

## REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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“Normal” was the word for the weather in the summer of 2007. June and August were a little warmer and a little drier than normal, but July was a little cooler and wetter. The average temperature departures were June, +1.9F°, July, -1.8F°, and August, +1.2F°. The precipitation departures were June, -0.99", July, +1.24", and August, -0.53".

The relatively dry summer was a boon to the Ring-billed Gull colony which suffered major losses of young when the colony on an island in the Chemung River in Elmira was flooded at the peak of nesting in June 2006. It should have been a good summer for the nesting of birds in general, though the Region's birders offered little in comments on breeding activity.

There was also little to report in regard to unusual species. A Eurasian Wigeon spent a couple of days at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge in June, and an American White Pelican spent a few days there in August. An injured Rusty Blackbird was also observed at the refuge in early August (in Region 2).

Perhaps the most gratifying report was of 18 Upland Sandpiper at the Seneca Farm Days Fairgrounds. This was the largest number reported in the Region in more than ten years.

The most exciting observations of the summer were of winter finches. As many as 22 Red Crossbills were reported in Summerhill State Forest in August, and there was also a June report from Danby. Wesley Hochachka reported one White-winged Crossbill in Northeast Ithaca. Evening Grosbeak reports came from three scattered locations, one in Chemung County and two in Tompkins County. All three species of winter finches were observed in spruce trees.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

MNWR – Montezuma NWR; MWC – Montezuma Wetlands Complex; MyPt – Myers Pt TOMP; SSF – Summerhill State Forest CAYU; StP – Stewart P TOMP.

### WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

**Snow Goose:** Seneca L SP 1 Jul; 3 MNWR 18 Aug.

**Canada Goose:** max 500 MNWR (RBA), high.

**Mute Swan:** MWC 26 Jun (RG), only report.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 4 MNWR 17 Jun (JSI), high.

**Gadwall:** max 13 MWC (MAn, TL, CW), high.

**EURASIAN WIGEON:** MNWR 16-17 Jun.

**Am. Wigeon:** max 15 MNWR 4 Aug (MAn, TL) and 30 Aug (MH, TJ, TL, CW), high.

**N. Shoveler:** max 14 MNWR 25 Aug (RBA), high.

**N. Pintail:** max 4 MNWR 30 Aug (MH, TJ, TL, CW), high.

**Ring-necked Duck:** Big Flats Marsh CHEM 15 Jun; 2 Lindley 7 Jul; arr StP 27 Aug.

**Greater Scaup:** StP 21-22 Aug (TL), early.

**Ruddy Duck:** MNWR 16 Jun (RD), only report.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** Shindagin Hollow TOMP 10Jun (SKe), only report.

**Com. Loon:** 10 Cayuga L 1, 28 Jul (TL).

**Horned Grebe:** Aurora Bay CAYU 11 Aug (CW), only report.

**AM. WHITE PELICAN:** MWC 19-22 Aug.

### HAWKS - ALCIDS

**N. Goshawk:** Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve TOMP 17 Jun (RD), only report.

**Peregrine Falcon:** arr MyPt 12 Aug; max 3 MNWR (RBA), high.

**Black-bellied Plover:** arr MNWR 30 Jul; max 22 Myers Pt 23 Aug.

**Am. Golden-Plover:** arr MyPt 30 Jul; max 4 MNWR 19 Aug.

**Semipalmated Plover:** last 3 George Road Flooded Field TOMP 8 Jun; max 20 MWC 28 Jul; 20 MNWR 26 Aug.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr 2 MNWR 10 Jul; max 16 MNWR 25 Aug.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 125 MWC 4 Aug.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 17 Jun (DW); max "lots" MNWR 18 Aug.

**Upland Sandpiper:** max 18 Seneca Farm Days Fairgrounds SENE 5 Aug (RD, CWi), high.

**Whimbrel:** Myers Pt 23 Aug (CW), only report.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** arr Myers Pt 23 Aug.

**Sanderling:** arr Myers Pt 17 Aug, late; max 2 StP 21 Aug.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** last MNWR 9 Jun; arr 4 MWC 28 Jul; max 130 MNWR 3 Aug.

**Least Sandpiper:** last Steele Ponds STEU 18 Jun; arr 2 Steele Ponds 28 Jun (GS), early; max 80 MNWR 3 Aug.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** last MNWR 9 Jun; arr MNWR 3 Aug; max 5 MWC 25 Aug.  
**Pectoral Sandpiper:** last George Road Flooded Field TOMP 9 Jun, late (CW); arr 4 MWC 21 Jul; max 14 MNWR 30 Aug.  
**Stilt Sandpiper:** arr 7 MNWR 28 Jul; max 7 MNWR 28 Jul-Aug 3.  
**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** MNWR 25-26 Aug, only report.  
**Short-billed Dowitcher:** last MyPt 1 Jun (SKr), late; arr 5 MWC 24 Jul; max 11 StP 25 Aug.  
**Long-billed Dowitcher:** arr MNWR 3 Aug; max 10 MNWR 26 Aug (JB, MH, TL, GSe), high.  
**Wilson's Phalarope:** arr 2 MWC 7-9 Jul.  
**Red-necked Phalarope:** arr 2 StP 18-20 Aug; 2 MWC 19 Aug.  
**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr Aurora 1 Jul (TL), early.  
**Great Black-backed Gull:** arr 5 StP 14 Jun (PA), early.  
**Caspian Tern:** arr StP 19 Jun; max 78 StP 9 Aug.  
**Black Tern:** max 22 MNWR 9 Jun & 28 Jul.

#### PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

**E. Screech-Owl:** max 4 Northeast Ithaca 20 June (fide MW), high.  
**Barred Owl:** max 6 Finger Lakes National Forest 9 Jun.  
**Com. Nighthawk:** arr Ithaca 29 Aug.

#### FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr Dryden L Trail 11 Aug (SF!), early.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** arr North Ithaca 22 Aug.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr Caroline 28 Aug.  
**Horned Lark:** max 18 Seneca Farm Days Fairgrounds SENE 21 Aug (TJ), high.  
**Bank Swallow:** max 10,000 MNWR 4 Aug (ZB, CF, WR), high.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** arr MNWR 14 Aug; max 5 StP 19-21 Aug.  
**Swainson's Thrush:** arr 2 nocturnal migrants Etna 12 Aug.  
**European Starling:** max 40,000 MNWR 13 Aug (TL), high.

#### WARBLERS

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr 3 Dryden 27 Aug (KMc), only report.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr Kestrel Haven Avian Migration Observatory SCHU 17 Jul (J&SGr), very early.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 3 SSF 1 Aug, low.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** arr Sapsucker Woods 24 Aug; max 2 Sapsucker Woods 29 Aug..  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** last StP 19 Jun (DNu), late.  
**Mourning Warbler:** max 3 Shindagin Hollow State Forest 16 Jun, low.

#### TANAGERS - WEAVERS

**Vesper Sparrow:** Savannah Mucklands 4 Aug (MAN, TL), only report.  
**Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 3 Ledyard 30 Jul, low.  
**RUSTY BLACKBIRD:** injured MNWR 5 Aug (RD, CWi).  
**Com. Grackle:** max 50,000 MNWR 13 Aug (TL), high.  
**RED CROSSBILL:** 4 Danby 30 June (BE); max 22 SSF 1 Aug (MI, TL, CW); 2 SSF 13 Aug (GB, DNu).  
**WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL:** North Ithaca 22 Jul (WH!).  
**Pine Siskin:** StP 24 Aug (MAN), only report.  
**EVENING GROSBEAK:** Prospect Hill CHEM 1 Aug (MP); 2 Hammond Hill State Forest TOMP 5 Aug (CW); Jennings Pd TOMP 26 Aug (BE).

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