

REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

Bill Krueger

40 Colligan Point Rd, Plattsburgh, NY 12901
billkrueger@hotmail.com

Derek Rogers

54 Corlear Drive, Willsboro, NY 12996
drogers0031@gmail.com

September's temperatures in Region 7 were above recent averages by 1-3° in Essex and Hamilton Counties, the Region's southern half. This was also true for much of Clinton County including all of the Champlain Valley. In the rest of Clinton and most of Franklin County temperatures deviated from average by less than a degree in either direction. Rainfall for the Region was a remarkably uniform 3-4" over the entire area.

Temperatures for the month of October were 5-7° above normal throughout most of Region 7. The exceptions were the Champlain Valley including the central portion of Clinton County which was 3-5° warmer, and a narrow band along the border between Hamilton and Franklin Counties which was more than 7° warmer.

In October precipitation was spotty overall, but nowhere less than 3". The northern portions of Clinton and Franklin Counties received 5-6" except along their common border where the total was 7-8". Most of Hamilton and almost all of Essex County got 4-5". The southernmost area of Hamilton County received 6-7".

A very rainy period began at the end of the October and carried over into November (see lake level below). Overall November was a wet month with most of Region 7 receiving 3-4". The High Peaks Region and an area astride the border between Franklin and Clinton Counties were even wetter, receiving 4-5" of precipitation (melted equivalent). A few scattered areas in the southern two thirds

of Region 7 were drier with only 2-3" for the month. Temperatures for most of the Region deviated from recent averages by less than a degree either way. Hamilton County was an exception where almost all of it was 1-3° colder. This was also the case in an area bisecting Region 7 west to east.

On 1 September the level of Lake Champlain stood at an unusually low 94.8', and continued to drop throughout the month into the middle of October where its low for the season was 94.3'. For most of the rest of October it rose slowly to 94.6'. A week of rainy weather pushed the level to 95.5' in early November. There it plateaued until the middle of the month. The high for the month, 95.9', was reached near the end of the month. These levels favored shorebirding at Noblewood Park but were disastrous for Laurin's Pool, where it dried up so thoroughly that it was covered with vegetation more than a foot high except where an ATV oval had been worn in the brick hard mud.

To date the facts on the ground compare favorably to the predictions of the Winter Finch Forecast (WFF). As predicted Pine Grosbeaks and Bohemian Waxwings were absent. The White-winged Crossbills we were told to expect were first reported in late September and many times thereafter. As many as 27 individuals were counted in one report. Common and Hoary Redpolls were expected to stay north this winter. Hoarys were absent and Common Redpolls were reported in low numbers, 1-6 from only three sites. The WFF expected some southward movement of Evening Grosbeaks, which is consistent with the three reports counted. Region 7's resident populations of Red Crossbill, Purple Finch and Pine Siskin make it difficult to assess how closely the observations compare with the predictions.

The bird of the season has to be the **Razorbill**, a first for Region 7, that was present at Crown Point 6-15 November and documented by many observers. Notably, two were seen on 10 November. The runner-up was a **Northern Gannet**, only the Region's second record, seen on 6 November. The two were a remarkable daily double on the sixth. **Tufted Duck** continued its now almost yearly appearance on Lake Champlain, lingering from 24 November through the first week of December. **Sandhill Crane** was sighted once in late September and a second time in a late November flyover of four individuals. The third appearance of **Barnacle Goose** in the last twenty years was recorded at three locations, likely the same bird, between Fort Covington and Trout River 7-9 November. **Cattle Egret** was reported from Franklin and Clinton Counties ten days and more than fifty miles apart. Historically this egret once bred on one of the Four Brothers Islands, but recently has been a rare visitor to Region 7 with only three records in the past twenty years. **Golden Eagle** was reported twice, nine days apart, from Madawaska Flow in November. A **Snowy Owl** was found resting on a wood pile at the edge of a field on Cumberland Head and captured on film as it flew off. A rare visitor to the region, **Dickcissel** was seen in late September in Essex County. This was the fourth eBird record in the last twenty years and the thirteenth overall, when records from the older literature are included.

CONTRIBUTORS

Chris Allebach, Matthew Armstrong, Tom Auer, Leo & Melissa Bachand, Brad Balliett, Michael Barney (MBa), Alan Belford, Brian Berg (BBg), Jeff Biby, Marian Bodine, Robert Buckert, Adrien Burke (ABu), Ron Bussian, Lea Callan, Gary Chapin, Glen Chapman (GCm), Malinda Chapman, Keri Charles, Jeremy Collison (JCo), Bob Craft, Gregg Dashnau, Kayley Dillon, Jacoba Freeman, Edward Grant, Tara Fuller, Brian Henderson, Kathy Hixson, Michael Ingles, Suzy Johnson, Janelle Jones, John Kent, Cindy Kindle, Bill Krueger, Greg Lawrence, Gary Lee (GLE), Elaine Leavitt, Nicolas Main, Kevin McAuliffe (KMCA), Brian McAllister, Johnathan Mccombs, Kevin McGrath, Sean McHugh, Betsy Miner, Michael Moccio (MMo), Nancy Olsen, Jacob Passmore, Oliver Patrick, Joseph Poliquin, Matyas Prommer, Chris Rimmer, Stacy Robinson, Derek Rogers (DHR), Mike Runge, Marilyn Smith (MSm), Owen Stanken, Michael Scheibel, Janet Stein, Gary Steinberg, Melissa Steinberg (MSt), Lang Stevenson, Carol Strasburger, Jim Sweeney (JSw), Jan Trzeciak, Michael Tucker, Lisa Viviano, Brian Waleneik, Eileen Wheeler, Tom Wheeler, Paul Wieczoreck, David Yeany II.

ABBREVIATIONS

4BI – Four Brothers Islands; **AFT** – Art Farm Trail; **AHR** – Angier Hill Rd; **AL** – Adirondack Loj; **AM** – Ausable Marsh; **AMD** – Ausable Marsh delta area; **AP** – Ausable Pt; **APk** – Algonquin Peak; **APN** – Ausable Pt, north of entrance; **ARD** – Ausable Ri Delta; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BBS** – Bloomingdale Bog South; **Blo** – Bloomingdale; **BML** – Blue Mt L; **BRd** – Bigelow Rd; **BRM** – Boquet Ri Mouth; **BRR** – Bull Rock Rd; **BWB** – Bulwaga Bay; **CBY** – Cumberland Bay; **CH** – Cumberland Head; **Che** – Chesterfield; **CHSP** – Cumberland Head SP; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CRd** – Christian Rd; **CSq** – Consumer Square; **DPR** – Debar P Rd; **DRd** – Davis Rd; **DrR** – Drown Rd; **EAW** – Eight Acre Wood; **Es** – Essex; **FRd** – Forestdale Rd; **FtC** – Fort Covington; **Gab** – Gabriels; **GBM** – Gilbert Brook Marina; **HB** – Hoisington Beach; **HBO** – Hoisington Brook Outlet; **HHR** – Halleck Hill Rd; **HRd** – Hayford Rd; **ILk** – Indian L; **JMT** – Jay Mt Trail; **KB** – Kings Bay; **Kee** – Keeseville; **KN** – Keene; **LA** – Lake Alice; **LCl** – Lake Clear; **LCTM** – Lower La Chute Ticonderoga Marsh; **LkP** – Lake Pelagic; **LL** – Long L; **LP** – Lake Placid; **LPI** – Lake Pleasant; **LPW** – Long Pd Willsboro; **LSR** – Lake Shore Rd; **MF** – Madawaska Flow; **MFr** – Miner Farm; **Min** – Minerva; **MM** – Maple Meadows; **MRP** – Malone Rec P; **MT** – Magic Triangle; **NHu** – North Hudson; **NP** – Noblewood P; **OH** – Owls Head; **OPR** – Oregon Plains Rd; **PAP** – Piseco Airport; **PBM** – Plattsburgh Marina; **PH** – Port Henry; **PL** – Piseco L; **PM** – Plattsburgh Marina; **PS** – Paul Smiths; **PtR** – Point Au Roche SP; **Sar** – Saranac; **SbB** – Sabattis Bog; **SdP** – Sand Pd; **SLB** – Silver L Bog; **SMB** – Spruce Mill Brook; **SPd** – Shaw Pd; **SPT** – Stony Pt; **SRd** – Stetson Rd; **SRM** – Saranac Ri Mouth; **SSR** – Sulfur Springs Rd; **TI** – Ticonderoga; **TrR** – Trimble Rd; **UFP**

– Union Falls Pd; **VV** – Vermontville; **WB** – Wallons Bay; **WBR** – Wallons Bay Rd; **WD** – Wilcox Dock; **Wes** – Westville; **WF** – Whiteface Mt; **WI** – Willsboro; **WM** – Wickham Marsh; **WP** – Westport; **WPd** – Wolf Pd; **WPM** – Westport Marina; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp.

Snow Goose: 2 KB 30 Sep (SR), first; 7000 SPt 20 Nov (KC).

Snow X Ross's Goose: MRP 28 OCT (SR).

Snow X Canada Goose: HB 22 Oct (DHR); MRP 28 Oct (SR).

Ross's Goose: MRP 10 & 28 Oct (EW & SR).

Greater White-fronted Goose: MRP 9-28 Oct (SR).

Brant: 1100 PH 2 Nov (SR).

BARNACLE GOOSE: SSR 6 Nov (AB)

Cackling Goose: 7 KB 30 Sep (SR).

Canada Goose: 6000 MRP 20 Oct (JJ).

Wood Duck: 115 LCTM 26 Sep (G&MC).

Blue-winged Teal: 25 LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

Northern Shoveler: 6 APN 7 Oct (SR).

Gadwall: 10 CP 29 Nov (LV).

American Wigeon: 17 CP 8 Nov (JS).

American Black Duck: 31 CP 12 Oct (SR).

Northern Pintail: 20 CP 4 Oct (SR).

Green-winged Teal: 30 AM 7 Oct (SR).

Redhead: CP 5 Nov (SR).

Ring-necked Duck: 58 CP 12 Oct (SR); 156 LPW 21 Oct (DHR).

TUFTED DUCK (R7): PH 24-30 Nov (SR, m. ob.).

Greater Scaup: 3000 AM 18 Oct (GC).

Lesser Scaup: 690 CP 28 Nov (ABu).

Surf Scoter: CP 8 Oct (SR).

White-winged Scoter: NP 8 Oct (RB).

Black Scoter: HBO 30 Oct (SR).

Long-tailed Duck: 2 BWB 29 Oct (SR); 24 CP 16 Nov (GC).

Bufflehead: 56 CP 11 Nov (SR).

Common Goldeneye: 22 BWB 22 Oct (SR).

Hooded Merganser: 40 TI 28 Nov.

Common Merganser: 29 WD 30 Sep (SR).

Red-breasted Merganser: 9 NP 29 Sep (GC).

Ruddy Duck: CP 20 Oct (SR); 3 CP 2 Nov (SR).

Wild Turkey: 86 SSR 25 Nov (JS).

Ruffed Grouse: 4 OPR 24 Oct (MBa).

Ring-necked Pheasant: 4 BRM 19 Sep (DHR).

Pied-billed Grebe: 5 CP 30 Sep (DHR).

Horned Grebe: 8 CBy 14 Oct (SR).

Red-necked Grebe: NP 21 Sep (JB).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Gab 10 Oct (SMc).

Black-billed Cuckoo: PS 9 Sep (MS).

Common Nighthawk: 9 Kee 3 Sep (AB).

Eastern Whip-poor-will: BRR 14 Sep (G&MC); MFr 21 Sep (NO, MSm).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: BRR 22 Oct (G&MC), late.

Virginia Rail: LCTM 1 Sep (SR); SPd 21 Sep (GL).

Common Gallinule: AP 24 Sep (DHR); CP 30 Sep (DHR); 3 AP 2 Oct (JMc); 4 AP 5 Oct (BMc).

American Coot: CP 30 Sep (DHR); CP 8 Oct (SR); 19 PH 14 Nov (SR).

SANDHILL CRANE (R7): 3 FtC 4 Sep (JF); 4 WP 27 Nov (SR).

Black-bellied Plover: NP 16 Sep (JK).

American Golden-Plover: 2 BRM 19 Sep (DHR); HBO 14 Oct (DHR).

Killdeer: 25 BRM 2 Sep (DHR).

Semipalmated Plover: 2 PtR 6 Sep (DHR); 10 NP 20 Sep (RB).

Sanderling: PtR 6 Sep (DHR); 3 NP 5 Nov (DHR), late.

Dunlin: BRM 19 Sep (DHR).

Baird's Sandpiper: PtR 6 Sep (DHR); 4 BRM 9 Sep (DHR); 2 ARD 9 Sep (SR).

Least Sandpiper: ARD 9 Sep (SR).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 BRM 9 Sep (DHR); AM 17 Sep (DHR); 2 BRM 19 Sep (DHR).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: PtR 6 Sep (DHR).

American Woodcock: Sar 13 Oct (KH).

Wilson's Snipe: LCTM 3 Oct (SR).

Spotted Sandpiper: 4 CP 2 Sep (SR).

Solitary Sandpiper: 2 AM 18 Sep (MA).

Lesser Yellowlegs: 7 BRM 2 Sep (DHR).

Greater Yellowlegs: 2 ARD 9 Sep (SR); 14 AM 18 Oct (GC).

RAZORBILL: CP 6-15 Nov (GC, m.ob.); 2 CP 10 Nov (GC).

Bonaparte's Gull: 68 GBM 30 Sep (SR).
Iceland Gull: PH 16 Nov (L&MB).
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 3 SRM 3 Sep (AB).
Great Black-backed Gull: 10 LkP 29 Sep.
Herring X Great Black-backed Gull: NP thru 13 Nov (DHR, mob); SRM 9 Sep – 7 Oct (SR).
Caspian Tern: 3 CP 4 Sep (AB).

Red-throated Loon: WPM 24 Oct (SR); 18 CP 10 Nov (GC).
Common Loon: 49 LCI 29 Sep (JB); 110 CP 10 Nov (GC).

NORTHERN GANNET (R7): CP 6 Nov (OP, m.ob.).

Double-crested Cormorant: 800 4BI 17 Sep (CR).

American Bittern: BB 15 Sep (JB).
Great Blue Heron: 4 APN 1 Oct (JB).
Great Egret: 5 LCTM 26 Sep (G&MC).
CATTLE EGRET (R7): LSR 4 Nov (TF); SSR 14-5 Nov (NM, m.ob.).
Green Heron: 2 ARD 9 Sep (SR), Co-FL.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

Black Vulture: 5 Che 16 Oct (MP).
Turkey Vulture: 37 LA 10 Sep (GD).

Osprey: AM 24 Oct (MA).

GOLDEN EAGLE (R7): MF 21 Nov (BBg); MF 30 Nov (ABu).
Northern Harrier: 2 WB 27 Nov (SR).
Sharp-shinned Hawk: 2 SbB 2 Oct (LC).
Cooper's Hawk: 2 AP 7 Oct (SR).
Northern Goshawk: BRd 5 Oct (TW).
Bald Eagle: 3 NHu 12 Oct (MT).
Red-shouldered Hawk: LCTM 1 Sep (SR).
Broad-winged Hawk: 14 WRS 19 Sep (BMc).
Red-tailed Hawk: 4 WP 9 Oct (JS).
Rough-legged Hawk: MT 30 Oct (BMc).

Eastern Screech Owl: ARD 9 Sep (SR).
Great Horned Owl: CH 28 Oct (SJ).
SNOWY OWL(R7): CH 29 Nov (EL).
Barred Owl: 4 BRR 10 Oct (G&MC).
Short-eared Owl: 6 AHR 29 Nov (DHR).
Northern Saw-whet Owl: MFr 21 Sep (NO,MSm); EAW 28 Oct (GLE); WPt 3 Nov (DHR).

Belted Kingfisher: 5 DPR 4 Oct (JP).

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 3 LCTM 26 Sep (G&MC).
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 4 BB 16 Sep (JB).
Black-backed Woodpecker: 2 BB 19 Sep (KD).
Northern Flicker: 3 AM 24 Sep (DHR).
Pileated Woodpecker: 2 FRd 21 Sep (AB).

American Kestrel: 4 FRd 21 Sep (AB).
Merlin: 2 WF 25 Sep (KC).
Peregrine Falcon: SRM 9 Sep (SR).

Great Crested Flycatcher: ILk 10 Sep (MMo).
Eastern Kingbird: 3 AM 7 Sep (OS).
Olive-sided Flycatcher: Es 14 Sep (GS).
Eastern Wood-Pewee: OPR 10 Oct (BW), late.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: LP 8 Sep (NM).
Least Flycatcher: Gab 17 Sep (SMc).
Eastern Phoebe: 3 Gab 8 Sep (SMc).

Yellow-throated Vireo: LCTM 1 Sep (SR).
Blue-headed Vireo: 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS); Keeseville 28 Oct (SR), late.
Philadelphia Vireo: 3 LA 10 Sep (DHR).
Warbling Vireo: 4 LA 10 Sep (m. ob.).
Red-eyed Vireo: 7 ARD 9 Sep (SR), Co-FL.

Northern Shrike: PAp 5 Nov (JCo).

Canada Jay: 8 BB 19 Nov (EG).
Fish Crow: 4 DRd 4 Sep (BB); CSq 17 Oct (KC).
Common Raven: 5 AM 29 Sep (BC, LS, CS).

Boreal Chickadee: 6 OPR 3 Oct (DY).
Tufted Titmouse: 3 CH 22 Nov (NO).

Horned Lark: SRd 7 Oct (SR); 50 HRd 20 Nov (SR).

Bank Swallow: NP 17 Sep (RB).
Tree Swallow: 3 Np 17 (RB).
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 4 PS 8 Sep (SMc).
Barn Swallow: 14 Gab 8 Sep (SMc).
Cliff Swallow: 2 PS 8 Sep (SMc).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 7 AM 7 Oct (SR).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 4 SLB 6 Sep (AB), Co-FL.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 16 OPR 3 Oct (DY).

Brown Creeper: CHSP 23 Oct (GC).

House Wren: Gab 9 Oct (SMc).

Winter Wren: 5 WPd 25 Sep (JSw).

Marsh Wren: 4 AM 3 Oct (KMc).

Carolina Wren: 4 LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

Gray Catbird: 4 CP 23 Sep (KMCA).

Brown Thrasher: WI 3 Oct (WH).

Northern Mockingbird: PBM 21 Oct (SR).

Eastern Bluebird: 22 BRR Oct 11 (G&MC).

Veery: BB 16 Sep (JB).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Blo 8 Sep (MS); MM 14-20 Nov (SR), late.

Bicknell's Thrush: APk 25 Sep (MR); Bmt 25 Sep (GL).

Swainson's Thrush: 3 LPI 17 Sep.

Hermit Thrush: CP 16 Nov (MI).

American Pipit: 70 Gab 28 Sep (NM).

Evening Grosbeak: BML 6 Nov.

Purple Finch: 8 PtR 21 Oct (SR).

Common Redpoll: 6 FtC 8 Nov (SR).

Red Crossbill: 25 VV 10 Nov (BM).

Red Crossbill type 10: 2 PS 4 Sep (NM).

White-winged Crossbill: 3 SbB 21 Sep (GL); 7 SbB 4 Oct (DY).

Pine Siskin: 6 SdP 18 Oct (RB); 60; ILk 27 Nov (TA).

American Goldfinch: 118 NP 3 Nov (DHR).

Snow Bunting: 3 AM 27 Oct (GC).

Grasshopper Sparrow: WBR 22 Sep (DHR).

Chipping Sparrow: 3 OH 2 Sep (JT), Co-FL; LL 10 Nov (GD).

Field Sparrow: ILk 19 Oct (MMo).

Fox Sparrow: 2 SSR 9 Oct (SR).

American Tree Sparrow: HHR 23 Oct (SR).

White-crowned Sparrow: 66 LA 14 Oct (SR).

White-throated Sparrow: 8 PS 5 Oct (NM).

Vesper Sparrow: 2 CRd 18 Oct (RB); WRS 21 Oct (SR); 2 Westport 22 Oct (DHR); 2 DrR 24 Oct (SR) TrR 27 Oct (SR)

Savannah Sparrow: 16 WBR 22 Sep (DHR).

Lincoln's Sparrow: 3 AM 27 Sep (GC); 5 Gab 11 Oct (SMc).

Swamp Sparrow: 22 AM 27 Sep (GC); LL 10 Nov (GD), late.

Eastern Towhee: AFT 5 Oct (SR).

Bobolink: WBR 22 Sep (DHR).

Eastern Meadowlark: SSR 9 Oct (SR).

Baltimore Oriole: CP 2 Sep (SR).

Brown-headed Cowbird: 20 WP 27 Nov (SR).

Rusty Blackbird: 4 AM 29 Sep (BC, LS, CS).

Ovenbird: AL 1 Oct (CA).

Northern Waterthrush: PL 10 Sep (CK).

Blue-winged Warbler: WRS 2 Sep (SR).

Black and White Warbler: AM 27 Sep (GC).

Tennessee Warbler: 4 UFP 6 Sep (AB).

Orange-crowned Warbler: BRM 19 Sep (SR); Min 5 Oct (DY); 2 BB 5 Oct (JP).

Nashville Warbler: 4 UFP 6 Sep (AB).

Common Yellowthroat: 4 ARD 9 Sep (SR).

American Redstart: BWB 27 Sep (SR).

Cape May Warbler: KN 26 Sep (LM).

Northern Parula: KB 14 Oct (SR); BWB 29 Oct (SR), late.

Magnolia Warbler: 6 SLB 6 Sep (AB).

Bay-breasted Warbler: 4 SLB 6 Sep (AB).

Blackburnian Warbler: Es 23 Sep (JSw).

Yellow Warbler: LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: MM 16 Sep (SR).

Blackpoll Warbler: 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS); CRd 20 Oct (SR), late.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: CP 4 Oct (SR).

Palm Warbler: 4 NP 16 Sep (JK).

Pine Warbler: LP 26 Sep (JSw).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 35 JMT 28 Sep (PW); 88 CP 30 Sep (DHR).

Black-throated Green Warbler: 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS).

Canada Warbler: MM 22 Sep (SR).

Wilson's Warbler: FRd 18 Sep (AB); 4

LCTM 1 Sep (SR).

Scarlet Tanager: FRd 18 Sep (AB); 4 SMB 23 Sep (JS).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: AFT 22 Sep (JSw).

Indigo Bunting: 5 BRR 2 Sep (G&MC).

DICKCISSEL (R7): SMB 23 Sep (JS).

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