

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-

rumped, Mourning and Canada Warblers; also Dark-eyed Junco and White-throated Sparrow. High tallies were recorded for Broad-winged Hawk (8), Bank Swallow (107), Red-eyed Vireo (253) and Ovenbird (94). Conspicuously absent were: Eastern Meadowlark and House Sparrow. Interesting species recorded were three Golden-crowned Kinglets (HFalls), Northern Parula (HFalls), Mourning Warbler (HFalls & No. River), and Pine Warbler (one each S. Horicon & Warrensburg). The highest Cardinal and the only Tufted Titmouse, Mockingbird and House Finch counts came from the Hudson Lowlands surveys, Catskill (June 7), North Easton (June 21) and Ballston Lake (July 6). The Ball L. survey had a few curious absences in being the only survey not reporting Least Flycatcher, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Northern Oriole. Also missing from Ball L. were Chimney Swift, Ovenbird, Bobolink and Scarlet Tanager. However, these were absent also from one or more other counts and may be partly attributed to the late date of the survey. On the high side, Ball L. tallied max, in Mourning Dove (41), Com. Crow (51), Black-capped Chickadee (18), White-breasted Nuthatch (16), House Wren (22) and Com. Grackle (73).

Bridging the altitudinal extremes of the two previous ecosystems are the Catskill and Taconic Mountains and the Appalachian Plateau (Helderberg Hills). Combined, these ecosystems have the greatest area in this region and were covered by the most surveys. These surveys were: Petersburg (June 17), So. Berne (June 26), Cobleskill (June 29), Duanesburg (July 1), Medusa (July 3) and Platte Cove (June 30). Representative species from both northern and southern affinities may be found along the same route. For example, Yellow-throated Vireo (three) was accompanied by Yellow-rumped Warbler and Purple Finch on the Cobleskill survey. Another Yellow-throated Vireo, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-winged Warblers (two) and Louisiana Waterthrush (five) joined Alder Flycatcher (seven), Hermit Thrush (two), Yellow-rumped Warbler and Purple Finch and White-throated Sparrows (four each) on the So. Berne survey.

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LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: one Thirteenth Lake (Warren Co.) June 30; two Hudson R at Albany, Aug. 17. Double-crested Cormorant: a few regular along Hudson R thru period; max. 27 Inboc late Aug. Snowy Egret: three Hudson, Aug. 3 (WL).

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: thru period Ghent, max. 11 (B & HG). Cooper's Hawk: one Chatham Aug. 4, only report. Red-shouldered Hawk: intermittently thru period Chatham (KD). Marsh Hawk: singles reported from Columbia, Saratoga and Washington Counties each month. Osprey: Aug. 3 Col. Co.; Aug. 14 Hudson R at New Balt., early migrants. Least Sandpiper: a late northbound or early southbound individual Ghent, **June 14 (B & HG)**. Great Black-backed Gull: varying numbers Hudson R thru period, max. 116 Coeymans, June 10 (RPG).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: reported only from Catskill BBS. Black-billed Cuckoo: seven BBS reports, well up from last year. Com. Nighthawk: encouraging reports of 50 to "well over 100," mid-Aug. Chimney Swift: nine from a remote stretch on the No. River BBS, probably a group of traditionalists still using hollow trees as nest

sites. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: very few reports, total three from BBS's. Pileated Woodpecker: well reported incl. ten from BBS's. **RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER**: one Palmer's Ravine, early June (TP & RM). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 20 No. River BBS; 13 H. Falls BBS, (both very high).

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: a remarkable five singing July 10, Partridge Run (Albany Co.) (KA); also two Warren Co. reports mid-July. Cliff Swallow: a distressing 16 (low) from BBS's, compare two this year vs 11 last year on So. Berne BBS. Eastern Bluebird: five from four BBS's; reported absent from a long time nest area. Golden-crowned Kinglet: adult feeding five fledglings Aug. 24 No. River (RPG).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Warbler reports include: Pine Warbler: one each So. Horicon and Warrensburg BBS's; also one Chatham Aug. 6 (KD). Prairie Warbler: one each Catskill and So. Berne BBS's. Northern Waterthrush: none reported on BBS's, max. five So. Berne. Yellow-breasted Chat: one Berne June 24 (KA), only report. Early warbler movement came in mid to late Aug., spurring reports of many of our northerly species, such as Nashville, N. Parula, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Yellow-rumped and Blackburnian.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: max. 18 Duanesburg BBS. Purple Finch: seems more widespread than usual, reported from ten BBS's. Pine Siskin: two lingered until June 16 at Albany Pine Bush (AS). Vesper Sparrow: two each Cobleskill and Duanesburg BBS's. White-throated Sparrow: reported on six BBS's, max. 19 Warrensburg.

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REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

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June was warm and dry, with the first appreciable rain falling on July 3-4. July was more normal, but things turned cool and somewhat wet during early August. The latter half of that month was hot and humid with very little precipitation.

The usual post-breeding invasion of herons occurred in mid-August with Great Egrets being the most numerous. Shorebirds started through in July with a continuous build-up in numbers through August. Warbler movements were in full swing by mid-August, with a good tally both of species and numbers. Perhaps the big event of the season was the number of Acadian Flycatchers reported. Birds were found in all areas of the Region, with as many as three or four on each report. Several nests were under study. Other *Empidonax* flycatchers were also well-represented, with more Willows reported than ever before. There were very few accidentals reported, but in all it was a fairly active season.

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Abbreviations: CB—Cornwall Bay; KP—Kingston Point; MC—Marshlands Conservancy, Rye; PP—Piermont Pier; PIP—Palisades Interstate Park; PL—Playland, Rye; Dutch—Dutchess