

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK — CHAMPLAIN

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Weather for the fall migration period in this area was one of extreme ups and downs. After an overnight low of 41 degrees on Aug 24, on Aug 25 the temperature rose to 90; then on the night of Aug 31 there was a killing frost. Sep and Oct followed the same pattern: Sep 20, 74 degrees, Sep 28 frost killed the geraniums; "Little Summer of St Luke" on Oct 21; Oct 30 one inch of snow on the ground. Nov was cold and damp. On Nov 17 we had 14" of snow, the most since 1959-60. Ray Falconer said "real winter" at Saranac Lake and Ray Brook on that date.

A friend who has harvested cones around Vermontville for many years reported that Norway Pine and Red Spruce fruits were almost non-existent this year.

A Red-throated Loon was found on the road between Lake Placid and Keene on Nov 5 but it died soon after it was rescued. No large warbler waves were reported this fall, "black birds" and crows were noticeably down in numbers, Canada Geese came over early.

Unusual were: a Hawk Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker and Dickcissel.

Observers: AA—Agnes Amstutz; EA—Elizabeth Anderson; GC—Geoffrey Carleton; HD—Harriet Delafield; JMD—John and Margaret Dye; EE—Emily Easten; BF—Bill Frenette; WF—Wayne Fedder; GK—Grace Kains; JK—Joseph Keji; JH—Joseph Hart; RH—Robert Hagar DM—Dorothy McIlroy; GM—Gordon Meade; DP—David Peakall; RS—Richard Sheffield; DY—David Young.

Abbreviations: B—Brook; Mad-Ross—Madawaska and Ross Park; P—Pond; SL—Saranac Lake; TL—Tupper Lake.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: two adults with one young Elk L Sep 11 and 12 (JMD, RS); two imm Little Tupper L Sep 20 (AA). Horned Grebe: four Nov 15 Monty's Bay, L Champlain (JH). Pied-billed Grebe: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Ray B Sep 4-24 (JK); three Ausable Marsh Sep 8 (JH); one Sep 16 and Oct 6 SL (HD). Great Blue Heron: nest discovered in marsh near Blue Mt L Aug 30 (BF); last Oct 13 Ray B (JK); one Santa Clara Oct 13, one Ausable Marsh thru Oct 17 (JH); two Sep 10 SL (GK); one L Clear Sep 30 (DY). Green Heron: one Tupper Marsh Aug 18 (RH). American Bittern: one, Piseco L Aug 30 (DM); one Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); two Sep 6 Ray B (JK); one Ausable Marsh Oct 16 (JH).

Canada Goose: started going over early in quite good numbers, 400 Sep 29 SL (HD); 47 Sep 30 Ray B (JK); 75 Oct 3 DY's potato field Gabriels; reports from Chazy, L Placid, Ausable Marsh Moose R Plains, TL, last wild flock reported 150 SL (GK). Snow Goose: 200 plus Nov 23 Rockefeller Pk (Collins & Emperor fide JH). Mallard: 50 Nov 15 Kings Bay, L Champlain (JH); two Oct 3 Constable L (DP). Black Duck: reported all areas, largest number 100 plus, Kings Bay Nov 15 (JH). Green-winged Teal: small flock, Sep 6 TL (John Bull); two in hunter's bag Racquette P Oct 23 (BF). Wood Duck: six Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); two Barnum P Sep 14 (GK); 20 Ausable Marsh Sep 14 (JH); two in bag Oct 24 Racquette P (BF). Ring-necked Duck: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); ten near Paul Smiths Sep 28 (WF). Common Goldeneye: 55 Allens Bay, 20 Monty's Bay, 20 Kings Bay L Champlain Nov 15 (JH). Bufflehead: two females Slush P Oct 20 (JH); three pair L Colby Oct 29 (WF). Common Scoter: one identified from head saved by hunter Oct 22 Racquette P (BF). Hooded Merganser: few Sep 7 to Oct 30 Ray B (JK); three Grass P Oct 25 (JH); four Wells Oct 7, two Brook P SL Oct 22, two Moody P SL Nov 2 (RH); two Oct 26 & 31 SL (HD). Common Merganser: fewer young than usual, only six, Piseco L (DM); two Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); pair with 13 young Racquette R Sep 6 (BF); 15 Elk L Sep 12 (RS), pair with 17 young Elk L

Sep 12 (JMD)—same birds or on different parts of lake? 17 Oct 12 St Regis R at Paul Smiths (EA, HD); one Lower Saranac L Nov 13 (RH).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: one Elk L Sep 11 (JMD); one Robinwood Preserve Oct 12 (caretaker fide BF); one Jay Nov 11 (RH). Sharp-shinned Hawk: one Aug 31 and Sep 6 Ray B (JK); one Jay Sep 26, one L Pleasant Oct 5 (RH). Red-tailed Hawk: one imm Sep 8 SL (EA, HD); one Oct 5 Indian L (RH); one Racquette P Flow Oct 7 (BF); one Elk L Sep 12 (RS); one Slush P Oct 8 (JH). Red-shouldered Hawk: pair with young throughout summer Tupper ski area, one imm Aug 26 (BF). Broad-winged Hawk: reported all areas, last one Sep 8 Port Kent (JH). Rough-legged Hawk: one Ausable Marsh Nov 18 (JH); one North Hudson Nov 23 (RH). Bald Eagle: one Big Tupper ski area Oct 17 (BF). Marsh Hawk: one Aug 18 SL (HD); one Racquette R Sep 6 (BF). Osprey: one Merrillville Aug 30 (JH); one Sep 3 L Clear (DY); one Sep 21 SL (HD); three nests near TL kept under surveillance, no young observed but adults seen carrying fish to one nest, one adult Sep 6 Racquette R (BF). Sparrow Hawk: reported all areas, last one Nov 2 SL (HD).

Spruce Grouse: seven in two groups Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM). Ruffed Grouse: three Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); Elk L Sep 12 (RS); Ray B (JK); SL (GK). Semipalmated Plover: Westport Sep 1 (GC). Killdeer: one Constable L Oct 3 (DP). Amer. Golden Plover: three Gabriels Sep 17 (RH, DY). Black-bellied Plover: Willsboro Sep 2 (GC). Amer. Woodcock: one Aug 28 TL (AA); seven, SL Oct 19, one Oct 23 SL (GK). Sanderling: Westport Sep 1 (GC). Black Tern: two Aug 18 TL (RH). Herring Gull: normal; 50 on ice, Ausable R at Cadyville Nov 29 (JH). Ring-billed Gull: two Ausable R Clintonville Oct 29 (RH); eight Sep 20 Gabriels (HD). Mourning Dove: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Port Kent Sep 8 (JH); one Sep 20 and Nov 5 SL (EA, HD). **HAWK OWL:** one near TL Nov 24 (BF). (Field Note in May issue) Barred Owl: one L Placid Sep 14, one Whitney Preserve Oct 7 (BF).

COATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: one Aug 24 SL (GK). Chimney Swift: thru Aug 29 Ray B (JK). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: thru Sep 5 Ray B (JK); thru Sep 20 SL (HD). Belted Kingfisher: one or two all areas until mid-Oct. Yellow-shafted Flicker: all areas but no large numbers except Piseco L—"great abundance" Sep 18-20 (DM). Pileated Woodpecker: one Sep 2 Moose R Plains (DM); one Sep 19 Little Long P, Oct 20 Cascade L, Nov 7 Meecham P (JH); one Sep 20 LP Golf course (BF); two Oct 14 Ray B (JK); one Upper St Regis Nov 25 (GK). **RED-HEADED WOODPECKER:** one adult outside picture window studied for 15 or more minutes on Sep 18, 20 & 21 in sun and against grey sky, SL (EA, HD). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: a few all areas until early Oct. Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: normal. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: one SL Oct 6, one Santa Clara Rd Oct 7 (EA, HD); one Lower Saranac L Nov 6 (RH). Eastern Kingbird: normal, last Sep 8 SL (HD). Eastern Phoebe: normal, last Oct 14 Ray B (JK). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Sep 2 one Moose R Plains (DM); one Oct 1 TL (AA). Least Flycatcher: one Aug 24 and 27 Ray B (JK). Eastern Wood Pewee: only reports—one each Ray B (JK) and SL (GK). Tree Swallow: last Aug 20 Ray B (JK). Barn Swallow: normal all areas. Cliff Swallow: nine Aug 17 Ray B (JK). Purple Martin: 20 Aug 18 Speculator (RH).

Gray Jay: three Sep 2 Moose R Plains (DM); four Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); one Sep 8 SL (EA, HD); one Oct 7 Whitney Preserve (BF); one Oct 28 Keeses Mills, one Oct 29 SL (WF); two Nov 17 Whitney Park (DY). Blue Jay: normal. Common Crow: no large flocks reported; 25 Sep 21 SL (HD). Black-capped Chickadee: normal. Boreal Chickadee: small numbers reported Cascade L, Jay, L Pleasant, Mad-Ross, North Hudson, Ray B, Elk L, SL, Chubb R. White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches: normal. Brown Creeper: two Oct 3 Constable L (DP); one Sep 30 TL (AA); last Nov 3 Ray B (JK) and Nov 7 SL (GK). Winter Wren: one Oct 12 Ray B (JK). Catbird: one Oct 1 TL (AA); one thru Sep 23 SL (GK) and Oct 6 Ray B (JK). Brown Thrasher: one Aug 17, Sep 8 and 10 Ray B (JK); one SL Sep 21 (EA, HD). Robin: normal, few until early Nov, 20 L Placid Nov 9 (JH). Wood Thrush: one Sep 3 Ray B (JK). Hermit Thrush: one Oct 1 TL (AA); few

Aug 30 thru Oct 14 Ray B (JK); one Oct 31 (HD, WF). Swainson's Thrush: Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); last Ray B Sep 24 (JK). Veery: thru Aug 31 Ray B (JK); two Oct 6 SL (HD). Eastern Bluebird: six Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); 12 L Placid Sep 19 (RH); one Oct 2 Ray B (JK); two Constable L Oct 3 (DP); four Oct 4 SL (HD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: small numbers Sep and Oct. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: few all areas, last Nov 3 Ray B (JK). Water Pipit: five Sep 28 Ray B (JK); Sep 21 thru 30 Gabriels and L Clear, max 18 (DY). Cedar Waxwing: few reports, came late and left early. Starling: 75 plus Sep 5 SL (HD); "large flocks" Sep 26 Ray B (JK); otherwise no great numbers reported.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Vireo and warbler reports were spotty and disappointing. Solitary Vireo: one Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); "decrease" Ray B (JK). Red-eyed Vireo: last Sep 17 Ray B (JK). Black-and-white Warbler: one Aug 31 Ray B (JK). Nashville Warbler: one Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); Piseco L Sep 3 (DM); until Sep 21 Ray B (JK). Parula Warbler: one Ray B Sep 4 (JK). Magnolia Warbler: two Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); last Sep 4 Ray B (JK); Sep 3-7 Piseco L (DM). Black-throated Blue Warbler: Sep 3-7 Piseco L (DM); Sep 18 Ray B (JK); Sep 12 Elk L (RS); Oct 7 SL (HD). Myrtle Warbler: this usually common fall migrant was sparsely reported this season. Black-throated Green Warbler: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Sep 12 Elk L (RS); last Oct 21 Ray B (JK). Blackburnian Warbler: last Sep 9 Ray B (JK). Chestnut-sided Warbler: Aug 27 "scarce" Ray B (JK). Bay-breasted Warbler: five Sep 2 Moose R Plains (DM). Palm Warbler: carefully identified Oct 6 SL (HD). Ovenbird: Sep 3-7 Piseco L (DM); Sep 8 Ray B (JK). Yellowthroat: Sep reports Mad-Ross, Piseco L, Ray B, last SL Oct 6 (HD). American Redstart: Sep 3-7 Piseco L (DM); Sep 4 and 9 Ray B (JK); Aug 23 SL (GK).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: House Sparrow: no noticeable increase. Eastern Meadow Lark: three SL Oct 28 (HD); one Union Falls Nov 20 (JH); five Keene Valley Nov 30 (RH). Red-winged Blackbird: no great flocks reported; largest 100 plus SL Oct 5 (GK). Baltimore Oriole: JK reports one Aug 31 as "late date"; one Oct 20 SL at feeder seems certainly "late date" (HD). Rusty Blackbird: four Constable L Oct 3 (DP); three or four until Nov 1 Ray B (JK). Common Grackle: no large flocks reported. Brown-headed Cowbird: no large flocks. Scarlet Tanager: one Oct 10 Ray B (JK). Cardinal: Oct 28 thru 31 at feeder SL (G Chase). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Sep 9 Ray B (JK). DICKCISSEL: one carefully observed at feeder Oct 13 Gabriels (DY). Evening Grosbeak: summer residents thru Aug, virtual hiatus Sep, large numbers of migrants and winter birds beginning mid-November. Purple Finch: Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); some until Oct 9 Ray B (JK). Pine Grosbeak: first three Gabriels Oct 15 (DY), numerous reports since then, all too much road kill. Common Redpoll: good numbers. Pine Siskin: 35 plus, Oct 20 Ray B (JK); several Oct 29 SL (WF). American Goldfinch: 100 plus St Regis Oct 12—last date and only large number reported. Red Crossbill: Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); three Oct 20 & 21 Ray B (JK). White-winged Crossbill: five Fawn L Aug 31 ("not usually present there"), five Indian Falls, Marcy trail Sep 19 (DM); six Sep 12 Elk L (JMD); 40 plus Keene Oct 24 (EE); eight Nov 10 SL (HD). Rufous-sided Towhee: one, Aug 28 TL (AA). Savannah Sparrow: 20 Sep 20 SL (HD); one Oct 12 Ray B (JK). Vesper Sparrow: reports of small numbers Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM) to Nov 3 SL (RH). Slate-colored Junco: small numbers all areas Sep and Oct. Tree Sparrow: small numbers late Oct thru period. Chipping Sparrow: good numbers; last, six Nov 3 SL (RH). Field Sparrow: two Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM). White-crowned Sparrow: one to eight Sept 30 thru Nov 11, max Oct 13 SL (HD); ten Constable L Oct 3 (DP). White-throated Sparrow: no large migrating numbers. Fox Sparrow: one Oct 6 thru 13 Ray B (JK). Swamp Sparrow: one Oct 20 Ray B (JK). Song Sparrow: six Oct 3 Constable L (DP); small flocks Oct 6 SL (HD); last Nov 6 Ray B (JK). Snow Bunting: 25 Gabriels Oct 13 (DY); one male Minerva Nov 15 (MJD); 20 near Elizabethtown Nov 22 (G Chase); ten Blue Ridge Nov 24 (RH).

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