

Records Report

1. A mostly normal fall month. Temperatures averaged 40.6°F, 0.9° below normal. Days below normal beat days above 2 to 1. The first widespread frost hit on the 4th. The span from the last below freezing date in the spring was 194 days, 19 days above average. There were no temperature records set. Precipitation totaled 1.72", 1.04" below normal. Snowfall at 3.9" was 4.2" below normal. The first light snowfall was on the 3rd, with the first major lake effect event on 28-29 November dumping 1-1/2 ft. to our south and lesser amounts at higher elevations in the southern edge of the region. The last two weeks of the month were benign, with minor dips becoming more frequent near month's end.

2. Again, the general birding picture is interesting. The big species count of last November dropped back to below the 10-year average this year at 146 species. Most of the expected species were reported, but fewer than often the extras in various categories; e.g. almost no winter finches and very few later warblers. The Northern Saw-whet Owl incursion of last fall did not repeat, with only one individual reported from the Owl Woods site and one other report for the region. The download of eBird records at about 20,566 was down about 30% from last year, reversing nearly all of the increase from 2019. This may well be due to that lack of winter finches or large numbers of lingering half hardies we had last year, with the combination bringing lots of birders out searching.

3. As usual for recent years, all the waterfowl species with any serious expectation of being reported were recorded. Again, only Ross's Goose, Blue-winged Teal, and Eurasian Wigeon, all on the border relative to being "expected", were missed. Most peak counts were again modest to low. Exceptions were good numbers of swans and Mallards, Northern Pintail and Green-winged Teal in the Montezuma NWR complex, with occasional high counts from our NMWMA of this in Wayne County. With few exceptions, counts of waterfowl passing our Hamlin Beach lake-watch were low. A nice bonus was a pair of Harlequin Ducks taking up temporary residence at the Round Pond outlet. Peak grebe numbers were relative low for all species, but a couple of Eared Grebe reports were additions. There were no rail reports, a nice flock of American Coot on Irondequoit Bay, and a

peak count of 95 Sandhill Cranes in the general NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.) area, which will be eclipsed by counts in December as well as by even higher numbers reported from nearby.

4. There was a decent variety of lingering shore-birds, all in very low numbers (mostly 1) other than a good count for Dunlin passing Hamlin Beach. Apparent departure dates were all within historical norms, and several have already been replaced by dates for December individuals. Purple Sandpiper was on the late side arriving, with few reports to date.

5. Moving to the mainly larid grouping, we note one more Parasitic Jaeger at Sodus Point on the 1st, another Razorbill passing off Greece on the 2nd, one Black-legged Kittiwake, two passing Little Gulls, and the arrival of Iceland and Glaucous Gulls. Again, Bonaparte's Gulls were scarce other than decent flocks at a few locations. Two distant smallish terns well off Sodus Point on the 10th was an interesting report.

6. Loons were disappointing, with low peak counts. A consolation for persistent lakewatchers was a passing Northern Gannet off Hamlin Beach on the 19th. In contrast with the somewhat negative picture, there were late Great Egret and Cattle Egret reports to the end of the month and the 9th and 20th, respectively.

7. Among the diurnal raptors, we find a late Osprey on the 2nd, though there is another report now in December; Bald Eagle numbers were good; there were no Northern Goshawk reports; only two different Red-shouldered Hawks were noted; and about 10 Rough-legged Hawks were reported. There were 19 reports for about 11 Snowy Owls beginning on the 19th. Short-eared Owl reports continued in small numbers, though the first DEC survey out of Avon was delayed into December. Northern Saw-whet Owl was back to the more normal few reports. Our three regular falcons, American Kestrel, Merlin, and Peregrine Falcon showed typical changes year to year, with American Kestrel numbers up quite a bit, Merlin down some, and Peregrine Falcon little changed. At about 10 individuals reported, Northern Shrike was off to a typical winter showing.

8. The passerines displayed just a relatively bland, normal picture across the board. Just about all the truly expected species were reported and there was a good collection of half hardies lingering. But across all

families there were almost none of the usual special sightings that perk things up. Nothing to cause great excitement, but also nothing to cause great concern. The sparrows and warblers probably are show the biggest blank spaces that often have a report here and there. Some reports for Common Redpoll, White-winged Crossbill, and Pine Siskin gave a presence to winter finches, though no sign of irruption. The wide open bare fields precluded much thought of finding winter field species. It will be interesting to see what the Christmas Bird Counts turn up.

9. Please submit reports to eBird, post them on geneseebirds, and/or send by the 5th of the month to Andrea Patterson, 144 Greystone Lane, #24, Rochester, NY 14618.

	2021	2020	10-year Average
Species for Nov.	146	165	156.2
New for the year	1	7	4.6
Total for the year to date	296	195	290.8

Observers:

Oswaldo Araya, Jessie Barry, Jim Barry, Mitchell Barry, Doug Beattie, Frederic Beaudry, Don Belmont, Linda Clark Benedict, Steve Benedict, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Alan Bloom, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Lynn Braband, Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (Andrea Patterson), Janet Brooks, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Robert Cicotta, Madison Cleveland, Kelly Close, Richard Cohen, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, Richard DeCoster, Gordon Dutter, Cindy Edwardson, Diane Egan, Kevin Farrell, Debra Florio, Annabelle Foos, George Ford, Kenny Frisch, Jim Fry, Kyle Gage,

Janis George, Jessica George, Michelle Gianvecchio, Candy Giles, Janes Goetz, John & Karla Gordinier, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Carmen Gumina, Andrew Guthrie, Chris Guthrie, Danny Guthrie, Bill Haake, Benjamin Hack, Helen & Chris Haller, Ginny Halterman, Kim Hartquist, Megan Hausler, Jim & Allison Healy, Jill Church Heimrich, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsley, Bill Howe, Lynn Howes, Jack Hutchison, IBA Monitoring, Pam Inzinna, Carolyn Jacobs, Alyssa Johnson, C. Kachala, Nicholas Kachala, Laura Kammermeier, M. Kelly, Kenneth Kempfues, Dave Kennedy, Tom Kerr, Jim Kimball, Cindy Kindle, Karl Kunze, Mike Laird, Chris Lajewski, Tom Lathrop, Greg Lawrence, Gayle Lazoration, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, David Marsh, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Lauri Mattle, Jacob McCartney, Daniel McDermott, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Bob McGuire, Ann McMican, Scott Meagher, Jim Miles, Mark Miller, Kent Millham, Phil Mills, Celeste Morien, Diane Morton, Leah Mould, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Tom Nash, Raphael Nussbaumer, David Odell, Andrea Patterson, Shelley Patterson, Jo Popma, Norma Platt, Doug & Elizabeth Rabjohns, Carolynn Ragan, RBA Field Trips, Neal Reilly, Rosemary Reilly, Susan Roberts, Brian Rohrs, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Robert Ryan, Rochester Young Birders Club, Jackie Salisbury, Jayden, Jeremy & Abigail Schirle, Karl Schmidt, Julie Shaver, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Judy Slein, Roger Smith, Tom & Pat Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Rick Stevens, Allan Strong, David Tetlow, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Eunice Thein, John H. Thomas, Geoff Twardokus, Nathan Ukens, John & Bonnie VanDerMeid, Jeanne & Tom Verhulst, Jules Wagner, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, Joe Wing, Chris Wood, Jim Wood, Ryan Zucker.

Snowy Owl - Summerville Pier - © David Laiacona - Dec 05, 2021

