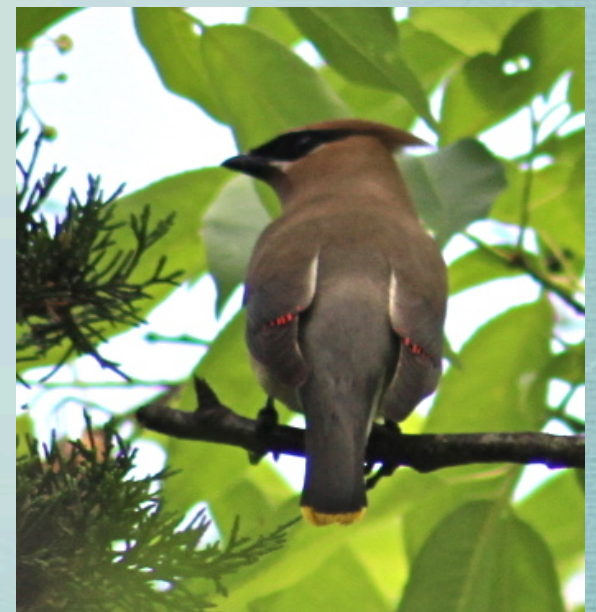


The State of Birds in Ulster County



John Burroughs
Natural History Society

Represented by Deb Weltsch and Mira Bowin

A quick word about us:

ABOUT JBNHS

Almost 70!

History



The John Burroughs Natural History Society was organized in 1950 by a group of scientists and educators to serve as a source of information about the flora, fauna, and natural history of Ulster County. The name of the great writer-naturalist was chosen for the organization because Burroughs lived most of his life in the county. In 1964, the Society was incorporated by the University of New York as a non-profit educational organization. During the years there has been an increase in membership and a widening scope of activities.

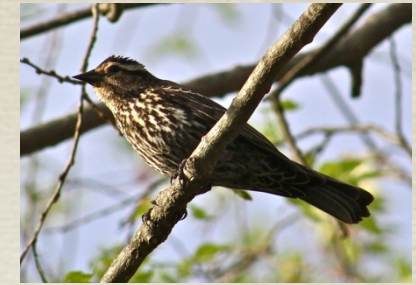




Most Avian Data are collected by 'Citizen Science' Programs

- * **eBird** database is created and maintained by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Species and site-specific data can be reviewed for Ulster County.
- * **Christmas Bird Count (CBC)** sponsored by The American Audubon Society. *There are three Ulster County count circles NYUD, NYMS, NYML*
- * **NYS January Waterfowl Count** Sponsored by the New York State Ornithological Association (NYSOA)
- * **Hawk Watch** National Migration count. *Ulster County's site is at Mohonk Preserve*
- * **"Big Sit"** in May =Counting as many species while sitting/standing inside a designated *stationary spot* (20' X 20'). A fundraiser for JBNHS favorite causes. There are three main sites in Ulster County --Kingston Point, the Great Vly in Saugerties, and the Shawangunk Grasslands NWR in Wallkill, and growing!
- * **"Big Day"** in October =competition to count the most species in a day *visiting a wide variety of habitats* throughout Ulster County (sponsored by eBird / Cornell)
- * **Breeding Bird Atlas** --Third edition census commences in breeding season 2020! A collaborative project *taking 5 years of volunteer effort* (NYSOA, Cornell and Audubon) Last atlases were in 1988 and 2000...

eBird



Year-round ‘citizen science’ reporting of bird observations

The screenshot shows the eBird website's main navigation bar at the top with links for Submit, Explore, My eBird, Science, About, News, and Help. On the right are buttons for Donate, Create account, and Sign in. The main content area is split into two large sections. The left section, titled 'Explore Species', features a background image of a white albatross in flight over the ocean. It includes a search bar with the placeholder text 'Enter species name' and a 'Surprise me!' button. The right section, titled 'Explore Regions', has a background image of a person using a telescope on a tripod against a sunset landscape. It includes a search bar with 'ulster' entered, which has triggered a dropdown menu showing location suggestions: 'Ulster, Ireland (IE)', 'Ulster, New York, United States (US)' (highlighted in yellow), 'Western Sahara (EH)', and 'Eastern, Fiji (FJ)'. At the bottom of the page, the text 'MORE WAYS TO EXPLORE' is visible.

Explore Species
Maps, stats, photos, and sounds for any bird in the world, including personalized stats based on your eBirding

Enter species name

Surprise me!


Explore Regions
Recent sightings, checklists, birding activity, best hotspots, and top birders for a county, state, province, or country

ulster

- Ulster, Ireland (IE)
- Ulster, New York, United States (US)
- Western Sahara (EH)
- Eastern, Fiji (FJ)

MORE WAYS TO EXPLORE

Cumulative UC eBird total

 eBird [Submit](#) [Explore](#) [My eBird](#) [Science](#) [About](#) [News](#) [Help](#)

Ulster New York, US [Change Location](#)


All Years [Set](#)


Overview Hotspots Recent Visits Illustrated Checklist


294 Species | **36,325 Checklists** Updated ~18 hr(s) ago.

[Last Seen](#) [First Seen](#) [High Counts](#) [Bar Charts](#) [Hide Details](#)

	SPECIES NAME	COUNT	DATE	BY
1	Canada Goose <small>Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge, Walkill US-NY (41.6354,-74.2132)</small> Large flock left Blue Chip Farm heading west	X	25 Nov 2019	Paul Carney
	duck sp. <small>Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge, Walkill US-NY (41.6354,-74.2132)</small>	2	25 Nov 2019	Paul Carney
2	Short-eared Owl <small>Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge, Walkill US-NY (41.6354,-74.2132)</small>	4	25 Nov 2019	Paul Carney
	blackbird sp. <small>Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge, Walkill US-NY (41.6354,-74.2132)</small>	4	25 Nov 2019	Paul Carney
3	Mallard <small>Walkill River Walk</small>	3	25 Nov 2019	John Unverzagt
4	Northern Harrier <small>Shawangunk Grasslands</small>	2	25 Nov 2019	Cynthia King



 [Send Feedback](#)

 [Learn more](#)

Recent Visits Checklists submitted within the last hour are not shown.

OBSERVER	DATE	SPECIES
Cynthia King	26 Nov 2019	1
Cynthia King	26 Nov 2019	10
Susan Elliott	26 Nov 2019	2
Donald Brightsmith	26 Nov 2019	2
Cynthia King	26 Nov 2019	3
Gerald Fix	26 Nov 2019	2
Mira Bowin	26 Nov 2019	10
Gerald Fix	26 Nov 2019	3
Gerald Fix	26 Nov 2019	3
Samuel Christiansen	26 Nov 2019	8

[More Recent Visits...](#)

Top eBirders Updated ~1 day(s) ago.

BY SPECIES | **BY CHECKLISTS**

1 Peter Schoenberger	280
2 Mark DeDea	278
3 Wendy Tocci	257
4 R Miller	250
4 Debra Ferguson	250



eBird

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My eBird

Science

About

News

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Ulster

Change Location

New York, US

All Years

Set

Overview

Hotspots

Recent Visits

Illustrated Checklist

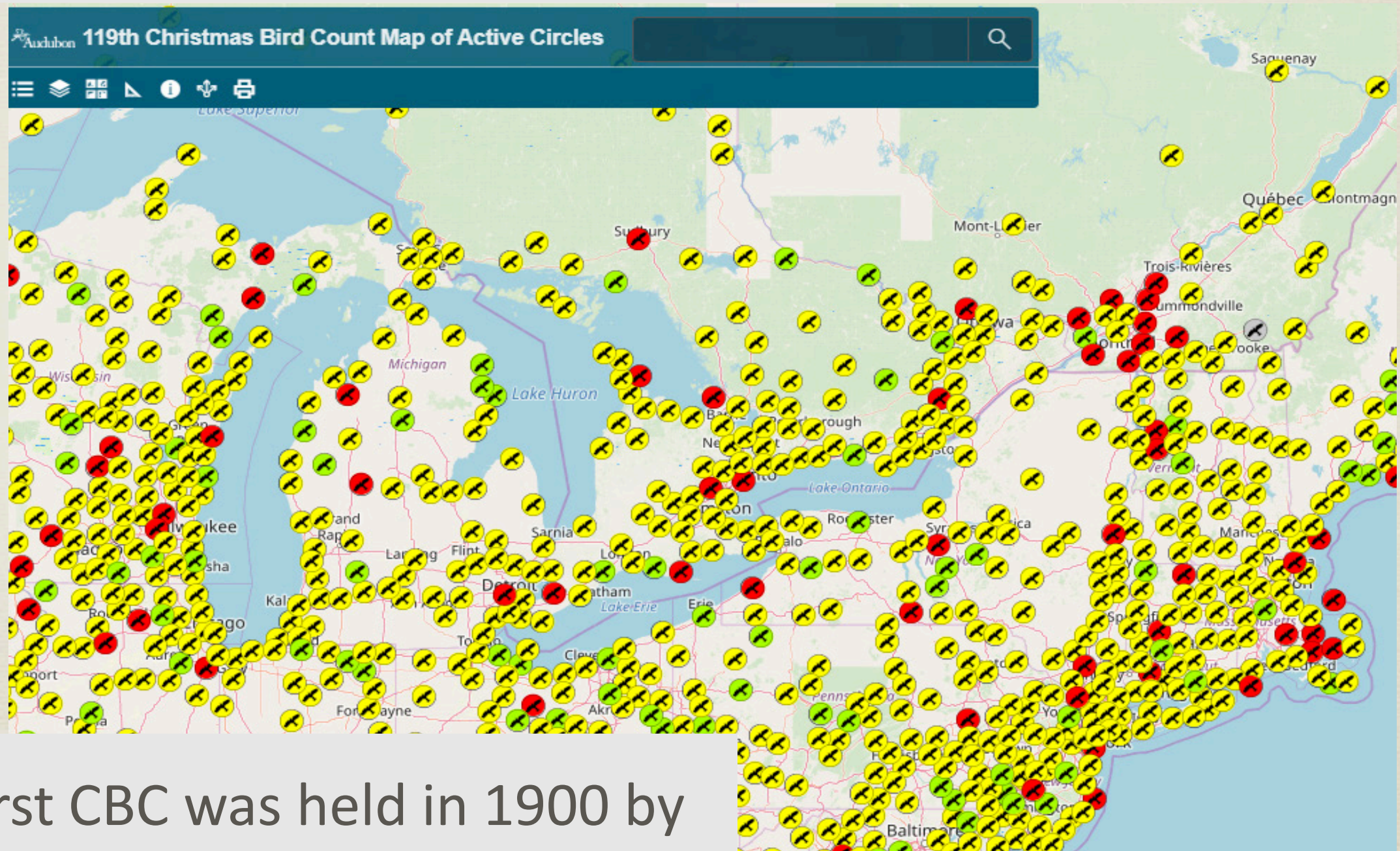
Practically all of these “hotspots” are protected lands--Federal, State, Municipal or non-profit funded parks--dedicated to public recreation and habitat preservation

SPECIES ▼

1	Kingston Point	229
2	Great Vly WMA--West Camp Rd.	206
3	Shawangunk Grasslands NWR	197
4	Sleightsburg Spit	197
5	Ashokan Reservoir	195
6	Saugerties Lighthouse	192
7	Esopus Meadows Lighthouse Park	181
8	Black Creek Preserve	168
9	Nyquist-Harcourt Wildlife Sanctuary	166
10	Forsyth Park and Nature Center	165
11	Blue Chip Farms	162
12	Esopus Meadows Preserve	158
13	Minnewaska SP	157
14	Esopus Bend Nature Preserve	153
15	Scenic Hudson, Kukuk Lane, Town of Ulster	148
16	Falling Waters Preserve	146

Each count takes place in an **established 15-mile wide diameter circle**, and is organized by a count compiler. Count volunteers follow **specified routes** through a designated 15-mile diameter circle **counting every bird they see or hear all day**.

CBC Christmas Bird Count Annual Winter Census

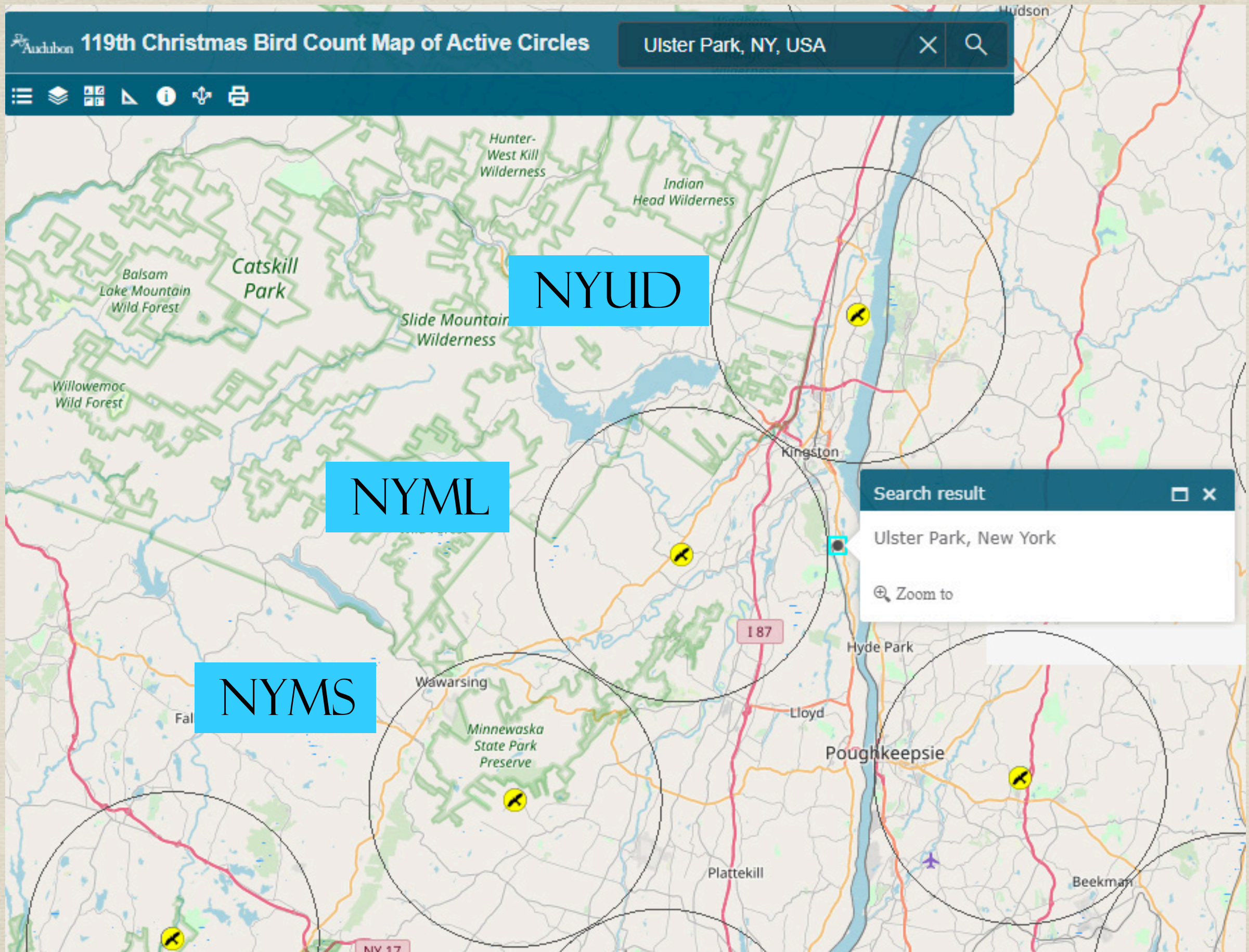
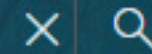


The first CBC was held in 1900 by early Audubon members.



119th Christmas Bird Count Map of Active Circles

Ulster Park, NY, USA



CBC Bird counts show species present in winter months





NYUD

The 2018 Ulster/Dutchess (NYUD) Christmas Bird Count was conducted on Saturday, December 29. 49 individuals representing 15 field parties and one feeder watcher covered the ten sectors within this count circle. Participants enjoyed moderate winter temperatures ranging from a high of 52 degrees during the early morning nocturnal effort to a low of 42 degrees at the end of the day's diurnal effort. These conditions (along with a rainy late fall-early winter) meant water levels were high and void of ice and there was no snow cover in the circle. Winds did pick up periodically but did hamper observation on the Hudson River or other larger bodies of water and did not adversely affect passerine viewing. All field parties did note oddly quiet days with some common species difficult to locate. This too may reflect on moderate conditions and the fact that birds were not forced to congregate on small patches of open water or exposed ground.

Unusual non-avian observations included a whooping four mustelid species, Wood Frogs and peepers vocalizing, various active insect species, and a guy washing his car in his driveway.

88 species and 14,007 individual birds were observed on count day. The species list was two above our average but the number of individuals was the second lowest total in the NYUD's history and more than four thousand birds below the count average. A Common Yellowthroat identified at the Great Vly in the Town of Saugerties was the only new addition to our composite list which now stands at 127 species after eight years. Other highlights included a Gray Catbird and 36 Pine Siskins in West Saugerties with a soaring Golden Eagle and 3 Northern Saw-whet Owls in Kerley Corners. The Tivoli Bays area served up a good selection of waterfowl despite the heavy pressure of hunters including a Blue-winged Teal, 9 Northern Pintails, and 28 Canvasbacks. Notable in this sector as well were 12 Eastern Screech Owls and 109 Black Vultures aiding greatly in new high counts set for both species. The Rhinebeck area may have an exciting development of colonizing Red-headed Woodpecker with that species being observed for consecutive years. The small portion of the Ashokan Reservoir within our circle paid dividends with 5 Ruddy Ducks and a Common Loon while a newly accessible location in the Town of Ulster offered the count's lone Common Redpoll and a sizable flock of 12 White-crowned Sparrows. A Chipping Sparrow in the Town of Ulster rounded out a robust list of 10 sparrow species for the count.

Interestingly all three falcon species were observed but exclusively in Dutchess County while 55 Bald Eagles were nicely distributed throughout the circle. Yellow-rumped Warbler, Hermit Thrush, Purple Finch, Savannah and Fox Sparrow were species represented by just one individual respectively. High numbers were recorded on 14 species and new low counts were tallied on 11 species including typical number-padding species like American Crow (less than half the average) and Dark-eyed Junco (about a one third the average).

Audubon Christmas Bird Count (119th)

The 69th annual Mohonk Lake/Ashokan Reservoir (NYML) Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was conducted on Saturday, 15 December 2018, under very mild and pleasant weather conditions. Fifty (50) field observers and three (3) feeder-watchers in sixteen (16) field parties encountered a total of **14,500 individuals** representing **81 species**, plus one additional count week species (**Cackling Goose**).

Diversity was four species above our current ten-year average of 77 species/year; six species shy of our all-time record high count of 87 species in 2017. Total abundance was slightly above the ten-year average of 14,056 individuals, but well-below our record high 22,307 from last year. No new species were added to the count composite, maintaining our historical total at 147 species.

Unusual for this count circle, a **Northern Pintail** was found on Spring Lake, representing our third count record for a species first recorded on this count in 2012. One **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was detected in a nontraditional location near the Hurley Recreation Center in Hurley, and a lone **Long-eared Owl** was detected at a historical wintering location on private property in the Kripplebush area, where a **Northern Shrike** was also observed. Three **Peregrine Falcons** represent a new high count and the fifth time this species has been recorded on this count, all within the last ten years. One individual was observed at Ashokan Reservoir, and two were seen along Hurley Avenue.

A single **Gray Catbird** lingered in the Marbletown area, and a total of ten **American Pipits** were found in two distinct locations on open agricultural lands off Hurley Mountain Road. Two count week **Cackling Geese** were also observed in a farm field off Hurley Mountain Road on Friday, one day before the count, associating with a large flock of Canada Geese.

Eleven additional species were encountered in record high numbers: **Bufflehead** (8, eclipsing 4 in 2007), **Red-tailed Hawk** (84, surpassing 80 in 2010), **Rock Pigeon** (856, well above the 598 recorded in 2016), **Barred Owl** (9, compared to 7 in 2017), **Red-headed Woodpecker** (7, more than double our previous high count of 3 from 1984), **Red-bellied Woodpecker** (153, eclipsing 141 in 2017), **Downy Woodpecker** (169, surpassing 165 in 2017), **Pileated Woodpecker** (40, eclipsing 33 in 2017), **Blue Jay** (539, eclipsing 520 in 2005), **Carolina Wren** (121, an impressive number in comparison to our previous high count of 68 in 2014), and **Field Sparrow** (12, edging out 11 from 1979 that stood as our high count for nearly 40 years). No species previously recorded on this count was found in record low numbers.

Two **Rusty Blackbirds**, two **Red-winged Blackbirds**, a lone **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, four **Belted Kingfishers**, and six **Great Blue Herons** lingered in the count area. **Hermit Thrush** (4), **American Robin** (231), and **Cedar Waxwing** (33) were present in relatively small numbers, but **Eastern Bluebirds** (194) were just one shy of our all-time record high. The highly anticipated incursion of northern irruptive species did not materialize during this day's effort. Pine Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, and Pine Siskin were entirely absent. Two **Red-breasted Nuthatches**, two **Purple Finches**, and only three **Evening Grosbeaks** (single individuals in three distinct locations) were disappointingly few in number.

1st NYMS Audubon Christmas Bird Count (119th Season) Final Report

The 1st Minnewaska-Shawangunk (NYMS) Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was conducted on Saturday, January 5, 2019, under very wet conditions.

Temperatures for the day fluctuated slightly, with a low of 34°F and a high of 42°F. Visibility was limited due to fog, which restricted the viewing distance from 50 to 100 yards, in some areas. The story of the day was rain, with around 1.25" of rain falling during the primary count hours. Though there was a small accumulation of snow on Thursday, there was no snow cover on count day. Practically all bodies of water were free of ice, with some (<20%) ice accumulation on bodies of water in the Shawangunk Mountains.

Thirty-seven field observers in twelve field teams and six feeder watchers at five sites participated on the count day. One field party of three, in a walking-only sector, opted to make a count week outing due to the poor forecast for count day. Field parties on the south side of the circle encountered the greatest density of birds. Lower densities were encountered on the west and north sides and were virtually non-existent in the Shawangunks. Field parties observed 17,007 individual birds representing 64 species, plus six count week species.

Despite the rainy conditions, a sampling of the species that were found in considerable numbers were: **Canada Goose** (4,762), **Wild Turkey** (92), **Northern Harrier** (49), **Mourning Dove** (309), **Red-bellied Woodpecker** (66), **American Crow** (401), and **Dark-eyed Junco** (372).

A few species were represented by just a single bird: One **Gray Catbird** was located on Mountain Road, one **White-crowned Sparrow** was seen along the Route 44/55 corridor in Gardiner, one **Great-horned Owl** was located on Long Lane, one **Rough-legged Hawk** was glimpsed in the Shawangunk Grasslands, one **Sharp-shinned Hawk** and **Peregrine Falcon** were seen in the vicinity of Searsville Road, a **Fish Crow** was spotted on Cottage Street, one **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was located on Hoffman Lane, and a lone **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was spotted at a feeder watcher's home in Pine Bush.

Two **Cackling Geese** were found amongst large flocks of Canada Geese on Blue Chip Farm. Seven **Snow Geese** were located on Denniston Road, flying across sector boundaries. Six species that were observed during the count week, but not on the count day included: **Eastern Meadowlark**, **Turkey Vulture**, **Golden-crowned Kinglet**, **Greater White-fronted Goose**, **Savannah Sparrow** and **Ruffed Grouse**.

Historical Data can be searched by Count Circle

Overview & Instructions | Current Year ▶ | Historical ▶



Audubon Christmas Bird Count

?
120

- Please move your cursor over the headings at the top of this page to begin exploring results
- For more detailed instructions, please click on the "help" question mark (?) to the right

Historical Results By Count

[Donate to support the Christmas Bird Count](#)

Participation in the Christmas Bird Count is now **FREE!**

Step1: Select year range

Start Year:

End Year:

Step 2: Select country and/or region, or enter circle code.

Country:

State/Province:

Count Code:

#	Name	Abbrev	Description
<input type="radio"/>	130th Street Ferry	NY39	
<input type="radio"/>	Afton	NY0A	
<input type="radio"/>	Albany County	NYAC	center biers & stanton rds. coeymans hollow.
<input type="radio"/>	Amenia	NY4Y	
<input type="radio"/>	Amsterdam	NY13	
<input type="radio"/>	Ardsley-Elmsford, Westchester County	NY40	
<input type="radio"/>	Arnold Hill, Adirondacks	NY43	



<http://netapp.audubon.org/BCObservation/Historical/ResultsByCount.aspx>



Historical Results By Count

[Donate to support the Christmas Bird Count](#)

Participation in the Christmas Bird Count is now **FREE!**

Step1: Select year range

Start Year: 113; 2012

End Year: 119; 2018

Step 2: Select country and/or region, or enter circle code.

Country: United States

State/Province: New York

Count Code: nyud

#	Name	Abbrev	Description
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Ulster-Dutchess	NYUD	Center jct. of New York State Route 32 & Hudson River Rd (2 Hudson River Rd) south of village of Glasco, North of Kingston

The relative time spent per species is calculated for comparison

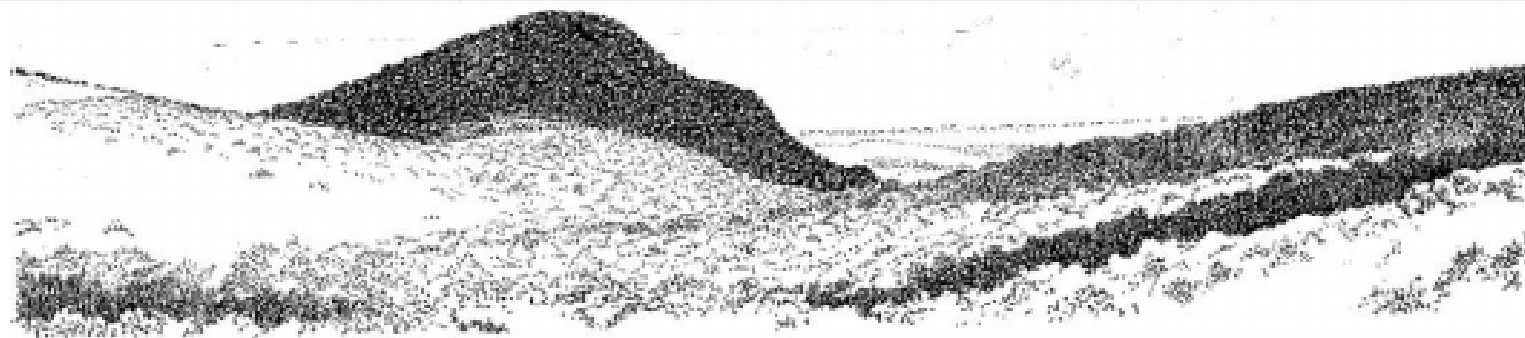
Historical Results By Count

Printout Date: 12/1/2019

Species	2016 [117] Count Date: 12/28/2016 # Participants: 46 # Species Reported: 80 Total Hrs.: 107.25	2017 [118] Count Date: 12/27/2017 # Participants: 5 # Species Reported: 95 Total Hrs.: 97.15	2018 [119] Count Date: 12/29/2018 # Participants: 11 # Species Reported: 88 Total Hrs.: 129.50
Common Goldeneye [Bucephala clangula]	10 0.0932	41 0.4220	236 1.8224
Hooded Merganser [Lophodytes cucullatus]	9 0.0839	30 0.3088	17 0.1313
Common Merganser [Mergus merganser]	271 2.5268	217 2.2337	151 1.1660
Red-breasted Merganser [Mergus serrator]	cw 0.0000	1 0.0103	
Ruddy Duck [Oxyura jamaicensis]			5 0.0386
Northern Bobwhite [Colinus virginianus]			
Ring-necked Pheasant [Phasianus colchicus]		1 0.0103	
Wild Turkey [Meleagris gallopavo]	148 1.3800	96 0.9882	101 0.7799

NYSOA Annual Waterfowl Count (January)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, ALL DAY NYSOA WINTER WATERFOWL COUNT This annual statewide count includes waterfowl and their allies as well as eagles. **Data collected will aid in understanding population trends and conservation practices of Atlantic Flyway waterfowl.** The survey will include open bodies of water, especially along the Hudson, Esopus, Wallkill, and Rondout Rivers and possibly the Ashokan Reservoir as well as open agricultural areas where geese may graze.



Mountains

Drawing by Jack Fagan

NEW YORK STATE JANUARY WATERFOWL COUNT REPORT – 2019

The Ulster County segment of the annual NYSOA New York State January Waterfowl Count was conducted on January 19, 2019. Twenty-three participants in seven field parties tallied 8,007 individuals representing 13 species of waterfowl. Our ten-year average for this countywide effort is 11.7 species and 5,759 individuals. A total of **44 Bald Eagles** (22 adults and 22 sub-adults) were observed during the course of the waterfowl count.



New York State January Waterfowl Count

Ulster County Area Summary - January 19, 2019

Total	Species	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	M
1	Snow Goose					1				
5,494	Canada Goose	2,769	146	160	842	1,398	105		74	
3	Cackling Goose	1				2				
6	Mute Swan	2		1	2		1			
1	Wood Duck	1								
41	American Black Duck	3	1	1	2	13	3	18		
1,837	Mallard	1,373	30	106	96	2	164	4	62	
1	Northern Pintail	1								
75	Canvasback									75
8	Bufflehead			8						
265	Common Goldeneye	33	87	104				16	1	24
5	Hooded Merganser	2	2	1						
269	Common Merganser	31	88	69	59	13		5	4	
1	<i>Other/Unidentified</i>	1								
8,007	Total Individuals	4,217	354	450	1,001	1,429	273	43	141	99
13	Total Species	11	6	8	5	6	4	4	4	2
44	Bald Eagle (22 Adult /22 Sub-ad.)	5A/6S	6A/5S	3S	2A/6S	1A	3A/1S	2A		3A/1S




Hawk Watch

Raptor Census



Many species are less dispersed in fall migration than spring--forming “Kettles” and circling up on thermals in large groups (especially Broad-Winged Hawks) then streaming southward



HawkCount

Hawk Migration Association of North America's
Raptor Migration Database

[Main](#)
[Data Entry Login](#)
[Find a Hawkwatch](#)
[Data Summaries](#)
Monthly | Daily
[Account Request](#)
[New Site Request](#)
[Raptor Population Index](#)
[Sponsors/Donors](#)

Hawkwatch Site Profile

Mohonk Preserve


New Paltz, New York, USA

N 41° 44' 9.3", W -74° 11' 43.7"
(N 41.73592, W -74.19547)

<http://www.mohonkpreserve.org/>
[\[Latest count data\]](#)

[General](#) [Data Inventory](#) [Migration Timing](#) [RPI Analysis](#)

Map







Select Hawkwatch Site: ☒ All ☐ Recently Active

Mohonk Preserve (New York)

Go to site

Mohonk Preserve

New Paltz, New York, USA

[\[Site Profile\]](#)

Month Summary: Nov, 2019

		Turkey Vulture	Osprey	Bald Eagle	Northern Harrier	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cooper's Hawk	Northern Goshawk	Red-shouldered Hawk	Broad-winged Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk	Rough-legged Hawk	Golden Eagle	American Kestrel	Merlin	Peregrine Falcon	Unknown Accipiter	Unknown Buteo	Unknown Eagle	Unknown Falcon	Unknown Raptor	Black Vulture	Swainson's Hawk	TOTAL
Date	Obs Hrs	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UE	UF	UR	BV	SW	
2019-11-01	3			1																				1
2019-11-03	5			5		7	3		4		10					1								30
2019-11-04	4	2		4	2	4	2		5		20										2			41
2019-11-11	4			2	2	1			4		5					1								15
2019-11-13	4.5			1					2		4		1			1						1		10
2019-11-20	2								1															1
Total:	22.5	2	0	13	4	12	5	0	16	0	39	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	98
Nov 2019	hours																							
Total:	208	174	50	151	28	357	101	1	38	1030	92	0	1	104	22	23	4	4	0	3	2	2	1	2188
Fall 2019	hours																							



Mohonk Preserve

New Paltz, New York, USA

N 41° 44' 9.3", W -74° 11' 43.7"
(N 41.73592, W -74.19547)

<http://www.mohonkpreserve.org/>

[Latest count data]

General

Data Inventory

Migration Timing

Averages Max/Min Counts

SPECIES

Mohonk

Species	Season Counts	Max. Daily Counts	Timing (Average spring / fall weekly counts)
Turkey Vulture (<i>Cathartes aura</i>)	Average: 148 Max: 471 (2017) Min: 15 (2006)	200 (Oct 19, 2016) 99 (Nov 08, 2017) 71 (Oct 16, 2018)	
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)	Average: 40 Max: 94 (2016) Min: 6 (2012)	15 (Oct 02, 2008) 14 (Sep 15, 2004) 12 (Sep 17, 2016)	
Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	Average: 26 Max: 106 (2016) Min: 1 (2003)	21 (Sep 13, 2019) 14 (Oct 04, 2019) 10 (Sep 22, 2017)	
Northern Harrier (<i>Circus hudsonius</i>)	Average: 19 Max: 48 (2016) Min: 2 (2012)	9 (Oct 16, 2018) 6 (Sep 25, 2010) 6 (Oct 04, 2019)	
Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus</i>)	Average: 267 Max: 826 (2018) Min: 12 (2012)	155 (Oct 16, 2018) 126 (Oct 13, 2018) 97 (Oct 28, 2017)	
Cooper's Hawk (<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>)	Average: 38 Max: 137 (2016) Min: 3 (2012)	21 (Oct 04, 2019) 20 (Oct 16, 2018) 13 (Oct 28, 2017)	
Northern Goshawk (<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>)	Average: 2 Max: 3 (2016) Min: 1 (2004)	1 (Oct 05, 2006) 1 (Nov 04, 2018) 1 (Nov 06, 2006)	
Red-shouldered Hawk (<i>Buteo lineatus</i>)	Average: 15 Max: 52 (2017) Min: 1 (2011)	12 (Nov 08, 2017) 10 (Oct 16, 2018) 8 (Nov 04, 2018)	
Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus</i>)	Average: 1425 Max: 4453 (2018) Min: 1 (2011)	1644 (Sep 16, 2016) 1260 (Sep 15, 2018) 1224 (Sep 16, 2017)	
Red-tailed Hawk (<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>)	Average: 85 Max: 305 (2017) Min: 1 (2011)	99 (Nov 09, 2017) 53 (Nov 08, 2017) 39 (Nov 04, 2018)	
Rough-legged Hawk (<i>Buteo lagopus</i>)	Average: 1 Max: 1 (2017) Min: 0 (2006)	1 (Oct 22, 2017) 0 (Sep 28, 2006)	
Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>)	Average: 3 Max: 7 (2017) Min: 1 (2016)	4 (Nov 20, 2002) 2 (Oct 27, 2006) 2 (Nov 21, 2017)	

“Big Sit”



John Burroughs Natural History Society

[Home](#) [About JBNHS](#) [Field Trips & Events](#) [Bird Ulster County](#) [Online Resources](#) [Records & Research](#)

Interested in a field trip or event? Select the event's name to learn more.

« All Events

This event has passed.

Ulster County Big Sit 2019

May 4

« SPRING MIGRATION AT HIGH BANKS

WARBLER WALK #1 »

JBNHS Big Sit Fundraiser



JBNHS' annual Big Sit is also our BIG fundraiser for the year but serves too as a friendly competition between the three established sits. Do you have a birdy back deck or favorite patch and a cause worth birding for? Why not join the challenge and see how many species you can identify and get friends and family to pledge to your effort. In the past money has been raised to support Glenn Proudfoot's fine research with N. Saw-whet Owls, numerous enhancements at SGNWR, and Where to Bird in Ulster County panels now located at three locations about the county.

Great Vly Sit

Help support Glenn Proudfoot's awesome N. Saw-whet Owl research work right here in Ulster County. Is this the year for the perennial runner-up sit?

Kingston Point Sit

This year we are raising money to support the wonderful New York State Young Birders Club. Afternoon shifts are still open for coverage. Contact Mark DeDea (forsythnature@aol.com) if you'd like to help.

Galeville (SGNWR) Sit

Same great cause again for this location, the continued financial support of the Friends of the Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge. Please contact Donna Seymour (dseymour66@gmail.com) to plan and schedule your shift.



On Saturday, May 4th members of the John Burroughs Natural History Society birded six different Big Sit locations in almost every corner of our vast county. This level of participation doubled the number of "sits" from the previous three years of this creative fundraising event. The locations included a nice variety of habitat and coupled with better coverage proved record breaking with **117 species** identified cumulatively. As we've all enjoyed a wonderful influx of neotropical migrants the last few days it is no surprise that several notable observations were made during the course of the day. Highlights included Sandhill Crane at Galeville, Back Tern at the Great Vly, and two Glossy Ibis at Kingston Point. Other species of interest included Whip-poor-will, White-winged Scoter, Common Tern, both bitterns, and a dark morph Broad-winged Hawk.



Kingston Point 77 species

NYS Young Birders Club

The Great Vly 59 species

Dr. Proudfoot's N. Saw-whet Owl research

Hinchey Catskills Visitors' Center 44 species

feeding stations and birding signage at the "Hinch"

Bowdery's Yard 40 species

good teamwork to pad the cumulative number

Galeville (SGNWR) 38 species

support continued improvements at the grasslands

Ellenville High School 37 species

support continued improvements at the grasslands



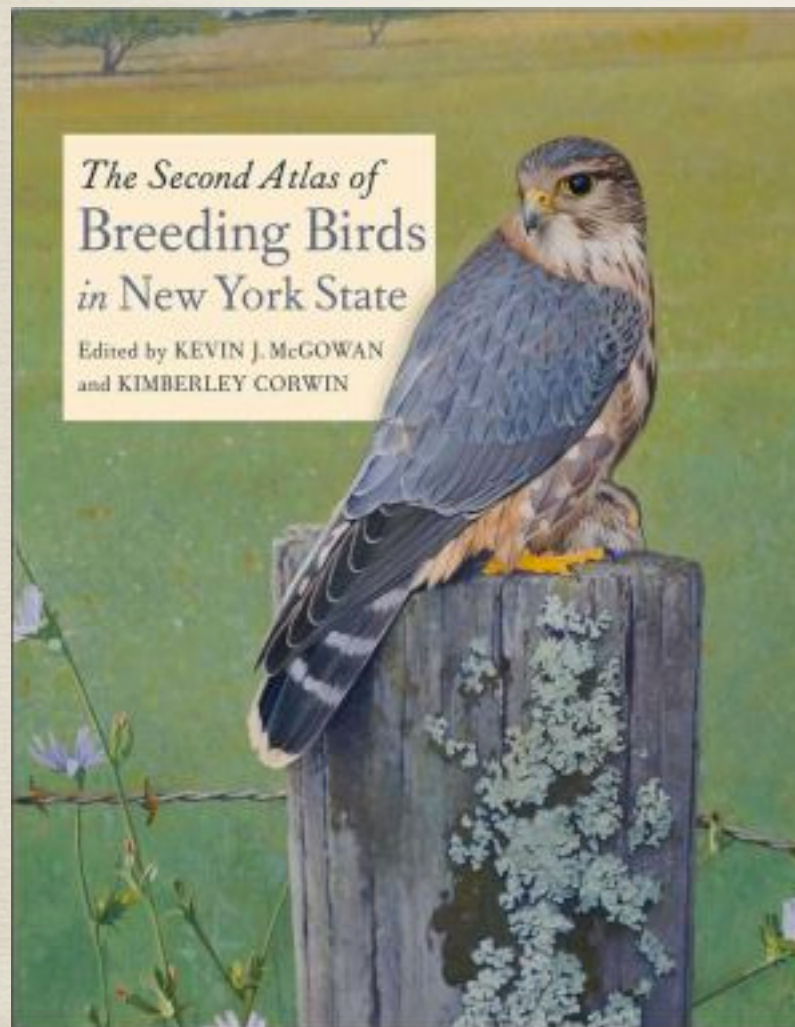
“Big Day”



Another bird census--this one in October--is timed to coincide with the fall migration season. In addition to hawks seen outside official ‘count sites’, migratory songbirds are identified and counted along with resident (all-year) and wintering species.



Breeding Bird Atlas - 3rd Edition -2020



Five years of fieldwork by more than 1,200 contributors provided the data for this latest addition to our understanding of New York's avifauna (birds). **This substantial book reveals striking changes in the distributions of many of our breeding birds since New York's first Breeding Bird Atlas was published in 1988. Over half of our 253 species showed a significant change in their distribution, with 70 species showing increases and 58 species showing declines.** A two-page species account was written for each of the 244 bird species, which features a color map that shows the current distribution of the bird in the state and a second map that shows the change in distribution since the first atlas.

Published in association with the New York State Ornithological Association and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in cooperation with the New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Cornell University, Cornell University Department of Natural Resources, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, and Audubon New York

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IN-DEPTH | CONSERVATION

Billions of North American birds have vanished

Elizabeth Pennisi

+ See all authors and affiliations

Science 20 Sep 2019:
Vol. 365, Issue 6459, pp. 1228-1229
DOI: 10.1126/science.365.6459.1228

Article

Figures & Data

Info & Metrics

eLetters

PDF

m.me/nybba3 ⓘ

nybba3@gmail.com

http://www.ebird.org/atlasny

MORE INFO

About

New York will conduct its third Breeding Bird Atlas from 2020 to 2024! Birders of all ages and abilities are encouraged to participate.

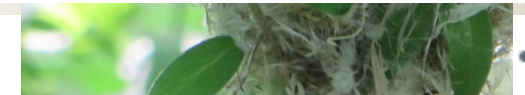


Julie Hart



New York Breeding Bird Atlas III

September 19 · 🌐



A paper was published today in the journal Science that indicates 3 billion birds have been lost in North America since 1970. That's 30% fewer birds around today than 50 years ago. These findings underscore the need to conduct a third atlas in New York so that we have the best available data for conservation.

Science editorial:

<https://science-sciencemag-org.dbgateway.nysed.gov/.../6.../1228>

New York Times editorial:

<https://www.nytimes.com/.../bird-populations-america-canada.h...>

New York Times opinion article:

<https://www.nytimes.com/.../.../crisis-birds-north-america.html...>

Washington Post editorial:

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/.../north-america-has-lost-b.../...](https://www.washingtonpost.com/.../north-america-has-lost-b.../)

SCIENCE-SCIENCEMAG-ORG.DBGATEWAY.NYSED.GOV

science-sciencemag-org.dbgateway.nysed.gov

i

Wind energy takes a toll on birds, but now there's help

Radar-based maps and migration forecasts could save birds from spinning turbine blades.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/wind-energy-takes-toll-birds-now-there-s-help-ncna866336>



Cats leading cause of direct, human-



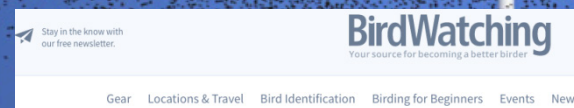
Cats #1 Threat to Birds

Predation by domestic cats is the number-one direct, human-caused threat to birds in the United States and Canada.

In the United States alone, outdoor cats kill approximately 2.4 billion birds every year. Although this number may seem unbelievable, it represents the combined impact of tens of millions of outdoor cats. Each outdoor cat plays a part.

Top Threats to Birds (U.S. only. Ordered by Median Estimate of Bird Mortality Annually. As of 2017.)

Hazard/Type	Min Range	Max Range	Median/Avg. Estimated
Habitat Loss/Conversion	N/A	N/A	N/A
Collision - Building Glass Loss et al. 2014a	365,000,000	988,000,000	599,000,000
Collisions - Communication towers Longcore et al. 2012			6,600,000
Collisions - Electrical lines Loss et al. 2014c	8,000,000	57,300,000	25,500,000
Collision - Vehicles Loss et al. 2014b	89,000,000	340,000,000	214,500,000
Collisions - Land-based Wind Turbines Loss et al. 2013b	140,438	327,586	234,012
Collisions - Offshore Wind Turbines	N/A	N/A	N/A
Collisions - Solar Panels	N/A	N/A	N/A
Electrocutions Loss et al. 2014c	900,000	11,600,000	5,600,000
Burning - Solar Towers	N/A	N/A	N/A
Poison			72,000,000
Cats Loss et al. 2013a	1,400,000,000	3,700,000,000	2,400,000,000
Oil Pits Trail 2006	500,000	1,000,000	750,000
All	549,140,438	5,182,427,586	3,324,184,012
All (excluding cats)	542,390,438	1,476,827,586	2,019,218,024
Industry only (excludes cats and vehicles)	453,140,438	1,136,827,586	709,684,012



Studying how severe weather affects birds

By Jeremy D. Ross

Published February 22, 2018
Updated October 2, 2018



Audubon

News | Magazine | Birds | Get Outside | Con

Press Room

Building Collisions Kill Hundreds of Millions of Birds per Year

“Both natural and human-caused sources of bird mortality contribute cumulative or combined effects to declining bird populations. Millions of acres of bird habitat are lost or degraded every year due to development, agriculture, and forestry practices. **These rapidly accelerating impacts can be mitigated only through habitat restoration and protection.** In addition, millions of birds are directly killed by human-caused sources such as collisions with man-made structures. Death from natural causes is also common sources of mortality.

Natural and human-caused mortality impacts are exacerbated by the landscape alterations resulting from a changing climate. Birds in every habitat will be affected by natural and human-caused sources, so **conserving migratory bird populations requires a multi-faceted, coordinated approach by governments, conservation organizations, industry, and the general public.**”

<https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>

We have one New York State recognized and protected “Bird Conservation Area”



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Minnewaska Bird Conservation Area

General Site Information: The Minnewaska BCA is located within the Minnewaska State Park Preserve in Ulster County. The Preserve is located on the Shawangunk Mountain ridge, which rises more than 2,000 feet above sea level. The Minnewaska BCA has many spectacular rock formations, soaring precipices, windswept ledges with pine barrens, fast-flowing mountain streams, mountain lakes and several scenic waterfalls. The Nature Conservancy has designated the entire ridge as one of the “Last Great Places.” The Shawangunks, including Minnewaska, are one of the highest priority areas for biodiversity conservation in the northeastern United States (NYS Open Space Conservation Plan, 2002). The Minnewaska BCA is part of the Northern Shawangunk Mountains Important Bird Area (Wells 1998). Evaluation of the BCA criteria for designation has shown that most of the Preserve qualifies as a BCA.

Minnewaska is part of a migratory corridor that exists along the entire upland plateau of the Northern Shawangunks. It is an exceptional example of a higher elevation forest community with a high diversity of forest dwelling species. The BCA includes birds of forest habitat including breeding northern saw-whet owl, black-and-white warbler, black-throated blue warbler, Canada warbler, eastern wood-pewee, northern flicker and scarlet tanager; and breeding shrub/scrub species eastern towhee, field sparrow, gray catbird, indigo bunting and prairie warbler. Species at risk include a pair of peregrine falcons (Endangered) that nest on the cliff face.

Minnewaska BCA Management Guidance Summary

Site Name: Minnewaska BCA

State Ownership and Managing Agency: Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation/Palisades Interstate Park Commission

Location: Ulster County, Towns of Rochester, Warwarsing, Gardiner and Shawangunk

Size of Area: 20,000 acres

DEC Region: 3

OPRHP Region: Palisades

Vision Statement: The Minnewaska BCA will be managed to achieve an appropriate balance between conservation of the diverse assemblage of bird species using the area for breeding or during migration, and access to and recreational use of various areas of the BCA. Consistent with its Preserve status, OPRHP will maintain the integrity of the BCA, provide for management of endangered, threatened or rare species and provide for their educational and scientific use.

Key BCA Criteria: Migratory concentration site; diverse species concentration site; species at risk site and bird research site(ECL §11-2001, 3.e, f, h and i.). Minnewaska is part of a migratory corridor that exists along the entire upland plateau of the Northern Shawangunks. It is an exceptional example of a characteristic higher elevation forest community with a high diversity of forest dwelling species. The BCA includes birds of forest habitat including breeding northern saw-whet owl, black-and-white warbler, black-throated blue warbler, Canada warbler, eastern wood-pewee, northern flicker and scarlet tanager; and breeding shrub/scrub species eastern towhee, field sparrow, gray catbird, indigo bunting and prairie warbler. Species at risk include a pair of peregrine falcons (Endangered) that nest on the cliff face.

Critical Habitat Types: Chestnut oak forest is the dominant ecological community along the ridge comprising about 50% of the BCA . Birds associated with this community at Minnewaska include sharp-shinned and red-shouldered hawks, red-bellied woodpecker, wood thrush, black-throated blue warbler, American redstart, ovenbird, scarlet tanager and rose-breasted grosbeak. Another 4,000+ acres are pitch pine-oak-heath rocky summit, intermingled with the extremely rare and fragile dwarf pine ridge community, which support pine and prairie warblers and eastern towhee. Below the ridges the 1000+ acres of hemlock-northern hardwood forest, including old growth forest with trees 300-500 years old, provide habitat for wild turkey, pileated woodpecker, golden-crowned kinglet and black-throated green warbler. Cliff faces are important nesting areas for peregrine falcons. (Evans et.al. 2003; Natural Heritage Program, 2004; Smith and Gregory, 1998).

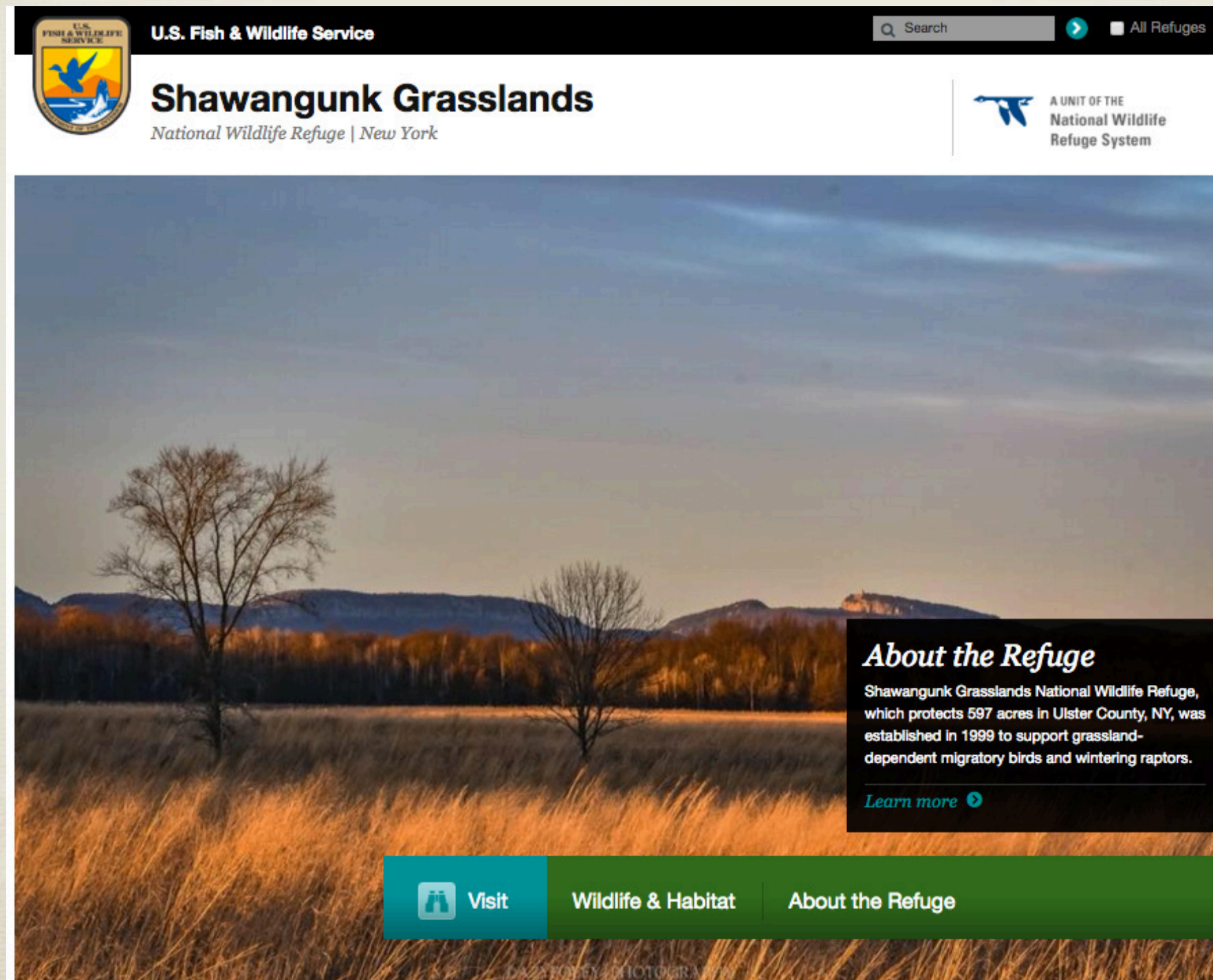
Operation and Management Considerations:

- *Identify habitat management activities needed to maintain site as a BCA.*

Management of the BCA will safeguard and enhance populations of wild birds and the habitats that the birds depend upon for breeding, migration, shelter, and sustenance.

Native plant life should be maintained and perpetuated. Invasive vegetation will be removed if it poses an ecological threat. Removal of trees that constitute a safety hazard should be accomplished consistent with established OPRHP/PIPC policy. Natural succession will be allowed to occur except where it impacts the existence of specialized species or habitats (OPRHP 1993a).

We also have a National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)



Diverse Habitats = Diverse Species and Ulster County is rich in open spaces JBNHS supports efforts to preserve them!

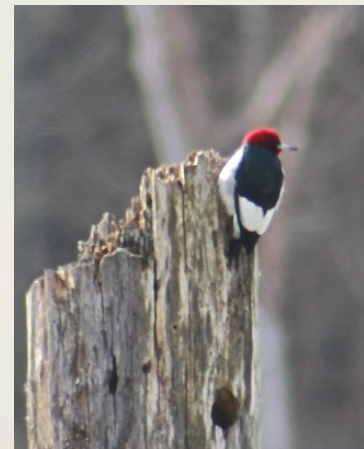
* *Riparian*

* *Fields and Meadows*

* *Forests (Deciduous, Conifer, and Mixed)*

* *Wetlands & Swamps*

* *Grasslands*

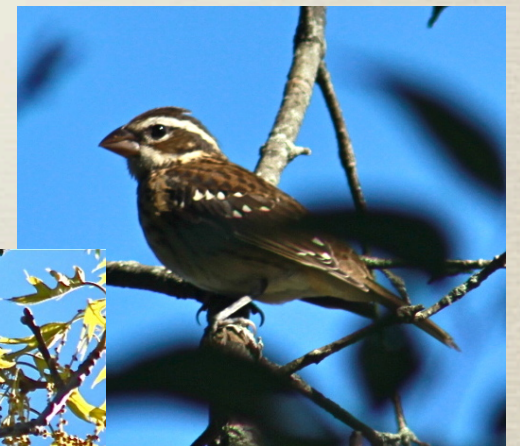
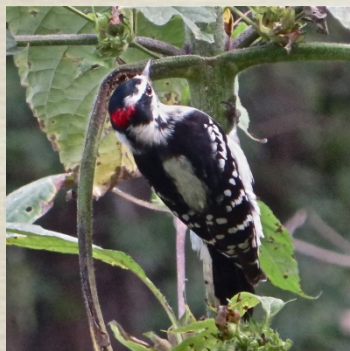
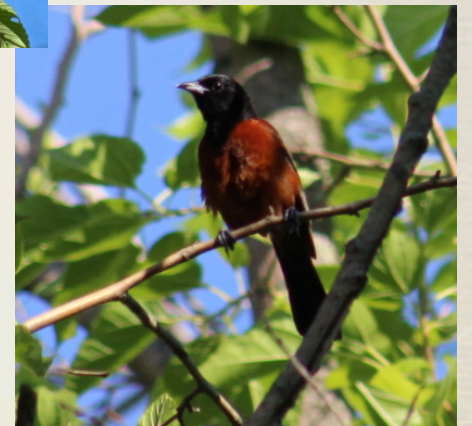
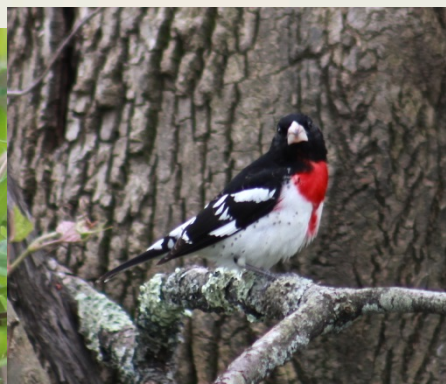
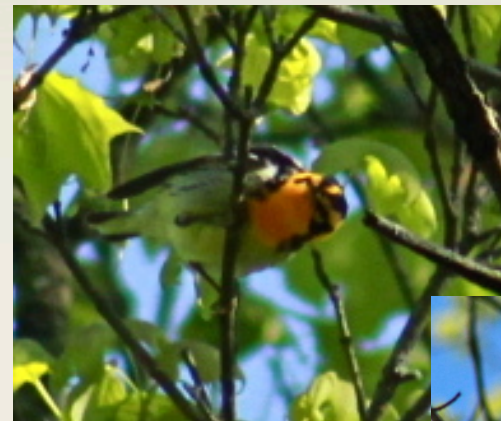


Urban & Developed Suburban — can support a high density of introduced species- Starlings, House Sparrows, etc. and common yard birds as well.

Birds of the River, Marsh or Wetland



Songbirds of the Woodlands



Grassland Species

One of the most at-risk habitats...



More species requiring large Grasslands

(e-bird listing for SGNWR)

Rough-legged Hawk



Last seen: 12 Mar 2019 by Kathleen Ashman



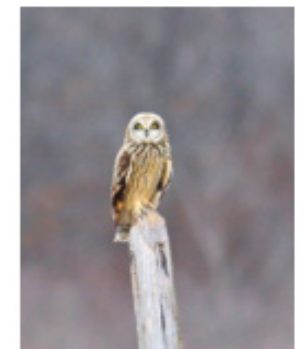
© Jim Yates



Short-eared Owl



Last seen: 30 Nov 2019 by Alan Wells



© Rufus Wareham

Wild birds require large undisturbed areas in a natural state to breed successfully

Public education can help define how 'wildlife areas' and 'nature sanctuaries' *differ* from 'recreational areas' 'parks' 'trails', 'dog parks' and 'playgrounds'

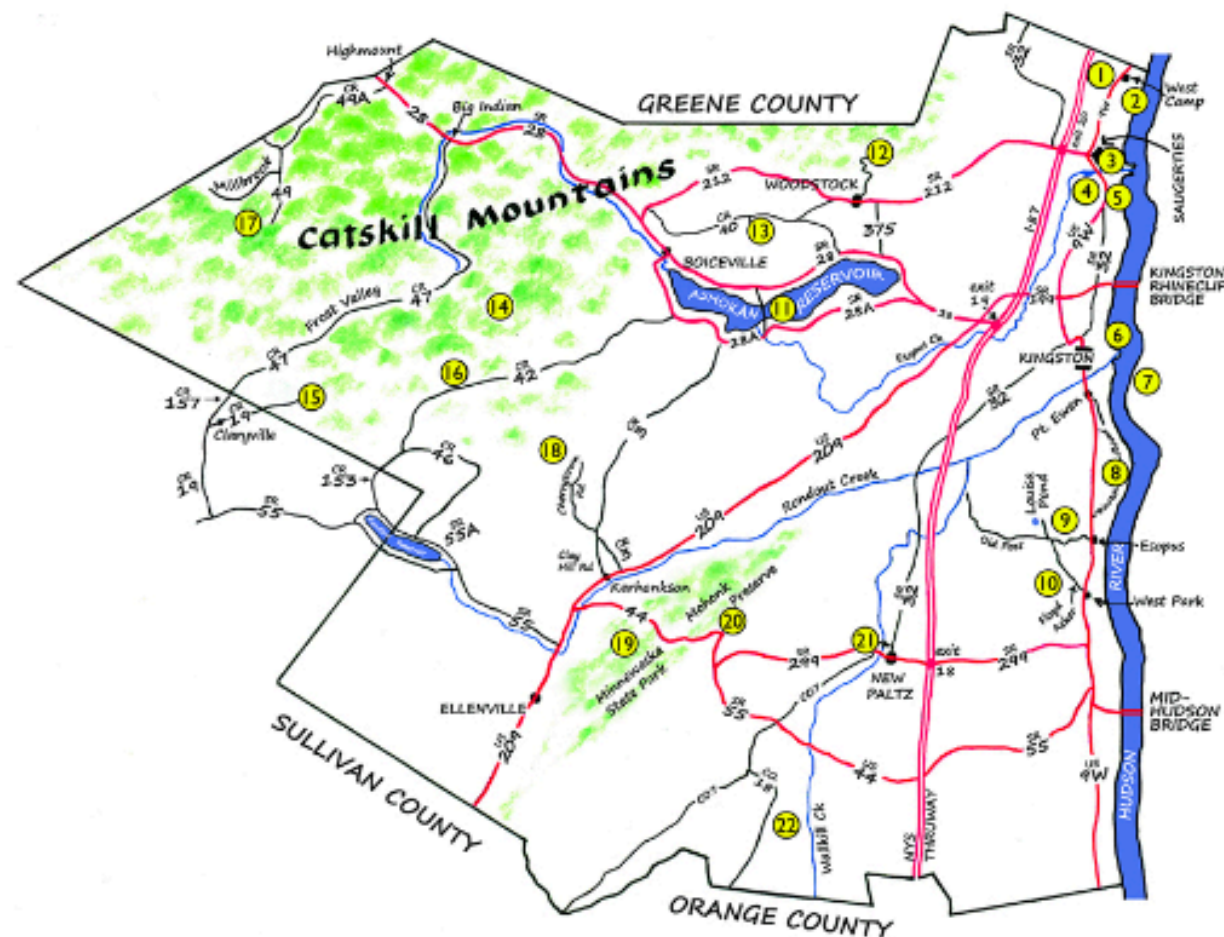
That is, the former exist primarily for the benefit of the wildlife rather than the humans (or canines).

Fast movements, yelling, laughing --and some would argue the presence of too many companion predators-- can agitate nesting birds, and even cause them to abandon a nest.

JBNHS “Where to Bird in Ulster County” and checklists

WHERE TO BIRD IN ULSTER COUNTY

Our home base is Ulster County in the Hudson Valley of Upstate New York. We're lucky to have wonderful birding not only in Ulster but in all the surrounding counties covering a wide variety of ecosystems. From forests and mountains to fields and streams, we have it all!



Ulster County Birds

Checklist for all seasons

Chickadees, Nuthatches, Creepers	SP	SU	AU	WI
Black-capped Chickadee*	A	A	A	A
Boreal Chickadee				R
Tufted Titmouse*	A	A	A	A
Red-breasted Nuthatch*	U	U	U	U
White-breasted Nuthatch*	C	C	C	C
Brown Creeper*	U	U	U	U

Wrens	SP	SU	AU	WI
House Wren*	A	A	U	R
Winter Wren*	U	C	U	U
Sage Wren	R	R		
Marsh Wren*	U	U	U	R
Carolina Wren*	C	C	C	C

Gnatcatchers and Kinglets	SP	SU	AU	WI
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	C	C	U	R
Golden-crowned Kinglet*	C	U	C	U
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	R	C	O

Thrushes	SP	SU	AU	WI
Eastern Bluebird*	C	C	C	C
Townsend's Solitaire	R		R	
Veery*	C	C	U	
Gray-cheeked Thrush	R		R	
Bicknell's Thrush*	U	U	O	
Swainson's Thrush*	U	C	U	
Hermit Thrush*	C	C	U	U
Wood Thrush*	C	C	U	
American Robin*	A	A	A	C
Varied Thrush				R

Mimics	SP	SU	AU	WI
Gray Catbird*	A	A	C	R
Brown Thrasher*	U	U	O	R
Northern Mockingbird*	C	C	C	C
European Starling*	A	A	A	A

Pipits	SP	SU	AU	WI
American Pipit	U		U	O

Waxwings	SP	SU	AU	WI
Bohemian Waxwing				R
Cedar Waxwing*	C	C	C	U

Longspurs and Snow Buntings	SP	SU	AU	WI
Lapland Longspur			O	R
Snow Bunting	O		U	U

Warblers	SP	SU	AU	WI
Overbird*	A	A	U	R
Worm-eating Warbler*	U	U	O	
Louisiana Waterthrush*	C	C	U	

Warblers (cont.)	SP	SU	AU	WI
Northern Waterthrush*	U	O	R	
Golden-winged Warbler*	R	R	R	
Blue-winged Warbler*	C	C	U	
Black-and-white Warbler*	C	C	U	
Prothonotary Warbler*	R	R		
Tennessee Warbler	U		U	
Orange-crowned Warbler			R	R
Nashville Warbler*	U	O	U	
Connecticut Warbler			R	
Mourning Warbler*	U	U	O	
Kentucky Warbler*	R	R	R	
Common Yellowthroat*	A	A	C	R
Hooded Warbler*	U	U		
American Redstart*	C	C	C	
Cape May Warbler	O		O	R
Cerulean Warbler*	U	U	R	
Northern Parula	U		O	
Magnolia Warbler*	C	C	U	
Bay-breasted Warbler	O		O	
Blackburnian Warbler*	C	C	U	
Yellow Warbler*	C	C	U	
Chestnut-sided Warbler*	C	C	U	
Blackpoll Warbler*	C	C	C	
Black-throated Blue Warbler*	C	C	U	
Palm Warbler	C		C	
Pine Warbler*	C	C	U	
Yellow-rumped Warbler*	A	C	A	O
Yellow-throated Warbler	R			
Prairie Warbler*	C	C	U	
Black-throated Green Warbler*	C	C	C	
Canada Warbler*	U	U	U	
Wilson's Warbler	U		R	
Yellow-breasted Chat*	R	R		R

Sparrows	SP	SU	AU	WI
Eastern Towhee*	C	C	C	O
American Tree Sparrow	C			C
Chipping Sparrow*	A	A	A	O
Clay-colored Sparrow		R	R	
Field Sparrow*	C	C	C	O
Vesper Sparrow*	R	R	R	R
Savannah Sparrow*	C	C	U	O
Grasshopper Sparrow*	R	L	R	R
Henslow's Sparrow*	R	R		R
Nelson's Sparrow			R	
Fox Sparrow	U		U	O
Song Sparrow*	A	A	A	C
Lincoln's Sparrow	U	R	U	R
Swamp Sparrow*	C	C	U	O
White-throated Sparrow*	A	U	A	C
White-crowned Sparrow	U		U	R
Dark-eyed Junco*	A	C	C	A

Tanagers, Cardinals, and Allies	SP	SU	AU	WI
Scarlet Tanager*	C	C	C	
Western Tanager		R		
Northern Cardinal*	A	A	A	A
Rose-breasted Grosbeak*	C	C	C	R
Indigo Bunting*	C	C	C	
Dickcissel			R	R

Blackbirds	SP	SU	AU	WI
Bobolink*	C	C	U	
Red-winged Blackbird*	A	A	A	O
Eastern Meadowlark*	C	C	C	O
Rusty Blackbird	U		U	O
Common Grackle*	A	C	A	O
Brown-headed Cowbird*	A	C	A	O
Orchard Oriole*	U	U		
Baltimore Oriole*	C	C	U	R

Finches	SP	SU	AU	WI
Pine Grosbeak				R
House Finch*	A	A	A	A
Purple Finch*	U	C	U	U
Red Crossbill	R		R	R
White-winged Crossbill			O	O
Common Redpoll	O		O	O
Pine Siskin*	O	R	O	U
American Goldfinch*	C	C	C	C
Evening Grosbeak	R		R	R

Old World Sparrows	SP	SU	AU	WI
House Sparrow*	A	A	A	A

The following species are **Accidental (A)**, **Origins Unknown (OU)**, or lack adequate documentation.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel	Slaty-backed Gull (A)
Wood Stork	Sooty Tern (A)
Tricolored Heron (A)	Forster's Tern (A)
Cattle Egret (A)	Eurasian Collared-Dove (OU)
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	Great Gray Owl (A)
Swallow-tailed Kite	Monk Parakeet (A)
King Rail (A)	Western Kingbird
American Oystercatcher (A)	Bewick's Wren (A)
Whimbrel (A)	Mountain Bluebird (A)
Red Knot	Smith's Longspur (A)
Ruff (A)	Harris's Sparrow
Purple Sandpiper (A)	Summer Tanager
Western Sandpiper (A)	Blue Grosbeak
Dovekie (A)	Brewer's Blackbird (A)
Little Gull	Bullock's Oriole (A)

For more information about birding and natural history in Ulster County, visit the JBNHS web site at: www.jbnhs.org

Checklist of the Birds of Ulster County, New York

Published by the John Burroughs Natural History Society
© 2014 JBNHS

This checklist includes the relative seasonal abundance and breeding status of 278 species of birds recorded in Ulster County, NY, with an additional 29 species listed as accidental or lacking adequate documentation.

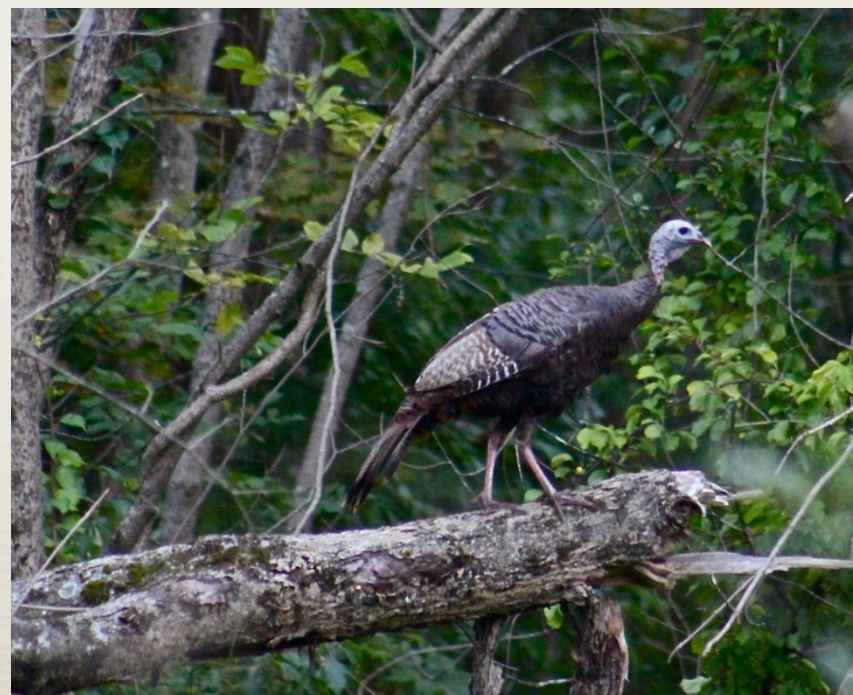
Arrangement and Nomenclature: American Ornithologists Union (AOU) Checklist of North American Birds (7th Edition), 54th Supplement (2013).

Compiled by: Steve Chorvas, Mark DeDea, Frank Murphy, and Peter Schoenberger.

Locality _____
Date _____ Time _____
Weather _____
Observer(s) _____
Notes _____

LEGEND		
Abundance:		
Abundant	(A)	Hard to miss at proper time; "all over". (Starling, Crow)
Common	(C)	Very likely to find in suitable habitat at proper time. (Common Yellowthroat, Song Sparrow)
Uncommon	(U)	Likely in some suitable habitat; harder to find due to habits, or short stay in area. (White-crowned Sparrow, Cerulean Warbler)
Occasional	(O)	Some individuals present but widely scattered, cyclical or present in irruption years only. (Evening Grosbeak, Snowy Owl)
Local	(L)	Present at specific locations, missing from other apparently suitable habitat.
Rare	(R)	Few sightings on record.
Seasons:		
Spring	(SP)	March – April – May
Summer	(SU)	June – July – August
Autumn	(AU)	September – October – November
Winter	(WI)	December – January – February
Breeding Status: * denotes breeding record for Ulster County.		

Even our '*common birds*' are amazing!
Take time to appreciate them!



PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO
JOIN US ON FUTURE JBNHS
FIELD TRIPS.

*ALL ARE FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC.*

If anyone is interested in the CBC data, I can send this PPT which includes slides at the end containing the count data--or I can send the pdf files with summaries.

JBNHS BIRD RECORDS:

Steve Chorvas P.O. Box 214, Saugerties, NY 12477

845-246-5900 schorvas@gmail.com

Thank You!

Any Questions?

NYUD CBC Summary – December 29, 2018

Total	NYUD Christmas Bird Count December 29, 2018 (8 / 119th)	A	B	C	D	E1	E2	F	G1	G2	H1	H2	H3	I	J
3,764	Canada Goose	158	161	445	172		10	742	296	201	479	35		443	622
10	Mute Swan		5		3			2							
115	American Black Duck	4	2		1		4		92		2	1		8	1
487	Mallard	57	155	15	25	14	36	23	6		68	12		24	52
1	Blue-winged Teal *								1						
9	Northern Pintail *								9						
28	Canvasback *								28						
2	Bufflehead								1					1	
236	Common Goldeneye		1	23		2			24					66	120
17	Hooded Merganser	6				9	2								
147	Common Merganser	18	19	10	12	9		26	15	6				19	13
5	Ruddy Duck *					5									
101	Wild Turkey	2	8					26						33	32
1	Common Loon					1									
11	Great Blue Heron	2	1	1			1		2		1			3	
147	Black Vulture			15	5				109		2	2		8	6
8	Turkey Vulture			2	3				1		2				
2	Northern Harrier			1							1				
2	Sharp-shinned Hawk			1											1
16	Cooper's Hawk		2	1	2		3		1		1	1		5	
1	Accipiter sp.											1			
55	Bald Eagle	1	6	2	5	2	1		18		2	4		6	8
4	Red-shouldered Hawk	1							1					1	1
117	Red-tailed Hawk	8	5	18	15	3	11	5	12	1	9	5	2	14	9
1	Golden Eagle *				1										
206	Ring-billed Gull		15	4		1			40			1		141	4
25	Herring Gull								3					22	
2	Great Black-backed Gull								1					1	
1	Gull sp.							1							
298	Rock Pigeon	8	18		31	12	11	1			47	14		124	32
298	Mourning Dove	25	25	50	63	16	38	28	7		16			27	3
23	Eastern Screech-Owl		3		2				13					3	2
9	Great Horned Owl		1		1				3					2	2
10	Barred Owl		2	1	3		1				1			1	1
2	Northern Saw-whet Owl *				2										
9	Belted Kingfisher		1		1	1	1				1			3	1
2	Red-headed Woodpecker														2
126	Red-bellied Woodpecker	10	11	25	8	4	4	5	16	5	13	3	1	7	14
11	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		4	2	2				1		2				
109	Downy Woodpecker	11	19	10	15	3	2	6	9	2	8	2		16	6
24	Hairy Woodpecker	2	6	2	1		1		8		1		1	1	1
26	Northern Flicker		4	3	2	1		1	6		1			3	5
31	Pileated Woodpecker	1	8	1	2	1	2		6		2	2		1	5

1	American Kestrel				1										
5	Merlin *				2				1			1			1
2	Peregrine Falcon *									1		1			
322	Blue Jay	22	44	32	41	7	7	23	35	12	40	13	1	26	19
332	American Crow	10	15	11	45	6	84	24	18	4	38	18		29	30
7	Fish Crow											2			5
19	Common Raven		1	1	3	4	6					2		1	1
63	Horned Lark				18						45				
404	Black-capped Chickadee	36	54	26	63	20	30	18	43	5	48	9	9	31	12
267	Tufted Titmouse	17	33	38	36	13	6	9	39	7	27	10		18	14
4	Red-breasted Nuthatch	2				1			1						
159	White-breasted Nuthatch	20	16	22	22	5	3	3	34	8	13	1	1	3	8

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Index NYUD CRC 2018 wrap up - tutelage on CRC compiling > and his nation

7	Brown Creeper	1	1						2		1			1	1
2	House Wren *					2									
8	Winter Wren	1	3						2					2	
101	Carolina Wren	7	26	2	9		6	6	16	1	5	1	2	13	7
7	Golden-crowned Kinglet					6								1	
1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet				1										
166	Eastern Bluebird	32	20	27	24	6		3	9	24	11			3	7
2	Hermit Thrush		1								1				
172	American Robin	20	9	45	2		8		38	2			1	31	16
1	Gray Catbird	1													
43	Northern Mockingbird	1	2	2	5		3	5	7		2	1		12	3
2,562	European Starling	110	23	170	460	60	103	411	434		172	100		404	115

94	Cedar Waxwing					37		2	54		1				
1	Common Yellowthroat		1												
2	Yellow-rumped Warbler								1				1		
113	American Tree Sparrow		6		1	2	13	32	33				2	21	3
1	Chipping Sparrow *							1							
4	Field Sparrow		3			1									
1	Fox Sparrow				1										
535	Dark-eyed Junco	85	116	48	36	21	40	22	36		63	5		39	24
14	White-crowned Sparrow				1				1					12	
293	White-throated Sparrow	13	42	23	42	7	11	41	52		16		3	33	10
1	Savannah Sparrow													1	
97	Song Sparrow	6	10	14	4	2	5	6	12				3	29	6
3	Swamp Sparrow				1			1						1	
191	Northern Cardinal	19	37	6	18	10	16	8	33	3				37	4
210	Red-winged Blackbird		21		9			100				80			
432	Common Grackle	2						250						180	
1	Brown-headed Cowbird										1				
64	House Finch	3	12	8	5	1			5		10			17	3
1	Purple Finch		1												
1	Common Redpoll													1	
36	Pine Siskin	36													
104	American Goldfinch	9	22	6	10	6	5	1	4		12	1		27	1
652	House Sparrow	28	81	34	37	14	40	129	15		64	2		196	12

14,007	Total Individuals	795	1,082	1,158	1,288	315	514	1,961	1,654	282	1,229	330	27	2,152	1,245
88	Total Species (+0 cw)	39	50	40	52	37	33	33	53	15	39	28	12	54	46

* unusual species cw = count week (not included in totals)

Shaded Columns: Dutchess County

69th Mohonk Lake/Ashokan Reservoir (NYML) Christmas Bird Count Sector Summary – December 15, 2018																
Total	Species	A	B	B2	C1	C 2	C3	D	E	F	F2	F3	G1/3	G2	H	I
cw	Cackling Goose*									cw						
3,264	Canada Goose		138		20	102		97	66	1,591	700	9	183		310	48
1	Mute Swan							1								
62	American Black Duck					3	1	9		26	21				2	
607	Mallard		104		26	29	14	87	1	294	2		36	1	13	
1	Northern Pintail *							1								
8	Bufflehead											7		1		
9	Hooded Merganser					4		2		1					2	
37	Common Merganser		4			18		12				2		1		
36	Wild Turkey						8	15	5							8
2	Common Loon											1		1		
6	Horned Grebe											6				
6	Great Blue Heron					1				1	2				2	
5	Black Vulture		5													
1	Turkey Vulture		1													
7	Northern Harrier	2			1					1	2				1	
3	Sharp-shinned Hawk				1	1					1					
7	Cooper's Hawk		1				3	2		1						
12	Bald Eagle					5		2		1	3		1			
3	Red-shouldered Hawk					1		2								
84	Red-tailed Hawk	2	8	2	7	8	3	24	4	4	4	2	3		11	2
33	Ring-billed Gull					13		9				11				
124	Herring Gull	110	2				1					7	4			
10	Great Black-backed Gull	10														
9	Gull sp.	9														
856	Rock Pigeon		31		140	2		294	74	56			90		167	2
620	Mourning Dove	6	35		57	56	15	28	71	45	37	3	64	11	187	5
4	Eastern Screech-Owl							1		3						
12	Great Horned Owl		4				1	1		1	1		2		2	
9	Barred Owl		2	1				2		2					2	
1	Long-eared Owl *												1			
1	Northern Saw-whet Owl							1								
4	Belted Kingfisher				1	1		1		1						
7	Red-headed Woodpecker				2	5										
153	Red-bellied Woodpecker	5	15		22	6	11	24	11	9	5	5	18	4	13	5
16	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		3		2	2		4		1			4			
169	Downy Woodpecker	7	23	1	19	18	13	30	1	13	5	5	18	1	10	5
35	Hairy Woodpecker	2	2	1	3	5	3	7	1	5			2	1	3	
35	Northern Flicker	1	1		8	5	4	3	1	2	1	1	5		3	
40	Pileated Woodpecker		4		2	5	4	3	4	5	2	2	5	2	1	1

6	American Kestrel	1	1					1		1	1				1	
2	Merlin							2								
3	Peregrine Falcon *							2				1				
1	Northern Shrike *												1			
539	Blue Jay	68	75	3	43	49	32	40	26	28	10	8	68	5	72	12
887	American Crow	106	130	1	46	20	12	23	10	19	256	3	14	2	240	5
15	Common Raven	2	3	3	1		2					1			2	1
1	Horned Lark														1	
467	Black-capped Chickadee	30	47	7	39	30	50	46	5	38	10	15	68	12	47	23
297	Tufted Titmouse	15	55	6	26	27	23	39	4	23	2	8	21	11	26	11
2	Red-breasted Nuthatch							2								
265	White-breasted Nuthatch	12	31	1	27	35	11	33	13	26	8	12	22	8	19	7
16	Brown Creeper		1		2	2	2	1		2	2		3		1	
7	Winter Wren				1		1	3				1			1	
121	Carolina Wren	3	7		5	9	9	31	5	13	11	5	11	3	9	
20	Golden-crowned Kinglet		2		2		5	4	1	1					5	

69th Mohonk Lake/Ashokan Reservoir (NYML) Christmas Bird Count Sector Summary – December 15, 2018																
Total	Species	A	B	B2	C1	C 2	C3	D	E	F	F2	F3	G1/3	G2	H	I
194	Eastern Bluebird	4	16	4	13	9	23	25	2	19	1	1	26		44	7
4	Hermit Thrush							3		1						
231	American Robin	1			36	1	35	97	12	21	1		11		16	
1	Gray Catbird												1			
41	Northern Mockingbird	2	3		3	1	7	13	1	2		1	5	1	2	
1,840	European Starling	44	236		387	34	113	332	120	4	20		279	14	257	

10	American Pipit *									2	8					
33	Cedar Waxwing				8		2			1					22	
1	Yellow-rumped Warbler							1								
176	American Tree Sparrow	3	10		17	1	5	83	3	2	3		31		17	1
12	Field Sparrow				3		3	1					5			
3	Fox Sparrow						1	2								
797	Dark-eyed Junco	3	60	13	36	55	165	103	17	32	49	63	63	15	119	4
1	White-crowned Sparrow				1											
476	White-throated Sparrow	64	50		60	28	30	81	18	60	12	12	13	1	33	14
3	Savannah Sparrow										3					
219	Song Sparrow	14	14		23	1	15	24	2	42	30	10	24		16	4
12	Swamp Sparrow	1	1					1					4		4	1
251	Northern Cardinal	6	27	5	28	21	18	45	5	21	13	12	33	3	10	4
2	Red-winged Blackbird					2										
2	Rusty Blackbird						2									
4	Brown-headed Cowbird														4	
92	House Finch	5	17		1	4	13	18		13		5	16			
2	Purple Finch		1					1								
262	American Goldfinch	32	8		33	23	24	42		49	10	6	25	2	8	
3	Evening Grosbeak				1		1								1	
880	House Sparrow		45		51	24	40	410		39	16	1	9		230	15
14,500	Total Individuals	570	1,223	48	1,204	666	725	2,171	483	2,522	1,252	226	1,189	100	1,936	185
81	Total Species (+1 cw)	29	41	13	41	41	40	57	27	45	34	31	38	21	43	22

CW - Denotes species found during the count week (three days before or after count day), but not on count day. Not included in totals.

* Denotes unusual species for this count circle.

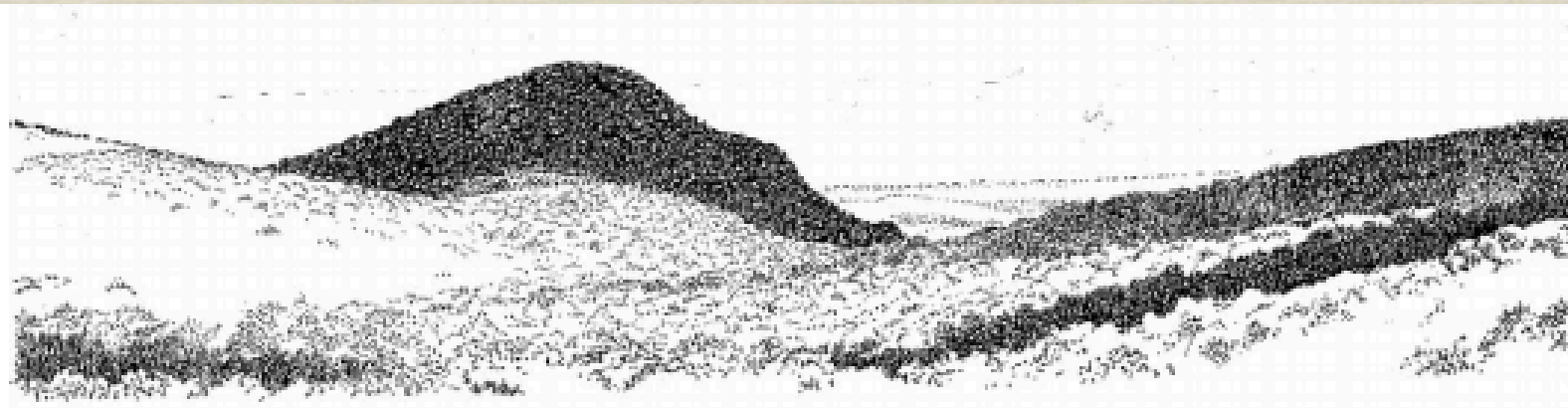
1st Minnewsaka-Shawangunk (NYMS) Christmas Bird Count – January 5, 2019

Total	Species	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
cw	Greater White-fronted Goose		cw										
7	Snow Goose		7										
2	Cackling Goose		2										
4,762	Canada Goose	163	3,171	1,040	2					131	236	18	1
104	American Black Duck		51	53									
265	Mallard	10	52	186	6						9	2	
5	Common Goldeneye			5									
7	Common Merganser	5	1		1								
cw	Ruffed Grouse							cw					
92	Wild Turkey		5	52						20	5	10	
5	Great Blue Heron	1	1	1						1		1	
34	Black Vulture			22	12	cw	cw						
cw	Turkey Vulture		cw		cw								
49	Northern Harrier	3	43	3									
1	Sharp-shinned Hawk	1											
7	Cooper's Hawk	1		4								2	
4	Red-shouldered Hawk		2	2									
47	Red-tailed Hawk	12	15	11	cw						4	5	
1	Rough-legged Hawk		1										
66	Ring-billed Gull		20	9							37		
124	Herring Gull		124										
387	Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	12	72	278	1						21	3	
309	Mourning Dove	86	44	91	4	cw				32	45	7	
1	Great Horned Owl			1									
5	Barred Owl		2	2									1
9	Short-eared Owl		9										
3	Belted Kingfisher		1	1	1								
66	Red-bellied Woodpecker	19	7	23	3	1	cw			1	4	6	2
3	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1		2									
51	Downy Woodpecker	6	8	20	3	cw	cw	cw	cw		7	7	
16	Hairy Woodpecker	2	1	7	1		cw	cw		2	1	2	
10	Northern Flicker	2	2	4	1					1			
6	Pileated Woodpecker			1	2	1	cw					1	1

4	American Kestrel	1	2								1		
3	Merlin		1	1							1		
1	Peregrine Falcon	1											
286	Blue Jay	69	42	97	43	1		cw		2	10	18	4
401	American Crow	110	17	42	1		cw	cw		9	8	200	14
1	Fish Crow		1										
8	Common Raven	2	1			cw	2	cw					3
248	Black-capped Chickadee	50	24	58	1	3	cw	cw	8	6	15	67	16
123	Tufted Titmouse	7	5	39	11	2	2			1	21	25	10
1	Red-breasted Nuthatch											1	
96	White-breasted Nuthatch	30	5	30	6		cw		cw		4	18	3
4	Brown Creeper	1		2								1	
2	Winter Wren		1									1	

35	Carolina Wren	2	4	15							4	9	1
cw	Golden-crowned Kinglet				cw								
35	Eastern Bluebird	16	7	6							1	5	
54	American Robin	8	4	13	14		cw	cw		7	8		
1	Gray Catbird			1									
10	Northern Mockingbird		5	3							1	1	
7,836	European Starling	508	1,231	971	91						35	5,000	

2	Cedar Waxwing			2									
1	Yellow-rumped Warbler		1										
61	American Tree Sparrow		2	56								3	
10	Field Sparrow			10									
372	Dark-eyed Junco	31	16	119	56	3	1			2	56	80	8
1	White-crowned Sparrow			1									
316	White-throated Sparrow	19	18	177	27						17	58	
cw	Savannah Sparrow		cw										
63	Song Sparrow	7	7	34	3						4	8	
4	Swamp Sparrow			4									
144	Northern Cardinal	16	21	41	7	cw				1	22	35	1
3	Red-winged Blackbird			3									
cw	Eastern Meadowlark		cw										
39	House Finch		2	25							4	8	
55	American Goldfinch	4	5	17							5	24	
333	House Sparrow	118	23	108	6						6	72	
64	Total Species (+6 cw species)	34	48	49	24	6	3	cw	1	14	29	32	13
17,004	Total Individuals	1,324	5,089	3,693	303	11	5	cw	8	216	592	5,698	65



Mountains Drawing by Jack Fagan

NEW YORK STATE JANUARY WATERFOWL COUNT REPORT – 2019

The Ulster County segment of the annual NYSOA New York State January Waterfowl Count was conducted on January 19, 2019. Twenty-three participants in seven field parties tallied **8,007 individuals** representing **13 species** of waterfowl. Our ten-year average for this countywide effort is 11.7 species and 5,759 individuals. A total of **44 Bald Eagles** (22 adults and 22 sub-adults) were observed during the course of the waterfowl count.

Mild air temperatures and open water with no snow cover was the predominant theme through early winter until consistently sub-freezing air temperatures solidified a substantial amount of water during the first half of January, forcing some waterfowl to move. Apparently displaced by freezing conditions to our immediate north, a noticeable influx of waterfowl appeared in the county and were still present during the week leading up to count day, but few were found during our day-long survey. The most notable misses include a rare Greater White-fronted Goose seen in the Wallkill River, larger numbers of Canvasbacks (139) in the Hudson River, Ring-necked Ducks in Esopus Creek, and Horned Grebes (22) and Common Loons (4) on Ashokan Reservoir.

Count day temperatures ranged from a morning high of 33° (F) to an afternoon low of 23° (F). Winds were generally calm with overcast skies throughout the day; the only precipitation coming very late in the afternoon in the form of snow flurries ahead of a major winter storm. Most of the Hudson River was covered in ice along the outer banks but open in the channel with ice floes. The Wallkill River, Rondout Creek, and Esopus Creek ranged from mostly frozen to mostly open, depending on the location and flow rate. Ashokan Reservoir was only about 10% open but hosted a few ducks. Rondout Reservoir was completely open but devoid of waterfowl. Most ponds were frozen, with a few exceptions, including those with aeration pumps or underground inflows. The marsh at the Great Vly WMA and the lagoon at Kingston Point were entirely frozen.

NYS January Waterfowl Count, continued

A few noteworthy observations from this year's count include **three Cackling Geese** (two grazing in a pasture at Blue Chip Farm, one in a cornfield on the Hurley Flats), a raft of **75 Canvasbacks** in the Hudson River at Esopus Meadows, and a single drake **Wood Duck** and a drake **Northern Pintail** on Stone Ridge Pond. An interesting goose that appeared to be a **Barnacle x Canada hybrid** was also found and photographed in the Mill Dam Road pond, where an apparent leucistic Canada Goose was also found mingling with a large group of geese and Mallards. As is typical for this mid-winter survey, these two pervasive species accounted for 92% of our total abundance (**Canada Goose** - 69% and **Mallard** - 23%). *(The E-version of The Chirp has a photograph of the Barnacle x Canada hybrid.)*

Late in the count day I experienced an impressive roosting event on a Hurley Mountain Road cornfield. We had just finished the time-consuming tally of numerous Canada Geese and Mallards on Stone Ridge Pond when Dixon Onderdonk alerted me to the presence of a large congregation of geese on the Hurley Flats. I had checked the Flats just prior to arriving at the pond, finding no geese at that time, and I was intrigued by the thought of large numbers of geese simultaneously at the pond and the Flats. Obligated to go back for a count, I returned to the Flats and found a mixed flock of geese and Mallards foraging in cornfield stubble.

Standing on the roof of my truck I was able to get a rough count of visible birds, but some remained hidden in a swale. Over the next hour, I watched staggered flocks of geese arrive from the south, joining the birds on the ground. Most of the flocks consisted of 50-75 birds, a few flocks were larger, with much larger numbers of Mallards arriving less often. In the fading light of dusk, one of the last flocks to arrive included a white leucistic bird that was most likely the goose from the Stone Ridge Pond cohort.

Conservatively, more than 2,500 geese and over a thousand Mallards came in to roost on a relatively small patch of ground and remained there as total darkness and snowfall from the impending storm descended over the cornfield. Assuming the birds did not take flight overnight under such inclement conditions, it would have been interesting to see this large concentration at daybreak and determine if the birds ultimately departed as a massive flock or in smaller groups, similar to the way they had arrived.

The following table summarizes the 2019 Ulster County results by area, followed by field party effort and area descriptions. Thanks to all of the field observers for providing extensive coverage of the county. Next year's Ulster County segment of the NYSOA NYS January Waterfowl Count is scheduled for **Saturday, January 18, 2020**.

Steve M. Chorvas – compiler,
PO Box 214, Saugerties, NY (schorvas@gmail.com)

<i>New York State January Waterfowl Count</i>										
Ulster County Area Summary - January 19, 2019										
Total	Species	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	M
1	Snow Goose					1				
5,494	Canada Goose	2,769	146	160	842	1,398	105		74	
3	Cackling Goose	1				2				
6	Mute Swan	2		1	2		1			
1	Wood Duck	1								
41	American Black Duck	3	1	1	2	13	3	18		
1,837	Mallard	1,373	30	106	96	2	164	4	62	
1	Northern Pintail	1								
75	Canvasback									75
8	Bufflehead			8						
265	Common Goldeneye	33	87	104				16	1	24
5	Hooded Merganser	2	2	1						
269	Common Merganser	31	88	69	59	13		5	4	
1	<i>Other/Unidentified</i>	1								
8,007	Total Individuals	4,217	354	450	1,001	1,429	273	43	141	99
13	Total Species	11	6	8	5	6	4	4	4	2
44	Bald Eagle (22 Adult /22 Sub-ad.)	5A/6S	6A/5S	3S	2A/6S	1A	3A/1S	2A		3A/1S

Field Parties, Effort and Area Descriptions

Group A: Steve Chorvas, Zura Capelli, Victor Capelli (7:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.) 9.75 hours

The Great Vly WMA; Hudson River (Bristol Beach State Park, Malden Park, Latham Circle, Saugerties Lighthouse, Glasco Park); Esopus Creek (Glenerie Falls to confluence with Hudson River and Town of Hurley, including Fording Place); Lazy Swan pond; Blue Mountain Reservoir; Sawyer Kill at HITS; Hurley Flats cornfields and holding ponds; Stone Ridge Pond.

Group B: Mark DeDea, Peter Schoenberger (8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.) 2.5 hours.

Hudson River (Ulster Landing County Park, Rider Park, Post Park, East Kingston, Kingston Point); Esopus Creek (Town of Ulster and Kingston), Interstate 587 pond.

Group C: Lin Fagan, Lynn Bowdery (9:00 a.m. - 1:10 p.m.) 4.25 hours.

Rondout Creek (Rosendale to Kingston waterfront, including East Strand); Sturgeon Pool; New Salem Lake; Hudson River (Sleightsburgh, Port Ewen Beach, Esopus Meadows).

Group D: Dave Hayes, Nick Martin, Tom O'Dowd, Dan Porter, Deb Weltsch (9:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.) 3.75 hours

Hudson River (Lamont Landing, Black Creek Preserve, Highland Landing Park, Oakes Road, Milton Station Park); Black Creek, Chodikee Lake, Lily Lake, Harcourt Wildlife Sanctuary, Humpo Marsh, Weston Road Swamp, and area ponds; Springtown Road agricultural fields in New Paltz.

Group E: Mark DeDea, Kyla Haber, Peter Schoenberger (11:40 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.) 2.75 hours.

Wallkill River (Wallkill north to Tillson); Shawangunk Creek; Watch Tower Farm, Old Fort Rd. pond, Wallkill Prison grounds, Blue Chip Farm; and area fields.

Group F: Jessica Prockup, Wendy Tocci (9:12 a.m. - 12:38 p.m.) 3.50 hours.

Cooper Lake, Spring Lake, Binnewater Lake, Williams Lake; Rondout Creek (Accord to High Falls); Sawkill Creek (Zena to Lake Katrine, including Big Deep); Esopus Creek (Leggs Mills Rd bridge, Lake Katrine); Kingston Reservoirs #1 and #4; Bennekill Pond; and area ponds and fields.

Group G: Loren Quinby, Dan Spencer (8:20 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.) 4.00 hours.

Ashokan Reservoir (upper and lower basin, Esopus outflow); Kenozia Lake; Onteora Lake; Yankeetown Pond; Wilson State Park.; Esopus Creek (Mt. Tremper and Phoenicia, including Catskill Interpretive Center); and area ponds.

Group H: Pat Dechon, John Unverzagt, Josh Jacobs, John McCombs, Dan Gorr (8:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.) 5.75 hours.

Ellenville area ponds and creeks (Beerkill and Sandburg); Rondout Reservoir; Minnewaska Lake.

Group M: Miscellaneous Reports - Jessica Prockup, Wendy Tocci (2:00 p.m. - 2:44 p.m.) .75 hours; and Jim Yates .50 hours (Esopus Meadows additions)



Barnacle x Canada Goose Hybrid at Mill Dam Pond, 2019 January Waterfowl Count

Photo by Wendy Tocci