

April 2016 Sightings Report

Again, the birding picture was especially heavily dominated by weather effects. After a warm winter through even most of March, April started with persistent cold for the first half and the most April snow since 1995. April totaled more snow than each of our normal snowy months of December, January, and March; 8.8", 4.9" above normal. Mid-month saw a week of warmth with a burst of migrants and a shot of blooming flowers, then back to cold. Temperatures averaged 42.3 °F, 4.0° below normal. Precipitation at 1.56" was 1.17" below normal. There were rain or snow showers on 13 days, but only 1 day had over half an inch. A persistent omega block starting about mid-month, with cold and storms west of extreme east Texas and over the Northeast, resulted in few migrants headed our way. The warm shot to start the second half of the month brought some good banding days to BBBO from the 16th to 22nd. This did not carry over to the hawk watch, where the only really good day during this often peak period was on the 27th. Late in the month, trees anywhere near the lake looked like it was still March.

Again, all the expected waterfowl were recorded. But by late in the month the numbers of lingering birds were very low, a continuing trend. Peak numbers for most species were low and occurred in the first half of the month, as illustrated in the maxima in the Noteworthy Table. Loon and grebe peak counts were low other than one Common Loon count; real or coverage? The highlights of the month were: male Eurasian Wigeons at 3 sites with as many as 6 individuals in total and a male Tufted Duck on Conesus Lake found by Mike Wasilco on the 4th and lingering for 10 more days.

After a good start to the season in March, the hawk watch was slow due to persistent winds from northerly and easterly sectors. At least this year there was a big shot of Broad-winged Hawks on the 27th and a lesser push on the 30th big enough to push their numbers past the Turkey Vulture total. There were nine days with totals over 1000 birds, but all but the last 3 were dominated by vultures. There were back to back Black Vultures on the list, but no Swainson's Hawks so far this year.

Shorebird variety was poor, and numbers very low. Lake and pond water levels were high, and by shortly after mid-month even the puddles and pools such as at Martin Road and the field south of Carncross Road dried up. In

Observers: Jim Adams, Janet Akin, BBBO (Betsy Brooks, *et al.*), John Ballou, John Banks, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Jim & Liz Barry, Mitchell Barry, Sue Barth, Bob Beal, Doug Beattie, Don Bemont, Linda Clark Benedict, Steven Benedict, Mike Bergin, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Adam Bleau, John Boettcher, Lynn Braband, Robert Buckert, Bruce Cady, Doug Cameron, Brad Carlson, Jill Church, Robert Cicotta, Kelly Close, Seaghan Coleman, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Doug Daniels, Willie D'Anna, Gregg Dashnau, Ian Davies, Kim Denise, Crystal Doyle, Judy Faress, Wayne Fidler, George Ford, Drew Fowler, Kyle Gage, Andrew Garland, Chris Gates, Nathan Goldberg, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Andrew Guthrie, Richard Guthrie, Anita Gwara, Ethan Gyllenhaal, Helen & Chris Haller, Kim Hartquist, Allison & Jim Healy, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Alec Humann, Marshall Iliff, Carolyn Jacobs, Nicholas Kachala, Ryan Kayhart, Tom Kerr, Jim Kimball, Kathy Kirsch, Tom Klotzbach, J. Gary Kohlenberg, Kevin Koss, Elijah Kruger, Chris Lajewski, Tom Lathrop, Leona Lauster, Greg Lawrence, Alexander Lees, Tim Lenz, Joan Lindberg, Vern Lindberg, Jason Lucier, Peggy Mabb, Ryan MacLean, Mary Magistro, Bill Maier, Cynthia Marino, Patricia Martin, Lauri Mattle, Kevin McGann, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Bob McGuire, Chita McKinney,

this region and even at nearby refuges, there is essentially no effective management for habitat for spring migrant shorebirds. Gull and tern numbers were again unremarkable other than some good Lesser Black-backed Gull counts in Hamlin and a few passing or briefly resting terns at fairly early dates. A highlight was an adult Little Gull at Sodus Bay.

The owl counting at the "Owl Woods" area on Manitou Beach Road was again very slow this spring, essentially mimicking the pattern of another slow year in 2012. Only 4 each of Long-eared and Northern Saw-whet Owls were tallied in April. Short-eared Owl counts by the DEC found birds still present through April 19. A very interesting find was a freshly dead Barn Owl picked up by DEC owl count leader Christina Hoh on I-390 just north of the Rush exit on April 6.

It was a good start for BBBO banding in the first official week open, then slow for the rest of the month. Given the weather, we had an impressive list of passerine arrivals, with nearly all in the first quartile of their old arrival date distributions, with 9 species at "record early" dates relative to those, but all of those having earlier yet dates in the years since 1984. There were 17 species of warblers reported, most of those arriving in the last few days of the month. As expected for the conditions, numbers were generally low, with very few counts above single digits. There were no especially rare passerine records other than the now regular Fish Crows; then toss in the non-passerine Eurasian Collared-Dove in Hamlin.

This month there were about 43,218 eBird records submitted and 10% or so additional records from other sources.

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

	2016	2015	10-year Average (2006-2015)
Total species for April	204	198	195.8
New species for the year	54	65	58.6
Total for the year to date	214	211	209.9

Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee

Matthew Medler, Jim Miles, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Celeste Morien, Patti & Jim Morris, Brian & Brooke Morse, Linda Mott, Nargila Moura, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Tom Nash, Frank Nicoletti, Dave Nutter, Sue O'Neil, Bill Ostrander, Jay Ovsiovitch, Michael Palermo, Andrea Patterson, Norma Platt, Jon Podoliak, Betsy Potter, Jay Powell, David Prill, Bill Purcell, Carolyn Ragan, Thomas Riley, Dave Robertson, Ken Rosenberg, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Jesse Rubenstein, Kevin Rybczynski, Jennifer Rycenga, Scott Salber, Livia Santana, Michael Scheibel, Shirley Shaw, Judy Slein, John Slowik, Pat & Tom Smith, Tom & Laura Somerville, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Donna Mason-Spier, Chris Stanger, Joe Stevenson, Kimberly Sucey, Steve Taylor, David Tetlow, Michael & Joann Tetlow, M. J. Thomas, Luke Tiller, Brian Tuttle, John & Bonnie VanDerMeid, Lee Ann van Leer, Tom & Jeanne Verhulst, Brad Walker, Amber Walraven, Mike Wasilco, Ann Watson, Bridget Watts, Joe Wing, Chris Wood.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

APRIL 2016

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Snow Goose	<u>max 40</u>	7	Broadway Rd. (Wayne Co.)	D. Robertson
Snow Goose	1	30 <u>L</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	Je. Barry, C. Wood
Cackling Goose	1	21-23 <u>L</u>	Hamlin (Townline Rd)	A. & R. Guthrie
Trumpeter Swan	<u>1-5</u>	all month	11 loc in Region	mob
Gadwall	<u>max 100</u>	2	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
<u>Eurasian Wigeon</u>	1-2 m	1-10	E.Swamp Rd, Conesus	M. Wasilco, mob
<u>Eurasian Wigeon</u>	<u>max 4 m</u>	4	E.Swamp Rd, Conesus	J. & B. VanDerMeid
<u>Eurasian Wigeon</u>	1 m	17L	Braddock Bay - West Spit	G. Lawrence, E. Gyllenthal, A. Guthrie R. Buckert, Je. Barry
<u>Eurasian Wigeon</u>	1 m	1-13	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	G. Dashnau, mob
American Wigeon	<u>max 300</u>	2	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
American Wigeon	<u>max 300</u>	10	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
Am. Black Duck	<u>max 80</u>	2	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
Mallard	<u>max 250</u>	2	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
Northern Pintail	<u>max 800</u>	2	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
Canvasback	1	19 <u>L</u>	Conesus Lake Inlet	K. Close
Redhead	<u>max 300</u>	4	Conesus Lake	M. Wasilco
Ring-necked Duck	<u>max 260</u>	2	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
<u>Tufted Duck</u> ph	<u>1 m , 4th Reg</u>	4F-14	Conesus Lake	M. Wasilco, mob
Lesser Scaup	<u>max 300</u>	4	Conesus Lake	M. Wasilco
<u>King Eider</u>	1 fem	9-10	Pt. Breeze	K. McGann, G. Lawrence
<u>King Eider</u>	1 fem	16L	off Manitou Beach	mob Je. Barry, R. Buckert, A. Guthrie
Long-tailed Duck	<u>max 800</u>	17	off Manitou Beach	Guthrie
Hooded Merganser	<u>max 59</u>	6	Irondequoit Bay W boat launch	A. Garland
Red-breasted Merganser	<u>max 1100</u>	17	off Edgemere Dr., Greece	Je. Barry
Ruddy Duck	<u>max 65</u>	12	Sandy Bottom Park, Honoeye	B. Howe
Red-throated Loon	<u>max 17, low</u>	17	off Edgemere Dr., Greece	Je. Barry
Common Loon	<u>max 625</u>	23	off Edgemere Dr., Greece	Je., Ji., & L. Barry, C. Wood
Red-necked Grebe	<u>max 49, low</u>	17	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>max 900</u>	19	Irondequoit Bay W boat launch	A. Garland
Least Bittern	1	30 <u>F</u>	HANA	J. Powell, M. Gullo
Great Egret	2	7 <u>F</u>	Salmon Creek (Greece)	M. Gullo
Green Heron	1	9 <u>F</u>	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	R. Spahn
Black-cr. Night-Heron	1	9 <u>F</u>	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	An. Mitchell
<u>Glossy Ibis</u>	2	2 <u>F</u>	NMWMA (Carncross Rd)	J. McGowan, L. Santana, A. Bleau, W. & M. Rowley
<u>Black Vulture</u>	1	16	T. Ontario, Wayne Co,	J. Wing
<u>Black Vulture</u>	1	18	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
<u>Black Vulture</u>	3	22	Letchworth SP	E. Kruger
Turkey Vulture	<u>max 2409</u>	1	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Turkey Vulture	<u>total 12447</u>	all month	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

April 2016

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Turkey Vulture	<u>1091</u>		Broadway Rd., Wayne Co.	B. Purcell
Osprey	<u>max 14</u>	27	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Bald Eagle	<u>max 15</u>	22, 27	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Bald Eagle	<u>total 178+</u>	month	many (includes BB)	mob
Northern Harrier	<u>max 48</u>	15	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<u>max 432</u>	30	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Cooper's Hawk	<u>max 13</u>	15	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Northern Goshawk	<u>total 7</u>	1-30	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Northern Goshawk	1	7	Bear Creek, Wayne Co.	J. Wing
Northern Goshawk	1	21	Maxwell Creek, Wayne Co.	M. Gullo, J. Wing
Northern Goshawk	1	21	Broadway Rd., Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
Red-shouldered Hawk	<u>max 10</u>	18	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Broad-winged Hawk	3	16F	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Broad-winged Hawk	<u>max 9835</u>	27	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Broad-winged Hawk	<u>total 13699</u>	all month	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>max 151</u>	17	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Rough-legged Hawk	<u>max 5</u>	7	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Golden Eagle	<u>total 12</u>	17-30	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Golden Eagle	<u>14 other rep</u>	all month	9 loc	sev
Virginia Rail	1	3FS	Conesus Lake Inlet	J. Powell
Sora	1	22F	Beatty Pt; Maxwell Crk	K. Hartquist; J. Wing
Common Gallinule	2	23F	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	B. McGuire
Sandhill Crane	<u>total ~26</u>	all month	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Sandhill Crane	<u>25 rep of ~ 18</u>	all month	12+ loc	mob
Semipalmated Plover	1	18F	Coy Rd, Livingston Co.	J. & B. VanDerMeid
Spotted Sandpiper	1	18F	Bear Creek, Wayne Co.	J. Wing
Solitary Sandpiper	1	9F	Conesus Lake Inlet	T. & L. Sonerville, M. & J. Tetlow
Lesser Yellowlegs	1-15	1F	sev	sev
Upland Sandpiper	1	23F	Salmon Creek (Greece)	Je. Barry, C. Wood
Least Sandpiper	2	28F	HANA	M. Gullo
Pectoral Sandpiper	<u>max 68</u>	2	NMWMA (Carnecross Rd))	K. McGann
Wilson's Snipe	<u>max 84</u>	26	Peter Smith Rd, Carlton	G. Lawrence
Bonaparte's Gull	<u>max 60, low</u>	4	Sodus Bay	W. & M. Rowley
<u>Little Gull</u> ph	1 ad	4FS	Sodus Bay	W. & M. Rowley
<u>Thayer's Gull</u>	1 ad	10	Martin Rd Hamlin	L. Tiller
Iceland Gull	total ~ 10	10-23	10 loc	mob
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<u>max 8</u>	16-18	Hamlin	mob
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<u>total 42+</u>	all month	18+ loc	mob
Glaucous Gull	total ~ 8	8-30	6 loc	mob
Caspian Tern	1	9F	Irondequoit Bay Outlet; Sodus Bay	A. Lees, N. Moura; L. Lauster
Caspian Tern	<u>max 150</u>	27	Sodus Point	L. Lauster
Black Tern	2	23F	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	W. & M. Rowley
Common Tern	2	17F	off Edgemere Dr., Greece	Je. Barry
Forster's Tern	2	8F	Braddock Bay	F. Nicoletti
<u>Eurasian Collared-Dove</u>	1	7; 12	Hamlin (Greenwell farm)	M. Gullo; L. Tiller
<u>Eurasian Collared-Dove</u>	1	24	Hamlin (Greenwell farm)	W. Fidler, M. Magistro
<u>Barn Owl (dead)</u>	1	6F	I-390 just N of Rush exit	C. Hoh
Long-eared Owl	<u>total 4</u>	all month	Manitou (Owl Woods)	count team
Short-eared Owl	1	17L	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	D. Fowler
N.Saw-whet Owl	<u>total 4</u>	all month	Manitou (Owl Woods)	count team
E. Whip-poor-will	1	17F	Island Cottage Woods	B. Beal

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

April 2016

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Chimney Swift	1	24F	HANA	J. Powell, P. Martin
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	24F	South Conesus	K. Close
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	1F	Conesus Lake Inlet swamp	R. Spahn
Least Flycatcher	1	28F	East Bay Rd , Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
Eastern Kingbird	1	27F	Riverside Cemetery, Rochester	A. Garland
American Kestrel	<u>max 46</u>	16	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Merlin	<u>total 14</u>	2-27	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<u>total 13</u>	2-27	Braddock Bay	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Northern Shrike	1	10L	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	L. Lauster
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	27F	HANA	B. Cady, M. Gullo
Blue-headed Vireo	1	20F	Whiting Rd Nature Preserve, Webster	G. Lawrence, E. Gyllenhaal
Warbling Vireo	2	29F	Conesus Inlet WMA	M. Wasilco
<u>Fish Crow</u>	<u>max 10</u>	27	<u>Manitou (BBBO)</u>	R. Kayhart
Horned Lark	<u>max 156</u>	15	Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Tree Swallow	<u>max 900</u>	2	Conesus Lake WMA	M. Tetlow
Bank Swallow	2	16F	Braddock Bay hawkwatch	R. MacLean, <i>et al.</i>
Cliff Swallow	1	3F	Conesus Inlet WMA	G. Lawrence, E. Gyllenhaal
Black-capped Chickadee	<u>total B 6, low</u>	15-30	Manitou	BBBO
Brown Creeper	<u>total B 78</u>	15-29	Manitou	BBBO
House Wren	1	17F	3 loc	sev
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1	16F	Island Cottage Woods	J. Miles
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<u>max 75</u>	17	Manitou (Owl Woods)	B. Carlson
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<u>max B 57</u>	17	Manitou	BBBO
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<u>total B 228</u>	15-28	Manitou	BBBO
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	7F	Livonia	J. Lucier
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<u>max B 77</u>	21	Manitou	BBBO
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<u>total B 393</u>	15-30	Manitou	BBBO
Veery	1	26F	NMWMA (Armitage Rd)	W. & M. Rowley
Wood Thrush	1	24F	Letchworth SP; South Conesus	A. Consler; K. Close
American Robin	<u>max 1000</u>	21	Braddodck Bay - West Spit	L. Tiller
Gray Catbird	1	17FS	Braddodck Bay - West Spit	K. Hartquist
Brown Thrasher	1	8F	Braddodck Bay	F. Nicoletti
Cedar Waxwing	<u>max 102, low</u>	29	Whiting Rd NP, Webster	G. Lawrence, E. Gyllenhaal
Lapland Longspur	11	30L	Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Ovenbird	1	28F	Honoeye Creek WMA	B. Howe
Louisiana Waterthrush	2	27F	Jersey Hill Rd (Canadice)	G. Lawrence, E. Gyllenhaal
Northern Waterthrush	2B	21F	Manitou	BBBO
Blue-winged Warbler	1	27F	T Bristol, Ontario Co.	K. Kirsch
Black-and-white Warbler	1	22F	Island Cottage Woods	P. Martin
Black-and-white Warbler	1	22F	Lakeshore Marshes WMA, Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
Nashville Warbler	1	28F	Twin Cedars: Mt. Hope Cemetery	K. Kirsch; J. Ballou
Common Yellowthroat	1	26F	NMWMA (Armitage Rd) Twin Cedars Environmental Area,	W. & M. Rowley
American Redstart	1	28F	Avon	K. Kirsch
Northern Parula	1	30F	HANA Twin Cedars Environmental Area,	J. Powell
Blackburnian Warbler	1	28F	Avon	K. Kirsch
Yellow Warbler	1	22F	Bushnell's Basin, Pittsford	H. & C. Haller
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	25F	Ellison Park, Penfield	C. Doyle
Black-throated Warbler	1	28F	Oatka CreekPark	J. Adams
Palm Warbler	1	14F	Braddock Bay	D. Tetlow
Pine Warbler	1	2FS	Log Cabin Rd Swamps, Victor	A. Garland

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

April 2016

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<u>max 95</u>	29	Twin Cedars Environmental Area, Avon	M. Wasilco
Black-throated Green Warbler	1	26 <u>F</u>	NMWMA (Armitage Rd)	W. & M. Rowley
American Tree Sparrow	1	29 <u>L</u>	East Palmyra, Wayne Co.	S. Salber
Grasshopper Sparrow	1	20 <u>F</u>	T York, Livingston Co.	M. Wasilco
Fox Sparrow	1	30 <u>L</u>	Salmon Creek (Greece)	Je. Barry, C. Wood
White-throated Sparrow	<u>total B 78</u>	16-30	Manitou	BBBO
Dark-eyed Junco	<u>max 150</u>	11	Mt. Hope Cemetery, Rochester	S. Taylor
Scarlet Tanager	1	27 <u>F</u>	Brown Rd, T Wolcott	W. & M. Rowley
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	22 <u>F</u>	Greece	L. Bergmeyer
Indigo Bunting	1	30 <u>F</u>	Rochester	L. Mott
Rusty Blackbird	<u>105</u>	1	Conesus Inlet WMA	M. Wasilco
Rusty Blackbird	<u>117; 120</u>	16	Braddodck Bay - West Spit	mob
Rusty Blackbird	<u>max 800</u>	21	Braddodck Bay - West Spit	L. Tiller
Rusty Blackbird	<u>100</u>	27	Church Trail (Greece)	Ji. Miles, L. Mattle
Common Grackle	<u>max 500</u>	10	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	J. McGowan, L. Santana,
Baltimore Oriole	2	27 <u>F</u>	Highland Park, Rochester	K. Hartquist
Common Redpoll	1	17 <u>L</u>	Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Pine Siskin	<u>max 166</u>	18	Hamlin	A. Guthrie