

REGION 10—MARINE

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The weather this summer did not vary greatly from recent averages, the most obvious deviation being that July and August were drier than usual. Our Region was not directly affected by tropical storms or hurricanes. Monthly extreme temperatures were also rather routine. For June, the highest temperature was 94°F on the 17th, the lowest was 47° on the 8th. The extremes for July were 95° on the 21st and 59° on the 26th, whereas those for August were 92° on the 1st and 56° on the 27th.

	Central Park			Islip		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Jun	72.0°	71.4°	+0.6°	68.7°	68.4°	+0.3°
Jul	76.8°	76.5°	+0.3°	75.0°	73.9°	+1.1°
Aug	74.0°	75.2°	-1.2°	72.8°	72.8°	0.00°

	Central Park			Islip		
Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	4.76"	4.41"	+0.35"	3.57"	4.27"	-0.70"
Jul	4.19"	4.60"	-0.41"	2.11"	3.43"	-1.32"
Aug	3.34"	4.44"	-1.10"	3.73"	3.98"	-0.25"

The most significant and memorable ornithological event of summer 2017 was a massive incursion of Great Shearwaters along the outer beaches of Nassau and western Suffolk Counties on 18 June, associated with a mortality event along the whole ocean shore of Long Island. A major push of seabirds migrating inshore was first noted on 16 June, during easterly winds, from sites such as Robert Moses SP, in western Suffolk, and further east at Tiana Beach, Southampton, and Main Beach, East Hampton. The most numerous species during these efforts was Cory's Shearwater, which is typical for such flights at this date, but good numbers of Great, Sooty, and Manx Shearwaters and Wilson's Storm-Petrels were also observed, all passing west to east.

The next day was windless and foggy, with a few tubenoses but little out of the ordinary until late in the day, when an adult Brown Booby was discovered sitting on the sand within the tern colony at Nickerson Beach, Nassau County. Enduring the wrath of locally breeding American Oystercatchers, Eastern Willets, and Common Terns, this distressed sulid made several flights but stayed within the colony despite considerable persecution from Common Terns. It eventually settled in to roost on a Piping Plover enclosure, where it remained through the foggy end of day as many birders arrived to see it (see photos, p. 318). The next morning, 18 June, the booby was found dead.

The disappointment of those who had come to see it was overtaken as the morning wore on, as birders were amazed to observe a major flight of Great Shearwaters, flying west to east. A count of 35 during the morning at Nickerson Beach was exceptional for the Nassau County shore, but this was soon eclipsed by an estimate of 220 passing close to the jetty at nearby Jones Inlet. Further east, at Robert Moses SP, a team of observers tallied 669 Great Shearwaters over the course of the day. A highly unusual feature of these counts, beyond their sheer magnitude, was the vast over-representation of Great relative to Cory's, whereas the latter usually strongly outnumbers the former in shore-based counts at this season. Observers' emotions were to swing once more on that memorable day, plunging again at the realization that many of the birds were in distress, landing on the beach and in parking lots.

Over the next couple of days, more than 100 Great Shearwaters were found dead on the beaches, from Nickerson to Montauk. Five observers tallied

casualties over measured routes at widely spaced sites, consistently finding between five and ten dead Great Shearwaters per mile walked (sums for the five transects were 47 dead Great Shearwaters over seven miles, and no seabirds of other species were found during these systematic searches). Necropsies performed by Joe Okoniewski, a wildlife pathologist with the New York State Department of Conservation, revealed that the deceased birds were extremely thin and had apparently starved, an observation corroborated by Paul Sweet, who prepared salvaged specimens at the American Museum of Natural History.

There were many discussions in the aftermath of this event regarding how unusual the level of mortality was, given the difficulties in establishing baselines over the vast areas passed en route by this trans-hemispheric migrant. Although there are many recorded instances of mass mortality events along the eastern seaboard of the United States, the one described here was highly unusual in at least one respect: its location. Great Shearwaters are rarely observed even in small numbers along the western shore of Long Island, despite a very large number of observers concentrated in this area. Cruickshank (1942) stated, "many a season passes without a record from this section"—referring to the shore west of Fire Island, and Bull (1974) implied that 50 at Jones Beach on 8 June 1957 was the highest count for Nassau County. Furthermore, despite the absence of any systematic program for monitoring beached birds on Long Island, Nassau County's relatively short beachfront is so thoroughly covered, not only by birders, but by biologists, naturalists and beachcombers of all kinds, that it is difficult to imagine that a mortality event on this scale could have been overlooked there in the modern era.

Although the wind speeds locally were never in the range that would cause healthy shearwaters any difficulties, birds already weakened by starvation might have been displaced into New York Bight by long-sustained easterly winds. Meteorologist Dave Nicosia stated on 19 June, "The last few days have featured a very strong high pressure system south of Newfoundland and a prolonged easterly flow toward the Mid Atlantic Coast.... There has been an easterly wind anomaly of between 25 and 30 mph that is strongest from well offshore right to Long Island." The reasons for the birds' poor condition remain unknown, but probably relate to problems with their nutrition well removed from Long Island in time and space (although co-occurrence of the starving Brown Booby at Nickerson Beach and a dead Leatherback Turtle at Democrat Point on 20 June might have been related in some way). Nevertheless, right around the time of this event, feeding opportunities were observed to be excellent over Long Island's near-offshore waters, for example at the Coimbra wreck, where Derek Rogers observed over 300 Great Shearwaters and many other seabirds feeding over large concentrations of fish on 22 June.

Almost as noteworthy was the presence in late July and August of unusual numbers of Cory's Shearwaters and Wilson's Storm-Petrels in the recessed waters north and west of Montauk Point, where pelagic species are generally not persistently numerous. The many reports during this period from Block Island

Sound, Gardiner's Bay, and even eastern Long Island Sound were quite noteworthy, especially as they co-occurred with similar patterns observed inshore in nearby Rhode Island and Massachusetts, in Rhode Island Sound and near the approaches to Narragansett Bay and Buzzard's Bay.

With our attention focused so much on seabirds this season, we gave less scrutiny to breeding birds. A useful source of comparative and potential baseline data, especially for common, widespread, and under-reported species are the June Counts, conducted in many places within Christmas Bird Count circles, and compiled in a similar manner. The Captree June Count, once a vibrant tradition in southwestern Suffolk County, has been revived for four years now. Totals for all species detected on this year's count are included below, providing at least some interpretable data concerning many under-reported species.

Among scarce breeders, Red-headed Woodpeckers nested at Connetquot River SP, Cliff Swallows nested again at Pelham Bay, and Yellow-throated Warblers nested again along the lower Connetquot River. The strong showing by Blue Grosbeaks during spring 2017 continued into summer, where this species, having established itself as a regular breeder, continues to add more stations. In addition to its strongholds on Staten Island and in and around Long Island's pine-oak woods, Blue Grosbeaks were found this summer at landfills in southern Nassau and northwestern Suffolk Counties. To a much lesser degree, our coastal New York Region also shared in the dramatic Dickcissel invasion of the northeastern US during summer 2017. Noted in unusual numbers this summer in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and upstate New York, even Long Island hosted a territorial male at Caumsett State Park, in northwestern Suffolk County. For more information, see Mike Morgante's discussion in the Region 1 report in this issue.

Long Island's (and New York's) first **Little Egret**, an adult from May 2015, was succeeded this summer by the second, a juvenile at Goethal's Bridge Pond, on Staten Island. Dick Veit's detailed article on this occurrence is slated for the next issue of *The Kingbird* (Volume 68, Number 1), and will surely be scrutinized closely by the New York State Records Committee and other aficionados of rare bird reports. Other rarities this summer included **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks** in Brooklyn, a **Pacific Loon** at Cupsogue Beach, **White-faced Storm-Petrel** (and most of the other highly sought pelagic species) far offshore, the **Brown Booby** discussed above, several **Black-necked Stilts**, a **Wilson's Plover** at Jones Beach, three **Franklin's Gull** sightings, two **White-winged Doves**, a **Rufous Hummingbird** in Babylon, southwestern Suffolk County, and two **Yellow-headed Blackbirds**.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BNL – Brookhaven Nat'l Lab, Upton, SUFF; **CemRes** – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CIC** – Coney I Cr/P, KING; **CJC**—Captree June Count; **CP** – Central Park, NEWY; **CRESLI** – Coastal Research & Education Society whale watch trips out of Montauk; **CRSP** – Connetquot R SP, SUFF; **DP** – Democrat Pt, Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **EPCAL** – former Grumman property, Calverton, SUFF; **GBP** – Goethals Bridge Pd, RICH; **GKP** - Great Kills P, RICH; **HLSP** – Hempstead Lake SP, NASS; **IHP** – Inwood Hill P, NEWY; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWE** – West End - Jones Beach SP; **JBWR** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **MB** – Mecox Bay and Inlet, SUFF; **Montauk** – Montauk, T of East Hampton, SUFF; **NB** – Nickerson Beach, NASS; **Old In** - Old Inlet, SUFF; **OMNSA** – Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, NASS; **PB** – Pikes Beach SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PlumbB** – Plumb Beach, KING; **Riv** – Riverhead, SUFF; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **Shinn** – Shinnecock Inlet and vicinity, **SPCP** – Smith Point CP, SUFF; **TB** – Tiana Beach, near Shinn, SUFF.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES
BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK:
 12 PlumbB 10 Jul (H. Wolf), nocturnal report-see eBird for details.
Snow Goose: cont at OMNSA to mid Jul, injured; Sound Ave, Riv 8 Jul.
Canada Goose: 768 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Mute Swan: 138 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Wood Duck: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Gadwall: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
American Black Duck: 7 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Mallard: 152 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Blue-winged Teal: Oyster Pd, Montauk 30 Jul, early; arr JBWR, JBWE, and Oak Beach, SUFF 19 Aug.

Northern Pintail: JBWR 25 Aug, only report.

Greater Scaup: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Lesser Scaup: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Harlequin Duck: f Montauk 8 Jul (ACo), continued to at least 3 Aug.

Surf Scoter: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Black Scoter: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Common Goldeneye: Wertheim NWR, SUFF 14 Jun (D. Mullins), only report.

Red-breasted Merganser: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Northern Bobwhite: 2 Manhasset, NASS private property, site of reintroduction program; Blydenburgh CP, SUFF 24 Jul; only reports.

Wild Turkey: ad f, 6 poults East Islip, SUFF 18 Jun; ad, 2 poults CCP 11 Jul, unus locations.

Red-throated Loon: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

PACIFIC LOON: alt, flying by close to shore CCP seawatch 18 Jun (MMcB, DF).

Common Loon: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Horned Grebe: alt CP 4-11 Jun (T. Fiore, mob), record late date for loc.

Northern Fulmar: pelagic, Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun (N. Bonomo, ph.).

BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: Hudson Canyon pelagic 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW); Block Canyon pelagic 20 Jul (F. Durso); at least 5 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug.

Cory's Shearwater: large coastal flight 16 Jun: 180 RMSP (JGI, SSM, et al.) and 102 TB (MMcB et al.); fewer far offshore, e.g., 7 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

Unusual numbers were present north and west of Montauk in late July and early August: 2 Gardiner's Bay 22 Jul (HMcG); 60 L Montauk Inlet 29 Jul (AnW); 2400 Montauk Pt 29 Jul (AnW); 9 Culloden Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM); 3 e LI Sound 15 Aug (A. Burdo et al), from Orient Pt-New London ferry. At least one *diomedea* was present among 80 CRESLI 2 Jul (ACo); 4 *diomedea* among 57 CRESLI 23 Jul (MMcB); *intro*.

Great Shearwater: 27 Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun; 46 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI, SSM, et al.); 36 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); spectacular flight w LI 18 Jun: 35 NB (BF et al.); 220 JBWE (E. Becher), unprecedented from inshore NASS; max 669 RMSP (mob), an exceptional count from land, probably without

precedent in western SUFF. Curiously, few or none observed 18 Jun further east (e.g., just 3 CCP (DF, MMcB), where this species is most often detected from shore. Large numbers found beached following this flight: 30+ dead at NB 18 Jun (E. Becher), 14 dead along 2 mi. DP 20 Jun (SSM); 7 dead along 1.5 mi. SPCP 21 Jun (DRog); 5 dead along 1 mi. TB (R. Gostic); 6 dead along 1 mi. Napeague (B. Horwith); 15 dead along 1.5 mi. Montauk (L. Ormand); 47 Napeague to Montauk 19-20 Jun (fide P. Rosen); others. Meanwhile, large flocks were observed offshore with other seabirds, feeding over abundant bait fish, e.g., >300 Coimbra Wreck 22 Jun (DRog) and 100 s of Montauk 20 Jun (F. Durso). Later offshore counts, such as 128 over shelf waters se of Shinn 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW) and 300 s Montauk 16 Jul (Z. Adams, M. Fuirst, et al.) were not unusual. Present but not especially numerous in the flocks of Cory's Shearwaters and Wilson's Storm-Petrels observed north and west of Montauk Point in August, the most notable records being one Great Gull I SUFF 4 Jul (J. DiCostanzo et al.), 14 in Block I Sound 20 Aug (P. Ribelow), and a large estimate of 1600 (with 2400 Cory's) Montauk Pt 29 Jul (AnW). Fewer present later and far offshore, e.g., 5 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug (SSi, mob); *intro*.

Sooty Shearwater: 13 Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun; 6 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI, SSM et al.); 4 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); 17 Montauk Pt 29 Jul (AnW), many for the date.

Manx Shearwater: 2 Block Canyon se of Montauk 4 Jun; 6 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); Main Beach, East Hampton, SUFF 16 Jun (PJL, SSM); 7 Montauk Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM).

AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: Hudson Canyon 22 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW); 2 SeeLife Paulagics trip 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: 17 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI, SSM et al.); 18 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al.); 12 Main Beach, East Hampton, SUFF 16 Jun (PJL, SSM); 120 CRESLI 2 Jul (ACo); 320 SeeLife Paulagics 27 Aug (SSi, mob). Unusual numbers were present north and west of Montauk in late July and early August: 84 Seal Haulout Trail, w of Montauk Pt 30 Jul (AnW); 1000 Montauk Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM); 79 Culloden Pt 12 Aug (PJL, SSM); regularly reported through Aug from Orient Pt-New London ferry in e LI Sound, max 13 on 14 Aug (D. Rottino et al.).

WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL:

Hudson Canyon 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: 29 Hudson Canyon 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL: 61 Hudson Canyon 27 Aug (SSi, mob).

BROWN BOOBY: ad NB 17-18 Jun (J. Malbin, PJL, SSM; mob); it perished early morning 18 Jun. Specimen to Cornell University collections; emaciated.

Northern Gannet: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); 7 RMSP 16 Jun (JGI et al.), immes e to w; 18 TB 16 Jun (MMcB et al), immes w to e. **Double-crested Cormorant:** 279 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Brown Pelican: over 20 reports from e SUFF to RICH 4-30 Jul; max 7 RMSP 29 Jul.

American Bittern: Dune Road, SUFF 12 Jun (F. Durso); Gilgo Beach, SUFF 19 Jul (S. Blodgett), only reports.

Least Bittern: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Great Blue Heron: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Great Egret: 74 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

LITTLE EGRET: HY GBP 8-9 Jul (R. Veit, mob); article in prep. for next issue.

Snowy Egret: 48 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Little Blue Heron: 3 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Tricolored Heron: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); increasingly scarce on LI.

Cattle Egret: Cow Meadow P, NASS 1-7 Jun, 10 Jun, cont from spring; 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); Oakwood Beach area, RICH 5 Jul (ACi).

Green Heron: 6 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 6 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Glossy Ibis: 84 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); 71 sod field near Manorville, SUFF 8 Jun (ML.Lamont), cont thru Jun, large number and unusual location.

HAWKS-LARIDS

Black Vulture (R10): North Fork Preserve, SUFF 11 Jul.

Turkey Vulture: max 19 near Peconic R area, Riv 9, 20 Jun.

Osprey: 102 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); continuing to increase in recent years.

Bald Eagle: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Northern Harrier: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Cooper's Hawk: 3 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Red-tailed Hawk: 6 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Clapper Rail: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Common Gallinule: sev reports Oakwood Beach marsh, RICH 26 Jun-18 Jul; River Rd marsh, RICH 25 Jul (ACi); Massapequa Preserve, NASS 2 Aug (J. Mohlin).

BLACK-NECKED STILT: MB 4-7 Jun (W. Becker, mob); 2 JBWE 12-14 Jun (S. Billerman, MB Billerman, mob); CCP 24 Jun (BBo, BF, mob).

American Avocet: JBWR 16-17 Aug (ABk, mob); GBP 19-20 Aug (I. Grant, mob).

American Oystercatcher: 33 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Black-bellied Plover: 9 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

American Golden-Plover: arr East Hampton, SUFF 19 Aug; max 4 Riv sod fields 26, 31 Aug.

WILSON'S PLOVER: flyover JBWE 12 Jun (S. Billerman, MB Billerman).

Piping Plover: 10 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Killdeer: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Greater Yellowlegs: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

"Eastern" Willet: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

"Western" Willet: arr NB 9 Jun (M. Zito) and DP 20 Jun (SSM); max 22 CCP 16 Aug (M. Goldstein).

Lesser Yellowlegs: ~630 RMSP 30 Aug during one hour seawatch inc flocks of up to 150+ east to west (TS, BBo).

Upland Sandpiper: JBWR 26 Aug (J. Landesberg, P. Ribolow); Miller Field, RICH 26 Aug (ACi, J. Ramirez-Garofalo), only reports.

Whimbrel: max 6 RMSP 20 Jul.

Hudsonian Godwit: flyby CRESLI 13 Aug; JBWR 18 Aug (DG, SSi, mob); JBWE 29 Aug (K. Rogers, mob).

Marbled Godwit: OIn 23-25 Jun, 3 on 26 Aug; 2 CCP 13 Aug, 1 there 20, 31 Aug; JBWE 31 Aug.

Ruddy Turnstone: max 329 TB 2 Jun; 300 CCP 4 Jun.

Red Knot: max northbound 125 CCP 4 Jun, 230 JBWR 5 Jun; max southbound 147 CCP 6 Aug.

Stilt Sandpiper: arr CCP 1 Jul; max 65 JBWR 18 Aug.

Sanderling: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Dunlin: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Baird's Sandpiper: arr GKP 12 Aug; max 4 Riv sod fields 26 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr JBWR 17 Aug; max 4 Riv sod fields 24, 28 Aug.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 227 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Western Sandpiper: PB 2 Jun (ABk); NB 27 Jun, rare in "spring"; southbound arr Rockaway P QUEE 4 Aug; max 7 JBWR 18 Aug.
Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); first big southbound push 200 JBWR 11 Jul.
Long-billed Dowitcher: arr JBWR 21 Jul; singles reported from JBWR, GKP, Oak Beach SUFF, Captree Is, SUFF.
Wilson's Phalarope: juv JBWR 11 Aug (DG); CCP 5 or 6 Aug (RBA).
Red-necked Phalarope: 2 flybys CRESLI 13 Aug; 2 PBP 25 Aug (BF, mob); 3 CRESLI 27 Aug; 3 SeeLife Paulagic trip 27 Aug (SSi, mob); JBWE 29-30 Aug (B. Anderson, mob).
SOUTH POLAR SKUA: Montauk whale watch trip 2 Jul (ACo, ph); Hudson Canyon 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW).ph; pelagic 15 Jul (N. Bonomo), well-described in eBird; pelagic NY Shelf waters 22 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW), ph .
Pomarine Jaeger: Hudson Canyon 22 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW), ph.
Parasitic Jaeger: max 7 TB 19 Jun (S. Ausubel, M. Normandia).
Long-tailed Jaeger (R10): Offshore Coimba Wreck 22 Jun (DRog, ph); Hudson Canyon 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW), ph.
Little Gull: imm NB 6 Jun, well-described by B. Proniewych; second report of imm here 11 Jun (mob, ph).
Laughing Gull: 204 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
FRANKLIN'S GULL: ad Crab Meadow Beach, SUFF 18, 23 Jun (TS, mob); ad RMSP 14 Aug (TWB, GB); JBSP 15 Aug (G. Straus).
Ring-billed Gull: 27 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Herring Gull: 437 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Iceland Gull: SPCP and adjacent OIn 6, 8 20, 28 Jun, 1 Jul (mob, ph); Heckscher SP, SUFF 18 Aug (JGI).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 15 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); the most numerous large gull at some sites in summer, as illustrated by

the following high counts along oceanfront, w to e: 17 NB 7 Jun (ABk); 10 JBSP 29 Aug (K&SF); 45 RMSP 16 Aug (SSM); 23 Sunken Forest, FINS 6 Aug (DRog); 37 SPCP 16 Jun (MMcB); 11 CCP 1 Jul (PJL, SSM); 23 TB 16 Jun (MMcB); 6 MB 5 Jun (MMcB); 8 Sagaponack Pd SUFF 6 Jun (MMcB) 24 Hither Hills SP SUFF 29 Jul(AnW).
Glaucous Gull: PlumbB 1 Jun (P. Paul); MB 4 Jun, continuing.
Great Black-backed Gull: 95 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Least Tern: 8 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Gull-billed Tern: 2 CCP 13 Jun; MB 18 Jul, rare for these eastern locations.
Roseate Tern: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Common Tern: 265 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
ARCTIC TERN: A good showing, recorded from ca. all five inlets from Jones to Shinn and two from offshore, where records continue to accrue slowly. NB 7 Jun (ABk, K&SF, E. Becher), 9 Jun (BF, S. Muchnick, T. Healy, M. Zito), 15 Jun (SSM, P. Aitken, L. Weir, L. Dinapoli, M. Zito); DP 20 Jun(SSM); 2 OIn 17 Jun (DRog); Moriches In (CCP): 2 Jun (ABk), 11 Jun (ACo), 21 Jun (SSM, K&SF), 2 on 24 Jun (SSM, PJL, TWB, GB, P. Morris, TS, BBo, BF, JGI), 30 Jun (M. Goldstein, KF), 1 Jul (SSM), 2 on 4 Jul (MMcB, SSM, PJL, M. Yuan); Dune Rd SUFF 17 Jun(P. Morris, TS, BBo). Offshore: Coimba Wreck 22 Jun (DRog); Hudson Canyon 5 Jul (DRog, JSh, AnW).
Forster's Tern: 18 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Royal Tern: small numbers NB in Jun, inc copulating pair 11 Jun (A. Bondi, P. Post); 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Sandwich Tern: 2 NB 6 Jun (S. Furtak, mob); 2nd cal yr CCP 29 Jun -1 Jul (SSM, mob); MB 5 Jul (D. Schulman).
Black Skimmer: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); high counts at NB range from 200 to 469 (5 Jul).

PIGEONS-PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: 109 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
WHITE-WINGED DOVE: JBWR 21 Jun (R. Bate, R. Fried, mob); Riv sod fields 26 Aug (S. Meyerheinrich, mob).
Mourning Dove: 153 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 13 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Barn Owl: nested at JBWR and Freshkills P, RICH.
Eastern Screech-Owl: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Great Horned Owl: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Common Nighthawk: max reported 26 Setauket Mill Pd, SUFF 30 Aug.
Chuck-will's-widow: reported from Quogue in Jun, Watch Hill, Fire Island Pines (all SUFF) in early Jul.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); reported from a few remnant strongholds: Edgewood Pres, Rocky Point area, West Hampton, and Napeague, all SUFF; max 6 Edgewood 11 Jun.
Chimney Swift: 66 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 4 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: private yard Babylon, SUFF 18 Aug (C. Cammarota, ph).
Belted Kingfisher: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Red-headed Woodpecker: ad CRSP 4 Jun, seen intermittently Jun/Jul, then 2 ads and 2 y 8 Jul (K. Thompson, ph); Riv yard 5 Jun (S. R-Ahrens); PBP 10 Aug.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 49 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Fort Greene P, KING 27Aug (B. Vatr), very early.
Downy Woodpecker: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Hairy Woodpecker: 17 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Northern Flicker: 19 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Pileated Woodpecker (R10): CemRes 23 Jun, 24 Aug; Bunker Ponds P, RICH 14 Aug (ACi).
Peregrine Falcon: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Monk Parakeet: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Eastern Wood-Pewee: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Acadian Flycatcher: 2 CP 2 Jun; CP 3 & 5 Jun, all by voice; 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); singing HLSP 21 Jun (S. Perreault).
Alder Flycatcher: JBWR 29 Jun; IHP 26 Aug; CemRes 27 Aug.

Willow Flycatcher: 30 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Eastern Phoebe: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Great Crested Flycatcher: 85 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Western Kingbird: Charlestown area, RICH 21 Aug (ACi, mob).
Eastern Kingbird: 23 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); 53 CIC morning flight 25 Aug (SSi).
White-eyed Vireo: 14 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Yellow-throated Vireo: Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), scarce and local breeder on LI.
Blue-headed Vireo: Calvert Vaux P, KING 4 Jul (AxW), rare in summer.
Warbling Vireo: 54 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); 20 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), a notable single-site count.
Red-eyed Vireo: 104 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Blue Jay: 111 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
American Crow: 74 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Fish Crow: 94 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Common Raven: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); continuing to increase, reported from every county in the Reg; known nesters inc 5 (2 ads, 3y) BNL 1 Jun; 3 fledglings Syosset yard, NASS 5 Jun; ads, 3 y Bethpage water tower, NASS 12 Jun; family group Sunset P, KING 23 Jun; active nest Randall's I, NEWY 27 Jun.
Purple Martin: 53 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Tree Swallow: 78 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 2 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Cliff Swallow: two nests Pelham Bay Bridge, BRON 3 Jun (G. McGee, B. Keogh, J. Rothman); 8 nests PBP Pavillion with 22 ads 15 juvs (E. Gaillard).
Barn Swallow: 242 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Black-capped Chickadee: 49 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Tufted Titmouse: 51 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
White-breasted Nuthatch: 13 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
House Wren: 58 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Marsh Wren: 18 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Carolina Wren: 81 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 58 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: CP 25 Aug, early.
Veery: 9 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Wood Thrush: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); 7 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), singing males—a notable single-site count on LI.
American Robin: 386 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Gray Catbird: 403 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Brown Thrasher: 14 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Northern Mockingbird: 107 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
European Starling: 462 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
American Pipit: NB 21 Jun (R. Bate, R. Fried, mob), unus date.
Cedar Waxwing: 184 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

WARBLERS

Ovenbird: 9 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Golden-winged Warbler: m Prospect P, KING 23 Aug (T. Young); m IHP 25 Aug (N. O'Reilly).
Blue-winged Warbler: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
"Lawrence's Warbler": CP 25 Aug (DA).
Prothonotary Warbler: William Floyd Estate, SUFF 11 Jun (M. Michealis, ph).
Kentucky Warbler: singing males CP 8 Jun, 25 Jun, the latter a record late spring/record early fall date for location (fide DA).
Common Yellowthroat: 126 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
American Redstart: 7 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Bay-breasted Warbler: 2 CP 30 Jul, very early.
Yellow Warbler: 237 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Blackpoll Warbler: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Pine Warbler: 21 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Yellow-rumped Warbler: Floyd Bennet Field, KING 8 Jul (H. Lopes), unus date.
Yellow-throated Warbler: singing m Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF 2-6 Jun, 29, 30 Jun, ad and fledgling here 22 Jul; CRSP 3, 15 Jun, 4 Jul; 2 CJC 3 Jun refer to these.

Prairie Warbler: 10 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Yellow-breasted Chat: GKP 26 Jul; CemRes 27 Aug; Oakwood Beach area, RICH 31 Aug.

TOWHEES-WEAVERS

Eastern Towhee: 133 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Chipping Sparrow: 91 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Field Sparrow: 3 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Vesper Sparrow: singing males Dwarf Pine Plains SUFF 22 Jun, prob breeding; breeding at Gabreski Airport SUFF.
Lark Sparrow: JBWE 14-15 Aug; JBWE 23-25 Aug (P. Palladino, mob).
Savannah Sparrow: breeding on Oceanside Landfill, NASS (fide BF 2 Jun); singing St. Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale SUFF 21 Jun (M. Cooper).
Grasshopper Sparrow: breeding at Fresh Kills P, KING, EPCAL and Gabreski Airport, SUFF again this year.
Nelson's Sparrow: 1-2 PlumbB 1-9 Jun, only reports.)
Saltmarsh Sparrow: 38 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Seaside Sparrow: 41 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Song Sparrow: 143 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Swamp Sparrow: 1 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM), rare breeder sw LI.
Summer Tanager: CP 1 Jun, diff from 30 May ind (DA); singing m Planting Fields Arboretum, NASS 4, 7 Jun (D. Klauber, mob); CP 7 Jul (R. Thoren).
Scarlet Tanager: 5 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Northern Cardinal: 100 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).
Blue Grosbeak: excellent showing, all reports included: IHP 29 Jun; Mt. Loretto, RICH 3 Jun, 4, 17, 18 Jul, 17 Aug; Wolfe's Pd P, RICH 17 Jun, 6, 8, 11, Aug; Fresh Kills P, RICH 20 Jun, 2 on 29 Jun; Cedar Grove Beach, RICH 26 Jun; CemRes 2, 8 Jul, 19, 20 Aug; Page Ave Beach, RICH 14 Aug; Conference House P, RICH 24, 30 Aug; Oceanside Landfill, NASS 2 Jun, imm m, singing; Huntington Landfill, SUFF 4 Jun; CRSP 8 Jun; many reports Calverton, SUFF 1 Jun-17 Jul, max 3 on 3 Jun & 17 Jul.
Indigo Bunting: 15 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); 2 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP).

Dickcissel: JBWE 13 Jun; singing m Caumsett SP, SUFF 17-28 Jun (S. Feustel, mob); RMSP morning flight 24 Aug (SSM).

Bobolink: Marine P, KING 15 Jul; 71 CIC morning flight 25 Aug (SSi).

Red-winged Blackbird: 384 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Yellow-headed Blackbird (R10): SPCP 28 Jun (R. Taylor, ph); RMSP morning flight 24 Aug (SSM).

Common Grackle: 324 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Boat-tailed Grackle: 11 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Brown-headed Cowbird: 61 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Orchard Oriole: 14 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM); 9 Manhasset 2 Jul (SP), territorial males—a notable single-site count, indicative of this species' increased abundance.

Baltimore Oriole: 90 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

House Finch: 27 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

Purple Finch: CP 1-2 Jun.

Pine Siskin: Carl Schurz P, NEWY 5 Jun.

American Goldfinch: 82 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).

House Sparrow: 241 CJC 3 Jun (comp. PJL, SSM).



Great Shearwater, Robert Moses SP, *Suffolk*, 18 Jun 2017, © S. S. Mitra.