


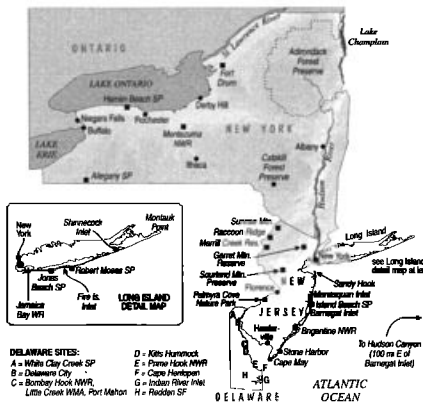
Subregional editors (boldface), contributors (italics), and cited observers: **Jim Berry**, *Bird Observer* (B.O.), **Lysle Brinker**, **Paul Carrier**, **Glenn d'Entremont**, **Jody Despres**, **Ron Donovan**, **Steve Faccio**, **Rachel Farrell**, **Richard Ferren**, **Tom French**, **Greg Hanisek**, **Rick Heil**, **David Hoag**, **Pam Hunt**,

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**Perkins**, **Chris Raithe**, **Marj Rines**, **Bill Sheehan**, **Bob Stymeist**, **Scott Tasagarkis**, **Richard Veit**, **Tony Vezzano**, **Tom Wetmore**, **Mark Zantyr**. 

**Wayne R. Petersen**, P.O. Box 686, Hanson, Massachusetts 02341, (wpetersen@massaudubon.org)

## Hudson-Delaware



**Robert O. Paxton** | **Richard R. Veit**

Summer 2006 was one of the wettest on record. Nearly 37 cm of rain fell in New York City during the two months, 17.5 cm above normal. Albany received about 23 cm of rain in June, an all-time record, and the Oneida Lake Basin received over 25 cm in July. Torrential rains beginning 25 June caused damaging floods in the Delaware and Mohawk River Valleys. Only northwestern New York escaped the downpours. The rains were considered responsible for the death by hypothermia of 1800 Common Tern chicks on Great Gull Island (HH); the swamping of loon nests in northern Herkimer County, New York (WP); mortality in early bluebird broods in northern Saratoga County, New York (RPY); and fewer Ruffed Grouse broods in the Saint Lawrence River Valley (JBo).

A well-documented Broad-billed Hummingbird, the Region's first, was the principal rarity of the season. Fundamental seasonal rhythms seemed to be going awry. Several Snowy Owls lingered bizarrely into midsummer. Northbound migrants that seemed to have abandoned their journey (see shorebirds, raptors, warblers, American Pipit) nearly met exceptionally early returnees. Sandhill Crane, Northern Saw-whet Owl,

Merlin, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Dickcissel confirmed or extended their presence as breeders. An outbreak of type-B botulism in Lake Ontario killed numerous gulls, terns, and cormorants.

Abbreviations: Bombay Hook (Bombay Hook N.W.R., Kent, DE); Braddock Bay (hawkwatch on L. Ontario w. of Rochester, NY); Brig (Brigantine Unit, Forsythe N.W.R., Atlantic, NJ); Cuspogue (county park w. of Westhampton Beach, Suffolk, Long I., NY); D.N.R.E.C. (Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation); Fort Drum (Fort Drum Military Installation, Jefferson, NY); Great Gull I. (ternery off e. Long I., NY); Jamaica Bay (Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, New York City); Jones Beach (S.P., Nassau, Long I., NY); Little Galloo (island in e. Lake Ontario off Stony Pt., Jefferson, NY); Montezuma (Montezuma N.W.R. in Wayne/Seneca, NY); N.J.D.F.G.W. (New Jersey Division of Fish, Game, & Wildlife); N.Y.D.E.C. (New York Department of Environmental Conservation).

### WATERFOWL THROUGH FRIGATEBIRD

Introduced Trumpeter Swans were present again at last year's nest site in Wayne, NY and also bred nearby in Savannah Twp., e. of Montezuma. A few Surf and Black Scoters summered off coastal points, as usual, but White-winged Scoters, which winter farthest n., are rare here in summer. One was off Caven Pt., Jersey City, NJ 2 Jun (MBr) and another in the Leipsic R. at Bombay Hook 26 Jul (Z. Loman). A Long-tailed Duck off Island Beach S.P., NJ 4 Jul (Steve Weis) was another less-expected summering diving duck. A Common Goldeneye hen with 3 chicks at Willsboro Bay, in L. Champlain, Essex, NY 30 Jul (MMe) was s. of atlas breeding sites.

We now have final figures for the 5th Common Loon survey conducted last summer by the Adirondack Cooperative Loon Program.

On 16 Jul 2005, 452 volunteers surveyed 221 Adirondack lakes, the most ever, and found a total of 540 loons: 461 ads., 67 chicks, and 12 juvs. Although absolute numbers increased slightly, corresponding to fuller coverage, only 24% of the lakes surveyed had chicks or juvs., a slight drop, possibly because of heavy rains in early summer 2005. Only two Pied-billed Grebe nesting sites remain in Delaware, both along the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, *New Castle*. An Eared Grebe in breeding plumage discovered at Round Valley Res., *Hunterdon*, NJ 22 May (JDeM, ph. D. Beaton, FS, ph. A. Souto) lingered through 8 Jun, the first for nw. New Jersey. A Western Grebe



This Western Grebe was photographed off Battery Park, New Castle, Delaware 28 May through 2 (here 1) June 2006. Photograph by Maurice Barnhill.

found off New Castle, DE 28 May–3 Jun (Joe Francis, AH, m.ob.) was possibly the same as the one noted in the spring report at Reed's Beach, NJ on 13 May.

The commonest shearwaters visible from land, as usual, were Sooty Shearwaters, of which 30-40 were seen milling off Pike's Beach, Westhampton, Long I., NY 4 Jun (TWB, GB) and 5+ were off Cape May 6-7 Jun (CV); alongside the usual few Greater and Cory's Shearwaters, occasional Manx Shearwaters could also be found with diligent scop-

ing (TWB, CV). About 200 Wilson's Storm-petrels enlivened the Cape-May-to-Lewes, DE ferry crossing 5 Jul (CS). Counts of Brown Pelican remained well below those of the 1990s. The maximum was 24 reported off Cape May 26 Jul, and most reports were in single digits. Northernmost were 3 off Cup-soque 8 Jul (SBI). Little Galloo held 2692 Double-crested Cormorant nests in mid-Jun despite continuing control measures (JF), while 1175 cormorant nests on six islands in New York Harbor, censused in New York City Audubon's Harbor Herons Project, were a bit below the highs of the past decade (ABe).

Two probable frigatebirds were reported in a faint echo of the 2005 mini-invasion. Four fishing boat captains described convincingly an all-dark frigatebird, presumably an ad. male Magnificent, off Montauk Pt., Long I. 9 Jun (*vide* HMcG), and another unidentified frigatebird was spotted from a car from the Garden State Parkway near Cape May 29 Jun (Simon Lane).

## HERONS THROUGH RAPTORS

Least Bitterns seem to be holding their own, with reports from seven sites in New Jersey and five in Delaware, several new this year: Giambacorda Marsh at New Castle (FR), Appoquinimink Creek (Steve Collins), and Lum's Pond S.P. (AG), all in New Castle, DE. The Region's northernmost Great Egret colony at Motor I. in the Niagara R. continues to prosper. Fifty ads. and young were counted 12 Jun (William Watson), and a further 15 nested at Times Beach in Buffalo, all unthinkable 20 years ago. Post-breeding Snowy Egrets wandered as far n. as Oneida, NY 21-31 Jul (Doug Linstruth) and the Chazy R. mouth on L. Champlain, Clinton, NY 31 Jul (BK). Cattle Egrets dwindled again at the great Pea Patch I. heronry in Delaware Bay off Delaware City, New Castle (CB), their last important breeding colony in the Region. A good count of 50 along Compromise Rd. near Woodstown, Salem, NJ 23 Jul (D. Magpiong) probably came from there. The only n. reports were a one-day wonder at Montezuma 9 Jul (MV) and one at the Four Brothers I. heronry in L. Champlain, off Willsboro Pt., Essex, NY 23 Jul (MMe), where some bred in 2002.

An ad. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at Perch River W.M.A., Jefferson, NY 12 Jul (JBo, D. Brouse, D. Prosser) was only the 2nd Saint Lawrence valley record. Near this species' n. breeding limit, a 29-nest colony has occupied trees in the courtyard of Redfern Houses, a housing project at Far Rockaway, Queens, New York City since 2003 (DR, ABe), and small colonies flourish along suburban streets at nearby Cedarhurst and Valley Stream, Nas-

sau, Long I., NY. An imm. White Ibis was photographed at the mouth of the Broadkill R., Sussex, DE 19-21 Jul (ES), and another or the same was at nearby Gordon's Pond 30 Jul (FR), but there was no major influx. Glossy Ibis declined at the Pea Patch heronry (CB). White-faced Ibis seemed to be taking off in s. New Jersey, and there was even speculation about breeding. Up to 6 were found 12 May-1 Jul at the Crest Haven ponds, near Cape May (ph. Richard Crossley, PL). More usual singles



On the Brandywine Building in downtown Wilmington, Delaware, Peregrine Falcons successfully raised four chicks (here 1 June 2006). Photograph by Kim Steininger.

were reported at Brig 6 Jul and at Summit Bridge, near Lum's Pond S.P., New Castle, DE (AG).

Mississippi Kites played their old tantalizing games. Up to 2 surfaced periodically at Cape May through Jun, but evidence of breeding has not been seen in this Region. Elsewhere, an ad. was reported at Buckshutem W.M.A., near Millville, Cumberland, NJ 29 Jun. A subad. explored all the way to Great Gull I. 19 Jun (Joe DiCostanzo, HH), and an imm. reached L. Ontario 6 Jul at Braddock Bay (DT). Bald Eagles continue their dizzying ascent. In New York, a record 101 breeding pairs, 84 of them successful, fledged a phenomenal 172 young, half again last year's total. About 30% of the nests, about four times the previous average, raised 3 young. The resulting productivity of 2.05 young fledged per successful pair was unprecedented (Peter Nye, N.Y.D.E.C.). New Jersey had 57 territorial pairs, which produced a record 82 young. Productivity here, too, was high at 1.49 per active pair (KC). Delaware's active nests rose again to 41 that fledged 55 young (KH), remarkable for so densely developed a state.

Three or 4 imm. Rough-legged Hawks at Fort Drum during Jun (JBo, Ken Feustel) made a remarkable total. On 18 Jun, 75 very late migrant Broad-winged Hawks passed the Braddock Bay hawkwatch (DT). A Golden Eagle on the same day furnished only the 3rd Jun record there (DT). American Kestrels are down to two or possibly three sites in Delaware. At least six pairs and probably more are established in Manhattan (Phillip O'Brien). Merlins spread farther into the lowlands of cen. New York, from their initial 1992 beachhead in the Adirondacks. They nested a 2nd time in Buffalo and at Salamanca, Cattaraugus, and added new locations at Honoeye L., Ontario; in Rochester (RGS, D. Daniel, et al.); and in Ithaca and Cayuga Heights, Tompkins (Paul Hurtado, Scott Haber et al.). Peregrine Falcon populations are approximately stable in New Jersey (18 active pairs, 36 young fledged [KC]) and New York (47 successful pairs, one more than last year, and 96 young, below last year's record 114 but tied for 2nd place [Barbara Loucks, N.Y.D.E.C.]).

## RAILS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

Following a good spring for King Rails, 4 called before dawn 4 Jun at Broadkill Beach, Sussex, DE (ES). A King Rail bred successfully with a Clapper Rail at the Marine Nature Study Area, Oceanside, Nassau, Long I.; the chicks were photographed (Mike Farina) Sandhill Cranes nested again near Montezuma, site of the Region's first known nest in 2003. The two colts disappeared, one by one, during Jun, though the ads. remained. Coyotes? Several other ads. summered at York (A Schwan, P. Conklin) and nearby Cuylerville (JK), both Livingston, NY, the latter a new site. One remained all spring and summer at Beaver Swamp W.M.A. near Cape May.

A Wilson's Plover visited Pike's Beach, Westhampton, Suffolk, NY 17 Jun (JFr), keeping up an unusual pace since 2003 of several records annually. Piping Plovers showed a little progress at the only two remaining Delaware sites: Cape Henlopen S.P. and nearby Gordon's Pond W.A. The nine nesting pairs made 14 nesting attempts and fledged 13 chicks. A fox successfully dug into one enclosure, and two nests were overwashed by high tides (CB, HN). New Jersey had a preliminary count of 116 nesting pairs of Piping Plovers, a little above last year's 111 but far below the peak of 144 pairs in 2003. Productivity, though slightly improved at 0.84 chicks per pair, still remained below the 1.245 estimated necessary to maintain the population. Flooding caused less damage than in the past two years, but predation be-

**SA** More shorebirds than ever remained into midsummer, especially on Long I., apparently having abandoned northward migration. An assemblage unprecedented in both size and variety gathered on the Cupsogue flats 17-18 Jun, mostly with some degree of alternate plumage: 40 Black-bellied Plovers, 12 Semipalmated Plovers, a Greater Yellowlegs, 30+ White-rumped Sandpipers, 150 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 90 Red Knots, 50 Sanderlings, 6 Dunlins, 20 Ruddy Turnstones, and 12 Short-billed Dowitchers (SM, PLI). By 28 Jun, the Black-bellied Plovers had increased to 56 (JFr). A Western Willet photographed there 18 Jun (DF, Dave Klauber, SM) was one of very few May/June records of this subspecies. Smaller but similar collections of shorebirds were found in Delaware 17-18 Jun. Insufficient nourishment for the flight to the Arctic has been suggested as a reason for these abandoned migrations, but many of the Cupsogue shorebirds had deformed legs or tumors. It was not clear whether these infirmities prevented further migration, or whether remaining at an unaccustomed s. latitude induced the disabilities (SM). At the same time, fall returnees appeared ever earlier. A Lesser Yellowlegs thought to be a fall migrant was at Hogan Pt., *Monroe*, NY 23 Jun (RGS), and a Black-bellied Plover, likely a migrant, overflew Wantage Twp., *Sussex*, NJ 25 Jun (Andrew Sigerson).

came the leading cause of nest failures (Todd Pover, N.J.D.F.G.W.).

Individual American Avocets wandered n. of their summer loafing ground at Bombay Hook as far as the Hackensack Meadows 12 Jul and Cupsogue 30 Jul (J. Gluth). Upland Sandpipers were scarce and still declining in their recent strongholds in the Saint Lawrence Valley (JBo). Their s. outpost remains Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station, *Ocean*, NJ, where 8+ were seen 7 Jun (SB).

New restrictions on the Horseshoe Crab harvest in Delaware Bay, outlined in the past two summer season reports, have not had time to benefit the Red Knot population, for the crabs, whose eggs are the principal food of shorebirds fattening up for the flight to the Arctic, require 10-11 years to reach sexual maturity. The peak aerial survey count was 13,455 Red Knots on 30 May, slightly down from last year but about the same as two years ago (KC). These counts reached 80,000 before the overharvest of crabs began. Crab protection measures remain incomplete. New Jersey has closed the Horseshoe Crab harvest for the next two years, but Delaware has not done so. Two Curlew Sandpipers, both apparently southbound, were a bit above recent years: at Cape May 27-28 Jul (ph. MG, GM, Karl Lukens et al.) and at Bombay Hook 31 Jul (CB, Karen Bennett). There were also 2 Ruffs: a post-breeding male at Jamaica Bay 11 Jul (ph. SBl, Doug Gochfeld), and a Reeve that appeared to accompany the Curlew Sandpiper at Bombay Hook 31 Jul (CB). A male Red Phalarope at Raquette L. in the Adirondacks 8 Jun (Lynn Ballou, Kari Wes-

sel) constituted the 2nd *Hamilton*, NY record; the first was in 1904 (JMCP).

### GULLS THROUGH SKIMMER

A Franklin's Gull at Kendall, *Orleans*, NY 18 Jun (DT) was a good find, though they are nearly annual in early summer on L. Ontario.



Black-necked Stilts nested successfully this season (here 2 July 2006) at Bear Swamp, Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Delaware. Photograph by Kim Steininger.

Among 120 Bonaparte's Gulls at the Niagara R. mouth 13-14 Jun (itself a remarkable number for that date, when they are often absent) were a first-summer Little Gull and a first-summer Black-headed Gull, the latter a first Jun record for the Niagara Frontier region of New York (ph. J. Pawlicki et al.). Lesser Black-backed Gulls, until recently rare in midsummer, were at two sites on L. Ontario: Sodus Bay 1 Jun (Dominic Sherony) and Hamlin Beach 10 & 20 Jun (WS). Coastally, 2 visited Robert Moses S.P., *Suffolk*, Long I. 25 Jun (TWP, GB, SM, PLI), and one or more first-year birds hung around Cape May.

Five to 10 pairs of Gull-billed Terns and three pairs of Caspian Terns bred in s. Barnegat Bay, NJ. These numbers are unprecedented in the past 31 years, though some sin-

gle nests have been found (FL). The Region's Caspian Tern colony at Little Galloo contained 1589 nests in mid-June, but botulism later killed about 800 birds (JF). One or 2 Sandwich Terns frequented Cape May through the summer, one of them accompanied by a begging juv. 22 Jul (CV). Such couples can travel long distances, however, and there is no evidence of breeding n. of Maryland. Additional singles were at Spring L., *Monmouth*, NJ 21 Jun (JC) and 19 Jul (Anne Galli), Cupsogue 29 Jul (AB), and Gordon's Pond, *Sussex*, DE 30 Jul (FR). Roseate Terns increased to at least 12 pairs at Gilgo Beach, *Suffolk*, LI (BZ), which is good news, as few alternative sites now back up the great colony at Great Gull I., NY—at 1200 pairs, still below historic highs (HH), this is the largest Roseate Tern colony in the Americas. Although most subad. Arctic Terns are thought to remain in the s. oceans during the n. summer, rare individuals appear here in spring and early summer. The number has been increasing, probably because of more

careful scrutiny. Five at Cupsogue 9 Jul, plus a different individual there 2 Jul, singles at Cupsogue 29 Jul (AB) and nearby Westhampton Beach 8 Jul (JFr, DF), and one (age unspecified) at Spring L., *Monmouth*, NJ (JC) made an unprecedented seasonal total of 9. Forster's Terns are doing well at their n. limit, with about 250 pairs in Joco Marsh, Jamaica Bay (DR) and about 312 pairs in Great South Bay in Hempstead Twp., *Nassau*, Long I., NY (JZ). Several exploring Forster's Terns (Rich Kane, MD, FS) and a Common Tern (FS, Peter Kwiatek, JDeM) were exceptional inland in Jun at Merrill

Creek Res., *Warren* and Spruce Run Res., *Hunterdon*, NJ. Breeding Black Terns were not surveyed this summer in New York, where they have declined sharply in recent decades. In the n. Adirondacks, where they have not bred for years, 6-8 nested on a flotsam islet at the mouth of the Raquette R., in extreme nw. *Franklin* (Hollis White). Some returned very early, in breeding plumage, for reasons unknown, reaching Cape May, Prime Hook N.W.R., DE (ES), and Merrill Creek Res., *Warren*, NJ (MD), all on 24 Jun. Black Skimmers continue to put their eggs in one basket. Megacolony this season included 250 pairs at Nickerson Beach, Hempstead, *Nassau*, Long I., with over 200 fledglings in late summer (JZ). Over 650, with 275 nests, were in s. Barnegat Bay, *Ocean*, NJ (FL).



Still a rarity in Delaware, though the species nests on the southern Delmarva Peninsula, this immature White Ibis was photographed at Oyster Rocks, Lewes 21 July 2006. Photograph by Ed Sigda.

## DOVES THROUGH PIPITS

Eurasian Collared-Dove records are beginning to accumulate in s. New Jersey. An observation at Atlantic City 27 May–1 Jun has been submitted to the New Jersey B.R.C. (Bob Paxson, ph. Alex Majewski, Alex Tongas). Spring sightings at Cape May continued, with one 11 Jul (CV) and others in the fall. Injured Snowy Owls have occasionally lingered in the Region into summer; several apparently healthy ones in midsummer suggest something amiss. The first, noted in the spring season column in Genoa Twp., Cayuga, NY remained through 4 Jun. The same bird, or another, was found 14 Jun along a heavily used highway in a densely populated part of Syracuse, NY (Art Walker). It was identified as a young male. Both birds hunted actively. The Syracuse bird disappeared 28 Jun after the long grass in which it had been roosting was mowed. Two Snowies turned up 10 Jul at Point Peninsula, Jefferson, NY, one in need of rehabilitation. The other seemed healthy and was still present in Aug (JBo). The previous winter's invasion had been only medium-sized (about 60 reports). Five young Northern Saw-whet Owls were banded from a nest hole in a deciduous tree close to a parking lot in Armonk, NY (James Vellozzi, Larry Fisher, Drew Panko, Trudy Battaly). This is believed to be Westchester's first known nest, although four have been documented on Long I., NY.

Over 5 Common Nighthawks summering in downtown Buffalo may indicate a surviving rooftop population, after we pronounced them defunct last summer. No positive proof of nesting was obtained. We received encouraging reports of "many" Whip-poor-wills 3 Jul at Fort Drum, (MV) and of 15 calling at 4 a.m. at Bear Swamp, Cape May, NJ (CS). But they are missing altogether from the Rochester area and elsewhere.

Common Ravens are invading the lowlands. A pair fledged 4 young on a cliff face in Secaucus, Hudson, NJ (Ken Witkowski), overlooking the New Jersey Meadowlands, probably the first there since colonial times. One or 2 visited the shore of L. Ontario at Braddock Bay 17-18 Jun (DT). Cliff Swallows have established a new colony in Delaware, a state where they began nesting in 1993. The old one on the Appoquinimink R. bridges, n. of Bombay Hook, contained about 41 nests 8 Jun (FR), and the new colony on the Fleming's Landing bridge over the Smyrna R., Kent had six nests (FR). Sedge Wrens persist at Bombay Hook and at the Ted Harvey W.A., near Kitts Hummock, Kent, DE (Maurice Barnhill), and, at the Region's opposite end, at



Sedge Wren is a scarce nester in upstate New York; this male was found at Point Breeze, Orleans County 11 June 2006. Photograph by Willie D'Anna.

three locations near Rochester and at Fort Drum. At the latter site, only 6-8 males sang in early Jun, but their number swelled to at least 14 in late Jun–early Jul (JBo). An American Pipit with traces of alternate plumage was out of place at Robert Moses S.P., Long I., NY 28 Jun (TWB, GB, SM, PLI).

## WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

Many observers commented on the quantity

of very late migrant warblers, some of which seemed unlikely to reach breeding habitat. Willie D'Anna and Betsy Potter found migrating warblers in their yard on L. Ontario near Buffalo 13 Jun, and Peter Yoerg found them in Buffalo 19 Jun. Southbound movement was evident two weeks later, when a record-early Northern Waterthrush hit a window in West Cape May 2 Jul (E. Mathers, PL).

The latest of several Jun Magnolia Warblers was in Westchester, NY 11 Jun (*vide* TWB). A Bay-breasted Warbler at Prime Hook N.W.R. 7 Jun (Derek Stoner) made a first Jun record for Delaware. A convincingly described Audubon's Warbler at Yorkshire, Cattaraugus, NY 11 Jun (Michael DeSha) would have been remarkable any time but in

midsummer was astonishing. At their n. limit, Yellow-throated Warblers bred again in Allegany S.P., Cattaraugus, NY and prospected new territory 1 Jul at Big Flats, Chemung, NY (BO). A Swainson's Warbler was reported at Cape May 8 Jul (CV), following several spring observations and another was heard and seen briefly at Hartshorne Woods Park, Monmouth, NJ 12 Jun (Mike Fahay). Although spring records have increased greatly in recent years, mid-summer reports remain rare.

Clay-colored Sparrows were present not only at their half-dozen recently colonized sites in nw. New York but also farther e. at two locations in the Saint Lawrence Valley (JBo) and in the Adirondacks at Miner Flat Rock, Clinton, NY (Julie Hart, MMe). The Henslow's Sparrow situation is not promising. Only two sites remain in the Niagara frontier area of New York: Grove, Allegany (Elizabeth Brooks) and a previously known field in Lancaster, Erie (C. Adams, N.Y.D.E.C.), the latter slated for development. A good count of 9 comes from Fort Drum, but there is only one other site in Jefferson, near Perch River W.M.A. (JBo). In two fields near Geneseo, Jim Kimball talked the owner into not mowing until the birds had finished nesting, but he is

**SA** An ad. male Broad-billed Hummingbird photographed at a feeder in Rose, Wayne, NY 24-25 Jun (Dorothy & Harold Legg, Kevin McGowan) was breathtaking, but the species has a history of vagrancy. The species has also turned up Colorado, Ontario, Michigan (twice), Wisconsin, Illinois, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and North Carolina.



This Dickcissel was one of three singing males noted 11 June 2006 in Porter, Niagara County, New York, during a Breeding Bird Survey. A nest with young was located here 16 July, but the field was mown shortly thereafter. Adults carrying food were noted here, however, as late as 29 July 2006, confirming only the second nesting in the Niagara Frontier Region. Photograph by Willie D'Anna.

not optimistic about the species near Rochester. A site at Sharon Springs, Schoharie, NY (fide Barbara Putnam) rounds it out for New York and the Region. There were only passing glimpses of Dickcissels this summer in New Jersey and Delaware, but they made



This portrait of Little (right), Black-headed (center), and Bonaparte's Gulls was taken on the Niagara River at Youngstown, New York, located near the river's outlet into Lake Ontario, 14 June 2006. There are no previous June records of Black-headed Gull in the New York portion of the Niagara Frontier Region and very few for Little Gull. Photograph by Jim Pawlicki.

two breeding attempts in upstate New York. Three birds were present in Porter, Niagara into Jul. One nest with young was discovered, but mowing destroyed it (Willie D'Anna, Dean DiTommaso et al.). A pair was present 17-26 Jun at Oswego Airport, Syracuse, but breeding remained unproven (JBn). There is no breeding record for Oswego.

A Yellow-headed Blackbird at Bombay

Hook 21 Jul (AH) and a second-year female at the Pennsylvania Ave. landfill, Brooklyn, New York City 14 Jun (ph. ABe) were the only reports. Orchard Orioles now breed regularly in the Saint Lawrence Valley (JBo). A European Goldfinch was reported from a feeder in Cape May 7 Jul (P. Bechtel). Purple Finches had a good season in the Adirondack foothills of n. Saratoga, NY, following a massive decline since 1992 (RPY). After almost no movement last winter, Red Crossbills bred away from the Adirondacks at Muller Hill, Madison and at Fabius, Onandaga, NY (JBn, Matt Young), and a secretive female was in the Summerhill area, Cayuga 5 Jul (MV). An imm. at West Long Branch, Monmouth, NJ 26 Jun (ph. Terri Sabados) was even farther out of place. Evening Grosbeaks did well in the Adirondacks, judging by the near-record 70 banded at Jenny L., n. Saratoga, NY, the most since 1998 (RPY). A female caught 18 Aug had been banded at Elizabethtown, Essex, NY by Mike Peterson in Oct 1997, and has been retrapped at Jenny L. three times in the past four summers. She is now over nine years old (RPY).

**Observers** (subregional compilers in bold-face): **Deborah Allen** (Central Park, NYC), **Robert Andrie** (Niagara Frontier), **Andy**

**Baldelli**, **Scott Barnes** (n. coastal NJ: scott.barnes@njaudubon.org; Sandy Hook Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 533, Fort Hancock, NJ 07732.), **Chris Bennett** (D.N.R.E.C.), **Gail Benson**, **Andrew Bernick** (ABe), **Shane Blodgett** (SBI), **Michael Bochnik** (Lower Hudson Valley: BochnikM@cs.com; 86 Empire St., Yonkers, NY 10704), **Jeff Bolsinger** (JBo) (St. Lawrence, NY: cady-

bols@gisco.net; 98 State St., Canton, NY 13617), **Joe Brin** (JBn)(Syracuse RBA), **Michael Britt** (MBr) (n.-cen. NJ: mbritt78@hotmail.com; 47 Ave. B, Bayonne, NJ 07002), **Joe Burgiel**, **T. W. Burke** (New York Rare Bird Alert), **Joe Carragher**, **Kathy Clark** (N.J.D.F.G.W.), **John DeMarras**, **Matt Domanski**, **Paul Driver** (sw. NJ: pjdeye@aol.com; 915 Melrose Ave., Elkins Park, PA 19027), **A. P. Ednie** (Delaware: ednieap@fcc.net; 59 Lawson Ave., Claymont, DE 19703), **Vince Elia** (s. coastal NJ: vje@njaudubon.org; 106 Carolina Ave., Villas, NJ 08251), **Jim Farquhar** (N.Y.D.E.C.), **John Fritz** (JFr), **Doug Futuyama**, **Yigal Gelb** (New York City Audubon), **Mark Garland**, **Anthony Gonzon**, **K. C. Griffith** (Genesee, NY: ck-grif@localnet.com; 61 Grandview Lane, Rochester, NY 14612), **Helen Hays** (Great Gull Island), **Kitt Heckscher** (D.N.R.E.C.), **Armas Hill**, **Spencer Hunt** (Susquehanna, NY: hunts493@clarityconnect.com; 493 Glenmary Dr., Owego, NY 13827), **Jim Kimball**, **Bill Krueger**, **R. J. Kurtz**, **Paul Lehman**, **Fred Lesser**, **Pat Lindsay** (PLi) (Long Island: 28 Mystic Circle, Bay Shore, NY 11706), **Hugh McGuinness** (e. Long Island: hmcguinness@ross.org; 12 Round Pond La., Sag Harbor, NY 11963), **Matthew Medler** (MMe), **Shaibal Mitra** (Long Island: mitra@mail.csi.cuny.edu; P.O.Box 142, Brightwaters, NY 11718), **Michael Morgante** (Niagara Frontier: morgm@adelphia.net; 59 Briar Hill Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127), **George Myers**, **Holly Niederriter** (D.N.R.E.C.), **Bill Ostrander** (Finger Lakes: brown\_creeper@sg23.com; 872 Harris Hill Rd., Elmira, NY 14903), **J. M. C. Peterson** (Adirondack—Champlain: 477 County Route 8, Elizabethtown, NY 12932), **William Purcell** (Oneida Lake Basin: wpurcell@twcny.rr.com; 281 Baum Rd., Hastings, NY 13076), **Barbara Putnam** (Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club), **Don Riepe** (Jamaica Bay), **Rochester Birding Association**, **Frank Rohrbacher** (Delaware B.R.C.), **Frank Sencher, Jr.** (nw. NJ: fjsencher@aol.com; 43 Church Rd, Millford, NJ 08848); **Ed Sigda**; **R. G. Spahn** (Genesee Ornithological Society), **Clay Sutton**, **Pat Sutton** (Cape May B.O.), **William Symonds**, **Dave Tetlow**, **Matt Victoria**, **Chris Vogel**, **R. T. Waterman Bird Club** (Dutchess, NY), **Will Yandik** (Hudson-Mohawk: wyandik@hotmail.com; 269 Schneider Rd., Hudson, NY 12534), **R. P. Yunick**, **John Zarudski**, **Brian Zitani**. 🐦

**Robert O. Paxton**, 460 Riverside Drive, Apt. 72, New York, New York 10027, (rop1@columbia.edu); **Richard R. Veit**, Department of Biology, College of Staten Island, 2800 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island, New York 10314, (veitrr@hotmail.com)