

FLYCATCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Wood-Pewee: seemed to be everywhere in Chemung and Steuben Co. with several breeding confirmations. Acadian Flycatcher: singing West Groton and East Lansing areas June; confirmed nester near Addison. Alder Flycatcher: found in 24 new Atlas blocks Steuben Co. with four confirmed nestings. E. Phoebe: nested in abandoned house Wellsburg; feeding young Elmira late July. E. Kingbird: very common in all reporting areas. Purple Martin: scattered reports of very few individuals. Tree Swallow: down in Ithaca, Chemung Co. and MNWR; delayed nesting in several areas; nested in horizontal portion of metal clothes line pipe. Bank Swallow: several hundred Seneca L. SP 18 Aug. Cliff Swallow: nested near Hornell. **COMMON RAVEN:** one Sapsucker Woods 4 July (Smith, Sibley). Red-breasted Nuthatch: nested south of Hornell. Winter Wren: nested Addison area. Sedge Wren: defending territory Jubertown Swamp; one Prattsburg Aug. Marsh Wren: singing Dryden L 14 July; nested Jubertown Swamp. E. Bluebird: mixed reports, most being favorable; nested in 22 of 39 Atlas blocks Steuben Co. Veery: feeding Brown-headed Cowbirds Wellsburg. Swainson's Thrush: none reported. Hermit Thrush: nested Steuben Co. Am. Robin: one pure white albino Elmira late Aug. Cedar Waxwing: nested Pine City late July; a dozen plus mobbing Blue Jays in nesting area.

VIREOS-WABLERS: Solitary Vireo: feeding young Wellsburg early July. Yellow-throated Vireo: singing in several areas Elmira thru. The "blockbusting" in Steuben Co. confirmed the nesting of the following warblers: Blue-winged; "Brewster's"; Nashville; Yellow; Chestnut-sided; Yellow-rumped; Black-throated Green; Blackburnian; Prairie; Black-and-white; Am. Redstart; Ovenbird; No. Waterthrush; Louisiana Waterthrush; Com. Yellow-throat; Hooded; Canada. Other regional warbler reports: Golden-winged: nested Wellsburg. "Brewster's": three sightings Penn Yan area. Chestnut-sided: very common with many confirmations. Prairie: nesting again in Pine City. Cerulean: none reported. No. Waterthrush: feeding three young Wellsburg early July. Hooded: returned to nesting grounds near Hammond Hill Rd.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Indigo Bunting: very common in Steuben, Tompkins and Chemung Co. **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** two singing males south of Branchport 7 thru 11 July (Buckelew). Vesper Sparrow: 39 locations Steuben Co. with eight confirmed breeding sites. Grasshopper Sparrow: breeding in 17 Atlas blocks Steuben Co; numbers up in Yates Co. Henslow's Sparrow: more than usual in Steuben, Tompkins and Yates Co.; breeding Pine City.

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REGION 4 - SUSQUEHANNA

HARRIET MARSI

On 1 June, after one of the coldest, wettest Mays on record, it was as if Those in Charge of Weather suddenly realized they had forgotten to turn up the thermostat so in panic set it to its highest reading. For the first two weeks of the month, Region 4 sweltered and steamed adjusting to record-breaking heat! In fact, by combining the two extremes analyzers of spring temperatures from 21 March to 21 June came up with "normal, average for the period!" After mid-June, fortunately for atlassers, the June/July months produced classic seasonal weather — highs in the 80's, lows in the 70's. Rainfall was plentiful, but was scattered thru, mostly in summer showers with only a few thunderstorms.

Early August brought forth the usual "dog days" with humid 90-degree days and warm nights, but even this did not last long and the last two weeks of the period were influenced more by cool Canadian fronts than by warm moist southern air.

The effects of the cold spring spilled over into the summer in several ways. Some birds were late migrating. A Tundra Swan and four Blue Geese were reported in June and several reports of late warblers showed up. Certain birds (notably Canada Geese, Hooded Mergansers, Common Mergansers, Nashville Warblers and Yellow-rumped Warblers) that customarily nest in the northern sections of the area were also reported in the southern counties. It was as if the biological timeclock took over before they actually had obtained their usual destination. Also, box nesters were forced to delay their nesting. Bluebirds, especially, lost first clutches.

Atlasing again lent an excitement to the period. State forest lands, especially, demonstrated that appropriate habitat attracts suitable species. For example, birds such as the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Dark-eyed Junco, Hermit Thrush, White-throated Sparrow, and Blackburnian Warbler, all thought to be scarce in the Southern Tier, were regularly located — often in state forests where conifers, possibly planted by the CCC in the 30's, have reached maturity. Access to these places is seldom easy, so probably before the atlas, observers also were few.

Atlasers also turned in several rare records, including an Upland Sandpiper in Cortland County, an Acadian Flycatcher in Tioga County, Swainson's Thrushes in Chenango County, a Gray-cheeked Thrush on Mt. Pisgah, Delaware County, a pair of Cerulean Warblers, a Pine Warbler and a pair of Pine Siskins all in Delaware County. Other unusual records were: 21 Golden-crowned Kinglets in Chenango County plus ten in Delaware and Tioga Counties, three Marsh Wrens in Cortland County, and five locations scattered thru for Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

By contrast, the early return migration seemed disappointing. Places where numbers of shorebirds are usually seen were almost empty. Migrant warblers had been few by period's end. However, five Common Loons landed on a Delaware County farm pond 14 August and a pair of Double-crested Cormorants spent two weeks at the end of August on a farm pond in Cortland County. There were also two early Osprey sightings in Broome County. Through carelessness of this regional editor most atlas records came without specific dates and in the case of Delaware and Tioga Counties where the same people did the "blockbusting" often the reports read Delaware/Tioga. This editor apologizes.

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Abbreviations: Br—Broome; Chen—Chenango; Cort—Cortland; CVSP—Chenango Valley State Park; Del—Delaware; NCBC—Naturalists Club of Broome Co.; OPM—Oneonta, Portlandville, Milford; WPR—Whitney Point Reservoir.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: five 14 Aug. Davenport, Del. Co., on farm pond (L & JP). Double-crested Cormorant: two last two weeks of Aug. on farm pond Cort. Co. (SW).

Great Blue Heron: regular thru. Green-backed Heron: regular thru. Black-crowned Night-Heron: one 27 June Br. Co. (NCBC). Tundra Swan: one 4 June, Br. Co. leading a wedge of Blue Geese (HM). Canada Goose: one pair with six young, 29 June, Lisle, Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); one June, pond near CVSP, Br. Co. (JS); one pair with young Cort. Co. on farm pond (SW). Wood Duck: regular thru. Am. Black Duck: four 20 Aug. Susquehanna R., Binghamton (FL, HM); two Del. Co. (PH, DJ, BO). Mallard: common thru. Blue-winged Teal: Cort. Co. (MH). Hooded Merganser: one early July Smithville Flats, Chen. Co. (JL); later four in eclipse plumage in nearby atlas block (JL). Com. Merganser: one 27 June Br. Co. (NCBC); one June Oxford, Chen. Co. in non-breeding plumage (JL). One 3 July and 1 Aug. So. Otselic "on 3 July flew up and down the river agitated and quacking" "not seen again until 1 Aug." (DM); three Del. Co. (PH, DJ, BO).

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: regular Br. and Del. Co.; "sightings thruout but fewer than in 1983" Chen. Co. (DM). Osprey: one 22 July Br. Co. (JS); one 18 Aug. Br. Co. (RM). Bald Eagle: one 4 June Tioga Co. (LD); one Del. Co. (PH, DJ, BO). No. Harrier: two late June, Chen. Co. (RW); a pair, So. Otselic, Chen. Co., many sightings (DM). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 11 reports scattered thru. Cooper's Hawk: 12 reports scattered thru. No. Goshawk: one late June Chen. Co. (JL); two Del. Co. (PH, DJ, BO). Red-shouldered Hawk: two 3 June Chen. Co. (BB, FL, HM); two Chen. Co. (JL); one 3 June Br. Co. (FL, HM); one 17 June Br. Co. (FL, HM); one 19 June Br. Co. (FL, HM); two late June Chen. Co. "calling back and forth" (JL). Broad-winged Hawk: one late June Br. Co. (FL, HM); one 4 June Br. Co. (FL, HM); one late July Br. Co. (RM); one "off and on thru Aug." Br. Co. (GK); ten Chen. Co. (JL); eight Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO); a very good year for this species. Red-tailed Hawk: regular thru; count unusually high. Am. Kestrel: regular thru; count high. Ring-necked Pheasant: one June Tioga Co. (LD); one Chen. Co. (JL); 14 Del. Co. "probably stocked" (PH, JD, BO). Ruffed Grouse: regular thru. Wild Turkey: regular thru; increasing. Virginia Rail: two adults with young late July North Norwicher, (RD, CC). Sora: one Chen. Co. (DM); two Cort. Co. (MH). Killdeer: common thru. Lesser Yellowlegs: one 25 July, Br. Co. (FL, HM); two 7 July So. Otselic, Chen. Co. (DM). Solitary Sandpiper: one 12 July Chen. Co. (JL); four 29 July Chen. Co. (JL); one 25 July Br. Co. (FL, HM). Spotted Sandpiper: regular thru. **UPLAND SANDPIPER:** two different areas Cort. Co. (MH). Com. Snipe: one 16 June Chen. Co. (JL); two locations So. Otselic, Chen. Co. (DM); two 6 June OPM, "pinned down nesting area, walked in and flushed two birds who circled and winnowed until we left" (MD, KW). Am. Woodcock: regular Br. Co., Chen. Co., Del. Co., Tioga Co. Ring-billed Gull: 35 3 Aug. Otsego Lake (MD). Herring Gull: one 18 June WPR (FL, HM); one July Tioga Co. (LD).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Rock Dove: common thru. Mourning Dove: common thru. Black-billed Cuckoo: 19 reports scattered thru; down from last two years. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: ten reports scattered thru; also down from past years. E. Screech-Owl: regular thru. Great Horned Owl: common thru. Barred Owl: six reports Br. Co.; one Chen. Co.; three Del./Tioga. No. Saw-whet Owl: one Cort. Co. (MH); one Del. Co. (BC). Com. Nighthawk: all period Binghamton, Oneonta; three Del. Co. (PH, DJ, BO); last date one 29 Aug. "singing downtown Oneonta at night" (MD); last two weeks Binghamton 30 or more "hawking" over SUNY campus; sparse elsewhere thru area. Chimney Swift: regular thru altho a reporter from So. Otselic notes "very, very few (2 or 3) less each year" (DM); still present at end of period. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: common thru; a very good year. Belted Kingfisher: regular thru. Red-headed Woodpecker: one Br. Co. (AT); two Chen. Co. (JL); three Del. Co. (DB, PH, DJ, BO). Red-bellied Woodpecker: one Tioga Co. (LD); one Del. Co. (BC). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: regular thru: atlassing has turned up many new locations in Southern Tier. Downy Woodpecker: common thru. Hairy Woodpecker: regular thru. No. Flicker: common thru. Pileated Woodpecker: nine Br. Co.; 13 Chen. Co.; 32 Del./Tioga Cos.; two OPM.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Wood-Pewee: regular thru. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one 28 Aug., one 29 Aug. Vestal banding station (HM). **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER:** Tioga

Co. (CB, PH, DJ, BO). Alder Flycatcher: regular thru. Willow Flycatcher: regular thru. Least Flycatcher: common thru. Great Crested Flycatcher: regular thru. E. Kingbird: regular thru. Horned Lark: one 20 June Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); three Chen. Co. (JL), five Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO). Purple Martin: one colony Endwell, Br. Co. (FL); one colony Center Village, Br. Co. (JS); one female Chen. Co. (RW). Tree Swallow: common thru. No. Rough-winged Swallow: eight Chen. Co. (JL, DM); four Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO); very low count. Bank Swallow: one colony Br. Co. (BB); eight colonies Chen. Co. (JL); nine colonies Del./Tioga Cos.; So. Otselic comment: "increased road construction . . . the reopening of many gravel pits has resulted in increases" (DM). Cliff Swallow: three colonies Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); three Chen. Co. (JL); five locations OPM (MD, KW); 22 Del./Tioga (PH, DJ, BO); high count; comment "beginning to colonize under large bridges" (JL). Barn Swallow: common thru. Blue Jay: common thru. Am. Crow: common thru. Fish Crow: one 4 thru 18 July Binghamton (WO). Black-capped Chickadee: common thru. Tufted Titmouse: regular thru. Red-breasted Nuthatch: two 4 June Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); two 1 Aug. Br. Co. (FL, HM); 14 Chen. Co. (JL); three Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO); one 21 June OPM (MD, KW); one 9 July OPM (MD, KW); one 25 July OPM (MD, KW); one July Tioga Co. (LD). White-breasted Nuthatch: common thru. Brown Creeper: three locations Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); 22 Chen. Co. (JL); 17 Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO). Carolina Wren: one pair Chenango Bridge, Br. Co., nested (AT). House Wren: common thru. Winter Wren: one 7 July, Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); eight Chen. Co. (JL); five So. Otselic, Chen. Co. "after none for the first four years of the atlas" (DM); ten Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO); one 6 June OPM (MD, KW); one 12 June, 16 July same location OPM (MD, KW). Marsh Wren: three different locations Cort. Co. (MH). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 21 Chen. Co. (JL); ten Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one pair 28 July Windsor Br. Co. (JS); one 28 June, Chen. Co. (JL); one So. Otselic, Chen. Co. (DM); two, possibly a pair, Cort. Co. (MH, CN); one Del. Co. (PH, DJ, BO). E. Bluebird: regular thru; most first clutches were lost due to cold, wet spring, but most second attempts succeeded. Veery: common thru.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: one Mt. Pisgah, elevation 3345 ft., Del. Co. identified by song (PH); very unusual for this area this period. **SWAINSON'S THRUSH:** five locations all Chen. Co. "all in mature spruce" (JL), one 30 June Bowman Lake (elevation 1700 ft.) (JL), one 30 June Genegantslet Lake (JL), one 16 June Pharsalia Plateau (elevation 1838 ft.) remained thru July (DM), one 31 July (elevation 1800 ft) (JL), one July So. Otselic all month (DM); "all birds found thus far have been on or near the so-called Pharsalia Plateau, a relatively flat area with elevation of 1700 to 1900 ft. This area extends from Otselic thru Pharsalia southward and eastward. Since John Bull reports Pharsalia as one of the only extra-montane breeding sites, I am convinced this year's sightings are not the result of the late season. I think a nucleus of birds may be spreading from Pharsalia out." (DM). Hermit Thrush: regular thru; atlasing has located many new sites. Wood Thrush: common thru. Am. Robin: common thru in June and July; sudden decrease in Aug. in some locations in Br. Co. (lawn spraying?). Gray Catbird: common thru. No. Mockingbird: ten reports Br. Co.; one Del. Co.; one Tioga Co.; six Del./Tioga Cos.; increasing in Southern Tier. Brown Thrasher: regular thru. Cedar Waxwing: regular thru. European Starling: common thru.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: over 50 reports; increase due to atlasing? Yellow-throated Vireo: regular thru. Warbling Vireo: regular thru. Red-eyed Vireo: common thru. Blue-winged Warbler: over 50 reports; increase due to atlasing? Golden-winged Warbler: one Br. Co. (RM); three Chen. Co. (JL); two Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO). Tennessee Warbler: two late July Chen. Co. (JL); earliest Br. Co. banding station 5 Aug. (GK). Nashville Warbler: three locations Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); five locations Del./Tioga Cos.; 15 Chen. Co.; unusual for Br. Co.; late spring migration may have influenced this. Yellow Warbler: common thru. Chestnut-sided Warbler: regular thru. Magnolia Warbler: four locations Br. Co.; 25 locations Chen. Co.; 13 Del./Tioga; three OPM; increase, especially in Southern Tier due to atlasing. Cape May Warbler: one late Aug. Chen. Co. (JL). Black-throated Blue Warbler: six Br. Co.; 14 Chen. Co.; 21 Del./Tioga Cos.; three OPM; increase due to

atlassing. Yellow-rumped Warbler: two locations Br. Co.; 21 locations Chen. Co.; 26 locations Del./Tioga Cos.; three 21 June OPM (MD, KW); one 26 June OPM (MD, KW). Black-throated Green Warbler: over 75 reports: regular thru. Blackburnian Warbler: 47 reports from Br., Chen., Del./Tioga Cos.; increase due to atlassing?. **PINE WARBLER:** one 12 July Del. Co. (PH). Prairie Warbler: four sites Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); six sites Chen. Co. (JL); seems to be expanding its range somewhat. **CERULEAN WARBLER:** one Del. Co., feeding young (SH, BO). Black-and-white Warbler: regular thru. Am. Redstart: regular thru. Worm-eating Warbler: one Del. Co. (PH, JD, BO). Ovenbird: regular thru. No. Waterthrush: 17 reports; three sites Br. Co.; 11 Chen. Co.; three Del./Tioga Cos. Louisiana Waterthrush: 34 reports scattered thru. Mourning Warbler: 28 reports scattered thru. Com. Yellowthroat: common thru. Wilson's Warbler: one 28 Aug. Vestal banding station, Br. Co. (GK). Canada Warbler: 28 reports scattered thru. Yellow-breasted Chat: once June, once July Vestal (JSh).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: regular thru. No. Cardinal: regular thru. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: regular thru. Indigo Bunting: regular thru. Rufous-sided Towhee: regular thru. Chipping Sparrow: common thru. Field Sparrow: common thru. Vesper Sparrow: 15 reports; two Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM); nine Chen. Co. (JL); three Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO); one OPM (MD, KW). Savannah Sparrow: regular thru. Grasshopper Sparrow: nine Br. Co. (BB, FL, HM, JS); five Chen. Co. (JL, DM); five Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO). Henslow's Sparrow: three Chen. Co. (JL); five Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO). Song Sparrow: common thru. Swamp Sparrow: regular thru. White-throated Sparrow: over 60 reports scattered thru; increase due to atlassing? Dark-eyed Junco: over 90 reports; increase probably due to atlassing especially in Southern Tier. Bobolink: regular thru. Red-winged Blackbird: common thru. E. Meadowlark: regular thru. Com. Grackle: common thru. Brown-headed Cowbird: common thru. Orchard Oriole: one Br. Co. (JL); one Del./Tioga Cos. (PH, DJ, BO). No. Oriole: regular thru. Purple Finch: regular thru. House Finch: common thru. **PINE SISKIN:** two birds, possibly a pair, Del. Co. (PH, DJ, BO). Am. Goldfinch: common thru. House Sparrow: common thru.

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REGION 5 - ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The summer of 1984 closely paralleled the summer of 1983 just as the spring season did. The season began cool and wet, then abruptly turned hot and dry in mid-June and remained that way, except for an intense rainstorm after 4 July, until early August. By the end of July many areas were experiencing near drought conditions in spite of the plentiful spring rains. August was quite wet (the third wettest on record at Syracuse) and notable for alternating hot and cold spells. The threat of drought was ended; many of our shorebird localities were flooded.

In general this was a very good nesting season. During the past winter your editor compiled long term means for each of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Surveys conducted in the Region. There is considerable year to