

first Sep 6, VFG (RPY) and Canaan (JP, EP), widely by Sep 20, some thru period. Fox: first Oct 2 (BRS), major influx Oct 23-30, last Nov 12, RL (HE). LINCOLN'S: Sep 4 VFG (BRS)—Oct 10 VFG (RPY); at least 19 reported in this period, with seven banded at VFG in early Oct (RPY). Swamp: Oct 31, VFG (RPY) Lapland Longspur: at least three with Snow Buntings at AR Oct 31 (PPW, WG). Snow Bunting: first—one Oct 21, North L (JHB, BB), several flocks Oct 30-31 and into mid-Nov.

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Temperatures were moderate throughout the entire season without any extremes recorded. The drought of the past several years was somewhat alleviated by a few day-long rains which raised reservoirs about a third above their lows of last year. The even lowering of temperatures as the season progressed produced a rather unspectacular migration for most species. Only a few weak waves of warblers were reported and those only from Dutchess Co. Ducks were in good numbers, and jays and blackbirds in enormous flocks. Northern visitors began arriving early and at the close of the season were well represented.

Abbreviations: MBC—Mearns Bird Club; RAS—Rockland Audubon Soc.; WBC—Waterman Bird Club; Dutch—Dutchess Co.; Oran—Orange Co.; Rock—Rockland Co.; Ulst—Ulster Co.; West—Westchester Co.; USMA—U.S. Military Academy at West Point; FHW—Fyke Nature Assoc. Annual Hawk Watch at Mt. Peter, Orange Co. daily from Sep 4—Sep 26 and from Oct 2—Oct 17.

Contributors: EA—Ethel Abrams; BA—Bob Augustine; MB—Martin Borko; GD—George Decker; R & LD—Robert and Louise Deed; MD—Margaret Dye; JD—John Dye; ME—Martha Earl; EG—Edwin Gamble; PG—Pat Garthwaite; FG—Florence Germond; TG—Tom Gilbert; DG—Dick Guthrie; PH—Paul Haight; TH—Thelma Haight; FH—Fred Hough PJ—Paul Jeheber; AJ—Alice Jones JK—Jim Key; MK—Mary Key; HM—Helen Manson; AM—Al Merritt; BM—Barbara Merritt; Dr HM—Dr Heinz Meng; KN—Ken Niven; JO—Jack Orth; EP—Eleanor Pink; RP—Dr. Robert Pyle; F & RS—Frank and Ruth Steffens; ET—Edward Treacy; SU—Sarah Uhelyi; MVW—Marion VanWagner; OW—Otis Waterman; HW—Hans Weber.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: only two reported, Roundout Res., Oct 30 (MB et al). RED-NECKED GREBE: always rare; one very early, Oct 27, Long Pond, USMA, West Pt (MD, BM). Horned Grebe: more reports than usual, scattered dates and numbers, only one large flock, on Ashokan Res. Nov 19 (HW et al). Double-crested Cormorant: rarely reported before; as many as six from Aug 18-29 in the Hudson off Cornwall; one, Vanderberg Cove, Dutch Aug 28, far up river for this species. Great Blue Heron: numbers still low throughout Region. Green Heron: normal to slightly less. Little Blue Heron: only report—three white imm at Brown's Pond, Newburgh Aug 22 (M & JD). Common Egret: only two reports, both from Brown's Pond, Newburgh (possibly the same bird) Aug 22 and Sep 5 (M & JD). American Bittern: two Oct 9, Crugars Is; one at Chester Nov 7. Canada Goose: migration as heavy as it can be, described as excellent by most reporters; extended throughout period with earliest flight on Aug 19 (MD); Largest flock 1,000 plus Nov 10 at West Pt. Snow Goose: 23 Blooming Grove, Oran on Oct 23 (B & AM); 18 Clove Valley, Dutch Nov 9 (HM, GD). Mallard & Black Duck: residents bred in

unusually large numbers throughout much of Region bringing fall populations to new highs. Gadwall: Two summered at Iona Sanctuary, Bear Mt Pk (JO). Pintail: Only one reported, Millbrook, Nov 10 (MK). Green-winged Teal: first, five Aug 30, Dutch; max 136 at Crugars Is Oct 22; last Nov 19 Ashokan Res. Blue-winged Teal: numbers normal, first Aug 30. Wood Duck: good breeding record during summer raised fall populations throughout Region; 30 plus thru Oct and early Nov, West Nyack area. Red-head: always uncommon, one male and three females on Tomahawk L Oct 2 (ME); one female Oct 14, Clove Valley (HM, GD). Bufflehead: arrived mid-Oct in most areas; five females spent all of Nov and most of Dec on Garrison's Pond, Fort Montgomery until ice forced them out. Oldsquaw: more reports than usual; first, two Oct 31, early, Rondout Res; ten on Kiamesha L Nov 14 (MB); one at Verbank, Dutch (P & TH). Hooded Merganser: only reports come from Dutch, about 30—better than usual. Common Merganser: extraordinarily early arrival, four Sep 22 on Hudson at Cornwall (MD); normal late Oct and Nov.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: normal; last, Oct 27. Goshawk: one reported over the Shawangunks Sep 19 (DrHM). Sharp-shinned and Coopers Hawks: numbers low in most areas, but FHW produced about three times as many as last year, and about seven times the usual average—359 Sharpies and 39 Coopers; peak movements of both species on Oct 11. Red-tailed Hawk: normal for most of Region; FHW had 152, also about seven times the usual average, peak Oct 16. Red-shouldered Hawk: none reported from most of Region; FHW had phenomenal number 36, three times the number last year, and many times their usual average; peak, nine Oct 16. Broad-winged Hawk: the usual concentrations in most areas; low on FHW compared with last year, 1,532; no real peak noted, numbers rather evenly distributed throughout latter half of Sep. An interesting report of a hawk of this species being killed in West when, while carrying a snake in its talons, it flew through the open window of a car being driven by Mrs George Adam of Middle Patent. No mention of how Mrs. Adam fared. Rough-legged Hawk: only two reports, both from Dutch, one each Nov 10 and 11. Bald Eagle: very scarce; one in Dutch Aug 23; one at Nanuet, Rock Sep 16; two at Rondout Res Oct 30; one at Tomahawk L, Oran Nov 25; one spent month of Nov at the USMA, and was still there as of this writing; only one on the FHW, Oct 17. Marsh Hawk: numbers up over previous years; FHW had 49 birds, double their usual number. Osprey: very good numbers throughout Sep and Oct; FHW total 145, well above their high of 86 last year. Peregrine Falcon: numbers very low; WBC reported one Oct 17 and MBC three from Sep 18 to 22; FHW—only four in 30 days of watching. Merlin: one Oct 16 at Cross River Res, West, two Sep birds on FHW—more than usual. Kestrel: FHW had 473, with 210 on Sep 11; numbers good throughout most of Region, but seemed lower in Dutch. Ruffed Grouse: population seems about as high as last year, which was good. Bobwhite: one at Pleasantville, West Oct 17—any record for southern part of Region is good. Ring-necked Pheasant: numbers seem reduced but not significantly. Common Gallinule: one Nov 5, Clove Valley, Dutch (HM, GD). Coot: 35 reported in Dutch in Oct, 29 of them Oct 31. Killdeer: 500 plus reported in Dutch thru Oct 23—"Very, very plentiful."—no where near that many elsewhere. Golden Plover: none, Oran for first time in several years: only reports, five Oct 24 and one Oct 28 Dutch. Black-bellied Plover: six Aug 22, Cornwall; one Aug 29, Ashokan Res; one, Oct 24 (very late for Region) at Pine Plains (EP). Woodcock: well reported from Oran and West but few elsewhere. Common Snipe: sparingly reported. **WILLET:** very rare in our area; one Aug 23 Cornwall Bay (MD, EA). Pectoral Sandpiper: fewer than usual in fall, but numbers good in Dutch. Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers: numbers down in most parts, but were good in Rock, possibly due to a rerouting of Rt. 304 which opened up a formerly inaccessible end of L DeForest where extensive mud flats were exposed. **SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:** at north end of L DeForest on Aug 10—fifth record for Rock (F & LD). **NORTHERN PHALAROPE:** one in fall plumage Aug 23 at Peronah L, Liberty, observed from

as close as four feet (DG). Gulls: all residents normal. Black-backed Gull: up slightly in the southern part. Bonaparte's Gull: two, Aug 23 at Cornwall Bay (MD, EA). Common Tern: two, Aug 23 at Cornwall Bay (MD, EA). BLACK TERN: very rare—one Sep 1, Peronah L Liberty. (DG). Mourning Dove: numbers good; Irma Dewitt added a mid-Oct nesting record from the New Paltz area. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one Oct 22, late, at Blooming Grove, Oran. (ME) Owls: no marked change in local species. Snowy Owl: three reports; one at Poughkeepsie Nov 5 (AJ); one at East Pk, Dutch (TG) Nov 13; one Ashokan Res Nov 19 (HW). Long-Eared Owl: one at East Pk on Oct 29 and Nov 10 (TG). Saw-whet Owl: one Oct 14 at Clove Valley (HM).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: normal movement; flights on Aug 18, 19, Sep 6, and 10. Chimney Swift: thousands reported on Sep 3. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: good numbers in early Sep; last, on Sep 20. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: fairly good quantities in Sept. BLACK-BACKED THREE-TOED WOODPECKER: a male at Red Oaks Mill, Dutch from Oct 19 at same location where female wintered last year. WESTERN KINGBIRD: one Nov 21 at Lagrangeville, Dutch (HM, EP), observed from 50 to 2000 ft. for over an hour with 7×50 binoculars and three 30x telescopes—all field marks noted. Flycatchers: all residents present in normal numbers. Olive-sided Flycatcher: usual fall representation the first week of Sep. Tree Swallow: maximum numbers during mid-Sep; "thousands" at USMA on Sep 6 (MD), "hundreds" at New Paltz on Sep 19 and at Cornwall on Sep 21. Cliff Swallow: at Croton Res. Aug 28 (Tom Howe). GRAY JAY: one appeared at the feeder of Leslie Pearl in Amawalk, West on Nov 24. He is well acquainted with this species in Maine. Blue Jay: some very large flights noted, numbers high throughout period. Fish Crow: usually reported in spring; one reported at Poughkeepsie this fall—no dates given. Common Crow: migrants reported lower in most areas, but resident populations up locally at close of the season. BOREAL CHICKADEE: one at Valhalla on Oct 14 (BA). Red-breasted Nuthatch: more reports than ever before: first, mid-Aug and good numbers to end of period. Brown Creeper: normal to slightly less. House Wren: always rare after mid-Oct; one, very late, Oct 28 in Dutch (HM, GD). Winter Wren: good numbers during Oct, less during Nov. SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN: one observed closely in an overgrown field near Stone Ridge, Ulst. on Oct 7 (FH)—first fall record in that area; almost never reported throughout the rest of Region. Mockingbird: continues to increase, regularly observed in some areas. Catbird: one Oct 21, very late, Monticello (KN). Hermit Thrush: one of the largest migrations that your reporter can recall occurred during the week after Oct 30; dozens reported throughout the Region. Swainson's Thrush: normal migrants—one Nov 1, late, at Chester (SU). Gray-checked Thrush: five reports from Oran and only a few elsewhere; one Nov 10, late, on USMA (PJ). Veery: one at Standfordville, Dutch on Oct 2—late (FG). Bluebird: the usually high numbers of fall migrants; as many as 30 Aug 26 at USMA (PJ). Golden-crowned Kinglet: arrived late in Dutch but numbers normal to better throughout Region. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: normal to better, Water Pipit: late arrival, scarce compared with other years; a few flocks reported; 150 at Ashokan Res Sep 30 (DG) the largest. Cedar Waxwing: good numbers of summer prevailed through the fall. Northern Shrike: one extremely early on Aug 22, Millbrook, Dutch (M & JK) well identified, all field marks noted by two experienced birders; one at USMA, Nov 17 (PJ). Loggerhead Shrike: only report—one at L DeForest Sep 6 (F & RS).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: numbers about normal; one, very late, Poughkeepsie, Oct 6 (WBC). Red-eyed Vireo: low numbers of summer continued into fall; one Oct 13, late, at Millbrook (MVW); an adult feeding begging young at Crugars Is, Sep 17 (DG). Philadelphia Vireo: one killed by a cat at Germonds, Rock Oct 10 (EG). Worm-eating warbler: two very late Dutch records: one Oct 13 and one Oct 15, both at Red Oaks Mills (J & MK). *Orange-crowned Warbler*: one unverified report, Sep 16 in Dutch. Cape May Warbler: numbers less than usual. Chestnut-sided Warbler: A fairly late bird was killed on striking a

window in West Nyack on Oct 14 (EG). Bay-breasted Warbler; only three reports in Dutch and not many more elsewhere, numbers quite low this season. Blackpoll Warbler: two later than usual, one at Cornwall Oct 24 (M & JD), and one at New Paltz Nov 3 (RP). Connecticut Warbler: two records from Dutch, both at Rochdale Sep 11 and Sep 19; one at Pleasantville, West Sep 2. Yellow-breasted Chat: only records—one Sep 10 and one Oct 2, Dutch; numbers no better than last year, still severely low. Wilson's Warbler: numbers were good; one, late, Oct 10 at Rochdale (EP). Canada Warbler: few; first, Aug 16 & 17 in Dutch, peak around Sep 7-9.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Blackbirds: huge flights throughout the entire season; the largest flight your reporter has ever seen. Almost every weekend saw long lines of grackles, redwings etc. passing overhead. Several hundred birds per minute were counted with lines often lasting for better than an hour at a time. Scarlet Tanager: numbers lower than usual in fall; last, one Sep 29 at Rochdale (PG). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: normal; one, very late, Oct 13 at Rochdale (PG). Indigo Bunting: scarce. Evening Grosbeak: arrived early (Oct 6) and in good numbers; most areas reported them thru the end of period. House Finch: continues to increase and spread northward. Pine Grosbeak: first, Oct 28 in Dutch and not much later throughout the rest of Region; also in good numbers. Pine Siskin: arrived throughout much of Region on Oct 30; plentiful to end of period. Red Crossbill: appeared in Aug near the home of Sanford Cross in Alligerville, Ulst. White-winged Crossbill: good numbers during the first half of Nov over much of Region—Dutch Nov 2, West Nov 6, Oran Nov 15. *Henslow Sparrow*: always rarely reported; two on Oct 10 at Rochdale (MVW, EP). Slate-colored Junco: two Aug 30 at Deep Hollow, Dutch probably summered; first migrants in mid-Sep through most of Region; in good numbers during the early part of Oct; numbers low for residents at end of period. Tree Sparrow: first two Oct 23 in Dutch; scarce. **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** one studied at length at New Paltz by Drs. Heinz Meng and Robert Pyle on Oct 12. White-crowned Sparrow: two Sep 28 at Rochdale—early; WBC reports numbers low in Dutch, but RAS reports more than usual. White-throated Sparrow: good numbers in Sep, less toward end of period. Fox Sparrow: numbers low but scattered birds reported thru Oct and Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: more than usual; ten reported from Dutch after Oct 21; singles from Oran, Sep 21, and West, Oct 16. Lapland Longspur: three, Oct 23 early, at Pine Plains (FG). Snow Bunting: appeared sparingly in northern part of Region; Oct 1 & 24 in Dutch, Oct 19 in Ulst and Oct 26 in Sull.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS AND FRED HEATH

Only two years ago the Region experienced its biggest flight of crossbills since the beginning of this century, and abnormally high numbers of jays, nuthatches, chickadees, woodpeckers and "winter finches" were present. It was therefore a surprise to see nuthatches and chickadees swarming about in late August and September, hundreds of jays and many woodpeckers in September and October, and by the end of October, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Boreal Chickadee, Evening Grosbeak, both crossbills and Pine Grosbeak. In early November several Redpoll reports completed the list.

Even bigger than the finch migration was a tremendous incursion of Saw-whet Owls. From the unusually early date of September 28 thru the period, 91 reports were received. Three banding stations which left nets up at night caught 57 Saw-whets. The peak wave on October 17 spread from Nantucket, Mass. to Queen Annes County, Md., with 15 netted at the three Long Island banding stations. The influx