

but observer is familiar with species. Blue Grosbeak: total of five reported 2 Sep-20 Oct. Dickcissel: JBCh 8 Sep; Jones 28 Sep, only two reports. Vesper Sparrow: JBCh 28 Sep (AW), only report. Lark Sparrow: three JBCh 28 Sep (AW) ties state record max, but not Gloria related as two there 26 Sep (QCBC). White-crowned Sparrow: many reports mid-Oct, above average. Lapland Longspur: very few reports, two Southampton 9 Nov; two JBCh 13 Nov; one Bay P 20 Nov. Snow Bunting: max 60 Great Kills, SI 3 Nov (T. Preston), other small flocks. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD**: Seatuck 12 Sep (Seatuck staff). White-winged Crossbill: Great Kills P, SI 23 Nov (AM), only report. Com. Redpoll: scattered reports of small numbers, three JBCh 17 Nov; six Caumsett SP 24 Nov. Pine Siskin: max 40 JBCh 26 Oct (AM); other scattered reports. Evening Grosbeak: max 40 JBCh 26 Oct (AM); other scattered reports.

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REGION 10 – MARINE

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(*Editor's Note: This report of Summer, 1985 arrived too late to be included in the preceding issue of The Kingbird.*)

Overall, it was a cool summer with average rainfall in the Region. Temperatures were normal or below on 21 days in June putting the month's average at 68.6° F, 2.8° below normal. June's total rainfall of 4.41 inches was 1.18 above normal. The weather moderated a little in July but the pattern remained the same. Normal or below temperatures on 18 days kept the month's average at 76.2°, 0.5° below normal. July's total rainfall of 4.41 in. was 0.64 above normal. Temperatures in August remained at or below normal on 18 days. However, 90°+ readings on the 14th and 15th helped raise the month's average to 75.4°, exactly normal. August was drier than the previous two months with 2.58 in. of rain, 1.45 below normal. (All weather data are from New York City.)

The summer reporting period really covers three seasons: late-spring migration, breeding season and early-fall migration. June sees the end of the spring migration with flycatchers often at their peak numbers in early to mid-June. Late migrant warblers continue to pass through as evidenced by Magnolia and Black-throated Blue Warblers at Great Gull Island 8 June. A Kentucky Warbler found by Tony Lauro at Hecksher the same day is harder to characterize because it could be breeding here at the northern limits of its range. Early July saw the beginning of the fall shorebird migration, particularly at Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Shorebird numbers swelled there through August producing New York State's first record of Rufous-necked Stint. Cool fronts on 21 and 31 Aug brought the first significant numbers of fall migrant passerines to the Region.

Among Long Island breeders the Osprey continues its comeback. Mike Scheibel

reports 170 young in 129 active nests, with the most western nest now at Mill Neck. Marilyn England found 13 female N. Harriers on nests between Tobay and Captree. Peregrine Falcons again nested on the Throgs Neck Bridge in New York City. Jon Greenlaw reports that Black Rails continue at their Oak Beach Marsh breeding outpost. Am. Oystercatchers are thriving. Brooke Lauro found 65 pairs between the Meadowbrook and Robert Moses Causeways. Eric Salzman reports that Cerulean Warblers are maintaining their recently established toehold on LI at Sag Harbor. A pair of Hooded Warblers with two young found at Shu Swamp in June by Barbara Spencer was the second nesting record for Long Island.

Don Riepe reported on the breeding of several species at Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Mute Swans bred for the second time; the first record was last year. The Laughing Gull colony established there in 1979 has increased to an estimated 2400 pairs. The refuge's nest box program for Com. Barn-Owls was once again a success with 26 young banded this summer. Boat-tailed Grackle was added to the New York State list of breeding birds in 1981. A female seen carrying food at the refuge on 15 Jul provided evidence that the species continues to breed there.

John Zarudsky reported on the breeding of a number of colonial waterbirds in the Town of Hempstead. Among waders he reported the following counts of nesting individuals: five Tricolored, 18 Little Blue and 23 Green-backed Herons, 266 Black-crowned and 23 Yellow-crowned Night-Herons, 174 Snowy, 96 Great and 10 Cattle Egrets and 343 Glossy Ibis. He estimated a total of 34 pairs of nesting Am. Oystercatchers. Two pairs of Gull-billed Terns were seen frequenting the marshes and were thought to be breeding but no nests were found. An estimated 945 pairs of Com. Terns were nesting in the same marshes. Ten to twenty pairs of Least Terns, recently declared an endangered species, were found nesting at Silver Point on Atlantic Beach and another 52 pairs were at Cedar Creek Park.

Arthur Morris conducted the fifth year of the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge shorebird survey, started by Tom Davis in 1981. He found that numbers of birds were late in arriving this fall and total numbers of birds were well down from the averages of the previous three years. Red Knots numbers were down and Greater Yellowlegs, Sanderlings, Least Sandpipers and Short-billed Dowitchers were all "way down." One species that ran counter to this trend was northbound White-rumped Sandpipers in early June, with 21 on 1 Jun. A count of 2291 Semipalmated Sandpipers 3 Aug was a new maximum for the species. Numbers of all species combined peaked in mid to late Aug, with 25 species recorded 18 Aug and 4053 birds on 22 Aug.

On 31 Aug Arthur Morris found a molting eclipse-plumaged male Eurasian Wigeon at Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge. This species now is being seen there regularly throughout the year, sometimes in pairs. Is breeding a far-fetched possibility? After all, the Region's first breeding record of Am. Wigeon came from there in 1961. With a little luck Region 10 could add a new species to North America's list of breeding birds within the next couple of years.

Rarities: Magnificent Frigatebird, White Ibis, Bar-tailed Godwit, Rufous-necked Stint, California Gull.

Abbreviations: WEJB–West End, Jones Beach; NYC–New York City; GGI–Great Gull Island; LI–Long Island; SI–Staten Island; CRSP–Connetquot River State Park; HLSP–Hempstead Lake State Park; JBWR–Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; NYRBA–New York Rare Bird Alert; RMSP–Robert Moses State Park.

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LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: two evidently summered at Moriches Bay (JR). Wilson's Storm-Petrel: higher than normal numbers in eastern LI Sound in Jun (M Male). Double-crested Cormorant: recently established colonies continue at South Brother I, NYC, and at Gardiner's and Fisher's I (*fide* RP). **MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** female flying east over GGI 3 Jun (JD, E Carrington). Least Bittern: birds seen regularly at JBWR during Aug were the only reports. **WHITE IBIS:** im Cold Spring Harbor 13 Aug (R Laskowski), very rare. Hooded Merganser: fledgling JBWR 10 Jul (DR), the species is not known to breed in the Region.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Red-shouldered Hawk: three young in a nest at Yaphank 2 Jun (JR), uncommon breeder on LI. Am. Oystercatcher: new high count, about 200 North Line I 22 Aug (JZ). Am. Avocet: Shinnecock 4 Aug (JR); JBWR 6 Aug, only two reports. Upland Sandpiper: six Republic Airfield 7 Aug (AL), highest number reported. Hudsonian Godwit: 18 Line I 5 Aug, high. **BAR-TAILED GODWIT:** seen and photographed at Bay P 5-6 Jun (ML). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2291 JBWR 3 Aug (AM), record local high. **RUFIOUS-NECKED STINT:** first state record, 27 Jul-11 Aug (RC, G & M Dremaux). Curlew Sandpiper: JBWR 14-27 Jul; Moriches Bay 25 Jul (PG, PB), only two reports. Ruff: alt plumage WEJB 8 Aug (AW), only report. Am. Woodcock: first breeding record for GGI (T. Ansel). Wilson's Phalarope: JBWR mid-Aug, only report. Little Gull: Shinnecock 1 Jun, very uncommon in summer. Com. Black-headed Gull: JBWR 14 Jun (PAB), very uncommon in summer. **CALIFORNIA GULL:** bird in "third winter" plumage, WEJB 31 Jul (PAB), third Regional and fourth state record. Gull-billed Tern: two frequenting the Cedar Beach tern colony in mid-Jul (BS) may have attempted to breed. Caspian Tern: JBWR 3 Aug, only report. Royal Tern: two GGI 3 Jun (JD, H Hays), only spring report; small numbers around the Region after mid-Aug. Black Tern: one spent Jun and Jul in a Com. Tern colony in a marsh in Easthampton, but there was no evidence of breeding (ES).

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Acadian Flycatcher: a few scattered reports til mid-Jun. Willow Flycatcher: GGI 9 Jun (JD, R Young), first record for locality. Red-breasted Nuthatch: GGI 26 Jun-4 Jul (T Male), normally very uncommon at this time; good numbers throughout Region in late Aug.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Golden-winged Warbler: Prospect P 13 Aug (NYRBA), very rare on LI in the fall. Prairie Warbler: reported "down on LI" (PB). Worm-eating Warbler: Buck's Hollow, SI 22 Jun (AM), unusual there at that date.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Lark Sparrow: arr JBWR 28 Aug (S Deifik, I Pulver). Grasshopper Sparrow: one report Mitchell Field 9 Jun (SD), has declined sharply in Region in recent years.

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