

Underlined items indicate noteworthy factors.

F indicates first record for the year.

FS indicates first record for the spring migration, though seen earlier in the year.

ph indicates photographs available

T indicates Town - - -.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	10-year Average (<u>2005- 2014</u>)
Species for February	107	107	112.4
New for the year	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4.3</u>
Total for the year to date	133	120	133.2

Notes:

1. This month was the coldest calendar month on record (145 years) for Rochester, with a constant procession of cold air masses and snows piling up, with 42.5" falling and essentially no melting. Temperatures averaged 12.2°F, 14.2° below normal. There was only one day, the 4th, with a high above freezing for a few hours. There were 11 days with the low below 0°, a record number. Record lows were set on 16, 20, 21, 23, and 24 February. The coldest was -11° on the 20th and 21st, the latest dates for double digit below zero on record. Precipitation totaled 2.51", 0.56" above normal. Snowfall at 45.2" was 21.5" above normal. There were only two heavy snow events, on the 1st to 2nd and 8th to 9th, but measurable snow fell on 24 days. The maximum snow depth of 21" was measured on the 15th and was the greatest in 13 years. Ponds and bays were mainly frozen through the month, with only small open patches on the larger bays early in the month. Lake Ontario did remain largely open, though with a good rim of shore ice and pack ice to the horizon after a day or two of north winds. The deep snows were difficult both for birds trying to find food and birders trying to move about.

2. Waterfowl counts were generally very low, due to the limited open water. There was no real sign of returning waterfowl by month's end. Still, the rare adult male **King Eider** seen in January was found again off Russell Station, and any time open water appeared near shore or at the mouths of bays and streams there would be small flocks of ducks present. Other waterbirds were also scarce, with few loons and grebes reported, only a few **Great Blue Heron** reports, and no **Double-crested Cormorants** found.

3. **Black Vulture** was seen again at the Millseat Landfill in Riga along with up to seven **Turkey Vultures**. Good numbers of **Bald Eagles** were seen, and the usual numbers of **Sharp-shinned** and **Cooper's hawks** frequented local feeders. Again, only a lone **N. Goshawk** was reported and no **Red-shouldered Hawk**. It was also again not a big winter for **Rough-legged Hawk**, **American Kestrel**, **Merlin**, and **Peregrine Falcon**; numbers were relatively low for recent winters. A highlight was a gray **Gyr Falcon** seen and photographed near the mouth of the Genesee River on the 16th and seen briefly the next day.

4. The **Virginia Rail** spotted in Mendon Ponds in January was only reported once this month, and only a couple of **American Coots** were recorded.

5. With no ice edges on the bays, the relatively few of the expected white-winged gulls and **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** reported were from the Millseat Landfill and from the Hance Road area near the High Acres Landfill in Perinton and Macedon..

6. **Snowy Owl** reports dropped way off from earlier in the winter, with most involving birds near the Rochester International and Genesee County airports and the area south of Lima. Numbers of **Short-eared Owls** found on the regular biweekly DEC counts dropped way off with the deep snows. A **N. Saw-whet Owl** was found in the Owl Woods along Manitou Beach Road on 7 February, but none were found later in the month as regular surveys began. A surprise was a saw-whet in Palmyra on the 26th. **Northern Shrikes** were scarce. We were back to no reports of **Monk Parakeet** or **Eurasian Collared-Dove** this month, though the Fish Crows were found in the Charlotte area.

7. Reports of wintering half-hardy species dropped WAY off this month; again a combination of both real reductions and the decrease in birder effort. Several of the species reported earlier in the winter were not reported at all. Wandering back roads still produced some good counts of wintering field birds, **Horned Larks**, **Snow Buntings**, a few **Lapland Longspurs**, and **Dark-eyed Juncos**. Waxwings were few, but **Bohemian Waxwing** was found with some **Cedars** in the Gosnell Preserve part of Webster Park. The only winter finches were small numbers of **Common Redpoll** and **Pine Siskin** at a few locations plus a **Hoary Redpoll** and a **Common "Greater" Redpoll** at one feeder in Wayne County on a few days.

8. There were about 11,100 eBird records, and again the February list of eBird observers was dramatically higher than normal due to GBBC records being directly entered also into eBird. There were 255 observers, most not regular contributors to local records. Only those whose records were noteworthy will be included in the observer list below.

9. Please send your records by the 5th of the month following to Lynn Bergmeyer, 107 Longridge Ave., Greece, NY 14616.

Observers:

Jim Adams, John Ballou, Jessie Barry, Sue Barth, Doug Beattie, Don Bemont, Linda Clark-Benedict, Steven Benedict, Barry Bermudez, John Boettcher, Wes Boyce, George Briggs, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Jill Church, Kelly Close, Andrew Consler, Doug Daniels, Willie D'Anna, Elaine Dart, Bob Dobson, Crystal Doyle, Tony Dvorak, Wayne Fidler, Daena Ford, George Ford, Drew Fowler, Kurt Fox, Liz Galusha, Cathy Gardner, Andy Garland, Chris Gates, Kristine Genagon, Bill Gillette, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Judy & Lew Gurley, Andrew Guthrie, Anita Gwara, Helen & Chris Haller, Kim Hartquist, Jim & Allison Healy, Sue Heffner, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Carolyn Jacobs, Nicholas Kachala, Jim Kimball, Edith Lank, Leona Lauster, Greg Lawrence, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Paul Lindemann, Peggy Mabb, Mary Magistro, Bill Maier, Melissa Mance-Coniglio, Cindy Marino, Pat Martin, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Chita McKinney, Ferne Merrill, Jim Miles, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Tom Nash, Jay Ovsiovitich, Kris Palermo, Jim Pawlicki, S Phillips, Norma Platt, Betsy Potter, Jay Powell, David Prill, Carolyn Ragan, RBA Field Trips, Dave Robertson, Michelle Rosenbaum, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Jesse Rubenstein, Zaphir Shamma, Shirley Shaw, Judy Slein, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Kathleen Squires, Chris Stanger, Joe Stevenson,

Kimberly Sucey, Jim Tarolli, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, Doris Waud,
Dave Wheeler, Joe Wing, Martha Zettel.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS
February 2015

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Mute Swan	<u>max 25, low</u>	7	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	J. Ovsiovitich
Tundra Swan	<u>max 8</u>	18	Sodus Pt.	W. & M. Rowley
Wood Duck	1	<u>22</u>	Bear Creek (Wayne Co.)	J. Wing
Gadwall	4	<u>10-24</u>	Cold Sprgs Pd., Caledonia	M. Wasilco
Am. Black Duck	<u>max 15, low</u>	6	Bear Creek (Wayne Co.)	J. Wing
Mallard	<u>max 1100</u>	16	Mowacres, T LeRoy	D. Beattie
Green-winged Teal	1	<u>16</u>	Braddock Bay	K. Squires
Canvasback	2	25	<u>Oatka Trail</u>	K. Palermo
Redhead	<u>max 30, low</u>	7	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	J. Ovsiovitich
Greater Scaup	<u>max 150, low</u>	3	Sodus Pt.	J. Tarolli, D. Wheeler
Lesser Scaup	<u>max 10, low</u>	3	Sodus Pt.	J. Tarolli, D. Wheeler
<u>King Eider</u>	<u>1 ad m</u>	17	Summerville Pier	K. Hartquist
<u>King Eider</u>	<u>1 ad m</u>	18-24	off Russell Station (Greece)	W. D'Anna, B. Potter, mob
White-winged Scoter	<u>max 100</u>	18	Charlotte Pier	sev
Long-tailed Duck	<u>max 350, low</u>	18	Charlotte Pier	P. Martin
Common Merganser	<u>max 72, low</u>	14	Summerville Pier	K. Hartquist
Red-breasted Merganser	<u>max 150, low</u>	7	Pt. Breeze	A. Guthrie
Red-throated Loon	1-2	<u>18</u>	Charlotte Pier	sev
Common Loon	1	<u>18</u>	Charlotte Pier	sev
<u>Black Vulture</u>	1	13	Millseat Landfill, T. Riga	P. Martin
Bald Eagle	<u>approx 20 rep. 27 ind</u>	all month	sev	sev
<u>Northern Goshawk</u>	1	12F	Hamlin	M. Tetlow, J. Church
Rough-legged Hawk	<u>approx 8 rep. 8 ind</u>	all month	sev	sev
Virginia Rail	1	<u>7</u>	Mendon Ponds Park	B. Carlson
Herring Gull	<u>max 800</u>	23	Perinton	J. Powell
Iceland Gull	<u>approx 6 rep. 5 ind</u>	8-22	sev	sev
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>	2	11	Millseat Landfill, T. Riga	P. Martin
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>	1	16, 18	Hance Rd, T Macedon	J. Powell, M. Tetlow, W. & M. Rowley
Glaucous Gull	<u>4</u>	11	Millseat Landfill, T. Riga	P. Martin
Glaucous Gull	<u>max 5</u>	18	Hance Rd, T Macedon	J. Wing
Great Black-backed Gull	<u>max 30</u>	11	Millseat Landfill, T. Riga	P. Martin
Snowy Owl	<u>approx 19 rep. 9 ind</u>	all month	6 loc	sev
Short-eared Owl	<u>max 5</u>	3	Sand/Taft Rd (W. Bloomfield)	M. Gullo
N. Saw-whet Owl ph	1	<u>7F</u>	Manitou (Owl Woods)	T. Dvorak
N. Saw-whet Owl	1	26	<u>Palmyra</u>	P. Lindemann
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	13	Dansville (Livingston Co.)	K. Close
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker ph	1	14-22	Lima	C. Gardner
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	26	N. Wolcott	W. & M. Rowley, D. Fowler
American Kestrel	<u>7 rep. 6 ind</u>	4-17	sev	sev
Merlin	<u>7 rep. 6 ind</u>	7-24	sev	sev
<u>Gvrfalcon ph</u>	1	16F, 17	Charlotte Pier	Z. Shamma, <i>et al</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<u>5 rep. 5 ind</u>	13-18	sev	sev
Northern Shrike	<u>5 rep. 4 ind</u>	1-17	sev	sev
<u>Fish Crow</u>	<u>max 3</u>	1	Ontario Beach area (Charlotte)	B. Carlson
Common Raven	<u>max 9</u>	1	Lima	M. Zettel
Homed Lark	<u>max 275</u>	23	T York (Livingston Co.)	D. Beattie
Hermit Thrush	1	<u>2</u>	Greece	R. Dobson
Hermit Thrush	1	<u>8-22</u>	Webster Park (Whiting Rd.)	sev
Hermit Thrush	1	<u>22</u>	T Sodus (Wayne Co.)	W. Fidler, M. Magistro
American Robin	<u>max 125</u>	14	Webster Park (Whiting Rd.)	J. Miles
<u>Bohemian Waxwing</u>	1-2	7F-22	Webster Park (Whiting Rd.)	G. Ford, mob
Lapland Longspur	<u>max 22</u>	3	Hamlin (Priem Rd.)	A. Guthrie
Snow-Bunting	<u>max 450</u>	5	Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Eastern Towhee	1	<u>15</u>	Marengo (Wayne Co.)	L. Galusha
Am. Tree Sparrow	<u>max 56</u>	14	Groveland	S. Heffner
Savannah Sparrow	1	<u>1-5</u>	Hamlin	B. Carlson, A. Guthrie
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>max 50, low</u>	20	T Perinton (Monroe Co.)	S. Phillips
Rusty Blackbird	2	<u>15-24</u>	Victor (Ontario Co.)	B. Bermudez
Rusty Blackbird	1	<u>6</u>	T Palmyra (Wayne Co.)	D. Robertson

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)
February 2015

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Common Grackle	<u>max 10, low</u>	22	Lehigh Valley Trail (Henrietta)	J. & A. Healy
Common Redpoll	<u>max 100</u>	12	Kendall	M. Tetlow, J. Church
Common Redpoll (<i>A. f. rostrata</i>)	1	16	N. Wolcott	W. & M. Rowley
<u>Hoary Redpoll</u>	1	12F-16, 23	N. Wolcott	W. & M. Rowley, D. Fowler
Pine Siskin	<u>max 30</u>	23, 26	N. Wolcott	W. & M. Rowley, D. Fowler

