

our acre at SL supported two pair which should be normal (HD); on F&WBBS, 21 Jun 20 (GTC), only *one* Jun 20 (RW), 29 Jun 25 (GM).
Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake, N.Y. 12983.

REGION 8 — MOHAWK — HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

Following the extremely cold spring, the months of June and July were by contrast near normal in temperature and rainfall. Temperatures averaged 69.9° and 71.6° in the two months (all data taken at Albany), 2.6° above normal and 0.5° below normal respectively. Precipitation totaled 2.85 inches in June and 3.38 inches in July, 0.40 inches and 0.11 inches below normal respectively.

Spring migration ended abruptly with the sudden onset of weather 7-8° above normal June 4. Late migrants observed June 3-4 included Brant, and Tennessee, Nashville, Blackburnian and Blackpoll Warblers. No obvious wave of fall transients occurred until August 11-12, when Traill's and Least Flycatchers, Swainson's Thrush, Yellow Warbler, Canada Warbler and Rose-breasted Grosbeak appeared to be migrating at Vischer Ferry (RPY).

The results of 11 breeding bird counts conducted in the Region for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are included. A total of 104 species were recorded. The twenty-five most abundant: Red-winged Blackbird, 1253; Starling, 1166; Robin, 732; House Sparrow, 504; Grackle, 489; Song Sparrow, 478; Goldfinch, 364; Crow, 294; Barn Swallow, 291; Wood Thrush, 231; Chipping Sparrow, 207; Meadowlark, 194; Red-eyed Vireo, 192; Cowbird, 171; Baltimore Oriole, 167; Yellowthroat, 160; Veery, 153; Yellow Warbler, 138; Blue Jay, 134; Mourning Dove, 125; Catbird, 120; Bobolink, 117; Rufous-sided Towhee, 96; House Wren, 96; Ovenbird, 93. Of these 25 species, 22 repeated from last year's analagous list. New to the "top 25" are: Baltimore Oriole, Yellow Warbler, and Bobolink. Dropped from the "top 25" are: Flicker, Bank Swallow, and Chestnut-sided Warbler.

Unusual species recorded during the period included Brant, Snow Goose, Barn Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Carolina Wren and House Finch.

Abbreviations: BR—Basic Reservoir; BCM—Black Creek Marshes; NWW—Niskayuna Wide Waters; SCR—Stony Creek Reservoir; VFG—Vischer Ferry Game Management Area; SBC—Schenectady Bird Club.

Observers: MDG—Monte Gruett; EH—Esly Hallenbeck; MK—Marcia Kent; RSM—Robert McCullough; HHS—Harvey Spivak; WBS—Walton Sabin; PPW—Peter Wickham; RPY—Robert Yunick.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: only report—two adults with young Jun 23 Lake George (*vide* MK). Pied-billed Grebe: no nesting reports; only record two Aug 6 SCR (PPW). Great Blue Heron: few reported, mostly single birds. Common Egret: only one Jul 18 NWW (HHS), very scarce. For the second summer in

succession, no night herons were reported. American Bittern: about as usual; two Salem F&WBBS Jun 17 (Paul Connor), new locality. Least Bittern: no reports. **BRANT**: two flocks heard flying north through Stony Clove near Hunter Mt. about 10:00 P.M. Jun 4 (PPW, MDG); one on BR Jun 5 (*fide* MK). **SNOW GOOSE**: the flock reported last period remained at BR through (at least) Jun 3 (*fide* MK). Mallards, Black Ducks, Blue-winged Teal and Wood Ducks were present as breeding species. Common Merganser: one Jul 3 Hudson River in Warrensburg (EH)-only report.

HAWKS—OWLS: Cooper's Hawk: one seen frequently in West Glenville during period (RSM)-*only* accipiter report. Red-shouldered Hawk: only one—Jun 19, Austerlitz F&WBBS (Georgia Erlenbach). Broad-winged Hawk: only four reports. An immature eagle (sp) was observed being chased by an Osprey at VFG Aug 6 (PPW). Osprey: reappeared at VFG Aug 6 on. Red-tailed and Sparrow Hawks were the only hawks reported regularly. Bob-white: absent from BCM; reported from Catskill (James Bush) and Jul 17 from West Charlton (Emily Halverson). Virginia Rail: pair with ten young Jul 23 BCM, and one Jul 26 at VFG (EH). Common Callinule: reported at BCM and VFG. Common Tern: one Jun 25 NWW (HHS), and three Jul 26 at Lock 7 (EH). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: only nine individuals reported, still scarce. Black-billed Cuckoo: reported two or three times as frequently as the Yellow-billed. Both species of cuckoo seemed slightly more common than in 1966. **BARN OWL**: pair nested in a silo in New Salem and raised one young (Beverly Waite, WBS). Great Horned Owl: reported at Colonie (Mrs. W. H. Enos), and West Charlton (Emily Halverson). Barred Owl: reported from usual areas.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: two apparently feeding on the ground in the company of ten Killdeer the first part of Jul in Glenville (RSM) seems unusual. **RED-HEADED WOODPECKER**: only report—one adult Jul 25 West Glenville (RSM). Olive-sided Flycatcher: two Jun 5 Hunter Mt. (PPW, MDG); one Jun 24, North Creek F&WBBS (WBS). Tree Swallow: nest boxes at VFG produced about as many young as in 1966 (RPY). Bank Swallow: as in 1966, fledging peaked about Jul 6, about ten days later than usual; some young still remained Jul 18 (RPY). Purple Martin: despite lower number of nesting pairs this year, a colony in West Glenville more than doubled its number during the summer (RSM). **CAROLINA WREN**: one heard singing in late Jun, on the Durham F&WBBS (Owen Knorr). Mockingbird: still increasing, reported from several new localities.

Swainson's Thrush: again present in the Catskills; two imm banded Aug 12 at VFG (RPY), very early. Gray-cheeked Thrush: late migrant Jun 2, East Greenbush (William Gorman); at least eight, probably breeding, heard and seen singing around the summit of Hunter Mt. Jun 5 (PPW, MDG). Eastern Bluebird: in some areas it is locally common, but is still generally uncommon; at least 20 pairs nesting in a locality west of Ballston Spa (Don Wilkins); five pairs nesting in the West Glenville area (RSM). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: reported only from Catskill, where the nests of two pairs attempting to breed were destroyed, and nesting was not successful (James Bush); no reports from other areas where the birds have been reported regularly in the last two or three years.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Red-eyed Vireo: a decided increase in the numbers reported in breeding bird counts; this increase was largely or entirely confined to the more mountainous areas; max 71, North Creek F&WBBS (WBS). All vireos seemed scarce in valley areas. Brewster's Warbler: one adult feeding two young Jun 27, South Berne F&WBBS (Carl Parker). Cerulean Warbler: at least one still at Castleton through July (SBC). Blackpoll Warbler: most common warbler around summit of Hunter Mt. Jun 5 (PPW, MDG). Mourning Warbler: one singing Jun 5

Stony Clove, near Hunter Mt. (PPW, MDG), new locality. Yellow-breasted Chat: only one—Jun 20, Cobleskill F&WBBS (WBS).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Cardinal: observed nesting in several new areas. *HOUSE FINCH*: a pair came to a Niskayuna feeder through early summer and into Aug (Gus Angst)—first summer record for the Region. Henslow's Sparrow: no reports for second summer in succession. White-throated Sparrow: a singing adult was present at VFG through Jun and Jul, but no evidence of nesting was found (RPY).

12 Columbia Drive, East Greenbush, N.Y. 12061

REGION 9 — DELAWARE — HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The usual lack of birding encountered each summer was so marked this season that more than half of our correspondents were unable to report. Only single reports were received from Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Orange and Ulster Counties, with none of the others being heard from. Those reporting had much less than their usual quantity of information with a good portion of that being of no real significance. Thus the brevity of this report.

Weather took a marked turn from the drought conditions of previous years. Temperature remained near normal after a very cold May. July brought 7 inches of rainfall in the New York City area, which was three inches above normal. August rainfall was recorded as 6.9 inches, the largest since 1933, and made the sixth month of above average precipitation.

With the water came the expected increase in foliage, lush to the point of discouraging bird watching. An exception to the above was observed in the higher elevations of the Hudson Highlands where defoliation apparently by the Gypsy Moth had laid many of the mountains bare.

Contributors: WBC—Waterman Bird Club; FG—Florence Germond; SG—Stanley Grierson; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; JM—J Marsh; B, AM—Barbara & Al Merritt; EDT—Edward D. Treacy; EP—Eleanor Pink; SU—Sarah Uhelyi.

Abbreviations: C-on-H—Cornwall-on-Hudson; USMA—U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; Dutch—Dutchess Co; Oran—Orange Co; Ulst—Ulster Co; West—Westchester Co; Putn—Putnam Co.

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: only reports, three in June, one in Jul, Dutch. Double-crested Cormorant: did not summer as in last few years on Hudson R at Cornwall; two, Crugers Is., Jun 4 (FG, JM, EP). Great Blue Heron: seven nests, 21 birds inc. adults and young at Tamarack Swamp, Millbrook, Dutch Jun 27; at least two regularly reported C-on-H thru Aug. Green Heron: unusually common thru season. Common Egret: one Jun 19 and one Jul 25, C-on-H (B, AM). Snowy Egret: three Jun 9 and one Jun 28, C-on-H (A. BM). Black-crowned Night Heron: one adult Vassar College Aug 3 (WBC). *YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON*: first Dutch record—one adult Jun 28–30 Stissing Rd, Stanfordville (Donna Haight *fide* Thelma Haight, mob). Least Bittern: one regularly reported