

REGION 9 – HUDSON-DELAWARE

MICHAEL BOCHNIK

86 Empire Street, Yonkers NY 10704

The fall season started out normal with average temperature and rainfall for September. October temperatures were also near normal, but the month was very dry. Less than an inch of rain fell over the Region. Westchester Airport recorded 0.55" for the month. The normal average amount is 3.0". The first significant rain didn't arrive until 9 November, with that month being cooler than average.

Steve Golladay found an exotic crane, believed to be a Demoiselle Crane at Stormville Airport on 1 October. It was a banded bird and certainly an escape, but it did provide some excitement for local birders to view this striking bird.

Otherwise, the fall had very few notable species and few reports. Exceptions were: a possible Gyrfalcon at Hook Mountain on 22 October, a Sedge Wren found in Larchmont 13 October and two Clay-colored Sparrows, one in Pearl River 18 September and one in Kingston Point Park 11 October.

There was an Iceland Gull at Kingston Point Beach on 11 November.

A Red-headed Woodpecker was reported at Croton Point Park 23 November.

Numbers at the area hawkwatches were generally disappointing. But on the bright side, both Mount Peter and Hook Mountain set season's records for Bald Eagle. Hook Mountain reached 50 on 23 October, bypassing the previous record of 48 in 1995. Mount Peter had 24 Bald Eagles for the season. Hook Mountain also had five Golden Eagles in a week, with the fifth appearing 23 October.

An unusual sighting for a hawkwatch came from Lenoir Preserve in Yonkers. Two flocks of Surf Scoters, totaling 200 birds, were seen flying down the Hudson on 15 October.

CONTRIBUTORS

Beth Barker, Michael Bochnik, Frank Bonanno, James Boyd, Barbara Butler, Judy Cinquina, Jim Clinton, Mary Collier, Kris Conklin, Renee Davis, Mark DeDea, George Dremeaux, Valerie Freer, Pat Gabel, Steve Golladay, Marge Gorton, John Haas, Dawn Hannay, Sarah Johnson, Douglas Lancaster, Paul Lehman, Chris Luchini, Barbara Mansell, Ken McDermott, Allan Michelin, Barbara Michelin, Adam Pitkin, Alan Sargeant, Ruth Shursky, Steve Shursky, Anne Swaim, Jeanne Townsend, John Van Dort, Marion Van Wagner, Chet Vincent, Carol Weiss

ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point Park; CRHW – Chestnut Ridge Hawk Watch, Bedford; HM – Hook Mountain; MPHWS – Mount Peter Hawk Watch; NYRBA – New York Rare Bird Alert; RTWFT – Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club Field Trip.

LOONS – DUCKS

Com. Loon: Roundout Res 19 Oct.

Am. Bittern: Bashakill 4 Oct.

Snowy Egret: Wappingers Creek 16, 21 Oct, inland reports.

Little Blue Heron: Clinton Corners DUTC 6 Oct (JC).

Black Vulture: 4 CRHW 13 Oct (NYRBA); 4 DUTC 11 Oct.

Snow Goose: 100 DUTC 28 Sep; 28 ad, 22 imm Napanoch 16 Oct; 100 Webatuck DUTC 28 Oct.

Brant: 59 Bashakill 18 Oct; 200 Chelsea 11 Oct.

Canada Goose: 500 Hillside L DUTC 11, 23 Oct; 500 Napanoch flats 18 Oct.

Wood Duck: 1131 Bashakill 28 Sep; 1132 Bashakill 7 Oct (VF, BB).

Blue-winged Teal: Bashakill 28 Sep; Norrie Point 11 Nov (AM, BM).

Ring-necked Duck: 100 Abel's Pond DUTC 9 Oct thru; 67 L Walton 2 Nov.

Surf Scoter: 200 flying down Hudson River, Lenoir Nature Preserve 15 Oct (MB).

Com. Merganser: 200 Swan L 17 Oct.

Ruddy Duck: 35 Kiamesha L SULL 19 Oct; 100 Sylvan L DUTC 23 Oct.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Bald Eagle: 50+ for season at HM.

N. Harrier: 7 Shawangunk Grasslands NWR 24 Nov.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: chasing hummingbird Hilldale Rd SULL 2 Sep; 111 HM 14 Sep.

N. Goshawk: arr HM 27 Sep.

Broad-winged Hawk: 838 HM 14 Sep (FB); 2058 MPH 17 Sep; 1413 HM 22 Sep (FB); Pleasant Valley 24, 26 Oct (MV).

Red-shouldered Hawk: 48 HM 23 Oct.

Golden Eagle: 2 CRHW 17 Oct (NYRBA); DUTC 20 Oct (CV).

Am. Kestrel: 74 HM 14 Sep.

Gyr Falcon: possible bird HM 22 Oct (CW).

Wild Turkey: 26 Stormville 2, 3 Oct.

N. Bobwhite: 15 Millwood 12, 14 Oct, released or escaped birds; 8 Old Camby Rd DUTC 17 Nov, also probably released.

Am. Coot: 96 Sylvan L DUTC Oct- Nov

Killdeer: 60 Stormville Airport 3 Oct.

Lesser Yellowlegs: Stormville Airport 2 Oct; Pine Plains 8 Oct.

Pectoral Sandpiper: 7 Stormville Airport 2, 6 Oct.

Com. Snipe: Bashakill 28 Sep.

Iceland Gull: Kingston Pt Beach 11-13 Nov (JT, MD).

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Bashakill 16 Sep; Horseshoe L Rd SULL 1-20 Sep.

Short-eared Owl: 9 Shawangunk Grasslands NWR 24 Nov (AS).

N. Saw-whet Owl: Horseshoe L Rd 13 Sep (KC).

Com. Nighthawk: 20 Cape Pd SULL 2 Sep.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last in SULL 30 Sep (MC, VF).

Red-headed Woodpecker: CPP 23 Nov (JV).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: many reports.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Bashakill 2 Sep Lenoir Preserve 10 Sep; MPH 18 Sep; Lenoir Preserve 22 Sep.

Blue-headed Vireo: 2 Fort Ogden Mills DUTC 25 Oct; 4 Norrie Pt 1 Nov, late.

Red-eyed Vireo: last DUTC 2 Nov.

Com. Raven: many reports.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: DUTC 17, 20, 29, 30 Sep, 1 Oct; 8 Cape Pd SULL 23 Oct; CPP 23 Nov.

House Wren: Pleasant Valley 6 Oct (MV).

Sedge Wren: Larchmont 13 Oct (PL).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: banded Cape Pd SULL 13 Oct.

Gray Catbird: last for SULL 11 Oct.
Brown Thrasher: last for SULL 20 Sep.
Am. Pipit: 30 Domin Farm DUTC 20 Oct.
Cedar Waxwing: very common this fall.

WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: HM 22 Sep (FB).
Tennessee Warbler: 2 Cape Pd 19 Sep; Fort Ogden Mills DUTC 25 Oct.
Orange-crowned Warbler: Lenoir Preserve 25 Sep (MB); Kingston Pt P 11 Oct (MD).
Wilson's Warbler: Bashakill 16 Sep; Pearl River 5 Oct (AP).

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Chipping Sparrow: DUTC 29 Nov, late.
Clay-colored Sparrow: Pearl River 18 Sep (AP); Kingston Pt P 11 Oct (MD).
Vesper Sparrow: Millertown 13 Oct; CPP 14 Oct.
Grasshopper Sparrow: CPP 7 Oct (GD).

Fox Sparrow: arr 2 Wappingers 24 Oct.
Lincoln's Sparrow: 1-5 Horseshoe L Rd SULL 23-28 Sep (KC); Pearl River 27 Sep (AP); Rombout Rd DUTC 29 Sep; CPP 7, 14 Oct (GD); 3 DUTC 5, 15 Oct (CV).

White-throated Sparrow: arr 27 Sep; many Nov reports.

White-crowned Sparrow: 15 Horseshoe L Rd 1 Oct (KC); 4 CPP 7 Oct (GD); 25 DUTC 13 Oct (CV); 20 CPP 14 Oct (GD).

Dark-eyed Junco: arr 27 Sep.

Snow Bunting: Poughkeepsie 9 Nov (DL).

Rusty Blackbird: Kingston Pt P 11 Oct (MD); 6 Poughquag 13 Oct; 80 Bashakill 22 Oct (RD, VF).

EXOTICS

Demoiselle Crane: Stormville Airport 30 Sep, 1 Oct (SG).

76652.3224@compuserve.com
(914) 785-3840 (work)
(914) 237-9331 (home)

