

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-WARBLEDERS: 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

Table 1. 1988 Waterfowl Census

Species \ Region	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
Loon, Red-throated		2			1					17	20
Common	1	2	6		3		1			117	130
Grebe, Pied-billed	2		6		2				3	75	88
Horned	5	7	41		24		16			410	503
Eared			1								1
Red-necked							1	1		1	3
Cormorant, Great										427	427
Double-crested					1				1	165	167
species										6	6
Swan, Tundra	13		48								61
Mute		2						19	116	1,772	1,909
Goose, Snow	1				1					29	31
Brant									84	19,058	19,142
Canada	2,106	313	25,781	255	1,538	410	561	1,693	2,710	31,934	67,301
Wood Duck		30	1		5				1	48	85
Green-winged Teal					4					54	58
American Black Duck	378	338	1,133	71	440	3	377	474	490	13,091	16,795
Mallard	4,768	3,845	8,439	606	4,269	300	1,262	1,348	1,775	9,277	35,889
Mallard X Black Duck		1			3					37	41
N. Pintail	11	1	2		1	1	2		4	105	127
Blue-winged Teal										2	2
N. Shoveler					2					195	197
Gadwall	12		39		3					573	627
Wigeon, Eurasian										1	1
American	9	1	6							925	941

Abbreviations: FH - Fairhaven, Little Sodus Bay and vicinity, Cayuga Co.; LOL - Lake Ontario littoral, Oswego Co.; OnonL - Onondaga Lake; SPd - Sandy Pond, Oswego Co.; SVB - Sylvan and Verona Beach, Oneida Co.; Syr - Syracuse.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: last migrant FH 9 Jun (MSR). Pied-billed Grebe: two ad, ten imm Clay Marsh in July. Double-crested Cormorant: high counts included 520 SPd 2 Jun and a record max of 830 in five minutes there on 31 Aug (WP); 30 Erieville Res 15 Aug (EH) is a good inland count. Least Bittern: two sites only. Brant: six FH on 5 Jun, three on 9 Jun. Green-winged Teal: only mid summer report Clay Marsh 17 Jul; arr SPd 14 Aug. N. Pintail: arr SVB 21 Aug. Blue-winged Teal: arr OnonL 7 Aug. N. Shoveler: three OnonL 25 Aug. Gadwall: last SPd 2 Jun, possibly local nester. Redhead: one Delta L 25 Aug only summering diving duck besides nesting mergansers.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Osprey: last Holland Patent 6 Jun; fate of nesting pair ONON not reported; arr SP 18 Aug. Bald Eagle: imms Otisco L 1 Jul, Fourth L Jun-Jul, SPd 17-24 Jul. N. Harrier: arr SPd 18 Aug. Am. Kestrel: max 18 n ONON 17 Jul. Merlin: arr SVB 21 Aug, early. Black-bellied Plover: last two SPd 2 Jun; arr . Lesser Golden-Plover: arr SVB 21 Aug. Semipalmated Plover: last six SPd 2 Jun. Killdeer: max 100+ SVB 21 Aug. Greater Yellowlegs: arr SVB 5 Jul, early; max 33 Delta L & OnonL 25 Aug. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr SVB 3 Jul, max 52 Delta L & OnonL 25 Aug. Solitary Sandpiper: arr SPd 6 Aug. Spotted Sandpiper: max 14 SPd. Whimbrel: three SPd 18 Aug (FGS). Hudsonian Godwit: ad OnonL 28 Aug. (MSR). Ruddy Turnstone: arr SPd 28 Jul. Red Knot: arr SPd 20 Aug. Sanderling: arr Six-mile Creek 24 Jul. Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 16 SPd 2 Jun; arr SPd 14 Jul; max 68 OnonL 1 Aug. Least Sandpiper: last SPd 2 Jun; arr Clay Marsh 9 Jul, max 22 Delta L & OnonL 25 Aug. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr SPd 31 Jul. Baird's Sandpiper: arr SPd 14 Aug. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr SPd 14 Jul, max 17 Delta L 27 Aug. Dunlin: last SPd 2 Jun. Stilt Sandpiper: eight Clay Marsh 25 Aug only report. Short-billed Dowitcher: arr OnonL 14 Jul, max five. Parasitic Jaeger: *intro*. Little Gull: second-year bird SPd 27-28 Aug. Bonaparte's Gull: arr (if they ever left) SVB 25 Jun, max 183 there 17 Aug, high. Caspian Tern: present all summer LOL, arr OnonL 9 Jul; max 96 SPd 18 Aug. Com. Tern: max 85 SVB 20 Aug, pitiful count compared to a decade ago. Black Tern: max 9 SPd; one Delta L 21 Jun, unusual locality.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: about a dozen reports. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one Victory 10 Jun, two Otto Mills in Tug Hill 17 Jun, only reports. Com. Nighthawk: max breeding population six Syr in Jul, but none in Syr Univ campus area. Red-headed Woodpecker: about five reports.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLING: Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Hastings 20 Aug. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr SPd 20 Aug. Alder Flycatcher: last Syr 13 Jun. Least Flycatcher: arr SPd 8 Aug. Barn Swallow: max 300 SPd 28 Jul, low; *intro*. Com. Raven: max 14 Old Forge in Jun. Black-capped Chickadee: *intro*. Carolina Wren: reported Syr, Pumpkin Hollow only. Sedge Wren: three Smith Ridge Rd, MADI, 18 Jul.

VIREOS-WARBLES: Philadelphia Vireo: last two FH 9 Jun (MSR); arr Altmar 7 Aug, early. Tennessee Warbler: arr SPd 27 Aug. Nashville Warbler: arr SPd 31 Aug. Yellow Warbler: max 42 SPd 31 Jul, low. Magnolia Warbler: arr SPd 18 Aug. Cape May Warbler: arr SPd 31 Aug, scarce. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr SPd 18 Aug. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr SPd 28 Jul (if not a local bird). Black-throated Green Warbler: arr SPd 27 Aug. Blackburnian Warbler: arr SPd 18 Aug. Bay-breasted Warbler: last Big Moose 7 Jun; arr Tug Hill Plateau 9 Aug. Black-and-white Warbler: arr SPd 18 Aug. N. Waterthrush: arr SPd 28 Jul. Louisiana Waterthrush: last Albion 7 Aug, late. Hooded Warbler: arr SPd 31 Jul. **Kentucky Warbler**: male netted W Monroe 21 Jun (C.G.Speis *vide* MSR). Wilson's Warbler: arr SPd 18 Aug. Canada Warbler: arr SPd 18 Aug.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Rufous-sided Towhee: arr SPd 27 Aug. Savannah Sparrow:

max six. Henslow's Sparrow: four at two sites. Red Crossbill: last four Orwell 6 Jun. Pine Siskin: one-three in Tug Hill Plateau to 23 Jun, and remained Holland Patent to 7 Jun, Erieville to 4 Jul. Evening Grosbeak: one Old Forge 7 Jun, three Erieville 4 Jun; arr Old Forge area during Aug.

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REGION 6 – ST. LAWRENCE

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Though not without its frosts and downpours, this will be remembered as a hot dry summer. Yet heavy rains in late July and August broke the drought and left a good crop of berries for the Fall. Beech mast looks good, but acorns are poor. June was not as dry in the North Country as elsewhere in the state but, on the heels of a dry spring, left water levels low and grasslands brown by late in the month. Temperatures bounced from below freezing readings on 10 and 29 Jun to the mid-90's on 15 and 16 Jun. Heavy showers occurred 22 Jun. What is the effect of such extremes on nestlings and fledglings? July temperatures averaged two to three degrees above normal, with even the Tug Hill Plateau experiencing the mid-90's during a heat wave the second week of the month. We escaped many of the severe thunderstorms passing through the state later in the month, and many areas ended July still deficient in rainfall. However, most locations received above average precipitation in August, with about 4 inches falling in northern St. Lawrence Co. from the 14 to 18 Aug. August temperatures were above normal, ranging from the mid-90's early in the month to the 30's on 22 Aug.

From the few reports I received, birding was ho-hum. Peter O'Shea reported a good complement of boreal species from southern St. Lawrence Co., including a male Spruce Grouse calling 22 May and 2 June in Sevey's Bog, Colton. Gray Jays were found regularly in the same location and Com. Raven as well as Winter Wren and Ruby-crowned Kinglet were "all over" towns of Fine, Clifton and Colton. Among migrant insectivores in four woodland locations in Parishville in early July, Kevin Griffith and Robert Oswald found 16 Least Flycatcher and Yellow-rumped Warbler, 14 Ovenbird, 13 Veery and 11 Red-eyed Vireo, and a variety of other species listed below. Hermit Thrush outnumbered Wood Thrush seven to four. Flycatchers and White-throated Sparrow seemed down from previous years. By contrast, in the lowlands Doug Kibbe found Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Common Yellowthroat to be the most abundant species with 20+ near Philadelphia 21-22 Jun.

Gerry Smith's shorebird sightings from El Dorado Shores are not yet available. Marilyn Badger reported arrival of Semipalmated Plover and Semipalmated Sandpiper at Robert Moses State Park on 18 Aug. My Breeding Bird Census at Upper and Lower Lakes WMA shows marked decrease in cattail following a 3-year management policy of lower water levels. Marsh Wren decreased 90%; Ring-necked Duck seemed down, but Pied-billed Grebe was all right - Kevin