

REGION 2 – GENESEE

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Once again things seemed generally tranquil for migration. September's average monthly temperature was 60.9°F, which was only 0.8° below normal. Temperature swings were quite frequent, with a warm outset to the month and the arrival of a Canadian air mass toward the end that brought an autumn chill. Precipitation totaled 3.53", which was 0.56" above normal. October was dominated by high pressure, which brought good weather for much of the month. Mild, dry and sunny characterized the month. The average monthly temperature was 0.6° above normal at 51.7°. The month started out on the warm side, but rather abruptly turned chilly with a few flakes of snow reaching ground on the 8th. Mild weather returned soon after that and the bulk of the remaining days in the month were above normal. Rainfall was scarce, with a monthly total of 1.36", more than an inch below normal. One weather person described November as "fairly benign." Actually, things were somewhat varied. The first two weeks were mild and dry, while the middle of the month was wintry. The final week was pretty much normal for the area, with consistently cloudy conditions accompanied by rain or drizzle. The average temperature of 38.4° was 2.1° below normal. Precipitation was 0.73" below normal at 2.19". Nearly half of this, 0.86", fell between the 25th and 26th. Snowfall totaled 7.3", just over an inch above normal. We escaped the heavy snowfalls that occurred just west of our Region.

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory continued the banding stations at Kaiser-Manitou Beach and Yanty Creek. Both sites provided some interesting records. The Lakewatch at Hamlin Beach also functioned and produced noteworthy records and trend data.

Loons and grebes were pretty average. Eared Grebe at two locations was interesting. The number of Lakewatch Northern Gannet observations was quite good; all were immatures. Double-crested Cormorant was down slightly. Herons were highlighted by a few late Great Egret reports and a very late Green Heron.

Waterfowl reports were for the most part average. The Brant passage began a bit early, was relatively prolonged and included some good counts. Mute Swan continued its increase, with more than 100 found regularly at Irondequoit Bay. Highlights from the Lakewatch included King Eider. By season's end scaup totals remained way below average.

Bald Eagle numbers were very good while Northern Goshawks continued to be spotted only sporadically. Rough-legged Hawks returned on time and were seen consistently, but in relatively small numbers through the end of the season. Ringed-necked Pheasant continued to be only sparsely reported, and even Wild Turkey reports were down a bit. A September Sandhill Crane report was good for the Region.

Shorebird habitat was poor, as has been the case for many recent years. While the variety was about normal, numbers were only fair and Red Knot, Long-billed Dowitcher and Wilson's Phalarope went unreported. Only single Buff-breasted and Purple sandpipers were found.

Jaegers were fair at the Lakewatch, with gulls providing the only real pluses for the season. Franklin's, Black-headed and Sabine's gulls were all highlights. Lesser Black-backed Gull continued to be reported. The usual Iceland and Glaucous gulls were sighted. The tern highlights were represented by a single immature Arctic Tern, with generally few reports for the rest of this group.

Snowy Owl showed up on 1 November, which is a tad early. This heralded a generally good year for them. The Common Nighthawk picture again appeared bleak; the maximum was a paltry 29. The passerine migration as a whole was lackluster, but there were indeed some highlights. The two Western Kingbirds located in Hamlin by Bob McKinney and Richard O'Hara were a real highlight. Of note also was a record late Least Flycatcher on 9 Oct. A relatively large influx of Red-breasted Nuthatches occurred in late October. The season also experienced decent flights of Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned kinglets, but the flights were of very limited duration. A well-described, measured and photographed **Bicknell's Thrush** was banded at the Kaiser-Manitou banding station.

The warbler migration was best documented at the banding stations. Concentrations reported elsewhere were few. Pluses included particularly good numbers of Orange-crowned, Cape May and Palm warblers. Five Connecticut Warblers banded this fall were the major highlight for this group.

Sparrow numbers were good for only a short period in October, after which numbers dropped rapidly. American Tree Sparrows were especially scarce. Dickcissel was a highlight. The usual Snow Buntings and Lapland Longspurs were scattered across the Region. Winter finches were scarce, with only a lone Pine Grosbeak, a couple of scattered reports of Red Crossbill and a few Pine Siskins.

The Bird of the Season was the Region's first **Townsend's Solitaire**, discovered and described by Mike Davids and a handful of other observers at Hamlin Beach State Park on 29 October. This was a long-anticipated addition to the Region's list.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BB – Braddock Bay; C – Charlotte (Ontario Beach); CH – Cobb's Hill; CU – Cuylerville; G – Greece; GE – Geneseo; H – Town of Hamlin; HB – Hamlin Beach State Park; HP – Hogan Point (Greece); IB – Irondequoit Bay; M – Manitou; NR – Nations Road (Avon)

LOONS – WATERFOWL

Red-throated Loon: arr 2 HB 7 Oct;
max 626 HB 19 Nov.
Com. Loon: max 642 HB 14 Nov.
Red-necked Grebe: arr HB 17 Sep.
Eared Grebe: C 20 Nov (DT, MD); HB
4 Nov (WS).
Northern Gannet: HB 4 Nov (GC, JL);
HB 11 Nov (DS, BE, RS); 2 HB 17 Nov
(mob); HB 29 Nov (WS); all imm.
Double-crested Cormorant: max 706
HB 22 Oct.
Great Egret: BB 24-26 Oct.
Green Heron: last Durand-Eastman P 18
Nov (JG), very late.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: last 3 G
26 Oct.
Snow Goose: arr HB 23 Oct.
Brant: arr 438 HB 23 Oct; max 1755 HB
15 Oct; 1663 HB 24 Oct.
Tundra Swan: arr 2 HB 22 Oct; max

127 Conesus L 25 Nov.
Blue-winged Teal: last 3 G 31 Oct.
N. Pintail: max 390 HB 15 Oct.
Canvasback: arr 6 HB 7 Oct.
Redhead: arr 12 HB 7 Oct.
Ring-necked Duck: arr 22 HB 8 Oct.
King Eider: fem HB 31 Oct (WS).
Surf Scoter: arr 2 HB 24 Sep.
Black Scoter: arr 2 HB 31 Oct; max
1213 HB 15 Oct.
Long-tailed Duck: arr 31 HB 8 Oct.
Bufflehead: arr 2 HB 19 Oct.
Com. Goldeneye: arr HB 17 Oct.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: last 3 Sodus Bay 6 Oct.
N. Goshawk: BB 6 Sep; BB 12 Oct;
Scottsville 25 Oct; HB 16 Nov.
Broad-winged Hawk: last Seneca P 13
Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: arr Mendon 19

Oct.

Merlin: G 1 Nov (KG), only report.

Peregrine Falcon: Irondequoit 30 Nov (PS).

Sandhill Crane: 2 Butler WAYN 16 Sep.

Black-bellied Plover: max 19 West Lakeshore 16 Sep; last G 19 Nov.

Semipalmated Plover: last IB 5 Nov.

Greater Yellowlegs: last G 12 Nov.

Lesser Yellowlegs: last 3 CU 28 Oct.

Upland Sandpiper: last NR 4 Sep.

White-rumped Sandpiper: last 2 IB 5 Nov.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr HB 17 Sep.

Pectoral Sandpiper: last G 19 Nov.

Purple Sandpiper: IB 11-12 Nov (RS, SS), only report.

Dunlin: arr HB 19 Sep.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Clarendon 7-8 Oct (CD, KG), only report.

Red-necked Phalarope: 2 IB 17 Sep (DT), few reports.

Pomarine Jaeger: HB 30 Nov (DS, WS), only report.

Parasitic Jaeger: 2 HB 5 Sep (WS), HB 24 Sep (WS); 13 total Oct; HB 4 Nov; HB 11 Nov; HB 28 Nov.

Franklin's Gull: juv C 20 Sep (RS, SS).

Little Gull: G 15 Sep (KG), only report.

Black-headed Gull: 2 imm HB 22 Oct (WS, MD).

Iceland Gull: arr HB 7 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: IB 18-19 Nov (DS, DT, MD).

Glaucous Gull: arr 2 HB 12 Nov.

Black-legged Kittiwake: 6 HB 8 Oct; 2 HB 5 Nov; 4 HB 12 Nov; all imm.

SABINE'S GULL: 1-3 imm HB 10 Oct (WS, GC, mob).

ARCTIC TERN: imm HB 17 & 19 Sep (MD, WS).

Forster's Tern: last C 16 Sep.

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Snowy Owl: arr Clyde WAYN 12 Nov.

Short-eared Owl: max 10 West

Bloomfield 25 Nov.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Penfield 8 Sep.

Com. Nighthawk: last Brighton 27 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last M 25 Sep.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last M 15 Sep.

Least Flycatcher: last M 9 Oct, record late.

Great Crested Flycatcher: last Portage 17 Sep.

E. Kingbird: last HP 16-30 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: last M 30 Oct.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr M 10 Sep.

Red-eyed Vireo: last M 12 Oct.

Purple Martin: last 2 G 18 Sep.

Barn Swallow: last 2 Shore Acres 19 Oct.

swallow sp: H 11 Nov.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr M 9 Sep; max 95 G 9 Oct.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: G first half Oct.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE: HB 29

Oct (MD, et al), 1st Regional record.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr M 13 Sep; last M 12 Oct.

BICKNELL'S THRUSH: M 22 Sep (EB), banded.

Swainson's Thrush: arr NR 3 Sep; last M 8 Oct.

Hermit Thrush: max 54 M 5 Oct.

Brown Thrasher: last G 7 Nov.

Am. Pipit: arr HB 17 Sep; last 2 HB 14 Nov.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: last M 2-3 Oct.

Tennessee Warbler: arr NR 3 Sep; last M 25 Sep.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr HB 26 Sep; last M 12 Oct.

Nashville Warbler: last M 10 Oct.

N. Parula: arr M 9 Sep, banded; last M 25 Sep.

Yellow Warbler: last M 18 Sep.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: last CH 26 Sep.
Magnolia Warbler: last 6 Oct.
Cape May Warbler: arr M 15 Sep; last M 24 Sep.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: last M 15 Oct.
Black-throated Green Warbler: last Letchworth SP 1 Oct.
Blackburnian Warbler: last G 24 Sep.
Pine Warbler: last Letchworth SP 1 Oct.
Palm Warbler: arr M 13 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr M 9 Sep; last M 30 Sep.
Black-and- white Warbler: last M 9 Oct.
Am. Redstart: last M 4 Oct.
Ovenbird: last M 4 Oct.
N. Waterthrush: last M 25 Sep.
Connecticut Warbler: M 11 & 13 Sep (EB); 3 HB 14 Sep (DB); M 3 Oct (EB).
Mourning Warbler: last M 13 Sep.
Wilson's Warbler: last M 8 Oct.
Canada Warbler: last M 18 Sep.

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr 12 HP 15 Oct.
Chipping Sparrow: max 50 Mendon 2

Oct; last HP 3 Nov.
Savannah Sparrow: max 70 HP 15 Oct.
NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW: HB 30 Sep ((DB), banded.
Fox Sparrow: arr CH 26 Sep (AW); max 4 HP 15 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr M 15 Sep; max 22 G 17 Oct.
Swamp Sparrow: max 40 HP 15 Oct.
White-throated Sparrow: max 500+ West Lakeshore 15 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr 2 M 19 Sep; max 160+ HP 15 Oct.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 60 HP 15 Oct.
Lapland Longspur: arr 18 GE 16 Oct; max 30+ GE 27 Oct.
Snow Bunting: arr HB 7 Oct.
Indigo Bunting: last NR 10 Oct.
DICKCISSEL: BB 8 Sep (DT).
Rusty Blackbird: West Lakeshore 29 Sep.
Baltimore Oriole: last CH 26 Sep.
Pine Grosbeak: HB 16 Nov (DS), only report.
Red Crossbill: HB 4 Nov (DT), only report.

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