

REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

Temperatures for June were about normal. July was consistently hot with frequent days of 90 degrees and above. The first half of August in contrast was cool. Rainfall for June was about $\frac{3}{4}$ " below normal. From June 22 to July 20, only .01" of rain fell at the Rochester weather station. A mild drought set in and almost reached moderate drought conditions by July 20. Fairly heavy rains the last ten days of the month brought total rainfall for July to almost normal. Precipitation for the first half of August was about average.

The spring migration concluded early with only a few stragglers present after June 1. The lake level remained high which made poor shore-birding.

Outstanding birds seen included Whimbrel, Franklin's and Little Gulls, and Forster's Tern.

Observers cited: JF—John Foster; AEK—Allen E. Kemnitzer; WCL—Walter C. Listman; HSM—Howard S. Miller; RTO—Richard T. O'Hara; BO—Bernard Olin; AAS—Alfred A. Starling; ES—Esther Stiles; MS—Maryanne Sunderlin; ST—Stephen Taylor; TET—Thomas E. Tetlow.

Localities: BB—Braddock's Bay; ES—East Spit; PMP—Powder Mill Park; SA—Shore Acres; SP—Summerville Pier; WS—West Spit.

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: a rare breeder locally, nested at SA where eight adults and young were seen Jun 19 (WCL). Double-crested Cormorant: very rare locally in summer; two Jul 6 at Manitou (WCL). Least Bittern: at SA as usual, where two birds were seen Jun 19 (WCL). An adult male Common Goldeneye, often accompanied by a female Bufflehead, was repeatedly observed around the WS Jun 5–14 (WCL). On Jun 15 the goldeneye was still present but the Bufflehead was not seen. Neither was seen subsequently. Red-breasted Merganser: three Jun 1–15 WS (WCL).

HAWKS—OWLS: A nest of the Turkey Vulture containing a single young bird was found in a swamp near Clyde (W. E. Benning), field note in next issue. While the bird is common locally in our area, the nest is very rarely found. Red-tailed Hawk: seven in Avon area Jun 19 (GOS Hike). The pair of Bald Eagles ranging the "Little Finger Lakes" area nested this year. They were observed incubating May 10–30 but the nest was abandoned with no sign of occupancy in early Jul (Dr. W. Spofford). Osprey: one at BB Jun 5 (WCL) probably a late straggler from spring migration. American Coot: rare in summer locally; one at SA Jun 19 (WCL). WHIMBREL: one on SP Jul 27 (AEK) and another at the ES the same day (AEK); one at ES Jul 30 (SHM, Michael O'Hara, RTO). Upland Plover: 13 in the Avon area Jun 19 (GOS hike).

An adult FRANKLIN'S GULL was carefully observed on SP Jun 14 (Laura Moon, ST) and probably the same bird was observed there again Jul 12 (ST). It is unusual to record this species in summer; most of our records being in the fall. LITTLE GULL: one at BB Jun 14–15 (WCL), not seen subsequently. FORSTER'S TERN: one at BB Jun 15 (WCL) and one to two present there all of Jul (WCL et al). Caspian Tern: scarce during spring migration, appeared in good numbers late

Jul, max 55 at Float Bridge Aug 12 (HSM, AAS). A pair of Barn Owls attempted to nest in a silo in Parma (TET) but abandoned the nest when the silo was filled. Screech Owls continued scarce with only two reports.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Red-headed Woodpecker: 11 in Avon area Jun 19 (GOS hike). Red-breasted Nuthatch: three in Durand-Eastman Pk Jul 31 (MS, ST); the species nested there earlier in the year. Brown Creeper: seven in PMP Jul 12 (AAS, ST); this probably represents a pair of adults and their brood. Two Short-billed Marsh Wrens were in typical habitat at BB Jul 16 and probably nested (HSM, AAS, ST). Mockingbird: two seen in Newark Jun 25 (JF, ES, TET) where they nested; also nested in Penfield (James J. Doherty); single birds observed in Fairport Jun 6 (June Feder), PMP Jul 12 (AAS, ST) and near Mendon Jul 22 (TET). Eastern Bluebird: max only six near Avon Jun 19 (GOS hike)—a pair of adults and four young. Loggerhead Shrike: uncommon locally, one near Avon Jun 19 (GOS hike).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Golden-winged Warbler: nine in PMP Jun 9 (ST). Blue-winged Warbler: scarce this year; two near Hemlock Jun 12 (GOS hike). Two pairs of Yellow-breasted Chats probably nested in Fairport (BO et al) and one was seen in Mendon Ponds Pk Jun 12 (TET). Canada Warbler: one at Manitou Jun 19 (WCL)—the species is not known to nest in this area, although it nests regularly south of the city.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Grasshopper Sparrows were uncommon and Henslow's Sparrows were still scarcer locally. A White-throated Sparrow was present in Bergen Swamp Jun 12 (GOS hike). This is one of the few locations in our area where this species is even suspected of nesting.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD

The drought continued, but in the Ithaca area was somewhat less severe this summer than last, with a few hard rains easing the situation. There were two or three periods of above-normal temperatures. The absence of any prolonged cool wet periods favored nesting success of most species.

Purple Martins, Tree Swallows and Phoebe's showed the effects of the severe weather conditions in early May—these species were scarce. Most later arriving species of insectivores seemed in normal numbers.

I fail to see any improvement in the Bluebird population in Region 3 and cannot help feeling that we need more interest locally in establishing Bluebird trails. Certainly those areas which have put out scores of nest boxes are showing results.

All hawks except Redtails and possibly Broadwings continued their decrease as breeding birds, and I learned of no Screech Owl nests this summer. Other species that seemed scarce include both Cuckoos, Night-hawks, Chimney Swifts, Hummingbirds, Least Flycatchers, Crows, Red-starts, and Black-throated Green Warblers. Those that seemed abundant