

REGION 2—GENESEE

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The season started off with a warm and dry June. The average temperature of 69.5° F was 3.7° above normal. It was the 2nd warmest June in 10 years and ranked in the top ten in the last 100 years. Precipitation was 1.06" below normal at 2.3", the bulk of that falling on the 19th. July proved to be a very pleasant month. The temperature was 1.0° below normal at 69.7°F. Precipitation totaled 2.31", a mere 0.62" below normal. June's hot and dry conditions repeated in August. The average of 71.7°F was 2.8° higher than normal. The scant total of

0.81" of rainfall was well below normal. It was the driest August in 56 years and the 2nd driest in the last 100 years.

This season includes the tail end of the spring migration, the nesting season, and the beginning of the fall migration. The spring migration seemed to end rather abruptly, with few birds carrying on into June. The nesting season saw only some minor trends and no significant changes. The traditional early return of shorebirds was hampered by the lack of suitable habitat.

Canada Goose numbers in summer continue to be high and present a real nuisance in some areas. This is also true for the Mute Swan. Trumpeter Swan continues to breed at multiple locations in Wayne County. Wood Duck and Mallard breeding numbers were good. That is just about it for breeding puddle ducks even though there were a few reports of other species. Hooded and Common mergansers bred in scattered locations. Other diving duck observations were limited with a few lingering on into June and the scattered sightings of White-winged Scoter from Hamlin Beach State Park through the season. Both loons were reported into June, with scattered reports of Common through July and a very unusual Red-throated in that month.

Waders were pretty typical, with what seemed like fewer than usual Great Egret reports than the recent trend. Black-crowned Night-Heron reports were down, though with a few more individuals showing up late in the season. Four **Brown Pelicans** seen by Dave Tetlow in August were a seasonal highlight.

An Osprey nest on a cell tower in Greece just inland of Braddock Bay was of interest. Nesting Bald Eagles continued their increase in the Region with a new nest found along Irondequoit Bay. There were a few reports of Merlin, but no information was received of birds at the nesting locations of last year on Honeoye Lake and in downtown Rochester. The nesting Peregrine Falcons in downtown Rochester were once again successful in fledging young.

Common Moorhen and American Coot continued to be scarce, the former now only found in scattered locations. The west lakeshore population is either gone or in so few numbers that they go unnoticed. The Wayne County Sandhill Cranes produced young again with a good sized colt observed late into the season.

Once again shorebird habitat was at a minimum at least until August, when some mudflats began to appear. Plowed fields were relatively dry and didn't host much other than Killdeer. Surprises were a record early Buff-breasted Sandpiper found by Dave Tetlow in Hamlin and another found by Jim Kimball in Genesee four days later.

Long-tailed Jaeger put in its usual August appearance at Hamlin Beach, as did Parasitic Jaeger. Lesser Black-backed Gull continues to be found during any season now. The July Glaucous Gull was the first regional record for that month.

Caspian Terns seemed to rebound a little from last year's low numbers. Four young birds with lettered leg bands as well as the usual numbered bands observed on several dates were found to have been banded on Gull Island, Ontario by the Canadian Wildlife Service. There were few sightings of Black

PHOTO GALLERY, SUMMER 2007



Figure A. Western Reef-Heron (*Egretta gularis gularis*), Calvert Vaux Park, Kings Co., 9 Jul 07. Photo copyright Joel Horman. See pp. 288-294.

Tern and no nesting reports. Common Nighthawk sightings continued on into June but no reports of breeding were noted.

Breeding Acadian Flycatchers were again found in a number of locations, with up to three pairs discovered in a hemlock stand in Huckleberry Swamp in Wayne County. Common Raven continued to be reported as a nester in the southern portions of the Region. Sedge Wren reports were limited as is usually the case. Late migrant Blackpoll and Wilson's warblers were reported in June. Nothing of note occurred with breeding warblers. Few Golden-winged Warblers were found, and Blue-winged Warbler continues to do well. Late July and early August, as usual, saw large numbers of migrant Yellow Warblers along the lakeshore. Single reports of breeding Prairie Warbler and Yellow-breasted Chat were received. The recent reports of breeding Clay-colored Sparrow continued this season. Grasshopper and Henslow's sparrows nested again in the Geneseo/Avon area. White-crowned Sparrows were found in two Greece locations during June, with a singing adult at one of them. At the second location another was observed for seven days in July. Late individuals of this species seem to be a trend of recent years. The nest of a Dark-eyed Junco was discovered in the unusual location of Pittsford in June. A Lapland Longspur observed by Dave Tetlow on 31 August in Parma was record early. A calling Dickcissel Bob Spahn heard passing over the lakewatch at Hamlin was a surprise.

A Rusty Blackbird was photographed in Savannah during July, a very unusual time for this Region. The bird appeared injured, so was probably a summering individual that couldn't make it farther north rather than a very early migrant. Both Baltimore and Orchard orioles had a good nesting season. It was also a good year for Purple Finch, with increased reports along the Lake Plain.

June's species total of 181 was just slightly above the 10-year average, July's total of 157 was slightly below, and August's total of 182 was about 6 species above. The year's species total through August was 272. This was very close to the 10-year average but considerably lower than last year's 285 species.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AT – Atlantic Ave, T Walworth, WAYN; b – banded; BB – Braddock Bay, MONR; BY – T Byron, GENE; CU – Cuylerville, LIVI; G – T Greece, MONR; GE – T Geneseo, LIVI; H – T Hamlin, MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach State Park, MONR; HL – Hemlock Lake, LIVI; HP – Hogan Pt, T Greece; I – T Irondequoit, MONR; M – Manitou Beach area, MONR; MU – T Murray, ORLE; MZ – Montezuma Audubon Center, WAYN; OB – Ontario Beach, Charlotte, MONR; PA – T Parma, MONR; PE – T Perinton, MONR; S – T Savannah, WAYN.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Trumpeter Swan: 2 ad, 2 juv AT 8,22 Jun (R&SS); 4-5 S 2,13 Jun (LL); 3 MZ1-31 Jun (mob); 1ad,1juv AT 3,26 Jul (R&SS).

Gadwall: 1 HL16 Jun (TP).

N. Pintail: last 1 S 2 Jun (LL).

Lesser Scaup: arr 1 HB 20 Aug (WS).

White-winged Scoter: last 3 HB 6 Jun

(WS,KG); arr 1 HB 13 Jul (KG).

Black Scoter: last 2 HB 5 Jun (WS).

Long-tailed Duck: last 1 HB 5 Jun (WS).

Com. Merganser: arr 3 HB 14 Aug (DT,WS).

Red-breasted Merganser: 1 BB Aug (DT).

Ruddy Duck: last 1 G 7 Jun (KG); 1 G 5, 29 Jul (G&FL).

Red-throated Loon: 1 HB 1 Jun (RS); 1 HB 7 Jun (WS); 1 HB 2 Jul (AG); 1 HB 24 Jul (WS); 2 HB 2 Aug (DT,RS,WS).

Com. Loon: max 8 HB 3 Jul (AG).

Horned Grebe: 1 HL 9 Aug (KD); 1 HB 27 Aug (DT).

Red-necked Grebe: arr 5 HB 14 Aug (WS,CC,GL), early; 1 HB 15 Aug (WS,RS); 7 HB 26 Aug (WS,DT); 4 HB 27 Aug (DT); 2 HB 28 Aug (WS,RS,DT).

BROWN PELICAN: 4 H 19 Aug (DT).

HAWKS - ALCIDS

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: 1 HP 4 Aug (DN).

N. Goshawk: 1 BB12 Aug (DT); 1 BB 14 Aug (CC).

Red-shouldered Hawk: total 3 BB all Aug (DT).

Broad-winged Hawk: max 54 BB 24 Aug (DT).

Red-tailed Hawk: max 1389 BB 25 Aug (DT); total 3942 BB all Aug (DT).

Merlin: 1 Naples ONTA 10 Jun (MS); 1 OB 26 Jul (R&SS); 1 HB 27 Aug (R&SS).

Am. Coot: 1 G 15 Jun (GL).

Sandhill Crane: 2 ad, 2 yg S all Jun; 2 ad, 1 yg late Jul (JE); 2 ad,1 yg S 10 Aug (FM).

Black-bellied Plover: arr 2 HB 17 Jul (WS), record early.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr 1 H 9 Aug (KG).

Semipalmated Plover: last 1 HB 5 Jun

(WS); arr 2,9 HB, OB 24 Jun (WS,KG).

Greater Yellowlegs: 1 H 18 Jun (RS); 1 S 22 Jun (DSH, R&SS); 1 PA 25 Jun (DT).

Lesser Yellowlegs: last 1 BY 6-7 Jun (WS); arr 1 BY 23 Jun (WS).

Solitary Sandpiper: arr 2 HP 16 Jul (RS).

Upland Sandpiper: 6-10 GE 4-14 Aug (JK); 3 HB 27 Aug (WS, DT).

Whimbrel: arr 1 PA 15 Jun (DT); 1 T Troutberg, ORLE 25 Aug (JP); 1 HB 28 Aug (WS).

Ruddy Turnstone: 3 I 6 Jun (RS); arr 1 OB 2-13 Aug (RS,KG).

Sanderling: arr 3 OB 16 Jul (RS).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 3 BY 10 Jun (WS); arr 2 OB 16 Jul (RS).

Baird's Sandpiper: arr 1 G 7 Aug (RS).

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 6 Ogden 23 Jul (WS).

Dunlin: last 1 HB 7 Jun (R)

Stilt Sandpiper: arr 2 IB 23 Aug (RS).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr 1 H 25 Jul (DT), record early; 1 CU 29 Jul (JK), very early.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 2 OB 24 Jul (KG).
Long-billed Dowitcher: arr 2 HB 22 Aug (RS).
Red-necked Phalarope: 1 IB 24-25 Aug (RS, mob).
Parasitic Jaeger: arr 8 HB 26 Aug (WS,DT).
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: 1ad HB 21 Aug (WS); 2 HB 26 Aug (WS,DT).
jaeger species: 3 HB 26 Aug (WS,DT).
Little Gull: arr 1 juv G 21 Aug (DT).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 PE 26 Jun (DSH), 1st summer; 1ad IB 25 Aug (WW).
Glaucous Gull: 1 G 18 Jul (DT, 1st local July record).
Caspian Tern: max 160 BB 24 Aug (DT).
Com. Tern: max 58 HB 26 Aug (WS, DT).
Black Tern: 1 S 6 Jul (sev); 2 HB 21 Aug (WS).

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Com. Nighthawk: last 1 G 6 Jun (KG); arr 3 HP 29 Aug (DT).
Chimney Swift: max 500 T York, LIVI 23 Aug (LK).

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 28 b M 5 Jun (RMc); last 1 BB 13 Jun (TP).
Philadelphia Vireo: last 1b M 5 Jun (RMc).
Com. Raven: ad with yg Naples 1 Jun (DD).

Sedge Wren: 1 S 24 Jun (KG); 1 BB 3-10 Jul (DT, CG).
Gray-cheeked Thrush: last 1b M 5 Jun (RMc).
Swainson's Thrush: last 1 G 10 Jun (JR); arr 1b M 26 Jul (R&CMc).

WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: 1 MU 21 Jul (KG).
Yellow Warbler: max 56 b M 23 Jul (R&CMc).
Prairie Warbler: 1 Canadice 13 Jun (RS,NP).
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 1 G 30 Aug (KG).
Blackpoll Warbler: last 1b M 11 Jun (RMc); arr 1 HB 27 Aug (R&SS,DS).
Wilson's Warbler: last 1 b M 7 Jun (RMc).
Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 all Jun GE (JK).

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: 2-3 H Jun & Jul (sev); 1-3 GE Jun & Jul (JK).
Henslow's Sparrow: 1 GE Jun (JK); 2 GE Jul (JK).
White-crowned Sparrow: 1 HP 6-17 Jun (D&KT); 1 G 25 Jun (KG), singing; 1 HP 12-18 Jul (D&KT).
Dark-eyed Junco: 1 Pittsford 11 Jun (DT), nest.
Lapland Longspur: 1 PA 31 Aug (DT), record early.
Dickcissel: 1 HB 27 Jul (RS), early.
Rusty Blackbird: arr 1 S 16,19 Aug (DN,BM,JK), very unusual in summer.

