

REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The summer season had normal precipitation with few extremes in temperature. There was a lack of extremely hot or cold days. Poughkeepsie saw only eight days in the nineties, and the maximum high was only 93° F. June and July came in one degree warmer than average and August was normal. Precipitation values varied in the Region and depended on mainly where afternoon thunderstorms hit. June and August were dry in White Plains, with less than 3 inches of precipitation. Poughkeepsie saw near normal precipitation for each month.

Kent Warner found five immature **White Ibis** on 13 July foraging in a vegetable garden near the Bellvale School in Chester. They were photographed and seen the next day. Rob Stone re-found them on 16 July coming in to roost in a large deciduous tree in Wickham Lake. This is Orange County's second record. A second set, or the same flock; of five immature White Ibis were reported in a private location in mid Dutchess County from 15 to 28 July. Glossy Ibis sightings were up this season, with flocks of 11 and 17 occurring at Marshlands Conservancy on 31 July and 10 August, respectively.

Jim Clinton, Jr observed a **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** flying over lower Broadway in Kingston 9 June but was unable to document it. Tait Johansson was able to photograph a **MISSISSIPPI KITE** over Hunt-Parker Sanctuary in Katonah on 12 June.

The Putnam County Summer Bird Count found an amazing 22 Acadian Flycatchers during June. The count also showed that the following warblers, Blackburnian, Black-throated Blue, Cerulean, Black-throated Green, and Canada, are still present but have seen declines as breeders in the county. Will this county end up like Westchester and see these species disappear? The loss of hemlocks, the presence of cowbirds, and possibly the browsing of deer are

mainly to blame. Other highlights were Spotted Sandpiper, White-eyed Vireo, Red-headed Woodpecker, and six Alder Flycatchers.

The Greenwich-Stamford Summer Bird Count, which includes sections in Westchester County, found 134 species. New to the count were two Common Mergansers, one in Westchester, and a Boat-tailed Grackle on Hen Island in Rye. This is the fifth straight year that Boat-tailed Grackle has been found in Westchester. Other highlights in Westchester were Sora, two Least Sandpipers, Dunlin, and Northern Saw-whet Owl.

Over 70 Cliff Swallow nests were counted on Cross River Reservoir in July. The increase in numbers and sites were also noted elsewhere.

John McBride had a long look at a Prothonotary Warbler at Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary on 14 July.

The Henslow's Sparrow and Dickcissel discovered in Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge in May continued into the summer but there was no sign of breeding for either bird. The Henslow's Sparrow lasted until 12 July, but the Dickcissel disappeared after 21 June. Another Dickcissel was discovered in the Black Dirt Region on 17 June and last seen on 23 June. Later in the season, individuals were found on 26 August, again in the Black Dirt Region, and one in Yonkers at Hillview Reservoir on 23 August.

Other notable species include Willet, Stilt Sandpiper, Black Skimmer, and Blue Grosbeak.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point P; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; RNC – Rye Nature Center; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Snow Goose: Thorton Rd, Wurtsboro 9-16 Jul (PD, JH).

Brant: Bellvale 2 Jun (KW); Kaal Rock P 3 Jul (AU); 14 Milton Harbor 10 Jun (AF).

Blue-winged Teal: Esopus Meadows 23 Aug (JY).

Ring-necked Duck: Fancher Davidge P 15 Jul (GC); West Branch res 25 Jul (SCam); Fancher Davidge P, Middletown 31 Jul (GC).

Long-tailed Duck: MC/Hen I 1-10 Jun (GB, TBu, AF).

Com. Merganser: Kensico Res 10 Jun.

Red-breasted Merganser: Neversink Res 1 Jun (JH); Rye 10 Jun (AF); Newburgh 10 Jun (DC).

Ruddy Duck: 2 Piermont Pier Jun-Aug.

Red-throated Loon: CPP 1-8 Jun (SCam, ASw); EGR 8, 11, 21 Jun.

Red-necked Grebe: Bontecou Wetland Area, Millbrook 30 Aug (JClo).

Am. Bittern: Great Vly 10 Jun; 2 Kingston Res 27 Jul.

Least Bittern: 2 Great Vly 4 Jun; Tivoli Bay 8 Jun; 3 Bashakill 22 Jun; Sharon Station 25 Jul; Piermont Pier 11 Aug.

Snowy Egret: 2 Beacon 15 Aug (MC); 5 Beacon 19 Aug (AL).

Little Blue Heron: imm Wallkill R NWR 4-30 Aug (LS); Esopus 4 Aug (MD, DH, JP, PSc, WT); Dennings Pt 19 Aug (AL).

Cattle Egret: Blue Chip Farm 4 Jun.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: MC 25 Jul, 13 Aug.

WHITE IBIS: 5 Wickham Lake, Warwick 16-17 Jul (KW, RS), ph; 5 private loc in DUTC 15-28 Jul (AP, BB).

Glossy Ibis: 2 MC 2-6 Jul; 11 MC 31 Jul; 5 EGR 1 Aug; 17 MC 10 Aug; Citco Pnd, Goshen 29-31 Aug (BF).

HAWKS - LARIDS

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: Kingston 9 Jun (JCli).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: Hunt-Parker Sanctuary, Katonah 12 Jun (TJ), ph.

Clapper Rail: 1-3 MC 3-29 Jun, 1, 2, 28-30 Jul; 2 Hen I 10 Jun; 4 MC 22 Jun.

Virginia Rail: max 9 Bashakill 8 Aug.

Sora: Forest L, West Harrison 11 Jun; Bashakill 13 Aug.

Com. Gallinule: 2 Great Vly 4 Jun; max 14 Bashakill 25 Jul; 2-7 Amenia 27 Jun, 2, 7 Jul; 11 Bashakill 11 Aug.

Black-bellied Plover: MC 2,4 Jun.

Am. Oystercatcher: 10 Hen I 10 Jun; Piermont Pier 15 Jun.

Spotted Sandpiper: MC 2 Jun; White Plains Res 11 Jun; North Highland P 10 Jun; 2 Rye 11 Jun; 4 Cross R Res 22 /Jun.

Willet: max 13 Rye 10 Jun.

Upland Sandpiper: 1-2 SGNWR 1-18 Jun; 1-2 Blue Chip Farm Jun; Galeville Town Park 23 Jun; Black Dirt Region 22 Jul; 2 Black Dirt Region 7,25 Aug.

Ruddy Turnstone: Hen I 10 Jun.

Stilt Sandpiper: 1-3 Strever Farm 26-30 Aug (MR, CP, BM).

Dunlin: Hen I 10 Jun.

Least Sandpiper: 2 Hen I 10 Jun.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Esopus 12 Jul, 27 Aug; MC 28 Jul.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 7 Hen I 10 Jun.

Western Sandpiper: Glen I P 18 Aug (VH).

Short-billed Dowitcher: Piermont Pier 14 Jul; 6-7 MC 25-26 Jul; 10 MC 10 Aug; Montgomery 15, 18 Aug.

Bonaparte's Gull: 3 Kingston Pt 6 Aug (MD).

Laughing Gull: 2 Piermont Pier 18 Jul.

Caspian Tern: Espopus 12 Jul; 2 Saugerties to Sleightsburg 6 Aug; 3 Piermont Pier 11 Aug.

Black Tern: Esopus Mradows 23 Aug (JY).

Com. Tern: max 26 Rye 4 Jun.

Forster's Tern: Wallkill R NWR 1 Jul (LS, MZ); Esopus 12 Jul (AM); 2 Piermont Pier 28-29 Jul; max 6 MC 28 Jul; 4 Piermont Pier 9 Aug.

Black Skimmer: CPP 1 Jun.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Barn Owl: Gardiner 3 Jul.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Cranberry Lake Preserve 10 Jun (MB, TBa, DP).

C. Nighthawk: 157 MC 31 Aug.

E. Whip-poor-will: 4 Sterling Forest 7 Jun; Rochester 7-9 Aug.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Fahnstock SP 2 Jun; Muscoot Farm 5 Jun; 2 Tivoli Bays 8 Jun; 1 ad with Juv Muscoot Farm 3 Jul; max 8 Weston Marsh 31 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Mt Lake P 18 Jun.

Merlin: Montgomery 8 Aug; Bashakill 21 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Ellenville 3 Jun; 2 Doodletown 10 Jun; Rockefeller SP 12 Jun; Esopus 12 Jul; Roundout Res 9 Aug; Minnewaska SP 10 Aug; Mohonk Preserve 26 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 6 Slide Mt 10 Jun.

Acadian Flycatcher: 3 West Park 10 Jun; **22** Fahnestock SP 22 Jun-8 Jul (CR, LT, KB); 4 Mohonk Preserve 26 Jul; 1-2 Rochester 3,24 Aug.
Alder Flycatcher: 4 Linear P, Ellenville 3 Jun; Rockefeller SP 10, 13 Jun; 6 Fahnestock SP 22 Jun; MC 29 Jul.
White-eyed Vireo: Glynwood Farm 12 Jun; Mt Ninham 12 Jun.
Philadelphia Vireo: Bashakill 25 Aug (SB).
Purple Martin: max 24 New Paltz 2 Jun; Hen I 10 Jun.
Cliff Swallow: 70 nests Cross R Res July (TB).
Brown Creeper: Mianus River Gorge 11 Jun.
Marsh Wren: Iona I 4 Jun; max 24 Tivoli Bays 9 Jun; 6 MC 4 Jul, 10 Aug; 1-3 Bashakill 10, 16 Jul.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: Ward Pound Ridge 9 Jun (JK).
Bicknell's Thrush: 3 Slide Mt 4 Jun; 13 Slide Mt 10 Jun.
Swainson's Thrush: 10 Slide Mt 10 Jun; Hunt-Parker Sanctuary 13 Aug.
Hermit Thrush: Fahnestock SP 8 Jul.

LONGSPURS – WARBLERS

“Brewster’s” Warbler: Peach Hill 1 Jun.

Prothonotary Warbler: Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary 14 Jul (JB).
Nashville Warbler: Rockefeller Preserve 24 Aug.
Mourning Warbler: 3 West Shokan 1 Jun.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 3 Minnewaska SP 15 Aug.
Blackburnian Warbler: Fahnestock SP 8 Jul.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: Teatown L 3 Jun
Yellow-breasted Chat: Ward Pound Ridge 3, 12 Jun; Ogden Mills & Ruth Livingston Mills SP 17, 26 Jun; Muscoot Farm 21 Jul.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 6 SGNWR Jun-Aug; 5 CPP 21 Jun; Sylvan Glen Park Preserve, Mohegan Lake 3 Jul.
Henslow's Sparrow: SGNWR 1 Jun – 12 Jul.
Blue Grosbeak: 2 imm Pine I 12-24 Jul.
Dickcissel: SGNWR 1-21 Jun; Black Dirt Region 17, 18, 23 Jun, 26 Aug (RS, JH, MZ); Hillview Res 23 Aug (SCam).
Boat-tailed Grackle: MC/Hen I 8-10 Jun (GB, TBu, AF).
Purple Finch: max 25 Parksville 5 Aug.