

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

The OBRC has formal documentation from *Franklin*.



Lael Weyenberg welcomed birders to view this pair of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks which spent 18 May at her backyard pond in Worthington, *Franklin*, and were photographed by *Kathi Hutton*.

Greater White-fronted Goose

A flock of 11 spent 13 to 15 Mar along Grant Moore Road, *Seneca* (m. obs.) The last was a single bird at Hamlet Protein, *Hancock*, on 09 May (*vide* Robert Sams). (16 counties)

Snow Goose

The high count was 84; Rick Asamoto found them at Old Highland Stone on 07 Mar. Sixteen were the blue morph and the rest white. Scott Huge made the second-highest count of 38, in Swine Creek Reservation, *Geauga*, on 15 Mar. Singles on 14 Apr at the Findlay Reservoirs (Christopher Collins) and the *Mercer* end of Grand Lake St. Marys (Carlton Schooley) were the last. (25 counties)

Ross's Goose

All which were positively identified were single birds. Old Reid Park, *Clark*, hosted one from 11 to 17 Apr (m. obs.). It was the last but for one at the Hueston Woods SP marina, *Preble*, on 06 May (Kaitlyn Gerken). *Butler* and *Ottawa* also contributed sightings; *Logan* might also have done so, but see below.

[Snow x Ross's Goose]

Stephan Minning and Troy Shively decided that at least one of the two smallish birds they saw at The Slough, *Logan*, on 29 Mar and again on 01 Apr was a hybrid.

Snow/Ross's Goose

Indeterminate birds were in *Greene*, *Logan*, *Medina*, *Montgomery*, and *Summit*.

Cackling Goose

A trio flew over the Bowling Green State University campus, *Wood*, on 17 Mar (Mark Rozmarynowycz). Another three were at Sandy Ridge on 26 Mar (Gustino Lanese). Junior Barnes saw two at Rocky Fork on 31 Mar, and said they had been there for three days. They were the last but for two which Victor Fazio III picked out of a flock of Canada Geese at Schekelhoff Park, *Seneca*, on 02 May. (13 counties)

Canada Goose

Ron Sempier estimated 3000 were in Killdeer's Pond 27 on 02 Mar. Mark Shieldcastle found about 2200 at ONWR on 15 Mar. Every county but *Pike* had at least one sighting.

[Snow x Canada Goose]

John Habig identified two on the Great Miami River in *Butler* on 22 Apr.

Cackling/Canada Goose

Viewers were undecided about birds in *Athens* (one), *Erie* (one), *Franklin* (four to seven), and *Hocking* (six).

Mute Swan

The high count was 17; Victor Fazio III found them at Great Egret Marsh, *Ottawa*, on 03 May. Counts elsewhere ranged up to 16. (50 counties)

Trumpeter Swan

A quartet of birders saw the largest concentration, 35, at the Turtle Creek fishing access, *Ottawa*, on 21 May. (33 counties)

Tundra Swan

Mark Shieldcastle found 1200 at ONWR on 15 Mar; he saw 840 there the next day. The highest count away from Lake Erie was Ron Sempier's 500 or more at Killdeer on 23 Mar; they were spread among several of the ponds. John Faneuff's four at Magee and one at Metzger on 24 Apr were the last. (51 counties)

Wood Duck

Mill Creek Sanctuary, *Mahoning*, hosted 165 for Jeff Harvey on 20 Mar. Neil Gilbert noted 80 in the camping area of East Fork on 20 Mar and wrote, "Incredible numbers—I've never seen so many in one place (scattered along a perhaps half-mile stretch of river edge)". Only *Meigs*, *Pike*, and *Putnam* did not yield reports.

Gadwall

Helen and Ken Ostermiller found about 1000 at Metzger on 21 Mar. Ed Pierce's ONWR census team counted 520 on 05 Apr (*fide* Douglas Vogus). The last of the season was a single at Metzger on 30 May (Matt Kemp). (74 counties)

Eurasian Wigeon

All reports were of single birds, with a possible total of 13 seen. The first showed up by Prairie Lane, **Wayne**, on 14 Mar (Cynthia Norris); Jeff Harvey saw the last at Mill Creek on 24 Apr. One spent 27 Mar to 01 Apr at Killdeer. **Lucas, Lorrain, Medina, Ottawa, Portage, Trumbull**, and two other **Wayne** sites also hosted birds.



Su Snyder recorded this image of a Eurasian Wigeon at the Overton Road Ponds, Wayne, on 25 Mar

American Wigeon

The Ostermillers saw about 1000 at Metzger on 21 Mar; Matt Kemp estimated about 1100 were there on 01 Apr. Ron Sempier's 450 at Killdeer on 28 Mar were the most elsewhere. Paul Sherwood saw the last of the season, four at Pipe Creek on 30 May; there were also a couple of Jun sightings. (70 counties)

[Eurasian x American Wigeon]

Troy Shively decided that one at The Slough, **Logan**, was this hybrid; he studied it on several dates between 01 and 15 Apr.

American Black Duck

Nicole Freshour found about 150 at Blendon Woods, a reliable spot for large counts, on 04 Mar. Paul Berrigan and Karl Overman noted the second-highest number, 60, at Bayshore on 11 Mar. (55 counties)

Mallard

Ron Sempier found about 625 in Killdeer's Pond 27 on 20 Mar. Ed Pierce *et al.* counted 489 at ONWR on 05 Apr (*fide* Douglas Vogus). Every county except **Jackson, Meigs**, and **Pike** generated reports.

[Gadwall x Mallard]

One spent most of the winter with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's captive waterfowl and wild Mallards; Andy Jones last saw it on 23

Mar. One spent from 08 to 12 May at Metzger (m. obs.).

[American Black Duck x Mallard]

At least 19 counties hosted these, and surely others were overlooked. Marjorie Miller counted eight at ONWR on 09 May.

American Black Duck/Mallard

Several **Franklin** sites hosted indeterminate birds.

Blue-winged Teal

Killdeer's Pond 27 again fielded the high count, 675 on 05 Apr by Shane Myers and Robert Sams. Ron Sempier found the second-highest number, 140 at nearby Big Island on 11 Apr. (74 counties)

Northern Shoveler

Matt Kemp counted 230 at Metzger on 01 Apr. The second-highest number was 85, shared by Ben Warner and Anna Wittmer at Killdeer on 31 Mar and Mark Shieldcastle at Magee on 01 Apr. (66 counties)

[Blue-winged Teal x Northern Shoveler]

One spent 19 and 20 Mar at Newtown Bottoms, **Hamilton** (m. obs.)

Northern Pintail

Donna Kuhn and Andy Sewell estimated 1500 were at Funk on 28 Mar, and about 750 remained in view for the Ostermillers the next day. Ron Sempier found the most elsewhere, 425 at Big Island on 13 Mar. Peter Keefe saw the second last, a duo at Pipe Creek on 14 May. Sarel Cousins saw them or another two at Metzger on 21 May, the last but for a single bird seen a month later. (52 counties)

Green-winged Teal

Mark Shieldcastle noted 400 at ONWR on 26 Mar. Matt Kemp saw the most elsewhere, 180 at Metzger on 01 Apr. Jeff Harvey's 120 at Mill Creek on 21 Mar was the highest inland count. Singles at Big Island on 22 May (Donna Kuhn) and Pickerel Creek on 28 May (Sally Isacco) were the last of the season though one location hosted six in early Jun. (65 counties)

Canvasback

Ryan Jacob found 320 off Cullen Park, **Lucas**, on 15 Mar. Chris Pierce's 250 at Funk on 29 Mar was the highest inland count. The last of the season were Hope Orr's single in CVNP on 16 May and Sarah Lawrence's single at Delaware WA on 26 May. The latter bird was seen again in Jun. (65 counties)

Redhead

Mark Shieldcastle estimated 7000 were off Magee on 01 Apr and wrote, "Large number of

divers staged about 300 yards off shore as far as could be seen both west and east". Brian Wulker was also moved to extol the 1500 he saw at the Great Miami River bottoms, **Hamilton**, on 19 Mar. He wrote, "This flock has to be one of the top 10 experiences in my 12+ year birding career." Mark Shieldcastle tied that count at ONWR Navarre on 27 Mar. Anthony Popiel saw the last of the season, a quartet at Lorain on 22 May, though a few more were scattered about in early Jun. (75 counties)

Ring-necked Duck

Sarah Lawrence saw a trio at Delaware WA on 26 May, the latest spring date; one lingered there into Jun. The high estimate was in the 1000 to 1200 range at Funk on 27 Mar (the Ostermillers, Su Snyder). The second-highest number was Cynthia Norris' 563 at a large farm pond in **Stark**. (81 counties)

Greater Scaup

Victor Fazio III saw the last off Lakeshore Drive, Port Clinton, **Ottawa**, on 18 May. The high count was Tom Bartlett's 550 at Kelleys Island on 10 Mar; he saw 200 to 450 there on other dates. The most inland were 70 at Lost Bridge on 19 Mar (Brian Wulker). (58 counties)

Lesser Scaup

Gene Stauffer found the last of the season, a single on Howe Pond, **Fairfield**, on 31 May. (there were a few Jun sightings there and elsewhere.) Mark Shieldcastle estimated 28,000 were off the Magee beach on 01 Apr. They might have included the 7000 he saw at ONWR Navarre on 27 Mar, which was the second-highest count. The inland high count was 930 by Brian Wulker at Lost Bridge on 19 Mar. (75 counties)

Scaup sp.

Matt and Tom Kemp's 12 Apr census at CPNWR tallied 91,000 scaup; about a third of them were in the refuge itself and the rest offshore.

Harlequin Duck

Eastlake Power hosted one; it was seen on 01, 02, 03, and 13 Mar and 01 Apr (m. obs.).

Surf Scoter

Jessica Lowery saw the first of the season, at Killbuck on 17 Mar. The second sighting was of two at Pickerington Ponds on 12 Mar (m. obs.). The last one spent from 16 to 19 May off Port Clinton's Lakeshore Drive, **Ottawa** (Andy Jones, then m. obs.). John Herman made the high count of six, at Clear Fork on 06 Apr. (18 counties)

White-winged Scoter

The Findlay Reservoirs held the last, a single bird

on 16 May (m. obs.). Suzanne Clingman noted 34 along the Ohio River shore in **Brown** on 17 Mar. They might have wandered; Frank Renfrow had seen 26 at the mouth of the Little Miami River, **Hamilton**, on 12 Mar. (28 counties)

Black Scoter

Four locations hosted singles:

Eastlake Power on 02 Mar (Jonathan Oliveras) and 03 Mar (Christopher Collins)

Maumee Bay on 10 Apr (Adam Zorn)

The **Stark** end of Deer Creek Reservoir on 23 Apr (m. obs.) (This site is part of Berlin Lake and shares only its name with Deer Creek Lake in **Fayette** and **Pickaway**.)

Seneca Lake on 30 Apr (m. obs.)

Scoter sp.

One or two not identified to species were reported from **Allen**, **Hamilton**, **Lucas**, and **Portage**.

Long-tailed Duck

One spent 16 to 18 Apr at the Findlay Reservoirs; Shane Myers saw it last. Another was at Big Island from 15 to 18 Apr; Benjamin Miller saw it last. Kent Miller found 48 at Berlin Lake on 07 Apr and others saw between five and 20 on later dates. The most elsewhere were three which Mark Shaver saw at LaDue on 17 Apr. (16 counties)



This Long-tailed Duck was beautifully documented by Ron Sempier on 15 Apr at Big Island.

Bufflehead

Patty McKelvey saw the last, at Lorain on 16 May. The high count was 200, at Big Island on 28 Mar. Charles Bombaci said they were "as thick as a carpet on ponds along LaRue-Prospect Road." Aaron Bartley provided the second-highest count, 135 at Berlin Lake on 08 Apr. (76 counties)

Common Goldeneye

Singles at Blendon Woods and Metzger shared the last date of 01 May. An Old Dominion University ornithology class saw the former bird and several individual birders the latter. Tom Bartlett counted 2164 in the waters around Kelleys Is-

land on 20 Mar. The second-highest count, 750 on 10 Mar, was also by Tom at Kelleys Island. The most elsewhere were 300 at Bayshore, also on 10 Mar (Karl Overman). Lisa Miller and Jordan Satler noted the inland high number of 200 at Alum Creek on 07 Mar. (56 counties)

Hooded Merganser

Gary Cowell found 85 at Charles Mill Lake Park, **Ashland**, on 29 Mar, and the rest of the counts ranged from 80 down to one. (73 counties)

[Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser]

Ben Warner and Anna Wittmer identified this hybrid at Alum Creek on 11 Mar.

Common Merganser

Rick Wright noted the last migrant, at ONWR on 14 May. A few pairs linger to nest. Nic and Lynne Shayko saw a female with nine infants at Conneaut on 30 May; that location has hosted a pair for several years now. Peg Bobel saw a female with six young at the Little Cuyahoga/Cuyahoga Rivers confluence, **Summit**, on 21 May, a first for that river system. Karl Overman noted about 1000 at Bayshore on 07 Mar. Mark and Sherry Plessner found 500 at the Bay View, **Lucas**, wastewater treatment plant on 05 Mar. An Old Dominion University ornithology class found the highest number away from Lake Erie, 200 at Alum Creek, also on 05 Mar. (69 counties)

Red-breasted Merganser

Four flew past John Pogacnik at Lake Erie Bluffs on 26 May; they were the last but for a single Kelleys Island sighting in early Jun. The Cuyahoga River at Scranton Flats hosted 5000 on 01 Mar (Sameer Apte) and 08 Mar (Jacob Roalef). The most inland were 250 at Buck Creek on 28 Mar (m. obs.). (68 counties)

Ruddy Duck

Paul Sherwood saw the last of the season, four at Pipe Creek on 30 May. Debi Schuster's 1200 at Mosquito Lake on 17 Apr was the high number. The next highest were 665 at LaDue on 25 Apr (Matthew Valencic) and "at least 600" at Deer Creek Lake on 28 Mar (Robert Roysse). (71 counties)

Northern Bobwhite

The first, and most, were 12 which Kathi Hutton found in **Clermont** on 07 Mar. The second-most were five which Katrina Schultes saw in the Anderson Meadows section of Wayne NF, **Lawrence**, on 29 May. A very lost female in the Magee parking lot on 13 May most likely wandered from a release point (m. obs.). (20 counties)

Ring-necked Pheasant

Robby Bradley noted 35 near Jamestown,

Greene, on 20 Mar. The second-highest count was 12, by Robb Clifford near Darby Creek on 05 Mar. (33 counties)

Ruffed Grouse

Kent Miller heard the first, along Chapel Drive on 02 Apr. He, Jon Cefus, and Ben Morrison heard two in the Gildow Hill area, **Noble**, on 30 Apr. Scott Pendleton tied that high count with two dueling drummers along the Buckeye Trail, **Harrison**, on 13 May. **Adams, Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Perry, Portage, Scioto**, and **Vinton** also produced reports.

Wild Turkey

The high count was 65; Sean Artman found them a communications tower field in **Ashtabula** on 14 Mar. The second-highest number was 40, shared by Gary Cowell near the Rocky Fork River, **Richland**, on 04 Mar, Anna Rose at Blendon Woods on 08 Mar, and Thomas Czubek along two miles of **Clermont** roads on 29 Mar. (76 counties)



Leslie Sours recorded this entertaining display by a pair of Wild Turkeys at Blendon Woods on 01 May.

Red-throated Loon

Alex Champagne discovered five at the **Franklin** end of Hoover Reservoir on 24 Mar and lots of folks got to see one or more of them until 27 Mar. They were the first and most of the season. Three at Caesar Creek on 31 Mar (Rick Asamoto) provided the only other count greater than one. Gary Cowell saw the last, in a pond in Loudonville Park, **Holmes**, on 09 May. (13 counties)

Pacific Loon

The OBRC has only internet gleanings from a bird reported in **Hancock**.

Common Loon

The first since 08 Jan, five birds, showed up at Lake Loramie SP, **Shelby**, on 10 Mar (Louis Hoying). The last of the season were three which Allan Claybon saw at Cowan Lake, **Clin-ton**, on 27 May, though there were several sum-

mer sightings. Jay McGowan and Livia Santana gave us the two highest numbers; they estimated 120 were at Clear Fork on 01 Apr and 90 at Buck Creek the next day. (67 counties)

Pied-billed Grebe

Big Island produced many double-digit counts of which the largest was Charles Bombaci's 45 on 28 Mar. The most elsewhere were 25 at Springfield Lake, **Summit**, on 05 Apr (Jon Cefus). (78 counties)



Leslie Sours photographed this sweet image of a Pied-billed Grebe with chicks on 16 May during the ONWR auto tour.

Horned Grebe

The season's second-last sighting was by Alex Champagne, of one bird at the north end of Hoover Reservoir on 20 May. Seven days later John Pogacnik saw one at Lake Erie Bluffs, which was the last but for one off Kelleys Island on 01 Jun. The several earlier May sightings came from **Erie**, **Geauga**, **Lucas**, **Ottawa**, and **Summit**. Tom Bartlett contributed the two highest counts, both from Kelleys Island; they were of 87 on 19 Apr and 129 on 09 Apr. The most elsewhere were 75 at Buck Creek on 25 Mar (Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker). (68 counties)

Red-necked Grebe

Jon Cefus saw the first of the season along the Ohio & Erie Canal Trail, **Summit**, on 04 Mar. Shane Myers saw the last at the Findlay Reservoirs on 15 Apr. Three sites each hosted two: Rocky River Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 18 Mar (Bev Walborn), Clear Fork Reservoir on 20 Mar (Anna Wittmer), and Sippo Lake, **Stark**, on 07 Apr (Cynthia Norris). (13 counties)

Eared Grebe

All of the reports were of solo birds. Robert Royse found the first of the year in the Deer Creek Lake wetlands, **Pickaway**, on 22 Mar. The next spent from 28 Mar to 06 Apr at Beaver Creek Reservoir, **Seneca**; Tom Bartlett discovered it. Sally Isacco and Ian Lynch separately reported the last, from Headlands on 25 Apr. **Erie** and **Lake** locations also contributed sightings.

Double-crested Cormorant

The high count was 1200, off Wendy Park on 12 Apr (Elizabeth McQuaid). The inland high was 660, at the Berlin Lake dam on 08 Apr (Matthew Valencic). (75 counties)

American White Pelican

Buck Creek hosted the first of the year, three which Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker found on 22 Mar. Numerous sightings continued into summer. A Biggest Week in American Birding group found the high count of 36 in the Metzger Unit of Winous Point on 13 May. The inland high was the 33 which several observers noted over U.S. 33 on the **Auglaize/Noble** line on 18 Apr. See the "Comments" section for some speculation about this species. (16 counties)

American Bittern

Tj Todd saw the first, in a Grand Lake St. Marys feeder canal, **Auglaize**, on 03 Apr. Benjamin Miller saw seven of the nine he counted at Darby Creek on 02 May; he said they were "Heard everywhere!" Other birders found up to eight there on other dates. The most elsewhere were five along the length of Cedar Point Road, **Lucas**, on 15 May. David and Tammy McQuaid saw one of them and heard the other four. (28 counties)

Least Bittern

Wendy Becker heard the first, at Darby Creek on 17 Apr. Triples were encountered at the Miami Whitewater Forest wetlands, **Hamilton**, on 13 May (Brian Wulker) and 22 May (Joshua Eastlake), and also at Maumee Bay on 15 May (Drew Weber). **Clermont**, **Cuyahoga**, **Delaware**, **Erie**, **Hancock**, **Lake**, **Marion**, and **Ottawa** also contributed reports.



Photographer Darlene Friedman sharply focused on this Eared Grebe as the high winds on 02 Apr curled the feathers over his back at Beaver Creek Reservation, **Seneca**.

Great Blue Heron

Ron Sempier and John Games found about 100 scattered throughout Big Island on 29 Apr. Magee hosted 74 on 09 May (David Yeamans). Only *Jackson* and *Meigs* did not produce reports.

Great Egret

Jon Cefus and the Ostermillers separately reported the first of the year, at Killbuck on 11 Mar. Joe Brehm saw the next, at Lake Logan SP, *Hocking*, on 17 Mar. The high count was 150, by Bob Cooper at Magee on 12 May. James Muller saw at least six active nests at Campbell Memorial Park, *Franklin*, on 24 Apr; he counted 22 birds in the area for the inland high number. (62 counties)



Leslie Sours captured this Great Egret feeding on a frog at ONWR on 14 May.

Snowy Egret

Multiple birders saw one or two in ONWR on 18 Apr, the earliest date. The high count of seven was shared by Randy Kreager near Magee on 22 Apr and Karen Beaty at ONWR on 10 May. The only sighting away from the Lake Erie counties was a single which Charles Thompson found at Ice Creek, *Lawrence*, on 07 May. *Erie*, *Lorain*, and *Sandusky* also hosted Snowys.

Little Blue Heron

The four locations with sightings are: Twin Churches Lake, *Perry*, one on 19 and 20 Apr (m. obs.)
A pond by Jackson Street, *Lake*, one on 27 May (Andy Avram, Dave Chase)
Magee, one or two between 12 and 23 May (m. obs.)

Tricolored Heron

One was reported in *Lucas*; the OBRC has only an internet report with no details.

Cattle Egret

Paul Sherwood saw the first, two by Bogart Road, *Erie*, on 19 Apr. He saw three and six there on 20 and 21 Apr, respectively. Keith Laakkonen made the high count of nine, at Metzger on 13 May.

The rest of the reports came from other *Erie* and *Lucas* sites plus *Cuyahoga* and *Ottawa*.

Green Heron

Andrew Cannizzaro noted "A really early arrival!" at Gilmore Ponds, *Butler*, on 29 Mar. One made it to Darby Creek by 06 Apr (Ronnie Clark). Karen Zeleznik counted 10 while walking the railroad tracks north of CVNP's Station Road entrance on 08 May. (60 counties)

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Paula Lozano counted 57 on the Cuyahoga River shore opposite Cleveland's Merwin Street on 09 Apr. (28 counties)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

One visited the Preston Road colony site and near-by Wolfe Park on 29, 30, and 31 May, and again once in Jun (m. obs.), but did not nest. Not that it matters much at this point, but Preston Road is in Columbus, not Bexley as is often reported.



Leslie Sours obtained this image of an adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron on 29 May at the defunct nesting site on Preston Road.

Glossy Ibis

Up to four were reported in *Lucas*, *Sandusky*, and *Wyandot*, but the OBRC has only what it could collect from the internet for any of them.



This Cattle Egret posed in front of a perfectly appropriate bovine background for Su Snyder on 12 May in Erie.

White-faced Ibis

The OBRC has documentation from *Lucas* but nothing about one bird reported in *Cuyahoga*.

Plegadis sp. Ibis

Unspiciated reports came from *Cuyahoga*, *Franklin*, *Lucas*, *Sandusky*, and *Wyandot* but none were documented for the OBRC.

Black Vulture

The highest count was 60, by Thomas Czubek along a short stretch of U.S. 50 in *Clermont* on 29 Mar. Matt Anderson saw one in *Maumee*, *Lucas*, on 11 Mar, a very early date for one to roam that far north. That bird and one at Huntington Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 03 May (m. obs.) were the only ones north of U.S. 30. (44 counties)

Turkey Vulture

Chris Swan noted about 300 at an Ashtabula River overlook in that county on 04 May. Jen Brumfield contributed the second-highest count, 176 passing over Wendy Park on 29 Mar. (all 88 counties)

Osprey

The first date was 11 Mar. That day Ron Furnish and Marie Mullins saw one above I-275 in *Clermont* and Phil Swan saw another on the ice of Buckeye Lake, *Perry*. Charles Bombaci saw two males, two females, and four whose sex he couldn't determine at the north end of Hoover Reservoir on 23 May. The second-highest count was five, at that site and another also in *Delaware* on four dates. (70 counties)

Mississippi Kite

The OBRC has documentation from *Lucas*. An internet report of one in *Portage* might have enough of a description to enable a vote.

Bald Eagle

A Biggest Week trip to Winous Point on 10 May yielded 50. Kent Miller saw the most away from Lake Erie, 21 on the ice of Berlin Lake on 25 Mar. (78 counties)



Tom Fishburn chronicled activity at this Bald Eagle nest in the Rocky River Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, with this view of the nestlings calling hungrily for a meal on 03 May.

Northern Harrier

The high count of five was shared by three parties. Daniel DeLapp saw that many at Fernald on 05 Mar, Scott Pendleton's were by Industrial Parkway, *Harrison*, on 15 Mar, and Ben Warner and Anna Wittmer tied them at Killdeer on 31 Mar. (57 counties)

Sharp-shinned Hawk

A group of observers counted up to 28 passing Huntington Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 03 May. The most elsewhere were eight, seen at Volunteer Bay, *Erie*, on 02 Apr and Edgewater on 12 Apr (both Jen Brumfield). A Kent State University Bird Club outing tallied three at Lake Rockwell, *Portage*, on 13 Mar, for the highest number away from the Lake Erie shore. (51 counties)

Cooper's Hawk

The high count was four. Kim Warner saw that many at Maumee Bay on 01 Apr. So did Tom Bartlett at Kelleys Island on 19 Apr. and Bob and Freda Walker at Irwin Prairie SNP, *Lucas*, on 09 May. (76 counties)

Northern Goshawk

An internet report from *Cuyahoga* has a description. One from *Trumbull* has no details.

Red-shouldered Hawk

The high count was nine; Benjamin Miller saw them pass over his home in *Knox* on 08 Apr. The second-highest count was six, by Jen Brumfield at the Fitzwater access to the Towpath Trail, *Cuyahoga*, on 11 Apr, and by Bruce Simpson at Lake Hope/Zaleski on 04 May. (69 counties)

Broad-winged Hawk

The first was about two weeks early; Eric Elvert well described it at Spring Valley WA, *Warren*, on 18 Mar. The next were one or two at four locations on 09 Apr. Rob Ripma contributed the high count of 26, at ONWR on 12 Apr. Tim Houghton's 19 at Aullwood Audubon Center, *Montgomery*, was the second-highest number. (55 counties)

Red-tailed Hawk

Jen Brumfield counted the high of 21 passing Edgewater on 12 Apr. Every county but *Meigs* produced at least one sighting.

Rough-legged Hawk

Allison Oborn saw the last, at Magee on 24 Apr. Scott Pendleton found 12 at Industrial Parkway, *Harrison*, on 15 Mar. Scott also found nine that day in the New Reclaim Area, *Harrison*, and Fred Losi had also seen nine at Killdeer on 08 Mar. (30 counties)

Golden Eagle

All of the sightings were of birds in flight. Brian

McCaskey noted the first of the season, and first of the year away from The Wilds, at Lake La Su An WA, *Williams*, on 02 Mar. Kim Warner saw the last at a private property in *Lucas* on 13 Apr. Two at Edgewater on 05 Apr were the only multiple count (Jen Brumfield and Tim Jasinski). *Muskingum*, *Ottawa*, *Stark*, *Vinton*, and two additional *Lucas* sites also contributed sightings.

King Rail

The first was seen at ONWR on 10 May (Phil Doerr). BSBO banders attached a transmitter to one they captured at Winous Point on 15 May. Other sightings came from Pipe Creek, Mallard Club Marsh WA (*Lucas*), and Maumee Bay.

Virginia Rail

The first was a bit early; Ronnie Clark saw it at Darby Creek on 19 Mar. Sightings were nearly continuous, there and elsewhere, from that date on. The high count was nine. Bryant Atanasio found that many along the ONWR auto tour route on both 15 and 16 May. (34 counties)

Sora

Carol Holdcroft noted the first, in the *Warren* section of Spring Valley WA on 31 Mar. Rob Ripma reported 30 from Mallard Club Marsh WA, *Lucas*, on 06 May and wrote that they were "... calling from everywhere...Likely undercounted." Benjamin Miller found the second-highest number, a vocal 15 in one part of Darby Creek on 02 May. (40 counties)

Common Gallinule

Josh Stapleton saw the first, at East Sandusky Bay MP, *Erie*, on 05 Apr. That's early for the state, let alone the north coast. The second, at Magee on 15 Apr; was more timely (Kim Warner). Steve Jones found 20 at Big Island on 17 May as did Ron Sempier on 23 May. Audrey Whitlock counted 12 during the ONWR auto tour on 09 May. (18 counties)

American Coot

Many reports of 500 or more came from Big Island; Ron Sempier's 1280 on 11 Apr was the largest number. The most elsewhere were 800 at Killdeer on 28 Mar (Charles Bombaci). (79 counties)

Sandhill Crane

Karl Overman noted the first of the season; he heard one on 10 Mar while he was at Magee. Clet Herman counted 60 along Hicks-Edge Road, *Defiance*, on 15 Mar. David A. Brinkman's 50 near Dayton on 09 Apr was the second-highest number, and the remaining reports topped out at 25. (43 counties)

Black-necked Stilt

These unmistakable birds, newly released from the Review List, were found at four sites: Metzger,

where one to two were seen from 30 Apr through May (m. obs.); Killdeer, where Irina Shulgina saw two on 06 May; Pickerel Creek, which hosted one or two between 11 and 23 May (m. obs.), and Winous Point, where at least three arrived in mid-May and remained into Jun (John Simpson).



Vic Fazio nicely documented this elegant Black-necked Stilt on 16 May at Pickerel Creek.

American Avocet

On the first date of 24 Apr, one or two were at Conneaut (Daisy Asmus, Chris Swan), Magee (Allison Oborn), and Maumee Bay (m. obs.). A BSBO field trip saw the last of the season, at Pipe Creek on 13 May. Matt Kemp and Charles Owens independently counted 102 at Metzger on 01 May, but only 40 remained on 05 May (Lisa Romaniuk) and none thereafter. Ed Wransky's 52 at Sandy Ridge on 30 Apr was the highest number elsewhere. Reports also came from *Hocking*, *Lake*, and *Stark*.



This lovely composition of 40 American Avocets landing at Sandy Ridge was caught by Tom Fishburn on 30 Apr.

Black-bellied Plover

Heather Slayton saw the first, at Maumee Bay on 30 Apr. Sightings were steady from 02 May to 25 May and then skipped to the last, two birds on 31 May at Headlands (Dave Chase). The highest count was 50, shared by Denise DuPon on 12 May and Andy Jones on 15 May, both at



Photographer Debbie Parker obtained stunning detail of this Sandhill Crane at Sandy Ridge on 31 Mar.

Metzger. The most at a site away from Lake Erie were 30 at Lost Bridge on 17 and 18 May (m. obs.). (14 counties)

American Golden-Plover

A *Lucas* private property hosted the first, on 04 Apr (Kim Warner), and Metzger the last, on 25 May (Carlton Schooley, Kevin Lee). Victor Fazio III counted (not estimated) 1170 at a private wetland in *Wyandot* on 07 May, and noted that most were in breeding plumage. The second-highest number was an estimated 500 at Metzger on 11 May (Jeff Harvey, Ethan Kistler). (17 counties)

Semipalmated Plover

The first was a little early when a BRAS field trip saw it at Sandy Ridge on 22 Apr. Brian Wulker counted 75 at Lost Bridge on 15 May. (40 counties)

Piping Plover

Internet reports from *Hancock* and *Lake* included photographs, so they can probably be evaluated by the OBRC. A report from *Ashtabula* had no details.

Killdeer

The high count was 40. Ben Morrison saw his at Wills Creek, *Noble*, on 13 Mar. Ben Warner and Anna Wittmer equaled that number at Killdeer's Pond 27 on 31 Mar. Every county except *Jackson*, *Meigs*, and *Pike* produced sightings.

Spotted Sandpiper

Ronnie Clark saw the first, along Murnan Road (near Darby Creek) on 03 Apr. The next were singles on 11 Apr at Old Reid Park, *Clark* (Brian Menker), and in Grove City, *Franklin* (Gayle Penix). Shane Myers and Robert Sams found 25 at the Findlay Reservoirs on 16 May. Tom Frankel saw 23 at Headlands on 15 May. (68 counties)

Solitary Sandpiper

Ryan Jacob saw one at Metzger on 06 Apr, the earliest date. The last bird but for one in mid-Jun was at Conneaut on 30 May (the Shaykos). The high count was 20 by Ed Neu at Spring Valley WA, *Greene*, on 04 May. (54 counties)

Greater Yellowlegs

The first was later than usual; Ronnie Clark found it at Darby Creek on 20 Mar. The last two just missed our summer; Kim Warner saw them in *Lucas* on 31 May. Ron Sempier counted 92 at Big Island on 11 Apr. Regina Schieltz saw about 50 in Elroy, *Darke*, on 16 Apr. (54 counties)

Willet

Ryan Jacob and Kim Warner separately reported the first, three at Metzger on 25 Apr. Lots of

folks saw the last, at Deer Creek SP on 21 May. Jeff Harvey's 104 at Walborn Reservoir, *Stark*, on 03 May prompted him to write, "Counted with scope twice. Most I have ever seen." Gregory Bennet had estimated about 100 at nearby Nimisila Reservoir earlier that day; they were almost surely the same flock. The most elsewhere were a more typical 22 at the Paulding Reservoir on 30 Apr (Scott Myers). Three locations each hosted seven, the next highest number. (14 counties)

Lesser Yellowlegs

The first and last were at the same private *Lucas* property, on 12 Mar and 31 May respectively (Kim Warner). In between, the high count was 81, by Joshua Eastlake at Newtown Bottoms, *Hamilton*, on 26 Apr. (50 counties)

Upland Sandpiper

The first was passing through Wendy Park when Jen Brumfield saw it on 18 Apr. Scott Pendleton saw the next, two on 26 Apr at The Bowl, where they likely stayed to nest. The last (probable) migrant was at Fairport Nursery Road, *Lake*, on 29 May (Cory Chiappone). Many birders enjoyed the four by Stange Road, *Ottawa*, on 13 May. *Clark*, *Franklin*, *Greene*, and *Harrison* also had sightings.

Whimbrel

The reports are:

- One at Lost Bridge on 17 May (m. obs.) and two there the next day (Brian Wulker)
- Sixteen at Indian Lake on 18 May (Troy Shively)
- Fourteen at Conneaut on 23 May (John Pogacnik)
- Forty-seven flying over Killdeer on 25 May (Irina Shulgina)
- One at Fairport Harbor, *Lake*, on 31 May (*vide* Jen Brumfield)

Hudsonian Godwit

Bev Walborn found one along Corduroy Road, *Lucas*, on 12 May; dozens of birders saw the bird later that day and the next.

Marbled Godwit

The reports are:

- Two at Metzger on 21 Apr (Tim Drewyur and Tim Haney)
- One at the *Paulding* sewage lagoons on 23 Apr (Carrie and Scott Myers)
- One at Caesar Creek on 07 May (Eric Elvert)
- One at Metzger from 07 to 16 May (m. obs.)

Ruddy Turnstone

Many birders saw the first, an early arrival at Metzger on 26 Apr. The high count was 30; the Ostermillers saw them along the Metzger outer dike on 25 May. Tom Kemp provided the second-highest number, 16 at CPNWR on 24 May.

The inland maximum was five, shared by Alexander Clark at Lost Bridge on 17 May and Troy Shively at Indian Lake on 14 May. *Ashtabula*, *Cuyahoga*, *Fulton*, *Lake*, *Ottawa*, *Pickaway*, and *Sandusky* also contributed sightings.

Ruff

The OBRC has formal documentation from *Trumbull* and some information and photos of one in *Erie*.



This female Ruff, a rare visitor, was well photographed on 19 Apr by Amy Didion during a Firelands Audubon tour of Medusa Marsh.

Stilt Sandpiper

The reports are:

- One at ONWR on 09 May (Chris Peet)
- One at Killdeer on 10 May (Irina Shulgina) and 13 May (Ron Sempier)
- One at Metzger on 12 May (R. Lee Reed) and 17 May (Mike Wielgopolski, Rob and Sandy Harlan)
- One (the Metzger bird?) along Corduroy Road, *Lucas*, on 13 May (m. obs.)
- One at Lost Bridge on 17 May (Paul Krusling)

Sanderling

Matt Orebaugh saw the first, at ONWR on 09 May. Ed Wransky saw three at Bay Point, *Ottawa*, on 23 May; they were the last but for a single early Jun sighting. ONWR hosted 10 on 13 May (Gloria Nikolai). The inland high was Anthony Popiel's duo at Sandy Ridge on 21 May. Reports also came from *Ashtabula*, *Clark*, *Erie*, and *Lake*.

Dunlin

Louis Hoying saw the first, at Lake Loramie SP, *Shelby*, on 23 Mar. Sightings continued, though thinly, into Jun. Wes Hatch found almost 2000 at Pickerel Creek on 14 May. The next-highest number was 900, at Metzger on 16 May (m. obs.). Charles Bombaci tallied the inland high count of 113 at Killdeer on 24 Apr. (33 counties)

Least Sandpiper

The one which Ronnie Clark found along Darby

Creek, *Franklin* (but not in the MP), on 11 Apr was a pioneer. One at Headlands on 31 May was the last of the season (Tom Frankel) though a few stragglers were seen in early Jun. Kent Miller counted 80 at Shreve Lake WA, *Wayne*, on 16 May. A group from Earlham College and Brian Wulker reported the second-highest number, 50, at Lost Bridge on 10 and 15 May respectively. (48 counties)

White-rumped Sandpiper

Ronnie Clark discovered the first, in a flooded field west of Columbus on 05 May. Lots of folks saw the next one, at Metzger on 08 May. Jeff Harvey waved goodbye to the last of the season at Conneaut on 24 May though there were a few stragglers until mid-Jun. Brian Wulker's six at Lost Bridge on 15 May was the high count. Other *Lucas* sites and *Hancock*, *Licking*, *Mercer*, *Ottawa*, *Sandusky*, *Wayne*, and *Wyandot* also contributed sightings of up to four birds.

Pectoral Sandpiper

Jeanne Hrenko well described a slightly early bird hanging out with Killdeer at a *Cuyahoga* business park on 10 Mar. One at Camp Berry, *Hancock* (Jeff Loughman and Robert Sams), and two at Springfield Marsh SNP, *Seneca* (Tom Bartlett), on 15 Mar were the next. Amy and Kevin O'Neil saw the last, five in Delaware WA on 25 May. Brian Ortman counted 225 in a *Madison* stubble field on 15 Apr; Regina Schieltz topped him with about 300 in Elroy, *Darke*, on 16 Apr. (42 counties)

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Charles Bombaci's four at Killdeer on 24 Apr were early birds. Sightings continued into Jun. Brian Wulker provided the high count of 100, at Lost Bridge on 18 May. The most elsewhere were 45 which Regina Schieltz found in the Woods Road wetlands, *Darke*, on 25 May. (36 counties)

Western Sandpiper

Donald Morse, Jr., got a diagnostic photo of this rare spring migrant at East Fork on 27 Apr.

Short-billed Dowitcher

Metzger hosted the first, three on 26 Apr (Katie Anderson). Jen Brumfield saw the last, another three at Burke Airport on 26 May. Steve Jones noted 130 at Big Island on 15 May and multiple observers reported about 100 at Metzger on 15 and 16 May. (17 counties)

Long-billed Dowitcher

These are less commonly seen in spring than fall, and in spring usually arrive earlier than their Short-billed cousins. The reports are of one at Charles Mill Lake, *Ashland*, on 29 and 31 Mar

(Gary Cowell), and one at Darby Creek on 11 Apr (Ronnie Clark) and 12 Apr (Leslie Sours).

Wilson's Snipe

James Gore counted a total of 102 spread out among several parts of Darby Creek on 02 Apr. Brian Wulker found the second-highest number, 60, at Fernald on 06 Apr. (46 counties)

American Woodcock

Though there were several Feb reports, the first of this season wasn't until 08 Mar, when Chris Zacharias found seven at Possum Creek MP, *Montgomery*. Andy Avram spent 90 minutes at Lake Erie Bluffs on 19 Mar and wrote, "Woodcock were in every field in the area, both Lane and Clark Road entrances. 15-20 were actually seen flying around and 20-30 were heard only. All total 40-50 were encountered. This was the most Woodcock I have ever witnessed." The most elsewhere were Eli M. Miller's 15 in Woodbury WA, *Coshocton*, on 18 Mar. (59 counties)

Wilson's Phalarope

Margy Trumbull saw the first, by Olde Brookside Road, *Lucas*, on 07 May. The last were singles on 22 May at Burke Airport (Jen Brumfield) and along Sebring-Warner Road, *Darke* (Regina Schieltz). Matt and Rachelle Kappler saw two at Pickerel Creek on 17 May, the only report exceeding one. *Erie*, *Wyandot*, and a second *Cuyahoga* site also produced sightings.

Red-necked Phalarope

Greg Pasek saw the season's only one, at Pickerel Creek on 20 May.

Bonaparte's Gull

Wendy Becker found the first since 09 Feb, three birds at Alum Creek on 07 Mar. Jen Brumfield estimated 2800 were at Wendy Park on 05 Apr and 600 to 1400 there on other dates. The most elsewhere were about 800 at Deer Creek Lake on 28 Mar (Robert Roysel). (63 counties)

Little Gull

John Pogacnik saw one on each of 05 Apr and 03 May during his lakeshore surveys in North Perry, *Lake*.

Laughing Gull

The reports, all of single birds, are:

In a field by U.S. 42 in *Greene* between 18 and 20 Mar (m. obs.)

At Wendy Park on 11 Apr (Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.) and 14 Apr (Jen Brumfield)

Off North Perry, *Lake*, on 03 May (John Pogacnik)

Franklin's Gull

The reports are:

One at Rocky Fork on 28 Mar (Bill Stanley)

One at Lost Bridge on 24 Apr (Brian Wulker)

Two at Mosquito Lake SP on 08 May (Don Keffer)

One to two at Alum Creek SP between 17 and 21 May (m. obs.)

One at Hoover Reservoir on 23 May (Charles Bombaci)

Four at Indian Lake on 24 May (Troy Shively)

Three at Burke Airport on 30 May (m. obs.)

Ring-billed Gull

Sameer Apte provided the high count of 5000, from the Scranton Flats vantage point on 01 Mar. Jeff Loughman contributed the second-highest number, 4100 at the *Seneca* landfill on 06 Mar. (80 counties)

Herring Gull

The waters off Wendy Park hosted about 3500 on 29 Mar (Jen Brumfield). The most elsewhere were 1500 at a landfill in *Tuscarawas* on 06 Mar (Jon Cefus). (64 counties)

Thayer's Gull

The reports are:

One to two at various locations along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland between 01 and 18 Mar (m. obs.)

One unusually far inland at the Findlay Reservoirs on 14 Mar (Shane Myers)

One at Kelleys Island on 20 Mar (Tom Bartlett)

One (a holdover or returnee?) at Wendy Park on 16 Apr (Jen Brumfield)

Iceland Gull

Jen Brumfield saw the last, at Wendy Park on 16 Apr. Jon Cefus and Kent Miller saw five at the Shroyer ball fields, *Stark*, on 05 and 06 Mar. *Erie*, *Lucas*, *Mahoning*, *Montgomery*, *Summit*, and *Tuscarawas* also had sightings.

Thayer's/Iceland Gull

Robert Sams wasn't sure which species was the one at the *Hancock* landfill on 06 Mar.

Glaucous Gull

John Pogacnik saw the latest, at Lake Erie Bluffs on 19 May. Kent Miller tallied the high count of eight, again at the Shroyer ball fields, *Stark*. (16 counties, again as far south as *Montgomery*)



Photographer Ron Sempier captured this Glaucous Gull in flight at Indian Lake, *Logan*, on 09 Apr.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

The last but for a late Jun sighting was by Tom Frankel at Headlands on 31 May. The second-last were singles at one *Ottawa* and three *Lucas* locations on 16 May. Interestingly, the high count of 11 was somewhat inland at the *Seneca* landfill on 06 Mar (Jeff Loughman). So was the second-highest count, Kent Miller's six at the Shroyer ball fields, *Stark*, on 05 Mar. (27 counties as far south as *Montgomery*)

[Herring x Glaucous ("Nelson's") Gull]

Sameer Apte saw one at Scranton Flats on 01 Mar; it was probably the same bird seen near there on 26 Feb. Jon Cefus reported another among the many hundreds of gulls at the Shroyer ball fields, also on 01 Mar.

Great Black-backed Gull

Tom Bartlett counted 155 off Kelleys Island on 20 Mar and noted that "probably more especially younger birds [were] on ice flows to the south; most [of the 155] were adult birds which were easier to see". The second-highest concentration was Cory Chiappone's 120 at Eastlake Power. Kent Miller found the inland high of 88 at the Shroyer fields on 03 Mar. (28 counties as far south as *Warren*)

[Herring x Great Black-backed Gull]

Jon Cefus also reported this hybrid at the Shroyer ball fields on 01 Mar. Alex Eberts got a diagnostic photo of one at the Scranton Flats on 05 Mar.

Caspian Tern

Three locations shared the first sightings, all of single birds, on 02 Apr. They were Huron Harbor, *Erie* (Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo), Eastlake Power (Cory Chiappone), and Maumee Bay (Ryan Jacob). The Ostermillers noted about 350 at Pickerel Creek on 18 May. The most elsewhere were 200 at Wendy Park on 19 Apr (Dennis Mersky) and the inland high was Frank Frick's 11 at Lost Bridge on 25 Apr. (34 counties)

Black Tern

Findlay Reservoirs hosted the first one, on 26 Apr (Robert Sams). The high count was 15, by R. Lee Reed at Metzger on 16 May, and the inland maximum number was six, by Troy Shively at Indian Lake on 18 May. Reports also came from *Erie*, *Marion*, *Ottawa*, *Paulding*, *Wood*, and *Wyandot*.

Common Tern

Tom Frankel saw the first, at Fairport Harbor, *Lake*, on 05 Apr. Victor Fazio III saw about 550 off Lakeshore Drive, Port Clinton, *Ottawa*, and noted that "the group was a contiguous mass in a feeding frenzy." He saw more than 350 there the next day. Andy Stepniewski found 200 at Metzger on 11 May, the most elsewhere. Troy

Shively's 17 at Indian Lake on 14 May was the inland high count. (19 counties south to *Clark*)

Forster's Tern

Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. saw the earliest, at Ivancic Marina, *Cuyahoga*, on 28 Mar. A week passed until the next singles were seen, on 04 Apr at Salt Fork Reservoir, *Guernsey* (Eli M. Miller), and Mentor Lagoons NP, *Lake* (Ian Lynch). William Zwartjes counted 68 at Magee on 22 May, and Edward Ingold's 10 at the Findlay Reservoirs on 16 May was the inland high number. (26 counties; of them only *Butler*, *Clermont*, *Hamilton*, and *Noble* are south of I-70)

Rock Pigeon

The high count of 200 was shared. Miranda DeBoard saw that many at Veterans Park, *Montgomery*, on both 10 and 25 Mar, and Eric Liebold found his at Walsh Park, *Sandusky*. (80 counties)

Eurasian Collared-Dove

The high count of these now fairly widespread birds was four. Gary Cowell found that many at Perrysville Union Cemetery, *Ashland*, on 06 Mar. On 02 May, Bill and René McGill tied him in Celina, *Mercer*, as did Robby Bradley at the hatchery at the other, *Auglaize*, end of Grand Lake St. Marys the same day. (14 counties)

White-winged Dove

The OBRC has documentation from *Hancock* but nothing regarding a *Cuyahoga* report.

Mourning Dove

Heather Luedecke and Angelika Nelson counted 63 during their BBS rounds in *Union* on 30 May; all other counts were smaller. Only *Pike* did not produce a sighting.

Dove sp.

Kirby Adams photographed one of two seen by many at Metzger on 09 May which was none of the three species above; he said it was "likely a domestic escapee". Rob Harlan agreed and suggested that they were "fresh from a nearby wedding".



Breeding activity was in full swing for Common Terns at Conneaut on 27 May; this image is by Bob Lane.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

The first one, in Cooper Hollow WA, **Jackson**, on 21 Apr was a bit early (Margaret Bowman). Katrina Schultes found seven along an expanded BBS route in the Anderson Meadows section of Wayne NF, **Lawrence**, on 29 May. (64 counties)

Black-billed Cuckoo

Kyle Brooks found the first, at The Ridges, an Ohio University property in **Athens**, on 01 May. The high count was four, shared by Charles Gates at OOPMP on 10 May and Tom Bartlett *et al.* in the Jones Preserve on 18 May. (42 counties)



Jenny Bowman snapped this portrait of a Black-billed Cuckoo at Blackhand Gorge SNP **Licking**, on 05 May.

Barn Owl

The reports are:

One in **Holmes** while he (birder Eli M. Miller, not the owl) was biking to work on 10 Mar
One northbound over Columbia Woods Park, **Summit**, in the late evening of 10 Apr (Rob Harlan)

Two in an old barn at a Big Island inholding on 24 Apr (Charles Bombaci) and one there on 20 May (Ron Sempier)

One at the Edge of Appalachia Preserve, **Adams**, on 15 May (Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps)

Two at a different Big Island site on 17 May (Jacob Roalef)

Eastern Screech-Owl

The high count was five. Many observers noted that many at and near the nest boxes at Maumee Bay on dates between 15 and 24 May. Maggie Peretto also saw five, at Magee on 16 May. (37 counties)

Great Horned Owl

The high count was four, achieved at six locations in four of the 50 counties which produced sightings.

Snowy Owl

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At Cleveland Hopkins Airport, seen from the 100th Bomb Group restaurant on 03 Mar (Christopher Collins)

In Willoughby Hills, **Lake**, on 06 Mar (Mary Beth Gersten)

In Caley Reservation, **Lorain**, being harassed by four crows on 13 Mar (Ed Wransky)

Barred Owl

David A. Brinkman counted six at East Fork on 02 May. (55 counties)

Long-eared Owl

The last (and most) were three at ONWR on 25 Mar (Kim Warner). On 16 Mar, Ron Sempier saw one at Killdeer, and that same day Carlton Schooley found two near Dalton, **Wayne**. There were duos at other sites as well. **Franklin**, **Holmes**, and **Lake** also produced sightings.



This Long-eared Owl peered down at photographer Ron Sempier at Killdeer Plains on 16 Mar.

Short-eared Owl

The last flew past Katie Anderson in the **Ottawa** section of Magee on 26 Apr. Two at Big Island on 17 Apr were the second-last (Luke Schrader). The high count was nine; Scott Pendleton saw



Kevin McKelvey found one of the Maumee Bay SP boardwalk's resident Eastern Screech-Owls on 12 May.

them along Industrial Parkway, **Harrison**, on 15 Mar. The day before, he had seen six in the New Reclaim Area, **Harrison**. The most in another county were five along Wilderness Road on 05 Mar (Dana and Sean Ricker). Reports also came from **Franklin**, **Geauga**, **Hamilton**, **Hancock**, **Holmes**, **Lorain**, **Marion**, and **Wyandot**.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

The reports, all of single birds, are:

From winter to 13 Mar at Caley Reservation, **Lorain** (m. obs.)

On Cable Lane, **Athens**, on 04 Mar (Phil Cantino)

At Kelleys Island on 09 Mar (Tom Bartlett)

At Killdeer on 08, 12, and 22 Mar (m. obs.)

Common Nighthawk

Amanda Soto well described one overhead in **Delaware** on 12 Apr, a week or so ahead of schedule for the middle of the state. One in Cincinnati's Clifton neighborhood on 29 Apr was the next (m. obs.). The highest count was 16 by Ann and Dwight Chasar in CVNP on 16 May. (46 counties)



The ONWR auto tour featured a grand view of this roosting Common Nighthawk for Su Snyder on 12 May.

Chuck-will's-widow

The reports are:

Two along Route 278 in Zaleski SF on 07 May (Bruce Simpson)

Up to five at and near the Eulett Center on Waggoner Riffle Road, **Adams**, beginning 08 May (m. obs.)

One in **Gallia** on 09 May (Karen Neal)

One heard calling near the Maumee Bay campground on 09 May (m. obs.)

Eastern Whip-poor-will

Zachary Allen heard the first, two at his **Scioto** farm on 07 Apr. He heard one there on 18 and 19 Apr as well. The next were three which Howard Gratz found in Wayne NE, **Perry**, on 20 Apr. One was seen or heard at Magee almost daily between 26 Apr and 13 May. Kevin Ginn and Ryan Pereus heard nine along Girdham Road in OOPMP beginning about 9:00 pm on 18 May. (19 counties)

Chimney Swift

Allyson Arulanantham found two in Whetstone Park, **Franklin**, on 02 Apr to start their season. Nathan Goldberg estimated about 500 ("A huge swarm on both sides of the highway") were swirling above I-90 east of Cleveland on 20 May. Every county but **Fayette**, **Jackson**, **Meigs**, and **Monroe** produced sightings.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

The first date was 18 Apr, when Sam Romeo saw one at his **Athens** home and Troy Shively another in Wapakoneta, **Auglaize**. The high count of eight was also shared, by Charles Bombaci at Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 05 May and John Pogacnik at Lake Erie Bluffs on 18 May. (79 counties)

Belted Kingfisher

The highest count was eight. Benjamin Miller found them while canoeing eight miles of the Kokosing River, **Knnox**, on 17 Apr. John Pogacnik tied him on 19 Apr at Lake Erie Bluffs. (79 counties)

Red-headed Woodpecker

Daniel DeLapp found 18 in OOPMP on 13 May. (73 counties)

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Tim Jasinski *et al.* counted 20 in Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 19 Apr. Only **Pike** did not yield a sighting.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Jackie Augustine saw what was probably the last migrant in Lima, **Allen**, on 27 May. Later sightings were at known nesting areas in the northeast. A Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**, walk produced nine on 03 Apr (m. obs.). (63 counties)

Downy Woodpecker

CNC Rowe Woods hosted 45 on 13 May (Peggy Page), and Tom Bartlett found 36 on Kelleys Island on 20 Mar. (all 88 counties)

Hairy Woodpecker

CNC Rowe Woods again produced the high count, 15 on 01 Mar (Tracy Cambron). The second-highest was seven, in Hills and Dales MP, **Montgomery**, on 04 Apr (Brian Menker). (81 counties)

Northern Flicker

A three hour Metroparks outing at Lake Erie Bluffs on 12 Apr produced 325, most of them passing by overhead (m. obs.) Jen Brumfield counted 35 in an hour at Volunteer Bay, **Erie**, on 02 Apr. **Lawrence** and **Pike** did not provide sightings.

Pileated Woodpecker

The high count of six was shared by four par-

ties. Fred Dinkelbach *et al.* found that many on both 12 and 26 Apr during Spring Bird Walks in CVNP. Gregory Wheeler had already seen six at Highbanks MP, **Delaware**, on 15 Mar, and Bruce Simpson later found his in Lake Hope/Zaleski on 04 May. (80 counties)

American Kestrel

Charles Bombaci achieved the high count of seven at Big Island on 28 Mar. (81 counties)

Merlin

Brian McKaskey found the last, at Lake La Su An WA, **Williams**, on 22 May. Four locations hosted two on seven dates among them. (27 counties)

Peregrine Falcon

The McGills saw five at the nest on the PNC Building in Cincinnati on 09 May. (29 counties)

Prairie Falcon

The OBRC has a report from **Lucas**.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Tim Haney and Tim Thompson saw the first, at Magee on 04 May. The high count of three was also at Magee, on 24 May (Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps). The last of the season were singles on 29 May at Lake Erie Bluffs (John Pogacnik) and Myerah NP, **Logan** (John Games and Ron Sempier), but there were also two sightings on 01 Jun. (17 counties)



Leslie Sours shot a cameo of this Olive-sided Flycatcher as it perched at Magee's East Beach on 15 May.

Eastern Wood-Pewee

The first date was 24 Apr. On that day Andrea Anderson saw two in Shawnee and Bettyann Nagy saw one in Mill Creek Park, **Mahoning**. Dave Chase counted 23 at Headlands on 25 May; the second-highest number was Cole Di-Fabio's 15 at Holden on 28 May. (79 counties)

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Heritage Preserve, **Franklin**, hosted the first,

for Jeffrey Pontius on 04 May. Tom Bartlett *et al.* banded two and saw or heard five more in the Jones Preserve on 18 May. That same day, Jen Brumfield *et al.* noted four at Wendy Park. (24 counties)

Acadian Flycatcher

Mark Willis reported the first, in Glen Helen NP, **Greene**, on 01 May. The Ostermillers encountered 30 along the Lyons Falls Trail in Mohican SP on 29 May. (71 counties)

Alder Flycatcher

One showed up a bit early, 04 May, at Headlands (Corey Chiappone and Ray Hannikman). Tom Bartlett *et al.* banded one of the nine they encountered in the Jones Preserve on 18 May. Victor Fazio III noted that the six he found at Magee on 17 May were "all in song". (34 counties)

Willow Flycatcher

One **Cuyahoga**, one **Vinton**, and two **Franklin** sites hosted one or two on 04 May (m. obs.). Bill Deininger's group found 30 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 24 May. (65 counties)

Alder/Willow ("Trail's") Flycatcher

Unless you hear them or hold them, these two species are nearly impossible to tell apart. Angelika Nelson saw one "Trail's" at Camp Oty'okwa, **Hocking**, on 03 May, which is a day before either species was positively identified elsewhere. Tom Bartlett and crew saw 12 in the Jones Preserve on 18 May.

Least Flycatcher

Jessica Lowery and Jason Sullivan shared first-sighting honors on 18 Apr at Sheldon Marsh and Twin Creek MP, **Montgomery**, respectively. The high count of nine was also shared, by Katie Anderson at Magee on 15 May and Victor Fazio III at Wendy Park on 16 May. (46 counties)

Empidonax sp. Flycatcher

Margaret Bowman saw one at Lake Vesuvius, **Lawrence**, on 21 Apr and Eric Elvert another in Woodman Fen, **Montgomery**, on 26 Apr. These dates are early for any empidonax other than Least Flycatcher, the birds' probable identity.

Eastern Phoebe

Louis Hoying noted the first of the season, at Lake Loramie SP, **Shelby**, on 10 Mar. A quartet of birders found 11 at Camp Berry, **Hancock**, on 12 Apr. All counties but **Crawford** and **Fayette** produced sightings.

Great Crested Flycatcher

William Hull's Cincinnati yard hosted the first, on 17 Apr. Four birders canoed seven miles of the upper Cuyahoga River in **Geauga** on 19 May and counted 15 along the way. **Coshocton**,

Jackson, Lawrence, Morrow, Muskingum, and **Pike** did not provide reports.

Eastern Kingbird

The first, at Monday Creek, **Perry**, on 12 Apr, was an early arrival (Phil Swan). The high count was Jen Brumfield's 84 at Burke Airport on 16 May. Two **Lucas** sites each hosted 45 on different May dates. (81 counties)



Kevin McKelvey found this Eastern Kingbird in a nice pose on 11 May during the ONWR auto tour.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

One was reported in **Ottawa** but the OBRC has no details.

Loggerhead Shrike

Internet reports of one in **Lake** include photographs.

Northern Shrike

Irina Shulgina saw the last of these winter visitors, at Killdeer on 01 Apr. All of the sightings, in 13 counties, were of single birds.



Photographer Ron Sempier focused on this cooperative Northern Shrike on 24 Mar at Big Island.

White-eyed Vireo

Kurt Gaetner saw the earliest, at CNC Long Branch Farm on 09 Apr. Five locations hosted singles on 11 Apr. A BRAS field trip to Sheldon Marsh on 14 Apr noted the first in the far north. Kent Miller found 20 along Chapel Drive on 14 May. (73 counties)

Bell's Vireo

Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker saw the first, at Buck Creek on 06 May. One returned to Needles Road, **Wood**, for the third year in a row, on 16 May (Matt Kemp). Four locations on eight dates each hosted duos. **Delaware, Franklin, Hamilton, Marion, Montgomery,** and **Pickaway** also produced sightings.

Yellow-throated Vireo

The first sightings were on 13 Apr, in CNC Rowe Woods (the McGills) and Willow Wood, **Lawrence** (Hayward Chappell). A regrettably anonymous eBirder reported the first near Lake Erie at Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga**, on 29 Apr. Bob Curry counted 10 along 15 miles of Shawnee roads on 09 May. (73 counties)

Blue-headed Vireo

Gabriel Amrhein saw the first, in Hocking Hills SP on 04 Apr. Dick Hoopes and Kelly Koslowski found the earliest in the north at LaDue on 12 Apr. The high count was 11, shared by Nicole Freshour in **Hocking** on 18 Apr and Leslie Sours at Magee on 15 May. (56 counties)

Warbling Vireo

Neil Gilbert found one at CNC Rowe Woods on 17 Apr, as did Betty Stark along the Hoover Park Connector Trail, **Stark**. One got to Lake Erie at Wendy Park on 18 Apr (Jen Brumfield). Magee hosted 60 on 17 May (Quentin Schultze). The most elsewhere were 25 at Wendy Park on both 04 and 10 May (Jen Brumfield). (80 counties)

Philadelphia Vireo

Margaret Bowman noted an early bird at Lawrence Woods SNP, **Hardin**, on 27 Apr. One made it all the way to Magee on 02 May for Kim Warner to find. Chapel Drive hosted eight on 05 May for Jon Cefus, Kent Miller, and Ben Morrison; Jon wrote it was a "Remarkable number of birds considering date." Several dates produced four at Magee. Susie Short found the last of the season at Gorman NC, **Richland**, on 31 May, but there was one sighting on 01 Jun as well. (28 counties)

Red-eyed Vireo

Tar Hollow produced the first, for Christine Barnett on 18 Apr. Several birders saw the earliest for the north coast on 03 May at Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**. Counts of 50 came from the covered bridge area of Mohican SP on 09 May and the park's Lyons Falls Trail on 29 May (both by the Ostermillers); John Shrader tied that number in Tar Hollow on 09 May. Every county except **Auglaize, Fayette, Pike,** and **Putnam** had sightings.

Blue Jay

Mark Shieldcastle was impressed by an estimated 13,000 which passed over his ONWR Navarre banding station in eight hours on 03 May. Victor Fazio III counted almost 3400 over Magee the next day. Only **Fayette** did not have a sighting.

American Crow

Jon Cefus saw a flock of about 300 along Township Highway 384, **Tuscarawas**, on 06 Mar. Only **Van Wert** yielded no report.

Fish Crow

The OBRC has submissions from **Cuyahoga**. The species was also reported in **Lake** but the Committee has only what it can glean from the internet.

Common Raven

There are too many reports to detail – Yippeel! Doubles were sighted in **Harrison** (three times) and **Belmont**, while singles were found in **Harrison** (three times), **Jefferson** (three times), and **Vinton**.

Horned Lark

Victor Fazio III found 330 along six miles of Route 101 in **Seneca** on 01 Mar. (70 counties)

Purple Martin

The first one, at Fernald on 22 Mar, pleased several birders. One or two made it to one **Lucas** and two **Erie** sites on 02 Apr. Bob Cooper saw 80 at Magee on 12 May and there were several counts of 50 there on other days. Kent Miller also found 50 at Seneca Lake on 30 Apr. (65 counties)

Tree Swallow

Cindy Lincoln saw six at her **Greene** home on 04 Mar, the earliest date. It took until 13 Mar for them to get to the north coast, when Kenn Kaufman saw one at Magee and Edward Ingold found two by the Maumee River in **Lucas**. Kent Miller estimated that about 1000 of the 5000 swallows at Seneca Lake on 30 Apr were Trees. Drew Weber found about 1000 in ONWR during the 10 May auto tour. The second-highest tally was Tom Bartlett's 531 at Kelleys Island on 19 Apr. Only **Pike** did not have a sighting.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Thomas Czubek saw the first, at Armleder Park on 25 Mar. Elizabeth McQuaid and Tim Jasinski found one at Sandy Ridge on 01 Apr, the first near Lake Erie. Four hundred at Seneca Lake on 30 Apr (Kent Miller) and 200 at the Newtown gravel pits, **Hamilton**, on 21 Apr (William Hull) were the only triple-digit counts. **Coshocton**, **Gallia**, **Pike**, and **Tuscarawas** did not produce reports.

Bank Swallow

One to three in **Hancock**, **Licking**, **Portage**, and **Richland** on 10 Apr were the first. The 30 Apr Seneca Lake mixed flock included about 500 of these (Kent Miller) and observers saw up to 450 at Lake Erie Bluffs on several dates. (54 counties)

Cliff Swallow

Aaron Bartley's six at West Branch SP, **Portage**, on 03 Apr were the first, but it took until 22 Apr for three to get to Lake Erie, to wit the Jones Preserve (Tom Bartlett). Victor Fazio III found a new colony of 140 under a bridge in Huron, **Erie**, on 11 May. (58 counties)

Barn Swallow

Ashley and Matt Collins discovered one in Hoover Dam Park on 25 Mar. Dan Gesualdo saw the first for the far north at Huron, **Erie**, on 02 Apr. Kent Miller estimated that 3000 of the 5000 swallows at Seneca Lake on 30 Apr were Barns. The next-highest number was 280, found by Matt Courtman at CLNP on 15 May. Every county but **Pike** had a sighting.

Carolina Chickadee

The high count was 35; Daniel DeLapp made it in Glen Helen NP, **Greene**, on 08 Mar. (63 counties)

Black-capped Chickadee

The highest of many double-digit counts on Kelleys Island was 87 by Tom Bartlett on 19 Apr. The most elsewhere were 35 at Beech Creek Gardens, **Stark**, on 04 Apr (Allison Guggenheimer and Ben Stone). (30 counties)

Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee

As always, and rightly so, a considerable number of reporters declined to identify to species the chickadees they saw along the U.S. 30 corridor where the two overlap.



Tom Fishburn captured this Northern Rough-winged Swallow resting briefly in Rocky River Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 17 Apr.

Tufted Titmouse

The high count of 30 came from the James H. Barrow Field Station, **Portage**, on 03 May (m. obs.). Only **Pike** and **Putnam** did not produce reports.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Amy Downing counted four during a home feeder watch in **Hancock** on 09 Mar. There were a few threes and many twos among the rest of the sightings. (36 counties)

White-breasted Nuthatch

The high count was 24; Daniel DeLapp found them in Glen Helen NP, **Greene**, on 08 Mar. The second-highest number, 12, was achieved in four locations. All counties but **Pike** and **Putnam** had sightings.

Brown Creeper

Magee hosted the top three counts, 15 on 11 Apr (Colleen Vogler), 13 also on 11 Apr (Debbi Schuster), and 11 on 12 Apr (Rob Ripma). The next most were eight at two other sites on three dates. (54 counties)

House Wren

Six locations in **Clermont**, **Franklin**, and **Hamilton** each hosted one on the first date of 09 Apr. Peter Hellman saw the first of the far north along Chagrin River Road, **Cuyahoga**, on 11 Apr. The high count was the McGill's 44 at Magee on 16 May. Six sites in **Hancock**, **Lucas**, **Ottawa**, and **Wyandot** each hosted 15, the second-highest number. (81 counties)

Winter Wren

The last northbound birds were solos at Magee (m. obs.) and in Mary Capucilli's **Lucas** yard, both on 20 May. Sightings continued after that date in their few breeding areas. The high count was seven, shared by Henry Hvizdos in the Rocky River Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 10 Apr and Mark Shieldcastle at ONWR Navarre on 03 May. Mark's team banded all of them and he remarked, "Surprise last major push". (37 counties)



This Winter Wren offered a perfect profile to Tom Fishburn in Cleveland's Erie Street Cemetery on 18 Apr.

Sedge Wren

William Hull discovered the first, at Voice of America Park, **Butler**, on 18 Apr. That's about 10 days ahead of schedule. The second overall was also the first for the north coast; Chris Swan saw it at an Ashtabula River overlook in that county on 04 May. Rob and Sandy Harlan counted five along the Magee causeway on 16 May. Rob said they were probably migrants because he heard none either before or after that day. No one else encountered more than one there. **Hamilton**, **Lake**, **Logan**, and **Marion** also contributed reports.

Marsh Wren

Matt Kemp found the first of the year, on 03 Apr at Pearson MP, **Lucas**. The next were singles on 11 Apr at Big Island (Ron Sempier) and Spring Valley WA, **Warren** (Tyler Ficker). Victor Fazio III counted 41 singing males along the ONWR auto tour route on 17 May, and other northwestern marshes harbored 20 to 30 around that date. The most elsewhere were 18 which Steve Jones found at Big Island on 17 May. (26 counties)

Carolina Wren

The high count of 12 was shared. J.W. Rettig found them at French Park, **Hamilton**, on 27 Mar, as did Craig Moore in Scioto Trail MP, **Ross**, on 24 Apr. (81 counties)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

O'Shaughnessy Reservoir, **Delaware**, hosted the first; Bridget Gladden saw it there on 29 Mar. Chris Swan found the far north's earliest, two at Headlands on 09 Apr. Kent Miller counted 55 along four miles of Cub Run Road, **Noble**, on 30 Apr, and 40 along 12 miles of Chapel Drive on 05 May. Only **Defiance** and **Pike** did not contribute sightings.

Golden-crowned Kinglet

The last migrant was seen at Magee on 16 May (m. obs.) though one bird was sighted in a known breeding area in Jun. On 29 Mar Daniel Morrill found seven small groups totaling about 100 birds in the Darby Bend section of Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin**. The second-most were Tim Haney's 40 in Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**, on 11 Apr. (64 counties)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Bob Powell saw the earliest of the season at Congress Farm, **Clinton**, on 28 Mar. Paul Sherwood noted the north coast's first in Sandusky, **Erie**, on 03 Apr. Ian Lynch saw the last, at Headlands on 25 May. Mark Shieldcastle counted 35 at ONWR Navarre during a "major migration" on 03 May. (76 counties)

Eastern Bluebird

Cole DiFabio counted 35 at Holden on 29 May. Jim McConnor found the second-most, 24, in Orchard Hills Park, **Geauga**, on 24 May. All counties except **Clinton**, **Fayette**, **Putnam**, and **Shelby** had sightings.

Veery

One at Headlands on 15 Apr (Tom Frankel) started a somewhat early push. Diane Wotenay found 14 at Magee on 13 May, and 12 were at Maumee Bay on 15 May (m. obs.). (49 counties)

Gray-cheeked Thrush

The earliest were two at CVNP Station Road on 26 Apr (Fred Dinkelbach *et al.*) John Pogacnik saw the last of the season at Lake Erie Bluffs on 27 May, though there was a single early Jun bird reported as well. Diane Wotenay saw 18 at Magee on 13 May. The most elsewhere were four at Maumee Bay on 14 May (Ed Harper and Lisa Owens). (40 counties)

The BSBO newsletter of 08 Jul reported a significant catch. On 18 May, Mark Shieldcastle's team mist-netted a Gray-cheeked Thrush which had been banded in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta of northeastern Colombia on 21 Apr 2014. The banding organization, SELVA, noted that it was the first recapture in North America of one of "their" birds. See <http://selva.org.co/2015/05/gcth-recaptured-in-north-america/?lang=en> for more information.

Swainson's Thrush

The first were seen on 13 Apr, one at Ellis Lake, **Butler**, by Andrew Cannizzaro, and three at Magee by Steve Jones. John Pogacnik's 23 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 18 May was the high count. Sightings were steady through the end of May with a trickle of them in early Jun. (61 counties)

Hermit Thrush

The first of the season were two at the Meldahl Dam, **Clermont**, on 07 Mar (Thomas Czubek), though of course there had been sightings throughout the winter. The last of the season was one at the Gorman Nature Center, **Richland**, on 31 May (Susie Short), though it might have been setting up housekeeping nearby. The last sure migrants were straggling singles on 24 May at Magee (Todd Hooe) and Headlands (Dave Chase). Jacob Barkett and Molly Smith saw about 50 at Magee on 06 Apr; Mark Shieldcastle's 30 at ONWR Navarre on 03 May was the second-highest count. (63 counties)

Wood Thrush

The first sightings, on 11 Apr, were shared by three birders, Ashley Fields with one at Blacklick Woods MP, **Fairfield**; Brian Wulker with one

at Burnett Woods, **Hamilton**; and Scott Myers, two at Black Swamp NC, **Paulding**. John Shrader found 30 at Tar Hollow on 09 May, and Joshua Eastlake wasn't far behind with 25 at Cave Hill, **Adams**, on 16 May. (81 counties)

American Robin

Every county produced reports. The high count was the 1680 which passed over Jen Brumfield at Edgewater in two hours on 31 Mar. Also that day, Dan Gesualdo saw about 1200 at Volunteer Bay, **Erie**; indeed they might have been many of the same birds.

Gray Catbird

Anna Rose's find in Scioto Audubon MP, **Franklin**, on 29 Mar was a couple of weeks early. The first in the far north were two at Mentor Lagoons NP, **Lake**, on 11 Apr (Dave Chase). The highest number was 110 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 07 May; John Pogacnik commented that "close to 30 [were] in one area feeding on sumac." Only **Pike** did not have a sighting.

Brown Thrasher

The first of the season showed up in Andrea Van Velzel's **Clermont** yard on 05 Mar; could it have been the one which had spent the last week of Feb about 10 miles away near East Fork? Brian DeNunzio saw the next, at Pickerington Ponds on 14 Mar, and another two weeks passed before Matt Kemp found the north coast's first, at Walbridge Park, **Lucas**, on 31 Mar. Mentor Marsh SNP, **Lake**, hosted 20 on 05 May (Peter Keefe). Every county except **Crawford**, **Defiance**, **Meigs**, and **Pike** produced reports.

Northern Mockingbird

Eric Elvert counted 15 along Little Richmond Road, **Montgomery**, on 12 Apr, and Maggie Fusco noted 10 at Funk on 14 Mar. (75 counties)

European Starling

Robert Sams counted by 100s at the **Seneca** landfill on 07 Mar and came up with 3250. The previous day, Jeff Loughman had estimated 2540 were there. The Sunniland landfill, **Hancock**, held about 2000 when Edward Ingold visited on 06 Mar. (all 88 counties)

American Pipit

Andrew Cannizzaro saw the first since 10 Jan, by the Great Miami River in **Butler** on 07 Mar. They reached the far north by 13 Mar, when Cory Chiappone saw one at Eastlake Power and Inga Schmidt counted 18 at Frohring Meadows, **Geauga**. On 05 Apr, Shane Myers and Robert Sams wrote from Killdeer that a "Large flock flew in from SE and flew over pond. Many were calling," and estimated it contained 110 birds. Elliot Tramer counted 107 passing overhead at

CPNWR on 03 May. John Pogacnik saw the last, six at Conneaut on 23 May. (46 counties)

Bohemian Waxwing

The OBRC has formal reports from *Lake*, and has also gleaned additional information from on-line sources.

Cedar Waxwing

The high count was John Pogacnik's 875 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 27 May. Others tallied up to 760 there around that date. The most elsewhere were 300 at Armleder Park on 09 May (Tyler Ficker). (73 counties)

Lapland Longspur

Phil Swan saw the latest, one by Stange Road, *Ottawa*, on 13 May. The second-last were three at Maumee Bay on 05 May (Dave Chase). James Mueller estimated 350 were along Manley Road, *Mercer*, on 18 Apr. (23 counties)

Smith's Longspur

The OBRC has formal and informal documentation from *Mercer*.

Snow Bunting

Robert Sams saw the last until fall, at Lee Cemetery, *Hancock*, on 31 Mar. The second-last were seen 15 Mar, four at ONWR (Mark Shieldcastle) and three at Lake Erie Bluffs (Chris Pierce). Eli M. Miller had about 75 at his Millersburg, *Holmes*, home on 01 Mar. The second-highest count was Corinna Honscheid's 30 along Maloney Road, *Delaware*, on 04 Mar. (21 counties)

Ovenbird

The one which Neil Gilbert saw at CNC Rowe Woods on 11 Apr was about on time, but one the same day at Magee was early for that far north (Rob Ripma, Debbie Schuster). Phil Swan counted 55 (mostly by ear, I assume) along 10 miles of Dutch Ridge Road in Wayne NE, *Perry*, on 29 Apr. (67 counties)

Worm-eating Warbler

Three locations shared the first sighting date of 18 Apr: a *Greene* home (Conan Crocker), the Buckeye Trail Barn, *Harrison* (Scott Pendleton), and Zaleski (Jennifer Kuehn and Bruce Simpson). Matthew Valencic saw one in *Geauga* on 05 May, the first for the far north. Chris Pierce came up with six in Zaleski on 24 May. (34 counties)

Louisiana Waterthrush

Richard McCarty heard one singing at TNC's Creek Bend Overlook, *Adams*, on 26 Mar. A quartet of birders found the earliest for the far north in Holden's Stebbins Gulch on 04 Apr. Three and a half miles of Cat Run Road, *Monroe*, produced 11 for Scott Pendleton on 27 May. (61 counties)

Northern Waterthrush

Tim Houghton saw the first, at Aullwood Audubon Center, *Montgomery*, on 18 Apr. One got to ONWR Navarre two days later (Mark Shieldcastle). The last of the season was at Lake Erie Bluffs on 25 May (John Pogacnik). Don and Robin Henise counted 10 at Magee on 06 May; the next highest number was five, at Shaker Lakes NC, *Cuyahoga*, on 04 May (Gary Neuman and Julie West). (44 counties)

Golden-winged Warbler

William Hull saw the first, at Shawnee Lookout on 01 May. Mark Shieldcastle banded two at ONWR Navarre on 03 May. OOPMP hosted the last sighting, on 19 May (Scott Watkins). Several duos were seen, but Susan Jones and Clyde Witt found the only triple, at Magee on 06 May. (13 counties)

Blue-winged Warbler

Neil Gilbert found the earliest, at CNC Rowe Woods on 16 Apr. Ten days later, Fred Dinkelbach *et al.* saw one in CVNP. Kent Miller counted 25 along Chapel Drive on 01 May. (58 counties)



This Blue-winged Warbler struck a pretty pose for photographer Tom Fishburn on 26 Apr in Vinton Furnace SF.

[Golden-winged x Blue-winged "Brewster's" Warbler]

John Pogacnik discovered one at Lake Erie Bluffs on 15 May.

[Golden-winged x Blue-winged "Lawrence's" Warbler]

These are usually scarcer than "Brewster's", but two were reported, at Glen Echo Park, *Franklin*, on 05 May (Jim Fulford and Jeff Yunce) and The Rookery, *Geauga*, on 06 May (Dan Best, Kelly Kozlowski)

Black-and-white Warbler

McKenna Cimperman saw the earliest, at Hoover Dam Park on 08 Apr. It only took two more days until Adam Zorn found one at Maumee Bay. The Shaker Lakes area, *Cuyahoga*, hosted 18 on 04 May for Sameer Apte. At the

other end of the state, Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski found 14 in Shawnee on 24 Apr. (57 counties)

Prothonotary Warbler

Bill Stanley found the first, at East Fork on 10 Apr. Andy Jones found the north coast's first, in CVNP on 25 Apr. Charles Bombaci and Chris Tonra counted 40 on 23 May along the north shore of Hoover, where nest boxes are provided. (46 counties)



Photographer Darrel Gagne captured this Prothonotary Warbler carrying nesting material on 02 May. Charles Bombaci had installed the nest box on her property bordering Little Walnut Creek, Delaware.

Tennessee Warbler

The earliest sighting was in *Darke*, at Shawnee Prairie Preserve on 21 Apr (Regina Schieltz). Chris Pierce saw the first near Lake Erie at his *Cuyahoga* home on 02 May. The last (but for a duo in *Erie* on 02 Jun) were at opposite corners of the state on 29 May, at Fernald (Craig Caldwell) and Headlands (Tom Frankel). The Fernald bird was only heard, singing an alternate song, for which I'm indebted to Andy Jones for the identification. Matt Anderson saw and heard "only" 127 during his 16 May travels through OOPMP; last year's trek garnered 229. The second-most were 26 at Hocking Woods NC, *Athens*, on 14 May, which Phil Cantino rightly said were "An amazing number banded in two hours!" (55 counties)

Orange-crowned Warbler

Their migration this year was more drawn out than usual. The first bird, at Magee on 19 Apr (Lauren MacDade), was ahead of schedule for the latitude. The last, a single at Headlands on 23 May (Tom Frankel) was a straggler. The high count was Mark Shieldcastle's five at ONWR Navarre on 03 May, and there were two triples reported. (25 counties)

Nashville Warbler

Shawnee Lookout hosted the first; Brian and

Gale Walker found it on 19 Apr. Henry Hvizdos saw the next all the way up at the Rocky River Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 21 Apr. The last were on 26 May, a single by Jen Brumfield in the Rocky River Reservation and two by Mark Willis at Magee. ONWR Navarre provided the high count of 32 on 03 May (Mark Shieldcastle) and Magee was runner-up the same day with 20 (Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker). (56 counties)

Connecticut Warbler

The first, which B.J. Homan found at Magee on 07 May, was early for that far north. The last, which Tom Bartlett and Victor Fazio III saw at Springville Marsh SNP, *Seneca*, on 30 May, was well within their usual migration window. Matt Anderson found two along Girdham Road in OOPMP on 16 May. That same day, the McGills heard one at Magee and both saw and heard another along the CCE Trail. (17 counties)

Mourning Warbler

Dave Chase saw the earliest, at Magee on 03 May. Magee also held the most, five on both 09 May (Fran Holmes) and 15 May (m. obs.). ONWR and Wendy Park shared the last date of the season, 28 May (Matt Fisher and Jen Brumfield, respectively), though Jun had one straggler migrant. (16 counties)

Kentucky Warbler

Shawnee Lookout provided another season's first sighting for Brian Walker on 17 Apr. One reached Magee by 04 May (m. obs.) Bob Curry drove about 15 miles in Shawnee on 09 May and heard 20. Scot Pendleton found eight along four miles of Cat Run Road, *Monroe*, on 27 May. (34 counties)

Common Yellowthroat

One was already singing at Sippo Lake, *Stark*, on the very early date of 13 Mar (Jason Coulter). Bridget Gladden noted the "Zorro" mask on another pioneer, at O'Shaughnessy Reservoir, *Delaware*, on 29 Mar. Did these two winter nearby, unseen? The next, at two locations on 10 Apr, were about on time. Dick Lee saw one in CVNP on 19 Apr, the first near Lake Erie. Tony DeFalco encountered about 80 during his ONWR auto tour on 10 May. Hope Orr found 45 in three miles of travel in CVNP on 07 May. Every county except *Auglaize*, *Fayette*, *Pike*, *Shelby*, and *Van Wert* had sightings.

Hooded Warbler

The first sightings were on 12 Apr, when Elizabeth Postema found one in the Denison University Biological Reserve, *Licking*, and Fred Dinkelbach *et al.* another in CVNP. Andy Sewell's 10 miles of travel in Shawnee produced 40 on

01 May, and it took John Shrader 15 miles in Tar Hollow to tally 30. Tom Bartlett captured the odd individual pictured here at his Jones Preserve banding station on 06 May. It was “a male Hooded Warbler based on DNA but lacks some genes for color”; it was two-toned gray instead of black and yellow. (65 counties)



Tom Bartlett closely studied the interesting plumage of this Hooded Warbler after its capture in the Jones Preserve on 06 May.

American Redstart

Singles in **Franklin**, **Ross**, and **Scioto** and a duo in **Vinton** were seen on the first date of 18 Apr. The next day Fred Dinkelbach *et al.* saw one in CVNP. Roger LeMaster found “100+” at Magee on 16 May. The most elsewhere were Scott Pendleton’s 52 along Cat Run Road, **Monroe**, on 27 May. (73 counties)

Kirtland’s Warbler

The OBRC has formal documentation from **Delaware** and **Holmes** and has gleaned enough information from a **Lucas** internet report to enable a vote. However, internet reports from a second **Lucas** site and **Wood** have only limited information. Please, include details in your rare bird reports to increase their value!

Cape May Warbler

William Hull’s Clifton neighborhood home, **Hamilton**, hosted the first, on 30 Apr. Birders reported up to five at Magee on 03 May, the earliest north coast date. Tom Kemp saw the last, at CPNWR on 24 May. Bob MacMillan counted 20 at Magee on 07 May; the most elsewhere were seven at Maumee Bay on 16 May (Michael O’Brien). (42 counties)

Cerulean Warbler

Margaret Bowman saw the first of OOS’s logo birds, at Grant Lake WA, **Brown**, on 17 Apr; a bit later than their usual arrival. It took until 03 May for them to reach the north, but on that day they were at four locations in **Cuyahoga**, four in **Lorain**, and one in each of **Geauga** and

Richland. John Shrader found 30 at Tar Hollow on 09 May. Charles Bombaci provided the second-highest count of 21, at Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 05 May. (54 counties)

Northern Parula

The first of these were also a bit late; Gabriel Amrhein saw two at Glen Helen NP, **Greene**, on 07 Apr. Singles on 13 Apr at Magee (m. obs.) and Wildwood Preserve MP, **Lucas** (Charles Owens) were the first in the far north. Joshua Eastlake and Charles Bombaci each tallied 14, at Shawnee Lookout on 24 Apr and Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 05 May respectively. (68 counties)

Magnolia Warbler

One which the McGills found in CNC Rowe Woods on 20 Apr was a bit early, but Colleen Vogler saw two at Magee the next day. One mid-Jun straggler followed the last two of this season, which were singles near Winchester, **Brown** (Lisa Miller and Jordan Satler), and at Lake Erie Bluffs (John Pogacnik), both on 29 May. The highest count at Magee was Tom Somerville’s 35 on 09 May and the most elsewhere were John Pogacnik’s 23 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 15 May. (59 counties)

Bay-breasted Warbler

Amy Downing and Jeff Loughman saw the first, in Findlay, **Hancock**, on 01 May. Two days later, Jorg Freiberg saw one at Magee and Ryan Jacob another at Maumee Bay. Mark Willis and Marshall Weber separately reported what was presumably the same last individual, at Magee on 26 May. Magee also hosted the high count of 30, on 12 May (Carlos Bethancourt). The most elsewhere were Kent Miller’s 10 along Chapel Drive on 05 May. (43 counties)

Blackburnian Warbler

Joshua Eastlake saw the earliest, at Avoca Park, **Hamilton**, on 14 Apr. It took them more than two more weeks to reach the north coast; on 02 May Ryan Lesniewicz saw one at Magee and Helen Wright-North another at Maumee Bay. The last migrants but for a single stray in early Jun were seen on 26 May at Lake Erie Bluffs (John Pogacnik) and Magee (Allison Oborn, Marshall Weber). Kent Miller’s group counted 35 along Chapel Drive on 05 May. The second-most were Michael Gauthier’s 15 at Magee on 15 May. (52 counties)

Yellow Warbler

The first was early, especially so for mid-state: Leslie Sours found it in Highbanks MP, **Delaware**, on 08 Apr. Lauren MacDade and Mary Anne Romito separately reported the first far north birds, at Metzger on 18 Apr. Ian Lynch es-

estimated 180 were at Lake Erie Bluffs on 11 May and Magee hosted about 100 on several dates. Only **Fayette** and **Pike** did not have sightings.



This female Yellow Warbler at her nest was a lovely vision obtained by Kevin McKelvey along the CCE Trail on 11 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Regina Schieltz saw the first, along the Alice Bish Walkway, **Darke**, on 20 Apr, which is early for the latitude. Tim Kleman noted the first in a far northern county at Camp Miakonda, **Lucas**, on 02 May. Migration continued into Jun and of course many stayed to nest as well. The high count was 40, on 09 May at Magee (Tom Somerville), and the most elsewhere were 17 along the ONWR auto tour route on 08 May (Jason Kitting). (56 counties)

Blackpoll Warbler

Kirk Westendorf found the earliest, at Magrish Riverlands Preserve, **Hamilton**, on 25 Apr. Charles Owens saw the next, in Wildwood Preserve MP, **Lucas**, on 30 Apr. These dates indicate a somewhat earlier than usual movement. Migration continued into Jun as usual. Drew Weber's 20 at Magee on 16 May was the high count; the second-highest was 15, in the little Metzger woodlot (m. obs.). (54 counties)

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Three sites hosted birds on the first date of 30 Apr: Wildwood Preserve MP, **Lucas** (Charles Owens), Mantua, **Portage** (Diane and William Noice), and Wintergarden Woods/Saint Johns Nature Preserve, **Wood** (Chris Byers). John Pogacnik saw the season's last, at Lake Erie Bluffs on 27 May, but a single Jun sighting followed it. As is typical, Magee provided the high count, 20 by Tommie Rogers on 06 May. The most elsewhere were Jim McConnor's nine at Headlands on 15 May. (38 counties)

Palm Warbler

The first date was 11 Apr, when Palms were reported in **Franklin**, **Harrison**, **Mahoning**, and **Warren**. One reached CVNP the next day for

Fred Dinkelbach *et al.* Fran Rodstrom saw the last, at East Harbor on 25 May. Elliot Tramer counted 109 in CPNWR on 03 May. Both Mentor Marsh SNP, **Lake**, on 03 May and Magee on 06 May hosted about 100 (Peter Keefe and Carol Goodman, respectively). (70 counties)

"Yellow" (Eastern) Palm Warbler

This form usually stays east of the Appalachians, but singles were reliably reported three times in **Lucas** and once in **Summit**.

Pine Warbler

These don't have far to travel because they winter in the southern states. Often they arrive in early Mar, but this year the first sighting was on 22 Mar, in Mitchell Memorial Forest, **Hamilton** (Linda Osterhage). Alex Eberts and Leslie Sours found the next, in Mohican SP on 28 Mar, and Paul Sherwood the first near Lake Erie in Sandusky, **Erie**, on 03 Apr. Jennifer Kuehn and Bruce Simpson saw eight at Lake Hope/Zaleski on 18 Apr. Patience Hoskins tied them at Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga**, on 25 Apr. (54 counties)

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Several birders reported the last, at Swan Creek Preserve MP, **Lucas**, on 27 May. Elliot Tramer wrote, "We counted 386 on our CPNWR count May 3. The real number must have been MUCH higher, since birds were moving continuously westward along the dikes and thousands more birds were passing overhead, many of them warblers." Counts in the 200 to 300 range came from other sites along the northwest shore between 03 and 06 May. (79 counties)

Yellow-throated Warbler

Gabriel Amrhein saw the first, in John Bryan SP, **Greene**, on 30 Mar. It took a while, but one finally reached CVNP on 10 Apr (Ann and Dwight Chasar). Tar Hollow hosted 20 on 09 May (John Shrader), and Lisa Miller and Jordan Sater counted 10 in Clear Creek MP, **Fairfield/Hocking**, on 12 Apr. (60 counties)

Prairie Warbler

August Froelich heard one singing at TNC's Strait Creek Prairie Bluffs Preserve, **Pike**, on the early date of 01 Apr and wrote, "One of the surest signs that we really are going to have spring...". Brian Wulker's sighting at Shawnee Lookout on 09 Apr was on a typical first date. Kim Warner saw the first of the far north, at Magee on 21 Apr. Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski counted 35 along seven miles of Shawnee roads on 24 Apr. Kent Miller *et al.* found 25 along Chapel Drive on 05 May. (39 counties)

Black-throated Green Warbler

Margaret Bowman saw the earliest, at Lake

Katherine SNP, **Jackson**, on 06 Apr. One got as far north as Chagrin River Park, **Lake**, on 13 Apr (Tom Kaczynski). Migrants were still moving north in Jun. Counts of 30 came from Magee on 03 May (Jon Cefus), Chapel Drive on 05 May (Kent Miller *et al.*), and Magee again on 06 May (Carol Goodman). (73 counties)

Canada Warbler

Usually these show up in late Apr, but this year's first date was 04 May. That day Linda Corriveau saw two at Sheldon Marsh, Linda Houshower saw one at Magee, and Jeffrey Pontius saw one in the Heritage Preserve, **Franklin**. John Pogacnik found the last migrant, at Lake Erie Bluffs on 29 May. Kenn Kaufman's nine at Magee on 16 May was the high count. Tom Bartlett *et al.* recorded five at the Jones Preserve on 08 May as did the Ostermillers along the Lyons Falls Trail in Mohican SP on 29 May. (31 counties)

Wilson's Warbler

The first were singles in **Franklin**, **Hamilton**, **Medina**, and **Summit** on 03 May. Tom Kemp saw the last, one at each of Magee and Metzger on 30 May. Magee also provided the high count, 15 by Mike Wielgopolski on 20 May. (40 counties)

Yellow-breasted Chat

Jennifer Kuehn and Bruce Simpson saw the first one, at Zaleski on 18 Apr. Tom Kemp found the first near Lake Erie, at CPNWR on 03 May. Katrina Schultes counted 14 along her BBS route in Wayne NF, **Lawrence**. (58 counties)



Alex Clark timed perfectly this shot of a Prairie Warbler during its uplifting song, taken near Shawnee Lookout on 27 Apr.

Eastern Towhee

Kent Miller's group found 60 along Chapel Drive on 11 Apr. Joshua Eastlake counted 40 in Withrow NP, **Hamilton**, on 08 Apr. All counties except **Fayette**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** produced reports.

American Tree Sparrow

C.K. Walls saw the last, at Whetstone Creek, **Morrow**, on 20 May, rather far south for this date. Fifteen miles of driving in Big Island yielded 175 for Ron Sempier on 05 Mar, and he found 95 along eight miles of Killdeer's roads on 24 Mar. (67 counties)

Chipping Sparrow

Sandie Myers saw the first, at her **Belmont** home on 08 Mar, and two reached Eastlake, **Lake**, on 12 Mar (Dave Chase). The high count of 50 was shared by Stan Plante at Holden on 19 Apr and Craig Moore in Scioto Trail SP, **Ross**, on 24 Apr. Only **Meigs** and **Pike** did not have sightings.

Clay-colored Sparrow

John Pogacnik saw two in Townline Park, **Lake**, on 25 Apr, an early date for so far north. The next sighting was at Wendy Park on 03 May (m. obs.). The last of the season spent 19 to 23 May at Huston Brumbaugh NC, **Stark** (m. obs.), though one more was seen elsewhere on 01 Jun. All of the remaining reports were of single birds; they came from four **Lucas** sites and one in each of **Franklin**, **Logan**, and **Ottawa**.

Field Sparrow

Kent Miller *et al.* tallied 50 along Chapel Drive on 11 Apr, a number equaled by participants in a spring walk at the James H. Barrow Field Station, **Stark**, on 03 May. Every county except **Columbiana**, **Defiance**, and **Pike** produced sightings.

Vesper Sparrow

Edward Ingold found two at Oakwoods NP, **Hancock**, on 17 Mar, a week or so early for that latitude. The next were four in Newtown, **Hamilton**, on 25 Mar (Brian Wulker). Karl Overman saw the first of the far north, three in John T. Kennedy Memorial Park, **Lucas**, on 02 Apr. Tom Bartlett counted 35 throughout Kelleys Island on 09 May. Scott Pendleton's seven in the New Reclaim Area, **Harrison**, on 04 Apr was the second-highest number. (42 counties)

Lark Sparrow

Elliot Tramer found one, and Lauren McCafferty two, in OOPMP on 13 Apr, which Elliot noted "might be a new earliest arrival date for the Toledo area." It's definitely ahead of schedule for anywhere in the state. The first elsewhere were two at Oakes Quarry Park, **Greene**, on 28 Apr (Jeremy Dominguez and Sarah Lucas). As usual,

OOPMP provided the high count, seven along Girdham Road on 08 May (Alex Eberts and Lisa Miller). The most elsewhere were David A. Brinkman's four in Moraine, **Montgomery**, on 05 May. Andy Jones saw one which briefly visited the South Bass Island lighthouse, **Ottawa**, on 05 May; it might be a first record for the island. Other sightings were in **Hamilton** and **Lorain**.

Savannah Sparrow

Scott Pendleton counted 40 in only 2½ miles of travel near Cadiz, **Harrison**, on 23 May. Matt Kappler found 21 at Wendy Park on 03 May. (65 counties)

Grasshopper Sparrow

The first date was 11 Apr, when Scott Pendleton saw one in Jockey Hollow WA, **Harrison**, and Phil Swan another in the Rehoboth Reclaim Area, **Perry**. The Chasars saw the far north's first at the CVNP Coliseum Grasslands on 18 Apr. Scott Pendleton counted 35 near Cadiz, **Harrison**, on 23 May and 20 or more at three other sites in that county on other dates. The most elsewhere were 13 at the **Hancock** sanitary landfill on 04 May (Shane Myers and Robert Sams). (47 counties)

Henslow's Sparrow

Leslie Sours noted the first, six at Darby Creek on 09 Apr. Multiple birders saw the north coast's first along the CCE Trail on 11 Apr. Kent Miller counted 25 along Chapel Drive on 01 May and Scott Pendleton tied him near Cadiz, **Harrison**, on 23 May. (31 counties)

Fox Sparrow

The last of these handsome birds was lagging when Mickie Getz saw it at the Wolf Creek Environmental Center, **Medina**, on 12 May. The second-last, Phil Doerr's at Magee on 10 May, was also a bit tardy in its departure. Jacob Barkett and Molly Smith estimated 30 were at Magee on 06 Apr. The next highest number was 12, shared by Tom Bartlett *et al.* at Springville Marsh SNP, **Seneca**, on 11 Apr, and Steve Jones at Magee on 14 Apr. (52 counties)

Song Sparrow

John Pogacnik counted 56 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 11 May. Every county hosted these.

Lincoln's Sparrow

J.W. Rettig well described the first, at East Fork on 18 Mar, a good month before they're expected to arrive. Brad Goodner saw one at Great Egret Marsh, **Ottawa**, on 12 Apr, early for the north coast. Charles Bombaci counted 19 in Sharon Woods MP, **Franklin**, on 15 May. Victor Fazio III saw the last, in Mary Jane Thurston SP, **Henry**, on 28 May. (32 counties)

Swamp Sparrow

The first of the season showed up at three sites on 02 Mar, but of course some had been in the state all winter. The high count was 30 by Tom

Bartlett at Springville Marsh SNP, **Seneca**, on 02 May. (60 counties)

White-throated Sparrow

The last but for two Jun stragglers were at Lake Erie Bluffs on 30 May (the Shaykos). Mark Shieldcastle wrote from ONWR Navarre on 03 May about a "Major movement 300 [recorded] in 30 minutes of point count, [and another] 228 banded". The second-most were 169 counted by Ed Pierce's ONWR census team that same day (*fide* Douglas Vogus). (81 counties)

White-crowned Sparrow

The last of the season were singles at Lake Erie Bluffs (Gustino Lanese) and Magee (Matt Kemp) on 30 May, though again there were two Jun sightings. Jen Brumfield noted about 120 at Wendy Park on 04 May and Mark Shieldcastle came in second with 55 at ONWR Navarre on 03 May. (76 counties)

"Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow

Michael O'Brien well described the one he found in ONWR on 15 May.

Golden-crowned Sparrow

The **Hancock** homeowner who has hosted this visitor annually starting in 2009 last saw it on 24 Apr (*fide* Robert Sams).

Dark-eyed Junco

Tom Bartlett counted 105 at Kelleys Island on 09 Apr. The second-most were Tim Haney's 80 in Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**, on 11 Apr. On 24 May, Pat Coy and Karin Tanquist saw two adults taking food to a nest at the Kendall Ledges in CVNP; quite rightly they didn't approach to count the youngster(s). (80 counties)

"Cassiar" Dark-eyed Junco

These were reported in **Geauga**, **Hancock**, **Lake**, and **Seneca** without descriptions or photographs.

"Oregon" Dark-eyed Junco

The one which Mark and Sherry Plessner documented during winter continued to visit their feeder until 06 Apr. Anna Wittmer well described another at the Gorman NC, **Richland**, on 11 Apr. A possible third was reported with no details in **Ashtabula**.

[White-throated Sparrow x Dark-eyed Junco]

One was reported at Magee on 17 May. I could find no photographs in any on-line venue. Nevertheless, Greg Miller (*fide* Victor Fazio III) provided a physical description that fits this hybrid. This is the first sighting for Ohio that I'm aware of; others have been seen mostly in the northeastern U.S. and along the Appalachian chain (eBird).

Summer Tanager

Brian Wulker found the earliest, at Shawnee Lookout on 17 Apr. It took a couple of weeks

before Helen Wright-North saw the first in the far north, at Magee on 02 May. Charles Bombaci and Jennifer Kuehn counted six in Highbanks MP, *Delaware*, on 10 May and there were many reports of four birds. (29 counties)

Scarlet Tanager

William Hull saw the first, at his Cincinnati home on 17 Apr. Ian Gerken made the earliest report from near Lake Erie, two birds at Wildwood Preserve MP, *Lucas*, on 26 Apr. The high count was an astounding 30 along Chapel Drive on 05 May (Kent Miller *et al.*). The second-highest was 12, shared by Paul Dresser in the Five Forks area of Wayne NF, *Lawrence*, on 04 May, and Bob Curry in Shawnee on 09 May. (76 counties)

Western Tanager

The OBRC has only internet reports from *Cuyahoga* with no photographs or description.

Northern Cardinal

The Ostermillers counted 88 along the ONWR auto tour route on 21 Mar; most of them were in the *Ottawa* section. (all 88 counties)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

The first, a female, visited Dennis Mersky's feeder in Talmadge, *Summit*, on 01 and 03 Apr. That's early for the state, let alone for that far north. The second was another (or the same?) female at George Novosel's feeder in Hudson, *Summit*, on 14 Apr. John Pogacnik counted 46 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 07 May and Karen Bonnell found 25 at Magee that same day. (73 counties)

Blue Grosbeak

Greg Cornett saw the earliest, along Weaver Road, *Adams*, on 24 Apr. The second date of 01 May was shared by sites in *Hamilton*, *Montgomery*, and *Scioto*. The first way up north was at Julie Heitz's *Lucas* home on 12 May. Jen Sauter contributed what appears to be the first *Hocking* record; a male visited her feeder from 05 to 07 May. Katrina Schultes provided the high count of seven from her BBS route in *Lawrence* on 29 May. Three sites hosted triples. (22 counties)



Jen Sauter photographed this Blue Grosbeak near Rock Bridge, *Hocking*, on 05 May.

Indigo Bunting

Singles on 15 Apr at CNC Rowe Woods (the McGills) and Shawnee Lookout (Linda Osterhage)

were the first. The first (almost) to Lake Erie was at Springfield Bog, *Summit*, on 18 Apr (Dennis Mersky). Reg Reisenbichler counted 33 in French Creek Reservation, *Lorain*, on 03 May, and there were at least five reports of 30 elsewhere on other dates. Every county except *Auglaize*, *Pike*, *Shelby*, and *Van Wert* had sightings.

Dickcissel

Tommie Rogers found one and Brian Wulker two at Fernald on 05 May. BSBO staffers reported the earliest of the far north in the Harder Grasslands, *Ottawa*, on 08 May. The most were Troy Shively's 12 near Lewistown, *Logan*, on 30 May. Tyler Ficker's five at Fernald on 09 May were the second-most. (19 counties)

Bobolink

The first date was 01 May, rather later than usual. On that date up to 50 were seen at sites in *Lake*, *Noble*, and *Perry*. *Geauga*, *Hardin*, *Harrison*, and *Lorain* hosted them the next day. The high number was 120 ("very likely an underestimate"), by Scott Pendleton near Cadiz, *Harrison* on 23 May. The next-highest was 92, at Maumee Bay on 16 May (Michael O'Brien). (49 counties)

Red-winged Blackbird

Mark Shieldcastle estimated 12,000 were along rather short Bodi Road, *Ottawa*, on 01 Apr. Sarah Lawrence found about 6500 at the Maumee Bay beach on 16 Mar. (all 88 counties)

Eastern Meadowlark

Jon Cefus and Kent Miller found about 100 along Chapel Drive on 01 May and up to 70 there on two other dates. The most elsewhere were 50 at The Wilds on 02 May (James Gore) and The Bowl on 24 May (Scott Pendleton). *Fulton*, *Jackson*, *Meigs*, *Pike*, *Putnam*, and *Shelby* did not produce reports.

Western Meadowlark

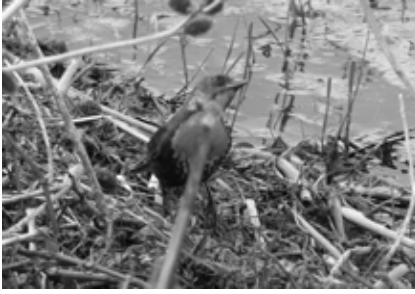
Victor Fazio III found one singing by Williamsfield Kingsman Road, *Trumbull*, on 22 May, and dozens of birders enjoyed it until 26 May.



Vic Fazio discovered and well documented this Western Meadowlark, a new *Trumbull* record, on 22 May.

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Kim Warner found the first, on private land in **Lucas** on 11 Mar. Bob Cooper reported two in the **Ottawa** section of Magee on 12 May. Several other **Lucas** and **Ottawa** locations hosted one at various times; it's impossible to know how many individuals were actually in those two counties. Single reports also came from **Ashtabula** and **Cuyahoga**.



The auto tour route in ONWR provided views of this Yellow-headed Blackbird for Leslie Sours on 09 May.

Rusty Blackbird

A quartet of birders saw a quartet of Rustys at Catawba Island, **Ottawa**, on 20 May, the latest date. The high count of 1200 was shared by Sarah Lawrence at Darby Creek on 21 Mar and Mark Shieldcastle along Bodi Road, **Ottawa**, on 01 Apr. Mark also provided the second-highest number, 600, from ONWR on 16 Mar. (60 counties)



Leslie Sours snapped this Rusty Blackbird at Blacklick Woods MP, **Franklin**, on 27 Apr.

Brewer's Blackbird

The reports are:

One along Township Road 244, **Hancock**, on 20 Mar (Edward Ingold, Jeff Loughman, and Shane Myers)

One at Killbuck, also on 20 Mar (Angelika Nelson)

One at his **Stark** home on 07 Apr (Ben Morrison)
Three near Lake Erie Bluffs on 17 May and one in the park on 18 May (John Pogacnik)

Common Grackle

Mark Shieldcastle found about 1500 at ONWR on 16 Mar and also along Bodi Road, **Ottawa**, on 01 Apr. Matt and Rochelle Kappler saw about 1000 pass overhead at Silver Creek MP, **Summit**, also on 01 Apr. (all 88 counties)

Brown-headed Cowbird

Bodi Road, **Ottawa**, provided another high count, 350 on 01 Apr (Mark Shieldcastle). Fields along Stange Road, **Ottawa**, hosted 300 on 10 Mar (Karl Overman). Only **Meigs** and **Pike** did not produce sightings.

Orchard Oriole

Dee Long saw the first a bit early, on 11 Apr at Shawnee Lookout. Inga Schmitt saw the first of the far north along Chagrin River Road, **Cuyahoga**, on 01 May. John Pogacnik found 14 at Lake Erie Bluffs on both 07 and 11 May. (72 counties)

Baltimore Oriole

John Hull saw the first, in Miami Whitewater Forest, **Hamilton**, on 18 Apr. John Pogacnik counted 92 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 07 May and wrote, "Most were overhead migrating east". His 57 there on 11 May were also mostly passing through. **Brown**, **Gallia**, **Jackson**, **Lawrence**, **Meigs**, and **Pike** did not have sightings.

Blackbird sp.

Eric Elvert estimated that he saw about 10,000 blackbirds along the Great Miami River Trail in **Montgomery** on 02 Mar.

House Finch

Tom Bartlett found 75 throughout Kelleys Island on 19 Mar. Jim Wentz's **Fairfield** yard hosted about 40 on 01 Mar. (80 counties)

Purple Finch

Paige Nugent counted 12 at her **Hamilton** feeders on 01 Apr. Mark Shieldcastle found the same number at ONWR Navarre on 03 May. (35 counties)

White-winged Crossbill

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At the Garfield NC, **Cuyahoga**, on 03 Mar (Jen Brumfield) and 04 Mar (m. obs.)

At Lake Erie Bluffs on 16 Mar (Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.)

At North Perry, **Lake**, on 26 Mar (John Pogacnik)
Heard but not seen at Holden on 04 Apr (m. obs.)

Common Redpoll

Chris Swan at Conneaut and Tom Denbow at his

Cuyahoga home each saw one on the last date of 11 Apr. Dan Gesualdo found five at Volunteer Bay, **Erie**, on 31 Mar, and there were two reports of two. (11 counties)

Pine Siskin

These were still being seen into Jun, hinting at the possibility of nesting. The high count was Jen Brumfield's 86 in the Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 03 May. (53 counties)



*This irruption year for Pine Siskins provided sightings through the spring season, including this individual attracted to Wayne Wauligman's sunflower feeder in **Hamilton** on 20 May.*

American Goldfinch

Victor Fazio III made an "overhead migration count from [Magee] Tower" on 04 May and came up with 852 between 7:15 and 9:30 am. John Pogacnik's 175 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 07 May was the next-highest number. Only **Fayette** did not produce a report.

European Goldfinch

Someone lost or released three of these cage birds, and they showed up at Debra Payne's feeder in North Royalton, **Cuyahoga**, on 15 and 26 Apr and again on 21 Jun. I know, I know, they're not countable birds, but they would have been fun to see!

Evening Grosbeak

One female was seen at the private home on the edge of Mohican SF on 26 Mar (Jay Lehman) and 28 Mar (Leslie Sours). Odds are it was the same bird seen there in Jan, but where did it spend the seven weeks between sightings?

House Sparrow

Heather Luedecke and Angelika Nelson counted 195 along their New Dover, **Union**, BBS route on 30 May. Tom Bartlett saw about 150 at Kelleys Island on 06 Mar. (all 88 counties)

Erratum

In the last issue, the map of Iceland Gull distribution should have included **Ashtabula** and not **Ashland**—I misread my own abbreviation.

CONTRIBUTORS

The Species Accounts could not be written without the data provided by these contributors either directly to the Editor or by posting to an on-line venue. We thank you.

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Katie Anderson	Jen Brumfield	Gary Cowell	Tom Fishburn
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Rick Asamoto	Mary Capucilli	Miranda DeBoard	Darlene Friedman
Daisy Asmus	Betty Carty	Tony DeFalco	August Froelich
Bryant Atanasio	Jon Cefus	Bill Deiningor	Jim Fulford
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Andy Avram	Hayward Chappell	Tom Denbow	Maggie Fusco
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Charles Bombaci	Christopher Collins	Alex Eberts	Kevin Gill
Karen Bonnell	Matt Collins		

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Nathan Goldberg	Scott Huges	Dick Lee	Eli M. Miller
Carol Goodman	John Hull	Kevin Lee	Greg Miller
Brad Goodner	William Hull	Jay Lehman	Kent Miller
James Gore	Kathi Hutton	Ryan Lesniewicz	Lisa Miller
Jeff Grabmeier	Henry Hvizdos	Eric Liebold	Marjorie Miller
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Tim Haney	Tim Jasinski	Jeff Loughman	Ben Morrison
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Linda Houshower	Bob Lane	Dennis Mersky	Kevin O'Neil
Louis Hoying	Gustino Lanese	Benjamin Miller	Matt Orebaugh

The Ohio Cardinal, Spring 2015

Hope Orr	Sean Ricker	Susie Short	Bev Walborn
Brian Ortman	Rob Ripma	John Shrader	Bob Walker
Linda Osterhage	Jacob Roalef	Irina Shulgina	Freda Walker
Helen Ostermiller	Fran Rodstrom	Bruce Simpson	C.K. Walls
Ken Ostermiller	Tommie Rogers	John Simpson	Mark Warman
Charles Owens	Lisa Romaniuk	Heather Slayton	Ben Warner
Lisa Owens	Sam Romeo	Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.	Kim Warner
Doug Overacker	Mary Anne Romito	Molly Smith	Scott Watkins
Karl Overman	Tom Romito	Jennifer Smolenski	Wayne Wauligman
Peggy Page	Anna Rose	Su Snyder	Drew Weber
Debbie Parker	Robert Royse	Tom Somerville	Marshall Weber
Greg Pasek	Mark	Amanda Soto	Julie West
Debra Payne	Rozmarynowycz	Leslie Sours	Kirk Westendorf
Chris Peet	Dale Rubach	Bill Stanley	Gregory Wheeler
Scott Pendleton	Robert Sams	Josh Stapleton	Audrey Whitlock
Gayle Penix	Dan Sanders	Gene Stauffer	Mike Wielgopolski
Maggie Peretto	Livia Santana	Andy Stepniewski	Mark Willis
Ryan Pereus	Jordan Satler	Ben Stone	Clyde Witt
Lisa Phelps	Jen Sauter	Jeff Stone	Anna Wittmer
Chris Pierce	Regina Schieltz	Jason Sullivan	Diane Wotenay
Ed Pierce	Inga Schmidt	Chris Swan	Ed Wransky
Stan Plante	Carleton Schooley	Phil Swan	Rick Wright
Mark Plessner	Katrina Schultes	Karin Tanquist	Helen Wright-North
Sherry Plessner	Quentin Schultze	Charles Thompson	Brian Wulker
John Pogacnik	Debi Schuster	Tim Thompson	Gale Wulker
Anthony Popiel	Ron Sempier	“Tj” Todd	David Yeamans
Jeffrey Pontius	Andy Sewell	Chris Tonra	Jeff Yunce
Elizabeth Postema	Mark Shaver	Elliot Tramer	Chris Zacharias
Bob Powell	Troy Shively	Roger Troutman	Karen Zeleznik
R. Lee Reed	Lynne Shayko	Margy Trumbull	Adam Zorn
Reg Reisenbichler	Nic Shayko	Matthew Valencic	William Zwartjes
Frank Renfrow	Paul Sherwood	Andrea Van Velzel	
J.W. Rettig	Mark Shieldcastle	Colleen Vogler	
Dana Ricker	Troy Shively	Douglas Vogus	