

MICHIGAN BIRDS

and Natural History

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Cover: White-winged Crossbills made their presence known in every Michigan county during the winter of 2008-2009, presenting many fine photo opportunities. This male was part of a group photographed at a cemetery in Van Buren Twp., Wayne Co. with this one taken on 18 January 2009. Photo by Darlene Friedman.

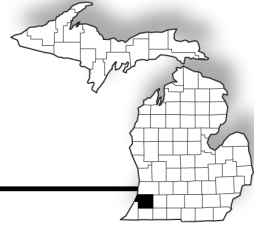


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Observations of American Robin Driven To and Flying From Surface of Lake Michigan

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The American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) is a common migrant and breeding species in southwest Michigan (Payne 1983; Brewer et al 1991).

Many species of passerines have been documented flying along the shoreline and over large bodies of water, including the Great Lakes (Diehl, 2003; R. Schipper, personal observation). However, there seem to be few records of passerines landing on or flying off from water (Everett 1940; Speich and Speich 1972).

Gulls (*Larus spp.*) are known to prey on land birds by driving them into the waters of the Great Lakes, including species as large as Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) (French 1994; Kielb 1994; Stout 1995).

This note is a report of observations during an Audubon Society of Kalamazoo field trip. The observations concern two events of an American Robin on the waters of Lake Michigan. These events occurred on 6 April 2008, and were observed from the north break wall of the Black River at South Haven, Michigan. In the first event, an American Robin was driven to the water by four gulls. We estimated the second event occurred approximately 10-15 minutes later, when an American Robin was seen floating upright on the water in the same general location as the first event, and then flying from the surface of the water.

The wind was light and out of the southeast and the waves were limited to light swells, estimated at 1 foot (0.3 meter), which periodically obscured the robin, but still allowed reasonably good observation. Most of the viewing was with binoculars, though two spotting scopes were also used.

At approximately 0900, an American Robin was seen being harassed by four gulls, one Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*), one Bonaparte's Gull (*Larus philadelphia*) and two of unknown species that were probably

Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*). The robin came from the direction of the shore and flew out approximately 300 feet (91.5 m) beyond the break wall, where the first event took place. The gulls hovered around it and drove it into the water from approximately 25 feet (7.6 m) above the surface. Though it was the smallest of the gulls present, surprisingly the Bonaparte's Gull was the only gull seen actually striking the robin. That occurred about 6 feet (1.8 m) above the water. This attack caused the bird to lose a few feathers and drove it into the water. The robin could then be seen floating upright on the water. The Herring Gull landed nearby, within 3 feet (1.0 m). The other gulls either dispersed or hovered about nearby. The Herring Gull did not touch the robin or go within striking distance at first. Then after several seconds, it approached and appeared to peck at the bird without much aggression, but did not appear to injure or kill it. The observers watched the robin for at least 45 seconds, after which it was assumed that the robin would be killed and eaten by the Herring Gull.

We estimate that 10 to 15 minutes later, a bird was seen on the water at approximately the same location as the first event. One observer (Jim Coppinger) watched something moving around on the water through binoculars for an estimated 1-2 minutes. He then called the other observers' attention to it. Then just as we found it, an American Robin abruptly lifted out of the water and flew toward the shore with no noticeable difficulty. It took off in the manner of a dabbling duck, with no noticed pattering along the surface prior to lift off. Everett described the same procedure in a Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) rising from the ocean (Everett 1940). During our observations, the bird was always seen in an upright position. At the time of this event, there were no other birds within at least 75 feet (22.9 meters) and no threat was noticed.

Although none of us kept an eye on the robin driven into the water during the interval between the events, we collectively feel that the likelihood of a second robin somehow depositing itself on the water in approximately the same location is near the limit of possibility. Additionally, at no time were any other American Robins seen out near the end of the break wall during our stay. It should be noted that this was a day with considerable passerine migration, with a remarkable 10 species seen landing on the break wall. This occurred even though the passerine movement was almost entirely over land, near and parallel with the shore, with none seen crossing the lake. A significant proportion of the migrants appeared to be Icterids and American Robins. We cannot say unequivocally that there was only one robin involved in both events, but we clearly feel that was the case.

In a literature search, several records were found of birds (usually young or fledglings) swimming, including a young American Robin (Speich and Speich 1972). In tests of swimming ability with adult House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*), Speich and Speich (1972) state that birds thrown into the water were able to fly directly from the surface. Though not stated directly, the implication was that they flew very shortly after entering the water. However, they also state "wetted individuals were unable to do so and swam actively about." They did not say how long it took the birds to become "wetted". Apparently the swimming process for landbirds is similar to a human doing the butterfly stroke. Spreading of the wings and tail feathers in the act of swimming also contributes to the buoyancy of the bird. Though we did not witness any swimming behavior, we did see that in both events the robin was sitting upright on the water. The bird's position was aligned with the plume of the river flowing into Lake Michigan. Therefore, we speculate that in order for it not to be carried further away from shore, the robin was indeed doing at least some swimming. Without swimming, the current would have carried it much further out into the lake. Furthermore, in all records found of swimming birds, they were able to reach land, dry out to some degree and then fly away. Therefore, from what we can tell, the event of an American Robin sitting on the water for 10-15 minutes and then flying directly from the surface is an unusual event.

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2009 Michigan North American Migration Count

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The 18th annual Michigan North American Migration Count was conducted on 9 May 2009. The count recorded 208,641 individuals, 239 species, and one hybrid. This was higher than the means for the previous 17 years, 153,238 individuals, but less than the species mean of 247. Several species reported were not included due to lacking or insufficient documentation. Black Vulture, King Rail, and Smith's Longspur were purported to have been seen but their sightings were not accepted by the Michigan Bird Records Committee. There were 35 counts with 530 observers in 287 parties, and a total of 2,457.37 party hours. In 2008, there were 36 counts with 520 observers in 291 parties totaling 2,583.3 party hours. The total number of individuals in 2009 per 10 party hours was 849.05, compared to the 17-year mean of 798.84. Coverage in the Upper Peninsula came from five counties. Marquette County had the highest total in the Upper Peninsula with 122 species. Osceola County was a new count in 2009, while Iosco County did not report in the Northern Lower Peninsula, for a total of 13 counties reporting. Isabella County recorded 162 species for the top spot in the Northern Lower Peninsula. In the Southern Lower Peninsula, 17 counties participated. Macomb County, mainly a banding station, was weathered out and did not report. Washtenaw County led the Southern Lower Peninsula, and the entire state, with 164 species.

For the 16th straight year, Washtenaw County had the highest total party hours (283.75) and observers (68) for the state (Table 1). Washtenaw County had the greatest number of individuals in 2009 (27,883) for the second straight year. Bay County had the highest total of individual birds (16,662), while Isabella had the highest total party hours (223), and observers (42) in the Northern Lower Peninsula. In the Upper Peninsula,

Marquette County had the most species (122) and individuals (4,616). Dickinson County had the highest total observers (25) and party hours (184). Fifty party hours were exceeded by 20 of the 35 counties and eight exceeded 100 party hours. Besides those mentioned previously, other counts exceeding 100 party hours were Manistee (136.5), Kent (129.3), Marquette (119.8), Kalamazoo (114.5), and Mason (106).

Weather

The 2009 North American Migration Count was wetter than 2008, where no precipitation was reported. Snow was reported in Baraga, Marquette and Alger Counties. Rain was more widely reported before noon. Only Dickinson County in the Upper Peninsula reported no precipitation.

The lowest temperature reported for the state was 31°F in Alger County. The high for the Upper Peninsula was 43°F in Dickinson County. The lowest temperature for the Northern Lower Peninsula came from Grand Traverse County with 39°F, and the highest was 60°F from Isabella County. The lowest temperature for the Southern Lower Peninsula was 43°F in Ottawa County, and the highest was 72°F in Washtenaw County, which was also the highest temperature reported in the state. The temperature ranges for 2008 were 26°F in Alger County and 75°F in Oakland County. For 2009, winds in the Upper Peninsula ranged from 5-20 mph and had a northerly component. For the Northern Lower Peninsula, winds were reported from 0-23 mph, with a northerly component. Winds in the Southern Lower Peninsula were variable and ranged from 0-30 mph.

Regularly Occurring Species

All comparisons in the analysis were made using the number of individuals/10 party hours, unless otherwise indicated. This approach makes comparisons with previous years more meaningful. Of the reported species, 187 were found in numbers that differed from the 1992 – 2008 mean by 10% or more. Fifty-two species differed from the 17-year mean by less than 10%. As one might expect, such common, permanent resident species as Downy Woodpecker (1.2% increase from the 17-year mean), Black-capped Chickadee (2.8% increase), White-breasted Nuthatch (1.0% increase), and American Goldfinch (3.6% increase) were among this group. Forty-five species were found in numbers over 50% less than the 17-year mean, while 79 were between 10% and 50% less than the mean. Twenty-seven species were found in numbers over 50% greater than the 17-year mean, while 34 were between 10% and 50% more than the mean.


Table 1. 2009 Count summary ranked by number of species

Rank	County	Total Species	Total Individuals	Total Party Hours	Observers (Parties)
1.	Washtenaw	164	27,882	283.8	68 (35)
2.	Isabella	162	12,720	223.0	42 (13)
3.	Manistee	158	8235	136.5	14 (10)
4.	Muskegon	157	24,710	69.5	14 (10)
5.	Bay	156	16,662	66.0	16 (9)
6.	Ottawa	153	7988	93.7	35 (13)
7.	Kent	147	7605	129.3	32 (26)
7.	Wayne	147	8191	63.8	14 (10)
9.	Emmet	143	5214	44.0	14 (5)
10.	Kalamazoo	139	9672	114.5	26 (15)
11.	Grand Traverse	138	3818	63.0	15 (8)
12.	Saginaw	137	5887	32.0	3 (3)
13.	Livingston	135	3286	55.8	8 (5)
14.	Alcona	133	2888	25.0	6 (3)
15.	Genesee	130	8812	61.3	22 (9)
16.	St. Clair	128	6254	90.8	18 (11)
17.	Alpena	127	5370	74.0	10 (8)
18.	Mason	126	4674	106.0	15 (10)
19.	Ingham	122	5581	65.0	23 (11)
19.	Marquette	122	4616	119.8	23 (11)
21.	Mecosta	121	5132	51.5	12 (5)
22.	Oakland	118	2896	35.0	8 (5)
23.	Baraga	114	2356	35.0	9 (5)
24.	Alger	113	2491	56.3	8 (6)
24.	Dickinson	113	4119	184.0	25 (14)
26.	Lake	111	1114	19.8	2 (1)
27.	Hillsdale	109	880	11.5	1 (1)
28.	Allegan	102	1636	19.0	2 (1)
29.	Roscommon	96	1817	32.5	6 (4)
30.	Eaton	84	1032	17.3	7 (5)
31.	Houghton	79	2123	3867.0	10 (7)
32.	St. Joseph	64	2028	16.5	8 (3)
33.	Osceola	63	414	12.5	6 (3)
33.	Wexford	63	243	7.0	2 (1)
35.	Lapeer	61	295	4.5	4 (1)

Table 2 gives a broad view of how this count compares to those of the previous 17 years. In past comparisons, a deviation of 50% or more has been considered significant. In the non-passerines, 20 species increased by 50% or higher from the mean, while 28 decreased by those amounts. The following specific observations are noteworthy for non-passerine species:

- Most of the waterfowl species showing significant deviation per 10 party hours decreased from the 17-year mean. Trumpeter Swan increased 1366%, and Tundra Swan decreased by 66.5%. Among dabblers, Gadwall and Northern Shoveler increased by 87.0% and 84.8% respectively, while American Wigeon decreased by 61.0%. Of the divers, Canvasback decreased by 83.0%, Redhead

by 57.5%, Greater Scaup by 81.1%, White-winged Scoter by 99.5%, and Long-tailed Duck by 99.0%, while Black Scoter increased by 216.3%. An increase was also shown for Hooded Merganser (74.6%) and Ruddy Duck (160.4%), which were found as far north as Grand Traverse County. Red-breasted Merganser decreased by 53.2%.

- Wild Turkey showed an increase of 81.1%. Ring-necked Pheasant and Northern Bobwhite decreased 63.6% and 90.4% respectively from the mean.
- Horned Grebes and Red-necked Grebes decreased by 87.1% and 73.2% respectively from the mean.
- Least Bitterns were found on four counts and increased by 66.8% from the 17-year mean. Great Egrets increased by 267.7% from the mean and was reported as far north as Alpena County. Two Snowy Egrets were reported in Bay County and increased by 309.3%.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk decreased by 92.4%, Northern Goshawk by 80.0%, Broad-winged Hawk by 91.2%, Rough-legged Hawk by 65.1%, and American Kestrel by 52.0%. Bald Eagle increased by 66.0% from the 17-year mean.
- American Coot decreased by 50.5%.
- Many shorebird species decreased from the 17-year mean. Those decreasing significantly were Black-bellied Plover by 89.2%, American Golden-Plover by 78.1%, Semipalmated Plover by 73.8%, Semipalmated Sandpiper by 82.0%, Pectoral Sandpiper by 75.4%, Dunlin by 77.6%, and Short-billed Dowitcher by 97.7%. Piping Plover, reported from Manistee and Mason Counties, increased by 83.6%. Eighteen Willets reported from three counties resulted in an increase of 659.4% from the mean.
- Results were mixed for gulls and terns. Ring-billed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, and Common Tern increased by 85.1%, 101.8%, and 104.8% respectively. Bonaparte's Gull and Black Tern decreased by 89.1% and 89.7% respectively.
- A single Snowy Owl from Grand Traverse County resulted in a 466.7% increase from the 17-year mean.
- Common Nighthawk decreased from the 17-year mean by 87.3%, while Chimney Swift increased by 84.0%.
- Red-headed Woodpeckers were found on 21 counts and increased by 423.1%. An increase of 53.1% was shown for Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers.

Table 2. Comparison of selected species groups

	> 50% Increase	> 50% Decrease	Total # Species
Waterfowl	6	8	28
Grouse and bobwhite	1	2	5
Grebes	0	2	3
Hérons	3	0	7
Raptors	1	5	14
Gallinules	0	1	2
Shorebirds	2	7	20
Gulls and terns	3	2	8
Owls	1	0	4
Nighthawk and swift	1	1	2
Woodpeckers	2	0	8
Flycatchers	0	2	8
Vireos	0	1	6
Wrens	0	1	5
Thrushes	1	0	7
Warblers	1	6	32
Sparrows	2	1	16
Blackbirds	1	1	11
Finches and grosbeaks	2	4	8
Totals	27	44	194

Uncommon or Rare Species and Additional Comments

No new species were added to the count maintaining the cumulative 18-year species list at 293.

Among the other notable non-passerines not previously mentioned, a Black-bellied Plover was found on the Washtenaw count, a White-rumped Sandpiper was found on the Isabella count, and two Wilson's Phalaropes were found on the Muskegon count. A single Black-backed Woodpecker was located in Baraga County.

Notable passerines reported include an Olive-sided Flycatcher in Isabella County. Single Blue-winged Warbler x Golden-winged Warbler hybrid Brewster's Warbler was found in Kalamazoo and Wayne Counties.

Fifteen species were found on all 35 counts – Canada Goose, Mallard, Mourning Dove, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, American Robin, European Starling, Chipping Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, and American Goldfinch. Eight species were found on 34 counts and nine on 33 counts. The 10 most numerous species per 10 party hours were Ring-billed Gull (105.5), Red-winged Blackbird (76.0), American Robin (45.8), European Starling (42.6), Tree Swallow (32.0), Canada Goose (26.7), Common Grackle (25.8), American Goldfinch (25.5), Mourning Dove (16.5), and Barn Swallow (15.4). It can be noted that the Gull spp. category had 44.2 individuals per 10 party hours.

Many thanks to all those who participated in the 2009 Michigan North American Migration Count. We hope that participants enjoyed spending the day birding in their local areas and discovered some worthwhile birding locations. Also, our thanks to all the compilers who participated in 2009, and in previous years. All your efforts and local knowledge are greatly appreciated. Due to the way the counts can fall as early in May as the eighth or as late as the fourteenth, the complexion of spring migration can change remarkably from one year to the next. We will continue to rely heavily on the compilers for the accuracy of the data we include in the compilation reports. This is especially true for species that normally migrate through Michigan in late May.

The date for the next count will be 8 May 2010. Please contact the compilers listed in Table 3 directly, or contact us if you want to participate in 2010. We encourage birders living in counties that do not yet have a count to start one to increase the coverage of the state.

Table 3. 2009 Count contact information.

County	Compiler	Contact Info.
UP		
Houghton (HOU)	Barry Solomon	bdsolomo@mtu.edu
Baraga (BAR)	Joseph Youngman	murphnj@up.net
Marquette (MAR)	Melinda Stamp	mstamp@mstamp.net
Alger (ALG)	Scott Hickman	suboscine@hotmail.com
Dickinson (DIC)	Evelyn J Olson	ejbirdlvb@chartermi.net
NLP		
Emmett (EMM)	Ed Pike	aes05@localnet.com
Alpena (ALP)	Bob Preston	bpreston@freeway.net
Grand Traverse (GRA)	Bob Carstens	31rst5ns2@sbcglobal.net
Alcona (ALC)	Tom Pavlik	pavlik@comcast.net
Manistee (MAN)	Brian Allen	tanager@manistee.com
Wexford (WEX)	Chris Schumacher	cmschumacher@fs.fed.us
Roscommon (ROS)	Mike Petrucha	petrucha@excite.com
<i>Iosco</i>		
Mason (MAS)	David Dister	david.dister@gmail.com
Lake (LAK)	Bonnie & Janie Stout	stout@freeway.net
Osceola (OSC)	Matthew Johnstone	anhinga@tm.net
Mecosta (MEC)	Stephen Ross	seross3631@hotmail.com
Isabella (ISA)	Bill Theunissen	billtheunissen@aol.com
Bay (BAY)	Joe Soehnel	soehnelj@gmail.com
SLP		
Muskegon (MUS)	Brian Johnson	baidaj@yahoo.com
Saginaw (SAG)	Steven Kahl	Steve_Kahl@fws.gov
Ottawa (OTT)	Carl Manning	birds01@charter.net
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Lapeer (LAP)	William Rapai	brapai@aol.com
St. Clair (STC)	Russell Emmons	birdeland@pasty.net
Allegan (ALL)	Rick Brigham	brigrick@gmail.com
Eaton (EAT)	Matthew Bohan	bohanart@comcast.net
Ingham (ING)	Jim Hewitt	tz4ggm@aol.com
Livingston (LIV)	Richard Wolinski	rawolinski@comcast.net
Oakland (OAK)	Sue Hibbard	sjhibbard1@earthlink.net
<i>Macomb</i>		
Kalamazoo (KAL)	Russ Schipper	schipper.russ@gmail.com
Washtenaw (WAS)	Roger Wykes	734 769 6482
Wayne (WAY)	Darrin O'Brien	treecreeper@wowway.com
St. Joseph (STJ)	Doris Haggard	260 593 2050
Hillsdale (HIL)	Jack Reinoehl	jreinoehl@hillsdale.edu

Note: Counts in italicized counties were held in 2008, but not held in 2009.

Table 4. Species Account by Region and Statewide Total, Michigan NAMC, 9-May-2009

Species	Southern LP			Northern LP			Upper Peninsula			Statewide		
	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	Total	/10 PH	# Ct's
Snow Goose	1	0.009	1	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	2
Canada Goose	4713	40.526	17	1519	17.647	13	328	7.563	5	6560	26.695	35
Mute Swan	587	5.048	15	272	3.160	10	0	0.000	0	859	3.496	25
Trumpeter Swan	35	0.301	5	19	0.221	6	8	0.184	1	62	0.252	12
Tundra Swan	0	0.000	0	4	0.046	2	0	0.000	0	4	0.016	2
Wood Duck	387	3.328	16	141	1.638	11	63	1.453	4	591	2.405	31
Gadwall	67	0.576	3	25	0.290	2	0	0.000	0	92	0.374	5
American Wigeon	5	0.043	3	2	0.023	1	9	0.208	3	16	0.065	7
American Black Duck	11	0.095	3	6	0.070	4	6	0.138	4	23	0.094	11
Mallard	2256	19.399	17	801	9.306	13	264	6.088	5	3321	13.514	35
Blue-winged Teal	91	0.782	11	73	0.848	10	56	1.291	4	220	0.895	25
Northern Shoveler	78	0.671	5	13	0.151	3	20	0.461	3	111	0.452	11
Northern Pintail	1	0.009	1	3	0.035	2	3	0.069	1	7	0.028	4
Green-winged Teal	30	0.258	3	16	0.186	3	28	0.646	4	74	0.301	10
Canvasback	1	0.009	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Redhead	3	0.026	2	4	0.046	2	8	0.184	3	15	0.061	7
Ring-necked Duck	16	0.138	5	41	0.476	5	81	1.868	5	138	0.562	15
Greater Scaup	0	0.000	0	11	0.128	2	15	0.346	3	26	0.106	5
Lesser Scaup	110	0.946	3	117	1.359	6	213	4.912	5	440	1.791	14
scaup sp.	4	0.034	1	5	0.058	1	14	0.323	3	23	0.094	5
Black Scoter	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	1	0.023	1	2	0.008	2
White-winged Scoter	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.023	1	1	0.004	1
Long-tailed Duck	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Bufflehead	12	0.103	6	157	1.824	11	197	4.543	5	366	1.489	22
Common Goldeneye	1	0.009	1	24	0.279	6	31	0.715	3	56	0.228	10
Hooded Merganser	24	0.206	5	42	0.488	6	91	2.098	4	157	0.639	15
Common Merganser	8	0.069	4	130	1.510	9	102	2.352	4	240	0.977	17
Red-breasted Merganser	5	0.043	2	195	2.265	8	235	5.419	3	435	1.770	13
Ruddy Duck	379	3.259	10	47	0.546	4	0	0.000	0	426	1.734	14
Ring-necked Pheasant	126	1.083	14	33	0.383	3	2	0.046	2	161	0.655	19
Ruffed Grouse	11	0.095	4	86	0.999	12	86	1.983	5	183	0.745	21
Sharp-tailed Grouse	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	6	0.138	1	6	0.024	1
Wild Turkey	380	3.268	16	529	6.146	13	79	1.822	3	988	4.021	32
Northern Bobwhite	1	0.009	1	2	0.023	1	0	0.000	0	3	0.012	2
Common Loon	6	0.052	5	51	0.593	12	215	4.958	4	272	1.107	21
Pied-billed Grebe	57	0.490	13	29	0.337	6	16	0.369	4	102	0.415	23
Horned Grebe	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	1	0.023	1	2	0.008	2
Red-necked Grebe	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	13	0.300	2	13	0.053	2
American White Pelican	2	0.017	1	1	0.012	1	1	0.023	1	4	0.016	3
Double-crested Cormorant	442	3.801	11	927	10.770	9	99	2.283	5	1468	5.974	25
American Bittern	15	0.129	6	34	0.395	4	7	0.161	5	56	0.228	15
Least Bittern	2	0.017	2	2	0.023	2	0	0.000	0	4	0.016	4
Great Blue Heron	445	3.826	16	115	1.336	11	54	1.245	5	614	2.499	32
Great Egret	518	4.454	10	109	1.266	4	1	0.023	1	628	2.556	15
Snowy Egret	0	0.000	0	2	0.023	1	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	1
Green Heron	88	0.757	15	52	0.604	11	3	0.069	2	143	0.582	28
Black-crowned Night-Heron	12	0.103	3	16	0.186	2	0	0.000	0	28	0.114	5
Turkey Vulture	940	8.083	17	471	5.472	12	68	1.568	5	1479	6.019	34
Osprey	10	0.086	6	25	0.290	7	10	0.231	3	45	0.183	16
Bald Eagle	59	0.507	8	57	0.662	11	59	1.360	5	175	0.712	24
Northern Harrier	12	0.103	7	20	0.232	10	17	0.392	5	49	0.199	22
Sharp-shinned Hawk	11	0.095	9	20	0.232	8	5	0.115	3	36	0.146	20
Cooper's Hawk	56	0.482	12	7	0.081	3	1	0.023	1	64	0.260	16
Northern Goshawk	0	0.000	0	2	0.023	2	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	2
Accipiter spp.	1	0.009	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	0.017	2	12	0.139	7	2	0.046	2	16	0.065	11
Broad-winged Hawk	15	0.129	7	7	0.081	4	9	0.208	3	31	0.126	14
Red-tailed Hawk	209	1.797	16	58	0.674	11	5	0.115	3	272	1.107	30
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0.000	0	8	0.093	4	2	0.046	2	10	0.041	6
buteo sp.	3	0.026	2	0	0.000	0	2	0.046	2	5	0.020	4

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Species	Southern LP			Northern LP			Upper Peninsula			Statewide		
	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	Total	/10 PH	# Ct's
American Kestrel	30	0.258	10	36	0.418	11	20	0.461	5	86	0.350	26
Merlin	2	0.017	2	6	0.070	4	9	0.208	3	17	0.069	9
Peregrine Falcon	7	0.060	5	3	0.035	3	0	0.000	0	10	0.041	8
Virginia Rail	36	0.310	10	29	0.337	8	1	0.023	1	66	0.269	19
Sora	92	0.791	13	52	0.604	8	2	0.046	2	146	0.594	23
Common Moorhen	6	0.052	2	2	0.023	1	0	0.000	0	8	0.033	3
American Coot	68	0.585	10	28	0.325	4	1	0.023	1	97	0.395	15
Sandhill Crane	430	3.697	16	97	1.127	13	98	2.260	5	625	2.543	34
Black-bellied Plover	1	0.009	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
American Golden-Plover	1	0.009	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Semipalmated Plover	10	0.086	3	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	11	0.045	4
Piping Plover	0	0.000	0	9	0.105	2	0	0.000	0	9	0.037	2
Killdeer	645	5.546	16	363	4.217	12	32	0.738	5	1040	4.232	33
Greater Yellowlegs	32	0.275	8	149	1.731	6	23	0.530	4	204	0.830	18
Lesser Yellowlegs	124	1.066	12	127	1.475	10	36	0.830	5	287	1.168	27
yellowlegs sp.	0	0.000	0	20	0.232	1	2	0.046	1	22	0.090	2
Solitary Sandpiper	61	0.525	11	46	0.534	10	20	0.461	4	127	0.517	25
Willet	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	17	0.392	2	18	0.073	3
Spotted Sandpiper	91	0.782	14	69	0.802	11	21	0.484	4	181	0.737	29
Upland Sandpiper	7	0.060	3	32	0.372	7	1	0.023	1	40	0.163	11
Semipalmated Sandpiper	3	0.026	1	3	0.035	2	0	0.000	0	6	0.024	3
Least Sandpiper	114	0.980	7	53	0.616	6	4	0.092	1	171	0.696	14
White-rumped Sandpiper	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
peep sp.	22	0.189	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	22	0.090	1
Pectoral Sandpiper	8	0.069	2	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	9	0.037	3
Dunlin	55	0.473	3	44	0.511	3	0	0.000	0	99	0.403	6
Short-billed Dowitcher	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	1	0.023	1	2	0.008	2
Wilson's Snipe	8	0.069	6	28	0.325	9	15	0.346	2	51	0.208	17
American Woodcock	39	0.335	10	61	0.709	11	20	0.461	3	120	0.488	24
Wilson's Phalarope	2	0.017	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	1
Bonaparte's Gull	5	0.043	1	48	0.558	4	62	1.430	2	115	0.468	7
Ring-billed Gull	20724	178.202	14	3933	45.693	12	1272	29.331	5	25929	105.515	31
Herring Gull	291	2.502	11	649	7.540	9	709	16.349	4	1649	6.710	24
Great Black-backed Gull	6	0.052	2	1	0.012	1	1	0.023	1	8	0.033	4
gull sp.	15	0.129	3	10376	120.546	4	465	10.722	3	10856	44.177	10
Caspian Tern	129	1.109	6	284	3.299	7	0	0.000	0	413	1.681	13
Common Tern	143	1.230	3	12	0.139	3	2	0.046	1	157	0.639	7
Forster's Tern	39	0.335	6	61	0.709	2	0	0.000	0	100	0.407	8
sterna sp.	4	0.034	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	4	0.016	1
Black Tern	6	0.052	1	4	0.046	4	0	0.000	0	10	0.041	5
Rock Pigeon	405	3.483	16	421	4.891	13	282	6.503	5	1108	4.509	34
Mourning Dove	1908	16.407	17	1849	21.481	13	299	6.895	5	4056	16.505	35
Black-billed Cuckoo	19	0.163	7	3	0.035	2	0	0.000	0	22	0.090	9
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	12	0.103	5	5	0.058	2	0	0.000	0	17	0.069	7
Eastern Screech-Owl	22	0.189	6	4	0.046	2	0	0.000	0	26	0.106	8
Great Horned Owl	22	0.189	6	11	0.128	5	5	0.115	1	38	0.155	12
Snowy Owl	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Barred Owl	24	0.206	7	26	0.302	9	8	0.184	4	58	0.236	20
Common Nighthawk	1	0.009	1	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	2
Whip-poor-will	11	0.095	6	19	0.221	6	4	0.092	3	34	0.138	15
Chimney Swift	1226	10.542	15	30	0.349	6	0	0.000	0	1256	5.111	21
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	113	0.972	16	95	1.104	12	20	0.461	2	228	0.928	30
Belted Kingfisher	79	0.679	15	65	0.755	12	60	1.384	5	204	0.830	32
Red-headed Woodpecker	40	0.344	11	24	0.279	9	8	0.184	1	72	0.293	21
Red-bellied Woodpecker	558	4.798	17	175	2.033	12	16	0.369	4	749	3.048	33
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	0.026	2	120	1.394	12	91	2.098	5	214	0.871	19
Downy Woodpecker	472	4.059	17	236	2.742	13	83	1.914	5	791	3.219	35
Hairy Woodpecker	135	1.161	16	154	1.789	12	53	1.222	5	342	1.392	33
Black-backed Woodpecker	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.023	1	1	0.004	1
Northern Flicker	372	3.199	17	310	3.602	13	143	3.297	5	825	3.357	35

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Species	Southern LP			Northern LP			Upper Peninsula			Statewide		
	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	#Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	#Ct's	Total	/10 PH	# Ct's
Pileated Woodpecker	42	0.361	9	73	0.848	12	33	0.761	5	148	0.602	26
Olive-sided Flycatcher	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	27	0.232	7	5	0.058	3	3	0.069	1	35	0.142	11
Acadian Flycatcher	9	0.077	3	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	9	0.037	3
Willow Flycatcher	3	0.026	2	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	3	0.012	2
Least Flycatcher	105	0.903	15	43	0.500	10	22	0.507	2	170	0.692	27
Empidonax sp.	29	0.249	5	0	0.000	0	1	0.023	1	30	0.122	6
Eastern Phoebe	197	1.694	16	137	1.592	12	73	1.683	5	407	1.656	33
Great Crested Flycatcher	346	2.975	17	121	1.406	11	5	0.115	2	472	1.921	30
Eastern Kingbird	313	2.691	16	142	1.650	12	7	0.161	2	462	1.880	30
White-eyed Vireo	8	0.069	4	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	9	0.037	5
Yellow-throated Vireo	202	1.737	16	26	0.302	9	0	0.000	0	228	0.928	25
Blue-headed Vireo	60	0.516	13	16	0.186	8	9	0.208	3	85	0.346	24
Warbling Vireo	462	3.973	16	94	1.092	8	0	0.000	0	556	2.263	24
Philadelphia Vireo	1	0.009	1	2	0.023	2	0	0.000	0	3	0.012	3
Red-eyed Vireo	195	1.677	15	20	0.232	8	1	0.023	1	216	0.879	24
Blue Jay	1927	16.570	17	1125	13.070	13	423	9.754	5	3475	14.141	35
American Crow	1641	14.111	17	1452	16.869	13	412	9.500	5	3505	14.263	35
Common Raven	0	0.000	0	69	0.802	9	120	2.767	5	189	0.769	14
Horned Lark	404	3.474	16	158	1.836	8	0	0.000	0	562	2.282	24
Purple Martin	348	2.992	13	127	1.475	10	0	0.000	0	475	1.933	23
Tree Swallow	3210	27.602	17	3693	42.904	13	953	21.975	5	7856	31.969	35
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	847	7.283	17	578	6.715	12	4	0.092	3	1429	5.815	32
Bank Swallow	1367	11.755	15	238	2.765	11	6	0.138	1	1611	6.556	27
Cliff Swallow	247	2.124	13	124	1.441	8	30	0.692	3	401	1.632	24
Barn Swallow	2763	23.759	16	989	11.490	12	24	0.553	5	3776	15.366	33
swallow sp.	3255	27.989	3	249	2.893	3	55	1.268	1	3559	14.483	7
Black-capped Chickadee	1309	11.256	17	1158	13.453	12	523	12.060	5	2990	12.167	34
Tufted Titmouse	833	7.163	17	315	3.660	11	0	0.000	0	1148	4.672	28
Red-breasted Nuthatch	36	0.310	12	101	1.173	11	124	2.859	5	261	1.062	28
White-breasted Nuthatch	390	3.354	16	182	2.114	13	69	1.591	5	641	2.608	34
Brown Creeper	41	0.353	8	24	0.279	9	11	0.254	3	76	0.309	20
Carolina Wren	52	0.447	10	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	53	0.216	11
House Wren	770	6.621	17	144	1.673	11	12	0.277	4	926	3.768	32
Winter Wren	3	0.026	3	40	0.465	7	22	0.507	4	65	0.265	14
Sedge Wren	5	0.043	5	13	0.151	6	1	0.023	1	19	0.077	12
Marsh Wren	59	0.507	10	19	0.221	3	2	0.046	1	80	0.326	14
wren sp.	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.023	1	1	0.004	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4	0.034	2	7	0.081	4	26	0.600	3	37	0.151	9
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	93	0.800	12	21	0.244	7	13	0.300	3	127	0.517	22
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	578	4.970	16	30	0.349	5	0	0.000	0	608	2.474	21
Eastern Bluebird	395	3.397	17	212	2.463	12	45	1.038	4	652	2.653	33
Veery	95	0.817	14	57	0.662	8	4	0.092	2	156	0.635	24
Gray-cheeked Thrush	11	0.095	7	9	0.105	4	0	0.000	0	20	0.081	11
Swainson's Thrush	92	0.791	12	8	0.093	4	2	0.046	2	102	0.415	18
Hermit Thrush	16	0.138	8	51	0.593	11	68	1.568	4	135	0.549	23
Wood Thrush	319	2.743	14	48	0.558	11	2	0.046	1	369	1.502	26
Catharus thrush	5	0.043	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	5	0.020	1
American Robin	7220	62.083	17	3378	39.245	13	658	15.173	5	11256	45.805	35
Gray Catbird	1483	12.752	17	156	1.812	11	24	0.553	2	1663	6.767	30
Northern Mockingbird	8	0.069	3	2	0.023	2	2	0.046	2	12	0.049	7
Brown Thrasher	97	0.834	11	179	2.080	13	11	0.254	5	287	1.168	29
European Starling	6388	54.929	17	3603	41.859	13	471	10.861	5	10462	42.574	35
American Pipit	87	0.748	8	240	2.788	9	8	0.184	1	335	1.363	18
Cedar Waxwing	551	4.738	13	83	0.964	8	3	0.069	2	637	2.592	23
Blue-winged Warbler	250	2.150	14	23	0.267	5	0	0.000	0	273	1.111	19
Brewster's Hybrid	2	0.017	2	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	2
Golden-winged Warbler	9	0.077	6	7	0.081	4	0	0.000	0	16	0.065	10
Tennessee Warbler	119	1.023	13	15	0.174	5	3	0.069	1	137	0.558	19
Orange-crowned Warbler	11	0.095	5	6	0.070	4	0	0.000	0	17	0.069	9

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	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	#Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	#Ct's	Total	/10 PH	# Ct's
Nashville Warbler	325	2.795	16	203	2.358	11	26	0.600	4	554	2.254	31
Northern Parula	34	0.292	12	12	0.139	6	3	0.069	2	49	0.199	20
Yellow Warbler	2386	20.517	17	472	5.484	11	11	0.254	2	2869	11.675	30
Chestnut-sided Warbler	128	1.101	16	19	0.221	6	1	0.023	1	148	0.602	23
Magnolia Warbler	88	0.757	13	12	0.139	5	0	0.000	0	100	0.407	18
Cape May Warbler	20	0.172	9	5	0.058	4	0	0.000	0	25	0.102	13
Black-throated Blue Warbler	30	0.258	13	36	0.418	5	1	0.023	1	67	0.273	19
Yellow-rumped Warbler	672	5.778	16	738	8.574	12	300	6.918	5	1710	6.959	33
Black-throated Green Warbler	280	2.408	16	141	1.638	12	23	0.530	3	444	1.807	31
Blackburnian Warbler	45	0.387	14	17	0.198	4	1	0.023	1	63	0.256	19
Yellow-throated Warbler	2	0.017	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	1
Pine Warbler	59	0.507	12	86	0.999	12	22	0.507	3	167	0.680	27
Palm Warbler	236	2.029	16	182	2.114	10	95	2.191	5	513	2.088	31
Bay-breasted Warbler	17	0.146	8	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	18	0.073	9
Blackpoll Warbler	19	0.163	9	0	0.000	0	1	0.023	1	20	0.081	10
Cerulean Warbler	35	0.301	7	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	36	0.146	8
Black-and-white Warbler	145	1.247	16	86	0.999	10	10	0.231	4	241	0.981	30
American Redstart	155	1.333	17	51	0.593	8	0	0.000	0	206	0.838	25
Prothonotary Warbler	9	0.077	6	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	10	0.041	7
Ovenbird	372	3.199	14	295	3.427	13	25	0.576	4	692	2.816	31
Northern Waterthrush	64	0.550	13	62	0.720	10	13	0.300	3	139	0.566	26
Louisiana Waterthrush	9	0.077	6	4	0.046	2	0	0.000	0	13	0.053	8
Mourning Warbler	2	0.017	2	3	0.035	1	0	0.000	0	5	0.020	3
Common Yellowthroat	1351	11.617	17	221	2.568	13	10	0.231	2	1582	6.438	32
Hooded Warbler	29	0.249	8	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	29	0.118	8
Wilson's Warbler	9	0.077	5	3	0.035	3	0	0.000	0	12	0.049	8
Canada Warbler	4	0.034	2	2	0.023	1	0	0.000	0	6	0.024	3
Yellow-breasted Chat	2	0.017	2	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	2	0.008	2
Summer Tanager	1	0.009	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Scarlet Tanager	250	2.150	14	28	0.325	10	0	0.000	0	278	1.131	24
Eastern Towhee	401	3.448	14	87	1.011	11	2	0.046	2	490	1.994	27
American Tree Sparrow	0	0.000	0	75	0.871	6	11	0.254	3	86	0.350	9
Chipping Sparrow	1676	14.412	17	1220	14.174	13	418	9.639	5	3314	13.486	35
Clay-colored Sparrow	12	0.103	4	27	0.314	5	8	0.184	2	47	0.191	11
Field Sparrow	364	3.130	14	66	0.767	10	0	0.000	0	430	1.750	24
Vesper Sparrow	62	0.533	11	131	1.522	12	52	1.199	3	245	0.997	26
Savannah Sparrow	339	2.915	16	231	2.684	12	94	2.168	5	664	2.702	33
Grasshopper Sparrow	48	0.413	10	42	0.488	7	0	0.000	0	90	0.366	17
Henslow's Sparrow	6	0.052	4	3	0.035	1	0	0.000	0	9	0.037	5
Fox Sparrow	0	0.000	0	3	0.035	2	1	0.023	1	4	0.016	3
Song Sparrow	2084	17.920	17	794	9.225	12	250	5.765	5	3128	12.729	34
Lincoln's Sparrow	28	0.241	7	23	0.267	5	5	0.115	4	56	0.228	16
Swamp Sparrow	340	2.924	17	176	2.045	11	82	1.891	4	598	2.433	32
White-throated Sparrow	474	4.076	16	255	2.963	13	194	4.473	5	923	3.756	34
White-crowned Sparrow	1532	13.173	17	677	7.865	11	109	2.513	5	2318	9.433	33
Dark-eyed Junco	10	0.086	1	31	0.360	6	70	1.614	4	111	0.452	11
Lapland Longspur	14	0.120	2	32	0.372	3	0	0.000	0	46	0.187	5
Northern Cardinal	2238	19.244	17	596	6.924	12	35	0.807	3	2869	11.675	32
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1140	9.803	17	739	8.586	13	114	2.629	4	1993	8.110	34
Indigo Bunting	375	3.225	15	48	0.558	9	20	0.461	3	443	1.803	27
Dickcissel	1	0.009	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Bobolink	223	1.918	14	267	3.102	11	5	0.115	2	495	2.014	27
Red-winged Blackbird	12151	104.484	17	5657	65.722	13	881	20.315	5	18689	76.053	35
Eastern Meadowlark	238	2.047	15	265	3.079	12	21	0.484	3	524	2.132	30
Western Meadowlark	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	0	0.000	0	1	0.004	1
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1	0.009	1	14	0.163	1	0	0.000	0	15	0.061	2
Rusty Blackbird	18	0.155	2	3	0.035	2	28	0.646	3	49	0.199	7
Brewer's Blackbird	18	0.155	3	71	0.825	7	80	1.845	5	169	0.688	15
Common Grackle	3566	30.663	17	2455	28.522	13	330	7.609	5	6351	25.845	35
Brown-headed Cowbird	2283	19.631	17	1100	12.780	13	139	3.205	5	3522	14.332	35

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Table 4. Species Account by Region and Statewide Total, Michigan NAMC, 9-May-2009

Species	Southern LP			Northern LP			Upper Peninsula			Statewide		
	TOTAL	/10 PH	# Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	#Ct's	TOTAL	/10 PH	#Ct's	Total	/10 PH	# Ct's
blackbird sp.	62	0.533	3	40	0.465	2	49	1.130	1	151	0.614	6
Orchard Oriole	40	0.344	10	4	0.046	3	0	0.000	0	44	0.179	13
Baltimore Oriole	1420	12.210	17	448	5.205	13	23	0.530	2	1891	7.695	32
Purple Finch	3	0.026	1	197	2.289	12	169	3.897	5	369	1.502	18
House Finch	505	4.342	16	318	3.694	11	62	1.430	4	885	3.601	31
Red Crossbill	0	0.000	0	1	0.012	1	2	0.046	1	3	0.012	2
White-winged Crossbill	35	0.301	1	0	0.000	0	2	0.046	1	37	0.151	2
Common Redpoll	0	0.000	0	3	0.035	1	4	0.092	1	7	0.028	2
Pine Siskin	170	1.462	12	543	6.308	11	608	14.020	5	1321	5.376	28
American Goldfinch	3065	26.355	17	2195	25.501	13	518	11.945	5	5778	23.513	35
Evening Grosbeak	0	0.000	0	6	0.070	2	27	0.623	4	33	0.134	6
House Sparrow	2650	22.787	17	636	7.389	11	20	0.461	3	3306	13.453	31
Species	214	-	-	223	-	-	169	-	-	239	-	-
Individuals	124635	-	-	68301	-	-	15705	-	-	208641	-	-

Table 4 - page 5 of 5

Table 5. Effort by Region and Statewide Total, Michigan NAMC, 9-May-2009

	Southern LP	Northern LP	Upper Peninsula	Statewide
(Regular) Observers	295	160	75	530
Parties	164	80	43	287
Hours foot	614.6	187.3	141.7	943.5
Hours car	432.1	387.0	104.8	923.8
Hours boat	6.5	0.0	0.0	6.5
Hours canoe/kayak	0.5	2.0	0.0	2.5
Hours bike	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5
Hours banding	0.0	4.5	0.0	4.5
Hours golfcart	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5
Hours other	5.0	0.0	0.0	5.0
Miles foot	451.1	184.7	126.5	762.3
Miles car	4183.9	4135.0	1562.0	9880.9
Miles boat	72.5	0.0	0.0	72.5
Miles canoe/kayak	1.3	2.0	0.0	3.3
Miles bike	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miles golfcart	4.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
Miles other	16.0	0.0	0.0	16.0
Hours Feeder Watch	69.5	263.5	171.5	504.5
#Feeder Watchers	32	97	48	177
#Feeder Stations	50	260	108	418
Hours Owling	32.9	21.5	15.8	70.1
Miles Owling	269.7	209.0	59.5	538.2
#parties owling	17	14	8	39
#observers owling	30	19	8	57
# stops owling	108	59	34	201
Total Party Hours	1163.0	860.8	433.7	2457.4
Audio passerine lure used	7	8	1	16



Michigan Bird Survey

Winter 2008 - 2009 (December- February)

Jonathan T. Wuepper

4560 Bacon School Rd.

St. Joseph, MI. 49085

This survey is comprehensive in that it includes all available data from direct participation in the Michigan Bird Survey and additionally, records from various online databases such as eBird, Northbirding.com, and many local and regional bird organizations around Michigan. Although all of Michigan's 83 counties are represented in the data, some counties are only represented by one or two species (mainly White-winged Crossbill).

The Southern Lower Peninsula and Upper Peninsula received good coverage overall. The Northern Lower Peninsula lake border counties were well represented, while the central Northern Lower Peninsula submitted the fewest reports.

Most weather stations reported colder than normal temperatures and average to above average snowfall amount in December (Lansing reported its 3rd snowiest December on record) and January. A cold snap engulfed the region over 19-21 January, marking all-time low temperatures at many stations. Snow cover was reported deep statewide until February, when warm-ups occurred resulting in melting of the snow in the southern two-thirds of the Lower Peninsula.

Above average numbers of Snowy Owls were found across the state. Most notable was the fact they were widespread in the Southern Lower Peninsula. Great Gray Owl, Northern Hawk Owl, and Boreal Owl were represented this season, but in no great numbers.

The winter of 2008-2009 was characterized by a massive invasion of White-winged Crossbills, as well as widespread reports of Pine Siskin and Common Redpoll and several well documented records of Hoary Redpoll. Nearly 1000 reports of White-winged Crossbills were received throughout the period and from counties where the species had not been reported in decades. The crossbill invasion was well under way in Michigan by early December as far south as Washtenaw County. Reports peaked in late January and gradually tapered off through February. At the end of the survey period, the species was still being reported in the Southern Lower Peninsula, albeit in reduced numbers. A search through the Michigan Bird



Survey, as well as older literature on Michigan ornithology, suggests that there has never been an invasion of White-winged Crossbills comparable to this winter. The most noteworthy rarities this season were Red Phalarope, Eurasian-Collared Dove, two Rufous Hummingbirds, and American Three-toed Woodpecker. The state also had a number of impressive out-of-season rarities, including Michigan's first winter season record of Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. A Franklin's Gull was the first during the winter season in over a decade. Other less than annual winter season species reported were: Eared Grebe, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Ovenbird, Summer Tanager, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Overall, a total of 176 species was reported in Michigan during the 90-day period.

Abbreviations (County names are in *italics*)

ad(s) = adult(s)

ASGA = Allegan State Game Area, *Allegan*

CBC = Christmas Bird Count

DNR = Department of Natural Resources

HRT = Highest Reported Total(s)

imm(s). = immature(s)

juv(s). = juvenile(s)

LEMP = Lake Erie Metropark, *Wayne*

MBRC = Michigan Bird Records Committee

m.ob. = many observers

MP = Metropark

MWS = Muskegon Wastewater System, *Muskegon*

NC = Nature Center

NLP = Northern Lower Peninsula

p.a. = pending acceptance (by MBRC)

PM = Pointe Mouillee State Game Area, *Monroe*

SELP = Southeastern Lower Peninsula

SLP = Southern Lower Peninsula

SNWR = Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, *Saginaw*

SSM = Sault Sainte Marie, *Chippewa*

SP = State Park

SWLP = Southwestern Lower Peninsula

TP = Through Period

Twp. = Township

UP = Upper Peninsula

Numbers in parentheses following each species name refer to the number of counties reporting from the UP, NLP, and SLP, respectively. If a species was reported from all 83 counties, the numbers would be (15,33,35). Species that are accidental, casual, or otherwise noteworthy are in all CAPS.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Greater White-fronted Goose

(0,1,0) One from Fall-TP at Traverse City, *Grand Traverse* (*fide EM, m.ob.*) was the only report.

Snow Goose (0,0,4)

10 on 3 Dec at SNWR (DP); 35 on 7 Dec at Dearborn, *Wayne* (JAC); and reports from *Allegan* and *Muskegon*.

ROSS'S GOOSE (0,0,3) A juv. on 31 Dec at Douglas, *Allegan* (RB); a juv. on 26 Jan-TP at ASGA (RB, DPa); and 1 on 23 Feb at Huron River mouth, *Monroe/Wayne* (WP).

Cackling Goose (0,0,5) 5 on 2 Dec at PM (AMB); 2 on 3 Dec at Three Oaks, *Berrien* (MH); 2 on 8 Dec at Oakwoods MP, *Wayne* (WP); 1 on 25 Jan at Stepping Stone Falls, *Genesee* was a first county record (JBU); and 3 on 1 Feb at ASGA (RB).

Canada Goose (4,16,35) HRT – 10,500 on 26 Jan at ASGA (RB). UP reports were from *Baraga*, *Chippewa*, *Marquette*, and *Schoolcraft*.

Mute Swan (2,18,31) HRT – 380 on 6 Jan at Pointe Mouillee DNR headquarters, *Wayne* (ATC). Also

noteworthy was 168 on 14 Dec at Bennett Lake, *Livingston* (KO). UP reports were from *Chippewa* and *Mackinac*.

Trumpeter Swan (3,3,16) HRT – 48 at Westgate and 45 at Largo Springs, both on 6 Dec in *Iosco* (WWS, REE). UP reports were 2 on 14 Feb in *Watersmeet Twp.*, *Gogebic* (PO); 2 on 24 Feb at Christmas, *Alger* (SH); and a report from *Schoolcraft*. The other NLP report was 3 on 9 Jan at *Manistee River, Manistee* (CMS). SLP reports came from *Allegan, Barry, Calhoun, Cass, Eaton, Ingham, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Tuscola, Van Buren, and Washtenaw*.

Tundra Swan (1,6,15) HRT – 1600 on 10 Dec in *Brownstown Twp., Wayne* (WP). UP reports were 200 on 7 Dec near Dunbar, *Chippewa* (SLB) and 20 on 6 Dec in *Chippewa* (CF).

Wood Duck (0,2,10) In the NLP, 1 on 22 Dec at Middlegrounds, *Bay* (JS) and a report from *Iosco*. SLP reports were from *Allegan, Berrien, Genesee, Kalamazoo, Kent, Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne*.

Canvasback (0,4,19) HRT – 13,500 on 6 Jan (ATC) and 1100 on 17 Dec (WP), both at LEMP (WP), and 1000 on 9 Feb at Belle Isle, Wayne (ATC). Reported in the NLP from Bay, Grand Traverse, Manistee, and Midland.

Redhead (2,12,19) HRT – 3000+ on 7 Dec at St. Ignace, Mackinac (SJB); 2500 on 6 Jan at LEMP (ATC); and 1600+ on 15 Feb at Tawas Bay, Iosco (REE). Also reported in the UP from Marquette.

Ring-necked Duck (0,5,15) HRT – 26 on 10 Dec at LEMP (WP). NLP reports were 20 on 21 Feb at Dow Ponds, Midland (JZ) and from Bay, Grand Traverse, Iosco, and Manistee.

Greater Scaup (2,10,11) HRT – 255 on 9 Feb at Belle Isle, Wayne (ATC). UP reports were from Alger and Mackinac.

Lesser Scaup (0,7,17) HRT – 750 on 6 Jan at LEMP (ATC). NLP reports were from Bay, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Midland, and Oceana.

Harlequin Duck (0,1,2) A female on 31 Dec was joined by an imm. male on 3-11 Jan at Ludington, Mason (DD, BA, m.ob). SLP reports were a male on 9-17 Dec at St. Joseph, Berrien (TB, MH) and a female on 10-13 Dec at Muskegon, Muskegon (AV, m.ob.).

Surf Scoter (0,0,5) Reports received from Berrien, Muskegon, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne.

White-winged Scoter (2,6,11) HRT – 43 on 2 Feb at Port Huron, St. Clair (ATC). UP reports were 18 on 18 Dec at Straits of Mackinac, Mackinac (SJB) and 1 on 28 Dec on Whitefish Point CBC, Chippewa (*fide* GCI). NLP reports consisted of 5 on 14 Dec in Presque Isle (*fide* BG); 1 on 14 Dec on Manistee CBC, Manistee (*fide* BA); 3 on 21 Dec in Leelanau (*fide* BC); a male on 7 Feb at Ludington, Mason (DD); 4 on 28 Feb at AuSable River mouth, Iosco (DJ, REE); and a sighting in Benzie. In the SLP, 1 on 2-4 Dec at Big Portage Lake, Washtenaw (RW); 7 on 14 Dec at St. Joseph, Berrien (MH); 25 on 2 Jan at Port Huron, St. Clair (SAJ); 1 on 2 Jan at Douglas, Allegan (RB); a male on 31 Jan at Constantine, Cass was a first county record (JTW); 1 on 2 Feb at Lake Macatawa, Ottawa (RB); 6 on 7 Feb at Muskegon Lake Channel, Muskegon (RP); 2 on 13 Feb at Harbor Beach, Huron (SG, RN); and reports from Sanilac, Van Buren, and Wayne.

Black Scoter (1,1,6) HRT – 7 on 20 Dec on Hudsonville CBC, Ottawa (*fide* FB). Sole UP report was 1 on 8 Dec at Munising, Alger (SH). NLP report was 1 on 8 Feb at Ludington, Mason (DD). Other SLP reports were 1+ on 3 Dec in Muskegon (CF);



1 on 7 Dec at Belle Isle, Wayne (DOB); 1 on 13-15 Dec at Portage Lake, Washtenaw (SAJ, ATC); 2 on 14 Dec at St. Joseph, Berrien (MH); and 6 on 16 Dec at Douglas, Allegan (RB);.

Long-tailed Duck (4,8,10) HRT – 4000 on 8 Feb off Muskegon SP, Muskegon (CW). UP reports were 1 on 17 Dec at Eagle Harbor, Keweenaw (TA, m.ob.); 80 on 18 Dec at Straits of Mackinac, Mackinac (SJB); 1 on 28 Dec on Whitefish Point CBC, Chippewa (*fide* GCI); 5 on 18 Jan in Keweenaw (NAA); and from Alger. Reports from the NLP were 12 on 14 Dec in *Presque Isle* (*fide* BG); a flock on 11 Jan at Ludington, Mason (BA); and sightings in Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Benzie, Iosco, and Manistee. SLP reports were a male on 1 Dec onshore at New Buffalo, Berrien (MH); 1 on 3 Dec at LEMP (WP); 105 on 2 Jan (SAJ) and 460 on 2 Feb (ATC) at Port Huron, St. Clair; 1 on 2 Jan at Douglas, Allegan (RB); 1 on 6 Jan off Grand Mere SP, Berrien (PU); 1 on 2 Feb at Lester Lake, Oakland (ATC); 2 on 2 Feb at Lake Macatawa, Ottawa (RB); and from Huron, Muskegon, Sanilac, and Van Buren.

Bufflehead (7,17,22) HRT – 280 on 2 Feb at Lake Macatawa, Ottawa (RB) and 74 on 16 Dec at Douglas, Allegan (RB). UP reports came from Alger, Chippewa, Houghton,

Keweenaw, Mackinac, Marquette, and Schoolcraft.

Common Goldeneye (10,16,27) HRT – 3870 on 2 Feb at Lake Macatawa, Ottawa (RB);

Hooded Merganser (3,14,24) HRT – 15 on 4 Dec at Harbor Springs, Emmet (SLB) and 5 on 9 Jan at the Manistee River, Manistee (CMS). UP reports came from Chippewa, Mackinac, and Marquette.

Common Merganser (9,19,26) HRT – 276 on 2 Feb at Lake Macatawa, Ottawa (RB); 125 on 9 Jan at Saginaw River, Bay (JS).

Red-breasted Merganser (6,12,14) HRT – 484 on 16 Dec at Douglas, Allegan (RB); 162 on 2 Feb at Lake Macatawa, Allegan (RB). UP reports were from Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Mackinac, and Marquette.

Ruddy Duck (0,1,6) HRT – 105 on 1 Dec at LEMP (WP). Other SLP reports came from Berrien, Cass, Hillsdale, Oakland, and Washtenaw (1 on 29 Dec at Portage Lake, GM). Sole NLP report was 1 on 7 Dec at Saginaw River, Bay (LJD).

Ring-necked Pheasant (3,10,33) HRT – 100 in mid-Jan in Lenawee (*fide* MP) was a good total. UP counties reporting included Chippewa (questionable origin),

Delta and *Menominee*. NLP reports were from *Arenac*, *Bay*, *Cheboygan*, *Clare*, *Isabella*, *Leelanau*, *Mecosta*, *Newaygo*, *Osceola*, and *Presque Isle*.

Ruffed Grouse (12,16,4) SLP reports came from *Allegan*, *Oakland*, *Saginaw*, and *Tuscola*.

Spruce Grouse (1,0,0) 2 on 15 Feb near *Paradise*, *Chippewa* (BM) was the only report.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (4,0,0) 12 on 2 Dec near *Rudyard*, *Chippewa* (SJB); "Good numbers" reported on 6-7 Dec along *Riverside Road* & *12th Street*, south of *SSM* (CF); 17 on 10 Dec in *Chippewa* (SJB); 5 on 6 Feb near *Soo Junction*, *Luce* (DSt); 3 on 8 Feb at *Sleeper Lake Burn*, *Luce* (JY, ZG); 7 on 12 Feb at *Point LaBarbe*, *Mackinac* (GV); and 36 on 14 Feb at *Shingleton*, *Alger* (SH).

Wild Turkey (6,28,33) Reported from the UP counties of *Chippewa*, *Delta*, *Iron*, *Mackinac*, *Menominee*, and *Schoolcraft*. Widespread and common in the LP.

NORTHERN BOBWHITE (0,0,1) One on 27 Jan in *Hillsdale* (FZ) was the only report of this declining species.

Red-throated Loon (0,0,4) Present from Fall-30 Dec with HRT of 51 on 30 Dec in *Berrien* (AMB, PCC, m.ob.); 1 on 16 Dec at *Douglas*, *Allegan* (RB); and reports from *Muskegon* and *Ottawa*.

Common Loon (2,3,2) In the UP, 1 on 2 Dec at *Watersmeet*, *Gogebic* (PO) and a report from *Alger*. NLP reports were 3 on 14 Dec in *Grand Traverse* (fide EM); 1 on 14 Dec off *Presque Isle* (fide BG); and 1 on 9 Jan at *Tawas Bay*, *Iosco* (WWS) representing 3rd *Saginaw Bay* area January record. SLP reports were 1 on 15 Feb found dead at *Weko Beach* in *Bridgman*, *Berrien* (BA) and from *Wayne*.

Pied-billed Grebe (0,3,11) NLP reports consisted of 1 on 21 Dec in *Leelanau* (fide BC); 2 on 9 Jan at *Manistee River*, *Manistee* (CMS); and 1 on 9 Jan at *Saginaw River*, *Bay* (JS). SLP reports were 2 on 3 Dec at *LEMP* (WP); at least 1 on 4 Dec at *Baw Beese Lake*, *Hillsdale* (JR); and from *Berrien*, *Cass*, *Genesee*, *Ingham*, *Kalamazoo*, *Muskegon*, *Oakland*, *St. Joseph*, and *Washtenaw*.

Horned Grebe (0,5,6) HRT – 24 on 21 Dec on *Lake Leelanau* CBC, *Leelanau* (fide BC). Other NLP reports were 5 on 14 Dec in *Grand Traverse* (fide EM); 4 on 14 Dec at *Petoskey*, *Emmet* (SJB); 2 on 20 Dec near *Beulah*, *Benzie* (JE, m.ob.); and 6 on 6 Feb at *Karn Plant*, *Bay* (JS). SLP reports were 2 from Fall-3 Dec at *Belle Isle*, *Wayne* (JF); 1 on 11 Dec at *LEMP* (WP); 1 on 14 Dec at *St. Joseph*, *Berrien* (MH); 1 on 20 Dec at *Holland*, *Ottawa* (CF); and 2 on 12 Feb at *Muskegon Lake Channel*, *Muskegon* (FD).



Red-necked Grebe (2,1,0) Singles on 12 Dec in Mackinac (SJB); 14 Dec on Petoskey CBC, Emmet (*fide* EP); and 21 Dec at Keweenaw Bay, Baraga (JK).

EARED GREBE (0,0,1) One on 9 Dec at St. Joseph, Berrien (TB), was Michigan's first winter season record since 2002-2003.

Double-crested Cormorant (0,2,6) NLP reports were 1 on 9 Dec at Saginaw River, Bay (JS) and 2 on 14 Dec at Traverse City, Grand Traverse (*fide* EM). SLP reports were 5 on 7 Dec at Douglas, Allegan (RB); 13 on 14 Dec at Whiting Power Plant, Monroe (ATC); 1 on 20 Dec in Ottawa (CF); 4 on 6 Jan at Whiting Power Plant, Monroe (ATC); 32 on 1 Feb at Monroe Power Plant, Monroe (SAJ); and from St. Clair, Sanilac, and Wayne.

Great Blue Heron (0,1,24) Reported in the NLP from Bay.

GREAT EGRET (0,0,1) 5 on 14 Dec (JSJ, TWa, MSh), up to 2 from 1-18 Jan (KO, SAJ, ATC), and 1 on 24 Feb (TW), all at Monroe Power Plant, Monroe.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (0,0,2) 5 on 1 Dec and 4 on 5 Dec (WP) and 3 on 6 Jan (ATC) at Gibraltar, Wayne (WP); 3 on 14 Dec at Whiting Power Plant, Monroe (ATC); 30 on 1 Jan at

Dearborn, Wayne (JF); 3 on 6 Jan at Gibraltar, Wayne (ATC); and 1 on 1 Feb at Monroe Power Plant, Monroe (SAJ).

Turkey Vulture (0,0,9) 7 on 29 Dec along M-52, south of Pleasant Lake Rd., Washtenaw (MS, DAA, LC); 3 on 5 Jan near Manchester, Washtenaw (ATC); 4 on 15 Feb in Careton Twp., Barry (AK, DK); 1 on 25 Feb south of Cass City, Tuscola (JEV); 1 on 25 Feb at Dearborn, Wayne (*fide* JAC); 1 on 26 Feb in Eaton (TK); and reports from Berrien, Calhoun, Kent, Monroe, and Oakland.

Bald Eagle (14,23,31) HRT – 71 on 3 Dec at SNWR (DP).

Northern Harrier (1,4,18) Reported in the UP from Delta.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (6,15,28) UP reports from Baraga, Chippewa, Houghton, Keweenaw, Mackinac, and Marquette.

Cooper's Hawk (3,17,35) UP reports were from Chippewa, Mackinac, and Menominee.

Northern Goshawk (2,5,8) UP reports were from Chippewa and Schoolcraft. NLP reports from Alcona, Cheboygan, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, and Leelanau. SLP reports from Jackson, Macomb, Montcalm, Oakland, St. Clair, Tuscola, Washtenaw, and Wayne.

Red-shouldered Hawk (2,5,19)

Unusual UP reports were 1 on 20 Dec near Dafter, Chippewa (SJB); 1 in early Feb reportedly attended a suet feeder at Newberry, Luce (DSt); and 1 on 7 Feb along Lower Hay Lake Rd., Chippewa (WMc). NLP reports were 1 on 14 Dec at Traverse City, Grand Traverse (*fide* EM); 1 on 14 Dec on Manistee CBC, Manistee (BA); 1 on 20 Dec in Benzie (*fide* BA); and 1 on 1 Feb in Bangor Twp., Bay (GPe, EP). SLP reports were 2 from Fall-TP in Royalton Twp., Berrien (JTW); 1 on 20 Dec-13 Feb at Southfield, Oakland (FGG); 1 on 28 Dec at Dearborn, Wayne (JAC); 1 on 30 Dec at ASGA (m.ob.); 1 on 7 Feb at Stepping Stone Falls, Genesee (RN); 1 on 2 Feb in Forest Twp., Genesee (SG); and from Clinton, Ingham, Jackson, Kent, Lapeer, Livingston, Muskegon, Monroe, Ottawa, Saginaw, St. Clair, Tuscola, Van Buren, and Washtenaw.

Red-tailed Hawk (6,18,35).**Rough-legged Hawk** (5,21,31).

Golden Eagle (0,1,3) Fewer reports than last year. Reported in NLP from Bay. Otherwise 1 on 30 Dec at ASGA, Allegan (*fide* RA); 1 on 5 Jan at SNWR (SFK); 2 on 15 Feb (TP) and 1 on 16 Feb at MWS (CW); and 1 on 15 Feb in Albee Twp., Saginaw (JDS, JSO).

American Kestrel (1,8,34)

Reported in the UP from Dickinson.

Merlin (4,4,15) UP reports were from Chippewa, Keweenaw, Mackinac, and Marquette. NLP reports were from Bay, Cheboygan, Mason, and Presque Isle.



Merlins seem to be overwintering in and near Michigan's urban centers more often in recent years. This cooperative individual, dining on an unidentified passerine, was photographed in southern Washtenaw Co. on 10 December 2008. Photo by Bruce Bowman.

GYRFALCON (2,0,0) A gray-

morph on 8 Feb at 10 Mile Rd. near Dafter, Chippewa (JSO). Also reported from Marquette.

Peregrine Falcon (3,1,11) More reports and more widespread than usual. Reported in the UP from Chippewa, Mackinac, and Marquette. In the NLP, reported from Bay, and in the SLP from Berrien, Genesee, Ingham, Jackson, Macomb, Monroe, Ottawa, Saginaw, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne.



VIRGINIA RAIL (0,0,1) One on 27 Dec at Waterloo-Pinckney State Recreation Area, *Washtenaw* (RY, MY).

American Coot (0,4,13) Reported north in the NLP to *Bay, Emmet, Grand Traverse, and Iosco*.

Sandhill Crane (0,1,16) Reported in the NLP from *Wexford*.

Killdeer (0,1,6) NLP report came from *Grand Traverse*. SLP reports were 5 on 2 Dec at PM (AMB); up to 5 from 6-13 Dec at Andrews University, *Berrien* (TB); 3 on 11 Feb in *Eaton* (*fide* DMc); and 1 on 23 Feb near Okemos, *Ingham* (*fide* DMc); and from *Allegan* and *Ottawa*.

Purple Sandpiper (0,1,3) Up to 3 from 3-13 Dec at Pere Marquette SP, *Muskegon* (CF, AV); 1 on 17 Dec at New Buffalo, *Berrien* (TB); 1 in late Dec at Ludington, *Mason* (DD); and 1 on 1 Jan at Holland SP, *Ottawa* (CM).

Wilson's Snipe (0,0,3) One on 16 Dec at Iron Creek Mill Pond, *Manchester, Washtenaw* (MB) and 1 on 23 Dec flushed along Pipestone Creek, *Berrien* (GA). Also reported from *Livingston*.

American Woodcock (0,0,1) Despite the harsh winter, 1 was heard peenting on 17 Feb at Sarett NC, *Berrien* (MM).

RED PHALAROPE (0,0,1) One from Fall-2 Dec offshore of PM (AMB, GB); accepted by MBRC.

FRANKLIN'S GULL (1,0,0) One on 5 Dec at Munising, *Alger* (SH) was Michigan's first winter season record since 1998-1999.

LITTLE GULL (0,1,0) One ad. on 8 Dec at mouth of Big Sable River, *Mason* (DD) was Michigan's first winter season record since 2004-2005.

Bonaparte's Gull (0,3,4) HRT – 860 on 1 Dec in Brownstown Twp., *Wayne* (WP); 800 on 3 Dec at Saginaw River mouth, *Bay* (REr); and 500+ on 1 Dec along Saginaw River, *Bay* (JS). Northernmost report was 3 on 21 Dec on Lake Leelanau CBC, *Leelanau* (*fide* BC). Also present in *Berrien, Monroe, and Muskegon*.

Ring-billed Gull (3,14,25).

Herring Gull (9,15,21).

Thayer's Gull (2,1,5) UP reports were 2 on 20 Dec at Marquette, *Marquette* (*fide* GCI) and a sighting in *Chippewa*. Reported from *Alcona* in the NLP. SLP reports were a first cycle bird on 3 Dec at Three Oaks, *Berrien* (MH); an ad. on 30 Dec at ASGA (AMB, PCC); a first-cycle bird on 30 Dec in Brownstown Twp., *Wayne* (WP); a first-cycle bird on 3

Feb at Visteon Pond, Wayne (ATC); and from Monroe and Muskegon.

Iceland Gull (3,1,7) UP reports were a first-cycle bird on 12 Dec and 2 ads. and a first-cycle bird on 18 Dec at Dafter Dump, Chippewa (SJB); a first-cycle bird on 14-17 Dec at Munising, Alger (SH); 1 on 20 Dec at Marquette Landfill, Marquette (ZG, DPa, m.ob.); and 1 on 16 Feb at mouth of Dead River, Marquette (DPa). In the NLP, at least 2 from 7 Dec-2 Jan at Saginaw River, Bay (m.ob.). SLP reports were a first-cycle bird on 5-12 Dec at Lake Fenton, Genesee (JBu); 1 on 5 Dec at Ojibwa Island, Saginaw (JDS); a 2nd-cycle bird on 30 Dec at New Buffalo, Berrien (PCC, AMB); 1 on 2 Jan at Port Huron, St. Clair (SAJ); 3 first-cycle birds on 3 Feb with 1 on 9-10 & 21 Feb (ATC, WP) and an ad. on 19-21 Feb (WP) at Visteon Ponds, Wayne; 1 on 13 Feb at Harbor Beach, Huron (SG, RN); and from Ottawa.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (0,1,10) HRT – 5 ads. on 19 Feb at Visteon Pond, Wayne (WP, ATC). Only NLP reports were 2 ads. on 8-17 Dec (LD, JS) and a 2nd-cycle bird on 14 Dec at Saginaw River, Bay (LD). SLP reports were an ad. on 3 Dec at MWS (CF); 1 on 3 Dec at Three Oaks, Berrien (MH); 4 ads. on 5 Dec at SNWR (DP); 2 on 14-16 Dec (AD, WP, m.ob.), a first-cycle bird on 3 Feb (ATC), and 1 on 26 Feb (DF),



The number of white-winged gull reports (Thayer's, Iceland, and Glaucous) was notable this winter. This adult Iceland Gull was photographed at Port Huron, St. Clair Co. on 25 February 2009. Photo by Jerry Jourdan.

all at Visteon Plant, Wayne; 1 on 14 Dec at Douglas, Allegan (RB); 3 on 6 Jan at Whiting Power Plant, Monroe (ATC); an ad. and a first-cycle bird on 9 Feb at Edison Lake, Wayne (ATC); 1 on 19 Feb at Harbor Beach, Huron (*fide* DP); and reports from Ottawa and Washtenaw.

Glaucous Gull (3,3,13) HRT – 8 on 16 Dec at Saginaw River, Bay (LD). UP reports were 3 on 16 Dec (SJB), 2 on 9 Feb (TRW), and 4 on 13 Feb (*fide* SHa), all at Dafter Dump, Chippewa (SJB); 3 on 17 Dec



at Munising, *Alger* (SH); and up to 4 from 11-12 Feb at *Marquette*, *Marquette* (SHa). In the NLP, 1 on 14 Dec on *Petoskey CBC*, *Emmet* (*fide EP*), and additional reports from *Emmet* and *Manistee*. SLP reports were 1 on 2 Dec at *Lake Lansing*, *Ingham* (TRW); 3 on 3-13 Dec (CF, m.ob.) and 1 on 22 Jan (FD) at *MWS*; 1+ on 3 Dec at *Pere Marquette SP*, *Muskegon* (CF, m.ob.); a first-cycle bird on 3 Dec at *Forest Lawn Landfill*, *Berrien* (MH); 4 on 5 Dec at *Ojibwa Island*, *Saginaw* (JDS); 2 juvs. on 7 Dec at *Harbert*, *Berrien* (NM); 2 first-cycle birds on 9 Dec (TB) and 1 on 4 Jan (RB) at *St. Joseph*, *Berrien* (TB); 1 on 25 Dec at *Oval Beach*, *Allegan* (RB); a 3rd-cycle bird on 30 Dec at *ASGA* (AMB, PCC); a 1st-cycle bird on 3-9 Feb at *Grace Lake*, *Wayne* (ATC); 1 on 14 Feb at *Grosse Pointe Shoes*, *Macomb* (WJR); 4 1st-cycle birds on 17 Feb at *SNWR* (DP); 1 on 26 Feb at *Visteon Plant*, *Wayne* (DF); and reports from *Huron*, *Monroe*, *Ottawa*, *St. Clair*, *Sanilac*, and *Van Buren*.

Great Black-backed Gull (3,5,14)

HRT – 58 on 14 Dec at *Whiting Power Plant*, *Monroe* (ATC). UP reports were 1 on 20 Dec on *Marquette CBC*, *Marquette* (GCI); 1 on 10-12 Feb at *Marquette*, *Marquette* (SHa); and reports from *Alger* and *Chippewa*. NLP reports came from *Alcona*, *Bay*, and *Emmet*. SLP reports came from

Allegan, *Berrien*, *Emmet*, *Genesee*, *Huron*, *Macomb*, *Monroe*, *Muskegon*, *Ottawa*, *Presque Isle*, *Saginaw*, *Sanilac*, *St. Clair*, *Van Buren*, *Washtenaw*, and *Wayne*.

Rock Pigeon (10,23,34).

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE

(0,1,0) One on 14 Dec at *Chum's Corners*, *Grand Traverse* (*fide EM*).

Mourning Dove (13,29,35)

Overwintered in the UP in *Alger*, *Baraga*, *Chippewa*, *Delta*, *Dickinson*, *Gogebic*, *Iron*, *Keweenaw*, *Luce*, *Mackinac*, *Marquette*, *Menominee*, and *Schoolcraft*.

Eastern Screech-Owl (0,2,23)

Northernmost reports were 1 on 20 Dec near *Beulah*, *Benzie* (JE, m.ob.) and 1 on 3 Jan on *Ludington CBC*, *Mason* (*fide BA*).

Great Horned Owl (4,10,25).

Snowy Owl (2,8,14) In the UP, up to 8 from 2 Dec-TP at *Rudyard*, *Chippewa* (PM, SJB, SHa, m.obs.) and 1 from Fall-TP at *Marquette*, *Marquette* (SH, m.ob.). NLP reports were 1 on 14 Dec at *Traverse City*, *Grand Traverse* (*fide EM*); 7 on 16 Dec (SJB) and 1 on 20 Dec (MRS) in *Cheboygan*; 1 on 20 Dec near *Beulah*, *Benzie* (JE); 1 on 20 Dec in *Alpena* (*fide LK*); 1 on 27 Dec along I-75 in *Bay* (WWS, TS); 1 throughout Jan-Feb at west *Traverse*

City, *Grand Traverse* (DW, EW); 1 on 10 Jan at Rockwell and Ashman Rds., *Midland* (JFu); 1 on 15-24 Jan on Nottowa Rd., *Isabella* (SAJ, SL); and 1 on 20 Jan-2 Feb south of Lake City, *Missaukee* (ES). In the SLP, 1 on 3-13 Dec at MWS (CF, m.ob.); 1 on 7-10 Dec in *Oakland* (m.ob.); 1 on 11 Dec near Bangor, *Van Buren* (LRo); 1 on 18 Dec-6 Jan (LZ, DJ) and 1 on 27 Feb (JBU, MW) along Akron Rd., *Tuscola*; 2 females on 25 Dec with 1 remaining to 18 Jan at 138 Ave. & 58th St., *Allegan* (RB, m.ob.); 1 on 1 Jan-TP near Three Oaks, *Berrien* (m.ob.); 2 on 6-19 Jan at the Prairie Farm, *Saginaw* (KL, SG, DP); 2 on 10 Jan in *Muskegon* (CF); 2 on 12 Jan north of Elkton, *Huron* (JEV); 1 on 15 Jan south of Bingham, *Ottawa* (WM); 1 on 20 Jan at Tulip City Airport, *Allegan* (RB); 1 on 25 Jan near St. Johns, *Clinton* (fide KFS); 1 on 20-21 Feb at Coopersville Landfill, *Ottawa* (RF); 1 on 25-28 Feb in *Lenawee* (SAJ, m.ob.); and reports from *Gratiot*, *Kent*, and *Washtenaw*.

Northern Hawk Owl (1,0,0) Up to 3 from 2 Dec-TP from Rudyard to Pickford, *Chippewa* (SJB, m.ob.), almost certainly including 1 on 3 Dec-8 Jan near Rudyard, *Chippewa* (PM, m.obs.); a 2nd bird also present on 2-8 Jan near Rudyard, *Chippewa* (fide LC, m.obs.); 1 on 17 Jan-TP near Pickford, *Chippewa* (JSJ, m.ob.); and 1 on 23 Feb-TP on M-48 in *Chippewa* (CF, m.ob.).



After a couple sparse winters, Northern Hawk Owls made a modest showing in the UP in winter 2008-2009. This individual was photographed near Rudyard on 10 January 2009. Photo by Skye Haas.

Barred Owl (4,10,9).

Great Gray Owl (1,0,0) One on 7 Feb in *Chippewa* (fide SHA); 1 on 13-15 Feb on Lower Hay Lake Rd., *Chippewa* (fide SHA); and 1 on 26 Feb at Plaza Motel, *SSM* (fide KFS).

Long-eared Owl (0,0,5) One on 5 Dec at SNWR (DP); 1 found dead on 7 Dec near Sarett NC, *Berrien* (CN); 1 on 31 Dec at Sarett NC, *Berrien* (MM, m.obs.); 1 on 2 Jan-27 Feb in Penn Twp., *Cass* (fide JBr); 1 on 11 Jan at Swartz Creek, *Genesee* (JBU, BW); 2 on 5 Feb at LEMP (WP); and in *Kalamazoo*.

Short-eared Owl (0,0,6) HRT – 5 on 3 Dec at SNWR (DP). 3 on 10 Dec in *Hillsdale* (JR) was only winter sighting in that county due to deep

snow. Also, 1 on 13-16 Dec in Koylton Twp., *Tuscola* (JEV); 1 on 13 Jan near *Tecumseh*, *Lenawee* (JSc); and reports from *Macomb* and *Muskegon*.

Boreal Owl (1,0,0) One on 10 Jan along shore of Izaak Walton Bay, west of SSM (JDL) was Michigan's first winter season record since 2006-2007.



Boreal Owls are difficult to find, and even more difficult away from Whitefish Point, so this one near Sault Ste. Marie on 10 January 2009 was a great find. Photo by Joel Lake.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (2,2,3) UP reports were 3 on 20 Dec on Little Bay de Noc CBC, *Delta* (CL) and 1 on 11 Jan at *Manistique*, *Schoolcraft* (RAn). NLP reports were 1 on 2 Dec at *Chippewa NC*, *Midland* (BBI) and 1 on mid-Dec-13 Jan at *Manistee*, *Manistee* (BA). SLP reports were 1 on 20 Dec on *Ann Arbor CBC*, *Washtenaw* (MJ); 2 on

30 Dec at *ASGA* (RB, m.ob.); and 1 on 1 Jan at *Belle Isle*, *Wayne* (ATC).

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD (0,0,2)

An ad. female from Fall-5 Dec at *Shields*, *Saginaw* (ATC, m.ob.) and an ad. male from Fall-4 Dec at *Holland*, *Ottawa* (ATC, RE, NG, CP), were both accepted by the MBRC.

Belted Kingfisher (0,5,20) NLP reports were from *Benzie*, *Grand Traverse*, *Isabella*, *Mason*, and *Midland*.

Red-headed Woodpecker (1,3,14)

Sole UP report was 1 on 2 Jan at *Iron Mountain*, *Dickinson* (EJO, GRO). NLP reports were from *Cheboygan*, *Lake*, and *Oscoda*. SLP reports were 2 on 3 Jan in *Huron* (SAJ); 1 on 27 Jan in *Albee Twp.*, *Saginaw* (fide KFS); and from *Allegan*, *Barry*, *Berrien*, *Branch*, *Cass*, *Genesee*, *Jackson*, *Kent*, *Oakland*, *Tuscola*, *Washtenaw*, and *Wayne*.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (9,29,35)

Present across the UP.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1,3,13)

UP report was 1 on 24 Feb at *AuTrain*, *Alger* (SH). NLP reports were 1 on 20 Dec near *Beulah*, *Benzie* (JE); 1 on 21 Dec on *Lake Leelanau CBC*, *Leelanau* (fide BC); and from *Alcona*. SLP reports included 1 on 13 Dec at *Ann Arbor*, *Washtenaw* (SAJ); 1 on 14 Dec near *Berrien Springs*, *Berrien* (KM, m.ob.); 1 on 20 Dec at *Richfield*

Park, Genesee (JBU); 1 on 29 Dec at Ann Arbor, Washtenaw (RK); 3 on 1 Jan at Grosse Pointe Farms, Wayne (WJR); 1 on 1 Jan in Williamston Twp., Ingham (fide DMC); 1 on 3 Jan at Kensington MP, Oakland (PKB); and 1 on 28 Jan in Laketon Twp., Muskegon (BJ). Also noted in Allegan, Cass, Jackson, Kalamazoo, and Van Buren.

Downy Woodpecker (14,31,35).

Hairy Woodpecker (14,29,35).

AMERICAN THREE-TOED

WOODPECKER (2,0,0) One on 1-24 Jan on both sides of the Houghton/Baraga county line (JY, PCC, AV, m.ob.) and 1 on 23 Feb at Arnheim, Baraga (JY); both accepted by MBRC.

Black-backed Woodpecker (8,0,0) HRT – 16 on 23 Feb at Sturgeon River Sloughs, Houghton (SH). Also 1 on 17 Dec in Keweenaw (TA); 1 on 20 Dec on Little Bay de Noc CBC, Delta (CL); 1 on 25 Jan in Baraga (fide SHA); 1 on 28 Jan at Wetmore's Landing, Marquette (DMC); 4 on 8 Feb at Sleeper Lake Burn, Luce (JY, ZG); 1 on 8 Feb along Highwater Truck Trail, Schoolcraft (fide SHA); 1 on 13 Feb north of Christmas, Alger (SH); and 8 on 23 Feb at Arnheim, Baraga (JY).



Unlike the resident Black-backed Woodpecker, the American Three-toed Woodpecker is less than annual in Michigan and can be difficult to document. This bird, one of two this winter, was photographed on 11 January 2009 in Baraga Co. Photo by Beth Olsen.

Northern Flicker (0,8,34) Reported north to Bay, Benzie, Charlevoix, Clare, Grand Traverse, Mason, Mecosta, and Newaygo.

Pileated Woodpecker (14,26,24) SELP reports from Genesee, Hillsdale, Huron, Ingham, Jackson, Lapeer, Livingston, Oakland, Saginaw, St. Clair, and Washtenaw.

Eastern Phoebe (0,0,2) One on 11 Jan near Manchester, Washtenaw (HE, DAA, MS, m.ob.) and 1 on 10-11 Jan in Sherman Twp., St. Joseph (GC).

Red-breasted Nuthatch (14,25,32).

White-breasted Nuthatch

(14,29,35).

Brown Creeper (8,17,34).

Carolina Wren (2,2,24) UP records were 2 on 14 Feb at Gladstone, *Delta* (CC, LCI); 1 from Fall-20 Dec at Marquette, *Marquette* (KJ, AJ); and 1 on 12 Feb in Sands Twp., *Marquette* (SH). In the NLP, reported from Charlevoix and Wexford.

Winter Wren (0,0,10) All reports confined to SLP this year: 3 on 14 Dec and 1 on 6 Jan at Whiting Power Plant, *Monroe* (ATC); 1 on 14 Dec at Erie Marsh Preserve, *Monroe* (ATC); 1 on 14 Dec near Berrien Springs, *Berrien* (KM); 1 on 16 Dec near Dowagiac, *Cass* (fide RA); 1 on 29 Dec at Ann Arbor, *Washtenaw* (RK); noted in Dec in *Hillsdale* (JR); and 1 on 2 Jan at Kensington MP, *Livingston* (REE).

Golden-crowned Kinglet (7,11,23).

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (0,0,2)

One on 14 Dec near Berrien Springs, *Berrien* (AV) and 1 on 15-26 Jan north of Jackson, *Jackson* (LAr).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER

(0,0,1) One from Fall-3 Dec at LEMP (PCy) represents Michigan's first winter season record of the species.

Eastern Bluebird (0,9,33) In the NLP, reported north to *Leelanau*.

Townsend's Solitaire (1,0,0) Up to 2 from 6-13 Dec at Sugar Island Ferry, *Chippewa* (CMD).

Hermit Thrush (1,2,14) HRT – 4 on 19 Jan in Berlin Twp., *Monroe* (WP). UP report was 1 on 14 Dec at Copper Harbor, *Keweenaw* (MHe). NLP reports were 1 on 14 Dec near Manistee, *Manistee* (fide BA) and 1 on 20 Dec in *Wexford* (fide KFS). In the SLP were 1 on 20 Dec in Ira Twp., *St. Clair* (REE); 1 on 22 Dec in *Barry* (JL, RL); 2 on 1 Jan and 1 on 25 Jan at Woldumar NC, *Eaton* (DMc); 1 on 1 Jan at Dearborn, *Wayne* (fide JAC); and 1 on 18 Jan near Bangor, *Van Buren* (LR). Also reported from *Berrien*, *Cass*, *Hillsdale*, *Lapeer*, *Jackson*, *Kalamazoo*, *Monroe*, *Oakland*, and *Washtenaw*.

American Robin (12,15,29) UP reports were from *Alger*, *Baraga*, *Chippewa*, *Delta*, *Dickinson*, *Houghton*, *Keweenaw*, *Luce*, *Mackinac*, *Marquette*, *Menominee*, and *Schoolcraft*.

Varied Thrush (2,0,1) UP reports were an ad. male on 21 Dec-28 Feb at *Vulcan*, *Dickinson* (SLB); an ad. male on 1-15 Jan at Iron Mountain, *Dickinson* (JO); and 1 on 15-22 Jan at a private residence in *Phoenix*, *Keweenaw* (fide SHa). Sole



SLP report was an ad. female from Fall-TP near Ann Arbor, *Washtenaw* (WW, RWH, m.ob.).

Gray Catbird (1,0,2) The UP record was 1 on 20 Feb at *Marquette*, *Marquette* (BV). In the SLP, 1 on 20 Dec on East Lansing CBC, *Ingham* (TRW) and 1 on 14 Jan in Lincoln Twp., *Berrien* (JM).

Northern Mockingbird (0,1,5) Only NLP report was 1 on 16 Dec in *Cheboygan* (fide EPI). SLP reports were up to 2 from 1 Dec-5 Jan in *Washtenaw* (JMD, JSc, ATC); 1 on 16 Dec near Dowagiac, *Cass* (fide RA); 2 on 20 Dec on *Waterloo* CBC, *Washtenaw* (m.ob.); 1 on 4 Jan near Gobles, *Van Buren* (fide RA); 1 on 27 Jan at Bangor, *Van Buren* (DB); and in *Oakland* and *Wayne*.

Brown Thrasher (0,0,1) One on 20 Dec at Ann Arbor, *Washtenaw* (JJo) was the only report.

European Starling (11,26,35).

American Pipit (0,0,1) Up to 6 from 3-13 Dec at Andrews University, *Berrien* (JTW, MH).

Bohemian Waxwing (7,2,2) HRT – 1200+ on 10 Jan at Grand Marias, *Alger* (fide SHA). UP reports were 100+ on 8 Dec near Brimley, *Chippewa* (fide JTW); 35 on 17 Dec in *Keweenaw* (TA); 30 on 18 Dec at *Allouez*, *Keweenaw* (NAA); 150

on 9 Jan at St. Ignace, *Mackinac* (SJB); 110+ on 25 Jan at *Munising*, *Alger* (SH); 33 on 28 Jan at *Copper Harbor*, *Keweenaw* (MHe); 268 on 15 Feb at *Michigamme*, *Marquette* (fide SHA); 300+ in mid-Feb at *Marquette*, *Marquette* (SHA); 5 on 23 Feb at *Allouez*, *Keweenaw* (NAA); and from *Houghton* and *Luce*. Reports in the NLP were 1 on 14 Dec near *Rogers City*, *Presque Isle* (fide BG) and from *Alcona*. In SLP were 1 on 10 Dec in *Jackson* (fide BB) and 5 on 13 Jan near *Battle Creek*, *Calhoun* (KFS).

Cedar Waxwing (9,17,32).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (1,0,0) One on 20 Dec-TP at *Marquette*, *Marquette* (LCh, PCh) was Michigan's first winter season record since 2002-2003.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (0,0,16) Reported from *Allegan*, *Berrien*, *Cass*, *Clinton*, *Genesee*, *Hillsdale*, *Ingham*, *Kalamazoo*, *Kent*, *Lenawee*, *Livingston*, *Oakland*, *Saginaw*, *St. Joseph*, *Washtenaw*, and *Wayne*.

PINE WARBLER (1,0,1) One on 7-21 Dec at Au Train, *Alger* (SH, JHu, MHu) and 1 from early Dec-15 Jan in *Spaulding Twp.*, *Saginaw* (DP).

OVENBIRD (0,1,0) One on 8 Jan west of *Ludington*, *Mason* (JBa).

SUMMER TANAGER (0,1,0) One on 14 Dec at a feeder in Ludington, Mason (JBa, DD).

Eastern Towhee (0,1,10) Only NLP report was 1 on 14 Dec at Harbor Springs, Emmet (SJB). SLP reports were 2 from Fall-TP in Washtenaw (JB); 1 in early Dec in Howard Twp., Cass (WEJ); 1 on 7-19 Dec at Ann Arbor, Washtenaw (HD, m.ob.); 1 on 14-24 Dec at St. Joseph, Berrien (MH, TB); 2 on 16 Dec near Dowagiac, Cass (*fide* RA); 1 on 21 Dec in Essex Twp., Clinton (*fide* KFS); 1 on 24 Dec at Eau Claire, Berrien (JTW); at least 1 from 1 Jan-24 Feb at Belle Isle, Wayne (ATC, PKB); 2 (1 male, 1 female) on 1 Jan in western Monroe (KO, SAJ); 1 on 1-19 Jan in Milton Twp., Cass (WEJ); and from Kent, Oakland, Ottawa, and St. Joseph.

American Tree Sparrow (10,24,35).

Chipping Sparrow (0,0,2) One from Fall-TP at Ft. Gratiot, St. Clair (DEM) and 1 on 17-18 Jan in Howard Twp., Cass (DCV).

Field Sparrow (0,0,10) One from Fall-TP at Ft. Gratiot, St. Clair (DEM); 1 on 20 Dec at Ann Arbor, Washtenaw (ATC); 2 on 3 Jan at Kensington MP, Oakland (PKB, REE); and 1 on 1 Feb at Sterling Heights, Macomb (MG). Also reported from Cass, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Kalamazoo, and Ottawa.

Vesper Sparrow (0,0,1) One on 20 Dec near Fair Haven, Macomb (JSz) was Michigan's first winter season record since 2002-2003.

Fox Sparrow (0,0,12) Up to 6 from 20 Dec-TP (6 on 21 Feb) at Rockwood, Wayne (WP); 2 on 13 Dec in Washtenaw (SAJ); 1 on 13 Dec in Bridgeport Twp., Saginaw (LA); 2 on 21 Dec at Greenfield Village, Wayne (*fide* JAC); 1 on 30 Dec at ASGA (m.ob.); 1 on 9 Jan-TP at Pleasant Lake, Jackson (RH); 1 on 15 Jan-28 Feb at Inkster, Wayne (ATC); and 1 on 3 Feb at Oakwoods MP, Wayne (ATC). Also reported from Eaton, Ingham, Kalamazoo, Oakland, Ottawa, and St. Clair.

Song Sparrow (1,5,31) UP report was from Schoolcraft. NLP reports came from Alpena, Bay, Manistee, Midland, and Wexford.

Lincoln's Sparrow (0,0,2) Singles on 10 Dec at a feeder in Jackson (*fide* BB) and 30 Jan at Robert Long Park, Oakland (TPa).

Swamp Sparrow (0,1,10) Sole NLP report was 1 on 17-18 Jan in Pinconning Twp., Bay (DJ).

White-throated Sparrow (2,5,19) UP reports were 1 in mid-Dec at Marquette, Marquette (*fide* GCI) and 1 on 27 Dec on Manistique CBC, Schoolcraft (*fide* HW).



White-crowned Sparrow

(2,1,14) HRT – 20 on 14 Dec at Byron, Shiawassee (KO, SAJ). UP reports came from Chippewa and Marquette. Only one NLP report was from Bay.

Dark-eyed Junco (12,30,35).

Lapland Longspur (0,2,15)

Reported north to *Isabella* and *Newaygo*. SLP counties reporting were *Allegan*, *Berrien*, *Branch*, *Cass*, *Clinton*, *Hillsdale*, *Ingham*, *Kalamazoo*, *Lenawee*, *Monroe*, *Muskegon*, *Ottawa*, *Saginaw*, *Tuscola*, and *Washtenaw*.

Snow Bunting (8,14,33).

Northern Cardinal (13,27,35) One on 17 Dec in *Keweenaw* (*fide* TA) was northernmost report. 41 on 15 Jan in *Bangor Twp.*, *Bay* (GP, EP) was a new *Saginaw Bay* area high count.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (0,1,0)

One on 11 Dec-1 Jan in *Blair Twp.*, *Grand Traverse* (MJo).

Red-winged Blackbird (3,1,21)

HRT – 6680 on 14 Dec at *Erie Marsh Preserve*, *Monroe* (ATC). In the UP, 2 on 20 Dec on *Marquette CBC*, *Marquette* (*fide* GCI); 2 on 28 Jan-15 Feb at *Copper Harbor*, *Keweenaw* (MHe); and in *Baraga*. NLP report was from *Bay*. SLP reports were 1 on 20 Dec

on *Waterloo CBC*, *Jackson* (DH); a flock on 16 Jan at *Dearborn*, *Wayne* (*fide* JAC); 70 on 25 Jan in *White River Twp.*, *Muskegon* (JH); multiples from a brief warm-up on 10 Feb in *Berrien* (m.ob.) and *Hillsdale* (JR); 1 on 20-27 Feb and 2 on 28 Feb at *Inkster*, *Wayne* (ATC); 50 at *Quincy* and 20 in *Gilead Twp.*, both *Branch* on 12 Feb (ATC); 2 on 24 Feb at *Belle Isle*, *Wayne* (ATC); males noted on 25 Feb singing at *Dearborn*, *Wayne* (JAC); 150 on 26 Feb in *Berlin Twp.*, *Monroe* (WP); and from *Allegan*, *Barry*, *Calhoun*, *Cass*, *Eaton*, *Ingham*, *Jackson*, *Lenawee*, *Livingston*, *Macomb*, *Oakland*, *Ottawa*, *Saginaw*, *Tuscola*, and *Van Buren*.

Eastern Meadowlark (0,1,6)

Northernmost was 2 on 14 Dec on *Mecosta County CBC*, *Mecosta* (*fide* SR). SLP reports consisted of 3 on 30 Dec in *Hillsdale* (JR); 1 on 12 Jan in *Washtenaw* (DSJ); 3 on 19 Jan in *Lenawee* (KO); 3 on 24 Jan on *Colvin Rd.*, *Saginaw* (SAJ); 1 on 27 Feb at *Royalton*, *Berrien* (JTW); and from *Branch*.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

(0,0,1) A male on 20 Dec at *Harsen's Island*, *St. Clair* (PCy) was Michigan's first winter season record since 2005-2006.

Rusty Blackbird (0,1,2) In the NLP, 1 on 2 Dec at Sanford, *Midland* (GLO). SLP reports were 1 on 30 Jan-4 Feb at Oakwoods MP, Wayne (KA, m.ob.) and a report from *Oakland*.

Common Grackle (1,2,12) HRT – 212 on 14 Dec at Erie Marsh Preserve, *Monroe* (ATC). In the UP, 1 on 28 Jan-15 Feb at Copper Harbor, *Keweenaw* (MHe). In the NLP, 1 in mid-Dec near Rogers City, *Presque Isle* (fide BG) and 2 on 10 Jan at Karn Plant, *Bay* (SM, JMa).

Brown-headed Cowbird (0,3,16) Reported north to *Arenac*, *Grand Traverse*, and *Presque Isle*.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (0,1,0) One from Fall-13 Jan near Lewiston, *Montmorency* (CH).

Pine Grosbeak (10,2,1) In the UP, 15 on 12 Dec at Barbeau, *Chippewa* (SJB); 1 on 31 Dec at SSM (KLA); 3 on 25 Jan near 16 Mile Lake, *Alger* (SH); and reports from *Baraga*, *Gogebic*, *Keweenaw*, *Luce*, *Mackinac*, *Marquette*, *Menominee*, and *Schoolcraft*. In the NLP, 4 on 16 Dec in *Cheboygan* (fide EPI) and 4 on 3 Jan on Ludington CBC, *Mason* (fide BA). The only SLP report was from *Ottawa*.

Purple Finch (11,19,29).

House Finch (7,21,35).

Red Crossbill (4,1,2) In the UP, 2 on 21 Dec on Keweenaw Bay CBC, *Baraga* (JK); 3 on 28 Dec on Whitefish Point CBC, *Chippewa* (fide GCI); 7 on 22 Feb at Whitefish Point, *Chippewa* (JBU, RN); and reports from *Delta* and *Marquette*. Reported in the NLP from *Alcona*. Reported in the SLP from *Kent* and *Washtenaw* (a female on 13 Jan at Milan, JSc).

White-winged Crossbill (15,33,35) Present in all 83 counties in Michigan! Nearly 1000 individual reports received. Notable high counts in the UP were 1000+ on 16 Dec near Rudyard, *Chippewa* (KZ) and 500+ on 2 Dec in *Chippewa* and *Mackinac* (SJB). SLP high counts were up to 120 from Fall-TP at Brighton State Recreation Area, *Livingston* (JL, m.ob.); up to 100 on 11 Jan at Waterloo State Recreation Area, *Washtenaw* (m.ob.); ~100 on 25 Jan in Clinton Twp., *Macomb* (KSI, HSI); ~100 on 31 Jan at *Edwardsburg*, *Cass* (JTW); and 100 on 7 Feb at *Temperance*, *Monroe* (GL). Other noteworthy SLP reports were 3-4 from Fall-30 Dec at *Cedar Lake*, *Washtenaw* (DSJ, m.ob.); 55 on 30 Dec at ASGA (m.ob.); 2 on 30 Dec near *Woldumar NC*, *Eaton* (DMc); 2 on 30 Dec at *Belmont*, *Kent* (JLa); 1 on 30 Dec at *Union Pier*, *Berrien* (AMB); 10 on 1 Jan at *Grand Rapids*, *Kent* (JH); up to 15 from 1-6 Jan at *Rose Hill Cemetery*,



Berrien (AV, JJ, DCV); 1 on 1 Jan in Royalton Twp., Berrien (MH); 11 on 2 Jan at Lapeer State Game Area and 26 on 2 Jan along Barnes Lake Rd., both Lapeer (SAJ); 1 on 2 Jan at Lakeport SP, St. Clair (SAJ); a flock on 2 Jan at Lexington County Park, Sanilac (SAJ); 30 on 4 Jan at Holland, Ottawa (MOv); a small flock on 4-18 Jan at Calvin College, Kent (BS, m.ob.); at least 5 on 4 Jan at Fenton, Genesee (BP, RNA); 4 at Akron and 11 at Fairgrove on 4 Jan, both Tuscola (JBU); 25 on 4 Jan at Sawyer, Berrien (KM); 2+ on 6-7 Jan at Muskegon, Muskegon (RP); 15 on 7 Jan south of Columbiaville, Lapeer (RBa, CB); 20 near Williamston and 1+ at Bath on 8 Jan, both Ingham (TD); up to 10 from 8-9 Jan near Ella Sharp Park, Jackson (DH); 1 on 8 Jan at Wyoming, Kent (CDy); 1+ on 10 Jan at ASGA (RB); 8-11 on 3 Jan-4 Feb near Fenton, Genesee (JBU, m.ob.) 4 on 11 Jan in Columbia Twp., Van Buren (RB, CP, JTW); a flock on 14 Jan at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo (SB); a flock on 17 Jan at MWS (m.ob.); 12 on 17 Jan on Whiteford Center Rd., Monroe (TW); 7+ on 20 Jan at Grand Mere SP, Berrien (AV, RJ); 37 on 20 Jan at Temperance, Monroe (AMB); 7 on 20 Jan near the Visteon Plant, Wayne (AMB); 2 on 20 Jan at Farmington Hills, Oakland (AMB); 8 on 22 Jan at Andrews University, Berrien (AM); 25+ on 25 Jan near Paw Paw, Van Buren (MHW); 14 on

24 Jan in Berrien Twp., Berrien (AV); 30 on 25 Jan at Sawyer, Berrien (JTW); 60-100 from 31 Jan-1 Feb near Edwardsburg, Cass (JTW, DCV, m.ob.); and 10 on 2 Feb in Flowerfield Twp., St. Joseph (JSH).



The tameness of the White-winged Crossbill flocks, like this female in Wayne Co. on 5 February 2009, kept birders and photographers happy throughout the winter. Photo by Darlene Friedman.

Common Redpoll (14,22,34)

Common and widespread this season.

Hoary Redpoll (7,1,6) HRT – 5 on 9-11 Feb at various locations in Chippewa (TRW, JZ). In the UP, also reported from Baraga, Houghton, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette and Schoolcraft. In the NLP, 1 on 25 Jan in Oceana (SAJ, SS). In the SLP, 1 on 11 Jan in Oceola Twp., Livingston (JEZ); 1 on 17 Jan at Ann Arbor, Washtenaw (REE); 1 on 25-26 Jan in Bainbridge Twp., Berrien (TB, MH); 1 on 1 Feb at Nichols Arboretum, Washtenaw (RK); 1 on 16 Feb-TP at Berrien Springs, Berrien (AM); 2-3

from 25 Feb-TP in *Ionia* (KT); 1 on 28 Feb at Dewitt, *Clinton* (AMB) and a report from *Genesee*.

Pine Siskin (14,29,35) Reported widespread and abundant throughout the state.



All the excitement over the White-winged Crossbill irruption overshadowed a very respectable Pine Siskin irruption this winter. This individual was photographed in Washtenaw Co. on 15 January 2009. Photo by Matt Yawney.

American Goldfinch (14,30,35).

Evening Grosbeak (10,5,0) UP reports were 3 on 2 Dec near Sagola, *Dickinson* (EJO, GRO); 16 on 28 Dec on Whitefish Point CBC, *Chippewa* (fide GCI); 30 on 8 Feb at Hulbert, *Chippewa* (SJB); 150 on 10 Feb in *Chippewa* (TRW); 17 on 16 Feb at Marquette, *Marquette* (EB); and from *Alger*, *Delta*, *Dickinson*, *Gogebic*, *Iron*, *Luce*, *Mackinac*, and *Schoolcraft*. NLP reports were 3 on 14 Dec in *Presque Isle* (fide BG); 1 on 16 Dec in *Cheboygan* (fide EPI); 3 on 28 Dec at *Cooke Dam*, *Iosco* (WWS); 3 on 10 Jan at *Oden*, *Emmet* (fide KFS); and from *Crawford*.

House Sparrow (8,23,35) Common and widespread.



Although not as numerous as last winter, Common Redpolls were still common this winter. And as with last winter, a number of larger, darker "Greenland" or "Greater" Redpolls (*Carduelis flammea rostrata*) were among them. This composite and retouched image shows a good comparison of a "Greenland" Redpoll (center) with two Common Redpolls. These photos were taken in Wayne Co. on 22 February 2009. Photo by Jerry Jourdan.

EXOTICS, ESCAPES, NON-ESTABLISHED

Budgerigar (0,0,1) One on 14-18 Jan at Dearborn Heights, Wayne (DT).

Black Swan (0,0,1) One on 7-20 Dec along Huron River, Nichols Arboretum, Washtenaw (DC, RK).

CORRECTION

Pages 106-107 of Volume 15, Number 3 of *Michigan Birds and Natural History* incorrectly reported single Spruce Grouse on 30 Dec and 10 Feb at Seven Mile Point, Keweenaw – they should refer to Ruffed Grouse.

Special thanks to Adam Byrne for his useful suggestions regarding the editing of this season's survey.

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Michigan Christmas Bird Count Compiler Needed

This compiler is responsible for coordinating the Christmas Bird Count project for Michigan. There are currently 82 counts run each year in Michigan, including 69 that report data to NAS and 13 that report data only to MAS. This position may be filled by one person or split among two people, with one person responsible for coordinating and compiling data for MAS (82 counts) and writing the annual report for *Michigan Birds and Natural History* and the other person responsible for compiling data for NAS (69 counts) and writing Michigan's annual report for National Audubon's publication *American Birds*.

The volunteer should be very familiar with the birds typically found in Michigan in winter, have good attention to detail, be good with numbers, and be capable of entering and compiling a large dataset in spreadsheet software such as Microsoft Excel. Experience with creating and using formulas in Excel would be very helpful. Decisions on acceptance or rejection of records can be deferred to the Michigan Bird Records Committee and Winter Bird Survey compiler in cases where the CBC compiler is uncomfortable making those decisions.

Responsibilities:

1. Review/revise standards and documentation requirements in coordination with the Winter Bird Survey editor and MBNH Survey Editor prior to mid-November each year. Update information on the MAS website as needed.
2. Prepare and distribute the packet of info for local compilers in November, including documentation requirements and instructions for all counts, and data forms for the counts that only report to MAS. (All counts that report data to NAS will submit data online so no data forms are required). Most information can be distributed via email and the MAS website but a few compilers do not have email.



3. Answer questions from local compilers and update contact info and count dates on the MAS website regularly from late November through early January.
4. Begin reviewing count data in January and continue answering questions from local compilers through mid-February when all their data entry is complete.
5. Review data from all counts, those that report to NAS and those that only report to MAS. Review rare/unusual species and make decisions on acceptance/rejection based on documentation provided. Forward documentation to the Michigan Bird Records Committee for recommendations and review. Review weather and effort data and numbers reported for each species to see that they are properly recorded. Contact local compilers if any potential errors or omissions are found.
6. Create data tables and write a report summarizing all CBCs (currently 82) for Michigan Birds and Natural History by May 1 each year. Write a report summarizing the "National" CBCs (currently 69) for the NAS publication American Birds by mid-May each year.
7. Facilitate the establishment of new counts as needed in summer/fall each year.

Estimated Time Commitment:

November thru January: approx. 8-10 hours per month

February thru mid-May: approx. 60-80 hours total for review, compilation, and report writing.

Interested parties should contact Glenn Palmgren at
glenn.palmgren@comcast.net

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:
Jonathan Lutz
birds@michiganaudubon.org

Become a MBS Participant

The mission of the Michigan Bird Survey (MBS) 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@hotmail.com

Summer: June — July

compiler — Louis Dombroski
louie_dombroski@yahoo.com

Spring: March — May

compiler — Jack Reinoehl
jreinoehl@hillsdale.edu

Fall: August — November

compiler — Allen T. Chartier
amazilia1@comcast.net

To participate in the survey you can be placed on the mailing list by sending your name and address to:

Kalamazoo Nature Center/MAS Seasonal Bird Survey
7000 N. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009

The forms are also available from the MAS website at:

[http://michiganaudubon.org/research/surveys_forms_data/
seasonal_surveys/index.html](http://michiganaudubon.org/research/surveys_forms_data/seasonal_surveys/index.html)

Butterfly Records Wanted

Please participate in the Michigan Butterfly Survey by sending your observations to:

Jack Reinoehl
107 State St. #3
Hillsdale MI 49242

E-mail: jreinoehl@hillsdale.edu

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