

MICHIGAN BIRDS

and Natural History

September-October 2010

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MICHIGAN BIRDS and Natural History is a publication of Michigan Audubon and is published five times a year. Its mission is to provide a forum for the publication of research on the natural history of Michigan with an emphasis on birds. It is also the home of the Michigan Bird Survey, Michigan Butterfly Survey, Michigan Christmas Bird Counts, North American Migration Count, and the proceedings of the Michigan Bird Records Committee. Subscriptions are \$25.00 per year in the United States and \$30.00 elsewhere. They cover the current calendar year. Subscriptions can be obtained by sending a check along with your name and address to:

Michigan Audubon/MBNH
6011 W. St. Joseph Hwy., Suite 403
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Cover: This alternate plumaged male McCown's Longspur visited the beach at Bete Grise, Keweenaw County on 16-17 May 2010, providing Michigan with its second state record. Photo by Max Henschell.



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Message from the managing editor:

The year 2010 is winding down, and with it the Michigan Birds and Natural History editorial committee is wrapping up work on Volume 17 and preparing material for Volume 18. I'd like to thank members of the MBNH editorial staff for their dedication to Michigan's ornithological and natural history journal.

Shortly after accepting the position of managing editor, I stated that the editorial committee and I believed it was important that we maintain a print publication devoted to Michigan ornithology and natural history. We feel it is essential that there is a print publication to be archived in libraries and research collections to ensure future access to Michigan's ornithological records. Now that I have been managing editor for more than a year, I am convinced that it is necessary.

When I assumed the leadership role of managing editor, I outlined three goals. It's time to give you an update.

The first goal was to return the journal to a regular publication schedule by July 2010. Although we are not quite there yet, the journal's production schedule has gained ground and is well on the way to being back on schedule within the next few months. We are roughly two-and-one-half months behind schedule compared with five months behind schedule one year ago. We have excellent content in the pipeline, and are excited about the articles that we will be bringing you in the coming year.

My second goal was to make the journal financially sound. Although we still need more subscribers to break even, the Michigan Birds and Natural History team raised \$1000 in the Southwest Michigan Birdathon held in May. This money will be used to help offset the cost of the supplemental issue, which will be in your mailbox near the end of the year. This fifth issue will be bound like a small paperback and will contain the entire North American Migration Count data in addition to the actions of the Michigan Bird Records Committee and Michigan bird banding data. This is data that is unavailable elsewhere.

The third goal was to increase our subscriber base. I am happy to report that the number of subscribers has nearly doubled since early this year! Growth has been so positive, in fact, that we had to reprint the January-March 2010 issue to meet demand. However it should be noted that our subscriber base still has a way to go before the journal is once again financially sound.



Although we have not reached the number of subscribers that enables the publication to be considered financially sound, there has been a great response to our subscription drive and we hope to continue the momentum into 2011.

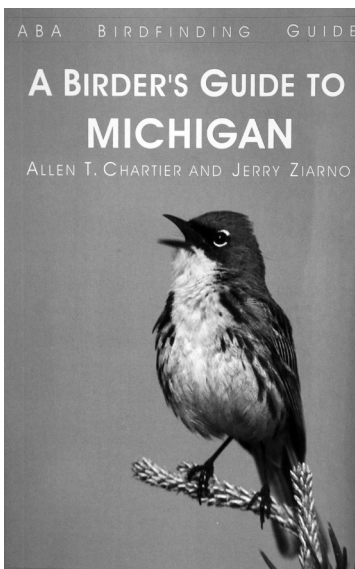
As a reader, you can help us achieve these goals by subscribing to the journal and by encouraging others in the birding community to do the same. You can also help by submitting short notes and papers for publication. Notes on first state, regional or county records would be welcomed in addition to other bird or natural history notes.

I'm excited by what we've achieved over the past year, and am looking forward to seeing MBNH back on schedule and thriving in 2011. Your continued support is essential to our success.

Once again, I'd like to thank the members of the editorial committee, who have gone above and beyond the call of duty and without whom the journal would not have survived.

Good birding,

Jonathan T. Wuepper
4560 Bacon School Rd
St. Joseph, MI 49085
wuepperj@gmail.com



If you've been desperately trying to get your hands on a copy of *A Birder's Guide to Michigan*, there is good news. A second printing of the book has just been completed and the Michigan Audubon Nature Bookstore has it in stock. You can order it online at http://michiganaudubon.org/support_us/shop/index.html. Michigan Audubon's Bookstore is located in our state office at 6011 W. St. Joseph Hwy., Suite 403, Lansing, Michigan. If you have any questions about our inventory, how to place an order, or how to find us, please call 517-886-9144.



Oak Tree Hole Use as a Water Source by Birds and Mammals

Dennis A. Meritt Jr.
Department of Biological Sciences
DePaul University
2325 N. Clifton Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614



Introduction

Tree holes are often the result of wind damage, broken limbs, lightning strikes or natural pruning (Thompson, 1959). Injury to the tree and the cavity formation may trigger a tree response leading to the formation of a callus. Callus tissue allows the cavity to hold water (Marchand, 2000). Wildlife in a Midwestern mixed deciduous-evergreen forest have been observed using a natural tree hole as a source of water during a period devoid of rainfall. This represents a unique water source in a forest environment with few natural water sources.

Methods

The study site was located in Pentwater Township, Oceana County, Michigan (N 43° 47.593' ,W 86° 25.965') in a barrier dune formation (DNRE characterization). The elevation is 656 ft (~200m). The soil is sandy loam matching the USDA definition for the Nordhouse Series (J. Calus, pers. comm.). The site is a mix of developing and maturing trees, primarily a variety of oaks (*Quercus* sp.) and White Pine (*Pinus strobus*). The understory is a mixture of ferns and low shrubs, primarily Low Sweet Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*). There is a small year-round water source in the center of the study area. Meritt (2009) has provided a summary list of tree species as well as a summary list of the bird and mammal species found at the site including those mammals reproducing in the study area.

Results

During August and September of 2009, and again in July of 2010, during a prolonged dry period, several species of birds and mammals were observed drinking from a tree hole at the study site. On several occasions between 0700 and 2000 hrs birds and small mammals either

flew to or climbed up to a tree hole located in a Northern Pin Oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*) and consumed water contained within the hole. The tree has a diameter at breast height of 15.25 in (48.4 cm) and is approximately 10 degrees off center leaning to the north. The tree hole faces south and measured 2 in (5.1 cm) wide; 2.5 in (6.4 cm) long, and 3.0 in (7.6 cm) deep. It has a thickened bark-free lip composed of scar tissue. The volume of the hole is 10 oz (296 ml). The hole is capable of holding water for a period of several days to a week or more depending on environmental conditions and animal use.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*), Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*), Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*), White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*), Eastern Chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*), Eastern Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), and Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) regularly used the hole as a water source during this period. The Southern Flying Squirrel (*Glaucomys volans*) was a likely nocturnal visitor. It was observed food hoarding at a nearby seed source.

Discussion

Tree holes have been the subject of various studies including microscopic flora and fauna (Lackey, 1940); insects (Marchand, 2000) including mosquitoes (Blakely and Didham 2007) and various birds and mammals (Naylor, 2006). Most of these studies have focused on tree holes as safe havens, places to retreat to or to nest in, locations hidden and not subject to increased predation. Few studies have reported the use of tree holes as water sources, and those that have are studies conducted on tool use in primates in tropical regions (Phillips, 1998; Pozo-Montuy and Serio-Silva, 2007).

In the case of the tree hole reported here the location of the cavity and associated callus as well as the growing angle of the tree allowed the accumulation and storage of water during periods of rain. Each of the avian and mammalian species identified in these observations used a unique water resource within their home range and reduced their exposure to predators by avoiding a water source in an open area.

Acknowledgements

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Fifty Years Ago in the Michigan Bird Survey

Allen T. Chartier

1442 West River Park Dr.

Inkster, MI 48141

Amazilia1@comcast.net

The Michigan Bird Survey is one of the longest continuously compiled seasonal summaries of its kind in the U.S., being first published in the Jack-Pine Warbler in April 1945 as “Seasonal Records” and renamed the Michigan Bird Survey in 1953. I thought it might be interesting to look back 50 years to see what were the birding highlights then, compared with today.

The winter of 1958–1959 was described as the coldest winter in many years (Kenaga 1959), with northward expansions of Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse (1 on 29 Dec 1958 at Au Gres), Carolina Wren (3 on CBC’s, including Midland, Erie Marsh and Jackson), Northern Mockingbird, and Northern Cardinal being noteworthy. Two Great Black-backed Gulls at Erie Marsh, Monroe County, were the only ones reported for the entire winter and were included in the category of “exotic” gulls. Two Gray Jays were reported from Cheboygan on 28 December 1958 and Boreal Chickadees were reported from southeastern Michigan, from Oakland County and Detroit. Purple Finches were widely reported statewide, and Evening Grosbeaks were reported from many locales south to south-central Michigan.

In spring 1959, the month of May was reported as the warmest in many years (Kenaga 1959a), but snow and ice prevailed during March into mid-April, which held back the arrivals of several waterfowl species. Some species of trees were well leafed out by 2 May when a major “wave” of warblers occurred. William C. Boonstra collected 284 birds killed at a Detroit television tower on 17 May. On 19 May, N.L. Cuthbert reported, and provided a description of a Ruff from Isabella County, the first Michigan record of the species (MBRC 2009). A total of 8000 Northern Pintails was reported from 4 April from Fish Point, without additional comment. Seven Greater Prairie-Chickens were reported on 26 April and 6 May from NW Isabella County, and six were on 30 May at Hale, Iosco County. A Brant at Tawas Point on 30 May was supported by detailed notes (MBRC 2009).

Single Double-crested Cormorants in Allegan and Roscommon counties were considered noteworthy, as was a Turkey Vulture at Marquette on 7 May. Two nests of Loggerhead Shrike, each with six eggs, were reported on 17 May at Mt. Pleasant. A Cerulean Warbler was banded at North Cape, Monroe County, and a Lark Sparrow was reported from Kalamazoo on 20 May.

Summer of 1959 was reported as 1–4 degrees above normal, with the driest June in Detroit since 1895 (Kenaga 1960). In August [then considered part of the summer season], temperatures were 1–6 degrees above average, the warmest ever recorded in Detroit (avg. temp for the month was 75.4). Populations of Dickcissels and Northern Mockingbirds were unusually high, especially in the SWLP. In areas where Dutch elm disease, Japanese beetle, and gypsy moth occur, large-scale spraying programs with DDT and aldrin were used. These pesticides were thought to be responsible for large local reductions of American Robins, House Wrens, Eastern Bluebirds, cuckoos, and other insect-eating birds. Around Detroit, former sizeable populations of Pied-billed Grebe, Common Moorhen, American Coot, other rails, Black Tern, Marsh and Sedge Wrens, and Red-winged Blackbirds have been noticeably reduced in recent years. This was blamed on expanding human populations. Perhaps the oddest report was of a Flamingo (species and origin not known) from 15 August to 20 September at Union City, and seen by more than 100 people. Two young Sandhill Cranes at the Baker Sanctuary, Calhoun County, were considered noteworthy. A total of 1200 pairs of Common Terns (3000 banded) was reported from Belle Isle, Wayne County. A Prairie Warbler nest with five eggs was reported on 6 June at Higgins Lake, Roscommon County. A Connecticut Warbler was in Oscoda County from 18–24 June. Lark Sparrows were reported from Berrien County on 8 June, and a pair was feeding four young on 10 July in Kalamazoo County.

The warm temperatures of summer continued into September 1959, which was reported as 1-5 degrees above normal, but November was the coldest since 1951 in Detroit (Kenaga 1960a). Following a blizzard in Baraga (and L'Anse) on 23–24 October, 3 Sabine's Gulls, a "Hutchin's" Goose, 3–4 Red Phalaropes, and a Black-legged Kittiwake were observed by Robert R. Rafferty. The State Conservation Department released computed figures for the 1959 fall harvest of gamebirds as follows: pheasants 914,600 – down 266,700 birds, about 22.5%; ducks 326,950 – down about 125,000; coots 22,400 – lowest kill on record; Ruffed Grouse 371,000 – up 11,000; woodcock 64,000 – up 2,000; geese 24,400 about the same

as 1958. Peak counts of Sandhill Cranes were 66 on 1 October at the Haehnle Sanctuary and 11 on 8 November at the Baker Sanctuary. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird was reported on 3 October at Grand Beach, and two Carolina Wrens were at Midland on 12 & 21 September. A Baltimore Oriole was reported at a Battle Creek feeder on 15 November and four Lark Sparrows were at Grant Beach on 7 October.

Temperatures were 6–10 degrees above average in December 1959 and January 1960. Frozen precipitation was 16–19 inches below normal in the UP (Kenaga 1960b). One hundred Mute Swans in Traverse Bay overwintered, apparently for the first time. Canvasbacks were reported in the lowest numbers since 1950, which fell from 35,000 to 4200. A Barn Owl was reported on 10 January 1960 on the Macomb County CBC. Red Crossbills were reported in the SLP, with 14 on 3 January 1960 on the Ann Arbor CBC, 15 on 25 January at Detroit, and 15 on 24 January at Grosse Ile.

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Updates to the Berrien County Bird List

Jonathan Wuepper
4560 Bacon School Rd
St. Joseph, MI 49085
wuepperj@gmail.com



Since the publications of “Birds of Berrien County, Michigan” (Wuepper 2001) and “Seven New Species for Berrien County” (Wuepper 2004), one change, one deletion, and an additional 18 species have been added to the Berrien County bird list, currently totaling 350 species.

Change

***Fregata* sp. to Magnificent Frigatebird**

A *Fregata* sp. on 2 Oct 1988 was accepted by the Michigan Bird Records Committee (MBRC) (Chu 1991). On 26 Sep 2008, a Magnificent Frigatebird, *Fregata magnificens*, was observed at St. Joseph (Putnam 2009). This record does not add another species to the county list.

Deletion

Bewick’s Wren, *Thryomanes bewickii*

Bewick’s Wren has always been a rarity in Michigan. Despite nine published county records spanning 1932–c1972 (Wuepper 2001), the species was deleted from the county list due to its rarity in the region and lack of documentation. This decision subtracts a species from the county bird list.

Additions

Trumpeter Swan, *Cygnus buccinator*

Five records have occurred since the MBRC voted “yes”, that introduced Trumpeter Swans in Michigan were established, see Byrne (2002) for details; one immature on 12 Oct 2004 at New Buffalo was first county record (Chartier 2005); one on 12 Dec 2005 at New Buffalo (Murphy 2006); one on 19 May 2007 in Sodus Twp. (Wuepper 2007) [Note: this record was not significant enough as to be listed in detail in Reinoehl (2008), but record absorbed in county totals]; 2 on 16–28 Dec 2009 at Paw Paw Lake, Coloma Twp. (Wuepper 2010); and 2 on 20 Dec 2009 on the St. Joseph River near the Orchard Hills Country Club near Buchanan (Wuepper 2010).

Cackling Goose, *Branta hutchinsii*

In 2004, Cackling Goose, *Branta hutchinsii*, was added to the Michigan Bird List after having been spilt from Canada Goose, *Branta canadensis*. Chu (2005) discusses details of the split, the addition to the state list, and its state status. Five or six from 29–30 Oct 2004 at Lake Michigan College in Benton Twp. (Chartier 2005) represent the first county record. As of this writing, at least 25 additional records exist, most from Lake Michigan College and Sarett Nature Center's Brown Sanctuary (Benton Twp.), where they appear among large flocks of Canada Geese.

Pacific Loon, *Gavia pacifica*

One adult wearing alternate plumage on 25–27 Apr 2004 off Lakeside, Chikaming Twp., was the first county record (Chu 2005); 1 in basic plumage on 4 Nov 2009 off Cherry Beach, Chickaming Twp., not St. Joseph as listed in Chartier and Wuepper (2010).

Black Vulture, *Coragyps atratus*

One on 9–12 Apr 2005 in Oronoko Twp. and in adjacent Berrien Twp., represented the first accepted record of the species in Berrien County (Chu 2006); 1 on 4–6 Sep 2007 at same location (Putnam 2009).

Black Rail, *Laterallus jamaicensis*

One on 13–24 May 2007 in Royalton Twp., first county and fourth state record, enabled dozens of birders to hear this elusive species (Wuepper 2008a, Putnam 2009). An interesting anecdotal account can be found in Friedman (2010).

Black-necked Stilt, *Himantopus mexicanus*

One pair, (copulation captured on video) on 6 May–6 Jun 2007, in and around retention ponds along northbound U.S.-31 in Sodus Twp. (Putnam 2008).

Glaucous-winged Gull, *Larus glaucescens*

One adult or fourth calendar year individual on 2 May 2008 at St. Joseph was a first county and second state record (Putnam 2009).

Royal Tern, *Thalasseus maximus*

One adult on 30 Jun 2010 at Benton Harbor was a first county and first state record (A. Byrne, pers. comm., Dombroski 2011, in press). The record has the distinction of adding the 350th species to the Berrien County bird list.

Ancient Murrelet, *Synthliboramphus antiquus*

Berrien County's first alcid was seen by over 100 birders on 14–25 Nov 2009 off St. Joseph (Chartier and Wuepper 2010, Putnam 2010).

Eurasian Collared-Dove, *Streptopelia decaocto*

Up to two from 15 May–29 Aug 2005 and 29 Jan–10 Aug 2006 at Three Oaks (Chu 2006). Specifically, the birds were observed in and around the village park at the northeast corner of Elm and Ash Streets and in a residential yard southeast of that intersection. A third *Streptopelia*-type dove was seen, during same date range, with the two accepted “pure” doves, but was not accepted by MBRC, see Chu (2006) for details.

Chuck-will's-widow, *Caprimulgus carolinensis*

One calling in Berrien Twp., over six consecutive years, treated as six separate records by MBRC: 16 May–3 Jul 2005 (Chu 2006), 7 May–13 Jul 2006 (Putnam 2007), 2 May–7 Jul 2007 (Putnam 2008), 8 May–5 July 2008 (Putnam 2009), 4 May–1 Aug 2009 (Reinoehl 2009, Dombroski 2010, Chartier and Wuepper 2010), and 5 May–29 July 2010 (Reinoehl 2010, in press; Dombroski 2011, in press).

Say's Phoebe, *Sayornis saya*

One on 20–24 Nov 2007 viewed along the beaches of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph (Putnam 2009).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, *Tyrannus forficatus*

One on 15–16 May 2005 along Snow Road, Oronoko Twp. (Chu 2006).

Fish Crow, *Corvus ossifragus*

Three from 16 May–25 Oct 2009 at the Forest Lawn Landfill and along Forest Lawn Road and Martin Road in the extreme southern part of Three Oaks Twp. (Reinoehl 2009, Dombroski 2010, Chartier and Wuepper 2010).

Sage Thrasher, *Oreoscoptes montanus*

One on 30 Oct 2007 in Royalton Twp. was a first for the southern Lower Peninsula (Wuepper 2008b).

Spotted Towhee, *Pipilo maculatus*

One on 31 Jan–8 Feb 2008 in Buchanan Twp. (Putnam 2009, Trapp and Trapp 2010).

Nelson's Sparrow, *Ammodramus nelsoni*

Two on 27 Sep 2008 at Andrews University in Oronoko Twp. (Byrne 2009, Putnam 2010) and 1 on 28–31 May 2009 at the Galien River Marsh in New Buffalo (Reinoehl 2009, Putnam 2010).

Smith's Longspur, *Calcarius pictus*

A remarkable flock of 40 from 27 Apr–9 May 2009 along Buffalo Road in Galien Twp. was a record high total for the state, second record for the Lower Peninsula, as well as a first record for Berrien (Reinoehl 2009, Putnam 2010).

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100 Years Ago in Michigan Ornithology (1910)

John L. Trapp

4776 Erie Dr.

Buchanan, MI 49107

birdsetcetera@yahoo.com

Contributions of Bradshaw H. Swales

The year 1910 witnessed the publication of 12 papers on Michigan birds, 11 of which appeared in the *Auk* (then, as now, the premier ornithological journal in North America), including 5 by Bradshaw H. Swales. Born in Detroit in 1875 and the recipient of a law degree from the University of Michigan, Swales was a keen amateur observer of birdlife and prolific author, publishing his first observational note in 1889 at the age of 14 and authoring more than 100 in his lifetime (Richmond 1928).

Swales's contributions in 1910 included short notes reporting (1) the first definitive record of the western race of Great Horned Owl from Michigan, a bird caught in a trap in Ontonagon County on 5 Jan 1906 by C. McLaughlin and now in the collection at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History (Swales 1910a); (2) the presumed second record of Ruddy Turnstone in Wayne County, a flock of 30 seen at Grosse Isle on 29 May 1910 (Swales 1910b); (3) the second specimen of Northern Hawk Owl known from the vicinity of Port Huron, St. Clair County, a bird taken 6 Nov 1906 by a Mr. Walters and mounted by a taxidermist in Detroit (Swales 1910c); (4) a Henslow's Sparrow nest with four eggs found 31 May 1909 in an old field on Grosse Isle, where the first spring arrivals in four different years (1905–1907 and 1909) ranged from 30 April to 12 May (Swales 1910d); (5) a Hooded Merganser with a healed broken wing taken on the Detroit River at Grosse Isle on the late date of 5 Jul 1909; and (6) the first known fall record of Prairie Warbler in Wayne County, a bird seen at Grosse Isle on 5 Sep 1905 (Swales 1910e).

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Michigan Bird Survey, Spring 2010 (March - May)

Jack Reinoehl
Hillsdale College
Hillsdale, MI 49242
jreinoehl@hillsdale.edu

SIGHTINGS

The number of species reported during the spring season of 2010 was 306, a few below totals of recent years. The outstanding sightings of the season were Anhinga and McCown's Longspur, both second state records. Great finds also were the fifth state record of Cinnamon Teal, the sixth state record of Mountain Bluebird, and the first Purple Gallinule since 2000. Chuck-will's-widow and Fish Crow continued their recently established patterns of occurrence in Berrien County. Willet and Wilson's Phalarope appeared in unprecedented numbers. Michigan welcomed another official hawk watch this season, the Keweenaw Raptor Survey conducted at Brockway Mountain, Keweenaw County.

For the scarcer species of geese, this year was the exact opposite of last year, with all species in reduced numbers or absent. Does anyone have any theories as to why there were six times as many Canada Geese at Brockway Mountain in the Keweenaw Peninsula as there were at Whitefish Point Bird Observatory (WPBO) during the season? Waterfowl were rather ordinary except for Harlequin Ducks lingering late into the season and the previously mentioned Cinnamon Teal. Numbers of Northern Bobwhite were exceptionally low again.

Common Loons at WPBO exceeded the rather poor totals of the previous two years and returned to a total that is typical of the last decade, but still well below totals for the 1990s. Red-throated Loons on the other hand made a good showing there. A Pacific Loon was seen at WPBO for the second year in a row. Eared Grebes were found in good numbers. American White Pelican continued to be seen in good numbers in the western UP with 47 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and almost daily sightings at Peninsula Point, Delta County.

Southern waders were seen in smaller numbers than last year. Only one Snowy Egret was reported and Cattle Egrets, though numerous, did not

match last year's numbers. Perhaps due to heavy rain causing many flooded fields, Cattle Egrets appeared in some inland counties where they are very seldom seen. Single individuals of Yellow-crowned Night-Heron and Glossy Ibis were found, as were two unidentified *Plegadis*; there were no reports of Little Blue Heron or Tricolored Heron.

Two Black Vultures and a Mississippi Kite were the top raptors of the season. At the Keweenaw Raptor Survey very impressive numbers of Bald Eagles and Swainson's Hawks were reported. Several Swainson's Hawks at other locations made a very good total for this species, though it has been matched in other spring seasons when the western part of the state was well covered. Sharp-shinned Hawk numbers exceeded last year's totals but did not reach the largest totals of the last decade. Northern Goshawk continued its cyclical upswing with its highest spring total at WPBO since 2005. Rough-legged Hawk numbers were low.

A King Rail was discovered in Pointe Mouillee; this species has recently been near annual in very small numbers. For many observers, the bird of the season was a chaseable Purple Gallinule at Tuttle Marsh in Isosco County for much of May. A Ruff was the top shorebird discovery of the season. Other shorebirds seen this year that are found less than annually were Stilt Sandpiper and Long-billed Dowitcher. Willets, Marbled Godwits, and Wilson's Phalaropes were reported in very impressive numbers. American Golden-Plovers and American Avocets declined in comparison to impressive showings last spring; no Red Knots were found.

Four jaegers at WPBO surpassed totals of recent spring seasons. It was a very good year for most of the less common gulls with multiple sightings of all species. Most notable were several Laughing Gulls in Lake Superior in late May and Little Gulls scattered across the state. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were found in good numbers in Berrien and Monroe Counties, but there were very few elsewhere. There were no reports of large numbers of Common Terns. Eurasian Collared-Dove appeared in the Upper Peninsula. It remains to be verified how many, if any of those returning to their old haunts at Three Oaks were genuine Eurasian Collared-Doves, and not some mixture. Cuckoos appeared early and were widely reported.

All regularly occurring owls were seen; the northern species were present in small numbers and departed early. Chuck-will's-widow appeared in Berrien County for the sixth consecutive year; more remarkable was one caught during owl banding at Whitefish Point. A single Western Kingbird was found; at least one Fish Crow was present in Berrien County after 9 April.



Two reports of Loggerhead Shrikes were the most in recent years, one from Berrien County and one from Alger County in the central UP. Between 1999 and 2008 there were six Michigan spring records, all from the western UP, with the easternmost from Delta County, suggesting that these came from western populations. A shrike in Berrien in June 2009 was the first in southwestern Michigan since the pair in Allegan in 1991. Do the Michigan records indicate the start of an increase in numbers in nearby states? Time will tell.

After an impressive showing last spring, White-eyed Vireos were not widely reported this season. Neither Varied Thrush nor Townsend's Solitaire were reported; a Mountain Bluebird in the Keweenaw Peninsula was the state's sixth. Swainson's and especially Gray-cheeked Thrushes were quite scarce. Like most northern species, Bohemian Waxwings disappeared from the state early.

Few warblers were reported north of their usual ranges. The exceptions were a Blue-winged Warbler in Delta County and a very surprising Kentucky Warbler in Ontonagon County. Remarkably few Cape May Warblers were found. The Yellow-breasted Chat, seriously declining in the state, was also poorly reported. Eleven Summer Tanagers was a good showing, the average for recent years is eight.

Lark Sparrows were once again well-reported; there have now been 16 records in the last three spring seasons. A rather average total of three Harris's Sparrows were reported this spring; none had been seen the previous spring. A Smith's Longspur was found in Berrien County, with the aid of some virtuoso photography by Tim Baerwald, who captured the image of a male in flight over the dunes. Another rare longspur, the state's second McCown's Longspur, was photographed in mid-May. Visit the Keweenaw Raptor Survey website to enjoy photos of this and many other species.

A successfully overwintering Dickcissel seems to have been unprecedented in the state. The first migrant Dickcissel was discovered at the end of April, also very unexpected. Western Meadowlarks were better reported in the Lower Peninsula than in recent years.

After remarkable numbers of winter finches last year, especially White-winged Crossbill and Pine Siskin, these finches were scarce with perhaps the exception of the Purple Finch. In the southern LP, even the latter species was seen in rather small numbers. Crossbills and redpolls were both scarce, and the Hoary Redpoll not reported at all. Numbers and locations of Evening Grosbeak reports were quite similar to last year.

WEATHER AND MIGRATION

February was not particularly cold, but the end of the month was snowy and stormy. This prevented any significant migration before the start of the spring season. At the start of March, snow covered the entire state. Much of the southern Lower Peninsula had eight or more inches of snow, and the Lake Superior shore was under several feet of snow, as usual.

A week into the month of March warming began; the first warm period covered the full state and was very lengthy. Around 7 March, 50 degree temperatures reached Marquette a couple days before they reached the southern LP. The result was that the earliest migrants, such as Common Grackle, arrived rather late in the south but appeared in the UP just a few days later. Continued warm temperatures brought a heavy movement of migrants throughout the state the rest of the month. By the 25th, species such as Great Egret, both yellowlegs, and Barn Swallow had appeared in the LP. In the UP, Haas noted a large influx of waterfowl in Delta County on 22 March with many species appearing earlier than expected. On the 24th a very early Green-winged Teal appeared in Marquette County.

This warm spell was exceptional. In Marquette between 6 and 19 March temperatures averaged 17 degrees above normal and the snow depth decreased from 37 inches on the 5th to 10 inches on the 19th; the snow was totally gone by the end of the month, not to reappear except for a brief period in April and another in May! For the full month, Marquette was an extraordinary 10.1 degrees above normal, and most of the rest of the UP was 9 or more degrees above normal. The dryness was equally remarkable, with a mere 0.28 inches of precipitation, essentially all rain. Sault Ste. Marie was even drier receiving only 0.14 inches during the month; the snow was effectively gone there by mid-March. In the Lower Peninsula, weather was similar but more moderate, with temperatures 5 to 8 degrees above normal and precipitation about one-half of normal.

In spite of the unusual March weather, the most extreme period of weather of the season was at the beginning of April. In the south, during the period between 31 March and 7 April, temperatures were almost 20 degrees above normal, reaching 80 degrees in Lansing on 1 April. There was almost 2 inches of rain on the 6th and 7th. Marquette experienced a similar but shorter spell followed by a snowstorm. This period produced a number of extremely early arrivals, some of which frankly would have been difficult to believe except that there were so many at about that time. Notable among these were: Ruby-throated Hummingbird on the 1st, American Golden-

Plover on the 3rd, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers on the 6th and 8th, Bank and Cliff Swallows on the 8th, Broad-winged Hawk, Spotted Sandpiper, Dunlin, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak on the 9th, Eastern Kingbird on the 10th, and Wood Thrush on the 11th. Most were from Wayne or Berrien Counties; the hawk, Dunlin, and kingbird were from the Saginaw Bay Area and the hummingbird was from Washtenaw County. Several of these species were two weeks early or more; of course species such as shorebirds and swallows are well-equipped to take advantage of favorable conditions to make a quick trip north.

On 31 March, at the beginning of this warm period, the Keweenaw Raptor Survey experienced a temperature of 65 degrees with winds out of the south at 15-25 m.p.h., and recorded 98 Bald Eagles, 79 Red-tailed Hawks, 3 Golden Eagles, and 7 Rough-legged Hawks. On 6 April, after some mild but foggy weather, Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks were few, but 21 Turkey Vultures were counted. Land birds newly arrived in the Copper Harbor area included Belted Kingfisher and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, both more than 10 days earlier than average, and “lots of Song Sparrows, Fox Sparrows, American Tree Sparrows [and] Pine Siskins” according to the Keweenaw Raptor Survey blog.

The rest of April was more ordinary, but with the very warm start, most of the state was more than 7 degrees above normal for the month. The UP was again very dry; precipitation was slightly below normal in the LP. At the end of April, 19 species of warblers had been found in the state, not an unusual total, and the migration was proceeding at a pace that was quite normal.

The end of April and the beginning of May were another period of strong migration. At this period another strong front hit the state with the expected south winds before the front and chill and rain following the front. Accompanying this front, large numbers of Broad-winged Hawks and three of the season’s Swainson’s Hawks were seen at vantage points throughout the UP on 1 May. Also on 1 May an amazing Anhinga was reported at Sault Ste. Marie.

By 6 May, every passerine migrant had arrived in the state except a small number of the latest species, such as Willow Flycatcher and Connecticut and Canada Warblers. The storm accompanying the early May front brought the last chilly period of the season with 5 inches of snow in Marquette on the 8th and temperatures below freezing almost statewide on the 9th and 10th. During this chilly period, immense numbers of swallows concentrated

at ponds and lakes around the state making Tree and Barn Swallows among the most numerous species during the Spring Migration Count on 8 May.

After a stormy week (almost 3 inches of rain in Lansing between the 7th and 13th) the migration resumed as winds again turned to the south. The 15th was a day of heavy migration; this observer estimated 75 Tennessee Warblers and 25 Northern Waterthrushes on that day in Berrien County. The weather then remained relatively bland until the 20th when another period of south winds and disturbed weather led to the last push of migrants through the LP. Chartier had impressive numbers of Swainson's Thrushes, Magnolia Warblers, and Canada Warblers at Metro Beach Metropark on 20 May. On 22 May in Hillsdale County, I had a good warbler day with 2 Connecticut and 3 Mourning Warblers among the 21 species, but also numbers of some earlier migrants including 14 Black-throated Green Warblers. However, Yellow-rumped Warblers had been gone for several days and migrants such as thrushes were scarce.

Immediately after 22 May came the season's last hot spell with temperatures well over 10 degrees above normal during the last 9 days of the season and reaching 91 degrees on 24 May in Marquette. In the LP, only the smallest trickle of migrants could be detected after the 23rd. Even at WPBO there were not impressive numbers of passerine migrants at the end of the month. There were however many interesting sightings there near the end of May including 2 Laughing Gulls, 2 Franklin's Gulls, and a Pacific Loon. Also there were intriguing oddities: a Yellow Rail flying off the lake and landing on the tip on the 30th and a Northern Saw-whet Owl doing the same on the 31st.

With the very hot weather at the end of the season, the month of May was hot and dry in the UP. The LP was not quite as warm but the whole state was 3 to 5 degrees above normal. The southeastern part of the LP was exceptionally wet with precipitation twice normal at maximum; precipitation was only slightly above normal in the northern LP.

The entire season was one of bizarre extremes. This season was the warmest spring of the 116 years for which records have been kept in Michigan. In Marquette, the daily average was more than 8 degrees above normal during the three-month period! Further the central UP went from no drought to "extreme drought" in those three very dry, very hot months, by standards of the U.S. Drought Monitor <<http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>>, yet large areas of the southern LP received drenching rains during the month of May.

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ABBREVIATIONS:

ad. – adult

FRD – First reported date(s)

HRT – Highest reported total

LP – Lower Peninsula

LRD – Last reported date(s)

MBRC – Michigan Bird Records Committee

m.ob. – Many observers

MP - Metropark

MWS – Muskegon Wastewater System, Muskegon

NC – Nature Center

NLP – Northern Lower Peninsula

NPSWA – Nayanqing Point State Wildlife Area, Bay

p. a. – pending acceptance by the MBRC

ph. – photo submitted

PM – Pointe Mouillee State Game Area, Monroe

SBA – Saginaw Bay Area

SGA – State Game Area

SLP – Southern Lower Peninsula

SNWR – Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw

SRA – State Recreation Area

SP – State Park

TPSP – Tawas Point State Park, Iosco

TP - Through period

Twp. – Township

UP – Upper Peninsula

WPBO – Whitefish Point Bird Observatory, Chippewa

County names are in italics. Species of note are capitalized. Numbers in parentheses at the beginning of the report for each species represent the counties reporting the species in the UP, NLP, and SLP, respectively. If a species was reported from all 83 counties, these numbers would be (15,33,35). Reports were received from 80 of the 83 counties and a total of 206 named observers contributed for the season.



**SPECIES ACCOUNTS****Greater White-fronted Goose**

(0,0,4) 1 on 9 Mar in Kensington Nature Center, *Oakland* (RH); 1 on 12 Mar at SNWR (JDS); 1 on 18 Mar at Three Oaks, *Berrien* (HB); 1 on 2 May at MWS (JV).

Snow Goose (0,2,5) FRD – 3 on 10 Mar at SNWR (DP). LRD – 2 on 4 Apr in *Huron* (ME). HRT – 8 on 18 Mar at SNWR (DP).

Cackling Goose (0,0,4) 12 on 1 Mar at Allegan SGA (TS); 2 on 10 Mar at SNWR (DP); 2 on 11 Mar in Kensington Nature Center, *Oakland* (RH); 1 on 31 Mar at Thorn Lake, *Jackson* (TW); 1 on 3 Apr at SNWR (JmV).

Canada Goose (9,15,30) HRT – 16,020 on 24 Mar at SNWR (DP). 2645 during the season at WPBO and 15,806 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey.

Mute Swan (1,12,28) HRT – 418 on 15 May at PM (AB).

Trumpeter Swan (3,5,14) 4 on 4 May at WPBO (MD).

Tundra Swan (2,3,15) LRD – 1 on 31 May at the mouth of the Sturgeon River, *Houghton* (JY). HRT – 6463 on 18 Mar at Wildfowl Bay, *Huron* (DP, JMS). 116 on 15 and 25 on 16 Mar along Lake Michigan shore in *Muskegon* (BJ).

Wood Duck (9,10,27) First observed on 10 Mar in the SBA (DP). HRT – 107 on 15 May at PM (AB).

Gadwall (4,4,12) HRT – 1574 on 9 Apr at PM (AB).

American Wigeon (6,7,14) FRD – 10 Mar in the SBA (DP). HRT – 806 on 9 Apr at PM (AB).

American Black Duck (5,6,18) HRT – 100 on 9 Mar in Brownstown Twp., *Wayne* (WP), also 92 on 9 Apr at SNWR (DPo).

Mallard (8,16,29) HRT – 1253 on 18 Mar at SNWR (DPo).

Blue-winged Teal (7,4,17) FRD – 2 on 11 Mar in *Iosco* (WSh).

CINNAMON TEAL (0,0,1) 1 on 22–27 May at PM (AB).

Northern Shoveler (5,4,17) FRD – 10 Mar in the SBA (DP). HRT – 243 on 22 Mar at MWS (BJ).

Northern Pintail (4,4,8) FRD – 10 Mar in the SBA (DP). HRT – 412 on 31 Mar at SNWR (DP).

Green-winged Teal (6,6,15) FRD – 11 Mar in the SBA (DP); one on 24 Mar in *Marquette* (SHa) was 9 days earlier than the previous early record there. HRT – 509 on 2 Apr at SNWR (DPo).

Canvasback (1,1,17) HRT – 1700 on 15 Mar at Metro Beach MP, Macomb (AC); 3 were present on 31 May at PM (AB). In the UP, reported from *Delta*.

Redhead (5,4,21) 120 on 22 Mar in *Delta* (SHa) were early there. HRT – 3740 on 18 Mar at Pinconning Park, Bay (RE). Last observed on 20 May in *Berrien* (JW).

Ring-necked Duck (9,9,19) HRT – 546 on 24 Mar at SNWR (DPo).

Greater Scaup (4,7,14) HRT – 700 on 22 Mar in Gladstone, *Delta* (SHa) was an impressive early season count there. Present at the end of the season in *Allegan* (TS) and at PM (AB).

Lesser Scaup (5,5,23) HRT – 724 on 9 Apr at PM (AB). Last observed on 16 May in the SBA (DP).

Harlequin Duck (0, 1, 0) Up to 5 until 15 May at Ludington, *Mason* (DD).

Surf Scoter (1,1,3) HRT – 19 on 12 May at WPBO (MD). Inland, 1 on 4 May at the Howell Wastewater Treatment Plant, *Livingston* (LH).

White-winged Scoter (3,4,2) HRT – 500 on 18 May near Bete Grise, *Keweenaw* (ZG). 1215 during the season at WPBO (MD). 53 from 3

Mar – 12 Apr along Lake Michigan shore in *Muskegon* (BJ). One was inland on 7 Mar in *Oscoda* (DFr, SS).

Black Scoter (2,0,2) 1 on 10–15 Apr at the mouth of the Anna River, *Alger* (SHa); 1 on 20–21 Apr at Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, *Kalamazoo* (KH); 2 on 8 May in *Marquette* (RR); 1 on 15 May in *Berrien* (TB).

Long-tailed Duck (3,6,5) HRT – 3000 on 13 Mar in Detour Passage, *Chippewa* (JBo) (observed from the Drummond Island Ferry), also 2245 on 4 Mar along the Lake Michigan shore in *Muskegon* (BJ). 700 on 17 Apr at a lake watch along Lake Michigan (CF, m.ob.); 2996 during the season at WPBO (MD). There were inland reports from *Midland* and *Otsego*.

Bufflehead (9,13,26) HRT – 783 on 11 Apr at MWS (BJ). Last observed on 16 May in the SBA (DP).

Common Goldeneye (7,12,26) HRT – 300 on 21 Mar in Bay (RE), also 255 on 4 Mar at Belle Isle, *Wayne* (AC).

Hooded Merganser (6,11,20). First observed in the UP on 11 Mar in *Delta* (*vide* SHa).

Common Merganser (8,14,19) HRT – 622 on 18 Mar at Pinconning, Bay (RE), also 300 on 4 Mar at Belle Isle, *Wayne* (AC).



Red-breasted Merganser (8,9,13)
713 on 17 Apr in a lake watch
along Lake Michigan (CF, m.ob.).

Ruddy Duck (1,2,20) HRT – 897 on
9 Apr at PM (AB). First observed on
6 Mar in the SBA (DP). In the UP, 1
on 21 May in *Alger* (LD).

Northern Bobwhite (0,0,5)
Reported from *Berrien*, *Cass*, *Eaton*,
Graiot, and *Livingston*. The latter
three counties were reported by
Pheasants Forever.

Ring-necked Pheasant (1,5,18) In
the UP, reported from *Delta* (SHa).

Ruffed Grouse (7,10,6)
Southernmost reports from *Berrien*
and *Van Buren*.

Spruce Grouse (1,1,0) Reported
from *Chippewa* and *Oscoda* (JD).

Sharp-tailed Grouse (2,0,0)
Reported from *Alger* and *Chippewa*.

Wild Turkey (3,13,28) In the UP
reported from *Alger*, *Chippewa*,
and *Delta*.

Red-throated Loon (1,0,4) 9 on 17
Apr at a lake watch along Lake
Michigan (CF, m.ob.). Inland, 1 on
22 Apr on Lake Erin, *Lenawee* (DFr,
KO); 428 after 20 Apr at WPBO
with a peak of 54 on 5 May at
WPBO (MD).

PACIFIC LOON (1,0,0) 1 on 31
May at WPBO (PC).

Common Loon (8,12,17) 125 on
17 Apr at a lake watch along Lake
Michigan (CF, m.ob.); 3542 after
15 Apr with a peak of 324 on 5
May at WPBO; about 320 after 11
Apr during the Keweenaw Raptor
Survey (MHe).

Pied-billed Grebe (5,11,22) HRT
– 97 on 31 May at PM (AB). First
observed on 16 Mar in the SBA
(DP).

Horned Grebe (4,2,13) FRD – 2 on
19 Mar at Freeland Sewage Pond,
Saginaw (JZ). LRD – 1 on 30 Apr at
WPBO (MD). 4 on 17 Apr at a lake
watch along Lake Michigan (CF,
m.ob.).

Red-necked Grebe (6,1,1) 17 on 17
Apr in *Leelenau* (AVZ); 578 during
the season at WPBO (MD).

Eared Grebe (1,1,4) 1 on 21 Mar
at St. Joseph, *Berrien* (MHy); 2 on 4
Apr at Hutchins Lake, *Allegan* (TS);
after 11 Apr at MWS (SJ); 1 on 16
May at Dow Ponds, *Midland* (RD);
1 on 15–23 May at PM (AB, BM);
1 on 17–18 May at Gwinn Sewage
Ponds, *Marquette* (SHa, AL).

Double-crested Cormorant (8,7,21)
FRD – 1 on 18 Mar near Ludington,
Mason (DD), first observed on 2 Apr
in *Marquette* (SHa).

ANHINGA (1,0,0) 1 on 1 May at Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa (DB, KZ).

American White Pelican (6,1,2) FRD – 1 on 8 Apr in the PM area (WP). Also in the LP, 1 on 2 May at PM (AB, BM) and 1 on 14 May in Bay (MW, DDU); 47 were seen during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey (MHe); seen almost every day at Peninsula Point, Delta (*vide* SHa).

American Bittern (3,5,6) FRD – 1 on 3 Apr at SNWR (JmV).

Least Bittern (0,2,4) FRD – 1 on 13–15 May at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (m. obs.). Reported north to Iosco.

Great Blue Heron (8,8,30) FRD – 5 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 31 Mar in Marquette (SHa).

Great Egret (2,5,14) FRD – 14 on 25 Mar in Bloomfield Hills, Oakland (AC); in the UP, reported from Delta and Marquette.

Snowy Egret (0,1,0) 1 or 2 on 5–8 May in Bay (JMS, GP).

Cattle Egret (0,1,5) FRD – 1 on 10 Apr in Berlin Twp., Monroe (WP). HRT – 6 on 15 May in Berlin Twp., Monroe (WP), 5 on 12 Apr near Benton Harbor, Berrien (TB) was also a good count. Reported from Washtenaw and Hillsdale; very unusual at both locations.

Green Heron (1,2,17) FRD – 1 on 28 Apr in Berrien Springs, Berrien (AV). 1 on 30 Apr at WPBO.

Black-crowned Night-Heron (0,2,7) FRD – 23 Apr in the SBA (DP). HRT – 30 on 22 May at PM (AB).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (0,0,1) One adult on 8 May at Ford House, Macomb (LB, JP, CC, m. ob.).



This adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was a surprising find at the Ford House, Macomb Co. during the North American Migration Count on 9 May 2010. Photo by Lisa Brown.

GLOSSY IBIS (0,0,1) 1 on 22 May at PM (AB, BM), also 2 *Plegadis* sp. on 24 Apr in Mason (RMo).

BLACK VULTURE (0,0,2) 1 on 30 Mar in Cass (JW); 1 on 15 May at the Port Crescent Hawk Watch, Huron (ME).



Turkey Vulture (9,12,31) FRD – 1 on 3 Mar at Cassopolis, Cass (JW). HRT – 598 on 10 Apr at Port Crescent SP, Huron (ME); 734 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 505 during the season at WPBO.

Osprey (4,4,17) FRD – 26 Mar at Kensington MP, Oakland (RH), first observed on 2 Apr in the SBA (DP); 44 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 56 during the season at WPBO.

MISSISSIPPI KITE (1,0,0) 1 on 28 May at WPBO (JBo, JH).

Bald Eagle (7,14,19) 807 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 390 during the season at WPBO.



Consistent efforts to count migrating raptors at Brockway Mountain, Keweenaw County, by the newly formed Keweenaw Raptor Survey resulted in good numbers of Bald Eagles, many flying past at eye level like this first-cycle immature. *Photo by Skye Haas.*

Northern Harrier (9,5,16) In the UP, first observed on 11 Mar in Mackinac (*fide* SHa). 144 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 607 during the season at WPBO.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (9,4,19) A peak of 792 on 14 May at Port Crescent SP, Huron (ME), achieving the highest one-day count ever in the SBA for the second year in a row; 1580 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 9747 during the season at WPBO.

Cooper's Hawk (3,5,23) A peak of 16 on 30 Apr at Port Crescent SP, Huron (ME) and 152 during the season; 22 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 27 during the season at WPBO.

Northern Goshawk (5,1,3) 6 during the season at Port Crescent SP, Huron (ME); 29 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 94 during the season at WPBO.

Red-shouldered Hawk (2,4,12) 218 during the season with a peak of 45 on 31 Mar at Port Crescent SP, Huron (ME); 10 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 28 during the season at WPBO.



The Keweenaw Raptor Survey provided the state's highest count of Broad-winged Hawks during spring 2010, including many at eye level like the adult and immature photographed here. *Both photos on 15 May 2010 by Skye Haas.*

Broad-winged Hawk (9,6,14) FRD – 9 Apr in *Midland* (RD), 2 on 15 Apr in *Marquette* (SHa) were early locally. 1721 during the season with a peak of 606 on 30 Apr at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (ME); 4693 during the season with a peak of 988 on 1 May at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 2582 during the season with a peak of 1200 on 1 May at WPBO. Large migratory

totals were recorded in several other areas during the 30 Apr – 2 May period, especially along Lake Superior.

Swainson's Hawk (3,0,0) 1 on 27 Apr, 1 on 29 Apr, 2 on 1 May, 1 on 2 May and 1 on 18 May at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey; 1 on 1 May at *Marquette* (SHa); 1 on 2 May, 1 on 17 May and 1 on 29 May at WPBO.



Six Swainson's Hawks recorded by the Keweenaw Raptor Survey this spring was a very good total for the state of Michigan, and included this individual on 1 May 2010. *Photo by Max Henschell.*

Red-tailed Hawk (5,5,28) 1042 during the season with a peak of 241 on 19 Apr at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (ME); 734 during the season



at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 630 during the season at WPBO.

Rough-legged Hawk (5,3,5) Last seen in the SBA on 4 May at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (ME); 119 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 229 during the season at WPBO.

Golden Eagle (3,1,4) 14 during the season with a peak of 4 on 30 Apr at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (ME); 31 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 38 during the season at WPBO.



Good numbers of Golden Eagles passed Brockway Mountain, Keweenaw County, this spring, many of them escorted through the area by the local Common Ravens like this one on 10 March 2010. *Photo by Mike Shupe.*

American Kestrel (8,11,23) In the UP, first observed on 8 Mar in *Delta* (*fide* SHa). 89 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 411 during the season at WPBO.

Merlin (7,2,6) In the UP, first observed on 17 Mar in *Marquette* (SHa); 41 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 101 during the season at WPBO. A pair of immatures in *Kalamazoo*, *Kalamazoo* was engaged in nesting activity (SW, RS).

Peregrine Falcon (5,1,7) HRT – 7 on 14 May at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (ME). In the UP, first observed on 17 Mar in *Marquette* (*fide* SHa); 20 during the season at the Keweenaw Raptor Survey and 101 during the season at WPBO.

Yellow Rail (2,0,0) 17 May at Seney NWR, *Schoolcraft* (AMe); 1 on 30 May at the tip of Whitefish Point (TB).

KING RAIL (0,0,1) One present 6 May – TP at PM, *Monroe* (AMB, BM).

Virginia Rail (1,3,11) FRD – 1 on 19 Mar at Tuttle Marsh, *Iosco* (WSh, RE), 2 on 24 Mar in *Muskegon* (BJ) were also early. In the UP, reported from *Alger*.

Sora (1,4,20) FRD – 1 on 8 Apr in *Hillsdale* (JR). In the UP, reported from *Delta*.

PURPLE GALLINULE (0,1,0) 1 on 13–28 May at Tuttle Marsh, *Iosco* (RL, KO, m. ob.).

Common Moorhen (0,1,6) FRD – 2 on 23 Apr at NPSWA (JMS), also the northernmost report. HRT – 25 on 31 May at PM (AB).

American Coot (0,2,20) HRT – 2507 on 9 Apr at PM (AB). First observed on 12 Mar in the SBA (DP).

Sandhill Crane (9,13,30) HRT – 165 on 22 Mar at a lake watch in *Muskegon* (BJ). First observed on 7 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 15 Mar in the UP (SHa); 1316 during the season at WPBO (MD).

Black-bellied Plover (3,1,5) FRD – 1 on 30 Apr at Metro Beach MP, *Macomb* (AC). HRT – 34 on 27 May at WPBO (MD), also 28 on 22 May at PM (AB).

American Golden-Plover (1,0,2) 1 on 3 Apr in *Berrien* (HB); 2 on 2 May and 4 on 6 May at PM (AB); 1 on 31 May at Peninsula Point, *Delta* (DL).

Semipalmated Plover (4,3,5) FRD – 1 on 2 May at PM (AB). HRT – 47 on 13 May at SNWR (DP).

Piping Plover (3,2,1) FRD – 3 May at Grand Marais, *Alger* (JH, MHu).

Killdeer (9,11,27) FRD – 2 Mar in *Hillsdale* (JR); first observed on 6 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 17 Mar in the UP (SHa).

American Avocet (0,1,1) 4 on 14 Apr flying by the Port Crescent Hawk Watch, *Huron* (ME); 1 on 9 May at Traverse City, *Grand Traverse* (EK).

Spotted Sandpiper (6,6,17) FRD – 1 on 9 Apr at PM (AB).

Solitary Sandpiper (2,4,17) FRD – 1 on 17 Apr in *Berrien* (MHy). LRD – 15 May in *Berrien* (m. ob.). HRT – 14 on 5 May in *Bay* (JMS).

Greater Yellowlegs (6,7,11) FRD – 4 on 25 Mar at SNWR (JDS). LRD – 1 on 23 May in *Bay* (RE). HRT – 80 on 15 Apr at SNWR (DP).

Willet (3,1,4) FRD – 21 on 24 Apr at PM (JF, AP). LRD – 1 on 31 May at PM (AB). HRT – 32 on 6 May at MWS (SM).

Lesser Yellowlegs (6,7,15) FRD – 2 on 25 Mar at SNWR (JDS). LRD – 3 on 31 May at PM (AB). HRT – 104 on 6 May at SNWR (DP).

Upland Sandpiper (2,3,3) FRD – 15 Apr in *Allegan* and *Muskegon*. One on 15 May at Brockway, *Keweenaw* (SHa); 1 on 26 May at WPBO.

Whimbrel (2,2,1) FRD – 16 on 15 May at PM (AB). HRT - 237 on 22 May at PM (AB), also 145 on 22 May at TPSP (JBu).



Hudsonian Godwit (2,0,0) 1 each on 15, 20 and 27 May in *Delta* (*fide* SHa); 1 on 21 May at Chassell, *Houghton* (SS).

Marbled Godwit (0,1,1) 19 on 2 May at PM (AB, BM); 2 on 13–14 May at SNWR (DP, DPo. SK); 2 on 24 May at PM (AC).

Ruddy Turnstone (2,3,2) FRD – 3 on 11 May at St. Joseph, *Berrien* (AM). HRT – 21 on 22 May at PM (AB).

Sanderling (4,1,2) FRD – 5 on 2 May at PM (AB). HRT – 45 on 22 May at PM (AB).

Semipalmated Sandpiper (4,4,7) FRD – 1 on 7 May at Andrews University, *Berrien* (AM, MHy). HRT – 187 on 31 May at PM (AB).

Least Sandpiper (6,3,10) FRD – 3 on 1 May in *Berrien* (m. ob.). HRT – 70 on 6 May at SNWR (DP).

White-rumped Sandpiper (1,1,2) FRD – 2 on 5 May at Andrews University, *Berrien* (AM).

Pectoral Sandpiper (1,3,8) FRD – 6 on 26 Mar at SNWR (SK). LRD – 1 on 25 May at the Baraga Sewage ponds, *Baraga* (SHa). HRT – 102 on 21 Apr at SNWR (DP).

Dunlin (6,4,8) FRD – 1 on 9 Apr at SNWR (DP). HRT – 1579 on 22 May at PM (AB).

Stilt Sandpiper (1,0,2) 2 on 6 May at SNWR (SK); 1 on 22 May at PM (AB, JJ); 1 on 24 May in *Menominee* (SS).

RUFF (0,1,0) 1 on 8 May at Ludington, *Mason* (DD).

Short-billed Dowitcher (3,2,5) FRD – 1 on 27–28 Mar at SNWR (JBu, RN). LRD – 2 on 21 May at SNWR (DP). HRT – 60 on 15 May at PM (AB), also 47 on 15 May at TPSP (JBu).

Long-billed Dowitcher (0,0,2) 1 on 6 May at PM (AB); 3 on 8 May in *Berrien* (AM).

Wilson's Snipe (4,7,12) FRD – 18 Mar in *Eaton* (DW). HRT – 106 on 21 Apr at SNWR (DP).

American Woodcock (5,6,17) FRD – 7 Mar at two locations in *Berrien* (JW, MM), first observed on 12 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 18 Mar in the UP (*fide* SHa).

Wilson's Phalarope (3,6,4) FRD – 28 Apr at Maple River SGA, *Gratiot* (BC). HRT – 24 on 6 May at MWS (SM); 10 on 14 May at the Baraga Sewage Ponds, *Baraga* (SHa) was also an excellent count.

Red-necked Phalarope (0,0,2) 3 on 19 May at Three Oaks, *Berrien* (TB, WJ, m. ob.); 1 on 22 May at PM (AB, BM).

Bonaparte's Gull (2,5,16) FRD – 24 Mar in *Berrien* (JW) and 27 Mar in the SBA (DP). HRT – 808 on 29 Apr at Peninsula Point, *Delta* (*fide* SHa), 500 on 17 Apr at Linwood, *Bay* (RE) and 400 on 6 May at Baraga, *Baraga* (JY) were also good totals.

Little Gull (2,1,1) 3 on 2 May at Portage Marsh, *Delta* (JK); 2 on 6 May in *Houghton* (RH); 1 on 15 May at TPSP (JBU); 2 on 18 May in *Delta* (RR); 1 on 22 May at PM (JJ).

Laughing Gull (2,0,1) 2 on 12 May at St. Joseph, *Berrien* (MHY); 1 each on 25 and 27 May at WPBO; 1 on 25 May at Baraga, *Baraga* (*fide* SHa).

Franklin's Gull (1,0,3) 1 on 13 Apr at MWS (WS); 2 on 2 May at PM (AB, BM); 1 on 14 May in St. Joseph, *Berrien* (MHY); 2 on 31 May at WPBO.

Ring-billed Gull (9,8,26) In the UP, first seen on 6 Mar in *Marquette* (*fide* SHa).

Herring Gull (7,5,17).

Thayer's Gull (2,0,2) 1 on 2 Mar in *Wayne* (WP); 1 on 15 Mar at *Marquette*, *Marquette* (SHa); 1 on 31 Mar in *Berrien* (TB, MHY); 1 on 1 Apr in *Munising*, *Alger* (SHi).

Iceland Gull (2,0,4) LRD – 1 on 8 May in *Marquette* (RR). HRT – 2

different individuals during the last week of Mar at MWS (BJ) and 2 on 5 Mar at French's Landing, *Wayne* (SHa).

Lesser Black-backed Gull (2,0,2) LRD – 15 May in *Berrien* (TB, MHY). HRT – 6 on 5 Mar in *Monroe* (SHa), also 5 on 31 Mar at the Forest Lawn Landfill, *Berrien* (TB, MHY). In the UP, adults seen on 9 Apr at *Munising*, *Alger* (SHi) and 21 Apr in *Marquette* (SHa) could be the same bird since the species is very scarce locally (SHa).

Glaucous Gull (3,3,8) LRD – 1 in 21 May at TPSP (GN). HRT – 9 at *Sandusky*, *Sanilac* (KO).

Great Black-backed Gull (3,2,8) HRT – 5 on 4 Mar at Belle Isle, *Wayne* (AC). Inland, 2 on 12 Mar at SNWR (DP). One on 27 Mar at Copper Harbor, *Keweenaw* (SHa) was only the third county record.

Caspian Tern (6,7,9) FRD – 26 Mar in *Berrien* (HB). HRT – 40 on 2 May at PM (AB).

Black Tern (2,1,6) FRD – 4 on 24 Apr at PM (JF). HRT – 40 on 18 May at Ogantz Bay, *Delta* (SHa), also 27 on 15 May at PM (AB).

Common Tern (4,3,6) FRD – 18 on 14 Apr at Grosse Isle, *Wayne* (WP). HRT – 24 on 15 May in *Bay* (DJ).



Forster's Tern (3,2,12) FRD – 1 on 9 Apr at PM (AB). HRT – 178 on 15 May at PM (AB), also 170 on 8 May in Bay (RE).

Parasitic Jaeger (1,0,0) 3 (and 1 other not identified to species) on 22–28 May at WPBO (MD, PC).

Rock Pigeon (9,8,29).

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE

(1,0,1) 1 on 30 Apr at St. Joseph, Berrien (*fide* JW) and 1 on 30 May in Alger (BAr).



This Eurasian Collared-Dove was found at Christmas, Alger County, on 30 May 2010. *Photo by Bob Arthurs.*

Mourning Dove (9,8,29).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (0,6,18)

FRD – 1 heard on 30 Apr in Barry (JL). Reported north to Benzie and Cheboygan.

Black-billed Cuckoo (2,11,10)

FRD – 3 May in Kent (CP). Reported from Chippewa and Delta in the UP.

Eastern Screech-Owl (0,0,10) Reported north to Saginaw and Tuscola.

Great Horned Owl (3,3,16).

Snowy Owl (3,0,2) 1 on 3 Mar in Tuscola (LZ); 3 on 8 Mar at Rudyard, Chippewa (*fide* SHa); 1 from 24–27 Mar at Decker's Landing, St. Clair (REm); up to 2 until 7 Apr in Marquette (SHa); 1 adult on 2 May at Brockway Mountain, Keweenaw (MHe).

Northern Hawk Owl (1,0,0) Up to 5 until 12 Mar south of Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa (JBo).

Barred Owl (4,7,14).

Great Gray Owl (1,0,0) 4 banded, none seen after 3 Apr at WPBO (CN). A nest was discovered on 7 May in Chippewa (JN),

Long-eared Owl (1,0,3) 2 on 5 Mar at SNWR (JmV); 1 on 16 Mar at MWS (BJ); 1 on 17 Mar in Penn Twp., Cass (M&BS); first caught on 17 Mar at WPBO (CN).

Short-eared Owl (3,1,1) 4 on 4 Mar in Hillsdale (JR); 1 on 17 Mar at MDNR lands, Arnheim, Houghton (JY); 1 each on 29 Mar and 4–5 Apr at two locations in Delta (DL, JK); 1 on 9 Apr in Bay (SMa); 1 on 16 May at WPBO (*fide* SHa).

Boreal Owl (1,0,0) 9 from 15 Mar–12 Apr at WPBO (CN); 1 on 24 Apr at Andrus Lake, Chippewa (SHa).

Northern Saw-whet Owl (4,2,1) In the SLP, 1 banded on 15 Mar at Muskegon SP, Muskegon (BJ); about 550 banded during the season at WPBO (CN).

Common Nighthawk (3,3,6) FRD – 1 on 5 May at Tuscola (JmV) was the earliest ever in the SBA.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW (1,0,1) 1 after 5 May in Berrien (*fide* JW); 1 banded on 16 May at WPBO (CN).

Eastern Whip-poor-will (3,5,2) FRD – 1 on 11 Apr in Berrien (BAn). HRT – 5 on 20 May near Harrison, Clare (ES).

Chimney Swift (3,6,22) FRD – 16 Apr at Rush Lake SGA, Huron (ME).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (15,27,34) FRD – The first confirmed report was record early on 1 Apr in Washtenaw and there were 5 other confirmed reports by 6 Apr; the first report in the NLP was on 12 Apr in Mason and the first in the UP was on 28 Apr in Alger (*fide* AC).

Belted Kingfisher (7,10,23) First recorded in the UP on 21 Mar in Marquette (SHa).

Red-headed Woodpecker (1,5,18) Overwintering reported north to Muskegon. First migrants on 22 Apr in Hillsdale (JR). Reported in the UP from Delta.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (3,8,26) Reported in the UP from Alger, Delta and Keweenaw.



This Chuck-will's-widow on 16 May 2010 was the second record for Whitefish Point and the Upper Peninsula, and the first ever banded in the state. *Photo by Chris Neri.*



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (9,7,19)

First observed on 3 Apr in the SBA (DP). Last observed on 1 May in *Berrien* and *Hillsdale*.

Downy Woodpecker (6,7,29).

Hairy Woodpecker (5,5,23).

Black-backed Woodpecker (4,0,0)

Reported from *Chippewa*, *Houghton*, *Luce*, and *Marquette*.

Northern Flicker (9,13,30) First seen in the UP on 31 Mar in *Delta* (SHA).

Pileated Woodpecker (8,13,22).

Olive-sided Flycatcher (3,1,5) FRD – 15 May in *Berrien* (MC).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (4,5,25)

FRD – 5 May at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (AM), first observed on 14 May in the SBA (DP).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (3,0,2)

FRD – 1 on 15 May in *Berrien* (AV).

Acadian Flycatcher (0,1,14) FRD

– 7 May in *Hillsdale* (JR). Reported north to *Midland*.

Alder Flycatcher (8,5,11) FRD – 18

May in *Hillsdale* (JR).

Willow Flycatcher (0,4,20) FRD –

10 May in *Gratiot* and *Van Buren*. Reported north to *Iosco*.

Least Flycatcher (8,6,16) FRD – 30

Apr at Baker Sanctuary, *Calhoun* (DW).

Eastern Phoebe (8,12,28) FRD – 14

Mar near Kalamazoo, *Kalamazoo* (JR).

Great Crested Flycatcher (5,9,24)

FRD – 30 Apr in *Iosco* and *Oakland*.

Western Kingbird (0,1,0) 1 on 15

May at TPSP (JBu).

Eastern Kingbird (6,9,24) FRD – 10

Apr at Chippewa Nature Center, *Midland* (JZ), next observed on 28 Apr in *Hillsdale*.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE (1,0,1) 1 on

17–18 Apr in *Berrien* (JMa); 1 on 24 May in *Alger* (SHi).

Northern Shrike (1,2,6) LRD – 16

Apr at WPBO. Latest report in the LP was 1 on 6 Apr at Fish Point Wildlife Area, *Tuscola* (MW).

White-eyed Vireo (0,0,4) FRD – 28

Apr in Lost Nation SGA, *Hillsdale* (JR).

Yellow-throated Vireo (0,6,23) FRD

– 26 Apr in *Branch* (JO). Reported north to *Cheboygan*.

Blue-headed Vireo (9,9,17) FRD –

14 Apr in *Allegan* and *Kalamazoo*.

Warbling Vireo (4,6,24) FRD – 26 Apr in *Allegan* and *Hillsdale*.

Philadelphia Vireo (3,1,4) FRD – 15 May in *Allegan* and *Berrien*.

Red-eyed Vireo (9,8,24) FRD – 1 May in *Berrien* (CP), first observed on 6 May in the SBA (DP).

Gray Jay (2,0,0). Reported from *Iron* and *Marquette*.

Blue Jay (9,12,28).

American Crow (9,13,28) Around 5000 on 5 Mar moving north along the Lake Erie shore in *Monroe* and *Wayne* (SHa).

FISH CROW (0,0,1) At least one in the Forest Lawn area of *Berrien* after 9 Apr (MHY, TB, m.ob.). (p. a.)

Common Raven (9,11,1). In the SLP, 1 on 31 Mar at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (ME).

Horned Lark (3,6,24).

Purple Martin (1,3,13) FRD – 3 Apr in *Hillsdale* (JR). UP report was from *Delta*.

Tree Swallow (8,12,29) FRD – 4 on 12 Mar in Brownstown Twp., *Wayne* (WP), first observed on 19 Mar in the SBA (DP).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (5,5,23) FRD – 8 Apr in *Berrien*, first observed on 23 Apr in the SBA (DP). HRT – 403 on 8 May at Metro Beach MP, *Macomb* (AC).

Bank Swallow (6,6,21) FRD – 8 Apr in *Hillsdale* and *Lapeer*. HRT – 271 on 8 May at SNWR (DP, JDS, SK).

Cliff Swallow (5,5,18) FRD – 8 Apr in *Lapeer* (KO).

Barn Swallow (9,8,26) FRD – 25 Mar in *Hillsdale* (JR).

Black-capped Chickadee (9,13,29).

Boreal Chickadee (3,0,0) Reported from *Alger*, *Iron* and *Marquette*.

Tufted Titmouse (0,8,28) Reported north to *Cheboygan*.

Red-breasted Nuthatch (7,9,18) Numbers rather low in the SLP.

White-breasted Nuthatch (3,7,28).

Brown Creeper (6,4,24) 6 on 9 Apr was the high point of the migration at Metro Beach MP, *Macomb*; none were recorded there after 13 Apr (AC).

Carolina Wren (0,0,16) Reported north to *Saginaw*.



House Wren (4,7,26) FRD – 12 Apr from *Berrien* (DS), first observed on 23 Apr in the SBA (DP).

Winter Wren (7,10,12) None were recorded at Metro Beach MP, *Macomb* after 24 Apr (AC).

Sedge Wren (3,2,7) FRD – 2 May at *Berrien* (JW).

Marsh Wren (0,2,13) Successfully overwintered as far north as *Bay* (LD, GP). First reported migrant on 30 Apr at Metro Beach MP, *Macomb* (AC); 1 on 1 May at Peninsula Point, *Delta* (*fide* SHa).

Golden-crowned Kinglet (7,5,18) 14 on 13 Apr was the high point of the migration at Metro Beach MP, *Macomb* and none were recorded there after 24 Apr (AC).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (7,4,21) FRD – 2 Apr at *Muskegon SP, Muskegon* (BJ). Last observed on 22 May in *Berrien* (JW).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (2,4,24) FRD – 2 on 6 Apr at *Sarett NC, Berrien* (MM). In the UP, reported from *Chippewa* and *Delta*.

Eastern Bluebird (7,12,27) In the UP, first reported on 18 Mar in *Marquette* (*fide* SHa).

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD (1,0,0) 1 on 13 Apr in *Keweenaw* (MHe).

Veery (5,8,16) FRD – 30 Apr at *Warren Dunes SP, Berrien* (RJ). A migrant banded on 20 May at *Metro Beach MP, Macomb* (AC).

Gray-cheeked Thrush (0,1,4) FRD – 1 on 1 May at *Forest Lawn, Berrien* (JW). LRD – 1 on 23 May at *Port Huron SGA, St. Clair* (AC).

Swainson's Thrush (3,2,15) FRD – 30 Apr in *Farmington Hills, Oakland* (KO). In the SLP, 1 on 31 May in *Monroe* (WP). HRT – 22 on 20 May at *Metro Beach MP, Macomb* (AC). First recorded on 28 May at *WPBO*.

Hermit Thrush (9,8,15) FRD - 2 Apr in *Berrien* and *Muskegon*. Eight on 24 Apr was the high point of the migration at *Metro Beach MP, Macomb*, and none were recorded there after 7 May (AC).

Wood Thrush (3,5,20) FRD – 1 on 11 Apr in *Sumpter Twp., Wayne* (WP) was exceptionally early, the next was on 27 Apr in *Lenawee* (KO).

American Robin (9,13,29).

Gray Catbird (6,10,28) FRD – Overwintered successfully in *Marquette* (DP). One on 18 Apr in *Tuscola* (JmV) was the earliest ever in the SBA.

Northern Mockingbird (3,0,5) First reported migrants on 12 Apr in *Berrien* and 15 Apr in *Hillsdale*. In the UP, reported from *Chippewa*, *Delta*, and *Luce*.

Brown Thrasher (7,8,21) Successfully overwintered in *Berrien* and *Bay*. First migrants on 6 Apr in *Allegan* and *Hillsdale*.

European Starling (9,12,28).

American Pipit (5,3,11) Successfully overwintered in *Wayne* (WP). Earliest migrant on 25 Mar in *Hillsdale* (JR). Latest in the LP on 25 May at TPSP (JR).

Bohemian Waxwing (3,0,0) LRD – 5 Apr in *Marquette* (DPa); 151 during the season, the latest on 4 Apr, at the *Keweenaw Raptor Survey* (MHe). Also reported from *Chippewa*.

Cedar Waxwing (7,4,23).

Lapland Longspur (4,0,9) HRT – 226 on 13 Apr at MWS (BJ). Latest report on 1 May in *Berrien* (JW) and on 30 Apr in the SBA (DP).

SMITH'S LONGSPUR (0,0,1) 1 on 1 May at St. Joseph, *Berrien* (TB).

McCOWN'S LONGSPUR (1,0,0) 1 on 16–17 May at Bete Gris Beach, *Keweenaw* (ZG, SHa, MHe, DF)

Snow Bunting (3,2,6) Latest report was on 15 Mar in *Berrien* (JW) and on 7 Apr in the SBA (DP).



When not counting hawks, observers at Brockway Mountain, *Keweenaw Co.*, had other interesting birds to look at, including this alternate plumaged Snow Bunting there on 23 March 2010. *Photo by Max Henschell.*

Blue-winged Warbler (1,5,19) FRD – 1 on 18 Apr in *Berrien* (EvK). In the UP, at least 2 during the season at *Peninsula Point*, *Delta* (*vide* SHa).

Golden-winged Warbler (1,7,9) FRD – 30 Apr in *Bay City SRA*, *Bay* (KK).

Tennessee Warbler (5,5,17) FRD – 1 on 1 May at *Warren Dunes SP*, *Berrien* (AM). HRT – 75 on 15 May in *Berrien* (JR). The latest report in the SLP was 1 on 23 May at *Metro Beach MP*, *Macomb* (AC).

Orange-crowned Warbler (3,2,6) FRD – 1 on 20 Apr at *Warren Dunes SP*, *Berrien* (JW). LRD – 1 on



Peninsula Point, in southern Delta County, provided excellent opportunities to see many warblers at eye level or below during spring 2010, including the Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Blue-winged, and Cape May Warblers shown here, all on 22 May 2010. Photos by Skye Haas.

23 May at Peninsula Point, Delta (SHa). HRT – 6 on 8 May at SNWR (DP, JDS).

Chestnut-sided Warbler (9,11,14) FRD – 1 May in Allegan and Oakland.

Nashville Warbler (8,10,19) FRD – 24 Apr at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (AV), in the UP, 1 on 29 Apr at Peninsula Point, Delta (SHa).

Magnolia Warbler (9,5,16) FRD – 1 on 4 May at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (MHy). HRT – 18 on 10 May at Metro Beach MP, Macomb (AC), 15 on 22 May in Hillsdale (JR) but few were seen after that date in the SLP.

Northern Parula (8,5,13) FRD – 18 Apr at Kesling Preserve, Berrien (HB).

Cape May Warbler (4,1,6) FRD – 1 on 6 May at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (KM). This species was scarce this season. Only one was reported

Yellow Warbler (9,9,26) FRD – 25 Apr in Berrien, Hillsdale, and Kalamazoo.

from Metro Beach MP and only three from the SBA; these were all on 15 May.

Black-throated Blue Warbler

(6,2,13) FRD – 1 on 30 Apr at Bay City SRA, Bay (RHi, KK, PR).

Yellow-rumped Warbler (9,6,21)

First observed on 20 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 18 Mar in the UP (SHi in Alger). HRT – 150 on 30 Apr at Fayette SP, Delta (SHa), also 50 on 30 Apr in Bay (LA, EL, CS).

Black-throated Green Warbler

(9,7,18) FRD – 10 Apr at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (TBd); 14 on 22 May in Hillsdale (JR) but few were seen after that date in the SLP.

Blackburnian Warbler (7,7,12) FRD – 1 May at 2 locations in Berrien (*vide* JW).

Yellow-throated Warbler (0,0,1)

FRD – 13 Apr at Kesling Reserve, Berrien (TB, MHy). HRT – 5 on 1 May along the Galien River, Berrien (CP).

Pine Warbler (9,8,18) FRD – 1 on 23 Mar at Pleasant Lake, Jackson (RH), another early one was on 8 Apr in Iosco (RE).

Kirtland's Warbler (0,3,0) FRD – 1 on 12 May at Colgrove, Oscoda (JD). A migrant on 15 May at TPSP (RE, JBu).



This Kirtland's Warbler at Tawas Point State Park, Iosco Co. on 15 May 2010 was very cooperative. *Photo by Darlene Friedman.*

Prairie Warbler (1,0,2) FRD – present after 27 Apr at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (AV, m. ob.); 1 on 27 May at Waterloo SRA, Jackson (DFr); 1 on 27 May at WPBO (JR, m. ob.).

Palm Warbler (9,4,15) FRD – 16 Apr at TPSP (WSh, RE). HRT – 20 on 30 Apr at Fayette SP, Delta (SHa), also 15 on 2 May at Belle Isle, Wayne (AC). Two on 20 May at TPSP (GP, EP) were the latest migrants in the LP.

Bay-breasted Warbler (2,1,5) FRD – 1 on 5 May at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (AM, KM). LRD - 1 on 25 May at Hunter's Point, Keweenaw (SHa).



Blackpoll Warbler (1,3,10) FRD – 6 May in *Berrien* and *Washtenaw*. HRT – 16 on 22 May at Peninsula Point, *Delta* (SHa).

Cerulean Warbler (1,1,12) FRD – 2 on 22 Apr at Kesling Reserve, *Berrien* (MHy). In the NLP, 10 reported from two locations in *Arenac* (DJ, WSh, RE); in the UP, 1 on 28 May in *Dickinson* (KD) at a location where the species has previously bred.

Black-and-white Warbler (9,7,19) FRD – 1 on 28 Apr at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (RJ), in the UP, the first were 2 on 30 Apr in *Delta* (SHa).

American Redstart (9,13,20) FRD – 1 May in *Berrien* and *Oakland*. HRT – 40 on 16 May at TPSP (JBU).

Prothonotary Warbler (0,2,7) FRD – 1 on 1 May along the Galien River, *Berrien* (CP). In the NLP, reported from Bay and *Iosco*.

Worm-eating Warbler (0,0,3) 1 on 1 May at Hidden Lake Gardens, *Lenawee* (SJ, JSh); 1 on 15–22 May at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (BAn); 1 on 23 May along Swan Creek at Allegan SGA, *Allegan* (TS).

Ovenbird (9,11,20) FRD – 30 Apr in *Berrien* and *Hillsdale*. Four on 20 May at Metro Beach MP, *Macomb* (AC) marked the end of this species migration at that location.

Northern Waterthrush (7,6,20) FRD – 20 Apr at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (RJ). One on 31 May at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (BAn) was at a quite unusual date for that location. HRT – 25 on 15 May in *Berrien* (JR).

Louisiana Waterthrush (0,0,8) FRD – 1 on 8 Apr at Love Creek NC, *Berrien* (KM). Reported north to *Tuscola*.

Kentucky Warbler (1,0,2) Reported on 1 and 22 May at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (*vide* JW); 1 after 9 May in *Hillsdale*; 1 on 22 May in *Ontonagon* (RR) was the third record for the UP.

Connecticut Warbler (2,1,3) FRD – 1 on 15 May at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (AV).

Mourning Warbler (7,6,10) FRD – 1 on 5 May at Rose Lake SRA, *Clinton* (BC).

Common Yellowthroat (9,11,27) FRD – 27 Apr in *Lenawee* (KO), first observed on 29 Apr in the SBA (DP).

Hooded Warbler (0,1,7) FRD – 1 on 1 May at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (WJ). Reported north to *Arenac*.

Wilson's Warbler (6,4,10) FRD – 3 May in *Tuscola* (JmV). The latest in the LP was 1 on 27 May in *Iosco* (RE).

Canada Warbler (6,3,7) FRD – 2 on 14 May at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (JW). HRT – 11 on 20 May at Metro Beach MP, Macomb (AC).

Yellow-breasted Chat (0,0,3) FRD – 1 on 5 May at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (AM, KM). Also reported from Hillsdale and Monroe.

Eastern Towhee (2,8,24) First observed on 1 Apr in the SBA (DP). In the UP, reported from Chippewa and Delta.

American Tree Sparrow (9,7,24) LRD – 28 Apr in Berrien (JW) and 29 Apr in the SBA (DP).

Chipping Sparrow (9,10,30) FRD – 1 on 31 Mar at Bridgman, Berrien (BAn, HAn), first observed on 8 Apr in the SBA (DP).

Clay-colored Sparrow (9,6,5) FRD – 1 on 3 May at Williamston, Ingham (BC), not seen until 16 May in the SBA (DP).

Field Sparrow (1,6,29) Successfully overwintered in Allegan (TS). First reported on 24 Mar in Berrien (JW) and 30 Mar in the SBA (DP). In the UP, 8 on 30 Apr at Fayette SP, Delta (SHa) was a good count.

Vesper Sparrow (5,10,17) FRD – 31 Mar in Berrien, Saginaw, and Muskegon.

Lark Sparrow (3,0,1) 30 Apr in Berrien (*fide* JW); 1 on 2 May in Marquette (P&LC); 1 from 4–7 May in Paradise, Chippewa (*fide* SH); 5 May at Warren Dunes, Berrien (AM); 1 on 16 May in Keweenaw (ZG).

Savannah Sparrow (6,7,20) FRD – 3 Apr in Hillsdale, Monroe, and Muskegon.

Grasshopper Sparrow (0,1,9) FRD – 1 on 14 Apr at MWS (BJ). HRT – 9 on 10 May at MWS (BJ). Reported north to Iosco.

Henslow's Sparrow (0,0,6) FRD – 20 Apr in Hillsdale (JR). HRT – 10 on 4 May at Waterloo SRA, Jackson (RHo).

Le Conte's Sparrow (1,0,2) 1 on 5 May at Warren Dunes SP, Berrien (AM, KM); reported as singing on 7 May at PM (SJ); 9 May in Keweenaw (*fide* SHa).

Fox Sparrow (4,3,15) Overwintered successfully in Manistique, Schoolcraft (RA). First observed on 19 Mar in the SBA (DP); 1 on 28 Apr at E.L. Johnson Nature Center, Bloomfield Hills, Oakland (AC) was quite late for the SLP.

Song Sparrow (9,13,30) In the UP, first observed on 17 Mar in Marquette (SHa).



This Harris's Sparrow, in fine alternate plumage, was at Copper Harbor on 1 May 2010. *Photo by Max Henschell.*

Harris's Sparrow (1,0,2) a molting bird present 7–21 Apr in *Van Buren* (MWy); 1 on 1 May at *Copper Harbor, Keweenaw* (MHe); 1 on 2 May at *SNWR* (JDS).

White-crowned Sparrow (7,7,20) In the SBA, present from 29 Apr–20 May (DP), and last observed on 22 May in *Berrien* (JW).

Dark-eyed Junco (9,6,26) Latest report from the SLP was of 2 on 3 May in *Van Buren* (RS).

Summer Tanager (2,0,5) 1 May in *Dearborn, Wayne* (MO); 2 May in *Kalamazoo* (SJ); 1 on 8 May in *Iron* (BR); 1 on 8 May in *Alger* (JM); 1 on 11 May at *West Olive, Ottawa* (FB); at least 4 after 13 May in *Berrien* (*fide JW*); 14 and 19 May at *RRBO* (JC).

Lincoln's Sparrow (8,5,6) FRD – 1 on 9 Apr at *Willow MP, Wayne* (WP) was very early, the next reports were on 30 Apr in *Bay and Macomb*. HRT – 13 on 15 May at *Metro Beach MP, Macomb* (AC). Last migrant in the SLP on 22 May in *Berrien* (JW).



Two Summer Tanagers reached the Upper Peninsula in spring 2010, including this first-year male at *Iron River, Iron Co.* on 8 May 2010. *Photo by Beth Rogers.*

Swamp Sparrow (9,8,25) Overwintered successfully at *SNWR* (DP). First reported in the UP on 15 Apr in *Marquette* (SHa, CP).

White-throated Sparrow (9,6,25) Last observed on 19 May in *Berrien* (JW) and first observed in the SBA on 8 Apr in *Iosco* (DP).

Scarlet Tanager (4,8,22) FRD – 1

May in *Berrien* (MHy), first observed on 4 May in the SBA (DP).

Northern Cardinal (5,11,30)

Thought to be increasing substantially in *Marquette* (SHa)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (7,12,27)

FRD – 1 on 9 Apr in *Berrien Twp., Berrien* (MB) was very early, the next was on 27 Apr in *Midland* (KB).

Indigo Bunting (9,10,25) FRD – 29 Apr in *Marshall, Calhoun* (LK).

Dickcissel (0,1,3) An overwintering bird was last seen on 10 Apr in *Berrien* (IA). The earliest migrant was on 30 Apr in *St. Joseph, Berrien* (MHy), also reported from *Kalamazoo, Muskegon* and *Oscoda*.

Bobolink (3,9,15) FRD – 29 Apr in *Hillsdale* (JR).**Red-winged Blackbird** (9,12,30)

First observed on 2 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 12 Mar in the UP (*fide* SHa).

Eastern Meadowlark (6,13,26) First observed on 10 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 18 Mar in the UP (*fide* SHa).

Western Meadowlark (2,2,3) FRD – 13 Mar in *Saginaw* (SJ). This species was reported from only one county in the LP during the previous spring season.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (2,1,3)

FRD – 1 on 22 Apr in *Berrien* (GD). HRT – 12 on 27 Apr at NPSWA (JLi). One was present from 30 Apr–14 May at Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery, *Van Buren* (RS, m. ob.); 1 on 21 May at WPBO, also reported in the UP reported from *Dickinson*.

Rusty Blackbird (4,4,18) FRD – 6

Mar at *Sarett NC, Berrien* (MM). LRD – 5 on 16 May at Bay City SRA, *Bay* (GP, EP). HRT – 339 on 9 Apr at SNWR (DP).

Brewer's Blackbird (3,3,6) Present

from 31 Mar (FRD)–15 May in *Berrien* (JW). HRT – 28 on 9 May in *Iosco* (RE).

Common Grackle (9,11,28) First observed on 2 Mar in the SBA (DP) and 8 Mar in the UP (*fide* SHa).

Brown-headed Cowbird (7,8,29).**Orchard Oriole** (2,3,13) FRD – 30

Apr in *Hillsdale* and *Oakland*. In the UP, reported from *Delta* and *Dickinson*.

Baltimore Oriole (4,13,27) FRD

– 26 Apr in *Oakland* (RH), first observed on 30 Apr in the SBA (DP).

Pine Grosbeak (3,0,0) LRD – 1 on 1 Apr at WPBO (JR). Also reported from *Alger* and *Marquette*.



Purple Finch (8,9,15) Latest report in the SLP was 26 May in *Berrien* (JW).

House Finch (4,3,27).

Red Crossbill (3,0,0) Good numbers in the WPBO area in May; also reported from *Alger* and *Marquette*.

White-winged Crossbill (2,0,0) 12 on 31 Mar at Copper Harbor, *Keweenaw* (SHa); also reported from *Alger*.

Common Redpoll (1,0,0) LRD – 2 on 7 May at the *Keweenaw Raptor Survey*, *Keweenaw* (SHa).

Pine Siskin (6,2,3) Last reported on 31 Mar in *Berrien* (JW).

American Goldfinch (9,11,28).

Evening Grosbeak (4,2,0) In the NLP, reported from *Iosco* and *Oscoda*.

House Sparrow (3,11,27).

LAST YEAR'S REPORT

Of the species listed last year's report as pending acceptance, the *White-faced Ibis* in *Berrien County* was accepted and three of the reported *Fish Crows* in *Berrien County* were also accepted. However, the *Ross's Goose* from *Delta County* was rejected and should be deleted. Also, the *Yellow-rumped Warbler* of the race *auduboni* was present on 3 May, not 4 May as presented in last year's report.

EXOTICS

Whooping Crane (0,0,1), 1 on 12–16 Apr at *Haehne Sanctuary*, *Calhoun* (RHo).

ADDENDA 2009

Orchard Oriole, 7 on 19 May at *Peninsula Point*, *Delta* (SHa, LD) was the highest count ever for this species in the UP.

OBSERVERS

Larry Abraham, Irene Adams, Karen Allard, Rob Allard, Brad Anderson (BA_n), Hannah Anderson, Ron Annelin (RA), Bob Arthurs (BA_r), Gordon Atkins, Nancy Auer, Tim Baerwald (TB), Kyle Bagnell, Pat Baize, Tony Baldoni (TB_d), John Baumgartner, Pat Bazany, Heidi Beardsley, Tom Beeke, David Bell, Fred Bevis, Jason Bojczyk (JBo), Rick Brigham, Lisa Brown (LB), Marvin Budd (MB), Jeff Buecking (JBu), Maureen Buecking, Eunice Burgess, Adam Byrne, Mary Jo Canaday (MC), Art Carpenter, Tom Carpenter, Christopher Chamberlain (CC), Mike Champagne, Pri and Lou Chappell (P&LC), Allen Chartier (AC), Phil Chu, Greg Cleary, Bruce Cohen, Julie Craves, Ken Damro, Glenda Davidson, Jim Dawe, David Dister (DD), Louie Dombroski, Mike Duckham, Sue Duncan, Dan Duso (DDu), Ryan Dziedzic, Russell Emmons (RE_m), Roger Eriksson (RE), Monica Essenmacher, David Flaspolher (DF), Richard Fleming, Jim Fowler (JF), James Fox, Darlene Friedman (DF_r), Delores Gavit, Zack Gayk (ZG), Tim Granger, Elizabeth Gravitt, Fred Guyor, Kara Haas, Skye Haas (SHa), Lyle Hamilton, Russ Hanson (RH), Dan Hansz, Tom Hendrickson, Don Henise, Max Henschell (MHe), Scott Hickman (SHi), Roger Hill (RHi), Ron Hoffman (RHo), Robert Holdreith, Jude Holloway, Susan Holth, Robert Hotaling (RH), Joanie Hubinger (JH), Mark Hubinger (MHu), Matt Hysell (MHy), Diane Ianelli, Nick Ilnicky, Doug Jackson, Scott Jennex, Brian Johnson, Rhoda Johnson, Matt Johnstone, Wendy Jones, Jerry Jourdan (JJ), John Juhaz, Stephen Kahl, Edward Kaminski (EK), Kevin Kane, Joe Kaplan, Marlo Kauffman, Evie Kirkwood (EvK), Leah Knapp, Demetri Lafkas (DL), Robert Lashe (RL), David Lautenbach, Jonathan Lautenbach, Joseph Lautenbach, Michael Lautenbach, Kim LeBlanc, Tom Lechleitner, Joyce Leppard (JL), Robert Leppard, Stan Lilley, Alec Lindsey (AL), Janea Little (JLi), Elaine Livingston (EL), Ann Luft, Stan Madziar (SMa), Mike Mahler (MM), Carl Manning, Judy Manning, Jessica Marquardt (JMa), Jean Matteson (JM), Maryann McCarthy, Pete McGee, Nova Mackently, Doug McWhirter, Mike Mencotti, Alex Merritt (AMe), Daniel Miller, Kip Miller (KM), Steve Minard (SM), Andre Moncrieff (AM), Kathryn Mork, Bob Morman (BMo), Brad Murphy (BM), Richard Naber, Joe Nault, Gary Nelkie, Chuck Nelson, Cathy Neff, Chris Neri (CN), Mike O'Leary, Julie Olsen, Karl Overman, David Pavlik (DPa), Walter Pawloski, Joanna Pease (JP), Connie Peoples, David Peters (DP), Glenn Peterson, Ellen Peterson, Don Poppe (DPo), Annis Pratt, Caleb Putnam (CP), William J. Rapai, Jack Reinoehl, Paul Revard (PR), Beth Rogers, Dietrich Roloff, Paul Roose, Ryne Rutherford, Steve Santner,

Dick Schinkle, Russ Schipper, Jeff Schultz (JSh), Chris Schumacher, Wayne Shawl (WSh), Jan Shillito, Therese Sisamis, Ed Smith, Mike and Beverly Smith (M&BS), Tom Smythe (TS), Joe M. Soehnel (JMS), Jeff D. Sommer (JDS), Jenn Sommer, Jeff Sommerville, Gerry Sniderman, Jason St. Pierre, Dave Stimac,, Michael Supernault, William Sweetman (WS), Carolyn Szaroletta (CS), Dave Tiller, C. Steven Tomashefsky, Davonne Trosper, Betty Tucker, Pat Underwood, Jim VanAllen (JmV), Jonathan Vande Kopple (JV), Alice Van Zoeren (AVZ), Allison Vilag (AV), David Vinnedge, George Vogel, Judy Vogel, Mindy Walker, Sue Weaver, Tex Wells, Myles Willard (MyW), Marilyn Willard (MaW), Doug Williams, Ellen Williams, Chuck Witkowski, David Worthington (DW), Jon Wuepper, Mary Wyatt (MWy), Rita Yazell, Teresa Yoder, Joseph Youngman, Lori Zawerucha, Jerry Ziarno, Kirk Zufelt.



Answers to Photo Quiz #36

By *Matt Hysell*

Today we return to the format of two pictures of the same bird, photographed on Jean Klock Beach in Berrien Co. on 28 Sep, 2007. Surely two pictures will make it easier, right? Or alternatively it's a bird of enough complexity that two are required. I'll let you decide by the end of the column.

In the top photo we see a medium- to large-sized bird with a slightly hooked tubular bill, streaked head, barred underparts, a dark mantle with pale contrasting tips to the feathers, and long narrow primaries. We are left with what Peterson would term an aerialist: a gull, tern, or seabird. In the bottom photo we find complex patterning to the axillaries and underwing coverts as well as a large pale base to the primaries. A white flash at the base of the primaries which contrasts with the rest of the underwing is a hallmark of jaegers, and indeed the tubular hooked bill, front-heavy proportions, and general plumage pattern fits very well with a jaeger.

Fortunately there are only 3 species of jaeger to choose from. The first field mark most birders consider is the shape of the central tail feathers. This bird appears however to lack significant tail projection. We are forced to return to a central theme of this column, which is to first determine the age of a difficult bird. Jaegers undergo a gull-like gradual transition from brownish juvenile plumage to cleaner adult patterns. There is still incomplete knowledge of sub-adult plumages. The neat pale edges rimming each of the mantle feathers, wing coverts, and primaries allow us to conclude that this is a juvenile bird. (Note that jaegers range from light to very dark morphs; dark morph juveniles of some species may have entirely dark plumage and lack pale edgings).

Several authors point to the bill as a high-yield area to evaluate, especially in birds at rest where prolonged study is possible. Long-tailed Jaeger has the shortest bill with the gonydeal angle about halfway out the lower mandible and the nail covering half of the upper mandible. Parasitic Jaeger is of similar thickness but has essentially grown the bill longer such that the nail and gonydeal angle are much closer to the tip making the bill's proportions slimmer. Pomarine Jaeger takes Parasitic's and grows it thicker throughout with a more prominent hook and gonydeal angle. Our bird has the nail and (not very prominent) gonydeal angle about a third of the way from the tip. The hook is also hard to appreciate. The overall bill shape, therefore, suggests Parasitic Jaeger.

While identification should never be based on one field mark alone, there aren't a lot of absolutes with young jaegers; many points need to be examined. Streaking of the cap and nape, such as in this bird, is shown best by Parasitic. Above and below the eye we see slightly lighter feathers forming horizontal commas, the "lobster-claw" pattern, another pro-Parasitic feature. The degree of contrast between the axillaries and the flanks can be helpful in some young jaegers since the axillaries of many (especially intermediate and darker) juvenile Long-tailed and Pomarine Jaegers will usually appear paler than the flanks. In this bird the axillaries and the flanks are essentially the same color, though this bird would be fairly light for a Pomarine making this feature of somewhat limited value. While average differences between species may exist in the extent of tail covert barring in flight, at rest most young jaegers will reveal obvious barring. Parasitic, however, is by far the most likely to show noticeably contrasting pale edges to the ends of the primaries. These various points, along with the overall warm coloration not visible in the black and white photos, reveal our quiz bird to be a Parasitic Jaeger, the most common Great Lakes jaeger.

A few other points are worth noting. Jaegers, like gulls, are sexually dimorphic. Like the birds of prey, however, females average larger and heavier-billed than males. Some Parasitic Jaegers have a heavier bill than this (likely male) bird exhibits. Finally, while the two central tail feathers do not project far, there are differences in the shape of what does project between the three species that are worth noting and perhaps a topic for future quizzes.

While Sibley's *Guide* and Kaufman's *Advanced Birding* provide introductions to jaeger identification, Olsen and Larsson's specialty guide *Skuas and Jaegers* allows room for much more extended discussion of the patterns that emerge amidst the various permutations made possible by the different age groups and color morphs.

Again I must acknowledge Phil Chu's myriad contributions to the clarity and accuracy of this column.



Photo A



Photo B

Photos by Matt Hysell



Photo Quiz #37

Answers to this photo quiz will appear in the January - March, 2011 issue.



Photos by Matt Hysell

Submission Deadlines for MBNH

Issue

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| January 1 | No. 1 (Jan-Mar) |
| March 1 | No. 2 (Apr-May) |
| May 1 | No. 3 (Jun-Aug) |
| August 1 | No. 4 (Sep-Oct) |
| October 1 | No. 5 (Nov-Dec) |

Send all submissions to:

Jon Wuepper

wuepperj@gmail.com

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The mission of the Michigan Bird Survey is to provide a forum for the publication of bird observations in Michigan. The survey consists of the following four seasons:

Winter: December — February

compiler — Jon Wuepper

wuepperj@gmail.com

Spring: March — May

compiler — Jack Reinoehl

jreinoehl@hillsdale.edu

Summer: June — July

compiler — Louis J. Dombroski

louie_dombroski@yahoo.com

Fall: August — November

compiler — Allen T. Chartier

amazilia1@comcast.net

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Photos of butterflies, common or rare species, to accompany the survey may be e-mailed to the MBNH Photo Editor, Allen T. Chartier, amazilia1@comcast.net

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