

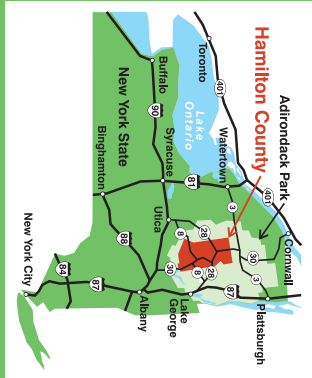
Common Loon



HAMILTON COUNTY

quite simply

ADIRONDACK



Hamilton County Tourism
P.O. Box 771, White Birch Lane
Indian Lake, NY 12842-0771

Boreal Chickadee



Palm Warbler

BIRDING Guide and Trail Map

Gray Jay



I ♥ NY

Hamilton County Tourism

800-648-5239

www.AdirondackBirds.com

**BIRDS OF
HAMILTON
COUNTY,
NEW YORK**

by
John M.C. Peterson
and
Gary N. Lee

Published by
County of Hamilton
Lake Pleasant, New York

First Edition,
2004

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors wish to thank William Osborne and Tracy Olsen for all of their help in getting this book through the press. Thanks also to the many Hamilton County birders, past and present, whose records combined to make this work possible.

— J.M.C.P. & G.N.L.

DEDICATION

To our wives, Susan and Karen, for their patience and support.

Contents

Foreward	3
How to Use This Book	4-5
Scale of Abundance	5
Abbreviations	5
Initialed Observers	6
Species Accounts	7-33
Bibliography	34
Field Guides	35

Birds of Hamilton County, New York

All Rights Reserved. Copyright © 2004 Hamilton County, NY

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or by any other information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America
First Edition 2004

FOREWORD

Hamilton County is honored to present this First Edition of Birds of Hamilton County, New York, by John M.C. Peterson of Elizabethtown and Montréal and Gary Lee of Inlet.

For over 30 years **Mike Peterson** has studied the birds of Hamilton County, both in the field and through a search of the literature. This work is a product of that effort. His Hamilton County life list is now 122 species, and he was fortunate to know many of the early stalwarts of Hamilton County ornithology, including the late Greenie Chase, Paul DeBenedictis, Marge Kingsbury, Ferd LaFrance, Dorothy McIlroy, Fritz Scheider, and others whose records help fill these pages.

As regional coordinator for the Adirondack-Champlain region, which includes Hamilton County, during both the original 1980-85 NYS Breeding Bird Atlas project and the recent 2000-04 Atlas 2000 effort, Peterson has enjoyed an unusual advantage in the study of county birds. For the past 20 years Mike has also served as Adirondack-Champlain Region Seven editor of *The Kingbird*, journal of the NYS Ornithological Association, distilling the countless records submitted by active observers in Hamilton County. He also was editor of the Third Edition of *Birds of Essex County, New York* (1999), by his mentor, the late Geoffrey Carleton.

Gary Lee served as a NYS Forest Ranger in the Inlet area of Hamilton County for 35 years, covering the Moose River Recreation Area and West Canada Lakes Wilderness Area. He has also been a NYS Licensed Guide since 1999. Since his retirement from the DEC, he has now worked for four summers for the Adirondack Cooperative Loon Program, banding and watching color-banded Common Loons. Lee has been a birder for 40 years, with a Hamilton County life list of 182 species, and a volunteer on both the 1980-85 and 2000-04 NYS Breeding Bird Atlas projects. His "Daybreak to Twilight" nature column has appeared in the Old Forge *Adirondack Express* since 1986.

Hamilton County, New York, includes the central Adirondacks and the western Adirondack foothills. The highest point in the county is the peak of Snowy Mountain (3,899'). With an area of 1,806 square miles and a population of 5,379 (2000 Census), the county is nearly the size of Delaware, but with less than 1% of the population of that state. All of Hamilton County lies within the boundaries of the Adirondack Park, and the noted Northville-Lake Placid Trail runs vertically the entire length of the county. Many of the best areas in New York State for boreal birds can be found here.

*Records of Hamilton County birds
may be directed to the senior author at
477 County Route 8, Elizabethtown, NY 12932.*

How to use this Book

Since the appearance of the late Roger Tory Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds of Eastern and Central North America* in 1934 (now in its fifth edition, published in 2002), a number of outstanding field guides have appeared. All provide artwork or photographs, with accompanying text, to help identify birds, and many include range maps (see *Appendix*).

With the advent of listing, birders began keeping life lists of all birds seen, including state and county lists. Although there are a number of state and provincial bird books, including atlases, now available in North America, the need for more local works is growing. This *Birds of Hamilton County, New York*, now joins *Birds of Clinton County* (2nd ed., 1997, by Mitchell & Krueger) and *Birds of Essex County, New York* (3rd ed., 1999, by Carleton & Peterson) in providing more detailed information on the occurrence and status of birds in the Adirondack-Champlain Region, together with suggestions on where to find birds in the county.

In addition to the list of 238 species recorded in Hamilton County, this book provides concise information on rarity, seasonality, abundance, and other history for each bird. All records are documented by place, date, and observer. An examination of a sample species, **Fox Sparrow**, may help readers understand other entries:

Rare tv: Indian Lake March 12, 1992 (GL) to Inlet feeder April 17, 1992 (GL); Speculator feeder October 19, 1997 (PK) to Hoffmeister feeder December 30, 1993 (D&DT). Max. three Brown's Tract Ponds October 28, 1971 (FL).

"*Rare*" suggests that an active observer might see one to five in a season. A transient visitant ("*tv*") occurs only in migration. Fox Sparrows winter in the United States south to the Gulf of Mexico, with a few lingering north into Maine and locally in southern Canada. The closest breeding grounds are in the Laurentians and lower St. Lawrence River of Québec, extending north through boreal forest to the treeline in subarctic Canada. Heading north to Canada in spring, they pass through Hamilton County between the extreme dates of March 12-April 17. After nesting, they return to the county in fall and may linger into winter, from October 19-December 30; usually solitary, the most seen at one time were 3 at Brown's Tract Ponds on October 28. Notice that the places, dates, and observers serve to document these records. The locations (Brown's Tract Ponds, Hoffmeister, Indian Lake, Inlet, and Speculator) also suggest that Fox Sparrows may turn up almost anywhere in the county, with bird feeders a likely spot.

A comparison with **White-crowned Sparrow** suggests that **Fox Sparrow** is an earlier spring migrant (March-April vs. May), and arrives perhaps two weeks later in fall (although both move down from Canada during October).

For further information on the birds in this book, please consult the Bibliography or any of the popular field guides. New records are published quarterly in *The Kingbird*.

Good birding!

—John M.C. Peterson

Scale of Abundance

238 species are listed, of which 173 breed or have bred. A scale of abundance has been devised suggesting numbers an active observer might see in a season, its value perhaps more relative than absolute.

Abundant.....	over 200
Common.....	50-200
Fairly Common.....	20-50
Uncommon.....	5-20
Rare.....	1-5
Very rare.....	Every several years
Extremely rare.....	Reported once

Abbreviations

Atlas	- 1980-85 NYS Breeding Bird Atlas Project
Atlas 2000	- 2000-04 NYS Breeding Bird Atlas Project
BBS	- USF&WS Breeding Bird Survey
DEC	- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Max.	- maxima, or greatest number recorded
NYSWC	- NYS Waterfowl Count
pr	- permanent resident
sr	- summer resident
sv	- summer visitant
tv	- transient visitant
wv	- winter visitant
*	- boreal specialty species

Nomenclature and the **sequence of species** follows current usage in *North American Birds*, *The Kingbird*, and *Checklist of the Birds of New York State* (©2003), based upon the A.O.U.'s *Check-list of North American Birds*, Seventh Edition, 1998, through the most recent 44th Supplement of July 2003 (*The Auk* 120: 923-931).

Initialed Observers

AA - Agnes Amstutz
EA - Elizabeth Anderson
AB - Al Brayton
JB - John Bull
(see Bibliography)
BC - Bernard Carr
DC - Dorothy Crumb
GC - Greenleaf T. Chase
JC - Joan E. Collins
WC - William E. Cook
BD - Bruce DeSimone
CD - Charlcie Delehanty
DD - Dee DeSimone
GD - Granger Davenport
GDD - Gregg D. Dashnau
HD - Harriet Delafield
PD - Paul DeBenedictis
TD - Thomas Dudones
EE - Elon Howard Eaton
(see Bibliography)
JE - James Elliott
PE - Patricia Elliott
WF - William Frenette
PG - Peter Galvani
RG - Robert Grosek
EH - Elizabeth Hedges
DH - Don Henise
JH - J.J. Hanyak
LH - L.M. Holland
RH - Robin Henise
WH - W.G. Holland
SI - Selma Isil
CK - Cindy Kindle
MK - Marguerite
Kingsbury
PK - Paul Kelly
RK - Ramsay Koury
SK - Steve Kelling
FL - Ferdinand LaFrance
GL - Gary N. Lee
IL - Izora Lerch
ML - Malcolm Lerch
CM - Chita McKinney
CHM - C. Hart Merriam
DM - Dorothy W. McIlroy
GM - Gary McChesney
JM - Jeffrey Miller
LM - Lon Myers
MM - Michael Moccio
MFM - Margaret F.
McKinney
PM - Paul Matray
RM - Robert G.
McKinney
TM - Theodore D. Mack
WM - Wanda Moccio
EO - Evan W. Obercian
JP - John M.C. Peterson
MP - Matt Perry
SP - Susan French
Peterson
WP - William Purcell
MR - Margaret Rusk
CS - Christian Spies
DS - Dean T. Spaulding
FS - Francis G. Scheider
LS - Lee Smith
LLS - Lester L. Short
MS - Mary Sheffield
RS - Robert Sheffield
DT - Donald Taylor
D&DT - Don & Donna
Traver
ET - E.D. Treacy
JT - John G. Thaxton
PT - Patricia H. Thaxton
PGT - Philip G. Terrie
BW - Betty Wilson
EW - E.P. Wheeler
LW - Liz (Elizabeth)
Williams
RW - Ruth Williams
RY - Robert P. Yunick

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Snow Goose

Fairly common tv. Two migrating over Mitchell Pond March 10, 1995 (GL) to 100 Seventh Lake April 11, 2003 (GL); Indian Lake Oct. 6, 2002 (JP, SP, DS, JT, PT) to Moose River Recreational Area Nov. 23, 1997 (GL); injured goose lingered on Blue Mountain Lake to Dec. 16, 1998 (GL). Fall max. 200 Raquette Lake 1975 [n.d.] (GL); 50 Bald Mt. Nov. 16, 2002 (JC).

Canada Goose

Common tv and now a fairly common sr. Raquette Lake March 3, 1991, Red River March 3, 1998, and Mitchell Ponds March 3, 1999 (GL) to 30 flying south Limekiln Lake Jan. 8, 2003 (GL) and four Limekiln Lake Jan. 14, 1993 (GL). Max. 910 in four flocks Piseco Oct. 21, 1968 (DM); 200 Hoffmeister Oct. 1, 1994 (D&DT); 100-300 Inlet Oct. 26-28, 1968 (FL).

Brant

Very rare tv. Piseco Lake May 1954 (GC); 31 Speculator June 6, 1971 (FS); 30 Limekiln Lake Oct. 24, 1997 (GL); Fifth Lake Oct. 27, 1994 (GL); two Raquette Lake Oct. 31, 2000 (GL); Moose River Nov. 4, 1991 (GL). Max 200 Limekiln Road May 24, 1996 (GL).

Tundra Swan

Very rare tv. Two Raquette Lake early May 1984 (fide GL); two Mud Lake for 10 days Nov. 1984 (fide GL).

Wood Duck

Uncommon sr. Lake Pleasant March 26, 1998 (PK) to pair Beaver Lake Nov. 6, 2000 (GL). Max. 40 Cedar River Flow Sept. 1995 (GL).

Gadwall

Very rare sr. Possible breeder 2000-02 (Atlas 2000).

American Wigeon

Very rare tv. Mud Lake Sept. 9, 2003 (GDD); four Hamilton County Nov. 4, 1977 (JM).

American Black Duck

Fairly common sr, less common in winter. Lake Pleasant March 4, 1999 (PK) to Inlet channel Jan. 12, 1986; Jan. 13, 1985; and Feb. 26, 1987 (NYSWC, GL), where a few may overwinter.

Mallard

Fairly common sr, sometimes overwintering on open water. Indian Lake Feb. 9, 1980 (fide TM) and Lake Pleasant March 11, 2000 (PK) to Inlet channel, where they have overwintered, Jan. 13, 1985 (NYSWC, GL) and Feb. 26, 1987 (GL). Max. 260 Inlet channel winter 1988-89 (GL). Hybrids with American Black Duck have been recorded (Atlas); one Inlet Jan. 13, 1985; one Inlet Jan. 12, 1987; and three Inlet Feb. 26, 1987.(GL).

Blue-winged Teal

Rare tv, very rare sr. Three Lake Pleasant April 6, 2000 (PK); pair Ferd's Bog May 8, 1982 (FL, CS); possible breeder 2000-02 (Atlas 2000); one Cedar River Flow Aug. 28, 1994 (RM); one Cedar River Flow Sept. 5, 1999 (CM, RM); Cedar River Flow Sept. 17, 1996 (GL); seven Beaver Lake Nov. 1-2, 2000 (GL).

Northern Pintail

Very rare tv. 12 Long Lake Nov. 13, 1977 (JM); possible breeder 1980-85 (Atlas).

Green-winged Teal

Very rare tv and sr. Lake Abanakee April 19, 2003 (JE, PE, MM, WM) to Brown's Tract Ponds May 27, 1972 (FL); possible breeder 1980-85 (Atlas); Cedar River Flow July 2, 1994 (RM); Dug Mountain Ponds Oct. 8, 1983 (Harold Jerry).

Canvasback

Extremely rare tv. 18 Long Lake Nov. 11, 1977 (JM).

*Ring-necked Duck

Uncommon tv, rare sr. Big Brook, Indian Lake Feb. 23, 2002 (DS) to 15 Inlet Dec. 1, 1992 (TD); recent nesting Little Indian Lake and Muskrat Pond (Atlas 2000, GL). Max. 30 Indian Lake April 19, 2003 (JE, PE, MM, WM).

Greater Scaup

Very rare tv and sv. Lake Algonquin June 23, 2001 (Daniel Crane, Laura Kearns); seven Eighth Lake Oct. 27, 1971 (FL).

Lesser Scaup

Very rare tv. 13 Little Tupper Lake April 14, 1968 (MK); Lake Durant April 27-May 7, 1991 (GL); Raquette Lake Sept. 2, 1990 (RM, Ferne Merrill); Long Lake Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 1995 (TD); Shallow Lake Nov. 5, 2002 (GL).

Surf Scoter

Uncommon tv. [n.d.] (EE); now very rare tv. Fifth Lake first week of Nov. 1999 (GL); two Lake Abanakee Nov. 7, 2003 (MM, WM).

White-winged Scoter

Very rare tv. Lake Abanakee April 19, 2003 (JE, PE, MM, WM); drake Lake Pleasant Sept. 17, 1978 (Harold and Laura Haglund); two drake and one hen Lake Eaton Nov. 3, 2003 (PG).

Black Scoter

Very rare tv and sv. Drake Lake Abanakee early Feb. 1979 (RM); drake Lake Abanakee March 4, 1978 (MFM, RM); Lake Abanakee July 22-23, 1978 (Katherine Ray); Long Lake Oct. 21, 1999 (PG); hen Blue Mountain Lake Dec. 11, 1996 (TD). Max. 15-18 Long Lake Oct. 24-25, 2003 (Barbara Brosnan, John Chamberlain).

Long-tailed Duck

Very rare tv. Pair Lake Abanakee April 20, 2003 (JE, PE, MM, WM); Limekiln Lake May 1, 1993 (GL); two hens Little Tupper Lake May 6, 1978 (CD); two Lake Abanakee Nov. 7, 2003 (MM, WM).

Bufflehead

Fairly common tv. Pair Kunjamuk April 14, 1983 (fide TM) to Sperry Brook Marsh, Little Tupper Lake May 31, 1983 (CD); Long Lake June 16, 1976 (MS, RS); possible breeder (Atlas); Seventh Lake Oct. 24, 1989 (GL) to Blue Mountain Lake Nov. 26, 1997 (GL). Max. 30 Shallow Lake Nov. 5, 2002 (GL).

Common Goldeneye

Fairly common tv, very rare sr. 14 Lake Abanakee Feb. 12, 1997 (MS, RS) to Seventh Lake Dec. 4, 1997 (GL). Hen with eight ducklings Terror Lake July 4, 1973 (John Belknap). Max. 28 Seventh Lake Nov. 14, 1995 (TD).

Hooded Merganser

Fairly common sr. Occasional in winter. Indian Lake Feb. 10, 1980 (fide TM) to Fifth Lake Dec. 10, 1998 (GL). Max. 22 Little Tupper Lake Nov. 24, 1981 (fide TM).

Common Merganser

Common sr. Lake Abanakee Feb. 12, 1977 (MFM, RM) to Long Lake Jan. 4, 2000 (PG). Max.50 Cedar River area July 11-13, 1998 (RM); hen with ~40 young Piseco summer 1982 (DM).

Red-breasted Merganser

Very rare tv. One Lake Abanakee Sept. [n.d.] 1989 (RM); two Sabattis Dec. 10, 1998 (PK).

Ruddy Duck

Extremely rare tv. Mud Lake Sept. 9, 2003 (GDD).

Ring-necked Pheasant

Formerly rare to uncommon pr. Inlet golf course 1965 (GL); Towns of Arietta and Morehouse (Atlas), but no recent records (Atlas 2000).

*Spruce Grouse

Very rare pr. J.E. De Kay (1844) “saw them in Hamilton County, among the sources of the Raquet” in June [n.y.d.]. Also formerly nested near Brandreth Lake and Lake Terror (JB). Recent records include: Ferd’s Bog area summer 1980 (Atlas); brood Nehasane summer 1983 (Melinda Bingham); male Shallow Lake trail July 6, 1989 (GL); Benson early Jan. 1990 (Helen Menwissen); north end Big Moose Lake May 9-11 1992 (Helen Manson, Russ O’Malley); hen with chicks near Helldiver Pond MRRRA June 27, 1992 (Jeanne Skelly) and hen with 3-4 chicks same area July 10, 1992 (DC, James Throckmorton, Judy Thurber); confluence Wolf Pond outlet and Indian River Nov. 21, 1994 (GL); Moose River Recreational Area and Sagamore summer 1995 (GL); Beaver Brook, Shallow Lake trail May 15, 1997 (GL); Uncas Road May 31, 1999 (RG); Uncas Road near No Luck Brook Sept. 25, 1999 (GL); Sabattis Bog June 16, 2000 (Atlas 2000, fide JP).

Ruffed Grouse

Fairly common pr.

Wild Turkey

Deerland summer 1982; pair Blackbridge summer 1984; Shaker Place summer 1985 (Atlas); Moose River Plains May 30, 1986 (GL), *now an increasingly common pr.* Eastern Coyote took 11 eggs Cedar River Road Aug. 1, 1987 (GL); three of six eggs hatched Cedar River June 5, 1998 (GL); chicks Limekiln Lake July 28, 1998; two hens, five chicks Route 30 Aug. 6, 1997 (Nancy Olsen). Max. 57 Speculator Jan. 18, 2000 (PK).

Common Loon

Fairly common sr, uncommon tv. Raquette Lake April 9, 1999 (GL) to Seventh Lake Dec. 14, 1994 (GL); Indian Lake Dec. 23, 2002 (DS). Max. 14 nesting Little Tupper Lake July 2003 (Peter Bauer); 13 Long Lake Aug. 21, 1964 (CS, DT).

Red-throated Loon

Very rare tv (EE); no recent records.

Pied-billed Grebe

Rare sr. Indian Lake March 31, 2002 (DS) to Raquette Lake Oct. 27, 1971 (FL). Max four nests and five family groups Cedar River Flow summer 1992 (RM).

Horned Grebe

Very rare tv. Raquette Lake outlet March 30, 1989 (GM); Long Lake April 7, 1971 (PM).

Red-necked Grebe

Very rare tv. Camp Kilkare, Raquette Lake Jan. 22, 1994, died in rehabilitation; grounded Cedar River Road Feb. 7, 1996 (GL), died in rehabilitation; two Raquette Lake Nov. 18, 1996 (TD). Max. seven Lake Abanakee April 19, 2003 (JE, PE, MM, WM).

Clark’s/Western Grebe

Raquette Lake May 13, 1996, identified as Clark’s Grebe (Derek and Pam Trivill) to May 14, 1996 (TD).

Leach’s Storm-Petrel

Accidental. Three Catlin Lake mid-Sept. 1933 (fide JB).

Double-crested Cormorant

Rare sv and tv since 1984. Lake Abanakee April 20, 2003 (DS) to Utowana Lake Oct. 29, 1999 (GL). Max. three Raquette Lake May 15, 1998 (GL) and Little Tupper Lake July 2003 (Peter Bauer).

American Bittern

Uncommon sr. Brown’s Tract Ponds April 28, 1973 (FL) to Long Lake Sept. 16, 1998 (PG). Max. eight Sabattis BBS June 1969.

Least Bittern

Very rare sr: (Atlas)

Great Blue Heron

Fairly common sr. Seventh Lake April 1, 1998 (GL), but on nest Speculator April 2, 2000 (PK) to Seventh Lake Dec. 5, 1996 (GL).

Great Egret

Very rare tv and sv. Wells May 21-22, 1998 (PK); Seventh Lake July 26, 1991 (GL); Piseco Lake Aug. 28, 2000 (CK).

Green Heron

Rare sr. Bear Pond May 6, 1999 (GL) to Piseco Lake Aug. 19, 1976 (DM).

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Very rare sv. Sabattis BBS 1969; Seventh Lake inlet Oct. 19, 1989 (GL).

Turkey Vulture

Uncommon sr. Inlet March 12, 1985 (GL) to Long Lake Oct. 11, 1999 (PG).

Osprey

Uncommon sr. Raquette Lake April 7, 1999 (GL) to Indian Lake Oct. 27, 1975 (RM); Long Lake Dec. 9, 1999 (PG); Lake Abanakee Dec. 26, 2003 (DS).

Bald Eagle

Historically a rare sr and presumed tv, but extirpated as a nester during the DDT era; now an uncommon visitor at all times of year, increasingly common in recent years, especially in winter. Confirmed nesting 2001 and 2002 near Tamar Pond (Atlas 2000, DEC ESU), nest inactive 2003; pair frequented Piseco Lake, where a young bird was at the outlet Aug. 11, 2001 (Atlas 2000, Bard Prentiss). Max five (two adults with three fledged young) Piseco Lake summer 1951 (DM).

Northern Harrier

Rare sr. Brown's Tract Stream March 30, 1989 (GL) to Moose River Oct. 29, 2000 (GL).

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Rare sr and tv, occasional in winter, especially at feeders.

Cooper's Hawk

Very rare sr and tv. Moose River Recreational Area May 12, 1991 (GL) to Cedar River Nov. 14, 1972 (RM).

Northern Goshawk

Uncommon sr; rare wv. Silver Run MRRRA March 31, 1988 (GL) to Moose River Plains Nov. 30, 1986 (GL); Cedar River Dec. 1984 (*vide TM*); Cedar River Flow Dec. 1-2, 1987 (GL); Inlet mid-Jan. 1985 (GL); Inlet winter 1996 (GL).

Red-shouldered Hawk

Rare sr. Long Lake April 17, 2002 (JC) to Raquette Lake Aug. 15, 1972 (EH).

Broad-winged Hawk

Common sr. Inlet March 28, 2002 (GL) and Moose River Recreational Area April 13, 1998 (GL) to Long Lake Sept. 15, 2002 (JC, PG), although departure is certainly later.

Red-tailed Hawk

Uncommon sr. Lake Pleasant March 4, 1998 (PK) to Sabattis Road Nov. 18, 1996 (TD); Utowana Lake Jan. 5, 1996 (TD).

Rough-legged Hawk

Very rare wv. Long Lake Sept. 27 [n.y.d.] (PM); Indian Lake Oct. 25, 1975 (RM).

Golden Eagle

Rare tv, very rare sv; has bred. The last known nest in NYS in western Hamilton County produced the last eaglet in 1970, with the last attempted nesting in March 1981; adults were observed near this eyrie until 1984 (Atlas). Sightings since then include Mitchell Ponds outlet March 19, 1986 (GL); Lost Ponds Nov. 15, 1986 (GL); Moose River Recreational Area Oct. 22, 1991 and apparent pair there Nov. 8, 1991 (GL); Eighth Lake June 4-5, pair June 9, 1991 (GL); Cedar River early Nov. 1992 (RM).

American Kestrel

Fairly common sr. Indian Lake March 29, 2003 (DS) to Lake Pleasant Sept. 20, 1973 (DM).

Merlin

Formerly rare tv and sr. "Mr. F.T. Pember reports a young bird of this species which was scarcely able to fly, from Indian lake...." [n.d.] (EE, 1914), but very rare to absent during most of the 20th century. Once again a rare sr and tv with the first modern summer records of adults at Long Lake 1990, '93, '95, '96, and a pair with three fledglings there July 27-Aug. 1, 1997 (Joseph S. Thill); Blue Mountain Lake July 19-24, 1992 (Thomas Burke); Lake Eldon July 22, 1994 (Alan Mapes), and pair with juvenile at Raquette Lake July 25, 1994 (Robert Budliger); nest with four young Raquette Lake July 14, 1998 and July 1999 (GL); nest with two young Whitney Park Aug. 15, 1998 (GL); nest with four young Lake Abanakee July 1999 (GL). Now nests throughout the county (Atlas 2000), with arrivals at Limekiln Lake April 12, 2003 (GL) and pair Lake Abanakee April 19, 2003 (DS).

Peregrine Falcon

Formerly rare tv and sr. Historic eyries of the native subspecies *F.p. anatum* near Griffin Brook, Indian Lake, and South Branch, West Canada Creek near Pine Lake (JB); nest with eggs Morehouse May 16, 1896 (James Bagg), but subsequently absent as a breeder and transient, despite a general recovery during the late 20th century in the Adirondack Park and NYS.

Virginia Rail

Uncommon sr. Blue Mountain Lake June 25, 1989 (Terry Hall) to Raquette Lake July 11, 1977 (EH). Recent records include a pair Catlin Lake area 1982; Lewey Lake 1984; Cedar River Flow 1985 (Atlas); Piseco Lake June 25, 1998 (Matthew Perry), but none since (Atlas 2000).

Sora

Rare sr. Territorial response Arietta summer 1981; Lewey Lake summer 1984 (Atlas); adult with young Brown's Tract Stream July 2, 1991 (GL); found most recently at two locations near Forest Home, Town of Indian Lake July 9, 2002 (EO).

Common Moorhen

Extremely rare sr. Cedar River Flow summer 1982, calling for more than a week (Atlas).

Sandhill Crane

Extremely rare tv. Blue Mountain Lake June 21, 1986 (Robert Croso, Gale Motter, fide TM).

Black-bellied Plover

Extremely rare tv. Indian Lake late May 1983 (MFM, RM).

American Golden Plover

Extremely rare tv. Little Tupper Lake Sept. 14, 1961 (AA).

Semipalmated Plover

Extremely rare tv. Long Lake Oct. 18, 2001 (PG).

Killdeer

Fairly common sr and tv. Speculator March 12, 2000 (PK) to Long Lake Nov. 17, 1998 (PG).

Greater Yellowlegs

Very rare tv. Two Long Lake July 29, 2002 (PGT); three Long Lake Sept. 18, 1974 (MS, RS); Long Lake Oct. 18, 2001 (PG); two Cedar River Oct. 22, 1992 (GL); Long Lake Nov. 5, 1997 (PG). Max. six Seventh Lake Oct. 30, 1997 (GL).

Lesser Yellowlegs

Very rare tv. Female collected Seventh Lake inlet June 9, 1878 (CHM); Cedar River Aug. 31, 1990 (GL); four Seventh Lake Oct. 19, 1989 (GL). Max. six Seventh Lake Oct. 24, 1989 and Seventh Lake Oct. 30, 1997 (GL).

Solitary Sandpiper

Rare tv. Ferd's Bog May 10, 1980 (FL, CS) to Inlet May 19, 1987 (GL); three Long Lake July 19, 2003 (JC); Shanty Brook, Wells July 25, 2001 (Daniel Crane, Laura Kearns);

two Inlet Aug. 1, 1995 (TD); Mud Pond Outlet Aug. 9, 2001 (SI, JP); Cedar River Aug. 19-23, 1991 (GL); two Brown's Tract Ponds Aug. 20, 1972 (FL, Richard J. Sutliff); four Mud Lake Sept. 10, 2002 (GDD); two Inlet Sept. 12, 1995 (TD).

Spotted Sandpiper

Fairly common sr. Limekiln Lake April 26, 1991 (GL) to Cedar Lake Sept. 11, 2003 (GDD).

Upland Sandpiper

Extremely rare tv. Big Brook Road, Lake Abanakee [n.d.] 1986 (GL).

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Extremely rare tv. Little Tupper Lake Sept. 14, 1961 (AA).

Least Sandpiper

Extremely rare tv. Four on a floating bog mat island Low's Lake Aug. 17, 1984 (SI, JP).

White-rumped Sandpiper

Extremely rare tv. Inlet July 29, 2001 (GL).

Pectoral Sandpiper

Very rare tv. Indian Lake July 22, 1988 (RM); Little Tupper Lake Sept. 14, 1961 (AA).

Wilson's Snipe

Uncommon sr. Moose River Recreational Area April 13, 1998 (GL) to Lake Lila Oct. 26, 1998 (PG).

American Woodcock

Fairly common sr. Inlet March 23, 1999 (GL) to Sagamore Nov. 17, 1991 (GL).

Red-necked Phalarope

Extremely rare tv. Two Indian Lake Sept. 20, 1977 (GD); "In Sept. 1970 a pair remained two or three days" (GD).

Red Phalarope

Extremely rare tv. Sept. 25, 1904 (EE, no location provided).

Parasitic Jaeger

Extremely rare tv. Light morph adult Sabael, Indian Lake Sept. 28, 1997 (LS).

Bonaparte's Gull

Very rare tv. Lake Abanakee July 25, 1994 (GL); Indian Lake Flow Aug. 15, 2003 (DS); three Raquette Lake Sept. 4, 2003 (D&DT).

Ring-billed Gull

Uncommon tv and sv. Speculator area April [n.d.], 2000 (PK) to max. 150 Lewey Lake Nov. 16, 2002 (JE, MM, WM).

Herring Gull

Common sr; uncommon wv. Indian Lake dump March 8, 1991 (GL) to Inlet dump Dec. 10, 1987 and Dec. 15, 1990 (GL); Fourth Lake Jan. 14, 1986, staying for several days (GL). 24 adults West Canada Lake summer 1990 produced nine young (GL). Max. 35+ Little Tupper Lake Aug. 14, 1993 (RM).

Great Black-backed Gull

Extremely rare tv. Two Blue Mountain Lake May 3, 1975 (LH, WH, ET), on edge of ice.

Common Tern

Extremely rare tv. One Sabael, Indian Lake Sept. 28, 1997 (LS).

Black Tern

Formerly a very rare sv. Long Lake Aug. 12, 1985 (CD); Cedar River-Indian Lake area June 16-20, 1986 (RM), since absent.

Rock Pigeon

Rare pr. Occupied nest Indian Lake summer 1983 (Atlas), where a nest with eggs was found June 9, 2000 (RM); also present Lake Pleasant and Wells summer 1984 (Atlas); another nest with eggs near Sacandaga River between Lake Pleasant and Wells June 13, 2002 (TB); apparently still absent from other hamlets. Speculator feeder Sept. 10-20, 1986 (Les Borland), wearing a "CU" Canadian Racing Pigeon Union band, originated in a loft in Jerseyfield, Ontario; another found dead in Hamilton County July 1, 1994 (GL), wearing an "AU" band of the American Racing Pigeon Union, originated from the Adirondack Racing Pigeon Club in Queensbury, NY; another grounded "AU"-banded racing pigeon Cedar River Aug. 3, 1995, origin unknown, was fed and released at Limekiln Lake Aug. 20, 1995 (GL).

Mourning Dove

Fairly common pr. Max. 34 Speculator Oct. 28, 1999 (PK).

Passenger Pigeon

Extinct. "Former sr; irreg." (EE, 1910). Nesting was observed in neighboring Franklin County at Tupper Lake in 1853: "Hundreds of thousands of pigeons, had flown away

that morning, and yet there were hundreds of thousands, and perhaps many millions, old and young, there yet. It covered acres and acres—I have no idea how many, for I did not go round it. The trees were not of large growth, being mostly of spruce and stunted [sic] birch, hemlock, and elm, but every one was loaded with nests." (Samuel H. Hammond, Hills, Lakes and Forest Streams, or a Tramp in the Chateaugay Woods, p. 179, NY, 1854). The last egg was collected in neighboring Herkimer County May 18, 1878, on the west branch of Moose River, near the confluence of the South Branch, "and probably two miles from the old road leading from Moose River Tannery to Old Forge." (C.J. Pennock, *Auk* 29:238-39, April 1912). Pennock concludes, "While this is rather ancient history it may be of interest now that the species appears to be extinct and details of its nesting are not abundant."

Black-billed Cuckoo

Rare sr. Four Speculator June 2, 1972 (DM, FS) to Piseco Lake Sept. 26, 1963 (DM); 26 records 1980-85 (Atlas). Max. five Speculator June 6, 1973 (FS).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Very rare sr. Long Lake June 14, 1976 (MS, RS); Long Lake June 20, 1979 (MS, RS); five records 1980-85 (Atlas) suggestive of a 5:1 ratio between the two cuckoo species, although recent encounters have been 1:1 (Atlas 2000).

Eastern Screech-Owl

Very rare sr. Sabattis Road May 21, 1983 (CD); once at Ferd's Bog [n.d.] (GL).

Great Horned Owl

Uncommon pr in lowlands, found as high up as Raquette Lake and Speculator.

Snowy Owl

Very rare wv. Winter 1960-61 (David B. Peakall); Seventh Lake Feb. 1994 (GL); Long Lake winter 1997-98 (JC); Limekiln Road March 21, 1998 (GL), killed tom Wild Turkey.

Northern Hawk Owl

Extremely rare wv. "Wv; rare" (EE); Route 28, 4.5 miles north of Long Lake Nov. 18, 1996, 11 a.m. (TD).

Barred Owl

Uncommon pr. Occurs at higher elevations than Great Horned Owl; one on tom Wild Turkey killed by Snowy Owl Limekiln Road March 23, 1998 (GL).

Great Gray Owl

Very rare wv. “I saw a Great Gray Owl near Seventh Lake, in Hamilton County, late in the fall of 1870....” (CHM); inlet to Seventh Lake near Bug Lake trail Nov. 16, 1993 (GL); Inlet golf course Jan. 21, 1996 (GL).

Long-eared Owl

Very rare pr. Morehouseville summer 1982; Blue Mountain Lake summer 1984 (Atlas); no recent records (Atlas 2000). Undoubtedly more abundant than records suggest.

Short-eared Owl

Extremely rare tv, no evidence of breeding. Red River Oct. 19, 2000 (GL).

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Uncommon pr and tv. Distinctive calling usually begins in March. Max. four Ferd’s Bog May 2, 1987 (FL, CS, LW).

Common Nighthawk

Rare sr and tv. Ten records 1980-85 (Atlas), with a concentration north of Long Lake (and south of Tupper Lake village); two Town of Wells May 2, 1998 (PK); Whitehouse May 8, 2002 (Atlas 2000). Seen almost annually in fall migration (GL), autumn departure date unknown.

Whip-poor-will

Very rare sr: [No location given] May 20, 1978 (BD, DD) to Wakely Mt. trail July 17, 1997 (MP); near Catlin Lake summer 1982 (Atlas); Limekiln Lake June 24 (BC)- July 16, 2000 (GL - calling male).

Chimney Swift

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 2, 1987 (GL) to Little Tupper Lake Aug. 17, 2002 (JC). Max. 15 Indian Lake early July 1980 (fide TM).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Fairly common sr. Raquette Lake May 1, 2003 (GL) to Speculator Sept. 27, 1999 (PK). Max. 14 Brown’s Tract campground 1995 (GL).

Belted Kingfisher

Fairly common sr. Inlet March 29, 1997 (GL) to Inlet Nov. 10, 1999 (GL).

Red-headed Woodpecker

Very rare sr and tv. First recorded Inlet summer 1980 (Atlas); Ferd’s Bog May 8, 1982 (FL, CS) to Indian Lake Aug. 29, 1996 (John Monroe).

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Extremely rare tv. Speculator Oct. 24-26, 1999 (PK).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Common sr. Bug Lake trail April 1, 1998 (GL) to Long Lake Sept. 28, 2003 (JC). Max. 13 Ferd’s Bog May 12, 1979 (FL, CS, LW).

Downy Woodpecker

Common pr.

Hairy Woodpecker

Common pr.

*American Three-toed Woodpecker

Rare pr, decreasing since Eaton’s time. “Prefers smaller live and dying balsams and spruce trees in thick stands on mountain slopes or in high altitude swamps.” (Carleton 1999). Nesting pair Marion River June 9, 1957 (Walter R. Spofford); Brown’s Tract Ponds Oct. 27 1971 (FL); male Ferd’s Bog June 3, 1972 (FL, CS); five adults and nestling Ferd’s Bog July 1-2, 1972 (JB, FL); eight records 1980-85 (Atlas); Ferd’s Bog May 2-3, 1987 (FL, CS, LW), nest with young there June 19, 1987 (Susan Drennan, Tony Leukering, Paul Meyer)-Aug. 9, 1987 (GL); April 30-June 11, 1988 (John Askildsen, Bruce Beehler, GL; nest with young), head of Benedict and Sumner Creeks fall 1988 (GM); Ferd’s Bog May 17, 1990, May 31, 1991, May 30, 1992 (GL) and March 22, 1995 (SK); Shallow Lake Sept. 8, 1991 (GL); south of Lake Kora-Mohegan Lake Nov. 15-20, 1993 (GL); Helldiver Pond June 29, 1996 (DH, RH, RK); Ferd’s Bog Dec. 17, 1996 (Steve Hall, MP); Speculator yard July 25, 1997 (PK); two Powley Place July 2000 (Dana C. Rohleder); female Ferd’s Bog May 30, 1999 (RG); Ferd’s Bog May 20, 2002 (GL); male Sixth Lake mid-July 2002 (Mark Kantrowitz). The Adirondack population may show “only a trace of white flecking on the back,” and can easily be mistaken for Black-backed Woodpecker (FL, The Kingbird 23:4, pp. 190-91, Oct. 1973 and The Kingbird 33:3, pp. 165-66, Summer 1983).

*Black-backed Woodpecker

Uncommon pr. “Prefers blowdown and lumbered areas in coniferous forests, also high altitude swamps.” (Carleton 1999); may outnumber Hairy Woodpecker in some boreal areas. One of a breeding pair at Ferd’s Bog “had two large white spots on the upper back.” (FL, The Kingbird 23:4, pp. 190-91, Oct. 1973).

Northern Flicker

Fairly common sr. Inlet March 6, 1995 (GL) to Indian Lake Dec. 1, 1998 (PK). Max 150 Fox Pond, Raquette Lake fall 2000 (n.d., Larry Hogan).

Pileated Woodpecker

Fairly common pr.

*Olive-sided Flycatcher

Fairly common sr. Ferd's Bog May 10, 1980 (FL, CS) to Piseco Lake Sept. 26, 1963 (DM).

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Fairly common sr. Limekiln Lake April 21, 1995 (GL) to Cedar Lakes Sept. 28, 1994 (GL).

*Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Fairly common sr. Wakely Pond May 20, 1991 (GL) to Indian Lake Sept. 3, 1977 (RM).

Alder Flycatcher

Fairly common sr. Lake Durant May 10, 1996 (GL) to Long Lake Sept. 22, 2002 (JC).

Willow Flycatcher

Very rare sr. First reported at Indian Lake June 22, 1973 (LM, RM); Long Lake June 15, 1976 (MS, RS); carrying food to young Morehouseville summer 1982 (Atlas).

Least Flycatcher

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 13, 1987 (GL) to Inlet Sept. 21, 1999 (GL). Max. 33 Speculator BBS June 8, 1974 (FS).

Eastern Phoebe

Fairly common sr. Inlet March 27, 2000 (GL) to Long Lake Oct. 26, 1998 (PG).

Great Crested Flycatcher

Fairly common sr. Limekiln Lake May 18, 1989 (GL) to Long Lake Oct. 26, 1998 (JC); later records undoubtedly exist.

Eastern Kingbird

Fairly common sr. Wakely golf course May 7, 1988 (GL) to Cedar River Flow Sept. 30, 1984 (RM).

Northern Shrike

Rare wv. Moose River Recreation Area Oct. 26, 1991 (GL) and Inlet Oct. 26, 1996 (GL) to Inlet March 26, 2001 (GL).

White-eyed Vireo

Very rare sr. First recorded on Creek Road, Town of Hope July 16, 1982 (EJ, JP, The Kingbird 33:3, p. 174, Summer 1983); Little Tupper Lake May 14, 1988 (CD); Wells May 20, 1995 (GL).

Blue-headed Vireo

Fairly common sr. Long Lake April 17, 2002 (JC) to Long Lake Oct. 7, 1999 (PG). Max. 32 in an eight-mile hike near Ferd's Bog May 10, 1980 (FL, CS).

Yellow-throated Vireo

Rare sr. Speculator June 8, 1974 (FS) to Speculator second week of Aug. 1969 (RM).

Warbling Vireo

Uncommon sr; mostly in villages. Long Lake May 23, 2003 (WC) to Speculator June 6, 1973 (FS)-[?]; usual departure date unknown.

*Philadelphia Vireo

Rare sr; found in medium height deciduous second growth. Lookout Mountain May 25, 1992 (JT, PT) to Clear Pond, Long Lake Aug. 28, 2000 (BC); 15 breeding records 1980-85 (Atlas); four breeding records 2000-02 (Atlas 2000).

Red-eyed Vireo

Common sr. Limekiln Lake April 26, 1991 (GL) to Long Lake Oct. 3, 2003 (JC). Max 279 1967 Sabattis BBS; 149 Speculator BBS June 20, 1988 (DM, FS); 118 Powley Road June 15, 1998 (MP).

*Gray Jay

Fairly common pr in boreal forests, very rare in winter at feeders.

Blue Jay

Common pr. Max. 105 Indian Lake Feb. 28, 1975 (MFM, RM).

American Crow

Fairly common pr. Max. ~100-200 Lake Pleasant landfill summer 1988 (William Warren); 42 feeding on beaver carcasses Inlet March 20-30, 1999 (GL).

Common Raven

Rare resident by Eaton's time, but by then not known to breed. Few records in the early 20th century, most of those in winter. Recorded in eastern Hamilton County the last week of April 1972 (WF); first late 20th century nest with pair attending five fully-grown young Blue Ledge, Hudson

River gorge, Town of Indian Lake May 10, 1974 (Jonathan Beck, JP). *Now a fairly common pr.* Nest in hole in chimney of a Raquette Lake camp fledged three young spring 1995 (GL). Max. 11 feeding on beaver carcasses Inlet March 20-30, 1999 (GL).

Horned Lark

Uncommon wv. Red River, Moose River Recreation Area Oct. 27, 1989 (GL) to Lake Pleasant April 1, 1993 (GL). E.a. *praticola* *Extremely rare sr.* Blue Mountain Lake June 27, 1972 (EW).

Purple Martin

Uncommon sr. Inlet April 19, 1999 (GL) to Raquette Lake Aug. 19, 1964 (CS, DT). Max. 20 Speculator 18 Aug. 1965 (Robert Hagar). Two found dead in late snowstorm Cedar River Road May 27, 1982 (GL).

Tree Swallow

Abundant sr. Fifth Lake March 28, 1991 (GL), south inlet, Raquette Lake March 30, 1988 (GL, lake frozen) and Cedar River gate March 31, 1988 (GL, no open water, complete snow cover) to Raquette Lake Sept. 4, 2003 (D&DT). Max. 500+ Cedar River Flow Aug. 2-5, 1996 (RM).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Uncommon sr. Speculator June 26, 1979 (DM, FS) to Piseco July 18, 1965 (DM).

Bank Swallow

Common sr. 25-30 Inlet May 1, 1970 (DM) to Piseco Lake Sept. 10, 1968 (DM).

Barn Swallow

Abundant sr. Inlet April 29, 1987 and April 29, 1990 (GL) to Piseco Lake Sept. 10, 1968 (DM).

Cliff Swallow

Fairly common sr. Inlet April 29, 1987 (GL) and 25 Sabattis May 3, 1970 (MK) to 32 Raquette Lake July 22, 1971 (FL).

Black-capped Chickadee

Abundant pr. Max. 50 Indian Lake early Feb. 1979 (RM).

*Boreal Chickadee

Fairly common pr in boreal forests.

Tufted Titmouse

Rare pr. First recorded Blue Mountain Lake June 14, 1962 (Guy Mountford); recent records include two Buttermilk Falls July 29, 1988 (EH); wintered Inlet feeder from Jan. 7, 1989, Dec. 9, 1989, and Nov. 16, 1995 (GL); Moose River

Recreational Area Aug. 1, 1994 (WP); Speculator feeder Oct. 14 and 31, 1999, with two on Nov. 10 and Dec. 6, 1999, and April 4, 2000 (PK); Indian Lake feeder Aug. 18, 2003 (DS). Max. seven Wells winter 1983 (BW).

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Common pr. Max. 61 Brown's Tract Ponds Oct. 27, 1969 (FL). Irruptive in some years.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Fairly common sr. Max. 22 Brown's Tract Ponds Oct. 27, 1969 (FL).

Brown Creeper

Uncommon pr and tv. Max. 10 Ferd's Bog May 8, 1976 (FL).

Carolina Wren

Extremely rare tv. Lake Pleasant Nov. 2-3, 1990 (George Kaulfuss).

House Wren

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 15, 1987 (GL) to Speculator Oct. 9, 1997 (PK).

Winter Wren

Fairly common sr, very rare wv. Sixth and Seventh Lakes March 29, 1998 and Moose River Recreational Area March 29, 1989 (GL) to Inlet Nov. 2, 1993 (GL); Cedar River Nov. 3-10, 1991 (RM); Moose River Recreation Area Dec. 2, 1995 (GL). Max. 10 Ferd's Bog May 12, 1979 (fide TM).

Marsh Wren

Rare sr. Speculator BBS June 8, 1974 (FS) to Lake Lila Aug. 7, 1999 (William Lenhart).

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Fairly common pr. Transients Speculator April 8, 2000 (PK). Max. 15 Brown's Tract Ponds Sept. 2, 1972 (DC, FL).

*Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Common tv, fairly common sr in boreal forests. Inlet March 24, 1987 (GL) to Indian Lake second week of Nov. 1982 (RM). Max eight Indian Lake July 5, 1980 (MFM, RM).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Extremely rare sr. First recorded Brown's Tract Ponds April 27, 1974 (FL); Ferd's Bog May 26 1985 (AB, Steve Chorvas).

Northern Wheatear

Accidental. Piseco Lake Sept. 25, 1963 (DM).

Eastern Bluebird

Fairly common sr. Indian Lake March 17, 2003 (Pieter Kein) to Cherry Ridge Nov. 13, 1986 (RM).

Veery

Fairly common sr. [?] to Indian Lake Sept. 25, 1971 (RM). Max. 54 Speculator BBS June 2, 1972 (DM, FS).

Gray-cheeked Thrush

Status uncertain. Transient Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's banded at Cedar River 1972-77 (RM) were unidentified (prior to the species split, when wing chord was not measured).

*Bicknell's Thrush

Uncommon sr. From timberline on Snowy Mt. down to 3,400', exceptionally 2,750' on Kempshall Mt. (JC). Kempshall Mt. June 2, 2002 (JC) to transient Cedar River Sept. 1, 1990 (banded by RM, wing chord 91 mm.); Wakely Mt. Oct. 10, 2003 (GDD); nests on Blue Mt., Burgess Mt., Pillsbury Mt., Wakely Mt., and other higher peaks. Early transient banded Cedar River July 18, 1991 (banded by RM, w.c. 91 mm.). Max. six calling Blue Mt. Sept. 17, 2003 (JC).

Swainson's Thrush

Common sr. From about 2,000' to 3,000', rarely lower, and as high as the summit of Wakely Mt. [3,760'] June 17, 1996 (WP - singing male). Limekiln Lake April 28, 1991 (GL) to Pillsbury Mt. Oct. 11, 2003 (JC).

Hermit Thrush

Common sr. Moose River Recreational Area April 13, 1998 (GL) to Limekiln Lake Nov. 6, 1993 (GL). Max. 15 Hope Falls BBS July 8, 1990 (Richard Guthrie).

Wood Thrush

Fairly common sr. Limekiln Lake April 28, 1991 (GL) to Buck Creek, near Seventh Lake Oct. 20, 1992 (TD); Inlet Dec. 7, 1988 (GL). Max. 33 Speculator June 2, 1972 (DM, FS).

American Robin

Abundant sr; uncommon wv, especially in winters with a bumper crop of mountain ash berries. Limekiln Lake Dec. 16, 2002 (GL); Indian Lake Jan. 5, 2003 (DS); Limekiln Lake Jan. 7, 2003 (GL); Raquette Lake Jan. 19, 1985 (Gary McChesney); Inlet Feb. 4-6, 1985 (GL); Indian Lake Feb. 14, 1976 (MFM, RM); Inlet Feb. 15, 1999 (GL).

Gray Catbird

Common sr. Indian Lake March 31, 1999 (GL) to Marion River Oct. 6, 2000 (GL).

Northern Mockingbird

Very rare sr since 1981. Long Lake April 29, 1988 (CD) to Speculator July 6, 1998 (PK).

Brown Thrasher

Uncommon sr. Raquette Lake April 1, 1997 (GL) to Speculator mid-Aug. 1969 (RM). Max. six Indian Lake June 11, 1972 (RM).

European Starling

Common pr in hamlets and around settled areas.

American Pipit

Very rare tv. Long Lake March 31, 2003 (JC); Cedar River golf course April 19, 2003 (MM, WM, JE, PE); Ferd's Bog April 30, 1988 (GL); Ferd's Bog May 1992 (fide GL); Long Lake Oct. 6, 2002 (PG); Inlet Oct. 13, 2003 (GL).

Bohemian Waxwing

Very rare wv. Inlet Dec. 22, 1984 (GL); 50 Raquette Lake Nov. 30-Dec. 3, 1998 (GL).

Cedar Waxwing

Common sr; erratic in winter. Inlet Feb. 11, 2000 (GL) and Inlet March 27, 1999 (GL) to Cedar River Nov. 18, 1994 (RM). Max. 52 Speculator BBS June 8, 1974 (FS).

Golden-winged Warbler

Extremely rare sr. Seventh Lake Aug. 1, 1962 (E. Farnham).

Lawrence's Warbler. Kunjamuk May 22, 1982 (David Cilley, Kathy Ann Scott).

*Tennessee Warbler

Uncommon tv, rare sr. May 20, 1978 (BD, DD, no location) to Brown's Tract Ponds Sept. 2, 1972 (DC, FL) and Inlet Sept. 2, 1995 (TD).

Nashville Warbler

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 2, 1987 (GL) to Piseco Sept. 10, 1968 (DM). Max. six Brown's Tract Ponds Aug. 29, 1971 (DC, PD, FL).

Northern Parula

Fairly common sr. Long Lake May 4, 2003 (JC) to Limekiln Lake Oct. 2, 1995 (TD). Max. 12 Indian Lake July 3, 1981 (MFM, RM).

Yellow Warbler

Common sr in southern Hamilton County, rare to fairly common elsewhere. Inlet May 7, 1993 (GL) to Piseco July 22, 1987 (DM). Max. 14 Speculator BBS 1976 (FS).

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Common sr. Lake Durant May 10, 1996 (GL) to Brown's Tract Ponds Sept. 2, 1972 (DC, FL). Max 48 Speculator BBS June 8, 1974 (FS).

Magnolia Warbler

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 1, 1999 (GL) to Long Lake Oct. 5, 1999 (PG). Max. 29 Speculator BBS June 1980 (FS).

*Cape May Warbler

Uncommon tv, very rare sr. Indian Lake May 16, 1987 (GL) to Hoffmeister Oct. 1, 1994 (D&DT).

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Fairly common sr. Sabattis May 3, 1970 (MK) and Long Lake May 3, 2003 (JC) to Limekiln Lake Oct. 2, 1995 (TD).

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Common sr to timberline. Limekiln Lake March 20, 2000 (GL) and Inlet April 1, 1986 (GL) to Moose River Plains Oct. 17, 1998 (GL). Max. 79 Ferd's Bog area May 10, 1980 (FL, CS).

Black-throated Green Warbler

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 1, 1990 (GL) to Wakely Mt. Oct. 10, 2003 (GDD). Max. 10 Cedar River Aug. 19, 1972 (IL, ML, RM).

Blackburnian Warbler

Fairly common sr. Inlet April 27, 1991 (GL) to Piseco Sept. 10, 1968 (DM). Max. 20 Speculator BBS June 8, 1974 (FS).

Yellow-throated Warbler

Extremely rare sv or sr. Piseco Lake July 9, 1980 (Herbert Salford; see TM, The Kingbird, 30:4, pp. 246-47, Fall 1980); accepted as one of three 1980-85 breeding records for NYS (Atlas).

Pine Warbler

Rare sr. Speculator April 16, 1998 (PK) to Wakely Mt. Sept. 13, 2003 (GDD).

Prairie Warbler

Very rare tv, no evidence of breeding. Male Brown's Tract Ponds spring 1975 (LH, WH, CS, ET); Inlet Aug. 27, 1995 (GL).

*Palm Warbler

Very rare tv, but status of nominate D.p. palmarum ("Western" Palm Warbler) uncertain, with no spring dates. Inlet Aug. 27, 1995 (GL); Helldiver Pond Sept. 7, 1993

(GL); Hoffmeister Sept. 30, 1994 (D&DT); Helldiver Pond Oct. 20, 1995 (GL); south inlet Raquette Lake Oct. 27, 1999 (GL) presumed to be this subspecies or race. Max. 20 Ferd's Bog Sept. 23, 2000 (BC), form not specified.

"Yellow" Palm Warbler. *Very rare tv and sr, nesting in boreal bogs. (D.p. hypochrysea)* Lake Pleasant April 23, 1999 (PK) and Ferd's Bog May 2, 1981 (fide TM) presumed to be this early migrant. Ferd's Bog Sept. 29, 1988 (Frank G. Witebsky), Sept. 20, 1999, and Sept. 29, 2002 (GL) may have been this form, based upon habitat. First singing male recorded Sabattis Bog June 19, 1996; two Sabattis Bog June 24, 1997 and June 16, 1998; Sabattis Bog June 18, 1999 (William Purcell); Sabattis Bog July 1, 2002 (Michael Drake); singing male Northville-Placid Trail Bog April 28, 2003 (JC).

*Bay-breasted Warbler

Uncommon tv, rare sr. In balsam woods as high as summit of Wakely Mt. [3,760'] July 17, 1997 (MP). Eight Indian Lake May 24, 1980 (MFM, RM) to Piseco Sept. 8, 1978 (DM); nested Brook Trout Lake trail (Atlas).

*Blackpoll Warbler

Uncommon tv, fairly common sr from about 3,000'. (Sled Harbor - GL, JP; also Moose River Plains - Brian W. Keelan, and Bear and Helldiver Ponds - GL). Lost Pond May 23, 1989 (GL), Long Lake May 23, 2003 (WC) and Brown's Tract Ponds June 3, 1972 (PD) to Brown's Tract Ponds Sept. 2, 1972 (DC, FL).

Black-and-white Warbler

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 2, 2001 (GL) to Indian Lake Oct. 23, 1976 (RM). Max. 15 Speculator BBS June 6, 1971 (FS).

American Redstart

Fairly common sr. Long Lake May 23, 2003 (WC), but undoubtedly earlier, to Piseco Sept. 29, 1968 (DM). Max 45 Speculator BBS June 8, 1974 (FS).

Ovenbird

Common sr. Long Lake May 4, 2003 (JC) to West Canada Lakes Sept. 12, 2003 (GDD). Max. 36 Speculator BBS June 2, 1972 (DM, FS).

Northern Waterthrush

Uncommon sr. Sagamore, Raquette Lake May 4, 1994 (GL) to Cedar River Sept. 11, 1987 (RM - banded). Max. 11 Speculator BBS June 2, 1972 (DM, FS).

Louisiana Waterthrush

Very rare sr on rushing lowland brooks. First singing male recorded Raquette Lake May 25, 1975 (Bruce Peterson); recently fledged young Long Lake summer 1983 (Atlas); recently fledged young Morehouse summer 1983 (Atlas).

Connecticut Warbler

Very rare tv. Indian Lake July 1, 1978 (RM), an unexpected date; Indian Lake Aug. 27, 1977 (RM).

Mourning Warbler

Uncommon sr. Long Lake May 19, 2003 (JC) to Inlet Sept. 21, 1999 (GL). Max. eight Indian Lake July 3, 1976 (MFM, RM).

Common Yellowthroat

Common sr. Limekiln Lake May 9, 1988 (GL) to Wakely Mt. Oct. 10, 2003 (GDD).

*Wilson's Warbler

Very rare tv and sr. [No spring records.] Wakely Mt. summit Sept. 14, 2002 (GDD) to Red River, MRRRA Oct. 15, 1992 (GL). Male in sedgy, grassy beaver meadow studded with black spruce on the southwest side of the appropriately named Wilson Pond trail off Rt. 28, beyond Brady Pond, July 10, 1984 (Sarah B. Laughlin, Betty L. Rist).

Canada Warbler

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 13, 1987 (GL) to Squaw Lake Sept. 6, 2003 (GDD). Max. 25 Speculator BBS June 6, 1971 (FS).

Scarlet Tanager

Fairly common sr. Moose River Plains May 8, 1990 (GL) to Piseco Sept. 29, 1968 (DM). Max. 14 Speculator BBS June 6, 1966 (FS).

Eastern Towhee

Rare sr. Inlet April 20, 1993 (GL) to Inlet Oct. 21, 1992 (GL).

American Tree Sparrow

Fairly common wv. Brown's Tract Ponds Oct. 27, 1973 (fide TM) to Lake Pleasant May 4, 1999 (PK); overwintered Inlet feeder 2002-03 (GL). Max. 32 Inlet April 5-8, 2003 (GL)

Chipping Sparrow

Common sr. Speculator April 6, 1998 (PK) to Long Lake Nov. 8, 1998 (PG).

Field Sparrow

Fairly common sr. Moose River Recreational Area March 29, 1989 (GL) to Inlet Nov. 2, 1996 (GL) and Lake Abanakee Nov. 7, 2003 (MM, WM).

Vesper Sparrow

Rare sr. Cedar River Road April 20, 2003 (JE, PE, MM, WM) to [?], autumn departure date unknown.

Savannah Sparrow

Rare sr. Cedar River Road April 20, 2003 (JE, PE, MM, WM) to Indian Lake June 21, 1998 (WP), but undoubtedly occurs later.

LeConte's Sparrow

Extremely rare tv. Limekiln feeder April 21, 1996 (GL).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow

Very rare tv. Indian Lake April 30, 1987 (GL); Brown's Tract Ponds May 11, 1975 (FL, Peter Merritt).

Fox Sparrow

Rare tv. Indian Lake March 12, 1992 (GL) to Inlet feeder April 17, 1992 (GL); Speculator feeder Oct. 19, 1997 (PK) to Hoffmeister feeder Dec. 30, 1993 (D&DT). Max. three Brown's Tract Ponds Oct. 28, 1971 (FL).

Song Sparrow

Common sr, occasional in winter. Inlet March 9, 1991 (GL) to Lake Abanakee Nov. 7, 2003 (MM, WM); overwintered Indian Lake feeder 2002-03 (DS).

*Lincoln's Sparrow

Uncommon tv, fairly common sr in boggy areas around 2,000 feet. Inlet May 1, 1987 (GL) to Ferd's Bog Sept. 29, 2003 (JC).

Swamp Sparrow

Uncommon sr. Ferd's Bog April 30, 1988 (GL) to Brown's Tract Ponds Oct. 30, 1973 (FL). Max. eight Long Lake late June 1966 (RM).

White-throated Sparrow

Abundant sr to high elevations, occasional in winter. Speculator March [?], 2000 (PK) to Inlet Nov. 20, 1993 (GL) and Speculator Dec. 26, 1998 (PK); overwintered Indian Lake feeder 1973-74 (RM). Max. 28 Speculator June 20, 1967 (RW).

White-crowned Sparrow

Uncommon tv. Inlet May 5, 1998 (GL) to Indian Lake May 25, 2000 (PK); Speculator Oct. 6, 1999 (PK) to Inlet Nov. 18, 1995 (GL); overwintered Speculator Dec. 3, 1999 to Feb. 2000 (PK).

Dark-eyed Junco

Abundant sr to timberline, occasional in winter. 30 Indian Lake Feb. 1975 (MFM, RM); Inlet March 12, 1992 (GL) to Inlet Nov. 29, 1967 (GL). Max. 1,000+ Speculator April 4, 1998 (PK).

Dark-eyed (“Oregon”) Junco. *Very rare tv.* Inlet feeder 1992 mated with “Slate-colored” and raised a brood, remaining through Sept. 7, 1992 (GL); Inlet Dec. 1984 (GL); Inlet Jan. 22-23, 1985 (GL); N.A. Migration Count May 9, 1992 (GL).

Snow Bunting

Uncommon wv. Inlet Oct. 21, 1989 (GL) and Indian Lake Oct. 21, 2003 (Nanci Vineyard) to Moose River Recreational Area March 29, 1989 (GL). Max. 140 Lake Abanakee Nov. 7, 2003 (MM, WM).

Northern Cardinal

Rare sr, occasional in winter. First recorded Cedar River June 19, 1969 (RM); Indian Lake Feb. 12, 1977 (FM, RM); Wells April 1, 1999 (PK) to [?]; Inlet Jan. 29-30, 1988 (GL); two females overwintered Inlet 1985-86 (GL).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Fairly common sr. Inlet May 1, 1987 and May 1, 2003 (GL) to Moose River Plains Sept. 12, 2003 (GDD). Max. 27 Speculator BBS June 6, 1966 (FS).

Indigo Bunting

Uncommon sr. Inlet April 22, 1993 (GL) to Inlet Oct. 25, 1993 (GL); immature male Inlet feeder Oct. 25-Dec. 6, 1993, molting to blue by Dec. (GL). Max. 29 Speculator BBS June 24, 1987 (DM, FS).

Bobolink

Uncommon sr. Singing male Wakely Dam June 6, 1994 (WP), Wells June 18, 1998 (WP), and Uncas estate June 27, 1981 to Brown’s Tract Ponds Aug. 29, 1971 (DC, PD, FL).

Red-winged Blackbird

Abundant sr, occasional in winter. Inlet feeder Feb. 27, 1992 and Feb. 29, 2000 (GL) to Squaw Lake Nov. 17, 1992 (GL); flock Limekiln Lake Dec. 16, 1993 (GL); Inlet dump Dec. 30, 1987 (GL); male Inlet feeder Jan. 22, 1986 (GL); over-

wintered Raquette Lake 1993-94 (GL). Max. 200-300 Inlet Oct. 28, 2002 (GL, overhead at dusk).

Eastern Meadowlark

Rare sr. Moose River Plains March 22, 1990 (GL) to Moose River Recreation Area Nov. 23, 1991 (GL).

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Extremely rare tv. Female Raquette Lake feeder May 11, 1984 (fide GL).

*Rusty Blackbird

Uncommon sr, rare tv. Long Lake March 31, 2003 (JC); Ferd’s Bog May 2, 1987 (FL, CS, LW) to Brown’s Tract Ponds Oct. 31, 1972 (FL). Max. 29 Sabattis May 3, 1970 (MK).

Common Grackle

Common sr, occasional in winter. Inlet March 10, 2002 (GL) to Speculator Nov. 25, 1999 (PK); Inlet dump to mid-Jan. 1986 (GL). Max. 400+ Speculator Oct. 20, 1997 (PK).

Brown-headed Cowbird

Fairly common sr, occasional in winter. Piseco Lake feeder Feb. 1976 (DM); Indian Lake Feb. 3, 1979 (MFM, RM); Speculator March [n.d.], 1999 (PK) and Blue Mountain Lake April 1, 1971 (EW) to Inlet Nov. 26, 1996 (GL).

Baltimore Oriole

Uncommon sr. Long Lake May 5, 2003 (JC) to Cedar River July 15-20, 1991 (RM), but undoubtedly occurs later. Max. 12 Speculator BBS June 8, 1974 (FS).

Pine Grosbeak

Fairly common, irregular wv. Cedar River Oct. 18, 1969 (RM) to Indian Lake March 27, 1972 (RM). Max. 200 Indian Lake Feb. 3, 1979 (MFM, RM).

Purple Finch

Fairly common sr, irregularly common to abundant on migration and in winter. Max. 500+ Speculator Feb. 19, 2001 (PK).

House Finch

Uncommon sr. First record unknown, but 13 records 1980-85, with adults carrying food for young for first confirmed nesting in Wells summer 1983 (Atlas); new to Speculator BBS June 2, 1986 (DM, FS). Inlet March 17, 1996 (GL) to 20 Speculator Oct. 1999 (PK). This western species, accidentally introduced into western Long Island in the 1940s, has thrived and spread to many eastern states, expanding westward.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Andrle, Robert F. and Janet R. Carroll, eds. *The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1988.
- Beehler, Bruce McP. *Birdlife of the Adirondack Park*. Glens Falls: Adirondack Mountain Club, 1978.
- Bull, John. *Birds of New York State*. Garden City: Doubleday/Natural History Press, 1974.
- Bull, John. *Supplement to Birds of New York State*. Cortland: Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, 1976.
- Bull, John L. *Bull's Birds of New York State / Emanuel Levine, ed.* Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1998.
- Carelton, Geoffrey and John M.C. Peterson, ed. *Birds of Essex County*, New York, 3rd ed. Elizabethtown, NY: High Peaks Audubon Society, Inc., 1999.
- Drennan, Susan Roney. *Where to find birds in New York State: The Top 500 Sites*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1981.
- Eaton, Elon H. *Birds of New York*. 2 Vols. Albany, New York: Univ. State of New York, 1910, 1914.
- The Kingbird*. New York State Ornithological Association, Inc. (formerly Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc.). Vols. 1-53 (1950-2003).
- Matray, Paul. "Checklist of Birds of the Newcomb-Long Lake Area." Mimeographed. Newcomb, NY, 1972
- Mitchell, Charles W. and William E. Krueger. *Birds of Clinton County*, 2nd ed. Elizabethtown, NY: High Peaks Audubon Society, Inc., 1997.
- North American Birds* (formerly Audubon Field Notes, American Birds, National Audubon Society FieldNotes, and field notes). American Birding Association (formerly by the National Audubon Society). Vols. 1-57 (1946-2003).
- Peterson, John M.C., ed. *High Peaks Audubon Newsletter*. High Peaks Audubon Society, Inc. Vols. 1-25 (1973-1997).
- Wells, J.V. *Important Bird Areas in New York State*. New York: National Audubon Society, 1998.

FIELD GUIDES

- Baicich, Paul J. and Colin J.O. Harrison. *A Guide to the Nests, Eggs, and Nestlings of North American Birds*, 2nd ed. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Bull, John and John Farrand, Jr. *The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds: Eastern Region*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1977.
- Dunn, Jon L. and Kimball L. Garrett. *Peterson Field Guides: A Field Guide to Warblers*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1997.
- Dunn, Jon L., Chief Consultant. *Field Guide to the Birds of North America*, 4th ed. Washington, DC: National Geographic Society, 2002.
- Farrand, John, Jr. *The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding: 1 Loons to Sandpipers*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1983.
- Farrand, John, Jr. *The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding: 2 Gulls to Dippers*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1983.
- Farrand, John, Jr. *The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding: 3 Old World Warblers to Sparrows*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1983.
- Harrison, Hal H. *Peterson Field Guides: Eastern Birds' Nests*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1975.
- Kaufman, Kenn. *Birds of North America*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2000.
- Peterson, Roger Tory and Virginia Marie Peterson. *Peterson Field Guides: A Field Guide to the Birds of Eastern and Central North America*, 5th ed. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2002.
- Robbins, Chandler S., Bertel Bruun, and Herbert S. Zim. *A Guide to Field Identification: Birds of North America*. New York: Golden Press, 1966.
- Sibley, David Allen. *National Audubon Society The Sibley Guide to Birds*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 2000.
- Sibley, David Allen. *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 2003.
- Stokes, Donald and Lillian. *Stokes Field Guide to Birds: Eastern Region*, 1st ed. Boston, New York, Toronto, London: Little, Brown and Company, 1996.

Hamilton County Tourism

1-800-648-5239 • www.hamiltoncounty.com
info@hamiltoncounty.com

Spruce Grouse



© Bird Photos by Jeff Nadler

Hamilton County Tourism

P.O. Box 771, White Birch Lane,
Indian Lake, NY 12842-0771
1-800-648-5239 • www.hamiltoncounty.com
info@hamiltoncounty.com

Indian Lake Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 724, Indian Lake, NY 12842
518-648-5112 • 1-800-328-LAKE
www.indian-lake.com

Inlet Information Office

P.O. Box 266, Inlet, NY 13360
1-866-GO-INLET
www.inletny.com

Long Lake Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Tourism

P.O. Box 496, Long Lake, NY 12847-0496
518-624-3077
www.longlake-ny.com

Adirondacks Speculator Region Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 184, Speculator, NY 12164
518-548-4521
www.adrkmts.com