

REGION 9—HUDSON - DELAWARE

Michael Bochnik

86 Empire Street, Yonkers, NY 10704

The season started with a ten inch snowfall in Sullivan County on 1 March. It was quickly followed by an unusual warm spell 3-6 March, with Poughkeepsie reaching 69° F on the fifth. Most of the Region then saw little additional snow. March ended up wet, with about 1.5" of precipitation above the norm. April was warm and dry, 3° above normal and an inch of precipitation less than average. May was cold, wet, and windy. Drizzle and low cloud cover on 2-3 May produced a good fallout at Bashakill marsh. Many first of the year migrants were seen then.

Two Greater White-fronted Geese were found in Pine Plains 9 March, another was located in Round Pond, Town of North East, 18 and 19 March. A Cackling Goose found in Rockland Lake by Drew Ciganek and Gene Brown on 18 March and seen again on the 22nd produced Rockland's first county record since it became a full species. A Trumpeter Swan was photographed by Curt McDermot at the Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge and stayed for three days in mid April. Tundra Swans were reported from four locations during March, with nine on Oil City Road 16 March. Both Surf and White-winged Scoter were

found inland, but there were no reports of Black Scoter even from Long Island Sound.

Horned Grebes seemed to be everywhere in March and early April. A staggering 74 were found at the Edith G. Read Preserve on 5 April. Red-necked Grebes were found at Bashakill, Edith G. Read Preserve, Chelsea, and Pine Island.

Dave Klauber found an adult **MISSISSIPPI KITE** on Sunday 25 May at 10:25 AM at the northern end of the Bashakill. Bob May refound the bird overhead at Haven Road an hour later, and John Haas, Ari Gilbert, and Arlene Borko were also able to view Sullivan County's third record (see Fig D, p. 262).

Sandhill Crane sightings are on the increase. Joe Cullen found one at the Bashakill on 26 April. It remained for about two hours and many birders were fortunate to see this bird. It eventually took to the air and headed north. It was Sullivan County's second record. The sighting was repeated at Bashakill on 3 and 4 May, when another Sandhill Crane appeared. The following day, Curt McDermot found two Sandhills nearby on Oil City Road in Pine Plains.

A number of Upland Sandpipers were found away from Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge. Three were at Montgomery Airport on 2 April and another bird was in Westchester County in Rye the same day. The following day one appeared off McDonald Road in Wurtsboro.

There was a rash of Bonaparte's Gulls inland from the beginning of April through mid May.

Rodney Johnson had an early passerine fallout on 19 April on Hilltop Road in Rhinebeck. It included two Nashville, one Magnolia, 25 Yellow-rumped, seven Blackburnian, six Pine, and 20 Palm warblers. A Mourning Warbler was unusually early at Bashakill on 3 May, observed by many people. A **Summer Tanager** was found in Wurtsboro 29 April for Sullivan County's first record and another was found in Pleasant Valley on 10 May.

A birder who decided to delay mowing until late June to encourage Bobolinks in Pine Plains, Dutchess County was rewarded with a Grasshopper Sparrow on 14 May. Another Grasshopper Sparrow was found with the Upland Sandpiper in Wurtsboro on 3 April. A number of White-crowned Sparrows were reported this spring from Poughkeepsie, Vassar Farm, Bashakill, and Rockland Lake.

The Dutchess County Spring Census recorded 161 species on 17 May. Species with new high counts included: Red-tailed Hawk, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Common Raven, Dark-eyed Junco, and Orchard Oriole. Hooded Warbler tied their highest count. Wilson's Warbler and Vesper Sparrow counts were very high. 16 Pine Siskins were the first since 2001. The warbler species count was 28, which is average. Mallard and Belted Kingfisher had low counts, and no American Black Ducks were found.

And to round out the report, the incredibly accommodating Montgomery **HOARY REDPOLL** stayed until at least 22 March. Other notable species

include: Red Knot, "Lawrence's" Warbler, Lapland Longspur, Common Redpoll, and Evening Grosbeak.

CONTRIBUTORS

Jane Alexander, Janet Allison, John Askildsen, Steven Beal, Kelli Bochnik, Michael Bochnik, Arlene Borko, Bob Bowler, Gene Brown, Tom Burke, Barbara Butler, Brent Bomkamp, Benjamin Cacace, Drew Ciganek, Mary Collier, Joe Cullen, Renee Davis, Ed DeBellevue, Evan Edelbaum, Ken & Sue Feustel, Bill Fiero, Dot Fleury, Carol & Ken Fredericks, Valerie Freer, Steve Golladay, Marge Gorton, Christine Guarino, Richard Guthrie, John Haas, Philip Henson, Rodney Johnson, David Jordet, Susan Joseph, Bonnie Koop, Debi Kral, Veronika Krause, Kirsten Lewis, Robert Lewis, Jim Marks, Curt McDermot, Ken McDermott, Matthew Medler, Barbara & Allan Michelin, Steve Oresman, Brian O'Rourke, Amy Pickering, Carena Pooth, Greg Prelich, Steve Sachs, William Schlesinger, Rob Stone, Kenneth Thompson, Lance Verderame, Chet Vincent, Jane Waters, Carol Weiss, Joe Woleader, Adam Zorn.

ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point Park; DCSC – Dutchess County Spring Census; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge; WNWR – Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: 2 Pine Plains 9 Mar (TB,CV); Round Pd, North East 18,19 Mar (DF).

Snow Goose: blue morph Unionvale 19, 20 Mar; 1200 Piermont Marsh 28 Mar.

CAACKLING GOOSE: Rockland L 18, 22 Mar (DC, GB), first county record.

Canada Goose: 1500 WNWR5 Mar.

Brant: 520 Bashakill 11 May; 600 MC 11 May; 3 Piermont Pier 27 May.

Tundra Swan: Stissing L 9 Mar (TB,DK,CV); Round Pd, North East 11 Mar - 1 Apr

(CV,K&CF, DF, MP); 9 Oil City Rd 16 Mar (KM,CM); Amenia 20-25 Mar (SO).

Trumpeter: ph WNWR, Pine Island 15-17 Apr (CM).

Blue-winged Teal: 2 Oil City Rd 16 Mar; 2 Round Pd, North East 20 Mar.

N. Pintail: 40 Bashakill 15 Mar; 225

WNWR16 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: 45 6½-Station Marsh 16 Mar.

Canvasback: 19 EGR 3, 4 Mar; Bashakill 15, 22 Mar.

Redhead: 42 Warwick 2 Mar.

Ring-necked Duck: 300 Bashakill 14 Mar; 300 WNWR16 Mar; 120 Newburgh 16 Mar; 600 Bashakill 22Mar; 300 Yankee L 1 Apr.

Greater Scaup: 20 EGR 15 Mar.

Lesser Scaup: 200 EGR 3,7,15,22,26,29 Mar; 24 EGR 18 Apr.

Surf Scoter: 10 EGR 15 Mar; Yankee L 11 Apr; 12 EGR 7 Apr.

White-winged Scoter: Kiamesha L 12 Apr; 2 Kiamesha L 8 May.

Long-tailed Duck: 140 EGR 15 Mar; 2 Bashakill 5 Apr; 4 Neversink Res 7 Apr; 2 Yankee L 8, 11 Apr; 60 EGR 13 Apr.
Bufflehead: 15 EGR 5 Apr.
Com. Goldeneye: 10 EGR 12 Mar.
Red-breasted Merganser: 30 EGR 5 Apr; 1-2 Kiamasha L 11-12 Apr.
Ring-necked Pheasant: 1-2 MC thru.
Red-throated Loon: 9 EGR 15 Mar.
Pied-billed Grebe: Bashakill 14 Mar.
Horned Grebe: Waryas P, Poughkeepsie 5 Mar; Piermont Pier 10 Mar; Bashakill 14, 15 Mar; 5 Washington L, Newburgh 16 Mar; 2-3 Sylvan L, Beekman 20-21 Mar; 5 Bashakill 22-23 Mar; 6 Bashakill 28 Mar; 28 EGR 29 Mar; 1-2 Yankee L 30 Mar, 1, 6 Apr; 74 EGR 5 Apr; 3 Kiamasha L 11 Apr; 3 Orange L 14 Apr.
Red-necked Grebe: Bashakill 17 Mar; EGR 6, 7 Apr; Chelsea 15, 18 Apr; Pine Island 16 Apr.
N. Gannet: EGR 15 Mar; 9 EGR 22 Mar; 20 EGR 7 Apr.
Great Cormorant: 2 Rhinebeck 19 Mar.
Am. Bittern: 3 Bashakill 26 Apr.
Great Egret: MC 16 Mar; Humpo Marsh 12 Apr; Dennings Pt 16 Apr; 10 MC 11 May.
Snowy Egret: MC 16 Apr.
Black Vulture: 7 Pine Island, Oil City Rd area 2 Mar.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

MISSISSIPPI KITE: ad Bashakill 25 May, 3rd SULL record.
Bald Eagle: nest Stony Point Battlefield Mar-May.
N. Goshawk: Buttercup Sanctuary 27 Mar; Westbrookville 3 May.
Broad-winged Hawk: arr 9 Apr; 420 Hook Mt 13 Apr.
Red-tailed Hawk: 97 DCSC 17 May.
Rough-legged Hawk: 6 Pine Island, Oil City Rd area 2 Mar; 4 SGNWR 2 Mar.
Golden Eagle: 1 ad, 1 imm Ellenville 5 Mar; Rhinebeck 6 Apr; Piermont Pier 28 May.
Clapper Rail: 6 MC 29 May.
Sora: Bashakill 4, 8, 10 May.
Com. Moorhen: Bashakill 2 May; 3 Bashakill 5 May.
Sandhill Crane: Bashakill 26 Apr (JC); 2 Oil City Rd, Pine I. 1, 5 May (CM); Bashakill 3, 4 May (RD, MG).
Black-bellied Plover: 7 MC 20 May.
Semipalmated Plover: 6 MC 18 May.
Am. Oystercatcher: 2 EGR 7, 9 Apr; 5 Rye 21 Apr; 5 MC 1 May; 3 Rye 27 May.
Greater Yellowlegs: 22 MC 6 May.

Lesser Yellowlegs: Oil City Rd 15, 19 Apr; 2 Bashakill 30 Apr - 2 May; Piermont Pier 27 May.

Willot: MC 1 May.

Upland Sandpiper: 3 Montgomery Airport 2 Apr (CM); Rye 2 May (TB), McDonald Rd, Wurtsboro 3 May (JH); 2 SGNWR 17 May.

Ruddy Turnstone: arr 16 May; Piermont Pier 27 May (GB).

Red Knot: 2 Rye 23 May.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 6 MC 8 May.

Least Sandpiper: 16 MC 16 May.

Pectoral sandpiper: 5 Oil City Rd 17-19 Apr; 2 Bashakill 11 May.

Purple Sandpiper: 35 EGR 15 Mar; 14 Rye 23 May.

Dunlin: 2 Oil City Rd 17-19 Apr.

Laughing Gull: 3 MC 14 May.

Bonaparte's Gull: 4 Yankee L 1 Apr; Bashakill 5, 14 Apr; 40 EGR 5, 6 Apr; 6 Yankee L 6, 11 Apr; Humpo Marsh 12 Apr; 5 Dennings Pt 16 Apr; 2 Poughkeepsie 29 Apr; 7 Westbrookville 3 May; 68 Bridgeville, over the Neversink River 11 May.

Caspian Tern: 5 6-1/2-Station Rd. Goshen 12 Apr.

Com. Tern: 80 Rye 13 May.

Forster's Tern: 2 MC 19 Apr; 7 MC 1 May; 2 MC 18 May.

Least Tern: 3 MC 15 May.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Monk Parakeet: MC 25 Apr; 2 EGR 23 May.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr 4 May.

Long-eared Owl: 3 CPP 1-2, 15 Mar.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Stanfdville 6 Mar; Wappingers 24 Apr.

Com. Nighthawk: arr 10 May.

Whip-poor-will: arr Bashakill 26 Apr.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 46 DCSC 17 May.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook 10 May; 2 Doodletown 17, 24 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Doodletown 28 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: Bashakill 10, 18 May.

Alder Flycatcher: 2 Wurtsboro 17 May.

E. Phoebe: Marshlands 1 Mar.

N. Shrike: 1-2 Bashakill 6, 15 Mar; Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook 15 Mar; Vassar Farm 23 Mar.

White-eyed Vireo: arr 2 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr Millbrook 18 Apr.

Philadelphia Vireo: Hastings-on-Hudson 10 May; Westmoreland Sanctuary 10 May; Doodletown 14 May.
Com. Raven: 19 DCSC 17 May.
Horned Lark: 60 Stanford 2 Mar.
Tree Swallow: Bashakill 6 Mar.
Bank Swallow: 12 Roundout Res 8 May.
Cliff Swallow: 25 Roundout Res 8 May.
Marsh Wren: Ryder Pond, Millbrook 16 Mar, early; 2 Tivoli 25 Apr; Bashakill 4, 24 May; 4 MC 6 May.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: Westmoreland Sanctuary 23 May.
Gray Catbird: arr north 14 Mar.
Am. Pipit: 7 McDonald Rd, Wurtsboro 3 May;

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 24 Apr.
Golden-winged Warbler: Mine Rd, Highland Falls 2, 24 May; McDonald Rd, Wurtsboro 4, 8 May; Summitville 11 May; 7 Sterling Forest 25 May.
"Lawrence's" Warbler: Tivoli Bay 26 Apr; Ellenville 2 May; Bashakill 10, 14 May.
Nashville Warbler: 2 Rhinebeck 19 Apr.
Magnolia Warbler: Rhinebeck 19 Apr.
Cape May Warbler: Rye Nature Center 7 May; Stony Point Battlefield 11 May; 2 Millbrook School 14 May; 2 Millbrook 15 May; 2 Port Jervis 15 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 15 Bashakill 2 May; 7 Pawling Preserve 11 May.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 25 Rhinebeck 19 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: 7 Rhinebeck 19 Apr (RJ).
Pine Warbler: 6 Rhinebeck 19 Apr (RJ).
Prairie Warbler: arr 29 Apr.
Palm Warbler: 25 Tarrytown Res 13 Apr (EE); 20 Rhinebeck 19 Apr (RJ).
Cerulean Warbler: arr Doodletown 2 May.
Worm-eating Warbler: arr Beekman 25-27 Apr.
Ovenbird: 20 Pawling Preserve 11 May (C&KF).
N. Waterthrush: 8 Rockland L SP 19 May.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 6 Apr.
Mourning Warbler: Bashakill 3 May (JH, mob), early; Doodletown 24 May; Bashakill 26 May; MC 30 May.

Hooded Warbler: arr 2 May; 13 DCSC 17 May.
Wilson's Warbler: 11 DCSC 17 May.
Yellow-breasted Chat: Brinton Brook Sanctuary 7 May (PH).

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

SUMMER TANAGER: Wurtsboro 29 Apr (JH, AB, RD, MG), 1st SULL record; Pleasant Valley 10 May (BBow).
Am. Tree Sparrow: 80 CPP 1 Mar; last MC Apr 14.
Vesper Sparrow: 4 DCSC 17 May.
Grasshopper Sparrow: McDonald Rd, Wurtsboro 3, 4 May; 1-2 Pine Plains 14-20 May.
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow: MC 11 May.
Seaside Sparrow: MC 18, 20 May.
Song Sparrow: 36 CPP 1 Mar.
White-crowned Sparrow: Bashakill 13 Apr; Poughkeepsie 25 Apr; 3 Vassar Farm 27 Apr; few Bashakill 2 May; 2 Rockland L 7 May; Bashakill 20 May.
Dark-eyed Junco: 8 DCSC 17 May.
Lapland Longspur: 3 Montgomery 3 Mar; Ashokan Reservoir 3 Mar (JM).
Red-winged Blackbird: 1000 WNWR 5 Mar; 1200 SGNWR 6 Mar.
E. Meadowlark: arr 12 May.
Rusty Blackbird: 25 Bashakill 15 Mar.
blackbird sp: 25,000 Montgomery Airport 5 Mar (CM).
Orchard Oriole: arr 24 Apr; more on 3 May at sev loc; 26 DCSC 17 May.
Baltimore Oriole: Newburgh 20 Apr.
Purple Finch: huge flight over Rhinebeck 11, 12 Apr; 23 Milan 12 Apr; 15 Poughquag 12 Apr; 32 Stanfordville 12 Apr.
Com. Redpoll: 14 Montgomery 1-3 Mar; 3 Yonkers 14 Mar; Highland Falls 16 Apr; many scattered reports from Dutchess and Sullivan most of March, few thru mid Apr.
HOARY REDPOLL: Montgomery 1-5, 17, 22 Mar (CM, MB, KB).
Pine Siskin: small fight moving back north on 2-4 May; still present Bashakill 10 May; 16 DCSC 17 May.
Evening Grosbeak: 12 Kauneonga L early Mar; 19 Kauneonga L early Apr; 4 Parksville 25 Apr.