

REGION 9 – HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The summer season was generally wetter and cooler than normal. There were no heat waves; White Plains reach 90°F on only one day for the entire season, 10 June. July came in at 2.5° below normal. Precipitation amounts varied greatly by location, but all areas saw some huge single day downfalls. White Plains saw over 2" of rain fall on 17 June, making the month 0.5" wetter than normal with 4.35". July was worse; 2.6" of rain on 23 July brought the month's total to over 7", nearly twice normal. August was closer to average for White Plains, but Poughkeepsie had nearly 8.7" of rain for the month. Normal August precipitation is only 3.8".

Tom Burke and Gail Bensen saw a **Manx Shearwater** at close range 7 August at Edith G. Read Sanctuary in Rye, Westchester County. The Shearwater continued west and out of sight within minutes of its appearance. Tom was alerted by Patrick Dugan by cell phone, when he saw the shearwater off Stamford, CT, heading toward NYS waters. Tom and Gail saw the bird ten minutes later.

John Askildsen observed and heard a **Whimbrel** flying low during a storm at the Beacon waterfront on 23 July. It is the first report of this species for Dutchess County.

The new Liberty Marsh impoundments adjacent to the Liberty Loop Trail at Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge, along with a nearby sod farm, have made this area in Orange County a place for shorebirds and waders. Two American Avocets and single Baird's and Stilt sandpipers were present 1 August. In mid August, the marsh had Glossy Ibis, Little Blue Heron and Cattle Egret. The nearby Pine Island Sod Farm hosted American Golden-Plover and Baird's, Pectoral and Buff-breasted sandpipers.

The **Sedge Wren** at the Harcourt Wildlife Sanctuary, New Paltz, reported last season, stayed until 6 June. It was observed singing and constructing a nest, but there was no indication of a mate. A pair of Sedge Wrens was reported one mile away, still in New Paltz, also on 6 June.

Carena Pooth observed an unusually plumaged Cerulean Warbler in Dutchess County singing the song of a Northern Parula. The bird was described as having an all blue head with the exception of a broken eye ring. There appeared to be no barring on the flanks.

Other notable species included Ring-necked Duck, Merlin, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow and Pine Siskin.

CONTRIBUTORS

John Askildsen, Gail Bensen, Michael Bochnik, Arlene Borko, Al Brayton, Paul Buckley, Tom Burke, Barbara Butler, Binnie Chase, Steve Chorvas, Mary Collier, Renee Davis, Ed DeBellvue, Lin Fagan, Tom Fiore, Carol & Ken Fredericks, Valerie Freer, Marge Gorton, Christine Guarino, John Haas, Gene Herskovics, Rodney Johnson, Susan Joseph, Steve Kahl, Kelly Liao, Sandra Marrafino, Allan & Barbara Michelin, Frank Murphy, Alan & Jan Peterson, Carena Pooth, Ev Rifenburg, Patrick Santinello, Joe Scordato, Andrew Sigerson, Selden Spencer, Ed Treacy, Joe Weise.

ABBREVIATIONS

EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR; WRNWF – Wallkill River NWR.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Brant: 25 MC 11 Jun.

Green-winged Teal: Buttercup West 8 Aug

Ring-necked Duck: 4 Abel's Pd 9 Jul (BB).

Greater Scaup: EGR 13 Jun.

Long-tailed Duck: MC 26 Jun (TB).

Hooded Merganser: Morningside P 4 Aug.

Com. Merganser: Wappinger Creek 4 Jun; f & 3yg Wassaic 26 Jul.

N. Bobwhite: ad & 5 yg Amenia 17 Jun; 6 Hartwood Rd DUTC 18 Jun; Millerton 27 Jun.

MANX SHEARWATER: EGR 7 Aug (TB,GB).

Am. Bittern: Amenia 25 Jul.

Least Bittern: 4 New Paltz 28 Jul.

Great Egret: Liberty Jul 30.

Snowy Egret: 8 MC 31 Jul.

Little Blue Heron: imm WRNWF 12-19 Aug.

Cattle Egret: 2 WRNWF 12-19 Aug.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Fishkill Creek 26 Jun (BC).

Glossy Ibis: WRNWF 12-19 Aug.

Black Vulture: reports from each county.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: pr & 2 yg Wappingers Jul.

Merlin: Morningside P 6, 22 Aug (ED); Saugerties 28 Aug (ABr, SC).

Peregrine Falcon: pr Mid-Hudson Bridge thru.

Clapper Rail: 3 MC 25 Jun.

Virginia Rail: 7 New Paltz 19 Jun.

Am. Coot: Thompson Pd 25 Jul (KL).

Black-bellied Plover: Morningside P 15-18 Aug.

American Golden-Plover: Pine Island 17 Aug (JH); Pine Island 26 Aug (ET,JS).

Semipalmated Plover: 2 WRNWF 28 Jul; 8 MC 31 Jul; 2 Pine Island 17 Aug.

Am. Oystercatcher: 4 EGR 11 Jun; 3 Five Islands P 16 Jun; 4 EGR 19 Jul.

Am. Avocet: 2 WRNWF 31 Jul-1 Aug (SK).

Lesser Yellowlegs: 106 WRNWF 28 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: 5 WRNWF 31 Jul-1 Aug.

Spotted Sandpiper: MC 2-3 Jun; nest Croton Pt P 8 Jun; Billings 17 Jun.

Upland Sandpiper: 5 SGNWR 19 Jun; Unionville 22 Aug.

WHIMBREL: Beacon 23 Jul (JA), 1st DUTC report.

Least Sandpiper: 27 Saugerties 28 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: MC 2 Jun.

Baird's Sandpiper: WRNWF 31 Jul-1 Aug (SK); Morningside P 22 Aug (ED), 1st SULL report; Pine Island 22-23 Aug (JH, AB, RD, MG, ED); 6-10 Pine Island 26-27 Aug (JH, ET, JS).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 3 WRNWF 28 Jul; 1-3 Pine Island 17-22 Aug; 10 Pine Island 26 Aug.

Stilt Sandpiper: WRNWF 31 Jul-1 Aug (SK).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 6 Pine Island 26 Aug (ET,JS).

Short-billed Dowitcher: 7 WRNWF 31 Jul (SK).

Bonaparte's Gull: Liberty 14 Jun (VF, MC).

Com. Tern: 40 Rye 3 Jul.

Least Tern: 2 MC 26 Jun.

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Monk Parakeet: 5 Five Islands P 16 Jun.

Com. Nighthawk: 100 Bashakill 23 Aug.

Whip-poor-will: 6 Westbrookville 27 Jun.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Blue Chip Farm 21 Jun.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: MC 4 Jun.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 6 Slide Mt 20 Jun (SC).

Acadian Flycatcher: 4 Mianus River Gorge 13 Jun; 20 Kanape Brook trail Peekamoose 10 Jul; 3 Tamarack Preserve 14 Jul; 2 Peekamoose L 17 Jul; 3 Pawling Nature Preserve 4 Aug.

Alder Flycatcher: MC 2 Jun; 2 Claryville 2 Jun; 1-2 Amenia 3 Jun, 2 Aug; Bowdoin P 5 Jun.

Com. Raven: reports from each county.

Bank Swallow: 200 Greenhaven 18 Jun.

Winter Wren: 5 Peekamoose 10 Jul.

Sedge Wren: New Paltz 1-6 Jun (CG); pr New Paltz, 1 mile from the other, 6 Jun (CG,TS).

Marsh Wren: 10 MC 3, 25 Jun.

Bicknell's Thrush: sev Slide Mt 9 Jun; 8 Slide Mt 20 Jun (SC); 3 Slide Mt 27 Jun (PS.CG. GH).

Swainson's Thrush: 5 Slide Mt 20 Jun.

WARBLERS

Yellow Warbler: 33 Sprain Ridge 14 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: 10 Slide Mt 20 Jun.

Cerulean Warbler: Vanderbilt 4-5, 21 Jun (CPRJ), unusual plumage and song, *intro*.

Worm-eating Warbler: 12 Mianus Ri Gorge 13 Jun.

Mourning Warbler: 2 m & f Woodland Valley Rd Shandaken 24 Jun (LF); Union Vale 1 Jul (BB).

Hooded Warbler: usual numbers at Doodletown; few reports from DUTC.

Canada Warbler: Wilbur Flats 31 Jul (C&KF).

Yellow-breasted Chat: Sterling Forest

3.5 Jun (MB); Purchase 29 Jun (TB).

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Grasshopper Sparrow: SGNWR 15 Jun (SS); Ellenville Airport 28 Jun (VF).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: MC 1, 3, 12 Jun (TB).

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 3 MC 10 Jun.

White-throated Sparrow: 2 Slide Mt 20 Jun.

Dark-eyed Junco: 14 Slide Mt 20 Jun; 6 Platte Clove Rd Saugerties 25 Jul (SC); Amenia 28 Aug.

Orchard Oriole: reports from each county

Purple Finch: reported from DUTC.

Pine Siskin: Woodstock 1-2 Jun (ER); Rhinebeck 6.8 Jun (SJ); 6 Claryville 26 Jun (JW); 2 ad & juv High Falls Rd Saugerties 11 Aug (AB).