

(3) Migrant Warblers — a lack of sharp temperature changes and northwest winds in the first half of August precluded any rush of migrant warblers, and most fall arrival dates were about on time. On Jul 21 the first migrant Yellow Warblers were noted; on Jul 31 the first migrant Black-throated Green, Northern Waterthrush, Canada, and Redstart, plus 135 Yellow Warblers, were observed along the Sandy Pond dunes; on Aug 6 first migrant Black and White and Blackburnian Warblers were noted at SSSP and SPL; on Aug 11 Black-throated Blue Warblers and Ovenbirds were migrating at SSSP; on Aug 14 first migrant Bay-breasted and Wilson's Warblers were observed at SSSP and SP respectively (Evans, Rusk, Scheider). Aside from the counts on the many Yellow Warblers, tallies of migrants to Aug 15 were conspicuously low.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: a successful season apparently despite some losses to early haying; a first migrants noted Jul 24. The black Icterids had another outrageously productive year, and flocking in the thousands was underway as early as Jun 10. Cowbird parasitism appeared heavy, and examples of parasitism of Yellow-throated and Red-eyed Vireos, Black and White and Black-throated Blue Warblers, and Redstart were reported.

Cardinal: a pair persistently present through July at SSSP points to but does not prove breeding there (Rusk); nests and fledging young found in late June and July at Oneida (Paquette, Thurber) and at Westernville (May) show this species as a breeder in those areas. Indigo Bunting: numbers of this bright finch were distinctly up at Camillus Valley, HIGMA, and TRGMA, with a maximum of 20 at Camillus on Jul 3. Purple Finch: 22 noted Jul 10 in the THP; many males were giving flight songs and chasing females as if starting second nestings.

Grasshopper Sparrow: numbers appear to have stabilized at TRGMA; a colony of seven or eight pairs was discovered in early June near SSSP in a dry weedy meadow where two pairs of Henslow's Sparrows and a partial-albino Redwinged Blackbird were also observed.

Slate-colored Junco: five pairs with young noted Jun 11 near Osceola, THP; also found breeding at Labrador Pond (Rusk, Thomases) Jul 16 and west of Tully (Estoff, Propst) Jun 26. Chipping and Field Sparrows: a bumper crop of young birds noted at HIGMA and TRGMA (Ernest, Taormina) and in the Rome Sand Plains (Paquette). White-throated Sparrow: found in numbers (105, Jul 10) in the THP; summering birds noted at White Lake Jul 9 (Rusk) and near Brookfield Jul 2 - Aug 6 (the Whites), and breeding was established Jul 9 (five young) at the Rome Sand Plains (Paquette); a pair noted through June at Camillus Valley, the stronghold of many "southern" species, raised two fledglings seen Jul 3 (Scheider). What with southern species advancing northward and northern species moving south, the Transition Zone will soon narrow down to the width of N.Y.S. Thruway! Swamp Sparrow: 45 counted Jul 10 in the THP where it was actually more common than the Song Sparrow (25), but far less abundant than the White-throated Sparrow (q.v.); this species along with the Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, and Common Gallinule has benefited from the N.Y.S. Conservation Dept. Wildlife Marsh Program, utilizing both the willow tangles and the cattail margins of such places.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

There was little hot weather during the period; the average temperature was one of the lowest on record. Rainfall was about normal until August when there was less rain. Weather conditions for nesting were good.

Loons — Ducks: There were no Cattle Egrets, but two Common Egrets were seen at Wilson Hill Game Management Area, on Lake St. Lawrence near Waddington, in late July and early August. Canada Geese nested there as well as at Perch River Game Management Area near Watertown. By the middle of August about 50 birds could be seen at each locality. These geese became fairly tame. Good numbers of Wood Ducks were reported at PRGMA in August. Shovelers and Redheads nested at WHGMA. It was a very successful nesting season for ducks in this region.

Hawks — Owls: On Aug 5 Gordon saw four Turkey Vultures north of Antwerp. This is the first time more than one has been seen at once. An adult and an immature Bald Eagle were sighted at El Dorado on Jun 18. Two Osprey nests were discovered, one in Jefferson County and the other in St. Lawrence County.

Among the birds seen at El Dorado were: Semipalmated Plover, Jul 23; Ruddy Turnstone, Aug 10; Solitary Sandpiper, Aug 10; Greater Yellowlegs, Jul 10 and Aug 10; Knot, Jun 18 (early); Pectoral Sandpiper, Jul 23 and Aug 10; Least Sandpiper, Jul 23 and Aug 10; White-rumped Sandpiper, Aug 10; Dunlin and Dowitcher, Aug 10, Stilt Sandpiper, Aug 10, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Aug 10; Sanderling and Caspian Tern, Aug 10.

Goatsuckers — Sparrows: Allen found Olive-sided Flycatchers and a Winter Wren near Edwards at the end of June. Gordon saw Bluebirds (a family with young) near Natural Bridge on Jun 28, and these seem to be the only ones seen in this region. Nests used this summer by Cliff Swallows were found near Rodman. Allen found Solitary, Yellow-throated, and Red-eyed Vireos near Edwards.

Allen spent Jun 26 to Jul 2 at a camp near Edwards in St. Lawrence County and found 15 kinds of warblers there. He heard 18 male Nashville Warblers singing in an area of 50 acres. He also saw Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Pine, Chestnut-sided, Mourning, and Canada Warblers as well as the Northern Waterthrush.

A Grasshopper Sparrow was seen a few times in June in a field near Watertown and probably nested there. White-throated Sparrows were reported to be increasing as breeding birds in parts of St. Lawrence County.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

THOMAS A. LESPERANCE

The last few weeks of the reporting period were filled with anomalies. Cold inclement days were followed by intense humid ones. The maximum temperature recorded for August was 92°, the minimum 42°. Total precipitation was 1.60 inches. Number of clear days was 23, number of cloudy days 6, and number of partly cloudy days 2. These figures were for the valley areas, but in the higher elevations frost and freezing conjured up everything but snow. Boreal species flocked early and became pretentious by their numbers in some areas. As shown, it is a period of annual drought, streams becoming low or dry completely. Lake Champlain shores and beaches reach successively further each year toward the middle of the lake. It is stated in some papers that the water table has dropped in excess of 18 feet since the turn of the century. Too many factors are involved to go into the matter here, but it is the intent of this writer to take the matter up in committee at a suitable time in the near future.

Our area is fortunate in this reporting period to have had several creditable observers vacationing in the region who have submitted their findings and brought to light some otherwise lost sightings. Among the first notes I received was the comprehensive list by Mrs. Dorothy W. McIlroy, covering the area near and at Pisico Lake, where she vacations from her home in Ithaca. Also received and equally well written were the notes by a group of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, headed by Mr. Richard C. Rosche and including also the following observers: Arthur Clark, Dale Rubach, Arthur Schaffner, and Edward L. Seeber.

After making a plea for more observers in the area, which is so remote and extensive, I am more than pleased to announce that I have a new correspondent in the person of Harriet L. Delafield, who was recommended by Dr. Gordon Meade. This brings the total of observers to five, indeed a small number for the area, to be covered. It is hoped that we shall have five more by the first of the year. At one time there were ten, well disbursed, that gave excellent coverage for the areas mentioned.

Loons — Ducks: The Common Loon was reported from Tupper Lake (Amstutz) and Saranac Lake (Delafield). Three adult and nine downy young Pied-billed Grebes were observed at Lake Alice (Delafield).

Great Blue Herons were noted at Pisico Lake (McIlroy) and in the Matawaska area (Buffalo Ornithological Society). These birds were very common near Keeseville, where a heronry has been established on Valcour Island. Green Herons were