

BIRDS IN THE SAGINAW BAY AREA

March 1, 1995 - May 31, 1995

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: The spring of 1995 will likely be remembered as one of the best ever for really rare birds. The reports came in hot and heavy in April and May with a male **Tufted Duck** (4/14-5/3) from Nayanquing, a **Curlew Sandpiper** (5/15) from Quanicassee, and a female **Painted Bunting** (4/24-27) from Saginaw heading the list. All of these birds proved to be elusive, however, and were seen by only a few.

Other good water birds included a **Red-throated Loon** and a **Tricolored Heron** from Nayanquing Point; **White-fronted Geese** from Wildfowl Bay and Shiawassee NWR; a **Ross' Goose** from Fish Point; a **Eurasian Wigeon** from Port Crescent; **Surf Scoters** from Nayanquing Point and Shiawassee NWR; **American Avocets** from Caseville; **Willetts** from Bay City SP, Quanicassee, and Tawas Point; **Hudsonian Godwit** from Shiawassee, **Marbled Godwit** from Shiawassee and Nayanquing, **Long-billed Dowitcher** from Nayanquing and Quanicassee; a Laughing Gull inland at Shiawassee; and two **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** from Bay City. Waterfowl numbers were again high this year especially at Nayanquing Point where up to 20,000 divers were present in April; most of these were scaup. **Oldsquaw** were again impressive at Tawas Point with an SBA record 5500 tallied on April 7th. A hen of this species also lingered at Shiawassee into the summer period.

The raptors at Port Crescent were not as impressive as last year (no huge Broad-winged day this year). Still an impressive total of 6158 hawks were tallied including record totals of **Osprey** (123), **Northern Harrier** (137), **Cooper's Hawk** (324), **Red-tailed Hawk** (1082), **American Kestrel** (126), **Merlin** (25), and **Peregrine Falcon** (12). The biggest rarity of the hawk watch was a **Ferruginous Hawk** photographed on May 5th. Also competing for best raptor was a **Swainson's Hawk** reported high over Bay City. Also notable was a **Northern Goshawk** nest found in SW Saginaw County that produced a chick.

There was a good passage of passerine migrants on several days this spring after cool weather in early May compressed the migration. This compression was probably most evident by Bob Bell's Tawas sightings from May 12th which included 50 **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**, 16 **Palm Warblers**, and 13 **Black-and-white Warblers**. The best overall warbler day at Tawas was apparently May 18th when Jerry Ziarno tallied 20 **Blackburnian**, 20 **Bay breasted Warblers**, and incredibly 20 **Blackpoll Warblers**. The best rarities were **Prairie Warblers** found at Tawas on the very early date of April 23rd and at Wagener County Park in Huron County; a **Kirtland's Warbler** found again in Iosco County; a **Connecticut Warbler** from Shiawassee; and a well-described **Yellow-breasted Chat** from Tuscola County. Finches were scarce again with a few siskins and no grosbeaks. The exceptions were **Red Crossbills** from Iosco County and a lonely female **White-winged Crossbill** reported from Huron County on the late date of May 28th.

In all an impressive 253 species were tallied for the period.

Red-throated Loon

1 4/19

Nayanquing Pt, Ba

MW

Seen in flight over the raft of scaup while looking for the elusive Tufted Duck. The Nayanquing Picnic Table Effect!

Common Loon

27 4/7

Tawas Point SP, Io

BB

First report.

84 4/15

Tawas Point SP, Io

BB

125 5/4

Tawas Point SP, Io

RW, LW

All on the water!

72 5/13

NE Huron County

MW

1 5/18

Grat-Sag SGA, Sa

RW

Strange location.

3 5/20

Tawas Point SP, Io

BB

Pied-billed Grebe

1 3/12

Harbor Beach, Hu

RW, SR

First report.

3 4/16

Tawas Point SP, Io

BB

Unusual there.

6 5/3

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

RW

5 5/4,18,20

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP, RW

Peak.

Horned Grebe

1 3/22

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

7 4/11

MCV Pond, Mi

RW

2 5/13

Tawas Point SP, Io

BB

1 5/19-20

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP, RW

Late.

Red-necked Grebe

1 4/8

Dow Ponds, Mi

SR

1 5/4

Jerry's Marina, Io

RW

Double-crested Cormorant

3 3/8

Karn Plant, Ba

RW, JS

Wintering birds.

1 4/5

MCV Pond, Mi

RW

First migrant.

115 4/21

MCV Pond, Mi

RW

Inland.

146 5/4

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

Inland.

294 5/12

Tawas Point SP, Io

BB

Peak count.

American Bittern

1 4/8

Wigwam Bay WA (W), Ar

RW, MB, DB

First report.

1 4/24 tp

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

BG, DP

2 on 5/19.

Also reported from Wigwam Bay WA (E), Ar; Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba; and Rush Lake SGA, Hu.

Least Bittern

1 5/18

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

Only report.

Great Blue Heron

1 3/13

Tawas Point SP, Io

BB

35 5/11

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

Peak.

Common through period. Reported tp at Karn Plant, Ba.

Great Egret

1 4/6

Port Crescent SP, Hu

ME

1 4/6

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

12 4/14

Fish Point WA, Tu

SR

Peak

Reported in small numbers at several locations through the end of the period.

Tricolored Heron

1 5/3-5

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

MW, RW, LW et al

This represents only the fourth spring record for the SBA. Myles was supposed to make a big "T" with his arms if he found the Tufted Duck (he was on a different dike searching for it). His signal upon finding this bird was truly confusing; it was somewhere between a friendly wave and a seizure.

Green Heron

7 3/19

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

BG

Wow!

This is 10 days earlier than the previous SBA early and also represents a new spring high count. I double-checked with Bob on the date and the number just to be sure.

1 4/30

Karn Plant, Ba

JS

Scattered sightings at other locations through period.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

1 4/29

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

KK

First report.

8 4/30

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP, BG

Tundra Swan

5 3/12

Fish Point WA, Tu

RW, SR

5000 3/20

Fish Point WA, Tu

SR

1 4/29

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

KK

5 5/13

w Huron County

BG, DP, BW

Mute Swan

11 4/8

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

RW et al

Reported through period at several SBA locations including Shiawassee.



Greater White-fronted Goose

1	4/15	Filion Road, Hu	MW
1	4/28	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Snow Goose

3	3/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	First reports.
3	3/12	Fish Point WA, Tu	RW, SR	
8	3/14	Fish Point WA, Tu	RW, MW, KM	
19	4/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Last report.
1	4/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	

Ross' Goose

1	3/12	Fish Point WA, Tu	MW, RW, SR
---	------	-------------------	------------

Steve and I drove up just after Myles had located this western species. Write-up included for state compiler.

Canada Goose

14331	3/29	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak count.
2500	4/3	MCV Pond, Mi	RW	
2000	4/16	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	

Wood Duck

8	3/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	First report.
43	5/4	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	

Record numbers of this species are nesting in the area this year.

Green-winged Teal

4	3/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	First report.
100	4/19	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	
756	4/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
6	4/28	CNC Wetlands, Mi	RW	

American Black Duck

1334	3/23	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
------	------	--------------------	----

Noted in small numbers through period.

Mallard

2500	3/14	Finn Road, Ba	RW
2995	3/23	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Common through period.

Northern Pintail

29	3/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG
100	3/14	Finn Road, Ba	RW
285	3/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
276	4/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Noted through period at Shiawassee and Nayanquing.

Blue-winged Teal

1	3/18 tp	Fish Point WA, Tu	GS
10	4/8	Bay City SP, Ba	RW et al

Northern Shoveler

1	3/12 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG
1	3/12	Fish Point WA, Tu	RW, SR
70	4/14 tp	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR
151	4/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
1	4/24	CNC Wetlands, Mi	RW

Gadwall

2	3/16 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First returns.
35	4/9 tp	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR et al	

Eurasian Wigeon

1	4/19	Port Crescent SP, Hu	TH et al
---	------	----------------------	----------

I have only second hand information on this sighting. It was reportedly seen taking off from the river and identified in flight by virtue of its red head.

American Wigeon

50	3/14	Oak Grove, Ba	JS
256	3/29 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
100	4/9 tp	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR
2	5/12	Tawas Lake, Io	BB
4	5/13	Caseville SL, Hu	RW

Canvasback

5	3/13	MCV Pond, Mi	RW	2 on 5/20, 1 tp.
23	3/15	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP, BG	
250	3/25	Pinconning CP, Ba	RW	
10	5/3	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	JS	



Redhead				
3, 22	3/15,16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG, DP	
60	3/24	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	JS	
Scattered sightings through period.				
Ring-necked Duck				
30	3/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
650	3/21	Tobico Marsh SGA, Ba	RW	
506	3/23	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
24	5/4	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/26	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	BK, TK, RW	
Tufted Duck				
1	4/14-5/3	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	RA, RW, LW, MW, DJ	
This bird was around but elusive. I made about 7 attempts for this bird before finding it asleep out in the lake. Amazingly Ron Annelin found it on the 14th and it was not refund until Ron's return on the 2nd of May. These were his only two trips to Nayanquing this spring. Unbelievable! This bird appeared to be a classic adult with a long thin tuft. It will be interesting to see if it is accepted by the state committee. Concerns over hybrids with about every other diver are always discussed. Two write-ups enclosed for state compiler.				
Scaup sp.				
6000	4/9	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR	
The diver estimates peaked at 15,000-20,000 this spring at Nayanquing. One has to wonder how much of this is due to the alien mussels. Similar staging is also happening at other Great Lakes locations.				
Greater Scaup				
150	3/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
1	3/12	Harbor Beach, Hu	RW, SR	
44	4/15	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
est 5000	4/19,22	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	
2	5/6	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BK, TK, RW	
Lesser Scaup				
10	3/18	Fish Point WA, Tu	JS	First report.
266	4/7 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
est 5000	4/19	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	
est 10000	4/22	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	
35	5/5	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
5	5/20	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Oldsquaw				
1 male	3/18	MCV Pond, Mi	SR	
50	3/25	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
5500	4/7	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
2000	5/4	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
50	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW	
100	5/20	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/19 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP, BG, RW, MW	
Unusually late and also rare inland. A female seen feeding in shallow water.				
Surf Scoter				
1	4/19-22	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW, SR	
1	5/18-22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP et al	
White-winged Scoter				
24	3/24	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
102	3/26	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
9	4/15	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
36	5/4	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Scoter sp.				
9	5/4	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Common Goldeneye				
500	3/8	Karn Plant, Ba	RW, JS	
122	3/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	Last report.
Bufflehead				
1	3/10	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
97	3/25	Tawas Lake, lo	RW, BB	
221	4/9	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR	New SBA High!
77	4/14	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
8	5/13	Caseville SL, Hu	RW	
1	5/21	Tawas Point SP, lo	G&JV	



Hooded Merganser				
1	3/8	Karn Plant, Ba	RW, JS	
25	3/15	Bay City SP, Ba	G&EP	
13	3/23 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	3 pair in boxes!
32	4/9	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR	
Common Merganser				
250	3/22	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	
681	3/23	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
3	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Last report.
Red-breasted Merganser				
17	3/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
150	5/4	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
15	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	All fem/imm.
Ruddy Duck				
22	3/13	MCV Pond, Mi	RW	Early returnees.
134	4/14 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	17 on 5/20.
2	5/13	Caseville SL, Hu	RW	Tough Hu bird.
Turkey Vulture				
4	3/18	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
1	3/18	Fish Point WA, Tu	J&GS, M&JH, LA	
6	3/18	St. Charles, Sa	ED	
124	4/22	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	Peak.
Common through end of period.				
Osprey				
1	4/7	CNC, Mi	PS	
1	4/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
23	4/19	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	New SBA high!
2	5/6	Tuttle Marsh WA, lo	BB	Nesters?
1	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Bald Eagle				
4	tp	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
1	3/12	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
10	3/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Noted at several locations through period.				
Northern Harrier				
Noted through period at Shiawassee.				
1	3/11	Hampton Twp	JS	
1	3/12	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
36	4/11	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	New SBA high!
1	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
1	3/11 tp	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
103	4/22	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	Peak.
Cooper's Hawk				
1	3/11	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
1	4/17 tp	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	On nest.
50	4/22	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
Northern Goshawk				
1	3/4	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
2	3/11	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
2	4/1	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
1	5/5	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
Chris Morris, one of the local conservation officers, found a Goshawk nest on the Saginaw side of the Gratiot-Saginaw SGA. The nest was in wet deciduous habitat and contained one chick.				
Red-shouldered Hawk				
14	3/25	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	Peak.
1	4/14	Rollways Rd, lo	BB	
Broad-winged Hawk				
1	4/11	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
804	5/13	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
1	May	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	CM et al	Nest.
151	5/27	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	
Swainson's Hawk				
1	4/21	Independence Bridge, Ba	G&EP	

This bird was seen flying over the Independence Bridge while they were working their way through Bay City. Glenn wrote the bird at Burger King. Write-up enclosed for state compiler.



Red-tailed Hawk					
4	3/11	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
9	sev. dates	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP		
174	5/5	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW	Peak.	
Ferruginous Hawk					
1	5/5	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
No write-up has yet been submitted for this bird. It was photographed by Myles Willard and my second hand information is that the photograph shows it to be this species.					
Rough-legged Hawk					
5	3/9	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP		
8	3/12	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
1	5/16	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
Golden Eagle					
2	3/18	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
2	4/23	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
1	4/29	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
American Kestrel					
27	4/11	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
Common through period.					
Merlin					
1	3/11	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
1	3/12, 16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG, DP		
1	3/15	Finn Road, Ba	JS		
4	4/22	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
1	4/22, 5/6	Port Crescent SP, Hu	JL, KO et al		
1	4/28	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP		
1	5/14, 19	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB		
1	5/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP		
Peregrine Falcon					
1	4/23	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
1	4/25	Crow Island SGA, Sa	DR		
4	4/30	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
1	5/6	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB		
1	5/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Ad. tundra race.	
1	5/21	Port Crescent SP, Hu	HCHW		
1	5/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	MW		
1	5/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Im. cont. race.	
Ring-necked Pheasant					
Scattered sightings through period.					
Ruffed Grouse					
Scattered sightings through period. Reported from Foote Swamp and Rollways Rd, Io; NE Bay County; Wagener CP and Verona SGA, Hu.					
Wild Turkey					
Scattered sightings through period. Peak of 20 reported from CNC, Mi (J&GS).					
Northern Bobwhite					
Reported from Verona SGA, Hu; St. Charles, Sa (AK); and SW Saginaw County (DR). Numbers still low.					
Virginia Rail					
1	4/17	Cotter Road, Ba	RW	First report.	
12	5/18-19	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Two-day census.	
Sora					
1	4/22	Karn Plant, Ba	JS		
1	4/22	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW		
27	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Two-day census.	
Common Moorhen					
1	4/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP		
30	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Two-day census.	
Also reported from Nayanquing Pt WA and Karn Plant, Ba.					
American Coot					
1	3/18	Fish Point WA, Tu	J&GS, M&JH, LA	First migrant.	
103	4/14	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP		
200	4/19	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW		
Sandhill Crane					
1	3/13	MCV Pond, Mi	RW		
1	5/1	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP		
5	5/6	East Tawas, Io	BB		
1	5/13	Gibson Twp, Ba	JS		
1	5/21	Jack Pine Road	RW		



Black-bellied Plover				
1	4/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	Early.
30	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
2	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Semipalmated Plover				
10	5/10	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR, RW	
42	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
109	5/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Killdeer				
1	3/4	Bay City SP, Ba	JG	More arrived on 3/12.
12	3/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
22	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
American Avocet				
4	4/16	Caseville, Hu	TB	
Greater Yellowlegs				
3	3/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
87	5/4	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/19	CNC Wetlands, Mi	RW	
1	5/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/28	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	GZ	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
1	3/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
138	5/4 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP et al	6 on 5/30.
15	5/13	Caseville SL, Hu	RW	
Solitary Sandpiper				
2	4/28	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
1	5/10	CNC Wetlands, Mi	RW	
1	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Willet				
1	4/28-29	Bay City SP, Ba	J&GS, KK	Reported earlier also.
1	5/16	Quanicassee WA, Tu	DD	
1	5/20	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	Bob's first for lo.
Spotted Sandpiper				
1	4/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First.
12	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Upland Sandpiper				
1	4/22	Bad Axe Airport, Hu	JLe, KO et al	
1	5/13	Huron County	TH	Only reports.
Whimbrel				
16	5/17	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	MM et al	
2	5/22	Tawas Point SP, lo	G&JV	
1	5/26	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	BK, TK, RW	
3	5/27	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Hudsonian Godwit				
1	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Marbled Godwit				
1	4/14	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	New SBA early!
1	4/22	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW, JLe, KO et al	
Ruddy Turnstone				
4	5/6	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
4, 7	5/20,25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW, DP	Inland.
25	5/27	Au Gres RM, Ar	RW	
25	5/29	Karn Plant, Ba	J&GS	
Red Knot				
4	5/16	Quanicassee WA, Tu	DD	
25;18;8	5/20;21;22	Tawas Point SP, lo	JLi; KO et al; G&JV	
1	5/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Sanderling				
25	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	Only report!



Curlew Sandpiper

1 5/15

Quanicassee, Tu

DD

Dan's write-up goes as follows..."20 to 30 Dunlins were landing and flying frequently...in one landing, as I scanned with 10x50, saw body of bird completely colored and distinctive downward curved bill. The chest of the bird was a nice rich chestnut color. Same size as Dunlin and same frantic behavior. 5 to 10 second look. Did not pick up flock again nor did I see this bird again. Upon spotting bird in flock I knew it was a type of curlew and consulted Peterson Field Guide. Bird was a solid color and this was distinctive from other Dunlins. Curved bill also was obvious. Size of bird was size of Dunlin - not bigger or smaller. It fit and blended right in." Full write-up enclosed for state compiler.

Semipalmated Sandpiper

1 5/18

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

186 5/25 tp

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

100 5/31

Dow Ponds, Mi

RW

Least Sandpiper

8 5/10

Dow Ponds, Mi

RW, JLi

50 5/13

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

J&GS

44 5/18

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

4 5/25

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

White-rumped Sandpiper

1 5/18

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

12, 21 5/23, 25 tp

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

RW, DP et al

Peak.

3 5/28

Tawas Point SP, lo

RW

Pectoral Sandpiper

18 3/29

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

99 4/14

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

17 5/13

Huron County

TB

Lots for mid-May!

3 5/18

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

Dunlin

1 4/19

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

BG

30 4/20

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

250 5/10

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

RW, SR

1090 5/25

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

Stilt Sandpiper

[No reports.]

Ruff

1 5/5

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

BG

This was a black male seen and photographed (tiny in the photo) for only a few minutes! Only the sixth SBA record! Bob's first thought at seeing a black shorebird with orange legs was Oystercatcher. I don't what I would have thought. This also represents a first refuge and Saginaw County record.

Dowitcher sp.

3 4/14

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

The date suggests Long-billed.

Short-billed Dowitcher

3 5/4

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

17 5/16

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

13 5/17

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

RW, SR

4 5/26

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

BK, TK, RW

1 5/30

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

Long-billed Dowitcher

1 4/22

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

RW, JLe, KO et al

This bird was seen and photographed at close range. It called several times and also gave us great looks at its barred flanks, spotted throat, and white scapular tips.

2 5/15

Quanicassee, Tu

DD

The above ID was based on bill length comparison. The bills of these two birds were described as "about 2 inches longer" than other dowitchers with them.

Common Snipe

3 4/2

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

JG, DB, MB

21 4/22

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

SR

12 5/2

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

BG

4 5/4

Shiawassee NWR, Sa

DP

Last migrants.

American Woodcock

3 3/14

CNC, Mi

via JLi

First returns.

Wilson's Phalarope

1 fem 5/10

Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba

RW, SR

1 male 5/15

Quanicassee, Tu

DD



Laughing Gull

1	5/30 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP, BG, RW, MW
---	---------	--------------------	----------------

This represents only the fifth Saginaw Bay record and our first inland. This bird was a classic adult with long bill, full hood, dark gray back and black primaries.

Bonaparte's Gull

1	4/7	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
4	4/7 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
80	5/19	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
5	5/28	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW

Ring-billed Gull

500	3/4	Oak Grove, Ba	J&GS
657	3/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Herring Gull

Common through period.

Glaucous Gull

10	3/12	Harbor Beach, Hu	RW, SR
3	3/25	Tawas Point SP, Io	RW
1	4/29	Port Crescent SP, Hu	TH
1	5/14	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB

Lesser Black-backed Gull

2	3/4	Bay City SP, Ba	JG	A mate?
1	4/25	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	Last report.

Lester must winter in the area. The second bird is interesting; I assume it was an adult but I haven't talked to Jack.

Great Black-backed Gull

4	3/28	Bay City SP, Ba	RW
4	4/15	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
1	5/24	Bay City SP, Ba	RW

Caspian Tern

1	4/11	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
74	4/28 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	2 on 4/30.
72	5/4	Bay City SP, Ba	J&GS	

Common Tern

5	5/5	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Late in arriving.
10	5/10	Dow Ponds, Mi	RW	Back again for now.
2	5/16-19	CNC Wetlands, Mi	RW	
21	5/19-20 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP, RW	
30	5/27	Tawas Point SP, Io	RW	

Forster's Tern

5	4/17	Bay City SP, Ba	RW
6	5/18	Tawas Point SP, Io	GZ

Nayanquing colony seems to have decreased markedly.

Black Tern

1	5/3	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW, MW
23	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Noted from several other SBA locations including the CNC Wetlands, Mi.

Rock Dove

Common through period. Peak of 50 reported from Bay City, Ba (JS).

Mourning Dove

Common through period. Peak of 46 reported from Tawas Pt SP, Io on 3/12 (BB).

Black-billed Cuckoo

1	5/17	Linwood, Ba	RW, SR, P&LR
1	5/28	Bay City SP, Ba	RW
1	5/29 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

1	5/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
---	------	--------------------	----

Eastern Screech Owl

Reported from Bay County (Mary Shorkey had her pair again this spring) and in Alabaster Twp in Iosco County where they are hard to come by (MW).

Great Horned Owl

Common though period.

Snowy Owl

1	3/25	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	Only report.
---	------	----------------------	----	--------------

I believe Dave Stimac also reported Snowy Owl from Nayanquing this spring.



Saw-whet Owl	1	~late March	Arenac County	MW et al	
	1	4/8	Tawas Point SP, Io	RW	
Barred Owl	1	3/24	CNC, Mi	JLi	
	2	5/13	Gibson Twp, Ba	J&GS	Only reports.
Short-eared Owl	1	4/2	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	JG, MB, DB	
Dave Stimac also had one about this time at Nayanquing.					
Common Nighthawk	1	5/13	Caseville Twp, Hu	BW	First report.
Whip-poor-will	1	4/30	Oak Grove, Ba	J&GS	First report.
Chimney Swift	1	4/28	Bay City	JS	
	12	5/10	Saginaw, Sa	DP	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	5/8	Midland, Mi	LR	First report.
	15	5/13	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	High count.
Belted Kingfisher	1	3/18	Saginaw (River & Dice), Sa	DP	
Scattered sightings through period.					
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	5/5	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	First return.
Also reported from Verona SGA, Hu and Gabel Rd, Sa.					
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Fairly common through period.				
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	4/3	Green Pt NC, Sa	SD	
	4	4/14 tp	Rollways Rd, Io	BB	
	1	5/12	Green Pt NC, Sa	DP	Late migrant?
Downy Woodpecker	Common through period.				
Hairy Woodpecker	Fairly common through period.				
Northern Flicker	1	3/9	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
	10	4/15	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	
Pileated Woodpecker	2	3/28	CNC, Mi	CNC staff	Nest later found.
Also reported from Shiawassee R. SGA, Shiawassee NWR and Green Pt NC, Sa.					
Eastern Wood Pewee	2	5/13	Huron County	TB	
	1	5/13	Kawkawlin R Flooding, Mi	GZ	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	5/13	n Huron County	TH	
	1	5/21	Tawas Point SP, Io	KO, SS, JLe	
Acadian Flycatcher	2	5/18 tp	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW	First returns.
Alder Flycatcher	4	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
	3	5/24	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	Big migration that day!
Willow Flycatcher	1	5/18 tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Least Flycatcher	1	5/2	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW	
	15	5/13	Kawkawlin R Flooding, Mi	GZ	
Eastern Phoebe	1	3/20	CNC, Mi	JLi, JH	
Great-crested Flycatcher	1	5/10	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
	4	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
	6	5/13	Kawkawlin R Flooding, Mi	GZ	
	4	5/20	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	A bit late for migrants.



Eastern Kingbird				
1	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
15	5/27	Tawas Point SP, Io	RW	
Horned Lark				
Noted through period.				
89	3/9	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak count.
Purple Martin				
1	4/8	Linwood, Ba	P&LR	First scout.
34	May	Linwood, Ba	P&LR	
Tree Swallow				
3	3/15	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	First.
1500	4/14	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	Peak.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow				
1	4/16	Tobico Marsh SGA, Ba	JG	
12	5/9	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
Bank Swallow				
2	5/3	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	JS	
Cliff Swallow				
4	5/1	Liberty Bridge	JS	
11	5/11	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Hard to find in Sa.
Barn Swallow				
2	4/15	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
Blue Jay				
500	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW	
American Crow				
67	3/12	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	Highest count.
Common Raven				
1	3/10	Loud Dam Rd, Io	BB	
1	4/9	Monument Rd, Io	BB	
Also reported from Port Crescent SP, Hu.				
Black-capped Chickadee				
15	4/14	Rollways Rd, Io	BB	
Tufted Titmouse				
Common through period.				
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
5	4/14	Rollways Rd, Io	BB	
1	5/12	Saginaw, Sa	DP	A local or migrant?
White-breasted Nuthatch				
4	5/14	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	
Brown Creeper				
Noted from Oak Grove and Bay City SP, Ba, and Green Pt NC, Sa.				
House Wren				
1	4/23	Midland, Mi	GZ	
5	5/2	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
Winter Wren				
1	4/12	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	
3	4/30	Green Pt NC, Sa	DP	
1	5/18-19	Bay City SP, Ba	JG, G&EP	
Territorial birds found at Verona SGA and Wagener CP, Hu.				
Sedge Wren				
1	5/13	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	SR	
5	5/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW	Probably 25+ there.
Also noted from several other locations. Numbers seemed down a bit this year.				
Marsh Wren				
1	4/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DASRBA	
This would represent a new SBA early. I will try and find out more about this record. There were some extremely early Marsh Wrens seen in the Detroit area this spring.				
1	4/28	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Typical arrival date.
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
10	4/14	Rollways Rd, Io	BB	
1	4/30	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	Last date reported.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
1	4/11	Midland, Mi	RW	
50+	5/12	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	Amazing for so late!
4	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW	
1	5/19	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB	



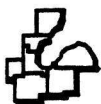
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
1	4/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	4/21	Bay City SP, Ba	G&EP	
8	5/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW	
Eastern Bluebird				
2	3/15	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
Veery				
2	5/2	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
Swainson's Thrush				
1	4/29	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
2	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
1	5/30	Saginaw, Sa	DP	
Hermit Thrush				
4	4/11	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	First returns.
5	4/14	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
4	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	Late migrants.
Wood Thrush				
3	5/9	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	
5	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	Odd time.
American Robin				
12	3/11	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	The big return day.
66	3/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Gray Catbird				
1	5/2	CNC, Mi	PK	
1	5/2	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
20	5/13	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Northern Mockingbird				
1	5/20	n of East Tawas, lo	KO, JLe, SS	Only report.
Brown Thrasher				
1	4/14	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
6, 8	5/4, 12	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW, BB	
American Pipit				
2	5/5	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/6	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
5	5/9	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
1	5/11	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/13	Sebewaing & Caseville SL, Hu	DP et al, RW	
Cedar Waxwing				
193	3/11	Hampton Twp	JS	
Northern Shrike				
1	3/10	Crow Island SGA, Sa	JS	
1	3/20	Fish Point WA, Tu	SR	
1	4/10	Iosco County	DM	Late.
European Starling				
Common through period. Peak of 530 at Tawas Point SP, lo on 3/12 (BB).				
Solitary Vireo				
1	4/30	Wilderness Arb, Hu	ME, TH	
1	4/30	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
3	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/16	CNC, Mi	RW	A bit late.
Yellow-throated Vireo				
1	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
4	5/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Warbling Vireo				
6	5/2	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
15	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Philadelphia Vireo				
1	5/13	NE Huron County	MW	
Dan Duso also reported this species but he did not include a date or a location.				
Red-eyed Vireo				
1	5/13	Bay and Huron Counties	NAMC	
5	5/22	CNC, Mi	PK	
5	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	



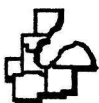
Blue-winged Warbler				
1	5/4	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW, LW	
1	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW	Likely a migrant.
2, 1	5/13, 14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Territorial birds noted from several locations.				
Golden-winged Warbler				
1	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
2	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/19	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Brewster's Warbler				
1	5/21	Tawas Point SP, lo	KO, SS, JLe	
Tennessee Warbler				
1	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	SR, KK	
8	5/20	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
10	5/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW	DP had singles later.
2	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Orange-crowned Warbler				
1	5/7	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/13	n. Huron County	TH	
1	5/13	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
1	5/18	Tawas Point SP, lo	GZ	Quite late.
Nashville Warbler				
1	4/29	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
8	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Northern Parula				
1	5/7	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
4	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	New Spring High, 2cd
Highest SBA Count!				
1	5/20	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Yellow Warbler				
2	4/28	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
33	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
40	5/13	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Chestnut-sided Warbler				
1	5/4	Huron County	ME	New SBA early!
25	5/18	Tawas Point SP, lo	GZ	New SBA high!
1	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	Late migrant.
Magnolia Warbler				
2	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	SR, RW, KK	
1	5/25	CNC, Mi	JLi	
Cape May Warbler				
1	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
5	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, SR, KK	
10	5/18	Tawas Point SP, lo	GZ	
No late records reported.				
Black-throated Blue Warbler				
1	5/10	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
1	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, SR, KK	
6	5/14	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
1	5/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
1	4/11	Bay City SP, Ba	G&EP	
3	4/11	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
150	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, SR, KK	
24	5/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Late slug.
1	5/21	Jack Pine Road, Ar	RW	Territorial.
1	5/28	Sims-Whitney Cem.	RW	Territorial.
Black-throated Green Warbler				
1	4/29	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
1	5/1	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	
6	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	



Blackburnian Warbler				
1	5/10	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
2	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, SR, KK	
20	5/18	Tawas Point SP, lo	GZ	Ties SBA high!
1	5/28	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Pine Warbler				
4	4/14	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	New SBA Early!
1	4/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	4/29	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
1	5/2	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
1	5/6	Tawas Point SP, lo	G&EP	
Kirtland's Warbler				
1	5/21	Mead Road, lo	KO, JLe, SS	
Prairie Warbler				
1	4/23	Tawas Point SP, lo	KM et al	New SBA early!
1	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW	
Both of these birds were males. The Tawas bird was singing in the pines on the point. The Wagener bird was found by its unrecognized chip note. It was viewed in cedars for 15 minutes at times as close as my binoculars would focus. The diagnostic face pattern, white undertail, black flank streaking, etc. were all noted.				
Palm Warbler				
3	4/28	Port Crescent SP, Hu	TH	
16	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	Late migrants that day.
1	5/21	Tawas Point SP, lo	G&JV	
Bay-breasted Warbler				
1	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
10	5/16	CNC, Mi	JLi	
11	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
20	5/18	Tawas Point SP, lo	GZ	
4	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Blackpoll Warbler				
1	5/13	NE Huron County	MW	
1	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
20+	5/18	Tawas Point SP, lo	GZ	A record spring count!
1	5/20	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Cerulean Warbler				
1	5/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
2	5/22	Tawas Point SP, lo	G&JV	
Excellent looks were obtained at these two singing males! This species is rare as a migrant this far north in the state. Territorial birds were also reported from Pine Haven and Kawkawlin Flooding, Mi (SR) and Grat-Sag SGA, Sa (RW).				
Black-and-white Warbler				
1	4/29	Bay City SP, Ba	KK	
13	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
American Redstart				
4	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, SR, KK	
20	5/13	Kawkawlin R Flooding, Mi	GZ	
Prothonotary Warbler				
1	5/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
2	5/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
7	5/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW	
11	5/30	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	8 males, 3 females.
Ovenbird				
3	5/2	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW	
7	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Northern Waterthrush				
3	5/9	Bay City SP, Ba	RW	
8	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW	
2	5/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	RW	Late migrants?
Louisiana Waterthrush				
2	4/30	Pine Haven RA, Mi	SR	
1	5/15	Hampton Twp, Ba	DD	
This ID was based on a view of an all white (no streaks) throat.				
1	5/18	Grat-Sag SGA, Sa	RW	
Connecticut Warbler				
1	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	That lucky dog.



Mourning Warbler			
1	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW
3	5/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
1	5/29	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
Common Yellowthroat			
1	5/8	Oak Grove, Ba	JS
1	5/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
16	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
Wilson's Warbler			
1	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW
3	5/18	Tawas Point SP, Io	GZ
2	5/28	Tawas Point SP, Io	RW
I heard this species nearly every day during the last ten days of May.			
Canada Warbler			
3	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW
1	5/19	Tawas Point SP, Io	KK
1	5/25	CNC, Mi	JLi
1	5/27	Green Pt NC, Sa	DP
1	5/29	Oak Grove, Ba	J&GS
Yellow-breasted Chat			
1	5/18-19	Tuscola County	DD
Dan provided an excellent write-up of this chunky warbler. He also mentioned that he has had this species in the same location before. Perhaps we should be looking for nesting chats along the Tuscola shoreline areas.			
Scarlet Tanager			
1	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, SR, KK
6	5/14	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
Northern Cardinal			
Common through period except on our Big Day.			
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			
1	5/7	Pine Haven RA, Mi	SR
1	5/7	Saginaw, Sa	DP
2	5/8	CNC, Mi	JLi
1	5/10	Oak Grove, Ba	JS
5	5/12	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
6	5/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG
25	5/13	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
Painted Bunting			
1 fem	4/24-27	Saginaw, Sa	DP et al
This megarrarity was seen by only a few due to household disturbance concerns (founded ones I might add). The bird was found eating seeds along with numerous House Sparrows. Several excellent photographs were taken during the bird's stay. This represents the first Saginaw Bay record and the first documented record of a female for the state.			
Indigo Bunting			
2	5/12	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
Rufous-sided Towhee			
1	3/27	Midland, Mi	Russ Busick
1	3/27	Green Pt NC, Sa	SD
American Tree Sparrow			
49	3/9	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
1	5/3	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	EK
1	5/7	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
2	5/28	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	GZ
This was an excellent year for late birds. Despite that, this one is so late that I know it will not be accepted at the state level without some documentation. Jerry, let me know if you wish to provide any.			
Chipping Sparrow			
1	4/7	Wenonah Park, Ba	JS
Clay-colored Sparrow			
2	5/13	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
Field Sparrow			
1	3/10	5250 N. Center Rd., Sa	BG
1	4/1	CNC, Mi	JLi
Vesper Sparrow			
1	4/16	Tawas Point SP, Io	BB
Savannah Sparrow			
1	4/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DASRBA



Grasshopper Sparrow				
1	5/13	Verona SGA, Hu	RW	
1	5/16	CNC, Mi	RW	
Henslow's Sparrow				
1	5/18 tp	Larkin Twp, Mi	RW et al	
Fox Sparrow				
1	3/20	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	EK	
1	3/26	Oak Grove, Ba	J&GS	
7	4/14	Bay City SP, Ba	SR	
1	5/5	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	EK	
1	5/9	CNC, Mi	JLi	New SBA late date!
Song Sparrow				
Seen through period.				
26	3/28	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Lincoln's Sparrow				
2	5/10	Bay City SP, Ba	RW, SR, KK	
3	5/12	Cotter Road, Ba	RW	
1	5/13	Wagener CP, Hu	RW	Does it nest there?
2	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Swamp Sparrow				
1	3/9	5250 N. Center Rd, Sa	BG	
75	4/14	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	SR	
White-throated Sparrow				
8	4/13	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
43	5/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
20	5/12	Cotter Road, Ba	RW	
1	5/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Last migrant reported.
White-crowned Sparrow				
1	5/1	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS	
21	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
1	5/27	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Dark-eyed Junco				
29	4/14	Monument Rd, lo	BB	
2	5/2	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
Lapland Longspur				
5	3/14	Fish Point WA, Tu	RW, MW, KM	
1	3/25	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
52	5/5	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
Snow Bunting				
75	3/18	Fish Point WA, Tu	JS	Peak and last.
Bobolink				
1	5/5	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	KK	
100	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
10	5/27	Tawas Point SP, lo	RW	
Red-winged Blackbird				
50	tp	Hampton Twp	JS	
1	3/6	5250 N. Center Rd., Sa	BG	
10000	4/7	Karn Plant, Ba	J&GS	
Eastern Meadowlark				
10, 14	3/12, 25	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB	
Yellow-headed Blackbird				
There was a report of two birds seen on the very early date of 3/25. I cannot recall exactly where they were seen. Dennis Brooks said he would write some of the information down, but I have not heard from him since. I do know they were flyby birds and the white in the wings was seen in addition to the yellow head.				
1	4/19	Vanderbilt CP, Tu	JS	
3	4/19	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW	
20	5/28	Karn Plant, Ba	J&GS	Nice total.
Rusty Blackbird				
5	3/13	MCV Pond, Mi	RW	
100	3/14	Oak Grove, Ba	J&GS	
10	5/13	Bay City SP, Ba	G&EP	Last report.
Common Grackle				
Noted through period.				
5000	4/7	Karn Plant, Ba	J&GS	
Brown-headed Cowbird				
50	3/4	Essexville, Ba	JS	First returns



Orchard Oriole

1	5/12	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB
2	5/17	Linwood, Ba	P&LR, RW, SR

This bird was seen by Paul and Lisa before this date. The good news is that at press time there are young in the nest! They also saw another in mid-May along the Pine River in Arenac County.

3	5/20	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB
2	5/20 tp	Bay City SP, lo	KO, JLe, SS
1	5/21	Tawas Point SP, lo	G&JV
1	5/31	SW Saginaw County	DR

Northern Oriole

1	4/26	Midland, Mi	SR
---	------	-------------	----

This bird has returned to nest three straight years in a limb near my bedroom window. It whistles the same ear piercing song starting at 5 a.m. every morning.

180	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB
-----	------	--------------------	----

Purple Finch

A few sightings scattered through the period.

House Finch

Abundant through period.

Red Crossbill

1	3/10	Iargo Springs, lo	BB	
10	5/26	Corsair, lo	BB	Probably nesting!

White-winged Crossbill

1	5/28	Oak Beach, Ba	ME
---	------	---------------	----

Pine Siskin

5	3/10	Loud Dam Rd, lo	BB	
12	4/14	Rollways Rd, lo	BB	Few records.

American Goldfinch

Less common than usual this spring.

50	5/14	Tawas Point SP, lo	BB
----	------	--------------------	----

House Sparrow

Common through period.

RECORDS FROM OUTSIDE THE SBA

American Avocet

1	5/25	Ithaca SL, Gratiot	RW
---	------	--------------------	----

White-rumped Sandpiper

31	5/25	Maple River Flooding, Grat.	RW
----	------	-----------------------------	----

Red-necked Phalarope

2	5/25	Maple River Flooding, Grat	RW
---	------	----------------------------	----



OBSERVERS:

LA	Larry Abrahams	JM	Jean Madziar
MA	Margaret Alyea	SM	Stan Madziar
RA	Ron Annelin	DM	Doug McWhirter
DB	Dennis Brooks	KM	Kip Miller
MB	Marianne Barrowman	MEM	Mary Ellen Miller
TB	Tom Beachy	SMi	Sandy Miner
EJB	Emma Jean Beattie	JN	Joe Natzik
BB	Bob Bell	mo	many observers
J&JB	Jack & Joanne Bouck	KO	Karl Overman
KB	Karen Burroughs	DP	David Peters
RB	Russ Bussick	G&EP	Glenn & Ellen Peterson
M&LB	Mary & Lloyd Buzzard	MPe	Mike Petruchia
AB	Adam Byrne	R&MP	Rod & Marlene Planck
H&BC	Hugh & Bonnie Campbell	JR	Jack Reinoehl
KC	Katherine Carothers	LR	Lyn Rosenberg
PC	Phil Chu	RR	Ray Roach
SD	Steve Dushane	SR	Steve Rosenberg
DD	Dan Duso	SS	Steve Santner
DE	Duane Essenmacher	MS	Mary Shorkey
ME	Monica Essenmacher	WS	Wendy Skory
CG	Chuck Gartner	JSm	Janeen Smith
JG	Jack Gillespie	JS	Joe Soehnel
BG	Bob Grefe	GS	Grant Soehnel
TH	Tom Heatley	PS	Phil Stephens
JHe	Jeanne Henderson	DS	Dave Stimac
RH	Roger Hill	KT	Kevin Thomas
DJ	Don Jenette	VT	Val Trabucchi
M&JH	Mark & Joanne Hubinger	LW	Larry Weeks
KK	Kevin Kane	RW	Ron Weeks
PK	Pat Keeler	EW	Edith Woods
BK	Bob Kemp	MW	Myles Willard
EK	Eugene Kenaga	M&MW	Myles & Marilyn Willard
JLe	Jim Lesser	BW	Bruce Winchell
JLi	Janea Little	GZ	Gerald Ziarno

ABBREVIATIONS

Ar	Arenac County
Ba	Bay County
CBC	Christmas Bird Count
CNC	Chippewa Nature Center
CP	County Park
DASRBA	Detroit Audubon Society Rare Bird Alert
DDI	Diked Disposal Island
HCHW	Huron County Hawk Watch
Hu	Huron County
Io	Iosco County
MCV Pond	Midland Cogeneration Venture Pond
Mi	Midland County
NAMC	North American Migration count
NC	Nature Center
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
Sa	Saginaw County
SBA	Saginaw Bay Area
SGA	State Game Area
SL	Sewage Lagoons
SP	State Park
tp	through period
Tu	Tuscola County
Twp	Township
WA	Wildlife Area



HURON COUNTY HAWK WATCH - PCSP

Well they were a flyin'! This years total of 6,188 Hawks was notably short of last years 10,573. However this is deceptive as the large Broad-winged migration went undetected. An unusually warm and sunny April made it difficult to spot the high flying raptors. No doubt countless thousands were missed as every time a cloud rolled in we began to record large hawk movements. Once the cloud moved by or dissipated, the count rate dropped off. This year had 8 new count records, so if you were out for the more unusual species 1995 was fantastic! Outstanding was the report of a Ferruginous Hawk. I would trade 20,000 Broad-wingeds for a single Ferruginous!!! Thanks to all those who have helped make 1995 a special year:

Tom Heatley, who spent the entire month of April banding birds. Many of us had the opportunity to view up close many species and Tom even treated some of us by letting us release the birds.

Monica Essenmacher, the fearless leader of the hawk watch has an enthusiasm for hawks that is contagious. Monica promoted and organized the effort that led to the construction of an observation deck and the annual Hawkfest event. The observation deck, supported by many local and regional contributors, provides a stable viewing platform while preserving the dune landscape from erosion.

Roy Elle, superintendent of Port Crescent and Albert Sleeper State Parks for providing \$500 in building materials and countless hours of staff support for the observation deck project (Thanx Harvey). We plan to continue to work with Roy to complete the handicap access, provide interpretive signs and landscaping around the platform.

Dave Stimac, our guest speaker at the Hawkfest who provided instruction in identification skills of our soaring friends. Look for Dave in early fall to speak at the Chippewa Nature Center on behalf of the Midland Nature Club. Dave is an excellent nature photographer and everyone will enjoy his slide presentation.

Thanks to the volunteers who helped construct the observation deck and maintained the official hawk counts.

We look forward to next year and more clouds. **SR**

Huron County Hawk Watch (HCHW)

Hawks	Total	Range	Peak
Turkey Vulture	1322	3/18 (4) - 5/27 (33)	4/22 (124)
Osprey	103*	4/11 (1) - 5/20 (1)	4/19 (23*)
Bald Eagle	20	3/12 (1) - 5/13 (1)	4/28,29 (3)
Northern Harrier	137*	3/12 (1) - 5/13 (2)	4/11 (36*)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1028	3/12 (1) - 5/27 (4)	4/22 (103)
Cooper's Hawk	324*	3/11*(1) - 5/16 (6)	4/22 (50)
Northern Goshawk	12	3/4* (1) - 5/5 (1)	3/1 (2)
Red-shouldered Hawk	65	3/11 (2) - 5/16 (2)	3/25 (14)
Broad-winged Hawk	1845	4/11 (1) - 5/27 (35)	5/13 (803)
Red-tailed Hawk	1082*	3/11 (4) - 5/27 (35)	5/5 (174)
Rough-legged Hawk	26	3/11 (4) - 5/16 (1)	3/12 (8)
Ferruginous Hawk	1		5/5
Golden Eagle	9	3/18 (2) - 4/29 (1)	3/18, 4/23 (2)
American Kestrel	126*	3/11 (1) - 5/13 (2)	4/11 (27)
Merlin	25*	3/11 (1) - 5/6 (1)	4/22 (4*)
Peregrine Falcon	12*	4/23 (1) - 5/21 (1)	4/30 (4*)
Unidentified Raptors	<u>51</u>		
Totals	6188		

*HCHW record



WEATHER EXPLANATION:

Once again we include the weather for the period. 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, assistant 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 a few days during the period when conditions were taken from earlier in the afternoon.

MISCELLANEOUS:

New Compiler Needed

After staying up until 4AM this morning working on this survey that is already over a week overdue, I have come to the decision I have contemplated for a long time. This will be my last *Birds of the Saginaw Bay Area* newsletter for the foreseeable future. Recently, late reports and numerous complaints about the way I treat records have taken their toll on my enthusiasm. The narrow window required to compile this information is simply too much for a father who would like to have more time with his young children-not to mention his wife. I am also sick and tired of having to ask unsuspecting new birders and sensitive veterans for documentation on rare birds. Some argue that I shouldn't even ask for more information, but my response is that I have no desire to put my name to a publication knowing some of it is inaccurate. I also don't care to compile only part of the records-Myles Willard has refused to send in his records citing my handling of his records as the reason. Others simply never get around to compiling their records.

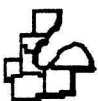
I will be happy to help the transition to anyone who wishes to overtake this task, but I will not be a part of judging any records from this area other than as part of the Michigan Bird Records Committee. This also means that I will not be compiling the Bay City Christmas Bird Count this winter. I want to remove some of the stress that has crept into my hobby. It is time for some other birders to step forward and carry the load. I will stay very active in other birding efforts such as providing input to the DNR Master Planning Process, Breeding Bird Surveys, and writing articles for this newsletter and other state publications. I will also be teaching some classes on the various bird groups through the Chippewa Nature Center along with leading some field trips. I will continue to share bird sightings with all of you who are interested and hopefully this will free up a little time so I can go birding with more of you. **RJW**

All is not lost.

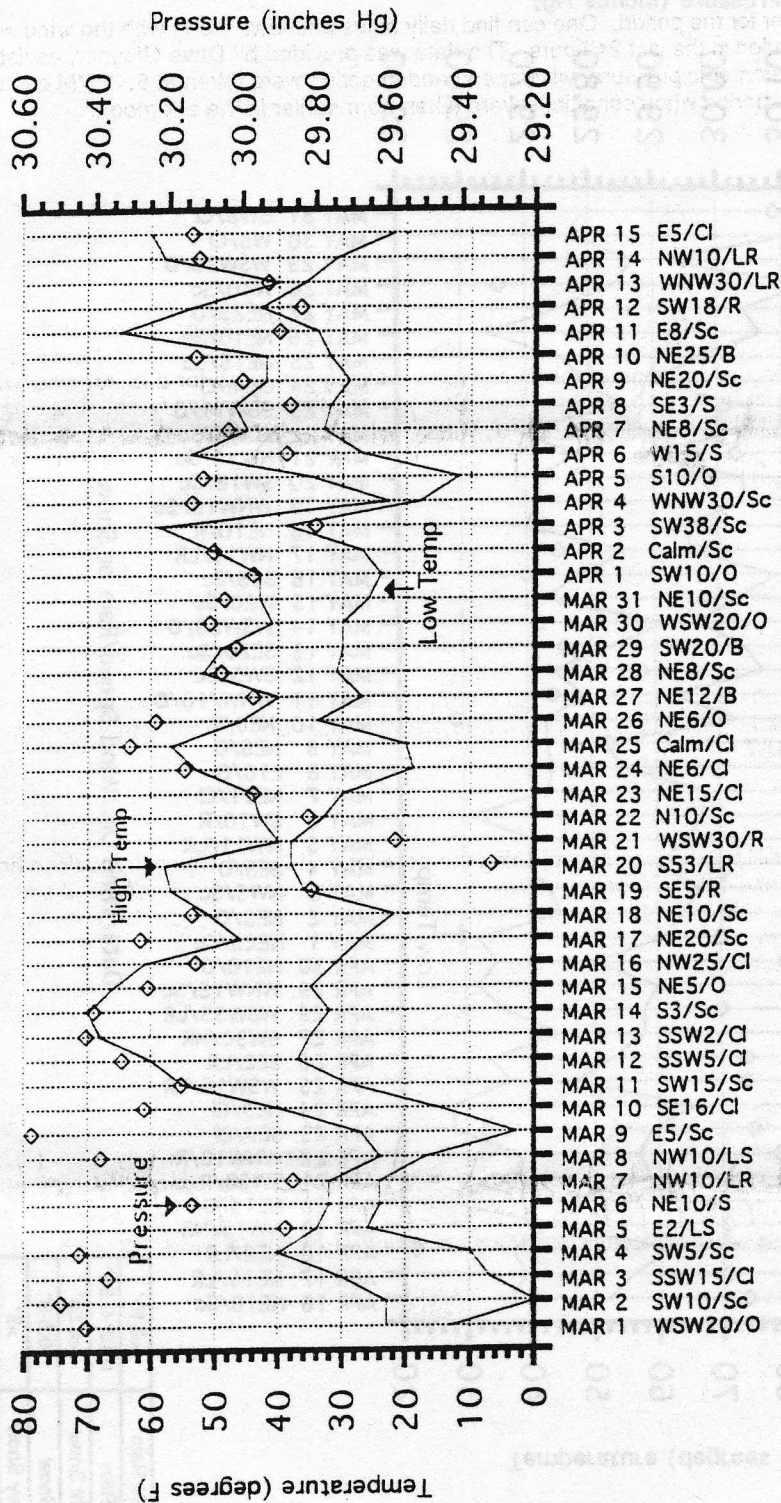
As Ron reduces his involvement I will take the lead in publishing the newsletter (I already spend countless hours) as it provides a valuable forum to unite local birders, promote nature awareness as well as the scientific and conservation endeavors which establish the newsletter's main purpose. If you did not realize, this compilation, published by the Chippewa Nature Center, is forwarded to the state compiler for collation and publication in Michigan Birds. These records aid in establishing county lists used by many listers, normal breeding/nonbreeding ranges shown in field guide maps, the numerous books and pamphlets on how to find birds in Michigan and many other scientific uses. Also the SBA newsletter provided valuable regional records in Ron's important regional guide **Birds and Bird Finding in the Saginaw Bay Area**.

Birds, birders and bird conservation efforts owe a great debt of gratitude to Ron for expanding this newsletter to what it is today. In addition Ron leads many field trips, conducts seminars and is just plain fun to bird with. Anyone who has birded with Ron knows of his amazing skill in bird finding and identification. **Thanks Ron for all you have done!** Ron has agreed to continue to help in computer data entry and in writing articles for the newsletter. As for volunteers, we have implemented a database that greatly reduces the hours of compilation and sorting. I think Ron and I can handle this part for now. As for regular inclusions such as the Feature Bird, there just wasn't time and we could really use help here. The spring survey required 40+ hours to prepare but this was significantly less than last spring when it was done manually.

One final topic. When I sign my name to this newsletter and forward it to the state compilers, my reputation in the state is on the line! This is as serious a concern to me as it was to Ron. I will expand on the importance of this topic in the next newsletter as it effects many aspects of regional birding as well as local conservation efforts! However, I am committed to working with everyone to develop a painless system of checks and balances to confirm unusual or record sightings while promoting birding in the SBA. In the meanwhile please send in your sightings to me within the designated time period on the postcard. **YOU ARE HAVING AN IMPORTANT IMPACT ON PROMOTING AND PROTECTING WILDLIFE IN THE SAGINAW BAY. SR**



Weather Spring '95

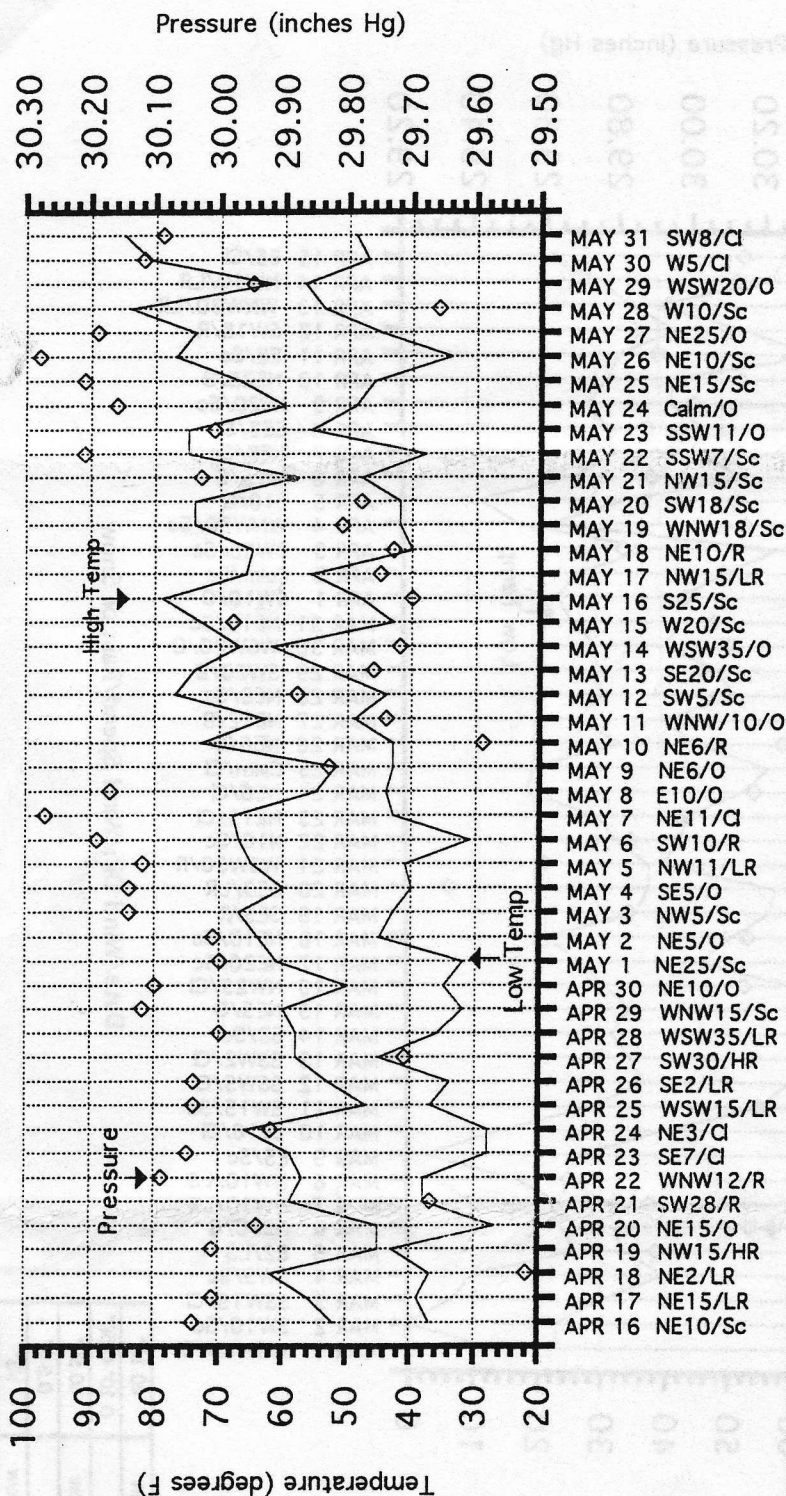


Date/Wind Dir./Wind Speed/Rain or Snow

LR	Light Rain	<0.10"
R	Rain	0.10"-0.50"
LS	Light Snow	<0.50"
S	Snow	0.53" -
HS	Heavy Snow	>3"
Sc	Scattered Clouds	
B	Broken Clouds	
CI	Clear	



Weather Spring '95



LR	Light Rain	<0.10"
R	Rain	0.10"-0.50"
LS	Light Snow	<0.50"
S	Snow	0.5-3"
HS	Heavy Snow	>3"
Sc	Scattered Clouds	
B	Broken Clouds	
CI	Clear	

