

Spring 2002 Reports

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Red-Throated Loon: A couple, normal numbers in recent years: one at Nimisila Res in *Summit* 15 Apr (**B. Morrison**), and one on the Cleveland lakefront 1 May (**P. Lozano**).

Common Loon: Over 1200 reported. First noted 16 Mar at Cowan Lk SP (**D. Graham**), loons peaked the last week of Mar, with remarkable numbers of 70 the 26th at Buckeye Lk (**G. Buckley**), 38 at Alum Ck and 35 at Hoover reservoirs the same day (**R. Thorn**), then 45 at Caesar Ck Lk (**L. Gara**) and a memorable 200 at Pleasant Hill Lk (**S. Snyder**), both on the 27th. The last reported was also at Cowan Lk, by **Gara** 28 May.

Pied-billed Grebe: A few wintered. Notable numbers of migrants included 22 at Mogadore Res on 31 Mar (**L. Rosche**) and 23 at the Shaker Lks on 9 Apr (**L. Deininger**). By 26 May, four pairs had brought off broods at Slate Run MP, *Pickaway* (**R. Rogers**).

Horned Grebe: A big spring, with close to 2000 reported, nearly all in Mar. A final straggler was at Medusa Marsh on 11 May (**J. McCormac**). High count at Lk Erie 101 in Cleveland 27 Mar (**S. Zadar**), but 10+ inland reservoirs boasted numbers of 30+, with high counts of ~225 at BCSP 24 Mar (**D. Overacker**), then ~250 at Pleasant Hill Lk (**S. Snyder**) and ~300 at Springfield Lk, *Summit* (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**), both on 27 Mar.

Eared Grebe: A bird in transitional plumage was at Metzger Res, Lima, 26 Mar (**J. Kuenzli**), and another at Conneaut 31 Mar (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**), where two were photographed 7 Apr (**J. Pogacnik**).

American White Pelican: **B. Menker** discovered four at BCSP 4 Apr, where numbers reached a state-record 19 on 7 Apr (**D. Overacker**); **Overacker** saw the last there 11 Apr, soon to be on their merry way.



A new American white pelican record count was set this April at Buck Creek State Park in Clark County. Troy Shively was able to photograph 14 of the state-record 19 present on 9 April 2002.

SPRING 2002 REPORTS

Double-crested Cormorant: At the Turning Pt Isl roost in Sandusky, **R. Harlan** and **S. Wagner** found 90 on 10 Mar. Inland migrants numbered as high as ~200 near Columbus 11 Apr (**R. Thorn**) and 150 in *Holmes* 23 Apr (**J. Miller**). Scattered individuals remained away from the Lake late, including 16 on 28 May in *Hancock* (**B. Hardesty**).

American Bittern: Reports amounting to 23 birds came from *Ashtabula, Butler, Cuyahoga, Darke, Greene, Hamilton, Lake, Lucas, Marion, Pickaway, and Wayne*. **F. Frick** noted the first, on 26 Mar at MWW, and one as late as 31 May at Killbuck (**E. Snively**) raised hopes for nesting there.

Least Bittern: Just as last spring, the first was noted at MWW on 13 Apr (**P. Wharton**). Few reported outside the western Lk Erie marshes, though the high count of five came from SVWA 5 May (**D. St. John**), and the last from GRWA 27 May (**C. Babyak**).

Great Blue Heron: At Grand Lk St. Marys ~100 nests were observed as early as 3 May (**L. Gara**). High count was a healthy 399 birds at Magee 19 May (**H&S Hiris**).

Great Egret: Setting a local early record was one at HBSP 10 Mar (**L. Rosche**). By 26 Mar, **K. Davis** was to notice 30 in *Jefferson* and 12 at Dillon Lk SP in *Muskingum*.

Snowy Egret: Perhaps it's too early to worry. We reported 24 birds for spring of 1992, but this spring only one near Wooster 17 (**E. Snively**) through 22 Apr (**S. Snyder**) for a second local record (**Snively**), and one 5 May at ONWR (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Little Blue Heron: All reports: near-ad in Columbus 13 Apr (**R. Thorn**); calico-plumaged bird in *Hardin* 16 Apr (**M. Misplon**); ad near Magee 17 (**V. Fazio**) through 18 Apr (**N. Bixler**); ad in *Lake* 26 Apr (**J. Pogacnik**); ad at Slate Run MP, *Pickaway*, 29 (**J. Cairo** *vide* **J. Fry**) through 30 Apr (**A. Haslage**); ad at MWW 5 May (**B. Schurenberg**), one at Funk WA 9 May (**S. Hannan**); one at SVWA 24 May (**D. St. John**). Six of eight were inland.



One of the famous Columbus, Franklin County, yellow-crowned night-herons posed for the camera on 7 June 2002. Photo by Mike Williams/ODNR.

Cattle Egret: One was in *Hardin* by 13 Apr (J. Kuenzli), one in *Cincinnati* 20 Apr (N. Cade), and two at ONWR 27 Apr (N. Bixler). In Sandusky near the current roost, eight were present 3 May (S. Young), and 11 on 25 May (D. Sanders). Farther away was one at Metzger 10 May (B. Morrison).

Green Heron: Touched down 19 Apr in *Adams* (D. Overacker) and *Hamilton* (R. Kolde), and by the 22nd was in *Stark* (P. Soehnen). Good spring counts were six at Killbuck 11 May (L. Yoder) and 10 at Gilmore Ponds, *Butler*, 25 May (M. Busam).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: A few apparently wintered along the Cleveland lakefront, where one was duly found 1 Mar (P. Lozano). In Sandusky 38 birds, 90% adults, were at the Turning Pt Isl colonies by 10 May (R. Harlan, S. Wagner). The Merwin St roost in Cleveland peaked at 56 birds 6 Apr (G. Leidy).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Two were noted at the Columbus nest site of six years' standing 7 Apr (J. Grabmeier), where A. Paschall confirmed nesting 10 Apr. Four adults were counted at the site 27 May (R. Cressman), with four nestlings through the period (Paschall). D. Brinkman et al. spied one at Gilmore Ponds 11 May.

White-faced Ibis: One photographed in *Butler* 7 May. Details with the OBRC.

Glossy Ibis: Just one reported, near Lodi 23 Apr; details sought by the OBRC.

Black Vulture: In Mar, winter aggregations persisted, with 45+ in *Licking* 6 Mar (R. Thorn), nine in *Holmes* 7 Mar (E. Schlabach), 18 over Paint Ck SP 15 Mar (L. Gara), and ~100 in *Brown* the 21st (B. Lund). An oddball showed up with 20 TVs in *Lake* 29 Mar (J. Pogacnik). One was in *Coshocton* 15 May (Schlabach), and another in *Holmes* 26 May (L. Deininger); 34 in *Adams* 24 May (D. Overacker) was encouraging.

Turkey Vulture: Migration continued in Mar, with four over the Cleveland lakefront on the 2nd, where 137 were sighted the 28th (both P. Lozano) and 200 the 29th (G. Leidy). The Granville, *Licking*, roost diminished from 300 on 2 Mar to 50 by 30 Mar (R. Thorn). Further migration continued at a leisurely pace, for E. Schlabach was to count 97 over Conneaut on 17 April. In *Hancock*, 168 were counted 11 May (fide B. Hardesty).

Greater White-fronted Goose: The KPWA flock tarried, with 13 still there 23 Mar (T. Archdeacon). Two late birds were at Funk WA 15 Apr (S. Snyder).

Snow Goose: The wintering flock at ONWR had 190 birds (~50% blues) 17 Mar (R. Harlan, S. Wagner). Among the wayward were two in *Adams* 10 Mar (P. Whan), one at Ross Lk, *Ross*, 28 Mar (J. McMahan), one at Cowan Lk SP 6 Apr (E. Roush), one near Wooster 30 Apr (S. Snyder), and one still in *Paulding* 1 May (M&D Dunakin).

Brant: At Conneaut, four were present 4 May, then two 11 May (J. Pogacnik).

Mute Swan: Twenty-two ganged up on Mogadore Res 31 Mar (L. Rosche). Twelve flew overhead to give the CVNP census a first record 11 May (D&A Chasar).

Tundra Swan: A flock that spent much or all of the winter at KPWA still numbered 37 on 3 Mar (S. Cagan). The wintering flock at CPNWR counted out at 175 on 16 Mar (E. Tramer). B. Royle reported 67 over Columbus 24 Mar, and 14 remained at ONWR 1 Apr (J. Pogacnik). Tardy were two in *Stark* 27 Apr (E. Snively).

Gadwall: Some wintered, with 32 at Sandy Ridge MP, *Lorain*, 2 Mar (P. Lozano). High count 1256 at Magee 17 Mar (H&S Hiris). Pairs with ducklings were noted at Deer Ck SP 2 May (N. Cutright), and at ONWR 75 were around 5 May (R. Harlan, S. Wagner).

Eurasian Wigeon: J. Pogacnik found one at the CCE on 1 Apr.

American Wigeon: By 1 Mar their migration was well underway, with 700+ at Medusa Marsh (E. Snively), then ~500 there 16 Mar (G. Leidy). Five remained at ONWR 5 May (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), and six at KPWA 15 May (J. Hammond).

American Black Duck: At Blacklick Woods MP in Columbus, 400 were seen 6 Mar (R. Thorn). In *Mahoning* one lingered 4 May (N. Brundage), one at ONWR the 5th (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), one at BIWA the 18th (D. Overacker), and one at Mallard Club Marsh WA 25 May (J. Hammond).

Blue-winged Teal: The first reported, a drake, was at Killbuck 4 Mar (S. Snyder). At KPWA, ~125 were present 14 Apr (R. Sempier). A pair at Mallard Club Marsh WA had four ducklings to accompany their garganey guest 21 May (T. Shively).

Northern Shoveler: Excellent numbers inland included 80 in Lima 26 Mar (J. Kuenzli) and 100+ at BIWA 17 Apr (K. Davis). Loath to depart were two at Sheldon Marsh and four at Pipe Ck WA 19 May (J. Hammond), three at KPWA 20 May (D. Sanders), two in *Marion* 22 May (D. Overacker), and a drake in *Butler* 25 May (M. Busam).

Northern Pintail: After wintering in small numbers, numbers peaked in Mar, when on the 17th 1892 were at Magee (H&S Hiris) and ~300 at BIWA (K. Davis); "several hundred" remained at the CCE 31 Mar (J. Pogacnik). Thirty-five remained at ONWR 5 May (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), and two at Sheldon Marsh 19 May (J. Hammond).

Garganey: On 19 May D. Brackman spotted this Eurasian rarity at Mallard Club Marsh WA (fide B. Murphy), where it was rediscovered 21 May (G. Links et al.) and seen daily by m obs through 25 May (J. Watts et al.). Details are with the OBRC. If accepted, this will become Ohio's first record.

Green-winged Teal: A handful may have wintered, and the first spring report came from near Medusa Marsh 1 Mar (E. Snively). J. Miller tallied 160 migrants at Killbuck 23 Mar. G. Leidy encountered ~200 at ONWR 11 May.

Canvasback: Following low winter numbers on Lk Erie, nearly all reports came from reservoirs in Mar, with the high count 32 at Tappan Lk, *Harrison*, the 27th (E. Snively). The last six were found at BIWA 10 Apr (V. Fazio).

Redhead: Passed mostly in Mar, with a high count of 884 at Magee the 17th (H&S Hiris). May loiterers included three in *Paulding* the 16th (D&M Dunakin), two at BIWA the 18th (D. Overacker), and one at Sheldon Marsh the 19th (J. Hammond).

Ring-necked Duck: March marked the passage of nearly all ring-necks, with a high count of 4892 at Magee the 17th (H&S Hiris). Inland, Mogadore Res hosted the most, with 2100+ on 13 Mar (L. Rosche), 1000+ on 27 Mar (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), and 525 on 31 Mar (Rosche). Lagging behind were one near Wooster 4 May through the end of the period (S. Snyder) and one at KPWA 18 May (D. Overacker).

Greater Scaup: Having virtually abandoned Lk Erie this warm winter, not expected in numbers this spring. Only two counts of double figures were made, both inland: 10 were in Alum Ck Res, *Delaware*, 26 Mar (R. Thorn), and 20 in Tappan Lk, *Harrison*, 27 Mar (E. Snively).



This garganey floated in and out of view at Mallard Club Marsh Wildlife Area in Lucas County from 19-25 May 2002. This will become Ohio's first record if accepted by the OBRC. Digiscoped photo by Art Osborn.

Lesser Scaup: Nine gatherings of from 412 (T&B Sponseller at Nimisila Res, Summit, 26 Mar) to 1750 birds (R. Harlan and S. Wagner at Wellington Res, Lorain, 29 Mar) were reported at seven inland reservoirs 26 Mar-7 Apr. High count on Lk Erie was 1000+ in Ottawa 17 Apr (V. Fazio). One lingered at KPWA 14 May (J. Kuenzli).

Scaup sp.: Making hash of the above numbers was a tremendous raft with an estimated 18,000 scaup sp. in Maumee Bay off CPNWR 14 Apr (E. Tramer).

Surf Scoter: A total of 89 birds reported, with a high count of 11 at Tappan Lk 27 Mar (E. Snively), from Allen, Ashtabula, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Delaware, Fulton, Harrison, Huron, Lake, Licking, Lorain, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, and Warren. The first was at Lakeshore MP 17 Mar, the last in Conneaut 4 May (both J. Pogacnik), but in between nearly all birds were found in reservoirs, 74 of them between 24 and 31 Mar. Reports here in recent springs: 1990:2, 1991:4, 1992:3, 1993:20, 1994:14, 1995:17, 1996:48, 1997:33, 1998:23, 1999:99, 2000:57, 2001:40-50.

White-winged Scoter: One report: a drake was at Medusa Marsh 11 May (G. Leidy). Reports here in recent springs: 1990:188, 1991:2, 1992:1, 1993:20, 1994:15, 1995:9, 1996:13, 1997:1, 1998:1, 1999:18, 2000:6, 2001:1.

Black Scoter: A female was at Summit Lk 28 Mar (R. Harlan, S. Wagner) and two were at a Lima reservoir 2 Apr (G. Miller). Reports here in recent springs: 1990:0, 1991:0, 1992:4, 1993:0, 1994:2-3, 1995:6, 1996:14, 1997:4, 1998:2, 1999:7, 2000:0, 2001:1.

Long-tailed Duck: Decent numbers, with 45 reported and a high count of 12 (Berlin Res 28 Mar, B. Morrison). Like surf scoter, seen mostly in reservoirs 26-31 Mar, in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Harrison, Mahoning, Richland, Stark, Summit, Van Wert, and Warren. The last report, of two birds, came from Van Wert Res 11 Apr (J. Perchalski).

Bufflehead: As usual, Kelleys Isl provided the high count, with 833 on 17 Mar (T. Bartlett). The apparent wintering birds down in Wilmington lasted through 17 Apr, with three seen (L. Gara). The bulk of this species, like many other waterfowl, passed through during the last few days of Mar, with a high count of 90-120 at Nimisila Res 26 Mar (B&T Sponseller). Last report was of a female at ONWR 5 May (R. Harlan, S. Wagner).

Common Goldeneye: A few, with 12 at Hoover Res 12 Mar (R. Thorn), 43 at Kelleys Isl 17 Mar (T. Bartlett), and a last female at Frame Lk 12 Apr (L. Rosche).

Hooded Merganser: The wintering birds at Hoover Res, Delaware, remained as 50 on 2 Mar (R. Thorn). Like other waterfowl, this species moved largely in late Mar, with notable numbers on the 26th, when 82 were at Nimisila Res (T&B Sponseller), and on the 31st, when 125 were at Mogadore Res (L. Rosche). Nested locally this spring.

Common Merganser: Five in Adams 5 Mar were unusual (P. Whan). Mar 17 brought 572 to Magee Marsh WA (H&S Hiris) for the high count. Most exciting was a pair present most of May along the North Fork of Little Beaver Ck in Columbiana; nesting was probable this year, and confirmed last spring with flightless young accompanying a female (J. Dolan fide J. McCormac).



This albinistic adult male ruddy duck caused quite a stir at Metzger Reservoir in Allen County for several days in April. Digiscoped photo by Art Osborn on 13 April 2002.

Red-breasted Merganser: At Lakeshore MP, J. Pogacnik reported 187 on 3 Mar, 398 on 9 Mar, 445 on 30 Mar, and 357 on 7 Apr for the high counts along Lk Erie. Inland numbers during the last week of Mar included 300+ at BCSP 24 Mar (D. Overacker), ~300 at Alum Ck and Hoover Res in Delaware 26 Mar (R. Thorn), ~400 at Pleasant Hill Lk 27 Mar (S. Snyder) and 500+ on Buckeye Lk 27 Mar (G. Buckley). Lingerers were at a Findlay Res 14 May (fide B. Hardesty) and at KPWA 15 May (T. Archdeacon).

Ruddy Duck: First reported were 13 in Wilmington 13 Mar (L. Gara), and the throngs swelled to an estimated 6400 off Ottawa 17 Apr (V. Fazio). Inland high counts came during the last few days of Mar, topped by 425 at Lk Rockwell, Portage, 29 Mar (L. Rosche). An unusual number of alternate-plumaged ruddies were reported late in May, up through the 31st, when two drakes and a female were in Wayne (S. Snyder).

Osprey: E. Schlabach reported 13 from the Conneaut hawk watch of 8 Mar. The first of the reintroduced nesters arrived 9 Mar at Salt Fork SP, an early date (J. Larson).

Mississippi Kite: On 2 May, m obs. witnessed a flyover at Green Lawn Cem in Columbus; details with the OBRC. Many vagrants were reported in the East this spring.

Bald Eagle: One new nest was noted by Hancock birders, just SE of Findlay. Two ad on the beach at Beach City WA 12 and 24 May were not near a known nest (P. Soehnen). D. Sanders was able to count 10 imm on one scope sweep at PCWA 25 May.

Northern Harrier: R. Harlan and S. Wagner reported seven in western Lorain 2 Mar, and K. Ostermiller 20+ in the air at once over KPWA 10 Mar. Seven migrants were over Holmes 29 Mar (E. Schlabach), who counted 22 on 8 Mar and 11 on 17 Apr over Conneaut. Reports after 28 Apr came from Lake, Lucas, Hancock, Summit, and Wyandot, reminding us to confirm nesting whenever we can.

Northern Goshawk: All reports: ad 17 Mar Kelleys Isl (T. Bartlett), 28 Mar Medina (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), 7 Apr Magee (B. Barchus et al.)—one of four reported for the season by the BSBO hawk watch—, 7 Apr Ashtabula (V. Fazio), two 17 Apr Conneaut (E. Schlabach), imm 17 Apr MBSP (D. St. John), ad 19 Apr KPWA (G. Miller).

Red-shouldered Hawk: One set up a territory near Oak Openings MP beginning 8 Mar, and remained through the period (E. Tramer). On 10 Mar, J. Switzer et al. found 15+ migrants grounded by weather in Lucas. Despite intensive searches, R. Thorn found none in Columbus riparian areas this spring, though B. Whan noted the urban pair persisted in the Clintonville neighborhood. G. Leidy noted a migrant in Parma 23 May.

Broad-winged Hawk: First arrival in Holmes 12 Apr (L. Yoder), then reports from Hamilton (W. Hull), Scioto—six birds—(B. Royse), Cuyahoga (G. Leidy), and Holmes (J. Miller) on the 15th. By 17 Apr, 1300+ were to pass over Magee (fide V. Fazio), and 430 over Conneaut (E. Schlabach). BSBO's Magee count for the season was 3170.

Rough-legged Hawk: Sparse in winter, sparse in spring, with the high count seven at The Wilds 9 Mar (J. Larson). S. Snyder saw the latest, a light morph at Funk WA 24 Apr.

Golden Eagle: The ad that's wintered at The Wilds for 3-4 years appeared 9 Mar (J. Larson). The BSBO reported 5 seen through 5 May, but most of the action was later, with an imm 5 May in Lake (J. Pogacnik), an imm over CPNWR 11 May (E. Tramer), and an adult over Monclova, Lucas, quite late on 23 May (M. Anderson).

Merlin: Two remained at Spring Grove Cem in Cincinnati 2 Mar (L. Brumbaugh), with one persisting 20 Apr (J. Stenger). Twenty-seven other reports, the latest of them from 14 May at Kelleys Isl (K. Metcalf).

Peregrine Falcon: The Lorain harbor bird remained 1 Mar (G. Miller). One in *Holmes* 1 May (E. Schlabach) was of interest. The introduction program produced 36 eyasses.

Wild Turkey: Wildlife officials estimated the state population at 260,000 this spring, up 30% from last spring. The take on a longer four-week hunting season, however, was down 15.2% because of inclement weather. Seems to signal a lot more turkeys.

King Rail: Very skimpily reported: one at Mallard Club Marsh WA 11 May (J. McCormac), and two at BIWA 15 May (T. Archdeacon).

Virginia Rail: Sparsely reported. Quite early was one at SVWA 11 Mar (S. Reeves). The high count was only four, again at SVWA, 9 Apr (G. Miller). Two 18 May at the Toledo airport constituted a first record at the location (M. Anderson).

Sora: At SVWA, the first was noted 9 Apr (G. Miller), and by 16 May 31 were to be found there (D. St. John). This note from E. Tramer: "An astounding 99 were counted at CPNWR on May 11; I say 'astounding' because the count represents soras who responded to stones thrown into the marsh. Probably 95% of the marsh was well beyond the reach of our stones!"

Common Moorhen: S. Pelikan reported one from MWW as early as 27 Mar. Large counts included 20 at ONWR 5 May (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), 20 on 11 May at Mallard Club Marsh WA (J. McCormac) and 10 at Mosquito Lk WA (C. Babyak).

American Coot: H&S Hiris tallied 8350 migrants at Magee 17 Mar. The late Mar push brought 1750-2000 to Nimisila Res 26 Mar (B&T Sponseller), and on 10 Apr V. Fazio estimated 3600-3700 at BIWA. Fifteen remained at KPWA 20 May (D. Sanders), and three at Gilmore Ponds 25 May (M. Busam).

Sandhill Crane: Between 40 and 50 birds reported, in *Ashland, Ashtabula, Clark, Erie, Geauga, Greene, Hamilton, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Paulding,* and *Wayne*—not only the western counties one would expect. High count was 10 birds at MWW 18 Mar (J. Sheehan). May sightings included one in *Clark* the 4th (D. Overacker), another the 4th at *Medusa* (G. Leidy), one near *Castalia* the 20th (S. Young), and two in southern *Mahoning* the 24th (B. Jones). In *Gauga*, the Claridon pair haunted the Tuttle Swamp after mid-Mar (fide D. Best), and the Troy trio returned 9 Mar (D. Ferris).

Black-bellied Plover: Earliest was one in *Scioto* 28 Apr (G. Miller). Later migrants persisted into the next period, with the latest spring reports of "3-4 dozen" at Mallard Club Marsh WA (S. Corbo) and one near Killbuck (S. Snyder), both 26 May. Lakeside mudflats were very scarce, and birds were often found in nearby flooded fields. A first for the Ravenna Training and Logistics Site in *Portage* was a flock of nine 13 May (L. Rosche).

American Golden-Plover: Nothing like last spring's, their migration began 9 Apr with a single bird in *Paulding* (M&D Dunakin). A few showed up near Magee (six 10 Apr, G. Miller) and at MWW (five on 14 Apr, F. Frick), but the high count was only 44, admittedly handsome alternate-plumaged birds at KPWA 11 May (B. Whan et al.).



Posing along the bird trail at Magee Marsh Wildlife Area in Lucas County, this sora provided good views for many. Photo by Bob Finkelstein on 23 May 2002.

Semipalmated Plover: Three arrived earliest 2 May in *Paulding* (D&M Dunakin), and nearly all reports were inland at flooded fields, peaking at 40 at KPWA 18 May (B. Royle). There were ~40 at ONWR 11 May (G. Leidy), and 10 at the CCE 14 May (S. Reeves). The last report came from near Wooster, two birds 30 May (S. Snyder).

American Avocet: A lone report: a bird briefly at Conneaut 4 May (J. Pogacnik).

Greater Yellowlegs: First reported 10 Mar with three at Metzger Marsh WA (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), they peaked in April, with 70 in *Paulding* the 10th and 19th (M&D Dunakin), 80 at Funk WA the 15th-20th (S. Snyder), and 111 at BIWA the 20th (V. Fazio). Two remained at KPWA 20 May (D. Sanders).

Lesser Yellowlegs: Early were four in *Portage* 15 Mar (L. Rosche). High count was 535+ at BIWA 20 Apr (V. Fazio). One remained at Funk WA 23 May (S. Snyder).

Solitary Sandpiper: Returned 12 Apr at KPWA (T. Archdeacon). Seven were counted over Wadsworth, *Medina*, 8 May (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), and the last was seen in a muddy field in *Hancock* 21 May (fide B. Hardesty).

Willet: Mostly inland, all reports follow: five at Hueston Wds SP 23 Apr (D. Russell), one 1 May, then two 2 May, in *Paulding* (D&M Dunakin), another near Killbuck 6 May (S. Snyder), three in *Lucas* 15 May (D. Friedman), and two at Caesar Ck SP 19 May (L. Gara).

Spotted Sandpiper: E. Roush found one at Cowan Lk SP 17 Apr, and P. Soehnen one in *Stark* the 18th. The high count was of a flock of 34—undoubtedly liberated females of this polyandrous species—enjoying the beach at Sheldon Marsh 19 May (J. Hammond, J. Watts). E. Roush saw one in a tree at SVWA the same day.

Upland Sandpiper: One arrived at the BIWA nesting grounds 10 Apr (V. Fazio), and by the 17th one was in *Lake* (J. Pogacnik). The *Lucas* birds at Krause Rd were first noticed 27 Apr (J. Brumfield), the Springfield Airport birds 4 May (D. Overacker), and one in *Ashtabula* 11 May (L. Rosche). One was found at the Dayton Airport 15 May, and two 30 May (S. Lucas), but a "wildlife reduction program" is now in force there.

Whimbrel: J. Pogacnik happened upon 18 at Burke Airport in Cleveland 23 May.

Hudsonian Godwit: J. Faulkner reported 10-12 at KPWA 13 May, then M. Baughman six alt males and four females there the 14th. The Dunakins had an alternate-plumaged male in *Paulding* 15 May, a first county record, and D. Sanders two at BIWA 20 May. Second-best spring state numbers, after 27 on 21 May 1975 in the Toledo area.

Marbled Godwit: Just one, at Salt Fork SP 16 Apr (W. Sarno fide E. Snively).

Ruddy Turnstone: Its numbers depressed as well, with only 24 reported, the first at HBSP 11 May (H. Petruschke), the last five near BIWA 22 May (D. Overacker). High counts were seven in the BIWA area 20 May (D. Sanders) and six on the Crane Ck SP beach 15 May (D&A Chasar).

Sanderling: Few as usual, the only reports of one 18 May at MBSP (M. Anderson), and another at the east beach at Magee on 22 (D. Overacker) and 23 May (B. Finkelstein).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Only 35 birds of this common species reported, 21 of them on the high and last count in *Wayne* 30 May (S. Snyder). The first reports came from 11 May, with two at KPWA (B. Whan) and one at ONWR (G. Leidy).

Least Sandpiper: Fewer than 70 reported, only one of them near Lk Erie. Two 17 Mar at BCSP remained from at least 16 Feb (D. Overacker), and probably wintered locally. The first migrants were 20 in *Paulding* 2 May (D&M Dunakin), and the last one near Wooster 27 May (S. Snyder).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Five were in *Fulton* 21 May (J. Yochum).

Pectoral Sandpiper: A different story for this grasspiper. The first appeared at Bolton Field in *Franklin* 17 Mar (P. Gardner). On 19 Apr, T&B Sponseller saw 4000+ birds at Funk WA in *Wayne*, S. Snyder found 3000+ the following day, and R. Troutman 1500 there the 21st. V. Fazio reported 500+ from BIWA 20 Apr, and D. Sanders had 12 at KPWA 20 May.

Dunlin: Except on muddy margins at the CCE, mostly seen in flight near the Lake, and at sky-ponds inland. A basic-plumaged bird at Caesar Ck SP 14 Mar (E. Roush) was puzzling. One was early in Cleveland 2 Apr (G. Leidy), and a nearly alternate-plumaged bird was near Wooster 6 Apr (S. Snyder). High count was 2600 at ONWR 11 May (Leidy), and 35 circled Mallard Club Marsh WA 25 May (J. Hammond).

Stilt Sandpiper: Scarce in any spring, one was at BIWA 18 May (D. Overacker) and another at KPWA 20 May (D. Sanders).

Short-billed Dowitcher: Scattered, with inland (*Fairfield, Hamilton, Marion, Paulding, Wayne, Wyandot*) numbers close to those from near Lk Erie. High count 100+ at Pipe Ck WA 15 May (J. Sedransk), last four birds 22 May in *Marion* (D. Overacker).

Common Snipe: Were one near Wooster 1 Mar (E. Snively) and two there 2 Mar (S. Snyder) wintering birds or early migrants? Certainly 80 at MWW 27 Mar (S. Pelikan) were on the move, as well as 52 near Killbuck (Snyder). The high count was 125+ over Conneaut during the hawk watch of 17 Apr (E. Schlabach).

American Woodcock: Returned in late winter, apparently. The most interesting spring report involved "53 birds lined up along the stone walls in Erie St. Cemetery in Cleveland for Opening Day" 8 Apr (R. Harlan, S. Wagner). It seems we should be prepared to hear that we must open up more woodland areas for this game species, just as grouse hunters (and—amazingly enough—loggers!) have urged on behalf of the ruffed grouse.



While looking for American white pelicans at Buck Creek State Park in Clark County, some observers were treated to this adult laughing gull. Photo by Troy Shively on 9 April 2002.

Wilson's Phalarope: A male was near Killbuck WA 3 May (S. Snyder).

Red-necked Phalarope: An alt female was at Pipe Ck WA 9 May (C. Tucker et al.).

Pomarine Jaeger: J. Pogacnik discovered a light-morph imm at Fairport Hbr 10 Mar.

Laughing Gull: Five birds, two inland. T. Shively discovered an alt bird at BCSP 9 Apr, and G. Miller a similar one at Sheldon Marsh SNP 24 Apr. M. England found an ad near Lancaster, *Fairfield*, 25 Apr. An ad was at Conneaut 4 May (J. Pogacnik), and another on S. Bass Isl 7 May (T. Bartlett).

Franklin's Gull: J. Pogacnik discovered an ad at Lorain 6 Apr.

Little Gull: The first to appear were three ad off Lakeshore MP 10 Mar (J. Pogacnik), where one was seen 24 Mar. In between, 1-3 adults showed up intermittently in Cleveland (G. Miller, L. Rosche, L. Gardella). All Apr sightings belong to Pogacnik, with an ad at Lorain the 6th, two ad at Conneaut the 7th, two ad 14 Apr and one 20 Apr at Lakeshore MP, and two ad at Conneaut 4 May.

Black-headed Gull: S. Zadar discovered one on the Cleveland lakefront 15 Mar, and two birds were confirmed 22 Mar (G. Miller), with the last sighting of one there 7 Apr (L. Rosche). J. Pogacnik had a flyby ad at Lakeshore MP 24 Mar, and another at Conneaut 7 Apr. Details with the OBRC.

Bonaparte's Gull: Wintered in some numbers on Lk Erie. Migrants were on the way by 15 Mar, witness 27 at Caesar Ck SP (L. Gara), and by 7 Apr L. Rosche estimated their numbers on the Cleveland lakefront at 10,000. At Conneaut, ~5000 were present on 5 May (G. Miller et al.), and an oddball basic-plumaged bird remained at KPWA through 14 May (J. Kuenzli, m obs).

California Gull: Several sent details to the OBRC on a bird at Fairport Hbr 11 Mar.

Thayer's Gull: Seven reports, the first from 2 Mar off E. 55th St in Cleveland (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), the last a first-year bird 11 May at Conneaut (J. Pogacnik).

Iceland Gull: Several ranged the lakefront in the Central Basin during Mar, and it is possible each was involved in S. Zadar's report of one first-winter bird and two adults at GPI 15 Mar. Latest was an ad 22 Mar in Cleveland (G. Miller).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Many reports came from Lorain east, none more comprehensive than G. Miller's of 1 Mar: three ad and one first-winter at Huron, two ad at Lorain, an ad at Avon Lk, and two ad at E. 72nd St in Cleveland. Miller also found one extraordinarily far inland at BCSP, a first-winter 9 Apr. Most surprising of all were the following observations by J. Herman et al. at Clear Fork Res in *Richland*: one ad 24-30 Mar, four ads on 31 Mar, three ads on 1 Apr, two on 2 Apr, and one ad 3-12 Apr. J. Pogacnik had the last one, an imm at Lakeshore MP 11 May.



A few black-headed gulls made appearances along the Lake Erie shore this spring. This one was located at East 72nd Street in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County. Photo by Troy Shively on 18 March 2002.

Glaucous Gull: Perhaps as few as two ranged the lakefront. Two, one ad and one imm, were in Cleveland 8 Mar (**D&J Hoffman**), and a first-winter was there as late as 11 Apr (**S. Zadar**).

Great Black-backed Gull: Present in expected numbers, with a reported high count of 127 at Kelleys Isl 17 Mar (**T. Bartlett**). **Bartlett** noted 10 late birds, nine of them second-years, at S. Bass Isl 7 May. **J. Pogacnik** had two late ones at Lakeshore MP 11 May.

Caspian Tern: First to appear was a single bird in a field near Fostoria 2 Apr (**S. Ross** *vide* **B. Hardesty**), and by the 7th 25 were at Lorain (**D. Cole**). May birds included 11 at Conneaut the 4th (**J. Pogacnik**), and one in BCSP the 15th (**D. Overacker**).

Common Tern: **E. Roush** noted the first at Cowan Lk SP 6 Apr, and three were in *Mahoning* 17 Apr (**N. Brundage**). May birds away from the colonies included two at Conneaut the 4th (**J. Pogacnik**), two at HBSP the 7th (**L. Rosche**), one at Caesar Ck SP the 17th (**S. Reeves**), and three at Shreve Lk the 19th (**S. Snyder**).

Forster's Tern: **J. Kuenzli** saw the first, in Lima 26 Mar. The last sightings were of singles on 19 May at Caesar Ck SP (**L. Gara**) and Sheldon Marsh SNP (**J. Hammond, J. Watts**). High count was only 16, at Conneaut 4 May (**J. Pogacnik**), and the inland high 12, in *Paulding* 2 Apr (**M&D Dunakin**).

Black Tern: A minimum of 54 birds reported on 27 occasions, from 11 counties. As many as 11 (25 May, **J. Hammond**) were at Mallard Club Marsh WA from 21-26 May, and as many as 12 (15 May, **B. Whan**) at KPWA from 10-26 May. The first report came from Slate Run MP, *Pickaway*, 9 May (**B. Sparks**). Four birds were near Wooster on 12 May, and one remained into the summer period (**S. Snyder**).

Black-billed Cuckoo: **G. Miller** reported the first, from *Athens* 30 Apr. The BSBO banded a record seven at Navarre 5-31 May.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: **G. Miller** had this cuckoo as well in *Athens* 30 Apr. Overall this species seemed difficult to find until late May.

Snowy Owl: One owl was reported five times at Burke Airport in Cleveland, the latest 24 Mar (**P. Lozano**).

Long-eared Owl: **G. Links** had 6 or 7 at KPWA 4 Mar for the high count, where at least one remained as late as 6 Apr (**R. Sempier**). Elsewhere, one was at ONWR 1 Apr (**J. Pogacnik**).

Short-eared Owl: Twelve were at KPWA 4 Mar (**G. Links**), and one remained there 11 May (**S. Landes** et al.). Four at Spring Grove Cem in Cincinnati 16 Mar were a nice surprise (**L. Brumbaugh**). One was in *Lake* 29 Mar (**J. Pogacnik**), and another at HBSP 12 Apr (**R. Rickard**).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Four could still be found at KPWA 6 Mar (**D. Snapp**). One was along the Magee bird trail 29 Mar (**D. Overacker**).

Common Nighthawk: Early birds included one in Cincinnati 18 Apr (**D. Brinkman**), and one in *Perry* 29 Apr (**J. Faulkner**). **M. Misplon** reported dozens at KPWA 26 May, a spot bereft of nesting habitat, and **L. Gardella** counted 81 over Pinery Narrows in Brecksville 27 May.

Chuck-will's-widow: Returned in expected numbers to its *Adams* haunts, but none was heard this spring in *Hocking*, for what would have been its fifth consecutive year.

Whip-poor-will: The first in *Hocking* was heard 13 Apr (**J. Fry**), and the first in *Adams* 15 Apr (**P. Whan**). By 6 May, one was at Lakeshore MP on Lk Erie (**J. Pogacnik**).

Chimney Swift: One in *Lake* 9 Apr was likely an overflyer (**J. Pogacnik**), as the earliest date elsewhere was 12 Apr in Cincinnati (**W. Hull**) and *Holmes* (**E. Schlabach**). Another was in *Hocking* 15 Apr (**D. Horn**). **B. McCullough** reported "hundreds" 2 May at a traditional site in Burton, *Geauga*.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Mid-Apr heat must have encouraged overflights, with one in *Hocking* on the 12th (**T. Sheley** *vide* **M. England**), and two on the 17th in *Warren* (**P. Terlinden**). The BSBO banded a record 110 at Navarre 3-30 May.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Widely reported in unglaciated Ohio. The high count of 29 birds came from the *Hancock* survey of 11 May (**K. Noblet**).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: An imm near Dayton 6 Mar (**C. Hawley**) was early, or perhaps had overwintered. One on 27 Mar in *Van Wert* (**J. Perchalski**) was more on time. Nine were in Burnet Wds in Cincinnati 2 Apr (**W. Hull**). The latest report came from the *Hancock* survey of 11 May (**B. Sams** *vide* **B. Hardesty**), but we can only assume others nested in the northeast.

Pileated Woodpecker: Scarce in the area, one on 12 May in the Oak Openings was a good find (**E. Tramer**).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Early birds were at MWW on 10 May (**N. Cade**) and in Bowling Green on 11 May (**B. Cullen**). The high count was three, with two birds in Oak Openings MP and one in Secor MP in *Lucas* 18 May (**M. Anderson**).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: The first report came from Highbanks MP in *Delaware* 2 May (**G. Miller**). The BSBO reported a Navarre banding record of 48 from 13 May through the end of the period.



This common nighthawk was observed at its day roost along one of Magee Marsh Wildlife Area's trails in Ottawa County on 22 May 2002. Photo by Bob Finkelstein.

- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** The first report was of one banded at Navarre by the BSBO 13 May; they subsequently set a record for the site with 153 birds captured this spring.
- Acadian Flycatcher:** Early was a bird at MWW 27 Apr (A. Scruggs). One at Magee on 22 May (G. Miller) was presumably headed farther north.
- Alder Flycatcher:** One was in Knox 13 May (L. Deininger). G. Links called them more prevalent than ever before, with pairs in Sandusky, Erie, Lucas, and Williams in the NW.
- Willow Flycatcher:** Birds were in Cincinnati by 5 May (N. Cade), 9 May in Tuscarawas (E. Schlabach), and 10 May at BIWA (B. Conlon).
- "Traill's Flycatcher":** Banders often don't separate silent Willow/Alder flycatchers, but the BSBO unit at Navarre captured a record 471 "Traill's" this spring, beginning 7 May.
- Least Flycatcher:** An early bird was at Magee 27 Apr (J. Brumfield), and 30 Apr brought reports from Franklin (M. England), Clinton (E. Roush), Hancock (S. Baxter), and Delaware (J. Hammond). High count eight, in NE Coshocton 15 May (E. Schlabach).
- Eastern Phoebe:** A few may have wintered, but our first report came from Adams 9 Apr (J. Lehman), and by the 14th one was at Lakeshore MP in Lake (J. Pogacnik). J. Watts noted a nearly complete nest in Franklin 11 Apr.
- Great Crested Flycatcher:** Early birds were in Cincinnati (J. Stenger) and at Salt Fork SP (L. Yoder) 20 Apr. Above-average numbers were reported by observers.
- Eastern Kingbird:** An early arrival was at SVWA 9 Apr (G. Miller), where it or another was reported 13 (D. Overacker) and 15 Apr (D. St. John). E. Tramer found 74 in a single field at Oak Openings MP in Lucas 12 May.
- Loggerhead Shrike:** One was reported in Lake 7 Apr, and another at Slate Run MP in Pickaway 14 Apr. This is now a review species; details are being sought for the OBRC.
- Northern Shrike:** On 17 Mar, one was at BIWA (K. Davis) and another in Fairport Hbr (J. Pogacnik). One remained at BIWA as late as 9 Apr (J. Kuenzli), and another at KPWA 10 Apr (B. Sparks).
- Shrike sp.:** J. Hildreth reported one at Irwin Prairie SNP in Lucas 6 Mar, and D. Horn another at KPWA 26 Mar.
- White-eyed Vireo:** Arrived 12 Apr at Cowan Lk SP (L. Gara). High count six in Tuscarawas 20 Apr (E. Schlabach).
- Bell's Vireo:** On 4 May, J. Hays noted one at MWW; two were seen 5 May (B. Schurenberg). One was in Hancock 14 May (S. Baxter), and at BCSP one was singing 25 May (D. Overacker).
- Blue-headed Vireo:** One in Bowling Green 13 Apr was a new Toledo-area record (fide M. Anderson). Another record was the 27 banded by BSBO at Navarre 16 Apr-18 May. On territory in hemlocks in several Geauga MPs through the end of the period (D. Best).
- Warbling Vireo:** Quite early was one in Cincinnati 15 Apr (W. Hull).
- Philadelphia Vireo:** Arrived 5 May at MWW (D. Graham) and Magee (R. Harlan, S. Wagner). High count three, at Magee 22 May (G. Miller).
- Red-eyed Vireo:** Five arrived 15 Apr in Columbus (P. Rodewald) and in Shawnee SF, with 122 there 30 Apr (both B. Royse). High count: 30+ at Magee on 29 May (E. Tramer).
- Blue Jay:** On 17 Apr D. St. John counted 379 migrants over MBSP, and on 4 May G. Leidy 1000+ more over Magee.

- Horned Lark:** A flock of 700 was near Whitehouse, Lucas, 27 Mar (E. Tramer).
- Purple Martin:** Arrived 30 Mar in Cincinnati (W. Hull) and Indian Lk SP (D. Sillick).
- Tree Swallow:** On 8 Mar, 25 were at SVWA (S. Reeves), two at MWW (D. Russell), and one over Conneaut (E. Schlabach). Temps in the teens 22 Mar took their toll.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** Four were the first to arrive, near Wooster 3 Apr (S. Snyder). Sixty at Hoover Res 23 Apr was a lot for this unsocial species (R. Thorn). T. Gilliland noted the return of a pair to the mouth of the Rocky River, where J. P. Kirtland had reported the same 150+ years earlier.
- Bank Swallow:** One was near Wooster as early as 7 Apr (S. Snyder). Later, 1300 were estimated in the Metzger-Magee area 15 May (M. Anderson).
- Cliff Swallow:** E. Yoder spotted the first, in Holmes on 14 Apr. The guests at P. Yoder's Holmes farm were down to 482 nests, perhaps because of territorial disputes with a nearby kestrel (fide S. Snyder). Continues to colonize new areas.
- Barn Swallow:** N. Cade found the first, at MWW 29 Mar, and by 1 Apr one was to be found in Holmes (L. Yoder).
- Black-capped Chickadee:** Three were in Holmes 6 Apr, and one 1 May (E. Schlabach).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch:** Numerous reports of birds persisting at feeders since winter statewide. The latest report came from a Hancock feeder 21 May (B. Hardesty).
- Brown Creeper:** First report from Hueston Wds SP 2 Mar (N. Keller). High count five in Tuscarawas 6 Apr (E. Schlabach). Nesting in CVNP 26 May (D. Chasar).
- Carolina Wren:** A record nine banded at Navarre by the BSBO during the season.
- House Wren:** Arrived 12 Apr Cowan Lk SP (L. Gara) and 13 Apr Holmes (L. Yoder).
- Winter Wren:** A migrant was singing in Medina 12 Mar (R. Harlan, S. Wagner). High count was 12 at Magee 10 Apr (G. Miller).
- Sedge Wren:** One was at Mallard Club Marsh WA 11 May (E. Tramer), one at Metzger and one at Magee 15 May (M. Anderson), and one at Killbuck 31 May (E. Snively).
- Marsh Wren:** Arrived Cowan Lk SP 23 Apr (E. Roush). High counts seven at SVWA 5 May (D. St. John) and six at Killbuck 23 May (S. Snyder).
- Golden-crowned Kinglet:** At Shawnee SF, 75+ were around 1 Apr (B. Royse) for the high count, and the latest was seen 11 May at Magee (B. Whan et al.).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** Over 20 reported in May, the last of them the 21st in Hancock (D. Barker fide B. Hardesty).
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** Arrived 1 Apr in Adams (B. Lund), and by 15 Apr B. Royse counted 121 in Shawnee SF.
- Veery:** J. Miller et al. furnished details on a very early bird 15 Apr in Holmes. High count was 20, on 15 May on Kelleys Isl (G. Miller).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush:** The first report came from N. Chagrin Res'n 28 Apr (K. Metcalf). One with a rufous tail was at Magee 15 May (J. Hammond, B. Whan).
- Swainson's Thrush:** Numbers better. On 15 May 50+ were on Kelleys Isl (G. Miller). Earliest 13 Apr at Magee (B. Cullen), 15 Apr in Cincinnati (W. Hull), and Lucas 19 Apr (E. Tramer). Latest 28 May in Tuscarawas (E. Schlabach).

Hermit Thrush: One at HBSP 9 Mar was early (**K. Metcalf**). A likely local breeder was singing in Clear Ck MP on 31 Mar, but another doing likewise in *Franklin* 23 May was interesting (both **M. England**).

Wood Thrush: Arrival 15 Apr, in *Clermont* (**B. Foppe**) and in *Cincinnati* (**L. Peyton**).

Northern Mockingbird: Four at HBSP 19 Apr (**L. Rosche**). **E. Tramer** calls them now "regular" in the Toledo area.

Brown Thrasher: Two were in Clear Ck MP 15 Mar (**M. England**), and one at KPWA 31 Mar (**R. Sempier**). Eleven 14 Apr at CPNWR was remarkable (**E. Tramer**).

American Pipit: Seven counts of 30 or more from five counties, the highest 120 in *Portage* 3 Apr (**L. Rosche**). Three remained on S. Bass Isl 16 May (**D. Horn**).

Cedar Waxwing: Sparsely reported till late May, with 27 in *Geauga* 7 Apr (**B. McCullough**) and 25 in *Holmes* 9 May (**E. Schlabach**).

Blue-winged Warbler: One at Bowling Green 16 Apr was a record early date for the Toledo area (*vide* **M. Anderson**). High count 18 in the CVNP in *Summit* 27 May (**G. Leidy**).

Golden-winged Warbler: First at Shawnee on 27 Apr (**T. Shively**), 22 birds reported, from *Cuyahoga, Defiance, Delaware, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Lake, Lucas, Paulding, Preble, Scioto, Tuscarawas, and Wyandot*. High count two at Magee 13 May (**S. Reeves**).

Hybrids of the above: Brewster's was captured at Navarre 6 May by BSBO, seen 7 May at N. Chagrin Res'n (**B. Fambrough**), at Shaker Lks 8 May (**L. Deininger**), and in *Coshocton* on 25 May (**E. Schlabach**). Lawrence's was at HBSP 5 May (**R. Rickard**).

Tennessee Warbler: First seen 17 Apr in *Cincinnati* (**L. Peyton**), last at Cowan Lk SP on 23 May (**E. Roush**). High count 14 at Shawnee SF 6 May (**B. Royle**).

Orange-crowned Warbler: High count was two, in *Coshocton* 15 May (**E. Schlabach**). The BSBO banded 12 at Navarre 17 Apr (the early date) through 5 May.

Nashville Warbler: Showed up 16 Apr in *Hocking* (**T. Sheley fide M. England**) and in *Hancock* (**D. Barker fide B. Hardesty**). One at Magee 19 Apr tied the Toledo-area early record (*vide* **M. Anderson**). High count 35+ Highbanks MP, *Delaware* (**J. Hammond**).

Northern Parula: Doing well. First at Shawnee SF 10 Apr (**B. Royle**). **J. McCormac** noted territorial males in *Adams, Columbiana, Franklin, Hocking, Pike, Ross, and Scioto* during the period. **J. Lesser** had four at Lk La Su An WA in *Williams* 20 Apr. Ten were at Magee 14 May (**L. Rosche**), and one in *Wadsworth* 28 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Yellow Warbler: First reported 13 Apr at MWW (**P. Wharton**), they crossed the state by the 19th. High count was 35 in NE *Coshocton* 10 May (**E. Schlabach**).



Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area in Lucas County played host to a number of birds this spring. Among them was this golden-winged warbler photographed there on 17 May 2002 by Troy Shively.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Arrived quite early, 15 Apr in *Cincinnati* (**W. Hull**), and numbered up to 30 at Magee by 18 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Magnolia Warbler: None earlier than 2 May in *Rocky River* (**P. Lozano**), their numbers reached 50 at Magee/Metzger on 18 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**). In the 11 May CVNP census, 148 was a noteworthy count even for this common migrant (**D. Chasar**).

Cape May Warbler: Observers reported lower numbers. The first was in *Franklin* on 30 Apr (**P. Rodewald**). Ten were seen at Metzger Marsh WA 17 May (**J. Fuller, J. Hammond**) for the high count.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: First seen 1 May at MWW (**L. Brumbaugh**), by 13 May 40+ were at Magee (**S. Reeves**). BSBO banded a record 131 during May at Navarre.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: **G. Leidy** counted 125 in *Parma* 8 May, and the last report came from *Lucas* 24 May (**M. Anderson**).

Black-throated Gray Warbler: **S. Albaugh** discovered this rarity at Dawes Arboretum in *Licking* 17 Apr, where it remained a few hours for a handful of other observers. Details are with the OBRC.

Black-throated Green Warbler: Two very early birds were in *Scioto* 31 Mar (**P. Gottschling**).

Blackburnian Warbler: **B. Graves** reported the first, in *Columbus* 27 Apr. **E. Schlabach** had 13 in NE *Coshocton* 15 May.



Mike Williams (ODNR) was able to rush over to Dawes Arboretum in Licking County on 17 April 2002 and photograph this one-day wonder black-throated gray warbler. The most recent previous record is from 1994.

Yellow-throated Warbler: On 30 Mar **B. Sparks** found three in Shawnee SF, where **B. Royse** counted 36 on 10 Apr. **D. Chasar** had four in one tree in the CVNP 16 Apr, and one reached Lk La Su An WA by 20 Apr (**J. Lesser**).

Pine Warbler: One was at Hueston Wds SP 2 Mar (**N. Keller**), and a wintering bird in *Adams* was noted again 8 Mar (**B. Lund**). Three were in *Hocking* 15 Mar (**M. England**), and one on the 11 May count at the CVNP (**D. Chasar**).

Kirtland's Warbler: An astonishing four were reported, and the OBRC is rounding up documentation on birds at Metzger Marsh 6 May, at Cedar Pt 10 May, at Kelleys Isl 14 May, and at the Shaker Lks 19 May.

Prairie Warbler: The first occupied *Adams*, where it is the County Bird, 8 Apr (**P. Whan**). One in Oak Openings MP 19 Apr (**E. Tramer**) tied the early record for Toledo. A female apparently spent at least nine days (11-19 May) at Metzger Marsh—cold feet?

Palm Warbler: Materialized 15 Apr in Cincinnati (**J. Stenger**), Shaker Lks (four birds, **B. Winger**), and SVWA (three birds, **D. St. John**). Fifty were at ONWR 5 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**). **J. Pogacnik** had one of the extensively yellow eastern race in *Lake* 19 Apr, and BSBO banded another *hypochrysea* at Navarre 6 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler: A good flight. Starting with one in *Hamilton* 1 May (**A. Oliver**), numbers grew to 80 at Magee 14 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**). **E. Snively** had four 29 May in Massillon.

Blackpoll Warbler: One was at Gilmore Ponds 4 May (**M. Busam**). Numbers seemed down, but 10 were at Metzger and Magee 18 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Cerulean Warbler: Two were at Shawnee SF 13 Apr (**G. Miller**), and 52 on 30 Apr (**B. Royse**). One was at Magee 6 May (**G. Links**), and it arrived in *Paulding* 7 May (**M&D Dunakin**).

Black-and-white Warbler: One was in Cincinnati 8 Apr (**W. Hull**), and one in Athens the 10th (**S. Moody**). **L. Rosche** had four up at Mentor Marsh 30 Apr, and 10 was the high count, in *Delaware* 3 May (**J. Hammond**).

American Redstart: Starting from three at Shawnee SF 15 Apr (**B. Royse**), their numbers grew to 30 at Metzger and Magee 18 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Prothonotary Warbler: First noted 18 Apr at MWW (**J. Stenger**), then the 19th in Toledo (**E. Tramer**). Sixteen males were at the Hoover Res nest colony 24 Apr. **K. Metcalf** had one at HBSP 27 May, and one was singing at Magee the 29th (**E. Tramer**).

Worm-eating Warbler: Two in the Shawnee SF 15 Apr grew to 18 by the 30th (**B. Royse**). One at Brandywine Falls in the CVNP was a good find 26 Apr (**D. Chasar**). BSBO banded a record three at Navarre during the season.



This female prairie warbler lingered at Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area in Lucas County for over a week in May. Photo by Troy Shively on 17 May 2002.

Ovenbird: Quite early was one at Clear Ck MP, *Hocking*, 29 Mar (**M. England**). BSBO's Navarre unit banded a record 259 ovenbirds during the period.

Northern Waterthrush: **L. Yoder** had one at Salt Fork SP 20 Apr, and one in Toledo on the same day was probably an early record for the region (*vide* **M. Anderson**). Fifteen were counted at Magee on 14 Apr for the high count (**L. Rosche**).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Extraordinarily early was one in *Hocking* 15 Mar (**M. England**), but one was at Magee by 7 Apr (**C. Spagnoli**). The BSBO banded a record three birds at Navarre, two of them on 12 Apr.

Kentucky Warbler: **J. Stenger** had the first, at MWW 18 Apr; three were in *Adams* the next day (**D. Overacker**). One was singing in Wadsworth 7 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**). The high count was nine in NE *Coshocton* 15 May (**E. Schlabach**).

Connecticut Warbler: Earlier birds were one at MWW 10 May (**N. Cade**) and one in Maumee 12 May (**M. Anderson**). Nine others were reported, with the last 28 May in *Butler* (**D. Dister**).

Mourning Warbler: One was at Magee 6 May (**G. Links**), and another at Calamus Swamp, *Pickaway*, 9 May (**D. Horn**). High count three at Magee 13 May (**K. Tanquist**).

Common Yellowthroat: One at SVWA 29 Mar (**E. Roush**) had likely wintered locally. An overflight migrant was one at CPNWR 14 Apr (**E. Tramer**), as was one 15 Apr in Pataskala (**H. Nagy**).

Hooded Warbler: On 15 Apr, **L. Peyton** had one in Cincinnati, and **B. Royse** one at Shawnee SF, where he was later to count 69 on 30 Mar.

Wilson's Warbler: The earliest report came from Hoover Res 6 May (**R. Thorn**), and the high count 18 May, 15 between Metzger and Magee WAs (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Canada Warbler: Very early was a probable local nester at Clear Ck MP 25 Apr (**M. England**). One was seen in the Happy Days area of CVNP from 10 May through the end of the period (**D&A Chasar**).

Yellow-breasted Chat: One was in Cincinnati 17 Apr (**L. Peyton**) and two in *Scioto* on 18 Apr (**B. Royse**). High count was five in *Adams* 24 May (**D. Overacker**).

Summer Tanager: **D. Horn** reported the first, from *Hocking* 24 Apr. The BSBO handled one at Navarre 15 May. The Highbanks MP male returned 6 May (**J. Hammond**).

Scarlet Tanager: Returned to Cincinnati 15 Apr (**W. Hull**). One at Magee the same day set an early Toledo-area record (*vide* **M. Anderson**).

American Tree Sparrow: Fair numbers lingered into Apr, with the last three reported from Mentor Lagoons on the 30th (**L. Rosche**).

Chipping Sparrow: Early were one 6 Mar in *Noble* (**B. Morrison**), one in Cincinnati 17 Mar (**N. Keller**), one 18 Mar in Killbuck (**E. Snively**), one in *Adams* 23 Mar (**B. Lund**), one in *Hamilton* 24 Mar (**F. Renfrow**), and one in *Paulding* 29 Mar (**D&M Dunakin**).

Clay-colored Sparrow: All over the place. All reports: one at **L. Yoder's** feeder in *Holmes* 30 Apr was almost certainly the same that turned up at last year's site up the road 2 May; two at GPI 3 May (**S. Zadar**); one 10 May in Parma (**G. Leidy**); one banded at Navarre by BSBO 10 May; one at Crane Ck SP 11 May (**G. Leidy**) through 15 May (**J. Hammond**), singing somewhat like a chipping sparrow; one on Kelleys Isl 15 May (**G. Miller**); two others at GPI on 15 May (**S. Zadar**); one at Metzger 15 May (**M. Anderson**); one singing at a park in *Lucas* 15 May (**E. Tramer**); and one at MBSP 18 May (**M. Anderson**). Twelve in all.

- Field Sparrow:** Early arrivals were in *Franklin* 11 Mar (**R. Thorn**) and at Funk WA 18 Mar (**E. Snively**).
- Vesper Sparrow:** **N. Cade** found the first 29 Mar at MWW. Twelve were in *Tuscarawas* 6 Apr (**E. Schlabach**), and 16 in Parma 9 Apr (**G. Leidy**). One, perhaps from among the latter, remained apparently unmated 25-27 May (**Leidy**).
- Lark Sparrow:** **N. Cade** intercepted one at MWW 14 Apr. The first male returned to Oak Openings MP 19 Apr, six days ahead of the average date (**E. Tramer**).
- Savannah Sparrow:** Twenty were in *Tuscarawas* 6 Apr (**E. Schlabach**). By 22 May, among the 12 at the VOA site in *Butler* was a nest with five eggs (**M. Busam**).
- Grasshopper Sparrow:** One showed up in *Adams* 14 Apr (**D. Overacker**), and 26 were at Crown City WA by 6 May (**B. Royse**).
- Henslow's Sparrow:** Cincinnati hosted the first 9 Apr (**W. Hull**) and birds reached The Wilds the following day (**J. Larson**). On 20 Apr, two were near Lk La Su An WA in *Williams* (**J. Lesser**). One was at the Toledo Airport 5 May through the end of the period (**C. Anderson**).
- Le Conte's Sparrow:** **J. Nisely** et al. studied one at ONWR on 11 May, subsequently seen by m obs.
- Fox Sparrow:** Two appeared at Highbanks MP 3 Mar (**J. Hammond**). **G. Miller** had 12 at Magee 10 Apr. BSBO handled a record 41 between 10 and 14 Apr at Navarre. One was in *Mahoning* 16 Apr (**L. Warren**).
- Song Sparrow:** Sixty arrived at HBSP 9 Mar (**K. Metcalf**), and 100 were in Cleveland's Erie St. Cem 8 Apr (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).



By spending several days in the lawn at Crane Creek State Park in Lucas County, this clay-colored sparrow provided ample viewing opportunities for many observers. Digiscoped photo by Joe Hammond on 15 May 2002.

- Lincoln's Sparrow:** Numbers seemed down. One or two came to **L. Warren's** feeders in *Mahoning* 27 Apr-5 May. One was singing in *Fairfield* 7 May (**R. Thorn**). The last was seen 29 May at Magee (**E. Tramer**).
- Swamp Sparrow:** Found in known wintering locales, one in *Lucas* 29 Mar (**D. Overacker**) and one at SVWA 8 Mar (**J. Brown**) might still have been early migrants.
- White-throated Sparrow:** Lingering were 66 in *Hancock* 11 May (**K. Noblet**) and one at Killbuck 31 May (**E. Snively**). At Navarre, a record 737 were handled 10 Apr-30 May.
- White-crowned Sparrow:** One of the *gambelii* race was at ONWR 5 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**). In *Hancock*, 61 were still around 11 May (**K. Noblet**).
- Harris's Sparrow:** Details are with the OBRC for one found at SVWA 6 Apr.
- Dark-eyed Junco:** Breeds sparingly in the NE, but one in downtown Cleveland 14 May had to be a transient (**T. Colborn**).
- Lapland Longspur:** In *Geauga*, 3-4 were with snow buntings and larks 4 Mar (**D. Ferris**). Hundreds in alternate plumage were in *Paulding* 24 Mar (**J. Yochum**), and **G. Miller** noted 250-300 near KPWA 10 Apr.
- Smith's Longspur:** Unnoticed in Ohio for the eleventh consecutive year. They were almost certainly here, and the feature in this issue could help us find them next spring.
- Snow Bunting:** A couple frequented Findlay Res dikes on 5 and 12 Mar (*vide* **B. Hardesty**) and ~100 found fields S of *Paulding* to their liking 8-28 Mar (**D&M Dunakin**).
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** Perhaps their overall numbers were not up, but their widespread appearances in troops at feeders were extraordinary: a failure of some food source? Arrived earlyish, 16 Apr in *Hamilton* (**N. Keller**) and in *Stark* (**E. Snively**), with a high count of 30 on Kelleys Isl on 15 May (**L. Rosche**).
- Blue Grosbeak:** Out of the way sightings, all more or less one-day wonders, came from Findlay 23 Apr (**S. Ross** et al.); ONWR, with a male 5 May (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**); Spring Grove Cem on 12 May (**R. Kolde**); and Oak Openings MP 19 May (**G. Links**).
- Indigo Bunting:** First seen 18 Apr, in Cincinnati (**H. Armstrong**). By 30 Apr 38 had arrived at Shawnee SF (**B. Royse**).
- Bobolink:** **E. Schlabach** reported the first, from *Tuscarawas* 20 Apr. Two were singing at the VOA site in *Butler* on 25 Apr (**M. Busam**). The high count was of 100+ at a reclaimed strip mine in *Noble* 6 May (**B. Morrison**).
- Eastern Meadowlark:** The inviting grasslands at the VOA site in *Butler* harbored 50 on 7 Apr (**M. Busam**) for the high count.
- Western Meadowlark:** One stayed for about two weeks in *Hancock* after being heard 7 May (**B. Hardesty**). **D. Sanders** heard one at KPWA 20 May that didn't stay at all.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird:** As usual, a few spent the spring, probably based in CPNWR, and were seen around the area; at MBSP 31 Mar (**J. Pogacnik**), Magee 8 May (**H. Petruschke**), ONWR 11 May (**N. Keller**), and Mallard Club Marsh WA 22 May (**J. Yochum**).
- Rusty Blackbird:** On 9 Mar, **V. Fazio** estimated 600 at ONWR, and 100 remained at KPWA 10 Apr (**B. Sparks**). Late were three at MBSP 11 May (**J. McCormac**).
- Brewer's Blackbird:** **J. Seymour** reported one in Cincinnati 6 Mar. **B. Bowman** et al. reported up to 30 at two locations at KPWA 10 Mar. Eight to 10 were relocated 23 Mar (**B. Whan** et al.), and 15-20 were seen there as late as 29 Mar (**K. Davis**).

Orchard Oriole: Earliest, and a local record, was one at S. Chagrin MP 15 Apr (**L. Rosche**). One 19 Apr in Wood was a new early record for the Toledo area (*vide* **M. Anderson**). An 11 May survey in Hancock found 44 for the high count (**B. Hardesty**).

Baltimore Oriole: After two records last season you have to wonder: perhaps an overwintering bird was a male 27-28 Mar in Canal Fulton, Stark (**V. Capps** et al.), but confirmed records of orioles actually lasting the entire winter are rare as...March orioles. Early but on a more normal schedule was a migrant in Cincinnati 18 Apr (**H. Armstrong**). The BSBO Navarre station banded a record 62 this spring.

Purple Finch: Stayed as late as 15 Apr in Adams (**P. Whan**). Seen at **J. Fry's** Hocking feeders that month over 15 days between the 5th and 28th, with a high of 24 on the 18th.

Red Crossbill: To see this bird, you had to camp at GPI season-long. **S. Zadar** had one there 2 Apr for the only report.

White-winged Crossbill: Mostly cameo appearances at feeders: in Sandusky 10 Mar (**S. Young**), Tiffin 28 Mar (**Z. Baker**), Mahoning 22 Apr (**N. Brundage**), and Lake 4 May (**J. Pogacnik**), but a family group of male, female, and one young was found near Akron 11 Mar (**W. Stover** *vide* **L. Rosche**) and was reliable through 8 Apr, when four were present (**J. Brumfield**).

Common Redpoll: Brief stays, mostly at feeders. **P. Lozano** had 11 in Lorain 2 Mar, **J. Pogacnik** two on 3 Mar and five on 29 Mar at Lakeshore MP, **S. Young** one in Sandusky 10 Mar, **Pogacnik** three in Conneaut 7 Apr, and **C. Tindira** three in N. Royalton 10 Apr.

Pine Siskin: Widely reported, especially at feeders, from Clermont, Cuyahoga, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Lucas, Medina, Montgomery, Paulding, Pickaway, Scioto, Washington. No nesting confirmed, but latest reports were of birds 28 May at N. Chagrin Res'n (**K. Metcalf**) and Wadsworth (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Evening Grosbeak: Growing scarcer. Only a pair 4-5 May in Lakeshore MP (**J. Pogacnik**).

Contributors

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At least one male yellow-headed blackbird frequented the feeders and lawn around the Migratory Bird Center at Magee Marsh Wildlife Area in Ottawa County this spring. This one was photographed there on 18 May 2002 by Troy Shively.