

REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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The cold, wet weather of May continued into June with temperatures up to 1° F below average except in the Lake Placid/Saranac Lake region where they were 1°-3° lower than normal. In the Champlain Valley rainfall measured from 5-6" and up to an inch more west of the valley, including a few places where more than seven inches were recorded. Overall, June was 2"-3" wetter than average. The first five days of July extended June's wet weather with a vengeance, which caused a dramatic rise in the level of the lake. Overall July rainfall totals ended near average in the basin but wetter than normal in Franklin and Hamilton Counties. Totals increased with distance from the lake. Temperatures for the Region in July were near average for Hamilton and western Essex Counties, but 1°-3° below that elsewhere in Region 7. Rainfall in August once again was heavier in Hamilton and western Essex counties, with 4"-5" falling in those areas. The remainder of Region 7 got 3"-4". In sum the Region's totals were 1"-2" below normal for the month. August continued the colder than average, 1°-3° below normal.

The lake level on 1 June stood at 97.9' and had been dropping at a steady rate just prior to that. With only a couple of upward blips, this downward trend continued throughout the month to 97.1' on 30 June. At 97.9' the mud flats at the Chazy Riverlands were flooded, thus even for the last week or two of the spring shorebird migration was disappointing. The poor shorebird showing at Noblewood also reflects these levels. Days of rain then caused a sharp increase in the lake level to 98.2' on 6 July—a rise of more than a foot in just six days. After this there began an almost linear decrease to 95.5' on 31 Aug. Ideal levels for southbound shorebirds, 97.0'-95.3', were in place at the Chazy Riverlands and Noblewood from about 1 August to beyond the end of the month and are reflected in the species count. A total of sixteen species was recorded for the Region, including Baird's and Stilt Sandpipers along with a Region 7 first highlighted below.

This season observers counted 205 species of which 183 are listed here. The rarest was the **Black-necked Stilt** found by Jeff Bolsinger near Westville in Franklin County. Since this species does not appear on any of the four county lists for Region 7, it is thought to be a first. The same is true of the **Common Shelduck** seen on four occasions in Clinton County. Its origin is unknown, but it had no leg bands. A soaring **Golden Eagle**, seen in July at the Chazy Riverlands, was a rare summer sighting. The **Lesser Black-backed Gull** in Franklin County in early June, a county first, was also the first report of this species away from Lake Champlain. **Red-necked Phalarope** juveniles appeared on 16, 24, and 29 August. Since the longest an individual bird is known to have

lingered is three days, it is likely, but not certain, that they represent three distinct individuals. The Clinton County **Gray Jay**, though of little note elsewhere in Region 7, was the first reliable Clinton County sighting of this species since some time before *The Kingbird* began publication in 1950. Other sightings of interest include a pair of **Glossy Ibises** and a **Little Gull**.

In a happy trend, eBird listers have begun entering breeding codes on their daily reports. The summary below includes 13 reports of confirmed breeding. Most noteworthy is the successful breeding of **Sandhill Crane** for the second successive year at Tupper Lake. Four reports of confirmed breeding of Northern Mockingbird in Plattsburgh, including a nest with young, make it the most reliable place to find this bird in the Region. Finally there were reports of nesting Red and White-winged Crossbills from every county in the Region but Clinton. However, both crossbills were seen there, including the first summer report of White-winged for the county.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AJ – Adirondack Loj; AP – Ausable Pt; AT – Altona; BKT – Beekmantown; BC – Belmont Center; BR – Bigelow Rd; BB – Bloomingdale Bog; BMR – Blue Mtn Rd; BR – Bull Rock Rd; CL – Chazy L; CR – Chazy Riverlands; CP – Crown Pt; DN – Dannemora; FC – Fort Covington; GO – Gothics; ILk – Indian L; KR – Kildare Rd, LP – Lake Pleasant; LC – Little LaChute R; LTR – Little Trout R; LMt – Lyon Mtn; MF – Miner Flat Rock; Min – Minerva; MtM – Mount Marcy; MV – Mountain View; NP – Noblewood P; PS – Paul Smiths; PL – Plattsburgh; OR – Osgood River; RFR – Reagan Falls Rd; RD – Roakdale; RL – Round L; SP – Sabattis Pd; SRd – Sabattis Rd; SH – St Home; SCR – Schroon; Spd – Shaw Pd; SLB – Silver Lake Bog; SP – Stony Pt; WMt – Wakely Mtn; WRR – West River Rd; WV – Westville; WF – White Face Mtn. Breeding bird codes: see any published Breeding Bird Atlas, BBA website, or eBird for details, but CO = confirmed and FL, ON, and NY are specific confirmed breeding codes.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Canada Goose: 5 CH 1 Aug (BK), CO-FL.

Mute Swan: 2 17 Jun.

COM. SHELDUCK: 1 CR 9, 13, 14 & 22 Aug (BK), likely escape with proof or serious analysis of origin.

Wood Duck: 26 LC 5 Aug (SR).

Blue-winged Teal: LC 17 Jun (AB).
Gadwall: 2 Chazy 18 Aug (GV).
Am. Black Duck: 10 PS 19 Aug (BW).
N. Pintail: 7 ILK 30 Jul (JT), CO-FL.
Green-winged Teal: 14 CR 17 Aug (BK).
Ring-necked Duck: TL 17 Jul (GB).
Com. Goldeneye: 7 CH 19 Aug (SJ), CO-FL.
Hooded Merganser: 5 RD 2 Jul (NH), CO-FL.
Com. Merganser: 13 CH 28 Jul (BK, SJ), CO-FL.
Ruffed Grouse: WRR 5 Jul (SB).
Spruce Grouse: 3 BMR 9 Jul.
Wild Turkey: 14 WRS 6 Aug (HT), CO-FL.
Com. Loon: 4 CH 7 Jul (SJ), CO-FL.
Pied-billed Grebe: AP 17 Jun (MB, AP); 1 SP 2 Jul (SL), CO-ON.
Double-cr. Cormorant: 600 CH 25 Aug (SJ).
Am. Bittern: AP 14 Jun (BK).
Least Bittern: AP 17 Jun (BK); 3 SC 24 Jun (GC, SR); CR 19 Aug (MM, ABI).
Great Blue Heron: 6 LC 2 Jul (MM).
Great Egret: 10 AP 29 Aug (PJ).
Green Heron: RFR 22 Jun (RS).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: SC 26 Aug (NO).
GLOSSY IBIS (R7): 2 CR 18 Aug (ABI, MM, SR).
Black Vulture: BH 16 Aug (SR).
Turkey Vulture: 40 LC 2 Jul (MM).

HAWKS – LARIDS

Osprey: 6 CR Jul 28 (BK).
N. Harrier: 1j CR 17 Aug (BK).
Sharp-shinned Hawk: BB 19 Aug (JCT).
Cooper's Hawk: BMR 12 Jul (GG).
N. Goshawk: 2 KR 11 Jul (K&SF).
Bald Eagle: LC 17 June (AB).
Red-shouldered Hawk: GO 30 Jul (DG).
Broad-winged Hawk: SLB 22 Jul (BM).
Red-tailed Hawk: LP 29 Jul (DW).
GOLDEN EAGLE (R7): 1 CR 3 JUL (BK).
Virginia Rail: 2 AP 17 Jun (BK).
Sora: 2 AP 17 Jun (MB, AP).
Com. Gallinule: LC 5 Aug (SR); 8 LC 27 Aug (SR).
Am. Coot: AP 17 Jun (BK).
SANDHILL CRANE (R7): 3 TL 3 Jun (JC), CO-FL; 2 FC 27 JUL (EW).
BLACK-NECKED STILT: WV 13 Jun (JB), 1st Reg record.
Black-bellied Plover: 2 CR 11 Aug (MB).
Semipalmated Plover: 4 CR 9 Aug (BK); NP 31 Aug (SR).
Black-bellied Plover: 4 CR 16 Aug (BK).
Stilt Sandpiper: 1 NP 20 Aug (MM).

Sanderling: 2 CR 16 Aug (BK).
Baird's Sandpiper: 3 CR 19 Aug (MB); NP 31 Aug (SR).
Least Sandpiper: 45 FC 26 Jul (HW).
White-rumped Sandpiper: CR 11 Aug (MB).
Pectoral Sandpiper: CR 16 Aug (BK).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 10 CR 9 Aug (BK); 3 NP 31 Aug (SR).
Short-billed Dowitcher: CR 13 Aug (BK).
Wilson's Snipe: 2 LTR 16 Jun (TR); CR 7 Jul (BK).
Am. Woodcock: MF 21 Jun (MB, SR).
RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (R7): 1 CR 16 & 24 Aug (BK); CR 29 Aug (DG, FL).
Bonaparte's Gull: 60 GBM 19 Aug (AB).
LITTLE GULL (R7): NP 21 Aug (MM).
LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (R7): WV 13 Jun (JB).
Great Black-backed Gull: NP 31 Aug (SR).
Caspian Tern: 41 NP 6 Aug (MM); 19 CR 19 Aug (MB).
Black Tern: BKT 27 JUL (LT).
Com. Tern: 36 GBM 19 Aug (AB).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Black-billed Cuckoo: MP 22 Jul (AB); PL 31 Jul (JG).
E. Screech-Owl: AP 28 Aug (GC, SR).
Great Horned Owl: AP 28 Jul.
Barred Owl: 2 LP 20 Jul (DW).
Short-eared Owl: RFR 14 Aug (RS).
N. Saw-whet Owl: SP 3 Jun (JC); AJ 14 Jul (BB).
Com. Nighthawk: RL 29 Aug (AB).
E. Whip-poor-will: 3 LC 17 Jun (AB).
Chimney Swift: 3 DN 11 Jul JR.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 3 CH 23 Aug (BK), CO-FL.
Belted Kingfisher: CH 29 Aug (SJ).
Red-bellied Woodpecker: AP 15 Jun (MB, AP).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 2 SRd 7 Jun (APo).
Am. Three-toed Woodpecker: 1 12 Aug.
Black-backed Woodpecker: 3 OR 2 Jul (DR) CoFL; SLB 15 Jul (AB).
N. Flicker: 2 BR 28 Aug (MC).
Pileated Woodpecker: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Am. Kestrel: WRS 6 Aug (GC).
Merlin: 2 OH 29 Jul (JT).
Peregrine Falcon: CR 25 Aug (BK).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: SLB 15 Jul (GC, SR).
E. Wood-Pewee: BR 28 Aug (MC).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: SLB 15 Jul (AB).

Alder Flycatcher: CL 27 Jun (JH).
Willow Flycatcher: 2 AP 17 Jun (MB, AP).
Least Flycatcher: 2 AP 24 Jun (GC, SR).
E. Phoebe: 4 BR 28 Aug (MC).
Great Crested Flycatcher: 3 AP 7 Jun (BK).
E. Kingbird: 2 AP 7 Jun (BK).
Yellow-throated Vireo: SRd 7 Jun (APo); LC 2 Jul (MM).
Blue-headed Vireo: 2 BR 28 Aug (MC).
Philadelphia Vireo: MV 30 Aug (JT).
Warbling Vireo: 8 AP 14 Jun (BK).
Red-eyed Vireo: 2 BR 28 Aug (MC).
Gray Jay: 2 SLB 29 Jul (TB, AS).
Fish Crow: SCR 30 Jul (AS).
Com. Raven: 2 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Purple Martin: 5 SP 17 Jun (BMc).
N. Rough-winged Swallow: 25 LC 17 Jun (AB).
Tree Swallow: 80 RF 14 Aug (RS).
Bank Swallow: 8 WV 13 Jun (JB); CR 21 Aug (SR).
Cliff Swallow: 12 RFR 22 Jun (RS); 3 OH 2 Aug (JT).
Barn Swallow: 11 LC 27 Aug (SR).
Boreal Chickadee: 2 BR 23 Aug (AB).
Tufted Titmouse: LC 17 Jun (AB).
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 15 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
White-breasted Nuthatch: 4 LP 18 Jul (DW).
Brown Creeper: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
House Wren: LC 17 Jun (AB).
Winter Wren: 7 Wmt 26 Jun CW.
Marsh Wren: 4 AP 7 Jun (BK).
Carolina Wren: LC 2 Jul (MM)..
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: SC 24 Jun (CG, SR); SLB 28 Aug (SB, SR).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 40 SPB 25 Aug (AB); SLB 28 Aug (SR, SB).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: FB 12 Aug (BM).
E. Bluebird: 7 BR 3 aug (MC), CO-FY.
Veery: 20 RFR 22 Jun (RS).
Bicknell's Thrush: WF 8 Jun (HvZ); RD 2 Jul (NH).
Swainson's Thrush: SLB 15 Jul (AB).
Hermit Thrush: 3 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Wood Thrush: 2 OH 25 Jul (JT).
Gray Catbird: 5 LC 2 Jul (MM); 2 BR 3 Aug (MC), CO-FY.
Brown Thrasher: AF 24 Jun (GC, SR).
N. Mockingbird: 2 PL 7/20 (MB), CO-NY.
Cedar Waxwing: 10 SPB 25 Aug (AB).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Ovenbird: LC 17 Jun (AB).
Louisiana Waterthrush: LC 17 Jun (AB).

N. Waterthrush: BR 13 Aug (KM).
Golden-winged Warbler: WRS 4 Jul (SR).
Black-and-white Warbler: 2 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Tennessee Warbler: SLB 28 Aug (SR, SB).
Nashville Warbler: 3 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Mourning Warbler: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Com. Yellowthroat: SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Am. Redstart: MD 11 Jun (JM).
Cape May Warbler: SPB 25 AUG (AB).
N. Parula: SLB 20 Jul (SR).
Magnolia Warbler: 3 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Bay-breasted Warbler: CP 27 Aug (DC).
Blackburnian Warbler: BR 13 Aug (KM).
Yellow Warbler: NP 21 Aug (MM).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: WC 17 Aug (JB).
Blackpoll Warbler: WF 8 Jun (HvZ).
Black-throated Blue Warbler: WC 17 Aug (JB).
Palm Warbler: 11 OR 2 JUL (DR).
Pine Warbler: 2 WF 8 Jun (HvZ); 2 NP 6 Aug (MM), CO-FY.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 15 SPB 25 Aug (AB).
Prairie Warbler: 2 MD 11 Jun (JM).
Black-throated Green Warbler: 3 WC 17 Aug (JB), CO-FL.
Canada Warbler: SLB 20 Jul (SR).
Wilson's Warbler: SH 24 Aug (AB).

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: RFR 22 Jun (RS).
Chipping Sparrow: CP 27 Aug (DC).
Field Sparrow: 4 MF 3 Jul (MM).
Vesper Sparrow: WRS 28 Aug (DC).
Savannah Sparrow: 4 WRS 28 Aug (DC).
Lincoln's Sparrow: BB 28 Jun (RN); 9 OR 2 Jul (DR).
Swamp Sparrow: 4 AP 14 Jun (BK).
White-throated Sparrow: 29 MF 3 Jul (MM).
Scarlet Tanager: KR 11 Jul (K&SF).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 2 BR Aug 23 (AB).
Indigo Bunting: 3 RFR 22 JUN (RS).
Bobolink: 100 CR 19 Aug (MM).
E. Meadowlark: 2 LTR 16 Jun (TL).
Rusty Blackbird: 3 Min 4 Jul (SB), CoFL; OH 30 Jul (JT).
Brown-headed Cowbird: 2 LP 20 Jul (DW).
Baltimore Oriole: 2 AP 17 Jun (BK).
Purple Finch: SLB 28 Aug (AB).
Red Crossbill: 3 SLB 28 Aug (SR).
White-winged Crossbill: Lmt, 20 Aug (MM); 4 BR 23 Aug (AB).
Pine Siskin: 3 MtM 26 Jul (LMc).
Evening Grosbeak: 2 Jay 27 Jun.