

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: absent from usual locations; 1 report Jun 5 Deep Hollow Rd., Dutch (MVW). Warblers: generally normal; no movements by end of period. Worm-eating Warbler: a pr observed carrying food into low shrubs at Cornwall Nature Museum, nest could not be found (AM); species obs Jul 31 at Wawarsing (JCO). Brewster's Warbler: 1 Jun 19 Turkey Hollow, Dutch (EP,MVW). Prairie Warbler: plentiful in some areas of Dutch. *KENTUCKY WARBLER*: the Dutch bird obs on May 31 left on Jun 6 (DF); 1 July 27 Butler Sanct, Mt Kisco (Tom and Bill Howe). Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 Jun 6 Goose Pond Mt Park, Chester (EDT: A,BM); another Jun 26-27 at Wawarsing (JCO). Hooded Warbler: 1 at Thompson Pd, Dutch, heard singing regularly thru Jun 13. (EP,JD).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: numbers good throughout farm land. Meadowlark: down in the Wawarsing area. Orchard Oriole: none this year from Dutch; a few elsewhere. Baltimore Oriole: obs eating Gypsy Moths and a type of inch worm in Westchester. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: regularly at feeders in Dutch; adults bringing in young to feed thru season. Indigo Bunting: in good numbers after very late arrival. Purple Finch: does not seem to be affected by its look-alike relative the House Finch; resident numbers low but normal and unchanged. House Finch: nesting has spread from the city of Poughkeepsie to the outskirts; nesting widely scattered thru the rest of the county. Grasshopper Sparrow: in usual nesting locations in south and west Oran; at least 2 pr obs regularly thru Jun north of Pine Plains (EP et al); 1 Jun 19 Cold Spring Rd, Standordville (DF). Field Sparrow: up in the Mohonk area of Ulst (DS).

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, New York 10928

## REGION 10 — MARINE

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Following last year's format, colonial bird data has been separated from the main body of the report. As usual, a handful of birders are responsible for this very important documentation of our changing environment. Why are the vast majority of birders—largely ecology-minded people—so loathe to document more than rarities, and so apathetic to what is not only important, but exciting. We urge our readers to read Niko Tinbergen's *The Herring Gull's World*, and to "turn-on" to the fascinating, highly-evolved social structure of one of our locally abundant colonial species.

As for rarities, they were down, the season producing only the following small list; Yellow-nosed Albatross, Audubon's Shearwater, Red-breasted Merganser (breeding), Franklin's Gull, Connecticut Warbler (spring migrant), and Canada Warbler (first breeding record).

Contributors frequently cited: TD—Thomas Davis; RG—Robert Giffen; MG—Michael Gochfeld; HH—Howard Honig; WN—William Norse; DP—Dennis Puleston; WP—Will Post.

### COLONIAL NESTING DATA

#### I. Heron Colonies

1. Jones Beach State Park, west of parking field #3 (MG): Common Egret 28; Snowy Egret 100-150; *LOUISIANA HERON*, 1 (4 young banded); Black-crowned Night Heron 50-80; Glossy Ibis 120-140 (by far the largest breeding concentration reported to date.) All the Common and a few Snowy Egrets nested in a pine grove; all other birds were in adjacent phragmites.
2. Cedar Beach (WP): A new colony situated in phragmites. Black-crowned Night Heron 60; and Glossy Ibis 100.

3. Tobay Beach, June 30 (WP): Snowy Egret 43; Common Egret 30; Black-crowned Night Heron 12 (low total may be due to nesting completed; note late date of census); Glossy Ibis 19. A new State nesting locale, this is distinct from the Jones Beach Parking Field #9 colony, again active, but not censused.

## II. Gull Colonies

1. North side Loop Causeway, near Point Lookout, Jun 13, 20, Jul 11 (TD): Great Black-backed Gull 1; Herring Gull 400-500.
2. Jones Beach State Park, west of parking field #3, (MG): Great Black-backed Gull 2; Herring Gull 400.
3. Captree State Park (D. Ford): Great Black-backed Gull 25; Herring Gull 900.
4. West Inlet Island, near Moriches Inlet, May 15 (TD, P. W. Smith): Great Black-backed Gull 10-20; Herring Gull 400-600.

## III. Tern Colonies

1. Breezy Point, Queens County (HH, F. Heath): Common Tern 1500+; Least Tern 20-30.
2. South side Loop Causeway, near Point Lookout, Jul 11, 19 (TD): Common Tern 400-600; Least Tern 60-70; Black Skimmer 50-60.
3. Jones Beach State Park, west end (MG): Common Tern 1100; Least Tern 30-40; Black Skimmer 30-40; no Roseates this year. Only about 200 Common Terns were fledged, due to unknown predation.
4. Jones Beach State Park, along Wantagh Causeway (MG): Common Tern 250-350; Black Skimmer 50. The first time terns have bred at this locale.
5. Cedar Beach (MG): Common Tern 1600; Roseate Tern 15; Least Tern 150; Black Skimmer 60.
6. Great Gull Island (H. Hays): Common Tern 5000; Roseate Tern 3000.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: Jul 8 Westhampton (M. Hemmerick)—rare in summer. *YELLOW-NOSED ALBATROSS*: Jun 8 Gardiner's Island (R. Hernandez)—watched for 15 minutes from 50 feet as it sat on beach; a very detailed, clinching description provided by the observer, however, unfortunately, a field note was not received for inclusion with this report. *AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER*: Jul 25 Ocean Beach, Fire Island (D. Finch)—"I saw the bird from the beach at moderate range, and was very impressed by rapid, almost erratic flight with extremely brief scales right over the water. . . I'm familiar with the usual petrels and shearwaters, in particular Manx. . ." an accidental to our area. Wilson's Petrel: 10 Jun 5 off Jones Beach (Linnaean Boat Trip)—the *only* pelagics seen offshore *all day!* Louisiana Heron: with the Jones Beach breeding report this summer, this species has now been positively recorded nesting at almost every Long Island heronry east along the shore to Oak Island; the total 1971 breeding population numbers 5-10 pairs. Gadwall: 3 broods at Oak Beach with 29 young; and 2 broods at Gilgo with 9 young (WP)—a new Long Island nesting site. Hooded Merganser: female, Jul 27 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (WN)—rare summer vagrant along coast. *RED-BREASTED MERGANSER*: a pair with 6 young was found in Jul at Ridge Island, Great South Bay (R. Rozsa, DP)—this species commonly summers in our area, but has been proven to breed but once previously since 1942.

HAWKS-OWLS: Black Rail: 5 pairs on territory into July, but no nests found, at Oak Beach marshes (WP). Virginia Rail: Only 5 pairs present at Oak Beach, down from the usual 10, (WP)—no successful nests found. Willet: 2 pairs nested for the first time on the Long Island barrier beach proper (WP); 1 pair at Tobay with 4 eggs was flooded out; however a pair at Gilgo had 2 of 4 eggs survive a 12 hour immersion due to flooding. Spotted Sandpiper: Approximately 10 nests on Great

Gull Island (H. Hays). *FRANKLIN'S GULL*: sub-adult, Jun 24 Mecox Bay (C. McKeever)—accidental; only 3 previous reports, one of which has never appeared in print was an adult specimen obtained at Shelter Island on June 2, 1940 by Roy Latham. Great Horned Owl: a pair present at Islip near the south shore was probably breeding (RG). Short-eared Owl: territorial birds were present at Oak Beach marsh and along the Meadowbrook Causeway at Jones Beach this summer (MG).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Red-bellied Woodpecker: found breeding at Crane's Neck and Noyack (DP). Brown Creeper: 2 active nests plus another pair with 2 young were found in Jun and Jul in the Islip area (RG). Eastern Bluebird: at least 3 pairs fledged a total of 10 young this summer in the Islip area (RG). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: nesting at Mt Sinai Jun 1 (DP)—photographed.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Golden-winged Warbler: female, Aug 8 Fire Island Light (mob)—photographed; a rare migrant on the outer coast. Parula Warbler: singing male, Jun 18—mid Jul Islip (RG)—no female or young seen; has not bred on Long Island since 1938, when the *Usnea* lichen disappeared. Kentucky Warbler: netted, May 31 Islip (RG). Connecticut Warbler: female netted, Jun 4 Fire Island Light (HH)—photographed; a casual spring migrant in our area. Canada Warbler: a nest with 5 young was discovered in late Jun at Islip following the sighting of a singing male (RG)—the first breeding record for Long Island; known to breed southward to central Westchester County in hills. Slate-colored Junco: Jun 15 Islip (RG)—at feeder, a vagrant.

Addendum: Complete data from last fall's mist-netting operations at Fire Island Light has recently been compiled by Dr. Paul A. Buckley. Significant records not previously published include: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Nov 11—extremely late. Hairy Woodpecker: Aug 29—earliest known migrant date. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 8 Sep 1—ties previous high; Oct 6—collected, ties latest date. Traill's Flycatcher: max 11 Sep 1—highest count. Least Flycatcher; max 13 Sep 1—highest count; Nov 8—collected and verified by Dr. W. Lanyon at the American Museum of Natural History, latest record by a month. White-breasted Nuthatch: Aug 30 earliest fall migrant record. Red-eyed Vireo: max 59 Sep 20—very high. Philadelphia Vireo: max 10 Sep 20—highest count; 8 birds mentioned in *Kingbird*, 21 (1):43, is in error.

Corrigendum: the correct dates for last fall's Ash-throated Flycatcher are Nov 22–24, not Dec 5–7 (R. Arbib).

Note: Please have fall reports in by Dec 10.

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