

tenango 11/22 to end of season. Evening Grosbeak: passage between mid-October and mid-November, max about 65/day, virtually none persisted at end of period. Pine Grosbeak: single NPT 11/29 (DWC). Common Redpoll: single DH 11/4 (FGS) and 6 Oneida 11/28 (Peebles) were the only reports. Pine Siskin: first 10/1 LOL, never more than 10/day. Crossbill sp.: only one report. Dark-eyed Junco: max 350 NPT 10/23. Tree Sparrow: first 10/23 (late) NPT, no counts above 25/day! White-crowned Sparrow: arr 9/23 SP, max 112 Lysander township 10/10, last 11/15 LSB. White-throated Sparrow: max 450 LOL. Fox Sparrow: first 10/6 SP, last 11/5 NPT, no counts above 10/day. Lincoln's Sparrow: first 9/15 LSB, last 10/10 Onon. Lake, no counts above 5/day. Lapland Longspur: first 9/21, max seven on 10/22, last 11/19, all SP. Snow Bunting: first 10/12, max 200 on 11/19, SP.

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REGION 6 – ST. LAWRENCE

LEE CHAMBERLAINE

Fall was a continuation of the summer. The drought carried on through the period. Lake Ontario levels continued to drop to very, very low levels which made for excellent shorebirding. The extreme dryness of summer was brought home by the numbers of red cedar and hardwoods which were killed on shallow soil areas such as Stony Point and El Dorado. Wild food crops were the heaviest seen in many years. Mountain ash, apple, fox grapes, thorn apple and wild raisin were heavily laden with fruit. Cedar Waxwings spent weeks in large mountain ash trees gorging themselves while Tartarian honeysuckle flowers bloomed way into October. October's weather was a mixed bag of snow flurries on the 8th and temperatures as low as 19° F. on the 16th. On the 22nd of October a heat wave with 74° F. was recorded, followed by a cold front the following day. November was similar to October and the most snow was about three inches on November 27 with slightly more at the higher elevations on Tug Hill and the Adirondack portions of the Region. Most small marshes and all large water bodies remained open through the period with formation of only rim ice.

Highlights for the period, and there were many, would be Whistling Swans, Canada Geese in unprecedented numbers and some good observations on Brant. Pied-billed Grebes still remain in trouble. Waterfowl had their ups and downs. Scaup were up and came early with other divers appearing to be down. Probably the open water and low water levels placed birds at different feeding areas and scattered. An adult Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon as well as more than adequate shorebirds along the Lake Ontario shore made it difficult to do any Tug Hill birding. A second regional record and first El Dorado record was set on September 30 when a Marbled Godwit was seen by members of the Central New York Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Snowy Owls showed up early in November and Northern Shrikes in late October. Yellow-rumped Warblers and Dark-eyed Juncos were superabundant. Winter Finches were encouraging at first and then never developed. The Watertown House Finches visited many feeders in the Watertown area. White-crowned Sparrows were up, but moved through more rapidly than usual. Some species still remain in reduced numbers in Hen-

derson and vicinity, but in normal numbers east and into the Tug Hill Plateau. Perhaps the drought conditions along Lake Ontario which were more severe than the higher plateau account for this difference.

Contributors: Dick Brouse; Stewart Brown; Stuart Cameron; Central N.Y. Chapter of the Nature Conservancy; Lee Chamberlaine; Frank Clinch; Kenneth Crowell; Charles Devan; Diane Emord; Genesee Ornithological Society; Florence Linaberry; Laura and Neil Moon; Michael Murphy; Marge Rusk; Jerry Safer; Robert and Susah Spahn; Chris Spies; Bob and June Walker and Elizabeth Williams.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: Oct. 28 Raquette R.; one Three Mile Pt. Oct. 29; one Henderson Harbor Nov. 6; five Henderson Harbor Nov. 7; more than usual on Lake Ontario. Horned Grebe: five Henderson Harbor Nov. 6; four same Nov. 7. Pied-billed Grebe; few reported—one Lakeview Sept. 9; 20+ same Oct. 25; only reports. Double-crested Cormorant: two El Dorado Sept. 9; 50+ mostly young of year Bass I. Henderson Harbor Sept. 23. Great Blue Heron: an excellent year-through period. Whistling Swan: one Perch R. Oct. 10 (Charles Devan); 18 Guffin Bay Nov. 19 (Bob & June Walker)—more than normal numbers. Canada Goose: unprecedented numbers—migration started in early Sept.—still thousands in Jefferson Co. at end of period—very heavy migration Oct. 28. Brant: 250+ in three flocks over Perch R. Oct. 10; 200+ in two flocks Perch R. Oct. 25 (C. Devan)—both groups following Perch R. drainage to Lake Ontario—we probably have more of this than we realize since they move thru our area rapidly. Snow Goose: white morphs, only one El Dorado Sept. 30 (The Nature Conservancy hereafter TNC); seven Perch R. Oct. 2; three Henderson Oct. 4. Mallard: numbers down from previous years—dry summer? Black Duck: migrants in fair numbers. Gadwall: fairly common at Perch R. this fall; ten El Dorado Nov. 10. Pintail: probably more common at Perch R. than in past few years—we normally see more in spring. Green-winged Teal: good numbers. Blue-winged Teal: excellent numbers, a few into late Nov.; 200+ Sept. 23 Henderson Harbor. Am. Wigeon: very common at Perch R. N. Shoveler: a few at Perch R.—shows up sporadically there. Wood Duck: numbers way up—more than ever—evidently an excellent production year. Redhead: some improvement although slight. Ring-necked Duck: majority moved through early—not in normal numbers? Canvasback: some improvement as with the Redhead. Greater Scaup: ten to fifteen thousand in Black River Bay and vicinity Oct. 29 (Dick Brouse); large rafts thru Nov. in open waters. Lesser Scaup: a few at Wilson Hill and Perch R. Com. Goldeneye: not in usual numbers—maybe not bunched due to open water conditions? Bufflehead: not in normal numbers. Oldsquaw: not in normal numbers; 70 El Dorado Nov. 10. White-winged Scoter: six Henderson Harbor Oct. 15. Surf Scoter: one El Dorado (Walkers). Black Scoter: 18 El Dorado (Walkers). Ruddy Duck: none reported. Hooded Merganser: a few at Perch R.—a species we need more information on. Com. Merganser: not in normal numbers. Red-breasted Merganser: about normal numbers—three Henderson Harbor Nov. 6.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: thru to mid-Oct.—becoming more common. Goshawk: one Stony Point Oct. 25. Sharp-shinned: one El Dorado Sept. 9 (Genesee Ornithological Society, hereafter GOS); one El Dorado Sept. 30 (TNC). Cooper's Hawk: none reported. Red-tailed Hawk: 20+ small kettle Perch R. Oct. 29 (Stew Brown). Red-shouldered Hawk: none reported. Broad-winged Hawk: about normal numbers. Rough-legged Hawk: first one dark phase Lorraine Oct. 30; one Chaumont Oct. 29; one Henderson Nov. 10; one New Boston-Tug Hill Plateau Nov. 11; lesser numbers toward end of Nov. **BALD EAGLE:** one adult El Dorado Sept. 3 (Robert & Susan Spahn); one imm Wilson Hill Sept. 30 (Michael Murphy)—Montezuma hacked bird? Marsh Hawk: two Lakeview Sept. 9 (GOS); two Jefferson Co. line to Ogdensburg Sept. 30; two Lakeview Nov. 13; one male Nov. 20 Henderson; one male Chaumont Nov. 26; improving. Osprey: one El Dorado Sept. 24 (D. Brouse). **PEREGRINE FALCON:** one El Dorado Sept. 9 (GOS, Neil & Laura Moon) seen swooping at shorebird and over head, made pass about ten minutes later about two feet above water at full speed—good views—no indications of a released bird either U.S. or Canadian. Merlin:

none reported and yet I cannot help but feel we get them through more than we realize. Am. Kestrel: good numbers although late Nov. numbers below normal. Ruffed Grouse: numbers still high for third year in a row—up to ten birds per day afield in Tug Hill transition—Barnes Corners. Ring-necked Pheasant: DEC releases in Sept.—locally produced birds all but gone. Gray Partridge: holding its own and perhaps a little improvement—more small grain plantings than previous four years. Turkey: a few reports from Fort Drum releases of young—not confirmed—next report should provide a better idea of production. Semipalmated Plover: good numbers particularly at El Dorado—seven there Sept. 9 (GOS); a few Sept. 24. Ruddy Turnstone: one El Dorado Sept. 9; two same Sept. 10; two same Sept. 30. Am. Woodcock: about normal numbers. Lesser Yellowlegs: one El Dorado Sept. 9 and 10. Pectoral Sandpiper: four El Dorado Nov. 10. Least Sandpiper: one El Dorado Sept. 10 (Marge Rusk). Dunlin: ten El Dorado Sept. 30; 22 El Dorado Nov. 10. Short-billed Dowitcher: seven El Dorado Sept. 9 (GOS), one with only one eye—other eye covered by warty growth or ruptured—evidently little handicap. Semipalmated Sandpiper: ten El Dorado Sept. 9; 10 Sept. 30. **MARBLE GODWIT**: one El Dorado Sept. 30 (TNC, Jerry Safer & Florence Linaberry)—first record for El Dorado and second for Region—previous record was a spring sighting along St. Lawrence R. Sanderling: seven El Dorado Sept. 9; 15 same Sept. 30. Great Black-backed Gull: first El Dorado Sept. 9; increasing on Lake and St. Lawrence R. Herring Gull: seems to be down? Ring-billed Gull: more birds around later—open water conditions. Bonaparte's Gull: 11 El Dorado Sept. 9 (GOS); one same Sept. 30 (TNC). Common Tern: one El Dorado Sept. 9. Caspian Tern: two El Dorado Sept. 9; three same Sept. 10.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: numbers down—two bad winters—about seven in Henderson area end of period; few at other locations—individuals or small groups—no large fall flocks. Screech Owl: none reported—not heard in Henderson area. Great Horned Owl: thru—more common? Snowy Owl: more reports than last year at same time—invasion year? First Nov. 6 at Robt. Moses Power Dam—injured—eventually died; one Perch R. Nov. 19; two Nov. 26, one at Long Point and one Sherwin's Bay Marsh. Short-eared Owl: looked for but not found within period. Belted Kingfisher: thru period. Com. Flicker: thru. Pileated Woodpecker: thru but sporadic—may be increasing? Red-headed Woodpecker: none reported. Hairy Woodpecker: a slight improvement but still down in Henderson area. Downy Woodpecker: improved—more in Henderson area than Hairy.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: E. Phoebe: one El Dorado Sept. 9 (GOS). Horned Lark: a few but nowhere near previous numbers; over head Perch R. Oct. 28. Tree Swallow: flocks feeding along Black R. on Oct. 8—snow flurries occurred on this date in the a.m. Barn Swallow: last seen Oct. 8. Blue Jay: numbers up on Lake Ontario plain. Common Crow: heavy movements along Lake Ontario shore noted on Oct. 3 200+, Oct. 8 and Oct. 13 hundreds; St. Lawrence Co. 500 on Oct. 27. Black-capped Chickadee: not in normal numbers in Henderson area—dry spell carry over? White-breasted Nuthatch: not in normal numbers Henderson—normal numbers on Tug Hill and east of Henderson. Red-breasted Nuthatch: not seen in numbers along Lake Ontario; six Barnes Corners Oct. 31, three same Nov. 11. Brown Creeper: three in with above nuthatches. **MOCKINGBIRD**: coming to feeder of Dorothy Nagle from mid-Nov. thru. Am. Robin: first heavy migration noted on Sept. 9 Henderson; four Oct. 30; 35 Nov. 6. Wood Thrush: two near Theresa Oct. 8. E. Bluebird: eight Canton-Pierrepont Sept. 12; four same Sept. 16 and 28; two same Oct. 1 and 11 (Kenneth Crowell); one Perch R. Oct. 29; four Perch R. first week in Nov.; most reported in a long time—encouraging. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: two Oct. 15; did not see along Lake Ontario plain in usual fall numbers. Cedar Waxwing: in flocks on mountain ash trees thru. No. Shrike: first in St. Lawrence Co. Oct. 28; first in Jefferson-Perch R. Oct. 29; one imm New Boston Nov. 11.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Tennessee Warbler: Oct. 1 Canton-Pierrepont (Kenneth Crowell) normally not reported. Yellow-rumped Warbler: superabundant in Oct.—everywhere.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: E. Meadowlark: last Oct. 15. Red-winged Blackbird: last big

push in numbers Oct. 28. Com. Grackle: in with preceding species same date. Brown-headed Cowbird: almost nonexistent in Henderson; 30 Nov. 1 Canton vicinity. Cardinal: none in Henderson as usual in fall. Evening Grosbeak: five Henderson Oct. 25; Perch R. over head Oct. 29 & 30; 25 New Boston-Tug Hill Nov. 11; more common at higher elevations. Purple Finch: in small groups six to ten thru. HOUSE FINCH: scattered at feeders in Watertown—south central portion of city. Pine Siskin: only one report—one individual on Oct. 30 Tug Hill Plateau portion Jefferson Co. Am. Goldfinch: small scattered flocks thru. Rufous-sided Towhee: last one Oct. 6 Henderson. Dark-eyed Junco: another superabundant species in Oct.; 400+ Oct. 15. Tree Sparrow: first on Nov. 3; very few and far between even at end of period. White-crowned Sparrow: more rapid movement thru area and in greater numbers than normal—peak about Oct. 15; last Oct. 22. White-throated Sparrow: heaviest movement thru area in early Oct., a few around into Nov. Snow Bunting: a few around but not in normal numbers.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

October brought some snow, especially to the mountains, but much of it soon melted. As a whole this was an exceptionally mild fall season with at least the streams remaining open thru the period. Lakes in the Paul Smiths area were freezing over about November 22. This meant more Black Ducks, Mallards, and Canada Geese lingered into November than during recent more severe winters. The open streams held a few Black and Wood Ducks even after the still waters were frozen.

Low lake levels at Lake Champlain exposed the shorebird flats and many observers took advantage of the situation. Charlcie Delehanty's Western Grebe stayed until October 7. High Peaks Audubon Newsletter notes that member Bill Lee heard a report of a Western Grebe in early November in the harbor in New Haven, Conn. This may have been the same bird.

Abbreviations: E'town—Elizabethtown; Hamilton—southern Hamilton Co.; Tupper—Tupper lake area.

Observers: Deborah Anson, Geoffrey Carleton, Charlcie Delehanty, Bruno & Dee DeSimone, Harold & Laura Haglund, Courtney Jones, Dorothy McIlroy, Robert McKinney, Esther Ann Macready, Norman Mason, Marilyn Massaro, John Parke, John "Mike" Peterson, William Peterson, Terina Russell, William Rutherford, Pat Tabor, Don Timmons, Jan Timmons.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: DMC reports one three-fourths grown being fed three times in a half-hour by the adults on Sept. 6 at Sand Lake near Piseco. She also saw one young and one adult at Buckhorn Lake Sept. 7 on the Northville-Placid Trail. CD had two at Tupper until Nov. 22. Red-throated Loon: four at Tupper on Sept. 29 (CD). Red-necked Grebe: one NW Bay Nov. 5 (DA, JP). Horned Grebe began to build in numbers at Champlain from Nov. 4. A Great Blue Heron was still at Ray Brook Nov. 9 (MM). First Canada Geese were at Essex Sept. 18 (JPa). 125 Snow Geese flew by Coot Hill Hawk Lookout Oct. 3 (EM, JP) and a few reported later from Lake Champlain. Four Blue-winged Teal at Westport Oct.