

Bird Observer

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HOT BIRDS

Logan Kahle found a **Sage Thrasher** near Low Beach, Nantucket, on November 25. It was only the fourth record for Massachusetts, and the first state record outside of Essex County. It was relocated by several birders the following day, and photographed by a few, including Trish Pastuszak, who took the photograph on the right.



Jacob Hesterman was taking a post-Christmas walk in his Newton neighborhood when he came across the flashiest rarity of the period, a male **Painted Bunting**. Despite the menacing presence of at least two Cooper's Hawks, the bunting lurked in the area for a few days into the New Year and attracted an admiring crowd. Andy Sanford took the photo on the left.

Mark and Brian Faherty were participating in the Taunton-Middleborough Christmas Bird Count on December 30 when they came across a **LeConte's Sparrow**. It remained in the area for about a week to the delight of many birders. Mark took the photo on the right.



US Fish & Wildlife Service biologists Scott Schwenk and Roxanne Bogart spent New Year's Day in Provincetown, and were rewarded with an **Eared Grebe** swimming practically right under their noses at MacMillan Wharf. The bird is still being reported as this issue goes to press, more than two weeks later. Scott Schwenk took the photo on the left.

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Bird Observer

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Birding Sharon, Massachusetts

Liam Waters

About halfway between Boston and Providence and easily accessible by either Interstate 95 (I-95) or the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Commuter Rail Providence/Stoughton line, lies the town of Sharon. From the 1800s until the 1940s, Sharon was a summer resort town where people came to stay at inns and hotels around Lake Massapoag. The town's current community center, located on a hill overlooking the south end of the lake, is a restored hotel that was acquired by the town in 1967.



There is a rich Native American history to the area, and there are a few sites in Sharon that have solar and lunar significance. The Wampanoags hunted and fished in the area for hundreds of years before British settlers came in 1637. Sharon was established as the 2nd Precinct of Stoughton in 1740. It was incorporated as the Town of Stoughtonham in 1765 and named Sharon in 1783. During the American Revolution, the townspeople—mostly farmers and craftsmen—made cannonballs for the Continental Army, and you can still find iron smelts in parts of the town today.

This article provides a season-by-season guide to birding the town of Sharon. Depending on how adventurous you feel and the time of year, you can spend either a solid half or full day birding. Moose Hill is one of the town's prime birding locations, but it can be confusing to people not familiar with the area, so an explanation is in order.

The Moose Hill complex

There are two conservation properties on Moose Hill, owned by separate organizations; they are contiguous and share a couple of trails. Mass Audubon's Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary is the organization's oldest sanctuary and encompasses 1,971 acres of forest, wetlands, and fields. The sanctuary's Farm at Moose Hill is a Community Supported Agriculture Program (CSA) in partnership with Ward's Berry Farm; the CSA farm fields are near the Ward's Farm fields. A good map of Mass Audubon's Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary can be found here: <https://www.massaudubon.org/content/download/8080/145429/file/moosehill_trails_2015.pdf>

Moose Hill Farm, a 347-acre property owned by The Trustees of Reservations, is a former "gentleman's farm" located on the north side of Moose Hill along Moose Hill Street, with trails through forest and open fields. Instead of crop farming, the Trustees have started a meat CSA, raising and pasturing beef cattle in their fields. A map of The Trustees' Moose Hill Farm can be found here: <<http://www.thetrustees.org/assets/documents/places-to-visit/trailmaps/Moose-Hill-Farm-Trail-Map.pdf>>

Mid-winter to early spring

If it has been a snowy winter (it seems to me that Sharon gets more snow than

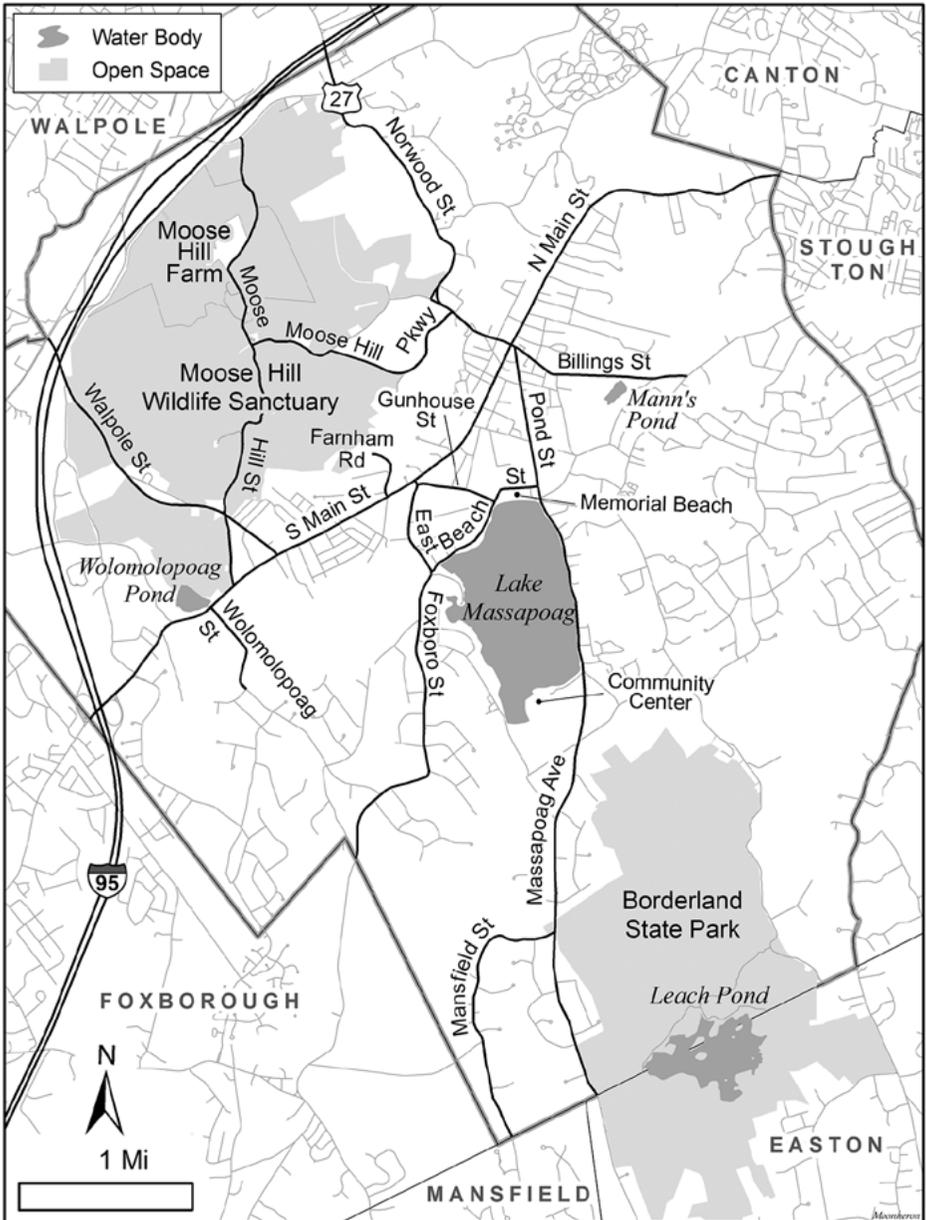


Fig. 1. Map of Sharon, Massachusetts.

most of southeastern Massachusetts) and Lake Massapoag is frozen, it can be tough birding in mid to late winter. If Lake Massapoag stays open, the geese flocks usually stick around and are always worth a check—Brant, Snow, Ross's, Greater White-fronted, Barnacle, and Cackling geese all have been seen in the last ten years. The best places to check for geese flocks are the Ward's fields and the adjacent Wolomolopoag Pond, the Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary's CSA fields, and Lake Massapoag (see map). If there is some open ground, these fields can host flocks of Horned Larks, with the occasional American Pipit, Snow Bunting, or Lapland Longspur. American Tree Sparrows are uncommon locally but can be found along the brushy edges of these fields. They seem partial to the power line cut that runs from Furnace Street to Pine Street and along Gavin's Pond and Wolomolopoag Pond (best accessed from either Furnace Street or South Main Street).

As March comes around, duck numbers start to increase. Leach Pond at Borderland State Park, which is in both Sharon and Easton, can have good numbers of Ring-necked Ducks and Common Goldeneyes; it is the best spot around for whatever dabbling ducks might be in the area. There is usually a raft of Common Mergansers on Lake Massapoag; sometimes they are at the nearby, much smaller Mann's Pond on Billings Street where you can get much better views. Massapoag is good for a variety of ducks that use the lake during the day, but the real draw for Massapoag is the dusk roost. There are a gull roost and a duck roost at Massapoag. The spring duck roost peaks in March, with Common Goldeneye (high of 85), Ring-necked Duck (185), Hooded Merganser (155), and Common Merganser (210) all peaking the second week of March. Bufflehead (70) has a less distinct peak during the last two weeks of March into the first week of April. This type of birding is not for everyone, but it can be rewarding. Patience and a large objective spotting scope are musts—as is a good sense of duck shapes.

It is nearly impossible to predict when it is going to be a good night for gulls at the roost, and numbers can fluctuate greatly from one night to the next. There also is no apparent pattern of when unusual gulls show up in the mix. Lesser Black-backed Gulls, especially, seem to appear for a night or two only to go missing and then reappear a couple nights later. The gulls (unsurprisingly) like to roost in the middle of the lake. This makes viewing them difficult and a spotting scope necessary. Depending on the wind direction, the gulls may be closer to either the south or north end, whichever is in the lee of the wind. Both ends of Lake Massapoag have easily accessible public viewing and parking. The parking lots for Memorial Beach on the north side often are not plowed in the winter, but the boat ramp on the north side is usually at least partially plowed. The viewing from the south end is from the community center, and that lot is always plowed. You can't view the roost from the parking lot there, but it is a short walk of 200 feet across a lawn that is usually windswept but may have some high snow drifts on occasion. The gull roost is predominantly Ring-billed Gulls and varying numbers of Herring Gulls. Great Black-backed Gulls are usually present in small numbers. Iceland, Glaucous, and Lesser Black-backed gulls are uncommon to rare.

Rusty Blackbirds typically can be found in late February through March along the mile-long Beaver Brook Trail that runs between Farnham Road and the Sharon

commuter rail station. The Rustys are usually found in a spot that is closer to the Farnham Road entrance. Park outside the yellow gate on Farnham Road. Walk in past the gate and follow the road to the Beaver Brook trailhead, which is on the right side of the road beyond the stump dump, yard waste, and composting facility area. If you reach the pump house you have gone too far. Your best chance of having Rustys is along the first 0.2 mile of the trail into the woods. Listen for them calling or singing, and check for them perched on the tops of cedar trees in the swamp. Most of the trail is close to the brook. From the center of town, you can access the trail by driving to the south end of the outbound parking lot for the commuter rail and following the signs for the Beaver Brook Trail down the dirt road off the parking lot.

Starting in March, the large pasture field at The Trustees' Moose Hill Farm is a favored display ground for American Woodcocks. They also use the nearby power line cut that runs through Moose Hill and the old Poor Farm area of the Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary. You can easily access the power line from Moose Hill Street. Counts of five to ten are not uncommon depending on how much of the area you cover.

Spring Migration

Spring migration can be hit or miss locally. Sharon has so much good habitat that there isn't one good migrant trap to concentrate the birds. That said, we do have good spring mornings in town. Throughout May, there are guided walks of the Billings Farm Loop at Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary before work, usually starting at 6:00 on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings; check the South Shore Bird Club and Mass Audubon websites to confirm times and dates. This loop passes through varied habitats and has produced some rare birds including Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied flycatchers, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Mourning, Hooded, and Kentucky warblers. Louisiana Waterthrushes are uncommon around the Moose Hill complex where they show up in red maple swamps rather than near rushing water. No one trail is noticeably better than the others for getting good numbers and diversity of migrants, so pick a trail that suits your interests. Some of the more intriguing trails at the Moose Hill sanctuary are the Bluff Trail, the Kettle Trail, and the Pepperbush Trail; all will lead you through a range of habitats and often near streams, swamps, or other wet areas.

Breeding Season

One of highlights of the breeding season is the number of Worm-eating Warblers that breed at Moose Hill. They have expanded in the last five to ten years, going from only a few pairs to close to 30 pairs. They can now be found on most trails at Moose Hill, but the highest densities are along the Summit Trail, the Bluff Trail, and the Kettle Trail/Ovenbird Trail area, which is the original hotspot for this species. On the Trustees' property, the best trail for Worm-eating Warblers is the Woodland Trail. For the past couple of years, one pair has been relatively easy to get as a drive-by from Moose Hill Street just south of the power line crossing. I have not explored much of Borderland State Park, where there seems to be only a small population.

Moose Hill has one of the larger areas of undisturbed forest in Sharon, where numerous woodland birds breed. At least two pairs of Pileated Woodpeckers can be



Worm-eating Warbler. All photographs by the author.

found, along with other forest birds such as Hermit and Wood thrushes, Brown Creeper, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Scarlet Tanager, Black-billed and Yellow-billed cuckoos, and Broad-winged Hawks. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers and Veerys are easily found in any of the red maple swamps in town, and Tree Swallows and Eastern Bluebirds nest in boxes in most of the fields.

The two main power line cuts in Sharon, the one that cuts through Moose Hill, and the one that goes from Furnace Street to Pine Street, have good populations of breeding shrubland birds such as Blue-winged and Prairie warblers, Field Sparrows, Eastern Towhees, and Indigo Buntings. Barred Owls are common nesters, and it is not uncommon to come across a family when walking one of the trails in late May. Eleven species of warbler breed in town with some regularity, highlighted by Northern Waterthrush, Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, and Black-throated Green, which unfortunately is declining rapidly as we lose the hemlocks to the woolly adelgid. Most of these warblers breed at Moose Hill; another good place for breeding warblers is the King Philip trails on town conservation land in the southern end of town. Access these trails from a small parking lot on Mansfield Street at 42.074279, -71.179982 across from 98 Mansfield Street. Yellow-throated Vireos breed around the ponds at Borderland State Park, and probably around the marsh at the Trustees' Moose Hill Farm as well, but that hasn't been confirmed yet. Savannah Sparrows breed in the large pasture field at Moose Hill Farm and also in small numbers in the sanctuary's CSA farm fields. Borderland State Park has not been carefully covered during the breeding season and could hold some interesting surprises.

Fall Migration

Fall migration starts in August with inland shorebirds and early warblers. If there hasn't been too much rain, Leach Pond at Borderland State Park can be great for shorebirds and ducks. It has looked like an absolutely perfect spot for a rare inland Little Blue Heron, and there are records of Glossy Ibis. Least Sandpipers and Killdeer are the most abundant shorebirds to frequent the flats, and there also have been Semipalmated Plovers, Semipalmated Sandpipers, Greater and Lesser yellowlegs, Spotted and Solitary sandpipers, and a single Pectoral Sandpiper. Viewing the shorebirds is difficult, since the only way to view them from Sharon is to bushwhack off the Pond Walk trail, and even then there's not an unobstructed vantage point.

The better viewing spots are from the Pond Walk trail on the Easton side (and therefore in Bristol County). The easiest access is from the trail as it passes along the small cove on the south side of Leach Pond. This cove is often one of the first places with exposed mud, and there is good, close viewing. The other option for viewing is from the woods along the edge of the hay fields around the farmhouse. There are two spots within these woods that offer a decent, if obscured view. One is from the east side of the pond near 42.065982, -71.149284. The woods here are sparse, and it is not difficult to walk through and find a gap in the trees. The other viewing point is near here 42.063603, -71.151607 but sometimes requires standing in some mud for a better view.

These Pond Walk trail vantage points in Easton are typically better than the cove in Sharon for viewing ducks, which tend to be in the middle of the pond. The best option is probably near 42.062971, -71.154341. The ducks arrive a little later than the shorebirds; mid-September to the end of November is the best time period. On a good day, the ducks include Northern Pintail, American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, and both Green- and Blue-winged teal. This is also a staging pond for Wood Ducks, with high numbers present from mid-August to mid-October, with the peak of over 100 individuals in mid-September. The trails through the woods to these vantage points can be decent for fall warblers, so keep an eye out for movement.

As the last week in September rolls around, the focus for land birding turns to weedy areas. The best place for weeds is the Ward's fields off Wolomolopoag Street. The Farm at Moose Hill CSA fields (both upper and lower) have better public access but often get plowed under sooner. The best birding locations may shift from year to year but the general patterns hold true. The upper CSA field is usually the first to get plowed, so it is the first to get American Pipits. The weedy corner on the edge of the lower CSA field is a good spot where sparrows and the occasional warbler perch up.

The Ward's fields are a bit harder to bird but can be rewarding. It is possible to walk the fields, but you must be careful to stay out of the way of the workers and stick to the farm roads and paths. Do not walk through pre-harvest crops. The overgrown squash patches are one of the better places for Connecticut Warbler. The tomato patch and the weedy road edges are usually the best areas for sparrows, but they can be anywhere. Song and Savannah sparrows can be quite abundant in these fields, with smaller numbers of Swamp Sparrows and Bobolinks. Common Yellowthroat,



Snow Goose.

Palm, Blackpoll, and Yellow-rumped warblers are regularly seen feeding in the weedy patches with the sparrows. Indigo Buntings can also be found, along with the occasional Dickcissel. Blue Grosbeaks and Lark Sparrows have been seen in the lower CSA field but not across the street at the Wards fields, probably due to lack of vegetative coverage.

There are two smaller weedy patches in town that are quite hit or miss for grassland birds. The Sharon Community Gardens at the corner of East Foxboro and Gunhouse streets is not usually a good spot, but occasionally it has been productive. The town stump dump, yard waste, and composting facility on Farnham Road (park outside the gate and walk in) is a small but good place for sparrows in the fall. It seems to be better than the other fields for White-crowned Sparrows and especially for Indigo Buntings, with counts of six to eight.

Late fall early winter

Starting the last week of September or the first week of October, gulls and ducks begin to roost at Lake Massapoag again, but the roosts don't have such distinct peaks in the fall as they do in March. Look for Canvasbacks or Redheads in October and November; they are seen sporadically, though probably are decreasing. Sea ducks are more prevalent in the fall than in early spring. Scoters and Long-tailed Ducks are most common from mid-October to mid-November. Buffleheads and Ring-necked Ducks peak the first week of November, and Hooded Mergansers peak around the first of

December. Common Mergansers don't peak until mid-December. All three grebes—Red-necked, Horned, and Pied-billed—can be found on the lake from late September through early December.

This is also peak goose season. The goose flock at Ward's fields changes frequently. The best places to see the geese are in the Ward's fields off Wolomolopoag Street, at Wolomolopoag Pond, and at Lake Massapoag. At Lake Massapoag the geese tend to congregate at the cove on the west side, which is difficult to see because it's a far scope from the southeast corner. Sometimes you can see part of the flock from the end of Sturges Road, but you have to look through trees and someone's yard.

Amenities

Support local businesses. Angels Café is located right in the town center and is your typical coffee café. Ward's Berry Farm has a small store and café with a smoothie bar, sandwiches, and homemade zucchini bread. There are also various delis and Chinese and Indian restaurants in Sharon, most in the center of town (Pond Street and South Main Street) or at the Heights Plaza on South Main St just north of the Ward's Fields. For folks who need their Dunkin or Starbucks, both are located, along with a newly renovated Shaw's supermarket, at the Shaw's Plaza on South Main Street near I-95.

Additional information

<http://www.sharonfoc.org/> Not always current, but has information on town-related conservation issues and trails. More information on the non-Moose Hill trails can also be found here.

<http://southshorebirdclub.wixsite.com/ssbc>

<https://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/moose-hill>

<http://www.thetrustees.org/places-to-visit/greater-boston/moose-hill-farm.html> 

Liam Waters has lived in Sharon for as long as he can remember. His birding interest was started at Moose Hill when he was eight, and Sharon remains one of his favored patches. He has done various bird surveys across the state, including point counts along the Moose Hill power lines and transect surveys of Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. He will put his Sharon birding on hold for the next few years while he finishes a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, but he is looking forward to finding new patches near Amherst.

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Banding Station

Regina Harrison



A Magnolia Warbler held in a classic bander's grip, displaying its new leg band. All photographs by Pauliina Swartz.

Early morning sunlight dapples through the brushy woods as I walk along a narrow path. Eastern Towhees extol the virtues of tea and Gray Catbirds meow almost incessantly, while warblers, finches, and sparrows chip sociably to their companions. The woods of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge (PRNWR) are dense with life in spring and fall as birds prepare for or pause in their migrations to feast on Plum Island's bounty of fruits, seeds, and insects. The concentration of so many species in one place creates an ideal location for a banding station, and the path on which I walk is laced with mist nets, nearly invisible in the sunlight.

I approach a net and see movement within. A Gray-cheeked Thrush has flown into the lower part of the net as it traveled through the understory. It flutters fruitlessly as I approach. I assess how tangled the bird is. This one will not be too difficult; between two fingers I carefully grip its legs behind the heels, coax strands of net away from its claws, free the tail feathers, work loops of net away from the shoulders and flight feathers, shift my hold on the bird to a bander's grip around its neck and back that prevents its wings from flapping, and finally slip the net over the bird's head, freeing it. It is vibrantly alive in my hand, fragile yet filled with a tensile strength. I marvel that this small body will fly hundreds of miles this fall. The thrush has kept up a running commentary of protest throughout its extraction from the net but is relatively calm



A Red-breasted Nuthatch being released after banding.

as I place it in a small cloth bag to bring back to the banding station. Once there, the bird will be measured, assessed, and given a metal leg band with a unique identifying number before it is released back into the woods.

The PRNWR banding station, operated by Mass Audubon Joppa Flats with permission by the refuge management, opened in 1998 and has run continuously since then under the guidance of federally licensed bird banders supported by a group of dedicated volunteers. Nets are placed along a set of backwoods paths during the peak migration times of April-May and September-October. The focus is on songbirds, but any bird that flies into a net, like the occasional Sharp-shinned Hawk, Saw-whet Owl, or even a wayward Northern Harrier, will be banded. The one exception is hummingbirds, which require a special permit and are immediately released if captured. Over the last 21 years, 50,063 individual birds have been banded, representing 126 species. An average of 1,230 individual birds are banded in every spring, and 1,061 every fall. The most frequently banded bird is the Gray Catbird, with 6,445 banded to date. Notable rarities over the years have included Ash-throated Flycatcher, Green-tailed Towhee, and Yellow-green Vireo.

On a local level, the data gathered helps the refuge staff in its habitat management by providing insight into which species are foraging and in what kind of vegetation. On a global level, researchers can use the data collected to conduct migration studies and look at changing patterns in individual species over time. That information can be used to determine the impact of climate change, whether it's an increase in formerly southern species expanding their range or former residents decreasing in number as they shift farther north in response to changing food resources and temperature conditions.

I began volunteering at the banding station in the fall of 2015, after taking a training workshop at Joppa Flats in September of that year. Novice volunteers start out by observing the experienced extractors removing birds from nets and recording data as banders process the birds. Although my description of extracting the Gray-cheeked

Thrush may have sounded simple, the reality is often a complex tangle of net and wing and thigh and feather and claw, with every species offering its own unique challenge. A Brown Creeper, for example, has almost no upper leg to grasp, and those long toes get caught over and over as you work on the bird. Kinglets of both species will helicopter around in the net, making the challenge of extracting those tiny birds all the more difficult. Northern Cardinals will grab your skin in a vise grip with that strong beak and raise blood blisters, but you must calmly take it as you work to free the bird. Gray Catbirds have little balls at the base of their nails that will catch on net strands, and Eastern Phoebes are susceptible to wing strain if allowed to flap around too much. So it is important to watch, listen, and learn before trying your hand, and it is also important to know when to ask for help, because the birds' safety comes first. The recording of data is also a form of training, as you listen to the banders determine sex, measure body fat, and assess age through feather molt and wear. Although one might be technically proficient at handling birds and be able to affix a band to a bird's leg, you cannot be a bander until you are able to conduct a general assessment of a bird.

One of the real joys of the banding station for me has been getting to know the various birds as individuals of a species. They all have their own personalities and behaviors, and after I have seen them in the nets over time, I get a better sense of who that bird is. From a mechanical standpoint, understanding how a bird's wing or leg works because you have felt it stretched out in your hand gives insight into how different species and body types of birds move through the air and perch on branches. When I see a species in the field, I have a deeper appreciation of why it behaves as it does, from twirling kinglets to cocky chickadees to melodramatic catbirds. I feel more closely connected to the entire environment as I watch birds fulfilling their natures and physical beings, each fitting into their own niche as part of a complex whole.

And then there is the chance to see truly fantastic little birds up close instead of at a distance through binoculars. Spring warblers are expectedly resplendent in their finery, positively glowing in their blues and greens and yellows, but even the "little brown jobs," the sparrows, wrens, and creepers of the bird world, are wondrous mosaics of rich browns, delicate grays, russet reds, and soft buff colors when they are right in front of you. I could hardly believe a Brown Creeper was the same little mousy bird seen up on tree trunks when I first held one in my hand. They are all tiny treasures.

Because the banding station is in an area of the refuge not open to the public, visitors cannot just stop by, but Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center, PRNWR, and several area bird clubs include regular visits for adults and families to the banding station among their programs. Joppa Flats runs training sessions twice a year for those who think they might be interested in volunteering. The commitment of volunteering is not for everyone, but I highly recommend a visit to your local banding station for all birders. You will see birds in a way that you have never seen them before.

For more information on the banding station, please visit:

<https://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/joppa-flats/about/bird-banding>. Special thanks to Ben Flemer for supplying banding station data. 🐦

Regina Harrison is executive assistant and sales coordinator at Mount Auburn Cemetery, a regular volunteer at the PRNWR banding station, and an associate editor of Bird Observer. She is engaged in a long-term habitat restoration project at her home in Woburn, Massachusetts, with an emphasis on providing year-round food and shelter for birds.

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Mass Audubon's Sanctuary Inventory and Monitoring Project

Robert Buchsbaum, Mass Audubon Staff Scientist



Fig. 1. Ecoregions of Massachusetts modified from The Nature Conservancy's ecoregional data available from the Massachusetts Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS). Triangles are locations of Mass Audubon properties that were included in these surveys.

In 2004, Mass Audubon's Conservation Science Department initiated an effort to assess the status of breeding birds on our sanctuaries. Since Mass Audubon sanctuaries are located in all parts of the Commonwealth, from Cape Cod through the Berkshires, this would provide an excellent assessment of the status of breeding birds throughout Massachusetts. A major impetus for the surveys has been to provide a baseline inventory of the species and numbers of birds currently breeding on our sanctuaries, allowing us to track future changes in bird populations due to factors such as global warming, suburban sprawl, invasive species, natural succession, and other changes in the landscape. Another goal is to evaluate how closely our sanctuaries represent the biodiversity of the entire state by comparing what occurs on our sanctuaries with records for all of Massachusetts. Finally, having a baseline would help us evaluate the impact of management measures, such as brush cutting to enhance early successional habitat.

We used point counts, a standard protocol in which observers stand in the middle of a circle and record all birds seen or heard within and outside the circle for ten minutes. The radii of the circles were 50 meters in forests, shrublands, and small fields and 100 meters in open habitats such as large fields and salt marshes. Surveys were carried out three mornings in June, the height of breeding activity in Massachusetts.

Multiple circles were set up on each of our larger properties, and each circle contained one type of habitat (e.g., forest, grassland). Having a set size for each circle allows us to compare the species richness (number of species) and abundances for circles of the same habitat type. We currently have over 300 of these counting circles on 48 Mass Audubon properties.

For some of the discussion that follows, we have classified each sanctuary into one of six ecoregions (Figure 1). Ecoregions are large landscape units characterized by a similarity in climate, geology, physiography, and characteristic species assemblages. Because we have fewer results from the western part of the state, we ended up pooling all sanctuaries west of the Connecticut River into a Berkshires/Western MA ecoregion.

As of 2018, we have recorded 149 of the 218 species that are known to breed in Massachusetts during these surveys. The 218 species figure is taken from the results of the last *Breeding Bird Atlas* (Walsh and Petersen 2013). The 149 species were based on observations made within and beyond the point count circles. This does not mean that all 149 species are breeding on our sanctuaries, but rather that they are likely breeding somewhere in the area of the sanctuary and at a minimum passed through our counting circles during a survey. Some of the species that are missing from our list are birds that are not likely to be recorded by our point count surveys. These include owls, Whip-poor-Wills, and other nocturnal species. Other missing species that our methods did not capture are colonial and beach-nesting water birds, such as wading birds and Piping Plovers. Nonetheless, 25 of the 49 species that are listed as conservation priorities under the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) were recorded in these surveys. Sanctuaries in the Cape Cod and Islands and the Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills ecoregions, both in the eastern part of the state, had the largest overall numbers of species and SWAP species (Table 1). This could be due to the diversity afforded by coastal locations but they also had more sampling.

Sanctuary	Town	Ecoregion	# Species	# SWAP Species	Years Sampled
Allens Pond	Dartmouth	Bristol Lowlands	91	26	12
Arcadia	Easthampton	Connecticut River	33	5	13
Ashumet Holly	Falmouth	Cape Cod and Islands	46	2	3
Assonet Cedar Swamp	Lakeville	Bristol Lowlands	48	6	3
Attleboro Springs	Attleboro	Bristol Lowlands	54	8	5
Barnstable Great Marsh	Barnstable	Cape Cod and Islands	44	7	2
Boston Nature Center	Boston	Boston Basin	31	3	3
Broad Hill	Holliston	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	41	6	3

Broad Meadow Brook	Worcester	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	75	12	9
Broadmoor	Natick	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	63	8	5
Canoe Meadows	Pittsfield	Berkshires/Western MA	70	8	3
Cedar Pond	Wenham	Boston Basin	48	9	5
Cheshire Pond	Ashburnham	Worcester Plateau	31	6	3
Daniel Webster	Marshfield	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	61	11	7
Drumlin Farm	Lincoln	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	73	8	11
Eagle Lake	Holden	Worcester Plateau	44	7	3
Eastern Point	Gloucester	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	39	6	4
Edgartown Great Pond	Edgartown	Cape Cod and Islands	26	2	3
Elm Hill	Brookfield	Worcester Plateau	55	7	4
Endicott	Wenham	Boston Basin	53	5	14
Felix Neck	Edgartown	Cape Cod and Islands	39	6	3
Flat Rock	Fitchburg	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	51	11	3
Graves Farm	Williamsburg	Berkshires/Western MA	33	5	13
Great Neck	Wareham	Cape Cod and Islands	61	10	3
Habitat	Belmont	Boston Basin	61	8	12
High Ledges	Shelburne	Berkshires/Western MA	48	7	3
Ipswich River	Topsfield	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	77	15	6
Lake Wampanoag	Gardner	Worcester Plateau	59	9	3
Laughing Brook	Hampden	Berkshires/Western MA	44	5	3
Lime Kiln Farm	Sheffield	Berkshires/Western MA	56	6	3
Long Pasture	Barnstable	Cape Cod and Islands	49	11	3
Marblehead Neck	Marblehead	Boston Basin	53	9	15
Moose Hill	Sharon	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	72	11	9

Museum of American Bird Art	Canton	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	33	2	4
Nahant Thicket	Nahant	Boston Basin	17	1	1
Nashoba Brook	Westford	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	30	4	3
Norman's Woe	Gloucester	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	10	0	1
North Hill Marsh	Duxbury	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	45	4	3
North River	Marshfield	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	31	3	3
Oak Knoll	Attleboro	Bristol Lowlands	49	6	3
Pleasant Valley	Lenox	Berkshires/Western MA	61	8	3
Roads End	Worthington	Berkshires/Western MA	43	5	3
Rough Meadows	Rowley	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	82	20	15
Rutland Brook	Petersham	Worcester Plateau	53	7	3
Skunknett River	Barnstable	Cape Cod and Islands	34	2	4
Stony Brook	Norfolk	Bristol Lowlands	62	7	7
Stump Brook	Halifax	Bristol Lowlands	51	4	4
Wachusett Meadow	Princeton	Worcester Plateau	58	11	3
Waseeka	Hopkinton	So New England Coastal Plain/Hills	42	3	5
Wellfleet Bay	Wellfleet	Cape Cod and Islands	59	14	15
West Mountain	Plainfield	Berkshires/Western MA	38	4	3
Whetstone Woods	Wendell	Worcester Plateau	60	9	3

Table 1. Mass Audubon wildlife sanctuaries surveyed during this project, the number of all species, the number of SWAP species recorded, and the number of years sampled during breeding bird surveys. Arcadia and Graves Farms lists based on spot mapping done from 2004–2016 by D. McLain. All other lists were derived from point counts.

Forest Birds

A closer look allows us to compare which birds breed most frequently at different sanctuaries, different ecoregions of the Commonwealth, and different habitats. We had the most data for forest habitat, with 236 circles on 47 properties in forested habitats

in all ecoregions. We pooled the sanctuaries into their ecoregions and calculated the percentage of observations in each ecoregion where each species of birds was encountered (Table 2).

Species	All regions	Berkshires Western MA	Worcester Plateau	Southern New England Plain and Hills	Boston Basin	Bristol Lowlands	Cape Cod and Islands
Ovenbird	44%	74%	69%	40%	13%	48%	19%
BC Chickadee	42%	43%	39%	36%	51%	33%	50%
RE Vireo	26%	74%	43%	15%	12%	12%	1%
Tufted Titmouse	25%	15%	17%	0%	47%	40%	32%
Blue Jay	22%	23%	16%	24%	33%	13%	22%
Am Robin	22%	15%	3%	19%	63%	12%	18%
Pine Warbler	20%	3%	6%	25%	26%	19%	39%
E. Wood Pewee	18%	25%	21%	21%	16%	15%	9%
Gray Catbird	17%	4%	1%	13%	35%	21%	30%
White B Nuthatch	16%	11%	7%	25%	18%	22%	12%
D Woodpecker	15%	10%	6%	14%	20%	27%	17%
Am Goldfinch	15%	9%	6%	15%	21%	12%	30%
Scarlet Tanager	14%	24%	26%	16%	6%	14%	0%
Common Grackle	12%	0%	2%	7%	46%	5%	15%
Veery	12%	32%	17%	8%	0%	16%	0%
Wood Thrush	11%	25%	2%	8%	17%	13%	0%
N Cardinal	10%	1%	0%	12%	27%	8%	13%
GC Flycatcher	10%	4%	7%	11%	20%	8%	11%
BH Cowbird	9%	16%	4%	9%	7%	12%	10%
BT Green Warbler	9%	29%	23%	1%	0%	3%	0%
E Towhee	8%	0%	1%	11%	3%	8%	28%

Table 2. Frequency of occurrence in forested habitats of the 21 most common bird species on Mass Audubon properties. Species are listed in descending order of frequency across the entire state.

Across the state, Ovenbirds and Black-capped Chickadees were the most frequently encountered species (Table 2, All Regions column). Well known to all birder is that certain species are more likely to be found in forests in the western part of the state, others in the eastern part, and still others occur everywhere. Our results bear this out (Table 2). Ovenbirds, Red-eyed Vireos, Scarlet Tanagers, and Black-throated Green Warblers were most frequently encountered in the forests of the ecoregions in the central and western parts of the state, whereas Pine Warblers, Gray Catbirds, and Eastern Towhees dominated in the east.

The coefficient of variation (CV) is a measure of how variable a species was among the different ecoregions (Table 3). A low CV means that a bird is encountered at similar rates in the different ecoregions, thus it is relatively evenly distributed among the ecoregions. A high CV indicates that the bird varies substantially from one region

Species	CV	Regions most commonly occurring
Common Grackle	141%	Boston Basin
BT Green Warbler	141%	Berkshires/ Western MA, Worcester Plateau
E. Towhee	128%	Cape Cod and Islands
RE Vireo	105%	Berkshires/Western MA, Worcester Plateau
Veery	101%	Berkshire/W MA, Worcester Plat, Bristol Lowlands
Robin	98%	Boston Basin
No. Cardinal	96%	Boston Basin
Wood Thrush	86%	Berkshire/Western MA, Boston Basin
Gray Catbird	79%	Boston Basin, Bristol Lowlands
Scarlet Tanager	71%	Berkshires/ Western MA, Worcester Plateau
T. Titmouse	70%	Boston Basin, Bristol Lowlands, Cape Cod & Islands
Pine Warbler	69%	So NE Coastal Plain, Boston Basin, Cape Cod & Islands
Am. Goldfinch	59%	Cape Cod & Islands
Ovenbird	57%	Everywhere except Boston Basin, Cape Cod & Islands
GC Flycatcher	54%	Boston Basin
Downy Woodpecker	49%	Boston Basin, Bristol Lowlands
BH Cowbird	44%	Berkshires/Western MA
WB Nuthatch	44%	So NE Coastal Plain, Bristol Lowlands
E. Wood Pewee	33%	All over
Blue Jay	31%	All over
BC Chickadee	18%	All over

Table 3. Amount of variation (Coefficient of Variation, CV) among the regions for the forest birds listed in Table 2. A high CV means that the bird’s distribution varies greatly across ecoregions of the state; a low CV means that the bird is relatively evenly distributed across the regions. Birds are listed in order from high CV to low CV.

to another. The results are, for the most part, consistent with what we know about the different species of birds. Black-capped Chickadee had the lowest CV of all the species. This means that our state bird is fairly evenly distributed across all ecoregions, which certainly agrees with everyone’s experience of it. Blue Jays and, surprisingly, Eastern Wood Pewees were also relatively evenly distributed across the state. Common Grackles and Black-throated Green Warblers had the highest variation of any of the birds in our list because their occurrences were skewed toward only a few regions—the Boston Basin on the part of Grackles and the sanctuaries in the central and western part of Massachusetts for Black-throated Green Warblers. Red-eyed Vireo was another species more frequently encountered in the western part of the state. In contrast, Eastern Towhees were particularly abundant in the Cape Cod and Islands ecoregion and almost totally absent from the western Massachusetts ecoregions.

In addition to counting the birds, we also characterized the vegetation in each forest circle. We classified our forested sites into four types based on tree canopy composition determined from field observations: Deciduous (all broad-leaved trees that drop their leaves in the fall), Deciduous-Evergreen (greater than 50% broad-leaved trees), Evergreen-Deciduous (greater than 50% conifer trees), and Evergreen (all conifer trees such as pines, hemlocks, or spruce). Each circle was classified as one forest type. We analyzed the association of forest birds with different forest types. We included 130 forest circles in this analysis.

Deciduous (19 %)	Deciduous-Evergreen (52 %)	Evergreen-Deciduous (18 %)	Evergreen (4 %)
Red-eyed Vireo	Wood Thrush	American Redstart	Black-throated Green Warbler
Scarlet Tanager		Red-breasted Nuthatch	Blackburnian Warbler
			Black and White Warbler

Table 4. Forest birds that showed a strong preference for certain forest types. The numbers in parentheses are the percentage of circles containing that forest type.

Preference was determined by comparing the percentage of birds in each forest type with the availability of those types (percentage of circles having that forest type). If a bird showed no preference, then its percentage occurrence among the four canopy types should be similar to the percentage of forest types available. Red-eyed Vireos and Scarlet Tanagers were present in deciduous canopy more than the availability of that forest type (Table 4). Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Black and White warblers showed the strongest affinity for evergreen canopies. Black-throated Blue Warblers were present in Deciduous and Evergreen circles more than in Deciduous-Evergreen and Evergreen-Deciduous forest types. Note that the number of purely evergreen (coniferous) circles was less common than the other types; one rarely finds pure stands of white pines or hemlocks in Massachusetts without at least some broad-leaved trees mixed in.

Salt Marshes

One of the advantages of this study has been an ability to delve into the status and trends of some birds of conservations concern. Salt marsh birds are high on this list. Their vulnerability to ongoing and more severe, future sea level rise was well documented in Mass Audubon's third *State of the Birds Report* (Walsh and Severson 2017). The Saltmarsh Sparrow has become a poster child for the effects of sea level rise on birds that nest in salt marshes, but it is not the only species that lives in this challenging habitat. Seaside Sparrows, Willets, and Clapper Rails as well as Saltmarsh Sparrows are all listed on the State Wildlife Action Plan.

Species	Allens Pond	Barnstable Great Marsh	Eastern Point	Great Neck	Rough Meadows	Wellfleet Bay
Saltmarsh Sparrow	1.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.42	0.34
Seaside Sparrow	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Willet	0.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.35
Red-winged Blackbird	0.58	0.70	4.19	0.18	0.30	0.09

Table 5. Abundances of three obligate salt marsh nesting birds (Saltmarsh and Seaside sparrows, Willet, and another common inhabitant of the marshes (Red-winged Blackbird). Numbers are the average numbers of each species per hectare (1 ha= approximately 2.5 acres).

We carried out breeding bird surveys on six sanctuaries that have at least some salt marsh circles (Table 5). Three contained some obligate salt marsh birds and three did not. Two of the three sanctuaries that lacked obligate salt marsh species are likely too small to attract these specialists. The salt marsh at Eastern Point is seven acres (approximately three hectares) and the marsh at Great Neck Wildlife Sanctuary is three acres. On the other hand, Barnstable Great Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary is part of one of the Commonwealth's largest salt marshes, so its lack of any obligate marsh species is surprising. Of the three sanctuaries that did contain obligate salt marsh species, Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary in South Dartmouth, had almost three times the density of Saltmarsh Sparrows of the other two sanctuaries, more than twice the Willet concentrations, and was the only sanctuary that had Seaside Sparrows within counting circles. The volunteers who sampled at Allens Pond, were also treated to three records of Clapper Rails, one of a King Rail, and occasional late-lingering migratory shorebirds.

Allens Pond and Rough Meadows Wildlife sanctuaries have benefited from almost yearly surveys by staff and volunteers since 2004. Rough Meadows is part of the Great Marsh ecosystem of northeastern Massachusetts and abuts the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Saltmarsh Sparrow numbers at Rough Meadows vary a great deal from year to year but they do not seem to be suffering from the consistent downward trend that is happening in other parts of its range, particularly in Connecticut and the Mid Atlantic states (see results of SHARP project summarized in Walsh and Servison

2017). Nonetheless, with the anticipated continuation of rising sea levels, the future of this obligate salt marsh species is tenuous at Rough Meadows and throughout its range.

Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary provided a unique opportunity to study the effect of the temporary loss of salt marsh vegetation on the obligate salt marsh breeding birds, providing perhaps a hint of what might happen with rising sea levels. In 2008, the marsh was inundated for about six months during the breeding season when the inlet that connects the pond to Buzzard’s Bay closed. This prevented the pond and its adjacent marshes from draining at low tide, killing much of the native marsh grasses. In the years before the marsh vegetation died off, we had been monitoring the birds and could document how the loss of vegetation affected them. There was a precipitous decline in Saltmarsh and Seaside sparrows and Willets in the years immediately following the event even after the inlet was reopened. The good news is that after about five years, all three species and the salt marsh vegetation recovered to roughly their “pre-flood” numbers.

A. 100 m radius circles—large fields

SPECIES	#/ha
Tree Swallow	1.00
Bobolink	0.60
Red-winged Blackbird	0.57
Starling	0.21
Common Yellowthroat	0.16
American Goldfinch	0.13
Song Sparrow	0.12
Common Grackle	0.11
Eastern Bluebird	0.09
Cedar Waxwing	0.09

B. 50 m radius circles—small fields

SPECIES	#/ha
Red-winged Blackbird	0.97
Song Sparrow	0.60
American Goldfinch	0.46
Tree Swallow	0.41
Common Grackle	0.39
Common Yellowthroat	0.29
Starling	0.28
Gray Catbird	0.26
Cedar Waxwing	0.26
Bobolink	0.17

Table 6. Abundance per hectare of the 10 most abundant species from grassland habitats recorded in 100 m and 50 m radius breeding bird count circles. 1 ha= approximately 2.5 acres.

Birds of early successional habitats: Grasslands and Shrublands

An unambiguous message in Mass Audubon’s first *State of the Birds* report (Mass Audubon 2011) was that many birds of grasslands and shrublands have declined over at least the past 40 years. Mass Audubon sanctuaries contain a variety of grassland habitats that were included in our Sanctuary Inventory and Monitoring Program; 21 grassland breeding bird census circles that have radii of 100 meters are located on 7 sanctuaries and 19 circles on 11 sanctuaries have 50-meter radii. The latter represent fields that were too small to fit the larger circles. Since many studies have shown that the area of grassland is a key to its ability to support grassland bird species, we have analyzed these two groups separately (Table 6a and b). Because of the smaller

number of circles compared to forests, we have not attempted to compare grasslands of different ecoregions.

There clearly is a difference between the larger fields and the smaller fields. Most notably, Bobolinks were three times more dense and Tree Swallows twice as dense in the large fields. These species are targets of management measures, particularly in large fields. In contrast, Red-winged Blackbirds, Common Grackles, and Song Sparrows were roughly twice as dense in the small fields. These species likely benefit from the proximity of shrubland and woodlands that are characteristic of small fields.

Counting most birds in a field presents a particular challenge because they move around more than forest birds during a 10-minute counting period. Tree Swallow numbers were taken from estimates of the numbers that intersected the circle as they flew by in foraging trips during the 10-minute count period. Bobolinks, although not as frequently airborne as the swallows, moved around the circle quite a lot so observers had to use their best judgment of the number of individuals they were counting.

Neither large nor small fields contained a number of grassland species of conservation concern, i.e., Grasshopper Sparrows and Upland Sandpipers. Likely what we call a large field, such as the 250 acres at Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary, is still not large enough to support the greatest diversity of grassland birds. In addition, the vegetation on these fields, which consists primarily of tall pasture grasses, may not be optimal for species like Grasshopper Sparrows. It is surprising that our number of Savannah Sparrows, which is presumably less area-sensitive than other grassland species, was relatively low in both large and small fields.

Species	#/ha
Gray Catbird	1.44
Yellow Warbler	0.90
Song Sparrow	0.85
American Robin	0.77
Black-capped Chickadee	0.64
American Goldfinch	0.59
Common Yellowthroat	0.58
Baltimore Oriole	0.58
Eastern Towhee	0.55
Red-winged Blackbird	0.55

Table 7. The ten most abundant birds in shrubland at Mass Audubon sanctuaries.

We also had eleven circles in shrublands in seven sanctuaries (Table 7). The most common birds were Gray Catbird, Yellow Warbler, and Song Sparrow, all well-known denizens of shrubby habitats. Eastern Towhee, a SWAP species, was ninth most abundant. Sad to say, we did not record a single Brown Thrasher within any of our shrubland circles, although we did get a few in shrubland outside circles.

Species	# per ha
Red-winged Blackbird	4.11
Common Grackle	1.88
Tree Swallow	1.05
Common Yellowthroat	0.84
European Starling	0.75
Gray Catbird	0.70
Song Sparrow	0.67
Yellow Warbler	0.52
Swamp Sparrow	0.43
Baltimore Oriole	0.29

Table 8. The ten most abundant birds observed in freshwater wetlands on Mass Audubon sanctuaries during our breeding bird surveys.

Freshwater Wetlands

Our sanctuaries contain a variety of freshwater wetlands such as shrub swamps, red-maple swamps, cedar swamps, and wet meadows. We set up seventeen wetlands circles on seven sanctuaries. Pooling all the different types of wetlands together, it is clear that Red-winged Blackbirds are by far the most abundant species in our wetlands (Table 8). Grackles, Tree Swallows, and Common Yellowthroats were also common in wetlands. Of the more cryptic freshwater wetland birds, we have a number of records of Soras and one of a Common Moorhen at Ipswich River, and records of Virginia Rails at Canoe Meadows, Broad Meadow Brook, Stony Brook, and Stump Brook.

One of the limitations of our study is that the mere presence of a bird in a habitat during the breeding season does not mean it is actually breeding in that circle or in the immediate surrounding area. Thus, the common occurrence of grackles and starlings in wetlands during our breeding surveys indicates only that they were present in the area. To properly interpret this information we need to combine our observations with what we know about the life history of each species.

SWAP species in terrestrial habitats

Chimney Swift	6
Eastern Towhee	6
Wood Thrush	6
Black-and-white Warbler	5
Black-billed Cuckoo	5
Blue-winged Warbler	5
Scarlet Tanager	5

Table 9. SWAP species that occurred in the largest number of ecoregions.

As mentioned above, species that are listed on the State Wildlife Action Plan are of high conservation concern, as determined by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Wood Thrush and Scarlet Tanager were the SWAP species that occurred on the most Mass Audubon sanctuaries, each occurring in 35 of the 48 sanctuaries in this study. Eastern Towhee was recorded on about two-thirds of the sanctuaries and Black-and-white Warbler on a little over half. On the other hand, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, Purple Martin, Cerulean Warbler, and Eastern Meadowlark were recorded on only one place, each at a separate sanctuary.

Species	#ecoregions	Ecoregions present	Comments
Ruffed Grouse	2	Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills, Worcester Plateau	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	Boston Basin, Worcester Plateau	
Northern Parula	2	Boston Basin, Bristol Lowlands	
Northern Goshawk	2	Berkshires, Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills	
Northern Bob-white	2	Cape Cod and Islands, Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills	
Mourning Warbler	2	Boston Basin Bristol Lowlands	
Purple Martin	2	Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills, Bristol Lowlands	
Field Sparrow	2	Cape Cod and Islands, Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills	
Eastern Meadowlark	1	Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills	Occurred one year only at Daniel Webster
Northern Harrier	1	Bristol Lowlands	Only at Allens Pond
Cerulean Warbler	1	Berkshires	Only at High Ledges

Table 10. Rare SWAP species. Bird recorded in only one or two ecoregions during the breeding season.

From an ecoregional perspective, three SWAP species were recorded in all six ecoregions and four occurred in five of the six ecoregions (Table 9). Scarlet Tanagers occurred on all (100%) of the sanctuaries in the Berkshire, Worcester Plateau, and Bristol Lowlands sanctuaries and were well represented in the Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills (67%). The only ecoregion where this species was not recorded was Cape Cod and Islands. Wood Thrushes were well represented the Berkshires, the Southern New England Coastal Plain and Hills, and the Bristol Lowlands ecoregion but were not recorded on Cape Cod and Islands. On the other hand, three species were recorded from only one ecoregion (Table 10). Just as the presence of a bird

in a breeding bird circle does not mean it is actually breeding in the vicinity, its absence does not mean that it is not breeding somewhere on the sanctuary beyond its detectability from a circle.

Future directions

As mentioned above, one of the motivations for these surveys was to get a baseline of current conditions so that we can examine future changes. Everyone who has done bird surveys knows how variable the results can be. Birds fly, which is, of course, great for the birds but challenging for getting consistent results from year to year and even within our three June surveys each year. When we miss a Wood Thrush we heard singing a week ago, does that mean it is no longer present, has temporarily occupied a different part of its territory, or is just being quiet for the 10 minutes of our survey? We need to be able to separate the signal from the noise in order to be able to detect real change. Using a simple statistical procedure and taking into account the variability in detection from survey to survey, we determined that we would need three years of surveys to be able to detect a 75% change in the numbers of Wood Thrushes at all of our sanctuaries. It would take 10 years to detect a 30% change. For Ovenbirds at one of our sanctuaries (Ipswich River), it would take three years to detect a change of 85%, and 10 years to detect a change of 35%. In sum, a commitment to long term monitoring is needed to detect relatively subtle changes in bird populations.

Acknowledgements

The surveys would have been impossible to carry out without the strong support of many Mass Audubon staff, interns, and volunteers. About 140 observers have contributed their observations to these surveys over the past 14 years. Although too many to list individually, their contributions are acknowledged here. A special thanks goes to members of the Young Birders Club who have been instrumental in surveys carried out at Moose Hill, Allens Pond, Attleboro Springs, and Oak Knoll. Another special thanks goes to staff and volunteers who have enthusiastically made continuous, annual records since 2004. Our original goal was to sample for three consecutive years every 10 years, so these particular staff and volunteers have gone way beyond the original plan and provide us with an invaluable long term data set. 🐦

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PHOTO ESSAY

Birds of Sharon





Left: Immature Barred Owl (photograph by Liam Waters), Chipping Sparrow (photograph by Liam Waters); Right: Black-and-White Warbler (photograph by Nate Marchessault), Rusty Blackbird (photograph by Nate Marchessault).

GLEANINGS

It's Enough to Drive Them Loony

David Larson



Common Loon on nest. Photograph by Brian Henderson. (CC BY-NC 2.0).

One of the scourges of the Great North Woods is the black fly. Arriving in insatiable hordes, biting through flesh to feed on blood, female black flies torment vertebrates during their brief life span. Humans have tried repellants from smoke to chemicals, barriers from clothing to creosote and lard and, of course, avoidance. For nonhuman mammals and birds, life during the two- to three-week life span of black flies is torturous. Nesting birds are particularly vulnerable since they are unable to escape without endangering eggs or nestlings.

Piper et al., 2018, report on a long-term project about how Common Loons, *Gavia immer*, deal with black flies, in this case *Simulium annulus*, during breeding season. The authors studied loons and black flies from 1993–2017 in a 2000 km² study area in northern Wisconsin, containing 200 glacial lakes surrounded by mixed hardwood and conifer forests. Loons were captured using spotlighting at night from boats and banded with unique color bands for individual identification.

The goal of this project was to test the hypothesis that nest abandonment by loons was associated with harassment by black flies. Four predictions were that (1) nest abandonment should increase in years with high black fly abundance; (2) loons on nests should spend less time incubating due to biting flies; (3) in years of high abandonment, single chicks should predominate, due to hatching of only one of the two eggs; and (4) abnormally cool weather should exacerbate nest abandonment by extending the lives of the black flies. A further goal of this project was to look for influences of black flies on population dynamics of loons, along with other biotic and abiotic variables. Finally, the authors tested the loons' behavior after nest abandonment—did they renest in the same or a different location?

From late April through early August, breeding pairs were monitored at least weekly in each territory. Observers noted loon breeding behavior and nesting success. They also estimated numbers days with large numbers of black flies, defined as more than 10 around a loon's head or more than 50 around a nest. Nesting success (47.8% of over 2000 nests) was indicated by the presence of chicks, by many small eggshell fragments, or by largely intact shell membranes in or adjacent to the nest. Empty nests or large shell fragments with shell membranes near the nest or within five meters of the nest indicated predation (33.9%), usually by raccoons. Abandoned nests (15.2%) were indicated by one or two intact eggs that were not being incubated or defended by the territorial pair. Infertile eggs or prehatching embryo deaths (2%) were indicated by incubation for at least a week beyond normal incubation period. Flooded nests (1.1%) had eggs that were at least half submerged and not incubated or defended.

Adults that incubated eggs during black fly activity periods showed persistent head shakes and ruffled nape feathers, possibly because of inflammation due to bites. All four of the predictions noted above were supported by observational data. High counts of black flies around loons' heads and nests were strongly correlated with nest abandonment, and high numbers of flies were correlated with reduced incubation. High abandonment years also showed high single-egg clutches, and cool springs were correlated with high abandonment.

The proportion of nest abandonment varied from year to year in this study, ranging from less than 10% to 50%. In 44% of nest abandonments, the pairs attempted renesting, though overall black fly nest abandonment was negatively correlated with breeding success—an estimated 6.1% reduction of fledglings per year. In some years the effect was negligible (1.7% reduction in chicks fledged); in others it was substantial (23% fewer fledglings).

The response of loon pairs to nest failures depended on the cause of failure. Loons relocated nests greater distances after predation than after abandonment. Renests after abandonment were moved no more than after successful hatching. Pairs that nested in the same site following abandonment produced chicks in 55% of attempts. Abandonment due to flies is not likely to reoccur in a season, because of the short life span of the flies, whereas a predator is much more likely to still be active on a subsequent nesting attempt.

Though it may seem that a 6.1 % reduction in fledglings per year is a small impact on Common Loon population dynamics, it is important to note that nesting adults can suffer hundreds of black fly bites. Disease transmission from bites is a problem. *S. annulus* is a vector for the *Leucocytozoon* protozoa, and infections could reduce loon survival, producing another long-term effect on populations.

The best predictors of nest abandonment were breeding on small lakes, older females, and a long open-water fetch in relation to the prevailing winds. The authors suggest that increased abandonment on small lakes may be due to poorer food availability, leading to reduced adult health and less robust immune systems to fend off the effects of blood loss and parasitism. The increased abandonment in older females may be caused by lower tolerance of stressors due to energetic cost, disease, and discomfort. Although males and females senesce at similar rates, with adult survival decreasing steeply in their mid-20s, abandonment failure was not correlated with age of males. The effect of nest orientation regarding prevailing winds seems counterintuitive, since one might expect that more wind would be protective for the nesting birds by keeping fly numbers down. However, wind is fickle, and the flies are persistent. Ultimately, it is more likely that the long fetch means larger waves that may drown nests, causing abandonment.

Clearly, pestering black flies can have negative consequences for nesting Common Loons, not limited to painful bites and including infection, parasitism, and reduced nesting success. Fortunately, Common Loons apparently deal with only one species of short-lived black fly. Other mammals and birds in this habitat may suffer deleterious effects of multiple black fly species over longer periods of time. How other bird species adapt to dealing with these insects is a subject of ongoing investigation. Nestling mortality due to black flies has been shown in various avian species, including Peregrine Falcons, Great Horned Owls, and Red-tailed Hawks, and nest abandonment has been reported in Snowy Owls and Whooping Cranes. 🦅

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MUSINGS FROM THE BLIND BIRDER

Winter Birding

Martha Steele



The author handfeeding a Red-breasted Nuthatch. Photograph by Bob Stymeist.

I stood quietly with my hand extended on a frigid early February day at Moose Bog, near Island Pond, Vermont, waiting in anticipation. Several sunflower seeds were nestled in my bare palm. I waited until I felt a light, delicate touch of tiny feet clinging to my finger, a quick grab of a seed off my palm, a slight hesitation, and then the bird was gone. I asked Bob, who was watching from several feet away, “What was that?” “A Red-breasted Nuthatch.” Then another bird landed, this one slightly heavier and gone quickly after grabbing a seed. “And that?” “Black-capped Chickadee.” Yet another bird, this one much heavier with larger feet wrapping nearly entirely around my finger arrived and stood, getting several seeds. I ventured a guess: “Canada Jay?” Bob replied in the affirmative. For the next 10 minutes or so, I correctly identified each bird that landed on my outstretched hand. I was beaming, honing my skills at tactile bird identification.

Birding in winter in the Northeast Kingdom (NEK) of Vermont is quite challenging and you are lucky to get a day list of over 10 species. Although our morning started out well with the three species enjoying hand-held food as soon as we got out of the car, our subsequent walk along the mile-long Moose Bog trail netted only a few more individual birds and only two additional species. The day was unusually bright, as winters here tend to be quite gray with seemingly daily light snow flurries, but birds were definitely hard to come by.

As we continued our birding to other areas in the NEK that February day, I could not help but think of the stark difference between winter and spring birding: so quiet in winter, so bursting with song just two or three months later. Our winter birding strategy usually involves searching for active feeders and then regularly visiting those feeders. In addition, we find berry-filled trees, hoping for Bohemian Waxwings, Pine Grosbeaks, or other winter specialties. Dairy farms with plenty of spilled grain and manure can also be productive for Horned Larks or other birds. Freshwater lakes and ponds are long since frozen and only the hardiest of birds can survive the harsh winters.

We do not always have to stand shivering with numb fingers trying to adjust frozen binoculars to bird in winter. Feeder watching can be just as, if not more, enjoyable than venturing afield when wind chills dip below zero. In years with irruptions of northern boreal birds, our Vermont feeders can see Pine Grosbeaks, Evening Grosbeaks, Common Redpolls, and Pine Siskins all swooping in and out of view, along with our regular winter residents, such as Black-capped Chickadees, Hairy and Downy woodpeckers, Blue Jays, Mourning Doves, Purple Finches, American Goldfinches, and White-breasted and Red-breasted nuthatches.

Bob and I have had some of our most memorable birds in winter, including close and prolonged encounters with Northern Hawk Owls, Evening and Pine grosbeaks, Northern Shrike, Bohemian Waxwings, Snowy Owls, and, in one memorable winter in Montreal, Great Grey Owls. And who does not enjoy the large flocks of Snow Buntings as they swirl in tight but graceful formations across frozen fields? For several years, a well-stocked feeder by a roadside at the top edge of a gently sloping hill, with the Willoughby Gap of Lake Willoughby in the background, provided endless hours of pleasure viewing these beautiful birds from a warm car. The flock of 200-plus buntings landed at the feeders, voraciously and frenetically feeding, and then instantaneously took flight into a cloud barreling down the hill, across the fields, and back up to the feeders in a swarming mass. We could not get enough of the spectacle.

Even year-round residents can provide thrilling birding moments in the winter. An unforgettable encounter with a Barred Owl at our winter feeders in Vermont in late January 2004 is particularly etched in my memory. We arrived near dusk at our Vermont home, walked into the kitchen, looked out the window to the feeders, and were startled to see a Barred Owl calmly sitting in the open at eye level in a bare tamarack tree, only about 10 yards from the window. The feeders were busy with the usual chickadees, Blue Jays, nuthatches, and woodpeckers, but the owl, for the moment, seemed satisfied to settle in. The owl remained in this perch, occasionally

departing for short periods, for the next two days. Then, as quickly as he appeared, he disappeared. Barred Owls are frequently heard in the NEK but not frequently seen. We seemed to mutually enjoy staring at each other, and I quietly tried to convey my welcome and appreciation in my anthropomorphic way.

Still, you can walk a snowmobile trail into the deep woods in the middle of February and hear little beyond the snow crunching under your feet with each step you take. The stillness and quiet of the wintry north woods has its own allure and beauty. If you are lucky, you may hear one of my personal favorites, the deep, throaty croaking of a Common Raven cruising overhead. But if you want to see birds, trekking into the woods in winter is not likely to be very fruitful.

Just as birders look forward to the coming spring, we can also look forward to our winter visitors in every corner of our region. For example, the sea duck show off the New England coast in midwinter can be quite spectacular, especially if we are graced with King Eider. Think about the Harlequin Ducks, as well as the handsome Common Eiders, Long-tailed Ducks, and scoters. For raptor lovers, winter can also be thrilling with notable congregations of raptors, such as Rough-legged Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Bald Eagle, Snowy Owl, and Short-eared Owl, not to mention periodic irruptions of Northern Hawk, Boreal, and Great Grey owls.

As February progresses, however, signs of the coming spring are increasingly evident. We are still in winter's grip after all, "As the days begin to lengthen, the cold begins to strengthen," goes the old saying. But already some owl species, including the Great Horned Owl and the Saw-whet Owl, have been breeding, the Northern Cardinals start to ramp up their full song, and by the end of the month, we may start seeing the first American Woodcocks returning.

The ebb and flow of birds in our changing seasons is part of what makes birding so appealing. We seem to be constantly saying hello, good luck, see you later, welcome back, good-bye, or see you in Florida, Costa Rica, or Argentina. It is like a constant stream of old friends coming and going from all compass directions. Every once in a while, a special guest shows up, offering only its rare presence but receiving our full attention. It does not matter whether it is spring or winter. It may be rainy, windy, and raw, or with a sub-zero wind chill, or so hot and humid you can barely move. No matter the conditions, all year long, even on our challenging winter days, there are birds to see and savor across the varied New England landscape. Bundle up and venture out on those cold days, as your heart may well be warmed by a close encounter with one of our magnificent winter visitors. 🦉

Martha Steele, a former editor of Bird Observer, has been progressively losing vision due to retinitis pigmentosa and is legally blind. Thanks to a cochlear implant, she is now learning to identify birds from their songs and calls. Martha lives with her husband, Bob Stymeist, in Arlington. Martha can be reached at <marthajs@verizon.net>

FIELD NOTES

Leucistic Male House Sparrow

William E. Davis, Jr.



Figure 1 (left). The crown is white except for a few streaks of brown toward the rear.
Figure 2 (right). Front view of the leucistic House Sparrow. Photographs by the author.

On August 31, 2018, I noticed a male House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) at my bird feeders in East Falmouth, Massachusetts, that had an all white crown rather than the typical dark gray. This bird was part of a flock of more than a dozen House Sparrows that frequented my feeders; I saw the bird again at my feeders on September 9–16. I photographed the bird and carefully examined it through binoculars. The feathering appeared to be normal except for the crown, which was pure white with the exception of several small streaks of brown toward the back (Figures 1 and 2). The eye color was normal. The cheeks appeared to be off-white in the photographs (Figures 3 and 4) but close examination through binoculars showed them to be a silvery light gray, which is normal coloration for male House Sparrows in fall.

People might describe this House Sparrow as a “partial albino,” but the correct term is “leucino.” True albinos, in contrast to this bird, lack *all* pigmentation resulting in completely white feathers, as well as pink eyes, beaks, legs, and feet (Buckley 1982). Leucinos lack a particular pigment, such as melanin, or pigments, in the feathers but not in the soft parts and the loss of pigmentation may be complete or partial. An all white bird with a dark eye and normal bill coloration would be a leucino, not an albino. The white on the crown of this House Sparrow was symmetrical so it could be referred to as a symmetrical partial non-melanin leucino.

Leucism, although rare in birds, is much more common than albinism and is found in a broad spectrum of bird families and species. For example, a review of the Australian literature by Lepschi (1990) found albino or leucistic birds reported in 95 species of 45 families. Ross (1963) found nearly 500 “albino” bird specimens in U.S. museums and literature (albino here included leucistic birds because you can’t check eye color in museum specimens and the terms albino and leucino are frequently confused in the literature). I have previously reported on leucism in an

American Goldfinch (1990), Northern Mockingbird (1995), Australian Magpie (Davis and Recher 1996), and Boat-tailed Grackle (2015). Although true albino birds are at a disadvantage because the lack of pigment deleteriously affects their eyesight, leucino birds appear capable of leading somewhat normal lives: the mockingbird mentioned above attracted a mate and raised a brood of four, the magpie had been seen in the same field for more than a year, and the Boat-tailed Grackle had been observed in the same location for several years. I have closely observed the leucino House Sparrow and found that its behavior and interactions within the flock appear normal.

I checked the internet for references and pictures of albino and leucino House Sparrows and found more than a dozen examples of leucism, including birds with all white feathers but dark eyes, a bird with mostly white primaries, and birds with a patchy distribution of white. Only two photographs were of albinos, although several of the leucistic birds were referred to as albinos. Interestingly, I found one reference and photograph by Lillian Stokes in which a female House Sparrow in Georgia had a white crown and was otherwise normally plumaged, apparently the female counterpart of my male bird (stokesbirdingblog.blogspot.com/2010/10/white-headed-junco-speckled-robin-what.html). 🐦

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Heart, Lefty, and Popsicle: A winter with three identifiable Dark-eyed Juncos

Jeffrey Boone Miller

I find it immensely cheering that Dark-eyed Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) choose to spend the winter with us in Massachusetts. Knowing that these birds feel at home in our long, cold, icy winters improves my own outlook. During the winter of 2017-2018, the flocks of juncos that visited our feeder were of more than the usual interest, because I was able to identify and repeatedly observe three individuals.

By mid-December of 2017, I had noticed three juncos that were identifiable as individuals among the otherwise indistinguishable juncos at our sunflower seed feeder in suburban Belmont, Massachusetts. Each of these three had a distinctive pattern of white feathering (Figure 1). One bird was a male with a symmetrical white spot on his breast that earned him the name "Heart." The second bird, dubbed "Lefty," was a male



Figure 1. Dark-eyed Juncos dubbed Heart (left), Lefty (center), and Popsicle (right) based on their distinctive patterns of white feathering. Photographed by the author on January 20, 2018.



Figure 2. Return of the juncos? Left: Junco with a white breast spot, perhaps Heart, seen on November 16, 2018. Center: Junco confidently identified as Lefty based on the single distinctive white feather on its left wing, also on November 16, 2018. Right: Junco likely to be Popsicle on November 28, 2018. Photographed by the author.

with a single white feather on his left wing. The third bird appeared to be a female and had a white outer tail feather on her left side that remained visible even when the tail was folded. This feather reminded me of a popsicle stick, hence she became “Popsicle.”

The birds had different styles of feeding. Heart and Lefty, the two males, usually took seeds directly from the feeder perch, but Popsicle only fed on seeds that had fallen or been scattered on the ground under the feeder. During the winter season, juncos develop dominance hierarchies that can affect access of smaller, less dominant birds to food sources (Nolan et al., 2002). At the feeder’s perches, juncos regularly faced off with other juncos and tangled with sparrows, finches, and even cardinals and jays. Perhaps Popsicle fed on the ground because it was a less competitive feeding site.

By following an individual, I could estimate how much a bird was eating. For example, I once saw Lefty select, shell, and consume seven sunflower seeds in 20 minutes. Raw sunflower seeds provide about six calories per gram (U.S. Department of Agriculture 2018) and each gram consists of 14 or 15 shelled seeds (Statcrunch 2018). So, in those 20 minutes, Lefty ate about half a gram of seeds with three calories. In one study of juncos kept in a laboratory, each 18-gram bird consumed about 15 calories

per day (Parrish and Martin 1977). At the feeding rate I observed, Lefty could eat 15 calories—2.5 grams—worth of sunflower seeds in less than two hours. However, free-ranging birds in cold temperatures no doubt require much more food than the laboratory birds did and so would need to spend additional time foraging. It would be interesting to know if “my” juncos also visited the other feeders in my neighborhood as part of their daily foraging.

By observing the comings and goings of the three individuals, I could also estimate the number of different flocks and total number of juncos that used the feeder. I sometimes saw lone juncos at the feeder, but the usual pattern was for four to eight birds to arrive at the same time. For Heart, Lefty, and Popsicle, usually just one of the three was present, less often two, and seldom all three—a pattern that suggests they were members of three distinct flocks. At least one additional flock, which did not include one of the identifiable birds, also visited. In total, therefore, the feeder attracted perhaps 25 or 30 different juncos that were members of at least four flocks. I was happy that all three identifiable birds survived the winter. Though this number is too small to estimate mortality rates with any confidence, at least none of these three were taken by the Cooper’s Hawk that sometimes frequented our yard.

As it turned out, the departure of the juncos for the summer did not represent the end to my observations of these birds.

On November 16, 2018, not long after I started writing this essay and ten days after I first filled our feeder for the new season, I was astonished to see two juncos that looked like they might be Heart and Lefty (Figure 2, left and center). Then, to complete the scene, a bird arrived on November 28, 2018, that was almost certainly Popsicle, as it had Popsicle’s distinctive white tail feather and habit of feeding only on the ground (Figure 2, right panel).

Because the birds were not permanently banded, I cannot be absolutely certain that the same individuals returned to our feeder. However, such a return would not be surprising, because juncos often use the same wintering site year after year (Ketterson and Nolan 1982). In addition, it appears that the birds retained their distinctive feather patterns through the annual molt cycle (Nolan et al., 2002). I would have expected that particularly the asymmetric marks of Lefty and Popsicle might have been due to injuries and so might have been repaired during molting.

It looks as if the winter of 2018–19 will provide new opportunities for getting to know individual juncos. I still have questions. 🐦

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Painted Redstart on Cuttyhunk Island, October 14, 2018 Second Massachusetts State Record

Mike Sylvia



Painted Redstart. Photograph by the author.

Fall is one of my favorite times to get out in the field and look for birds. The change of seasons brings new weather patterns and large numbers of migrating birds. Here in Southeastern Massachusetts where I live, wind direction and geography influence which direction migrants may come from and which species may appear. Nor'easters may bring Eurasian species, southwesterlies may carry reverse migrants, and northwesterlies may bring species that only infrequently show up in the fall.

The geography of Cape Cod Bay, Buzzards Bay, Cape Cod, and the Outer Islands all influence what these birds do when they come our way. If the birds are driven to the coast or out onto any of the islands in the south, they often move to points of land as they try to get back to the mainland. It is these points and small islands that I like to explore. The smaller the funnel, the more likely I'll see a good number of birds and possibly something uncommon or rare. I also enjoy the large-scale sight of common birds moving en masse.

Island birding in the fall has been a part of my life for many years. I guess it all started when I was asked to lead a group birding trip to Block Island off the coast of Rhode Island. The island is a perfectly shaped funnel pointing north to the mainland. Being there in the morning can be enjoyable because many migrants move north, reach the shore, and forage or move about before taking off. After that first weekend trip I was hooked and made many additional trips to Block Island and to other islands that were accessible by kayak or ferry. My prospects improved when I was able to buy a boat. Finally, I could set my own schedule, destinations, and timing, which allowed for a better experience and chances.

Cuttyhunk Island is the outermost island in the Elizabeth Island chain that extends southwest from Woods Hole in Falmouth, Massachusetts. I have visited the island many times over the years by kayak and ferry. I had already been out to the island a dozen times in 2018, and found the right weather to go again on the morning of October 14, 2018. After a spectacular sunrise, clouds moved in during the crossing. From the dock I made my way to the town center gift shop at the Four Corners intersection and started working the nearby bushes, which are often productive. I soon located a small mixed flock of White-crowned, Clay-colored, Chipping, and Song sparrows feeding on the ground. There were also two Dickcissels with them. Nice start.

I started taking pictures and hoped to get shots of the Clay-colored Sparrows. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker flew into a bayberry bush next to them. Almost at the same time, another bird flew out of the bush and landed in a tree across the street. The bird's small size and flitting flight made me think warbler, so I took a quick look.

The bird was perched on a horizontal branch in a tall tree in plain sight about 30 feet away. The bird's black head, back, and tail—along with an obvious bright, crimson red belly—told me I had something rare. The bird was fanning its tail and quickly turning left and right on the branch. I noticed prominent white outer-tail rectrices. The bird then flew a short distance toward me to a lower branch. I noticed two very large white wing bars on the black upper wing coverts when it was in flight. No other small birds in the East, and certainly no warblers, have a red chest and belly. Black, red, white, I know this bird but it shouldn't be here. *OMG!!! RARE BIRD* flashed in my brain. Next was: *Get a picture, any picture!* Fortunately I had been shooting before the bird showed up so my camera settings were good for the conditions. Camera up! *Please don't fly away* was repeated in my panicked mind. Plus my heart was seriously racing.

After getting some good shots, I wanted to send a text to a birding group that I knew was on the way to Cuttyhunk. The problem was that I could not think of the name of the bird. I knew it was a redstart, but both European and Central American species

names were all blurring together. *I know this bird. Why can't I remember its name?* Google to the rescue. Yes, I had to Google "AZ warblers" to remember. Embarrassed and feeling as if I were having a mini heart attack, I wanted to send the right name in the text. *Don't mess this up. Of course, Painted Redstart!* Now that I knew the name of the bird, the group and I completed a series of texts. I hoped the bird would stick around.

Luckily, I got a dozen documentation photos mixed in with some that were totally blurred. Considering the light and wind conditions, I feel fortunate that the bird didn't fly through the trees and quickly disappear. I followed the bird in the hope that the group would arrive soon, but the bird flew away. I decided to wait for the group and then chase the bird. I directed them to the area and direction where the bird had flown. I kept looking. The eighteen members of the group had keen ears and skills, but even with all that talent, we could not relocate the bird. I then decided to look in some other areas that often harbor birds and searched with no luck.

Everyone was running around searching for the bird. I returned to where I first spotted it. When I arrived, two birders from the group —Sean Williams and Maili Waters—were coming up the road and looking for search tips. After looking where I had seen the bird fly earlier, they went off. I decided to look into a dense hedgerow behind a nearby cottage. As I stuck my head slowly around the corner, I saw a bird that I thought was an adult male American Redstart. I was immediately corrected when it turned. The Painted Redstart was only six to eight feet away. I backed out and called to Sean and Maili, "I have it!" We all moved quickly to the corner and the bird was still there. I took a quick look then moved back to the road. At 8:34 am I texted the group, "Got it back where we started near the flag." 8:40: "Are you still on it." 8:40: "Yes."

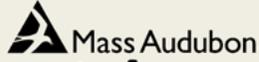
The bird was located in a tight spot and I knew we could never get the whole group in there. Knowing the area and the homeowners on the other side of the hedge, I thought that would be the best place for everyone to go: open yard, good views of the whole area, and everyone could have space. Three American Redstarts were in the same bushes moving around actively. At any moment I expected the Painted Redstart to fly into the open and be seen by all, but it didn't.

The bird was making call notes that some people heard. Sean, who had remained on the other side of the hedgerow, told the group that the bird was moving down the hill near the ground. He had it for only a few minutes before it disappeared. The Painted Redstart was never seen again.

I went back to Cuttyhunk Island four times since that day to continue my fall observations. There were many good birds and migration scenes, but no Painted Redstart. When I searched the hedgerow again each trip, I realized how lucky I was to have been there at the right time. One minute would have made the difference. 🐦



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How to be an Urban Birder. David Lindo. 2018. Princeton, New Jersey. Princeton University Press.

“Urban birding is cool. Birding is cool. Birds are cool and you are cool to watch them.” (p. 15)

Birders pine for far away locations. They dream of visiting remote forests, jungles, islands, and mountain ranges where they can rack up a long list of odd and colorful “lifers.” Few birders achieve this dream, and far fewer get to visit these last wild places often. Most of us must be content to bird our local patch of woods, some nearby stretch of coast, or make a long haul every once in a while to tick some vagrant. The majority of us live in or near a city, which seems to be the worst possible place to bird: too many people, too many cars, too many buildings, and not enough bird habitat. But in most cities there have been a few birders who have embraced the urban habitat and even celebrated local urban birding.

In recent Massachusetts’ birding history, people like Bob Stymeist, Soheil Zende, and a number of others have celebrated urban birding by leading trips to key birding hot spots in the Greater Boston and Cambridge area. These include well-known birding destinations like Belle Isle Marsh, the Boston Nature Center, Millennium Park, and of course Mount Auburn Cemetery. Boston is an easy city in which to embrace urban birding. Boston has a number of historical parks, a large coastline full of bays and inlets, and a great mass transportation system that encourages the Boston birder to leave the car at home.

Providence, Rhode Island, also has some very nice birding spots. These include the Seekonk River where, fall through spring, a variety of waterfowl can be found. Swan Point Cemetery, on the Seekonk, is still a premier spot in spring for urban birders to look for migrant passerines.

Not all New England cities are as obviously attractive to birders as Boston or Providence. Take Worcester, where I live. It is landlocked, and winters can be downright brutal here. Worcester is in the snow belt of Massachusetts and often racks up the highest snow totals of southern New England year after year. That makes winter birding here a real challenge. Yet Worcester boasts a number of large ponds and lakes which are attractive to waterfowl. There are also a number of interesting parks and cemeteries which yearly feature a variety of spring migrants. These are very good for spending some quality birding time before work in May. Worcester’s premier birding spot is Broad Meadow Brook, a Mass Audubon wildlife sanctuary with miles of trails and a decent chunk of forest, marsh, and stream habitat. So, even Worcester has some great urban birding possibilities. Over the years I have managed to see 250 species within the city limits of Worcester.

David Lindo is a natural historian, writer, broadcaster, photographer, educator, and tour leader. But Lindo is best known the world over as “The Urban Birder.” His website has the same title. He has birded in cities around the world and has written a number of articles and books on urban birding, such as *Tales from Concrete Jungles: Urban Birding Around the World*. He is a champion for birding your city often. His enthusiasm for urban natural history is infectious. Lindo knows that “birds are everywhere” (p. 9), so his mantra is “Look up!” *How to Be an Urban Birder* is his latest book, and I think it’s his best.

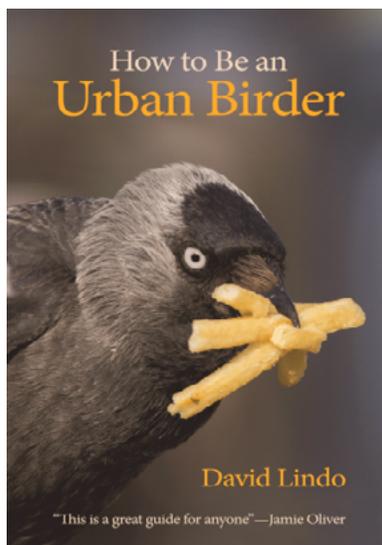
London is Lindo’s home, specifically Notting Hill.

A fabled district of west London beloved by the ladies that lunch and the Versace pram-pushing yummy-mummy set, shrine to the worshippers of “Notting Hill” the film and the general home to cool meedja luvvies. (p. 7)

It is here that Lindo honed his passion for urban birds. By just looking around and particularly up, and visiting different habitats around London, Lindo began to see birds in many places you would not expect them. There are, of course, the ubiquitous urban birds. In London these are the House Sparrow, the Feral Pigeon, and quite unexpected to us in the United States, the Ring-necked Parakeet. Lindo writes about the odd decline in Britain of the House Sparrow, perhaps a preview of what may happen here. Theories abound as to the cause of the decline, but it may simply be that people are now building houses and buildings that are more resistant to their nesting. As to the parakeets, of course they are introduced, but there are several urban legends as to how they came to London. One of these involves Jimi Hendrix. I will leave it to readers of the book to discover this hoary legend.

How to Be an Urban Birder is basically a book about how to become a good birder, something that has been covered before by other authors, though perhaps not as well. The difference is that Lindo writes about these basics entirely through the lens of an urban birding experience. This makes this book a unique and an interesting read for birders of all skill levels. As with most beginning birding books, there are solid, helpful chapters on keeping field notes, what to do with your records, optics, field guides, birding attire, and apps. Lindo’s section on making your yard appeal to birds does not assume you have a large suburban space for a garden. In *How to Be an Urban Birder*, you may only have room for a window box. For Lindo, the urban birder does what he or she can in the spaces that are available to improve the environment for birds.

There is fabulous wildlife all around us and we need to encourage and conserve it in the places where it exists. Whether this be nurturing invertebrates within a tiny window box on the fifth floor of a block of flats,



promoting small wild areas in our gardens, creating areas specifically for wildlife in our local parks, watching over a forgotten wild corner of our local neighborhood or starting a green roof project. (p. 9)

How to Be an Urban Birder has a long section on the various urban habitats and the birds that these spaces attract. Lindo urges the reader to start “thinking along the lines of how a bird might see a city environment” (p. 20-21). Certain urban birding habitats will be familiar to birders in the United States, especially in the Northeast. These include cemeteries, ponds and reservoirs, rivers, parks, and small woodlots. Private gardens have a long history in Britain. A recent study estimated that 87% of the households in Britain have some kind of garden, even if it is just a few potted plants on a balcony. But when added together that is more than 1,670 square miles of gardens (p. 25). Soccer pitches are a good place in London to look for wheatears or an odd wagtail in migration. Here in Massachusetts, I have found flocks of Killdeer, Ring-billed Gulls, and geese on these well manicured spaces. Lindo writes about sewage farms and landfills as magnets for species like gulls. Here in Massachusetts, old-style sewage farms are now almost extinct, but they do have a long history for attracting unusual species, particularly shorebirds. Almost all Worcester County records of Western Sandpiper are from the now-defunct Worcester sewer beds. Most inland landfills are now capped, but unless they are then topped with a solar panel field, they can attract grassland birds, including Grasshopper Sparrows.

Canals are common in England, and these often-abused waterways are magnets for birds. Canals are much less common here in New England, but it is interesting to note that the old Blackstone Canal that runs from Providence, Rhode Island, to Worcester, Massachusetts, has been turned into a national park accompanied by trails and a bikeway. These new parks are now outstanding places to bird at any time of the year. Some of the great parks in London fell into horrible neglect during the Thatcher years. Now, as Lindo describes them, many are being rehabilitated and are great and safer places to bird.

One of Lindo’s prime urban habitats to bird is simply “the sky.” Many birds fly over cities and are easy to pick up if you just look up. Some British birders have taken this a step further by doing what is called “vis migging” from atop certain high city buildings.

Visible migration watching, or ‘vis migging’ as it is often referred to by keen birders, has become a very popular pastime. It is usually conducted by standing at a vantage point like a coastal headland or on top of high ground, in the path of a well-known migration route. Observers arrive pre-dawn and if the weather is favorable, could be treated to a continual stream of birds passing overhead. (p. 96)

Many of us do vis-migging along the coast or inland during hawk migration. But how many of us have attempted urban migration watching? Successful vis-migging from atop city buildings is best during peak migration periods and under certain weather conditions described in this book. In a recent interview with Lindo, he described vis-migging from a building top as being like sea watching. Birds will

suddenly appear and then disappear, and there can be long stretches with no visible birds. Urban vis-migging for hawks has become popular in places such as Mexico, and most recently Ukraine. On October 10, 1999, I had a fantastic hour of urban vis-migging when I stood at an overlook of downtown Worcester at dawn and, with a front approaching, had many hundreds of robins, Purple Finches, Pine Siskins, and Yellow-rumped Warblers whiz by at eye level, many flying down into the city.

How to Be an Urban Birder has a long illustrated list of common urban birds of Britain (p.100-127). These include Tufted Duck, Great Crested Grebe, (Eurasian) Kestrel, and Tawny Owl. If you only have a few hours to bird in London, as long as you know where to go, you could rack up a nice species list. Some cities have more unique birding possibilities:

Perhaps the most famous inner city riverine birding experience in Britain has got to be the breeding Kittiwakes on the Tyne Bridge in the middle of Newcastle. (p. 34-35)

How to Be an Urban Birder is a beautifully designed book. It is profusely illustrated with color photographs, some by the author, that celebrate birds in a city environment. A photograph of a (Eurasian) Kingfisher perched on a small sign post in front of a crowd at a bus stop, or a coot nesting on floating trash, or a Grey Heron in front of a loading dock perfectly capture the spirit of this book. There are also some great shots of the author urban birding. These photographs are augmented by color illustrations by Steph Thorpe. Even the cover photograph of a Jackdaw with a mouthful of fries is perfect. I hope future projects for Lindo include fine-tuning urban birding guides for other cities on other continents.

Through books like *How to Be an Urban Birder*, David Lindo has become an important voice for urban natural history education for everyone.

Birding should be about sharing knowledge and enthusing others and not about having the best bird lists or indulging in constant one-upsmanship. (p. 10)

As Jamie Oliver, host of the legendary British cooking show *The Naked Chef*, long-time advocate for teaching school children how to eat more healthfully, and author of the foreword to *How to Be an Urban Birder* wrote:

I love David's passion, and his belief that anyone should be able to love and appreciate nature and the serenity that surrounds birds and their habitats. (p. 5) 

REFERENCES

Lindo, David. 2015. *Tales from Concrete Jungles: Urban Birding Around the World*. London, United Kingdom: Bloomsbury Natural History.

To access my interview with David Lindo via the WICN "on demand" part of their website, go to: <<https://www.wicn.org/podcasts/audio/david-lindo-how-be-urban-birder>>

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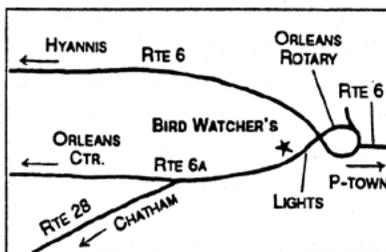
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BIRD SIGHTINGS

September–October 2018

Neil Hayward and Robert H. Stymeist

September and October 2018 will be remembered for the rain. And although it seemed like it was always raining, that didn't dampen the spirits of birders eager to enjoy the excitement of fall migration.

September temperatures in Boston averaged 69 degrees, four degrees above normal, with a high of 97 degrees on September 6. A total of 5.12 inches of rain was recorded in Boston during the month, nearly two inches above average, and areas to the west received even more. The remnants of Hurricane Florence arrived on September 14, bringing two inches of rain to Boston. Winds of up to 70 mph were recorded on the North Shore and microbursts caused roads to flood in a number of communities. Heavy rain, especially in central and western Massachusetts, fell again on September 25; Pittsfield recorded 4.2 inches, Orange nearly 3 inches, and Worcester 1.8 inches.

October was cooler, with temperatures in Boston averaging 54 degrees, which is normal for the month. The high was 86 degrees on October 10 and the low was 34 degrees. Rainfall in Boston totaled 3.78 inches with the highest 24-hour total of 2.22 inches falling on October 27–28. Powerful thunderstorms, delivering pea-size hail and high winds, downed trees and knocked out power to thousands just before the start of Game 1 of the World Series. Two funnel clouds (cone- or needle-like protuberances dropping from the main cloud base) were reported over the water in Sandwich.

R. Stymeist

GEESE THROUGH IBISES

A **Ross's Goose**, photographed in Salem on September 22, is the earliest winter record by three weeks, and the only September record for the state. This Arctic-nesting goose was first added to the state list in 1997 and has been annual since 2008. The increase in local observations reflects a shift eastward in their breeding range coupled with a major population increase (from about 100,000 birds in the mid-1960s to about 3 million today). Other goose highlights during the period included four records of **Cackling Goose** (about typical for the period) and a **Greater White-fronted Goose** in Hampden. Inland records of Brant are uncommon and a count of 65 at Quabbin Park on October 21 is notable.

An early female **King Eider** was photographed migrating with Common Eiders past Andrews Point, Rockport, on September 25. A limping Harlequin Duck at Plymouth on September 1 is the earliest returning winter record for Plymouth County. Redheads were noted in three counties, with the first October record for Berkshire since 2014. Wood Ducks are common breeders in Massachusetts; the Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas 2 counted them in 70 percent of blocks in 2007–2011. In the fall their numbers are boosted by migrants, although a count of 390 at Burrage Pond on October 24 represents an exceptionally large flock. Scoters are also on the move in October, when they are typically reported from inland locations. This year the numbers reflected the usual species abundance; Black Scoter is the most common inland, Surf Scoter the least common.

Yellow-billed Cuckoos made the birding headlines this fall. With the exception of October 3–4, birds were reported every day throughout October. (Last year the species had departed the

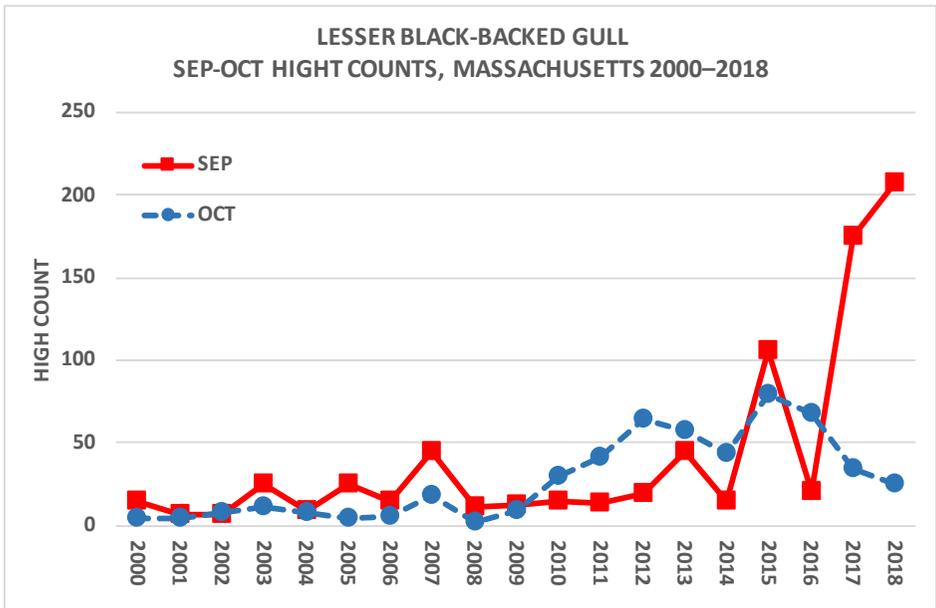


Figure 1. Fall high counts of Lesser Black-backed Gulls in Massachusetts, 2000–2018. Data from eBird.org.

state by October 8.) Franklin and Hampshire Counties scored their first October records since 2011, and Worcester its first since 2010. Some of these cuckoos are local breeders, no doubt reflecting a good cuckoo year; the later ones are reverse migrants from the south. Chimney Swifts are on the same migratory schedule and are similarly uncommon after the first week of October. This year birds were recorded right up to the end of the month, a phenomenon last seen in 2005. Like the cuckoos, the swifts fell foul to periods of sustained southerly winds causing reverse migration, with southerly birds flying back north. Strong winds in the last few days of the month may also have delivered an unidentified *Selasphorus* species of hummingbird (Rufous or Allen’s) to a feeder in Brewster.

At Fairhaven this summer an apparent female **King Rail** was observed copulating with a male Clapper Rail. In September, young rails were spotted being escorted by the King Rail. While it’s possible the “King Rail” may have been an exceptionally bright Clapper, hybridizations between these two taxa are not uncommon, occurring in areas of intermediate salinity or where fresh water and salt water are in close proximity (Maley and Brumfield, 2013). **Common Gallinules** were reported from five counties this period, which is the second largest geographic distribution for the fall this century.

The shorebird highlight of the period was a **Common Ringed Plover** at South Beach, Chatham on September 2. This would represent the sixth record for the state, hot on the heels of the previous month’s fifth record—also an adult male and also in Chatham (Monomoy). A **Black-necked Stilt** was also on Cape Cod, at Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, on September 1. Piping Plovers were late to leave the state; a bird at Duxbury Beach on October 28 is the latest departure since 2011. And Purple Sandpipers were similarly late in their return to the state; the first report came from Plum Island on October 28, the latest winter arrival since 2007.

October was a very good month for alcids with multiple reports of Dovekie, Common Murre, and Razorbill. The three reports of Common Murre are the first October sightings since

2012, and a bird reported from Plum Island on October 11 would be the earliest recent winter record for the state, but for last year's September 23 sighting at Race Point. A report of 242 Razorbills at Andrews Point, Rockport, on October 27 beat the previous October record of 172 at the same location that was set a decade earlier. Single **Atlantic Puffins** were reported from Rockport in September and from Plum Island in October.

The larid highlight of the period was a new record count: 207. This was the number of Lesser Black-backed Gulls logged at Monomoy on September 17 and beats the previous high count of 190 birds set on Nantucket on January 1, 2010. Lesser Black-backs were once a rare vagrant to North America; the first record was from New Jersey in 1934. The recent and dramatic increase in local numbers (see Figure 1) is a result of a range expansion with breeding populations now established in Iceland (from the 1920s) and Greenland (from 1990). Apart from a handful of hybrid pairings with Herring Gulls, the species has yet to be documented breeding in North America. A juvenile **Black-headed Gull** at Winthrop was the first Suffolk County record since 2006. An adult **Sabine's Gull** at Race Point, Provincetown, is about average for the season.

Pacific Loon breeds in Alaska and Northwest Canada, with nests as close to Massachusetts as Hudson Bay. Despite a nontrivial separation from our more regularly seen loons, Pacific Loon is now found annually on our winter shores. The species has been reported every month of the year except for August. This year's early record of September 30, from Provincetown, is only the second record for September. A bird present in Wareham for two days in October is a first record for Buzzard's Bay.

An adult **Brown Booby** at Rockport on September 2 is the first record for Essex County. This has been a remarkable year for the species, with six records from five counties, including a well-chased bird inland in Berkshire County in August. Before this year, there were only about a dozen reports for the state. The increase in Brown Booby sightings in Massachusetts is part of a larger phenomenon in which this tropical sulid seems to be wandering farther north up the Atlantic Coast—as far as the north coast of Newfoundland (2012 and 2018) and inland to Lake Erie (2013).

Glossy Ibises first started breeding in the state in 1974. Since then, the population has increased, primarily in coastal Essex County. Inland sightings, however, remain rare. A single bird at Sheffield on October 6 represents the only October record for Berkshire County, whose previous late record was September 9.

N. Hayward

Snow Goose				Mute Swan			
10/12	Deerfield	3	L. Moser	9/21	Westport	93	E. Lipton
10/14	Longmeadow	1	M. Moore	10/22	Westboro	23	M. Lynch#
10/20-26	N. Adams	1	M. Morales + v.o.		Wood Duck		
10/22	Ipswich	1	R. Heil	9/12	Cheshire	123	J. Pierce
Ross's Goose				9/13	Paxton	62	R. Jenkins
9/22	Salem	1 ph	S. Hedman	10/19	Natick	78	N. Jacob
10/13	Sheffield	1	J. Pierce, G. Ward	10/24	Burrage Pd WMA	390	M. Iliff
Greater White-fronted Goose					Blue-winged Teal		
10/20-23	Hampden	1 ph	A. Downey + v.o.	9/2, 9/9	S. Monomoy	16,45	S. Williams, L. Waters
Brant				9/3	PI	8	J. Keeley#
10/6, 10/21	Quabbin Pk	1,65	S. Turner, L. Therrien + v.o.	9/10	Randolph	10	D. Burton
10/6	Nahant	57	L. Pivacek	10/7	Warren	3	M. Lynch#
10/21	Burrage Pd WMA	55	M. Iliff	10/19	Burrage Pd WMA	1	J. Sweeney
10/22	Kingston	149	A. Kneidel		Northern Shoveler		
Cackling Goose				9/2, 10/26	S. Monomoy	9,22	S. Williams#, F. Touseley#
9/29-10/31	Whately	2 ph	D. Schell + v.o.	9/28	N. Adams	2 ph	C. Johnson, C. Jones
10/2-10/14	Turners Falls	1 ph	J. Smith + v.o.	9/30, 10/19	PI	5,22	N. Dubrow
10/20	N. Adams	1 ph	M. Morales + v.o.		Gadwall		
10/25	Somerset	1 ph	J. Eckerson#	9/9	S. Monomoy	72	L. Waters#

Gadwall (continued)				9/24	Manomet	1949		I. Davies
9/27	Fairhaven	63	L. Waters	9/25	Rockport (AP)	637		R. Heil
10/14	Quabog IBA	5 m	M. Lynch#	10/5	Quabbin	10		M. Lynch#
10/23	PI	48	R. Heil	10/8	Hinsdale	11		J. Pierce
Eurasian Wigeon				10/21	Brookfield	1		R. Jenkins#
9/21	Westport	2 m ph	E. Lipton	Black Scoter				
9/27,10/30-31	Fairhaven	1 m ph	L.Waters,Zimmerlin	9/24	Manomet	713		I. Davies
10/19-30	PI	1 m ph	T.Wetmore + v.o.	9/25	Rockport (AP)	446		R. Heil
American Wigeon				10/3	PI	250		R. Heil
10/1-10/31	Longmeadow	5 max ph	M.Moore+v.o.	10/21	Quabog IBA	24		M. Lynch#
10/19	PI	48	D. Prima	10/21	Ludlow	14		J. Young
10/26	Ipswich	70	N. Dubrow	10/21	Quabbin Pk	8		L. Therrien
10/26	S. Monomoy	17	F. Tousley#	10/21	Pittsfield (Pont.)	4		K. Hanson
American Black Duck				10/26	Cambr. (FP)	30		B. Miller
9/2	S. Monomoy	117	S. Williams#	Long-tailed Duck				
10/3	PI	410	R. Heil	9/1	Scituate	1		L. Schibley
10/21	Quabog IBA	21	M. Lynch#	10/18	Ware	9	N. Dowling, L. Therrien	
Northern Pintail				10/23	PI	33		R. Heil
9/2	S. Monomoy	13	S. Williams#	10/26	Wachusett Res.	40		E. Kittredge
9/17	Westminster	4	D. Ammerman	10/27	Rockport (AP)	810		R. Heil
10/14	Lexington	5	K. Dia	10/28	Eastham (FE)	560		J. Trimble#
10/16	Westport	17	M. Iliiff	Bufflehead				
10/23	PI	120	T. Wetmore	9/5, 10/19	PI	2,20	W. Tatro, T. Wetmore	
Green-winged Teal				10/21	Quabog IBA	18		M. Lynch#
9/9	S. Monomoy	24	L. Waters#	10/21-30	Ludlow	16	max L.Richardson+v.o.	
9/22	Randolph	15	G. d'Entremont#	10/23	Plymouth B.	175		L. Schibley
10/14	Pembroke	60	ABC (E. LeBlanc)	10/28	Squantum	141		SSBC (J. Boek)
10/20	PI	500	J. Keeley#	10/28	Winthrop	100		C. Jones#
Canvasback				Common Goldeneye				
10/16-28	Westport	2	M. Iliiff + v.o.	10/20	Hinsdale	2	1pr	M. Lynch#
Redhead				10/20	Lincoln	2		D. + T. Swain
10/18-19	Pittsfield	3	J. Pierce,R. Wendell+v.o.	10/22	Randolph	6		D. Burton
10/21	Nantucket	1	B. Balkind	10/22	Boston	2		P. Gilmore
10/30-31	Marstons Mills	1	P. Crosson#	10/23	Southboro	5		B. Abbott
Ring-necked Duck				Hooded Merganser				
9/9	S. Monomoy	9	L. Waters#	10/22	Ipswich	21		R. Heil
10/19	Randolph	41	J. Carlisle	10/28	Ware	24		D. Griffiths
10/26	Cambr. (FP)	145	B. Miller	10/30	Pembroke	53		J. Sweeney
10/26	Southboro	132	C. McPherson	10/31	Quabog IBA	91		M. Lynch#
10/30	Burrage Pd WMA106		J. Sweeney	10/31	Woburn (HP)	25		A. McDermott
Greater Scaup				Common Merganser				
9/15	Randolph	1	E. Nielsen	9/1	Tolland	7		M. Lynch#
9/24	Manomet	3	I. Davies	10/20	South Hadley	54	max	L. Therrien
10/1	Waltham	5	C. Cook	10/26	Worcester	65		J. Shea
10/28	Westport	42	B. King#	10/29	Quabbin Pk	22		S. Surner
10/30	Wachusett Res.	33	M. Lynch#	10/31	Quabog IBA	158		M. Lynch#
Lesser Scaup				Red-breasted Merganser				
9/9	S. Monomoy	2	L. Waters#	10/16	Turners Falls	10		A. Hulsey
10/19	Pembroke	17	S. Avery#	Ruddy Duck				
10/24	Sharon	14	W. Sweet	9/2, 10/26	S. Monomoy	3,95		S. Williams#, F. Tousley#
10/26	Westport	8	M. Eckerson#	10/18-29	Richmond	29		max K.Hanson +v.o.
King Eider				10/19	Chestnut Hill	86		R. Doherty
9/25	Rockport (AP)	1 f ph	R. Heil	10/19	Pembroke	50		S. Avery#
Common Eider				10/25	Holland	58		M. Lynch#
9/30	Jeffreys L.	10	J. Berry#	10/26	Southboro	52		C. McPherson
10/27	Rockport (AP)	1100	R. Heil	10/28	PI	18		N. Landry
10/28	Eastham (FE)	1650	J. Trimble#	Northern Bobwhite				
Harlequin Duck				9/11	Cumb. Farms	2		D. Furbish
9/1	Plymouth	1	L. Schibley	9/23-10/28	Eastham (FH)	12		J. Rieger
10/4	Nomans Land	3	K. Rogers	9/30	Truro	6		L. Waters#
10/8	Cohasset	2	D. Burton	Ring-necked Pheasant				
10/21	Cuttyhunk I.	1	M. Sylvia#	9/25	Hadley	5		M. Locher
10/26	Westport	2	M. Iliiff	10/19	Bolton Flats	1		P. Sowizral
10/27	Rockport (AP)	35	N. Dubrow	Ruffed Grouse				
10/28	Dennis	1 f	B.Nikula	9/30	Petersham	3		W. Howes
10/31	P'town (RP)	1 m	B.Nikula	10/7	Quabbin (G5)	1		M. Locher
Surf Scoter				Wild Turkey				
9/24	Manomet	299	I. Davies	9/1	Tolland	33	27ad+6yg	M. Lynch#
9/25	Rockport (AP)	161	R. Heil	10/20	Auburn	46		D. Schell
10/16	Ware	2	S. Surner	10/28	P'town	40		S. Williams#
10/21	Quabog IBA	1 f	M. Lynch#	10/29	Ipswich	28		J. Berry
White-winged Scoter				Pied-billed Grebe				
9/7	Cohasset	7	M. Iliiff	9/2	S. Monomoy	2		S. Williams#

Pied-billed Grebe (continued)									
9/21	Westport	2		E. Lipton	10/7	Warren	6		M. Lynch#
10/20	Wakefield	4		P. + F. Vale	10/30	Easthampton	3		D. McLain
10/21-30	Burrage Pd WMA	3		M. Iliff + v.o.	Sora				
10/26	Cambr. (FP)	2		B. Miller	9/1-10/20	Reports of indiv. from	8		locations
10/27	Ware	2		L. Therrien	9/9	S. Monomoy	3		L. Waters#
10/30	Longmeadow	2		L. Richardson	10/5	Ipswich	2		R. Heil
10/31	Quabog IBA	4		M. Lynch#	Common Gallinule				
Horned Grebe					9/9, 10/26	S. Monomoy	4,1		L. Waters#, F. Touseley#
9/13	Orange	1		B. Lafley	9/13-9/17	Northboro	1		juv N. Dowling + v.o.
10/7	Woburn (HP)	2		M. McCarthy	9/18-9/29	Hyannis	1		P. Trimble#
10/28	Winthrop	6		C. Jones#	10/15	Nantucket	2		E. Ray#
10/29	Ware	8		A. Hulsey	10/15-thr	Whately	1		J. Rose + v.o.
10/31	PI	6		MAS (D. Moon)	American Coot				
Red-necked Grebe					9/7-10/28	Richmond	4		max M. Ridge + v.o.
9/4	Rockport (AP)	1		R. Heil	10/23	Woburn (HP)	10		B. Lee#
9/11	Wachusett Res.	2		M. Lynch#	10/25	GMNWR	2		D. Kelly
10/20	Gloucester (EP)	5		D. Walters#	10/28	Westport	6		A. Eckerson#
10/24	Lanesborough (Pont.)	5		J. Pierce	Sandhill Crane				
10/27	Rockport (AP)	7		R. Heil	9/1-10/14	Worthington	3		1pr+juv v.o.
10/28	PI	3		A. Gurka#	9/9-9/29	E. Bridgewater	3		J. Carlisle + v.o.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo					9/14	New Braintree	2		J. Smith
9/7-10/31	Reports of indiv. from	24		locations	9/20	Danvers	1		P. Paicos
10/12	PI	7		S. Williams#	10/6	P'town	1		D. Gray
10/14	Cuttyhunk I.	5		S. Williams#	10/17	E. Bridgewater	3		P. Jacobson
10/14	Nahant	2		J. Trimble	10/24	Burrage Pd WMA	3		M. Iliff
10/14-21	Saugus	2		S. Zende#	Black-necked Stilt				
10/17	Quincy	3		P. Peterson	9/1	WBWS	1		J. Junda#
10/24	Westport	2		M. Iliff	American Oystercatcher				
10/31	Manomet	2		A. Kneidel	9/8	Winthrop	22		M. Iliff
Black-billed Cuckoo					9/17	Chatham	54		E. Lipton
9/2	Granville	1		D. Holmes	10/16	Boston	2		J. Layman
9/8	Pittsfield	1		S. Townsend	Black-bellied Plover				
10/10	Jamaica Plain	1		R. Schain	9/8	Winthrop	60		J. Layman
10/14	Nahant	1		J. Trimble	9/11	Hatfield	1		M. McKittrick
10/26	WBWS	1		J. Wagner	10/2	Northfield	1		J. Smith
Common Nighthawk					10/3	PI	130		D. Adrien
9/2, 9/30	Barre Falls	6,2		Schilling#, LaFleche#	10/22	Ipswich	65		R. Heil
9/2	Ware R. IBA	5		M. Lynch#	American Golden-Plover				
9/3, 10/10	W. Roxbury(MP)	24,8		J. Battenfeld	9/7-10/25	Reports of indiv. from	9		locations
9/7	Granby	46		C. Allen	9/6-9/23	Winthrop	3		S. Jones + v.o.
9/8	Mt Wachusett	4		R. Chase#	9/9	P'town (RP)	2		B. Nikula#
10/10	W. Roxbury (MP)	8		J. Battenfeld	9/21, 10/3	PI	3,3		K. Elwell, R. Heil
Eastern Whip-poor-will					10/1,29	Northampton	3,1		S. Surner, K. Webber
9/1-9/4	Quabbin Pk	2		L. Therrien	Common Ringed Plover				
9/2, 9/17	Truro	1,1		P. Rennert, L. Neish	9/2	Chatham (SB)	1		ad m ph Williams, Iliff
9/2	Sandwich	3		P. Wood#	Semipalmated Plover				
9/3	PI	1		B. Harris	9/2	Chatham (SB)	1700		S. Williams#
9/12	New Salem	1		B. Lafley	9/9	October Mountain	6		J. Pierce
Chimney Swift					9/11	PI	250,30		P. Brown, M. Watson
9/13	Waltham	22		F. Morello	9/23,10/28	Ipswich (CB)	290,72		J. Berry#, N. Dubrow
10/4	Brookline	24		P. Peterson	10/28	Duxbury B.	40		S. van der Veen
10/17-31	Burrage Pd WMA	17		J. Sweeney + v.o.	10/28	Northfield	1		J. Rose#
10/23	Longmeadow	5		M. Moore	Piping Plover				
10/31	Boston (PG)	8		M. Mulqueen	9/5	PI	10		D. Adrien
Ruby-throated Hummingbird					9/29	Plymouth	4		T. Evans
9/8	Huntington	8		M. Lynch#	10/20	Dennis	2		N. Villone
9/13	Mt Watatic	4		B. Rusnica	10/28	Duxbury B.	1		S. van der Veen
9/26	N. Andover	3		J. Parrot-Willis	Killdeer				
10/18	Brewster	1		S. Finnegan	9/15	Newbury	62		P. + F. Vale
Rufous / Allen's Hummingbird					9/18	Amherst	134		max L. Therrien
10/30	Brewster	1		ph R. Debenham	9/23	N. Dighton	47		M. Eckerson
Clapper Rail					10/15	W. Newbury	60		R. Heil
9/1-9/2	Fairhaven	2		S. van der Veen	10/26	Acton	23		K. Hartel
9/16	Dartmouth	1		M. Eckerson#	Whimbrel				
10/7	Plymouth	1		au A. Kneidel	9/1	Scituate	2		L. Schibley
King/Clapper Rail					9/7	Winthrop	8		M. Iliff
9/6	Fairhaven	3		C. Longworth	9/7	Revere (POP)	2		S. Jones#
King Rail					9/12	PI	8		D. Prima
9/6	Fairhaven	1		ph C. Longworth	9/18	Amherst	1		L. Therrien
Virginia Rail					9/20	Cape Ann	3		B. Harris
9/27	GMNWR	5		A. Bragg#	9/20	Rockport (AP)	1		R. Heil
10/5	Ipswich	3		R. Heil	9/26	Ipswich (CB)	1		I. Pepper
					9/27,10/22	WBWS	15,1		J. Wagner, J. Junda#

Whimbrel (continued)				9/11	PI	330	T. Wetmore
9/27	Westport	3	M. Eckerson#	9/12-10/31	Northborough	3 max	N. Dowling+v.o.
Hudsonian Godwit				9/23	Ipswich (CB)	230	J. Berry#
9/7-10/26	Reports of indiv. from 7 locations			9/25	Barnstable (SN)	1250	P. Crosson
9/2	S. Monomoy	8	S. Williams#	10/30	Salisbury	12	J. Parrot-Willis
10/28	PI	2	G. Woods	Western Sandpiper			
Marbled Godwit				9/1-9/11	Winthrop	1	S. Jones + v.o.
9/1-9/8	Winthrop	2	S. Jones + v.o.	9/8, 10/28	PI	3,1	J. Kovner#, A. Gurka#
9/2	S. Monomoy	1	S. Williams#	9/8	Barnstable (SN)	1	M. Pagliarini#
9/9-9/12	PI	1	D. Weaver + v.o.	9/11, 10/1	Westport	1,1	M. Iliif, M. Rosenstein
Ruddy Turnstone				9/13-9/26	Plymouth B.	1	L. Schibley
9/2	Chatham (SB)	20	S. Williams#	9/23	Ipswich (CB)	2	J. Berry#
9/3	Winthrop	14	S. Jones#	Short-billed Dowitcher			
10/27	Rockport (AP)	3	N. Dubrow	9/1	Winthrop	1	hendersoni J. Layman
10/28	Westport	9	M. Iliif	9/2-9/3	October Mountain	1	G. Ward, J. Pierce
Red Knot				9/6	Winthrop	17	S. Jones#
9/5, 10/10	Chatham	600,250	B. Harrington, B. Nikula	9/8, 10/20	PI	68,1	S. Arena, N. Landry
9/9	Scituate	32	L. Schibley	Long-billed Dowitcher			
9/13	Plymouth B.	51	L. Schibley	9/7	Winthrop	1	S. Jones#
9/23	Rockport (AP)	12	R. Heil	9/8-10/31	PI	13,1	L. Waters#, D. Adrien+v.o.
9/25	Barnstable (SN)	43	P. Crosson	9/12	Westport	1	E. Lipton#
9/30	WBWS	59	N. Villone	10/8	Plymouth	1	L. Schibley
10/23	Plymouth B.	4	L. Schibley	10/14-15	Quincy	1	E. Nielsen + v.o.
10/28	Ipswich (CB)	2	N. Dubrow	10/29	E. Boston (BI)	1	T. Bradford
Stilt Sandpiper				American Woodcock			
9/1-9/26	PI	5 max	T. Wetmore+v.o.	9/4	Quabbin Pk	3	L. Therrien
9/9	S. Monomoy	2	L. Waters#	10/21	PI	4	M. Sovay
9/12	Westport	1	E. Lipton#	Wilson's Snipe			
Sanderling				9/18	Amherst	9	L. Therrien
9/1	PI	120	T. Wetmore	10/19	Seekonk	12	J. Eckerson#
9/2	Chatham (SB)	2500	S. Williams#	10/19	Cumb. Farms	5	E. Vacchino
9/10	Longmeadow	1	L. Richardson	10/28	Saugus	11	S. Zende#
9/14	Lexington	1	M. Rines	Spotted Sandpiper			
10/5	Ipswich (CB)	325	J. Berry#	9/1-10/30	Reports of indiv. from 20 locations		
Dunlin				9/8	Huntington	5	M. Lynch#
10/20	Paxton	1	R. Jenkins	9/8	PI	3	T. Wetmore
10/21	Brookfield	1	R. Jenkins#	9/14	Chestnut Hill	3	D. Scott
10/22	Ipswich	70	R. Heil	9/15	Randolph	4	E. Nielsen
10/26	PI	1500	T. Wetmore	Solitary Sandpiper			
10/28	Northfield	1	J. Rose#	9/1	Easthampton	10	L. Therrien
Purple Sandpiper				9/11	Lancaster	11	M. Lynch#
10/28	PI	1	N. Werth	9/16	Boston	4	P. Peterson
10/31	Rockport (HPt)	1	C. Marchant	9/30	Concord	5	C. Cook
Baird's Sandpiper				10/29	Ware	2	S. Surner
9/1-9/12	PI	5 max	T. Wetmore+v.o.	Lesser Yellowlegs			
9/1	Hatfield	2	L. Therrien	9/8	Ipswich	6	J. Berry
9/11-9/20	Westport	1	M. Iliif	9/17	Woburn (HP)	7	M. Rines
9/14	Randolph	1 juv	M. Iliif + v.o.	10/6	Revere	4	S. Jones#
10/2	Groton	1	T. Murray	10/6	Longmeadow	3	L. Richardson
10/22	Winthrop	1	P. Peterson	10/19	Somerset	7	M. Eckerson#
Least Sandpiper				10/20	PI	30	D. Williams
9/8	PI	65	L. Waters#	Willet			
9/10	Longmeadow	22	L. Richardson	9/8-9/16	Dartmouth	1	E. Lipton + v.o.
10/26	Northboro	3	N. Dowling + v.o.	9/10	Winthrop	1	M. Chalfin-Jacobs#
10/26-28	Westport	1	M. Iliif	10/23	Newbury	9	G. Power
White-rumped Sandpiper				Willet (Western)			
9/1	Scituate	37	L. Schibley	9/2	PI	1	S. Babbitt#
9/8, 10/31	PI	187,4	S. Arena	9/13-9/22	Plymouth B.	1	L. Schibley + v.o.
10/21	Quabbin Pk	3	L. Therrien	9/17	Chatham	1	E. Lipton
10/28	Ipswich (CB)	13	N. Dubrow	Greater Yellowlegs			
Buff-breasted Sandpiper				9/13	Nbpt	25	J. Berry#
9/1-9/9	PI	1	T. Wetmore + v.o.	9/18	Amherst	8	L. Therrien
9/23	Saugus	1	S. Zende#	10/13	Pittsfield	7	J. Pierce
Pectoral Sandpiper				10/22	Ipswich	74	R. Heil
10/18	Revere	25	S. Jones#	10/25	PI	140	P. + F. Vale
10/20	Millis	23	J. Bock	Red-necked Phalarope			
10/21	Saugus	65	S. Zende#	9/3	S. Dart. (APd)	1	D. Hlousek
10/22	Ipswich	55	R. Heil	9/4	E. of Chatham	4	B. Nikula#
10/23	PI	147	R. Heil	9/12	Winthrop B.	1 juv	T. Bradford
10/28	P'town	42	S. Williams#	9/24	Manomet	4	I. Davies
Semipalmated Sandpiper				9/25	Rockport (AP)	3	R. Heil
9/2	Chatham (SB)	1000	S. Williams#	Red Phalarope			
9/10	Longmeadow	4	L. Richardson	10/28	PI	1 ph	D. Adrien#

Red-necked /Red Phalarope				Lesser Black-backed Gull			
9/19	P'town (RP)	10	B.Nikula#	9/2	S. Monomoy	8	S. Williams#
9/24	Manomet	13	I. Davies	9/8	Randolph	3	J. Forbes
skua sp.				9/16	PI	3	D. Walton
10/28	Eastham (FE)	1	J. Trimble#	9/17	Chatham	207	E. Lipton
Pomarine Jaeger				10/10	Orleans	25	B.Nikula
9/9, 10/27	Rockport (AP)	1,5	R. Heil + v.o.	Least Tern			
9/30	Jeffreys L.	1	J. Berry#	9/3	P'town (RP)	40	S. Arena
10/27	Manomet	2	L. Schibley	9/6	PI	3	T. Wetmore
10/28	Eastham (FE)	48	J. Trimble#	9/20	Rockport (AP)	1	R. Heil
Parasitic Jaeger				Caspian Tern			
9/4	E. of Chatham	9	B.Nikula#	9/7-10/22	Reports of 5 indiv. from 19 locations		
9/9, 9/23	P'town (RP)	25,15	B.Nikula#	9/15	Randolph	6	P. Peterson
9/11	Westport	1	M. Iliff	9/17	Winthrop	6	C. Kaynor
9/24,10/27	Manomet	3,11	L. Schibley	10/3	Yarmouth	5	R. Debenham
10/12	Eastham	5	B.Nikula	10/6	Quincy	5	E. Nielsen
10/27	Rockport (AP)	2	R. Heil	10/19	Boston	5	J. Cushman
10/22				10/22	Dartmouth	6	M. Sylvia#
Long-tailed Jaeger				Black Tern			
9/29	Dennis	1 juv ph	P. Flood#	9/4	Wachusett Res.	1	B. Abbott
Dovekie				9/24	Manomet	1	L. Schibley#
10/27	Rockport (AP)	8	N. Dubrow	Roseate Tern			
10/28	Eastham (FE)	56	J. Trimble#	9/9	Rockport (AP)	3	R. Heil + v.o.
10/31	P'town (RP)	2	B.Nikula	9/11	Westport	5	M. Iliff
Common Murre				9/13	Plymouth B.	2	L. Schibley
10/11	PI	1	T. Wetmore	9/17	Quincy	1	D. Burton
10/27	Rockport (AP)	5	R. Heil	Common Tern			
10/28	Eastham (FE)	2	J. Trimble#	9/9, 10/31	P'town (RP)	3000,500	B.Nikula#
Razorbill				9/13	Plymouth B.	450	L. Schibley
10/20	Gloucester (EP)	14	D. Walters#	9/17	Quincy	325	D. Burton
10/23	PI	14	R. Heil	9/18	Stockbridge	1	K. Hanson
10/27	Rockport (AP)	242	R. Heil	Forster's Tern			
10/28	Eastham (FE)	87	J. Trimble#	9/17	Quincy	8	D. Burton
Black Guillemot				10/12	Eastham	80	B.Nikula
9/2	P'town (RP)	1	S. Arena	10/27	Manomet	4	L. Schibley
9/6, 10/28	PI	1,3	T. Wetmore, A. Gurka#	Royal Tern			
9/11	Manomet	1	E. Dalton	9/15	Chatham	1	A. Kneidel
9/25,10/27	Rockport (AP)	1,3	R. Heil, N. Dubrow	Black Skimmer			
Atlantic Puffin				9/27	Westport	4	M. Eckerson#
9/2	Rockport (AP)	1	R. Heil	10/2-10/30	Yarmouth	8 max	v.o.
10/13	PI	1	D. Walters#	10/7-10/9	Plymouth	2	A. Kneidel + v.o.
Black-legged Kittiwake				10/12	Quincy	6	J. Layman
9/24,10/27	Manomet	3,192	I. Davies, L. Schibley	Red-throated Loon			
10/27	Rockport (AP)	29	N. Dubrow	10/17	Wachusett Res.	1	M. Lynch#
10/28	Eastham (FE)	428	J. Trimble#	10/20	Gloucester (EP)	13	D. Walters#
Sabine's Gull				10/21	Ware	8	J. Eckerson#
9/30	P'town (RP)	1 ad ph	P.Flood#	10/23	PI	143	R. Heil
Bonaparte's Gull				10/27	Rockport (AP)	314	R. Heil
9/3	Lynn B.	250	J. Quigley	Pacific Loon			
9/11	Turners Falls	1	P. Gagarin	9/30	P'town (RP)	1 ad ph	P. Flood#
10/4	Revere (POP)	350	S. Jones#	10/2-10/3	Wareham	1 ph	L. Schibley + v.o.
10/12-23	Quabbin Pk	6 max	A. Hulsey	10/5	Rockport (AP)	1	R. Heil
10/13	Brookfield	1	P. Morlock	Common Loon			
10/20	PI	100	J. Keeley#	9/24	Manomet	92	I. Davies
Black-headed Gull				9/25, 10/27	Rockport (AP)	32,173	R. Heil
9/3, 9/4	Lynn B.	1,1 juv,ad	J. Quigley	10/3	Wachusett Res.	20	M. Lynch#
9/7	Winthrop	1 juv ph	M. Iliff#	10/28	Winthrop	47	C. Jones#
10/5-10/21	Quincy	1 ad ph	V. Zollo + v.o.	Northern Fulmar			
Little Gull				9/25	Rockport (AP)	2	R. Heil
9/26-10/20	Truro,P'town (RP)	1 juv ph	P. Flood# + v.o.	9/29	P'town (RP)	1,1	B.Nikula#, A.O'Neill#
10/4	Revere (POP)	1	S. Jones#	9/30	Jeffreys L.	5 lt	J. Berry#
10/27-28	Dennis, Barnstable	1 ad P. Flood, P. Crosson		10/12	Eastham	1	B.Nikula
Laughing Gull				10/20	Stellwagen Bank	3	C. Williamson
9/17	Quincy	375	D. Burton	10/20	Gloucester (EP)	1	D. Walters#
9/24	Manomet	1071	I. Davies	10/23	PI	1 lt	R. Heil
10/14	Orleans	600	B.Nikula	Cory's Shearwater			
10/26	Westport	1080	J. Eckerson#	9/10	Rockport (AP)	88	R. Heil
Iceland Gull				10/24	P'town (RP)	1400	B.Nikula
9/1	Marshfield	1	C. Hartshorn	10/27	Manomet	400	L. Schibley
10/16	Fall River	1	D. Hlousek	10/28	Eastham (FE)	565	J. Trimble#
10/27	Westminster	1	C. Caron				
10/29	Wilmington	1	S. Sullivan				

Sooty Shearwater					Great Blue Heron			
9/9	Rockport (AP)	1		R. Heil	9/23	Saugus	22	S. Zende#
Great Shearwater					10/3	Ipswich (CB)	24	I. Pepper
9/30	Jeffreys L.	10		J. Berry#	10/3	PI	20	E. Labato
10/27	Manomet	800		L. Schibley	10/6	Eastham (FH)	27	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)
10/27	Rockport (AP)	15		R. Heil	Great Egret			
10/31	P'town (RP)	34		B. Nikula	9/3	PI	216	A. Steenstrup
Manx Shearwater					9/9	Saugus	37	S. Zende#
9/4	E. of Chatham	75		B. Nikula#	9/11	Winthrop	19	P. Peterson
9/10	Rockport (AP)	8		R. Heil	10/3	Ipswich (CB)	50	I. Pepper
9/20	N. Truro	20		B. Nikula#	Snowy Egret			
9/24	P'town (RP)	215		B. Nikula#	9/2	S. Monomoy	38	S. Williams#
9/24	Manomet	3		I. Davies	9/5	Chatham	80	B. Harrington
Wilson's Storm-Petrel					9/8	PI	325	S. Arena
9/7, 9/19	PI	1,1		S. Sullivan	9/23	Saugus	50	S. Zende#
Leach's Storm-Petrel					Little Blue Heron			
9/9, 9/20	Rockport (AP)	2,1		R. Heil + v.o.	9/3-10/14	PI	2 max	J. Keeley + v.o.
9/23	P'town (RP)	1		M. Waters#	9/12	Nantucket	1	L. Buck
9/24	Manomet	7		I. Davies	9/15	Cape Ann	7	B. Harris
9/24	Barnstable (SN)	5		S. Matheny	9/18	Edgartown	1	S. Allen
Brown Booby					9/22	Essex	1	D. Brown#
9/2	Rockport (AP)	1 ad ph		R. Heil	10/1	Gloucester	1	R. Heil
Northern Gannet					10/14	Cape Ann	2	B. Harris
10/24	P'town (RP)	7000		B. Nikula	Cattle Egret			
10/27	Rockport (AP)	2800		R. Heil	10/28	Middleton	1 ph	S. Sullivan
10/27	Manomet	1200		L. Schibley	10/30-31	Lynnfield	1 ph	C. Martone
10/28	Eastham (FE)	1960		J. Trimble#	Green Heron			
Double-crested Cormorant					9/2	Ashley Falls	8	J. Drucker
9/15	Chatham	2500		G. d'Entremont#	9/5	Rutland	4	M. Lynch#
10/19	Orleans	3000		B. Nikula	9/29	N. Reading	3	L. Bruin
10/21	Squantum	2500		G. d'Entremont#	10/18	Springfield	1	M. Moore
10/28	PI	4800		P. + F. Vale	Black-crowned Night-Heron			
Great Cormorant					9/4	Nbpt	15	C. Floyd
9/8	PI	13		L. Waters#	9/26	Eastham	54	M. Harris
9/24	Manomet	4		I. Davies	10/5	Ipswich	21	R. Heil
9/25	Rockport (AP)	5		R. Heil	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			
10/14	Randolph	6		J. Bock	9/1-10/26	Reports of indiv. from 6 locations		
10/26	Westport	7		G. Gove#	9/2	Eastham	14	D. Clapp
American Bittern					9/4-9/16	Nbpt	2	C. Floyd + v.o.
thr	Reports of indiv. from 10 locations				9/11	PI	2	P. Brown
9/6-9/16	October Mountain	2		J. Pierce, m.obs.	10/25	Ipswich	2 imm	J. Berry
10/12-13	PI	2		S. Williams + v.o.	Glossy Ibis			
10/21	Cuttyhunk I.	2		M. Sylvia#	9/9-9/17	Chatham	2	B. Albro#
					10/6	Sheffield	1	J. Pierce

VULTURES THROUGH DICKCISSEL

The fall migration of hawks through our region gets underway in earnest during this period. The general consensus among local hawkwatchers was that this year's migration was poor. Numbers of Broad-winged Hawks in particular were down, especially at traditional flyover sites such as Wachusett Mountain in Princeton and Mount Watatic in Ashburnham. Hawkwatchers at Wachusett Mountain tallied only 5,042 Broadwings for the period, the lowest seasonal total since 2,364 in 2011. The peak day for Wachusett was September 22 when 2,782 Broadwings passed over the summit. The hawkwatch at Mount Watatic reported 3,874 Broadwings in September, with their peak count of 1,766 a day later on September 23. Paul Roberts, founder of the New England Hawk Watch, speculated that prevailing easterly winds this year forced the majority of Broad-winged Hawks to migrate farther west through central New Hampshire and Vermont, thus bypassing our region. Roberts noted, for example, that Putney Mountain, Vermont, recorded 12,045 Broadwings this year, exceeding last year's high of 11,728.

The hawkwatch at Wachusett Mountain also logged 134 Bald Eagles, which is 24 more than last year, and set new record counts for Cooper's Hawk (131), surpassing last year's total of 121, and Merlin (42), exceeding the previous high of 35 in 2014. Other raptor news included the first Rough-legged Hawk of the season, reported on Halloween from Plum Island, and eight **Golden Eagles**, noted from five locations.



Figure 2. A Fatpoll! This Blackpoll Warbler was banded (#2160–46794) on September 20, 1999 weighing 11.5g. It was last recaptured weighing 17.3g on October 6, 1999 with a banding comment, “feels pudgy!” Photograph by Manomet Staff.

The wet weather in September dampened migration, with observers at Manomet reporting conditions along the South Shore to be about as bad as they could be. The migration did, however, pick up during the last days of September and continued through October, during which strong winds from the south redirected migrants to the northeast. This phenomenon of reverse migration was especially notable on Cape Cod with many reports of vireo and warbler species that would normally have been long gone from our region.

Fall migration usually offers more surprises than that of the spring. Rarities for the period this year included two reports of **Say’s Phoebe**, one from Cuttyhunk Island and another in Barre that was present for two days. A report of a **Bell’s Vireo** from Fort Hill in Eastham is no longer such a surprise. One wonders if this is the same individual that was present at this location on October 30–December 12, 2015, and October

24–27, 2016. Other rarities included six **Western Kingbirds**, a **Lark Bunting** in Provincetown, and a **Summer Tanager** in Belmont.

Since the fall of 1999, Ron Pittaway of the Ontario Field Ornithologists has prepared an annual forecast for winter finch distribution in the Northeast. The forecast is based on the relative abundance of seed crops in their breeding range, the Canadian boreal forest. Northern finches move south—or sometimes east or west—in late fall when there is a shortage of seeds. Some winters, they don’t show up here in Massachusetts at all, while other years there are so many that they can empty your feeder in only a day or two. Pittaway predicted a major invasion of northern irruptive species this year, and so far he’s been right. We have already seen large numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches and Purple Finches; Pine Siskins arrived from mid-October; and Common Redpolls and Evening Grosbeaks started to appear in small numbers at the end of October.

It was a good migration for several species with exceptional numbers reported for Northern Flicker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Phoebe, both species of kinglet, and White-throated and White-crowned sparrows. The Brown Creeper is a species that eludes many birders and hence may appear uncommon, but banding data suggest otherwise; in October alone the Plum Island banding station banded 64 Brown Creepers and Manomet banded 58. Sparrow migration reaches its peak in October. Among the highlights were 35+ Clay-colored Sparrows, 30+ Vesper Sparrows, seven Lark Sparrows, and more than 15 reports of Nelson’s Sparrows.

Migrating songbirds prepare for international flights by putting on large amounts of fat. That’s especially true in the fall for birds like Blackpoll Warblers, which fly nonstop over the Atlantic Ocean to reach destinations in northeastern South America. By gorging on insects and fruit they are capable of more than doubling their weight—in the case of the Blackpoll, from just under 10g to over 20g. Experienced banders, like Trevor Lloyd-Evans of Manomet, can tell by handling the birds if they have enough fat to migrate. An example of a “fatpoll” warbler,

**WEIGHT OF BLACKPOLL WARBLERS AT MANOMET
FALL 1966 - FALL 2011 (N=7,762)**

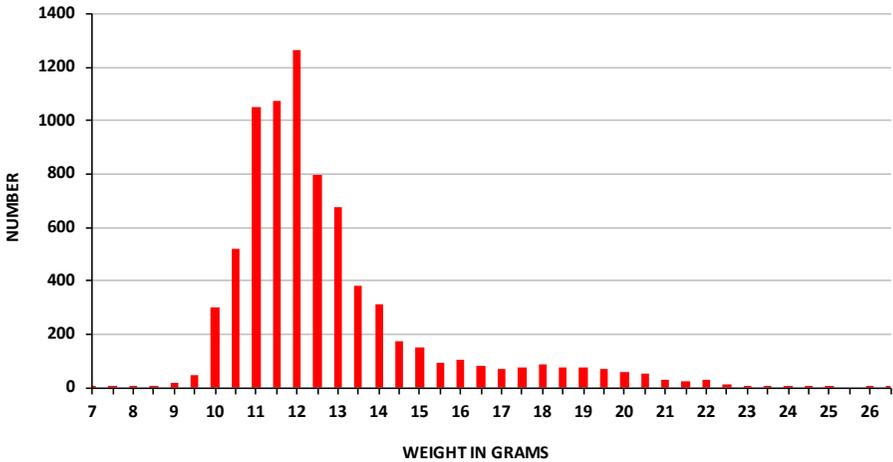


Figure 3. Weight distribution of fall Blackpoll Warblers caught at Manomet, 1996–2011. Data from Trevor Lloyd-Evans, Manomet.

weighing 17.3g, is shown in Figure 2. The heaviest Blackpoll recorded at Manomet in the last 50+ years was a bird weighing 26.7g on September 18, 1984. A distribution of Blackpoll Warbler weights, all banded in the fall at Manomet, is shown in Figure 3.

There were 35 different species of warbler noted during the period. The highlight was the second state record of **Painted Redstart**, photographed on Cuttyhunk Island on October 14. The only other record was 71 years ago at Marblehead Neck, October 18–19, 1947. Despite an intensive search, the bird could not be relocated. Other exceptional reports included a **Black-throated Gray Warbler** on Gooseberry Neck, Westport, a **Prothonotary Warbler** in Ipswich, present for over two weeks, and a **Yellow-throated Warbler** on Cape Ann. Also good for the period were a **Golden-winged Warbler** at Rockport, more than 50 Orange-crowned Warblers, and more than 35 Connecticut Warblers. It was a good breeding year for warblers that nest in the boreal forest to our north. The numbers of Cape May and Tennessee warblers this year exceeded those of last year and Blackpoll Warbler numbers were off the chart; 302 were banded at Manomet alone this fall.

R. Stymeist

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Black Vulture	10/30	Blueberry Hill	33	Hawkcount (Weeks,Haas)
9/14	Townsend			
9/16	Mt Wachusett			
9/22-9/29	Nahant			
10/16	Rockport (AP)			
10/24	Sheffield			
10/26	Westport			
10/31	Milton			
Turkey Vulture	10/30	Rough-legged Hawk		
9/16	Mt Watatic	10/31	1	S. Sullivan
10/10-28	Mt Wachusett			
10/17	Shatterack Mt			
10/25	Westport			
Osprey	10/7,12,24	Golden Eagle		
09/thr	Mt Wachusett	10/7,12,24	1,1,1	imm,imm,ad Hawkcount
9/1-9/23	Mt Watatic	10/14	1	Hawkcount (R. Chase)
9/8-9/29	Barre Falls	10/19,21,25	1,1,1	ad,imm,ad Hawkwatch
9/13	Westport	10/21	1	ph S. Zende#
Bald Eagle	10/30	Montague	1	imm ph J. Rose
9/1-9/23	Mt Watatic			
9/2-9/30	Mt Wachusett			
9/9-9/30	Barre Falls			
10/3-10/30	Mt Wachusett			
10/5-10/30	Barre Falls			
10/14-30	Malden (PR)			
Northern Harrier	9/30	Barn Owl		
9/2-9/23	Mt Watatic	9/30	2	S. Kardell
9/2	S. Monomoy	10/3	1	ph fide S. LaBree
9/8-9/23	Mt Wachusett	10/18	1	Chatham J. Junda#
10/3-10/6	Mt Wachusett			
10/4-10/25	Barre Falls			
10/12-30	Malden (PR)			
10/16	PI			
10/19	Westport			
10/22	Cumb. Farms			
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/15-9/20	Eastern Screech-Owl		
09/thr	Mt Wachusett	9/15-9/20	5	B. Harris
9/1-9/23	Mt Watatic	9/22	3	G. d'Entremont
9/2-9/30	Barre Falls			
10/thr	Barre Falls			
10/1-10/21	Mt Wachusett			
10/5-10/30	Malden (PR)			
09/thr	Mt Wachusett			
9/1-9/23	Mt Watatic			
9/2-9/30	Barre Falls			
10/thr	Barre Falls			
10/1-10/21	Mt Wachusett			
10/5-10/30	Malden (PR)			
Cooper's Hawk	9/29	Great Horned Owl		
09/thr	Mt Wachusett	9/23-10/13	2	P. Brown
9/2-9/23	Mt Watatic	10/3	2	P. + F. Vale
9/8-9/30	Barre Falls	10/24	2	M. Iliff
10/4-10/31	Barre Falls			
10/5-10/30	Malden (PR)			
10/5-10/26	Mt Wachusett			
Northern Goshawk	9/2	Snowy Owl		
9/1	Mt Watatic	9/2	1	S. Williams#
9/2	Ware R. IBA	9/8-9/28	1	F. Tousley#, J. Junda#
9/10	Orange Airport	10/24-31	1	T. Wetmore + v.o.
9/14	Williamstown	10/28	2	N. Dubrow
9/30	Barre Falls			
10/14	Cumb. Farms			
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/13	Barred Owl		
9/2-9/29	Mt Wachusett	9/13	3	B. Rusnica
10/5-10/12	Mt Wachusett	9/15	2	J. Berry#
10/8-10/30	Barre Falls	9/15-9/20	2	L. Waters + v.o.
10/18-25	Malden (PR)	9/29	6	J. Rose
10/25	Shatterack Mt			
Broad-winged Hawk	9/29	Short-eared Owl		
09/thr	Mt Wachusett	9/29	1	L. Pivacek#
09/thr	Barre Falls	10/22	1	D. Furbish
9/1-9/23	Mt Watatic	10/25	1	M. Iliff
9/20	Shatterack Mt	10/31	1	J. Trimble
9/22	Southwick			
9/22	Blueberry Hill			
9/23	Mt Watatic			
Red-tailed Hawk	9/2	Belted Kingfisher		
10/5-10/31	Barre Falls	9/2	4	P. Gagarin
10/5-10/26	Mt Wachusett	10/3	5	R. Heil
		10/31	5	M. Lynch#
		Red-headed Woodpecker		
		9/5-9/22	5	1pr+3juv ph L. Schibley
		9/27	2	imm L.Schibley, S. Abele#
		9/30	1	imm ph M. Sylvia#
		Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		
		9/16	10	imm D. Sibley
		9/16	7	M. Lynch#
		9/30	11	M. Sylvia#
		10/3	17	R. Heil
		Northern Flicker		
		9/23	33	M. Lynch#
		9/27	19	B. Lafley
		10/3	40	W. Tatro
		10/3	25	C. Cook
		Pileated Woodpecker		
		9/4	4	L. Therrien
		9/23	7	M. Lynch#
		American Kestrel		
		9/4-9/30	91	Hawkcount (R. Chase)
		9/8-9/23	39	Hawkcount (B. Rusnica)
		9/8-9/30	27	Hawkcount (D. Schilling)
		10/1-10/25	30	Hawkcount (R. Chase)
		10/1-10/30	28	Hawkcount (D. Schilling)
		Merlin		
		9/4-9/30	27	Hawkcount (R. Chase)
		9/9-9/20	9	Hawkcount (B. Rusnica)
		9/16-9/30	12	Hawkcount (D. Schilling)
		10/4-10/24	8	Hawkcount (D. Schilling)
		10/5-10/21	15	Hawkcount (R. Chase)
		10/6-10/30	9	Hawkcount (C. Jackson)
		10/21	11	M. Sylvia#
		Peregrine Falcon		
		9/1-9/27	14	Hawkcount (R. Chase)
		9/1-9/20	4	Hawkcount (B. Rusnica)

Peregrine Falcon (continued)									
10/1-10/21 Mt Wachusett	6	Hawkcount (R. Chase)		10/29	Cambr. (FP)	1		J. Trimble	
10/4-10/10 Barre Falls	3	Hawkcount (D. Schilling)		Bell's Vireo	10/8-10/9	Eastham (FH)	1 ph	T. Spahr#	
10/6 Malden (PR)	3	Hawkcount (C. Jackson)		Yellow-throated Vireo	9/2-9/4	Quabbin Pk	8	L. Therrien	
Olive-sided Flycatcher				9/8	Huntington	6		M. Lynch#	
9/15 Mt Watatic	1	D. Lounsbury#		10/13	PI	1		E. Labato	
9/24 Great Barrington	1	C. Blake		10/25	Boston (AA)	1		M. Kaufman	
Eastern Wood-Pewee				Blue-headed Vireo	9/23	Huntington	10	M. Lynch#	
9/2 Ware R. IBA	14	M. Lynch#		10/12	PI	46		S. Williams#	
9/3 Pittsfield	8	S. Townsend		Philadelphia Vireo	9/2-10/21	Reports of indiv. from 18 locations			
9/8 Huntington	9	M. Lynch#		9/2	Rockport (AP)	3		R. Heil	
9/30,10/21 Cuttyhunk I.	3,2	M. Sylvia#		9/9-9/30	PI	5 b		B. Flemer#	
10/8 PI	1 b	B. Flemer#		9/21	Lexington (DM)	2		C. Cook#	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				9/23	Ipswich	2		D. Walters	
9/8 Huntington	1	M. Lynch#		10/10	Belchertown	2		L. Therrien	
9/11 Athol	1	E. LeBlanc		10/20	PI	1 b		B. Flemer#	
9/11 Westboro	1	T. Spahr		Warbling Vireo	9/1-10/14	Reports of indiv. from 12 locations			
9/12 Pittsfield	3	K. Hanson		9/3	PI	2		J. Keeley#	
9/14 MBO	1 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#		9/8	Huntington	2		M. Lynch#	
9/14 W. Roxbury (MP)	1	R. Schain		9/9	Cambr. (Alewife)	7		R. Stymeist	
9/15 Quabbin (G35)	1	B. Lafley		9/13	GMNWR	3		A. Bragg#	
9/15 Bolton Flats	1	N. Tepper		9/30	Belmont	2		F. Morello#	
9/19 Westborough WMA	1	J. Hoye#		Red-eyed Vireo	09/thr	PI	12 b	B. Flemer#	
10/7 PI	5	J. Keeley#		9/1	Tolland	73		M. Lynch#	
Alder Flycatcher				9/2	Ware R. IBA	35		M. Lynch#	
9/9 Pittsfield	1	K. Hanson, S. Townsend		10/3	PI	26		R. Heil	
9/12 MBO	1 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#		10/10	MBO	1 b		T. Lloyd-Evans#	
Willow Flycatcher				10/23-31	Boston (AA)	1		M. Farnitano + v.o.	
9/5 Reading	2	D. McGillicuddy		Fish Crow	10/6	Bourne	50	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)	
9/11 Acton	1	S. Miller#		10/9	Norwood	50		W. Webb	
9/20 Turners Falls	1	J. Smith		10/13	Quincy	45		P. Peterson	
10/13 Ipswich	1	D. Walters#		Common Raven	9/1	Mt Wachusett	14	R. Chase#	
10/15 Quincy	1	D. Burton		9/8	Mt Watatic	40		Hawkwatch (B. Rusnica)	
Least Flycatcher				9/29	Deerfield	24		J. Rose	
9/1-10/31	Reports of indiv. from 16 locations			Horned Lark	9/1	Hatfield	3	L. Therrien	
9/1 PI	1 b	B. Flemer#		10/7	Saugus	15		S. Zende#	
10/3-10/12 PI	2	R. Heil + v.o.		10/22	Westboro	15		T. Spahr	
<i>Empidonax</i> sp.				10/28	P'town	30		S. Williams#	
10/31 Cambridge	1	J. Trimble		Purple Martin	9/2	WBWS	1	J. Pratt	
Eastern Phoebe				9/3	Dartmouth	3		B. King	
9/23 Huntington	37	M. Lynch#		9/3	PI	1		B. Harris	
10/3-10/8 PI	10 b	B. Flemer#		9/8	Nantucket	1		S. Kardell	
10/14 Cuttyhunk I.	26	M. Iliff		2018 season	Rehoboth 1006 252ad+754fl			R. Marr	
10/18 E. Boston (BI)	30	DCR (S. Riley)		2018 season	Easton 120 22pr+76fl			M. Linck	
10/19 Westport	23	M. Iliff		2018 season	Norfolk 77 28ad+49fl			R. Marr	
Say's Phoebe				Tree Swallow	9/1	PI	2000	T. Wetmore	
9/30 Cuttyhunk I.	1 ph	M. Sylvia#		9/9	S. Monomoy	20000		L. Waters#	
10/12-13 Barre	1 ph	A. O'Hare + v.o.		9/30	Westport	3200		M. Eckerson#	
Great Crested Flycatcher				10/7	Plymouth	2000		A. Kneidel	
9/1 DWWS	2	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)		10/20	N. Truro	2500		J. Trimble#	
9/8 Belchertown	1	A. Hulsey		Northern Rough-winged Swallow	9/16	Wayland	3	B. Harris	
9/22 Concord	1	K. Dia#		10/7, 20	Longmeadow	20,2		D. Holmes, C. Surprenant	
9/30 Eastham	1	S. Williams#		10/20	N. Truro	1		J. Trimble#	
Western Kingbird				Bank Swallow	9/5	Hadley (Honeypot)	300	M. McKittrick	
10/6-10/9 N. Truro	2 ph	v.o.		9/10	Longmeadow	150		L. Richardson	
10/10 PI	1	D. Adrien		9/29	Plymouth	10		T. Evans	
10/14 Eastham	1 ph	M. Keleher#		10/19-31	Burrage Pd WMA	1		J. Sweeney	
10/28 P'town	1 ph	S. Williams#		10/22	Kingston	1		A. Kneidel	
10/29 Gloucester (BR)	1 ph	G. Power		Cliff Swallow	9/6	Hadley	1	L. Therrien	
Eastern Kingbird				9/8	PI	3		G. d'Entremont#	
9/26 PI	2	T. Wetmore							
9/29 N. Reading	2	L. Bruin							
Northern Shrike									
10/25-thr Windsor	1	S. Surner + v.o.							
10/31 Gardner	1	T. Pirro							
White-eyed Vireo									
9/20 Westport	1	L. Waters#							
9/30 Eastham	1	S. Williams#							
10/5 Cambridge	1	M. McCarthy							
10/10 Aquinnah	1	T. Gilliland							
10/23-31 Woburn (HP)	1	D. Williams + v.o.							
10/26 MBO	1 b	imm ph T. Lloyd-Evans#							
10/28-31 WBWS	1	M. Thistle#							

Cliff Swallow (continued)				9/29,10/16	Marlborough	10,1 nfc	T. Spahr
9/10	Stockbridge	1	R. Wendell	9/30	Plainfield	2	E. Lipton, J. Eckerson
10/19	Burrage Pd WMA	3	J. Sweeney	9/30	Essex	1 au	P. Brown
10/20	Revere	2	T. Bradford#	10/1,13,14	PI	1,1,1 b	B. Flemer#
Barn Swallow				10/1,13,17,21	Essex	1,1,1,1 nfc	P. Brown
9/6	Hadley (Honeypot)	110	L. Therrien	10/5	Belchertown	1	L. Therrien
9/9	PI	33	J. Keeley#	10/12	S. Hamilton	1 nfc	D. Walters
10/20	Longmeadow	13	C. Surprenant	10/14	Eastham (FH)	1	T. Spahr
10/30-31	Burrage Pd WMA	2	J. Sweeney	10/14	Cuttyhunk I.	1	S. Williams#
Red-breasted Nuthatch				10/14	Nahant	1	J. Trimble
9/7	Sharon	50	P. Peterson	10/26	MBO	1 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#
9/15	Winchendon	53	M. Lynch#	Swainson's Thrush			
10/1-10/14	PI	15 b	B. Flemer#	9/16-9/21	PI	3 b	B. Flemer#
10/3	PI	63	R. Heil	9/19,10/31	MBO	5,1 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#
10/21	Cuttyhunk I.	45	M. Sylvia#	9/23	Sunderland	10	B. Kane
Brown Creeper				9/29,10/16	Marlborough	150,6 nfc	T. Spahr
9/6	Sharon	8	L. Waters	10/1-10/17	PI	12 b	B. Flemer#
10/thr	PI	64 b	B. Flemer#	10/26	Eastham (FH)	1 ph	T. Spahr
10/thr	MBO	58 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#	10/30	Belmont	2	G. Harrison
10/14	Cuttyhunk I.	25	S. Williams#	Hermit Thrush			
House Wren				10/6-10/31	PI	60 b	B. Flemer#
9/15	Winchendon	8	M. Lynch#	10/19	Quabbin (G8)	29	M. Lynch#
9/22	Easthampton	17	J. Eckerson	10/26	Medford	24	R. LaFontaine
9/23	Huntington	6	M. Lynch#	10/26	MBO	10 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#
10/12	PI	1 b	B. Flemer#	Wood Thrush			
Winter Wren				9/21-9/23	N. Dighton	1	J. Eckerson#
10/15-22	MNWS	3	J. Smith	9/23	Needham	1	J. Forbes
10/22	MBO	1 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#	9/29	Lexington (DM)	1	J. Hoye#
10/25	Middlesex Fells	3	J. McCoy	10/8	Amherst	1	A. Hulse, A. Green
10/26	Westport	7	M. Iliff	Gray Catbird			
Marsh Wren				09/thr	PI	132 b	B. Flemer#
9/20	GMNWR	5	A. Bragg#	9/1	DWWS	31	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)
10/6	Quabog IBA	3	M. Lynch#	9/4	MBO	26 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#
10/17	PI	3	T. Wetmore	9/5	Ware R. IBA	38	M. Lynch#
Carolina Wren				10/3	PI	61	R. Heil
thr	PI	1	T. Wetmore + v.o.	Brown Thrasher			
9/30	Cumb. Farms	6	G. d'Entremont	09/thr	PI	21 b	B. Flemer#
10/4	Hadley(Honeypot)	5	L. Therrien	10/3	PI	9	R. Heil
10/14	Quabog IBA	6	M. Lynch#	Cedar Waxwing			
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				9/7	Ipswich	12	J. Berry
10/15-16	Manomet	1	A. Kneidel + v.o.	10/5	Huntington	51	M. Lynch#
10/16	Rockport (AP)	2	R. Heil	10/7	Warren	65	M. Lynch#
10/20	Gloucester (EP)	1	D. Walters#	American Pipit			
Golden-crowned Kinglet				9/14	Shelburne Falls	1	J. Smith
10/5-10/23	PI	75 b	B. Flemer#	10/15	Hadley (Honeypot)	112	M. McKittrick
10/6	P'town	12	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)	10/15	W. Newbury	75	R. Heil
10/14	Cuttyhunk I.	35	S. Williams#	10/16	PI	100	T. Wetmore
10/31	Leverett	12	A. Hulse	10/18	Concord	65	J. Forbes
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				10/20	Millis	70	J. Bock
10/5-10/31	PI	62 b	B. Flemer#	10/21	Orange	90	B. Laflay
10/5	Huntington	28	M. Lynch#	Evening Grosbeak			
10/13	MBO	12 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#	10/6	Williamstown	1	C. Jones
10/14	Cuttyhunk I.	27	S. Williams#	10/20	Merrimac	6	B. Buxton
10/22	Westboro	35	T. Spahr	10/28	Rockport (HPt)	13	S. Grinley#
Eastern Bluebird				10/28	Winchendon	4	M. Lynch#
10/6	Quabog IBA	20	M. Lynch#	10/28-30	Quabbin Pk	2	L. Therrien + v.o.
10/14-23	DWMA	22	N. Tepper	10/30	S. Peabody	14	R. Heil
10/28	Hardwick	16	W. Howes	10/31	Belmont	8	J. Layman#
10/30	Barre Falls	36	D. Schilling#	10/31	Sharon	6	L. Waters
10/31	Quabog IBA	21	M. Lynch#	10/31	Granville	4	D. Holmes
Townsend's Solitaire				10/31	DWWS	3 Type 3	T. O'Neill
10/1	S. Monomoy	1 ph	J. Junda#	10/31	Barnstable	2	P. Trimble
10/18	Wellfleet	1 ph	G. Ward	10/31	N. Dighton	2	J. Eckerson
Veery				10/31	Cambridge	2 Type 3	J. Trimble
9/5	PI	1 b	B. Flemer#	10/31	MNWS	1 Type 3	J. Smith
9/16	Concord	1	T. Swain	Purple Finch			
9/20	Deerfield	2	D. Sibley	9/30	S. Peabody	28	R. Heil
9/20	Burlington	2	J. Keeley	10/6	Quabog IBA	17	M. Lynch#
9/23	N. Dighton	1	M. Eckerson	10/14	Easthampton	31	L. Therrien
10/13	Boston (PG)	1	G. Fabbri	10/16	New Salem	22	B. Laflay
10/24	Woburn (HP)	1	R. Jilek	10/16	Truro	9	G. Ward
Gray-cheeked Thrush				10/21	Cuttyhunk I.	42	M. Sylvia#
9/16	Deerfield	2	D. Sibley	10/29	Lexington (DM)	45	M. Rines

White-throated Sparrow (continued)

10/24	Ashley Falls	125	G. Ward
White-crowned Sparrow			
9/16	New Salem	1	B. Lafley
10/11	PI	48	D. Adrien
10/19	Somerset	24	M. Eckerson#
10/19	Easthampton	23	L. Therrien
10/24	Ashley Falls	34	G. Ward
10/30	Northfield	15	P. Gagarin

Dark-eyed Junco

10/20	Hinsdale	318	M. Lynch#
10/25	Arlington	60	R. Stymeist
10/28	Winchendon	177	M. Lynch#
10/28	Ware	169	S. Surner

Yellow-breasted Chat

thr	Reports of indiv. from 14 locations		
10/26	Westport	22	A. Eckerson#
10/28	Orleans	3	S. Williams#

Bobolink

9/12	Easthampton	305	L. Therrien
9/16	Wayland	20	B. Harris
9/27	Cumb. Farms	20	L. Schibley
9/29	Quincy	28	V. Zollo
10/21	Quincy	2	G. d'Entremont
10/31	Newton	1	M. Chalfin-Jacobs

Eastern Meadowlark

9/26	Hadley	3	L. Therrien
9/29	Weymouth	1	J. Bock
10/13	Melrose	1	J. McCoy
10/19	Cumb. Farms	1	E. Vacchino
10/25	Essex	2	J. MacDougall
10/28	PI	2	T. + N. Walker
10/29	Uxbridge	1	N. Demers

Orchard Oriole

9/5	Pittsfield	1	L. Hertzog
9/12	E. Bridgewater	1	J. Carlisle
9/12	Winthrop	1	T. Bradford#
9/16	Nantucket	1	S. Kardell
9/23	Rockport (AP)	1	R. Heil
10/6	PI	1	J. Layman
10/24	Sandwich	1	J. Pratt

Baltimore Oriole

9/4	Quabbin Pk	6	L. Therrien
9/20	PI	1 b	B. Flemer#
10/6	Eastham	3	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)
10/12	PI	3	S. Williams#
10/30	Manomet	1	E. Dalton#

Brown-headed Cowbird

10/16	N. Dighton	125	M. Eckerson + v.o.
10/26	Acton	300	K. Hartel

Rusty Blackbird

10/19	IRWS	80	J. McCoy
10/19	Lexington	14	F. Lehman
10/19	Bolton Flats	10	P. Sowizral
10/23	DWMA	35	N. Tepper
10/28	Groton	50	T. Murray

Common Grackle

9/22	Holbrook	5000	G. d'Entremont
10/13-19	Ipswich	500	J. Berry
10/14	Hadley	1000	F. Bowrys

Ovenbird

9/2-10/31	Reports of indiv. from 6 locations		
9/2	Ware R. IBA	5	M. Lynch#
9/5	Nantucket	3	S. Kardell
9/24	October Mountain	1	K. Hanson

Louisiana Waterthrush

9/17	Sudbury	1	K. Dia
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Northern Waterthrush

9/1-10/30	Reports of indiv. from 11 locations		
9/1-9/23	PI	5 b	B. Flemer#
9/13, 10/6	Westport	2,2	M.Eckerson#,J.Offermann
10/3	Belmont	2	C. Cook
10/6	Amherst	1	L. Therrien

Golden-winged Warbler

9/16	Rockport	1 ph	S. Williams#
Blue-winged Warbler			
9/4	MBO	1 b imm f	T. Lloyd-Evans#
9/14	Hadley (Honeyptot)	1	L. Therrien
9/20	Burlington	1	J. Keeley
10/10-11	MNWS	1	J. Smith
10/18	Gloucester	1	P. Hackett

Black-and-white Warbler

9/1	Tolland	7	M. Lynch#
9/2-9/21	PI	4 b	B. Flemer#
9/15	Winchendon	7	M. Lynch#
9/23	Lowell	3	M. Baird
10/31	Williamstown	1	M. Morales

Prothonotary Warbler

10/5-10/22	Ipswich	1 ph	R. Heil
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Tennessee Warbler

9/2-10/28	Reports of indiv. from 22 locations		
9/23	Huntington	9	M. Lynch#
10/12	PI	3	S. Sullivan#
10/15	W. Newbury	3	R. Heil
10/28	Turners Falls	1	J. Rose#

Orange-crowned Warbler

10/1-10/31	Reports of indiv. from 30 locations		
10/3	PI	3	R. Heil
10/8	Cambr. (FP)	2	J. Forbes
10/15	Eastham (FH)	4	T. Spahr#
10/21	Saugus	3	S. Zende#
10/21	Nahant	2	S. Williams
10/25-26	Westport	2	M. Iliff + v.o.
10/28	Orleans	8	S. Williams#

Nashville Warbler

9/9-10/31	Reports of indiv. from 29 locations		
9/27-9/29	Wayland	2	B. Harris
9/29	Westborough WMA2	2	G. d'Entremont
9/30	MBO	3 b	T. Lloyd-Evans#
10/1-10/6	PI	5 b	B. Flemer#
10/2, 10/11	Lexington	4,2	K. Hartel
10/9	Boston (Fens)	2	S. Jones

Connecticut Warbler

9/8-10/7	Reports of indiv. from 22 locations		
9/14, 9/20	Westboro	2,3	T. Spahr
9/15, 9/22	PI	1,1 b	B. Flemer#
9/17, 9/23	MBO	1,1 b imm ph	T. L-Evans#
9/19-9/20	Easthampton	3	A. Hulse, L. Therrien
9/27	Wayland	2	B. Harris
10/4, 10/7	Brewster	1,1 b	S. Finnegan#

Mourning Warbler

9/9	Dover	1 ph	E. Nielsen + v.o.
9/11-9/12	Cambridge	1 ph	M. McCarthy + v.o.
9/18	Middleton	1	S. Sullivan
9/20	MBO	1 b imm f ph	T. Lloyd-Evans#
9/23	Medford	1 ph	N. Dorian#
9/26	Lexington (DM)	1	K. Dia
9/27	Westport	1	M. Eckerson#
9/28	Amherst	1	J. Eckerson
9/30	Jeffreys L.	1	J. Berry#
9/30	Groton	1	T. Murray
9/30	Ware R. IBA	1	M. Lynch#

Common Yellowthroat

09/thr	PI	11 b	B. Flemer#
9/5	Ware R. IBA	34	M. Lynch#
9/8	Huntington	48	M. Lynch#
9/29	Westborough	8	G. d'Entremont

Hooded Warbler

9/29	Easthampton	1 ph	E. Lipton#
10/3	PI	1 m ad	W. Tatro
10/9	MBO	1 b imm m ph	T. L-Evans#

American Redstart

9/5	Ware R. IBA	3	M. Lynch#
9/8	Huntington	7	M. Lynch#
9/16	Petersham	4	M. Lynch#
9/20	Westport	4	L. Waters#

BYGONE BIRDS

Historical Highlights for September–October

Neil Hayward
5 YEARS AGO



September–October 2013

An immature **Brown Booby** was spotted in Provincetown in September and then again a month later. Three **American White Pelicans** were seen flying over Dedham on October 28. A **Swainson's Hawk** was banded at the Carver landfill, the first record for six years. A **Purple Gallinule** was present in Peabody from September 16–22. The Cape and Islands hosted a **Sabine's Gull** in Chatham, September 14–18, a **Rufous Hummingbird** in Brewster, October 30, and a **Black-throated Gray Warbler** on Nantucket, October 14. Other songbird highlights included a **Sedge Wren** in Northampton on September 26 and a **Western Tanager** in Chatham on October 9.

Best sighting: a **Calliope Hummingbird** was discovered during the Nantucket Birding Festival on October 19. It stayed four days and represented the fifth record for the state.

10 YEARS AGO



September–October 2008

An **American White Pelican** was photographed at Swansea on September 19. Tropical Storm Hanna delivered a few rarities on September 7: two **South Polar Skuas** passed Andrew's Point in Rockport; First Encounter Beach, Eastham, logged a **Long-tailed Jaeger** and two **Sabine's Gulls**. An adult male **Rufous Hummingbird** visited a feeder in South Yarmouth, and a **White-winged Dove** was found on Nantucket. Single **Say's Phoebes** were reported from Provincetown and Plum Island. A **Varied Thrush** in Gloucester on October 26 was the earliest record for this species in the state. Dunback Meadows, Lexington, is famous for hosting the first **MacGillivray's Warbler** for the state back in November 1977. Twenty-one years later, another was found only a few yards away from the where the first had been seen. Other passerine rarities included a **Western Tanager** in Eastham, a **Sedge Wren** on Nantucket, and **Yellow-throated Warblers** at Marblehead Neck and Plum Island.

Best sighting: the first state **Broad-billed Hummingbird**, found in West Dennis on August 23, continued through the period.

20 YEARS AGO

BIRD OBSERVER



VOL. 37 NO. 1
FEBRUARY 1998

September–October 1998

A breeding plumage **Pacific Loon** flew past Andrew's Point in Rockport on October 9. "The" **Eared Grebe** returned to East Gloucester in October for its fifth winter, and the **Tufted Duck** returned for its fifth winter in Worcester County. A **Swainson's Hawk** was spotted at Provincetown on October 3, and a "Richardson's" **Merlin**—a western prairie subspecies rarely encountered on the East Coast—was at Tuckernuck for two days. A **Yellow Rail** was found in the Neponset Marshes in Dorchester on September 26. Shorebird highlights included **American Avocets** in Quincy and Chatham. A **Gull-billed Tern** spent a week in Chatham during September, and a **Sandwich Tern** was a one-day wonder on the Lynn/Nahant town line on October 19. A **Black-backed Woodpecker** was found in Groton in late October.

Best sighting: The **Red-necked Stint**, first found in August, continued to delight birders at Duxbury Beach for the first week of September.

40 YEARS AGO



VOLUME 7 No. 1

September–October 1978

An **American White Pelican** was rescued from a fishing line in Truro on October 31 and reported later that day from Chatham. There were two records of **Bar-tailed Godwit**: at Plum Island, from September 4–7 and on Nantucket, September 23–October 21. A **Sandwich Tern** was recorded at Monomoy on September 9. **Northern Wheatears** were reported from Quabbin Reservoir in September, and from Salisbury over a month later. Salisbury also hosted a **Lark Bunting** for all of October. Four **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** were on the Cape in September and October, and a **Brewer's Blackbird** was present for a week on Nantucket. An adult male **Western Tanager** was a one-day wonder in Truro on September 17, and a **Henslow's Sparrow** was in the beach grass at Plum Island on September 14.

Best sighting: The Mount Wachusett hawk watch scored 10,086 Broad-winged Hawks passing over on September 13. This was the highest count for the state at the time. (The new record was set on the exact same day and location five years later, in 1983, with 19,912 Broad-wings.)

ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIRD SIGHTINGS

Taxonomic order is based on AOS checklist, 7th edition, 58th Supplement, as published in *Auk* 2017, vol. 134(3):751-773 (see <<http://checklist.aou.org/>>).

Locations		PI	Plum Island
AA	Arnold Arboretum, Boston	Pk	Park
ABC	Allen Bird Club	Pont.	Pontoosuc Lake, Lanesboro
AP	Andrews Point, Rockport	POP	Point of Pines, Revere
APd	Allens Pond, S. Dartmouth	PR	Pinnacle Rock, Malden
AthBC	Athol Bird Club	P'town	Provincetown
B.	Beach	R.	River
Barre FD	Barre Falls Dam	Res.	Reservoir
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	RKG	Rose Kennedy Greenway, Boston
BHI	Boston Harbor Islands	RP	Race Point, Provincetown
BI	Belle Isle, E. Boston	SB	South Beach, Chatham
BMB	Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester	SN	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
BNC	Boston Nature Center, Mattapan	SP	State Park
BR	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
BRI Co. seas	Bristol County, offshore	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
Cambr.	Cambridge	TASL	Take A Second Look, Boston Harbor Census
CB	Crane Beach, Ipswich	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club	WE	World's End, Hingham
CGB	Coast Guard Beach, Eastham	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	WMWS	Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary
CP	Crooked Pond, Boxford	Wompatuck SP	Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, Norwell
Cumb. Farms	Cumberland Farms, Middleboro	Worc.	Worcester
DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary	WSF	Willowdale State Forest, Ipswich
DM	Dunback Meadow		
DWMA	Delaney WMA, Stow, Bolton, Harvard	Other Abbreviations	
DWWS	Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary	*	first state record (pending MARC review)
EP	Eastern Point, Gloucester	!	subject to MARC review
FE	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	ad	adult
FH	Fort Hill, Eastham	au	heard / recorded
FP	Fresh Pond, Cambridge	b	banded
FPk	Franklin Park, Boston	br	breeding
G#	Gate #, Quabbin Res.	cy	cycle (3cy = 3rd cycle)
GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge	d	dead
H.	Harbor	dk	dark (morph)
HCB	Herring Cove Beach, Provincetown	f	female
HP	Horn Pond, Woburn	fl	fledgling
HPt	Halibut Point, Rockport	imm	immature
HRWMA	High Ridge WMA, Gardner	inj	injured
I.	Island	juv	juvenile
IBA	Important Bird Area	lt	light (morph)
IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary	m	male
L.	Ledge	MARC	Massachusetts Avian Records Committee
MAS	Mass Audubon	max	maximum
MBO	Bird Observatory, Manomet	migr	migrating
MBWMA	Martin Burns WMA, Newbury	n	nesting
MI	Morris Island	nfc	nocturnal flight call
MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary	ph	photographed
MP	Millennium Park, W. Roxbury	pl	plumage
MSSF	Myles Standish State Forest, Plymouth	pr	pair
MtA	Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambr.	r	rescued
MV	Martha's Vineyard	S	summer (1S = first summer)
NAC	Nine Acre Corner, Concord	subad	subadult
Nbpt	Newburyport	v.o.	various observers
ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge	W	winter (2W = second winter)
Pd	Pond	yg	young
PG	Public Garden, Boston	#	additional observers

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO *BIRD OBSERVER*

Sightings for any given month should be reported to Bird Observer by the eighth of the following month. Reports should include: name and phone number of observer, name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, other observer(s), and information on age, sex, and morph (where relevant). Reports can be emailed to sightings@birdobserver.org or submitted online at <<http://www.birdobserver.org/Contact-Us/Submit-Sightings>>, or sent by mail to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 36 Lewis Avenue, Arlington MA 02474-3206.

Species on the Review List of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, as well as species unusual as to place, time, or known nesting status in Massachusetts, should be reported promptly to the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, c/o Sean Williams, 18 Parkman Street, Westborough MA 01581, or by email to seanbirder@gmail.com.

ABOUT THE COVER

Iceland Gull

The Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) is one of the world's most interesting and enigmatic gull species because its Arctic homeland makes it difficult to study. The variability in plumage and hybridization among the species' three subspecies makes identifying an individual to the subspecific level problematic. The nominate population of the Iceland Gull (*L. g. glaucooides*) is a "white-winged" gull that is smaller than a Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*). Most individuals of the race *glaucooides* lack gray on the wingtips. Adults have a light gray mantle and upper wing surface; immatures tend to be creamy brown as juveniles that turn whiter by their second year. The Kumlien's subspecies (*L. g. kumlieni*) is similar in all plumages, but has a highly variable amount of gray in the primary feathers, producing wing tips that vary from practically all white to dark gray, often making it hard to separate some of them from the Thayer's subspecies (*L. g. thayeri*), which has blackish wing tips. All subspecies have yellow bills with a red spot on the lower mandible and pink legs. Immatures have black bills.

Iceland Gull taxonomy has a long and confusing history. The Kumlien's Gull has, at one time or another, been considered a full species, and a subspecies of both Thayer's Gull and Iceland Gull. The Thayer's Gull also has been considered a full species, as well as a subspecies of both Herring Gull and Iceland Gull. In 2017, based upon twenty-first-century studies the American Ornithological Society lumped the Thayer's Gull with the Iceland and Kumlien's gulls to form a single species that retains the name Iceland Gull for all of the three races/species. How's that for confusing?

All three subspecies breed in coastal colonies in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. The nominate Iceland subspecies breeds in eastern and southwestern Greenland. The Kumlien's subspecies breeds on the eastern half of Baffin Island. These two subspecies mainly winter in the North Atlantic, mostly in coastal southern Greenland and Iceland for *glaucooides*, and in eastern Canada and the northeastern United States for *kumlieni*, with a few wandering south along the United States coast to Virginia, and inland along the St. Lawrence waterway to the eastern Great Lakes. The Thayer's subspecies breeds in Buchanan Bay and the Arctic Islands of Nunavut, Canada, and winters along the west coast of Canada and the United States south to Baja California. In Massachusetts, wintering Iceland Gulls are considered uncommon to locally fairly common, with immature birds predominating. The Thayer's subspecies is considered a rare winter visitor.

The vocal array of Iceland Gulls is similar to that of the Herring Gull. A high-pitched laughing call signals dominance and may reflect a bird's place in the social hierarchy. They also utter a choking call at or near the nest, and barking calls before or during flight.

Iceland Gulls are presumed to be monogamous but little is known about courtship and pair formation. It is thought that they do not breed until after their fourth year but data are lacking. Little is known about territoriality or nest placement on densely

packed cliff-face colonial nesting sites. Iceland Gulls often share nesting cliffs with Black Guillemots, other alcids, and Black-legged Kittiwakes. The nest selection process is unstudied. The nest material usually consists of loose, coarse vegetation and moss, often lined with feathers. The usual two to three eggs, laid in May or June, are gray or grayish-brown splotched with a variety of colors. Little is known about the nesting cycle, but both parents apparently develop brood patches and share incubation for the 24–26 days until hatching. The chicks are semiprecocial; they are covered with down and their eyes open soon after hatching. It is thought that the fledging period is 4–6 weeks. Little is known about the parents' role in feeding the chicks. In the fall, the independent young wander widely to the north or south. Whether Iceland Gulls are breeding-site faithful is unknown.

Iceland Gulls are opportunistic foragers. They are mainly surface feeders, and may take food in flight or while sitting on the water. They also regularly follow fishing boats. Their diet includes mainly fish, but they also take carrion, marine insects, other marine life, and the eggs of other birds. In winter they sometimes forage at garbage dumps with other gulls.

At breeding colonies, Gyrfalcons and Peregrine Falcons may prey on both adults and young Iceland Gulls, as may Glaucous Gulls, Common Ravens, and Arctic foxes. Historically, Iceland Gulls were harvested for their feathers and are still hunted for food by Inuits. Human impact is sometimes significant, particularly at breeding colonies, where the use of modern firearms, unenforced catch limits, and motorboats approaching nesting colonies may cause disruption. Oil spills have also been known to have a negative impact on Iceland Gulls. Despite these factors, the Iceland Gull is not considered threatened or endangered. Inaccessibility of many of the Arctic breeding colonies offers the Iceland Gull its best protection. 

William E. Davis, Jr.

ABOUT THE COVER ARTIST

Barry Van Dusen

An artist who has created many of our covers, Barry Van Dusen lives in Princeton, Massachusetts, and is well known in the birding world. Barry has illustrated several nature books and pocket guides, and his articles and paintings have been featured in *Birding*, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, and *Yankee Magazine* as well as *Bird Observer*. Barry's interest in nature subjects began in 1982 with an association with the Massachusetts Audubon Society. He has been influenced by the work of European wildlife artists and has adopted their methodology of direct field sketching. Barry teaches workshops at various locations in Massachusetts. For more information, visit Barry's website at <http://www.barryvandusen.com>. 

AT A GLANCE

December 2018



CARL GOODRICH

Here we go again—another anomalous-looking bird! In spite of what some experienced birders may say, precise bird identification, even after lots of practice, is not always straightforward or possible. This issue’s mystery photo may be just such a case.

A knee-jerk impression could suggest a Lapland Longspur in breeding plumage, but a look at the nonconical bill and the absence of a broad white stripe bordering the black face and behind the eye can quickly dispel that possibility. Another quick impression might be an aberrant male American Redstart, but how about those neat wing bars and the absence of large orange bases to the tail feathers? Clearly neither of these options is a good fit. So let’s concentrate on other features of this curious-appearing species.

This is a case where the color view of the web version of the mystery species may be helpful. In color, in addition to having obvious white wing bars, the bird appears to have a hint of dusky streaking on its back, broad pale edges to the tertials, a distinct wash of yellowish on the mid-breast, a light blush of buff on the sides and flanks, and pinkish-gray legs. This combination of features, along with the obvious black head and throat, hardly matches any North American bird species.

Returning to what you do have to work with, try imagining the bird without any black on its head, throat, or sides of its upper breast. What does the rest of the bird look

like? And here I must freely admit that I never saw this bird in life. However, with the black areas obscured I would hazard that the rest of the bird looks suspiciously like a female or autumn-plumaged Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*). Additionally, super close scrutiny of the colored photograph suggests that there is a hint of chestnut bordering the left edge of the black on the bird's breast, and possibly also in the vicinity of the bird's right shoulder. The overall small size of the bird compared to the surrounding vegetation, as well as the slimness of its legs and its overall plumpness, further reinforces the impression of a Bay-breasted Warbler. So what's going on with this bird?

The answer to this question is not obvious and may not be accurately determined without more genetic information. Indications are, however, that the mystery species is either a melanistic or schizochroistic Bay-breasted Warbler, where an excess of black pigment (i.e. melanin) has replaced much of what should normally have been chestnut or buff in color. Additionally, the underparts and flanks are also lacking in chestnut but are completely lacking in melanin, too. These features suggest that the complexity of this bird's plumage abnormalities involve more than simply an excess of melanin. This mystery bird is likely exhibiting abnormalities that are beyond resolution from this photograph alone, even though the species involved is almost certainly a Bay-breasted Warbler.

Regardless of its positive identity, this mystery warbler was photographed by Carl Goodrich in the Dry Tortugas off Key West, Florida, in late April 2008. 

Wayne R. Petersen

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AT BIRD OBSERVER

Digital Production Manager to assist with some key online initiatives

- publishing the online edition of the bi-monthly journal
- production of digital artwork and PDF publications
- assistance with site maintenance and online services

Technically adept, detail-minded individuals are welcome. A creative flair for problem solving and persistence against unforeseen obstacles would be a bonus.

Contact Webmaster Eric Swanzey at <eric@swanzey.com>.

Bird Sightings Compiler for Worcester County

Our long-running Bird Sightings column relies on data from compilers around the state. The compiler for Worcester County would be responsible for sending in reports every two months of species seen in that county for the previous two months. Species are reported in a spreadsheet template and include sightings that are representative of high counts, early/late dates, and anything rare or unusual. The compiler should be familiar with the birds (and birders) of Worcester County, be comfortable with using a spreadsheet, and be able to use eBird.org to query sightings.

Contact Bird Sightings Editor Neil Hayward at <neil.hayward@gmail.com>.

AT A GLANCE



DAVID LARSON

Can you identify the birds in this photograph?
Identification will be discussed in next issue's AT A GLANCE.

MORE HOT BIRDS

Rick Heil spotted two **White Pelicans** flying together over Plum Island on November 30. He got the word out and a few other birders managed to relocate the birds farther down the island. The following day, Jeremiah Trimble and Jeff Offerman presumably saw the same two birds flying over Ipswich. They were never seen again in Massachusetts, but a bird of the same species was seen later in December in coastal New Hampshire and Maine, and may have been one of these two. Jeremiah Trimble took the photograph on the right.



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VOL. 47, NO 1, FEBRUARY 2019

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