

July 2018 Sightings Report

This month was generally hot and dry, with the first 3 weeks seeing temperatures in the 80's and 90's and browning vegetation, especially west of Rochester. A pattern change starting on the 21st brought some cooler temperatures and drought-relieving rains. An upper level low near the Ohio Valley and a high over the western Atlantic pumped tropical moisture up between, with Rochester on the NW edge. Areas west remained dry, areas east greened and experienced persistent rain and flooding. Along the boundary there were some interesting birding events. Temperatures averaged 75.2 °F, 4.4° above normal for the 6th warmest July on record. Precipitation totaled 3.20", 0.13" below normal. A total of 11 days above 90° was the most for the month since 1955. There were no records set.

Waterfowl reports were again poor, there were only modest to low numbers of expected breeding birds and of the scarcer, irregular visitants found especially late in the month. One Red-throated and a few Common Loons were seen off Hamlin Beach State Park. There were no early Red-necked Grebes this year. Peaks of about 100 Double-crested Cormorants on piers from Sodus Point to Hamlin Beach late in the month seem a bit low given apparent local nesting. Again, we had small numbers of Great Egrets through the month, but no reports of other dispersing herons and egrets.

A lone Black Vulture photographed over Letchworth State Park was the only record of special note in the vulture and hawk grouping. Among our scarcer regularly breeding hawks, there were only 7 reports of single Broad-winged Hawks, none for Northern Goshawk, and one Red-shouldered Hawk. Merlin reports were few, and besides the Rochester Peregrine Falcons (4 eggs; 3 fledged in mid-June; all being observed when possible by falcon watchers on into August, according to ralconcam.com), there were 6 other peregrine reports.

The weather shift and subsequent rain boundary near Rochester brought us some great shorebirding, with numbers for some species not seen in years, e.g. peaks - 111 Whimbrels, 21 Red Knots, 255 Sanderlings, 250 Semipalmated Sandpipers, and many more examples in the Noteworthy Records table on the RBA website. Twenty species is a good start to fall migration and better than the last 2 years. Limited habitat in this region remains a problem. Nearly all of the reports were from piers along the south shore of Lake Ontario or a few sites in the NMWMA. Many are from the newly constructed barrier beach off the East Spit of Braddock Bay, with no more foot access.

Among the gulls and terns, we had two surprises with an adult Glaucous Gull on the 23rd far out of season and the region's 4th Least Tern on the 8th, both species seen and photographed at Braddock Bay near that newly constructed barrier beach. Continuing the trend of recent years, there were also reports of 6 Lesser Black-backed Gulls. The peak Caspian Tern number at 92 was a bit low, and juveniles were fewer than usual. On July 14th, a Bald Eagle flushed an amazing (counted) 168 Black Terns at Van Dyne Spoor in the NMWMA. The lone one at the Summerville Pier is an event in recent years. Also in the Van Dyne Spoor area on the 14th and 21st, 140 and 200 Common Gallinules, respectively, were estimated out among the cattails.

Sandhill Cranes with nearly full grown young were frequenting fields near Crusoe Lake, Town of Savannah by late July.

As usual, the non-passerine land birds produced few records of special note. But there was a report of a Eurasian Collared-Dove from a Pittsford location, 300 Chimney Swifts back at the York Central School site, and 376 lines of eBird "records" for Ruby-throated Hummingbird.

Moving on to the passerines, again nearly all of the expected species were reported; only a few of the scarcer breeding warblers that require extra effort were missed. Continued low level banding at BBBO produced a few special surprises this year, including: an early Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on the 26th; Swainson's Thrushes banded on July 18th, 22th, and 28th, with the one from the 22nd recaptured on the 23rd; Winter Wren on the 30th; Tennessee Warbler on the 22nd and 26th; and Mourning Warbler on the 16th. There were some decent peak counts for swallows, but 2,425 Bank Swallows on the ground at Hamlin Beach State Park, Parking Lot #5 photographed and then estimated by Dominic Sheroni and Doug Daniels was a treat. Other interesting passerine records scattered about in the month were: Prothonotary Warbler still at the Armitage Rd. area in the NMWMA, Clay-colored Sparrows continuing on Cook Rd. in Hamlin, Henslow's Sparrow still found at Beatty Point, and a few more reports of the Western Meadowlark on Armitage Rd. Jim Adams again reported thoughts from his regular walks through Oatka Creek Park, an interesting mix of infrequent visitors to the park and observations and photographs of the breeding birds. A plus was a note of an apparent "boom" year for breeding Carolina Wrens there. A Mourning Warbler, unfortunately in a relatively inaccessible area near the park boundary, is an infrequent breeder in Monroe County.

Again this season, the majority of the data used in this report generation was from a download of eBird records, initially 34,272 lines of records from the 7 counties in our region trimmed to about 27,285 actually within our regional boundaries. Additional data came from the geneseebirds listserv, banding data, and personal inputs from observers.

Please submit reports to eBird, post them on geneseebirds, and/or send by the 5th of the month to Andrea Patterson, 144 Greystone Lane, #24, Rochester, NY 14618.

	2018	2017	10-year Average (2007-2016)
Species for July	187	177	172.4
New for the year	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0.5</u>
Total for the year to date	271	272	269.2

Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee

Observers: Jim Adams, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Jim Barry, Katelyn Barry, Liz Barry, Mitchell Barry, Doug Beattie, Betty Beckham, Don Bemont, Mike Bergin, Lynn Bergmeyer, Shawn Billerman, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Rachel Bonafilia, Jeff Bouton, Lynn Braband, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Kelly Close, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, Ian Davies, Tony Dvorak, George Ford, Kyle Gage, Andy Garland, Candy Giles, Sheryl

Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Bill Gruenbaum, Michael Gullo, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Andrew Guthrie, Danny Guthrie, Helen & Chris Haller, Meena Haribal, Kim Hartquist, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Andy Hudson, Carolyn Jacobs, Nicholas Kachala, Amy Kahn, Jim Kimball, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Jacob McCartney, Jay McGowan, Bob McGuire, Jim Miles, Denyse Miller, Adrielle Mitchell, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Chan Nam, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Rivka Noll,

Michael Palermo, Andrea Patterson, Scott Peterson, Norma Platt, Bill Purcell, Rochester Young Birders Club, Michell Rosenbaum, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Jennifer Rycenga, Karl Schmidt, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Roger Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Chris Stanger, Rick Stevens, Kim Sucey, Zach S-W, Steve Taylor, Mike Tetlow, Cindy Vars, Matthew Voelker, Brad Walker, Jeff Ward, Mike Wasilco, Ann Watson, Bridget Watts, Joe Wing, Paul Wolter, Chris Wood, Martha Zettel.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

JULY 2018

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Mute Swan	<u>max 37</u>	15	LaSalle Landing Park	J. Ward
Trumpeter Swan	<u>max 9</u>	10	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	M. Tetlow, D. Sherony
Wood Duck	<u>max 40</u>	8	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	S. Billerman
Gadwall	3	<u>19</u>	<u>Hamlin Beach SP</u>	A.Guthrie
American Wigeon	1	<u>11</u>	<u>HANA</u>	M. Gullo
American Wigeon	1	<u>22</u>	<u>Braddock Bay - East Spit</u>	Ji. Miles, L. Mattle
American Black Duck	1	4	<u>Schoen Place, Pittsford</u>	A. Hudson
American Black Duck	1	25	<u>Kings Bend Park, Pittsford</u>	J. & V. Lindberg
Mallard	<u>max 156</u>	13	Greece	J. Ward
Northern Shoveler	1	<u>28-30</u>	<u>Braddock Bay - East Spit</u>	R. Noll, 8 oth obs
Green-winged Teal	1	<u>23-28</u>	<u>Braddock Bay - East Spit</u>	R. Buckert, 3 oth obs
Redhead	1	<u>3; 20</u>	<u>Irondequoit Bay Outlet</u>	Ji. Miles; S. Gracewski
Redhead	1	<u>8</u>	<u>Braddock Bay - East Spit</u>	10 obs
White-winged Scoter	1	<u>21</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A.Guthrie
Long-tailed Duck	1	<u>3</u>	Hamlin Beach - Yanty Creek Marsh	A.Guthrie
Long-tailed Duck	1	<u>30</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A.Guthrie
Red-breasted Merganser	1	<u>8</u>	<u>Braddock Bay - East Spit</u>	15 obs
Red-throated Loon	1	<u>18</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A.Guthrie
Common Loon	1	<u>2</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A.Guthrie
Common Loon	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Hamlin Beach - Yanty Creek Marsh</u>	A.Guthrie
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>max 100</u>	27	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>max 100</u>	28	Summerville Pier	Bri. Morse
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>92</u>	29	Hamlin Beach SP	A.Guthrie
Great Blue Heron	<u>max 60</u>	21	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan
Black-crowned Night-Heron	1 juv	5	<u>HANA</u>	D. Sherony
Black-crowned Night-Heron	1	22-26	<u>Kings Bend Park, Pittsford</u>	G. Ford, 5 oth obs
<u>Black Vulture ph</u>	1	18	Letchworth SP	D. Miller

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

JULY 2018

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
<u>Red-shouldered Hawk</u>	1	20	Letchworth SP - Dishnill Crk Trail	K. Schmidt
Common Gallinule	<u>max 200</u>	21	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
Sandhill Crane	2	13, 14	<u>T Richmond, Ontario Co.</u>	B. Howe, R. Smith
Sandhill Crane ph	<u>2 ad, 2 yng</u>	late	near Crusoe Lake, T. Savannah	W. Gillette
Semipalmated Plover	1	8FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	A. Guthrie
Solitary Sandpiper	2	9FF	HANA	M. Gullo
Greater Yellowlegs	10	17FF	MAC	G. Dashnau
Willet	1	14FF	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	5FF	Kings Bend Park, Pittsford	
Whimbrel	3	10FF	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing
Whimbrel	10	22	Sodus Bay LighthousePt.	M. Gullo
Whimbrel	<u>105; max 111</u>	26	Sodus Pt,	J. Wing; L. Bergmeyer, R. Buckert
Whimbrel	1-3	14-31	5 loc	14+ obs
Ruddy Turnstone	1	21FF	Sodus Pt.	J. McGowan, L. Santana, G. Ford
Red Knot	<u>max 21; 13</u>	22F	Braddock Bay - East Spit	Ji. Miles, L. Mattle; T. Lenz
Red Knot	1-7	23-29	3 loc	20+ oth obs
Stilt Sandpiper	2	17F	MAC	G. Dashnau
Sanderling	3; 1	14FF	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing
Sanderling	<u>100; 150</u>	22	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo; J. Wing
Sanderling	108	22	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Sanderling	125	22	Braddock Bay - East Spit	T. Lenz
Sanderling	<u>max 255</u>	23	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
Sanderling	<u>84 rep, 1-47</u>	16-31	many loc	mob
Least Sandpiper	30	23	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
Least Sandpiper	<u>max 40</u>	25	NMWMA (Morgan Rd. Marshes)	W. & M. Rowley
White-rumped Sandpiper	1	29FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	5 obs
Pectoral Sandpiper	1	17FF	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	M. Gullo
Pectoral Sandpiper	1	17FF	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Semipalmated Sandpiper	2	10FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<u>max 250</u>	23	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
peep sp	<u>max 115</u>	22	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
Short-billed Dowitcher	3	8FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	14+ obs

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

JULY 2018

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Long-billed Dowitcher	1	17FF	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	M. Gullo
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>	<u>total 6 ind</u>	3-28	4 loc	4 obs
<u>Glaucous Gull</u> ph	1 ad	23	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
<u>Least Tern</u> ph	1, 4th Reg	8F	Braddock Bay - East Spit	Ji. Miles, L. Mattle, 16+ oth obs
Caspian Tern	<u>max 92</u>	24	Braddock Bay - East Spit	K. Griffith
Black Tern	<u>max 168</u>	14	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	C. Wood, 19 oth obs
Black Tern	1	25	<u>Summerville Pier</u>	S. Taylor
Common Tern	<u>max 14</u>	10	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
<u>Eurasian Collared-Dove</u>	1	8	T Pittsford	S. Taylor
Chimney Swift	<u>max 300</u>	27	York Central School	J. Kimball
Red-headed Woodpecker	<u>max 5</u>	20; 25	Hamlin Beach SP	C. Giles; A. & A. Nash
Merlin	1	13	<u>Chandler Rd. Greenway,</u> <u>Geneseo</u>	J. Kimball
Merlin	1	18	<u>Glenbrook Manor, T Gates</u>	J. Ward
Peregrine Falcon	<u>total 8</u>	3-25	8 loc	11+ obs
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1B	<u>26FF</u>	Manitou	BBBO
Purple Martin	<u>max 35</u>	20; 31	MAC	M. Wasilco, J. McGowan, L. Santana
Purple Martin	<u>max 35</u>	31	Edgemere Dr., Greece	Ji. Barry
Tree Swallow	<u>max 150</u>	17	NMWMA (Marten Tract)	G. Dashnau
N. Rough-winged Swallow	<u>max 83</u>	21	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
Bank Swallow	<u>max 2425</u>	8	Hamlin Beach SP	D. Daniels, D. Sherony
Bank Swallow	<u>1600</u>	11	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Barn Swallow	<u>max 125</u>	15	HANA	M. Gullo
Winter Wren	1B	<u>30FF</u>	<u>Manitou</u>	BBBO
Swainson's Thrush	1B	<u>18</u>	Manitou	BBBO
<u>Prothonotary Warbler</u>	1	<u>22</u>	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	Je. Barry, C. Wood,
Tennessee Warbler	1B	<u>22, 26</u>	Manitou	BBBO
Mourning Warbler	1B	<u>16</u>	<u>Manitou</u>	BBBO
<u>Clay-colored Sparrow</u>	1-3	4-14	Cook Rd., Hamlin	5 obs
<u>Henslow's Sparrow</u>	1	2L	Beatty Pt., Greece	T. Dvorak
<u>Western Meadowlark</u>	1	4; 8; 9L	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	C. Wood; W.&M.Rowley; Z. S-W
Pine Siskin	1 ea	<u>13-30</u>	3 loc	sev