

REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The season started off on a very chilly note. The low for Poughkeepsie on the first day of June was only 37°. A Nor'easter type storm on 5 June missed the Region just to the south but still gave the area a decent soak. June turned out to be incredibly wet. Poughkeepsie recorded 9.22" of rain. The norm is only 3.73". Only six days of the month had no trace of rain and the high never went above 84° F. For the month Poughkeepsie came in 1.6° cooler than normal and White Plains 3.4° colder. July continued wet, with 6.72" of rain, 4.72" above the norm, in Poughkeepsie, and it remained very cool. A strong trough of low pressure parked itself over the eastern portion of the U.S., funneling down plenty of cold air from Canada. Half of the days in July never reached 80°, the other days were in the low eighties except one, 28 July, which reached 87°. The month averaged 3.1° below normal. August was slightly drier and warmer than normal, with no heat waves or unusually cool temperatures.

Highlights from the Westchester part of the Greenwich-Stamford Summer Bird Count, held the weekend of 13-14 June, included a Gadwall in Rye, three White-winged Scoters off Edith G. Read Preserve, and a Blackpoll Warbler at Marshlands Conservancy along with five Clapper Rails and a Ruddy Turnstone. The islands off Rye in Long Island Sound hosted Black-bellied Plover, Forster's Terns, two Willets, and a Sanderling. Common Ravens were at Myers Preserve and in White Plains. The marshes along the coast of Rye provided twenty-four Marsh Wrens and five Saltmarsh Sparrows. A few Pine Siskins were also present for the count.

Jack Haber discovered an American White Pelican on the Hudson River in Kingston on 8 July. Mark DeDea was contacted and was able to get the word out so that a number of people observed the bird for the next two days between Kingston and Port Ewen. There were no reports after the morning of the 10th after the bird lifted and disappeared up the channel into Roundout Creek. Numerous checks along the creek failed to find the bird.

Nancy Slowik found a Least Bittern at dusk in her driveway near Tallman State Forest on 28 July. The bird was disoriented and was taken to a rehabilitator. It was treated for parasites.

Evan Mark discovered an American Golden-Plover at Piermont Pier 17 August. The bird was videotaped and posted to YouTube. This is Rockland County's third record. Montgomery had a single bird the same day along with a White-rumped Sandpiper. They were seen by multiple observers. The black dirt region near Pine Island in Orange County hosted larger flocks of American Golden-Plover with a high of 30 birds on 29 August. The Region also hosted an Upland Sandpiper, a Sanderling, Baird's Sandpipers, two Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and two Red-necked Phalarope. A Whimbrel was found by Alan Mapes on 29 August while kayaking at Vanderburg Cove. This is the second

sighting in Dutchess County. The first was in 2004. Piermont Pier hosted three Short-billed Dowitchers on 27 July. A boat trip 16 August by Tom Burke, Gail Benson, and Bob Shriber out to Hen and Scotch Cap Islands yielded 43 Semipalmated Plover, 180 Ruddy Turnstone, 23 Short-billed Dowitcher, 275 Semipalmated Sandpiper, three Willet, one Sanderling, and a White-rumped Sandpiper.

Tom and Elda Dow, Ed Treacy, and Jack Focht observed a Caspian Tern at Piermont Pier 27 July. Jim Vellozzi observed a large single tern flying up the Hudson River at the Yonkers JFK Marina the next day which was most likely another Caspian. Carol Weiss had two Caspian Terns back at Piermont on 25 August.

Sullivan County produced two nice finds on 22 August. Lance Verderame found a Black Tern on Neversink Reservoir. John Haas and Arlene Borko were able to get there and view the bird before it circled skyward and headed south. Later John and Arlene were greeted by two Caspian Terns making their way from the south west end of the Bashakill, past them on Haven Road, then gradually up and over the mountains to the northeast.

On the afternoon of 16 June, Curt McDermott heard a singing Sedge Wren at Benedict Park, Montgomery. He was unable to locate it but came back in the evening with his father Ken and they were able to get great looks at the bird, as well as a pair of Grasshopper Sparrows. The bird stayed for over a month into July affording plenty of birders who patiently waited good looks at the bird. In July it appeared to be on territory.

The Mohonk Preserve Research Center's Breeding Bird Census team found a male **Western Tanager** 8 June. The bird was flying between various small trees in a field and ended up flying into thicker cover along the field. At one point it was chased by an Eastern Bluebird.

Rich Guthrie posted on the New York Birding List a second hand report of a banded flamingo observed and photographed at Croton Point in the second week of August. Curiously a banded American Flamingo was observed in Rhode Island on 6 August with a band on its left leg. I contacted the naturalist at Croton Point Park but he was unable to confirm who saw and took the photo. The photo showed a **Flamingo**, pale pink, foraging among some Canada Geese in a wetland pool. The bird had a band. It was there one day and then gone the next.

Other notable species include Little Blue Heron, "Lawrence's" Warbler, and Vesper Sparrow.

CONTRIBUTORS

Bob Adamo, Gail Benson, Michael Bochnik, Arlene Borko, Lynn & Allan Bowdery, Tom Burke, Barbara Butler, Drew Ciganek, John Deans, Mark DeDea, Benjamin Van Doren, Tom and Elda Dow, Paul Dubuc, Ruth Elwell, Jack Focht, Christine Guarino, Jack Haber, John Haas, Cornelia Harris, Ken Harris, Chris Healy, Rodney Johnson, Susan Joseph, Michael Lester, Alan Mapes, Evan Mark, Liz Martens, Curt McDermott, Ken McDermott, Gene
The Kingbird 2009 December; 59 (4)

McGarry, John McNeil, Doris Metraux, Elizabeth Moffett, Dennis Murphy, Carena Pooth, Peter Schoenberger, Bob Shriber, Steve Schuyler, Nancy Slowik, Ed Spaeth, Rob Stone, Ed Treacy, Lance Verderame, Jim Vellozzi, Francois Vuilleumier, Jane Waters, Carol Weiss, Alan Wells & Della Wells.

ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point Park; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; GSSBC – Greenwich-Stamford Summer Bird Count; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; RNC – Rye Nature Center; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Brant: 20 Waryas P, Poughkeepsie 10 Jun; 2 EGR 17 Jun.
Gadwall: Rye 14 Jun (GSSBC).
Blue-winged Teal: Wappingers Lake 19 Aug.
Greater Scaup: Piermont Pier 26 Jun (CW).
White-winged Scoter: 3 EGR 14 Jun (GSSBC).
Hooded Merganser: f Clinton Nature Garden, Rhinebeck 6 Jun.
Ring-necked Pheasant: MC 1 Jun.
Com. Loon: Chelsea 10 Jun; 2 EGR 17 Jun; Rhinebeck 5 Aug.
flamingo, sp: CPP 2nd week August (RG), see *intro*.
Am. White Pelican: Kingston Point, Pt Ewen 8, 9, 10 Jul (PS,JaH, MD, GM, LM, SJ).
Least Bittern: Piermont 26 Jun (CW); near Tallman SP 28 Jul (NS); Tivoli Bays 31 Jul (Cha).
Snowy Egret: Lower Wappingers Creek HRA 9 Aug.
Little Blue Heron: Wiccopee HRA 20 Aug (ES).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Clapper Rail: 5 MC 14 Jun.
Black-bellied Plover: Scotch Caps I 14 Jun; 6 MC 10 Aug.
Am. Golden-Plover: Piermont Pier 17 Aug (EM,CW,ML) Rockland's 3rd record; Montgomery 17 Aug; 5 Pine Island 23 Aug; 30 Pine Island 29 Aug; 20 Pine Island 30 Aug.
Semipalmated Plover: Rye 31 Jul; 32 MC 10 Aug; 43 Hen I 16 Aug; Montgomery 17 Aug; Piermont Pier 17 Aug.
Am. Oystercatcher: 4 EGR 1-30 Jun; 5 Rye 27 Jun; 12 Rye 1 Jul; 5 MC 10 Jul; 9 Scotch Cap I 16 Aug.
Spotted Sandpiper: MC 1 Jun.
Greater Yellowlegs: 7 MC 16 Aug.

Willet: 2 Hen I 14 Jun (GSSBC); 2 Scotch Cap Island 16 Aug (TB, GB, BS); Hen I 16 Aug.
Upland Sandpiper: 4 SGNWR 14 Jun; Pine Island 28 Aug.
Whimbrel: Vanderburg Cove 29 Aug (AM).
Ruddy Turnstone: MC 1 Jun (TB); Scotch Caps I 14 Jun (GSSBC); 180 Scotch Cap Island 16 Aug (TB, GB, BS); Piermont Pier 17 Aug (FV).
Sanderling: Scotch Caps I 14 Jun (GSSBC); Pine Island 22-23 Aug (CM, RS, JoH, DMu, KM); Scotch Caps I 16 Aug (TB, GB, BS).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 140 MC 5 Aug; 275 Hen I 16 Aug.
White-rumped Sandpiper: Scotch Cap Island 16 Aug (TB, GB, BS); Montgomery 17 Aug (CM, RS, JoH, DMu, KM);.
Baird's Sandpiper: Pine Island 28 Aug (CM,RS,JoH,DMu,KM); Goshen 25 Aug (CM,RS,JoH,DMu,KM); 2 Pine Island 29 Aug (CM,RS,JoH,DMu,KM); 7 Pine Island 30 Aug (CM).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Montgomery 17 Aug; Piermont Pier 17-31 Aug.
Purple Sandpiper: 5 Rye early Jun (TB).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2 Pine Island 29, 30 Aug (CM,RS,JoH,DMu,KM).
Short-billed Dowitcher: 3 Piermont Pier 27 Jul (CW); 7 MC 10 Aug; 18 Hen I 16 Aug.
Red-necked Phalarope: 2 Pine Island 23 Aug (CM,RS,JoH,DMu,KM); Wallkill NWR, Oil City Rd 29 Aug (CM,RS,JoH,DMu,KM).
Laughing Gull: 6 EGR 17 Jun; 20 MC 10 Aug; 60 Scotch Cap I 16 Aug.
Least Tern: 3 MC 6 Aug.
Caspian Tern: Piermont Pier 27 Jul (T&ED, ET, JF); Piermont Pier 8 Aug (DC); 2 Bashakill 22 Aug (JoH, ABor); 2 Piermont Pier 25 Aug (CW).
Royal/Caspian Tern: Yonkers 28 Jul (JV).

Black Tern: Neversink Res 22 Aug (LV, JoH, ABor).
Com. Tern: 200 Rye 3 Jun; 250 Rye 7 Jul; Norrie Point 8 Aug.
Forster's Tern: 2-3 Scotch Caps I 14 Jun; 2 Rye 27 Jun; Piermont Pier 8 Aug (DC).

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Com. Nighthawk: 12 Stony Point 30 Aug.
Red-headed Woodpecker: imm Pearl River 7 Aug.
Pileated Woodpecker: 9 Ward Pound Ridge P 13 Jun.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Doodletown 4 Jun.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Cooley Road Bog, Parksville 27-28 Jun (LV).
Acadian Flycatcher: 3 Amenia 10 Jun; Pawling Nature Preserve 13 Jun; Mianus River Gorge 14 Jun; Nuclear L, Pawling 20 Jun; Thompson Pond 22 Jul.
White-eyed Vireo: Millbrook 8 Jul; Reese Sanctuary, Wappingers Falls 5, 14 Aug.
Blue-headed Vireo: 2 Amenia 10 Jun; Mt beacon 14 Jul; Cary Arboretum 15 Jul; LaGrange 15 Jul.
Com. Raven: 3 Myers Preserve 14 Jun; 4 White Plains 14 Jun.
Purple Martin: 6 EGR 3 Jun; 2 EGR 31 Jul.
Bank Swallow: 2 EGR 14 Jun; MC 10 Jul.
Winter Wren: 2 with young Deep Hollow 15 Aug.
Sedge Wren: Benedict Farm Park, Montgomery 16 Jun-12 Jul (CM).
Marsh Wren: 24 Rye 14 Jun; 5 MC 5 Jul; 3 Thompson Pond 22 Jul; 2 Rhinebeck 5 Aug.
Veery: 14 Buttercup East 1 Jul.
Hermit Thrush: LaGrange 15 Jul; feeding young Cary Arboretum 15 Jul.

WARBLERS

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: Cary Arboretum-IES, Washington Hollow 1 Jun-31 Jul; Rockefeller SP Preserve 13 Aug (EMA).

Magnolia Warbler: MC 1 Jun; 3 Nellie Hill Preserve 3 Jun.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 2 Pawling Nature Preserve 13 Jun.
Black-throated Green Warbler: 5 Amenia 10 Jun; MC 12 Jun; 5 Pawling Nature Preserve 13 Jun; 5 Mianus River Gorge 14 Jun.
Blackburnian Warbler: MC 1 Jun.
Blackpoll Warbler: MC 1 Jun; Rye 14 Jun (GSSBC).
Cerulean Warbler: 3 Nuclear L 20 Jun.
Am. Redstart: MC 1 Jun.
Worm-eating Warbler: 5 Ward Pound Ridge 13 Jun; 3 Pawling Nature Preserve 13 Jun; 11 Mianus River Gorge 14 Jun.
Louisiana Waterthrush: 18 Ward Pound Ridge 13 Jun; 6 Pawling Nature Preserve 13 Jun.
Hooded Warbler: 6 Pawling Nature Preserve 13.
Canada Warbler: Scot’s Cap I 13 Jun.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: 2 Red Hook 28 Jun(BB); 4 Red Hook 5 Jul.
Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 Pine Plains 3 Jun; 2 Benedict Park, Montgomery 16 Jun; 4 Red Hook 28 Jun; 2 Red Hook 5 Jul.
Saltmarsh Sparrow: 5 Rye 14 Jun.
Scarlet Tanager: 9 Mianus River Gorge 14 Jun.
WESTERN TANAGER: Mohonk Preserve 8 Jun (L&AB,RE,EMo).
Pine Siskin: Rye 1, 2 Jun; 2 at feeder White Plains 11 June (Benjamin Van Doren); 7 Ward Pound Ridge 13 Jun; 3 Greenwood Cemetery 14 Jun (GSSBC); 7 Pound Ridge 14 Jun (GSSBC); Hyde Park 19 Jun (SJ); Poughquag 30 Jul (CP).

EXOTICS:

Yellow-fronted Canary: Piermont Pier 22 Aug (DC, CW, A&DW).

