

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The Summer 2014 season was unremarkable in terms of temperatures and precipitation. It was also characterized by few damaging storms. June was the closest to being an outlier. The average temperature in Syracuse for June was 68.8° F, which is 2.1° above the norm. Rainfall was 0.5" below average for the month. A maximum wind speed of 41 mph was measured in Syracuse on 17 June. July's average temperature was 71.4°, which is approximately the norm. Rainfall for July was 5.18", about 1.5" more than average. A good portion of that precipitation fell in less than a 24 hour period on 28 July. Peak wind for July was out of the south and was metered at 41 mph on 8 July. August's average temperature of 69.2° was 0.6° cooler than normal and the rainfall for that month was 3.74", which is only slightly above average.

The season's lack of turbulent weather was welcome news and presumably resulted in breeding success in the wetlands and other habitats that were hard hit by flooding in summer of 2013. Since this was not a particularly wet season, birders hoped that Lake Delta would be drawn down by August and good shorebird habitat would emerge. The water at Delta remained high, so shorebirds and birders alike were forced to go elsewhere. Many species found haven in a flooded field at a turf farm near Canastota in Madison County, which for a few weeks in August was the Region's shorebird hotspot. A limited assessment of the Region's mast does not bode well for overwintering songbirds. As best can be determined, the amount of seed/fruit/nuts produced this summer was generally quite low. The hawthorn fruit and wild apples so abundant last year are conspicuously absent this year. Gray Dogwood, Wild Grape and some of the more reliable fruit producers like American Mountain Ash and buckthorn are plentiful, but other staples are missing. In some parts of the Region, Gray Birch did well and some spruce and pine species produced decent cone crops, but in other areas those same tree species are barren. It's likely that winter finches will be disappointed if they show up this winter.

A few Snow Geese were reported during the summer season, possibly injured birds. A pair of Trumpeter Swans was noted at the Route 6 wetland in Volney, where they've successfully bred in the past, but no young were seen. Single Gadwalls were reported from Onondaga and Oneida Lakes, but breeding was not suspected in either case. Five Northern Pintail flew over Derby Hill on 14 August, presumably early fall migrants. Hooded Merganser was noted breeding in Little Falls, Remsen, Richfield Springs, and Canastota—all but the last location are in Herkimer County. A few Common Loons lingered into June and July on Oneida Lake, but as expected, none were confirmed breeding outside of the Adirondacks. On 21 June, Sam Hough found and photographed a Horned Grebe in Eaton, Madison County. The grebe remained for four days at that location, after which it hopefully reached a more favorable destination.

Bird-of-the-season and a first Regional record came on 18 July when a **Great Shearwater** was discovered at DeRuyter Reservoir. This extraordinary seabird was identified by Gian Dodici who found the bird sitting in the woods along a small tributary at the north end of the lake. After photographing it and seeing no obvious injuries, he relocated it to the lake hoping it would resume normal activity, proper action given the circumstances. Numerous birders observed it throughout the day but none saw it fly and it appeared to be listing to one side on the water, showing clear signs of distress. Opportunity presented itself and immediate intervention was deemed appropriate since the bird was in jeopardy of being struck by boat traffic. The shearwater was netted and brought to Kindred Kingdoms Rehabilitation Center (KKRC) for medical assessment and rehabilitation. The stress of capture and transport were significant, and with it already in compromised condition, it unfortunately expired the next day. It now resides at Cornell University, not far from its last stop in DeRuyter. Capture

of birds should only be attempted in cases of clear distress—rehabilitators and experienced birders can provide assistance and guidance.

Great Shearwaters breed on islands in the Atlantic off the southern part of South America, between approximately November and April, thus during winter in the northern hemisphere. They begin a long “circular” migration in April that takes them up the South American coast, into the Caribbean and eastern seaboard of the U.S., through the Canadian Maritimes and Greenland, then to the northeast Atlantic and back south again to the southern hemisphere in November. They mostly feed far offshore, with storm-wrecked birds occasionally found on coastal beaches. Few of these survive even if they do reach rehabilitators, probably due to a combination of exhaustion, stress, starvation, and separation from saltwater. Most seabirds reaching inland as far as the Great Lakes region are carried by passing hurricanes, typically ones whose eye comes inland and eventually dissipates enough to allow birds trapped in the system to fall-out on inland lakes. Between 1-5 July, Hurricane Arthur followed the Atlantic coastline north from Florida, making landfall briefly in North Carolina, then tracking offshore through the mid-Atlantic and New England states and finally inland after reaching Nova Scotia. Though it had little influence on upstate NY weather, it seems likely this storm is implicated in displacing the shearwater. Was the DeRuyter Reservoir the bird's first inland stop? Previous records of inland Great Shearwaters include one on Alcove Reservoir, Albany County, NY on 23 Sept 1989 (fallout from Hurricane Hugo); one on the Hudson River near Albany, NY on 14 Jun 1976, then on Lake Champlain near Burlington, VT; one on Lake Ontario at Toronto, ON on 20 Aug 1997; and one on Lake Michigan near Platte Point, MI on 8 Sept 2012. Fate of the Alcove bird is unknown—the others were known to have perished.

Numbers for both American Bittern and Least Bittern were disappointing this season. There were only four reports of the latter species. However, a sighting of an immature Least Bittern at the Utica Marsh suggests a successful nesting at that traditional breeding site. Jean Soprano from KKRC reported that four Great Blue Herons brought to her facility from around the Region were diagnosed with West Nile Virus (WNV). This period WNV also was the suspected cause of death for individuals of the following species: Red-tailed Hawk, Common Tern, Great Horned Owl, Eastern Screech-Owl, and American Kestrel. Relatively few migrant Great Egrets showed up in August. For the most part singles were found in traditional stopover habitat. Lake Delta sometimes attracts good numbers of egrets, but not when the water level remains high. Sightings of Black-crowned Night-Heron came from four separate locations. An adult and juvenile that frequented Onondaga Lake in August could indicate that the species has a local breeding presence. Bill Purcell counted 97 Green Herons flying to roost in West Monroe on 25 August.

After a poor late-spring showing by immature raptors, steady south winds at the Derby Hill hawk watch on 2 June facilitated a push of raptors including 89 Turkey Vultures, 42 Bald Eagles, and 198 (juvenile) Broad-winged Hawks.

Almost acting like a matching bookend on the summer, on 11 August south winds produced a good dispersal flight of young raptors at Derby. 46 Bald Eagles, 589 Broad-winged Hawks, and 90 Red-tailed Hawks were tallied by Bill Purcell, while on 26 August Purcell reported a Northern Goshawk and a Red-shouldered Hawk passing on an otherwise modest flight day. Both species are rarely observed there in August. Northern Goshawk numbers have been low for some years, and the editors of this report request that observers be diligent in documenting goshawks seen away from Derby Hill. Photographs and careful description of how other accipiters were eliminated is essential. One record from 22 June was accompanied by a picture, for which the editors are thankful. Sightings of Red-shouldered Hawks during the breeding season are also rare. Two encountered at the Rome Sand Plains in Oneida County on 15 June was encouraging, since formerly it was a known breeding site. Two Red-shouldered Hawks were also reported in Camden on 21 June. Rail numbers were generally poor this period, although Three Rivers WMA in Phoenix hosted a healthy number of Virginia Rails, and the wetland along Route 6 in Volney yielded a maximum of 19 Common Moorhen on 29 June. American Coot was reported only from Howland Island, and the sole record of Sora came from Three Rivers.

On 2 July, while canoeing at the mouth of the Salmon River at Port Ontario, Pat Burns found an **American Avocet**. The bird flew off as his canoe approached and it was not relocated. As mentioned earlier, the season offered few good destinations for those seeking shorebirds. For a while in August, the wet fields at the Sky High Turf Farm in Chittenango were a “must check” spot. Birded almost every day by Sam Hough, it hosted several hard-to-come-by species including American Golden-Plover, Stilt Sandpiper, Baird’s Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, and, best of all, one Buff-breasted Sandpiper. On the final day of August, a flock of 24 American Golden-Plovers was seen. They were spooked by a Merlin but returned to regroup. Upland Sandpipers were found only in two places this period. Referring to a site in Poland, Oneida County, Dave Cesari said that the less intensive cultivation of fields by Amish farmers has led to a proliferation of grassland birds. Reports coming in from that area seem to support his view. An encouraging maximum of four Upland Sandpipers was observed multiple times in that same complex of fields. On 3 June, two Whimbrel were found by David Wheeler on the rocky Oneida Lake islands as seen from Constantia, and on 6 August one was seen at Oswego by Jim Tarolli. During the first few days of June, three Ruddy Turnstone remained at Sylvan Beach, and on 17 August, six were found at Sandy Pond. On 13 August while conducting an early-season lakewatch at Derby Hill, Wheeler spotted a non-breeding adult Laughing Gull. A mid-summer stop at the Madison County Landfill by Wheeler and Tarolli found a surprising 1000 Ring-billed Gulls. There were five reports of Black Tern on Oneida Lake—all in the vicinity of the established Common Tern breeding colony near Constantia. On 11 July, Ruth Bennett estimated 100 pairs of Common Terns nesting there this season, and about 30 young birds were seen.

On 30-31 July an adult **Black Skimmer** was seen and photographed by John Germain at Lake Neatahwanta in Fulton. The Skimmer was seen perching on a concrete drainage pipe and skimming in shallow water along the shoreline. The bird was not relocated in the days following. While common on Long Island's south coast, the species is very rare inland with only three previous upstate NY records in eBird plus four historical records listed by Bull. Region 5's only previous records involved a juvenile bird found at Oswego Harbor following Hurricane Isabel on 20 Sept 2003, plus a bird collected near Utica in 1893. If not compromised by starvation or exhaustion it may have survived to find better fishing areas close by. Hurricane Arthur may be implicated in its wandering—see the discussion above for Great Shearwater.

An African Collard-Dove (domestic Ringed Turtle Dove) was photographed by Dana Lukowski. It was visiting her feeder in Madison County on 3 July. The bird had been present for about a week and was very tame, which supports the assumption of release/escape. Both cuckoo species were relatively hard to come by this summer, though (as was the case during the spring period) the Utica Peregrine Falcons did somehow manage to retrieve a few as prey. Eastern Screech-Owl was also elusive, but Jean Soprano reported that five came into her KKRC facility from around the Region. Of those, one was infected with WNV. A Great Horned Owl that came in also suffered from WNV. Soccer nets are an understandable hazard for Great Horned Owls as well. One bird had to be untangled from a net at a Cicero soccer field this summer. Soprano said that locally it was the third such case in the last two years. A **Snowy Owl** spent (at least) the second half of the summer period at a Clay shopping complex, where it became somewhat of a celebrity. The apparently healthy bird had no trouble providing for itself in that setting. This was probably a bird just shy of breeding age that arrived during the major invasion of Snowys during winter 2013-14. Another Snowy was reported just to the east, in Munnsville, but was seen only once. The Common Nighthawk migration was best in Phoenix, where Gregg Dashnau kept a running tally at the Three Rivers WMA. From 17 August thru the end of the period, Dashnau counted an impressive 342 nighthawks. On 23 August alone, 119 flew over. Dashnau proposed that they may be loosely following the Oswego/Oneida/Seneca River system and using the insect-rich 100-acre Marsh at Three Rivers as a convenient feeding waypoint.

Eastern Whip-poor-wills were reported from four locations, including two found by Wayne Fidler at a curious location near Lake Ontario in New Haven on 4 July. Wayne had heard them at the same spot in mid-May—possible breeders? On 29 June during the pre-dawn hour, four were heard calling at a sand and gravel pit north of Constantia by Mickey Scilingo. Jim Tarolli found Red-headed Woodpeckers breeding successfully at Fair Haven, and they were enjoyed by many birders. Linda Salter reported breeding in Sheds, Madison County. Single Red-headed Woodpecker accounts came from a few other expected areas, but the species was missed at Verona Beach State Park, where they have often bred in recent years. In an old cemetery in West Rome, Dave

Cesari monitored a Merlin nest which ultimately fledged four young. Mickey Scilingo reported that a Merlin nest in Constantia produced at least one fledgling, while in Syracuse, Meredith Leonard kept tabs on a Merlin nest that ultimately fledged three young. Peregrine Falcons successfully fledged three young in Utica, which constituted a first Oneida County record for the species. The Peregrines in Syracuse also produced a single fledgling, their first in a few years.

A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher found in Redfield, Oswego County on 7 June is likely a late migrant. Once again Acadian Flycatcher was confirmed breeding at Whiskey Hollow. Joe Brin discovered nests on 22 June and 9 July—both with females sitting and males singing nearby. A bird was found singing in appropriate habitat at Sterling Nature Center but its breeding status was not confirmed. Single Fish Crows were reported from Onondaga Lake; their year-round presence implies breeding but the exact location is unknown. There were widespread reports of Common Ravens in the Region. What was described as a “probable” active nest was found in Brookfield in Madison County. At Onondaga Lake three were observed being mobbed by American Crows. This is an unusual location for the larger corvus species. A raven from Pennellville was brought to KKRC and determined to have been shot by a pellet gun. The bird survived its injuries but was deemed unreleasable and relocated to the Utica Zoo, where it will be kept for educational purposes.

Lake clean-up efforts and development of the West Shore trail at Onondaga Lake have disturbed most of the shoreline habitat. Low bluffs used by the former Bank Swallow colony south of Nine Mile Creek were removed to stabilize the waste beds in that area and to prevent erosion into the lake. With the bluffs gone, Bank Swallows will no longer be breeding in that spot. Much of the waste beds are stable and located away from the water's edge, and these may afford the displaced swallows a new nesting place. The west shore has also traditionally been home to a good number of Spotted Sandpipers. How they fared given the shoreline disturbance is unknown. Birders are encouraged to check on both these species, and any others known traditionally from Onondaga Lake's west shore (such as Field Sparrow & American Kestrel), to assess the impact of clean-up and development. Hopefully birds that have used this long-undisturbed area will adapt to new conditions.

Cliff Swallows were found to be breeding at Bridgeport, Phoenix, and Clay. At the Clay site, the swallows were seen rebuilding their nests on the same commercial structure where they had been previously removed. As an increasingly scarce breeder in our area it would be desirable to communicate with businesses about the birds and deterrence measures that might be undertaken during non-breeding periods to avoid nest destruction. The number of Winter Wrens encountered during the breeding season was less than normal. Matt Perry waited for the resident birds to set up housekeeping at Spring Farm Nature Preserve in Clinton, but they never did. In last summer's Region 5 report, the editors speculated that unprecedented flooding events in the eastern part of

the Region exacted a heavy toll on stream-side breeders like Louisiana Waterthrush and Winter Wren. Perhaps the absence of breeding wrens this summer lends some credence to that theory. This past winter's harsher than normal weather, which penetrated deeper south than normal, could also be a contributing factor. Hopefully they will recover next year.

On 29 August, Bob Williams found a **Worm-eating Warbler** in Waterville in southern Oneida County. The species rarely occurs in the Region as a migrant since its breeding grounds are well to the south of us. With only three reports received for the season, a decline of Louisiana Waterthrush continues to be a concern. Last year the species' breeding efforts were likely scuttled by flooding in the eastern part of the Region, but the negative population trend has set up over the course of at least several years and most certainly other factors are responsible for the species' retraction from its northern range. There were only two reports of Golden-winged Warbler this summer, which sadly has become typical in recent times. Singles of "Brewster's" Warbler and the much rarer "Lawrence's" Warbler were reported. The latter hybrid was seen several times in July by Bill Purcell at his Hastings residence. Definitely a good yard bird! The only multiple count of Cerulean Warblers came from Howland Island, which is the Region's traditional hotspot for the species. Only a few singles were reported in other areas and none after 5 July. The decline in some areas has been precipitous. Pine Warbler was commonly reported from many locations where there is appropriate pine forest habitat. Single Prairie Warblers were found from 8 June to 22 July at Happy Valley WMA. On 23 August Dennis Anderson found a **Yellow-breasted Chat** at Three Rivers WMA among a moving, foraging flock of warblers.

Clay-colored Sparrow was confirmed breeding at Spring Farm Nature Preserve and at Green Lakes State Park in Fayetteville by Jerry Case. A maximum of four were heard singing at the former site on two occasions in June and July. There were two other sightings of the species in the Region. Is this elusive sparrow expanding in the Region? Perhaps, with greater effort by birders, more may be found in suitable habitat. Grasshopper Sparrow was found in Tully, Lysander, and two other sites. Orchard Oriole occurred primarily in the western part of the Region. Breeding was confirmed for that species near Whiskey Hollow, and it has become fairly reliable at Green Lakes State Park. The only Pine Siskins reported were two in Cold Brook on 14 June.

This season a total of 206 species was reported, which is three above the 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: Trumpeter Swan, Lesser Scaup, **Horned Grebe**, Red-necked Grebe, **Great Shearwater**, Sandhill Crane, **American Avocet**, **Whimbrel**, Ruddy Turnstone, Stilt Sandpiper, **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**, Short-billed Dowitcher, **Laughing Gull**, **Black Skimmer**, **Snowy Owl**, **Worm-eating Warbler**, "Lawrence's" Warbler, and **Yellow-breasted Chat**.

Summer 2014 produced 41,714 eBird records for Region 5, and these were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02. Reports were contributed by 185 people.

IMPORTANT: Beginning with this Seasonal Report, a reduced-species “Synopsis” format is being adopted. As eBird data continues to be more comprehensive, species that are adequately documented there may be omitted unless there are unusual counts, locations, or dates or there are conservation concerns regarding a species’ status. This will allow the editors to focus on rarities, scarce breeders, birds in decline, etc.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; BLNC – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; Brew – Oneida L at Brewerton; Bville – Baldwinsville; BW – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; Cam – Camden, ONEI; Canas – Canastota; Caz – Cazenovia; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida L at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; Dolge – Dolgeville, HERK; Dville – Durhamville; Ff – Fairfield, HERK; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GB – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; GBTP

– Griffiss Business & Technology Park, ONEI; Ham – Hamilton, MADI; Hast – Hastings, OSWE; HV – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; KW – Kirkland Woods, Clinton, ONEI; LJ – Lake Julia, Remsen, ONEI; MCL – Madison County Landfill, T Lincoln; NHar – New Hartford; OF – Old Forge; OLC – Onondaga L Creekwalk, Syracuse; OneiL – Oneida L; OnonL – Onondaga L; OswH – Oswego Harbor; Pville – Pennellville; RSP – Rome Sand Plains, ONEI; SB – Oneida L at Sylvan Beach; Sfield – Sangerfield, ONEI; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of Onondaga & Madison Co.; SHTF – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango, MADI, Skan – Skaneateles; SP – Sandy Pd and vicinity; SNC – Sterling Nature Center; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; UM – Utica Marsh; VBSP – Verona Beach SP and vicinity; WH – Whiskey Hollow, WM – West Monroe; WP – Woodman Pd, Ham. Wville – Waterville, s. ONEI; WW – West Winfield, s. HERK.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: 2 Skan 4 Jun, 1 thru 29 Jul; OnonL 21-31 Jul; 2 other singles thru 3 Aug.
Trumpeter Swan: max 4 HI 14 Jun; 2 Volney 10–15 Aug, only reports.
Wood Duck: max 45 UM 22 Jun; 29 Volney 29 Jun; 30 WP 29 Jul –16 Aug.
 Gadwall: OnonL 9 Jul; OneiL 11 Jul; only reports.
Blue-winged Teal: 2 WM 17 Jul, only report.
N. Pintail: 5 DH 14 Aug, early migrants.
Green-winged Teal: 5 Volney 23 Aug, only report.
Lesser Scaup: WP 25 Aug, only report.
Greater/Lesser Scaup: OneiL 11 Jul; OswH 17 Aug.
Bufflehead: WP 1 Jun.
Hooded Merganser: confirmed breeding Little Falls, Remsen, Richfield Springs, & Canas.
Red-breasted Merganser: WP 8 Jun; DH 13 Aug; only reports.
Ruddy Duck: 4 BLNC 3 Jun, only report.
N. Bobwhite: 2 Brew 3 Jun; Pompey 1 Jul; presumed releases.
Ring-necked Pheasant: only 3 reports.
Com. Loon: GLSP 6 Jun; Const 21 Jun; 2 Const 12 Jul; max 6 OF 13 Jul.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 11 Port Ontario 16 Aug; few reports.
Horned Grebe: Eaton 21–25 Jun (SH, ph), very late
Red-necked Grebe: Const 3 Jun (DW), late.
GREAT SHEARWATER: DeRuyter 18 Jul (GDo!, mob, ph, NYSARC), brought to rehabber, expired 19 Jul, 1st Reg rec, *intro*.
Am. Bittern: max 4 Klondike Reservoir, HERK 4 Jun; 7 other singles.
Least Bittern: 4 reports of singles.

Great Blue Heron: 4 infected with West Nile Virus (JS), *intro*.
Great Egret: max 4 Ham 10 Aug; low counts.
Green Heron: 30 Volney 25 Jul; max 97 WM 25 Aug (BP), roost flight.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: ad Bville 12 Aug; max 2 OLCW 15 Aug, ad & juv; reports from 4 locs.

HAWKS - TERNS

Turkey Vulture: max 89 DH 2 Jun; 33 Little Falls 7 Jul, 31 Aug.
Osprey: max 5 CM 5 Aug; widespread breeding.
N. Harrier: max 3 Richfield Springs 10 Jul; mostly singles.
N. Goshawk: ad SH 22 June (SH, ph); DH 26 Aug (BP), early migrant; only reports.
Bald Eagle: 42 DH 2 Jun (BP); max 46 DH 11 Aug (BP).
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 3 HV 8 Jun; 2 RSP 15 June; 2 Cam 21 June; DH 26 Aug (BP), early migrant; few reports.
Broad-winged Hawk: 198 DH 2 Jun; max 589 DH 11 Aug (BP).
Red-tailed Hawk: 90 DH 11 Aug; max 93 DH 26 Aug; 2 with West Nile Virus (JS).
Virginia Rail: max 12 TR 15 Jun, breeding; 3 Verona 29 Jul; 4 UM 7 Aug.
Sora: TR 15 Jun, only report.
Com. Gallinule: max 19 Volney 29 Jun; 6 HI 23 Aug; 6 UM 24 Aug.
Am. Coot: 2 HI 7 Jun; 2 HI 13 Jul; only reports.
Sandhill Crane: 5 HI 25 Jul (JS), only report.
AM. AVOCET (R5): Port Ontario 2 Jul (PB!, NYSARC), 5th Reg rec, *intro*.
Black-bellied Plover: FH 2 Jun; arr FH 6 Aug;

max 5 SHTF 21, 23 Aug.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr SHTF 23 Aug; max 24 SHTF 31 Aug; all sightings from same loc.

Semipalmated Plover: Ff 6 Jun; arr SHTF 29 Jul; max 6 SHTF 24 Aug.

Killdeer: max 83 SHTF 24 Aug.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 5 OnonL 17 Jul; 5 SHSF 4 Aug; 5 OswH 17 Aug.

Solitary Sandpiper: Verona 4 Jun; arr TR 10 Jul; max 4 SHTF 2, 4 Aug; generally small numbers.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr Skan 16 Jul; max 6 SHTF 23 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Skan 16 Jul; max 15 SHTF 29 Jul.

Upland Sandpiper: max 4 Poland 11, 14, 29 Jun; TR 25 Aug; only reports.

Whimbrel: max 2 Const 3 Jun (DW); Oswego 6 Aug (JT, DW); only reports.

Ruddy Turnstone: 3 FH 1 Jun (DW) & SB 3 Jun (MV); 2 OswH 1 Aug (DW, JT); max 6 SP 17 Aug (RC).

Stilt Sandpiper: arr SHTF 28 Jul (SH); max 3 SHTF 24 Aug (DW); all reports from same loc.

Sanderling: arr 8 OswH 1 Aug; max 10 FH 12 Aug.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr SHTF 18-24 Aug (SH, ph), only report.

Least Sandpiper: arr 5 WP 12 Jul; max 75 SHTF 23 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: N Med Center Pond 18 Aug (DNu), only report.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: SHTF 23 Aug (BP!, mob).

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr Ham 15 Jul; max 3 SHTF 4 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr Ham 15 Jul; max 15 OswH 17 Aug.

Short-billed Dowitcher: SHTF 21-31 Aug (SH, mob).

Wilson's Snipe: max 5 Poland 14, 30 Jun; most breeding season reports from n. ONEI & HERK.

Am. Woodcock: 5 Whitestown 27 Jun; 4 TR 19 Jun, 10 Jul, 17 Aug.

jaeger sp: DH 13 Aug (DW), only report.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr 10 Jul SB; max 196 SB 24 Aug.

LAUGHING GULL: DH 13 Aug (DW, BP, ph), non-breeding ad.

Ring-billed Gull: 1000 MCL 25 Jul (DW, JT).

Great Black-backed Gull: max 10 SB 21 Aug.

Caspian Tern: max 75 FH 2 Jun; 37 OswH 17 Aug; 39 OnonL 27 Aug; widespread reports thru.

Black Tern: max 23 DH 13 Aug; 7 WP 13 Aug;

5 reports from OneiL during breeding season.

Com. Tern: 230 Const 11 July (RB), est 100 pairs, 30 young; one with West Nile Virus (JS).

BLACK SKIMMER: ad Fulton 30-31 Jul (JG!, ph, NYSARC), 3rd Reg rec, *intro*.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 3 WH 15 Jun & BW 10 Jul; relatively uncommon.

Black-billed Cuckoo: max 2 GLSP 18 Jul; small numbers.

E. Screech-Owl: max 2 Clinton 20 Jul; 5 in rehab, one with West Nile Virus (JS); few reports.

Great Horned Owl: max 2 Cicero 15 Jun; singles at 12 other locs; 1 with West Nile Virus from OSWE (JS).

Snowy Owl: Clay 15 Jul thru (mob, ph), *intro*; Munnsville 24 Aug (PB).

Barred Owl: max 4 TR 26 Jun, ad & 3 fledglings; 4 Boylston 28 Jun; WH 23 Jul, fledgling.

Com. Nighthawk: TR 2 Jun; 2 Norway 2 Jul; TR 17 Aug, first migr; 119 TR 23 Aug (GD), *intro*.

E. Whip-poor-will: Coldbrook 14 Jun, 4 Const 29 Jun; 2 June New Haven 4 Jul, unusual loc; 2 Salisbury 15 Jul; 7 reports from 4 sites.

Chimney Swift: 24 Skan 4 Jun; max 110 Oneida 25 Jul; 28 Pulaski 5 Aug; 35 DH 14 Aug.

Red-headed Woodpecker: DH 2 Jun; 4 FH 15 Aug thru (JT), 2 ad & 2 juv.

Am. Kestrel: max 15 GBTP 8 Aug; 8 WW 16 Aug; one with West Nile Virus (JS).

Merlin: confirmed breeding in Rome, Const & Syr, *intro*.

Peregrine Falcon: 3 fledged from Utica nest, 26-30 Jun, 1st ONEI rec; one fledges from Syr nest; 4 reports away from nesting areas.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Const 1 Jun; Canas 5 Jun; Labrador Hollow 9 Jun; Stillwater Reservoir 9 Jun; arr 11 Aug Dolge; 6 reports.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Redfield 7 Jun; Manheim 17 Aug; only reports.

Acadian Flycatcher: 2 WH 15, 22, 29 Jun, 9 Jul, 7 Aug, 2 nests found; SNC 1 Jun (DW, SK); *intro*.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 5 WH 15 Jun, TR 19 Jun; 4 HV 29 Jun.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 LJ 7 Jun; 3 Sfield 22 Jun; 3 Moss Lake 6 Jul; 3 OF 13 Jul; 3 SH 21 Jul.

Warbling Vireo: 7 Elbridge 6 Jun; 10 HI 7 Jun;

7 UM 22 Jun; 7 WP 22 Jun; max 22 OnonL 10 Jul (DN), good number.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr WP 24 Aug.

Fish Crow: singles OnonL thru.

Com. Raven: max 6 Dolge 2 Jul; Brookfield 1 Jun, probable nest; 3 OnonL 9 Jul, unusal loc; Pville 29 Aug, shot, *intro*; widespread reports.

Horned Lark: max 14 SHTF 31 Aug (BP); all reports from same loc.

Purple Martin: 15 Const 12 Jul; max 36 WM 25 Aug; most reports from OneiL.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: 10 HI 14 Jun; 10 UM 22 Jun; max 12 TR 12 Jul.

Bank Swallow: 15 SP 17 Jun; max 140 WM 25 Aug; 30 DB 30 Aug.

Cliff Swallow: 5 Phoenix 27 Jun; max 12 Clay 3 Jul; 10 SP 17 Aug; few reports; *intro*.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 4 Cold Brook 14 Jun; 8 SH 19 Aug; 5 TR 30 Aug; best numbers MADI.

Carolina Wren: max 3 BLNC 22 Aug.

Marsh Wren: 6 WP 22 Jun; max 12 TR 10, 12 Jul; 10 CM 5 Aug.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 4 Bville 8 Jul; 3 Jordan 24 Jul; 3 TR 10, 19 Jun.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 5 Sfield 22 Jun; 5 OF 6 Jul; 3 Marcy 19 Aug; relatively few reports.

Veery: max 10 WH 18 Jun & KW 18 Jun; 9 Westdale 26 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: Const 1 Jun; Redfield 3 Jun; Ff 29 Jun; only reports.

Hermi Thrush: max 7 NHar 4 Jun & Trenton Greenbelt 19 Jun; 6 SH 21 Jul; relatively low numbers.

Wood Thrush: 14 RSP 15 Jun; max 15 KW 18 Jun; 10 WH 18 Jun; 10 GLSP 6 Jul; 10 Elbridge 10 Jul.

Brown Thrasher: max 8 GLSP 28 Jun, 18 Jul; 2 DH 1 Jul, presumed breeding; singles/small numbers away from GLSP.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

WORM-EATING WARBLER (R5): Wville 29 Aug (RW!), rare fall migrant.

Louisiana Waterthrush: 2 Chittenango 4 Jun; NHar 4 Jun; 2 Little Falls 2 Aug; only reports, *intro*.

Golden-winged Warbler: Cam 6 Jun; Hast 16 Jul, presumed early migr; only reports.

"Brewster's" Warbler: Westdale 8 Jun.

"Lawrence's" Warbler: Hast 8-30 Jul (BP!).

Black-and-white Warbler: max 5 OF 9 Jun; singles/small numbers from expected areas.

Tennessee Warbler: arr SH 28 Aug; 5 reports.

Nashville Warbler: max 6 Rome Pitch Pine

Bog 1 Jun; only 8 breeding season reports.

Mourning Warbler: max 8 WH 18 Jun; 5 GB 9 Jul; 4 SFNS 17 Jul.

Hooded Warbler: max 9 KW 5 Jun; 7 WH 15 Jun; 5 BLNC 15, 20 Jun.

Cape May Warbler: arr Hast, Canas 29 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: max 5 HI 7 Jun; WH 9-22 Jun, singing, breeding?; Redfield 8 Jul; singles at 6 other locs.

N. Parula: 4 reports from OF.

Magnolia Warbler: max 10 Sfield 2 Jun; 3 OF 6 Jul.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr SFNS 20 Aug, early; Dville 28 Aug; TR 29 Aug; only reports.

Blackburnian Warbler: 6 LJ 7 Jun; max 7 OF 6 Jul.

Blackpoll Warbler: last DH 2 Jun; arr TR 29 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 LJ 7 Jun; 5 Moss Lake, ADKS 6 Jul; singles away from ADKS.

Pine Warbler: max 8 RSP 15 Jun; 7 HV 29 Jun; widespread.

Prairie Warbler: HV 8 Jun-22 July (DW!, mob).

Canada Warbler: 3 OF 9 Jun; 3 Cold Brook 14 Jun; max 5 RSP 15 Jun.

Wilson's Warbler: arr TR, Syr, Hast 29 Aug.

Yellow-breasted Chat: TR 23 Aug (DA!).

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: 8 GLSP 20 Jun; max 9 Hast 19 Jul; 7 TR 20 Jul; many reports & good high counts.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Westdale 6 Jun; max 4 SFNS 16 Jun, 6 Jul, breeding; 2 GLSP 8 Jun, breeding; Otter Lake ADKS 6 Jul; *intro*.

Field Sparrow: max 14 GLSP 22 Jun (BG), good number.

Vesper Sparrow: 2 WH 15 Jun, 14 Jul; 2 Ham 27 Jun; a few other reports of singles.

Savannah Sparrow: max 11 DeWitt 9 Jun; 6 Phoenix 14 Jun; 6 Tully 9 Jun-11 Jul; 6 Poland 30 Jun; decline continues in some areas.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 Tully 4 Jun; 2

Lysander 14 Jun, 8 Jul; singles at 2 other locs.

Scarlet Tanager: max 6 Camillus 3 Jun, 6 RSP 15 Jun, 6 KW 16, 18 Jun, 6 SFNS 23 Jun, 6 HI 25 Jul.

Indigo Bunting: 7 GLSP 28 Jun; 7 OnonL 9 Jul; max 8 Hast 29 Jul.

Bobolink: 17 Manheim 23 Jun; 21 Poland 30 Jun; max 48 WM 25 Aug.

E. Meadowlark: 3 GLSP 14 Jun; 3 Caz 24 Jun; 3 Poland 30 Jun; max 5 Dville 4 Jul.

Orchard Oriole: 3 GLSP 7 Jun; 3 Bville 15 Jun; pair WH 15 Jun, feeding young; max 4

GLSP 28 Jun.

Baltimore Oriole: max 8 GLSP 5, 18 Jul; 8 Bville 8 Jul; low numbers reported in some areas.

Purple Finch: max 16 Dville 19, 27 Jul; mostly small numbers in expected areas.

Pine Siskin: 2 Cold Brook 14 Jun, only report.

EXOTICS

African Collard-Dove (domestic Ringed Turtle Dove): SH 3 Jul (DL, ph), presumed escape.

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