

REGION 7 — NEW YORK AND LOWER HUDSON VALLEY

April and early May were abnormally warm and wet, and the migration was early. However, the abundance of migrants up to about May 12 was no forerunner of a big migration—it proved to be the bulk of the migration itself. The next two weeks were cool and clear, with no disturbances that would pile up migration waves.

In other years, **Rockland Audubon Society** teams had no difficulty exceeding 90 or even 100 species in the third weekend of May. This year it was hard to list 80 species at that time. The Federation convention weekend was marked by the most nearly complete absence of migrants on record for recent years.

LOONS — DUCKS:

A new early date for Rockland County for American Bittern, Apr. 8 (Ned and Betty Barron). Least Bittern again at Piermont Marsh (Federation trip).

A strangely belated flight of Canada Geese was noted by John C. Orth at Bear

Mountain, and others, around May 20; apparently many flocks were moving time, though the April flight had been heavy.

A Shoveller was reported at Playland Lake, Rye, on Apr. 18 (Ken Hart Old Squaws, Buffleheads, Ruddy Ducks and American Mergansers lingered in van County till Apr. 19 (McBride, Niven, Atwell). At Wanasink Lake, County, a Surf Scoter was seen in company with Horned Grebes on Apr. 25 (A male Golden-Eye at Congers Lake to May 16 may have been an injured was bottom-feeding like a Mallard (Frank Steffens).

HAWKS — OWLS:

A Pigeon Hawk at Pollypark Woods, Harrison, on May 10 is notable (Harte). Rails are showing an encouraging comeback in Rockland County, with reports in the past year than in all other years combined. The Piermont whether due to decreased pollution or decreased salinity, is a new haven for ceous birds. On May 28, the first breeding record for Florida Gallinule in land County was made there; Dr. Marjorie R. Hopper saw an adult feeding grown young bird. Many dates were also reported for Virginia Rail and Sc cluding good views of the latter species during a **Rockland Audubon Societ** trip on May 3.

A Lesser Yellowlegs on May 24 (Federation field trip) is a good record. The early date for Black-billed Cuckoo in Rockland was equalled on (R. A. S. field trip), but Yellow-billed Cuckoo far exceeded the other spec numbers this spring. Both cuckoos were reported rather scarce in West (Harte).

SWIFTS — SHRIKES:

Rockland's early date for Crested Flycatcher was equalled April 30 Barron). One Yellow-bellied Flycatcher turned up on the Federation trip Mc as well as several Alder Flycatchers, a probably Acadian, and an Olive-side catcher. A Wood Pewee in Scarsdale April 30 was a week early (Harte). Swallows were very early, March 16 (Frances Irving); so were Rough-winged lows, April 12 (RAS field trip). Ken Harte reports a remarkable date for c Cliff Swallow at Manursing Island, April 3.

A pair of Carolina Wrens discovered in early March in Sullivan County still present on April 5 (Niven). Brown Thrasher on April 13 at Upper Nyack early (Dr. Hopper).

VIREOS — WARBLERS:

Warbling Vireos were unprecedentedly numerous in and around Nyack, Cc and Haverstraw. Half a dozen Rockland records for Lawrence's Warbler, o which was seen by most parties on the Federation trip. Two Lawrence's Wa remained in Pollypark Woods, Harrison, from May 8 to at least June 6 (H This pair was found first by Mrs. H. E. Dickenson. Magnolia Warblers held up in numbers even after the early May waves.

The only report of Cape May Warbler came from Ken Harte, who found Elmsford Ridge on May 2. Black-throated Blue Warblers were above usual nu in Rockland County. Black-throated Green Warbler on April 25 was rather (Watson B. Hastings). It was a good spring for Bay-breasted Warblers in l land. The first Black-poll Warbler in Rockland County was May 6; in Scar: Westchester County, May 10 (Harte). The first Yellow-breasted Chat recor the locality came on May 15 in Dobbs Ferry (Miss Maude L. Strayer).

Mrs. Dickenson had a Louisiana Water-thrust on April 11, and this sp seemed generally early. A Mourning Warbler at Blauvelt on May 29 (Deed) rather late date. A Wilson's (Black-capped) Warbler in Central Park on Ma (Hastings). Canada Warblers were very common this spring.

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS:

Orchard Orioles appeared in Rockland in amazing numbers: at least six at Orangeburg on the Federation trip May 24. A startling record for l breasted Grosbeak was made on April 5 when Mrs. George Raetz of Valley Co saw a male and two females. White-winged Crossbill lingered at Palisades to 19 (Dr. Hopper), and Dickcissel at Upper Nyack to April 17 (Dr. Hopper). Sullivan County, a male House Finch appeared April 16 for the second (Wilber P. Carr).

An injured female or immature Red Crossbill was brought to Miss Katherin Dienemann at Wset Haverstraw on May 12. Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Steinhardt say early Bobolink at Mamaroneck on March 17. One Lincoln's Sparrow report: M

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