

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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This fall one of the main features was the exceptionally heavy mast crop and the lack of finches feeding. Tops of the conifers were literally bent over with the weight of cones but, strain as one might, one sighted only a few scattered small flocks of siskins, crossbill, grosbeaks or other finches.

Temperatures ran close to normal during September and October, as did wind velocities. November started with a period of heavy winds. Bob Kampf of Ray Brook writes of this month, "Precipitation was below normal and there was virtually no snow recorded on the ground as compared to last year when we had 28 inches in November and eight inches in October to make a total of three feet by December first."

The migration of Canada Geese was the most spectacular feature of the season. Interesting also were the female Cardinal in November and the small numbers of migrating land birds. No large warbler waves were reported.

Observers: EA—Elizabeth Anderson; BB—Barbara Buhlman; GTC—Greenleaf T Chase; ED—Ethel Dyer; HD—Harriet Delafield; BF—Bill Frenette; JH—Joseph Hart; RH—Robert Hagar; GK—Grace Kains; JK—Joseph Keji; DMc—Dorothy McIlroy; GM—Gordon Meade; JM—Jim Meade; RM—Ruth Meier; DY—David Young.

Abbreviations: Aus M—Ausable Marsh; RB—Ray Brook; SL—Saranac Lake; TL—Tupper Lake.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: one TL Sep 12, two L Champlain Nov 5, three L Clear Nov 6 (JH); one Woodhull Nov 12 (GTC). Pied-billed Grebe: 11 Saranac R Aug 23, three SL Aug 24 (EA, HD); three Jones P Oct 1 (EA, HD); one Jones P Oct 19 (DY). Great Blue Heron: one Saranac R Aug 23 & 24 (HD); one Gabriels Sep 3 (GK); two Sep 19 Aus M (JH); one Ausable Pt early Sep (BB), last one Nov 11 RB (JK). Green Heron: one or two Sep thru Oct 6 RB (JK). American Bittern: one Aus M Sep 14 (JH).

Canada Goose: hundreds of spectacular numbers from all over Region; JH says "most significant bird reports this fall"; RB Conservation Dept sent in a total of 5567 to the Pack report. Mallard: two L Alice Oct 11 (JH); 12 Gabriels Sep 3 (GK). Black Duck: scattering all areas except TL until end Oct. Blue-winged Teal: two Aus M Sep 19 (JH); one Saranac R SL (EA, HD). Wood Duck: one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM); one Twin Ponds Sep 29, 26 Sep 14 and seven Sep 27 Aus M (JH). Ring-necked Duck: 25 outlet First Pond Saranac R, three Ampersand Pond Sep 29, 100 L Alice Oct 11 (JH); one SL Oct 9 (GM). Common Goldeneye: Sep 16 TL no number given (RM). Bufflehead: Oct 20 no number given TL (RM). Hooded Merganser: one Ross Pk, one Upper St Regis Aug 25, two Bloomingdale Sep 27; five Saranac R Oct 7 (HD); Sep 16 TL (RM); one to six until Oct 29 RB (JK); 18 Oxbow L Oct 9 (DMcI). Common Merganser: Lower Saranac L Aug 28 (GM); four RB Sep 1 (EA, HD).

HAWKS—OWLS: Coshawk: one imm, one adult Duane Nov 29 (RH). Sharp-shinned Hawk: one Sep 3 Whiteface Mt (JM); one SL Sep 11 (HD); one Piseco Oct 8 (DMcI). Red-tailed Hawk: three over Oxbow Mt Oct 9 (DMcI). Red-shouldered Hawk: Aug 23 TL (RM); one Madawaska Aug 20, one Kiwassa Sep 3 (GM). Broad-winged Hawk: last one Aug 25 RB (JK); one Wickham M Sep 27 (JH). Bald Eagle: one late Aug Litchfield Pk (GTC); one Chateaugay L Sep 5 J

Ducharme, ranger at Lyon Mt; one Racquette Pond Sep 21 (BF); one Nehasne Pk Nov 25 (P Arey *vide* BF). Marsh Hawk: one Bombay Aug 19, pair Ross Pk Aug 25 (HD); one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM); one Aus M Sep 16 (JH). Osprey: one Sep 1 thru Oct 2 RB and SL (EA, HD, JK). Sparrow Hawk: numbers down; one Aug 21 TL (RM); one Sep 22 RB (JK); one Mt Pisgah Oct 14 (HD).

Spruce Grouse: one male, one female Madawaska Sep 28 (JH). Ruffed Grouse: small numbers reported all areas. Ring-necked Pheasant: one female at feeder Oct 10 thru period, escape? (EA, HD). Gray Partridge: 20 plus Bombay Aug 19 (EA, HD). Killdeer: two Aug 19 road to Bombay (EA, HD). American Woodcock: one L Clear Oct 1 (EA, HD); Oct 2 thru 16 TL (RM); two shot Oct 14 RB (JK). Common Snipe: one L Clear Sep 24 (HD); one Gabriels Oct 19 (DY); one SL river Oct 22 (RH). Herring Gull: few scattered reports thru period. Common Tern: Ausable Pt first week in Sep (BB). Mourning Dove: one Bombay Aug 19 (EA, HD). Black-billed Cuckoo: one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM); one RB Aug 31 (JK). Barred Owl: two Oct 9 SL (GM). Short-eared Owl: TL marsh Oct 20 (BF).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: heard Aug 28 thru 31 TL (RM). Common Nighthawk: Aug 20 thru 31 RB (JK). Chimney Swift: last Aug 23 RB (JK). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: small numbers all areas, last Sep 17 SL (ED). Belted Kingfisher: one Paul Smiths Aug 25, Black Brook Oct 4 (HD); one Aus M Sep 14 & 19 (JH); one L Colby Sep 13, SL Sep 21 (GK); one Oct 9 SL (GM); last one RB Oct 27 (JK). Yellow-shafted Flicker: no large migratory numbers reported, last one SL Oct 31 (HD). Pileated Woodpecker: two Aug 25 Kiwassa (GM); one Marcy Brook Aug 28, Cold Brook Sep 16 (JH); two Sep 11 SL (HD); one Santa Clara Nov 20 thru 23 (*vide* GK). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last RB Oct 18 (JK). Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: normal numbers. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: one Aug 31 and Sep 1 RB (JK); one Shingle Bay Mt Oct 29 and Nov 6 (RH). Eastern Kingbird: small numbers all areas; eight Bombay Aug 19 (HD). Eastern Phoebe: small numbers all areas; last Oct 18 SL (HD). Least Flycatcher: last Aug 31 RB (JK). Eastern Wood Pewee: one Aug 20 Madawaska (GM); one Aug 25 RB (JK). Olive-sided Flycatcher: one Aug 25 RB (JK). Horned Lark: ten Nov 17 L Clear (HD). Tree Swallow: last Sep 7 RB (JK). Bank Swallow: last Aug 16 RB (JK). Barn Swallow: last 15 Sep 7 RB (JK). Cliff Swallow: two Aug 25 Rockefeller Pk (EA, HD); last one Sep 7 RB (JK).

Blue Jay: normal; no especially large flocks reported except 100 plus Santa Clara Nov 23 (*vide* GK). Gray Jay: two Halfway Brook Aug 29 (JH); five Madawaska Oct 1 (RH); two Nov 21 and 22 Santa Clara (*vide* GK). Common Crow: 144 Vermontville Aug 25 (GK); 50 SL Nov 18 (HD). Black-capped Chickadee: a few on many days when nothing else was to be seen; five Porter Mt ledges Oct 9 (EA, HD). Boreal Chickadee: small numbers in various areas near SL from Aug 20 Madawaska (GM) to Nov 20 Jay (RH). White-breasted Nuthatch: normal. Red-breasted Nuthatch: normal. Brown Creeper: small numbers thru period. Winter Wren: one Aug 25 and Sep 10 Kiwassa (GM); one Aug 31 and Oct 18 RB (JK). Catbird: last Oct 21 RB (JK). Brown Thrasher: three reports, last Nov 9 RB (JK). Robin: large numbers Aug 25 thru Sep 9, small numbers thru Nov 22. Hermit Thrush: one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM); three Oct 12 RB (JK); one Oct 15 SL (HD). Swainson's Thrush: one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM); one Sep 8 and 16 RB (JK); one Piseco Oct 9 (DMcI). Veery: last SL Sep 8 (GK); RB Sep 12 (JK). Eastern Bluebird: scattered reports of small numbers thru Oct 17. Golden-crowned Kinglet: seem down in all areas. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: one SL Oct 14; last RB Nov 16 (JK). Water Pipit: six Oct 9 SL (GM). Cedar Waxwing: "very numerous last Aug" TL (RM); otherwise no large reports. Northern Shrike: one SL Nov 16 (EA, HD). Starling: 300 Sep 13 and 19 SL (EH, HD).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: one Jones Pond Aug 25 (HD); singing Sep 10 Kiwassa (GM); last one Sep 24 RB (JK). Red-eyed Vireo: not as numerous as usual; last one Sep 15 RB (JK). Warblers: Black-and-white: one Jones Pond Aug 25 (HD); one TL Aug 28 (RM); some late stragglers to Sep 7 RB (JK). Nashville: late bird heard singing Oct 22 RB (JK). Parula: one Jones Pond Aug 25 (HD); last one Oct 14 RB (JK). Magnolia: one Whiteface Sep 3 (JM); last one Sep 10 RB (JK). Black-throated Blue: one Whiteface Sep 3 (JM); three males Sep 5, last one Sep 21 RB (JK). Myrtle: most numerous warbler of fall as usual; JK still had some at RB at the end of the period and wonders if they will overwinter? Black-throated Green: one Whiteface Sep 3 (JM); four McMasters Sep 8 (EA, HD); "very late" last one Nov 10 RB (JK). Blackburnian: one Whiteface Sep 3 (JM); last one Sep 24 RB (JK). Chestnut-sided: last one Sep 10 RB (JK). Bay-breasted: one Whiteface Sep 3 (JM). Blackpoll: one Whiteface Sep 3 (JM). Pine: one Oct 17 RB (JK). Palm: one Aug 31 RB (JK). Ovenbird: last one Sep 21 RB (JK). Yellowthroat: many reports thru Aug; last one Oct 5 RB (JK). Canada: last one Aug 27 RB (JK). American Redstart: pair Aug 25 Ross Pk (EA, HD); August 25 TL (RM); last one Sep 9 RB (JK).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: House Sparrow: perhaps because of the increasing very great nuisance of Rock Doves in the village and environs, I get fewer and fewer complaints about Starlings and House Sparrows. Also the numbers of both species seem to be down this fall. Bobolink: 50 feeding in barley cocks Bombay Aug 19 (EA, HD). Eastern Meadowlark: seven SL Oct 1, three Hazelton Oct 4; six SL Oct 15; one McMasters Nov 17 (HD). RM reported "huge flocks of blackbirds went over TL Aug 18 & 19." Red-winged Blackbird: flocks of 75 or more week of Oct 12 (GK); 20 Nov 1 RB (JK); two SL Nov 23 (HD). Baltimore Oriole: one Aug 17 and 18 RB (JK); one male flying from nest Aug 20 Madawaska (GM); one SL Aug 25 and 27 (EA, HD). Rusty Blackbird: from beginning of period thru Oct 24 RB (JK); one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM). Common Grackle: 200 Aug 30 SL (GK); "common as usual" until late Oct RB (JK); one Madawaska Oct 9 (GM). Brown-headed Cowbird: one or two reported various areas, no large flocks. Scarlet Tanager: way down; seen occasionally, last one Sep 24 RB (JK).

Cardinal: one male Nov 1 TL (RH); one female SL Nov 11 (HD); Nov 12 (GK) and Nov 18 (Hills). The female was at one feeder 1700' in elevation, temp 43 degrees. She seemed found of walnuts. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one Kiwassa Sep 10 (GM); last Sep 20 RB (JK). Evening Grosbeak: very few reported which were local breeding flocks probably. Purple Finch: again very few; none after Nov 2. Pine Grosbeak: two Dickinson Nov 31 (RH). Pine Siskin: one Oct 9 Kiwassa (GM); seen a few times until Nov 2 RB (JK). American Goldfinch: small numbers; 30 SL Nov 17 (HD). Red Crossbill: thru period, 35 Nov 11 and 15 RB (JK); 40 Barnum Pond Nov 30 (RH). Savannah Sparrow: one Oct 9 Kiwassa (GM); last one Oct 17 RB (JK). Vesper Sparrow: 12 Oct 18 SL (GK); last Oct 19 RB (JK). Slate-colored Junco: no large migratory numbers noted except "lots and lots" last of Oct RB (JK). Tree Sparrow: few from late Oct thru period all areas. Chipping Sparrow: common thru Oct 23 RB (JK); small numbers other areas. Field Sparrow: one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM). White-crowned Sparrow: SL Oct 3 thru Nov 1, singing loud and clear Oct 12 thru 17, enjoying bird bath at 40 degree temp Oct 12. White-throated Sparrow: common thru Oct RB (JK); 20 SL Oct 27 (ED). Fox Sparrow: one Oct 18 thru 30 RB (JK). Swamp Sparrow: one Madawaska Aug 20 (GM); last one Oct 18 RB (JK). Song Sparrow: many reports all areas; "late date" Nov 24 RB (JK). Snow Bunting: one Trudeau Rd Nov 7, 20 SL Nov 17 (HD); 75 SL Nov 2 (DY).

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