

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Summer 2020 was hot and dry. June's average high of 81.1° F was 3.6° above average and there were five days above 90° compared to the typical 1-2. Rainfall totaled only 1.46", nearly 2" below average. Partly sunny (or better) skies prevailed for 24 of 30 days and quickly dried any precipitation. The month finished as 10th driest, with bare lands open to the bright June sun becoming hard and dusty. July quickly shaped up as a record-setter. The average maximum of 87.9° was an impressive 6.3° above normal and a new record for Syracuse. Overnights remained warm and provided little cooling, with the average minimum of 66.4° being 5.4° more than usual. Ten truly hot days above 90° were recorded, versus a normal of only three, and 27 of 31 days were partly sunny or better. Total rain of 5.22" was 1.44" above normal but came mostly in two heavy bursts that had little chance against already low water levels and parched ground. July finished as the warmest month ever, breaking a record which stood for 65 years.

The first half of August continued the theme of 'hot and dry', but the latter half gave welcome cooling back down to typical numbers. The month finished at 83.2°, 3.2° above normal and tied for 10th warmest. Five days exceeded 90° compared to the usual 1-2. A whopping 27 of 31 days were partly sunny or better with 4.61" of rain coming mostly in two good soakings. While the last few days seemed a welcome preview of early fall, the three-month summer season finished with 20 days above 90° compared to only six average. 78 days were partly sunny or better!

After a dry spring, the hot and dry summer led to very low water levels on Lake Ontario and much shorebird habitat. By mid-July David Wheeler found beach emerging on the West Barrier Bar at Fair Haven, surprised that such a thing was still possible and estimating the Lake to be two feet lower than the prior year. Matt Brown watched the Carl Island shoal at Sandy Pond emerge in early July after a years-long absence. It grew to impressive dimensions by the end of the season. Meanwhile at Delta Lake, Wheeler noted in mid-June the shallow east end was already getting mudflats and in typical condition for late-July of a 'normal' dry year. Being a month ahead of schedule led to exceptionally dry conditions there, too dry, extending all the way to Delta Lake State Park and difficult for birders to cover with heat shimmer and sun glare. Onondaga Lake, being part of the Erie (barge) canal system where water level is regulated for marine traffic, was closer to normal with little shorebird habitat on the west shore until August when some shallow edge began to emerge.

The season was fairly typical for waterfowl. A few diving ducks lingered into June and dabbling numbers were best in August. Matt Brown found a Brant on 20 July at Sandy Pond, rarely seen in summer. A **Barnacle Goose** was photographed

by Gretchen Dillon at Three Rivers WMA on 10 June, but not seen again. It is a sixth Regional record and first for the summer season, assuming they are all of wild origin. Blue-winged Teal likely nested at the McKoon's Road wetland but were not reported from Sterling Nature Center where they had been present in spring. Common Goldeneye were reported from northern Herkimer county where they may nest. Dennis and Dina Waters photographed a **Eurasian Collared-Dove** in a suburban neighborhood of Rome where they reported the bird had been present for several months. The photo clearly separated it from the very similar-looking Ringed Turtle-Dove, a domestic breed of African Collared-Dove, which occasionally escapes from captivity. The bird called frequently and that helped clinch the identification. Where did it come from and how long will it stay? Several previous records exist for the Region: a flyby bird at Derby Hill was thought to be the species but not photographed and Turtle-Dove could not be conclusively eliminated. Another bird was heard-only by an experienced observer, conclusive within range but not usually considered enough evidence given its rarity in New York. Sandhill Cranes were reported from five different locations including Howland Island and the Kirkville/Ditch Bank Rd area in July and August.

As expected, it was a good season for southbound shorebirds. Piping Plover again nested at Sandy Pond and hatched three eggs. Two young fledged under the watchful eye of parks personnel. Matt Brown conducted frequent, often daily, surveys once the Carl Island shoal emerged and eventually found most of the expected species including Willet on 4 August, Whimbrel on 29 July and 2-4 August, and Red Knot on 28 and 30 August. These species are always scarce and often absent altogether in poor habitat years. Delta Lake's ample flats produced disappointingly small numbers of shorebirds but included a Buff-breasted Sandpiper found by Mark Burns on 26 August. Another lingered for a week at the Sky High Turf Farm in Lakeport, while two were found at the Oswego County airport in Fulton by Gregg Dashnau. David Wheeler found 11 Ruddy Turnstones, 28 Sanderlings, four Whimbrel, and a Red Knot at Fair Haven on 2 August. The date saw substantial movement everywhere. American Golden-Plover were found at the turf farm and Delta Lake. Mickey Scilingo found a Whimbrel at the Fulton airport on 29 July, an atypical fall location. Onondaga Lake produced northbound White-rumped Sandpiper and 50 Semipalmated Sandpiper on 6 June to kick off the summer shorebird season there. A southbound Least Sandpiper showed just 24 days later on 30 June. The good migration day of 2 August produced two Whimbrel on the west shore where water level continued to drop. Short-billed Dowitcher numbers were poor, with only three reports and Stilt Sandpiper was missed for the summer season. What would September bring? Tune in to the next report to find out.

A first summer **Franklin's Gull** was found by David Wheeler at Ditch Bank Rd. in northern Madison County on 13 June keeping company with many Ring-billed Gulls. The bird was often close to the road providing an excellent opportunity for study. Wheeler wrote in his field notes "adult-like feathers out to

and including P6; primaries outboard of that are still first cycle. Only a vague tail band remains.” It stayed four days giving excellent looks. An early season lakewatch on 25 August gave Wheeler good looks at a light juvenile **Long-tailed Jaeger** from the bluff at Derby Hill. August Bonaparte's Gull numbers at Sylvan Beach failed to build with only 12 present on 26 August. Numbers of 100-150 are typical of the spot. Matt Brown reported similar disappointment from Sandy Pond, but contributed the only report of Black Tern for the summer season. Is it gone from the Region as a breeder? Birding the newly-opened southwest trail at Onondaga Lake on 29 August, Drew Weber estimated 4000 Ring-billed Gulls (an excellent number for the date). Weber then had the good fortune to spot and photograph an immature **Arctic Tern** near the rock jetties. Subsequent efforts to relocate the bird, a second Regional record, were unsuccessful. Weber also found the previous individual on 4 October 2013 at the Onondaga Lake marina. It stuck around for several days and was extensively photographed flying at close range.

Two **American White Pelicans** were seen by Michael Howell on Tuscarora Lake on 31 August and are a first county record for Madison. The species has only been a regular visitor to the Region for 20-30 years. **Black Vulture** was reported from Utica on 1 June by Faith Thompson, while Deborah Dohne noted one near Jamesville on 29 June. Matt Brown was surprised to see one flying over his home near Pulaski on 15 June. Quick thinking on his part yielded a photo of what will likely be a once-in-a-lifetime yard bird. Several reports of Black-backed Woodpecker were filed from northern Herkimer County where they are expected in appropriate habitat. Utica and Syracuse Peregrine Falcon sites each fledged two birds. Fledge watchers in Utica noted all the milestones between early June and mid July: first flight leading to longer flights and brief soaring, mid-air food transfer from adults, brief prey chases, more distant forays, and eventually... dispersal. Thankfully it was smooth sailing for the Utica birds. In late June the female fledgling from the Syracuse nest was discovered grounded by an employee of the state office building and taken to a local wildlife rehabilitator, Cindy Page, and discovered to have lead poisoning. It was transferred to Cornell and treated there for a week before being released on the roof of the state office building on 30 June. The bird seemed well-recovered and accepted back into its family, which can sometimes be a problem when young Peregrines spend extensive time in rehab. The whole crew was checked on daily by volunteers through July. Eventually it and the male fledgling were presumed to disperse. Matt Perry observed the Utica Peregrines drinking from rooftop puddles during this hot dry summer, when standing water was scarce, and speculates that may be the source of the lead. The species normally gets most of its water from the prey it eats, but the heat likely forced supplemental drinking.

Olive-sided Flycatcher was noted from the traditional Labrador Hollow spot on 1 June and probable nesters were reported in northern Herkimer county on 18 and 21 June. Green Lakes hosted the first southbound migrant on 14 August. Acadian Flycatcher continued at Whiskey Hollow while Mickey Scilingo found a possible new location for the species near Parish with a bird present 24 June to

5 July. Did it attract a mate? No reports came from Sterling Nature Center where the species was present through late May, likely due to lack of observer effort. Common Raven was well-represented by 420 eBird reports. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet was reported from the Morgan Hill State Forest spot on Shackham Road in late July, possibly a local nester. Gregg Dashnau found a singing Sedge Wren in the 'big fields' area of Three Rivers WMA on 3 July. Numbers at the spot built to at least five singing males during the last week of July. Did they nest successfully? Meanwhile, Karl Curtis found one singing in the Manlius area on 13 July. Are these late-arriving mid-summer birds nesters (or failed nesters?) from another area as often supposed?

Small groups of Red Crossbills were present at the traditional Shackham Road spot throughout summer. Young were seen with adults gritting in the road at the four-corners and enjoyed by many birders. Some calls were recorded and the birds identified on that basis as Type 1 ('Appalachian') and Type 10 ('Sitka Spruce'). Like most finches, the birds often call in flight and birders are encouraged to obtain audio if possible. Recordings can be sent to Matt Young at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology for identification to type. A male Clay-colored Sparrow returned to the spot it favored last year at Oakwood Cemetery. It was last seen on 26 June, presumably moving on after not attracting a mate. A pair was found in mid-July at Green Lakes State Park. A nesting attempt seems likely but was not confirmed. A Yellow-breasted Chat continued for two days into summer from the previous period at Labrador Hollow. An adult male **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was seen at a feeder in Remsen on 3 July by Naomi Gray. It had been present for several days before being photographed but the homeowners were out of town for the holiday week and it was not seen thereafter. Only one Golden-winged Warbler was reported, a possible late migrant given the date of 3 June. The author holds hope that some nesters remain in the vast lands comprising Region 5.

Ken Burdick found singing Prothonotary Warblers while atlas along the old Erie canal near Cato. One bird sang an unusual two-parted rendition of the song which might be represented as "see-see-see-see, say-say-say-say" and easily overlooked as Yellow Warbler. Burdick reported to the author that at a distance the song could also be confused with Northern Waterthrush given its volume and descending character. According to 'Birds of the World' online, the song has been documented but rarely recorded, thus making the audio attained by Burdick an important contribution to eBird and the Macauley Library. On 6 July a singing Prothonotary was found at the traditional Toad Harbor spot along Oneida Lake's north shore in West Monroe. Not reported in eight years, the species has a long history there but much of the spot is inaccessible and records are likely biased in favor of years when the birds are close up the channels and audible from the parking area. A Palm Warbler, likely nesting, was reported from 'Palm Warbler Bog' in northern Herkimer county. Carla Bregman found a well-described **Yellow-throated Warbler** in Manlius on 21 August. It is the 17th Regional record and first for summer.

With NY Breeding Bird Atlas III beginning this year, one cannot help but wonder about the impact of hot, dry weather on nesting birds. How did the waterthrushes fare? American Woodcock? Are wet wooded areas sufficiently protected from drying out? Were the birds mostly done when it got really bad? Is 'too wet' worse than 'too dry'? Many questions but the birds are experts at finding what they need. In preparing this report, the author reviewed many records and was surprised how few birds were followed long enough to confirm breeding. The juicy potential nesters were twitched by many birders when found then ignored thereafter. Did Clay-colored Sparrow nest successfully at Green Lakes? What about the Prairie Warblers there? Three Rivers Sedge Wrens? Follow up on these species, and many others that are thinly-distributed in our Region, is essential to the Atlas.

This season a total of 227 species and two hybrids was reported, which is a whopping 18 above the recent 10-year average for the Region and due to a good showing of rarities and shorebirds. Highlights of the season included: **Barnacle Goose**, **Eurasian Collared-Dove**, Piping Plover, Whimbrel, Red Knot, Willet, Long-tailed Jaeger, **Franklin's Gull**, **Arctic Tern**, American White Pelican, Black Vulture, Sedge Wren, Red Crossbill, Yellow-breasted Chat, **Yellow-headed Blackbird**, and **Yellow-throated Warbler**.

Summer 2020 produced 105,945 eBird records for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v5.5. Reports were contributed by 575 people.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BW** – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **BRH** – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **CM** – Clay Marsh, Clay; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego River, Indian Point, L Neatahwanta; **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HF** – Highland Forest CP; **HI** – Howland I WMA, CAYU; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area; **L Ont** – L Ontario; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison County Landfill; **MexPt** – Mexico Pt SP; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Road Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L & Onondaga L P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **PPt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **PSS** – Peter Scott Swamp, Phoenix; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson Ri P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **Sithe** – trails at Independence Park, formerly Sithe Energy, Scrica; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skan** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TNP** – Tuscaraora Nature P, MADI; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose: 2 Parish 16 Jun; Lakeport 11 Aug.
Brant: SP 20 Jul (MBr), very rarely reported in summer.
BARNACLE GOOSE: TR 10 Jun (GD, ph); 6th Reg rec and 1st for summer.
Canada Goose: max 325 OnonL 30 Jun; flocks widespread thru.
Mute Swan: max 67 FH 28 Jun, 4 pairs nested successfully in area (DR); nested also SP (MBr).
Trumpeter Swan: max 8 TR 19 Jun incl young; pairs HI, SNC, Hannibal all likely nested.
Wood Duck: 55 DL 19 Aug; max 56 UM 26 Jun; widespread.

Blue-winged Teal: 2 MW 30 Jun; max 55 DL 31 Aug; good nums Aug DL & OnonL; no reps SNC.
Northern Shoveler: arr 2 OnonL 30 Aug; 5 OnonL 31 Aug.
Gadwall: no reps.
American Wigeon: SVB 27 Jun; OnonL 22 Jul; arr OnonL 31 Aug.
Mallard: max 300 OnonL 30 Aug; flocks widespread.
American Black Duck: max 18 n. HERK 12 Aug; small groups rep.
Northern Pintail: 3 DL 31 Aug; only rep.
Green-winged Teal: 2 LoopR 2 Jun, only Jun or Jul rep; max 40 DL 31 Aug; other Aug reps typ locs.
Redhead: OswH 22 Jul-22 Aug; only rep.

Ring-necked Duck: max 2 Atwell 4 Jun; 8 reps singles Brew, OnonL, WP, mostly Aug.
Lesser Scaup: WP 5-6 Jun; WP 6 Jul.
Bufflehead: Fourth L 17 Jun.
Common Goldeneye: Phx 12 Jun-7 Jul; pairs rep n. HERK likely nesters.
Hooded Merganser: max 12 Erieville 7 Jun; small nums typ locs.
Common Merganser: max 15 four locs; small groups typ locs throughout reg.
Red-breasted Merganser: SNC 3 Jun; 2 Bville 16 Jun, only reps.
Ruddy Duck: Fult 25 Jun, 12 Jul; max 2 Fult 2 Jul; only reps.
Ring-necked Pheasant: small nums var loc but few reps.
Ruffed Grouse: max 9 HF 15 Aug; small nums typ locs.
Wild Turkey: max 25 Const 18 Aug & Utica 13 Aug.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 20 LoopR 4 Aug.
Rock Pigeon: flocks widespread.
EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: Rome 31 Aug (DDW, ph, DWh) present for months per residents, often calling; 2nd Reg rec but first with extensive documentation.
Mourning Dove: max 260 OnonL 17 Aug, good num; widespread.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: singles/pairs thru.
Black-billed Cuckoo: singles/pairs thru.
Common Nighthawk: 3 Pulaski 1 Jun; WP 28 Jun; 2 Waterville 12 Jul; migrants arr TR 15 Aug; max 15 Oneida 31 Aug.
Eastern Whip-poor-will: small nums from known locs north of Oneil and TSalisbury; last 31 Jul.
Chimney Swift: max 25 var locs early Aug; small groups typ locs thru.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 22 Stillwater 26 Aug.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: max 6 CM 18 Jun.
Sora: HI 21 Jun; Rome 26-27 Jun; MSI 30 Jul; only reps.
Common Gallinule: max 27 OnonL 9 Aug; small groups typ locs.
American Coot: OnonL Jun-Jul; 2 OnonL 2 Aug; small nums OnonL Aug; max 6 LoopR 4 Aug.
Sandhill Crane: small nums HI, DB, 6 other locs; max 5 UM 6 Jun.
Black-bellied Plover: arr 2 FH 2 Aug; 1-2 SP 18-19 Aug.
Am. Golden-Plover: arr SHTF 22-24 Aug; DL 26 Aug.

Semipalmated Plover: last LoopR 1 Jun; arr DB 26 Jul.
PIPING PLOVER: pair SP hatch 3 young, 2 fledge; last SP 30 Jul.
Killdeer: good nums SHTF, DL; max 110 State Fair 29 Aug.
Upland Sandpiper: Rome 21 Jun; Dolge 7 Aug; max 5 Deerfield 14 Jun, bred.
Whimbrel: arr Fult 29 Jul (MSc), unusual loc; 2 OnonL 2 Aug (GD); 2 SP 29 Jul (MBr); SP 2-4 Aug (MBr); FH 19 Aug (DWh); max 4 FH 2 Aug (DWh).
Ruddy Turnstone: last SP 3 Jun; arr & max 11 FH 2 Aug (DWh); singles FH & SP.
Red Knot: arr FH 2 Aug (DWh); SP 28 & 30 Aug (MBr); max 2 SP 29 Aug (MBr).
Sanderling: arr SP 25 Jul; max 28 FH 2 Aug.
Dunlin: LoopR 1 Jun; last & max 3 LoopR 2 Jun; only reps.
Baird's Sandpiper: arr FH 4 Aug; max 3 DL 29 Aug.
Least Sandpiper: last Dolge 3 Jun; arr OnonL 30 Jun; max 80 DL 19 Aug.
White-rumped Sandpiper: last OnonL 6 Jun; arr SP 30 Jul; SP 19 Aug; only reps.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr SHTF 22-28 Aug; max 2 Fult 26 Aug; DL 26-28 Aug (MBu).
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr DL 12 Aug; max 3 DL 28 Aug.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 50 OnonL 6 Jun; last 3 OnonL 7 Jun; arr SP 11 Jul.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr SP 20 Jul; Verona 28 Jul; MSI 29 Jul; only reps.
American Woodcock: max 3 TR 2 Jul.
Wilson's Snipe: max 2 Newport 17 Jun.
Spotted Sandpiper: 8 OnonL 11 & 24 Jun; max 11 OnonL 2 Aug.
Solitary Sandpiper: arr Tully 12 Jul; max 8 Eaton 29 Jul & MSI 25 Aug.
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 8 DB 18 Jul; max 17 DL 19 Aug.
Willet: SP 4 Aug (MBr); only rep.
Greater Yellowlegs: last 2 TR 13 Jun; arr 2 SP 21 Jul; max 14 DL 29, 31 Aug.
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: DH 25 Aug (DWh) on strong west winds.
Bonaparte's Gull: last 7 OSP 16 Jun; SP 25 Jun; arr 2 SP 21 Jul & 5 DL 21 Jul; max 12 Oneil 26 Aug; typ Aug nums at SVB failed to build.
FRANKLIN'S GULL: imm DB 13-16 Jun (DWh, ph).
Ring-billed Gull: max 4000 OnonL 29 Aug.
Herring Gull: 100 OnonL 6 Aug.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: OSP 30 Aug (DBo).
Great Black-backed Gull: max OnonL 26 Aug.
Caspian Tern: 72 FH 31 Jul; 131 SP 24 Aug; max 142 SP 3 Jun.
Black Tern: SP 21 Jul (MBr), only rep.
Common Tern: 114 SP 20 Aug; max 207 Oneil 9 Aug.
ARCTIC TERN: OnonL 29 Aug (DWe, ph); 2nd Reg rec.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Common Loon: few singles Jun typ locs, else small groups n part of Reg; max 8 Twitchell L 8 Aug.
Double-crested Cormorant: max 1200 OnonL 21 Aug.
American White Pelican: 2 Tuscarora L 31 Aug (MH, ph); 1st county rec.
American Bittern: max 2 WMonroe 2 Jun & Pulaski 20 Jun; few reps.
Least Bittern: few reps typ locs; max 3 UM 26 Jun.
Great Blue Heron: max 32 SNC 13 Jun; reps widespread incl breeding colonies typ locs.
Great Egret: Jun reps 3 locs; arr DL 16 July; max 13 DL 26 Aug.
Green Heron: small groups widespread; max 8 Fult 9 Aug.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: TR 11 Jun; OLC 26-28 Jun; OnonL 30 Aug; max 4 OLC 26 Jun.
Black Vulture: Utica 1 Jun (FT); Pulaski 15 Jun (MBr); Jamesville 29 Jun (DD).
Turkey Vulture: widespread; max 120 DB 23 Aug.
Osprey: pairs widespread typ locs; max 8 OswH 13 Aug.
Northern Harrier: singles/pairs typ locs; max 3 DC 12 Jun.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: few reps of singles, pair 3 locs.
Cooper's Hawk: singles/pairs; max 4 BW 6 Jul; Lpool 13 Jul.
Northern Goshawk: no reps.
Bald Eagle: widespread reps small nums; 12 LoopR 6 Jun; max 20 HI 2 Jun.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 four locs Jul; few reps of singles.
Broad-winged Hawk: widespread reps typ locs; max 108 DH 16 Aug, dispersal flight on south wind.
Red-tailed Hawk: small nums widespread; max 67 DH 16 Aug, dispersal flight on south wind.

Eastern Screech-Owl: singles/pairs typ locs; max 5 FH 29 Aug.
Great Horned Owl: singles/nesting pairs widespread typ locs.
Barred Owl: singles/nesting pairs widespread typ locs.
Northern Saw-whet Owl: few reps SH, n HERK Jun; Morrisville 24 Aug.
Belted Kingfisher: small groups widespread; max 10 SSSP 18 Jul.
Red-headed Woodpecker: pairs at established locs Ont & Onei lakeshores.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: common & widespread throughout Reg.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: singles/pairs var locs; max 5 HI 4 Jul & SH 14 Jul.
Black-backed Woodpecker: two locs n HERK 12, 17 Jun; pair n HERK 8 Aug.
Downy Woodpecker: common & widespread throughout Reg.
Hairy Woodpecker: common & widespread throughout Reg.
Northern Flicker: common & widespread throughout Reg.
Pileated Woodpecker: common & widespread throughout Reg; max 6 BW 1 Jul.
American Kestrel: singles/pairs Jun, family groups Aug; 8 Fult 26 Aug; max 9 Fairfield 26 Aug.
Merlin: singles/pairs scattered about Reg; max 4 NHartford 17 Jul.
Peregrine Falcon: pairs nest Syr, Jamesville, Utica, Little Falls, see *intro*; singles typ locs Aug.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 5 var locs Jun/Jul.
Eastern Kingbird: max 10 Dewitt Marsh 4 Jul.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: last LH 1 Jun; nesters n HERK 18 & 21 Jun (BL); arr GLSP 14 Aug; max 2 Fville 31 Aug.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: max 14 KW 23 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: likely nesters n HERK 4, 5, 18 Jun & 4 Jul; arr Fabius 22 Aug; Bridgeport 29 Aug; only reps.
Acadian Flycatcher: WH June; Parish 24 Jun, 5 Jul, nesting unknown; no reps SNC but presumed there.
Alder Flycatcher: max 10 TR 9 Jun.
Willow Flycatcher: max 9 OnonL 28 Jul.
Least Flycatcher: max 8 OnonL 28 Jun.
Eastern Phoebe: max 8 FH 17 Jun.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 6 HI 4 Jul.

Blue-headed Vireo: max 7 SH 17 Jun.
Philadelphia Vireo: n HERK 17 Jun; arr Const 26 Aug; Const & MSI 31 Aug.
Warbling Vireo: max 10 Cato 12 Jun, 9 Jul.
Red-eyed Vireo: 33 LH 20 Jun; max 34 DL 11 Jul; high counts depend on effort/distance.
Blue Jay: common & widespread throughout Reg.
American Crow: common & widespread throughout Reg.
Fish Crow: continuing reps mostly from known locs and mostly ONON.
Common Raven: 420 reports submitted typ locs, small nums/family groups.
Horned Lark: max 10 SHTF 25 Aug; few reps typ locs.
Purple Martin: max 43 Pulaski 27 Jul.
Tree Swallow: max 135 Sterling 30 Aug.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 32 Utica 16 Jul.
Bank Swallow: max 44 OnonL 23 Jul.
Cliff Swallow: 14 Phx bridge 2 Jul; 14 WMonroe barn 24 Jul; max 15 Clay shopping center 10 July.
Barn Swallow: max 190 OnonL 22 Jul.
Black-capped Chickadee: widespread throughout Reg; max 39 NoyesS 23 Aug.
Tufted Titmouse: widespread throughout Reg; max 14 NoyesS 25 Jul.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: small groups typ locs; max 19 Sangerfield 31 Aug.
White-breasted Nuthatch: widespread throughout Reg.
Brown Creeper: small nums typ locs; max 4 SH 26 Jul; few reps.
House Wren: max 11 DB 15 Jun.
Winter Wren: max 5 HF 6 Jun, WH 28 Jun & Williamstown 22 Jul.
Sedge Wren: singing, Manlius 13 Jul (KC); 1 TR 3 Jul (GD); 5 TR 16-29 Jul (GD), singing birds, *intro*.
Marsh Wren: max 31 DC 14 Jun.
Carolina Wren: small nums typ locs, mostly ONON; max 7 Marcellus 21 Aug.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 6 TR 22 Jun & HI 13 Aug & Const 26 Aug.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: Syr 29 Jul, unusual loc/date; max 15 SH 14 Jul.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: SH 29 Jul; Osw 20 Aug; MSI 29 Aug.
Eastern Bluebird: widespread reps; max 8 Central Square 23 Jun.
Veery: max 12 Bernhards Bay 24 Jun; counts depend on distance/effort.

Swainson's Thrush: Cazenovia 3 Jun & 2 same loc 6 Jun (JK), late migrants?; Sangerfield 31 Aug; nesters n HERK Jun-Jul.
Hermit Thrush: max 12 Cicero Swamp; counts depend on distance/effort.
Wood Thrush: max 16 GLSP; counts depend on distance/effort.
American Robin: common and widespread throughout Reg.
Gray Catbird: common and widespread; max 20 GLSP 30 Jun.
Brown Thrasher: 5 GLSP 6 Jun; max 8 TR 6 Jun.
Northern Mockingbird: singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON; max 6 Clay 10 Aug & New Haven 22 Jul.
European Starling: common and widespread throughout Reg.
Cedar Waxwing: common and widespread throughout Reg.
House Sparrow: flocks widespread throughout Reg in urban/suburban environs.
House Finch: small groups widespread throughout Reg; max 19 Manlius 20 Aug.
Purple Finch: typ locs; max 37 Dolge 23 Aug; best nums Dolge area.
Red Crossbill: groups Morgan Hill SF thru; max 22 MHSF 29 Jul; traditional loc.
Pine Siskin: Stillwater 24 Jun; Hastings 8 Jul; Pulaski 23 Jul; Dolge 8, 29 Aug; only reps.
American Goldfinch: common and widespread throughout Reg.

NEW WORLD – SPARROWS-CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 10 TR 10 Jun & GLSP 25 Jun.
Chipping Sparrow: common and widespread throughout Reg; max 25 Pine Plains Cemetery 21 Aug.
Clay-colored Sparrow: OakC thru 26 Jun (DD, DWh); 2 GLSP 14-15 Jul (FL, mob), nesting status unknown; only reps.
Field Sparrow: 10 GLSP 14 Jun; 16 Dewitt 6 Jul; 20 TR 5 Aug.
Vesper Sparrow: few reps 9 locs; max 5 Williamstown 5 Jun, smaller num thru 27 Jul.
Savannah Sparrow: max 10 Richfield Springs 14, 16 Jun.
Grasshopper Sparrow: singles/pairs typ locs; few reps.
Song Sparrow: common and widespread in Reg; max 30 OnonL 25 Aug & TR 22 Jul, 7 Aug.
Lincoln's Sparrow: 3 locs n HERK 6, 18 Jun, 4 Jul (DC, JF, TJS, RF).

Swamp Sparrow: max 27 DC 14 Jun.
White-throated Sparrow: max 7 Old Forge 4 July; small nums mostly n part of Reg; singles elsewhere.
White-crowned Sparrow: last Cazenovia 4 Jun (JK).
Dark-eyed Junco: max 11 Erieville 31 Aug.
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: LH 1, 2 Jun (mob), continuing from last day of prev period.
YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: ad m, Remsen 3 Jul (NG, ph); 19th Reg rec, 3rd for summer.
Bobolink: max est 300 TR 15 Aug.
Eastern Meadowlark: 11 Richland 25 Jul; 23 Fult 26 Aug.
Orchard Oriole: few reps typ locs; max 3 DB 16 Jun.
Baltimore Oriole: common and widespread in Reg; max 11 Osw 13 Aug.
Red-winged Blackbird: common and widespread in Reg; max 1500 SHTF 23 Aug.
Brown-headed Cowbird: common and widespread in Reg; max 22 NSyr 16 Aug.
Rusty Blackbird: n HERK 6 June (DC), possible nester.
Common Grackle: common and widespread in Reg; max 917 Const 30 June.
Ovenbird: max 16 HV 5 Jun; counts depend on distance/effort.
Louisiana Waterthrush: singles/pair typ locs, only 9 reps total likely due to effort.
Northern Waterthrush: max 4 LH 20 Jun & Cicero Swamp 26 Jun.
Golden-winged Warbler: RCFS 3 Jun (DBa); only rep.
Blue-winged Warbler: max 4 LH 4 Jun & SSSP 22 Jul.
“Lawrence’s” Warbler: RCFS 2 Jun; SSSP 22 Jul; Bridgeport 24 Aug.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 3 n HERK 4 Jun.
Prothonotary Warbler: 1-3 Cato early Jun (KB) incl bird singing unusual song, *intro*; max 5 Cato 5 Jul (JM, LS); singing bird Toad Harbor 6-7 Jul (SDz), *intro*.
Tennessee Warbler: arr Eagle Bay 16 Aug & Salisbury 19 Aug, presumably migrants; Hastings 30 Aug; Const 31 Aug; only reps.
Nashville Warbler: max 3 Pitch Pine Bog 17 Jun & Const 31 Aug; few reps.

Mourning Warbler: max 7 WH 5 Jun.
Common Yellowthroat: max 18 TR 12 Jul; counts depend on distance/effort.
Hooded Warbler: 7 SNC 7 Jun; max 9 KW 30 Jun, 7 Jul.
American Redstart: max 25 SNC 7 Jun; counts depend on distance/effort.
Cape May Warbler: arr 2 OneiL 18 Aug; a few singles var loc 23-31 Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: 11 Cicero Swamp 29 Jun; max 24 HI 4 July.
Northern Parula: HF 9 Jun; HI 22 Jun & 4 Jul, status there in summer unknown; nesters rep n part of Region Jun-Jul; arr OSP 29 Aug.
Magnolia Warbler: max 6 SH 12 Jul.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Hastings 26, 28 Aug; Const 31 Aug; only reps.
Blackburnian Warbler: max 8 var locs Jun.
Yellow Warbler: common in Reg; max 21 OnonL 6 Jun, FH 3 Jun; counts depend on distance & effort.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 8 SH 11 Jun, 5 Jul & Sterling 8 Jun.
Blackpoll Warbler: last 2 Onei lakeshore 4 Jun; arr 2 Dolge 28 Aug.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 6 Old Forge 2 Jul; best nums n part of Reg.
Palm Warbler: Beaver River n HERK 17 June, likely nesting (TJS); only rep.
Pine Warbler: max 5 Berhards Bay 29 June.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 8 Old Forge 18 Jul; few reps most from n part of Reg.
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: Manlius 21 Aug (CB); 17th Reg rec, 1st for summer.
Prairie Warbler: 2 GLSP thru Jun; SH 8 Jun (GM); Erieville 6 Jul (KP); only reps.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 10 n HERK 28 Jun.
Canada Warbler: max 6 TR 13 Jun.
Wilson’s Warbler: last Const 2 Jun; arr SFNS 18 Aug; Salisbury 31 Aug; only reps.
Scarlet Tanager: max 6 HI 4 Jul & SH 26 Jul.
Northern Cardinal: common and widespread throughout Reg.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 12 Pulaski 14 Jun.
Indigo Bunting: max 12 Dewitt 6 Jul.

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