

REGION 2 — GENESEE

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Temperature during the last half of August was about normal except for a brief heat wave the last two days of the month. The 31st brought the year's highest temperature, 91°. September was about normal in temperature, as was October, except for a sharp freeze early in the month which set record low temperatures for a day or two. November was quite mild until Thanksgiving, after which mid-winter conditions prevailed until the end of the month. During this period temperatures ranged down to 10°, and over a foot of snow fell.

Precipitation for the fall period, as well as for the first eleven months of the year altogether, has been well above normal. In spite of this fact, the level of Lake Ontario and the surrounding bays and ponds has been even lower than last year, which was a very dry year. The low water level resulted in good shorebirding, but brought small numbers of herons and grebes. Heavy flights of loons, brant and scoters occurred during the latter part of October. The flight of finches, on the other hand, was rather poor, only the Pine Siskin being reported in any numbers, with one report of the White-winged Crossbill.

Loons — Ducks: The highest count of Common Loons was 75 birds along the east lake shore Oct 9, and the high count of Red-throated Loons was an almost unheard-of total of an estimated 1200 along the west lakeshore Oct 23 (Listman). 200 Horned Grebes were reported Nov 9 around Hamlin State Park (Dobson), but the Red-necked Grebe was unreported and the Pied-billed Grebe was scarce during the whole period. Two immature Gannets were off the Russell power station Nov 27 (L. Moon, Listman) and the latter observer saw single birds Nov 29 and 30 around Braddock's Bay. Single Double-crested Cormorants were reported Aug 16 and 19 and Oct 5 around Braddock's Bay (Listman).

A single Whistling Swan was reported from Braddock's Bay Oct 18 (Listman) and a flock of 17 was seen at Honeoye Lake Nov 20 by the same observer. 5000 Brant were observed along the west lake shore Oct 26 (G. O. S.) and 1500 were seen in the same general area on Oct 28 (Listman). 100 were still present Nov 9 along the east lake shore (G. O. S.). Two Snow Geese were seen Nov 1 at Braddock's Bay (Listman). Four Gadwalls were seen Aug 20 at Manitou (Listman) and two at Mendon Ponds Oct 25 (Whites). No European Widgeon were observed, but 20 American Widgeon were seen Aug 31 along the west lake shore (Burroughs-Audubon Hike), 600 were seen Oct 26 in the same area along with the Brant and Scoter flight, and 150 were seen Nov 2 at Mendon Ponds (Whites). 1200 Pintails were seen Oct 26 along the west lake shore (G. O. S. Hike). 15 Green-winged Teal were seen Aug 17 around Braddock's Bay (G. O. S.). 25 Redheads were seen Nov 22 at Durand (Starling, Brummer). 20 Canvasbacks were at Mendon Ponds Oct 25 (Whites). A flock of Greater Scaup off Durand was counted on Nov 1 by Starling at 1165 birds. This approximate number was still present at the end of the period. 1500 American Goldeneyes were migrating along the west lake shore by Nov 30 (Listman). 2000 Old Squaws were seen off Durand Nov 11 (Listman). Two White-winged Scoters were seen at Manitou Sep 23 (Listman), 300 were seen along the west lake shore Oct 26 (G. O. S.), and 450 Oct 28 in the same area (Listman). Four Surf Scoters were seen Oct 28 on the west lake shore (Listman); five along the east lake shore Nov 9 (G. O. S.), and four were seen the same day at Hamlin State Park (Dobson). 360 Common Scoters were seen Oct 26 along the west lake shore (G. O. S.) and seven at Hamlin State Park on Nov 9. 12 Ruddy Ducks were seen along the east lake shore Nov 9 (G. O. S.). 60 Hooded Mergansers were reported at Durand-Eastman Park Nov 22 (Starling, Brummer).

Hawks — Owls: No Goshawks were reported in the area this year. A group of 45 Red-tailed and three Broad-winged Hawks, observed Aug 30, was a very large number for any time during the fall migration. A Peregrine Falcon was observed

hunting near Salmon Creek Oct 7 (Listman). A single Piping Plover appeared Sep 7 near Braddock's Bay and a bird of this species was present until Nov 11, a very late date. 62 Killdeer were seen Nov 4 at Salmon Creek (Listman) and one bird was still present Nov 29 at Summerville. The first record of the Golden Plover was of a single bird, Aug 17, at Braddock's (G. O. S.). A maximum of 84 occurred Sep 30 west of Braddock's (Listman) and 15 were at Salmon Creek Oct 7 (Listman, Brown). The first Black-bellied Plover was seen Aug 3 at Braddock's (Tanghe). 29 Common Snipe were observed Nov 23 at Salmon Creek (G. O. S.). A Whimbrel was seen Sep 1 at Braddock's (Dobson, Volk). Two Greater Yellowlegs were seen Nov 15 at Salmon Creek (Listman) and one Lesser Yellowlegs was seen in the same place Nov 16 (Dobson). Ten Knots were seen Aug 31 at Braddock's (Burroughs-Audubon Hike), and two Pectoral Sandpipers and 12 Dunlin were seen Nov 11 at Salmon Creek (Brown, Listman). 20 White-rumped Sandpipers were seen Aug 30 at Braddock's (Listman, O'Hara, Starling). Two Baird's Sandpipers were at Braddock's Aug 30, three at Salmon Creek Sep 25 (Listman), and a very late bird at Salmon Creek Oct 26 (G. O. S.). A very late Least Sandpiper was seen Nov 15 at Salmon Creek (Listman). 20 Short-billed Dowitchers were seen Aug 17 at Braddock's (G. O. S.), 25 at Northrup Creek Sep 14 (Dobson), and one Nov 9 at Salmon Creek (Listman). A typical Long-billed Dowitcher was seen Oct 4 at Long Pond (Kemnitzner, Listman). 12 Stilt Sandpipers were seen along the west lake shore Aug 31 (Listman, McKinney), 8 at Northrup Creek Oct 5 (Dobson, Tanghe), and a very late bird Nov 8 at Salmon Creek (Starling). Four Western Sandpipers were seen Aug 31 at Braddock's (Listman, McKinney). A Hudsonian Godwit was seen at Braddock's Sep 4 (Schaefer), two at Northrup Creek Sep 14-27, one of these remaining at least until Oct 5 (Dobson, Tanghe). The Wilson's Phalarope was recorded four times from three locations along the west lake shore from Aug 17-30. More than one bird may well have been present. A Northern Phalarope was seen Sep 6 at Shore Acres and Sep 17 at Northrup Creek. The only Glaucous Gull for the period was one at Braddock's Nov 11 (Listman, Brown). Six Forster's Terns were seen Aug 30 at Braddock's (O'Hara et al), 8 were seen at Charlotte Oct 4 (Kemnitzner, Listman), and a very late bird at Webster Park Nov 27 (Kemnitzner).

Three Great Horned Owls were heard at Mendon Ponds Oct 25 (Whites) and the first Snowy Owl of the year was seen at Summerville Nov 23 (Dobson).

Swifts — Shrikes: The Pileated Woodpecker was seen twice during Sep, and three times during Oct, near Avon (Haller). Another was seen on the east side of Irondequoit Bay Nov 14 (Listman). Ten Red-bellied Woodpeckers were seen Oct 1 near Avon (Haller), and ten Red-headed Woodpeckers were seen in the same area Oct 15 by the same observer. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was seen Nov 21 at Bushnell's Basin (Dokins). Neither the Black-backed nor the Northern Three-toed Woodpecker has been seen this year, although there are plenty of dead elms on which they fed during their last invasion. Two Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen along the west lake shore Sep 1 (Schaefer, Filor, Listman), and two more were seen Sep 15 at Avon (Haller). A late Wood Pewee was seen Oct 3 at Avon (Haller). The only fall record of the Olive-sided Flycatcher was of one bird Sep 1 at the BAWs (McKinney). Two Cliff Swallows were at Manitou Aug 16 (Starling, Miller), and one at Buck Pond Sep 22 (Listman). Ten Red-breasted Nuthatches were counted in Durand-Eastman Park Nov 23 (G. O. S.). 18 Winter Wrens were reported Sep 28 in Island Cottage woods (Dobson). 30 Robins were still in Durand-Eastman Park Nov 22 (Starling Brummer). Gray-cheeked Thrushes seemed common this fall, 12 being reported Sep 16 at Manitou (Listman), and ten being seen at Island Cottage Oct 4 (Dobson). Only two reports of Bluebirds were received during the period, one of three birds Aug 23 at Letchworth Park (Zeitler) and a single bird Oct 25 at BAWs (Mitchell). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was observed Sept 16 at Manitou (Listman). This bird is very uncommon in this area after the nesting season. One Bohemian Waxwing was seen in company with Cedar Waxwings in Durand Nov 29 (Starling, Miller). Northern Shrikes have been uncommon this year, the first report being of one bird Oct 24 at Hamlin State Park (Listman).

Vireos — Sparrows: A Solitary Vireo was seen on the very early date of Aug 16 at Avon (Haller), and a Philadelphia Vireo was seen Sep 6 in Genesee Valley Park (Schmanke). A Brewster's Warbler was carefully observed Aug 21 on Clover Street, southeast of Rochester (Whites). An Orange-crowned Warbler was seen in Island Cottage Woods Oct 4 (Listman), and the same observer saw another of this

species at Manitou Oct 6. Three Parula Warblers were seen Sep 6 in Genesee Valley Park (Schmanke). Numbers of Myrtle Warblers were still present in Durand in the late Nov, twelve being seen on the 22 (Starling), and 8 on the 23 (G. O. S.). A very late date for the Black-throated Green Warbler was Oct 28 at Highland Park (Starling). Two Pine Warblers were seen at Highland Park Sep 1 (Starling), four at Avon Sep 8 (Haller), and one at Genesee Valley Park Sep 28 (Schmanke). A Connecticut Warbler was seen at Island Cottage Woods Sep 30 (Listman). A late Redstart was seen Sep 19 at Island Cottage Woods (Dobson). A pair of Cardinals was observed feeding young out of the nest Oct 4 at Avon (Haller). A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen Oct 4 in the Island Cottage woods (Kemnitzer and Listman). 13 Purple Finches were seen at Durand Nov 22 (Starling and Brunner). 150 Pine Siskins were seen moving along the lake shore at Durand on Nov 8 and 40 were seen in Durand Nov 22 (Starling and Brummer). One White-winged Crossbill was seen Nov 16 in Durand (Rising and Oarsman). The only Sharp-tailed Sparrow of the year was a bird seen in a small marsh in Brighton on Nov 2 (Starling). 200 Slate-colored Juncos were seen in Highland Park Oct 28 (Starling). 12 White-throated Sparrows were still in Durand Nov 29 (Starling, O'Hara, Miller). Single Lincoln's Sparrows were seen Sep 29 and Oct 4 and 6 along the west lake shore (Kemnitzer and Listman). Three Lapland Longspurs were seen near Webster Nov 24 (Listman). The maximum number of Snow Buntings reported this fall was 1000 birds in several flocks moving past Hamlin State Park Nov 8 (Dobson).

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