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Front Cover – Eastern Kingbird, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, *Albany*, 8 Jul 2023, © Denise Hackert-Stoner.

Back Cover – see page 102.

EDITOR'S NOTE THE NAMES OF BIRDS

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The initial issue of each volume of *The Kingbird* serves basic record-keeping duties for the journal: the corrigenda from the previous volume (and older volumes, if other mistakes come to light) are listed and explained, making the corrections accessible and interpretable, in case the errors propagate into other publications or media. Similarly, the species sequence employed in this Volume's Regional Reports is stated here, so that readers will find it easier to browse for species of interest. The taxonomy and species sequence here remains the same as that used in Volumes 72 and 73, reflecting changes as of the 62nd Supplement of the American Ornithological Society (AOS, formerly Union, AOU). In the "50 Years Ago" piece, we have once again sought to preserve the original text as closely as possible, including minor errors of spelling and punctuation.

In preparing these notes at the start of a new volume of *The Kingbird*, I am aware that the proposal to remove the names of people from the standard common names of North American birds is moving forward. As a person who uses and works with bird names every day, I feel deeply troubled, not just by the proposal itself, but by the ways in which the discourse around it has evolved. From my perspective as a birder, ornithologist, and member of the AOU/AOS for more than 30 years, I perceive a major disconnect between support for the proposal in public-facing media, such as those of the AOS, the American Birding Association, and other organizations, and the concern, even dismay, expressed personally to me from within the large and diverse community of people for whom bird names are a central part of our lives. This editorial expresses my own concerns and does not represent the New York State Ornithological Association or any other entity. I offer it because I wish for these concerns to be known, even if there is no mechanism for them to influence how matters proceed.

The proposal to change eponymous bird names is not justified. Its assumptions and its rationale are either obscure or flawed, its costs would be many and large, and its intended benefits would be few and small. The considerations motivating the proposal might usefully inform the choices of future names, but the proposal itself, which would replace a large set of familiar existing names with newly contrived ones, is problematic in many ways: it lacks precedent and justification within ornithological tradition; it would sever our future discourse about birds from the vast body of past texts in ornithology and natural history; and its intended benefits are either doubtful, small, or both. And the decision to start the revolution seems to have preceded careful consideration of the necessarily complex and difficult process of improvising such a large number of new names *de novo*. It is extremely doubtful that the process that emerges will please even its own advocates, let alone appeal across other scientific communities as an inspired insight—will anatomists rush to re-name the Ampullae

of Lorenzini, the Islets of Langerhans, and the Malpighian Tubules, requiring biologists, physicians, surgeons, and students to memorize entirely new sets of terms? Much more likely, I fear, the process will stand out to future bird students as an odd, clumsy, and unjustified gesture of a certain time and place.

The proposal misconstrues what names are and how they work. Names are identifiers that are unambiguous across a given set of entities. Names express the values and intentions of those naming, not the named, nor (obviously) future users of the names, whose values don't exist yet and can't be known. The authority to apply names to people and places is governed by long-established cultural traditions and laws, whereas the authority to apply names within other sets of entities (for example chemical elements, morphological features, or biological species) have historically been governed by conventions established by students devoted to the study of those entities. Although names sometimes convey descriptive information about their objects (e.g., Erik the Red), at least equally often they convey information about the namer (e.g., Leif Erikson), or no information at all (e.g., the rhyming nonsense nicknames of same-sex siblings in Bengali)—this last example illustrating as clearly as can be imagined the primacy of unambiguity over description, as well as the authority of the namer (humorously capricious, perhaps) over the named.

Proposals to revolutionize established naming systems rarely succeed unless they (a) are motivated by principles revealed through actual research within the field in question; and (b) these principles prove to be compelling and useful for the conduct of such work. Two illustrative examples are familiar to birders and ornithologists. The Humphreys-Parkes system for naming the molts and plumages of birds satisfied both criteria. Furthermore, it provided such a clarifying breakthrough in a heretofore confused field that it was quickly and enthusiastically adopted by ornithologists everywhere. The more recent revision of this system by Howell and Pyle satisfied the first criterion without question. But, despite its ornithological erudition, this system has struggled to gain traction among birders, banders, and ornithologists because its motivating principle—the equation, via inferred homology, of juvenile and basic plumages, which are often so strikingly different in terms of function and appearance—has not proven sufficiently compelling or useful to students of birds.

It is worth noting that the English names of North American birds have already been broadly revised: in the mid-20th century many names were changed: (1) to align them with existing standard English names (e.g., Duck Hawk to Peregrine Falcon, Hudsonian Curlew to Whimbrel); (2) to clarify them against other standard English names (e.g., Cardinal to Northern Cardinal, Fulmar to Northern Fulmar); or both (e.g., Baldpate to American Wigeon). These principles arose within the context of ornithological work and proved immediately useful in reducing confusion and uncertainty across different bodies of literature.

The AOS' proposal fails on both accounts: it did not arise via the study of birds, and its underlying principle is neither conceptually coherent nor particularly useful. Its proponents openly acknowledge these weaknesses when they admit that eponyms are not universally and unambiguously offensive while also acknowledging that a case by case appraisal would be too difficult and time-consuming. This is a red flag that marks a doomed system: honoring its principle

(e.g., giving each name a fair reckoning in terms of its relationship to human diversity, equality, and inclusion, DEI) is not really feasible, whereas the simplifying solution (off with every head) is patently arbitrary and unjustified. Worse, even as they struggle with these self-inflicted contradictions, the would-be revisers overlook or ignore the fact that the names they propose to change were chosen and published on a case by case basis—difficult and time-consuming indeed, but achievable even so—in accordance with the carefully considered and time-honored conventions of their ornithological predecessors.

Another assumption at the heart of the proposal, one which is central to the most important of its intended benefits, is the supposed aggrievement surrounding eponymous bird names, which is extremely dubious. Many historical figures in ornithology (and any other field) had problematic personal qualities. If it is specifically their names that offend us, as opposed to these people's actual views or actions, then the proposal is at best a half measure, because the eponyms will remain in the scientific names of birds (e.g., *Rhynchophanes mccownii*), as well as in the whole body of historical texts. The proposal also presumes without evidence that people's aggrievement over names would actually discourage them from studying birds and, condescendingly, that the aggrieved wouldn't be likely to notice or be bothered by the scientific names or anything written in the past. Most organisms don't even have common names, so it could be argued that common names are irrelevant. But that point would only serve to completely obviate the proposal. Furthermore, it's not true that the standard common names of birds are irrelevant; hundreds of thousands of repetitions of these names constitute the foundation of 73 volumes of *The Kingbird*, for example. Most importantly, it is simply doubtful that the supposed aggrievement even exists in the way that is assumed, or, if it does, that simply being reminded that some people were bad in the past effectively discourages bird study.

The idea that preserving and using a person's name is tantamount to endorsing their problematic personal qualities is absurd. To take an example from outside of ornithology and from a different cultural-political angle, Paul Robeson's singing career and his excellence as a college football player could have been honored on their own merits. Instead his career was crippled, and his football exploits at Rutgers in the late 1910s were literally erased from the record books during the period 1956 to 1995. His name and achievements were expunged because his attitudes regarding racial equality and workers' rights were deemed transgressive by many influential people at one time. The absurdity here is particularly dizzying because Paul Robeson's personal qualities have come to be widely respected by influential people at another time, but re-writing the college football records would have been inappropriate even in the case of a person who later proved unambiguously toxic. And is it even true that birders don't want to be reminded of, to think about, or to speak the names of, Bad Ornithologists? On the contrary, Richard Meinertzhagen's name continues to be written and spoken far out of proportion to the surviving fragments of his ornithological legacy, even though (or because?) he was a violent, racist, imperialist fraud who probably murdered his wife.

It is difficult to identify and evaluate the intentions of the would-be revisers. If they intend by changing large numbers of names to make bird study more

accessible and less problematic for a broader set of people, such an outcome is beyond doubtful. The proposal would burden birders heavily in many ways. The inconvenience automatically imposed on everyone involved in recording and sharing information about birds would be immense (think of the record-keeping ordeals imposed on the thousands of compilers of CBCs, curators of collections and displays, and editors of checklists and newsletters for local bird clubs). An enormous barrier would be erected between future bird students and the ornithological record to date. As a practical matter, I know many younger or newer birders who find it challenging to engage with ornithological writing even a few decades old (let alone 150 years old), quite understandably, because so many older names and terms are now unfamiliar. But note that heretofore the changes have evolved organically, conservatively, and relatively slowly under the guardianship of earlier committees, who applied the carefully considered conventions of the ornithological community. And although the earlier broad revision of common names mentioned above was not welcomed by all at the time, it imposed much less cost of this kind (it wasn't difficult to understand what a Northern Cardinal or an American Wigeon was). In contrast, the scale of the proposed changes would abruptly sever people's connection to the popular and scientific ornithology of the past—not just by making it much more difficult to understand, but also by unnecessarily stigmatizing it. Even apart from names, it's easy enough, in the old books, to find fault with innumerable benign and not so benign expressions of colonialism, racism, and sexism that survive as evidence of the authors' biases; why should we go out of our way to make even more facets of past work look even worse to future eyes, simply because past work is and must be expressive of the past?

Again, I'm not really sure that the would-be revisers really believe the revision would make life better for birders. One can't help but sense that there's a sort of naive hope for score-settling involved, as if an opportunity has opened up here and now to right some wrongs, so, "why not right some wrongs?" If this really is an un- or poorly-stated intention of the proposal, the error is obvious: renaming birds will neither heal the wounds of past injustice nor hasten our progress toward future justice. I use the word "naive" here because it makes me feel deeply uncomfortable that the would-be revisers, having taken it upon themselves to reinvent how things are done, could imagine they will have the last word. Don't the basically good people at ABA and on the AOS Committee, and elsewhere, sense the hubris in over-writing the work of their generally equally well-intentioned predecessors? Do the revolutionaries imagine that once the purge has been accomplished, that the new names themselves, and each executor's individual legacy, will somehow be off-limits to future critique?

Justice itself will not be achieved once and forever by simply re-branding potential reminders of past colonialism, racism, and sexism, as opposed to actually solving these and other problems. Shouldn't we hope that the ornithologists of the future will inhabit a better world than our own, and that they will be able to reflect generously on our generation and how we somehow succeeded in mitigating a multitude of horrors?—not just those we have inherited and disavowed, like colonialism, racism, and sexism, but also those for which we are more directly responsible, and whose consequences it is our duty to control,

like climate change, genetic engineering, artificial intelligence, corporate capitalism, and industrial animal slaughter? Overheard in the future:

“He was a great birder, but did you know he bought a big, gas-powered SUV as late as 2024?”

“She was an amazing scientist, revolutionized our understanding of the genetic basis of bird navigation, but she loved filet mignon, veal parmesan, and foie gras to the day she died in 2031!”

“He brought birders together in a way that seemed impossible in those dark, early years of AI, but did you know that somehow he actually voted for x----, and then for y---- —all three times, even the last time, when his brain was in a jar!”

Personally, I have always enjoyed using non-standard names for birds—while birding, in conversation, and in informal writing about birds and birding. Sometimes it’s just a simple comfort in using the names I learned first, like Louisiana Heron or Solitary Vireo. In other cases, it’s just faster to communicate with Patricia, my most frequent birding partner, using nicknames, like Chebec (Least Flycatcher) and Jeditt (Ruby-crowned Kinglet). But there is also for me a deeper pleasure in antiquated bird-names, for instance those used by the 19th century bird hunters of my region, Southern New England and Long Island. Long before the conversation around this proposal arose, I would share with companions names such as Skunkhead (Surf Scoter), Robinsnipe (Red Knot), and Mongrel. The last (sometimes also called Bastard Yellowshanks) offers, practically by itself, a curriculum in DEI education, as well as in ornithological insight.

In my region, Stilt Sandpipers are rare in spring, and, like many shorebird species that are more abundant through the middle of the continent, represented in fall mostly by juveniles. It seems likely that the gunners devised an ingenious model to connect the absence of adult Stilt Sandpipers in their bags with the separate challenge of explaining this bird’s intermediacy in appearance and habits between Lesser Yellowlegs and Short-billed Dowitcher (the discernment of which was itself a credit to their powers of observation at that time). They proposed, or at least joked, that Stilt Sandpipers were hybrids, *Mongrels*. Knowing and discussing the names they used does not excuse or condone the destructive behavior of the gunners, their attitudes around race and gender, or their possible pre-occupation with miscegenation. But seeing through their ornithological eyes connects me to my forebears in bird study, the condition of my world as they knew it then, and, especially, the ways in which they knew and understood the birds that I now strive to know and understand, from my contingent position in the world today. It seems odd to find a need to say something like this, but I will: in many ways I identify more closely and deeply with early naturalists like Audubon, with those soggy old swambers and gunners, and with various possibly racist and sexist Victorian ornithologists, than I do with my own genetic ancestors of that era. I feel enriched by remembering and understanding them because we have shared the same forests and marshes and beaches and birds—and not in any way because

of their or my own race, gender, or other marker of human identity, apart from bird study.

Like many people's, my last name is eponymous. I am named after a god, but whether this is the best god, or even a good god, never seems to bother anyone. More immediately, my name honors a series of actual human beings, but again, it is somehow understood that the relative worthiness of these people need not be questioned, and that any pride in them that I might express should be tolerated. The forbearance we expect from one another regarding each person's love of family, regard for their ancestors, and pride in their ethnicity, illogical as it is, at least might be pardoned as an expression of kindness and generosity; but even this veneer falls away when we claim to feel imposed on when reminded, through the names of birds, of some of the people who discovered them, studied them, or were honored at one time by those who described them.

Birders can (and in my opinion should) pursue principles that support human diversity, equality, and inclusion. There are many ways to do this, but the proposal to replace all eponymous names is not one of them. The proposal is poorly conceived and much more trouble than it is worth. Standardized common names are useful to birders, and their relative stability over time and space is an asset. Losing so many of them would be enormously costly, especially compared to the supposed gains in return, which appear very doubtful in general and almost certainly very small, at best.



TWO BROWN-CAPPED BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES (*Poecile atricapillus*) IN ROCHESTER, NY, SUMMER 2023

Kim Hartquist

Near Highland Park, Rochester, NY

Black-capped Chickadees are so often heard in our yards or birding outings that we rarely stop for a visual. On 19 June, I was gardening in my small urban yard near Highland Park in Rochester when I realized I was hearing a family of Black-capped Chickadees playing around in the trees and the water feature. From the begging calls, I figured this was two adults and one or two young. As I finally paused to watch them, I thought I saw brown in the cap of one. The more I watched, the more I realized this was indeed the case. I grabbed a camera and got a few quick pics for reference.

On 20 June, I watched the yard for most of the day to see what the family dynamics were and get better pics. I quickly learned there were not one but TWO young brown-capped chickadees.

The two normal appearing Black-capped Chickadee adults were tending a nest box in my yard. The male (assumed from websites such as Audubon.org) was observed continually bringing food to the female, usually in the box. The two brown-capped chickadees wandered around the neighborhood. They could often be heard—a scratchy “fee-bee, fee-bee-bee” (or “Feed me!”) in nearby yards or often back in mine to enjoy the water feature. When they came to my yard, they were fairly vocal and occasionally would beg from one of the adults.

Description: With two apparently normal adult Black-capped Chickadees and the family behavior, I did not think that hybrids were a possibility. Both have a warm brown cap—not a gray brown cap as Boreal or Grey-headed might have. Both have a narrow black eye mask and wide white cheek patch. Bills are fairly large. The bibs are black, although as Jay McGowan also noted, the bibs seem ragged at the edges. The back of one is mostly gray (Individual A), while the other is more brown-gray (Individual B; see photos page 56). There is substantial white in wings and tail, with fairly long tails. The flanks are quite pale with only a hint of buffy color—unlike both Boreal and Grey-headed. Later photos of Individual A show brown primary tips.

In preparing this article, I found five additional examples of Black-capped Chickadees with brown caps, with references to a few other sightings within these reports:

Edmonton, Alberta, 1979; Thormin and Tull (1980).

Described as leucistic, paler than normal in other parts of the plumage as well, including the bib: “cap medium grayish brown; bib similar to cap but a shade darker.”

Kingston, RI, December 1995; observed and described by Shai Mitra (pers. comm.). This was described as “a leucistic individual that had been tentatively identified as a Boreal Chickadee. The cap was approximately the right color for the latter species, but the throat was definitely brown (though darker than the crown). The cap contrasted with the very pale back.”

Rednersville, Ontario, January 2004, mentioned by McGowan (2004):
Described as leucistic, paler than normal in other parts of the plumage as well.

Seneca Falls, July 2004, recorded by Jay McGowan (2004):
“The crown is clearly a warm brown, not grayish. It contrasts with a thin black mask through the eye, as well as with the gray nape. The bib is black, although it looks a bit brownish in one photo. The cheek is quite white, not at all the grayish to be expected on a Boreal Chickadee. The wing coverts, as well as the secondaries are broadly edged in white. The tail is rather long, and also looks edged in white. The flanks lack much of any buff or brown, and certainly nothing like the rich brownish of a Boreal.”

Sarpy County, Nebraska, May-June 2021, Silcock and Swanson (2021):
Brown-capped juvenile with otherwise normal-looking plumage, in a family of five normally pigmented birds.

Note that the brown-capped birds in these examples vary in other respects. Several are described as being obviously paler than a typical Black-capped Chickadee in other parts of the plumage, including the back (unusually pale in several and quite different in tone between the two I observed in Rochester), the throat (definitely brown in the Edmonton and Rhode Island birds and possibly slightly brown in the Seneca Falls bird), and the wing and tail feathers (for instance the brownish wingtips of Individual A in Rochester). In trying to understand the appearance of these brown-capped birds, two questions stand out: Why do they vary so much in overall coloring? Why are the bibs invariably blacker than their caps, often appearing black?

My research into the mechanisms underlying color aberrations has yielded many, many articles, with often different terminology, and sometimes very detailed hypotheses. One broad conclusion is that the presence of brown caps in these birds is probably related to a reduction or absence of eumelanin, which is black, relative to phaeomelanin, which is brown (Sibley 2011, van Grouw 2006). At a more detailed level, van Grouw (2006) describes a recessive mutation that results in the absence of eumelanin. Although this could cause what is normally a black cap to appear brown, the absence of eumelanin ought to affect all parts of the plumage that contain eumelanin, and all black features ought to appear brown—which does not appear to be true across all of the brown-capped birds described here. Sibley (2011) describes acromelanism (another mutation) as is an inherited condition in which melanin deposition varies with temperature, with more melanin deposited in cooler areas (such as the crown) than in warmer areas (such as the bib)—actually the opposite of what is observed among the variants described here. For now, the precise mechanisms causing these cases of brown-capped Black-capped Chickadees with their individual variations remain uncertain.

In the case of the Rochester birds, the two adults attempted a second brood and tended the nest box non-stop from 20 June through 7 July. The adult male brought food to the female throughout the day while the female occasionally left the box for a brief spell, suggesting she was incubating eggs. I followed their progress closely, hoping to see what the young of this second brood might look

like. The brown-capped juveniles continued to stop by the yard to grab a seed or beg from the adult, especially Individual A, with the grayer back.

7 July: Sounds heard from the nest box suggest young have hatched.

13 July: Nest box is empty. Either the nestlings were older than I thought and have fledged or the nest was predated. The adults are not around. All four have dispersed and the juveniles were not seen again.

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The two brown-capped chickadees described in this article, 20 Jun 2023, © Kim Hartquist.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Adult Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) Feeds Nestling and Fledged Juvenile

Barn Swallows often nest under the eaves of the pavilions at Robert Moses State Park, Suffolk County. During the latter half of June 2023, in the course of nearly daily visits to observe seabirds offshore, I tracked the progress of three active nests at the Field 2 pavilion: E1 and E3 on the east side and W2 on the west side. The earliest young to fledge were two of five nestlings in E3, on 26 June, followed by a third nest-mate on 27 June, and the remaining two by 28 June. The juvenile swallows not only lingered at and near their nest, but also in other places around the building, to which adults would return with food. During this period, an adult was still incubating or brooding on E1, whereas four half-grown nestlings were being fed in W2. Around 10:00 a.m. on 28 June, Jay Rand I were watching W2, to which adult birds were bringing food at regular intervals. A fledged juvenile, very likely from E3, was perched close to W2, and we were surprised to observe an adult perch on the rim of the nest, feed one of the nestlings in the nest, and then turn to feed the adjacent fledged juvenile, before flying off. We were standing just a few feet away and watching closely, so we actually saw food being transferred, at least in the second instance, with the fledged juvenile (the adult's back was to us as it appeared to feed the nestling). The next adult to visit the vicinity of W2 flew directly to the fledged juvenile, fed it, and left. Next, an adult flew directly to the nest, fed a nestling, and left. Finally, we observed an adult fly to W2, feed one of the four nestlings, then turn toward the fledged juvenile, not aggressively, but as though to feed it. It did not pass any food to the juvenile, possibly because it had none remaining, and then it flew off.

We were not able to discern the identities of the adult(s) involved in these four feeding trips, but in two cases an adult attended to individual young from different broods. It seems most likely that a parent of the young in W2 was sufficiently stimulated by the presence of the fledged juvenile so close to its nest that it fed a juvenile that was not its own. It also seems likely that a parent of the fledged juvenile was involved in the second visit, going directly toward and feeding the juvenile. It is possible but seemingly less likely that the juvenile's parent was sufficiently stimulated by the presence of the adjacent nestlings to feed them. Finally, it is possible that the male parent of the fledged E3 brood was also the male parent of the nestlings in W2, and was thus feeding its own offspring from two different broods.

Shaibal S. Mitra, Bay Shore, NY

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PATCH BIRDING HECKSCHER STATE PARK: THE PATCH AT THE END OF THE ROAD

John Gluth
Brentwood, NY

News Years Day 1996 was overcast and chillingly raw, with a few inches of patchy snow lingering on the ground. Not pleasant conditions, but no reason not to get out and do some birding, an avocation I'd been keenly pursuing for only a couple of years at that point. I decided to pursue it that day at Heckscher State Park, just a short drive away at the terminus of the Southern State Parkway. The decision was based mainly on the convenience the park's proximity to home offered. As I was still a relatively novice birder, I had yet to develop an intimate knowledge of the park. In fact, despite having been introduced to the park as a child decades earlier thanks to many family visits, I had only recently become aware of how expansive it was and how much more it had to offer besides the conventional outdoor attractions of beaches, a swimming pool, picnic areas, and ballfields.

This day I thought I'd explore some undeveloped habitat fronting on the Great South Bay. I was a bit underdressed for the weather, so after I'd spent as much time and covered as much ground as seemed reasonable, I probably should have ended my visit. But something compelled me to push on down a greenbelt trail, through the slushy snow, toward the eastern portion of the park. An uncomfortable but fortuitous trek, because it was there I encountered my lifer Northern Shrike. It was perched boldly atop a snag, overseeing dense thickets and stands of exotic grass which harbored an abundance of sparrows. At a distance I'd briefly dismissed it as just a Northern Mockingbird, but something about it seemed wrong for that species. Thankfully the bird allowed a closer approach, remaining on its perch long enough for me to study differentiating field marks before dropping out of sight into the vegetation below. Needless to say I was elated and didn't feel the biting cold quite as much as I had shortly before. That glow lasted until I'd trudged all the way back to my car. That experience, and others over ensuing years, helped cement Heckscher as my main birding patch.

Every birder has at least one patch. Some have many, as do I. In fact I have a mega patch, a Christmas bird count-sized circle centered on my home, which contains a double digit number of constituent smaller patches. But Heckscher has always been the primary one. It isn't the largest (Connetquot River State Park Preserve holds that distinction), but has as advantages greater ease of access and diversity of habitats. As with several other large parks in Suffolk County (and Long Island as a whole), Heckscher was formerly private property, the 19th-century estates of George C. Taylor and J. Neal Plum, and before that the estate of William Nicoll, founder of the Town of Islip. In 1924 it was procured by The Long Island State Park Commission (led by Robert Moses), an appropriation that led to legal controversy. But the land was eventually purchased by New York State with the help of a donation from August Heckscher, and officially opened

in 1929. It's seen infrastructure and usage changes just in my lifetime, some of questionable value from a birder's perspective, most recently the installation of a disc golf course and construction of 15 rental cottages. Despite those, the park still has many areas which a birder can explore in relative solitude. Heckscher sprawls over 1,600 acres, bounded on three sides by water—the Great South Bay on its eastern and southern sides, and Quintuck Creek on its western. The Connetquot River empties into the bay less than a mile to the northeast of the park. Within its boundaries there are mixed woodlands, open fields, freshwater wetlands, salt marsh, and coastal scrub. This varied range of habitat types is attractive to many birds and has resulted in a species list for the park on eBird that currently stands at 284 (for only the hotspot of the park as a whole, not including two sub-hotspots). I've been birding there long enough to have amassed a park life list of 243 species.

Whether rambling widely about the park for a few hours or briefly targeting particular locations, a respectable if not impressive day list can be tallied. Earlier in my birding life I'd spend many hours on promising days in May or September traversing the park, trying to do just that. Those cumulative efforts paid off with some notable finds, such as Olive-sided and Acadian Flycatchers, Lincoln's Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, and, among a total patch list of 28 species of warbler, such highlights as Worm-eating, Orange-crowned, Cape May, Blackburnian, Canada, and Wilson's. But birding Heckscher can be rewarding beyond long species lists. There are annual, seasonal spectacles, such as massive rafts of Greater Scaup wintering on the bay (I've estimated a few to contain as many as 50,000 birds), or flights of Common Nighthawks drifting overhead on late summer evenings. One exceptional evening I tallied nearly 100 nighthawks passing east to west above a distant tree line. The park is also part of the territory I cover for the New York State Ornithological Association's January Waterfowl Count, in which I've participated for nearly 20 years. This wealth of experience has earned me the privilege of becoming area leader at Heckscher for the Captree Christmas Bird Count and Captree June Count. This involves pre-dawn owling, of which I do very little otherwise during the average year. It's always exhilarating, yet calming, to be walking familiar trails in the dark, and equally so to actually encounter owls, whether seen or just heard. It's also a pleasure to hear the dawn chorus begin at first light as owling time draws to a close.

Beyond such personal experiences, Heckscher has also garnered attention from the wider birding community, with good reason. Within just the past dozen years Heckscher has hosted an enviable list of rare birds: Ross's Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose, 'Black' Brant, Upland Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, Ruff, White-faced Ibis, Brown Booby, Long-eared Owl, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe, Mountain Bluebird, Northern Wheatear, Connecticut Warbler, Evening Grosbeak, and Black-headed Grosbeak. Additionally, during the two most recent major crossbill irruptions into Long Island (2012-2013 and 2020-2021), the pines in the southern part of the park attracted substantial flocks of both Red and White-winged Crossbills which lingered for weeks.

Other uncommon species have repeatedly been drawn to one of the previously mentioned eBird sub-hotspots within the park, Field 7, a parking lot overlooking the beach just east of the closed swimming pool. This spot is the place

to check during and after storms that drop substantial volumes of rain, especially during the spring and fall migration windows. The resulting puddles in the lot and adjacent grassy areas can attract good numbers of shorebirds and larids. In addition to the rare shorebirds mentioned above, these ephemeral conditions have also attracted such species as American Golden-Plover, Whimbrel, Buff-breasted, Pectoral, White-rumped, Baird's, and Western Sandpipers, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Wilson's Snipe. Caspian Terns have shown up a few times and Royal Terns are regular in late summer and into the fall. Lesser Black-backed Gull is almost to be expected, especially while the weather is still inclement.

While I've been lucky enough to see many of the aforementioned rarities, I haven't seen them all. Of course that would be statistically improbable, but given the proprietary feelings one can develop towards their favorite patch, it's still quite frustrating. I have found my share of 'good' birds over the years though—Wilson's Phalarope, Brown Pelican, Barn Owl, Short-eared Owl (four, including my lifer in 1998), Northern Saw-whet Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Northern Shrike (the '96 lifer and a second in 2018), Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Summer Tanager. Most recently (May 2024), and perhaps most notably, I found a Black-throated Gray Warbler that idiosyncratically sang the song of a Yellow-throated Warbler (deserving of an article of its own). All those remarkable birds spark the imagination to ponder possibilities. What discoveries could the park have in store next?

But, I'll admit that I'm not as devoted to birding Heckscher as some birders probably are to their favorite patch. I can sometimes go weeks between visits. Maybe my attention span is shorter than it used to be. Maybe I just need more variety in my birding outings. Whatever the reason, if I want to go birding but don't have much time or if I'm just feeling too lazy to pick a place farther afield, my fallback will almost always be Heckscher State Park—my patch at the end of the road.

P.S. Thanks to the editors for the opportunity to write this modest addition to *The Kingbird* Patch Birding library.

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FIFTY YEARS AGO IN

The KINGBIRD

Fish Crow in Ithaca New York: On March 16, 1974 the Alan Hahns heard and saw what appeared to be a Fish Crow in the Village of Cayuga Heights, Tompkins County, New York. They subsequently saw and heard it off and on until this writing, May 9, 1974. They observed the bird flying toward Cayuga Lake, and also found it twice in Stewart Park at the head of Cayuga Lake. Since the crow was always alone when perched, a size determination could not be made. The Hahns are familiar with the species from birding in southern United States.

As voice is important in identification of the Fish Crow, this bird's voice was recorded on April 8 by this writer, in the village in a suburban wooded area. The recording was made on a Norelco cassette tape recorder, with an 18" parabola. Since the Crow was high in a tree 200 feet away, near a brook roaring with spring run-off, the recording had to be made at the highest volume setting and background noise is consequently high. However the calls are clearly discernible. Using Leitz 10 x 40 binoculars on this 32 degree, sunny day, I could see that the bird was "shiny", but this character and comparative size could not be definitely determined in the absence of another crow. A two minute recording of the calls was made before it flew, and at no other time was any other type of vocalization heard by the writer or by the Hahns. No call was heard which resembled the Common Crow call.

Virginia Engelhard, bioacoustician of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, compared the recording with the Fish Crow material in the Laboratory's Sound Library. Her conclusion was that all evidence pointed to its being a Fish Crow. For further verification, a copy was sent to Dr. Dwight Chamberlain, who has made extensive studies of crow vocalizations in North America. He stated that he was "99.9% sure that the voice was that of Fish Crow" and a colleague of his agreed.

Rollin Bauer of the Langmuir Laboratory, curator of the collection at the University, said there is no Fish Crow specimen from New York State in the collection, but Dr. Chamberlain discouraged the collection of this bird.

For an earlier report of a Fish Crow in central New York, see the Region 3 (Finger Lakes) report in *Kingbird* 17: 161. The bird was reported by Wilfred Howard in Elmira in April, 1967. In the absence of a specimen it was listed as hypothetical.

Mildred C. Comar, 8 Highland Park Lane, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

This note originally appeared in Volume XXIV, No. 3, July, 1974, on page 124.



CORRIGENDA

Please note the following corrections to errors in *The Kingbird*. Some editorial errors, as well as minor errors of punctuation or formatting, will be corrected in the digital archive, accessible at nybirds.org, and are indicated here by underline.

KB 71.3 September 2021

- p. 287 Remove the semicolon from last abbreviation.

KB 72.1 March 2022

- p. 20 Third full paragraph, seventh line, MODUS should read MOTUS.
p. 61 Swainson's Thrush section, first line, '...of which five5...' should read 'of which five...'
p. 99 Last paragraph, part of the date was inadvertently printed on the line above. The paragraph, indented, should start with 30 September brought....
p. 103 In the Abbreviations section, **VCP** should be bold.
p. 106 Gray Kingbird entry – observer name is misspelled. Should be N. Pietrunti.
p. 106 Remove Nov from the WESTERN TANAGER entry for Coney I Creek P; it was only seen 26 Sep.

KB 72.2 June 2022

- Inside back cover: Print version differs from digital version. NY Birders Editor in print version should have been Dan Miller, corrected in digital version.
p. 190 In Abbreviations section, remove second semicolon after **PH** – Port Henry entry.

KB 72.4

- p. 341 In Abbreviations section, **TBNP** – descriptor should read Nature Pres.

KB 73.1

- p. 30 In Abbreviations section, **TBNP** – descriptor should read Nature Pres.
p. 45 The date is missing from the Loggerhead Shrike photo; it should read ... Oswego, 2 Sep 2022 ...
p. 88 The map is corrupted, to be replaced in digital version.

KB 73.3

- p. 195 The following eBird citation was mistakenly omitted; due to space considerations it could not be added to the online version:
Much of the data in the Regional reports is sourced from eBird:
eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relFeb-2023. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Feb 2023.
p. 244 In the Abbreviations section, the CV and SL entries are not in alphabetical order.

KB 73.4

pp. 276-280 The text was printed in grayscale in error; the archived version will be corrected.

p. 353 In the Abbreviations section **OPrd** should read **OPRd**, and the **PaRd** entry is not in alphabetical order.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—SUMMER 2023

Michael F. Cooper

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In most years, the seasonal summary starts out with a check of the overall weather patterns experienced by observers across the state, and we can often see some connection to how those weather patterns affected the birds we saw during the season. The summer of 2023 had those weather-related fluctuations, an overall wet season brought with it a reduction in shorelines available for migrating shorebirds in some areas, for example. But last summer had an additional player added into the mix. An unprecedented wildfire season in the boreal forests of eastern Canada generated a massive “smoke event” which covered some areas of New York State for a week or so in early June.

Interestingly, the smoke may have been more significant in southern parts of the state. Some Regional editors, closer to the source, either didn’t mention it at all or saw it as a much less significant event in their own areas. In Region 1, the editors mention “a few bouts of thick smoke originating from Canadian wildfires”, while in extreme southern Region 10, some comments mention that the smoke “cast an eerie, sickly yellow glow over our area” and that it was “palatable and thick”, and even “near-apocalyptic”!

In any case, there was some acknowledgement that the fires may have accounted for some unseasonal records of species which normally pass through as spring migrants lingering or returning early to avoid the fires in their breeding areas. Region 2 editor Nicholas Kachala commented on reports of higher-than-normal numbers of non-breeding warblers along the Lake Ontario shoreline: “Experienced birders suggested the possibility of failed breeding in southern Quebec as a result of the wildfires as a potential explanation for the abnormally high numbers of Magnolia Warblers, among others.”

Similar comments appear in the Region 6 report regarding early arriving warblers, and in Region 9 in connection with an influx of breeding Red Crossbills: “The Canadian Boreal Forests had been greatly reduced by the summer wildfires which had already pushed Red Crossbills into northeastern states.”

The wetter-than-normal conditions throughout most of the summer may have benefitted waterfowl in most Regions. Good numbers of Common Mergansers were reported from Regions 1 and 3, and Trumpeter and Mute Swans continue to expand as breeders. The Region 3 reports noted numbers of both teal species,

American Black Duck and an American Wigeon. A flock of up to 30 Snow Geese lingered in Region 5, along with Redhead, Ring-necked Duck and Greater Scaup. A lingering Tundra Swan in Region 8 and two more in Region 10 were quite surprising. Two Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks in Region 9 and three more in Region 10 were the only ones reported statewide—a sentence that would have been absurd to write just a few years ago. Common Eiders apparently bred off Fisher’s Island in Region 10, and two different female King Eiders were reported elsewhere in that Region.

It was a four-dove-season in Region 10. A Eurasian Collared Dove was found in Suffolk County during the Captree June Count, while a White-winged Dove visited a yard in Bridgehampton in July. An Eared Grebe at Batavia treatment plant in Region 1 was a nice mid-summer find. Sandhill Cranes continue to colonize the state, with reports coming from all but Region 10, with many mentions of breeding birds. Downstate Regions cleaned up in the cormorant department, with a Great that lingered through the season at Harbor Square Park and additional reports from Region 10. A Neotropic returned to the Newburgh waterfront in Region 9, and one on Staten Island, a first for Region 10, was quickly followed by another in Brooklyn. An Anhinga briefly touched down on Staten Island on 3 June.

An American White Pelican made the rounds in New York Bay, Region 10, while Brown Pelican numbers peaked at 19 on Staten Island. Roseate Spoonbills put in appearances in Regions 1 and 8 and seem to be on their way to achieving a more regular status. Regions 3 and 8 recorded White Ibis. A mention in the Region 6 report of “reports from 45+ locations” for American Bitterns seems really impressive, even with the increased attention from atlasers. Little Blue Herons made appearances in three upstate Regions, Yellow-crowned Night-Herons in four, including a first for Tioga County in Region 4. A Snowy Egret in Region 6 was surprisingly cooperative.

Although high water levels reduced some of the shoreline habitat needed by migrating shorebirds, there were still quite a few nice records. A Western Sandpiper in Lakeport in Region 5 was a surprise. Another in Region 9 provided the second record for Sullivan County. A Baird’s Sandpiper in Region 4 provided a first record for Tioga County in the eBird era. The Region 5 and 6 reports include interesting comments regarding Piping Plovers. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has a program to swap chicks between locations in Michigan and New York to increase genetic diversity within the Great Lakes population.

Six Regions recorded American Avocet. In Region 5, Sandy Pond continues to be a premier shorebirding hotspot. This year it hosted two Avocets, both Marbled and Hudsonian Godwit, breeding Piping Plovers, and a variety of other species. The spiciest find, though, had to be the mega-rare Red-necked Stint, seen and photographed on 15 July. This was the fifth record for New York, and the first away from Long Island.

The other mega shorebird event of the season occurred in Suffolk County in Region 10, when a Common Ringed Plover was found near Smith’s Point County Park. This bird was cooperative enough that many birders went to see it, and it eventually became clear that there were in fact two different birds seen there over the period of about 10 days.

Jaeger reports were highlighted by a Parasitic found in June in Region 5, unusual for date and location, and two different Long-tails in August in Region 2. There were two reports of Brown Booby from opposite sides of Region 10. This is another southern species that is now occurring with some regularity in the state.

Summer isn't normally considered peak gull-watching season, but nevertheless a couple of interesting reports are included here. A Black-legged Kittiwake in Region 1 provided a first Regional June record, and another in Region 9 was equally surprising. Little Gulls were found in Regions 5 and 10, and a Franklin's Gull on 19 July provided a first record for Putnam County in Region 9. Top spot among the larids, though, has to go to the breeding plumaged White-winged Tern that played hide-and-seek with birders for two days on a Long Island beach. If accepted, this will represent the seventh record for the State, the first since 1997.

Waters off the south shore of Long Island are described in the Region 10 report as "freakishly warm". Pelagic birders benefitted from these conditions, racking up such species as Bridled Tern, White-faced and Band-rumped Storm Petrels, Audubon's Shearwaters and a Brown Booby. A Long-tailed Jaeger was a very unusual find in the western Long Island Sound, while a Great Skua seen from the beach in Suffolk County is one of very few records in recent decades.

It's worth checking out the Region 2 report to see the results of some mid-summer hawk watches. The volume of raptors moving through on early dates is surprising. Region 2 also produced four reports of Swallow-tailed Kite, and with additional reports from Regions 1 and Region 5 (two birds), it seems like there was a hint of a movement of that southern vagrant into the area. A Mississippi Kite was found in Region 10 in mid-June.

Woodpeckers generated a lot of positive comments, with Red-headed being widely reported and Red-bellied continuing to expand. Black-backed Woodpeckers were recorded in three Regions, probably extra effort by atlasers accounting for a slight uptick in reports.

Red Crossbills were widely reported across the state, with some observers in Regions 4, 5, and 7 adding additional information as to which types they were encountering. It's worth checking those reports out for details on this challenging frontier of identification. Birds were also present in likely breeding situations at a number of locations on eastern Long Island.

Among grassland species, Grasshopper and Clay-colored Sparrows and Sedge Wren received a few positive comments, although some of that may be due to increased attention from atlasers. Reports of Nelson's Sparrows in two Regions in mid-June is intriguing.

Golden-winged Warbler continues its downward spiral across the state. The only stronghold left appears to be in Region 6. As might be expected, some southern breeders continued to strengthen their foothold in several Regions. These included Yellow-breasted Chat apparently prospecting in Region 1, Prothonotary Warblers confirmed breeding at several locations, including a first in Sullivan County in Region 9, and a first confirmed nesting for Blue Grosbeak in Ulster County, also in Region 9. Acadian Flycatchers were well reported in Regions 1, 3, and 5. Kentucky Warblers returned to suitable habitat in Regions 4 and 9. A

yellow-bellied kingbird in Brooklyn in July was likely a Tropical, although Couch's could not be ruled out.

Bicknell's Thrushes were detected in four Regions, with interesting details again coming from the Motus stations in Region 5. These Motus stations continue to generate some really fascinating information on the routes taken by individual birds, and readers are encouraged to check that Regional report for comments on Red Knot, Bank Swallow and others.

Rounding up a few other rarity reports across the state, Dickcissels were found at four locations in Region 8, while one that lingered for several weeks in Region 2 provided the "first chaseable Dickcissel in Monroe County for at least 10 years". Region 9 recorded several notable species, including a Western Kingbird in mid-July, a Lark Sparrow in late August and a Summer Tanager in mid-August.

Summer 2023 provided quite a nice variety of rare sightings, and hopefully many of you got to share in some of these special records. Among the best of the best, I think we'd have to consider the breeding plumaged White-winged Tern and the "two-fer" of Common Ringed Plovers. Great Skua is a great bird to see anywhere in the state, but even more so to catch during a seawatch. And who doesn't love Roseate Spoonbill? But I think the BOTS this time around should go to the Region 5 Red-necked Stint, with just a handful of prior state records and none of those away from the immediate coast. Great bird—too bad it didn't stay a little longer for more folks to enjoy.

Finally, along with Editor Shai Mitra and Regional Reports Editor Patricia Lindsay, I extend a warm welcome to four new Regional Editors: Nick Kachala, taking over from Bob Spahn in Region 2 starting with the fall 2022 issue (73-2); Jeremy Collison covering Region 4 for the spring and winter seasons, starting with spring 2023 (73-4); Brian McAllister who will co-edit the Region 7 report for the spring seasons, starting with spring 2024 (75-1); and Max Epstein, co-editing the Region 10 summer reports starting with this issue (74-1). Their expertise and diligence will further the uniquely detailed and authoritative record within *The Kingbird's* Regional Reports.

Thanks for reading and keep on birding!

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REGIONAL REPORTS, SUMMER 2023

Much of the data in the Regional reports is sourced from eBird: eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relAug-2023. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Aug 2023.

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REGION 1 – NIAGARA FRONTIER

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June 2023 started with record warmth and then moderated. The mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 66.8° F, just 0.1° below normal, with 2.42" of precipitation, 0.95" below average. The most notable events were a few bouts of thick smoke originating from Canadian wildfires. July was warm and wet. The mean temperature was 72.8°, 1.1° above average. July rainfall was plentiful at 5.54", 2.34" above average. August was cool with an average temperature of 68.9°, 1.5° below normal. Rainfall was 3.12", 0.11" below normal.

The summer will be remembered for the Region's first occurrence of **Roseate Spoonbill**. Paul Derkowicz photographed an immature Roseate Spoonbill on his property in Elma on the morning of 8 July, and he indicated it was gone within a half hour. Derkowicz reported the spoonbill sighting to Bernie Clabeaux, who then put the birding community on alert to look for this wandering wader. Late in the afternoon on 19 July, Zach Almond submitted an eBird report noting he saw an immature spoonbill in the company of several Great Egrets at Tift Nature Preserve. Birders went out searching the next morning and the spoonbill was found along the Buffalo River at Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park. Many birders from near and far were able to see the spoonbill at this location, or at Tift Nature Preserve, into early August.

Another southern wanderer was documented in July, but this one did not linger or allow many to see it. Gerry Teal was birding at Wilson-Tuscarora State Park on the 26th when he spotted a **Swallow-tailed Kite** soaring over a meadow. He was able to get a photograph of this handsome raptor. This is the fourth Region 1 record.

The fourth Breeding Bird Atlas season brought some birders to unfamiliar locations and they gained a greater appreciation of the expected birds and habitat in distant areas. Unlike summer 2022, no BBA-hired technicians graced Region 1. We look forward to a strong finish in the fifth and final year of the atlas this year.

Waterfowl breeding highlights include up to six Trumpeter Swans at Tonawanda WMA, a recent, regular breeding location for this species. Lakeside Beach SP and Waterport continue to be among the few Regional strongholds for the invasive Mute Swan, with up to nine individuals counted at each site this season. An impressive 35 young Common Mergansers were photographed by Gale VerHague with a single hen in Chautauqua County.

A handful of Common Nighthawk reports from mid-June to early July are suggestive of potential breeding for this now very rare breeder in the Region. Summer Sandhill Crane reports continue to increase, with several from Iroquois

NWR and vicinity, a known breeding location, as well as areas to the south with potential breeding habitat. Sadly, there were no summer reports for Upland Sandpiper, a species that has seen a sharp decline in the Region. Up to four Black Vultures were reported at the known, year-round Lewiston location along the Niagara River. This species has yet to be confirmed breeding; however, there is an ample supply of potential nesting habitat out of view along the wooded gorge of the Niagara River. Nesting Sharp-shinned Hawks continued at Krull CP for the second year in a row this summer, a location well north of their typical Southern Tier breeding location.

Red-headed Woodpeckers were found throughout the summer in their usual sites close to the Lake Erie and Ontario shorelines, with some inland reports, including Iroquois NWR. Six “confirmed” Merlin breeding reports were entered into the BBA database in the Region, most of which came from the Southern Tier. Adult Peregrine Falcon pairs were recorded by NYSDEC at seven nesting sites. Of these, six were monitored to fledging and three of the six successfully fledged young. Sedge Wrens were reported from four locations with two pairs reported from Oak Orchard WMA. Breeding season Swainson’s Thrush reports came mostly from Allegany SP and adjacent areas as well as one report of a singing bird from Franklinville in Cattaraugus County. There were just two summer reports of Red Crossbill, both single birds, from Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties. A Yellow-breasted Chat found and photographed by Gale VerHague at Dunkirk Airport on 2 June was more likely a prospecting breeder than a late migrant.

Grasshopper Sparrows were reported from seven locations, with confirmed breeding (recently fledged young) at one site. Clay-colored Sparrows continued at their known breeding site at Krull CP, with up to six reported there. An additional location for this species was found in the nearby town of Hartland, though the highest breeding evidence was just a continuing singing male present for 7+ days. White-throated Sparrow reports came mostly from expected Southern Tier locations, though three came from unexpected areas well to the north, perhaps displaced by the summer wildfires to the north in Canada. Vesper Sparrows were reported from six locations in the Region over the summer.

In similar fashion to recent years, no Golden-winged Warblers were reported in June or July. This species appears to have vanished in the Region as a “pure” breeder, though continued summer reports of hybrids, both “Brewster’s” and “Lawrence’s”, provide hope this species is still around. BBA efforts resulted in Brewster’s Warbler reports from two areas in June and July and Lawrence’s Warblers from three areas. The increase in Lawrence’s reports in recent years is interesting in that a recent Photo Salon in the American Birding Association’s *Birding* on Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler hybrids indicated that Brewster’s generally outnumber Lawrence’s around 10:1, but that ratio declines once Blue-wingeds outnumber and eventually replace Golden-wingeds. (Koziara 2024). That sums up where Region 1 stands right now. Prothonotary Warbler was reported from a known breeding location in Tonawanda WMA.

During the annual colonial nest survey in Buffalo Harbor and the upper Niagara River, the NYSDEC reported a total of 1,624 pairs of nesting Common Terns. This number included 289 pairs on the “tern raft”, a structure constructed

by NYSDEC in Buffalo Harbor to promote successful breeding of this species. The lower numbers compared to last year's survey were attributed to takeover of one of the main nesting colonies by Ring-billed Gulls. A total of 200 Caspian Tern pairs were recorded from Donnelly's Spit in Buffalo Harbor, a relatively recent colony. Up to 39 Black Terns were reported at Iroquois NWR, where this and the adjacent Tonawanda WMA are the only breeding sites for this species in the Region. A total of 104 pairs of Great Blue Herons, 19 pairs of Black-crowned Night-Herons, and 60 pairs of Great Egrets were also counted in the upper Niagara River on Motor Island WMA and above Niagara Falls by the NYSDEC.

Southbound shorebirds made a nice showing in July and August. Highlights included an American Avocet at Dunkirk Harbor on 9 August, the first American Golden-Plover of the season on 23 August, and three Whimbrel sightings. Red Knots were reported from two locations as well as a handful of Stilt Sandpipers and Baird's Sandpipers. A single Buff-breasted Sandpiper in a mixed flock of shorebirds in flight at Batavia WWTP was a nice treat on 23 August. The count of 21 Short-billed Dowitchers on 30 July was a notable higher count for this species in recent summers. Batavia WWTP hosted up to three Wilson's Phalaropes and an impressive nine Red-necked Phalaropes from 20-26 August. No Willets were reported this summer. Batavia WWTP is the best bet in the Region to find an Eared Grebe and John Sojda found one on 19 August, which remained until the 29th.

Besides the spoonbill, other wading bird highlights include a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron found by Peter Torraca in Allegany County on 18 and 20 June. Nice counts of 102 and 72 Great Egrets came from Batavia WWTP (21 July) and Tonawanda WMA (22 August), respectively. Tom Kerr found a Glossy Ibis at the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center on 22 and 23 June.

Gull highlights included the Region's first June record for Black-legged Kittiwake, an adult found by Joel Strong that stuck around from 4-10 June in Olcott, and likely the same bird seen there once in May. Two Laughing Gulls were found in June, a species that has occurred more frequently in recent years. A handful of Lesser Black-backed Gulls were reported from various locations in the Region and no Forster's Terns were reported.

The last spring-migrating Gray-cheeked Thrush report snuck in on 1 June. Other late, northbound migrants included Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (10 and 7 June, respectively), and a very late White-crowned Sparrow on 10 June. Late migrating warblers included Blackpoll Warbler (8 June), Canada Warbler (2 June), and Wilson's Warbler (8 June). There were no summer reports of Pine Siskin.

August brought the first of the southbound, fall warblers, which included the only Golden-winged Warbler report, found by Charlie Kaars at Woodlawn Beach SP on 27 August. Cape May Warblers were plentiful in August and a Cerulean Warbler found on 25 August at Woodlawn Beach SP was an uncommon sighting for this species during fall migration. Yellow-rumped Warblers arrived earlier than normal and made a stronger push than normal for so early during fall migration.

Koziara, Gene. 2024. "Photo Salon: Golden-winged Warbler x Blue-winged Warbler Hybrids". *Birding*. Volume 55, No. 8, January 2024, a publication of the American Birding Association.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACNC – Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown, CHAU; **AISP** – Allegany SP, CATT; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **BufH** – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; **BuSP** – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; **BWWTP** – Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, GENE; **DH** – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FLC** – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; **FMCSP** – Four Mile Creek SP, NIAG; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **HBWMA** – Hanging Bog WMA, ALLE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **Krull CP** – Krull CP, NIAG; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **MI** – Motor I WMA, ERIE; **NF** – Niagara Falls, NIAG; **NFSP** – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; **NR** – Niagara R; **OOWMA** – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; **PB** – Point Breeze, ORLE; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods NP, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach NP, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tift NP** – Tift NP, ERIE; **TRWMA** – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WFWMA** – Watts Flats WMA, CHAU; **WBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

Canada Goose: max 440 DH 10 Jul.

Mute Swan: max 9 LBSP 10 Jun; 7 WTSP 13 Jun, 13 Aug; 4 Wilson NIAG 6 Aug; max 9 Waterport ORLE 15 Aug.

Trumpeter Swan: max 6 TWMA 24 Jul, regular breeding area; Clay Pd WMA CHAU 13 Jun, 1-6 Jul (GB).

Wood Duck: 43, 80 Tift NP 9 Jun, 24 Aug; 40 TWMA 26 Jun; max 145 BWWTP 25 Aug.

Blue-winged Teal: 3 TWMA 30 Jul; 51 BWWTP 18 Aug; max 100 INWR 28 Aug.

Northern Shoveler: max 25 BWWTP 29 Aug.

Gadwall: OOWMA 20 Jun; Tift NP 26 Jul; max 6 BWWTP 29 Aug.

American Wigeon: INWR 6 Jun; 2 OOWMA 19 Jul; 2 BufH 3 Aug; max 10 BWWTP 26 Aug; 6 TWMA 27 Aug.

Mallard: max 210 BWWTP 27 Jun.

American Black Duck: max 8 BWWTP 23 Aug.

Northern Pintail: max 4 BWWTP 21 Aug.

Green-winged Teal: arr 1, max 60 Tift NP 26 Jul, 24 Aug.

Canvasback: FNSP 3 Jun (WD); NF 8 Jul (Dosch, Efron); rare in summer.

Redhead: 1, 2 BWWTP 2-20 Jul, 29,31 Aug; INWR 1 Aug; DH 5-13 Aug.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 1-2 BWWTP 24-27 Aug; only reports.

Lesser Scaup: DH 3, 14 Jun; TBNP 15-26 Jul (SS); 1, 2 BWWTP 20-21 Jul, 26, 29 Aug.

Common Merganser: 30 Evans ERIE 13 Jun; max 1 hen + 35 yg Silver Creek CHAU 17 Jul (GV ph!); 29 Wellsville ALLE 23 Aug; 33 Sturgeon Pt ERIE 25 Aug.

Red-breasted Merganser: NFSP 8 Jun; Olcott NIAG 9 Jun; BuSP 23 Jun, 4-9 Jul; only reports.

Ruddy Duck: INWR 6 Jun; max 15, 9, 25 BWWT 27 Jun, 2 Jul, 22 Aug; only location.

Wild Turkey: max 15 Swain ALLE 3 Jul.

Ruffed Grouse: max 4 ALLE 21 Jun.

Ring-necked Pheasant: only ten reports.

Pied-billed Grebe: 12 INWR 6 Jul; max 16 TWMA 16 Aug (AHe).

Eared Grebe: BWWT 19-29 Aug (JSo, mob, ph!).

Rock Pigeon: max 80 Lockport NIAG 25 Aug.

Mourning Dove: max 38 Wilson NIAG 9 Aug.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 68 eBird reports.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 59 eBird reports.

Common Nighthawk: West Seneca ERIE 6 Jun; Kiantone CHAU 13 Jun; Grand Island ERIE 25 Jun (SM); Olean CATT 6 Jul (JR); arr 4 Holland ERIE 14 Aug; max 18 Fredonia CHAU 24 Aug (DBa).

Chimney Swift: max 40 NFSP 7 Aug.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 13 N Harmony CHAU 5 Aug (TL).

Virginia Rail: 3, 2 HBWMA 12 Jun, 12 Aug; 4 Tift NP 23 Jun; max 5 INWR 17 Jul; 2 BMAC 21 Aug; 2 ACNC 21 Aug; 2 BWWT 23 Aug.

Sora: Cassadaga CHAU 11 Jun; INWR 6, 12, 31 Aug; BWWT 12, 18, 24 Aug; only singles reported.

Common Gallinule: max 22 INWR 18 Aug.

American Coot: max 4, 2, 3 INWR 21 Jun, 6 Jul, 12 Aug, Olcott NIAG 17 Aug; only locations reported.

Sandhill Crane: 7, 6 INWR 7 Jun, 6 Jul; 2 BMAC 7 Jun-6 Jul; 3 Cherry Creek CHAU 14 Jun; Randolph CHAU 15 Jul; 4 Bethany GENE 17 Jul; Frewsburg CHAU 21 Jul; WFWNA 29 Jul; max 15 Middleport NIAG 7 Aug (PM); 4 OOWMA 22 Aug.

American Avocet: arr DH 9 Aug (GV), only report.

Black-bellied Plover: arr 2, 3 Wilson NIAG 9, 10 Aug; Westfield CHAU 10 Aug; 1, 2 WBSP 12, 25 Aug; 2 DH 19 Aug.

American Golden-Plover: arr TWMA 23 Aug, only report.

Killdeer: max 91 Hamburg ERIE 27 Aug.

Semipalmated Plover: arr 3 Ransomville NIAG 23 Jul; max 14 WBSP 21 Aug; 13 INWR 26 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: no reports.

Whimbrel: arr Dunkirk CHAU 5-8 Aug (GV, mob); Wilson NIAG 9-12 Aug (PM, mob); WBSP 29 Aug (SB).

Ruddy Turnstone: max 6 BufH 5 Jun (MM); last Olcott NIAG 16 Jun; arr 3 Barcelona Harbor CHAU 26 Jul; 2 PB 14 Aug; 4 Westfield CHAU 17 Aug; 2 TBNP 30 Aug.

Red Knot: arr WBSP 19-22 Aug (RS, mob); Angola ERIE 27 Aug (BM).

Stilt Sandpiper: arr TWMA 24 Jul (PM); INWR 6 Aug; BWWT 22-27 Aug; 1, 2 Wilson NIAG 25, 27 Aug.

Sanderling: arr Barcelona Harbor CHAU 26 Jul; 5 BufH 16 Aug; max 17, 10 WBSP 19, 20 Aug.

Dunlin: last PB 10, 14 Jun; only reports.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr Barcelona Harbor CHAU 10 Aug; BufH 18 Aug (CK); BWWT 23 Aug; 2 TBNP 24 Aug (SS); 2 WBSP 25-31 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: arr Amherst ERIE 6 Jul; max 71 INWR 18 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr DH 10 Aug (GV); TWMA 23-25 Aug.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr BWWT 23 Aug (AHu, SB, MG), only report.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr Amherst ERIE 19 Jul; max 12 INWR 6 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 2 Falconer CHAU 13 Jun; arr TWMA 19 Jul; max 45 INWR 6 Aug; 19 WBSP 21 Aug; 25 Wilson NIAG 27 Aug.

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr, max 21 TWMA 30 Jul (G&SS); Blasdel ERIE 6 Aug; Barcelona Harbor CHAU 17 Aug; INWR 17 Aug; TWMA 24 Aug; Wilson NIAG 27, 29 Aug.

Wilson's Snipe: INWR 6, 11 Jun; Belfast ALLE 30 Jun; Cassadaga CHAU 7 Jul; 2 TWMA 23, 24 Aug; Elba GENE 30 Aug; only reports.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 14 BWWT 2 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: last Clay Pd WMA CHAU 13 Jun (GB), late; arr FLC 6 Jul; max 7 Hartland NIAG 27 Jul.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr TBNP 25 Jun (SS), early; Belfast ALLE 8 Jul; max 29 INWR 18 Aug.

Willet: no reports.

Greater Yellowlegs: Dunkirk Airport CHAU 3 Jun (PM); last Randolph CATT 4 Jun (TS), late; arr TBNP 25 Jun (SS), early; 7 TWMA 23 Aug; max 9 BWWT 29 Aug.

Wilson's Phalarope: arr 2 Wilson NIAG 9 Aug; 1-3 BWWT 20-26 Aug (ST, mob).

Red-necked Phalarope: arr WBSP 19 Aug (SB); 3, max 9 BWWT 20, 23-25 Aug (CM, mob), impressive numbers for Reg.

phalarope sp.: NFSP 15 Aug (PM).

Black-legged Kittiwake: ad Olcott NIAG 4-10 Jun (JSt ph!, WD, mob); first June record for Reg.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 67 FNSP 3 Jun; 7 DH 29 Jul.

Laughing Gull: Wilson NIAG, Olcott NIAG 5 Jun (WD, PM), same bird; N Tonawanda NIAG 24 Jun (JJ).

Ring-billed Gull: max 5000 NFSP 15 Jun.

Herring Gull: 144 pairs BufH per NYSDEC nest survey; max 450 DH 13 Aug.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Olcott NIAG 6, 16 Jun 26 Jul; Barcelona Harbor CHAU 26 Jul; WBSP 3, 25 Aug; NFSP 15 Aug; good number of locations for summer reports.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 5 WBSP 20 Jul.

Caspian Tern: 200 pairs BufH per NYSDEC nest survey; 165 BufH 6 Jun; 66 PB 25 Jun; 40 Tonawanda NR ERIE 29 Aug.

Black Tern: max 39 INWR 18 Jun (NJ, AGu); 3 BWWT 20 Aug; WBSP 20 Aug.

Common Tern: 1624 nesting pairs BufH and NR per NYSDEC nest survey; 200 Buffalo NR 10 Jun; 235, 100 Unity I NR 2 Jul; 315 Wilson NIAG 3, 10 Aug.

Forster's Tern: no reports.

Common Loon: BeSP 2 Jun; Tift NP 8 Jun; Hamburg ERIE 17-28 Jun; Olcott NIAG 31 Aug; only reports.

Double-crested Cormorant: 3123 pairs NF, BufH, NR per NYSDEC nest survey; 1100 DH 29 Aug; max 1715 Olcott NIAG 30 Aug.

American Bittern: ACNC 5 Jun; Canaseraga ALLE 18 Jun; max 4 TWMA 18 Jun; Tift NP 29 Jul; 2 INWR 12 Aug.

Least Bittern: FMCSP 5 Jun; max 2 INWR 6, 22 Jun; Tift NP 9 Jun, 22 Jul; RWNP 24 Jun; TWMA 1 Aug; TBNP 14 Aug; Tift NP 30-31 Aug.

Great Blue Heron: 104 nests MI per NYSDEC nest survey.

Great Egret: 70 pairs MI, NF per NYSDEC nest survey; 50 Buffalo NR 10 Jun; max 102 BWWT 21 Jul; 72 TWMA 31 Aug.

Green Heron: max 14 BWWT 22 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 19 nests MI per NYSDEC nest survey, not counted at NF; max 12 NFSP 1, 16 Jun; max 12 Tift NP 20 Jul.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: ad Belfast ALLE 18, 20 Jun (PT ph!), unusual location; rare.

Glossy Ibis: BMAC 22, 23 Jun (TK, mob), unusual location.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL: Elma ERIE 8 Jul (PD ph!); Tiftt NP, Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat P ERIE 19 Jul -13 Aug (ZA, mob), first Reg record; see *intro*.

Black Vulture: max 4 Porter NIAG 19 Jun; 3 Artpark SP NIAG 28 Jul; Whirlpool SP NIAG 2 Aug; NF 10 Aug.
Turkey Vulture: max 80 Bennett Beach ERIE 22 Jul; 46 Barcelona Harbor CHAU 31 Jul.

Osprey: max 6 BeSP 23 Jun; max 6 AISP 11 Aug.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: WTSP 26 Jul (GT ph!), 4th Reg record.

Northern Harrier: max 3 TWMA 26 Jul.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: Krull CP 25 Jun, apparent nest 2nd year in row; max 4 Hinsdale CATT 22 Jul.

Cooper's Hawk: 240 eBird reports.

American Goshawk: no reports.

Bald Eagle: max 5, 5 Dunkirk CHAU 18, 19 Aug.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 155 eBird reports.

Broad-winged Hawk: Gasport NIAG 7 Jul (WD, JSt), only location for date.

Red-tailed Hawk: 1150 eBird reports.

Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Brocton CHAU 7 Jun; 2 INWR 19 Jun; 4 Portland CHAU 24 Jun; 2 FNSP 29 Jun; 4 EvSP 13 Aug; 5, 5 Angola ERIE 19, 27 Aug; 4 Cassadaga CHAU 20 Aug; 4 Dunkirk CHAU 26 Aug; 4 Fredonia CHAU 26 Aug; max 6 LBSP 29 Aug.

American Kestrel: max 7 Olean CATT 13 Jul.

Merlin: max 5 Buffalo ERIE 15 Jul.

Peregrine Falcon: 7 nests documented in Reg by NYSDEC nest survey.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Canadaway Creek WMA, Hamburg ERIE 4 Jun; last HBWMA 10 Jun; arr Olean CATT, Forestville CHAU 19 Aug; Cuba ALLE, Ransomville NIAG 25 Aug; FNSP 29 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Buffalo ERIE 4 Jun; last TBNP 7 Jun; arr WBSP

15 Aug; reported from 7 other locations in Aug.

Acadian Flycatcher: 219 eBird reports; max 4 North Collins ERIE 10 Jun; max 4 Chestnut Ridge CP ERIE 17 Jul.

Alder Flycatcher: 356 eBird reports.

Willow Flycatcher: 769 eBird reports.

Least Flycatcher: 308 eBird reports.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 162 eBird reports.

Blue-headed Vireo: 405 eBird reports.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr TBNP 20 Aug; WBSP 25, 28, 31 Aug; East Aurora ERIE 26 Aug.

Warbling Vireo: max 11 Cherry Creek CHAU 15 Jun.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 23 AISP 17 Jun.

American Crow: max 200 New Oregon ERIE 24 Aug.

Common Raven: 378 eBird reports.

Horned Lark: max 42 Wilson NIAG 4 Aug.

Bank Swallow: 150 Portland CHAU 24 Jun; 65 WTSP 29 Jun; 160 Barker NIAG 9 Jul; max 600 INWR 20 Jul; 500 Akron ERIE 6 Aug; 450 BuSP 16 Aug.

Tree Swallow: max 720 TWMA 6 Aug; 500 BWWT 18 Aug.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 110 BuSP 10 Aug.

Purple Martin: 100 BeSP 15 Jun; max 149 Cattaraugus CATT 6 Jul (JB); 73 BuSP 1 Aug; 60 INWR 6 Aug.

Barn Swallow: 100, 90 INWR 2, 20 Aug; max 200 BWWT 23 Aug; 120 Dunkirk CHAU 29 Aug.

Cliff Swallow: 30 BufH 19 Jun; max 42 Buffalo NR ERIE 22 Jun; 28 Tonawanda NR ERIE 29 Aug.

Cedar Waxwing: max 53 BWWT 20 Aug.

Sedge Wren: 2 Villanova CHAU 2 Jun (JK); 2 South Dayton CATT 1 Jul, 1, 16 Aug (GV); 2, max 4 OOWMA 4, 5 Jul (AGa, AGu); INWR 12 Aug (TH).

Marsh Wren: max 25 INWR 22 Jun.

European Starling: max 3000 Lockport NIAG 10 Aug.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: last BuSP, Wilson NIAG 1 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: max 12 NFC Buffalo ERIE 10 Jun (PY); last Wilson NIAG, WTSP 13 Jun; 4 AISP 22 Jun; arr Jamestown CHAU 8 Aug, banded; 2 AISP 13 Aug; Fillmore ALLE 16 Aug.

Evening Grosbeak: Forestville CHAU 3 Aug (GV), unusual for date.

House Finch: max 23 Amherst ERIE 18 Jul.

Purple Finch: max 7 Yorkshire CATT 15, 19 Jun.

Red Crossbill: Franklinville CATT 24 Jun (BN); Scio ALLE 24 Jun (FB, NM); only reports.

Pine Siskin: no reports

American Goldfinch: max 75 INWR 18 Aug.

Grasshopper Sparrow: reported from seven locations; 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 2 Jun, 2, 16 Jul; 2 TRWMA 17 Jun.

Clay-colored Sparrow: max 6 Krull CP 11 Jun (PY), regular breeding area; Hartland NIAG 7, 16, 19 Jul (JSt, WD); only locations reported.

White-crowned Sparrow: last Jamestown CHAU 10 Jun (JB), late.

White-throated Sparrow: BuSP 26 Jun; Wilson NIAG 27 Jun, 3 Jul, Jamestown CHAU 28 Jun; possibly displaced by wildfires to north?; seven other Jul and six Aug reports in more expected Southern Tier locations.

Vesper Sparrow: reported from six locations; Forestville CHAU 2 Jun; Cambria NIAG 4 Jun; 2 North Collins ERIE 11; Fredonia CHAU 23 Jun.

Savannah Sparrow: easily found in proper habitat but much less numerous than years ago.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Dunkirk Airport CHAU 2 Jun (GV ph!), only report.

Bobolink: 32 Forestville CHAU 2 Jun; max 55 Charlotte CHAU 7 Jun; 21

Sardinia ERIE 9 Jun; 40 JWWMA 2 Jul; 35 Pendleton NIAG 9 Aug; 35 Ripley CHAU 13 Aug.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 12 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 13 Jul.

Orchard Oriole: max 5 Barre ORLE 9 Jul; last Jamestown CHAU 10 Aug.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 2000 Lockport ERIE 10 Aug; 400 Elba GENE 30 Aug.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 250 BuffH 25 Aug.

Common Grackle: max 2000 Lockport NIAG 10 Aug.

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 4 Fillmore ALLE 3 Jul; last Ripley CHAU 23 Aug.

Northern Waterthrush: arr WBSP 12 Aug.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr WBSP 27 Aug (CK), only report.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: 2 INWR 4, 14 Jun (MA ph!); ad m Wellsville ALLE 9 Jun (MM), apparently bred with female Blue-winged; INWR 5 Jul.

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: Freedom CATT 19 Jun (SB); Hinsdale CATT 13 Jul (JSt); Angelica ALLE 23 Jul (JSt); see intro.

Black-and-white Warbler: 2 South Valley CHAU 2 Jun; 2 Limestone CATT 6 Jun; INWR 15 Jun; 2 Rushford ALLE 9 Jul; arr WBSP 11 Aug.

Prothonotary Warbler: 2 TWMA 22 Jun (DBe); regular breeding location.

Tennessee Warbler: last 2 Forestville CHAU, Buffalo ERIE 2 Jun; arr WBSP 11 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: HBWMA 2, 8 Jun; Napoli CATT 7, 27 Jun; 2 Holland ERIE 10 Jun; 3 Belmont ALLE 4 Jul; arr Chautauqua CHAU 7 Aug.

Mourning Warbler: max 5 Cassadaga CHAU 19 Jun; 4 Charlotte CHAU 19 Jun.

Hooded Warbler: max 16 AISP 6 Jul.

Cape May Warbler: last Little Valley CATT 1 Jun; arr Sturgeon Pt ERIE 8 Aug; good numbers in Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: 3 Cold Spring CATT 2 Jun; 4 AISP 4 Jun; max 8 Brant ERIE 11 Jun (SB); 7 INWR 20 Jun; 2 Newstead ERIE 24 Jun; last WBSP 25 Aug (BC), rarely documented in fall migration.

Northern Parula: 3, 4 AISP 4 Jun, 6 Jul; arr WBSP 12 Aug.

Magnolia Warbler: max 9 AISP 22 Jul.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr BuSP 9 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr Sturgeon Pt ERIE 8 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: last Wilson NIAG 8 Jun; arr Sturgeon Pt ERIE, FNSP 25 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: 4 South Valley CHAU 8 Jun; max 4, 7 AISP 20 Jun, 6 Jul; 5 Great Valley CATT 24 Jun; 4 HBWMA 29 Jun.

Palm Warbler: arr TBNP 29 Aug.

Pine Warbler: max 7 Sardinia ERIE 9 Jun; Knox Farm SP ERIE 1 Aug; Krull CP 4 Aug.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Buffalo ERIE 10 Aug, earlier and more Aug migrants than usual.

Prairie Warbler: Glenwood ERIE 2 Jun; 2 Freedom CATT 19 Jun; max 6 Yorkshire CATT 19 Jun; 2 Grove ALLE 25 Jun; 3 Franklinville CATT 25 Jun; 4 Springville ERIE 13 Jul; arr WBSP 15, 20 Aug.

Canada Warbler: last LBSP 2 Jun; max 5 Cassadaga CHAU 22, 23 Jun; Andover ALLE 3 Aug; arr Dunkirk CHAU 14 Aug.

Wilson's Warbler: last Amherst ERIE 5, 8 Jun; arr WBSP, TBNP 21 Aug.

REGION 2—GENESEE

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June 2023 had two distinct weather periods. The first half of the month saw a continuation of the dryness from May. The second half of the month was wetter. Wildfire smoke from Quebec periodically blanketed Western NY, at times thick enough to smell, drastically reduce visibility, and issue air quality warnings. Temperatures averaged 65.8° F, 1.8° below average. The wildfire smoke likely played a role in this, with several days not hitting the forecasted highs. Precipitation totaled 2.55" at the Rochester Airport, 0.82" below average.

July was a wet month mixed with periodic smoke from more Canadian wildfires. Temperatures averaged 71.9°, 0.4° below normal. Precipitation totaled 6.81", 3.25" above average. July 2023 was the sixth wettest for Rochester since records have been kept. This was in direct opposition to 2022, where a moderate drought became worse as the summer progressed. Persistent thunderstorms produced even more localized rainfall, with the City of Canandaigua flooding on 9 July. The Rochester airport recorded thunder on 14 days, which is more than double the typical amount. The month was also noted to be cloudier than normal.

August was in many ways a continuation of July with cooler temperatures and abundant precipitation. Temperatures averaged 68.6°, 2.1° below average. Only one day reached 85°, which if this did not occur, would have been the first time since 1912. Precipitation totaled 5.44", 2.13" above average. Most of this precipitation fell over a few days of heavy rainfall.

Weather conditions were decent for birding in June, at least when it was healthy to be outside. Lake Ontario continued to be two feet above average in the beginning of the month and 18" higher than last year, creating less than ideal conditions for shorebirds. Many observers noted an unusual number of

historically non-breeding species of warbler along the lakeshore throughout the month. Experienced birders suggested the possibility of failed breeding in southern Quebec as a result of the wildfires as a potential explanation for the abnormally high numbers of Magnolia Warblers, among others. It should be noted that most of these species have historically occurred and have often been banded in maximum numbers for the spring well into June; just not regularly and particularly not recently. Some of this lack has been due to limited banding into June in some years. July was relatively quiet, not so untypical of a July, with occasional rarities mixed in and many good days for hawkwatching. Evidence of fall migration picked up in August as seen by shorebirds (22 species reported) and the first fall warblers (28 species reported).

The majority of migrant waterfowl tapered off earlier than in recent years, with only a few lingering migrants like Northern Shoveler and Red-breasted Merganser reported, mostly in the first 10 days of June. Rarer waterfowl in this season included a female Gadwall near Braddock Bay on 25 June and a single Lesser Scaup passing along the Lake Ontario shoreline on 4 July. August brought a slight increase in waterfowl diversity, especially towards the end of the month. The first White-winged Scoter of fall migration passed by the Hamlin Beach SP Lakewatch on 14 August. Nothing was record early, but just more evidence of migration.

The highest numbers of waterbirds such as American Coot and Common Gallinule were once again reported from the impoundments of the NMWMA, particularly the Sandhill Crane Unit at the end of Van Dyne Spoor Road in Savannah. A family of Sandhill Cranes, maximum of four, took up residence in the Sandhill Crane Unit as well. Lynn Braband also reported four Sandhill Cranes from Taylor Marsh along the Honeoye Creek in the Town of Honeoye on 3 July—two adults and two immatures. A handful of Red-necked Grebes were observed past the Hamlin Beach SP Lakewatch by the end of the month. The first Red-throated Loon of the fall passed the Lakewatch on 1 August.

Despite reduced shorebird habitat with the mudflats of Braddock Bay under water, patient observers recorded 13 species of shorebirds in June. Charlotte Pier was the best location to spot shorebirds, usually in passing flocks and occasional touch-downs on Summerville Pier. Departure dates in the first 10 days of June were within average. Chris Wood had the first fall migrant shorebird, a Greater Yellowlegs, on 23 June along Hogan Point Road in Greece.

Fall shorebird migration picked up incrementally throughout July. Braddock Bay's East Spit Island continued to be an island, the opposite of last year, where drought conditions lowered the lake level enough to create extensive mudflats. This July, Lake Ontario finished out the month at 246.46', 10" higher than last year, certainly due to the extensive rainfall and limitations in allowable discharge from the dams along the St. Lawrence River. Despite the loss of a dependable spot, observers reported 20 species of shorebirds between Charlotte Pier, the wet fields of Hamlin, Geneseo fields, and Sodus Point. Among the noteworthies, Andy Guthrie found an **American Avocet** along North Hamlin Road on 16 July. Chris Wood had a flyover Upland Sandpiper from Northrup Creek on 10 July. Jessie Barry spread word about a photographed Whimbrel in a private yard near Slater Creek starting on 15 July. The photogenic individual stayed for a few days and birders came from as far as Buffalo to observe the quite cooperative individual.

Water levels on Lake Ontario finished out August at 246.06,' dropping 4.32", still much higher than 2022, but indicating the start of a trend in the right direction. Birders continued to wade across the knee-deep channel between the East Spit and Braddock Bay's barrier island to access the better habitat. Joe Wing reported an **American Avocet** from Sodus Point on 10 August. Four Red Knots passed Ontario Beach on 25 August, spotted by Mike Gullo. A Red-necked Phalarope was photographed at Ontario Beach and Charlotte Pier on 25 August. Alan Bloom had the only report of Wilson's Phalarope for the season, this time on Summerville Pier on 30 August.

Moving on to the gulls, a Laughing Gull continued around Braddock Bay in the beginning of June. Laughing Gull was also reported from Charlotte Pier on 10 June and Sodus Point on 13 June. Whether these three are the same individual or three separate individuals is not known, although three different Laughing Gulls would not be unprecedented. Jaeger season started on 16 August with the first Parasitic Jaeger of the fall spotted by Mike Gullo from the increasingly popular Sodus Point Lighthouse Lakewatch. Mitchell Barry reported a Long-tailed Jaeger from Edgemere Drive in Greece on 16 August. Andy Guthrie reported a second Long-tailed Jaeger from the Hamlin Beach SP Lakewatch on 26 August. There are years without Long-tailed Jaegers in Region 2, so these two reports were much welcomed.

Late-season raptor migration continued into June on days with good southwest winds. Glenn Wolford observed the best raptor flight on 27 June from Lakeshore Marshes WMA with 29 Bald Eagles and 86 Broad-winged Hawks. Glenn noted all of the Broad-winged Hawks were immatures showing signs of molt. Dave Tetlow reported a Black Vulture feeding on a deer carcass in the median of the Lake Ontario State Parkway on 15 June, which was reported through 17 June. Another Black Vulture report in the vicinity on 23 June was likely the same individual. Birders continued impromptu hawkwatches when ideal conditions occurred. Days of interest included 1 July where 43 Bald Eagles and 27 Broad-winged Hawks were tallied from Pultneyville, 11 July from Braddock Bay with similar Bald Eagle numbers, and 26 July from Braddock Bay where 15 Bald Eagles, two Red-shouldered Hawks, and 40 Red-tailed Hawks were counted. An extralimital Swallow-tailed Kite was reported through a rare bird alert in Niagara County on 26 July. On high-alert, Mike Gullo found and photographed a **Swallow-tailed Kite** the next day near Beechwood SP in Sodus. Nick Kachala spotted another **Swallow-tailed Kite** on 28 July from Burger Park near Braddock Bay. Mark Kimble reported another **Swallow-tailed Kite** from Ellison Park on 17 August. The Ellison Park bird continued in the area until at least 27 August.

Braddock Bay Raptor Research (BBRR) conducted the post-natal dispersal raptor count from Braddock Bay Park in August. The entirely volunteer-staffed count tallied 1,920 raptors. Dispersing Red-tailed Hawks composed the majority (1,039) of the raptors, and are the focus of the count, but all migrant raptors were recorded. The best days of raptor movement were 3 August (211 raptors), 10 August (234), 17 August (193), and 20 August (157). 151 migrant Bald Eagles for the month total stood out as high. Dave Tetlow also conducted a hawk watch from the Owl Woods Parking Area on 10 August and tallied 543 Red-tailed Hawks and 46 Broad-winged Hawks.

Acadian Flycatchers continued an elevated presence along the lakeshore with the individual at Hamlin Beach State Park being reported periodically throughout all three months, plus an individual from Manitou Beach Preserve in early June and another at Firehouse Woods in late June—unusual. The BBBO banded a Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush on both 1 and 2 June, with “held in-hand measurements insufficient to distinguish” between the two. George and Katie Ford reported a Clay-colored Sparrow in the meadow past the Fairy Trail at Mendon Ponds Park on 10 June. The singing bird stayed through at least 16 July. The Golden-winged Warblers (at least two) continued through 2 June at Whiting Road Nature Preserve. Perhaps one of these years Region 2 will see a breeding pair of Golden-winged Warblers as the habitat of now dead ash woods continues to change.

A complete surprise came in a surge of Magnolia Warblers in the second week of June. Between then and July, there were 74 lines of Magnolia Warbler in the eBird download away from breeding sites in hills south of Rochester, almost all along the lakeshore. The phenomenon was first noted on 8 June with increased numbers of Magnolia Warbler located at several Braddock Bay locations. 25 of these reports occurred between 10-30 June. Another Magnolia Warbler report came from Firehouse Woods on 9 July. Could failed breeding attempts and/or displaced individuals from the Quebec wildfires be to blame? Two Sedge Wrens were reported singing from the Montezuma Audubon Center in Savannah on 26 July, which grew to three the next week. Various numbers of Sedge Wrens were reported from there through the end of the season. Visiting birder Noah Reid found a singing **Dickcissel** at Webster Big Field (Gosnell Big Woods Preserve) on 27 June. This represented the first chaseable Dickcissel in Monroe County in at least 10 years—a county bird for many! The quite cooperative bird was present through at least 12 July.

The first Swainson's Thrush was banded on 23 July at the BBBO— whether this was truly a post-breeding migrant or perhaps a failed nester due to the wildfires is debatable. Two early Tennessee Warblers were banded by BBBO on 23 and 24 June. Davey Walters reported a flyover migrant **Dickcissel**, identified by its distinctive flight call, from Armitage Road in the NMWMA on 20 August. Fall warbler migration was in full swing by 20 August. The BBBO banded a **Prothonotary Warbler** on 24 August, a very uncommon band for them and considerably late for the species. Tom and Jeanne Verhulst reported a Prairie Warbler from the Sandra L. Frankel Nature Park on 25 August.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BB – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; **BB-ES** or **WS** – East Spit or West Spit at the mouth of Braddock Bay; **BB-HW** – at or from Braddock Bay hawk watch; **BB-OW** – Owl Woods at Braddock Bay; **BBBO** – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, T Greece, MONR; **DEP** – Durand-Eastman P, MONR; **ED** – Edgemere Drive T Greece; **HANA** – High Acres Nature Area, MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **LSMWMA** – Lake Shore Marshes WMA, WAYN; **MP** – Mendon Ponds P, MONR; **NMWMA** – Northern Montezuma WMA, T Savannah, WAYN; **NMWMA (AR)** – north side of Armitage Rd; **NMWMA (CR)** – Carncross Rd area flooded fields; **NMWMA (MAC)** – Montezuma Audubon Center, T Savannah; **NMWMA (VDS)** – woods and wetlands along Van Dyne Spoor Rd; **OB** – Ontario Beach, T Charlotte, MONR; **SPt** – Sodus Pt, WAYN.

Blue-winged Teal: arr BB-ES 4 Aug (SG&TN).

Northern Shoveler: arr 3 HB 18 Aug (AGu).

Gadwall: ad f BB 25 Jun.

American Wigeon: arr 2 BB-ES 28 Aug.

American Black Duck: max 15 NMWMA (MAC) 26 Aug.

Northern Pintail: arr NMWMA (VDS) 12 Aug; max 17 HB 19 Aug (AGu).

Green-winged Teal: arr 2 HANA 10 Aug; max 12 HB 23 Aug (AGu).

Redhead: arr BB-ES 18 Aug (ABI).

Ring-necked Duck: ad m BB-ES 3-24 Jun; arr 30 Aug T Greece.

White-winged Scoter: arr HB 14 Aug.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 20 NMWMA (VDS) 14 Jul.

Horned Grebe: arr BB-ES 28 Aug.

Red-necked Grebe: arr HB 1 Aug (AGu).

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Common Nighthawk: last Rochester 20 Jun; arr Ellison P MONR 20 Aug.

Chimney Swift: max 60 T Mount Morris 7 Aug (TBo).

Common Gallinule: max 50 NMWMA (VDS) 12 Aug.

American Coot: max 55 NMWMA (VDS) 19 Jul.

Sandhill Crane: max 6 NMWMA (VDS) 19 Jul.

American Avocet: North Hamlin Rd. T Hamlin 16 Jul (AGu + mob); SPt 10 Aug (JWi).

Black-bellied Plover: arr 7 Jul BB-ES (CW); max 3 NMWMA (VDS) 29 Aug.

American Golden-Plover: no reports!

Killdeer: max 123 Church Rd. T Hamlin 18 Jul (AGu).

Semipalmated Plover: last 2 BB-WS 2 Jun (LM&JMi); arr NMWMA (CR) 13 Jul.

Upland Sandpiper: Northrup Creek T Greece 10 Jul (CW).

Whimbrel: arr Slater Creek 15 Jul (JeB + mob); max 3 SPt 18 Jul.

Ruddy Turnstone: last 3 OB 8 Jun; arr SPt 21 Jul.

Red Knot: last ED 8 Jun; arr 4 OB 25 Aug (MGU).

Stilt Sandpiper: arr OB 27 Jul.

Sanderling: last OB 3 Jun; arr BB-ES 16 Jul.

Dunlin: last BB-WS 17 Jun; arr OB 28 Jul.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr SPt 21 Jul (MGU) slightly early.

Least Sandpiper: last Genesee Valley Greenway, Chandler Rd 4 Jun (JK); arr 7 Church Rd T Hamlin 3 Jul.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr BB-ES 13 Aug.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 7 Church Rd T Hamlin 18 Jul.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last NMWMA (VDS) 10 Jun; arr SPt 10 Jul.

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 2 Church Rd T Hamlin 16 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr NMWMA (VDS) 7 Jul.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Church Rd T Hamlin 3 Jul.

Willet: arr 2 SPt 27 Jul; last BB-ES 19 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: last BB 1 Jun; arr 23 Jun Hogan Pt Rd MONR (CW).

Wilson's Phalarope: Summerville Pier 30 Aug (ABI).

Red-necked Phalarope: OB 25 Aug (GL + mob).

Parasitic Jaeger: arr SPt 16 Aug (MGU); max 3 HB 29 Aug (AGU);

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: arr ED 19 Aug (JeB, MB); HB 26 Aug (Andy Guthrie).

Laughing Gull: ad MONR-WAYN lakeshore 1-13 Jun.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 2 OB 16-29 Jul.

Caspian Tern: max 62 SPt 10 Aug.

Red-throated Loon: last HB 1 Jun; arr HB 1 Aug (AGU).

Common Loon: max 6 HB 29 Aug.

Black Vulture: ad T Greece 15-17&23 Jun (DT + mob).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: T Sodus 27 Jul (MGU + mob); BB Burger P 28 Jul (!); Ellison P MONR 17-27 Aug (MK + mob). Three records!

Bald Eagle: max 43 B. Forman P, Pultneyville 1 Jul (MGU).

Broad-winged Hawk: max 86 LSMWMA 27 Jun.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 543 BB-OW 10 Aug (DT).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr MP 18 Aug (ST).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last BB-OW 17 Jun; arr LSMWMA 12 Aug (W&MR).

Acadian Flycatcher: various lakeshore hotspots in Jun; HB thru Aug.

Alder Flycatcher: last River Rd T Portage 21 Aug.

Philadelphia Vireo: last T Naples 6 Jun; arr LSMWMA 29 Aug (W&MR).

Fish Crow: max 12 Ridge Rd T Greece 2 Aug.

Bank Swallow: max 400 Old Browncroft Blvd T Penfield 10 Jun.

Tree Swallow: max 500 NMWMA (VDS) 5 Aug.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 75 NMWMA (VDS) 30 Aug.

Purple Martin: max 227 Norway Rd T Kendall 31 Aug (R. Ryan).

Barn Swallow: max 115 HB 24 Aug.

Cliff Swallow: max 9 HB 24 Aug.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr East Bay T Huron 26 Aug (W&MR).

Sedge Wren: 1-3 NMWMA (MAC) 26 Jul thru 31 Aug (CL + mob);

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Gray-cheeked Thrush: last HB 12 Jun (AGu).

Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush: banded BBBO 1-2 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: last BB-OW 9 Jun. 1 banded BBBO 23 Jul.

American Pipit: arr BB-ES 31 Aug (KSc).

Clay-colored Sparrow: MP 6 Jun thru 16 Jul (NeR + mob); 2 Sand Rd T Bloomfield 10 Jun thru 12 Jul (MT + mob).

White-crowned Sparrow: last T Ontario 2 Jun (CGu).

White-throated Sparrow: occasional lakeshore records all season.

Lincoln's Sparrow: last BBBO banded 1 Jun.

Yellow-breasted Chat: HB 2 Jul (AGu).

Ovenbird: arr Ellison P MONR 29 Aug.

Northern Waterthrush: arr BB-ES 20 Aug.

Golden-winged Warbler: last 2 Whiting Rd Nature Pres MONR 2 Jun (failed breeding?).

Black-and-white Warbler: arr T Gates 23 Aug.

Prothonotary Warbler: 2 NMWMA (AR) 10 Jun (last report - failed breeding?); BBBO banded 25 Aug.

Tennessee Warbler: last HB 12 Jun; arr banded BBBO 23 Jul.

Nashville Warbler: last HB 17 Jun; 1 banded BBBO 5 Jul; arr BB-OW 10 Aug.

Mourning Warbler: last BB-OW 17 Jun; sporadic breeding; no fall arr reported in Aug.

Cape May Warbler: last BBBO 13 Jun.

Northern Parula: last Hojack Trail T Webster 11 Jun; arr HB 29 Aug.

Magnolia Warbler: numerous lakeshore reports Jun-Jul; arr DEP 8 Aug.

Bay-breasted Warbler: last ED 9 Jun; arr DEP 8 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: last HB 19 Jun; arr HB 9 Aug.

Yellow Warbler: max 35 BB-ES 28 Jul.

Blackpoll Warbler: last BB-WS 10 Jun; arr Rochester 28 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Whiting Rd Nature Pres MONR 27 Aug.

Prairie Warbler: Brickyard Trail, Rochester 25 Aug (SG&TN).

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr BB-OW 23 Aug.

Canada Warbler: arr Brickyard Trail, Rochester 23 Aug.

Wilson's Warbler: last T Spencerport 10 Jun; arr BB-OW 18 Aug.

Dickcissel: Gosnell Big Woods Pres MONR 27 Jun thru 12 Jul (NoR + mob).



REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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In the Finger Lakes Region, the summer of 2023 was a wet one. June was cooler than normal with an average low temperature of 51.8° F, 1.6° below normal and average high of 73.5°, 2.2° below normal. Total rainfall was 6.93", 2.95" more than normal. July was warmer than normal. The average low temperature was 60.5°, 2.5° above normal. The average high temperature was 81.2°, 1.3° above normal. Total July precipitation was 6.51", 2.61" more than normal. Like June,

August was cooler than normal. The average low temperature was 54.8°, 1.5° below normal and the high was 75.2°, 3.3° below normal. Total rainfall was 4.34", 0.57" more than normal.

Three species of waterfowl had summer high counts: Snow Goose, Common Merganser, and Pied-billed Grebe. In recent years, small flocks of Snow Geese have coalesced after the departure of the huge migratory spring flocks. It is believed that the lingering birds are injured. Two Red-necked Grebes were on Seneca Lake until the late date of June 23. Fledgling Redheads were reported from two locations along the wildlife drive at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR). A fledgling Ring-necked Duck was also reported along the wildlife drive.

The arrival of a Common Nighthawk in late July was early. A large flock was observed at MNWR in late August. An Eastern Whip-poor-will was in Jacksonville in early June and another was in Dryden in late August.

A good variety of shorebirds visited the Region with 24 species reported. An American Avocet was at MNWR from late July through early August. A Willet was also at MNWR in early August. Solitary Sandpipers along the Owasco Lake Inlet on 25 June were late spring migrants. A Least Sandpiper at MNWR on 20 June was likely an early fall migrant as were two Red-necked Phalaropes in Tompkins County on 26 July.

Herring Gulls in Ithaca and Caspian Terns at MNWR were reported with high numbers. A Lesser Black-backed Gull in Ithaca was an early fall arrival on 26 June. A Forster's Tern in Lansing in mid-August was a good find.

High counts of Least Bittern and Great Blue Herons were reported from MNWR. Single Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were in Freeville, Ithaca, and Geneva. A **White Ibis** was at a farm pond in Yates County in mid-August.

A family of Eastern Screech-Owls in a Yates County yard had enough young to yield a high count. A Red-headed Woodpecker family in Tompkins County also accounted for a high count.

A survey of a field at Sapsucker Woods turned up a high count of Alder Flycatchers. An Olive-sided Flycatcher in Chemung County on 13 June was a late spring migrant. A Philadelphia Vireo in Tompkins County on 18 August was an early fall migrant.

A high count of Tufted Titmice was at a location in Tompkins County in late July. A high count of Brown Creepers was at a Chemung County location in late August. A Sedge Wren was at MNWR in late July.

Observers reported a high count of Gray Catbirds at the Owasco Lake Inlet in early July. A Swainson's Thrush at a Tompkins County location on 11 June was a late spring migrant.

Winter finches in summer were Red Crossbills in Danby in early July and Pine Siskins in Steuben County in early June. A high count of Savannah Sparrows was at Mount Pleasant in Tompkins County in early July. The survey of the field at Sapsucker Woods produced a high count of Song Sparrows in mid-July. A Lincoln's Sparrow in Tompkins County in late August was an early fall migrant. A Nelson's Sparrow was at MNWR in mid-June.

A summer high count of Black-and-white Warblers was in Danby State Forest in early June. Migrating Bay-breasted Warblers produced a high count at Kashong Conservation Area in Ontario County in late August. High counts of

Wilson's Warblers were at Beebe Lake at Cornell University and in the Town of Ithaca in late August. A Wilson's Warbler in Lansing on 6 June was a late spring migrant.

Flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds at MNWR in early August produced a high count. There was a high count of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at Hi Tor Wildlife Management Area in Yates County in late July.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CP – City Pier, ONTA; **DSF** – Danby State Forest, TOMP; **HHSF** – Hammond Hill State Forest, TOMP; **HSRW** – Hile School Rd Wetland, TOMP; **KCA** – Kashong Conservation Area, ONTA; **LPBP** – Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres, TOMP; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MR** – Monkey Run, TOMP; **MtP** – Mount Pleasant, TOMP; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **PW** – Palmer Woods, TOMP; **SenL** – Seneca L; **SHNP** – Steegee Hill Nature Pres, CHEM; **SHSF** – Shindagin Hollow State Forest, TOMP; **SLSP** – Seneca L SP; **SPNA** – Salt Pt Natural Area, TOMP; **SRCP** – Stevenson Rd Compost Piles, TOMP; **SW** – Sapsucker Woods, TOMP; **TCar** – T Caroline, TOMP; **TChe** – T Chemung, CHEM;

TDry – T Dryden, TOMP; **TEri** – T Erin, CHEM; **TOv** – T Ovid, SENE; **TVE** – T Van Etten, CHEM.

Snow Goose: max 27 SLSP 9 Jun (BS, ph), high.

Canada Goose: max 296 Ithaca 16 Aug.

Mute Swan: max 4 Cayuga L SP 12 Jun.

Trumpeter Swan: max 11 MNWR 1 Aug.

Wood Duck: max 220 HSRW 28 Aug.

Blue-winged Teal: max 43 MNWR 18 Aug.

Northern Shoveler: arr MNWR 5 Aug; max 12 MNWR 27 Aug.

American Wigeon: max 8 MNWR 28 Aug.

Mallard: max 270 MNWR 28 Jul.

Northern Pintail: arr MNWR 6 Aug; max 15 MNWR 18-19 Aug.

Green-winged Teal: max 100 MNWR 27 Aug.

Redhead: max 8 SenL SENE 13 Jul.

Ring-necked Duck: max 2 MNWR 9-28 Jun; 2 Branchport 16 Jun.

Greater Scaup: Seneca Harbor P SCHU 24 Jun-23 Jul (JGa, ph); CP 13 Jul-21 Aug (KG, ph); max 2 CP 15-18 Aug (DDa, BCa, ph); SLSP 28-30 Aug.

Lesser Scaup: max 4 Holiday Harbor ONTA 15 Jun.

Bufflehead: 1-4 SLSP 10-29 Jun; 2 SLSP 1 Aug.

Common Goldeneye: 2 Atwater Meadows P ONTA 16 Jun; 3 SenL SENE 22 Jun-5 Jul.

Hooded Merganser: max 15 Queen Catharine Marsh SCHU 3 Jun; 15 MyPt 16 Aug.

Common Merganser: max 83 MyPt 30 Aug (KR!), high.

Red-breasted Merganser: 2 MNWR 19 Jun; SLSP 22 Jun.

Ruddy Duck: max 12 MNWR 14-19 Jun.

Wild Turkey: max 44 TVE 19 Jul.

Ruffed Grouse: max 8 Bear Swamp State Forest CAYU 27 Jun.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 180 MNWR 27 Aug (JMcG!), high.

Red-necked Grebe: 2 SenL SENE 22-23 Jun (RSt, DK, ph), late.

Rock Pigeon: max 80 T Manchester ONTA 11 Aug.

Mourning Dove: max 56 TOV 23 Jul.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 4 TChe 21 Jun.

Common Nighthawk: last Ithaca 8 Jun; Clifton Springs Country Club ONTA 25 Jun; Newtown Battlefield SP 2 Jul; arr Ithaca Tompkins Airport TOMP 24 Jul (SL!), early; max 65 MNWR 29 Aug.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: Jacksonville 3 Jun; Varna Rail Trail TOMP 23 Aug.

Chimney Swift: max 104 Ithaca Commons TOMP 23 Aug.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 11 TCar 3 Aug.

Virginia Rail: max 10 Hillview Road Wetland TOMP 2 Jul; 10 MNWR 8 Jul; 10 Ridgeway Road Marsh TOMP 2 Aug.

Sora: max 5 MNWR 24 Aug.

Common Gallinule: max 115 MNWR 5 Aug.

American Coot: max 75 MNWR 5 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: max 31 MNWR 8 Aug.

American Avocet: MNWR 25 Jul-9Aug.

Black-bellied Plover: last CP 2 Jun; arr MNWR 1 Aug; max 4 MNWR 12 Aug.

American Golden-Plover: arr & max 2 TOV 27 Aug.

Killdeer: max 95 Herman Road Wetlands TOMP 26 Jul.

Semipalmated Plover: last 2 MNWR 18 Jun; arr MNWR 18 Jul; max 23 MNWR 8 Aug.

Ruddy Turnstone: last & max 2 White Lighthouse Jetty TOMP 10 Jun; arr SPNA 27 Jul.

Stilt Sandpiper: arr 2 MNWR 25 Jul; max 24 MNWR 8 Aug.

Sanderling: arr MyPt 20 Jul; max 3 SPNA 27 Jul.

Dunlin: last CP 9 Jun.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr MNWR 18 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: last 5 MNWR 6 Jun; arr MNWR 20 Jun (DN!), early; max 65 MNWR 19 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: last MNWR 18 Jun; arr MNWR 1 Aug; max 4 MNWR 30 Aug.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr MyPt 19 Jul; max 27 MNWR 28 Jul.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last MNWR 18 Jun; arr 2 SPNA 12 Jul; max 69 MNWR 28 Jul.

Short-billed Dowitcher: last MNWR 12 Jun; arr MyPt 12 Jul; max 12 MNWR 6 Aug; 12 MNWR 11 Aug.

Long-billed Dowitcher: arr MNWR 23 Jul.

Wilson's Snipe: max 20 MNWR 10 Aug.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 15 Great Gully Brook Outlet CAYU 6 Aug.

Solitary Sandpiper: last 8 Owasco L In CAYU 25 Jun (WM), late; arr MNWR 3 Jul.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr MNWR 24 Jun; max 300 MNWR 28 Jul.

Willet: MNWR 4 Aug (DK, ph).

Greater Yellowlegs: last 2 MyPt 5 Jun; arr MyPt 18 Jun (JMcG, LSa), early; max 60 MNWR 5 Aug.

Wilson's Phalarope: arr MNWR 9 Aug.

Red-necked Phalarope: arr 2 Herman Road Wetlands TOMP 26 Jul (PHe, ph, THe), early.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 22 Great Gully Brook Outlet CAYU 19 Jun.

Ring-billed Gull: max 1100 SRCP 31 Aug.

Herring Gull: max 127 Treman State Marine P TOMP 31 Aug (DN!), high.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: arr Hog Hole TOMP 26 Jun (CS), early.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 11 SRCP 17 Aug.

Caspian Tern: max 100 MNWR 11 Aug (SC), high.

Black Tern: max 35 MNWR 1 Jul.

Common Tern: max 4 CP 2 Jun.

Forster's Tern: Ladoga P TOMP 16 Aug (CW!).

Common Loon: max 9 Bell Station TOMP 18 Jul.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 600 Stewart P TOMP 30 Aug.

American Bittern: max 2 Hillview Road Railroad Grade Marsh TOMP 4-15 Jun; 2 MNWR 13 Jul.

Least Bittern: max 10 MNWR 20 Aug (JMcG!), high.

Great Blue Heron: max 438 MNWR 5 Jun (VB!), high.

Great Egret: max 204 MNWR 8 Aug.

Green Heron: max 29 HSRW 28 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 40 MNWR 15 Jun.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Groton Avenue P TOMP thru 4 Aug (mob, ph); Stewart P TOMP 24 Jul-13 Aug (mob, ph); Sucker Brook ONTA 25 Aug thru (mob, ph).

WHITE IBIS: T Barrington YATE 8-20 Aug (mob, ph).

Plegadis sp.: MNWR 24-27 Aug.

Black Vulture: max 3 SRCP 16 Jun.

Turkey Vulture: max 127 SRCP 12 Jul.

Osprey: max 25 T Springport CAYU 25 Jul.

Northern Harrier: max 4 Steam Mill Fen TOMP 14 Aug; 4 MNWR 20 Aug.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 3 SW 2 Aug.

Cooper's Hawk: max 3 T Lansing TOMP 13 Jul.

Bald Eagle: max 8 MNWR 11 Jun.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 9 T Milo YATE 18 Aug.

Eastern Screech-Owl: max 5 T Potter YATE 4 Jun (HH!, ph), high.

Barred Owl: max 4 SHSF 3 Aug.

Belted Kingfisher: max 9 High Tor WMA YATE 2 Aug.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 4 Warren Woods TOMP 22 Jun-1 Aug (mob, ph), high.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 8 MtP 16 Jun; 8 T Scipio CAYU 4 Jul; 8 MtP 17 Jul.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 10 TEri 24 Jun.

Downy Woodpecker: max 9 TOV 27 Aug.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 7 SW 12 Jun; 7 Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 17 Jun.

Northern Flicker: max 10 T Wayne STEU 15 Aug.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 5 Morningstar Trail STEU 1-15 Jul; 5 SW 18 Jul.

American Kestrel: max 10 MtP 11 Aug.

Merlin: max 5 T Ulysses 24 Jun.

Peregrine Falcon: max 4 Taughannock Falls SP 11-19 Jun.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 7 TDry 23 Jun.

Eastern Kingbird: max 15 T Hector SCHU 14 Aug.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last TChe 13 Jun (BiO, ph), late; arr SW 17 Aug; max 2 Finger Lakes National Forest SCHU 23 Aug.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 13 HSF 31 Jul.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last MNWR 11 Jun; arr Northeast Ithaca 7 Aug; max 2 Durland Pres TOMP 31 Aug.

Acadian Flycatcher: max 5 Fillmore Glen SP 5-11 Jun; 5 T Catharine SCHU 15 Jul.

Alder Flycatcher: max 16 SW 9 Jun (AEp, MGt, LP!), high.

Willow Flycatcher: max 9 MNWR 2 Jun.

Least Flycatcher: max 5 TEri 24 Jun.

Eastern Phoebe: max 18 Hi Tor WMA YATE 3 Aug.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 5 Hillview Road Railroad Grade Marsh TOMP 15 Jun.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 10 TChe 21 Jun.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr T Ithaca TOMP 18 Aug (PHe, ph), early; max 2 PW 27 Aug; 2 TDry 31 Aug.

Warbling Vireo: max 14 SPNA 6 Jun.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 30 Ringwood Pds Natural Area TOMP 24 Jun.

Blue Jay: max 40 Bosque Neimi TOMP 19 Aug.

American Crow: max 200 SRCP 10 Jun-19 Aug.

Fish Crow: max 30 Geneva Wegmans ONTA 28 Jul.

Common Raven: max 10 T West Union STEU 2 Aug.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 35 PW 22 Aug.

Tufted Titmouse: max 20 LPBP 30 Jul (CKJ), high.

Horned Lark: max 13 Penn Yan Airbnb YATE 2 Jul.

Bank Swallow: max 750 MNWR 7 Aug.

Tree Swallow: max 4000 MNWR 5 Aug.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 100 MNWR 7-12 Aug.

Purple Martin: max 350 MNWR 5 Aug.

Barn Swallow: max 850 Queen

Catharine Marsh SCHU 22 Jul.

Cliff Swallow: max 10 Fitch's Bridge Fishing Access CHEM 3 Jun; 10 T Troupsburg STEU 6 Jun; 10 Hornell 3 Jul; 10 Woodville Boat Launch ONTA 4 Aug.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 8 TVE 29 Jun-2 Jul.

Cedar Waxwing: max 100 Hobart & William Smith Colleges 7 Jun.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 9 Hornby P STEU 19 Jul; 9 HSF 29 Jul.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 10 HSF 31 Jul.

Brown Creeper: max 19 Park Station P CHEM 31 Aug (BiO), high.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 8 Sweedler-Lick Brook Pres TOMP 26 Jun.

House Wren: max 12 Northeast Ithaca 24 Jun.

Winter Wren: max 7 SHSF 19 Jun.

The Kingbird 2024 March; 74 (1)

Sedge Wren: MNWR 29 Jul (PHa, SPa!).
Marsh Wren: max 30 MNWR 1 Jul.
Carolina Wren: max 8 The Sciencenter
TOMP 9 Aug; 8 Hog Hole TOMP 12
Aug; 8 SPNA 17 Aug.

Gray Catbird: max 50 Owasco L Inlet
CAYU 8 Jul (DMc, MSch), high.
Brown Thrasher: max 9 Northrup Hill
Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary STEU 8 Jul.
Northern Mockingbird: max 5 T Seneca
ONTA 11 Jun; 5 TOV 23 Jul; 5 TOV 27
Aug.

European Starling: max 4000 MNWR 5
Aug.

Eastern Bluebird: max 16 T Greenwood
STEU 18 Jul.
Veery: max 14 SHNP 10 Jun.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: last MR 2 Jun.
Swainson's Thrush: last Six Mile Creek
Natural Area TOMP 11 Jun (SY!), late;
arr MR 16 Aug; mx 3 TCar 31 Aug.
Hermit Thrush: max 14 HSF 29 Jul.
Wood Thrush: max 12 Shiindagin
Hollow State Forest TOMP 22 Jun.
American Robin: max 95 Volcano
Wetlands TOMP 30 Jul.

House Sparrow: max 100 T Barrington
YATE 23 Aug.

House Finch: max 20 T Canandaigua
ONTA 10 Aug.
Purple Finch: max 10 T Newfield
TOMP 8 Jun.
Red Crossbill: max 2 T Danby TOMP 6
Jul.
Pine Siskin: max 2 T Corning STEU 8
Jun.
American Goldfinch: max 50 LPBP 30
Jul; 50 T Seneca Falls SENE 5 Aug.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 3 T Benton
YATE 15 Jun; 3 TDry 20 Jun.
Chipping Sparrow: max 20 Cornell
University 5 Jul; 20 TChe 17 Aug.
Field Sparrow: max 20 Long Pt SP 31
Jul.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 24 SHSF 22 Jun;
24 TVE 2 Jul.

White-throated Sparrow: max 3
Summerhill State Forest CAYU 20 Jul.
Vesper Sparrow: max 5 T Troupsburg
STEU 15 Aug.
Nelson's Sparrow: MNWR 14-15 Jun
(DWh!, MMi, ph).
Savannah Sparrow: max 138 MtP 6 Jul
(AEp!), high.
Song Sparrow: max 100 SW 18 Jul
(AEp, MG, LP!), high.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Volcano
Wetlands TOMP 31 Aug (CCen, ph,
CKJ), early.
Swamp Sparrow: max 38 SW 18 Jul.
Eastern Towhee: max 15 HSF 31 Jul.

Bobolink: max 180 Dunlop Meadow
Natural Area TOMP 11 Jul.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 10 T
Greenwood STEU 3 Aug.
Orchard Oriole: max 5 SPNA 8 Jun.
Baltimore Oriole: max 31 T Danby
TOMP 11 Jul.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 75,000
MNWR 5 Aug (JGa, GSe!), high.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 100 T
Enfield TOMP 24 Aug
Common Grackle: max 10,000 MNWR
4 Aug.

Ovenbird: max 23 T Sempronius CAYU
5 Jun.
Worm-eating Warbler: max 2 DSF 3
Jun; 2 LPBP 11 Jun.
Louisiana Waterthrush: max 7 TChe 13
Jun.
Northern Waterthrush: max 3
Huckleberry Bog Trail STEU 18 Jun; 3
SW 26 Jun.
Golden-winged Warbler: Kashong
Conservation Area ONTA 28 Aug (BCa!,
KG!).
Blue-winged Warbler: max 9 SW 9 Jun.
**Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler
(hybrid):** TCar 16 Jun (SPo, ph).
Black-and-white Warbler: max 9 DSF 5
Jun (PA!), high.
Prothonotary Warbler: max 2 MNWR
10 Jun.
Tennessee Warbler: arr Campbell
Meadows TOMP 19 Jul (CCen!, rec,
CKJ!), early; max 5 Kahong Conservation
Area ONTA 27 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: max 2 HSF 31 Jul.
Mourning Warbler: max 5 Summerhill State Forst CAYU 23 Jun.
Common Yellowthroat: max 24 SW 30 Jun; 24 SW 18 Jul.
Hooded Warbler: max 10 HSF 31 Jul.
American Redstart: max 10 SHNP 10 Jun.
Cape May Warbler: arr MyPt 8 Aug; max 7 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 27 Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: max 5 MNWR 10 Jun.
Northern Parula: arr 2 PW 26 Aug; Newman Arboretum TOMP 26 Aug.
Magnolia Warbler: max 9 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 30 Aug.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr TDry 8 Aug; max 5 Kashong Conservation Area ONTA 28 Aug (BCa, KG), high.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 7 T Sempronius CAYU 5 Jun; 7 TVE 6 Jun; 7 Potato Hill State Forest TOMP 11 Jun; 7 DSF 7 Jul.
Yellow Warbler: max 25 MNWR 5 Jun.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 14 T Newfield TOMP 3 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: last SW 13 Jun; arr PW 27 Aug.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 12 SHSF 19 Jun.
Palm Warbler: arr T Hector TOMP 31 Aug.
Pine Warbler: max 5 MR 1 Jun.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 4 MNWR 20 Aug; 4 SW 22 Aug; 4 Risser Rd Swamp ONTA 28 Aug.
Prairie Warbler: max 4 T Eri 6 Jun; 4 T Jasper STEU 31 Jul; 4 LPBP 2 Aug.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 12 SHSF 5 Jun.
Canada Warbler: max 10 SHSF 4 Jun.
Wilson's Warbler: last SPNA 6 Jun (TB, rec), late; arr Beebe L TOMP 17 Aug; max 3 Beebe L TOMP 23 Aug (RSa!); 3 T Ithaca TOMP 25 Aug (PHe!), high.
Scarlet Tanager: max 8 SHNP 10 Jun; 8 TVE 11 Jun; 8 TDry 19 Jun.
Northern Cardinal: max 22 SPNA 17 Aug.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 18 Hi Tor WMA YATE 31 Jul (DWe, JW), high.
Indigo Bunting: max 12 TDry 6 Jun; 12 HSRW 20 Jun.

REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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June 2023 was just a bit warmer and a little wetter than normal. July was 2.7° warmer than the long-term average and had about two inches more rainfall than usual. August was just about average in temperature, but had about three inches more rain than the long term (thirty year) mean. In fact, the amount of rain for August was the fourth highest since 1950. These statistics are based on the data provided by the Binghamton office of the National Weather Service.

Both Blue-winged and Green-winged Teals returned to the Region in August with both species observed in a marsh in Sherburne in Chenango County. An American Black Duck was also seen in the same marsh. However one duck, a male American Wigeon, never seemed to leave as it was seen and photographed at the upper reaches of the Whitney Point Reservoir in Broome County from June to mid-July. Its intentions remain unknown.

Common Gallinules Pied-billed Grebes, Virginia Rails, and Soras were all confirmed to be breeding. Both Common Gallinules and Pied-billed Grebes were confirmed in the previously mentioned Sherburne marsh and in Boland Pond in Broome County. In Tioga County at Michigan Hollow Lake three juvenile Soras were seen along with an adult; also seen there were Virginia Rail with young. At Brick Pond in Tioga County, Common Gallinules were seen with three juveniles.

There were four pairs of Sandhill Crane seen in Chenango County this season, but only one colt (as young cranes are called) was seen. Mike DeWispelaere reported in eBird, “The Bliven Pond crane pair has a colt. Good news since the pairs at Round Pond and North Norwich have not been spotted with any young.” In previous NY Breeding Bird Atlas projects begun in 1980 and 2000, there were no reports of Sandhill Cranes breeding in the Region.

In late August there were several reports of Common Nighthawks migrating through the Region, and the numbers seemed lower than last season. The maximum number seen, on 23 August, was thirteen at Michigan Hollow Lake. There were no reports of any breeding nighthawks in the Region.

Regarding shorebirds, there was a Baird’s Sandpipers in late August at Michigan Hollow Lake which was discovered by Sandy Covington. Multiple observers were then able to see, photograph, and video this juvenile Baird’s which was a first record for Tioga County in eBird. Maximum numbers, for the Region, of Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers, Semipalmated Plovers, and Killdeer were reported from the marsh in Sherburne by Mike DeWispelaere in August. Ten Wilson’s Snipes, which number included juveniles, were seen and photographed in a wet field near the Otselic River in July in Chenango County.

Nesting Common Loons were found on a private lake (Genegantslet Lake) in Chenango County; unfortunately the eggs had been gotten to by a predator. The loons had nested there for at least a couple of summers, and were known to the residents. The Chenango Bird Club was alerted, and investigation (involving kayaks) and documentation was supplied by Mike DeWispelaere and Abbie Tamber. Mike reports that “Genegantslet is a private lake (no public access). It is mostly surrounded by forest. There is a distant partial view of the lake from CR7. The lake is at 1,483 ft. elevation with excellent water quality. I see no eBird posts from any residents on the lake, so it is no surprise that the loons have not been documented in the past. In looking at the prior NYS Atlas (2000-2005) I see only three confirmed locations of breeding Common Loon outside of the Adirondacks, Tug Hill and St. Lawrence River valley.”

There were 49 reports of Great Egrets in the Region mostly from late July thru August compared to 110 reports in the 2022 summer season. Many sightings came from the Whitney Point Reservoir and from Confluence Park in Owego—perhaps the Chenango and Susquehanna Rivers (their usual late summer spots) were too high for the Egrets’ liking due to heavier rains than usual in August.

A Yellow-crowned Heron was reported from the Kaufman Farm in Tioga County. This juvenile bird was seen by many and photographed—a first record for Tioga County. Many thanks to the Kaufman family who first found and reported this bird.

Turkey Vultures seem to be numerous with many sightings, but finding their nests is a rare occurrence. However, on 27 June Mike DeWispelaere did confirm a nest in some abandoned buildings on a country road south of Norwich.

Apparently, the buildings had been used as a nesting site for a few years according to a neighbor.

Two Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were recorded singing in June. The first was on 5 June in Exeter State Forest in Otsego County by Tom and JoAnn Salo. The other was recorded on 19 June in the Pharsalia Wildlife Management Area by David Nicosia. This is extremely rare for the Region, and the observers considered the habitat to be good for this species, and did not think the birds were migrants.

Swainson's Thrushes were recorded in the Pharsalia Wildlife Management Area on 19 June by David Nicosia—he reported three singing birds. However, there were no reports in the Region of confirmed breeding for the Swainson's Thrush.

Like last season there were only a couple reports of Pine Siskins. There were four reports of Red Crossbills contrasting with 38 reports last year. Most that could be identified by type were Appalachian or Type 1, while there was one recording that was determined to be from a Northeastern or Type 12. Red Crossbills can be divided into types which can be differentiated by flight calls and other characteristics. However, this is extremely difficult, and requires audio recordings.

Both Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows were seen on the Schlabach Farm in Tioga County in June and July. The Henslow's Sparrows were confirmed to be breeding with two juveniles seen with two adults, and an earlier observation of an adult carrying a fecal sac. There was only one other area in the state in which Henslow's Sparrows were found during the season. At around the same time, Grasshopper Sparrows were also found on the farm. The Schlabach family both discovered these birds, and then helped visiting birders find them. Both Nathan and Wesley Schlabach guided birders to these rarities. A Nelson's Sparrow was found on Birdsong Meadows Farm which is also in Tioga County. It was in a "wet cattail/weed habitat", reported Adam Troyer.

In total, 27 species of warblers (which is a bit below average for the Region) were seen in the season, which included a Golden-winged Warbler seen in Broome County, and a presumably returning Kentucky Warbler. The Kentucky Warbler was discovered by Dave Nicosia on 22 May in Beaver Swamp State Forest in Chenango County in 2022. Then the bird returned on 20 May 2023 and sang till it was last reported on 4 June, giving many a chance to see and hear it. In addition, a "Brewster's" Warbler (hybrid) was reported in Cortland County.

In summary, 179 species (last year 187) were reported, with some interesting rarities and vocalizations for the Region. If there are a reasonable number of reports I try to eliminate duplicate reports on the same day by different observers when reporting the number of reports in the Region. There were 83,787 observations (which is about 2% less than last year) in eBird for our Region, so I want to acknowledge and thank Bill Ostrander who sorted eBird data to identify arrivals, last dates, and high counts.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AqPk – Aqua Terra P, BROO; **BMF** – Birdsong Meadows Farm, TIOG; **BPd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BUNP** – Binghamton University Nature Pres, BROO; **CannR** – Cannonsville Res, DELA; **CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **CornellLn** – Cornell Lane, T Harford, CORT; **DorP** – Dorchester P, BROO; **FLT** – Finger Lakes Trail; **FMHW** – Franklin Mt Hawk Watch, DELA; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **NMSF** – New Michigan State Forest, CHEN; **PHWMA** – Pharsalia WMA, CHEN; **SHM** – Sherburne Railroad Grade Marsh, CHEN; **SusRB** – Susquehanna Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO; **WHP** – William Hill P, Johnson City, BROO.
CF, FL FY, M, NB, NY, ON, S, S7, UN – Atlas breeding codes, see p. 103.

Trumpeter Swan: BPd thru.

Blue-winged Teal: SHM 11-17 Aug, ph; 2 SHM 22-25 Aug, ph, (MD); early migrants.

American Wigeon: ULCP 4 Jun-16 Jul, ph, (JG, CSh).

American Black Duck: SHM 11 Aug, ph, (MD); early migrant.

Green-winged Teal: 2 SHM 6 Aug; max 5 SHM 25 Aug, ph, (MD); early migrants.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 5 SHM 25 Jun, FL, ph; 5 BPd 2 Jul, 1 ad, 4 juv.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 68 reports throughout Region.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 64 reports throughout Region.

Common Nighthawk: max 13 MHL 23 Aug; 10 Vestal BROO 24 Aug; 10 Hancock DELA 29 Aug; 9 Covered

Bridge Rd DELA 25 Aug; 20 other scattered rep in late Aug, numbers seem lower than last year.

Chimney Swift: max 30 Draper P Owego TIOG 7 Aug; 30 Endicott BROO 14 Aug.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: widely noted, 864 lines in eBird, somewhat fewer reports than last year.

Virginia Rail: max 8 MHL 11 Jun, 2 ad, 6 juv, ph, (SCo); 4 SHM 30 Jul, ph.

Sora: max 4 MHL 13 Jun, 1 ad, 3 juv; Daisy Hollow Rd CORT 21 Aug.

Common Gallinule: max 9 SHM 25 Jul, FL, ph, (MD); 6 BPd 11 Jun, 1 ad, 5 juv, ph, mob; 5 Brick Pd Owego TIOG 22 Jul, 2 ad, 3 juv.

Sandhill Crane: max 3 Bliven Pd McDonough CHEN 21 Jul, 2 ad, 1 juv,

only colt seen in Region, ph; 2 SHM 29 Jul-22 Aug, ph; 2 McCall's Pd T Preston CHEN 20 Aug, ph; 2 Benedict Hill Rd CHEN 10 Aug, ph.

Semipalmated Plover: max 7 SHM 25 Aug, ph.

Killdeer: max 30 SHM 22 Aug.

Baird's Sandpiper: MHL 23-27 Aug, ph, mob, (SCo); CornellLn 26 Aug; only reports.

Least Sandpiper: max 30 SHM 14 Aug, ph, (MD).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 6 SHM 25 Aug, ph, (MD).

Wilson's Snipe: max 10 North Rd T Otselic CHEN 11 Jul, FL, ph, (MD).

Spotted Sandpiper: max 4 CornellLn 26-27 Jul; good number of other reports.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 14 CornellLn 13 Aug, (CW).

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 4 ULCP 6 Jul.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr MHL 4 Jul.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr 2 ULCP 30 Jul.

Caspian Tern: max 5 BMF 15 Aug, flyover; 4 ULCP 30 Jul, ph.

Common Loon: max 2 Genegantslet L CHEN 22 Aug, UN, ph.

American Bittern: Ivan Stannard Rd CHEN 8 & 18 Jun, audio recording; Stage Rd CHEN 9 Jun; Golf Course Rd CHEN 15 Jun.

Least Bittern: BPd 11-14 Jun, audio recording, mob.

Great Blue Heron: max 10 Blakesly Nurse Hollow Rd CHEN 18 Jul, rookery, ph.

Great Egret: 49 reports throughout Region, about half as much as last year.

Green Heron: max 12 Brick Pd TIOG 21 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Lockheed Martin Pd TIOG 3 Jun.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: Barden Rd TIOG 1-2 Aug, ph, mob, (Kaufman Family).

Black Vulture: max 2 Cortland Water Works CORT 7 Jul; 2 Oneonta OTSE 21 Aug; 2 other reports in Jun from BROO. Turkey Vulture: Oxford Rd T Norwich CHEN 27 Jun, UN, (MD).

Osprey: max 4 Homer CORT 24 Jun, NY.

Northern Harrier: max 2 Oak Hill Rd T Pitcher CHEN 6 Jul, CF, ph.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 3 Mackey Rd Treadwell DELA 5 Aug, FY.

Cooper's Hawk: max 4 Madison Hill Rd Hobart DELA 25-26 Jun, NY,

Bald Eagle: 4 MHL 1 Jun, NY; 378 eBird reports, very widespread.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 T Windsor BROO 21 Jun, S; 2 PHWMA 19 Jun, P; 46 scattered reports, somewhat less than the 65 reports last year.

Broad-winged Hawk: Baker Schoolhouse Rd CORT 24 Jun, FY; 267 scattered reports, widespread.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 3 Goey Pd Rd OTSE 1-3 Jun, NY; common, with 403 reports throughout the Region.

Eastern Screech-Owl: max 2 Palmer Rd T Sherburne CHEN 6 Jun, NY; 2 T Scott CORT 13 Jun, FL; 10 other scattered reports.

Great Horned Owl: max 5 MHL 11 Jun, 2 ad, 3 juv, FL; 13 other scattered reports not from MHL.

Barred Owl: max 3 Chenango Valley SP 8 Jun, juv; 89 other reports thru the Region.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Tubbs Hill Rd TIOG 16 Aug.

American Kestrel: max 6 McMurdy Brook Rd T Kortwright DELA 25 Jun, FL; 5 Palmer Hill Rd OTSE 25 Aug, FL, ph; 285 widely scattered eBird reports.

Merlin: max 2 Wilbur P Oneonta OTSE 12-20 Jul, FY; 2 Schenevus OTSE 21 Jul, FL; 83 total eBird reports.

Peregrine Falcon: max 3 Binghamton BROO 17 Jun; most reports from the city of Binghamton.

Eastern Kingbird: max 20 ULCP 17 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Exeter SF OTSE 5 Jun, S, audio recording, (TS, JAS); PHWMA 19 Jun, S, audio recording, (DN); max 3 BMF 25 Aug; 5 other reports with all but one of singles in Aug.

Alder Flycatcher: max 6 LHNC 11 Aug, FY.

Willow Flycatcher: max 11 ULCP 31 Jul, many fledglings.

Eastern Phoebe: max 50 BMF 23 Aug, many on fence lines, (AdTr).

Philadelphia Vireo: CG 21 Aug; Exeter SF OTSE 30 Aug; ULCP 31 Aug, ph.

Common Raven: 4 Goey Pd Rd OTSE 1 Jun, FL; widespread, 553 reports throughout Region.

Purple Martin: MHL 23 Jul-13 Aug; Draper P Owego TIOG 7 Aug; only reports.

Cliff Swallow: max 20 Hathaway Pd Rd DELA 5 Jun, ON.

Brown Creeper: max 8 Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 9 Jun; 8 Springer Rd DeRuyter CHEN 30 Jun; 2 Hathaway Pd Rd DELA 5 Jun, ON.

Winter Wren: max 7 PHWMA 8 Jul, S7.

Marsh Wren: most reports from BPd, MHL, and SHM; 4 BPd 23 Jun, NB, ph.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: LHNC 2 Jun, S, (JaMcG).

Swainson's Thrush: max 4 PHWMA 19 Jun, S7, audio recordings.

Hermit Thrush: max 8 East Trout Brook Rd Walton DELA 18 Jun, M.

Red Crossbill: 4 reports from CHEN, some with audio recordings; last year there were 38 reports.

Pine Siskin: Vestal BROO 4 Jun, at feeder, ph; Chase Rd OTSE 16 Jun, only reports.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 2 Schlabach Farm TIOG 27-28 Jul; 2 other reports from the same area, one from 30 Jun with ph, (SPo).

Henslow's Sparrow: max 4 Schlabach Farm TIOG 30 Jul, FY; 6 other reports from the same area 7 Jun to 30 Jul, (Schlabach Family); only report from Region and just 1 other report in the State.

Nelson's Sparrow: BMF 14 Jun, in wet cattail/weed habitat, (AdTr).

Bobolink: max 200 (est) BMF 1 Aug.

Orchard Oriole: 9 scattered reports in Jun.

Ovenbird: max 82 Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 9 Jun, M, exact count of singing males, (DN).

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 8 Griggs Gulf SF CORT 17 Jun, FL, ph.

Northern Waterthrush: Chlorinator Rd OTSE 9 Jun, S7.

Golden-winged Warbler: Oregon Hill Rd BROO 31 Aug.

"Brewster's" Warbler (hybrid): CornellLn 12 Aug, (ChrW).

Black-and-white Warbler: max 6 Houck Mt DELA 6 Jun, M.

Mourning Warbler: max 8 Factory Gulf Rd DeRuyter CHEN 11 Jun, M; 213 other reports scattered throughout the Region.

Kentucky Warbler: Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 4 Jun, S, (ChrW), back again this year.

Hooded Warbler: max 4 Bunnell Rd Waverly TIOG 8 Jul, S7.

Canada Warbler: max 11 Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 9 Jun, M.

Indigo Bunting: max 9 ULCP 14 Jul, CF.

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REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Summer 2023 was wetter than usual but fairly average otherwise. June temperatures were right at the climate-normal of the last 30 years but featured 5.7" of rain, 2.2" above expected. Almost 2" fell between 26-27 June. Only three days were reported as 'fair'. July was 2.5° F above average at 84.2°, the overnights similar at 64.7°. Again only three fair days but 18 partly-sunny. Precipitation was 5.4" and 1.6" above normal, with 1.8" on the 29-30th. August highs were a touch cooler at 78.7° while rain was 1.4" above usual at 5.1". A whopping 2.9" inches fell between 7-8 August. Rain was noted on 26 of 31 days with only one characterized as fair. Wet!

A few Snow Goose are usually spotted in Summer, often injured birds. A flock of 30 on the canal near Weedsport was an unusual find for Reuben Stoltzfus on 4 July. Lingering diving ducks included Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, and Greater Scaup. Common Goldeneye is a nester in northern Herkimer County and were reported there on 11 June by Michael DeWispelaere. Ruddy Duck was reported from Onondaga Lake and Fulton. Sandhill Crane nested near Pennellville and Cato and were seen with young.

Shorebird season was productive Region-wide. Jordyn Dala and Kennedy Sullivan found an **American Avocet** on 11 July keeping company with a **Marbled Godwit** at Sandy Pond. Sullivan added another Avocet on 21 July. Both have historically been seen once or twice per decade but the godwit in particular has increased in recent years, likely due to better coverage of Sandy because of the Piping Plover there. This year two plover nests each had four eggs but both males were lost to unknown causes, which makes survival of the young unlikely. USF&WS transferred the eggs to be captive-raised and they were subsequently released in Michigan. Captive-raised fledglings from a Michigan population were released north of Sandy and made several appearances during late July and early August, the swap of birds expected to help genetic diversity in the Great Lakes population. Hopefully both groups will associate with their release point through feeding and migrating from there. American Golden-Plover was found by Paul Shanahan at the Sky High turf farm in Lakeport on 19 August, the only one of the Summer season. Aside from the Deerfield birds, the only report of Upland Sandpiper came from Remsen on 9 July.

Whimbrel checked in three times from Sandy Pond and twice from Fair Haven. Jay McGowan found one at Verona Beach State Park on 23 July. This is an unusual location as (with Sylvan Beach) the east end of Oneida Lake has not been productive for shorebirds in recent years. Gregg Dashnau found one at Oswego Harbor on 18 August while Richard Cohen saw a bird on the last day of the reporting period in Hamilton, another unexpected location. Back at Sandy, Madeline Fitzsimmons and Julian Warren photographed a Hudsonian Godwit on 26 August. Matt Brown found a Long-billed Dowitcher on the 15th. David Wheeler and Sullivan found a Red Knot there on 18 August with Wheeler adding

PHOTO GALLERY
Summer 2023



Sandwich Terns, Remsenburg-Speonk, *Suffolk*, 17 Aug 2023, © John Gluth.



White-winged Tern, Nickerson Beach, *Nassau*, here 9 Jun 2023, © Peter Post.



Common Ringed Plover, Old Inlet, Bellport, *Suffolk*, here 21 Aug 2023, © Kristen E. Johnson. This image shows the individual that was found on 19 Aug; it was last documented on 28 Aug.



Common Ringed Plover, Old Inlet, Bellport, *Suffolk*, here 6 Sep 2023, © Richard Cartwright. This individual was first photographed by Elias Markee-Ratner on 27 Aug, when the first bird was also present, and last recorded on 12 Sep.



Pomarine Jaeger, Mecox Bay, *Suffolk*, 1 Aug 2023, © Darlene McNeil.



Common Nighthawk, Albany Pine Bush, *Albany*, 24 Aug 2023, © Scott Stoner.



Baird's Sandpiper, Michigan Hollow Lake, *Tioga*, 25 Aug 2023, © John Garret.



Red-necked Stint, Sandy Pond, *Tioga*, 15 Jul 2023, © Kennedy Sullivan. Chosen as Bird of the Season by the Highlights author.



Western Kingbird, O'Hara Nature Center, *Westchester*, 19 Jul 2023, © Thea Barbelet.



Olive-sided Flycatcher, Town of Caroline, *Tompkins*, 30 Aug 2023, © Sandy Podulka.



Golden-winged Warbler, Fort Drum, *Jefferson*, 4 Jun 2023, © Phil Chaon.



Dickcissel, Gosnell Big Woods Preserve, *Monroe*, 8 Jul 2023, © Jay McGowan.



Black-capped Chickadees, Rochester, *Monroe*, here 27 Jun 2023, © Kim Hartquist. See article pp. 8-10.

another at Fair Haven on the 20th. Willet was seen by Sullivan on 21 July and 7 August. A regular passage-migrant but rarely seen in the Region, Wilson's Phalarope was found by Tom McKay and Drew Weber at Onondaga Lake on 17 August. While searching there for Buff-breasted Sandpiper (not found this period), the Lakeport turf farm produced a **Western Sandpiper** for Tim Wing and Matt Voelker on 27 August. While some examples are subtle, this one had a Dunlin-like bill.

The season's most exciting shorebird find belonged to Kennedy Sullivan when a super-mega **Red-necked Stint** was seen with a small group of Sanderling at Sandy Pond on 15 July. Good photos of the bird standing and in flight with other shorebirds were obtained and carefully studied. Four prior New York records of the species were all on Long Island, thus this is a first for Upstate and the Region and third for the Great Lakes. Like other shorebirds the species undergoes a very long migration, from the arctic of Siberia and western Alaska to southeast Asia and Australia. The brief write-up in *Birds of the World* indicates that Alaska nesters are thought to follow the Aleutian Islands before joining Siberian migrants. Reports from the Pacific coast states may be regular winterers or 'mirror-image' vagrants; those in the northeast may derive from birds continuing east or represent 'reverse' vagrancy following a different path altogether through the Arctic islands of Canada. Efforts to relocate the bird were not successful.

While lakewatching at Oswego Harbor Gregg Dashnau observed a Parasitic Jaeger on 18 August, regular in late-summer after the passage of cold fronts and shifts to northwest wind. The same day yielded a Little Gull at Derby Hill. Immature Lesser Black-backed Gull (usually immatures) are sometimes seen in Summer but this year only represented by a single sighting at Onondaga Lake on 4 August for Duane Otto. As has become the norm, Black Tern was represented by only a few reports. Three Forster's Tern were found at Fair Haven on 14 August by Mike Gullo, Brad Carlson, and Pat Martin, while at Sandy a single was seen on the beach with Common Terns by David Wheeler and Kennedy Sullivan. On the first day of the Summer season Gary Meyers found a late Red-throated Loon on Woodman Pond, reporting it was in non-breeding plumage. Betsy Berglund photographed an immature **Little Blue Heron** in Baldwinsville on 25 July. Presumably the same bird was subsequently spotted by Dashnau below the Oswego River dam in Fulton on the 30th. Martin Mau reported five Black-crowned Night-Heron, including three juveniles, from the Creekwalk at Onondaga Lake. Single immatures were also noted from Sandy Pond and Mexico Point.

Black Vulture continued from known locations. While birding his home patch at the old Split Rock quarry/landfill, Paul Richardson found a **Swallow-tailed Kite** on 21 August for a second county record and ninth for the Region. The bird continued through the period and was joined by a second one on the 23rd but not seen together again. Sightings of the species have increased substantially over the last 10 years. John Killiany spotted an early Golden Eagle near Cazenovia on 8 August. Known as a resident in northern Herkimer County but often unreported, Michael DeWispelaere found a Black-backed Woodpecker near Big Moose Lake on 30 June. Another nester for that area, Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen at the unique Labrador Hollow on 4 June as a northbound migrant, then as a nester in mid-summer at several northern locations, then as a southbound arrival

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at Oakwood Cemetery at the end of August. Acadian Flycatcher was found at several new locations and also reported back at the traditional hemlock ravine at Whiskey Hollow. Several Sedge Wren continued near Verona Beach. Breeding is generally hard to confirm for this species.

Red Crossbill was reported from Morgan Hill and northern Herkimer county. The only Pine Siskin were from Dolgeville and Salisbury. Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrow continue to be scarce in summer, with one of the latter found at the Micron site in Clay on 29 June and 4-5 July. A Clay-colored Sparrow was also found there on 11 July, continuing from Spring. Reports also came from West Winfield, Fulton, and Baltimore Woods. The bird south of Erie Blvd in Syracuse was not reported, possibly due to lack of observers checking the spot. Nesting Rusty Blackbird were found in Stillwater and Eagle Bay. The only Golden-winged Warbler report came from Pulaski on 3-4 June but not seen thereafter. Prothonotary Warbler fledged young at the traditional Toad Harbor spot in West Monroe. Another sighting came from the Onondaga Lake Creekwalk on 25 July, found by Bob Fisk and Martin Mau. Early-returning fall migrants were found for all the usual warbler species in August. Nesting Palm Warbler was confirmed in northern Herkimer. Breeding Bird Atlas efforts by several teams of observers in the northeastern part of Region 5 contributed strongly to this report. The area is mostly inaccessible and contains known or presumed nesters that are often not reported during the Summer season. A new location for Prairie Warbler near Cazenovia seems promising, with other reports coming from Atwell, Eagle Bay, Hinckley, and Gray (all previously new or unknown spots).

Region 5 currently has five operating MOTUS stations located at Derby Hill, Three Rivers WMA, Rome WMA, Utica Zoo, and a site four miles south of Williamstown known as 'Fassler'. These register radio-tagged birds that fly through their 15-mile-diameter circle of detection. The Summer reporting season featured several interesting birds representing both the conclusion of spring (northbound) and beginning of fall (southbound) migrations. Very rarely documented in the Region in spite of its relatively-close breeding areas in the Adirondacks, a **Bicknell's Thrush** was picked up by the Rome receiver on 6 June. As with two others detected in May, the bird was tagged on wintering grounds in the Dominican Republic in mid-January. Given the difficulty of separating Bicknell's from Gray-cheeked Thrush, these MOTUS records are probably the best evidence of the species' spring passage through Region 5. Could they be nesting on the higher peaks (2700 ft) in Herkimer county? *Birds of the World* indicates small numbers have nested at similar altitudes in New Hampshire.

Red Knot was picked up by Derby Hill and Three Rivers on 11 Jun with a different bird on the 12th at Utica and Rome. Both were tagged in southern Argentina (40.9 deg south latitude) on 20 April. The first bird hit on seven stations on the 11th ranging from Philadelphia to James Bay, a distance of 800 miles. The second bird was not heard from until 3 July at Churchill, Manitoba. The NMWMA station near Howland Island also picked up a Red Knot on 31 July, this bird making its return trip. It had been tagged on 9 May near Charleston, SC and detected at Churchill on 10 July. A Semipalmated Sandpiper passed Derby on 18 August. A station at Lakeshore Marshes just west of Fair Haven picked up a Short-billed Dowitcher on 11 July. The bird had been tagged at Churchill on 24 June

and departed there on 9 July, passing through 12 receivers by the 11th when it was at Kiptopeke, VA.

Birds tagged on 22 June by a project in Montreal studying Bank Swallow connectivity were detected by most of the area's stations during July. Derby Hill had eight hits alone with many others at Montezuma where some lingered a few days. All appeared to be gone by 2 August, suggesting this as the timing of their main southbound migration through Upstate NY and thus among our earliest-departing species. Additionally, different birds were picked up on different days, implying they were traveling alone rather than in large groups. A final straggler checked in at Derby on 28 August and the MNWR towers shortly thereafter. A Cerulean Warbler tagged on 12 July at Frontenac Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada passed Derby and Three Rivers on 5-6 August, supporting it as another early-departing species. Finally, a Blackpoll Warbler tagged on the wintering grounds in Colombia on 12 April passed NMWMA on 1 June. It was next heard from in late-September in Rhode Island before being picked up in Bermuda on 14 October.

This season a total of 228 species and three hybrids were reported, which is 15 above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: **American Avocet**, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, **Marbled Godwit**, Long-billed Dowitcher; Wilson's Phalarope, Willet, Red Knot, **Red-necked Stint**, **Western Sandpiper**, Parasitic Jaeger, Forster's Tern, **Little Blue Heron**, **Swallow-tailed Kite**, Golden Eagle, Black-backed Woodpecker, Sedge Wren, **Bicknell's Thrush**, Red Crossbill, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Prothonotary Warbler. Expected species missed this Summer include Buff-breasted Sandpiper and Red-necked Phalarope, while those represented by only one sighting include Common Goldeneye, American Golden-Plover, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Parasitic Jaeger.

Summer 2023 produced 118,979 eBird records on 8987 checklists for Region 5 and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v6.1. Reports were submitted by 824 people. With so many submitting to eBird, the Editor would like to share how the 'Contributor' names below are compiled. Names appear in the list if at least one of the following four criteria are met: (1) a person's initials are used in the 'Synopsis' section; (2) a person submits a written list of sightings to the Editor; (3) a person is the only one contributing from a part of the Region that would otherwise have no reports; or (4) a person submits above a 'participation threshold' number of eBird records which varies by season and was set at 300 for this report. Most listed below qualified under (4) but rest assured that all submissions contribute to this report.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BW** – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox, MADI; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DL** – Delta L; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego Ri, Indian Pt, L Neatahwanta, and Oswego County airport; **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HI** – Howland Island WMA, CAYU; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga Lake Creekwalk; **OLP** – Onondaga Lake P (east and west shore); **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **PV** – Pleasant Valley Pres, T Onondaga; **Pville** – Pennellville including Biddlecum floodlands; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skane** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **Syr** – Syracuse; **SVB** – Sylvan and Verona Beach areas/east end Oneida L; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow, Memphis; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

Snow Goose: singles, small nums linger thru; max 30 ErieC Weedsport 4 Jul (RSt), big num for date.

Canada Goose: max 220 OneiL 31 Aug.

Mute Swan: most reps OnonL, SP, & FH areas; max 50 FH 10 Jun.

Trumpeter Swan: 1-6 var expected locs; max 7 HI 14 Jul.

Wood Duck: max 32 Phoenix 2 Jul.

Blue-winged Teal: arr OnonL 26 Jul; max 16 SP 29 Aug.

Northern Shoveler: arr SP 18 Aug; max 5 OnonL 30 Aug.

Gadwall: 1-2 OnonL 29-30 Aug; only rep.

American Wigeon: 2 OswH 1 Jun; arr SP 21 Aug; only reps.

Mallard: max est 400 OnonL 22 Aug.

American Black Duck: max 9 Nicks L 19 Jun.

Mallard x American Black Duck (hybrid): HI 10 Jun.

Northern Pintail: Fulton 18, 22 Jun; arr SP 25 Aug.

Green-winged Teal: TR 11 Jun; 4 SP 10 Jul; arr PV 11 Aug; max 53 SP 29 Aug.

Redhead: OnonL 4 Jun, 23 & 27 Jul; SNC 10 Jun.

Ring-necked Duck: 1-2 at 5 locs var dates 1 Jun – 13 Aug.

Greater Scaup: OswH 7 Jun.

Common Goldeneye: 2 Twitchell L HERK 11 Jun (MDe), nesters.

Hooded Merganser: max 10 DL 5 Aug.

Common Merganser: max 25 Deerfield 29 Jun & OneiL 2 Aug.

Red-breasted Merganser: 2 Phoenix 2 Jun – 7 Jul; only rep.

Ruddy Duck: OnonL 10 Jun; 1-3 Fulton 12 Jun – 7 Jul; only reps.

Wild Turkey: max 26 Cold Brook 29 Jul.

Ruffed Grouse: small nums var locs.

Ring-necked Pheasant: small nums var locs, most pres released by state.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 11 Port Ontario 31 Jul.

Rock Pigeon: flocks widespread.

Mourning Dove: widespread; max 32 Dolgeville 4 Jun.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1-2 var locs/dates; max 5 HI 2 Jun.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 1-2 var locs/dates.

Common Nighthawk: last 2 TR 2 Jun; WP 19 Jun; arr 5 North Bay 16 Aug; max 29 Split Rock 23 Aug, best nums all this loc.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: 1-2 few exp locs thru 29 Jun, pres nesting.

Chimney Swift: max 32 OLC 5 Aug.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 25 Stillwater 23 Jul, 19 Aug (GLE), banding site.

Virginia Rail: max 6 WMonroe 6 Jul; 1-5 var exp locs.

Sora: Brewerton 19 Jun, 12 Jul; TR 9 Jul; 1-2 Pulaski 10-20 Aug; only reps.

Common Gallinule: max 16 UM 23 Jul.

American Coot: 1-5 incl 3 young OnonL thru 6 Aug; 3 incl 1 young UM 14 Jul; SkanL 8, 25 Jun; only reps.

Sandhill Crane: reps HI, LoopR; 4 incl 2 young Pville 17 Jun – 14 Aug; 3 incl 1 young Cato 9-16 Jun, unusual loc; only reps.

AMERICAN AVOCET (R5): SP 11 Jul (JoD, KSu, ph); SP 21 Jul (KSu, ph).

Black-bellied Plover: last & max 3 SP 8 Jun; arr 2 SP 7 Aug.

American Golden-Plover: SHTF 19 Aug (PSh); only rep.

Killdeer: max 97 Fulton 13 Aug.

Semipalmated Plover: last 3 SP 8 Jun; arr SP 13 Jul; max 36 SHTF 27 Aug.

Piping Plover: arr late-Apr; 2 pairs nest but see *intro*; 1-3 var dates 20 Jul – 7 Aug refer to relocated birds.

Upland Sandpiper: 2-3 Deerfield 15 Jun – 1 Jul; Remsen 9 Jul (BPu), unexp loc; only reps.

Whimbrel: SP 23 Jul, 18 & 20 Aug; 2 FH 13 & 21 Aug; VBSP 23 Jul (JMc), unusual loc; OswH 18 Aug (GDa); Hamilton 31 Aug (RCo), unusual loc.

Hudsonian Godwit: SP 26 Aug (JWa, MFi); only rep.

MARBLED GODWIT (R5): SP (JoD, KSu, ph) 11 Jul.

Ruddy Turnstone: last SP 8 Jun; arr OLP 24 Jul; max 3 SP 30 Aug.

Red Knot: arr SP 18 Aug (DWh, KSu); FH 20 Aug (DWh); only reps.

Stilt Sandpiper: arr SP 16 Jul; max 2 SP 23 Aug.

RED-NECKED STINT: SP 15 Jul (KSu, PCo, ph), 1st Reg/Upstate rec, 5th NY rec, 3rd for Great Lakes, *intro*.

Sanderling: arr 3 SP 13 Jul; max 82 SP 27 Jul.

Dunlin: last SP 13 Jun; only rep.

Least Sandpiper: arr 2 DB 5 Jul; max 50 OnonL 12 Jul.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr SP 7 Aug; max 3 SP 23 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 SP 11 & 16 Aug; only reps.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr SP 21 Jul; max 6 DL 7 Aug.

WESTERN SANDPIPER (R5): SHTF 27 Aug (TWi, MVo, ph).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last SP 18 Jun, late; arr Cicero 10 Jul; max 52 SP 27 Jul.

Short-billed Dowitcher: last & max 19 SP 3 Jun (KSu); arr Phoenix 10 Jul.

Long-billed Dowitcher: SP 15 Aug (MBr); only rep.

American Woodcock: max 3 TR 23 Jul.

Wilson's Snipe: max 2 var locs/dates late-Jun.

Wilson's Phalarope: OLP 17 – 21 Aug (TMc, DWe, mob).

Spotted Sandpiper: max 12 OLP 12 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr OLP 2 Jul; max 10 Eaton 6 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Phoenix 10 Jul; max 23 SHTF 27 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr OLP 26 Jun; max 8 DL 5 Aug.

Willet: SP 21 Jul (KSu) & 7 Aug (KSu, MBr).

Parasitic Jaeger: OswH 18 Aug (GDa), only rep.

Little Gull: DH 18 Aug (MBr), only rep.

Bonaparte's Gull: last SP 8 Jun; arr SP 10 Jul; max 35 Oneil 31 Aug.

Ring-billed Gull: max est 1200 SVB 31 Aug.

Herring Gull: max 200 SVB 31 Aug.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: OLC 4 Aug (DOt).

Great Black-backed Gull: max 30 SVB 31 Aug.

Caspian Tern: max est 100 FH 13 Aug.

Black Tern: Const 1 Jun; Fulton 10 Jun; 1-2 SP 7, 23 & last 24 Aug; only reps.

Common Tern: max 146 OSP 28 Aug.

Forster's Tern: 3 FH 14 Aug (MGU, BCn, PMa); SP 30 Aug (DWh, KSu); only reps.

Red-throated Loon: WP 1 Jun (GMe).

Common Loon: max 8 OF 14 Jul.

Double-crested Cormorant: max est 600 OnonL 28 Aug; big nums FH refer to nesting colony at Blind Sodus Bay, WAYN.

American Bittern: max 4 DC 21 Jun; reps typ locs.

Least Bittern: max 2 OLP 18, 23 Jul & Richfield Spr 5 Jul; reps typ locs.

Great Blue Heron: max 50 Minetto 7 Jun; highest nums all at breeding sites.

Great Egret: max 14 Poland 25 Jul; small nums thru.

Green Heron: max 10 Verona 27 Aug.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (R5): imm Bville 25 Jul (BBE, ph); Fulton 30 Jul (GDa), prob same bird.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 1-5 OLC 11 Jul – 29 Aug; Mex Pt 10 Jul, unusual loc; 2 HI 22 Jul; SP 29 Aug; only reps.

Black Vulture: 1-4 known locs Jamesville/Fayetteville, Rome, Little Falls; 2 Clinton 7 Jul (RWi); 2 DB 26 Aug (DWh).

Turkey Vulture: max 130 Canastota 23 Jul.

Osprey: max 8 Cicero 5 Jul.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: 1-2 Split Rock 21 Aug thru (PRI, mob, ph) 2nd county & 9th Reg rec.

Golden Eagle: Cazenovia 8 Aug (JKi); only rep.

Northern Harrier: max 6 incl 4 young Salisbury 20-21 Jul (KTo).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 5 TR 17 Jul.

Cooper's Hawk: 1-2 var locs/dates.

Northern Goshawk: 3 TOhio 15 Jun – 26 Jul; only rep.

Bald Eagle: max 5 SP 29 Aug.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 1-2 few locs thru, pres nesters.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 10 RCFS 10 Jun.

Red-tailed Hawk: widespread resident.

Eastern Screech-Owl: singles/pairs typical locs.

Great Horned Owl: widespread resident.

Barred Owl: widespread resident.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Waterville 1 Jun; Forestport 3 Jun; Hamilton 4 Aug; only reps.

Belted Kingfisher: widespread; max 7 SP 17 Jul.

Red-headed Woodpecker: reps from established locs incl 4 young DH 23 Aug.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: widespread resident.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 6 var locs N HERK mid-Jun to early-Jul.

Black-backed Woodpecker: Big Moose L 30 Jun (MDe); only rep but pres res N HERK.

Downy Woodpecker: widespread resident.

Hairy Woodpecker: widespread resident.

Northern Flicker: max 8 Camillus 11 Aug.

Pileated Woodpecker: widespread resident.

American Kestrel: max 11 Poland 18 Aug, incl fledgelings.

Merlin: singles typ locs & singles/pairs pres nesting.

Peregrine Falcon: nesting pairs known locs.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 7 BLNC 29 Jun.

Eastern Kingbird: max 10 Rome 5 Aug & N Bay 17 Aug.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last LH 4 Jun; 1-2 sev locs N HERK 12-15 Jun, nesters; arr 1-2 OakC 27-29 Aug; 1-2 Split Rock 28-29 Aug; only reps.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 15 BLNC 5 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1-2 sev locs N HERK 6 Jun – 28 Jul, nesters; arr OLP 11 Aug.

Acadian Flycatcher: singles/pairs est locs Hannibal, Minetto, & max 5 SNC 25 Jun – 1 Jul; also SSSP, BLNC, TR; WH 4-6 Jun, trad loc, unk if nested; Manlius 27 Aug (CBr), good ph but did not vocalize.

Alder Flycatcher: max 7 Stillwater 12 Jun.

Willow Flycatcher: max 12 OLP 30 Jul.

Least Flycatcher: max 9 HI 10 Jun.

Eastern Phoebe: max 10 Cassville 29 Aug.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 7 SNC 2 Jun & HI 10 Jun.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 12 MH 19 Jun.

Philadelphia Vireo: last SFNS 2 Jun; arr Salisbury 17 Aug; LH 23 Aug; only reps but pres nests some areas N part of Reg.

Warbling Vireo: max 12 HI 10 Jun.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 72 Stillwater 5 Jul; count strongly depends on distance covered.

Canada Jay: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.

Blue Jay: max 65 Split Rock 27 Aug.

American Crow: max 250 Salisbury 19 Aug.

Fish Crow: max 10 VBSP 8 Jun; reps typ locs.

Common Raven: max 6 var locs/dates; widespread reps.

Black-capped Chickadee: widespread resident; max 28 BLNC 5 Aug & LH 23 Aug.

Boreal Chickadee: no reps but presumed resident N HERK.

Tufted Titmouse: widespread resident except N HERK & N ONEI.

Horned Lark: max 11 Pville 17 Aug.

Bank Swallow: max 30 Phoenix 9 Jun & SNC 31 Jun.

Tree Swallow: max est 750 HI 19 Jul.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 12 Rome 1 Jul & Mexico P 10 Jul.

Purple Martin: max 27 Split Rock 29 Aug.

Barn Swallow: max est 370 OLP 20 Aug.

Cliff Swallow: max 8 Durhamville 2-25 Jun.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Atwell 3 Jun; Eagle Bay 12 Aug; arr Oneida 19 Aug;

only reps but nests some areas N part of Reg.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 20 Eagle Bay 12 Aug.

Cedar Waxwing: max 115 N Bay 17 Aug.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: small groups typ locs; max 18 Big Moose 28 Aug.

White-breasted Nuthatch: widespread resident.

Brown Creeper: max 8 MH 19 Jun.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 6 HI 2 Jun.

House Wren: max 14 Pompey 20 Jun.

Winter Wren: max 5 MH 19 Jun.

Sedge Wren: 1-2 Durhamville 4 Jun – 26 Jul; only rep.

Marsh Wren: max 22 DC 21 Jun.

Carolina Wren: typ locs southern part of Reg; sev reps OSWE.

Gray Catbird: max 20 RCFS 17, 26 Jul.

Brown Thrasher: max 5 GLSP 11-19 Jun.

Northern Mockingbird: singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON; 3 Lycoming 22 Jun, unusual loc/date.

European Starling: max 477 Const 8 Jul.

Eastern Bluebird: widespread; max 8 Mexico 30 Aug.

Veery: max 17 Otselic 28 Jun.

BICKNELL'S THRUSH (R5): Rome MOTUS receiver 6 Jun, tagged in Dominican Republic, *intro*.

Swainson's Thrush: 1-2 var locs N part of Reg Jun-Jul, nesters; 2 Cazenovia 16 Aug, poss nesters or early mig.

Hermit Thrush: max 12 HV 13 Jun & Stillwater 5 Jul.

Wood Thrush: max 16 Canastota 24 Jun.

American Robin: widespread; max 50 Syr 6 Jun.

House Sparrow: flocks widespread resident.

House Finch: widespread resident; max 22 BLNC 19 Aug.

Purple Finch: max 6 MADI var locs Jun-Aug.

Red Crossbill: small nums typ locs MH & ADK var dates; max 10 TOhio 26 Jul.

Pine Siskin: Dolgeville 22 Jun (EFr); Salisbury 8 Jul (KTo); only reps.

American Goldfinch: flocks common & widespread; max 57 Manlius 11 Aug.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 7 Split Rock 27 Aug.

Chipping Sparrow: max 23 DL 30 Aug.

Clay-colored Sparrow: WWinfield 3 Jun (PMi); 1-2 Fulton 9 Jun - 23 Jul (RWh, mob); BW 29 Jun – 17 Jul (MRo, mob); Clay (Micron site) 11 Jul; only reps.

Field Sparrow: max 14 TOnon 29 Jul.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 20 MH 19 Jun.

White-throated Sparrow: max 8 Stillwater 12 Jun.

Vesper Sparrow: Clay (Micron site) 29 Jun, 4-5 Jul; a few other locs but scarce.

Savannah Sparrow: max 10 Split Rock 25 Aug.

Song Sparrow: max 28 OLP 19 Jun.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 1-4 N HERK 6 locs 13-23 Jun, 31 Aug, nesters.

Swamp Sparrow: max 25 Verona 25 Jun.

Eastern Towhee: max 10 GLSP 19 Jun.

Bobolink: max 37 Salisbury 21 Jul.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 11 Fulton 27 Jun, 23 Jul.

Orchard Oriole: reps exp locs; max 5 Verona B 17 July; last SFNS 22 Aug.

Baltimore Oriole: max 6 var locs 3 Jun – 4 Jul.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 200 Jordan 27 Aug.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 31 Rome 10 Jun.

Rusty Blackbird: Stillwater 14 Jun (MDe, PPe); 5 Eagle Bay 21 Jun (MDe); nesters.

Common Grackle: max 1250 Split Rock 23 Aug.

Ovenbird: max 40 Waterville & MH 19 Jun; count strongly depends on distance covered.

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 5 Skan 1 Jun; last Pulaski 15 Jul.
Northern Waterthrush: max 5 var locs/dates Jun.
Golden-winged Warbler: 1-2 Pulaski 3-4 Jun (MBr); only rep.
Blue-winged Warbler: max 4 var locs dates, 10 Jun – 26 Jul.
“Brewster’s” Warbler (hybrid): 1-2 Pulaski 5-6 Jul.
“Lawrence’s” Warbler (hybrid): GLSP 17-20 Jun; OSP 21 Aug (DAn), unusual loc.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 8 Stillwater 12 Jun.
Prothonotary Warbler: 1-4 incl young WMonroe 22-29 Jun, trad loc; 5 HI 2 Jun; OLC 25 Jul (RFi, MMA), unusual loc, pres mig; only reps.
Tennessee Warbler: last Syr 6 Jun; arr TOhio HERK 6 Aug.
Nashville Warbler: max 5 Stillwater 12 Jun.
Mourning Warbler: max 7 MH 19 Jun.
Common Yellowthroat: max 25 RCFS 22 Jun.
Hooded Warbler: max 8 GB 19 Jul.
American Redstart: max 20 RCFS 4 Aug.
Cape May Warbler: arr WP 6 Aug; max 3 var locs late Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: max 31 HI 10 Jun, count at loc depends on dist traveled; other reps expected locs.
Northern Parula: Jun-Jul reps nesters N ONEI & HERK; arr Const 9 Aug.

Magnolia Warbler: max 18 Split Rock 29 Aug.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 6 Aug TOhio, early mig or nearby nester; arr Hastings 20 Aug; max 3 SFNS 22 Aug.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 30 MH 19 Jun.
Yellow Warbler: max 38 HI 10 Jun, count strongly depends on distance covered.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 12 MH 19 Jun.
Blackpoll Warbler: last thru 10 Jun; arr OSP 22 Aug.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 18 Stillwater 6 Jul.
Palm Warbler: 3-4 N HERK 14-15 Jun (TJS, MDe, PPe), nesters.
Pine Warbler: max 7 var locs Jun/Jul.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 6 Stillwater 12, 13 Jun & SP 20 Aug.
Prairie Warbler: 2 Cazenovia 1 Jun, new loc; GLSP 6 Jun; Atwell 6 Jun, Eagle Bay 22 Jun, Hinckley 26 Jun, Gray HERK 10 Jul, all unusual/unexp locs; only reps.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 17 Stillwater 6 Jul.
Canada Warbler: max 10 DeRuyter 4 Jun.
Wilson’s Warbler: last Osw 6 Jun; arr & max 2 Syr 27 Aug.
Scarlet Tanager: max 7 HI 10 Jun.
Northern Cardinal: widespread resident.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 14 HI 10 Jun.

REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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It was a cool, wet summer, reportedly Watertown’s third coolest in 130 years of record-keeping. Temperatures were below average all three months, with July’s mean of 70.4° F coming within 0.7° of normal, but June was 1.8° below average and August was 4.1° below normal. The 4.2" of rain that fell in June was 0.5" above normal, but July and August were wetter, with more than 5" of rain each

month for a combined rainfall total that was 3.2" above normal. Watertown's biggest storms dropped 2.3" of rain 10-11 July and 1.8" on 30 July, and the catastrophic deluges that hit other parts of the state largely missed Region 6. Although not strictly speaking weather, among the most significant atmospheric events of the summer were several periods of heavy smoke from Canadian wildfires that settled into the North Country, resulting in extremely poor air quality, although these periods mostly lasted a few days each and the Region was spared an extended period of bad air.

High water resulted in poor conditions for shorebirds, especially along the St. Lawrence River where mudflats were under water all summer. Conditions were slightly better along Lake Ontario, but shorebirds were scarce everywhere and the season's shorebird tally was the lowest since 2019 when record-high rainfall resulted in a similar lack of exposed mudflats. A Whimbrel on a Lyme golf course 29 August represented the only migrant species that was the slightest bit unusual. The outstanding shorebird highlight of the season was a pair of Piping Plovers that successfully nested at Lakeview WMA for the second consecutive year, fledging three chicks of which two survived to independence. In an effort to add diversity to the local gene pool, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released eight fledglings hatched elsewhere in the Great Lakes during July, most of which also apparently survived until they departed for the year.

It seems like every year a new Sandhill Crane nesting location is discovered, and this year's was in the town of Potsdam where Liz Truskowski found a pair with two small colts in a hayfield adjacent to a massive cattail marsh. It is unclear whether observations from two locations elsewhere in Potsdam represent different pairs, but numerous large marshes and wetlands are scattered throughout the St. Lawrence Valley, most of them on private land and difficult or impossible to view from any road, and it seems reasonable to suspect that more pairs of Sandhill Cranes nest in the Region than are currently known.

Among the season's very few rarities was an unusually cooperative **Snowy Egret** Kurt Ongman and Phil Chaon found at Black Pond WMA on 5 June that was seen by many observers through 10 June. Most Snowy Egrets that show up in Region 6 are seen by a single observer and then vanish immediately, so many Jefferson County listers took advantage of the opportunity to finally add Snowy Egret to their county lists. Great Egret, not known to nest in St. Lawrence County before 2019, now nests on two islands in the St. Lawrence River, with 13 nests at the Murphy Islands rookery and 19 nests on Chimney Island in 2023. The largest Black-crowned Night-Heron rookery in the Region is also at the Murphy Islands, with 172 nests this year. DEC have been removing cormorants from the Murphy Islands in an effort to preserve this night-heron colony.

Several species appeared at unusual times this summer. Parasitic Jaeger is rarely observed in Region 6 at any time of year, with nearly all records coming from the fall, so Thomas Smith must have been surprised when he saw and photographed one perched on a beaver dam at Wilson Hill WMA on 9 June. Single Red-headed Woodpeckers appeared at feeders in each of the Region's three counties in June and July, perhaps after nest failures, as the timing of these appearances didn't correspond to typical migratory periods. The southbound migration for several species seemed to be underway at unusually early dates; for instance Swainson's Thrushes turned up in three lowland locations between 29

July and 5 August, a good two weeks before the first migrants are usually seen. Multiple Cape May Warblers and Bay-breasted Warblers appeared during the same time period, also well before typical migration dates. Perhaps these birds were moving south early in response to the wildfires farther north?

Henslow's Sparrow continues to teeter on the brink of extirpation in Region 6, with just two reports at Perch River WMA along Dog Hill Road and none elsewhere. A family group of Upland Sandpipers in Orleans was the only report from anywhere other than Fort Drum, the latter clearly representing the best breeding location in the Region and perhaps the state. Although other grassland bird species continue to be found in good numbers, it seems that threats to grassland habitats are proliferating. Increasingly intensive agricultural practices and exurban housing development have eliminated vast areas of grassland bird habitat over the past two decades, but more recently solar farms have started popping up in the kinds of fallow or infrequently mowed fields that have been especially productive for grassland birds, and the pace of this solar development seemed to increase exponentially during 2023.

As noted in past years, Golden-winged Warblers occur in especially good numbers in northwestern Jefferson County and western St. Lawrence County, where Blue-winged Warblers are much scarcer and seem to be increasing slowly. Within this area a total of 89 Golden-winged Warblers compared to 19 Blue-winged Warblers were reported to eBird in June and July. By comparison, during this same period I found 18 male Golden-winged Warblers and 64 male Blue-winged Warblers on Fort Drum, and reports from elsewhere in western and southern Jefferson County show similarly high proportions of Blue-winged Warblers. Given the dominance of Blue-winged Warblers in the south and west portions of Region 6 the continued slow pace of increase just a little farther north seems surprising.

Coverage of the Adirondack portion of Region 6 was unusually good this summer, in large part because Robert Buckert and Alejandra Lewandowski were stationed in the area as Breeding Bird Atlas technicians. Among Robert's highlights was a Boreal Chickadee in the Kildare Conservation Easement, a species that a decade ago would not have been noteworthy but that seems to have disappeared from most of its historic range in St. Lawrence County. Alejandra found Yellow-bellied Flycatchers and Lincoln's Sparrows nesting in eastern Lewis County, where these species are rarely reported as breeding because of low observer effort. Among Adirondack breeders Palm Warbler was particularly well documented this year with reports from seven locations, but despite good coverage no Rusty Blackbirds were found this summer.

Red Crossbills were widespread in the Adirondacks of eastern Lewis and southeastern St. Lawrence Counties, but none were reported elsewhere until August when a handful turned up in the St. Lawrence Valley. Mandi Roggie and Alejandra Lewandowski provided a few Red Crossbill recordings to Matt Young who identified them as being call types 4 and 12. Mandi also found a small flock of White-winged Crossbills in the town of Watson on 19 July, and four days later Robert Buckert saw two more, the only other report this summer. Evening Grosbeak and Pine Siskin were similarly scarce, with just one and two reports, respectively.

Historically the Tug Hill and Black River Valley in Lewis County have received relatively little attention from birders, but coverage has been improving for several years, with some interesting birds turning up this summer. The two Olive-sided Flycatchers Gregg Dashnau found on 2 August in the heart of the Tug Hill were presumably local breeders, the only ones reported from this area since New York's third Breeding Bird atlas started. Other unusual county birds Gregg found include a Fish Crow on 15 June and five Prairie Warblers in a power line right-of-way 15-16 June, all in Lyonsdale. Orchard Orioles in the towns of Denmark and Martinsburg suggest that this species is spreading beyond its primary Region 6 range in western Jefferson County.

The summer's species tally of 206 species is 1.8 species below the most recent ten-year mean. The poor shorebird showing was easily the biggest disappointment of the year and virtually assured a relatively low species total. As the season's only real rarity, Snowy Egret was certainly the bird of the season, especially given how cooperative it was, allowing many Region 6 birders to add a species that had been strangely elusive. Continued Piping Plover nesting at Lakeview WMA was another highlight of the year.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondack Mountains; **AFWMA** – Ashland Flats WMA; **BPWMA** – Black Pd WMA; **BRV** – Black River Valley, LEWI; **CBr** – Chaumont Barrens Pres; **CV** – T Cape Vincent; **CWF** – Canton Wastewater Treatment Facility; **ED** – El Dorado Shores Pres, T Ellisburg; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Reservation, JEFF & LEWI; **GLR** – Grand Lakes Reserve; **KC** – Kelsey Creek, T Watertown; **KiCE** – Kildare Conservation Easement; **KPSP** – Kring Pt SP; **LGI** – Little Galloo I; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA; **MM** – Massawepie Mire, T Colton & Piercefield, STLA; **PRWMA** – Perch Ri WMA, JEFF; **PtPen** – Pt Peninsula, T Lyme, JEFF; **RLT** – Richard's Landing Trail, T Massena; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, T Massena; **SLR** – St. Lawrence Ri; **SLV** – St. Lawrence Valley; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA.

Mute Swan: max 25 KPSP 16 Jun; most broods reported from SLR JEFF.

Trumpeter Swan: max 6 Oliver I T Hammond 15 June.

Wood Duck: max 40 ED 5 Aug; many broods noted.

Blue-winged Teal: 1-7 each 4 loc STLA & 3 loc JEFF Jun & Jul but no broods reported; max 24 BRV 21 Aug.

Northern Shoveler: PRWMA 22 Jul; RLT 6 Aug; WHWMA 17 Aug; 2 CWF 23 Aug; only reports.

Gadwall: f RMSP 3 Jun only report before 24 Aug; max 8 PtPen 25 Aug.

American Wigeon: 3 Pillar Pt JEFF & 18 WHWMA 27 Aug only reports.

Mallard: max 120 BRV 21 Aug.

American Black Duck: brood Star L 1 Jul; Jun & Jul reports from 9 other loc throughout R6; max 30 Cranberry L 23 Jul.

Northern Pintail: 2 WHWMA 27 Aug only report.

Green-winged Teal: T Watertown 13 Jun & T Lisbon 22 Jul only Jun or Jul reports; max 4 ULLWMA 7 Aug & Dexter Marsh 28 Aug.

Redhead: arr WHWMA 26 Aug.

Ring-necked Duck: max 80 WHWMA 27 Aug.

Common Goldeneye: m Chippewa Bay 18 Jun (G. Seeholzer); SLR T Morristown 6 Jul (A. & K. Behm); 4 BRV 21 Aug (G. Dashnau); rare summer.

Hooded Merganser: broods Tooley Pd Conservation Easement 8 Jun; T Lowville 15 Jun, T Watertown 20 Jun; Millsite L 24 Jun; Cranberry L Wild Forest 11 Jul.

Common Merganser: broods from PtPen and multiple loc Adirondacks and SLR; max 32 PtPen 28 Aug.

Red-breasted Merganser: brood Wellesley I 18 Jun.

Spruce Grouse: MM 22 June only report.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 46 WHWMA 9 Jul.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 32 reports very high relative to the number of Black-billed Cuckoo reports.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 58 reports.

Common Nighthawk: Cranberry L Biological Station 8 Jun presumed migrant; Whetstone Gulf Res 13 Jun (G.

Dashnau) & 6 Cleveland Rd T Diana 24 Jun (A. Lewandowski) more Jun reports than usual away from FD stronghold; max 10 T Carthage 5 Aug.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: max 77 FD night 1-2 Jun.

Virginia Rail: max 5 WHWMA 17 Aug.

Sora: only 4 reports all from STLA marshes; max 3 S Hammond Road marsh T Hammond.

Common Gallinule: max 31 PRWMA 22 Jul.

American Coot: 3 PRWMA 2 Jun; 2 WHWMA 24-27 Aug; only reports.

Sandhill Crane: 2 over MM 10 June; 2 ad CR 345 near Crosbie Rd T Potsdam 18 Jun; pr with 2 small colts CR 48 near Eel Pd Rd T Potsdam 12 Jul; 2 ad CR 34 near Norwood Road T Potsdam 13 Jul; only reports.

Black-bellied Plover: 11 PtPen 28 Aug only report.

Killdeer: max 23 Woods Farm T Clayton 10 Aug.

Semipalmated Plover: max 6 LWMA 16 Aug.

Piping Plover: pr fledged 3 y LWMA.

Upland Sandpiper: 6 CR 12 near Woodard Rd 21 Jul presumed fam grp, only report away from FD stronghold.

Whimbrel: Bay Breeze golf course T Lyme 29 Aug, only report.

Sanderling: max 9 RWSP 30 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: max 18 LWMA 18 Jul.

Pectoral Sandpiper: 3 ED 5 Aug only report.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 7 Snakeoil I 17 Jun late spring or early fall migrants?; max 22 LWMA 20 Jul.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 12 LWMA 18 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 9 T Lowville 29 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 24 T Lowville 29 Aug only double-digit count.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 16 BRV 21 Aug only double-digit count.

Parasitic Jaeger: perched on beaver dam WHWMA 9 Jun (T. Smith; Photos!)

Bonaparte's Gull: max 13 Pt. Salubrious 10 Aug.

Ring-billed Gull: no count LGI.

Herring Gull: 142 nests Gull I down 5% from 2022 high count.

Caspian Tern: no nest count LGI but numbers reportedly similar to 2022.

Black Tern: max 45 PRWMA 20 Jun; highest counts elsewhere 5 Swamp Rd T Lyme 5 Jun; 3 AFWMA 27 Jun; 4 WHWMA 15 Jun; 4 ULLWMA 5 Jul where many likely missed.

Common Tern: 910 nests NYS side STLA similar to previous 2 yrs.

Common Loon: max 13 (2 fam grps) Chippewa Bay 15 Jul.

Double-crested Cormorant: 3250 nests LGI down 20% from 2022.

American Bittern: reports from 45+ loc.

Least Bittern: reports from 10 loc JEFF & 6 STLA more than usual; max 3 T Potsdam 5 & 27 Aug.

Great Egret: 13 nests Murphy I down 20% from 2022; 19 nests Chimney I up 170% from 2022.

SNOWY EGRET (R6): BPWMA 5-10 Jun (K. Ongman & P. Chaon, mob) rare R6.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 172 nests Murphy I.

Turkey Vulture: max 60 ED 5 Aug.

American Goshawk: juv T Pierrepont 18 Jul & 2 Aug (E. Wheeler) only report.

Eastern Screech-Owl: reports from 5 loc W JEFF; max 3 T Henderson 27 Aug.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: FD 19 Jun; 2 Grass River Conservation Easement 14 Jul; T Potsdam 22 Jul; Cranberry Lake Forest Conservation Easement 14 Jul & 3 August; more than usual.

Red-headed Woodpecker: at feeder T Potsdam 23 Jun (R. Tanner); at KC feeder 19 Jul; at T Croghan feeder 25-28 Jul (M.

Roggie); only reports away from FD stronghold.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: reports from 95+ loc; still increasing.

Black-backed Woodpecker: reports from 4 loc ADK; max 2 KiCE 23 Jul.

Merlin: reports from 60+ loc throughout.

Peregrine Falcon: reports from 8 loc all recent known or suspected nesting sites except PRWMA 28 Jul & Iroquois Dam horse trails 5 Aug.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: migrants: Eagle Res 1 Jun; PRWMA 2 Jun; FD 30 Aug; breeding reports from 9 loc STLA where max 3 Janack's Landing Trail T Fine 21 Jun; 2 Tug Hill WMA 2 Aug presumed breeders.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last spring migrant GLR 6 Jun; max 7 MM 10 Jun; Blue Swamp T Watson 2 Jul only breeding season report way from STLA.

Willow Flycatcher: max 10 RMSP 23 Jul.

Philadelphia Vireo: T Hammond 14 Aug.

Canada Jay: max 4 MM 10 Jun where 1-3 seen many dates thru & KiCE 18 Jun; 2 High Falls trail T Fine 19 Jun only other loc.

Fish Crow: T Lyonsdale 15 Jun (G. Dashnau) rare LEWI.

Boreal Chickadee: 2 KiCE 23 Jul (R. Buckert) becoming rare STLA.

Horned Lark: 2 Dog Hill Rd T Orleans 6 Jun.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 12 reports from 6 loc SE STLA more than usual.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 21 loc from all counties more than usual.

Sedge Wren: max 6 incl $\geq$ fl FD 31 Jul; 8 singing ad at 6 loc STLA only other reports.

Carolina Wren: reports from 16 loc.

Northern Mockingbird: singles from 12 loc JEFF; T Oswegatchie 18 Jun only other report.

Swainson's Thrush: 9+ singles from SE STLA thru; T West Turin 1 Jul only breeding report LEWI; very early migrants Iroquois Dam Horse Trails 29 Jul, FD 1 Aug & T Potsdam 5 Aug.

Evening Grosbeak: 2 T Parishville feeder thru 18 Jun; SUNY-Canton 2 Aug; only reports.

Red Crossbill: nearly 40 reports LEWI & SE STLA thru; 3 reports SLR Aug suggest late summer movement.

White-winged Crossbill: 10 T Watson 19 Jul (M. Roggie) & 2 KiCE 23 Jul (R. Buckert) only reports.

Pine Siskin: KiCE 23 Jul & T Dekalb 30 Jul only reports.

Grasshopper Sparrow: T Hammond 13 Jun & Whitehouse Pt 15 Jun only reports away from FD & N JEFF.

Clay-colored Sparrow: multiple reports Swamp Rd CV 15 Jun to 20 Jul; CBr 19 Jun; only reports away from FD stronghold.

Vesper Sparrow: 3 T Ellisburg 8 Jun max away from FD.

Henslow's Sparrow: singles Dog Hill Rd PRWMA 17 Jun & 3 Jul only reports.

Lincoln's Sparrow: max 14 MM 5 Jul; 2 T Watson 12 Jul & T Montague 1 Aug rare LEWI county breeding reports.

Orchard Oriole: 2 T Martinsburg 21 Jun to 24 Jul (I. Worrall) & T Denmark 29 Jun (M. Roggie) rare but apparently increasing LEWI; 7 loc W JEFF where regular.

Rusty Blackbird: no reports.

Louisiana Waterthrush: Pinckney SF 7 & 22 Jun; Lake of the Woods 29 Jul; only reports.

Golden-winged Warbler: 89 ind reported to eBird STLA & NW JEFF compared to 19 Blue-winged Warbler in same area; apparent early migrant in mixed flock NE FD 4-km from nearest known habitat 26 Jul.

Blue-winged Warbler: 64 m FD compared to 18 m Golden-winged Warblers Jun; 12+ elsewhere S & W JEFF compared to just 1 Golden-winged Warbler.

Tennessee Warbler: arr T Croghan 23 Aug; max 23 FD 28 Aug.

Hooded Warbler: T Pinckney 13 Jun; 3 reports T Lorraine where max 4 on 14 Jul.

Cape May Warbler: arr T Colton 4 Aug; max 29 FD 28 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: max 6 GLR 24 Jun.

Northern Parula: FD 3 Jun; BPWMA 4 Jun; Murray I 25 & 30 Jun; only reports in lowland areas before early migrant arr T Gouverneur 23 Jul.

Magnolia Warbler: 6 widely scattered Jun & Jul reports in lowland areas.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr T Colton 4 Aug early; max 8 FD 28 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: last northbound migrant T Edwards 10 Jun; southbound arr RWSP 23 Aug.

Palm Warbler: max 15 MM 20 & 22 Jun; 4 KiCE 18 Jun; 10 Low's Ridge, Upper Dam trail 19 Jun; 12 Hitchens Bog 21 Jun; T Fine 2 Jul; 3 Cranberry L Biological Station 8 Jul; 7 T Colton W of Leonard Pd 4 Aug; better than usual coverage.

Prairie Warbler: max 23 FD 4 Jun; 5 at 4 loc T Lyonsdale 15-16 Jun all but one in power line ROW (G. Dashnau) rare LEWI.

Wilson's Warbler: arr T Gouverneur 26 Aug.

REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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	Plattsburgh Area, NY			Saranac Lake Area, NY		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Jun	64.2°	64.4°	-0.2°	58.5°	59.4°	-0.9°
Jul	71.0°	69.9°	+0.1°	65.9°	63.6°	+2.3°
Aug	66.0°	67.7°	-1.7°	60.9°	61.7°	-0.8°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	3.83"	4.07"	-0.24"	4.43"	4.36"	+0.7"
Jul	6.69"	3.61"	+3.08"	5.04"	4.06"	+0.8"
Aug	3.56"	3.58"	-0.02"	8.48"	3.56"	+4.92"

We begin this report by remembering our friend and colleague, Patricia Thaxton. Pat was a long time Region 7 contributor and former High Peaks/Northern NY Audubon official. She will be remembered as one of the most active birders in the Region and we will greatly miss her contributions. She birded tirelessly with her husband, John Thaxton. Pat was a birding staple in our small but dedicated Region 7 birding community. Hail and farewell, Pat. Your kindness and beaming smile lit up the local hotspots, and you will be greatly missed, but not forgotten.

Precipitation in June for Region 7 was generally between 3-4" except for Hamilton County, which averaged 5-6" and up to 7" in several small areas. In Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties most areas got from 3-4"; however, there were sections that were drier and a few that were wetter at 5-6" but the latter were small and scattered. June temperatures were generally 0-2° below average for the bulk of Region 7. However, the northern half of Clinton and most of Essex along with the southern third of Hamilton Counties deviated no more than a degree either way from the historic average.

July was warmer with almost the whole of Region 7 ranging from approximately 0-2° above average. The Lake Placid and Saranac Lake regions, along with the southern tip of Hamilton County, were near normal. The month was uncommonly wet. After a relatively normal first week, many heavy and intense storms caused frequent flash flooding and washed out many roads. The “dry” areas of the Region, almost all of Essex, Hamilton and Franklin Counties, received 5-7" of rainfall. Clinton County, the wettest, got 11-12".

August, though still wetter than normal, was drier than July. Most of Clinton, the northern portions of Franklin and a section of northern Hamilton Counties averaged only 4-5" of precipitation. The balance of Region 7 got 6-7" with wetter

patches that included the High Peaks Region and along the western edge of Hamilton County which got as much as 8-9" Temperatures for the month, like those of June, were below normal for all of Region 7 by 1-3°. The exceptions were the Lake Placid/Saranac Lake region and the south of Hamilton County which were 3-5° cooler than normal.

The above weather data was obtained from the Northeast Regional Climate Center: www.nrcc.cornell.edu

Lake Champlain's level stood at 96.8' on 1 June. From there it gradually decreased to 96.0' on 15 June, and remained near that level until 10 July. Then the multiple gully-washers mentioned above increased the lake level, all 490 sq/mi of it, by 2.6' in just two weeks, well over half of that in the first three days. After 31 July the level fluctuated between 98.0' and 98.5'. At this lake level shorebirds were rare at the Chazy Riverlands in June and absent in July and August. Also there were few reports from Noblewood Park. Tire breakwaters at marinas and standing water in open farm fields were more productive.

Unexpected for more than its rarity, the **Eared Grebe** found at Cedar River Flow in Hamilton County was a first for Region 7, with only a few other records north of Saratoga in the state. Remarkably, this location, in the extreme southwest of Region 7, is deep in the Adirondacks and far removed from the Champlain Valley. All five of the Eared Grebe records for Vermont were either from the lake or its vicinity.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo has been scarce to rare in Region 7. In the 17 years prior to 2020 it was absent most years and seen only once or twice in the others. In the past three years, 2020, 2021, and 2022, the number of sightings was 36, 17, and 20, respectively. This explosion has been linked to an outbreak of the spongy moth and that was reinforced this year when a marked decrease of the spongy moth population resulted in a decrease of Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports to about 25% of last summer's count in Region 7. There were three reports of the species this season. A similar pattern was observed for Black-billed Cuckoo, but the decrease was not so dramatic given their regular occurrence in the Region.

The low summer numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls continued into this year with only about ten reports in the Region and a maximum of six at Noblewood Park where there are usually the highest counts. The numbers at Gilbert Brook Marina, a known staging area for the species in Clinton County, were more encouraging where the max was 112 and counts of several dozen individuals were sometimes noted. Reports of associated species were evident. Common Tern numbers were up, with a max of 232 also at Gilbert Brook Marina, and several other counts of a hundred or more in the same general area. But Little Gull was absent. There was one report of **Black Tern**, found near Fort Covington in the St. Lawrence Valley.

Another highlight of the season was the appearance of **Red Crossbill, Type 4** in August at Sabattis Circle. The Finch Research Network (FRN) correctly predicted that Type 4 would move south (and east?) from its coastal Pacific range. Prior to this "It was known from just two recordings from NY." (FRN). A map of the July and August eBird sightings showed four locations where Type 4 Red Crossbill was found in New York among approximately 20 in northeastern US and Quebec.

At least four **Grasshopper Sparrows** were found in Morrisonville at the former Plattsburgh Airfield. This is a significant find in that at one time this

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colony represented one of the largest in New York State with 17 individuals counted in 1994 (Gretch 2006, *The Kingbird* 56(2): 126-132). In 2000, 2001, and 2002 the numbers were 8, 2, and 5, respectively. A follow-up study to determine the current status of this colony should be undertaken. Unfortunately, there were no other Grasshopper Sparrows detected this season, despite a promising 2022 summer season that yielded several observations from various parts of the Region.

Historically a confirmed breeder in Clinton County, the 1 June **Clay-colored Sparrow**, also found at the former Plattsburgh Airfield, was only the second summer eBird record for Clinton County and the seventh for Region 7 since 2000.

CONTRIBUTORS

Italics: Sent end-of-season report. Ken Adams, Brad Balliett, Amy Bedard (AmB), Eildert Beeftink, Alan Belford, Gail Benson, Peter Benson, Jeff Biby (JBib), John Bishop, Marian Bodine, Terry Bohling, Brian Boyce (BBo), Robert Buckert, William Burkert, Ken Chaisson, Gary Chapin (GaCh), Glen & Melinda Chapman (Gl&MCh), Alain Chevette, Robin Cooper, Tyler Coy, Brian DeBoyace, Michael DeWispelaere, Alan & Debbie Dickinson, Charles Dollard, Cindy Edwardson, Andrew Eppedio, Linda Erb, Jonathan Feenstra, Matthew Gilbert, Edward Grant, Nathan Heath, Brian Henderson, Janine Hendricks, Kardom Jafee-Dax, Betty Jensen, Suzy Johnson, Ellen Jones, Nick Kachala, Suzanna Kho, Cindy Kindle, Bill Krueger, Barbara & Jeremy Laycock, Alejandra Lewandowski, Sam Lewis, Nicolas Main, Brian McAllister (BMc), Jay McGowan, Kevin McGrath, Betsy Miner (BeM), Michael Moccio (MMo), Banceliza Monroe, Dan Nickerson, Nancy Olsen, Oliver Patrick, Karl Overman, Lorena Patricio, Samuel Payne (SPa), Nate Pultorik, Jonathan Putnam, Noah Reid, Silvie Robert, Stacy Robinson (StR), Peter Rodewald, Derek Rogers (DHR), Nancy Rogers, Wayne Rogers, Mike Runge, Livia Santana, Susan Schmoyer, Sarah Schwartz, Dawn Scranton, Robert Scranton (RSc), Henk Sierdsema, Greg Smith, Janet Stein, Rueben Stoltzfus, Taylor Sturm, Eric Sundberg, Mark Syvertson (MSy), *Jan Trzeciak*, Erica Turner-Nasca, Connor Vara, Ken Walsh, Eileen Wheeler, Hollis White, James White, Paul Windham, Robert Windham, Chris Wood.

ABBREVIATIONS

AFT – Art Farm Trail, ESSE; **AMWMA** – Ausable Marsh WMA, CLIN; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog, FRAN; **BMRd** – Blue Mountain Rd, FRAN; **BuB** – Bulwagga Bay, ESSE; **CPSH** – Crown Pt State Historic Site, ESSE; **SFBI** – Four Brothers Islands, ESSE; **FCov** – Fort Covington, FRAN; **GBM** – Gilbert Brook Marina, CLIN; **HBO** – Hoisington Brook Outlet; **LC** – Lake Champlain; **LCTM** – Lower La Chute Ri Ticonderoga Marsh; **LLk** – Long L, HAMI; **MRd** – Moffitt Road, FRAN; **MudPdRd** – Mud Pd Rd, CLIN; **NP** – Noblewood P, ESSE; **PLk** – Piseco L, HAMI; **PS** – Paul Smiths, FRAN; **VIC** – Paul Smiths VIC, FRAN; **WFMt** – Whiteface Mt, ESSE.

Co-CF; -CN; -FL; -FY; -NB; -NE; -NY; -ON: – Atlas breeding codes (see page 103).

Trumpeter Swan: 2 Bombay FRAN 20 Jun (JBib et al.).

Wood Duck: 10 MudPdRd 15 Jun (StR), Co-FL.

Blue-winged Teal: HBO 26 Aug (StR).

Northern Shoveler: no reports.

Gadwall: 2 FBI 29 Jun – 6 Jul (StR, DHR); 2 AMWMA 9 Aug (R. Windham); 2 Schroon ESSE 23 Aug (B. Balliett).

American Wigeon: Saranac L FRAN 11 Jun (PB).

American Black Duck: 2 Tracy Rd 19 Jul (StR), Co-FL.

Green-winged Teal: 12 MRd 14 Aug (StR).

Ring-necked Duck: 7 PS 20 Jun (EJ), Co-CF.
Lesser Scaup: 4 LLk 19 Aug (JH).
White-winged Scoter: BuB 31 Jul - 26 Aug (StR); AMWMA 14 Aug (StR).
Common Goldeneye: 12 AMWMA 22 Jun (StR), Co-FL.
Hooded Merganser: 5 Indian L HAMI 17 Jun (WB), Co-FL.
Common Merganser: 44 AMWMA 23 Jun (AC), Co-FL.
Red-breasted Merganser: Crotched Pd 2 Jun (Gl&MCh); a few reports of 1-2 females from NP and FBI throughout the season.

Wild Turkey: max 47 VIC 3 Jul (E. Turner-Nasca).
Ruffed Grouse: 7 MudPdRd 22 Jun (StR), Co-FL.
Ring-necked Pheasant: max 3 Bombay FRAN 2 Aug (LE, DS, RSc).

Pied-billed Grebe: 5 PS 29 June (B&JL).
EARED GREBE (R7): Cedar R Flow HAMI 17 Aug (CV).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Church Pd FRAN 24 Jul (G. Smith); Newcomb ESSE 25 Jul (J. Putnam); Fish Creek Pd FRAN 5 Aug (J. McGowan, L. Santana); *intro*.
Black-billed Cuckoo: max 3 Duane FRAN 5 Aug (NK).

Common Nighthawk: max 26 Crown Pt ESSE 23 Aug (StR).
Eastern Whip-poor-will: max 4 Altona Flat Rock CLIN 20 Jun (AmB).

Chimney Swift: max 38 Piseco Airport HAMI 12 July (CK).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 3 NP 23 Jul (NH).

Virginia Rail: 2 AMWMA 9 Jun (SK).
Common Gallinule: Chapman Rd FRAN 10 Jun (JBib, BMc, CV); Bellmont Center FRAN 23 Jun (WR, NR).

SANDHILL CRANE (R7): 4 Tupper L FRAN Jul - Aug (mob), family group.

Killdeer: max 10 FCov 30 Jul (NM); 5 BuB 8 Aug (StR).
Semipalmated Plover: max 15 LLk 21-29 Aug (mob).

Sanderling: 2 AMWMA 30 Aug (TC), only rep.

Baird's Sandpiper: Lake Colby 22 Aug (CV), only rep, rare outside of Lake Champlain.
Least Sandpiper: max 11 FCov 11 Aug (HW).
Pectoral Sandpiper: HBO 24 Aug (StR).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 18 LLk 21 Aug (StR).
Short-billed Dowitcher: GBM 17 Aug (DHR).
American Woodcock: max 4 Rollins Rd FRAN 26 Jun (SS), Co-FL.
Wilson's Snipe: max 3 Chapman Rd FRAN 10 Jun - 2 Jul (JBib, BMc, CV).
Spotted Sandpiper: max 9 Crab I CLIN 14 Aug (KMc).
Solitary Sandpiper: max 16 LLk 29 Aug (MB).
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 25 MRd 14 Aug (StR).
Greater Yellowlegs: max 16 LLk 19 Aug (H. Sierdsema).

Bonaparte's Gull: NP 23 Jul (DHR); 112 GBM 18 Aug (DHR).
Ring-billed Gull: 2250 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.
Herring Gull: 175 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: NP 25 Aug (DHR).
Great Black-backed Gull: 80 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.
Herring X Great Black-backed Gull: 2 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.
Caspian Tern: 267 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.
Black Tern: Chapman Rd FRAN 2 Jul (CV).
Common Tern: 232 GBM 25 Aug (DHR).

Common Loon: max 14 Lake Clear FRAN 29 July (NM).

Double-crested Cormorant: 3000 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-NY.

American Bittern: 2 AMWMA 10 Jun (NP).
Least Bittern: 2 AMWMA 4 Jun (A. Eppedio).
Great Blue Heron: 3 Point au Roche CLIN 20 Jun (StR), Co-ON; FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-NY.
Great Egret: 8 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.
Green Heron: 2 Port Douglas ESSE 29 Jul (CE).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 14 FBI 6 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.

Black Vulture: 2 LCTM 25 Jun (MB, BeM).
Turkey Vulture: 7 BuB 31 Jul (StR).

Osprey: 3 AMWMA 4 Jul (NP).

Northern Harrier: 30 reps from CLIN, ESSE, & FRAN.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 Lake Placid Mill Pd 2 Jul (AIB), Co-FL.
Cooper's Hawk: 2 Santa Clara Flow FRAN 29 Jun (AIB), Co-CF.
Bald Eagle: 3 PLk 27 Jun (CK), Co-FL.
Red-shouldered Hawk: several single reps from ESSE, FRAN & HAMI.
Broad-winged Hawk: 2 max counts of 5 in CLIN & FRAN.
Red-tailed Hawk: widespread, max 6 Bombay FRAN 2 Aug (LE, DS, RSc).

Eastern Screech-Owl: Saranac L FRAN 27 Aug (NM).
Great Horned Owl: AMWMA 21 Jun (B. Jenson).
Barred Owl: 3 Silver L Bog FRAN 12 Aug (AIB), Co-FL.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: BMRd 30 Jun (mob).

Belted Kingfisher: BMRd 30 Jul (BeM), Co-CF.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 2 LCTM 25 Jun (AIB et al.), Co-CF.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: MudPdRd 15 Jun (StR), Co-CF.
Black-backed Woodpecker: 2 WFMt 20 Jun (TB), Co-CF.
Northern Flicker: 2 Cedar R Rd 15 Jun (CW), Co-CF.
Pileated Woodpecker: 2 MudPdRd 22 Jun, Co-NY.

American Kestrel: 5 CPSHS 3 Jul (B. DeBoyace), Co-FL.
Merlin: 4 Harris L 28 Jul (J. Feenstra), Co-FL.
Peregrine Falcon: WFMt 25 Jul (J. Bishop).

Great Crested Flycatcher: 2 AMWMA 7 Aug (R. Windham).
Eastern Kingbird: 6 AMWMA 11 Aug (R. Windham).
Olive-sided Flycatcher: 3 BMRd 30 Jul (BeM), Co-FY.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: 3 High Pt Trail 27 Aug (BH).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Cascade Mt 6 Aug (JMc), Co-CF.
Alder Flycatcher: Spring Pd Bog FRAN 14 Jul (GB), Co-CF.
Least Flycatcher: 2 PL HAMI 26 Jun (CK), Co-FY.
Eastern Phoebe: 2 Whallons Bay Rd ESSE 10 Aug (StR), Co-CF.

Yellow-throated Vireo: Mt Defiance ESSE 14 Jun (StR).

Blue-headed Vireo: 4 Moose Ri Plains HAMI 16 Jun (CW), Co-NY.
Philadelphia Vireo: Wilmington ESSE 16 Jun (PR), Co-CF.
Warbling Vireo: 6 AMWMA 5 Jul (KO).
Red-eyed Vireo: BuB 10 Aug (StR), Co-FY.

Canada Jay: 4 BB 4 Jun (MB), Co-FY.
Fish Crow: Cumberland Head CLIN 8 Jun (BK).
Common Raven: 3 Frontier Rd 3 Jul (StR), Co-FL.

Boreal Chickadee: 9 Big Slide Mt 11 Jul (SL), Co-CN.
Tufted Titmouse: 5 Horseshoe Pd Rd 26 Jun (Gl&MCh), Co-CF.

Bank Swallow: max 25 NP 18 Aug (DHR).
Tree Swallow: max 319 Clinton CLIN 24 July (StR).
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 2 Sacandaga Nature Trail 18 Jun (MSy), Co-CF.
Barn Swallow: max 50 NP 18 Aug (DHR).
Cliff Swallow: max 15 Whallon Bay ESSE 22 Jun (DHR).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 8 Yard Mt ESSE 5 Jun (Gl&MCh).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 45 Mt. Marcy, ESSE (L. Patricio, M. Gilbert); Tracy Rd West 24 Jun (StR), Co-CF.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 4 Paradox L ESSE 1 Jul (StR), Co-NB.

Brown Creeper: 4 Trout L Trail 14 Jun (OP), Co-CF.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 2 LCTM 25 Jun (AIB), Co-CF.

House Wren: 5 Churubusco CLIN 3 Jul (StR).
Winter Wren: 10 Cedar R 21 Jun (Gl&MCh), Co-FY.
Sedge Wren: Dry Brook 3 Jul (StR); Churubusco CLIN 24 Jul (StR).
Marsh Wren: 6 AMWMA 4 Jul (NP).
Carolina Wren: MudPdRd 15 Jun (StR), Co-CN.

Gray Catbird: 2 Wickham Marsh 31 Aug (StR).
Brown Thrasher: 2 Frontier Rd 3 Jul (StR), Co-CF.
Northern Mockingbird: Ticonderoga 5 Jul (StR), Co-CF.

Eastern Bluebird: max BMRd 6 Jun (DS, RSc).

Veery: 2 Lake Alice CLIN 10 Jun (StR).
Gray-cheeked Thrush: Eaton 19 Jun (S. Robert).
Bicknell's Thrush: max 14 WFMt 2 Jul (K. Walsh).
Swainson's Thrush: 8 Big Slide Mt 11 Jul (SL), Co-FL.
Hermit Thrush: 5 Silver L Bog 26 Jun (StR), Co-FY.

Evening Grosbeak: 3 Pharaoh L 11 Jun (J. White).
Purple Finch: 6 Bull Rock Rd 25 Jun (Gl&MCh), Co-FY.
Red Crossbill: max 11 Bull Rock Rd ESSE 6 Aug (Gl&MCh).
RED CROSSBILL, TYPE 4: Sabattis Circle 6 Aug (NM, BMc).
Red Crossbill, Type 12: 5 Paradox L 1 Jul (StR).
White-winged Crossbill: 2 WFMt 9 Jul (B. Monroe); 9 Oregon Plains Rd (JMc).
Pine Siskin: Baxter Mt Rd 15 Jul (NR).

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2-4 former Clinton Co. Airport CLIN 1 Jun - 13 Jul (TS); only rep.
Chipping Sparrow: 4 NP 23 Jul (DHR).
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW (R7): Morrisonville 1 Jun (TS).
Field Sparrow: 3 Point au Roche CLIN 19 Jul (KA).
White-throated Sparrow: MudPdRd 15 Jun (StR), Co-CF.
Vesper Sparrow: Gabriels 13 Jul (NM).
Savannah Sparrow: 10 Vermontville 26 Jun (BeM), Co-ON.
Lincoln's Sparrow: Spring Pd Bog 14 Jul (GB), Co-CF.
Swamp Sparrow: MudPdRd 15 Jun (StR), Co-CF.
Eastern Towhee: 6 Mount Defiance 13 Jul (StR), Co-FL.

Bobolink: 8 Heaven Hill Farm 27 Jun (EJ), Co-CF.
Eastern Meadowlark: FCov 29 Jul (RB).
Baltimore Oriole: LCTM 1 Jun (StR), Co-NB.
Brown-headed Cowbird: 4 FCov 27 Jul (EW).
Rusty Blackbird: 3 Little Moose L 17 Jun (CW), Co-CF.

Ovenbird: Whitney L 17 Jul (Gl&MCh), Co-NE.
Louisiana Waterthrush: max 4 LCTM 25 Jun (AlB).
Northern Waterthrush: 6 Nehasani L 9 Jul (AL), Co-FL.

Golden-winged Warbler: 2 reps, Cold Book Rd CLIN 3 Jun (AmB), rare in CLIN; Moira FRAN 8 Jun (DN), *intro*.
Blue-winged Warbler: Webb Royce Swamp 5 Jun (StR); Christian Rd ESSE 16 Jun (StR), cont. from spring; Bombay FRAN 23 Jun (DS, RSc), *intro*.
"Brewster's" Warbler: AFT 2 Jun (BMc); Whallon Bay ESSE 22 Jun (DHR), *intro*.
Black and White Warbler: 3 Silver L Bog 3 Jul (CV), Co-CF.
Tennessee Warbler: max 7 North Elba ESSE 31 Aug (DHR).
Nashville Warbler: 2 Redford 22 Jun (StR), Co-CF.
Mourning Warbler: max 6 Lake Pleasant HAMI 23 Jul (CK).
Common Yellowthroat: 7 Tracy Rd West 24 Jun (StR), Co-CF.
American Redstart: 7 LCTM 25 Jun (AlB et al.), Co-CF.
Cape May Warbler: 5 BuB 14 Aug (StR).
Northern Parula: 3 PL 9 Jul (CK), Co-FY.
Magnolia Warbler: 3 Gull Lakes Trail 30 Jun (MDW), Co-CF.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 3 BB 20 Aug (BMc).
Blackburnian Warbler: MudPdRd 15 Jun (StR), Co-CF.
Yellow Warbler: 5 AMWMA 24 Jul (ES).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: 4 Chateaugay 4 Jul (DN), Co-CF.
Blackpoll Warbler: Ampersand Mt 17 Aug (AlB), Co-FL.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: Cedar R 22 Jun (Gl&MCh), Co-CF.
Palm Warbler: 7 BB 26 Jun (R.Stoltzfus), Co-CF.
Pine Warbler: 2 Fish Creek 15 Jun (AlB), Co-CF.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 27 Mt Marcy, ESSE 10 Jun (M. Gilbert, L. Patricio).
Prairie Warbler: 2 Mt Defiance 14 Jun (StR).
Black-throated Green Warbler: 16 Algonquin P 16 Aug (SPa).
Canada Warbler: 5 Cedar Ri 21 Jun (G&MC), Co-CF.
Wilson's Warbler: Sspeculator HAMI 4 Jun (CK); Ferds Bog HAMI 13 Jun (S. Schwartz); Wilmington ESSE 24 Aug K. Jafee-Dax; WFMt 27 Aug E. Beefink; 2 Loj Rd ESSE 31 Aug (DHR).

Scarlet Tanager: 2 Chateaugay 7 Jun (DN).
Northern Cardinal: 7 LCTM 1 Jun (StR), Co-FY.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Bull Rock Rd 14 Jul (Gl&MCh), Co-FY.
Indigo Bunting: 4 Horseshoe Pd Rd 14 Jul (Gl&MCh), Co-FL.

REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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	Albany			Glens Falls		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Jun	67.5°	68.5°	-1.0°	63.2°	65.0°	-1.8°
Jul	75.8°	73.1°	+2.7°	71.7°	69.7°	+2.0°
Aug	70.3°	71.4°	-1.1°	66.5°	67.8°	-1.3°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	3.06"	4.05"	-0.99"	3.52"	3.72"	-0.20"
Jul	10.70"	4.55"	+6.15"	4.52"	4.26"	+0.26"
Aug	5.13"	3.76"	+1.37"	6.28"	3.48"	+2.80"

Summertime temperatures were fairly close to normal in Region 8, running a little higher than average for the month of July. The big weather story was the large surplus of rain in July and August. At Albany, there was nearly eleven inches of rainfall in July, which was the wettest ever since records were kept. The summer as a whole was the third wettest on record. Needless to say, waterbodies were near highwater marks, and streams and rivers were out of their banks. What effect this had on breeding success for many species remains to be seen.

A **Tundra Swan** was observed at the Cobleskill Reservoir on 17 August less than two miles from where a group of those birds was seen in late February. Breeding season **Pied-billed Grebe** reports were fairly scarce, but stable, from appropriate marshy habitat on the fringes of Region 8, mainly in Warren, Washington, Schoharie, Fulton, and Columbia Counties. Both expected cuckoo species showed in good numbers this summer, with **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** reports outpacing **Black-Billed Cuckoo** for perhaps the first time in memory. The southbound migration of **Common Nighthawk** began in earnest on 15 August and seemed to peak in the fourth week of August, with the Counting Common Nighthawks effort at the Albany Pine Bush Preserve recording 49 on 23 August, and a high count of 87 on 26 August. **Eastern Whip-poor-will** continued in their strongholds at Luther Forest, Saratoga County; the Albany Pine Bush Preserve in Albany County; and in Coeymans Hollow, Albany County. There were several other scattered reports in the Region. **Sora** and **Common Gallinule** observations were few and far between, although this may be due to lack of access for birders to their habitats, more than to a dwindling population.

A beautiful **Red Phalarope** was photographed at a farm in remote Rensselaer County on 9 June. Along the Mohawk River in Albany County, Cohoes Flats produced two birds of note in this shorebird-challenged Region, a random **Dunlin** on 24 July, and a **Sanderling** on 27 August. A **Black Tern** was photographed flying low over the north end of Basic Creek Reservoir, Albany County on 18 June, and a **Common Tern** was similarly photographed at Lake George, Warren County on 6 June.

A juvenile **Little Blue Heron** was observed at the Crescent Power Plant along the Mohawk River in Albany County on 3 August. A juvenile **White Ibis** appeared at Wrights Loop north of Stillwater, Saratoga County on 31 July. The bird was later photographed to confirm the identification. The most surprising wader, however, was the **Roseate Spoonbill** found across from the Mosher Marsh Preserve entrance in Amsterdam, Montgomery County on 11 June.

A **Red-headed Woodpecker** continued to delight many birders at the King Highway Barrens unit of the Albany Pine Bush Preserve, Albany County, through at least 20 June. An interesting *Empidonax* flycatcher was photographed and audio recorded at Knox Wetland in Albany County on 22 August. After feedback from staff at Cornell Lab of Ornithology it was concluded that the bird was an **Acadian Flycatcher**, which is reasonably common in the Lower Hudson Valley but hard to come by farther north. **Bicknell's Thrush** was well surveyed this summer in the Catskill Mountains of Greene County. Two points of concentration seemed apparent, in the Hunter Mountain/Plateau Mountain region in the north, and Slide Mountain and vicinity to the south. **Dickcissel** were observed in four locations: Garnsey Park in Saratoga County on 11 June; Saratoga National Historical Park on 14 June; Burnt Hills, Saratoga County on 3 July; and at the Landis Arboretum in Schoharie County on 8 July.

205 species were reported during the period.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

APBP – Albany Pine Bush Pres, ALBA; **B&BCMP** – Bob & Betty Cummings Memorial P, WASH; **BCM** – Black Creek Marsh, ALBA; **BMB** – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; **CF** – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; **CPP** – Crescent Power Plant, ALBA; **FtEG** – Fort Edward Grasslands, WASH; **OCA** – Overmountain Conservation Area, COLU; **PISP** – Peebles I SP, SARA; **PIMt** – Plateau Mt, GREE; **RoundL** – Round L, SARA; **Schagh** – Schaghticoke, RENS; **SISP** – Schodack I SP, RENS; **SL** – Saratoga L, SARA; **SNHP** – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; **SP** – Stanton Pd, ALBA; **TR** – Tomhannock Res, RENS; **VFNHP** – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Pres, SARA; **WrLoop** – Wrights Loop, SARA.

Snow Goose: Halfmoon SARA 14 Jun, only report.
Canada Goose: max 237 Melrose RENS 6 Jun.
Mute Swan: max 3 Nassau L RENS 17 Jun.
Tundra Swan: Cobleskill Res SCHO 17 Aug (B. Combs, Jr).
Wood Duck: max 100 Halfmoon SARA 15 Aug.
Blue-winged Teal: max 4 CF 28 Aug.
Northern Shoveler: E Schodack RENS 17 Jun.
Gadwall: Watervliet Res ALBA 17 Jun.
Mallard: max 75 Cohoes ALBA 2 Aug.
American Black Duck: max 50 CPP 1 Aug.
Northern Pintail: max 10 Bolton Landing WARR 3 Jun.
Green-winged Teal: max 7 CF 29 Aug.
Ring-necked Duck: 2 Gull Bay Pres WASH 30 Jun.
Surf Scoter: RoundL 23 Mar.
Bufflehead: Mayfield FULT 17 Aug.
Hooded Merganser: max 23 Cairo GREE 19 Aug.
Common Merganser: max 31 Schagh 10 Jun.

Wild Turkey: max 27 Ft Ann WASH 29 Jun.
Ruffed Grouse: max 11 Corinth SARA 25 Jun.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 4 Elizaville COLU 4 Jul, ad/3y.

Rock Pigeon: max 150 SP 19 Aug.
Mourning Dove: max 120 Hoosick RENS 29 Aug.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 3 mult loc.
Black-billed Cuckoo: max 3 OCA 1 Jun.

Common Nighthawk: max 87 APBP 26 Aug.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: 6 Moreau L SARA 1 Jun.

Chimney Swift: max 100 CF 2 Aug.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 8 Grafton RENS 12 Aug.

Virginia Rail: max 6 Cline Rd Marsh FULT 3 Jul.
Sora: VFNHP 16 Jun; Ancram COLU 16 Aug, only reports.
Common Gallinule: max 6 Carlisle SCHO 8 Jul; 6 VFNHP 6 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: VFNHP 10 Jun (LD); Albany ALBA 3 Aug (JuH).

Semipalmated Plover: 5 CF 27 Aug; 5 WrLoop SARA 19 Aug.
Killdeer: max 61 The Crossings ALBA 22 Jul.
Sanderling: CF 27-28 Aug (TL).
Dunlin: CF 24 Jul (ZSW).
Least Sandpiper: max 50 WrLoop 16 Aug.
Pectoral Sandpiper: max 3 Ancram COLU 16 Aug.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 12 Schodack RENS 20 Aug.
Short-billed Dowitcher: Schodack RENS 10 Jul (NL).
American Woodcock: max 4 Sand L RENS 9 Jul; 4 APBP 25 Jul.
Wilson's Snipe: max 4 Mohawk MONT 2 Jun.
Red-necked Phalarope: Grafton RENS 9 Jun (BM).
Spotted Sandpiper: max 14 Schagh 1 Jun.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 23 Ancram COLU 16 Aug.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 24 Stillwater Riverfront P SARA 11 Aug.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 7 WrLoop 16 Aug.

Bonaparte's Gull: 2 CF 27 Aug.
Ring-billed Gull: max 500 CF 17 Aug.
Herring Gull: max 25 Gull Bay Pres WASH 30 Jun.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 3 CPP 16 Aug.
Caspian Tern: max 8 B&BCMP WASH 21 Aug.
Black Tern: BCR 18 Jun (EM).
Common Tern: L George WARR 6 Jun (RL).

Common Loon: max 7 Jabe Pd WARR
23 Jun; 7 L George WARR 14 Jul; 7
Caroga L FULT 21 Jul.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 80 TR
2 Aug.

American Bittern: singletons mult loc.

Least Bittern: 3 VFNHP 26 Aug.

Great Blue Heron: max 22 Bear Swamp
Pres ALBA 18 Jun.

Great Egret: max 19 CPP 27 Jul.

Little Blue Heron: CPP 3 Aug (NL).

Green Heron: max 14 Schagh 7 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: VFNHP
16 Jun; Charlton SARA 12 Jul; Athens
GREE 15 Jul; Schuylerville SARA 31
Jul; Champlain Canal Lock 5 SARA 3
Aug; Ooms Cons Area COLU 31 Aug.

WHITE IBIS: WrLoop 31 Jul (SB).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL: Mosher
Marsh Pres MONT 11 Jun (NP).

Black Vulture: max 40 Athens GREE 5
Aug.

Turkey Vulture: max 100 Hoosick Falls
RENS 1 Aug.

Osprey: max 4 mult loc.

Northern Harrier: max 2 FtEG 11 Jun.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 3 Spectacle
L FULT 6 Aug.

Cooper's Hawk: max 5 T Ballston
SARA 30 Jul.

Bald Eagle: max 7 CF 4 Jun.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 3 Athens
GREE 23 Jul.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 4 Bolton
Landing WARR 14 Jul.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 5 Middleburgh
SCHO 19 Jul.

Eastern Screech-Owl: max 6

Schenectady SCHE 11 Jun.

Great Horned Owl: max 2 mult loc.

Barred Owl: max 4 Halfmoon SARA 6
Jul; 4 Pecks L FULT 24 Jul.

Belted Kingfisher: max 6 VFNHP 15
Jul.

Red-headed Woodpecker: APBP 1-20
Jun.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 6 mult
loc.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 12
Berlin RENS 9 Jul.

Downy Woodpecker: max 14 VFNHP
26 Aug.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 8 Ft Ann
WASH 9 Jun.

Northern Flicker: max 7 mult loc.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 6
RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 23 Jul.

American Kestrel: max 10 E Hoosick
RENS 8 Aug.

Merlin: max 5 L George WARR 4 Jul, 2
ad, 3 y.

Peregrine Falcon: max 5 Halfmoon
SARA 14 Jun, 2 ad, 3 y.

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 13 PISP
6 Jul.

Eastern Kingbird: max 11 RoundL 25
Jul.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 2 mult loc.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 13 Schagh
12 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 4
Hunter Mt GREE 14 Jun.

Acadian Flycatcher: L Taghkanic SP
COLU 3 Jun; Knox Wetland ALBA 22
Aug (DF).

Alder Flycatcher: max 8 BMB 13 Jun.

Willow Flycatcher: max 9 BMB 13 Jun.

Least Flycatcher: max 9 Pittstown SF
RENS 2 Jun; 8 Brant L WARR 24 Jun.

Eastern Phoebe: max 11 Voorheesville
ALBA 12 Jul.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 5 mult loc.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 7 mult loc.

Philadelphia Vireo: 2 Thurman WARR
9 Aug; Garnsey P SARA 27 Aug.

Warbling Vireo: max 23 PISP 23 Jun.

Red-eyed Vireo: max 50 Hunter GREE
25 Jun.

Blue Jay: max 30 APBP 31 Aug.

American Crow: max 50 N Greenbush
RENS 24 Aug.

Fish Crow: max 43 RoundL 19 Aug.

Common Raven: max 12 Catskill GREE 18 Jun.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 64 VFNHP 26 Aug.

Tufted Titmouse: max 41 PISP 28 Aug.

Horned Lark: Garnsey P SARA 27 Aug, only report.

Bank Swallow: max 150 Champlain Canal Lock 3 RENS 3 Jul.

Tree Swallow: max 750 Greenport COLU 26 Aug.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 21 PISP 27 Jun.

Purple Martin: max 13 SL 9 Jul.

Barn Swallow: max 200 Clemons Marsh WASH 25 Jul; 200 RoundL 10 Aug.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: singletons mult loc.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 24 PIMt 6 Aug.

Cedar Waxwing: max 100 APBP 3 Jun.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 13 APBP 27 Aug.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 23 VFNHP 26 Aug.

Brown Creeper: max 7 Bolton WARR 7 Jun; 7 L Desolation SF SARA 22 Jun.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 8 SNHP 3 Jun.

Carolina Wren: max 7 mult loc.

House Wren: max 16 Garnsey P SARA 4 Jul.

Winter Wren: max 25 PIMt 17 Jun.

Marsh Wren: max 20 SISP 20 Jun.

Gray Catbird: max 50 VFNHP 26 Aug.

Brown Thrasher: max 5 Garnsey P SARA 9 Jun.

Northern Mockingbird: max 12 Stuyvesant COLU 27 Aug.

European Starling: max 400 The Crossings ALBA 22 Jul.

Eastern Bluebird: max 20 SNHP 16 Aug.

Veery: max 24 Anchor Diamond P SARA 18 Jun.

Bicknell's Thrush: max 4 PIMt 18 Jun; 4 Hunter Mt GREE 1 Jul.

Swainson's Thrush: max 12 Hunter Mt GREE 14 Jun.

Hermit Thrush: max 15 Indian Head WA GREE 25 Jun.

Wood Thrush: max 10 Anchor Diamond P SARA 8 Jul.

American Robin: max 57 RamsHorn-Livingston Sanc GREE 23 Jul.

House Sparrow: max 119 Albany ALBA 28 Aug.

American Pipit: 2 Colonie ALBA 25 Aug, only report.

Evening Grosbeak: 3 T Bolton WARR 9 Jul.

House Finch: max 35 Colonie ALBA 27 Jul.

Purple Finch: 9 mult loc.

Red Crossbill: max 16 PIMt 25 Jun.

White-winged Crossbill: 5 Valentine Pd WARR 9 Aug.

Pine Siskin: max 2 Cobleskill SCHO 5 Jul.

American Goldfinch: max 65 Catskill GREE 24 Jul.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 4 M Pitney Trl SARA 11 Jun; 3 OCA 1 Jun; 3 Saratoga Co Arpt SARA 9 Jul; 2 Argyle WASH 23 Jul.

Chipping Sparrow: 30 Brant L WARR 13 Aug.

Clay-colored Sparrow: 2 Ft Plain MONT 18 Jun; Ft Ann WASH 5 Jun; Altamont ALBA 12 Jul.

Field Sparrow: 30 SNHP 21 Jun.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 23 PIMt 17 Jun.

White-throated Sparrow: max 16 Taconic SP COLU 29 Jul.

Vesper Sparrow: 2 Saratoga Co Arpt SARA 2 Jun; 2 Cobleskill SCHO 15 Jul; 2 Fultonville MONT 15 Aug; 2 Grafton RENS 28 Aug.

Savannah Sparrow: max 9 M Pitney Trl SARA 9 Jul.

Song Sparrow: max 38 VFNHP 9 Jul.
Lincoln's Sparrow: max 2 Chestertown
WARR 29 Jun.
Swamp Sparrow: max 34 Lewis A
Swyer Pres COLU 6 Jun.
Eastern Towhee: max 17 APBP 3 Jun.

Bobolink: max 75 OCA 16 Jul.
Eastern Meadowlark: max 8
Canajoharie MONT 10 Jun; 8 FtEG 25
Jun; 8 B&BCMP 25 Jun.
Orchard Oriole: max 5 Schagh 15 Jul; 5
SNHP 17 Jul.
Baltimore Oriole: 20 Grafton RENS 19
Aug.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 400 E
Greenbush RENS 11 Aug.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 250 The
Crossings ALBA 21 Jul.
Common Grackle: max 250 Glenmont
ALBA 31 Aug.

Ovenbird: max 33 Anchor Diamond P
SARA 18 Jun.
Worm-eating Warbler: arr Olana SHS
COLU 5 May; max 4 Deer Mt NT ALBA
28 May.
Louisiana Waterthrush: max 7 PIMt 28
Jun.
Northern Waterthrush: max 2 mult loc.
Golden-winged Warbler: Clemons
Marsh WASH 10 Jun; Whitehall WASH
19 Jun; Putnam WASH 25 Jun.
Blue-winged Warbler: max 8 T
Guilderland ALBA 7 Jul.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 8 Hague
WARR 25 Jul.
Tennessee Warbler: arr APBP 3 Aug;
max 3 VFNHP 27 Aug.
Nashville Warbler: max 3 Amy's P
WARR 1 Jul.
Mourning Warbler: max 5 Hague
WARR 25 Jul.
Common Yellowthroat: max 22 VFNHP
25 Jun.

Hooded Warbler: max 3 OCA 2 Jun.
American Redstart: max 20 PIMt 25
Jun.
Cape May Warbler: arr Nassau L RENS
13 Aug; max 5 T Ballston SARA 26 Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: max 5 SISP RENS
25 Jun.
Northern Parula: max 3 Pharaoh L
WARR 1 Jun.
Magnolia Warbler: max 14 PIMt 11 Jul.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr VFNHP 25
Aug; max 5 APBP 27 Aug.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 34 PIMt 25
Jun.
Yellow Warbler: max 93 Heldeberg-
Hudson Rail Trl ALBA 12 Jun.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 10 mult
loc.
Blackpoll Warbler: max 16 PIMt 11 Jul.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 16
PIMt 25 Jun.
Palm Warbler: last 4 APBP 8 Jun.
Pine Warbler: max 12 Hudson Pointe
Nature Pres WARR 3 Jun.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 19 PIMt
11 Jul.
Prairie Warbler: max 9 APBP 3 Jun.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 20
PIMt 25 Jun.
Canada Warbler: max 3 Petersburg
RENS 6 Jun; 3 Edinburg SARA 4 Jul.
Wilson's Warbler: arr Woodlawn Pres
SCHE 24 Aug.
Scarlet Tanager: max 8 Ballston L
SARA 17 Jul.
Northern Cardinal: max 25 PISP 29
Aug.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 7
VFNHP 13 Jun.
Indigo Bunting: max 9 Wilton Wildlife
Pres SARA 4 Jul.
Dickcissel: Garnsey P SARA 11 Jun
(JH); SNHP 14 Jun (SaR); Ballston
SARA 3 Jul (DHalm); Landis Arboretum
SCHO 8 Jul (K. Schnurr).

REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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June was a cool, wet month ending a two-month dry spell. That trend continued throughout the summer. There was a high of 95° F on 2 June and a low of 42° on 4 and 7 June. The average temperature for the month was 66.7°, 1.7° below normal. The total rainfall for the month was 4.25", .34" above normal. July was warm, with a high of 92° on 6 and 27 July and a low of 54° on 31 July for an average temperature of 75.6°, 2° above normal. It was also wet, with 7.52" of rain, 3.74" above normal, nearly twice as much as usual. August was cooler than usual with a high of 87° on 21 August and a low of 51° on 2 August for an average of 70.5°, 1.2° below normal. There was a total of 4.89" of precipitation, .61" above normal. All of this resulted in a cool wet summer.

Another excellent season of rarities this summer was further highlighted by some excellent breeding confirmations for the NYS Breeding Bird Atlas.

Two **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** were found on Huguenot Lake in Westchester County on 16 June but could not be relocated after the initial sighting. On 12 August Derek Stoll spotted a swan at Tivoli Bays WMA in Dutchess County. He was surprised when upon a closer look it was a Trumpeter Swan. With the increased population in the state, we can expect more of these scattered reports.

On 22 July Diane Day of Westbrookville, Sullivan County, whose yard is landscaped for birds and butterflies, noticed a different hummingbird chasing all the other hummingbirds in her yard. She knew immediately it was a hummingbird she had never seen before and posted it to New York Birders Facebook page for identification. The bird proved to be an adult male **Rufous Hummingbird**, a long overdue first record for Sullivan County! Unfortunately, though still present the morning of the third day, it disappeared shortly thereafter. A second Rufous Hummingbird arrived at the Finger family's feeder in West Saugerties in Ulster County late that same afternoon. Fortunately, excellent photos of both proved them to be different birds. The second bird remained in that yard for the next three days allowing many more birders to view it. Ulster County has two previous records; one was accepted as Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird, the other, listed in eBird as *Selasphorus* sp, has not yet been reviewed by NYSARC.

The Wallkill River Sandhill Cranes nested for a third time this season, but this time they built their nest in Orange County, confirming breeding there for the first time. Unfortunately, once again, however, the nest failed.

On 21 July Jon Erickson saw an **American Avocet** flying north along the Hudson River. This was the first record for Putnam County. Almost certainly the same bird was seen later that morning by Chris Chappel along Sand Dock Road Trail in Dutchess County. A short time later it was seen flying south past the same location.

On 25 August an overnight rainstorm put many shorebirds down in the Orange County Black Dirt Region. American Golden-Plover, Buff-breasted

Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, and Baird's Sandpiper were among the dozen species seen.

On 21 July Matt Zeitler spotted an Upland Sandpiper in the Orange County Black Dirt Region. As is typical for the species, it wasn't seen again. On 5 August Sean Camilleri had a calling flyover Upland Sandpiper at The Links at Unionvale. On 7 August Matt found four Upland Sandpipers on Skinners Lane, Orange County. These birds uncharacteristically remained for three days allowing many to view this now rare visitor to the area.

On 22 July Linda Pistolesi found a **Whimbrel** at Piermont Pier. Seen by several observers, it was nicely photographed by Larry Scacchetti. On 4 August Kyle Bardwell was able to photograph another Whimbrel flying down the Hudson at Rhinecliff Landing Park in Dutchess County. On 25 August the author was kayaking on Morningside Lake in Sullivan County when a Whimbrel flew in and attempted to land. The bird flew around the lake several times before finally flying out. This is the third record of the species for Sullivan County.

On 12 August the author found a **Western Sandpiper** at Morningside Park in Sullivan County, this being only the second record for the county. Unfortunately, it was gone the following morning.

On 27 June Bruce Nott located a **Neotropic Cormorant** on the Newburgh Waterfront. This is almost certainly the same bird that over-summered there last year, as it did again this summer. On 8 June Sean Camilleri found an immature **Great Cormorant** at Harbor Square Park in Westchester County. The bird continued there off and on through 25 August.

On 16 June the Kosek family of Fishkill were walking in their neighborhood when they spotted a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron walking in a neighbor's yard. Further investigation led to the discovery of a pair and a nest with two young, the first breeding record for Dutchess County.

Larry Scacchetti photographed a **Mississippi Kite** at the Airmont Cemetery in Rockland County on 1 June as it passed over the area. It was seen two more times in June. Another, or perhaps the same bird was photographed by Michael Bochnik at Lenoir Nature Preserve in Westchester County on 10 June.

On 21 June Kyle Bardwell spotted a **Black-legged Kittiwake** on the Hudson River near Kingston, Ulster County. Fortunately, the bird continued through 27 June, moving back and forth across the river, being seen in both Ulster and Dutchess Counties. Isaac Ruschak photographed a Black Tern on Lake Tappan in Rockland County on 1 June, but the bird wasn't seen thereafter. On 8 June Sean Camilleri spotted two **Royal Terns** at Harbor Square Park in Westchester County. They remained for a couple of hours enabling several birders to see them. On 19 July, Jon Erickson identified a **Franklin's Gull** flying along the Hudson. The bird landed on the rock jetty at Dockside Park in Putnam County, allowing a few lucky people to see it before it suddenly vanished. This is the first record for Putnam County.

On 19 July Thea Barbelet photographed a **Western Kingbird** at O'Hara Nature Center in Westchester. Typical of vagrant kingbirds at this time of year, the bird moved on before others could see it.

A small incursion of Red Crossbills took place in July in Sullivan County. By August they were being seen in both Sullivan and Ulster Counties. They were confirmed breeding in Sullivan County by late August. The Canadian Boreal *The Kingbird* 2024 March; 74 (1)

Forests had been greatly reduced by the summer wildfires which had already pushed Red Crossbills into northeastern states. That combined with the bumper crop of both pine and spruce cones in our Region should prove an interesting situation for the fall influx of winter finches.

On 29 August Karalyn Lamb spotted a sparrow at Croton Point Park. She was able to get some nice photos of what turned out to be the first **Lark Sparrow** of the season. Unfortunately, it wasn't seen again.

On 1 June Liz Jamison was lucky enough to get some looks and a photo of a Yellow-breasted Chat at Clarence Fahnestock SP in Putnam County. Another was seen at Stewart State Forest the following week. A presumed pair returned to Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills State Park in Dutchess County.

On 27 August Tom Burke and Gail Benson spotted an adult female Boat-tailed Grackle at Marshland Conservancy with a fledged juvenile in tow. This species is being seen more frequently the last couple of years.

The **Prothonotary Warbler** continuing from the spring period at the Bashakill State WMA in Sullivan County was surely seeking a mate and was present through 22 June when it was confirmed breeding; photos were obtained of the bird carrying food to the suspected nesting area several times. Two birds were confirmed and finally on 17 July Jay McGowan watched as two adults fed two begging chicks. This is the first breeding record for Sullivan County. Another Prothonotary was found on 3 June by John Askildsen at Silver Lake in Dutchess County. The bird continued through 7 June. The Kentucky Warbler found in May continued at Clarence Fahnestock SP in Dutchess County through at least 15 June.

On 31 July Rougu Li photographed a female Bay-breasted Warbler at Rockefeller State Park in Westchester. Early migrants such as this seem to be attributed to the ongoing wildfires in northeastern Canada this summer.

A **Summer Tanager** put in a couple of brief appearances in Kakiat Park in Rockland County on 9 and 12 August but was too elusive to be seen again.

The two **Blue Grosbeaks** found on the Ramapo Power Lines in Rockland County continued from the spring period. Two more Blue Grosbeaks were found and confirmed nesting along the Esopus Creek providing the first breeding record for Ulster County.

CONTRIBUTORS

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Towers, Larry Trachtenberg, Dennis Trapnell, Joe Wallace, Silas Wareham, Tom Warren, Qiao Wei, Carol Weiss, Alan Wells, Nathan Wheeler, Violet Wu, Jim Yates, Rachel Yurchisin, Matthew Zeitler.

ABBREVIATIONS

AP – Apollo Plaza, SULL; **AR** – Ashokan Res, ULST; **BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA, SULL; **BW** – Beacon Waterfront, DUTC; **CFSP** – Clarence Fahnestock SP, PUTN; **CPP** – Croton Pt P, WEST; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, WEST; **LNP** – Lenoir Nature Pres, WEST; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **NR** – Neversink Res, SULL; **NW** – Newburgh Waterfront, ORAN; **OCBDR** – Orange County Black Dirt Region, ORAN; **OMRLMSP** – Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills SP, DUTC; **PHP** – Peach Hill P, DUTC; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SSF** – Stewart State Forest, ORAN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill Ri NWR, ORAN; **ws reps** – widespread reports.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING

DUCK: 2 Huguenot L WEST 16 Jun (RY), *intro*.

Trumpeter Swan: Tivoli Bays WMA DUTC 12-26 Aug (DS, mob), *intro*.

Blue-winged Teal: Hurleyville Swamp 10 Jun (SB).

Northern Shoveler: North Salem WEST 8 Jun (TJ, mob); RLSP 11 Jul (AW); Esopus Meadows Lighthouse P 22-30 Jul (JY).

American Wigeon: BSWMA 8 Jun (GC).

Red-breasted Merganser: PP 25 Jul - 31 Aug (ML).

Northern Bobwhite: Willowemoc Wild Forest SULL 5 Jun (RDa); Crowley Rd SULL 25 Jun (WT, mob).

Ruffed Grouse: 4 Willowemoc Wild Forest SULL 12 Jun (KaM); 4 Lake Huntington SULL 20 Jul (CB).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 6 BSWMA 1 Jun (JH); ws reps.

Black-billed Cuckoo: ws reps.

Common Nighthawk: 17 Shawangunk ULST 19 Aug (KBr); ws reps.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: max 3 West Saugerties Rd ULST 1-11 Jun (SW); max 4 Harriman SP 1-13 Jun (SM); CFSP 3 Jun (CR); ws reps.

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: Upper Pine Kill Rd SULL 22-24 Jul (DD, JH); Cole Bank Rd ULST 24-27 Jul (PS), *intro*.

Clapper Rail: max 3 MC 10 Jun - 31 Aug (NSZ).

Sandhill Crane: 2 WRNWR 1 Jun - 31 Aug (KKn), *intro*.

AMERICAN AVOCET (R9): Dockside P PUTN 21 Jul (JE); Sand Dock Rd Trail DUTC 21 Jul (CCh), *intro*.

American Oystercatcher: max 5 MC 1 Jun - 31 Aug (GB, mob); 2 EGR 6 Jun - 31 Aug (GB, TBu); 4 Milton Pt WEST 8 Jul (RE).

Black-bellied Plover: MC 12 Jun (SCam); MC 30-31 Jul (GB, mob); max 8 OCBDR 15 Aug (RDi); Cornwall Bay ORAN 23 Aug (BN).

American Golden-Plover: OCBDR 24-27 Aug (JCi).

Semipalmated Plover: MC 14 Jul (SCam); 3 PP 26 Jul (RDi); max 4 OCBDR 15 Aug (SM, mob); ws reps.

Upland Sandpiper: OCBDR 21 Jul (MZ); The Links at Unionvale DUTC 5 Aug (SCam); max 4 OCBDR 7-18 Aug (MZ), *intro*.

Whimbrel: PP 22 Jul (LP); Rhinecliff Landing P DUTC 4 Aug (KBa); MP 25 Aug (JH).
Stilt Sandpiper: OCBDR 25 Aug (BN).
Ruddy Turnstone: PP 26-28 Aug (DM).
Sanderling: PP 30 Aug (LP).
Baird's Sandpiper: OCBDR 15-27 Aug (JCo).
White-rumped Sandpiper: PP 5-28 Aug (LaS, mob); MC 27 Aug (GB, TBu).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: max 5 OCBDR 25-27 Aug (BN).
Pectoral Sandpiper: PP 12 Jul (ML); AP 18 Jul (JH); max 11 OCBDR 11-23 Aug (RDi); ws reps.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 50 PP 25 Jul (K. Moon); ws reps.
WESTERN SANDPIPER: MP 12 Aug (JH), *intro*.
Short-billed Dowitcher: max 3 MC 6-15 Jul (GB, mob); PP 26 Jul (RDi); Hillview Res WEST 12 Jul (SCam); max 4 OCBDR 15 Aug (RDi).
Willet: max 5 MC 1 Jun - 31 Aug (GB); EGR 15 Aug (GB, TBu).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (R9): Kingston ULST/ Rhinebeck DUTC 21-29 Jun (KBa), *intro*.

Bonaparte's Gull: BW/NW 23 Jul (JCI); PP 25 Jul - 2 Aug (RDi); ws reps.

Laughing Gull: max 7 PP 27 Jun - 31 Aug (ZB); max 3 Harbor Square P WEST 8 Jun-2 Aug (SCam); ws reps.

FRANKLIN'S GULL: Dockside P PUTN 19 Jul (JE, CR), *intro*.

Least Tern: 2 MC 9 Jun (LM); MC 15 Jul (SCam).

Caspian Tern: max 3 PP 23-27 Jun (LP, mob); Haverstraw Bay ROCK 26 Jun (AW); NW 27 Jun (RDi), max 2 CPP 22 Jul (JW); ws reps.

Black Tern: Lake Tappan ROCK 1 Jun (IR).

Common Tern: max 6 MC 2 Jun (GB, mob); PP 5 Aug (CCo).

Forster's Tern: MacEachron Waterfront P WEST 7 Jul (JAm); PP 5-6 Aug (SRa, mob); EGR 12-20 Aug (GB); PP 27 Aug (LaS).

ROYAL TERN: 2 Harbor Square P 8 Jun (SCam), *intro*.

Common Loon: North Highland P PUTN 20 Jun (CR); Tusten SULL 21 Jun (SG); PP 10-12 Jul (MH); ws reps.

Great Cormorant: Harbor Square P 8 Jun-9 Aug (SCam), *intro*.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: NW/BW 27 Jun-31 Aug (BN), *intro*.

Least Bittern: Silver L DUTC 5 Jun (JCI); max 2 BSWMA 10 Jun - 20 Jul (JH); max 3 Great Vly WMA ULST 14-28 Jul (PS); PP 20, 28 Aug (LaS); Tivoli Bays WMA 20 Aug (SRo); Six and a Half Station Rd ORAN; 23 Aug (RDi).

Great Egret: max 10 EGR 2 Jun (GB, mob), max 47 WRNWR 30 Jul (TP); ws reps.

Snowy Egret: max 4 EGR 2 Jun (BS, mob); Blue Mt Reservation WEST 12 Aug (EB).

Little Blue Heron: MC 2-15 Jul (LM, mob); Haverstraw Bay CP ROCK 17 Jul, 9 Aug (AW); Saugerties Lighthouse ULST 24-27 Aug (PS, mob).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 2 MC 1 Jun (TW); max 5 PP 16 Jul - 23 Aug (LaS); ws reps.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Titus Mill Pd WEST 1 Jun (MBo); max 4 Hopewell Junction DUTC 16-30 Jun (KKo), *intro*.

Glossy Ibis: 12 MC 3 Jun (GB, TBu); max 2 Malfitano P WEST 12 Jun - 8 Jul (GB); EGR 7 Aug (GB, TBu); 3 Great Vly WMA ULST 29 Aug (PS).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: Airmont ROCK 1, 11, 19 Jun (LaS); LNP 10 Jun (MBo); Farm and Home Center DUTC 6 Jul (SCar), *intro*.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Warwick Brook Rd ORAN 2 Jun - 20 Jul (LiS); RSP 12 Jul (PM, EM-R); ws reps, Ulster County.

Monk Parakeet: max 8 Aiello P WEST 4 Jun-31 Aug (FG).

WESTERN KINGBIRD: O'Hara Nature Center WEST 19 Jul (TBa), *intro*.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Warwick Brook Rd ORAN 15 Jun (JF); Glynwood Farm PUTN 12 Aug (SCam); West Saugerties Rd ULST 13 Aug (PS).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Balsam Cap Mt ULST 21 Jun (DH); PHP 22-23 Aug (KBa); BSWMA 27-31 Aug (JH).

White-eyed Vireo: Pepsico Sculpture Garden WEST 11 Jun (MBo); SSF 12 Jun (JCi); PHP 4 Aug (CF).

Horned Lark: max 4 OCBDR 1 Jun - 31 Jul (RDi); CPP 15-17 Aug (SRa, mob).

Sedge Wren: Lower Wisner Rd ORAN 31 Jul-15 Aug (KK); max 2 Southland Foundation DUTC 20-22 Aug (JS).

Bicknell's Thrush: max 5 Slide Mt ULST 1 Jun - 2 Aug (SCam).

Red Crossbill: 2 Slide Mt ULST 17 Jun (PM, EM-R); 3 Balsam Cap Mt ULST 21 Jun (DH); max 8 Forestburgh SULL 1 Jul - 31 Aug (NH, mob); 2 Eldred SULL 31 Jul (JK); 3 Mongaup Res SULL 31 Jul (TM); ws reps. *intro*.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 4 SGNWR 1 Jun - 15 Jul (SLW, mob); Secor Farm DUTC 7 Jun (BM); OCBDR 11 Jun (MZ); NR 15-20 Jun (SCam, mob).

Lark Sparrow: CPP 29 Aug (KL), *intro*.

Yellow-breasted Chat: CFSP 1 Jun (LJ); SSF 11 Jun (NW); max 2 OMRLMSP 25 Jun-9 Jul (JAs, mob).

Bobolink: 30 Muhlig Rd SULL 11 Jun (JH); ws reps.

Eastern Meadowlark: max 12 SGNWR 1 Jun - 31 Aug (DT, mob); ws reps.

Orchard Oriole: ws reps.

BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE: 2 MC 27 Aug (GB, TBu).

Prothonotary Warbler: max 4 BSWMA 1 Jun - 17 Jul (PD, GP); Silver L DUTC 3-9 Jun (JAs), *intro*.

Tennessee Warbler: RSP 15 Aug (KT); ws reps.

Mourning Warbler: Ulster P ULST 5 Jun ('dw'); Willowemoc Wild Forest SULL 5 Jun (SG); Hurley Mt Rd ULST 16 Aug (R Miller).

Kentucky Warbler: CFSP 1-15 Jun (TS), *intro*.

Cape May Warbler: 4 Hillview Res WEST 16 Aug (SCam), many early reps.

Northern Parula: CFSP 4 Jun (JT).

Bay-breasted Warbler: RSP 31 Jul (RL), *intro*.

Yellow-throated Warbler: Ashokan Center ULST 11 Jun-5 Jul (MG).

Summer Tanager: Kakiat CP ROCK 9, 12 Aug (ML, CW).

BLUE GROSBEAK: 2 Ramapo Power Lines ROCK 1-21 Jun (AW); 2 Hurley ULST 15 Jun-3 Aug (VW, QW, mob), *intro*.

Dickcissel: CPP 11 Jun (KeM); OCBDR 12 August (JM, PM, EM-R); CPP 15 Aug (JW).



REGION 10—MARINE

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	Central Park			Islip		
Temp	Average	Normal	Deviation	Average	Normal	Deviation
Jun	70.0°	72.0°	-2.0°	67.5°	69.0°	-1.5°
Jul	79.0°	77.5°	+1.5°	77.0°	75.0°	+2.0°
Aug	75.0°	76.1°	-1.1°	73.3°	73.7°	-0.4°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	1.62"	4.54"	-2.92"	1.90"	4.00"	-2.10"
Jul	5.34"	4.60"	+0.74"	7.19"	3.26"	+3.93"
Aug	6.56"	4.56"	+2.00"	5.09"	4.24"	+0.85"

June was a bit cooler than normal, with a rainfall deficit of nearly three inches in Central Park and around two inches out on Long Island. The trend reversed in July, with warmer than average temps and above average rainfall, notably at Islip where totals were nearly four inches above normal, with 4.6" of rain falling on 16 July alone. August was back to slightly cooler than average temperatures, with a deficit of two inches of rain in Central Park. Overall, the summer season (as covered in this publication: 1 June through 31 August) averaged out to be slightly cooler than normal, perhaps a brief respite from the inevitable warming of the planet. However, the season's high precipitation totals, 2.5" more than normal, are in line with the increase in storms and shift in weather patterns caused by global warming.

Our Region, like much of the Northeast, was impacted by the smoke and haze from eastern Canadian wildfires, which caused extremely poor air quality and cast an eerie yellow glow over our area, most intensely over several days in early June. Outdoor events were cancelled or shunned, as the stinging smoke was palatable and thick. In our area, Tom Fiore wrote "...the darkness that befell the daytime, especially in afternoon hours, in some parts of N.Y. City on Wednesday the 7th of June in particular, was emphasized for those who listen—those species of birds that mostly sing at true-dawn and at dusk, were singing at 1:30 pm, and on through the day-time—which appeared as an eerie (and some even said "near-

apocalyptic") light, or lack of light, with smoke all around us..." The air quality remained poor even into July, when northerly or westerly components to the wind continued to waft the smoke southward.

Northbound migration continued through the first week of June, during the peak of the boreal forest fires. Various records of boreal forest breeders later in June and during July and early August were likely attributable to the fires. Among these, Purple Finches and Myrtle Warblers appear relatively prone to early occurrence, which has been hypothesized to be related to droughts or other broadscale environmental pressures in the boreal belt (discussed many times in these summer reports), so their occurrence this year in conjunction with the fires is noteworthy. The fires themselves and the toxic atmosphere surely had significant impacts on many species of plants and animals.

Ocean temperatures were described as freakishly warm in mid-July, with the Gulf Stream bulging toward Long Island's waters. On 11 July a weather buoy off Long Island registered the water temperature at 76.6°. A Man o' War showed up in West Hampton. Seabirds were well surveyed from shore and via offshore trips each month, 26 June, 18 July, and 14 August. As expected given the coverage, all three rare/deepwater storm-petrels were recorded, as were Audubon's Shearwaters and a **Bridled Tern** on the August trip. From land, Hanyang Ye's **Great Skua** off Smith Point County Park on 26 August was one of the most unexpected seawatching finds in memory. This was rivaled the next day by a **Long-tailed Jaeger** in Long Island Sound off of Northport, found by Brent Bomkamp and Taylor Sturm on a dedicated "pelagic" trip to those under-surveyed waters.

It was a good summer for unusual terns. Arctic Tern was reported in good numbers in expected contexts, such as Nickerson Beach (max 5 on 8 June) and Moriches Inlet. Several Sandwich Terns were reported from traditional ocean inlet sites, such as Breezy Point, Nickerson Beach, and Moriches Inlet, as well as further from the ocean at Staten Island and Coney Island Creek. A series observations 16-17 August from the mainland shore near Speonk Point involved a banded adult and a dependent juvenile, whereas an observation 21 August from the Cupsogue side involved an unbanded adult with a dependent juvenile. Although *Thalasseus* terns wander widely with their fledged young, it is intriguing to consider whether these reports refer to two different duos, or whether, possibly, one or two pairs of Sandwich Terns nested on Long Island this summer. Like Arctic Tern, Black Terns often occur around our ocean inlets during June. Three birds at Nickerson Beach on 8 June were upstaged by a striking, alternate-plumaged **White-winged Tern**, to the delight of the many tern aficionados present that morning. Frustratingly, the bird evaded detection later that day and was seen only briefly the following morning.

A highlight of the breeding season was the continuing growth and success of a new Common Tern colony at Democrat Point, where small numbers of pairs have been present in and near the large Least Tern colony. This year, the Common Terns were joined by Roseate Terns and Black Skimmers, with successfully fledged juveniles of both observed on 3 August. Until 1996, Roseate Tern nested in large numbers at Cedar Beach, across the Fire Island Inlet from this site, and have been reported/suspected in smaller numbers on marsh islands in Great South

Bay. Similarly, Black Skimmer's nesting stations have dwindled badly on Long Island—a serious negative trend that has been partly obscured by the large size of the colony at Nickerson Beach. Thus the establishment of an additional site in southwest Suffolk County this year is a significant development for both species.

Other rarities included species such as **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** and **Brown Booby**, which have increased greatly in occurrence in recent years. Individual **Anhinga** and **Neotropic Cormorant** on Staten Island were Regionally more unusual (the latter new for Region 10), but these were similarly in line with an expansion of recent records in the Northeast. A **Tropical/Couch's Kingbird** at Prospect Park 14 July did not vocalize and could not be identified with certainty, but it aligns with a dramatic and ongoing increase in occurrence in the Northeast (Veit et al., 2022: Tropical Kingbird at Staten Island, New York and a northeastwards surge of vagrants to North America; KB 72: 2-8). The discovery of a **Common Ringed Plover** at Old Inlet on 19 August initiated one of the most memorable birding events of the season, compounded during the follow-up field work there by the discovery of a second individual of this very rare and difficult to identify species on 27 Aug.

Our community was stunned and heartbroken by the sudden and completely unexpected death of Tom Johnson in July. An alumnus of New York's Cornell University and Lillian Stoner Award winner in 2008, Tom's contributions to birding and field ornithology became legendary, including here in Region 10, where he contributed many significant records of pelagic birds. He will long be missed by the countless people he impacted here and around the world.

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ABBREVIATIONS

APP – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **BCA** – Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF; **BNL** – Brookhaven National Laboratory, SUFF; **Bpt** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CHP** – Conference House P, RICH; **CICP** – Coney I Creek P, KING; **CIP** – Coney Island Pier, KING; **CJC** – Captree June Count, SUFF, 3 Jun, same area covered as for the CBC; **CLP** – Clove Lakes P, RICH; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **CRSPP** – Connetquot Ri SP Pres, SUFF; **CSP** – Captree SP, SUFF; **DP** – Democrat Pt, SUFF; **EPCAL** – Calverton Grasslands, formerly Grumman property; **FBF** – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; **FINS** – Fire I National Seashore, SUFF; **GGI** – Great Gull I, SUFF; **GKP** – Great Kills P, RICH; **GwC** – Greenwood Cemetery, KING; **HGIP** – Hope Goddard Iselin Pres, NASS; **HSP** – Heckscher SP, SUFF; **Jam Bay** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE/KING; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWE** – Jones Beach SP West End, NASS; **MBI** – Moriches Bay and In, SUFF; **MecoxB** – Mecox Bay and In, SUFF; **MF** – Miller Field, RICH; **Mon** – Montauk, SUFF; **MPB** – Marine P Brooklyn, KING; **MPt** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **NB** – Nickerson Beach, NASS; **OI** – Old Inlet, SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PlumbB** – Plumb Beach, KING; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **RI** – Randall's I, NEWY; **RRM** – River Rd Marshes, RICH; **SCSP** – Shirley Chisholm SP, KING; **Shinn** – Shinnecock In, SUFF; **SPCP** – Smith Pt CP, SUFF; **TP** – Timber Pt CP, SUFF; **WPP** – Wolfe's Pd P, RICH.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: 3 MF 10 Jun (ACi, mob).

Brant: max 44 SCSP 14 Jul (DGo, MaEp); many reps of 1-10 birds around JamBay Jun-Aug.

Canada Goose: 986 CJC; max 600 Sagaponack SUFF 17 Aug (P. Sweet).

Mute Swan: 63 CJC; max 200 Jam Bay 13 Aug (PePa).

TUNDRA SWAN (R10): 2 PBP 8 Aug (PH, ph.), very unseasonal.

Wood Duck: 31 PP 6 Jun; 30 CJC, 9 yr max; max 42 Millers Pd SUFF 30 Aug; 11 CSP 27 Aug presumed fall arrivals.

Blue-winged Teal: River Rd. Marshes RICH 11 Jun; 2 CCP 25 Jun (TyMa, BrM); up to 8 Jam Bay late Jul through Aug, max 15 East Pd 27 Aug; 7 JBSP 18 Aug (K&SF).

Northern Shoveler: a few summered Jam Bay, max 21 West Pd 28 Aug; one JBSP 2 Aug (MiFr).

Gadwall: 5 CJC; 250 Jam Bay 11 Jul, where a locally abundant breeder; elsewhere mainly single digit counts NYC and LI South Shore, e to OI.

American Wigeon: 1-2 around JamBay in Jun and Aug, no reports in July; 18 Miller's Pd SUFF 26-28 Aug (SaDe).

Mallard: 279 CJC; max 770 Jam Bay West Pd 30 Jul (MaNo, SA).

American Black Duck: 17 CJC, 9 yr max; 67 Jam Bay 8 Jul, where a locally common breeder; elsewhere mainly single digit counts, widely distributed.

Northern Pintail: no Jul reps.

Green-winged Teal: 6 Jam Bay 11 Jul (PJJ), site of all Jul reps.

Ring-necked Duck: Cameron L RICH 18 Jun (ACi).

Greater Scaup: no Jul reps.

Lesser Scaup: no Jul reps.

King Eider: female at NB 7-8 Jun (mob), associating with scoter flock; female near RMSP 2 Jul (L. Sherman).

Common Eider: max 39 Fishers I, SUFF Jul-Aug, breeding; Jones Beach Bay Islands 20 Jul (J. Mohlin); TP 2 Jul (L. Sherman); scattered reps of 1-5 birds eastern SUFF Jun-Aug.

Surf Scoter: max 10 NB 3-8 Jun (mob); many reps of 1-5 along outer coast Jun-Aug.

White-winged Scoter: max 3 Dam Pd SUFF 24 Jun (JSep); scattered reports of singles in SUFF Jun-Aug.

Black Scoter: 30 CJC; max 53 RMSP 2 Jun (K+SF); many reps along outer coast Jun-Aug.

Long-tailed Duck: 2 CJC, 9 yr max; max 3 MPt 24 Aug (SaDe); pair summered at BPT; other reps of 1-2 at typical sites.

Bufflehead: 3 reports: Jam Bay 4 Jun; MPB 9-11 Jun; GKP 6-25 Jun.

Hooded Merganser: 1 CJC, fourth time in 9 yrs; Jam Bay 11 Jul; Babylon SUFF 12 Jul; Wertheim NWR SUFF 29 Jul, site of summer reps in prev years.

Common Merganser: single female spent Jun-Aug at Wertheim NWR SUFF (mob).

Red-breasted Merganser: scattered reps of 1 from nine typical coastal sites.

Ruddy Duck: max 40 Jam Bay 3 Jun (CF).

Northern Bobwhite: all reps suspected to be released or recent progeny of released birds; no wild, self-sustaining populations remain; *intro*.

Wild Turkey: 33 CJC, 9 yr max; max 27 E. Patchogue SUFF 13 Jul.

Ring-necked Pheasant: reps from RICH and KING & QUEEN ca. Jam Bay believed to pertain to wild, self-sustaining populations; others suspected as releases or their immediate progeny.

Pied-billed Grebe: a few reps from RICH, KING, QUEE, BRON; Wertheim NWR four dates 18 Jun-22 Jul (B. Moore), *intro*.

Red-necked Grebe: ad summered around PBP, reports Jun-Aug.

Rock Pigeon: 103 CJC.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: Ludlow Creek Tidal Wetlands SUFF 3 Jun (TS, MMcB), mega for CJC.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: private backyard in Bridgehampton SUFF 31 Jul.

Mourning Dove: 158 CJC; max 125 All Faiths Cemetery QUEE, 15 Jul.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 CJC; many reports of 1-3 inds from all counties; max 4 Paumanok Trail SUFF 30 Jun.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 CJC; CP 22 Jul (BVD); juv in GWC 27 Jul (MSi, ph); a few singles at several sites in SUFF Jun-Jul, probable breeders.

Common Nighthawk: max 161 Stone Bridge Nighthawk Watch, Setauket SUFF 27 Aug.

Chuck-will's-widow: 1-2 Quogue SUFF Jun & Jul; max 4 Blue Pt Beach Fire I SUFF; only reported locations.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: all reports from SUFF Southampton to Babylon, except at JBSP, from May, thru Jul—breeding?; max 6 Westhampton 5, 13 Jun.

Chimney Swift: 83 CJC, 9 yr max; 300 GWC 23 Aug (KZ F); 2 RMSP 17-28 Jun, around Field 2 pavilion, entering chimney on 25 Jun; not known to breed on barrier beach.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 5 CJC; max 9 PBP 27 Aug, active migrants (MaEp, AuK).

Clapper Rail: 2 CJC, 9 yr min; max 9 Heady Creek SUFF (DoSch).

KING RAIL: 2 CJC at TP, where present again this season, many dates.

King x Clapper Rail (hybrid): TP 11 Jun (JMcG, ph), “seeming to fit well for hybrid, known to have been created here last year”.

Virginia Rail: reports from appropriate habitat in SUFF, RICH and BRON; max 4 Arshamomaque Pres SUFF 10 Jun.

Sora: Ferry Pt P, BRON 20 Jul (T. Graves); Jam Bay 12 Aug (CF, StRa).

Common Gallinule: adult at Flushing Meadows-Meadow L QUEE 18-30 Jul; Matrix Global Logistics P RICH 28 Jun (ACi).

American Coot: summered in PP, reports Jun-Aug, perhaps present several years;

scattered reports in Jam Bay Jul-Aug; Baisley Pd QUEE 12-20 Aug (JSch, CF).

American Avocet: Jam Bay 10 Jul (ABk, others); 2 MBI 23 Aug (DFu); 2 at MecoxB 16-31 Aug (mob);

American Oystercatcher: 50 CJC, 15 counted at DP, where breeding; max 270 NB 19 Jun.

Black-bellied Plover: 10 CJC, 9 yr max;

American Golden-Plover: reported 9 SUFF locations from 19 Aug thru; max 3 Eastport 30 Aug, low numbers as in recent years.

Killdeer: 24 CJC; max 75 Eastport sod farm SUFF 17 Aug (JGI).

COMMON RINGED PLOVER: alt ad male OI 19-28 Aug (BFo, TS ph, finders; mob); another alt ad male OI 27 Aug-12 Sep (EM-R, P. Markee; mob); fourth & fifth for NYS, second & third for SUFF.

Semipalmated Plover: 4 CJC; max 900 OI 6 Aug (BFo, BBo).

Piping Plover: 23 CJC; max 115 OI 15 Jul (K. Johnson).

Upland Sandpiper: no reports.

Whimbrel: max 10 RMSP 18 Jul (TiHe, AdC), 10 Landing Lane East Hampton SUFF.

Hudsonian Godwit: max 3 JBSP 21 Aug (JLand); single at OI 23-28 Aug (mob); single at HSP 30 Aug, potentially the same.

Marbled Godwit: max 13 CCP 27 Aug.

Ruddy Turnstone: 6 CJC; max 850 Jam Bay Ruffle Bar KING (M. Benoit).

Red Knot: max 42 MBI (SSM); continuing downward trend.

Stilt Sandpiper: max 31 Jam Bay East Pd 12 Aug (ABk).

Sanderling: 24 CJC; max 4500 OI 22 Aug (TiHe).

Dunlin: 12 Jam Bay Ruffle Bar 4 Jun (M. Benoit); presumably non-breeding singles reported from various locations in SUFF in Jul.

Purple Sandpiper: CIP 2 Jun (SpHi); NB 16 Jun (BGa, BBel).

Baird's Sandpiper: 2 Tiana Beach SUFF 7 Jun; 2 HSP 22 Aug (KFeu); singles from Inwood Hill P NEWY, Fire I Hawkwatch SUFF, and OI mid-end Aug.
Least Sandpiper: 3 CJC, 9 yr max; max 150 CCP 12 Aug (L. Musher).

White-rumped Sandpiper: max Jam Bay West Pd 12 Jun (DGo, MaEp).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: OI 22 Aug (mob); Plumb Beach KING 24 Aug (PePa); Fort Tilden QUEE (K. Michael); JBWE 26 Aug; Eastport sod farm SUFF (DMcN).

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 5 Plumb Beach KING, JBSP, HSP, and TP, dates ranging from 27 Jul - 30 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 40 CJC; max 1500 JBWE 7 Jun (K&SF), 11 Jun JMcG).

Western Sandpiper: arr CCP 25 Jun (K&SF); max 4 Jam Bay 12 Aug (CF), 4 HSP 21 Aug (SSM, PJJL).

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 1300 Jam Bay East Pd 5 Aug (ABk).

Long-billed Dowitcher: max and arr 4 HSP 16 Jul, 4 Jam Bay East Pd 14 Aug (ABk).

American Woodcock: Bryant P NEWY 1 Jun, unus loc; 2 CJC, 9 yr max, and max for season; singles at Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, Hunters Garden SUFF, Hummel's Pd SUFF, Calverton SUFF, and FBF.

Wilson's Snipe: Jam Bay Big John's Pd 22 Aug; CP 22-25 Aug, only reports.

Spotted Sandpiper: 2 CJC; widely reported thru; max 15 private location Mattituck SUFF 28 Aug.

Solitary Sandpiper: first report 6 Jul; widely reported thru; max 8 Jamesport SUFF 16 Aug (SA).

Lesser Yellowlegs: 5 CJC, 9 yr max; max 215 Jam Bay West Pd 14 Jul (DGo, MaEp).

Willet: 58 CJC; max 200 MBI 22 Jul (SSM, PJJL, MaNo, SA).

Greater Yellowlegs: 3 CJC; max 110 TP 7 Aug (JGI).

Wilson's Phalarope: max 4 Jam Bay West Pd 6 Aug (mob); singles CCP 12-13 Aug; MBI 13 Aug; HSP 21 Aug (SSM, PJJL, mob)

Red-necked Phalarope: max 377 CJC RMSP seawatch (PMo, MaEp); many widespread reports to end of Aug.

GREAT SKUA: juv E past seawatch SPCP 26 Aug (H. Ye, ph.), rare in NYS waters, rarer in summer, even rarer from land.

POMARINE JAEGER (R10): ad on beach at FINS 11, 26-27 Jun; likely same ad seen between MecoxB and Sagg Main Beach SUFF 15 Jul-2 Aug (mob); offshore at CCP during seawatch 21 Jun (SSM, PJJL, MaNo, SA).

Parasitic Jaeger: 2 CJC RMSP seawatch; max 3 East Hampton Main Beach SUFF 25 Aug (EM-R, P. Markee, E. Ratner) and 3 JBSP 30 Aug (K&SF).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER (R10): imm on Long Island Sound off Eatons Neck SUFF 27 Aug (BBo, TS), discovered on Northport birding club pelagic trip.

Razorbill: dead on beach at RMSP 10 Jun; alive off Mon 7 Jul (U. Mitra).

Black-legged Kittiwake: ad at MecoxB 11 Jun (EM-R, P. Markee), rare in summer.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 8 WPP 8 Aug (ACi).

Laughing Gull: 326 CJC; max 3000 Jam Bay 11 Jul (DGo, PePa).

Ring-billed Gull: 55 CJC, 9 yr max.

Herring Gull: 375 CJC.

Iceland Gull: imm at PlumbB 4 Jun (NaL-S, mob).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 5 CJC; abundant along outer coast: 22 MecoxB 11 Jun (EM-R); 50 OI 15 Jul (KJ); 157 Amangansett SUFF 4 Aug (AnWi), max; apart from a few singles at Staten I, PlumbB, FBF, Jam Bay, and HSP, almost completely absent away from the outer coast, the most notable documented record an imm at Southold SUFF 27 Aug (SA, MaNo), ph.

Great Black-backed Gull: 290 CJC.

BRIDLED TERN: ad encountered 105 miles S of FINS on American Princess pelagic 14 Aug.

Least Tern: 243 CJC; colony breeding at DP, *intro*.

Gull-billed Tern: all reports from ca. Jam Bay/BPt and NB/JBWE; max 6 Yellow Bar Hassock, Jam Bay 17 Aug (L. DeMarco).

Caspian Tern: max 5 CHP 5 Jul (ACi), unus date for so many.

Black Tern: max 250 SPCP 26 Aug (H. Ye), only large count.

WHITE-WINGED TERN: ad in alternate plumage NB 8-9 Jun (MaNo, PjL, SSM, mob); *intro*.

Roseate Tern: 2 CJC; rare away from ocean coast and eastern North Fork: WPP 24 Jun (ACi), GKP 18 Jul (ACi), and CICIP 27 Aug (R. Fleming *et al.*); nested DP (KJ, SSM), local max 13 on 3 Aug (PjL, SSM, P. Martin), incl 5 juvs. Max (not including GGI) just 17 Gardiners I, SUFF 17 Jul (A. Farnsworth), low.

Common Tern: 583 CJC; breeding at DP again after long hiatus, *intro*.

ARCTIC TERN (R10): all reports NB and MBI; NB: at least 6 ads 4-12 Jun, max 3 on 8 Jun (SSM *et al.* ph.); typical TY 5 Jun (G. Stankovic, D. Cartwright *et al.*), ph; 2 SY 8 Jun (SSM *et al.*), ph.; MBI: SY 2 Jul (BBo, BF, TSt, A. Ulrich); ad 6 Jul (K. Coyle, DMcN); *intro*.

Forster's Tern: 113 CJC.

Royal Tern: max 150 OI 20 Aug (MaEp, R. Mandelbaum, PePa).

Sandwich Tern: basic CHP 4 Jul (S&J Bonamo, K. Enderson), first RICH record; alternate BPt 16 Jun (E. Crowne, R. Goldberg, R. Payne); alternate NB 17 Jun (I. Resnick, M. Zito *et al.*); 2 molting ads MBI 5 Jul (B. Bolduc *et al.*); SY MBI 13-14 Aug (Jack S.; PjL, SSM); 2 (banded ad & begging juv) ca. Speonk Pt, SUFF 16-17 Aug (D. Massey), very unusual away from ocean coast; 2 (unbanded ad and begging juv) MBI 21 Aug (S. Podulka, ph.), *intro*.

Black Skimmer: many estimates of ca. 1000 NB; 129 CJC, 9 yr max; breeding at DP! (*intro*).

Red-throated Loon: 3 CJC, 9 yr max; NB 6 Jun (T. Green); RMSP 3 Jun (CJC seawatch); BPt 1 Jul (R. Serio).

Common Loon: 46 CJC; max 42 RMSP 3 Jun, seawatch during CJC (MaEp, PMo).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: counts up 1400 ca. Hudson Canyon 14 Aug (DGo *et al.*); 275 CJC RMSP seawatch, 9 yr max.

WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL: 90 miles S of FINS on American Princess pelagic 14 Aug.

Leach's Storm Petrel: several offshore SUFF American Princess pelagic trip 26 Jun.

Band-rumped Storm Petrel: several offshore SUFF American Princess pelagic trips 26 Jun & 14 Aug (DGo *et al.*).

BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: no reports.

Cory's Shearwater: max 550 MPt 25 Aug (EM-R, P. Markee); 2 CJC RMSP seawatch, 9 yr min.

Sooty Shearwater: max 25 SPCP 22 Jun (A. Perkins); 5 CJC RMSP seawatch.

Great Shearwater: max 450 offshore MP 18 Jul (R. Stoltzfus *et al.*); 2 CJC RMSP seawatch, 9 yr max.

Manx Shearwater: 2 CJC RMSP seawatch, 9 yr max.

Audubon's Shearwater: offshore SUFF waters on American Princess pelagic trips 26 Jun & 14 Aug.

BROWN BOOBY: CIP 27 Jun (KZ F, ph.); juv seen off GGI 20 Jul (F. Mantlik).

Northern Gannet: 3 CJC RMSP seawatch.

ANHINGA: Mount Loretto RICH 3 Jun, soaring bird landed briefly before moving on (several obs. on Protectors of Pine Oaks Wood walk).

Great Cormorant: CHP 5 Jul (ACi, KZ F, ph.); widespread coastal reps Eastern Suffolk in August are plausible, but photos or careful descriptions are desired.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 1400 FDR Boardwalk & Beach, RICH 28 Jun (ACi); 419 CJC.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: imm summered along RICH waterfront, first report WPP 11 Jun (ACi), apparent first for R10; ad on Yellow Bar Hassock, Jam Bay, KING 24 Jun (J. Malbin, ph.).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN

(R10): Swinburne I and vicinity RICH, 15-16 Jun, initially reported from Sandy Hook NJ and seen from several vantages around New York Bay.

Brown Pelican: decent numbers summered along RICH waterfront, max 19 GKP 18 Jul (ACi); scattered reports along LI South Shore Jun-Jul; 2 RMSP 2 Aug (SSM, PJL, P. Martin), last.

American Bittern: MBI 6 Aug (StBi, TyMa); Remsenburg, SUFF 18 Aug; only reps.

Least Bittern: max 7 RRM 23 Jul (ACi, CB); Wertheim NWR SUFF Jun-Jul (B. Moore); Arshamomaque Pres SUFF Jun-Jul (mob); Manhasset NASS 16 Jun (SPe), odd date and location, no breeding habitat.

Great Blue Heron: max 31 E 52nd St, NEWY 30 Jul (A. Farnsworth); 8 CJC.

Great Egret: max 127 CSP 27 Aug (SSM); 86 CJC.

Snowy Egret: max 113 East Pd, Jam Bay 14 Jul (MaEp, DGo); 43 CJC.

Little Blue Heron: max 7 Oakwood Beach RICH 23 Jul (ACi); 1 CJC.

Tricolored Heron: 3 CJC, 9 yr max and Regional max this season.

Green Heron: 6 CJC.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 60 Hoffman I RICH 20 Jun (A. Cunningham, TH, R. Zucker); 10 CJC.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: max 21 Cammanns Pd P, NASS 16 Aug (J. Landesburg); 3 CJC.

WHITE IBIS: no reports.

Glossy Ibis: max 85 Captree I SUFF 29 Jun (TH); 86 CJC.

WHITE-FACED IBIS: CSP 8 Jul (SSM, PJL).

Black Vulture: max 9 Northville SUFF (MLL); 6 Broad Cove Pres SUFF 2 Jun

(J. Levin, S. Stewart), large numbers for a species still quite rare on Long Island away from Turkey Vulture roosting site in Riverhead, where low numbers of Blacks are sometimes found.

Turkey Vulture: max 39 CICP 22 Jul (DGo *et al.*); 3 CJC, 9 yr max.

Osprey: max 69 Fort Tilden QUEE 22 Aug (S. Walter), early for so many; 158 CJC.

Northern Harrier: widespread reps of singles through season.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: a couple of reps of single birds in e SUFF in Jun; singles more widespread from 16 Aug.

Cooper's Hawk: widespread but no notable high counts; 4 CJC, 9 yr max.

Bald Eagle: widespread but no notable high counts; 3 CJC.

MISSISSIPPI KITE: imm over Blue Heron P RICH 16 Jun (ACi).

Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 Manorville SUFF 14 Jun.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 4 PBP 19 Aug (R. Aracil).

Red-tailed Hawk: widespread but no notable high counts; 6 CJC.

Barn Owl: reps from trad breeding areas sw LI.

Eastern Screech-Owl: 10 CJC, 9 yr max.

Great Horned Owl: 2 CJC.

BARRED OWL (R10): several reports on Fisher's I SUFF in Aug.

Belted Kingfisher: widespread but no notable high counts.

Red-headed Woodpecker: nested successfully Manorville SUFF.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 53 CJC.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Manorville SUFF 19 Jun (R. Valente, intriguing date; City Hall P NEWY 31 Aug A. Kramer), early.

Downy Woodpecker: max 14 Springs SUFF 23 Aug (EM-R, P. Markee); 17 CJC, 9 yr min.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 12 Manhasset NASS 16 Jun (SPe); 11 CJC.

Northern Flicker: max 13 CP 9 Aug (U. Mitra) and 13 PBP 26 Aug (J. McManus); 19 CJC.

Pileated Woodpecker: reps PBP and sev sites RICH; Port Washington NASS 3 Jul.

American Kestrel: widespread but no notable high counts.

Merlin: max 3 BPt 31 Aug (DGo, S. Sime).

Peregrine Falcon: widespread but no notable high counts; 1 CJC.

Monk Parakeet: not rep NEWY; local BRON & RICH; widespread w LI, but e of QUEE, restricted to dense suburban belt s of the moraine, e to Bay Shore; 6 CJC.

Great Crested Flycatcher: 69 CJC.

TROPICAL KINGBIRD/COUCH'S

KINGBIRD: PP 14 Jul (J. Dahrn, mob).

Eastern Kingbird: 22 CJC; sb max 1029 CHP 19 Aug (T. Preston).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: GwC 31 Jul (TH, J. Keane, MSi), early date; arr CP 15 Aug, widely rep NYC & NASS through; Southards Pd P SUFF 20 Aug (A. Milillo), only SUFF rep.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: 11 CJC, 9 yr min.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last nb Tompkins Square P, NEWY 11 Jun (Nick B.); sb arr CP 9 Aug; just 4 reps e of NYC.

Acadian Flycatcher: present PP thru; rep FBF Jun, Jul & Aug (H. Lopes); several reps SUFF from potential breeding habitat, incl 1 CJC.

Alder Flycatcher: PlumbB 5 Jun; PP 19 Aug; PBP 20 Aug (R. Aracil); under-detected migrant.

Willow Flycatcher: 40 CJC.

Least Flycatcher: 1 CJC, only nb; arr CP 29 Jul and RI 31 Jul.

Eastern Phoebe: 2 CJC; increasing as breeder South Shore, but numerous reports from outer coast in early June probably involve mis-identifications.

White-eyed Vireo: widespread at low density South Shore and East End; very local North Shore; 11 CJC.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 6 Jun reps North Shore and East End; no Jul reps.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr Long Island City QUEE 22 Aug (B. M. Lowden), unus date.

Warbling Vireo: widespread except absent from outer coast; 52 CJC.

Red-eyed Vireo: nb through early Jun; 87 CJC; widespread Jul except absent from outer coast; sb arr difficult to discern, 2 RMSP 22 Aug (SSM, A. Perkins) were migrants.

Blue Jay: 101 CJC.

American Crow: max 30 Kissena P QUEE 22 Aug (SA, MaNo); 63 CJC.

Fish Crow: max 550 Fort Wadsworth RICH 14 Aug; 100 CJC.

Common Raven: 8 CJC.

Black-capped Chickadee: 44 CJC.

Tufted Titmouse: 47 CJC.

Horned Lark: very few breeding stations: JBWE, HSP, Epcal, and several sites East End; 1 CJC.

Bank Swallow: 3 CJC, 9 yr max.

Tree Swallow: 112 CJC.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 9 CJC.

Purple Martin: 116 CJC, 9 yr max.

Barn Swallow: 244 CJC.

Cliff Swallow: breeding population continues to expand, mainly in nw part of the Region: RI, PBP, n QUEE, and nw NASS; sb along outer shore with Barn Swallows from 22 Jul (BPt, RMSP, etc.).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: PP 6 Jun (F. Wickman); Lido Beach NASS 6 Jun (KFR, C. Tang); very unus dates.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: singing bird on Gardiner's I SUFF I 16 Jun (TSt); East Hampton SUFF 17 Jun (T. Needham).

Cedar Waxwing: 89 CJC.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 2 Manorville SUFF 9 Jun (JMcG).

White-breasted Nuthatch: 6 CJC.

Brown Creeper: CRSPP 11 Jun (JMcG); BNL 21 Jun; (LN); 2 Springs, East Hampton, SUFF.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 26 CJC, 9 yr min; sb max 38 BPt 31 Aug (DGo, S. Sime).

House Wren: 39 CJC; max 30 GKP 8 Aug (R. Veit), very large number for recent decades.

Winter Wren: Van Cortlandt P BRON 16 Aug (J. Batista.), only report for the period.

Marsh Wren: 23 CJC; max 40 RRM 23 Jul (ACi, CB);

Carolina Wren: 102 CJC; max 27 Caumsett SP SUFF 27 Aug (KF,SF).

Gray Catbird: 441 CJC; max 90 MPt 24 Aug (S.Denenberg).

Brown Thrasher: 4 CJC, 9 yr min.

Northern Mockingbird: 70 CJC.

European Starling: 368 CJC; max 995 Setauket SUFF 29 Aug (P.Domeischel).

Eastern Bluebird: absent NYC; locally distributed North Shore and East End; present South Shore (where very local) at CRSPP this season, but missed on CJC.

Veery: 6 CJC; present at many trad stations.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: nb to 5 Jun; arr GwC 24 Aug (MSi), early.

Swainson's Thrush: nb to 10 Jun, all NYC; sb arr CP 19 Aug (E. Gaillard).

Hermit Thrush: present at trad stations.

Wood Thrush: 1 CJC.

American Robin: 421 CJC; max 458 CP 1 Aug (R. Zucker).

House Sparrow: 246 CJC.

House Finch: 61 CJC.

Purple Finch: CP 29 Jun (J. Wooten); 3 Cranberry Bog CP SUFF 30 Jul (LF Melliny, C. Klein); very unus dates.

Red Crossbill: reps from pines in SUFF: Center Moriches, Eastport, Westhampton, Manorville, Riverhead, Napeague, and Montauk; max 9 Napeague 20 Aug.

American Goldfinch: 70 CJC; max 40 MPt 22 Aug (EM-R).

Grasshopper Sparrow: 1 CJC; max 28 EPCAL 29 Jul.

Lark Sparrow: arr Mt. Loretto Mission RICH 15 Jul (E. Johnson), early; about 7 from 11 Aug, all SUFF except BPt 22 Aug (R. Ellard), max 2 MPt 22 Aug (EM-R).

Chipping Sparrow: 90 CJC.

Clay-colored Sparrow: MPt 21-24 Aug (EM-R, ph.), very early.

Field Sparrow: 2 CJC.

White-crowned Sparrow: MPt 11 Jun (EM-R, C. Gangemi), unus date.

White-throated Sparrow: 2 lingering/prospecting East Moriches SUFF 2 Jun, unique this season outside of NYC; daily reps of birds trapped in many NYC parks through period, max 14 Madison Square P NEWY 30 Jun (T. Winston).

Vesper Sparrow: possibly extirpated as a breeder; details desired for all reps Jun-Aug.

Seaside Sparrow: 33 CJC.

Nelson's Sparrow: all reps PlumbB: nb through 10 Jun, max 3 on 4, 5, and 7 Jun.

Saltmarsh Sparrow: 41 CJC.

Savannah Sparrow: 6 CJC.

Song Sparrow: 198 CJC.

Lincoln's Sparrow: nb through 7 Jun, exceptionally to CP 18 Jun.

Swamp Sparrow: max 9 RRM 25 Jun, 23 Jul (CB, ACi), trad station.

Eastern Towhee: 109 CJC, 9 yr min.

Yellow-breasted Chat: JBSP 13 Jun (TH); sb arr GwC 19 Aug (MSi).

Bobolink: max 50 CHP 22 Aug (ACi).

Eastern Meadowlark: breeders rep from trad sites, esp EPCAL.

Orchard Oriole: 11 CJC.

Baltimore Oriole: 18 Manhasset NASS 15 Jun (SPe), large single-site count; 46 CJC, 9 yr min.

Red-winged Blackbird: 578 CJC; max 2509 CICIP 22 Jul (DGo *et al.*).

Brown-headed Cowbird: 27 CJC; max 110 RI 24 Jul (TH *et al.*).

Rusty Blackbird: Hempstead L SP NASS 22 Aug (E. Becher), early, only rep.

Common Grackle: 461 CJC, 9 yr max; max 2200 Setauket SUFF 31 Aug (P. Domeischel *et al.*).

Boat-tailed Grackle: 34 CJC; max 72 East Pd Jam Bay 12 Aug (CF).

Ovenbird: 13 CJC; no significant counts sb, as usual.

Worm-eating Warbler: max 3 APP 20 Aug.

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 3 CLP 31 Jul (CB).

Northern Waterthrush: max 36 RMSP 20 Aug (SSM).

Golden-winged Warbler: Sands Pt Pres NASS 19 Aug (JW-P); HGIP 20-21 Aug; Caumsett SP 20 Aug (KF, SF); Sans Souci CP SUFF 20 Aug; CHP 22 Aug (ACi); Manorville Hills CP SUFF 22 Aug (DMcN); CP 30-31 Aug; all reps listed, unusually many.

Blue-winged Warbler: 12 CJC; max 7 APP 20 Aug (MaNo) and HGIP 21 Aug (BFo).

Black-and-white Warbler: 2 CJC, 9 yr min; max 18 North Channel Bridge, Jam Bay 22 Aug (MaEp).

Prothonotary Warbler: Seatuck Env Center SUFF 2 Jun (DF), potential breeder/prospector; arr North Fork Pres SUFF 18 Aug, followed by at least 5 more reps, mostly west.

Tennessee Warbler: nb GwC 3 Jun; multiple unus dates: Huntington SUFF 25, Jul, Guggenheim Pres NASS 27 Jul, CwC 31 Jul, and CP 1 Aug; sb from 6 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: no nb or Jul reps; arr Sands Pt Pres NASS (JW-P).

Connecticut Warbler: Forest P QUEE 31 Aug (CF), early.

Mourning Warbler: nb through 10 Jun, exceptionally to 17 Jun; no Jul reps; sb arr GwC 9 Aug (MSi) and more widely from 21 Aug, mostly west.

Kentucky Warbler: singing male Reeds Basket P RICH 3-4 Jun (C. Hagen, ACi, MaEp, ph.)

Common Yellowthroat: 175 CJC.

Hooded Warbler: potential breeders/prospectors Blydenburgh P SUFF 8, 15 Jun and Wertheim NWR SUFF 11 Jun; sb arr GwC and CP 12 Aug.

American Redstart: many nb reps early Jun; 15 CJC, 9 yr max; many sb reps from late Jul.

Cape May Warbler: none nb; no Jul dates; sb arr GwC 6 Aug (MSi) and widely from 11 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: CP 2 Aug (ZN, ph); PP 5 Aug (BFo, BBo, ph); APP 19 Aug (M.Ackley, CF, MaNo, SA).

Northern Parula: many nb reps through 13 Jun, exceptionally to Governor's I NEWY 20 Jun; potential breeders/prospectors Goodhue P RICH 6 dates 5-19 Jul (ACi), Amagansett SUFF 29 Jun (B. McCully), Hither Hills SP SUFF (J. Giunta 9, 10 Jun), and Barcelona Neck SUFF 2 Aug; sb arr CP 3 Aug.

Magnolia Warbler: many reps through 10 Jun, exceptionally to Forest P QUEE 18 Jun (T. Preston); 4 CJC, 9 yr max; sb arr GwC 12 Aug (MSi) and widely from 19 Aug.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Arshamomaque Pd Pres SUFF 1 Jun (J. Sep); arr GwC 5 Aug (MSi) and widely from 22 Aug; no exceptional dates.

Blackburnian Warbler: nb through 7 Jun; arr GwC 6 Aug (MSi) and widely 19 Aug; no very unus dates.

Yellow Warbler: 241 CJC; max 25 North Channel Bridge, Jam Bay 16 Jul.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: several reps through 9 Jun; QUEE 21 Jun and E. 52nd St NEWY 30 Jul (A. Farnsworth), unus dates; East Hampton SUFF 17 Jun, potential breeder; sb arr 8 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: many reps through 11 Jun, exceptionally to 22 Jun; 14 CJC, 9 yr max; sb arr GwC 24 Aug (G. Keri).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: several reps 1 Jun; arr NYC parks 19 Aug.

Palm Warbler: reps Jam Bay 14 Aug (J. Brodsky) and GwC 24 Aug, unus dates; arr 31 Aug CP and GwC.

Pine Warbler: 20 CJC; arr NYC parks 17 Aug.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: several reps early Jun, exceptionally to 13 Jun; PP 6 Aug and GwC 11 Aug (MSi), unus dates; many reps 18 Aug and later; *intro*.

Yellow-throated Warbler: HSP 18 Jun; many reps BCA, incl 1 CJC; max 3 BCA 19 Jun (KF); HGIP 21 Aug (B. Garriel, JW-P).

Prairie Warbler: 1 CJC, 9 yr min; b max 14 MPt 24 Aug (S. Denenberg).

Black-throated Green Warbler: nb through 5 Jun, all west, exceptionally to Fort Tryon P NEWY 17 Jun (DGo); no Jul reps; sb from 10 Aug.

Canada Warbler: nb through 5 Jun, exceptionally to 10 Jun, all west; no Jul reps; widespread sb 19 Aug and later.

Wilson's Warbler: nb Lido Pres NASS 2 Jun; PP 20 Jun (K. Toomey) and HSP 10 Jul, exceptional dates; sb arr CP 20 Aug.

Summer Tanager: nb Canal P NEWY 1 Jun (L. Beausoleil); PP 7 Jun, CwC 9 Jun, CP 13 Jun, and Brooklyn Bridge P 15 Jun (DGo *et al.*); potential breeders Rocky Pt SUFF 5 Jun (TSt) and CRSPP 6 Aug; sb PP 31 Aug (RM); all reps listed.

Scarlet Tanager: widespread breeder; sb max 9 APP 19 Aug (MaNo).

Northern Cardinal: 116 CJC.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: breeders reported sparsely, mostly North Shore; migrants reported widely 15 Aug and later.

Blue Grosbeak: migrants/vagrants GwC 3 Jun & 27 Aug; several sites RICH; HSP 25 Jun (MaEp, J. Thorp, M. Yuan); ca. 10 sites in central SUFF pine barrens, Rocky Pt-Riverhead; 2 sites South Fork.

Indigo Bunting: 1 CJC, 9 yr min.

Dickcissel: MP 10 Aug (B. Bolduc); RMSP 19 Aug (PJL); 2 RMSP 20 Aug (SSM); Water Mill SUFF 20 Aug (F. Durso); RMSP 22 Aug (SSM, A. Perkins); RMSP 23 Aug (DMcN); RI 23 Aug (TH); Lido Beach NASS (M. Bochnik); Broad Channel, QUEE 31 Aug (BFo); RMSP 31 Aug (KF, SF); all reps listed.

EXOTICS

Eurasian Eagle-Owl: many reps CP & vic. through; "Flaco".

Cockatiel: Jam Bay 1 Aug (TH, PePa).

Budgerigar: many reps NEWY, KING & QUEE.

European Goldfinch: 1-4 GwC & PP through; ca. Fresh Creek KING 21 Aug (D. Rakhmim).

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Back Cover –Eastern Kingbirds, clockwise from top-left:

Adult with insect, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar, *Albany*,

© Denise Hackert-Stoner

Fledgling, Fillmore, *Allegany*, 3 Jul 2023, © Mike Morgante.

Nestlings with adult, Wethersfield, *Wyoming*, 30 Jun 2023, © Gerald Thurn.

Adult, Fillmore, *Allegany*, 3 Jul 2023, © Mike Morgante.

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REPORTING YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Observers are strongly encouraged to report their findings directly to the Regional Editors, to help identify significant trends. Summary reports of observations; impressions of notable patterns in the weather, timing of migration, unusual scarcity or abundance of particular species, etc.; and notable individual records are highly valued. For maximum usefulness, send in reports no later than the 15th day of the month following the end of each season:

15 March, 15 June, 15 September, and 15 December.

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; **arr** – arrival or first of season; **BBA** – Breeding Bird Atlas; **BOTS** – bird of the season; **CBC** – Christmas Bird Count; **Co** – County; **I** – Island; **imm** – immature; **intro** – see introduction to report; **juv** – juvenile; **L** – Lake; **max** – maximum; **mob** – multiple observers; **Mt** – Mountain; **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; **Pres** – Preserve; **Pt** – Point; **Res** – Reservoir; **Ri** – River; **SP** – State Park; **spm** – specimen; **subad** – subadult; **T** – Town of; **thru** – throughout period; **Twn** – township; **WMA** – Wildlife Management Area; **y** – young.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS CODES

These codes are listed in ascending order to highest breeding codes.

POSSIBLE: H – in appropriate habitat; S – singing bird.

PROBABLE: S7 – singing male present 7+ days; M – multiple (7+) singing males; P – pair in suitable habitat; T – territorial defense; C – courtship, display, or copulation; N – visiting probable nest site; A – agitated behavior; B – woodpecker/wren nest building.

CONFIRMED: PE – physiological evidence; CN – carrying nesting material; NB – nest building; DD – distraction display; UN – used nest; ON – occupied nest; FL – recently fledged and precocial young; CF – carrying food; FY – feeding young; FS – carrying fecal sac; NE nest with eggs; NY – nest with 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.

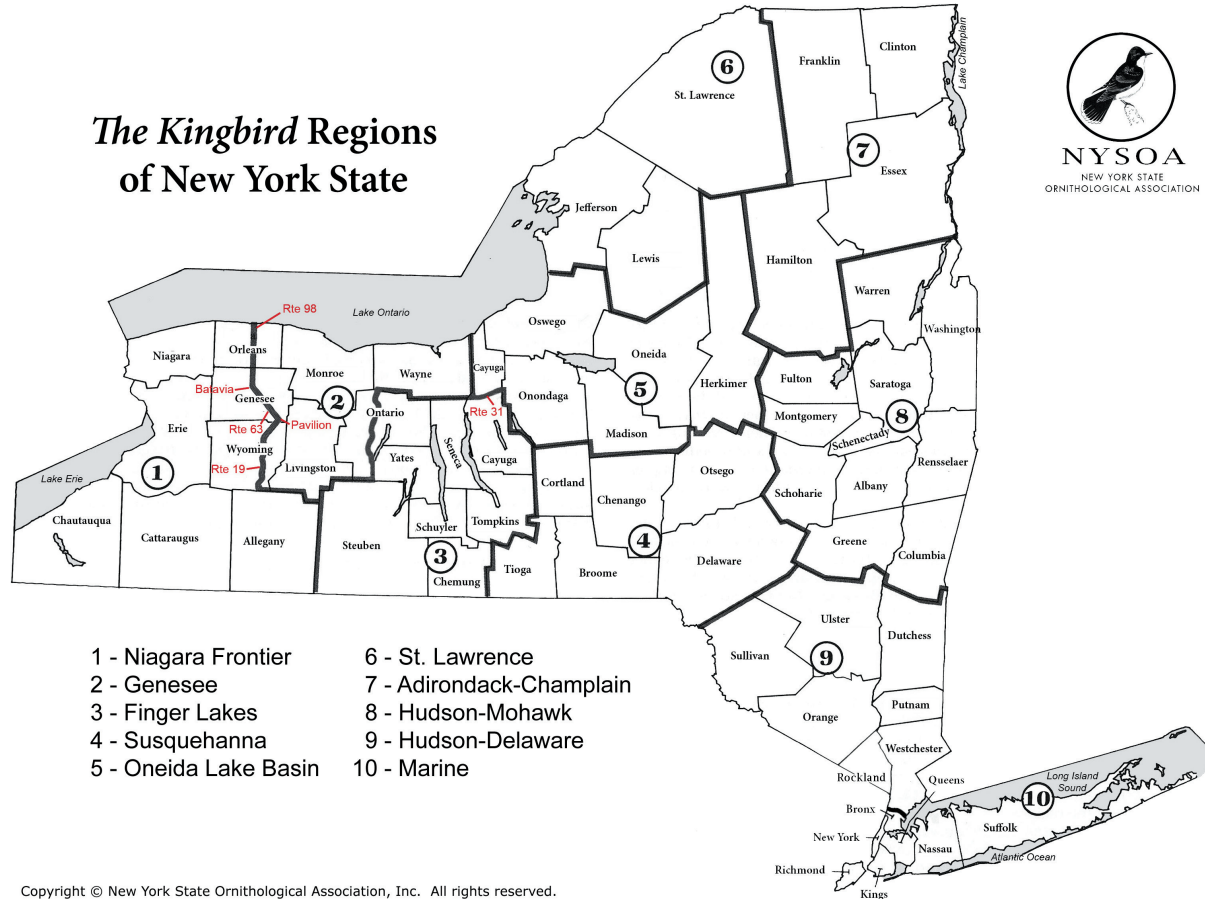
Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

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.

The Kingbird Regions of New York State



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