

## REGION 3 – FINGER LAKES

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Late August was warm and wet, September cold, October colder and November normal. After early September, rains were frequent but light.

Exposed mudflats at MNWR produced good shorebirding until mid-November. Noteworthy were 11 species still present November 2. More than the usual number of shorebird reports were received from other parts of the Region.

A concentration of migrating passerines occurred at MNWR September 22-24 including 11 species of warblers, 3 of identifiable flycatchers plus Empidonax and 10 of other passerines. This coincides with the biggest single night's TV tower kill at Elmira on the night of September 21-22. WH reports 844 casualties including 22 warbler species, among them the rare Connecticut Warbler, and 11 other passerines. During the season 1200 birds of 45 species were killed for the worst year to date. Betty Strath of Odessa reports an excellent fall warbler migration with 8 species in one tree while MJ at SAD called it "lousy."

Sparrows appeared to move thru early and fast. Few contributors mentioned them. The Rough-legged Hawk incursion is heavy. The only northern finches are a small number of Evening Grosbeaks, Purple Finches and Pine Siskins. Rarities include Brant, European Wigeon, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Glaucous Gull, Brewster's Warbler and Connecticut Warbler.

Two items of interest were received, with complete verifying details, too late for the summer report. Both sightings were by Kenn Kaufman and Elaine Cook. *Cinnamon Teal*: Male Jul. 21 MNWR. *Lawrence's Warbler*: 1 Jun. 15 and 29 Ellis Hollow Creek Road.

Corrigendum: *Kingbird* XXIV; 3, Jul. 1974, Region 3 report, p. 139 line 5 insert "first spring record for the Region. *RUFF*: 1 May 11 MNWR (WB)" between "MNWR (WB)" and "a very buffy Individual."

Abbreviations: arr—arrival date; Cay—Cayuga; C Spa—Clifton Springs; Cly—Clyde; Co—County; dep—departure date; EL—Elmira; Ith—Ithaca; JP—Junius Ponds; KP—Keuka Park; L—Lake; LOS—reported at Laboratory of Ornithology Seminars; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD—Seneca Army Depot; WD—Waterloo Dump; WG—Watkins Glen; \* verification report filed.

Contributors and area compilers: Walter Benning; Jack Brubaker (WG); Robert Gustafson (MNWR); Frank Guthrie (KP); Wilfred Howell; Morgan Jones (SAD); Richard and Sally Jorgensen; Elaine Kibbe (Ith); Thomas Riley; Jim and Judy Stewart; Jayson Walker (Waterloo); Donald and Jeffery Walters; Mary Welles (El).

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 3 Oct. 31 Waneta-Lamoka Lakes; several Nov. reports Sen L; max 7 Nov. 1. Red-necked Grebe: 1 Waneta L. Horned Grebe: few on Sen L. Pied-billed Grebe: max 80 Oct. MNWR. Great Blue Heron: max 200 Sept. MNWR. Green Heron: max 40 Aug. MNWR; scattered reports elsewhere. Great Egret: 1 Aug. 22 WG; max 8 Aug. 30 MNWR. Least Bittern: 5 Aug. MNWR. American Bittern: max 30 Aug. MNWR; dep Nov. 23 MNWR. Whistling Swan: 1 early Nov. Sen F. Canada Goose: max 23,500 Oct. 19 MNWR; no build up on Sen L; heavy migration Sept. 20, 21, 30 El. Brant: 3 Oct. 22 Sen L (JB); 8 Oct. 14 Ith (Bob, Lisa Lewis *et. al.*). Snow Goose: arr white morph 2 Sept. 28, blue morph 7 Oct. 2; max both morphs 100 Oct. 19 MNWR. Max duck counts MNWR; Mallard: 28,000 Oct. 28. Black: 4,500 Oct. 15. Gadwall: 4,500 Oct. 19. Pintail: 4,000 Oct. 29. Green-winged Teal: 6,000 Oct. 19. Blue-winged Teal: 2,000 Sept. 30. American Wigeon: 9,000 Oct. 19. Northern Shoveler: 100 Oct. 29. Wood Duck: 3,000 Oct. 19. Redhead: 100 Nov. 25. Ring-necked Duck: 50 Nov. 25. Lesser Scaup: 25 Nov. 25. Bufflehead: 20 Nov. 19. Ruddy Duck 50 Nov. 5. Hooded Merganser: 500 Nov. 25. Common Merganser: 200

Nov. 25. Scattered reports of dabbling ducks from around the Region with Mallards, Blacks and Wood Duck most frequently mentioned. 6 Wood Ducks at C Spa were unusual (DJW). *EUROPEAN WIGEON*: 1 Nov. 9 MNWR (Bob, Lisa Lewis). \* Diving ducks scarce to absent. Redhead: 30 Sept. 8 MNWR early; 50 Nov. 29 Sen L. Canvasback: 200 Nov. 2 MNWR. Scaup: few. Common Goldeneye: no reports. Bufflehead: 30 Nov. 29 Sen L. Oldsquaw: 14 Nov. 2 SAD; 1 Nov. 7 MNWR. White-winged Scoter: 1 Nov. 14 MNWR. Red-breasted Merganser: LOS Oct. 7.

**HAWKS—OWLS**: Turkey Vulture: max 7 Sept. 15 Cly. Goshawk: 1 Nov. 23 MNWR; Schy Co Oct. 25; Ith Nov. 17. Cooper's Hawk: reported Montour Falls, Odessa, Cly Nov. 4, Schy Co, SAD Nov. 2. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Nov. 24 Ith. Broad-winged Hawk: Sept. 6 Texas Hollow Sanctuary. Rough-legged Hawk: arr 1 Oct. 25 MNWR; 24 reports in all. Bald Eagle: 1 imm 1 ad MNWR thru Sept. Marsh Hawk: max 3 Aug. MNWR; 1 Oct. 23 SAD; 3 Schy Co; 1 Sen F Oct. Osprey: 2 Sept. 4 MNWR. Ruffed Grouse: increasing Schy Co. Ring-necked Pheasant: reported only from Sen Co. Turkey: 5 Nov. 12 Hector (Gary Antinelli fide MJ). Sora Rail: 30 Aug. MNWR. Common Gallinule: max 24 Sept. 18 MNWR very low; dep 1 Nov. 3 WD late. American Coot: max 3,000 Oct. 11 MNWR.

Semipalmated Plover: max 12 Aug. 21 MNWR. Killdeer: max 56 Nov. 2 MNWR; 40 late Aug. Sen F; 50 Oct. 31-Nov. 1 WG. American Golden Plover: up to 25 late Aug. thru Oct. 4 Horseheads; 2 Nov. 2 MNWR. Black-bellied Plover: 2 Aug. 21 MNWR; 15 Aug. 29 Horseheads. Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Oct. 30-Nov. 1 WG. Common Snipe: max 28 Sept. 2 MNWR. Upland Plover: LOS Sept. 30 (Tom Howe) late. Spotted Sandpiper: max 15 MNWR. Solitary Sandpiper: max 8 Aug. 11 WD; 3 Aug. 29 Schy Co; 2 late Aug. Sen F. Greater Yellowlegs: max 22 Aug. 28 MNWR. Lesser Yellowlegs: max 75 Aug. 21 MNWR & WD. Pectoral Sandpiper: max 41 Oct. 4 WD. White-rumped Sandpiper: 3 Aug. 19 MNWR. Baird's Sandpiper: 1 Oct. 12, 1 Nov. 2 MNWR. Least Sandpiper: max 6 Sept. 15 MNWR. Dunlin: max 110 Oct. 16 El; 36 Oct. 16 WG; 80 Oct. 17 MNWR; 40 Oct. 20 WD. Short-billed Dowitcher: max 25 Sept. 7; dep 2 Nov. 14 MNWR. Long-billed Dowitcher: 1-6 Sept. 15-Oct. 25 MNWR. Stilt Sandpiper: max 42 Aug. 15; dep 5 Nov. 2 MNWR late. Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 40 Aug. 28 Savannah mucklands. Western Sandpiper: 1 Aug. 28 WG (JB); 1 Oct. 2 Meyers Point Cay L (D Kibbe). *BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER*: 1 Aug. 29 Horseheads (WH, MW et. al.)\*. Sanderling: 1 Nov. 2 MNWR. Wilson's Phalarope: 1-3 thru Sept. 15 MNWR. Northern Phalarope: 1-4 thru Sept. 24 MNWR. *GLAUCOUS GULL*: 1 Nov. 2-7 MNWR (WB)\* early. Great Black-backed Gull: LOS Sept. 30 on; 1 Oct. 17 WG first in 2 years. Bonaparte's Gull: 1 Oct. 17 Sen L. Common Tern: 5 Sept. 20 Sen L WG. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Sept-Oct. Penn Yan. Black-billed Cuckoo: singles Aug.-Oct. Penn Yan. Great-horned Owl: 15 MNWR; scattered reports other parts of the Region. Snowy Owl: 2 in Nov. south of Penn Yan; 1 Nov. 7 Tompkins-Cortland Co Community College campus (Sue Cardwell fide EK). Possibly the same bird on the Cornell campus Nov. 11-27. Long-eared Owl: 1 Nov. 10 Niles (TB). Short-eared Owl: 1 Nov. 18-19 SAD; 1 Nov. 23 Willard.

**GOATSUCKERS—STARLING**: Common Nighthawk 2 Aug. 26 KP; numerous during summer but down to 6 by Aug. 25 El. Chimney Swift: 200 Aug. 25 City Hall El; dep 9 Sept. 25 C Spa. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: dep 1 Sept. 30 C Spa. Pileated Woodpecker: 3 reports Schy Co. Eastern Kingbird: LOS Sept. 23. Great Crested Flycatcher: dep Sept. 22 MNWR. Eastern Phoebe: dep Oct. 10 Cly. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: singles banded by Lerch at Penn Yan in Sept. and Oct. Eastern Wood Pewee: LOS Oct. 7. Horned Lark: 25 mid-Nov. Ovid. Swallows: all species seemed to leave a little early. Common Crow: migratory movement noted Oct. 26-28 MNWR. Tufted Titmouse: 2 at feeders WG. Red-breasted Nuthatch: more reports than last year. Winter Wren: 5 Oct. 1 KP; 1 Nov. 24 WG. Carolina Wren: 1 Oct. 26 Romulus (B. Hilfiker fide MJ); 1 Nov. 17 Ith (JJS); 2 locations Schy Co; 1 KP. Long-billed Marsh Wren: 3 Sept. 5 WG. Brown Thrasher: dep 1 Sept. 22 MNWR. Wood Thrush: LOS Oct. 14. Hermit Thrush: LOS Nov. 11. Swainson's Thrush: mistnetted Nov. 10 Ith (Don Rycker fide EK). Gray-cheeked Thrush: TV tower casualty El (WH). Eastern Bluebird: 3 Nov. 13 Ith (JJS); more reports than last year Schy Co; 4 Nov. 4 around nest-