

REGION 9—HUDSON - DELAWARE

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The summer season was very warm and very dry. Poughkeepsie had twenty-five days with a high of 90° F or more; sixteen of them were in July. That month contained two brutal heat waves. In early July, a large ridge of high pressure forced air to slowly descend across the Northeast, preventing clouds from forming and creating a record breaking heat wave for the area from 4-8 July. Yonkers reached 103° on 6 July, Poughkeepsie 102°. The second heat wave occurred 15-19 July with temperatures in the low and mid nineties. Overall, June came in 3° above, July 4° above, and August 1° above average. Following a wet spring, June and July were very dry. Only 1.9" fell in June; the normal is 3.7", and July saw 1.4" with the norm being 4.7". August was wet, mainly due to 3.7" of rain falling on Poughkeepsie on 22 August. The month finished with a total of 7" of rain.

A young male King Eider was found off Edith G. Read Sanctuary, Rye on 8 June. It remained in the area until 11 June to make it to the count period for the Greenwich-Stamford Summer Bird Count. Nearby, on Playland Lake, a female Common Eider was discovered along with a Lesser and a Greater Scaup;

all three remained for the count, held on 12 and 13 June. These are the first summer records for both species of eider for Westchester County. Other highlights from the count from Westchester County included 18 Red Knot and a Western Sandpiper off Rye on Scotch Cap Island.

The Queens County Bird Club found a **MISSISSIPPI KITE** during a field trip to Ward Pound Ridge in northern Westchester County on 6 June. Discovered late in the day on Michigan Road, the bird flew over them coming from the east and heading west. If submitted and accepted by NYSARC this would be the second record for Westchester County. The first was in Rye in May 1986. There were two other reports, not submitted to NYSARC, in May and August 1995. Steve Bauer counted six Broad-winged Hawks, two Ospreys, two Am. Kestrels, a Cooper's Hawk, a Bald Eagle, and a Northern Harrier for an early start to the hawk migration season atop Hook Mountain on 22 August.

Common Moorhens were very successful breeders in the Bashakill this season. John Haas observed sixteen from Haven Road on 18 August; ten of them grown chicks. A Sandhill Crane, discovered by John Haas and Arlene Borko, made a brief overnight stop at Bashakill the evening of 1 June. It was seen by a number of birders the next morning before flying off. Possible the same bird was seen the next day on 3 June at Blue Chip Farm in Ulster County by Amy Simmons. Later in the month one was seen in Ellenville on 19 June, followed by a sighting the next day three miles away in the Village of Wawarsing.

A breeding plumaged Black-bellied Plover was found in Morningside Park, Sullivan County on 18 August and was joined by a second individual on the 22nd. During the same period a Black-bellied Plover visited Piermont Pier.

Reports of adult Forster's Terns feeding juveniles off Westchester County in Long Island Sound have continued since first noted in 2003, and pairs have been seen courting as early as 2007, but nesting has yet to be confirmed. Terns are noted to disperse quite far and still feed young. This year brings an even more intriguing sighting. While crabbing from his boat, Drew Ciganek found an adult feeding a juvenile in the Hudson River, on a buoy near a line of pilings far out south of Piermont Pier on 25 July.

In mid-July, the local newspaper reported a story of a Great-horned Owl that was entangled in the huge net that protects the area from a driving range at the Dellwood Country Club in New City. The bird was upside down in the 60-foot-high net, dangling from a claw and a leg. It was carefully disentangled by two club employees wearing masks, leather jackets, and gloves. The owl was taken to the Raptor Trust in New Jersey for care and observation and was expected to be released at Dellwood a week later. Frank Bonanno was fortunate to see a Chimney Swift up close on 12 July when a fledgling perched on his front steps. They've been nesting in the chimney in the house across the street, located in Congers, for the past few years.

John Haas found an unexpected Orange-crowned Warbler on 21 August at Morningside Park.

A singing Dickcissel was discovered west of Florida at the end of Indiana Road on 12 June by Jim Vellozzi. Two Northern Harriers were also in the area and nesting was suspected. A few Grasshopper Sparrows were in the area

grasslands as well. An Upland Sandpiper was also noted nearby on Big Island Road. That same day, Vellozzi found a Kentucky Warbler at Pochuck State Forest. A few days later on 15 June, Ken McDermott the found a pair of Blue Grosbeaks near the Dickcissel location. They were seen sporadically into the first half of July. Some excellent photos were submitted. This is the second pair found in Orange County. A pair carrying food for young was noted in Port Jervis in southwest Orange County in summer 1984 for NY's second confirmed breeding record. At least one individual was reported sporadically until 23 July.

While searching for shorebirds, Tom and Hal Smith found and photographed a Yellow-headed Blackbird on Skinners Lane just north of Pine Island on 21 Aug. It was refound by a few birders the next day. Another surprising summer find was that of a Red Crossbill during a 20 June summer count covering the Pawling Christmas Bird Count circle. Angela Dimmitt's group discovered the bird along Quaker Lake Road south of Quaker Lake, Dutchess County. This is the first June record for the county.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point Park; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; GSSBC – Greenwich-Stamford Summer bird Count; IES – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; RNC – Rye Nature Center; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Brant: 10 Piermont Pier 1 Jun; 80 MC 1 Jun;
10 EGR 9 Jun; 1 Piermont Pier 23 Jun, 10 Jul.
Gadwall: 3 Piermont Pier 8 Aug.

Blue-winged Teal: 2 Wallkill River NWR,
Liberty Marsh 26 Aug.

Greater Scaup: MC 12 Jun; EGR 9-13, 15,
24, 30 Jun.

Lesser Scaup: EGR 11-13, 15, 24, 30 Jun.
King Eider: EGR 8-11 Jun (TB).
Com. Eider: EGR 11-13 Jun (TB).
Bufflehead: Tarrytown L 12 Aug (EE).
Hooded Merganser: Callicoon River Rd 16 Jun; 25 Pawling area 20 Jun; 2 IES 20 Jun.
Com. Merganser: 2 Moonbeams Nature Preserve, Wallkill 8 Jun; 2 IES 13 Jun; 1 Piermont Pier 23 Jun; Bower P 30 Jul.
Ruddy Duck: MC 12 Jun (TB).
Ring-necked Pheasant: Pawling 20 Jun; IES 2, 9 Jun, 15 Aug.
N. Bobwhite: Bashakill 3, 5 Jun.
Com. Loon: EGR 4 Jun.
Pied-billed Grebe: Bashakill 7, 12 Aug; Saugerties Lighthouse 21 Aug; Wappinger L 22 Aug.
Am. Bittern: 3 Bashakill 1, 5, 12 Jun; Callicoon 14 Jun; Pawling 20 Jun; Stewart Airport 10 Jul.
Great Egret: 14 EGR 16 Jun; 14 Kingston 29 Aug; 20 Port Ewen 30 Jul.
Snowy Egret: 10 EGR 14 Jun; 7 MC 2 Aug.
Little Blue Heron: Wethersfield 9 Jun (DG).
Tricolored Heron: Tarrytown L 29 Aug (LL,MLo).
Glossy Ibis: 3 Bashakill 5 Jun (ABa).
Black Vulture: nested successfully in White Plains on a radio tower (JV).

HAWKS - ALCIDS

MISSISSIPPI KITE: Ward Pound Ridge 6 Jun (GD, AGi, JL, EM, IR, LW).
Northern Harrier: 2 Florida 12 Jun; Pine I 5, 7 Jul.
Red-shouldered Hawk: Armonk 13 Jun; Ward Pound Ridge 19 Jun, now uncommon in Westchester in summer.
Broad-winged Hawk: 6 Hook Mt 22 Aug.
Clapper Rail: 3 MC 1, 7, 12 Jun, 26 Aug.
Com. Moorhen: 3 Bashakill 1Jun; 1 ad & 6 juv Bashakill 7 Aug; 16 Bashakill 18 Aug.
Sandhill Crane: Bashakill 1,2 Jun (ABo,JHaa,ScB,LV,JC); Blue Chip Farms 3 Jun (AS); Ellenville 19 Jun (G&PF); Village of Wawarsing 20 Jun (DoB).
Black-bellied Plover: MC & Jun; Morningside Park 18-21 Aug (ScB,ABo,LV,JHaa); Piermont Pier 18-21 Aug (LP,EE); 2 MC 20 Aug; 2 Morningside Park 22 Aug (JHaa); Pine I 28 Aug (DeP).
Semipalmated Plover: Morningside 15 Aug; few Piermont Pier 18 Aug (LP).
Am. Oystercatcher: 2 MC 1 Jun; 4 EGR 6 Jun; 4 MC 10 Jul; 6 MC 2 Aug.
Greater Yellowlegs: MC 1 Jun.
Willet: MC 4 Jun; Hen Island 12, 13 Jun (GSSBC); 2 MC 10 Jul(DH); 3 EGR 8 Aug;

358

MC 8 Aug.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 11 Morningside Park 22 Aug.
Upland Sandpiper: Blue Chip Farm 6 Jun; Florida 12 Jun; 4 Blue Chip Farm 13 Jun; 3 ad, 1 chick Blue Chip Farm 19 Jun.
Ruddy Turnstone: 2 MC 2 Aug; 3 EGR 15 Aug; 3 Piermont Pier 26 Aug (KiH,AWe); 2 Piermont Pier 29 Aug (LP).
Red Knot: 18 Scotch Cap I 11 Jun.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 4 Scotch Cap I 12, 13 Jun; 140 MC 8 Aug.
Western Sandpiper: Scotch Cap I 12,13 Jun (GSSBC).
Baird's Sandpiper: - Morningside Park 15 Aug (JHaa,ABo,ScB); Apollo Plaza 18,22 Aug (JHaa); 6 Skinner Ln, Warwick 29 Aug (DiB,BR).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Morningside Park 18-21 Aug.
Short-billed Dowitcher: Wallkill River NWR-Liberty Marsh 11 Jul; 3 Morningside Park 15, 18 Aug; MC 20 Aug; 2 Piermont Pier 21 Aug.
Laughing Gull: Piermont Pier 8 July (CW); was once much more common on the Hudson; MC 10 Jul (DH).
Bonaparte's Gull: Ulster Landing Park 31 Jul (FM).
Com. Tern: 80 EGR 8 Jun; 40 MC 10 Jul.
Forster's Tern: 2 pair Scotch Cap I 12, 13 Jun (GSSBC); ad feeding juv Hudson River, south of Piermont pier 25 July (DC); 6 Piermont Pier 1, 8 Aug; ad w/ begging juv MC 2 Aug (BV).
Least Tern: MC 2 Aug.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Monk Parakeet: EGR 10, 11 Jun.
Black-billed Cuckoo: MC 10 Jul.
Great Horned Owl: *intro*.
Barred Owl: 4 Mianus River Gorge 12 Jun.
Com. Nighthawk: 19 Chestnut Ridge 17 Aug; 69 Chestnut Ridge 25 Aug; 150 Northern Saugerties Township 25 Aug; 183 Chestnut Ridge 26 Aug; 48 Eastchester 29 Aug; 30 Mount Vernon 29 Aug.
Whip-poor-will: 3 Bashakill 4 Jun; 8 Bear Mt SP 18 Jun; 2 Putnam Valley 20 Jun.
Chimney Swift: *intro*.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 10 Wurtsboro 15 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 13 Pawling area 20 Jun.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Wolf Brook MUA 10 Jun; Scudiere Preserve, Pawling 20 Jun; 2 Pawling 21 Jun.

The Kingbird 2010 December; 60 (4)

Acadian Flycatcher: none were found at Mianus River Gorge (GSSBC); 2 Clarence Fahnestock SP 2 Jun; Wassaic 3 Jun; 4 Bashakill 5 Jun; 4 Peekamoose Rd, West Shokan and Sundown 15 Jun; Doodletown 19 Jun; Nuclear L 21 Jun.

Least Flycatcher: 7 Peekamoose Rd, West Shokan and Sundown 15 Jun.

Blue-headed Vireo: scattered rep all counties except PUTM & WEST.

Horned Lark: 4 Florida 23 Jun.

Purple Martin: 6 EGR 2 Jun.

Cliff Swallow: 120 Cross River Dam early Jun; 30 Livingston Manor 19 Jun.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 3 Nannahagan Rd, Armonk 13 Jun; 2 Hook Mt 30 Aug; moderate movement south last week of Aug.

Brown Creeper: 5 Nannahagan Rd, Armonk 13 Jun.

Winter Wren: 5 Peekamoose Rd, West Shokan and Sundown 15 Jun.

Marsh Wren: 8 MC 14 Jun.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: IES 2 Jun (BH).

Bicknell's Thrush: 2 Slide Mt 20 Jun.

Hermit Thrush: Mianus River Gorge 13 Jun.

WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: Wurtsboro 7 Jun; Doodletown 11 Jun; 2 Mine Rd 12 Jun; 3 Sterling Forest 19 Jun; Doodletown 9, 10 Jun; D & H Canal Linear Park 23 Jun.

"Lawrence's" Warbler: IES 25 Jun.

Orange-crowned Warbler: Morningside Park 21 Aug (JHaa).

Nashville Warbler: Armonk 12, 13 Jun (MW).

N. Parula: 2 Dennings Pt 4 Jun; 2 Sterling Forest 19 Jun.

Magnolia Warbler: 5 Peekamoose Rd, West Shokan and Sundown 15 Jun; 3 Nellie Hill Preserve, Dover 16 Jun; Hickok Brook WMA 18 Jun; Sterling Forest 26 Jun; Livingston Manor 5 Jul; Fir Brook 28 Jul.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Hickok Brook WMA 18 Jun; Pawling 20 Jun; 10 Kerhonkson 20 Jun.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: Hickok Brook WMA 18 Jun; Wurtsboro 23 Jul, 10, 15 Aug.

Black-throated Green Warbler: 6 Turkey Hollow, Amenia 30 Jun.

Blackburnian Warbler: Wurtsboro 7 Jun; 8 Peekamoose Rd, West Shokan and Sundown

15 Jun; Hickok Brook WMA 18 Jun; Pawling area 20 Jun; 2 Turkey Hollow, Amenia 30 Jun.

Prairie Warbler: sev Nellie Hill Preserve, Dover 16 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: Bashakill 10 Jun.

Cerulean Warbler: 7 Doodletown 2 Jun.

Louisiana Waterthrush: 10 Ward Pound Ridge 12 Jun.

Kentucky Warbler: Rockefeller SP 1, 3 Jun; Doodletown 4, 6 Jun (JR); Burden Preserve, North Castle 6 Jun (BV); Pochuck State Forest 12 Jun (JV).

Hooded Warbler: Burden Preserve, North Castle 6,10,12 Jun; 16 Doodletown 10 Jun; Bashakill 10 Jun; 14 Peekamoose 15 Jun; Nellie Hill Preserve, Dover 16 Jun; 3 Pawling area 20 Jun.

Canada Warbler: IES 12 Jun; 14 Peekamoose Rd, West Shokan and Sundown 15 Jun; 6 Kerhonkson 20 Jun; Callicoon Center 28 Jul; Fir Brook 28 Jul; 2 Bashakill 14 Aug.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: Shawangunk 22 Jun (ES); Stony Kill Farm 24 Jul (KeH).

Grasshopper Sparrow: 3 pr Florida 12 Jun (JV).

Nelson's Sparrow: MC 1 Jun (TB).

Saltmarsh Sparrow: 2 MC 10 Jul.

White-throated Sparrow: 3 Fir Brook 26 Jun.

Dark-eyed Junco: 2 Beaverkill 5 Jun; Cape Pond 20 Jun, later w/ young, the first nesting known here (VF); 10 Kerhonkson 20 Jun (FM, DF).

Blue Grosbeak: pr Indiana Rd, Florida 15, 19, 23 Jun, 1,5,9,11,15 23 July (KM,SM,GM,ScB).

Indigo Bunting: 20 Black Dirt region, Florida 9 Jul.

Dickcissel: Florida 12-23 Jun (JV,KM,ScB,SM).

Bobolink: 50 Skinners Lane, Pine Island 21 Aug.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Skinners Lane, Pine Island 21, 22 Aug ph (TS,HS).

Orchard Oriole: 5 Tarrytown L 8 Jun; 19 Black Dirt region, Florida 9 Jul.

Purple Finch: Nellie Hill Preserve, Dover 16 Jun; a few at feeders in SULL thru.

Red Crossbill: Quaker Lake Rd 20 Jun (AD), 1st Jun record for DUTC.

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