

REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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June continued May's unusually cold and wet weather. Temperatures averaged 1-3 degrees cooler than normal over most of Region 7 with cooler pockets in the extreme southwest of Hamilton County and the southern portions of the Champlain Valley. Precipitation was lightest in the northern portion of the Region averaging 3-4 inches and increasing to 6-7 inches in the southernmost areas.

The cold wet weather of June finally gave way to more seasonal

temperatures in July. Temperatures were warmest in the low-lying areas of the Lake Champlain and St. Lawrence Valleys where they were 3-5 degrees warmer than average. In the Adirondacks the temperatures were only 1-3 degrees above normal. Throughout most of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties an average of 2-3 inches of precipitation was recorded with a drier pocket in Clinton County of 1-2 inches and a wetter pocket of 4-5 inches in Franklin County. Precipitation in Hamilton County averaged 3-4 inches except in the southwest where the average was 4-5 inches. Unfortunately for birding possibilities the remnants of Hurricane Barry in the middle of the month mostly spared the area.

Rainfall in August produced a patchwork pattern on the map of Region 7. The lower Champlain Valley recorded the lowest totals with an average of 2-3 inches. Most of the remaining portions of the Region measured 3-4 inches while northern Clinton County and the northern half of Hamilton reported totals of 4-5 inches and the southern half 5-6 inches. Temperatures for the whole of Region 7 averaged 1-3 degrees below normal except for small pockets around Lake Placid and Saranac Lake which were, on average, 3-5 degrees colder.

The plot of the level of Lake Champlain for this season closely paralleled the graph for Summer 2018. Only the actual values were different. On 1 June 2019 the lake level stood at a fraction under flood stage of 100'. (On the same date in 2018 it was 97.7'.) At this level the mudflats associated with the Chazy Riverlands (CR) were hopelessly underwater. From there the lake level dropped in an almost perfectly smooth curve to 96.7' on 15 July and 94.6' on 31 August 2019. (It was 94.25' on the same date in 2018.) At these levels good conditions for migrating shorebirds at the CR were present only from mid July until mid August. After that the entire area was too dry. However, the lower lake levels improved the shorebird habitat at Noblewood Park. Even with these less than ideal conditions an above-average 19 species of shorebirds, residents plus migrants, were seen.

A very rare summer sighting of **Red-necked Grebe** was reported from Owls Head. The only other summer record for Region 7 was also in August and also away from Lake Champlain. Breeding of **Sandhill Crane** was recorded in the Region for the fourth consecutive year. The two reports of **Upland Sandpiper** sightings were the first in Region 7 since 2010. **Little Gull** made an exceptionally strong showing with multiple sightings from 10 August to the end of the season. At least three distinct individuals were identified though no more than two were seen at the same time. The report of the first breeding record of **Red-bellied Woodpecker** for Clinton County that appeared in *The Kingbird* (Vol. 68, p. 334, 2018) drew this response from Jackie Wrenn: "Evidence of breeding was witnessed [most years from 2013 to 2018] by the fact that the male would bring one or two juveniles to the suet feeders." Thus confirming the conviction that this woodpecker had bred here long before the 2018 record. The juvenile **LeConte's Sparrow** found near Willsboro early in August was a first record for the Champlain Valley and a "very rare summer record for New York

and the entire east coast. According to the current eBird range map...there are no existing [summer] records south of Canada on the east coast.”

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AIC – Adirondack Interpretive Center; **AFR** – Altona Flat Rock; **AP** – Ausable Pt; **BaP** – Bartlett Pd; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BBr** – Black Brook; **BMR** – Blue Mountain Rd; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd; **BS** – Big Slide; **Bur** – Burke; **CH** – Cumberland Head; **ChR** – Chubb Ri; **CL** – Clorojast; **CM** – Cascade Mountain; **CMR** – Cemetery Rd; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CR** – Chazy Riverlands; **CRd** – Chapman Rd; **CRF** – Cedar Ri Flow; **DRB** – Dexter Rd Bog; **EC** – Essex Co; **Es** – Essex; **FB** – Ferd's Bog; **FBR** – Four Brothers Islands; **GM** – Goodnow Mountain; **HB** – Holsington Brook; **HHF** – Heaven Hill Farm; **HRN** – Hudson R North; **HT** – Heaven Trails; **HuM** – Hurricane Mountain; **HuR** – Hurricane Rd; **KM** – Keese Mills Rd; **LA** – Lake Alice; **LCI** – Lake Clear; **LL** – Long L; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MRP** – Moose Ri Plains; **MRv** – Moose Ri; **NE** – North Elba; **NP** – Noblewood P; **OB** – Oseetah Bog; **OH** – Owls Head; **PH** – Port Henry; **PS** – Paul Smiths; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **RFR** – Reagan Flats Rd; **SLB** – Silver L Bog; **SPB** – Spring Pd Bog; **SpL** – Spy L; **TI** – Ticonderoga; **TR** – Trout Ri; **VTv** – Vermontville; **WF** – Whiteface Mountain; **WL** – Wilmington; **WLS** – Willis L Swamp; **WP** – Westport; **WPt** – Willsboro Pt; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp; **WV** – Westville.

WATERFOWL-HUMMINGBIRDS

Brant: 29 BBr 2 Jun (AVK).
Wood Duck: 13 HB 17 Jun (RB), CO-FL; 96 TI 26 Aug (SR).
Blue-winged Teal: 3 HB 10 Aug (MM).
Gadwall: 3 NP 22 Aug (SR).
American Wigeon: CR 13 Jul (BK).
Mallard: 19 CR 15 Jul, CO-FL.
American Black Duck: 9 SpL 23 Jun (TD), CO-FL.
Northern Pintail: AP 23 Aug (MK); 8 OH 7 Jul (JT), CO-FL.
Green-winged Teal: 4 TR 16 Aug (HW).

Ring-necked Duck: 7 PS 22 Jul (KR), CO-FL.

Bufflehead: 2 Ap 23 Aug (MK), early.

Common Goldeneye: 5 CH 5 Jun.

Hooded Merganser: 10 AP 29 Jul (SR).

Common Merganser: 25 SB 6 Jun (SB), CO-FL.

Ring-necked Pheasant: EC 24 Jun (J&PT).

Ruffed Grouse: 3 BRR 11 Jun (G&MC), CO-FL.

Spruce Grouse: BMR 8 Jun (ZS-W); 2 DRB 29 Jun (AB), CO-FL.

Wild Turkey: 6 WP 16 Jun (JS), CO-FL.

Pied-billed Grebe: 2 CR 15 Jul (BK), CO-FL.
Red-Necked Grebe: OH 4 Jul (RH), rare in summer.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: HHF 15 Jul (GB).
Black-billed Cuckoo: LP 15 Jul (BMc).
Common Nighthawk: 12 AFR 7 Jul (JC).
Eastern Whip-poor-will: 10 AFR 7 Jul (JC).
Chimney Swift: 12 PB 6 Jun (ZC).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 12 WLS 2 Jun (KC).

RAILS-LARIDS

Virginia Rail: 4 LA 3 Aug (GR).
Sora: AP 29 Jun (CV).
Common Gallinule: HG 17 Jul (JK).
American Coot: no reports.
SANDHILL CRANE: 4 OB 11 Jun (SMc), CO-FL.
Semipalmated Plover: CR 2 Aug (BK).
Black-bellied Plover: SB 6 Jun (SR); CH 9 Jul (BK).
Killdeer: 15 CR 13 Jul (BK), CO-FL.
Upland Sandpiper: Bur 22 Jun ((WR); HuR 4 Aug (DRg).
Ruddy Turnstone: 2 PH 6 Jun (SR).
Sanderling: CR 13 Aug (BK).
Dunlin: SB 6 Jun (SR).
Baird's Sandpiper: CR 13 Aug (BK).
Least Sandpiper: 2 CR 13 Jul (BK).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: NP 28 Aug (DRg).
Pectoral Sandpiper: CR 16 Jul (BK).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 SB 6 Jun (SR).
Short-billed Dowitcher: CR 15 Jul (BK).
American Woodcock: TL 7 Jul (GB).
Wilson's Snipe: 2 NP 31 Aug (MM).
Spotted Sandpiper: 4 HRN 18 Jul (SR), CO-FL.
Solitary Sandpiper: 2 LP 23 Jun (DM).
Lesser Yellowlegs: 2 CR 13 Jul (BK).
Greater Yellowlegs: CR 13 Jul (BK).
Bonaparte's Gull: 307 NP 20 Aug (DRg).
Little Gull: 3 NP 10-31 Aug (MM, SR, GC).
Great Black-backed Gull: 6 PH 22 Aug (SRu).
Caspian Tern: 7 BWB 23 Jul (SR), CO-FL.
Black Tern: no reports.
Common Tern: 4 NP 30 Aug (MM).

LOONS-FALCONS

Common Loon: 8 SB 6 Jun (SR); 2 MRv 19 Jun (GC), CO-NE.

Double-crested Cormorant: 350 CP 29 Aug (SR).
American Bittern: 2 BB 25 Jul (KD).
Least Bittern: AP 18 Jun (BK).
Great Blue Heron: 10 AP 21 Jun (BMc), CO-ON.
Great Egret: 8 BR 20 Jul (SR).
Green Heron: 2 BR 3 Aug (SR).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 HG 17 Jul (JK); 5 FBR 29 Jul (SG), CO-FL.
Turkey Vulture: 3 CR 12 Jun (GC).
Osprey: 5 CP 13 Aug (BK).
Northern Harrier: 2 CP 24 Aug (AB).
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 4 CL 24 Aug (JH).
Cooper's Hawk: 2 CP 10 Aug (SR).
Northern Goshawk: DRB 29 Jun (AB).
Bald Eagle: 2 LC1 16 Jun (RB), CO-ON.
Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 HuM 8 Jun (NT).
Broad-winged Hawk: 2 Es 8 Jun (NT), CO-CF.
Red-tailed Hawk: 2 BRR 14 Jun (G&MC).
Golden Eagle: no reports.
Eastern Screech Owl: IL 14 Aug (TO'B).
Great Horned Owl: CP 6 Jul (SR).
Barred Owl: 2 SLB 3 Jun (AB).
Northern Saw-whet Owl: OH 31 Aug (JT).
Belted Kingfisher: 7 AP 29 Aug (SR).
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 2 BRR 23 Jul (G&MC), CO-FL.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 3 BRR 8 Jul (MC), CO-NY.
Black-backed Woodpecker: 4 ChR 8 Jun (DRg), CO-ON.
Pileated Woodpecker: 4 DMt 11 Jun (JS), CO-ON.
American Kestrel: 3 Es 24 Aug (MM).
Merlin: 2 CH 12 Aug (NO); 2 LP 24 Jul, CO-CF.
Peregrine Falcon: WF 25 Aug (G&MC).

FLYCATCHERS-SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 4 BB 13 Aug (AB).
Eastern Wood-Pewee: 7 AP 29 Jul (SR).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 SLB 3 Jul (AB).
Alder Flycatcher: 3 CMR 19 Jul (J&PT), CO-FL.
Willow Flycatcher: 3 WRS 7 Jul (HT).
Least Flycatcher: 4 SLB 3 Jul (AB).
Eastern Phoebe: ES 9 Jul (MO), CO-ON.
Great Crested Flycatcher: 7 AP 18 Jun (BK).
Eastern Kingbird: 3 CMR 21 Jul (J&PT), CO-FL.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 3 LC 1 Jul (SR).
Blue-headed Vireo: 4 LP 10 Jul (SR).
Philadelphia Vireo: 2 SPB 1 Jun (AM).
Warbling Vireo: 5 CP 6 Jul (SR).
Red-eyed Vireo: 15 Es 1 Jun (LK); 3 AIC 10 Jun (JL), CO-CF.
Canada Jay: 2 BB 15 Jun (SJ), CO-FL.
Fish Crow: PB 6 Jun (ZC).
Common Raven: 3 Bur 15 Jul (SR).
Horned Lark: 3 VTV 23 Jul (WHS).
Purple Martin: 4 RFR 7 Jul (HvdZ); 3 LA 3 Aug (GR).
Tree Swallow: 9 LC 1 Jul (SR), CO-FY.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 13 LC 1 Jul (SR), CO-FY.
Bank Swallow: 4 CR 24 Aug.
Cliff Swallow: 8 WP 7 Jul (MM).
Barn Swallow: 9 LC 1 Jul (SR), CO-FL.
Black-capped Chickadee: 4 SL 11 Jun (SJ), CO-ON.
Boreal Chickadee: GM 10 Aug (CP); CO-FL.
Tufted Titmouse: 5 BRR 8 Jul (MC), CO-FL.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 4 LL 6 Jul (SB), CO-FL.
White-breasted Nuthatch: 3 PH 29 Jun (SR), CO-FY.
House Wren: 4 CP 7 Jun (SR).
Winter Wren: 14 WL 1 Jun (JC); 2 BRR 14 Jun (GCh), CO-FL.
Sedge Wren: no reports.
Marsh Wren: 6 CR 31 Jul (BK).
Carolina Wren: 4 Es 31 Jul (DMo).
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 3 TI 1 Aug (GC).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 6 BMT 23 Jun (CW), CO-FL.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 3 CM 13 Aug (JL), CO-FL.
Eastern Bluebird: HT 23 Jun (DM), CO-CF.
Veery: 12 LA 17 Jun J&PT).
Bicknell's Thrush: 11 WF 1 Jun (AM).
Swainson's Thrush: 9 CPT 15 Jul (GC), CO-FL.
Hermit Thrush: 3 CPT 15 Jul (GC), CO-FL.
Wood Thrush: 5 RFR 4 Jul (RS).
Gray Catbird: 10 LC 1 Jul (SR), CO-CF.
Brown Thrasher: 2 TI 17 Jun (SR).
Northern Mockingbird: 5 PB 13 Aug (PS).
Cedar Waxwing: 3 LP 23 Jun (DM), CO-FY.
Evening Grosbeak: 2 Es 21 Aug (LE).
Purple Finch: 8 BS 15 Jul (BC).
Red Crossbill: MRP 9 Jun (OB).

White-winged Crossbill: WF 5 Jul (BC).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: 5 RFR 7 Jul (RS).
Chipping Sparrow: 6 RFR 7 Jul (RS).
Field Sparrow: 3 PtR 8 Jul (KA).
Vesper Sparrow: BB 14 Aug (BMc).
Savannah Sparrow: 16 CR 5 Aug (BK).
LeCONTE'S SPARROW: WPT 12 Aug (DRg).
Lincoln's Sparrow: 4 DRB 29 Jun (AB), CO-FL.
Swamp Sparrow: 4 CRd 15 Jul (SR), CO-CF.
White-throated Sparrow: 10 BMR 15 Jul (JC), CO-NY.
Dark-eyed Junco: 14 WF 22 Jul (JeL).
Bobolink: 8 CR 15 Jul (BK), CO-FL.
Eastern Meadowlark: 28 RFR 7 Jul (HvdZ).
Baltimore Oriole: 4 CP 6 Jul (SR).
Brown-headed Cowbird: 4 CP 6 Jul (SR).
Rusty Blackbird: 2 KM 22 Jun (DM).
Ovenbird: 11 PS 1 Jun (BC); 5 NP 7 Aug (SR), CO-FL.
Louisiana Waterthrush: 4 TI 11 Jul (GC).
Northern Waterthrush: 3 BaP 24 Jun (SR).
Golden-winged Warbler: no reports.
Blue-winged Warbler: no reports.
Black-and-white Warbler: 4 AP 29 Jul (SR).
Tennessee Warbler: PS 15 Jun (JR).
Nashville Warbler: 12 PS 1 Jun (BC) 3 FB 23 Jun (CW), CO-CF.
Mourning Warbler: 3 BT 9 Jul (J&PT).
Common Yellowthroat: 16 BB 3 Jun (JS); 4 PS 17 Jul (BMc), CO-FL.
American Redstart: 11 LC 1 Jul (SR), CO-FY.
Cape May Warbler: 2 NE 29 Aug (CM).
Northern Parula: 5 CPT 15 Jul (GC), CO-FL.
Magnolia Warbler: 12 PS 1 Jun (BC); 4 CPT 15 Jul (GC), CO-FL.
Bay-breasted Warbler: OB 30 Aug (N&EM).
Blackburnian Warbler: HT 23 Jun (DM), CO-CF.
Yellow Warbler: 3 WRS 7 Jul (HT), CO-FL.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: 2 BaP 9 Jul (SR).
Blackpoll Warbler: 70 AP 2 Jun (TC), max; 2 WF 29 Jul (MJ), CO-FY.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 10 Es 1 Jun (LK); 6 CRF 25 Jul (SR), CO-FY.

Palm Warbler: 5 LP 21 Jun (DM), CO-CF.
Pine Warbler: CMR 27 Jul (J&PT), CO-DD.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 12 PS 1 Jun (BC);
7 BMR 15 Jul (JC), CO-FY.
Black-throated Green Warbler: 10 Es 1 Jun
(LK); 7 BMT 23 Jun (CW), CO-FY.
Canada Warbler: 5 WV 9 Jun (BB).

Wilson's Warbler: BB 27 Aug (BMc).
Scarlet Tanager: 2 PtR 7 Jul (BS).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 3 BMR 4 Jul
(AB).
Indigo Bunting: CMR 12 Aug (J&PT), CO-
DD.