



Records of Vermont Birds

Volume 12, Number 3 - Summer 1984

SUMMER SEASON 1984

1 June - 31 July

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A total of one hundred and eighty-eight species was reported to the Summer 1984 Records of Vermont Birds (hereafter RVB). This total includes several species which were unusual enough, either due to the rarity of the species or to the fact that it was observed here in the summer, that they must pass the scrutiny of the dreaded Vermont Bird Records Committee (hereafter VBRC). Included here are HORNED GREBE* (third summer report to RVB), GREAT EGRET, GOLDEN EAGLE*, CONNECTICUT WARBLER (first summer report to RVB), and PINE GROSBEAK* (second or third recent summer record).

Exciting highlights of the breeding season are topped by the first Vermont nesting record for SNOWY EGRET! The Gadwall nested again this year, and both of these records come from Young Island in Lake Champlain. Although no nesting was attempted, a pair of PEREGRINE FALCONS established territory at Lake Willoughby. The third recent nesting record for Vermont was obtained for SHORT-EARED OWL, and a fourth Vermont breeding record for ORCHARD ORIOLE. Reports accepted by the VBRC included an immature YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (hypothetical - third state record), STILT SANDPIPER (fifth summer record), and KENTUCKY WARBLER (fourth state record - hypothetical).

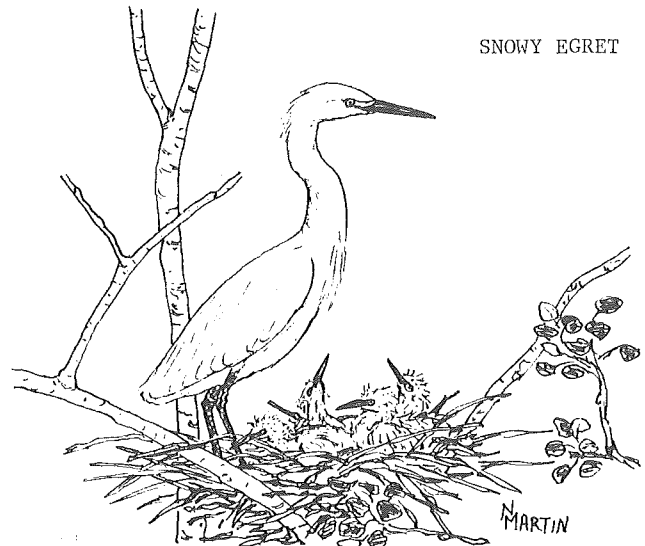
Other breeding species suffered severe setbacks however. The Common Loon hatched only seven chicks in 1984, while only twelve young Common Terns were banded. Other, more common species that were reported in low numbers this year included Black-billed Cuckoo, Black-throated Green Warbler, and Field, Savannah, and Swamp Sparrows.

Although the June state average temperature of 63.8°F was one degree above normal, this was due mainly to the heatwave during the second week of the month. The second half of the month was cool. On the 16th, several sites recorded temperatures of 31-32°F. This cooling trend continued through at least the 23rd. Rainfall was below normal with an average of 2.63 inches, but this varied widely. Essex Junction received 1.37" while St. Albans had 5.31". Things warmed up in early to mid-July, but temperatures were below normal for the last week. Heavy rains during the first half of July contributed to the statewide average rainfall of 5.39", 1.51" more than normal, making this the tenth wettest July since 1895 (North-east Regional Climate Center).

* = acceptance by VBRC pending

LOONS THROUGH NIGHT-HERONS. The Common Loon had a very poor breeding season in 1984. Seven chicks were hatched. At least three nests were destroyed by the heavy rains of late May. Participants in the Vermont Loon Watch Day on 21 July located 37 individuals on 109 lakes. The Pied-billed Grebe was reported from three of its known haunts; the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, Mud Creek Wildlife Management Area (hereafter MNWR and MCWMA respectively) and Barton River Marsh (hereafter BRM). It was estimated that

ten young were produced at MNWR (JG). Three HORNED GREBES* also at MNWR would constitute the third summer sighting submitted to the Records. Our Double-crested Cormorant colony continues to increase, with 92 nests counted this year. An interesting sighting of ten "summering here?" comes from Bellows Falls. At least 31 American Bitterns were reported, 20 of those estimated to be at MNWR on 6/15. Six reports of Least Bittern totalled 14 individuals with 8 at West Rutland Marsh (hereafter WRM) on 7/9 (CCF). Records of Great Blue Heron were overwhelming. A GREAT EGRET was present on Young Island from 6/5 through at least 7/4. While this represents the third summer record, even more important is the duration of this sighting. During the 4 June survey of nesting species on Young Island, a female SNOWY EGRET was observed sitting on a nest! (CCF, SBL, RBL, NLM). By 29 June, four young could



SNOWY EGRET

be seen. This is our first breeding record for a species that prior to this summer was reported only twice during this season. Only four Cattle Egret nests were observed this year. Green-backed Herons were seen by many contributors, with a season high of 4 at Colchester Point on 7/29 (WAM). Forty-two Black-crowned Night-Heron nests were also located on Young Island, while 19 individuals were seen at Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (hereafter DCWMA) on 6/27 (ELW). The report of a possible immature YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON was accepted as hypothetical by the VBRC. The only other records I could find for Vermont was that of a single bird in Addison in 1958 (Spear, Birds of Vermont), and an adult seen in Weybridge 5/19/84.

Common Loon: 6/6 1 imm. Wolcott Pond (SBL, CCF, DPC); 6/6 1 Berlin Pond (ThP); 6/18 1 ad. 2 chicks Norton Pond (MKD); 6/11-18 1 calling, Lake Carmi (PJM); 6/20 1 ad. Chittenden Reservoir (LPS); several others. Pied-billed Grebe: 6/2 2 BRM (WAM); 6/8 2 MCWMA (JAW); 7/3 f. 4 yg. MNWR (JG). HORNED GREBE*: 6/30 & 7/3 3 MNWR (JG). Double-crested Cormorant: 6/4 172 Popasquash & Young Islands (CCF, SBL, RLB); 6/6 2 Lewis Creek (MCD, JID); 6/21 4 Shelburne beach (WAM); 6/9 1 Newport

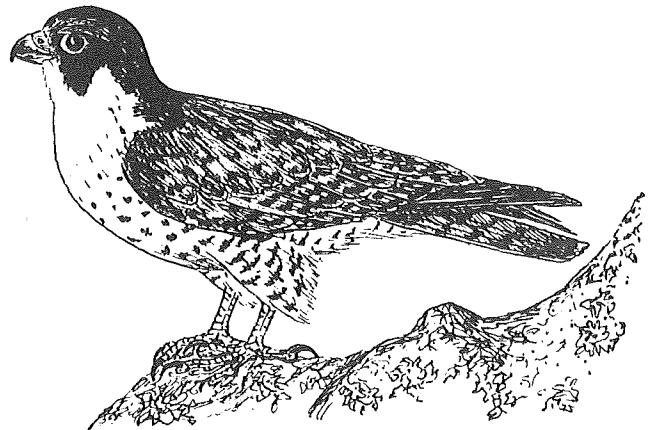
(MFM); 7/9 10 Bellows Falls (DC). American Bittern: twelve reports - 7/9 2 DCWMA (MCD,JID); all others single birds- single dates- New Haven (JRA); DCWMA (MBN,MCD,JID,ELW); Irasburg (MFM); Lake Carmi (PJM); Gale Meadows (WJN); BRM (JAW). Least Bittern: 6/12 1 Herrick's Cove (hereafter HC) (WJN); 7/9 1 DCWMA (MCD,JID); 7/9 8 WRM (CCF); 7/10 2 MCWMA (CCF); 7/25 MNWR (JG). Great Blue Heron: 7/28 20 DCWMA (KHD); 6/26 1 "albino" MNWR (JG); many others. GREAT EGRET: 6/5 to 7/4 1 Young Island (RBL,DKL,CB). SNOWY EGRET: 6/29 1 ad. 4 yg. Young Is., also 1 ad. Grand Isle (CCF, RBL,NLM;photos). Cattle Egret: 6/4 4 nests Young Is. (CCF,SBL,RBL). Green-backed Heron: numerous reports - 7/8 2 juv. Pantou (WGE,NLM); 7/29 4 Colchester Pt. (WAM); 16 others. Black-crowned Night-Heron: June & July (hereafter J/J) 1-2 Lake Carmi (PJM); 6/4 42 nests Young Island (CCF,SBL, RBL); 6/27 19 DCWMA (ELW). YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: 7/28 1 imm. DCWMA (KHD).

L. Willoughby (BLA); singles in New Haven River, Stockbridge, Reading, HC.

HAWKS. Details were received on last year's nesting of the Turkey Vulture in Highgate Springs, at a cliff site (RJG). This season's sightings away from the Champlain Valley came from Woodstock, S. Duxbury and Jeffersonville. The season high was 19 in Pantou. Three Osprey were seen at MNWR on 6/6, and eight other individuals were reported throughout the state. Five Bald Eagles were observed. One immature at MNWR had a yellow wing tag with a blue stripe on it, and was determined to be a bird hatched in New York State. Three eagle species reports were submitted, and were probably sightings of immature Bald Eagles. The Northern Harrier possibly nested in North Hero, where an adult male was seen defending his territory from a Red-tailed Hawk. Harrier reports were about normal, with Elizabeth Weeks stating that they were "becoming scarce" in Orwell. An adult Sharp-shinned Hawk was seen, and young were heard near Nulhegan Pond on 7/28 (BAH); seven other single birds were widely scattered. Only two of one of our rarest raptor, Cooper's Hawk, were seen. One of the five reports of Northern Goshawk indicated nesting. Of the Red-shouldered Hawk, Jean Arrowsmith said that their "numbers were down" this year - and only five individuals were seen. Broad-winged Hawk numbers were normal, but Red-tailed Hawks seemed down, perhaps just due to observers not reporting them. An immature GOLDEN EAGLE* was seen in South Burlington on 7/29. If this record is accepted by the VBRC, it would constitute the second or third summer record for this species in recent years. American Kestrel sightings were numerous with only JRA and JMN indicating any decline in their population.

WATERFOWL. Most Canada Goose reports came from the Champlain Valley area, but the 19 birds seen in South Duxbury were the "first record in 10+ years" (FAP). A "large flock" was observed over St. Johnsbury on 6/17 (FM). The Wood Duck was reported in average numbers with MNWR estimating 100 pairs producing 136 young (JG). Only two Green-winged Teal were seen. The American Black Duck and Mallard were well documented. Two reports of a female American Black x Mallard with young were received. The Northern Pintail is a rare breeding species in Vermont; a pair was seen on Bixby Island on 6/5, but no further reports were received for this site. Nine sightings of Blue-winged Teal covered only three areas, with MNWR estimating 100 young produced. The Gadwall nested again on Young Island; the only other other summer record was that of a single bird at Springfield Meadows (hereafter Spr. Mds.) on 7/23. For the sixth summer out of seven, American Wigeon was noted, this time a pair on Bixby Island. The only Common Goldeneye were seen at MNWR. Four records were submitted for Hooded Merganser, while seven were received for the Common Merganser. Both species are called "rare breeders" by Ellison (A Guide to Bird Finding in Vermont), and each had two nesting confirmations this summer.

PEREGRINE FALCON



Canada Goose: 6/3-8 21-22 Shoreham (ELW); 6/7 50+ L. Carmi (PJM); 6/12 50 Spr. Mds. (WJN); 6/27 pr. 4 yg. Gale Meadows (WJN); 6/20 2 ad. 1 yg. Brandon (CJF); others at DCWMA. Wood Duck: 6/4 f. 11 yg. Spr. Mds. (WJN); 6/10 1 Wolcott (ELW); 6/27 14 (? broods) S. Slang (MCD,JID); 7/19 4 ad. 7 imm. Readsboro (JJC); 7/31 12 Weybridge (MBN); others. Green-winged Teal: 7/23 1 Spr. Mds. (WJN); 7/28 1 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). American Black Duck: many reports - highs: 13 Woodstock (JMN); 12 Weybridge (MBN); 2 ad. 8 yg. Orwell (ELW); f. 10 yg. Spr. Mds. (WJN). Mallard: many reports - highs: 6/3 38 Weybridge (MBN); 6/15 30 m. MNWR (JG); 7/23-29 50 Spr. Mds. (WJN); 7/29 25 Colchester Point (WAM); others. American Black x Mallard: 6/12 f. 10 yg. Spr. Mds. (WJN); 6/26 f. 4 yg. Gale Meadows (WJN). Northern Pintail: 6/5 pr. Bixby Is. (RBL); 7/28 4 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). Blue-winged Teal: 6/3 2 DCWMA (MBN); 6/12 3 Spr. Mds. (WJN); J/J 2-5 DCWMA (var. obs.). Gadwall: 6/4 nest w/12 eggs Young Is. (CCF,SBL,RBL); 7/23 1 Spr. Mds. (WJN). American Wigeon: 6/8 pr. Bixby Is. (RBL). Common Goldeneye: 7/16 broods of 9 & 5; estimated annual production 250 yg. MNWR (JG). Hooded Merganser: 6/3 1 Gale Meadows (WJN); 6/13 f. 10 yg. Lewis Creek (MCD,JID); 7/29 2 Spr. Mds. (WJN); est. an. prod. 24 yg. MNWR (JG). Common Merganser: 6/12 2 m. 1 f. 20 yg. Shelburne Beach (WAM); 7/9 f. 8 yg.

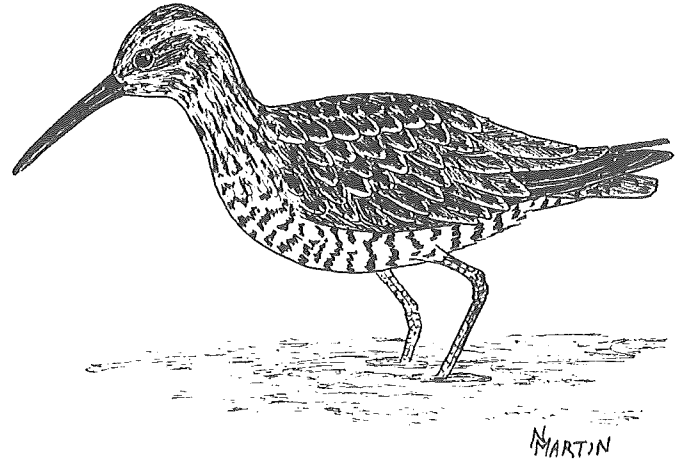
One of the most exciting events of the summer, especially for me, was a pair of PEREGRINE FALCONS on the cliffs of Lake Willoughby. This is an historic nesting site for this federally endangered species. The first report was that of an adult male on 6/11. Jeff Allen and Tom Rivest camped out near the site on 9, 10, 14 & 15 July, witnessed aerial food exchanges, an important part of pair bond formation and courtship behavior. Although no nesting appears to have occurred, next year could produce our first breeding since the eastern population crashed in the 1960's. Additionally, a pair was present on the New York side of Lake Champlain near the Basin Harbor Club, Pantou.

Turkey Vulture: 17 records - 6/2 1 Woodstock (JMN); 6/14 1 Jeffersonville (DL); 6/15 2 S. Duxbury (FAP); 6/25 1 "east of Montpelier on I89"

(JDM); 7/9 19 Panton (MCD,JID); others from Champlain Valley. Osprey: 6/3 1 Bristol (KHD); 6/4 1 Morrisville (LK); 6/6 3 MNWR (JG); 6/14 1 Ferdinand (MFM); 6/23 1 Chittenden Res. (LPS); 7/14 1 DCWMA (SLM); 7/17 1 HC (WJN). Bald Eagle: 6/9 1 imm. with wing tag MNWR (NH); 6/18 1 ad. 1 imm. L. Memphremagog (CHW); 7/4 1 Rte. 18 Waterford (FM); 7/8 1 Peacham (FM). Northern Harrier: 12 reports - mostly DCWMA area with a high of 11 on 7/28; others - 6/2 1 Island Pond (KAD); 6/10 1 Wolcott (ELW); 7/12 1 L. Memphremagog (TH); J/J 1 ad. m. N. Hero (JJA,DD). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 7/28 1 ad. w/yg. heard nearby, Nulhegan Pond (BAH); others single birds, single dates: Ferrisburg (JRA); Wolcott (ELW), Woodstock (JMN); S. Strafford (HR); Rutland (ELW). Cooper's Hawk: 6/22 1 Mt. Philo (MCD,JID); 7/15 1 ad. f. S. Duxbury (FAP). Northern Goshawk: 6/3 1 Reading (HR); 6/10 1 ad. Shelburne Farms (JJA); 6/15 1 ad. S. Duxbury (FAP); 6/22 1 ad. Woodstock (JMN); J/J pr. W. Dummerston (JP). Red-shouldered Hawk: 6/4 1 Lowell (MFM); 6/8 1 ad. Mt. Mansfield summit (JJA); 6/16 1 Jericho (FAP); J/J 1 Winhall (WJN). Broad-winged Hawk: 11 reports - J/J 2 Shrewsbury (LPS); J/J 1-2 Reading (HR); 6/3 pr. Woodstock (JMN); 6/28 1 ad. 1 yg. Lincoln (JRA). Red-tailed Hawk: 11 reports - highs: J/J 1-4 Shoreham (ELW); 7/28 6 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). GOLDEN EAGLE*: 7/29 1 imm. S. Burlington (RJG). American Kestrel: 23 reports - highs: 7/3 4 Rutland (WJN); 7/15 4 DCWMA (WAM); 7/17 2 ad. 4 yg. Clarendon (LPS). PEREGRINE FALCON: 6/11 1 ad. Mt. Pisgah (WMS); 7/8 1 sub. ad. m. Basin Harbor Road (WGE, NLM); 7/9,10,14,15 pr. Mt. Pisgah (JJA,TAR); 7/28 1 f. Weybridge (WGE,NLM).

ed by Marion Metcalf is exciting. So is the report of 19 individuals, of which there were seven pairs, in Shoreham (ELW). The forty-four Ruddy Turnstones observed on two Lake Champlain islands on 6/4 appears to be a record high for the summer season. Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers were much in evidence at DCWMA by the third week in July, although several Leasts were seen with yellowlegs on 7/8. A single Pectoral Sandpiper was noted at DCWMA on 7/28. A

STILT SANDPIPER



STILT SANDPIPER also on this date was a fifth summer record (ed. note: I am sorry, but I incorrectly stated last summer's Stilt Sandpiper to be a third record, when in fact it was the fourth). A Short-billed Dowitcher at DCWMA 7/15 to 7/28 also appears to be fifth record for the summer season. Common Snipe and American Woodcock had average seasons. Virtually all summer records of Bonaparte's Gull are from mid to late July, therefore a sighting of 12 on Popasquash Island on 6/4 probably represented late spring migrants (after all, it is still technically spring!). A high count of 350 Ring-billed Gulls was obtained on 6/17 in Bridport, although we know that numbers were much higher than this on their nesting islands. A mere four Herring Gulls were reported away from nesting islands. While Great Black-backed Gull was observed three times, no word was received from Young Island where this species bred for the first time last year. The Common Tern has been proposed as a threatened species for Vermont's state list. The 1984 Tern Survey conducted by VINS found only 14 young produced from 86 nests. Also disturbing was the fact that the number of adults, 158, was the lowest on record for this survey. Great Horned Owl predation is possibly a problem at two of the islands. Black Tern sightings were restricted to the Champlain Valley and Lake Memphremagog areas.

Semipalmated Plover: 7/28 3 DCWMA (WJN). Killdeer: 22 reports - highs: all from DCWMA - 7/24 12 (MBN); 7/28 35+ (WGE,NLM); 7/29 22 (JDM). Greater Yellowlegs: 6/7 1 Middlebury (KHD); 7/8 2 & 7/28 1 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). Lesser Yellowlegs: 7/8 2 DCWMA (WGE,NLM); 7/14 4 DCWMA (SLM); 7/23 1 Spr. Mds. (WJN); 7/28 65+ DCWMA (WGE,NLM). Solitary Sandpiper: 6/3 "several" New Haven R. (KHD); 7/14 1 DCWMA (SLM); 7/17-29 1-2 Spr. Mds. (WJN); 7/31 1 Mt. Holly (WJN). Spotted Sandpiper: 13 reports - 6/9 6 New Haven R. (JRA); 7/15 & 22 5 Winooski River Delta (hereafter WRD) (JDM); 7/28 8 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). Upland Sandpiper: 12 reports - mostly in the DCWMA area; others: 6/6 "nesting in Cabot" (MFM); 6/8 1 Johnson (WGE); 6/17 2 ad. 2 yg. Newport (DHM); 6/17 4 Ferrisburg (MCD,JID); 6/25 19

GROUSE THROUGH COOT. A single Ring-necked Pheasant was seen in Woodstock, while most reports of Ruffed Grouse included an adult with young. All four sightings of Wild Turkey were from the southern half of the state. Although the number of reports for Virginia Rail were about average, the number of individuals was up. Sora and Common Moorhen presented no surprises. An American Coot at MCWMA on 6/23 was a good summer sighting (WAM).

Ring-necked Pheasant: 6/28 1 Woodstock (CRP). Ruffed Grouse: 11 reports - high: 12 Reading (FMH,GEH); broods seen in W. Brattleboro, Woodstock, Shrewsbury, Wilmington (var. obs.). Wild Turkey: 6/4 1 Sudbury (LPS); 6/18 1 Chittenden (MB); 7/2 1 Shoreham (ELW); 7/3 1 W. Brattleboro (JJC); 7/28 5 imm. Sudbury (LPS). Virginia Rail: 6/20 7 WRM (NLM); 7/7 1 ad. 1 imm. WRM (FAP); 7/9 8 WRM (CCF); 7/27 1 ad. 4 yg. Weybridge (MBN); 7/31 10 ad. 1 yg. Weybridge (MBN). Sora: 6/13 1 New Haven (KHD); 6/20 2 WRM (NLM); 6/27 1 DCWMA (ELW); 7/9 3 WRM (CCF). Common Moorhen: 6/22 3 East Creek Orwell (ELW); 6/23 5 yg. MCWMA (KHD); 7/9 1 DCWMA "less than normal" (MCD,JID); 7/10 2 broods of 5 each, MCWMA (CCF). American Coot: 6/23 1 MCWMA (WAM).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS. The only Semipalmated Plovers seen this summer were three at DCWMA on 7/28. The Killdeer was very well reported with a season high of 35+ at DCWMA. A total of four Greater Yellowlegs was seen whereas a high count of 65+ Lesser Yellowlegs was obtained. The Solitary Sandpiper was moving through by 7/14. The Spotted Sandpiper, one of our five nesting species of shorebirds, had a good season. The Upland Sandpiper is considered to be a threatened species in Vermont. Known to breed in the Champlain Valley and Newport areas, a "nesting in Cabot" report-

Shoreham (ELW); 7/28 20 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). Ruddy Turnstone: 6/4 40 Bixby Is. and 4 Popasquash Is. (CCF,SBL,RBL). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 7/21 2 Grand Isle (RBL); 7/22 3 Popasquash Is. (RBL); 7/28 45 DCWMA (WGE, NLM). Least Sandpiper: 7/8 8 (WJN,NLM), 7/14 20+ (SLM); 7/28 45 (WGE,NLM) - all DCWMA; 7/15 2 WRD (JDM); 7/23 1 Spr. Mds. (WJN). Pectoral Sandpiper: 7/28 1 DCWMA (KHD). STILT SANDPIPER: 7/28 1 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). Short-billed Dowitcher: 7/15 1 DCWMA (WAM); 7/28 1 DCWMA (WGE,NLM). Common Snipe: 8 reports - single birds in Middlebury, N. Lyndonville, Rutland, Weybridge, Wolcott (var. obs.). American Woodcock: 5 reports - 6/8 2 DCWMA (KHD); early June 2 Waitsfield (FAP); 6/23 1 MNWR (WAM); J/J 1-3 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/24 1 Shelburne Fishing Access (WAM). Bonaparte's Gull: 6/4 12 Popasquash Is. (CCF,SBL,RBL); 7/9 1 L. Memphremagog (TH); 7/15 3 ad. 2 imm. WRD (JDM); 7/29 2 Colchester Pt. (WAM). Ring-billed Gull: 11 reports - highs: 6/1 45 Shoreham (ELW); 6/4 300 Weybridge (MBN); 6/17 350 Bridport (ELW). Herring Gull: 6/25 1 Orwell (SLM); 7/24 2 DCWMA (MBN); 7/28 2 DCWMA (KHD). Great Black-backed Gull: 6/4 4 HC (WJN); 7/1-15 1-4 L. Memphremagog (TH). Common Tern: 6/4 158 Rock, Popasquash, Gramma & Hen Is. (CCF,SBL,RBL); 6/23 2 Alburg (KHD); 7/22 4 ad. 1 imm. WRD (JDM); 7/29 20 Colchester Pt. (WAM). Black Tern: 15 reports - highs: 6/8 12 DCWMA (KAD); 7/9 22 DCWMA (MCD,JID); 7/10 22 MCWMA (CCF); 7/14 7 Colchester Pt. (WAM); 7/15 8 L. Memphremagog (TH).

throated Hummingbird: 21 reports - highs: J/J 4+ Ferrisburg (MCD,JID); 6/1 4 f. Woodstock (JMN); 6/27 4 S. Duxbury (FAP). Belted Kingfisher: 20 reports - highs: 6/24 8 Shelburne Fishing Access (WAM); 7/27 10+ Ottauguechee R. (JMN); 6/29 8 Colchester Pt. (WAM).

DOVES THROUGH KINGFISHER. While the Rock Dove was as common as usual, the Mourning Dove also had a good showing. Both cuckoos were scarce at best. Four Black-billed Cuckoos were seen but there were no reports of Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Contributor comments included "not one" (JMN), "none" (MBN), and "scarce" (WJN). Expectedly, Great Horned and Barred Owls were the two most frequently reported. A single report of a Long-eared Owl came from Winhall on 6/20 (WJN). The third nesting record for SHORT-EARED OWL was that of an adult feeding four fledglings in N. Hero on 7/28 (JJA,DD)! Sightings of the Common Nighthawk were few, and only three Whip-poor-wills were heard or seen. Chimney Swifts were observed at scattered locations, but the only large grouping was 50+ birds in S. Duxbury in late July. The Ruby-throated Hummingbird seemed to enjoy a good summer with many contributors reporting this species. The Belted Kingfisher was also noted by many, with 10+ along the Ottauguechee River on 7/27 being the highest count for the season.

WOODPECKERS THROUGH HORNED LARK. Only three sightings of the threatened Red-headed Woodpecker occurred this season. The report of one in Barnet away from the Champlain Valley is unusual. On the other hand, the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was well documented. Reports for both the Downy and Hairy Woodpecker were up substantially from last year. One to two individuals of another threatened species, the Black-backed Woodpecker, were noted at Bear Swamp in Wolcott. Northern Flicker and Pileated Woodpecker had an average season. Seven locations yielded Olive-sided Flycatcher, while the Eastern Wood-Pewee was widespread and common. The first of several upcoming species that are more apt to be seen at higher elevations in the summer in Vermont, the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, was reported four times. Alder and Willow Flycatcher reports were about equal. As everyone knows, these two species are only truly separable by their songs, so the report of three Traill's Flycatchers banded at VINS was no surprise. Everyone knows that a bird in the hand never sings. Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, and Eastern Kingbird had a good showing, but only one Horned Lark was seen.

Rock Dove: "too common to count" (ELW). Mourning Dove: 18 reports - highs: J/J 35 max. Shoreham (ELW); 6/16 15 Post Mills Breeding Bird Survey (hereafter PMBBS) (WGE,NLM); 6/18 11 Landgove Breeding Bird Survey (hereafter LBBS) (ALG,JMN). Black-billed Cuckoo: 6/3 1 Winhall (WJN); 6/10 1 Ferrisburg (MCD,JID); 7/3 1 New Haven (KHD); 7/30 1 Shrewsbury (LPS). Great Horned Owl: 6/1 & 30 1 Shoreham (ELW); 6/4 1 L. Carmi (PJM); 6/7 2 Middlebury (KHD); 6/30 3 Wallingford (AD); 7/9 1 DCWMA (MCD,JID); 7/26 1 Sudbury (SLM). Barred Owl: J/J pr. Woodstock (JMN); 6/10 2 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/1-12 1-2 Shrewsbury (LPS); 6/30 1 Winhall (WJN). Long-eared Owl: 6/20 1 Winhall (WJN). SHORT-EARED OWL*: 7/28 1 ad. 4 yg. N. Hero (JJA,DD). Common Nighthawk: 6/3 1 Weybridge (MBN); 6/15-27 1 Rutland (SLM); 6/26 1 Woodstock (NLM); 6/28 2 Rutland (LPS). Whip-poor-will: 6/6 & 7 1 Shoreham (ELW); 6/7 & 16 1 Brownsville (BHM); June, heard, Woodstock (CRP). Chimney Swift: 14 reports - highs: J/J 10+ Woodstock (JMN); late July 50+ S. Duxbury (FAP). Ruby-

Red-headed Woodpecker: 6/13-20 1-2 Manchester (PaB); 6/18 1 Barnet (FM); 7/9 pr. E. Creek (CCF). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 18 reports - highs: 6/3 18 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/8 3+ Lincoln Gap (JRA). Downy Woodpecker: 20 reports - highs: 6/1 2 prs. Woodstock (JMN); 6/25 2 ad. 3 yg. Woodstock (JMN); 6/27 7 S. Duxbury (FAP). Hairy Woodpecker: 18 reports - highs: 6/16 6 PMBBS; J/J 2-3 prs. w/yg. Randolph (EWC,MCC); 6/25 pr. w/yg. Woodstock (JMN). Black-backed Woodpecker: 6/6 1 f. Wolcott (DC,CCF,SBL); 6/10 1 Wolcott (ELW). Northern Flicker: 19 reports - highs: 6/14 7 Colchester Pt. (WAM); 6/18 5 LBBS; 7/14 5 Woodstock (JMN); 7/16 5 Winhall (WJN). Pileated Woodpecker: 12 reports - highs: 6/25 ad. w/yg. Shoreham (ELW); 7/2 2 Kingsland Bay S.P. (MCD,JID); 7/25 pr. S. Slang Ferrisburg (CLF). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 6/3 1 Peru (WJN); 6/10 1 Wolcott (ELW); 6/11 1 Peacham (FM); J/J pr. S. Duxbury (FAP). Eastern Wood-Pewee: 16 reports - highs: 6/3 6 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/22 8 Mt. Philo (MCD, JID). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 6/4 1 Green River Reservoir (hereafter GRR); 6/5 2 Moose Bog (hereafter MB); 6/6 1 Mt. Mansfield (all JAW); 6/5 2 banded (VINS); 6/17 2 Mt. Abraham (KHD); 6/30 2 Wilmington (JJC). Alder Flycatcher: 12 reports - highs: 6/4 4 HC (WJN); 7/21 3 Sherburne (JMN). Willow Flycatcher: 10 reports - highs: 6/8 3 DCWMA (KHD); 6/16 2 PMBBS. Least Flycatcher: 16 reports - highs: 6/16 10 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/16 19 PMBBS; 6/18 11 LBBS. Eastern Phoebe: 21 reports - highs: 6/27 9 Gaysville Breeding Bird Survey (hereafter GBBS) (SBL,NLM); J/J 4 prs. L. Carmi (PJM); 6/16 8 PMBBS. Great Crested Flycatcher: 20 reports - highs: 6/16 8 PMBBS; 6/29 4 Ferrisburg (MCD,JID); 7/28 4 MCWMA (WAM). Eastern Kingbird: 23 reports - highs: 6/16 12 PMBBS; 6/22 10 Orwell (ELW); 7/28 19 MCWMA (WAM). Horned Lark: 7/28 1 DCWMA (KHD).

SWALLOWS THROUGH BROWN CREEPER. Expectedly, all Purple Martins were seen in the Champlain Valley. There were "very few this year" in Weybridge (MBN).

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All of the rest of the swallows were very well documented. A thousand plus Tree Swallows were flocking at DCWMA, and an unspecified number at Stowe, on 7/28. Our least common species, the Northern Rough-winged Swallow, was "abundant" at Shelburne Beach (WAM), but other reports ranged from one to five birds. At least one Bank Swallow colony near Brattleboro was "hurt by heavy rain in late May" when "many holes caved in" (JJC). High counts respectively for Cliff and Barn Swallows were 40 in Winhall on 7/30 (WJN), and 150 in Shoreham on 7/31 (ELW). Blue Jay, American Crow, and Common Raven were seen by many, with seventeen reports of Common Raven being a very good number. Black-capped Chickadees were described as "low" only in South Duxbury (FAP). The two sightings of Boreal Chickadee were both from Wolcott. Two nestings in the Connecticut River Valley and a pair in Colchester were the only records for Tufted Titmouse. Both Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatch were seen in average numbers. Everyone knows that many, many hours are spent banding birds, but that information about these individuals after release is limited at best. Banders at VINS were rewarded for their labors when they retrapped a male White-breasted Nuthatch on 6/7 which was originally banded there on 10/11/82! The Brown Creeper was observed at eleven locations.

Purple Martin: J/J 6-12 Weybridge (MBN); 6/3 30 Addison (ELW); 6/23 6 St. Albans (DL). Tree Swallow: 26 reports - highs: 7/25 300+ Orwell (SLM); 7/28 1000+ DCWMA (WGE,NLM); 7/31 200+ L. Carmi (PJM). Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 12 reports - highs: 6/1 3 Woodstock (JMN); 7/7 3 Shoreham (ELW); 7/17 5 HC (WJN). Bank Swallows: 14 reports - highs: 6/9 28 New Haven R. (JRA); 6/27 36 GBBS; 7/28 30 DCWMA, 90 McCuen Slang (WGE, NLM). Cliff Swallow: 16 reports - highs: 7/22 20+ L. Carmi (PJM); 7/30 40 Winhall (WJN). Barn Swallow: 17 reports - highs: 7/28 70+ DCWMA (WGE,NLM); 7/31 150 Shoreham (ELW); 7/18 1 albino Tinmouth (PB). Blue Jay: 17 reports - highs: 6/3 11 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/16 19 PMBBS. American Crow: 17 reports - highs: 6/16 39 PMBBS; 6/27 31 GBBS; 7/18 100+ Ferrisburg (MCD,JID). Common Raven: 17 reports - highs: 6/9 4 Abbey Pond Trail (MBN); 6/15 6 Brandon Cliffs (MCD,JID). Black-capped Chickadee: 17 reports - highs: 6/3 15 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/16 22 PMBBS; 6/18 21 LBBS. Boreal Chickadee: 6/10 1 Wolcott (ELW); 7/26 1 Wolcott (KHD). Tufted Titmouse: J/J 1-2 Colchester (JDM); July 2 ad. 4 yg. W. Brattleboro (JJC); 7/8-22 2 ad. 3 yg. Hartford (GFE,NSE,WGE, NLM). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 10 reports - high: J/J 3 Reading (FMH,GEH). White-breasted Nuthatch: 14 reports - highs: 6/19 1 ad. 4 yg. Shoreham (ELW); 6/23 1 ad. 4 yg. Woodstock (JMN); 6/27 6 GBBS. Brown Creeper: 12 reports - high: 6/3 4 Reading (FMH,GEH).

WRENS THROUGH STARLING. A House Wren may have been responsible for puncturing six Black-capped Chickadee eggs in Woodstock (JMN). The Winter Wren remained "scarce" in Winhall (WJN), while a season maximum of five was seen in Reading on 6/7 (FMH,GEH). No reports were received for Sedge Wren. Most Marsh Wrens were observed in the Champlain Valley. Both the Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglet were sighted four times this summer. Two broods of Blue-gray Gnatcatcher were discovered at DCWMA on 7/8 (WGE,NLM). The Eastern Bluebird had many reports this season with Tree Swallow interference only noted in S. Strafford (HR). The Veery was "absent" at Lake Carmi (PJM), but appeared healthy elsewhere. The Gray-cheeked Thrush was reported only three times, likely due to its restricted summer habitat. Swainson's, Hermit, and Wood

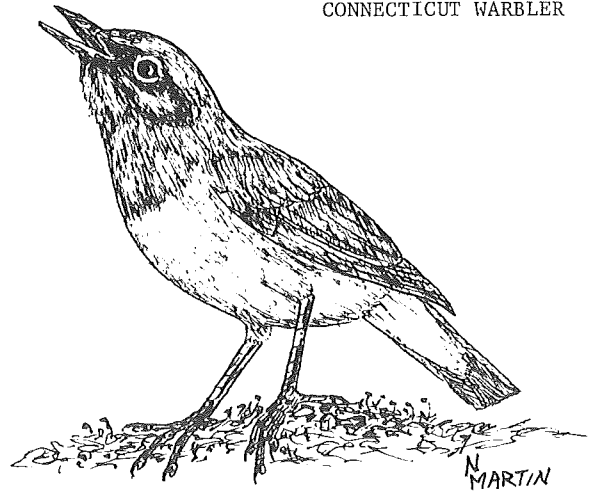
Thrush and American Robin were seen by many contributors. Gray Catbirds were common. Only eight Northern Mockingbirds were reported, all of which were single individuals. In Ferrisburg, the Dyes "seem to have lost two pairs present previous years". Brown Thrasher sightings were up slightly, but PJM saw "none" at Lake Carmi and there were "fewer in Plainfield this year" (DL). Many Cedar Waxwings were seen, and the European Starling is maintaining itself.

House Wren: 15 reports - highs: 6/10 10 Shelburne (JDM); 6/16 11 PMBBS. Winter Wren: 17 reports - highs: 6/7 5 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/30 3 Wilmington (JJC); "scarce" Winhall (WJN). Marsh Wren: 13 reports - highs: 6/22 8 E. Creek (ELW); 7/9 24 DCWMA (MCD,JID); also MCWMA, WRM, WRD, HC (var. obs.). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 6/4 1 GRR (JAW); 6/5 2 MB (JAW); 6/27 2 S. Duxbury (FAP); 7/26 2 Wolcott (ELW). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 6/5 1 MB (JAW); 6/10 1 Babcock Nature Preserve (hereafter BNP) (JAW); 7/15 1 Woodstock (JMN); 7/18 1 imm. W. Brattleboro (JJC). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 6/4 1 HC (WJN); 6/8 2 Lewis Creek (MCD,JID); 6/23 1 MNWR (KHD); J/J 1 Shoreham (ELW); 7/8 m. w/2 fl. Panton; NY DCWMA (WGE,NLM); 7/29 2 Orwell (SLM). Eastern Bluebird: 20 reports - highs: 6/19 pr. 4 yg. E. Albany (JeJ); 6/25 pr. w/nest W. Topsham (MGJ); 7/15 5 Brownsville (BMH); many more. Veery: 21 reports - highs: 6/18 25 LBBS; 6/27 23 GBBS; 7/14 15 Reading (FMH,GEH). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 6/1 1 Mt. Abraham (KHD); 6/6 1 Mt. Mansfield (JAW); 6/10 heard Jay Peak (VBC). Swainson's Thrush: 10 reports - 6/30 6 Wilmington (JJC); singles: Peru, Chittenden Res., Mt. Abraham, Mt. Mansfield (var. obs.). Hermit Thrush: 11 reports - highs: 7/4 & 14 10 Reading (FMH,GEH); J/J 3-5 Winhall (WJN). Wood Thrush: 16 reports - highs: 6/16 14 PMBBS; 6/18 15 LBBS; 6/27 13 GBBS. American Robin: 15 reports - highs: 6/16 68 PMBBS; 6/18 60 LBBS; 6/27 53 GBBS. Gray Catbird: 20 reports - highs: 6/4 10 HC (WJN); 6/16 8 PMBBS; 7/13 7 Johnson (JAW). Northern Mockingbird: 8 reports - singles in Ferrisburg, Bridport, Wilder, N. Wolcott, Weybridge, Shoreham, New Haven (var. obs.). Brown Thrasher: 13 reports - highs: 6/20-23 1-2 Brownsville (BMH); 6/25 3 Shoreham (ELW); 7/30 2 Woodstock (JMN). Cedar Waxwing: 27 reports - highs: 6/18 29 LBBS; 7/7 30+ Mendon (FAP); 7/28 30+ Marshfield (DL). European Starling: highs: 6/27 75 GBBS; 7/25 50 Orwell (SLM).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS. No reports were received for Philadelphia Vireo, but the four other species were seen in good numbers. Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers had four and three reports respectively. One nesting involved a male Golden-winged and female Blue-winged feeding young in West Brattleboro on 6/26 (JJC). A LAWRENCE'S WARBLER* was reported 7/2 from the sunset ridge trail of Mt. Mansfield. There was one report of Tennessee Warbler, two probable early migrants, 7/28. In South Duxbury, the Nashville Warbler was "rare to absent" (FAP), and in South Strafford they were "seldom" encountered (HR). Few Northern Parula reports were submitted. Yellow and Chestnut-sided Warblers were common. An adult male Yellow Warbler recovered at the VINS banding station on 6/5 had been originally banded at Island Beach State Park in New Jersey on 5/12/83!! Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, and Blackburnian Warblers were much in evidence, but numbers were low for Black-throated Green Warbler. Four Prairie Warblers were noted, but there were "none in South Woodstock by 7/30 where there were seven last year on 7/10" (JMN). A singing male in Brighton was note-

worthy. Two migrant Bay-breasted Warblers in early June were the only ones for the season. The twelve Blackpoll Warblers seen on Mt. Abraham on 6/17 was the season high. Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, and Ovenbird were common, while both the Northern and Louisiana Waterthrush had few reports. A report was received of a KENTUCKY WARBLER near Haystack Pond in Wilmington on 6/30 (JJC). This would-be-fourth state record was accepted by the committee as a hypothetical sighting. A CONNECTICUT WARBLER was seen in Winhall on 6/11 & 13 (WJN). Checking past issues of Summer Records, this appears to be the first time this species has been reported to VINS in the summer season. Mourning Warbler sightings were few, perhaps due again to habitat coverage. The Common Yellowthroat was widespread, and there were increased sightings for Canada Warbler this year.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER



Solitary Vireo: 14 reports - highs: 6/18 3 LBBS; 6/19 5 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/30 f./NE Wilmington (JJC). Yellow-throated Vireo: 11 reports - highs: 6/16 5 PMBBS; 6/27 6 GBBS; 7/20 2 ad. 3 yg. Woodstock (JMN). Warbling Vireo: 17 reports - highs: 6/1 8 m. Brattleboro (JJC); 6/6 14 Lewis Creek (MCD,JID). Red-eyed Vireo: 22 reports - highs: 6/16 80 PMBBS; 6/18 70 LBBS; 6/27 41 GBBS. Blue-winged Warbler: 6/23 pr. w/4 yg. Ira (RWP); 6/26 2 prs. W. Brattleboro (JJC); 6/28 pr./FY Marlboro (RCB); 7/31 1 Ira (WJN). Golden-winged Warbler: 6/1 1 m. Middlebury (BBP); 6/11 1 New Haven (KHD); 6/26 1 m. w/f. Blue-w./FY W. Brattleboro (JJC). LAWRENCE'S WARBLER*: 7/2 Mt. Mansfield (DJH). Tennessee Warbler: 7/28 2 Stowe (LK). Nashville Warbler: 12 reports - highs: 6/10 4 Wolcott (ELW); 6/18 4 LBBS. Northern Parula: 6/3 1 Winhall (WJN); 6/4 1 GRR (JAW); 6/10 2 Wolcott (ELW); 6/27 1 GBBS; 1 banded Marshfield (MFM). Yellow Warbler: 18 reports - highs: 6/16 15 PMBBS; 6/18 13 LBBS; J/J 8 max. Shoreham (ELW). Chestnut-sided Warbler: 22 reports - highs: 6/16 37 PMBBS; 6/18 23 LBBS. Magnolia Warbler: 11 reports - highs: 6/5 8 MB (JAW); 6/27 6 S. Duxbury (FAP). Black-throated Blue Warbler: 17 reports - highs: 6/1 9 Reading (FMH, GEH); 6/8 10 Lincoln Gap (JRA); 6/27 10 S. Duxbury (FAP). Yellow-rumped Warbler: 15 reports - highs: 6/18 9 LBBS. Black-throated Green Warbler: 11 reports - highs: 6/3 4 Reading (FMH, GEH); 6/8 6 Lincoln (JRA). Blackburnian Warbler: 16 reports - highs: 6/3 12 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/3 6 Marlboro (JJC); 6/16 6 LBBS; 6/27 8 S. Duxbury (FAP). Prairie Warbler: 6/11 1 Middlebury (KHD); early June 1 singing m. Island Pond Airport, Brighton (WMS); 6/25 1 m. W. Brattleboro (JJC); 7/3 1 E. Dorset (WJN). Bay-breasted Warbler: 6/1 1 Reading (FMH, GEH); 6/6 1 Winhall (WJN). Blackpoll Warbler: 10 reports - highs: 6/6 6 Mt. Mansfield (JAW); 6/17 12 Mt. Abraham (KHD). Black-and-white Warbler: 20 reports - highs: 6/8 7 Lincoln Gap (JRA); 6/16 12 PMBBS; 6/18 7 LBBS. American Redstart: 24 reports - highs: 6/16 24 PMBBS; 6/18 32 LBBS. Ovenbird: 20 reports - highs: 6/3 18 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/16 16 PMBBS; 6/18 16 LBBS. Northern Waterthrush: 9 reports - highs: 6/1 4 BNP (JAW); 6/2 & 7 2 Reading (FMH, GEH); 2 banded Marshfield (MFM). Louisiana Waterthrush: 6/3 & 15 1 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/9 1 Abbey Pond (KHD); 6/10 2 BNP (JDL,JAW); 6/27 1 GBBS; 6/28 1/FY Ira (CJF). KENTUCKY WARBLER: 6/30 1 Wilmington (JJC). CONNECTICUT WARBLER: 6/11 & 13 1 Winhall (WJN). Mourning Warbler: 8 reports - high: 6/27 6 S. Duxbury (FAP). Common Yellowthroat: 30+ reports - highs: 6/16 43 PMBBS; 6/18 58 LBBS. Canada Warbler: 18 reports - highs: 6/16 7 PMBBS; 6/16 7 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/30 9 Wilmington (JJC).

TANAGER THROUGH ORIOLE. Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, and Rufous-sided Towhee were all seen in very good numbers. The Chipping Sparrow was described as "scarce" in Winhall (WJN), "fewer" in Marshfield (DL), and "only one" in South Stafford (HR), but elsewhere the species appeared stable. Only a handful of Field Sparrow reports were received, and numbers were not very high. Seven Vesper Sparrows was a meager season's total, but Savannah Sparrows also had a poor showing with less than twenty birds seen! No Grasshopper Sparrows were seen during this period. The Song Sparrow remains one of our common species. The two Lincoln's Sparrows banded in Marshfield were the only ones reported. The Swamp Sparrow had a poor year judging from the numbers reported and comparison to past years. The White-throated Sparrow and Dark-eyed Junco were both seen in average numbers. The number of reports for Bobolink was good, but the high count was only twenty-one. Red-winged Blackbirds were seen throughout the state, but the Eastern Meadowlark was limited and few. A single report of Rusty Blackbird "early in the season" at Lake Carmi was the only report for this species! WJN described it as "missing". The Common Grackle and Brown-headed Cowbird are in no apparent trouble. The only report of parent species for immature cowbirds was that of one being fed by an American Robin in Woodstock (JMN). A pair of ORCHARD ORIOLES raised three young in West Addison for the fourth breeding record since 1977 (AJS,FCH). The Northern Oriole was seen in many widespread locations.

Scarlet Tanager: 16 reports - highs: 6/2 5 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/18 3 LBBS; 6/27 3 GBBS. Northern Cardinal: 17 reports - highs: 6/1 2 prs. Woodstock (JMN); 6/16 4 PMBBS; 6/20-7/5 pr. w/2 yg. Chester (JLB); "very numerous" Ferrisburg (MCD,JID). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 23 reports - highs: 6/3 8 Reading (FMH,GEH); 6/24 5 Shrewsbury (LPS); 6/27 8 S. Duxbury (FAP). Indigo Bunting: 18 reports - highs: 6/16 9 PMBBS; 6/27 6 GBBS. Rufous-sided Towhee: 10 reports - highs: 6/18 3 LBBS; 6/22 2 nesting, Mt. Philo (MCD,JID); J/J 1-2 Sudbury (SLM). Chipping Sparrow: 18 reports - highs: 6/16 22 PMBBS; 6/18 17 LBBS; 6/27 13 GBBS. Field Sparrow: 11 reports - highs: 6/13 4 Woodstock (JMN); 7/30 8 S. Woodstock (JMN). Vesper Sparrow: 6/4 1 New Haven (KHD); 6/5 1 "Champlain Valley" (JRA); 6/9 1 Johnson (ELW); 6/26 & 7/27 2 Shoreham (ELW). Savannah Sparrow: 11 reports - highs: 6/16 4 PMBBS; 6/18 3 LBBS. Song Sparrow: 25 reports - highs: 6/16 44 PMBBS; 6/18 22 LBBS;

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TEXT

BNP - Babcock Nature Preserve
 BRM - Barton River Marsh
 DCWMA - Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area
 GBBS - Gaysville Breeding Bird Survey Route (SBL,NLM)
 GRR - Green River Reservoir
 HC - Herrick's Cove
 LBBS - Landgrove Breeding Bird Survey Route (ALG,JMN)
 MNWR - Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge
 MCWMA - Mud Creek Wildlife Management Area
 MB - Moose Bog
 PMBBS - Post Mills Breeding Bird Survey Route (WGE,NLM)
 Spr. Mds. - Springfield Meadows
 VBC - Vermont Bird Conference
 VBRC - Vermont Bird Records Committee
 WRD - Winooski River Delta
 WRM - West Rutland Marsh

Cr. - Creek
 f. - female
 fl. - fledgling
 FY - feeding young
 imm. - immature
 Is. - Island
 J/J - June and July
 m. - male
 Mt. - Mountain
 NE - nest with eggs
 NY - nest with young
 pr. - pair
 Pt. - Point
 Res. - Reservoir
 R. - River
 S.P. - State Park
 yg. - young

* = acceptance by the VBRC pending

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	JAW John Wrazen

6/27 21 GBBS. Lincoln's Sparrow: 2 banded Marshfield (MFM). Swamp Sparrow: 8 reports - highs: 6/16 7 PMBBS; 7/31 5 WRM (WJN). White-throated Sparrow: 18 reports - highs: 6/18 21 LBBS; 6/27 12 S. Duxbury (FAP). Dark-eyed Junco: 12 reports - highs: 6/27 18 S. Duxbury (FAP); 7/14 7 Reading (FMH,GEH). Bobolink: 16 reports - highs: 6/16 15 PMBBS; 6/18 21 LBBS. Red-winged Blackbird: 20+ reports - highs: 6/12 75 HC (WJN); 6/16 55 PMBBS; 7/31 50 WRM (WJN). Eastern Meadowlark: 11 reports - highs: J/J 1-5 Shoreham (ELW); 6/6 4 Ferrisburg (MCD,JID). Rusty Blackbird: L. Carmi (PJM). Common Grackle: 20 reports - highs: 6/27 100 Shoreham (ELW); 7/17 50 HC & Spr. Mds. (WJN). Brown-headed Cowbird: 17 reports - highs: 6/16 19 PMBBS; 6/27 18 GBBS. ORCHARD ORIOLE: 7/4 pr. w/3 yg. W. Addison (AJS,FCH). Northern Oriole: 27 reports - highs: 6/16 8 PMBBS; 6/20 10 HC (WJN); 6/27 7 GBBS.

GROSBREAK THROUGH HOUSE SPARROW. A possible PINE GROSBREAK* at Hazen's Notch on 7/6 (DL) would be a second or third summer record for this species. Purple Finches were widespread but not very numerous. The House Finch was described as "numerous" in Randolph (EWC,MCC) and "taking over" in Weybridge (MBN). Both Red and White-winged Crossbills were seen in Montpelier on 7/26, but no numbers were given (MFM). There were ten reports of Pine Siskin which seems to be a very good number of summer sightings of this species, a "rare and unpredictable nester" (Ellison). American Goldfinch was commonly seen by many. Only two Evening Grosbeaks were seen, while the House Sparrow remained a "daily" species (SLM).

PINE GROSBREAK*: 7/6 1 Hazen's Notch (DL). Purple Finch: 20 reports - highs: 26 banded Marshfield (MFM); J/J 12 max. Winhall (WJN); "scarce this year" L. Carmi (PJM). House Finch: 10 reports - highs: J/J 8-10 Randolph (EWC,MCC); J/J 4-20 Weybridge (MBN); "several" Colchester (JDM). Red Crossbill: 7/26 Montpelier (MFM). White-winged Crossbill: 7/26 Montpelier (MFM). Pine Siskin: 10 reports - 6/1 6 Weybridge (MBN); 6/5 1 ad. 4 yg. Hartland (WGE); 6/30 30 Weybridge (MBN); Reading, S. Strafford, Sheffield, Shrewsbury, Starksboro (var. obs.). American Goldfinch: 22 reports - highs: 6/16 22 PMBBS; 6/18 16 LBBS; 7/23 10 HC (WJN). Evening Grosbeak: 1 banded Marshfield (MFM); 7/3 1 Sheffield (PFW). House Sparrow: 9 reports - high: 6/27 145 GBBS.

Contributors are reminded to send in rare and unusual bird sightings at once (or to call the Vermont Bird Alert) and to submit seasonal summaries promptly at the end of each season. This publication is only as complete as you make it. If you need sighting cards, write VINS, Woodstock, VT 05091, or call us at 457-2779.

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BIRD VERIFICATION FORM to be used to document rare or unseasonal birds. See Vermont Bird Records Committee Report for a list of species requiring documentation.

Records of Vermont Birds

c/o of the Vermont Institute of Natural Science
Woodstock, Vermont 05091
802/457-2779

FILE # _____

BIRD VERIFICATION REPORT

Please type or print

The following form has been prepared to encourage full documentation of all rare or unseasonal bird reports in the state of Vermont. Such documentation must withstand the scrutiny of ornithologists as well as future generations of birdwatchers who will have no familiarity with the abilities of individual observers. Consequently, details included should be as exhaustive as possible if records are to become a permanent part of Vermont's ornithological record. NOTE * Observers should take thorough notes during the observation and before consulting any reference, including field guides.*

SPECIES:

NUMBER OBSERVED:

OBSERVER MAKING REPORT:

OTHER OBSERVERS (and addresses if available)

LOCATION: (place, township, county)

DATE:

TIME AND LENGTH OF OBSERVATION:

DISTANCES FROM BIRD:

- Minimum
- Maximum

HABITAT: (be as detailed as possible, include associated species)

WEATHER:

- sky cover
- light in relation to observer's position
- wind direction
- wind speed
- temperature

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: (make, power, etc.)

OTHER DOCUMENTATION:

Photo _____ Tape Recording _____ Specimen _____

If yes to the above, where is this information deposited?

DESCRIPTION: (sketches and copies of field notes are welcomed; please don't be intimidated, the committee is not judging artistic talent)

Relative size:

Head (crown, cheeks, eye, throat, nape):

Bill and feet (shape, color, length):

Upper back:

Lower back and rump:

Wings:

Breast, belly, flanks, undertail coverts:

Tail (shape and coloring):

BEHAVIOR: (feeding actions, manner of flight, displays or interactions, reaction to observer)

VOCALIZATION: (song or calls)

OBSERVER'S PREVIOUS AQUAINTANCE WITH THIS SPECIES OR SIMILAR FORMS. HOW WERE SIMILAR SPECIES ELIMINATED?

COMMENTS: (was age or sex determined? etc.)

This report was written from notes taken: during _____ immediately after _____ observation or written from memory _____

NAME (print) _____

SIGNATURE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

DATE _____

Return to: Vermont Records Committee
c/o VINS
Woodstock, VT 05091

802/457-2779