



*A Project of the*  
**FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS**  
*and*  
**NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
*in cooperation with*  
 New York Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit  
 Cornell University Department of Natural Resources  
 Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology  
 Audubon New York

## NEW YORK STATE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS 2000 NEWSLETTER

NUMBER SEVEN

APRIL 2003

### Three Field Seasons Gone, Two Field Seasons Ahead

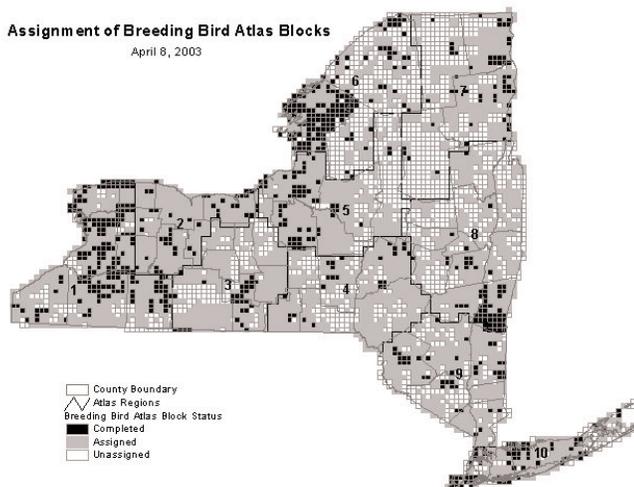
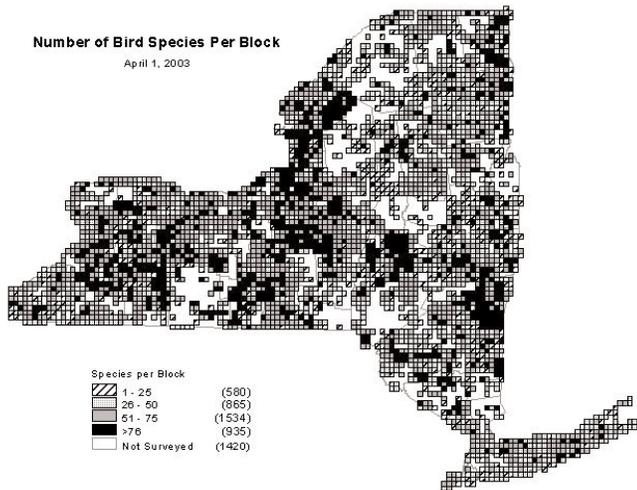
Five field seasons seemed like a long time when we began this project in 2000. But now we are facing the reality of only TWO field seasons left. It is important that we track our progress closely if we are to complete this huge task! Our goal, of course, is to report at least 76 species in each survey block, with at least 38 of those species as confirmed breeders. Some blocks in the state will not reach the goal of 76 because they do not have the variety of habitats necessary to support such diversity. That's okay; Regional Coordinators are familiar enough with their regions to know when to call a block complete. And they will do so when they feel a block has been adequately covered, even if the numbers are lower than the standard 76 species with 38 confirmed. Some blocks have the potential to yield a species count well over 100. Should you strive to reach high numbers in your

block? Actually, no. Because we have so many blocks to cover in the state, we need you to stop working in a block when you reach 76 species. Move to another block so we can obtain the greatest coverage across the state.

Take a look at the two maps on the left to see two different ways our progress can be mapped. The map on the top is generated directly from the Atlas database. Each block fits into a category according to the number of species that have been reported there so far. Blocks that are black are considered complete by the generic standard of 76 species with 38 confirmed. This map shows just 920 completed blocks.

The second map is another way to graphically represent our progress. As in the map above, black blocks are considered complete. Why are there differences between the two maps? This map is generated from reports that come directly from our Regional Coordinators. Here, we can take into account those blocks that will not yield as many as 76 species. If a RC knows that a block has been adequately covered, he or she can call it complete for this map regardless of the number of species reported there. This encourages volunteers to move to new blocks.

Watch how these maps change as the final two field seasons progress. We will update the Species per Block map only twice more: once after the 2003 field season and again after the 2004 field season. The Assignment map will be updated several times during each field season. Check them both on the Atlas website.



## Meet Our Regional Coordinators: St. Lawrence Region 6

### Bob Long

Although I was born in New Jersey and lived in four states before I went to college, my family always spent the summers on the St. Lawrence River in Ogdensburg and Morristown. I was interested in birds when very young and memorized the names of 25 species at the age of five, according to my aunts; I really do not remember that. My father was interested in nature and knew many of the trees, plants, and birds. When we visited my grandmother in Lisbon, St. Lawrence County, Dad would take us on a short field trip and point out the birds, including explanations of their behavior. When I actually sat down and made a list of birds that I knew as a boy, I counted 27 species.



Bob Long

My undergraduate college, The University of Rochester, offered no field trips in the Biology Department. However, when I went to Medical School in Syracuse, I met several students and professors who were birders. My Neuroanatomy Professor, Walter Spofford, was a renowned Golden Eagle expert and a founder of the Onondaga Audubon Society in 1950. A Pediatric Resident, Fritz Scheider, who was a few years ahead of me, became my ornithological mentor and close friend. Active bird watching started after I had completed my Residency in Pediatrics and service in the Navy.

I became active in the Onondaga Audubon Society in 1967 and have been a member ever since. I have held every office except Treasurer for OAS and I have been involved in Derby Hill since it began in 1975. I was editor of the *Kestrel* for eight years and the *Derby Hill Bird Observatory Newsletter* for 17 years. My summer birding activities have all been in Region 6 and have included 21 years of Breeding Bird Surveys, and, Regional editor for the *Kingbird* during the last eleven years. When National Audubon started the IBA Program, I was the representative for Region 6 and chose the first group of areas. Some of my most memorable birding experiences were seeing my first Spruce Grouse in Sevey Bog and confirming nesting of the Loggerhead Shrike on my breeding bird survey in Morristown during the first Atlas. I found all my old field cards from 1980-85 recently, all 38 of them. I had forgotten how many blocks I had visited! My patient wife, Ellie, frequently comes on many of our outings and has suffered through the 4:45 AM start of many a BBS. She has trouble with the songs but is a better spotter of birds than I am, so together we make a great team.

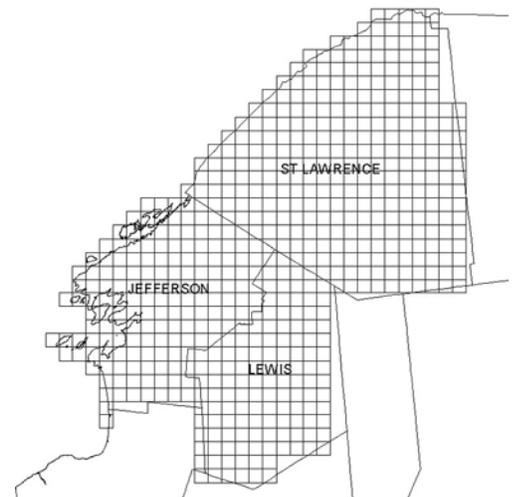
### St. Lawrence Region 6

by Bob Long

Region 6 is the third largest Region in the state and consists of 587 blocks in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence Counties. Included in the region are the Eastern Ontario Lake plain, the St. Lawrence River Grasslands, the Tug Hill transition and Central Tug Hill, the Black River Valley, the Indian River Lakes, the Western Adirondack foothills, and the western section of the Central Adirondacks. Elevations range from 250 ft in Jefferson County to 2,300 ft in St. Lawrence County. The area is blessed with a great diversity of habitats, only lacking salt water marsh and high peaks. Little Galoo Island in Lake Ontario now has 1,500 pair of Caspian Tern nesting as well as thousands of Ring-billed Gull, Double-crested Cormorant, and Herring Gull. The grasslands along the St. Lawrence River provide excellent habitat for species of concern such as Northern Harrier, Sedge Wren, Upland Sandpiper, and smaller numbers of Short-eared Owl and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Breeding bird surveys during the last 25 years have documented the expansion of Bobolink populations in the grasslands from Fort Drum to Ogdensburg. This is due to several factors: a decrease in dairy farms and corn fields, late harvesting of hay due to cold weather in June, and uncut and fallow fields.

Continued on page 7... "Region 6"



Atlas Region 6

Continued from page 6... "Region 6"

The population density of Bobolink in these areas is among the highest in the country.

The Perch River grassland area has extensive fields of sedges that support Henslow's Sparrow. The grasslands, marsh, and transitional fields of Fort Drum support large numbers of Pied-billed Grebe and American Bittern. Common Nighthawk and Whip-poor-will can be found on the sandy fields around the air fields. Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers also benefit from lack of development on the Fort.

In the Adirondacks, the Massawepie Mire is noted for a large population of breeding Palm Warbler as well as Spruce Grouse. The human population in the Region has declined due to loss of industries. While this is good for the avian populations, it is not good for recruiting birders to cover this vast area.

Although the list of Atlas participants in this Region is 60, only 35 have sent in data and many people have taken only one or two blocks. Region 6 is behind the other nine Atlas regions in numbers of workers registered, workers who have turned in data, and percentage of blocks entered. There are 220 blocks with no data. Blockbusting helped this year and Jefferson County is within reach of completion. St. Lawrence and Lewis counties have a long way to go. If you live, work or vacation in these counties, please consider atlas-ing a few blocks!

## Tips & Tales

A note on one of Will Yandik's 2002 Annual Summary Forms read, "*House Wren nest built inside discarded plastic shopping bag - now that's recycling!*"

"When I was watching the gulls at Marion Manor in Verona Beach the other day, they started a feeding frenzy by diving into the water for some sort of small fish. The interesting thing was watching the first-winter birds that were on the water. Adults and older gulls were diving all around them, some even totally submerging, and the youngsters didn't know what to do. It was like mass confusion for them. Some began begging from adults if they came up with a fish. One, though, gave me a good laugh. As the adult turned and tried to get away, the youngster grabbed the adult's tail and would not let go! The adults were diving from 15 or 20 feet. The young ones eventually started flying up and diving, but they would only fly up 3 or 4 feet before they dove in. Some of them acted like little kids who didn't want to get their faces wet because they wouldn't dive in head first; they would start to and then change their mind at the last minute. They were hilarious, but they were learning."

*Brenda Best, Atlas Region 5*

## Determining Atlas Block Number from GPS Coordinates

Here is a simple, reliable way to use GPS coordinates to determine which Atlas block you are in. Read this through a couple of times and then try it. You will soon be able to run through the steps in just a minute or two.

Recall that each Atlas block is a quarter of a square. The square has a four digit number and each block in that square is A (upper left), B (upper right), C (lower left), or D (lower right). First, set your GPS to collect data in UTM NAD 1927. The location will be expressed like this: 18T 0489018 4742223. Ignore the 18T and follow these steps:

1. Subtract 5000 from the first number (0489018), ignoring the first zero. The result is a six digit number (484018). The first two digits (48) are the first two digits of the square: the east/west location. The last four digits (4018) locate you on one side of the square, left or right. If the number is between 0-4999, the block would be either A or C. If the number is between 5000-9999 the block would be either B or D. Our example, 4018 would be either A or C.

2. Subtract 4,000,000 from the second number (4742223). That gives you a six digit number (742223). The first two digits (74) are the last two digits of the square: the north/south location. The last four digits (2223) will locate you on either the top or bottom of the square. If the number is between 0-4999 the block would be C or D. If the number is between 5000-9999 the block is A or B. In this case 2223 is in either C or D.

3. Now put it all together. Combining 48 & 74 gives the square number: 4874. The block letter C matches in each case, so the block is 4874C.

Andy Mason has created a simple Excel file that will calculate the Atlas block number from map coordinates using this method. If you would like a copy, contact Andy at [AndyMason@earthling.net](mailto:AndyMason@earthling.net).

*Tom Salo, Region 4 Co-coordinator*

A	B
C	D

Square 4874

## Common Nighthawks

When you are outdoors around dusk this summer, be sure to look and listen for Common Nighthawks. These long-winged whip-poor-will relatives forage most frequently during the hour around sunset, flying continuously either high or low and giving a distinctive "peent" call every few seconds. Their diet includes large flying insects of all kinds, but especially large beetles, true bugs, and flying ants. Nighthawks hunt in open areas wherever flying insects can be found: above rivers, fields, and ponds, and also in brightly lit places such as sports stadiums, hamlets, and even cities. If you find a nighthawk in its home territory, you may also see and hear the remarkable "booming" dive that is part of their territorial and courtship displays.

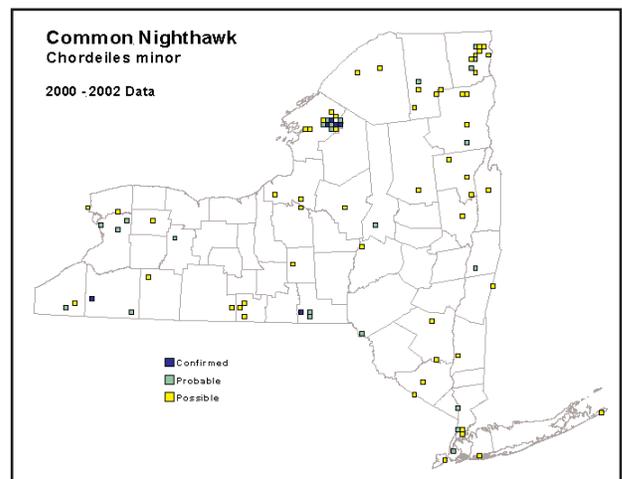
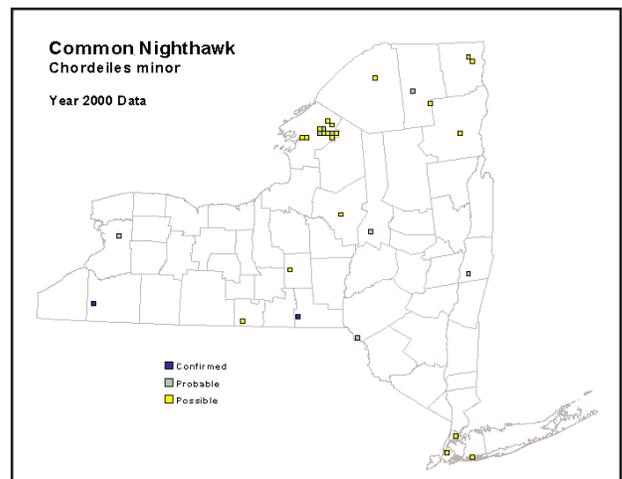
Common Nighthawks can be found breeding in nearly all of the contiguous U.S. and southern Canada. Although they are most abundant in the south and west, they were once also common and widespread in New York State. But in New York and the rest of the northeast they are not common anymore and they are declining significantly throughout most of their range.

Many birders associate nighthawks with cities, but historically they nested in a wide variety of natural places including gravel beaches, barren rocky areas, sandy openings in pine barrens, bare ground or flat rocks in pastures, burnt-over sections of forested areas, plowed fields, cornfields and vineyards, on logs, stumps or fence rails, and even between the rails of a railroad track! By the early 1900s, though, nighthawks widely abandoned many of their natural nesting areas and no one was quite sure why. Flat gravel rooftops in towns and cities became a favorite nesting spot. By 1950, birders knew that cities were the best place to look for nighthawks. Within a few decades, though, they became scarce even in cities.

Now, in 2003, it appears that Common Nighthawks may be disappearing from the cities. *The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*, shows concentrations of nighthawks in all of the major cities during the survey period from 1980-85. However, interim results from the current Atlas (2000-02) show no reports from most of these cities. Some cities in other states report similar disappearances.

What is happening to the nighthawks? According to the literature, no one knows for sure. Suggested reasons for their decline include the usual suspects: increased predation, prey disappearance, pesticides, and habitat loss (in the northeast due to forest fire suppression and reforestation of abandoned farms). There are also suggestions specific to nighthawks: decline in the popularity of gravel-roofed buildings, predation by urban crows, and being run over by vehicles (nighthawks sometimes roost on gravel roads at night). But nighthawks have been relatively little studied. Some clues could come from studying the habitats of those still breeding in New York State, especially where they breed successfully. Common Nighthawks are one of the asterisked species on the Atlas field card. This means that you should complete and submit a Notable Species Form when you find one. The information provided by atlasers may help to unravel the mystery behind the decline of this species.

*Lisa Gorn, Atlas Region 4*



## Atlas 2000 Website

Great Horned Owls are calling, male Blue Jays are courting females, and the fee-bee spring song of male Black-capped Chickadees brightens winter days. Red-winged Blackbirds are filling up the wetlands. The penultimate year of Atlas 2000 is already underway. Now, before the breeding season gets too busy, is a good time for online observers to visit the NYS DEC Atlas website, recently revised and updated. Don't have a computer at home? Visit your library! The Atlas website can be found by typing "New York State Breeding Bird Atlas" into a search engine like [google.com](http://google.com).

The home page of the Atlas website has a bunch of links at the bottom. Click on "Interim Data" for a host of options for viewing results of the first three years of field work. Start by entering a block number in the "Species List Inquiry." You can choose to see the list of species from either the current Atlas (2000-02) or the historic Atlas (1980-85). Check the latter results against current findings in your blocks to see what might still be missing. "Hints on Haunts" in the Handbook for Workers may provide some ideas on how to find some missed species.

The Species Distribution Maps, in color, are completely addictive. They represent the ultimate goal of the project and demonstrate our progress to date. The maps can be listed in either taxonomic or alphabetic order, and are also available in both 1980-85 and 2000-02 versions. Clicking back and forth between the two projects is simple and rewarding. Check out rails... owls... odd species like Eastern Towhee. Among other things, current observers will quickly appreciate that participants on the original Atlas set the bar extremely high.

The Block Status Inquiry includes a map of assigned Blocks in the state. Below that are brand new Regional Progress Maps that indicate the number of species in each block by region. How is your Region doing? If your blocks are now above "adequate coverage" of 76 species, look for interesting blocks still in need of coverage (whether assigned or not) and contact your Regional Coordinator to let them know you want to work there. Finally, there is a statewide map showing the number of species in each of the 5,334 blocks. Blue blocks are those that are now at "adequate coverage" of >75 species (with half Confirmed). What color are your blocks?

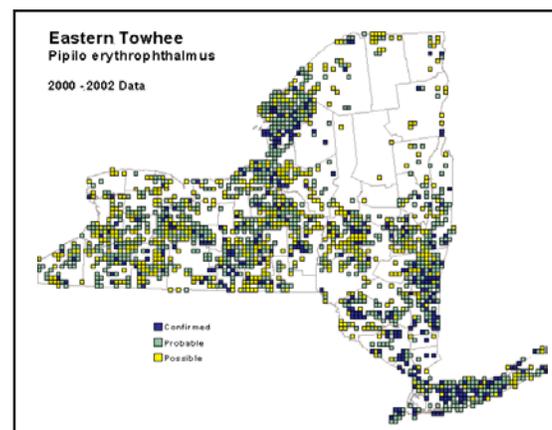
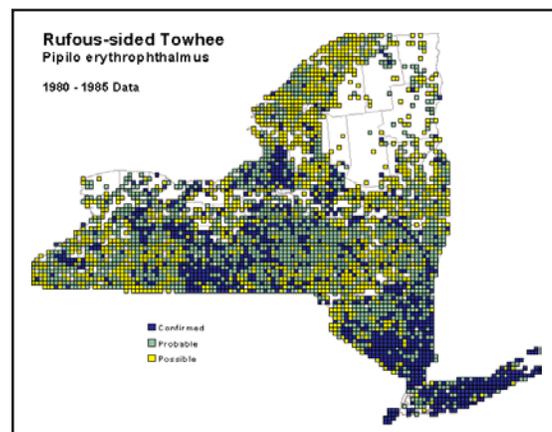
Go back to the main page of the Atlas website and click on "Newsletters" to visit the archives of both the old and new sets. The original dozen issues from 1980-85 contain some superb information, much of it based upon the first-hand experiences of observers like you. Browse through and you will find a number of articles on everything from owls and owling to Confirming the Belted Kingfisher.

Whether we achieve the superb level of coverage of the first Atlas of Breeding Birds in NYS is entirely in your hands. Acquaint yourself with what we have done and what we have yet to do. We still have two more seasons to complete Atlas 2000, but time is running short. The DEC is to be commended for the quality and variety of the website, but their work to create this resource is only worthwhile if observers go online and spend some time reviewing the species lists, maps, and publications.

And, trust me, you will love the new species maps.

*Mike Peterson, Region 7 Coordinator*

**Atlas Website Address: [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/wildlife/bba/](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/wildlife/bba/)**



## Hot Blocks up for Grabs!

By now you have probably been in touch with your Regional Coordinator to get new block assignments for the 2003 season. Maybe you picked some blocks near your home, near a relative's home, or in another area that you frequently visit. How about branching out a little? This state of ours is large and has hundreds of fascinating areas to explore. Venturing into areas that are unfamiliar can be one of the most enjoyable aspects of atlasing.

Listed below are unassigned blocks (or blocks with few species reported) that have some particularly interesting features including lakes, wetlands and unpaved roads. Of course, one of the best features that they all have in common is that no (or very few) species have been reported in them so far. That means that every American Robin, Rock Dove, and Canada Goose that you find counts! The number in parentheses after the block number is the total species count reported during the first Atlas. Contact the Regional Coordinator to be assigned one or more of these blocks. I challenge you to put these blocks on the map (the map of Atlas coverage, that is)!

**Region 1** All of the blocks mentioned here are near the intersection of Erie, Chautauqua, and Cattaraugus Counties. Many include Cattaraugus Indian Reservation (CIR) lands, which are mostly undeveloped and provide plenty of habitat. Contact Dick Rosche ([drosche@juno.com](mailto:drosche@juno.com)) to adopt these blocks.

**1672A (51):** Lake Erie shoreline and Delaware Creek.

**1672B (58):** Big Sister Creek and steep ravines.

**1672D (51):** Interesting branches of the Delaware and Big Sister Creeks.

**1671A (53):** Lots of CIR land. Cattaraugus Creek.

**1671B (57):** Interesting ravines of Clear Creek as well as Cattaraugus Creek. Lots of CIR land.

**Region 3** Love to atlas with a paddle in your hands? All of these blocks have streams or wetlands that can be easily accessed by canoe. Contact Bard Prentiss ([prentissb@usadatanet.net](mailto:prentissb@usadatanet.net)) to take a block.

**3173B (66):** Ontario/Yates County line. Potter Swamp plus varied habitat including grass and muck land.

**3274A (82):** Ontario County, Town of Seneca. Flint Creek runs north / south through block. Grassland, swamps and other varied habitat.

**3676C (71):** Cayuga County, Town of Throop. Owasco Lake outlet, wetlands and forested ridges.

**3676D (69):** Cayuga County. Large wetland.

**3675B (69):** Cayuga County. Owasco Lake outlet and associated wetland.

**Region 4** These blocks all have a fair amount of county or state land. Some have substantial water and all produced around 80 species during the first Atlas! Contact Bob Donnelly ([rsdonn@yahoo.com](mailto:rsdonn@yahoo.com)) to pick up these blocks.

**4170D (88):** Cortland County, Town of Willet.

Otselc River runs entire length of block. Wetlands!

**4270C (79):** Cortland / Chenango Counties. Two interesting ponds and several wetlands.

**4566B (80):** Broome County, Town of Sanford. Includes Melondy Hill State Forest.

**567D (88):** Chenango County, Town of Afton. Includes Melondy Hill State Forest.

**4669A (80):** Chenango County, Town of Guilford. Unadilla River runs entire length of block.

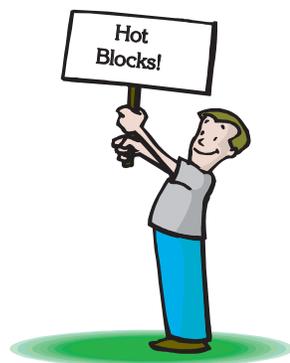
**Region 5** When Dorothy Crumb ([dwcumb@a-znet.com](mailto:dwcumb@a-znet.com)) sent me this list of blocks, she said, "Now I will duck fast as you put them up for grabs!" Why? Only someone looking for a challenge would take these blocks. They are all located in Lewis County and none have paved roads! If you have a canoe and a sense of adventure, these blocks are for you.

**4883A (59):** Town of Greig. Little Pine Lake, Mudhole Pond and Pine Lake plus a network of great streams and wetlands between them.

**4883C (58):** Towns of Greig and Lyonsdale. Copper Lake, Twin Sister Creek and Stony Creek as well as several logging roads.

**4884A (58):** Towns Watson and Greig. Independence River runs across this block. It also includes Balsam Flats, a great looking wetland area along switchbacks in the river.

**4884C (55):** Town of Greig. Not too many landmarks on this one! Otter Creek runs across it and there is a good sized wetland.



## More Hot Blocks!

**Region 6** All of these blocks are in St. Lawrence County. The first three of these blocks are near Cranberry Lake and the last two are near Star Lake. There is plenty of state forest land in these blocks and plenty of opportunity for canoeing and hiking. Contact Bob Long (rlongmd@a-znet.com).

**5089C (57):** Route 3 is the only paved access in this block. Includes Muskrat Pond, Heath Pond and associated wetlands. Great if you like to hike.

**5089D (38):** Northern end of Cranberry Lake including Joe Indian Island. Access by car, boat or foot.

**5088B (56):** Dead Creek Flow of Cranberry Lake and wetlands.

**4989C (32):** Includes Twin Lakes, other water bodies and wetlands. Plenty of paved access.

**4988A (60):** Star Lake, Little River and associated wetlands. Plenty of trails.

**Region 7** These blocks offer everything from a major highway and secondary roads to not even a trail for access. Mike Peterson ([jmcp7@juno.com](mailto:jmcp7@juno.com)) usually assigns by 10x10 km squares, rather than single blocks, but hopes that those who accept these initial challenges, and survive, will return to polish off any remaining 5x5 km blocks in the square.

**5583D (38):** Hamilton County, Town of Wells. Humphrey Brook & Mt., Robinson Swamp, Wakely Brook; access by trail from King's Flow to the north. Caution: see *BBA Newsletter*, No. 12, October 1984, p. 2, available on the Atlas website for details from the original Atlas!

**5787B (36):** Essex County, Towns of Newcomb & North Hudson. Allen Mt., Cheney Cobble, South Branch Opalescent River; access along S. Branch Opalescent from Tahawus-Flowed Land trail from the west?

**5793A (67):** Franklin County, Town of Franklin. Goldsmith, Goldsmith Mts., Lookout Mt., West Brook; access on Goldsmith Road in SE corner, jeep trails from the east.

**5992C (50):** Clinton County, Town of Black Brook. Big Brown & Little Black Brooks, Black Brook & Newberry Ponds; access on Bonnview (or Shaw), Forestdale, & Silver Lake Roads, plus trails.

**6097A (67):** Clinton County, Town of Mooers. Great Chazy River, Mooers Forks, Woods Falls; access on Route 11, Bashaw, Boas, Corners, Gilbert, & Woods Falls Roads.

**Region 8** From the Adirondack foothills to the Catskills, Region 8 is loaded with great atlasing spots. Contact Jane Graves ([jgraves@skidmore.edu](mailto:jgraves@skidmore.edu)) to scoop up one of these blocks.

**6183C (35):** Warren County, Town of Bolton. Includes Brown Mountain, in the northern part of the Tongue Mountain Range. Lake George islands, too, and Elephant Mountain on the east side of the lake.

**6082B (51):** Warren County, Town of Bolton. Southern half of Tongue Mountain Range. Plenty of Lake George islands.

**6084A (61):** Mostly Warren County, Town of Horicon. This is an adventure block with lakes, streams, and wetlands but primarily access by foot.

**6084D (44):** Warren County, Town of Hague. This one has Route 3 crossing it, but that's the only road! Plenty of wilderness, plenty of ponds, streams and wetlands.

**Region 9** You don't have to go to the Adirondacks to find high peaks and wilderness. How about trekking in the Catskills? Michael Bochnik ([bochnikm@cs.com](mailto:bochnikm@cs.com)) promises challenging access, but great birds in these blocks.

**5556B (81):** Orange County, Town of Warwick. Lots of wilderness and few roads. The Appalachian Trail provides good access.

**5656A (89):** Orange County, Town of Tuxedo. This block also includes the Appalachian Trail and plenty of wilderness. Mombasha Lake, Little Dam Lake and associated wetlands.

**5857B (74):** Putnam County, Town of Philipstown. The Appalachian Trail crosses the NW corner of this block. It also includes several lakes and varied topography.

**5857D (71):** Westchester County, Town of Cortlandt. Okay, so this one is a bit more urban, but it has the northern part of Blue Mountain Reservation County Park in it as well as Peekskill Hollow Creek and Gregory Pond.

**Region 10** Who says city birding cannot be fun? Come on, someone has to do it! These blocks are in NYC and need to be atlased: **5750B (10), 5750D (25), 5850A (20), 5850B (24), 5850D (34!)**. Why not see just how quiet the city can be early on a Sunday morning? You may not get high species numbers, but at least you will get the block on the map! Ken Feustel ([feustel@mindspring.com](mailto:feustel@mindspring.com)) will thank you.

## Keep Those Notable Species Forms Coming!!!!

As an Atlas volunteer who puts a lot of time into surveying your blocks, completing your Annual Summary Forms, and reviewing the printouts of your block records for data entry errors, you may grumble when asked to complete yet another form, such as the Notable Species Form. If this sounds familiar to you, please - read on!

Notable Species Forms (NSFs) are a critical source of information that is helping to provide for the conservation of many of your favorite, but hard to find birds. The New York Natural Heritage Program, a contract unit housed within the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources of the Department of Environmental Conservation, has been entering data from NSFs into the program database and into the DEC's Master Habitat Databank. These databases are the primary source of rare species information. This information is examined when reviewing development proposals and other projects under the state's Environmental Quality and Review Act (SEQRA). The Notable Species Forms are invaluable to this review process. Confirmed breeding locations for state threatened species such as the Henslow's Sparrow or Least Bittern are easily entered into the database from the NSFs, complete with a specific location, date(s) of observation, habitat, and evidence of breeding. These database records are available when Department staff review projects for their potential impact on wildlife. Having a specific location, as opposed to simply knowing the 5X5 km block, is a key point in this evaluation process and enables Department staff to determine if a negative impact from proposed development is likely and, if so, to recommend alternative or mitigation plans.

The Master Habitat Databank and rare species locations reported on the Notable Species Form are also used in the New York State Open Space Conservation Plan. In 1993, the State Legislature created the State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), which among other purposes, provides funds for the acquisition of lands identified in the New York State Open Space Conservation Plan. The EPF is now funded at \$125 million annually. The enacted budget for 2002-2003 includes \$250 million for the EPF (including \$125 million from 2001-2002) with a total of \$76 million for state land acquisition.

Additionally, the New York Natural Heritage Program has a contract with the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to conduct biodiversity inventories in New York's state parks. When a species is determined to be within a given state park, as shown on a NSF, specific management considerations can be given to Parks staff to ensure that these species of concern are taken into account in management and development planning for that park.

So please, keep submitting those Notable Species Forms. The forms are available from your Regional Coordinator or can be printed from the Atlas website. The list of species for which NSFs are requested when seen anywhere in the state is below. Some Atlas regions have added species to this list that are regionally rare. By completing the forms and sending them to your Regional Coordinator, you will help to ensure that birds that you are interested in seeing are given consideration in various planning efforts, contributing to their conservation and continued presence in your area and in New York State.

*Paul Novak, NYNHP and John Ozard, NYSDEC*

### Notable Species

Pied-billed Grebe	Barn Owl	Cape May Warbler
American Bittern	Long-eared Owl	Yellow-throated Warbler
Least Bittern	Short-eared Owl	Palm Warbler
Trumpeter Swan	Common Nighthawk	Bay-breasted Warbler
Ruddy Duck	Chuck-will's-widow	Prothonotary Warbler
Northern Harrier	Whip-poor-will	Kentucky Warbler
Golden Eagle	Three-toed Woodpecker	Wilson's Warbler
Spruce Grouse	Loggerhead Shrike	Yellow-breasted Chat
Black Rail	Sedge Wren	Clay-colored Sparrow
King Rail	Bicknell's Thrush	Henslow's Sparrow
Upland Sandpiper	Tennessee Warbler	Seaside Sparrow

New York State  
Breeding Bird Atlas Newsletter  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway, 5th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-4754

#### Atlas Newsletter Editors:

*Kimberley Corwin  
John M.C. Peterson*

You can receive the Atlas  
newsletter via email.  
Send your email address to  
[fwbba@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:fwbba@gw.dec.state.ny.us)  
Also see it on the website.