston Co.)	