

## Records Report

1. April weather was about normal, though with only nine days with precipitation totaling 2.58", about 0.5" below average. There was barely any measurable snowfall in April, leaving Rochester at 87" for the season by month's end, about 15" below average. There were a few major windstorms during the month and generally cloudy weather overall with only two days the entire month having fair sky conditions. Four straight nights of good southwest winds from April 10-13 yielded some good early water bird movement followed by our first major passerine influx and subsequent flight during the last two days of that period. This period was interesting as there were good southwest winds every night to bring in migrants, though differences in precipitation and daytime winds made each day unique from a birding perspective. Rochester hit the 80-degree mark on April 24 and 25, a week earlier than average, which came with strong southwest winds and a big kickstart to Spring passerine migration. Average temperature was 46.4 degrees, 0.4 degrees below average for the month.

2. Starting with waterfowl, we had the standard assortment of species reported, all in average to below average numbers with a few larger counts of American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, and Ring-necked Duck all coming from the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) area and a few large counts of Northern Shoveler, Greater Scaup, and Bufflehead along the lakeshore during a minor waterbird fallout event on the 12<sup>th</sup>. This same event produced a few other noteworthy totals including Nate Ukens' count of 291 Horned Grebe on Irondequoit Bay, and a max of 62 Red-throated Loons passing by Braddock Bay. Otherwise, notable waterfowl included five continuing rarities from March including the Groveland Flats **Cinnamon Teal**, NMWMA **Eurasian Wigeon**, Rigney Bluff/Round Pond hen **King Eider**, Round Pond pair of **Harlequin Ducks**, and lastly the immature male **Common Eider** off Manitou Beach which was still reported in early May. Max counts of 112 American Coot and 34 Sandhill Cranes at Braddock Bay rounded out waterfowl through Gruiformes.

3. April brought in the typical early shorebirds, though no large concentrations with only a few small, flooded fields along the lakeshore and high Lake Ontario water levels eliminating any chance of mudflats

at Braddock Bay. Most larger shorebird counts were from the Savannah mucklands and NMWMA area. An early **Piping Plover** stopped by the Braddock Bay East Spit, now almost annual at this location in migration—hopefully some may stick around longer one of these years. A record early Spotted Sandpiper on the 11<sup>th</sup> at the Braddock Bay East Spit was noteworthy. An Upland Sandpiper photographed by David Brown passing over the Braddock Bay hawkwatch was another good find of this declining and increasingly hard to find species. Gulls passed through in good numbers with some large flocks in Hamlin and Groveland Flats plus Bonaparte's Gulls peaked with a max count of 218 passing by Greece on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The early-mid April Bonaparte's Gull push is the best chance for Little Gull here in the Spring and one was spotted passing by Hamlin Beach on the 11<sup>th</sup> with another found in gull flocks in the North Hamlin Rd. fields by Chris Wood on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The **Laughing Gull** at Vitale Park on Conesus Lake continued from March and was reported until the 10<sup>th</sup>. Further, April brought in our typical Tern species with the uncommon Black and Forster's Terns both first reported on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

4. April continues to be the best Spring month in the region for rare wading birds with a **Snowy Egret** reported from NMWMA area plus **Glossy** and **White-faced Ibis** both reported from the NMWMA and Braddock Bay areas. Three Black Vultures were reported from the Braddock Bay hawkwatch this month plus another spotted by Robert Buckert passing over SUNY Brockport. April 25<sup>th</sup> brought the biggest hawk flight of the month with 12555 Broad-winged Hawks, 10 Golden Eagles, and 62 Bald Eagles as highlights. Sharp-shinned Hawks peaked on the 24<sup>th</sup> with 341 and Red-tailed Hawks and Turkey Vultures peaked on the 8<sup>th</sup> with 193 and 3223 respectively. Further, a Snowy Owl and Short-eared Owl made their final appearances in the region by Braddock Bay this month as well. The peak Northern Flicker flight this month reached 236 by Braddock Bay on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

5. Rarer passerines included a very unexpected **Western Kingbird** photographed on the 9<sup>th</sup> passing by Beechwood State Park by Tim Lenz, a **White-eyed Vireo** banded at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, a **Lark Sparrow** in Hamlin on the 14<sup>th</sup>, and two separate **Western Tanagers** in Greece and Conesus, the latter seen by many over almost a week thanks to Lynne

Parsons graciously hosting countless birders at their house. Warblers arrived this month with many first records during the big passerine influx on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> including a **Worm-eating Warbler** seen by many at Firehouse Woods and a **Yellow-throated Warbler** along Edgemere Dr. in Greece. A few winter finches were reported into April with the last Common Redpolls reported on the 17<sup>th</sup> and a larger flock of 80, high for this “down” finch year, reported from Hamlin Beach on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. **Western Tanager** gets my award for *bird of the month* considering we had two reports of this very rare species in only a couple days, with many getting a chance to see one of them.

6. See the noteworthy records table posted on the RBA website for more details and records and please send in reports to eBird, the GeneseeBirds listserv or to Greg Lawrence at [glawrence21@yahoo.com](mailto:glawrence21@yahoo.com)

#### Observers:

Jim Adams, Janet Akin, Osvaldo Araya, Diane Baillargeon, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Jim Barry, Mitchell Barry, Doug Beattie, Steven Benedict, Linda Clark Benedict, David Benvent, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Shawn Billerman, Johnathan Blades, Alan Bloom, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Lynn Braband, Joe Brin, Kyle Brock, David Brown (official BB hawk counter), Mark Brown, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brian Cannon, Brad Carlson, Denis & Judy Caysinger, Gary Chapin, Larry Chen, Robert Cicotta, Roger Clark, Kelly Close, Jeremy Collison, John Confer, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Doug Daniels, Willie D’Anna, Gregg Dashnau, Pete Debes, Michael DeWispelaere, Gordon Dutter, Diane Eagan, Joseph Fell, Mark Fitzsimmons, George Ford, Jim Fry, Andrew Gaerte, Kyle Gage, Andy Garland, Janis George, Michelle Gianvecchio, Candy Giles, Bill Gillette, Kim Goepfert, John & Karla Gordinier, Sheryl Gracewski, Kate Graham, Kevin Griffith, Lucretia Grosshans, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Carmen Gumina, Andrew Guthrie, Bill Haake, Ryan Hall, Helen & Chris Haller, Kim Hartquist, Elle Heiser, Christina Hoh, Debi Holt, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Lynn Howes, Pam Inzinna, John Jaenike, Alyssa Johnson, Nick Kachala, Amy Kahn, Laura & Paul Kammermeier, Jim Kimball, Cindy Kindle, Kathy Kirsch, Renee

Kittleman, Mike Laird, Chris Lajewski, Tom Lathrop, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Pat Lindsay, Peggy Mabb, Liz Magnanti, Pat Martin, Judy Massare, Lauri Mattle, Kenneth McCarthy, Jacob McCartney, Daniel McDermott, Kevin McGann, Jay McGowan, Ann McMican, Scott Meagher, Jim Miles, Kent Millham, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Shai Mitra, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Leah Mould, Sheila Mumpton, Susie Nettleton, Raphael Nussbaumer, David Nutter, David Odell, Joe Ovsiovitich, Gary Palmer, Lynne Parsons, Andrea Patterson, Shelley Patterson, Norma Platt, Jay Powell, Bill Purcell, Doug & Elizabeth Rabjohns, RBA Field Trips, Neal Reilly, Rosemary Reilly, Atalanta Ritter, Susan Roberts, David Robertson, Brian Rohrs, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Robert Ryan, Jackie Salsbury, Federico Sanchez, Karl Schmidt, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sheron, Tony Shrimpton, Judy Slein, Roger Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Donna Mason-Spier, Chris Stanger, Wendy Stevenson, Alan Strong, Steve Taylor, Mike Tetlow, Eunice Thein, Brian Tuttle, Geoff Twardokus, Nathan Ukens, John & Bonnie VanDerMeid, Jeanne & Tom Verhulst, Matt Voelker, Jules Wagner, Brad Walker, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, David Wheeler, Joe Wing, Glenn Wolford, Paul Wolter, Chris Wood, Jim Wood, Matthew Young, Ryan Zucker [and countless other eBirders].

Yellow-throated Warbler - Greece - © Candace Giles - Apr 24, 2022

