

REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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East coast weather in the first half of the fall was dominated by five hurricanes. The remnants of hurricane Harvey triggered light rain in Region 7 on 2 September; Irma brought only scattered showers 14 and 15 September. Less than a week later José brushed the New England coast before turning out to sea. Maria made a hard right turn into the Atlantic on 27 - 28 September and had, at most, limited influence on the Region's weather. However, Nate's rains lasted from 8 to 10 October and raised the Lake Champlain level 0.2 feet.

Region 7 rainfall totals reflect the fact that of the five hurricanes only Harvey and Nate hit the area. Two of the others missed the Region entirely, and Irma produced only scattered showers. Except for southern Essex County, which was only slightly below normal, precipitation was one to two inches lower than normal. November's totals were near normal except for southeastern Clinton and eastern Essex Counties where they were up to two inches below average.

Temperatures for September were from three to five degrees above normal. This continued into October when from 1-24 October they ran well above normal every day. Even with the return to near normal temperatures for the last week, overall the month was at least seven degrees warmer except in Essex County, which was only five to seven degrees warmer. Temperatures in November were one to three degrees cooler than normal except in northwest Hamilton and southeastern Franklin, which were three to five degrees cooler.

At the end of August the water level of Lake Champlain had been in a steady decline. This trend continued through the first three or four days of September. The next five days of rain, described by one observer as drippy days, briefly reversed this decline. However, after that momentary increase in lake level it dropped again, reaching 95.1" by 20 September. At this level Laurin's Pool, one of the two principle shorebird sites, had essentially dried up, leaving only a minimal muddy shore line. After that only one or two peeps at a time were seen. This may also account for the lack of a single sighting of either dowitcher this fall.

Fall in Region 7 produced two firsts and was particularly good for waterfowl, and, in an embarrassment of riches, **Pink-footed Goose** was recorded twice. The first, at the Malone Rec Park, was a first for all of Region 7. Two days later the second was found along the lake shore in Plattsburgh. The second Region 7 first was the presence for two days of two **Cave Swallows**. An unbanded **Common Shelduck**, its molt to basic plumage complete, remained in the area for one last sighting in September. A female **King Eider** was present for days at Crown Point in Essex County. Immature **Great Cormorant** was seen on two separate occasions flying south over the lake. The most notable

shorebird was a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** that showed up on Labor Day. A Lake Champlain “pelagic” out of Vermont recorded **Parasitic Jaeger** and **Sabine’s Gull** that wandered into NY waters. Finally **Nelson’s Sparrow** was found at the Chazy Riverlands. Though most likely a migrant, it was seen at the spot where possible breeding of this bird was established during Atlas 2000.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AHR – Angle Hill Rd; **AP** – Ausable Pt; **BC** – Belmont Center; **BG** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd; **CMt** – Cascade Mountain; **CRE** – Cemetery Rd., ESSE; **CH** – Cumberland Head; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CZ** – Chazy; **CR** – Chazy Riverlands; **CP** – Crown Pt; **DBM** – DeBar Meadows; **ENL** – Eagles Nest Lodge; **EAW** – Eight Acre Wood; **Es** – Essex; **EC** – Essex County; **FB** – Ferd’s Bog; **FCM** – Fort Covington Marsh; **FMt** – Fredrica Mountain; **GBk** – Gilbert Brook Marina; **HC** – Hamilton County; **ILk** – Indian L; **KN** – Keene; **KB** – Kings Bay; **LA** – Lake Alice; **LC** – La Chute; **LCl** – Lake Clear; **LCo** – Lake Colby; **LCp** – Lake Champlain pelagic; **LP** – Lake Placid; **LTL** – Little Tupper Lake; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MS** – MDM Speculator; **MRC** – Malone Rec Center; **MI** – Minerva; **MR** – Moffitt Rd; **MV** – Mountain View; **NP** – Noblewood P; **NLPT** – Northville Lake Placid Trail; **PU** – Peru; **PB** – Plattsburgh; **PBY** – Plattsburgh Bay; **PtF** – Point au Fer; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **RLk** – Round L; **SB** – Sabattis Bog; **SC** – Sabattis Circle; **SR** – Sabattis Rd; **SPM** – Sand Pond Marsh; **SCK** – Scoomtion Creek; **SPo** – Shaw Pd; **TB** – Trombly Bay; **TL** – Tupper L; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp; **WC** – Wild Center; **WLS** – Willis Lake Swamp; **WI** – Willsboro; **WP** – Westport; **WMt** – Whiteface Mountain; **WM** – Wickham Marsh.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: 25 PR 5 Oct (BK); 20,000 CR 30 Sep (EG).

Ross’s Goose: MRC 4 Oct (JT); TB 12 Nov (SR); 2 MRC 11 Nov (EW).

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE: PBy 11 Nov (DR, MB); MRC 9 Nov (HW).

Greater White-fronted Goose: PCB 16 Oct (SR, ED); MRC 10 Nov (S&MR).

Brant: AP 1 Nov (AB); 2 CP 15 Nov (JS); 30 NP 7 Oct (GC).

Cackling Goose: 4 RP 26 Nov (S&MS, GC); 6 NP 23 Nov (SR).

Tundra Swan: 2 CP 12 Nov (S&MR).

Wood Duck: 2 WLS 12 Nov (KC).

Gadwall: 2 LCo 11 Nov (AB).

Am. Wigeon: 6 CP 8 Oct (SR).

Am. Black Duck: 182 CP 28 Nov (SR).

Blue-winged Teal: 3 CR 4 Sep (SR, GC).

N. Shoveler: CP 8 Oct (SR).

N. Pintail: 3 CP 28 Nov (SR).

Green-winged Teal: 6 CP 28 Nov (SR).

Canvasback: 3 KB 25 Nov (SR).

Redhead: CR 25 Oct (BK)
Ring-necked Duck: 4CP 18 Nov (SR).
Greater Scaup: 65 AP 6 Sep (SR).
Lesser Scaup: 46 AP 6 SEP (SR).
scaup sp: 3,000 AP 6 SEP (SR).
KING EIDER (R7): CP 14 Nov (SR)
Surf Scoter: 10 ILk 29 Oct (JT); PB 14 Nov (BP),
White-winged Scoter: ILk 29 Oct (JT); 25 PB 11 Nov (SR, ED).
Black Scoter: 6 RP 2 Nov (SR); 150 PH 29 Oct (SR).
Long-tailed Duck: ILk 29 Oct (JT); 15 PB 11 Nov (SR, ED).
Bufflehead: 65 NP 23 Nov (SR).
Com. Goldeneye: 22 PBy 14 Nov (BP).
Barrow's Goldeneye: Noblewood P, ESSE 4 Nov (AB); Washington 16 Nov (SR).
Hooded Merganser: 12 NP 23 Nov (SR).
Com. Merganser: 12 NP 9 Sep (GC).
Red-breasted Merganser: 3 AP 14 Oct (GC).
Ruddy Duck: WD 25 Nov (SR, GC).
Ring-necked Pheasant: 4 WRS 25 Oct (SR).
Ruffed Grouse: 2 SR 27 Nov (DM).
Wild Turkey: 2 BC 23 Sep (NR).
Red-throated Loon: PtR 20 Oct (BK).
Com. Loon: 147 AP 14 Oct (GC).
Pied-billed Grebe: 9 CR 25 Oct (BK).
Horned Grebe: 2 AP 14 Oct (GC).
Red-necked Grebe: 2 CP 18 Nov (BM).
Double-crested Cormorant: 1200 NP 4 Oct (SR).
GREAT CORMORANT: CH 17 Sep (BK); PtR 4 Oct (BK).
Am. Bittern: LTL 1 Oct (NT).
Great Blue Heron: 2 CP 28 Nov (SR).
Great Egret: CR 17 Sep (BK).
Green Heron: SCk 9 Sep (GC, SR); CP 8 Oct (SR)..
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 5 SCk 9 Sep (GC, SR).
Black Vulture: CZ 25 Sep (BK); 11 MtD 4 Nov (SR).
Turkey Vulture: 14 CZ 25 Sep (BK).

HAWKS – LARIDS

OSPREY: CP 4 OCT (SR).
Bald Eagle: 2 LC 1 Oct (GC, SR).
N. Harrier: CP 30 Nov (GC).
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 MtD 4 Nov (SR).
Cooper's Hawk: CH 12 Nov (SJ).
N. Goshawk: NP 25 Sep (SR).
Red-shouldered Hawk: PtR 19 Sep (BK).
Broad-winged Hawk: WLS 2 Oct (KC).
Red-tailed Hawk: 34 MtD 4 Nov (SR).

Rough-legged Hawk: 3 CP 27 Nov (SR).
GOLDEN EAGLE (R7): 2 MtD 7 Nov (SR).
Virginia Rail: SB 1 Oct (PA).
Com. Gallinule: 6 FCM 24 Sep (JS); Co-FL, LC 1 Oct (GC).
Am. Coot: 5 LC 22 Oct (MC).
Sandhill Crane: 7 Nov.
Black-bellied Plover: 5 AP 26 Oct (SR).
Am. Golden-Plover: 2 AP 14 Oct (GC).
Semipalmated Plover: 4 CR 22 Sep (BK).
Spotted Sandpiper: WLS 16 Sep (KC).
Solitary Sandpiper: AP 6 Sep (AB).
Greater Yellowlegs: 2 AP 16 Oct (SR).
Lesser Yellowlegs: 2 CR 7 Sep (BK).
Stilt Sandpiper: 8 CR 6 Sep (BK).
Sanderling: CR 4 Sep (BK), CP 28 Sep (SR).
Dunlin: 5 AP 22 Oct (GC).
Baird's Sandpiper: NP 5 Sep (RB).
Least Sandpiper: CR 19 Sep (BK).
BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: CR 4 Sep (BK).
Pectoral Sandpiper: 5 CR 4 Sep (GC, SR).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 CR 7 Sep (BK).
Am. Woodcock: 2 MI 8 Oct (JA).
Wilson's Snipe: CR 14 Sep (BK).
PARASITIC JAEGER (R7): Ip 10 Sep (SR); PH 21 Sep (AB), AP 15 Oct (GC).
SABINE'S GULL (R7): LCp 9 Sep (AS).
Bonaparte's Gull: 150 GB 12 Sep (BK).
Little Gull: 2 AP 14 Oct (GC).
Iceland Gull (Thayer's type): CH 17 Sep (BK).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 2 NP 9 SEP (GC); AP 14 Oct (GC).
Great Black-backed Gull: 10 Lap 11 Sep (AS).
Caspian Tern: 4 NP 4 Sep (GC); 2 AP 6 SEP (AB).
Black Tern: LCo 7 Sep (AB).
Com. Tern: 55 GB 12 Sep (BK).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

E. Screech-Owl: CP 12 Sep (SR), AP 14 Oct (GC).
Great Horned Owl: MFR 19 Sep (NO); PtF 26 Nov (GC, SR).
Barred Owl: EAW 18 Nov (GL).
Short-eared Owl: 20 & 22 Nov.
N. Saw-whet Owl: RQR 8 Oct (AB).
Com. Nighthawk: TI 7 Sep (GC).
E. Whip-poor-will: EC 19 Sep (GCh); 4 MFR 24 Sep (NO).
Chimney Swift: NP 4 Sep (MM).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: EAW 21 Sep (GL).

Belted Kingfisher: MRC 10 Nov (AB).
Red-bellied Woodpecker: KB 22 Oct (GC).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: BC 23 Sep (NR).
Black-backed Woodpecker: MV 20 Sep (JT).
N. Flicker: BMR 6 Sep (GS).
Pileated Woodpecker: 2 ILk 30 Nov (MMo)
Am. Kestrel: LC 16 Sep (AB).
Merlin: AP 14 Oct (GC); BRR 19 Nov (MC).
Peregrine Falcon: CR 6 SEP (BK).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: ILk 3 Sep (MMo); EC 6 Sep (SB).
E. Wood-Pewee: LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Willow Flycatcher: AP 6 Sep (AB).
Least Flycatcher: ILk 3 Sep (MMo).
E. Phoebe: 2 ILk 3 Sep (MMo).
Great Crested Flycatcher: CP 12 Sep (SR).
E. Kingbird: 2 SC 9 Sep (GC).
N. Shrike: WP 27 Nov (SR).
Yellow-throated Vireo: CRE 29 Sep (J&PT).
Blue-headed Vireo: 6 LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Warbling Vireo: NP 15 Sep (J&PT).
Philadelphia Vireo: AP 9 Sep (AB); WP 21 Sep (AB).
Red-eyed Vireo: BMR 6 Sep (GS); 20 AP 6 Sep (AB).
Gray Jay: 5 RLk 27 Oct (JC).
Blue Jay: 12 CP 12 Sep (SR).
Com. Raven: LC 1 Oct (GC, SR).
Horned Lark: 30 TI 27 Nov (SR).
Purple Martin: 2 NP 4 Sep (GC).
Tree Swallow: 10 SB 5 Sep (SR).
Bank Swallow: 3 NP 4 Sep (MM).
Cliff Swallow: 3 NP 4 Sep (DR).
CAVE SWALLOW: 2 CR 1 Nov (AB), 2 RPt 2 Nov (S&MR).
Barn Swallow: 25 SB 5 Sep (SR).
Boreal Chickadee: 11 SPM 28 Sep (JC); 10 SPo 19 Sep (PD).
Tufted Titmouse: 6 LC 1 Oct (GC, SR).
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 16 BMR 6 Sep (GS).
White-breasted Nuthatch: 4 LC 1 Oct (GC, SR).
House Wren: CP 12 Sep (SR).
Winter Wren: 2 BMR 6 Sep (GS).
Sege Wren: CR 4 Sep (BK), Co-CF.
Marsh Wren: 2 AP 6 Sep (AB).
Carolina Wren: WC 1 Oct (SW); CH 26 Oct (NO).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 15 LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: CP 28 Nov (SR).
E. Bluebird: 3 PtR 25 Oct (BK).
Veery: 3 DBM 9 Sep (BB).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: LPIL 21 Sep (AB); SB 1 Sep (SB).
Bicknell's Thrush: WMt 18 Sep (MK).
Swainson's Thrush: LPI 21 Sep (AB).
Hermit Thrush: 2 SPo 19 Sep (PD).
Wood Thrush: CP 2 Sep (MM).
Gray Catbird: 3 AP 6 Sep (AB).
Brown Thrasher: BRR 11 Sep (MC).
N. Mockingbird: WP 21 Nov (RB).
Am. Pipit: 3 CMt 30 Sep (JP).
Cedar Waxwing: 4 LC 4 Sep (AB).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: CR 14 Nov (BP).
Snow Bunting: 7 NP 23 Nov (SR).
Ovenbird: ENL 21 Sep (MMA).
N. Waterthrush: NP 4 SEP (DR); FMT 15 Sep (RN).
Black-and-white Warbler: 2 NLPT 6 SEP (BM).
Tennessee Warbler: 4 LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Nashville Warbler: 3 LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Com. Yellowthroat: 3 LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Am. Redstart: MS 30 Sep (AM).
Cape May Warbler: ILk 3 Sep (MMo); HC29 Sep (LH).
N. Parula: ENL 21 Sep (MMo).
Magnolia Warbler: 4 LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Bay-breasted Warbler: NLPT 6 Sep (BM).
Blackburnian Warbler: MS 30 Sep (AM).
Yellow Warbler: AP 6 Sep (AB).
Chestnut-sided Warbler: MM 13 Sep (SR).
Blackpoll Warbler: MS 30 Sep (AM); WP 21 Sep (AB).
Black-throated Blue Warbler: LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Palm Warbler: 18 BMR 6 Sep (GS), LCo 9 Oct (AB).
Pine Warbler: LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 30 LCo 30 Sep (AB).
Black-throated Green Warbler: MS 30 Sep (AM).
Canada Warbler: ILk 3 Sep (MMo).
Wilson's Warbler: SCK 9 Sep (GC, SR).

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: WRS 10 Oct (SR).
Am. Tree Sparrow: 6 LC 15 Nov (AB).
Chipping Sparrow: CRE 10 Oct J&PT).
Field Sparrow: BC 3 Oct (NR).
Savannah Sparrow: 3 AHR 25 Oct (SR); 2 CR 1 Nov (AB).
NELSON'S SPARROW (R7): CR 22 Oct (GC).

Fox Sparrow: ILk 21 Nov MMo).
Lincoln's Sparrow: SB 11 Oct (JC).
Swamp Sparrow: LCo 11 Oct (AB).
White-throated Sparrow: 2 CP 28 Nov (SR).
White-crowned Sparrow: 2 CRE 10 Oct (J&PT).
Scarlet Tanager: NLPT 6 Sep (BM).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: CP 12 Sep (SR).
Bobolink: 45 CR 6 Sep (AB).
E. Meadowlark: LCo 9 9 Oct (AB).

Rusty Blackbird: 40 AP 14 Oct (GC).
Brown-headed Cowbird: EC 20 Nov (CD).
Purple Finch: 3 LC 4 Sep (AB).
Red Crossbill: 26 SPo 19 Sep (PD).
White-winged Crossbill: 2 SRd 27 Nov (JC).
Pine Siskin: 45 LCo 11 Nov (AB).

EXOTICS

COMMON SHELDUCK: CR 6 Sep (BK).