

# BIRD OBSERVER



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# BIRD OBSERVER

• a bimonthly journal •

To enhance understanding, observation,  
and enjoyment of birds.

VOL. 20, NO. 5 OCTOBER 1992

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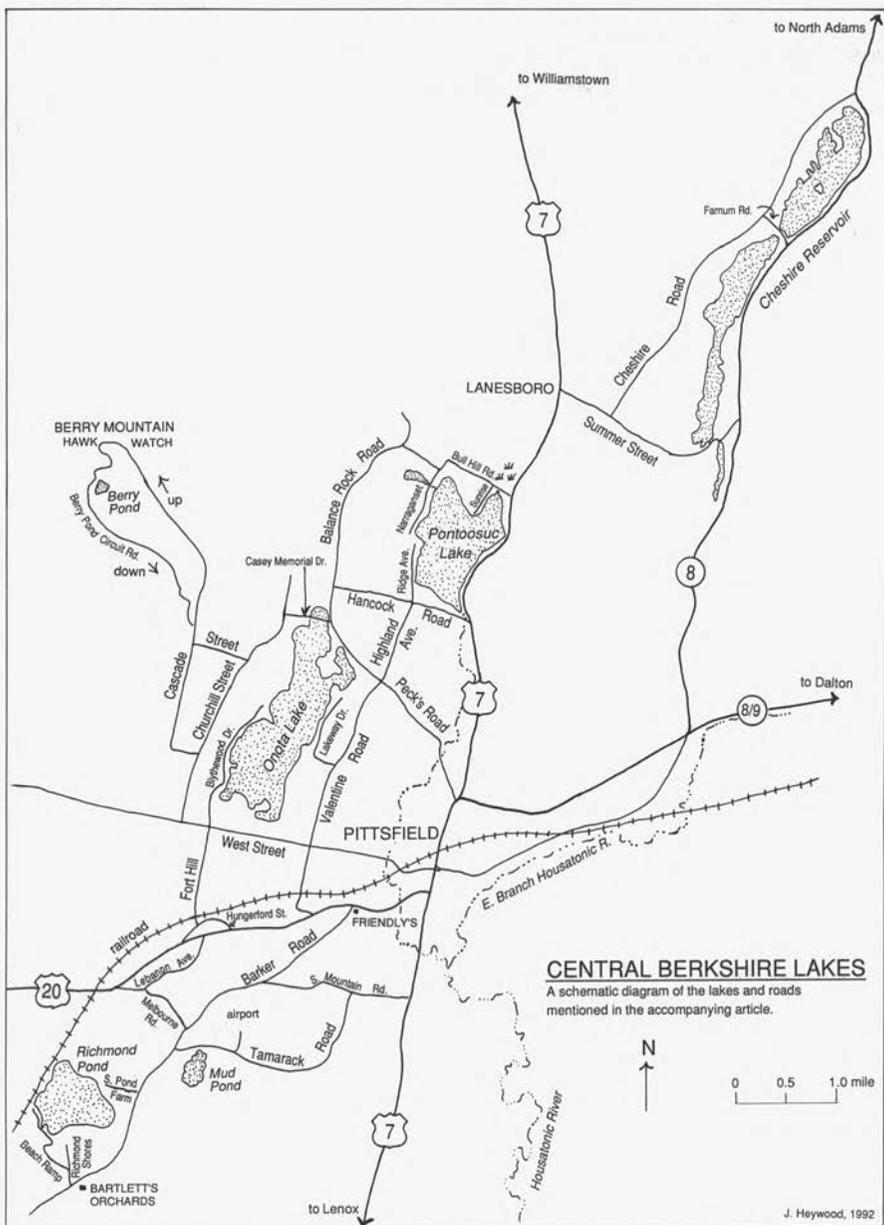
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## WATERFOWL IN THE BERKSHIRES

by Bartlett Hendricks

Being the furthest from the sea among Massachusetts counties and with an average altitude of fifteen hundred feet, Berkshire County would not seem to be a productive area for migrating waterbirds. In fact, birders visiting the Berkshires during the spring and fall are often pleased with the number and variety of waterbirds. While both the Connecticut and Hudson river valleys attract far larger waterfowl migrations, the birds are usually easier to observe in the Berkshires. This is because the Berkshires have more moderate-sized lakes and ponds, none of which are so large that birds cannot be identified from the opposite shore except on very dark or windy days, and on those occasions the far side can be reached without long detours.

Since 1946 the Hoffmann Bird Club of Pittsfield has conducted an annual waterfowl census, held on either the first or second Sunday of November. From loons to coots we have thus far recorded thirty-five species. We have not seen a Blue-winged Teal because they move south too early, and have only once recorded a Common Moorhen, which also breeds in the county. The largest number of one species we have seen in one day is over 870 Canada Geese. However, on November 12, 1979 (the day after our trip), a group of experienced members saw sixty-four Common Loons, over 3500 Snow Geese, over 3000 Canada Geese, three Red-necked Grebes, and four Surf Scoters, all at Onota Lake.

Other waterbirds identified over the years, many of them accidental, include Pacific Loon, Northern Gannet, Mute Swan, Greater White-fronted Goose, Barnacle Goose, King Eider (one dozen of which were photographed in one flock), Barrow's Goldeneye, Thick-billed Murre, and Atlantic Puffin. Some surprising other species that have occurred on Berkshire lakes include Parasitic Jaeger (seen at length from as close as twenty-five feet), Little Gull (identified by no less than the late Ludlow Griscom), Caspian Tern, Ruff, Hudsonian Godwit, Purple Sandpiper, and Lesser Black-backed Gull.

On our census trip we are often joined by groups from the Connecticut River Valley. We cover the Berkshire Valley from Cheshire Reservoir on the north to Gilligan's Pond in Sheffield, ending at Wood Pond in Lenox. In November this trip takes most of the day.

While the three Pittsfield-area lakes, Onota, Pontoosuc, and Richmond Pond, are usually the most productive, we have often had good luck at Cheshire Reservoir, Stockbridge Bowl, and various small ponds in and around Sheffield. Flights of waterfowl sometimes occur at the North Adams Reservoir and at such upland lakes as Buel, Garfield, and Otis Reservoir. Small ponds, such as Ashley Reservoir, may produce pleasant surprises, and so may the Housatonic and Hoosac rivers.

**TABLE 1. Annual Waterfowl Census Results from the Hoffmann Bird Club, 1946-1991.**

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number of Years Seen</u>	<u>Maximum Number of Birds</u>
Red-throated Loon	7	4
Common Loon	34	10
Pied-billed Grebe	28	17
Horned Grebe	26	74
Red-necked Grebe	8	4
Double-crested Cormorant	1	1
Snow Goose	2	1
Brant	6	1
Canada Goose	31	870
Wood Duck	24	100
Green-winged Teal	25	38
American Black Duck	35	303
Mallard	42	163
Northern Pintail	15	6
Northern Shoveler	5	4
Gadwall	3	7
American Wigeon	24	15
Canvasback	22	53
Redhead	15	11
Ring-necked Duck	19	80
Greater Scaup	42	136
Lesser Scaup	11	40
Oldsquaw	16	13
Black Scoter	11	42
Surf Scoter	8	6
White-winged Scoter	22	35
Common Goldeneye	41	117
Bufflehead	36	49
Hooded Merganser	24	17
Common Merganser	21	21
Red-breasted Merganser	9	8
Ruddy Duck	22	38
Common Moorhen	1	1
American Coot	40	128

In common with other parts of New England, over the years we have seen a huge increase in the number of resident Canada Geese and a decline in Black Ducks. There has been some increase in Mallards and Ring-necked Ducks and an unfortunate decrease in Canvasbacks, Redheads, other diving ducks, and coots. We have noted a recent increase in Gadwalls, but this may be due to improvements on the part of our observers and to better optical equipment!

### Directions

The center of Pittsfield is a good place to start. At the oval park in the middle of town, set the odometer at 0, and drive north on Route 7. The south end of Pontoosuc Lake is reached at 2.7 miles. The park on the left at Hancock Road (traffic light) offers a good overview, but the YMCA boathouse further north is more satisfactory, and either of two restaurant parking lots at 3.6 miles is even better. Bull Hill Road at 4.2 miles leads to the north inlet, an area that often has extensive mud flats.

However, you may first want to take a side trip to Cheshire Reservoir, sometimes known as Hoosic Lake. If so, continue north on Route 7 to the center of Lanesboro, and turn right at 5.4 miles onto Summer Street. Go past the school, and turn left on Cheshire Road. Proceed north about 2 miles to Farnum Road. Turn right onto the causeway. This is generally the best vantage point, but good places can be reached on the east side of the lake along Route 8, which is at the other end of the causeway. The long, shallow, southern portion of the lake is seldom productive, so any venture onto Route 8 should be to the north (left).

Now go back south on Route 7 to the bridge on Bull Hill Road, just west of Route 7. After viewing from here you can get to the center and northwest corner of Pontoosuc Lake by following Bull Hill Road west and taking the first left from the Route 7 and Bull Hill Road intersection (Sunrise Street). Go to the end of the road, and look out over the lake. Then return to Bull Hill Road, and continue west to Narraganset Avenue, a dead-end road that goes past the west inlet for the lake. Look in both directions from the bridge over the inlet. Turn around, return to Bull Hill Road, and take a left on Balance Rock Road. Follow this road west and south, and turn right onto the Onota Lake causeway (Casey Memorial Drive). Spend some time here. You may want to walk out on the peninsula on the west side of the causeway.

Turn around, and go back to Balance Rock Road, which has now become Peck's Road, and go right (southeast) to the light at Valentine Road. Turn right, and continue to Lakeway Drive. Turn right to Burbank Park boat launch. While often good, this area is crowded on some days. A road (nameless) bearing north leads to a large parking area, which is often the most rewarding spot on Onota Lake.

Now return to Valentine Road, and reset the odometer at zero. Go south to West Street, turn right, and continue west for one mile to Fort Hill Avenue. (Just

past here, to the right off West Street, is Blythewood Drive, a private road along the southwest side of the lake. There are many homes, so be careful about trespassing.)

Go south on Fort Hill, and bear right after the railroad underpass onto Hungerford Street. Zigzag across Route 20 (a right, then a left to remain on Hungerford), and continue to Lebanon Avenue. Turn right, and at a sign saying "Dangerous Intersection" (3.7 miles), turn left, and go up the hill on Melbourne Road to Barker Road. Drive right to Tamarack Road. Here you may want to turn left for a brief stop at Mud Pond. Then return to Barker Road, and continue south to Bartlett's Orchards, a good place to stop for coffee, donuts, and cider. Here at Richmond Shores (6.3 miles), turn right, and at 6.9 miles, bear left at the "To Beach" sign to Richmond Pond.

To reach Stockbridge Bowl, return to Barker Road (Pittsfield Road in Richmond), and continue south (right) 2.4 miles to a road turning left and marked with a sign, "To Lenox." Follow the hard-surface road over the hill to Route 183. Turn right, and almost at once turn left on West Hawthorne Road, and follow this to the east side of the lake. After pausing here, go south about one mile to the public beach. The northwest side of the lake can be reached from a public beach and boat ramp off Route 183.

In the fall, if the waterfowling is dull and after finishing at Onota Lake, you may want to make a side trip to the Berry Mountain hawkwatch site at the Pittsfield State Forest in Hancock. Return to the causeway at the north end of Onota. Go west to Churchill Street, turn left, and follow it to Cascade Street. Turn right, and then right again to the forest headquarters. The road up the mountain is good but is one-way up, and a different road must be taken back down the mountain. The parking area at the top offers a good lookout, but it is better to walk a short distance north up the hill. Be prepared for this to be a very cold spot on a good day for hawks! Avoid the road if there is any snow or ice, because it is not plowed or sanded.

While huge numbers of hawks have not been seen at Berry Mountain, this is one of the best sites in the state for Golden Eagles and Common Ravens. Over twenty-four Common Ravens have been observed in one day. During the fall of 1991 the site was used 255 hours on sixty-two days. Fourteen species were seen, averaging a respectable 8.1 hawks per hour.

**BARTLETT HENDRICKS**, the founder of the Hoffmann Bird Club, has been organizing the club's annual waterfowl census since 1946. He is the retired natural history curator of the Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield and a life member of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Bart is active in the Mount Greylock Protective Association and is an avid downhill skier.

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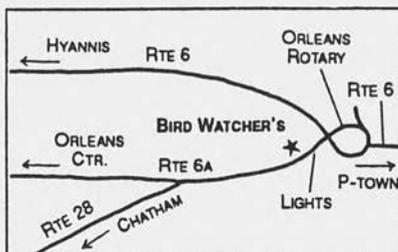
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## A KEY LINK IN GREATER BOSTON'S WILDLIFE HABITAT: METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL

by John Andrews and Lee Taylor

Boston-area birders are fortunate to have several urban parks, reserves, and privately owned lands that offer excellent birding and tranquil walks only minutes away inside Route 95. Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Arnold Arboretum in Jamaica Plain, Belle Isle Marsh in Revere, Blue Hills Reservation, and Fresh Pond in Cambridge are but a few locations well-known among birders. One relatively little known land area, the property of the closed Metropolitan State Hospital, is now threatened with development and is entering a critical time where its future use will be determined. This area is perhaps the last great piece of unprotected open space within Route 95.

The Metropolitan State Hospital property consists of 342 acres of land in the towns of Lexington, Belmont, and Waltham. In 1992 the property is being declared "surplus" by the state of Massachusetts, and is entering the state's real property disposition process which is managed by the Division of Capital Planning and Operations (DCPO). State and local agencies will be polled to determine whether they have proposals for use of the property. If no such proposals are acceptable to the state, the property will be offered to private developers.

Over eighty-five percent of the land (272 acres) is currently undeveloped. The property is the heart of a de facto greenway that includes the Metropolitan District Commission's (MDC) Beaver Brook Reservation, Belmont Rock Meadow conservation land, Habitat Institute for the Environment, Highland Farm Sanctuary, Lexington's "Clematis Brook" conservation land, and Cedar Hill Girl Scout Camp. The entire greenway constitutes more than one thousand acres. If the Metropolitan Hospital grounds are not preserved, the greenway will be fragmented, and all of the connecting properties threatened with degradation.

The property is ecologically rich due to its size, the extent of its wetlands, and the diversity of animal and plant species present in both wetland and upland areas. About one-quarter of the undeveloped area consists of wetlands (marsh or wet meadows and maple swamps). About one-half of the undeveloped area contains a mature oak-hickory forest in the upland areas of the property. This forest comprises mature trees estimated to be seventy to eighty years old with a canopy height of over seventy feet. The rest of the undeveloped area consists of dry open areas. In addition, about fourteen vernal pools are located on the land. An extensive network of trails and unpaved roads, reaching all habitats and nearly all of which are easily walked, enables the birder or other users to walk throughout the property.

Why should birders be concerned about the fate of the Metropolitan

Hospital grounds? A recent *Bird Observer* article pointed out the potentially devastating effects of forest fragmentation on neotropical migrant bird species (Askins, R.A. 1992 Forest Fragmentation and the Decline of Migratory Songbirds, *Bird Observer*, 20(1):13-21). As forest tracts near urban areas become smaller and smaller or are fragmented by new roads, power lines, and the like, these land tracts become increasingly isolated from similar habitat nearby. Such fragmentation is particularly harsh on woodland birds because it increases their susceptibility to predators, such as jays, crows, and raccoons, as well as to cowbird parasitism. While the Metropolitan Hospital grounds do not in themselves constitute a large enough forest tract to protect woodland birds from predators and nest parasites, its role in maintaining a much larger greenway is critical.

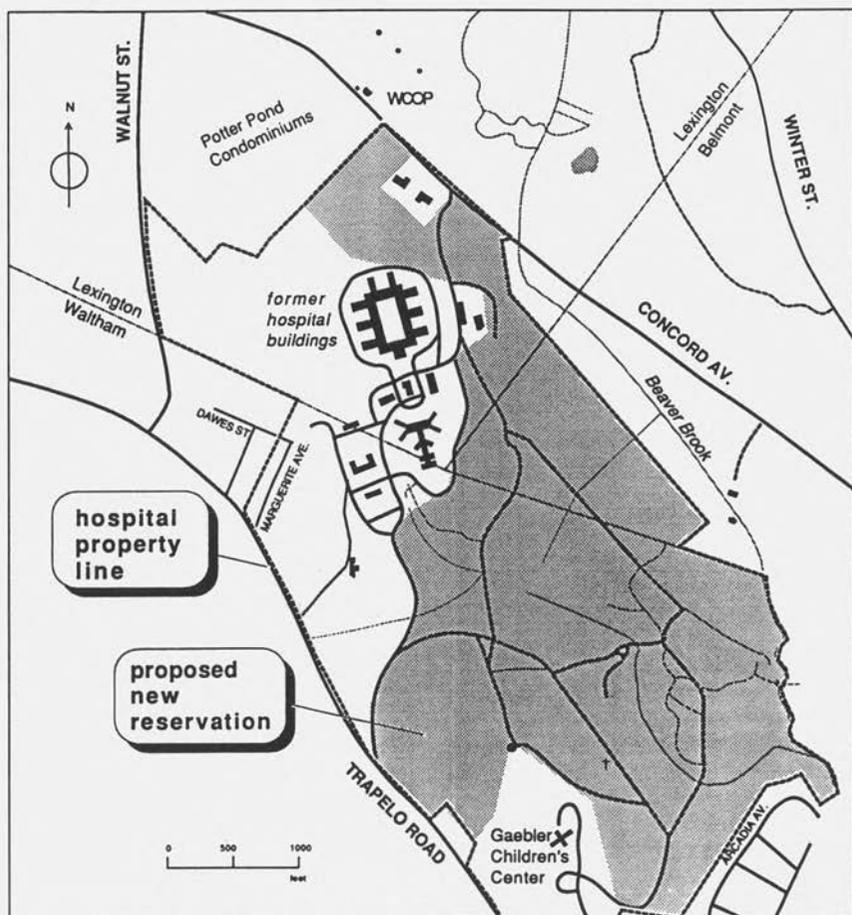
One of the authors (L. Taylor) has birded the area extensively since the late 1970s. He has made close to five hundred trips into the tract while participating in organized studies on one particular 6.7-hectare wooded plot, and in more informal trips throughout the undeveloped part of the grounds. The studies include an *American Birds* Winter Bird Population Study (WBPS) and the Spring Migration Watch conducted in the mid-1980s by Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts, Inc.

In the depths of winter, one generally encounters birds in mixed-species feeding flocks, which comprise predominantly the expected woodland species. Over the course of ten years of WBPS coverage, Black-capped Chickadee was the most common species, followed closely by Downy Woodpecker and Tufted Titmouse. The resident Great Horned Owls tend to be most conspicuous at this time of year, and the birder can often find them by investigating noisy flocks of crows enjoying a good owl mobbing. The mundane duties of the WBPS worker are occasionally enlivened by encounters with more unusual species, such as wintering robins and flickers, and on one occasion a Winter Wren.

In the breeding season the deep woods on the Metropolitan State grounds harbor good numbers of Eastern Wood-Pewee, Great Crested Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Red-eyed Vireo, Scarlet Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak. In most years, Red-tailed Hawk and Great Horned Owl nests are also found; frequently they use the same nest structure in alternate years. The scrubrier and edge habitats host Eastern Kingbirds, House Wrens, all three northeastern mimids, Blue-winged Warblers, Indigo Buntings, Northern Orioles, and American Goldfinches. Wetter parts of the tract are home to American Woodcocks, Warbling Vireos, Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, Swamp Sparrows, and Red-winged Blackbirds. A small Northern Bobwhite population breeds annually on the site, which is toward the northern and eastern fringe of this species' range. On one recent occasion, Solitary Vireos, which are quite local in the eastern part of Massachusetts, nested at the Metropolitan State grounds, although unfortunately without success.

During spring migration birding trips can be quite rewarding. In the early spring one can expect to encounter flocks of five to ten Palm Warblers foraging near the forest floor, and Ruby-crowned Kinglets in every thicket. Other spring migrants of note that are more or less regular include Virginia and Sora rails, Acadian Flycatchers, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Yellow-throated Vireos, Blackburnian and Mourning warblers, and Rusty Blackbirds. As the migration progresses into May, the oaks can be dense with warblers, with the potential for twenty-plus species in a day.

Early in the fall migration Empidonax flycatchers and Eastern Phoebes can at times be found working virtually every sunny opening. Olive-sided Flycatcher is also not uncommon around Labor Day. As the landbird migration peaks in September and October, Sharp-shinned Hawks, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and Lincoln's Sparrows can be



Area proposed for new MDC reservation on grounds of former Metropolitan State Hospital. Map courtesy of Beaver Brook Watershed Coalition.

expected. Toward the end of fall, Hermit Thrushes and Fox Sparrows move through in moderate numbers. At that time one can also encounter interesting wanderers and lingerers, such as Carolina Wren, Northern Shrike, and the occasional warbler, even into December.

Over the years, Taylor's list for the Metropolitan State Hospital tract has grown to just under 150 species. Probably the most unusual bird he encountered was a Lawrence's Warbler. It is seldom, however, that a birding trip, no matter what the season, does not provide some reward.

In addition to its value for birders, the property has numerous other benefits that argue for its preservation. The wetlands are important for preventing flooding downstream and maintaining water quality in the ponds of the MDC Beaver Brook Reservation. Nearby residents use the property for other recreational activities, such as jogging, nature walks, and cross-country skiing.

Because of the prevalence of wetlands, over 190 acres of the property were classified as "undevelopable" in a preliminary assessment of the land by the DCPO. A local citizens group known as the Beaver Brook Watershed Coalition (BBWC) conducted a study that mapped environmentally sensitive areas, including wetlands, vernal pools, and steep slopes. The study concluded that by setting aside some 220 acres on the eastern side of the property as a public reservation, most of this environmentally sensitive land could be permanently protected, and the integrity of the Beaver Brook greenway could be preserved. A petition requesting that such a reservation be created has been endorsed by the Massachusetts Audubon Society, Appalachian Mountain Club, New England Sierra Club (Thoreau Group), Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, Charles River Watershed Association, and several other local organizations.

A promising response to the idea of a new public reservation has come from the MDC. The MDC has called the site a "spectacular piece of land" and has noted that it would provide a logical enhancement of the MDC's existing Beaver Brook Reservation. However, the MDC has indicated that they will not pursue acquisition of the land unless there is clear support for the idea from the three affected towns (Belmont, Lexington, and Waltham). Each of the three towns has appointed members to a land use task force that is working with the DCPO on the disposition. Residents of the three affected towns need to express their interest in protecting the open space to their respective task force delegations (write to the Met State Land Use Task Force in care of town hall). Residents of other towns should write to Julie O'Brien, MDC, 30 Somerset Street, Boston, MA 02108. For further information on the status of the disposition and conservation efforts, call John Andrews at 617-862-6498 or Nancy Childs at 617-489-5050.

**JOHN ANDREWS** is vice-president of Citizens for Lexington Conservation and one of the founders of the Beaver Brook Watershed Coalition.

An active birder for many years, he has served as a sector leader on the Greater Boston Christmas Bird Count. Since 1973 John has written over ten articles in *Bird Observer*. This year John directed a breeding bird survey of the Great Meadows land in Lexington as part of a comprehensive ecological study of that area. John is an engineer and lives in Lexington.

**LEE TAYLOR** has birded Massachusetts since 1975, arriving on the scene days after the Newburyport Ross' Gull departed. He has been active in *Bird Observer* since the early 1980s, initially compiling field reports, subsequently participating in organizing field studies, and currently keeping the books. In recent years he has derived a great deal of enjoyment from intensively birding Arlington, where he resides, and neighboring towns.

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## BOOK REVIEW: *THE FEATHER QUEST*

by John Kricher

*The Feather Quest* by Pete Dunne, photographs by Linda Dunne, New York: Dutton. 1992. 355 pages with index, 16-page inset of color photographs, \$25 (hardcover).

Pete Dunne's articulate, often insightful, and usually witty articles populate virtually all of the nation's birding magazines, and as such, this former director of the Cape May Bird Observatory is well known to birders throughout the country. In the spirit of Peterson and Fisher's *Wild America* and Edwin Way Teale's classic four season (e.g., *North With The Spring*) books, Dunne, along with his photographer wife Linda, traversed much of North America, mostly within one year, to chronicle birds and birders.

In twenty-one chapters the Dunnes take their readers from Whippany, New Jersey, where Pete recalls his first childhood birding experiences (a bit of a sentimental journey), to end in, of all places, Baldwin City, Kansas, where they participate in a Christmas Bird Count (CBC). In choosing Baldwin City, I could not help but wonder if Pete simply closed his eyes and had Linda riffle the pages of the voluminous CBC issue of *American Birds*, his finger by chance stopping at the page with Baldwin City. Baldwin City? Perhaps it was chosen for its location smack dab in the center of North America. In between, the Dunnes visited many of the most spectacular birding areas: Point Pelee, Everglades National Park, Churchill, southeast Arizona, the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Sacramento Valley, Pawnee Grasslands, and Attu. Their timing was good to say the least. They traversed the Gulf Coast and moved north to Point Pelee at the height of spring migration, and they were at Hawk Mountain for the annual raptor migration. Any birder would kill for a chance to follow their itinerary.

Pete's purpose seems to be both to capture vignettes about birding and birders, and to present birding as a philosophical, almost moralistic, endeavor, presumably because of how it enables one to appreciate the natural world and the need for conservation. He basically succeeds at both objectives, and the book generally makes for fast, enjoyable reading. Dunne delivers numerous pointed messages about the conservation movement, both its successes and frustrations of recent years, each skillfully interspersed among his accounts of the journey. However, I have my doubts about whether this book will eventually come to be regarded as a classic, among the genre of Peterson and Fisher and the Teale volumes. I was expecting Pete to be more consistently witty and less preachy. I was disappointed. I was expecting Pete to present his fondness for birding rather like that of one lover for another, a passionate, steamy affair of the heart. I was disappointed. Instead, Pete seems overly reverential, kind of like

one of the faithful trying to describe his love for God. He claims to "touch the infinite" at Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and later becomes somewhat emotionally overwhelmed at the vast numbers of geese in the air ("a storm of wings") at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. I expected Pete to display his characteristic strong opinions, a trait I greatly admire in his writings. I was disappointed. In the Attu chapter, otherwise very well written, there is no mention of the extensive, senseless collecting of rarities (for museum "trophies") that has routinely occurred there in recent years. The penultimate chapter, subtitled "Pilgrimage," is exactly that: a rainy day trip to Old Lyme, Connecticut, where we learn that Pete really likes and greatly admires Roger Tory Peterson. Don't we all?

Although I had my disappointments with *Feather Quest*, I nonetheless found it hard to put down, and I recommend it. Dunne is most talented at writing dialogue and description. I particularly enjoyed his account of how he sized up a group of birders on an observation tower searching at the limit of spotting scope resolution for distant flamingos at Everglades National Park, and how these other birders, in turn, sized him up. I liked reading about his futile search for a vagrant Ross's Gull at some sewage pools in Baltimore. Any birder who has ever chased and missed, and I guess that includes just about all of us, will easily relate to Pete's gamble and subsequent frustration. New Englanders will particularly enjoy Dunne's description of an early morning winter breakfast at a diner near Newburyport, where, over a dish of runny eggs, Pete muses about the past glories of Ludlow Griscom. The chapter describing the New Jersey big day that has expanded to become the World Series of Birding (Dunne's idea and promotional scheme) is a gem. In these accounts, where Dunne describes the sociology of modern birding, he is at his best.

This is not a profound book, but rather a book to make you feel good about birding and birders. It is entertaining and satisfies the voyeuristic urges all of us have in wanting to know what other birders have seen, and compare their luck afield with our own. Reading *Feather Quest* will make you want to reach for your binos and go in quest of feathers.

**JOHN KRICHER** is professor of biology at Wheaton College and the author of several books about nature. A frequent contributor to *Bird Observer*, he also serves on the Bird Observer board of directors and as department head for feature articles and field notes. His most recent book is *First Guide to Seashores*, published by Houghton Mifflin.

## ARE ACCIPITER POPULATIONS IN WINTER AFFECTED BY BIRD FEEDERS?

by William E. Davis, Jr.

It has been convincingly argued that the continued presence of abundant and concentrated food (energy) that bird feeders provide in winter may have contributed to the increase in Black-capped Chickadee and Tufted Titmouse populations in Massachusetts (Kricher 1981), as well as to the increase in Blue Jay populations nationally (Bock and Lepthien 1976). Forster (1990) and Davis (1991) have suggested that the Carolina Wren range expansion into Massachusetts is related to bird feeding stations. Since 1950 the number of feeders in Massachusetts has increased markedly. Concurrent increases in food available to wintering birds cannot be quantified due to the lack of quantitative data from distributors of bird food. One distributor, however, reported to John Kricher (1981) that the amount of bird seed sold had increased dramatically from 1965 to 1980. This matches nicely with the increase of thirty percent in the Blue Jay population between 1962 and 1971 reported by Bock and Lepthien (1976), which they suggest was most likely the result of winter feeding stations. By 1972, twenty-four percent of metropolitan Boston households were feeding birds in winter (DeGraaf and Thomas 1974).

Bird feeding stations concentrate birds that would otherwise be foraging over broad areas. Do these concentrations of small birds act as "bird feeders" for wintering raptors? And if so, have they affected the numbers of accipiters that winter in Massachusetts?

Certainly substantial numbers of accipiters visit winter bird feeders. In recent years as many as seventeen percent of the participants from the northeastern region of Project FeederWatch (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology) reported Sharp-shinned Hawks, and ten percent reported Cooper's Hawks (Erica Dunn, personal communication).

During the past few winters both Cooper's and Sharp-shinned hawks have apparently overwintered near my home and frequented my bird feeders, exploiting the concentrations of small passerines and doves that congregated there. Unless a hawk is banded or has some individually distinguishing feather pattern, it is impossible to be sure that the hawk you see on different occasions is the same bird, but multiple sightings of what appears to be the same bird certainly suggest that a hawk has settled into your neighborhood. For example, I observed an immature Sharp-shinned Hawk in my winter study area in the Foxboro conservation land about two hundred yards from my back yard bird feeders on December 29 and 30, 1985, and again on January 18, 1986. On February 15 and on two other occasions I saw what appeared to be the same bird attacking small birds at my feeders. It is probable that these sightings were of a

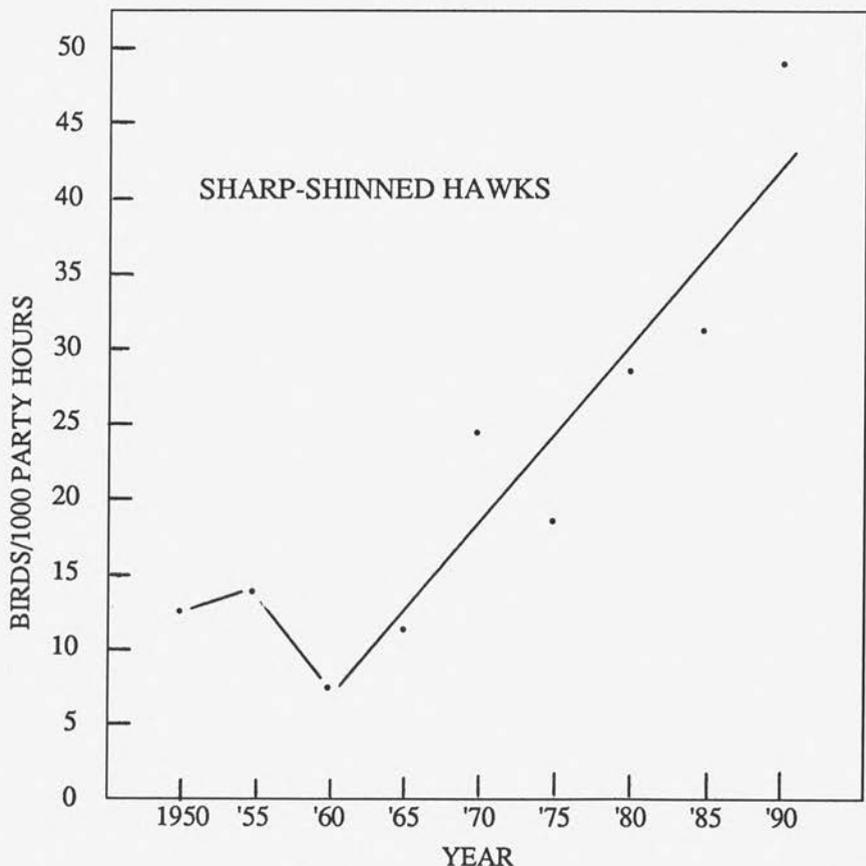
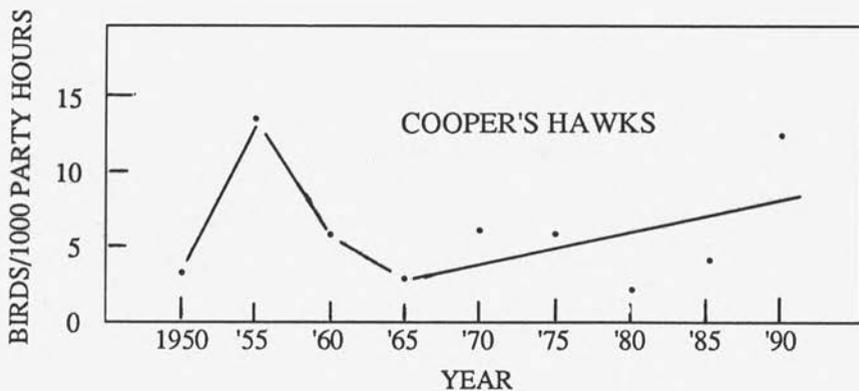


FIGURE 1. The upper diagram shows numbers of Cooper's Hawks reported on selected Christmas Bird Counts; the lower diagram, numbers of Sharp-shinned Hawks. Numbers are birds per 1000 party hours. Data points are three-year cluster averages. The straight lines from years 1965 to 1990 are calculated "best fit" lines.

single bird that was resident for several months that winter.

On February 11, 1989, and on at least two other occasions that winter, a small (presumably male) immature Cooper's Hawk attacked birds at my feeders. I recorded a large (presumably female) immature Cooper's Hawk at my feeders on more than a dozen occasions from January 10 to March 25, 1989. This latter bird captured a House Sparrow in a forsythia bush among my feeders on January 10 and a sick Mourning Dove capable of only short flights on January 29. On March 4 I found Rock Dove wing and body feathers under one of the feeders. Later that same day I saw the hawk attack and miss another Rock Dove. Eventually the hawk perched in trees and shrubs adjacent to the bird feeders for more than two hours. Clearly this hawk was successfully utilizing the concentrated food resources (birds) that my bird feeders attracted.

The question of whether the presence of winter feeders has had an effect on accipiter populations in our area is more difficult to answer. Do accipiter winter population trends correlate with an increase in bird feeding in Massachusetts? My subjective impression is that Sharp-shinned Hawk numbers have increased considerably since the 1950s, and that Cooper's Hawks had been more common in the early 1950s, then decreased sharply, but are now on the increase, particularly in recent years. One source of quantitative data available for winter populations of these birds is the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Counts (CBC), published annually in *American Birds*. I compiled data on accipiter counts from six Massachusetts CBCs, all of which had been censused annually since 1950: Cape Ann, Cape Cod, Newburyport, Northampton, Quincy, and Springfield (Holyoke).

There were a number of problems with these data. First, the number of observers changed with time, so the question arises whether changes in numbers of birds reported reflect actual changes in bird numbers or merely better coverage. Kricher (1981) demonstrated that total party hours is the most reliable parameter for standardizing counts available for CBC data, so the numbers reported are per 1000 party hours (Figure 1). Second, there is often substantial year-to-year variation in winter accipiter numbers, so to compensate for "good" years and "bad" years, the data were averaged over three-year clusters. The first data point for each species is, for example, the average of the counts reported in 1949, 1950, and 1951. Third, in 1974 some counts began to add "feeder hours." When feeder hours were reported separately, I added them to party hours. Otherwise, I assumed that feeder hours were already included in party hour totals. Since some previous censuses may not have included feeder hours, it is possible that some counts per party hour may be lower than they otherwise would have been. There is always a problem with accipiter identification, and, for example, some of the reported Cooper's Hawks may have been large female Sharp-shinned Hawks.

Because of the problems with the data, I attempted no statistical analysis.

Nevertheless, the trends are suggestive. There has been a substantial increase in the numbers of Sharp-shinned Hawks reported, and my impression that Cooper's Hawks decreased from the 1950s but are now increasing seems justified. Although the increases are not nearly as steady as with Sharp-shinned Hawks, the number of Cooper's Hawks reported in the 1990 cluster is nearly four times that of the 1965 cluster. The low numbers from the late 1970s and early 1980s correlate with large increases in Cooper's Hawks migrating through Pennsylvania (Bednarz 1990; Rosenfield 1988) and may indicate that much of the population wintered farther south, leaving Massachusetts with fewer birds. The substantial increase from 1965 to 1970 for both species matches rather closely with the dramatic increase since 1965 in bird food sales and with the documented increase in Blue Jays, which has been attributed to winter bird feeding (Bock and Lepthien 1976).

Accipiter population trends have been analyzed by several authors using migration counts. After thoroughly pointing out the difficulties of using count data to examine population trends, Heintzelman (1986) nevertheless concludes that both Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawk populations seem to have increased starting about 1975. This increase presumably is related to the banning of DDT in 1972 and the subsequently reduced pesticide burdens that these hawks carried. If Heintzelman's analysis is correct, then the population increases of both species, indicated by the CBC analyses, began about a decade too early—in fact at a period when the pesticide burdens were close to the maximum. Bednarz et al. (1990), using data from Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania, concluded that both Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawk populations began their recovery in the mid-1960s, nearly a decade before the effects of DDT and its derivatives substantially declined in the United States. Further, a U. S. Department of Interior study concluded that there was an increase in Cooper's Hawks in the eastern United States from 1967-1974 (Rosenfield 1988). If these analyses are correct, then the population trends match nicely with the increase in numbers of wintering accipiters in our area as reported on the CBCs. But why did the population increase begin a decade before the DDT impact significantly lessened? Perhaps the answer lies in reduced DDT usage in Canada (where many accipiters breed) before the ban in the United States. The general warming trend for New England winters may have affected the latitude at which accipiters can survive winter in substantial numbers. Warmer winters may also have increased the number of wintering songbirds, and thus increased the available food supply for the predators.

My favorite hypothesis suggests that the increase in winter bird feeding, enhanced perhaps by ever larger numbers of songbirds, led to higher winter survival rates, particularly among immature accipiters (which are the most frequently reported in New England winters), and thus provided an expanded wintering range. This in turn may have helped to produce a general population

increase.

Although the data strongly suggest that feeding songbirds in winter helps accipiters overwinter, any definitive answer to the question of the effect bird feeders have on winter accipiter populations will have to await much better data than are currently available. But it is interesting to speculate about the degree to which your feeding seeds to those little passerines may be inadvertently supporting a growing winter population of raptors. Your suet, peanut butter, and mixed bird seed may be providing the "ultimate bird feeder" for sharpies and Cooper's Hawks during those hard winter months when a concentrated food supply may make the difference between life and death.

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**WILLIAM E. DAVIS, JR.**, is a frequent contributor to *Bird Observer*. Ted serves as president of Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts, Inc., and as department head for cover art. He wishes to thank John Kricher, Greg Butcher, Brian Cassie, Paul Roberts, and Diane Tessaglia for reviewing earlier drafts of this manuscript. Ted also thanks Erica Dunn, who provided Project FeederWatch data, and David Klapholz, who provided statistical assistance. Project FeederWatch has over eight thousand observers across the continent and would like to increase that number. For more information write: Project FeederWatch, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, New York 14850. To participate in Project FeederWatch and receive two newsletters per year, send \$12.00 to the above address.

## ENTANGLEMENT OF COMMON EIDERS IN CLAM CULTURE NETS

by Edwin M. Hoopes

Over the past twenty years there has been much public awareness of the incidence of marine mammals drowning after becoming entangled in fishing nets. Until recently, however, there has been less awareness of the incidental take, or bycatch, of seabirds and other water birds in fishnets. There are many species of birds that are taken in a variety of gear types and the number of birds drowned far exceeds the mortality of marine mammals (Atkins and Heneman 1987). The incidental take of birds has been reported in net, trap, fishing line, and gill-net fisheries throughout North America (Croxall et al. 1984). I present data on Common Eiders (*Somateria mollissima*) drowning after becoming entangled in nets surrounding clam culture floats.

On May 19, 1989, the Provincetown Police Department reported a "large" number of birds that had washed ashore at Beach Point on the Provincetown-Truro town line. With help from rangers at Cape Cod National Seashore, I found and collected approximately twenty Common Eiders that washed ashore over a two-hundred-meter length of shoreline. The cause of death was not readily apparent, although incidences of Black-legged Kittiwake mortality due to *Aspergillosis fumigatus* had been a common occurrence in the past five to ten years. Consequently, three eider carcasses were shipped to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service laboratories in Madison, Wisconsin, to determine the cause of death and to ensure that these birds did not represent the initial stages of a more serious epizootic. Over the next two days, over one hundred more Common Eiders washed ashore in the same area. All birds, including the twenty from the previous day, were classified as either adult or immature based on plumage, and adults were further identified by sex. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service laboratory in Madison reported on May 21, 1989, that the three carcasses sent for examination had died as a result of drowning.

A total of 146 Common Eiders washed ashore at Beach Point between May 19 and May 21, 1989. Of these 146 birds, thirty-six (24.7 percent) were adult males, fifteen (10.3 percent) were adult females, and ninety-five (65 percent) were immature birds. After the cause of death had been verified, a National Park Service dive team made two dives in Provincetown Harbor where there were several clam culture lease sites. They found one clam culture float with a net surrounding it and estimated the net contained approximately fifty to seventy-five more Common Eider carcasses (J. Ebert, personal communication). However, these carcasses were not collected.

While incidences of bird mortality have been reported in a variety of gear types (Carter and Sealy 1984; Piatt et al. 1984; Piatt and Nettleship 1985, 1987), I am not aware of any reported mortality for this type of fishery. Common Eiders are observed in small to large flocks along the shores of Cape Cod Bay in

summer. Further, clam culture lease sites are becoming increasingly abundant in these areas. Consequently, incidental take of Common Eiders and other diving birds could become locally significant in the clam culture fishery.

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**EDWIN M. HOOPE** is a graduate student at the University of Massachusetts Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, where he is completing his M.S. degree in Wildlife Biology. His thesis work has concentrated on assessing the relationships between Piping Plover foraging ecology and chick survival and human disturbance. Edwin would like to thank rangers John Lopez, Irv Tubbs, and Basil Walsh of the Cape Cod National Seashore for providing logistical assistance in collecting carcasses from Beach Point.

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**Eurasian Wigeon Pair in Uxbridge**

At 10:00 A.M. on May 9, 1992, Sheila Carroll and Mark Lynch and their birding class found a male Eurasian Wigeon with a female wigeon on the Blackstone River in Uxbridge. This is the first Worcester County record for this species since the Forbush Bird Club began publishing *The Chickadee* in 1931. From a distance of three to four hundred meters, even with spotting scopes, the species identity of the female was not clear.



*Eurasian Wigeon, female*  
May 11, 1992, Uxbridge, MA  
Photo by Robert C. Bradbury

Attempts to find these birds again later that afternoon were apparently unsuccessful until about 7:00 P.M., when I saw these two ducks fly in and land at the same place. However, the female was still too far away to identify in the failing light. As darkness came, the birds roosted on the muddy bank of a small cove of an island in the middle of the river.

On May 11 from a canoe, I was able to observe and photograph these birds in this same cove from as close as twenty meters. I identified the female as a red-phase Eurasian Wigeon based on its reddish-brown head, face, and upper neck, all of which were conspicuously darker than the lower neck, breast, and sides of the body. On May 12 Francis McMenemy observed the female standing on the shore of this same cove and reported seeing gray axillaries when it raised one wing. He also reported that the legs appeared to be unbanded.

During my hour-long observations of this pair on May 11, the male wigeon was never more than about fifty meters from nor out of sight of the female. At one point, both birds flew together upriver before the female returned to the cove, and at another point, the male circled over me several times when I moved toward the female. I later learned that these two wigeons were seen on May 5 in the same cove, but the observer saw the birds at a distance and thought they were American Wigeons. These birds were not reported after May 12, despite a careful canoe search on May 15. Because there are apparently no breeding records of Eurasian Wigeon in the United States, careful attention should be given to any spring sightings of male and female pairs.

Robert C. Bradbury, Worcester



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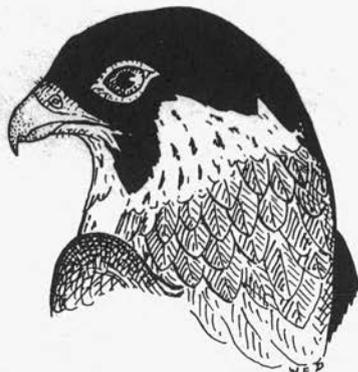
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# BIRD SIGHTINGS

MAY 1992

## SUMMARY



by Marjorie W. Rines and Robert H. Stymeist

The weather for May continued the pattern set in April: cool, dry, and sunny, with far too much wind from the east. The temperature averaged 55.6 degrees, 2.9 degrees below normal. It was much milder inland, where the persistent sea breezes were not felt. The first seventeen days were very cold, averaging 6 degrees below normal; a low of 37 degrees on May 7 tied the record for that date set in 1967. The following week was warm, averaging 6.5 degrees above normal, with a high of 92 degrees on May 23. Cooler temperatures returned the last week, averaging 7.5 degrees below normal. The official spring of 1992 (March through May) ranks for a tie as the 27th coolest in 121 years. Winds were out of the southwest on just three days: May 1, 17, and 23, while a total of 22 days had some wind with an easterly component, contributing to the cold weather and generally poor migration near the coast, including Mount Auburn Cemetery. On May 9 Edith Andrews organized an island-wide census of Nantucket, reflected in many of these reports.

R. H. S.

### LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

The **Arctic/Pacific Loon**, first found on January 3, continued to be seen at Race Point, Provincetown through May 16. At midmonth, over 300 Red-throated Loons were tallied at Nantucket and over 50 from North Monomoy. Last year only seven individuals were reported during May. A pair of Pied-billed Grebes continued to be seen near a small reed island at Forest Hills Cemetery in Boston, although nesting was not confirmed.

A **Little Egret** was discovered at Eel Point in Nantucket on May 14, where it continued through the end of the month. This represented the second state record and only the third record for the United States. Other interesting reports included a Tricolored Heron at Fort Hill in Eastham and a Yellow-crowned Night Heron in Swansea.

A pair of Eurasian Wigeons discovered at Rice City Pond in Uxbridge represented a first Worcester County record (see *Field Notes From Here and There* in this issue). Eurasian Wigeon has never been found breeding in North America, so the presence of a pair anywhere in mid-May is intriguing. At Nantucket over 15,000 White-winged Scoters were observed staging off the south shore of the island. At Bolton Flats two groups of young Hooded Mergansers were seen on May 31, and a late Ruddy Duck was still present at Cherry Hill Reservoir in West Newbury on May 16.

R. H. S.

#### Red-throated Loon

1-16	N. Scituate	3	G. d'Entremont#
14-16, 16	Nantucket, N. Monomoy	300+, 50+	S. Perkins#, B. Nikula#
22, 25	P.I., Ipswich (C.B.)	16, 2	R. Heil, D. Rimmer

#### Arctic/Pacific Loon

1-16	Provincetown	1	v. o.
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#### Common Loon

thr, 1-16	Ipswich, N. Scituate	1-3, 5	D. Rimmer, G. d'Entremont#
9, 10	Nantucket, Gloucester	68, 3	E. Andrews#, BBC (J. Nove)
12; 15, 19	Quabbin (G37); Mt. A.	4; 1, 1	G. Gove; v. o.
30, 31	Duxbury, Easton	2, 1	G. d'Entremont, S. Arena

#### Pied-billed Grebe

thr, 2	Boston, Provincetown	1 or 2, 1	R. Stymeist + v. o., K. Jones
6, 11	Concord	1	S. Perkins#

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Red-necked Grebe 1-16, 9 10, 19	N. Scituate, Marblehead Gloucester, Nahant	3 max, 1 br pl 1, 1	G. d'Entremont, R. Heil BBC (J. Nove), H. Wiggin#	
Sooty Shearwater 20, 25	Nantucket, Dennis	8, 1	J. Soucy, B. Nikula	
Manx Shearwater 31	Woods Hole	1	B. Malcolm	
Northern Gannet 15, 25 25	Nantucket, Rockport Dennis (Corp. B.)	1500, 20 60	S. Perkins#, S. Perkins B. Nikula	
Great Cormorant 1-16, 1-9 9, 30	N. Scituate, Lakeville Nantucket, Plymouth	25 max, 3 2, 1 imm	G. d'Entremont# E. Andrews#, G. d'Entremont	
Double-crested Cormorant thr 9, 10	Arlington, GMNWR Nantucket, Gloucester	64 max, 28 max 87, 46	M. Rines, J. Center E. Andrews#, BBC (J. Nove)	
American Bittern 8, 9	Boston (F.Pk), GMNWR	1, 1	T. Aversa, W. Petersen#	
Least Bittern 17, 30	Lakeville, Sudbury	1, 1	K. Holmes, S. Arena	
Great Blue Heron thr 12, 14 17, 25	Westboro, Holliston Quabbin (G37), P.I. Quabbin (G45), S. Hanson	18, 6 2 pr nesting, 4 10 pr nesting, 4	E. Taylor G. Gove, W. Drew# M. Lynch#, W. Petersen	
Great Egret 9, 23 24, 25	Nantucket, P.I. Essex, Westport	7, 4 4, 5	E. Andrews#, M. Lynch# T. Young, M. Lynch#	
Little Egret 14-31	Nantucket	1 br pl (photo)	S. Perkins# + v. o.	
Snowy Egret 9	Nantucket	34	E. Andrews#	
Little Blue Heron 9, 15 21, 22	Squantum, Mt. A. Essex, P.I.	1 ad, 1 1 ad, 1 ad + 1 "pied"	E. Cutler, BBC (D. J. Oliver) T. Aversa, R. Heil	
Tricolored Heron 2	Eastham	1	K. Jones	
Cattle Egret thr, 16	Ipswich, Rowley	3, 1	T. Young, W. Petersen	
Green-backed Heron 1-18; 8, 17 9; 10, 24 12, 14 20, 31 30, 31	Mt. A.; Needham Nantucket; Brookline S. Dartmouth, P.I. Salem Wayland, Bolton	1; 1, 1 1; 2 2, 2 1 on nest, 1 ad + 2 yg 1, 2	v. o.; D. Case E. Andrews#; F. Bouchard M. Boucher, W. Drew# I. Lynch# S. Arena, M. Lynch#	
Black-crowned Night-Heron thr, 9 26	Medford, Nantucket Boston (F.Pk)	33 max, 37 pr nesting	M. Rines, E. Andrews# T. Aversa	
Yellow-crowned Night Heron 25	Swansea	1 ad	M. Lynch#	
Glossy Ibis 6, 23 25	Concord (N.A.C.), Ipswich Waltham	1, 12 1	S. Perkins#, M. Lynch# G. d'Entremont#	
Mute Swan 14	Nantucket, P.I.	30, 10	S. Perkins, W. Drew#	
Snow Goose 9	Ipswich	2	R. Stymeist#	
Brant 11, 15 22	W. Dennis, Nantucket Nahant, Newburyport	200+, 15 125, 450	B. Nikula#, S. Perkins R. Heil	
Wood Duck 3, 5 5, 26 21, 22 27, 28	Lincoln, Lynnfield E. Middleboro Provincetown, Bolton Lexington, S. Dartmouth	9, 6 3 f on nest, 72 19 m, 6 2 f, 16	BBC (J. Nove), J. Brown# K. Anderson, T. Aversa B. Nikula, M. Lynch# C. Floyd, M. Boucher	
Green-winged Teal 4, 21 9, 10	P.I. Nantucket, S. Dartmouth	36, 2 6, pr	W. Drew# E. Andrews#, M. Boucher	
Blue-winged Teal thr, 9	P.I., Nantucket	6 max, 4	W. Drew#, E. Andrews#	
Northern Shoveler 3, 10	P.I., WBWS	1 m, 2	J. Young#, v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Northern Shoveler 14, 22	(continued) Mt. A., Newburyport	2, 3	A. Dasinger, R. Heil	
Gadwall thr, 10	P.I., S. Dartmouth	36 max, pr	W. Drew#, M. Boucher	
Eurasian Wigeon (details) 8-13	Uxbridge	pr (ph)	R. Kanapik + v. o.	
American Wigeon 21-25	Newburyport	1 m	S. Perkins#	
Ring-necked Duck 2, 3	W. Newbury, P.I.	4+, 4	G. d'Entremont, J. Young#	
Greater Scaup 1-15, 14	Lakeville, Nantucket	20 max 5/2, 1 f	W. Petersen + v. o., S. Perkins	
Lesser Scaup 2	Lakeville	4	W. Petersen	
Common Eider thr, 10 14, 16 21, 22	N. Monomoy, Gloucester Nantucket, N. Scituate P.I., Marblehead/Swampscott	150 max, 230 400, 500 20, 30	B. Nikula, BBC (J. Nove) S. Perkins, G. d'Entremont# S. Perkins#, R. Heil	
Harlequin Duck 3, 24	N. Scituate, Nahant	5, 1 m	G. d'Entremont, R. Stymeist#	
Oldsquaw 1, 24 9, 14	Newburyport Nantucket, Ipswich (C.B.)	1600, 2 30, 200+	R. Heil, R. Stymeist# E. Andrews#, D. Rimmer	
Black Scoter 9, 10 16, 23	Nantucket, Gloucester N. Scituate, P.I.	633, 4 30, 1 m	E. Andrews#, BBC (J. Nove) G. d'Entremont#, G. d'Entremont#	
Surf Scoter 9, 16 23	Nantucket, N. Scituate P.I.	160, 15 1 m	E. Andrews#, G. d'Entremont# G. d'Entremont#	
White-winged Scoter 10, 14-15	Gloucester, Nantucket	17, 15,000	BBC (J. Nove), S. Perkins#	
Common Goldeneye 2, 14 15	Newburyport, Nantucket Lakeville	3, 3 1	S. Perkins#, S. Perkins G. d'Entremont + v. o.	
Bufflehead 2, 15 9, 10 10	Lakeville Nantucket, S. Dartmouth P.I.	30, 10 85, 6 14	W. Petersen, G. d'Entremont E. Andrews#, M. Boucher I. Lynch#	
Hooded Merganser 12, 13 31	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G45) Bolton	pr, 3 f 1 f + 5 downy yg	G. Gove, T. Aversa M. Lynch#	
Common Merganser 2, 9 9	W. Newbury, Lakeville GMNWR	10, 1 13	G. d'Entremont#, G. d'Entremont W. Petersen#	
Red-breasted Merganser 9, 15	Nantucket, N. Monomoy	500, 500	E. Andrews#, B. Nikula	
Ruddy Duck 1, 16	W. Newbury	3, 1 m	R. Heil, W. Petersen	

#### RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS

In Westport 95 Osprey nests were occupied on both the east and west branches of the Westport River, and in Essex County Ospreys were seen on nesting platforms at Plum Island, Rowley, and Essex. Bald Eagles were reported in seven locations. Good flights of Sharp-shinned Hawks were noted on May 3 both at Plum Island and North Truro. Northern Goshawks were nesting in East Middleboro and Holliston, and a Cooper's Hawk pair was found nesting in Boxford. At the Custom House in Boston 4 young Peregrine Falcons hatched during the month.

Wild Turkeys were found in the wilds of Dorchester and Franklin Park in Boston, not surprising considering the continuing expansion of their range. This spring, for example, turkey hunters established a new record harvest, taking 1,010 bearded birds, mostly in western Massachusetts counties, during the May 4 through May 23 split season. Mild weather and high hunter participation were the main factors in establishing this record season.

Forty-two Virginia Rails were heard at the Lynnfield Marsh, and in South Hanson the presence of young Virginia Rails suggests that the birds began nesting in the first week of May, pushing local egg dates by a week or more. Single King Rails were reported from six locations, and the "uncommon" Common Moorhen was noted from two locations. An immature Sandhill Crane was found in Rowley on May 31.

R. H. S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Turkey Vulture 30, 31	Dover, Provincetown	4, 18	E. Taylor, B. Nikula#	
Osprey thr thr, 3 9, 31	Ipswich (C.B.), P.I. Westport, Eastham Nantucket, Rowley	br pr, 1-3 95 nests occupied, 16, pr	D. Rimmer, v. o. G. Fernandez, K. Jones E. Andrews, J. Berry	
Bald Eagle thr 2, 25 4, 20 16, 31 25	Quabbin Lakeville W. Newbury, Ayer Provincetown Newburyport, Middleboro	4 pairs 1 ad, 1 imm 1 imm migr, 1 ad 2 imm, 1 imm 2 imm, 1 ad	B. Davis W. Petersen R. Heil, P. Wray v. o. S. Perkins#, W. Petersen	
Northern Harrier 1, 3 3, 9 16, 23	Halifax, P.I. Rowley/Newbury, Nantucket W. Roxbury, N. Monomoy	1 f, 5 3 or 4, 10 1, 1 m	K. Anderson, M. Lynch# J. Berry, E. Andrews# T. Aversa, S. Perkins#	
Sharp-shinned Hawk 3, 10 3, 23	P.I. N. Truro	34, 4 36 in 4 hrs, 4 in 2.5 hrs	P. + F. Vale, S. Perkins B. Nikula#	
Cooper's Hawk thr, 3	Boxford, N. Truro	pr nesting, 2 imm	T. Aversa, B. Nikula#	
Reports of individuals from 8 locations.				
Northern Goshawk 1-12, thr 3, 10 10, 12 18, 24	Holliston, Boxford E. Middleboro, Concord Middleboro, Petersham Upton, Milton	pr nesting, 1 f on nest, 1 ad 1, pr courting 1, 1 imm	T. Aversa, v. o. K. Anderson, R. Stymeist# K. Holmes, G. Gove S. Arena, T. Aversa	
Red-shouldered Hawk thr 2 10, 25	Holliston, E. Middleboro Lakeville, Mattapoisett, Middleboro Boxford	pr nesting, pr 1, 1, 1 1, 2	T. Aversa, K. Anderson G. d'Entremont J. Brown#	
Reports of individuals from 6 locations.				
Broad-winged Hawk 3, 16 24, 31 24, 30	Lincoln, Topsfield Provincetown Ipswich, Groveland	2, 3 11, 10+ 2, 2	BBC (J. Nove), J. Brown# B. Nikula# T. Young#, J. Hoye#	
Reports of individuals from 7 locations.				
Red-tailed Hawk 9	Nantucket	20	E. Andrews#	
American Kestrel thr 1, 3 3, 9	Millis Falmouth, N. Truro P.I., Nantucket	5 max 8, 16+ in 4 hrs 34, 7	P. Iarrobino P. Trimble, B. Nikula# M. Lynch#, E. Andrews#	
Merlin 3 3	P.I., Newburyport Rowley, Lincoln	3, 1 4, 1	M. Lynch# J. Berry#, S. Perkins#	
Reports of individuals in 5 locations.				
Peregrine Falcon thr 2, 8, 15 2, 9 10, 16	Boston P.I. N. Truro, Nantucket Peabody, Beverly	pr nesting w/4 yg 1, 1, 1 1, 1 1 migr, 1	T. French G. d'Entremont#, S. Arena, N. Nash K. Jones, E. Andrews# R. Heil, J. Brown#	
Ring-necked Pheasant 9	Nantucket	34	E. Andrews#	
Ruffed Grouse 4, 23 24, 31 31	Needham, Boxford Topsfield, W. Newbury Milton	2, 2 m 2 drumming, 2 drumming 2 ad w/9 yg, 1 ad w/8 yg	D. Case, J. Berry C. Floyd#, J. Berry G. d'Entremont#	
Reports of individuals from 7 locations.				
Wild Turkey thr, 1 4, 17	Boxford, Boston (F.Pk) Dorchester, Middleboro	6 max, 1 f 1, 1	J. Brown, T. Aversa# M. Phelan, K. Holmes	
Northern Bobwhite thr, 6 9, 31	Plymouth, Mattapoisett Nantucket, Millis	4 max, 11 6, 3	G. d'Entremont, G. d'Entremont# E. Andrews#, P. Iarrobino	
Clapper Rail 17, 25	S. Dartmouth	2, 2	M. Boucher, M. Lynch#	
King Rail 3, 15 17, 21 26, 31	Lynnfield, Whitman Norfolk, Bolton Mattapoisett, Wayland	1, 1 1, 1 1, 1	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen# M. Boucher, J. Hoye K. Holmes, S. Perkins#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Virginia Rail				
3, 9	Newbury, Lynnfield	4, 42	J. Berry#, R. Stymeist#	
25, 31	S. Hanson, Bolton	3 ad + downy yg, 7	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
Reports of 1-3 individuals in 9 locations.				
Sora				
5; 9, 30	Lynnfield; Salem	4; 2	J. Brown; I. Lynch	
8, 23; 12	Essex; Mattapoiset	1; 1	T. Young#; K. Holmes	
17, 31	Lakeville, Bolton	1, 2	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
Common Moorhen				
16	Topsfield, P.I.	1, 1	H. Wiggin#, M. Argue#	
Sandhill Crane				
31	Rowley	1 imm	J. Berry#	

#### SHOREBIRDS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Hurricane Bob and the Halloween storm of 1991 provided additional ideal habitat for Piping Plovers, and at Crane Beach as many as 15 pairs were present throughout the month. Still a rare sight in Essex County, three American Oystercatchers were noted at Crane Beach on May 22. Over 4,000 Least Sandpipers were estimated in Newburyport on May 17, unusually late for this many individuals. Wilson's Phalaropes were seen copulating in Rowley and on Plum Island during the month. Specialties included a **Curlew Sandpiper** on North Monomoy, a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** on Martha's Vineyard representing only the third state spring record, and a Reeve in Newburyport. The distinctive wing tip pattern on an adult **Franklin's Gull** was clearly seen as the bird flew over West Newbury. Two Little Gulls were noted in Lynn, and an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen in Newburyport. Over 5,000 Common Terns were estimated at midmonth on North Monomoy, and adult Forster's Terns were also noted there as well as on Plum Island. A late **Common Murre** was seen at Stellwagen on May 16.

A Snowy Owl was reported from Plum Island as late as May 9, and over 5 Northern Saw-whet Owls were calling at Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth. Also in Plymouth, as many as 36 Whip-poor-wills were heard calling. A **Chuck-will's-widow** was found at Marblehead Neck.

Six Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported from six locations, and a "Red-shafted" Flicker was found in the marshes near Newburyport Airport.

R. H. S.

Black-bellied Plover				
thr	N. Monomoy, Ipswich (C.B.)	800 max, 50 max	B. Nikula, D. Rimmer	
2, 25; 9	Newburyport; Nantucket	21, 400; 41	S. Perkins#; E. Andrews#	
30	Plymouth B.	250	R. Stymeist#	
Lesser Golden-Plover				
2; 3, 23	P.I.; Newburyport	1+; 3, 1	G. d'Entremont#; M. Lynch#	
23, 24	Chatham, Rowley	1 br pl (photo), 1 br pl	S. Perkins#, R. Stymeist#	
Semipalmated Plover				
thr, 14	Ipswich (C.B.), Easton	50 max 5/26, 1	D. Rimmer, K. Ryan#	
15-31, 29	N. Monomoy, Wayland	15 max, 5	B. Nikula, S. Perkins	
Piping Plover				
thr, 3	Ipswich (C.B.), Barnstable (S.N.)	15 pr, 4	D. Rimmer, H. Ferguson	
3, 9	S. Dartmouth, Nantucket	5, 4	T. Raymond, E. Andrews#	
American Oystercatcher				
thr, 9	N. Monomoy, Nantucket	20+, 25	B. Nikula, E. Andrews#	
12, 22	S. Wellfleet, Ipswich (C.B.)	8, 3	K. Jones, D. Rimmer	
Greater Yellowlegs				
1, 9	Middleboro, Nantucket	5, 14	K. Anderson, E. Andrews#	
2, 10, 25	Newburyport	250, 350, 8	S. Perkins#	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
3, 9	Newburyport, Nantucket	5+, 8	M. Lynch#, E. Andrews#	
14	Easton	2	K. Ryan#	
Solitary Sandpiper				
8, 14	Topsfield, Easton	4, 7	S. Arena, K. Ryan#	
16, 18	Petersham, P.I.	2, 5 migr	J. Center, R. Heil	
Reports of 9 individuals from 8 locations.				
Willet				
3, 9	S. Dartmouth, Nantucket	18, 4	T. Raymond, E. Andrews#	
15-31, 23	N. Monomoy, P.I.	40 max, 21	B. Nikula, M. Lynch#	
Spotted Sandpiper				
1-21, 9	Mt. A., Uxbridge	1-3, 3	v. o., M. Lynch#	
18, 21	Ipswich (C.B.), Newburyport	6, 4	D. Rimmer, T. Aversa	
21, 29	N. Dartmouth, Wayland	3, 4	M. Boucher, S. Perkins	
Reports of 9 individuals from 5 locations.				
Upland Sandpiper				
1, 16	Middleboro, Ipswich	1, 1	K. Anderson, I. Lynch	
16, 31	Newburyport	2, 1	BBC (W. Drummond), R. Stymeist#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Ruddy Turnstone 16, 24 30, 31	Nantucket, Newburyport Plymouth B., N. Monomoy	30, 2 80, 200	S. Perkins#, M. Lynch# R. Stymeist#, W. Harrington	
Red Knot 2, 14 15-31, 28 30	Newburyport, Nantucket N. Monomoy, Ipswich (C.B.) Squantum	2, 7 5 max, 1 2	G. d'Entremont#, S. Perkins B. Nikula, D. Rimmer G. d'Entremont#	
Sanderling thr 9	N. Monomoy, Ipswich Nantucket	1200 max, 35 max 27	B. Nikula, D. Rimmer E. Andrews#	
Semipalmated Sandpiper 11-31, 15-31 17; 24, 31 25, 29	Ipswich, N. Monomoy S. Dartmouth; P.I. Newburyport, Wayland	22 max, 500 max 20; 10, 115 40, 1	D. Rimmer, B. Nikula M. Boucher; J. Berry S. Perkins	
Western Sandpiper 20	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	
Least Sandpiper 7, 7-31 10, 17 14, 17 22	W. Harwich, N. Monomoy Newburyport Easton, S. Dartmouth Wayland	55, 150 max 5/15 80, 4000 40, 125+ 12	B. Nikula S. Perkins, R. Heil K. Ryan#, M. Boucher S. Perkins#	
White-rumped Sandpiper 15-17, 31	N. Monomoy, P.I.	2, 4	B. Nikula, T. Young#	
Pectoral Sandpiper 3	Newburyport	3	M. Lynch#	
Purple Sandpiper 2, 16 16 24	P.I., N. Scituate Nantucket, Nahant Lynn	50, 50 17, 200 16	G. d'Entremont# S. Perkins#, W. Petersen R. Stymeist#	
Dunlin thr, 17 23, 31 25, 31	N. Monomoy, S. Dartmouth P.I. Newburyport, Ipswich	1000 max 5/15, 76 100+, 2 150, 1	B. Nikula, M. Boucher M. Lynch#, J. Berry S. Perkins#, D. Rimmer	
Curlew Sandpiper 15-22	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula + v. o.	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper (details submitted) 31	Martha's Vineyard (Katama Flats)	1	A. + E. Brown#	
Ruff 2-3	Newburyport	1 f	G. d'Entremont# + v. o.	
Short-billed Dowitcher 3-21; 10, 25 17, 22	Ipswich; Newburyport S. Dartmouth, Wayland	21 max; 2, 16 5, 23	D. Rimmer; S. Perkins# M. Boucher, S. Perkins#	
Common Snipe 2	N. Truro, W. Newbury	6, 15	B. Nikula#, G. d'Entremont#	
American Woodcock thr, 9 9, 25	Plymouth, Nantucket Easton, Norton	4 max, 9 2 or 3, 1 ad w/yg	G. d'Entremont#, E. Andrews# S. Arena	
Wilson's Phalarope thr	P.I./Rowley	1-5	v. o.	
Parasitic Jaeger 16, 23; 21	Stellwagen; Nantucket	1, 1; 3	K. Jones#, R. Stymeist#; J. Soucy	
Laughing Gull 12; 13, 28 15, 16 19, 24	S. Dartmouth; Lynn Nantucket, N. Scituate Newburyport, Rowley	4; 1 20, 6 1, 1	M. Boucher; J. Quigley S. Perkins, G. d'Entremont# H. Coolidge#, R. Stymeist#	
Franklin's Gull (details) 10	W. Newbury	1 ad in br pl	R. Heil	
Little Gull 4	Lynn	2	J. Quigley	
Common Black-headed Gull 4, 30	Lynn, Revere	2 (1S), 1 (1S)	J. Quigley	
Bonaparte's Gull 3, 23 15, 20 21, 22-23	Newburyport Nantucket, Squantum Lynn, N. Monomoy	35+, 15+ 2, 20 7 (1S), 4 imm	M. Lynch# S. Perkins, T. Aversa J. Quigley, B. Nikula	
Herring Gull 9	Nantucket	1891	E. Andrews#	
Iceland Gull 2, 4 4, 30 10, 15	P.I., Lynn Provincetown/Truro Newburyport, Nantucket	1 ad + 1 (1W), 1 3, 1 1 imm, 9	G. d'Entremont#, J. Quigley K. Jones S. Perkins, S. Perkins#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Lesser Black-backed Gull 2	Newburyport	1 ad	S. Perkins#
Glaucous Gull 1	Squantum	1 imm (photo)	M. Rines
Great Black-backed Gull 9	Nantucket	1971	E. Andrews#
Caspian Tern 24	P.I.	1	M. Boucher
Roseate Tern 15, 16	Plymouth, Nantucket	12, 250	W. Petersen#, S. Perkins
Common Tern 16	Nantucket, N. Monomoy	300, 5000	S. Perkins, B. Nikula
23, 25	P.I., Acoaxet	40+, 11	M. Lynch#
Arctic Tern 15, 30	Plymouth	1, 4	W. Petersen, R. Stymeist#
Forster's Tern 24, 31; 30	P.I.; N. Monomoy	1 ad, 1; 1	R. Heil, E. Neilsen; B. Nikula#
Least Tern 10-31, 21	Ipswich (C.B.), P.I.	75 max 5/31, 8	D. Rimmer, W. Drew#
<b>Common Murre</b> 16	Stellwagen	1	K. Jones
Black-billed Cuckoo 28, 30	Norton, Newbury	3, pr	S. Arena, J. Berry
30	ONWR	2	M. Lynch#
Reports of individuals from 9 locations.			
Yellow-billed Cuckoo 13, 21	P.I., Mt. A.	1, 1	T. Young, B. Cassie
30, 31	ONWR, Easton	1, pr	M. Lynch#, S. Arena
Eastern Screech-Owl 1-20, 17	Mt. A., S. Dartmouth	1, 1	v. o., M. Boucher
29, 30	Boston (F.Pk), Braintree	1 red, 2	T. Aversa, G. d'Entremont
Great Horned Owl thr, 12-31	Mt. A., Millis	2, 1 w/2 yg at nest	v. o., P. Iarrobino
Reports of individuals at 7 locations.			
Snowy Owl 9	P.I.	1	H. Wiggin#
Barred Owl 16, 28	Rutland, Quabbin (G40)	2, pr w/1 yg	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa
Reports of individuals from 9 locations.			
Northern Saw-whet Owl thr, 16	Plymouth, Petersham	5+, 1	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#
Common Nighthawk 22, 23	Wayland, W. Newbury	11 migr, 13 migr	S. Perkins#, R. Heil
24	Cambridge, Salem	3, 4 migr	R. Stymeist, I. Lynch
15-31	Reports of 13 individuals from 11 locations.		
<b>Chuck-will's-widow</b> 22	MNWS	1	W. Webb
Whip-poor-will thr, 3	Plymouth, S. Dartmouth	36 max, 3	G. d'Entremont#, M. Boucher
9, 15	Nantucket, Wellfleet	5, 1	E. Andrews#, M. Rines#
16, 27	Barre, Newbury	1, 1	M. Lynch#, I. Lynch#
Chimney Swift 5, 15	Framingham, W. Newbury	50, 140+	E. Taylor, R. Heil
16, 25	Newburyport, S. Hanson	100, 800+	BBC (W. Drummond), W. Petersen
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 11, 14	E. Middleboro, Westwood	2 m, 5	K. Anderson, E. Neilsen
15, 15-31	W. Newbury, Boxford	2, 1-3	R. Heil, J. Brown#
16, 20	Mt. A.	6, 3	S. Arena, E. Taylor
17	Quabbin (G40), Everett	2, 2	M. Lynch#, J. Young
Reports of individuals at 14 locations.			
Red-headed Woodpecker 2-10, 3	Nantucket, Brookline	1, 1 ad	P. Clafin, H. Wiggin#
15, 23	Dennis, N. Truro	1 ad, 1 ad	fide D. Reynolds, S. Perkins#
25, 29	Acushnet, Wayland	1, 1	L. Croteau, S. Arena
Red-bellied Woodpecker 9	Nantucket	6	E. Andrews#
Reports of individuals from 10 locations.			
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2, 17	Provincetown, S. Quabbin	1, 1	K. Jones, BBC (M. Lynch)
17, 28	Princeton, Quabbin (G40)	1, 1 m	M. Boucher, T. Aversa
Hairy Woodpecker thr	Boxford, Wayland	2 or 3, pr nesting	J. Brown#, S. Arena

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Northern Flicker				
9	Nantucket	48	E. Andrews#	
"Red Shafted" Northern Flicker (details submitted)				
24	Newburyport	1	R. Stymeist#	
Pileated Woodpecker				
3, 3-17	Lincoln, Milton	3, 1	BBC (J. Nove), G. d'Entremont	
10, 13	Lynn, Quabbin (G45)	1, 2	S. Arena, T. Aversa	
22, 23	Bolton, Boxford	1, 1	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont#	
23, 28	Millis, Newton	1, 1	P. Iarrobino, S. Arena	

#### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH FINCHES

The passerine migration was hampered by persistent easterly winds along the coast, and observers at these locations, with one notable exception, reported a scarcity of migrants. On May 18 the wind shifted into the northwest at midday following one of the few southwesterly wind flows the night before. These conditions produced the most significant coastal fallout. From Plum Island Cliff Cook reported, "while driving down the island I stopped about every 500 feet, got out and tried to 'pish' in birds, invariably with success. Rather than pockets of activity, there was clearly a heavy concentration of passerine migrants spread over the entire island. Driving with my windows open, the cacophony of song was never-ending. It was impossible to tell where one Yellowthroat or Yellow Warbler stopped and another began." Don't you wish you were there!

At Quabbin's Gate 45, however, Mark Lynch reported seeing "the largest concentration of warblers in my life" on May 4. "Almost all of them were Yellowrumps, there were a handful of Black-throated Greens, Black-throated Blues, Blackburnians, Pines, a few Palms, one Cerulean, and one Ovenbird. They were at all heights, and always the movement was north following the shoreline. I was in the area for about 15 minutes, and left as the warblers continued to pass my stationary spot."

There were no real surprises during this lackluster migration year. The most unusual sightings included a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher on Nantucket and a Sedge Wren in Truro. Winter Wrens were everywhere in Essex County, where three Common Ravens were also reported. Among the warblers, at least 11 Ceruleans, 6 Kentucky, 4 Hooded, 1 Yellow-throated, and 4 Prothonotary warblers were counted, including the return of the male Prothonotary calling persistently from the same spot at Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge as the year before. Worm-eating Warblers, on the other hand, were few and far between. Other highlights included 5 Summer Tanagers and single reports of Blue Grosbeak and Dickcissel.

R. H. S.

Olive-sided Flycatcher				
24, 29	Groveland, Annisquam	1, 1	R. Stymeist#, H. Wiggin#	
29-30, 30	Provincetown, N. Truro	1, 2	B. Nikula#, G. Martin#	
31	Bolton, Newbury	1, 1	M. Lynch#, A. Dasinger	
Eastern Wood Pewee				
16, 21-31	Boston (F.Pk), Mt. A.	1, 5 max	T. Aversa, v. o.	
24, 30	Boxford, ONWR	7, 5	R. Stymeist#, M. Lynch#	
30, 31	Groveland, P.I.	2, 3	J. Hoye#, A. Dasinger	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				
19, 21	Lynnfield, Brookline	1, 1	H. Wiggin#, L. Knowlton	
29	W. Newbury	1	R. Heil	
23, 30, 31	P.I.	1, 1, 2	M. Lynch#, W. Petersen#, A. Dasinger	
Acadian Flycatcher				
4, 21	Quabbin (G45), Bolton	1, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Hoye	
23	MNWS	1	G. d'Entremont#	
Alder Flycatcher				
18, 31; 27	P.I.; Lexington	1, 3; 1	R. Heil, A. Dasinger; C. Floyd	
28, 30	Braintree, Newbury	1, 1	G. d'Entremont, J. Berry#	
31	Bolton, Milton (F.M.)	4, 1	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont#	
Willow Flycatcher				
17; 22, 31	W. Newbury; Bolton	3 m; 8, 16	J. Berry#; M. Lynch#	
23, 28	Lynnfield, S. Dartmouth	3, 2	J. Brown#, M. Boucher	
30, 31	Wayland, P.I.	6, 7	S. Arena, A. Dasinger	
Least Flycatcher				
6, 13	Lexington, Quabbin (G45)	1, 18	C. Floyd, T. Aversa	
19, 22	Boston (F.Pk), Bolton	2, 5	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
23, 28	MNWS, Quabbin (G40)	1, 20	P. + F. Vale, T. Aversa	
30, 31	ONWR, P.I.	8, 2	M. Lynch#, A. Dasinger	
Eastern Phoebe				
thr, 4-15	Mt. A., Needham	4 max, 3	v. o., D. Case	
9, 20-31	Uxbridge, W. Gloucester	6, pr nesting	M. Lynch#, T. Young#	
31	Bolton, ONWR	3, 4	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
<b>Great Crested Flycatcher</b>				
1-31, 2	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	5 max, 2	v. o., T. Aversa	
16, 17	Ipswich, S. Quabbin	4, 3	J. Berry, BBC (M. Lynch)	
17, 18	Quabbin (G45), Waltham	3, 3	BBC (M. Lynch), L. Taylor	
21, 23	Norton, Boxford	3, 3	S. Arena, J. Berry	
30	Newbury, ONWR	5, 3	BBC (M. Rines), M. Lynch#	
<b>Eastern Kingbird</b>				
3	Waltham, E. Middleboro	1, 1	L. Taylor#, K. Anderson	
3-31, 18	Mt. A., P.I.	15 max, 38+ migr	v. o., R. Heil	
19-31, 31	Needham, Bolton	3, 7	D. Case, M. Lynch#	
<b>Scissor-tailed Flycatcher</b>				
16-17	Nantucket	1	W. Bartlett + v. o.	
<b>Horned Lark</b>				
10, 19	Scusset, P.I.	6, 1	P. Trimble, H. Wiggin#	
22	Worcester	2	M. Lynch#	
<b>Purple Martin</b>				
thr, 1	P.I., W. Newbury	45 max, 1 m	v. o., R. Heil	
15, 21	Nantucket, Mt. A.	1 f, 1	S. Perkins#, B. Cassie	
23	N. Truro	3	S. Perkins#	
25	Middleboro, Lakeville	1 colony, 1 colony	W. Petersen	
<b>Tree Swallow</b>				
5, 13	Wayland, P.I.	100, 300	E. Taylor, T. Young	
<b>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</b>				
2, 6	Milton, Middleboro	15, 5	G. d'Entremont, K. Anderson	
9, 14	Uxbridge, Wayland	5+, 2	M. Lynch#, S. Arena	
15, 16	Nantucket, Beverly	4, 2	S. Perkins#, J. Brown#	
17, 31	Lakeville, Wakefield	4, 3	M. Boucher, P. + F. Vale	
<b>Bank Swallow</b>				
13, 15	P.I., Nantucket	20, 100	T. Young, S. Perkins#	
16, 21-31	IRWS, Ipswich	2-4, 40-50 max	J. Brown#, D. Rimmer	
20, 31	Millis, Bolton	200+ nest holes, 20+	P. Iarrobino, M. Lynch#	
<b>Cliff Swallow</b>				
3	N. Truro, P.I.	4+, 2	B. Nikula#, M. Lynch#	
6, 10	Wayland, Gloucester	2, 6	S. Perkins#, BBC (J. Nove)	
16-26, 17	Milton (F.M.), Newbury	1, 8	G. d'Entremont#, J. Brown#	
<b>Barn Swallow</b>				
6, 13	Wayland, P.I.	60, 60	S. Perkins#, T. Young	
<b>Blue Jay</b>				
10, 18	P.I.	175 migr, 225+ migr	S. Perkins, R. Heil	
<b>Fish Crow</b>				
thr, 3	Mt. A., N. Truro	5 pr nesting, 6	v. o., B. Nikula#	
3, 5	Lincoln, Braintree	1, 3	BBC (J. Nove), G. d'Entremont	
10, 15	Provincetown, Chatham	5+, 2	B. Nikula#, B. Nikula	
30	Ipswich	1	J. Berry#	
<b>Common Raven</b>				
4, 15	Quabbin (G45), W. Newbury	3, 2	M. Lynch#, R. Heil	
16	Ipswich	1	R. Stymeist#	
<b>Red-breasted Nuthatch</b>				
thr, 1-21	Ipswich, Mt. A.	1, 1-3	J. Berry, v. o.	
1, 9	Petersham, Nantucket	2, 8	M. Lynch#, E. Andrews#	
22, 25	MNWS, Middleboro	pr, 1	R. Heil, W. Petersen	
<b>Brown Creeper</b>				
3	Lincoln, Milton	3, 4	BBC (J. Nove), G. d'Entremont	
4, 9	Quabbin (G45), Nantucket	4, 5	M. Lynch#, E. Andrews#	
23	Boxford (C.P.)	3	G. d'Entremont#	
<b>Carolina Wren</b>				
thr	Natick, Sherborn	2, 3	E. Taylor	
9	Mattapoisett, Nantucket	7, 12	G. d'Entremont#, E. Andrews#	
10	Scusset, Gloucester	2, 4	P. Trimble, BBC (J. Nove)	
<b>House Wren</b>				
1, 2	W. Newbury, Waltham	10, 3	R. Heil, L. Taylor	
3, 8	E. Middleboro, Medford	3, 6	K. Anderson, M. Rines	
14, 16	Fall River, Newburyport	5, 6	G. Gove, BBC (W. Drummond)	
<b>Winter Wren</b>				
1, thr	W. Newbury, Boxford	8, 6 max 5/2	R. Heil, R. Heil + v. o.	
23	Concord, Millis	2, 3	R. Stymeist#, P. Iarrobino	
Reports of individuals from 7 locations.				
<b>Sedge Wren (details)</b>				
24	Truro	1	J. Young	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Marsh Wren				
9, 23	GMNWR, Lynnfield	6, 9-12	E. Taylor, J. Brown#	
23, 30	P.I., Salem	9, 8	M. Lynch#, I. Lynch	
31	Sudbury/Wayland, Bolton	60+, 6	S. Perkins#, M. Lynch#	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
1, 8	Mt. A.	3, 1	BBC (D. Dillavou), M. Rines	
2	P.I., Boston (F.Pk)	2, 2	G. d'Entremont, T. Aversa	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
1-10, 4	Mt. A., Quabbin (G45)	18 max 5/4, 10	v. o., M. Lynch#	
2, 24	P.I.	23, 1	T. Young, R. Stymeist#	
2-8, 3	Worcester (BMB), P'town	10 max 5/2, 35+	M. Lynch#, B. Nikula	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
1, 2	Wayland, Boxford	3, 15+	J. Hoye, R. Heil	
2, 3	IRWS, Waltham	3, 2	J. Brown#, L. Taylor#	
4, 8	Middleboro, Medford	2, 2	K. Holmes, M. Rines	
9	Peabody, Ipswich	4, 3	R. Heil, R. Stymeist#	
17, 30	Quabbin (G45), ONWR	9, 6	M. Lynch#	
Reports of 10 individuals in 9 locations.				
Eastern Bluebird				
thr	Sudbury, Millis	pr n, 2 pr + 9 yg	S. Perkins#, P. Iarrobino	
thr	Lincoln, Medway	pr n, pr n	W. Petersen, fide W. Petersen	
thr	E. Middleboro, Wayland	3 pr n, 1 f + 3 yg	K. Anderson, S. Arena	
12	Weston, Holliston	pr + 4 yg, pr + yg	M. Horne, T. Aversa	
17, 24	W. Newbury, Ipswich	pr + yg, pr + yg	J. Berry	
Reports of 15 individuals at 6 locations.				
Veery				
5, 10-22	E. Middleboro, Mt. A.	2, 4 max	K. Anderson, v. o.	
10, 12	Brookline, Petersham	1, 11	H. Wiggin#, G. Gove	
15, 16	Boxford, Milton (F.M.)	3, 4	J. Brown#, G. d'Entremont#	
17	S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	4, 10	BBC (M. Lynch)	
18, 30	P.I., ONWR	2, 19	C. Cook, M. Lynch#	
Gray-checked Thrush				
18-20	Mt. A.	1 or 2	v. o.	
18, 19	MNWS, Boston	1, 1	T. Aversa, K. Hudson	
23, 31; 24	P.I.; Provincetown	1, 1; 1	M. Lynch#, A. Dasinger; B. Nikula#	
Swainson's Thrush				
20-25	Brookline	3 max 5/25	F. Bouchard	
14, 14-28	Westport, Mt. A.	1, 10 max 5/18	G. Gove, v. o.	
18, 26	P.I., Boston (F.Pk)	10, 4	R. Heil, T. Aversa	
Hermit Thrush				
thr, 1-10	Plymouth, Mt. A.	6 max, 10 max 5/2	G. d'Entremont, v. o.	
3, 14	Lincoln, Fall River	3, 2	BBC (J. Nove), G. Gove	
16, 17	Weston, S. Quabbin	2, 8	BBC (B. Howell), BBC (M. Lynch)	
17, 19	Quabbin (G45), Boston (F.Pk)	10, 3	BBC (M. Lynch), T. Aversa	
Wood Thrush				
2, 13; 4-28	Worcester (BMB); Mt. A.	1, 8; 1 or 2	M. Lynch#; v. o.	
9	Waltham, Uxbridge	3, 6	L. Taylor#, M. Lynch#	
14, 15	Fall River, W. Newbury	9, 25+	G. Gove, R. Heil	
17	S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	4, 9	BBC (M. Lynch#)	
18, 21	P.I., Norton	7, 3	T. Aversa#, S. Arena	
23, 30	Boxford, ONWR	6 m, 9	J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
Gray Catbird				
5-31	Mt. A., Braintree	20 max 5/14, 15 max 5/18	v. o., G. d'Entremont	
14, 18	Westport, P.I.	16, 110+	G. Gove, R. Heil	
22, 25	Bolton, Acoaxet	18, 33	M. Lynch#	
Brown Thrasher				
2, 2	Salem, Worcester (BMB)	3, 9	I. Lynch#, M. Lynch#	
6, 11	Lexington, Millis	5, 4	C. Floyd, P. Iarrobino	
16, 18	S. Dartmouth, P.I.	6, 8	K. Holmes, C. Cook	
American Pipit				
3	P.I.	2	M. Lynch#	
Cedar Waxwing				
thr, 11	Mt. A., S. Sandwich	60 max, 15	v. o., P. Trimble	
23, 24	N. Truro, P.I.	50+, 150+ migr	S. Perkins#, M. Lynch#	
White-eyed Vireo				
6, 8-14; 10, 23	Mt. A.; P'town	1, 1 or 2; 1, 1	v. o.	
16, 17	Boxford, Lakeville	1, 1	H. Wiggin#, K. Holmes	
18, 21	MNWS, P.I.	1, 1 or 2	N. Nash, M. Rines#	
25	Westport, Acoaxet	1, 1	M. Lynch#	
Solitary Vireo				
1-22, 2	Mt. A, Boston (F.Pk)	8 max 5/1, 5	v. o., T. Aversa	
3	Provincetown, Waltham	10, 4	B. Nikula#, L. Taylor#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Solitary Vireo (continued)				
4, 8	Quabbin (G45), Medford	13, 3	M. Lynch#, M. Rines	
Yellow-throated Vireo				
10, 14	Middleboro, Easton	1, 1	K. Holmes, K. Ryan	
16, 17	Topsfield, S. Quabbin	3, 3	R. Stymeist#, BBC (M. Lynch)	
17, 22	Quabbin (G45), Braintree	5, 1	BBC (M. Lynch), G. d'Entremont	
23, 27	Boxford, Shirley	3 m, 1	J. Berry, T. Aversa	
30, 31	ONWR, Bolton	8, 2	M. Lynch#	
Warbling Vireo				
1, 10	GMNWR, Waltham	1, 3	G. Gove, L. Taylor#	
12-31	Wayland, Needham	5 max, 3 max	S. Arena, D. Case	
17	Halifax, Sudbury	3, 4	K. Holmes, E. Taylor	
30, 31	ONWR, Bolton	8, 7	M. Lynch#	
Philadelphia Vireo				
23, 24	N. Monomoy, P.I.	1, 1	B. Nikula + v. o., R. Stymeist#	
Red-eyed Vireo				
4, 17; 14-31	Quabbin (G45); Mt. A.	1, 22; 3 max	M. Lynch#; v. o.	
14, 15-30	Waltham, Wayland	3, 6 max	L. Taylor, S. Arena	
16, 18-31	Boxford, Needham	6, 4 max	BBC (W. Drummond), D. Case	
21-28, 23	Nantucket, Boxford	2, 25	E. Andrews, G. d'Entremont#	
30, 31	ONWR, P.I.	18, 5	M. Lynch#, A. Dasinger	
Blue-winged Warbler				
2, 10-18; 3	Mt. A.; Nantucket	1, 1 or 2; 1	v. o.; J. Soucy#	
13, 14	Worcester (BMB), Millis	4, 7	M. Lynch#, P. Iarrobino	
15, 16	W. Newbury, Weston	9, 5	R. Heil, BBC (B. Howell)	
17, 28	Quabbin (G45), Norton	6, 6	BBC (M. Lynch), S. Arena	
30	Groveland, Newbury	5, 10	J. Hoye#, J. Berry#	
31	ONWR	6	M. Lynch#	
Golden-winged Warbler				
15, 17	Boxford, Groveland	1, 1 m	J. Brown#, R. Stymeist#	
23	Georgetown	1 m	M. Lynch#	
"Brewster's Warbler"				
18, 20	Waltham, Boxford	1, 1	L. Taylor, J. Brown#	
20, 23	Newbury, N. Andover	1, 1	M. Rines#, R. Stymeist#	
31	W. Newbury	2	E. Neilsen	
Tennessee Warbler				
11-22, 15	Mt. A., Wayland	6 max 5/21, 2	v. o., S. Arena	
18-25, 22	P.I., Boston (F.Pk)	1 or 2, 3	T. Young + v. o., T. Aversa	
Orange-crowned Warbler				
2, 3	Worcester (BMB), N. Middleboro	1, 1	M. Lynch#, K. Holmes	
30	P.I.	1	S. Sweet + v. o.	
Nashville Warbler				
2, 2-10	P. I., Waltham	1, 1 or 2	T. Young, L. Taylor	
2-26, 10	Mt. A., MNWS	9 max 5/6, 3	v. o., P. + F. Vale	
17	Milton, Quabbin (G45)	1, 2	BBC (G. d'Entremont), M. Lynch#	
Northern Parula				
2-31, 2-10	Mt. A., Waltham	15 max 5/15, 4 max 5/10	v. o., L. Taylor	
3, 12-29	Nantucket, Boston (F.Pk)	1, 3 max 5/22	M. Litchfield, T. Aversa	
15, 16	Wayland, Weston	3, 4	S. Arena, BBC (B. Howell)	
18, 18-31	MNWS, P.I.	7, 18 max 5/18	T. Aversa#, R. Heil + v. o.	
21, 23	Provincetown, Nahant	20, 4+	B. Nikula, P. + F. Vale	
Yellow Warbler				
1	GMNWR, Halifax	3, 1	G. Gove#, K. Anderson	
2, 3	Milton (F.M.), Waltham	8, 3	R. Stymeist#, L. Taylor#	
4-31, 7-31	Needham, Mt. A.	10 max, 5 max	D. Case, v. o.	
9, 10	Lynnfield, Gloucester	35, 35	R. Stymeist#, BBC (J. Nove)	
14, 15	Westport, Wayland	18, 15	G. Gove, S. Arena	
18, 22	P.I., Bolton	140, 25+	R. Heil, M. Lynch#	
Chestnut-sided Warbler				
14-22, 15	Mt. A., W. Newbury	6 max 5/14, 12	v. o., R. Heil	
17	S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	16, 13	BBC (M. Lynch)	
18-31, 21	P.I., Nantucket	10 max 5/18, 1	R. Heil + v. o., J. Soucy#	
28, 31	Quabbin (G40), Groveland	21, 11	T. Aversa, J. Hoye#	
Magnolia Warbler				
11-31, 17-31	Mt. A., Boston	6 max 5/15, 9 max 5/22	v. o., T. Aversa	
18-31, 21	P.I., Braintree	50 max 5/18, 6	C. Cook + v. o., G. d'Entremont	
21, 22	Nantucket, Provincetown	1, 12+	J. Soucy#, B. Nikula	
23	Nahant	5+	P. + F. Vale	
Cape May Warbler				
3	S. Dartmouth, Boston (F.Pk)	1, 1 m	K. Holmes, T. Aversa	
6-19, 10	Mt. A., MNWS	1-3, 1	v. o., P. + F. Vale	
18, 20-25	Nantucket, P.I.	1 m, 1 or 2	E. Andrews#, v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Black-throated Blue Warbler				
2, 2-25	Boston (F.Pk), Mt. A.	1 m, 11 max 5/25	T. Aversa, v. o.	
2-31, 10	P.I., Waltham	16 max 5/18, 2	R. Heil + v. o., L. Taylor	
17, 22	Quabbin (G45), Provincetown	4, 4+	BBC (M. Lynch), B. Nikula	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
1-22, 2-13	Mt. A., Worcester (BMB)	50 max 5/14, 38	max 5/2 v. o., M. Lynch#	
2, 4, 17	Quabbin (G45)	21, 400-500, 14	M. Lynch#	
2, 3, 21	Provincetown	80, 200, 25	B. Nikula	
2-23, 7	P.I., S. Sandwich	55 max 5/18, 28	C. Cook + v. o., P. Trimble	
9, 15	Nantucket, Wayland	23, 150	E. Andrews#, S. Arena	
Black-throated Green Warbler				
1-25, 3	Mt. A., Boxford	22 max 5/14, 5	v. o., T. Young#	
3-31, 3	P.I., Waltham	15 max 5/18, 4	R. Heil + v. o., L. Taylor#	
4, 11	Quabbin (G45), Nantucket	14, 1	M. Lynch#, G. Frost	
16, 21	Ipswich, Provincetown	5, 7+	J. Berry, B. Nikula	
Blackburnian Warbler				
4, 9	Quabbin (G45), Waltham	6, 3	M. Lynch#, L. Taylor#	
10-21, 15	Mt. A., Boxford	6 max 5/15, 8	v. o., T. Aversa	
15, 18-31	Wayland, P.I.	2, 7 max 5/31	S. Arena, A. Dasinger + v. o.	
25	Anisquam	1 m	H. Wiggin#	
Yellow-throated Warbler				
24	Provincetown	1	B. Nikula#	
Pine Warbler				
2, 3	Provincetown, E. Middleboro	10, 3 m	K. Jones, K. Anderson	
4, 9	Quabbin (G45), Nantucket	12, 33	M. Lynch#, E. Andrews#	
10, 14	Scusset, Fall River	8, 10	P. Trimble, G. Gove	
7, 14	S. Sandwich, Weston	6, 4	P. Trimble, E. Taylor	
Prairie Warbler				
3, 4	Boston (F.Pk), Middleboro	2, 6	T. Aversa, K. Holmes	
9	Groveland	8	T. Young	
14, 16	Mt. A.	2, 2	M. Rines, S. Arena	
17, 19	Milton, Millis	7, 7	BBC (G. d'Entremont), P. Iarrobino	
30, 31	Newbury, Easton	6, 6	J. Berry#, S. Arena	
Palm Warbler				
1, 1-13	Petersham, P.I.	14, 10 max 5/1	M. Lynch#, R. Heil + v. o.	
3, 7	Provincetown, S. Sandwich	30, 1	B. Nikula, P. Trimble	
14, 16	Mt. A., IRWS	1, 1	BBC (D. J. Oliver), J. Brown#	
Bay-breasted Warbler				
14-31, 18-31	Mt. A., P.I.	2, 8 max 5/23	v. o., M. Lynch# + v. o.	
21	Nantucket, Braintree	3, 1	J. Soucy#, G. d'Entremont	
21, 22	Provincetown, N. Truro	15, 6+	B. Nikula	
22, 23	Boston (F.Pk), Nahant	2, 10+	T. Aversa, P. + F. Vale	
Blackpoll Warbler				
11-31, 14-21	Mt. A., MNWS	8 max, 1	v. o., I. Lynch	
15, 21	Wayland, Nantucket	2, 2	S. Arena, J. Soucy#	
22	Bolton, Provincetown	3, 60	M. Lynch#, B. Nikula	
23, 25-31	Nahant, P.I.	10+, 10 max 5/31	P. + F. Vale, A. Dasinger + v. o.	
Cerulean Warbler				
4; 10, 22	Quabbin (G45); WBWS	1 m; 1 m, 1 f	M. Lynch#; J. Sones + v. o.	
13, 14	Westwood, Braintree	1 m, 1 f	S. Sweet, D. Brown	
16, 18, 20	Mt. A.	1 f, 1 f, 1 f	A. Bennet, BBC (C. Cook), C. Floyd	
17, 18	S. Quabbin, Westboro	2, 1 m	BBC (M. Lynch), G. Gove	
28	Quabbin (G40)	2 m	T. Aversa	
Black-and-white Warbler				
thr, 2	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	30+ max 5/1, 9	v. o., T. Aversa	
2, 4, 17; 2	Quabbin (G45); Worcester (BMB)	5, 15, 4; 6	M. Lynch#	
3	Nantucket, Ptown	1 m, 15	E. Andrews, B. Nikula#	
5-31, 10	P.I., Brookline	10 max 5/10, 6	T. Young + v. o., F. Bouchard	
15, 16	W. Newbury, Weston	16, 14	R. Heil, BBC (B. Howell)	
18, 30	MNWS, ONWR	7, 7	T. Aversa#, M. Lynch#	
American Redstart				
thr, 10-31	P.I., Mt. A.	91 max 5/31, 8 max	A. Dasinger + v. o., v. o.	
17	S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	27, 34	BBC (M. Lynch)	
21, 22	Provincetown, Boston (F.Pk)	12, 23	B. Nikula, T. Aversa	
31	Bolton, ONWR	8, 12	M. Lynch#	
Prothonotary Warbler				
1, 7-9	Nantucket, WBWS	1 m, 1	K. Pochman#, J. Sones + v. o.	
10, 20-31	S. Natick, GMNWR	1, 1 m	W. Busby, T. Polucci + v. o.	
Worm-eating Warbler				
10, 17	N. Middleboro, Milton	1, 3	K. Holmes, BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
18, 21	Manomet, Boxford	1 b, 1 m	MBO Staff, T. Aversa	
22	Provincetown, Worcester	1, 1	B. Nikula#, M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Ovenbird				
2, 17; 3	Quabbin (G45); E. Middleboro	1, 17; 7 m	M. Lynch#, K. Anderson	
3-31, 4-28	P.I., Mt. A.	7 max 5/23, 1-4	M. Lynch# + v. o., v. o.	
12, 14	Petersham, Fall River	22, 27	G. Gove	
16	Weston, Ipswich	6, 8 m	BBC (B. Howell), J. Berry	
17, 23	Milton, Boxford	10, 21 m	BBC (G. d'Entremont), J. Berry	
Northern Waterthrush				
2-13, 3	Worcester (BMB), E. Middleboro	1, 5	M. Lynch#, K. Anderson	
3-31, 4-22	P.I., Brookline	1 or 2, 4 max 5/4	v. o., F. Bouchard	
14, 22	Fall River, Provincetown	3, 4	G. Gove, B. Nikula	
Reports of 19 individuals from 13 locations.				
Louisiana Waterthrush				
10, 16	Middleboro, Petersham	1, 1	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
16, 17	Milton, Quabbin (G45)	1, 2	G. d'Entremont#, BBC (M. Lynch)	
23	Concord, Boxford	1, 4 m	R. Stymeist#, J. Berry	
Kentucky Warbler				
7-13, 10-22	WBWS, MNWS	1, 1	J. Sones + v. o., P. + F. Vale + v. o.	
14	Braintree	2	D. Brown + v. o.	
15, 15-17	Mt. A., Martha's Vineyard	1, 1	S. Arena, BBC (D. Davis)	
Mourning Warbler				
23, 29	P.I., Annisquam	1, 1 m	M. Lynch#, H. Wiggin#	
30, 30-31	Provincetown, P.I.	1, 1	B. Nikula, v. o.	
Common Yellowthroat				
3-31; 7, 13	Mt. A.; Worcester (BMB)	5 max 5/18; 1, 15 v. o.;	M. Lynch#	
9, 12	Lynnfield, Millis	14, 12	R. Stymeist#, P. Iarrobino	
18, 23	P.I., Boxford	50+, 16 m	C. Cook, J. Berry	
23, 24	Nahant, Ipswich	15+, 10 m	P. + F. Vale, J. Berry	
30, 31	ONWR, Bolton	46, 32	M. Lynch#	
Hooded Warbler				
3, 4	S. Wellfleet, Brookline	1, 1 f	J. Sones, L. Knowlton	
13, 16	Cambridge (F.P.), S. Dartmouth	1 f, 1	J. Barton, K. Holmes	
Wilson's Warbler				
10-14, 10-31	Brookline, P.I.	1 or 2, 10 max 5/18	F. Bouchard, v. o.	
15-19, 18	Mt. A., MNWS	1-3, 5	v. o., T. Aversa#	
23, 29	Boxford, Boston (F.Pk)	1, 2	J. Brown#, T. Aversa	
Canada Warbler				
10-24, 14-31	Brookline, Mt. A.	5 max 5/22, 4 max	F. Bouchard, v. o.	
15, 16	Wayland, Petersham	2, 3	S. Arena, M. Lynch#	
16-31, 19-31	P.I., Boston (F.Pk)	11 max 5/31, 5 max 5/22	v. o., T. Aversa	
20, 21	Salem, MNWS	3+, 6	I. Lynch	
22, 27	Provincetown, Nantucket	6, 1 m	B. Nikula, E. Andrews	
Yellow-breasted Chat				
1	W. Newbury	1	R. Heil	
Summer Tanager				
1-3, 4	Rockport, Nantucket	1, 1 m	J. Lind, J. Soucy#	
8, 11	Dennis, Yarmouthport	1 imm, 1 m	V. Laux, C. Smith	
19-21	Nantucket	1 f	E. Andrews#	
Scarlet Tanager				
6-31, 16	Mt. A., Newburyport	1-3, 6	v. o., BBC (W. Drummond)	
17	S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	13, 18	BBC (M. Lynch)	
22, 30	Braintree, ONWR	3, 10	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
3-28, 10	Nantucket, Waltham	3 max, 7	E. Andrews#, L. Taylor#	
10-22, 16	Mt. A., Newburyport	6 max, 6	v. o., BBC (W. Drummond)	
17	S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	10, 9	BBC (M. Lynch)	
23, 30	Millis, ONWR	7, 5	P. Iarrobino, M. Lynch#	
Blue Grosbeak				
2	Nantucket	1 imm	S. Wheelock + v. o.	
Indigo Bunting				
9, 16	Nantucket, Milton	5, 3	E. Andrews#, G. d'Entremont#	
17, 21	Sudbury, Norton	3, 5	E. Taylor, S. Arena	
23, 24	Boxford, W. Roxbury	2 m, 7 m	J. Berry, T. Aversa	
29, 30	Annisquam, Newbury	2, 5	H. Wiggin#, BBC (M. Rines)	
Dickcissel				
24	N. Truro	1	J. Young	
Rufous-sided Towhee				
1-14, 2	Mt. A., Worcester (BMB)	6 max 5/1, 12	v. o., M. Lynch#	
8, 9	Medford, Nantucket	14, 138	M. Rines, E. Andrews#	
Rufous-sided Towhee (continued)				
9, 13	Salem, Quabbin (G45)	9, 25	I. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
17, 23	Milton, P.I.	19, 10+	BBC (G. d'Entremont), M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
American Tree Sparrow 9	P.I.	1 or 2	T. Young	
Chipping Sparrow thr, 3 16, 17 17	Mt. A., P.I. Newburyport, Milton S. Quabbin	25 max 5/7, 9 16, 13 20+	v. o., M. Lynch# BBC (W. Drummond), BBC (G. d'Entremont) BBC (M. Lynch)	
Field Sparrow 2 6, 9 30	Worcester (BMB), Quabbin (G45) Lexington, Groveland Newbury, Beverly	16, 6 4, 6 or 7 pr 6, 5	M. Lynch# C. Floyd, T. Young J. Berry, J. Brown#	
Vesper Sparrow 10, 16	Pepperell, Provincetown	1, 2	R. Stymeist#, M. Rines#	
Savannah Sparrow 9 16, 31 25, 31	Nantucket W. Roxbury Rowley, P.I.	29 17, 1 3, 2 m	E. Andrews# T. Aversa J. Berry	
Grasshopper Sparrow 21, 29	S. Dartmouth, Beverly	1, 1	K. Holmes, J. Brown#	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow 14, 17 23, 25	Nantucket, S. Dartmouth P.I., Rowley	6, 2 25+, 3	S. Perkins, M. Boucher M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
Seaside Sparrow 3, 23	S. Dartmouth, P.I.	1, 1	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
Lincoln's Sparrow 18, 19 28, 30	P.I., Boston (F.Pk) P.I.	6, 1 1, 1	R. Heil, T. Aversa J. Brown#, E. Neilsen	
Swamp Sparrow thr, 3 3, 11 18, 31	Needham, ONWR Lynnfield, Millis P.I., Bolton	2-7, 15 60, 5 5, 14	D. Case, M. Lynch# R. Stymeist#, P. Iarrobino C. Cook, M. Lynch#	
White-throated Sparrow 1-20, 2 3, 28 31	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk) Provincetown, Quabbin (G40) P.I.	60 max 5/2, 150 70+, 3 1	v. o., T. Aversa B. Nikula#, T. Aversa A. Dasinger	
White-crowned Sparrow 3, 4-6 9; 11-13, 18 16, 20 19, 20-24	Wenham, N. Dartmouth Nantucket, Westwood P.I. Boston (F.Pk), Hingham	1, 1 4; 1, 1 3, 1 1, 1	N. Nash, M. Boucher E. Andrews#; S. Sweet# BBC (W. Drummond), T. Young# T. Aversa, S. Smith	
Dark-eyed Junco 12, 16 17	Boston (F.Pk), Ipswich Milton	1, 2 or 3 1 m	T. Aversa, J. Berry BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
Bobolink 2, 3, 3 14, 16 17, 18-22 22, 24	P.I., Randolph, Scituate Mt. A., Newburyport Princeton, Boston (Fens) Boston (F.Pk), P.I.	1, 1, 1 3, 60 13, 1 12, 10+	G. d'Entremont BBC (D. J. Oliver), BBC (W. Drummond) M. Boucher, K. Hudson T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
Red-winged Blackbird thr, 9 22, 23	Needham, Uxbridge Bolton, P.I.	30 max, 40+ 40+, 60+	D. Case, M. Lynch# M. Lynch#	
Eastern Meadowlark 16, 23 30	Beverly, Newburyport ONWR	1, 3 1	J. Brown#, M. Lynch# M. Lynch#	
Rusty Blackbird 4; 6, 9 9, 12	GMNWR; Wayland Waltham, Millis	15; 10, 1 1 m, 2	J. Center; S. Perkins L. Taylor#, P. Iarrobino	
Brown-headed Cowbird thr, 3 4, 13 23, 30	Mt. A., P.I. Quabbin (G45), Worcester (BMB) Boxford, Newbury	15 max, 10+ 15+, 15 10+, 20+	v. o., M. Lynch# M. Lynch# J. Berry	
Orchard Oriole 5, 25; 2-21 6-20, 9 14, 15 22 5-31	Lexington; Mt. A. Westwood, Nantucket Millis, Rowley Braintree, Peabody Reports of individuals from 10 locations.	1, pr; 6 max 1 or 2, 5 2, 3 2 m, pr	C. Floyd; v. o. S. Sweet#, E. Andrews# P. Iarrobino, J. Brown# G. d'Entremont#, R. Heil	
Northern Oriole 3-31, 3-22 6-31, 12-31 12-31, 14 17	Boston (F.Pk), Nantucket Mt. A., Needham Braintree, Millis S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	14 max, 12 max 2-8, 6 10 max, 16 6, 8	T. Aversa, E. Andrews# v. o., D. Case G. d'Entremont, P. Iarrobino BBC (M. Lynch)	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1992
Purple Finch				
6-30, 10	Boxford, Scusset	2 or 3, 1	J. Brown#, P. Trimble	
17	S. Quabbin, Quabbin (G45)	3, 2	BBC (M. Lynch)	
18, 30	P.I., Newbury	7, 5	C. Cook, BBC (M. Rines)	
House Finch				
29	Annisquam (one house)	47	H. Wiggin	
Pine Siskin				
thr, 2	Boxford, Quabbin (G45)	2-4, 1	J. Brown#, M. Lynch#	
3, 14	P.I., Mt. A.	1, 1	M. Lynch#, D. Bates	
Evening Grosbeak				
20-22, 21	Nantucket, Provincetown	1 m, 1	E. Andrews#, B. Nikula	

### HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO *BIRD OBSERVER*

This publication prints monthly compilations of reports of birds seen in eastern Massachusetts. Space does not permit the inclusion of all material submitted. However, bird sightings sent to *Bird Observer* are archived at Massachusetts Audubon Society. Our compilers select and summarize for publication sightings that document early and late dates for migratory species, maximum counts of migrants, high or low numbers of some common birds, and species found beyond their normal ranges.

Sightings for any given month must be reported in writing by the eighth of the next month. Send to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 98 Boylston Street, Watertown, MA 02172. Organize reports by month and by species in current A.O.U. checklist order. Include name and phone number of observer, common name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, number of observers, and information relevant to age, sex, morph, etc.

Reports of difficult identifications, vagrants, and rarities should include, in addition to the above information, time of day and light available, wind and weather conditions, the optics used and approximate distance from the bird, length of observation, the observer's prior experience with the species, and field guide or other reference used. Provide a description of the bird based solely on personal observation. Comment on the distinguishing field marks (observed and unobserved), vocalizations, activity, general behavior, the habitat in the immediate vicinity, and other birds present. Include with your report documentation such as copies of the observer's field notes and sketches.

# BIRD SIGHTINGS

## JUNE 1992

### SUMMARY



by Marjorie W. Rines and Robert H. Stymeist

The temperature averaged 67.8 degrees, slightly below normal for the month of June. This was the fourth cool month in a row. The high was 87 degrees on June 8, 14, and 29; the low was 48 degrees on June 1. The high on June 1 was only 53 degrees, beating the previous record of 54 degrees set in 1901. Rainfall totaled 4.61 inches, 1.69 inches above normal, making this the wettest June since 1986. Thunderstorms were noted on five days. Hail fell in some sections of greater Boston on June 27, when up to 2 inches of rain fell in many South Shore communities in just a short time.

Breeding bird surveys were conducted at Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary (IRWS) in Topsfield, at Fowl Meadow in the Milton-Canton area, and along Wash Brook in Wayland. In addition powerline surveys were conducted in Groveland, Millis, and Norfolk. The results of these surveys are in these reports. R. H. S.

#### LOONS THROUGH SKIMMERS

Pelagic birding along Stellwagen Bank was pretty grim, and birders had to travel well offshore to see numbers of shearwaters and storm-petrels. A total of 75 Northern Fulmars at Cashes Ledge included at least one dark morph individual, and over 3000 Wilson's Storm-Petrels were present there throughout the month.

The **Little Egret** continued on Nantucket, and as many as 5 Least Bitterns were found at Wash Brook in Wayland. Lingering or oversummering waterbird species included Red-throated Loon, Snow Goose, Brant, Bufflehead, and Common Eider.

There was disturbing news this breeding season regarding Ospreys. Although 95 nests were occupied on both branches of the Westport River, only 65 young were banded. Many chicks were found dead of starvation in their nests. Fisheries experts suggested that the deaths may have related to a sharp reduction in the population of small fish species, such as herring and alewife, that form the Osprey's diet.

Good news can be reported for Boston's Peregrine Falcons: four young males fledged on June 24 and 25 and were still being seen in the area as of August. An **American Swallow-tailed Kite** was observed flying over Route 140 in Assonet.

Nonbreeding shorebirds lingered throughout the month, and southbound Short-billed Dowitchers were noted earlier than usual on North Monomoy. Vagrant shorebirds included a **Wilson's Plover** in Scituate, a **Black-necked Stilt** on Tuckernuck Island, and a basic-plumage **Bar-tailed Godwit** that was present nearly all month at North Monomoy. Piping Plover reports indicate another good year for nesting success.

At New Island in Orleans 911 pairs of Laughing Gulls were nesting alongside 9 pairs of Roseate, 1206 pairs of Common, and 1 pair of Arctic terns. Two pairs of Black Skimmers were also found there, and another two pairs of Black Skimmers were found on Nauset Spit in Orleans. Good numbers of nesting Common Terns were also found on Plymouth Beach (3081 pairs) and South Beach Island off Chatham (915 pairs). At South Beach Island 742 Least Tern nests were counted. This was the largest number of Least Tern nests at one site in Massachusetts since 1970. R. H. S.

Red-throated Loon 4, 26-30	Provincetown, Leicester	2, 1 br pl	K. Jones, R. Bradbury + v. o.
Common Loon 7, 23	P.I., Gloucester	1, 1	S. Arena, N. Nash
Pied-billed Grebe 2, 13	Boston, N. Scituate	1, 1	T. Aversa, J. Hoye#
Northern Fulmar 8	Cashes Ledge	75 (1 dk phase)	R. Abrams

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	JUNE 1992
Greater Shearwater 8, 29	Cashes Ledge	350, 1250	R. Abrams	
Sooty Shearwater 3, 6 4 8, 29 13	Provincetown (R.P.) Nantucket Cashes Ledge N. Monomoy	1, 2 150+ 35, 25 1	K. Jones, B. Nikula B. Perkins R. Abrams M. Lynch#	
Manx Shearwater 8, 29; 29	Cashes Ledge; Stellwagen	1, 1; 2	R. Abrams	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel 4 8, 29 23	Nantucket Cashes Ledge Stellwagen Bank	45 3000, 3000 125	B. Perkins R. Abrams N. Nash	
Leach's Storm-Petrel 8, 29 22	Cashes Ledge Wellfleet	45, 17 1 dead	R. Abrams fide B. Prescott	
Northern Gannet 4 8 23	P'town (R.P.), Nantucket Cashes Ledge Stellwagen Bank	3, 200 27 1	K. Jones, B. Perkins R. Abrams N. Nash	
Double-crested Cormorant thr, 1 9, 13	Medford, Boston (Charles R.) GMNWR, N. Monomoy	79 max, 140 20, 150+	M. Rines, K. Hudson E. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
American Bittern 11, 21	Wayland, Brookfield	1, 2	S. Arena#, R. Bradbury	
Least Bittern thr, 9 28	Wayland, Salem Milford	5 max 6/19, 2 2	S. Arena#, I. Lynch R. Bradbury	
Great Blue Heron 9, 21 26, 28	Westboro Wayland, GMNWR	23 nests, 47 w/ yg in nests 4, 6	E. Taylor S. Arena#, BBC (R. Gerrish)	
Great Egret thr, 20	P.I., IRWS	13 max 6/8, 3	BBC (D. J. Oliver) + v. o., S. Arena#	
Little Egret thr	Nantucket (Eel Point)	1	v. o.	
Snowy Egret thr 3, 13	Saugus-Revere, P.I. S. Dart. (Allens Pd), N. Monomoy	20 max 6/10, 45 9, 10+	max 6/29 J. Berry, v. o. LCES (J. Hill), M. Lynch#	
Tricolored Heron 29	P.I.	1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
Cattle Egret 30	Ipswich	2	J. Berry	
Green-backed Heron thr, 3 7, 9	Wayland, Salem P.I., Lakeville	8 max, 4 (3 yg) 4, 3	S. Arena#, I. Lynch S. Arena, M. Boucher	
Black-crowned Night-Heron thr 26	Medford, Boston (Charles R.) Wayland	40 max, 21 max 9	M. Rines, K. Hudson S. Arena#	
Glossy Ibis thr, 11 14, 27 29	Saugus-Revere, Essex S. Dartmouth, Rowley P.I.	7 max, 8 2, 9 15	J. Berry, T. Young M. Boucher, J. Berry BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
Snow Goose 5	N. Andover	1 ad	T. Young	
Brant 5 6-13	Marion (Bird I.) N. Monomoy	2 5	I. Nisbet B. Nikula + v. o.	
Wood Duck 7, 20 21, 25 26, 27 29	GMNWR, IRWS Arlington Res., Sudbury Adamsville, Salem Westwood	20, 15 inc. 8 yg 4, 7 ad + 11 yg pr, 6+ 1 f + 6 yg	BBC (C. Cook), S. Arena# L. Taylor, S. Arena M. Boucher, I. Lynch D. Case	
Green-winged Teal 6 15, 26	GMNWR Ipswich (C.B.), P.I.	1 m 1 f + 6 yg, 6	S. Perkins BBC (J. Berry), W. Drew#	
Gadwall 26	P.I.	21	W. Drew#	
Common Eider 8, 14 13, 28	P.I., S. Dartmouth N. Monomoy	8, 9 m 80+, 6	BBC (D. F. Oliver), M. Boucher M. Lynch#, R. Stymeist#	
Black Scoter 28	P.I. (Hellcat)	1 m	T. Young#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	JUNE 1992
Bufflehead 23	Squantum	1 f	P. Hawkins	
Hooded Merganser 3	Quabbin (G45)	5 f	T. Aversa	
Red-breasted Merganser 3	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	4	LCES (J. Hill)	
6, 13	Plymouth, N. Monomoy	3, 6	BBC (H. D'Entremont), M. Lynch#	
Turkey Vulture 11, 14	S. Monomoy, S. Groveland	1, 4	B. Nikula#, M. Rines#	
17, 21	Sharon, Wakefield	4, 4	E. Taylor, P. + F. Vale	
28, 29	Templeton, Wrentham	5, 5	M. Lynch#, R. Graefe	
Osprey thr	Nantucket	6 pr	E. Andrews	
thr	Westport	95 occupied nests, 65 yg banded	G. Fernandez	
3, 12	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), P.I.	7, 3	LCES (J. Hill), W. Drew#	
14	Byfield, S. Groveland	2, 1	N. Nash, M. Rines#	
<b>American Swallow-tailed Kite</b> 9	Assonet	1	K. Holmes	
Bald Eagle thr	M. V.	2 imm	V. Laux	
Northern Harrier 14	S. Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher	
Sharp-shinned Hawk 16, 30	Bridgewater, Annisquam	1, 1	G. d'Entremont, H. Wiggin	
Cooper's Hawk 14, 16	Wayland, Norfolk	1, 2 at nest	BBC (B. Howell), P. Iarrobino	
27	Boxford	pr + 2 yg at nest	T. Aversa	
Northern Goshawk 7, 13	Upton, Carlisle	1 or 2, pr	fide S. Arena, K. Kessler	
13	Millis	1	P. Iarrobino	
Red-shouldered Hawk 11, 13	Holliston, Walpole	3 ad, 1	T. Aversa, K. Holmes	
Broad-winged Hawk thr, 10	Topsfield, Westminster	pr, 2	J. MacDougall#, T. Aversa	
14	S. Groveland, Milton	1, 1	M. Rines#, G. d'Entremont	
15, 16	Millis, Concord	1, 2	P. Iarrobino, T. Aversa	
18, 30	Royalston, Medfield	3, 1	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
Red-tailed Hawk 14, 23	Boston, Milford	pr + 3 yg, pr + 1 yg	T. Aversa, S. Priest	
American Kestrel thr	Wayland	pr + 1 yg at nest	S. Arena#	
thr	Millis	3 nest boxes: 1 yg, 4 yg, 4 eggs	P. Iarrobino	
Peregrine Falcon thr	Boston	2 ad, 4 m yg fledged 6/24 and 6/25	fide Tom French	
Ruffed Grouse 14	S. Groveland, Milton	2 ad + 3 yg, 1	M. Rines#, G. d'Entremont	
Wild Turkey 9, 18	Boxford, Royalston	5, 2 f + 16 yg	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
18, 24	Hopkinton, Lancaster	2, 2 ad + 16 yg	J. Gordon, R. Bradbury	
Northern Bobwhite 9, 10, 15	Essex	2, 2, 1 dead	T. Young	
15, 21	Millis, Leicester	6, 1	P. Iarrobino, R. Bradbury	
Clapper Rail 11, 14	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1, 1	M. Boucher, LCES (J. Hill)	
King Rail (details submitted) 17	Wayland	1	S. Arena	
Virginia Rail thr, 14	Wayland, Rutland	11 max, 2	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
21, 27	Ipswich, Salem	3, 6	J. Berry#, I. Lynch	
27	GMNWR, Brookfield	5, 4	M. Lynch#	
Sora 4, 7	Lynnfield, Ipswich	1, 1	N. Nash, J. Berry#	
9, 17	Salem, Wayland	2, 1	I. Lynch, S. Arena	
20	IRWS	1	S. Arena#	
American Coot 2	GMNWR	1 ad	S. Arena#	
Black-bellied Plover 3, 20	N. Monomoy	800, 300	B. Nikula	
14, 15	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), Ipswich	6, 4	LCES (J. Hill), BBC (J. Berry)	
Lesser Golden-Plover 4, 28	Provincetown, N. Monomoy	1, 1	K. Jones, R. Stymeist#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	JUNE 1992
<b>Wilson's Plover</b>				
10	Scituate (Third Cliff)	1 f	S. Hecker	
<b>Semipalmated Plover</b>				
2, 22	P.I.	3, 2	W. Drew#, BBC (W. Drew)	
10, 24	N. Monomoy	4, 10	B. Nikula	
<b>Piping Plover</b>				
thr	Plymouth, Orleans (Nauset Spit)	1 pr + 3 fledged, 13 pr	S. Hecker	
12, 26	P.I.	10 on nest, 16 chicks	fide W. Drew	
3, 13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), N. Scituate	6, 1	LCES (J. Hill), J. Hoye#	
15	Ipswich (C.B.)	12 inc. 4 yg	BBC (J. Berry)	
<b>Killdeer</b>				
8, 22	P.I., Wakefield	12, 6	BBC (D. F. Oliver), P. + F. Vale	
<b>American Oystercatcher</b>				
thr	N. Monomoy	35 max 6/13	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
13, 14	Orleans, S. Dartmouth	10+, 3	M. Lynch#, M. Boucher	
<b>Black-necked Stilt</b>				
24	Tuckernuck	1	M. Wilson#	
<b>Greater Yellowlegs</b>				
3, 9	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), Rowley	1, 4	LCES (J. Hill), T. Aversa	
26	P.I.	9	W. Drew#	
<b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b>				
28	P.I.	15	P. + F. Vale	
<b>Willet</b>				
thr	P.I., N. Monomoy	18 max, 60 max	v. o., B. Nikula + v. o.	
2-30, 6	Nantucket, Plymouth	1 ad n, 1	F. Carley, BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
3, 14	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	12, 14	LCES (J. Hill)	
<b>Willet, Western race</b>				
10, 24	N. Monomoy	1, 2	B. Nikula	
<b>Upland Sandpiper</b>				
9, 20	Middleboro, Falmouth	1, 3+	M. Boucher, B. Nikula#	
24, 27	Lancaster, Boston (Logan)	2 ph, 2	R. Bradbury, R. Stymeist	
<b>Whimbrel</b>				
28	N. Monomoy	1	R. Stymeist#	
<b>Hudsonian Godwit</b>				
28	N. Monomoy	1	R. Stymeist#	
<b>Bar-tailed Godwit</b>				
3-30	N. Monomoy	1 basic pl	B. Nikula#	
<b>Ruddy Turnstone</b>				
3, 20; 6	N. Monomoy; Plymouth	220, 10; 2	B. Nikula; BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
<b>Red Knot</b>				
3, 24	N. Monomoy	60, 70	B. Nikula	
3, 9	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), Nantucket	1, 3	LCES (J. Hill), E. Andrews#	
<b>Sanderling</b>				
3, 20	N. Monomoy	1000, 30	B. Nikula	
<b>Semipalmated Sandpiper</b>				
3, 10, 20	N. Monomoy	800, 60, 2	B. Nikula	
2, 29	P.I.	60, 6	W. Drew#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
6	Plymouth	12	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
14, 15	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), Ipswich	5, 4	LCES (J. Hill), BBC (J. Berry)	
<b>Western Sandpiper</b>				
10	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	
<b>Least Sandpiper</b>				
2, 3	P.I., N. Monomoy	4, 4	W. Drew#, B. Nikula	
3	Concord (N.A.C.)	1	S. Perkins	
3	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	
<b>White-rumped Sandpiper</b>				
1	P.I.	15	S. Perkins	
3, 10, 24	N. Monomoy	12, 30, 2	B. Nikula	
10	Bolton	3 ph	C. Quinlan	
<b>Pectoral Sandpiper</b>				
28	P.I.	1	J. Berry	
<b>Dunlin</b>				
3, 13	N. Monomoy, Plymouth	10, 1	B. Nikula, J. Hoye#	
<b>Short-billed Dowitcher</b>				
1	P.I.	40	S. Perkins	
3, 10, 20	N. Monomoy	3, 12, 30	B. Nikula	
14, 28	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), P.I.	4, 1	LCES (J. Hill), J. Berry	
<b>American Woodcock</b>				
7, 18	Newbury, Plymouth	1 f + 4 yg, 2	J. Berry, G. d'Entremont#	
<b>Wilson's Phalarope</b>				
thr	P.I.	2	v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	JUNE 1992
Red-necked Phalarope				
28	N. Monomoy	1 br pl f	R. Stymeist#	
Parasitic Jaeger				
4	Nantucket	1	B. Perkins	
5	Marion (Bird I.)	1 ad	I. Nisbet	
8	Cashes Ledge	1 ad	R. Abrams	
Laughing Gull				
thr	Orleans (New Island)	911 pr	S. Hecker	
6, 13	Plymouth, N. Monomoy	5, 100+	BBC (H. D'Entremont), M. Lynch#	
Little Gull				
3, 4	Provincetown	2 1S	K. Jones	
Common Black-headed Gull				
10, 13	Manchester, N. Monomoy	1 ad, 1 1S	D. Young, M. Lynch#	
Bonaparte's Gull				
4, 12; 7	Lynn; Newburyport	1, 1; 1	J. Quigley; S. Arena	
13, 14	N. Monomoy, Ipswich	1, 1 imm	M. Lynch#, BBC (J. Berry)	
Ring-billed Gull				
4	Lynn	147	J. Quigley	
Roseate Tern				
thr	Plymouth, Chatham (S. Beach I.)	20 pr, 4 pr	S. Hecker	
thr	Orleans (New I.)	9 pr	S. Hecker	
13, 18	N. Monomoy, Fairhaven	3, 5	M. Lynch#, M. Boucher	
Common Tern				
thr	Plymouth, Chatham (S. Beach I.)	3081 pr, 915 pr	S. Hecker	
thr	Orleans (New I.), (Nauset Spit)	1206 pr, 384 pr	S. Hecker	
13, 15	N. Monomoy, Ipswich (C.B.)	90+, 40+	M. Lynch#, BBC (J. Berry)	
Arctic Tern				
thr	Orleans (New I.), (Nauset Spit)	1 pr, 1 pr	S. Hecker	
thr, 13	Plymouth, N. Monomoy	3 pr, 1	S. Hecker, M. Lynch#	
Forster's Tern				
10	Orleans (New I.)	1 basic pl	D. Reid	
Least Tern				
thr	Plymouth, Chatham (S. Beach I.)	100 pr, 742 pr	S. Hecker	
thr	Orleans (Nauset Spit)	289 pr	S. Hecker	
3, 13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), N. Monomoy	13, 20+	LCES (J. Hill), M. Lynch#	
15	Ipswich (C.B.)	100+	BBC (J. Berry)	
Black Tern				
5	Marion (Bird I.)	7	I. Nisbet	
13	N. Monomoy	1 br pl	M. Lynch#	
Black Skimmer				
thr	Orleans (New I.), (Nauset Spit)	2 pr, 2 pr	S. Hecker	

#### CUCKOOS THROUGH FINCHES

In the early 1970s **Chuck-will's-widows** were suspected of breeding in Massachusetts when they were heard singing throughout several successive summers on Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. But nesting was never confirmed, and following their disappearance the episode was viewed as a failed attempt by the species to extend its range northward. The startling discovery this June of at least 10 singing males and several females on Martha's Vineyard rekindled hopes that Chuck-will's-widows have bred or soon will breed in the Commonwealth. Whip-poor-wills continue to prosper at Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth, where a maximum of 51 was tallied at midmonth. Red-bellied Woodpeckers were nesting in Brookline and Worcester. Red-headed Woodpeckers were seen on Nantucket and in Belmont, and a pair was found nesting in Sherborn.

A good flight of passerines was noted in the first few days of the month, especially flycatchers and Mourning Warblers. Several highlights included a **Sedge Wren** in Brookfield, the Prothonotary Warbler at Great Meadows, Hooded Warblers in two locations, and a male **Summer Tanager** in the Middlesex Fells in Medford. Evening Grosbeaks rarely nest in Massachusetts, so the presence of a pair in Royalston at month's end was noteworthy.

R. H. S.

Black-billed Cuckoo			
2, 27	GMNWR	2, 2	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#
7, 20	Newbury, IRWS	3, 4	S. Arena#
Reports of individuals from 9 locations.			
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			
9-30	Reports of 14 individuals from 13 locations.		
Great Horned Owl			
thr, 1-15	Mt. A., Millis	3 max, 2 yg at nest	R. Stymeist#, P. Iarrobino
Barred Owl			
9, 28	Rutland, Easton	1, 1	R. Bradbury, S. Arena

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	JUNE 1992
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
4, 11, 18	Plymouth (Myles Standish)	3, 5, 0	G. d'Entremont#	
Common Nighthawk				
thr, 2	Salem, GMNWR	2, 5+	I. Lynch, S. Arena#	
4, 7	Needham, Rutland	1, 1	D. Case, R. Bradbury	
15, 30	Ipswich, Boston	1, 2	BBC (J. Berry), R. Stymeist	
Chuck-will's-widow				
3	M. V.	1 singing m	V. Laux	
15	M. V.	10 singing m + 5+ f	V. Laux	
Whip-poor-will				
1, 9	Ipswich, Rutland	1 m, 2	J. Berry, R. Bradbury	
4, 11, 18	Plymouth (Myles Standish)	36, 51, 21	G. d'Entremont#	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				
thr	Reports of 15 individuals from 13 locations.			
Red-headed Woodpecker				
5	Belmont	1	D. White	
6-17, 20-30	Nantucket, Sherborn	1, pr nesting	B. Perkins, E. Taylor	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
1, 2	Brookline, Worcester	pr, pr feeding yg	R. Stymeist, J. Young	
16, 23	Concord, Medford	pr, 1	T. Aversa, M. Rines	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
3, 23	Quabbin (G40), Paxton	1 m, f + yg at nest	T. Aversa, R. Bradbury	
28	Royalston	2	M. Lynch#	
Hairy Woodpecker				
7, 12	GMNWR, Medford	1, 1	BBC (C. Cook), M. Rines	
12, 14	Needham, Milton (F.M.)	2, 3	D. Case, G. d'Entremont	
15, 16	Millis, Norfolk	2, 1	P. Iarrobino	
28	Royalston, Boxford	3, 2	M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
Pileated Woodpecker				
6, 10	Sherborn, Barnstable	pr, 1	E. Taylor, I. Lynch	
14, 28	Boxford, Royalston	1, 2	BBC (E. Neilsen), M. Lynch#	
Olive-sided Flycatcher				
1	MNWS	1	J. Smith	
3	Annisquam	1	H. Wiggin	
Eastern Wood-Pewee				
thr, 3	Medford, Quabbin (G45)	8 max, 5	M. Rines, T. Aversa	
14, 16	S. Groveland, Concord	11, 8	M. Rines#, T. Aversa	
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	13, 6	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				
4	Mt. A., MNWS	1, 1	S. Dennison, T. Aversa	
10	Barnstable	1	I. Lynch	
Acadian Flycatcher				
3, 4	Quabbin (G45), MNWS	4, 1	T. Aversa	
23, 28	Newbury, Nantucket	1, 1 b	O. Komar, E. Andrews	
Alder Flycatcher				
1, 4	Paxton, Lynnfield	1, 1	J. Young, N. Nash	
7, 9	P.I., MNWS	2, 1	S. Arena, T. Aversa	
9, 10	Princeton, Westminster	2, 1	R. Bradbury, T. Aversa	
12, 13	Lexington, Quabbin (G40)	1, 2	C. Floyd, G. Gove	
14	N. Andover, Milton (F.M.)	1, 1	W. Drummond, G. d'Entremont	
27	Brookfield	3	M. Lynch#	
Willow Flycatcher				
thr, 4	Wayland, Lynnfield	12 max, 4	S. Arena#, N. Nash	
7	GMNWR, W. Newbury	6, 6	BBC (C. Cook), J. Berry	
9, 12	Middleboro, Bolton	4, 6	M. Boucher, R. Bradbury	
14, 20	Milton (F.M.), IRWS	4, 8	G. d'Entremont, S. Arena#	
Least Flycatcher				
7, 13	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40)	10, 9	G. Gove	
Eastern Phoebe				
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	6, 10	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
Great Crested Flycatcher				
thr, 7	Medford, Quabbin (G37)	7 max, 8	M. Rines, G. Gove	
14	Milton (F.M.), S. Groveland	4, 8	G. d'Entremont, M. Rines#	
16, 20	Norfolk, IRWS	4, 14	P. Iarrobino, S. Arena#	
Eastern Kingbird				
4, 14	Mt. A., S. Groveland	6, 7	A. Dasinger, M. Rines#	
15, 16	Millis, Norfolk	8, 8	P. Iarrobino	
Horned Lark				
6, 13	Plymouth, N. Monomoy	2, 1	BBC (H. D'Entremont), M. Lynch#	
Purple Martin				
thr	P.I.	36 max 6/8	v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	JUNE 1992
Tree Swallow thr, 7	Wakefield, Quabbin (G37)	30-60, 49	P. + F. Vale, G. Gove	
Bank Swallow thr, 15 4	Sherborn, Ipswich Millis (two locations)	50, 20 at 40 nests 208 nests, 30 nests	E. Taylor, BBC (J. Berry) P. Iarrobino	
Cliff Swallow 21	Newbury, Brookfield	4-6, 1	J. Berry#, R. Bradbury	
Blue Jay 4, 14 14, 20	Provincetown, Milton S. Groveland, IRWS	20, 14 27, 25	K. Jones, G. d'Entremont M. Rines#, S. Arena#	
American Crow 14, 20	S. Groveland, IRWS	36, 16	M. Rines#, S. Arena#	
Fish Crow 11, 15 15	Natick, Millis Eastham	2, 1 1	T. Aversa, P. Iarrobino K. Jones	
Common Raven 28	Royalston	1	M. Lynch#	
Black-capped Chickadee 14, 20	S. Groveland, IRWS	31, 45	M. Rines#, S. Arena#	
Tufted Titmouse 14, 20	S. Groveland, IRWS	18, 13	M. Rines#, S. Arena#	
Red-breasted Nuthatch 11, 13 14, 21 28	S. Monomoy, Dunstable S. Groveland, Truro Boxford, Royalston	1, 2 3, 2 6, 5	B. Nikula, L. Taylor# M. Rines#, J. Young J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
Brown Creeper 13 16, 28	Harvard, Groton Norfolk, Royalston	2, 2 1, 4	L. Taylor# P. Iarrobino, M. Lynch#	
Carolina Wren thr, 13 19, 27 27, 30	Natick, Groton Westwood, Brookfield Wayland, Wellesley	2, 1 1, 1 3, 1	E. Taylor, L. Taylor# D. Case, M. Lynch# J. Hoye, D. Case	
House Wren thr, 14	Medford, Wayland	3-5, 8	M. Rines, BBC (B. Howell)	
Winter Wren 1-19, 13 13, 15 16, 27 28	Essex, Harvard Westwood, Wellfleet Concord, Wayland Boxford	1, 1 1, 1 2, 1 2	T. Young, L. Taylor# D. Case, K. Jones T. Aversa, J. Hoye J. Berry	
Sedge Wren 20-30	Brookfield	1 ph	R. Jenkins + v. o.	
Marsh Wren thr 8, 20 27	Wakefield, Wayland P.I., IRWS Salem, GMNWR	8 max, 20+ max 8, 13 11, 16	P. + F. Vale, S. Arena# BBC (D. J. Oliver), S. Arena# I. Lynch, M. Lynch#	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 7 20	Newbury, GMNWR IRWS	1, 2 7	S. Arena, BBC (C. Cook) S. Arena#	
Eastern Bluebird thr 7, 10 10, 16 17, 27	Millis Newbury, Natick Westminster, Concord Westwood, Petersham	2 nest boxes fledged 8 yg; pr, 4 5, pr + 4 yg pr + 1 yg, 9	2nd broods underway P. Iarrobino J. Berry, E. Taylor T. Aversa D. Case, G. Gove	
Veery 7, 13 10, 14 14 20, 28	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40) Nantucket, Boxford Rutland, Milton (F.M.) IRWS, Royalston	9, 22 1, 8 4, 3 30, 24	G. Gove B. Vigneau, BBC (E. Neilsen) M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
Hermit Thrush thr, 4 7, 13 15, 16 28	Sherborn, Plymouth Quabbin (G37), Dunstable Millis, Norfolk Boxford, Royalston	6, 3 7, 2 2, 3 2, 25	E. Taylor, G. d'Entremont# G. Gove, L. Taylor# P. Iarrobino J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
Wood Thrush thr, 14 20, 27 28	Medford, Milton (F.M.) IRWS, Wayland Royalston, Boxford	5 max, 9 16, 6 7, 10+	M. Rines, G. d'Entremont S. Arena#, J. Hoye M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
American Robin 14	Milton (F.M.), S. Groveland	20, 26	G. d'Entremont, M. Rines#	
Gray Catbird 14 20	Milton (F.M.), S. Groveland IRWS	28, 48 57	G. d'Entremont, M. Rines# S. Arena#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Brown Thrasher			
thr, 4	Medford, Mt. A.	2, 1	M. Rines, A. Dasinger
14	P.I., S. Groveland	15, 6	BBC (E. Neilsen), M. Rines#
15, 27	Millis, Wayland	2, 4	P. Iarrobino, J. Hoye
White-eyed Vireo			
6	Plymouth	1	O. Komar
Solitary Vireo			
7, 10	Quabbin (G37), Westminster	5, 5	G. Gove, T. Aversa
27, 28	Boxford, Royalston	1, 7+	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#
Yellow-throated Vireo			
3, 3-4	Quabbin (G40), Mt. A.	4, 1	T. Aversa, M. Rines# + v. o.
12-20, 14	Wayland, S. Groveland	1, 1	S. Arena, M. Rines#
17, 27	Hamilton, Boxford	1, 1	J. Berry, T. Aversa
Warbling Vireo			
thr, 7	Westwood, GMNWR	2, 10	D. Case, BBC (C. Cook)
14	Wayland, Milton (F.M.)	6, 3	BBC (B. Howell), G. d'Entremont
20, 27	IRWS, W. Newbury	7, pr feeding yg	S. Arena#, J. Berry
Philadelphia Vireo			
7	P.I.	1	S. Arena#
Red-eyed Vireo			
thr	Sherborn, Medford	10, 8 max	E. Taylor, M. Rines
4, 14	Mt. A., Rutland	6, 14	A. Dasinger, M. Lynch#
7, 13	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40)	54, 46	G. Gove
14	S. Groveland, Milton (F.M.)	14, 12	M. Rines#, G. d'Entremont
28	Boxford, Royalston	25+, 66	J. Berry, M. Lynch#
Blue-winged Warbler			
1, 13	W. Barnstable, Groton	1, 4	B. Nikula#, L. Taylor#
14	Milton, S. Groveland	2, 22	G. d'Entremont, M. Rines#
15, 16	Millis, Norfolk	3, 4	P. Iarrobino
20, 21	IRWS, Medford	4, 2	S. Arena#, M. Rines#
Golden-winged Warbler			
7, 18	Newbury, Groveland	1 m, 1	J. Berry, R. Forster
"Brewster's Warbler"			
14	S. Groveland	1	M. Rines#
22	Bellingham	1	M. Martinek
"Lawrence's Warbler"			
7	Ipswich	1	I. Giriunas
14	Newbury	1	N. Nash#
Nashville Warbler			
10	Mt. A.	1	M. Rines
Northern Parula			
9, 13	MNWS, Osterville	1, 1	T. Aversa, B. Nikula#
17	W. Barnstable	1	B. Nikula#
Yellow Warbler			
7, 8	GMNWR, P.I.	20, 18	BBC (C. Cook), BBC (D. J. Oliver)
14	S. Groveland, Milton (F.M.)	21, 21	M. Rines#, G. d'Entremont
16, 20	Norfolk, IRWS	7 inc. 2 yg, 54	P. Iarrobino, S. Arena#
Chestnut-sided Warbler			
10, 13	Westminster, Quabbin (G40)	15, 12	T. Aversa, G. Gove
14	S. Groveland, Rutland	24, 9	M. Rines#, M. Lynch#
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	3, 10	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#
Magnolia Warbler			
4	Mt. A., MNWS	1, 4	A. Dasinger, T. Aversa
7	N. Andover, P.I.	1 f, 2	W. Drummond#, S. Arena
9, 10	MNWS, Westminster	1, 1	T. Aversa
Black-throated Blue Warbler			
2, 4	Boston (F.Pk), MNWS	1 m, 1 f	T. Aversa
10, 28	Westminster, Royalston	3 m, 9	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#
Yellow-rumped Warbler			
10, 28	Mt. A., Royalston	1, 12	M. Rines, M. Lynch#
Black-throated Green Warbler			
14, 20	Rutland, IRWS	9, 13	M. Lynch#, S. Arena#
27, 28	Boxford, Boston (F.Pk)	11, 1	T. Aversa
28, 30	Royalston, Medfield	24, 2	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa
Blackburnian Warbler			
3, 4	Quabbin (G45), Mt. A.	6, 2	T. Aversa, M. Rines
4, 28	MNWS, Boxford	2, 4	T. Aversa, J. Berry
28	Royalston	7	M. Lynch#
Pine Warbler			
7, 13	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40)	6, 6	G. Gove
13, 14	Dunstable, Rutland	4, 5	L. Taylor#, M. Lynch#
16, 20	Norfolk, IRWS	4, 3	P. Iarrobino, S. Arena#

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	JUNE 1992
Pine Warbler (continued)				
27	GMNWR	2	M. Lynch#	
Prairie Warbler				
thr, 14	Medford, W. Newbury	8 max, 10	M. Rines, BBC (E. Neilsen)	
14, 15	S. Groveland, Millis	38, 5	M. Rines#, P. Iarrobino	
16, 28	Norfolk, Lexington	10, 3 pr	P. Iarrobino, L. Taylor	
Bay-breasted Warbler				
4	MNWS	1 f	T. Aversa	
Blackpoll Warbler				
6, 7	N. Middleboro, P.I.	2, 1 f	K. Holmes, S. Arena#	
11	Mt. A.	1	R. Stymeist#	
Cerulean Warbler				
1, 3	Spencer, Quabbin (G40)	1, 2 m	J. Young, T. Aversa	
Black-and-white Warbler				
4, 4	Mt. A., Plymouth	1, 1	M. Rines, G. d'Entremont	
14, 16	S. Groveland, Norfolk	10, 2	M. Rines#, P. Iarrobino	
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	14, 19	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
American Redstart				
7, 13	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40)	10, 26	G. Gove	
10	Mt. A., Annisquam	1, 1	M. Rines, H. Wiggin#	
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	6, 33	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
Prothonotary Warbler				
2-27	GMNWR	1 m	v. o.	
Worm-eating Warbler				
12, 13	Needham, Milton	1, 1	D. Case, J. Hoye	
30	Medfield	1 ad feeding yg	T. Aversa	
Ovenbird				
thr, 3	Sherborn, Quabbin (G45)	8, 26	E. Taylor, T. Aversa	
7, 13	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40)	60, 33	G. Gove	
10, 14	Westminster, Rutland	14, 18	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	15, 54	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
28, 30	Boxford, Medfield	16, 10	J. Berry, T. Aversa	
Northern Waterthrush				
7, 11	Ipswich, Holliston	1 m, 3	J. Berry#, T. Aversa	
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	2, 1	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
Louisiana Waterthrush				
thr, 3	Boxford, Quabbin (G45)	3 max, 3	v. o., T. Aversa	
Mourning Warbler				
4, 6	MNWS, N. Middleboro	3, 1	T. Aversa, K. Holmes	
7, 12	N. Andover, Medford	1, 1	W. Drummond#, M. Rines	
Common Yellowthroat				
7, 13	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40)	21, 16	G. Gove	
14	Milton (F.M.), Rutland	46, 16	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
14, 15	S. Groveland, Millis	45, 15	M. Rines#, P. Iarrobino	
20, 28	IRWS, Royalston	71, 17	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#	
Hooded Warbler				
1-30, 17	Yarmouth Port, Westwood	1 m, 1	M. Tuttle#, D. Case	
Canada Warbler				
2, 3	Hubbardston, Mt. A.	2, 1	J. Young, M. Rines	
4, 9	MNWS	6, 1	T. Aversa	
6, 28	N. Middleboro, Royalston	2, 7	K. Holmes	
Summer Tanager				
21	Medford	1 m	M. Rines#	
Scarlet Tanager				
thr	Medford, Sherborn	5 max, 25	M. Rines, E. Taylor	
7, 13	Quabbin (G37), Quabbin (G40)	13, 12	G. Gove	
14, 20	S. Groveland, IRWS	11, 13	M. Rines#, S. Arena#	
28	Boxford, Royalston	20, 14	J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
thr	Sherborn, Needham	15, 4 max	E. Taylor, D. Case	
14	W. Newbury, Milton (F.M.)	6, 10	BBC (E. Neilsen), G. d'Entremont	
15, 20	Millis, IRWS	4, 8	P. Iarrobino, S. Arena#	
Indigo Bunting				
4, 14	Mt. A., W. Newbury	1, 15	M. Rines, BBC (E. Neilsen)	
14, 16	S. Groveland, Norfolk	10, 2	M. Rines#, P. Iarrobino	
20, 22	IRWS, Westwood	3, 3	S. Arena#, D. Case	
Rufous-sided Towhee				
thr, 4	Medford, Plymouth	15 max, 5	M. Rines, G. d'Entremont#	
14, 16	S. Groveland, Norfolk	37, 8	M. Rines#, P. Iarrobino	
20, 29	IRWS, P.I.	6, 12	S. Arena#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
Blue Grosbeak				
12	S. Dartmouth	1 f	K. Holmes	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Field Sparrow			
thr, 7	Medford, Newbury	5 max, 2 m + 1 f	on nest M. Rines, J. Berry
14, 15	S. Groveland, Millis	43, 8	M. Rines#, P. Iarrobino
16, 28	Norfolk, Lexington	17, 15	P. Iarrobino, L. Taylor
Vesper Sparrow			
4, 19	Provincetown, Lancaster	3, 3	K. Jones, R. Bradbury
Savannah Sparrow			
13, 21	N. Monomoy, Rowley	10+, 5	M. Lynch#, J. Berry
24	Lancaster	23	R. Bradbury
Grasshopper Sparrow			
13, 14	W. Yarmouth, S. Dartmouth	2, 1	G. Martin, M. Boucher
20, 24	Falmouth, Lancaster	2, 12	B. Nikula#, R. Bradbury
Sharp-tailed Sparrow			
3, 13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), N. Monomoy	13, 5+	LCES (J. Hill), M. Lynch#
29	P.I.	15	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)
Seaside Sparrow			
14	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	3	LCES (J. Hill)
Song Sparrow			
14	S. Groveland, Milton (F.M.)	25, 35	M. Rines#, G. d'Entremont
20	IRWS	48	S. Arena#
Lincoln's Sparrow			
4	MNWS	1	T. Aversa
Swamp Sparrow			
thr, 14	Wayland, Milton (F.M.)	10 max, 12	S. Arena#, G. d'Entremont
20, 27	IRWS, GMNWR	29, 11	S. Arena#, M. Lynch#
27	Brookfield	20	M. Lynch#
White-throated Sparrow			
3	Mt. A.	1 singing m	C. Floyd
13, 14	Quabbin (G40), Rutland	1, 1	G. Gove, M. Lynch#
28	Royalston	7	M. Lynch#
Dark-eyed Junco			
28	Royalston	6	M. Lynch#
Bobolink			
3, 4	Sherborn, Provincetown	6, 1	E. Taylor, K. Jones
9, 21	Middleboro, Rowley	9, 50	M. Boucher, J. Berry
Red-winged Blackbird			
14, 20	S. Groveland, IRWS	27, 95	M. Rines#, S. Arena#
Eastern Meadowlark			
9, 14	Middleboro, S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	3, 7	M. Boucher, LCES (J. Hill)
24, 26	Lancaster, Essex	10, 3	R. Bradbury, T. Young
Brown-headed Cowbird			
14, 20	S. Groveland, IRWS	49, 25	M. Rines#, S. Arena#
Orchard Oriole			
14, 21	Rowley, Arlington Res.	1 imm, 1 imm	BBC (E. Neilsen), L. Taylor
28	GMNWR	1	BBC (R. Gerrish)
Northern Oriole			
14	S. Groveland, Milton (F.M.)	32, 6	M. Rines#, G. d'Entremont
15, 20	Millis, IRWS	7, 10	P. Iarrobino, S. Arena#
Purple Finch			
thr, 1	Essex, Petersham	3 max, 1	T. Young, J. Young
2	Millis, Hubbardston	4, 1	P. Iarrobino, J. Young
28	Royalston	4	M. Lynch#
House Finch			
thr, 28	Annisquam, P.I.	61, 200	H. Wiggin, P. + F. Vale
Pine Siskin			
2	Chatham (Morris I.)	1	B. Nikula
Evening Grosbeak			
28	Royalston	pr	M. Lynch#

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ad	adult	I.	Island
alt	alternate	L.	Ledge
b	banded	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
br	breeding	Mt.A.	Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
dk	dark (phase)	N.A.C.	Nine Acre Corner, Concord
f	female	Nant.	Nantucket
fl	fledged	Newbypt	Newburyport
imm	immature	P.I.	Plum Island
ind	individuals	Pd	Pond
juv	juvenile	P'town	Provincetown
loc	location	Quab.	Quabbin
lt	light (phase)	Res.	Reservoir
m	male	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
max	maximum	S. Dart.	South Dartmouth
mi	mile	S.F.	State Forest
migr	migrating	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
n	nesting	S.P.	State Park
ph	photographed	Stellw.	Stellwagen Bank
pl	plumage	Worc.	Worcester
pr	pair	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
S	summer (1S = first summer)	BMB	Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester
thr	throughout	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
v.o.	various observers	CBC	Christmas Bird Count
W	winter (2W = second winter)	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
w/	with	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
yg	young	DLSP	Demarest Lloyd State Park
#	additional observers	DWWS	Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	EMHW	Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	FCBC	Felix Cutler Bird Club
B.	Beach	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	LCES	Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies
Buzz.	Buzzards Bay	MARC	Massachusetts Avian Records Committee
C.	Canyon	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
Cambr.	Cambridge	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
C.B.	Crane Beach, Ipswich	MDFW	MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	MSSF	Myles Standish State Forest
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	NBC	Needham Bird Club
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	NEHW	New England Hawk Watch
F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
F.M.	Fowl Meadow	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
F.Pk	Franklin Park, Boston	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
F.S.F.	Federation State Forest	TASL	Take A Second Look Harbor Census
G40	Gate 40, Quabbin	USFWS	US Fish and Wildlife Service
G45	Gate 45, Quabbin	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
H.	Harbor	WMWS	Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary

## ABOUT THE COVER: AMERICAN ROBIN

The American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) is perhaps the best known and most loved bird in North America. The robin is a familiar sight on lawns nearly everywhere in Canada and the United States, and as far south as southern Mexico. This widespread bird has been taxonomically divided into at least six forms, or subspecies, one of which, the San Lucas Robin of the far southwest, is considered by some to be a separate species. The American Robin has been placed in three different genera at one time or another, but the vagaries of taxonomy aside, it remains to most of us the red-breasted harbinger of spring usually portrayed in an earthworm tug-of-war. Misnamed "robin" by the early settlers because of its superficial resemblance to the European Robin, it is a thrush, most closely related to the European Blackbird. The sexes are similar in appearance, but females are grayer or paler, and the familiar juveniles of summer have speckled breasts with a rusty wash. By winter these young birds have molted their body feathers and resemble pale adults.

The northern part of the robin population is migratory, wintering mostly in the southern states, but some birds reach Bermuda and Guatemala. Most Massachusetts birds migrate, but a scattering overwinter and show up on Christmas counts, and large flocks, occasionally numbering in the thousands, sometimes winter on the coast, particularly on Cape Cod. Robins begin to arrive in mid- to late March, signaling to many of us that spring is really here.

Robins are found in a broad spectrum of habitats, from gardens and parks to forests and woodlots. In spring males establish territories and their melodious, persistent phrases are perhaps our most commonly heard bird song. Male courtship involves chases and strutting, with feathers puffed, tails spread, and wings vibrating. The nest has a foundation of twigs and coarse plant fiber, and a cup plastered with mud and lined with fine grass. The female does most of the nest building and shapes the mud cup with her body. Robins frequently incorporate man-made materials into their nests. One report described foot-long streamers of shredded computer paper dangling from a robin nest and fluttering in the wind. Most nests are located in shrubs or trees, but ground nesting has been reported, and robin's nests have been found on a broad spectrum of human-made structures. Nests are often conspicuous, but both birds defend the nest vigorously, and have been known to strike humans who wandered too close. Studies of marked birds suggest that robins are site-faithful, returning year after year to the same locality.

The usual clutch is four eggs, "robin's egg blue" in color. Incubation is mostly by the female and lasts about two weeks. After roughly the same period the young birds are ready to fledge. Typically, the male will tend the fledglings of the first brood, while the female incubates the eggs of the second. Occasionally they raise three broods. After nesting, robins characteristically roost communally in flocks that may number in the thousands.

The young are fed mostly insects and other invertebrates. The normal diet for robins is astonishingly varied, consisting of up to ninety percent berries and other plant foods in fall and winter to less than ten percent in spring. The earthworms and other invertebrate prey are located by sight, not sound, and are captured by a wide variety of foraging techniques, including gleaning leaves and active pursuit of flying insects. They forage from the treetops to the ground. It has been suggested that the robin's highly diversified diet and foraging techniques have helped make possible their high population levels and wide geographic distribution.

The spread of civilization has had both negative and positive aspects for robins. In the nineteenth century they were heavily hunted for food, and today their close proximity to human habitation subjects them to heavy predation from domestic cats. During the 1950s robins provided the first extensive documentation for the disastrous effects of DDT, when large numbers were found dead on a Michigan college campus following spraying for Dutch Elm disease-carrying beetles. Occasionally when they forage on fruit crops, such as cherries, robins become agricultural pests, and tens of thousands have been legally shot.

In general, however, they have adapted well to human settlement. Cowbirds, whose numbers have increased enormously with the spread of agriculture and deforestation, rarely lay eggs in robins' nests, and when they do, the robins remove them. Robins have expanded their range throughout the west, as irrigation and other human habitat alterations have created suitable environments. They are more common now than in colonial times. Most robins do not migrate to the neotropics, and hence are not threatened by persistent pesticides on their wintering grounds. And, unlike other bird species, they seem to tolerate, if not benefit from, forest fragmentation in the United States. Hence robins are likely to remain into the indefinite future one of our most common and enjoyable birds.

W. E. Davis, Jr.

### MEET OUR COVER ARTIST

For the second consecutive month, Barry Van Dusen has provided artwork for *Bird Observer's* cover. Barry has been an independent professional artist for nearly fifteen years. He recently returned from the opening of the important international show, "Birds in Art," at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, Wisconsin. This year marks the second year in a row that Barry's artwork was included in the show. Barry will also have his Northern Saw-whet Owl portrait on the cover of the November/December issue of *Bird Watcher's Digest*. For scheduled exhibits or information, Barry can be reached at 13 Radford Road, Princeton, Massachusetts 01541.

M. Steele

In 1982 a photograph of swimming phalaropes taken from a boat on Stellwagen Bank caused considerable controversy over the identification of the shorebirds in the picture. In response to the controversy, *Bird Observer* published a brief note on the identification of Red-necked and Red phalaropes at sea. That seminal article was the introduction to the regular "At A Glance" column in *Bird Observer*.

August's photograph returns to the problem of identifying a phalarope; this time, however, the phalarope is not a swimming bird. Phalaropes in nonbreeding plumage are easily distinguished from all other shorebirds by their distinctive dark eye patches. This feature is especially prominent in Red-necked and Red phalaropes. The extensive eye patch in the pictured bird, along with the dark and streaked dorsal appearance, immediately eliminate the Wilson's Phalarope from consideration.

Identifying the mystery photograph now becomes a matter of distinguishing between the two pelagic phalarope species. Most important is to notice that the bill is fine, straight, and sharply pointed. In addition, the neck appears relatively slender, the back is streaked, and the wingtips fall short of the tail. This combination of characteristics indicates that the mystery shorebird is a Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) in juvenal plumage. A similarly plumaged Red Phalarope would appear chunkier and would possess a thicker neck, longer wings, and a noticeably thick, blunt-tipped bill. Furthermore, unless the bird was very young, it would very likely show considerable pale gray feathering on the back and would be devoid of streaking, thus giving a more uniform color to the upperparts.

The Red-necked Phalarope in the picture was photographed at Monomoy in early September.

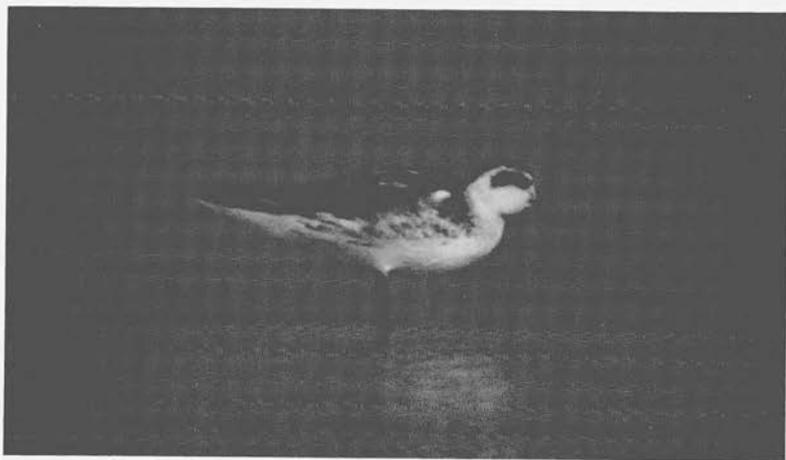


Photo by Wayne R. Petersen

## AT A GLANCE

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Photo by Hal H. Harrison. Courtesy of MAS.



Can you identify this bird?

Identification will be discussed in next issue's AT A GLANCE.

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