

caterpillar plague. **Evening Grosbeaks** have remained again in Saranac Lake-Tupper Lake area through May and probably are breeding as in the past several years. A not frequent record for the northern New York area is that of a **Towhee** near Keeseville on April 29 (T. L.). Several observers have commented on the smaller numbers of **White-throated Sparrows** in Adirondacks this spring.

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REGION 8 — MOHAWK - HUDSON

The spring of 1954 was in general cool and wet. Beginning with a snowstorm in early April, the season continued generally slow through May. Large waves of migrants were almost completely lacking, and by far the greater proportion of the birds arrived late, although a few individuals of most species arrived at nearly the normal date. Several flocks of Brant were seen on May 8, indicating an unusual flight. Otherwise, there were few unusual records, and migration was dispersed over a long period. Nesting too appeared to be slow, with many resident pairs arriving late.

LOONS — DUCKS: Numbers of loons and grebes were poor, with only one record of Horned Grebe, none of Loons or Holboell's Grebe. Two American Egrets seen on May 27 at Hudson (Madison) indicate continued northward movement of this species. Waterfowl, however, were present in good numbers, with the Brant, noted above, representing the most interesting occurrence. Flocks were observed on the same day at three widely separated points, indicating a general movement into the area on that day. Fourteen Whistling Swans appeared at Vischer's Ponds on April 14 (Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Foote). Canada Geese were seen in good numbers, and large flocks of Mallards, Blacks, Pintails, Ring-necked Ducks, Scaup and Goldeneye were reported through March and early April.

HAWKS — OWLS: A Turkey Vulture was seen at Karner on May 30 (SBC trip). This species is now seen almost every year. Madison recorded a Bald Eagle at Selkirk (Albany Co.) on May 27. Pigeon Hawks were seen on several occasions in early April. No reports were received of Broad-winged Hawks. A White-rumped Sandpiper was seen at Vischer's Ponds on May 31 (Hallenbeck). Turrentine and Stone saw four Bonaparte's Gulls and nine Common Terns on the Mohawk River on April 17.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Pileated Woodpeckers are becoming more common, with records from several counties, including some seen in villages. Least Flycatchers seem unusually common. Wood Pewees arrived rather late, the earliest record at hand being May 23. Swallows are present in usual numbers. The local colonies of Cliff Swallows and Purple Martins are again occupied. A Tufted Titmouse at Cohoes in early April indicated continued northward invasion of this species. Thrushes were generally late and scanty in numbers. Olive-backed and Gray-cheeked were reported May 16 and 25 respectively. Two spring records of the Pipit March 7 (SBC trip) and May 23 (French) are unusual occurrences.

WARBLERS — SPARROWS: Warblers continued to migrate well into June. Indeed, the first movements of appreciable numbers of Blackpolls and Tennessees did not occur until nearly June 1. The Worm-eating Warbler is again present at Indian Lodder. Both Pine and Prairie Warblers were present in the pine barrens into mid-June, evidently breeding, with the latter being by far the more common. Nothing of special interest was noted with regard to blackbirds and sparrows. Purple Finches, abundant during the winter, have continued in some numbers into the spring season, and are evidently nesting in several localities. Evening Grosbeaks were last seen in early April.

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REGION 9 — HUDSON - DELAWARE

April was warmer and drier than usual; May, chillier and wetter. Marked waves of migrants reached the area in the latter part of April, a week to ten days ahead of time. Birding in the normal range of the peak migration in May was correspondingly poor.

LOONS — DUCKS: In Rockland County, the usually common herons were all scarce this spring. However, other sections report no notable change, and the Rockland situation may be local.