

1 June. Chestnut-sided Warbler: max four Averill Park 10 July. Magnolia Warbler: four reports; max two Twin Mt. 22 July. Black-throated Blue Warbler: five reports; max six Twin Mt. 22 July. Yellow-rumped Warbler: four reports; max ten Twin Mt. 22 July. Black-throated Green Warbler: five reports; max five Twin Mt. 22 July. Blackburnian Warbler: Austerlitz 6 June-4 July; one Lanesville 19 July; one Berlin 23 July. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER**: first New York breeding record So. Cairo thru. They were first observed on 6 June by David Gagne of NYSDEC. On 9 June they were observed building a nest. Incubation was observed on 15 June and feeding of young on 1 July. The nest was collected on 21 Aug. under Federal Permit #PRT 2-2027BO held by Eugene McCaffrey. The nest is now in the collection of the Am. Mus. of Nat. Hist. Pine Warbler: Castleton 30 Aug. Prairie Warbler: max two Burden L 7 July. Blackpoll Warbler: ten Twin Mt. 22 July. Cerulean Warbler: New Baltimore thru (RG). Black-and-white Warbler: max ten Hoosick 27 Aug. Am. Redstart: max ten Hoosick 27 Aug. Ovenbird: ten banded Jenny L indicate numbers way down. No. Waterthrush: ten reports thru. Louisiana Waterthrush: two Lanesville 19 July; one Berlin 23 July; one Poolsburg 2 Aug. Mourning Warbler: first record for nesting in Columbia Co. at New Lebanon Center thru July (*vide* ER); one Berne 19 July; male Berlin 23 July. Com. Yellowthroat: max five Cheviot 1 June. Wilson's Warbler: male Potter Hill 27 Aug. Canada Warbler: five reports from high elevations.

**TANAGERS-WEAVERS**: Scarlet Tanager: max three Cheviot 1 June. No. Cardinal: max five E. Schodack 3 July. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 20 banded Jenny L. normal but down from last year's 50. Indigo Bunting: max two Livingston 6 Aug. Rufous-sided Towhee: fledgling Petersburg Pass 24 July. Chipping Sparrow: max ten E. Schodack 3 July; long term decline at Jenny L. **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**: male bred with Chipping Sparrow Harlemville. Field Sparrow: max three Cheviot 1 June. Vesper Sparrow: Ghent 4 July-27 Aug. Savannah Sparrow: max five E. Schodack 3 July. Song Sparrow: max ten E. Schodack 3 July. Lincoln's Sparrow: Ghent 27 Aug. Swamp Sparrow: max three Cheviot 1 June. White-throated Sparrow: three Averill Park 10 July; one Hoag's Corners 11 July; Old Chatham 17 June-7 July; Jenny L June-July. Dark-eyed Junco: fledglings Twin Mt. 22 July and Petersburg Pass 24 July. Bobolink: max 20 Berlin 23 July. Red-winged Blackbird: max 30 Cheviot 1 June. E. Meadowlark: max two E. Schodack 3 July. Com. Grackle: max 20 Cheviot 1 June; none found in Rensselaer Co. 23-24 July. Brown-headed Cowbird: max ten Cheviot 1 June. Orchard Oriole: first Columbia Co. breeding record Stuyvesant 1 Aug. (BC). No. Oriole: male still singing at Potter Hill 27 Aug. Purple Finch: 153 banded Jenny L. June-Aug. is very low. Few young produced and birds left early. House Finch: max 600 Schenectady. Am. Goldfinch: max ten Cheviot 1 June. Evening Grosbeak: one Twin Mt. 22 July. House Sparrow: max 20 Hoosick 27 Aug. Total 167 species.

Remember Dial-A-Bird for Hudson-Mohawk area birds news at 518-377-9600.

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## REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Temperatures were cool for the first week of June, and then went into the 90's. By the end of the second week they plummeted to the 60's and never went above the 70's and 80's for the rest of the summer. Rainfall was about twice normal during June and July, but August was quite dry, having only one rainy day. Foliage did not suffer, what with all the ground water left over from the wet spring and early summer; and the forecast is for an excellent fruit and seed crop in the fall.

As the waters of the Hudson are cleaned up, birds which depend upon sight in catching fish are thriving. Cormorants which pursue their prey under water have increased greatly in recent years and had their best season yet this summer. Although the waters are physically cleaner, one can only wonder what the soluble toxins are doing to those birds that depend on these waters for long periods of time.

The white egrets which usually spread northward into the region from their breeding grounds in New Jersey and Region 10 failed to show in any numbers this summer. July and August saw swan populations building along with the ducks and geese on their favorite feeding grounds along the Hudson. Migrant shorebirds were good in both variety and numbers on the sod farms of southern Orange, and the Monk Parakeet is still with us, although barely. Atlassers turned up more breeding Golden-crowned Kinglets than ever before, as well as a good variety of warblers previously thought to be scarce. Things were rather uneventful with the blackbirds, sparrows and finches. Among the rarities listed in the report are: Little Blue Heron, Common Merganser (breeding), Sandhill Crane, Whimbrel, Baird's and Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Caspian Tern, Kentucky Warbler and Blue Grosbeak.

Contributors and observers cited: Fred and Wava Abbott, John Askildsen, Al Brayton, Robert F. Deed, Liz and Lou Dumont, David Freund, Florence Germond, May and Jim Key, Helen Manson, Frank Murphy, Eleanor Pink, Bob Slechta, John Stellwagen, Robert Terwilliger, John Tramontano, Ed Treacy, Marion VanWagner, Berna Weissman.

Abbreviations: Ashokan-Ashokan Reservoir; CB-Cornwall Bay; EP-Esopus Point; KP-Kingston Point; first four or five letters of each County.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: usually a small summering population at Ashokan, but nothing there this year. Only report one imm summering at Rondout Res. Double-crested Cormorant: more summering on the Hudson than ever before, two regularly at EP from 19 June, ten or 12 regularly at CB, six flying low over Hudson at Bard Rock 17 Aug., 21 there 31 Aug. Am. Bittern: rarely seen in Rock. One flying over Hackensack Cr. at West Nyack 9 July, five flying down the Bashakill 11 June (JS). Great Blue Heron: continues a fine comeback in Dutch. A survey of the new heronry in Washington Township found about 20 pairs on nests containing two to four well grown young each on 28 June. An adult was setting on a nest in a marsh near Ashokan on 5 June, but was not successful. Great Egret: an unusual record of a single bird spending the entire day of 25 July on a small suburban lawn in Upper Nyack. Allowed approach to a dozen feet, with no signs of illness. One was at Great Vly Swamp north of Saugerties 22 July, two at Travers Sw, Dutch 31 July, none at CB this year. Snowy Egret: three at CB 15 Aug. Little Blue Heron: two imm at Travers Sw. Dutch, 31 July (MVW, EP, HM). Mute Swan: nonbreeders inc to 40 at CB by end of period. Wood Duck: although no details are known, it appears that the more than 200 nesting boxes at Bashakill were largely occupied, and might have produced over 1,000 young (JT). No. Pintail: a few eclipse birds were at CB by 15 Aug. Blue-winged Teal: a few individuals reported up and down the Hudson from Sleightsburg to CB from 15 Aug. Gadwall: same status as previous two species. Hooded Merganser: RT reports a female with three young in a marsh near Ashokan 14 July. **COM. MERGANSER:** three at an inlet of Ashokan 6 June. First sign of young 1 July on Esopus Cr. near Ashokan. A female with eight young 15 July at Ashokan, and two females with 30 young there 30 July. Ruddy Duck: arr Tomahawk L. Oran 28 July (JT).

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Osprey: one CB 15 Aug. Another Abel's Pd, Dutch 25 July. Nest platforms provided in several locations were unused. Bald Eagle: one imm at Chappaqua 25 June, two adults summered at Rondout Res. from 14 July (RT), one flew low over

Millbrook 9 June. Sharp-shinned Hawk: at least a half-dozen reports from Dutch and the Catskills. Cooper's Hawk: a pair summered at Middletown Res, breeding not confirmed. Breeding was confirmed at Walden, Plattekill and Black Rock Forest, Cornwall, eggs and young in the nest obs at these locations. No. Goshawk: one passed Butler Sanct Hawk Watch 29 Aug. That early it might well have been a local resident. Dutch produced one at Pawling 27 July and another at Gardner Hollow 18 July, one at Salt Point 17 Aug. Red-shouldered Hawk: adult obs on nest at Ashokan 2 June, one young by 11 June, left nest by 9 July. Confirmed breeding with two fledglings at Moonbeams Sanct near Middletown (FWA). Ring-necked Pheasant: six young obs at Verbank 28 July, very few others reported. Ruffed Grouse: numbers up in Dutch, but normal to less elsewhere. Wild Turkey: many reports of young thru most of region. A hen obs feeding with 20 Canada Geese on the center mall of the Palisades Parkway near Queensboro L, Bear Mt. Park 7 July (ET). LLD report flocks obs at Black Meadow, Goosepond Pk, Warwick, Greenwood L and Monroe; all in Oran. No. Bobwhite: only report one at Millwood 16 June. **SANDHILL CRANE**: one at Reader's Digest Plant, Chappaqua 6 June, confirmed by BW. Black-bellied Plover: first two at Warren Sod Farm 5 Aug, max there four 29 Aug. Lesser Golden-Plover: first ten Warren Sod Farm 19 Aug, inc to max of 250 24 Aug. Solitary Sandpiper: obs at IBM plant in Kingston 16 July, inc to six by 20 July. An unusual 30 at Great Vly Swamp, Ulst 22 July (AB). Spotted Sandpiper: excellent numbers at CB, but no young ever obs there. Upland Sandpiper: all summer at Warren Sod Farm, max 50 by 19 Aug, reduced to six by end of period. **WHIMBREL**: one at Warren Sod Farm 25 Aug, remained for about a week in the company of golden plover. **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER**: three well obs at Warren Sod Farm at about 30 ft. for 3-4 minutes (JS). Pectoral Sandpiper: arr Warren Sod Farm 19 Aug. Single birds obs there almost daily thru end of period. **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER**: first arr Warren Sod Farm 5 Aug., another there 11 Aug (JS). **CASPIAN TERN**: RT reports one at KP 14 July. Com. Tern: two at the West Hurley end of Ashokan 30 July. Least Tern: one adult and one imm at Croton Bay 15 Aug. (Vince McGrath).

**PIGEONS-WOODPECKES**: Ringed Turtle-Dove: one in "excellent fresh plumage" obs at the end of Piermont Pier eating mulberries with a flock of Mourning Doves 10 July (RD, Peter Derven, Bridget Coullon). Monk Parakeet: one Piermont Pier, 28 July (Bridget Coullon). Cuckoos: both species very scarce, only a few reports. E. Screech-Owl: reported very scarce in Ulst, normal elsewhere. Long-eared Owl: one calling thru June near P'kpsie (MK). Com. Nighthawk: very few reports, max about 50 over Pound Ridge 25 Aug., another 50 over Ashokan 26 Aug. Red-headed Woodpecker: nesting near Ashokan 14 June thru July.

**FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS**: Olive-sided Flycatcher: two birds singing on territories 1½ miles apart at Denning, Ulst 22 July. E. Wood-Pewee: many fledglings reported in Dutch during July. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: three Aug. reports from Dutch. One 20-24 Aug. and two on 31 Aug. Acadian Flycatcher: very common along Peekamoose Rd. on 6 June. Acadian Flycatcher: confirmed breeder in Sterling Forest, and in three other blocks nearby, two at Pawling Nature Conservancy 11 July. Great Crested Flycatcher: nesting in a box at the home of FG in Clinton Corners, young gone by 8 July. No. Rough-winged Swallow: nesting next to Cliff Swallows in a gravel pit at Ashokan 9 July. Fish Crow: doing well in the Kingston area, more than 20 at EP in late Aug. Com. Raven: a pair flying close to Giant Ledge in the Catskills 13 June, one over High Pt. Mt. 1 Aug. Brown Creeper: usual nesters near Ashokan. Carolina Wren: obs with young in Sterling Forest. Winter Wren: singing male at Plattekill thru June, obs with two fledgling young at CB 25 May (BS). Golden-crowned Kinglet: atlassing has revealed more breeding pairs than ever before, nesting in at least five locations: Ashokan, Black Rock Forest, Black Meadow Preserve near Chester, Middletown Res. and Pawling. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: exc numbers at the beginning of the period; scarce toward the end. E. Bluebird: FG banded 150 nestlings during July in central Dutch. Swainson's Thrush: a singing bird on 26 June at Pawling was probably a late migrant. Hermit Thrush: singing males obs regularly in Harriman

State Pk, Sterling Forest, and the immediate environs above the 800' level, also heard on Schunemunk Mt. in June and July.

**VIREOS-WARBLEDERS:** Solitary Vireo: found in at least eight blocks in S. Oran, always at upper elevations, much more common than expected. Philadelphia Vireo: first migrant 28 Aug. near Tamarack, Dutch. Another south of P'kpsie 31 Aug. Red-eyed Vireo: everyone reports their numbers down. "Lawrence's" Warbler: one 23 June at Siskowit Res, feeding young, another at Tamarack Pd, Putn 2 June. "Brewster's" Warbler: obs with food 27 June along the Esopus near Boiceville. Nashville Warbler: FM considers this species as showing the largest increase among warblers in Ulst, excellent numbers at the lower elevations around Ashokan and Kingston. One obs carrying food at Ashokan 18 June, obs nesting at Moonbeams Sanct, Middletown; and singing on Schunemunk Mt. 10 June. Magnolia Warbler: common along the Neversink R near Denning on 22 July, obs regularly in the Catskills by FM. Black-throated Blue Warbler: nesting near Pawling on 4 July. Black-throated Green Warbler: also nesting near Pawling and obs feeding young. Cerulean Warbler: obs near Pawling 11 July. Another was a surprising find at the south base of High Pt. in the Catskills on 16 June. A singing male captured an insect and flew with it to a high cottonwood, but no nest observed. **KENTUCKY WARBLER:** obs during second week of June at Pound Ridge Res. That same week three others were at Siskowit Res, two seemed to be paired. Hooded Warbler; breeding confirmed at Brinton Brook Sanct. Several nesting near Ashokan and a singing male near High Pt. Mt. 16 June, the latter at the 2000' level; another was at Pawling 18 June. Canada Warbler: two near Nuclear L, West Pawling were obs feeding young on 30 July. A male singing on Schunemunk during June was obs carrying food there the first week of July.

**TANAGERS-WEAVERS:** Scarlet Tanager: obs feeding young on 24 Aug. near Pawling, also feeding young on 28 Aug. near Tamarack, Dutch. Late! **BLUE GROSBEAK:** a pair carrying food in the same location where a male was found with several imm the summer before, just south of Warren Sod Farm near the New Jersey line; breeding confirmed (FWA). Grasshopper Sparrow: six to eight pairs obs near the Wallkill Prison during June and July. Henslow's Sparrow: only two pairs obs regularly at Galeville Airport where in recent years more than a dozen pairs were obs. White-throated Sparrow: obs at the 1,000' contour in Sterling Forest and Surebridge Swamp. The latter responded belligerently to a tape of its song. One in FG's yard at Clinton Corners, Dutch from 10 June thru month's end. Dark-eyed Junco: breeding at Fahnstock Pk 21 June, singing on Schunemunk Mt. at 1,400' level 15 July. One at Pond Gut 25 Aug. was too early for a migrant. E. Meadowlark: continues its decline. Only a few reports. Brown-headed Cowbird: an unusual report of a phoebe feeding a fledgling in Dutch during June. Orchard Oriole: mentioned on four reports. One pair at Pound Ridge 23 June. A pair nested in South Nyack for the second consecutive year; an imm was there begging for food and eating mulberries on 17 July. A first year male was singing at CB 4 June. Another pair built and abandoned a nest near Stanfordville, Dutch in June. Purple Finch: a male and female were at South Trinity Res, Pound Ridge 23 June. A male was singing on Bull Mine Mt. Oran 21 June and 17 July.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, New York 10928

## REGION 10 – MARINE

JOSEPH A. DiCOSTANZO

Looking at the average temperature and total rainfall for the whole season might lead to the conclusion that it was a fairly "average" summer, if it is possible