

REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

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The National Weather Service records from Poughkeepsie reported a high temperature of 98° F on 30 June and a low of 43° on 1 June. Temperatures overall averaged 3.4° above normal. Rainfall for the month was 2.75", 1.16" below normal, resulting in a warm, dry month. July started off very wet with thunderstorms and the remnants of Tropical Storm *Elsa*. There was a low of 50° on 31 July and a high of 93° on 6 July. The average was 2.6° below normal. There were 6.06" of rain, 2.28" above normal, resulting in a cool wet month. The Poughkeepsie report indicated a high of 85° on 12 August, with a low of 64° on 3 August. This resulted in an average temperature for the month that was 2° above normal. There was a total of 4.98" of rain in the Region, 1.1" above normal. All of this resulted in a warm, wet month.

On the night of 22 August Tropical Storm *Henri* passed to our east on Long Island. The resulting counterclockwise winds out of the north produced an influx of birds in our Region, mainly along the Hudson River. Caspian Terns were by far the most abundant with Laughing Gulls not far behind. Shorebirds including Sanderlings and Baird's Sandpipers were spotted along the Hudson and in the Black Dirt Region, while Hudsonian Godwits and a Western Sandpiper were seen in Westchester as well.

The New York State Breeding Bird Atlas, now in its second year, is documenting some very interesting breeding species in the Region, Dickcissel and Sedge Wren among them.

On 9 June Kyle Bardwell photographed a Brant on the Hudson flying in from the north with a GPS device attached to its back.

The Sandhill Cranes that bred earlier this year have finally succeeded in raising a colt. They nested once again on the New Jersey side of the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge and were seen with their well-grown offspring through 16 June, moving back and forth between the two states but disappeared for some time after that, only to be seen again on 10 July with the now nearly full-grown colt! Typical of this pair, once the chick was fledged, they spent much of their time at the Pine Island Turf Nursery.

On 11 August Kyle Bardwell was surprised to find a near breeding-plumaged American Avocet on the jetty at the Beacon Waterfront. This cooperative bird remained throughout the morning and was seen by birders from all around the Region.

On 11 August, Jim Yates spotted an adult **Brown Booby** roosting on the Water Chestnut piles in the Hudson River off Esopus Meadows Lighthouse Park. He got many photos of the bird before it was flushed by passing kayakers. This is the third summer in a row that a Brown Booby has been recorded in Region 9.

On 17 July Kyle Knapp saw a Little Blue Heron flying over the Wallkill River NWR. Subsequently, on 22 July, Ronnie DiLorenzo spotted a Little Blue Heron at Six and a Half Station Road in Orange County. The bird moved back and forth between there and the Citgo Pond across the Heritage Trail and continued the following day. Numerous reports came from around the Region shortly thereafter. As far as is known, only one Yellow-crowned Night-Heron returned to Van Burenville Road in Orange County this year. The bird was reported for two weeks in mid June, but not thereafter (see note pp. 333-334). On 13 June Ari Weiss spotted a Glossy Ibis feeding on the baseball field at Piermont Pier. This was the third record for Rockland County, all from that location, until a juvenile showed up at Rockland Lake State Park on 15 July. This individual was very confiding and seen by many.

The northeast experienced an unprecedented incursion of **Roseate Spoonbills** during late June and July. Linda Scrima photographed one flying over the platform at the Wallkill River NWR on 14 July, but it was not seen there again. A second was reported in Wappingers Falls, Dutchess County on 21 July, and may have been the same bird. Though on private property, the landowner allowed limited access so the bird could be viewed. Though it took off early the morning of 23 July, it returned the following day, to the delight of many, and was present through 28 July. The homeowner verified the bird had been present since 18 July.

On 16 June Xander Vitarelli reported a pair of Sedge Wrens believed to be breeding on private property in Ulster County. The birds were seen repeatedly, photographed, and recorded. On 23 July, Debra DeFrancisco found a Sedge Wren on Lower Wisner Road in Warwick, Orange County. It turned out there was a colony breeding there, numbering perhaps as many as ten birds. They could be easily heard and seen, continuing through the period.

On 9 June there was an influx of Dickcissels in the Hudson Valley. A single bird at the Shawangunk Grasslands NWR was the first there in several years, but three singing males at Croton Point Park that same day were quite unexpected. Eventually four males at Croton Point were verified and a female joined the group in early July. Three females were eventually documented, and breeding was confirmed with at least three fledglings photographed.

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; **CFSP** – Clarence Fahnestock SP, PUTN; **CIOES** – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, DUTC; **CMACS** – Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary, PUTN; **CPP** – Croton Pt P, WEST; **CRS** – Croton Railroad Station, 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; **EMLP** – Esopus Meadows Lighthouse P, 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; **I** – Iona I, ROCK; **KL** – Kiamesha L, SULL; **KP** – Kingston Pt, ULST; **LGC** – Laurel Grove Cemetery, ORAN; **LM** – Liberty Marsh, ORAN; **LNP** – Lenoir Nature Pres, WEST; **LR** – Larchmont Res, 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 Pres, WEST; **OMRLMSP** – Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills SP, DUTC; **PHP** – Peach Hill P, DUTC; **PITN** – Pine Island Turf Nursery, ORAN; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **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** – Stewart State Forest, ORAN; **TBWMA** – Tivoli Bays WMA, DUTC; **THMUA** – Taconic-Hereford Multiple Use Area, DUTC; **WL** – Wickham L, ORAN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill River NWR, ORAN.

WATERFOWL – HUMMINGBIRDS

Brant: Long Dock P DUTC 9 Jun (KB).
Blue-winged Teal: max 2 BSWMA 8-14 Jun (JCa, KM, JH).
Gadwall: 2 SHSR 25 Aug (BT, JCi); 2 MC 28 Aug (SW).
Green-winged Teal: max 4 WRNWR 3-31 Aug (MZ, JCi, mob); max 9 Strever Farm DUTC 13-31 Aug (DK, BM, mob); MP 12-17 Aug (JH); SHSR 25 Aug (JCi, BT).
Ring-necked Duck: Hillview Res WEST 24 Aug (SCam).
Long-tailed Duck: Rye Town P WEST 3-20 Jun (SCam, GB).

Bufflehead: Annsville Creek WEST 12-17 Jun (SL); RR 2 Jul-31 Aug (JH, SB).
Red-breasted Merganser: max 3 EGR 10-25 Jun (GB, mob).
Ruddy Duck: Hillview Res 19-21 Jul (SCam, JAm).
Ruffed Grouse: Minnewaska SP ULST 10 Aug (SB); 2 Hartwood SULL 15 Aug (VB); Sparrowbush ORAN 15 Aug (KA).
Pied-billed Grebe: max 6 WRNWR 1 Jun-4 Aug (KK, mob); max 6 SHSR 1 Jun-22 Jul (KA, mob).

Black-billed Cuckoo: PHP 9-19 May (MR, mob); max 2 SFSP 9 May-13 Jun (FP, KMi mob); BSWMA 11-17 Jun (DD).

Common Nighthawk: BSWMA 18 Aug (PD); 100 Warwarsing ULST 21 Aug (JT); 12 Unionville ORAN 23 Aug (LS); 37 Wallkill ULST 24 Aug (CM).

Eastern Whip-poor-will: 2 Mine Rd ORAN 12 Aug (BT); SFSP 27 Aug (EF, TF).

RAILS – TROPICBIRDS

Clapper Rail: max 5 MC 1 Jun -31 Aug (GB, mob).

Virginia Rail: max 6 BSWMA 1 Jun-31 Aug (SB, mob); 2 WRNWR 20 Jul (KK); max 6 GV 1 Jun-27 Aug (PS, mob); max 5 Gibson Hill Rd ORAN 1 Jun-14 Jul (JS).

Sora: 2 WRNWR 1 Jun (YH); BSWMA 11 Jun (SB); BSWMA 3 Aug (JH).

Sandhill Crane: 3 WRNWR 1 Jun -10 Jul (YH, mob); 2 EMLP 30 Jun (JY); 2 Kallop Rd ULST 4 Jul (JMa); 8 Ashokan Res 9 Jul (AMe); 3 PITN 1 Aug (TB, GB), *intro*.

American Avocet: Beacon Waterfront DUTC 11 Aug (KB, mob), *intro*.

American Oystercatcher: max 5 MC 1 Jun-31 Aug (AS, mob); max 3 EGR 28 Jun-31 Aug (GB, mob).

Black-bellied Plover: 10 OCBDR 1 Jun (YH); 5 MC 1 Jun (SCam).

Semipalmated Plover: 2 Lake Tappan ROCK 29 Jun (NB); The Landing Dobbs Ferry WEST 22 Jul (JAm); max 29 MC 31 Jul-3 Aug (GB); max 15 PP 2-4 Aug (AWei); MP 4 Aug (JH); WRNWR 4 Aug (BN, KMi).

Upland Sandpiper: 3 OCBDR 8 Aug (MZ).

Whimbrel: 2 EGR 15 Aug (JW); PP 23 Aug (AWei).

Hudsonian Godwit: 2 EGR 23 Aug (GB, TB), *intro*.

Ruddy Turnstone: PP 3 Jun (JFC); PP 23 Aug (AWei).

Stilt Sandpiper: WRNWR 28 Aug (JCa, JCi).

Sanderling: Beacon Waterfront 8 Aug (KB, mob); max 3 OCBDR 23 Aug (BN); PP 23 Aug (AWei).

Dunlin: 2 OCBDR 1 Jun (YH).

Baird's Sandpiper: PP 15 Aug (ME, BT); max 3 OCBDR 23 Aug (BN); Glynwood Farms PUTN 26 Aug (KB, mob); PITN 25-28 Aug (BN); AP 29 Aug (JH).

Least Sandpiper: 4 AP 13-24 Jul (JH, mob); PP 14-16 Jul (AWei, CW); WRNWR 15 Jul (LS).

White-rumped Sandpiper: MC 31 Jul (TB, GB); PP 11 Aug (AWei); OCBDR 20 Aug (FP); MC 30 Aug (AK).

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 3 Camel Farm ORAN 1-4 Aug (GB, TB); max 2 WRNWR 4-20 Aug (KA); Strever Farm 4-23 Aug (DvZ); EMLP 6 Aug (DW, JS); PP 11 Aug (AWei); MC 25 Aug (TB).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Haverstraw ROCK 19 Jul (CW); max 8 PP 19 Jul-4 Aug (AWei); max 36 MC 31 Jul-4 Aug (GB).

Western Sandpiper: Milton Pt Rye WEST 22 Aug (JMc); 2 MC 30 Aug (SCam).

Greater Yellowlegs: max 4 MC 4-14 Jul (GB).

Lesser Yellowlegs: max 4 MC 2-3 Aug (GB, SR); max 12 WRNWR 3-31 Aug (YH, mob).

Willet: max 10 MC 1 Jun-31 Aug (KMcG, mob).

Short-billed Dowitcher: PP 14 Jul (LPi); Kendridge Farm ORAN 5 Aug (YH); max 3 MC 20-31 Aug (GB, mob); Rt 300 Pd ORAN 20-22 Aug (BN); max 11 Milton Pt Rye 22 Aug (JMc, GB); 3 OCBDR 23 Aug (BN); 3 MP 29 Aug (JH, SB).

Solitary Sandpiper: 2 Wappingers Creek DUTC 30 Jun (SCar); RR 5 Jul (RCR); 2 AP 15 Jul (SB).

Bonaparte's Gull: NW 23 Jul (BN); 2 Beacon Waterfront 7 Aug (CP, mob); Fleischmann's Pier P WEST 22 Aug (SR); PP 21 Aug (LPi, CW); MacEachron Waterfront P WEST 23 Aug (AS).

Laughing Gull: max 22 Harbor Square P WEST 11 Aug (LT); max 3 PP 23-28 Aug (AWei, mob); Charles Pt Marina WEST 23 Aug (SL); CRS 23 Aug (KL); Sand Dock Rd Trail DUTC 31 Aug (CC).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: PP 23 Aug (AWei).

Least Tern: max 3 MC 2 Jun-15 Jul (SCam, mob); max 2 EGR 2 Jun-7 Jul (JH, GB).

Caspian Tern: CPP 7 Jun (KL); CPP 24 Jun (SR, mob); Hudson Highlands SP PUTN 14 Jul (KB); Long Dock P 21 Jul (KB); 2 Kingston ULST 6, 21 Aug (FM, PS); Beacon Waterfront 8 Aug (KB); Gibson Hill Rd 8-9 Aug (JS); max 8 Plum Pt ORAN 13-15 Aug (BN, mob); max 2 CPP 16-19 Aug (GB, mob); max 17 Hudson River WEST 23 Aug (JAm, mob); 4 EGR 23 Aug (GB, TB); 4 PP 23 Aug (AWei), *intro*.

Black Tern: 2 Beacon Waterfront 8 Aug (KB, SCam); MacEachron Waterfront P 22 Aug (JAm); Hyde P Station DUTC 23 Aug (DC).

Common Tern: max 10 EGR 1 Jun-31 Aug (GB, mob); max 25 MC 1 Jun-22 Jul (GB, mob).

Forster's Tern: max 5 MC 1 Jun-31 Aug (SCam, mob).

LOONS – PARAKEET

Common Loon: PP 18 Jun (CC, LPi); Croton L WEST 25 Jun (CR); NR 26 Jun (PD); PP 15 Jul (AWei, SCam); max 3 AR 11, 20 Aug (CA).

BROWN BOOBY: EMLP 11 Aug (JY), *intro*.

American Bittern: BSWMA 11 Jul (JH); SFSP 14 Jul (EG).

Least Bittern: max 4 GV 1 Jun-23 Jul (RM, PS); max 5 WRNWR 3 Jun-20 Jul (FP, mob); BSWMA 5 Jun, 18 Jul (JH, SB); PP 16 Jun-17 Jul (AWei, mob); Goshen ORAN 29 Jun-23 Jul (MZ); KP 16-24 Jul (FM); Orange Swamp ORAN 17 Jul (BN).

Great Egret: max 30 WRNWR 1 Jun -31 Aug (MZ, mob); McDonald Rd SULL 2-9 Jun (JH); Montgomery ORAN 3-5 Jun (JCI, KMi); Long Dock P 9 Jun (CP); max 10 SHSR 7 Jul-8 Aug (JD, mob). Widespread.

Little Blue Heron: WRNWR 17 Jul (KK); MC 20-22 Jul (SCam, mob); SHSR 22-23 Jul (RDi, mob); Wappingers Creek 28-30 Jul (DvZ, mob); Haverstraw Bay County P ROCK 28 Jul (AWei); Five Islands P WEST 29 Jul (RW); Cortland Manor WEST 30 Jul (DvZ); WRNWR 3-21 Aug (LS, mob); Kingston Res #1 ULST 3-31 Aug (PS, mob); Orangetown ROCK 17 Aug (AWei), *intro*.

Green Heron: 12 Dutchess P L DUTC 10 Jul (LF).

Snowy Egret: Millwood WEST 2 Jul (JAm); Stony Pt ROCK 7 Jul (MR); Lake Carmel PUTN 21-22 Jul (AMa); WRNWR 3-8 Aug (MZ).

Cattle Egret: RLSP 1-6 Jun (CW, mob).

Black-crowned Night-heron: 3 Congers L P ROCK 20 Jun (CC); CPP 16 Jun (LT); Greenwood L ORAN 4 Jul (LPa); SFSP 14 Jul (EG); max 3 Harbor Square P 15-27 Jul (LT); Tilly Foster Rd PUTN 28 Jul (SR).

Yellow-crowned Night-heron: Van Burenville Rd ORAN 3-16 Jun (JD).

Glossy Ibis: 2 EMLP 14 Jul (DT); RLSP 15-16 Jul (AWei, mob), *intro*.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL: WRNWR 14 Jul (LS); Wappingers Falls 18-28 Jul (BMa, mob), *intro*.

Northern Harrier: BSWMA 17-27 Aug (JH, KMi); max 3 OCBDR 15-31 Aug (BN, mob); CPP 23-31 Aug (SR, mob); MC 27 Aug (AS, mob).

Red-headed Woodpecker: RSP 5 Jun-17 Jul (AS, mob).

Merlin: max 2 SGNWR 31 Jul (JD, DS); max 2 MP 4-31 Aug (JH); Camel Farm 12 Aug (BT); Mills-Norrie SP DUTC 30 Aug (SJ).

Peregrine Falcon: BSWMA 3 Aug (JH, mob); Hurley ULST 12 Aug (RH); Mills-Norrie SP 25 Aug (DvZ, SJ).

Monk Parakeet: 10 Titus Mill Pd WEST 18 Aug (PC).

FLYCATCHERS – SNOW BUNTING

Olive-sided Flycatcher: BMSP 2 Jun (AMa, mob); Cliffdale Farm WEST 12-21 Aug (SR, mob); RSP 20 Aug (MGr); Goshen 22 Aug (KA); Minnewaska SP 24 Aug (SB, DW).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 3 Slide Mt. ULST 5-27 Jun (AWei, mob); Cliffdale Farm 15 Aug (KB, mob); Madam Brett P DUTC 18 Aug (KF, CF, mob).

Philadelphia Vireo: Fishkill Cemetery DUTC 30 Aug (AMa).

Sedge Wren: 2 Hurley 16 Jun-5 Aug (XV, mob); max 10 Lower Wisner Rd ORAN 23 Jul 11 Aug (DD, mob), *intro*.

Bicknell's Thrush: max 6 Slide Mt 2 Jun-24 Jul (BMc, mob).

Swainson's Thrush: Pruyn Sanctuary WEST 30 Aug (MGo).

Pine Siskin: 2 Salt Pt DUTC 28 Jun, 5-14 Jul (BM); Bearville ULST 3 Jul (FW); Salt Pt 4-13 Aug (BM).

NEW WORLD SPARROWS – CARDINALIDS

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 10 SGRNWR 1 Jun-15 Aug (KMCD, mob); max 5 CPP: 3 13 Jun (L. O'Hara, M. Bochnik), and 3 (ad and 2 juvs) here 24 Aug, (RL, ph); max 5 NR 11 Jun-2 Jul (SCam, mob).

Lark Sparrow: CPP 31 Jul (JW); Kingston Res #1 20 Aug (PS); CPP 31 Aug (SR, mob).

Orchard Oriole: BSWMA 1 Jun-17 Jul (RDi, mob); max 2 WRNWR 1 Jun-8 Aug (LS, mob); max 3 CPP 1 Jun-23 Aug (AS, mob); 3 Gibson Hill Rd 3 Aug (JS); Vassar Farm and Ecological Pres DUTC 5 Aug (KB).

Tennessee Warbler: Breakneck Ridge Loop PUTN 18 Jul (JMa).

Mourning Warbler: Peekamoose Rd ULST 5 Jul (PS).

Hooded Warbler: BSWMA 30 Aug (SB).

Cape May Warbler: 4 Hillview Res 24 Aug (SCam); Vassar Farm and Ecological Pres 20-21 Aug (KB, mob).

Northern Parula: Oakland Valley Rd SULL 28 Jun (JH); DR 15 Aug (MW); CPP 24 Aug (LT).
Dickcissel: max 7 CPP 9 Jun-29 Aug (PC, SL, mob); SGNWR 9 Jun-18 Jul (KMcD, mob);

Hurley Mt Rd ULST 23 Jun (WY); max 2
Glynwood Farm 26-27 Aug (KB, mob), *intro*.