

REGION 9—HUDSON – DELAWARE

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The season started like much of the summer with temperatures in the nineties the first two days of September. Hurricane Earl then made its way up the coast on the 3rd, just as a cold front was moving through. This kept Earl safely out at sea. Only the south east of Region 9 saw any effect, and no storm related birds were recorded. But migration did seem to concentrate further Inland. John Haas reported a huge mixed species flock moving along the Shawangunk Ridge on the afternoon of 3 September. The flock contained Red-eyed Vireos, Blue-headed Vireos, Black-throated Green Warblers, Baltimore Orioles, and at least two Philadelphia Vireos. Another good passage of migrants was reported the weekend of 11-12 September at many locations. September remained warm and extremely dry. The drought was broken the last few days of the month when tropical moisture from the short-lived Tropical Storm Nicole made its way up a stationary front along the east coast and brought huge amounts of rainfall to the area on 30 September. Poughkeepsie saw 2.41" of rain which brought monthly precipitation up to normal, but the month was 3.4° F warmer than normal. Precipitation continued on 1 October bringing another 2.7" for Poughkeepsie. A warm spell in the seventies from 25-28 October brought the month in 2.7° warmer than average. The month finished with a total of 5.7" of precipitation, >2" above normal. November was dry, with only 2.4" of precipitation, and the average temperature was 1.4° above normal.

Lindsey Konkel and Scott Neabore observed and photographed a drake Eurasian Wigeon at Rockland Lake State Park on 16 October. The bird remained through the period.

Due to very few stretches of inclement weather in September, hawk migration was spread out. Broad-winged Hawks peaked at area hawk watches at different times, with no one large push recorded. Decent numbers were seen from 15-21 September. Sy Schiff was reviewing Broad-wing Hawk pictures he took on 21 September at Hook Mt., the day when over 1500 were counted, and found a few photos of dark morph birds in the mix. It is not uncommon to get a couple of reports each season, but this may indicate more come through than thought on those high number days. The Hook Mountain watch posted three new records this year for total species counts: Bald Eagles—142 (previous high 125 in 2009), Cooper's Hawks—294 (previous high 284 in 2005), and Black Vultures—55 (previous high 46 in 2007). Ospreys notably lingered into late November.

Sullivan had its second county record of Buff-breasted Sandpiper when a juvenile was discovered at Morningside Park on 8 September. They also had a good showing in the black dirt region of Orange County with up to six seen.

A Bedford Audubon Society field trip to Croton Point Park in Croton-on-Hudson on 23 October had a single Cave Swallow repeatedly circling over the

old landfill between 9:30 to 10:00 AM. The bird eventually flew higher and higher and glided off in an easterly direction, after which it was not seen again. John Haas reported two probable Cave Swallows from the Summitville hawk watch on 29 October. He was able to eliminate all the other swallow species except for possible immature Cliff Swallows. A month later a second wave of sightings in the Northeast resulted in another Cave Swallow sighting for Westchester County: Benjamin Van Doren found a Cave Swallow at Marshlands Conservancy on 25 November.

White-crowned Sparrows were numerous this season, with a number of reports of five or more in one sighting. Lesser numbers were seen through the end of November. Three Dickcissels were reported, all from Westchester. There was a single report of a White-winged Crossbill in Livingston Manor on 19 November. Pine Siskins were found in good number starting in mid October. Jodi Brodski, who runs a classroom feeder in Carmel, was surprised by an Evening Grosbeak along with a few Purple Finches and Pine Siskins on 25 October. Other sightings of Evening Grosbeaks from October and November were confined to the northern counties of Region 9.

Other notable species include: Tundra Swan, Red-necked Grebe, Baird's Sandpiper, and Lapland Longspur.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CIES – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook; CPP – Croton Point Park ; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; RNC – Rye Nature Center ; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Snow Goose: blue morph Thompson Pd 28 Oct (CV).
Brant: 220 Poughkeepsie 18 Oct.
Tundra Swan: 12 Mt Peter 26 Oct (BR); Bashakill 2,3 Nov (JH); Sylvan L, Beekman 20 Nov (SG).
Wood Duck: 482 Bashakill 29 Sep; 2032 Bashakill 7 Oct.
Gadwall: 40 Rockland SP 28 Oct.
Eurasian Wigeon: Rockland SP 16 Oct-30 Nov (LK, SN, AW).
Blue-winged Teal: 5 Buttercup 3 Oct W&LS; 3 Bashakill 7 Oct.
N. Shoveler: 18 Saugerties 6 Nov.
N. Pintail: Wurtsboro 22 Sep-11 Oct; 16 Ashokan Res 29 Sep.
Green-winged Teal: 50 Ashokan Res 10 Oct; 125 Pine Plains 17 Oct.
Canvasback: 600 Grassy Point 28 Nov.
Redhead: 3 MC 17 Oct; 7 Port Ewen 6 Nov; 5 EGR 22 Nov.
Ring-necked Duck: first 12 Abel's Pd, Union Vale 25 Sep; 75 Abel's Pd 6 Oct; 150 Abel's Pd 24 Nov; 100 Sylvan L, Beekman 28 Nov.
Greater Scaup: 4 EGR 2 Nov; 140 EGR 22 Nov.
Lesser Scaup: 7 EGR 2 Nov; 200 EGR 22 Nov.
Surf Scoter: 2 Kiamesha L 15 Oct (JH, SB); 8 Chelsea 1 Nov (RJ); 10 Ashokan Res 6 Nov.
White-winged Scoter: EGR 10,14 Nov; 8 EGR 25 Nov.
Black Scoter: 15 Neversink Res 15 Oct (LV); 25 Slocum-Mostachetti Preserve 6 Nov; 400 Ashokan Res 6 Nov; 2 Port Ewen (MD).
Long-tailed Duck: 3 Ashokan Res 6 Nov; 100 EGR 24 Nov.
Com. Goldeneye: 4 Beekman 5 Nov; 2 EGR 22 Nov.
Hooded Merganser: 100 Purdys 1 Nov.
Com. Merganser: 50 Neversink Res 28 Oct.
Red-breasted Merganser: Wappinger Lk 26 Oct (KH); 3 Sleightsburgh 7 Nov (MD); 2 Esopus 20 Nov; 30 EGR 22 Nov.
Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 Eldred 24 Oct; 2f CIES 28 Oct; 2 Westbrookville 30 Oct; Gardiner 31 Oct; Saugerties 15 Nov.
Ruffed Grouse: 1 from SULL, only report.
Red-throated Loon: Esopus 20 Nov (LF); 2 EGR 22, 25 Nov.
Com. Loon: 4 EGR 26 Sep; 8 MC 2 Nov.
Horned Grebe: 2 Ashokan Res 17 Oct; 15 Ashokan Res 24 Oct; 2 Neversink Res 28 Oct.
Red-necked Grebe: Swan L 16 Oct (LV).
N. Gannet: EGR 24 Nov.

Great Cormorant: Kingston 30 Sep; Bashakill 13, 28-31 Oct, 1, 3, 7 Nov (JH, AB, SB, GK, PBa, JC), photo, 1st SULL record.
Great Egret: more reports inland than usual; 7-8 Bashakill 25 Sep-7 Oct.
Little Blue Heron: Fishkill 22 Oct (ES).
Cattle Egret: CPP 14-15 Nov (KB).
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: juv Dennings Pt 14 Sep (KH).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: 34 Chestnut Ridge 12 Sep; 33 Hook Mt 13 Sep; 27 Mt Peter 29 Sep; Bashakill 3 Nov; Silvermine Lake 12 Nov; EGR 19 Nov; MC 21 Nov; CPP 28 Nov.
Bald Eagle: 10 Mt Peter 15 Sep; 10 Hook Mt 16 Sep.
N. Harrier: 9 Hook Mt 18 Sep; 8 Chestnut Ridge 26 Sep; 9 Chestnut Ridge 10 Oct.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 207 Hook Mt 18 Sep; 256 Chestnut Ridge 18 Sep; 118 Chestnut Ridge 8 Oct; 105 Mt Peter 9 Oct.
Cooper's Hawk: 21 Hook Mt 2 Oct
N. Goshawk: Summitville 2,17 Oct; 2 Chestnut Ridge 10 Oct; Chestnut Ridge 11 Oct; Hook Mt 24, 25 Oct, 14 Nov.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 9 Summitville 16 Oct.
Broad-winged Hawk: 794 Mt Peter 15 Sep; 1163 Chestnut Ridge 16 Sep; 852 Mt Peter 16 Sep; 2087 Mt Peter 17 Sep; 820 Summitville 18 Sep; 1690 Mt Peter 19 Sep; 1255 Chestnut Ridge 20 Sep; 1507 Hook Mt 21 Sep.
Red-tailed Hawk: 149 Summitville 31 Oct.
Rough-legged Hawk: Hook Mt 17 Oct; Hook Mt 20 Oct.
Golden Eagle: Mt Peter 8 Sep; Hook Mt 23 Oct; 4 Summitville 29 Oct; 2 Summitville 31 Oct; 4 Bear Mt 3 Nov; New Paltz 20 Nov.
Am. Kestrel: 29 Hook Mt 16 Sep; 27 Chestnut Ridge 21 Sep.
Merlin: 4 Hook Mt 19 Sep; 7 Summitville 7 Oct.
Peregrine Falcon: 9 Hook Mt 28 Sep.
Clapper Rail: 2 MC 19 Sep.
Sora: Liberty Marsh, Walkill NWR 19 Sep (MB); CPP 13 Oct.
Com. Moorhen: Rockland L SP 31 Oct.
Black-bellied Plover: 5 MC 10 Oct; 7 Ashokan 30 Oct.
Am. Golden-Plover: 15 Black Dirt Region, Pine I 7 Sep; 3 Morningside Park 1 Oct; juv MC 10 Oct; Ashokan Res 6 Nov.
Am. Oystercatcher: 2 MC 19 Sep.
Greater Yellowlegs: 7 Ashokan Res 22 Sep, 17, 24 Oct.
Lesser Yellowlegs: 35 Morningside 12 Sep.
Ruddy Turnstone: EGR 3 Oct.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 3 EGR 26 Sep; Thompson Pd 28 Oct.
Least Sandpiper: Thompson Pd 17 Oct.
White-rumped Sandpiper: 3 Morningside Park 1 Oct (JH, SB); Ashokan Res 10 Oct (FM); 6 Ashokan res 12 Oct (FM).
Baird's Sandpiper: Black Dirt Region, Pine I 10 Sep (KM, SSc, JGo, JT); Apollo Plaza, Monticello 12 Sep (JH, AB).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 5 Morningside Park 12 Sep; 4 Morningside Park 1 Oct; 10 Ashokan 17, 24 Oct; 3 Neversink Res 28 Oct; Swan L 29 Oct.
Purple Sandpiper: 2 EGR 10 Nov.
Dunlin: Ashokan Res 10, 12 Oct (FM); 2 MC 10 Oct; Swan L 29 Oct (JH); 2 EGR 10 Nov.
Stilt Sandpiper: Morningside Park 3 Sep (JH).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 6 Black Dirt Region, Orange Co 7 Sep (KM, CM); Morningside Park 8 Sep (JH, AB, SB, RD, RSh), 2nd SULL record; 5 Black Dirt Region, ORAN 10 Sep (KM, SSc, JGo, JT).
Wilson's Snipe: 19 Neversink Res 28 Oct; 32 Swan L 31 Oct.
Bonaparte's Gull: EGR 26 Sep.
Com. Tern: 25 EGR 26 Sep; 4 Morningside Park 27 Sep (JH, AB, SB, LV).
Forster's Tern: 1 Morningside 5 Sep (JH, AB, LV); 15 EGR 26 Sep; 40 EGR 3 Oct.

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Stony Kill 16 Oct.
Short-eared Owl: Hook Mt 10 Oct; Piermont 31 Oct.
N. Saw-whet Owl: 9 banded Youngsville Oct (RD); West Saugerties 19 Oct (PS).
Com. Nighthawk: 24 Rye 3 Sep.
Chimney Swift: Chestnut Ridge 23 Oct.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Kingston 19 Sep; Pearl River 22 Sep; Rockefeller SP 11 Oct.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Westbrookville 5 Sep; 2 Bashakill 11 Sep; 2 Mt Peter 14 Sep.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Bashakill 5, 10, 13 Sep; South Nyack 10, 16 Oct.
White-eyed Vireo: Stony Kill Farm 16 Sep.
Blue-headed Vireo: MC 21 Nov; 2 Vassar Campus 24 Nov.
Philadelphia Vireo: 2 Shawangunk Ridge 3 Sep; Bashakill 4, 5 Sep; 3 reports from SULL 11 Sep; singles SULL 15, 25 Sep.
Blue Jay: 1758 Mt Peter 3 Oct.
Am. Crow: 15,000 to roost near Rinaldi Blvd, Poughkeepsie Nov.
Com. Raven: 44 Summitville 11 Oct.
Horned Lark: 5 EGR 10 Nov.
Purple Martin: Bashakill 13 Sep.

Tree Swallow: few MC 21 Nov.
Bank Swallow: 10 Saugerties Lighthouse 5 Sep.
CAVE SWALLOW: CPP 23 Oct (TJ); 2 Summitville 29 Oct (JH); MC 25 Nov (BV).
Red-breasted Nuthatch: good numbers thru.
House Wren: MC 21 Nov.
Marsh Wren: MC 10 Oct.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: Bashakill 25, 26 Sep.
Am. Pipit: 7 MC 10 Oct; 24 CPP 13 Oct; 2 Stony Kill 16 Oct; 30 CPP 17 Oct; CIES 22 Oct; 19 CPP 24 Oct; 10 Claryville 24 Oct; 3 Rockland L SP 3 Nov; 3 EGR 24 Nov.
Cedar Waxwing: most reports early Nov.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: 5 Ashokan Res 3 Nov (FM).
Snow Bunting: 10 Beacon 17 Oct; Hook Mt 1 Nov; 12 Piermont 2 Nov; 40 Ashokan Res 2 Nov; 30 Ashokan Res 3 Nov; 10 Bowline Park 5 Nov.
Golden-winged Warbler: MC 9 Sep.
Tennessee Warbler: numerous reports in early Sep.
Orange-crowned Warbler: Rhinebeck 13 Nov (PS, SR).
Cape May Warbler: Mt Peter 18 Sep.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 600 MC 17 Oct.
Bay-breasted Warbler: Ulster 4 Sep; Rhinebeck 6 Sep.
Blackpoll Warbler: 5 CPP 13 Oct.
Mourning Warbler: MC 19 Sep; Stony kill Farm 25 Sep; Saugerties 19 Oct.
Yellow-breasted Chat: MC 9 Nov.

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: arr 2 Rhinebeck 16 Oct.
Chipping Sparrow: 25 Mt Peter 14 Oct.
Vesper Sparrow: Piermont 9 Oct; 7 CPP 17 Oct; 2 West Saugerties 23 Oct; 2 CPP 24 Oct; 2 Bashakill 28 Oct; Westbrookville 30 Oct.
Savannah Sparrow: 12 CPP 13 Oct.
Grasshopper Sparrow: Gardiner 16 Oct.
Nelson's Sparrow: 4 MC 17 Oct (BV).
Saltmarsh Sparrow: MC 17 Oct (BV).
Fox Sparrow: arr Tymor Pk 13 Oct; Kingston 18 Oct; 3 Bashakill 31 Oct.
White-crowned Sparrow: 5 Rombout Rd 6 Oct; 10 Peach Hill 9 Oct; 8 Morningside 10 Oct; 5 CPP 13 Oct; 3 CPP 24 Oct; 7 Bashakill 25 Oct; fewer Nov.
Dark-eyed Junco: arr Hook Mt 18 Sep.
Dickcissel: MC 19 Sep (BV); Rockefeller SP 6 Oct (EM); Lenoir Nature Preserve 10 Oct (MB).
Bobolink: 56 Tamarack L 2 Sep.

E. Meadowlark: 2 CPP 13 Oct; 8 Callicoon 27 Oct.

Rusty Blackbird: 37 Bashakill 3 Oct; 6 Traver Pond 12 Oct; 9 Saugerties 23 Oct; 16 Buttercup West 23 Oct; 10 Neversink Res 28 Oct; 19 Buttercup W 30 Oct; 82 Bashakill 30 Oct; 22 Bashakill 3 Nov.

Purple Finch: 24 Kakiat Park 3 Oct; 24 Mt Peter 3 Oct.

White-winged Crossbill: Livingston Manor 19 Nov (LV).

Pine Siskin: good numbers starting mid Oct; 40 Roscoe late Oct; 50 Wurtsboro 24 Oct; 70 Bashakill 29 Oct.

Evening Grosbeak: Ulster Park 15 Oct (PR); 2 Cape Pond 20 Oct (VF); Carmel 25 Oct (JBr), at feeder; Mountindale 25,27 Oct (JPe); Wappingers 6 Nov (SL); Woodstock 8 Nov (PS); 3 Salt Pt 11 Nov (LM); 3 Poughkeepsie 14 Nov.

EXOTICS

Chukar: Haven Rd, Bashakill 7 Oct (RD,RSh,AB,VF), farm raised & released.

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