

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Overall the summer season was warmer than normal and featured an average amount of precipitation, but the statistics were not uniform across the Region. Eastern and northern portions received substantially less rainfall. Correspondingly, water levels on Adirondack lakes and creeks were noticeably down. In Syracuse, the average temperature for June was 65.6°F, a degree lower than normal. In June the total rainfall in Syracuse was 3.5", which is almost exactly the average. July and August were both approximately 2.5° warmer than normal and in Syracuse featured near average rainfall, 4.25" in July and 2.96" in August. In northern Herkimer County, Gary Lee reported that the water levels on Big Moose Lake and Stillwater Reservoir were the lowest seen in decades. Fortunately, low water didn't seem to hamper resident Common Loons, which experienced relatively good breeding success. By July, water levels in wetlands and streams were low in the southern and eastern parts of the Region. As early as mid-July, Delta Lake was drawn down and mudflats prevailed. Respectable numbers of shorebirds took advantage of the habitat, but only for a few short weeks. Water levels at Delta began increasing, and by the start of August, the flats were much reduced and shorebird numbers diminished and, reportedly, never rebounded even after the lake levels fell again.

In the north, the fruit crop was affected by drought, most notably the blackberry crop, which was largely desiccated. Apples, crabapples, and cherries were more resilient. In other parts of the Region, the fruit crop was particularly bountiful. Wild grapes, elderberries, viburnum, and dogwood berries were much in evidence. Mast production was fairly uniform throughout the Region's forests, with acorn and nut crops generally poor to nonexistent, and seed production, good to very good. Samaras were abundant on roughly a third of the ash trees and the same was true with most other maple family members. Catkins covered birch branches in forests and fields. Cone crops on conifers were poor, with most spruce trees producing virtually nothing. Norway Spruce was the exception in some areas. Some pine species were slightly more prolific, particularly Scotch Pine and Red Pine. Hemlock cone production was generally very poor. All told, the Region's mast is likely robust enough to tempt half-hardy songbirds and perhaps some winter finches to remain with us for a while.

A lone Snow Goose was seen on 25 June at Three Rivers WMA. The goose was flying north but apparently struggling. Perhaps it was old or

otherwise physically compromised. A high count of 60 Wood Ducks at Delta Lake on 19 July included many recently fledged young. That was one of several indications that Wood Ducks experienced a good breeding season in the Region. A female Northern Pintail remained at the dam site on the Oswego River at Phoenix for more than two weeks in early August. There were no reports of Blue-winged Teal during the breeding season, but the species was encountered in relatively low numbers in late August as they began staging. In Utica on 29 July, a non-breeding male Greater Scaup was seen in the company of Canada Geese. The group was swimming and feeding within a fenced-in water impoundment at an industrial brown site. The duck was diving and apparently feeding normally but was never seen in flight, so its full range of abilities was never ascertained. Although relatively low high counts of Wild Turkeys in the Region's eBird data don't reflect it, the species had a relatively good breeding season. Hens with poults were commonly encountered in a variety of habitats and as they crossed roads throughout much of the Region.

A maximum count of eight Yellow-billed Cuckoos at Howland Island on 9 June was notable, but it was the outlier. The next highest count was only two. Black-billed Cuckoos were more frequently encountered, but high counts didn't exceed two. We have learned to look to the resident Peregrine Falcons in Utica to gauge the strength of local cuckoo populations. For five years now, when providing for nestlings and fledglings, the male Peregrine dependably preys upon cuckoos of both species. The ease with which he procures them within his hunting territory indicates that the Region's supply of cuckoos is higher than one might glean from other data sources. Many of the cuckoos caught are stored on a high row of shallow ledges on the State Office Building in downtown Utica. The cuckoos, along with other prey species, are most often stored with their tails pointing out, which makes them less likely to blow off in high winds. For us, it also makes them easy to identify and count. During the June-July portion of the breeding season, at least 20 cuckoos were taken by the falcons.

High counts of migrating Common Nighthawks didn't make it out of middle-single digits, and there were no reports of the species between 2 June and the second week of August, when they start to migrate. Three reports of Eastern Whip-poor-will came from a known breeding area in the Town of Salisbury in Herkimer County. Perhaps a lack of effort was responsible for the dearth of reports from the traditional summer location along the north shore of Oneida Lake. Chimney Swifts were reported in expected areas, but their flock sizes were low. High counts were 40 and 20 from Dolgeville and Skaneateles Lake, respectively. On 9 June a maximum of 28 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds was tallied as they visited the many nectar feeders at the Stillwater Hotel in the Adirondacks. All the Region's expected rail species were found this period but not in exceptional numbers. A high count of six Virginia Rails at Woodchuck Hill Field Forest Preserve near Fayetteville on 16 July included three fledglings. The two American Coots reported at Howland Island on 26 August was our only sighting of that species for the season.

On 7 August at the West Barrier Bar County Park near Fair Haven, Deborah Dohne observed and photographed three **American Avocets**. The rarities flew in tight formation over shore before diverging from the shoreline and heading southeast over the bay. They were not seen again. This sighting was only the seventh Regional record for the species. Shorebird numbers and species diversity were about average for the Region, but there were some notable occurrences. **Piping Plover** was confirmed breeding near Sandy Pond. Alison Koczek found two banded adults with four banded chicks on 29 June. Matthew Brown observed and photographed a banded adult and four fledglings on 25-26 July. This is encouraging and hopefully represents the start of reestablishment of a breeding population on the Lake Ontario shoreline in Oswego County. There were few reports of Upland Sandpipers this period. All occurred within a few miles of each other in the Town of Deerfield, south of Poland in Herkimer and Oneida Counties. None was reported after 8 June. Although it's not unusual for **Whimbrels** to be seen in the Region during spring migration, the species is much less commonly encountered in the summer and fall. This period several were found at Fair Haven between 17 July and 22 August. A high count of five Whimbrels was reported on 24 July. Small numbers of **Ruddy Turnstones** and **Red Knots** were also found both at Fair Haven and Sandy Pond in late July and August. Although the majority of the common sandpiper species were reported only in modest numbers, there were a few decent high counts. At Fair Haven on 22 July, 125 Sanderlings were tallied. That number was then dwarfed by the **350** Sanderlings Matthew Brown counted at Sandy Pond on 25 July. 125 Semipalmated Sandpipers found at Delta Lake on 26 Jul was notable, as were the 12 White-rumped Sandpipers counted at Sandy Pond on 14 August. Gregg Dashnau reported 13 Short-billed Dowitchers at the West Barrier Bar County Park on 17 July. It was a particularly good season for **Willetts**, with multiple sightings along the Lake Ontario shoreline. On 9 July, Chris and Sally Holt photographed six Willets as they fed along the shore. Two close birds were found at Oswego on 24 July and enjoyed by many. On 17 August Deborah Dohne observed and photographed four Willets as they perched with gulls on the breakwall at West Barrier Bar County Park.

At the same location on 22 August, two **Parasitic Jaegers** were seen soaring and chasing after gulls. Jay McGowan and Livia Santana spotted a second cycle **Lesser Black-backed Gull** perched on a breakwall at Fair Haven on 21 July. Lesser Black-backed Gulls are uncommon visitors in the Region during the summer period, although immatures of the species show up with more frequency than adults. Reports of Black Terns came from Selkirk Shores State Park (five on 16 June) and Fair Haven (six on 22 August). No close surveys of the Oneida Lake Common Tern colony were reported to eBird, but sightings anywhere on the lake in summer are presumed to be birds from this colony.

In northern Herkimer County in the Adirondacks, Gary Lee monitored 23 breeding pairs of Common Loons on 12 Lakes. They produced a total of 14

chicks. Lee reported that pairs on South Lake and Honodaga Lake lost their nests and, at the latter site, a banded adult male was killed by a boat. Reports of American Bitterns came from only six locations and all involved single birds. Least Bitterns were found in nine, mostly expected areas. All sightings were of single birds including one expired individual seen on 1 July. That bittern had been stored in the male Peregrine Falcon's afore-mentioned larder in Utica, the top story ledges on Utica's State Office Building. Interestingly, the bittern had a dead Yellow-billed Cuckoo stored on top of it!

On 26 August, Chris Wood spotted a rare **Snowy Egret** in flight over the northwest portion of Howland Island, continuing a good showing in our area by the species. There have been at least 30 previous reports of Snowy Egret in Region 5. Sightings of (usually) one Black-crowned Night-Heron at Onondaga Lake continued from 2 July through the end of the period. The species status as a breeder in the Onondaga Lake area is uncertain. While aboard a boat on the Oneida River near Brewerton on 10 July, Dorothy Wadlow observed a single adult **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** perched on a bank. The observer described the bird well and was familiar with both night heron species. It was not relocated.

In mid-summer, a few relatively large concentrations of Turkey Vultures were reported. On 18 July, 74 were tallied at Fair Haven, and on 5 August 95 were seen in Canastota, where they are attracted to the many perches provided by a cell phone tower. There were only 20 reports of Northern Harrier this period. On 1 June, an adult Northern Goshawk carrying prey was observed and photographed in Sangerfield. That was the only confirmed record of the species for the period. Historically, N. Goshawks nested in State forestland in that area. A maximum of 20 Bald Eagles was counted at Derby Hill on 21 July. On 13 June, an injured fledgling Bald Eagle was rescued at a nest site in Hamilton, Madison County. The young bird was taken to Kindred Kingdoms Wildlife Center for rehabilitation. Monitoring what comes into wildlife rehabilitation centers is often a good method of determining what species are breeding in a region. On 11 July, an orphaned fledgling Red-shouldered Hawk was found at Bernhards Bay on the north shore of Oneida Lake, and taken to Kindred Kingdoms for rehabilitation. There were only a dozen other reports of the species. 41 Broad-winged Hawks migrated over Derby Hill on 25 August.

Only the Region's three most common owl species were reported this season. On 26 June, an Eastern Screech Owl nestling tumbled out of a Utica nest and was brought to Falcon Heart Rescue for rehabilitation. A maximum of eight Red-headed Woodpeckers was found at Fair Haven on 7 July, an excellent number for the area. Most reports of Red-headed Woodpeckers came from the Lake Ontario shoreline and the vicinity of Oneida Lake. An undated (summer) but reliable report of a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers came from the town of Kirkland and very close to one of the species' traditional breeding areas. One Black-backed Woodpecker was observed in Old Forge on 11 August.

American Kestrels were reported as breeding in Tully, Rome, and Westmoreland. On 13 July, breeding Merlin were confirmed by Mickey Scilingo near his Constantia property and where the species has bred in previous years. On the 13th, Scilingo could hear nestlings calling from the nest while a parent attempted to escort an Osprey out of its territory. By 24 July, three young had fledged from the nest. Gary Lee reported finding three Merlin nests in the Adirondacks. It remains unknown whether Peregrine Falcons attempted to breed in Syracuse this season. If they did, they didn't use the nest box provided on the State Tower Building. Although there were reports of the usual resident pair being present in downtown, there were no reports of a nesting attempt on another building and no one saw any fledglings. Three Peregrines fledged from the Utica nest between 17-22 June. All juveniles remained on their parents' territory until mid-August.

Olive-sided Flycatcher arrived into the southern part of the Region on 19 August. On 24 August, Ian Davis and Sarah Dzielski observed 22 Eastern Kingbirds at Chittning Pond in Sangerfield. Reportedly the birds were feeding en masse around the edge of the water. While kayaking 4.5 miles around Howland Island, Jay McGowan and Livia Santana tallied (among other things) 43 Warbling Vireos. The next highest count was eight at Verona Beach State Park on 7 August. Some observers noted that Warbling Vireos were conspicuously absent from migrant mixed flocks in late August. The first Philadelphia Vireo was reported on 20 August. On 8 July, three Canada Jays were reported by Will McPhain near Inlet in northern Herkimer County. Like Black-backed Woodpeckers, Canada Jays are expected in the boreal habitat of northern Herkimer County, but are seldom reported.

There were relatively few reports of Cliff Swallows, and all came from areas south and west of Oneida Lake. Reports of modest-sized breeding colonies came from East Syracuse and Cicero. There were indications that Red-breasted Nuthatches were on the move this summer. Although counts were almost uniformly small, the species was observed in many unusual locations. The lack of spruce cones in northern areas likely contributed to the irruption. A maximum number of eight Red-breasted Nuthatches was tallied in Fabius on 1 July. Breeding season reports of Winter Wrens primarily came from the Adirondacks, Tug Hill, and the southern highlands of Madison and Onondaga Counties. The data suggests a continued decline of breeding populations at lower altitudes. There were very few reports of Swainson's Thrush this period. A few reports came from northern Herkimer County, where the species normally breeds. One report involved a migrant seen at Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary on 28 August. For a few years now, it seems that Northern Mockingbirds were being found only in areas located south and west of Oneida Lake. This summer there were a smattering of sightings in the east and even as far north as Old Forge. A pair was confirmed nesting in downtown Utica in late June. Those mockingbirds had a nest in an ornamental conifer located in a hotel's side yard. The adult female was highly protective of her nest and occasionally harassed pedestrians on the

sidewalk. The mockingbirds usually limited their mobbing behavior to street-level antagonists, but more than once one of the adults was seen diving at a juvenile Peregrine Falcon perched high upon a radio antenna set atop the roof of the 13 story hotel.

On 5 July, while paddling the Moose River near Old Forge, Sam Heinrich reported hearing at least two Red Crossbills in what seemed to be appropriate habitat. As it happened that would be our only crossbill report for the season. Pine Siskins were reported in small numbers in high elevations. There were only three reports of Grasshopper Sparrows this period and none occurred after 5 July. **Clay-colored Sparrows** were reported at two locations but only consistently at Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary in Kirkland, where they are known to breed. In the latter part of the breeding season, one Clay-colored Sparrow was noted rendering a convincing Chipping Sparrow-type song. There were only two reports of Vesper Sparrow this summer. More encouragingly, the numbers of Eastern Towhees seem to be up. A maximum number of 15 was tallied at Green Lakes State Park on Independence Day. Very good numbers were reported in several other locations. A pair of towhees recognized by behavioral quirks returned a second year to breed at Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary. As is the case with many unbanded songbirds, it's often hard to determine if they breed with the same mate in consecutive years.

On 19 June, a **Yellow-breasted Chat** was among birds netted in a banding project at Baltimore Woods Nature Center. From mid-August through the end of the period, numbers of migrating Bobolinks were relatively high over parts of the Region. 74 flew over Three Rivers WMA on 13 August and 62 flew over the McKoon's Road wetlands near Richfield Springs on 25 August. Orchard Orioles were especially numerous at Green Lakes State Park this period, with a high count of 11 tallied on 13 July. The species was confirmed breeding for the first time in several years at Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary. Again, this summer there were relatively few reports of Louisiana Waterthrush, and most came from the highlands in the Region's south and far north. There were no confirmed reports of Golden-winged Warblers this period. Blue-winged Warbler numbers continue to slip downwards. Maximum numbers were only four for that species. There remains a great amount of appropriate habitat for Blue-winged Warblers in the Region, and so its decline likely stems from myriad other causes. On 9 June, McGowan and Santana found eight Prothonotary Warblers while kayaking around Howland Island. Included in that number were two pairs at nest holes. Megan Westervelt observed a male Prothonotary Warbler coming in and out of a tree cavity at Delta Lake on 10 June. Based on the male's behavior it was conceivable that a female was inside the nest, but no subsequent visits were made to verify breeding. This was the first time since the original Breeding Bird Atlas Project in the 1980s that the species was suspected to be breeding at Delta. Alison Koczek found an early Palm Warbler on 26 July in the scrubby dunes at Sandy Island Beach State Park. A maximum number of five Cape May Warblers was counted by Bill Purcell at his Hastings property on the last day of August.

McGowan and Santana found an amazing total of 31 Cerulean Warblers at Howland Island on 9 June. There were less than a handful of sightings elsewhere in the Region. Northern Parulas were not hard to come up with in the northern part of the Region this year, at least according to some reporters. A maximum number of 10 was tallied in Old Forge on 5 July. Migrant Parulas began showing up in more southerly areas on 27 August.

This season a total of 211 species was reported, which is five above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: Sandhill Crane, **American Avocet**, **Piping Plover**, **Whimbrel**, Ruddy Turnstone, **Red Knot**, **Willet**, Parasitic Jaeger, **Lesser Black-backed Gull**, Black Tern, **Snowy Egret**, **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**, Black-backed Woodpecker, Acadian Flycatcher, Gray Jay, Red Crossbill, **Yellow-breasted Chat**, and Prothonotary Warbler.

Summer 2018 produced 52,958 eBird records for Region 5, and these were processed by Swan Hummingbird v4.02. Reports were contributed by 356 people.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **CM** – Clay Marsh, Clay; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Manlius, ONON; **Hast** – Hastings, OSWE; **HI** – Howland I, CAYU; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor, **SB** – Sylvan Beach; **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; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VB** – Verona Beach SP and vicinity; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WATERFOWL _ HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: TR 25 Jun, possibly injured, only rep.
Canada Goose: max 250 DL 23 Jul.
Mute Swan: max 9 FH 30 Aug.
Trumpeter Swan: 2 SNC 3 Jun; TR 5 Jun; last 16 Jun; only reps.
Wood Duck: max 60 DL 19 Jul; 48 UM 26 Jul.
Blue-winged Teal: max 34 DL 25 Aug; 14 SP 26 Aug; few reps.
Gadwall: MNWR east 24 Aug, only rep.
Mallard: max 342 OLC 27 Jul.
Am. Black Duck: max 12 Little Falls 28 Aug.
N. Pintail: Phoenix 31 Jul – 17 Aug.
Green-winged Teal: first 2 Memphis 4 Aug; max 18 DL 25 Aug.
Redhead: 7 MNWR 5 Jun, only rep.
Greater Scaup: Utica 29 Jul (MP).
Lesser Scaup: WP 5 – 8 Jun, only rep.
Hooded Merganser: max 8 Richfield Springs 2 Jul.
Com. Merganser: max 21 OF 5 Jul.
Red-breasted Merganser: DL 10 Jun, only rep.
Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 SP 2 Jun; reports of singles from 6 other locs.
Ruffed Grouse: max 7 OF 18 Jul – 2 Aug; 6 SH 2 Jul.
Wild Turkey: max 24 Kirkville.
Pied-billed Grebe: 7 SSSP 16 Jun; max 23 MNWR east 24 Aug.
Rock Pigeon: max 72 Syr 9 Aug.
Mourning Dove: max 43 OnonL 24 Jul.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 8 HI 9 Jun; 2 GLSP 3 Jul.
Black-billed Cuckoo: max 2 GB 6 Jun & 2 GLSP 3 – 4 Jul & 2 WP 6 Jul & 2 Hast 15 – 29 Jul & 2 SFNS 18 Jul.
Com. Nighthawk: max 6 TR 20 Aug; 4 Syr 24 Aug; low numbers.
E. Whip-poor-will: 2 Salisbury 2 Jun – 4 Jul, only loc.
Chimney Swift: 20 Skan 16 Jun; max 40 Dolge 5 Aug.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 28 Stillwater Reservoir, ADK 9 Jun, at hotel feeders; 6 HI 15 Jun.

RAILS – LARIDS

Virginia Rail: max 6 Fayetteville 16 Jul & 6 Richfield Springs 25 Aug; relatively low

numbers.

Sora: Madison 9-11 Jun; HI 15 Jun; SP 15 Aug; Warren 25 Aug; only reps.
Com. Gallinule: 4 Volney 25 Jul; 6 Madison 5 Aug; max 17 MNWR east 24 Aug.
Am. Coot: max 2 HI 26 Aug; no reps away from HI & MNWR east.
Sandhill Crane: 2 West Monroe 17 Jul; max 12 MNWR east 26 Jul (DD); TR 10 Jun.
AMERICAN AVOCET (R5): 3 FH 7 Aug (DD! ph), 7th Reg rec.
Black-bellied Plover: arr FH 22 Jul; DL 2 Aug, only rep away from LOS; max 4 FH 14 Aug & 4 SP 24 Aug.
Am. Golden-Plover: arr 2 SP 14 -15 Aug, reps from SP only.
Semipalmated Plover: last Altmar 6 Jun; arr DL 23 Jul; max 12 DL 2 Aug; 10 Herkimer 25 Aug.
PIPING PLOVER: max 6 SP 29 Jun (AK), 2 ad & 4 y, all banded; 2 ad & 4 fl SP 25 – 26 Jul, (AK, MB, ph).
Killdeer: 32 OnonL 17 Aug; max 35 SHTF 19 Aug.
Upland Sandpiper: 2 Deerfield 1 – 8 Jun, only loc.
Whimbrel: arr FH 17 Jul; max 5 FH 24 Jul (DD); all reps from FH.
Ruddy Turnstone: arr DL 22 Jul; 6 SP 25 Jul; max 7 FH 7 Aug (DD).
Red Knot: arr & max 6 FH 22 Jul; SP 26 Aug; only locs.
Stilt Sandpiper: arr SP 11 – 13 Aug; MNWR east 24 Aug; only reps.
Sanderling: arr 125 FH 22 Jul; 150 OswH 23 Jul; max 350 SP 25 Jul (MB); great numbers.
Dunlin: FH 3 Jun, only report.
Baird's Sandpiper: arr 2 DL 23 Jul; 2 FH 17 – 22 Aug; 2 OnonL 22 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: last Holland Patent 28 Jun; arr OLC 16 Jul; max 16 FH 22 Jul; 14 DL 23 Jul.
White-rumped Sandpiper: last SP 21 Jun; arr SP 13 Aug; max 12 SP 14 Aug (MB), good number.
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 10 DL 26 Jul; 4 SP 14 Aug; few reports.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 2 SP 21 Jun; arr OLC 16 Jul; 45 OnonL 24 Jul; max 125 DL 26 Jul.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr & max 13 FH 17

Jul (GD); 2 DL 26 Jul; 3 SP 25 Aug; singles at one oth loc.

Am. Woodcock: max 6 TR 25 Jun; 2 Belgium 11 Aug.

Wilson's Snipe: max 3 Deerfield 10 Jun; 2 Dolge 22 Jun; few reps.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 5 OLC 24 – 26 Jul; 4 Jamesville 25 Jul; 4 SP 11 Aug.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr WP 13 Jul; max 11 West Eaton 20 Jul.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Eaton 16 Jul; max 12 DL 26 Jul; 7 MNWR east 24 Aug.

Willet: arr & max 6 SP 9 Jul (CSH, ph); FH 23 Jul (GD); Dolge 22 – 24 Jul; 2 Oswego 24 Jul (JG, mob); 4 FH 17 Aug (DD, ph); good showing.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr 2 FH 17 Jul; 4 OnonL 24 Jul; max 7 SP 25 Jul.

Parasitic Jaeger: 2 FH 22 Aug (GD, BP, DW), only rep.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr SB 5 Jul; 10 DL 26 Jul; max 19 SP 26 Aug.

Ring-billed Gull: max 1800 OswH 18 Jul.

Herring Gull: max 200 OswH 22 Aug; 157 FH 30 Aug; pr produced y for first time in many years on 4th Lake, ADK (GL).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: FH 21 Jul (JM, LS), unusual in summer.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 6 SB 24 Jul & 6 SP 19 Aug.

Caspian Tern: 115 FH 22 Jul; max 420 SP 11 Aug (JM, LS), good number.

Black Tern: 5 SSSP 16 Jun; max 6 FH 22 Aug; only locs.

Com. Tern: max 110 SP 11 Aug; 72 Brewerton 22 Aug; see *intro*.

Com. Tern/Forster's Tern: 3 OnonL 8 Jul.

LOONS - PARROTS

Com. Loon: OnonL 13 Jun; max 7 OF 18 Jul; all but one rep from ADK; 22 prs produced 14 y HERK, ADK (GL).

Double-crested Cormorant: max 500 SP 11 Aug.

Am. Bittern: Deerfield 1 Jun; Dolgeville 30 Jun; SSSP 16 Jul; TR 20 Aug; only 2 oth reps of singles.

Least Bittern: Hamlin Marsh 1 – 7 Jun; DeWitt 7 Jun; UM 8 Jun; TR 9 Jun; HI 15 Jun; Utica 1 Jul, stored prey of resident Peregrines, *intro*; 4 oth reps of singles.

Great Blue Heron: max 75 SNC 3 Jun, rookery; 35 SP 11 Aug.

Great Egret: max 9 MNWR east 5 Jun & 9 DL 26 Jul; 8 Belgium 29 Jul; 8 OLC 9 Aug; widespread.

SNOWY EGRET (R7): HI 26 Aug (CW).

Green Heron: max 11 WP 15 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 OnonL 2 Jul, singles OnonL thru; Belgium 28 Aug.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (R7): ad Brewerton 10 Jul (DWa).

Turkey Vulture: 74 FH 18 Jul; max 95 Canastota 5 Aug.

Osprey: max 6 Oswego 22 Jul; 5 OLC 27 Jul – 22 Aug; widespread.

Bald Eagle: Madison 13 Jun (JS), injured fledgling taken to KK; max 20 DH 21 Jul; 8 SP 18 Aug; 11 DH 25 Aug.

N. Harrier: 2 Erieville 6 Jul; less than 20 reps of singles.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 2 TR 19 Jul; max 3 SFNS 24 – 25 Aug; relatively few reps.

Cooper's Hawk: max 3 Clay 25 Jul; 2 VBSP 30 Jul – 2 Aug; BLNC 20 Jul.

N. Goshawk: Sangerfield 1 Jun, only rep.

Red-shouldered Hawk: Bernhards Bay 11 Jul (JS), orphaned fledgling taken to KK; max 2 Williamstown 24 Aug; only 11 oth reps.

Broad-winged Hawk: 4 DH 12 Jul; max 41 DH 25 Aug.

Red-tailed Hawk: Rome 22 Jun (DS), orphaned nestling taken to FHR; New Hartford 12 Aug (DS), injured nestling taken to FHR; max 84 DH 25 Aug.

E. Screech-Owl: Utica 26 Jun (DS), nestling falls from nest; 2 HI 29 Jul; 2 Warren 25 Aug; singles, 12 oth locs.

Great Horned Owl: 2 Clay 4 Jun; 2 Pompey 14 Jun; 2 Salisbury 19 Jun; 2 Noyes Sanctuary 10 Jul; only 7 oth reps.

Barred Owl: max 4 GLSP 10 Jul; 3 Nick's Lake, ADK 18 Aug.

Belted Kingfisher: 6 OF 5 Jul; 6 DL 19 Jul; max 9 DB 30 Aug.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 8 FH 7 Jul; 2 VB 1 Aug; 3 Cleveland 4 Aug; reps from 2 other locs.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 5 SH 11 Jun; max 8 HI 15 Jun.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 4 SFNS 12 Jun – 10 Jul; max 5 Durhamville 7 Jul & 5 SH 13 Jul.

Black-backed Woodpecker: OF 11 Aug, only rep.

Downy Woodpecker: max 12 CM 18 Jul; 7 Rome 5 Aug.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 7 HI 9 Jun; 6 Dolge 8 Jul.

N. Flicker: 13 SFNS 21 Aug; max 15 SH 23 Aug.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 4 HI 9 – 15 Jun & 4 OF 5 Jul.

Am. Kestrel: 3 Tully 6 Jul, confirmed br; Rome 9 Jul (DS), orphaned nestling taken to FHR; Westmoreland 26 Jul (DS), orphaned nestling taken to FHR; 4 SH 7 – 26 Aug; max 5 GLSP 12 Aug; 4 Bville 13 Aug.
Merlin: max 4 Const 24 Jul, nest; 3 Pulaski 26 Jul; 3 nests in HERK, ADK (GL).
Peregrine Falcon: max 5 Utica 1 Jun – 18 Aug, three fledged from nest; singles, 4 oth locs.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: last Syr 2 Jun; arr WP 19 Aug; only 3 oth reps.
E. Wood-Pewee: max 15 HI 9 Jun; 11 Syr 31 Jul; 10 VB 7 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: reps from 8 locs.
Acadian Flycatcher: max 2 SNC 3 Jun; singles WH 9 Jun – 8 Aug; only reps.
Alder Flycatcher: 11 TR 3 Jun; 4 SFNS 10 Jun.
Willow Flycatcher: 6 DeWitt 7 Jun; 6 HI 15 Jun..
Alder/Willow Flycatcher: max 3 HI 8 Jul.
Least Flycatcher: max 8 Redfield 6 Jun; 4 Moss Lake, ADK 16 Jun; 4 SFNS 21 Aug.
E. Phoebe: 6 Dolge 9 Jul; 9 SH 25 Jul.
Great Crested Flycatcher: 7 HI 9 Jun; 5 Rome 9 Jun; 6 VB 22 Jun; max 13 CM 26 Jul.
E. Kingbird: max 22 Sangerfield 24 Aug; 14 Richfield Springs 25 Aug.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 4 HI 9 – 22 Jun; 3 WH 30 Jun.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 4 OF 19 Jun & 4 SH 19 Jun; reps from 15 oth locs.
Philadelphia Vireo: arr Belgium 20 Aug; 2 SH 23 Aug; 2 VB 30 Aug; reps from 2 oth locs.
Warbling Vireo: max 43 HI 9 Jun; 8 VB 7 Aug.
Red-eyed Vireo: 20 OF 1 Jun; max 31 Redfield 6 Jun; 21 HI 9 Jun.
Canada Jay: OF 8 Jul, only rep.
Blue Jay: max 35 SFNS 23 Aug; 20 Belgium 23 Aug.
Am. Crow: max 108 DB 30 Jul.
Fish Crow: 2 OF 8 Jul; max 3 Syr 25 Jul; 2 Bville 3 Aug; Phoenix 31 Jul – 9 Aug; low numbers.
Com. Raven: 6 Elbridge 9 Jun; 6 HI 9 Jun; max 15 Ava 25 Aug.
Horned Lark: 3 Waterville 4 Jun; max 10 SHTF 28 Aug; singles at 2 other locs.
Purple Martin: 14 Cicero 25 Jul; 10 Belgium 20 Aug; 9 TR 26 Aug.
Tree Swallow: 51 SP 18 Aug; max 70 Sangerfield.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: 13 Little Falls 8

Jul; max 49 HI 11 Aug.
Bank Swallow: 20 Fulton 10 Jun; 20 Sterling 9 Jul; max 40 FH 27 Jul.
Cliff Swallow: 10 Phoenix 10 Jun; 5 Syr 10 Jun; max 14 Cicero 18 Jul (DW); singles & small num 8 other locs.
Barn Swallow: max 150 FH 27 Jul; 98 West Winfield 30 Jul.
Black-capped Chickadee: 18 Syr 19 Jul; max 24 SH 13 – 31 Aug.
Tufted Titmouse: 6 Cazenovia 14 Jul; max 8 SP 26 Aug.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 8 Fabius 1 Jul; 7 SH 28 Aug.
White-breasted Nuthatch: max 12 GLSP 23 Jun; 11 SH 31 Aug.
Brown Creeper: max 5 HI 9 Jun; 2 Skan 26 Jun; 2 Boonville 25 Aug.
House Wren: 9 Clay 22 Jun; max 10 New Hartford 29 Jun.
Winter Wren: max 4 OF 11 Aug; most reps from ADK.
Marsh Wren: max 10 HI 9 June; 8 Madison 5 Aug.
Carolina Wren: max 4 SH 25 Jun; 3 Manlius 27 Jun; 3 Syr 13 Aug.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 18 HI 9 Jun; 4 TR 19 Jun; 4 DB 4 Aug.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 3 SH 13 Jul; max 4 OF 11 Aug.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: OF 17 Jun, only report.
E. Bluebird: max 14 Central Square 23 – 24 Jul; 11 HI 26 Aug.
Veery: max 17 HI 9 Jun; 8 SSSP 16 Jun; 11 VB 22 Jun.
Swainson's Thrush: OF 1 Jun – 18 Jul; SFNS 28 Aug; only reps.
Hermit Thrush: max 10 Rome 22 Jun; 7 Williamstown 12 Jul.
Wood Thrush: max 14 HI 9 Jun; 13 GLSP 4 – 10 Jul; 8 WH 7 Jul.
Am. Robin: max 35 Syr 30 Jun; 33 UM 26 Jul.
Gray Catbird: max 25 CM 20 Jun; 20 GLSP 23 Jul; 16 Chittenango 28 Aug.
Brown Thrasher: max 5 GLSP 10 Jun – 7 Jul; 4 Earlville 27 Jun.
N. Mockingbird: 2 Utica 26 Jun, br; max 3 Syr 17 – 22 Aug; 2 Oswego 22 Aug.
Cedar Waxwing: 65 Richfield Springs 25 Aug; max 70 SFNS 31 Aug.
House Sparrow: max 60 Clay 3 Jul.
House Finch: 8 Fayetteville 30 Jul; 11 Dolge 12 Aug; max 15 Syr 22 Aug.
Purple Finch: max 19 Dolge 12 Aug; best numbers HERK.

Red Crossbill: 2 OF 5 Jul, only rep.
Pine Siskin: 3 OF 1 Jun; 8 SH 8 Jun; 3 Dolge 3 Jul.
Am. Goldfinch: max 100 DB 4 Aug; 48 SP 31 Aug.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS _ CARDINALIDS

E. Towhee: max 15 GLSP 4 Jul; 8 Hast 18 Jul; 7 SH 31 Aug.
Chipping Sparrow: max 35 Syr 19 Jul; 20 VB 8 Aug.
Clay-colored Sparrow: max 3 SFNS 5 Jun (MP), br; GLSP 8 Aug; only locs.
Field Sparrow: 11 TR 3 Jun; max 17 GLSP 23 – 30 Jun.
Vesper Sparrow: Williamstown 19 Jul; GLSP 8 Aug; only reps.
Savannah Sparrow: 6 Richfield Springs 25 Aug; max 8 New Woodstock 27 Aug.
Grasshopper Sparrow: max 2 TR 16 – 20 Jun; Norway 24 Jun; New Woodstock 5 Jul; only reps.
Song Sparrow: 42 TR 8 Jun; max 50 HI 9 Jun.
Swamp Sparrow: 17 Bville 13 Jul; 16 CM 26 Jul; max 20 VB 31 Jul.
White-throated Sparrow: max 10 OF 5 Jul; most reps from ADK.
Dark-eyed Junco: 10 OF 29 Jul; max 21 Little Falls 19 Aug.
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: Baltimore Woods Nature Center 19 Jun, MAPS banding (AK).
Bobolink: max 74 TR 13 Aug; 37 Sangerfield 24 Aug; 62 Richfield Springs 25 Aug.
E. Meadowlark: 3 Hamilton 23 Jun – 7 Jul; max 5 GLSP 13 Jul; reps from only 7 locs.
Orchard Oriole: 5 SFNS 18 Jul, br; max 11 GLSP 13 Jul.
Baltimore Oriole: 10 Fayetteville 9 Jun; max 20 HI 15 Jun.
Red-winged Blackbird: 150 TR 13 Jul; max 1800 MNWR east 29 Jul.
Brown-headed Cowbird: 18 Cold Brook 24 Jun; max 30 HI 8 Jul.
Com. Grackle: max 500 SFNS 30 Aug; 355 Tully 31 Aug.
Ovenbird: 14 HI 9 Jun; max 16 SH 21 Jun; 14 Rome 22 Jun.
Louisiana Waterthrush: 2 Orwell 6 Jun; 2 Boonville 14 Jun; 2 Manlius 24 Jun; reps from only 3 oth locs.
N. Waterthrush: max 5 Hubbardsville 9 Jun; 3 TR 9 Jun.
Blue-winged Warbler: max 4 Erieville 20 Jun; 3 Hast 20 Jul; 4 HI 26 Aug.

Golden-winged/Blue-winged Warbler: singles, 5 locs.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 4 OF 5 Jul; 2 OLC 30 Aug.
Prothonotary Warbler: max 8 HI 9 Jun (JM, LS), 2 prs PR br; DL 10 Jun, (MW), PR br.
Tennessee Warbler: arr Richfield Springs 25 Aug; 4 other reps.
Nashville Warbler: max 7 OF 5 Jul; 2 Williamstown 13 Jul – 9 Aug; 2 SH 13 Aug; 2 Hast 31 Aug.
Mourning Warbler: max 4 SH 1 Jun & 4 Redfield 6 Jun & 4 WH 30 Jun.
Com. Yellowthroat: 19 GLSP 30 Jun; max 25 OF 5 Jul; 16 VB 2 Aug.
Hooded Warbler: 2 WH 5 – 30 Jun; 2 SFNS 10 Jun; max 8 Kirkland 14 Jul.
Am. Redstart: 11 Redfield 6 Jun; max 48 HI 9 Jun; 19 CM 20 Jun.
Cape May Warbler: arr Hast 19 Aug; 4 OLC 27 Aug; max 5 Hast 31 Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: 2 SH 1 Jun; max 31 HI 9 Jun (JM, LS), good number; singles at 4 other locs.
N. Parula: max 10 OF 5 Jul; Brewerton 27 Aug.
Magnolia Warbler: 5 Sangerfield 1 Jun; max 12 OF 5 Jul.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Hast 23 Aug; max 2 HI 26 Aug; 2 Hast 27 Aug; 2 SFNS 31 Aug.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 10 OF 1 Jun; 6 Sangerfield 1 Jun; 6 Redfield 6 Jun.
Yellow Warbler: 45 HI 15 Jun; 30 CM 20 Jun; 17 OLC 24 Jul.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 15 OF 5 Jul; 9 SH 24 Aug.
Blackpoll Warbler: OF 2 Jun; Syr 3 Jun; arr OLC 25 Aug; 3 other reps.
Bay-breasted/Blackpoll Warbler: Barneveld 21 Aug; SFNS 23 Aug.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 12 OF 1 Jun; 3 SH 1 Jun; most reps from ADK.
Palm Warbler: SP 26 Jul (AK), early.
Pine Warbler: max 4 TR 1 Jun; 3 Great Bear Recreational Area 10 Jun.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 12 OF 19 Jun; 8 Lake Julia 21 Jun; 6 Rome 22 Jun.
Prairie Warbler: Happy Valley 7 Jun; 2 GLSP 16 Jun; Georgetown 16 Jun – 13 Jul; SFNS 19 Aug; only reports.
Black-throated Green Warbler: 6 OF 1 Jun; 4 SH 1 June & 31 Aug.
Canada Warbler: max 3 OF 1 Jun & 3 SH 9 Jun.
Wilson's Warbler: last SNC 2 Jun; arr & max 2 Hast 23 Aug; 2 oth reps.

Scarlet Tanager: 6 HI 15 Jun; 6 GLSP 23 Jun;
max 7 Camillus 9 Jul.

N. Cardinal: 12 Fayetteville 1 Jun; 14 CM 20
Jun; max Clay 28 Jun.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 6 Dolge 5 Jun; max
15 HI 15 Jun; 6 Rome 19 Jul.

Indigo Bunting: 6 GLSP 23 Jun; max 14
Richfield Springs 25 Aug.