

BIRDS IN THE SAGINAW BAY AREA

June 1- July 31, 2001

Compiled by:

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Weather:

The weather during the summer of 2001 changed abruptly during the period of June 16-13 from the wet Spring pattern to a dry, warm pattern with only scattered and localized thunderstorms during the remainder of the period. By the end of the period much of the SBA was suffering from a moderate drought. The June high temperature was only 0.7 degrees F above normal, but the July average high was 1.8 degrees F above normal. There were few frontal passages during July to influence early migrants through the area.

The NOAA web site information was incomplete as of this writing so no graph is reproduced here.

Summary:

Although there were no major weather fronts during the period and birder coverage was rather sparse, the number of species recorded and the number of unusual sightings was quite remarkable. A total number of 159 species were observed during this summer period, slightly lower than the average for the past several years. Some of the more common, expected species were not reported and few reports were submitted for the "Thumb" area. The **Bewick's Wren** sighting by the Hubingers in Saginaw County, if accepted by the MRBC, would be only the third known record for the SBA, the other records were from 1953 and 1972. The **King Rail** family at SNWR was a nice report since there have been no reports for this species in the SBA for several years. An **American White Pelican** at the same place and time was also notable. **Piping Povers** were again reported from Tawas Point but no confirmed nesting as yet. **Snowy Egret**, **Cattle Egret**, **Tri-colored Heron** and **Harris's Sparrow** were also interesting.

While we seem to have more birders spending more time in the field, the seasonal reports seem to be declining in number. This is regretful since the information on seasonal abundance of species in the area is quite important for long-term studies of our bird populations and trends. It is also important information to be used in helping to determine which of our locations should be protected from development. Our personal thanks to all those that did submit reports that make this possible.

REPORTS:

COMMON LOON:	19	PTP	on 8 Iosco County Lakes	GN, TN Two sites produced 1 chick each.
PIED BILLED GREBE:	6	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa	JS
	15	07/31	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
			Also noted in Sa.	

AM. WHITE PELICAN:	1	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS	
D C CORMORANT:	6	06/20	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS	
	1	06/09	Nay Pte, Ba	M&JH	
AMERICAN BITTERN:	2	06/08	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS	
	2	07/15	Tawas City Cemetery, Io Also noted in Ba.	GN,TN	
LEAST BITTERN:	1	06/20	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS	
	3	07/19	SNWR, Sa	CS	
GREAT BLUE HERON:	34	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa Also noted in Ba, Mi	JS	
GREAT EGRET:	152	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS	
	102	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa Also noted in Ba, Mi.	JS	
SNOWY EGRET:	1	06/25	KarnPlant,Ba	JZ (Details encl.)	
CATTLE EGRET:	2	PTP	Bangor Twp, Ba	JG	Fourth straight year they have spent summer at this location.
TRI-COLORED HERON:	1	06/03	Nay Pte, Ba	DD	Also on 07/05.
GREEN HERON:	1	07/03	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
	2	PTP	Midland, Mi	RA	
	7	07/19	SMWR, Sa	CS	
BLK-C NIGHT HERON:	2	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS	
TURKEY VULTURE:	2	PTP	AR Also noted in Ba.	JS	
CANADA GOOSE:	20	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS	
MUTE SWAN:	Pair w/4 young	06/28	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ	
	Also see same family on 07/14 and 07/31, same location.				
TUNDRA SWAN:	1	07/31	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ	
	Adult bird, did not fly when approached within 30 meters. Possibly injured bird. Yellow on bill below and in front of eye would indicate adult bird. Somewhat out of normal range for summer.				
TRUMPETER SWAN:	2 w/5 young	PTP	Foote Pond, Io	GN,TN	Also by CS
	Not countable in Michigan but placed here for information purposes.				
WOOD DUCK:	12	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa	JS	
	7	06/25	Karn Plnt, Ba	JZ	
	Female with 6 young.				

GADWALL:	2	06/25	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
AMERICAN WIGEON:	2	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
AM. BLACK DUCK:	1	06/09	Nay Pte, Ba	M&JH
MALLARD:	100+	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
	20	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS
BLUE-WINGED TEAL:	3	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
NORTHERN SHOVELER:	1	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
GREEN-WINGED TEAL:	3	06/28	Pinconning Park, Ba	JZ
	4	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
HOODED MERGANSER:	1 Adult, 9 young	06/20	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
RUDDY DUCK:	4	06/08	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
	Two Broods	PTP	Crow Island (West Unit)	DB
	Unusual to be breeding in this part of Michigan.			
OSPREY:	4	PTP	Tuttle Marsh, Io	GN,TN
	2 nests produced 4 young.			
BALD EAGLE:	Nest failure		Crow Island, Sa	DB
	Nest Failure		Hampton Twp, Ba	DB
	2 young in nest		Quanicassee, Tu	DB
	1 Adult, 1 Juv.	06/28	Pinconning Park, Ba	JZ
	1	0727	Midl & Freeland Rd., Sa	BW
NORTHERN HARRIER:	1	06/28	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
	1	07/25	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
SHARP-SHIN HAWK:	1	06/28	Frankenmuth, Sa	H&JS
COOPER'S HAWK:	1	06/06	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS
	1	06/19	CNC, Mi	D&RF Via NMB
RED-SHLDRD HAWK:	1	06/19	Io	LA,CS,JeS,SP
RED-TAILED HAWK:	2	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS, GS
	Also noted in Mi, Sa.			
AMERICAN KESTREL:	2	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
	Family of 6 (4 Juv) on 06/26, same location			JS,GS
R-N PHEASANT:	1	06/09	Nay Pte, Ba	M&JH
WILD TURKEY:		PTP	Mi.	
KING RAIL:	1 Adult, 5 young	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS Details to be
	1 Imm.	07/25	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS sent separately.
VIRGINIA RAIL:	1	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa	JS
	1	06/08	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS

	2	06/27	SNWR, Sa	LA,CS,JeS,MB
SORA:	4	06/08	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
	10	07/14	SMWR, Sa	LA,CS,JeS,SP,MB,BG
	2	07/31	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
COMMON MOORHEN:	2 Adults	07/31	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
	Plus another adult with young			
	Also noted in Sa.			
AMERICAN COOT:	4	07/31	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
	87	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
SANDHILL CRANE:	5	06/27	SNWR, Sa	LA,CS,JeS,MB
	2	07/07	Gibson Twp, Ba	JZ
	6+	PTP	Tuttle Marsh, Io	GN,TN Nesting.
PIPING PLOVER:	4	Late June-Jul	Taw Pte, Io	GN,TN
KILLDEER:	4	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
	98	07/17	Freeland Sewage Ponds, Sa	JS
GRTR YELLOWLEGS:	1	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
	8	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
LESSER YELLOWLEGS:	1	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa	JS
	19	06/29	SNWR, Sa	BG
	38	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
	Also noted in Ba.			
SOLITARY SANDPIPER:	3	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa	JS
	1	06/29	SNWR, Sa	BG
SPOTTED SANDPIPER:	2	07/16	Crow Island (West Unit), Sa	JS
	4	07/17	Freeland Sewage Ponds, Sa	JS
	(One Juvenile incapable of flight)			
	Also noted in Ba.			
UPLAND SANDPIPER:	1	06/24	River Rd., Oscoda, Io	GN,TN
	3	06/19	Oscoda, Io	LA,CS,JeS,SP
SANDERLING:	2	07/17	Freeland Sewage Ponds, Sa	JS
SEMIPALM. SANDP:	2	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
LEAST SANDPIPER:	12	07/17	Freeland Sewage Ponds, Sa	JS
	37	07/04	Taw Pte, Io	GN,TN
	60	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
WHT-RUMPED SAND:	7	06/02	Sa	GU via NMB
PECTORAL SANDPIPER:	3	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
DUNLIN:	06/04		SNWR, Sa	BG

STILT SANDPIPER:	12	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
S-B DOWITCHER:	62	07/18	SNWSR, Sa	BG,CS
	3	07/04	Taw Pte, Io	GN,TN
COMMON SNIFE:	3	07/31	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
AM. WOODCOCK:	1	07/03	Oak Grove, Ba	JS
RING-BILLED GULL:	100	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
HERRING GULL:	20	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
GRT BLK-BACKED GULL:	2	07/31	Taw Pte, Io	GN,TN
CASPIAN TERN:	3	4 06/06	PTP Tawas Bay, Io Currie Golf Course Pond, Mi	RA JS,GS Interesting location.
			Also noted in Ba,Sa	
COMMON TERN:	4	07/04	Saginaw River, Ba Also noted in Mi.	JS
FORSTER'S TERN:	4	06/28	Pinconning Park, Ba	JZ
BLACK TERN:	25	06/03	Nay Pte, Ba	M&JH
	15	Mid-Jun-Jul	Taw Pte, Io flats off tip of point, eventually disrupted by human disturbance.	GN,TN Nesting on
	20	07/15	Tawas Bay, Io	JS,GS
	20 min.	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba Also noted in Sa	JZ
ROCK DOVE:	75	PTP	Bay City, Ba	JS,GS
MOURNING DOVE:	8	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba Also noted in Mi	JS,GS
BLK-BILLED CUCKOO:	1	06/17	Wigwam Bay, Ar	M&JH
	1	07/18	SNWR, Sa Also noted in Mi.	BG,CS
E. SCREECH-OWL:	1	06/26	SNWR, Sa	BG
	1	06/06	Midland, Mi	RA Also seen 06/23.
GRT HORNED OWL:	1	06/28	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
	1 Adult, 2 Imm.	06/19	SNWR, Sa	BG
	1 Fledgling	07/15	Tawas Marina, Io from water with fishing net, dried out and released next day.	GN,TN Rescued
BARRED OWL:	1	06/14	Midland, Mi	RA
COM. NIGHTHAWK:	2	07/08	Essexville, Ba	JS
	11	06/24	River Road, Oscoda, Io	GN,TN

CHIMNEY SWIFT:	4 Sev.	PTP 06/09	Hampton Twp, Ba Ba Also noted in Mi.	JS M&JH	
R-T HUMMINGBIRD:	1 2	06/08 06/09	SNWR, Sa Nay Pte, Ba Also noted in Mi.	BG,CS M&JH	
BELTED KINGFISHER:	1 3	PTP 07/06	Hampton Twp, Ba Five Channels Pond, Io Also noted in Mi.	JS,GS GN,TN	
RED-BELLIED WOODP	1 2	07/03 PTP	Oak Grove, Ba Mi	JS: JZ	
DOWNY WOODPECKER:	2 2	PTP 06/09	Hampton Twp, Ba Nay Pte, Ba Also noted in Mi.	JS,GS M&JH	
HAIRY WOOPECKER:	1 3	PTP 07/15	Midland, MI Larkin Twp, Mi	JZ K&S via NMB	
NORTHERN FLICKER:	2	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba Also noted in Sa, Mi.	JS	
EAST. WOOD-PEWEE:	2 3	07/03 06/08	Oak Grove, Ba SNWR, Sa Also noted in Mi.	JS BG,CS	
ALDER FLYCATCHER:	1	06/03	Nay Pte, Ba	DD	No info on vocalization.
WILLOW FLYCATCHER:	1 1 3	06/09 07/16 06/28	SNWR, Sa Crow Island (West Unit), Sa Nay Pte, Ba	LA,CS,JeS,BG,SP JS JZ	
LEAST FLYCATCHER:	1 3	06/28 06/08	Pinconning Park, Ba SNWR, Sa	JZ BG,CS	
EASTERN PHOEBE:	2 Nesting Pair	07/07	Gibson Twp, Ba Nr. Freeland, Sa Also noted in Sa, Mi	JZ BW	
GRT CREST FLYCATCH:	2 13 1	06/08 06/26 07/03	SNWR, Sa SNWR, Sa Oak Grove, Ba	BG,CS BG JS	
EASTERN KINGBIRD:	2 9	PTP 07/26	Hampton Twp, Ba South Branch River, Io Also noted in Sa, Mi.	JS GN,TN	
YELLOW-THR VIREO:	3	06/17	Wigwam Bay, Ar	M&JH	
WARBLING VIREO:	1	06/09	Ba	M&JH	

	40	06/08	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
	57	07/18	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS
BEWICK'S WREN:	1	06/16	Saginaw Twp, Sa	M&JH See Report.
B-G GNATCATCHER:	4	06/26	SNWR, Sa	BG
	2	06/17	Wigwam Bay, Ar Also noted in Mi.	M&JH
EASTERN BLUEBIRD:	4	07/07	Gibson Twp, Ba	JZ
	2	06/11	Frankenmuth, Sa	H&JS
VEERY:		1	06/03 Mi	M&JH
	1	06/17	Wigwam Bay, Ar	M&JH
WOOD THRUSH:	1	06/09	Ba	M&JH
	2	07/03	Oak Grove, Ba	JS
AMERICAN ROBIN:	6	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
GRAY CATBIRD:		2	PTP Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
	5	06/26	SNWR, Sa	BG
N. MOCKINGBIRD:	2	PTP	River Rd., Oscoda, Io	GN,TN Presumed nesting.
BROWN THRASHER:	1	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS
EURASIAN STARLING:	10	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
	100	07/07	Gibson Twp, Ba	JZ
CEDAR WAXWING:	6	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
	20	06/25	Karn Plant, Ba	JZ
	60+	07/26	South Branch river, Io Also noted in Sa.	GN,TN
BL-WGD WARBLER:	2	06/17	North Bay County	M&JH
B-THR GREEN WARB:	1	06/03	Mi	M&JH
	1	06/19	TawPte, Io	LA,CS,JeS,SP
BLACKBURN WARB:	1	06/17	Wigwam Bay, Ar	M&JH
PINE WARBLER:		3	06/17 Wigwam Bay, Ar	M&JH
	1	06/19	Io	LA,CS,JeS,SP
KIRTLAND'S WARBL:	2	06/07-24	River Rd., Oscoda, Io	GN,TN
PRAIRIE WARBLER:	1	06/19	Taw Pte, Io	LS,CS,JeS, SP
CERULEAN WARBLER:	1	06/17	Wigwam Bay, Ar	M&JH Male
B & W WARBLER:	1	06/19	Tuttle Marsh, Io	LA,CS,JeS,SP
AMERICAN REDSTART:	Sev.	06/03	Mi	M&JH
	2	06/26	SMWR, Sa	BG

Also noted in Mi.

R-W BLACKBIRD:	4	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
	100+	07/31	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
			Also noted in Sa, Ba.	
EAST. MEADOWLARK:	1	06/17	North Bay County	M&JH
	2	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
			Also noted in Mi.	
YEL-HDD BLACKBIRD:	4	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS
	1	06/19	Taw Pte, Io	LS,CS,JeS, SP
	9	06/28	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
			Also noted in Sa	DB
RUSTY BLACKBIRD:	20	06/25	Karn Plant, Ba	JZ
COMMON GRACKLE:	10	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
BRWN-HDD COWBIRD:	8	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
ORCHARD ORIOLE:	2	PTP	Taw Pte, Io	GN,TN
			Nest w/ young	LA,CS,JeS,SP
	3	07/04	Mi	MS via NMB
BALTIMORE ORIOLE:	2	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
	22	06/26	SNWR, Sa	BG
PURPLE FINCH:		1	06/27 Tuttle Marsh, Io	LA,CS,JeS,MB
HOUSE FINCH:	8	PTP	Midland, Mi	JZ
			Also noted in Ba.	
AM. GOLDFINCH:	12	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba,	JS,GS
	80-100	07/14	Nay Pte, Ba	JZ
			Also noted in Sa.	Feeding on thistle.
HOUSE SPARROW:	10	PTP	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS,GS
TOTAL SPECIES:	159			

Outside SBA:

PILEATED WOODP:	1	06/17	Gladwin County	M&JH
COMMON RAVEN:	1	06/17	Gladwin County	M&JH

OBSERVER

KEY:

LA	Larry Abraham
RA	Ron Annelin
BB	Bob Bell
DB	Don Bonnette

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Addendum to original report

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Since a report came in after the submission of the original report and it covers Parts of Iosco County not otherwise covered and includes species that are in addition to those in the original report, this should be considered an addendum to that original report.

REPORTS:

NORTHERN GOSHAWK:	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	Beautiful male, guarding territory, tried to "scalp" me seven times.
RUFFED GROUSE:	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
RED-HDD WOODPECK:	2	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
Y-B SAPSUCKER:	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
PILEATED WOODP:	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
R-B NUTHATCH:	1	06/22	Powerline Road, Io	BB	
WINTER WREN:	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
HERMIT THRUSH:	5	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
GLDN-WGD WARB:	1	06/23	Eagle Run, Io	BB	
NASHVILLE WARB:	7	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
CHEST-SDD WARB:	5	06/23	Eagle Run, Io	BB	
MAGNOLIA WARB:	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
BLK-THR BL WARB:	2	07/07	The Highbanks, Io	BB	
YEL-RUMP WARB:	1	06/08	Meade Rd., Io	BB	

BLACKBURNIAN WA:	4	07/07	The Highbanks, Io	BB
CANADA WARB:	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB
WHT-TH SPAR:	6	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB
BREWER'S BLACKB:	2	07/05	Oscoda High Sch., Io	BB Male & Fem. defending territory.

TOTAL SPECIES: 175

Outside SBA:

Since a report came to enter the submission of the original report and it contains birds of Iowa (only not
 otherwise covered and indicates species that are in addition to those in the original report this should
 be considered an addition to that original report.

REMARKS:

NORTHERN COCKATU	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	Beautiful male guarding territory, tried to "sing" me seven times.
SCALPED GROUSE	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
Y-B SAPSUCKER	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
SCALPED WOODPECKER	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
R-B NUTHATCH	1	06/09	Fourteen Road, Io	BB	
WATER WREN	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
HELMET THRUSH	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
GLD-WOOD WARB.	1	06/09	Eagle Run, Io	BB	
NASHVILLE WARB.	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
CHRISTOPHER WARB.	1	06/09	Eagle Run, Io	BB	
MAGNOLIA WARB.	1	06/09	Seven Mile Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
BLK-THROAT WARB.	1	07/07	The Highbanks, Io	BB	
TEAL-THROAT WARB.	1	06/09	Meade Rd., Io	BB	