

thru Columbia Co. Brown-headed Cowbird: males courting L. Taghkanic 6 June; fledgling fed by Yellow Warbler at Hudson 9 June; fledgling Weed Mines 20 July; W. Glenville occasionally thru; Central Br thru June; Jenny L 1 June-15 July. N. Oriole: female on nest L. Taghkanic 6 June; W. Glenville 18 June, 5 July; Central Br thru season; thru Columbia Co by most observers. Purple Finch: pair nesting E. Taghkanic 29 June; two males Martindale 21 July; Jenny L thru, 452 banded plus 150 returns; Schenectady (Yunick), 423 banded. House Finch: pair nesting L. Taghkanic 6 June; W. Glenville thru season; Central Br thru season; Jenny L thru season. Red Crossbill: Jenny L one seen 17 July. Pine Siskin: Jenny L 18 June and 3-19 July. Am. Goldfinch: males singing Ancram 8 June; building nest Livingston 23 June; W. Glenville 15 June, 5 July, 14 Aug; Central Br thru season; Jenny L occasional thru. Evening Grosbeak: female at Seward in early Aug by Charlie Cobb; male with cloacal protuberance and female with brood patch banded at Jenny L 21 May and recaptured 12 June. House Sparrow: fledged young Churchtown 5 June; W. Glenville thru season; Columbia Co thru area and season.

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

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At the time of this writing in mid-September, the New York Weather Bureau is declaring the summer of 1983 the second hottest on record. By 19 Sept. there had been 36 days of above 90° temperatures with the record being 37 for the season ending 21 Sept. Very hot weather started with the third week of June, cooled for the rest of the month and early July, then heated up again the third week of the latter thru the second week of August. Rain fell on 3, 4 June and not again till 27, 28 July. In between were scattered thunder showers, but only a few. One to three inches of rain fell on 11, 12 August and except for the occasional thunderstorm was the only precipitation for that month. Plant life depended upon the abundant spring rains and by the end of the period many mountain tops were turning brown from lack of water.

The dearth of insects last spring continued into the dry summer, and a decrease in several insectivorous bird species was noted especially in the Mohonk area. The heavy rains of spring did bring on the development of fruit and berries as expected; and some, such as wild cherry trees, were well attended in late August by waxwings, mimids, thrushes, vireos and some warblers, especially Cape Mays. Thirty years ago the DEC eradicated a threat from water chestnuts (*Trapa natans*) on the shallow bays along the Hudson. Now, although it took a long time, the threat is back. Plants are once again blanketing prime waterfowl feeding areas such as Esopus Point and Cornwall Bay, shading the shallows and cutting off sunlight needed to support plants upon which ducks, geese and swans depend. Wandering postnuptial herons did not appear in their usual numbers in August, with only a few reports coming in. Hawks seemed to have had a

successful season with only the American Kestrel reported lower than usual. Shorebirds made a poor return in July and August as runoff from the spring rains kept the reservoirs high thru most of the period. The Great Black-backed Gull continues to outnumber all other species in the family, and the appearance of a subadult Lesser Black-backed Gull on the Hudson off Highland Falls is one of the few state's records away from salt water.

Someone in the Nyack region is out a lot of money in the loss or release of exotic parrots. On 6 August a pair of Green Conures was found in the same tree that Red-crowned Amazons were in on 29 July, and it wasn't too far away in Piermont that several Maroon-bellied Conures appeared on the Rockland Christmas Count in 1982. Monk Parakeets have been surfacing on and off in that area for several years. Most warbler species were in good numbers during the period, and an excellent movement of migrants occurred on 28, 29 August. The appearance of a male Blue Grosbeak shepherding three immatures in late August could well be the second breeding record in the state for the species, the first being reported last year on Staten Island.

Rarities mentioned in the report include: Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Baird's Sandpiper, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Forster's Tern, Common Raven, Northern Parula (in July), Kentucky Warbler, Blue Grosbeak and Western Meadowlark.

Addenda to the spring report: Sedge Wren: two at Thompsonville, Sull May 22 (DN). No details. Sharp-tailed Sparrow: one along RR tracks 200 yards north of Cruger I 17 May. Observed for 2-3 minutes by Seward Highly and his class from Millbrook School.

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Abbreviations: AR—Ashokan Reservoir; CB—Cornwall Bay; EP—Esopus Point; GSBC—Greenwich-Stamford Summer Bird Count, 19 June 1983 (includes nearby parts of Westchester Co); MC—Marshlands Conservancy, Rye; PL—Playland, Rye; the first four or five letters of each county.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: one on GSBC off Rye. one L. DeForest 20 July was the second summer record for Rock, the first being 19 July 1933 (Wes Hennessy). A summer population of nine were on AR, two of which were in breeding plumage, no breeding proven (FM). Double-crested Cormorant: a few reports of summer birds but down from last year. One at EP 4 June increased to five by 30 Aug. A few seen regularly at CB and Conn's Hook. An unusual inland record of two at LaBar L, Sull 13 June (BW, SL). Great Blue Heron: numbers good thru region even though no breeding locations are known. Great Egret: usual post breeding few along the Hudson. Two on an inland pond near Wurtsboro 18 Aug (A, SB). Snowy Egret: 21 at CB 30 July, gone the next day. **LITTLE BLUE HERON:** two in the Pleasant Valley area during Aug. Cattle Egret: rare in recent years; two in Dutch 9 June (Bill Mackey). Black-crowned Night-Heron: no reports from Rock this summer. One adult and one imm were at Kingston Point 31 July, but no evidence of having bred there. One was at Squirrel's Corners, Sull, 25 July (D, KN). Glossy Ibis: two spent 17-24 July at 6½ Station Sanct., Goshen (F, WA). Wood Duck: at least five reports of adult with young in Dutch during June and July. Numbers building on Hudson off Kingston Pt by 31 July. N. Pintail: a female on Haight Marsh, Dutch during July. N. Shoveler: one at MC

on GSBC. Gadwall: two CB 4 June. Greater Scaup: one at PL on GSBC. Com. Goldeneye: one at Rye on GSBC was very late. Hooded Merganser: a female near Eldred 25 June, and two adults with four young at Yankee L, Sull 15 July (DN, BG). Com. Merganser: more breeding than ever before. Rock had its first summer record of a male with five females on L Deforest 10 June (RFD). Two males and five females there on 21 June, and two males and four females there 23 June. Reduced to one pair on 27 June and a single male from 8-25 July. A flock of 30 at AR 31 July. Appeared to FM to be young of the year, and probably fledged locally. VF reports many records of females with young on the Delaware, Neversink and Rondout Res. Latest report eight downy young on Rondout Res 14 July.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Bald Eagle: more summer birds than usual. One imm near Pine Plains 29 Aug (Russ O'Malley). One adult obs several times in Aug near Cooper L. Woodstock. One adult Rondout Res 24 June. An adult at Neversink Res 7 July. An adult at Rio Res 3 Aug, and another adult at Rondout Res 7 Aug. N. Harrier: a brown bird all summer in the Pawling area, last there 28 Aug. Cooper's Hawk: one Mine Rd., USMA 27 Aug. Another just missed catching a kingfisher at Wurtsboro on 6 July (A, SB). N. Goshawk: nest with young at Deep Hollow, Dutch 14 June, obs there again on 20, 23 June. Two adults and two imm in the Pawling area in Aug. One near Narrowsburgh 13 June, and another near Parksville 5 July. Red-shouldered Hawk: FM reports them "doing well" around AR. VF reports many sightings in Sull during June and July. Am. Kestrel: numbers down. RFD reports very scarce in Rock, only one sighting there, and no established territories in four Atlas blocks. Also low in Dutch. Wild Turkey: a family group at Green Haven during July. Three at Middletown Res during June and July. One was escorting four chicks for the first local breeding record. N. Bobwhite: four in the New Paltz area during July and Aug. DEC says they have not released any in the region. Com. Moorhen: two adults with two young at Pulver's Cor. Dutch during July. Lesser Golden-Plover: 30-40 were at Warren Sod Farm by 28 Aug. Solitary Sandpiper: one returned to the Ehmer Farm at LaGrangeville by 21 July, three at Pleasant Valley 23 July. Spotted Sandpiper: nest with four eggs at AR 11 June. Eggs still there 26 June, but nest deserted by 29 June (FM). Upland Sandpiper: inc to about 40 at Warren Sod Farm by 28 Aug. Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers: arr in Dutch by 25 July. Obs there regularly thru Aug. Numbers in the CB area very low. **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** an unprecedented *five* at AR 31 Aug (R. Terwiliger). Laughing Gull: first birds appeared at CB and Conn's Hook 29 July, 15 at the latter location by 14 Aug. Bonaparte's Gull: one at CB 29 July (P. Jeheber). Herring Gull: numbers continue low in mid-Hudson area. Outnumbered by Great Black-backed Gull by 30-40 to one. **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:** one subadult at Conn's Hook, Highland Falls 19 June. Well observed for about two hours and compared with other species of all ages at about 20 yards, with a 25 x telescope. This is the first summer record for upstate New York (EDT, BS). **FORSTER'S TERN:** one imm at CB 30 July (EDT).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Owls: all resident species noted thru period, no significant change in numbers. Great Horned Owl: one on garage roof all day 7 July was found dead on the ground the next day (A, SB). Barred Owl: nesting successfully in the city of Kingston. Obs regularly thru period (FM). Com. Nighthawk: usual few residents obs over the principal cities, good migration last week of Aug. Whip-poor-will: heard regularly thru period on Stissing Mt, last heard there 28 Aug. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: FG and MY at Clinton Corners and Dover had anywhere from three to six coming regularly to feeders, many others coming to flowers. Conflicting reports of numbers at Cruger's I at end of period. Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: several reports of adults of both species bringing young to suet feeders in Dutch thru July.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: three June and July records in Sull. One Callicoon Center 10 June, one Wolf L 2, 4 July and two above Neversink Res with one young 23 July (BW, SL). E. Wood-Pewee: numbers up far more than usual, heard everywhere. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: three on Big Indian Mt. 12 June and one at Panther

Mt 24 June. First migrant at Pond Gut, Dutch 27 Aug. Acadian Flycatcher: appeared on six of ten reports. Nine obs in two days of birding in the L. Kanawauke-Arden area of Harriman Park 7, 8 June. One at the high elevation of Jackie Jones Fire Tower of Harriman Park 5 June. FM reports them "common" along a roadside stream at Peekamoose Mt. 26 June. Four at Rock Hill, Sull 14 July. Breeding confirmed at Wolf L, Sull (DN). Alder Flycatcher: one 5 June at South Monsey, and a singing adult feeding three young at West Haverstraw 20 July. Least Flycatcher: numbers down. Only three pair obs in Rock, all at Stony Pt Ski Center, unreported in Dutch during June. Nest found at AR 4 June, feeding young there 24 June. Adult feeding Brown-headed Cowbird 14 July at AR (FM). Great Crested Flycatcher: suddenly very scarce in Rock. Only found twice all summer in four Atlas blocks. Horned Lark: breeding pairs obs at Warren Sod Farm, Stewart Airport and Orange Co Airport in Oran. Two adults with two imm at Sullivan Co. Airport 30, 31 July. Purple Martin; six pair at Lynch Pd Golf Club, Bethel, 2 June, did not stay. Ten birds in two houses at Lava, Sull 13 June, five at Rye on GSBC. Tree Swallow: migrants moving thru by second week of July, more than 400 at Pleasant Valley 24 July. N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 20 at Wissman Rd, Dutch 3 July. Bank Swallow: higher numbers and more localities in Rock. **COMMON RAVEN**: one heard at the base of Slide Mt near Winisook 12 June. Several others seen and heard near Frost Valley 24, 30 July. Two near Neversink Res 7 July. Red-breasted Nuthatch: two July and three Aug reports in Dutch were more than in recent years. Brown Creeper: at least five reports. EB obs nine in two days birding at Harriman Park 7, 8 June. One at Jackie Jones Fire Tower 12 July. A family group was at Cary Arboretum 18 July in the same area where a nest was discovered 3 June. An adult was feeding young in a nest near Yulan, Sull 10 June. Carolina Wren: increasing away from the Hudson where the numbers are usually greatest. One was at Forestburgh, Sull 8 July and another at Sacket L 30 July, neither being a likely habitat. Winter Wren: good breeding in Sull. One obs singing 30 July at the Roosevelt Estate in Hyde Park. Golden-crowned Kinglet: more than usual. Two adults with two young at Monticello 25 June (DN). Three other reports of individuals that county in early July. Four at Kensico Res on GSBC. A nesting pair was at AR in a spruce grove (no date). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: scarce in Rock after three or four good years. E. Bluebird: a late nesting reported from Wurtsboro in a box previously occupied by a Tree Swallow. Feeding young there 25 Aug. FG had banded 259 young in Dutch by late July. Swainson's Thrush: one singing at South Nyack 5 June was a late spring date by four days. Two return migrants were heard in Dutch 10 Aug. Hermit Thrush: seven heard in two days birding in Harriman Park 7, 8 June (EB). Two were singing on Stissing Mt. the first week of June.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: White-eyed Vireo: Rock had more records than in recent years, singing there thru 11 July. Solitary Vireo: two in Harriman Park 7 June, one on a nest in Butler Sanct on GSBC. First migrant on Mine Rd, USMA 27 Aug. A nest with three young on Big Indian Mt obs 12 June by FM. Yellow-throated Vireo: an adult was feeding a Brown-headed Cowbird at AR 2 July. Warbling Vireo: continues high in Rock where they are found in almost every suitable habitat. Philadelphia Vireo: first migrant at Pond Gut, Dutch 27 Aug. Nashville Warbler: EB had two 7 June in Harriman Park. **NORTHERN PARULA**: a full-plumaged adult at Tyrell Rd. Dutch 18 July, first July report for that county and probably the region. One at Thompsonville, Sull 4 June and another at York L, Sull 14 June were probably late spring migrants. Magnolia Warbler: Sull had many reports during July. One fledgling obs near Woodbourne 3 July. An adult feeding young near Parkville 5 July (BW, SL). Yellow-rumped Warbler: one heard 19 June at Clove Valley, Dutch. A very early migrant was at Cary Arboretum 24 Aug. Black-throated Green Warbler: one heard at Tymore Forest 12 June; another at East Clove Valley, Dutch 19 June. Pine Warbler: a singing male near L LaBarr 13 June, another singing at a swamp near Eldred thru June. One Forestburgh 8 July, and another at Bashakill 10 July. Has become a common resident in pine plantations around both Middletown and Ashokan Reservoirs. Cerulean Warbler: two adults with two young at Yankee L 25, 26 June. Others found in usual

locations, but numbers seem to be lower than past years. Ovenbird: an adult doing a broken wing act with a fledgling at Cary Arboretum 18 July. Kentucky Warbler: one on the north side of Low Tor Mt. 6 June, and another on South Mt. Rd. on the opposite side of Low Tor 1-5 June. One singing at Pawling Nature Center 14 Aug was not heard after that date. Mourning Warbler: one in a small mixed flock of warblers near Forestburgh 16 July. Canada Warbler: three at Butler Sanct. on GSBC. First migrant on Mine Rd, USMA 14 Aug. FM reports them "common" on Big Indian Mt. 12 June, and feeding young on Peekamoose Mt. 26 June. Yellow-breasted Chat: rarely found in Rock. One was on the north slope of Low Tor Mt 6 June. One seen and heard at Stanfordville 8-10 June.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Blue Grosbeak: F, WA discovered an adult male shepherding three imm near Warren Sod Farm, Pine Island 14 Aug. This may be the second breeding record for NY State and the first for the region. Grasshopper Sparrow: back in the usual location and in slightly better numbers. Three June and July records in Sull, three at Westchester Airport on GSBC. Sharp-tailed Sparrow: two at MC on GSBC. Seaside Sparrow: one on Hen I, Rye on GSBC. Lincoln's Sparrow: one imm and a singing adult at Pawling 15 Aug were early migrants. Bobolink: several families ob near Pawling during July. E. Meadowlark: Rock had its first summer record in ten years with five or six birds on 11 June in W. Ramapo. **WESTERN MEADOWLARK:** the Stewart Airport bird found in late May persisted thru 3 June. Orchard Oriole: after being reported in eight locations in Rock this past spring, only one had a confirmed breeding with a full grown young obs on 1 July in S. Nyack. In Sull a first year male was obs carrying food for young at Bashakill 26 July. Thelma Haight had a nesting pair near Stanfordville, Dutch in June; and an adult male was at Wurtsboro on 11, 14 June. Pine Siskin: two at Youngsville, Sull 7, 16 June. Am. Goldfinch: obs building 21 July near Dover; and a nest with five young at Pleasant Valley 21 Aug.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, New York 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

JOSEPH A. DICOSTANZO

Overall it was a fairly warm summer in the Region this year. June set the pattern with the daily temperature average being at or above normal on 21 days during the month. The average daily temperature for the month was 73.4° F, 2.0° above normal. June was also fairly dry throughout; the total rainfall of 2.82 in. was only .41 in. below normal, but over half that total fell on 28 June. July continued hot and dry with 24 days recording at or above normal temperatures. The hottest day of the season was 15 July with a high of 98°, right in the middle of a heat wave that saw above 90° temperatures from the 12th to the 18th. The average for the month, 79.5°, was 2.8° above normal. The dry weather also continued with a July total of 3.40 in. of rain, .37 below normal. But as in June, most of that fell in one day, the 21st, when 2.26 in. fell. August pretty much followed the same pattern: 26 days at or above normal; an average for the month of 77.7°, 2.3° above normal. Total rainfall of 7.26 in. was 3.23 in. above normal, but most of it fell on only two days, the 11th (2.39 in.) and the 28th (2.79 in.). (All weather data from New York City.)