

REGION 10 – MARINE

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The fall season's weather continued both dry and mild. The 5.02" of torrential rain associated with Hurricane Floyd, which fell in one day on 16 September, has been subtracted from the comments. The fall was not all that wet and most rain arrived during the week, to the benefit of the birders who work and can only get out on weekends. Still, this year's tropical storm made September the eighth wettest on record. November was the seventh warmest. This warm weather resulted in many late lingering warblers. The departure dates were not records, but the large number of November birds was significant. There were 13 species of warblers reported in November, including typical wintering species such as Yellow-breasted Chat and Yellow-rumped.

The first significant movement of the fall migration was on 11 September. Birders at Jones Beach reported 22 species of warblers, mixed flocks of blackbirds, a Dickcissel and a **Yellow-headed Blackbird**. In Central Park and Prospect Park, 23 species of warblers were reported.

This auspicious start to the season was followed by Hurricane Floyd and then a significant movement of northern specialties.

But first, Tropical Storm Dennis, on 6 September, churned the North Atlantic far to our east, creating wind-driven waves and a movement of pelagics to the shore. Summarizing, these included: (1) at Jones Beach State Park Field #6, a light morph adult Parasitic Jaeger; (2) at Fire Island/Robert Moses State Park Field #2, in the morning, 1 light morph adult and 3 intermediate/light morph juvenile Parasitic Jaegers, 22 Wilson's Storm-Petrels, 2 Cory's Shearwaters and 3 Black Terns; (3) in the late afternoon, 1 light/intermediate juvenile Parasitic Jaeger, 25 Wilson's Storm-Petrels, 8 Red-necked Phalaropes, 1 first-year Black-legged Kittiwake; (4) at Shinnecock Inlet, 1 intermediate/light morph juvenile Parasitic Jaeger, 35+ Wilson's Storm-Petrels, 3 Cory's Shearwaters and 1 Greater Shearwater.

Two days later, on 8 September, at Shinnecock, one Manx Shearwater was seen in the inlet and two Cory's Shearwaters were found feeding in the surf along the beach; at Democrat Point on Fire Island, a Pomarine Jaeger was seen harassing terns; and a Cory's Shearwater was seen from a fishing boat a mile southeast of Shinnecock Inlet.

On 9 September, a fisherman located 20.9 miles south of Montauk Point watched a **White-faced Storm-Petrel** for over an hour as the bird worked a slick surrounding his boat (*fide* NYRBA, no details; bird photographed, not yet evaluated by NYSARC.)

A week later, Hurricane Floyd passed through our area on Thursday 16 September. On Friday 17 September, Paul Buckley and his party found **nine Sooty Terns**, three juveniles and six adults, flying west at Shinnecock Inlet.

At mid-day 17 September, the day after Hurricane Floyd, three **Sandwich Terns** were found flying up Shinnecock inlet. Also present was a flock of 60 immature Black Skimmers. Other **Sandwich Tern** sightings that day included: two in front of Jones Beach West End #2, one at Robert Moses State Park Field #5 and two at Montauk Point. One remained at Jones Beach West End on 18 September, with one at Zachs Bay and four at Shinnecock Inlet. Five were at Mecox on 20 September and one was near the base of the Breezy Point jetty the same day. The last **Sandwich Tern** left over from the storm was seen at Mecox 25 September.

The total number of hawks seen at the Fire Island Hawkwatch was not statistically different from the 17 year average since the watch has been in existence. However, there has been a change in distribution. American Kestrel and Sharp-shinned Hawk are down. Numbers of American Kestrels and Merlins are about even, where American Kestrel/Merlin

ratios were formerly 1.5 to 1. Still, on 7 October, 754 American Kestrels were counted, over half the total of that species for the season.

The big story at the Fire Island Hawkwatch is the increase in Peregrine Falcons, which hit a new yearly high. Bald Eagles totaled five, down from last year's six, but still a significant improvement from the zero of the recent past. Cooper's Hawks have also increased substantially over the years, increasing from one to this year's several dozen. The peak for the season appeared to be 8 October, with 1100 hawks seen, including three Bald Eagles.

The Central Park Hawkwatch to the west has a different mix. There, on light to moderate northwest winds on 18 September, they counted six Bald Eagles and 313 Broad-winged Hawks; on 25 September three Bald Eagles (two adults, one immature).

On 14 November, two (possibly three) **Greater White-fronted Geese** were found: one on Marratooka Lake, Mattituck, and a second on Short's Pond, north side of Scuttlehole Road, Bridgehampton. There possibly was a third bird in the area. Andy Guthrie and Angus Wilson reported a **Ross's Goose** in a flock of 150 Snow Geese that flew by at Riis Park on 10 October.

Rallidae oddities of the season came from the concrete and steel of New York City! First, Andrew Gershon reported that a Virginia Rail spent the day of 7 October huddled on a window sill on the 26th floor of 120 Broadway in Manhattan. Another one was seen foraging in City Hall Park along Center Street in lower Manhattan on 11 October. Then a third was found huddled against the side of the public library on Flatbush Avenue, at the intersection of Avenue P in Brooklyn. It fled into the Raleigh Camera store where it was captured. It was released in Gerritsen Creek. Finally, on 12 October, a slightly injured bird, running down a street in Long Island City, Queens, was captured and taken to a rehabilitator where the bird was determined to be an immature **Purple Gallinule**.

On 17 September an adult Franklin's Gull was found on a sandbar near the outflow to recently opened Mecox Bay. It stayed the next day, but was not seen thereafter. A bird similar to it, possibly the same one, was at the foot of Road I, East Hampton on 26 September.

A first fall Lesser Black-backed Gull was found at Jones Beach Field #6 on 1 September, the first day of the reporting season. This species, in all plumages up to and including adult, is widespread along the ocean shore areas of the Region everywhere gulls gather. It is no longer "rare" and will be considered "uncommon" in the future.

Rob Jett sent a note: "I spoke with a woman today who gave a pretty convincing description of a **Barred Owl** that she and one other person saw in the park yesterday (Prospect Park, Brooklyn, 26 November.)" Follow-up failed to turn up the bird until the last day of the millennium. The original description by a non-birder described a bird then seen by at least a dozen birders. This November and December sighting is probably the first published record in the New York City area for half a century. (Barred Owls were present during the early 1990s in the northern reaches of the city, but probably not reported.)

This was another Northern Shrike year, with the first sighting in Bayville on the North Shore on 30 October, followed by reports from Great Kills Park, Staten Island, to the Montauk area all through November. At least a dozen widely scattered birds were involved. Other rarities noted were: **Ash-Throated Flycatcher**, **Cave Swallow**, a singing **Sedge Wren**, **Mountain Bluebird** and a **Bohemian Waxwing**.

Two events signaled a possible winter finch year: reports of a low pine cone crop in the north and an early and large influx of Red-breasted Nuthatches. The first real hints of the finches were a huge movement of American Goldfinches, a steady stream of large numbers of Pine Siskins, beginning in early October, and numbers of Purple Finches. Finally, Red Crossbills arrived at the end of October and White-winged Crossbills, in lesser numbers, starting in early November. Both crossbills continued into late November. Other than the goldfinches, almost none of these birds paused for more than short periods. By the end of the season they were mostly gone.

As a final observation, the following formerly uncommon birds in our Region now appear to be widely distributed and routinely seen, a trend we hope will continue: Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Caspian Tern, Royal Tern, Orange-crowned Warbler, Clay-colored Sparrow and Blue Grosbeak.

A note to those observing Eastern Screech-Owls in Central Park during the past year: Per Robert DeCandido, a collaborative effort of New York City with the Raptor Trust (with assistance of Dr. Len Soucy) resulted in six Eastern Screech-Owls being released into Central Park on 20 August 1998. This is an attempt to reintroduce the species to an area where it bred until the 1960s. At least three were still present in the park more than one year later.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BP – Breezy Pt QUEE; CB – Cedar Beach; CLP – Clove L P SI; CP – Central P; CUB – Cupsogue Beach County P; DP – Democrat Pt FI; FBF – Floyd Bennett Field; FI – Fire I; FIHW – Fire I Hawkwatch; FP – Forest P QUEE; FTP – Fort Pd, Montauk; FTT – Fort Tilden QUEE; GKP – Great Kills P SI; HI – Hunters I in PBP BRON; HP – Hook Pd, Southampton; JBCH – Jones Beach; JBWE – Jones Beach West End; JBWR – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; JFKWS – John F Kennedy Wildlife Sanctuary (Tobay) SUFF; LI – Long I; MEB – Mecox Bay; ML – Marratooka L, Mattituck SUFF; MOR – Moriches SUFF; MP – Montauk Pt; MPM – Morningside P Manhattan; MWD – Montauk Waste Disposal (dump); NYRBA – New York Rare Bird Alert; PBP – Pelham Bay P BRON; PL – Pt Lookout side Jones Inlet; PP – Prospect P, Brooklyn; RMSP – Robert Moses SP SUFF; RP – Riis P QUEE; SG – Sagaponack SUFF; SGP – Sagg Pd, Bridgehampton SUFF; SHIN – Shinnecock Inlet; SI – Staten I; VCP – Van Cortlandt P BRON; ZB – Zachs Bay JBCH.

LOONS – DUCKS

Red-necked Grebe: HI 5 Nov; PBP 5 Nov; MP 14 Nov; SI 25 Nov.
N. Fulmar: light morph MP 27 Nov (HM et al).
Cory's Shearwater: 2 RMSP 6 Sep; 3 SHIN 6 Sep; 2 in surf by the beach SHIN 8 Sep; off SHIN 8 Sep.
Greater Shearwater: SHIN 6 Sep.
Manx Shearwater: off SHIN 8 Sep; off MP 13 Sep.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: associated with offshore Hurricane Dennis, 22 RMSP a.m., 25 p.m., 35+ SHIN 6 Sep.

WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL: a fisherman 20.9 miles south of MP watched a bird for over an hour in the slick surrounding his boat 9 Sep (*fide* NYRBA, no details; ph, not yet evaluated).

Least Bittern: Bronx Zoo 9 Sep; flying along Ocean Parkway at Tobay 17 Sep.

Tricolored Heron: JBWE 20 Nov.

Glossy Ibis: 2 Gilgo 21 Oct.

Black Vulture: CP 7 Oct (*fide* NYRBA, no details).

Turkey Vulture: 2 CP 11 Sep; 12 SI 13 Sep; CP 18 Sep; PP 11, 19 Sep; 2 CP 11 Nov; SI 16 Oct; 2 Gilgo 22 Oct; 4 CP 25 Oct; 6 VCP 7 Nov; 2 CP 11 Nov; a few others.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: ML 14 Nov thru; another Short's Pd, north side of Scuttlehole Rd, Bridgehampton 14 Nov thru; possibly a third in area.

Snow Goose: blue morph Short's Pd, Bridgehampton 26 Nov thru; 150 + inc 2 blue JBWR 8 Oct; several blue JBWR 20 Nov thru.

ROSS'S GOOSE: RP 10 Oct, flyby with 150 Snow Geese (AG, AnW).

Tundra Swan: up to 5 HP early Nov thru.

Eurasian Wigeon: JBWR 5 Sep-late Nov; Mill Pd, Oyster Bay and another on Mill Pd, Centerport mid-Oct; ML 13 Nov; PP 27-28 Nov.

Green-winged Teal: 1 *A.c. crecca* FTT 12 Nov; JBWR 27-28 Nov.

King Eider: the summering bird at JBCH fishing piers thru late Sep; MP 23 Oct thru, with 150 Common Eider

Com. Eider: female Sore Thumb thru 6 Sep; 3 between Hart and Huckleberry Is near PBP 29 Sep; 150 MP 23 Oct thru.

Harlequin Duck: 3 flying over HP 7 Nov; MP 13 Nov thru; 3 PL 18 Nov thru; female Ft Pd Bay MP 26-27 Nov.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: 25 PBP 2 Sep, perching together and eating fish; others thru 3 Nov.

Bald Eagle: imm MEB 17 Sep; SGP 18 Sep; 6 CP 18 Sep; JFKWS 19 Sep; Inwood Hill P NEWY 25 Sep; 3 CP 25 Sep; Bayside QUEE 4 Oct; PP 3 Oct; CP 3 Oct; 5 CP 7 Oct; 3 FIHW 8 Oct; mid Manhattan 13 Oct; CP 16, 28 Oct; RP 18 Oct; Peconic 22 Oct; 2 CP 22 Oct; SHIN 27 Oct.

N. Goshawk: VCP 25 Sep (CJ, DK), early; others from 12 Oct; more wide-

spread this year.

Red-shouldered Hawk: a few.

Broad-winged Hawk: CP 10 Sep; PP 17 Sep; 313 CP 18 Sep; SI 18 Sep; others to 3 Oct.

Red-tailed Hawk: 65+ CP hawk watch 24 Oct.

Rough-legged Hawk: a few.

Golden Eagle: SI dump 25 Oct (HF).

Am. Kestrel: 754 FIHW 7 Oct; overall numbers continue down.

Peregrine Falcon: 61 FIHW 10 Oct, record one day total; also a record season high of 260+.

Wild Turkey: 9 PBP late Nov, being fed.

Virginia Rail: see *intro* for big city reports; others.

Sora: PP early Sep; CP late Sep.

PURPLE GALLINULE: injured bird captured QUEE 12 Oct, taken to a rehabilitator.

Com. Moorhen: PP early Sep; Blydenburgh P, Smithtown SUFF14-15 Oct.

Am. Golden-Plover: JBWR 11 Sep; 4 Cutchogue 13 Sep; MEB 17 Sep; 11 SHIN 17 Sep; JBWE 17 Sep; ZB 18 Sep; JBCH 26 Sep; 56 Riverhead sod fields 29 Sep; SG 5 Oct; JBCH 3 Nov; Napeague Bay 20 Nov; others.

Semipalmated Plover: to 26 Sep.

Piping Plover: to 5 Sep.

Am. Oystercatcher: 250 North Line I 2 Sep (JF); 184 JBWE 26 Sep; good numbers JBCH thru.

Am. Avocet: JBWR 1-15 Sep

Lesser Yellowlegs: to 23 Oct.

Willet: JBWR 16 Oct, last.

Spotted Sandpiper: to 20 Oct.

Upland Sandpiper: Montauk dude ranch 12 Sep; fewer birds each year.

Whimbrel: early Sep-8 Oct; 12 SHIN 17 Sep.

Hudsonian Godwit: 2 JBWR 6 Sep; DP 8 Sep, CUP mid Sep; BP 17 Sep.

Marbled Godwit: JBWR Sep; 2 DP and Oak Beach Inn mudflats; MEB 18 Sep; SHIN 17 Sep-30 Oct.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: to 5 Oct.

Baird's Sandpiper: JBWR 4 Sep; Plumb Beach 5 Sep; BP 17 Sep; DP 22 Sep.

Pectoral Sandpiper: to 16 Oct.
Purple Sandpiper: BP jetty 15-20 Nov; 2 Orient Pt 21 Nov; PL/JBCH mid Nov thru.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: MEB 11, 18 Sep; DP 18 Sep; 6 Riverhead sod fields 25 Sep.
Wilson's Phalarope: JBWR 4-11 Sep
Red-necked Phalarope: 8 RMSP 6 Sep.
Pomarine Jaeger: DP 8 Sep.
Parasitic Jaeger: light morph ad JBCH Field #6; light morph ad and 3 intermediate/light morph juv RMSP 6 Sep; light/intermediate morph SHIN 6 Sep; off MEB 13 Sep, 10 Oct; off JBCH Field #6 23 Oct, 20 Nov; DP 22 Oct.
Franklin's Gull: 1st winter SHIN 5 Sep (MC); ad MEB 17-18 Sep (HM); possibly same bird, foot of Road I, East Hampton 26 Sep (LS).
Little Gull: Montauk Harbor jetty 13 Nov.
Black-headed Gull: SG 2 Oct thru.
Bonaparte's Gull: several hundred MP area mid Nov thru; otherwise scattered individuals, no arrivals in Jones or FI inlets at season's end.
Iceland Gull: MP area sporadically 31 Oct thru.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1st yr to ad, widespread thru along all ocean beaches; has become most abundant of our "uncommon" gulls.
Glaucous Gull: 1st winter JBWE 14, 23 Nov; imm MEB 18 Nov; 1st winter JBCH Field #6 28 Nov thru.
Black-legged Kittiwake: RMSP 6 Sep; MEB 19 Sep, 31 Oct; off JBCH Field #6 23 Oct; MP 13 Nov thru; 3 MP 27 Nov.
Gull-billed Tern: CUB 15 Sep; MEB 18 Sep; CB 4 Oct.
Caspian Tern: regular along South Shore of LI 17 Sep-5 Oct.
Royal Tern: 24 SHIN 4 Sep; 18 SHIN 18 Sep; 40 Robins I mid Sep; others along South Shore of LI thru 20 Nov.
Sandwich Tern: all associated with Hurricane Floyd; 2 MP, SHIN, ZB, 2 JBWE 17 Sep; 4 SHIN, ZB, JBWE 18 Sep; 5 MEB, BP 20 Sep; MEB 25 Sep.
Com. Tern: last MP 13 Nov.

Forster's Tern: 150+ SHIN 6 Sep; 100+ MEB 13 Sep; 170 MEB 16 Sep; others thru early Nov.
Least Tern: to 19 Sep.
Sooty Tern: 6 ad & 3 juv SHIN Sep 17 (PB et al), day after Hurricane Floyd.
Black Tern: 200 SHIN, 100 MP 5 Sep; 40 SHIN 18 Sep.

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Monk Parakeet: Whitestone QUEE feeder 21 Nov.
E. Screech-Owl: 6 released into CP 20 Aug 1998. An attempt to reintroduce the species to a 1960s breeding locale. At least 3 were still present one year later.
Great Horned Owl: FBF 13 Nov, unusual location.
Snowy Owl: BP 9 Nov; imm picked up on Wards I by Urban Park Ranger Linda Rurak on about 15 Nov, brought to Bronx Zoo; CB 19-21 Nov, harassed by a photographer and apparently moved across inlet to RMSP and DP.
BARRED OWL: PP 26 Nov (*fide* RJ), 1st published NYC record in 50 yrs.
Long-eared Owl: CP 9 Nov on; HI 5 Nov; JBWE 17-18 Nov; PBP 28 Nov.
Short-eared Owl: RMSP 25 Sep; SG 23 Oct; Gilgo 7 Nov; 2 FTT 17 Nov; JBWE 18 Nov; BP 20 Nov.
N. Saw-whet Owl: PP 8 Oct; 70 mi off MP landed on boat 12 Oct; JFKWS 24, 31 Oct; JBWE 7, 17 Nov; a few others.
Chimney Swift: to 16 Oct.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: to 3 Nov.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Kissena P QUEE mid Sep.
E. Wood-Pewee: to 28 Oct.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SI banded 18 Sep.
E. Phoebe: to 6 Nov.
ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: FTT 20 Nov (DD, mob)!
Great Crested Flycatcher: to 22 Sep.
Western Kingbird: FTT 4 Sep; JBWE 22-26 Oct; FIHW 29 Oct;
E. Kingbird: to 6 Sep.
N. Shrike: Bayville 30 Oct-1 Nov; FTT

28-31 Oct; RMSP 2 Nov; CP 4 Nov; HP 7 Nov; Indian Wells Beach 7 Nov; JFKWS 7 Nov; FI 7 Nov; JBWE 18 Nov; GKP 18 Nov; MP 21 Nov; JFKWS 27 Nov; SI 29 Nov.

Yellow-throated Vireo: to 17 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: RP 20 Nov (RJ), late.

Warbling Vireo: to 4 Sep.

Philadelphia Vireo: many reports; peak half-dozen sightings across Region 18 Sep.

Red-eyed Vireo: to 6 Oct.

Cliff Swallow: PP 16 Sep; 8 MP & MWD 19 Sep.

CAVE SWALLOW: HP 8 Nov (HM !).

Barn Swallow: last MP 14 Nov.

House Wren: to 21 Nov.

SEDGE WREN: PP 9 Oct (DD et al !), singing.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: to 16 Sep.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD: Rocky Pt Natural Resources Management Area 27 Oct (JH !).

Veery: thru 6 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: thru 8 Oct.

Wood Thrush: thru 24 Oct.

Brown Thrasher: thru 16 Oct.

Am. Pipit: 40 MPM 11 Nov.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING: East Hampton 28 Nov (HM).

WARBLERS

Tennessee Warbler: thru 11 Oct.

Orange-crowned Warbler: PP 3 Sep, sporadically thru 27 Nov; MWD 3 Oct; Gilgo 4 Oct; Riverhead 30 Oct; Quogue 19 Oct; MP 3 Nov; JBWR 27 Nov.

Nashville Warbler: thru 13 Nov.

N. Parula: thru.

Yellow Warbler: thru 6 Oct.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: thru 6 Oct.

Magnolia Warbler: thru 24 Oct.

Cape May Warbler: thru 4 Nov.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: thru 24 Oct.

Black-throated Green Warbler: thru 13 Nov.

Blackburnian Warbler: thru 6 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: thru 29 Sep.

Blackpoll Warbler: thru 28 Nov, late.

Black-and-white Warbler: thru 13 Nov.

Am. Redstart: thru 7 Nov.

Prothonotary Warbler: PP 4-11 Sep; ZB 18 Sep-2 Oct; JBCH Field #10 18 Sep; Wagner P southern tip of Manhattan 23-28 Sep; PP 28 Sep.

Worm-eating Warbler: Riverside P Manhattan 1 Sep; PP 4, 11, 19 Sep.

Ovenbird: thru 16 Oct.

N. Waterthrush: thru 1 Oct.

Connecticut Warbler: PP 4, 15 Sep; MWD 18 Sep, 2-3 Oct; SI 19 Sep, banded; 2 RP 20 Sep; Quogue 3 Oct

Mourning Warbler: scattered reports thru 26 Sep.

Com. Yellowthroat: thru 28 Nov, may overwinter.

Hooded Warbler: PP 4, 15-19 Sep; SI 11 Sep, banded; CP 26 Sep.

Wilson's Warbler: PP 21 Nov.

Canada Warbler: thru 6 Oct.

Yellow-breasted Chat: usual numbers.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Summer Tanager: CP 13 Sep.

Scarlet Tanager: thru 9 Oct.

Clay-colored Sparrow: JBWE 25 Sep; RMSP 25 Sep; ZB 26 Sep; PP 3 Oct; MWD 4, 9-10 Oct, 20-29 Nov; JBWE 9 Oct; 2 JBWE 16 Oct; Gilgo 31 Oct; 2 FTT 31 Oct-1 Nov; CP 2-3 Nov; JBCH 7 Nov.

Lark Sparrow: JBWE 1 Sep; RP 4 Sep; 2 RP 5 Sep; PP 26-28 Sep; JBWE 24-26 Sep; BP 11 Oct; Hither Hills SP 7-9 Nov.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 2 Nelson's, 4

Saltmarsh, 9 undetermined sp Oak Beach Marsh, Babylon 16 Oct (JF).

Lincoln's Sparrow: mid Sep-21 Nov.

Lapland Longspur: Gilgo 12 Oct; FIHW 29 Oct; 2 SHIN 4 Nov; 1-2 with Snow Bunting flock JBWE early Nov thru; Smith Point P SUFF 10 Nov.

Snow Bunting: arr ocean beaches mid Oct; 20 MPM 11 Nov.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: thru 19 Sep.

Blue Grosbeak: 2 Amagansett 17 Sep; JFKWS 1 Oct; PBP 2 Oct (CJ), Wagner P, southern Manhattan 3 Oct; PP 6 Oct; JBCH 7 Oct; East Hampton Dump 9 Oct; CP 16 Oct.

Dickcissel: JBWE 11 Sep; RP 20 Sep; ZB 26 Sep; 2 FIHW 1 Oct; 2 JBCH 1 Oct;

RMSP 2 Oct; GKP 7 Oct; Smiths Pt SUFF 11 Oct; FIHW 19 Oct; RMSP 24 Oct; MWD 13-14 Nov; others.

Bobolink: thru 18 Sep.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:

female JBWE 11 Sep (RK).

Boat-tailed Grackle: 30 SHIN east of bridge 4 Sep, in addition to colony at JBWR; GKP 16 Oct.

Baltimore Oriole: near Pier 25 Manhattan 27 Nov.

Purple Finch: small numbers migrating throughout the season.

Red Crossbill: 2 FTT 25 Sep, 29 Oct thru; peak counts at FIHW 48 on 29 Oct, 69 on 5 Nov; peak counts at JBWE 132 on 6 Nov, 200 on 17-18 Nov.

White-winged Crossbill: small numbers along southern beaches 7 Nov thru; max 40 17-18 Nov.

Com. Redpoll: scattered flights 27 Oct thru; max 30+ JBWE 28 Nov.

Pine Siskin: scattered flights along southern beaches 6 Oct thru; peak num-

bers at FIHW 155 on 15 Oct, 600 on 27 Oct, 400 on 29 Oct, 770 on 5 Nov; peak numbers at JBWE 1050 on 24 Oct, 300 on 6 Nov; 250 CUB 26 Oct; 100 SHIN 27 Oct.

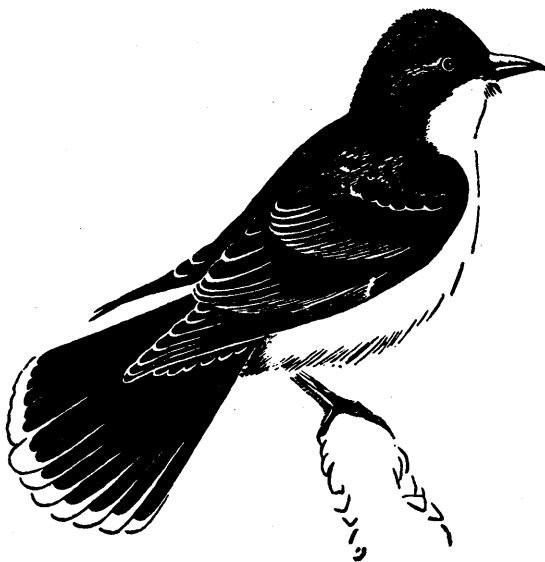
Am. Goldfinch: scattered flights along southern beaches late Oct thru; 1200 in 2fi hrs JBWE 8 Oct; accompanied by Pine Siskins most days.

Evening Grosbeak: 2 CP 19 Sep, 13 Oct; Wading River 31 Oct; SI 12 Nov; 2 JBWE 28 Nov.

CORRIGENDUM

Red-headed Woodpecker: It was stated in the Summer 1999 Report that this species nested in Central Park. No nesting was confirmed; the wintering birds dispersed late May.

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INVITING NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Readers are urged to submit short pieces of interesting sightings, observations, incidents, etc., that do not require full-blown article treatment. Note the items on pgs 17 and 18 of this issue. This is the type of thing being sought. Most birders have had some unique experience, amusing, puzzling or informative. Why not share that experience with the rest of us?

If there is a photograph involved, all we need is a slide or a print.

If the Editor believes the item should be expanded to a full article, you will be invited to do so.

FEEDBACK

The Editor would very much like to hear from the readers of *The Kingbird*. There is an enormous amount of work involving a number of people, all of whom are volunteers, that goes into the production of this quarterly. The actual printing and distribution of the four issues per year consumes the greatest part of the FNYSBC annual budget.

With all of this effort and expense, I would like to be certain that you, the reader is getting what he wants. I cannot know that unless you tell me. Is there some aspect of birding that we are missing that you would like to see included?

All suggestions will be acknowledged and seriously entertained.

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