

in the Matawaska area (BOS). Winter Wrens were well distributed in suitable areas. In the areas covered House Wrens were either spotty or absent. A Brown Thrasher was reported at St. Regis Falls on Jul 2 (BOS).

Catbirds, Swainson's Thrushes, and Wood Thrushes were all common at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). Many Swainson's were reported in the Tupper Lake area, but Bluebirds and Hermit Thrushes were scarce there (Amstutz). Catbirds, Robins, Wood Thrushes, Hermit Thrushes, and Veeries were all common at Saranac Lake (Delafield). The Swainson's Thrush was the commonest at Matawaska, where only two Bluebirds were seen, and at the 4,000-ft. level (and higher) on Whiteface Mountain Gray-cheeked Thrushes were reported (BOS). Bluebirds were scarce in most of the area, but still a few were seen here and there. I seem to think that the abandoning of farms with their old orchards, where this species nested quite prevalently, does have something to do with the situation. We have only five old apple trees left of what was once a considerable orchard. One is still suited to Bluebird nesting, and occasionally these birds do nest there, but we have to drive off the Starlings to permit the Bluebirds to do so. Starlings are another factor that might augment the occasion of the Bluebird scarcity.

Ruby-crowned Kinglets were at Saranac Lake (Delafield) and Bloomingdale (BOS). Golden-crowned Kinglets were well distributed in the areas covered. The general distribution of Cedar Waxwings was good in all areas.

Vireos — Warblers: The Red-eyed, Philadelphia, Yellow-throated, and Warbling Vireos were observed at Tupper Lake (Amstutz), and the Yellow-throated, Red-eyed, Solitary, and Philadelphia were noted at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). Solitary and Red-eyed Vireos were reported from Saranac Lake (Delafield) and the Matawaska area (BOS).

A Mourning Warbler's nest with young was located at Tupper Lake (Amstutz). Warblers reported from Pisico Lake by McIlroy included Black and White, Tennessee, Nashville, Yellow, Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Canada, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Yellowthroat, and Redstart. In the Matawaska area the boys from the BOS listed the following warblers: Black and White, Parula, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Blackpoll, Bay-breasted, Nashville, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Chestnut-sided, and Canada. The Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, and Chestnut-sided Warbler were seen at Saranac Lake (Delafield). At Keeseville there was very little singing, and only the Blackburnian, Redstart, Yellow, and Black and White were seen.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Redwings, Grackles, and Cowbirds were in good general distribution in suitable areas. There was a good nesting of Baltimore Orioles at Tupper Lake (Amstutz), and adult males were seen harassing a Crow at Saranac Lake (Delafield). Bobolinks were reported at the latter locality (Delafield). At Keeseville numbers of these blackbird species were about the same as last year.

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Scarlet Tanagers were at Tupper Lake, and one Pine Grosbeak was seen there (Amstutz). Two separate families of Evening Grosbeaks, with young, visited a feeder at Pisico Lake (McIlroy), and Evening Grosbeaks were also reported from Trudeau (BOS). Both Red and White-winged Crossbills were observed at Whitehouse (McIlroy).

Purple Finches, Goldfinches, Slate-colored Juncos, Chipping Sparrows, and Field Sparrows were fairly common at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). In the Saranac Lake region Purple Finches were down in numbers, while Goldfinches, Juncos, Vespers, Chippies, Fields, White-throats, and Songs were common (Delafield). In the Matawaska area White-throated Sparrows were low in numbers, but Savannah, Vesper, Chipping, Field, Swamp, and Song Sparrows were normal (BOS). From Jul 2 to 4 the Lincoln's Sparrow was observed at Matawaska, and the species was seen at Bloomingdale Bog on Jul 3. These are good observations by competent observers.

Keeseville

REGION 8 — MOHAWK - HUDSON

WALTON B. SABIN

The summer by and large was cool and wet. Because of this weather many a vacation was unpleasant. Relatively few observations were reported, and so the summary below must be brief. In any event, there were no outstanding observations made during the period.

Loons — Owls: The first Common Egrets, three in number, were seen at Hillsdale on Jul 24 (Fremd), and thereafter they were regularly seen along the river above and below Hudson (Brown, Mickle). American Bitterns were observed at several localities. A female Wood Duck with ten young in tow was seen crossing a road at Hillsdale (Fremd), and a pair with five young was observed at Nassau (Turner). A scaup (species ?), perhaps injured, was at Queechy Lake for about a week beginning Jul 14 (Mickle).

Turkey Vultures were reported in several Columbia County localities. A sharp-shinned Hawk was spotted in Canaan during June (Payne). Broad-winged Hawks appeared to be nesting there as well as in Red Rock. A Coot apparently summered at Vischer Ferry, but no indications of breeding were noted (Hallenbeck).

Both species of cuckoo were quite widely reported in all areas of Columbia County. Screech and Great Horned Owls were both reported from several localities there (Gokay, Reeve, Erlenbach, Silvernail).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-wills were heard during June at Old Chatham (Barten), Canaan (Gokay), and Red Rock (Smilow). There were two or three reports of Pileated Woodpeckers. Tree Swallows had a good nesting season at Nassau, where this year there was more than double the number of productive boxes of any previous year since the boxes were erected in 1955. Bank Swallows were last reported at Ghent on Aug 8 (Erlenbach), and Cliff Swallows were last noted at Canaan on Aug 10 (Gokay). A flock of Rough-winged Swallows was seen along Kinderhook Creek in July (Silvernail).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were fledged from nestings at Nassau (Shineman) and Red Rock (Smilow). A pair of Mockingbirds nested near Scotia in June (Hallenbeck). The following is the "box" score on nesting Bluebirds in the Columbia County area: Nassau, two broods fledged (Turner); Canaan, at least two broods fledged; Chatham, at least one brood fledged (Leslie), and Ghent, at least two broods fledged (Erlenbach.) A very interesting record was that of a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Loudonville on Aug 11 (French).

Vireos — Sparrows: One adult and one young Yellow-throated Vireo were at Red Rock on Aug 14, and a Solitary Vireo was there on Jul 31 (Smilow).

Both the Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers were reported from Nassau during June (Turner), and the latter species was also seen during that month in Canaan (Payne). The Brewster's Warbler was later found on two separate occasions at Nassau (Shineman, Turner). A Nashville Warbler was spotted at Canaan on Jun 23 (Payne), and there was another at Ghent on Aug 15 (Erlenbach). The Black-throated Blue and Myrtle were seen at Berlin on Jul 23 (Alan Devoe Bird Club). Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Canada Warblers were recorded at Canaan on several occasions (Payne). During June two pairs of Louisiana Waterthrushes nested along a stream at Red Rock (Smilow). A Magnolia Warbler at Ghent on Aug 14 was the first of the fall migration (Erlenbach). A Northern Waterthrush was seen at Loudonville on Aug 11 (French).

There were numerous Columbia County reports of Cardinals, and Purple Finches nested at several localities there. A Grasshopper Sparrow was seen repeatedly in Old Chatham during June (Barten), and the Henslow's Sparrow was spotted on two occasions in July at Nassau (Turner). Very unusual was the presence of a White-crowned Sparrow at Canaan on Jun 25 (Payne).

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE - HUDSON

FRED N. HOUGH

Our summer Hudson Valley weather was consistent in its pattern of being cool and wet. Although June was near normal in both respects, July ended up cool and wet with August continuing in a similar fashion. As a result it was a lush growing season. As is often the case, local bird populations varied according to comment, with some species increasing and others decreasing. It may be a matter of conjecture, but region-wise it seems safe to say that, in general, it was not a season of profuse abundance among our nesting birds (excluding Grackles, Starlings, etc.). However the case may be, there were several interesting finds, and these happily reflect the serious interest that birders are taking in our local ornithology. Mrs.