

# ontario region



## THEO HOFMANN

A mild winter followed by late snowfalls in March delayed some migrants. A mild and dry spring with southerly airflows resulted in many shorebirds and landbirds flying over with minimal landfalls, making migration rather uneventful for birders. Nevertheless many diverse and exciting sightings were made, though "Southern overshoots" were found in rather low numbers.

There were a few outstanding rarities, namely Ferruginous Hawk, two Fish Crows, Black-throated Gray and MacGillivray's warblers, and Spotted Towhee. All these rarities and the others mentioned below are subject to the approval of the Ontario Bird Records Committee (O.B.R.C.).

**Abbreviations:** C.A. (*Conservation Area*); L.P.B.O. (*Long Pt. Bird Observatory, Norfolk*); N.P.H. (*Niagara Pen. Hawkwatch*); P.E.Pt. (*Prince Edward Pt., Prince Edward*); Pelee (*Pt. Pelee Nat'l. Park and vicinity*); T.C.B.O. (*Thunder Cape Bird Observatory, Thunder Bay*). Algonquin, Presqu'île and Rondeau are Provincial Parks. Place names in *italics* refer to counties, districts, or regional municipalities.

## LOONS THROUGH IBISES

Red-throated Loons were reported in significant numbers from Presqu'île where 12 were observed 26 Apr and another two 5 May (CEG), and from Cranberry Marsh, *Durham*, where a late flock of 48 flew over 31 May (BH). As many as 174 Com. Loons were seen migrating over Woodland Cemetery, *Hamilton*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 3

Apr (JO et al.). One individual 7 Apr was early in *Algonquin* (RT). Single, early Pied-billed Grebes were reported from the *Sudbury* and *Manitoulin* districts 6 Mar at *Whitefish Falls* (CBe), and 18 Mar (SH) and 27 Mar on *Manitoulin I.* (TL). Notable counts of Horned Grebes were >70 off *Vineland*, *Niagara*, 20 Mar (MM), 300 off *Burlington*, *Halton*, 17 Apr (KAM), and 50 at P.E.Pt. 25 Apr (K.F.N.). Red-necked Grebes arrived earlier in *Cobourg* than in the previous 8 years; high counts of 30 were tallied 29 Mar and 1 Apr (CEG). Repeated attempts by 2 pairs to nest again in the *Bronte Harbour Marina*, *Halton*, were unsuccessful, at least by 31 May (RD). A vagrant W. Grebe in *Rainy R.* 28 May (DE et al.) was well studied on an Ontario Field Ornithologists tour. Single Eared Grebes were reported from 2 places: an early one was at *Beach Four* in *Presqu'île* 28 Mar (JSp et al.), and another was at the tip of *Pelee* 4 May (AW et al.).

An Am. White Pelican in late May at *Rice L.*, *Peterborough* (DCS), was only the 2nd for the area. A Double-crested Cormorant 9 Apr was early for *Mission Marsh*, *Thunder Bay* (BM). A Great Cormorant, a rare straggler in the Region, was seen 25 Apr at P.E.Pt. (K.F.N.). Great Egrets in *Kingston* 21 Apr (EB) and at P.E.Pt. 26 Apr (RBS) were unusually far east. Several Snowy Egrets turned up in May, including one flying over *Burketon Station*, *Durham*, 3 May (KC) and seen later at the nearby *Nonquon Sewage Lagoon* (GS, GC), one at *Presqu'île* 27 May (FH et al.), and one in breeding plumage near *L. Nipissing*, *Parry Sound*, 27 May–6 Jun, a first for that area (*vide* *Ontbirds*). Reports of two Snowy Egrets also came from *Bluffer's Park*, *Toronto*, where they were seen 28 & 29 Mar (CSAM, *Star Hotline*). Lone Tricolored Herons were on *St. Mary's R.*, *Algoma*, 18 May (*vide* *Ontbirds*) and at *Presqu'île* 30–31 May (FH et al.). Two Cattle Egrets were observed, one at *Strabane*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 22 May (BWy) and another at *Nephton*, *Peterborough*, the following day (AA). A first-spring Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was at *Rondeau* 13–24 May (BAM, GC et al.) and another was at *Britannia*, *Ottawa-Carleton*, 25 May (*vide* *Ontbirds*). The only Glossy Ibis of the season was at *Corbett Cr.*, *Durham*, 4 May (WB).

## VULTURES, WATERFOWL

An unusual number of Black Vultures included a first at the *Ganaraska Forest Centre*, *Durham*, 25 Apr (RP), with presumably the same bird at *Wesleyville*, *Northumberland*, 2 May (MB), and another 28–29 Apr at *Sturgeon Cr.*, *Pelee* (AW, HTO et al.). One was seen at *Duart* (*vide* KJB) and *Palmyra* near *Rondeau* 15 May (BAM), and two were at L.P.B.O. 20–21 May (BJ, JO). Turkey Vultures arrived early in the *Sudbury* area with one at *Espanola* 21 Mar (LS), and two on *Manitoulin I.*, *Manitoulin*, 24 Mar (GG). A Greater White-fronted Goose lingered near *Millbrook*, *Peterborough*, 8–16 Apr (JB, AA). A flock of 50 white-morph Snow Geese over *York Rd.*, *Dundas*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 21 Mar provided a high count for the area (JH). A late single Snow Goose was in the *Blenheim Lagoons*, *Kent*, 21–28 May (DS et al.). A white-morph Ross's Goose originally found in February was refound at *Jack Darling Park*, *Peel*, 10–14 Mar (DR, RZD et al., BCh et al.). The arrival of 30 Brant 2 May in *Cobourg*, *Northumberland*, was early (CEG). In the *Peterborough* area three Canada Geese of the *hutchinsii* subspecies were observed 3 Apr (PB). In late May a pair of Canada Geese with 4 goslings was found on *Clarke L.* (v.o.), representing only the 2nd confirmed breeding in *Algonquin*. An exceptionally large flock of 1500 Tundra Swans flew over *Mud L.*, *Ingersoll*, *Oxford*, 27 Mar (DB).

A Wood Duck in *Algonquin* 27 Mar was the 2nd earliest recorded (KC, LP). A male Eur. Wigeon 2–7 Apr (BR et al.) provided good views to many birders at *Presqu'île*. A rare male hybrid of N. Shoveler × Blue-winged Teal 28 Mar was a first for *Pelee* (AW). On 19 Apr a Green-winged Teal of the *crecca* subspecies was identified at *Port Weller*, *Niagara* (MS, AB). Several King Eiders stayed for long periods of March in *L. Ontario's west end* (RZD et al.). A male Harlequin Duck was at *Ashbridges Bay*, *Toronto*, until mid-March (JI, m.ob.), a pair was at *Petticoat Cr.*, *Durham*, 17–30 Mar (PH et al.), and a female was off *Burlington Lakeshore*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 1 Mar–22 May (RZD, m.ob.). An ad. male Barrow's Goldeneye was in *Presqu'île* 20–31 Mar (TB et al.).

## RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

An early Osprey was at Erie Beach, *Kent*, 9 Apr (JTB), the 2nd earliest on record. Nesting pairs were observed at Cayuga, *Haldimand-Norfolk*, in mid-May (JBM), and at Mountsberg C.A., *Hamilton-Wentworth* (MS). A breeding pair was active at Dundas Marsh, *Hamilton* (m.ob.), and birds were seen on a nest at Irish Line, *Haldimand-Norfolk*, (JBM). Three different Mississippi Kites, an adult and one-year-old 19 May (AW et al.) and another adult 21 May (AWa et al.), were at Pelee. Several Bald Eagles arrived early in the *Thunder Bay* area, with one at Whitefish L. 8 Mar (TR) and several 13-14 Mar at *Thunder Bay* (NE). Five Bald Eagles frequented the *Kingston* area 20 Mar-1 May (K.F.N.), a pair appeared to nest on the *Trent R.*, *Peterborough*, near a previously used site (DS). On a breeding bird survey route 18 Apr near *Kingston* 25 Red-shouldered Hawks were located. An imm. **Ferruginous Hawk** on *Amherst I.* 14 Mar (NM, SB) furnished a first for the *Kingston* area. Probably the same bird was seen 3 Apr-21 May at P.E.Pt. (m.ob.). The N.P.H. counted seven Golden Eagles in the last half of March; in *Ottawa* seven were seen along *Steele Line Rd.* 7 Mar (*vide* Ontbirds). A record-late first-year Golden Eagle was observed in *Algonquin* 24 Apr (DT). An early Merlin was seen in *Peterborough* 5 Mar. Peregrine Falcons continue to nest in several urban centers, with 2 breeding pairs in *Toronto* (m.ob.), and one each in *Ottawa*, *London* (*vide* Ontbirds), and *Hamilton* (MS). The *Hamilton* pair on the *Sheraton Hotel* had 4 eggs that failed to hatch, but subsequently raised two captive-bred foster chicks (MS).

A first record for the *Kingston* area was provided by a *Spruce Grouse* near *Tamworth*, *Lennox-Addington*, 21 Mar (S&AT), suggesting a southerly range extension. The *Sharp-tailed Grouse* population on *Manitoulin I.* appears to be healthy; over 150 performing males were observed on four different leks 28-29 May (m.ob.) with at least 65 males dancing at *Gore airport*, *Manitoulin* (BT). On 15-16 May a *King Rail* was heard and seen from a dyke in the *Big Cr marsh*, *L.P.B.O.*, by a large number of observers. This skulker remained visible for periods as long as one hour, providing excellent unprecedented views (RR, TH, m.ob.). A *Virginia Rail* near *Atikokan*, *Rainy River*, 19 May was a rare find (DrE, DE). Sightings of *Sandhill Cranes* were numerous across the province. Four were seen on *Beamer Pt.* 23 Mar (N.P.H.), one was in a swamp at *Moosonee* 4 Apr (BW),

and four were at *Rondeau* 7 Apr (KJB). At *Algonquin*, two 26 Apr (DS) and another 20 May (EP) represented rare occurrences. At P.E.Pt., five *Sandhill Cranes* were observed during the season (K.F.N.), and at *Pelee* among numerous sightings were four 4 May (J&PM) and five 14 May (AW et al.).

As many as 1430 *Am. Golden-Plovers* 2 May at *Pelee* were exceptional (THi), as were four birds 28 May near *Rainy R.*, where spring records are rare (DE, GC, m.o.b.). *Piping Plovers* continue to be scarce, with one at *Rock Point P.P.*, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (*vide* Ontbirds), and a possible pair 29 May at *Lake-of-the-Woods*, *Kenora* (DE, m.ob.), the only remaining known breeding area in the province. Five *Am. Avocets* flew past *Bronte Harbour*, *Halton*, 18 May (JO,RSn), and a *Lesser Yellowlegs* at *Dundas Marsh*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 31 Mar was early (BWy). An unusual number of 16 *Solitary Sandpipers* were seen at *Niagara* 8 May (MJ). Good numbers of *Willetts* were reported, including 13 at *Wheatley Harbour*, *Kent*, 7 May (KAM), six 8 May and four 9 May at *Turkey Pt.*, *Haldimand-Norfolk*, (JC, WS), and one at the *Tollgate Ponds*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 23 May (KAM et al.). Two *Hudsonian Godwits* were reported from the *R. Canard*, *Essex*, 19 May (LK), and one was at *Mission I.*, *Thunder Bay*, 22 May (NE et al.); one in *Cobourg* 28 May was a first for the w. part of *Northumberland* (CEG). *Marbled Godwits* were unusually well represented, with two at the *Dundas Marsh*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 10 May (RSn et al.), two at *Turkey Pt.* 24 May (C&SW), two at *Rainy R.* 28 May (*vide* GP), and one at the mouth of *Pic R.*, *Thunder Bay*, 19 May (KW).

An unusually large flock of 240 *Ruddy Turnstones* was at *Erie Beach*, *Kent*, 27 May (KJB, JTB). Among the rarer spring migrants were 15 *Red Knots* in *Cranberry Marsh*, *Durham*, 23 May (GC), eight at *Rondeau* 25 May (JTB), and 15 on *Amherst I.*, *Kingston*, 30 May. A locally rare *Whiterumped Sandpiper* was seen along the *Trent R.*, *Peterborough*, 14 May (AA). Early arriving *Pectoral Sandpipers* were 196 at *Hillman Marsh*, *Essex*, 31 Mar (AW) and 110 on the *R. Canard*, *Essex*, 1 Apr (JMc). Thirteen at the airport, *Peterborough*, 4 Apr represented the earliest record for the area (DCS). Very early *Dunlins* were at *Van Wagners Beach*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 29-30 Mar (RZD, MCr) and at *Hillman Marsh* 30 Mar (AW). A single *Stilt Sandpiper* was reported from the *Harrow Sewage Lagoon*, *Essex*, 17 May (RH, m.ob.)

*Ruffs* were reported from 3 sites, with a black male at *Dundas Marsh*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 13 May (BWy, m.ob.), a female at the *Blenheim Lagoons*, *Kent*, 25-26 May (BAM, KJB et al.), and another male at the *Nonquon Lagoons*, *Durham*, 26 May (JMS). Only one *Long-billed Dowitcher*, at *Amherst I.*, *Kingston*, 8 May, was reported (JHE, RDW). An *Am. Woodcock* in the *Slate R. Valley*, *Thunder Bay*, 30 Mar was early (RCh). Seven *Red-necked Phalaropes* at *Harrow*, *Essex* (AW et al.), represented a high number for spring migration.

## GULLS THROUGH THRUSHES

All *Laughing Gull* reports came from *L. Erie* with one each at the tip of *Pelee* 6 May (AR) and 10 May (PK), one at *L.P.B.O.'s Breakwater* 8 May (*vide* B.S.C.), and one-two birds at *Wheatley Harbour*, *Kent*, 8-16 May (MH et al.). A flock of 50 *Franklin's Gulls* in the *Rainy River* area 19 & 28-29 May made a good spring showing (DE). *Little Gulls* were well represented, with over 25 on the *Niagara R.* at *Queens-ton*, *Niagara*, 17-31 Mar (NM et al.) and 16 at *Bonnibrae Pt.*, *Durham*; 52 were at *Turkey Pt.* 8 Apr (F&TW) and 104 were there 28 Apr (SB, NM). *Single Black-headed Gulls* were at *Queenston* 17 Mar (NM, SB), 10 Apr (DL, GW), and 12 Apr (MJ), and at the *Inner Bay*, *L.P.B.O.*, 10 Apr (SB, NM, CSAM). A first (and maybe overdue) bird for *Pelee* was a first-winter imm. *Ross's Gull* 17-18 May (PB) seen by hundreds of observers (*vide* AW). A *Caspian Tern* on the n.e. shore of *Hamilton Harbour*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 29 Mar tied last year's record early date (MMi). Rare for e. Ontario were a *Forster's Tern* in *Kingston* 10-11 Apr (K.F.N.) and in *Cobourg Harbour*, *Northumberland*, 27 May, a late date (CEG, MB)

A *Black-billed Cuckoo* at *Binbrook C.A.*, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, 2 May was early (WYk). A *Snowy Owl* at *Hillman Marsh* 29 Apr was late (SSm et al.) The *Manitoulin I. N. Hawk Owl* found in February stayed for the first week of March near *Mindemoya* (TL). A successful owl survey in the *Thunder Bay* area 8 Apr turned up six *Boreal Owls*, one *Great Gray Owl*, and a singing *N. Saw-whet Owl* (BH). A rare *Chuck-will's-widow* was found in *Wheatley P.P.*, *Kent*, 19 May (THo et al.) A very early *Chimney Swift* appeared at *Tobacco L.*, *Manitoulin*, 28 Mar (TL). A brief feeder visit by a *Rufous Hummingbird* in *Sault Ste. Marie*, *Algoma*, 7 May was a welcome sight (*vide* Ontbirds). Seven *Red-headed Woodpeckers* at the *Tip of Long Pt.*, *L.P.B.O.*, 7 May were exceptional (*vide*

B S C), and a nest at Cottesloe, *Peterborough*, 19 May was unusual (JB). North of their range were a male Red-bellied Woodpecker at East Arrow L., *Thunder Bay*, that remained to the end of March (F&IS), one at the Mountain Rd., *Thunder Bay*, that stayed at least until 7 Mar (LG), and a 3rd at Mindemoya, *Manitoulin*, for most of March (STh) A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at Beamer C.A., *Niagara*, 13 Mar had probably overwintered (BCh et al.). A female Three-toed Woodpecker at West Rose L. 21 May was a late sighting in Algonquin (DT, RT). A pair of Black-backed Woodpeckers was on territory in May at Petroglyphs P.P., *Peterborough* (DCS).

Several reports of Acadian Flycatchers raise the hope that this rare species is holding its ground. Two were at Selkirk P.P., *Haldimand-Norfolk*, 21 May (JBM), one was at P.E.Pt. 23 May (K.F.N.), 3 nests were found in Skunk's Misery, *Middlesex* (PR et al.), singles were recorded at the Tip and at the Breakwater at L.P.B.O. 27 May (*vide* B S C), and on the same day one was singing at Peter's Wood s. of Rice L., *Northumberland* (DS). After an exceptionally high number (11) of W. Kingbirds reported in spring 1998 only three were seen this year, one in Providence Bay, *Manitoulin*, 22 May (J&NS et al.) and the other two at the T C B O. 31 May (AH). On the same day T C B O. recorded an all-time high of 61 E. Kingbirds (AH). A surprisingly high number of reports of Loggerhead Shrikes raise hopes for the future of this species. Early arrivals were reported from Presqu'île 24 Mar (DG), from Pt. Petre, *Prince Edward*, 28 Mar (JB), and from Ice L., *Manitoulin*, 16-17 Apr (TL). A high count of 36.5 pairs on territory came from the Napanee Plain, *Lennox-Addington*, the fractional number coming from a possible polygamous pair (CGr) A further 6 pairs have established territory on the Carden Plain, *Victoria*, (M N R., *vide* R.Pi).

A Warbling Vireo 7 May in Algonquin was that area's earliest on record (DT). An unusual sighting for s. Ontario 25 Mar on the Kimbal Sideroad, *Lambton*, were two Black-billed Magpies (ARy, CBu, SRu). Two **Fish Crows** at Pelee 19-24 May represented only the 6th record for Ontario and Canada, all from Pelee (AW et al.). A Com. Raven, a rare visitor from the north, was seen at Bonnibrae Pt., *Durham*, 10 Apr (THo). Early swallows were Tree Swallows in Presqu'île 22 Mar, at Second Marsh, *Durham*, 24 Mar (PH), and at the Humber Marsh, *Toronto*, 27 Mar (GCo), and a Barn Swallow at Salem, *Northumberland*, 31 Mar

(GCo). A Boreal Chickadee 16 May at L.P.B.O. was a rare northern visitor (C&SW). From P.E.Pt. comes a report of 2000 Golden-crowned Kinglets passing over 23 Apr (K.F.N.). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at T.C.B.O. 25-26 May was far north of its range (AH, JOB). The first Mt. Bluebird for Manitoulin was recorded at Long Bay on Manitoulin I. 8 Apr (M&DH).

#### MIMIDS THROUGH WARBLERS

A Brown Thrasher that overwintered at Whitefish was present until the 3rd week of March (JL), representing the first winter record for *Sudbury*. Northern Mockingbirds are rare in n. Ontario. One was in Moose Factory, *Cochrane*, 6 May (EH), three were at Sleeping Giant P.P., *Thunder Bay*, 22 May (JA et al.), and one was at Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay*, 31 May (NE).

A very early Blue-winged Warbler was at Pelee 19 Apr (SSH); one at Burwash, *Sudbury*, 30-31 May was a first for that area (CBe, CBI). Single Golden-winged Warblers were reported from the North from Ft. Frances, *Rainy River*, 28 May (DE) and from T.C.B.O. 29 May (JOB). Two rare Lawrence's Warblers were at Ruthven, *Kent*, 8 May (LMO) and one at Hungry Hollow, *Middlesex*, 12 May (PC). An early N. Parula was at Beamer C.A., *Niagara*, 18-21 Apr (MMY). A **Black-throated Gray Warbler** was a highlight at P.E.Pt. 12 May (D&LW). A Prothonotary Warbler 14-27 Apr at Pelee was early (FU); two males behaved territorially at Dundas Marsh, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, from May onwards (JO, m.ob.) and a female 19 May provided a first record for Presqu'île (CEG, m.ob.). Traditional southern overshoots, Worm-eating (11) and Kentucky Warblers (seven) were not particularly numerous this year in the Province, compared to other years. A Louisiana Waterthrush 1 Apr at Pelee was very early (MCA, JK). A western stray male **MacGillivray's Warbler** was at Wheatley P.P., *Kent*, 10 May (BJ et al.). Among the seven Yellow-breasted Chats reported was one at P.E.Pt. 7 May, most notable for being unusually far east (K.F.N.).

#### TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

The January **Spotted Towhee** in Thunder Bay was seen into early March (IMc). A Grasshopper Sparrow 6 Apr at Pelee was very early (AW). Only three of the provincially endangered Henslow's Sparrows were seen, with two at Pelee 14 May (JF) and 18 May (IM et al.), the same day when one was seen briefly at Presqu'île (FH). A Lincoln's Sparrow 4 Mar near Oxley, *Essex*, probably

overwintered (RH). The imm. Harris's Sparrow at a feeder in Claremont, *Durham*, since mid-December stayed until 4 May (EPE, m.ob.) and was seen by hundreds of visitors. Others were at Fitzroy Harbour, *Ottawa-Carleton*, in early March, at Rondeau 13-16 May (EJB), near Brantford, *Brant*, 14 May (EC), and at T.C.B.O. 20-25 May (AH). A large flock of 200 Lapland Longspurs was at the Blenheim Lagoons, *Kent*, 1 May (PAW et al.).

A Rose-breasted Grosbeak 18 Apr at Saltfleet, *Hamilton-Wentworth*, was early (JWt). Blue Grosbeaks are regular overshoots in s. Ontario; three males were seen at Pelee 10 May (CK, m.ob.) and a female at Backus Woods, *Haldimand-Norfolk*, 19 May (RvT). Three sought-after Dickcissels were seen, with one at a feeder in Carp, *Ottawa-Carleton*, 6 Mar (*vide* Ontbirds), a first winter male at Algonquin 22-26 Mar (DSt, m.ob.), and one on Pelee I., *Essex*, 15 May (JN et al.). A W. Meadowlark on Amherst L., *Lennox-Addington*, 30 Apr was far east of its range (RKE); another was at London airport, *Middlesex*, 19 May (IP). Also far east of their range were Yellow-headed Blackbirds at Presqu'île 5 Apr (MG et al.) and 6 May (J&WB), providing the Park's first and 2nd sightings. Orchard Orioles were seen in unusual numbers and beyond their range, with one at Gore Bay, *Manitoulin*, 9 May (TL), one at Carp, *Ottawa-Carleton*, 29 May (*vide* Ontbirds), no fewer than 14 at P.E.Pt. 10-31 May (K.F.N.), and six at High Park, *Toronto*, 7 May (GC). A Eur. Tree Sparrow 20 May near Pelee provided only the 2nd sighting for Ontario (PP et al.).

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Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *North American Birds* are keyed on page 251.

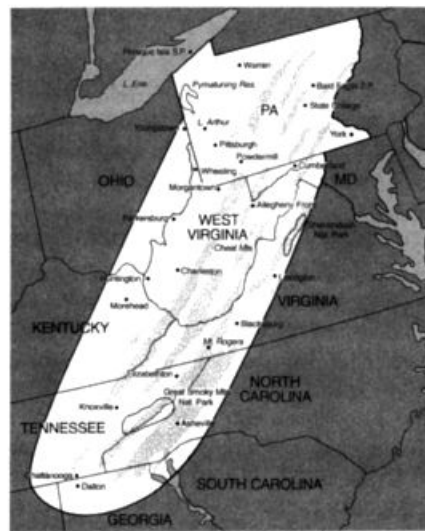
# appalachian region

**ROBERT C. LEBERMAN**

**T**here was cold weather and heavy snow-fall over much of the Appalachian Region in early March, but the remainder of the season was generally warm and dry. Erie Bay was ice-free by mid-March. Waterfowl and gulls peaked there 19 March, when 20,000 ducks (mostly Canvasbacks, scaup, and Red-breasted Mergansers) and 40,000 to 50,000 gulls were estimated (JM). Inland from Lake Erie good numbers of puddle ducks occurred during the last two weeks of March, followed by heavy fallouts of diving ducks, gulls, and terns during the last half of April (especially 17–24 April) when heavy rains fell over parts of the Region. Perhaps, in part, due to localized drought conditions, more than the usual number of shorebirds were observed. Many hundreds of shorebirds were also attracted to Tamarack Lake, where water levels had been lowered to enable dam repairs by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission.

Most observers considered the passerine migration average or better, but believed that many of the later migrating, more northerly nesting species, largely passed over the Region without stopping. Local breeding species were generally on time or just slightly early and, with few exceptions, in good numbers. At Carnegie Museum's biological station, the Powdermill Nature Reserve, the overall migration was average compared to the last ten years, with just over 2000 birds netted in April and May. Out of 50 species analyzed, just three (Eastern Phoebe, Slate-colored Junco, and Brown-headed Cowbird) were banded in numbers one or two standard deviations below the ten-year average. Seven (Ruby-throated Hummingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Gray Catbird, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, and Lincoln's Sparrow) were captured in above-average numbers; all others were statistically average (RCL, RM).

**Abbreviations:** B.E.S.P. (*Bald Eagle State Park, Centre Co., PA*); N.A.M.C. (*N. Am. Migration Count*); P.I.S.P. (*Presque Isle S.P., Erie Co., PA*); P.N.R. (*Powdermill Nature Reserve, Rector,*



*Westmoreland Co., PA*); R.C.B. (*Robert C. Byrd Locks & Dam, Mason Co., WV*); Y.C.S.P. (*Yellow Creek S.P., Indiana Co., PA*).

## LOONS THROUGH VULTURES

Red-throated Loon reports came only from w. Pennsylvania, with one at L. Arthur, *Butler*, 22 Mar (MW), three at Colyer L., *Centre*, 2 Apr (AN, DB), one at Kahle L., *Venango*, 9–24 Apr (JS), one at Y.C.S.P. 23 Apr (GC), and a late bird in *Clarion* to 25 May (WF). A flight of 35 Com. Loons passed Soddy Mt. Hawkwatch, *Hamilton*, TN, 28 Mar (WH); weather-related fallouts included 34 on L. Arthur 23 Apr (DY) and 180 on Shawnee L., *Bedford*, PA, 18 Apr (JPa). Fifty Horned Grebes were at B.E.S.P. 18 Apr (AN, DB) and 375 were at Pymatuning L., PA, 4 Apr (RFL). Lone Red-necked Grebes were at *Keystone Res., Armstrong*, PA, 4 Mar (BR, JF), *Harmarville, Allegheny*, PA, 17 Apr (JV), and *Beaver Run Res., Westmoreland*, PA, 19 Apr (*vide TV*). An Eared Grebe lingered at S. Holston L., TN, until 7 Mar (BS), and two were at *Edinburg L., Lawrence*, PA, 1 Apr (CG, BD). On 18 May an **American White Pelican** appeared on the *Monongahela R., Pittsburgh* (DM), and one was at *Somerset L., Somerset*, PA, over 50 mi to the southeast, 18–19 May (v.t. SB). Double-crested Cormorants peaked the 2nd half of April, with 335 along the *Ohio R., Beaver*, PA, 21 Apr (BH), and 285 along the *Allegheny R., Pittsburgh* (SK), 258 at *Somerset L. (AM)*, and 101 at *Baylor School, Hamilton*, TN (DJ, v.o.), all on 17 Apr.

American Bitterns were widely report-