

BIRDS IN THE SAGINAW BAY AREA

March 1, 1994 through May 31, 1994

Compiled by: *Ron Weeks*
4111 Robinhood Terrace
Midland, MI 48642
(517) 835-1939

Steve Rosenberg
25 Rosemary Ct.
Midland, MI 48640
(517) 631-7666

Summary: A delayed spring water bird migration followed a severe winter with most of the Saginaw Bay still frozen until early April. Both **Red-necked** (MCV) and **Horned Grebes** (MCV and Karn) held over from the winter fallout into the first few days of March. Also notable was Bay County's first **Eared Grebe** found at the Karn Plant on the new SBA early date of March 23rd. Most waterfowl, however, were not seen until a week to two weeks after their normal arrival dates. Exceptional was a **Ross' Goose** that showed up at Midland on April 8th and **White-fronted Goose** from Fish Point and Midland. Both the Ross' and the White-fronted represented first Midland County records. Exceptional numbers included a record 1280 **Double-crested Cormorants** from Tawas Point, 1200 **Ring-necked Ducks** seen in Tawas Lake, and 4000 **Oldsquaw** from Tawas Point. Other good water birds included **White Pelicans** from Bay, Saginaw, and Huron Counties, a **Cattle Egret** from Nayanquing, two reports of released **Trumpeter Swans**, and two **Surf Scoter** sightings.

Raptors put on their most impressive show to date to go along with the growing interest in the Huron County Hawkwatch. The count recorded new seasonal record totals for almost every species including **Golden Eagle** with 11 seen this spring. The count also reached a new grand total of 10,573 raptors. New daily highs were recorded for **Cooper's Hawk** (41), **Northern Goshawk** (5), and **Red-tailed Hawk** (310) on April 18th, but perhaps more impressive were the 4108 **Broad-winged Hawks** seen on April 26th. The most notable rarity was a "Harlan's" **Red-tailed Hawk** that was documented on March 26th. Interestingly some of the real mind-blowing raptors were not seen on the count. The most astounding of these was the SBA's first **Swainson's Hawk** seen on the unprecedented early date of March 19th. Also notable was a new SBA early **Osprey** from Bay Port on March 11th.

Game birds seemed to survive the winter well with the exception of Bobwhites which apparently took a major hit in this area as few were noted this spring. **King Rail** was reportedly calling again at Nayanquing. Shorebirds showed surprising diversity considering the lack of habitat again this spring. Most interesting were a **Piping Plover** from Tawas Point, a **Willet** from Bay City State Park, both **Godwits** from Nayanquing, along with a few **Whimbrel** and **Red Knots** from Tawas Point. Interesting gulls included an **Iceland Gull** and the annual **Little Gull(s)** from Tawas Point along with **Lesser Black-backed Gull** sightings from no less than four bay locations. **Long-Eared Owl** was again heard at Crump and **Saw-whet Owl** was reported from two Bay and one lo locations.

Passerines put on a good show this year with two reports each of **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** and **Gray-cheeked Thrush**. Even more impressive were several warbler fallout days. The first major one occurred on April 25th at Bay City with 25 **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** and over 100 **Yellow-rumped Warblers**. Later on the 14th and 15th of May bigger numbers and more diversity were found. On the 14th, 20 **Chestnut-sided**, 30 **Magnolias**, 25 **Cape Mays**, 15 **Black-throated Blues**, and 20 **Bay-breasteds** were found at Bay City. On the 15th estimates of 30 **Warbling Vireos**, 20 **Nashville**, 35 **Yellows**, and 20 **Cape Mays** came from Tawas, while in the Thumb a surprising mix of 100 **Magnolias**, 100 **Yellow-rumpeds**, 50 **Palms**, 20 **Black-and-whites**, and 20 **Yellowthroats** were reported. Rarities included three territorial **Kirtland's Warblers** in Iosco along with a migrant detected at Tawas, a **Prairie Warbler** report from Tawas, and a **Yellow-breasted Chat** from Midland.

Dickcissel was reported again with two reports from late May at Tawas. **Chipping Sparrow** was reported at the new SBA early date of 3/23 at Fish Point. Winter finches were mixed with large numbers of **Common Redpolls** everywhere into mid-April. Two well-documented reports of **Hoary Redpolls** from Tuscola and Huron were the first for those counties. A few Evening Grosbeaks were seen in to May, but the last Pine Grosbeaks were gone by early March. Most interesting was the Bay County **White-winged Crossbill** that was seen into early May! Another White-winged was found in Bay Port in March.

Noticeably absent for the period were **Loggerhead Shrike** (supposedly not found nesting anywhere in Michigan this spring) and despite much searching, **Henslow's Sparrow**. A new record total of 254 species were reported this spring.

COMMON LOON:

1	3/28	MCV, Mi	RW	2nd earliest SBA record.
4	4/1	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	Also a bit early.
112	5/7	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	New SBA spring peak!
1	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	Unusual & late for Ba.
1	5/26	MCV, Mi	RA, EK	

PIED-BILLED GREBE:

1	3/8	MCV, Mi	RW	Also then at Karn, Ba (MW).
7	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak.

HORNED GREBE:

1	3/7, 12	MCV, Mi	RW	
1	3/8	Karn Plant, Ba	MW	Winter stragglers?
6	4/22-23	MCV, Mi	SR, RW, MW	Low peak.
1	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	

RED-NECKED GREBE:

3	3/3	MCV, Mi	RW	One left on 3/4 (JS).
1	4/9	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	WS, RW et al	

EARED GREBE:

1	3/23	Karn Plant, Ba	AB	
New SBA early and first documented Bay County record! Reported in winter plumage.				
1	4/9	Dow Ponds, Mi	EK	
2	4/23-24	Dow Ponds, Mi	MW	

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN:

2	4/15-23	Finn Road area, Ba	JS, GS et al	
1	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/29	Port Crescent SP, Hu	JG, ME	A record haul this spring!

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:

Overwintered at Karn Plant, Ba.				
500	4/26	Saginaw River, Ba	JS	
1280	5/6	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	New SBA peak count.

AMERICAN BITTERN:

1	4/7	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	JS	First of spring.
5	5/21	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	All on the north end!
3	5/23	Tuttle Marsh, Io	MW	

Also reported from Fish Pt, Tu (MW). Numbers appeared to be up this spring.

LEAST BITTERN:

1	5/14	Tittabawassee R., Sa	KQ, CG	Photographed.
3	5/19	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP, BG	
1	5/26	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	JR	

GREAT BLUE HERON:

Common through period. Numbers seemed a bit low.				
31	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP, BG	Spring peak.

GREAT EGRET:

2	4/2	Port Crescent SP, Hu	SR	First of spring.
---	-----	----------------------	----	------------------

Numbers also low. No significant counts reported for the period. Reported north to Io.

CATTLE EGRET:

1	5/15	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	SR	Only report.
---	------	-------------------	----	--------------

GREEN-BACKED HERON:

1	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First of spring.
---	------	--------------------	----	------------------

Also reported from Tuttle Marsh, Io; Nayanquing Pt, Ba; Chippewa NC, Mi; and Fremont Twp, Tu.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON:

12	4/7	Finn Road, Ba	JS, GS	Peak and first.
----	-----	---------------	--------	-----------------

Also reported from Nayanquing Pt, Ba; Dow Ponds, Mi; and Shiawassee NWR, Sa, and Tu.

TUNDRA SWAN:

2	3/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
370	3/27	Bay Port, Hu	TB	Low peak.
1	4/15	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	

TRUMPETER SWAN:

Reports of three from the South Branch River, Io (BK-band #s 50 and 63 noted) and one from the Kawkawlin River mouth, Ba (via SMi). These birds are being released all over the Michigan and nearby states and provinces.

MUTE SWAN:

12	3/4	MCV, Mi	JS	New SBA spring high!
----	-----	---------	----	----------------------

Also noted from Io, Ar, Ba, Sa, and Hu. Becoming more and more common.



GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE:

1	4/4-5	Fish Pt, Tu	AB, RW, EK
1	4/9	MCV, Mi	AB

First Mi record!

ROSS' GOOSE:

1	4/8-10	MCV, Mi	RW, SR et al
---	--------	---------	--------------

This represents the first Midland County record and only the third SBA record!

SNOW GOOSE:

6	3/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	8 there on 3/22.
1	3/13	Fish Pt, Tu	MW	
1 blue ph	3/26	MCV, Mi	RW	Rare there in spring.
15	4/15	Bay Port, Hu	ME	Late for so many.
4	4/22	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	JG	Last report.

CANADA GOOSE:

16737	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak there.
20000	4/11	Wildfowl Bay, Tu & Hu	MW	Common through period.

WOOD DUCK:

4	3/4	MCV, Mi	JS
39	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Good numbers noted through period. 12 at Nayanquing, Ba on 5/29 (RW).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL:

12	3/19	Knight Road, Ba	JS
601	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
8	5/31	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	MW

Lots for so late.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK:

1001	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
1	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW

Late for the point.
Scattered sightings through the end of the period at Nayanquing Pt, Ba and Shiawassee NWR, Sa.

MALLARD:

2000	3/20	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS
7832	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Spring peak.

NORTHERN PINTAIL:

18	3/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First report.
75	3/19	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS	
245	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Also 244 on 4/14 (DP).
1	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW, KK	Last reported.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL:

2	3/23	Dow Ponds, Mi	RW
77	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Peak.

NORTHERN SHOVELER:

1	3/22	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW
117	4/14	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Reported through end of period at Nayanquing Pt, Ba. Also seen in lo and Hu.

GADWALL:

First noted in February. Seen through end of period at Nayanquing Pt, Ba.

49	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
----	------	--------------------	----

AMERICAN WIGEON:

8	3/19	Knight Road, Ba	JS
79	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Peak.

CANVASBACK:

1 fem	3/3,5	Dow Ponds, Mi	RW	First found in Feb.
350	4/10	Fish Pt, Tu	JS	Spring peak.
400+	4/11	Wildfowl Bay, Hu		

One or two stayed through period at Nayanquing, Ba (SR).

REDHEAD:

One was present in February and early March at Dow Ponds, Mi (RW et al).

1000	4/17	Anderson Road, Ba	SR
------	------	-------------------	----

RING-NECKED DUCK:

1	3/6	MCV, Mi	RW
1200	3/10	Tawas Lake, lo	BK
293	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
1	5/14	Huron County	MW

Last report.

GREATER SCAUP:

6	3/5	Karn Plant, Ba	RW, SR, EK	First report.
100	3/31	Bay City SP, Ba	JS	Peak.
1	5/14	Huron County	MW	
1	5/21	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	Late.



Also noted from Tawas Pt, Io (BB); Fish Pt, Tu (M&JH); and Huron County (MW).

LESSER SCAUP:

First migrants noted in February. One or more through period at Nayanquing, Ba (RW, SR) where large numbers were seen in April.

SCAUP SP:

1000	3/25	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
5000	4/9	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW et al	Mostly Lessers.

OLDSQUAW:

One or two noted in late winter. Scattered sightings in April from MCV, Mi (RW, SR).

2000	3/26	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	
4000	4/1	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	New SBA high count!

Groups of 200 or more were staging near the point headed south into Tawas Bay, Io.

1	4/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Harder to find inland.
40	5/21	Tawas Pt, Io	KO	Last report.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:

6	4/1	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	
2	4/5	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	
13	4/8	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	
2	5/21	Tawas Pt, Io	M&JH, KO	Last report.

SURF SCOTER:

6	5/11	Tawas Pt, Io	KT	
1 fem.	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW, KK	

COMMON GOLDENEYE:

500+	4/1	Tawas Bay, Io	RW	
1 fem	5/14	Tawas Pt, Io	B&NB	
1 male	5/21	Tawas Pt, Io	KO	
1 male	5/21-25	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW et al	

BUFFLEHEAD:

First migrants noted in February.

50	4/1	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	
88	4/27	Freeland SL, Sa	JS	
1 fem	5/21	Tawas Pt, Io	KO, BB	

HOODED MERGANSER:

38	3/22	Bay Port, Hu	TB	
39	3/26	Karn Plant, Ba	AB	

Overwintered at MCV, Mi. Brood of 8 young at Chippewa NC, Mi on 5/30 (JL). Other scattered birds in Ba and Sa through period.

COMMON MERGANSER:

500+	4/1	Tawas Bay, Io	RW	Largest count.
1	5/26	Karn Plant, Ba	JS, GS	Last report.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:

First migrants noted in February. No large numbers reported.

11	5/14	Pinconning, Ba	RW	Last report.
----	------	----------------	----	--------------

RUDDY DUCK:

5	3/23	Saginaw River, Ba	JS	First of spring.
75	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak.

A few birds noted from 4/10 through period at Nayanquing Pt, Ba.

TURKEY VULTURE:

1	3/19	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW (ME)	
300	4/15	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW (TH)	Peak.

OSPREY:

1	3/11	Bay Port, Hu	TB	New SBA early date!
13	4/26	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	Peak.
1	5/22	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	A local or a late migrant?

Also noted from Chippewa NC, Mi (EK, 3 on 5/3-PS) and Green Pt NC, Sa (M&JH).

BALD EAGLE:

Noted from Ba (two successful nests), Sa, Mi, and Hu.

3	4/26	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW (MW)	
---	------	----------------------	-----------	--

NORTHERN HARRIER:

Scattered sightings through period.

8	3/12, 22; 4/6	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	That number on all 3 dates.
---	---------------	----------------------	------	-----------------------------

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:

1	3/26	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW (ME)	
247	4/18	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW (TH, ME)	Highest count reported.
11	5/30	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW (ME, JG)	

COOPER'S HAWK:



41 4/18 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME, TH) Count and SBA record tally.
Nestled again at Midland, Mi and Bay City SP, Ba.

NORTHERN GOSHAWK:

1 3/12 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME)
1 3/24 Plainfield Twp, Io BK
5 4/18 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW New count record.
1 4/26 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (TH, MW)

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK:

Noted on nest at Largo Springs, Io (M&JH). Other scattered sightings through period.

48 3/22 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME) Peak count.
1 5/8 Bay City SP, Ba M&JH An odd time for the park.
1 5/30 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME, JG) Local or late immature?

BROAD-WINGED HAWK:

1 4/14 Fremont Twp, Tu MW
4108 4/26 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (MW, TH) New SBA and count high!

This total represents a new count peak and new SBA high count! These were seen flying low during a span of only 3 1/2 hours. Migrants noted from 4/18 through period at Port Crescent.

SWAINSON'S HAWK:

An immature bird was seen and thoroughly described by Myles and Marilyn Willard on 3/19 at Caseville. The cool weather afforded them an excellent view of the bird instead of a kettling speck on a thermal. The bird was described as having dark flight feathers with some barring visible when backlit with a light body and wing linings. Two dark "struts" were noted in the wing linings, but they were not dark patagia as on a Red-tailed. The tail was described as an indistinct gray with weak barring and a more distinct dark at the tip. This is very early for this species with the earliest well-documented Michigan record from the first week in May.

RED-TAILED HAWK:

1 3/26 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME)
This individual was identified as a **Harlan's**. It was described as a dark chocolate-brown body with silvery flight feathers with barring and a black trailing edge and a white tail with no red or barring and a smudgy terminal band.
310 4/18 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME, TH) Count and SBA record tally!
Nestled reported from Plainfield Twp, Io and Saginaw, Sa.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK:

8 3/12 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME) Peak.
1 4/26 Pinnebog, Hu MW Last report.

GOLDEN EAGLE:

1 3/13 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME) Earliest ever for HCHW.
3 4/18 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME, TH) Count peak.
1 4/28 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (TH) Last report.

A record-setting total of 11 Golden's were reported from the count this spring.

AMERICAN KESTREL:

11 4/24 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (TH, SR) Highest reported count.

MERLIN:

1 3/22 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME)
1 4/24 Nayanquing Pt. Ba SM
3 4/29 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (TH) New count peak.
1 5/29 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME) Late.

PEREGRINE FALCON:

1 4/26 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (TH, MW)
1 5/14 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (MW)
2 5/3 Port Crescent SP, Hu HCHW (ME) New count peak.
1 5/20 Shiawassee NWR, Sa DP, BG

RING-NECKED PHEASANT:

Noted through period. Good numbers seemed to have made it through the winter.

RUFFED GROUSE:

Scattered sightings through period. Numbers described as low this year.

WILD TURKEY:

Scattered sightings through period. Good numbers survived the cold winter. Noted from Io, Ba, Mi, Sa, Tu, and Hu. Peak of 80 noted Plainfield Twp, Io on 3/19 (BK).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE:

1 5/5 Saginaw, Sa BG
This species was the hardest hit among the local game birds. Numbers were down all over the SBA and nearby Gratiot County. Also noted in Tuscola County.

KING RAIL:

This species was reported as being heard from no less than three areas at Nayanquing Pt, Ba. One of these observers (or is that listeners) was Mary Rabe who did the King Rail write-up for the Michigan Breeding Bird Atlas. I had no luck finding birds or even classic King habitat. All of the areas reported had sedge with dried mud underneath or was entirely cattails.



Listen carefully if you are looking for them as their call is very similar to that of Virginias. Also remember that this is a threatened species in Michigan and extra ethical care should be exercised.

VIRGINIA RAIL:

1	4/24	Quanicassee, Tu	MW	First of spring.
15	5/19-20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Marsh bird survey.

SORA:

1	5/2	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
12	5/19-20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Marsh bird survey.

Also noted from Nayanquing Pt, Ba and Huron County.

COMMON MOORHEN:

1	4/22	Finn Road, Ba	AB	First of spring.
11	5/19-20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Marsh bird survey.

Also noted from Nayanquing Pt, Ba; Shiawassee NWR, Sa; Fish Pt, Tu; and Huron County.

AMERICAN COOT:

Reported through period at Karn Plant, Ba (JS). No high numbers reported.

SANDHILL CRANE:

First migrants were noted in late February.

2	3/19	Bay Port, Hu	TB	
5	4/22	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, JG	Good park bird.
1	5/21	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	Late migrant.

Also noted Au Gres, Ar; Gibson Twp & Finn Road, Ba (JS, PD, RH & M&JH); Shiawassee NWR (2 on 4/18-DP), Grat-Sag SGA, Sa (1 on 4/30&5/6-RW); and Port Crescent SP, Hu.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:

1	5/7	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	First of spring.
1	5/31	Bay City SP, Ba	MW	Very few this year.

LESSER GOLDEN PLOVER:

[No reports.]

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER:

3	5/11	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	A late first report.
8	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	SR, RW	Low peak.

Noted through period in small numbers.

PIPING PLOVER:

1	5/6-14	Tawas Pt, Io	BB et al	
---	--------	--------------	----------	--

KILLDEER:

1	3/15	MCV, Mi	RW	Also then at SNWR (DP).
52	3/23	Fish Pt, Tu	AB	Peak count.

AMERICAN AVOCET:

[No reports.]

GREATER YELLOWLEGS:

1	4/6	Dow Ponds, Mi	RW	
54	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/17	CNC Wetlands, Mi	SR	Last of spring.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS:

1	4/6	Dow Ponds, Mi	RW	
125	5/3	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak.
3	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	

SOLITARY SANDPIPER:

2	4/17-30	Bay City SP, Ba	KK, SR et al	Early arrival.
1	4/24	Bay Port, Hu	TB	
3	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/19	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Last report.

WILLET:

1	5/10-11	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, KK, SR	2nd park record.
---	---------	-----------------	------------	------------------

SPOTTED SANDPIPER:

1	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First of spring.
---	------	--------------------	----	------------------

UPLAND SANDPIPER:

4	5/21	Tuttle Road, Io	KO	Only report.
---	------	-----------------	----	--------------

WHIMBREL:

12	5/24	Tawas Pt.	BG, BW	
16	5/29	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	

HUDSONIAN GODWIT:

1	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	B&NB	
---	------	-------------------	------	--

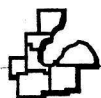
MARBLED GODWIT:

1	5/20	Bay City SP, Ba	KK, BH	First park record.
1-2	5/20-25	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	KK, BH, SR et al	

RUDDY TURNSTONE:



2	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	SR	
2	5/19	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	A good inland bird.
22	5/26	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	JR	In a field!
97	5/31	Bay City SP, Ba	MW	New SBA peak count!
RED KNOT:				
1,4	5/29,30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	
SANDERLING:				
2	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	
5	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	
SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER:				
1	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	Also then in Ba & Hu.
70	5/31	Bay City SP, Ba	MW	Peak.
LEAST SANDPIPER:				
2	4/27	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
20	5/14	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	SR et. al.	
WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:				
1	5/20	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	KK	First of spring.
2	5/29	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	Noted tp at Bay City (MW).
This species actually peaks in early June.				
PECTORAL SANDPIPER:				
57	4/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First.
162	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
6	5/11	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
DUNLIN:				
11	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First report.
500	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	B&NB, RW	Noted through period.
STILT SANDPIPER:				
[No reports.] No real habitat this year.				
SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:				
1	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First.
15	5/11	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
15	5/14	Sumac Island, Hu	MW	
1	5/21	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	Last.
COMMON SNIFE:				
5	4/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
17	4/21	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak
Individuals noted through period in Ba.				
AMERICAN WOODCOCK:				
1	3/22	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	Also then at GPNC (M&JH).
4	5/14	Rush Lake, Hu	MW	
WILSON'S PHALAROPE:				
2	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	Also noted on 5/31 (MW).
1	5/14	Caseville, Hu	MW	Only reports.
RED-NECKED PHALAROPE:				
[No reports.]				
LITTLE GULL:				
2	5/21	Tawas Pt, lo	KO	Only report.
BONAPARTE'S GULL:				
1	4/1	Tawas Lake, lo	RW	First.
50	5/30			
RING-BILLED GULL:				
Common through period. A total of 5207 nests counted on the MCV dike, Mi on 5/18 (EK, RA). Most had 3 eggs with some as many as 6 and 7. Unfortunately some of these spilled over onto the Common Tern nesting island keeping them at bay until late May when a few finally settled in to nest.				
HERRING GULL:				
Common through period. A total of 57 nests reported from MCV on 5/18 (EK, RA).				
726	3/31	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
ICELAND GULL:				
1	4/7	Tawas Pt, lo	RP	Only report.
GLAUCOUS GULL:				
1	3/1	MCV, Mi	RW	Rare inland.
7	4/5	Port Crescent SP, Hu	ME	Peak count.
6	4/7	Tawas Pt, lo	RP	
1	5/14	Port Crescent SP, Hu	ME	Last lingerer.
LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:				
1	3/12-4/24	Bay City SP, Ba	SR et al	



1	4/24	Fish Point, Tu	KO
1	5/24	Oscoda, Io	MW
1	5/29-30	Tawas Pt, Io	RW

At least two adult birds were present on the bay this spring.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL:

6	3/13	Bay City, Ba	MW	Peak.
1	5/22	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	JL	
1	5/26	Karn Plant, Ba	JS, GS	
1	thru 5/30	Tawas Pt, Io	RW et al	

COMMON TERN:

2	4/10	Bay City SP, Ba	SR
40	5/14	Tawas Pt, Io	BB
30	5/15	Eagle Bay, Hu	MW

The birds at the Dow Ponds, Mi were kept off the nesting island by invading Ring-billed Gulls until late in the period. At that time a few settling in on the east end of the island.

CASPIAN TERN:

8	4/13	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	Also then in Hu (TB).
243	5/10	Caseville, Hu	TB	
130	5/13	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	

FORSTER'S TERN:

3	4/13	Mud Creek, Hu	TB	
45	4/22	Finn Rd, Ba	AB	Peak count.
40	5/15	Huron County	MW	

They are around but don't appear to be nesting at Nayanquing Pt, Ba this year.

BLACK TERN:

2	4/30	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW	
10	5/31	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	MW	Low peak.

Also noted at Tuttle Marsh, Io;

ROCK DOVE:

Common through period.

MOURNING DOVE:

Common through period.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:

1	5/21	Tawas Pt, Io	BB
---	------	--------------	----

Also noted from Au Gres, Ar and Tobico, Ba.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO:

1	5/22	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
1	5/27	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Only reports.

EASTERN SCREECH OWL:

21	5/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP, BG
----	------	--------------------	--------

GREAT HORNED OWL:

Nested at Nayanquing Pt, Dow Corning, and Bay City SP, Ba.

SNOWY OWL:

1	5/21	Kilmanah, Hu	MW
---	------	--------------	----

This bird was present in the area for some time as one was seen there from 3/19. Also reported from Tawas Pt, Io (3 on 4/8-BB, 4/10-BK); Dow Ponds, Mi (4/8-13-RW, SR); and Bay Port, Hu (3/12-TB).

BARRED OWL:

Reported from Plainfield Twp, Io; Chippewa NC, Mi; Shiawassee NWR, Frankenmuth, and Green Point NC, Sa; Murphy Lake, Tu.

LONG-EARED OWL:

1 calling	3/17	Crump, Ba	JS, MW	Same as last year.
-----------	------	-----------	--------	--------------------

SHORT-EARED OWL:

[No reports.]

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL:

1 calling	3/17-18	Rogers Road, Ba	MW, JS et al	Found again on 5/14!
1	3/25	Plainfield Twp, Io	BK	
1	4/7	Oak Grove, Ba	JS, GS	Calling bird.

Probably nests in all of the SBA counties.

COMMON NIGHTHAWK:

1	5/19	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS, GS
---	------	-----------------	--------

WHIP-POOR-WILL:

1	4/23	Port Crescent SP, Hu	TH
---	------	----------------------	----

Also noted from Grat-Sag, Sa and Fremont Twp, Tu.

CHIMNEY SWIFT:

1	4/26	Tawas Pt., Io	G&EP
---	------	---------------	------

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD:



1	5/8	Midland, Mi	H&BC	
15	5/15	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	
2	5/30	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	Late migrants?

BELTED KINGFISHER:

Noted through period.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER:

Scattered sightings through period. Noted from Plainfield Twp, Io through period.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER:

Common through period.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER:

2	4/7	Green Point NC, Sa	M&JH	First migrants.
1	4/27,5/1	Bay Port, Hu	TB	Late migrant?.

Nests in the northern SBA counties.

DOWNY WOODPECKER:

Regular through period.

HAIRY WOODPECKER:

Regular through period.

NORTHERN FLICKER:

Fairly common period.

39	4/27	Port Crescent SP, Hu	DP	Peak count.
----	------	----------------------	----	-------------

PILEATED WOODPECKER:

2,1	3/4, 5/14	Rogers Road, Ba	JS	
2	3/12	Chippewa NC, Mi	KC	One on 5/17 (JHe).
1	5/14	near Auburn, Ba	RA, EK	Same spot as CBC.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:

[No reports.]

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE:

1	5/14			
---	------	--	--	--

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER:

1	5/21	Tawas Pt, Io	KK	
1	5/23	Au Gres, Ar	MW	Few Ar records.

Kevin had a probable Y-B on 5/13 at Bay City SP, Ba. These birds either bypass the SBA or go undetected. They are most easily found in migration or on territory by listening for their loud "per-wee" call note or their "che-lek" song (very similar-but quite separable-to the "che-bek" of the Least Flycatcher). They are very late migrants with sightings the last few days of May not unusual.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER:

1	5/14	Harbor Beach, Hu	MW	Migrant or local?
1	5/18	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW, SR	

ALDER FLYCATCHER:

1	5/21	Tobico, Ba	RW	
---	------	------------	----	--

Also noted from Tawas Pt and Tuttle Marsh, Io; Grat-Sag SGA, Sa; and Huron County.

WILLOW FLYCATCHER:

2	5/14	Huron County	ME, MW	
4	5/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	

This species was late this year with none detected on the Bay County NAMC effort.

LEAST FLYCATCHER:

6	5/8	Pine Haven, Mi	SR	Late returning.
14	5/13	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Highest total.

Numbers seemed to be up this year for some reason.

EASTERN PHOEBE:

1	3/23	Chippewa NC, Mi	JL	Also then in Tu (MW).
---	------	-----------------	----	-----------------------

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER:

1	5/5	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	First return.
---	-----	-----------------	----	---------------

EASTERN KINGBIRD:

1	5/11	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Earliest report.
---	------	--------------------	----	------------------

HORNED LARK:

Common though period. No huge numbers reported this spring.

PURPLE MARTIN:

4	4/14	Fish Pt, Tu	M&JH	
---	------	-------------	------	--

TREE SWALLOW:

1	3/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First report.
1600	5/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG, DP	Peak count.

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW:

1	4/18	Sag. River, Ba	JS	
---	------	----------------	----	--

Tom Heatley may have had one earlier, but the date he actually saw it was unclear.

BANK SWALLOW:



1	4/19	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	First report.
30	5/20	Brooks Road, Io	BB	
CLIFF SWALLOW:				
6	5/4	Liberty Bridge, Ba	JS	
BARN SWALLOW:				
1	4/13	Dow Ponds, Mi	SR	
BLUE JAY:				
Common through period. Peak of 200 on 5/8 at Tawas Pt, Io (BB).				
AMERICAN CROW:				
Common through period.				
COMMON RAVEN:				
1	4/19	Port Crescent SP, Hu	TH, MW	Also there on 4/27 (BG).
Several reports from Io with a peak of 5 on 3/19 in Plainfield Twp (BK). Another second hand report of one came from Arenac County (via MW).				
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE:				
Common through period.				
TUFTED TITMOUSE:				
Noted through period.				
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:				
Scattered sightings through period.				
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH:				
Common through period.				
BROWN CREEPER:				
8	5/8	Pine Haven, Mi	SR	
CAROLINA WREN:				
1	thru 4/10	Oak Beach, Hu	ME	A bird that overwintered.
HOUSE WREN:				
1	4/21	Green Point NC, Sa	M&JH	First report.
1	4/25	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
WINTER WREN:				
1	3/31	Plainfield Twp, Io	BK	Also noted on 4/7.
2	4/16	Green Point NC, Sa	M&JH	
1	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Last.
SEDGE WREN:				
2	5/2	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS	
20	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	New SBA peak count!
Numbers of this species are way up this year.				
MARSH WREN:				
1	5/4	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	SR	
Also noted from Wigwam Bay, Ar and Huron County.				
GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET:				
2	3/25	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
19	4/4	Chippewa NC, Mi	JL	
RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET:				
1	4/15	Plainfield Twp, Io	BK	First report.
BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER:				
1	4/15	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	First of spring.
1	4/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
25	4/25	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	With a Y-rumped fallout.
8	5/8	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	
EASTERN BLUEBIRD:				
5	3/16	Chippewa NC, Mi	JH	First arrivals in Feb.
3 nesting pairs; 2 nests of 4 & 5 nestlings each fledged between 5/21-5/31 at CNC.				
VEERY:				
1	5/4	Bay County	SM	
GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH:				
1	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	My first ever for Ba.
1	5/15	Eagle Harbor, Hu	MW	
SWAINSON'S THRUSH:				
1	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
1	5/30	Tawas Pt, Io	RW	
HERMIT THRUSH:				
2	4/7	Green Point NC, Sa	M&JH	
1	5/14	Cotter Road, Ba	SM	Late migrant.
WOOD THRUSH:				
1	4/27	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	



AMERICAN ROBIN:

Common through period. Peak of 255 on 4/8 at Tawas Point, lo (BB).

GRAY CATBIRD:

1	4/25	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	First of spring.
12	5/14-15	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	Peak.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD:

1	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW et al	
---	------	--------------	----------	--

Several earlier second hand reports from Tawas.

BROWN THRASHER:

1	4/17	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
---	------	-----------------	----	--

WATER PIPIT:

1	5/6	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	
3	5/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/14	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	SR	
8	5/14	Caseville & Seb, Hu	MW	
1	5/21	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS, SM	

BOHEMIAN WAXWING:

[No reports.] Noted into late February, but none detected in March.

CEDAR WAXWING:

8	4/9	Chippewa NC	JS	
1342	5/29	Port Crescent SP, Hu	JG, ME	

A new SBA high count! Waxwings often migrate in huge numbers in late May. These birds were seen in only 2 1/2 hours flying by the HCHW. Another 815 were counted the next day.

NORTHERN SHRIKE:

1	3/27	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	SR	Last report.
---	------	-------------------	----	--------------

Also noted from Plainfield Twp, lo (BK) and Crow Island (JS) and Shiawassee River SGA, Sa (DP).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE:

[No records for period.]

EUROPEAN STARLING:

Common through period.

SOLITARY VIREO:

3	5/8	Pine Haven, Mi	SR	Peak.
1	5/8	Bay County	MW	First reports.
1	5/20	Bay City SP, SP	KK	Last migrant.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO:

1	5/5	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	First report.
---	-----	---------------	----	---------------

WARBLING VIREO:

4	5/3	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
30	5/15	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	New SBA high count!

PHILADELPHIA VIREO:

1	5/14	Hume Twp, Hu	ME	
1	5/15	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	
1	5/15	Huron County	MW	Fewer reports than usual.
1	5/24	Tawas Pt, lo	BG, BW	

RED-EYED VIREO:

1	4/30	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW	First report.
---	------	------------------	----	---------------

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER:

1	5/4	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	Song only.
1	5/6	Bay City SP, Ba	SR, KK	
1	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Late migrant.

A Brewster's reported from Bay County (MW). Noted at Chippewa NC, Mi (PK).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER:

1	5/8	Vassar, Tu	MW	Late first report.
1	5/21	Tawas Pt, lo	M&JH	Late migrant.

TENNESSEE WARBLER:

1	5/9	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	First report.
15	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Peak.
10	5/21	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:

1	5/7	Bay City SP, Ba	KK, G&EP	First report.
1	5/13	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Last report.

NASHVILLE WARBLER:

1	4/25	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	First report.
20	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
20	5/15	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	Peak.

NORTHERN PARULA:

1	4/14	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	
This one was a heard-only bird, but not the first ones reported for the general area as Flint had two birds even earlier than this one. Needless to say a new SBA early!				
1	4/26	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	Another heard bird.
The previous SBA early had been May 3rd.				
1	5/9	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	First of spring.
1	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Other singles noted.
1 fem	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	Last report.
YELLOW WARBLER:				
1	4/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First report.
30	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
35	5/15	Tawas Pt., lo	BB	
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER:				
1	5/5	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	First report.
20	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Peak.
10	5/21	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
MAGNOLIA WARBLER:				
1	5/4	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	First report.
30	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
100+	5/15	Eagle Harbor, Hu	MW	New SBA high count.
1	5/24	Tawas Pt, lo	BG, BW	Also in Hu (TB).
CAPE MAY WARBLER:				
2	5/7	Bay City SP, Ba	SR, KK	Also then at Tawas (M&JH).
25	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Peak.
20	5/15	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	
1	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	Last report.
BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER:				
1	5/13	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	First report.
15	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	New SBA high count!
1	5/25	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	Last report.
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER:				
1	4/10	Tawas area, lo	BK	First report.
100+	4/25	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Big fallout in early AM.
100+	5/15	Eagle Harbor, Hu	MW	
70	5/15	Tawas Pt., lo	BB	Late fallouts for this species.
BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER:				
5	4/24	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Early for SBA.
1	4/27	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	
10	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER:				
1	5/7	Tawas Pt, lo	M&JH	
15	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Peak count.
1	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	Last report.
PINE WARBLER:				
2	4/15	Tawas Pt, lo	BK	New SBA early!
1	4/23	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Several BCSP reports.
1	4/30, 5/19	Ringwood Forest, Sa	RW	First ever Sa nester?
1	5/15	Eagle Harbor, Hu	MW	Migrant or local?
KIRTLAND'S WARBLER:				
2	5/21 tp	Mead Road, lo	KO et al	
1	5/21 tp	Davison Road, lo	KO et al	
1 fem	5/21	Tawas Pt, lo	J&JB	Extremely rare as a migrant.
These birds appear to be expanding due to recent nesting success a bit north.				
PRAIRIE WARBLER:				
1	5/14 or 15	Tawas Pt, lo		
This sighting was a third hand report I got from Karl Overman. Al Wormington had heard about one being seen on the point that weekend. Please let me know if you have any more details.				
PALM WARBLER:				
1	4/23	Bay City SP, Ba	KO	First of spring.
50 est	5/15	Tip of Thumb, Hu	MW	Late for so many.
1	5/20	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
1	5/24	Bay Port, Hu	TB	Last report.
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER:				
1	5/11	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
20	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
30	5/21	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	



2	5/24	Tawas Pt, lo	BG, BW	Also then in Hu (TB).
BLACKPOLL WARBLER:				
1	5/10	Bay Port, Hu	TB	First.
1	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	Last.
CERULEAN WARBLER:				
2	5/7	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW	Up to 7 here later in May.
Also noted from Pine Haven and Kawkawlin River Flooding, Mi (SR); Price NC, Sa (5/19-MW); and Sumac Island, Hu (5/25-MW). Also noted from Hampton Twp, Ba on 5/14 (JM). Numbers up or we just looking and listening better?				
BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER:				
1	4/14	Green Point NC, Sa	M&JH	2nd earliest ever for SBA.
1	4/19	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	3rd earliest ever for SBA.
20	5/15	Tip of Thumb, Hu	MW	New spring peak & late.
AMERICAN REDSTART:				
1	5/7	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
30	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
12	5/15	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:				
1	5/3	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First of spring.
Up to four singing males heard there later in May (DP, RW). Two or more birds were also reported from Shiawassee River SGA, Sa on the weekend of May 14-15 (SS).				
OVENBIRD:				
1	5/7	Bay City SP, Ba	SR, KK	
8	5/22	Loosemore Road, Hu	ME	
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH:				
1	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Also then in Tu (MW).
6	5/13	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
5	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
1	5/21	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	Also then at Tawas (M&JH).
As with many species migrants were still moving through late.				
LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH:				
1	4/26	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	First of spring.
1	4/30	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW	Heard into mid-May.
Found in early June at largo Springs, lo and Pine Haven, Mi (RW).				
MOURNING WARBLER:				
1	5/16	Green Point NC, Sa	M&JH	First of spring.
4	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT:				
1	4/24	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
20	5/15	Eagle Harbor, Hu	MW	Peak.
WILSON'S WARBLER:				
1	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	First of spring.
1	5/22	Erickson Rd, Ba.	SR	
CANADA WARBLER:				
1	5/14	Tawas Pt, lo	BB	
2	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT:				
1	5/18	Chippewa NC, Mi	SMI	Second CNC record!
SCARLET TANAGER:				
2	5/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
15	5/15	Tawas Pt., lo	BB	
NORTHERN CARDINAL:				
Common through period.				
ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK:				
1	5/2	Fremont Twp, Tu	MW	First of spring.
25	5/14&15	Tawas Pt. lo	BB	Highest totals reported.
INDIGO BUNTING:				
1	4/27	Bay County	G&EP	First of spring.
DICKCISSEL:				
1	5/30	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	
This bird was heard calling (sounded like a Yellowthroat on steroids) and singing before visually verified as an apparent first-year bird. A birder from Quebec also reported this or another bird at Tawas on 5/21!				
RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE:				
1	4/2	Oak Grove, Ba	JS, GS	
AMERICAN TREE SPARROW:				
2	4/30	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW	Last report.
CHIPPING SPARROW:				



3	3/23	Fish Pt., Tu	AB	New SBA early!
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:				
1	5/14	Eagle Bay, Hu	DP	
1-2	5/14, 15, 21	Tawas Pt, lo	JL, BB, KK	Two on 5/15 (BB).
Also noted from Tuttle Marsh area, lo in late May (BB, KO).				
FIELD SPARROW:				
1	4/1	Port Crescent SP, Hu	ME	
1	4/15	Oak Grove, Ba	JS, GS	
VESPER SPARROW:				
3	4/1	Tawas Pt, lo	RW	
1	5/1	Hampton Twp.	JS, GS	
SAVANNAH SPARROW:				
1	4/4-	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	AB	
GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:				
1	5/14 tp	11-Mile road, Ba	RH et al	No other reports.
HENSLOW'S SPARROW:				
[No reports.] This was despite extensive searching in historical locations. There were rumors of birds being seen or heard at Alabaster Road, but many good observers searched that area thoroughly without success. I even checked at night (maybe the best time to hear singing Henslow's).				
LECONTE'S SPARROW:				
[No reports.]				
FOX SPARROW:				
2	3/25	Green Point NC, Sa	M&JH	
2	4/19	Saginaw, Sa	BG	Last report.
SONG SPARROW:				
70	3/23	Fish Pt, Tu	AB	Peak count.
LINCOLN'S SPARROW:				
2	5/7	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
2	5/22	Wilderness Arb, Hu	ME	A bit late.
There was a Lincoln's Sparrow reported from the Thumb on the incredibly early date of April 6th. I did some checking of the records of nearby states. The differences in the earliest date is interesting. The dates were as follows: Ohio (Peterjohn 1989) last week of April; Illinois (Bohlen 1989) Feb 25th; and Wisconsin (Robbins 1981) Apr 5th. Unfortunately, this year's early SBA record had no details beyond those shared with Song Sparrow.				
SWAMP SPARROW:				
1 singing	3/22	Tobico Lagoon, Ba	MS	
2nd earliest spring record, although it undoubtedly overwinters during milder years.				
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW:				
One wintered through at Gene Kenaga's feeder. He also had one stay until 5/10. Nests in lo.				
35	4/30	Midland, Mi	EK	Gene's feeder.
1	5/14	Bay Port, Hu	TB	Last migrant.
WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW:				
1	5/1	Hampton Twp., Ba	JS	Also then in Hu (TB).
20	5/15	Huron County	MW	
5	5/21	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RW	Many late this year.
DARK-EYED JUNCO:				
An Oregon race individual was described from Oak Beach, Hu on 4/5 (ME). It was reported to have a "... distinct and sharply-defined black bib, chestnut back and flanks. A "probable" female Oregon race was seen three days later. It is impossible to know whether these birds are full-blooded Oregon or just have predominately Oregon plumage traits. It is safest to call it a Dark-eyed Junco.				
2	5/7	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
LAPLAND LONGSPUR:				
2	3/8	Fish Pt, Tu	MW	
50	3/26	Fish Pt, Tu	AB	Peak count.
40	4/4	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	AB	One there on 4/12 (DP).
1	4/10	Tawas Pt, lo	BK	
1	5/21	Tawas Pt, lo	KO	New SBA late date!
SNOW BUNTING:				
1000+	3/18	Bay Port, Hu	TB	Described as "thousands"! 250
4/6		Fish Pt, Tu	M&JH	
50	5/1	Bay Port, Hu	TB	Last report.
BOBOLINK:				
5	5/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Late in arriving this year.
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD:				
Common through period.				
EASTERN MEADOWLARK:				
Fairly common through period. First reported in March.				



WESTERN MEADOWLARK:

1	4/26	near Bad Axe, Hu	MW	Historical location.
1	5/13	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/14	Hume Twp, Hu	MW, ME	A lifer for Monica.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:

1	4/9	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	KK	
1	5/19	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	Occasionally nests there.
20	5/19	Wildfowl Bay, Hu	JLo	Seen on offshore island(s).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD:

4	3/17	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
1	5/14	Pinconning, Ba	RW	Late.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:

2	3/26	Fish Pt, Tu	M&JH	
---	------	-------------	------	--

The only other report was of a group of birds (seven counted) found by Karl Overman at the Tawas airport, Io on 5/21. These birds were at this location last year also.

BLACKBIRD SP.:

25,000	3/23	Bay City SP, Ba	G&EP	
--------	------	-----------------	------	--

COMMON GRACKLE:

Common through period.

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD:

Common through period.

ORCHARD ORIOLE:

1	5/10	Bay Port, Hu	TB	
3	5/14	Tawas Pt., Io	BB	

A pair was once again nesting at the home of Paul & Lisa Rasette near Linwood, Ba. This was first seen around in early May and later built a nest in a weeping willow.

NORTHERN ORIOLE:

1	4/28	Tuscola County	MW	First of spring.
100+	5/14	Tawas Pt, Io	BB	Peak.

PINE GROSBEAK:

12	3/4	Rogers Road, Ba	JS	Winter holdover.
----	-----	-----------------	----	------------------

PURPLE FINCH:

Noted only from Plainfield Twp, Io; Bay City SP, Ba; Saginaw Twp, Sa; and Fremont Twp, Tu.

HOUSE FINCH:

Common through period. Peak of 90+ at Tawas Pt, Io on 4/9 (BB).

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL:

1	3/19-27	Bay Port, Hu	TB	
---	---------	--------------	----	--

The bird that was visiting the Buzzard home in Bay County last winter was seen sporadically as late as early May!

COMMON REDPOLL:

150	3/1	Mayville, Tu	MW	
100	4/9	Oak Beach, Hu	ME	
1	4/20	Hampton Twp, Ba	GS	Our newest birder!
15	4/22	Midland, Mi	CL	

Redpolls were common throughout the SBA until mid-April when they left rather quickly. Some at my house were actually singing (not just flight calls) during the first two weeks of that month.

HOARY REDPOLL:

1	3/23	Fish Pt, Tu	AB	
1	3/26	Oak Beach, Hu	ME	

These two sightings represent the first well-documented birds in recent years. They also are the first ever well-documented records for these counties.

PINE SISKIN:

Two visited Mary Shorkey's feeder in Bay City, Ba most of the spring and were noted on the NAMC.

12	4/27-30	Bay Port, Hu	TB	
2	5/19	Saginaw Twp, Sa	M&JH	
6	5/22	Oak Beach, Hu	ME	Sparse this spring.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH:

Common through period.

EVENING GROSBEAK:

10	3/31	Plainfield Twp, Io	BK	
3	4/28	Midland County	via JL	
6	5/3	Oak Beach, Hu	ME	
1	5/13	Saginaw, Sa	BG	
1	5/21	Cotter Road, Ba	SM	

HOUSE SPARROW:

Common through period.



TOTAL: 254 species (not including Trumpeter Swan)

BIRDS OUTSIDE THE SBA

NORTHERN HARRIER:

2 5/19 Grat-Sag SGA, Gratiot RW Tending a nest.

SNOWY OWL:

1 March St. Louis, Gratiot JLo

PILEATED WOODPECKER:

1 4/30 Grat-Sag SGA, Gratiot RW Seem to be expanding.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:

2 4/30 tp Grat-Sag SGA, Gratiot RW, SR Another found there on 5/24.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER:

3 5/12 Grat-Sag SGA, Gratiot RW, SR

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER:

7 5/12 Grat-Sag SGA, Gratiot RW, SR

EXOTICS

BLACK SWAN:

1 5/14-5/25 Nayanquing Pt, Ba SR, RW et al

OMISSIONS/CORRECTIONS from previous reports

Winter 93-94

- S&LB (White-winged Crossbill observers) should have been M&LB (Mary & Lloyd Buzzard).
- DS (Saw-whet Owl observer) was not identified. DS is Doug Spencer, manager at Shiawassee.
- The entire state had 162 observers on last year's NAMC, not Isabella County alone.
- Myles Willard had 1200 Canvasbacks on 12/9/93, not 12000 as I had typed.
- Jeanne Henderson had a **Northern Mockingbird** at her house in Bay City on January 10, 1994.

Winter 92-93

- Delete the Merlin reported from Gagetown, Hu on February 28th.

OBSERVERS:

LA	Larry Abrahams	JLo	Jim Lockwood
RA	Ron Annelin	JM	Jean Madziar
MB	Marianne Barrowman	SM	Stan Madziar
TB	Tom Beachy	SMi	Sandy Miner
BB	Bob Bell	SMI	Steve Mlodinow
J&JB	Jack & Joanne Bouck	mo	many observers
M&LB	Mary & Lloyd Buzzard	KO	Karl Overman
AB	Adam Byrne	DP	David Peters
H&BC	Hugh & Bonnie Campbell	G&EP	Glenn & Ellen Peterson
KC	Katherine Carothers	JR	Jack Reinoehl
ME	Monica Essenmacher	KQ	Ken Quackenbush
CG	Chuck Gartner	SR	Steve Rosenberg
JG	Josh Green	SS	Steve Santler
KK	Kevin Kane	MS	Mary Shorkey
PK	Pat Keeler	WS	Wendy Skory
BK	Bob Kemp	JS	Joe Soehnel
JG	Jack Gillespie	GS	Grant Soehnel
BG	Bob Grefe	PS	Phil Stephens
TH	Tom Heatley	DS	Dave Stimac
JHe	Jeanne Henderson	KT	Kevin Thomas
M&JH	Mark & Joanne Hubinger	VT	Val Trabucchi
KK	Kevin Kane	RW	Ron Weeks
EK	Eugene Kenaga	MW	Myles Willard
CL	Chuck Lentz	M&MW	Myles & Marilyn Willard
JL	Janea Little	BW	Bruce Winchell



ABBREVIATIONS

Ar	Arenac County
Ba	Bay County
BCSP	Bay City SP
GPNC	Green Point NC
Hu	Huron County
Io	Iosco County
MCV	Midland Cogeneration Venture Pond (formerly Consumer's Pond)
Mi	Midland County
NC	Nature Center
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
Sa	Saginaw County
SBA	Saginaw Bay Area
SL	Sewage Lagoons
SP	State Park
Tu	Tuscola County

SUMMER 1994 FEATURE BIRD:

The spring winners **Kevin Kane** and **Jim Lockwood**. Kevin got the early Yellow-headed Blackbird at Nayanquing Pt, Ba on April 9th, while Jim was out in Wildfowl Bay, Hu and estimated 20 on offshore islands.

The summer feature bird is Stilt Sandpiper. These sandpipers love good mud to probe in. The first ones are often still in their barred breeding plumage.

EARLIEST SUMMER DATE:	27 June 1991	Dow Ponds, Mi (Weeks)
SUMMER HIGH COUNT:	52 on 27 July 1990	Shiawassee NWR, Sa (DP)

1993 ARRIVAL:	15 July	Shiawassee NWR, Sa (Peters)
1992 ARRIVAL:	7 July	Karn Plant, Ba (Willard)
1991 ARRIVAL:	27 June	Dow Ponds, Mi (Weeks)
1990 ARRIVAL:	6 July	Dow Ponds, Mi (Weeks)
1989 ARRIVAL:	12 July	Karn Plant, Ba (Soehnel)

WEATHER FEATURE:

This issue is the first for our new weather tables. One can find daily highs and lows along with the wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, and precipitation in the last 24 hours. The data was provided by Dave Glesner, manager of Midland's Barstow Airport. The barometric pressure, wind speed and direction were taken at 5:45 PM each day with the exception of four days during the period when conditions were taken from earlier in the afternoon.

NAMC RESULTS:

The NAMC efforts in Bay and Huron counties turned up 172 and 154 species, respectively. The totals for each of the counts will be included in the next mailing due to the already large size of this mailing. Thanks to compilers Joe Soehnel and Monica Essenmacher.



HURON COUNTY HAWKWATCH RESULTS:

Notes from the Dune...

In its fourth season, the hawkwatch at Port Crescent has become, I'm happy to report, a cooperative effort. In the past, things could get pretty lonesome up on the dune. No more! Some old and new friends came to help me out this season; some hit better days than others, but I thank them all equally for having made the effort to join in the count!

Thanks to Josh Green and Steve Rosenberg (who has already promised to contribute substantial time to next year's count!) for their interest and commitment. A special thanks to a new-found friend, Tom Heatley, who set up his hawk-banding operation at the park for the last two weeks in April. His enthusiasm and his promise to return in 95 are welcome news! Appreciation is cordially extended to Myles Willard (who was there for the BIG ONE), Bob Grefe, Dave Peters, Dave Stimac, and others who came to count!

The hawks did fly! The count began on February 28, a week earlier than I'd planned, simply because I couldn't ignore the four Rough-leggeds that were present at the Kennedy Road site as I was on my way elsewhere. By the end of March, the tally was over 500 hawks, about 10 times the previous years' March totals. The month's highlights were two days of "double" Golden's with two "singles" for an unprecedented 6 GE's in March.

Out of 22 days of observation, April brought 17 days on which counts surpassed 100 hawks. It was, as expected, the month of the BIG DAY. On April 25 after having watched the weather forecast I was ready to take the 26th off. Rising early, I saw fog and drizzle and noticed a bad wind so I chose to go to work instead. Big mistake. To make a long story short, it was friends Myles Willard and Tom Heatley who were to witness a spectacular migration of Broad-wings, with the majority of the day's 4000+ birds passing overhead in about 4 hours' time! Such an occurrence certainly gets one wondering if I've missed Big Days in the past seasons! Thank you, guys, for being there which, in this case, obviously had its own rewards!

May weather was just too nice— too warm and clear. Hawks were visible in mid-A.M. only to be seen rising higher and higher, disappearing into the stratosphere before noon. A few individuals could be added to the count after 3 P.M., when thermals began losing power and hawks would begin their descent!

On the morning of May 30, Josh Green and I began our countdown, and — at 9:38 A.M.— having traversed the dunes in a leisurely fashion, a Broad-winged Hawk, probably distracted by the whoops and hollers, became Number 10,000 of the 1994 season! At day's end, the Huron HawkWatch ended, finishing with a total of 10,573 hawks for the record!

—Monica Essenmacher, count leader

Species	Total	Range	Peak (date)
Turkey Vulture	1825	3/19-5/20	300 (4/15)
Osprey	50	4/7-5/22	13 (4/26)
Bald Eagle	24	3/12-5/30	2 (on several dates)
Northern Harrier	84	3/12-5/29	8 (3/12&22,4/6)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1168	3/26-5/30	247 (4/18)
Cooper's Hawk	291	3/12-5/29	41 (4/18)
Northern Goshawk	18	3/12-4/26	5 (4/18)
Red-shouldered Hawk	213	3/12-5/30	48 (3/22)
Broad-winged Hawk	5575	4/18-5/30	4108 (4/26)
Red-tailed Hawk	1048	3/12-5/30	310 (4/18)
Rough-legged Hawk	46	2/28-4/23	8 (3/12)
Golden Eagle	11	3/13-4/21	3 (4/18)
American Kestrel	76	3/22-5/28	11 (4/24)
Merlin	10	3/22-5/29	3 (4/29)
Peregrine Falcon	4	4/26-5/14	2 (5/3)
Unidentified	130		

Bolded numbers represent new count records.

Hours	Hawks	Hawks per Hour
174	10573	61



Spring 1994