

scarce later, but were seen at Henderson Feb 22, and near South Edwards Mar 1. Song Sparrow: a few around feeders all winter. Lapland Longspur: about 100 at Pt. Peninsula Dec 7, unusually numerous in Dec and early Jan, not seen later. Snow Bunting: seen regularly, last a single bird at PRGMA Mar 29.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

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The winter period for this region was notable for low snow depths and, surprisingly it seems to me, a lack of birds. December temperatures were moderate for the month. One of the coldest days (as is often the case) being our Christmas Count day, Dec 21, which ranged from -11° to $+9^{\circ}$.

January weather was close to normal according to the weather station at Ray Brook though snow depths on the ground were five to ten percent below normal because of a few heavy snowfalls. The greatest snowfall in any one storm was only four and one half inches. The thaw, January 19-25 reduced the snow cover from twelve inches to eight inches but small falls caused it to grow rapidly after that.

February followed the January pattern of small snowstorms. Temperatures for the month were above those for most years. March "brought the usual amount of unusual weather": an early thaw, high winds and uneven temperatures. The largest snowfall of the entire winter occurred on March 11 when ten inches surprised the countryside.

Apparently the Brown-headed Cowbirds enjoyed the lack of snow and cold as they stayed all winter in numbers. Feeders were quite active in general but birds in the woods were extremely scarce. Often I would do my rounds and come home with only two chickadees or one Blue Jay on my list. Amstutz remarks of wood walks "sometimes did not even see or hear a chickadee."

Goshawk, Bald Eagle, Spruce Grouse, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker and the Cardinal at Essex relieve the monotony of my report somewhat. Otherwise only the small numbers of certain species, such as the Pine Siskin, are noteworthy.

Observers and Initials: AA — Agnes Amstutz; ED — Ethel Dyer; HD — Harriet Delafield; JD — Mrs. John Delahanty; JH — Joseph Hart; JK — Joseph Keji; MM — Marion Mason.

Abbreviations used: L — Lake; R — River.

Loons — Ducks: American Bittern: one Mar 21 (early) Saranac R (JH). Canada Goose: five Mar 8, 13 Mar 15 Tupper L (AA); five Mar 23 Saranac R (JH); many if not all of these probable returns of banded birds put out by NY State Conservation Dept spring 1963. Common Goldeneye: five Mar 8, three Mar 29 Little Tupper L (AA); 11 Mar 8 Tupper L (JD). Black Duck: one or two Dec 21, Feb 21, Mar 21 Saranac R (HD). Hooded Merganser: four Mar 29 Little Tupper L (AA); one Mar 21 Saranac R (JH).

Hawks — Owls: Goshawk: one Dec 21 and Jan 17; records show this bird to be rare around Saranac L in winter (HD). Bald Eagle: one Mar 22 Tupper L (Bill Frenette). Sparrow Hawk: one Mar 15 Tupper L (JD); one back at Saranac L Mar 25, same date as 1963 (HD). Spruce Grouse: one Feb 28 Cranberry L area (JH). Ruffed Grouse: fewer tracks around woods, Tupper L (AA); good numbers near doctor's cottages at Ray Brook (JK); normal around Saranac L (HD). Killdeer: one at Gabriels Mar 5 (David Young); one on Sunmount lawn Mar 25-26 (AA); one Saranac L Mar 27 (HD). American Woodcock: just in under the wire, three along Raquette R Mar 31 (AA). Herring Gull: three Mar 8 Tupper L (AA); one Saranac R Mar 17 (HD). Mourning Dove: 12-15 on Willsboro Point Mar 25 (fide MM); Sunmount lawn Mar 28 (AA); one Mar 28 Saranac L (ED).

Goatsucker — Shrikes: Belted Kingfisher: one at Ray Brook Jan 2 and 12 (JK). Pileated Woodpecker: one Jan 28 Ray Brook (JK); one Dec 21

and Mar 3 Saranac L (JH, HD). Hairy Woodpecker: reported in normal numbers from all areas. Downy Woodpecker: same as Hairy. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: one female at Ray Brook (JK). Horned Lark: three Mar 20 Saranac L (HD); six Mar 29 Tupper L (AA). Gray Jay: one at conifer feeder Tupper L Jan 5-10 (AA); one Cranberry L area Feb 28 (JH). Blue Jay: reported in good numbers from all areas. Common Crow: back Mar 1 Tupper L (AA); Mar 3 Saranac L (HD); Mar 6 Ray Brook (JK). Black-capped Chickadee: seemed down in numbers around Tupper L, (AA) stresses "very few in woods"; Ray Brook "common as usual" (JK); many birds seemed fewer than past few winters so did chickadees around Saranac L (HD). Boreal Chickadee: one or two reported at feeders in Tupper L (AA), Saranac L (HD) and Ray Brook (JK); only one flock of four seen in woods Dec 27 Saranac L (HD). White-breasted Nuthatch: reports normal. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one at Tupper L in Feb (AA, JD); more common than usual during latter part of period at Ray Brook (JK) and Saranac L (HD). Brown Creeper: two Dec 21, one Feb 15 Saranac L (HD); one at intervals, "decrease from last year," Ray Brook (JK). Robin: one Ray Brook Dec 12; first spring birds, Tupper L Mar 12 (Betty Martin); Saranac L Mar 21 (HD); Ray Brook Mar 25 (JK); JD reports same bird with "streaked breast" in her yard for fourth year Tupper L. Golden-crowned Kinglet: scarce, one Dec 21 Franklin Falls (David Young). Cedar Waxwing: two Dec 17-19 Tupper L (JD).

Starling — Sparrows: Starling: returned in some numbers Tupper L Mar 8, 60 Mar 29 (AA); Ray Brook Mar 3 (JK); Saranac L Mar 5 (HD). Myrtle Warbler: one near Willsboro Mar 28 (fide MM). Eastern Meadowlark: one Mar 18 Saranac L (HD), eight Mar 28 Tupper L (AA). Red-winged Blackbird: a few at feeders all winter throughout area; back in numbers Ray Brook Mar 21 (JK); Saranac L (HD) and Tupper L Mar 22 (AA). Common Grackle: one or two reported at feeders all winter; back Tupper L Mar 17 (AA); Ray Brook Mar 22 (JK). Brown-headed Cowbird: these birds were a surprise this winter; a flock of 15 to 30 stayed at Saranac all winter (HD); some were at Ray Brook all winter (JK); Tupper L reports them late and early (AA) with a record 94 on Jan 5 (JD). **Cardinal:** outside Essex in Jan, no exact dates given, one Mar 20 in Essex village (fide MM). Evening Grosbeak: good numbers reported throughout period from Tupper L (AA, JD); and Ray Brook (JK); smaller flocks than 1963 at Saranac L (HD). Purple Finch: abnormally rare for Mar; ten Tupper L Mar 28 (AA); ten Ray Brook Mar 29 (JK); small flock reported in late Mar Saranac L (HD). Pine Grosbeak: the most numerous winter finch of early part of period, flocks thru. Jan 14 Ray Brook (JK); Jan 18 Tupper L (JD); Jan 23 Saranac L (HD); flock Feb 22 between Essex and Willsboro (MM); Mar reports from Tupper L and Ray Brook. Common Redpoll: good numbers throughout period at Tupper L (AA, JD) and Saranac L (HD); two Feb 10 "that's all" Ray Brook (JK); flock near Willsboro Mar 16 (fide MM). Pine Siskin: extreme drop in numbers, 12 Tupper L Dec 17 "none thereafter" (AA); Ray Brook "many less than last year" (JK); Saranac L "extremely rare to date, two off and on after Feb 27" (HD). American Goldfinch: one Jan 13 Tupper L (JD); one banded Ellenburg Depot Feb 11 (Mrs. McGregor); many reports of small flocks around Saranac L after Mar 11 (HD). Red Crossbill: 20 at Sunmount Dec 15 (AA); four Tupper L Dec 8 (JD); scattered reports in all months Ray Brook (JK); pair at feeder Feb 22 thru. Mar 27, five Mar 18 Saranac L (HD). White-winged Crossbill: four Dec 28 Saranac L (HD); three Jan 19, one Feb 18 Ray Brook (JK). Slate-colored Junco: scattered reports of small numbers Dec and late Mar. Tree Sparrow: small numbers in all areas throughout period, Tupper L 15 on Jan 22 (JD), flocks Mar 15 on (AA); common since Mar 6 Ray Brook (JK). White-crowned Sparrow: one at feeder Saranac L until Dec 4 (E Barnet fide HD). White-throated Sparrow: one at feeder Saranac L until Dec 21 (E Barnet). Fox Sparrow: one Mar 27 Saranac L (ED). Song Sparrow: one singing Mar 14 Tupper L (AA); first Mar 24 Ray Brook and Saranac L (JK, HD). Snow Bunting: Tupper L "occasional flocks, 15-20, all winter" (AA); few scattered flocks around Saranac L, 50 Jan 4 (HD).

Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake