

## REGION 9 – HUDSON-DELAWARE

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Remnants of three hurricanes soaked the area in September. Hurricane Frances dumped 5.9" of rain on White Plains on 8 September. Ivan dumped more rain inland, with Liberty deluged with 4.3" on 18 September. Hurricane Jeanne brought 3-5" of rain throughout the area at the end of the month, 28-29 September. This brought rainfall totals for the month two-and-a-half to three times average. For instance, White Plains had 14.1" of rain for the month, compared with 4.7" in an average September. Temperatures were also well above normal, with averages 2° to 3.2°F above normal. October was mild and very dry. The month's temperature averaged 0.4° to 1.6° warmer than normal. Westchester County did not go below freezing the entire month. White Plains and Poughkeepsie had less than 2" of rain, less than half of normal.

November continued to be dry with above average temperatures, except for a brief cold snap on 9 and 10 November with Liberty falling down to 18°. An early snowfall of 3" followed on 12-13 November in the northern part of the Region. The rest of the month was well above average. Poughkeepsie and White Plains reached a high of 65° on 25 November.

There were three reports of Greater White-fronted Goose, with single birds found in Dutchess and Sullivan Counties and a pair found in North White Plains that stayed through the end of the period. All three species of scoter made appearances inland. Three flocks of White-winged Scoters, totaling 90 birds, were seen flying down the Hudson River from Lenoir Nature Preserve in Yonkers on 27 October.

Hawk watchers were again disappointed by low numbers for most species. The three hurricanes in September may have again pushed many migrant hawks west of our Region. On the plus side, Bald Eagle, Cooper's Hawk and Red-tailed Hawk numbers were generally up.

Jude Holdsworth found a dead rail at James Baird State Park in Dutchess County on 30 August. The specimen was eventually sent to Kevin McGowan at Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. The identification was **Clapper Rail**, a new species for Dutchess County.

The pond in the New York section of the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge and nearby turf farms in Pine Island, Orange County, continued to produce great shorebird sightings. Baird's Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper and Long-billed Dowitcher were reported from the area.

Two immature Parasitic Jaegers were found harassing Common Terns off Edith G. Read Sanctuary in Rye, Westchester County, on 6 September.

The bird of the season for the Region was a **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** found at a Larchmont feeder by Andrew and Robbie Towle on 4 November. Photographs sent by Internet confirmed the identification. Unfortunately, the bird stayed only until 7 November. If accepted by NYSARC, it will be only the third state record after the first accepted records in Manhattan in 2001, and the first record for Region 9 and Westchester County.

Red-headed Woodpeckers made a good fall showing, with more reports compared with the last few years. Early Northern Shrikes reports, all from the northern part of the Region, suggested a promising winter season for them.

Other notable species included: Iceland Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull and Orange-crowned Warbler.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Pt P; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; HM – Hook Mountain; LNP – Lenoir Nature Preserve, Yonkers; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; PI – Pine Island ORAN; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR; WRNWF – Wallkill River NWR.

## **WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES**

### **Greater White-fronted Goose: T**

LaGrange 22 Oct (CV); 2 Silver L P,  
N.White Plains 6 Nov thru (NYRBA,  
MB); Warwick 14 Nov (DM,KM).

**Snow Goose:** Summitville 22 Sep; 40  
LNP 11 Oct; 300 Mt Peter 11 Oct; 600  
Vanderbilt 11 Oct.

**Canada Goose:** 1200 Mt Peter 11 Oct.

**Wood Duck:** 1542 Bashakill 7 Oct  
(RD,RS,ABO, BBa).

**N. Pintail:** Wurtsboro 9 Sep; LNP 17 Oct.

**Green-winged Teal:** 200 WRNWF  
17 Oct.

**Canvasback:** first Southlands 10 Oct.

**Ring-necked Duck:** 170 Pine Plains 11  
Nov; 300 Abel's Pd 21 Nov; 150 Sylvan L  
24 Nov.

**Greater Scaup:** 6 Neversink Res 18 Oct;  
300 EGR 30 Nov.

**Lesser Scaup:** arr 3 EGR 30 Oct; 100  
EGR 30 Nov.

**Surf Scoter:** 5 EGR 11 Oct; 4 Neversink  
Res 27 Oct (EDE,RD)

**White-winged Scoter:** 5 Neversink Res  
29 Sep (EDE); 90 in 3 flocks LNP 27 Oct  
(MB); Beekman 21-30 Nov (SG, CP,  
B&SL); EGR 18,22,25 Nov.

**Black Scoter:** 9 White L 27 Oct (SGr); 51  
Swan L 27 Oct (SGr); Neversink Res 28  
Oct (EDE).

**Long-tailed Duck:** 9 EGR 22 Nov.

**Bufflehead:** 130 EGR 13 Nov.

**Com. Goldeneye:** WRNWF 28 Sep thru.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 120 EGR 18  
Nov.

**Red-throated Loon:** 15 EGR 22 Nov.

**Com. Loon:** 10 Rondout Res 10 Sep.

**Horned Grebe:** 4 Neversink Res 20 Oct  
(EDE).

**N. Gannet:** 3-9 EGR 19,20,22,24,25 Nov.

**Great Cormorant:** arr 6 EGR 13 Nov.

**Snowy Egret:** 9 EGR 6 Sep.

**Little Blue Heron:** EGR 6 Sep; imm CPP  
19 Nov thru (B&SL), extremely late..

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 16 MC 15  
Sep.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** MC  
15 Sep.

## **HAWKS – ALCIDS**

**Osprey:** 17 HM 11 Sep; 14 Mt Peter 14  
Sep.

**Bald Eagle:** 5 HM 6 Sep.

**N. Harrier:** 8 HM 13 Oct; 12 WNWR 17  
Oct.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 170 HM 20 Sep;  
48 Mt Peter 24 Sep.

**Cooper's Hawk:** 17 HM 23 Sep; 10 Mt  
Peter 16 Oct.

**N. Goshawk:** HM 23 Sep, 20 Oct; 2  
Summitville 26 Sep; Mt Peter 12 Oct.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 28 HM 10 Nov.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** 503 Mt Peter 14  
Sep; 639 Summitville 15 Sep; 1377 HM  
19 Sep.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** 51 Mt Peter 9 Nov; 68  
HM 10 Nov.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** Mt Peter 26 Oct;  
Piermont Marsh 28 Nov.

**Golden Eagle:** HM 22 Oct, 1 Nov;  
Summitville 23 Oct; Hopewell 29 Oct; 2  
HM 9 Nov; Stissing Mt 14 Nov; Mt Peter  
15 Nov; Thompson Pd 27 Nov.

**Am. Kestrel:** 10 Mt Peter 24 Sep; 20 HM  
2 Oct.

**Merlin:** 5 HM 6 Oct.

**Peregrine Falcon:** 5 HM 6 Oct.

**CLAPPER RAIL:** James Baird SP  
DUTC 30 August (Jude Holdsworth),  
found dead, later identified by Kevin  
McGowan at Cornell Lab, 1st DUTC  
record.

**Am. Coot:** 60 Sylvan L 24 Oct.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 6 PI 9 Sep.

**Am. Golden-Plover:** 23 PI 3 Sep; 15 PI 9  
Sep; 18 PI 19 Sep; 70 PI 20 Sep; 150 PI  
21 Sep; 95 PI 22 Sep; 32 PI 30 Sep; 10 PI  
27 Oct.

**Semipalmated Plover:** 7 PI 9 Sep.

**Killdeer:** 150 PI 3,9 Sep; 50 PI 30 Sep.

**Am. Oystercatcher:** 9 EGR 6 Sep.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** 15 PI 21 Sep.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** PI 9 Sep; 12 PI 21 Sep.  
**Solitary Sandpiper:** PI 19 Sep.  
**Hudsonian Godwit:** PI 20, 22, 24 Sep (LS, JH, KM, R&BS).  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 150 PI 9 Sep.  
**Western Sandpiper:** 5 MC 1 Sep; PI 23 Sep (KM).  
**Least Sandpiper:** 50 PI 9 Sep.  
**White-rumped Sandpiper:** 10 Morningside 9 Sep; 22 PI 9 Sep.  
**Baird's Sandpiper:** PI 3 Sep (JH); PI 21 Sep (JH, KM).  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** 10 PI 9 Sep; 2 PI 19 Sep; 19 PI 20 Sep; 36 PI 21 Sep; 52 PI 22 Sep; 60 PI 1 Oct.  
**Purple Sandpiper:** 3 EGR 16 Nov; 8 EGR 20 Nov.  
**Dunlin:** 2 PI 9 Sep; 2 PI 30 Sep; 3 Morningside 18 Oct; 2 Pleasant Valley 24 Oct; low numbers along LI Sound.  
**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** 2 PI 30 Sep, 1 Oct (JH, ABo, EDe).  
**Long-billed Dowitcher:** PI 17, 18, 20 Sep (MBr, JY, SK, LS).  
**Parasitic Jaeger:** 2 imm Rye 6 Sep (TB).  
**Laughing Gull:** 150 EGR 6 Sep; 50 MC 22 Nov.  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** 15 EGR 25 Nov.  
**Iceland Gull:** EGR 22 Nov.  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Piermont Pier 22 Nov (CW).  
**Com. Tern:** 200 EGR 6 Sep.  
**Forster's Tern:** 70 MC 1 Oct; 90 EGR 13 Oct.

#### PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

**Long-eared Owl:** LNP 10 Oct; Beekman 18-21 Oct; MC 13 Nov.  
**Short-eared Owl:** arr PI 13 Nov; 10 SGNWR 13 Nov.  
**Com. Nighthawk:** 20 Rye 4 Sep.  
**CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD:** Larchmont 4-7 Nov (A&RT, ph) 3rd State and 1st Reg and WEST record if accepted by NYSARC.  
**Red-headed Woodpecker:** ad LNP 27

Sep; Neversink 29 Sep; Youngsville 1-2 Oct; HM 2 Oct; LNP 27-28 Sep; 2 imm LNP 17 Oct; Poughquag 23-24 Oct; ad LNP 7 Nov.

#### FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Mt Peter 11-12 Sep.  
**N. Shrike:** SGNWR 26 Oct; Monticello 26 Oct; Pleasant Valley 10, 17-18 Nov.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** Vassar College 24 Nov.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** Wurtsboro 2 Sep; LNP 16 Sep.  
**Blue Jay:** 1000 Mt Peter 21 Sep; 1483 Mt Peter 26 Sep.  
**Horned Lark:** 50 Rhinebeck 26 Sep.  
**Marsh Wren:** 5 MC 1 Sep.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** Norrie Pt 20 Nov.  
**Am. Robin:** 6000 MC 1 Nov.  
**Am. Pipit:** 4 MC 27 Sep; 1-4 MC 4, 15 Oct, 9, 16 Nov; 7-9 Neversink Res 9, 18 Oct.  
**Cedar Waxwing:** 200 MC 1 Nov.

#### WARBLERS

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** MC 10 Nov.  
**Palm Warbler:** 14 CPP 1 Oct.  
**Yellow-breasted Chat:** MC 23-24 Sep.

#### TANAGERS – WEAVERS

**Vesper Sparrow:** Vassar Farm 12 Oct; EGR 20 Oct; Piermont 24 Oct.  
**Savannah Sparrow:** 50 CPP 2 Oct.  
**Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** MC 4 Oct.  
**Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** 1-2 MC 1, 15, 21, 27 Sep; 4 MC 4 Oct.  
**Song Sparrow:** 100 CPP 1 Oct.  
**Lincoln's Sparrow:** Fahnestock SP 20 Sep; MC 22, 23, 25, 30 Sep; Beekman 23, 27 Sep; CPP 1, 6 Oct; MC 5, 11, 25 Oct; EGR 8, 26 Oct; 3 CPP 10 Oct; LNP 10 Oct; Vassar Farm 12 Oct.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 5 CPP

10 Oct.

**Snow Bunting:** 6 CPP 6 Oct; Piermont Pier 25 Oct; White Sulphur Spring 28 Oct; 25 Piermont Pier 7 Nov; 3 MC 16 Nov; 3-5 EGR 20, 22 Nov.

**Bobolink:** 200 Rhinebeck 12 Sep.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 5 Thompson Pd 21 Oct; Rhinebeck 29 Oct; 8 MC 1 Nov; Tivoli Bay 6 Nov.

**Pine Siskin:** many reports 1-5 birds 13 Oct thru.

**Evening Grosbeak:** Horseshoe L 24 Oct; 3 DUTC 4 Nov.