

REGION 4--ST LAWRENCE

Hérons:

No American Egrets reported this year.

Green and Great Blue Herons more numerous than usual.

Shore Birds:

Poor season due to high level in Lake Ontario and other waters--exposed shorelines scarce.

Yellowlegs scarce

Solitary Sandpiper--normal

Ruddy Turnstone--one seen 9/5 near Sacketts Harbor

Killdeer--last seen 10/1 (Lewis County)

Wilson Snipe--less common than last year.

Ducks, etc.:

Wood Duck and Mallard--more seen than a year ago.

Pied Billed Grebe--less numerous than 1949.

Blue-winged Teal--less numerous than 1949.

Hawks:

Osprey seen 9/22 (Jefferson County)

Sharp-shinned Hawks; migrating birds noted about 9/15.

Red-tailed Hawk; appears to be on increase.

Sparrow Hawk; definitely on increase in this section.

Land Birds:

Mourning Dove; increasing, particularly in suitable territory in Jefferson County.

Cuckoos--appear to be more numerous than usual this year.

Goldfinch--unusually common this year.

Red-headed Woodpecker--nest found this summer near Lowville (G. B. Bowen.)

Chewink--seen twice 9/17 and 9/21 near Gouverneur.

This is near northern limit of their range (?)--

John B. Belknap, Gouverneur, New York.

REGION 5--ADIRONDACK

June and July were normal in temperature, but below normal in rainfall. June had two unseasonably cool spells with the minimums of 40 and 37 degrees on the 11th and 12th; then between the 17th and 22nd the minimums ran 39, 34, 41, 44, 45, and 38 degrees.

August was about normal in temperature but with no really

warm spell--the average 24-hour maximum temperature was 71 degrees with only one day at 80 degrees. The first signs of southward warbler migration came the night of August 4-5, nights cool at this time. Other flights nights of August 10-11; 18-19, 29 (Sandpipers--probably Solitary). Rain was excessive throughout the month.

September--a very cold, wet month. Average maximum was only 58.6 degrees and temperature only went above 70 degrees on four occasions. Average minimum was 41 degrees with temperatures of 28, 30, 29, and 27 degrees from 22nd-25th. Snow all morning on the 24th.

Some observations are as follows:

Common Loon:

Not too uncommon now in summer on many ponds and lakes of central Adirondacks. Probably more prevalent than 25 years ago.

Woodcock:

Saunders called it rare here in summer. Now many birds in many areas through breeding season--know definitely of one brood in June.

Wilson's Snipe:

Not previously reported so far as I know as a summer resident. A bird was performing its flight song nightly mid-May until at least July 13 at Paul Smith's.

Spruce Grouse:

For a long time considered extirpated from Adirondacks. In 1942 a fine male was collected and sent to Cornell U. On July 6, 1950, I found a hen with four chicks about 15 miles northeast of Paul Smith's. I have reports that birds have been in this area for about 15 years.

Black-billed Cuckoo:

Fairly abundant this summer.

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker:

Reported locally around Whiteface Mountain and I saw one on September 10 in Madawaska area.

Canada Jay:

Several birds in Madawaska area on August 5 and 12. Also reported near Tupper Lake on August 28.

White-winged Crossbill:

Birds appeared in numbers in early August in many areas. Males in song. First reports I've seen for Adirondacks in summer.

Lincoln's Sparrow:

Birds in song in Madawaska region July 12 and near Paul Smith's.

Pine Siskin:

Have appeared in large numbers in mid-October.

Indigo Bunting:

Saunders called it rare here. Several of us have independently noted the abundance of this species widely through the Adirondacks this summer. One of the common breeders this year.

Evening Grosbeak:

Some remained through entire summer. Adults with young seen. Have not returned in usual winter numbers yet. (Oct. 22).

Cardinal:

Male Cardinals reported in July at Willsboro on west shore of Lake Champlain. May represent further northward extension of the range.

Carolina Wren:

Two birds reported at Willsboro on Lake Champlain in June. Reported singing and nesting. Unable to check identification myself. Will not accept it as definite record.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet:

Saunders did not see it in Adirondacks in summer, Eaton saw only a single bird. On July 6, I found three singing birds in Madawaska region.

Canada Goose:

Several flocks in Saranac Lake region about October 12th. Not too common here.

Sora Rail and Long-billed Marsh Wren:

Reported from Tupper Lake by Dr. Marguerite Kingsbury. New summer records from central Adirondacks.

I observed that there is a very abundant cone crop on the softwoods this year and we hope to get a goodly number of winter finches this year.--Gordon M. Meade, Trudeau, New York.

REGION 6--MOHAWK VALLEY

When Autumn paints her wooded hillsides as brilliant tapestries and the first frost scatters white powder on the lowlands, the aerial highways are crowded with feathered tourists trekking to warmer climates.