

October 2022 Records Report

1. October brought the first signs of an approaching winter. The first half of the month had pleasant weather interrupted by a cold front on the 7th, but the weather rebounded by Indigenous Peoples'/ Columbus Day back to the 50s°F and lower 60s°. A few windy days brought on by surface high pressure produced wind gusts in excess of 45 mph on the 14th and 15th. After this, lake effect rain kicked in, temperatures dropped, and the Rochester Regional Airport recorded the first snowflakes of the year on the 20th. A temperature rollercoaster then ensued with days above average contrasting to days below average to finish the month out. Temperatures averaged 50.6°, 1.6° below normal. Precipitation totaled 1.25", 1.97" below normal. The highest temperature, 76°, occurred on the 25th; the lowest, 30°, on the 28th.

2. Birding October, as with any transition month, had its ups and downs. Observers listed 210 species in October, above the 10-year average but lower than the past two years. No notable misses stand out, but the abundance of warbler species that depart in the first week or two of October seemed lower than in past years. Perhaps a combination of the inclement weather mid-month and the BBBO closed on some historical peak banding days is the reason. The eBird download, filtered for out-of-region, totaled over 39,400 lines, up 21.2% from last year, likely aided by the continuing shorebirding at the East Spit and some out-of-area birders doing several birding blitzes around the eBird October Global Big Day.

3. Diligent observers at the Hamlin Beach SP Lake-watch, the Sodus Bay Lighthouse Lakewatch, and other locations around the region reported average numbers of waterfowl. Northern Pintail flew in good numbers the first half of the month. Birders both at Hamlin and Sodus reported good numbers of scoters (all three species). Large movements seemed to occur on 20th and 27th. Chris Wood reported a single flyby Eurasian Wigeon along Lake Ontario in Greece. Ruddy Duck numbers built on Long Pond in Greece through the month, approaching 136 by the end of the month. There were no reports of rarer geese, Ross's and Greater White-fronted.

4. The Eared Grebe at Braddock Bay from September continued into October and stayed until the 13th. Braddock Bay also had the highest count of American Coot in Region 2, with numbers building to 230 by the

end of the month. Sandhill Crane numbers topped out at 28 off Armitage Road in Savannah, down from 102 last October, although many more frequented sites just over the regional boundary in Seneca County. Irondequoit Bay hosted impressive numbers of Chimney Swifts, with Nate Ukens counting 435 on the 8th, the eBird Fall Global Big Day.

5. Our region hosted 22 shorebirds species this month, up from 18 last year, even without any phalarope reports. The shorebird of the month goes to Dave Kennedy, who found a Ruff off Armitage Road in Wayne County. It stuck around for two days and a decent number of others got to see it. Braddock Bay's East Spit "island" hosted one to two Hudsonian Godwits all month.

6. The Lake Ontario shoreline recorded 17 Parasitic Jaegers. Tim Lenz photographed and videoed a Pomarine Jaeger from the Sodus Point Lighthouse Lake-watch on the 10th. Two or three "slash" Pomarine/Parasitic Jaegers were seen at Hamlin Beach SP and Sodus Point as well. A handful of other jaegers were left as "jaeger sp." as usual. October had an unimpressive numbers and diversity of gulls. No reports of Black-legged Kittiwake or Little Gull came from the lakeshore, nor did any early White-winged Gulls show up. The highest count of Lesser Black-backed Gull was three on Braddock Bay. Chris Wood counted 195 Bonaparte's Gull on Long Pond and Northrup Creek on the 29th. Caspian Tern departed at a normal date. The last Forster's Tern was spotted at Braddock Bay on the 15th. The last Common Tern was seen by a few observers on the 22nd at Charlotte Pier.

7. Loon numbers were lower than historic highs, but lake watchers had a few days over 100 for Common Loon. Perhaps one of the best spectacles this month was **33 Cattle Egrets** reported and photographed together by Doug Beattie in Stafford on the 15th. Andy Guthrie found another Cattle Egret in Hamlin on the 21st-22nd. A few others got out to see it. Greg Lawrence had four Cattle Egrets along NY531 in Ogden on the 21st. Kyle Gage and Joe Wing had an ephemeral appearance of a Glossy/White-faced Ibis from Sodus Point on the 15th, but the wind and brevity of the bird's appearance made ID to species impossible.

8. Among the raptors, nothing as awesome as the photogenic Swainson's Hawk from 2021 showed up, but a Golden Eagle by Nate Ukens on the 9th from LaSalle's Landing Park made for the only report of this

species in October. A late Osprey took up residence on Braddock Bay on the 29th and stayed through the month's end. Chris Wood had the region's only Northern Goshawk report of the month on the 23rd from Greece. Birders reported four Red-shouldered Hawks. Broad-winged Hawk and Black Vulture were missed.

9. Robert Buckert and Nick Kachala had the region's first Northern Saw-whet Owl of the season at Owl Woods on the 8th. The BBBO banded a total of eight Northern Saw-whet Owls over three nights of banding later in the month. Short-eared Owl arrived on time, with the first of the season reported by Michelle Gianvecchio and Andy Guthrie from Burger Park on the 22nd. Brad Carlson's feeders in southern Monroe County hosted the only record of Red-headed Woodpecker for the month.

10. Among the passerines, most species left within the range of normal departure date distribution or on the earlier side, as addressed earlier in this memo. The BBBO banded a White-eyed Vireo on the 20th with periodic recaptures through the 26th. Numbers of Swainson's Thrush and Gray-cheeked Thrush seemed down, especially the first week in the month when large movements can be expected with the right wind direction. Perhaps partially an artifact of effort. An irruption of Evening Grosbeaks treated birders throughout the region with the first region 2 reports coming in on the 24th. Nate Ukens had the highest Evening Grosbeak count with 16 from Whiting Road Nature Preserve on the 29th. Michelle Gianvecchio and Andy Guthrie had another (or the same) late Grasshopper Sparrow from Salmon Creek Nature Preserve on the 23rd. Observers reported only 17 warbler species. The highest expectation misses were Blue-winged Warbler and Mourning Warbler. Two late American Redstarts were found. The first at Braddock Bay on the 20th, then later at the corner of Cook Road and Redman Road in Hamlin on the 29th-30th. Salmon Creek Nature Preserve hosted a late Indigo Bunting on the 22nd. Two Dickcissels were reported in the region this month. The first by Andy Guthrie passing Hamlin Beach SP on the 16th and the second by both Andy Guthrie and Chris Wood on the 29th on the ground along Cook Road and Redman Road in Hamlin.

11. Please submit reports to eBird, post them on geneseebirds, and/or send them by the 5th of the month to Nick Kachala nicholaskach@gmail.com or 1141 Rush-Scottsville Rd. Rush, NY 14543

Observers: Jim Adams, Janet Akin, Osvaldo Araya, Ted Barnett, Mitchell Barry, BBBO (Andrea Patterson), Doug Beattie, Don Belmont, Linda Clark Benedict & Steve Benedict, David Benvent, Mike Bergin, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Linda Birkel, Nancy Bloechl, Allan Bloom, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Lynn Brand, Joe Brin, Kyle Brock, David Brown, Mark Brown, Logan Brunner, Bob Buckert, Sara Burch, Ken Burdick, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Keigan Case, Nancy Casper, Denis & Judy Caysinger, Chris Chappell, Robert Cicotta, Richard Clark, Kelly Close, Jeremy Collison, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Willie D'Anna, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, Jayne Dean, Peggy Dempsey, Ted Drozdowski, Gordon Dutter, Diane Egan, Joe Fell, Debra Florio, George Ford, Jim Fry, Kyle Gage, Andrew Garland, Janis George, Jessica George, Michelle Gianvecchio, Candy Giles, Christopher Goetz, James Goetz, Kimber Godfrey, John Gordinier, Sheryl Gracewski, Kate Graham, Jane Graves, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Carmen Gumina, Andrew Guthrie, Bill Haake, Helen & Chris Haller, Kim Hartquist, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Linda Howes, Pam Inzinna, Carolyn Jacobs, Blaise Jenner, Alyssa Johnson, Nick Kachala, Amy Kahn, Laura & Paul Kammermeier, Annette Kalinoski, Jacob Kearney, Jim Kimball, Cindy Kindle, Evelyn Kirkwood, Kathy Kirsch, Renee Kittleman, Michael Laird, Chris Lajewski, Tom Lathrop, Leona Lauster, Greg Lawrence, Gayle Lazoration, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Melissa Mance-Coniglio, Cindy Marino, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Lauri Mattle, Kenneth McCarthy, Jacob McCartney, Jay McGowan, Mary McGreal, Ann McMican, Scott & Sophie Meagher, Steve Melcher, Jim Miles, Mark Miller, Megan Miller, Kent Millham, Phil Mills, Randi Minetor, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Mary Moore, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Linda Mott, Leah Mould, Sheila Mumpton, Kevin Murphy, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Tom Nash, Rivka Noll, David Odell, Michael Palermo, Gary Palmer, Andrea Patterson, Michael Peter, Joseph Petre, Steven Pitt, Norma Platt, Sandy Podulka, Jo Popma, Malise Prieto, Bill Purcell, Doug & Elizabeth Rabjohns, Carolyn Ragan, Stacy Robinson, RBA Field Trips, Neal Reilly, Rosemary Reilly, Susan Roberts, Brian Rohrs, Victoria Rothman, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Robert Ryan, Thomas Ryan, Kevin Rybczynski, Jackie Salisbury, Anne Salverda, Michael Scheibel, Karl Schmidt, Mickey Scilingo, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Rob Sielaff, Judy Slein, Dee Smith, Roger Smith, Tom & Pat Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Kim Sucy, June Summers, Holley Sweeney, Stephen Taylor, Annette Teng, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Eunice Thein, Thaddeus Trzeciak, Nathan Ukens, Alison Van Keuren, Jeanne & Tom Verhulst, Matthew Voelker, Jules Wagner, Davey Walters, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, Joe Wing, Jim Wood, Ryan Zucker. (There were 395 observers in the eBird download, up 9.1% from 2021)

	2022	2021	10-year Average
Species for October	210	213	205.4
New for the year	4	6	4.5
Total for the year to date	295	295	286.3