

(JAG); 3 Nov reports. Common Redpoll: 40-50 Nov 15 Oxford (AS); frequent reports to the end of the period. Pine Siskin: 5 Oct 8 EB (MB); 75 Oct 15 Milford (CW), max; no more after Oct 21 but reported from most parts of the Region by then. Red Crossbill: 1 banded Nov 6 near Bing (Paul Kalka); 2 other reports before Nov 30. White-winged Crossbill: Nov 6 Deposit (SW), heard flocks; 2 other Nov reports. Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 still at Oneonta (KW) and another at Cortland (C. R. Shultes) Nov 25. Slate-colored Junco: Sep 15 Greene (CJD); 30 Sep 28 EB (MB); by the hundreds during the latter half of Oct and during Nov. Tree Sparrow: Oct 20 Endwell (Florence Linaberry); regular from Oct 30. Chipping Sparrow: Nov 12 Oneonta (Mrs. Gerald Wright), the only report after Oct 30 Harris' Sparrow: 1 Oct 4 Candor (DW), "light colored bill conspicuous against the blackish face. The bib was black as was the top of the head. Just nicely separate from the bib and back a little along the sides were patches of blackish streaks on the light breast and flanks. — The black face so obscured the eyes they appeared absent." White-crowned Sparrow: 4 Oct 5 Vestal (RK) to Oct 29 Oxford (AS) delimit the main body of migrants; 2 Sep and 3 Nov reports. White-throated Sparrow: an immature and sickly looking sparrow that had been present at the feeders near CF since Jun was finally recognized when it developed a white throat and the yellow spots ahead of each eye in Sep (A,MD); migrants Sep 17 at EB (MB). Fox Sparrow: 1 Oct 19 EB (MB); quite numerous but mostly gone by Nov 20. Lincoln's Sparrow: Sep 20 Berkshire (ML,DL), first and Oct 12 Endicott (Michael Moore) the last; 8 reports altogether, an unusually high number, and twice they were heard singing. Snow Bunting: Oct 28, NV (ML,DL); 3 Nov reports from Cortland and the Triple Cities area.

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Dry in August, dry in September, dry in October — the driest August on record, and one of the driest autumns in years. Grass browned to pale, withered blades, marshes dried to the rusty tone of late October, mudflats became progressively bigger each day, and autumn leaves were generally poor in color and fast in falling. Insect life was scarcely detectable and never bothersome, as it often can be, to late August thru mid-September birding. Warm dry days with south and southwest winds made for a leisurely, waveless migration, and concentrations of landbirds were conspicuously absent; even in late September and early October waves of sparrows and kinglets were unimpressive, and small but steady daily movements of icterids, finches, and sparrows seemed to be the rule. A burst of fierce northwest winds, cold weather, and snow on October 21-23 triggered a tremendous push of Brant and other waterfowl with lesser numbers of late shorebirds and gulls. After this bout, November seemed mild, open, dry, and affable. Heavy ground snow, the best November trigger to force out the icterids, did not occur until November 20-22. Weather thereafter was more typically wet, cold, and nasty.

Moderate cone crops locally may hold some of the many winter finches reported, and the heavy berry crop, particularly Mountain Ash, Highbush Cranberry, and Black Haw, may induce half-hardies to linger in greater numbers.

Positives for the season include: 1) increased sightings of Double-crested Cormorant; 2) excellent Green Heron counts; 3) a spectacular Brant flight (q.v.); 4) an increase in numbers of both Oldsquaw and Ruddy Duck; 5) a minor irruption of Goshawk; 6) an excellent variety of shorebirds with above average numbers for most species; 7) an outstanding flight of Red Phalarope; 8) numerous sightings of jaegers and a variety of rare gulls (q.v.); 9) irruptions of Boreal Chickadee and

Red-breasted Nuthatch; 10) increase in Mockingbird reports; 11) a heavy fall flight of Robins and, to a lesser extent, of Cedar Waxwings; 12) a good flight of Red-eyed Vireos; 13) various irruptions of winter finches, primarily Evening Grosbeak, Redpoll, Pine Siskin, and Red Crossbill; and 14) heavy migration of White-crowned, Fox, and Lincoln's Sparrows.

Negatives, of which there seem to be more each fall, are: 1) poor loon and grebe flight; 2) no white herons; 3) marked decrease in nearly all dabblers and Aythya diving ducks; 4) continued low numbers of Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, and Red-shouldered Hawks; 5) very poor flight of Rough-legged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, and Short-eared Owl; 6) an incredibly poor Horned Lark movement; 7) poor numbers of migrant swallows; 8) low tallies of both Winter and Long-billed Marsh Wrens and all *Hylocichla* thrushes; 9) a mediocre kinglet and vireo flight; 10) an exceptionally poor fall warbler migration, marked by early departure from both Adirondack and central New York (i.e. para-Syracuse) areas; and 11) continuing low tallies of meadow and grassland sparrows.

Rarities for the period include: King Eider, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Whimbrel, all three phalaropes, two species of jaeger, Laughing Gull, Franklin's Gull, Little Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Forster's Tern, Western Kingbird, Boreal Chickadee, Bohemian Waxwing, Prothonotary Warbler, and Dickcissel.

Abbreviations: DH—Derby Hill near Texas; FHBSP—Fair Haven Beach State Park; FR—Fox Ridge sugar beet waste impoundments near Port Byron; HIGMA—Howland Island Game Management Area near Port Byron; Onon—Onondaga; SB—Sylvan Beach; SP—Sandy Pond; SPI—Sandy Pond Ilet; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park near Pulaski; Syr—Syracuse; THP—Tug Hill Plateau; VB—Verona Beach.

Observers: DWA—D. W. Ackley; VB—V. Billings; DC—D. Crumb; DD—D. Dawley; FLF—F. LaFrance; GM—G. Maxwell; B&SP—B. & S. Peebles; GP—G. Perrigo III; JWP—J. W. Propst; MSR—M. S. Rusk; FGS—F. G. Scheider; KS—K. Slotnick; GS—G. Smith; RJS—R. J. Sutliff; J&EVD—J. & E. VanDresar; CW—C. Wernick; mob—multiple observers.

The editors' abundant thanks to compilers F. LaFrance, J. W. Propst, and R. J. Sutliff.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: arr Sep 11 SP; max only 10 (very low) Nov 23 L Ontario (RJS). Red-throated Loon: date range Oct 18–22 1–2 per day L Ontario; no reports in Nov, usually the best month for them. Red-necked Grebe: noted Oct 30–Dec 6 on L Ontario and Onon L, 1–3 per day (DC, E. & E. Farnham). Horned Grebe: arr 2 Oct 4 DH (MSR); max 95 (low) Nov 23 L Ontario. Double-crested Cormorant: max 4 Oct 22 DH (DC); all other sightings also L Ontario and none in Nov.

Great Blue Heron: max 50 Aug 17 HIGMA (W. Benning, GS) attracted by fish concentrated in drained pool there. Green Heron: max rookst tally 241 Aug 19 Horse-shoe Island in Clay Twp (S. Morgan, MSR, GS); also 40 Aug 24 HIGMA (RJS), 30 Aug 21 Black Creek Swamp near Lakeport (MSR), and 25 Aug 17 near Trenton (J&EVD); dep Oct 12, 1 SP (FGS). No white herons. Black-crowned Night Heron: total of 7 individuals for fall—very, very low!—with max 2 Oct 4 Scott Swamp near Phoenix (MSR). American Bittern: dep Nov 9, 1 SP (GP).

Canada Goose: arr Sep 25 N Syr and Syr; heavy flight—2000 N Syr, 800 Syr, 4000 Jamesville, and 1090 DH all Oct 14; also 800 Oct 4 Holland Patent (J&EVD); max at HIGMA 2100 Oct 26. Brant: a truly spectacular flight—arr Oct 14, 185 DH (GS); huge flight of 8945 Oct 21 (JWP) and 4737 Oct 22 (DC) both DH; lesser numbers, 130–500 per day, to Nov 6; wounded birds about to Nov 23. Snow Goose: singles Oct 5 Oneida L (KS) and Oct 4 and 12 HIGMA (F. Dittrich, GS), and 2 Oct 20 Onon L (JWP). No Blue Goose reported.

Mallard: 300 Old Fly in Pompey Twp in late Sep to Oct 8 (FLF); 300 Sep 24 VB (JWP). Black Duck: dropping rapidly locally—highest fall count only 290 Oct 14 DH (GS); high from HIGMA a mere 60 Oct 26 (MSR). Gadwall: max 45 Oct 26

HIGMA (MSR). Pintail: scarce this fall—max 190 Oct 18 DH (MSR); most counts below 50 per day even on L Ontario flight days. Green-winged Teal: 10–30 per day Sep 4 thru Oct; lesser numbers in Nov and scarce in latter half of that month. American Widgeon: 200–445 per day Oct 18–Nov 17, all L Ontario; all “inland,” i.e., away from L Ontario, counts below 100 per day. Shoveler: fall max only 2 Oct 19 DH (FGS); a few 2–5 per day counts at Oneida L and Onon L where the species is unusual. Wood Duck: max evening flight 227 (low) Oct 4 Scott Swamp (MSR); concentrations at Clay and Black Creek Swamps did not develop this year as formerly.

Redhead: max only 12 Oct 30 Oswego (CW); Beaver L counts never over 8 per day; Oneida L max 2 Nov 27 (GS). Ring-necked Duck: arr Oct 8, 1 Old Fly (F. Dittrich, FLF); max 240 (low) Oct 30 Beaver L (FGS). Canvasback: very scarce this fall—arr Oct 12, 1 female SP (FGS); max at Oneida L 280 Nov 26 (JWP) where 12 years ago they were recorded in the 10,000s. Greater and Lesser Scaup: no Oneida L count in excess of 600 per day; L Ontario max 300 Oct 14 DH (DC, GS); arr dates are Lesser Aug 24 Onon L (RJS) (summering bird?) and Greater Sep 11, 2 SP (FGS). Bufflehead: arr Oct 18 (late) 2 DH (MSR); max only 35 Nov 8 Onon L (FGS). Oldsquaw: L Ontario counts 50–120 per day thru Nov (mob), which is definitely up, probably the only fall diving duck that has shown an increase. *KING EIDER*: imm male Nov 26 Oneida L (FGS) is only report. White-winged Scoter: L Ontario counts 50–395 per day in Oct and early Nov (mob); no 1000 per days, even on the great Brant flight days. Surf Scoter: arr Oct 12, 3 SP (FGS); max 221 Oct 21 DH (JWP); singles and small groups on Oneida L and Onon L where usually scarce.

Ruddy Duck: fall max 51 Nov 13 Onon L with lesser numbers (10–16 per day) at Beaver L; 1 Nov 23 at Sage Creek mouth on L Ontario and 2 Nov 6 at Tully L (both JWP) attest to the best fall flight of this species in years. Hooded Merganser: max 125 Oct 30 Beaver L (FGS) but other areas below 80 per day with best counts 78 Nov 9 at HIGMA (RJS) and 30 Nov 4 Old Fly (FLF). Red-breasted Merganser: numbers way down—only one day with 1000 per- 1300 SP-to-Oswego Nov 9 (MSR, FGS); most L Ontario counts less than 100 per day, and no inland count over that.

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: light fall flight with 5 in Oct and 8 in Nov, most along L Ontario (DC, JWP). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 in Aug, 5 in Sep, 3 in Oct, from 20 observers—obviously very scarce as fall migrant. Cooper's Hawk: fall totals of 4 in Oct and 5 in Nov, again from 20 observers. Red-tailed Hawk: max migration tally 7 Oct 12 Jamesville (DC); 1–5 per day throughout fall. Red-shouldered Hawk: total of 11 from 21 observers Aug 23–Nov 29. Rough-legged Hawk: arr Oct 25 (very late) 1 Mexico (JWP); max 8 Nov 22 DH-Pulaski (GP); very scarce in flatlands N of Syr; like Red-tailed, probably headed for a very poor winter locally, as there are no mice hereabout. *BALD EAGLE*: 4 reported—an ad Sep 3 Maple View (JWP), an imm Sep 29 Brewerton (DC, KS), 2 ad Oct 22 DH (DC). Marsh Hawk: no fall push noted—max 3 Sep 18 and Oct 5, both tallies Pompey Twp (FLF, DC). Osprey: best tally 4 Sep 21 West Canada Creek (MSR). *PEREGRINE FALCON*: singles only—Oct 4 SP (FLF, MSR, GS, RJS) and Nov 26 Nine Mile Point on L Ontario (JWP). Pigeon Hawk: 3 only—1 Aug 31 Boonville (J&EVD), female or imm male Sep 20 Old Fly (FLF), and ad male Oct 5 near Texas (JWP). Sparrow Hawk: 9 in an hour Oct 5 SP (FGS); numerous Oct days with 5–7. Coot: max 89 Oct 26 Oneida L (GS); scarce at SP, FHBSP, and Beaver L.

Shorebird variety was excellent throughout the fall, and numbers in Sep and early Oct were quite good. Outstanding was the fine flight of Red Phalarope in late Oct and into Nov, certainly the best ever reported here. Good numbers of Black-bellied Plover, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Dunlin, and Pectoral Sandpiper enlivened late Oct, and many singles remained into early Nov to provide records of 14 species in that month. Almost all lake areas other than the Finger Lakes had sizeable shallows and mudflats, particularly Delta L and Oneida L; concentrations and

Species	Arrival Date, No., Place	Peak Count No., Date, Place	Date, No., Place Departure
Semipalmated Plover	Jul 10, 1, SP (FGS)	60, Sep 28, Delta L (DWA, FGS)	Nov 23, 1, Lakeview (FGS, RJS) & 1 FHBS (MSR)
Killdeer	—	300, Sep 28, Delta L, (DWA, FGS)	Nov 16, 2, VB (B&SP) & 6 Skaneateles L (T. M. Riley)
Golden Plover	Aug 10, 1, Fernwood (MSR)	50, Sep 28, Delta L (DWA, FGS)	Nov 1, 1, N Syr (FGS)
Black-bellied Plover	Aug 11, 1, Fernwood (JWP)	22, Oct 23, Delta L (VB)	Nov 23, 1, SSSP (FGS)
Ruddy Turnstone	Jul 28, 2, Onon L (FGS)	6, Sep 11, SP (FGS)	Sep 30, 1, SB (DWA)
Common Snipe	—	28, Oct 29, SSSP (JWP)	Nov 16, 4, Clay Swamp (FGS)
Upland Plover	—	25, Aug 16, Syr Airport (FGS)	Sep 1, 19, Oneida Airport (MSR)
Spotted Sandpiper	—	33, Jul 21, Onon L (RJS)	Oct 19, 1, Oswego (GM)
Solitary Sandpiper	Jul 15, 1, Bolivar (MSR)	6, Sep 23, Delta L (DWA)	Sep 28, 1, Delta L (FGS)
Greater Yellowlegs	Jul 3, 1, Onon L (JWP)	35, Sep 14, Onon L (JWP)	Nov 12, 1, SB (B&SP)
Lesser Yellowlegs	Jul 2, 2, Onon L (GS)	280, Jul 18, Onon L (JWP)	Nov 3, 1, Oswego (GM)
Knot	Sep 4, 1, SPI (FGS)	6, Sep 7, SB & 9 MiPt (FGS)	Sep 21, 1, SP (FGS)
Pectoral Sandpiper	Jul 17: 3, Onon L (GS)	76, Sep 28, Delta L & Black Creek Swamp (FGS)	Nov 9, 1, SP (GP)
White-rumped Sandpiper	Aug 6, 1, Onon L (GS)	3, Aug 7 (JWP) & Sep 27 (FGS) Onon L	Nov 1, 3, N Syr (FGS) & 1, SSSP (RJS)
Baird's Sandpiper	Aug 23, 1 imm, Onon L (FGS)	4, Oct 4, Onon L (FGS)	Oct 29, 1, SSSP (JWP)
Least Sandpiper	Jul 2, 1, Onon L (JWP)	174, Jul 21, Onon L (RJS)	Oct 15, 1, SB (DWA)
Dunlin	Sep 19, 1, Onon L (FGS)	236, Oct 19, SP (MSR)	Nov 26, 1, 9 MiPt (JWP)
Short-billed Dowitcher	Jul 9, 6, 9 MiPt (JWP)	6, Jul 19, FR (RJS)	Oct 18, 1, Sage Creek (MSR)
Long-billed Dowitcher	Sep 26, 2, 9 MiPt (JWP)	6, Sep 28, FR (RJS)	Sep 29, 1, FR (JWP)
Stilt Sandpiper	Jul 17, 1, Onon L (RJS)	19, Aug 9 (S. Hosler, GS) & 12, Sep 18 (MSR) Onon L	Oct 15, 1, SB (DWA)
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Jul 17, 1, Onon L (RJS)	310, Aug 7, Onon L (JWP)	Nov 1, 1 each, SP (RJS), Onon L (MSR), SB (R&S. White)
Western Sandpiper	Aug 21, 1, Onon L (FGS)	3, Sep 1, SB (DWA)	Oct 8, 1, 9 MiPt (JWP)
Sanderling	Jul 19, 1, SP (FLF, RJS)	50, Sep 21, SB-VB (DWA)	Nov 23, 1, SPI (FGS)
Red Phalarope	Oct 21, 1, DH (JWP)	13, Oct 22, DH (DC),	Nov 23, 1 each, Onon L (RJS) & FHBS (MSR)
Northern Phalarope	Sep 11, 1, 9 MiPt (FGS et al)	26, Oct 22, DH (DC)	Oct 22, 26, DH (DC)

variety from these last two water areas were particularly impressive. In the chart below, note the excellent numbers of both Yellowlegs, Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers, Stilt Sandpiper, and Red and Northern Phalaropes; also the very early dep dates of Ruddy Turnstone, Upland Plover, Knot, and Baird's Sandpiper; and finally that no Oct Long-billed Dowitchers were recorded.

Amongst rare shorebirds must be included a *WHIMBREL* Sep 27 (late) at SPI (GP); also Purple Sandpiper: 1 Nov 9 SP (GP); 2 Nov 11 SB (R. & S. White); 1 Nov 23-25 Nine Mile Point (RJS, mob); at least 13 individual Western Sandpipers were noted, about double the number for a normal good fall flight; single *WILSON'S PHALAROPES* were recorded Aug 6-7 Onon L (FGS, mob) and Sep 26-29 Nine Mile Point (JWP, mob), the last a record dep date.

Pomarine Jaeger: imm at 10 feet Sep 21 SPI (FGS) and ad dark-phase Oct 21 DH (JWP,GS). Parasitic Jaeger: max 4-1 ad light-phase and 3 imm Oct 21 DH (JWP); also 4 other singles Sep 11-29 all along L Ontario (FGS,DC); no Nov record of either species. Glaucous Gull: arr Oct 29 (very early) 1 ad DH (JWP); very scarce throughout Nov. No Iceland Gull in period. Great Black-backed Gull: arr Sep 11, 1 ad SPI; fall max 300 Nov 16 SPI (MSR) on 20mph SW wind. Herring and Ring-billed Gulls: great numbers gathered at SPI but Oneida L numbers quite low—fall maxima 3000 Herring Nov 16 SPI (MSR) and 1200 Ring-billed Nov 21 Syr dump (FGS). *LAUGHING GULL*: an ad in winter plumage Oct 6 at Onon L (FGS) following a severe SE gale is first record since 1967. *FRANKLIN'S GULL*: 2 ad Sep 27 and 1 Sep 28 SPI (GP) are the only fall records. Bonaparte's Gull: fall max 100 Sep 7 SB plus SP (FGS); also 80 SPI Sep 13 (GS); very scarce, however, thru Oct and Nov, with max of only 9 Nov 16 Oneida L. *LITTLE GULL*: an ad in winter plumage Aug 28 SPI (DC,FGS, R, Sundell) is first record since 1967. *BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE*: single imms Oct 19 DH (MSR,FGS) and Oct 31 Muskrat Bay, Oneida L (FGS), the latter the first record for Oneida L since a specimen was collected at Constantia in 1890.

FORSTER'S TERN: an imm in winter plumage Aug 23-24 SPI (FLF,RJS) and 2 there Aug 30 (MSR). Common Tern: fall max 540 Sep 1 SB-VB (MSR); last noted Nov 3 (rather late) 4 Oneida L (FGS). Caspian Tern: fall max 43 Sep 7 SPI (GS); small numbers at other areas with most unusual record 1 Sep 15 at Redfield, Salmon R Reservoir in the THP (JWP); last noted Oct 22, 2 DH (DC) and Oct 25, 1 DH (GS).

Mourning Dove: max 80 Sep 27 FR (JWP); very scarce in Nov with max only 8 Tully Valley (JWP). Screech Owl: may be increasing slightly—tallies by month are 2 Aug, 11 Sep, 6 Oct, 11 Nov from 23 observers. Great Horned Owl: some high counts are 5 Oct 5 near Texas, 5 Nov 8 in SP area (GP), and 3 Black Creek Swamp (MSR); species seems down in swamps of Oneida L plain nearer to Syr. Barred Owl: present again (after 7 years) in swampy woods at Plainville (M. Bitz). Long-eared Owl: only fall report 1 Aug 23-30 Holland Patent (J&EVD). Short-eared Owl: only fall report is a single Nov 15 and 30 at Bridgeport (Mrs. B. Ellis); like Rough-legged Hawk, will be scarce locally as mice are down. Saw-whet Owl: imm 1st week of Nov at Syr (Mrs. I. Williams fide DC) is the only report.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Common Nighthawk: max 42 Sep 14 S Syr (JWP). Chimney Swift: dep date Sep 25, 6 Onon L (FGS). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: quite scarce—max 7 Aug 27 Redfield (JWP); dep date Sep 26 Syr (DD). Yellow-shafted Flicker: max only 60 Sep 19 SSSP (JWP); also 55 Sep 12 Pompey (DC); many scattered singles thru Nov. Red-bellied Woodpecker: new locations Three Rivers Game Mgt Area Sep 27 (GS) and Oswego Oct 28 (GM,CW). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: protracted fall flight but no concentrations—3-4 per day as Sep and early Oct max; last is 1 Nov 1 Big Moose (B. Barnum)—very late for that location. Downy Woodpecker: max 15 Sep 11 Jamesville (DC), the only indication of movement thru the area.

WESTERN KINGBIRD: 1 Oct 4 near Texas (FLF,RJS) and Oct 5 (JWP) is first record for Region since 1951. Eastern Phoebe: like Sapsucker, a protracted flight with no heavy days but 1-3 per day regularly reported to dep date Oct 27 (early), N Syr and Pratts Falls in Pompey Twp. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: scarce thru fall; last Sep 24 Syr (DD). Eastern Wood Pewee: 4-10 per day in Sep; dep Oct 15, 2 Jamesville (DC). Olive-sided Flycatcher: max 3 Aug 27 Redfield (JWP); dep Oct 15 (record late) 1 Pompey (FLF). Horned Lark: extraordinarily scarce thru fall—max only 45 Oct 13 DH (JWP); most observers had only 3-4 per day and some missed them this fall.

Tree Swallow: max 8000 Sep 21 SP (FGS); most counts below 800 per day; dep Nov 1, 2 DH (FGS). Bank Swallow: max only 400 Aug 16 SP (RJS); dep dates Sep 27, 150 DH—late for so many—and last 8 Sep 28 FR (RJS). Barn Swallow: max only 800 SP Aug 24 (ridiculously low!—FGS); last 2 Oct 21 (very late) at DH (DC,JWP, KS).

Blue Jay: perhaps an irruption locally as increased numbers were observed by virtually every observer, with best counts 20-40 per day Sep 13-Oct 15 and some areas S of Syr maintaining good numbers thru Nov (DC,JWP). Black-capped Chickadee: flight in Oct with 450 Oct 13 (JWP,GS) and 598 Oct 29 (JWP) both DH; definitely more common in late Oct and thru Nov this fall. **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** first noted Oct 21, 1 DH (JWP); reports of up to 7 per day Pratts Falls Nov 5 (Ray Benson), and the total number reported is at least 20; still present in regular Adirondack locations at Big Moose (MSR). Tufted Titmouse: newly reported at SSSP in Sep (FGS) and at Fulton (4 birds—Mrs. L. Palmer, Mrs. E. E. Erhardt). Red-breasted Nuthatch: good L Ontario flight with 11-12 per day in Sep; max 35 Sep 21 Pompey (DC); widely reported thru Nov.

House Wren: dep date Oct 21, 1 DH (JWP). Winter Wren: poor fall flight with most reports 1-2 per day; however, max 12 Oct 3 Pompey Twp (DC); very scarce in Nov. Carolina Wren: still present at Oneida (J. Hodges fide DWA); N.B.—bred and raised 3 young there; most remarkable is one thru Nov at Big Moose (fide B. Barnum). Long-billed Marsh Wren: very scarce—max 6 Sep 4 SP; dep date Nov 1, 1 SP marshes (RJS). Mockingbird: definitely expanding locally with reports of 2 Aug 31 Boonville (J&EVD), 1 Oct 14 New Hartford (VB), and 2 Nov 4 Pompey (DC); appears to be prospering in the DeWitt-Fayetteville area, its local stronghold.

Robin: very heavy fall flight—1000 Sep 27 FR (JWP); numerous Oct tallies of 100-750 per day everywhere (mob) with 60 still moving thru Nov 14 Pratts Falls (JWP). Hermit Thrush: arr Oct 1 (very late) 4 SSSP (JWP); 1-9 per day thru Oct with max 15 Oct 24 Pompey Twp (DC); 1 at Jamesville to Nov 26 (DC). Swainson's Thrush: arr Sep 10, 1 SSSP (JWP); very poor fall flight with only 1-4 per day. Gray-cheeked Thrush: flight as poor as Swainson's, if not worse—max only 2 per day Sep 12-Oct 5; dep for both Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Oct 21 Skaneateles (C. & E. Farnham). Eastern Bluebird: most reports 1-2 per day Sep 18-Nov 13 with max 19 Oct 15 North Bay (B&SP)—perhaps increasing slightly.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr Sep 21, 3 Delta L (B&SP); max 150 Sep 28 SSSP, 150 Oct 12 FHBSP, and 120 Oct 18 SSSP (all MSR); counts away from L Ontario definitely much lower, 4-30 per day, with none above 65. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Sep 10, 1 SSSP (JWP); Sep counts very low, 2-20 per day; max 250 Oct 13 SP dunes (GP) but most Oct counts much lower, 5-35 per day, with 60 per day only twice—Oct 12 and 15 FHBSP and Syr respectively (MSR). Water Pipit: arr Sep 21 (very late) 2 SP (FGS); max only 200 Oct 5 migrating down SP dunes; last Nov 13, 2 Oneida L (FGS). **BOHEMIAN WAXWING:** 1 Nov 23 with flock of 45 Cedar Waxwings at Nine Mile Point (RJS, FGS). Cedar Waxwing: summer flocks enlarged by young of the year—counts of 20-200 per day thru Oct, but numbers did decline thru Nov; Nov max 118 Nov 23 Oswego (GM,CW). Northern Shrike: arr Oct 24 Pompey (DC)—early for that area; 17 individuals from 22 observers in Nov.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: scarce thru fall—max 3 Aug 21 SSSP; dep date Sep 28, 1 Pompey (FLF). Solitary Vireo: max 8 Sep 29 N Syr (FGS); DC had 27 individuals in 15 days Sep 16-Oct 17. Red-eyed Vireo: max 20–32 per day Sep 19–24 N Syr; dep Oct 28 (late) 1 Sherrill (H. P. Nodecker). Philadelphia Vireo: 1 Oct 12 FHBSP (MSR) record dep date. Warbling Vireo: max 20 Aug 27 in Redfield Twp (JWP)—definitely migrants as this species is a very scarce breeder in THP.

The warbler migration appeared to be essentially a disaster with the exception of repeated concentrations in Pompey Twp. Both DD and E. J. Fisk spoke of concentrations in late Aug and Sep in the Adirondacks but concentrations or even decent flight days were unrecorded on the SP dunes, at SSSP, or in the woods along the northern and eastern shores of Oneida L; similarly, the wooded areas paralleling the Finger Lakes of the Region and the formerly warbler-favored lateral valleys (Fish Gulf, Camillus, Rattlesnake Gulf) had no concentrations, nor did previously warbler-rich thickets and water courses (most, however were bone dry) around Syr and N Syr. Perhaps the severe dryness of the summer and fall caused low production of insect food, so that what few migrants did pause, finding no food locally, moved rapidly on. Of interest (see chart below) are the numerous *early* Sep high counts in Pompey Twp; there was regular documentation of brief, intense morning flights there, followed by virtually nothing later in the day (DC). Also impressive are the low tallies of Tennessee, Nashville, and Myrtle Warblers, Yellowthroat, and Wilson's Warbler. Sep departures seemed to be the rule, with only fifteen species (less than half the locally recorded species) seen in Oct (see chart).

Rare warblers—*PROTHONOTARY WARBLER*: imm male Aug 14 SP dunes (DC, G. Meade, FGS) is a first for that sector and the first fall migrant ever recorded in the Region. A Brewster's Warbler with a Blue-winged Warbler in a small parulid flock Aug 21 SSSP (FGS) points to hybridization somewhere north of that area (? around Watertown). Orange-crowned Warbler: quite scarce—only 9 individuals, Sep 11-Oct 9, most from Pompey Twp (DC, JWP). Cape May Warbler: definitely a *rare* warbler this fall—a total of 17 individuals noted by 22 observers Aug 28-Sep 13; this used to be a regular, at times even common, species in early Sep in the woods and thickets of the SP dunes. Cerulean Warbler: a male Sep 3 Redfield Twp (JWP) is most unusual as it does not breed in that sector, but it could be a south-bound migrant from the recently discovered colony near Montreal. Pine Warbler: 1 Sep 13 VB (B&SP) is unusual as the species is rarely seen, spring or fall, away from its few local breeding stations.

Checking of TV tower sites for kills of night migrants produced only occasional individual birds—the highest species tally for the fall was 11 Ovenbirds Sep 18 Pompey Twp (FLF) and other species fortunately were picked up in ones and twos only.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: max 25 (low) Aug 17 FR (MSR); last Sep 27, 3 SP area (RJS). Eastern Meadowlark: no heavy fall flight noted—various daily counts 12–20 and most observers' peak dates fall in Sep 29-Oct 10 period (early). Redwinged Blackbird: fall max about 5000–8000 per day thru early Nov; sharp drop-off with cold of Nov 16–17 and snow of Nov 20–22 noted by virtually all observers. Baltimore Oriole: light fall flight with 4–10 per day in Aug and early Sep; 1 Oct 21 DH (KS) is very late but parallels the dep date for Barn Swallow and Palm Warbler. Rusty Blackbird: arr Sep 15, 70 Redfield Twp (JWP); heavy fall flight with most days 30–50 and max 400 Oct 27 Pompey (JWP); scattered singles in late Nov and 60 Nov 24 (late for so large a number) Nine Mile Point (JWP). Common Grackle: everywhere this fall—max 35,000 Oct 19 Pompey Twp (FLF). Scarlet Tanager: heavy flight with most observers reporting 3–5 per day; max 20 Sep 15 Redfield Twp (JWP); dep date Oct 15, 2 N Syr (FGS).

Species	Arrival Date, No., Place	Peak Count No., Date, Place	Departure Date, No., Place
Black-and-white Warbler	Aug 16, 1, SSSP (RJS)	6, Sep 5, THP (DC, KS)	Sep 27, 3, SSSP (RJS)
Golden-winged Warbler	Aug 24, 1, SSSP (MSR)	singles only	Sep 7, 1, Fulton (FGS)
Blue-winged Warbler	Aug 21, 1, SSSP (FGS)	2, Sep 13, Holland Patent (J&EVD)	Sep 14, 2, Holland Patent (J&EVD)
Tennessee Warbler	Aug 21, 1, SP (FGS)	8, Sep 3, Redfield (JWP)	Oct 6, 1, Pompey (FLF)
Nashville Warbler	Aug 16, 1, SSSP (RJS)	10, Sep 15, Redfield JWP & Sep 18, N Syr (FGS)	Oct 12, 2, Pompey Twp (DC)
Parula Warbler	Sep 4, 1, Pompey (FLF)	3, Sep 14, SP (RJS)	Oct 8, 1, Pompey Twp (DC)
Yellow Warbler	Jul 11, 3, N Syr (FGS)	31, Aug 23, SP-SSSP (FLF, RJS)	Sep 21, 1, N Syr (FGS)
Magnolia Warbler	Aug 20, 1, SSSP (JWP)	25, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Oct 9, 1, Pompey Twp (DC)
Black-Throated Blue Warbler	Aug 27, 1, Redfield (JWP)	16, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Oct 12, 1, Pompey Twp (DC)
Myrtle Warbler	Aug 24, 1, SP (FGS)	85, Oct 10, Pompey Twp (DC)	Dec 3, 1, N Syr (KS)
Black-throated Green Warbler	Aug 16, 4, Pompey Twp (DC)	135, Sep 19, Pompey Twp (DC)	Oct 13, 1, SP (GP)
Blackburnian Warbler	Aug 20, 9, Smartville (JWP)	35, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Oct 1, 1, N Syr (FGS)
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Aug 16, 1, SSSP (RJS)	50, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Sep 29, 1, Pompey Twp (DC)
Bay-breasted Warbler	*Sep 3, 6, Redfield (JWP)	25, Sep 18, Pompey Twp (DC)	Sep 28, 2, SSSP (MSR)
Blackpoll Warbler	*Sep 3, 2, Redfield	30, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Oct 12, 1, Pompey Twp (DC) & 2, Wampsville (B&SP)
Palm Warbler	Sep 11, 1, Pompey Twp	6, Oct 3, Pompey & 5, Oct 21, DH (both JWP)	Oct 22, 5, DH (DC)
Ovenbird	Sep 6, 1, Pompey Twp (DC)	3, Sep 26 Pompey Twp (DC)	Oct 3, 1, N Syr (FGS)
Northern Waterthrush	Aug. 24, 1, SP (FGS)	3, Sep 7, SP (FGS)	Sep 22, 1, N Syr (FGS)
Mourning Warbler	Aug 18, 1, SSSP (JWP)	3, Sep 3 Redfield & Sep Pompey (both JWP)	Sep 14, 1, each, Holland Patent (J&EVD) & SP (RJS)
Yellowthroat	—	16, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Oct 24, 1, N Syr (FGS)
Wilson's Warbler	Aug 20, 1, SSSP (JWP)	12, Aug 28 & Sep 14, SP (FGS, RJS)	Out 8, 1, Pompey Twp (DC)
Canada Warbler	Aug 16, 1, SSSP (RJS)	8, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Sep 25, 1, Pompey Twp (DC)
Redstart	Aug 11, 1, Smartville (FGS)	35, Sep 11, Pompey Twp (DC)	Out 20, 1, Syr (MSR)

* Very late

Cardinal: still increasing locally—max 18 Sep 16 Pompey (DC); definitely filling in L Ontario plain gaps and extending higher and higher into the hill country to the south. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: first migrant Aug 28 SP dunes; 6–14 per day thru Sep (mob); dep date Oct 30 (very late), 1 Rice Creek Biostation (CW). *DICK-CISSEL*: singles at Fayetteville Nov 8–15 (W. F. Minor, mob) and Oswego Nov 14–21 (C. & B. Wernick), the first reports since a spring bird was seen in 1967.

Irruptions of virtually all winter finches have occurred this fall, but marked and erratic intraregional movements seem to be the rule hereabouts. Evening Grosbeak: arr Oct 25, 1 DH (MSR); counts of 6–60 per day thereafter with max 72 Nov 6 Pompey Twp (DC); numbers less in late Nov. Purple Finch: fall counts rather low—usually 1–5 per day but 20 in Adirondacks and 18 Oct 29 Oswego (CW). Pine Grosbeak: of the true winter finches, the poorest in numbers—arr Nov 7, 2 Pompey Twp (DC); max 26 Nov 7 Ilion-Fairfield (VB). Common Redpoll: heavy irruption panregionally—arr Oct 24, 1 N Syr (FGS); numerous flocks of 20–60 per day with max 550 Nov 14 Pompey Twp (DC); still around in numbers thru end of period. Pine Siskin: arr Aug 21 (very early) 1 SSSP (FGS); scattered small groups thru Sep but big influx of 100–150 per day thru Oct—initially large numbers along L Ontario, and later in month in areas around Syr and the southern hill country; numbers definitely down in Nov with all tallies in that month less than 100 per day. American Goldfinch: like Siskin, a heavy flight thru Oct with counts of 330 Oct 5 SP (FGS) and 386 Oct 29 DH (JWP); paralleling the Siskin drop-off in Nov, tallies of Goldfinch after Nov 10 were all below 50 per day (mob). Red Crossbill: arr Aug 28, a bird still in juvenile plumage, SP dunes (G. Meade, DC, FGS); a scatter of singles and small flocks in the next week, but a hiatus of about 2 months before the next burst ensued; in late Oct, the second wave hit—Oct 28, 42 Pompey Twp (DC), Oct 29, 127 DH (JWP,DC) and 42 Syr (FGS); counts thru Nov heavy, 8–75 per day, particularly S of Syr (DC). White-winged Crossbill: arr much later than Red, Oct 28, 6 Pompey Twp (DC); max 65 Oct 29 DH (JWP,DC); small numbers thru Nov, primarily S of Syr (JWP, DC, Ray Benson).

Rufous-sided Towhee: scattered birds thru first 3 weeks of Sep but best counts, 12–15 per day, Sep 25–Oct 12 (mob); numerous single birds in latter half of Oct and 2 singles to Nov 12. Not one Grasshopper or Henslow's Sparrow reported in entire autumn! Vesper Sparrow: very scarce thru entire fall—most observers saw singles only; max 25 Oct 13 Pompey Twp (DC). Slate-colored Junco: arr Sep 20, 2 SSSP (MSR); steady flow of small flocks (20–40 per day) thru Oct with max 300 Oct 25 DH (JWP) and 200 Oct 26 Delta L (J&EVD). Tree Sparrow: arr Oct 3, 6 SP (GP); most counts low, 12–20 per day but 125–150 Nov 4–6 Pompey Twp (DC); no flocks over 100 in last half of Nov. Chipping Sparrow: 30–85 per day Aug 15–Sep 15 in THP (JWP); most migrant flocks lower, 20–30 per day, with 60 Sep 19 Pompey Twp (FLF) and 50 Oct 26 Holland Patent (J&EVD); dep Nov 13, 1 Syr (MSR). Field Sparrow: poor fall flight—most observers 1–3 per day but 15 Sep 15 Redfield Twp (JWP) and Sep 21 Pompey (FLF); dep Nov 9, 1 Beaver L (FGS).

White-crowned Sparrow: arr Sep 22 (late) 1 N Syr (FGS); counts 20–60 per day with max 184 Oct 5 combined tally DH-SP-Delta L-Pompey, definitely the flight day (JWP,FGS,J&EVD,DC); Oct counts high thru first 3 weeks but sharp drop-off with snowfall of Oct 22; dep Nov 4, 3 Pompey Twp (DC). White-throated Sparrow: arr Aug 18 (early) 2 SSSP (JWP); Oct counts 20–95 per day with max 150 (quite low) Oct 12 FHBSP (MSR). Fox Sparrow: arr Oct 9, 1 Pompey (FLF); numerous reports with max 14 Nov 5 N Syr (FGS); dep Nov 13, 1 Pompey Twp (DC). Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Sep 16, 2 N Syr (FGS); max 7 Sep 18 N Syr (FGS) and 8 Oct 2 Pompey Twp (DC); dep Oct 9 (early) 1 Pompey Twp (DC); over 70 reported by 6 observers. Song Sparrow: protracted flight Sep 16–Oct 30 with 30–60 per day and best tally 115 Oct 2 Pompey Twp (DC); no other 100 days noted.

Lapland Longspur: max 13 Oct 12 Nine Mile Point (MSR) and 12 Oct 15-20 Onon L (M. Woolley); numerous single birds also reported, surprising in view of the low numbers of Horned Lark and Snow Bunting (q.v.). Snow Bunting: arr Oct 5, 1 SPI (FGS); flocks of 85-200 in Ilion area Nov 7-15 (VB, K. G. Hanson) but other areas had very low tallies, 6-30 per day; no improvement in numbers in late Nov.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

J. B. BELKNAP

Precipitation was deficient in late summer and early fall, but November brought ample amounts of rain and some snow. Temperatures were generally mild into the third week of October. First killing frost occurred on October 23 with ice formation on the 29th. Wintry weather had arrived by Thanksgiving time.

Abbreviations: ED El Dorado; Jeff Co—Jefferson County; L Ont.—Lake Ontario; P Pen—Point Peninsula.

Observers: JB—John Belknap; FC—Frank Clinch; DG—David Gordon; GP—Glenn Perrigo; LC—Lee Chamberlaine; GK—George Kurzrock; TK—Thomas Kurzrock.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 2 records Nov 8 and 15, L Ont. (DG) Horned Grebe scarce, a few Nov records along L Ont. Pied-billed Grebe: late record Nov 22 (DG) Canada Goose: large numbers present at Crystal Lake and Henderson Pond, southern Jeff Co, during Oct and Nov (LC). Brant: flock of about 25 Oct 19 at Dexter Marsh (TK). Pintail: 8 Sep 9 ED—early? (C. Leck). Greater Scaup: first noted Oct 6 Dexter Marsh (G&TK). Lesser Scaup: male shot Nov 23 (TK). Common Goldeneye: first date Oct 6 (T&GK). Bufflehead: first Oct 18 (G&TK). Oldsquaw: first date Oct 26. White-winged Scoter: several Oct records L Ont.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: scattered reports from various parts of region; last noted Oct 30 P Pen. Rough-legged Hawk: first noted Oct 30; present in small numbers during Nov (JB). Cooper's Hawk: 1 Nov 24 near Chaumont (JB) Pigeon Hawk: 1 at ED Sep 14 (Bob & June Walker). Sparrow Hawk: good October flight; a few present during Nov (LC). Common Gallinule: last Oct 25 (DG). Coot: present in large numbers Nov 1 Dexter Marsh.

Golden Plover: 1 imm Sep 9 ED-netted (C. Leck). Knot: 1 Sep 9 ED-netted (C. Leck). Last dates for shorebirds, mostly from ED as follows: Black-bellied Plover: Nov 9 (GP). Killdeer: Nov 24 (JB). Woodcock: Nov 9 (GP). Spotted Sandpiper: Sep 20 (DG). Lesser Yellowlegs: Oct 12 (GP). Knot: Sep 13 (DG). Pectoral Sandpiper: Nov 8 (DG). White-rumped Sandpiper: Nov 8 (DG). Common Snipe: Nov 12 (JB). Dunlin: Nov 8 (DG). Purple Sandpiper: single birds as follows, Nov 8 ED and Stony Point, Nov 28 ED (DG). Great Black-backed Gull: sev Sep 9 ED—early (C. Leck); next noted Oct 25; present in small numbers along L Ont thereafter. Black-legged Kittiwake: 1 Sep 2 ED-unconfirmed (G. A. Smith), *very early even in this "Kittiwake year"* Ed. Caspian Tern: last report Oct 12 (GP).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last date Sep 27 (JB). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last date Oct 5 (DG). Eastern Kingbird: last date Sep 16 (JB). Eastern Phoebe: last date Oct 13 (DG). Tree Swallow: last date Oct 25 (DG). House Wren: last date Sep 20 (DG). Hermit Thrush: last date Oct 18 (DG). Northern Shrike: 2 reports—November 22 near Henderson (LC), Nov 28 Stony Point (DG). *BOREAL CHICKADEE*: 3 seen Nov 9 Town of Mantague, Lewis County (LC).