

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Pine Siskin: three reports, Oct 24-Nov 4. White-winged Crossbill: Oct 31 St Lawrence Co (JB); Nov 14 Watertown (NL). Henslow's Sparrow: Aug 18 (MW). Vesper Sparrow Oct 30—late (RB). Fox Sparrow: Oct 25 ED (GP); Oct 31 GP (NL, MW). Snow Bunting: numerous reports, late Oct & Nov.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK — CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

In the weather department August seemed a rather mild month for the most part. Some peaks over 4500 feet had snow on the 25th and we had over two inches of rain as a fringe benefit of the tropical storm that moved north along the east coast. September was uneventful weather-wise, but it did produce 3 cormorants, an unusual bird for our area.

October was mild here but may have been severe in northern Canada because the flight of Canada Geese, over the Newcomb area at least, was far greater than usual. Approximately 800 birds went over on the tenth and birds could be heard passing over all through the night of the ninth. This area is anything but a flyway in most years. Perhaps a cold snap caused the young of the year to move south at the same time as the older birds.

November could best be called winter rather than fall. The very heavy flight of winter fringillids other than Pine Grosbeaks reached a peak on the 20th. The Myrtle Warbler seen in a snow-covered spruce bog south of Newcomb on that date was notable as were the 3 Snow Geese on Schroon Lake November 4. Ruffed Grouse were present in numbers although they tended to be tightly grouped where food, water, and good shelter were readily available together. You had to do some searching, but they were there.

Observers: GC—Geoffrey Carleton; GTC—Greenleaf T. Chase; DC—Dorothy Crumb; PD—Paul DeBenedictis; SE—Stephen Everett; FL—Ferdinand LaFrance; RM—Robert McKinney; TM—Ted Mack; GM—Gordon Meade; WR—William Rutherford; JT—Joseph Taylor.

Abbreviations: BP—Barnum Pond; BTP—Browns Tract Ponds area; ChR—Chubb River; E'town—Elizabethtown; Gabs—Gabriels; GF—Goodnow Flow; Ind L—Indian Lake; LCh—Lake Champlain; Mad—Madawaska; OsP—Osgood Pond; PS—Paul Smiths; Pierce—Piercefield; Ti—Ticonderoga.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 GF Aug 28 (TM); 1 Inlet Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL); 3 (resident family) Lower St. Regis L Sep 7 (WR); 1 GF Oct 16 (TM). Pied-billed Grebe: 1 Raquette L Oct 27 (FL). **DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** 3 L Ch off Essex Sep 23 (GC). Great Blue Heron: 5 reported. Green Heron: numerous Ti Sep 8 (GTC). American Bittern: 1 BP Oct 13 (SE). Canada Goose: especially numerous this year; 250 E'town Sep 27 (GC); max 800 GF Oct 10 (TM); 150 BP Oct 13 (SE); 600 feeding on winter rye Gabs Oct 14 (TM); 500 GF Oct 16 (TM); 25 BTP Oct 25 (FL). **SNOW GOOSE:** 3 Schroon I Nov 4 (GTC). Green-winged Teal: 5 BP Oct 13 (SE). Blue-winged Teal: 14 Ti Sep 8 (GTC); 7 GF Oct 17 (TM). Wood Duck: max 75 Ti Sep 8 (GTC). Greater Scaup: 7 Eighth L Oct 27 (FL)—well rounded heads noted in scope. Lesser Scaup: 3 L Placid Oct 29 (SE). Common Goldeneye: 1 BTP Oct 27 (FL). Hooded Merganser: max 40 BP Oct 13 (SE); 7 Fifth L Oct 27 (FL). American Merganser: max 16 GF Oct 17 (TM); 12 GF Oct 30 (TM).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: 1 BTP Oct 28 (FL); 1 Pierce Nov 7 (WR). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 PS Sep 20 (SE); 1 PS Oct 17 (SE). Cooper's Hawk: 1 BTP Oct

25 (FL). Red-tailed Hawk: 1 Crown Point Sep 16 (GTC); 1 BP Oct 13 (SE). Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 GF Sep 26 (TM). Marsh Hawk: 2 Crown Point Sep 16 (GTC); 1 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM); 1 BTP Oct 25 (FL). Osprey: 1 Saranac River near Oseetah L Sep 10 (GM); 1 GF Sep 28 (Doris Mack). Sparrow hawk: 2 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM); 1 Ind L Sep 10 (RM). Ruffed Grouse: 3 GF Oct 23 (TM); 6 BTP Oct 28 (FL); 5 GF Nov 13 (TM); 8 Ind L Nov 17 (RM). Killdeer: 20 Ch R Aug 26 (JT); 8 migrating over L Ch off Essex Sep 28 (GC). Woodcock: 3 Franklin Falls Sep 16 (TM); 5 PS Oct 17 (SE). Spotted Sandpiper: 1 Ch R Aug 26 (JT). Solitary Sandpiper: 1 L Kiwassa Sep 6 (GM); 6 Ch R Aug 26 (JT). Greater Yellowlegs: 1 GF Oct 16 (TM); 2 PS Oct 17 (SE). Least Sandpiper: 1 Ch R Aug 26 (JT) — unusual this particular location. Herring Gull: 1 PS Sep 20 (SE). Ring-billed Gull: 40 Crown Point Bridge Sep 14 (SE). Screech Owl: 1 PS Nov 6 (SE). Great Horned Owl: 1 BP Oct 13 (SE); 1 PS Oct 18 (TM). Barred Owl: 2 BTP Oct 25 (FL); 1 Ind Oct 30 (RM).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Chimney Swift: 10 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 3 Flat Brook-Newcomb Aug 28 (TM). Belted Kingfisher: numerous Ti Sep 8 (GTC). Yellow-shafted Flicker: max 40 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM). Pileated Woodpecker: max 3 BTP Oct 29 (FL). Hairy Woodpecker: max 12 Ind L Nov 17 (RM). Downy Woodpecker: max 5 BTP Oct 5 (FL). Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: 1 BP Oct 13 (SE); 2 BTP Oct 29 (FL); 1 Pierce Nov 7 (WR). *NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER*: 1 BTP Oct 27 (FL). Eastern Kingbird: last report 1 PS Sep 14 (SE). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 BTP Aug 29 (PD). Least Flycatcher 1: BTP Aug 29 (PD). Olive-sided Flycatcher: last one E'town Sep 8 (GC). Horned Lark: max 50 PS Oct 24 (SE). Barn Swallow: last 2 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Gray Jay: 3 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL); 3 Ross Park Sep 9 (GTC); 3 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM); 2 BTP Oct 29 (FL). Boreal Chickadee: max 25 Osgood P Aug 26 (GTC). White-breasted Nuthatch: max 5 BTP Oct 28 (FL). Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 17 BTP Oct 25 (FL). Brown Creeper: 1 singing! L Kiwassa Sep 8 (GM); max 6 GF Oct 23 (TM). Winter Wren: max 3 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Long-billed Marsh Wren: 1 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM). Catbird: 2 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM). Robin: max 20 Ind L Sep 25 (RM); last one PS Nov 6 (SE). Hermit Thrush: max 4 Mad Sep 21 (TM). Olive-backed Thrush: 4 PS Sep 14 (SE); 3 Ind L Sep 25 (RM). Veery: last 1 E'town Sep 12 (GC). Bluebird: max 6 Brandon Sep 21 (SE, TM). American Pipit: max 25 BP Oct 13 (SE). Cedar Waxwing: 8 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM); 6 Ind L Sep 25 (RM).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: 2 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL); 2 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM). Black-and-white Warbler: 2 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Nashville Warbler: 6 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Magnolia Warbler: 8 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Cape May Warbler: 1 E'town Aug 21 (GC); 1 BTP Aug 29 (PD). Myrtle Warbler: max 25 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL); 1 late bird in snow-covered spruce GF Nov 20 (SE, TM). Black-throated Green Warbler: max 9 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL); 1 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM). Black-throated Blue Warbler: 7 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Blackburnian Warbler: 3 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Palm Warbler: 2 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM). Northern Yellowthroat: 5 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Canada Warbler: 3 BTP Aug (PD); last E'town Sep 12 (GC). American Redstart: 2 BTP Aug 29 (PD).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: 5 migrating BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Eastern Meadowlark: 1 Bloomingdale Nov 16 (TM); 6 Gabs Nov 19 (SE). Rusty Blackbird: max 10 BP Oct 13 (SE). Brown-headed Cowbird: 8 Gabs Nov 19 (SE). Scarlet Tanager: 1 BTP Aug 29 (PD); 1 E'town Sep 25 (GC); 1 Ind L Sep 26 (RM). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last 1 E'town Sep 22 (GC). Evening Grosbeak: large numbers passing through PS and Newcomb Oct 30 (SE, TM); max

500 Gabs Nov 6 (SE). Purple Finch: 10 BTP Aug 29 (PD); 10 Ind L Sep 25 (RM); 8 PS Oct 17 (SE); 4 BTP Oct 27 (FL). Pine Grosbeak: scarce; 2 Gabs Nov 6 (SE); a few near Cascade Lakes in early Nov (Dirck Benson). Common Redpoll: over 100 PS Oct 29 (SE); 20 Ind L Nov 17 (RM); over 250 GF Nov 20 (SE, TM). Pine Siskin: 10 Ind L Oct 30 (RM); over 100 PS Oct 17 (SE); 18 PS Nov 7 (SE); 25 GF Nov 20 (SE, TM). Common Goldfinch: invasion about first week of Nov throughout area. Red Crossbill: 5 PS Sep 17 (TM); 30 BTP Oct 25 (FL); 20 GF Nov 20 (SE, TM). White-winged Crossbill: this is the more common crossbill this year by far; first 1 PS Sep 15 (SE); 35 BTP Oct 25 (FL); 22 Oct 27 BTP (FL); 125 GF Nov 20 (SE, TM). Savannah Sparrow: over 50 PS Sep 14 (SE). Vesper Sparrow: 3 PS Oct 24 (SE). Slate-colored Junco: max 12 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL); last not at feeder 1 GF Nov 20 (SE, TM). Fox Sparrow: max 3 BTP Oct 28 (FL). Lincoln's Sparrow: max 5 BTP Aug 29 (DC, PD, FL). Swamp Sparrow: max 4 Mad Sep 21 (SE, TM).

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REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

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Precipitation in August totaled 7.04 inches, more than double the normal amount. Between the 25th and 30th, 4.9 inches fell (Albany Airport) resulting in high water and unfavorable conditions for shore bird migrants. On the other hand, September and October were very mild with precipitation slightly below normal. Favorable weather conditions on three peak weekends in late September and early October resulted in the most productive banding effort in eight seasons. "A record catch of 2807 birds of 63 species gave an unprecedented yield of 113 birds per hundred net hours." (RPY). The so-called favorable weather conditions for this degree of banding activity have been described as a combination of clear skies and high pressure to the north and rain, or fog (grounding conditions) to the south resulting in a meteorological "dam" (RPY).

A 78 degree high on October 28 set a new record for the month. Most areas had not experienced a killing frost until October 24. Early November was cooler than normal with record lows being set on the 8th (18°), 9th (11°), 14th (12°). Many of our boreal species were moving into the area a week or more in advance of this cold air mass. Early reports of winter finches indicate heavier irruptions than last year due to a poorer seed cone crop to the north. Heavy precipitation came in the form of snow on the 24th and accumulation of 24 inches broke a record for the month of November. Mild weather and rain followed the snow and by the end of the month only a trace of snow remained.

Unusual species for the period include Common Scoter, Bald Eagle, Yellow-Bellied Flycatcher, Kentucky Warbler, and House Finch.

Observers cited are: DA—Doug Allen; PC—Paul Connor; JC—J. Cook; RD—R. Drowne; GE—G. Erlenbach; MF—Mabel French; M&AG—M&A Giddings; MG—Monte Gruett; MK—Marcia Kent; MM—M. Mickle; RP—Richard Philion; ER—Edgar Reilly; WBS—Walton B. Sabin; S&RS—S&R Silverman; B&HT—B&H Tullar; RPY—Robert P. Yunick.

Abbreviations: ADBC—Alan Devoe Bird Club; HMBC—Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club; HR—Hudson River; VFWM—Vischer Ferry Wildlife Management.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Nov 16, 20 Queechy Lake (MM). Horned Grebe: 3 Nov 20 Tomhannock Res (HMBC). Pied-billed Grebe: common thru