

5 ccs. White-throated: thru (mob); 311 ccs. Swamp: 4 ccs. Song: thru Col. Co.; 1 Feb. 29 Schenectady feeder; 107 ccs. 3 Lapland Longspur: Acc. Snow Bunting: flocks of 30-500 thru Jan. and Feb. (mob); 136 ccs.

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REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

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The season was very cold thru mid-February, when record high temperatures arrived. From mid-December thru the end of January, there was at least one major snowfall each week. The ground was continuously snow covered. Lakes were frozen by January, and remained so until the warm mid-February temperatures melted them. They remained open for the rest of the period. The Hudson froze quickly in December, but was also open by mid-February. Temperatures in Jan. were occasionally below 0° F (-17.8° C).

The season was characterized by an excellent incursion of northern finches, not as good as some years, but definitely better than most. The Federation Waterfowl Count fared well considering the amount of ice. The 19 species recorded was one less than last year, and only two less than the all time high of 21 in 1965. Most area Christmas counts did well, with more than the usual numbers of species and individuals recorded. No reports were received on the Rockland Christmas Count, and no reports were received at all in any way from Westchester. We need reporters badly from that county.

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Abbreviations used: FDC—Federation Duck Count, Jan. 10-18; MCC—Mearns Bird Club Christmas Count, Dec. 27; WCC—Waterman Bird Club Christmas Count, Dec. 27.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: 1 Ashokan Res. Nov. 29 (PP). Horned Grebe: high count of 56 on Ashokan Res. Dec. 27 was impressive. Single birds returned to area with thaw of mid-Feb. Pied-billed Grebe: a few wintered on open water. **DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT**: 1 MCC on Hudson at Highland Falls. Great Blue Heron: a few in open water. Canada Goose: a few very large flocks reported in late Feb. Numbers good thru end of period, with residents generally on location. Pintail: more wintering than usual. None on FDC. Green-winged Teal: 2 on FDC. Am. Wigeon: 2 on FDC. Wood Duck: 1 on FDC. Red-head: 2 on FDC, 2 at Cornwall Bay thru March. 50-60 Dec. 2 Rudd Pd. Dutch. (MY). Ring-necked Duck: good number of 121 on FDC. Scattered reports thru region for whole period. Canvasback: good numbers on Hudson thru period. 336 on FDC was half of last year's count but still good. 215 were on WCC. **TUFTED DUCK**: 1 Rockland L. from Feb. 29-Mar. 4 (Gene Brown, mob). Bufflehead: 27 was almost twice last year's FDC. Oldsquaw: single birds reported from several locations thru period. 1 on FDC, and another on Wappingers L. at end of period. White-winged Scoter: 3 Dec. 1 at Chelsea (JMK). Ruddy Duck: only 1 on FDC compared to max. of 394 last year. Hooded Merganser: 11 on FDC and several others on open water thru period. Common Merganser: 192 on FDC compared to 32 last year.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: a few scattered reports in January would indicate possible wintering. 1 at Middletown on Feb. 19 was probably an early return. Most areas reported them by the end of season. Goshawk: a few reports thru season; 1 on MCC, 2 in

Dutch. in early Dec., and another at Freedom Plains Feb. 11. Sharp-shinned Hawk: the usual few reports thru season. Cooper's Hawk: 1 several times at Wawarsing, 1 at Wurtsboro thru Dec. and Jan. 1 at Stissing Dutch. Jan. 20. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Feb. 24 at Titusville Rd. Dutch. (KM). Rough-legged Hawk: average winter. **GOLDEN EAGLE**: 2 birds spent their third winter along Stissing Mt. near Thompson Pd., Dutch. Bald Eagle: 1 or 2 reports of Hudson R. birds. Max. 12 at Rio and Mongaup Res. in Sull. (8 adults, 4 imm.). 3 ad. and 1 imm. were at Rondout Res. Jan. 25. **MERLIN**: 1 on Feb. 16 near Pine Plains (Bob Goodrich). Am. Kestrel: very good numbers thru region for period. Bobwhite: 6 on WCC and reported daily in Dutch. 3 on MCC. Turkey: 10 near Mongaup Res. thru period. Virginia Rail: 2 in Dutch. Jan. 22 (1 on Fowler Rd. and the other on Canoo Rd.). Both adults (Forrest and Aline Romaro). Am. Coot: 163 on FDC. 65 on WCC. Am. Woodcock: FH reports 1 on Feb. 29 near Kripplebush. Probably the earliest record for Ulst. 5 birds in Dutch. the last week of Feb. the first on Feb. 25. **ICELAND GULL**: 1 vicinity of Kingston Pt. Hudson R. Jan. 31 (Al Brayton). Bonaparte's Gull: 2 on WCC and 1 on MCC.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: numbers exceptionally good thru period. 584 on WCC and 306 on MCC. Barn Owl: 1 pr. with nearly fledged young at barn in Warwink was gone by Dec. 25. Another pr. at a railroad trestle near Chester in Dec. were later shot. Long-eared Owl: 1 Tallman Mt. swimming pool most of Feb. Saw-whet Owl: 1 heard at Mohonk L. Feb. 25. (DS). Common Flicker: usual few wintered. Red-bellied Woodpecker: continues to increase, 1 or 2 found on Christmas counts reporting. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 from Jan. 18-25 in Upper Nyack.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: **GRAY JAY**: bird of last fall remained at Moore's Mills thru Jan. Another in late Dec. at Salt Point. 1 Livingston Manor Dec. 12. Fish Crow: 5 on WCC; 1 Kingston Pt. Dec. 27. **BOREAL CHICKADEE**: more reported than in recent years. At least 5 at Aeration Basin, Ashokan Res. thru period (PP). Tufted Titmouse: 101 on WCC. first bird of this species reported that count in 1958. 102 on MCC. Winter Wren: 1 on Jan. 21 at Fishkill (KM). 3 in Middletown repeatedly in Jan. and Feb. Carolina Wren: seems to have wintered well. Mockingbird: single bird on WCC in 1960, total this year was 119. Gray Catbird: 1 Jan. 30 E. Fishkill and another Jan. 6 Stissing. Brown Thrasher: 2 regularly thru period at 2 different locations in Dutch. Hermit Thrush: wintered again at Kripplebush (FH). 2 on WCC. Eastern Bluebird: 2-3 wintered at Wawarsing. 15-20 in Dutch. thru Feb. Northern Shrike: more repeated than usual. 1 near L. Welch Feb. 16, and another seen several times near Nyack. 1 on WCC and 3 others that Co. dur. Dec. 5 reports that Co. dur. Jan.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Yellow-rumped Warbler: 3 Dutch. reports in Jan. 1. Audubon race was at the DeOrsey feeder near Poughkeepsie from Feb. 5-9 (mob). Red-winged Blackbird: a few moved in in early Feb. Large flocks observed by Feb. 21. Northern Oriole: 1 Jan. 2 near Poughkeepsie. Cardinal: 117 on WCC. Only 14 in 1958. **INDIGO BUNTING**: 1 Dec. 13-19 at Pritchard's feeder in Pleasant Valley, Dutch. (MVW). House Finch: first on WCC in 1965, 1 bird. 140 obs. that count this year. Pine Grosbeak: several scattered reports. Max. 20 in Dutch. (MVW). 24 near Woodbourne, Sull. Jan. 13 (Valerie Freer). **HOARY REDPOLL**: 1 with flock of 150 Common Redpolls near Poughkeepsie Feb. 11 (MJK). Common Redpoll: not as common as some years, but well represented by several large flocks esp. in Feb. Pine Siskin: a few small flocks and several individuals reported from several feeders thru region. Red Crossbill: only report 1 Moore's Mills Jan. 8. (HM). White-winged Crossbill: 16 near Millbrook Jan. 23 (MJK). 8 in snow storm at Upper Nyack Feb. 2. Rufous-sided Towhee: 4 reports, with at least 2 surviving the entire period. Field Sparrow: 13 on MCC. White-throated Sparrow: unprecedented numbers. 320 on WCC, usual averages 100. 273 on MCC. 192 on Burrough's Count in Ulster, usual averages 75. Fox Sparrow: 2 winter birds in Dutch. 1 Mohonk Feb. 25 (DS), 2 near L. Sheldrake Feb. 24. Snow Bunting: not many; largest flocks 80 near Monticello Jan. 17-28, and 200 Jan. 25 in Dutch. Several other smaller flocks reported.

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