

REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The National Weather Service records from Poughkeepsie reported a high temperature of 90° F on 28 June and a low of 41° on 4 June. Temperatures overall averaged 0.3° below normal. That was not the case, however, for much of the Region. Sullivan County had many nights throughout the month in the 40s and temperatures for June were well below normal overall. Also, according to the National Weather Service in Poughkeepsie, rainfall was 3.59", 0.83" below normal. This too was not characteristic of much of the Region. Sullivan and Orange Counties experienced above normal rainfall; Sullivan County had only four days out of the month with no rainfall at all. Water levels at locations like Bashakill State WMA and Wallkill River NWR were well above normal throughout the month. July was just the opposite. There was a low of 51° on 1 July and a high of 97° on 21 July. This was 3.7° above normal. The first half of the month was dry. There was 2.56" of rain, 2.09" below normal. Finally, on the night of 16 July, rain began to fall. Thunderstorms hit much of the Region and water levels increased. August came in at just about average. There was a high of 91° on 19 August and a low of 48° on 26 August. The average high temp was 82°, just .9° above normal. There was 4.33" of rain, .13" above normal.

June and July were typical of a "summer doldrums" period. It wasn't until August that things began to pick up. That was short-lived however, with weather and wind patterns not being conducive to shorebird or early passerine migration. August ended with just a taste of what was hopefully still to come.

There were a few interesting waterfowl reports in the Region during the period. As many as two Snow Geese were reported in Ulster and Sullivan Counties in June. Hooded Mergansers were present throughout the period with breeding confirmed in at least four counties. A drake Greater Scaup found at Piermont Pier was unusual in June. Two Bufflehead that had been present throughout the spring period continued at the Rondout Reservoir through the month of June. At least one bird was still present through 31 August.

Sandhill Cranes were seen in the Orange County Black Dirt Region sporadically throughout the period, still present on 31 August. The Region's first grasspiper report was a group of six American Golden-Plover in the Orange County Black Dirt Region on 31 August. That day produced the first fall record of Stilt Sandpiper, also in Orange County. On 28 July, Shelby Grimm looked out at her platform feeder and saw a **White-winged Dove** feeding there. Before she could get her camera, a car pulled into the drive and flushed the bird. The following morning, the bird returned briefly, then took off, not to be seen again.

This was a first record for Orange County and Region 9 and a NYSARC report was filed.

Once again, this season Laughing Gulls occurred along the Hudson River as far north as Croton Point Park in early June. A Black Skimmer was seen in the Rye area 9-11 June.

An amazing event took place on 3 August on the Hudson River. As the Sloop Clearwater was sailing down the Hudson, an immature **Brown Booby** flew in and perched on the ship's mast. The bird remained perched for half an hour to the delight of the passengers. It was well photographed and reported by Thomas Macom. This was also a first record for Orange County and Region 9.

Rapidly receding waters in July provided habitat for waders. A record 67 Great Egrets and 98 Great Blue Herons were recorded in the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge on 20 July. That Great Egret record would be broken on 13 August when 103 were reported in the evening going to roost. Other interesting waders present during the period included seven Little Blue Herons, two birds in Westchester, and one each in Ulster, Orange, Sullivan, Dutchess and Putnam Counties. This species has continued to increase in the Region in recent years. Of special note were two on-going Yellow-crowned Night-herons, this pair continued in Orange County at least through 8 July. Though a nest was built, no eggs were laid, and no incubation occurred. (See the article on pages 314-316 of this issue.) On 1 June, five Glossy Ibis were seen in flight at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation. Also, at that location, on 22 June a **Mississippi Kite** was seen soaring overhead. A Red-headed Woodpecker was present at Muscoot Farm from early June through at least 30 July. Yet another Red-headed Woodpecker was found at Rockefeller State Park on 12 August.

On 17 August, Larry Trachtenberg found a **Western Kingbird** at Croton Point Park. This cooperative bird remained for eight days, enabling all who sought it out to see it. Pine Siskins put in a show at a couple of locations in July. At least two Grasshopper Sparrows that were present through the spring continued at Croton Point Park through at least to 24 June. The birds were seen again late in July and at least once in August. On 7 July the author found a pair of **breeding** Mourning Warblers on Hunter Road in the Town of Neversink. Two chicks could be heard begging in the thicket and both adults and one chick were photographed. The birds continued at least through 13 July. This is the first breeding record of this species in Sullivan County. Hooded Warblers were reported at Muscoot Farm the first week of July, an unusual location for this species.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AP – Apollo Plaza, SULL; **BCF** – Blue Chip Farm, ULST; **BFAS** – Buttercup Farm Audubon Sanctuary, DUTC; **BMSP** – Bear Mountain SP, ROCK; **BP** – Browns Pd, ORAN; **BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA, SULL; **CIOES** – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, DUTC; **CFSP** – Clarence Fahnestock SP, PUTN; **CMACS** – Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary, DUTC; **CPP** – Croton Pt P, WEST; **DHCLP** – D and H Canal Linear P, SULL; **DR** – Doodletown Rd, ROCK; **DRT** – Dutchess Rail Trail, DUTC; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, WEST; **EMLH** – Esopus Meadows Light House, ULST; **FPNC** – Forsythe P and Nature Center, ULST; **GL** – Glenmere L, ORAN; **GMP** – Glasco Mini P, ULST; **GV** – Great Vly WMA, ULST; **HS** – Harcourt Sanctuary, ULST; **HVRT** – Harlem Valley Rail Trail, DUTC; **II** – Iona I, ROCK; **KL** – Kiamesha L, SULL; **KP** – Kingston Pt, ULST; **LGC** – Laurel Grove Cemetery, ORAN; **LM** – Liberty Marsh, ORAN; **LR** – Larchmont Res, WEST; **LNP** – Lenoir Nature Preserve, WEST; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MF** – Muscoot Farm, WEST; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **MPHW** – Mount Peter Hawk Watch, ORAN; **NCR** – New Croton Res, WEST; **NR** – Neversink Res, SULL; **NW** – Newburgh Waterfront, ORAN; **OCBDR** – Orange County Black Dirt Region, ORAN; **OINP** – Oscawana I Nature Preserve, WEST; **OMRLMSP** – Ogden Mills and Ruth

Livingston Mills SP, DUTC; **PHP** – Peach Hill P, DUTC; **PITN** – Pine Island Turf Nursery, **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; ORAN; **RL** – Rhinecliff Landing, DUTC; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **RNC** – Rye Nature Center, WEST; **RR** – Rondout Res, SULL; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP, ORAN; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Road, ORAN; **SS** – Sleightsburg Spit, ULST; **SSF** – SSt State Forest, ORAN; **TBWMA** – Tivoli Bays WMA, DUTC; **THMUA** – Taconic-Hereford Multiple Use Area, DUTC; **WL** – Wickham L, ORAN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill Ri NWR, ORAN.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: Thorton Rd, SULL 14 Jun (SBal, JH, KMi, ABo); 2 Lazy Swan ULST 30 Jun (RM), *intro*.

Wood Duck: 362 BSWMA 28 Aug (JH).

Blue-winged Teal: max 8 WRNWR 18-23 Aug (TS, DBrie, DSp); max 15 MP 29 Aug (JH); 2 MC 30 Aug (GB, TB); 6 Beaver Pd ORAN 31 Aug (BNo, KA, MZ).

Gadwall: WRNWR 14 Jun (VH).

Northern Pintail: Kingston Res ULST 5 Jul (PSch).

Ring-necked Duck: Rye L WEST 5 Aug (DSi).

Greater Scaup: PP 29 Jun-3 Jul (ME, SBal, CCo).

Bufflehead: 2 RR 1-27 Jun (RS, SBal, JH); RR 3 Jul-31 Aug (JH, SBal, KMi, AB). Over summered, *intro*.

Hooded Merganser: 3 HVRT 1 Jun (BM); 2 SFSP 2 Jun (JSh); max 5 CIOES 3-23 Jun (BM); 9 Kingston Res 8 Jun (WT, JP, PSch); 15 BSWMA 8 Jun (AWelb); 6 Isaacson Preserve WEST 8 Jun (GB, TB); 5 Neversink R SULL 17 Jun (JH); 5 Bordens Rd ORAN 17 Jun (CK); 4 Isaacson Preserve 2 Jul (TA); BSWMA 3 Jul (JH); 4 Hurleyville Swamp SULL 14 Jul-15 Aug (JH, KMi), *intro*.

Ruddy Duck: Chadwick L ORAN 12 Aug (KMcD), only report.

Northern Bobwhite: TMR Farm DUTC 5 Jul (DvZ, AS, CP); 4 SSF 5 Jul (AWel).

Ruffed Grouse: Deep Hollow Rd DUTC 1 Jun (AS, DvZ, JAs); Forestburgh SULL 1 Jun (NHa); Catskill P ULST 8 Jun (DH).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: Newburgh ORAN 28-29 Jul (SG), *intro*.

Common Nighthawk: Lucas Avenue ULST 1 Jun (MBow); SFSP 22 Jun (EGor); White Plains WEST 18 Aug (GK); 56 BSWMA 28 Aug (JH).

Eastern Whip-poor-will: Fahnstock SP PUTN 2-15 Jun (AM, CRo, AS); BSWMA 8-12 Jun (LW, JG, SBal, mob); 2 Dover Plains DUTC 4

Jun (BM, DvZ, MK); Dover DUTC 6-18 Jun (AM, JA); 9 Bald Rocks ORAN 8 Jun (DWa).

RAILS – LARIDS

Clapper Rail: max 13 (2 ad, 11 y) MC 1 Jun-31 Aug (GB, KMcG, BS, mob).

Virginia Rail: 2 SFSP 1 Jun (MSt); max 2 SHSR 2-16 Jun (KA); max 2 WRNWR 5-15 Jun (JCI, VH, GB); SGNWR 12 Jun (BBus); CMACS 15 Jun (HM); max 3 CIOES 16-22 Jun (DFa, DK, AM); Geiger Marsh ULST 18 Jun (PDec); GV 23 Jun (CF); max 6 SGNWR 9 Jul (RT).

Sora: BSWMA 1 Jun (MBo); max 5 WRNWR 1-23 Jun (KA, TP, MY); SGNWR 4 Jun (GB, TB); SHSR 16 Jun (KA); BSWMA 17 Jul (SBal).

American Coot: WRNWR 6 Jun (JCI); WRNWR 24 Jun (FP).

Sandhill Crane: Taconic Parkway DUTC 12 Jun (DK); HVRT 7-10 Jul (CP, AM, DK, mob); WRNWR 18-22 Jul (KMi, LScr, MZ); 2 WRNWR 11-31 Aug (MZ, KA, LScr).

American Oystercatcher: max 7 MC 1 Jun-9 Aug (GB, DJ, TB, mob); 2 EGR 16 Jun-6 Aug (GB, TB, CM); continuing throughout the period.

Black-bellied Plover: MP 10 Aug (JH), only report.

American Golden-Plover: 6 PITN 31 Aug (BNo, KMi, LScr, mob), only report.

Semipalmated Plover: max 21 EGR 26 Jul-13 Aug (GB, TB); Washington L ORAN 31 Jul-3 Aug (BNo); max 18 MC 3-10 Aug (CRo, KB, SC, mob); max 5 PP 4-8 Aug (LP, ME, SBal, KR); max 3 WRNWR 8-11 Aug (LScr, MZ, KA); MP 23 Aug (JH).

Stilt Sandpiper: Beaver Pd ORAN 31 Aug (BNo, KMi, AM, mob), only report, *intro*.

Upland Sandpiper: SGNWR 5 Jun (DO); CPP 17-18 Aug (CR, UM, RL, ABu, ABa).

Ruddy Turnstone: max 5 Rye WEST 31 Jul-29 Aug (GB, TB, SC).

Least Sandpiper: max 31 Strever Farm DUTC 20-22 Jul (BM, CP, DvZ, mob); 8 Beaver Pd 22 Jul (KA); max 16 CPP 4-21 Jul (ME, KR, VH); max 12 MP 23 Jul-23 Aug (JH, KMi, mob); max 40 18 Jul-18 Aug (MZ, KA, mob).

Pectoral Sandpiper: Strever Farm 15-16 Jul (CP, CF, DvZ); EGR 25 Jul (BNi); CPP 28 Jul (SC); MC 7-10 Aug (GB, TB, KBa); MP 13-15 Aug (JH); PP 16 Aug (GC); Pine Hill Rd ORAN 21 Aug (KA).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 15 CPP 18 Jul (KR); max 6 Strever Farm 21 Jul-22 Aug (BM, SJ, CP); 6 MP 23 Jul (JH, KMi).

Laughing Gull: 3 Haverstraw Bay County P WEST 1 Jun (AKo); max 42 MC 3 Jun-9 Aug (GB, VH, CRI); max 14 EGR 6 Jun-6 Aug (GB, TB); 2 CPP 16 Jun (MF); NCR 22 Jun (EM), *intro*.

Least Tern: max 3 MC 5-13 Jul (GB, SC, SW); EGR 9 Jul (AS, DvZ).

Caspian Tern: 2 SS 14 Jun (JY); 3 Saugerties Lighthouse ULST 14 Jun (RM); 2 KP 17 Jun (PS); PP 27 Jul (ME); max 2 Kingston ULST 4-9 Aug (DWe, FM, LQ, PSch).

Black Tern: Kensico Res WEST 23-25 Aug (NG).

Common Tern: max 58 MC 1-24 Jun (BSh, VH, PDeG, mob); Mills-Norrie SP DUTC 5 Jun (DC); 6 EGR 6-24 Jun (GB, TB, BSt, BNi).

Forster's Tern: max 2 PP 1-2 Aug (KR).

Black Skimmer: Rye Town P WEST 9 Jun (GB, TB); Milton Pt WEST 11 Jun (PCL), *intro*.

LOONS – FALCONS

Common Loon: EGR 2 Jun (CM); Croton Falls Res WEST 13-21 Jun (SC); EGR 25-29 Jun (GB, TB); RR 3-4 Jul (JH, SBal); Ossining WEST 31 Jul (LT); Ashokan Res ULST 17 Aug (MW); max 3 Kensico Res 20-23 Aug (NG).

BROWN BOOBY: Hudson R ORAN 3 Aug (Thomas Macom), *intro*.

Great Cormorant: Five Islands P WEST 21 Aug (VH), only report.

American Bittern: max 2 BSWMA 1 Jun-8 Jul (JH, SBa, KMi, MBoc, mob); WRNWR 5 Jul-13 Aug (JM, DM).

Least Bittern: BSWMA 17-20 Jul (JH, SBa); SHSR 15 Jun-28 Jul (RHa, MZ, KA); max 5 WRNWR 1 Jun-22 Aug (KA, MZ, AM, mob).

Great Blue Heron: 98 WRNWR 20 Jul (MZ, LScr), *intro*.

Great Egret: max 15 MC 1-22 Jun (GB, VH, BSh, mob); max 12 EGR 2-21 Jun (GB, BSt);

2 Haverstraw Bay County P 6 Jun (AWell); PP 8-21 Jun (KR, JT, FD); Route 207 Marsh ORAN 9 Jun (BNo); KP 12-17 Jun (FM, DFe); SS 14 Jun (JY); Rhinecliff Landing P DUTC 15 Jun (BM, DvZ); SS 20 Jun (GC); max 67 WRNWR 14 Jul (KA, KMi, LScr, KMcd, mob); max 2 BSWMA 20 Jul-22 Aug (JH, KMi, SBa, mob); max 103 WRNWR 13 Aug (RJ, DM), *intro*.

Little Blue Heron: CIES 8 Jun (CCh); MC 12-14 Jul (SC, JCu, NHe); SS 16 Jul (JY);

Larchmont Res WEST 3 Aug (BNi); Wallkill R ORAN 17 Aug (BNo, JH, MZ, KMi); RR 19-23 Aug (JH, SBa, KMi, NHa, LV, SS);

CMACS 22-24 Aug (AM, SC, KB, JK), *intro*.

Green Heron: max 20 Dutchess P L DUTC 27 Jun (LF), high count.

Snowy Egret: max 9 MC 1-24 Jun (JCa, KMcG, PCL); max 4 EGR 6-24 Jun (GB, BSt, BNi); CPP 16 Jun (SRap).

Black-crowned Night-heron: Ossining Train Station WEST 1 Jun (LT); max 3 MC 1 Jun-6 Aug (GB, PCL, DJ, mob); max 2 Masterson P ORAN 9-23 Jun (BNo); 2 Lents Cove P WEST 9 Jun (SR); max 6 EGR 9-21 Jun (GB, BSt); 3 Croton Falls Res WEST 13 Jun (SC); 2 West Branch Res PUTN 14 Jun (SC); Lake Tappan ROCK 18 Jun (KR).

Yellow-crowned Night-heron: max 2 VanBurenville Rd ORAN 1 Jun-8 Jul (JD, JH), *intro*.

Glossy Ibis: 5 WPRR 1 Jun (LW); 3 EMLH 23 Aug (DWe, JSu), *intro*.

Northern Harrier: WRNWR 1 Jun (MY, HL); OCBDR 9 Jun (TP, JAP); Storm King SP ORAN 9 Jun (Aiden Colligan); SGNWR 23 Jun (MFi).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: WPRR 22 Jun (IC), *intro*.

Great Horned Owl: WPRR 1 Jun (LSch); 2 Minnewaska Trail ULST 2-19 Jun (CK); SGNWR 4 Jun (GB, TB); Gypsy Trail Rd PUTN 13 Jun (PL); Teatown L Reservation WEST 14 Jun (CRo); 2 GV 16 Jun (PS).

Red-headed Woodpecker: MF 2 Jun (MS, BSt, GB, TB, mob); Briarcliff Rd WEST 24 Jun (SF); MF 1-30 Jul (SK, AS, FGr, CA, mob); RSP 12-30 Aug (AS), *intro*.

Merlin: BSWMA 2 Jun (SBal); FPNC 6 Jun (RM); WRNWR 24 Jun (BT); Pine Bush ORAN 28 Jul (WH); Wallkill Valley Rail Trail ULST 28 Jul (SM); Hurleyville Swamp SULL 2 Aug (NH); MP 13-27 Aug (JH); RR 22 Aug (JH).

Peregrine Falcon: 2 PP 5 Jun (VH); 2 Hawks Nest ORAN 14 Jun (SBar); 3 Hudson

Highlands SP PUTN 14 Jun (EW); AP 16 Aug (JH).

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

WESTERN KINGBIRD (R9): CPP 17-24 Aug (LT, SC, AS, mob), *intro*.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: BMSP 1 Jun (ME, PH, AKo, EL); PHP 3 Jun (DWe); max 2 SFSP 1-4 Jun (JCo, LL); BSWMA 21 Aug (JH); BSWMA 23 Aug (SBal); SFSP 31 Aug (GB, TB).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: BMSP 1-4 Jun (ME, RHai); Harriman SP ORAN 6 Jun (DBe); max 2 Slide Mountain ULST 8-19 Jun (EGoo, AKe, MO); Slide Mountain 23 Jun (PS); RNC 25 Aug (GB, TB, PCI, JCI).

Swainson's Thrush: RSP 1 Jun (The Salmons); 3 Pomona ROCK 4 Jun (WM); BSWMA 8 Jun (AWelb); SFSP 24 Jun (EF).

Pine Siskin: Cornwall ORAN 30 Jun- 30 Jul (CS); 2 Rhinebeck DUTC 4 July (SJ); 2 Bedford 9 Jun (GB, TB).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS - CARDINALIDS

Vesper Sparrow: Indiana Rd ORAN 26 Jun (KMi).

Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 Rockefeller Lane WEST 1 Jun (CP); max 11 SGNWR 1-24 Jun (DK, DWa, SBal, mob); max 2 CPP 1-24 Jun (SK, AS, SC, mob); max 4 OCBDR 4-24 Jun (MOB, DBril, MZ); CPP 22 Jul (AS, BNi, FGr), *intro*.

Yellow-breasted Chat: OMRLMSP 4-11 Jun (JCI, DL, mob); MC 14 Jul (NHe, JCu).

Nashville Warbler: Croton-on-Hudson WEST 15 Aug (CRo).

Mourning Warbler: Catskill Forest ULST 23 Jun (PS); 4 Hunter Rd SULL 7-13 Jul (JH, SBal, ABo), first breeding record Sullivan County, *intro*.

Hooded Warbler: max 2 MF WEST 1-7 Jul (SK, AS, PCI, mob); max 9 Neversink River Unique Area SULL 10 Jul (JH), *intro*.

Blue Grosbeak: RSP 15 Jul (BBr).