

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

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The weather thru the period was not unusual. June was wet and cool; July, slightly more rainfall than usual with near normal temperatures; August, dry with temperatures normal to slightly lower.

Bird populations seemed normal for the most part. There were more accidentals reported than usual; some being truly glamour birds as the report will show.

Observers cited: A.A.—Anthony Amos; MB—Martin Borko; GB—Gene Brown; DWF—Davis W. Finch; VF—Valerie Freer; TH—Thelma Haight; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; MJK—Mary & Jim Key; EK—Eric Kiviati; HM—Helen Manson; A.BM—Al & Barbara Merritt; JCO—John C. Orth; FAR—Forrest & Aline Romero; RS—Robert Smart; DS—Dan Smiley; CT—Czecher Terhune; MVW—Marion Van Wagner; MY—Mary Vegella.

Abbreviations: First four letters of each county; PP—Piermont Pier; SS—Surrey Swamp area of the Harriman Section of the Palisades Interstate Park; WBC—Waterman Bird Club.

LOONS—DUCKS: Double-crested Cormorant: max 21 June 6 PP (AA). Great Blue Heron: most reports from bays and flats along the Hudson; normal to better thru region, numbers still too low however; WBC reports 11 nests with 25 birds counted in late May at Tamarack Swamp; 2 young still in nest Jul 7. Green Heron: common thru period thru region; max 9 Cornwall Bay. Little Blue Heron: 1 imm at PP Jul 21 (RFD), this was the most numerous white Heron in the area dur the 1930's, but this report was the 2nd in the past 10 years in Rock. Cattle Egret: only 1 July 25-31 Hyde Park (MK, MVW). Great Egret: a few summer wanderers reported. Snowy Egret: in the Cornwall Bay area during late Jul; 1 obs flying down river near Nyack was in the company of a Black-bellied Plover with which it kept sparring on July 23. Black-crowned Night Heron: more reports than usual; 12 at PP July 23 (AA); 2-3 at Cornwall Bay July 23-Aug 15. (PJ). **YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON**: 1 at PP Jul 27 was 6th record for Rock. (AA); 1-2 at Cornwall Bay from July 19-28 (A,BM). Least Bittern: obs thru period at PP, Cornwall Bay, and Iona Is; max 8 at Cornwall, several were imm with much down. Glossy Ibis: 1 Jul 25 Dover Plains (MY). Green-winged Teal: very rare in summer, 2 at PP Jul 23 (AA), the second summer for Rock. Blue-winged Teal: regular but uncommon in summer, obs thru period at PP (AA). American Wigeon: RFD and wife obs a fem with 5 half grown young at PP Jul 21, the first local breeding record, 4 males were obs in the area as late as Jul 4. Ring-necked Duck: 4 males at PP June 4 (AA). Lesser Scaup: 1 Cornwall Bay Jul 24 (A,BM). **OLDSQUAW**: a female at PP Jun 16 was the second year in a row (RFD). Red-breasted Merganser: a female at PP May 27,28 (AA).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: max 20 near Roscoe Aug 20 (Ed McBride). **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE**: 1 well-described bird flying over Rt 9W at Storm King Mt., Town of Cornwall on Aug 3, observed by Walter Lehnies and wife of Oakland N.J.; he is quite familiar with the species in Florida, and observed the species two years ago at Cape May dur a N.J. Audubon Convention. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 July 30 near Bullville (John Tramontano); another at Wawarsing Aug 10 (JCO); Walter Lehnies reports a good population inc in north New Jersey, esp in the Waywayonda State Park area, he has also observed several birds regularly in the Island Pond area of the Palisades Interstate Park. Broadwinged Hawk: FH reports this species the most commonly reported Buteo in Ulst. Bald Eagle: 1 sub-adult at PP June 2 (AA). Kestrel: obs nesting at

Kripplebush with young in May. Rails: only reports are Virginia, 1 at Bashakill and another thru season at PP (AA). Common Gallinule: obs thru season at PP(AA); 1 heard regularly thru first half of June at Cruger's Is. (EK). Semipalmated Plover: a few reported each summer, first 2 at PP Jul 23 (AA). Killdeer: sev nesting records from Sull (MB). Black-bellied Plover: 1 near Nyack Jul 23 (see Snowy Egret), 1 Cornwall Bay Aug 9 (PJ). Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Jul 23 and again Jul 26 at PP (AA). Greater Yellowlegs: 2 Jul 30 Cornwall Bay (PJ). Lesser Yellowlegs: 12 Jul 14 PP (AA). Least Sandpiper: never as numerous as the next species but always a few; 7 Cornwall Bay Jul 22-24 (PJ); a few at Piermont Pier Jul 22 (AA). Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 133 Jul 22 at Piermont Pier (AA). Long-billed Dowitcher: 1 well studied at PP Jul 14 (AA), only 3 previous records for Rock. Sanderling: max 9 Jul 23 PP (AA), the 4th record for Rock, reduced to 1 by Jul 28; 4 at Cornwall Bay Jul 26-28 (BJ). Great Black-backed Gull: max 200 at PP Jul 21, significant when compared with the other gulls present; 20 Herring, 4 Laughing, and 1 Ring-billed. Laughing Gull: max 224 Jul 8, inc to 450 by Aug 11 at PP (AA), numbers second only to high of 720 on Aug 15, 1973; numbers diminish markedly as one proceeds upstream, high at Highland Falls was 26 and at Cornwall 6 dur same period. Common Tern: max 55 Jul 26 Piermont Pier (AA). **SOOTY TERN**: Anthony Amos reports 1 bird Jul 26 at PP, he is very familiar with the species in Bermuda where he frequently visits with relatives. Least Tern: a few on Jul 14 inc to 72 by Jul 28 at PP (AA). **CASPIAN TERN**: 1 Aug 9 Cornwall Bay (PJ), the first report in sev years. **BLACK TERN**: rarely noted in spring but not in summer; 2 Jun 23 at Kay's Pd, Dutch found by F. Burch and obs the same day by sev WBC members. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: rep scarce in Ulst; 2 Dutch reports, 1 Jun 10 and another Jun 19 (FAR). Black-billed Cuckoo: 2 ad feeding young Jun 15 in Sull (VF); 2 Jun 2 Town of Northeast, Dutch. (FAR). Long-eared Owl: a pr nested at Salt Pt. Dutch; 4 young obs from Jun 25-Jul 10 at home of Dr. Henry Alben (CT,MJK).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Whip-poor-will: 1 Jun 5 Shunpike, Dutch (FG); another Jul 4 Wilcox Pk Dutch (TH). Hummingbird: nested at Kripplebush and Mohonk in Ulst and reported more frequently than in the past 3 yrs in Dutch. Red-headed Woodpecker: obs near Accord in late Jul, behavior suggested possible nesting in dead elm (FH). **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER**: first found on May census of WBC (see spring report), heard and seen same location thru Jun 22 by DWF and RS, nested same area last year; 3 obs at SS Jun 11 and 1 Jun 18 (GB). Alder Flycatcher: 2 pr. in PP area Jun 1 (AA). Willow Flycatcher: 1 Cornwall Jul 31; 1 Wawarsing until Aug 18; obs in 6 different locations in Dutch thru June. Horned Lark: 1 thru June on Sullivan Community Coll campus (VF). Tree Swallow: very poor nesting record; sev boxes contained dead young; flocking noted by Jul 1 and good movement noted by Aug 1. Bank Swallow: many on Jun 1 at Poughquag gravel bank, a new location; nesting in Pleasant Valley thru June (Jeff Davis). Rough-winged Swallow: a pr feeding 6 young in early July at Wurtsboro (MB). Cliff Swallow: in excellent numbers Aug 17-18 at Wawarsing (JCO). Purple Martin: expanded to 3 boxes at Putnam Valley (MVW); observed over Stanfordville July 4 (FG). Fish Crow: regularly at Cruger's Is. (EK); remains at Vassar Coll. (FAR); several at PP July 28 (AA). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 pr excavating a cavity near Kripplebush, but successful nesting not noted (FH); also observed at Mohonk thru period (DS); 1 July 7 in Dutch (HM); single birds observed in two different locations in Harriman Park on Jun 11 and 18. (GB). Brown Creeper: 7 at SS June 11, and 5 there Jun 18 (GB). Winter Wren: single birds at SS on June 11 and 18 (GB); reported singing in Deep Hollow, Dutch thru much of July; also found at Vassar College and Forest Glen (MJK). **BEWICK'S WREN**. a nesting

pair at Mohonk was first discovered by Jim Stapleton and verified by DS, it was later confirmed by FH and HM and many other observers, no dates were reported, but this is probably the first breeding record for this species in N.Y.S. Carolina Wren: well reported thru period, several instances of parents feeding young Long-billed Marsh Wren: ab 1 doz observed at PP on July 21 (RFD); reported abundant at Moodna Marsh (A,BM). Mockingbird: marked increases of past several years not noted this year, species largely reported holding its own. Hermit Thrush: 8 June 11 at SS and 9 June 18 (GB). Bluebird: reported scarce thru region, but WBC had best nesting survey yet, in both number of nests and young raised, no numbers were given, but only 2 failures were reported; 8 pr nested a second time in June, and 7 pr in July; as many as 10 seen at one nest site in early Aug, observed feeding young at 2 places in Pauling; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: numbers holding most areas. Cedar Waxwing: regular and in good numbers thru June and July in Dutch; not commonly reported elsewhere.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: heard at Mohonk Lake by Jim Stapleton, no dates given. Solitary Vireo: 3 June 11 and 1 June 18 at SS were probably residents (GB). Red-eyed Vireo: scarce thru most of region. A,BM reported only 2 for entire period, usually common breeder. Nashville Warbler: 1 Aug 17 Wawarsing (JCO), has been known to breed in that valley; a nesting pr obs June 18 at SS (GB). Magnolia Warbler: 1 June 3 Fort Montgomery, and another Aug 11 Wawarsing (JCO); 1 June 2 was probably a late spring migrant in Dutch. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 1 Aug 17-18 Wawarsing (JCO). Black-throated Green Warbler: 11 June 11 and 7 June 18 at SS (GB). Cerulean Warbler: 1 June 18 at SS (GB); 3 singing near Rhinebeck (MVW). Blackburnian Warbler: 3 June 11 at SS (GB). Blackpoll Warbler: 1 June 1-2 Shunpike, Dutch (FG). Northern Waterthrush: and Louisiana Waterthrush: both species observed thru period in Mohonk area and near Cornwall. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: 1 June 22 at Rockefeller Inst, Dutch (DWF,RS); another same date at Crugar's Is, singing as close as 10 ft. (Noel Cutright, Kate Redmond). Mourning Warbler: 1 May 30 at Lamont Geo. Obs, Rock (AA). Hooded Warbler: observed June 18 at SS (GB). Wilson's Warbler: 1 June 2 Town of Northeast (FAR). Canada Warbler: 5 June 11 and 10 June 18 at SS (GB).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: 25 May 31 at PP diminished to 1 which remained thru July (AA). Indigo Bunting: very scarce in the lowlands of Ulst. (FH). Savannah Sparrow: 1 singing July 20 at Sullivan Comm. Coll. (VF). Dark-eyed Junco: 2 ad with 2 imm July 5 at Deep Hollow, Dutch; 3 ad obs same area July 26. (MVW) **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**: found June 22 at Rockefeller Inst, Dutch by DWF and RS, was breeding with Field Sparrow, young were taken for study. White-throated Sparrow: 6-8 thru Aug at Concord Golf Course, Sull (Dan Niven).

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

SPRING REPORT RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PUBLICATION IN JULY

REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

GLADYS SNELL

The temperature for the month of April was slightly above normal with a high of 84 on the 29th and a low of 20 on the 7th. The precipitation was above normal with 11.3 inches of snow. May, however, was below normal with a high temperature of 88 on the 22nd and a low of 29 on the 2nd and 5th. The pre-