

Moose R and s Sagamore L, a good showing. Com. Raven: regular in Port Henry rockcuts bordering L Champlain Dec, one FCBC, max four each ECBC and SLCBC, pairs at nest sites Eagle Nest Pd and Mt Tom HAMI by end of period. Black-capped Chickadee: *intro*. Tufted Titmouse: Inlet feeder (GL) since 7 Jan a surprise. Carolina Wren: Moriah 31 Jan (GC) the only report, but not unexpected in light of at least seven in Quebec during the winter. Townsend's Solitaire: *intro*. **Wood Thrush**: one in a spring area near Inlet 7 Dec, extremely late, if correct (GL). Am. Robin: widespread, with reports of 18 FCBC, six ECBC, Moose R 12 Dec, Adk Loj 28 Jan. N. Mockingbird: new to ECBC. Brown Thrasher: new to ECBC. Cedar Waxwing: 47 FCBC, *intro*.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: White-throated Sparrow: two FCBC, one ECBC, one SLCBC a solid showing. Lapland Longspur: five CICBC a good number. Snow Bunting: max 300 Christian Rd ESSE 12 Feb. Red-winged Blackbird: two CICBC unusual in winter. **Rusty Blackbird**: new to SLCBC. Com. Grackle: two SLCBC, most unusual in Adirondacks in winter. Pine Grosbeak: max five SLCBC. Purple Finch: max nine SLCBC. House Finch: max 253 ECBC. Red Crossbill: max two Elizabethtown 16 Feb. White-winged Crossbill: max 20 FRAN 14 Jan. Com. Redpoll: max one FCBC. Pine Siskin: max 83 SLCBC. Am. Goldfinch: max 341 ECBC. Evening Grosbeak: *intro*.

Discovery Farm, RD 1, Elizabethtown, NY 12932

[There is no Region 8 report because we have no Editor for Region 8.]

REGION 9 - DELAWARE-HUDSON

HELEN MANSON

Those of us who anticipated good winter birding were in most cases disappointed. December temperatures were normal and the only measurable snows came in mid month, resulting in only 1/2 inch of precipitation. January arrived with three inches of snow which only lasted about two days. There was no more precipitation to speak of for the rest of the month. February was a bit warmer than normal with an average temperature of 28°. Heavy rains did little to dispel the drought conditions. Some of the inland ponds and lakes had open leads kept free of ice by the many wintering Canada Geese, thus providing areas for a variety of ducks.

An invasion of winter finches did not materialize. The lack of snow made it very difficult to find longspurs and Horned Larks. The open winter provided good food sources and kept the birds well dispersed. Multiflora rose and other wild fruits were abundant this open winter. However, feeders were well populated with common visitors. There were a few exceptions that saved the winter. Bald Eagles wintered along the Hudson River and offered good views for all who took the time to look for them. Some also wintered at Rio, Neversink, and Rondout Reservoirs. Waterfowl continued to use the river, dodging the many ice floes and sometimes resting on them. It was possible to see good numbers of Canvasback and Common Merganser. The **Say's Phoebe** found on the afternoon of the Eastern Orange County Christmas Bird Count on

17 Dec put Kaisertown Road and Montgomery on the map. The bird, in excellent plumage, flew into a patch of weeds giving Marty Borko and John Tramontano an excellent view. Both had seen the bird in the west and made a quick identification. It was observed by many until 8 January. A female **Dickcissel** was spotted 29 Jan by Lewis Dumont and Edward Treacy. The bird perched on a multiflora rose bush in the Town of Warwick and was well observed. It remained through the next day.

Contributors: Barbara Butler, Frank Brown, Judy and Floyd Cook, Thelma Haight, Will Karsch, Jim and Mary Key, Helen Manson, Barbara Michelin, Eleanor Pink, Selden Spencer, Czecher Terhune, John P. Tramontano, Edward Treacy, Chet Vincent, Marion VanWagner, Otis Waterman, Joe Weise.

Abbreviations: BCBC - John Burroughs Natural History Society Christmas Bird Count 17 Dec; PCBC - Putnam County Christmas Bird Count 31 Dec; OCBC - Orange County Christmas Bird Count 17 Dec; SCAS - Sullivan County Audubon Society; SCBC - Sullivan County Christmas Bird Count 31 Dec; WBC - Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club; WCBC - Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club Christmas Bird Count 17 Dec.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: one Hunns L 2 Dec (EP), one PCBC. Pied-billed Grebe: PCBC, one 17 Dec EMBC. Horned Grebe: one PCBC. Red-necked Grebe: one Cornwall Bay 3 Jan. Double-crested Cormorant: one Peekskill 4 Feb (ET), one 14 Jan (JMK). Great Blue Heron: one to three DUTC entire period; two Ora 17 Dec. Mute Swan: max 65 PCBC mostly in the Hudson R, a few in inland ponds in areas kept open by the many wintering Canada Geese. Snow Goose: flock of 27 wintered in DUTC, two Ora 17 Dec. Brant: imm Monroe Pd 26 Feb. Canada Goose: 5000 wintered in Hudson Valley. Wood Duck: one Vassar Farm 27 Dec, one Kays Pd Jan and Feb. Green-winged Teal: four PCBC. Am. Black Duck: max 100, good numbers on all CBCs. Mallard: 100s wintered in Hudson R, inland ponds and streams. N Pintail: max nine 27 Sylvan L Feb (BM). Gadwall: two OCBC, five Wappingers L 9 Dec. Am. Wigeon: one 6 Dec (MVW), one Fishkill Cemetery 30 Jan, two Salt Pt 31 Jan, three Greenwood L. Canvasback: max 700 Hudson R entire period. Ring-necked Duck: 111 Abels L Dec, smaller flocks in other ponds and Hudson R. Greater Scaup: one PCBC, one WBC 14 Jan. Com. Goldeneye: 20 PCBC, 15 Bashakill 22 Feb, eight Hudson R 25 Feb (OTW). Bufflehead: two WCBC. Hooded Merganser: three Wappingers L 9 Dec, 11 PCBC, eight Walkill R 6 Feb (ET). Com. Merganser: max 468 Hudson R Jan. Ruddy Duck: one PCBC.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: four over Bellvale 31 Jan, one Middletown 5 Dec (JPT), arr Hudson Valley mid Feb. Osprey: one Neversink R 18 Jan (WK). Bald Eagle: max seven Hudson R north to Tivoli, five Rio Res, three Delaware R, two ad and one imm feeding on deer carcass Neversink R 29 Dec, three ad Bashakill. N Harrier: one BCBC, max six Galesville Airport, one Ryder P 27 Feb (MVW); only three E Ora OCBC, half the normal number (JPT). Sharp-shinned Hawk: reported in high numbers on all counts. Cooper's Hawk: one at feeder Cornwall 5 Feb, one BCBC, two WCBC, one 3 Jan (SCAS). N. Goshawk: one PCBC, one Cruger I 26 Feb, one 28 Jan (CV). Red-shouldered Hawk: one PCBC, one BCBC, one Wappingers Falls (OTW), one SCBC. Red-tailed Hawk: seems fairly abundant most areas, max 76 SCBC. Rough-legged Hawk: no invasion; one WCBC, two Jan DUTC, one Galesville Airport. Golden Eagle: ad wintered in SULL (Peter Nye, DEC). Am. Kestrel: very low in DUTC, one or two noted, four BCBC, 17 OCBC, excellent wintering numbers (JPT). Ring-necked Pheasant: two PCBC, four SCBC, six WCBC, three BCBC; max five Feb WBC. Ruffed Grouse: 15 PCBC, two Cary Arboretum 25 Feb (MVW). Wild Turkey: increasing range, max 72 BCBC. Sora: one BCBC, one Humpo Marsh mid Feb (SS). Am. Coot: twelve PCBC. Killdeer: one each PCBC, WCBC, BCBC. Com. Snipe: wintered near a warm spring (JPT). one Millerton 2 Jan, one Dover Palins 8 Feb. Am. Woodcock: one PCBC. Herring Gull: max 163 PCBC. Iceland Gull: one Cornwall Bay

OCBC, one Rondout Res Jan, both first year birds. Great Black-backed Gull: plentiful in the Hudson R, max 50 WBC.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: continue in good numbers. Barn Owl: one OCBC. E. Screech-Owl: six PCBC, five WCBC, one OCBC. Great Horned Owl: few reports of calling Jan and Feb, no nesting noted. Snowy Owl: one Kerley's Corners Rd, Red Hook early Dec (Jeff Jones) for only a few hours, videotaped, only confirmed report. Barred Owl: two PUTN, three DUTC. Short-eared Owl: max seven Galesville Airport, two wintered near Montgomery. N. Saw-whet Owl: one found dead Grahamsville 26 Dec, only report. Belted Kingfisher: good winter population. Red-headed Woodpecker: one occasionally VanWagner Rd (CT). Red-bellied Woodpecker: 33 OCBC; several were noted in new locations SULL. N. Flicker: good winter population. Pileated Woodpecker: 19 WCBC, high count.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Phoebe: one Verbank 22 Jan and 6 Feb. **Say's Phoebe:** *intro*. Horned Lark: max 200 Red Hook 11 Feb. Blue Jay: fairly high counts on all CBCs. Am. Crow: 8000 Middletown roost through mid Jan. Fish Crow: two New Hamburg, one Beacon 14 Jan. Com. Raven: two feeding on deer carcass Neversink R 31 Dec; two at Claryville engaged in courtship display 26 Feb (SCAS). Black-capped Chickadee: reported in good numbers both at feeders and in the field. Tufted Titmouse: max 168 PCBC. Red-breasted Nuthatch: max ten SCBC. White-breasted Nuthatch: well reported. Brown Creeper: surprisingly numerous on most CBCs, none in Feb DUTC. Carolina Wren: max 17 PCBC. Winter Wren: three WCBC, six PCBC. Golden-crowned Kinglet: close to 100 PCBC, six Cary Arboretum 18 Feb (BB). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: one BCBC, six PCBC. two OCBC; one Rock Hill 26 Dec and four early Jan, two early Feb. E. Bluebird: good winter population. Hermit Thrush: five PCBC, two OCBC, one WCBC, one Rock Hill 26 Dec, 3 and 8 Jan (SCAS). Am. Robin: fewer wintered than usual, 87 BCBC, 20 Vassar Farm in Feb. Gray Catbird: two Dec DUTC, two PCBC. Cedar Waxwing: max 150 DUTC Feb, 88 BCBC.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Yellow-rumped Warbler: one Pleasant Valley 7 Dec (MVW), one Rombout Rd 28 Jan (CV), four PCBC. **Pine Warbler:** one Westbrookville feeder 15 Jan (SCAS).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: **Dickcissel:** *intro*. Rufous-sided Towhee: one Jan (EP), one Vassar Farm 9 Jan (JMK), one overwintered Cornwall (EMBC), one Wawarsing through Feb (SCAS). Am. Tree Sparrow: seemed abundant. Field Sparrow: max ten WCBC, few throughout period. Savannah Sparrow: one WCBC. Fox Sparrow: two at feeder SULL Dec, one WCBC. Song Sparrow: high counts on all CBCs, ten Feb, singing all month some areas. Swamp Sparrow: seven PCBC, one Vassar Farm 27 Jan, two SCBC, 13 OCBC is record winter max. White-throated Sparrow: good winter population, high CBC counts. White-crowned Sparrow: three 27 Jan, two Red Hook 4 Feb, one Verbank 6-22 Jan and 19 Feb, one Vassar Farm 20 Jan. Dark-eyed Junco: abundant. Lapland Longspur: four Red Hook 7 Jan (HM), one BCBC, very hard to find due to lack of snow. Red-winged Blackbird: up to 50 wintered in Red Hook, arr ten Verbank 23 Feb. E. Meadowlark: four PUTN 28 Jan, seven on 30 Jan (FB), one OCBC. Rusty Blackbird: one PCBC, two 10-16 Dec Stissing, one VanWagner Rd 17 Dec, one WCBC, 11 BCBC. Com. Grackle: 50 wintered in Red Hook, five 23 Feb with Red-wings Verbank. Brown-headed Cowbird: flocks of 1-200 at some farm areas. **Pine Grosbeak:** 16 Grahamsville 10 Feb (JW), only report. Purple Finch: two at feeder 17 Feb (ET), three OCBC, six BCBC, 15 Stissing Feb (TH), scarce elsewhere. Com. Redpoll: unconfirmed report Humpo Marsh (SS). Pine Siskin: ten SCBC, one at feeder Moores Mills 2 Dec, one Baird SP 10 Dec, ten Monticello early Jan, very scarce. Am. Goldfinch: good numbers. Evening Grosbeak: lowest numbers since 1981 SULL, max 14 DeBruce (JFC); ten Salt Pt Jan, only seen once.

Moores Mills, RD 4, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569