

STATE DIVIDED INTO NEW REPORTING REGIONS FOR KINGBIRD AND STATE BIRD BOOK

At a meeting of the *State Bird Book Committee*, held in Keuka Park, N. Y., on June 30, 1953, the state was considered once again from the standpoint of reporting regions for THE KINGBIRD and the forthcoming state bird book, and a new and final map was drawn. This map is the culmination of more than a year's work, and takes into consideration the combined viewpoints of the committee, the present regional editors, and other interested persons.

Before completing this map, a survey was made to determine the present coverage of the state by bird clubs and societies, and this survey had an important influence on the final result. Other factors taken into consideration were: geographic and topographic boundaries, probable location of future clubs, size, accessibility, and presence of capable editors. Each of the new regions includes at least one bird club at present (with one exception).

It is to be stressed that this regional division of the state is for the *reporting* and *collection* of data only. It is probable that any ecological break-down of the state for state book purposes will cut across many of these boundaries. But a division of the state on an ecological basis at the present time would result in the splitting of many areas now worked by organizations, would leave some areas totally uncovered, and would result in boundaries difficult to define or remember.

This new division into reporting regions does not mean that clubs or individuals must necessarily confine their observations to the region in which they are located. Anyone, of course, is free to "bird" wherever he wishes, but for purposes of reporting and collection of records, observations should be sent to the editor of the region in which they are made.

All clubs and individuals are requested to submit their records to the editor of the region in which the records were made, as officially defined herewith:

Region 1. *Niagara Frontier*. Includes all of Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany Counties, and those parts of Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties west of Routes 98 (Pt. Breeze to Batavia), 63 (Batavia to Pavilion), and 19 (Pavilion to Allegany County line).

Editor: Clark S. Beardslee

132 McKinley Avenue, Kenmore, N. Y.

Region 2. *Genesee*. Includes all of Wayne, Monroe, and Livingston Counties and those parts of Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties east of Routes 98 (Pt. Breeze to Batavia), 63 (Batavia to Pavilion) and 19 (Pavilion to Allegany County line), and that part of Ontario County west of Mud Creek and Routes 64 and 21 to the Yates County line at Woodville.

Editor: James Barlow

61 Marville Drive, Rochester, N. Y.

Region 3. *Finger Lakes*. Includes all of Chemung, Tompkins, Seneca, Schuyler, Yates and Steuben Counties, and that part of Cayuga County

south of the Seneca River, and of Ontario County east of Mud Creek and Routes 64 and 21 to the Yates County Line at Woodville.

Editor: Mrs. Southgate Hoyt
Aviana
Etna, New York

Region 4. *Susquehanna*. Includes all of Delaware, Otsego, Chenango, Cortland, Broome, and Tioga Counties.

Editor: Not yet determined.

Region 5. *Oneida Basin*. Includes all of Herkimer, Oneida, Madison, Oswego, and Onondaga Counties, and that part of Cayuga County north of the Seneca River.

Editor: Fritz Scheider
151 Seventh North Street, Syracuse, N. Y.

Region 6. *St. Lawrence*. Includes all of St. Lawrence, Jefferson, and Lewis Counties.

Editor: Not yet determined.

Region 7. *Adirondack-Champlain*. Includes all of Franklin, Clinton, Essex and Hamilton Counties.

Editor: Gordon M. Meade
Trudeau, N. Y.

Region 8. *Hudson-Mohawk*. Includes all of Warren, Washington, Saratoga, Fulton, Montgomery, Schenectady, Albany, Schoharie, Rensselaer, Columbia, and Greene Counties.

Editor: Frazer Turrentine
110 Union Street, Schenectady, N. Y.

Region 9. *Hudson-Delaware*. Includes all of Sullivan, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, and Rockland Counties, and that part of Westchester County north of Route 117 (North Tarrytown to Chappaqua) and Route 120 (Chappaqua to the Connecticut line).

Editor: Robert F. Deed
50 Clinton Avenue, Nyack, N. Y.

Region 10. *Marine*. Includes all of Suffolk, Nassau, Queens, Kings, New York, Richmond and Bronx Counties, and that part of Westchester County south of Route 117 (North Tarrytown to Chappaqua), and Route 120 (Chauquaqua to the Connecticut line).

Editor: John Elliott
3994 Park Avenue, Seaford, N. Y.

In setting up these regions, the committee noted that there are a number of population or educational centers which are not at present represented in the Federation either by clubs or individual members. If the Kingbird seasonal reports, and the state book, are to adequately present New York State ornithology, we must begin collecting data from these neglected areas. The committee suggests that it is a major mission of member clubs and individuals to promote the organization of bird clubs in these areas, and the contacting of individual correspondents who can contribute data. Region 1: Jamestown, Olean. Region 2: Hornell area. Region 3: Geneseo area.

Region 4: All counties except Broome. The towns of Oneonta, Cortland and Norwich are strategically located. Region 5: Rome, Utica and the Oswego area. Region 6: Ogdensburg, Canton, Lowville. Region 7: Malone, Plattsburgh, Ticonderoga and Saranac Lake are strategically located. This region has no clubs at present. Region 8: Glens Falls, Saratoga Springs, Schoharie, Hudson, Catskill. Region 9: Poughkeepsie, Newburgh, Middletown.

The committee further recognizes that certain of the more populous regions, such as 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, and perhaps all regions in the future, may require subdivision into districts, in order to lighten the burden on Regional Editors. Such subdivision, with the names and addresses of District Editors, will be announced in *THE KINGBIRD*, as they are decided upon.

Enclosed are two maps, one showing the state divided into reporting regions and the other showing present coverage of the state by the various clubs.

Members of the committee and subcommittees are now at work on criteria for acceptability of records; standard record keeping and reporting procedures; criteria of abundance and frequency; and division of the state into ecologic or physiographic regions. Progress on these will be reported in the future.

A full discussion of progress and plans for the state book will appear soon in *THE KINGBIRD*.

Your comments and criticism on this new regional division are invited. Please address the Chairman of the Committee.

State Book Committee
Gordon M. Meade, Box 86, Trudeau, N. Y., Chairman
Robert S. Arbib, Jr., Freeport
Allan Benton, Albany
Hazel Ellis, Keuka Park
Harold D. Mitchell, Buffalo
Walter Spofford, Syracuse

October 15, 1953.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The *State Bird Book Committee* and the *Publications and Research Committee* have suggested defining the seasons for regional reporting. Starting with the *April* issue of THE KINGBIRD please submit your records to regional editors according to this schedule:

Winter: Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar. — for April issue.

Spring: Apr., May — for June issue.

Summer: June, July — for August issue.

Fall: Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov. — for December issue.

If you should see a bird on Nov. 30 it would be included in the Fall season; if seen on Dec. 1 it would be included in the Winter season.

Submit your bird records for October and November 1953 to old regional editors for publication in the December issue. Records from Dec. 1, 1953 to March 31, 1954 should be submitted to the *new* regional editors for the April issue of THE KINGBIRD.

Deadlines for the regional reports to THE KINGBIRD editor will be as follows:

April 10 — April issue

June 10 — June issue

Aug. 10 — August issue

Dec. 10 — December issue

When recording important bird "finds" please give the county, township and nearest village, or their equivalents. The area may be familiar to your club but not to one at the other end of the State.

Where there has been a change in regions or regional editors, please understand that these changes do not go into operation until the *April* issue. We are sorry that there has been some confusion on the timing of this change.

The Editor.

A REQUEST

Do you have any New York State hawk migration records for the spring and/or fall periods either of this year or previous years? Richard F. Myers, Fernow Hall, Cornell University, is studying the spring and fall hawk movements within the State and adjacent areas. He needs this sort of information and would appreciate your sending it to him c/o the above address. If possible, please indicate also the place where the birds were seen and the weather conditions at the time.