

REGION 2 — GENESEE

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The weather for the period was cooler than average and much cooler than the corresponding period a year ago. While last year there were fourteen days with temperatures of 90° or over, this year produced but one day when the temperature reached that mark. June was about average in rainfall, July was very dry with rainfall less than one half of normal, and the first half of August was very wet with almost twice the normal precipitation for the period. The rather high water level gradually receded during the period, but even then good shorebirding areas along the lake were very few compared to the last two or three years. At the end of the period the water level at Shore Acres, Irondequoit Bay, and all the bays west of Rochester except the "west spit" of Braddock's were still too high to produce areas suitable for shorebirds.

The outstanding event for the period was the first and second regional records of the Cattle-Egret. Barn Owls nested in at least two locations in the region. Tufted Titmice, Carolina Wrens, and Mockingbirds apparently had wintered fairly successfully and all probably brought off small numbers of young. Eastern Bluebirds seemed to be increasing in Livingston County and were at least holding their own in Monroe County.

Loons — Ducks: A Pied-billed Grebe was seen Jun 6 at the Elmwood Ave. Marsh (Landsman and Lank), and another was noted Jul 30 at Manitou (Listman). This species has been very uncommon during the summer in this area the past few years. An immature Double-crested Cormorant was seen at Manitou Jun 17-24 (Listman).

An estimated 40 adult and young Great Blue Herons were seen Jun 25 in a rookery in Bristol Hills (Foster et al), and 40 were seen Jul 17 at Groveland (Listman). Two Common Egrets were observed Jul 30 at Cranberry Pond (Tellow et al), and one was at Groveland on Aug 14 (Foster et al). The first regional record of the Cattle Egret was of a bird seen Jun 1 at the C. Morton Wadsworth farm in Parma. It was carefully studied by the Wadsworths, John Brown, and Alfred Starling, but it was not seen subsequently. On Jul 2 two birds of this species appeared at a small pond near Hilton (Tanghe). They were present until Jul 15, were tame and carefully observed under favorable conditions by almost all the bird watchers of the area. A Least Bittern was noted Jul 29 (Schmanke), and one was seen Aug 14 at Silver Lake (Rosche).

An adult Whistling Swan was noted on Jul 4 and 5 at Braddock's (Starling et al). A lone Brant was seen there on Jun 8 and again on Aug 14 (Listman). A Pintail was at Braddock's on Jul 15 (Listman), and two were noted at the same locality on Jul 27 (Listman). A Green-winged Teal was seen west of Braddock's on Jul 4 (Listman). An American Widgeon was observed in Parma on Jun 11, and on Jun 3 there was a Shoveler at Rose's Marsh (Listman). A White-winged Scoter was seen Jun 11 at Manitou (Listman), and a Red-breasted Merganser was noted Jun 30 at Braddock's (Listman). All these waterfowl records except for the Green-winged Teal probably represent wandering, non breeding birds. There is a suspicion, not yet verified, that the Green-winged Teal nests at Braddock's.

Hawks — Owls: Sixteen Turkey Vultures were seen in the Avon - Leroy area Jun. 19 (Haller et al). A Cooper's Hawk was seen that same date near Avon (Haller). A Red-shouldered Hawk was observed Jun 4 at Powder Mill Park (GOS hike), one was seen at Avon on Jun 19 (Haller), and one was noted Jul 4 at White Swamp near Rochester (Starling et al). An immature Bald Eagle was seen Jun 26 at Braddock's (Listman). There were two Marsh Hawks throughout July at Cranberry Pond (Listman). This species has become scarce during the summer in this area. An American Coot was seen Aug 6 at Perry (Rosche).

One hundred Killdeer were seen Jul 17 at Groveland (Listman). A Ruddy Turnstone was at Summerville on Jul 23 (O'Hara et al). A Common Snipe was seen Jun 26 at Braddock's (Listman), and 12 were noted Aug 9 at the same locality (Starling). Two adult and three almost grown young Upland Plover were observed Jun 25 near Honeoye Lake (Cameron et al), and an adult with young was seen west of Braddock's Jul 2 (Listman). Five Greater Yellowlegs were at Groveland on Aug 14 (Tellow et al). A Lesser Yellowlegs was seen Jun 28 at Groveland (Listman), and 12 were seen there on Aug 14 (Foster et al). The first report of the Knot for the year was a bird seen at Manitou Aug 13 (Starling). Two Pectoral Sandpipers were observed at Sodus Jul 15 (Foster), and ten were seen Aug 14 at Groveland

(Tetlow et al). A Baird's Sandpiper was seen Jul 27 at Manitou (Kemnitzner); this constitutes the year's first record. A Least Sandpiper was at Groveland on Jun 28 (Listman), and three Short-billed Dowitchers were at Manitou on Jul 18 (Listman), three were noted at Ling Road Jul 23 (O'Hara et al), and three were seen at Perry on Jul 30 (Rosche). Semipalmated Sandpipers seemed to have arrived rather early, forming the bulk of the "peep" on most lists from Jul 15 on. A Sanderling was seen at Summerville on the very unusual date of Jun 25 (Miller). The bird seemed in good condition except for a slightly lame leg.

An immature Great Black-backed Gull was seen Aug 5 at Braddock's (Listman), and there was a Little Gull there on Jul 30 (Starling et al).

Yellow-billed Cuckoos seemed more common than usual, with a high count of six being reported Jun 4 in the Powder Mill Park area (GOS hike). A pair of Barn Owls raised an undertermined number of young in a cable housing on a Barge Canal Lock just southwest of Rochester, and another pair hatched a single young bird from three eggs laid in the top of a silo west of Braddock's Bay. The young bird fell to the bottom of the silo but seemed unharmed. The one or possibly two young Great Horned Owls seen near Durand-Eastman Park Jun 19 (Miller) show the tendency of this species to cling to a general area in spite of changes in the section brought on by suburban development.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: A pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers attempted to nest in Webster Park in Rochester but suddenly disappeared before the young had left the nest. A bird of this species was seen at Summerville Jun 25 - Jul 3 (Miller), five were noted at Conesus on Jul 2 (O'Hara) and a young bird was seen near Mount Morris Aug 14 (Tetlow et al). Some of these records would indicate a slow increase in this area. A Least Flycatcher was observed Jun 11 west of Manitou (Starling et al), and one was seen near Springwater Jun 24 (Listman). Two Cliff Swallows were seen Jun 4 at Braddock's (Listman), and a pair was found nesting at Webster's Crossing on Jun 23 (Foote, Listman). A pair of Tufted Titmice was observed feeding three young birds Jul 13-20 just east of Irondequoit Bay (McNeth). A Carolina Wren was in the same area from May to at least Jul 13 and may have nested (McNeth). Two Short-billed Marsh Wrens were seen Jul 4 near Hilton (Starling et al), and one bird was seen Jul 23 near Shore Acres (O'Hara). A Mockingbird was noted feeding a young bird Jul 13 in Webster (McNeth, McGee). Robins seemed down in numbers, at least in the Rochester area. Eastern Bluebirds increased in Livingston County (Haller). Seven were seen near LeRoy Jun 19 (GOS hike), and the species has nested in Fairport (Jones) and in Webster (McNeth, McGee). Two or three Golden-crowned Kinglets including one juvenile were seen Aug 6 in a picea grove in Letchworth State Park (Rosche). At least three loggerhead Shrikes were present Jul 4 near Hilton. This probably indicated a nesting pair in the vicinity.

Vireos — Warblers: A Black & White Warbler was noted Jun 10 at Manitou, and another was at Springwater Jun 28 (Listman). Seven Golden-winged Warblers were seen in the Powder Mill-Fishers area Jun 4 (GOS hike), and four were observed Jun 19 in the Avon-LeRoy area (GOS hike). A Blue-winged Warbler was seen Jun 4 at Fishers (GOS hike). Another was at Avon Jun 19 (Haller), and four were seen near Portageville Aug 14 (Rosche). Two Brewster's Warblers were noted Jun 4 in the Powder Mill-Fishers area.

A Nashville Warbler was seen Jul 3 at Ganneth Hill (Starling), and three Black-throated Green Warblers were noted in the Bristol Hills on Jun 25 (Foster et al). Eight Cerulean Warblers were seen in the Powder Mill-Fishers area Jun 4 (GOS hike), and one was noted near the Groveland Flats Aug 14 (Tetlow et al). Two Blackburnian Warblers were seen Jun 25 in the Bristol Hills (Cameron et al), and one was seen Jul 20 in Webster (McNeths). Four Chestnut-sided Warblers were seen Jun 19 at LeRoy (GOS hike). Three Louisiana Waterthrushes were observed in a glen in the Bristol Hills on Jun 25 (Miller et al), and two were seen at Conesus Lake on Jul 2 (O'Hara). Three Yellow-breasted Chats were observed west of Hamlin Beach Park Jun 4 (Listman), and there were two at LeRoy on Jun 19 (GOS hike). A Canada Warbler was seen Jul 31 near Ellison Park (Davis), and several others were reported during the period from areas further south.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: A singing Western Meadowlark was reported Jun 19 in Penfield (LLoyd), and another singing bird was reported Jun 20 on the lawn of the West Webster School (Kemnitzner). A Slate-colored Junco was seen Jun 3 at Manitou (Listman), and another bird was seen there on the remarkable date of Jul 2 (Listman). Much less unusual was the record of six in the Bristol Hills on Jun 25 (Cameron et al).