

intro; arr one MB 20 Aug. **Loggerhead Shrike**: one Kendall 18-19 Jun (DT, JS), only report.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: "Brewster's" Warbler: one LSP 5 Jun (AC), one Oatka Creek P 17-19 Jun (MR). Tennessee Warbler: last MB 1 Jun. Nashville Warbler: arr MB 30 Aug. Cape May Warbler: arr two Greece 26 Aug. Blackburnian Warbler: arr two BB 20 Aug. Pine Warbler: *intro*. Prairie Warbler: max three LSP 23 Jun, successful nesting? Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Durand Eastman Park 7 Aug. Wilson's Warbler: arr MB 20 Aug.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: White-throated Sparrow: *intro*. Orchard Oriole: one PB 6 Jul, a traditional nesting site. Pine Siskin: two ad, one imm MB 22, 24 Jun.

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REGION 3 – FINGER LAKES

C. K. MELIN

The summer of 1988 was unusually hot with average to below precipitation in the Finger Lakes Region. June began with adequate soil moisture, but by the month's end this was far less than adequate. Temperatures were cool at the start of June, followed by thunderstorms and showers with pea-sized hail on 3 Jun. As this low-pressure system moved away from the N.Y. coast, a high-pressure gradient developed in the west, causing brisk northwest winds in the Region. On 5 Jun, high winds brought down power lines and tree branches. Temperatures were chilly, with lows around freezing, until 13 Jun when temperatures began to rise and some high temperature records were set on 14-15 Jun. For the rest of June, temperatures and precipitation were seasonable. During July, drought conditions intensified and temperatures were well above normal with many days in the nineties. There was little or no rainfall until 9 Jul, when severe thunderstorms brought up to two inches of rain. Power lines and trees were damaged in parts of Cayuga County following more thunderstorms on 14 Jul. Except for a third rainy period from 17-22 Jul, the weather was exceptionally hot and humid. This trend continued into the first 17 days of August, with temperatures averaging 6-10° above normal. Cold fronts and associated thunderstorms were recorded during 5-6 August, 14-18 August, and 28-30 Aug. Storms on 28 Aug were severe enough to destroy barns and uproot trees in the Region, and at Jacksonville in Tompkins County a tornado demolished trees and houses, and caused one death. However, total rainfall for August was well below normal for the Region and many days were unusually hot and humid.

Maximum numbers for waterfowl and shorebirds were reported at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. A breeding population of 49 Canada Geese produced an estimated 220 young, and the maximum number of Canada Geese at the Refuge reached 500 during June. A breeding population of 60 Wood Ducks produced an estimated 544 young, and a maximum of 610 Wood Duck were present there in June. In August, following the breeding season, the following waterfowl maxima were obtained: 1400 Mallard, 150 Am. Black Duck, 80 Green-winged Teal, and 40 Blue-winged Teal. Other maxima were: 704 Great Blue Heron, 20 Green-backed Heron, and 80 Black-crowned Night Heron. During

August, a total of 217 Double-crested Cormorant and 3 Great Egret were present at the Refuge. Osprey were present all Season, and a single breeding pair produced two young from a nest on the Main Pool. Following a series of nesting failures due to bad weather, the three Bald Eagles were not able to successfully fledge any young this Season, but were present at the Refuge throughout the season.

The waterfront at Watkins Glen State Park, and the adjacent Queen Catherine Marsh produced an impressive variety of species this season. Green-backed Heron, Wood Duck, Mallard, Virginal Rail, Willow Flycatcher, Carolina Wren, Marsh Wren, and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher were all reported as breeding species. Also present were Double-crested Cormorant, Common Merganser, American Coot, Killdeer, Herring and Great Black-backed Gull, Caspian Tern, and more than 50 Ring-billed Gull. Purple Martin and Cliff Swallow were observed during August. Turkey Vulture were not observed along the cliffs of Seneca Lake this season, as they were a year ago when they were believed to be nesting.

Paul Novak, a former winner of the Federation's Stoner Award, worked for the Nature Conservancy at the Finger Lakes National Forest this Season. This area, formerly known as the Hector Land Use Area, uses animal grazing as a management tool for maintaining open or grassland areas. Paul reports, "The extensive pasture areas did not yield any (Loggerhead) Shrikes, but I did observe both Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows in several locations and **Short-eared Owl** as well. I saw one owl on 27 Jun, two on 19 Jul, and three on 25 Aug. Included in the third and final sighting was a . . . fledgling owl." Birders who visit the Finger Lakes National Forest during future breeding seasons are encouraged to report the breeding status of its grassland birds in the areas where grazing is employed. Other species of interest reported from there during the summer were Sharp-shinned and Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Hermit Thrush, and a number of probable and/or confirmed breeding species including Golden-crowned Kinglet, Solitary Vireo, American Redstart, and several Warbler species including Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, and Black-and-white Warbler. There was also a singing male Hooded Warbler on 11 July, a nest containing two young Broad-winged Hawks on 26 and 29 July, and a fledged brood of five American Kestrel on 29 Jul. Reports from two other areas in the Region, Shindagin Hollow and the Old 600 Preserve in the town of Caroline, closely matched FLNF in species diversity this season.

A new Region 3 contributor, Jim Leet from Painted Post, submitted a list of species he observed during the summer season at the Spencer Crest Nature Center and the State Forest lands near Corning. Although Jim included few details of breeding status with his report, there were several highlights worth noting from his list of 129 species, including Cooper's Hawk, N. Goshawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Long-eared Owl, Whip-poor-will, Acadian Flycatcher, **Com. Raven**, Brown Thrasher, and Cerulean, Prairie, and Hooded Warblers, and Grasshopper, Henslow's, and Vesper Sparrows.

Wild Turkey were reported from many locations throughout the Region this Season, and there were many reports of successful breeding. The following flycatchers were common nesting birds throughout the Region: E. Wood-Pewee, Alder, Willow and Least Flycatchers, E. Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, and Great

Crested Flycatcher. Swallows were widely reported all season throughout the Region. However, the only reports of swallow colonies and nesting locations came from the Elmira area, where all swallow species were confirmed nesting. Purple Martin, Tree, and Bank Swallows were also confirmed nesting in Phelps. Colonies of Purple Martin, N. Rough-winged, Bank, and Cliff Swallows are not well-known in Region 3 and reports of these colonies are appreciated. Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, House Wren, E. Bluebird, Wood Thrush, Am. Robin, Gray Catbird, N. Mockingbird, and Cedar Waxwing were present as breeding species throughout the Region.

During July and August, numbers of shorebirds appeared at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge with maxima obtained during August. Maxima reported were 14 Semipalmated Plover, 80 Killdeer, 40 Lesser Yellowlegs, 157 Spotted Sandpiper and 2 Short-billed Dowitcher. Other shorebirds reported at Montezuma were Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, and Ruddy Turnstone. There were also peaks of 98 Ring-billed Gull, 10 Herring Gull, and 4 Caspian Tern this season at the Refuge. Montezuma was the only location in the Region where shorebirds were reported, except for a trickle of birds during mid to late August on the Chemung River in Elmira and the Corning Glassworks Pond. These two locations also produced a **Glossy Ibis** on 25 August and a **Whimbrel** on 29 Aug. [There was also a 25 Aug report of a **Glossy Ibis** along Rt. 17 near Binghamton in Region 4.]

There were no reports of N. Harrier, Acadian Flycatcher, Prothonotary Warbler, or Worm-eating Warbler. There was a single report, confirmed by S. Sibley, of a male **Rufous Hummingbird** 21 Jul at a feeding station on Perry City Road. Highlights for the summer include Glossy Ibis, Whimbrel, and Rufous Hummingbird.

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Abbreviations: MNWR - Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SWS - Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary; FLNF - Finger Lakes National Forest; TFSP - Taughannock Falls State Park; WGSP - Watkins Glen State Park.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: one Seneca Lake all summer, one Eldridge L Elmira to 6 Jun, four Seneca Lake 27 Aug. Pied-billed Grebe: nested Corning Pd. Double-crested Cormorant: *intro*; eight Horseheads 23 Aug. Am. Bittern: one Evans Farm, Dryden, 25 Aug. Least Bittern: one Cayuga Marsh 28 Jul. Great Blue Heron: *intro*. Great Egret: *intro*. Green-backed Heron: *intro*. Black-crowned Night-Heron: *intro*; one ad and 3 imm Elmira 14 Aug. **Glossy Ibis**: *intro*. Canada Goose: *intro*. Wood Duck: *intro*. Green-winged Teal: *intro*. Am. Black Duck: *intro*. Mallard: *intro*. Blue-winged Teal: *intro*. Com. Merganser: five Elmira 31 July, and reported nesting without details along Seneca L.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: widespread all Season. Osprey: *intro*; two Horseheads 25 Aug. Bald Eagle: *intro*. Cooper's Hawk: present all season Corning, none reported elsewhere. N. Goshawk: present all season Corning and Yellow Barn State Forest, breeding unconfirmed. Red-shouldered Hawk: *intro*; only reports FLNF and Shindagin Hollow. Broad-winged Hawk: *intro*; nesting FLNF, TFSP, & Elmira. Red-tailed Hawk: widespread. Am. Kestrel: *intro*. Peregrine Falcon: one MNWR 27 Aug. Virginia Rail: *intro*; confirmed nesting Corning Pd. Sora: nesting confirmed Corning Pd. Semipalmated Plover: *intro*. Killdeer: *intro*. Spotted Sandpiper: *intro*. Upland Sandpiper: eight

Horseheads 29 Aug. **Whimbrel**: *intro*. Short-billed Dowitcher: *intro*. Com. Snipe: no reports. Wilson's Phalarope: none. Black Tern: single report, one Elmira 29 Aug. Com. Tern: no reports!

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: abundant everywhere. Black-billed Cuckoo: infrequent but widespread all summer. **Short-eared Owl**: *intro*. Com. Night-hawk: max 50 Elmira 24 Aug. Whip-poor-will: heard Jun-Jul on Logan Road near Burdett. Chimney Swift: reported regularly in the Ithaca area; max 275 entering & exiting chimney at Belle Sherman School; also 25 to 50 flocking daily over Chemung R after 15 Aug. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: common throughout all summer. **Rufous Hummingbird**: *intro*. Red-headed Woodpecker: one WGSP June 6-8 at feeder; nest with y Carter Rd, Geneva.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: only report SWS 23 Aug. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: none. Horned Lark: present in agricultural areas, but not confirmed nesting. Am. Crow: present throughout and increasing. Fish Crow: no reports. Com. Raven: *intro*. Brown Thrasher: very few reports; are they decreasing? Loggerhead Shrike: no reports.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Yellow-throated Vireo: singles Old 600 7 Jun, Cayuga Nature Center 25 Aug. Prairie Warbler: nesting in Pine City, only reports. N. Waterthrush: present Old 600 6 June and 1 Aug, McLean Bog 20 June. Louisiana Waterthrush: present Old 600 6 June, 4 July, and 1 Aug. Hooded Warbler: *intro*. Yellow-breasted Chat: no reports.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Grasshopper Sparrow: *intro*. Henslow's Sparrow: *intro*.
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[The Region 4 report had not arrived in time for this issue of The Kingbird – The Editor.]

REGION 5 – ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

PAUL A. DeBENEDICTIS

Although the season began cool, June saw its four record lows offset by three record highs. Precipitation during the month was below average. July and the first half of August were hot, with many days exceeding 90°F. Periods of heavy precipitation in July, totaling nearly two inches above average, were spaced fairly evenly during the month. August ended cool, and with below average total precipitation. Birders in the Region remember mostly the nearly eight weeks of hot, humid weather, which is reflected in lower than normal, non-Atlasing birding activity. Birds, however, seem to have been less affected. There were no reports of birds affected by the heat and only one report of nestings (near Old Forge) which failed during the early July rainy period.

The last spring migrants which dribbled through in early June included Common Loon, Brant, Osprey, five species of shorebird, a record late (but not surprising) Alder Flycatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, Bay-breasted Warbler, Red Crossbill and Evening Grosbeaks. Following last spring's invasion, Pine Siskins lingered to late June-early July both in the Adirondacks and in the highlands on the