



REGION 10—MARINE

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Summer 2016 progressed from slightly to significantly warmer than normal, with August's average coming in near 5° above the norm. July recorded seven days above 90°, including a "heat wave" 22-24 Jul, with 98° on the 23rd the highest temperature for the month. On 10 August, a severe thunderstorm produced a weak and short-lived tornado in Mattituck, Suffolk County, as reported by the National Weather Service. Thunderstorms and strong damaging winds continued across the Region for the next several days, with 11-14 August climbing into the 90°s and topping out at 95°. The Region was not impacted by any tropical storms or hurricanes this season.

	Central Park			Islip		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Jun	72°	71.4°	+0.6°	69°	68.4°	+1.5°
Jul	79°	76.5°	+2.5°	77°	73.9°	+3.1°
Aug	80°	75.2°	+4.8°	78°	72.8°	+5.2°

	Central Park			Islip		
Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	2.60"	4.41"	-1.81"	1.13"	4.27"	-3.14"
Jul	7.02"	4.60"	+2.42"	3.22"	3.43"	-0.21"
Aug	1.96"	4.44"	-2.48"	0.90"	3.98"	-3.08"

Last summer we discussed the increasingly regular status of several resident and breeding species that were formerly absent or rare in the Region. Bald Eagles continue to be reported very widely, both in terms of dates and locations; Pileated Woodpecker is now regular on Staten Island; finally, Black Vulture is now frequent enough in the western portion of the Region, and Common Raven throughout the Region, that their statuses have been revised. They no longer will be denoted as requiring documentation in Region 10 (i.e., they will no longer be presented in all-capitals in the Species Accounts). Cliff Swallows summered again in the Bronx, with counts as high as 19 at Pelham Bay Park and up to three through June at Van Cortlandt Park. Yellow-throated Warblers were present again this summer along the Connetquot River in Suffolk County.

Many pelagic birds arrived inshore on 3 June, when Manx, Cory's, Great, and Sooty Shearwaters, plus Wilson's Storm-Petrels were visible from sites such as Robert Moses SP, Cupsogue CP, and Shinnecock Inlet. Offshore, John Shemilt and associates once again made several extremely productive runs to the shelf-break and Continental Slope waters near and east of Hudson Canyon, and See Life Paulagics executed a highly successful overnight pelagic trip to this same general area at the end of the season. In what is becoming a familiar pattern, **Black-capped Petrels** and **White-faced, Band-rumped, and Leach's Storm-Petrels** were encountered repeatedly.

Regarding Jamaica Bay, we could repeat last year's depressing summary almost word for word. Omitting the details, the last line fits well again for summer 2016: "the numbers of Lesser Yellowlegs, Stilt Sandpipers, Short-billed Dowitchers, and other species that traditionally feed as well as roost on the East Pond remained alarmingly low."

On a much more positive note, the freshwater pools at Jones Beach were highly productive this summer, attracting the species just named, as well as scarce migrants such as Sora and Wilson's Phalarope. And again, the flats and bars at Old Inlet in Bellport Bay were highly productive, especially for sandbar specialists such as Sanderling (max 4,500 on 23 July) and Marbled Godwit (max 12 on 28 August). In contrast, the Moriches Inlet flats were reputed to have lost

much of their allure for rarities, but they still managed to produce a Sandwich Tern and several Arctic Terns, as well as robust counts of many common shorebirds.

Rarities included Black-capped Petrel, Audubon's Shearwater, White-faced Storm-Petrel, Leach's Storm-Petrel, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, White-faced Ibis, Mississippi Kite, Black-necked Stilt, Ruff, Long-tailed Jaeger, Bridled Tern, Arctic Tern, Sandwich Tern, and Rufous Hummingbird.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CICrP – Coney I Creek P, KING; CP – Central P, NEWY; CRSP – Connetquot R SP, SUFF; EPCAL – former Grumman property, Calverton, SUFF; FBF – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; GGI – Great Gull I, SUFF; HudCan – Hudson Canyon, pelagic, SUFF; Jam Bay – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE/KING; JBWE – Jones Beach SP West End, NASS; JBSP – Jones Beach SP, NASS; LI – Long Island; MI – Moriches Inlet, SUFF; Mt Loretto – Mount Loretto Unique Area, RICH; Old Inlet – Old Inlet, Bellport Bay, SUFF; OMNSA – Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, NASS; PP – Prospect P, KING; RMSP – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; Shinn – Shinnecock Inlet; SantCr – Santapogue Creek, SUFF; SLP – See Life Paulagics trips.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

American Wigeon: SantCr, SUFF 4 Jun thru 3 Jul (PMo), unus in summer in SUFF.

Greater Scaup: arr CICrP & Shinn 27 Aug.

Lesser Scaup: SantCr, SUFF 4 Jun (PMo), unus in summer in SUFF.

Common Eider: scarce along South Shore LI.

Surf Scoter: small numbers South Shore LI thru early June.

White-winged Scoter: SMSP 1 & 12 Aug (K&SF), most notable of a handful of reps.

Black Scoter: widespread RICH to Montauk.

Long-tailed Duck: singles Breezy Pt, QUEE & Shinn during June.

Bufflehead: Wertheim NWR, SUFF 12 Jun (R. Ogden), v. scarce in summer SUFF

Hooded Merganser: Jam Bay, SantCr, SUFF, and Wertheim NWR, SUFF.

Red-breasted Merganser: Rep from 7 sites along oceanfront.

Ruddy Duck: up to 4 Jam Bay thru; 3 PP 3-10 Jun; Hempstead L SP, SUFF 2 Jun; Blydenburgh CP, SUFF 8 Jun; 8 Sagg 23 & 29 Jul (HMcG).

N. Bobwhite: a few inds plausibly natural on North Fork; all others directly attributable to recent releases.

Ring-necked Pheasant: few reports; apart from coastal sw LI, most of doubtfully natural origins.

Pied-billed Grebe: CP Reservoir 26 Jul (L. Mandel), early and in unus loc; general arrival ca. 19 Aug.

Horned Grebe: alt Mt. Sinai Harbor (A. Perkins), unus in summer.

BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: near “The Claw,” offshore SUFF 19 Aug (JSh, RF, AnW); SLP trip made several counts of multiple birds near the shelf-break, e of HudCan 29 Aug (DGo et al.); with improving coverage, emerging as a regular summer visitant to appropriate offshore waters.

Cory's Shearwater: arr in numbers along ocean shores 3 Jun, max 83 RMSP 5 Jun (PMo, TS); offshore, individual counts generally single digits; highest counts were 250 over 35 miles of shelf waters south of Montauk 7 Aug (S. Meyerheinrich et al.) and 210 over 15 miles of shelf waters north of HudCan 29 Aug (SLP; DGo et al.).

Great Shearwater: small numbers arr along ocean coast 3 Jun, with no large counts; this summer's many offshore counts were all single-digit except for a few from the Montauk whale watch trips, max 125 on 7 Aug (S. Meyerheinrich et al.).

Sooty Shearwater: small numbers from ocean vantages 3 Jun and over the following days, max 20 Montauk Pt, SUFF 6 Jun (J. Giunta); very few reports offshore, but small numbers persisted through Aug over the Montauk shelf waters.

Manx Shearwater: RMSP 3 Jun (SSM); 2 shelf waters s Shinn 3 Jun (JSh, DR, AnW); several reps of 1-3 Jul-Aug off Montauk.

AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: one offshore SUFF 3 Jun (Jsh, DR, AnW) was early; JSh and associates recorded others, up to 6 at a time, 24 Jul and 15, 18, and 19 Aug; the SLP group recorded many encounters 29 Aug, with local counts up to 12 along the canyons e of HudCan. **Wilson's Storm-Petrel:** counts up to 32 and 40 along ocean shore 3 Jun (SSM et al.); largest of many, mostly small, offshore counts were 115 near HudCan 29 Aug (SLP; DGo et al.) and 313 near McMaster Canyon 8 Jul (JSh, DR, AnW).

WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL: multiple reports from offshore SUFF: one 15 Aug and two 18 Aug (JSh); two singles 19 Aug (JSh, DR, K. Corcoran); three singles 29 Aug (SLP; DGo, mob); with improving coverage, emerging as a regular summer visitant to appropriate offshore waters.

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: max 200 s of the "The Claw" HudCan 4 Jun (JSh, DR, AnW); also recorded in smaller numbers (1-18) 8 & 24 Jul and 19 & 29 Aug.

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL: three counts of 2, 3, and 3 offshore SUFF 19 Aug (JSh, DR, AnW); several counts, up to 22, offshore SUFF 29 Aug (SLP; DGo, mob); with improving coverage, emerging as a regular summer visitant to appropriate offshore waters.

Brown Pelican: after zero reports last summer, summer 2016 was quite productive: RMSP 4 Jun (JGI, PJI, SSM); 2 Smith Pt CP, SUFF 7 Jul (F. Stetler), possibly overlapping with 4 MI the same day (MMcB, mob); 2 Ponquogue Bridge, Southampton, SUFF 25 Jul (Lee Stocker); Halsey Neck Beach, Southampton, SUFF 6 Aug (N. Mendoza).

American Bittern: MI 18 Jun (H. Lopes et al.), site of suspected breeding in the past; rare in summer.

Least Bittern: CRSP 4 Jun (K&SF), ph.

Tricolored Heron: almost all singles, 6 sites RICH, QUEE, NASS, SUFF; much scarcer than formerly, needs monitoring.

WHITE-FACED IBIS: Jam Bay 5-25 Jun (ABk, mob); Captree I, SUFF 3 Jul (MMcB).

HAWKS-LARIDS

Black Vulture: many reps RICH and NEWY; Green-Wood Cemetery, RICH 26 Jun (G. Henry), easternmost; *intro*.

Bald Eagle: many reports across Region and throughout the season.

MISSISSIPPI KITE: Mt. Loretto, RICH 1 Jun (ACi).

Sora: OMNSA 27 Jul (M. Farina); Jam Bay 12-15 Aug (mob); JBWE 18-19 Aug (mob).

Common Gallinule: River Road Marshes, RICH 23 Jul (ACi).

Am. Coot: SantCr 4 Jul & 3 Jul (PMo); 3 Sag Harbor 19 Aug (A. Mart).

BLACK-NECKED STILT: Shirley Marina, SUFF 2-6 Jun (R. Shea, mob).

American Avocet: 5 Squire Pd, Red Creek Pd, SUFF 15 Jul (V. Cagno, mob).

American Oystercatcher: max 275 JBSP 20 Aug (K. Feustel).

American Golden-Plover: arr 13 Aug JBSP (E. Maitra).

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 85 JBWE 21 Aug (TH, BF); max for Jam Bay was just 65 on 16 Jul, very low; *intro*.

Whimbrel: max 6 Old Inlet 15 Jul (DR, M. Scheibel).

Marbled Godwit: max 12 Old Inlet 28 Aug (DR).

Stilt Sandpiper: arr 12 Jul Jam Bay (DGo, SB); max 13 Jam Bay 12 Aug (IG), very low; *intro*; high counts further east included up to 5 JBWE and 4 Timber Pt, SUFF.

Sanderling: max 4500 Old Inlet 23 Jul (DR).

Baird's Sandpiper: Jam Bay 28 Aug (M. Monitz, S. Brenner); Plumb Beach, KING 28-31 Aug (mob).

Least Sandpiper: max 500 Jam Bay 30 Aug (Jay Powell, Kimberly Sucky).

White-rumped Sandpiper: max 18 JBWE 24 Aug (K. Feustel).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr 24 Aug; max 8 Riverhead Sod Fields, SUFF 28 Aug (AnW).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 1100 Jam Bay 19 Aug (SB).

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 6 JBWE 21 Aug (TD, JGI, PMo).

RUFF: Jam Bay 25 Jun-1 Jul (K. Feustel, mob).

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 950 MI 17 Jul (PMo, PJI, SSM).

Long-billed Dowitcher: arr Timber Pt, SUFF 5 Aug (JGI); max 6 Jam Bay 21 Aug (M. Ryan).

Wilson's Phalarope: Jam Bay 11-12 Jun (mob); JBWE 1 Aug (mob).

Red-necked Phalarope: Jam Bay 4 Jun (mob).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: three reports from shelf-break e of HudCan: 15 & 19 Aug (JSh et al.) and 29 Aug (SLP; DGo, mob).

Black-headed Gull: Jam Bay 7, 14 Aug (mob).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: many reps of 1-2 imm along oceanfront thru period, with higher counts (all imms) in early Jun and again in Aug: 4 JBSP 5 Jun (TH), 3 Democrat Pt, SUFF 4 Jun (SSM et al.), 3 Old Inlet 17 Jun (DR), 18 JBWE

1 Aug (BF), 26 JBSP 21 Aug (BF, TH), and 16 Sailor's Haven, SUFF 27 Aug (DR).

BRIDLED TERN: GGI 13 Aug (JDi, ph.).

ARCTIC TERN: just two reps from MI: ad 2 Jul (SSM, ph.); SY & TY 10 Jul (PMo, TS, ph.).

SANDWICH TERN: MI 25 Jul (PMo et al., ph.).

PIGEONS-PARROTS

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: Elizabeth Morton NWR, SUFF 27-31 Aug (mob, ph.).

Red-headed Woodpecker: RMSP 15 Jun (J. Stocker), unus site-date combination.

PILEATED WOODPECKER (R10): now regular RICH.

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: CP 4 Jun, last northbound; arr southbound 8 Aug; Meadow Croft Estate, SUFF 27 Aug (DR), furthest east.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr CP 14 Aug (M. Collins); PP 18 Aug (K. Miller).

Eastern Kingbird: max 432 CICrP 23 Aug (DGo, SB).

Common Raven: widely reported throughout; *intro*.

Cliff Swallow: Four Sparrow Marsh, KING 4 Jun (H. Lopes, J. Malbin), last northbound; summer max 19 Pelham Bay P, BRON 30 Jun (M. Benoit); 1-3 Van Cortland P, BRON thru Jun; RMSP 23 Aug (K. Feustel); Cupsogue CP, SUFF 28 Aug (T. Lenz, J. McGowan).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 6 CICrP 27 Aug (T. Preston).

Swainson's Thrush: Hempstead SP, NASS 4 Jun (JGI), late; arr southbound Kissena P, QUEE 7 Aug (J. Keane, ph.), v. early.

LONGSPURS-WARBLED

Worm-eating Warbler: CP 6 Jun (E. Rouleau) & Forest P, QUEE 9 Jun (CF), unus dates; arr CP 12 Aug; general arr 20 Aug.

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 3 PP 8 Aug (K. Toomey).

Northern Waterthrush: max 23 CICrP 23 Aug (DGo, S. Blodgett).

Golden-winged Warbler: PP 19 Aug (L. Ewing); Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH 24 Aug (ACi, M. King).

Prothonotary Warbler: CRSP 4 Jun (K&SF).

Kentucky Warbler: CP 13 Aug (G. Henry).

American Redstart: max 95 CICrP 27 Aug (DGo).

Yellow Warbler: 63 Belmont L area, SUFF 4 Jun (BBE et al.), illustrative of breeding density.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: CP 7 Aug, followed by 5 reps 18 Aug and later; early.

Yellow-throated Warbler: CRSP & vic thru.

TOWHEES-WEAVERS

Summer Tanager: Heckscher SP, SUFF 4 Jun (JGI, ph.); 2 EPCAL 4 Jun (ACo et al.).

Blue Grosbeak: 2-3 Mt Loretto thru Jun (mob), 2 Freshkills, RICH 26 Jun (R. Zucker), FBF 27 Jul (DGo, SSI), pair with 2 yng Calverton, SUFF 23 Jul (E. Gyllenhaal, A. Hale), Bridgehampton, SUFF 1 Jun (J. Giunta).

Dickcissel: Lemon Cr Pier, RICH 16 Aug (ACi).

