

## August 2019 Sightings Report

It was a typical, pleasant mid-summer month a bit on the dry side. There were no temperature extremes, and periodic warm and cool spells. Precipitation was about half normal, with almost a third of that falling on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There were 2 periods of severe thunderstorms accompanied by some local wind damage and heavy rains on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures averaged 70.1 °F, 0.8° above normal. There was only one day that just reached 90° on the 6<sup>th</sup>; a major contrast with last summer. Precipitation totaled 1.74", 1.73" below normal.

The total number of species reported approached record high driven by 26 species of shorebirds, 27 species of warblers, and a number of rarities plus good coverage of most of the checklist. The only slightly surprising "misses" to me were Stilt Sandpiper and Wilson's Phalarope, both seen less than a mile out of our region, where a few other species not reported here were also found. A total of 329 new bands at the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) banding station is a slow start, but again the official start was later, on the 15<sup>th</sup>. About 26,450 eBird records were downloaded, up just over 10% from last year. It is good to see more records continuing to be submitted to this database!

A good selection of waterfowl was reported, with some good counts, mainly in the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area (NMWMA) in the Van Dyne Spoor Road or Sandhill Crane Unit area (often used interchangeably), with a few good counts from areas along the south shore of Lake Ontario. Diving ducks were scarce, especially along Lake Ontario. Observations often fell in the judgment-call date range between summer visitors and early fall arrivals. Horned Grebe arrived at the month's end, and small numbers of Red-necked Grebe were seen passing on multiple dates. Common Nighthawk arrived in small numbers on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and a hint of the annual Chimney Swift show at York Central School was 110 birds seen there on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The 419 lines of Ruby-throated Hummingbird records in eBird can again be used to illustrate the value of that tool for gathering and archiving records.

With most of the Van Dyne Spoor Road area in the NMWMA with limited vegetation, we had the good waterfowl counts and other observations from there. But another result was Common Gallinule and American Coot peak numbers back to more normal levels. Again this year, sightings of Sandhill Crane families were down, but total numbers were still good, and the birds near Taylor Marsh in Ontario County north of Honeoye were also reported.

Lake Ontario water levels remained high, although dropping from earlier summer record highs. Low rainfall in late July and this month left almost no wet spots in fields. The major shorebird areas were the beaches and piers along the Lake Ontario shore and the wet areas in the NMWMA, with the barrier beach constructed off the East Spit of Braddock Bay a prime site. Rarer visitors included American Avocet and Marbled Godwit at the Braddock Bay site and a Western Sandpiper photographed on the piers at Sodus Point. Other now-

scarcer species included: Upland Sandpiper, Whimbrel, Red Knot, and Long-billed Dowitcher. There were no really large shorebird counts in our region this month.

The gulls and terns were again lackluster. A single passing Parasitic Jaeger was noted at month's end, and a lone Little Gull was photographed on the East Spit on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Only 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls were reported. Peak counts for the rest of the gulls and terns were relatively low.

Red-throated Loon was missed, though August is early for its arrival, and Common Loons were few other than 6 passing Hamlin Beach on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Double-crested Cormorant numbers were good at the usual Lake Ontario shore and bay sites and somewhat lower elsewhere across the region. American White Pelican was reported at LaSalle's Landing Park on Irondequoit Bay on the 17<sup>th</sup> and at the Van Dyne Spoor area on the 18<sup>th</sup> and also for much of the month in the Knox-Marsellus area just outside our region. Timing suggested at least two individuals. Great Egrets were again scattered about, but there were no really high counts. Once again, there were no reports of rarer, wandering, post-breeding herons.

Black Vulture was reported only from Letchworth State Park, with 2 on the 4<sup>th</sup>. The bird of the month was a **Swallow-tailed Kite** spotted by Dave Tetlow over the parking area for Owl Woods on the 6<sup>th</sup>, the 5<sup>th</sup> record for the region totaling six individuals. There was a formal, volunteer hawk watch this summer at Braddock Bay, with some good numbers reported. A sample of some counts can be found in the Noteworthy Records table and the daily details at [hawkcount.org](http://hawkcount.org). Merlin and Peregrine Falcon sightings were again typical of recent years. This year the only likely Merlin nesting success in the region came from Fairport. The Rochester Peregrine Falcon story can be followed on [rfalconcam.com](http://rfalconcam.com).

Again, all of the really expected passerine species were reported. There were no outstanding rarities, but some of the scarcer or more interesting species included: many Olive-sided Flycatcher reports, Clay-colored Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Prothonotary Warbler at Braddock Bay, and Connecticut Warbler in Webster. There were only a few really good counts, and banding at BBBO was off to a slow start for most species.

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

	2019	2018	10-year Average (2009-2018)
Total species for August	209	196	196.3
New species for the year	6	2	5.3
Total for the year to date	280	273	274.8

*Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee*

**Observers:** Jim Adams, Janet Akin, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Jim Barry, Liz Barry, Mitchell Barry, BBBO (Andrea

Patterson), Sue Barth, Doug Beattie, Betty Beckham, Don Bemont, Linda Clark-Benedict, Steven Benedict, Mike Bergin, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Shawn Billerman, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Lynn Braband, Joe Brin, Taylor Brooks, David Brown, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Denis & Judy Caysinger, Robert Cicotta, Kelly Close, Jeremy Collison, Lydia Culbert, Kathleen Dalton, Doug Daniels, Rod Davis, Deborah Dohne, Andrew Dreelin, Sarah Dzielski, Diane Egan, Mark Fitzsimmons, Daena Ford, George Ford, Jim Fry, Kyle Gage, Andrew Garland, Janis George, Jessica George, Bill Gillette, Candy Giles, Christopher Goetz, James Goetz, John Gordinier, Karla Gordinier, Shannon Gordinier, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Mike Gullo, Andy Guthrie, Chris Guthrie, Danny Guthrie, Richard Guthrie, Robert Haggett, Chris & Helen Haller, Kim Hartquist, Jim Heimrich, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Alec Humann, Carolyn Jacobs, Suzanne James, Nicholas Kachala, Logan Kahle, Amy Kahn, Dave Kennedy, Tom Kerr,

Jim Kimball, Renee Kittleman, Mike Laird, Chris Lajewski, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Lauri Mattle, Jacob McCartney, Jay McGowan, Matt Medler, Jim Miles, Kent Millham, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Brian & Brooke Morse, Chan Nam, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Tom Nash, Dan Niven, Rivka Noll, David Odell, Michael Ortega, Andrea Patterson, Norma Platt, Jo Popma, Jay Powell, Nick Pusateri, Carolyn Ragan, RBA Field Trips, Rosemary Reilly, Rhonda Roaring, Dave Robertson, Ken Rosenberg, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Robert Ryan, Ed Sailer, Jacki Salisbury, Livia Santana, Karl Schmidt, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Judy Slein, Roger Smith, Tom Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Rick Stevens, Allan Strong, Dave Tetlow, Mike Tetlow, Eunice Thein, Mary Jane Thomas, John & Bonnie VanDerMeid, Jeanne & Thomas Verhulst, Brad Walker, Mike Wasilco, Ann Watson, Bridget Watts, David Wheeler, Joe Wing, Paul Wolter, Chris Wood, Jim Wood. Plus many eBird observers.

## NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

AUGUST 2019

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Snow Goose	1	<u>all month</u>	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	mob
Mute Swan	<u>max 75</u>	13; 29	Irondequoit Bay - S	S. Gracewski; J. Gordinier
Trumpeter Swan	<u>max 7</u>	15; 24	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	A. Mitchell; T. Lenz, S. Toner
Wood Duck	<u>max 200</u>	30	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	R. Buckert, N. Kachala
Blue-winged Teal	<u>max 100</u>	28	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	J. Collison
Northern Shoveler	5	28FF	<u>Braddock Bay</u>	S. Graewski
Gadwall	1	28FF	<u>Braddock Bay</u>	S. Graewski
<u>Eurasian Wigeon</u>	1	<u>3FF</u>	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	T. Lenz
American Wigeon	1	25FF	Beatty Point, Greece	C. Wood
Mallard	<u>max 650</u>	30	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	R. Buckert, N. Kachala
American Black Duck	<u>max 12. low</u>	13	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	J. Wood
Northern Pintail	<u>43</u>	<u>24FF</u>	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	T. Lenz, S. Toner
Green-winged Teal	4	20FF	<u>Braddock Bay</u>	R. Buckert, N. Kachala
Green-winged Teal	<u>max 90</u>	<u>30</u>	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	R. Buckert, N. Kachala
Ring-necked Duck	6	<u>29FF</u>	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	J. Collison
Lesser Scaup	1 fem	<u>10</u>	Braddock Bay - East Spit	Ji. Miles, B. Beckham
White-winged Scoter	1	<u>3</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	D. Tetlow
Common Goldeneye	1	<u>10</u>	Braddock Bay - East Spit	M. Bergin
Common Merganser	<u>max 45</u>	31	Beechwood SP, Sodus	T. Lenz, L. Kahle
Red-breasted Merganser	1	<u>31FF</u>	off Edgemere Dr., Greece	Je. Barry, Ji. Barry, L. Barry
Wild Turkey	<u>max 34</u>	2	near Clarendon, Orleans Co.	M. Barry
Pied-billed Grebe	<u>max 75</u>	31	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	S. Toner, <i>et al.</i>
Horned Grebe	1	<u>31FF</u>	off Edgemere Dr., Greece	Ji. Barry
Red-necked Grebe	1-3	<u>7-25</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	9 obs
Common Nighthawk	2	<u>23FF</u>	Casey Park, T Ontario, Wayne Co.	J. Wing
Chimney Swift	<u>max 110</u>	11	York Central School, Greiggsville	J. Kimball
Ruby-th. Hummingbird	<u>419 lines</u> eBird	all month	many	many
Common Gallinule	<u>max 105</u>	29	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	J. Collison
American Coot	<u>max 180</u>	31	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	J. McGowan
Sandhill Crane	1; 3	1; 10	<u>Taylor Marsh area, Ontario Co.</u>	B. Howe
Sandhill Crane	<u>max 9</u>	10	NMWMA (Morgan Rd. marshes)	M. Fitzsimmons
<u>American Avocet</u>	1	30	Braddock Bay - East Spit	Ji. Miles, Mattle, 5 oth obs

## NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

AUGUST 2019

Species	No.	Date	Location	Observers
American Golden-Plover	1	21FF	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Semipalmated Plover	<u>max 35</u>	31	T Savannah, Wayne Co.	D. Wheeler
Killdeer	<u>max 80</u>	21	off T. Webster	P. Wolter
Upland Sandpiper	2	1	Geneseo airfield	J. Kimball
Whimbrel	1	1	Braddock Bay	S. Graewski, P. Martin
Whimbrel	1	31	Braddock Bay	Je. Barry, Ji. Barry
Whimbrel ph	2	28-21	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo, 8+ oth obs
Whimbrel ph	2	22	Sodus Pt.	K. Gage
Marbled Godwit	1	30-31F	Braddock Bay - East Spit	K. Griffith, G. Lawrence, mob
Red Knot	1	24FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	C. Wood
Sanderling	<u>max 32</u>	21	Sodus Pt.	T. Lenz, L. Kahle
Dunlin	1	26FF	Braddock Bay	S. Graewski
Baird's Sandpiper	2	13F	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo, J. Wing
Least Sandpiper	<u>max 30, low</u>	4	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	S. Toner, T. Brooks, M. Ortega
White-rumped Sandpiper	1	5FF	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	D. Kennedy
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<u>max 28, low</u>	31	Braddock Bay	Je. Barry, Ji. Barry
Western Sandpiper ph	1	28F	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo, W. & M. Rowley, D. Egan
Long-billed Dowitcher ph	<u>1</u>	31F	Braddock Bay - East Spit	L. Bergmeyer
Parasitic Jaeger	1	31FF	Hamlin Beach SP	N. Kachala
Bonaparte's Gull	<u>max 50, low</u>	14	Sodus Bay	R. Roaring
Little Gull ph	1 ad	23FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	R. Reilly
Ring-billed Gull	<u>max 3750</u>	1	Black Crk. at Genesee River	N. Kachala
Lesser Black-backed Gull ph	1 ad	14	Ontario Beach and piers	C. Giles, S. James, R. Reilley
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1 2nd sum	27	Summerville Pier	G. Lawrence
Caspian Tern	<u>max 80</u>	1	Sodus Bay	J. Wing
Black Tern	<u>max 5, low</u>	3	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	K. Rosenberg, S. Toner, S. Dzielski, A. Dreelin
Common Tern	<u>max 17, low</u>	21	Hamlin Beach SP	R. & S. Spahn
Forster's Tern	1	20FF	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing
Common Loon	<u>max 6</u>	24	Hamlin Beach SP	5 obs
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>max 600</u>	23	Braddock Bay - East Spit	C. Giles
American White Pelican	1	17FF	Irondequoit Bay - S	D. Horsey, P. Mabb
American White Pelican	1	18	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	J. Collison, J. Wing
Black Vulture	2	4	Letchworth SP	S. Barth
Swallow-tailed Kite	<u>1, 5th Reg</u>	6F	Manitou - Owl Woods parking lot	D. Tetlow
Northern Goshawk	1	18	N. Wolcott, Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
Bald Eagle	<u>20</u>	6	Braddock Bay - hawk watch	D. Brown, <i>et al.</i>
Bald Eagle	<u>29</u>	8	Manitou - Owl Woods parking lot	D. Tetlow
Broad-winged Hawk	<u>68</u>	6	Braddock Bay - hawk watch	
Broad-winged Hawk	<u>max 70</u>	8	Manitou - Owl Woods parking lot	D. Brown, <i>et al.</i>
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>309</u>	6	Braddock Bay - Hawkwatch	D. Tetlow
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>145</u>	6	Sodus Bay, Shaker Tract	M. Tetlow
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>max 414</u>	8	Braddock Bay - Hawkwatch	D. Brown, <i>et al.</i>
American Kestrel	<u>52 rep, 64 ind</u>	all month	33 loc	50+ obs
Merlin	<u>11 rep, 10 ind</u>	all month	10	25 obs
Peregrine Falcon	<u>11 rep, 9 ind</u>	1-28	9 loc	13 obs
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	15FF-25	Mendon Ponds Park	C. Goetz, 11+ oth obs
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	18, 20	Honeoye Falls	R. Davis, Ja. George
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	21	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	23	4-Mile Crk. Pres, Webster	J. Wing
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	23	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie

## NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

AUGUST 2019

Species	No.	Date	Location	Observers
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	24	Hamlin Beach - West End	5 obs
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	23-25	Beechwood SP, T Sodus	M. Gullo,
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	24-28	Dalton Rd., T. Nunda	J. Gordinier
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	10FF	Island Cottage Woods	B. Beckham
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	<u>total B 7</u>	15-23	Manitou	BBBO
"Traill's" Flycatcher	<u>total B 3, low</u>	15-30	Manitou	BBBO
Least Flycatcher	<u>max 19</u>	24	Manitou - Owl Woods	A. Guthrie, C. Wood
Least Flycatcher	<u>total B 14</u>	23-31	Manitou	BBBO
Philadelphia Vireo	1	20FF	Hamlin Beach - West End	N. Kachala
Red-eyed Vireo	<u>total B 21</u>	15-31	Manitou	BBBO
Red-eyed Vireo	<u>max 20</u>	24	Hamlin Beach - West End	5 obs
Horned Lark	<u>max 35, low</u>	13	Jones Bridge & Perry Rds., Livingston Co.	J. Kimball
Purple Martin	<u>50</u>	4	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	5 obs
Purple Martin	<u>max 110</u>	25	Beatty Pt., Greece	C. Wood
Tree Swallow	<u>max 400</u>	4	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	5 obs
Tree Swallow	<u>300</u>	14	Braddock Bay	G. Lawrence
Bank Swallow	<u>max 400</u>	4	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd.)	D. Daniels
Bank Swallow	<u>240</u>	11	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Barn Swallow	<u>max 236</u>	22	Hamlin Beach SP	D. Tetlow
Winter Wren	1	20FF	Hamlin Beach - Yanty Creek	R. & S. Spahn
Gray Catbird	<u>total B 76</u>	15-31	Manitou	BBBO
Cedar Waxwing	<u>max 65</u>	24	Hamlin Beach SP	5 obs
Clay-colored Sparrow	1	10	Cook Rd., Hamlin	B. Beckham
White-throated Sparrow	1	11	T. Byron, Genesee Co.	D. Beattie
White-crowned Sparrow	1	1	Cemetery Rd., T. Wolcott, Wayne Co.	W. & M. Rowley
Song Sparrow	<u>total B 20</u>	15-29	Manitou	BBBO
Bobolink	<u>max 50++</u>	20	fly over, Purcell Rd. T. Canadice	B. Howe
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>max 4000</u>	31	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	L. Kahle
Black-&-white Warbler	1	24FF	Hamlin Beach - West End	5 obs
Prothonotary Warbler	1	20	<u>Braddock Bay</u>	R. Buckert, N. Kachala
Tennessee Warbler	2B	16FF	Manitou	BBBO
Connecticut Warbler	1	<u>22F, RE</u>	Manitou	BBBO
Mourning Warbler	1	10FF	Braddock Bay - East Spit	B. Beckham
American Redstart	<u>total B 16</u>	15-31	Manitou	BBBO
Cape May Warbler	1	20FF	Ellison Park, T. Penfield	Ji. Miles
Magnolia Warbler	1	20FF	T. Ontario, Wayne Co.	J. Wing
Magnolia Warbler	<u>total B 1, low</u>	30	Manitou	BBBO
Bay-breasted Warbler	1	24FF	Manitou - Owl Woods	A. Guthrie, C. Wood
Blackburnian Warbler	1	24FF	Manitou - Owl Woods	A. Guthrie, C. Wood
Yellow Warbler	<u>max 21, low</u>	9, 10	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Yellow Warbler	<u>total B 52</u>	15-31	Manitou	BBBO
Blackpoll Warbler	1	31FF	Mrndon Ponds Park	C. Goetz
Black-th. Blue Warbler	1	25FF	Jones Bridge & Perry Rds., Livingston Co.	J. Kimball
Canada Warbler	1B	20FF	Manitou	BBBO
Wilson's Warbler	1	23FF	Bera Creek, Wayne Co.	J. Wing