

47, Hairy on 10 and Downy on 29. Tree Swallow: noted in good numbers in the Tupper Lake area (JD). Rough-winged Swallow: recorded at Heart Lake in mid-Jun (MRS).

The Winter Wren was noted as very scarce compared to 1962 by MRS during a trip in mid-Jun. However, many were noted at Tupper L (AA). Veery: reported in good numbers by several observers.

Vireo — Sparrows: Nest of the Philadelphia Vireo was found in the Lake Placid area (MRS). Full details are given in the field note section. Eighteen species of warblers were reported. Counts of singing males at Madawaska along one and one half miles of back road by FS on Jun 29 were as follows: Black and White 2; Nashville 15; Magnolia 7; Black-throated Blue 1; Myrtle 10; Black-throated Green 1; Blackburnian 9; Ovenbird 7; Yellowthroat 12 and Canada 3. At Ray Brook, Keji noted seventeen species, commonest were Redstart and Yellowthroat both noted on 23 days, Myrtle and Chestnut-sided on 19 days and Nashville on 10. However, neither Chestnut-sided or Redstart were as common as last year although both these species were noted as normal at Saranac Lake (HD). Keji noted Tennessee Warbler on Jul 17 and Aug 10; Parula on Jul 31 and Bay-breasted on Aug 10. At Tupper Lake, Black-throated Green and Black-throated Blue were noted almost everywhere (AA). Wilson's Warbler was noted at end of period, Tupper Lake (AA).

Evening Grosbeak: the impression is that this is now widely distributed as a breeding species. MRS noted it at five points during a trip in mid-June. At Tupper Lake both adults and immatures were noted at intervals (AA, JD, JK). It was seen and heard at Saranac Lake (HD). Red Crossbill: noted four times during the period at Ray Brook (JK) and at Sunmount in Jul (AA). Towhee: five singing males in the Wilmington area, Jun 28 & 29 (AK) is a surprising number for the central area. Not noted at Tupper Lake where breeding was noted last year (AA). Clay-colored Sparrow: singing males found at Lake Placid golf course, Jun 24 & 25 (HD, AK) and Wilmington, Jun 28 & 29 (AK). For previous records of this western species see Kingbird 4:117 & 12:139. Junco, Chipping Sparrow and White-throated Sparrow were reported in 'very good numbers' at Ray Brook (JK).

REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

Although this summer was very near average in temperature, rainfall for the second successive year was extremely low. Precipitation at Albany totalled 2.94 in. during June, 0.31 in. below normal, and 1.20 in. for July, 2.29 in. below normal. At the end of August, precipitation for the year was 6.1 in. below normal.

The lack of rainfall again afforded unusual opportunities in the area for observation of plovers and sandpipers. Both numbers and species of this group were higher than last summer, and seemed to arrive even earlier. The most unusual species reported from the group was the Ruff. Additional species included Western Sandpiper and Dowitcher among many others.

Breeding marsh birds did not seem common. Pied-billed Grebes and Soras were not observed at all, and Common Gallinules seemed decidedly uncommon. Hawks appeared to be breeding in low numbers. Unusual or rare species reported during the period included Ring-necked Duck, Dowitcher, Western Sandpiper, Ruff, Black Tern, Red-headed Woodpecker, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (nesting), Brewster's and Lawrence's Warblers, Yellow-breasted Chat and Orchard Oriole.

Abbreviations used: L — Lake; Nisk — Niskayuna; nr — near; pr — pair; Res — Reservoir; Tomh — Tomhannock; VF — Vischer Ferry Game Management Area.

Observers: ADBC — Alan Devoe Bird Club; SBC — Schenectady Bird Club; GB — Guy Bartlett; JC — Juanita Cook; JHB — James Bush; HE — Hazel Eddy; PE, GE — Paul & Georgia Erlenbach; EH — Esly Hallenbeck; MK — Marcia Kent; ER — Eleanor Radke; BRS — Benton Seguin; BW — Beverly Waite; PPW — Peter Wickham.

Loons — Ducks: Common Egret: two appeared at VF Jul 15 (BRS) and were seen by many observers through the end of the period. Black-cr. Night Heron: none known to breed, but both adults and immature individuals observed at VF after Jul 21 (HE, EH), max 4. Least Bittern: none observed. Canada Goose: at least 16 individuals released at VF remained throughout the summer. Green-winged Teal: two migrants early at VF Aug 4 (PPW, EH, BRS). **Ring-necked Duck:** a group of eight Aug 1 at VF (EH) was unusually early.

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture: numbers as high as 30 were reported from Columbia Co. (ADBC) with scattered reports from Greene, Albany and Schoharie Counties. No accipiters reported. Red-tailed Hawk: about 10 reports of probable breeding birds. Red-shouldered Hawk: three reports of probable nesting birds in different areas. Broad-winged Hawk: appeared in at least six different localities during the breeding season. Marsh Hawk: none reported. Osprey: no definite breeding records known. Appeared at VF Aug 7 (EH) and subsequently. Bob-white: small groups were seen and heard at Stottville, Meadowdale, and Poestenkill during Jul and Aug. The majority, if not all, of these birds were recently stocked. Wild Turkey: three were seen nr White Birch Lake Jun 10 (MK). Virginia Rail: several family groups observed at VF and Meadowdale in Jun and Jul. Sora: none observed. Common Gallinule: reported from Nisk and VF but numbers considerably lower than last year. Semipalmated Plover: appeared at VF Aug 7 (EH) and at least two were there at the end of the period. Killdeer: unusually large numbers of loitering birds observed late in summer, both in some grassy areas and in the marches. Woodcock: summering individuals reported from many sections. Common Snipe: individuals nr Catskill Jun 27 (JHB) and at VF after Jul 17 (EH) may have been nesting birds. Upland Sandpiper: reported nesting nr Slingerlands, Niskayuna, and Glenville. Solitary Sandpiper: fall migrants were at VF after Jul 20 (EH) and in other sections of the area as well in Aug. Greater Yellow-legs: 13 were at VF Jul 17 (EH, BRS) and numbers (usually less) were there throughout the rest of the period. Lesser Yellow-legs: 3-4 were at VF from Jul 17 to the end of the period. Pectoral Sandpiper: first Jul 20 at VF (EH), max 4 Aug 10. Least Sandpiper: first Jul 16, VF (BRS), max 15 Jul 18 (BRS). Dowitcher: one was at VF Jul 21-22 (HE, BRS). Semipalmated Sandpiper: first Jul 17, VF (EH), max 7, Round L, Jul 25 and 31 (BRS). Western Sandpiper: two birds with black legs, slightly drooping bill, and rusty shoulders were presumed this species Aug 10 at VF (EH, PPW). Others later reported Aug 14 at VF (EH). Ruff: one, in apparent post-breeding plumage, was observed at VF Jul 31 (BRS). This individual, which was of the same general color and pattern as a Pectoral Sandpiper, but was considerably larger, showed the distinctive white spots in the tail in flight. Gulls: Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were seen, especially later in the period, but no other species were observed. Black Tern: three were at VF Jul 16 (BRS), but there is no evidence of nesting in the region. Owls: reports of Barred, Great Horned and Screech Owls, all of which are regular, were the only ones received.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: numbers reported during the nesting season, last (a migrant?) Aug 16, VF (HE). Nighthawk: seemed considerably less common this summer in the region. Red-headed Woodpecker: two adults raised three young nr Scott's Church this summer (M. Crary et al.). Flycatchers seemed numerous this year. Olive-sided Flycatcher: three nr Berlin Jun 2; these were probably late migrants, as they were not observed there on Jun 10 (PPW). Swallows: still present at end of period, although flocks of 40-50 Tree Swallows and of hundreds of Barn Swallows were observed nr Catskill on Aug 10 and 4, respectively (JHB). Over 200 swallows, mostly Bank and Tree Swallows, were at VF Aug 5 (PPW). Cliff Swallow: a few breeding colonies were noted, especially in the northern part of the area. Over 40 were at Tomh Res Aug 11, probably migrating (PPW). Purple Martin: fewer reports than last year. Tufted Titmouse: reported in Jun from Schenectady and Columbia Counties, where breeding probably occurred. Reports of birds in Aug were received from Castleton (JC) and Catskill (B. Bush). Red-br Nuthatch: reported from

Old Chatham and Tomh Res as usual, as well as from farther north. Brown Creeper: at Old Chatham all summer (ADBC); observed at Tomh Res (where it may breed) Aug 11 (PPW). Carolina Wren: no reports. Long-billed Marsh-wren: reported from most of the larger marshes in the region and from Pottersville (MK). Short-billed Marsh-wren: no reports. Brown Thrasher: seemed rather uncommon in most localities. Mockingbird: one was in Westerlo Jun 2 (MK) and a pr nested in Catskill (JHB). Bluebird: most observers agreed there was a slight increase in the breeding population over last year. **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers**: one pr was reported nesting at Catskill (JHB) for the first nesting record for this region in many years. Golden-cr Kinglet: one, Jun 23, Lisha Kill nr Schenectady (SBC) suggests the interesting possibility that the bird may be breeding farther south than previously suspected. Cedar Waxwing: became an abundant bird in the region late in the summer.

Vireos — Warblers: Worm-eating Warbler: at least three singing individuals were at Thacher Park Jun 1 (PPW) and another was a Crane's Hollow Jun 3 (BRS). Blue-winged Warbler: reported from nr Altamont (BW), Ghent (PE, GE) and New Concord (ER). An unusual sight at Old Chatham on Jul 21 was of 1 Golden-winged Warbler, 1 Blue-winged Warbler, 4 **Brewster's Warblers** and 1 **Lawrence's Warbler** perched together on a fence rail (H. Barton). Nashville Warbler: observed at higher elevations in the region in Jun- nr Westerlo (MK) and Berlin (PPW) as well as farther north. Myrtle Warbler: an early migrant appeared at VF Aug 10 (PPW, EH). Cerulean Warbler: bred at Gallupville as usual (G. Zimmer). Blackburnian Warbler: reported from Old Chatham and Berlin as well as more northerly points. Black-poll Warbler: late migrants were passing through Jun 1 (BRS, PPW). Prairie Warbler: reported nesting at Karner (SBC), Ghent (PE, GE) and New Concord (ER). Louisiana Water-thrush: reported from Red Rock (ADBC), Altamont (SBC) and Lisha Kill (SBC). Mourning Warbler: a female was observed feeding young nr Indian Ladder while a male sung from a thicket nearby on Jul 17 (BRS); this is the most southerly breeding record for this region in many years. Birds were also observed nr Corinth (GB). Yellow-br Chat: one was at Catskill Jun 23 (JHB).

Blackbirds—Sparrows: Bobolink: southward-bound migrants observed from Aug 2 (EH) through end of period. **Orchard Oriole**: one male was at Catskill Jun 1-23 (JHB). No other reports were received for the period. Evening Grosbeak: nested in numbers at Jenny L, northern Saratoga Co, (GB), but not in southern part of region as occurred last year. Both Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows seemed scarce to most observers. White-thr Sparrow: a number of individuals were singing in low-altitude areas south of their usual haunts into the summer: one was at Burnt Hills to Jul 5 (BRS), another at Catskill to Jun 10 (JHB), and another at Lisha Kill June 23 (SBC). A probable fall migrant or vagrant was at New Concord Aug 5 (ER).

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE - HUDSON

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The weather bureau in New York City reported July as the eighth straight month of below average rainfall. August till the end of the period did not indicate any change in the pattern. Temperatures throughout the period were not extreme; to the contrary, they were average to below for the entire period.

Only one catastrophe came to your reporters attention, and that was of about 100 dead birds found July 9 along a portion of Rt. 9 in West, that had recently been sprayed. No other details were forthcoming.

Abbreviations used: First four letters of each county—ex. Rock—Rockland; WBC—Waterman Bird Club.

Contributors: BA — Bob Augustine; EB — Eugene Brown; RC — Robert Connor; ME — Martha Earl; FG — F. Germond; SOG — Stanley Grierson; MH — Marshall Howe; MH — Dr. Marjorie Hopper; TH — T. Haight; MI — Mort Isler; M & JK — Mary & Jim Key; AP — Anne Piper;