

Co.; present for first time on Cicero Center BBS; THP tallies rather low—eight-ten/day. Swamp Sparrow: summer max only 16 in grassy marsh northwest of Cicero Jun. 18; somewhat scarce generally—major marshes (Clay Marsh, Scott Swamp, HIGMA) with very low tallies—only four-six/day. Song Sparrow: down, in some cases by a third or more, on eight of the ten BBS.

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## REGION 6 – ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

Summer of 1977 was an improvement over the previous year but the weather was very changeable. Temperatures fluctuated through the period—highs were in the 90s (33° C) while lows got into the 50s (10° C). June was normal—July was hot and very dry while August was wet and cool.

Waterfowl looked better than last year. Raptors showed very minor improvement. Shorebirds were excellent and land birds were mixed—some way down—others up.

Rarities during the period included Red-throated Loon, Stilt Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Yellow-billed Cuckoo; Yellow-throated Vireo and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Region 6 has lost two excellent birders but Region 3 has gained them. Good luck to Tom and Cathy Carrolan in their new location and Tom's new career.

Contributors: Richard Brouse; Lee B. Chamberlaine (LBC); Frank A. Clinch; Robert Goodrich; John Green; Ken Mellon; Gerald A. Smith (GAS); Joe A. VanRiet; Louis Wallace; Robert & June Walker (RCW); Harold Wiley.

Abbreviations: ED—Eldorado; LWMA—Lakeview Wildlife Mgt. Area; PRWMA—Perch River WMA; RMPD—Robt. Moses Power Dam; RMSP—Robt. Moses State Park; SLR—St. Lawrence River; ULLWMA—Upper & Lower Lakes WMA; WHWMA—Wilson Hill WMA.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: 1 SLR June 12 & 23; 2 Coles Crk Aug. 8, 9 & 11. **RED-THROATED LOON**: 1 June 10 (GAS). Double-crested Cormorant: 2 July 1; 1 Aug. 13; 1 Aug. 25, all ED; an increase in numbers in Stony Pt. and vicinity (LBC). Great Blue Heron: new rookery location Town of Edwards, St. Lawrence Co.—65+ nests in about 10 beech trees July 1 (JAV); numbers in lake plains up. Green Heron: numbers in Henderson and vicinity up. Black-crowned Night Heron: numbers in Henderson Harbor and vicinity up from previous three years (LBC). Least Bittern: 1 Dexter Marsh Aug. 21 (Brouse & Wiley) 1 St. Regis Indian Reservation July 7 (JAV). Am. Bittern: in excellent numbers at LWMA and PRWMA (LBC). Canada Goose: gosling production up from last years PRWMA; WHWMA about the same; ULLWMA some goslings from flock started 4 years ago. Brant: 13 SLR June 1; 1 SLR June 1; 1 SLR, June 4; 2 SLR June 5—all (JAV); seldom reported but must pass thru Region in fair numbers. Mallard: a very successful nesting year regionwide; 250 ED July 1. Black Duck: numbers down. Black x Mallard hybrid increasing at PRWMA—5 banded in Aug. Gadwall: 3 WHWMA banded Aug. Pintail: a few at WHWMA Aug. Green-winged Teal: a few banded at WHWMA Aug. Blue-winged Teal: 60+ pairs LWMA June (LBC); 30 ED Aug. 19. Am. Wigeon 1 ED Aug. 13. No. Shoveler: none reported. Wood Duck: production up from last year in southern portion of Region—production on ULLWMA was down?—birds appeared on this area in late August—produced elsewhere? Redhead: none reported. Ring-necked Duck: no reports from ULLWMA. Canvasback: none. Greater Scaup: 1 male WHWMA June 23 (JAV). Com. Goldeneye: 2 males WHWMA June

10 (JAV & GAS). Ruddy Duck: 1 WHWMA June 23 (JAV). Hooded Merganser: none reported—status of population questionable—not reported as in past years? Com. Merganser: 2 WHWMA June 10; 8 SLR July 2.

**HAWKS—ALCIDS:** Turkey Vulture: 1 Adams July 11; Theresa Aug. 8. Goshawk: no reports. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Glen Park Aug. 31 (LBC). Cooper's Hawk: possible nest Adams area (Ken Mellon). Red-tailed Hawk: numbers about the same. Bald Eagle: 3 reports may be same bird? 1 adult Five Falls Reservoir Raquette River June 13 (L. Wallace); 1 adult Five Falls July 25 (L. Wallace); 1 adult 3rd flew up river from So. Colton-Raquette River July 31 (J. Green). Marsh Hawk: none reported. Osprey: numerous reports but no successful nestings known. Am. Kestrel: regular. Ruffed Grouse: high numbers still holding. Gray Partridge: 1 adult 10 young Three Mile Bay Pt. July 3 (RCW); 19 Rt. 26 between Alex Bay and Redwood Aug. 22 (RCW); a slight increase in numbers this year! Semipalmated Plover: 2 June 1; 6 June 8; 5 Aug. 23 SLR Croil Isl.; 4 ED July 19. Black-bellied Plover: 2 Croil Isl. June 1; 1 Croil Isl. June 8. Ruddy Turnstone: 16 Croil Isl. June 1; 2 same Aug. 5; 1 same Aug. 14—all (JAV). Am. Woodcock: production may be a little above last years? Upland Sandpiper: 4 Haverstock Rd. June 14; 1 Limerick July 2; 4 Sackets Hbr. July 19; numbers above past 4 years in So. Jefferson County. Spotted Sandpiper: 12 ED July 19. Solitary Sandpiper: 1 ED Aug. 19. Greater Yellowlegs: 1 ED July 1; 8 ED July 19 (RCW) 1 Croil Isl. July 30. Lesser Yellowlegs: max 36 ED July 19 (RCW). Pectoral Sandpiper: 4 ED July 19. Least Sandpiper: 1 Croil Isl. June 7; 6 ED July 19; 8 Croil Isl. July 30; 40 Aug. 19 & 30 Aug. 23 Croil Isl. (JAV). Dunlin: 1 Croil Isl. June 6; 1 same loc June 12. Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 June 8; 1 ED July 19; 1 Aug. 4; 1 Aug. 14. **STILT SANDPIPER:** 1 ED Aug. 19 (RCW). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 51 June 1; 16 June 7; 60 June 8; 75 ED July 19; 77 July 19 (JAV). 148 July 30 (JAV); 60 Aug. 19. **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** 2 Burnt Rock Rd. 3 Mile Bay Aug. 21 (Robt. Goodrich). Sanderling: 20 ED July 19 1 Aug. 19; 1 Aug. 30.

Ring-billed Gull: very high numbers in Henderson area; evidence of high die-off—starvation suspect?—no alewife die-offs in summer months. Bonaparte's Gull: 1 ED July 19; 1 ED Aug. 19; 45 RMPD Aug. 30 (JAV). Com. Tern: 80 pair nesting SLR-Massena June 12 (JAV). 4 ED July 19—seems scarce this summer (RCW). Caspian Tern: 3 July 19; 5 Aug. 13; 9 Aug. 19; 2 Aug. 25 all ED. Black Tern: 1 pair nesting SLR off Long Sault—not successful (JAV); nesting at LWMA way up (LBC).

**PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS:** Mourning Dove: not as high numbers as last year—but plentiful. **YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO:** 1 Dry Hill June 16, 20 & 21; 1 Dry Hill Aug. 8 both (RCW). Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 Dry Hill June 19 & 21; 1 July 6 & Aug. 8 (RCW); Walkers feel both species nest on Dry Hill across road from their house. Chimney Swift: not in previous numbers in Henderson area (LBC). Pileated Woodpecker: 1 Raymondville July 16; 1 June 25 Rices. Red-headed Woodpecker: no reports? Hairy Woodpecker: almost nonexistent in Henderson area (LBC). Downy Woodpecker: somewhat better than Hairy but down.

**FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS:** E. Kingbird: everywhere in late August. Willow Flycatcher: 1 RMSP June 10 (GAS). Alder Flycatcher: 1 RMSP June 10 (GAS). Horned Lark: none reported—not seen on lake plain as in past years (LBC). Barn Swallow: numbers in Henderson area down? (LBC). Cliff Swallow: + 600 nests RMPD—+ 240 nests at Long Sault Cofferdam—July 5 not necessarily occupied (JAV). Purple Martin: numbers in Henderson vicinity down (LBC). Blue Jay: a general upswing in numbers (LBC). White-breasted Nuthatch: almost nonexistent in Henderson and vicinity. Brown Creeper: not reported. House Wren: about normal numbers. Carolina Wren: none in previous locations—Whites Bay Henderson Harbor. Long-billed Marsh Wren: excellent numbers LWMA (LBC). Mockingbird: none reported. Gray Catbird: numbers up slightly. Am. Robin: must have had a good year—migrants in 100s each day late Aug. Water Pipit: 1 SLR Aug. 21 (JAV). Cedar Waxwing: more observable or numbers up? Good berry crop. Loggerhead Shrike: no reports—status in Region?

**VIREOS—WARBLERS: YELLOW-THROATED VIREO:** 1 Coles Creek June 14 (JAV). Nashville Warbler: 1 Coles Creek June 22 (JAV). Yellow Warbler: more numerous than usual in Henderson area. Canada Warbler: 2 Brasher Iron Works June 3.

**WEAVERS—SPARROWS:** Bobolink: very high numbers thru late August. Northern Oriole: more in Henderson than previous 2 years. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: numbers up in much of Region. Purple Finch: abundant all summer on lake plain. Savannah Sparrow: down—down—down (LBC). Vesper Sparrow: a few more than last year but down. Chipping Sparrow: seemed above normal numbers? **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** 1 ED Aug. 7 (F. Scheider).

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## REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

Lake Champlain was lower than normal which encouraged shorebirds to stop. Much of the country seemed to complain of drought but perhaps all their rain fell in our mountain areas. If this was a drought year, I believe I'll tie my canoe to the back porch when they predict a rainy spell. It rained day after day during much of the period. Apparently the mountains caught the rain before it could reach the more eastern regions.

One week of July was hot, but there were killing frosts in some areas at some time during each of the three months of the period, as those trying to raise squash in their gardens can verify. This probably had little effect on migrant birds but the overabundance of rain may have adversely affected some breeding birds. Some ground nesting species such as White-throated Sparrow and Winter Wren were greatly reduced in numbers. A cheerful note was the fair numbers of Common Nighthawk, Whip-poor-will, and Osprey. Two late Wilson's Warblers were noted and hopes for a breeding pair were expressed. Gadwall was added to the Essex county list of breeding birds. The good finds also included Long-tailed Jaeger.

Abbreviations: Aus. Pt—Ausable Point on Lake Champlain in Clinton County; E'town—Elizabethtown; Four Bros—Four Brothers Islands in Lake Champlain; Ham—southern Hamilton County; PS—Paul Smiths; Platts—Plattsburgh; NBBS—Newcomb Breeding Bird Survey June 30 Alice Jones & Helen Manson; Spec BBS—Speculator Breeding Bird Survey June 14 Fritz Scheider & Dorothy McIlroy; Underwood Breeding Bird Survey June 27 Alice Jones & Helen Manson.

Contributors: BA—Bud Albee; KB—Ken Berlin; GC—Geoffrey Carleton; DCa—David Capen; DC—Dewey Clark; JC—Joan Clark; CD—Charlie Delehanty; DeS—Dr. & Mrs. Bruno DeSimone; BD—Bonnie Drinkwine; LE—Lang Elliott; RH—Robert Hagar; BH—Betty Hedges; HK—Hal Klein; FLA—Ferdinand LaFrance; ES—Esther MacCready; KM—Ken McDermott; DM—Dorothy McIlroy; GM—Gordon Meade; JP—John (Mike) Peterson; WP—William Peterson; JR—Jerry Rosenband; WR—William Rutherford; FS—Fritz Scheider; R&MS—Robert & Mary Sheffield; CS—Carole Slatkin; PT—Pat Tabor.

**LOONS—DUCKS:** Common Loon: 32 reported, with 5 noted as immatures. In addition BH found a dead immature at Raquette Lake. This species has not been faring well in New York because of increased human activity on area ponds and lakes. Write to Judy McIntyre, Dept. of Biology, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210 for report forms if you see loons and wish to help by submitting needed observations. Double-crested Cormorant: 45 Four Bros. June 11 (mob) but not nesting. Green Heron: 3 empty nests Aus. Pt. July 3 with 2 dead young on ground (PW); 2 Chubb River July 31 (KM) plus several at usual places.