

REGION 2 – GENESEE

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It was a summer to remember, if you could indeed call it a summer. June was most delightful, with plenty of sunshine and cool days. The average temperature was below average by 3.1° at 62.7°F. It was the sixth coolest June in the last 100 years. Precipitation fell on about half of the days in the month but only totaled 3.11", which was 0.25" below normal. July kicked in with a precipitation total of 6.36". This was a whopping 3.43" above normal. It ranked fourth in wetness in the last 100 years. Temperatures were below normal by 2.4° at 68.3°. Despite a few warm and sunny days, August averaged 66.0°, 2.0° below normal. Precipitation was a mere 0.14" above normal. Rain fell on nearly half of the days.

This report always traverses an array of seasons. The late spring flights, the summer breeding season and the early fall migration. This year's late spring flight was not particularly well documented. The usual late season shorebirds were tallied, but not much else in the way of tail-end spring migration was reported.

The cool, wet season didn't seem to hamper the breeding birds too much. The fruit and berry crop, on the other hand, benefited greatly and exhibited a banner year. This contributed to the available food supply and provided an ample food source for nesting passerines. Significant numbers of passerines were noted in early July feeding young and in the middle of July again singing. As a result, the end of the month witnessed fresh broods of young.

A pair of Trumpeter Swans once again inhabited a nesting site in western Wayne County. Canada Geese and Mute Swans were once again widespread and plentiful. Blue-winged Teal was again noted in very low numbers along the west lakeshore, but more were discovered in the marshes along the east lakeshore. American Black Duck numbers continued to be low. **Black Vulture** and Merlin were reported in June, hinting at the possibility of some future nesting, which mirrors a trend in the state. The Peregrine Falcons in downtown Rochester fledged five young. A plus for the season was the successful nesting of the Sandhill Cranes in Savannah, though later verbal inputs suggested the young were again finally lost. Black Tern again went unreported as a nester. Common Raven reports were up in the hilly regions south of Monroe County. Common Nighthawk and Whip-poor-will went unreported as breeding species. Nesting Sedge Wrens were located in the Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex. On the down side were Golden-winged Warbler and possibly Cerulean Warbler. Hooded Warblers were well represented in woodlots. Clay-colored Sparrow did not repeat last year's surprising breeding totals. Observers commented that Vesper Sparrow and Bobolink numbers were up in some areas and that Pine Siskins probably bred. Interesting non-breeders were also reported during the season. These included both Red-throated and Common loon on Lake Ontario, as well as White-winged and Black scoter. Of special interest was a female Common Goldeneye at an inland pond, though it was only seen on one day. Little Blue Heron is a plus at any time.

The fall migration didn't seem to materialize early this year. The usual waterfowl were noted at the Hamlin Beach Lakewatch. An American White Pelican put in a brief appearance at Braddock Bay on 26 August. Red-necked Grebe was represented by two reports from Hamlin Beach. Totals from the Braddock Bay Hawkwatch and Hawk Banding Program were average to slightly below average. A total of 4264 Red-tailed Hawks was tallied in August, along with 374 Broad-winged Hawks in the reverse migration that follows similar patterns to the spring flights. The raptor highlight of the season was a pair of **American Swallow-tailed Kites** first reported by a Town of Murray resident. Dave Tetlow, responding to the report, then had a naked-eye sight observation out his window of a bird that was more than likely one of the two, followed shortly by a point-blank single bird flying low over a neighbor's house on Hogan Point. The site was about 15 miles NE of the original sighting. Two immature **Mississippi Kites** were also reported during the season.

The shorebird flight played to mixed reviews. Early in the season reports were low. Despite the rainy season, habitat was scarce due to generally high waters along lakes and streams. The bulk of the reports came from the Hamlin Beach Lakewatch, a farm pond in Perinton and the persistent puddle at Geneseo Airfield, the latter monitored regularly by Jim Kimball. This last location produced Livingston County's first Whimbrel as well as a state record early Buff-breasted Sandpiper in July. Other good Livingston County records from that site were Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Wilson's Phalarope and Caspian Tern. August saw improved habitat and an increase in shorebird activity. Shorebird highlights included 28 Upland Sandpipers at Geneseo Airfield on 13 August, 160 Whimbrels

at Hamlin Beach on 29 August and 12 Baird's Sandpipers at Hamlin Beach on 22 August. Parasitic Jaeger reports from Hamlin Beach totaled a record high 34 on 30 August. The monthly total was 40 individuals.

A weak flow of passerine migrants produced little in the way of fall migration records. August saw a fair number of dispersals as well as some early migrants. A record early Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was banded at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach banding station on 2 August. The Chimney Swift roost in York began in earnest with a maximum of 127 on 9 August. Nineteen species of warblers were reported, with Prairie Warbler being the only real highlight in this early period. Early White-throated and White-crowned sparrows were reported in August from Greece and Manitou respectively.

The June species total was 175, which is just about the ten-year average. July's total of 160 species was slightly below the ten-year average. The August total of 188 was well above the ten-year average of 173.4. Eleven new species for the year were added during the season. This brought the Region 2 species total to 277. This again was above the ten-year average of 271.9.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BB – Braddock Bay MONR; C – T Chili MONR; CH – Charlotte, Ontario Beach MONR; G – Greece MONR; GE – Geneseo LIVI; H – T Hamlin MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach SP MONR; HL – Honeoye L LIVI; IC – Island Cottage Woods, T Greece MONR; M – Manitou MONR; MP – Mendon Ponds P MONR; PA – T Parma MONR; PE – Perinton MONR; PN – Penfield MONR; R – City of Rochester MONR; S – Savannah WAYN; W – T Warsaw WYOM.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Trumpeter Swan: 2 + nest WAYN
12 Jun.

Blue-winged Teal: max 33 HB 20 Aug.

N. Shoveler: arr BB 23 Aug.

N. Pintail: CH 30 Jun.

Green-winged Teal: arr 3 GE 2 Aug.

Redhead: arr 3 HB 3 Aug.

Greater Scaup: HB 6 Jun, late; arr 3 HB
22 Aug.

Lesser Scaup: Cranberry Pd G 1-30 Jun;
arr HB 22 Aug.

White-winged Scoter: 3 HB 3 Jun, late;
max 8 HB 6 Jul.

Black Scoter: HB 20 Jul, only report, rare in summer.
Long-tailed Duck: HB 6 Jun, late.
Bufflehead: HB 1 Jun, late.
Com. Goldeneye: f R 10 Jun, unusual date and location.
Com. Merganser: arr HB 31 Aug.
Ruddy Duck: G 23 Jun, late.
N. Bobwhite: MP 12 Jun, probable released or escapee.
Red-throated Loon: HB 3 Jun.
Com. Loon: 1-2 HB all Jul.
Horned Grebe: arr HB 20 Aug.
Red-necked Grebe: arr HB 8 Aug; HB 17 Aug.
Am. White Pelican: BB 26 Aug (JB, CC, RG).
Double-crested Cormorant: max 428 HB 20 Aug.
Great Egret: R 30 Jun; 2 G 7 Jun.
Little Blue Heron: ad H 31 Jul (DT).
BLACK VULTURE: M 8 Jun (DN, RMa).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: imm HP 20 Aug (DT).
MISSISSIPPI KITE: imm BB 23 Aug (DT); imm PA 27 Aug (DT).
Bald Eagle: total 35 BB hawkwatch Aug.
N. Goshawk: imm migrant BB 11 Jun; total 6 BB hawkwatch Aug.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 BB 9 Aug; 1 BB 14 Aug.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 153 BB 10 Aug.
Rough-legged Hawk: HB 1 Jun (WS), late.
Merlin: BB 11 Jun; 2 HB 30 Aug.
Sandhill Crane: 2 ad & 2 colts S 8-18 Jun (BP, mob); MP 20-24 Jun (JS, CM).
Black-bellied Plover: arr 2 HB 13 Aug.
Am. Golden-Plover: arr H 1 Aug.
Semipalmated Plover: last PE 7 Jun; arr PE 25 Jul.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr Scottsville MONR 1 Jul.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr GE 6 Jul; max 200 GE 18 Jul (JK).
Solitary Sandpiper: arr 2 PE 12 Jul.
Upland Sandpiper: max 28 GE 13 Aug.
Whimbrel: arr HB 16 Jul; 1-2 GE 27-28 Jul (JK); max 160 HB 29 Aug (WS).
Red Knot: arr CH 20 Aug (RSD, KG), only report.
Ruddy Turnstone: last Sodus Pt 6 Jun; arr 2 GE 26 Jul (JK).
Sanderling: arr 11 HB 26 Jul; GE 3 Aug (JK), unusual location.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 9 H 20 Jul.
Western Sandpiper: arr HB 22 Jul; HB 22 Aug (DT).
Least Sandpiper: arr 4 PE 6 Jul.
Baird's Sandpiper: arr GE 1 Aug; max 3 ad & 9 juv HB 22 Aug (DT, WS).
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 2 GE 18 Jul.
Dunlin: arr H 16 Aug.
Stilt Sandpiper: arr 8 GE 28 Jul.
BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: arr E 29 Jul (FM, CC, JK), state record early; PA 29 Aug (GC, DS); 1-2 H 29-30 Aug (DT); 2 PA 31 Aug (mob); good year.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr PE 6 Jul.
Wilson's Phalarope: arr GE 18 Jul; GE 30 Jul; GE 13 Aug.
Parasitic Jaeger: arr HB 17 Aug (WS, DT, RS); 34 HB 30 Aug (DT), record high for Reg; 40 total HB Aug.
jaeger sp: total 5 Aug.
Little Gull: arr HB 15 Aug.
Caspian Tern: max 97 HB 5 Aug; Conesus inlet LIVI 15 Aug (DP); GE 17 Aug (JK); unusual locations latter two.
Com. Tern: max 47 HB 30 Aug.
Forster's Tern: max 3 HB 22, 24 Aug.
Black Tern: imm BB 6 Aug (DT); imm HB 22 Aug (DT, WS).

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Com. Nighthawk: last G 10 Jun; arr G 15 Aug; max 16 PN 28 Aug.
Chimney Swift: max 127 York 9 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last HB 15 Jun; arr M 2 Aug (C&RM), record early.

Acadian Flycatcher: C 3-22 Jul (RS, JS), new location; 3 calling W 2 Aug (JK), interesting location.

Com. Raven: ad HL 12 Jun; ad & yng HL 18 Jun; ad C 17 Jul; ad & yg Springwater LIVI 21 Jul; ad Naples ONTA 23 Jul; G 19 Aug; good summer for this increasing corvid.

Sedge Wren: 3+ S 8-18 Jun (BP, mob).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: last G 1 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: arr M 2 Aug, early.

WARBLERS

Tennessee Warbler: arr Durand-Eastman P MONR 16 Aug.

Prairie Warbler: f BB 29 Aug (GC, DS).

Bay-breasted Warbler: last IC 2 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: last G 1 Jun.

Wilson's Warbler: last IC 2 Jun; arr BB 29 Aug.

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: 1-2 Warsaw WYOM 28 Jun-1 Jul.

Henslow's Sparrow: Sonyea LIVI 27-30 Jun (ST, mob); 2 Byron 14 Jul (KG); only reports.

White-throated Sparrow: ad G 12 Aug, unusual time of year.

White-crowned Sparrow: ad M 2, 7 Aug (C&RM), banded, very interesting date.