

60-75/day Oct 10-21; max 200, Oct 28, grounded by snow near Tully (cf. Water Pipit). Cardinal: increasingly common, now filling in gaps in range north of Syracuse and along L Ontario; max 20, Oct 28, Tully Farms Rd, probably local birds forced to road edges by snow.

First winter finch flight, Pine Siskins (Oct 6) and Evening Grosbeaks (Oct 7). Pine Siskin: 12-75/day with max 300, Oct 24 SSSP; Nov numbers much smaller. Evening Grosbeak: widely reported; 40-120 thru Oct and Nov (Utica, Oneida, Eaton, Derby Hill, Holland Patent, Syracuse). The Oct flight also included large numbers of Goldfinches with 75-150/day Sep 30-Oct 21, but Nov numbers were very low (one-30/day). Redpoll and White-winged Crossbill arrived on Oct 30. A large flight (750 plus) of Redpolls Nov 6 along L Ontario (MSR) was followed by many smaller groups throughout Region (Utica 300 on Nov 20, J & BB; Oneida 150 and 170, Nov 12 and 24 respectively, DWA, B & SP; Derby Hill 150 Nov 11). White-winged Crossbill: 30-250/day at Syracuse, Oneida (DWA, B & SP), Westmoreland (B & SP, J & BB), Eaton (GLC), Oneida L (DWA), and Cicero Swamp. The last to arrive were Pine Grosbeaks, Nov 6 at Westmoreland and Nov 8 at Derby Hill; max 45 Nov 11 (JRH) and 42 Nov 20 (JWP, MLE), both SSSP and Derby Hill; numerous reports of lesser numbers panregionally. Red Crossbill: singles only, Nov 8-9, Cicero Swamp.

The early-Oct sparrow flights peak counts clustered sharply Oct 7-14. Particularly productive were weed fields at TRGMA, Lysander, Beaver L, and marshy lands and brushy hedgerows along L Ontario at Derby Hill and Texas. Notable tallies: Oct 7-55 Vesper, 50 Field, 65 White-crowned, 250 White-throated, 25 Swamp and 180 Song, TRGMA to Beaver L; Oct 8-280 Junco, 140 White-crowned, 210 White-throated, 300 Song, TRGMA to Derby Hill; Oct 10-30 Savannah, 35 Vesper, 120 Junco, 225 Chipping, 65 Field, 65 White-crowned, 350 White-throated, 160 Swamp, 350 Song, Derby Hill, SSSP, and Drybridge Rd; Oct 14-30 Savannah, ten Vesper, 100 Junco, 80 White-crowned, 115 White-throated, Derby Hill, Beaver L, HIGMA; numbers dropped sharply in the next ten days but individuals and, in some cases, small flocks of Field, White-throated, Swamp, and Song Sparrows persisted until the severe freeze Nov 1-2. Tree Sparrow: late in arriving, Oct 21, four, Stevens Pond; astonishingly scarce, three-ten/day; max 50, Nov 13 HIGMA (MSR, JRH). Fox Sparrow: first Oct 2, Big Moose L (CA, DBP); counts quite low, one-five/day; unreported after mid-Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: first migrant Sep 14, one, Fish Gulf (JWP); some 26 individuals, one-four/day, most Sep 14-Oct 10. Lapland Longspur: first Oct 4, one, max 20 (excellent fall count) Nov 2, both Syracuse Airport. Snow Bunting: present in unusually large numbers; first Oct 14, two, Derby Hill; general arrival Oct 24, with flocks 35-600/day reported from Eaton, Derby Hill, SSSP, Syr Airport, SP, Oneida L, FHBSP, the majority in first half of Nov.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

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Rain fell on more than half the days during the reporting period to contrast greatly with a year ago when we were in the midst of a long drought. Rivers and creeks are running high, lake and pond margins have reverted to normal pre-drought levels. At Watertown, August rainfall was 3.41 in. above normal, September rainfall was slightly above normal, and in October it was .93 in. above normal. In early November there was more rain on several days. The first snowstorm on November 17th left four to six inches on the ground and by the 29th another four inches had fallen.

Late summer produced two more southerly species as surprises—a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and a Golden-winged Warbler, both seen under good conditions by an observer familiar with them in their normal breeding range. The autumnal warbler migration was long and interesting in wooded and brushy areas as was the sparrow migration in agricultural areas.

Most exciting was the find of a Gyrfalcon shot by an ignorant duck hunter. The promise of a good winter for seeing northern birds was implied with the appearance of a Northern Three-toed Woodpecker on Nov. 11, and Snowy Owls, Roughlegs, Northern Shrikes and winter finches that were rare or absent last winter, such as Pine and Evening Grosbeaks and Redpolls.

In October the North Country Bird Club purchased 102 acres of mostly wooded land in Town of Rutland, seven miles east of Watertown for a wildlife sanctuary.

The NYS Conservation Dept has expanded PRGMA and is developing more wetland marsh along Perch River west of Route 12.

Localities: BCW—Brookside Cemetery, Watertown; CD—Camp Drum Military Reservation; ED—El Dorado; LJGMA—Littlejohn Game Management Area; NCBS—North Country Bird Club Sanctuary; PRGMA—Perch River Game Management Area; SB—Sherwin's Bay; Wat—Watertown; WC—Watertown Center.

Observers: AWA—Arthur W. Allen; JBB—John B. Belknap; DB—Don Blais; FAC—Frank A. Clinch; HED—Herbert E. Doig; EAF—Elizabeth A. Feldhusen; DCG—David C. Gordon; FS—Fritz Scheider; FWT—Fred W. Tucker; RCW—Robert C. Walker.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: singles near ED Nov 26 (DCG). Horned Grebe: common along L Ontario shore, Oct 16 to end of Nov (DCG). Great Blue Heron: at ED, PRGMA in Aug and Sep; last SB, Oct 23 (DCG); singles Pillar Pt and Pt Peninsula Nov 25 (AWA); Star Lake Nov 27 (RCW). Green Heron: last Oct 31 BCW (DCG). Black-crowned Night Heron: last adult Sep 18 SB (DCG); last imm Oct 10 BCW (DCG). Least Bittern: Sep 26 SB (AWA). American Bittern: ED Aug 21 (DCG).

Canada Goose: first, PRGMA Sep 29 (HED); flock of 60 southern Jeff. Co Oct 16 (DCG). Mallard and Black Duck: usual numbers Aug to end of Nov (DCG). Pintail: PRGMA Oct 9 and L Ontario Oct 16 (DCG); last Nov 26 PRGMA (JBB). Green-winged Teal: numerous ED Aug–Sep. Blue-winged Teal: hundreds ED Sep 25 (DCG). Am. Widgeon: 65, PRGMA Oct 9 (DCG). Shoveler: three, PRGMA Oct 9 (DCG); a pair ED Oct 10 (AWA). Wood Duck: good numbers this fall at PRGMA (HED). Greater Scaup: opening day of duck season Oct 16, thousands in rafts and streaming by in formation in Black River Bay (DCG); aerial count of 4000 in same area Nov 20 (DB). Common Goldeneye: hundreds off Stony Pt and ED during Nov (DCG). Bufflehead: Oct 16 to end of Nov ED and Stony Pt (DCG). Oldsquaw: approx. 100 between ED and Henderson Harbor Nov 26 (DCG). White-winged Scoter: three females Pillar Pt Nov 25 (AWA). Surf Scoter: one male and several females at Henderson Harbor Nov 26 (DCG). Common Scoter: three females Nov 11 Henderson Bay (RCW). Female mergansers numerous in L Ontario during period, species not positively identified.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: last Oct 4 near Theresa (JBB). Cooper's Hawk: imm female Nov 11 Gouverneur (JBB). Red-tailed Hawk: noticeable movement Oct 16 in s. Jeff. Co (six seen —five together); singles to Nov 19 (JBB, DCG, RCW). Rough-legged Hawk: first Oct 23 Pt Peninsula; five Nov 13 near Stony Pt, three light phase and two dark phase (DCG); many seen Oct 25–Nov 29, seemed to be two main flights in period, max 11 in five miles just north of Wat Nov 29 (JBB). Marsh Hawk: to Nov 17 (JBB). GYRFALCON: dark phase imm female found shot at ED Nov 14 (RCW), photographed and carcass sent to state museum,

Albany; third record and first specimen from Jeff. Co. Sparrow Hawk: scattered singles to Nov 26 (DCG).

Gray Partridge: population seems to be fairly low this year (HED); four near Watertown Oct 9 (DCG). Turkey: five Wellesley I. Aug 18 (RCW); introduced 1960. Virginia Rail: PRGMA Aug 27 (DCG). Common Gallinule: last, Oct 9 PRGMA (DCG). Am. Coot: last, Oct 9 PRGMA (DCG).

The data on shorebird migration should be read in conjunction with the article by Fritz Scheider elsewhere in this issue. Semipalmated Plover: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Killdeer: last Nov 6 Pt Salubrious (DCG). Golden Plover: two Aug 26 ED (FS), one Aug 29 ED (RCW). Black-bellied Plover: last Sep 25 ED, low numbers this fall (DCG). Ruddy Turnstone: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Common Snipe: last Sep 25 ED (DCG). Spotted Sandpiper: last Sep 9 ED (FS). Solitary Sandpiper: to late Sep BCW (DCG). Greater Yellowlegs: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Lesser Yellowlegs: last Sep 25 ED (DCG). Knot: one Aug 21 (DCG), two Aug 26 (FS) and one Sep 25 ED (DCG). No Purple Sandpiper. Pectoral Sandpiper: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). White-rumped Sandpiper: three Nov 13 ED, late (DCG). Baird's Sandpiper: one, Aug 19 (FS), five Aug 26 (FS), one Sep 25 (DCG), all ED. Least Sandpiper: last Sep 25 ED (DCG). Dunlin: 13, Nov 13 ED (DCG). Short-billed Dowitcher: four Aug 19 (FS), 11 Aug 26 (FS), two Sep 9 (FS), two Sep 11 (DCG), and one Sep 19 (AWA), all ED. Stilt Sandpiper: one Aug 21 and 26 ED (FS, DCG). Semipalmated Sandpiper: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Sanderling: last Nov 13 ED (DCG). Red Phalarope: two singles Nov 13 at ED—third record for Jeff Co (DCG). Wilson's Phalarope: one Aug 19 ED (FS). Northern Phalarope: max 10 Sep 4 ED (DCG, RCW).

Great Black-backed Gull: first, three at ED Aug 21; common along L Ontario shore thru Nov (DCG). Herring and Ring-billed Gulls: common to abundant thru period, especially the latter on fresh-plowed fields in Oct (DCG). Bonaparte's Gull: last one Oct 30 Pt Salubrious (DCG). Common Tern: last Sep 11 ED (DCG). Caspian Tern: last Sep 19 ED (AWA). Black Tern: last Aug 21 ED (DCG). Great Horned Owl: near Gouverneur Nov 11–21 (JBB). Snowy Owl: one adult male Nov 6 Pt Peninsula (DCG); a female shot Nov 11 Pillar Pt, brought to school (FAC); one Nov 26 and three Nov 30 near SB (JBB). Barred Owl: Aug 18 near S. Edwards, St. Lawrence Co (AWA). Short-eared Owl: two near Philadelphia Nov 10 (JBB); one killed on road near Dexter Nov 22 (DB).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: more than a dozen active in one place, late afternoon Aug 17 Wat (DCG); 10–12 migrating Sep 4 Wat (FAC); two Sep 5 Massena (FAC). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Sep 18 Pillar Pt (DCG). Yellow-shafted Flicker: heavy migration Sep 18 along L Ontario (DCG). Red-headed Woodpecker: three near ED Aug 11–21 (DCG); Nov 21 (very late) CD (AWA). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: two Sep 25 (DCG). Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: usual numbers thru period. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: two singles—sex not reported—near Gouverneur Nov 1 and Nov 21 (JBB). NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER: a male at WC Nov 11 (RCW) to Nov 14 (DCG) working silently on dead elms; the characteristic appearance of flaked bark on the trees indicated it had been there for several days; last known record in Jeff. Co was Mar 10, 1957.

Crested Flycatcher: last Aug 20 near Carthage (EAF). Phoebe: last Oct 23 Pt Peninsula (DCG). Horned Lark: small flocks on Pillar Pt and Pt Peninsula Oct 30, Nov 6 (DCG). Tree and Bank Swallow: migrating in early Sep. Barn Swallow: last Sep 18 PRGMA (DCG). Cliff Swallow: numerous along Middle Rd near Wat in Aug; last Sep 4 ED (DCG). Blue Jay: very common throughout Jeff Co during fall. Crow: long after the departure of most crows from our Region a flock of at least 48 seem to be wintering near Camps Mills Nov 13–26 as they do every winter in some areas favored with enough food (DCG). Black-capped Chickadee: although a common summer and winter resident, there was a very pronounced migration through

the county from late Sep at least to Oct 17. Boreal Chickadee: one Nov 11 ED (RCW)—rare. White-breasted Nuthatch: the statement about Black-capped Chickadees also applies to this species (DCG). In the evening of Sep 4 unusual activity of four nuthatches observed flying out from a tree and catching insects in mid-air like Cedar Waxwings; one went down to the ground and was chased back to a tree by a red squirrel (DCG). Red-breasted Nuthatch: seemed to be migratory movement in Sep and Oct: one at a feeder Nov 25 (DCG). Brown Creeper: also a noticeable fall migration during Sep and Oct; seen Nov 25 (DCG). House Wren: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Winter Wren: last Sep 12 WC (DCG). Long-billed Marsh Wren: last Sep 18 SB (DCG). Mockingbird: Aug 25 Brier Hill, St. Lawrence Co (RCW). Brown Thrasher: Sep 25 CD (DCG); Nov 7 Wat (AWA). Hermit Thrush: last banded Oct 11 (FAC); Oct 16 LJGMA (DCG). Swainson's Thrush: banded Oct 2 (FAC). Veery: one banded Aug 27 (FAC). Bluebird: four PRGMA Sep 26 (AWA). BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: one Aug 27 PRGMA, first record for Jeff. Co (DCG). Golden-crowned Kinglet: last Oct 31 (DCG). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: migration Sep 25—Oct 10 (DCG). Water Pipit: three Sep 19 ED (AWA); one Oct 23 Pt Peninsula; seemed scarce this fall (DCG). Cedar Waxwing: est, 100 on rose hedge Nov 6 Wat (DCG); wandering flocks thru Nov. Northern Shrike: first Oct 27 (JBB); scattered sightings thru Nov (AWA, JBB, DCG, RCW).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: last Oct 10 WC (DCG). Red-eyed Vireo: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Black-and-white Warbler: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: one male Aug 18 NCBS, first Jeff. Co record (DCG). Nashville Warbler: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Magnolia Warbler: migration Sep 19—Oct 10 (DCG). Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Myrtle Warbler: last Nov 1 (JBB). Bay-breasted Warbler: last Oct 10 banded (FAC). Blackpoll Warbler: Sep 25 CD (DCG). Palm Warbler: migration Sep 19—Oct 30, very late (DCG). Yellowthroat: last Nov 21, very late (JBB). Wilson's Warbler: Sep 25—26 (DCG).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: flocking thru Aug; last Aug 27 est. 50 near PRGMA (DCG). Eastern Meadowlark: last Nov 30 Dekalb Jct. (RCW). Red-winged Blackbird: peak of migration Oct 9—16; a small flock Nov 6 Pt Peninsula (DCG). Rusty Blackbird: migration Oct 9 and Oct 16 (DCG). Common Grackle: more than 2000 near Pierrepont Manor Oct 15; hundreds near Worth Oct 16 (DCG); one at feeder Nov 14 (DCG). Brown-headed Cowbird: more than 1000 near Camps Mills Sep 25 (DCG). Scarlet Tanager: last Oct 2 (FAC). Cardinal: two males, two females and one imm early Oct WC (FWT); two males and two females Nov Wat (AWA). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Sep 26 WC (DCG). Evening Grosbeak: 12 Oct 17 ED (EAF); first at feeders Nov 5, 8—10 Wat (AWA, FAC); small flocks at several feeders thru rest of Nov. Purple Finch: one female Oct 10 WC, three males and four females Oct 16 LJGMA (DCG). Pine Grosbeak: first Nov 23 CD (JBB); flock of 13 with one adult male Stony Pt and flock of 11 with two adult males Henderson Harbor feeding on white ash fruits Nov 26 (DCG). Common Redpoll: small flocks noted Nov 6 and Nov 13 (DCG); five at feeder Nov 18 (AWA); 150 near Theresa Nov 20 (DB). Red Crossbill: 6 or 7 near Brownville Nov 26 (AWA). Rufous-sided Towhee: last Worth Oct 16 (DCG). Savannah and Vesper Sparrows: migration peak Oct 9—10 (DCG). Slate-colored Junco: last Nov 27 (FAC). Tree Sparrow: first, Jeff Co, Oct 30 (AWA); not common before Nov 6. Chipping and Field Sparrows: migration peak Oct 9—10 (DCG). White-crowned Sparrow: migration Sep 27—Oct 23 (AWA, JBB, DCG). White-throated Sparrow: last Oct 23 (DCG). Fox Sparrow: Oct 16 LJGMA (DCG); Oct 31 (AWA). Swamp Sparrow: last Oct 16 (DCG). Song Sparrow: most common sparrow, migration Oct 9—23 (DCG). Lapland Longspur: three Oct 23 Pt Peninsula (DCG). Snow Bunting: 12 Oct 17 (EAF) early; 19 Oct 30 and Nov 6 Pt Salubrious (DCG); four Nov 13 ED (DCG).

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