

## PHOTOGRAPHS OF NEW YORK STATE RARITIES

### 16. Eared Grebe



Photograph by John Yrizarry  
Jamaica Bay from Jacob Riis Park, Queens Co., 31 Dec. 1957

According to the *A.O.U. Check-list* (1957: 5-6) the North American breeding range of the Eared Grebe, *Podiceps caspicus*, extends across the prairies of southern Canada from British Columbia to Manitoba, and from Minnesota, Iowa, and Nebraska south to Baja California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and southern Texas. In winter the species ranges from Vancouver Island and the Pacific States through Mexico; less commonly from Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, and southern Texas.

The species is said to extend east to Wisconsin during migration and to be casual in Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Ontario, and Tennessee. No records are given for the Atlantic coast, and the Ontario record is the only one listed for the eastern Great Lakes.

Between January 1938, the date the first Eared Grebe from an Atlantic coastal state was reported seen at Long Beach, Nassau Co., by Walter W.

Sedwitz and Edmund R. P. Janvrin (Janvrin, *Proc. Linn. Soc. N.Y.*, No. 49: 58-60, 1937), and February 1967, there have been approximately 115 additional records from the east. These have recently been analyzed by Paul A. Buckley ("The Status of the Eared Grebe on the eastern Great Lakes and the Atlantic coast." *Audubon Field Notes* 22: 536-542, 1968).

Buckley lists 49 reports from New York State; including five reports from the Niagara River on the New York/Ontario border. They list six specimens taken along the coast from Massachusetts to Florida and two taken on the Ontario side of the Niagara River. All are of the western U.S. race, *P. c. californicus*. The data clearly shows that Eared Grebes on the eastern Great Lakes reach their peak between October and December. Severe weather apparently forces them to the coast where peak numbers occur between December and March. In late March and May the reverse takes place; numbers drop along the coast but rise inland.

The Eared Grebe is now regular, in limited but increasing numbers, along the Atlantic coast. For a complete list of New York State records the reader is referred to the Buckley's paper.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Post prepared the above summary before he left for Chile. Since the February 1967 date mentioned above, seven additional records have been published in the *Kingbird*. These may be found in the Regional Report for the pertinent reporting period unless otherwise noted.

1. 30 April 1967, Region 1—one collected at Olean by S. W. Eaton and J. Grzybowski, appears to be first specimen from N.Y. State—*P. c. californicus* #1080 in St. Bonaventure University collection. [additional ref. *Kingbird* 18(1): 23, Jan. 1968]
2. 19 October 1967, Region 2—one at Manitou.
3. 28 October 1967, Region 10—one through reporting period at Jamaica Bay Refuge, sixth successive year.
4. 26 November 1967, Region 3—one north end Seneca Lake near Geneva stayed through March 31, 1968, beginning molt March 20 (same location as seen several previous years).
5. 9-10 March 1968, Region 10—one Patchogue.
6. 24 March 1968, Region 1—one Dunkirk harbor.
7. 5-12 May 1968, Region 3—one at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge in full spring plumage.