

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: House Sparrow: again common everywhere but RB. Bobolink: nesting in open fields SL and RB. Eastern Meadowlark: same as Bobolink. WESTERN MEADOWLARK: a bird most probably of this species was seen and heard repeatedly singing a typical Western Meadowlark song at Santa Clara on Jun 4 by RH and William Weiss of Kinnelon, N.J.; call notes were not heard. Red-winged Blackbird: all areas. Baltimore Oriole: very few reports, only one female seen Elk L (FS); pair feeding young Jul 24 TL (RM). Rusty Blackbird: 17 Elk L Jul (FS). Common Grackle: all areas. Brown-headed Cowbird: a few all areas. Scarlet Tanager: nine stations Elk L (FS); Long L late Jun (RMcK); occasional TL Jul (RM); one Jun 1 and Jul 7 RB (JK); one SL Jun 19 (HD); one Vermontville Jun 28 (ED). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: good numbers all areas. Indigo Bunting: one Long L late Jun (RMcK); one male seen sev times Elk L (FS); one Jun 30 SL (EA, HD); one off and on Jul RB (JK). Evening Grosbeak: three Long L late Jun (RMcK); five Jun 1&2, two Jun 10 RB (JK); pair Jun 30, three birds thru period SL (HD, GK); numbers with young after Jul 12, "males seemed to do all the feeding" TL (RM). Purple Finch: few nesting pairs all areas except Elk L where they were common (FS). Pine Siskin: flock of twelve seen daily Jul and early Aug Elk L (FS); two thru period RB (JK). American Goldfinch: few all areas thru period. Red Crossbill: four Aug 5, three Aug 13 RB (JK). Rufous-sided Towhee: heard ADK Loj Rd Jun 18 (HD); pair TL Jul 19 (RM).

Sparrows: Savannah: one Long L late Jun (RMcK); a few nesting RB (JK) and SL (HD). Vesper: heard near Lewis Jun 20 (HD). Slate-colored Junco: common Elk L (MRS, FS); small numbers other areas. Chipping: good nesting numbers. Field: singing Lewis and SL on some of the hottest days of late Jun (HD). White-throated: a young neighbor came over to have us identify this bird's song for him. He had walked the length of the Northville-Placid Trail on the week of Jun 13 and was grateful to this small songster for making a rather arduous hike more enjoyable than it might otherwise have been. Lincoln's: one Jun 4 Santa Clara "good song" (RH); one Jun 30 with food RB (JK); four north of Long L and Sabattis Rd late Jun (RMcK) Swamp: four pair Elk L Jul (FS); eight Long L late Jun (RMcK); one Jun 1, 10 and Jul 23 RB (JK). Song: good numbers all areas.

ADDENDUM to May 1966 report: Brown Thrasher: one at Mrs Vivian Dupree's feeder in SL for about three weeks in late Nov and early Dec. The bird was reportedly found dead by Mrs Dupree sometime before Dec 12, on which date she took it to J Keji at RB. He identified the specimen and sent it on to Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology because of the lateness of the date for Region 7.

Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake, N.Y. 12983

REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

June and July were surprisingly "normal" this year—a refreshing departure from recent precedent. Temperatures averaged 67.4 degrees in June and 72.2 degrees in July at Albany, very close to the normal, and precipitation totalled 2.95 and 3.88 inches, 0.30 inches below and 0.39 inches above normal, respectively. Early June was quite cool, whereas the latter part of June and the first two weeks of July produced the hottest weather of the summer. Late July and early August were again cool.

The results of eight breeding bird counts conducted in the Region for

the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are included. A total of 96 species were recorded. The twenty-five most abundant: Red-winged Blackbird, 1021; Starling, 935; Robin, 565; House Sparrow, 456; Common Grackle, 361; Song Sparrow, 329; Barn Swallow, 269; Crow, 219; Chipping Sparrow, 193; Wood Thrush, 159; Goldfinch, 156; Catbird, 142; Mourning Dove, 133; Yellowthroat, 132; Veery, 128; Red-eyed Vireo, 124; Cowbird, 118; Blue Jay, 117; Meadowlark, 102; Flicker, 99; Ovenbird, 96; Rufous-sided Towhee, 94; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 83; Bank Swallow and House Wren, 82 each.

Unusual species recorded during the period included Double-crested Cormorant, Least Bittern, White-rumped Sandpiper, Bonaparte's Gull, Saw-whet Owl, Boreal Chickadee and Red Crossbill.

Abbreviations: Res—Reservoir; SCR—Stony Creek Reservoir; VFG—Vischer Ferry Game Management Area. Breeding Bird Counts—ABB—Austerlitz Count, Jun 25, Aden and M. H. Gokay; CBB—Cobleskill Count, Jul 3, WBS and David Rothaupt; DBB—Duaneburg Count, Jul 4, WBS and David Ellers; GBB—Ghent Count, Jul 3, PPW and Monte Gruett; NEBB—North Easton Count, Jun 11, PPW and Staffan Magnusson; NRBB—North River Count, Jun 26, WBS and Samuel Madison; PBB—Petersburg Count, Jun 18, PPW and Monte Gruett; WBB—Warrensburg Count, Jun 19, WBS and David Rothaupt.

Observers: GB—Guy Bartlett; HFB—Hazel Bundy; JF—John Fuller; MDG—Monte Gruett; EH—Esly Hallenbeck; DH—David Harrison; CK—Clarissa Ketcham; PM—Peggy McGuirk; WBS—Walton Sabin; BRS—Benton Seguin; PPW—Peter Wickham; RPY—Robert Yunick.

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: only report—one Jul 25 on a pond near Galway L (DH). DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: two adults and three flying imm at Alplaus on Mohawk R Jun 12–13 (HFB). Great Blue Heron: more seen this summer than last; reported from Greenville, Catskill, SCR and VFG. Common Egret: only report—one Aug 14 SCR (HFB). Green Heron: widely reported. No night herons reported during period. LEAST BITTERN: two near a nest at VFG Jun 4 (RPY) and at least four in the area Jul 23. Mute Swan: at least one remained in the SCR-VFG area through Jul 3 (EH, BRS). Canada Goose: an individual able to fly remained at a pond near Poestenkill to the beginning of Jul when excessive disturbance apparently caused it to leave (*vide* RPY). No reports of previously stocked birds. Mallards, Black Ducks, Blue-winged Teal and Wood Ducks were present as breeding species. Green-winged Teal: two males at SCR Jun 20–21 (HFB). Hooded Merganser: a female and two imm (non-flying) on SCR Jun 20–21 (HFB, EH); a female seen flying along the Hudson on the NRBB.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: noted occasionally in Columbia, Greene and western Albany Cos. Cooper's Hawk: a pair near Greenville Jul 9 (CK)—only report. Sharp-shinned Hawk: no reports. Red-tailed Hawk: only about eleven individuals reported all period, with but three (plus one unidentified buteo) reported on the breeding bird counts. Red-shouldered Hawk: only report—one near Berlin Jun 12 (PPW, MDG). Broad-winged Hawk: only four reports during period. Osprey: a migrant at VFG Aug 14 (DH). Sparrow Hawk: still nests in area, but not common; eight breeding bird counts (200 miles of stops) produced only 13 individuals. Bobwhite: reported near Athens, East Greenbush and Meadowdale (Greene, Rensselaer and Albany Cos). Virginia Rail: reported from VFG (RPY), Meadowdale (where a chick was seen) (Robert and Mary Lou Shedd) and a small marsh near Johnsonville (NEBB). Common Gallinule: no reports.

Killdeer: widespread as breeding bird; flocks grouping at local reservoirs and mudflats, mid-Jul on. Upland Plover: reported from Niskayuna max eight Jun 24 (HFB, RPY), near West Charlton (DH) and near Esperance, where a group of 19 was seen (DBB). Solitary Sandpiper: first fall Jul 10, Basic Res (WBS), few reports. Lesser Yellowlegs: first fall—three Basic Res Jul 10 (WBS), a few thru period. Least Sandpiper: spring migrants at VFG to Jun 4 (RPY); three "peep" at Basic Res Jul 14 (PPW) and returning birds of this species at Glenville Jul 22 (RPY). Semipalmated Sandpiper: two at Glenville Jul 22 (RPY)—only record. WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: two at Turner L Jun 2 (HFB, PM) the only record. Herring and Ring-billed Gulls reported occasionally. BONAPARTE'S GULL: a small gull with black head and prominent white patches on its wings was studied both at rest and on the wing at Galway L Aug 1 (DH, John Steadwell); it was not seen thereafter.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: very scarce, only four scattered reports. Black-billed Cuckoo: somewhat more frequent, but still not common. Great Horned Owl: two near East Greenbush during Jun (PPW) and two at Tomhannock Res in Jun (Robert Norton)—only reports. No Screech Owls reported. Barred Owl: at least two heard hooting Jul 16, Devil's Tombstone Campsite near Tannersville (PPW). SAW-WHET OWL: one spent Jul 13 in a power company garage in Schenectady despite considerable truck noise, but did not subsequently return (JF).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Ruby-throated Hummingbird: seemed somewhat scarce as a local breeding species. Red-headed Woodpecker: at least one spent the summer near Gansevoort in an area where three were observed last year (*vide* PPW). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: at least 34 observed in the Greene County Catskills Jul 15–16 (PPW). Eastern Kingbird: migration clearly under way as early as Jul 22, when 30 were observed (HFB). Traill's Flycatcher: appeared equally common in river valley marshes and in upland marshes and swamps. Least Flycatcher: much more common in northern areas or at higher altitudes than in southern valley sections; e.g., 16 and 13 were recorded on the two Warren Co breeding bird counts whereas only one and two were recorded on the GBB and NEBB respectively. Tree Swallow: RPY noted that the adverse weather of the spring had cut down numbers of birds much less in areas where food seemed abundant; most fledging at VFG occurred Jun 22–29, last about Jul 25, late. Bank Swallow: most fledged Jul 6–10 at Glenville, about ten days late. A total of 681 banded there this year, and 200–300 more could have been banded (RPY). One Cliff Swallow was also banded there. No data on Purple Martin colonies. BOREAL CHICKADEE: a pair observed at a Schroon L golf course Aug 13 and 20; on Aug 27 three young had joined them (JF). Brown Creeper: a nest found Jun 12 near Berlin (PPW, MDG). House Wren: seemed very common this summer, max 28 GBB. Winter Wren: reported Jul 16–17 in Greene Co Catskills. Carolina Wren: none. Mockingbird: several nests with young reported; one pair in Schodack raised three broods. Swainson's Thrush: seemed rather common at about 2500 feet elevation, Black Dome Mountain (Catskills) (PPW). Veery: the most commonly heard thrush in northern type habitat in Region, with 38 NRBB, 36 WBB and 27 PBB representative. Eastern Bluebird: readily recorded in rural areas, but virtually absent from the suburbs. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one at Schodack Island Jul 1 (HFB) and four at VFG Aug 14 (DH). No shrikes reported.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Brewster's Warbler: at least two seen near Guiderland during Jun (*vide* WBS). Cerulean Warbler: two males singing on Schodack Island near Castleton Jul 2 (HFB, PM) in an area in which one pair had been seen in 1965. Prairie Warbler: one singing near Kinderhook L Jul 3 GBB; also reported from known nesting areas at Ghent, Catskill and Karner. Mourning Warbler: reported Jul 30 near Ballston Spa (HFB, PM); at an elevation of about 3400 feet, Black Dome

Mountain, Jul 16 (PPW) and several in the Jenny L area (GB). Yellow-breasted Chat: reported near Glenville and at Meadowdale in Jun (EH, PPW). Redstart: seemed quite scarce, especially in lowland areas; three local breeding bird counts listed one each, and another had none.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: many colonies noted in Jun. Orchard Oriole: unreported during period, with none at former nesting sites; only report for the year—one May 8 near Castleton (Juanita Cook). Evening Grosbeak: reported from Pilot Knob in Jul (Alice Holmes) and from Jenny L (GB). Pine Siskin: one seen singing at 2200 feet elevation, Black Dome Mountain trail Jul 16 (PPW). RED CROSSBILL: about six remained at a Niskayuna feeder to Jun 12 (Frederick Klemm). No evidence was found of their nesting in the area. Grasshopper Sparrow: five GBB, surprisingly high. Henslow's Sparrow: seems to have vanished from several former nesting areas—no reports all period.

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Once again the summer is characterized by a lack of birding. This report is brief due to few birders in the field, and even fewer contributing notes.

The season ranks with the hottest on record. The weather bureau reports more days of above 90 degrees temperature than ever before, and rainfall was almost non-existent. Several spring rains raised the reservoirs to their average capacities for the season and they remained there throughout the period. The drought, however, continues without sign of abating.

Several contributors commented on poor nesting results in their areas. Fred Hough says that nesting was below normal in Ulster, with a number of species showing greater than usual mortality. Several common species i.e. Starling, Grackle, etc., showed good brood success but others such as Robin, Catbird, Song Sparrow had poor survival rates.

Abbreviations: Dutch—Dutchess Co; Oran—Orange Co; Putn—Putnam Co; Sull—Sullivan Co; Ulst—Ulster Co; West—Westchester; Rock—Rockland.

Contributors frequently cited: WBC—Waterman Bird Club; PC—Pauline Chernick; MC—Mitch Cubberley; RFD—Robert F. Deed; ME—Martha Earl; SG—Stanley Grierson; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; JK—Jim Key; MK—Mary Key; ML—Mabel Little; AM—Al Merritt; BM—Barbara Merritt; KN—Ken Niven; VP—Vivian Parkhurst; DS—Dan Smiley; B & TS—Bill and Trixie Strauss; OW—Otis Waterman.

LOONS-DUCKS: Very few of herons of any species thru season. Great Blue Heron: 12 birds and six nests reported in Tamarack Swamp, Dutch Jun 27; scattered single reports elsewhere thru period. Common Egret: first, one Jul 8 & 9 Katonah (ML); Cornwall-on-Hudson Aug 1 thru period, max two. Snowy Egret: Cornwall-on-Hudson Aug 1 thru period, max two. Least Bittern: one Tri-Loba Hill Sanctuary,