

REGION 9 - HUDSON - DELAWARE

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The fall 1998 season continued very much like the past summer, quite dry with average temperatures. No unusual weather occurred. Likewise, there was no great fallout of migrants and only one notable rarity.

A **Franklin's Gull** was found at Croton Point Park on 25 November (LB). This is Westchester's first record. This was Region 9's only report, despite numerous reports of this bird from the East Coast this fall.

No huge push of Broad-winged Hawks was noted at the area hawk-watches this fall. Mount Peter did record over five thousand on 17 September. Otherwise, there were few surprises. Northern Goshawks were above average, with seven for the season, and falcon numbers were below average, most notably American Kestrel. The watch did count sixty-eight Black Vultures between 1 October and 12 November. A part-time hawkwatch at Lenoir Nature Preserve in Yonkers recorded a surprising twenty Bald Eagles for the season.

There were a couple of unexpectedly early migrants. A Golden-crowned Kinglet was reported from Rockland County on 19 September. The next day an American Pipit was reported from Croton Point Park. Croton Point continues to be the place to be to view Sora in migration, six were noted 20 September and five on 29 September.

An albino Cedar Waxwing at Marshlands Conservancy in Rye on 25 October made for an interesting sighting.

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrows were present at Marshlands Conservancy from the beginning of September until they departed just

after 21 October. The first Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows of the *nelsoni* or *alterus* form arrived at the marsh on 13 September and continued through October when their numbers diminished. They were replaced on 7 November by four of the *subvirgatus* subspecies. This "perhaps provides a clue as to the timing sequence of migration of the inland and coastal forms of Nelson's" (NYCRBA)

Other highlights included: jaeger, sp; Lesser Black-backed Gull; Loggerhead Shrike; Prothonotary Warbler; Connecticut Warbler; and Dickcissel.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP-Croton Point Park, EGR-Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, GA-Galeville Airport, HM-Hook Mountain, JBNHS-John Burroughs Natural History Society, KP-Kakiat Park, LHVBL-Lower Hudson Valley Bird Line, MC-Marshlands Conservancy, NYCRBA-New York City Area Rare Bird Alert PP-Piermont Pier, RNC-Rye Nature Center, RTWBC-Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club.

LOONS-DUCKS

Red-throated Loon: 1 PP 1 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: 1 EGR 26Nov.

N. Gannet: 50 Milton Point,Rye 26 Nov.

Little Blue Heron: 1 EGR 16 Sep.

Tricolored Heron: 1 MC 12-19

Sep(LHVBL).

Black Vulture: roost continues in Walkill,

ULST(LHVBL); 5 Doodletown 10 Oct; 2

George's Island Co. Park 30 Oct; 1

ORAN 31 Oct; 25 Galeville 6 Nov; 1

Ward Pound Ridge 7 Nov; 1 Lewisboro
17 Nov.

Snow Goose: 59 Round Pond,DUTC 21
Oct(RTWBC); 1 Thompson's Pond 31
Oct.

Brant: 1 PP 1-23 Sep.

Blue-winged Teal: 1 Wappinger Lake.

Ring-necked Duck: 200 Abel's Pond
DUTC 7-31 Oct (RTWBC)

Lesser Scaup: arrived PP 1 Nov.
White-winged Scoter: few EGR 11 Oct;
few EGR 25 Oct (LHVBL)
Black Scoter: few EGR 25 Oct (LHVBL).
Oldsquaw: few EGR 3 Nov.
Ruddy Duck: 500 PP 24 Oct-1 Nov

HAWKS-ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: good numbers reported at area hawkwatches.
N. Goshawk: 1 MC 16 Nov (LHVBL).
Broad-winged Hawk: 3108 HM 13 Sep;
1444 Butler 13 Sep; 5342 Mt. Peter 17
Sep(JC); last 1 Mt Peter 28 Oct; 1 Lenoir
28 Oct, late.
Rough-legged Hawk: 1, light phase
Butler 23 Sep (LHVBL).
Golden Eagle: 6 HM 24-25 Oct (LHVBL).
Am. Kestrel: much below average at Mt
Peter Hawkwatch.
Peregrine Falcon: 1 Tarrytown Reservoir
11 Nov.
Ruffed Grouse: 1 Brinton Brook 18 Oct.
Virginia Rail: 1 CPP 29 Sep.
Sora: 1 MC 16 Sep; 6 CPP 20 Sep (LB); 5
CPP 29 Sep (LHVBL); 5 CPP 3 Oct; 2 CPP
26 Oct.
Am. Golden-Plover: 2 Skinner Lane
ORAN 7 Sep (LHVBL); 15 ORAN 7 Sep
(LHVBL); 1 DUTC 18 Sep (EA,RN); 1
EGR 27 Sep (LHVBL).
Killdeer: 90 Skinner Lane ORAN 7 Sep.
Am. Oystercatcher: few MC 12 Sep.
Least Sandpiper: 2 DUTC 2 Sep
(AM,BM,OW).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Cape Pond SULL
1 Nov.
Com. Snipe: 1 CPP 9 Nov (LB).
jaeger, sp: 1 EGR 26 Nov(LHVBL).
Franklin's Gull: 1 CPP 25 Nov (LB).
Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Newburgh 12 Oct; 1
PP 21 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 PP 14 Nov
(LHVBL).
Glaucous Gull: 1 Ashokan Reservoir 14
Nov (BC,AF)
Common Tern: few MC 12 Sep.
Forster's Tern: few MC 12 Sep.
Black Tern: 1 MC 12 Sep (LHVBL).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Lenoir Nature
Preserve 12 Oct, late.
Short-eared Owl: 1 CPP 5 Oct; 2 MC 3
Nov; 4 Walkill NWR 21 Nov.
Com. Nighthawk: 37 White Plains 1 Sep.
Red-headed Woodpecker: well reported,
much more common this migration than
in years past.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS

Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Hunter
Road, SULL 11 Nov (JW).
N. Shrike: 1 Galeville 8 Nov (LHVBL).
Blue-headed Vireo: last 1 Vasser Farms
17 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: 1 Bashakill 12 Sep
(LHVBL); 1 Rye Nature Center 27 Sep
(LHVBL).
Com. Raven: reported on both sides of
the Hudson.
Horned Lark: PP 1 Nov; 6 CPP 7 Nov;
few MC 15 Nov; few EGR 15 Nov.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: very few
reports, absent in many places.
Carolina Wren: many reports, numbers
are back up.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 ROCK 19
Sep, early (LHVBL).
Am. Pipit: 1 CPP 20 Sep, early (LHVBL);
10 CPP 26 Oct; 20 CPP 7 Nov; few MC 15
Nov; few EGR 15 Nov.
Cedar Waxwing: 1 albino MC 25 Oct
(LHVBL).

WARBLERS

Nashville Warbler: first fall report 1 Kisco Swamp 5 Sep; last report 1 Port Chester 25 Nov.

N. Parula: first fall report, 1 Lenoir 8 Sep.

Magnolia Warbler: first fall report 1 Kisco Swamp 5 Sep.

Black-throated Green Warbler: first fall report 2 Woodstock 15 Sep.

Palm Warbler: first fall report 1 Kisco Swamp 5 Sep.

Bay-breasted Warbler: first fall report 1 Kisco Swamp 5 Sep.

Prothonotary Warbler: 1 Woodstock 15 Sep (AF).

Connecticut Warbler: 1 Hyde Park 5 Oct (BB).

Mourning Warbler: 1 Woodstock 15 Sep (AF); 1 CPP 4 Oct (LHVBL).

Wilson's Warbler: first fall report 1 Lenoir 8 Sep.

Canada Warbler: first fall report, 1 Doodletown 12 Sep.

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 MC 27 Sep.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: first reported 1 CPP 7 Nov.

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 1 MC 12 Sep (LHVBL); continued through 21 Oct.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 1 MC 20 Sep (LHVBL); 2 MC 27 Sep (LHVBL); continued into Oct, *nelsoni* or *alterus* forms; 4 MC 7 Nov, *subvirgatus* race

Fox Sparrow: first reported, 1 Westchester Community College 23 Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 MC 12 Sep; 1 EGR 12 Sep; 1 PP 26 Sep; 3 Purchase 16 Oct (DP).

White-crowned Sparrow: well reported.

Lapland Longspur: 2 CPP 4 Oct (LHVBL); 1 Mt. Peter 16 Oct (TV); 1 EGR 24 Oct (LHVBL).

Snow Bunting: well reported.

Indigo Bunting: 1 PP 11 Oct (LHVBL).

Dickcissel: 1 CPP 18 Nov (LHVBL).

Rusty Blackbird: flock Tackamack Park ROCK 17 Oct; 85 Kisco Swamp, Mt. Kisco 25 Oct; 1 MC 3 Nov; few Buttercup Farm 31 Oct.

Purple Finch: very few reports.

Evening Grosbeak: 2 Swan Lake, SULL 10 Oct; 20 Mt. Peter 16 Oct; few Stormville 27 Oct; 4 SULL early Dec.

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