

July 2017 Sightings Report

July was a typical, mostly pleasant, mid-summer month. There were no real extremes. Temperatures averaged 71.1 °F, 0.3° above normal, and precipitation totaled 4.29", 0.96" above normal. There were no days with the high above 90° and no records were set. The only 2 significant weather events were thunderstorms which brought flash flooding on the 12th-13th, though more to our southwest, and tornadoes in the area on the 20th, though again mainly to our west and southwest. Lake Ontario levels remained very high, and shorebird habitat very poor in our region, though wet areas in fields and the beaches and piers did produce a decent species variety.

This year has high water, and still, numbers of waterfowl reported were very poor across the board, even in the NMWMA. Diving ducks were missing other than the breeding Hooded and Common Mergansers and reports of a pair of Lesser Scaup and a group of Red-breasted Mergansers. A lone Brant along the Lake Ontario shore continuing from late June was reported by many over most of the month, A few Common Loons and a Red-necked Grebe, typical of recent years, were reported late in the month. A note posted of an adult and four immature Common Loons on Conesus Lake could be misleading to some; potential breeding near here? In looking at the pictures, the immature loons are all either basic plumaged adults or first summer birds in similar plumage. They are not juvenile birds nor are they in juvenal plumage. Again, we had Great Egrets through the month, though with no repeat of last year's big count.

Again, there were no really notable raptor observations for the month. Most of the regularly breeding hawks were reported, though there was only a single report for Broad-winged Hawk and none for Northern Goshawk or Red-shouldered Hawk. Merlin reports were few, but Jim Kimball reported a family group in Geneseo for most of the month. The Rochester Peregrine Falcons continued to be observed and tracked through the month. The fall migration of shorebirds began, and 18 species, the same as last July, were reported. A problem was too much water in most lakes and ponds plus puddles everywhere in wet fields, but with most hard to see well. Most reports were from piers, beaches, or parks near the lakeshore or specific sites observers found like on North Hamlin Road, at the DEC Pond near Avon, or flooded fields in the Geneseo area. All the species noted were expected, though Dunlin and White-rumped Sandpiper were first reported at record early dates.

Gull and tern species and variety provided no surprises. Juvenile Ring-billed Gulls and Caspian Terns started appearing. Lesser Black-backed Gulls continued their presence in every month. Forster's Tern was missed. Apparently Thayer's Gull has been erased from our list for the foreseeable future, likely adding a few more ticks to the Iceland Gull totals.

MAPS work and continued low level banding at BBBO did not produce the special surprises of the last few years in this month. Still nearly all of the expected breeding species were at least found, and an out-of-season Tennessee Warbler was heard and seen along St. Paul

Blvd. by Jim Miles and Lauri Mattle on the 8th. Scarcer mid-summer passerines noted were the Fish Crows around Ontario Beach (and a few elsewhere), Prothonotary Warbler still at the nesting area along Armitage Road, Clay-colored Sparrow on Cook Road in Hamlin, and a few White-throated Sparrows. The one rarity was a **Dickcissel** turned up by Andy Guthrie near Clarendon. The species had a major irruption to the north and northeast in late June, and clusters of birds were found at several sites just outside our region in June, with even some signs of breeding; but none here until Andy's finds. Andrea Patterson noted that there were very few Yellow Warblers captured during the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survival sessions or at BBBO, though late July often brings the peak of their migration along the lakeshore. Indigo Buntings also seemed particularly scarce in their banding.

Among the records in the Noteworthy Table you will, as usual, find a few lines noting maxima for various species. Generally, these are illustrative of the kind of higher numbers one can produce with focused counting. Often they are unique or one of very few double digit or higher counts reported for the species for the month. Reasons for the few such counts may include the fact that very few people take the time to really count, and that we are encouraged to capture counts over smaller areas and shorter times, as these can always be combined for a larger area, but large counts typically cannot be accurately broken up after the fact. As an advocate of a major positive for birding being that it is open to however one wishes to go about it, I am pulled in opposite directions. But sometimes birding is just for fun, and I will not start a new list every 5 minutes or every time I cross a county or habitat border. The data can still be useful to at least show presence in some geographic area on a date. Some object to counts appearing in the Noteworthy Records that are not record highs or at record dates, but changes year to year and especially low numbers can be as useful and "noteworthy" as objectively outlying numbers. If one notes reasons and there are no issues around page count for space or cost, why is more "interesting" information a problem? Comments/questions?

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.

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>10-year Average</u> <u>(2007-2016)</u>
Species for July	177	181	170.4
New for the year	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3.5</u>
Total for the year to date	272	270	268.4

Bob Spahn and the RBA Records Committee

Observers: Jim Adams, Janet Akin, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Doug Beattie, Betty Beckham, Don Bemont, Mike Bergin, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, John Boettcher, Lynn Braband, Joe Brin, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Doug Cameron, Brad Carlson, Gary Chapin, Kelly Close, Andrew Conslor, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, George Ford, Kenny Frisch, Andy Garland, Candy Giles, Sheryl Gracewski, Kevin Griffith, Michael Gullo, Ralph &

Georgia Guenther, Andrew Guthrie, Rich Guthrie, Mike Habberfield, Helen & Chris Haller, Kim Hartquist, Austin Higgins, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Carolyn Jacobs, Brian & Wendy Jones, Nicholas Kachala, Amy Kahn, Jim Kimball, Kathy & Max Kirsch, Chris Lajewski, Jenny Landry, Greg Lawrence, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Jacob McCartney, Kevin McGann, Kevin McGowan, Phil McNeil, Jim Miles, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke

Morse, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Rivka Noll, David Odell, Andrea Patterson, Norma Platt, Jay Powell, Bill Purcell, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Jennifer Rycenga, Devon Sargent, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Judy Slein, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Chris Stanger, Rick Stevens, Joseph Stevenson, Kim Sucus, June Summers, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Alexis Vanwinkle, Mike Wasilco, Ann Watson, Bridget Watts, Deborah Weltsch, Dave Wheeler, Joe Wing, Paul Wolter, Matt Young, Peter Zika.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

JULY 2017

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Brant	1	thru 26L	IBO - Hamlin Beach SP	16+ obs
Mute Swan	<u>max 25</u>	19	LaSalle Landing Park	C. Giles
Trumpeter Swan	2	11	<u>Mendon Ponds Park</u>	P. Wolter
Trumpeter Swan	<u>5</u>	22	<u>Ganaanda Parkway, Macedon</u>	M. Gullo
Wood Duck	<u>max 50</u>	22	Conesus Inlet WMA	A. Consler
American Wigeon	1	<u>7</u>	<u>Ganondagon</u>	A. Higgins
American Black Duck	<u>max 1, LOW</u>	1, 18, 25	3 locations	sev
Mallard	<u>max 150</u>	20	Ontario Beach area	A. Guthrie
Blue-winged Teal	4	<u>30</u>	<u>HANA</u>	D. Sherony
Green-winged Teal	1	<u>5</u>	<u>HANA</u>	B. Cady
Green-winged Teal	1- <u>5</u>	<u>1-14</u>	<u>N. Hamlin Rd.</u>	sev
Lesser Scaup	2	<u>18</u>	Cranberry Pond (Greece)	R. Buckert
Hooded Merganser	1-3	1-12	<u>Bushnell's Basin</u>	H. & C. Haller
Red-breasted Merganser	7	<u>5</u>	Sodus Pt.	W. & M. Rowley
Common Loon	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	Conesus Lake	J. Stevenson
Common Loon	1	<u>9; 15</u>	Silver Lake (Wyoming Co.)	T. Lenz; R. Stevens
Common Loon	3-2	<u>20-21</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Common Loon	3	<u>23</u>	Lake Bluff (Wayne Co.)	W. & M. Rowley
Red-necked Grebe	1	<u>22FF</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>max 120</u>	24	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Double-crested Cormorant	<u>100</u>	26	Ontario Beach area	R. Noll
Common Gallinule	<u>max 31</u>	21	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	P. Zika
American Coot	<u>max 26</u>	11	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	P. McNeil
Sandhill Crane	1	12	<u>T Huron (Wayne Co.)</u>	W. & M. Rowley
Sandhill Crane	3	13; '21-23	<u>Tobin Rd., T. Pittsford</u>	D. Sargent; 5 obs
Sandhill Crane	<u>5</u>	22	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	D. Weltsch
Semipalmated Plover	1-3	<u>24FF</u>	sev	sev
Killdeer	<u>max 71</u>	22	Jacobs Rd (Hamlin)	A. Guthrie
Solitary Sandpiper	1	<u>6FF</u>	Twin Cedars Environ Area (Avon)	M. Wasilco
Greater Yellowlegs	2	<u>8FF</u>	N. Hamlin Rd.	A. Guthrie, Ji. Miles, L. Mattle
Whimbrel	1	<u>13FF</u>	Irondequoit Bay Outlet	J. Wing
Whimbrel	1	16	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Whimbrel	<u>6; 2</u>	16; 28	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo, W. & M. Rowley; J. Wing
Ruddy Turnstone	3; 1	<u>19FF</u>	Summerville Pier; Sodus Pt.	G. Lawrence; D. Sherony
Stilt Sandpiper	1	8E	N. Hamlin Rd.	A. Guthrie, Ji. Miles, L. Mattle
Sanderling	1	<u>13FF</u>	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Sanderling	<u>max 20</u>	20	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing
Dunlin	1	<u>10FF</u>	N. Hamlin Rd.	A. Guthrie
Dunlin	<u>1</u>	<u>18, 19</u>	LaSalle Landing Park	D. Horsey, C. Giles
Least Sandpiper	4	<u>3FF</u>	N. Hamlin Rd.	A. Guthrie

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS (cont'd)

JULY 2017

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observers</u>
Least Sandpiper	<u>max 40+</u>	9	Jones Bridge Rd., Livingston Co.	J. Kimball
White-rumped Sandpiper	1	<u>10FF, 11, 19</u>	Avon DEC Ponds (Twin Cedars)	M. Wasilco, G. Lawrence
Pectoral Sandpiper	5	18FF	Conesus Inlet WMA	A. Consler
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1	<u>5FF</u>	Sodus Pt.	W. & M. Rowley
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<u>max 38</u>	17	Sodus Pt.	J. Wing A. Guthrie, Ji. Miles, L. Mattle
Short-billed Dowitcher	1	8FF	N. Hamlin Rd.	M. Gullo
Bonaparte's Gull	<u>max 11</u>	22	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<u>total 7</u>	12-26	4 loc	3 obs
Caspian Tern	<u>max 86</u>	13	Sodus Pt.	M. Gullo
Black Tern	<u>max 7</u>	1	NMWMA (Sandhill Crane Unit)	An. Mitchell, G. Chapin
Black Tern	<u>max 7</u>	1	NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor)	W. & M. Rowley
Common Tern	1	<u>5FF</u>	Sodus Pt.	W. & M. Rowley
Eurasian Collared-Dove	1	4	Greenwell farm (Hamlin)	R. Spahn
Red-headed Woodpecker	<u>1-6 ea</u>	3-28	3 locations	5 obs
Merlin <u>nesting</u>	1-3	all month	Geneseo	J. Kimball
Merlin	1	<u>12; 29</u>	Conesus; Wolcott	K. Close; W. & M. Rowley
Peregrine Falcon	1	8, 11, 22	<u>3 loc, Rochester</u>	sev
Least Flycatcher	<u>3B</u>	<u>16-17</u>	Manitou (BBBO)	A. Patterson
Purple Martin	<u>max 42</u>	18	Cranberry Pond (Greece)	R. Buckert
Purple Martin	<u>40</u>	19	MAC	D. Spier
Tree Swallow	<u>max 225</u>	4	NMWMA (Morgan Rd. marshes)	I. Bergmeyer, R. Buckert
Bank Swallow	<u>max 160</u>	22	Hamlin Beach SP	A. Guthrie
Barn Swallow	<u>max 50</u>	23	Ontario Beach area	A. Guthrie
Winter Wren	1	7	<u>Penfield</u>	C. Marino
Gray Catbird	<u>max 30</u>	2	Whiting Rd. NP	D. Horsey
Cedar Waxwing	<u>max 105</u>	19	N. Hamlin Rd.	A. Guthrie
<u>Prothonotary Warbler</u>	1	4	NMWMA (Armitage Rd.)	I. Bergmeyer, R. Buckert
Tennessee Warbler	1	<u>8</u>	St. Paul Blvd., Rochester	L. Mattle, Ji. Miles
Hooded Warbler	<u>max 10</u>	2	<u>Mendon Ponds Park</u>	P. Martin
American Redstart	<u>max 22</u>	8	<u>Hamlin Beach SP - West End</u>	D. Bemont
Blackburnian Warbler	1	<u>2</u>	<u>Oatka Creek Park</u>	J. Rycenga
Yellow Warbler	<u>max 25</u>	2	Whiting Rd. NP	D. Horsey
Canada Warbler	1	<u>15; 20</u>	<u>Cumming Nature Center</u>	G. Lawrence, J. Akin
<u>Clay-colored Sparrow</u>	1	3	Hamlin (Cook Rd)	A. Guthrie
White-throated Sparrow	1	<u>7</u>	Ganondagan	A. Higgins
White-throated Sparrow	2	<u>20</u>	Smith Farm, Palmyra	B. & W. Jones
<u>Dickcissel</u>	1	<u>1F-3</u>	Clarendon	A. Guthrie
Pine Siskin	1	<u>10, 29, 31</u>	Lake Rd, T Webster	P. Mabb
Pine Siskin	2	<u>4, 28</u>	Mendon Ponds Park	B. Beckham