
REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The summer 2016 season was warm and relatively dry, with each successive month a little warmer than the last. The largest divergence from the norm occurred in August; the average temperature for that month was just over 74° F, which is more than 4 degrees higher than normal. Through the summer there were very few storms and, in most areas, there was little precipitation. In fact significant parts of the Region suffered from a persistent drought. Among the areas largely spared from drought were the Mohawk Valley and Syracuse. In fact Syracuse received a slightly above average amount of precipitation in August. Still, low water levels on the Region's lakes and streams prevailed throughout much of the season. This likely accounted for the lack of mosquitos noted by one of our reporters—a consequence of drought that few ever complain about. In the Skaneateles area, Ken Burdick observed that some shorebird habitat had completely dried out. In Oneida County, Delta Lake had been substantially drawn down by the start of August and conditions became quite favorable for shorebirds. Shorebirds, wading birds and their allies did take advantage of Delta's mudflats, but despite the presence of an abundance of good habitat, the large flock sizes steadily decreased as August ensued and the birds were usually very distant. During an August visit to Derby Hill, David Wheeler noted having never seen the main lawn so brown and in need of rain. At nearby Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, planned shorebird spots were dried out and vegetation overgrew the mudflats. Few reports came from Sandy Pond, but it is assumed the Carl Island sandbar had emerged and provided additional (but hard to reach) shorebird habitat. Dredging of the channel was commenced in early August. Many small creeks fed by rain runoff were seen to be dry.

This was generally not a good mast production year. There were few cones on conifers (except for in the west, where, reportedly, some spruce trees outperformed) and only small yields from nut producing trees like American Beech and oak species. The good news for wintering frugivores is that fruit-bearing trees, with the notable exception of apple trees and hawthorns, seemed to be fairly well-laden this season. Buckthorns and wild grapes produced especially well, while ash and other maple species had little to contribute to the forest mast. Eastern hop hornbeam and most birches were much better endowed, and this perhaps bodes well for wintering redpolls if they grace the Region.

A single Brant reported during the first weeks of June on Woodhull Lake in the Adirondacks was a holdover from the spring period. It's not clear if it lingered due to an injury. When it finally disappeared, Gary Lee speculated that a local Bald Eagle had taken it. Blue-winged Teal were confirmed breeding in two areas, including the McKoons Road wetland near Colombia Center in southern Herkimer County. In that same wetland on 19 July, Bill Purcell observed an adult Green-winged Teal with five young. The species is thought to be an uncommon to rare breeder in Region 5. For the second year in a row, a male Ring-necked Duck remained for approximately a month during mid-summer at Woodman Pond in Madison County. Two male Ruddy Ducks stayed at Beaver Lake Nature Center from 20 June to 16 July. This season, Gary Lee surveyed breeding Common Loons on 15 Adirondack lakes. He reported that 33 loon nests only produced 17 chicks. Lee maintained that the season's nest failures were not attributable to flooding; instead, he blamed predation by Bald Eagles and human interference. Lee wrote that at Moss Lake, a "keep away" sign intended to protect a loon nest from intruders was removed twice. No chicks resulted from the Moss Lake nest, despite the female loon devoting 42 days to incubation.

There were only two reports of Least Bittern this period. The first, from 18 June, came oddly enough from downtown Utica. This report involved a dead individual that had been caught as prey and then dropped. Of course, this was the handiwork of the city's resident Peregrine Falcons. This case is interesting not merely because it involves an NYS designated Endangered Species preying upon a NYS Threatened Species, but it's also interesting since a bittern is unusual prey for a falcon. The Least Bittern (like the Sora that was reportedly caught as prey last period) is not known for its high flying during the breeding season. We speculate that the male peregrine has developed a technique for flushing marsh birds out of cattail beds, or perhaps the bittern was hunting in the open from a fallen log. It will be interesting to see if the Peregrine continues to take normally-secretive birds this way in the future.

Probably due to the drought conditions that affected large swaths of New York State this summer, Great Egrets concentrated their numbers in more reliable wetland habitat. Relatively large numbers of these graceful wading birds were observed in several places across the Region, most notably at Delta Lake and Three Rivers WMA. On 12 August at Delta Lake, Matt Perry was treated to

the sight of 23 Great Egrets all standing in one tight group. That morning, he observed seven more spread out around the lake – making a grand total of 30 birds. This is an excellent number for Region 5 and, as far as the authors can tell, a new Regional record by a few birds. For that matter the second highest count, 25 at Three Rivers recorded by Gregg Dashnau, would be a new record-high as well. These are not terrifically high numbers in a broader upstate NY context, with hundreds occasionally found at roost sites in Region 1. Just beyond the Regional boundary, 100+ bird roost flights have been seen at Montezuma. On 18 June a **Snowy Egret** was found along the west shore of Onondaga Lake at the newly-developed outlet to Nine Mile Creek but was not seen after that. Of roughly 30 Regional records, about one third are from the summer season.

On 5 June, Dorothy Rewkowski saw and photographed a **Glossy Ibis** in a field near her house in the Town of Westmoreland in Oneida County. Like Snowy Egret, Glossy Ibis is a rare but regular spring overshoot to the Region. Summer birds may be lingering from spring or immatures dispersing after fledging. It remains unclear whether the birds seen upstate originate from coastal populations or get here via an interior route likely involving the Ohio and Mississippi River valleys. Of roughly 40 Regional records of Glossy Ibis, the current sighting is only the fifth for the summer season.

On 23 July in Brewerton, a windstorm brought down an Osprey nest containing two young that were close to fledgling. Wildlife Rehabilitator Jean Soprano reported that the nestlings, after being examined and deemed healthy, were put into a fabricated nest, and that nest was fastened to a tree located close to where the original nest tree stood. For a day the young were fed smelt fish that were conveyed to the nest via a container attached to a long pole. Recordings of Osprey distress calls were played at the new nest site in an attempt to attract the parents back to the area. The scheme worked and the parent Ospreys resumed feeding the young after 24 hours. Soprano also reported that a fledgling Osprey, this one from a nest in Baldwinsville, had lost a leg after getting it caught in bailing twine. Apparently, a parent Osprey had brought to the nest a large garbage bag that was heavily wrapped in the twine. Ospreys are well known for bringing home all manner of unlikely objects to decorate their nests with. In this case the “decoration” turned into a trap when one of the Osprey nestlings got its leg caught in the twine. This resulted in a loss of circulation in the leg and caused a crippling deformity. When the juvenile fledged it brought the bag and twine along with it to the ground. The hobbled fledgling was ultimately euthanized.

As is typical in our Region, there were very few reports of Northern Goshawks and only one involved a possible breeding pair. Conversely, the number of reports of nesting Bald Eagles continues to increase in the Region. Interestingly, even Oneida County, which is relatively poorly covered by birders, now boasts five known active nests. Larry Hall found a **Black Vulture** in Little Falls and documented it with an excellent submission to eBird. His description hit on all the most important features that distinguish the species

under field conditions, and the editors felt it was a good sample of how to concisely document a rarity. Hall wrote "As the bird soared I could easily see silver markings of outer wings. Unlike two-toned look of the T.V. with silver flight feathers. Tail on this bird much shorter than the T.V. and wing span shorter. This bird's wing flap rhythm more quickly (sic) and shallower than the T.V.s in the immediate proximity."

A Red-tailed Hawk that came into Jean Soprano's rehabilitation facility showed symptoms of Wild Nile Virus (WNV). This virus continues to pose a threat to raptors and may be responsible for significantly reducing the Region's population of some species (most notably Great Horned Owls.) Red-shouldered Hawks seem to be following on the Goshawk's road to obscurity—at least in our Region. Only one case of probable breeding was reported for the species, and generally there were few sightings. Reportedly, a pair of Piping Plovers was again present this season in the vicinity of Sandy Pond, but this year there was no confirmation of breeding success. This summer, migrant shorebirds began showing up as early as the first week of July. By the beginning of August, large numbers of sandpipers were taking advantage of extensive mudflats at Delta Lake. One observer said the flock sizes at Delta in early August were the largest he had seen in over a decade. However, most of the time the 200 plus birds remained too far out for decent viewing from shore edges. Although Whimbrel was missed this period, Ruddy Turnstone, Stilt Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, and Short-billed Dowitcher were all reported. Matching the record-high count for our Region, six Buff-breasted Sandpipers were spotted together at the Sky High Turf Farm on 28 August. Kevin McGann was able to get an excellent photo of all six together in flight. Only one Black Tern was observed this period, and it was found in the far eastern portion of the Montezuma NWR (in Cayuga County). On the last day of August at West Barrier Bar County Park near Fair Haven, Bill Purcell observed a single Forster's Tern. Sandhill Cranes were again seen on Howland Island. Their status as a nester in the Region is unknown, but if not already breeding there they surely do so nearby.

Judging by the number of reports, this was another below average season for cuckoos. Certainly no significant invasion of tent caterpillars was noted, and we are accustomed to making a correlation between cuckoo populations and the presence of their hairy caterpillar prey. Nevertheless, during this breeding season the Utica Peregrines again disproportionately preyed upon cuckoos, procuring at least 20 of them during the time the falcons were feeding their young. The majority of cuckoos brought to the nest were Black-billed, and all were believed to have been caught by the male falcon. It is believed that these cuckoos are being taken from areas no more than a mile away from the downtown nest site. Clearly, cuckoos are easy for falcons to catch, but there is also some evidence suggesting they are not a favored food item. While other birds, including songbirds, are nearly completely devoured, almost as a rule entire wings of cuckoos are regularly discarded and found intact on the city

streets. Also, when the eyasses were provided with a choice of bird carcasses to feed on, they almost invariably choose the non-cuckoo meal. Perhaps the cuckoo's diet of distasteful and sometimes toxic hairy caterpillars serves to flavor the meat. Lastly, it was observed that cuckoos tended to be one of the prey species most often seen "stored" on a building ledge or rooftop.

The only Common Nighthawks observed this season outside the usual August migration window were two found in downtown Utica in the early evening of 11 June. Spring nighthawk migration continues into early June, so these may have been late migrants. The birds were heard and seen flying together with a flock of Chimney Swifts. Nighthawks formerly nested atop graveled urban rooftops in the Region's cities but have not been known from there lately. They may yet return to doing so and late June/July sightings, especially if night after night, should be cause for extra birding effort to determine the birds' status. As might be expected, Utica's resident male Peregrine Falcon made a half-hearted attempt at catching one of the nighthawks but was unsuccessful. This time a NYS Endangered Species attempted to prey upon a NYS Special Concern Species! There were very few reports of Eastern Whip-poor-will, with most sightings coming from Herkimer County. However, the lack of reports from the species' traditional stronghold in Constantia may reflect a lack of birder effort. Both of these charismatic nightjars seek a well-drained surface such as sand or gravel upon which to lay their eggs.

Red-headed Woodpeckers had a relatively decent showing this summer. A pair was confirmed breeding in the Town of Marshal in Oneida County. This was close to a former breeding area for the species. Another pair was observed at Fair Haven, where the birds may have relocated across the bay after the west spit nest tree was felled by wind. Adult and juvenile birds were photographed together by Tom Auer near Cleveland on the north shore of Oneida Lake.

American Kestrels in the Region may be increasing in appropriate urban areas. The species stronghold is usually considered to be rural areas where barns and road-side tree cavities are typically adopted as nest sites. There is mounting evidence in our Region that kestrels have become quite urbanized. Reports from local Wildlife Rehabilitators and urban Peregrine watchers indicate kestrels are living on the periphery of the city in good numbers. When checking an approximately two mile radius around the Utica Peregrines' nest site in late June, at least a dozen American Kestrels were found including three adult pairs. They seemed to be staking claims around warehouses and otherwise inhabiting industrial sites. Is less competition from European Starlings at these spots playing a role? David Wheeler recalls that prior to development of Onondaga Lake's west shore, kestrel family groups (4-6 birds) were regularly seen atop the brushy bluffs in August. Do they still successfully nest there in light of recent habitat modification and increased recreational usage?

There were reports of two successful Merlin nests in the Region—Old Forge and Oswego. The Oswego nest was discovered when a nestling fell out on 24 July. The young raptor was rehabilitated and subsequently released. This

season, both the Syracuse and Utica Peregrine Falcons successfully fledged two young each. Later in the summer, the Utica Peregrine watchers reported several foreign Peregrines or interlopers coming into the downtown territory (not unusual). These strangers typically meet with hazing and/or sparring matches instigated by the resident pair. Usually the female would chase out female interlopers and the male would similarly deal with foreign males. Most appeared to be immature birds, presumably post-fledging dispersals having their first free-roaming experiences.

Acadian Flycatchers were found at three locations this period and persisted in two of them. One was the traditional site at Whisky Hollow, although the bird didn't show up there until 23 June, which was, according to Joe Brin, close to a month later than normal. The species also lingered at Sterling Nature Center, but there was no information available regarding breeding status. Birders covering the southern highland's dark hemlock hollows would likely find more Acadians. Jean Soprano reported that two American Crows which were brought in to her rehab facility in early August were very likely suffering from WNV. A **Boreal Chickadee** was reported from Bald Mt just east of Old Forge. Historically, there have been relatively few reports of this species coming from the area—our Region's only boreal zone but containing large areas of suitable habitat. This may be due to lack of birder effort given convenient and reliable spots in nearby Hamilton County such as Ferd's Bog. By the latter half of summer there were indications that Red-breasted Nuthatches were on the move, with widespread reports of 1-2 birds coming from backyards and other places not associated with breeding territories. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet reported from a backyard in southern Madison County on 18 August was likely a very early migrant.

On 19 June, a survey (by kayak) of Howland Island undertaken by Jay McGowan and Livia Santana turned up a remarkable six singing **Prothonotary Warblers**. One of the Prothonotarys was observed carrying food and hanging on to it for an extended period of time, thus likely feeding young. The species is scarce at our latitude and usually considered a first-half-of-May migrant. McGowan had found only two singing males during a similar survey conducted the previous June. This year their paddle along the river on both the east and west sides of Howland Island totaled seven miles and was accomplished in a little more than four hours. The 19 June survey also yielded a total of 29 Cerulean Warblers. Away from Howland Island there were very few Cerulean Warblers found and none were encountered near or east of Oneida Lake. The last spring-migrant Cape May Warbler remained through 6 June in Kirkland. The individual seemed to be particularly enamored with a grove of mature Norway Spruce trees and loathe to leave. Perhaps insect infestation was the reason. There was one report of Prairie Warbler from a traditional breeding site north of Tully. Several observers noted the August movement of migrant warblers was slow in coming. Certainly both the number of species counted and the tallies of individuals remained low right up to the last week of August. The Derby Hill night migration microphone was "offline" for fall migration but

presumably continued to record, per Bill Evans. However, lack of reasonably timely data made it difficult to follow the often-inconspicuous onset of fall migration. Hopefully internet-connectivity problems will be worked out soon. This is the fifth season of the project, and if the microphone successfully recorded flight calls the data will still be useful even if substantially after the fact.

Always very rare and possibly absent from the Region as a breeder, a **Henslow's Sparrow** flight call was recorded just after midnight on 2 June by the Derby Hill microphone. which was recording and transmitting through the end of the spring season. Upstate NY is the eastern edge of the species breeding range, which extends west through the Great Lakes states into the lower Midwest near the Mississippi River. Henslow's choice of nesting habitat is very specific and always ephemeral—grasslands left to grow long enough to see the emergence of short tree stems. Unless managed for the species, fields seldom reach the necessary condition and/or pass quickly through into an equally unsuitable brushland. The bird was likely on its way to the Jefferson County area near Fort Drum and Perch River WMA, the state's last stronghold. Evans reports it is the first definite recording of the species from the Derby microphone. The Region's supply of Eastern Towhees appears to be in good shape, at least according to the high counts reported during the height of this breeding season. It's an ongoing concern that the late successional growth the species depends on for breeding is rapidly evolving into forest, thus setting the towhee's population up for a crash. On the other hand, if our evidence for a prospering towhee population is correct, and if this trend continues, then perhaps the towhee's habitat is not in such dire jeopardy. This would come as good news for allied species like Brown Thrasher, Field Sparrow, and others that share similar habitat requirements.

Clay-colored Sparrow was again confirmed as breeding at Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary in Kirkland, although the small colony had reportedly decreased in size from the previous year and was late to the territory. In most of the Region the bottom fell out for grassland nesters some time ago, and so now, year to year, we see only the slightest fluctuations in the small number of grassland species that get reported. This summer offered little in the way of encouragement, with both Savannah and Grasshopper sparrow apparently failing to win back any ground. A little encouragement on the grassland habitat front came from Chris Lajewski of the Montezuma Audubon Center. On 1 August he reported that a Fayetteville property converted to grassland habitat and managed by the Sisters of St. Francis is coming along very well. Although he reported few sparrows, six Eastern Meadowlarks and two Northern Harriers were among the species Lajewski tallied that day. In northern Oneida County, grassland birds including the besieged sparrows are still finding a haven in fields managed by Amish farmers. Upland Sandpiper and Wilson's Snipe were also reported from the area. Purple Finches were widely reported this period, with just a few

records of other irruptive finches. Drew Weber found five **Red Crossbills** in Fabius on 4 July. Most reports of Pine Siskins came from the Adirondacks.

This season a total of 213 species and two hybrids were reported, which is eight above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: Brant, White-winged Scoter, **Snowy Egret**, Black-crowned Night-Heron, **Glossy Ibis**, **Black Vulture**, Sandhill Crane, **Piping Plover**, Ruddy Turnstone, **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**, **Forster's Tern**, Long-eared Owl, **Boreal Chickadee**, "Lawrence's" Warbler, **Prothonotary Warbler**, **Henslow's Sparrow**, and Red Crossbill.

Summer 2016 produced 45,504 eBird records for Region 5, and these were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02. Reports were contributed by 256 people. **NOTE:** For this report we have used an abbreviated species list.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; BLNC – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; Bville – Baldwinsville; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida L at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; DL – Delta L, ONEI; Dolge – Dolgeville, HERK; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GB – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; GLSP – Green Lakes SP, Manlius, ONON; GSC – Great Swamp Conservancy, Canastota; Hast – Hastings, OSWE; HI – Howland I, CAYU; HV – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; MW – McKoons Road Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; OF – Old Forge; OneiL – Oneida L; OnonL – Onondaga L; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of

Onondaga & Madison Co.; SHTF – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango, MADI; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; SP – Sandy Pd and vicinity; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; VB – Verona Beach SP and vicinity; WH – Whiskey Hollow; WP – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Brant: Atwell, ADK early June (GL), continued from previous period, only report.
Trumpeter Swan: max 4 SNC 16, 18 Jun, 4 Jul; 2 Oswego 4 Jul; only reports.
Wood Duck: max 70 DL 15 Aug.
Gadwall: 6 HI 13 Aug; only report.
Am. Wigeon: OnonL 19 Jun; Bville 8-24 Aug.
Am. Black Duck: max 8 MW 10 Jul.
Blue-winged Teal: 13 MW 6 Jun, breeding; max 27 DL 31 Aug.
Green-winged Teal: max 10 MW 6 Jul, confirmed breeding.
Ring-necked Duck: WP 5 Jul – 1 Aug (SH, mob), ad male.
Greater Scaup: pair SP 5 Jun (WF); DL 2 Aug (BP), ad male.
Lesser Scaup: pair SP 15 Jun (AK).
White-winged Scoter: SP 5 Jun (WF).
Bufflehead: f SNC 9-10 Jun (JD), only report.
Hooded Merganser: 14 WP 11 Jun; max 30 DL 27 Jul.
Com. Merganser: max 16 DL 8 Aug; 14 Rome 17 Aug.
Ruddy Duck: 2 BLNC 20 Jun, both males, one thru 16 Jul; all reports from same loc.
Ring-necked Pheasant: max 5 GSC 7 Jul, known release site; reports 4 other locs.
Ruffed Grouse: max 9 Redfield, OSWE 15 Jun, breeding; 5 Erieville 6 Jul; 5 Salisbury, HERK 9 Aug.
Com. Loon: 7 North Lake, ADK 8 Jul; 7 Twitchell Lake, ADK 4 Aug; max 8 Big Moose Lake, ADK 16 Aug; survey shows 17 young result from 33 nests (GL).
Pied-billed Grebe: max 5 HI 23 Jun; 4 DL 22 Aug.
Am. Bittern: max 3 Bridgeport 26 Jun; reports of singles from 6 other locs.
Least Bittern: Utica 18 June, found dead, falcon prey item; HI 13 Aug; only reports.
Great Egret: arr Vernon, OnonL 16 Jul; max 30 DL 12 Aug; 25 TR 24 Aug; good numbs.
SNOWY EGRET (R5): OnonL 18 Jun (PR, mob).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: HI 29 Jul; Syr 27 Aug; few reports.

GLOSSY IBIS (R5): Westmoreland 5 Jun (DR, ph).

BLACK VULTURE (R5): Little Falls 17 Jun (BLH!), *intro*.

Turkey Vulture: max 100 DH 22 Aug.

Osprey: max 9 Bville 14 Jul, *intro*.

HAWKS - LARIDS

N. Harrier: max 3 Deerfield 2 Jun.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 3 SFNS 31 Aug.

Cooper's Hawk: max 2 GB 29 Jun; 2 DH 5 Aug.

N. Goshawk: 2 SH 12 Jul; Ava 18 Aug, adult; only reports.

Bald Eagle: max 25 DH 5 Aug.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 Lake Julia 4 Jul, 2 Hamilton 26 Aug; singles at a dozen other locs.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 11 DH 5 Aug.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 217 DH 5 Aug; one case of West Nile Virus strongly suspected, Syr (JS).

Sora: max 2 OnonL 11 Jun; singles at 3 other locs.

Virginia Rail: max 5 Fayetteville 13 Aug; relatively few reports.

Com. Gallinule: max 6 HI 17 Aug; reports from only 4 other locs.

Am. Coot: max 15 HI 29 Jul; OnonL 14 – 22 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: max 12 HI 26 Jul, 22 Aug; only reports.

Black-bellied Plover: arr Brewerton 23 Aug; SHTF 27 Aug; only reports.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr & max 13 SHTF 27 Aug; all sightings same loc.

Semipalmated Plover: last 2 TR 3 Jun; arr 3 Marcellus 23 Jul; max 46 DL 2 Aug; 30 Montezuma NWR east 13 Aug.

PIPING PLOVER: 2 SP 9 – 24 Jun (AK), *intro*.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 10 OnonL 11 Jun; 8 DL 6 Aug.

Solitary Sandpiper: last Dolge 3 Jun; arr Eaton 3 Jul; max 17 HI 24 Jul; 12 TR 3 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr OnonL 12 Jul; max 19 Marcellus 21 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Skan 6 Jul; max 28 DL 4, 9 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: 2 Deerfield 2 – 16 Jun; Oswego Airport 25 Jun; only locs; none after 25 Jun.

Ruddy Turnstone: last & max 2 SP 1 Jun (AK); arr Oswego 28 Aug (WF, MM); FH 31 Aug (BP).

Stilt Sandpiper: HI 20 Jul, only report.

Sanderling: last SP 15 Jun; arr DL 2 Aug; max 4 FH 31 Aug; low numbers & few reports.

Dunlin: SP 9 – 15 Jun.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr Montezuma NWR east 13 Aug; Bridgeport 27, 28 Aug; Brewerton 31 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: arr 3 Skan 6 Jul; 100 TR 6 Aug; max 200 Montezuma NWR east 13 Aug (JM); good numbers.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr & max 4 DL 2 Aug (BP); 2 Scriba 14 Aug; only locs.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr SHTF 21 Aug (TS); max 6 SHTF 28 Aug (KM), good number.

Pectoral Sandpiper: last Poland 15 June; arr MW 14 Jul; max 13 DL 12 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 3 SP 15 Jun; arr Skan 10 Jul; 50 DL 8 Aug; max 120 Montezuma NWR east 13 Aug (JM).

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr MW 10 Sep; max 2 DL 22 Aug; TR 27-28 Aug (GD).

dowitcher species: max 5 TR 21 Aug (GD).

Wilson's Snipe: max 3 MW 26 Jul; reports from 6 locs.

Am. Woodcock: max 4 HI 3 Jun.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr 12 Sylvan Beach 19 Jul; max 30 Sylvan Beach 26 Jul; most reports from Oneil.

Herring Gull: Little Moose Lake, ADK early June (GL), 2 nests with young.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 6 VB 14 Aug; low counts.

Caspian Tern: max 78 SP 9 Jun.

Black Tern: Montezuma NWR east 19 Jun; WP 19 Jun; only reports.

Com. Tern: max 208 Cicero 23 Aug; 161 Canastota 23 Aug.

Forster's Tern: FH 31 Aug (BP).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 3 HI 19 Jun; relatively few reports, *intro*.

Black-billed Cuckoo: max 2 GLSP 25 Jun, 2 SFNS 19 – 31 Jul, 2 Hast 29 Jul; *intro*.

E. Screech-Owl: only 9 reports of singles.

Great Horned Owl: max 2 Fabius 5 Aug; only 3 other reports of singles.

Barred Owl: max 4 Belgium 16 Jul;

widespread reports.

Long-eared Owl: Williamstown 22 Jun; Salisbury 3 Aug; only reports.

Com. Nighthawk: 2 Utica 11 Jun; 18 SH 17 Aug; max 24 TR 23 Aug (GD).

E. Whip-poor-will: max 3 Salisbury 3 Jun – 11 Jul; SSSP 16 Jul; only locs.

Chimney Swift: max 25 TR 18 Aug; generally low counts.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 10 WP 22 Aug.

Belted Kingfisher: max 9 Bville 13 Jul; 9 DL 11 Aug.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 3 Town of Marshall, ONEI 7 Jun, breeding; 2 FH 22 Jul; 2 Cleveland 6 Aug; New Hartford 28 Jul (SS).

Am. Kestrel: max 8 Poland 5 Aug; 6 Dolge 16 Aug; *intro*.

Merlin: 2 New Hartford 18 Jul, 2 DL 11 – 26 Aug; pair Atwell, ADK (GL), successful nest; Port Ontario 24 July (JS), nestling rehabilitated and released.

Peregrine Falcon: 2 fledge from Utica nest, 15 – 16 Jun, *intro*; 2 fledge from Syr nest; 4 reports of singles away nest sites.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last Syr 7 Jun; arr HI 27 Aug; only reports.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 Bridgeport 7 Aug; 4 more reports of singles.

Acadian Flycatcher: TR 4 Jun; WH 23 Jun – 23 Jul; SNC 9 Jun – 23 Jul; only reports.

Yellow-throated Vireo: max 8 HI 19 Jun.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 3 OF 13 Jun, 3 HV 25 Jun, 3 Lake Julia, Remsen.

Philadelphia Vireo: Waterville 15 Aug; Fairfield 26 Aug; only reports.

Am. Crow: 2 cases of West Nile Virus, Syr (JS).

Fish Crow: 2 Bville 18 Jul; 2 Fulton 28 Jul; max 9 OnonL 3 Aug; singles at 4 other locs.

Com. Raven: max 6 GLSP 25 Jun.

Horned Lark: max 28 SHTF 28 Aug; none before 21 Jul.

Purple Martin: max 43 SP 9 Jun; 40 SSSP 2 Aug.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 10 WP 30 Jul.

Bank Swallow: max 100 HI 26 Jul; 20 Phoenix 26 Jul.

Cliff Swallow: 5 TR 4 Jun; 5 Cicero 15 Jun; max 10 Rome 21 Jul; 6 Phoenix 4 Aug.

Boreal Chickadee: OF 22 Aug (NM).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 6 OF 15 Aug; late summer incursion.

Brown Creeper: 3 HI 19 Jun; 3 OF 21 Aug.
Winter Wren: max 3 SH Smartville OSWE 3 Jul; relatively few reports & low numbers.

Carolina Wren: max 4 DeWitt 19 Aug.

Marsh Wren: max 10 HI 19 Jun; reports from expected areas.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 5 HI 20 Jul.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 4 Sangerfield 24 Jul.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: SH 18 Aug (BW).

Veery: max 7 Smartville 3 Jul; 7 Williamstown 26 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: max 3 Redfield 15 Jun, 3 Lake Julia, Remsen 4 Jul; reports from 4 other locs.

Hermit Thrush: 5 Lake Julia, Remsen 4 Jul; max 6 Moss Lake 27 Jul; 6 OF 30 Jul.

Wood Thrush: max 13 Camillus 25 Jun; 8 SFNS 6 Jul; 9 CM 11 Jul.

Brown Thrasher: max 4 Camillus 18 Jun, 4 GLSP 18 – 25 Jun.

N. Mockingbird: max 3 Syr 11 – 12 Jun, 3 GLSP 6 Aug.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 2 DeRuyter 9 Jun, 2 Orwell 11 Jun; reports of singles from only 5 other locs.

N. Waterthrush: max 4 BLNC 13 Jun, 4 Williamstown 26 Jun.

Golden-winged Warbler: Scriba 25 June; Bville 28 Aug; only reports.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 3 SFNS 3 – 30 Jun; relatively poor numbers.

“Brewster's” Warbler: Scriba 25 Jun.

“Lawrence's” Warbler: GB 25 Jun (WF).

Prothonotary Warbler: max 6 HI 19 Jun (JM, LS), breeding; HI 17 Jul (JM, TL).

Tennessee Warbler: arr Const 14 Aug; SFNS 21 Aug; Brewerton 30 Aug; only reports.

Mourning Warbler: max 8 WH 1 Jun; 4 Camillus 25 Jun.

Hooded Warbler: max 5 Williamstown 26 Jun.

Cape May Warbler: last SFNS 6 Jun (MP), late; arr 2 Hast 28 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: max 29 HI 19 Jun (JM, LS), *intro*; singles BL, Phoenix, Pompey, New Haven.

N. Parula: 2 OF 17 Jul, 21 Aug; Moss Lake 27 Jul; only reports.

Magnolia Warbler: max 7 SFNS 31 Aug.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 2 SFNS 29 Aug; 2 BLNC 30 Aug; only reports.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 8 Smartville,

OSWE 3 Jul; 5 Lake Julia, Remsen 4 Jul.

Blackpoll Warbler: last Hast 3 Jun; arr Hast 30 Aug.

Pine Warbler: max 4 Williamstown 26 Jun; 4 TR Bville 4 Jul.

Prairie Warbler: Tully 14 Jun, only report.

Canada Warbler: max 3 TR 4 Jun, 3 Smartville 3 Jul, 3 Cold Brook 13 Jul.

Wilson's Warbler: arr Rice Creek Field Station 20 Aug; SFNS 28 Aug; Hast 29 Aug; only reports.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: 8 TR 4 Jul; max 9 Hast 17 Jul.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Pompey 14 Jun; max 3 SFNS 15 – 16 Jul; only locs.

Vesper Sparrow: Dolge 22 Jul, only report.

Savannah Sparrow: max 5 Deerfield 16 Jun – 5 Aug; relatively few reports & low counts.

Grasshopper Sparrow: 3 Richland, OSWE 11 Jun; 2 Poland 6 Jun; max 4 DeWitt 2 Jul; only reports.

Henslow's Sparrow: DH 2 Jun, flight call recorded on night-migration microphone (BE), sonogram, *intro*.

Scarlet Tanager: max 4 WH 1 Jun, 4 Kirkland Woods 4 Jun, 4 GLSP 25 Jun, 4 DH 28 Aug.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 5 BLNC 28 Jun; max 12 SFNS 11 Jul; 11 CM 16 Jul; 7 WP 22 Aug.

Indigo Bunting: max 12 Hast 17 Jul; 11 Elbridge 1 Aug.

Bobolink: 29 Deerfield 22 Jun; max 82 Bridgeport 27 Aug.

E. Meadowlark: max 25 Lebanon 2 Aug; mostly small numbers.

Orchard Oriole: max 6 GLSP 25 Jun, 9 Jul; reports from 8 other locs.

Baltimore Oriole: 9 DeWitt 2 Jun; 9 Camillus 18 Jun; max 15 HI 19 Jun.

Purple Finch: max 12 Dolge 20 Aug; widespread reports.

House Finch: max 20 Bville 14 Aug.

Red Crossbill: 5 Fabius 4 Jul (DWe), only report.

Pine Siskin: max 8 Eagle Bay ADK; most reports from HERK

Evening Grosbeak: 2 Eagle Bay ADK 21 Jun, only report.

EXOTICS

Chukar: TR 26 Jun – 4 Jul.