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The KINGBIRD

PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

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NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC. 70TH ANNUAL MEETING, NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK, 11 NOVEMBER 2017

The 70th Annual Meeting of the New York State Ornithological Association, Inc. (NYSOA) was held on 11 November 2017, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, located at 401 Buffalo Avenue in Niagara Falls, New York. President Joan Collins called the meeting to order at 9:37 AM. Roll call of member clubs revealed 29 delegates from 20 clubs were in attendance and that a quorum was present. Alison Kocek made a motion to approve the draft minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting. Alison Van Keuren seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

President's Report – Joan Collins

Joan presented her written report, which she made available to the delegates. The first item in the report covered the 2016 Annual Meeting, which was hosted by Chemung Valley Audubon Society and was a great success. Ninety five participants enjoyed a weekend of birding activities, including field trips that tallied 122 species. Bill Ostrander, on behalf of the Awards Committee, presented the Lillian C. Stoner award to Kai Victor. Bill also presented several other awards during the banquet, all of which are listed on the NYSOA website.

The NYSOA archive continues to be maintained by Linda Clark Benedict. It is housed at the Cornell University Library. The Conservation Committee has been active, meeting regularly with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as well as writing letters on behalf of NYSOA. Carena Pooth once again compiled the annual County and State Bird List Report, which was published in the April issue of *New York Birders*. The Marketing, Publicity, and Field Trip Committee came up with popular give-away items for the 2016 and 2017 Annual Meetings. They also held a winter weekend in Oswego and a weekend shorebird workshop at Montezuma, both of which were well-attended and successful. The committee is in need of a new Chair.

Treasurer's Report and Audit Report – Andy Mason

Andy submitted the following written reports: Balance Sheet from 12/31/16, Detailed Statement of General Operating Fund Activity from 12/31/16, Statement of Fund Activity and Balances from 12/31/16, and Detailed Statement of General Operating Fund Activity from 9/30/17. There was nothing unusual to report. Joan reported for the Auditing Committee on behalf of Stephen Chang. Stephen sent a letter to Joan expressing thanks to John Cairns for his long service to the committee, and wishing him well in his distant new home. Joan also read the committee's brief report on their audit of NYSOA's records as of 12/31/16, which found that the documents present fairly the financial condition of the association.

NYSOA Committee Reports

Awards Committee – Bill Ostrander

The following awards were to be presented at the banquet: Three certificates of appreciation, two Lillian C. Stoner Awards, and two Gordon M. Meade Distinguished Service Awards.

Conservation Committee – Andy Mason

Andy submitted a written report summarizing the past year's activities. Members of the committee met with the new DEC Division of Fish and Wildlife Director and his staff. Issues discussed included cormorant management, Young Forest Initiative, lead ammunition, and funding for landowner incentive programs to protect grasslands. Other issues that the committee worked on include the proposal for increased anchorages for petroleum barges on the Hudson River, the closure of the Doodletown area at Bear Mountain State Park on a May weekend due to a footrace, and habitat conservation issues on eastern Long Island. The committee also prepared columns on conservation issues for *New York Birders*, and got Tom Salo's article about lead ammunition alternatives published in *The Conservationist*. Joan Collins reported that the state has still not made a decision on the Boreas Ponds land classification.

County and State Listing Project – Carena Pooth

Carena submitted a written report. She received and compiled 112 county and state list reports for 2016, up from 103 the previous year. Four of the participants were under age 18. The compiled 2016 report was published in the April issue of *New York Birders* and is available on the website.

Marketing and Publicity Committee – Tim Baird

Tim thanked Carena Pooth for designing the NYSOA winter hat that was given away to Annual Meeting participants, and Kathy Schneider for doing the work of getting the hats made. Tim mentioned that the committee needs a new chairperson. Greg Lawrence reported that he continues to update the NYSOA Facebook page, which has 646 "likes". Kathy Schneider reported that Mary Beth Warburton is working on plans for a weekend field trip and program in the Adirondacks this winter, concentrating on winter finches.

Membership – Pat Aitken, Berna Lincoln

Joan Collins presented the written report that was submitted by Pat and Berna. Membership statistics were consistent with recent trends.

New York State Avian Records Committee (NYSARC) – Willie D'Anna

Joan Collins read the written report that was submitted by Willie. NYSARC is making good progress catching up with the backlog of reports. They recently had a full-day meeting in Coxsackie, New York. A NYSARC Special Report

covering 2013 and 2014 potential first state record reports was recently published in *The Kingbird*. Another report covering 2015-2017 potential first state records will be issued soon. Proposed changes to the list of review species are expected to be announced soon as well. NYSARC is developing a policy concerning the acceptance of records that were submitted to eBird, but not directly to NYSARC. It was agreed that only records supported by hard evidence would be considered. The details have not yet been finalized. In order to speed progress on eliminating the backlog of reports, the committee plans to begin to meet more frequently than once per year, and is investigating ways to conduct online meetings. The committee also wished to thank Carena Pooth for her work on behalf of the committee, keeping the review list and checklist up to date.

New York State Young Birders Club (NYSYBC) – Carena Pooth

Carena submitted a written report with many details on the club's membership and activities. The club is in its tenth year, and now has 56 youth members, 30 supporting adults, and 20 partner organizations. Their field trips have been well-attended, and the Montezuma shorebird weekend was especially popular. The club's scholarship program continues to be very successful. More than \$30,000 has been awarded to help young birders attend birding camps and other conservation-related programs. About half of the scholarship money is raised by the young birders themselves.

Publications – Seth Ausubel

Seth reported that progress is being made getting *The Kingbird* caught up to schedule. He also wanted to thank Bill Ostrander for developing a software tool which enables *Kingbird* Regional Editors to sort through large volumes of data from eBird that would otherwise be overwhelming. Seth also mentioned the need to discuss making *The Kingbird* available electronically, to save on both financial and environmental costs of printing and mailing. He also mentioned that NYSOA has been approached by EBSCO Information Services, which wishes to make *The Kingbird* available through its online academic and scientific library service. Seth will bring this up at the next Board of Directors meeting. Joan Collins mentioned that she is always in need of material for *New York Birders*, and encouraged everyone to submit articles. One suggestion for subject matter is reviews of birding-related phone apps. Carena Pooth reported that the next update of the printed version of the *Checklist of the Birds of New York State* will be coming out in early 2018, and will incorporate the recent taxonomy changes from the American Ornithological Society.

Research – Greg Lawrence

Greg reports that the committee is still looking into the details of how to proceed with the proposed NYSOA research grant program. It is hoped that they will begin making grants by late 2018.

Bob Spahn presented a written report on the status of planning for the New York Breeding Bird Atlas III (BBA III). The preliminary Steering Committee met again on October 25 and reaffirmed an interest in a New York BBA III. There is much work to be done to be ready to start fieldwork in 2020—see the Wisconsin BBA II website for a look at what is needed. Clearly eBird will be the data input tool and project database and archive. At this point we lack a long-term Steering Committee chair, a position held by NYSOA (FNYSBC) people in the previous two New York BBAs. It is also clear that there is interest from the users of the data in trying to obtain more quantitative data. A Science Committee is working on the details. Bob emphasized that there is a need to find a Steering Committee chairperson soon, as time is short. A significant amount of planning time was lost due to delays in DEC funding. A discussion ensued about what NYSOA's role will be. There is concern about whether it will be possible for NYSOA to find enough people to commit to the work needed to do a thorough job with the BBA III. This issue will be discussed at the next Board of Directors meeting.

Bill Ostrander reported that the 2018 Waterfowl Count will take place January 13-21. A coordinator is needed for region 9.

Website and Information Services – Carena Pooth

Carena Pooth supplied a printed report on usage of the NYSOA and NYSYBC websites, which she continues to maintain and update regularly. Other than the home page, the most popular page on the NYSOA site is the *Checklist of the Birds of New York State*. The checklist is available in a printable tri-fold format on the site.

DEC Report

Connie Adams, DEC Senior Wildlife Biologist, provided an extensive printed report on DEC activities of interest to NYSOA's membership. She expanded further on these issues in an informative talk. DEC conducts monitoring of alpine forest birds, lowland boreal birds, Common Loons, marsh birds, Eastern Whip-poor-wills, and Prothonotary Warblers, as well as wintering grassland birds, and several other species and groups. The report also covers DEC's management plans for game birds, Mute Swans and Double-crested Cormorants. Included in the report are web links to more information on the various DEC programs.

Election of Officers and Directors

Bob Adamo presented the following 2017-2018 slate of Officers and Directors on behalf of the **Nominating Committee**:

Officers

President: Michael DeSha; Vice President: Tim Baird; Treasurer: Andy Mason; Secretary: John Kent.

Directors 2017-2019

Brian Dugan, Brendan Fogarty, Lucretia Grosshans, Carena Pooth.

Janet Allison made a motion to elect these officer and director nominees, and Kevin McGowan seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Joan Collins presented the nominees for the **Nominating Committee** for 2017-2018, consisting of Bob Adamo (Chair), Kathryn Schneider, and Dominic Sherony. Kevin McGowan made a motion to elect these nominees, and it was seconded by Andy Mason. It was approved unanimously.

Joan Collins presented the nominees for the **Auditing Committee** for 2017-2018, consisting of Stephen Chang (Chair), Tom Burke, and Peter Capainolo. Barbara Butler made a motion to elect these nominees, and it was seconded by Kevin McGowan. It was approved unanimously.

New Business

Andy Mason made a motion to elect the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development as a new member organization. Janet Allison seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Next year's NYSOA Annual Meeting will be held October 5-7, 2018, in Rochester. A host is being sought for the 2019 meeting, and one potential host is looking very promising.

Tim Baird made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Kevin McGowan. The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
John Kent, Recording Secretary

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Berna Lincoln passed away in November 2017. Her death, just prior to the 2017 annual meeting, became known to us only shortly afterward. Berna's contributions to our organization and to the broader birding and conservation communities were so deep, long-sustained, and varied as to defy a simple summary. She had already served the Federation for decades and was rightly regarded as its institutional memory when I became involved more than twenty years ago, and we continued to depend on her in so many ways in the decades since. Her death is a tremendous loss to NYSOA, our community, and her friends and family. A remembrance will be published in an upcoming issue of *The Kingbird*.

S. S. Mitra, Editor, *The Kingbird*

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK STATE AVIAN RECORDS COMMITTEE FOR 2013

The New York State Avian Records Committee (hereafter “NYSARC” or the “Committee”) reviewed 86 records from 2013 involving 136 reports, and 28 records from previous years involving 28 reports. Reports were received from across the state, with 28 of the 62 counties and the pelagic zone represented. The number of reports accompanied by photographs remains high, which benefits the value of the archive and often makes our work easier. The Committee wishes to remind readers that reports submitted to listservs, local bird clubs, rare bird alerts (RBAs) and even *The Kingbird* Regional Editors are not necessarily passed along to NYSARC. Doing so, therefore, remains the responsibility of the observer(s). When possible, the submission of multiple independent reports from co-observers is encouraged, as this provides a much fuller documentation of the sighting and can increase the likelihood of acceptance. ALL observers, not just the finder, are urged to submit written reports and/or photographs. The names of the 100 people who contributed materials (written reports, photographs, sketches, and audio files) are listed alongside accepted reports and again at the end of this document. Where possible, the name(s) of the original finder(s) is (are) included in the narratives. In addition to the contributors referenced above, several *Kingbird* Regional Editors have helped observers to prepare and submit documentation.

For this 2013 annual report, the Committee has used eBird reports to supplement the documentation in our formal reviews. In most cases, the eBird report(s) added valuable photographic documentation, making it easier to accept the record. In addition, eBird records often helped to more thoroughly establish the date range of occurrence of a particular rarity. Date ranges that are supplemented by eBird reports are indicated by the word, eBird.

HOW TO SUBMIT REPORTS

Advice on how to prepare and submit a report is provided on the NYSARC pages within the NYSOA web site: <http://nybirds.org/NYSARC/index.htm> Here, a list of species requested for review by NYSARC (the “Review List”) is provided, along with illustrated copies of previous annual reports. The Committee is very grateful to Carena Pooth (NYSOA Web Master) for updating and continuously improving the NYSARC web site. An on-line reporting form allows observers to compose a written report and attach up to five digital image files (the file size limit has been increased to 3 megabytes per photo). Documentation (written reports and photographs) and any other correspondence for the Committee can also be sent via email to NYSARC secretary, Gary Chapin, at: nysarc44@nybirds.org As a last resort, you can also use regular mail to send your report to: Gary Chapin, 125 Pine Springs Drive, Ticonderoga, NY 12883.

HIGHLIGHTS

With such a long history of bird study within New York, one would expect the addition of new species to the State Checklist to be nearly at a standstill. However, such is not the case, and once again in 2013, multiple species were added to the list: Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*) and Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*). Both of these records were accepted under our accelerated review process, whereby reports of potential new species are reviewed ahead of the main body of reports, so that a decision can be rendered and made public as soon as possible. See Wilson *et al.* (2016) for a full discussion of both of these first State records. Amazingly, there were actually two Elegant Tern records accepted for 2013—the second record is discussed in this report. Perhaps the most astonishing record was provided by a “Black” Merlin (*Falco columbarius suckleyi*), found in 2009. Other highlights were the first accepted fall record of Swainson’s Warbler, the first accepted spring record of Smith’s Longspur, and only the second record of Long-billed Curlew reviewed and accepted by the Committee.

COMMITTEE NEWS

After 18 consecutive years on NYSARC, all of that as the Chair, Angus Wilson rotated off the Committee at the end of his term in 2016 to devote more time to personal endeavors. Angus was a stalwart on the Committee. He is an expert on the status and distribution of all bird species in New York and on many in North America and the world. He changed the format of the annual report to make it a much more enjoyable and highly informative read. He spearheaded the development and expansion of the NYSARC section of the NYSOA web site, successfully pushed for online submissions of rare bird reports, and helped to create a database of NYSARC sightings and decisions, available to the public online. The Committee was most pleased to learn that Angus was recently chosen as a recipient of the Gordon M. Meade Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding service to NYSOA. Willie D’Anna took over as Chair in January 2017 and stepping into the empty slot left by Angus was Patricia Lindsay. Based on Long Island, Pat is a long-time birder in the State. She is well-known in the State and has turned up several great rarities over the years, most recently the 2017 Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia curruoides*) at Robert Moses State Park and the 2018 Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) at Timber Point Golf Course, pending acceptance by NYSARC, of course. Her knowledge of bird distribution and identification is extensive and she has already proved herself a valuable addition to the Committee. Pat deserves special thanks for successfully reviewing the entire 2013 review package on extremely short notice. With a heavy work schedule, Chris Wood has decided to resign from the Committee. We will miss his bird distribution and identification expertise. Stepping in to fill the remainder of Chris’s term is Derek Rogers. Derek is well-known to many in

the State due to the rarities he has found on Long Island and documented with his superb photos, as well as for his work on the NYSOA Board of Directors. In the pelagic zone, Derek is a pioneer in the State, alongside John Shemilt, Angus Wilson, Paul Guris, Doug Gochfeld, and Sean Sime, documenting the rapidly changing knowledge of seabird distribution in our offshore waters. Derek is already fully immersed in Committee activities.

Thanks once again to the efforts of long-time Committee supporter, Rich Guthrie, NYSARC was able to hold its annual meeting this past September at the IDA Building of Greene County. This is an excellent facility for our Committee meetings, providing ample space, electrical outlets, and Wi-Fi for the invaluable use of our laptop computers. At the meeting, voting on the 2013 reports was finalized, as well as on the 2015-2016 accelerated reviews. After initially establishing a “pelagic zone” a few years ago, with more data available from the increased offshore birding observations, the Committee established a list of “pelagic zone” species: Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*), Common Murre (*Uria aalge*), Audubon’s Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*), and Leach’s Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*). These four species occur regularly in offshore waters and will only require documentation when found *outside* of the pelagic zone in the State. Lastly, at the 2017 Committee meeting, it was agreed to have current members, Tom Burke and Willie D’Anna, continue for another term. This proposal was made to the NYSOA President and Board of Directors and subsequently approved. Willie will continue as Chair.

In addition to the changes for the pelagic zone, several other changes to the Review List were agreed upon. All of the changes to the Review List are summarized here:

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) (N) - change to upstate only (U). Barnacle Goose populations have greatly increased in Greenland compared to historic levels and, as a result, there has been a coincident increase in records in Eastern North America (Sherony 2014). In New York the species has become annual during migration and winter, primarily in coastal regions. Upstate regions have seen an increase as well but the species is still very rare there.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) (not reviewed) - change to statewide (N). This introduced species has declined markedly. Formerly a resident in many areas of the State, Gray Partridge has been extirpated from all but northern New York in recent decades and may no longer breed even there. Since 2001, there have only been two eBird records in the State. Predation, weather, and agricultural practices are blamed for the decline (Carroll 1993).

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) (U) - change to statewide (N). Formerly a rare breeder along the south shore of Long Island, this small rail is now a great rarity even there. Highly sought by birders but extremely secretive, Black Rail has only been found three times in New York since 1999, according to eBird records.

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) (U) - remove from review list for entire state. Records of this species in New York were first noticed increasing in coastal areas. However, in more recent years, upstate records have also shown a marked increase.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) (N) - change to outside Pelagic Zone only (P).

Common Murre (*Uria aalge*) (N) - change to outside Pelagic Zone only (P).

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) (S) - change to Spring everywhere, Downstate only rest of year (S, D). This beautiful small gull is regular during the fall in the Great Lakes regions but spring records are practically non-existent in the State. In coastal regions, it is quite rare and some Committee members were surprised to learn that it was not on the NYSARC review list for Downstate areas. This change addresses that oversight.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) (N) - change to Downstate only (D). Published population trends for this species have been somewhat controversial. Sampling methods, such as the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Breeding Bird Surveys, may not be in the best areas for detecting the species and even when high numbers are detected, it has been suggested that this could mean that the species had abandoned breeding attempts for that particular year (Burger and Gochfeld 2009). In New York, sightings of this migrant peaked in the late 1960s and 1970s (Brock 1998). But by 2000, sightings in New York were down considerably, prompting NYSARC to place the species on its review list statewide. Since then, however, there seems to have been a slight rebound. Franklin's Gull has always occurred with greater frequency in upstate areas, especially along the Niagara River, and with more records in recent years, the Committee felt that upstate areas could be dropped from the review list. Caution is warranted in reporting this species, however, even in upstate areas, as the probability of occurrence there is only marginally greater than that of the similar Laughing Gull (*L. atricilla*).

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) (U) - change to statewide (N) with a note "Except Cupsogue County Park birds". Formerly on the review list statewide, NYSARC changed this to upstate only after Arctic Terns were documented to be of regular occurrence in late spring on the mudflats of Moriches Inlet at Cupsogue County Park in Suffolk County (Mittra 2009). However, due to the extreme rarity of this species elsewhere on Long Island and the difficulty of identification, this did not sit well with Committee members, so we have opted to single out Cupsogue County Park as the only location where documentation is not currently necessary.

Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*) (N) - change to outside Pelagic Zone only (P).

Leach's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) (N) - change to outside Pelagic Zone only (P).

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) (D) - remove from review list for entire state. Highly visible and easily identified, records of this species continue to increase in downstate regions as well as upstate.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) (A) - change to statewide (N). Over the past two decades, there have been fewer reports of this species, a now very rare resident and winter visitant in New York. In addition, the second atlas of breeding birds in New York State noted a 32% decrease in occurrence from the first atlas, which was conducted twenty years earlier (Peterson 2008). Due to this decline, the Committee felt that it was time to place this species on the review list for the entire State. Reports from the Adirondacks are likely to continue and the Committee strongly encourages these reports to be documented with photos.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) (N) - remove from review list for entire state. This species has shown a gradual increase throughout the State and has gotten to the point where it is nearly annual downstate as well as upstate. The species is usually not difficult to identify and the Committee felt that it was now appropriate to remove it from the review list statewide.

For definitions of the notations used above, please refer to the printed *Checklist of the Birds of New York State* or to the online version, available on the NYSOA web site at: <http://nybirds.org/Publications/ChecklistNYS.htm>

2013 Reports Accepted

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

2013-24-A/E One, Pennellville, Schroepfel, Hastings, **Oswego**, Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, **Seneca**, 18, 19, 26 Mar (David Wheeler, William Watson, Bill Purcell, Ken Burdick, ph D. Wheeler, B. Purcell, K. Burdick)

Since the first fully accepted State record in 2007, this species has been found every year in New York, except for 2010. The 2013 record here, presumably involving the same bird at both locations, was the furthest record away from the coast accepted in New York at that point in time. The bird was discovered in Pennellville by David Wheeler who, earlier in the day, had been discussing with other birders the strong possibility of this species occurring in the Region! This goose was rediscovered at Montezuma NWR, some 40 miles away, on 26 Mar by Steve Kolbe, D. Wheeler, Joe Brin, and Jim Tarolli.

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

2013-86-A One, Westport, **Essex**, 1 Dec (Gary Chapin, ph Eric Damour); eBird 7 Dec

This is another goose that has increased rather dramatically and, as a result, the Committee will no longer review sightings from downstate after 2017. Inland sightings have also increased, though the species remains quite rare there. This bird on Lake Champlain was well documented by Gary Chapin, with photos by Eric Damour.

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

2013-8-A/D One, Oswego harbor, **Oswego**, 7-13, 23 Feb (Kevin McGann, Bill Purcell, William Watson, David Wheeler, ph K. McGann, B. Purcell, Jim Tarolli); eBird 14-16 Feb, 28 Feb - 6 Mar

2013-11-A/B One, Buffalo, **Erie**, 18 Feb (William Watson, James Pawlicki, ph J. Pawlicki)

This species, which is only reviewable in upstate regions, is being found with a slightly greater frequency in recent years, perhaps as a result of birders becoming aware of how to search for the species and being more adept at picking it out of the large rafts of diving ducks that it typically associates with. Both of these records involved birds in female plumage with noticeable crests. The Buffalo bird was found by Jim Pawlicki and Bill Watson and the Oswego bird by Andrew VanNorstrand.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)

2013-3-A One, Kirk Park, **Suffolk**, 9 Jan (Eileen Schwinn, ph E. Schwinn)

2013-14-A One, Irondequoit Bay Outlet, **Monroe**, 14 Mar (William Watson); eBird 19 Jan, 9, 12-21 Mar

2013-25-A One, Sodus Bay, **Wayne**, 17 Mar (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler); eBird 16, 17, 18 Mar

This is another species that is being reported with increasing frequency. Three records were accepted for 2013, two upstate and one downstate. The two upstate records were less than 30 miles apart and overlapped in occurrence, with sightings of both birds at virtually the same time on 18 Mar, according to eBird checklists. The Irondequoit bird was found by Robert Spahn on 19 Jan but then not reported again until 9 Mar, raising the possibility that different birds were involved. The Sodus bird was found by Donna Carter on 16 Mar. The downstate record comes from Kirk Park in Montauk, a bird apparently discovered by Bill Hollweg.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

2013-82-A Four, Hilton, **Monroe**, 6 Nov (Dominic Sherony, ph D. Sherony); eBird 2 Jan - 29 Dec (11 dates)

The Greenwell Farm in the Town of Hamlin, Monroe County, has hosted this species for several years. At first, it was assumed that the species would spread from here as it has in many southern and western states. Although that has not occurred, the dove maintains a toehold at this location, often with months between sporadic sightings.

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)

2013-69-A/B One, Southold, **Suffolk**, 4-14 Oct (Eileen Schwinn, Richard Willott, ph E. Schwinn, R. Willott); eBird 5 Oct - 28 Dec

2013-84-A One, Bainbridge, **Chenango**, 17 Nov (Robert P. Yunick); eBird 9 Nov, 7 Dec The Chenango County hummingbird was found at the residence of Rich and Patty Howe in Bainbridge. It was banded and documented by master bander, Robert Yunick, who identified it by plumage and measurements as an after-

hatching year female Rufous Hummingbird. Patty Howe indicated that after the Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*) had departed their feeders in early Sep, this bird was the only individual to remain. She indicated that it may have arrived in late Aug. There are two eBird reports of this bird from 9 Nov and 7 Dec. Unfortunately, we received no information about what happened to the bird with winter looming. The Southold, Suffolk County bird was identified by birders as a Rufous Hummingbird, with thicker outer rectrices than an Allen's Hummingbird (*S. sasin*) would show. The homeowners, Richard and Nancy Willott, first noticed the bird on 4 Oct. It was last reported to eBird on 28 Dec.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

2013-41-A/D One, Great Vly Swamp, **Ulster**, 19 May - 14 Jun (Gilbert Thomson, Richard Guthrie, Kenneth McDermott, Bill Purcell, ph Aaron Paul, R. Guthrie, Deborah Tracy-Kral); eBird 19 May - 15 Jun

Discovered by Gilbert Thomson on 19 May and lingering until at least 15 Jun, this marks a rare record for recent years and suggests the possibility of breeding. This bird, which was heard calling on multiple occasions, would occasionally come right out into the open and walk across the road, allowing for some clear unobstructed photos.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)

2013-56-A One, Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant, **Genesee**, 11 May (James Pawlicki, ph J. Pawlicki)

This adult Piping Plover in alternate plumage was found at the Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, a place that has become well-known for the great number of rarities it has attracted. It stayed only the one day. The band information was recorded by the finder, Jim Pawlicki, and submitted to the US Geological Survey, which responded with a certificate indicating that the bird was hatched the previous year in Michigan but did not indicate the region of the state.

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*)

2013-35-A/C One, Millville, **Orleans**, Cayuga Pool, Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, **Genesee**, 24, 28, 30 Apr (William Watson, Willie D'Anna, Mike Morgante, ph W. D'Anna); eBird 18, 24-26, 28, 30 Apr

2013-39-A/C One, Howland Island, **Cayuga**, 13 May (David Wheeler, Ken Burdick, Bill Purcell, ph D. Wheeler, K. Burdick, B. Purcell); eBird 10, 12-14 May

2013-52-A One, Timber Point Golf Course, **Suffolk**, 13 Apr (Andrew Baksh, ph A. Baksh); eBird 13-26 Apr, 7 May

A molting black male Ruff was found by Melissa Mance and Greg Coniglio at Kumpf Marsh, Iroquois NWR on 18 Apr. Six days later on 24 Apr, what was almost certainly the same bird, based upon a comparison of photographs, was found by Greg Lawrence in Millville, about ten miles from Kumpf Marsh. Surprisingly, the Ruff returned to Kumpf Marsh the next day, then went back to Millville again the day after that, only to return for a third time to Kumpf Marsh

and nearby Cayuga Pool on 28 Apr. A lovely chestnut and black Ruff was photographed at Howland Island on 13 May after being found originally on 10 May at Montezuma NWR by Tim Lenz. Remarkably, two Ruffs were seen at a golf course in Suffolk County on 13 Apr, a black and white male found by Michael McBrien and his father and a faeder-type male (that is, a male sporting female-like plumage) found by Andrew Baksh and John Gluth. Both birds were reported regularly to eBird until 26 Apr with a disjunct report of both birds, supported by a photo of the black and white male, on 7 May.

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)

2013-61-A One, Mecox Inlet, **Suffolk**, 24 Aug (Angus Wilson, ph A. Wilson); eBird 18-24 Aug

Possibly a male in transitioning plumage, based upon the relatively short bill, this Curlew Sandpiper was found by Jim Ash on 18 Aug and lingered for a week.

Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*)

2013-49-A/C One, Cupsogue County Park, **Suffolk**, 30 Jun (John Gluth, John Shemilt, Angus Wilson, ph J. Gluth, J. Shemilt); eBird 30 Jun - 4 Jul

This adult Red-necked Stint in bright alternate plumage was found at the productive sand flats of Cupsogue County Park by John Gluth and Andrew Baksh. It stayed until 4 Jul. Remarkably, this individual was seen only two days prior to its discovery here, at Plum Island in Massachusetts, as conclusively shown in a photographic comparison made by Angus Wilson. This marks the sixth record in New York. On 3 Jul, the stint was one of three exceptional rarities found at Cupsogue, the others being a hybrid Dunlin X White-rumped Sandpiper (*C. alpine* X *C. fuscicollis*) and an Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*), the latter a first State record. In addition, four Arctic Terns (*Sterna paradisaea*) were present on the flats that day.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)

2013-54-A One, Amagansett, **Suffolk**, 8 Jun (Angus Wilson)

2013-60-A One, Derby Hill, **Oswego**, 14 Aug (David Wheeler)

The subadult Long-tailed Jaeger at Amagansett was seen on 8 Jun after the passage of Tropical Storm Andrea. The adult at Derby Hill was seen over Lake Ontario on 14 Aug, an early fall migrant.

“Thayer’s” Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides thayeri*)

2013-17-A One, Devil’s Hole SP, **Niagara**, 7 Jan (James Pawlicki, ph J. Pawlicki)

2013-18-A One, Goat Island SP, **Niagara**, 21 Jan (James Pawlicki, ph J. Pawlicki)

2013-19-A One, Goat Island SP, **Niagara**, 23 Jan (James Pawlicki, ph J. Pawlicki)

2013-74-A/B One, Goat Island SP, **Niagara**, 29 Oct (William Watson, ph J. Pawlicki)

In 2017 the American Ornithological Society (AOS, formerly the AOU) relegated Thayer’s Gull (*L. thayeri*) to a subspecies of Iceland Gull (*L. g. thayeri*). The Committee is still interested in reviewing well-documented reports of this subspecies, preferably accompanied by photographs. The Niagara River

is the only location in the State where this form is seen every year. Due to the difficulty of identification of this form, as well as the difficulty of documenting it on the Niagara River, where gulls are seldom close, relatively few are photographed sufficiently for acceptance by NYSARC. However, Jim Pawlicki nicely photo-documented four adult birds on the Niagara River in 2013.

Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*)

2013-9-A/B One, Buffalo, **Erie**, 10, 11 Feb (William Watson, James Pawlicki); eBird 10, 11, 16, 17 Feb

2013-20-A One, Lewiston, Niagara River, **Niagara**, 25 Jan (James Pawlicki)

2013-21-A One, Lewiston Reservoir, **Niagara**, 26 Jan, 9 Feb (James Pawlicki)

2013-23-A One, Oswego, **Oswego**, 28 Feb (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

An adult Slaty-backed Gull was found by Jim Pawlicki and Joe Mitchell on the lower Niagara River in Lewiston on 25 Jan. Initially seen standing on an ice floe drifting down the river, the bird eventually took flight, revealing several features and allowing Pawlicki to conclusively eliminate other similar species and “dark-mantled” *Larus* hybrids. The very next day on 26 Jan, Pawlicki was birding at the Lewiston Reservoir and discovered another adult Slaty-backed Gull.

Pawlicki’s notes indicate this appeared to be the same individual photographed by Willie D’Anna, Jean Iron, and others above Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada earlier in the winter on 30 Dec 2012. Pawlicki returned to this location about two weeks later on 9 Feb and observed this same Slaty-backed Gull again.

While Pawlicki and Bill Watson were viewing Buffalo Harbor from Erie Basin Marina on 10 Feb, Pawlicki found a “dark-mantled gull” sleeping on the ice. A patient vigil was rewarded when the bird eventually awoke and began foraging nearby, revealing another adult Slaty-backed Gull. Pawlicki and others returned to the location the next day where the gull was seen again. This individual appeared similar to the one observed by Pawlicki on the lower Niagara River in Lewiston on 25 Jan, but views during the observation in Lewiston prevented photographs and details of plumage and bare parts to be seen that would allow for a sufficient comparison. This represents the first record for Erie County.

Lastly, while birding late in the day at Oswego Harbor on 28 Feb, David Wheeler and Jim Tarolli found and photographed an adult Slaty-backed Gull standing amongst other large gulls. The single photo and description ruled out other similar “dark-mantled” *Larus* hybrids. This represents the first record for NYSOA Region 5 and Oswego County. Whether there were only three Slaty-backed Gulls or four, 2013 was a remarkable and unprecedented year for the species in the State.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)

2013-42-A One, Cupsogue County Park, **Suffolk**, 1 Jun (Derek Rogers, ph D. Rogers)

2013-43-A One, Cupsogue County Park, **Suffolk**, 5 Jun (Derek Rogers, ph D. Rogers)

2013-45-A One, Cupsogue County Park, **Suffolk**, 8 Jun (Derek Rogers, ph D. Rogers)

2013-46-A One, Cupsogue County Park, **Suffolk**, 8 Jun (Derek Rogers, ph D. Rogers)

2013-47-A Three, Cupsogue County Park, **Suffolk**, 8 Jun (Derek Rogers, ph D. Rogers)

2013-48-A One, Nickerson Beach, **Nassau**, 11 Jun (Brendan Fogarty)

2013-50-A One, Nickerson Beach, **Nassau**, 18 Jun (Brendan Fogarty, ph B. Fogarty)
Late May through mid July is the time-frame when Arctic Tern appears in New York State. This year, the Committee received seven reports documenting nine individuals with all but two reports coming from the flats at Cupsogue County Park, where the species is now annually documented in small numbers. Aside from the Cupsogue reports received by the Committee, there were many additional, well-documented reports in eBird from this location ranging from 20 May through 17 Jul. Given our current understanding of the well-established patterns of Arctic Tern, NYSARC decided at the 2017 annual meeting to remove Arctic Tern as a reviewable species when found at Cupsogue. However, the Committee still welcomes reports from the rest of the State, including other downstate areas. While Arctic Tern is no longer a reviewable species at Cupsogue, care should always be taken when searching for this species, given the challenges associated with the identification. Two of the nine documented individuals in 2013 came from Nickerson Beach, both of which represented first summer individuals discovered by Brendan Fogarty on 11 and 18 Jun. Nickerson Beach Park is located in Nassau County approximately one mile west of Jones Inlet. The park hosts a large breeding colony of Common Terns and may prove to be a promising stopover location for small numbers of Arctic Terns in western parts of Long Island.

Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*)

2013-51-A/B One, Nickerson Beach, **Nassau**, 10 Jul (Brendan Fogarty, Pat Palladino, ph B. Fogarty)

2013-78-A Two, Cupsogue County Park, **Suffolk**, 27 Jun (Arie Gilbert, ph A. Gilbert); eBird 22, 27 Jun, 8, 24, 27 Jul

For the seventh consecutive year, Sandwich Tern was found in the state. Like all but one of the previous records, this year's reports came from coastal areas. The bird at Nickerson Beach appears to have been a second year individual while the two birds at Cupsogue were adults. An adult Sandwich Tern reported to eBird on 13 and 20 Jul at Mecox Inlet and Sagaponack Pond, some 20+ miles east of Cupsogue, could possibly have been one of these birds.

Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*)

2013-55-A/F One, Cupsogue County Park and Tiana Beach Recreation Area, **Suffolk**, 3, 4, 6, 7 Jul (Brett Gleitsmann, Brendan Fogarty, Angus Wilson, Arie Gilbert, Thomas W. Burke, Andy Guthrie, ph B. Gleitsmann, B. Fogarty, A. Wilson, T. Burke, Gail Benson, A. Guthrie)

2013-76-A/E One, Grand Island and Unity Island, Buffalo, **Erie**, 20-23 Nov (William Watson, Dominic Sherony, Willie D'Anna, James Pawlicki, Alan Wormington, ph D. Sherony, W. D'Anna, J. Pawlicki, A. Wormington)

The Suffolk County bird was accepted as the first record for New York State. See Wilson *et al.* (2016) for a full account. Just as remarkable as the State's first record was the second one, involving a bird in first-basic plumage at Grand Island on the Niagara River, found by Vicki Rothman. Rothman immediately contacted Jim Pawlicki who made it to the site in time to confirm the

identification, before the bird soon departed. The tern was relocated at Unity Island (formerly Squaw Island) the next day, over two miles from the Grand Island site. The Elegant Tern associated mainly with Bonaparte's Gulls (*Croicocephalus philadelphia*), though there were a few lingering Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) as well. This bird was seen by many birders and was well-photographed. It was last reported on 24 Nov across the river from Unity Island in Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada (Holden 2014).

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*)

2013-67-A One, Glenmere Lake, **Orange**, 7 Oct (Kenneth M. McDermott, ph John Haas)

This sighting marks a very rare inland record of this species, well away from coastal areas. It was discovered by Rob Stone at Glenmere Lake and is a first record for Orange County. A check of the weather before and during the time of the sighting did not reveal any weather systems that might account for bringing this coastal species so far inland. It was only seen the one day.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*)

2013-81-A One, Eatons Neck, **Suffolk**, 1 Dec (Brent Bomkamp)

2013-85-A One, Golden Hill SP, **Niagara**, 18 Oct (Willie D'Anna)

We have come a long way since the days of John Bull rejecting all sight reports of Pacific Loon in basic plumage. More and more birders understand the complexities of loon identification, and this species is now increasingly identified correctly when in its more cryptic plumage. The loon in Suffolk County was in basic plumage and thoroughly described by the finder, Brent Bomkamp, but the bird that flew by Golden Hill State Park in Oct, spotted by Betsy Potter and also observed by Willie D'Anna and Sue Barth, still retained much of its alternate plumage.

Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*)

2013-57-A One, Hudson River, **Dutchess/Orange**, 7 Aug (Susan Joseph, ph Walter Joseph)

This was a very rare occurrence of Manx Shearwater away from coastal regions. Found in the middle of the Hudson River near Newburgh by Walter Joseph, he photographed it with a cell phone. He phoned his wife, Susan Joseph, who was at home. Walter texted photos of the bird to Susan and she texted field guide plate images to Walter. The two discussed the bird while analyzing the photos and concluded that it must be a Manx Shearwater. The images submitted with their joint report are diagnostic for this species. This is an excellent example of remote collaboration used to come up with the correct identification of a very rare bird.

White-faced Storm-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*)

2013-64-A/B One, **Suffolk, Pelagic**, 20 Aug (John Shemilt, Derek Rogers, ph J. Shemilt, D. Rogers)

As more and more pelagic trips go out to appropriate areas at the right time of the year, this distinctive species is being found with increasing frequency. John

Shemilt has previously documented several White-faced Storm-Petrels in New York and his photograph of this bird is not only diagnostic but absolutely stunning.

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)

2013-68-A/D One, Buffalo, **Erie**, 7-9 Oct (William Watson, Dominic Sherony, James Pawlicki, Willie D'Anna, ph D. Sherony, J. Pawlicki); eBird 7-22 Oct

This adult female Brown Booby was discovered in Buffalo by Jim Pawlicki while lake-watching on Lake Erie near the source of the Niagara River on 7 Oct. Word spread quickly and numerous birders were able to see this first record for the Great Lakes and first inland record for the State, as the bird stayed in the area until last reported on 22 Oct. Pawlicki and Sherony were able to take a boat out to get closer to the booby, allowing them the opportunity to obtain some excellent photographs. See Pawlicki (2014) for a full account of this record. While 22 Oct was the last date that the bird was seen in the Buffalo area, it was found roosting on shoreline rocks of Lake Erie at Mohawk Point, Ontario on 2 and 3 Nov. This is about 30 miles due west of Buffalo. Observers watching it there assumed that it was moribund, as it allowed exceptionally close approach. They were stunned when it suddenly woke up and took flight. Interestingly, a fecal sample was collected from this location, which, from DNA analysis, confirmed the belief that this bird was of the nominate Atlantic subspecies (Skevington *et al.* 2015). Many had speculated that it was of the Pacific subspecies, *brewsteri*, because of the extensive pattern of vagrancy of this race that had been witnessed in 2013.

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

2013-91-A One, Hamlin Beach SP, **Monroe**, 14 Aug (Andy Guthrie, ph A. Guthrie)

This record was accepted as the first for New York State. See Wilson *et al.* (2016) for a full account.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)

2013-88-A One, Seaford Harbor, **Nassau**, 24 Dec (Captain Donald Popella, ph D. Popella)

This White Pelican was seen and photographed on the late date of 24 Dec by a boat captain as it was flying overhead. Due to numerous reports of this species during the past decade, NYSARC recently removed it from the review list for the entire State.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)

2013-36-A One, Kissena Park, **Queens**, 10 May (César Castillo, ph C. Castillo)

After four records of this species in New York in 2012, only one was seen this year, a bird that was clearly photographed over Kissena Park in Queens County.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*)

2013-44-A/B One, Kaatsbaan, **Ulster**, 9 Jun (Richard Guthrie, Kenneth McDermott, ph R. Guthrie, Steve Schuyler); eBird 8-11 Jun

This species is recorded more frequently in New York than the former, with records mounting at hawk-watches, in the New York City area, and at other widely scattered parts of the State. As with most other records of the species, this bird was seen in the May-June time period, when individuals appear to overshoot the southern breeding grounds; recent nesting records from New York and nearby states indicate that birds prospecting for new breeding territories could also be involved. This adult bird, discovered by Peter Schoenberger, was observed both perched and in flight. Due to the multi-day presence of this species during the breeding season, the possibility of a very rare breeding attempt in the State should be considered. Unfortunately, with no reports after 11 Jun, it seems unlikely that such was the case here.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis calurus*)

2013-6-A One, Erieville, **Madison**, 19 Jan (Kevin Pace, ph K. Pace)

2013-37-A/B One, Braddock Bay Hawk Watch, **Monroe**, 15 May (Dominic Sherony, Luke Tiller, ph D. Sherony); eBird 17 May

The *calurus* subspecies of Red-tailed Hawk is a form that is occasionally reported in New York, especially at hawk-watches. The record from Madison County is an interesting example of a bird that was not observed by anyone while present but which had its image captured by a motion-sensing camera in an area baited with deer carcasses. The photos show a very dark hawk that appeared fairly uniformly dark brownish. Although the color of the tail is difficult to discern in the photos, it appears to be banded, typical of not only immatures but many adults of this subspecies. In addition, the iris appears quite dark, indicating an adult. The bird at Braddock Bay was observed during migration by Dominic Sherony, who submitted the documentation, as well as the official hawk-watch counter, Luke Tiller. The photos appear to show a juvenile with a banded tail that lacks rufous. The underside of the tail looks whitish, which could suggest the Harlan's race of Red-tailed Hawk. However, raptor expert, Brian Sullivan, commented that this was a fairly typical first-spring rufous-morph of the *calurus* subspecies, noting that the fairly light banding in the flight feathers and the unbarred outer primaries helped to rule out Harlan's. Atypically, the Braddock Bay bird did not simply migrate past, like most of the raptors seen here, but remained in the area for a few days.

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*)

2013-4-A One, West Milton, **Saratoga**, 7 Dec 2012, 11, 14-16 Jan (Brendan Hathaway)

Found on a restricted access site in Saratoga County on 7 Dec 2012, this rare northern owl was only seen by one birder and three of his coworkers. It remained in the area for over five weeks.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*)

2013-33-A/C One, Prospect Park, **Kings**, 26, 27 Apr (Michael Yuan, Tinsley Perky, Ryan Bass, ph M. Yuan, T. Perky, R. Bass)

2013-66-A One, Jones Beach, **Nassau**, 20 Sep (Stan Furtak, ph S. Furtak); eBird 18 Sep, 2 Oct

The Prospect Park bird was found by Tinsley Perky on 26 Apr, furnishing the first spring record for New York and a very rare spring record for anywhere in the East. Stan Furtak found the bird at Jones Beach SP and he was the only observer at this location. However, two days prior, there was an eBird report with a diagnostic photo from nearby Robert Moses SP, also on the barrier beach about 15 miles east of Jones Beach. The report indicated that the bird was moving from east to west and could not be refound. Based on this, it would seem likely that the same individual was seen at both locations. A final sighting at Robert Moses SP on 2 Oct of a bird flying from east to west (eBird) may suggest that the same bird had returned to its original location, though it would seem unusual that it was not detected during the nearly two-week interim.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)

2013-12-A/D One, Prospect Park, **Kings**, 8, 9, 17 Mar (Peter Dorosh, Sean Zimmer, Chellie Bowman, Jesse Jaycox, ph Rob Bate, Juan Salas); eBird 8 Mar - 5 Apr

Reportedly found by Mark Salvadalena at Prospect Park on 7 Mar, this bird was last reported to eBird on 5 Apr. Varied Thrush is a very rare migrant and winter visitor in New York. There are at least a couple of individuals that have stayed for most of the winter in the State. The range of occurrence for accepted NYSARC records is from 20 Nov to 22 Apr. The Prospect Park date of 5 Apr makes this the second latest record in spring for this species in New York.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*)

2013-34-A/B One, Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, **Ulster**, 28, 30 Apr (Kenneth McDermott, Thomas W. Burke, ph Jeff Goulding, T. Burke, Lloyd Spitalnik, David Speiser); eBird 28-30 Apr

Found by Tom Burke and Gail Benson at the Shawangunk Grasslands, this Smith's Longspur was a lovely bird nearly in full alternate plumage. It is only the third record for the State and the first in spring. The others were 22 Sep 1974, a bird collected at Robert Moses S. P. (DiCostanzo 1998), and a bird that lingered at Jones Beach S. P. 2 Feb to 18 Mar 2007 (Wilson *et al.* 2009).

Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*)

2013-87-A One, Fort Drum, **Jefferson**, 10, 11 Oct (Jeff Bolsinger, ph J. Bolsinger) Jeff Bolsinger found this bird at Fort Drum on 10 Oct but saw the bird only briefly. He returned the following morning with a camera and obtained diagnostic photos. The October dates fit into the expected pattern for this species, with nearly half of the accepted records occurring during that month.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)

2013-83-A One, Campbell Hall, **Orange**, 14 Dec (Kenneth M. McDermott, ph Francis & Janet Fitzpatrick, John Haas); eBird 17-18 Dec

This immature Harris's Sparrow was found at the feeding station of Francis and Janet Fitzpatrick in Orange County on 14 Dec. A number of birders were reported to have seen this bird. The last eBird report was on 18 Dec.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis* – *oreganus* group)

2013-15-A One, Baldwinsville, **Onondaga**, 7 Jan (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

This “Oregon-type” Dark-eyed Junco report lacked a description but was supported by photographs. The bird appears to have been an immature, though it could possibly have been an adult female. Dark-eyed Juncos are problematic. While some individuals, particularly adult males, are clear-cut and can be easily placed in the appropriate subspecies group, others are more difficult. There was some discussion among Committee members about this bird and whether it could possibly represent an intergrade. In the end, the Committee decided that most of the characters on this bird were in line with the Oregon-type and voted to accept.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)

2013-7-A One, Honeoye Falls, **Monroe**, 28 Dec 2012 - 7 Jan (Brad Carlson, ph B. Carlson)

2013-26-A One, Clinton, **Oneida**, 14, 15, 23 Mar (Matt Perry, ph M. Perry); eBird 14, 22 Mar

2013-80-A One, Middletown, **Orange**, 4, 5 Dec (Kenneth M. McDermott, ph Tom Bushey)

It is remarkable that the same yard in New York has hosted three recognizably different Yellow-headed Blackbirds. That is what has occurred in Brad Carlson’s yard in Monroe County, all during the winter months between Dec 2009 and Jan 2013. The 2013 bird was an adult male, nicely photographed. Another adult male was photographed in Oneida County during Mar 2013 by Matt Perry. The latter report was submitted by David Wheeler on behalf of Perry. Yet another record of an adult male was found amidst a large flock of mainly Brown-headed Cowbirds (*Melothrus ater*) and European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in Orange County on 4 Dec, discovered by Tom Bushey. It was seen again the next day by Ken McDermott, who documented the sighting for NYSARC. Due to an increase in sightings in recent years, NYSARC no longer requests reports of Yellow-headed Blackbird to be submitted from anywhere in the State.

Brewer’s Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)

2013-73-A One, Caumsett SP, **Suffolk**, 28 Oct (John Gluth, ph J. Gluth)

Records of Brewer’s Blackbirds have declined in the State and this is the first one that NYSARC has accepted since 2010. The bird was found and photographed by John Gluth at Caumsett State Park on Long Island Sound. It apparently did not stay long, as it was not reported by anyone else.

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*)

2013-31-A/C One, Scriba, **Oswego**, 17 Apr (Kevin McGann, David Wheeler, Bill Purcell, ph K. McGann, Steve Kolbe, B. Purcell)

Found in a park on Lake Ontario by Barb Reuter, the Oswego County bird furnished one of very few spring records for the State. It stayed for only one day.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

2013-32-A/D One, Irving, **Chautauqua**, 23, 24 Apr (William Watson, Willie D’Anna, Mike & Sylvia Galas, Jim Landau, ph W. D’Anna); eBird 23-26 Apr

2013-75-A One, Prospect Park, **Kings**, 20 Nov (Kenneth Pearlman, ph K. Pearlman)

The adult male Western Tanager in Chautauqua County appeared at the home of Pauline Fox and stayed for a few days, allowing many birders to see it. Prospect Park in Brooklyn was the site of still another rare bird in 2013, a female or immature male Western Tanager found and photographed by Kenneth Pearlman. Pearlman may have been the only observer, as there were no other reports of this individual.

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*)

2013-13-A One, Montauk, **Suffolk**, 12-13 Mar (Hannah Mirando, ph H. Mirando)

2013-27-A One, Ridge, **Suffolk**, 4-5 Apr (Melissa Hahn, ph M. Hahn)

On 12 and 13 Mar, an adult male Painted Bunting came to the feeding station of Hannah Mirando in Montauk. About three weeks later, another or perhaps the same adult male came to the feeding station of Melissa Hahn in Ridge, about 50 miles west of Montauk. Like the bird in Montauk, it only stayed two days before disappearing. Both birds appeared to be in excellent plumage and no bands could be seen in the photos, alleviating any concerns about origin. Birders should be aware that male Painted Buntings in “dilute plumage” occasionally are seen in the wild and such birds could well be escapes. Apparently, Painted Buntings need certain foods that are available in the wild but not usually fed to caged birds in order to retain their brilliant plumage, especially the red feathers. A bird with dilute plumage (yellow-orange ventral body) was observed outside of Toronto, Ontario in Dec 2014. This bird also had a damaged bill, consistent with some caged birds. The Toronto record was not accepted by the Ontario Bird Records Committee because of a concern for captive origin (Burrell and Charlton 2015).

**2013 Identification Accepted
But Origins Unknown or Unnatural**

Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*)

2013-29-A Two, Harrison, **Westchester**, 9 Apr (Lee Carilli, ph L. Carilli)

The committee was unanimous in its opinion that these two Egyptian Geese were, in all likelihood, escapes or releases. The species is possibly established in parts of Florida or Texas but has not shown a pattern of vagrancy to places far from those states.

Common Pochard (*Aythya ferina*)

2013-1-A One, Champlain Bridge, Crown Point, **Essex**, 1 Jan - 10 Feb (Ted Murin, ph T. Murin, Tom Berriman)

The Committee is extremely grateful to Ted Murin for his exceptionally thorough report, which included photographs and extensive research into the origin of this adult male Pochard. The identification was not in question for the Committee. This duck was banded and Murin included a photo of the band, taken by Tom Berriman. The duck was photographed in a raft that contained Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*), Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*), and Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and perhaps other species not visible in the photos. Unfortunately, the duck was not quite close enough to be able to read the band number from the photograph. After some research, Murin concluded that the band was probably too narrow to be of the type used in North America or the United Kingdom on wild waterfowl. It seemed more likely that the band was placed on the bird by an aviculturalist, though there is some uncertainty in this conclusion—for example, the Bird Ringing Centre at the Swedish Museum of Natural History did not discount the band offhand as being one of theirs. It is conceivable that Pochard could reach North America on its own from its European/Asian range. Two Tufted Ducks (*Aythya fuligula*) in the vicinity of the Pochard sighting on Lake Champlain might even suggest that the same forces that brought them to New York could also bring a Pochard. However, there has not been an increased frequency of sightings of Common Pochard in intermediate locations, such as Iceland. There was also a posting to the Vermont birding listserv that an aviculturalist who raised Common Pochards recognized the band in the photo as likely one of his own and that he had sold some ducks to an aviary about 80 miles south of where the bird was being seen. In the end, the Committee came to the same conclusion as Murin, that this bird is, at best, a species of uncertain origin, and at worst, a likely escape or release.

Smew (*Mergellus albellus*)

2013-10-A One, Lisbon Beach, **St. Lawrence**, 16 Feb (Jeff Bolsinger, ph J. Bolsinger)

The question of origin is often a difficult one for records committees. In northeastern North America, the most difficult decisions often involve waterfowl—many exotic species are widely available for sale and frequently kept in captivity. Wild vagrants are often possible and many would agree that a few Smew are likely to have reached eastern North America on their own accord. A few states include this species on their checklists, with New York being one of them (Lincoln 1998). However, this female/immature male Smew, found by Jeff Bolsinger, was voted to be of uncertain origin by the Committee. The escape of multiple Smew from an aviary in Western New York after a flood event, some four years previous to this sighting, led in part to the Committee taking this more conservative stance. This opinion was not unanimous, as it often is not, as some felt that a wild origin was more likely.

Eurasian Linnet (*Linaria cannabina*)

2013-79-A One, Kissena Corridor Park, **Queens**, 9 Oct (Seth Ausubel, ph Eric Miller, Peter Reisfeld, Jeff Ritter)

This old world species is considered much more likely to be an escape or release in North America than it is a natural vagrant. At present there are no accepted records of naturally occurring birds in North America. Finding one while out birding can still be interesting. Veteran birder, Seth Ausubel, had the unusual experience of not knowing what species he was looking at when he came upon this bird in Kissena Park. With the aid of photographs taken by birders after his initial observation, he was able to rule out the very similar Twite (*L. flavirostris*), another species not officially recorded in North America. Identification of these small brownish finches is covered by Svensson *et al.* (2009).

Northern Red Bishop (*Euplectes franciscanus*)

2013-62-A Two, Shinnecock Inlet, **Suffolk**, 15 Sep (Stephen Savage)

Although there are a few populations in warm-weather states, such as Florida, Texas, and California, that have been established from releases, this African species has not shown a pattern of vagrancy outside of those areas. Thus, the Committee voted to classify these two birds as likely to be of unnatural origin.

2012 Reports Accepted

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)

2012-121-A One, Water Mill, **Suffolk**, 29 Nov 2012 - 6 Jan (John Shemilt, ph J. Shemilt)

This female/immature male Rufous Hummingbird was beautifully documented with photos by John Shemilt. The bird stayed for over five weeks at his feeding station. Committee members were in agreement that the width of the outer tail feathers was sufficiently wide to confidently rule out Allen's Hummingbird (*S. sasin*).

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)

2012-111-B One, Derby Hill, **Oswego**, 21 Oct (Ken Burdick, ph Drew Weber, Bill Purcell)

This bird was observed from Derby Hill, the venerable spring hawk-watch site on Lake Ontario, which many birders also know to be an excellent vantage for observing fall migrant waterbirds as well. Long-tailed Jaeger has been recorded on multiple occasions from here and this juvenile intermediate morph was admirably documented by Ken Burdick's report and the accompanying photographs by Weber and Purcell. This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2012-111-A.

Black-capped Petrel (*Pterodroma hasitata*)

2012-122-A One, **Suffolk**, 1 Aug (Jon Feenstra, ph J. Feenstra)

This Black-capped Petrel was identified and photographed from a Royal Caribbean cruise ship while traversing New York's pelagic waters. Records of this Caribbean species in New York have been increasing due to increased exploration of more distant warmer offshore waters.

2012 Report Accepted in Revised Form

Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus/S. sasin*)

2012-124-A One, Ellenville, **Ulster**, 14 Nov (Valerie Freer, ph Mary Collier); eBird 15 Nov

Although the width of the outer tail feathers can sometimes be used to help identify a female/immature male Rufous Hummingbird, when they appear sufficiently wide to rule out the very similar Allen's Hummingbird, such is not always the case, even when the bird is photographed. Some individual Rufous Hummingbirds have narrower outer tail feathers, making the identification more tenuous. After the first round of review, some on the Committee felt that the outer tail feathers were sufficiently wide to identify this bird as a Rufous. However, others on the Committee were less sure and they persuaded the rest to accept this bird as the species pair, rather than Rufous Hummingbird, as it was submitted.

2011 Reports Accepted

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*)

2011-45-B One, Southwick SP, **Jefferson**, 3 Jun (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler); eBird 4 Jun

This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2011-45-A.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)

2011-154-A One, Derby Hill, **Oswego**, 17 Oct (David Wheeler)

This first basic Franklin's Gull was spotted by David Wheeler as it was flying past the bluff at Derby Hill. Having found the species on multiple prior occasions, Wheeler knew immediately what it was. The bird even came by for an encore view, going back in the direction from which it came.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*)

2011-153-A One, Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, **Seneca**, 16 May (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

While checking out new shorebird habitat at Montezuma NWR, David Wheeler had a 15-minute encounter with this alternate plumaged White-faced Ibis, before it flew off to the north. Attempts by Wheeler to relocate it were unsuccessful and, apparently, the bird was not seen by anyone else. Reports of White-faced Ibis in the East have exploded since the turn of the century. Most records in New York come from downstate but inland areas are slowly accumulating records as well. This is the second one from Montezuma NWR that the Committee has accepted.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)

2011-39-B One, Derby Hill, **Oswego**, 22 May (David Wheeler, ph Tom Carollan)

This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2011-39-A.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*)

2011-62-B One, Fairhaven SP, **Cayuga**, 11 Sep (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

This Lark Sparrow was found by David Wheeler at Fair Haven State Park on Lake Ontario. Diagnostic photos were obtained. Apparently, the bird was only seen the one day. This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2011-62-A.

2010 Reports Accepted

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

2010-69-D One, Niagara Falls SP, **Niagara**, 29 Oct (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

Seen from Goat Island, this report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2010-69-A-C.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*)

2010-106-A One, Mohonk Preserve, **Ulster**, 21 Mar (Malcolm Grant, ph Jamie Deppen)

This Townsend's Solitaire was found by Malcolm Grant and Anne Bloomfield. Grant alerted others who were able to see the bird that day but, apparently, it was not seen afterwards.

2009 Reports Accepted

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

2009-62-C One, Devil's Hole SP, **Niagara**, 18 Nov (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2009-62-A/B.

"Black" Merlin (*Falco columbarius suckleyi*)

2009-92-A One, Aurora, **Cayuga**, 2 Nov (Thomas B. Johnson, ph T. Johnson)

There are currently three subspecies of Merlin recognized in North America (Warkentin *et al.* 2005). The most widespread and the one expected in our area is the nominate race, *F. c. columbarius*. The "Prairie" Merlin, *F. c. richardsonii*, breeds in south-central Canada and northern U.S. prairie states. The "Black" Merlin, *F. c. suckleyi*, breeds in humid forests of the Pacific northwest and is thought to be generally nonmigratory. However, some individuals have been found as far south as southern California and New Mexico during the winter (Warkentin *et al.* 2005). A record in upstate New York, however, would be extraordinary. In reviewing this report, the Committee had to rely heavily on the paper by Stanley Temple (1972). In addition expert opinions were sought and Committee member, Doug Gochfeld, examined specimens at the American Museum of Natural History. The greatest difficulty in accepting this record was not knowing the extremes in variation of the nominate subspecies. One expert

was reluctant to sign off on this bird as belonging to *suckleyi*, suggesting that there is overlap between the darkest *columbarius* and *suckleyi*. However, other expert opinions were strongly in favor of it and Committee members felt that all characters were typical of the form, in particular the virtually unmarked primaries and the limited tail banding. Gochfeld's specimen search revealed that the Aurora bird lines up quite well with *suckleyi*. While it may be that some *columbarius* do look extremely similar to *suckleyi*, it is not clear that individuals that are known to be *columbarius* and which are as extreme in appearance and specific characters as the Aurora bird, have been documented. Since this bird fits so neatly into the *suckleyi* subspecies, and lacking clear evidence of overlap, the Committee decided that the record should be accepted. Excellent in-flight photos were provided by Johnson, who found the bird along with Tim Lenz. We thank the following for offering their thoughts about this record: Marshall Illiff, Tony Leukering, Jerry Liguori, Brian Sullivan, and Brian Wheeler.

2008 Reports Accepted

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*)

2008-106-A One, Vicinity of Cedar Point SP, Jefferson, 1 Aug (Nick Leone)

The lone observer of this Long-billed Curlew did not have optics at the time of the sighting. Although he started his NYSARC submission shortly after the sighting, the report was not submitted for several years because of a residence change, and it was unknown to the Committee just what had been written shortly after the sighting. These are important shortcomings which, along with the extreme rarity of the species in New York, almost kept the record from being accepted. In trying to observe as much detail as possible, the observer wound up flushing the bird which, unfortunately, was never seen again. In doing so, however, he managed to see the cinnamon underwing color, which helps to rule out a Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*). The observer also considered Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*), which is appropriate because that species also has cinnamon-colored underwings. The Godwit, of course, also has a slightly upturned bill, not a long decurved bill as on a Curlew. In the end, NYSARC found this report from an experienced birder believable and voted to accept the record in the final round of review. In the first half of the 19th century, the Long-billed Curlew was a regular migrant along the coast of Long Island (Feustel 1998) but overharvest and elimination of breeding habitat are believed responsible for the precipitous decline of this species in the Eastern U.S. (Dugger and Dugger 2002). Feustel (1998) cites two records of Long-billed Curlew in New York since 1938. However, one of those was not accepted by NYSARC and the other from 1975 was never reviewed. A 1998 record at Oak Beach on Long Island is the only prior record reviewed and accepted by the Committee, highlighting just how exceptional the Jefferson County record is.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)

2008-107-A One, Dunkirk, **Chautauqua**, 20 Jul (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler); eBird 21 Jul

This record marks a rare summer occurrence of this species. A diagnostic photo by Wheeler accompanied his report. The bird was originally found by Peter Yoerg.

2007 Reports Accepted

Common Murre (*Uria aalge*)

2007-82-A "Several", **Suffolk**, 10 Feb (Paul Guris, ph Gary Chapin)

This report was written long after the sighting and, as a result, many of the details of the sighting were forgotten by the observer, including the number of individuals observed. However, a diagnostic photo of a Common Murre by Gary Chapin accompanied the report, so the Committee agreed that the identification was correct, even if the number observed was uncertain. The birds were observed during a pelagic trip organized by See Life Paulagics, whose owner, Paul Guris, submitted the report. From eBird and from Committee members who were on the trip, the number of individuals observed is believed to be seven. Due to regular reports of Common Murre, documented mainly from See Life Paulagics trips, NYSARC has removed the species from its review list for sightings that occur within the pelagic zone. All near-shore and other sightings should still be documented carefully and submitted to NYSARC.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)

2007-84-A One, Dunkirk, **Chautauqua**, 23 Dec (David Wheeler); eBird 26 Dec - 2 Jan 2008

David Wheeler found this late Franklin's Gull at Dunkirk Harbor. Interestingly, a very rare adult Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) overlapped the appearance of this bird at this location.

2006 Report Accepted

"Thayer's" Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucoides thayeri*)

2006-81-A One, Perinton, **Monroe**, 22 Feb (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

Found by David Wheeler and Brad Carlson near a landfill in Monroe County, this juvenile "Thayer's" Gull was nicely photographed. Although spread-wing shots of this species are always desirable, these were not obtained in this instance. However, the Committee felt that all visible features on this bird were consistent with this subspecies and outside of the range displayed by Kumlien's Iceland Gulls (*L. g. kumlieni*). In 2017, the American Ornithological Society (AOS, formerly the AOU) relegated Thayer's Gull (*L. thayeri*) to a subspecies of Iceland Gull (*L. g. thayeri*). The Committee is still interested in reviewing well-documented reports of this subspecies, preferably accompanied by photographs.

2005 Report Accepted

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)

2005-78-B One, Derby Hill, **Oswego**, 11 May (David Wheeler, ph Gerard Phillips)

This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2005-78-A.

2004 Reports Accepted

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

2004-23-B One, Fair Haven SP, **Cayuga**, 5 Mar (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler); eBird 6, 7 Mar

This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2004-23-A.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)

2004-93-A One, Pennellville, **Oswego**, 25 May (David Wheeler, ph D. Wheeler)

This Franklin's Gull was found by Kevin McGann in a flooded farm field in late May. From Wheeler's photo, it appears to be an adult in basic plumage.

2003 Report Accepted

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

2003-11-D One, Oswego, **Oswego**, 2 Mar (David Wheeler, ph Gerard Phillips); eBird 1, 2 Mar

This report documented the same bird previously accepted by the Committee as 2003-11-A/C. Through correspondence with David Wheeler, who found this bird, he saw it on 1 and 2 Mar, though his NYSARC submission only indicates observation on 2 Mar. Wheeler indicated that that all of his photos that were taken on 1 Mar were out of focus, which may be why he only indicated 2 Mar as the date of observation in his submission. However, Wheeler did report the bird to eBird for 1 Mar.

1988 Report Accepted

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnolthypis swainsonii*)

1988-19-A One, Tift Nature Preserve, **Erie**, 5 Sep (Alec Humann)

This old report was written shortly after the sighting. It was reviewed and accepted by the records committee of the Buffalo Ornithological Society in 1988 but was not submitted to NYSARC until recently. This is a very rare species in the State, with only seven reports reviewed and accepted by NYSARC. What makes this report even more unusual is that it was in the fall, when there have been no other records in New York and very few for the Northeast. Although the observer was relatively inexperienced at the time, his thorough description was

convincing to the Committee. The bird was foraging in dense undergrowth, where it was patiently and carefully studied for about ten minutes.

2013 Reports Not Accepted

Frigatebird species (*Fregata species*)

2013-40-A One, Holtsville, **Suffolk**, 21 May

This bird was observed in flight very briefly from a vehicle moving along the Long Island Expressway. The description was also very brief, though a sketch was included in the report to show the shape of the bird that was observed. Presumably the observer did not have enough time or a good enough view to study the plumage pattern. Although some Committee members thought the report could be correct, giving credence to the observer's experience with Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregatta magnificens*) in Florida and Central America, there was not enough support to accept it.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)

2013-63-A One, Spencerport, **Monroe**, 10 Sep

This was another very brief observation made while driving. The bird was on a rock with its wings spread, as if drying them. There was no discussion of how similar species were ruled out, in particular, Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*).

Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*)

2013-59-A One, Brooklyn, **Kings**, no date given

This was another very brief report by an inexperienced birder that did not include a date. No attempt was made to rule out more likely species and the report did not even convincingly describe a hawk.

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*)

2013-70-A One, Wappingers Falls, **Dutchess**, 2 Sep

This report included a minimal description of a bird in flight. Although the observer considered Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*), Committee members could not be sure that this was even a shorebird.

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*)

2013-65-A One, Bellmore, **Nassau**, 30 Sep

This small gull was seen on the water and in flight with Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*). The bill was described as black and tipped yellow, suggesting an adult Sabine's Gull. A darker gray mantle than the Ring-billed Gulls also supports the identification as an adult Sabine's Gull. The gull lacked a hood with a dark smudge noted behind the eye and on the neck. The great rarity of this species on Long Island, especially at a freshwater pond several miles away from the coast, led the Committee to be especially cautious about this record. Committee members were troubled by the incomplete and rather vague

description of the wing pattern, with no mention at all of any white, which is a striking feature of this species. The length of view was relatively brief, only a couple of minutes, and Committee members were concerned that a Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) with an aberrant bill pattern was not ruled out. After much discussion, the report was not accepted.

“Thayer’s” Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides thayeri*)

2013-16-A One, Syracuse, **Onondaga**, 26 Jan

In 2017 the American Ornithological Society (AOS, formerly the AOU) relegated Thayer’s Gull (*L. thayeri*) to a subspecies of Iceland Gull (*L. g. thayeri*). The Committee is still interested in reviewing well-documented reports of this subspecies, preferably accompanied by photographs. This report of a first cycle “white-winged” gull was accompanied by helpful photos. Some on the Committee noted that it was possible that the bird could belong to this subspecies but, if so, it was an individual at the pale end of the spectrum. However, all agreed that a dark “Kumlien’s” Iceland Gull (*L. g. kumlieni*) could not be ruled out.

Nutting’s Flycatcher (*Myiarchus nuttingi*)

2013-77-A One, Jones Beach, **Nassau**, 16 Nov

Nutting’s Flycatcher is a Mexican species that has no history of vagrancy in North America outside of the Southwestern U.S., so a record in New York would be extraordinary. This bird was viewed by many. Photos were obtained by others but none were submitted with this report. The bird was originally identified as an Ash-throated Flycatcher (*M. cinerascens*), and most of the people who viewed it and also submitted it to eBird identified it as that species. Nutting’s and Ash-throated Flycatchers are extremely similar with subtle structural and plumage differences. Some characters which may be helpful in identification, such as the color of the wing edgings and the pattern of the undertail, are not helpful in ruling out a juvenile/first-winter Ash-throated, which this bird was believed to be based upon retained greater coverts. The two species are best separated by voice (Howell *et al.* 2014), which, on this bird, reportedly was not heard by anyone. The color of the mouth lining is reported by some guides as being a helpful separating feature (e.g. *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America*, third edition) but it is not mentioned in Sibley (2014) or Howell *et al.* (2014). The observer indicated that there were reports that some photos showed this feature but we were unable to turn up any such photos during this review. The Committee felt that the identification of this bird as a Nutting’s Flycatcher was not supported and that no features were inconsistent with juvenile/first-winter Ash-throated Flycatcher.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*)

2013-38-A/B One, Williamstown, **Oswego**, 18 May

This was a brief sighting by two observers in a van, who watched the bird fly across the road in front of them, then fly back to the same side from which it

came, and then fly out of sight. Views were without the aid of optics but both observers were quite familiar with the species from many visits to Texas. They both exclaimed and identified the bird at the same time. The description noted a “scissor tail” that was about twice as long as the body and that the head and body were white. Although some on the Committee felt that experienced birders were unlikely to misidentify such a distinctive species, even with such a brief view, others were concerned by the lack of details. In particular, not noting the distinctive salmon color on the belly or underwing seemed to be a major omission. The second report received did not add any independent details but instead recounted a failed attempt to locate the bird two days later, as well as notes on correspondence with the original reporters. Birders need to be aware that birds with missing feathers can occasionally appear to be “scissor-tailed.” While this is a distinctive feature of this species, it is not diagnostic, in and of itself. The Committee was split on this report and could not muster the votes to accept it.

Cassin’s Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*)

2013-72-A One, Wappingers Falls, **Dutchess**, 19 Oct

This report from an experienced observer was relatively brief and unaccompanied by additional supporting evidence, such as photos. For such a difficult identification, Committee members were in agreement that this was far short of what is required for what would be only the second record of this species in the State.

McKay’s Bunting (*Plectrophenax hyperboreus*)

2013-2-A/B Three, Harrisville, **Lewis**, 8, 9 Jan

This report included brief descriptions from two observers that did not rule out nor, it seems, even consider Snow Bunting (*P. nivalis*). There has never been an acceptable record of McKay’s Bunting in New York, and with only very few records in states and provinces outside of Alaska. Its occurrence in New York is not to be expected and could be difficult to prove, even with good photos.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis aikenii*)

2013-28-A One, Stony Point, **Rockland**, 25 Jan

Known as the “White-winged” Junco, this subspecies of Dark-eyed Junco has a restricted breeding range from southeastern Montana to northwestern Nebraska (Nolan *et al.* 2002). Records in the East are exceedingly rare. Described as being larger than the regular juncos at the feeding station with two very distinct wingbars, this bird made for an intriguing report. Unfortunately, without photos, corroborating reports, or additional description such as the shade of gray in comparison to the other juncos, the Committee voted not to accept it. It should be noted that “Slate-colored” Junco (*J. h. hyemalis*), the subspecies expected in the State, can sometimes show wingbars.

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*)

2013-71-A One, Wappingers Falls, Dutchess, 20 Sep

This bird was seen with a flock of fall warblers, including the superficially similar Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*). The report lacked photos but was somewhat suggestive. However, the description was brief and incomplete, falling short of what is needed to confirm such a rare species.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

2013-58-A One, Brooklyn, Kings, no date given

This bird was found by a new but avid birder. Although the description provided was not unlike that of a male Western Tanager, the size of the bird and the shape, and notably the bill-shape, were omitted from the description. The date was also omitted. Without these important details, the Committee could not accept the report.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)

2013-53-A Eight, Southwick Beach SP, Jefferson, 20-26 Jun

Males, females, and adults feeding young were reported at the observer's campsite, being seen multiple times each day over a one-week period. While the report considers Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), "Grackles", and Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) as possible identifications, the size being smaller than a Red-winged Blackbird is not appropriate for this species. Of course, the most likely confusion species, Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*), would be even larger. Thus, the description of a very dark black shiny bird with whitish eyes, along with purple head and green body iridescence, is certainly suggestive of a male Brewer's Blackbird. The females were described as "dull gray/brown with dark eyes," again not at odds for a female Brewer's Blackbird. However, eight individuals, apparently breeding, would indicate a significant range extension for a species that has been retracting its range in the East in recent years. This fact, the oddly small size noted, the inappropriate habitat, and the lack of photos to support the record led the Committee to not accept in the first round of review.

2012 Report Not Accepted

Herald (Trinidad) Petrel (*Pterodroma arminjoniana*)

2012-123-A One, Suffolk, 1 Aug

While on a cruise ship from Bermuda to Port Newark, N.J., this experienced birder saw and photographed this bird, using GPS coordinates to confirm the location as being in New York's pelagic waters. Four photos were submitted along with the report. The observer noted that Cory's (*Calonectris diomedea*) and Great (*Ardenna gravis*) Shearwaters, seen in proximity to this bird, were markedly larger and this is supported by one photo showing the bird in question being practically dwarfed by a Great Shearwater. Though other aspects of the photos appeared to support the identification, the size difference was deemed to

be too great and some felt that Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) could not be ruled out. The Committee voted not to accept in the second round of review.

2008 Report Not Accepted

Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*)

2008-105-A One, Pelagic, 3 Feb

This was a bird that was poorly seen on the water, then in flight, during an organized pelagic trip. The description was brief and the Committee was unable to find anything in eBird to corroborate the report. Given these difficulties, the Committee felt that Common Murre could not be ruled out and opted not to accept.

2005 Report Not Accepted

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis* – *oreganus* group)

2005-85-A One, Derby Hill, Oswego, 15 Apr

This report lacked a description and relied on the photos. Some on the Committee thought that this bird was unlikely to be a “Slate-colored” Junco (*J. h. hyemalis*), the expected subspecies in the State but they were also not convinced that this was an “Oregon” Junco or of the *oreganus* group of subspecies. Some felt that a “Cassiar” Junco (*J. h. cismontanus*) was not ruled out. Lacking support for the *oreganus* group, the report was not accepted.

1994 Report Not Accepted

Swainson’s Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)

1994-15-A One, Hamlin, Monroe, 12 Mar

This report was previously accepted by the Committee (see Andrle *et al.* 1996). Noted raptor expert, Jerry Liguori, requested that the Committee reexamine the report, citing what is now known to be an extraordinarily early date. Under NYSARC Guidelines, a report may be reopened for review if at least three Committee members agree that it should be. The threshold was met and the review process was restarted. The documentation consisted of a written submission from one observer. As part of the review, the Committee contacted another birder, who was with the person who submitted the report during the observation of the bird in question. While the description was generally consistent with the species, some points raised questions among the Committee, including the failure to fully address likely confusion species, as well as conflicting information from the second observer, which ultimately led the Committee to unanimously overturn the previous accept vote.

1986 Report Not Accepted

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*)

1983-16-B One, Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, **Queens**, 16 Jul

This report documented the same bird previously rejected by the Committee as 1983-16-A, which at the time was only the second claim of this species in New York. The observer used his notes at the time of the sighting to write his report, which he submitted nearly 30 years after the sighting. While the initial report, report A, was widely believed to be correct, due to the well-known reputation of the person reporting it, the lack of description or other supporting evidence prevented the earlier Committee from accepting it. Although the original report called the bird an adult, report B referred to the bird as a juvenile on multiple occasions, despite the distinct difference in appearance between the two age classes, and despite being shown the bird by the original observer who submitted report A. In addition some Committee members felt that report B also did not really describe an adult that well and suspected that he may have been studying the wrong bird. With this discrepancy, the Committee was unable to overturn the previous decision to reject the record.

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IN MEMORIAM: ROBERT F. ANDRLE

Robert F. Andrle started off life, quite young, as a bird watcher. He was only in his middle teens when he was elected to membership in the Buffalo Ornithological Society, but he eventually went on to serve as their president from 1956-57, a longtime statistician and the editor of *The Prothonotary*, their monthly publication. (His impressive career as an ornithologist is well-documented in his obituary in *The Buffalo News*, to which this remembrance is indebted.)

However, it was not until the mid-90s that my wife Karen and I first became acquainted with him. A chance meeting at Hamburg Hawk Watch one spring turned into a thirty-year friendship that has provided us with many fond memories of time spent with one of the region's foremost birdmen.

He graduated from Buffalo's Canisius College in 1948 and received a master's degree in geography from the University at Buffalo in 1960. He then earned a doctorate in biogeography from Louisiana State University in 1964.

Dr. Andrle worked at the Buffalo Museum of Science for 30 years, starting in 1956. He was the longtime curator of vertebrate zoology, as well as the associate and acting director. He was also a fellow of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. At various times, he was editor, author and reviewer for *American Birds*, *The Kingbird* and the *Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences*, and he was the author of more than 75 scientific papers and popular articles. He also served for many years on the New York State Avian Records Committee.

As an ornithologist, Bob Andrle traveled the world, conducting research on birds. His work took him to places like Central and South America and the Caribbean. He led a research expedition in the Sierra de Tuxtla mountain range in Veracruz, Mexico, to study the wildlife, vegetation and landscape. He studied the Horned Guan in southern Mexico and Guatemala, and the Whistling Warbler on the island of St. Vincent. More recently, he completed a chapter in *Moments of Discovery: Natural History Narratives from Mexico and Central America* on his experiences conducting field research in Mexico and Guatemala.

Dr. Andrle's work at home was also influential. His regional publications included a 1970 supplement to Beardslee and Mitchell's *Birds of the Niagara Frontier* and *Gulls of the Niagara Frontier*, an early compilation that has contributed to the mounting interest in these species here. He and Janet Carroll co-edited *The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*, completed in 1988. In 2000, *Buffalo News* columnist Gerry Rising praised Dr. Andrle for organizing more than 4,300 of the state's birders to survey the breeding activities of the 242 species, plus three hybrids, which nested within the state's boundaries, as well as supervising a team that summarized and illustrated the information. "If Andrle had done nothing else over his long and distinguished career—and he has done a great deal—this publication would ensure that his name would be included on the roster of exceptional state ornithologists," Rising wrote.

After retiring from the Buffalo Museum of Science, Dr. Andrle led natural history tours to Trinidad, the West Indies, Costa Rica, Mexico and Venezuela. Closer to home his other activities included preparation of the materials that led to designation of the Niagara River as the first international Important Birding Area (IBA) and his work as an environmental consultant with government agencies and private engineering and environmental firms. This included working with the NYSDEC on various problems including the botulism that was decimating Lake Erie waterfowl.

Dr. Andrle advocated for establishing Tiff Nature Preserve in Buffalo and was a consultant to the Tiff Advisory Board. He also was a key part of a decades-long effort to transform what had been a dumping ground for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers into the Times Beach Nature Preserve on Buffalo's Outer Harbor. Both locations are now recognized eBird hotspots in the Buffalo area. The Friends of Times Beach Nature Preserve said on its website Dr. Andrle was "one of the first to notice that the place was located in a unique spot, at the confluence of the Buffalo and Niagara rivers and on the shores of Lake Erie, and that this unique location was very attractive to migrating and breeding birds." The persistence of Dr. Andrle and his fellow advocates paid off when the preserve was dedicated in 2004. A trail there was named for Dr. Andrle in 2014. "We have been extremely lucky to have him in Western New York," the Friends of Times Beach Nature Preserve said on its website when the trail was dedicated. The organization called him "one of the finest ornithological resources in North America."

In addition to birding, he also conducted field studies of butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies, and maintained a life-long interest in aviation and aircraft and enjoyed attending air shows around the region.

Over those later years I had the privilege of assisting him with marsh bird monitoring and Wood Thrush studies, breeding bird surveys, butterfly counts in Niagara County, and dragonfly research all over Western New York and the Niagara Peninsula in Ontario. What impressed me again and again wasn't just his extensive knowledge of the natural world, but also his almost child-like enthusiasm for just being out in the field. In later years as his mobility became limited, I would tell him about our latest feeder birds and recent rarities reported on the internet. This frequently elicited a response of, "Well for heaven's sake!" And I realized it was just his innate sense of wonder at the natural world.

I often told people that any opportunity to be in the field with Bob Andrle was time well spent. Karen and I learned a great deal from him (as did many others) and were proud to be considered among his friends. We admired him for his evident life-long love of learning, and we are grateful for his eagerness to share his extensive knowledge and enthusiasm with us. He was a man of many accomplishments as an ornithologist. I hope this remembrance will help to make newer birders consider and appreciate the dedication and efforts of one of those who came before.

Robert F. Andrie died on October 29, 2017, one day after his birthday at the age of 90, of Alzheimer's disease, in Chautauqua Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Dunkirk, NY.

Jim Landau, Colden, NY, landaujr@gmail.com



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NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

RE-SIGHTING ON LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK, OF A LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL BANDED IN FLORIDA

On 1 July 2017 I was doing my regular run through Heckscher State Park, Suffolk County, New York, when I spotted a banded Lesser Black-backed Gull in Field 7. The bird was marked with a bright green leg band which I photographed (see photos, p. 320). I submitted the information to the USGS North American Bird Banding Program at <https://www.Reportband.gov> and received responses from both the USGS and the bander.

Originally found in distress on a beach in Daytona, Florida, on 8 November 2015, this hatching-year gull had been brought to the Mary Keller Seabird Rehabilitation Sanctuary at the Marine Science Center in Ponce, Florida. It was banded by Jerome Barry and released on 9 December 2015, implying that it was in its third calendar year when I encountered it on 1 July 2017.

According to the USGS, this represents just the second recovery of a Lesser Black-backed Gull banded in the United States. The Science Center has two ongoing projects: assessing the fate of rehabilitated birds and identifying the breeding sites of the Lesser Black-backed Gulls that winter in the United States. The present re-sighting contributes to both projects, although this particular sub-adult individual was unlikely to have attempted breeding this year.

A cup of coffee, a quick ride in the park, and ten minutes to send an e-mail produced a lot of valuable information.

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REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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June 2017 was a welcomed break from the second wettest spring on record. The mean temperature was 67.3° F, 1.0° above average. Rain occurred mostly in the second half of the month, with a total of 2.21" at the Buffalo airport, 1.45" below average. July was mostly pleasant, with an average temperature of 70.7°, 0.5° below normal. Rainfall at Buffalo was 4.65", 1.42" above average, much of which fell on the 12th and brought flash flooding. Four tornadoes hit the area on the 20th. August was fairly typical, with the mean temperature at 68.7°, 0.9° below normal. There was 3.15" of rain, 0.11" below average. Weather data excerpted from National Weather Service *Monthly Weather Summary* for Buffalo.

While the summer weather was fairly typical, it followed an extremely wet spring that undoubtedly affected breeding success, whether favorably or unfavorably, for some bird species. I do not have reports, nor do I choose to speculate, on the winners or losers in this respect. However, we have a new breeding species for the Region, which was likely the result of the wet spring weather. **Caspian Terns** have been expected, and even encouraged, to take up nesting in Buffalo Harbor and nearby Niagara River locations. This was the year that it happened. Very high water levels on Lake Ontario in the Toronto area and Eastern Basin likely prevented nesting in regular locations. It is suspected that these birds and perhaps others that were displaced from regular colonies found Buffalo Harbor to be a suitable replacement. Connie Adams and Jacqueline Walters from NYSDEC counted 130 adults and 57 young during a 5 July monitoring visit to Donnelly's Spit in Buffalo Harbor after noting over a hundred adults frequenting the harbor since mid-May.

Dickcissels staged their biggest appearance ever or at least in the last 100+ years. It was once considered a regular breeder before its range retracted to the west (per E.H. Eaton "Birds of New York", 1901, and C. Beardslee and H. Mitchell "Birds of the Niagara Frontier", 1965). It wasn't the local weather conditions that brought them to western New York, but it may have been drought conditions in the central U.S. that pushed them east. But maybe not, since it is uncertain if droughts are the primary reason for their breeding season invasions. Dickcissels were first found in mid-June and remained at some locations until at least early August. They were found at multiple locations in Niagara, Orleans, and Chautauqua Counties. Joel Strong found a total of 13 at three locations just in the town of Yates, Orleans County. Had more birders gone out specifically looking for them there probably would have been more reports; just think of what the numbers might have been if this had been a breeding bird atlas year. Males and females were found together, and there was

clearly plenty of territorial behavior with their near constant singing. However, the only evidence of confirmed breeding that I'm aware of was Andy Guthrie reporting an agitated female that was carrying food at one of the locations in Yates on 5 August.

There are several other species potentially on the verge of breeding in the Region for the first time, or perhaps it is more appropriate to say for some that they just haven't been confirmed yet. Two **Trumpeter Swans** remained throughout the season at Cayuga Pool at Iroquois NWR, but they did not appear to be a pair. **Black Vulture** summer sightings occurred in the Lewiston area consistent with recent summers. Their year round presence here now gives more reason each year to suspect local breeding. For the second summer in a row, a **Fish Crow** was found in Niagara Falls (New York) in June. Proof of breeding is lacking for Region 1, although they must be breeding nearby. Just across the Niagara River in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Josh Vandermeulen photographed two recently fledged Fish Crows on 2 August and also documented up to 55 Fish Crows coming to a cemetery night roost. A **Black-necked Stilt** at nearby Kumpf Marsh at Iroquois NWR was sighted several times within the period of 17-21 June. This was likely the same bird that was found at this location in May, a Regional first. Given its presence in suitable habitat in June, it raises the possibility it could have bred if only a willing member of the opposite sex wandered to the same place. While that may seem farfetched to some, there has been an increase in out-of-range summer reports for this species this century, including extralimital breeding in Michigan, Ohio, and at a location in Ontario only 75 miles from Buffalo.

The less common and/or declining breeding species typically tracked in this summer season report were found mostly in their previously documented breeding areas. A hen **Redhead** with four young at Iroquois NWR posed an ID challenge as the female was of the white-headed variant form. Nonetheless, there have been fewer breeding reports of Redhead around Iroquois NWR than in previous decades. Breeding **Upland Sandpipers** were only found at Tillman Road WMA. There were a few other late summer migrant sightings. There were just a few **Common Nighthawk** reports from Buffalo and Jamestown, the last likely remaining breeding locations. **Merlins** were reported from at least six locations in June and July, which is more indicative of local breeding. **Sedge Wrens** were at three locations. There were two reports of "Brewster's" Warbler and one of "Lawrence's" Warbler, but no Golden-winged Warbler reports. Up to five **Prothonotary Warblers** were counted at Tonawanda WMA, including at multiple active nest boxes. Of particular interest was one spotted along Eighteen-mile Creek in Newfane by Joel Farwell while kayaking. **Clay-colored Sparrows** seem to be expanding along Lake Ontario, with four locations of sightings.

Up to five **Sandhill Cranes** were found in both the Iroquois NWR and Watts Flats WMA areas, where they have been regular in recent summers, although I'm not aware of evidence of breeding from this summer. There were

three sightings of lone cranes in commercial and residential areas that were reported with photographs to NYSDEC. This bizarre behavior was thought to be of young birds.

Several Niagara County fields remained wet from the spring and were conducive for good summer migrant shorebirding. It also helped to have regular birder coverage of these fields. Highlights from these areas included a **Whimbrel** on 29 August, a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** on 24 August, an adult **Long-billed Dowitcher** on 16 and 18 August, and a **Ruff (Reeve)** found by Alec Humann on 2 August. Other highlights included a group of **14 American Avocets** at Bennett Beach along Lake Erie on 13 July, up to 3 **Willetts** at Buffalo Harbor on 15 August, a **Red Knot** at Dunkirk Harbor 23-26 August, and a few **Wilson's Phalarope** reports. Ken Reichman found a **Ruddy Turnstone** in Wellsville on 31 August, an unusual location (Allegany County) to find this species.

Late summer or "fall" migration for other groups was highlighted by five **Olive-sided Flycatcher reports** in August, more than usual for this species. Purple Martins started to congregate at the Grass Island roost in August, with 6,500 estimated there on the 19th. The usual mix of warbler and other passerine species was identified in August.

Beyond breeders and migrants, there were plenty of lingering, wandering, and some vagrant sightings of note this summer season. Summering diving ducks were reported from the Great Lakes, Niagara River, and Batavia WWTP, including **Canvasbacks** at two locations, a few Lesser Scaup and Ring-necked Duck, a scaup at Times Beach Nature Preserve in August that even with photographs proved too difficult to assign to species, one White-winged Scoter, two Long-tailed Ducks, and two Bufflehead reports. Ruddy Ducks always summer at Batavia WWTP, but sightings to deep June at a few other locations were unusual. A **Red-throated Loon** lingered until 3 June at Barcelona Harbor. An **Eared Grebe** appeared at Batavia WWTP on 23 August; a nearly annual summer occurrence at this location. David McQuay photographed a **Wood Stork** on the beach (close to beachgoers!) at Evangola SP on 12 July and Mary-Ann Ingrao photographed what was undoubtedly the same bird later that day flying over nearby Sturgeon Point. This was the fourth Regional record and second consecutive summer season with a sighting.

The **Brown Pelican** on the Niagara River in Buffalo that was found in late May continued there until at least 6 June. Greg Lawrence found a **Glossy Ibis** at Tonawanda WMA on 21 June. What was thought to be the same bird was found regularly at that location from late July to mid-August. Bonaparte's Gulls have been regularly found at Fort Niagara SP from May through summer in the last ten years or so. This year there were more with up to 150, along with **14 first-summer Little Gulls** found and photographed on 8 July by Andy Guthrie. Two **Laughing Gulls** at Point Breeze on 8 June were a good find by Joel Strong and Willie D'Anna, as well as a lingering **Iceland Gull** at Niagara Falls on 1 June by

Chris Kundl. **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** continue to be found in summer with increased regularity.

Rounding out this report are two rarities. Carol Hardenburg had a **White-winged Dove** appear at her feeders in Portland on 1 July. This is only the second Regional record, although Carol said she had one in her yard once previously. Shelly Seidman was surprised to find a **Loggerhead Shrike** at Times Beach NP and along the Buffalo waterfront on 31 August. The shrike had colored bands on its legs which could be tracked to a hatch-year bird as part of the Ontario recovery effort. So technically, this was a captive-bred bird released at the Carden Alvar at some point in August.

CONTRIBUTORS

Connie Adams, Sue Barth (SBa), Doug Beattie (DBea), Don Bemont (DBem), Jim Berry, Sharon Bilowus (SBi), Elizabeth Brooks, Willie D'Anna, Gates Dupont, Joel Farwell (JFa), Joe Fell (JFe), Janis George, Colin Gjervold, Michael Gullo, Andy Guthrie, Becky Harbison, Carol Hardenburg, Kathy Hardiman, Paul Hess, Alec Humann, Mary-Ann Ingrao, Terrie Johnson, Christopher Kundl, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Pat Martin, David McQuay, Sean & Robin Minnick, Celeste Morien, Betsy Potter, Nancy Raszewski, Ken Reichman (KRe), Thomas Riley, Jajeane Rose-Burney, Ken Rossi (KRo), Kevin Rybczynski (KRy), Shelly Seidman, William Seleen, Tom Simmons, R. Stineman, Joel Strong, Mayte Torres, Kirk Vanstrom, Gale VerHague, Jacqueline Walters, Rachel Wilson.

ABBREVIATIONS

AISP – Allegany SP, CATT; AmSP – Amherst SP, ERIE; BMAC – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; BufH – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; BuSP – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; BWWTP – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant, GENE; ChauL – Chautauqua L, CHAU; DH – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; EvSP – Evangola SP, ERIE; FLC – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; GHSP – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; INWR – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; JAS – Jamestown Audubon Sanctuary, CHAU; LBSP – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; NF – Niagara Falls, NIAG; NFSP – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; NR – Niagara R; OOWMA – Oak Orchard WMA, ORLE/GENE; PB – Point Breeze, ORLE; TBNP – Times Beach NP, ERIE; Tift NP – Tift Nature Preserve, Buffalo, ERIE; TRWMA – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; WFWMA – Watts Flats WMA, CHAU; WoBSP – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Mute Swan: Cassadaga CHAU 1 Jun; 4 DH 21 Jun, 1-3 Jul; 6 Newfane NIAG 15 Jul; New Albion ALLE 3 Aug; max 14 WTSP 4 Aug.
Trumpeter Swan: 2 INWR 3 Jun – 12 Aug, long staying but no evidence of nesting; OOWMA 1 Jul.
Wood Duck: 85 INWR 14 Jun; max 140 TWMA 5 Aug.

Gadwall: 3 INWR 21 Jun; max 21 BWWTP 25 Aug.
Am. Wigeon: 2 INWR 7 Jun; max 11 TWMA 25 Jul; 10 BWWTP 25 Aug.
Blue-winged Teal: arr 12 Hartland NIAG 23 Jul; 20 BWWTP 30 Aug; max 109 TWMA 31 Aug (GL).

N. Shoveler: BWWTP 12 Jul; max 12 Tift NP 20 Aug.

N. Pintail: 2 OOWMA 22 Jun; 2 Somerset NIAG 30 Jul; TWMA, Alabama GENE 6 Aug; only reports.

Green-winged Teal: 5 INWR 20 Jun; 8, 16 TWMA 24 Jul, 31 Aug; arr Tift NP 29 Jul; 12 BWWTP 25 Aug.

Canvasback: FNNSP 4-16 Jul (CG); GHSP 5 Jul (JS); unusual in summer but several reports on western L Ontario out of Reg as well.

Redhead: 3-4 DH 5, 6 Jun, 21-27 Aug; 2, 1-2 BWWTP 1-30 Jun, 2-25 Aug; 1 + 4 yg INWR 2 Jul, ad f was white-headed variant; FNNSP 4-16 Jul.

Ring-necked Duck: 2, 6 BWWTP 1 Jun-12 Jul, 23 Jul; 2 INWR 4 Jun; Carroll CHAU 4 Jun (JB), unusual location for date.

scaup species: TBNP 17, 18 Aug (SS, MT); differing opinions on ID from photos.

Lesser Scaup: 1, 1-2 BWWTP 1 Jun, 3-30 Aug; 2 TBNP 14 Jun; Wilson NIAG 8 Jul; NF 20 Aug; only reports.

White-winged Scoter: NF 20 Aug (KR), only report.

Long-tailed Duck: Carlton ORLE 8 Jun (DBem); FNNSP 16 Jul (WD); only reports.

Bufflehead: 2 DH 5 Jun (GV); Motor I NR 9 Jul (JRB); only reports.

Com. Merganser: max 24 WoBSP 15 Aug.

Red-breasted Merganser: 2 Derby ERIE 3 Jun; 2 DH 8 Jun; arr BufH 18 Aug.

Ruddy Duck: 37, 20, 52 BWWTP 16 Jun, 2 Jul, 30 Aug, regular location in summer; 7 Dayton CATT 3 Jun; AISP 3, 30 Jun (S&RM, KRe); 1-2 TWMA 9 Jul-8 Aug.

Red-throated Loon: last Barcelona CHAU 3 Jun (CH), lingered since mid-May.

Com. Loon: Cuba L ALLE 3 Jul; 3 Mayville ChauL 9 Jul (TL); arr Olcott NIAG 23 Aug.

Pied-billed Grebe: 35 INWR 2 Jul; max 58 TWMA 22 Aug.

Eared Grebe: BWWTP 23 Aug thru (DBea); annual location in late summer-fall.

WOOD STORK: EvSP, Sturgeon Pt ERIE 12 Jul (DM, MI); 4th Reg rec, second consecutive summer.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 970, 1500 BufH 2 Jul, 29 Aug; 561 FNNSP 20 Aug.

BROWN PELICAN: Buffalo NR 1-6 Jun (AH, mob), continued from late May.

Am. Bittern: 2 TWMA 8 Jun; max 4 INWR 12 Jun.

Least Bittern: 2 Tift NP thru; 2 TWMA 14 Jun; max 4 INWR 11 Jul.

Great Blue Heron: max 136, 94 TWMA 22 Jun, 8 Aug.

Great Egret: 40 Tonawanda NR 17 Jun; max 61 TWMA 21 Jun.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 14, 12 INWR 3 Jun, 6 Aug; uncommon away from NR breeding areas.

GLOSSY IBIS: TWMA 21 Jun, 25 Jul-12 Aug (GL, CM, PH), probably same bird.

Black Vulture: 1, 1, 1, 1 Lewiston NIAG 11 Jun, 2, 15 Jul, 5 Aug, year round resident at this loc; FNNSP 8 Jul.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Osprey: well reported from known breeding locations.

Bald Eagle: well reported from known breeding locations; max 6 DH 23 Aug.

Broad-winged Hawk: GHSP 27 Aug, fall migrants are uncommon here.

Virginia Rail: Hanging Bog WMA ALLE 24 Jul; 3 BMAC 27 Jul; only reports away from INWR and vicinity.

Sora: 3 JAS 21 Jul; 2 N Harmony CHAU 24 Jul; only reports away from INWR and vicinity.

Am. Coot: max 8 INWR 27 Jul; only regular summer location.

Com. Gallinule: max 37 INWR 16 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: N Harmony CHAU 14 Jun (TJ); Angola ERIE 17-19 Jun (SBi); 5 Alabama GENE 19 Jun (JG); 5 TWMA 21 Jun (GL); Fredonia CHAU 26 Jun; 2 INWR 2, 31 Jul; Alfred ALLE 9 Jul (EB); 5 WFWMA 26 Aug (JB); Hamburg ERIE 27 Aug; *intro*.

BLACK-NECKED STILT: INWR 17, 20, 21 Jun (CM, BP, WD), likely same bird at this loc from May.

Am. Avocet: 14 Bennett Beach ERIE 13 Jul (JFe, SBa, BH, TR); only report.

Black-bellied Plover: arr Somerset NIAG 31 Jul; max 7 Porter NIAG 14 Aug; BufH 14 Aug; TWMA 23 Aug; Hartland NIAG 31 Aug.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr 4 Porter NIAG 24 Aug; 3 Hartland NIAG 27 Aug; 4 BWWTP 30 Aug.

Semipalmated Plover: last 12 Somerset NIAG 4 Jun; arr 1, max 14 Somerset NIAG 17 Jul, 4 Aug; 13 TWMA 10 Aug; 11 Hartland NIAG 28 Aug.

Killdeer: max 84 Wilson NIAG 21 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr INWR 4 Jul; max 9 Hartland NIAG 12 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: TWMA 5, 6, 23, 30 Jun (GL), lingerer; max TWMA 6 Aug.

Willet: arr 1, 3 BufH 12, 15 Aug; only reports.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Yates ORLE 24 Jun; max 117 TWMA 10 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: 3-4 TRWMA thru 8 Jul, regular location; Porter NIAG 5 Aug; 2 INWR 6 Aug; Somerset NIAG 7, 23 Aug.

Whimbrel: Somerset NIAG 29 Aug (WD), only report.

Ruddy Turnstone: Angola ERIE 1 Jun; last 25 Ellery ChauL 2 Jun (WS); arr Wilson NIAG 21-29 Jul; 1, 1 DH 25 Jul- 1 Aug, 25 Aug; 1, 2 BuffH 18, 29 Aug; Wellsville ALLE 31 Aug (KRe), unusual location.

Red Knot: DH 23-26 Aug (GV), only report.

RUFF: Somerset NIAG 2-5 Aug (AH, mob); 4th Reg summer rec.

Stilt Sandpiper: arr 1, 1 Somerset NIAG 11 Jul, 21 Aug; 2, 11, 6 TWMA 24 Jul, 16, 23 Aug; 1, 1 Hartland NIAG 1, 26 Aug; 1, 1, Porter NIAG 5, 12 Aug; 2 INWR 19 Aug.

Sanderling: arr 2, max 8 DH 25 Jul, 26 Aug; 3 BuffH 29 Aug; 2 Wilson NIAG 30 Aug.

Dunlin: 3, 5 Somerset NIAG 1, 4 Jun; last 3 INWR 7 Jun.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr 1, max 7 Somerset NIAG 10-21 Aug, 28 Aug; TWMA 16 Aug; Hartland NIAG 30, 31 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: arr 7 TWMA 30 Jun; max 178, 91 TWMA 24 Jul, 10 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 1, last 2 INWR 2, 7 Jun; Somerset NIAG 4 Jun; arr TWMA 24 Jul; Wilson NIAG 29 Jul; 3 Somerset NIAG 1 Aug; max 5, 2 Hartland NIAG 3, 6 Aug; 1, 1 Porter NIAG 8, 12 Aug.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr Somerset NIAG 24 Aug.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 1, 18 TWMA 10, 24 Jul; max 49, 39 Hartland NIAG 25 Jul, 21 Aug; 26 Porter NIAG 8 Aug; 22 TWMA 11 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 48, 21 TWMA 1, 5 Jun; max 285, last 2 Somerset NIAG 4, 13 Jun (WD, JS); arr Somerset NIAG 11 Jul; 64 Wilson NIAG 24 Jul.

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr LBSP 9 Jul; max 7, 5 TWMA 27 Jul, 17 Aug; 6 Somerset NIAG 18 Aug; 2 Hartland NIAG 29 Aug.

Long-billed Dowitcher: ad Hartland NIAG 16, 18 Aug (WD), only report.

Wilson's Phalarope: Wilson NIAG 2 Jun (WD); arr 1, 2 Hartland NIAG 2, 24 Aug (WD, JS, RW); BWWTP 30 Aug (MG).

Bonaparte's Gull: 2, 1 PB 8, 9 Jun; max 240, 150 FNSP 8, 16 Jul, regular summer loc.

Little Gull: max 14 FNSP 8 Jul (AG, ph.), all first summer birds; ad FNSP 24 Aug.

LAUGHING GULL: 2 PB 8 Jun (JS, WD), rare.

Iceland Gull: NF 1 Jun (CK), late.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Somerset NIAG 4, 5 Jun (WD); Wilson NIAG 8, 27 Jul (AG, WD); 2 FNSP 28 Jul (CK); summer sightings no longer rare.

Caspian Tern: 31 Wilson NIAG 2 Jun; 130 ad + 57 yg BuffH 5 Jul (JW, CA), first nesting in Reg, *intro.*; 130 Olcott NIAG 4 Aug; 19 TWMA 17 Aug.

Black Tern: N Tonawanda NR 2 Jun (JW, CA); max 40, 23 INWR 15, 30 Jul; 11 TWMA 7 Aug.

Com. Tern: max 320 NF 2 Jun (JW); 100 BuffH 19 Jul.

Forster's Tern: no reports.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: Portland CHAU 1 Jul (CH); 2nd Reg rec.

Com. Nighthawk: 3, 4 Jamestown CHAU 1, 15 Jun; Buffalo ERIE 5 Jul; likely breeders; arr 2 N Tonawanda NIAG 14 Aug; 2 Dayton CATT 19 Aug; max 6 Orchard Park ERIE 29 Aug.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 7 FNSP 13 Aug.

Merlin: 2 Lakewood CHAU 1-9 Jun (TS); 2, 3 Buffalo ERIE 12, 15 Jun; 2 AISP 28 Jun (KRe); 2 Chautauqua CHAU 4, 8 Jul (TL); 2 E Aurora ERIE 9-17 Jul; 4 Olean CATT 10-24 Jul (KH); plus reported from 12 loc in August which are more likely wanderers or migrants.

Peregrine Falcon: Wilson NIAG 17 Jul; TWMA 31 Jul; only Jun & Jul reports away from known breeding areas.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Somerset NIAG 9 Aug; TBNP 13, 15 Aug; East Amherst ERIE 16 Aug; 1, 1 AmSP 19, 28 Aug; 2 FLC 27 Aug; good showing.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last Hunters Creek CP ERIE 3 Jun; arr AmSP 14 Aug; five other Aug reports.

Acadian Flycatcher: last BMAC 19 Aug.

E. Kingbird: 23 Jamestown Airport CHAU; max 29 TWMA 23 Aug.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: TBNP 31 Aug (SS), from Ontario restoration program, *intro.*

Philadelphia Vireo: arr TBNP 20 Aug.

Fish Crow: NF 2 Jun (CK), only report.

Purple Martin: 116, 150 BWWTP 22 Jun, 7 Jul; max 6500 BuSP 19 Aug (AH), regular late summer roost at Grass I.

Tree Swallow: max 400 TWMA 27 Jul.

Cliff Swallow: max 250 Tonawanda ERIE 16 Jun.

Barn Swallow: max 150 Shelby ORLE 28 Jul.

Sedge Wren: TWMA 19 Jun (PM, MG); 1, 2 INWR 20 Jun, 29 Jul; 2 Stockton CHAU 1, 19 Jul (KV, RS); only reports.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: last Wilson NIAG 5 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: 2, 1 AISP 3 Jun, 16 Jul; last Wilson NIAG 5 Jun.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Ovenbird: arr TBNP 29 Aug.

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 6 Wales ERIE 11 Jun.

N. Waterthrush: arr TBNP 7 Aug.

Golden-winged Warbler: no reports.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: INWR 2 Jun; Barre ORLE 15 Jul; only reports.

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: Medina ORLE 28 Jun, 2 Jul (CM, DBem, ph.); rare.

Black-and-white Warbler: Hunters Creek CP ERIE, Bethany GENE 3 Jun, uncertain if late migrants or possible breeders at this date; Centerville ALLE 9 Jul; arr AmSP 16 Aug.

Prothonotary Warbler: 5 TWMA 16, 26 Jun, known breeding location; Newfane NIAG 15 Jul (JFa), along 18-mile Creek.

Tennessee Warbler: arr AmSP 19 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: Harris Hill SF 9 Jun; AISP 10 Jun; Batavia GENE, Gainesville WYOM 7 Jul; arr WoBSP 23 Aug.

Mourning Warbler: arr GHSP 29 Aug.

Cape May Warbler: arr TBNP 16 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: 2 Hartland NIAG 17 Jun; 3 Newstead ERIE 24 Jun, 3 Jul; only locations away from INWR & close vicinity.

N. Parula: 2 Hunters Creek SP ERIE 3 Jun (GD), unusual loc; 5, 6 AISP 3, 24-30 Jun; Machias CATT 8 Jun.

Magnolia Warbler: arr FNSP 13 Aug.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr AmSP 19 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr WoBSP 20 Aug.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr WoBSP 20 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: last 2 Buffalo ERIE, Clarence ERIE 3 Jun; arr NFSP 25 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr TBNP 26 Aug.

Pine Warbler: arr AmSP 24 Aug

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr FNSP, AmSP 14 Aug.

Prairie Warbler: max 6 Yorkshire CATT 2 Jun.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr AmSP 24 Aug.

Canada Warbler: last Wilson NIAG 5 Jun; 3 WFWMA 11 Jun; 4 Keeney Swamp SF 28 Jun; arr WoBSP 21 Aug.

Wilson’s Warbler: arr 2 AmSP 22 Aug.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: 4 Yates ORLE 7 Jun (JS); max 8, 4 Olcott NIAG 16, 30 Jun; 3 Carlton ORLE 25 Jun (DBem); LBSP 16 Jul (DBem); becoming more regular along L Ontario.

Vesper Sparrow: 2 Sheridan CHAU 7 Jun; 2 New Albion ALLE 10 Jun; Yates ORLE 18-27 Jun; 2 Eagle WYOM 7 Jul; only reports.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 2, 19 Jun; 2 Lewiston NIAG 24 Jun; 3 Yates ORLE 25 Jun; 4 Lockport NIAG 2 Jul; max 4, 6 TRWMA 3 Jul, 5 Aug.

White-throated Sparrow: INWR 8 Jun; only report away from ALLE, CATT.

DICKCISSEL (R1): 3, 6 Sheridan CHAU 20, 29 Jun (GV); up to 13 at 3 locs Yates ORLE 23-28 Jun (JS); 5 John White WMA GENE 21-29 Jun (GL); 3 Pomfret CHAU 23 Jul (GV); lower numbers at these locs in July, last rpts 5-6 Aug; biggest invasion ever; *intro*.

Bobolink: max 125 INWR 6 Aug.

Orchard Oriole: AISP 3 Jun; 2 Hanging Bog WMA ALLE 17 Jun; OOWMA 13, 27 Jun; 3 Aurora ERIE 13 Jul; 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 17 Aug; only locations away from NIAG.

Purple Finch: max 8 Andover ALLE 7, 26 Jun.

Pine Siskin: Newstead ERIE 31 Jul (NR, ph.); rare summer report.

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REGION 2—GENESEE

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Following the second wettest spring on record, June was a typical early summer month with no prolonged extremes. The month started cloudy and cool, with summer warmth and showers mid-month and a cooler end. Temperatures averaged 67.7° F, 1.5° above normal, with only two days above 90° but these proved to be the only ones for the season. Rainfall at 3.54" was 0.20" above normal with a maximum of 0.88" on the 15th. July was a pleasant mid-summer month again with no real extremes. Temperatures averaged 71.1°, 0.3° above normal, and precipitation totaled 4.29", 0.96" above normal. Two weather events were thunderstorms with some flash flooding on 12-13 July and more with some tornadoes to our southwest on the 20th. Finally, a quiet August ended the summer with again no extremes. Temperatures averaged 68.6°, 0.7° below normal. The first three weeks were normal, then the last nine days fell 5° below normal. Precipitation totaled 3.20", 0.27" below normal. The wettest day saw 0.78" of rainfall on the 22nd. Damaging thunderstorms passed on 22-23 August.

Lake Ontario levels remained very high into June, with renewed flooding with any northerly winds. Many lakeside birding areas remained with little or no access. Water levels were also high in most other water bodies in the Region. Lake Ontario remained high in July, but rainfall also produced some puddles in fields, though the best for shorebirds were west of this Region. By August, there were signs of the lake level dropping, but it was still well above normal, with storms continuing to bring lakeshore damage.

Birders were active through the season, with species totals found for all three months well above their 10-year averages: June a record high 196 vs. 179.9, July 177 vs. 170.4, and August 199 vs. 192.3. eBird data for June showed a large jump to 42,548 "records" downloaded, trimmed to 26,918 when out-of-Region data was removed from the split county parts of the download. July was again good, with 19,684 "lines of records" for the Region after about 1/3 were deleted. August dropped off a bit from last year to 17,910, probably due to a slow early fall migration. The season's total was about 218 species and 1 hybrid reported.

What should we expect from waterfowl with really high water levels? All the regular puddle ducks were reported, but most breed in at least small numbers in the Region or nearby. Diving ducks reported were only the regular breeders plus scaup in June and July, Long-tailed Duck in June and August, and Red-breasted Merganser each month. Numbers were generally low. Scarce species reported included Snow Goose in June and a lingering Brant seen in each month. The high water may have reduced some breeding or made breeding waterfowl

hard to see. Trumpeter Swan reports were down. Into June, a wet field along N. Hamlin Road caused by a backup of Sandy Creek provided many late waterfowl reports, but soon that was hidden by growing grasses and crops. Loon and grebe numbers were also low for the season other than Pied-billed Grebe mainly in the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA). Red-necked Grebe was first reported early again on 22 July by Andy Guthrie then sporadically in August passing Hamlin Beach SP. A note posted about an adult and four immature Common Loons on Conesus Lake could be misleading to some, suggesting local breeding. However photos showed all are either basic plumaged adults or first summer birds in similar plumages, not juveniles.

Double-crested Cormorant was present in good numbers through the season, likely breeding in Irondequoit Bay. Great Egret was seen through the season, with 60-70 on 26 August at the Morgan Road marshes area of the NMWMA, a good count. A Little Blue Heron in the NMWMA (Carcross Rd.) area 9-13 June was also a good find.

After the Braddock Bay official hawkwatch ended, the last of the migration was only erratically monitored, with the last good counts for several species on 9 June—130 Turkey Vultures, 23 Bald eagles—bringing the spring total to a record 1117, and 120 Broad-winged Hawks. The only summer hawkwatch number of any note was 47 Red-tailed Hawks on 12 August, again, with no systematic coverage in that period. There were no reports of Black Vulture and Northern Goshawk and very few for Red-shouldered Hawk and even very few for breeding Broad-winged Hawk for the season.

Rails and their allies were again poorly reported, but Common Gallinule was reported in a few more sites, and 75 at NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) on 12 August was a good number. Essentially all of our American Coot reports were from the NMWMA, with a peak count of 50 on 19 August. Sandhill Crane reporting was down some, with no early reports of pairs with young; probably an effect of the high waters and flooding in the areas where they have generally been seen in this time period.

For shorebirds, habitat was very limited by high water early, then too many flooded fields and puddles made birds hard to find, and finally everything dried up in the fields by late August. Still, active birding at the beaches, puddles, and piers plus the flybys along the Lake Ontario shore produced good species counts. Late spring shorebird variety and numbers were poor, though reports of spring migrants continued well into June, and several interesting species were recorded at dates between expected last spring and first fall. Examples are: Lesser Yellowlegs from 16-26 June on N. Hamlin Rd.; a rare Marbled Godwit at Sodus Pt. on 21 June; and Red Knot from 24-27 June and Wilson's Phalarope from 22-25 June, both on N. Hamlin Rd. Counts of 200 at NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) and 213 passing Hamlin Beach both on 1 June were typical for Semipalmated Sandpiper but good for this year. The fall migration began in earnest in July, with 18 species, the same as for last year. All were expected, though Dunlin and White-rumped Sandpiper both on 10 July were record early.

August shorebirding continued with the limitations from high water plus a good growing season hiding some sites, and a dry August eliminating others. Still, 23 species were reported. Scarcer species included: four Whimbrel reports, with good counts of 10 on 2 August and 13 on 31 August; Red Knot in three locations late in the month; and Buff-breasted Sandpiper in the Towns of Elba and Byron in Genesee County from 26-28 August. Counts were low except for some Killdeer tallies and 126+ Am. Golden-Plovers in Elba on 31 August.

Gulls and terns were pretty much lackluster other than a flurry of Laughing Gulls from 3-12 June, a Franklin's Gull on 8 June, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls as expected now in each month. Most high counts were unexceptional, though 10 reports of at least 18 individual Lesser Black-backed Gulls in June is high. All counts of significant (still historically low) numbers of Black Tern were from the NMWMA. A highlight event was the official lumping of Thayer's Gull with Iceland Gull in the latest AOS (formerly AOU) checklist.

As usual, the reports of non-passerine landbirds were sparse and scattered both in time and across the Region. Eurasian Collared-Dove was reported at the usual Greenwell farm site in Hamlin once each in both July and August; surprising that the population has not increased in the Region after many years since arrival. Cuckoos were present in good numbers; Jim Adams called it Year of the Cuckoo at Oatka Creek Park, where breeding was up for both species in this site he covers regularly. Jim documents the birds of that park well, providing written details and lists and photos, including this time a Yellow-billed Cuckoo carrying food. Cuckoos were also well reported across the Region through the breeding season into the first half of August. Owl reports were the usual E. Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Barred Owl until 14 August, when a juvenile N. Saw-whet Owl was banded at BBBO, the third time at that location at this time of year in recent years. Common Nighthawk numbers remained low, with a peak of 24 on 3 June and no big numbers after a 15 August fall migration arrival.

Red-headed Woodpecker was a surprise at the Haller's feeders in Bushnell's Basin on 3 June. The species was noted at about a dozen other sites in June, dropping to five in July, then to only the usual areas in Hamlin Beach SP in August, with a maximum of eight. A count of 19 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers on the Beaver Pond Trail in Cumming Nature Center was a reminder of the numbers of this species breeding in forested areas at higher elevations in the Region. One can visit such areas early in the breeding season and obtain counts of their distinctive drumming and calling early in the day or use a Barred Owl call imitation about any time to induce responses and approach to aid in counting.

Merlin and Peregrine Falcon reports were few until the migration picked up a bit in August. The only reports of breeding Merlin were from Genesee until well after season's end, when information came in about a nesting in the NE part of Rochester where they have bred in the past. The Peregrine Falcon pair in Rochester was again monitored through the season and fledged four young. Two

of these had accidents early, leaving one dead and the other in rehab, and the other two free flying.

Moving along to the passerines, we start with the end of the spring migration. The usual late flycatcher, thrush, and warbler species were banded at BBBO to typical dates into June but generally in low numbers. Of special note were: a total of 30 "Traill's" Flycatchers banded 1-8 June; a maximum count of 22 Willow Flycatchers in the Noble grasslands on 8 June by Doug Daniels and Lynn Donaldson; 144 Blue Jays passing Hamlin Beach SP on 10 June; 310 Cedar Waxwings passing Hamlin Beach on 1 June; and Blackpoll Warbler to 15 June in Wayne County.

As usual, it is difficult to accurately assess the passerine breeding season without data from focused studies such as a breeding bird atlas or even smaller scale breeding studies. Few observers report personal observations or feelings about the season. Jim Adams did report a generally good breeding season at Oatka Creek Park, with details on nests found and notes on species apparently up or down in numbers. The MAPS work near BBBO banded fewer birds than in recent years, especially few Yellow Warblers. Banding at BBBO did not produce any of the July surprises of recent years. Our June and July weather should have been conducive to a good breeding season. There were the usual reports of rarer breeders for the Region, such as: Golden-winged Warbler, "Lawrence's" Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Some breeding birds in the hills were again too infrequently reported (effort or numbers?) for any real assessment, but they seemed scarce, e.g., Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and some of the warblers. Other interesting mid-summer birds included: a Tennessee Warbler in Rochester on 8 July, White-throated Sparrows on 7 July at Ganondagan and 20 July at the Smith Farm near Palmyra, and Dickcissel found by Andy Guthrie near Clarendon, Orleans County from 1-3 July. The Dickcissel is certainly a part of a large incursion to the N and NE first reported locally just outside our Region in several locations in June, with breeding strongly suspected thereafter. Additional possibly interesting counts and locations for the breeding season will be included in the species section.

Fall migration was off to a relatively weak start in August, with essentially all expected species except Brown Creeper and Eastern Meadowlark (also both breeding species) reported, but numbers both reported and banded at BBBO low. Migrants at early dates included: Blue-headed Vireo on 26 August; Olive-sided Flycatcher on 3 August; Winter Wren on 26 August; Gray-cheeked Thrush banded record early on 24 August; Magnolia Warbler on 17 August; and Bay-breasted Warbler on 13 August. Rarer birds for August were White-eyed Vireo found at Chimney Bluffs, Wayne County, by Mike Gullo on 21 August; Prairie Warbler Banded at BBBO on 24 August; and White-throated Sparrow in Rochester on 10 August.

Once more, I will add on an end-of-report observation for interested readers. In the species section (or Noteworthy Records tables posted on the Rochester Birding Association website), I will include counts as illustrations of higher numbers possible or as measures of abundance of some species. There typically are few real counts submitted, especially of higher numbers. Reasons for this may include fewer observers taking the time to count and that we are encouraged to provide lists for smaller areas and shorter time spans. The latter has merit, as in theory these can always later be combined to represent larger areas or longer times, but larger or longer counts typically cannot be broken apart later. Some object to things in Noteworthy Records which are not rare, record highs, or record early or late. But it would seem that changes year to year and especially very low numbers can be as useful and “noteworthy” as objectively outlying data. If one notes reasons for inclusion of information and there are no page count or cost issues, why is more “interesting” information a problem?

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PHOTO GALLERY SUMMER 2017



Great Shearwater, Nickerson Beach, *Nassau*, 18 Jun 2017, © Brendan Fogarty. See the Region 10 report in this issue for details concerning a major flight and subsequent mortality event involving Great Shearwaters along the western shore of Long Island on 18 Jun 2017.



Brown Booby, Nickerson Beach, *Nassau*, 18 Jun 2017, © S. S. Mitra.



Black Tern, Round Lake, *Saratoga*, 4 Jul 2017, © Scott Stoner.



Common Loons, *Warren*, 16 Jul 2017, © Scott Stoner.



This Lesser Black-backed Gull was observed and photographed at Heckscher SP, *Suffolk*, on 1 Jul 2017 by Ken Thompson. A note on p. 304 describes what was learned from its colorband.

Vanwinkle, Matthew Voelker, Brad Walker, Mike Wasilco, Ann Watson, Bridget Watts, Deborah Weltsch, Dave Wheeler, Hugh Whelan, Alex Wiebe, Joe Wing, Paul Wolter, Chris Wood, Jim Wood, Matt Young, Peter Zika, and many other casual eBird contributors.

ABBREVIATIONS

B – after a number of individuals indicates banded; BB – Braddock Bay, MONR; BB-ES – East spit of Braddock Bay; BBBO – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, off Manitou Beach Rd, MONR; CLI – Conesus L Inlet, including WMA marshes, LIVI; DE – Durand-Eastman P, Rochester, at Lake Ontario; G – T Greece, MONR; H – T of Hamlin, MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; HANA – High Acres Nature Area, T Perinton, MONR; IBO – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; IB-S – LaSalle Landing P and vicinity at S end of Irondequoit Bay; ICW – Island Cottage Woods, T Greece, MONR; LSP – Letchworth SP; M – Manitou, MONR; MP – Mendon Ponds P, MONR; NHRd – North Hamlin Rd., Sandy Creek overflow area approx. .1 mile w.of Townline Rd., MONR; NMWMA (MRM) – Northern Montezuma WMA, Morgan Rd. Marshes, WAYN; OB – Ontario Beach, Charlotte, MONR; OCP – Oatka Creek P, MONR; PtB – Point Breeze, ORLE; SPt – Sodus Pt, WAYN; TCEA – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, Avon DEC, LIVI.

WATERFOWL – VULTURES

Snow Goose: last NMWMA (Carncross Rd) 2 Jun (MD).

Brant: Summerville Pier 28-30 Jun (GL, CG, DH); IBO-HB thru 26 Jul (16+ obs); mouth of Genesee R 9, 11 Aug (AS, GL); rare in summer, likely same bird.

Mute Swan: max 45 Buck Pond (Greece) 7 Jun, nonbreeding.

Trumpeter Swan: max 10 NMWMA (Carncross Rd) 2 Jun (W&MR); 2 MP 11 Jul; 5 Gananda Pkw, Macedon 22 Jul, 27 Aug (MG).

Wood Duck: max 50 Conesus Inlet WMA 22 Jun.

Gadwall: 3 HB 14 Aug, scarce in summer.

Am. Wigeon: NHRd 16-17 Jun (AGu), unusual loc for date; Ganondagan 7 Jul (AH); arr BB-ES 20 Aug.

Am. Black Duck: monthly max – 5 in Jun, 1 in Jul, & 2 in Aug, very low.

Mallard: max 250 Thomas Crk wetlands 5 Aug & BB-ES 30 Aug, good count for dates.

Blue-winged Teal: 4 HANA 30 Jul, int loc for date.

N. Shoveler: 2 NHRd 26 Jul, unusual loc for date; arr HANA 26 Aug

N. Pintail: arr 2 BB-ES 19 Aug (AGu), early.

Green-winged Teal: 1-8 NHRd 3-26 Jun, 1-14 Jul (sev), unusual loc for dates; HANA 28 Jun (DSh) & 5 Jul (BCad); arr HB 18 Aug; max 50 NMWMA (MRM) 26 Aug (LK, AK).

Redhead: 2 imm BB-ES 27 Aug (LK, AK), surprise for loc & date.

scaup species: Cranberry Pnd, Greece 26 Jun (RB).

Lesser Scaup: 2 Cranberry Pnd, Greece 18 Aug (RB).

White-winged Scoter: last 7 HB 2 Jun (AGu), late.

Long-tailed Duck: last 2 HB 10 Jun (AGu); off Edgemere Dr, Greece 17 Aug (RB).

Hooded Merganser: 1-7 f & yng Bushnell's Basin 1-12 Jun, 1-12 Jul (H&CH).

Red-breasted Merganser: last SPt 7 Jun (GD); 7 SPt 5 Jul (W&MR), rare in summer; arr off Edgemere Dr, Greece 10 Aug (JiB).

Red-throated Loon: last 2 HB 2 Jun (AGu), late.

Com. Loon: Hemlock L (TB) & Summerville Pier (AGu) 28 Jun, late; 5 Conesus L 8 Jun; Silver L WYOM 9, 15 Jul (TL, RSt); 3, 2 HB 20, 21 Jul (AGu); 3 Lake Bluff, WAYN 23 Jul (W&MR); 6, 11, 14, 19, 20 Aug (AGu); scarce in summer.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 40 NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 19 Aug, good count.

Red-necked Grebe: arr HB 22 Jul (AGu), early; 1, 1, 3 HB 15, 19, 20 Aug, early.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 700 BB-ES 20 Aug.

Great Egret: NHRd 25 Jun (D&MK, JiM); 1-7 NMWMA (Carncross Rd) 1-11 Jun (mob); Rochester 26, 30 Jun J&VL; max 69-70

NMWMA (Morgan Rd Marshes) 26 Aug (LK, AK, KM), good count.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (R2): NMWMA (Carnecross Rd) 9-13 Jun (JMcG, LS, 23 oth obs).

Turkey Vulture: max 120 BB hawkwatch 9 Jun (MT).

HAWKS – LARIDS

Bald Eagle: max 23 BB hawkwatch 9 Jun (MT).

N. Goshawk: no reports.

Red-shouldered Hawk: Lake Rd, Sodus WAYN 3 Aug; Beechwood SP WAYN 5 Aug; T Pittsford MONR 13 Aug; now scarce in summer.

Broad-winged Hawk: 120 BB hawkwatch 9 Jun (MT).

Red-tailed Hawk: max 47 BB hawkwatch 12 Aug (BW), only significant summer count reported.

Com. Gallinule: max 75 NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 12 Aug.

Am. Coot: max 50 NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 19 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: 3 Taylor Marsh ONTA 7 Jun (CJ); 2 E Lakeshore Marshes WAYN 30 Jun (CC); 3 T Pittsford MONR 13, 21-23 Jul (sev), unusual site; T Huron WAYN 12 Jul; 1-8 NMWMA (sev sites) thru.

Black-bellied Plover: last HB 1 Jun; arr 3 H 12 Aug.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr 5 N Byron Rd GENE 25 Aug; max 126+ Bridge Rd, T Byron GENE 31 Aug (ST, CMO, *et al.*).

Semipalmated Plover: last NMWMA (Carnecross Rd) 10 Jun; arr 1-3 se sites 24 Jul.

Killdeer: 168 H (Wiler Rd) 18 Aug (AGu); 140 Cy farms, T Byron GENE 26 Aug (AWi); high counts.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr TCEA 6 Jul.

Greater Yellowlegs: last NMWMA (Guy Baldassarre Marsh) 10 Jun; arr 2 NHRd 8 Jul.

Lesser Yellowlegs: 1-4 NHRd 16-26 Jun (mob), last, lingering, arr?.

Upland Sandpiper: no reports.

Whimbrel: arr IBO 13 Jul (JW); HB 16 Jul (AGu); 6 SPT 16 Jul (MG, W&MR); 2 SPT 28 Jul (JW); 10 SPT 2 Aug (MO); HB 3 Aug (AGu); SPT 15 Aug (MG, JW); max 13 HB 31 Aug (AGu).

MARBLED GODWIT: SPT 21 Jun (JW, MG, 6 oth obs), ph. HB 30 Jul (CC, AGu, BriM).

Ruddy Turnstone: last 4 SPT 4 Jun; arr 3 Summerville Pier & 1 SPT 19 Jul; max 22 Summerville Pier 29 Aug (MT).

Red Knot: NHRd 24-26 Jun (BriM, 14 oth obs), early, ph; arr BB-ES 19 Aug (AGu); 2 piers at mouth of Genesee R 19 Aug (TL, GF); BB-ES 30-31 Aug (NK, CGi).

Stilt Sandpiper: arr NHRd 8 Jul (AGu, JiM, LM).

Sanderling: arr HB 13 Jul; 20 SPT 20 Jul (JW); max 35 HB 31 Aug (MG).

Dunlin: last TCEA 6-7 Jun (MW); arr NHRd 10 Jul (AGu), early; IB-S 18-19 Jul DH, CGi), early.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr TCEA 15 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: last Culver Rd, T Barre GENE 11 Jun; arr 4 NHRd 3 Jul; max 52 NMWMA (Marten Tract) 19, low max.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr TCEA 10, 11, 19 Jul (MW, GL), early.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr H (Wiler Rd) 12 Aug (AGu), Reg record early; 1-3 Cy farms, T Byron GENE (11+obs), ph.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 5 CLI 18 Jul.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 200 NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 1 Jun; max 213 HB 1 Jun; last 11-15 NMWMA (Carnecross Rd) 10 Jun; 2 SPT 14 Jun; arr SPT 5 Jul.

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr NHRd 8 Jul.

Long-billed Dowitcher: arr NMWMA (MRM) 15 Aug.

Wilson's Phalarope: arr NHRd 22-25 Jun (AGu, 10 oth obs).

Bonaparte's Gull: present all summer, unusual; max 101 BB-ES 22 Aug (AGu).

LAUGHING GULL (R2): 1 ad SPT 3-8 Jun (MG, 6+ oth obs), ph; 1-2 PtB 8-9 Jun (JS, 4+ oth obs), ph; 1 ad HB 9 Jun (AGu); 1 ad BB – sev loc 10-12 Jun (AGu, BriM, 9+ oth obs, ph).

FRANKLIN'S GULL: HB 8 Jun (AGu, MG, PMar, ph).

Ring-billed Gull: 3000 OB 19 Aug, many for date.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 10 rep, 17 ind at 4 loc 1-20 Jun; total 7 at 4 loc 12-26 Jul; total 5 at 4 loc 2-26 Aug; good numbers for summer.

Caspian Tern: max 86 SPT 13 Jul, low max.

Black Tern: max 7 NMWMA (2 loc) 1 Jul (AnM, GC, W&MR), low max.

Com. Tern: last 4 BB 11 Jun; arr SPT 27 Jun (AK); max 28 HB 28 Aug.

Forster's Tern: arr BB-ES 20 Aug (RB, AGu, B&BM).

PIGEONS – PARROTS

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: 1

Greenwell farm H 4 Jul (RSp); 2 Greenwell farm 5 Aug (AGu).

N. Saw-whet Owl: 1 juv B M 14 Aug (BBBO), 3rd there in recent years.

Com. Nighthawk: max 24 G 3 Jun (KGr); last BB (AGu) & 2 G (KGr) 9 Jun; arr 2 Genesee Valley P 15 Aug.

Chimney Swift: max 300+ York Central School, Greiggsville LIVI 29 Aug (JK); 154 Piffard LIVI 30 Aug (DBea).

Red-headed Woodpecker: Bushnell's Basin 3 Jun (C&HH), new loc; 1-6 ea 3 loc 3-28 Jul; max 8 HB 9 Aug (AGu).

Merlin: 1-3 nesting Genesee Jul (JK); Conesus 12 Jul (KC); Wolcott WAYN 29 Jul (W&MR); 21 rep, 20 ind at 18 loc 7-31 Aug (19 obs).

Peregrine Falcon: 1-2 Rochester thru Jun; 3 loc Rochester 8. 11, 22 Jul; 6 rep, 6 ind at 6 loc 20-30 Aug; 2 ad, 4 yg Roch (falcom) thru, 2 yng suffered accidents with 1 dead & 1 in rehab at season's end.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Chimney Bluffs SP WAYN 3 Aug (MG); Burger P, G 27 Aug (KH); T Lima LIVI 30 Aug (DBea).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last 4B BBBO 8 Jun; arr 1B BBBO 13 Aug; total B 20 BBBO 13-29 Aug.

“Trail’s” Flycatcher: total B 30 BBBO 1-8 Jun; total B 14 BBBO 12-28 Aug.

Willow Flycatcher: max 22 NMWMA (Noble shrublands) 8 Jun (DD, LD).

Least Flycatcher: total B 12 BBBO 13-29 Aug.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (R2): Chimney Bluffs SP WAYN 21 Aug (MG).

Blue-headed Vireo: arr ICW 26 Aug (HW), early migr.

Philadelphia Vireo: last 1B BBBO 6 Jun; arr HB - YC 24 Aug.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 23 Ontario County P 17 Jun (RB); total B 14 BBBO 12-29 Aug.

Blue Jay: max 144 HB 10 Jun (AGu), late for so many.

Fish Crow: max 11 OB 6 Aug.

Com. Raven: 6 Irondequoit 27 Jun (KS), many for loc.

Horned Lark: max 54 H (Wiler Rd) 13 Aug.

Purple Martin: max 42 Cranberry Pnd, G 18 Jul, low max; 4 MAC 19 Aug.

Tree Swallow: max 225 NMWMA (MRM) 4 Jul.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 75 BB NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor & Wright Rd) 19 Aug.

Bank Swallow: max 200 NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 1 Jun, low max & should be high numbers by Aug.

Barn Swallow: max 50 OB 23 Jul, low max.

Winter Wren: DE 14, 16 Jun; Penfield 7 Jul, unusual loc for date; arr 1B BBBO 26 Aug, early migr.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: last N Wolcott WAYN 1 Jun; arr 1B BBBO 24 Aug, Reg record early.

Swainson’s Thrush: last 1B BBBO 6 Jun; arr 1B BBBO 18 Aug.

Gray Catbird: max 30 Whiting Rd NP (Webster) 2 Jul, 25 Aug (DH); total B 87 BBBO 12-30 Aug.

Cedar Waxwing: max 310 HB 1 Jun (AGu).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Ovenbird: HB 1 Aug (BBec), unusual loc for date; arr 1B BBBO 15 Aug.

N. Waterthrush: total B 12 BBBO 12-30 Aug.

Golden-winged Warbler: Norway Rd, T Holly ORLE 6, 16 Jun (DBea), rare possible breeder.

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: Cumming NC ONTA 8 Jun (BBec), rare hybrid.

Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler: Norway Rd, T Holly ORLE 3 Jun (DBem), not ID'd to hybrid type.

Black-and-white Warbler: arr Thomas Crk Wetlands (Webster) 11 Aug.

Prothonotary Warbler: 1-2 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) thru 10 Jun, 4 Jul (11+ obs), nesting.

Tennessee Warbler: last Churchville MONR 8 Jun; St. Paul Blvd, Rochester 8 Jul (LM, JiM), unusual loc for date; arr 1B BBBO 15 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: last 1B BBBO 5 Jun.

Mourning Warbler: last HB 8 Jun; arr 1B BBBO 24 Aug.

Com. Yellowthroat: total B 15 BBBO 12-29 Aug.

Hooded Warbler: max 10 MP 2 Jul (PMar), typical if obs counts.

Am. Redstart: max 24 HB – W end 1 Jun; 22 HB – W end 8 Jul; total B 44 BBBO 12-30 Aug, good number.

Cape May Warbler: arr T Richmond ONTA 16 Aug.

N. Parula: last NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor) 2 Jun (W&MR), late; arr TCEA 30 Aug.

Magnolia Warbler: last 1B BBBO 8 Jun; arr 1B BBBO 17 Aug, early; total B 69 17-30 Aug, high.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 1B BBBO 13 Aug, early.

Blackburnian Warbler: last 1B BBBO 6 Jun; OCP 2 Jul (JRy), unusual loc for date;

Ganondagan, ONTA 6 Aug (TL), unusual loc for date; arr Lehigh Vallry Trail MONR 25 Aug.

Yellow Warbler: 25 HB – W end 1 Jun; max 26 Whiting Rd NP (Webster) 2 Jul; total B 26 BBBO 12-29 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: BB 10 Jun (JW. W&MR), late; 1-2 Ganondagan ONTA 13 Jun (MGia), late; last N Wolcott WAYN 15 Jun (W&MR), late; arr LSP 27 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: last M & Church Trail, G 5 Jun; arr 1B BBBO 28 Aug.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr G 12 Aug (KGr), early migr.

Prairie Warbler: 2 Springwater ONTA 9 Jun, possible breeding; LSP 14 Jun, possible breeding; arr 1B BBBO 24 Aug, early.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 1B BBBO 26 Aug.

Canada Warbler: last 2B BBBO 5 Jun; near Naples 30 Jun (BH), possible breeding;

Cumming NC ONTA 15, 20 Jul (GL, JAk), possible breeding; arr 1B BBBO 16 Aug.
Wilson's Warbler: last 3B BBBO 6 Jun; arr 1B BBBO 20 Aug.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: 1-2 Cook Rd, Hamlin 3 Jul (AGu). **White-throated Sparrow:** last 1B BBBO 3 Jun; Ganondagan ONTA 7 Jul (AH); 2 Smith Farm, Palmyra WAYN 20 Jul (B&WJ); Rochester 10 Aug (LBe); unusual for dates and loc.

DICKCISSEL (R2): Clarendon ORLE 1-3 Jul (AGu), part of large influx to NE, *intro*.

Bobolink: 65 Burger P, G 23 Aug (PW), good count.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 2,000 NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit) 26 Aug (AnM), good count

Pine Siskin: rep of 1-5 ind scattered across Reg thru 29 Jul.

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REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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In Ithaca, June temperatures were slightly cooler than normal, with average lows at 53° F, 2° below normal, and average highs at 75°, 1° below normal. July lows averaged 59°, 2° above normal and highs averaged 78°, 2° below normal. August was cooler than normal. Lows averaged 55°, 1° below normal and highs averaged 76°, 3° below normal. June was relatively dry with a total rainfall of 1.68", 2.19" below normal. July was very wet bringing 6.76" of rain, 3.21" above normal. August was dry with only 0.88" of rainfall, 2.51" below normal.

Dabbling ducks gathered at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in large numbers in August, with summer high counts recorded for eight species. All the high counts were recorded at the Knox-Marcellus Marsh and Puddler's Marsh area, except for the high American Black Duck count that was recorded along the Wildlife Drive around the Main Pool. Observers also recorded high (though still small) numbers for five diving duck species. Unusual species for the Region were Eurasian Wigeon, White-winged Scoter, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, and Red-breasted Merganser. Trumpeter Swan was confirmed breeding in Seneca and Cayuga Counties. Blue-winged Teal, Gadwall, American Wigeon, and Redhead were all confirmed breeding at Montezuma NWR. American Black Ducks were confirmed breeding in Watkins Glen.

Other water birds occurred in high numbers, as well. Double-crested Cormorants were numerous at Stewart Park in Ithaca, and at least two nests there produced young. Least Bitterns, Great Egrets, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Common Gallinules, and American Coots were numerous at Montezuma NWR. Rare waterbirds included Horned Grebe on Keuka Lake, American White Pelican, Snowy Egret, and Glossy Ibis at Montezuma NWR. Sam Heinrich spotted a flock of eight Glossy Ibis flying over the Cornell University campus. Donna Carter photographed a Cattle Egret in the Town of Montezuma.

The compost piles on Stevenson Road in Tompkins County attracted 163 Turkey Vultures in July and two Black Vultures in June. Ian Davies and Sarah Dzielski reported another Black Vulture at the Elmira-Corning Regional Airport, where the species has been reported on occasion in past years. The only reports of Northern Goshawk were at both ends of the season and from the Town of Dryden, Tompkins County.

The only high shorebird counts were Jay McGowan's and Livia Santana's ten Long-billed Dowitchers at Montezuma NWR and Brad Walker's eight American Woodcock in Danby State Forest. Although shorebird numbers were not high, the Region attracted a good variety and a few rarities. Tim Lenz found an American Avocet at the south end of Seneca Lake. Michael Gullo photographed two Whimbrels at the north end of Canandaigua Lake, and many observers saw two others at Montezuma NWR. A Ruff was in the Montezuma NWR area for two weeks in July. A Red Knot was in Montezuma NWR for a few days in August. A Willet was at Stewart Park for one day in June.

Jay McGowan recorded the high count of 16 Lesser Black-backed Gulls at Myers Point on Cayuga Lake at the beginning of the season. Tim Lenz estimated the high count of 2500 Ring-billed Gulls at Seneca Lake State Park in August. Five Bonaparte's Gulls at Lakefront Park were a summer high count. A Franklin's Gull at Myers Point on Cayuga Lake was the rarest gull of the summer. Dan Watkins estimated 100 Black Terns at Montezuma NWR in late July, a high count for that species. The only Common and Forster's Terns report was a small mixed flock at Myers Point in mid-June.

The nesting pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers near Montezuma NWR returned and was confirmed to be breeding again this summer. The only confirmed nesting of Merlin in the Region was in Etna, Tompkins County. Many observers were able to observe an Acadian Flycatcher incubating on a nest in Danby State Forest.

High counts were recorded for Horned Larks at the Savannah Mucklands and for Bank Swallows, Barn Swallows, and Marsh Wrens at Montezuma NWR. Purple Martins were confirmed breeding in Ontario, Seneca, and Yates Counties.

Ken Rosenberg turned in a season high count of six Swainson's Thrushes in Northeast Ithaca on their last spring migration date of 4 June. Other observers

matched that number at Palmer Woods when the species returned to the Region on 31 August.

High counts among warblers were turned in for Nashville, Cape May, and Wilson's Warblers and for Northern Parula. The count of 28 Cape May Warblers by Ian Davies and Sarah Dzielski in the Town of Danby is remarkable for a species considered rare in the Region just a few years ago. This species, known only as a migrant in this Region, responds to Spruce Budworm outbreaks in eastern Canada with increased productivity and eastward range expansion. Prothonotary Warbler was confirmed nesting in a nestbox at Montezuma NWR. Adam West reported a Yellow-throated Warbler in Erwin Wildlife Management Area and Andy, Joel, and Matthew Eckerson reported one in the Town of Enfield.

Vesper Sparrows were confirmed breeding in Cayuga, Seneca, and Tompkins Counties. Dickcissels were found scattered throughout the Region with a high count of eight in the Town of Benton where Andrew Guthrie and Brian Morse observed a female repeatedly carrying nesting material to probable nesting site. Orchard Orioles were confirmed breeding in Seneca and Tompkins Counties. Estimates of 1000 Bobolinks at Montezuma NWR in late August was a summer high count for the Region.

There were some "winter" finch reports this summer. Flyover Red Crossbills were reported from four locations in Tompkins County and one location in Schuyler County. Pine Siskins were reported in Ontario, Schuyler, and Tompkins Counties.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CanL – Canandaigua L, Canandaigua; CU – Cornell U; CygL – Cayuga L; KI – Kipp I, CAYU; DSF Canandaigua Danby State Forest, TOMP; LP – Lakefront P, SENE; MyPt – Myers Pt, TOMP; NEI – Northeast Ithaca; SLSP – Seneca L SP; SRCP – Stevenson Road Compost Piles, TOMP; StP – Stewart P, TOMP; TDan – T Danby, TOMP.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: max 9 SLSP 1-7 Jul (JMc, JNo, LSa), high.

Wood Duck: max 800 MNWR 19 Aug (JMc), high.

Gadwall: max 80 MNWR 5 Aug (AB), high.

EURASIAN WIGEON (R3): KI 30 June (GaC!); MNWR 8 Jul (KR!).

Am. Wigeon: max 50 MNWR 24 Aug (DDo, DWh), high.

Am. Black Duck: max 100 MNWR 27 Aug (AT), high.

Mallard: max 5000 MNWR 8 Aug (JMc, LSa), high.

Blue-winged Teal: max 80 MNWR 26-29 Aug (mob), high.

N. Pintail: arr 2 MNWR 8 Jul; max 100 MNWR 24-31 Aug (mob), high.

Green-winged Teal: max 500 MNWR 26 Aug (mob, ph), high.

Ring-necked Duck: max 12 MNWR 26 Aug (WEa), high.

Greater Scaup: max 10 SLSP 6 Jun (BeB), high; Harris P CAYU 3 Jun-11 Jul.

Lesser Scaup: max 9 LP 4 Jun (mob), high.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (R3): MyPt 8-16 Jul (mob).

BUFFLEHEAD (R3): max 7 MNWR 1 Jun (BeB!), high; 1-5 MNWR 1-7 Jun (mob, ph!); Hi Tor WMA YATE 14 Jun (BHo, ph); 3 SLSP 19 Jun; SLSP 7 Jul.

COM. GOLDENEYE (R3): CygL, T Ledyard 3 Jun (FG, JMc, LSa); 1-3 Seneca L, Geneva & SLSP 4 Jun-10 Jul (mob, ph); 1-3 Mud Lock, CygL 22 Jun-12 Jul (mob, ph); Cayuga & Seneca Canal SENE 18 Jul (PF, PH, AWa).

Hooded Merganser: max 20 KI 9 Jul (KM), high.

Com. Merganser: max 51 Chemung R, Elmira 1 Aug.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (R3): 1-2 MyPt 1-6 Jun (JGr, JMc, ph); Chemung R, Elmira 2-29 Jun (BO); Mud Lock, CygL 1-9 Jul (JMc, ph, LSa).

Ruddy Duck: max 18 MNWR 3 Jun.

HORNED GREBE (R3): Keuka L thru 20 Aug (ID, SD, JNe).

Double-crested Cormorant: max 670 StP 22 Aug (TL), high.

AM. WHITE PELICAN (R3): MNWR 6-27 Jul (mob, ph).

Least Bittern: max 6 MNWR 8 Jul (MA, DCI), high.

Great Egret: max 200 MNWR 12-13 Aug (GDa, JMc, SPe), high.

SNOWY EGRET (R3): MNWR 12 Aug (mob, ph).

CATTLE EGRET (R3): T Montezuma CAYU 4 Jun (Dca, ph!).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 55 MNWR 12 Aug (JMc), high.

GLOSSY IBIS (R3): MNWR 22 Jul (AB); 8 CU 20 Aug (SaHe!).

BLACK VULTURE (R3): 1-2 SRCP 2-14 Jun (mob, ph); Elmira-Corning Regional Airport CHEM 28 Aug (ID, SD!).
Turkey Vulture: max 163 SRCP 15 Jul (CW), high.

HAWKS - LARIDS

N. Goshawk: T Dryden 3 Jun (JGK); T Dryden TOMP 14 Aug (JFi); only reports.
Com. Gallinule: max 128 MNWR 6 Aug (DDa), high.
Am. Coot: max 314 MNWR 27 Aug (JO), high.
Sandhill Crane: max 12 MNWR 25 Aug.
AM. AVOCET (R3): Seneca L, Watkins Glen 10 Aug (TL, ph).
Solitary Sandpiper: arr MNWR 16 Jun.
Greater Yellowlegs: last MNWR 17 Jun (mob), late; arr 2 MNWR 29 Jun.
WILLET (R3): StP 16 Jun (mob, ph).
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr MNWR 7 Jun (DSH, MT), early.
Upland Sandpiper: max 4 Lott Farm SENE 1 Jul.
WHIMBREL (R3): 2 CanL 2 Jun (MG, ph); 2 MNWR 10 Jun (mob, ph).
Ruddy Turnstone: max 42 LP 1 Jun (KG), high; 29 MNWR 2 Jun; 36 CanL 3 Jun; last CanL 11 Jun; arr 2 MNWR 20 Aug.
RED KNOT (R3): MNWR 24-29 Aug (mob, ph!).
RUFF (R3): KI & MNWR 8-24 Jul (DNu, mob, ph).
Silt Sandpiper: arr MNWR 9 Jul (mob), early; max 45 MNWR 19 Aug.
Sanderling: last 5 CanL 3 Jun; arr MyPt 26 Jul.
Dunlin: last MNWR 5 Jun; arr MNWR 28 Aug.
Baird's Sandpiper: are KI 23 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: last MNWR 13 Jun; arr 10 MNWR 3 Jul.
White-rumped Sandpiper: arr MyPt 29 Jun (JMc), early.
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 6 MNWR 19 Jul.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 5 MNWR 14 Jun; arr MNWR 29 Jun (ADa), early.
Short-billed Dowitcher: last Aurora Bay Boathouse 3 Jun (JMc, LSA), late; arr 2 MNWR 8 Jul.
Long-billed Dowitcher: arr MNWR 19 Jul (TL, BM, MDM!), early; max 10 MNWR 29 Aug (JMc!, LSA), high.
Wilson's Snipe: last MNWR 1 Jun; arr MNWR 6 Jul.

Am. Woodcock: max 8 DSF 21 Jun (BW), high.
Wilson's Phalarope: arr MNWR 8 Aug.
Red-necked Phalarope: arr SLSP 4 Aug.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 5 LP 4 Jun (KBo, ADo, KR), high; last SLSP 9 Jun (TL), late; arr CanL 17 Jul.
FRANKLIN'S GULL: MyPt 1 Jun (mob, ph).
Ring-billed Gull: max 2500 SLSP 18 Aug (TL), high.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 16 MyPt 1 Jun (JMc), high.
Black Tern: max 100 MNWR 26 Jul (DWA), high.
Com. Tern: arr & max 4 MyPt 16 Jun.
Forster's Tern: 2 MyPt 16 Jun (mob), only report.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Black-billed Cuckoo: max 7 Boyer Creek Farm NFC Station TOMP 9&12 Jun, nocturnal flight calls.
E. Screech-Owl: max 4 T Starkey YATE 2 Jun (JH); 4 W Bluff YATE 20 Jul (MJ), high.
Com. Nighthawk: arr MNWR 13 Aug; max 43 MNWR 29 Aug.
Red-headed Woodpecker: max 4 MNWR 20 Aug (JBr, RK), high.
Peregrine Falcon: arr MNWR 23 Jul.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last Connecticut Hill WMA TOMP 2 Jun; arr Finger Lakes National Forest 12 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last TDan 5 Jun; arr MNWR 3 Aug.
Acadian Flycatcher: max 3 DSF 14 Jun.
E. Kingbird: max 34 Finger Lakes National Forest SENE 25 Aug.
Philadelphia Vireo: arr Salt Pt Nature Preserve TOMP 31 Aug.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 50 DSF 14 Jun.
Am. Crow: max 500 SRCP 6 Aug.
Horned Lark: max 36 Savannah Mucklands SENE 13 Jul (TC), high.
Purple Martin: max 525 MNWR 8 Aug.
Tree Swallow: max 5600 MNWR 26 Aug.
Bank Swallow: max 11,200 MNWR 26 Aug (ID, LT), high.
Barn Swallow: max 11,200 MNWR 26 Aug (ID, LT), high.
Marsh Wren: max 100 MNWR 26 Jul (DWA), high.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: last T Caroline 4 Jun (SK), late.

Veery: max 24 Shindagin Hollow State Forest TOMP 24 Jun.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: last T Caroline 4 Jun (SK), late.

Swainson's Thrush: last and max 6 NEI 4 Jun (KR), late; arr 6 Palmer Woods TOMP 31 Aug (LC, JC, KEb), high.

European Starling: max 16,800 MNWR 26 Aug.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Worm-eating Warbler: DSF 1 Jun (MG); Texas Hollow State Forest SCHU 2 Jun (CQ); DSF 8 Jun (DNu); Elmira Country Club CHEM 26 Jun (JFi), only reports.

Tennessee Warbler: arr T Tyrone SCHU 10 Aug; max 3 Caswell Road Grasslands TOMP 28 Aug (CW), high.

Nashville Warbler: max 3 Spencer Crest Nature Center STEU 4 Aug (NM), high.

Cape May Warbler: arr 2 MyPt 13 Aug; max 28 TDan 28 Aug (ID, SD), high.

Cerulean Warbler: max 7 T Tyre SENE 24 Jun.

N. Parula: last T Jerusalem YATE 10 Jun; arr CU 23 Aug (GDU, AWi), early; max 5 CU 24 Aug (GDU, AWi), nocturnal migrants, high.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Sampson SP 24 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: last Sapsucker Woods TOMP 3 Jun; arr & max 3 MNWR 27 Aug; Sapsucker Woods TOMP 27 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 30 CU 24 Aug, nocturnal migrants.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (R3): Erwin WMA STEU 14 Jun (AWe); T Enfield TOMP 6 Jul (AE, JEe, ME!).

Wilson's Warbler: last City of Ithaca 6 Jun (KK, DM!), late; arr & max 4 StP 12 Aug (MAS, ETF), high & early.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: max 4 T Lansing TOMP 6 Jul.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 3 T Lansing TOMP 11 Jul; 3 Birdseye Hollow State Forest STEU 2 Aug; last Birdseye Hollow State Forest TOMP 6 Aug.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 48 CU 24 Aug, nocturnal migrants.

Dickcissel: max 8 T Benton YATE 2 Jul (AG, Brian Morse), high.

Bobolink: max 1000 MNWR 27 Aug (mob), high.

Orchard Oriole: max 6 MyPt 25 Jun.

Red Crossbill: TDan 5 Jun (WEv!); Connecticut Hill WMA TOMP 25 Jun (BW); Jennings Pd TOMP 28 Jun (WEv!); T Catharine SCHU 2 Jul (CW!); NEI 22 Jul (KR!).

Pine Siskin: 2 Cayuta Creek SCHU 11 Jun (GB, EIE); T Seneca ONTA 18-21 Jun (JA); NEI 11 Jul (JMc).

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REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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June 2017 was about average regarding temperature and somewhat wetter than normal. July was slightly cooler than the long-term norm but had three inches more rain than average. August was three degrees cooler and a bit drier than average.

From 15 April to 3 June there was a pair of Mute Swans on Plymouth Reservoir in Chenango County. They were noticed by local residents who thought they might stay the summer, but the swans departed. Apparently, they were tolerant of their human neighbors and fed in the same area daily (from E-

mail from Michael DeWispelaere). During the months of June through August there were no records of Mute Swans in eBird in the Region for the last 10 years. However, in *The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*, which covered the period from 2000-2005, there were ten or so blocks in the Region with possible or probable breeding and one block showing confirmed breeding. The NYSDEC is currently managing this introduced species and has a draft plan under review. It is not clear how much habitat requirements versus management have affected the population of this species in our Region. Why bother then to report on this species, if it is introduced and proven to damage wetlands and has been aggressive to other waterfowl and on occasion to humans? Well the short answer is that people take an interest in these birds. The swans are relatively unafraid of humans, and so people make a connection to these large and impressive animals. The problem of introduced species will probably not have a uniform solution but will most likely be species dependent. Mute Swans are an interesting illustration of this problem.

Common Gallinules bred in Chenango County in a marsh in Sherburne. Sixteen birds, including eleven juveniles, were seen there, which appeared to represent at least two family groups. There was also at least one juvenile reported from Boland Pond in Broome County. There were perhaps ten blocks reporting possible or confirmed breeding during the 2000-2005 atlas work in the Region, so it is not a very common breeder and may be in decline.

During a kayaking trip through a wetland in Chenango County in the Town of Plymouth on 6 June, a video was taken of an adult Sandhill Crane with two eggs. Also in the Town of McDonough, again in Chenango County, two adults were seen, but no colts were reported. Last year in McDonough, two adults and two colts were reported. In both sightings, local residents had seen the birds for a few years in this season but did not report them. In previous NY breeding bird atlas projects begun in 1980 and 2000, there were no reports of Sandhill Cranes breeding in the Region.

In Broome County two kinds of falcons were breeding. In the city of Binghamton, four Peregrine Falcons were seen on 6 June, one with a Rock Pigeon in its talons, and three other falcons following. In the village of Endicott there were several reports of a breeding Merlin pair with photos taken. There has been a breeding pair of Peregrine Falcons since at least the 2000-2005 breeding bird atlas in Binghamton, while Merlins were reported in only three blocks in the Region.

Regarding migrating shorebirds, there were two reports of a Stilt Sandpiper in the Region. Jeremy Collison found a Stilt Sandpiper in a farm pond in the Town of Smyrna in Chenango County on 13 August. This was a first eBird record for Chenango County. Then on 26 August Dave Nicosia found a Stilt Sandpiper in Johnson City in the Susquehanna River. The bird stayed four days, and was seen and photographed by many observers. A Stilt Sandpiper had not been recorded in Broome since 2002. In the same area, a Baird's Sandpiper was

also discovered on 26 August and also a contingent of ten Great Egrets on 30 August.

Cerulean Warblers were seen and photographed along the Delaware River on 26 June in a riparian habitat, so perhaps they were breeding in this area. In migration, twelve Cape May Warblers in a variety of plumages were seen and photographed in Chenango County on German Hollow Road by Andrew Guthrie on 29 August. In total, 27 species of warblers were seen in the Region for the season, which is the same number as seen in the fall report for the last three years.

There were many reports of Red Crossbills, observed mostly in state forests in Chenango County. Some of these reports were from workers associated with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology who were recording their calls so they could be identified by subspecies (or species, depending on whom you ask). Type 1 (Appalachian), Type 2 (Ponderosa Pine), Type 3 (Western Hemlock), and Type 10 (Sitka Spruce) were all identified, most through audio spectrographic analysis (basically sounds made into graphs). Some of the birds were singing and responded to playbacks, so perhaps they might have been breeding. However, none of the reports mentioned breeding behavior specifically, so this is merely speculation.

In summary, 184 species were reported, with some interesting rarities for the Region. I also want to acknowledge and thank Bill Ostrander who sorted eBird data to identify arrivals, last dates, and high counts.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BoPd – Boland Pd, BROO; BUNP – Binghamton University Nature Preserve, BROO; DorP – Dorchester P, BROO; LHNC – Lime Hollow Nature Center, COURT; MHL – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; SusR – Susquehanna Ri, BROO.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Mute Swan: 2 Plymouth Res CHEN 15 Apr- 3 Jun, *intro*.

Blue-winged Teal: 2 SusR 26 Aug; Chenango R BROO 27 Aug; only reports.

N. Shoveler: Chenango Ri BROO 27 Aug, only report.

Am. Wigeon: BoPd 28 Jul, ph, only report.

Com. Loon: Owego Creek TIOG 1 Jun, ph, possible injured bird.

Pied-billed Grebe: 8 MHL 10 Aug, 6 juv, 2 ad.

Least Bittern: BoPd 10-25 Jun; MHL 15-19 Jul.

Great Egret: max 10 SusR 30 Aug; 75 reports.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 BoPd 8-9 Aug.

Black Vulture: 5 scattered reports from OTSE & DELA.

HAWKS – LARIDS

Osprey: 30 rep throughout Region.

Bald Eagle: many reports, very widespread.

N. Goshawk: Hancock DELA 17 Jun -23 Jul; Otselic CHEN 4 Jul; Tuller Hill SF CORT 1 Aug.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 3 Marsh Pond SF BROO 8 Jun, 2 nestlings, 1 ad; 25 other rep.

Sora: MHL 15-19 June.

Com. Gallinule: max 16 Sherburne Railroad Marsh CHEN 3 Aug, ph; 2 BoPd 10 Jun.

Sandhill Crane: T Plymouth CHEN 6 Jun, photo of nest with eggs; 2 T McDonough CHEN 22 Aug; *intro*.

Stilt Sandpiper: Smyrna CHEN 13 Aug, ph (JC, MD); SusR 26-30 Aug, mob, ph (DN).

Sanderling: SusR 26 Aug, only report.

Baird's Sandpiper: SusR 26-30 Aug, mob, ph (GC).

Caspian Tern: max 6 SusR 20 Aug; 8 reports.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 15 reports.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 37 reports, interesting ratio of yellow-billed to black-billed.

Com. Nighthawk: max 15 Castle Creek BROO 20 Aug; 15 other scattered rep.

E. Whip-poor-will: Richford TIOG 30 Aug (DM).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: widely noted, 334 reports.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Hickories P TIOG 10 Jun.

Merlin: 3 Endicott BROO 29 Jul, 8 rep of this breeding pr; 37 other rep.

Peregrine Falcon: max 4 Binghamton BROO 6 Jun, many rep of resident downtown pr.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-Sided Flycatcher: T Hartwick OTSE 5 Jun; Downsview DELA 27 Aug; LHNC 30 Aug; only reports.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 Robinson Hollow SF TIOG 27 Aug; Vestal BROO 29 Aug; T Greene CHEN 31 Aug; only reports.

Acadian Flycatcher: James Kennedy SF CORT 1 Jul, only report.

Philadelphia Vireo: BUNP 30 Aug; Vestal BROO 31 Aug; only reports.

Purple Martin: 5 widely scattered rep, single birds Jun & Jul.

Brown Creeper: 82 rep throughout Region thru.

Marsh Wren: most rep BoPd & MHL.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Unadilla Boat Launch DELA 26 Aug.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Tennessee Warbler: max 3 German Hollow Rd CHEN 29 Aug; LHNC 29-30 Aug; Hoxie Gorge SF CORT 31 Aug.

Cape May Warbler: max 12 German Hollow Rd CHEN 29 Aug, ph (AG).

Cerulean Warbler: 2 Warren Rd DELA Jun 25-26, ph.

N. Parula: 2 Warren Rd DELA Jun 17-25.

Bay-breasted Warbler: T Spencer TIOG 31 August, only report.

Wilson's Warbler: LHNC 29 Aug; 2 Southwick Rd TIOG 29 Aug.

Yellow-breasted Chat: New Michigan SF CHEN 17 Jun.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 4 T Nanticoke BROO 18 Jun.

Orchard Oriole: Keibel Rd BROO Jun 7; MHL 15 Jul.

Red Crossbill: 46 rep, mostly from SF's CHEN.

Pine Siskin: 4 Jones P Vestal BROO 17 Jun, only report.

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REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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In terms of weather the 2017 summer season provided a little bit of everything—from cold spells to heat waves and from extreme floods to mild droughts. Taken in its entirety the season was slightly cooler than average. In Syracuse the average temperature in June was 65.9° F, about a degree cooler than normal. A high temperature of 90° was attained on 18 June. The rain total for the month was 4.69" in Syracuse, 1.38" higher than average. However, in the eastern part of the Region, rainfall totals at the end of June were far higher. The onset of July brought massive and unprecedented flooding along the Mohawk River and its tributaries. In Utica, rainfall totals between 30 June and 2 July came to 4.01". By contrast, in Syracuse rainfall for the entire month of July was 4.19", which is only a half inch above normal. The mean temperature for July was 70.3°, which is 1° below average. Vernal ponds and streams finally ran out of reprieves in August as the Region largely dried out. The total rainfall in Syracuse for August was 1.82", which is 1.77" less than normal. Average temperature for the month was 68.2°, which is 1.6° below the norm.

Major flooding events that occur during the breeding season always take a disproportionate toll on wildlife and birds, but quantifying the extent of the impact is a difficult if not impossible task. Suffice it to say it was a catastrophic event. In the greater Utica area on 1 July, upland streams swelled from ten to fifty times their normal size. Of course, the downstream effects were exponentially worse. Birds nesting on low ground alongside streams, ponds, lakes, and wetlands almost certainly lost their nests. In Utica long-standing rainfall records were easily surpassed. The local media referred to the event as the hundred-year flood, perhaps forgetting that a slightly less extreme event occurred only four years previous. Regardless, it seemed the era of extreme weather had reared its head once again.

The summer was a relatively productive one for wild food supplies. Generally throughout the Region, spruce cones were plentiful to abundant, with White Spruce perhaps out-producing the other species in most areas. Pine species, Eastern Hemlock, Tamarack, and Larch also produced high yields. Birch species were well laden, while nut and acorn production was not as good. American Beech and hickory species produced fair to moderately good crops, and the same could be said for some fruit producing trees like apple and hawthorn species. Black Cherry trees produced very little while viburnums,

mountain ash, and wild grapes brought forth bumper crops. Some observers across the Region noted the lack of birds frequenting feeding stations in August. The most plausible explanation for this is they were drawn away by the generous supply of mast. Obviously, if we experience a winter finch invasion this coming winter, we will have the cones and catkins to keep them well satiated.

As is usually the case, the spattering of reports of Snow Geese in the Region involve lame or otherwise compromised individuals. That may also have been the case with the single Brant spotted at Oswego Harbor on 21 July. The presence for three successive summers of apparently healthy Ring-necked Ducks at Woodman Pond in Madison County is curious. Unlike in previous years when there would only be a single duck, this summer as many as three Ring-necked Ducks were being seen at one time. There were only four reports of American Bittern during the summer, only one after June, which is not too surprising given the species' secretive nature, but it may also be indicative of lack of effort spent in seeking them out. The same could be said for Least Bittern. It's a shame that more birders aren't compelled to confirm the presence and breeding status of uncommon species, especially NYDEC listed species, that is, outside the structure of official breeding bird surveys. All reports of Black-crowned Night-Herons emanated from the greater Syracuse area. Bill Gruenbaum provided our only documented report of a **Black Vulture** for the season. The species was seen in the city of Herkimer on 17 June. Another report from nearby Little Falls was likely this species but no details were provided. Little Falls is also the location where the season's maximum count of Turkey Vultures occurred; 103 on 6 July. The high cliffs along the Mohawk River provide attractive nesting sites for vultures. No doubt the convergence of multiple highways, including Interstate 90, provides a reliable source of carrion.

Somewhat surprisingly, there were low numbers of Sharp-shinned Hawks and Cooper's Hawks reported this season. Considering virtually every bird feeding station features regular predatory forays by one or the other of these raptors, one would think they'd make their way into the data stream more often. We did have two reports, one each of Sharp-shinned Hawks and Cooper's Hawks breeding. Interestingly, they came from the same nature preserve in the town of Kirkland. In fact, the sites were approximately ¼ mile apart. There were few reports of Northern Goshawks. One immature was a late migrant that flew over Derby Hill on 17 June. In mid-June, amid soaring temperatures and south winds, Bill Purcell put in a few days of effort at the Derby Hill Hawk Watch. Although he wasn't rewarded with the rare kite he was hoping for, he was in line to observe a decent dispersal/migrant raptor flight. The birds that were moving primarily consisted of Bald Eagles and Broad-winged Hawks. A maximum of 29 Bald Eagles flew over on 17 June, while 25 passed over on 16 June and 21 on 18 June. The maximum for Broad-winged Hawks was 89 on 16 June. The next day 77 Broad-winged Hawks flew over and on 18 June, 47 were counted. Bald

Eagles successfully bred in several locations around the Region, including at Lake Rondaxe near Old Forge where they have nested twice before.

Five reports of Soras came from four areas. Interestingly, this surpassed the number of reports of American Coots. Unfortunately the number of summer resident coots continues to decrease in our Region. A fairly diverse range of shorebird types traversed our Region this summer, which was heartening considering one of our major shorebird habitat areas was off-line. Delta Lake was very high through the first half of the summer, and the water level was never drawn down in August. The result was a lack of mudflats available for shorebirds. Fortunately other areas came some distance in filling the void and even provided us with a few rarities. Gene Huggins reported that a vernal pond in an alfalfa field near his Tully home became habitat for a number of common shorebirds in late July and through the first week of August, after which the pond dried up. Piping Plovers were again found at Sandy Pond, but it was unclear if breeding took place. It was there that Alison Kocek reported finding two different adult Piping Plovers in mid-June. One of the rare plovers was banded. Bill Purcell saw 16 Whimbrel flying in a single line over Derby Hill on 23 August. A **Marbled Godwit** was a great find by Greg Dashnau at Oswego Harbor. In the late morning of 23 August, the rarity was observed perching on a pier along with a group of gulls. A kite surfer came by and flushed the birds, which allowed Dashnau a view of the godwit's upper wings and its dark primary coverts. The sighting is only a seventh record for Region 5. This summer, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Baird's Sandpiper, and Short-billed Dowitcher were all reported as were most expected common species.

A breeding-plumaged adult **Little Gull** found at Sylvan Beach on 25 July by David Wheeler and Deborah Dohne was seen several times after that. It was often observed in conjunction with Bonaparte's Gulls, which was helpful for the purpose of in-field comparisons. Subsequent visits showed how quickly it molted the full black hood it arrived with. On 6 June in a wet field in West Monroe, Scott Peterson observed a **Franklin's Gull** in near adult plumage. The rarity was found in the company of a large flock of Ring-billed Gulls and some Herring Gulls. It was relocated the next day but not seen after that. Black Terns were found in three locations. Two were reported on Oneida Lake at Constantia from 4-7 June.

Although the Utica Peregrine Falcons don't seem to discriminate regarding which cuckoo species they catch as prey, the Black-billed Cuckoo was much more commonly taken this summer. Still, several Yellow-billed Cuckoo carcasses were among the noted prey items in June. At the risk of outdoing the Peregrines, the maximum single day count for Yellow-billed Cuckoos was seven, and that report came from Howland Island on 17 June. Canastota's Ditch Bank Road was also a hotspot for cuckoos. With the exception of Barred Owl, the Region's common owl species were found in average to below average numbers. Several reports of Eastern Screech-Owls came from two of the Region's raptor rehabilitators. There was one report of Northern Saw-whet Owl.

The enigmatic species was heard calling in the early evening of 30 August in Palermo. Greg Dashnau counted a maximum number of 63 Common Nighthawks migrating over Three Rivers WMA in Lysander on 28 August. On 25 August, a single migrant Whip-poor-will was heard calling at the Woodchuck Hill Preserve in Manlius. No Whip-poor-wills were reported from the Region's traditional breeding grounds, but this may reflect a lack of effort during the period.

On 3 July, Gary Lee participated in the banding of 35 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at Stillwater Reservoir in the Adirondacks. Of those captured, only one had been banded during a prior banding effort in May. Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported in nine locations, which is an improvement from recent summer seasons. Breeding was confirmed in at least two of those locations including at Fair Haven where an adult and juvenile frequented a feeding station. At Verona Beach State Park on 8 August, Don Bemont found a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers feeding two juveniles.

American Kestrels would seem to be experiencing a resurgence in the Region. Gene Huggins reported a pair of Kestrels and a fledgling near his Tully residence. As it turned out that wasn't the only nest in that area. After their nest tree was cut down, two nestlings from another Tully nest were brought to Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Rehabilitation Center (KK). A removal of another nest tree, this time in Liverpool, resulted in three nestlings being brought to the same facility. Generally, the number of American Kestrels coming to wildlife rehabilitation centers around the Region was higher than normal and it suggests a better than average number of breeding pairs were active in the Region. For this period a total of 10 kestrels came into KK from six different areas, and a total of five from five different areas came into Falcon Heart Rescue in Herkimer. A total of three Merlins were brought to KK during the period. Gary Lee reported that a pair of Merlins again had breeding success in Old Forge. A pair of Peregrine Falcons successfully fledged four young from their nest in Downtown Utica this season. There is no evidence that the Syracuse Peregrines attempted to renest following a failed attempt at a new unprepared site. During the previous period the pair had resorted to an alternate nest site after their nest box was removed from the State Tower Building in downtown Syracuse. An adult Peregrine Falcon continued to be seen in the vicinity of Ditchbank Road near Chittenango. It is unknown if that individual is part of a breeding pair in the area.

One to two Acadian Flycatchers were found at their traditional breeding site at Whiskey Hollow throughout the season. Fish Crows were reported from a dozen locations, although usually only single birds were encountered. Maximum numbers of four were reported from Onondaga Lake and Phoenix.

There were only two reports of Golden-winged Warblers this period, the last of which came from Fulton and occurred on 14 June. Single "**Lawrence's**" **Warblers** were reported at Selkirk Shores State Park and at Spring Farm Nature Preserve. In both instances the birds were seen only once. Prothonotary

Warblers were not found at Howland Island this season as they were the previous summer. However, plenty of Cerulean Warblers were found at the same location, which is indisputably the last Regional stronghold for that species. A total of 18 Cerulean Warblers was reported at Howland Island on 17 June. In August, some observers stated that the first phase of warbler migration was imperceptible. Others indicated that there were some good days. On 29 July an early migrant Bay-breasted Warbler with traces of breeding plumage was spotted by Bill Purcell on his Hastings property. Leading an Onondaga Audubon Society field trip to Green Lake State Park on 17 June, Paul Richardson reported having great views of a Prairie Warbler. The bird persisted at the location until at least 4 August.

All reports of Clay-colored Sparrows originated from Spring Farm Nature Preserve in southern Oneida County, which continues to be the Region's most reliable breeding grounds for the species. A high count of six Grasshopper Sparrows in Richland on 14 July was a respectable high count for that species. A single **Henslow's Sparrow** was located singing in a meadow at Green Lakes State Park on 3 August. As usual, the bird's short but distinctive song was key to locating it. The species is exceptionally scarce or possibly absent from the Region as a breeder and rarely found during migration. What was the Green Lakes bird doing there and where did it come from?

On 14 June in Verona, Kathy Smith observed a male **Yellow-headed Blackbird** eating corn at her backyard feeding station. It was feeding alongside Canada Geese. Fortunately she was able to get good photos of the rarity before it departed later that day. This is only the second Regional record for the summer season. In the latter half of July, a few observers noted significant flocks of Common Grackles actively foraging in forests. They were seen tearing up leaf litter, uncovering beech nuts and presumably other seeds and insects. This behavior, though not unprecedented with grackles, is more commonly associated with flocks of American Crows, Wild Turkeys, and, to some extent, American Robins, although they forgo the nuts and seeds. Matt Perry remarked that seeing boisterous flocks of grackles repeatedly landing and taking off and systematically working their way across the forest floor reminded him of historical accounts of the foraging behavior of flocks of Passenger Pigeons. Beginning in late June, reports of Red Crossbills began coming in from Muller Hill State Forest in Georgetown. A maximum of six was reported on 6 July from that location. One Red Crossbill was reported near Old Forge on 18 August.

Development continues on the west shore of Onondaga Lake, mainly along the trail south of Nine Mile Creek. Deborah Dohne birded the lakeshore area throughout the spring and summer and greatly increased the known checklist, adding many common songbird passage migrants for which previous records were unavailable at the time of "A Checklist of the Birds of Onondaga Lake and Vicinity" (2009; G. Huggins, B. Purcell, P. Richardson, R. Richardson). This underscores a fundamental reality of bird record-keeping: rarities are well documented, while common species are often lost in the shuffle. Some parts of

the lake shore seemed good habitat, but Wheeler and Dohne noted that breeding-bird diversity was poor. Though mostly bad news for songbirds, some of the recovery efforts show promise. During a number of kayak trips to the southwest corner, Dohne found the recently-constructed rock jetties and the area between them attractive to gulls, herons, ducks, and shorebirds. Up through the early 2000s the lake had at least some mudflats in fall, but the best areas were eventually choked out by non-native phragmite growth. The official checklist has a whopping 33 shorebird species, the plausible limit for our area, but virtually all from the latter half of the 20th century. The west shore south of Nine Mile Creek seems, once again, to have potential shorebird habitat depending on water levels.

This season a total of 209 species and three hybrids was reported, which is three above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: Brant, Black-crowned Night-Heron, **Black Vulture**, Sandhill Crane, **Piping Plover**, **Whimbrel**, **MARBLED GODWIT**, Ruddy Turnstone, **Red Knot**, **Little Gull**, **Franklin's Gull**, Black Tern, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Acadian Flycatcher, "Lawrence's" Warbler, **Henslow's Sparrow**, **Yellow-headed Blackbird**, and Red Crossbill.

Summer 2017 produced 57,885 eBird records for Region 5, and these were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02. Reports were contributed by 332 people.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida L at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; Dolge – Dolgeville, HERK; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GLSP – Green Lakes SP, Manlius, ONON; Hast –

Hastings, OSWE; HI – Howland I, CAYU; HV – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; KK – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; MW – McKoons Road Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; OF – Old Forge; OneIL – Oneida L; OLC – Onondaga L Creekwalk; OnonL – Onondaga L; OswH – Oswego Harbor; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of Onondaga & Madison Co.; SHTF – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango, MADI; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; SP – Sandy Pd and vicinity; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; UM – Utica Marsh; VB – Verona Beach SP and vicinity; WH – Whiskey Hollow; WP – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: West Monroe 6 – 8 Jun; Port Ontario 12 Jun; Jamesville 31 Jul thru, injured?.

Brant: 31 Const 6 Jun, somewhat late; OswH 21 Jul; only reports.

Canada Goose: max 280 OLC 26 Jul.

Mute Swan: 33 Sterling 2 Jul.

Trumpeter Swan: 2 TR 1 Jun – 3 Aug; 2 Palermo 3 Aug; singles at 2 other locs.

Wood Duck: 25 Cedarville 18 Jul; max 119 Palermo 30 Aug.

Am. Wigeon X Mallard (hybrid): Phoenix 14 Aug (GD).

Am. Black Duck: max 6 German Flatts, HERK 13 Jul; few reports.

Blue-winged Teal: 3 DB 3 Jun; max 6 MW 31 Jul, imms; few singles and small numbers late Aug.

N. Shoveler: HI 6 Jun, only report.

Green-winged Teal: DB 4 Jun; arr 6 SP 18 Aug; max 9 WP 25 - 29 Aug.

Ring-necked Duck: max 3 WP 1 – 17 Jun, one remained thru.

Greater Scaup: OswH 24 – 31 Aug, only report.

Lesser Scaup: WP 19 Aug, only report.

Greater Scaup/Lesser Scaup: OnonL 1 Jun.

Bufflehead: SNC 4 Jun, only report.

Hooded Merganser: max 9 HI 4 Jun; 7 Madison 8 Jun; best numbers from east half of Reg.

Com. Merganser: max 10 Dolge 6 Jun & Dville 18 Aug.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 5 reports of singles.

Ruffed Grouse: 6 OF 9 Jun; max 8 Smartville, OSWE 17 Jun, breeding.

Wild Turkey: max 18 Oswego 24 Jul; 15 Van Buren 21 Aug.

Com. Loon: 4 OF 25 Jun; max 5 Moose Lake, ADK 14 Aug.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 8 HI 17 Jun; 5 SSSP 14 Jul.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 535 SP 20 Aug.

Am. Bittern: OnonL 3 – 13 Jun; only 3 other reports of singles.

Least Bittern: 2 HI 4 – 18 Jun; 2 SSSP 12 Jun; singles in 3 other locs.

Great Blue Heron: max 54 Pennellville 7 Jun, rookery; 34 Fulton 5 Aug.

Great Egret: max 7 HI 4 Jun & 7 OnonL 22 Aug; 2 Sylvan Beach 7 Aug; 2 WP 16 Aug; 6 Liverpool 24 Aug; 6 Williamstown 20 – 22 Aug; widespread reports of singles.

Green Heron: max 20 Fulton 5 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 Clay 22 Jun, 2 OswH 1 -2 Aug; 2 OnonL 11 – 21 Aug; few singles thru 15 Aug.

BLACK VULTURE (R5): Herkimer 17 Jun (BG), only report.

Turkey Vulture: max 103 Little Falls 6 Jul; 73 DH 23 Aug.

Osprey: max 7 OswH 24 Jul – 18 Aug; 5 Durhamville 2 Aug; 5 DH 22, 29 Aug;

HAWKS - LARIDS

N. Harrier: max 2 Deerfield 12 Jun; singles from 14 other locs.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 3 SFNS 31 Jul, breeding; relatively few reports.

Cooper's Hawk: 2 recently fledged 8 – 31 Jul SFNS; max 3 Clay 3 Aug.

N. Goshawk: SH 2 Jun – 21 Jul (GM, SH), ad; DH 17 Jun (BP), juv.

Bald Eagle: 25 DH 16 Jun; max 29 DH 17 Jun; 21 DH 18 Jun; late spring migrants over DH; 5 HI 17 Jun.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 Phoenix 24 Jun; reports from 7 other locs; none after 30 Jul.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 89 DH 16 Jun; 77 DH 17 Jun; 47 DH 18 Jun;

Red-tailed Hawk: 10 DH 18 Jun; max 42 DH 22 Aug.

Sora: HI 4 Jun; TR 18 Jun; max 2 Hamilton 23 Jul & 2 WP 20 Aug; only reports.

Virginia Rail: 6 Fayetteville 20 Jul; max 7 Hamilton 31 Jul.

Com. Gallinule: 12 HI 4 Jun; 14 West Monroe

30 Jul; max 27 Fulton 5 Aug.
Am. Coot: HI 9 Jun; max 2 Skan 27 Jul; VB 8 Aug; only reports.
Sandhill Crane: HI 22 Jun; max 5 Montezuma NWR, east 31 Aug; only reports.
Black-bellied Plover: Sylvan Beach 4 Jun; arr Fabius 1 Aug; OswH 8 Aug; FH 25 Aug.
Am. Golden-Plover: SHTF 24 Aug, only report.
Semipalmated Plover: arr 2 OswH 24 Jul; 3 Sylvan Beach 25 Jul; max SP 12 Aug; low counts.
PIPING PLOVER: 2 SP 14 – 20 Jun (AK), *intro*.
Killdeer: max 63 SHTF 27 Aug.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 12 OnonL 10 June & 12 OswH 24 Jul; 5 SHTF 9 Jul; 5 Sylvan Beach 25 Jul; 5 West Eaton 12 Aug.
Solitary Sandpiper: last Fabius 8 Jun; arr Eaton, MADI 5 Jul; max 9 Eaton, MADI 3 Aug.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr OnonL 2 Jul; 4 OnonL 13 Aug; max 14 Marcellus 22 Aug.
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 4 DB 4 Jul; max 26 Fabius 30 Jul; 7 OnonL 22 Aug.
Greater Yellowlegs/Lesser Yellowlegs: max 12 OnonL 27 Jul.
Upland Sandpiper: 2 Deerfield 2 – 7 Jun; Oswego Airport 3 Jun – 14 Jul; only locs.
Whimbrel: 16 DH 23 Aug (BP), only report.
MARbled GODWIT: OswH 23 Aug (GD!, KM, ph), 7th Reg rec.
Ruddy Turnstone: arr & max 7 Const (KM); last SP 14 Jun (AK); arr FH 27 Jul (DW, DD); reports from two other locs.
Red Knot: SP 18 – 20 Aug (MM, WF), only report.
Stilt Sandpiper: arr Mexico 21 Aug; max 2 OnonL 22 Aug; only reports.
Sanderling: arr 5 SP 16 Jul; max 23 FH 31 Aug; two other locs.
Dunlin: OnonL 10 Jun, only report.
Baird's Sandpiper: arr 2 SHTF 26 Aug; FH 31 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: last 10 OnonL 10 Jun; arr HI 5 Jul; max 46 Fabius 30 Jul.
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr West Eaton, MADI 24 Jul; max 4 DB 27 Jul; 4 other locs.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 18 SP 14 Jun; max 27 OnonL 1 Jun; arr 3 SP 16 Jul; 25 SP 12 Aug.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr SBP 27 Jul; max 2 OnonL 22 Aug; 3 other locs.

Wilson's Snipe: max 3 Deerfield 16 Jun; 2 Albion 27 Jun; few reports.

Am. Woodcock: max 6 HI 17 Jun; 2 Mexico 30 Jul.
Bonaparte's Gull: last Williamstown 13 Jun; arr 32 Sylvan Beach 25 Jul; max 224 Sylvan Beach 19 Aug.
LITTLE GULL (R5): Sylvan Beach 25 Jul – 7 Aug (DW, DD, mob).
FRANKLIN'S GULL: West Monroe 6 – 7 Jun (SP!, BP, KM, ph), 13th Reg rec & 2nd for summer season.
Ring-billed Gull: max 750 FH 7 Jun; 650 Sylvan Beach 27 Jul – 15 Aug.
Herring Gull: max 200 FH 7 Jun; 80 DH 23 Aug.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 16 Sylvan Beach 7 Aug; 15 FH 18 Aug; improved numbers over last season.
Caspian Tern: 120 Phoenix 5 – 7 Aug; 64 OLC 11 Aug; max 135 OswH 23 Aug.
Black Tern: max 2 Const 4 – 7 Jun; Port Ontario 12 Jun; SSSP 19 Jul; SP 12 – 18 Aug; only reports.
Com. Tern: 36 Sylvan Beach 4 Jun; max 80 SP 18 Aug; 36 Sylvan Beach 20 Aug.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: max 135 Syracuse 17 Aug.
Mourning Dove: 37 Fabius 13 Aug; max 61 Dolgeville 27 Aug.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 2 Belgium 10 Jun; max 7 HI 17 Jun; 2 Rome Sand Plains 30 Jul.
Black-billed Cuckoo: max 4 DB 4 Jul; 2 Hamilton 19 Jul; 2 SFNS 10 Aug.
E. Screech-Owl: 15 reports of singles.
Great Horned Owl: max 2 SH 12 Aug & 2 WP 13 Aug; only 9 other reports of singles.
Barred Owl: 2 Albion 27 Jun; 2 HI 9 Jul; 2 OF 23 Jul; Moss Lake; 2 ADK 16 Aug.
N. Saw-whet Owl: Palermo 30 Aug, heard calling in the early evening, only report.
Com. Nighthawk: 10 DeWitt 28 Aug; max 63 TR 28 Aug (GD); 26 Port Ontario 30 Aug.
E. Whip-poor-will: SH 25 Aug, only report.
Chimney Swift: 30 UM 7 Jun; max 64 Cazenovia 16 Aug; 18 TR 17 Aug.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 35 banded at Stillwater Reservoir, ADK 3 Jul (GL); max 8 OF 20 Jul; 5 Marcellus 10 – 31 Aug.
Belted Kingfisher: 4 Belgium 7 Jul – 30 Aug; max 5 HI 15 Aug; 4 Amboy 30 Jul.
Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Sunset Bay Park 19 Jul; max 4 VBSP 8 – 15 Aug, pair feeding 2 juvs; singles from 7 other locs.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 6 SFNS 2 Jun; 5 GLSP 15 Jun.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 6 OF 25 Jun; max 7

HI 9 Jul; 6 SH 13 Jul.

Downy Woodpecker: 8 HI 9 Jul; max 15 SFNS 30 Aug.

Hairy Woodpecker: 7 Clay 16 Jun; max 8 OF 23 Jul.

N. Flicker: 8 TR 23 Jul; max 11 SF 30 Aug.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 3 HI 4 Jun – 5 Jul.

Am. Kestrel: max 7 Jordanville, HERK 27 Jul; 6 Fairfield 11 Aug; confirmed breeding at DB, Richfield Springs; 10 brought to KK; 5 brought to Falcon Heart Rescue (Wildlife Rehabilitation Center).

Merlin: singles 25 locs, most in Aug.

Peregrine Falcon: max 6 Utica 1 Jun – 14 Jul, 4 fledged from Utica nest; DB 3 Jun – 25 Jul, ad; FH 30 Jun; Syr 5 – 28 Jul; Waterville 24 Jul; OswH 23 Aug; Belgium 28 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr DB 13 Aug; max 2 Syr 21 – 29 Aug; singles at 6 other locs.

E. Wood-Pewee: max 18 Richland 5 Jun; 13 VBSP 8 Aug; 13 GLSP 13 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SFNS 6 Jun; SP 15 – 18 Aug; Hast 17 – 27 Aug; Erieville 26 – 28 Aug; reports from 3 other locs.

Acadian Flycatcher: max 2 WH 19 Jul; singles WH thru 21 Aug.

Alder Flycatcher: 6 SFNS 2 – 3 Jun; max 7 Manlius 28 Jul.

Willow Flycatcher: max 9 Tully 3 Jun & 9 HI 9 Jun; 7 OnonL 17 Jun.

Alder/Willow Flycatcher: max 5 HI 15 Aug.

Least Flycatcher: max 10 Moss Lake, ADK 2 Jun, & Redfield 6 Jun; 6 DB 4 Jul; 6 SFNS 30 Aug.

E. Phoebe: 6 Fayetteville 2 Jun; max 8 WP 24 Aug.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 8 VBSP 3 Jun; 7 HI 9 Jul.

E. Kingbird: 7 Manlius 17 Jul; max 8 WP 19 – 25 Aug.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 6 Richland 5 Jun; 6 UM 7 Jun; max 7 HI 9 Jul.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 7 OF 25 Jun; 4 SH 2 – 6 Jul; 4 Boylston, OSWE 14 – 18 Jul.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr WP 23 Aug; SP 24 Aug; SH 26 Aug; only reports.

Warbling Vireo: 12 SP 7 Jun; max 35 HI 17 Jun; 12 WP 8 Jun – 3 Jul.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 20 HI 9 Jun & 20 HV 10 Jun; 17 VBSP 9 Aug.

Blue Jay: max 16 SP 7 Jun & SFNS 30 Aug.

Am. Crow: 91 DB 27 Jul; max 446 Dolge 9 Aug; 94 Syr 30 Aug.

Fish Crow: max 4 OnonL 5 Jun – 20 Jul &

Phoenix 20 – 28 Jul; singles at 10 other locs.

Com. Raven: max 6 Fairfield 9 Jun & 6 DH 18 Aug; 4 DB 4 Jul; 4 SH 10 – 15 Jul; 4 SFNS 20 Aug.

Horned Lark: max 14 SHTF 28 Aug; small numbers at 4 other locs.

Purple Martin: 28 Const 4 Jun; 10 DH 23 Jun; max 42 Cicero 29 Jul; 14 Belgium 19 Aug.

Tree Swallow: max 300 HI 5 Jul; 50 MW 10 Jul; 50 Phoenix 25 Jul.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: 22 TR 6 Jul; max 50 HI 15 Aug.

Bank Swallow: max 35 Belgium 30 Jun – 6 Jul; 25 Phoenix 25 Jul.

Cliff Swallow: 2 Fairfield 19 Jun; max 8 Clay 21 Jun; 2 MW 2 Aug; 2 DH 29 Aug.

Barn Swallow: max 79 DB 27 Jul; 64 VBSP 9 Aug.

Black-capped Chickadee: 20 SFNS 2 Jun – 19 Aug; max 24 SH 29 Aug.

Tufted Titmouse: 7 HI 17 Jul; max 10 SFNS 19 Aug.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 8 SH 2 Jun – 9 Aug; 5 Sangerfield 16 Jul; 6 OF 26 Aug.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 10 SFNS 2 Jun – 30 Aug; 7 HI 17 Jul.

Brown Creeper: 3 OF 25 Jun; max 4 HV 25 Jun & 4 Syr 1 Aug; 3 HI 17 Jul; 3 TR17 Aug.

House Wren: max 10 DB 30 Jun – 4 Jul & 10 Const 28 Jun; 9 Hast 5 Jul.

Winter Wren: max 5 WH 23 Jun & 5 OF 25 Jun.

Carolina Wren: max 2 Manlius 30 Jun & 2 Salina 8 Jul.

Marsh Wren: max 10 HI 17 Jun – 5 Jul; 4 Fulton 14 Jul; 4 SP 16 Jul; 6 Hamilton 31 Jul; 6 TR 3 Aug.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 12 HI 17 Jun; 6 DeWitt 10 Jul; 6 Belgium 14 Aug.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 5 Fabius 25 Jun; max 9 Sangerfield 13 Aug; 8 OF 26 Aug.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: OF 25 Jun, only report.

E. Bluebird: max 6 TR 28 Jul – 28 Aug, HI 30 Jul, & Manlius 3 Aug.

Veery: max 10 WH 9 Jun; 9 Frankfort 19 Jun; 9 Tully 29 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: max 2 Redfield 6 – 7 Jun; singles at 3 other locs.

Hermit Thrush: max 10 HV 10 Jun; 6 OF 25 Jun; 4 Hillsboro, OSWE 25 Jun.

Wood Thrush: 9 HI 9 Jul; max 12 WH 19 Jun; 10 GLSP 20 Jul.

Am. Robin: 50 DB 29 Jun; max 478 Belgium 26 Aug.

Gray Catbird: 20 HI 17 Jun; 25 CM 22 Jun;

max 30 DeWitt 22 Jul.

Brown Thrasher: 4 Manlius 18 Jun; max 5 GLSP 9 Jul & 5 SFNS 23 Aug.

N. Mockingbird: 2 Fayetteville 24 Jun; 2 Syr 26 Jun; max 4 OnonL 2 – 27 Jul; most records south & west of OneiL.

European Starling: 400 UM 25 Jun; max 500 DH 18 Aug.

Cedar Waxwing: max 236 DH 18 Jun; 125 Phoenix 18 Jul; 50 TR 28 Aug.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Ovenbird: 17 Richland 5 Jun; max 27 SP 7 Jun; 20 HV 10 Jun.

Louisiana Waterthrush: 2 New Hartford 9 Jun; Frankfort 19 Jun; 2 Orwell 29 Jul; max 3 Dolgeville 22 Jul; SH 13 Aug; only reports.

N. Waterthrush: 2 BLNC 13 Jun; 2 SH 17 Jun; 3 Hillsboro, OSWE 25 Jun; 2 TR 29 Jun; max 4 SP 18 Aug.

Golden-winged Warbler: SP 9 Jun; Fulton 14 Jun; only reports.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 4 HI 18 Jun; 3 Hast 5 Jul; 4 SH 16 Jul; 3 VBSP 13 Aug.

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: SSSP 19 Jul (WF); SFNS 14 Aug (MP).

Black-and-white Warbler: max 4 Camden 21 Jun & 4 Hillsboro 25 Jun.

Tennessee Warbler: arr New Haven 26 Aug; SFNS 28 – 30 Aug; only reports.

Nashville Warbler: max 3 OF 25 Jun; 2 Mohawk, HERK 11 Aug; 2 SH 17 Aug; 2 SFNS 21 Aug; small numbers on breeding grounds.

Mourning Warbler: max 4 Hubbardsville 12 Jun & 4 WH 16 Jun – 4 Jul; 3 HI 9 – 17 Jun.

Com. Yellowthroat: max 50 HI 17 Jun; 18 Pompey 28 Jul.

Hooded Warbler: 4 WH 16 Jun; max 5 SH 17 Jun & 5 SFNS 19 Jul.

Am. Redstart: max 70 HI 9 Jun (JM, LS).

Cape May Warbler: arr & max 3 SH 24 Aug; 2 SFNS 28 Aug; 2 DH 29 Aug; rep 2 other locs.

Cerulean Warbler: max 18 HI 17 Jun; most reports clustered around HI; 3 reports OneiL.

N. Parula: 2 Forestport 10 Jun; max 5 OF 25 Jun; Fulton 27 Aug, only report outside ADK.

Magnolia Warbler: max 12 Sangerfield 2 Jun, known breeding grounds; 9 Fabius 25 Jun; 6 SH 29 Aug.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Hast 29 Jul, early; 2 WH 27 Aug; max 3 SFNS 31 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: 6 Sangerfield 2 Jun; 6 Smartville 6 Jun; max 8 OF 25 Jun.

Yellow Warbler: 41 SP 7 Jun; max 130 HI 9 Jun.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 6 SH 7 Jun; max 7 Orwell 21 Jun; 5 Hast 23 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: last SP 6 Jun; arr Hast, SH 30 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 5 Moss Lake, ADK & 5 OF 25 Jun; 4 Redfield 25 Jun.

Pine Warbler: max 8 Richland 5 Jun; 5 OF 17 Jun; 4 SH 12 Aug.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 5 OF 3 – 18 Jun & 5 SH 30 Aug; relatively poor numbers.

Prairie Warbler: Camden 17 Jun; GLSP 17 Jun – 4 Aug; only reports.

Black-throated Green Warbler: 5 Moss Lake, ADK; max 9 Redfield, OSWE 14 Jul; 3 Salisbury 3 Jul.

Canada Warbler: 3 Orwell 17 Jun; max 5 OF 25 Jun; 3 SH 25 Jun.

Wilson’s Warbler: arr Hast 25 Aug; SH 26 Aug; DH 29 Aug.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: max 9 GLSP 2 Jun; 6 SFNS 3 Jun – 30 Aug; 6 TR 1 Aug; 6 Hast 12 Aug.

Chipping Sparrow: max 18 Syr 23 Jun; 14 BLNC 23 Jun.

Clay-colored Sparrow: max 4 SFNS 31 Jul (MP), br, all reports from same loc.

Field Sparrow: 6 TR 3 Jun; 5 BLNC 20 Jun; max 10 GLSP 4 Aug.

Vesper Sparrow: Plainville 23 Jun – 12 Jul; Richland 14 Jul; MW 2 Aug; West Eaton, MADI 15 Aug; SH 24 Aug; only reports.

Savannah Sparrow: max 6 Fabius 8 Jun & 6 Deerfield 12 Jun; 4 Manlius 16 Jul; 4 DH 9 Aug.

Grasshopper Sparrow: Hast 10 Jun; 2 DeWitt 30 Jun – 6 Jul; max 6 Richland, OSWE 14 Jul (WF), good number; 4 other locs.

Henslow’s Sparrow: GLSP 3 – 13 Aug (SP, mob)

Song Sparrow: max 45 HI 17 Jun; 31 DB 27 Jul.

Lincoln’s Sparrow: 2 OF 21 Aug, only report.

Swamp Sparrow: max 15 HI 9 Jun & 15 CM 22 Jun; 14 Tully 2 Jul.

White-throated Sparrow: 2 Sangerfield 2 Jun; max 5 Eagle Bay, ADK 2 Aug; 3 SH 29 Aug.

Dark-eyed Junco: 8 OF 26 Aug; max 20 SH 30 Aug.

Scarlet Tanager: max 6 Richland 5 Jun, BLNC 19 Jun, & HI 19 Jul; 5 HV 10 Jun; 5 WH 4 Jul.

N. Cardinal: 8 SFNS 3 Jun – 30 Aug; max 10 Fayetteville 2 Aug.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 7 SP 7 Jun; 12 Fulton 11 Aug; max 17 DB 13 Aug.

Indigo Bunting: 8 HI 9 Jun; 7 Hast 7 Jul; 7

BLNC 12 Jul; max 12 DB 25 Jul.
Bobolink: 25 TR 3 Jun; 25 Holland Patent 24 Jun; 32 Fairfield 31 Jul; max 60 SFNS 30 Aug.
Red-winged Blackbird: 184 Belgium 17 Aug; max 210 SHTF 20 Aug.
E. Meadowlark: 6 Oswego County Airport 18 Jun; 6 Brookfield, MADI 9 Jul; max 7 Cazenovia 9 Jul.
YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: Verona 14 Jun (KS!, ph), ad m, 13th Reg rec, 2nd for summer season.
Com. Grackle: 120 VBSP 15 Aug; max 130 Fulton 20 Aug.
Brown-headed Cowbird: 20 West Monroe 8 Jun; max 26 OLC 31 Jul; 21 Syr 3 Aug; 20 Syr 30 Aug.

Orchard Oriole: 2 DB 4 Jun – 31 Jul; max 6 GLSP 28 Jun; few reports in the east.
Baltimore Oriole: max 25 HI 17 Jun; 11 Elbridge 26 Jun.
House Finch: max 8 DB 9 Jul; 7 Van Buren 18 Jul.
Purple Finch: 7 Eagle Bay, ADK 7 Jun; max 12 Dolge 29 Jul; best numbers from HERK.
Red Crossbill: arr SH 25 June; max 6 SH 6 Jul; all reports but one from same loc.
Am. Goldfinch: 40 DB 4 Jul; 31 OsWH 11 Aug; max 50 SFNS 30 Aug.
House Sparrow: 45 SP 7 Jun; max 75 Syr 28 Jun.

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REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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The summer was very wet, with mean temperatures that were within one degree of normal all three months. June was particularly wet, and the 6.2" of rain that fell on Watertown was more than twice the monthly average. Monthly precipitation totals declined to 4.8" in July and 4.1" in August, tallies that were 2.1" and 1.0" above normal, respectively. Spring was very wet also, so water was everywhere at the beginning of June, and water levels were high on virtually every stream and body of water in Region 6 all summer.

Record high water levels on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River declined only slightly by August. As a result, virtually no shoreline was exposed along the Jefferson County lakeshore or the St. Lawrence River, and with one exception almost no shorebird reports came from these areas. The exception was the stretch of the St. Lawrence River between the Iroquois Dam and Moses-Saunders Dam, where management by the power authority resulted in very low water levels after mid-August, exposing a surprising amount of mudflat given how much water was everywhere else.

Many islands on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River were at least partially flooded through the nesting season, but this flooding did not necessarily result in fewer birds at nesting islands. Despite half of the island being underwater, a record high 2671 Ring-billed Gull nests were counted at the Murphy Island colony in the St. Lawrence River. In some cases changes in numbers likely had little to do with water levels. For instance, the apparent

abandonment this year of Gull Island by nesting Black-crowned Night-Herons was most likely related to a dramatic increase in the number of Double-crested Cormorants nesting on the island. High water also did not seem to cause Caspian Terns at Little Galloo Island any problems, as the 2511 nests counted there on 8 June was another record high. By contrast, Common Tern nests on the St. Lawrence River declined for the first time since 2010, likely a result of management actions, or inaction, rather than water levels.

NYSDEC started draining the East Pool at Wilson Hill WMA this spring, and by July this pool was a vast expanse of mudflats with a narrow channel of water running through it. During July and much of August many shorebirds used these mudflats, including unusually high numbers of several species including Semipalmated Plover, Least Sandpiper, and Semipalmated Sandpiper. A shorebird fallout on 12 August following heavy thunderstorms the night before was especially impressive, with nearly 700 individuals of 12 species, high totals for a Region where shorebirds have become generally scarce. A Regionally rare **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** was especially noteworthy on the 12th, and highlights during the subsequent ten days included up to five Baird's Sandpipers per day and a Red-necked Phalarope on 13 August. Shorebirds largely abandoned Wilson Hill in favor of mudflats along nearby portions of the St. Lawrence River when water levels on the river dropped in late August. Away from the Wilson Hill area, shorebirds were virtually unreported except for a modest number at Perch River WMA.

Grassland bird numbers seemed about typical for the past few years. Upland Sandpiper continues to hang on in low numbers, with approximately 11 territories at six locations. The 13 Sedge Wren territories on Fort Drum was about average for this location, but only five males were found elsewhere. At least 23 male Henslow's Sparrows were at three locations, but none were found on properties enrolled in a landowner incentive program that had been administered by NYSDEC. This program was discontinued two years ago, which is a shame as it had shown great promise for Henslow's Sparrow management.

Several observers, most notably Linnea Rowse, surveyed various portions of Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties for Golden-winged Warblers, adding further evidence that the Indian River Lakes region is the stronghold for this species in northern New York. Unlike Fort Drum, where Blue-winged Warblers in 2017 were nearly twice as common as Golden-winged Warblers, many Golden-wings were found in the Indian River Lakes but few Blue-wings or hybrids were found. This same area is also the best area in Region 6 for Cerulean Warblers, as evidenced by the seasonal maximum of seven at Lonesome Bay State Forest on 5 June.

Red and White-winged Crossbills and Pine Siskins were all present in the Adirondacks this summer, although each species was reported only one or a few times. Type 2 Red Crossbills tend to be the most common type in northern New York, but Matt Young confirmed the presence of the locally rare Type 3 from a

recording submitted by Mandi Roggie of birds recorded near Croghan. All of these finches likely were more common than reports suggest, given the small number of observers that covered the Adirondack and Tug Hill portions of Region 6.

Unlike the last two years when the early fall migration was dismal, excellent numbers of songbirds, particularly warblers, were observed on Fort Drum during the last half of August. The first migrants first appeared on Fort Drum early, with two Cape May Warblers on 11 August. Migration was relatively slow until the last week of the month, when numerous large flocks were found, with notable high counts including 30 Bay-breasted Warblers on 29 August, 29 Magnolia Warblers on 30 August, and 15 Tennessee and 21 Cape May Warblers on 31 August. On the latter date a total of 23 warbler species was observed on Fort Drum, a high Region 6 tally for any day during fall migration.

This was an excellent summer for rarities in Region 6, especially during late June and early July on Fort Drum. On 24 June I found a **Dickcissel** during a grassland bird survey on Fort Drum and, while checking on this bird on 26 June, found a territorial Philadelphia Vireo in the nearest trees to the Dickcissel's favorite song perch. Both of these birds remained on territory for more than two weeks, but the female **Summer Tanager** I found on 29 June during a Red-headed Woodpecker survey in Fort Drum's oak woodlands was not found again. On 4 July, Alan Belford beat me to a **Chuck-will's-widow** by one day. This "chuck" was heard on 5 July at a nightjar survey plot and, assuming it was present, would almost certainly have been found earlier had every previous attempt to survey nightjars on Fort Drum not been cancelled by rain or in one case by nighttime military exercises. On 16 July, Jay McGowan found an **Acadian Flycatcher** at Lakeview WMA that remained for at least three more days. Perhaps the biggest surprise was an early **Northern Wheatear** a group of birders led by Alan Belford found at Wilson Hill WMA on 26 August, but unfortunately this wheatear was not found the following day.

For the season I received reports of 215 species, tying 2015 for the highest summer tally in Region 6 over the last 15 years. Potential highlights were numerous this season, given the relative abundance of rarities, the high number of shorebirds in the Wilson Hill area, and the excellent early songbird migration at least at Fort Drum. The almost total lack of shorebird habitat along the Lake Ontario was a low point, and the heavy rainfall and widespread flooding likely affected birds negatively in other ways as well.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CB – Chaumont Barrens preserve, T Clayton; CCSP – Coles Creek SP; CV – T Cape Vincent; FD – Fort Drum Military Reservation; IRL – Indian River Lakes; JEFF – Jefferson County; LBSF – Lonesome Bay State Forest, T Hammond; LGI – Little Galloo Island; LWMA – Lakeview WMA, T Ellisburg; MM – Massawepie Mire, T Piercefield and Colton; PRWMA – Perch River WMA; PtPen – Point Peninsula; RRt – Remington Recreation Trail, T Canton; SLR – St. Lawrence Ri; STLA – St. Lawrence County; StPt – Stony Pt, T Henderson; ULLWMA – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; WHWMA – Wilson Hill WMA; WISP – Wellesley I SP; WP – Whalen Park, T Louisville.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Brant: PRWMA 1 Jun (BM), only report.

Mute Swan: max 6 French Creek WMA 15 Jun.

Trumpeter Swan: 2 Hunneyman Marsh T Alexandria 7 Jun; Black L 9 Jun; T Rossie 16 Aug; multiple reports PRWMA & ULLWMA, where nesting known; increasing.

Wood Duck: max 41 ULLWMA 14 Jul.

Gadwall: max 7 PRWMA 13 Aug.

Am. Wigeon: 7 WHWMA 2-4 Jun & ULLWMA 13 Jul, only reports before Aug; max 12 WHWMA 26 Aug.

Am. Black Duck: max 8 Tooley Pond 1 Aug.

Mallard: max 500 SLR T Louisville 26 Aug.

Blue-winged Teal: only 3 reports singles anywhere other than PRWMA before Aug; max 12 PRWMA 17 Aug.

N. Shoveler: WHWMA 11 Jul; 8 PRWMA 27 Aug; only reports.

N. Pintail: 2 WHWMA 11 Jul & 27 Aug; only reports.

Green-winged Teal: none before Aug; max 18 WHWMA 26 Aug.

Redhead: arr WHWMA 26 Aug.

Ring-necked Duck: Soft Maple Reservoir 14 Jul, only report away from PRWMA, ULLWMA & WHWMA; max 30 ULLWMA 25 Jul.

Com. Goldeneye: Little Channel Is. SLR 3 Jul (GC), only report.

Hooded Merganser: max 13 PRWMA 13 Jul.

Com. Merganser: max 17 LWMA 10 Jul.

Red-breasted Merganser: 3 singles SLR 3-8 Jun, only reports.

Ruddy Duck: f WHWMA 4 Jun (JB); ad m Perch L 16 Aug (JB); only reports.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 25 PRWMA 25 Aug.

Red-necked Grebe: StPt 27 Aug (AS), only report.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 1999 nests LGI 15 Jun, numbers continuing to decline despite lack of DEC hazing 2016 & 2017; 508 nests Gull Island record high for location.

AM. WHITE PELICAN: 2 Guffin's Bay 27 Jun (CN, ph!).

Am. Bittern: 60+ reports; max 7 FD 7 Jun.

Least Bittern: singles T Alexandria, FD, PRWMA, WHWMA, Lisbon Swamp, and S Canton Road T Potsdam; chronically underreported because of limited access to best habitat.

Great Egret: 40 reports mostly at or near WHWMA & PRWMA; max 19 WP 27 Aug.

Green Heron: max 6 multiple locations.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: no nests Gull I, 1st year since counting began 1995; max 92 nests Murphy Is (IM).

Turkey Vulture: max 68 T West Carthage 12 Jun.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 8 reports to eBird.

Cooper's Hawk: 30 reports to eBird.

N. Goshawk: 3 reports.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 10 reports, declining?

Virginia Rail: max 5 WHWMA 26 Aug.

Sora: T Depeyster 18 Jun; different sites Lisbon Swamp 4 Jun & 18 Jul; severely underreported.

Com. Gallinule: max 15 FD 28 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: T Leray 1 Jun (TdW); Cranberry L 15 Jun; 2 ad with 2 juv WHWMA 14 Aug thru (mob); only reports.

Black-bellied Plover: arr WHWMA 13 Jul; max 13 WHWMA 15 Aug; 3 singles PRWMA only reports elsewhere.

Am. Golden-Plover: WHWMA 15 Aug (JB), only report.

Semipalmated Plover: arr WHWMA 15 Jul; max 132 WHWMA 12 Aug.

Killdeer: max 60 WHWMA 26 Aug.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 5 multiple locations.

Solitary Sandpiper: 7 reports singles, low.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr WHWMA 11 Jul; max 10 WHWMA 26 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr LWMA 9 Jul; max 35 WHWMA 27 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: 6 pair FD; reports from 5 other sites NW JEFF.

Sanderling: WHWMA 10 Aug, only report.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 WHWMA 29 Jul (JB), only report.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: WHWMA 12 Aug (JB); early, rare R6.

Baird's Sandpiper: up to 5/day WHWMA 12-25 Aug; last 2 WP 26 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: arr WHWMA 11 Jul; max 460 WHWMA 12 Aug.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr WHWMA 22 Jul; max 25 WHWMA 26 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last spring migrants 20 WHWMA 2 Jun; southbound arr WHWMA 13 Jul; max 76 WHWMA 13 Aug.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 WHWMA 12-14 Aug; PRWMA 17-18 Aug; only reports.

Red-necked Phalarope: WHWMA 13 Aug (JB), only report.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr Perch L 20 Jul; max 185 Henderson Bay 20 Aug.

Ring-billed Gull: 2671 nests Murphy I record high despite flooding; no count LGI.

Herring Gull: max 579 nests LGI down from 971 in 2016.

Caspian Tern: 2511 nests LGI 8 Jun, record high (IM).

Black Tern: 47 pr at 5 sites JEFF on DEC survey incl max 17 pairs PRWMA; 21 pr STLA all at ULLWMA on DEC survey; 8 flying over FD fields 21 Jul.

Com. Tern: 1090 nests SLR lowest tally since 2010 (LH); high mortality at SLR nests Jun because of rain and cold.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: about 35 reports of at least 28 ind, high.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 46 reports FD, where max 4 multiple dates; at least 32 ind elsewhere; most since 2010.

E. Screech-Owl: 3 T Watertown 2 Jul, only report.

Long-eared Owl: T Pinckney 30 Jul (GS), only report.

Com. Nighthawk: Jun & Jul max 8 FD 10 Jun; T Watertown 19 Jun, only report before Aug away from FD (LR); southbound migrants arr T Canton 14 Aug; max 70 T Gouverneur & Dekalb 28 Jun.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW: FD 4-20 Jul (AB, JB, DW, WF, KM, BP), 1st regional report.

E. Whip-poor-will: max 70 on 4 10-stop survey routes FD 5 Jul.

Red-headed Woodpecker: 9-11 terr FD, only reports.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: increasing St. Lawrence Valley.

Merlin: 53 reports from throughout R6 indicating widespread nesting.

Peregrine Falcon: 7 reports from throughout R6.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last obvious spring migrant LBSF 5 Jun; max 4 Five Ponds Wilderness 3 Jun; 5 reports migrants 18 Aug thru.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr RRt 15 Aug.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER (R6): LWMA 16-19 Jul (JM, mob).

Alder Flycatcher: max 26 FD 15 Jun.

Willow Flycatcher: max 23 FD 21 Jul.

Philadelphia Vireo: terr m FD 26 Jun to 9 Jul (JB, mob), rare in summer outside Adirondacks; Jun & Jul reports from 3 sites in SE STLA, where local breeder; migrants arr FD 22 Aug.

Bank Swallow: 90 FD 3 Jul.

Sedge Wren: 4 terr FD early Jun increased to 8 early Jul & max 13 early Aug, including pair feeding juv 26 Jul; PRWMA 21 Jun, T Chaumont 19 Jul, & 3 sites N STLA Jul only other reports.

Carolina Wren: PtPen 13 Jun, T Norfolk 15 Jul & 2 Cranberry L 21 Jul, only reports.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 10 reports Jun & Jul about typical; migrants FD 22, 25, & 29 Aug.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 2 Dead Creek Flow 26 Aug (BB).

N. WHEATEAR: WHWMA 26 Aug (AB, JB, photos!), 1st county and 4th Regional record.

Swainson's Thrush: arr FD 25 Aug.

N. Mockingbird: 7+ terr FD; WI 24 Jun, T Lyme 28 Jun, & T Pamela 20 Aug, only other reports.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: eBird reports of 45+ ind IRL where Blue-winged Warblers scarce.

Blue-winged Warbler: up to 9/day FD June; eBird reports of 3 ind IRL & Black Lake area; only 2 Jun reports N of Gouverneur, where still scarce as breeder.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: max 4 FD 15 Jun; singles T Theresa 9 Jun, LBSF 9 & 13 Jun, & CB 17-21 Jun.

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: FD 17 Jun, only report.

Tennessee Warbler: last spring migrant LBSF 5 Jun; fall migr arr CCSP 15 Aug; max 15 FD 31 Aug.

Com. Yellowthroat: max 68 FD 30 Jun.

Hooded Warbler: 2 T Osceola 3 Jun; max 3 Winona Experimental Forest 10 Jul.

Cape May Warbler: 2 arr FD 11 Aug, early; max 21 FD 31 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: max 7 LBSF 5 Jun.

N. Parula: Murray I 7 Aug (HM), early migr?; CCSP 15 Aug, more typical arr date.

Magnolia Warbler: arr FD 25 Aug; max 29 FD 30 Aug.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr FD 22 Aug; max 30 FD 29 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: 10-13/day FD last week Aug.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 40 FD 3 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: last northbound T Edwards 8 Jun; 1st southbound T Canton 23 Aug.

“Yellow” Palm Warbler: breeding reports 6 sites in & near Adirondacks incl juv T Croghan 16 Aug.

“Western” Palm Warbler: arr FD 31 Aug.

Prairie Warbler: max 33 FD 29 Jun, high.

Wilson’s Warbler: arr FD 24 Aug; max 7 FD 30 Aug.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

SUMMER TANAGER: f FD 29 Jun (JB).

DICKCISSEL: terr m FD 24 Jun to 21 Jul (JB, mob, ph!).

Clay-colored Sparrow: max 24 FD 5 Jul; 8 reports elsewhere W JEFF, where max 4 CV 14 Jun.

Field Sparrow: max 45 FD 10 Jun.

Vesper Sparrow: max 30 FD 3 Jul; 8 reports elsewhere W JEFF, where max 3 Otter Creek Preserve T Alexandria 22 Jul.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 22 FD 3 Jul; T Greig LEWI 17 Jun, unusual location; only other reports 1-4 each CB, PRWMA, & T Lyme.

Henslow’s Sparrow: max 13 PRWMA 18 Jul (IM, ET); 7 terr FD thru; 2-3/day T Clayton near CB 14 Jun to 5 Aug (GD, mob); only reports.

Lincoln’s Sparrow: max 30 MM 17 Jun.

Bobolink: flocking up and moving by 3 Jul.

Rusty Blackbird: 2 loc Wanakena area T Fine 9 Jul & 27 Aug (BC), only reports.

Orchard Oriole: singles T Watertown 5 Jun, T Orleans 8 Jun, PtPen 13 Jun, & WISP 26 Jul.

Red Crossbill: 5 reports SE STLA, where underreported; Type 3 T Croghan 16 Aug (MR, MY).

White-winged Crossbill: 2 MM 29 Jul (TB, AS), only report.

Pine Siskin: singles Cranberry Lake 19 Jun & 28 Jul; 2 T Croghan 28 Jul; only reports.



REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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The cold, wet weather of May continued into June with temperatures up to 1° F below average except in the Lake Placid/Saranac Lake region where they were 1°-3° lower than normal. In the Champlain Valley rainfall measured from 5-6" and up to an inch more west of the valley, including a few places where more than seven inches were recorded. Overall, June was 2"-3" wetter than average. The first five days of July extended June's wet weather with a vengeance, which caused a dramatic rise in the level of the lake. Overall July rainfall totals ended near average in the basin but wetter than normal in Franklin and Hamilton Counties. Totals increased with distance from the lake. Temperatures for the Region in July were near average for Hamilton and western Essex Counties, but 1°-3° below that elsewhere in Region 7. Rainfall in August once again was heavier in Hamilton and western Essex counties, with 4"-5" falling in those areas. The remainder of Region 7 got 3"-4". In sum the Region's totals were 1"-2" below normal for the month. August continued the colder than average, 1°-3° below normal.

The lake level on 1 June stood at 97.9' and had been dropping at a steady rate just prior to that. With only a couple of upward blips, this downward trend continued throughout the month to 97.1' on 30 June. At 97.9' the mud flats at the Chazy Riverlands were flooded, thus even for the last week or two of the spring shorebird migration was disappointing. The poor shorebird showing at Noblewood also reflects these levels. Days of rain then caused a sharp increase in the lake level to 98.2' on 6 July—a rise of more than a foot in just six days. After this there began an almost linear decrease to 95.5' on 31 Aug. Ideal levels for southbound shorebirds, 97.0'-95.3', were in place at the Chazy Riverlands and Noblewood from about 1 August to beyond the end of the month and are reflected in the species count. A total of sixteen species was recorded for the Region, including Baird's and Stilt Sandpipers along with a Region 7 first highlighted below.

This season observers counted 205 species of which 183 are listed here. The rarest was the **Black-necked Stilt** found by Jeff Bolsinger near Westville in Franklin County. Since this species does not appear on any of the four county lists for Region 7, it is thought to be a first. The same is true of the **Common Shelduck** seen on four occasions in Clinton County. Its origin is unknown, but it had no leg bands. A soaring **Golden Eagle**, seen in July at the Chazy Riverlands, was a rare summer sighting. The **Lesser Black-backed Gull** in Franklin County in early June, a county first, was also the first report of this species away from Lake Champlain. **Red-necked Phalarope** juveniles appeared on 16, 24, and 29 August. Since the longest an individual bird is known to have

lingered is three days, it is likely, but not certain, that they represent three distinct individuals. The Clinton County **Gray Jay**, though of little note elsewhere in Region 7, was the first reliable Clinton County sighting of this species since some time before *The Kingbird* began publication in 1950. Other sightings of interest include a pair of **Glossy Ibises** and a **Little Gull**.

In a happy trend, eBird listers have begun entering breeding codes on their daily reports. The summary below includes 13 reports of confirmed breeding. Most noteworthy is the successful breeding of **Sandhill Crane** for the second successive year at Tupper Lake. Four reports of confirmed breeding of Northern Mockingbird in Plattsburgh, including a nest with young, make it the most reliable place to find this bird in the Region. Finally there were reports of nesting Red and White-winged Crossbills from every county in the Region but Clinton. However, both crossbills were seen there, including the first summer report of White-winged for the county.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AJ – Adirondack Loj; AP – Ausable Pt; AT – Altona; BKT – Beekmantown; BC – Belmont Center; BR – Bigelow Rd; BB – Bloomingdale Bog; BMR – Blue Mtn Rd; BR – Bull Rock Rd; CL – Chazy L; CR – Chazy Riverlands; CP – Crown Pt; DN – Dannemora; FC – Fort Covington; GO – Gothics; ILk – Indian L; KR – Kildare Rd, LP – Lake Pleasant; LC – Little LaChute R; LTR – Little Trout R; LMt – Lyon Mtn; MF – Miner Flat Rock; Min – Minerva; MtM – Mount Marcy; MV – Mountain View; NP – Noblewood P; PS – Paul Smiths; PL – Plattsburgh; OR – Osgood River; RFR – Reagan Falls Rd; RD – Roakdale; RL – Round L; SP – Sabattis Pd; SRd – Sabattis Rd; SH – St Home; SCR – Schroon; Spd – Shaw Pd; SLB – Silver Lake Bog; SP – Stony Pt; WMt – Wakely Mtn; WRR – West River Rd; WV – Westville; WF – White Face Mtn. Breeding bird codes: see any published Breeding Bird Atlas, BBA website, or eBird for details, but CO = confirmed and FL, ON, and NY are specific confirmed breeding codes.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Canada Goose: 5 CH 1 Aug (BK), CO-FL.

Mute Swan: 2 17 Jun.

COM. SHELDUCK: 1 CR 9, 13, 14 & 22 Aug (BK), likely escape with proof or serious analysis of origin.

Wood Duck: 26 LC 5 Aug (SR).

Blue-winged Teal: LC 17 Jun (AB).
 Gadwall: 2 Chazy 18 Aug (GV).
 Am. Black Duck: 10 PS 19 Aug (BW).
 N. Pintail: 7 Ilk 30 Jul (JT), CO-FL.
 Green-winged Teal: 14 CR 17 Aug (BK).
 Ring-necked Duck: TL 17 Jul (GB).
 Com. Goldeneye: 7 CH 19 Aug (SJ), CO-FL.
 Hooded Merganser: 5 RD 2 Jul (NH), CO-FL.
 Com. Merganser: 13 CH 28 Jul (BK, SJ), CO-FL.
 Ruffed Grouse: WRR 5 Jul (SB).
 Spruce Grouse: 3 BMR 9 Jul.
 Wild Turkey: 14 WRS 6 Aug (HT), CO-FL.
 Com. Loon: 4 CH 7 Jul (SJ), CO-FL.
 Pied-billed Grebe: AP 17 Jun (MB, AP); 1 SP 2 Jul (SL), CO-ON.
 Double-cr. Cormorant: 600 CH 25 Aug (SJ).
 Am. Bittern: AP 14 Jun (BK).
 Least Bittern: AP 17 Jun (BK); 3 SC 24 Jun (GC, SR); CR 19 Aug (MM, ABI).
 Great Blue Heron: 6 LC 2 Jul (MM).
 Great Egret: 10 AP 29 Aug (PJ).
 Green Heron: RFR 22 Jun (RS).
 Black-crowned Night-Heron: SC 26 Aug (NO).
 GLOSSY IBIS (R7): 2 CR 18 Aug (ABI, MM, SR).
 Black Vulture: BH 16 Aug (SR).
 Turkey Vulture: 40 LC 2 Jul (MM).

HAWKS – LARIDS

Osprey: 6 CR Jul 28 (BK).
 N. Harrier: 1j CR 17 Aug (BK).
 Sharp-shinned Hawk: BB 19 Aug (JCT).
 Cooper's Hawk: BMR 12 Jul (GG).
 N. Goshawk: 2 KR 11 Jul (K&SF).
 Bald Eagle: LC 17 June (AB).
 Red-shouldered Hawk: GO 30 Jul (DG).
 Broad-winged Hawk: SLB 22 Jul (BM).
 Red-tailed Hawk: LP 29 Jul (DW).
 GOLDEN EAGLE (R7): 1 CR 3 JUL (BK).
 Virginia Rail: 2 AP 17 Jun (BK).
 Sora: 2 AP 17 Jun (MB, AP).
 Com. Gallinule: LC 5 Aug (SR); 8 LC 27 Aug (SR).
 Am. Coot: AP 17 Jun (BK).
 SANDHILL CRANE (R7): 3 TL 3 Jun (JC), CO-FL; 2 FC 27 JUL (EW).
 BLACK-NECKED STILT: WV 13 Jun (JB), 1st Reg record.
 Black-bellied Plover: 2 CR 11 Aug (MB).
 Semipalmated Plover: 4 CR 9 Aug (BK); NP 31 Aug (SR).
 Black-bellied Plover: 4 CR 16 Aug (BK).
 Stilt Sandpiper: 1 NP 20 Aug (MM).

Sanderling: 2 CR 16 Aug (BK).
 Baird's Sandpiper: 3 CR 19 Aug (MB); NP 31 Aug (SR).
 Least Sandpiper: 45 FC 26 Jul (HW).
 White-rumped Sandpiper: CR 11 Aug (MB).
 Pectoral Sandpiper: CR 16 Aug (BK).
 Semipalmated Sandpiper: 10 CR 9 Aug (BK); 3 NP 31 Aug (SR).
 Short-billed Dowitcher: CR 13 Aug (BK).
 Wilson's Snipe: 2 LTR 16 Jun (TR); CR 7 Jul (BK).
 Am. Woodcock: MF 21 Jun (MB, SR).
 RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (R7): 1 CR 16 & 24 Aug (BK); CR 29 Aug (DG, FL).
 Bonaparte's Gull: 60 GBM 19 Aug (AB).
 LITTLE GULL (R7): NP 21 Aug (MM).
 LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (R7): WV 13 Jun (JB).
 Great Black-backed Gull: NP 31 Aug (SR).
 Caspian Tern: 41 NP 6 Aug (MM); 19 CR 19 Aug (MB).
 Black Tern: BKT 27 JUL (LT).
 Com. Tern: 36 GBM 19 Aug (AB).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Black-billed Cuckoo: MP 22 Jul (AB); PL 31 Jul (JG).
 E. Screech-Owl: AP 28 Aug (GC, SR).
 Great Horned Owl: AP 28 Jul.
 Barred Owl: 2 LP 20 Jul (DW).
 Short-eared Owl: RFR 14 Aug (RS).
 N. Saw-whet Owl: SP 3 Jun (JC); AJ 14 Jul (BB).
 Com. Nighthawk: RL 29 Aug (AB).
 E. Whip-poor-will: 3 LC 17 Jun (AB).
 Chimney Swift: 3 DN 11 Jul JR.
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 3 CH 23 Aug (BK), CO-FL.
 Belted Kingfisher: CH 29 Aug (SJ).
 Red-bellied Woodpecker: AP 15 Jun (MB, AP).
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 2 SRd 7 Jun (APo).
 Am. Three-toed Woodpecker: 1 12 Aug.
 Black-backed Woodpecker: 3 OR 2 Jul (DR) CoFL; SLB 15 Jul (AB).
 N. Flicker: 2 BR 28 Aug (MC).
 Pileated Woodpecker: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
 Am. Kestrel: WRS 6 Aug (GC).
 Merlin: 2 OH 29 Jul (JT).
 Peregrine Falcon: CR 25 Aug (BK).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: SLB 15 Jul (GC, SR).
 E. Wood-Pewee: BR 28 Aug (MC).
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SLB 15 Jul (AB).

Alder Flycatcher: CL 27 Jun (JH).
Willow Flycatcher: 2 AP 17 Jun (MB, AP).
Least Flycatcher: 2 AP 24 Jun (GC, SR).
E. Phoebe: 4 BR 28 Aug (MC).
Great Crested Flycatcher: 3 AP 7 Jun (BK).
E. Kingbird: 2 AP 7 Jun (BK).
Yellow-throated Vireo: SRd 7 Jun (APo); LC 2 Jul (MM).
Blue-headed Vireo: 2 BR 28 Aug (MC).
Philadelphia Vireo: MV 30 Aug (JT).
Warbling Vireo: 8 AP 14 Jun (BK).
Red-eyed Vireo: 2 BR 28 Aug (MC).
Gray Jay: 2 SLB 29 Jul (TB, AS).
Fish Crow: SCR 30 Jul (AS).
Com. Raven: 2 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Purple Martin: 5 SP 17 Jun (BMc).
N. Rough-winged Swallow: 25 LC 17 Jun (AB).
Tree Swallow: 80 RF 14 Aug (RS).
Bank Swallow: 8 WV 13 Jun (JB); CR 21 Aug (SR).
Cliff Swallow: 12 RFR 22 Jun (RS); 3 OH 2 Aug (JT).
Barn Swallow: 11 LC 27 Aug (SR).
Boreal Chickadee: 2 BR 23 Aug (AB).
Tufted Titmouse: LC 17 Jun (AB).
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 15 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
White-breasted Nuthatch: 4 LP 18 Jul (DW).
Brown Creeper: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
House Wren: LC 17 Jun (AB).
Winter Wren: 7 Wmt 26 Jun CW.
Marsh Wren: 4 AP 7 Jun (BK).
Carolina Wren: LC 2 Jul (MM)..
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: SC 24 Jun (CG, SR); SLB 28 Aug (SB, SR).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 40 SPB 25 Aug (AB); SLB 28 Aug (SR, SB).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: FB 12 Aug (BM).
E. Bluebird: 7 BR 3 Aug (MC), CO-FY.
Veery: 20 RFR 22 Jun (RS).
Bicknell's Thrush: WF 8 Jun (HvZ); RD 2 Jul (NH).
Swainson's Thrush: SLB 15 Jul (AB).
Hermit Thrush: 3 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Wood Thrush: 2 OH 25 Jul (JT).
Gray Catbird: 5 LC 2 Jul (MM); 2 BR 3 Aug (MC), CO-FY.
Brown Thrasher: AF 24 Jun (GC, SR).
N. Mockingbird: 2 PL 7/20 (MB), CO-NY.
Cedar Waxwing: 10 SPB 25 Aug (AB).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Ovenbird: LC 17 Jun (AB).
Louisiana Waterthrush: LC 17 Jun (AB).

N. Waterthrush: BR 13 Aug (KM).
Golden-winged Warbler: WRS 4 Jul (SR).
Black-and-white Warbler: 2 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Tennessee Warbler: SLB 28 Aug (SR, SB).
Nashville Warbler: 3 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Mourning Warbler: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Com. Yellowthroat: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Am. Redstart: MD 11 Jun (JM).
Cape May Warbler: SPB 25 AUG (AB).
N. Parula: SLB 20 Jul (SR).
Magnolia Warbler: 3 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Bay-breasted Warbler: CP 27 Aug (DC).
Blackburnian Warbler: BR 13 Aug (KM).
Yellow Warbler: NP 21 Aug (MM).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: WC 17 Aug (JB).
Blackpoll Warbler: WF 8 Jun (HvZ).
Black-throated Blue Warbler: WC 17 Aug (JB).
Palm Warbler: 11 OR 2 JUL (DR).
Pine Warbler: 2 WF 8 Jun (HvZ); 2 NP 6 Aug (MM), CO-FY.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 15 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Prairie Warbler: 2 MD 11 Jun (JM).
Black-throated Green Warbler: 3 WC 17 Aug (JB), CO-FL.
Canada Warbler: SLB 20 Jul (SR).
Wilson's Warbler: SH 24 Aug (AB).

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: RFR 22 Jun (RS).
Chipping Sparrow: CP 27 Aug (DC).
Field Sparrow: 4 MF 3 Jul (MM).
Vesper Sparrow: WRS 28 Aug (DC).
Savannah Sparrow: 4 WRS 28 Aug (DC).
Lincoln's Sparrow: BB 28 Jun (RN); 9 OR 2 Jul (DR).
Swamp Sparrow: 4 AP 14 Jun (BK).
White-throated Sparrow: 29 MF 3 Jul (MM).
Scarlet Tanager: KR 11 Jul (K&SF).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 2 BR Aug 23 (AB).
Indigo Bunting: 3 RFR 22 JUN (RS).
Bobolink: 100 CR 19 Aug (MM).
E. Meadowlark: 2 LTR 16 Jun (TL).
Rusty Blackbird: 3 Min 4 Jul (SB), CoFL; OH 30 Jul (JT).
Brown-headed Cowbird: 2 LP 20 Jul (DW).
Baltimore Oriole: 2 AP 17 Jun (BK).
Purple Finch: SLB 28 Aug (AB).
Red Crossbill: 3 SLB 28 Aug (SR).
White-winged Crossbill: Lmt, 20 Aug (MM); 4 BR 23 Aug (AB).
Pine Siskin: 3 MtM 26 Jul (LMc).
Evening Grosbeak: 2 Jay 27 Jun.

REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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The weather was quite typical throughout the summer of 2017. After a three-day heat wave in early June, the high temperature never reached 90° F thereafter. The average temperature for the month of June was 68°, which was 0.8° above normal. Rainfall for the month was 1.33" more than the long-term average. July was almost exactly normal, at -0.1° and -0.11". August had a cool finish, with the final week more than 5° below normal, but the month as a whole turned out just 0.9° below average, with 3.76" rainfall, 0.3" more than normal.

Two unexpected species topped the highlights list for summer 2017. On 22 August, Andrea Denton and Lydia Schereen were birding at the Stillwater School Nature Trail in Saratoga County. Viewing from the west side of the Hudson River, they observed and photographed a **White Ibis** on the opposite side. Excerpting from their eBird checklist, "We were on the west side of the Hudson River and the birds were on the east side. There was a Bald Eagle that would chase the White Ibis and four Great Egrets off their perches. The five birds flew as a group each time. We watched this for about 45 minutes until they were out of sight. They kept moving upstream." A remarkable sighting for the Region, I could not locate a similar record in recent years.

A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was discovered by Mike McGraw and his colleagues on 22 June, while they were doing habitat restoration work at the Albany Pine Bush Preserve in Albany County. A field party of eleven observers was quickly assembled, this Regional Editor included, and we bushwhacked our way out to the site. The bird was singing, if that is the term we will assign to the odd series of noises a chat utters, and making display flights for the half-hour we observed it. A second bird (female?) might have been present, as there were some low tones emanating from the tangles underneath the displaying bird, but we could not confirm this. Returns to the site on subsequent days yielded no further observations, although the habitat in the immediate and nearby areas was quite dense and overgrown and seemed suitable for a chat. APBP records showed that the last previous record there was from 1953.

A Snowy Egret was observed and well-photographed at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar, Albany County, on 5 June. The seemingly healthy bird was perched on a downed tree in the Beaver Pond. Snowy Egret is typically found in the Region during post-breeding dispersal, so this was a highly unusual date. The previous record of the species at Five Rivers was some thirty years earlier.

Diligent shorebird observing along the Mohawk River corridor in Cohoes, Albany County, yielded Regionally rare Wilson's Phalarope, Ruddy Turnstone, and Stilt Sandpiper in mid-August. A Red-necked Phalarope was observed and

photographed swimming in the middle of Lake George in Warren County on 24 August by RS Dietrich.

Stacy Robinson discovered a **Dickcissel** calling and flying around a hayfield near Lower Rd. in the Town of Putnam, Washington County on 13 August.

211 species were reported during the season.

CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Alden, Will Aubrey, Ramona Bearor, Susan Beaudoin, Mike Birmingham, Matt Brunelle, Nancy Castillo, Glen & Malinda Chapman, Steve Chorvas, Jeremy Collison, Bill Cook, Andrea Denton, Alan Devoe Bird Club recent sightings, RS Dietrich, Amanda Dillon, Craig Driggs, Bruce Dudek, Alan Dupuis, Lindsey Duval, Larry Federman, Peter Feinberg, Debra Ferguson, Mark Fitzsimmons, Brianna Gary, Bernie & Chris Grossman, Rich Guthrie, HMBirds Yahoo Group, Larry & Barbara Hall, David Harrison, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Naomi Lloyd, Tristan Lowery, Larry Main, Alan Mapes, Leigh McBride, Thom McClenahan, Mike McGraw, Steve Mesick, Joyce Miller, Frank Mitchell, Frank Murphy, Jenny Murtaugh, Ellen Pemrick, Will Raup, Gregg Recer, Neal Reilly, Stacy Robinson, John Roosenberg, Jeanette Roundy, Lydia Schereen, Kathy Schneider, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, Marian Sole, George Steele, Scott Stoner, Craig Thompson, Alison Van Keuren, Phil Whitney, Tom & Colleen Williams, Donna Wright, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

ABBREVIATIONS

APBP – Albany Pine Bush Preserve, ALBA; AR – Alcove Res, ALBA; BCM – Black Creek Marsh, ALBA; BCR – Basic Creek Res, ALBA; BMB – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; CCGP – Cossackie Creek Grasslands Preserve, GREE; CF – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; CL – Collins L, SCHE; CRM – Cline Rd. Marsh, FULT; FR – Five Rivers EEC, ALBA; FtEG – Ft. Edward Grasslands, WASH; FV – Franklinton Vlaie, SCHO; HP – Huyck Preserve, ALBA; OCA – Ooms Conservation Area, COLU; PRWMA – Partridge Run WMA, ALBA; SNHP – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; TR – Tomhannock Res, RENN; VFNHP – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Preserve, SARA; WMP – Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanctuary, COLU.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Brant: max 75 Henry Hudson P ALBA 7 Jun.

Mute Swan: max 3 BCR 11 Jun.

Wood Duck: max 40 Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 3 Aug.

Common Loon: max 6 Jabe Pd WARR 16 Jul; L Luzerne WARR 15 Aug.

Pied-billed Grebe: five reports from SARA, WARR, and WASH.

Red-necked Grebe: Stockport Flats COLU 2 Jul; Stillwater SARA 20 Aug.

Am. Bittern: six reports of single birds FULT, WARR, SARA, and GREE.

Least Bittern: max 3 Stillwater School Nature Trail SARA 28 Jul; reports received from seven locations regionwide.

Great Egret: max 18 Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 1 Aug.

Snowy Egret: FR 5 Jun; Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 1-7 Aug.

Little Blue Heron: juv Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 1 Aug; juv Mohawk R Cohoes ALBA 12-14 Aug.

Green Heron: max 8 Thurber Pd WASH 19 Jul.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Ft Edward WASH 14 Jun; ad Carters Pd WMA WASH 1

Jul; juv The Crossings of Colonie ALBA 24 Jul; Carters Pd WMA WASH 31 Jul.
WHITE IBIS: Stillwater School Nature Trail SARA 22 Aug (ADE, LS), *intro*.

HAWKS – LARIDS

Black Vulture: max 26 Voorheesville ALBA 7 Jun.

Osprey: max 6 South Bay WASH 7 Aug.

N. Harrier: max 2 FtEG 4 Jun.

Virginia Rail: max 4 FV 25 Jun; near Argyle WASH 28 Jul.

Sora: no reports.

Com. Gallinule: max 13 East Bay WMA WASH 29 Jun.

Am. Coot: Stillwater School Nature Trail SARA 27 Jul; Hudson R near Troy RENN 20 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: near Esperance SCHO 10 Jun; Selkirk ALBA 15 Jul.

Semipalmated Plover: max 25 CF 13 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: W. Ames MONT 12 Jun, only report.

RUDDY TURNSTONE (R8): Falls View P, Cohoes ALBA 16 Aug (PF).

STILT SANDPIPER (R8): Falls View P, Cohoes ALBA 15 Aug (JC).

Sanderling: Falls View P, Cohoes ALBA 16 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Wrights Loop SARA 1 Jun.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 6 CF 12 Aug.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 Falls View P, Cohoes ALBA 15 Aug.

WILSON'S PHALAROPE (R8): Falls View P, Cohoes ALBA 14 Aug (mob).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (R8): near Dome I, L George WARR 24 Aug (RSD).

Solitary Sandpiper: max 5 Stanton Pd ALBA 19 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 10 CF 10 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 20 Falls View P, Cohoes ALBA 15 Aug.

Caspian Tern: Hudson R at Stockport Creek COLU 28 Jun; 17 Charter Marsh WASH 12 Aug; 8 South Bay WASH 13 Aug.

Black Tern: Round L SARA 4 Jul; CF 12 Aug.

Com. Tern: Ballston L SARA 26 Jul.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 2 BMB 7 Jun; Schodack I SP 27 Jun; VFNHP 30 Jul; Henry Hudson P ALBA 20 Aug.

Black-billed Cuckoo: max 2 Kingsbury WASH 2 Jun; WMP 15 Jul; Ghent COLU 19 Aug.

Com. Nighthawk: migrants arr Ballston Spa SARA 13 Aug; max 93 Guilderland ALBA 19 Aug.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW: last West Mt Ski Area WARR 11 Jul (mob).

E. Whip-poor-will: max 7 West Mt Ski Area WARR 7 Jul.

Chimney Swift: max 75 CF 3 Aug.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 6 near Saratoga Springs SARA 17 Jun.

Belted Kingfisher: max 6 VFNHP 30 Jul.

Am. Kestrel: max 11 Whitehall WASH 12 Aug.

Merlin: max 3 Rotterdam SCHE 22 Jul.

Peregrine Falcon: max 7 (two ad w/five fledglings) Troy RENN 8 Jun.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Amy's P WARR 16 Jul, known breeding location; Guilderland ALBA 29 Aug, migrant.

Acadian Flycatcher: near Middleburgh SCHO 1 Jun, 4 Jul; Rensselaerville SF 10 Jun, 2 Aug.

Alder Flycatcher: max 9 BMB 2 Jun.

Willow Flycatcher: max 10 FtEG 3 Jun.

Least Flycatcher: max 6 near Middleburgh SCHO 4 Jul.

E. Phoebe: max 13 near Hillsdale COLU 31 Aug.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 5 Coveville SARA 10 Jun; Schodack I SP RENN 20 Jun; SNHP 9 Jul.

E. Kingbird: max 20 Round L SARA 4 Jul.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 5 SNHP 9 Jul.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 20 Pack Demonstration Forest WARR 22 Jul.

Warbling Vireo: max 13 Hudson Crossing P SARA 10 Jun.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 37 L Desolation SF SARA 26 Jul.

Com. Raven: max 14 Knox ALBA 1 Jun.

Horned Lark: max 2 Saratoga Cty Airport SARA 1 Jun.

Purple Martin: max 6 Saratoga Springs Waterfront Park SARA 7 Jun; Saratoga Casino and Raceway 26 Jun.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 20 CF 24 Jun.

Bank Swallow: max 109 Papscanee I NP RENN 16 Jul.

Cliff Swallow: max 35 Amsterdam MONT 22 Jul.

Barn Swallow: max 100 Athens GREE 9 Aug.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 14 APBP 17 Aug.

Brown Creeper: max 5 Anchor Diamond Park SARA 27 Aug.
House Wren: max 13 SNHP 3 Jul.
Winter Wren: max 12 Plateau Mt GREE 1 Jul.
Marsh Wren: max 10 BCM 4 Jun.
Carolina Wren: max 5 Fultonville MONT 16 Jul.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 7 T Bethlehem ALBA 21 Jun.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 10 Spruceton Trail GREE 7 Jun.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 5 SNHP 31 Aug.
E. Bluebird: max 14 Saratoga Spa SP SARA 25 Jun.
Veery: max 39 Schodack I SP RENN 20 Jun.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: 2 West Mt Ski Area WARR 4 Jun; BMB 7 Jun, late migrants.
Bicknell's Thrush: 2 Plateau Mt GREE 1 Jul.
Swainson's Thrush: max 6 Spruceton Trail GREE 22 Jun; Plateau Mt GREE 1 Jul.
Hermit Thrush: max 11 Petersburg Pass RENN 20 Jun.
Wood Thrush: max 8 RamsHorn-Livingston Sanctuary GREE 7 Jun.
Gray Catbird: max 31 Schodack I SP RENN 20 Jun.
Brown Thrasher: max 4 Durham GREE 22 Jul.
N. Mockingbird: max 6 APBP 17 Jun, 25 Jun; Kinderhook COLU 30 Jun.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Ovenbird: max 35 Schodack I SP RENN 20 Jun.
Worm-eating Warbler: Louise Kerr WMA ALBA 4 Jun; 2 Deer Mt Nature Trail ALBA 14 Jun; APBP 17 Aug; five additional locations in COLU.
Louisiana Waterthrush: max 4 Charleston MONT 12 Jun.
N. Waterthrush: max 2 mult loc.
Golden-winged Warbler: near Putnam Sta WASH 4 Jun- 1 Jul; Trout L WARR 3 Jul; only reports.
Blue-winged Warbler: max 5 SNHP 12 Jun.
“Brewster’s” Warbler: near Putnam Sta WASH 4 Jun- 17 Jun.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 6 Crane Mt Trail WARR 12 Jun.
Tennessee Warbler: migrants arr PRWMA 26 Aug; VFNHP 27 Aug; APBP 30 Aug.
Nashville Warbler: max 4 Amy’s P WARR 16 Jul.
Mourning Warbler: max 2 Elka P GREE 25 Jun.
Com. Yellowthroat: max 38 SNHP 3 Jul.

Hooded Warbler: five reports ALBA & GREE 1 Jun- 22 Jul.
Am. Redstart: max 39 Schodack I SP RENN 2 Jun.
Cape May Warbler: migrants arr near Hillsdale COLU 19 Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: max 3 Schodack I SP RENN 1 Jun.
N. Parula: breeding locations FULT & WARR 22 Jun- 1 Aug; migrants arr APBP 30 Aug.
Magnolia Warbler: max 5 Plateau Mt GREE 1 Jul.
Bay-breasted Warbler: migrants arr PRWMA 26 Aug; Wilton Wildlife Preserve SARA 27 Aug.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 15 Rensselaerville SF ALBA 10 Jun.
Yellow Warbler: max 18 Hudson Crossing P SARA 27 Jun.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 16 L Taghkanic SP COLU 28 Jun.
Blackpoll Warbler: breeding location max 7 Plateau Mt GREE 6 JUN; migrants arr Buckingham Pd ALBA 30 Aug.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 10 Spruceton Trail GREE 7 Jun; Amy’s P WARR 16 Jul.
Pine Warbler: max 15 Pack Demonstration Forest WARR 22 Jul.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 20 Pack Demonstration Forest WARR 22 Jul.
Prairie Warbler: max 6 APBP 30 Jun.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 16 Pack Demonstration Forest WARR 22 Jul.
Canada Warbler: max 8 L Desolation SF SARA 1 Jun.
Wilson’s Warbler: migrants arr APBP 17 Aug.
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: APBP 22 Jun (MM), *intro.*

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

E. Towhee: max L Taghkanic SP COLU 5 Jul.
Clay-colored Sparrow: max 2 FtEG 17 Jun.
Field Sparrow: max 26 Saratoga Spa SP 25 Jun.
Vesper Sparrow: max 2 Saratoga Cty Airport SARA 25 Jun; Kinderhook Colu 10 Jul.
Savannah Sparrow: max 20 Albany Int Airport ALBA 26 Jun.
Grasshopper Sparrow: breeding locations: Saratoga Cty Airport SARA; FtEG; Harlem Valley Rail Trail COLU; Albany Int Airport ALBA; Ancram, Claverack, and Kinderhook COLU; Johnstown FULT; max 5 New Swamp Rd, Kingsbury WASH 23 Jul.

Song Sparrow: max 26 Normanskill Farm ALBA 2 Aug.
Swamp Sparrow: max 23 BMB 7 Jun.
White-throated Sparrow: max 6 Edinburgh SARA 10 Jun; L Desolation SF SARA 11 Jun.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 9 Petersburg Pass RENN 20 Jun; Spruceton Trail GREE 5 Aug.
Scarlet Tanager: max 7 Amy's P WARR 22 Jul.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 8 Ft Ann WASH 13 Jul.
Indigo Bunting: max 12 APBP 30 Aug.

DICKCISSEL (R8): near Putnam WASH 13 Aug (SR), *intro*.
Bobolink: max 55 OCA 29 Jul.
E. Meadowlark: max 20 FtEG 4 Jun.
Orchard Oriole: max 3 SNHP 26 Jun.
Baltimore Oriole: max 9 Hudson Crossing P SARA 10 Jun.
Red Crossbill: 5 Amy's P WARR 16 Jul; 5 Padanarum Rd WARR 19 Jul; only reports.
Evening Grosbeak: 2 Padanarum Rd WARR 1 Jun, 22 Jun; 2 Schodack RENN 4 Jun; 2 Providence SARA 15 Jun; only reports.

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REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The summer season had normal precipitation with few extremes in temperature. There was a lack of extremely hot or cold days. Poughkeepsie saw only eight days in the nineties, and the maximum high was only 93° F. June and July came in one degree warmer than average and August was normal. Precipitation values varied in the Region and depended on mainly where afternoon thunderstorms hit. June and August were dry in White Plains, with less than 3 inches of precipitation. Poughkeepsie saw near normal precipitation for each month.

Kent Warner found five immature **White Ibis** on 13 July foraging in a vegetable garden near the Bellvale School in Chester. They were photographed and seen the next day. Rob Stone re-found them on 16 July coming in to roost in a large deciduous tree in Wickham Lake. This is Orange County's second record. A second set, or the same flock; of five immature White Ibis were reported in a private location in mid Dutchess County from 15 to 28 July. Glossy Ibis sightings were up this season, with flocks of 11 and 17 occurring at Marshlands Conservancy on 31 July and 10 August, respectively.

Jim Clinton, Jr observed a **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** flying over lower Broadway in Kingston 9 June but was unable to document it. Tait Johansson was able to photograph a **MISSISSIPPI KITE** over Hunt-Parker Sanctuary in Katonah on 12 June.

The Putnam County Summer Bird Count found an amazing 22 Acadian Flycatchers during June. The count also showed that the following warblers, Blackburnian, Black-throated Blue, Cerulean, Black-throated Green, and Canada, are still present but have seen declines as breeders in the county. Will this county end up like Westchester and see these species disappear? The loss of hemlocks, the presence of cowbirds, and possibly the browsing of deer are

mainly to blame. Other highlights were Spotted Sandpiper, White-eyed Vireo, Red-headed Woodpecker, and six Alder Flycatchers.

The Greenwich-Stamford Summer Bird Count, which includes sections in Westchester County, found 134 species. New to the count were two Common Mergansers, one in Westchester, and a Boat-tailed Grackle on Hen Island in Rye. This is the fifth straight year that Boat-tailed Grackle has been found in Westchester. Other highlights in Westchester were Sora, two Least Sandpipers, Dunlin, and Northern Saw-whet Owl.

Over 70 Cliff Swallow nests were counted on Cross River Reservoir in July. The increase in numbers and sites were also noted elsewhere.

John McBride had a long look at a Prothonotary Warbler at Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary on 14 July.

The Henslow's Sparrow and Dickcissel discovered in Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge in May continued into the summer but there was no sign of breeding for either bird. The Henslow's Sparrow lasted until 12 July, but the Dickcissel disappeared after 21 June. Another Dickcissel was discovered in the Black Dirt Region on 17 June and last seen on 23 June. Later in the season, individuals were found on 26 August, again in the Black Dirt Region, and one in Yonkers at Hillview Reservoir on 23 August.

Other notable species include Willet, Stilt Sandpiper, Black Skimmer, and Blue Grosbeak.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point P; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; RNC – Rye Nature Center; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Snow Goose: Thorton Rd, Wurtsboro 9-16 Jul (PD, JH).
Brant: Bellvale 2 Jun (KW); Kaal Rock P 3 Jul (AU); 14 Milton Harbor 10 Jun (AF).
Blue-winged Teal: Esopus Meadows 23 Aug (JY).
Ring-necked Duck: Fancher Davidge P 15 Jul (GC); West Branch res 25 Jul (SCam); Fancher Davidge P, Middletown 31 Jul (GC).
Long-tailed Duck: MC/Hen I 1-10 Jun (GB, TBu, AF).
Com. Merganser: Kensico Res 10 Jun.
Red-breasted Merganser: Neversink Res 1 Jun (JH); Rye 10 Jun (AF); Newburgh 10 Jun (DC).
Ruddy Duck: 2 Piermont Pier Jun-Aug.
Red-throated Loon: CPP 1-8 Jun (SCam, ASw); EGR 8, 11, 21 Jun.
Red-necked Grebe: Bontecou Wetland Area, Millbrook 30 Aug (JClo).
Am. Bittern: Great Vly 10 Jun; 2 Kingston Res 27 Jul.
Least Bittern: 2 Great Vly 4 Jun; Tivoli Bay 8 Jun; 3 Bashakill 22 Jun; Sharon Station 25 Jul; Piermont Pier 11 Aug.
Snowy Egret: 2 Beacon 15 Aug (MC); 5 Beacon 19 Aug (AL).
Little Blue Heron: imm Wallkill R NWR 4-30 Aug (LS); Esopus 4 Aug (MD, DH, JP, PSc, WT); Dennings Pt 19 Aug (AL).
Cattle Egret: Blue Chip Farm 4 Jun.
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: MC 25 Jul, 13 Aug.
WHITE IBIS: 5 Wickham Lake, Warwick 16-17 Jul (KW, RS), ph; 5 private loc in DUTC 15-28 Jul (AP, BB).
Glossy Ibis: 2 MC 2-6 Jul; 11 MC 31 Jul; 5 EGR 1 Aug; 17 MC 10 Aug; Citco Pnd, Goshen 29-31 Aug (BF).

HAWKS - LARIDS

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: Kingston 9 Jun (Jcli).
MISSISSIPPI KITE: Hunt-Parker Sanctuary, Katonah 12 Jun (TJ), ph.
Clapper Rail: 1-3 MC 3-29 Jun, 1, 2, 28-30 Jul; 2 Hen I 10 Jun; 4 MC 22 Jun.
Virginia Rail: max 9 Bashakill 8 Aug.
Sora: Forest L, West Harrison 11 Jun; Bashakill 13 Aug.
Com. Gallinule: 2 Great Vly 4 Jun; max 14 Bashakill 25 Jul; 2-7 Amenia 27 Jun, 2, 7 Jul; 11 Bashakill 11 Aug.
Black-bellied Plover: MC 2,4 Jun.

Am. Oystercatcher: 10 Hen I 10 Jun; Piermont Pier 15 Jun.
Spotted Sandpiper: MC 2 Jun; White Plains Res 11 Jun; North Highland P 10 Jun; 2 Rye 11 Jun; 4 Cross R Res 22 /Jun.
Willet: max 13 Rye 10 Jun.
Upland Sandpiper: 1-2 SGNWR 1-18 Jun; 1-2 Blue Chip Farm Jun; Galeville Town Park 23 Jun; Black Dirt Region 22 Jul; 2 Black Dirt Region 7,25 Aug.
Ruddy Turnstone: Hen I 10 Jun.
Stilt Sandpiper: 1-3 Strever Farm 26-30 Aug (MR, CP, BM).
Dunlin: Hen I 10 Jun.
Least Sandpiper: 2 Hen I 10 Jun.
White-rumped Sandpiper: Esopus 12 Jul, 27 Aug; MC 28 Jul.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 7 Hen I 10 Jun.
Western Sandpiper: Glen I P 18 Aug (VH).
Short-billed Dowitcher: Piermont Pier 14 Jul; 6-7 MC 25-26 Jul; 10 MC 10 Aug; Montgomery 15, 18 Aug.
Bonaparte's Gull: 3 Kingston Pt 6 Aug (MD).
Laughing Gull: 2 Piermont Pier 18 Jul.
Caspian Tern: Espopus 12 Jul; 2 Saugerties to Sleightsburg 6 Aug; 3 Piermont Pier 11 Aug.
Black Tern: Esopus Mradows 23 Aug (JY).
Com. Tern: max 26 Rye 4 Jun.
Forster's Tern: Wallkill R NWR 1 Jul (LS, MZ); Esopus 12 Jul (AM); 2 Piermont Pier 28-29 Jul; max 6 MC 28 Jul; 4 Piermont Pier 9 Aug.
Black Skimmer: CPP 1 Jun.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Barn Owl: Gardiner 3 Jul.
N. Saw-whet Owl: Cranberry Lake Preserve 10 Jun (MB, TBa, DP).
C. Nighthawk: 157 MC 31 Aug.
E. Whip-poor-will: 4 Sterling Forest 7 Jun; Rochester 7-9 Aug.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Fahnstock SP 2 Jun; Muscoot Farm 5 Jun; 2 Tivoli Bays 8 Jun; 1 ad with Juv Muscoot Farm 3 Jul; max 8 Weston Marsh 31 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Mt Lake P 18 Jun.
Merlin: Montgomery 8 Aug; Bashakill 21 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Ellenville 3 Jun; 2 Doodletown 10 Jun; Rockefeller SP 12 Jun; Esopus 12 Jul; Roundout Res 9 Aug; Minnewaska SP 10 Aug; Mohonk Preserve 26 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 6 Slide Mt 10 Jun.

Acadian Flycatcher: 3 West Park 10 Jun; 22 Fahnestock SP 22 Jun-8 Jul (CR, LT, KB); 4 Mohonk Preserve 26 Jul; 1-2 Rochester 3,24 Aug.
Alder Flycatcher: 4 Linear P, Ellenville 3 Jun; Rockefeller SP 10, 13 Jun; 6 Fahnestock SP 22 Jun; MC 29 Jul.
White-eyed Vireo: Glynwood Farm 12 Jun; Mt Ninham 12 Jun.
Philadelphia Vireo: Bashakill 25 Aug (SB).
Purple Martin: max 24 New Paltz 2 Jun; Hen I 10 Jun.
Cliff Swallow: 70 nests Cross R Res July (TB).
Brown Creeper: Mianus River Gorge 11 Jun.
Marsh Wren: Iona I 4 Jun; max 24 Tivoli Bays 9 Jun; 6 MC 4 Jul, 10 Aug; 1-3 Bashakill 10, 16 Jul.
Gray-checked Thrush: Ward Pound Ridge 9 Jun (JK).
Bicknell's Thrush: 3 Slide Mt 4 Jun; 13 Slide Mt 10 Jun.
Swainson's Thrush: 10 Slide Mt 10 Jun; Hunt-Parker Sanctuary 13 Aug.
Hermit Thrush: Fahnestock SP 8 Jul.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

“Brewster’s” Warbler: Peach Hill 1 Jun.

Prothonotary Warbler: Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary 14 Jul (JB).
Nashville Warbler: Rockefeller Preserve 24 Aug.
Mourning Warbler: 3 West Shokan 1 Jun.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 3 Minnewaska SP 15 Aug.
Blackburnian Warbler: Fahnestock SP 8 Jul.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: Teatown L 3 Jun
Yellow-breasted Chat: Ward Pound Ridge 3, 12 Jun; Ogden Mills & Ruth Livingston Mills SP 17, 26 Jun; Muscoot Farm 21 Jul.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 6 SGNWR Jun-Aug; 5 CPP 21 Jun; Sylvan Glen Park Preserve, Mohegan Lake 3 Jul.
Henslow's Sparrow: SGNWR 1 Jun – 12 Jul.
Blue Grosbeak: 2 imm Pine I 12-24 Jul.
Dickeissel: SGNWR 1-21 Jun; Black Dirt Region 17, 18, 23 Jun, 26 Aug (RS, JH, MZ); Hillview Res 23 Aug (SCam).
Boat-tailed Grackle: MC/Hen I 8-10 Jun (GB, TBu, AF).
Purple Finch: max 25 Parksville 5 Aug.

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REGION 10—MARINE

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The weather this summer did not vary greatly from recent averages, the most obvious deviation being that July and August were drier than usual. Our Region was not directly affected by tropical storms or hurricanes. Monthly extreme temperatures were also rather routine. For June, the highest temperature was 94°F on the 17th, the lowest was 47° on the 8th. The extremes for July were 95° on the 21st and 59° on the 26th, whereas those for August were 92° on the 1st and 56° on the 27th.

| | Central Park | | | Islip | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Temp | Mean | Normal | Deviation | Mean | Normal | Deviation |
| Jun | 72.0° | 71.4° | +0.6° | 68.7° | 68.4° | +0.3° |
| Jul | 76.8° | 76.5° | +0.3° | 75.0° | 73.9° | +1.1° |
| Aug | 74.0° | 75.2° | -1.2° | 72.8° | 72.8° | 0.00° |

| | Central Park | | | Islip | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Precip | Total | Normal | Deviation | Total | Normal | Deviation |
| Jun | 4.76" | 4.41" | +0.35" | 3.57" | 4.27" | -0.70" |
| Jul | 4.19" | 4.60" | -0.41" | 2.11" | 3.43" | -1.32" |
| Aug | 3.34" | 4.44" | -1.10" | 3.73" | 3.98" | -0.25" |

The most significant and memorable ornithological event of summer 2017 was a massive incursion of Great Shearwaters along the outer beaches of Nassau and western Suffolk Counties on 18 June, associated with a mortality event along the whole ocean shore of Long Island. A major push of seabirds migrating inshore was first noted on 16 June, during easterly winds, from sites such as Robert Moses SP, in western Suffolk, and further east at Tiana Beach, Southampton, and Main Beach, East Hampton. The most numerous species during these efforts was Cory's Shearwater, which is typical for such flights at this date, but good numbers of Great, Sooty, and Manx Shearwaters and Wilson's Storm-Petrels were also observed, all passing west to east.

The next day was windless and foggy, with a few tubenoses but little out of the ordinary until late in the day, when an adult Brown Booby was discovered sitting on the sand within the tern colony at Nickerson Beach, Nassau County. Enduring the wrath of locally breeding American Oystercatchers, Eastern Willets, and Common Terns, this distressed sulid made several flights but stayed within the colony despite considerable persecution from Common Terns. It eventually settled in to roost on a Piping Plover enclosure, where it remained through the foggy end of day as many birders arrived to see it (see photos, p. 318). The next morning, 18 June, the booby was found dead.

The disappointment of those who had come to see it was overtaken as the morning wore on, as birders were amazed to observe a major flight of Great Shearwaters, flying west to east. A count of 35 during the morning at Nickerson Beach was exceptional for the Nassau County shore, but this was soon eclipsed by an estimate of 220 passing close to the jetty at nearby Jones Inlet. Further east, at Robert Moses SP, a team of observers tallied 669 Great Shearwaters over the course of the day. A highly unusual feature of these counts, beyond their sheer magnitude, was the vast over-representation of Great relative to Cory's, whereas the latter usually strongly outnumbers the former in shore-based counts at this season. Observers' emotions were to swing once more on that memorable day, plunging again at the realization that many of the birds were in distress, landing on the beach and in parking lots.

Over the next couple of days, more than 100 Great Shearwaters were found dead on the beaches, from Nickerson to Montauk. Five observers tallied

casualties over measured routes at widely spaced sites, consistently finding between five and ten dead Great Shearwaters per mile walked (sums for the five transects were 47 dead Great Shearwaters over seven miles, and no seabirds of other species were found during these systematic searches). Necropsies performed by Joe Okoniewski, a wildlife pathologist with the New York State Department of Conservation, revealed that the deceased birds were extremely thin and had apparently starved, an observation corroborated by Paul Sweet, who prepared salvaged specimens at the American Museum of Natural History.

There were many discussions in the aftermath of this event regarding how unusual the level of mortality was, given the difficulties in establishing baselines over the vast areas passed en route by this trans-hemispheric migrant. Although there are many recorded instances of mass mortality events along the eastern seaboard of the United States, the one described here was highly unusual in at least one respect: its location. Great Shearwaters are rarely observed even in small numbers along the western shore of Long Island, despite a very large number of observers concentrated in this area. Cruickshank (1942) stated, “many a season passes without a record from this section”—referring to the shore west of Fire Island, and Bull (1974) implied that 50 at Jones Beach on 8 June 1957 was the highest count for Nassau County. Furthermore, despite the absence of any systematic program for monitoring beached birds on Long Island, Nassau County’s relatively short beachfront is so thoroughly covered, not only by birders, but by biologists, naturalists and beachcombers of all kinds, that it is difficult to imagine that a mortality event on this scale could have been overlooked there in the modern era.

Although the wind speeds locally were never in the range that would cause healthy shearwaters any difficulties, birds already weakened by starvation might have been displaced into New York Bight by long-sustained easterly winds. Meteorologist Dave Nicosia stated on 19 June, “The last few days have featured a very strong high pressure system south of Newfoundland and a prolonged easterly flow toward the Mid Atlantic Coast.... There has been an easterly wind anomaly of between 25 and 30 mph that is strongest from well offshore right to Long Island.” The reasons for the birds’ poor condition remain unknown, but probably relate to problems with their nutrition well removed from Long Island in time and space (although co-occurrence of the starving Brown Booby at Nickerson Beach and a dead Leatherback Turtle at Democrat Point on 20 June might have been related in some way). Nevertheless, right around the time of this event, feeding opportunities were observed to be excellent over Long Island’s near-offshore waters, for example at the Coimbra wreck, where Derek Rogers observed over 300 Great Shearwaters and many other seabirds feeding over large concentrations of fish on 22 June.

Almost as noteworthy was the presence in late July and August of unusual numbers of Cory’s Shearwaters and Wilson’s Storm-Petrels in the recessed waters north and west of Montauk Point, where pelagic species are generally not persistently numerous. The many reports during this period from Block Island

Sound, Gardiner's Bay, and even eastern Long Island Sound were quite noteworthy, especially as they co-occurred with similar patterns observed inshore in nearby Rhode Island and Massachusetts, in Rhode Island Sound and near the approaches to Narragansett Bay and Buzzard's Bay.

With our attention focused so much on seabirds this season, we gave less scrutiny to breeding birds. A useful source of comparative and potential baseline data, especially for common, widespread, and under-reported species are the June Counts, conducted in many places within Christmas Bird Count circles, and compiled in a similar manner. The Captree June Count, once a vibrant tradition in southwestern Suffolk County, has been revived for four years now. Totals for all species detected on this year's count are included below, providing at least some interpretable data concerning many under-reported species.

Among scarce breeders, Red-headed Woodpeckers nested at Connetquot River SP, Cliff Swallows nested again at Pelham Bay, and Yellow-throated Warblers nested again along the lower Connetquot River. The strong showing by Blue Grosbeaks during spring 2017 continued into summer, where this species, having established itself as a regular breeder, continues to add more stations. In addition to its strongholds on Staten Island and in and around Long Island's pine-oak woods, Blue Grosbeaks were found this summer at landfills in southern Nassau and northwestern Suffolk Counties. To a much lesser degree, our coastal New York Region also shared in the dramatic Dickcissel invasion of the northeastern US during summer 2017. Noted in unusual numbers this summer in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and upstate New York, even Long Island hosted a territorial male at Caumsett State Park, in northwestern Suffolk County. For more information, see Mike Morgante's discussion in the Region 1 report in this issue.

Long Island's (and New York's) first **Little Egret**, an adult from May 2015, was succeeded this summer by the second, a juvenile at Goethal's Bridge Pond, on Staten Island. Dick Veit's detailed article on this occurrence is slated for the next issue of *The Kingbird* (Volume 68, Number 1), and will surely be scrutinized closely by the New York State Records Committee and other aficionados of rare bird reports. Other rarities this summer included **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks** in Brooklyn, a **Pacific Loon** at Cupsogue Beach, **White-faced Storm-Petrel** (and most of the other highly sought pelagic species) far offshore, the **Brown Booby** discussed above, several **Black-necked Stilts**, a **Wilson's Plover** at Jones Beach, three **Franklin's Gull** sightings, two **White-winged Doves**, a **Rufous Hummingbird** in Babylon, southwestern Suffolk County, and two **Yellow-headed Blackbirds**.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BNL – Brookhaven Nat'l Lab, Upton, SUFF; **CemRes** – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CIC** – Coney I Cr/P, KING; **CJC**—Captree June Count; **CP** – Central Park, NEWY; **CRESLI** – Coastal Research & Education Society whale watch trips out of Montauk; **CRSP** – Connetquot R SP, SUFF; **DP** – Democrat Pt, Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **EPCAL** – former Grumman property, Calverton, SUFF; **GBP** – Goethals Bridge Pd, RICH; **GKP** - Great Kills P, RICH; **HLSP** – Hempstead Lake SP, NASS; **IHP** – Inwood Hill P, NEWY; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWE** – West End - Jones Beach SP; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **MB** – Mecox Bay and Inlet, SUFF; **Montauk** – Montauk, T of East Hampton, SUFF; **NB** – Nickerson Beach, NASS; **OIn** - Old Inlet, SUFF; **OMNSA** – Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, NASS; **PB** – Pikes Beach SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PlumbB** – Plumb Beach, KING; **Riv** – Riverhead, SUFF; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **Shinn** – Shinnecock Inlet and vicinity, **SPCP** – Smith Point CP, SUFF; **TB** – Tiana Beach, near Shinn, SUFF.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK:

12 PlumbB 10 Jul (H. Wolf), nocturnal report-see eBird for details.

Snow Goose: cont at OMNSA to mid Jul, injured; Sound Ave, Riv 8 Jul.

Canada Goose: 768 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Mute Swan: 138 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Wood Duck: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Gadwall: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

American Black Duck: 7 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Mallard: 152 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Blue-winged Teal: Oyster Pd, Montauk 30 Jul, early; arr JBWR, JBWE, and Oak Beach, SUFF 19 Aug.

Northern Pintail: JBWR 25 Aug, only report.

Greater Scaup: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Lesser Scaup: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Harlequin Duck: f Montauk 8 Jul (ACo), continued to at least 3 Aug.

Surf Scoter: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Black Scoter: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Common Goldeneye: Wertheim NWR, SUFF 14 Jun (D. Mullins), only report.

Red-breasted Merganser: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Northern Bobwhite: 2 Manhasset, NASS private property, site of reintroduction program; Blydenburgh CP, SUFF 24 Jul; only reports.

Wild Turkey: ad f, 6 poults East Islip, SUFF 18 Jun; ad, 2 poults CCP 11 Jul, unus locations.

Red-throated Loon: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

PACIFIC LOON: alt, flying by close to shore CCP seawatch 18 Jun (MMcB, DF).

Common Loon: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Horned Grebe: alt CP 4-11 Jun (T. Fiore, mob), record late date for loc.

Northern Fulmar: pelagic, Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun (N. Bonomo, ph.).

BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: Hudson Canyon pelagic 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW); Block Canyon pelagic 20 Jul (F. Durso); at least 5 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug.

Cory's Shearwater: large coastal flight 16 Jun: 180 RMSP (JGI, SSM, et al.) and 102 TB (MMcB et al.); fewer far offshore, e.g., 7 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

Unusual numbers were present north and west of Montauk in late July and early August: 2 Gardiner's Bay 22 Jul (HMcG); 60 L Montauk Inlet 29 Jul (AnW); 2400 Montauk Pt 29 Jul (AnW); 9 Culloden Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM); 3 e LI Sound 15 Aug (A. Burdo et al), from Orient Pt-New London ferry. At least one *diomedea* was present among 80 CRESLI 2 Jul (ACo); 4 *diomedea* among 57 CRESLI 23 Jul (MMcB); *intro*.

Great Shearwater: 27 Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun; 46 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI, SSM, et al.); 36 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); spectacular flight w LI 18 Jun: 35 NB (BF et al.); 220 JBWE (E. Becher), unprecedented from inshore NASS; max 669 RMSP (mob), an exceptional count from land, probably without

precedent in western SUFF. Curiously, few or none observed 18 Jun further east (e.g., just 3 CCP (DF, MMcB), where this species is most often detected from shore. Large numbers found beached following this flight: 30+ dead at NB 18 Jun (E. Becher), 14 dead along 2 mi. DP 20 Jun (SSM); 7 dead along 1.5 mi. SPCP 21 Jun (DRog); 5 dead along 1 mi. TB (R. Gostic); 6 dead along 1 mi. Napeague (B. Horwith); 15 dead along 1.5 mi. Montauk (L. Ormand); 47 Napeague to Montauk 19-20 Jun (fide P. Rosen); others. Meanwhile, large flocks were observed offshore with other seabirds, feeding over abundant bait fish, e.g., >300 Coimbra Wreck 22 Jun (DRog) and 100 s of Montauk 20 Jun (F. Durso). Later offshore counts, such as 128 over shelf waters se of Shinn 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW) and 300 s Montauk 16 Jul (Z. Adams, M. Fuirst, et al.) were not unusual. Present but not especially numerous in the flocks of Cory's Shearwaters and Wilson's Storm-Petrels observed north and west of Montauk Point in August, the most notable records being one Great Gull I SUFF 4 Jul (J. DiCostanzo et al.), 14 in Block I Sound 20 Aug (P. Ribelow), and a large estimate of 1600 (with 2400 Cory's) Montauk Pt 29 Jul (AnW). Fewer present later and far offshore, e.g., 5 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug (SSi, mob); *intro*.

Sooty Shearwater: 13 Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun; 6 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI, SSM et al.); 4 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); 17 Montauk Pt 29 Jul (AnW), many for the date.

Manx Shearwater: 2 Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun; 6 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); Main Beach, East Hampton, SUFF 16 Jun (PJL, SSM); 7 Montauk Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM).

AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: Hudson Canyon 22 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW); 2 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: 17 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI, SSM et al.); 18 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); 12 Main Beach, East Hampton, SUFF 16 Jun (PJL, SSM); 120 CRESLI 2 Jul (ACo); 320 SeeLife Paulagics 27 Aug (SSi, mob). Unusual numbers were present north and west of Montauk in late July and early August: 84 Seal Haulout Trail, w of Montauk Pt 30 Jul (AnW); 1000 Montauk Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM); 79 Culloden Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM); regularly reported through Aug from Orient Pt-New London ferry in e LI Sound, max 13 on 14 Aug (D. Rottino et al.).

WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL:

Hudson Canyon 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: 29 Hudson Canyon 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL: 61 Hudson Canyon 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

BROWN BOOBY: ad NB 17-18 Jun (J. Malbin, PJJ, SSM; mob); it perished early morning 18 Jun. Specimen to Cornell University collections; emaciated.

Northern Gannet: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); 7 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI et al.), imms e to w; 18 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al), imms w to e.

Double-crested Cormorant: 279 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Brown Pelican: over 20 reports from e SUFF to RICH 4-30 Jul; max 7 RMSP 29 Jul.

American Bittern: Dune Road, SUFF 12 Jun (F. Durso); Gilgo Beach, SUFF 19 Jul (S. Blodgett), only reports.

Least Bittern: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Great Blue Heron: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Great Egret: 74 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

LITTLE EGRET: HY GBP 8-9 Jul (R. Veit, mob); article in prep. for next issue.

Snowy Egret: 48 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Little Blue Heron: 3 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Tricolored Heron: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); increasingly scarce on LI.

Cattle Egret: Cow Meadow P, NASS 1-7 Jun, 10 Jun, cont from spring; 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); Oakwood Beach area, RICH 5 Jul (ACi).

Green Heron: 6 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 6 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Glossy Ibis: 84 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); 71 sod field near Manorville, SUFF 8 Jun (ML.Lamont), cont thru Jun, large number and unusual location.

HAWKS-LARIDS

Black Vulture (R10): North Fork Preserve, SUFF 11 Jul.

Turkey Vulture: max 19 near Peconic R area, Riv 9, 20 Jun.

Osprey: 102 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); continuing to increase in recent years.

Bald Eagle: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Northern Harrier: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Cooper's Hawk: 3 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Red-tailed Hawk: 6 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Clapper Rail: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Common Gallinule: sev reports Oakwood Beach marsh, RICH 26 Jun-18 Jul; River Rd marsh, RICH 25 Jul (ACi); Massapequa Preserve, NASS 2 Aug (J. Mohlin).

BLACK-NECKED STILT: MB 4-7 Jun (W. Becker, mob); 2 JBWE 12-14 Jun (S. Billerman, MB Billerman, mob); CCP 24 Jun (BBo, BF, mob).

American Avocet: JBWR 16-17 Aug (ABk, mob); GBP 19-20 Aug (I. Grant, mob).

American Oystercatcher: 33 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Black-bellied Plover: 9 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

American Golden-Plover: arr East Hampton, SUFF 19 Aug; max 4 Riv sod fields 26, 31 Aug.

WILSON'S PLOVER: flyover JBWE 12 Jun (S. Billerman, MB Billerman).

Piping Plover: 10 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Killdeer: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Greater Yellowlegs: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

"Eastern" Willet: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

"Western" Willet: arr NB 9 Jun (M. Zito) and DP 20 Jun (SSM); max 22 CCP 16 Aug (M. Goldstein).

Lesser Yellowlegs: ~630 RMSP 30 Aug during one hour seawatch inc flocks of up to 150+ east to west (TS, BBo).

Upland Sandpiper: JBWR 26 Aug (J. Landesberg, P. Ribolow); Miller Field, RICH 26 Aug (ACi, J. Ramirez-Garofalo), only reports.

Whimbrel: max 6 RMSP 20 Jul.

Hudsonian Godwit: flyby CRESLI 13 Aug; JBWR 18 Aug (DG, SSi, mob); JBWE 29 Aug (K. Rogers, mob).

Marbled Godwit: OIn 23-25 Jun, 3 on 26 Aug; 2 CCP 13 Aug, 1 there 20, 31 Aug; JBWE 31 Aug.

Ruddy Turnstone: max 329 TB 2 Jun; 300 CCP 4 Jun.

Red Knot: max northbound 125 CCP 4 Jun, 230 JBWR 5 Jun; max southbound 147 CCP 6 Aug.

Stilt Sandpiper: arr CCP 1 Jul; max 65 JBWR 18 Aug.

Sanderling: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Dunlin: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Baird's Sandpiper: arr GKP 12 Aug; max 4 Riv sod fields 26 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr JBWR 17 Aug; max 4 Riv sod fields 24, 28 Aug.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 227 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Western Sandpiper: PB 2 Jun (ABk); NB 27 Jun, rare in "spring"; southbound arr Rockaway P QUEE 4 Aug; max 7 JBWR 18 Aug.
Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); first big southbound push 200 JBWR 11 Jul.
Long-billed Dowitcher: arr JBWR 21 Jul; singles reported from JBWR, GKP, Oak Beach SUFF, Captree Is, SUFF.
Wilson's Phalarope: juv JBWR 11 Aug (DG); CCP 5 or 6 Aug (RBA).
Red-necked Phalarope: 2 flybys CRESLI 13 Aug; 2 PBP 25 Aug (BF, mob); 3 CRESLI 27 Aug; 3 SeeLife Paulagic trip 27 Aug (SSI, mob); JBWE 29-30 Aug (B. Anderson, mob).
SOUTH POLAR SKUA: Montauk whale watch trip 2 Jul (ACo, ph); Hudson Canyon 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW).ph; pelagic 15 Jul (N. Bonomo), well-described in eBird; pelagic NY Shelf waters 22 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW), ph .
Pomarine Jaeger: Hudson Canyon 22 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW), ph.
Parasitic Jaeger: max 7 TB 19 Jun (S. Ausubel, M. Normandia).
Long-tailed Jaeger (R10): Offshore Coimba Wreck 22 Jun (DRog, ph); Hudson Canyon 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW), ph.
Little Gull: imm NB 6 Jun, well-described by B. Proniewych; second report of imm here 11 Jun (mob, ph).
Laughing Gull: 204 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
FRANKLIN'S GULL: ad Crab Meadow Beach, SUFF 18, 23 Jun (TS, mob); ad RMSP 14 Aug (TWB, GB); JBSP 15 Aug (G. Straus).
Ring-billed Gull: 27 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Herring Gull: 437 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Iceland Gull: SPCP and adjacent OIn 6, 8 20, 28 Jun, 1 Jul (mob, ph); Heckscher SP, SUFF 18 Aug (JGl).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 15 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); the most numerous large gull at some sites in summer, as illustrated by

the following high counts along oceanfront, w to e: 17 NB 7 Jun (ABk); 10 JBSP 29 Aug (K&SF); 45 RMSP 16 Aug (SSM); 23 Sunken Forest, FINS 6 Aug (DRog); 37 SPCP 16 Jun (MMcB); 11 CCP 1 Jul (PJL, SSM); 23 TB 16 Jun (MMcB); 6 MB 5 Jun (MMcB); 8 Sagaponack Pd SUFF 6 Jun (MMcB) 24 Hither Hills SP SUFF 29 Jul(AnW).
Glaucous Gull: PlumbB 1 Jun (P. Paul); MB 4 Jun, continuing.
Great Black-backed Gull: 95 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Least Tern: 8 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Gull-billed Tern: 2 CCP 13 Jun; MB 18 Jul, rare for these eastern locations.
Roseate Tern: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Common Tern: 265 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
ARCTIC TERN: A good showing, recorded from ca. all five inlets from Jones to Shinn and two from offshore, where records continue to accrue slowly. NB 7 Jun (ABk, K&SF, E. Becher), 9 Jun (BF, S. Muchnick, T. Healy, M. Zito), 15 Jun (SSM, P. Aitken, L. Weir, L. Dinapoli, M. Zito); DP 20 Jun(SSM); 2 OIn 17 Jun (DRog); Moriches In (CCP): 2 Jun (ABk), 11 Jun (ACo), 21 Jun (SSM, K&SF), 2 on 24 Jun (SSM, PJL, TWB, GB, P. Morris, TS, BBo, BF, JGl), 30 Jun (M. Goldstein, KF), 1 Jul (SSM), 2 on 4 Jul (MMcB, SSM, PJL, M. Yuan); Dune Rd SUFF 17 Jun(P. Morris, TS, BBo). Offshore: Coimba Wreck 22 Jun (DRog); Hudson Canyon 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW).
Forster's Tern: 18 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Royal Tern: small numbers NB in Jun, inc copulating pair 11 Jun (A. Bondi, P. Post); 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Sandwich Tern: 2 NB 6 Jun (S. Furtak, mob); 2nd cal yr CCP 29 Jun -1 Jul (SSM, mob); MB 5 Jul (D. Schulman).
Black Skimmer: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); high counts at NB range from 200 to 469 (5 Jul).

PIGEONS-PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: 109 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
WHITE-WINGED DOVE: JBWR 21 Jun (R. Bate, R. Fried, mob); Riv sod fields 26 Aug (S. Meyerheinrich, mob).
Mourning Dove: 153 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 13 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Barn Owl: nested at JBWR and Freshkills P, RICH.
Eastern Screech-Owl: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Great Horned Owl: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Common Nighthawk: max reported 26 Setauket Mill Pd, SUFF 30 Aug.
Chuck-will's-widow: reported from Quogue in Jun, Watch Hill, Fire Island Pines (all SUFF) in early Jul.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); reported from a few remnant strongholds: Edgewood Pres, Rocky Point area, West Hampton, and Napeague, all SUFF; max 6 Edgewood 11 Jun.
Chimney Swift: 66 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: private yard Babylon, SUFF 18 Aug (C. Cammarota, ph).
Belted Kingfisher: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Red-headed Woodpecker: ad CRSP 4 Jun, seen intermittently Jun/Jul, then 2 ads and 2 y 8 Jul (K. Thompson, ph); Riv yard 5 Jun (S. R-Ahrens); PBP 10 Aug.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 49 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Fort Greene P, KING 27 Aug (B. Vatr), very early.
Downy Woodpecker: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Hairy Woodpecker: 17 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Northern Flicker: 19 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Pileated Woodpecker (R10): CemRes 23 Jun, 24 Aug; Bunker Ponds P, RICH 14 Aug (ACi).
Peregrine Falcon: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Monk Parakeet: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Eastern Wood-Pewee: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Acadian Flycatcher: 2 CP 2 Jun; CP 3 & 5 Jun, all by voice; 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); singing HLSP 21 Jun (S. Perreault).
Alder Flycatcher: JBWR 29 Jun; IHP 26 Aug; CemRes 27 Aug.

Willow Flycatcher: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Eastern Phoebe: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Great Crested Flycatcher: 85 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Western Kingbird: Charlestown area, RICH 21 Aug (ACi, mob).
Eastern Kingbird: 23 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); 53 CIC morning flight 25 Aug (SSi).
White-eyed Vireo: 14 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Yellow-throated Vireo: Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), scarce and local breeder on LI.
Blue-headed Vireo: Calvert Vaux P, KING 4 Jul (AxW), rare in summer.
Warbling Vireo: 54 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); 20 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), a notable single-site count.
Red-eyed Vireo: 104 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Blue Jay: 111 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
American Crow: 74 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Fish Crow: 94 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Common Raven: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); continuing to increase, reported from every county in the Reg; known nesters inc 5 (2 ads, 3y) BNL 1 Jun; 3 fledglings Syosset yard, NASS 5 Jun; ads, 3 y Bethpage water tower, NASS 12 Jun; family group Sunset P, KING 23 Jun; active nest Randall's I, NEWY 27 Jun.
Purple Martin: 53 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Tree Swallow: 78 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Cliff Swallow: two nests Pelham Bay Bridge, BRON 3 Jun (G. McGee, B. Keogh, J. Rothman); 8 nests PBP Pavillion with 22 ads 15 juvs (E. Gaillard).
Barn Swallow: 242 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Black-capped Chickadee: 49 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Tufted Titmouse: 51 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
White-breasted Nuthatch: 13 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
House Wren: 58 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Marsh Wren: 18 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Carolina Wren: 81 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 58 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: CP 25 Aug, early.
Veery: 9 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Wood Thrush: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); 7 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), singing males—a notable single-site count on LI.
American Robin: 386 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Gray Catbird: 403 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Brown Thrasher: 14 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Northern Mockingbird: 107 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
European Starling: 462 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
American Pipit: NB 21 Jun (R. Bate, R. Fried, mob), unus date.
Cedar Waxwing: 184 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

WARBLERS

Ovenbird: 9 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Golden-winged Warbler: m Prospect P, KING 23 Aug (T. Young); m IHP 25 Aug (N. O'Reilly).
Blue-winged Warbler: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
“Lawrence’s Warbler”: CP 25 Aug (DA).
Prothonotary Warbler: William Floyd Estate, SUFF 11 Jun (M. Michealis, ph).
Kentucky Warbler: singing males CP 8 Jun, 25 Jun, the latter a record late spring/record early fall date for location (fide DA).
Common Yellowthroat: 126 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
American Redstart: 7 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Bay-breasted Warbler: 2 CP 30 Jul, very early.
Yellow Warbler: 237 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Blackpoll Warbler: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Pine Warbler: 21 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Yellow-rumped Warbler: Floyd Bennet Field, KING 8 Jul (H. Lopes), unus date.
Yellow-throated Warbler: singing m Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF 2-6 Jun, 29, 30 Jun, ad and fledgling here 22 Jul; CRSP 3, 15 Jun, 4 Jul; 2 CJC 3 Jun refer to these.

Prairie Warbler: 10 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Yellow-breasted Chat: GKP 26 Jul; CemRes 27 Aug; Oakwood Beach area, RICH 31 Aug.

TOWHEES-WEAVERS

Eastern Towhee: 133 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Chipping Sparrow: 91 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Field Sparrow: 3 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Vesper Sparrow: singing males Dwarf Pine Plains SUFF 22 Jun, prob breeding; breeding at Gabreski Airport SUFF.
Lark Sparrow: JBWE 14-15 Aug; JBWE 23-25 Aug (P. Palladino, mob).
Savannah Sparrow: breeding on Oceanside Landfill, NASS (fide BF 2 Jun); singing St. Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale SUFF 21 Jun (M. Cooper).
Grasshopper Sparrow: breeding at Fresh Kills P, KING, EPCAL and Gabreski Airport, SUFF again this year.
Nelson’s Sparrow: 1-2 PlumbB 1-9 Jun, only reports.)
Saltmarsh Sparrow: 38 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Seaside Sparrow: 41 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Song Sparrow: 143 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Swamp Sparrow: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM), rare breeder sw LI.
Summer Tanager: CP 1 Jun, diff from 30 May ind (DA); singing m Planting Fields Arboretum, NASS 4, 7 Jun (D. Klauber, mob); CP 7 Jul (R. Thoren).
Scarlet Tanager: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Northern Cardinal: 100 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).
Blue Grosbeak: excellent showing, all reports included: IHP 29 Jun; Mt. Loretto, RICH 3 Jun, 4, 17, 18 Jul, 17 Aug; Wolfe’s Pd P, RICH 17 Jun, 6, 8, 11, Aug; Fresh Kills P, RICH 20 Jun, 2 on 29 Jun; Cedar Grove Beach, RICH 26 Jun; CemRes 2, 8 Jul, 19, 20 Aug; Page Ave Beach, RICH 14 Aug; Conference House P, RICH 24, 30 Aug; Oceanside Landfill, NASS 2 Jun, imm m, singing; Huntington Landfill, SUFF 4 Jun; CRSP 8 Jun; many reports Calverton, SUFF 1 Jun-17 Jul, max 3 on 3 Jun & 17 Jul.
Indigo Bunting: 15 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); 2 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP).

Dickcissel: JBWE 13 Jun; singing m Caumsett SP, SUFF 17-28 Jun (S. Feustel, mob); RMSP morning flight 24 Aug (SSM).

Bobolink: Marine P, KING 15 Jul; 71 CIC morning flight 25 Aug (SSi).

Red-winged Blackbird: 384 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Yellow-headed Blackbird (R10): SPCP 28 Jun (R. Taylor, ph); RMSP morning flight 24 Aug (SSM).

Common Grackle: 324 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Boat-tailed Grackle: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Brown-headed Cowbird: 61 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Orchard Oriole: 14 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM); 9 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), territorial males—a notable single-site count, indicative of this species' increased abundance.

Baltimore Oriole: 90 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

House Finch: 27 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

Purple Finch: CP 1-2 Jun.

Pine Siskin: Carl Schurz P, NEWY 5 Jun.

American Goldfinch: 82 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).

House Sparrow: 241 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJJ, SSM).



Great Shearwater, Robert Moses SP, *Suffolk*, 18 Jun 2017, © S. S. Mitra.

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in BOLD; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in UPPER CASE letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! – details seen by Regional Editor; ad – adult; Alt – Alternate plumage; Am. – American; arr – arrival or first of season; BBS – Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS – bird of the season; CBC – Christmas Bird Count; CO – confirmed nesting; Com. – Common; E. – Eastern; FL – fledgling; FY – adult feeding young; I – Island; imm – immature; intro – see introduction to report; juv – juvenile; L – Lake; max – maximum; mob – multiple observers; N. – Northern; NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC – report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P – park; Pd – Pond; ph – photographed; Pt – Point; Res – Reservoir; Ri – River; SP – State Park; spm – specimen; subad – subadult; T – Town of; thru – throughout period; Twn – township; W. – Western; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; y – young.

REPORTING REGIONS

Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, except at:

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties:

the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia;
NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19
from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64
from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21
from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County:

the boundary is NY Route 31.

REPORTING DEADLINES

Winter Season: December, January, February

Deadline is 7 March

Spring Season: March, April, May

Deadline is 7 June

Summer Season: June, July, August

Deadline is 7 September

Fall Season: September, October, November

Deadline is 7 December

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