

four Coles Creek June 19 (Van Riet). E. Wood Pewee: about normal numbers. **OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER**: one El Dorado Aug. 15 (Crumb). Tree Swallow: in normal numbers. Bank Swallow: may be decreasing and bears watching. Barn Swallow—numbers still down in Henderson and vicinity. Cliff Swallow: 978 nests counted on three Massena area dams on July 1 (Van Riet); formerly a seldom-reported species. Purple Martin: in Henderson area numbers still down. Blue Jay: in Henderson area numbers are up. Black-capped Chickadee: not in normal numbers in Henderson and vicinity. White-breasted Nuthatch: numbers in Henderson down. Red-breasted Nuthatch: not in normal numbers. Brown Creeper: very few reported. House Wren: in normal numbers if not a little above normal. Carolina Wren: no reports. Long-billed Marsh Wren: about normal numbers. Mockingbird: none reported. Gray Catbird: thru period. Am. Robin: seems to be up in numbers in much of the Region. Hermit Thrush: one Coles Creek June 16. Veery: 22 Wilson Hill June 13; 14 Coles Creek June 16; 57 Coles Creek June 19. Cedar Waxwing: not as common as last year—smaller flocks. Loggerhead Shrike: no reports—this species has just about disappeared from the Region.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Black-and-white Warbler: two June 3; one June 19. Blue-winged Warbler: one Dry Hill June 24 (Walkers). Golden-winged Warbler: one Dry Hill June 15 (Walker). **"BREWSTER'S" WARBLER**: one singing Blue-winged song Dry Hill June 3 (Walkers). Nashville Warbler: two Coles Creek June 19; one Wilson Hill July 4 (Van Riet). Yellow Warbler: 30 Coles Creek June 19. Yellow-rumped Warbler: three July 4. **PINE WARBLER**: one Coles Creek June 19 (Van Riet); seldom reported in Region. Mourning Warbler: one Wilson Hill June 11. Common Yellowthroat: 16 Coles Creek June 19.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: started southward migration before end of period. E. Meadowlark: may be a slight increase from previous numbers. Common Grackle: very high reproductive success in Henderson area; one young "silver" in color seen at feeder in July. Brown-headed Cowbird: numbers in Henderson area are way down from last year. Cardinal: none in the Henderson area; Watertown city population about normal. Evening Grosbeak: bird banded April 17, 1976 in Watertown captured and released on Feb. 3, 1978 at Natchitoches, Louisiana—first known bird to go that far southwest; bird banded at Jay, Oklahoma, retrapped Watertown; the first Oklahoma banded Evening Grosbeak to be recovered anywhere (Clinch). Purple Finch: a few all summer. **HOUSE FINCH**: pair at feeder all summer—by early July their young came with them—first evidence of breeding in Watertown (Clinch). Savannah Sparrow: still in trouble. Vesper Sparrow: none reported—another species that has problems. Chipping Sparrow: seemed more common than two previous years. White-throated Sparrow: found breeding on Stony Point next to Lake Ontario—usually found at higher elevations such as peripheral Tug Hill and east of I-81. Swamp Sparrow: nine Coles Creek June 19.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

This summer season was unusual in that it was drier, with about 40 days of temperatures over 80° F. Some years there are only one or two hot days. Lake Champlain may have some nice shorebird flats exposed for fall.

There were a lot of tent caterpillars and a consequent wide reporting of Black-billed Cuckoos with a few Yellow-billed reported from the Champlain Valley. Cedar Waxwings were everywhere. They were the most common inland bird at times, usurping that title from the Red-eyed Vireo.

A first documented report of a bird from the state, plus a first state nesting record for another species lent excitement to the season.

Contributors: L and R Brousseau; Geoffrey Carleton; Charlie Delehanty; Beth Edmonds; Betty Hedges; Alice Jones; Ferdinand LaFrance; Ted Mack; Dorothy McIlroy; Bob and Margaret McKinney; Helen Manson; Gordon Meade; Dan Nickerson; John M. Peterson; Katherine Ray; Bill Rutherford; Fritz Scheider; Mary Yegella; Robert Yunick.

LOONS-DUCKS: Young Common Loons were raised on Upper St. Regis: two adults and two young were on Sand Lake near Piseco; two adults were at Bridge Brook Pond at Tupper. **WESTERN GREBE:** Charlie Delehanty found one on Tupper July 2 and it stayed at least until Sept. 15th. Geoffrey Carleton, Gordon Meade, and several others had good viewings. Photographs were taken. The bird was obviously not a loon. It had a white neck and face with black cap, hind neck and body. This will make the first documented report for the state, and therefore remove the species from the hypothetical list. A pair of Mute Swans were mentioned as nesting on the Saranac River in Franklin County by the D.E.C. but there is no verification at the moment. Canada Geese nested at Tupper and a late Snow Goose was at Four Bros. in Lake Champlain on June 17. Black Ducks with large broods were seen. There were eight downy Ring-necked Ducks on Tupper July 15 and 15 on August 31. A female Common Goldeneye with 14 young was on Bear Pond July 9. Later only four young were seen (TM). Katherine Ray saw a Black Scoter on Lake Abanaki July 22 to the 24th. The wings showed all black when flapped and the yellow on bill was brilliant. This unusual location seems to attract this species lately.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: A Turkey Vulture at Madawaska Aug. 21 was an unusual location. The species has occurred there before as a transient. A Red-shouldered Hawk was at Tupper June 12 and an eagle (sp.) was at Lewis July 15. No Spruce Grouse were seen at Madawaska. They seem to be dying out there. D.E.C. released Ring-necked Pheasants on a put-and-take basis near Keene and Saranac Lake. Three Ruddy Turnstones were at Four Bros. June 16. Killdeer numbers are up. Ring-billed Gulls built up to 70 at Tupper by Aug. 31. Four Black Terns were at Tupper June 6.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: At least one Great Horned Owl is at Paul Smiths. Barred Owls made most campers' evenings more of a wilderness experience than usual but Saw-whet continued absent. Whip-poor-wills were at Jay, Malone, Sugar Bush, and a town called Street Road near Ticonderoga. A flight of 17 Common Nighthawks passed over Paul Smiths in mid-August. Both Ruby-throated Hummingbirds and Belted Kingfishers were present in fine numbers. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and Hairy Woodpeckers were eating pin cherries (*Prunus pensylvanica*) at Piseco Lake. A female Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker was at Newcomb near where, last year, Alice Jones saw a male at a hole with a young bird peeking out.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Great year for Great Crested Flycatchers. A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was at St. Huberts July 2 (R & M Mc). Most of us overlook this species. Least Flycatchers were half last year's numbers. Five Gray Jays were at Madawaska Aug. 25. Two Common Ravens at Street Road July 23 (FL). This is a new location and the seven at St. Huberts was a high count. Lots of Boreal Chickadees including a nest found by Alice Jones with adult carrying a soiled diaper from a yellow birch stub at North Elba June 25. Five people commented on low counts for Winter Wren. A Mockingbird was at Street Road July 23. Swainson's Thrush was in fair numbers. No Eastern Bluebirds at Tupper but a few at Brandon, one at Street Road, two at Piseco, three at Newcomb, one at St. Huberts and one

at Indian Lake. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: two at Onchiota as usual, four at Brandon all summer, one at St. Huberts, June 25 and one at Newcomb in late June. Finding a nest could be difficult, but would be rewarding.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: A Yellow-throated Vireo at Speculator July 13 was a good find in this Region. Red-eyed Vireo: 101 and 96 on each of two breeding bird surveys. A Philadelphia Vireo was at Newcomb July 12. Warbling Vireo: two at St. Huberts is all. Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Ovenbird were at least half the normal numbers. Chestnut-sided Warbler and Redstart were very successful with 40 or more on some survey routes. There were 16 Nashville Warblers at Newcomb in late June. Betty Hedges saw a male Cape May Warbler on the Brandeth Road July 30. Two Bay-breasted Warblers were at Speculator June 13. Robert and Margaret McKinney saw an adult male **CONNECTICUT WARBLER** at Indian Lake at 20 feet in good light with 10 power binocs. It was singing the typical song on July 1. It was not a young Mourning Warbler. The same observer banded an immature last summer at same location. This bears watching next season since a nest would be quite a find. It could happen. Here is a nesting that has already happened. Dan Nickerson found a **WILSON'S WARBLER** nest at North Meadow, North Elba in a hummock, on July 1 for a first verified nesting of the species in New York. There were four eggs. Mike Peterson saw bird and eggs later in the day.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: High count for Northern Oriole was five at Street Road. Four Rusty Blackbirds were at Raquette Lake July 12 for the high count. Two Cardinals were at Street Road July 23. Evening Grosbeaks raised young at Tupper. Red Crossbills were in small flocks in late summer. A **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** was buzzing at Whallonsburg on June 29 (DN & later JMP). Swamp Sparrows were scarce.

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REGION 8 – HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Once again, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Surveys provided a basis of measure of our current nesting season success. This region was well-covered this year with seventeen surveys conducted, thirteen of which are recounted here. The cumulative species total of all the surveys is 111 species. However, only 18 species were found on every route. The ten most numerous species of the combined surveys are: Red-winged Blackbird 1107; Starling 564; Am. Robin 560; Barn Swallow 428; Song Sparrow 377; Red-eyed Vireo 371; Com. Grackle 360; Com. Crow 324; Wood Thrush 314 and Com. Yellowthroat 306. Twenty-eight species were among the ten most numerous species on at least one route, but only American Robin appeared on all 13 lists.

The surveys can be grouped according to the physiographic ecosystems with interesting but predictable results and a few surprises. The Adirondack ecosystem had four surveys; Hope Falls (July 5), South Horicon (July 6), North River (July 1) and Warrensburg (July 7). Species of northern affinity reported from these counts include: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Swainson's Thrush, Solitary Vireo, Nashville, Magnolia, Yellow-