

## November 2017 Sightings Report

It was an average, cool month, with rainfall a bit above normal. A nearly constant flow of Pacific air kept us warm until an Arctic surge mid-month brought cold and our first inch+ of snowfall in a day. The month started with rain on most of the first 6 days, with the most in a day at 1.65" on the 5<sup>th</sup>. This was followed by a few warm, dry days before the snow. Then it was dry again until our first lake effect event on the 19-20<sup>th</sup>, with 1.1" in Rochester, but over a foot falling in the east end of the region. The last week of the month brought 6 of the 7 days above normal. Temperatures averaged 40.5 °F, right on normal, and precipitation totaled 4.13", 1.19" above normal. Snowfall was only 2.6", 4.8" below normal. The first day for the fall averaging only 32° gave us 212 days since the last freezing day, the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest such stretch on record behind only 1938 at 216 days.

Waterbird trends continued recent observations, with nearly all species with any serious expectation being reported, but with numbers for nearly all low, especially the diving ducks passing the Hamlin Beach lake watch. King Eider and Harlequin Duck were present again, with a big influx of the eiders on the 18<sup>th</sup>. A Ruddy Shelduck of unknown origin was at the DEC ponds near Avon for several days early in the month. This year Northern Gannet and a *plegadis* ibis species were also added. Only Greater White-fronted Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, and a few of the herons that sometimes make it into November were "missed". Peak counts for many species are listed in the Noteworthy Records table on the RBA website, but again in many cases the high count was single or one of very few such for the species. Again, peak counts for both regular loon species were also very low. Late Cattle Egrets did appear at 2 places in our region, as well as back at Goosehaven near Montezuma.

Again, raptors were generally scarce. There was only one report of two Black Vultures from Letchworth State Park. Red-shouldered Hawk was missed, and a lone goshawk report is still in review. Rough-legged Hawk reports were also low. There was a large influx of Snowy Owls late this month in several waves, with as many as 6 birds at a location together and the total in excess of 20. The first DEC Short-eared Owls survey out of Avon on the 21<sup>st</sup> located 16 birds plus 22 Northern Harriers on a nice warm evening. Numbers of reports for American Kestrel, Merlin, and Peregrine Falcon were up a bit this month, although at times kestrels seemed hard to find. Northern Shrike was also up a bit over last year, with about 13 individuals reported.

Large numbers of Sandhill Cranes again lingered in the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) area, with a peak of 94 in our region on the 29<sup>th</sup> and over 100 just to the south in the Knox-Marcellus area. A Virginia Rail was found near the usual wintering area in Mendon Ponds Park, and Common Gallinule and American Coot were

still to be found in the Van Dyne Spoor area of the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA).

Lingering shorebirds seemed scarce, and Purple Sandpiper was not located by month's end. Most of the regularly late-departing shorebirds were found to departure dates in their historical interquartile ranges. Peak counts for all species were low.

Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were seen off and on through most of the month. An immature Black-legged Kittiwake appeared at Irondequoit Bay outlet on the 26<sup>th</sup> and stayed around at least into the next day, feeding with a good sized flock of Bonaparte's Gulls. Two Little Gulls and a Franklin's Gull were nice finds, and Iceland and Glaucous Gulls both had their winter arrivals this month. For those keeping track, there were about 21 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, a continued good showing.

Non-passerine land birds again contributed few reports: no Eurasian Collared-Doves this month, no late hummingbirds, and even relatively few Red-headed Woodpecker reports.

The passerines did not provide quite the numbers of special birds as last November. Still, there were some good finds. A White-eyed Vireo was found in the Webster Arboretum by Jim Miles on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. Cave Swallows were seen at several locations from the 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, with a peak of 11 at Hamlin Beach. A late Gray Catbird was banded on the 28<sup>th</sup> at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) and an Orange-crowned Warbler there on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Finally, a female Summer Tanager made a brief stop at Johnathan Blades' feeder in Irondequoit on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There are a number of other latish dates, but all can be found in the Noteworthy table on the RBA website. Blackbird numbers reported were low. The only winter finches were a couple of Common Redpolls and Evening Grosbeaks and a few reports of good numbers of Pine Siskins. Wade and Melissa Rowley noted and photographed a very large flock of 5000+ passerines moving by in the Town of Wolcott on the 8<sup>th</sup>, unfortunately too far away to identify to species.

Please submit reports to eBird, post them on Geneseebirds-L, and/or send by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month to Andrea Patterson, 144 Greystone Lane, #24, Rochester, NY 14618.

	2017	2016	10-year Average (2007-2016)
Total species for November	156	160	150.6
New species for the year	4	4	4.2
Total for the year to date	288	291	290.9

Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee

## NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

November 2017

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Snow Goose	<u>max 50</u>	23	Conesus Lake	T. Bohling
Ross's Goose	1	21FF	Twin Cedars EA, Avon	M. Wasilco
Brant	3	17L	Sodus Point	W. & M. Rowley
<u>Cackling Goose</u>	<u>32 rep, ~ 39</u>	5-27	14 loc	18+ Obs
<u>Cackling Goose</u>	<u>max 7</u>	5	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Canada Goose	<u>max 5600</u>	8	Twin Cedars EA, Avon	M. Wasilco
Mute Swan	<u>max 97</u>	19	Round Pond, Greece	N. Kachala
Trumpeter Swan	<u>max 60</u>	11	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	J. McGowan, J. Collison, S. Billerman
Tundra Swan	<u>max 160</u>	9	Round Pond, Greece	M. Gullo
Tundra Swan	<u>150</u>	24-25	Conesus Lake	T. Bohling
<u>Ruddy Shelduck origin?</u>	1	1-11	Twin Cedars EA, Avon	M. Wasilco, 4 oth obs
Gadwall	<u>max 150</u>	25	Northrup Creek, Greece	J. McGowan, A. Spencer, S. Dzielski, T. Brooks
American Wigeon	<u>max 216</u>	29	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	D. Sherony, M. Tetlow
American Black Duck	<u>max 42</u>	12	near Clarendon	Je. Barry, L. Barry, L. Seitz
Mallard	<u>max 290</u>	11	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	Je. Barry, D. Moulton
Blue-winged Teal	5	<u>17L</u>	HANA	M. Brown
Northern Pintail	<u>max 100</u>	6	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	J. McGowan
Green-winged Teal	<u>max 65</u>	5	Hamlin Beach SP	Ji. Miles
Canvasback	<u>max 30</u>	1	Groveland Hill Pnd, Livingston Co.	K. Close
Redhead	<u>max 800</u>	25	Conesus Lake	B. Carlson
Ring-necked Duck	<u>max 86</u>	19	Round Pond, Greece	L. Bergmeyer, R. Buckert
Greater Scaup	<u>max 76, low</u>	20	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Lesser Scaup	<u>max 110</u>	19	Round Pond, Greece	N. Kachala
<u>King Eider</u>	7 f, 1 imm m	18FF	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
<u>King Eider</u>	1 f	18FF	off Ontario Beach Park	A. Guthrie
<u>King Eider ph</u>	4 f, 1 imm m	19	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
<u>King Eider</u>	4	19	West Port Bay, Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
<u>King Eider ph</u>	1 ad m	18-23	off E. Manitou Rd.	G. Lawrence, 30+ oth obs
<u>King Eider</u>	1 imm m	25	off Sandbar Park, Webster	Je. Barry, K. Barry, C. Wood
<u>Harlequin Duck</u>	1 fem	19	off E. Manitou Rd.	A. & D. Guthrie
<u>Harlequin Duck ph</u>	1 f	24L	Hamlin Beach SP	D. Kershner, M. Kershner
White-winged Scoter	<u>max 71, low</u>	27	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Black Scoter	<u>max 65</u>	5	Hamlin Beach SP	N. Kachala, R. Buckert
Long-tailed Duck	<u>max 645</u>	6	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Bufflehead	<u>150</u>	24	Silver Lake-S, Wyoming Co.	D. Beattie
Bufflehead	<u>max 210</u>	25	Conesus Lake	N. Kachala
Common Goldeneye	<u>max 180</u>	11	Broadway Rd., Wayne Co.	J. McGowan, J. Collison, S. Billerman
Hooded Merganser	<u>max 69</u>	26	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	A. Guthrie, C. Wood
Common Merganser	<u>max 350</u>	22	Northrup Creek, Greece	A. Van Keuren, J. Graves
Red-breasted Merganser	<u>1700</u>	19	Long Pond, Greece	N. Kachala
Red-breasted Merganser	<u>1350</u>	23	Cranberry Pond, Greece	A. Guthrie
Red-breasted Merganser	<u>max 1763</u>	26	Edgemere Dr., Greece	Je. Barry, C. Wood
Ruddy Duck	<u>max 73</u>	4	Sandy Bottom Park, Honeoye	B. Howe
Red-throated Loon	<u>max 341, low</u>	18	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Common Loon	<u>max 307, low</u>	6	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Red-necked Grebe	<u>max 128</u>	25	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
<u>Northern Gannet 10:15 AM</u>	1 imm	<u>19F</u>	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	N. Kachala, RBA YBC
<u>Northern Gannet</u>	1 imm	<u>19F</u>	Edgemere Dr., Greece	Je. Barry
<u>Northern Gannet 11:05 AM</u>	1 imm	<u>19F</u>	off E. Manitou Rd.	D. Horsey, D. Sherony

## NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

November 2017

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Northern Gannet 1:00 PM	1 imm	19F	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie, P. Martin
Northern Gannet ph	1 imm	19F	off Monroe/Orleans county line	A. Guthrie
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>max 225</u>	1	Sodus Point	G. Lawrence, 30+ oth obs
Great Egret	1	5L	LaSalle Landing Park	J. Wing
				G. Lawrence, B. Carlson, J. Wing,
Cattle Egret ph	1	3F	T. Ogden, Monroe Co.	M. Gullo
Cattle Egret	1	6	near Buck Pond, Greece	J. Barry
Glossy/White-faced Ibis	1	5F	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	L. Stenzler, T. Schat, 8+ oth obs
Black Vulture	2	18	Letchworth SP	R. Stevens
Bald Eagle	<u>~ 116 rep, 53 ind</u>	<u>all month</u>	39+ loc	60+ obs
Northern Goshawk ph	1	27	Durand-Eastman Park	M. Shellman
Virginia Rail	1	7L	Mendon Ponds Park	S. Daniel
Common Gallinule	2	3L	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	W. & M. Rowley
Sandhill Crane	3	9	<u>Irondequoit Bay Outlet</u>	D. Horsey, D. Sherony
Sandhill Crane	3	12	<u>Rt. 237 Byron</u>	P. Morris, T. Sturm
Sandhill Crane	2	14	<u>Allen's Hill &amp; Nighan Hill Rds.</u>	B. Howe
Sandhill Crane	<u>max 94</u>	<u>29</u>	NMWMA (Rt 89 n East Rd end)	D. Sherony, M. Tetlow
Black-bellied Plover	1	9L	Perry Rd., Wyoming Co.	R. Stevens
Killdeer	6	21L	Roseburgh Rd., Livingston Co.	K. Close
Greater Yellowlegs ph	1	14L	Webster Aboretum	M. Gullo
Sanderling	1	17L	Ontario Beach	D. Sherony
Dunlin	<u>max 175</u>	1	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	D. Horsey, D. Sherony
Dunlin	1	21L	Braddock Bay-ES; Sodus Pt.	R. Ryan; J. Wing
White-rumped Sandpiper	1	17L	Sodus Point	W. & M. Rowley
Pectoral Sandpiper	1	6L	T.Riga; NMWMA (Aimitage Rd)	Bri. Morse; J. McGowan, T. Lenz
			NMWMA (Guy Baldassrre Marsh)	
Wilson's Snipe	1	22L		K. Gage
Pomarine Jaeger	1	12	Brown Rd., T Wolcott	W. & M. Rowley
Parasitic Jaeger	1	4	off Edgemere Dr., Greece	R. Buckert
				A. Guthrie, J. McGowan, A. Spencer,
Parasitic Jaeger	1 imm.	25	Hamlin Beach SP	S Dzielski, T.Brooks
Parasitic Jaeger	1	27	off Webster Park	R. Spahn
jaeger sp.	1	8	Brown Rd., T Wolcott	W. & M. Rowley
Black-legged Kittiwake	<u>1 imm</u>	26F	Irondequoit Bay Outlet & nearby	C. Wood, A. Guthrie, Bri. Morse
Black-legged Kittiwake	1 imm.	27	Irondequoit Bay-W	K. Hartquist
Bonaparte's Gull	<u>max 200</u>	26	Irondequoit Bay-W	Bri. Morse
Little Gull	1 ad	2	T. Huron, Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
				B. Carlson, A. Garland, D. Sherony
Little Gull	1 ad	4	Hamlin Beach SP	
Franklin's Gull	1 1st win	1	Sodus Point	G. Lawrence
Ring-billed Gull	<u>max 5000+</u>	22	Nations Rd., Geneseo	J. Kimball
Herring Gull	<u>max 2500</u>	7	T Riga	B. Carlson
Iceland Gull	1	20FF	Hamlin Beach SP; HANA	A. Guthrie; D. Sherony
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<u>~ 13 rep, 21 ind</u>	7-26	8 loc	10+ obs
Glaucous Gull	1	3FF	T Riga	C. Wood
Glaucous Gull	<u>total 6</u>	1-26	5 loc	9 obs
Snowy Owl	1	11FF	Summerville Pier	D. Laiacona
Snowy Owl	<u>total ~ 20</u>	11-29	15 loc	50+ obs
Short-eared Owl	<u>max 15</u>	10	Nations Rd. IBA	N. Kachala
American Kestrel	<u>25 rep, 25 ind</u>	all month	19 loc	14 obs
Merlin	<u>24 rep, 21 ind</u>	1-25	19 loc	18 obs
Peregrine Falcon	<u>18 rep, 17 ind</u>	all month	14 loc	18+ obs

## NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

November 2017

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Northern Shrike	<u>20 rep, 13 ind</u>	all month	12 loc	21+ obs
<u>White-eyed Vireo</u>	1	<u>13-14L</u>	Webster Arboretum	Ji. Miles
American Crow	<u>max 5200</u>	26	U. of Rochester	J. Goetz
Fish Crow	<u>max 4</u>	22	Dobson Rd. Greece	R. Dobson, B. Gillette
Horned Lark	<u>max 65</u>	4	Nations Rd. IBA	N. Kachala
<u>Cave Swallow</u>	1	3	Sodus Point	M. Gullo
<u>Cave Swallow</u>	11	5	Hamlin Beach SP	R. Buckert, N. Kachala, Ji. Miles
<u>Cave Swallow</u> 11:16	3	5	Hamlin Beach SP	Ji. Miles
<u>Cave Swallow</u>	1; 2	5; 6	Buck Pond, Greece	Ji. Barry
<u>Cave Swallow</u>	1	8L	Lakeshore Marshes, Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
Black-capped Chickadee	<u>max 32, low</u>	26	Webster Park	A. Guthrie, Bri. Morse, C. Wood
Red-breasted Nuthatch	<u>max 19</u>	26	Webster Park	A. Guthrie, Bri. Morse, C. Wood
House Wren	1	<u>17L RL</u>	Whiting Rd. NP, Webster	D. Horsey
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	<u>25L</u>	Braddock Bay - West Spit	A. Guthrie
American Robin	<u>max 400</u>	22	Lehigh Swamp	C. Nam
Gray Catbird	1B	<u>28</u>	BBBO	A. Butler, A. Patterson
American Pipit	2	<u>15L</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Snow Bunting	<u>150</u>	2	Moscow Rd., Hamlin	D. Sherony
Snow Bunting	<u>max 200</u>	17	West Port Bay, Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
Orange-crowned Warbler	1B	<u>15</u>	BBBO	G. Lawrence, A. Patterson
Common Yellowthroat	1	<u>25</u>	Salmon Creek, Greece	A. Guthrie, C. Wood
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	<u>29</u>	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	D. Sherony, M. Tetlow
Eastern Towhee	1	<u>29</u>	Webster Park	R. Spahn
Chipping Sparrow	1	<u>28L</u>	Highland Park, Rochester	K. Hartquist
Field Sparrow	2	<u>4L</u>	Twin Cedars EA, Avon	C. Goetz
Savannah Sparrow	1	<u>13L</u>	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	B. Fogarty
Fox Sparrow	1	<u>19L</u>	Highland Park, Rochester	K. Hartquist
<u>Summer Tanager</u> ph	1 fem, 25th Reg	<u>29F</u>	Irondequoit	J. Blades
Eastern Meadowlark	1	<u>22F</u>	Burger Park, Greece	D. Egan, V. Wilkins
Rusty Blackbird	1	<u>20L</u>	Oatka Creek Park	J. Adams
Common Grackle	<u>max 800</u>	4	Fowlerville Rd. Livingston Co.	S. Burch, J. McCartney
Brown-headed Cowbird	<u>max 700</u>	3	CR 10, Livingston Co.	K. Close
Common Redpoll	1	9, 15	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Pine Siskin	<u>max 154</u>	7	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
American Goldfinch	<u>146</u>	15	BBBO	G. Lawrence
American Goldfinch	<u>max 150</u>	15	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Evening Grosbeak	1	<u>4FF</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	Sherony
<u>passerine sp.</u> ph	<u>5000</u>	8	Rasbeck Rd., Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley