

July 2019 Sightings Report

It was a generally warm, dry July for this area. After a warm start, then a cool few days through the 10th, heat and humidity reigned the rest of the month except for a few, brief breaks. Following the passage of the remnants of Tropical Cyclone Barry well to the south, a surge of moisture pushed the local heat index to 105° and prompted warnings for that and then for possible severe thunderstorms. Temperatures averaged 74.1°F, 3.3° above normal. Twenty-six days rose to over 80°, and 5 days to over 90°. Precipitation totaled 2.64", 0.69" below normal, with 2/3 of that falling on the 5th-6th. Most of the rest of the rain fell on the 17th with Barry's passage to the south. The last 2 weeks of the month saw only 0.15". Lake Ontario levels remained at record high levels all month.

Waterfowl reports were again few, and numbers generally low. Most reports were from near the Lake Ontario shore or from the NMWMA. A lone Snow Goose continued in the Van Dyne Spoor/Sandhill Crane Unit area. With high lake levels persisting, there was a flooded area along North Hamlin Road, and some interesting waterfowl and shorebirds found there. Most diving ducks were conspicuously absent, a norm other than the few breeding in the NMWMA and scarce summer visitors.

On again to the new checklist grouping (hard to easily characterize), pheasants to Sandhill Crane, we start with the fairly regular-now first Red-necked Grebe of the season passing Hamlin Beach on the 31st, then a first report for the year for Eurasian Collared-Dove in Parma, only 239 lines in eBird for Ruby-throated Hummingbird, on to a decent count of 60 Common Gallinules in the Sandhill Crane Unit (way below last year's horde), and finally Sandhill Cranes near Honeoye (2) and in the Morgan Road area of the NMWMA (21).

With no special weather event to match last year's, shorebirds were back to more normal variety and counts. The 19 species reported was still a good start to the fall migration. American Avocet at the East Spit of Braddock Bay on the 11th and Irondequoit Bay Outlet on the 22nd was a good rarity. Black-bellied Plover at Sodus Point on the 17th was record early. There were two good counts of Whimbrel, 25 and 38, both on the 30th at Sodus Point and Bear Creek in Wayne County, respectively. Otherwise, arrival dates and numbers were typical to low. Upland Sandpiper is always a good find now, and Willet is still special though annual. High lake levels and a dry latter half of the month were not helpful for shorebird habitat.

Highlights among the larids were Bonaparte's Gull on the 1st (late spring?), and again on the 16th (first fall?). Often, there is a longer gap with no sightings in this month. Seven Lesser Black-backed Gull reports is good for this mid-summer month. Peak tern counts included 138 Caspian Terns at Sodus Point and 126 Black Terns at Van Dyne Spoor.

A Common Loon on July 1 was the only loon report for the month. 100 Double-crested Cormorants on piers at Sodus Point is a typical peak. A Great Blue Heron count of 246 and Great Egret count at 36 in the Sandhill Crane

Unit on the 15th is a good number for each species. The year's first Cattle Egret was at the Rochester International Airport on the 2nd, and it or another was found at LaSalle Landing Park at the south end of Irondequoit Bay on the 11th and lingered to the 15th to be seen by many. A lone Black Vulture was seen over Pittsford on the 30th. An official summer hawk watch is in progress at Braddock Bay staffed by a group of volunteers. Their best day for the month was on the 11th, with 45 Turkey Vultures, 67 Bald Eagles, and 8 Broad-winged Hawks. Other high numbers were 108 Turkey Vultures on the 10th and 94 Red-tailed Hawks on the 28th. There were again no reports of Northern Goshawk, only one Red-shouldered Hawk, and very few Broad-winged Hawks from the breeding areas in the hills south of Rochester. Additional non-passerine land bird reports of interest included at least 25 reports of Red-headed Woodpecker from 7 locations and another good count for Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. The 3 regular falcons were recorded in typical numbers for the month, with the fledged Peregrine Falcons in Rochester being watched until they appeared to move out (from rfallconcam.com website).

Moving on to the passerines, again all of the expected species were reported, even the scarcer breeding warblers other than Black-throated Blue Warbler, which was missed. Continued low level banding at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) and Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survival (MAPS) work nearby as usual produced a few special surprises, including: 7 Nashville Warblers banded over July 14, 21, and 22; a Magnolia Warbler on the 14th; and a Yellow-rumped Warbler on the 21st. There were some interesting examples of counts of common species – 13 Willow Flycatchers, 29 Red-eyed Vireos, and 50 Marsh Wrens - and some decent counts for the swallows and blackbirds. These can all be found in the Noteworthy Records table on the RBA website. Other interesting passerine records for the month were: a White-throated Sparrow at Hamlin Beach on the 16th, Clay-colored Sparrows continuing on Cook Road in Hamlin, Prothonotary Warbler still at the Armitage Road area in the NMWMA, and a Tennessee Warbler in Caledonia on the 13th

This month's eBird data download was again very close to last year's, with about 26,350 lines for our region. Once again, this somewhat overstates the number of "records", as there is one very large group and another smaller that shared lists with a substantial number of species. E.g., is a group of 21 birding together and sharing a list of 49 species 49 records or 1029 records? This is a typical issue that users of data must work out carefully by studying the actual data, not just taking summaries at face value. 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.

	2019	2018	10-year Average (2009-2018)
Species for July	184	187	174.2
New for the year	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3.2</u>
Total for the year to date	274	271	269.5

Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee

Observers: Jim Adams, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Jim Barry, Mitchell Barry, Sue Barth, Doug Beattie, Betty Beckham, Don Bemont, Linda Clark Benedict, Steven Benedict, Mike Bergin, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Richard Bishopp, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Carly Boyd-Dovideo, Lynn Braband, Joe Brin, Mark Brown, Lia Buckert, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Robert Cicotta, Kelly Close, Andrew Consler, Cornell Lab Group (21 obs), Lydia Culbert, Kathleen Dalton, Doug Daniels, Susan Danskin, Ian Davies, Adriaan Doktor, Mark Fitzsimmons, George Ford, Cindy Frisch, Kenny Frisch, Kyle Gage, Andy Garland, Candy Giles, Christopher Goetz, James Goetz, John Gordinier, Karla Gordinier, Shannon

Gordinier, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Michael Gullo, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Andrew Guthrie, Chris Guthrie, Helen & Chris Haller, Kim Hartquist, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Carolyn Jacobs, Nicholas Kachala, Amy Kahn, Dana Kalir, Kenneth Kempfues, Jim Kimball, Renee Kittleman, Michael Laird, Chris Lajewski, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Jacob McCartney, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Bob McGuire, Matt Medler, Jim Miles, Kent Millham, Ann Mitchell, Mike Morgante, Brian & Brooke Morse, Diane Morton, Chan Nam, Tom Nash, Rivka Noll, Lynne Parsons, Andrea Patterson, Scott Peterson, Aidan Place, Norma Platt, Jo Popma, Rosemary Reilly, Tessa Rhinehart, Rhonda Roaring, Rochester Young Birders Club, Michelle Rosenbaum, Ken Rosenberg, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Robert Ryan, Livia Santana, Estevaeo Santos, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sheron, Judy Stein, Roger Smith, Tom Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Rick Stevens, Steve Taylor, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Eunice Thein, Sarah Toner, Jeff Ward, Mike Wasilco, Ann Watson, Bridget Watts, Lisa Welch, Joe Wing, Paul Wolter, Chris Wood, Jim Wood, Eric Zawatski.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

JULY 2019

Species	No.	Date	Location	Observers
Snow Goose	1	6-27	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor area)	mob
Mute Swan	<u>max 60</u>	12; 24	Irondequoit Bay - S	T. Lenz; K. Millham
Trumpeter Swan	<u>max 9</u>	13	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	Cornell Lab Group (21 obs)
Wood Duck	<u>max 160</u>	15	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	C. Wood, M. Barry, E. Santos
Blue-winged Teal	3	<u>21</u>	<u>Braddock Bay - East Spit</u>	Je. Barry, M. Barry, C. Wood
Blue-winged Teal	2	<u>21</u>	<u>N. Hamlin Rd.</u>	A. Guthrie
Gadwall	<u>max 45</u>	28	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	S. Toner
American Wigeon	<u>max 12</u>	27	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
American Wigeon	1	<u>7-17</u>	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo, J. Wing
Mallard	<u>max 500</u>	27	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
American Black Duck	<u>max 5, low</u>	14	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	L. Welch
Green-winged Teal	1	<u>2</u>	<u>N. Hamlin Rd.</u>	A. Guthrie
Greater Scaup ph	1	<u>31</u>	<u>Braddock Bay</u>	S. Gracewski
Red-necked Grebe	1	<u>31FF</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
<u>Eurasian Collared-Dove</u>	1	14F; 30	Parma Park	M. Wasilco; S. Taylor
Common Gallinule	<u>max 60</u>	13, 15	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	mob
Sandhill Crane	2	7	<u>T Richmond, Ontario Co.</u>	B. Howe
Sandhill Crane ph	<u>max 21</u>	21	NMWMA (Morgan Rd. Marshes)	B. McGuire, S. Danskin, K. Kempfues, D. Morton
<u>American Avocet ph</u>	1	11FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	M. Tetlow, M. Gullo!, P. Martin
<u>American Avocet phs</u>	1	22	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	Ji. Miles, 11 oth obs
Black-bellied Plover	1	<u>17FF, RE</u>	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Semipalmated Plover	1	12FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	A. Guthrie
Upland Sandpiper	1	<u>29FF</u>	Jacobs Rd., Hamlin	A. Guthrie
Whimbrel	1	12FF	Hamlin Beach SP	D. Kalir
Whimbrel	<u>max 38</u>	30	Bear Creek Harbor, Wayne Co.	J. Wing
Whimbrel	<u>25</u>	30	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing
Ruddy Turnstone	1	<u>20FF</u>	Pt. Breeze	A. Guthrie, C. Wood
Stilt Sandpiper	2	<u>27E</u>	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	J. McGowan, L. Santana
Sanderling	1	17FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	A. Guthrie
Least Sandpiper	1	1FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
Semipalmated Sandpiper	3	8FF	Braddock Bay	S. Gracewski

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

JULY 2019

Species	No.	Date	Location	Observers
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<u>max 36</u>	29	Braddock Bay - East Spit	B. Carlson
Short-billed Dowitcher	1	15FF	Braddock Bay	S. Gracewski
dowitcher sp	14	11FF	Braddock Bay	A. Guthrie
Solitary Sandpiper	1	12FF	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	A. Place, T. Rhinehart
Lesser Yellowlegs	6	3FF	N. Hamlin Rd.	A. Guthrie
Lesser Yellowlegs	<u>max 27</u>	17	N. Hamlin Rd.	A. Guthrie
Willet ph	2	19FF	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo!, W. & M. Rowley, J. Wing
Greater Yellowlegs	1	13FF	Hogan Pt. Rd.	D. Horsey
Bonaparte's Gull	1	1L	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Buckert
Bonaparte's Gull	2	16FF	Braddock Bay	S. Gracewski, P. Martin
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull "ph"</u>	1 1st sum	6	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull ph</u>	1 ad	20	Ontario Beach & piers	P. Martin
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>	1 1st sum	21	Braddock Bay - East Spit	Je. Barry, M. Barry, C. Wood
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>	1st & 3rd sum	21	Braddock Bay - East Spit	Je. Barry, C. Wood
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull "ph"</u>	1 ad	23	Braddock Bay - East Spit	P. Wolter
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull "ph"</u>	3rd/4th sum	28	Ontario Beach & piers	A. Guthrie
Caspian Tern	<u>max 138</u>	31	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Black Tern	<u>max 126</u>	21	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	M. Tetlow
Common Loon <u>only rep</u>	1	<u>1</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>max 100</u>	2	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Great Blue Heron	<u>max 246</u>	15	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	C. Wood, M. Barry, E. Santos
Great Egret	<u>max 36</u>	15	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	C. Wood, M. Barry, E. Santos
<u>Cattle Egret phs</u>	1	<u>11F-15</u>	Lasalle Landing Park	C. Giles!, 26+ oth obs
<u>Cattle Egret</u>	1	<u>2</u>	Rochester Int'l Airport	R. Bishopp
<u>Black Vulture</u>	1	30	Pittsford	T. Smith
Turkey Vulture	<u>max 108</u>	10	HANA	P. Wolter
Turkey Vulture	<u>45</u>	11	<u>Braddock Bay - hawk watch</u>	M. Tetlow
Turkey Vulture	<u>46</u>	16	<u>Braddock Bay - hawk watch</u>	M. Gullo
Bald Eagle	<u>67</u>	11	<u>Braddock Bay - hawk watch</u>	M. Tetlow
<u>Red-shldrd Hawk only rep</u>	1	8	South Conesus	K. Close
Broad-winged Hawk	<u>8</u>	11	<u>Braddock Bay - hawk watch</u>	M. Tetlow
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>94</u>	28	<u>Braddock Bay - hawk watch</u>	M. Tetlow
Red-headed Woodpecker	<u>25 rep, 1-3 ind</u>	all month	7 loc	mob
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<u>max 13</u>	4	H. H. Spencer SRA	B. Howe
American Kestrel	<u>~ 40 ind</u>	all month	26 loc	mob
Merlin	<u>~ 8 ind</u>	10-29	7 loc	7 obs
Peregrine Falcon	<u>~ 7 ind</u>	all month	5 loc	8+ obs
Willow Flycatcher	<u>max 13</u>	18	Mendon Ponds Park	C. Goetz
Red-eyed Vireo	<u>max 29</u>	4	H. H. Spencer SRA	B. Howe
Purple Martin	<u>max 43</u>	18	MAC	C. Boyd-Dovideo
Tree Swallow	<u>max 2000</u>	27	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	K. Rosenberg, A. Doktor
N. Rough-winged Swallow	<u>max 40</u>	28	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	S. Toner
Bank Swallow	<u>max 1200</u>	14	Hamlin Beach SP - West End	A. Guthrie
Bank Swallow	<u>1000</u>	8	Hamlin Beach SP - West End	C. Giles, R. Reilly, E. Thein
Barn Swallow	<u>max 300</u>	26	Mendon Ponds Park	C. Goetz
Winter Wren	<u>~ 7 ind</u>	1-9	<u>6 loc</u>	5 obs
Marsh Wren	<u>max 50</u>	9	Braddock Bay	R. Roaring

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

JULY 2019

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Pine Siskin	1 ea	<u>2; 24</u>	Greece; Letchworth SP	R. Buckert; T. Bohling
<u>Clay-colored Sparrow</u>	2; 1	14; 21	Cook Rd., Hamlin	G. Ford; Je. Barry, M. Barry, C. Wood
White-throated Sparrow	1	<u>16</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>max 1000</u>	27	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	K. Rosenberg, A. Doktor
Common Grackle	<u>max 1016</u>	25	T LeRoy, Monroe Co.	M. Wasilco
<u>Golden/Blue-winged Warbler</u>	2	16	T Pittsford, Monroe Co.	M. Laird
<u>Prothonotary Warbler</u>	1	<u>6-8L</u>	NMWMA (Arnitage Rd.)	J. Brin, R. Kittleman, E. Zawatski
Tennessee Warbler	1	<u>13</u>	Caledonia	S. Burch, J. McCartney
Nashville Warbler	1B; <u>5B</u> ; 1B	<u>14; 21; 22</u>	<u>Manitou</u>	BBBO
Magnolia Warbler	1B	<u>14</u>	<u>Manitou</u>	BBBO
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1B	<u>21</u>	<u>Manitou</u>	BBBO