

Records of Vermont Birds

VERMONT INSTITUTE OF NATURAL SCIENCE

SPRING MIGRATION 1994

1 March to 31 May

Scott W. Morrical, Seasonal Editor

Vermont experienced a wet and relatively cold spring season in 1994. Heavy snow cover persisted over most of the state throughout March, a month distinguished by colder than average temperatures and heavier than average precipitation. The most significant weather event of the early part of the season was a nor'easter that dumped heavy snow on northern Vermont during March 3-4. Temperatures returned to near-normal throughout most of April, however the wetter-than-average weather trend continued. Mild temperatures ahead of a cold front produced rapid snowmelt accompanied by significant flooding in Rutland, Orleans, and Franklin Counties during April 6-7. However, passage of the front brought heavy, wet snow and colder temperatures to northern Vermont. Water in Lake Champlain rose to very high levels again, cresting at 101.36 ft. in Burlington, which was just short of the previous year's record high. Widespread lakeshore flooding was the result. May saw the return of unseasonably cold weather throughout the state, with average temperatures 2-3 degrees below normal for the entire month.

Weather undoubtedly had a major impact on the spring bird migration in our state; two important factors were the timing of ice break-up on Lake Champlain, and eventually the high water levels in the lake. Following an extensive freeze-up of the lake during the previous winter months, only a few small patches of open water were to be found in late March, and sightings of most migratory waterbirds were scarce or non-existent. By April 8-9 significant patches of open water had developed in traditional places such as the South Hero causeway, "The Gut," the Grand Isle ferry crossing, and near the Champlain Bridge. These locations served as magnets for waterbirds, resulting in many sightings of good numbers of loons, grebes, and ducks. The high Lake Champlain water levels that developed later in April and persisted into May contributed to what many observers felt was a disappointing shorebird migration at traditional lakeshore sites. However, flooded fields in "interior" sites such as the Otter Creek flood basin appeared to attract a fair number of shorebirds. The cooler-than-average conditions that predominated in May may have contributed to what several observers felt was a delayed migration of landbird species such as flycatchers and hummingbirds.

The vagaries of Vermont springtime weather often catch birders unaware, and the same must hold true for birds. One poignant example of this principle came from observations of American Robin movements in the days before and after the April 6-7 snowstorm that affected northern Vermont. Prior to the storm, robins were well-established throughout the state, including good-sized flocks seen in northerly

White-winged Crossbills



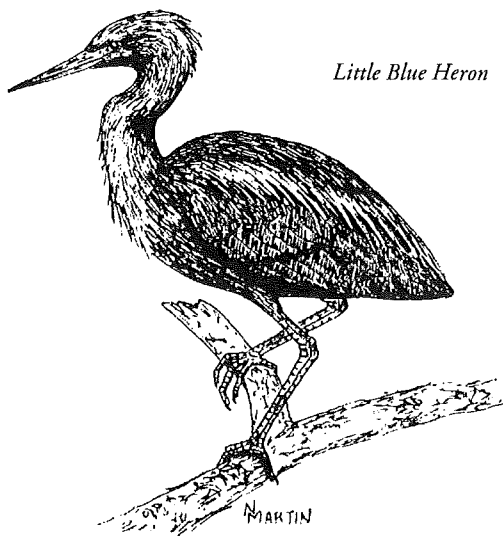
locales such as Grand Isle and Colchester. Two days after the storm, observers reported large numbers of robins heading southward in a steady stream in both Grand Isle and Chittenden Counties. It only took a little imagination to hear the Monty Python-esque cries of "run away!" from several hundred frost-bitten robins!

The season produced a number of excellent rarities, including 2 sightings of GREAT CORMORANT, 1 LITTLE BLUE HERON, 1 apparent KING RAIL (heard and tape-recorded but not seen), 1 SANDHILL CRANE, 1 CASPIAN TERN, 2 FORSTER'S TERNS, 1 very photogenic BOREAL OWL, 1 RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER, and at least 1 well-described HOARY REDPOL. Other less rare but still very interesting species included Great Egret, Glossy Ibis, Golden Eagle, Glaucous Gull, Carolina Wren, Northern Shrike, and "Brewster's" Warbler.

LOONS AND GREBES

Red-throated Loon: Several sightings of this species were reported, all from Lake Champlain. Singles seen at Bridport 4/8 (JAP), and Addison 4/14 (SWM, TGM) & 4/15 (JAP) probably represent sightings of the same individual. Another individual found at South Hero on 4/9 (TGM) was still present on 4/15 (SWM, TGM); Common Loon was widely reported in good numbers. Early sightings included: 7 South Hero 4/8 (JDM), 1 Leicester 4/8 (SSW), 15 South Hero 4/9 (TGM), 1 Brattleboro 4/10 (AMD), and 1 "The Gut" 4/10 (EMA, RDB). The high count was 32-34 at South Hero on 4/15 (TGM, SWM, JDM). Pied-billed Grebe was present by early April, usually in singles or pairs. Early sightings included 1 Hoyt's Landing 4/2 (REG, OAG), 1 Grand Isle 4/3 (EMA,

RDB), 2 Salisbury 4/5 (JAP), and 1 Lamoille River 4/5 (JDM). High counts included: 3 Lamoille River 4/8 (JDM), 3 Arlington 5/21 (BWP), 3 Coventry/Newport 5/28 (REG, OAG). Horned Grebe was relatively scarce this season, with all reports confined to the month of April. Singles were at South Hero on 4/8 (JDM) and "The Gut" on 4/10 (EMA, RDB). The high count of only 3 birds was observed at MNWR on 4/15 (JDM). Other reports included: 2 Kellogg's Bay 4/17 (BPG), 2 Bridport 4/18 (JAP), 1 Little Otter Creek 4/23 (CJF), 2 Weybridge 4/25 (JAP), 1 Coventry 4/27 (REG, OAG). Red-necked Grebe showed up early and often, with one hearty individual present at South Hero from 3/26-3/30 (TGM, JDM, SWM). A high count of 14 was recorded at South Hero on 4/14 (JDM), and again on 4/15 (TGM, SWM). Other sightings included: 1 Addison 4/15 (JAP), 1 Kellogg's Bay 4/17 (BPG), 2 Bridport 4/18 (JAP), 2 Addison 4/18 (JMN, EFG), 1 Rockingham 4/19 (WJN), 1 Herrick's Cove 4/28 (PFW, SAW), and 1 Lake Parker 5/3 (REG, OAG).



Little Blue Heron

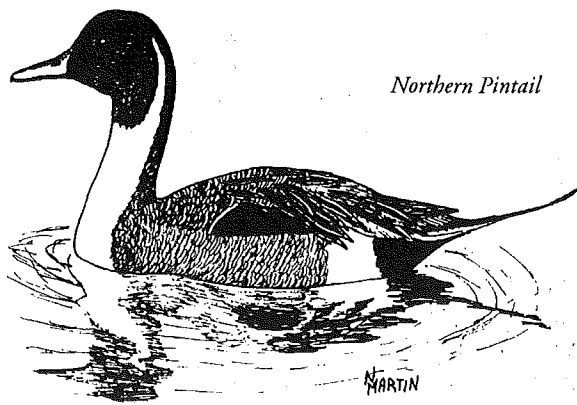
CORMORANT THROUGH IBIS

GREAT CORMORANT: A Vermont Bird Conference party spotted an apparent adult of this species from the Tri-Town Water Plant in Addison on 5/7 (WGE, JDM). A possible immature of this species was reported at the Champlain Bridge on 5/19 (SSW). Double-crested Cormorant was present in large numbers on Lake Champlain from early April through the end of the period. Early sightings included: 38 "The Gut" 4/3 (EMA, RDB) and 11 Shelburne Bay 4/5 (TGM). High counts included: 60 "Champlain Valley" 4/15 (JDM), 100+ Young Island 5/8 (EMA, RDB), and 70 Shelburne Bay 5/28 (TGM). American Bittern was reported in good numbers. Four calling at DCWMA on 4/15 (SWM) were off to an early start in establishing their breeding territories. Other early reports included singles at Grand Isle on 4/23 (DJH), at Leicester on 4/25 (JAP), and at Norwich on 4/25 (ADG, CHD). The high count was of 5 birds reported at Coventry on 5/17 (REG, OAG). Least Bittern was reported from three different locations, an improved showing over recent years, at least in geographical terms. Singles were present at DCWMA on 5/17 (FAP, EBP, SWM, TGM), at WRM on 5/21 (JMN, BRJ), and at MNWR on 5/22 (TSA). Great Blue Heron: Early arrivals included: 1 South Burlington 3/24 (TGM), 2 Bartonville 3/24 (TEJ), 2 Manchester

Center 3/25 (BWP), 1 Dorset 3/25 (SSW), 1 Burlington 3/26 (TSA), 1 DCWMA 3/26 (SWM), 1 North Hero 3/26 (DJH). High counts included: 5 Cornwall 4/9 (JMN), 15 "Champlain Valley" 4/13 (JDM), 15 Grand Isle 4/15 (SWM), and 30 MNWR 5/22 (TSA). Great Egret: Individuals seen in Rutland (CJF, KK) and Pittsford (RWP), both on 4/16, probably represent sightings of the same bird. A relatively poor showing compared to recent years. LITTLE BLUE HERON: 1 adult was present at the Farrell access of DCWMA on 5/5 (TGM), and was seen again at the Stone Bridge access on 5/7 (SWM et al., Vermont Bird Conference). Cattle Egret: 8 were present at Grand Isle on 4/30 (DJH), with up to the same number still present there on 5/8 (DJH, EMA, RDB). The only other sighting was of 1 at Shelburne Bay on 5/21 (TSA). Green Heron: A single bird at Springfield on 4/30 (WJN) was relatively early. Other sightings included: 1 Panton 5/6 (JAP), 1 Grand Isle 5/7 (DJH), 1 Westminster 5/8 (AMD), 2 Barton River Marsh 5/14 (PFW, SAW) high count, 1 Taftsville 5/20 (JMN), 2 Coventry 5/21 (REG, OAG) high count, 1 Moretown 5/21 (TSA), 1 Springfield 5/21 (WJN), 1 Grand Isle 5/22 (DJH), 1 Newport 5/28 (REG, OAG), and 1 Dorset 5/29 (EFG). Black-crowned Night-Heron: Early individuals were at SBWMA on 4/8 (JDL), and DCWMA on 4/11 (EMA, RDB). The high count of 6 was found at Shelburne on 5/13 (TGC). The only report of Glossy Ibis was of a single individual observed at Shoreham on 5/17 (FAP, EBP). A weak showing.

WATERFOWL

Mute Swan: Singles were reported at Springfield on 4/2 and again on 5/29 (WJN), at Hoyt's Landing on 4/2 (REG, OAG), and at the Champlain Bridge on 4/10 (JRA). Snow Goose: The earliest report was of a flock of 250 at Reading on 3/22 (FMH). As usual, thousands of snows were present in the DCWMA area during late March and early April; the high count received was of a flock of 20,000 present in a single field in Panton on 3/26 (SWM, TGM). Large flocks of snows were absent after the end of April, and the latest report was of a single individual lingering at DCWMA on 5/21 (JAP). Brant: The only report received was of 4 birds seen at Bridport on 5/12 (JAP). Canada Goose: Canada geese were present in small to moderate numbers throughout the reporting period. A flock of 6 at Pawlet on 3/8 (GRB) was fairly early, however. Some high counts included 500-800 at South Hero on 3/30 (TGM, SWM), and 820 at scattered location in the Champlain Valley on 4/8 (JDM). Wood Duck: This species was widely reported, the earliest report being of a single bird at Grand Isle on 3/23 (REG, OAG). High counts included 15 in the Rockingham area on 4/2 (WJN), 16 at SBWMA on 4/10 (EMA, RDB), a total of 19 at sites around the Champlain Valley on 4/13 (JDM), and 16 at Middlesex on 4/27 (TSA). Green-winged Teal: An early flock of 12 was present at Weybridge on 3/25 (JAP), and 2 more were at South Hero on 3/26 (TGM). The highest count received was 200 at Middlebury on 4/29 (JAP). Other good counts included 27 at South Hero on 4/8 (JDM), 24 at DCWMA on 4/8 (TGM), and 40 at Coventry on 4/23 (REG, OAG). American Black Duck: This species was present in small to moderate numbers throughout the reporting period. High counts included 225 in the Grand Isle/South Hero vicinity on 3/30 (SWM), and 100 at Weybridge on 4/3 (MBN). Mallard: Mallards were present in good numbers early in the season, concentrated around small pockets of open water. Some high counts included 142 at Proctor on 3/6 (RWP), 130-150 at Grand Isle 3/14 - 3/23 (EMA, RDB, REG, OAG), and a total of 400 birds in the Grand Isle/South Hero area on 3/30 (SWM). Northern



Northern Pintail

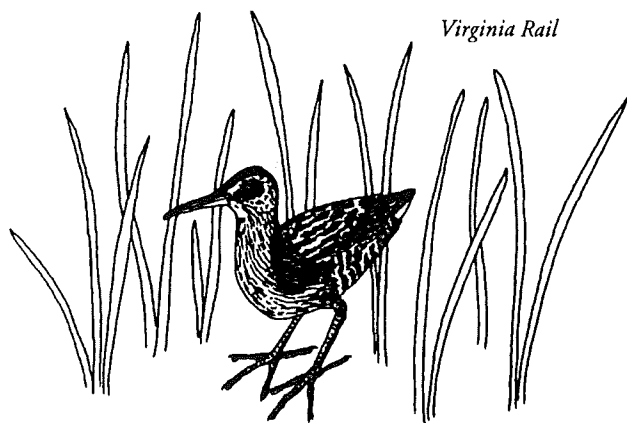
Pintail: All reported sightings of this species pale into insignificance compared to the "1/4 mile of pintails" reported from the Grand Isle area on 4/2 (DJH). Blue-winged Teal: All sightings were of flocks of less than 10 birds. The earliest report was of 4 birds present at Leicester Jct. on 3/30 (SSW). High counts included 6 at Leicester Jct. on 4/9 (JMN), 6 at DCWMA on 4/16 (CJF), 9 at DCWMA on 4/17 (MBN), and 8 at Grand Isle on 4/24 (DJH). Northern Shoveler: Northern Shovelers were well-reported, with one early individual present at Leicester Jct. on 3/26, and 3 present there on 3/31 (SSW). All other reports were of 1-3 birds except for: 4 at Grand Isle on 4/8 (DJH), 17 (high count) at Leicester on 4/26 (JAP), and 6 at Leicester on 5/3 (MBN). The latest report was of a pair at Coventry on 5/14 (PFW, SAW). Gadwall: Earliest sightings included 9 at South Hero (TGM) and 2 at Grand Isle (SWM), both on 3/26. High counts included 20 at South Hero on 3/29 (JDM), 21 at Grand Isle on 3/30 (SWM), and 15 at North Hero on 4/15 (JDM). American Wigeon: The earliest sighting was of a flock of 5 present at Weybridge on 3/25 (JAP). This species was widely reported but in fairly small numbers, the exception being a count of 22 from South Hero/North Hero on 4/8 (JDM). Canvasback: Four reports of this uncommon species were received: 1 bird at South Hero on 3/29 (JDM), 1 at Bridport on 4/4 (JAP), 1 at Springfield on 4/9 (WJN), and 2 at the Champlain Bridge on 4/18 (JMN, EFG). Ring-necked Duck: Earliest reports were of 3 birds at Grand Isle on 3/23 (REG, OAG) and 9 at Weybridge on 3/25 (JAP). Numbers at the Grand Isle Ferry quickly built up to 100+ by 3/30 (SWM). Numerous high counts were received including 200 at Grand Isle on 4/5 (DJH), 135 at South Hero on 4/10 (TGM), and ca. 270 from various locales in the Champlain Valley 4/13-15 (JDM). Greater Scaup: This species made a relatively poor showing this spring. The high count of only 43 birds was recorded at Colchester on 4/15 (JDM). Other respectable counts included 30 at various sites in the Champlain Valley on 4/5 (JDM), and 30-40 at South Hero on 4/15 (SWM, JDM). Lesser Scaup: In contrast, this species was present in roughly average numbers. Two good counts were of 20 at Grand Isle on 4/3 (EMA, RDB) and 25 at Newport on 5/2 (REG, OAG). Four birds present at Prouty Beach on 5/20 (PFW, SAW) were fairly late. Oldsquaw: Only two reports of Oldsquaw were received-- 2 were seen at Barre on 4/25 (EC), and a single bird was reported from MNWR on 5/22 (TSA). Black Scoter: The only scoter sp. report this season was of a flock of 5 Black Scoters present at Bridport on 5/12 (JAP). Common Goldeneye: This species was present throughout the reporting period, and large flocks were present on open areas of Lake Champlain by late March. High counts included 458 at various Champlain Valley locations on 3/29 (JDM), 500 at Grand Isle on 3/30 (SWM), and ca. 200-350 at South Hero on 4/10-15 (SWM, TGM).

Barrow's Goldeneye was reported in much higher than normal numbers this season, but from only two locations. An excellent count of 4 was found at Leicester Jct. on 4/5 (JAP). Meanwhile 1-2 birds were present at Grand Isle from 4/14 - 4/24 (DJH). Bufflehead: Present from late March through the end of the reporting period. High counts included 10 at Leicester Jct. on 3/30 (SSW), a good early count, 30 at South Hero on 4/15 (SWM), and 20 at Bridport on 4/22 (JAP). Hooded Merganser: A very early individual was present at McIndoes on 3/2 (REG, OAG). Other reports were all after 3/24. High counts included 12-16 Orwell 3/24-26 (SSW), 12 Orwell 4/8 (JAP), 20 Rockingham 4/9 (WJN), and 12 Grand Isle 4/15 (DJH). Common Merganser: Early birds included 4 McIndoes 3/2 (REG, OAG), 1 Weybridge 3/7 (JAP), and 6 White River Jct. 3/11 (JMN). High counts included 67 Grand Isle 3/23 (REG, OAG), 206 Champlain Valley 4/5 (JDM), 75 Addison 4/5 (JAP), and 100 South Hero 4/15 (SWM). Red-breasted Merganser: This species was widely reported, but in mostly small numbers, along Lake Champlain. The high count was of a flock containing up to 26 birds at South Hero on 4/14 - 4/15 (TGM, SWM, JDM). Six birds present at Grand Isle on 4/9 (DJH) was another good count. Finally, a hybrid duck, described as possibly a Mallard x American Wigeon, was seen at Grand Isle on 3/28 (TGM).

DIURNAL RAPTORS

Turkey Vulture showed up early and often this season. A flock of 6 seen at Bellows Falls on 3/19 (FMH, EJH) was the earliest in what became a steady stream of March sightings. Most reports were of groups of less than five birds, however several reports of larger flocks were received. High count honors go to a report of a single flock containing 35-40 vultures seen over Newbury on 4/1 (FO, JW). A total of 41 were seen at hawk watch sites. Osprey: This species was widely reported beginning in early April, mostly from the Champlain Valley and Northeast Kingdom, and mostly in singles or pairs. Some noteworthy high counts included 5 Herrick's Cove 4/22 (REG, OAG), 8 Coventry 4/29 (REG, OAG), and 9 Coventry 5/2 (REG, OAG). Hawk watchers spotted 38 individuals. Bald Eagle: 1 Charlotte 3/4 (BK), 2 Wilder Dam 3/11 (JMN), 1 North Pownal 3/20 (SB), 1 Herrick's Cove 4/9 (TEJ), 1 imm. Herrick's Cove 4/12 (CJF), 1 Mt. Independence 4/16 (SSW), 1 Hinesburg 5/3 (NB), 1 (probably the same bird) Shelburne 5/3 - 5/6 (SWM, MG, IW, TGC), 1 DCWMA 5/7 (SWM), 1 Norwich 5/14 (LL), 1 Chittenden 5/21 (RWP). Also, 1 was seen at the Brownell Mtn. hawk watch site. Northern Harrier: Most reports were of 1-3 birds. The earliest report was of a pair at DCWMA on 3/20 (JRA). High counts included 4 Panton 3/26 (SWM), 6 DCWMA 5/7 (SWM), and 5 Coventry 5/28 (REG, OAG). Hawk watchers found a total of 11 birds. Sharp-shinned Hawk was reported throughout the period. Most sightings were of single birds, however 5 were counted from Mt. Philo, Charlotte, on 4/30 (TGM). A total of 49 were reported from hawk watch sites. Cooper's Hawk was also reported throughout the period. Hawk watchers reported 11 birds total. Other sightings were all of single birds except for 2 Dorset 4/23 (EFG), and 2 Charlotte 4/27 (TGM). Northern Goshawk: Five reported from hawk watch sites, plus 1 South Burlington 3/7 (JMK), 1 DCWMA 3/26 (SWM), 1 Chester 3/27 (CEA), 1 Colchester 4/1 (EMA, RDB), 1 Burlington 4/4 (EMA, RDB), 1 North Springfield 4/12 (CJF), 1 Middlebury 4/22 (JAP), 1 W. Glover 4/27 (REG, OAG). Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Hartland 3/25 (MS)--early, 1 Jericho Ctr. 4/1 (JMK), 1 Colchester 4/10 (JDM), 1 Strafford 4/10 (SF), 1 Woodstock 4/23 (JMN), 1 Allen's Marsh 5/12 (REG, OAG), 1-2 (probably this species) Westminster 5/14-15 (AMD),

1 Berlin 5/21 (TSA), 1 DCWMA 5/30 (SSW), and 3 from hawk watch sites. Broad-winged Hawk: Early individuals were at W. Glover on 3/22 (REG, OAG) and at Pawlet on 3/27 (GRB). All other sightings were of 1-3 birds, including 3 S. Starksboro 4/23 (MP), 3 Charlotte 4/27 (TGM), and 3 Coventry 5/28 (REG, OAG). Hawk watchers tallied 215 total. Red-tailed Hawk was present throughout the reporting period, with 156 counted at hawk watch sites. High counts included 8 DCWMA vicinity 3/2 (SSW), 7 Bellows Falls vicinity 4/2 (REG, OAG), and 7 Charlotte 4/19 (SWM). Noteworthy was one albinistic individual seen at Westminster on 3/30 (AMD). Rough-legged Hawk: High counts of over-wintering birds included 9 Addison 3/12 (REG, OAG) and 6-8 DCWMA 3/26 (SWM, SSW). A late individual was observed at DCWMA on 5/6 (JAP, TGM). Only 1 bird was seen at a hawk watch site. Golden Eagle: 1 sub-adult at Bridport 5/9 (JAP), 1 adult at Haystack Mtn., Wilmington, 5/30 (WGE, NLM). American Kestrel: The earliest reports were of single birds at Manchester Ctr. (BWP) and Pawlet (GRB), both on 3/18. High counts included 8 Sudbury 3/26 (SSW), 6 Cornwall/Shoreham 4/9 (JMN), 6 Bridport 4/14 (JAP), 11 (highest) Orwell to DCWMA 4/18 (JMN, EFG), 7 Bridport 4/18 (JAP), and 6 Panton 4/18 (EMA, RDB). 28 birds were tallied by hawk watchers. Merlin: 1 Bridport 4/3 (FAP, EBP), 1 Chester 4/6 (CEA), 1 Craftsbury Common 4/10 (FO, JW), 1 West Bolton 4/23 (MC), plus 4 at hawk watch sites. Peregrine Falcon: "The" Peregrine Falcon was sighted on the University of Vermont water tower in Burlington on 3/24 (SWM), and made sporadic appearances there throughout the reporting period. Other reports included 1 Georgia 3/10 (MZ), 1 South Hero 3/24 (TGM), 1 Rochester 5/14 (SSW), 1 Bristol 5/21 (TSA), and 1 Fairlee 5/26 (CH, JH, VH). Hawk watchers reported only 1 bird.



Virginia Rail

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS THROUGH CRANES

Gray Partridge: The only report was a flock of 4 birds found along Middle Rd. in Swanton on 4/15 (TGM, SWM). Ring-necked Pheasant: 1 Grand Isle 4/15 and 4/24 (DJH), 1 Woodstock 4/29 (JMN), 1 Panton 5/5 (TGM), 1 Vergennes 5/7 (TGM, SWM). Spruce Grouse: 2 were found at Wenlock WMA in Ferdinand on 5/22 (DLC), and a single bird was found in the same location on 5/29 (REG, OAG). Ruffed Grouse: Reports were widespread and generally consisted of sightings of 1-2 birds. A notable exception was the high count of 25 tallied at Nebraska Notch on 5/7 (JMK). Wild Turkey: Some large flocks were reported including 10-16 Waterbury 3/9 - 3/17 (TSA), 32 (high count) Chester 3/14 (CEA), and flocks of 10-20 reported from various sites in Grand Isle 3/

19 - 4/1 (DJH, EMA, RDB, REG, OAG). KING RAIL: A bird calling incessantly from dense cattails at DCWMA/Briley on 5/17-18 was felt by all observers to be this species (TGM, SWM, GEH, JAP). Despite heroic efforts the bird was never seen, but its voice was tape-recorded. How many other unusual rails are lurking out there in Vermont's marshes? Virginia Rail: A single bird present at Dorset on 4/18 (EFG) was quite early. Other noteworthy reports included 2 WRM 5/7 (EMA, RDB), 7 (high count) DCWMA 5/7 (SWM, TGM), 2 Brandon 5/19 (SSW), 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 4 MNWR 5/22 (TSA), and 1 Newport 5/28 (REG, OAG). Sora: Representative sightings included 2 DCWMA 5/6 (TGM), 2 WRM 5/7 (EMA, RDB, MBN), 1 Alburg 5/19 (DJH); 4 (high count) DCWMA 5/20 (FAP, EBP), and 1 Newport 5/28 (REG, OAG). Common Moorhen: Most reports were from DCWMA, including the high count of 5 seen there on 5/8 (SWM). Other good counts and locations included 4 Alburg 5/3 (DJH), 1 WRM 5/19 (SSW), 3 Little Otter Cr., Ferrisburgh 5/22 (SSW), and 1 MNWR 5/22 (TSA). American Coot: 2 South Hero 4/10 - 4/15 (TGM, JDM, SWM), 1 DCWMA 5/7 (SWM), 2 Grand Isle 5/14 (DJH), 1 Alburg 5/19 (DJH). SANDHILL CRANE: A single bird was sighted and heard calling as it flew over flooded fields in Middlebury on 4/9 (JMN, AR, DLC et al.).

SHOREBIRDS

Semipalmated Plover: Only one report was received, that of a flock of 13+ birds at Grand Isle on 5/25 (DJH). Killdeer: Earliest reports included 4 White River Jct. 3/14 (CHD), 1 Woodstock East 3/18 (JF), "several" Grand Isle 3/20 (DJH), 3 Williston 3/23 (JMK), and 2 Chester 3/23 (CEA). High counts included 29 Grand Isle 4/3 (EMA, RDB), 300+ (highest) Rutland 4/1 (RHH), 196 Pittsford 4/7 (RWP), 27 Addison 4/8 (TGM), 24 Springfield 4/8 (WME). Greater Yellowlegs: A single bird seen at Bridport on 4/14 (JAP) was early. High counts included 6 Coventry 4/29 (REG, OAG), 25 (highest) Middlebury 5/3 (JAP), 11 Coventry 5/14 (PFW, SAW), 5-6 Craftsbury 5/16 (FO), and 6 Addison 5/17 (FAP, EBP). Lesser Yellowlegs: An early individual was present at Middlebury on 4/19 (JAP). The high count of 4 birds was also recorded in Middlebury, on 5/3 (JAP). Sightings in other locations included 2 Colchester 4/30 (JDM), 2 Coventry 5/5 (REG, OAG), and 1 Grand Isle 5/22 (DJH). Solitary Sandpiper: An early individual was present at Bridport on 4/20 (JAP). All other sightings were in May. High counts included 5 Middlebury 5/7 (SSW), 25 (highest) Middlebury 5/14 with 10 still present there on 5/17 (JAP), and 8 Westminster 5/14 (REG, OAG, AMD). Spotted Sandpiper: The earliest sightings were 1 Thetford 4/24 (CHD) and 1 Middlebury 4/25 (JAP). High counts included 6 DCWMA 5/2 (SWM), 4 Middlebury 5/7 (JRA), 4 Middlebury 5/12 (JAP), and 12 Grand Isle 5/15 (DJH) (highest). Upland Sandpiper: An individual of this species was observed in Colchester on 4/8 (JDM), an unusually early date. Other reports included 1 Bridport 4/25 (JAP), 5 Weybridge 4/28 (JAP), 2 Coventry 5/10 (REG, OAG), 1 New Haven 5/12 (SWM), 2 Shoreham 5/14 (JAP), and 1 Bridport 5/21 (JMN, BRJ). Least Sandpiper: All reports were from the month of May. High counts included 23-30 present in Middlebury 5/12-14 (JAP), 10 MNWR 5/22 (TSA), and 50+ Grand Isle 5/25 (DJH). Pectoral Sandpiper: Only two reports were received-- 1 Leicester Jct. 4/5 (JAP) (early), and 1 Colchester 4/30 (JDM). Dunlin: This species is normally absent from Vermont in the Spring, therefore a single individual present at Middlebury on 5/16 (JAP) was noteworthy. Short-billed Dowitcher: This species was well-represented this season, with 16 at Middlebury 5/16 (JAP), 6 Coventry

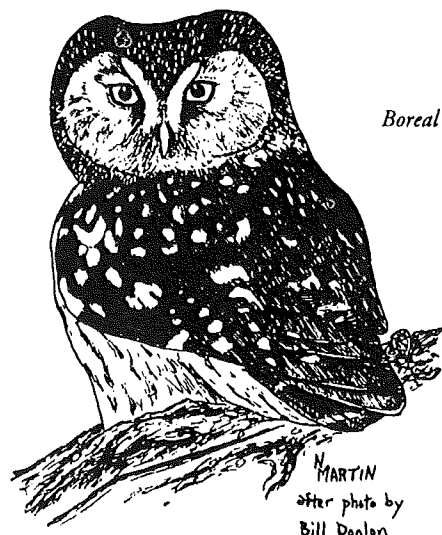
5/18, 24 MNWR 5/22, and 2 Island Pond 5/29. High-count honors go to DJH who found 100+ at North Hero on 5/23. American Woodcock: Territorial birds were noted beginning on schedule in late March, with 2 at Grand Isle on 3/25 (DJH), 5 (high count) Brandon 3/26 (SSW). All other sightings were of single birds except for 2 Middlebury 4/5 (JAP), 2 Chester 4/24 (CEA), 2 (pair with nest) Brandon 5/20 (SSW), and 2 Manchester Ctr. 5/22 (BWP). Common Snipe: Early sightings included 2 Leicester 4/6 (SSW), and 1 Jericho 4/7 (JMK). High counts included 5 Colchester 4/13 (JDM), 3 Coventry 4/14 (REG, OAG), "many" Grand Isle 4/14 (DJH), 4 Manchester Ctr. 4/18 (BWP), 5 WRM 4/30 (RWP), and 3 WRM 5/7 (EMA, RDB).

GULLS AND TERNS

Bonaparte's Gull: These showed up early this season, with 3 already present on Lk. Champlain at Shelburne on 4/10 (TSA). Small numbers continued to be reported through early May; the largest flocks were 19 Ferrisburgh 4/24 (CJF) and 13 Newport 5/2 (REG, OAG). Ring-billed Gull: Present throughout the season; high counts included 2000-2400 at South Hero 3/30 (DJH, SWM), and 1000+ on Young Island 5/8 (EMA, RDB). Herring Gull reports were sporadic; 500-600 at South Hero 3/30 (TGM, SWM) was the only large count received. Glaucous Gull: A single bird was seen at South Hero on 3/28 (TGM). Another individual, possibly the same bird, was at the same location on 4/9 (TGM). Great Black-backed Gull: Reported throughout the season, generally in small numbers. High counts included 200 South Hero on 3/30 (SWM), 6 Champlain Bridge 4/2 (JRA), 5 Orwell 4/16 (SSW), and 10 Burlington 5/21 (TSA). CASPIAN TERN: One adult was reported from Popasquash Island, St. Albans, on 5/3 (MSL). Another adult (same individual?) was seen at MNWR on 5/22 (TSA). Common Tern: 8 Popasquash Is. 4/27 (DLC), 3 MNWR 5/22 (TSA), 2 Newport 5/28 (REG, OAG). FORSTER'S TERN: 2 adults in alternate plumage were seen at the Champlain Bridge on 4/14 (JAP, GEH). Black Tern: 4 seen at Newport on 4/10 (REG, OAG) were early by about a month. All other sightings were in May. High counts included 7 Panton 5/9 (JAP), 8 DCWMA 5/17 (FAP, EBP, SWM), 8 DCWMA 5/21 (TSA), and 24 (highest) MNWR 5/22 (TSA).

DOVES THROUGH KINGFISHERS

Rock Dove: Under-reported. The highest count submitted was 75 Lyndonville 3/21 (EMA, RDB). Mourning Dove: Reported from all areas throughout the season. High counts included 20 Sheffield 3/3 (PFW, SAW), 13 Brandon 3/10 (SSW), and 20 Cornwall 5/18 (MBN). Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 Berlin 4/23 (TSA) early, 1 VINS 5/25 (CHD), 1 Dorset 5/31 (EFG). Eastern Screech-Owl: 1 New Haven Jct. 5/17 (SWM), 1 Grand Isle 5/27 (DJH). Great Horned Owl: 2 Manchester Center 3/7 (BWP), 1 Brandon 3/19 (SSW), 1 Springfield 4/11 (WME), 2 Georgia 5/17 (EMA, RDB), 1 DCWMA 5/17 (SWM), 1 Shelburne 4/14-5/20 (TGC), 1 Shelburne 5/29 (TGM). Snowy Owl: The only report received was of a single bird present at Montpelier on 4/1 (CJF, KK). Barred Owl: 1 Pawlet 3/1 (GRB), 2 Jericho Ctr. 3/15 (JMK), 3 (high ct.) Reading 3/28 (FMH, EJH), 1 Dorset 4/12 (EFG), 2 West Bolton 4/29 (MC), 3 (high ct.) Woodstock 5/1 (JMN), 1 Brandon 5/15 (SSW), 1 Chittenden 5/21 (RWP), 2 W. Glover 5/25 (REG, OAG). Long-eared Owl: A bird described as "probably this species" was observed at Grand



Boreal Owl

Isle on 5/6 (DJH), the only report. Short-eared Owl: 1 Ferrisburgh 3/20 (CCF), 1 Herrick's Cove 4/9 (TEJ), 1 Grand Isle 5/3 (DJH). BOREAL OWL: A single, very photogenic individual of this species showed up at a farm in Bakersfield on 3/9 and remained for several days (DY, GY, DB). The bird was very tame, allowed close approaches, and was videotaped at length. Unfortunately, only a few people got to see it. Northern Saw-whet Owl: Only one report was received: a single bird at Chelsea on 3/10 (NAM). Common Night-Hawk: 1 Norwich 5/12 (ADG), 1 Colchester 5/27 (JDM), 1 Saxton's River 5/27 (AMD), 1 Brandon 5/28-31 (SSW), 1 Springfield 5/29 (WME). A little late this season. Whip-poor-will: 1 Jericho 5/11 (EMA, RDB), 2 Brandon 5/19 (SSW), 1 Chester 5/24 (CEA). Chimney Swift: The earliest report was of a single bird at Middlesex on 4/19 (TSA). High counts included 6 Chester 5/2 (CEA), 8 Middlebury 5/4 (JAP), 50 (highest) Woodstock 5/12 (EFG), and 6 Shelburne 5/29 (TGM). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Several observers commented that this species returned late this season, however single birds at Vershire 5/5 (KRH), Middlebury 5/7 (JAP), and Westminster 5/9 (AMD) were right on schedule. Most sightings were of 1-2 birds, except for high counts of 4 Vershire 5/10 (KRH), 3 Chester 5/26 (CEA), 4 Brandon 5/28 (SSW), and 5 (highest) Reading 5/29 (FMH, EJH). Belted Kingfisher: Early sightings included 1 Pittsford 4/2 (SSW), 1 Shelburne 4/5 (TGM), 1 Swanton 4/5 (JDM), 1 Dorset 4/6 (EFG), and 1 Colchester 4/9 (EMA, RDB). High counts included 7 Bridport 4/22 (JAP), 6 Coventry/Newport 4/23 (REG, OAG), and 4 Colchester 4/30 (JDM).

WOODPECKERS

Red-headed Woodpecker: This species continued its presence in the central Champlain Valley, and appears to have nested in the Bridport area. Sightings included: 1 Cornwall 5/2 (JAP), up to 3 present in Bridport (Market and Middle Rd. area) 5/9 - 5/26 (JAP, FAP, EBP, TGM, JMN, BRJ), 1 Nichols Pt. 5/20 (CJ, PJ). RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER: 1 was reported at Bridgewater Corners on 5/10 (BRJ). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Present throughout the state from early April onward. High counts included: 7 Reading 4/9 (FMH, EJH), 3 Dorset 4/14 (EFG), 10 Reading 4/26 (FMH, EJH), 5 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP). Downy Woodpecker: Widely reported throughout the period. High counts included: 5 Dorset 4/13 (EFG), 4 S. Burlington 5/4 (SWM), 6 Brandon 5/10 (SSW). Hairy Woodpecker: Also widely reported, but only in singles

or pairs. Some representative sightings: 2 Woodstock 3/1 (CRP), 1 Barnard 3/4 (JNF), 2 Bristol 4/24 (MBN), 2 S. Burlington 5/4 (SWM), 2+ Vershire 5/5 (KRH). Black-backed Woodpecker: The only sighting was of a single bird at Moose Bog (Wenlock WMA), Ferdinand, on 5/29 (FAP, EBP). Northern Flicker: Earliest sightings this season included: 1 VINS 3/28 (CHD), 1 Brownsville 4/1 (BMH), and 1 Woodstock 4/1 (JMN). High counts included: 3 Springfield 4/4 (WME), 3 Manchester Ctr. 4/12 (BWP), 5 Dorset 4/27 (EFG), 3 Reading 4/28 (FMH, EJH), and 3 Brandon 5/12 (SSW). Pileated Woodpecker: Reports, mostly of single birds, were widespread. Exceptions included: 2 Colchester 3/29 (JDM), 2 Coventry 4/27 (REG, OAG), 2 Chester 5/4 (CEA), 2 Reading 5/11 (FMH, EJH), 2 Dorset 5/28 (EFG), and 3 (the high ct.) Shelburne 5/29 (TGM).

FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Middlebury 5/15 (JAP), 1 Barton 5/20-21 (PFW, SAW, REG, OAG), 1 Stratton 5/23 (TEJ), 1 Goshen 5/24 (SSW), 1 Barton 5/28 (REG, OAG), 1 Sheffield 5/30 (PFW, SAW), 1 Norwich 5/30 (CHD). Eastern Wood-Pewee: 1 West Rutland 5/7 (MBN), 2 (high ct.) Colchester 5/21 (JDM), 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 1 Middlebury 5/21 (JAP), 1 Ferrisburgh 5/22 (SSW), 1 Weybridge 5/26 (MBN), 1 Woodstock 5/28 (JMN), 1 Dorset 5/29 (EFG), 1 Grand Isle 5/29 (TSA). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 Stratton 5/23 (TEJ), 1+ Yellow Bogs 5/28 (FAP, EBP). Alder Flycatcher: 1 Barton 5/20 (PFW, SAW), 1 Berlin 5/21 (TSA), 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 1-2 Brandon 5/23-29 (SSW), 1-2 Dorset 5/24 -26 (EFG), 1 Middlebury 5/25 (JAP), 1 Fayston 5/28 (FAP, EBP), 1 Ferdinand 5/29 (REG, OAG), 1 Sheffield 5/30 (PFW, SAW). Willow Flycatcher: 1 Weybridge 5/10 (MBN), 1 Addison 5/18 (JAP), 2 (high ct.) Ferrisburgh 5/22 (SSW), 1 Westminster 5/22 (AMD), 1 Coventry 5/28 (REG, OAG). Least Flycatcher: A single bird banded at VINS on 4/27 (SF) was the season's first. All other sightings were in May. High counts included: 4 Manchester Ctr. 5/5 (BWP), 6 Manchester Ctr. 5/14 (BWP), 5 Brandon/Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 8 (highest) Bristol 5/28 (JRA). Eastern Phoebe: This species arrived on schedule in late March; earliest sightings included: 1 Bartonsville 3/24 (TEJ), 1 Woodstock 3/25 (CHD), 1 Pawlet 3/26 (GRB), and 1 Waitsfield 3/26 (FAP, EBP). High counts included: 6 Addison 4/8 (JAP), 7 Dorset 4/14 (EFG), 8 (highest) Grand Isle 4/15 (SWM), and 6 Brandon/Sudbury 4/16 (SSW). Great Crested Flycatcher: All sightings were in May, with early honors going to a single bird present at West Haven on 5/3 (JMN, EFG). Most sightings were of single birds except for 2 Georgia 5/9 (EMA, RDB), 8 (high ct.) Benson 5/14 (CJF), 2 (w/ nest) Woodstock 5/15 (JMN), 4 MNWR 5/22 (TSA), 2 Middlebury 5/22 (MBN), and 2 Isle La Motte 5/30 (SWM). Eastern Kingbird: An early individual was present at SBWMA on 4/17 (JMK). High counts included 3 Coventry 5/5 (REG, OAG), 4-6 Barton 5/14-20 (PFW, SAW), 5 Chester 5/17 (CEA), 8 Brandon/Goshen/Addison 5/19 (SSW), 8 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), and 5 Coventry 5/28 (REG, OAG).

LARKS THROUGH SWALLOWS

Horned Lark reports came mainly from the Champlain Valley. Some high counts included: 59 Bridport 3/1 (JAP), 412 (highest) Bridport 3/4 (JAP), 92 Addison 3/12 (REG, OAG), 25 Middlebury 3/17 (JRA), and 22 Panton 4/8 (TGM). The latest report received was of 4 birds present

at DCWMA/Panton on 5/7 (SWM). Purple Martin: All reports were from sites in the Champlain Valley and/or Grand Isle Co. Early arrivals included 5 birds seen at Bridport on 4/20 (MBN). High counts included 8 Bridport 4/30 (CJF), 9 Addison 5/1 (JRA), 10 (highest) "Lake Champlain" 5/11 (SSW), 8 Newport 5/28 (REG, OAG), and 6 Isle La Motte 5/30 (SWM). Tree Swallows arrived on schedule in late March. Earliest sightings included 1 Whiting 3/24 (SSW), 1 Strafford 3/25 (SF), 3 Weybridge 3/25 (JAP), 13 Shoreham 3/26 (SSW), and 2 Addison 3/26 (FAP, EBP). Some high counts included 100 Williston/Richmond 4/6 (JMK), 200-250 Craftsbury 4/16 (FO, JW), 100 Bridport 4/20 (MBN), 200 Middlebury 4/22 (JAP), 158 Dorset 4/24 (EFG), 100 Berlin 4/24 (TSA), "100's" Bristol 4/29 (JRA), 500-700 (highest) WRM 4/29 (RWP), and 100+ 5/29 Island Pond (REG, OAG). Numerous nesting reports were received. Northern Rough-winged Swallow: A single bird seen at Westminster on 4/3 (AMD) was very early. High counts included 6 "Otter Creek" 4/16 (CJF), 15 Shelburne 4/18 (SWM), 20 (highest) Shelburne 4/21 (TGC), 7 WRM 4/30 (RWP), 5 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), and 10 West Rutland 5/27 (MBN). Bank Swallow: Arrived on schedule in late April; earliest sightings included 6 Chester 4/24 (CEA) and 1 Salisbury 4/25 (JAP). High counts included: 25 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP), 80 Middlebury 5/3 (JAP), 50 Salisbury 5/7 (JRA), 30+ Chester 5/11 (CEA), 40 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), and 20 Middlebury 5/22 (MBN). Cliff Swallow: A single bird present at Craftsbury on 4/16 (FO, JW) was early. All other sightings were in May: 4 (high ct.) Chester 5/2 (CEA), 2 West Rutland 5/7 (MBN), 1 WRM 5/7 (EMA, RDB), 1 Middlebury 5/9 (JAP), 2 Middlebury 5/11 (MBN), 2 S. Starksboro 5/11 (MP), 2 DCWMA/Addison 5/17 (TGM), 2 West Rutland 5/19 (SSW), 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), and 1 Newport 5/28 (REG, OAG). Barn Swallow: Arrived on schedule in mid-April. Some high counts included: 15 Colchester 4/30 (JDM), 6 Woodstock 5/6 (CRP), 6+ Jericho 5/10 (JMK), 20 (highest) 5/11 Georgia (EMA, RDB), and 8 West Rutland 5/19 (SSW).

JAYS THROUGH WRENS

Gray Jay: 2 Ferdinand 5/29 (REG, OAG), 1 Ferdinand 5/29 (FAP, EBP). Blue Jay: Widespread and conspicuous throughout the season. Some noteworthy totals included: 20 (high ct.) Woodstock 3/1 (CRP), 12 Woodstock 3/10 (JMN), 12 Manchester Ctr. 3/12 (BWP), 16 Sheffield 3/20 (PFW, SAW), 15 Jericho 3/26 (JMK), and 12 Brandon/Goshen 5/19 (SSW). American Crow: Another conspicuous resident which tends to go under-reported. The highest single report was of 210 present at New Haven on 3/20 (JRA). Common Raven: Reported throughout the season, usually as singles or pairs. Some higher counts included: 4 West Bolton 3/8 (MC), 3 Manchester Ctr. 3/12 (BWP), 8 (highest) Ferdinand 4/5 (REG, OAG), 4 Reading 4/30 (FMH, EJH), and 3 Rochester 5/7 (SSW). Black-capped Chickadee: Common resident throughout our state. Higher counts included: 14 Woodstock 3/1 (JMN), 10+ Chester 3/1 (CEA), 10 West Bolton 3/1 (MC), 10 Woodstock 3/1 (CRP), 12-15 Barnard 3/15 (JNF), 14 Brandon 3/23 (SSW), 14 Dorset 5/10 (EFG), 14 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM). Boreal Chickadee: 2 W. Glover 3/1 (REG, OAG), 1 Eden 3/8 (DAB), 1 W. Glover 5/5 (REG, OAG). Tufted Titmouse: Present throughout the season; most reports were from the Champlain Valley. High counts included 3 Brandon 3/8 (SSW), 4 Wallingford 3/17 (SJD), and 4 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM). Single birds present in Coventry and Ferdinand, respectively on 5/28 (REG, OAG) were noteworthy Northeast Kingdom records. Red-breasted

Nuthatch: Widely reported in singles and pairs throughout the season. High counts included: 6 Reading 3/9 (FMH, EJH), 3 Chester 3/11 (AMD), 3 Manchester Ctr. 3/12 (BWP), and 4 Berlin 5/21 (TSA). White-breasted Nuthatch: Resident throughout the state. High counts included 4 Dorset 5/6 (EFG), 3 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM), and 3 Manchester Ctr. 5/14 (BWP). Brown Creeper: Small numbers overwintered; single birds reported from widespread locations through mid-April. High counts included: 3 Dorset 5/1 (EFG), 2 Grand Isle 5/7 (DJH), 2 Brandon 5/18 (SSW). Carolina Wren: Only one report was received: a single bird seen at Brandon on 3/10 (SSW). A poor showing compared to recent years. House Wren: Most reports were of single birds. An individual seen at Berlin on 4/15 (TSA) was notably early. High counts included 2 Chester 4/26 (CEA), 4 Dorset 5/4 (EFG), 2 Brandon 5/4 (SSW), "lots" Grand Isle 5/7 (DJH), 2 Pawlet 5/14 (GRB), 2 Weybridge 5/24 (MBN), and 3 Dorset 5/31 (EFG). Winter Wren: Arrived on schedule in early April. All sightings were of singles or pairs except: 6 (high ct.) Reading 5/11 (FMH, EJH), and 4 Lincoln 5/21 (JRA). Marsh Wren: The earliest report was 1 DCWMA 4/30 (TGM). Highest counts came from Champlain Valley marshlands, including: 10+ DCWMA 5/7 (SWM), 20 DCWMA 5/18 (JAP), 40 (high ct.) MNWR 5/22 (TSA), and 10 DCWMA 5/30 (SSW).

KINGLETS THROUGH THRUSHES

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 Bartonville 4/4 (TEJ), 7 (high ct.) 4/15 Berlin (TSA), 5 S. Starksboro 4/16 (MP), 2 Orwell 4/16 (SSW), 1 Lake Salem 4/27 (REG, OAG), 1 Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 1 Shrewsbury 5/21 (JMN, BRJ). A poor showing. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: This species was reported in near-normal numbers, unlike the previous species. High counts included: 7 Woodstock 4/24 (JMN), 14 (highest) Woodstock 4/27 (JMN), 8 Reading 4/28 (FMH, EJH), 8 Colchester 4/30 (JDM), 7 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP), 10 W. Glover 5/2 (REG, OAG). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: The earliest report was of a single bird present at S. Starksboro on 4/24 (MP). All other reports were of single birds except: 2 West Haven 5/3 (JMN), 2 WRM 5/7 (MBN, EMA, RDB), 4 (high ct.) Ferrisburgh 5/22 (SSW). Eastern Bluebird: Widely reported this season. Earliest sightings included: 2 Panton 3/12 (REG, OAG), 3 Middlebury 3/16 (JRA), and 1 Proctor 3/18 (RWP). High counts included 4 Dorset 4/3 (EFG), 6 (highest) Middlebury 4/10 (MBN), and 4 S. Wheelock 4/17 (PFW, SAW). Veery: A single bird present at Shelburne on 4/10 (TGC) was quite early. All other sightings were in May. High counts included: 3 Dorset 5/17 (EFG), 4 Goshen/Brandon 5/19 (SSW), 5 (highest) Lincoln 5/21 (JRA), and 3 Colchester 5/21 (JDM). Bicknell's Thrush/Gray-cheeked Thrush: The only report was of a migrating bird present at Jericho on 5/24 (TGM). Both species are late to arrive in Vermont, and are difficult to tell apart unless singing. Swainson's Thrush: 1 Middlebury 5/11 (JAP), 1 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM), 1 Ripton 5/19 (TGM), "several" Ferdinand 5/29 (FAP, EBP). Poor showing; late migration this year? Hermit Thrush: Earliest reports included: 1 Bartonville 4/9 (TEJ), 4 Woodstock 4/12 (KRT), 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/12 (BWP), 1 Woodstock 4/15 (JMN), 2 Chester 4/16 (CEA), and 1 Orwell 4/16 (SSW). High counts included: 10 Reading 4/25 (FMH, EJH), 5 South Burlington 5/4 (SWM), and 11 (highest) Lincoln/Ripton 5/21 (JRA). Wood Thrush: Early reports included 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/25 (BWP), 1 Colchester 4/30 (JDM), and 1 Dorset 4/30 (EFG). High counts included 3 Danby 5/3 (CJF), 3 Manchester Ctr. 5/5 (BWP), 4 Addison 5/8 (SWM), 5 (highest) Dorset 5/18 (EFG), 4 Colchester 5/21

(JDM), and 4 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP). American Robin: Small numbers returned early, as evidenced by a single bird present at Moretown on 2/26 (MP). Good-sized flocks were present by late March, e.g. 20 at Weybridge 3/24 (MBN), 69 Manchester Ctr. 3/29, and 23 Colchester 3/29 (TGM). As noted in the introduction, hundreds were observed moving southward through Grand Isle and Chittenden Counties following a snowstorm on 4/6-7 (DJH, TGM). The highest single-site counts received were the following: 305 (high ct.) Pittsford 4/7 (RWP), 110 Dorset 4/10 (EFG), and 100+ Grand Isle 4/10 (DJH).



Bohemian Waxwing

MIMIDS THROUGH STARLING

Gray Catbird: A single bird present at East Poultney on 4/30 (CJF) was only slightly ahead of the crowd. High counts included: 5 Herrick's Cove 5/12 (REG, OAG), 6 Brandon/Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 9 (highest) Dorset 5/20 (EFG), and 5 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP). Northern Mockingbird: 2 South Burlington 3/1 (SWM), 1 Westminster 4/3 (AMD), 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/19 & 5/5 (BWP), 1 Bridport 5/4 (JAP), 1 Herrick's Cove 5/12 (REG, OAG), 1 Grand Isle 5/14 (DJH), 1 Grand Isle 5/21 (DJH), 1 DCWMA 5/21 (TSA), 1 Ferrisburgh 5/22 (SSW). Brown Thrasher: Early arrivals included single birds at Brandon 4/15 (SSW), and at Bridport 4/18 (JAP). Most sightings were of single birds except for the following: 2 Grand Isle 4/30 (DJH), 2 Colchester 5/6 (JDM), 4 (high ct.) DCWMA 5/7 (SWM), 2 WRM 4/30 (RWP), and 2 Brownsville 5/10 (BMH). American Pipit: 8 Salisbury 4/8 (JAP), 2 Cornwall 5/7 (PFW, SAW), 2 Middlebury 5/7 (JRA, SSW), 4 Weybridge 5/12 (JAP), 14 (high ct.) Pawlet 5/14 (CJF). Bohemian Waxwing: Bohemians put on a good show in the northern and central C.V. through mid-April. High counts

included: 139 Burlington 3/14 (EMA, RDB), 200 Weybridge 3/15 (MBN), 130 Brandon 3/25 (SSW), 300 (highest) 4/1 South Burlington (TGM), 100 Pantton 4/8 (TGM), 200 Burlington 4/14 (SWM). Cedar Waxwing: Reported throughout the season. High counts included: 28 Middlebury 3/10 (JAP), 25 Brandon 4/9 (CHD), 30 Orwell 4/17 (TGM), 35 Brandon 4/27 (SSW), 25+ South Burlington 5/29 (JMK). Northern Shrike: Only two reports were received, probably representing the same bird: 1 Norwich 3/17 and 3/26 (both CHD). European Starling: Some high counts: 300 New Haven 3/2 (JRA), 300+ Shoreham 3/26 (SSW), 358 Manchester Ctr. 3/29 (BWP), 500 Swanton 4/3 (EMA, RDB), 200 South Hero 4/3 (EMA, RDB), 500 Charlotte 4/10 (SWM), 300 New Haven 4/11 (EMA, RDB).

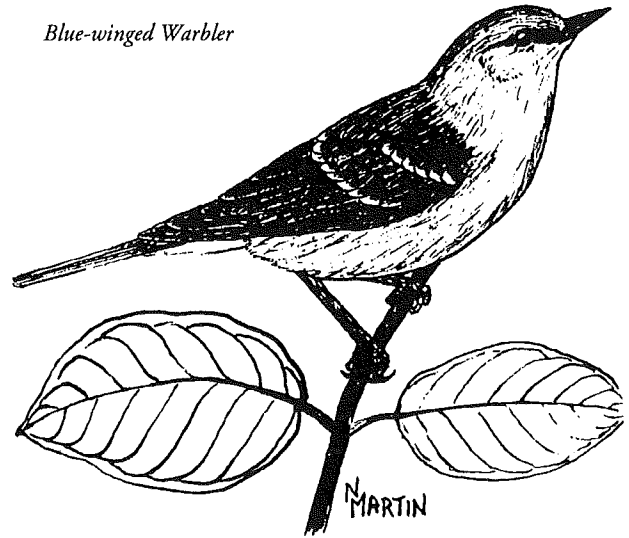
VIREOS

Solitary Vireo: Earliest reports included: 1 S. Starksboro 4/24 (MP), 2 Reading 4/25 (FMH, EJH), 1 Colchester 4/25 (JDM). High counts included: 3 Reading 4/28 (FMH, EJH), 2 Dorset 4/30 & 5/17 (EFG), 10 (highest) Middlebury 5/3 (JAP), and 3 Bristol Notch 5/28 (JRA). A fairly poor showing this season. Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 Middlebury 5/3 (JAP), 2 Ira 5/4 (RWP), 1 Woodstock 5/6 (CCR), 1 Brandon 5/12 (SSW), 1 Salisbury 5/12 (JAP), 1 Leicester 5/19 (SSW), 1 Woodstock 5/20 (JMN), 2 Middlebury 5/22 (MBN). Warbling Vireo: The earliest report was of a single bird present in Dorset on 4/30 (EFG). High counts included: 3 Salisbury 5/3 (JAP), 3 West Rutland 5/7 (EMA, RDB), 7 (highest) Brandon/Goshen/West Rutland 5/19 (SSW), 4 NE Kingdom 5/20 (PFW, SAW), 3 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 5 Coventry 5/28 (REG, OAG). Philadelphia Vireo: 1 Shrewsbury 5/21 (JMN, BRJ), 1 Jericho 5/22 (JMK), 1 Stratton 5/23 (TEJ). Red-eyed Vireo: The earliest report was of 2 birds seen in Lincoln 5/10 (JRA). High counts included: 3 Reading 5/18 (FMH, EJH), 23 (highest) Lincoln/Ripton 5/21 (JRA), 12 Colchester 5/21 (JDM), 3 Ferrisburgh 5/22 (SSW), and 4 Dorset 5/31 (EFG).

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: 2 West Rutland 5/7 (EMA, RDB), 1 Dorset 5/13 (EFG), 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP). Golden-winged Warbler: 1-2 West Rutland 5/7 (EMA, RDB, MBN), 1 Addison 5/8 (SWM), 2 Benson 5/14 (CJF), 1 Middlebury 5/15 (JAP), 2 Brandon 5/18 (SSW). "Brewster's" Warbler: 1 report of this hybrid from Middlebury on 5/15 (JAP). Tennessee Warbler: A single bird at Dorset on 5/1 (EFG) was early. Other sightings included: 1 Dorset 5/20 (EFG), 1 Colchester 5/21 (JDM), 1 Reading 5/21 (FMH, EJH). Nashville Warbler: Earliest report was of 1 at Charlotte 4/30 (TGM). High counts included: 4 (highest) S. Starksboro 5/7 (MP), 2 West Rutland 5/7 (EMA, RDB), 2 Lincoln 5/10 (JRA), 2 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM), 2 West Glover 5/11 (REG, OAG), 2 Middlebury 5/15 (JAP), 2 Sheffield 5/17 (PFW, SAW), and 2 Middlebury 5/18 (MBN). Northern Parula: 1 South Burlington 5/4 (SWM), 1 S. Starksboro 5/9 (MP), 2 Herrick's Cove 5/12 (REG, OAG), 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/14 (BWP), 1 Norwich 5/15 (CHD), 2 Craftsbury 5/16 (FO, DM), 1 Ripton 5/19 (TGM), 1 Barton 5/28 (REG, OAG). Yellow Warbler: A single, singing male present at S. Starksboro on 4/19 (MP) was quite early. Other early arrivals included: 1 Dorset 4/27 (EFG), 2 East Poultney 4/30 (DJF), 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP), and 1 Weybridge

Blue-winged Warbler



4/30 (MBN). High counts included: 10 (highest) DCWMA 5/7 (SWM), 6 Manchester Ctr. 5/14 (BWP), 6 Goshen/Brandon 5/19 (SSW), 6 Barton 5/20 (PFW, SAW), 8 NE Kingdom 5/28 (REG, OAG), and 9 Dorset 5/31 (EFG). Chestnut-sided Warbler: Numerous reports throughout the region. A single bird present at Pawlet on 4/19 (GRB) was unusually early. High counts included: 10 Manchester Ctr. 5/5 (BWP), 18 (highest) Lincoln/Ripton 5/21 (JRA), 6 Ripton 5/27 (TGM, SWM), and 6 S. Starksboro 5/29 (MP). Magnolia Warbler: Earliest arrival was a single bird seen at Craftsbury on 5/4 (FO). Numerous sightings of single birds were reported; the only multiple-bird reports were of 3 birds each at Reading 5/18 (FMH, EJH) and at Ripton 5/25 (JAP). Cape May Warbler: 2 Herrick's Cove 5/12 (REG, OAG), 1 Norwich 5/13 (CHD), 2 Proctor 5/19 (RWP), 1 Woodstock 5/20 (JMN), 2 Bloomfield 5/29 (FAP, EBP), 1 Ferdinand 5/29 (REG, OAG). Black-throated Blue Warbler: Earliest reports: 1 Quechee 4/29 (KRT), 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP), 1 S. Starksboro 5/1 (MP), 1 South Burlington 5/1 (TGM). High counts: 3 S. Starksboro 5/7 (MP), 5 Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 25 (highest) Lincoln 5/21 (JRA), 8 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 6 Reading 5/21 (FMH, EJH). Yellow-rumped Warbler: Birds arrived in early- to mid-April, about par for this species. Earliest reports included: 1 Bartonville 4/9 (TEJ), 2 Dorset 4/10 (EFG). High counts included: 8 Coventry 4/25 (REG, OAG), 20+ Jericho Ctr. 4/27 (JMK), 10 Charlotte 4/30 (TGM), and 24 (highest) 5/5 Manchester Ctr. (BWP). Black-throated Green Warbler: Earliest arrivals included: 1 Tunbridge 4/28 (ELG), 1 Quechee 4/29 (KRT), 1 Dorset 4/29 (EFG), and 3 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP). High counts included: 8 Middlebury 5/3 (JAP), 10 (highest) Colchester 5/21 (JDM), 10 (highest) Lincoln/Ripton 5/21 (JRA), and 5 Bristol 5/27 (SWM). Blackburnian Warbler: 2 Georgia 5/9 (EMA, RDB), 2 South Burlington 5/10 (TGM), 1 Middlebury 5/11 (JAP), 2 Manchester Ctr. 5/14 (BWP), 1 Reading 5/18 (FMH, EJH), 1 Waterford 5/19 (PFW, SAW), 1 West Glover 5/19 (REG, OAG), 1 Woodstock 5/20 (JMN), 1 Lincoln 5/21 (JRA), 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 1 Bristol 5/27 (SWM), 1 Brandon 5/29 (SSW). Pine Warbler: 1 Bartonville 4/4 (TEJ), 1 Colchester 4/13 (JDM), 1 Georgia 4/17 (EMA, RDB), 1 Orwell 4/17 (TGM), 1 West Glover 4/

17 & 4/24 (REG, OAG), 4 Colchester 4/30 (JDM), 3 Middlebury 5/3 (JAP), 3 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM), 1 DCWMA 5/11 (SSW), 3 Grand Isle 5/15 (DJH), 1 Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 6 (high ct.) Berlin 5/21 (TSA). Prairie Warbler: A single bird present at Dorset on 4/26 (EFG) was very early. Only two other reports were received: 1 Woodstock 5/20 (JMN), and 1 Berlin 5/21 (TSA). Palm Warbler: All sightings were in the month of April. Notably early was 1 at Brattleboro 4/2 (TM). Other sightings included: 1 Strafford 4/15 (SF), 1 Dorset 4/16 & 4/18 (EFG), 2 Woodstock 4/17 (KRT), 3 (high ct.) Union Village Dam 4/22 (CHD). Bay-breasted Warbler: 1 Ripton 5/19 (TGM), 2 Barton 5/21 (REG, OAG), 1 Colchester 5/21 (JDM), 3-4 (high ct.) Ferdinand 5/29 (FAP, EBP). Blackpoll Warbler: 1 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM), 1 Colchester 5/21 (JDM). A pathetic showing. Cerulean Warbler: 1 Rupert 5/1 (TEJ, CHD), 1 West Rutland/Ira line 5/4 (RWP). Black-and-White Warbler: A single bird present at Randolph on 4/12 (EWC, MCC) was about two weeks ahead of the pack. Numerous reports received from throughout the region; some high counts included: 4 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP), 4 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM), 9 (highest) Lincoln 5/21 (JRA), 8 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP). American Redstart: Earliest reports all first week of May. High counts included: 4 Middlebury 5/3 (JAP), 9 (highest) Manchester Ctr. 5/14 (BWP), 7 Brandon/Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 5 Colchester 5/21 (JDM), 4 East Middlebury 5/27 (SWM), 6 Bristol 5/28 (JRA). Ovenbird: Early arrivals included: 3 Chester 4/26 (CEA), 1 Dorset 4/27 (EFG), and 1 Reading 4/28 (FMH, EJH). High counts included: 8 Georgia 5/9 (EMA, RDB), 8 Reading 5/18 (FMH, EJH), 6 Brandon/Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 31 (highest) Lincoln 5/21 (JRA), and 8 Colchester 5/21 (JDM). Northern Waterthrush: Earliest reports included: 1 Colchester 4/30 (JDM) and 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP). High counts included: 3 Cornwall 5/7 (JAP), 3 Leicester 5/7 (JRA), 10 (highest) Cornwall 5/12 (JAP), 3 Berlin 5/21 (TSA), and 3 Chittenden 5/21 (RWP). Louisiana Waterthrush: 1 Bristol 4/19 (JAP), 1 Norwich 4/20 (CCR), 1 Ira 5/4 (RWP), 1 West Glover 5/4 (REG, OAG), 1 Reading 5/10 (FMH, EJH), 2 S. Starksboro 5/15 (FAP, EBP), 1 DCWMA 5/17 (TGM), 1 Woodstock 5/17 (JMN). Mourning Warbler: 1 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 1 Middlebury 5/21 (JAP), 1 Goshen 5/24 (SSW), 1 Bristol 5/28 (JRA), 1 Reading 5/29 (FMH, EJH), 1 S. Starksboro 5/30 (MP), 1 Dorset 5/31 (EFG). Common Yellowthroat: The earliest arrival was a single bird banded at VINS on 4/27 (SF). All other reports were in May. High counts included: 5 DCWMA 5/8 (SWM), 8 Dorset 5/15 (EFG), 10 (highest) DCWMA 5/17 (SWM), 8 Brandon/Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 9 Lincoln/Ripton 5/21 (JRA), and 7 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP). Wilson's Warbler: 1 Herrick's Cove 5/13 (REG, OAG), 1 Woodstock 5/15 (BRJ, RHH), 2 Brandon 5/19 (SSW). Canada Warbler: 1 Reading 5/11 (FMH, EJH), 1 Chester 5/17 (CEA), 4 (high ct.) Reading 5/18 (FMH, EJH), 1 Dorset 5/18 & 5/21 (EFG), 1 Waterford 5/19 (PFW, SAW), 1 Proctor 5/19 (SSW), 1 Ripton 5/19 (TGM), 1 Ripton 5/20 (JAP), 4 (high ct.) Berlin 5/21 (TSA), 1 Barton 5/29 (REG, OAG), 1 Bristol 5/28 (JRA).

TANAGER THROUGH SNOW BUNTING

Scarlet Tanager: 2 reports of notably early arrivals were received: 1 Rutland 4/27 (FO), and 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP). No other sightings occurred before 5/10 (FMH, EJH). High counts included: 4 Woodstock 5/13 (CCR, KRT), 3 Chester 5/15 (CEA), 3 Brandon/

Goshen 5/19 (SSW), 5 (highest) Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 4 Reading 5/21 (FMH, EJH), 3 Lincoln 5/21 (JRA), and 3 East Middlebury 5/22 (MBN). Northern Cardinal: Many reports received, mostly of feeder birds in March and early April. High counts included 9 at Middlebury 3/1 (JAP), and 12 at scattered sites in the C.V. 3/29 (JDM). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Earliest arrivals included 1 at Jericho Ctr. on 4/24 (JMK), up to 5 observed at Brownsville over the period 4/24-30 (BMH), 2 Wallingford 4/28 (SJD), 1 Westminster 4/28 (AMD), and 1 Reading 4/30 (FMH, EJH). High counts included: 5 Westminster 5/6 (AMD), 8 (highest) Vershire 5/10 (KRH), 5 Bristol 5/14 (MBN), 5 West Bolton 5/15 (MC), 5 Brandon 5/16 (SSW), 5 Reading 5/16 (FMH, EJH), 5 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), and 8 (highest) Lincoln 5/29 (JRA). Indigo Bunting: Earliest report was of a single bird at Shoreham on 5/7 (CJF). All other reports were of single birds except for: 2 Woodstock 5/12 (JMN, MLL), and 2 Jericho Ctr. 5/24 (JMK). Rufous-sided Towhee: Earliest report: 1 Middlebury 4/7 (JAP); preceded the next earliest sighting by nearly 2 weeks. All sightings were of single birds except: 2 Woodstock 4/20 (KRT), 2 West Rutland 5/7 (EMA, RDB), and 2 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP). American Tree Sparrow: Good numbers held over from winter through mid-April. Some high counts included: 8 Sheffield 3/4 (PFW, SAW), 21 (highest) Bridport 3/7 (JAP), 11 Brandon 3/8 (SSW), 10 Westminster 3/9 (AMD), 8 Manchester Ctr. 3/12 (BWP), and 8 Newport 4/19 (REG, OAG). The last report was of 2 birds still present at Sheffield on 5/4 (PFW, SAW). Chipping Sparrow: Earliest reports included: 1 Dorset 4/14 (EFG), and 1 each present at Brandon, Middlebury, and Weybridge on 4/15 (SSW, JAP, MBN). High counts included: 6 Weybridge 4/17 (MBN), 6 Manchester Ctr. 4/24 (BWP), 8 Reading 4/29 (FMH, EJH), 10 (highest) Colchester 4/30 (JDM), and 9 Dorset 5/1 (EFG). Field Sparrow: Earliest arrivals included: 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/5 (BWP), and 1 Middlebury 4/7 (JAP). High counts included 2 Woodstock 4/17 & 4/20 (KRT, CRP), 3 Middlebury 4/23 (JAP), "many" Grand Isle 5/19 (DJH), 3 Woodstock 5/20 (JMN), and 2 Bristol 5/21 (TSA). Vesper Sparrow: A single bird present at Bridport on 4/3 (FAP, EBP) was quite early. Other sightings: 1 Bridport 4/11 (JAP), 2 Bridport 4/18 (JMN, EFG), 2 Pantan 4/30 (TGM), 3 Pantan 5/7 (SWM), 2 Chester 5/7 (CEA), and 4 (high ct.) Addison 5/9 (JAP). Savannah Sparrow: Earliest arrival: 1 Salisbury 4/6 (JAP). High counts included: 4 Pantan 4/18 (EMA, RDB), 8 (highest) Bridport 4/20 (JAP), 4 Brandon 4/27 (SSW), 4 Colchester 4/30 (JDM), and 8 (highest) 5/2 DCWMA (SWM). Fox Sparrow: This species put on a decent migration throughout the region, with all sightings occurring in April: 1 Norwich 4/3 (CCR), 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/4 (BWP), 1 Lincoln 4/6 (JRA), 1 Middlebury 4/7 (JAP), 2-3 (high ct.) Manchester Ctr. 4/10-12 (BWP), 1 Shelburne 4/11 (TGM, SWM), 2 Middlebury 4/13 (JAP), 3 (high ct.) S. Duxbury 4/15 (FAP, EBP), 2 Craftsbury 4/17 (FO, JW), 1 each in Bridport, Randolph, & West Bolton on 4/18 (JAP, EWC, MCC, MC), 1 Newport 4/19 (REG, OAG), 1 Montpelier 4/24 (TSA), 1 Brandon 4/24 (SSW), and 2 West Bolton 4/24-27 (MC). Song Sparrow: Earliest report: 1 Grand Isle 3/18 (DJH). Some high counts: 12 DCWMA 4/2 (JRA), 17 (highest) Grand Isle 4/3 (EMA, RDB), 15 DCWMA 4/10 (SWM), and 12 Dorset 4/10 (EFG). Lincoln's Sparrow: A singing male present in South Burlington on 4/4 (SWM, MDM) was remarkably early, 5-6 weeks ahead of the normal arrival date of this species in our region. Other sightings included: 1 Pittsford 5/11 (MTB), 1 Bristol 5/14 (MBN), 1 West Glover 5/14 (REG, OAG), 1 Middlebury 5/15-16 (JAP), 1 Waterford 5/19 (PFW, SAW),

1 VINS 5/20 (JMN), and 1 Sheffield 5/21 (PFW, SAW). Swamp Sparrow: Some good early sightings included: 1 Dorset 4/3 (EFG), 1 South Hero 4/9 (TSA), 3 C.V. 4/13 (JDM), and 2 Bristol/Monkton 4/16 (JRA). High counts included: 5 Brandon 4/24 (SSW), 5 Dorset 4/26 (EFG), 3 WRM 5/7 (EMA, RDB), and 4-5+ DCWMA 5/17-19 (SWM, JAP). White-throated Sparrow: A few may have overwintered, as evidenced by 1 bird present in Weybridge on 3/20 (MBN). Returning migrants began arriving in early April. High counts included: 32 (highest) 4/26 Manchester Ctr. (BWP), 29 Dorset 4/26 (EFG), 10 Weybridge 4/26 (MBN), 16 Sheffield 4/29 & 5/2 (PFW, SAW), 14 Reading 4/29 (FMH, EJH), 22 Colchester 4/30 (JDM), 15 Middlebury 4/30 (JAP), 30+ South Burlington 5/4 (SWM), and 10 S. Duxbury 5/15 (FAP, EBP). White-crowned Sparrow: Earliest arrivals included: 1 North Hero 4/19 (MSL), 3 Middlebury 4/29 (JAP), and 1 Colchester 4/30 (JDM). High counts included: 5 Brandon 5/11 (SSW), 3 Woodstock 5/11 (CRP), 6 (highest) Middlebury 5/14 (JAP), and 5 Manchester Ctr. 5/18 (BWP). A fairly good showing. Dark-eyed Junco: Resident. Some high counts included: 28 Manchester Ctr. 4/3 (BWP), 40 Woodstock 4/9 (JMN), 20+ Chester 4/10 (CEA), 25 Reading 4/12 (FMH, EJH), 52 Westminster 4/15 (AMD), 20 Craftsbury 4/19 (FO, JW), 50 Middlebury 4/23 (JAP), 20 Lincoln 4/25 (JRA), 60 Woodstock 5/1 (JMN), and 70 (highest) 5/4 Sheffield (PFW, SAW). Lapland Longspur: 2 Bridport 3/1 (JAP), 1 Bridport 3/4 (JAP). Snow Bunting: Mostly gone by early April, however 2 reports of remarkably late birds were received: 1 Newport 5/2 (REG, OAG), and 215 Bridport 5/4 (JAP). The latter provided not only the latest date but also the highest count for the season. Some other high counts included: 23 Bridport 3/7 (JAP), 60 Berlin 3/9 (TSA), 25 Glover 3/12 (REG, OAG), and 20 Lyndonville 3/21 (TSA).

BLACKBIRDS

Bobolink: Earliest sightings were of single birds on 5/4 at Bridport (JAP) and at Dorset (EFG). Not far behind were 6-20 birds at DCWMA 5/5-7 (TGM, SWM, MBN), providing one of the high counts. Other highs included: 5 Chester 5/6 (CEA), 6 Coventry 5/18 (REG, OAG), 8 Woodstock 5/20 (JMN), 20 Brandon/Ferrisburgh 5/22 (SSW), 10 NE Kingdom 5/28 (REG, OAG), 5 Brandon 5/29 (SSW), and 5 Dorset 5/31 (EFG). Red-winged Blackbird: Probably a few February arrivals; the earliest report this season was of 4 at Wallingford on 3/3 (SJD). Some high counts: 300 Swanton 4/3 (EMA, RDB), 210 Grand Isle 4/3 (EMA, RDB), 20 DCWMA 4/4 (MBN), 800 (highest) Clarendon 4/7 (CJF), 50+ Brownsville 4/10 (BMH), 40+ Chester 4/10 (CEA), 32 Dorset 4/16 (EFG), 20 S. Starksboro 5/7 (MP), and 35 Barton 5/20 (PFW, SAW). DCWMA birds either unusually scarce or under-reported. Eastern Meadowlark: Earliest arrivals: 2 Quechee 3/24 (KRT), 2 Bridport 3/25 (JAP), 1 North Hero 3/31 (DJH). Numerous reports of 1-3 birds were received; no counts higher than 3 birds. Rusty Blackbird: 1 C.V. 4/8 (JDM), 1 Bartonville 4/9 (TEJ), 2 Wallingford 4/15 (SJD), 6 (high ct.) Ft. Cassin 4/24 (CJF), 1 VINS 4/27 & 4/29 (banded) (SF), 1 Manchester Ctr. 4/30 (BWP), 1 Dorset 5/1 (EFG), 3 Dorset 5/4 (EFG), 1 Middlebury 5/7 (JAP, JRA, SSW). Common Grackle: Earliest reports included: 1 Windsor 3/9 (CHD), 1 Rutland 3/13 (CJF), 1 Brandon 3/16 (SSW), and 1 Weybridge 3/17 (MBN). High counts included: 65 Weybridge 3/25 (MBN), 50 Montpelier 3/25 (TSA), 25 Williston 3/26 (EMA, RDB), 30 Brandon 3/27 (SSW), 25

Fairfax 3/27 (EMA, RDB), 45-50 Craftsbury 4/2 (FO), 21 Dorset 4/3 (EFG), 20 West Bolton 4/7 (MC), 150 (highest) Taftsville 4/10 (JMN), 50 Grand Isle 4/10 (EMA, RDB), and 45 SBWMA 4/10 (EMA, RDB). Brown-headed Cowbird: Some high counts: 25 Bridport 3/1 (JAP), 50 Sudbury 3/24 (SSW), 135 (highest) 3/25 Weybridge (MBN), 20+ Brownsville 4/9 (BMH), 20 Craftsbury 4/9 (FO), 30 Addison 4/17 (JRA), 25 SBWMA 4/17 (EMA, RDB). Northern Oriole: Earliest arrivals: 1 Brandon 5/5 (SSW), 1 Dorset 5/6 (EFG), 1 each Chester, Grand Isle, Middlebury, Salisbury on 5/7 (CEA, DJH, JAP, JRA). High counts included: 5 Westminster 5/8 (AMD), 6 (highest) Barton 5/20 (PFW, SAW), 4 Colchester 5/21 (JDM), 5 NE Kingdom 5/28 (REG, OAG), 4 Bristol 5/28 (JRA).

FINCHES AND HOUSE SPARROWS

Pine Grosbeak: 24+ (high ct.) Grand Isle 3/5 (present from 2/27) (DJH), 4 Woodstock 3/3 (CRP), 15 Moretown 3/6 (BMP), 8 Barnard 3/12 (KRT), 3 Middlebury 3/15 (JAP), 3 Sheffield 3/18 (PFW, SAW), 2-4 West Glover 4/9-17 (REG, OAG), 1 Glover 5/18. Purple Finch: Overwintered in very small numbers, if at all. Earliest reports this season included: 1 Bridgewater 3/6 (JMN), 2 Wallingford 3/17 (SJD), 1 Barnard 3/31 (JNF), and 1 Colchester 4/8 (JDM). High counts included: 5 Craftsbury 4/19 (FO, JW), 10 West Bolton 4/24 (MC), 8 West Glover 4/24 (REG, OAG), 10 Lincoln 4/26 (JRA), 9 Proctor 4/26 (RWP), 8 Reading 4/27 (FMH, EJH), 6 Jericho Ctr. 4/30 (JMK), 5 Sheffield 5/12 (PFW, SAW), 8 Manchester Ctr. 5/21 (BWP), 8 West Bolton 5/28 (MC), and 5 West Glover 5/28 (REG, OAG). House Finch: High counts included: 10 Chester 3/1 (CEA), 18 (highest) 3/10 Brandon (SSW), 8 South Hero 3/14 (EMA, RDB), 8 Rutland 3/23 (CJF), 9 Manchester Ctr. 3/26 (BWP), 8 South Burlington 4/3 (SWM), 12 Weybridge 5/21 (MBN), and 8 Dorset 5/31 (EFG). Probably under-reported. Red Crossbill: 5 Manchester Ctr. 5/5 (EFG). White-winged Crossbill: 3 Arlington 4/17 (MN), 2 of which proceeded to nest in the middle of town! Also, 1 unidentified Crossbill, Bethel 3/14 (DP). Common Redpoll: Overwintered throughout the region; good numbers present through late April, with some May stragglers thrown in. Some representative high counts include: 50 West Bolton 3/1 (MC), 80 Bridport 3/7 (JAP), 100+ West Glover 3/18 (REG, OAG), 68 Manchester Ctr. 3/26 (BWP), 60-70 Sheffield 3/27 (PFW, SAW), 120 Jericho Ctr. 3/27 (JMK), 65 Reading 3/27 (FMH, EJH), 150+ Woodstock 4/6 (JMN), 200 East Montpelier 4/9 (FO), 70+ Springfield 4/10 (WME), 250-300 (highest) West Bolton 4/11 (MC), 52 Proctor 4/11 (RWP), and 55 Georgia 4/19 (EMA, RDB). Late reports included: 45-50 at Sheffield on 5/4 (down to only 3 there on 5/6), 2 West Bolton 5/4 (MC), 1 Vershire 5/5 (KRH), 1 Weybridge 5/7 (MBN), 1 West Glover 5/15 (REG, OAG), and a final sighting of 1 at Barnard 5/16 (JNF). Excellent late winter/early spring numbers. HOARY REDPOLL: 1 detailed report was accepted, of a bird at Glover 4/4 (REG, OAG). This species is still considered hypothetical in Vermont. If you think you have one at your feeder, get a photo or video of it, the more detailed the better! Pine Siskin: Only 1 report received for month of March: 1 Brandon 3/10 (SSW). Small to moderate numbers present throughout rest of season. Some high counts included: 6 Vershire 5/10 (KRH), 8 (highest) West Bolton 5/14 (MC), 5 each Sheffield & Weybridge 5/16 (PFW, SAW, MBN), "several" Woodstock 5/16 (MLL), and 5 West Glover 5/19 (REG, OAG). American Goldfinch: Present

throughout season. High counts included: 26 Manchester Ctr. 3/12 (BWP), 30 (highest) Waterbury 4/29 (TSA), 13 Weybridge 5/2 (MBN), 10 Dorset 5/4 (EFG), 12 South Burlington 5/11 (SWM), 30 (highest) Georgia 5/16 (EMA, RDB), 10 Lower Waterford 5/19 (PFW, SAW), 11 Sheffield 5/20-25 (PFW, SAW), 15 Brandon 5/23 (SSW). Evening Grosbeak: Present in good numbers throughout the season in most parts of the state; less abundant in Champlain Valley. Some high counts: 20 West Glover 3/1 (REG, OAG), 35 Reading 3/10 (FMH, EJH), 25 Jericho Ctr. 3/15 (JMK), 32 Proctor 4/4 (RWP), 79 (highest) West Glover 4/18 (REG, OAG), 30 Wallingford 4/28 (SJD) with 20 still there on 5/8, 50 West Bolton 5/1 (MC), and 19 Dorset 5/1 (EFG). House Sparrow: One of our most under-reported species; some higher counts included: 40 Barnet 3/2 (REG, OAG), 30 Sudbury 3/9 (SSW), 25 Manchester Ctr. 3/12 (BWP).

American Goldfinch



CONTRIBUTORS

GA	Gail Abbott	GRB	Gordon Brown
CEA	Chester Adams	DB	David Burnoi
TSA	Ted Allen	BBB	Burt Butler
EMA	Elizabeth Alton	DLC	Dwight Cargill
LLa	Linda Lee Adrews	MC	Mike Cassara
JRA	Jean Arrowsmith	TGC	Terry G. Cecchini
SB	S. Banks	EC	Eric Chapman
RDB	Ray Barnes	EWG	Elizabeth Clapp
NB	Nancy Bell	MCC	Mary Clapp
DAB	Debbie Benjamin	ETC	Ed Congdon
MPB	Mary Pat Birgham	CHD	Chip Darmstadt
GEB	Gil Bolsterle	AMD	Allison Deen
ARB	Alexa Booker	ED	Eric Derleth
MTB	Marsha Booker	SJD	Sarah Jane Dudley
JB	Judy Brennan	WGE	Walter G. Ellison

WME	Wally Elton	JDM	John Marsh
SF	Steve Faccio	NHM	Nancy H. Martin
CCF	Chris Fichtel	NLM	Nancy L. Martin
JNF	Jean Fleming	NAM	Nancy Mcarthy
JF	Jeanne Fossani	RWM	Rex Meader
MRF	M. Fowle	SWM	Scott Morrical
CJF	C.J. Frankiewicz	DM	David Mosher
MFF	Michael Fullerton	TGM	Ted Murin
ELG	Ted Gaine	MBN	Marge Nelson
BSG	Brenda Garsh	JMN	Julie Nicholson
CG	Carol Gaudet	WJN	William Norse
EFG	Betty Gilbert	MN	Peg Nusbaum
MG	Maryke Gillis	FO	Frank Oatman
AVG	Arthur Gilman	HO	Hugh O'Brian
ADG	Alisa Golodetz	MP	Mark Paul
BGr	Barbara Greenwood	DP	David Peterson
OAG	Olive Griffin	JAP	Judy Peterson
REG	Ray Griffin	BMP	Brian Pfeiffer
BPG	Bea Guyette	RWP	Roy Pilcher
GEH	Terry Hall	CRP	Carol Powell
TH	Tim Hinman	BWP	Barbara Powers
BMH	Beryl Hinton	EBP	Eleanor Pratt
DJH	David Hoag	FAP	Frederick Pratt
CH	Chester Hobbs	AR	Ann Reams
JH	Judith Hobbs	ALR	Alyssa Rimmer
VH	Virginia Hobbs	CCR	Chris Rimmer
KRH	Kathleen Hoopes	LHR	Larry Roberts
RHH	Rhoda Horne	JMR	Janet Roeig
EJH	Edna Hunt	WS	Warner Shedd
FMH	Fred Hunt	SS	Shawn Standen
BRJ	Betty Rist Jillson	JS	Janet Stewart
CJ	C. Johnson	MS	Matt Stone
PJ	P. Johnson	VRS	Victor Swenson
TEJ	Tait Johansson	KRT	Kevin Taft
BJJ	Billi Jo Johnstone	PFW	Paul Wagner
JMK	Meave Kim	SAW	Shirley Wagner
WBK	Warren King	SSW	Sue Wetmore
BK	Barbara Kittredge	JW	Jon Wood
BKl	Bob Klein	IW	Ian Worley
KK	Kevin Kuzio	DY	Donna Young
MSL	Mark Labarr	GY	Gary Young
LL	Linda Ladd	MZ	Meeri Zetterstrom
JDLI	John Lloyd		
MLL	Mary Lycett		
TM	Tom Maloney		

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ABBREVIATIONS

C.V.	Champlain Valley
DCWMA	Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Addison & Panton
SBWMA	Sandbar Wildlife Management Area, Milton
MNWR	Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, Swanton
WRM	West Rutland Marsh
Lk.	Lake



Turkey Vulture

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