

valleys. The sides of the mountains are heavily forested but are capped with bald knob tops open except for occasional short yellow birch, *Betula alleghanensis* and wind-swept balsam fir, *Abies balsamea*.

Area 2. This is located between Clemons and Whitehall in Washington County. I have observed single ravens here on May 26 and July 9, 1970, and on April 1 and June 2, 1971. It is interesting that Dr. Walter Spofford found a cliff nest of the raven sixteen miles away in Vermont (different territory) and only three miles from the New York State border. At a visit to that nest June 2, 1971, I saw two large young on the nest and two adults perched nearby. At my only visit in 1972, on July 9, Lawrence Brown and I saw one raven and a lot of white-wash on the side of the stick nest and on the cliff below the nest and nearby perches. Area 2 and the Vermont site are at low elevations, 100–1,000 feet, with a number of nearby pastures and dairy farms. The limestone and shale cliffs are numerous and only the hillsides are heavily forested.

Area 3. The reports of ravens from this wild and remote region of eastern Hamilton County come from William Frennette. On May 10, 1971 Frennette watched a raven land on a long abandoned eagle nest built high on a cliff ledge. Campers nearby also saw raven activity at the nest. During the last week of April, 1972, Frennette once again saw a raven circling above the same awesome cliff.

I have observed ravens and heard of isolated raven sightings at various other points in the Adirondacks. May 30, 1971 in the company of James Spencer, along the West Branch of the Sacandaga River, I watched a single raven pass over our car. On March 28, 1971 south of Mineville, Larry Tune and I followed a raven with our 10x glasses as it passed our mountaintop lookout and disappeared from our vision about three miles to the north, still flying hard. Terry Perkins reported a raven "spent some time near the Stillwater" in late April, 1972 and John Ogden reported one four miles west of Speculator in mid-May, 1972. Mr. Chase also reported a raven "spending two months near Coreys" (Franklin County) in March-May, 1972, and the most recent report is of a pair seen and heard calling by Geoffrey Carleton (pers. comm. to W. Spofford) in Essex County on September 23, 1972.

It is not known if these observations reflect an increase in the Adirondack population or if they are the result of the intensive D.E.C. study and more trained observers in the field.

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Eldorado Shorebird Slaughter. Sunday, October 15, 1972 was a sunny 40 degree day with a strong chilling wind off Lake Ontario which was tolerated in the hope that I would see a phalarope or spot a jaeger offshore while walking the beach at Eldorado Shores Nature Conservancy. I was in no way prepared by any past experience for what lay ahead on this spectacularly beautiful fall morning. As I rounded the first point heading south I picked up two shorebirds in my binoculars; they were on their backs, legs upright, and closer inspection showed they had been shot. Then I saw the large driftwood blind further south, and the sad story was revealed. Empty 12 gauge shot-gun shells and dead shorebirds were strewn among the rocks the length of the beach. Numb with cold and disbelief, I collected 23 freshly killed shorebirds and even more shells. No one was to be seen on the property. I made notes, took photographs, and returned to Ithaca with the birds, and left them with the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology for verification of identification of the species, and in the hope that students or the Cornell Museum could use the skins. All the birds were adults, and included 14 Dunlin, 3 White-rumped Sandpipers, 2 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 2 Semipalmated Plovers, 1 Ruddy Turnstone, and 1 Sanderling.

A letter was sent the next day to the Department of Environmental Conservation in Watertown and an investigation of the incident is under way. A "Letter to the Editor" was sent to the *Watertown Daily Times* and good coverage of the incident appeared in the October 19th edition of the paper. Other interested organizations were also immediately informed.

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