

REGION 9 - HUDSON - DELAWARE

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Remnants of Ernesto brought heavy rain to the southern sections of Region 9 to begin the season on 1 and 2 September. The easterly winds brought little in the way of storm related birds. The rest of September was slightly cooler than normal with average precipitation. Poughkeepsie did pick up nearly 2.8 inches of rain on the 15th. October's weather was uneventful until the 28th. A coastal nor'easter roaring past the Region brought sustained winds of 20 mph with gusts to 50. White Plains had nearly 3 inches of rain. The Bashakill in Sullivan County was under water. November began with a strong cold front on the 2nd and 3rd, which brought in a morning flight of over 1200 American Robins at Marshlands Conservancy and a late Osprey to Hook Mountain. The last three weeks of the season saw temperature well above normal, reaching nearly seventy degrees on the 16th and the high sixties on the last day of the month. November averaged over 5 degrees above normal with above average precipitation.

A Red-necked Grebe and an immature White-winged Scoter were found by Chet Vincent on the Hudson River at Waryas Park, Poughkeepsie 30 October. Two weeks later two Red-necked Grebes were found by Chet inland at Stissing Lake on 15 November, and they stayed till 27 November and were view by numerous observers. White-winged Scoters were also reported away from Long Island Sound at Swan Lake, Sullivan County. Two were present from 28 October to 5 November with one thereafter. Black Scoters were found at Toronto Reservoir in late October and at Kiamesha Lake and Swan Lake in mid November.

The area hawk watches noted that the peaks of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks came late. The peaks were on 21 October rather than in late September or early October. Broad-winged Hawks peaked at their usual time from the 17 to 25 September. Strong NW winds on 21 September pushed Broad-winged Hawks towards the coast of Long Island Sound. Marshlands Conservancy in Rye had 5435 for the day. Both the Mt. Peter and Hook Mountain watches reported nearly completely white Red-tailed Hawks migrating past on 10 November. The hawks were obvious different individuals, with the Hook Mt. bird crossing in from the Hudson River heading southwest.

A **Hammond's Flycatcher** was discovered at Marshlands Conservancy in Rye on 19 November by Tom Burke, Gail Benson, Kirsten Lewis, and John Askildsen. Confirmation of the ID came on the 21st when it was heard singing and was video taped by Andy Guthrie. It lasted at least till the 25th. It was not seen on the 26th, possibly seen on the 27th, and possibly heard on the 28th. A report along with numerous photographs and the video will be submitted to NYSARC. During the flycatcher's stay, late Blue-headed Vireo, Nashville Warbler, and American Redstart were reported from the same area. The redstart was found dead on the 22 November.

Ed Higgins found a “brownish” hummingbird at the Lenoir Nature Preserve in Yonkers on Thanksgiving Day 23 November. A call to this Regional editor had Joe O’Connell, Kelli Jewell, Tom Burke, Gail Benson, and me there in the rain to find a *selasphorus* hummingbird. Subsequent sunnier days and many observation and photographs, especially an excellent tail shot taken by Steve Walter, led to identification of this bird as an immature female **Rufous Hummingbird**. It was an odd bird. It had a small central orange/red iridescent throat patch suggestive of an adult female. The rectrices were all quite wide and very blunt and rounded, with the central rectrices green with blackish tips. R3-R5 were boldly tipped in white, but even R2 had some white in the tip. This strongly suggested an immature female. This is the third *selasphorus* hummingbird at this location in six years. In 2001 an immature male hummingbird appeared on 17 November and lasted into January. The next year, an immature female Rufous appeared on 28 October but only stayed till 29 November.

Lorraine Konzelmann had a white hummingbird at her feeders on 6 and 7 September in the town of Hopewell Junction, Dutchess County. She managed to get a very blurry photo of it. It was assumed to be a Ruby-throated.

John Haas found a **LeConte’s Sparrow** at the Bashakill on October 22. It was at first thought to be a sharp-tailed sparrow, but upon returning that afternoon John made the corrected id. Photographs were taken by Kenneth Kijewski. The sparrow was not relocated the next morning, in spite of the efforts of several birders.

John Askildsen photographed a Western Kingbird in Katonah, on 8 September. It hung around until dark but could not be relocated the following morning.

Two Lapland Longspurs were found by Della Wells and photographed by Alan Wells during an Audubon field trip at Croton Point Park on 22 October. Two more longspurs were reported by Mona Payton at Southlands Farm, Rhinebeck on 4 November. A Blue Grosbeak was found by Paul Steinneck and Barbara Dexter in their condominium complex in Yonkers 10 November.

White-winged and Red Crossbills were reported from Stanford on 17 October, and Mt. Peter had Evening Grosbeak in September.

Other notable species include: Eurasian Wigeon, Caspian Tern, Northern Shrike, Sedge Wren, and Dickcissel.

CONTRIBUTORS

Ajit Antiny, Andrea Alterman, John Askildsen, Scott Baldinger, Gail Benson, Dave Berg, Andrew Block, Frank Bonanno, Arlene Borko, Renee Burgevin, Tom Burke, Barbara Butler, Judith Cinquina, Jim Clinton, Mary Collier, Renee Davis, Barbara Dexter, Ken & Sue Feustel, Tom Fiore, Dot Fleury, Ken and Carol Fredericks, Valerie Freer, Roy & Marge Gorton, Christine Guarino, John Haas, Rick Hansen, Barry Haydasz, Dave Hayes, Ed Higgins, Bob Kendall, Kenneth Kijewski, Lorraine Konzelmann, Christopher Letts, Kirsten Lewis, Robert Lewis, Carol Linguanti, Curt McDermott, Barbara & Allen Michelin, Joe

O'Connell, Mona Payton, Linda Peskac, Carena Pooth, Kelly Sheridan, Ruth Shursky, Ed Spaeth, Paul Steinneck, Rob Stone, Herb Thompson, Lance Verderame, Chet Vincent, Carol Weiss, Alan & Della Wells.

ABBREVIATIONS

CPP-Croton Point Park, EGR-Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, MC - Marshlands Conservancy, HM - Hook Mountain, LPN- Lenoir Nature Preserve, RNC-Rye Nature Center, SBR - Swinging Bridge Reservoir.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: Ponderosa Farm, Scotch Plains 16 Nov (CV).
Brant: 1424 EGR 11 Oct; 50 Chelsea 22 Oct.
Wood Duck: 2358 Bashakill 28 Sep; 2253 Bashakill 5 Oct, good counts.
Eurasian Wigeon: Rye 12,19 Nov (TB,JA).
Am. Wigeon: arr 6 Oct.
Blue-winged Teal: 1-2 Bashakill 3,5,10,28 Oct.
N. Shoveler: arr Thompson Pond 19 Oct.
N. Pintail: arr 19 Oct.
Ring-necked Duck: arr 20 Abel's Pond, Union Vale 23 Sep, early; 70 Swan Lake 28 Oct; 150-200 Abel's Pond, Union Vale 10-31 Oct; 74 Swan L 17,28 Oct.
Greater Scaup: arr 5 Nov; 200 EGR 29 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: arr 7 EGR 16 Oct; 110 EGR 5 Nov.
Surf Scoter: 4 EGR 11 Oct; 3 EGR 5 Oct; 6 EGR 11 Oct.
White-winged Scoter: 2 Swan Lake 28 Oct- 5 Nov, one thru (JH,LV); Hudson R, Poughkeepsie 30 Oct (CV); 2 EGR 31 Oct.
Black Scoter: 7 Toronto Res 28 Oct (JH,LV); Kiamesha Lake 18,19 Nov (JH); Swan Lake 18,19 Nov.
Long-tailed Duck: 2 EGR 31 Oct; Sleepy Hollow 9 Nov; 26 flying down the Hudson R Yonkers 18 Nov; Neversink Res 24 Nov; 3 Neversink Res 26 Nov.
Bufflehead: arr 25 Oct.
Com. Goldeneye: 81 Lake Superior SP 18 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: arr 30 Oct; 50 Swan L 4 Nov.
Red-breasted Merganser: arr 14 Oct.
Red-throated Loon: EGR 31 Oct; Sylvan L 19-24 Nov.
Com. Loon: EGR 6 Oct; 5 EGR 24 Oct;
Horned Grebe: Bashakill 28 Oct (JH,LV); 2 Piermont Pier 7 Nov.

Red-necked Grebe: Hudson R, Poughkeepsie 30 Oct (CV); 2 Stissing Lake, Pine Plains 15-27 Nov (CV,mob).
N. Gannet: 8 EGR 17 Nov.
Great Cormorant: 2 EGR 24 Oct.
Am. Bittern: LaGrange 13 Nov.
Turkey Vulture: 150 LNP 23 Oct; 18 HM 29 Oct.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: 21 MC 21 Sep; 36 HM 26 Sep; HM 3 Nov.
N. Harrier: 15 HM 22 Oct.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 135 Mt Peter 21 Oct; 136 LPN 21 Oct; 151 HM 22 Oct.
Cooper's Hawk: 19 HM 7, 21 Oct; 25 LPN 21 Oct.
N. Goshawk: Mt Peter 29 Oct.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 13 Mt Peter 2 Nov; 15 HM 4 Nov; 62 LNP 19 Nov.
Broad-winged Hawk: 1022 HM 17 Sep; 5435 MC 21 Sep; 1002 HM 22 Sep; 858 Mt Peter 22 Sep; 507 LNP 25 Sep.
Red-tailed Hawk: almost pure white, Mt Peter 10 Nov (CLi); almost pure white, HM 10 Nov (TF); max 51 HM 10 Nov.
Golden Eagle: Summitville 15 Oct; 5 Summitville 18 Oct; 2 Mt Peter 31 Oct; total 11 HM Oct; total 8 HM Nov.
Am. Kestrel: 22 HM 20, 21 Sep.
Merlin: 6 HM 28 Sep.
Clapper Rail: MC 1, 8 Sep.
Sora: MC 2 Oct.
Am. Coot: 60 Croton River 16 Oct; 70 Sylvan L, Beekman 31 Oct.
Semipalmated Plover: 5 EGR 15 Sep; 5 MC 26 Sep, 9 Oct; MC 7 Nov.
Killdeer: 18 MC 4,6 Oct.
Am. Oystercatcher: 2 EGR 29 Oct.
Greater Yellowlegs: 10 MC 13 Sep.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 4 Pine Plains 10, 13 Oct; 4 Pleasant Valley 26 Oct.
Willet: EGR 5 Sep.

Ruddy Turnstone: EGR 12 Nov.
White-rumped Sandpiper: SBR1,3 Sep.
Pectoral Sandpiper: 4 SBR11-13 Sep; 3 Thompson Pond 19 Oct.
Purple Sandpiper: 3 EGR 12 Nov; 6 EGR 29 Nov; Kingsland Point Lighthouse 15 Nov.
Dunlin: Pleasant Valley 12, 13 Oct; Pine Plains 13 Oct; 2 Piermont Pier 7 Nov; 10 MC 7 Nov.
Wilson's Snipe: 6 Woodbourne 15 Sep.
Laughing Gull: 60 MC 26 Sep; 70 EGR 17 Oct; 200 EGR 16 Nov.
Bonaparte's Gull: Hyde Park 25, 30 Oct (CV).
Caspian Tern: juv MC 13 Sep (TB).
Forster's Tern: 2 MC 4 Oct; 7 EGR 28 Oct.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Pleasant Valley 4 Oct.
Long-eared Owl: 3 Beekman 6 Oct.
Com. Nighthawk: 5 MC 3 Sep; 44 Bashakill 6 Sep; 60 Wurtsboro 7 Sep; 74 Bashakill 7 Sep; 5 Hurley 26 Sept.
Chimney Swift: 30 MC 1 Sep.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: albino Hopewell Junction 6-7 Sep (LK).
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: Lenoir Nature Preserve, Yonkers 23-30 Nov (EH,MB), *intro*.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Mt Peter 24 Sep.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: MC 1 Sep; Rio Res 6 Sep.
HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER: MC 19-25, 27-28 Nov (TB,GB,JA,KL), *intro*.
Western Kingbird: Katonah 8 Sep (JA).
N. Shrike: Harcourt Wildlife Sanctuary, New Paltz 27 Oct (CG); Bethel 19-25 Nov (JH,LV).
Blue-headed Vireo: MC 19 Nov (DB).
Warbling Vireo: Buttercup East Sanctuary 9 Oct.
Philadelphia Vireo: 2 Depot Hill, Beekman 3 Sep; Linear Park 4 Sep; MC 5, 7 Sep; Bashakill 6, 9 Sep.
Purple Martin: 3 Bashakill 15 Sep.
Tree Swallow: 80 MC 21 Oct.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: no major influx seen.
Sedge Wren: MC 2 Oct (TB).
Marsh Wren: 8 MC 13 Sep; 4 MC 4 Oct.
Gray-checked Thrush: MC 3,5 Oct.
Am. Robin: 1000 MC 26 Oct; 1200 MC 3 Nov.

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Am. Pipit: 2 SBR12 Sep; MC 26 Sep; 18 MC 6 Oct; 15 Piermont Pier 21 Oct; 200 Bashakill 22 Oct; 2-5 MC 1, 3, 7 Nov; 44 SBR 12 Nov.
Cedar Waxwing: 120 MC 26, 31 Oct.

WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: MC 7 Sep.
Orange-crowned Warbler: Neversink 1 Oct (JH,RD); MC 26 Oct.
Nashville Warbler: MC 12, 19 Nov (TB,DB).
N. Parula: Mt Vernon 18 Nov (MB).
Cape May Warbler: DUTC 7 Sep; HM 16 Sep.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 6 Hastings-on-Hudson 3 Oct.
Palm Warbler: 25 CPP 9 Oct.
Am. Redstart: MC 21, 22 Nov (ABI), found dead 22 Nov.
Worm-eating Warbler: Buttercup East Sanctuary 2 Oct.
Mourning Warbler: Bashakill 30 Sep (JH).
Com. Yellowthroat: 2 Riverside Trail, Beacon 11 Sep.
Yellow-breasted Chat: Hastings-on-Hudson 3 Oct; MC 8, 25 Sep, 4, 23 Oct.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr 6 Buttercup Sanctuary 9 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: Lenoir Nature Preserve 13, 14 Oct; Wurtsboro 14-15 Oct; Bashakill 22 Oct; LaGrange 24 Oct.
LECONTE'S SPARROW: Haven Road, Bashakill 22 Oct (JH), seen by eight others and photographed (KK), *intro*.
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 2 MC 26 Sep; 7 MC 9 Oct.
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow: MC 13 Sep, 2, 9 Oct.
Fox Sparrow: arr 24 Oct; 12 CPP 21 Nov.
Lincoln's Sparrow: MC 18, 25-28 Sep; Wurtsboro 1, 7, 15 Oct; MC 3, 4 Oct; 3 Buttercup Sanctuary 2 Oct; 2 Briscoe 8 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr MC 17 Sep.
Dark-eyed Junco: arr 8 Oct.
Lapland Longspur: 2 CPP 22 Oct (A&DW); 2 Rhinebeck 4 Nov (MP).
Snow Bunting: 2 Piermont Pier 28 Oct, 7 Nov; EGR 11 Nov; 3 Marist College 19 Nov; 8 CPP 21,28 Nov.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 2 Stissing L 24 Nov.
Blue Grosbeak: Yonkers 10 Nov (PS,BD).
Dickcissel: MC 2 Oct (TB).

Rusty Blackbird: 4 MC 25 Oct.

White-winged Crossbill: 30 Stanford 17
Oct (JCI).

Red Crossbill: 2 Stanford 17 Oct (JCI).

Pine Siskin: 3 Bashakill 2 Nov.

Evening Grosbeak: Mt Peter 4 Sep (JCI); 6
Mt Peter 18 Sep (JCI).

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