

REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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	Albany			Glens Falls		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Jun	70.8°	67.2°	+3.6°	65.6°	35.6°	+1.3°
Jul	75.9°	71.8°	+4.1°	72.9°	30.6°	+4.1°
Aug	68.8°	70.1°	-1.3°	67.9°	32.8°	+0.9°

	Albany			Glens Falls		
Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	1.98"	3.79"	-1.81"	1.79"	3.55"	-1.76"
Jul	3.57"	4.12"	-0.55"	3.04"	4.09"	-1.05"
Aug	6.07"	3.46"	+2.61"	5.61"	3.68"	+1.93"

The weather in June 2020 was characterized by above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation, which exacerbated ongoing abnormally dry/drought conditions in the Region. A four-day heat wave occurred on 20-23 June. July continued with the heat, but at least there was a more regular distribution of showers and thunderstorms. At Albany, every July day featured a high at or above 80° F. August offered some relief with near-normal temperatures and an abundance of rainfall, much of it due to the passage of Tropical Storm *Isaias* on 4 August.

For the second consecutive year **Black-bellied Whistling Duck** was reported in Region 8. A flock of seven birds was observed at Six Mile Waterworks in the City of Albany on 31 August by Susan Beckhardt. Her original report was submitted to iNaturalist, and the birding community was unaware of their presence until a week had passed and the ducks had moved on.

A **Chuck-will's-widow** was seen and heard in Cossackie, Greene County, in early June. The property-owner said that the bird had been present for two weeks and had been heard the previous summer as well.

On 2 August, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein and Jim de Waal Malefyt were scanning Cohoes Flats for shorebirds when a flock of eleven **Whimbrel** touched down. The birds preened and bathed for twenty minutes, then continued south. This appears to be the fourth record for the Region.

The record tropical-cyclone season in the Atlantic basin brought Tropical Storm *Isaias*, now downgraded from hurricane status, up the east coast of the United States and inland across the mid-Atlantic states. The center of the system passed just west of the Capital District of New York and northward into Canada. Birders were alert for tropical/ocean-based birds to be carried into or deposited through the area, and **Sooty Tern** was indeed observed along the Hudson River in two locations. Dr. Bill Cook of the Alan DeVoe Bird Club summarized it

thusly: “Sooty Terns were carried north to the Hudson River this month by hurricane Isaias. Will Yandik saw one at Lasher Park in Germantown on the 4th and Rich Guthrie saw one at Hudson on the 5th. Normally found no further north than the Gulf of Mexico, they are a very rare vagrant in New York almost always following a tropical storm. Our last club record was in September 1979 when hurricane David, the “most intense” hurricane on record up to that time, brought over 100 Sooty Terns to eastern New York and Long Island.”

Alan Mapes photographed a handsome adult **Red-headed Woodpecker** at his feeders near Saratoga Springs on 4 June. Not to be outdone, on the following day Susan Beaudoin lamented, “My son-in-law photographed a **Blue Grosbeak** at our feeders this morning. It stayed about five minutes, feeding with a titmouse. Very unfortunately, I was not at home. I’ve been staring at the feeder for hours with no luck.”

204 species were reported during the period.

CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Alden, Ramona Bearor, Susan Beaudoin, Susan Beckhardt, Mike Birmingham, Nancy Castillo, Glen & Malinda Chapman, Steve Chorvas, Jeremy Collison, Bill Cook, Brianna Denoncour, Alan Devoe Bird Club recent sightings, Amanda Dillon, David DiSiena, Craig Driggs, Bruce Dudek, Alan Dupuis, Lindsey Duval, Scott Fackenthall, Larry Federman, Debra Ferguson, Mark Fitzsimmons, Rich Guthrie, HMBirds Yahoo Group, Larry & Barbara Hall, David Harrison, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Naomi Lloyd, Tristan Lowery, Larry Main, Alan Mapes, Leigh McBride, Thom McClenahan, Steve Mesick, Joyce Miller, Frank Mitchell, Frank Murphy, Jenny Murtaugh, Ellen Pemrick, Will Raup, Gregg Recer & Cathy Graichen, Neal Reilly, Stacy Robinson, John Roosenberg, Jeanette Roundy, Kathy Schneider, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, John Shea, Marian Sole, George Steele, Scott Stoner & Denise Hackert-Stoner, Craig Thompson, Alison Van Keuren, Rich White, Phil Whitney, Tom & Colleen Williams, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

ABBREVIATIONS

APBP – Albany Pine Bush Preserve, ALBA; **AR** – Alcove Res, ALBA; **BCM** – Black Creek Marsh, ALBA; **BCR** – Basic Creek Res, ALBA; **BMB** – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; **CCGP** – Cossackie Creek Grasslands Pres, GREE; **CF** – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; **CL** – Collins L, SCHE; **CRM** – Cline Rd. Marsh, FULT; **FR** – Five Rivers EEC, ALBA; **FtEG** – Ft. Edward Grasslands, WASH; **FV** – Franklinton Vlaie, SCHO; **HP** – Huyck Pres, ALBA; **OCA** – Ooms Conservation Area, COLU; **PRWMA** – Partridge Run WMA, ALBA; **SNHP** – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; **TR** – Tomhannock Res, RENN; **VFNHP** – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Pres, SARA; **WMP** – Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanctuary, COLU.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK: 7 Six Mile Waterworks, Albany ALBA 31 Aug (S. Beckhardt), *intro*.

Snow Goose: Henry Hudson P ALBA 8 Jun.

Mute Swan: max 2 Coeymans Landing ALBA 17 Jun.

Wood Duck: 58 BCR 12 Jun; 46 VFNHP 25 Aug.

American Black Duck: 8 Schuylerville SARA 7 Jul; 6 Carters Pond WMA WASH 6 Aug.

Northern Pintail: 2 S Johnsbury WARR 10 Aug.

Green-winged Teal: 5 TR 31 Aug.

Ring-necked Duck: 3 CRM 28 Aug.

Greater Scaup: Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 3-31 Aug.

Hooded Merganser: 10 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 13 Jul; 8 S Johnsbury WARR 13 Jun.

Common Merganser: 37 Yankee Hill Lock MONT 30 Jun.

Red-breasted Merganser: Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 17 Jul.

Ruffed Grouse: 10 Tower Rd, Hadley SARA 17 Jul; 8 Plateau Mt GREE 26 Jun; 7 Bear Swamp Pres, Westerlo ALBA 14 Jun.

Pied-billed Grebe: 5 Catskill View Pres COLU 8 Jun, ad with juv.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 3 Plotterkill Pres SCHE 9 Jul; 3 Babcock L RENS 27 Jun; 3 Deer Mt Nature Trail ALBA 8 Jun.

Black-billed Cuckoo: 2 FR 2 Jul; 2 CRM 9 Aug; 2 Prospect MT WARR 10 Jul.

Common Nighthawk: 58 Albany ALBA 21 Aug; 41 Albany ALBA 24 Aug; 15 Schenectady SCHE 28 Aug; 15 Colonie ALBA 28 Aug; 10 APBP 25 Aug.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW: Coxsackie GREE 4-7 Jun, *intro*.

Eastern Whip-poor-will: 4 North Creek WARR 4 Jun; 4 Luther Forest SARA 25 Jul; 4 Coeymans Hollow ALBA 8 Jun.

Chimney Swift: 50 CF 19 Aug.

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Virginia Rail: max 13 Tamarac Marsh RENS 5 Jun.

Sora: Princetown SCHE 9 Jun; Carlisle SCHO 14 Jun; Argyle WASH 14 Jul; Clemons Marsh WASH 30 Jul; CRM 28 Aug.

Common Gallinule: max 7 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 22 Jul; Clemons Marsh WASH 30 Jul.

Black-bellied Plover: 3 CF 3 Aug.

Semipalmated Plover: max 8 CF 2 Aug.

Killdeer: 46 TR 5 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: 2 W Ames Rd, Canajoharie MONT 21 Jun.

WHIMBREL (R8): 11 CF 2 Aug (ZS-W, JdWM), *intro*.

Sanderling: CF 4 Aug.

Baird's Sandpiper: CF 23-24 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: max 25 CF 25 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: CF 3-4 Aug; Stanton Pd ALBA 8 Aug; CF 19 Aug; L George WARR 20 Aug.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 2 CF 3-4 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 15 CF 24 Aug.

Short-billed Dowitcher: CF 21-22 Jul.

American Woodcock: max 5 Schodack I SP RENS 8 Jun; Altamont ALBA 12 Jun.

Wilson's Snipe: max 5 Ft Plain MONT 12 Jul; Charleston MONT 24 Aug.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 16 Lock 4 Champlain Canal RENS 4 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 5 Charleston MONT 23 Aug.

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 10 CF 23 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 5 CF 23-24 Aug.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 2 Saratoga L SARA 30 Jun; Germantown COLU 22 Jul; Round L SARA 30 Aug.

Ring-billed Gull: max 695 CF 26 Aug.

Herring Gull: max 10 L George WARR 28 Aug.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: CF 14 Aug, rare in summer.

Great Black-backed Gull: max 2 CF 3 Aug; L George WARR 8 Aug & 20 Aug.

SOOTY TERN: Germantown COLU 4 Aug; Hudson COLU 5 Aug, *intro*.

Caspian Tern: 8 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 31 Jul; 3 Coeymans Landing ALBA 9 Jul; 2 Saratoga L SARA 24 Jun; CF 9 Aug; Athens GREE 18 Aug.

LOONS – PARAKEET

Common Loon: max 10 L George WARR 15 Jul.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 97 TR 9 Jul.
American White Pelican: Hudson COLU 21-25 Jul.

American Bittern: max 2 FtEG 5 Jun; Edinburg SARA 8 Jun.

Least Bittern: max 5 Clemons Marsh WASH 22 Jul.

Great Blue Heron: 22 Whitehall WASH 2 Jul; 19 Henry Hudson P ALBA 12 Jul.

Great Egret: max 64 CF 17 Aug, high count.

Little Blue Heron: Pine Plains COLU 24-31 Jul.
Green Heron: max 9 BCM 18 Jul.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 CF 27 Aug; 1 FR 14 Aug; Putnam WASH 23 Aug; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 27 Aug.
Glossy Ibis: Great Vly WMA GREE 13 Jul.
Black Vulture: max 112 Coeymans ALBA 3 Jul.
Turkey Vulture: max 37 Warrensburg WARR 16 Jul.
Osprey: max 7 Dresden WASH 22 Jul.
Northern Harrier: 3 FtEG 5 Jun; Kingsbury WASH 28 Jul; OCA 26 Aug.
Cooper's Hawk: max 4 Washington P ALBA 8 Jul.
Bald Eagle: max 7 Athens GREE 4 Aug.
Red-shouldered Hawk: max 5 Elka P GREE 15 Aug.
Broad-winged Hawk: max 5 Grafton Lakes SP RENS 15 Aug.
Red-tailed Hawk: max 6 SNHP 8 Jun.
Eastern Screech-Owl: max 3 Kinderhook COLU 19 Aug.
Great Horned Owl: max 4 Cairo GREE 11 Jun.
Barred Owl: max 4 mult loc.
Belted Kingfisher: max 5 Round L SARA 13 Aug.
RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (R8): Saratoga Springs SARA 4 Jun, *intro*.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 9 Normanskill Farm ALBA 20 Jun.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 18 Petersburg RENS 16 Jun.
Downy Woodpecker: max 12 Normanskill Farm ALBA 10 Jul.
Hairy Woodpecker: max 6 mult loc.
Northern Flicker: max 9 BCM 26 Jul.
Pileated Woodpecker: 4 BCM 26 Jul.
American Kestrel: max 10 Fultonville MONT 18 Aug.
Merlin: max 4 Glenville SCHE 26 Jul.
Peregrine Falcon: max 4 Troy RENS 10 Jun; Vromans Nose SCHO 22 Jun.

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Great Crested Flycatcher: max 8 Mildred Denton Wildlife Sanc WASH 9 Jun.
Eastern Kingbird: max 15 Kingsbury WASH 9 Jul.
Olive-sided Flycatcher: Amy's P WARR 5 Jul; Ghent COLU 15 Aug; CRM 15 Aug; Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 25 Aug; APBP 26 Aug; E Hoosick RENS 27 Aug.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: 18 Albert Fam Comm Forest RENS 26 Jul; 14 Deer Mt Nature Trail ALBA 8 Jun; 12 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 27 Jun.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 6 Plateau Mt GREE 6 Jun; Colonie ALBA 11 Aug; 2 APBP 21 Aug; Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 25 Aug.
Acadian Flycatcher: Rensselaerville SF ALBA 8-16 Jun.
Alder Flycatcher: max 15 BMB 7 Jun; last Stratford FULT 29 Aug.
Willow Flycatcher: max 15 BCM 10 Jun; last Papsancee I SP RENS 26 Aug.
Least Flycatcher: max 13 Boice Fam P SARA 15 Jun.
Eastern Phoebe: max 14 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 21 Aug.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 8 Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area COLU 8 Jun.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 10 Stephentown RENS 21 Jul.
Warbling Vireo: max 20 VFNHP 20 Jun.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 59 Rensselaer Forest Trail RENS 16 Jun.
Fish Crow: max 25 Stockport Flats COLU 6 Aug.
Common Raven: max 13 Poestenkill RENS 7 Jun.
Purple Martin: max 7 Saratoga L SARA 8 Jul; 6 Henry Hudson P ALBA 9 Aug.
Tree Swallow: max 1500 Catskill View Pres COLU 13 Aug.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: max 73 APBP 24 Aug.
Bank Swallow: max 140 Champlain Canal Lock 2 SARA 1 Jun.
Cliff Swallow: max 27 Middleburgh SCHO 1 Aug.
Barn Swallow: max 60 Warren Cty Arpt WARR 15 Jul.
Black-capped Chickadee: max 55 Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 28 Aug.
Tufted Titmouse: max 25 Boice Fam P SARA 15 Jun.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 25 Hand Hollow Cons Area COLU 25 Aug.
White-breasted Nuthatch: max 13 Wilton Wildlife P SARA 27 Jun.
Brown Creeper: max 7 Lake Luzerne WARR 16 Jun.
House Wren: max 8 Garnsey P SARA 25 Jun.
Winter Wren: max 7 Edinburg SARA 8 Jun; Hunter GREE 20 Jun.
Marsh Wren: max 30 BCM 7 Jun.

Carolina Wren: max 10 Normanskill Farm ALBA 25 Jun.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 8 VFNHP 13 Aug.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 6 Plateau Mt GREE 6 Jun.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 2 Plateau Mt GREE 27 Jun.
Eastern Bluebird: max 11 Hillsdale COLU 16 Aug.
Veery: max 51 BMB 26 Jun.
Bicknell's Thrush: max 3 Plateau Mt GREE 6 Jun.
Swainson's Thrush: max 6 Hunter Mt GREE 13 Jun.
Hermit Thrush: max 14 Hunter Mt GREE 20 Jun.
Wood Thrush: max 12 Kingsbury WASH 8 Jul.
Gray Catbird: max 41 Corkscrew Rail Trail COLU 21 Aug.
Brown Thrasher: max 5 Stuyvesant COLU 8 Jul.
Northern Mockingbird: max 5 Stuyvesant COLU 8 Jul.
Cedar Waxwing: max 100 Jefferson SCHO 5 Aug.
House Sparrow: max 51 Colonie ALBA 28 Aug.
Evening Grosbeak: 2 Hunter GREE 4 Jul; one Albert Family Comm Forest RENS 21 Jul.
Purple Finch: max 19 Providence SARA 27 Aug.
Red Crossbill: max 17 Thurman WARR 16 Jul.
Pine Siskin: max 3 Grafton RENS 16 Aug.
American Goldfinch: max 73 OCA 3 Aug.

NEW WORLD – SPARROWS- CARDINALIDS

Eastern Towhee: max 16 Taconic SP COLU 6 Jul; APBP 28 Jul.
Chipping Sparrow: max 29 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 27 Jun.
Clay-colored Sparrow: 3 Ft Plain MONT 16 Aug; singletons Hoosick RENS 14 Jun; FtEG 19 Jul.
Field Sparrow: max 19 Stillwater SARA 31 Jul.
Vesper Sparrow: 2 Stuyvesant COLU 18 Jun; Saratoga Co Arpt SARA 23 Jun; Saratoga Springs SARA 4 Jul.
Savannah Sparrow: max 23 OCA 23 Jun.
Grasshopper Sparrow: 3 Albany Int Arpt ALBA 3 Jun; 3 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 5 Jun; 3 Saratoga Co Arpt SARA 23

Jun; 3 Maalwyck P SCHE 6 Jul; singletons Claverack COLU 7 Jun; FtEG 13 Jun; Ancram COLU 21 Jun; Knox ALBA 23 Jun; OCA 29 Jun; Saratoga Springs SARA 17 Jul; W Cossackie GREE 20 Jul.
Song Sparrow: max 44 Normanskill Farm ALBA 10 Jul.
Lincoln's Sparrow: Garnet L WARR 16 Jul; Galway L SARA 22 Aug.
Swamp Sparrow: max 85 BMB 26 Jun.
White-throated Sparrow: max 9 Rensselaerville SF ALBA 26 Jun.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 25 Cairo GREE 11 Jun.
Bobolink: max 150 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 25 Aug; 80 Livingston COLU 14 Aug; 68 OCA 17 Jun.
Eastern Meadowlark: 9 FtEG 5 Jun; 6 SNHP 8 Jun.
Orchard Oriole: max 5 SNHP 8 Jun.
Baltimore Oriole: max 18 Babcock L RENS 11 Jul.
Red-winged Blackbird: max 500 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 6 Aug.
Brown-headed Cowbird: max 48 Colonie ALBA 21 Aug.
Rusty Blackbird: max 3 Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 20 Aug.
Common Grackle: max 200 Fultonville MONT 2 Aug.
Ovenbird: max 43 Rensselaerville Forest Trail RENS 16 Jun.
Worm-eating Warbler: max 4 Alander Mt Trail COLU 7 Jun; Deer Mt Nature Trail ALBA 8 Jun.
Louisiana Waterthrush: max 4 Valatie COLU 6 Aug.
Northern Waterthrush: max 4 Hoosick RENS 25 Jun.
Golden-winged Warbler: 2 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 15 Aug; singleton Putnam WASH 2 Jun.
Blue-winged Warbler: max 6 OCA 3 Jun.
"Brewster's" Warbler: 3 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 30 Jul; singletons Garnsey P SARA 3 Jun; Putnam WASH 14 Jul.
"Lawrence's" Warbler: Whitehall WASH 6 Jun.
Black-and-white Warbler: max 8 Berlin Mt RENS 21 Jun.
Prothonotary Warbler: Surrender March Trail SARA 1-6 Jun.
Tennessee Warbler: Lake Luzerne WARR 15 Jun, late migrant; arr Schoharie Crossing SHS MONT 29 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: max 4 Rensselaerville SF ALBA 17 Jun; Amy's P WARR 21 Jun; Shaker Mt Forest FULT 21 Jul.

Mourning Warbler: max 2 Hague WARR 12 Jun; Summit SCHO 17 Jun; Fulton SCHO 22 Jun.

Common Yellowthroat: max 38 BMB 26 Jun.

Hooded Warbler: max 4 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 31 Jul.

American Redstart: max 86 Papscanee I SP RENS 4 Jun.

Cape May Warbler: arr 2 Gull Bay Pres WASH 14 Aug, early; New Lebanon COLU 27 Aug; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 27 Aug; Keleher Pres ALBA 28 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: max 4 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 2 Jun.

Northern Parula: max 4 Thurman WARR 6 Jun.

Magnolia Warbler: max 6 Plateau Mt GREE 6 Jun; Edinburg SARA 8 Jun; Burnt-Rossmann Hills SF SCHO 15 Jun.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Hague WARR 25 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 15 Hunter Mt GREE 4 Jul; Bolton WARR 4 Jul.

Yellow Warbler: max 38 Wilbur Rd Towpath Trail SARA 6 Jun.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 20

Overmountain Cons Area COLU 20 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 22 Plateau Mt GREE 6 Jun.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 12 Johnsburg WARR 4 Jul.

Pine Warbler: max 10 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 27 Jun.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 14 Plateau Mt GREE 6 Jun.

Prairie Warbler: max 6 APBP 16 Jun.

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 20 Hunter Mt GREE 13 Jul.

Canada Warbler: max 6 Edinburg SARA 8 Jun; Corkscrew Rail Trail RENS 1 Aug.

Wilson's Warbler: arr Charlton SARA 21 Aug.

Scarlet Tanager: max 17 Saratoga Spa SP SARA 21 Jun.

Northern Cardinal: max 16 Henry Hudson P ALBA 13 Jun.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 12 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 20 Jun.

BLUE GROSBEAK: Stillwater SARA 5 Jun, *intro.*

Indigo Bunting: max 8 Overmountain Cons Area COLU 14 Jun.