

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

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The last two weeks of August were decidedly warm with precipitation generally normal. September and October temperatures were almost consistently below normal although the thermometer did not drop to freezing until Oct 21. Precipitation was close to normal in September but only about 50% normal in October. November temperatures and precipitation were both above normal. A trace of snow fell October 12 and eleven different days between then and the end of the period, but never in any consequential amount at Binghamton. The main storms of the season came Aug 16, Sep 5, 15, 21 and 29, Oct 10 and 20 and Nov 3, 10 and 28.

Again the fall waterfowl migration was only sketchily reported except for Canada Geese, although an impressive flight of Common Loons was observed and Whistling Swans evidently came south somewhat east of their normal route, as periodically happens. Also again, most of the hawk observations were made at Skyline, but there was one notable flight of Broad-wings observed at Ingraham Hill, just south of Binghamton.

The small land bird migration seemed generally good with Winter Wrens, Hermit Thrushes and Ruby-crowned Kinglets the best performers. Among the warblers Myrtles, as expected, were the most common but almost all the expected species were reported, even if only once, and a few that are usually missed in the fall such as the Worm-eating, Orange-crowned, Pine and Connecticut and Yellow-breasted Chat were also found.

The major disappointment of the season was the almost complete absence of winter finches. Only Goldfinches, of this group, remained common through the period. Purple Finches, that also nested here, disappeared as the season wore on and the very occasional reports of some of the other species of this group seemed only to accentuate their scarcity.

A most notable rarity was the report of a Sandhill Crane at Delhi, with what appears to this writer to be adequate observational details. The relatively close approach allowed by the bird might suggest an escapee, but no knowledge of a possible source is presently available. Other rarities included a Cattle Egret, a Red-throated Loon and a Peregrine Falcon.

Abbreviations: Bing—Binghamton; Chen—Chenango; CC—Choconut Center; IH—Ingraham Hill; Pep Res—Pepacton Reservoir; Sky—Skyline, near Owego.

Observers: LB—L. Bemont; MC—M. Cubberly; C, JD—C. & J. Davis; M, AD—M. & A. Davis; CG—C. Gerould; JAG—J. A. Gustafson; J, MH—J. & M. Harris; CH—C. Howard; FL—F. Linaberry; ML—M. Lynch; HM—H. Marsi; HN—J. New; JO—J. Osadchey RO'N—R. O'Neil; FQ—F. Quick; MS—M. Sheffield; RS—R. Short; JS—J. Shuler; AS—A. Stratton; DW—D. Weber; MW—M. White; R, SW—R. & S. White; CW—C. Wilkins; RW—R. Williams.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: one Sep 7 at Sky, the first; two Nov 8 Pep Res (MC); 120 in half hour over Sky Nov 15 (RW). RED-THROATED LOON: one Nov 20–23 Owego Creek (MW, CG), an injured bird, captured and taken to Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Cattle Egret: one Nov 5 Cortland (CW, fide JAG); identified by buff on head and neck, size and bill. Green Heron: Sep 30 Berkshire (ML), the last one. Whistling Swan: Nov 4 flock heard flying over at dusk Candor (DW); on several larger bodies of water around Oneonta the week of Nov 7 (JN), apparently some were shot—one captured but later escaped—one around to the end of the period; 30 Nov 12 (CH) flying over IH. Canada Goose: early migrants Sep 23, last report Nov 15; largest numbers Oct 17 and 18 with several counts in thousands. Brant: 20 Oct 29 South Owego (CG). Snow Goose: eight Oct 22 Oxford

(AS), flying low. Pintail: one Nov 13 and 22 Owego (MW, RW, JS). Blue-winged Teal: two Oct 20 Owego (MW, CG). American Widgeon: seven Oct 14 Pep Res (MC). Wood Duck: 175 Sep 15 Cortlandville (JAG), counted flying in small flocks from river to ponds at dusk; a good year. Common Goldeneye: Nov 13 Norwich (MS). Bufflehead: Nov 4 Bing (RO'N); three Nov 13 Owego (RW); one or two Nov 21 to 30 Norwich (R, SW). Oldsquaw: one about Nov 12 Oneonta (JN); Nov 13 and 14 Norwich (MS, R, SW). Ruddy Duck: Nov 26-30 Greene (J, CD). Hooded Merganser: eight Nov 22 Pep Res (MC). Common Merganser: thirteen Sep 20, max 32 Nov 22 Pep Res (MC).

HAWKS—OWLS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: ten reports in Sep and Oct, five from Sky. Cooper's Hawk: nine reports to Oct 2, then no more. Red-tailed Hawk: 25 reports during period, 16 at Sky in mid Sep (RW); one found shot at Scott Nov 6 (JAG). Red-shouldered Hawk: seven reports. Broad-winged Hawk: 706 counted at Sky Sep 7-23, 449 of them Sep 8 (RW); 83 at IH Oct 20 (CH); four other reports. Rough-legged Hawk: Oct 19 Scott (JO), a dark phase bird. Bald Eagle: one adult Aug 29 and Sep 7 Pep Res (MC). Marsh Hawk: three Sep 10 Sky (RW); Oct 18 Homer (J. Siedenbergh); Oct 22 Triangle in Broome Co (CH). Osprey: nine reports, Sep 9 Owego (RW) to Sep 29 Chen Forks (M, AD). **PEREGRINE FALCON:** Oct 19 Scott (JO).

Turkey: four Nov 18 Hancock (R. Dirig), under apple tree in back yard; 22 Nov 21 Candor (DW). **SANDHILL CRANE:** Nov 11 a bird with "long black legs, a brownish gray body larger than a blue heron with—fluffed or plumed feathers at the tail" identified as this species; "the forehead appeared red overgrown with blackish 'hairs' or 'fuzz'...when he flew he stretched his neck out forward and his legs extended back...he had a large wing spread, a long neck...when he fed he appeared to probe into the sod" (Mrs. Lynn Clark and six others) Delhi; 8×30 binoculars as close as 150 feet. Sora: Sep 7 Bing (HM, et. al.). Coot: seven Oct 17 and ten Nov 13 Owego (MW, RW, JS). Killdeer: still at Owego Nov 30 (MW, RW). Golden Plover: two Sep 13 and nine Sep 22 Owego (RW, MW). Spotted Sandpiper: one Oct 16 Sherburne (R, SW). Solitary Sandpiper: Oct 8 IH (CH). Pectoral Sandpiper: Sep 22 Owego (MW, RW). Least Sandpiper: Oct 17 Owego (MW, RW). Dunlin: Oct 17 Owego (RW, MW). Semi-palmated Sandpiper: Sep 13 Owego (RW, MW). Ring-billed Gull: over 200 at Homer all Oct and Nov. Screech Owl: reported from seven localities around Owego and Bing. Barred Owl: one Aug 22 Owego (RW, MW); Nov 26 Bing (CH). Long-eared Owl: two Aug 26 Norwich and one Oct 23 Sherburne (R, SW).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: one Oct 16 IH (CH). Night-hawk: Sep 8 Owego (MW), the last. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Oct 3 Bing (RS), the last. Yellow-shafted Flicker: Oct 23 CC (MS). Pileated Woodpecker: 34 reports during the period, most in Oct. Red-headed Woodpecker: one Aug 27 Sherburne (R, SW); an imm Oct 1 IH (CH). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Aug 22 Greene (C, JD); an imm Oct 15 Oxford (AS); very few between. Eastern Kingbird: Sep 18 Greene (C, JD). Great Crested Flycatcher: Sep 10 Bing (J, MH). Eastern Phoebe: Oct 23 CC (MS). Olive-sided Flycatcher: Aug 20 CC (MS); one Oct 13 and 14 Oxford (AS), very late; four Sep records. Tree Swallow: over 100 Sep 22 over Sky (RW); Sep 24 Upper Lisle (M, AD), the last. Barn Swallow: Sep 9 Greene (C, JD). Cliff Swallow: Sep 5 Greene (C, JD). Blue Jay: plentiful. Tufted Titmouse: Nov 16 Endwell (FL). Red-breasted Nuthatch: Sep 26 CC (MS); also at Freetown in Cortland Co (A. Christopher). Brown Creeper: Oct 7 Chen Forks (M, AD).

House Wren: Oct 8 S. Owego (E. Williams), the last. Winter Wren: Sep 5 CC (MS), the first; many more reports than normal; especially numerous around Oct 30. Carolina Wren: Sep 1 and 20 Owego (MW, CG). Long-billed Marsh Wren: Sep 24 Upper Lisle (M, AD); Oct 9 Spencer Marsh (DW). Mockingbird: Oct 14 to 19 Cortland (C. Davis, JAG); one Oct 18 Oxford (AS). Catbird: Oct 19 Bing (RS).

and Owego (RW). Brown Thrasher: Oct 24 S. Owego (CG). Robin: common thru Oct, small numbers present thru Nov. Wood Thrush: Oct 21 Chen Forks (M, AD). Hermit Thrush: large numbers at Endwell Oct 16; last report Oct 18 Owego (RW). Swainson's Thrush: one Oct 16 Endwell, banded. Gray-cheeked Thrush: one banded Oct 16 Endwell. Eastern Bluebird: good numbers thru Oct, then none. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Aug 21, 22 and 27 Chen Forks (M, AD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: first report Sep 25 Bing (J, MH). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Sep 12 IH (CH), the first; over 50 Sep 26 Owego (RW, MW), but probably most common around Oct 15 during a very heavy migration; Nov 24 still at Endwell (FL). Water Pipit: Sep 21 to 23 Greene (C, JD); eight at Owego Sep 22 (RW, MW). Cedar Waxwing: thinned out somewhat after Sep 30; 60 observed roosting for the night of Nov 25-26 CC (MS). Northern Shrike: Oct 20 Homer (Mrs. Z. Price); Oct 30 CC (R. Sheffield); Nov 16 IH (CH).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: Sep 29 IH (CH). Solitary Vireo: Oct 15 Bing (J, MH). Red-eyed Vireo: Oct 16 Bing (J, MH). Philadelphia Vireo: Sep 11 Endwell, banded (LB).

Warblers: Black-and-white: Sep 29 IH (CH). Worm-eating: Sep 7, 12 and 25 Bing (J, MH). Golden-winged: Aug 21 Chen Forks (M, AD). Blue-winged: Sep 3 Chen Forks (M, AD). Orange-crowned: Oct 15 Bing (J, MH). Nashville: Oct 18 Chen Forks (M, AD). Parula: Sep 25 (J, MH). Magnolia: Oct 4 Bing (J, MH). Black-throated Blue: Oct 2 Endwell (LB), banded. Myrtle: Sep 15 Sidney (FQ), the first; gradually increasing numbers until mid Oct when present in large numbers, then rapid decrease and none after Oct 30. Black-throated Green: Sep 3 Chen Forks (M, AD) to Oct 17 IH (CH). Blackburnian: Oct 3 Bing (J, MH). Chestnut-sided: Sep 30 Bing (J, MH). Bay-breasted: Sep 24 Bing (J, MH). Blackpoll: Oct 1 IH (CH). Pine: Sep 22 Owego (RW). Palm: ten Sep 24 Bing (J, MH), the first; one Oct 17 Owego (RW), probably a Yellow, the last; seven reports between. Ovenbird: Sep 25 Endwell (LB), banded. Connecticut: Sep 26 Owego (RW). Yellowthroat: Oct 24 IH (CH). Yellow-breasted Chat: Sep 20-23 Oxford (AS). Wilson's: Aug 29 to Sep 23 Owego (RW); max five Sep 7 Bing (J, MH). Canada: Sep 13 Owego (RW). Am. Redstart: a male Sep 24 Bing (J, MH).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: three Sep 23 Bing (J, MH), the latest ones by a month. Baltimore Oriole: three Sep 27 Cortland (C. Davis). Rusty Blackbird: seen all thru Oct at Norwich, 30 Oct 23 (R, SW). Brown-headed Cowbird: many in flocks to Nov 15 at Homer (JAG). Scarlet Tanager: Oct 10 Owego (MW, RW).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: over 60 Sep 23 Owego (RW), none later. Indigo Bunting: Aug 27 Greene (C, JD), the last report. Evening Grosbeak: Nov 3 Sidney (FQ), Nov 13 Greene (C, JD); three more times at Sidney and once more at Greene during Nov; no other reports. Purple Finch: gradually decreasing numbers from mid Aug to Oct 18, then none; last one at Sidney (FQ). Pine Siskin: Nov 1 Berkshire (ML); no others. Am. Goldfinch: remained common all period. White-winged Crossbill: 2 or more Nov 28 Berkshire (MW, CG, RW). Rufous-sided Towhee: to Oct 25 Bing (RS). Vesper Sparrow: to Oct 13 Greene (C, JD). Slate-colored Junco: first fall migrants Oct 8 CC (MS); greatest numbers from Oct 16 to 30. Tree Sparrow: Oct 16 Sherburne (R, SW), the first. Chipping Sparrow: mostly gone after Oct 25; three more reports to last, Nov 12, Sidney (FQ). Field Sparrow: to Oct 23 CC (MS). White-crowned Sparrow: extreme dates Sep 18 Bing (J, MH) to Nov 24 Sidney (FQ); most common Oct 16 to 25. White-throated Sparrow: Aug 19 Chen Forks (M, AD) to Nov 20 Sidney (FQ); best numbers Oct 8-30. Fox Sparrow: Oct 7 Oxford (AS) to Nov 19 CC (MS). Lincoln's Sparrow: Sep 14 IH (CH) to Oct 16 Oxford (AS); three other reports from Owego and Endwell. Swamp Sparrow: Oct 23 Berkshire (ML). Song Sparrow: common thru Oct. Snow Bunting: Oct 19 Scott (JO), a small flock.

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