

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Red-eyed Vireo: very common. Warbling Vireo: very common. Black-and-white Warbler: found breeding in deciduous-conifer mixture of mature woods along SLR. Golden-winged: two resident at Pierrepont. Nashville: found breeding along SLR (RL). Yellow: very common. Magnolia: common. Yellow-rumped: adult with young Brasher Iron Works 1 July. Black-throated Green: fairly common along SLR; one at Perch Lake 7 June; three near Wilson Hill 28 June. Ovenbird: very common. No. Waterthrush: one Washington Park 11 July (B & JW). Mourning: two at Fine 16 June. Com. Yellowthroat: in some localities more than Yellow Warblers—very common on Tug Hill. Canada: breeding along SLR; adult feeding young in Massena area—only location in Massena so far. Am. Redstart: very common on Tug Hill.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: excellent production year—started south early in Aug. and still moving at end of period. E. Meadowlark: numbers seem down in many localities as compared with three or four years ago. No. Oriole: excellent production year moving south mid-Aug.; many young killed by strong winds and heavy rains (FC). Com. Grackle: in Henderson area numbers were down somewhat—perhaps due to the wet conditions birds were better able to feed along creeks and streams than normal dry late summer conditions. Scarlet Tanager: common on Tug Hill. Cardinal: increased numbers in Henderson area. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: a common species almost everywhere. Indigo Bunting: perhaps more common this year. Evening Grosbeak: showed up in Henderson two or three overhead 7 Aug.; two at Lakeview 14 Aug.; six in Henderson 22 Aug. feeding on black cherries. Purple Finch: very, very common in young spruce plantations on Tug Hill. House Finch: increasing in Watertown—twice as many as last year (FC). Am. Goldfinch: common. Savannah Sparrow: common along lakeplain. Chipping Sparrow: more than last year. Field Sparrow: numbers down in Henderson and vicinity. White-throated Sparrow: bred in Stony Point and EL cedar scrub forest. Swamp Sparrow: very, very common in the Sears Pond area on Tug Hill and in the upper elevations near Rodman. Song Sparrow: numbers seemed down in Henderson from previous years.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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There is little to be said about the weather. It was a normal summer with no outstanding weather variations.

Most notable among scarcities was the Common Flicker with a high count of three birds on each of two counts out of three Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) counts for the federal census. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was also down even though one BBS had 15. Bluebirds were scarce and some nest failures were noted. Warbler numbers in general were good. If a species was low in one area it seemed to be high in another. Northern Parula and Mourning Warblers were an exception. These were both very scarce.

There were many positives. Two BBS surveys missed American Bittern, but one had six. Lots of Turkey Vultures were seen. At least 16 Red-shouldered Hawks, including three pairs, were seen. This species wasn't even reported in summer in some recent years. Clinton County had good numbers of Marsh Hawks hunting over farm land. The same area has plenty of Gray Partridges and

Common Gallinules. Mark Gretch reports good numbers of Upland Sandpipers in northern Clinton County with eight in one group 21 July. Brandon Burn had two calling Whip-poor-wills and at least eight Common Nighthawks among all the howling coyotes, all of which makes an interesting wild chorus. Red-headed Woodpeckers were in several Clinton County river bottom locations with at least one juvenile seen. At least ten Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were noted with Ferd's Bog the most. The St. Regis Indian Reservation had a high population of House Wrens. Mark Gretch had a pair of Short-billed Marsh Wrens all summer at Corbeau Creek in Clinton County. These are seldom seen in our Region. Swainson's Thrush numbers are the best in at least ten years and Cedar Waxwings were in excellent numbers. Many thanks for reports received.

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LOONS—DUCKS: There were at least 49 Com. Loons reported. Successful nesting (at least one young raised) was reported for Jenkins Pond on Litchfield Park; Duck Pond near Tupper Lake; Buckhorn Lake and Sand Lake near Piseco; and Upper St. Regis Lake. No Grebes reported. Barbara Spencer and Dorothy Crumb saw a Red-necked Grebe at Tupper Lake 21 Apr. This should have been included in the spring report. This species seems to migrate in a very short period of days so they can easily be missed. The third week of Apr. seems to be about the best time to spot them. Two Black-crowned Night Herons were seen in n. Clinton Co. Four Green Herons were at Tupper Lake 5 July (M & BMcK). Single Am. Bitterns were noted at Tupper, Paul Smith, and Rainbow Lake. A Canada Goose was at Lake Alice 13 June. The local Tupper Lake population was 32 in late Aug. Ten were at Monty Bay in Lake Champlain 30 Aug. One Brant was at Rouses Point 23 Aug. (MG). Mallards are increasing. A female with 14 young was near Uncas 27 June and 11 were at Tupper 5 July. A pair of Pintails were at a Champlain Marsh in n. Clinton Co. 28 June (MG). Green-winged Teals were at Madawaska and in n. Clinton Co. Blue-winged Teal was reported from Lake Champlain. MG had four Am. Wigeons in this area 28 June. The same observer reported a female Redhead and young 4 July on Upper Chateaugay Lake at the south inlet marsh. Terry & Louise O'Connell also saw them. This would be a new breeding location for this species. Writeup is to be submitted to *Kingbird* "Notes and Observations." Ring-necked Ducks became scarce. Five young and a female were at Tupper 6 Aug. Four Com. Golden-eye females were in the Canoe Area all summer but no proof of breeding this year. Hooded Merganser: female and six young, Uncas 27 June (JJH, FLA, CS); female and two young Buckhorn Lake outlet swamp 14 July (DMcI); pair with two young Kings Bay 8 Aug. (MG). Com. Merganser: several broods in Tupper area. At least 34 young at Piseco Lake (DMcI).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Several Turkey Vultures were at Tupper, one at Spy Lake 11 June was in a new area (DMcI). Sharp-shinned Hawk: two Indian Lake 3 July (M & BMcK); one killed a Red-winged Blackbird at Mrs. Delehanty's feeder 21 July. An imm was there 23 July on Spy Lake (DMcI). A single Cooper's Hawk was at Tupper 3 and 29 July (CD). One was struck by a car and had its broken wing successfully mended by a DEC employee. The bird was released at St. Regis Falls. There were quite a few Red-tailed Hawks. One harassed a Turkey Vulture at Tupper 30 June (CD). Good year for Broad-winged Hawks. Three young Ospreys were raised at Tupper nest. Some Neanderthal shot one of them later in the summer. Young were reported from the Bear Pond nest. Plenty of Ruffed Grouse. Com. Snipe was rather scarce. Only four Spotted Sandpipers were reported. The first Semipalmated Plover was seen at Kings Bay 14 Aug. Greater Yellowlegs: one Kings Bay 20 Aug.; ten n. Clinton Co. 31 Aug. (both MG). Lesser Yellowlegs: one Kings Bay 13 Aug. and six

the next day (MG). Least Sandpiper: five Kings Bay 13 Aug. Semipalmated Sandpiper: one Kings Bay 14 Aug. and ten 29 Aug. 15 Bonaparte's Gulls were at Monty Bay 9 Aug. which is early (MG). 75 were there 30 Aug. Black Tern: four at Tupper in June (RM); six 9 Aug. n. Clinton Co. (MG).

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Quite a few inland Mourning Doves. Black-billed Cuckoo was reported from Indian Lake, St. Regis Falls, and Tupper Lake. Owls seem to have kept their mouths shut except for Barred. Whip-poor-will was heard at Tupper (RB). Com. Night-hawk: single birds at three Clinton Co. locations and at Tupper. Plenty of Chimney Swifts and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. There were ten of the latter at Indian Lake. Belted Kingfisher: fairly common. One nested in an old sawdust pile at Piseco (DMcI). Indian Lake with 12 was the only place that had a decent showing of Com. Flicker. There were a few Pileated as usual.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: E. Kingbird was missed on two BBS and one was noted on a third. There were four at Indian Lake however and eight at Tupper. Good numbers of Great-crested Flycatcher. 18 E. Phoebe listed. A Willow Flycatcher was at Tupper 12 June-20 July (CD). Only about nine reports of Alder Flycatcher. Least Flycatcher, E. Wood Pewee, and Olive-sided Flycatcher were in good numbers. The latter is not hard to confirm for the atlas project. Just go out fairly near a calling bird and wait. Eventually it will fly directly to the nest which is usually 20 to 30 feet up, out on a black or red spruce limb and not far from where the bird is calling. Rough-winged Swallow: three from as many locations in Clinton Co. (MG). Cliff Swallows were fairly successful in nesting at Paul Smiths. Two were at Speculator and some nested at Tupper. None were seen at Piseco, 16 at Indian Lake. Gray Jays were at Ferd's Bog and an imm was at Sagamore Lake (JJH, FLA, CS). Two were seen at Onchiota. Com. Raven: 14 on St. Regis Falls BBS; one at Oxbow Lake near Piseco; one at Sabattis; two at Lyon Mountain; five at Indian Lake. They continue to increase. Sagamore had four Boreal Chickadees; Onchiota and Whiteface Mountain had plenty. Red-breasted Nuthatch: scarce, seven was the highest one day count. Winter Wren numbers are definitely low. The best count was 12 at Indian Lake. Bob McKinney notes that weather influences bird song. Eight good observers heard no Winter Wrens in his area. The next weekend several were heard in the rain in the same area. Elsewhere they were scarce, rain or shine. CD found a Long-billed Marsh Wren at Follensby Pond 9 July. They are rare away from Champlain. A Mockingbird was at the Uncas Estate, of all places, on 28 June (JJH, FLA, CS). Good numbers of Brown Thrasher at Lake Champlain, but absent elsewhere except for a nest at Tupper that had the young killed by a red squirrel, and one bird at Indian Lake. Except for E. Bluebird, thrush representation was good. Hermit Thrush numbers seemed highly variable by area. Perhaps it was only weather influencing the amount of singing. My two federal BBS tallied only two on one count but 34 on the other. Other reports indicated similar variations. Except for Tupper Lake and Piseco Lake, Swainson's Thrush is doing very well indeed from Indian Lake to Raquette Lake and Gabriels to Duane. Gray-cheeked Thrushes were at the higher elevations including one near Indian Lake on Burgess Mountain 3 July (M & BMcK). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: none at Indian Lake where they have been in the past (M & BMcK); one Tupper suburbs to 19 June (CD); two at Gabriels 14 June (TM); four 28 June Sagamore Lake (JJH, FLA, CS).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: 12 was the max daily count for Solitary Vireo. 153 was the max daily count for Red-eyed Vireo. Philadelphia Vireo: one Indian Lake 27 June (M & BMcK); one 4 July Chateaugay Lake (MG). Two Warbling Vireos were at Simon Pond near Tupper Lake on 5 July (M & BMcK). They were also at Saranac Lake and other towns. One Tennessee Warbler was at Ferd's Bog 11 July (FLA, CS). The only decent No. Parula count was 12 at Indian Lake 3 July (M & BMcK). Two BBS counts had none and one had only three. They were sure around in the spring. They either went on as migrants or weren't singing for observers. Good numbers of Yellow Warblers at Tupper Lake and St. Regis Falls. Plenty of Magnolia Warblers as well as Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Chestnut-sided. There was only one Black-throated Green Warbler

on one BBS yet four other areas had 16 or 17 in a day and other reports were positive. Perhaps the species was present but just not singing in the poorly-represented area on that date for some reason. A Bay-breasted Warbler was singing near the Bog River 16 June (CD). Blackpoll Warbler: good numbers; one near summit of Burgess Mountain near Indian Lake 3 July (M & BMcK); one at 2555 feet on Mt. Morris at Tupper 7 July (CD); six to eight at Sagamore Lake 28 June-12 July, unusual because not especially high elevation if they were breeding (JJH, FLA, CS). Several Pine Warblers were near Rouses Point 21 June (MG). A few No. Waterthrushes, lots of Canada Warblers and Am. Redstarts.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Unusual locations for Bobolink were one at Tupper Marsh and one 27 June at the Uncas estate. No. Oriole numbers continue good, plus the odd bird at different inland areas such as Indian Lake and Tupper. Six Rusty Blackbirds at Ferd's Bog 11 July. Scarlet Tanager counts were usually four to 11 in a day. This seems a bit low. A cat was probably the cause of a maimed juvenile Cardinal at Tupper. Blue Grosbeak: Dr. Hyla Walters at Tupper on 1 June had an Evening Grosbeak-sized blue bird with brown wings and grosbeak bill but it didn't stay long enough to be confirmed by others, which is unfortunate. Indigo Bunting was low in some areas such as Tupper, but high along Champlain. Evening Grosbeak was very scarce and there were no reports of Pine Siskin. There were about 20 Red Crossbills at Paul Smiths and one at Tupper. A White-winged Crossbill fed at a Tupper feeder 15-19 Aug. (AV, CD, Gordon Meade, M. Kingsbury). Single Rufous-sided Towhees were at Tupper, Rouses Point, and Speculator. 18 reports of Field Sparrow; Lincoln's Sparrow doing well and reported from Tupper, Ferd's Bog and Gabriels with breeding proved for Newcomb.

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REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

BILL COOK

July was wet for a change, according to the local American Meteorological Society, with almost five inches of rain for the month. Temperatures averaged cool with July's minimum at 42° F. in Fulton County and maximum at 98° F. in Columbia County. The average cooler temperatures were probably no consolation to the many forest species trying to avoid the heat and drying of direct sunlight in their gypsy moth denuded woodlands. However, the winter-like landscape was indeed conducive to nest spotting. Some Broad-winged Hawk breeding confirmations were a direct result of this arthropods appalling appetite.

Cuckoo populations have responded to this larval abundance to the point that road kills have offered breeding confirmation. A female Yellow-billed Cuckoo with an egg in her oviduct was found near Columbia-Greene Community College where she opted to reside as a permanent member of the study skin collection. One of her drawer mates, also recently enrolled in the club, is a Common Flicker of apparently eclectic breeding since she is adorned with several red feathers in her tail and wings. Her exact origin remains a mystery since she arrived at CGCC via an unidentified bumper.

The Breeding Bird Atlas "green sheets" received by regional coordinator Dick