

BIRDS IN THE SAGINAW BAY AREA

August 1st-November 30th, 1997

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Compiler's farewell: It is with a heavy heart that I announce that I am leaving the Saginaw Bay Area. As many of you know, the company I have most recently worked for, DowBrands, has been sold to S.C. Johnson of Racine, WI. Due to this change, we have decided to move to Lake Jackson, Texas. I will still be working for Dow and my E-mail address will stay the same. At present, we intend to keep our cottage on Tawas Point; so don't be too surprised if you see me up there some time. However, this fall summary will my last SBA compilation for obvious reasons. Be sure and look me out if you are headed down to Texas!

Compiler's disclaimer: The records referred to and listed below are merely a compilation of records sent in by local observers. Their appearance in this publication does not in any way validate any of the sightings.

Summary:

The fall of 1997 will probably be remembered for its extremes rather than its rarities. Mild weather resulted in an exceptional number of species lingering past their normal departure dates during the fall season. Some of the most exceptional late birds included **Snowy Egret** (9/19), **Solitary Sandpiper** (10/16), **Greater Yellowlegs** (11/20), **Spotted Sandpiper** (10/14), **Least Flycatcher** (2 on 10/3), **Yellow Warbler** (9/16), **Magnolia Warbler** (10/19), **Blackpoll Warbler** (10/10), **Black-and-white Warbler** (10/11), **American Redstart** (10/11), **Ovenbird** (10/7), **Northern Waterthrush** (10/13) and **Bobolink** (6 on 10/3). Extreme early dates were fewer but included **Red-necked Grebe** (9/8), **Greater Scaup** (5 on 9/13), **White-winged Scoter** (3 on 9/13), **Merlin** (8/23), **White-rumped Sandpiper** (3 on 8/1), **Hermit Thrush** (8/31), **Dark-eyed Junco** (8/31) and **Common Redpoll** (9/8-amazingly early!).

Other good birds tallied for the period included a couple of **Red-throated Loons** from Tawas, **Tricolored Heron** and **Cattle Egret** continuing at the Karn Plant, a **Ross' Goose** from Shiawassee, **Whimbrels** from Nayanquing and Shiawassee, three **Marbled Godwits** from the Bay Port area, four **Western Sandpipers** from Bay City SRA, several **Long-billed Dowitchers** and two **Wilson's Phalaropes** from Shiawassee, one **Red-necked Phalarope** from the Bay Port area, a **Little Gull** from Tawas, a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** from Shiawassee, an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** from Oak Grove, a **Clay-colored Sparrow** from Hampton Twp, a **Grasshopper Sparrow** from Auburn, and five **White-winged Crossbills** from Tawas.

Notable movements were recorded for **Red-necked Grebes** with a high count of 30+ on 11/1 at Tawas and **Red-breasted Nuthatches** which were moving in numbers in late August. Movements were also noted for **Purple Finches**, **Common Redpolls**, **Pine Siskins**, and to a lesser extent **Evening Grosbeaks**. Low numbers of **Common Nighthawks** were commented on by more than one observer. Short-eared Owl, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-winged, Golden-winged and Orange-crowned Warblers, and Lapland Longspur went unreported for the period. Never-the-less a very respectable 232 species were tallied by SBA observers. So long & good SBA birding!!!

REPORTS

RED-THROATED LOON:

1	10/25	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN
1	11/7	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB

COMMON LOON:

1	8/29	Bay Port area. Ba	TB	
3	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB. KT	First report.
153	10/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	Highest count.

Small numbers noted through period.

PIED-BILLED GREBE:

107	8/23	Nayanquing Pt WA. Ba	RW, KK	Peak.
2	11/2	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Last report.

HORNED GREBE:

1	9/11	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	First report.
6	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW. BB	
300+	11/1	Tawas Pt SP, Io	SR	From Jerry's Marina.
200+	11/2	Tawas Bay. Io	GN	Out from Pier 23 restaurant.

Small numbers present through period.

RED-NECKED GREBE:

1	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB. KT	Early for SBA.
2	9/14	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
5	9/27	Tawas Pt SP, Io	DD	

These early September birds are the first for the SBA, but hardly unexpected as Whitefish gets large numbers in late summer (late July onward). The normal migration route from Whitefish is generally east or east-southeast, but these birds should be looked for in the SBA whenever early fall cold fronts bring north winds. These weather patterns are rare in late summer likely contributing to our dearth of August and early September birds. But then later...

30+	11/1	Tawas Pt SP, Io	SR	From Jerry's Marina.
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Steve reported large numbers of grebes in the area that day. The 300+ Horned and 30+ Red-necked were thought to be very conservative counts; the fishing boats in the area kept disturbing the grebes making them difficult to count. The winds out of the south that particular day were likely responsible for the Tawas Bay "fallout" of birds brought down into our area by the most recent cold front. Enough grebe-babbling!

7	11/22	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	One present tp (GN).
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EARED GREBE:

No reports.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:

1500	8/2	Tawas Pt SP, Io	J&GS	Wow!
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Present through period at Karn Plant, Ba.

AMERICAN BITTERN:

3	8/8	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	One there on 8/1 (BG).
1	8/11	Bay Port area. Ba	TB	
1	9/29	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	

Also reported from Nayanquing Pt WA. Ba (RW, KK).

LEAST BITTERN:

1	8/1	Karn Plant. Ba	SM	
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GREAT BLUE HERON:

103	8/14	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Fall peak.
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Small numbers present through period. Two still at TPSP. Io on 11/30 (GN).

GREAT EGRET:

279	8/5	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	Peak.
154	8/21	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
11	8/2. 9/27	Tuttle Marsh. Io	BB	Numbers increasing there.
2	11/14	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Last lingerers.

SNOWY EGRET:

1	9/19	Karn Plant. Ba	JS	
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TRICOLORED HERON:

1	through 8/23	Karn Plant. Ba	RW. KK. SM	Aberrant bird from the summer.
CATTLE EGRET:				
3	8/2	Karn Plant. Ba	SM	Also summer holdovers.
GREEN HERON:				
8	8/30	Oak Grove. Ba	JS	Good number for this species.
3	9/17	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Last report.
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON:				
7	8/2	Tuttle Marsh. Io	BB	Good number for that far north.
49	9/11	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
6	11/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Last report.
TUNDRA SWAN:				
2	10/24	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Some present through period.
250	10/26	Midland. Mi	RA	
250	10/30	Bay Port area. Ba	TB	
150	11/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
MUTE SWAN:				
Reported from the typical Bay County locations. No large numbers reported.				
GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE:				
No reports.				
SNOW GOOSE:				
2	9/25	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Small numbers through period.
55	10/23	MCV Ponds. Mi	RW. EK	Mostly Blues.
ROSS' GOOSE:				
1	10/10	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Getting to be regular.
CANADA GOOSE:				
Peak of 14,436 at Shiawassee NWR. Sa (DP).				
WOOD DUCK:				
160	8/30	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Peak.
75	9/6.20	Bay Port area. Ba	TB	
1	11/14	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Last.
GREEN-WINGED TEAL:				
1041	10/24	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Peak.
70	11/14	Tawas Pt SP. Io	BB	Good movement.
25	11/14	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
AMERICAN BLACK DUCK:				
1884	11/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
MALLARD:				
12,747	11/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
NORTHERN PINTAIL:				
196	10/16	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Reported through end of period.
BLUE-WINGED TEAL:				
158	8/8	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
10	10/3	Tobico Lagoon. Ba	J&GS	
1	10/24	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
NORTHERN SHOVELER:				
336	10/24	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Reported through end of period.
GADWALL:				
153	10/24	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
Reported through end of period at MCV. Mi (RW)				
AMERICAN WIGEON:				
250	10/3	Tobico Lagoon. Ba	JS	
131	10/31	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Reported through end of period.
CANVASBACK:				
5	10/6	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
14	10/31	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	No big numbers reported this year.
6	11/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
REDHEAD:				

15	8/23	Nayanquing Pt WA. Ba	RW, KK	Few reported this fall.
1	10/23	Chippewa NC. Mi	GZ	Tough bird to find at CNC.
RING-NECKED DUCK:				
50	10/3	Tobico Lagoon, Ba	JS	
564	10/24	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	10 left on 11/20.
GREATER SCAUP:				
5	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB, RW	Quite early! No large counts reported.
LESSER SCAUP:				
1	9/11	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
71	10/16	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Peak.
OLDSQUAW:				
~25	10/25	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, SR	
67	11/7	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
Reported from Arenac County at the Whitney-Sims Cemetery and the Au Gres River mouth on 11/20-22 (RW, GZ).				
BLACK SCOTER:				
2	10/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	
2	11/7	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
SURF SCOTER:				
4	10/11	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
3	10/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	
1	11/7	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:				
3	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB, RW	Very early!
39	11/7	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Peak.
DARK-WINGED SCOTER:				
2	11/1	Tawas Pt SP, Io	SR	
Bob Bell also had a number of dark-winged scoters on 11/7 at TPSP, Io.				
COMMON GOLDENEYE:				
1	10/15	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	First report.
1000+	11/15	Three Mile Park, Io	SR, LH	Peak.
BUFFLEHEAD:				
1	9/13	Karn Plant. Ba	J&GS	
40	11/20	Oscoda, Io	GZ	
HOODED MERGANSER:				
29	10/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak count.
COMMON MERGANSER:				
2	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	9 there on 9/13 (RW, BB).
RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:				
4	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	
572	10/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	No huge numbers reported.
500+	11/18	Karn Plant. Ba	JS	And a late peak.
RUDDY DUCK:				
374	10/23	Dow Ponds, Mi	RW, EK	
The adjacent MCV Pond had another 180 for an impressive total 554 Ruddy Ducks in the complex.				
9	11/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Latest date reported.
TURKEY VULTURE:				
72	9/17	Midland City Dump, Mi	RA	
~15	10/25	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, SR	Flying over East Tawas/Tawas City.
12	11/15	Tawas Pt SP, Io	SR, LH	Same spot as above.
This spot is reliable for late season TVs. Simply stop at the boat launch (Jerry's Marina) near the park and scan over the treeline from East Tawas to Tawas City.				
OSPREY:				
Reported from Tuttle Marsh, Io on 8/1 (2 birds-BB), TPSP, Io on 8/8 (J&GS), Hampton Twp, Ba on 8/16 (J&GS) and BCSRA, Ba (G&EP).=.				
BALD EAGLE:				
Peak count of 18 at Shiawassee NWR, Sa on 8/21, 11/20 and 11/28 (DP).				
NORTHERN HARRIER:				

Scattered sightings through period. Peak of 6 on 9/4 at Shiawassee NWR. Sa (DP).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:

2	8/28	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
1	10/30	Bay Port area, Ba	TB	
1	11/22	Au Gres River mouth, Ar	RW	Quite late for an apparent migrant.

COOPER'S HAWK:

Scattered sightings through period.

NORTHERN GOSHAWK:

1	10/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
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RED-SHOULDERED HAWK:

1	8/23	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	KK, RW	
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BROAD-WINGED HAWK:

1	8/28	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
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RED-TAILED HAWK:

Regular through period. Peak count of 10 on 8/8 & 11/7 at Shiawassee NWR, Sa (DP). Dark-morph bird returns for what I believe is the 8th straight winter.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK:

1	10/25	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, SR	Also from Thumb on 10/27.30 (TB).
1	11/7	Towerline Road, Io	BB	
1	11/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	

GOLDEN EAGLE:

No reports.

AMERICAN KESTREL:

Regular through period.

MERLIN:

1	8/23	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW, KK	Quite early.
5	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, BB	
1	10/15	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	Eating lunch.
1	11/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Last report. Late.

PEREGRINE FALCON:

1 im	8/6	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
1	9/27	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	

RING-NECKED PHEASANT:

1	9/27	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Very rare in the park itself.
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RUFFED GROUSE:

10	9/26	Curtisville Road, Io	BB	
1	10/11	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Also rare on in the park itself.

WILD TURKEY:

Regular through period. Highest count was of 29 reported from Tawas City, Io (AB, KT).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE:

1	8/30	Bay Port area, Hu	TB	Only report.
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VIRGINIA RAIL:

7	8/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	Whopping fall tally!
1	8/16	Hampton Twp, Ba	J&GS	Often missed in the fall when silent.

SORA:

4	9/5 & 17	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	One still there on 10/10 (DP).
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COMMON MOORHEN:

20 est	8/23	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RW, KK	Reported from BCSRA, Ba (G&EP).
7	7/5	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
7	8/30	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	10/10	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	RA	

AMERICAN COOT:

117	10/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	17 left on 11/20.
200	11/2	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	Peak.
1	11/30	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	

SANDHILL CRANE:

3	8/16-9/12	Bay Port area, Ba	TB	
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2	10/14	Auburn, ba	RA	
Reported in good numbers by a friend in Bentley Twp. Ba (fide RW). The birds come out into his fields to feed.				
BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:				
1	8/14	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
3	10/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	
1	11/1	Karn Plant, Ba	SR	
AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER:				
1	10/2	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER:				
1	8/1	Bay City SRA, Ba	Tom Pavlik	
10	8/23	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
7	9/13	Tuttle Marsh, Io	BB	
1	10/3	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
PIPING PLOVER:				
No reports.				
KILLDEER:				
141	8/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
75	9/4	Bay Port area, Ba	TB	
1	10/31	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
GREATER YELLOWLEGS:				
22	9/26	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Peak.
3	11/2	Midland, Mi	RA	
5	11/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
1	11/20	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Very late.
1	11/20	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GZ	Equally as late.
LESSER YELLOWLEGS:				
473	8/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	10/24	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
SOLITARY SANDPIPER:				
3	8/14	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
1	10/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Very late.
WILLET:				
No reports.				
SPOTTED SANDPIPER:				
18	8/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
2	10/3	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
1	10/14	Auburn, Ba	RA	Very late. A good "late" year.
UPLAND SANDPIPER:				
No reports. As usual for this very early migrant.				
WHIMBREL:				
1	8/3	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	DP	
2	9/23	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
Apparently, the first Shiawassee record! Not many fall record of late for the SBA.				
HUDSONIAN GODWIT:				
No reports.				
MARbled GODWIT:				
3	9/2	Bay Port area, Hu	TB	Our lone Huron Co. reporter these days.
RUDDY TURNSTONE:				
2	8/1	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	
1	10/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Few October records to date.
RED KNOT:				
1	8/30-9/11	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	
SANDERLING:				
1	8/1	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	No large numbers reported this fall.
1	11/7	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Last report.
SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER:				
266	8/8	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	

7	10/2	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
WESTERN SANDPIPER:				
4	8/1	Bay City SRA. Ba	Tom Pavlik	Lucky guy! Good time to look.
LEAST SANDPIPER:				
289	8/8	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
2	10/3	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	
WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:				
3	8/1	Bay City SRA. Ba	Tom Pavlik	Very early returnees.
5	9/5, 10/2	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	3 there on 10/10.
4	10/23	Dow Ponds. Mi	RW. EK	
I think someone reported these again a few days later.				
BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:				
1	9/11	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Only report!
PECTORAL SANDPIPER:				
73	8/8	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
6	10/10	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
3	11/9	Fish Pt WA. Tu	DD	Late.
DUNLIN:				
1	9/20	Bay Port area. Ba	TB	Rare in September.
8	10/2	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
241	11/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	One left on 11/12 (BG).
12	11/18	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
STILT SANDPIPER:				
50	8/21	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Up from 36 reported there on 8/5 (BG).
1	10/2	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:				
No reports.				
SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:				
47	8/21	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
2	9/17	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Confirmed by call notes.
12	9/23	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	
6	10/3	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	
LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:				
5	9/26	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP, BG	Confirmed by call notes.
8	10/2-3	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP, BG	Confirmed by call notes.
DOWITCHER SP.:				
1	8/1	Karn Plant. Ba	Tom Pavlik	
18	10/10	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
COMMON SNIPE:				
11	9/5	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Peak.
1	11/18	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Last.
AMERICAN WOODCOCK:				
1	10/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	
1	11/10	Saginaw. Sa	DP	
WILSON'S PHALAROPE:				
2	8/8, 8/21	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Only reports.
RED-NECKED PHALAROPE:				
2	9/2	Bay Port area. Hu	TB	Only report.
FRANKLINS GULL:				
No reports.				
LITTLE GULL:				
1	10/24	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	The tried and true spot for Little Gulls.
BONAPARTE'S GULL:				
500	10/27	Karn Plant. Ba	JS	Peak count.
RING-BILLED GULL:				
5874	11/20	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	
Thousands reported from the Thumb on 10/30 (TB).				

HERRING GULL:
1948 11/20 Shiawassee NWR. Sa DP Also large numbers at MCV, Mi.

THAYER'S GULL:
No reports.

ICELAND GULL:
No reports.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:

1 9/19 tp Bay City SP, Ba RW et al

This marks Lester's 8th year on the beach! He is still short of a bird that appeared for 12 straight years on Texas' Mustang Island (Corpus Christi). Go for the record, Lester!

1 11/20 Shiawassee NWR. Sa DP Quite the gull spot these days!

GLAUCOUS GULL:

3 11/22 Whitestone Pt. Ar RW Only report.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL:

1 ad 8/30 Tawas Pt SP, Io RW

1 10/23 Karn Plant, Ba JS

18 11/22 Whitestone Pt. Ar RW 14 were adults.

Also reported from Thumb from 8/31 and later in the season (TB). Also a couple at BCSRA, Ba (G&EP. GZ)

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE:

No reports.

CASPIAN TERN:

65 8/5 Karn Plant, Ba JS

3 10/3 Karn Plant, Ba JS One at SNWR, Sa on 10/2 (BG).

COMMON TERN:

31 8/1 Tawas Pt SP, Io BB

450 8/28 Bay Port area, Ba TB Peak count.

10 10/3 Karn Plant, Ba JS Last.

FORSTER'S TERN:

1 10/31 Karn Plant, Ba JS Last.

BLACK TERN:

1 8/23 Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba RW, KK Last report.

ROCK DOVE:

Common through every period. No especially high counts reported.

MOURNING DOVE:

Common through period. Peak of 215 at SNWR, Sa on 11/28 (DP); 186 in Hampton Twp, Ba on the same date (J&GS)! Probably more ironic than indicative of a migration of doves.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:

1 8/1 Shiawassee NWR. Sa DP

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO:

2 8/1 Shiawassee NWR. Sa DP

4 8/8 Shiawassee NWR. Sa DP

1 8/24 Edenville. Mi RA

EASTERN SCREECH OWL:

3 10/10 Shiawassee NWR. Sa BG

1 11/9 Hampton Twp, Ba J&GS

Also reported from Midland County (RA).

GREAT HORNED OWL:

Scattered sightings through period. One reported pursuing White-winged Crossbills at TPSP. Io on 11/15 (SR. LH)! Highest count was of 4 on 10/4 from BCSRA. Ba (G&EP).

SNOWY OWL:

The Detroit area hotline reported one from the Fish Point area. Tu on 11/29 (observer unknown).

BARRED OWL:

1 10/18 Shiawassee NWR. Sa DP

LONG-EARED OWL:

No reports.

SHORT-EARED OWL:

No reports. A down year for them?

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL:

No reports.

COMMON NIGHTHAWK:

12	8/29	Arenac County	BB
23	8/31	Hampton Twp. Hu	J&GS

DP had only one sighting this fall. RA also reported how few he has seen in recent years.

WHIP-POOR-WILL:

No reports. I fear for this species in Michigan-they seem to be disappearing fast.

CHIMNEY SWIFT:

106	9/12	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP
1	10/8	Hampton Twp, Ba	GS

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD:

Scattered sightings through early part of period.

1	9/16	Essexville, Ba	JS	Last report.
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BELTED KINGFISHER:

Scattered records through period.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER:

3	8/25	Midland, Mi	RA
2	8/30	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
1	9/13, 14	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER:

Regular through period.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER:

Probable residents noted at three Io locations (BB).

1	8/22	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
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Interestingly, someone reported to me that this species nested at Bay City SRA this summer.

1	10/18	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	Last report.
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DOWNY WOODPECKER:

Regular through period.

HAIRY WOODPECKER:

Scattered sightings through period.

NORTHERN FLICKER:

Noted through period at Shiawassee NWR, Sa (DP). No high totals reported.

PILEATED WOODPECKER:

1	9/26	Arenac County	BB
pair	tp	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:

1	8/30	Oak Grove, Ba	J&GS
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EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE:

8	8/2	Eagle Run, Io	BB	
1	9/22	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS	Latest report.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER:

No reports.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER:

No reports.

ALDER FLYCATCHER:

Noted from Rollway Road and Tuttle Marsh. Io on 8/1 (BB). 3 at Eagle Run, Io on 8/2 (BB).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER:

4	8/1	Karn Plant, Ba	JS
1	8/6	Karn Plant, Ba	JS

WILLOW/ALDER FLYCATCHER:

1	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT
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LEAST FLYCATCHER:

1	9/28	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	
2	10/3	Karn Plant, Ba	JS	Quite late.

EASTERN PHOEBE:

1	9/27	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB
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1	10/28	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	Last report.
GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER:				
1	9/14	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
EASTERN KINGBIRD:				
1	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB, RW	
HORNED LARK:				
Noted through period from Shiawassee NWR. Sa (DP).				
PURPLE MARTIN:				
5	8/1	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
100	8/9	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Peak count.
1	8/30	Hampton Twp, Ba	J&GS	12 then at BCSRA, Ba (G&EP).
TREE SWALLOW:				
2930	9/26	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP, BG	
4500	10/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	
NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW:				
10	8/2	Tawas Pt SP, Io	J&GS	
BANK SWALLOW:				
600	8/13	Karn Plant. Ba	JS	
CLIFF SWALLOW:				
1	8/12	Bay City, Ba	GS	
BARN SWALLOW:				
500	8/2	Tawas Pt SP, Io	J&GS	
1	10/3	Karn Plant. Ba	JS	
BLUE JAY:				
Common through period. Peak of 150 at Tawas Pt SP, Io on 10/10 (BB).				
AMERICAN CROW:				
Common through period.				
COMMON RAVEN:				
Noted from five different Io locations with a peak count of 11 at Iargo Springs, Io on 11/7 (BB).				
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE:				
Common through period. Peak of 84 on 9/28 at TPSP, Io (GN).				
TUFTED TITMOUSE:				
Fairly common through period.				
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:				
These birds were noted by just about everyone with the first push coming through in late August. Peak counts at TPSP, Io were of 10 on 8/30 (RW) and 20 on 9/8 (AB, KT). First probable migrant noted on 8/23 at BCSRA, Ba (G&EP).				
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH:				
Common through period.				
BROWN CREEPER:				
Scattered sightings through period. No large movements mentioned.				
CAROLINA WREN:				
No reports.				
HOUSE WREN:				
1	10/3	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	Last report.
WINTER WREN:				
2	9/29	Hampton Twp. Ba	JS	
7	10/11	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
1	10/19	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Last report.
SEDGE WREN:				
5	8/16	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
1	8/31	Bay Port area. Ba	TB	
1	10/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Late or just normally undetected?
MARSH WREN:				
2	10/10	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	DP	Last report.
GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET:				
5	9/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	First migrants. 11 there on 10/11 (BB).

Also reported from BCSRA, Ba on 9/26 (G&EP).

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET:

1	9/19	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
11	10/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	
1	11/8	Bay City SRA, Ba	J&GS	A bit late.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER:

3	8/28	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Residents or migrants?
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Three were reported there on 9/8 again (AB, KT). Probably lingering residents.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD:

2	11/18	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Last report.
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VEERY:

5	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	Good count for September.
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GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH:

1	9/19 ???	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	
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Glenn's spreadsheet has it for September 19th and his cover letter states October 19th. I went with the spreadsheet.

SWAINSON'S THRUSH:

3	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	First report.
1	10/6	Hampton Twp, Ba	GS	A bit late.
3	10/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	A bit later.
1	10/10	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	Even a little bit more later.

HERMIT THRUSH:

1	8/31	Bay Port area, Ba	TB	Resident or very early migrant?
7	10/11	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Peak.
1	10/28	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	Last.

WOOD THRUSH:

3	9/8	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	
1	10/12	Hampton Twp, Ba	DD	Last report. Late.

AMERICAN ROBIN:

Reported through mid-November in Hampton Twp, Ba (J&GS). Last dated report from Tawas on 11/15 (SR, LH).

GRAY CATBIRD:

7	9/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
1	10/8	Hampton Twp, Ba	GS	

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD:

No reports.

BROWN THRASHER:

5	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	
1	9/27	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Last report.

AMERICAN PIPIT:

40	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB, RW	
48	9/27	May Road, Io	DD	

Reported from Shiawassee NWR, Sa from 9/11 (3 birds) through 10/23 with a peak of 23 on 10/21 (DP).

BOHEMIAN WAXWING:

No reports.

CEDAR WAXWING:

Noted through period. Peak of 100 on 9/19 in Hampton Twp, Ba (J&GS).

NORTHERN SHRIKE:

1	10/25	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, SR	
2	11/7	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
1	11/12	Kawkawlin Flooding, Mi	GZ	

EUROPEAN STARLING:

Common through period.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO:

Solitary Vireo was split into Cassin's (west coast), Plumbeous (Rockies) and Blue-headed (eastern). I know Al Wormington has seen a Plumbeous Vireo before in Ontario, but any non-Blue-headed would be a first state record.

1	10/6	Hampton Twp, Ba	JS	
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YELLOW-THROATED VIREO:

No reports!

WARBLING VIREO:			
1	9/16	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
PHILADELPHIA VIREO:			
1	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT
1	9/13	Hampton Twp, Ba	J&GS, DD
1	9/13,14	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB
2	9/14,16	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
1	9/20	Whitney-Sims Cem, Ar	RW
RED-EYED VIREO:			
9	8/2	Eagle Run, Io	BB
1	9/27	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
BLUE-WINGED WARBLER:			
No reports.			
GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER:			
No reports.			
TENNESSEE WARBLER:			
1	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT
6	9/27	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
5	10/2	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
1	10/10	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:			
No reports.			
NASHVILLE WARBLER:			
10+	9/20	Whitney-Sims Cem, Ar	RW
1	10/2	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
NORTHERN PARULA:			
1	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, BB, JB
1	9/13	Oak Grove, Ba	J&GS
1	9/20	Whitney-Sims Cem, Ar	RW
YELLOW WARBLER:			
5	8/1	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB
5	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT
1	9/16	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER:			
1	9/4	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
1	10/3	Bay City SRA, Ba	JS
MAGNOLIA WARBLER:			
1	8/12	Bay Port area, Ba	TB
6	9/20	Whitney-Sims CEM, Ar	RW
1	10/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG
1	10/19 ???	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
Glenn's field notes had 10/19, while his cover letter had 10/20. Very late either way.			
CAPE MAY WARBLER:			
2	8/30	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW
1	9/27	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER:			
1	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT
1	10/6	Saginaw, Sa	DP
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER:			
2	8/28	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB
140	10/10	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB
5	10/29	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER:			
5	9/30	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP
1	10/3	Bay City SRA, Ba	JS
1	10/7	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG
1	10/10	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP

The Philly window for this fall.

Residents.

Late for this early migrant.

Sketch including tail pattern submitted.

In his yard.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER:				
2	9/4	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	
5	9/20	Whitney-Sims Cem. Ar	RW	
PINE WARBLER:				
20	9/8	Tawas Airport. Io	AB, KT	
PALM WARBLER:				
50+	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	
3	10/11	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER:				
2	9/19	Oak Grove. Ba	JS	Last report.
BLACKPOLL WARBLER:				
2	8/30	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	
1	10/10	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Late.
CERULEAN WARBLER:				
No reports.				
BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER:				
1	10/3	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	
1	10/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	
1	10/11	Tawas Pt SP, Io	DD	Quite late.
AMERICAN REDSTART:				
20+	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	
1	10/6	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Quite late.
1	10/11	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Very late.
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:				
No reports.				
OVENBIRD:				
1	10/7	Shiawassee NWR. Sa	BG	A bit late again.
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH:				
1	10/11,13	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Very late. Brief description included.
LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH:				
No reports.				
CONNECTICUT WARBLER:				
No reports.				
MOURNING WARBLER:				
2	8/30	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	
1	9/4	Hampton Twp. Ba	JS	
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT:				
1	10/8	Hampton Twp. Ba	GS	
WILSON'S WARBLER:				
2	8/30	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	
4	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	
1	9/25	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	
CANADA WARBLER:				
1	9/5	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	
1	9/19	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	
SCARLET Tanager:				
3	8/29	Tyler Plains. Ar	BB	Lingering residents
1	9/24	Bay City SRA. Ba	G&EP	Last report.
NORTHERN CARDINAL:				
Common through period.				
ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK:				
1	9/26	Curtisville Road. Io	BB	
INDIGO BUNTING:				
9	8/2	Eagle Run, Io	BB	
1	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, BB	
EASTERN TOWHEE:				
1	9/26	Curtisville Road, Io	BB	

AMERICAN TREE SPARROW:				
3	10/11	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
CHIPPING SPARROW:				
2	10/18	Midland Nursery, Mi	GZ	Last report.
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:				
1	9/9	Hampton Twp. Ba	DD	Called by face pattern.
FIELD SPARROW:				
2	9/27	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Last report.
VESPER SPARROW:				
2	9/26	Curtisville Road, Io	BB	Last report.
SAVANNAH SPARROW:				
2	11/5	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	Last report.
GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:				
1	8/28	Auburn, Ba	RA	Rare fall report.
HENSLOW'S SPARROW:				
No reports.				
FOX SPARROW:				
1	10/7	Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
7	10/22	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Excellent fall total.
2	11/8	Bay City SRA, Ba	J&GS	
SONG SPARROW:				
Reported through period.				
LINCOLN'S SPARROW:				
1	9/4	Hampton Twp. Ba	JS	
10+	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	JB	
1	10/18	Hampton Twp. Ba	GS	Pretty late.
SWAMP SPARROW:				
26	10/10	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	Highest count. Seen there tp.
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW:				
1	8/28	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
2	11/8	Bay City SRA, Ba	JS	
WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW:				
3	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
1	10/24	Bay City SRA, Ba	G&EP	
DARK-EYED JUNCO:				
1	8/31	Bay Port area, Ba	TB	A very early migrant.
2	9/20	Whitney-Sims Cem, Ar	RW	
63	10/25	Tawas City, Io	GN, TN	
80	10/25	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	The big arrival.
LAPLAND LONGSPUR:				
No reports.				
SNOW BUNTING:				
7	10/19	Tawas Pt SP, Io	GN	First report.
100	10/24	Auburn, Ba	RA	
BOBOLINK:				
675	9/5	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	DP	In cordgrass fields e. of Evon Rd.
6	10/3	Shiawassee NWR, Sa	BG	Very late for this species.
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD:				
Noted through period in Hampton Twp. Ba (J&GS). No large flocks of blackbirds were counted by anyone this fall, although large flocks of blackbird species were commented on.				
EASTERN MEADOWLARK:				
4	10/23	Chippewa NC, Mi	GZ	
YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:				
1	8/1	Karn Plant, Ba	Tom Pavlik	
5	8/23	Nayanquing Pt WA, Ba	KK, RW	
1	9/14	Hampton Twp. Ba	DD	
RUSTY BLACKBIRD:				

12	9/26	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
25	11/8	Oak Grove. Ba	JS	Also at TPSP, Io that day (BB).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:

No reports.

COMMON GRACKLE:

Common through all but end of period. Peak count of 750 at BCSRA, Ba on 10/12 (G&EP).

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD:

Common through all but end of period.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE:

5	8/1	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
1	9/1	Hampton Twp. Ba	J&GS	Last report.

PINE GROSBEAK:

No reports.

PURPLE FINCH:

3	8/2	Eagle Run. Io	BB	Likely residents.
6	8/30	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW	
11	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	15 present on 9/13 (RW, BB, JB).
1	10/29	Midland. Mi	EK	Also at BCSRA, Ba in Oct. (G&EP).

HOUSE FINCH:

Common through period.

RED CROSSBILL:

No reports.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL:

5	11/15	Tawas Pt SP, Io	SR, LH	One male, four female/im.
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Tom Beachy mentioned this species to me, but none were included in his report. Perhaps he saw them in December.

COMMON REDPOLL:

1	9/8	Tawas Pt SP, Io	AB, KT	Incredibly early!
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Adam believes this to be the earliest ever for Michigan! Reportedly sitting calmly in a tree.

3	10/25	Tawas Pt SP, Io	RW, SR	
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Later reported in throughout the SBA in decent numbers. Peak count of 50+ at TPSP, Io on 11/15 (SR, LH)

PINE SISKIN:

1	9/13	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB, RW	
98	10/10	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	Excellent count.

Also reported from Bay County in October (G&EP).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH:

Common through period. Peak of 60 at TPSP, Io on 9/13 (BB).

EVENING GROSBEAK:

35	10/10	Tawas Pt SP, Io	BB	
2	10/24-30	Linwood. Ba	G&EP	

HOUSE SPARROW:

Common through period.

TOTAL: 232 species

EXOTICS

None to report.

OMISSIONS from previous reports

OBSERVER KEY:

RA	Ron Annelin	JB	Jeff Buecking
TB	Tom Beachy	BB	Bob Bell

DB	Dave Best	G&EP	Glenn & Ellen Peterson
AB	Adam Byrne	BR	Betty Rainwater
SC	Scott Calkins	SR	Steve Rosenberg
DD	Dan Duso	GS	Grant Soehnel
BG	Bob Grefc	JS	Joc Soehnel
LH	Larry Hyman	KT	Kevin Thomas
EK	Gene Kenaga	RW	Ron Weeks
SM	Stan Madziar	MW	Myles Willard
GN	Gary Nelkie	GZ	Gerald Ziarno
TN	Tess Nelkie		
DP	David Peters		

ABBREVIATIONS

Ar	Arenac County
Ba	Bay County
CNC	Chippewa Nature Center
Hu	Huron County
Io	Iosco County
MCV Pond	Midland Cogeneration Venture Pond
Mi	Midland County
NC	Nature Center
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
Sa	Saginaw County
SBA	Saginaw Bay Area
SL	Sewage Lagoons
SP	State Park
Tu	Tuscola County