

Bird Observer

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HOT BIRDS



When Ron and Marge Murphy saw a strange hummingbird at their feeder in Dennis, they consulted their friends, Sandra and Charles McGibbon, who photographed the bird on August 23 and identified it as a **Broad-billed** (left). This amazing first-state-record bird stayed well into October. See the field note on page 284.

On September 9, Anne Middleton spotted an adult male **Rufous Hummingbird** at her feeder in Yarmouth. It only stayed two days, but she captured definitive photos (right).

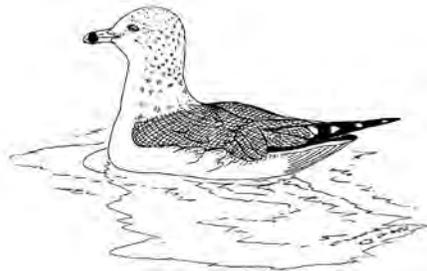


Can you say “**Say’s Phoebe?**” It was that kind of Autumn, with Say’s Phoebes reported on Cape Cod and on Plum Island. The phoebe at Race Point in Provincetown was found by Paul Champlin on September 11 and was photographed by Mark Faherty (below left) on that day. On October 2, John Nelson discovered a Say’s Phoebe on Plum Island. Nancy Landry took this photograph the next day (below, right).



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RING-BILLED GULL BY WILLIAM E. DAVIS, JR.

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Bird Observer

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Birding the Cumberland Farms Fields in Middleboro/Halifax

Jim Sweeney

For many years a popular birding destination for Massachusetts birders, the Cumberland Farms fields came into existence in 1971 or 1972 when the business entity behind Cumberland Farms, Inc. purchased the former testing grounds of the National Fireworks Company. The entire Cumberland Farms area was originally part of an extensive wetland known as the Great Cedar Swamp. The swamp covered approximately 2000 acres and supported a unique avifauna including the following breeding species: Northern Goshawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Great-Horned, Barred, and Northern Saw-whet owls, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, Veery, Hermit Thrush, Northern Waterthrush, Canada Warbler, and Swamp and White-throated sparrows (Anderson 1996).

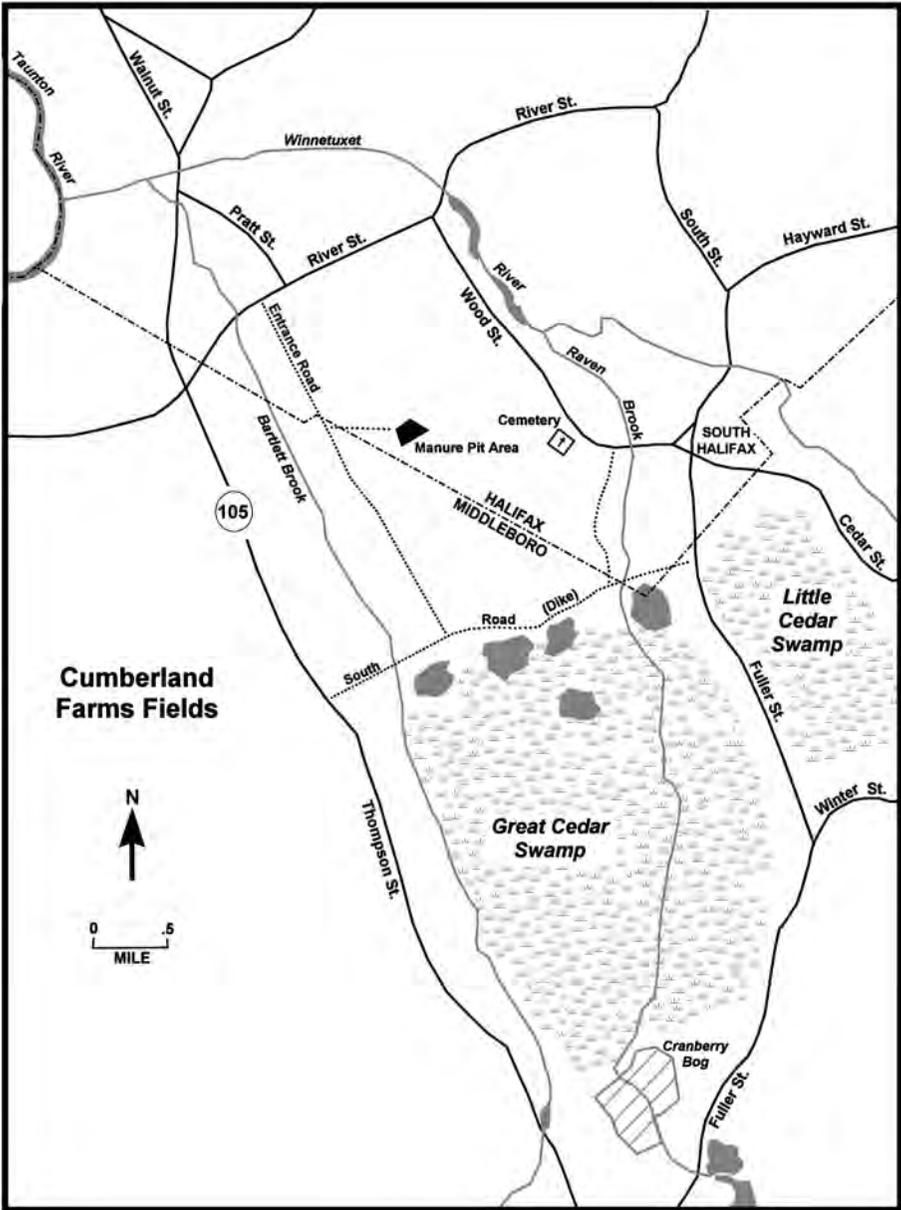


Although named for the Atlantic white cedar that once grew there, the Great Cedar Swamp was also characterized by the presence of red maple, white pine, yellow birch, swamp white oak, and eastern hemlock (*ibid.*). Undoubtedly, the presence of Atlantic white cedar and eastern hemlock provided suitable nesting habitat for the aforementioned species with a more northerly distribution in the East.

In 1972, Cumberland Farms, Inc. began intensive clear-cutting of the swamp in order to convert it to cornfields and hayfields to feed its herd of dairy cows in the adjacent town of Bridgewater. Subsequently, the lowest portions of the swamp were ditched to drain them into brooks and culverts that were ultimately channeled into the nearby Winnetuxet River. In addition, Raven and Bartlett brooks (both of which continue to flow at the southern end of the fields) were channeled to flow north into the Winnetuxet. When the project was completed, approximately 1500 acres of swamp forest in the towns of Halifax and Middleboro had been drained. Most of the drainage occurred in the town of Halifax, where 1000 acres were converted to farmland (*ibid.*).

In 1975, the newly formed agricultural land began to attract the attention of local birders when avian surprises such as Glossy Ibis, Ruddy Turnstone, and Sanderling were discovered feeding on manure piles dumped along River Street in Halifax. Historically, birders had spent much time searching for Bobolinks and Eastern Meadowlarks on Route 105 (Thompson Street). However, as the number of manure piles increased and the species observed there became more diverse (particularly shorebirds), birders began to spend more time scrutinizing the fields and adding to the area's increasingly impressive species list (*ibid.*).

Conditions changed, however, when the company became embroiled in a court case with the Army Corps of Engineers that resulted in a "cease and desist" order for ignoring directives to stop clear-cutting the swamp. A federal judge, in a decision



MAP BY DOROTHY GRAASKAMP

upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, ordered Cumberland Farms, Inc. to restore 400 acres of the most recently cleared swampland (mostly in the town of Middleboro). The company responded to the mandate by digging four large ponds in an attempt to reintroduce wetland vegetation to the area. Eventually cattails flourished and the ponds began to attract species such as Great Egret, American Bittern, Marsh Wren, and Willow Flycatcher (ibid.).

In 1986, the company participated in a federal whole-herd dairy cow buyout and ceased using the fields, which were eventually leased to farmers who cut hay and planted corn. In addition, a portion of the fields was leased for turf farming. During the few years that turf was planted, and eventually cut and rolled up for sale as sod, flocks of American Golden-Plovers and, occasionally, Buff-breasted Sandpipers would appear in late summer and early fall. The turf also produced an impressive array of other shorebird species at these seasons (*ibid.*).

Since the early 1990s, the fields have been leased to various farmers who have cultivated corn, squash, pumpkins, and, on the western side, hay. Large portions of the fields have remained fallow for several years, and it is during these times that sparrow diversity is at its peak during the fall migration.

The Cumberland Farms fields are regularly used by ATV enthusiasts and, more recently, by those who enjoy “four-wheeling” on the wet and muddy road that runs along the southern end of the fields. In recent years, a model plane club has been using a small, manicured area at the north end of the fields near the River Street entrance.

The fields are also a very popular location for local hunters, and birding from mid-October to mid-December is strongly discouraged since the hunting pressure can be intense. It is best to consult the Massachusetts hunting season dates before venturing too far into the fields at this season, except on Sunday when hunting is prohibited. Birding the fields is still possible, however, if one follows the roads that form the perimeter of this vast area. There are several places to park and observe birds from the comfort of your vehicle. During years with heavy snowfall, this is perhaps the best way to bird the fields in the winter. Frequently, plows kick up the leaf litter at the edge of the road and sparrows are easy to find in the exposed patches.

Birding the perimeter of the fields can also be productive in spring and summer since there is a variety of interesting habitats immediately surrounding the fields. The Winnetuxet River flows very close to Wood Street, and the dense greenbrier thickets in this area sometimes contain a semi-hardy lingerer like a Gray Catbird or a Hermit Thrush in winter. On the northeastern side of Fuller Street is a vestigial portion of the Great Cedar Swamp known as the Little Cedar Swamp. In early summer, listen for singing Northern Waterthrushes at this location. At other times of the year (particularly in the fall) Northern Saw-whet Owls can occasionally be heard.

The Cumberland Farms fields yield many interesting bird sightings throughout the year. The objective of this article is to guide birders to the most productive areas during all four seasons and describe the species that are most likely to be encountered. Because the fields and environs are so extensive, birders should be prepared to spend several hours at any location featured in this article. In the fall, which is unequivocally the most productive season, a birder could easily spend the day working the roads and edges of this incredibly unique area.

How to Get to the Cumberland Farms Fields

Take Route 495 toward Cape Cod, and get off at Exit 6 (Route 44 Middleboro/Plymouth). At the end of the off-ramp, take a right, and travel east a short distance on Route 44 to the Middleboro Rotary. Continue around the rotary, and get back on Route 44 going east. From the rotary it is 4.0 miles to Route 105 in Middleboro. Take a left on Route 105 (Plympton Street), and after half a mile bear left to stay on Route 105 (which becomes Thompson Street). Follow Route 105 for 3.4 miles and take a right on River Street. Continue on River Street for 0.4 mile to the main entrance to the Cumberland Farms fields, located in Halifax.

To reach the destinations on the perimeter of the fields discussed in the article, follow the directions from the main entrance on River Street given for the winter season.

Birding the Fields in the Summer

The best place to start birding the fields in summer is from the main entrance on River Street in Halifax. Be sure to park well to the left of the entrance road gate since, in recent years, there has been trucking activity along the main dirt road that runs south from the parking area. Birders should plan to walk the main road into the fields with several stops along the way. It is a little more than a mile from the entrance gate to the point where the road runs into a perpendicular dirt road at the southern end of the fields.

Walk south on the main road until you arrive at a cluster of trees where the road passes over a culvert. Shortly after the culvert, the road is lined with pussy willow and a variety of small shrubs. Listen here for Willow Flycatchers. At least one pair has been present in this area for several years, though breeding has not yet been confirmed. Also here are Song Sparrows and, in the wetter areas, Common Yellowthroats. Eventually, the road opens up to reveal the extensive western half of the fields. At this point, a road goes left toward a large cluster of deciduous trees with a few smaller white pines. Before taking this left, listen and look for Indigo Buntings. Then follow the road on the left into the wooded area where Eastern Kingbirds, Warbling Vireos, Baltimore Orioles, and Black-billed Cuckoos may be present.

On this road, you will soon come to the area known to local birders as the "manure pit." In early 2006, the company removed the manure pit and razed the immediate area. Shortly after, large sifters were brought in and trucks began hauling material out of the fields. If trucks are in the vicinity, or you can hear rumbling and crunching, it is best to avoid this area. Historically, the manure pit was a hot spot for shorebirds in late summer. It was not uncommon to find Least, Semipalmated, and Solitary sandpipers vigorously feeding in the wet parts of the manure flat. A Black-necked Stilt was observed in the pit on one occasion in 1995. Since the removal of the manure pit, the wet, muddy areas created by the heavy equipment still attract some shorebirds. Killdeer and Spotted Sandpiper were both confirmed breeders in this area in 2007.

After birding this location, return to the main road, and turn left to continue south. Singing Savannah Sparrows will frequently “tee up” on higher vegetation in the fields. Occasionally you may observe Eastern Meadowlarks in this same area. To date, there has been no evidence of this species breeding at the fields, but there is a lot of ground to cover, and the Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas 2 project is still young! Eastern Meadowlarks are more likely to be sighted in fall and winter when small flocks may be observed almost anywhere in the fields. Upland Sandpipers were confirmed breeding at the fields during the first Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas project, but there has been no conclusive evidence of breeding at the fields since the mid-1970s. For birders with an interest in observing odonates, this stretch of the road may produce a sighting of black saddlebags and calico pennants in mid-July. As you approach the southwestern corner of the fields, look for breeding Bobolinks. Listen for their mechanical songs as they fly around the fields on stiff wing beats. Most of the Bobolinks breeding in the fields are found on the west side of the main road heading south, with scattered pairs on the southeastern part of the fields.



Cumberland Farms fields in the summer. All photographs by David McGlynn.

Continue south on the main road until it runs into the east/west road at the south end of the fields. Go right and walk a short distance to a cattail marsh on the left. The area immediately surrounding the marsh holds a few pairs of Willow Flycatchers and is likely to produce Yellow Warblers, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Common Yellowthroats, Baltimore Orioles, and Eastern Kingbirds. In the marsh look and listen for Marsh Wrens, Swamp Sparrows, American Bitterns, Virginia Rails, and, occasionally, a Least Bittern. Northern Rough-winged, Tree, and Barn swallows may be observed coursing over the open water in the center of the marsh. In July 2007, a single Ring-necked Duck was observed in this area. By continuing west on the road, you will pass an area thick with speckled alder and eventually reach another large field. Usually, several pairs of Bobolinks are breeding in this spot.

If you then walk back past the cattail marsh and continue east on the road, you will pass many willows and wet areas containing cattails. Usually, several more pairs of Willow Flycatchers are along this section of the road. Listen for Swamp Sparrows singing from many locations on the south side of the road. Continue on this road about another quarter-mile to an area where you might be able to discern a few poorly defined paths leading to several of the small ponds that were created by the company in an attempt to restore wetlands. These small ponds can be good for Great Egrets, Great Blue Herons, and, occasionally, postbreeding Black-crowned Night-Herons. Continuing east, you will eventually reach a point where another deeply rutted road runs south. Just beyond, another road runs north through a deep ditch, which, most of the year, contains some water. Follow the road east a bit farther, and you will reach

another cattail marsh (on the right) known as Raven Brook marsh. This marsh has yielded sightings of Least Bittern in recent years and is also good for observing Virginia Rails and, occasionally, Soras. Green Herons are also usually present in this marsh.

Return to the location where the side road runs through the ditch, turn right (north), and you will soon arrive at several dirt mounds on the left. Following this road beyond the mounds will take you to Wood Street. The wet areas to the east, with lots of *Phragmites* and scattered shrubs, are worth checking closely for early migrants in late summer. Aromatic pineapple weed grows along this section of the road, and a rare wood turtle was observed at this location in June 2004. Raven Brook flows along the east side of the road and is visible from Wood Street, a few yards south of the small parking area at the edge of the field. This corner of the fields sometimes produces sightings of Indigo Buntings, Orchard Orioles, Northern Flickers, and Northern Mockingbirds.

Birding the Fields in the Fall

The fall season is by far the most popular time of year for a trip to the Cumberland Farms fields. As in summer, the best place to start birding in the fall is from the main entrance on River Street in Halifax. As soon as you enter the fields, take an immediate left, and check the red maples growing along the fence. In most years, foxtail grasses grow right to the edge of the maples and southbound migrants drop into this area following an arduous nocturnal flight. Look for Indigo Buntings, Lincoln's Sparrows, Savannah Sparrows, and a variety of warblers at this location. Perhaps the most celebrated species, which makes an almost annual appearance at the fields, is the Connecticut Warbler. Look for it in the red maples and tangles growing along the north end of the fields, particularly near the edge of River Street. The best time to look for this species is from mid-September through mid-October. Frequently, a Connecticut Warbler will be feeding in the grasses and weeds below the red maples. When startled, a bird will sometimes fly to a low branch and sit motionless for several seconds. In recent years, it has not been unusual to encounter several at the north end of the fields.

Continue south on the road, and pay close attention to the willows and shrubs along both sides. In this area you will likely encounter Palm, Yellow-rumped, and Blackpoll warblers, White-crowned and White-throated sparrows, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, House Wrens, Eastern Phoebes, and many Song Sparrows. Clay-colored and Vesper sparrows are also remarkably regular in fall along this stretch of road. Similarly, Blue Grosbeaks and Dickcissels are regularly found in this season at the north end of the fields and near the former manure pit. Follow the road south until you reach the point where the road splits and the open fields are visible. Thousands of Tree Swallows will be visible here and, at times, many Barn Swallows will be swooping over the road. If you continue straight, the small shrubs on the sides of the road usually contain migrant sparrows.

However, the most productive route at this time of year is the road that goes east in the direction of the former manure pit. Just before entering the cluster of trees

before the site of the former manure pit, you will see another road running north toward the model plane area. Follow this road as it turns east and borders the north end of the area where there has been extensive sifting by heavy machinery in recent years. The weeds and growth along the right edge of the road usually hold migrant Swamp, Savannah, and Lincoln's sparrows. The larger trees in this same area will sometimes produce migrant warblers. Be sure to check the field on the left for migrant Bobolinks, Northern Harriers, Merlins, and Cooper's and Sharp-shinned hawks. You may be lucky enough to see a Peregrine Falcon cruising high above the fields here. This is also a good area to look for flocks of American Pipits, though they may be found almost anywhere in the fields at this time of year. In late September 2007, a juvenile dark-morph Swainson's Hawk was found in this area. The bird stayed for a couple of weeks and was enjoyed by many birders.



Cumberland Farms field main road looking south in the Fall.

Backtrack along this road to the road leading east into the cluster of trees and the former manure pit. Enter the wooded area, and be sure to check the trees for migrant warblers, vireos, cuckoos, and flycatchers. Continuing east, you will pass a patch of quaking aspens where the road opens into the area where the sifting has been taking place. Again, if there is heavy machinery at work, it is best to avoid this location. However, if there is no sign of work in progress, follow the road to the large dirt mounds, and check the large puddles for migrant shorebirds. It is not uncommon to find both species of yellowlegs and Solitary, Least, Semipalmated, and Spotted sandpipers foraging along the edges of these puddles in late summer and early fall. From this area, the slight elevation affords views of the eastern side of the fields. Keep an eye on the fields for migrant Killdeer and, occasionally, American Golden-Plovers.

After birding around the former manure pit, retrace your steps to the north end of the field. Birds that were skulking in the roadside growth earlier might just reveal themselves on the return trip!

Birding the Fields in the Winter

Like in summer and fall, it is best to start a day of winter birding at the fields at the River Street entrance in Halifax. Walk the road running south, and check the willows and shrubs for American Tree Sparrows. Flocks of thirty to forty birds are not



Cumberland Farms field manure bin area in the winter of 2004.

uncommon at this time of year. Be alert for the presence of White-crowned Sparrows. In recent years, as many as four birds remained for the duration of the season. Continue to the point where the road splits and the extensive southwest side of the fields is visible. This area sometimes has Northern Shrikes during flight years. Look for them perched at the tops of prominent trees and shrubs as they survey their winter territory. Be sure to scan the fields for Rough-legged Hawks hovering in the distance. During irruption years, there have been as many as eight birds

present at the fields for the winter season. In addition, be on the lookout for Northern Harriers and large meandering flocks of Horned Larks in this part of the fields. Occasional flocks of Snow Buntings are seen here, too.

After checking the fields from this vantage, follow the road back to the River Street entrance. From the small parking area, look for Golden-crowned Kinglets, White-breasted Nuthatches, Dark-eyed Juncos, and Downy and Hairy woodpeckers. Next, follow River Street east for 0.6 mile, and take a right on Wood Street. Continue on Wood Street southeast for 0.8 mile until you reach an area on the right where you can pull a vehicle off the road. Scope the fields from this area and look for the species described at the last location. Additionally, Merlins and, occasionally, American Kestrels can be found perched at the tops of some of the more salient features of this landscape. This is also a good spot to look for small wintering flocks of Eastern Meadowlarks. Coyote sightings are known from this location.

Continuing southeast on Wood Street for 0.1 mile, you will see a small cemetery with a few trees on the right a short distance from the road. Park here, and walk to the cemetery to scope the fields. In some years, this can be a reliable place to find Short-eared Owls patrolling at dusk. Look straight ahead from the west side of the cemetery in the direction of a small ridge surrounded by *Phragmites*. In January 2003, seven owls were in this area, though more often there are only two or three birds present for the winter.

Another productive stop in winter is the area around Raven Brook. Continue on Wood Street for 0.1 mile to a parking area (and the beginning of the dirt road that parallels Raven Brook) on the right. Park and scope the fields from one of the small dirt mounds a short distance from the parking spot. This is another good location to scan for raptors. Northern Shrike is another possibility at this end of the fields. After scoping the fields, walk the road south in the direction of the large dirt mounds. Flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds, Brown-headed Cowbirds, and, occasionally, Rusty Blackbirds can be found in the trees and shrubs south of the road. Several trails lead

to the tops of the large dirt mounds nearby. It is worth climbing to the tops of these mounds for the view of the fields below.

After birding in the vicinity of Raven Brook, it is well worth taking the trip to the contiguous fields on Fuller Street in Middleboro. From the parking spot, follow Wood Street southeast for 0.2 mile and take a right on Fuller Street. After 0.3 mile pull into the opening for a vehicle. Be sure not to drive on the primitive “road” that traverses the field. It is best to scope close to your car — especially when it is twelve degrees with 25 mph wind gusts! This area is a great place to observe Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, and Rough-legged Hawks. It is also worth taking a look on the side of the road opposite the field for Golden-crowned Kinglets, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and semihardy species like Eastern Towhees. Continue on Fuller Street for another 0.5 mile to another pulloff good for scoping the landscape. After birding the fields, the quickest route back to Route 44 is to continue on Fuller Street for 2.1 miles until you reach Route 105 (Thompson Street). Take a left on Route 105, and follow it back to Route 44 and the Middleboro rotary.

As mentioned earlier in this article, during years with heavy snowfall it is best to bird the fields from the road. By carefully watching the places where the plows have removed the leaf litter at the edge of the road, you will find sparrows feeding in small groups. Although the most likely species is Song Sparrow, there is the possibility of something more unusual such as Grasshopper Sparrow or Vesper Sparrow. When the pressure is on, you never know what might turn up!

Birding the Fields in the Spring

Early spring is the best time to look for migrant ducks in the Cumberland Farms fields, and sections of the fields can be good for shorebirds throughout spring. Duck diversity peaks around mid-March, and shorebirds appear in numbers from early April through May. Starting from the River Street entrance, walk the main road south and look for Savannah Sparrows. If the fields on either side of the road are wet, check closely for Wilson’s Snipe. In late March and early April, it is not unusual to see more than 100 snipes in the flooded sections of the fields. Waterproof boots are recommended at this time of year since distant birds may require a jaunt into shin-deep muck.

As you approach the location where the road opens up to the west side of the fields, it is worth taking the time to scope for American Kestrels and lingering Rough-legged Hawks. By continuing south on the main road, you will likely encounter more Wilson’s Snipes, Savannah Sparrows and, in the more extensively flooded sections, Green-winged Teal. Blue-winged Teal also occasionally show up in the wetter sections of the field. If you opt to follow the road east in the direction of the manure pit area, check the cluster of trees on your way in for early migrants like Eastern Phoebe and Pine and Palm warblers. Continue toward the manure pit, and scan the puddles near the dirt mounds for Pectoral, Spotted, and Solitary sandpipers, as well as both species of yellowlegs. In addition, Killdeer may be seen and heard throughout the fields in early spring. On your return trip to the main entrance, keep an eye on the sky for wandering flocks of American Pipits.



Cumberland Farms field main road looking south in April, 2008.

From the parking area, it is worth taking the short walk west on River Street to the small pool on the left side of the road. This pool is surrounded by much vegetation and is a good spot to look for migrant warblers in May. After returning to the parking area at the main entrance, it is best to proceed east on River Street and follow the directions given for the winter season. Stopping at the locations mentioned for that season can be very productive in spring, too. However, the most productive birding in recent years has been along Wood Street in the areas of the field that are normally flooded between the small cemetery and Raven Brook. These wet areas usually yield sightings of Green-winged Teal, American Black Ducks, and Mallards. At times, particularly in mid-March, there can be more than 200 ducks

crammed into the shallow puddles in this area. Usually a few Northern Pintails and American Wigeon are present as well. Scoping these wet areas is highly recommended, since Wilson's Snipe can often be found foraging along the grassy edges of the puddles after the bulk of the ducks have moved on. Other shorebirds appear in these wet areas after the main wave of snipes move through, and they can sometimes be observed later in the spring, depending on how much rain has fallen.

The nearby parking area at Raven Brook is an excellent place to observe the spring courtship display of American Woodcocks. If you stay close to the road at twilight in mid- to late March, you will likely see several birds flying from the tangles near Raven Brook across the street from the field. Listen for their preflight *peenting*, and watch for them as they fly over the road and out to the fields. There are many places around the Cumberland Farms fields where woodcocks may be viewed as they engage in these fantastic flights, but the Raven Brook vicinity affords the best opportunity for actually seeing the birds under low light conditions.

Another productive location in spring is the fields on Fuller Street. Follow the directions to the two parking areas described for the winter season. Usually some flooded areas are visible from the parking spots near the road. Scope these wet areas for migrant ducks. Some years these wet areas can be as productive as the areas on Wood Street. Shorebirds also occur here, but usually not in the numbers that are encountered on Wood Street or at the manure pit. These fields consistently host American Pipits. You should also listen here for the *KEE-yur* calls of the Red-shouldered Hawk in early spring. 🦅

Reference:

Anderson, K.S. 1996. Cumberland Farms Fields. *Bird Observer* 24 (1): 4-16.

Jim Sweeney, of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, has been an avid birder since 1980 and has birded extensively in New England, the mid-Atlantic states, Arizona, and Iceland. He wishes to thank Kathleen S. Anderson and Wayne Petersen for reviewing this article and for sharing their encyclopedic knowledge of the birds and history of birding at the Cumberland Farms fields.

News from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

A new report recently released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shows that expenditures for wildlife watching are equivalent to the revenues generated from all spectator sports, amusement parks and arcades, non-hotel casinos, bowling centers, and skiing facilities combined. Using data from the 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, the Service's new addendum report *Wildlife Watching in the United States: The Economic Impacts on National and State Economies in 2006*

<http://library.fws.gov/nat_survey2006_economics.pdf> shows wildlife watching not only contributes significantly to people's enjoyment of the outdoors but is a major factor in the state and national economies.

In 2006, the direct expenditures of wildlife watchers generated \$122.6 billion in total industrial output. This resulted in 1,063,482 jobs, federal tax revenue of \$9.3 billion, and state and local tax revenue of \$8.9 billion. The report details the economic impacts of wildlife watching expenditures by state. The top five states ranked by economic output were California, Florida, Texas, Georgia and New York. Direct expenditures by wildlife watchers were for items such as cameras, binoculars and bird food, as well as trip-related expenses such as lodging, transportation, and food.

The report addresses participation nationwide in wildlife watching, associated expenditures, and estimates of the total economic activity generated by these expenditures. In addition, it addresses the total employment and income associated with wildlife watching expenditures and estimates of the generated state and federal tax revenue. In 2006, nearly 71 million Americans (16 years of age and older) spent more than \$45 billion observing, feeding, and photographing wildlife.

Individual state reports have also been completed. For more information on fishing, hunting, and wildlife watching in your state, visit:

<<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/NationalSurvey/reports2006.html>>.

Winthrop Sprague Brooks: A Man of Adventure

William E. Davis, Jr.

Some men are born for fame; some are born for adventure. Winthrop Sprague Brooks (always called “Nick”) was one of the latter. Born in 1886 or 1887 (published reports vary) in Milton, Massachusetts, at a time when that town was still rural, he developed an early liking for natural history and collecting. “I can’t remember when, as a boy, I wasn’t roaming the swamps and Blue Hills of Milton, studying birds and wildlife” (Anon. 1952). He attended Harvard, where he studied biology and graduated in 1909. He published his first scientific paper on birds in 1911 with colleague Stanley Cobb. Nick went on to become a museum naturalist, expanding his youthful predilection toward collecting natural history specimens into a profession. “Having learned as a youth the gentle art of catching things, I averaged seven or eight months a year doing zoological collecting for [Harvard University’s] Museum of Comparative Zoology [MCZ], being able to handle the job of curator of birds at the Boston Museum of Natural History between excursions. I collected birds, small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, land and freshwater shells, and insects, bringing back a lot of species, of one sort or another, new to science” (quoted in Cobb 1965). In the course of his far-flung travels as a collector, Brooks experienced a number of hair-raising adventures and deprivations. His major excursions began in 1913 aboard a ship bound for Alaska and were followed by numerous trips to Cuba, Panama, and the West Indies over the years. He went to the Falkland Islands in 1915 and 1916, to Africa in 1924, to Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, and Egypt in 1926 and 1927, and to the Galápagos Islands in 1929. Conditions in the areas in which he worked were considerably more primitive and transportation options more restrictive than today. His autobiographical manuscript, “Away From Beaten Paths” (ABP), is spiced with tales of high adventure that provide insight into what it was like nearly a century ago to collect birds for museums in primitive areas of the world (all quotes in this biographical sketch are from this manuscript unless otherwise referenced).

Brooks began his formal museum work in 1913, when he was recruited by Outram Bangs to make study skins of birds and mammals for the Museum of Comparative Zoology and received training in preparing specimens from the museum’s taxidermist Walter Zappey. Now in his mid-twenties, he was ready for his first major collecting trip, a trip that turned out to be something of a disaster. In the spring of 1913, with the patronage of, among others, John E. Thayer, Nick and an experienced west coast collector, Joseph S. Dixon, sailed from Seattle aboard the eighty-four-foot power schooner *Polar Bear* bound for Alaska (Brooks 1915), an adventure that was expected to last about six months. They sailed through the Inland Passage in southeastern Alaska and, because snow conditions made inland travel difficult, decided to head for the Bering Sea and Siberia. They spent several months collecting along the Siberian coast and islands. They then sailed back to Alaska past Point Barrow. Working east, they encountered bad weather and became iced in on September 3, about five miles from shore. By October 5th they had established a camp on land at Humphery Point, where they made ready to survive the arctic winter

— obviously not what they originally had in mind. Brooks describes the impending problems: “From our perch on a pinnacle of optimism we skidded into a yawning abyss of pessimism. Outside of us miles and miles of ice were drifting slowly by, irresistible, relentless, an indescribable incarnation of overwhelming power.” In March 1914 Brooks and Dixon made their way to Demarkation Point, five miles from the Alaska-Canada border. Later, Dixon returned to Humphery Point leaving Brooks behind. Brooks remained at Demarkation Point until late July 1914, when he was able to hitch a ride on another ship that had been ice bound and eventually caught up with the *Polar Bear* in Nome.

Spending an unplanned winter in northern Alaska caused some difficulties with food supply, but Brooks seems to have managed rather well. He recalls, “Although contented enough with bread and beans, we needed meat; the piece of polar bear having been consumed. And ptarmigan are delicate and delicious...we got twenty-seven [ptarmigans] . . . Some were saved for specimens, but the meat went into the pot.” . . . “In the meat pot I had the bodies, from the skinning table, at one time or another, of about all the species of birds, from ducks to snow buntings, that were indigenous to the region. Jabbing around with a fork would always bring up something ready to eat.” In another culinary adventure, Nick recalled, “An Eskimo going by had picked up the body of a snowy owl that I had, after preparing the specimen, thrown out on the beach [apparently at that point not everything went into the meat pot]. He asked permission to keep it and, upon my gladly giving it to him, praised it as a table bird with such convincing eulogium that I determined to keep the next one for myself. So the next snowy owl that became entangled in the meshes of Science was tossed into the meat pot. Hours and hours elapsed before I could drive a fork into its rubber-like breast but, finally, impatient to experience the delights pictured by an Eskimo *gourmet*, I tried a mouthful. It was singularly nasty and tasted like mold scraped from the dank walls of sunless dungeons. The next owl found me in my former mood of generosity.”

The trip was not a total disaster. Brooks managed to bring back a number of bird specimens for the MCZ. He had served a specimen-making apprenticeship under Joseph Dixon and had seen birds in numbers that staggered his imagination. “There can be no place in the world that has the number of sea birds that frequent the Bering Sea in the breeding season, murre, murrelets, auklets, puffins, guillemots, kittiwakes, other gulls, and terns. They simply swarm in millions, and one must look to the insect world to find comparable numbers in the air, or upon land.” Not all the birds he encountered, however, met with his enthusiastic approval. “The most depressing bird in the entire world is, I am convinced, the Pacific loon, which was a common fowl. They had a penchant for making the most hideous noises that I have ever heard in a wilderness. Sometimes on still, calm nights a heart-rending wail came across the wastes as of someone in racking pain, or the moaning of a child in lonesome, desperate agony.” Brooks also published an important short monograph, *Notes on Birds from East Siberia and Arctic Alaska* (1915), in which he described a new species, Thayer’s Gull, *Larus thayeri*, which he named after John E. Thayer, his primary patron for the Alaska trip.

Life at sea apparently had a few drawbacks and dangers. During the trip, one crewman died, one went insane, and a third committed suicide. The cook aboard the *Polar Bear* apparently had his moments. “[the cook was] Good natured most of the time, [but] he was dangerous when in one of his ugly moods, and he had been in trouble a number of times by using a butcher’s knife instead of the more conventional routine of pro and con discussion of controversial subjects.” The bunk beds aboard the ship apparently did not provide the security in bad weather one would have hoped for. Nick solved the problem in a rather unique way. In the ruins of an Eskimo village he found some gruesome remains: “In the debris of the huts were skeletons, suggesting that starvation or some disease had wiped them out so quickly that the last to go were too weak to dispose of any bodies I saved a number of skulls For me the skulls had an important function, although widely divorced from science. I placed them under the edge of my mattress, thus forming a concave, trough-like depression that, to a great extent, obviated the necessity of bracing myself, or being thrown onto the floor, during heavy weather.”

Brooks was described by one of his colleagues as talented; diffident, but delightfully companionable; quick of wit; alert in movements; and possessing a whimsical humor (Cobb 1965). He could also be tough and harsh with those who he thought badly of. For example, in a 1913 letter to Outram Bangs (Archives, Ernst

Mayr Library, MCZ) he blasts someone he obviously didn’t care for. “In the first place if you hear of anyone wishing to have dealings with F. E. Kleinschmidt, just let them know that he is the damnedest liar and crook this side of hell. The amount of things we have found against him would fill a volume, and they will be brought up in court next fall. In his lectures he uses pictures he never took, etc., etc. . . .” However, Brooks certainly formed lasting friendships and was loyal to his friends. He became close friends with long-time Director of the MCZ, Thomas Barbour (Figure 1; for a biographical sketch of Barbour see Davis 2001). He made numerous trips to Cuba with Barbour, and Barbour demonstrated their friendship in the introduction to his *The Birds of Cuba* (1923). “For a charming companion and a patient tolerance of my erratic ways I owe more to Winthrop Sprague Brooks than I can well express. For many years it has been Brooks’ good fortune and mine to



Figure 1. Thomas Barbour (left) and Brooks in the field. Photograph courtesy of the Ernst Mayr Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

visit Cuba frequently, and during the War we were there for long periods of many months duration.” Brooks reciprocated the friendship and wrote in his autobiographical manuscript, “T.B. [as Thomas Barbour was known] was a priceless friend and companion. Together we collected zoological specimens on many trips to the West Indies, Central America, and Florida. We hunted ducks, shorebirds, and deer in New England. Temperamentally we were in perfect adjustment. No matter how wretched our living conditions, and more than once they were tough, or how ill our luck, dear old T.B. was the first to ‘laugh it off.’” In referring to their trip to Panama, Brooks said of himself and Barbour, “. . . in fact we generally *did* agree with each other on all manner of different subjects, a fact that made our many trips together such unfailing delights and priceless memories.” On one trip to Cuba with Barbour in 1917 they were caught in the middle of a revolution. They beat a hasty retreat but, as always, made time for a bit of collecting. “We heard the guns firing and beat it Westward on a charcoal schooner. We put in at a mahogany cutting near Hacienda Jiqui. . . . While there we shot a pair of fairy hummingbirds (*Calypte helenae*), the smallest birds in the world. They are the size of a bumble-bee and I had to skin them with two pairs of tweezers” (Anon.1952).

Perhaps their most rugged and memorable expedition was an exploration and collecting trip to the Sapó Mountains and Sambú Valley of southeastern Panama in 1922. They traveled to Panama from Havana on a small United Fruit steamer. They entered the Chocoanos Indian country by launch and heard that the Chocoanos had recently killed a group of Panamanians. “Some thought that we were foolhardy to venture into the habitat of such ferocious aborigines. Everything with primitive people depends upon your angle of approach. We found that the xenophobia [sic] seemed to be, at that time, confined to the people of Panama.” They rented a palm-thatched hut for a few pennies and took precautions against the malaria-carrying *Anopheles* mosquitoes. “*Anopheles* begin to fly at dusk, so that we habitually ate an early supper and then got under our mosquito bars in an overlong night, rendered doubly tedious by the stifling heat.”

Indians were their constant companions. “Quite often in the dim approach of dawn two or three strange natives would be in camp to look us over, leaving in a short time. T.B., being six foot five inches tall, was to those small people an awesome giant. My physique was of no interest to them, but they marveled at my tattooing which being largely birds, flowers and various animals meant something to them. The fact that these designs would not rub off, as did their own bodily adornment, perplexed them greatly. One wished to have me decorate him.” Brooks had been extensively tattooed by the famous London tattoo artist, Sutherland Macdonald, who according to Brooks had tattooed a dragon on the arm of King George V (Anon. 1953) (Figure 2).

In his later years Brooks didn’t have fond memories of much of the Panama expedition or any of his rain forest adventures but recalled some magical moments. “I do not wish at my age to return to the rain forest of any land for I still vividly recall the rain, the mud, the suffocating heat as, day and night, we and our rotting clothes were drenched with perspiration. And yet — would that I could relive just one evening, only one, when we were camped at an elevation where there were no



Figure 2. The wonderful tattoos of Winthrop Sprague Brooks. Photographs courtesy of the Ernst Mayr Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

anopheles and we could sit and smoke where fancy dictated, after an early and satisfying supper of rice and monkey meat.” On another night he wrote, “A pair of top-heavy appearing toucans perched nearby until it was time to seek a less exposed roost for the night. Back in the woods a motmot’s resonant whoop boomed sleepily in the gathering twilight . . . A pair of muscovy ducks flew up the narrow ravine, on the other side of which a white bell bird uttered its ringing, bell-like note. Parrots and macaws flew high over the tree tops in screaming confusion to their roosts . . . The black night enveloped all but the Indians whose brown bodies were in bald relief against the light of their fire. Their voices blended with the music of the little stream singing its way toward the Pacific. It was all very, very beautiful.” The results of the expedition were published by Barbour and Brooks (1923).

In 1915, Dr. John Charles Phillips, who was then working on his four-volume monograph of ducks of the world (Phillips 1922–1926), asked Nick to go on an expedition to the Falkland Islands to take photographs and make behavioral observations of ducks and geese and to make a collection of Falkland Island birds in

general. Nick was not impressed with the weather — he referred to “their almost intolerable climate” in his published account of the trip, *Notes on Some Falkland Island Birds* (1917). He commented on the interaction of birds with sheep, “The turkey buzzard is there and also a vicious hawk locally known as the carrancho [Striated Caracara *Phalacrocorax australis*], related to the caracara of our southwest. Both of these birds have a bad habit regarding sheep. These animals have such a heavy coat of wool that they are unable to get to their feet if they chance to fall and roll over upon their backs. The buzzards and carranchos then pull out the sheep’s eyes and tongues. At that time a bounty of 4d per bill for the buzzard, and 6d per bill for its associate in crime had made them a bit wary, in fact the latter was extremely wild. When I recall the time it took me to stalk a total of three carranchos, dragging my body over soaking wet peat soil and through patches of some sort of low spiny vegetation in a chilly blast, I can see where the call of such a small reward might fall upon deaf ears.” In his report of the expedition (1917) he states, “It seems a matter of no great time when a number of the species antagonistic to sheep culture will become very rare, perhaps exterminated.” Brooks described two new species of birds (1916), naming one after his sponsor, John Charles Phillips, *Anthus phillipsi*, a pipit; the other, *Phrygilus malvinarum*, was a finch. Both species have since disappeared into synonymy with previously described species. He expresses his great delight, however, at his first contact with Gentoo Penguins. “I had read a good deal about these birds and had, of course, seen pictures of them — a scant preparation at best for what I can well call one of my ‘ornithological sensations.’ At any rate I was not expecting a reception committee of strange little creatures about two and a half feet high in evening cloth! Yes — I also am fed up with that trite description but I cannot, for the life of me, think of anything else that tells the story as well . . . All were waving their black paddlelike wings as though in a gesture of welcome.”

In response to the question by Brooks’ friend Huntington Hardwick, “Would you care to join a party to collect birds, catch fish, and have a good time on our yacht at Cocos Island and the Galápagos?” Brooks responded, “Would I? When do we start?” In March 1929, Brooks joined the group aboard the *Arcadia*, a 188-foot motor yacht, and he experienced few of the deprivations that were his usual fare on expeditions. “I shall not forget the comfort I experienced when, upon coming aboard sodden with perspiration, I pushed a button and, after a soothing shower, found a Scotch and soda upon the table. Yes, it was luxurious.” The birds of the Galápagos were very much to Brooks’ liking. “That bird life on uninhabited islands should be tame goes without saying, but the tameness of the birds of the Galápagos was quite beyond my imagination . . . The flightless cormorants, found nowhere else in the world, paid no attention when I sat beside them and fired a shotgun. If you wished one of the little penguins, you had only to grab one beside you by the neck, where, on account of a very able bill, the grabbing was best . . . Gulls, boobies, and terns did little but sit and stare until practically walked upon. Small flycatchers I was able to collect with a stick two feet in length. Once, on a small island that is, I hope it is not *was*, the habitat of a much desired mockingbird, I had the greatest difficulty in getting far enough away to collect a pair, all I had heart to take, with a .22 pistol loaded with dust shot. These birds would follow about six feet behind me, manifesting the greatest

curiosity regarding my presence. Eventually, by running away from them, I got the pair before they caught up with me. The MCZ collection brought back by Brooks includes long series of Small, Medium, and Large ground-finches, Cocos Island Finches, and a representative sample of other Galápagos birds.

Brooks' contributions to the MCZ collections are considerable. About half the birds in the MCZ collection have been entered into a computer database, so the 586 bird skins in the database that Brooks prepared are only perhaps half of his contributions. He collected long series of Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings from Siberia and Alaska, ironically two of his favorite birds. He commented, "Both Snow Buntings and Alaska [Lapland] Longspurs were a never ending source of pleasure to me . . . ," and of the Snow Buntings he stated: "These buntings were so tame, so confiding, and so cheerful and happy that they endeared themselves to me as no other birds have ever done; there was a contagion to their contentment that blunted the shaft of occasional loneliness The song of this bird was a clear, blithesome melody, and very sweet, so sweet and cheering that I never molested any of those birds living near me." Of the 586 computerized bird specimens, 237 are from the United States, 77 from Cuba, 14 from Canada, 150 from the Falkland Islands, 29 from Siberia, and 62 from the Galapagos Islands. Some are rare and exotic birds, but some are common and from close to home, as is a series of Black-capped Chickadees collected at Manomet, Massachusetts.

Although Brooks' job involved killing birds and other animals, he had a deep interest in and affection for live birds. His published work contains numerous natural history observations. He was also strongly interested in conservation, as evidenced by the following statement, "A conspicuous facet of human stupidity is the ancient feeling that when and where there is a great abundance of life, be it vegetable or animal, the supply is inexhaustible. Each generation down the ages has, for the most part, failed to profit by the experiences of those before until now the list of exterminated wild life is an utter disgrace, even if we only consider birds. We rarely, if ever, seem able to realize the approach of the extinction of a species until it is too late." He then goes on to describe the excesses in wildfowl market and shore bird hunting during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

In addition to his scientific papers, Brooks published numerous popular articles. These usually reflected one of his adventures, as with "Jonny Penguin—The Bird that Walks" (1923), "Harvard Men in the Arctic" (1914), "In the Trades" (1927), or "A Cruise of the *Arcadia*—Combining Sport, Adventure, and Science in the Island of Cocos, and the Galapagos" (1929). He occasionally wrote for newspapers as well, for example, "Autumn Passes O'er the Marshes" (1922) for the *Boston Evening Transcript*. Brooks spent the last decades of his life in quiet retirement on Cape Cod. His adventures and scientific contributions were honored by his being a Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society of London and the American Geographic Society and with honorary Life Memberships in the Boston Society of Natural History and the Maria Mitchell Society of Nantucket. Perhaps a few words from his autobiographical manuscript best express his thoughts on the natural world, "It is my hope that some of [these descriptions of] a little that I have seen and heard may, at times, touch a

responsive cord [sic], for intimacy with a few of the ways and wonders of Nature can arouse in us some of the great and most satisfying emotions it is possible to feel.” 🦅

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News from MassWildlife

2008 Falcon Chick & Eaglet Banding Results — The Bay State’s resident Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles were the focus of banding efforts by MassWildlife biologists during the months of May and June. Dr. Tom French, Assistant Director of MassWildlife’s Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, reported a total of 25 Peregrine Falcon chicks at 15 nests [see page 280-282]. Of 26 Bald Eagle nesting territories, 22 nests produced a total of 33 eaglets. Eagle nesting highlights included the discovery of a new nesting pair in Salisbury, on Carr Island in the Merrimack River.

The Tale of Two Siblings

Ursula Goodine

Our interest in nesting Peregrine Falcons was sparked by the late Joe Hogan, who observed a pair of these birds flying, hunting, and exchanging food in Lawrence, Massachusetts. This courting activity culminated in 2003, with their nesting for the first time on a building in that city. The pair successfully raised young again in 2004, but unfortunately, Joe passed away that spring, not knowing if his birds would continue to be productive. We nicknamed the pair "Hogan's Heroes." When the falcons did not return to that building in 2005, we were determined to locate them. Our efforts were rewarded in the spring of 2006, when we saw a falcon soaring in the Lawrence sky. We ran to the car, trying not to let the bird out of our sight. Because we have to obey traffic signals and raptors do not, we lost the bird, but we went in the direction it had flown to a group of buildings, where we asked a passer-by if he had seen the bird. Not only had he seen it, but he showed us where the pair was nesting. Halleluiah! Hogan's Heroes were indeed still in Lawrence! Three chicks successfully fledged in 2006, and another two in 2007.

In nearby Lowell, another pair of Peregrines nested for the first time in 2005, but because the nest was on a building that was being renovated, they did not return in 2006. In 2007 we decided to search for them, and after several visits we spotted a falcon in the Lowell sky. We followed the bird to a building where it was joined by a second bird. We found them! After watching courtship flights and food exchanges, we were convinced that the pair would attempt to nest, and we contacted the building manager, Ed Smith, who escorted us to the roof where we observed the female incubating in a corner. Although she laid four eggs, weather conditions were severe that spring, and the eggs did not hatch.

In 2008 MassWildlife installed nest boxes in both cities. The Lawrence pair had already begun to incubate in their usual place, but the Lowell birds immediately took possession of the box. Ed shared our enthusiasm for the birds and installed a camera showing the nest box and part of the roof. Although the camera did not show the nest inside the box, we could monitor the site.

As the weeks went by, our excitement grew as we watched two chick heads bobbing in Lawrence. Because the Lowell nest was not visible, MassWildlife made a brief site visit and found four eggs being incubated by the female.

On Friday, May 23, MassWildlife planned to band the Lawrence chicks and the Lowell ones if they were old enough. We joined the team and went to the Lawrence nest, where we banded two chicks and removed the unhatched egg for study. One of the chicks was twice as big as the other one, and neither had a full crop. Tom French of MassWildlife said that they should have been fed that morning, but there was no evidence of that. He expressed concern that the runt's chances of survival were dismal.

In Lowell we found the female still incubating, long after the eggs should have hatched. One cracked egg was retrieved for study, and the others were left in place. Tom said that it was best to let nature take its course and, if the eggs did not hatch, the female would eventually give up. We all left the roof saddened by what we had found. Once again, this pair would be unproductive.

I had a rough time sleeping that night. Many thoughts ran through my mind, and finally one emerged that ignited my imagination. What if we “chick-napped” the Lawrence chick and took it to Lowell? It seemed doomed anyway with its sibling gobbling up most of the food, so, why not take the chance? In the morning, I left messages for MassWildlife, and on Tuesday morning a team was dispatched to make the switch. It was done quickly with the deposit of one screaming chick and the retrieval of three unhatched eggs. The new family unit was left to discover each other and bond.

We monitored the cam almost constantly for the next couple of days and saw the parents going in and out of the nest box carrying food for their little white fluff-ball. It was a sight to behold. After weeks of being stuffed with food, both chicks developed their juvenile feathering and started to move around and develop their muscles by flapping their wings. The next stage, and the most dangerous one, was fledging from the nest. The Lawrence fledgling flew successfully on Saturday June 14, and the “runt” in Lowell fledged on Tuesday June 17, just three days after its sibling! Here was another Hogan’s Heroes progeny that hopefully will go on to live and perpetuate the species. 🦅

Ursula Goodine, who retired in September 2007 after thirty-three years as a nurse, has a special interest in raptors. Residents of Medford, she and her husband, David, are members of Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch (EMHW), among other birding organizations. They eagerly await next April and the anticipated reappearance of the Lawrence and Lowell Peregrine pairs.

[Ed. Note: Tom French of MassWildlife comments on the fostering of Peregrines, described in the previous article by Ursula Goodine.]

Fostering as a Management Tool for Peregrines

Tom French

In the early years of Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon restoration, pairs contaminated by pesticides often laid eggs that failed to hatch. These pairs were sometimes given chicks or eggs produced by healthy captive birds. When the first pair of Peregrines nested in Boston in 1987 on the post office building, the birds broke all the eggs in their first clutch. If a pair fails, it often moves to a new site. When this pair began to lay a second clutch on another side of the same building, I feared these would break also. I took each egg shortly after it was laid and replaced it with a brown chicken egg. After three weeks the Peregrine Fund gave us a three-week old Prairie Falcon chick as a place holder, since no Peregrine chicks were available at the time. Three weeks later the Peregrine Fund provided two Peregrine chicks, and we

returned the Prairie Falcon, which was almost ready to fly. In the end it worked out well. We had two Peregrine chicks that fledged, and the adult pair thought it had succeeded. The four falcon eggs, which probably would have broken, were incubated by the Peregrine Fund, and the offspring were released (hacked) in the Adirondacks.

Today when we foster a raptor, it is usually because the chick has been brought in by a member of the public or its nest has fallen. Every year, Norm Smith of Massachusetts Audubon fosters young Great Horned Owls and Red-tailed Hawks that have fallen out of their nests. He usually puts the hawks in a new pair's nest but places the owls in a nearby tree. Any food-begging raptor within an adult pair's territory will usually be fed. Over the years we have fostered several Bald Eagles that were captive-born or whose nests have fallen. This year we fostered an eagle chick to a new nest after its Wachusett Reservoir nest fell, killing one of the two chicks. We could have put the chick on an artificial nest platform close to where the nest fell, but it would have been necessary to do that immediately, before the adults, believing they had failed, stopped tending the nest. Since several days had elapsed, it was safer to put the chick into another nest.

The transfer of the Peregrine chick from Lawrence to Lowell was the first time I had taken a chick from an active Peregrine nest, but it was also the first of the 211 Massachusetts Peregrine Falcon chicks I have banded that was at risk for survival. The site was a poor one, the boarded-up window of a mill building. Although two chicks had hatched, the adults did not provide for them very well. This was the first time I have banded chicks in a Peregrine nest where there were no pigeon feathers. At the time of banding, both chicks had empty crops (I usually find them full), and one chick was much smaller than the other. Mortalities from food competition usually happen in the first three or four days after hatch, but these chicks were three weeks old.

The Lowell pair had nested for two years on the gravel roof and failed. This year, we installed a box on the roof, but because there was not enough gravel in the box to cushion the eggs, they cracked. In the future we can easily correct the problems with the box, but I wanted the pair to fledge a chick to help keep them attached to the box for next year. They did a great job bringing in food, and in the end, things worked out well for both falcon pairs and both chicks. 

***Tom French** is an Assistant Director of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, where he has directed the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program since it began in 1984. Tom has been very active in the restoration of the Peregrine Falcon and the Bald Eagle. Over the years, he has helped other state fish and wildlife agencies band Peregrine chicks on cliffs, buildings, and bridges in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont.*



PEREGRINE FALCON BY GEORGE C. WEST

FIELD NOTES

Downy Woodpeckers Feed at Hummingbird Feeders

William E. Davis, Jr. and Jerome A. Jackson

On June 8, 1992, Jerome Jackson observed a male Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) feeding on red sugar-water at a hummingbird feeder (Figure 1) at West Point, Mississippi. The bird inserted its tongue through the holes in the bee guard. The same, or another male, visited the feeder repeatedly over several days and Jackson could see the glisten of liquid at the tip of its bill after feeding. The bird had trouble hanging onto the feeder and often used its wings to retain balance. Its tail was always used as a prop, although it often slipped on the plastic feeder if the bird turned to the side.



Figure 1. Downy Woodpecker at a hummingbird feeder in West Point, Mississippi. Photograph by Jerome A. Jackson.

On September 3, 2008, at about 11:30 a.m., William E. Davis observed a female Downy Woodpecker at his hummingbird feeder (the same style as illustrated in Figure 1) in East Falmouth, Massachusetts. It fed for several minutes, probing the center of the yellow bee guard. Although the bird's tongue was not visible, the bird alternately probed the bee guard and withdrew its bill and tossed its head in a typical drinking motion. Subsequent examination of the feeder revealed no presence of small insects, other than a single ant, at any of the feeder's four red flowers (the bird fed at only one), suggesting that the bird was drinking, not foraging for insects. Presumably the same bird had two drinking bouts at the feeder about 4 p.m. the same day, totaling

about five minutes. The number of probes over a two-minute period was approximately 100. The bird probed two of the four flowers. The woodpecker grasped the flower with both feet, but as with the other bird reported by Jackson, had to flap its wings occasionally to maintain balance.

Red-bellied Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes carolinus*) have been reported drinking from hummingbird feeders (Shackelford et al. 2000). Although this apparently hasn't made it into the literature, a "Google" search of "woodpecker hummingbird feeder" reveals several photos of woodpeckers feeding in a fashion similar to that described here. These include both male and female of Downy Woodpeckers, Red-bellied Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes carolinus*), and Gila Woodpeckers (*M. uropygialis*). We also found a photo of a male Acorn Woodpecker (*M. formicivorus*) and a female Ladder-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides scalaris*) feeding at similar hummingbird feeders. Several cases included clear sugar water; thus the presence of red sugar water is not essential to attract woodpeckers. In addition to the still photos, Jackson found a video of a male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) feeding at a similar hummingbird feeder with red sugar water at http://birdcinema.com/view_video.php?viewkey=b860235e5e20975f23de. The sapsucker fed in much the same way as Downy Woodpeckers, although its tail never made contact with the feeder. The only published report of Downy Woodpeckers drinking at hummingbird feeders was a personal observation by Jackson that they occasionally drink sugar water from hummingbird or oriole feeders (Jackson and Ouellet 2002). We could find no other published report of this behavior. 🐦

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First State Record of Broad-billed Hummingbird in Massachusetts

Charles McGibbon

My wife Sandra and I have been what some call "backyard birders" for many years here in East Dennis on Cape Cod. We both love watching and at times photographing interesting birds that visit our feeders. Although we do not consider ourselves avid bird watchers, we do like to keep an eye out for any new, feathered visitors to our yard.

On the evening of Saturday, August 23rd, we were visiting our friends Ron and Marge Murphy for dinner and to play a few games of cribbage. The Murphy's live just a few miles from us, also in East Dennis.



Photographs of the Broad-billed Hummingbird in Dennis. Clockwise from above, photographs by Charles McGibbon, Peter Trimble, and Sue Finnegan.



We were sitting on their outside deck before dinner when Ron mentioned to us he'd had a hummingbird visit their feeder earlier in the day. He said it was different than the regular ruby-throated variety, which are frequent visitors. He described it as "quite green." My wife, Sandra, not knowing whether Ron was trying to pull our leg said to him "They are all green around here you know?" Ron then said "No, really, it's a darker green than usual, actually a turquoise color with a different bill." Now we really knew he was pulling our leg.

Moments later a hummingbird appeared at the deck rail feeder several feet from where we were sitting. My wife and I could not believe our eyes: there was a bluish-green hummer with a turquoise colored throat buzzing around the feeder trying to decide whether to feed with us sitting just a feet away. We had no idea what kind it was, but it was apparent to both my wife and I this was no ordinary hummer seen on Cape Cod. It perched, flew up, and returned to the feeder for about thirty seconds, giving us quite a good look at it. It had beautiful colors, including turquoise plumage and an obvious reddish-orange bill with a black tip. The bird also appeared to be larger than a ruby-throat. It then flew off and we went inside for dinner and cribbage knowing this backyard visitor had to be something special.

When we got home later that evening we went right to the computer and started searching for a hummingbird that matched that little beauty. After a bit we saw one that was quite similar — a Broad-billed Hummingbird — but we couldn't be sure. Its range was shown as Mexico and southern Arizona. Could this really be a Broad-billed here on Cape Cod? I e-mailed our good friends, Anne and Harry Walker of South

Yarmouth and described the bird to them and asked for their help in identification. Both Anne and Harry are long-time birdwatchers and photographers.

During the night, each time my wife and I awoke, all we could think of was that hummingbird and the fact that we did not have a camera. We hoped that the bird would still be at the Murphy's in the morning.

Bright and early the next morning, Sandra took our digital camera over to the Murphy's deck hoping to get a picture. She returned in about thirty minutes which I knew meant that she must have gotten some shots of the bird. In addition to a few good pictures though, she had also recorded a terrific twenty-second video.

Once we downloaded the pictures from the camera, we were even more convinced this was a Broad-bill Hummingbird. We sent a couple of the pictures to the Walkers and they agreed it was a male broad-billed. Sandra arranged for the Walkers to meet her and all three went to observe the bird.

Sandra then tried unsuccessfully to contact Sue Finnegan, a licensed bird bander associated with the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History in Brewster. Sandra had met Sue in November of 2006 when a vagrant Rufous Hummingbird visited our yard for several weeks. Sue had managed to capture, band, and record that bird. We had many visitors come to see the rufous, and that is when we met Anne and Harry Walker. They have been friends ever since.

Sandra also e-mailed photos of the broad-billed to Massbird, Massachusetts Audubon, and New England Hummers. Unfortunately, it was Sunday and, as expected, we did not receive any replies until Sue Finnegan contacted us by telephone late in the day. I e-mailed several photos to Sue while she and Sandra spoke on the phone. Sue's first words to Sandra upon seeing the photos were "This is huge!" Sandra then gave Sue the Murphy's contact information.

About an hour later we received a call from the Murphy's telling us to come over as quickly as possible. Ron told us Sue Finnegan was there, had captured the hummer, and was in the process of banding it. We grabbed our camera and rushed over in time to witness Sue recording the statistics of the bird. We were able to get several photos of the process as well. Sue confirmed it was an adult male Broad-billed Hummingbird.

When Sue was done with her work she asked Marge Murphy if she wanted to release the bird. Marge was quite excited to have the opportunity, and Sue placed the Broad-billed in the palm of her hand. Marge made several attempts to get him to fly off by slowly raising and lowering her hand; eventually he took off for the nearest tree branch, apparently none the worse for his ordeal aside from a few ruffled feathers.

Over the next week the Murphy's had several hundred visitors to their back yard, and most were rewarded with either a view or photos of the broad-billed.

Sandra and I were amazed at how much excitement and interest this little creature caused. It was a beautifully colored bird and we are so happy to have had the opportunity to witness and participate in this event. 

Kestrels Galore and I Missed Close to Half of Them!

Craig Jackson

What was possibly the second highest single-day count of migrating American Kestrels on Plum Island, Massachusetts occurred on Sunday, April 13, 2008. Even if it wasn't the second highest count ever, it was certainly a memorable flight and one that was witnessed at least in part by many observers. I myself was there to witness both the beginning and the end of this flight, and it was a day that I will never forget. (Rick Heil was the official counter that day.)

I arrived at Parking Lot 1 shortly before 6 a.m. along with avid birders Rick and Jeremiah Trimble. And it quickly became apparent that there was going to be a major hawk flight. The winds were strong from the northwest and the temperature mild (50-60°F) — ideal conditions. Observers at Sandy Hook, New Jersey had also reported a good flight of kestrels the day before. The birds did not disappoint us. From the time I got there until I left approximately two hours later, kestrels were flying by in a steady stream, one after another: “hover-skirting” their way through the dunes and past the parking lot. By the time I left we had already seen sixty-five raptors fly by, the vast majority of which were kestrels.

When I returned at about 11:30 a.m., other observers were present as well and still more would be coming. As I recall, Rick's count by that point was slightly over 200 birds — mostly kestrels — but also included a number of Northern Harriers and Ospreys. It was not unusual to see five, six, even seven kestrels in one binocular field, and they kept coming and coming. When Rick stopped counting at 3:30, his total number of migrating raptors was 468, of which 376 were American Kestrels. In his own account of that flight on Massbird, Rick cautioned that a small portion of the forty-six Northern Harriers and sixteen Ospreys counted may not have been migrants. Even so, the flight was almost unprecedented, and Rick said it was the best kestrel flight he had ever witnessed at Plum Island.

Almost all of the kestrels “hover-skirted” through the dunes. I coined this term in a past article for Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch to describe the unique way kestrels migrate through Plum Island. Unlike accipiters, which flap-glide their way from one dune crest to the next, or other falcons which just power their way over the dunes, kestrels will crest each dune, rapidly flapping their wings and hovering in place above it, then “skirt” down the dune face and back up the next, where they once more hover above the crest. While it may appear an inefficient way to fly, apparently it works, since almost all low-flying kestrels perform the same maneuver.

Rick Heil had asked me why, with such a fantastic flight, I needed to leave and return later. Unfortunately, I was scheduled to speak on hawkwatching that morning at Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center. So I had to go *inside* to talk about hawk migration, when hawks were migrating *outside* in such tremendous numbers.

On the plus side, a group hawkwatch had been scheduled for after the talk, and it is a rare thing to have such a tremendous flight coincide with a scheduled

hawkwatching field trip. At least fifty people who had attended the presentation were also able to witness part of the remarkable event. I just wish I had seen the whole thing! 

[Author's note: This tremendous flight would have been well underreported (or not at all) if not for the efforts and diligence of Rick Heil and Jeremiah Trimble.]

Mystic River Nesting Terns

Michael Fager

This spring, while I was working on the Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA), I discovered two nesting sites of Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) on the Mystic River, which runs from the Mystic Lakes in Medford to Boston Harbor. I have observed Common Terns in the lower part of the Mystic River for many years, and as I began to work on the BBA this year, I decided to see if I could confirm that they were nesting in this area. I found Common Terns nesting at two locations, the Alford Street Bridge in Charlestown, just downstream from the Amelia Earhart Dam, and the Route 28 Fellsway Bridge in Somerville, just upstream from the Amelia Earhart Dam. The terns nesting on the Fellsway Bridge in Somerville were the first state record of Common Terns nesting in Middlesex County.

I first saw the terns at the Alford Street Bridge on May 29, 2008, when I was on a boat going under the drawbridge. I returned the following day and confirmed a colony of seven to nine pairs of Common Terns, with eighteen to twenty adult terns present, nested on the approach pier to the draw portion of that bridge. Unfortunately, a number of eggs in the initial nesting appeared to be abandoned, but at least nine chicks successfully hatched. Several of these chicks had fledged by July 16. It is clear that this was a successful nesting colony, but I was unable to determine the actual number of chicks that fledged.

There also appeared to be at least two pairs that re-nested. Those birds were still sitting on eggs late into July. One of those nests hatched two chicks approximately July 20. The remaining clutch hatched three chicks on or about August 3. (The chicks that had hatched in July were gone by that point, and I assumed that they had all successfully fledged.)

The Alford Street Bridge appears to have been used as a nesting site for several years and seems to be a secure site for the foreseeable future. There is talk of replacing that bridge or repairing the draw portion, but there are no firm plans at this time. The pier looks to be a secure place to raise tern chicks. In contrast to the Fellsway Bridge (see below), the deck of the Alford Street pier does not have any holes, and the edge of the pier is raised several inches, which prevents the chicks from falling off. In fact, no tern chicks were seen in the water at Alford Street until they began attempting to fly. Common Terns have been seen in this area for years, and I suspect they have been nesting here for some time.

I discovered the pair on the Fellsway Bridge while atlasing along the bank of the Mystic River in Somerville. I saw what looked like a tern at the bridge, and on further investigation I was able to confirm that a single pair of pioneering Common Terns had nested and laid three eggs on the crumbling approach pier of that bridge. On or about June 27 all three eggs hatched, but approximately ten days later, all three chicks had fallen through holes in the pier to the water below. A few days later one of those chicks had died from unknown causes, but the other two remained healthy. They spent most of their time standing on rotting, partially submerged support beams, although they occasionally swam to other parts of that pier. Despite jet skis and motor boats passing only feet away, the surviving chicks seemed to adjust without problems, and the adult birds continued to feed them, even though they were no longer on the natal pier.

The pair that nested on the Fellsway Bridge represents the first state record of Common Terns nesting in Middlesex County. Common Terns are normally a colonial-nesting species, but this nesting of a single pair was successful despite heavy odds against it. Although one of the chicks (ternlings) died, the other two successfully fledged and were observed flying on July 25. Shortly thereafter, all of the terns left the Fellsway Bridge.

There have been other reports of terns nesting in the lower Mystic River. These include the Exxon docks in Everett. However, I have not been able to confirm these reports, and because of their proximity to the LNG terminal, they cannot be approached. In fact, I was confronted by the bridge tender at Alford Street and told that if I persisted in taking photographs, I would be detained by the police. There are serious national security concerns about the LNG terminal, and people standing on the bridge with binoculars or cameras make the security personnel nervous. 🐦



The Somerville Common Tern chicks being fed by parents.
Photographs by Marj. Rines.

ABOUT BOOKS

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something for the High School Musical Set: Four New Field Guides

Mark Lynch

Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America. Roger Tory Peterson. 2008. Houghton Mifflin Company. Boston, Massachusetts.

Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America. Ted Floyd. 2008. Harper Collins. New York, New York.

The Young Birder's Guide to Birds of Eastern North America. Bill Thompson III. 2008. Houghton Mifflin Company. New York, New York.

Petrels Night and Day: A Sound Approach Guide. Magnus Robb, Killian Mullarney, and the "Sound Approach." 2008. The Sound Approach. Dorset, United Kingdom.

"When you aim for perfection, you discover it's a moving target."

Geoffrey F. Fisher (1887–1972), Archbishop of Canterbury (1945–61)

Like the sophisticated sot searching for the perfect martini or the sometime scribbler longing to write the "great" American novel, every birder with a certain level of skill has the nagging desire to pen the perfect bird guide. Though we are currently up to our collective axillars in bird books, there is no stopping the flood of new titles seeking to improve, refine, and extend the usefulness of guides. The following four titles are just a tiny sample of the new guides that have come out this year.



The *Peterson Guide to Birds of North America* is a long overdue and welcome makeover of an old favorite. Combining the old Peterson guides to western *and* eastern birds, this hefty North American guide includes forty new paintings, digitally enhanced artwork, and all-new range maps. The format is significantly larger than the old guides that were supposed to fit in your pocket. This gives the large illustrations more room and an overall less crowded appearance to the guide. I could be crass and say that this is simply "Sibley-izing" the Peterson guides, but there is no denying that the new layout and format really does cast Roger Tory Peterson's work in a more

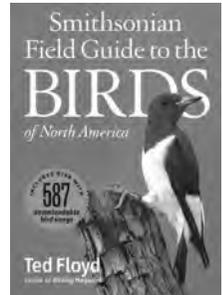
favorable light. Though there are certainly far fewer illustrations of birds in flight than in the groundbreaking Sibley guide, and there is nothing truly cutting edge about the

written material, the large painterly illustrations are a joy to behold, particularly for those of us who are rapidly ageing and have to admit to wearing glasses now and then. The maps are still collectively at the back of the guide, but because these range maps are large and boldly colored and are actually meant to be used. I have to admit I find the maps in the Sibley guide small and hard to read.

By going to <http://www.rogertorypeterson.com> (this web address is also given below the photo of the Western Tanager at the very front of the book) and following a simple registration process, you access three hours of video podcasts that can be viewed on your PC or downloaded to your portable MP3 player. These short pieces utilize Peterson's illustrations and include bird family overviews, a small number of species accounts, and tutorials on subjects like bird identification and the topography of birds. There is also an introduction to bird songs and instructions for using the range maps. Also included is a wonderful biographical film about the life of Roger Tory Peterson and his creation of the modern field guide.

Roger Tory Peterson would have been 100 years old on August 28, 2008. This enjoyable and useful new incarnation of his field guides is a fitting tribute to his life and art, right down to the use of the Northern Flicker on the cover. It was after seeing a flicker appear to awake from the dead and take wing that Peterson made the decision to devote his life to birds. This is a nicely updated and retooled Peterson guide for the twenty-first century.

Ted Floyd's *Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America* is a noble effort to create a different kind of field guide, but it is only partially successful. Ted Floyd is the editor of *Birding*, the ABA flagship publication, and the field guide that Floyd has created reflects that connection by listing the numbered ABA codes pertaining to the rarity of a species at the beginning of every species description. Species accounts are illustrated with more than 2500 color photographs, most of them of good quality if a bit small. Try as I might, I still find the use of photographs in a field guide never as successful as good illustrations. There is just too much background noise and too much variation in lighting, and often the bird is not in the best position to feature the critical field marks.



In the species accounts Ted Floyd has attempted to include details of the bird's life history not typically found in field guides. This means that in some cases the descriptions of the field marks are good but somewhat skimpy. Also included in every account are three bullet points that address "natural variation," meaning molt, "sex related, age related, and seasonal differences," and finally "other variation," which includes geographical differences. The problem with these sections is that each description in these categories consists of only one terse line. For example, under Red Knot, this section consists of:

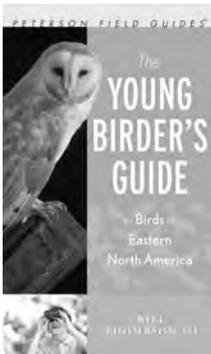
- two adult molts per year; complex alternate strategy
- strong seasonal and moderate age-related differences
- geographic variation in wing length, overall brightness. (p. 169)

There are often no further details included to flesh out these pretty ambiguous descriptions. Under many passerines, the term “complex alternate strategy” is given, which, according to the *Introduction*, means “two adult plumages per year, plus a third plumage in the first year of life.” (p. 22) In some species these various plumages are illustrated in the photos, but in many others only the adult male and adult female are shown.

Range maps are included in the species accounts but by necessity are small and hard to read. You have to ask yourself, when range maps are the size of a large postage stamp, does anyone really use them? The one-page family accounts are informative and helpful, especially for beginning birders. Well-written short introductory chapters include accounts on the natural history of birds, bird behavior, and bird topology. This is also a hefty field guide, slightly smaller than the new Peterson but thicker, and that means it can be carried into the field only in a backpack or stuck in the back of your car.

Included with the guide is a birdsong DVD, placed in a plastic envelope annoyingly glued to the inside back cover. You obviously do not want to leave a DVD in a guide you will take out of doors, but you will inevitably tear the paper of the guide trying to remove the slipcase. I ended up placing the DVD in a CD jewel box to keep it safe. I may as well not have bothered. Though the press material describes this disk as a “CD of 587 downloadable bird songs” in MP3 formats, the cover of the disk states that it is in fact a DVD. The booklet states that “the MP3s are organized alphabetically on the disk by species in folders that are ready to import to any computer with a DVD drive.” There’s the rub. I have a CD player on my PC and therefore could not get the disk to play on my computer. I also tried to play the disk on my TV’s DVD player, but it could not be played in that format. My guess is that unless you have a PC DVD player, this disk will be useless.

The *Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America* is an interesting attempt to create a national field guide with content different from your typical field guide. Though certainly of interest to new birders, the guide just did not work for me, and I will likely never use it. The layout is cluttered with too much small dense type, and much of the information, though interesting, is not what I am looking for in a *field* guide. Still, it’s a noble effort to improve on the genre.



The Young Birder's Guide to Birds of Eastern North America, written by Bill Thompson III, is one of my favorite bird books of 2008. It is the first truly age-appropriate field guide I have seen. Written for tweens and young teens, Bill worked with his daughter Phoebe’s class to get it right, to make sure the information was what young people would want really to know. The result is a refreshing field guide, accurate in descriptions and ranges, but with the attitude and language of a young birder. On each page is a complete species description, a map, a good photograph, and an illustration by Julie Zickefoose that shows some behavior of that species. In a bold purple circle on the page is a “Wow!” fact about the bird. “One of the Turkey

Vulture's defenses is to puke on an intruder. Trust me: You do not want to get vulture puke on your clothes — you cannot get the smell out!" (p. 122)

The Young Birder's Guide is a wonderful and accurate addition to the field guide literature. However, if you pick it up, you may be tempted to keep it for yourself. After reading *The Young Birder's Guide*, I found myself reflecting on how straight-laced and boring most adult field guides really are. It's amazing how a little humor and young-person attitude can make birding so much more enjoyable. A special shout has to go out to Phoebe Thompson, who does a star turn as the model of the archetypical bird watcher in this guide. Let your bird geek flag fly, girl!

To quote John Cleese of *Monty Python*, "and now for something completely different," *Petrels Night and Day: A Sound Approach Guide* is certainly *not* a field guide, but more of a sumptuous coffee table book/field guide hybrid. It looks and reads like no other identification guide to a group of birds you have seen to date. The *Sound Approach* group consists of Arnoud van der Berg, Mark Constantine, and Magnus Robb. Since 2000 they have worked hard to create a major new collection of sound recordings of birds focusing on the Western Palearctic region. Their ultimate goal stated on their website is "to popularize and raise the standards in the use of sound in bird identification." This is their second publication.



Petrels Night and Day features lengthy species accounts of all the tubenoses found from the Cape Verde islands north to coastal Europe. These include all the species found in Massachusetts's waters, and more importantly, those that have *yet* to found on this side of the Atlantic. But these species accounts are not just a dry recitation of plumage details and yearly distribution. Instead, each chapter describes Magnus Robb's personal encounters with these petrels, how he tracked down their nesting burrows, what the habitat was like, the life history of each species. There are extensively analyzed sonograms of the petrels' vocalizations, with detailed descriptions of what each bird's behavior was at the time of the recordings. The text is wonderfully illustrated with numerous beautiful color photographs of the petrels' breeding islands or depictions of species flying or resting in the water or at their nesting burrows. At the end of each species account is a full color painted plate by Irish birder and artist Killian Mullarney detailing all the key identification characteristics, showing each species in flight and at rest in a number of poses. These plates alone make this book worth purchasing, and I hope they will be compiled and released in a less expensive format that can be brought aboard a ship. The photographs combined with Mullarney's plates give the birder more detailed and varied views of these little-known species than has been available before. If you are a hardcore Atlantic pelagic enthusiast, this is a must-own volume.

Included with the book are *two* CDs of tubenose vocalizations that Robb recorded on his adventures. These are almost all of high quality. The CDs are stuck in small CD holders inside the front cover, but I found they continually slipped, and there was a real danger they would get scratched or fall out. I took them out and put them in

their own jewel cases. It has to be admitted that such a thorough collection of vocalizations for a group of birds we hardly ever see would likely be of little use to the average birder. But I have an interesting idea. The next time there is a dedicated birding pelagic trip to Veatch Canyon or some other destination far off our coast, wouldn't it be interesting to have the Captain play the recordings of the Cape Verde Petrel over the speakers and see what happens? Think about the possibilities. Could we call in the state's first Fea Petrel? *Nota bene*: as of this writing, *Petrels Night and Day* is available only from European sources such as the Natural History Book Service <<http://www.nhbs.com/>>. 🐦



LEACH'S STORM-PETREL BY GEORGE C. WEST

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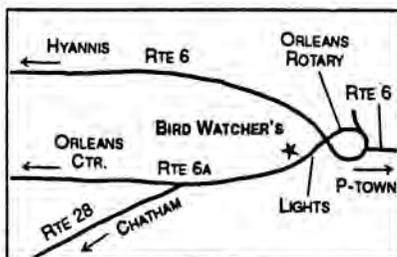
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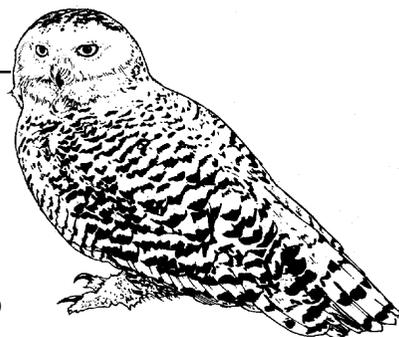
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BIRD SIGHTINGS

May/June 2008

Seth Kellogg, Marjorie W. Rines, Robert H. Stymeist, and Jeremiah Trimble

May was very pleasant, with an average temperature in Boston of 57.7° and rainfall on ten days, two days fewer than the average. The first half of the month was quite cool, while the last half was somewhat milder. The most rain in a 24-hour period occurred on May 27 when 0.99 inches was recorded in Boston. Of the nine weekend days, five days had no measurable rain, and only the first weekend of the month produced moderate rain. Southwest winds — the direction birders pay attention to — occurred on six days, (May 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, and 31), three more than last year. Winds were also from a southerly direction on May 6 and 25.

June was above normal with an average temperature in Boston of 70.3°, 2.3° above average. A four-day heat wave was unusually early, with over 90° readings from May 7-10. Precipitation for the month was 3.46 inches, with measurable amounts falling on eight days. Of the nine weekend days, only June 15 experienced any significant rain. The month was unusually foggy with 15 days of recorded fog. Thunderstorms were reported on eleven days.

R. Stymeist

WATERFOWL THROUGH ALCIDS

One of the most interesting sightings of the reporting period was the discovery of a flock of nine **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks** in Ipswich on June 6. Remarkably, a flock of nine Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks spent several days (through June 4) in Nova Scotia prior to the Massachusetts sighting. One of the birds in both flocks appeared to show a prominent growth on its forehead, supporting the idea that both sightings involved the same flock! Questions of origin need to be addressed, but there is precedence for natural wandering in this species. For example, in June 2006 there were records in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. However, we have received a report of a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck with a yellow band on its leg that spent some time hanging around a private aviary in Connecticut around the time of the Ipswich sighting. If accepted by the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, this would represent the first record for the state.

With the increase in sightings of Greater White-fronted Geese during migration, it is not a total surprise that one individual lingered into the summer. An adult bird was discovered on Nantucket where it remained through the latter half of June. This is the first summer record for this species in the state. The Massachusetts record was part of an unprecedented rash of summer sightings of this species in the northeastern United States. A Greater White-fronted Goose spent most of the summer at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge in New York, and another individual was found in Maine at the end of August. A Snow Goose also decided to spend a little extra time in Massachusetts and hung around Wellfleet for a few days in late June. There are only three previous June records for this species in the state.

Lingering American Wigeon should draw some attention since this species has nested in Massachusetts on at least three occasions at Penikese Island and South Monomoy. A single bird was spotted on June 26 on Plum Island, an area that contains suitable breeding habitat, although no further sightings were received. Summer reports of King Eider are rare, so an adult male off Pasque Island on June 13 was noteworthy. A Bufflehead that lingered into June in South Carver

was similarly unusual. Hooded Mergansers are uncommon breeders in Massachusetts, with confirmed sites scattered mostly around the central part of the state. This season birders were able to confirm breeding for this species at three locations in the western half of the state. Common Mergansers are only rare breeders in the state, having been confirmed perhaps fewer than 20 times in the last 50+ years. Diligent observers found two females with young at Hawley and at Quabbin Reservoir in mid- to late June.

The reporting period produced several sightings of **Pacific Loons** in the state. These included a breeding plumaged bird photographed in Provincetown during the first few days of May. Additional sightings included a bird at Nantucket on May 18 and a basic-plumaged bird reported at Plum Island on June 4. Pied-billed Grebes, formerly uncommon breeders in the state, have been in decline in the state over the last 50 years, relying on freshwater marshy breeding areas that have been in a similar decline across the state. This year we received no reports of potentially breeding Pied-billed Grebes in the state. A few Horned and Red-necked grebes lingered into June. Both of these species have fewer than ten summer records for the state. Two breeding-plumaged Red-necked Grebes at Revere on June 24 were particularly interesting.

A pelagic birding trip to Atlantis Canyon on June 28 produced excellent numbers of shearwaters, including 225 Cory's Shearwaters and 30 Leach's Storm-Petrels. Up to 8 Manx Shearwaters continued to be seen off of Revere, further fueling speculations that the species may be breeding in the area. One group of birders spent the night at Middle Brewster (with permission of the Park Service), but no conclusive documentation of breeding could be obtained.

Plum Island is perhaps the best breeding area in the state for Least Bittern, and up to four individuals were reported here. Great Meadows NWR is another good location, with at least two individuals present through the beginning of June. Kettle Island in Manchester hosts the largest breeding colony of herons in Massachusetts. Each year, careful surveys monitor the size and health of the colony. This year's effort discovered 142 Great Egret nests, 300 Snowy Egret nests, 12-15 pairs of Little Blue Heron, 28 Black-crowned Night-Heron nests, and 172 Glossy Ibis nests! A single adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was photographed on Ragged Island in Boston Harbor on May 23. On May 2 two **White-faced Ibis** were discovered in Newbury, and at least one lingered through May 19. One-to-two White-faced Ibis were also reported in Essex County in the springs of 2005 and 2007. It will be intriguing to see if this trend continues.

Black Vultures continue to be seen regularly in Berkshire County and the Connecticut River Valley, where we hope to see them confirmed as breeders in the near future. Other reports of this species included one in late June in North Truro. That same site on Cape Cod produced as many as four **Mississippi Kites**, including two on May 7. This species has been occurring with greater frequency in recent years and is annual on outer Cape Cod. The mystery of where these birds are going remains, however. New Hampshire, incredibly, produced not only its first record of this species but its first two (yes, TWO) breeding records! The two nesting pairs both produced a single fledgling.

Like many open land/grassland species, breeding populations of Northern Harriers have suffered throughout the state in recent years. This year a single nesting pair was reported and confirmed on Nomans Island. Sharp-shinned Hawks, though moderately common during the non-breeding season, are a rare breeder in the state. It is exciting to receive the report of a nest of this species in Gardner. Although normally they are gone by April, migrating Rough-legged Hawks are occasionally reported through May. This year, two birds were reported migrating passed North Truro during that month.

Purple Gallinules are very rare visitors to the state, occurring less than once every three to five years. This year a few lucky observers on Martha's Vineyard enjoyed a rather cooperative individual for a few days in early May. Uncommon denizens of freshwater marshes, including King Rail and Common Moorhen, were reported in typical numbers at traditional localities. A late American Coot was seen for a single day in mid-June in south Carver. The lone Sandhill Crane report of the season came from Monterey on May 26, but we received no additional reports. It is possible that this individual is linked to the pair of Sandhill Cranes that was found breeding nearby in New Marlboro in recent years.

Piping Plovers at Crane Beach in Ipswich produced 33 young from 22 pairs, the best productivity since 1999. Systematic surveys of the Boston Harbor Islands reported nine nesting pairs of American Oystercatcher. The most noteworthy shorebird news of the reporting period was a **Black-necked Stilt** at Nantucket, a one-day wonder on June 1. Upland Sandpipers were breeding at Logan Airport in Boston this period, with three pairs producing four young. Six Upland Sandpipers were also seen at Plymouth Airport where this species has been known to breed. Two male **Ruffs** in the Rowley area caused quite a bit of excitement during the first week of May. As many as nine Wilson's Phalaropes were also in the area.

An adult **Long-tailed Jaeger** was a showy find on Nantucket on May 31. A **Franklin's Gull** was reported from Plum Island on June 5. Laughing Gulls rarely wander inland, so the May 3 sighting of a bird in Easthampton was impressive. Other gulls that lingered into June included three first-summer Little Gulls at Plum Island and a Black-headed Gull that remained through the period at Lynn/Nahant. **Gull-billed Terns** are extremely uncommon in the state, so a sighting in the Nauset area of Cape Cod in early May was exciting, but a pair on Plum Island was spotted sporadically for the first three weeks of June and was photographed showing signs of courtship display. This species breeds as far north as Long Island, New York, and breeding is not out of the question in our state. Lingering alcids included a Common Murre at Plum Island at the end of May and single Razorbills during the first week of June at Wellfleet and Gloucester.

J. Trimble

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	6/3	Westminster	4	C. Caron
6/6 Ipswich	9	F. Perler, J. Style + v.o.	6/5 Ashburnham	1 C. Caron
Greater White-fronted Goose	6/6	Plymouth	2	I. Davies
6/14-30 Nantucket	1	D. Lang	6/28 Lee	2 f + 9 yg M. Lynch#
Snow Goose			Blue-winged Teal	
6/23-24 Wellfleet	1	D. Berard + v.o.	thr P.I.	4 max v.o.
Brant			5/23 Stockbridge	2 J. Gagnon
5/2 Winthrop	170	P. + F. Vale#	5/23 Agawam	2 T. Hutchison
5/4 Duxbury B.	450	R. Bowes	5/24 Topsfield	3 S. McGrath#
5/11 Newbypt H.	280	R. Heil	Northern Shoveler	
6/17 P.I.	1	T. Wetmore	5/3-16 Stoneham	1 m J. McCoy#
6/19 Duxbury	1	R. Bowes#	5/thr P.I.	2 v.o.
6/25 Marion	1	I. Nisbet	Northern Pintail	
Mute Swan			5/4 Nantucket	2 V. Laux
5/7 W. Bridgewater	26	G. d'Entremont	Green-winged Teal	
5/17 Mashpee	4 ad, 14 yg	M. Keleher	thr P.I.	18 max v.o.
5/21 Westport	23	R. Stymeist#	5/1 Nantucket	40 V. Laux
6/17 P.I.	16	T. Wetmore	5/1 W. Harwich	24 B. Nikula
Wood Duck			5/12 HRWMA	2 C. Caron
6/9 GMNWR	5 ad, 31 juv	USFWS	5/17 W. Springfield	1 S. Svec
6/14 Wakefield	6 ad, 43 juv	Vale	5/28 GMNWR	1 m S. Perkins
Gadwall			6/28 Princetown	pr S. Sutton
thr P.I.	34 max	v.o.	Ring-necked Duck	
5/6, 17 Chatham	2, 2	B. Nikula	5/7 Gloucester (E.P.)	3 J. Robinson
5/16 Tuckery	4	C. Caron#	5/7 Randolph	2 G. d'Entremont
5/16-17 Rokenuck	1	S. Perkins#	5/7 W. Bridgewater	3 G. d'Entremont
5/20 Ipswich	12	J. Berry	5/30 Falmouth	1 m G. Hirth
American Wigeon			Greater Scaup	
6/26 P.I.	1	T. Wetmore	5/1 Randolph	8 G. d'Entremont
American Black Duck			5/24 Chiltonville	2 I. Davies#
5/thr P.I.	35 max	v.o.	6/14 P.I.	1 M. Goetsckhes#
5/27 GMNWR	2	USFWS		

King Eider				5/16 Nahant	1	G. Jones
5/22 Manomet	1 m imm ph	I. Davies		5/17 W. Springfield	1	S. Svee
6/13 Pasque I.	1 ad m	S. Melvin		6/1 Ipswich	1 m	J. Berry
Common Eider				6/5 S. Quabbin	1	L. Therrien
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	330	S. Perkins#		Ruffed Grouse		
5/18 Gloucester (E.P.)	4 ad, 11 juv	Hedman		5/14 Central Quabbin	6	L. Therrien
5/21 Westport	45	R. Stymeist#		6/8 Spencer	4	M. Lynch#
5/30 Nomans I.	60	S. Perkins#		6/15 Petersham	1f + 3yg	M. Lynch#
6/thr Boston H.	213 nests	R. Stymeist		6/20 Norwell	1 ad, 2 juv	C. Nims
6/3 Chatham	62	R. Heil		6/24 Paxton	1 ad+3yg	M. Lynch#
6/3 P'town	29	R. Heil		Wild Turkey		
6/14 N. Monomoy	40	B. Nikula		5/2 Carlisle	3	A. Ankers
Harlequin Duck				5/3 Newbury	10	S. McGrath#
5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	1 f	R. Heil		5/10 Rockport	5	S. Hedman
Surf Scoter				5/31 Central Quabbin	38	L. Therrien
thr P.I.	30 max	v.o.		6/1 Hawley	11+2yg	M. Lynch#
5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	43	R. Heil		6/6 Plymouth	6	I. Davies
5/13 Dennis (C.B.)	32	B. Nikula		6/11 Sutton	10	J. Liller
5/16 Gloucester	16	C. Caron#		Northern Bobwhite		
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	9	S. Perkins#		5/23 Falmouth	1	M. Keleher
5/23, 6/6Manomet	19, 3	I. Davies#		5/24 N. Truro	2	D. Manchester
6/3 Chatham	2 m	R. Heil		6/14 WBWS	8	F. Bouchard
6/24 Eastham	2	M. Malin		6/21 Mashpee	2	M. Keleher
White-winged Scoter				Red-throated Loon		
thr P.I.	80 max	v.o.		5/1-6/10 P.I.	6 max	v.o.
5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	15	R. Heil		5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	34	R. Heil
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	17	S. Perkins#		6/3 Manomet	2	I. Davies
5/22 P'town	140	B. Nikula		6/3 Wellfleet	4	R. Heil
5/22 Manchester	80	S. Perkins#		6/7 Gloucester.	1	J. Frontiero
6/16 Winthrop B.	13	S. Corona		Pacific Loon *		
Black Scoter				5/3 P'town	1 br pl ph	B. Nikula
5/1-6/16 P.I.	60 max	v.o.		5/18 Nantucket	1	V. Laux
5/16 Gloucester	80	C. Caron#		6/4 P.I.	1	T. Wetmore
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	30	S. Perkins#		Common Loon		
6/3 Chatham	23	R. Heil		5/thr N. Truro	171 max D.	Manchester
6/3 P'town	2	B. Nikula		5/4 Petersham	8	M. Lynch#
6/24 Eastham	1	M. Malin		5/4 Harwich Port	35 migr	B. Nikula
Long-tailed Duck				5/5 W. Falmouth	400	I. Nisbet
5/1-6/17 P.I.	1400 max 5/11	v.o.		5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	79	R. Heil
5/3 Petersham	1 m	M. Lynch#		5/16-17 Tuckernuck	35	S. Perkins#
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	3	S. Perkins#		5/26 Westminster	8	C. Caron
5/18 Hingham	6	C. Nims		6/12 P'town	16	B. Nikula
6/3 Chatham	7	R. Heil		6/30 Ashburnham	3	C. Caron
Bufflehead				Pied-billed Grebe		
5/1 Randolph	16	G. d'Entremont		5/1 P.I.	1	S. McGrath
5/4 Duxbury B.	9	R. Bowes		5/6 IRWS	1	S. Santino
5/5 S. Quabbin	2	L. Therrien		6/7 Lee	1	M. Lynch#
5/6 W. Boxford	3	T. Walker		6/21 Granville	1	P. Desjardins
5/7 Hingham	2	J. Moore		Horned Grebe		
6/16 S. Carver	1	J. Mason		6/1 Lynn B.	1	F. Bouchard
Common Goldeneye				6/5 P.I.	1	S. Grinley
5/1 P.I.	1	T. Wetmore		6/7 Revere B.	2	E. Labato
Hooded Merganser				Red-necked Grebe		
6/7 Lee	1 f + 4 yg	M. Lynch#		5/4 N. Scituate	3	G. d'Entremont
6/21 Tyringham	1 f + 11 yg	M. Lynch#		5/8 Southwick	4	S. Kellogg
6/26 Petersham	1 f + 4 yg	M. Lynch#		5/10 Nantucket	1	V. Laux#
Common Merganser				6/24 Revere	2 br pl	R. Stymeist
5/3 Petersham	pr +1 f	M. Lynch#		Northern Fulmar		
5/4 Turners Falls	17	T. Gagnon		6/8 Stellwagen	1	W. Petersen#
6/14 Hawley	1 f + 11 yg	Lynch#		Cory's Shearwater		
6/21 Quabbin (G40)	1 f ad + 13 yg	Davies		6/26 P'town	1	B. Nikula
Red-breasted Merganser				6/28 off P'town	14	P. Trull
5/1-6/10 P.I.	5 max	v.o.		6/28 Atlantis Can.	225	BBC (R. Heil)
5/1 N. Truro	550	D. Manchester#		Greater Shearwater		
5/4, 6/19Duxbury B.	30, 1	R. Bowes		5/31 Nantucket	1	V. Laux
5/10, 6/3P'town	350, 34	B. Nikula		6/28 Atlantis Can.	1170	BBC (R. Heil)
5/16, 6/6Manomet	110, 24	I. Davies		6/28 off P'town	16	P. Trull
6/16 Winthrop B.	1	S. Corona		Sooty Shearwater		
Ruddy Duck				5/22-6/3 P'town	1-8	B. Nikula
5/1 Gloucester (E.P.)	1	J. Nelson		5/25 P.I.	2	R. Heil
5/1 Randolph	11	G. d'Entremont		5/31 Nantucket	100	V. Laux
5/14 Woburn (H.P.)	2	P. Ippolito#		6/5 Manomet	1	I. Davies
5/17 W. Newbury	1 f	S. + J. Mirick		6/5 Brewster	6	B. Nikula
5/18 Eastham (F.H.)	9	I. Davies#		6/8 Stellwagen	100	B. Nikula
Ring-necked Pheasant				6/28 Atlantis Can.	28	BBC (R. Heil)
5/3 W. Newbury	1	S. McGrath#		6/28 off P'town	3	P. Trull
5/4 Woburn (H.P.)	1	P. Ippolito		Manx Shearwater		
5/11 Waltham	1	J. Forbes		5/1-6/8 Revere B.	4-8	v.o.

Manx Shearwater (continued)				5/24	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore
5/10, 24 P'town	1, 1	B. Nikula		Tricolored Heron			
5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	1	R. Heil		thr P.I.	1-2	v.o.	
6/thr P.I.	1-5	v.o.		5/10 Mashpee	1	G. Hirth	
6/5 Brewster	7	B. Nikula		Cattle Egret			
6/8 Stellwagen	10	B. Nikula		5/2 Newbypt	2	D. Larson#	
6/9 Marblehead	5	D. Noble		Green Heron			
6/27 Manchester	3	MAS (D. Larson)		5/1 Lexington	1	M. Rines	
6/28 Atlantis Can.	15	BBC (R. Heil)		5/8 P'town	2	M. Malin	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel				5/9 Rowley	3	C. Corley	
5/17 Tuckernuck	1	M. Martin		5/24 Mashpee	3	M. Keleher	
5/17 P'town	1	B. Nikula		5/25 Marlboro	3	T. Spahr	
5/17 Gloucester (E.P.)	4	S. + J. Mirick		6/7 Ipswich	4	J. Berry	
6/8 Stellwagen	500	B. Nikula		6/14 WBWS	3	F. Bouchard	
6/28 Atlantis Can.	4500	BBC (R. Heil)		6/28 Lee	3	M. Lynch#	
6/28 off P'town	45	P. Trull		Black-crowned Night-Heron			
Leach's Storm-Petrel				thr P.I.	7 max	v.o.	
6/28 Atlantis Can.	30	BBC (R. Heil)		5/12 Medford	15	C. Gibson	
Northern Gannet				5/16-17 Tuckernuck	40	S. Perkins#	
thr P.I.	320 max	6/17 v.o.		5/24 Gloucester (E.P.)	3	S. Hedman#	
5/1-20 N. Truro	550 max	5/5 Manchester#		5/30 Nomans I.	2 ad + 3 yg	USFWS (Koch)	
5/7 Duxbury B.	50	R. Bowes		6/6 Saugus	4	D. + I. Jewell	
5/10, 6/6P'town	300, 28	B. Nikula		6/7 Mashpee	6	M. Keleher	
5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	71	R. Heil		6/12 Manomet	4 ad	I. Davies	
5/13 Dennis (C.B.)	200	B. Nikula		6/13 W. Harwich	3	B. Nikula	
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	350	S. Perkins#		5/22 Manchester (KI)	28 nests	S. Perkins#	
6/8 Stellwagen	40	B. Nikula		Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			
Double-crested Cormorant				5/23 Ragged I.	1 ad ph	R. Stymeist#	
5/4 P'town H.	1200	B. Nikula		Glossy Ibis			
5/5 N. Truro	920	D. Manchester		thr P.I.	15 max	v.o.	
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	350	S. Perkins#		5/5 Concord (NAC)	4	S. Verrill	
5/22 Manomet	320	I. Davies		5/10 Fairhaven	1	C. Longworth#	
5/22 Fairhaven	250	BBC (R. Stymeist)		5/11 Newbury	40	R. Heil	
5/30 Nomans I.	350+	pr n S. Perkins#		5/22 Manchester (KI)	172 nests	S. Perkins#	
6/6 P.I.	265	R. Heil		6/19 Weymouth-11	1	C. Nims#	
Great Cormorant				White-faced Ibis (details submitted)*			
5/4, 18 Duxbury B.	27, 1	R. Bowes		5/2-19 Newbury	1-2	Larson, Petersen, v.o.	
5/17 N. Scituate	6	SSBC (GdE)		Black Vulture			
5/30 Nomans I.	1	J. Hines#		5/10 Mt. Washington	1	R. Laubach	
6/3 P'town	1	W R. Heil		5/16 N. Andover	1	B. Fox	
6/4 Manomet	2 juv	I. Davies		5/23 Sheffield	1	T. Gagnon	
6/13 Outer Brewster	2 imm	W. Petersen#		6/2 Brimfield	1	G. Gove#	
6/15 P.I.	1	M. Iliff		6/22 Cheshire	1	H. Batcheller	
American Bittern				6/26 N. Truro	1	Hawkcount (DM)	
thr Reports of indiv. from	18	locations		Turkey Vulture			
thr P.I.	1	v.o.		5/thr N. Truro	294	Hawkcount (DM)	
5/7 HRWMA	2	T. Pirro		5/12 Nantucket	18	v.o.	
5/11 Cummington	3	C. Quinlan		5/20 P.I.	8	R. Heil	
5/22 N. Truro	2	D. Manchester		5/28 GMNWR	7	S. Perkins	
6/12 Granville	2	J. Wojtanowski		5/28 Boxford	nest/2 eggs	J. Berry	
6/28 Lee	3	M. Lynch#		6/1-27 N. Truro	138	Hawkcount (DM)	
Least Bittern				6/7 Lee	11	M. Lynch#	
5/15-6/30 P.I.	1-4	v.o.		6/26 W. Gloucester	8	S. Hedman	
5/24-6/8 GMNWR	1-2	v.o.		Osprey			
6/19 Peabody	1	P. Roberts		5/thr N. Truro	95	Hawkcount (DM)	
Great Blue Heron				5/2, 6/7 Mashpee	11, 20	M. Keleher	
5/25 Lee	29 nests	M. Lynch#		5/18 P.I.	10	R. Heil	
5/30 Peabody	6 nests	P. + F. Vale		5/21 Westport	24	R. Stymeist#	
6/7 Lee	20+ nests	M. Lynch#		6/1-27 N. Truro	16	Hawkcount (DM)	
6/10 Berlin	3 nests	S. Sutton		6/3 Chatham	6	R. Heil	
6/28 Lee	47 yg	M. Lynch#		6/5 Rowley-Ipswich	5 nests	J. Berry#	
Great Egret				6/7 Harvard	pr n	BBC (P. White)	
thr P.I.	25 max	T. Wetmore		Mississippi Kite			
5/16-17 Tuckernuck	3	S. Perkins#		5/7 N. Truro	2	Hawkcount (DM)	
6/3 P'town	1	R. Heil		5/29 N. Truro	1 subad ph	Hawkcount (DM)	
6/5 Wakefield	1	P. + F. Vale		6/1 N. Truro	1	B. Nikula#	
6/16 Concord (NAC)	1	J. Collins		Bald Eagle			
5/22 Manchester (KI)	142 nests	S. Perkins#		5/3 Petersham	3 ad	M. Lynch#	
Snowy Egret				5/3 Woburn (HP)	1 ad	R. LaFontaine#	
thr P.I.	137 max	v.o.		5/7 GMNWR	1 ad	S. Perkins	
5/22 Fairhaven	9	BBC (R. Stymeist)		5/11 Nantucket	1 imm	fide E. Ray	
5/22 Manchester (KI)	300 nests	S. Perkins#		5/17 Ware	1 ad	M. Lynch#	
5/25 Newton	1	H. Miller		5/18 Eastham (F.H.)	1 juv	I. Davies#	
6/14 Chatham (S.B.)	7	B. Nikula		5/26 Gardner	1 imm	T. Pirro	
6/20 Yarmouth	7	B. Nikula		6/1-20 N. Truro	5	Hawkcount (DM)	
Little Blue Heron				6/7 Brewster	1 imm	M. Kaufman	
5/18 Hingham	1	C. Nims		6/25 W. Newbury	4	MAS (Gette)	
5/22 Manchester (KI)	12-15 pr	S. Perkins#					

Northern Harrier			6/1-3	N. Truro	2	Hawkcount (DM)
5/thr	N. Truro	11	Hawkwatch (DM)	Peregrine Falcon		
5/1-6/3	P.I.	5 max	v.o.	5/thr	N. Truro	9
5/1	GMNWR	1 m	S. Perkins#	5/18	P.I.	3
5/3	Ashburnham	1	C. Caron	5/22	Lynn B.	2
5/6	Easthampton	1	C. Carpist	5/23	Worcester	2
5/15	Norhampton	1	T. Gagnon	6/5	Amherst	5
5/16-17	Tuckernuck	12	S. Perkins#	King Rail		
5/17	Chatham	1	B. Nikula	5/27-6/30	P.I.	1-2
5/18	Carlisle	1	A. Ankers#	6/20	Sudbury	1
5/20	P'town H.	1	B. Nikula	Virginia Rail		
5/30	Nomans I.	pr n	S. Perkins#	thr	P.I.	4 max
6/1	Halifax-Hanson	1	SSBC (J. Sweeney)	5/1	Essex	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk				5/11	Reading	3
5/thr	N. Truro	123	Hawkcount (DM)	5/17	Burlington	4
5/1-18	P.I.	29	Hawkcount (CJ)	5/25	Lee	7
6/1-9	N. Truro	7	Hawkcount (DM)	5/28	GMNWR	6
6/17	Bolton	1 ad	S. Sutton#	5/30	Nomans I.	5
6/21	Tyringham	1	M. Lynch#	6/14	Worc. (BMB)	3
6/22	Fitchburg-8	1	C. Caron	6/26	Haverhill	3
6/22	Westminster	1	C. Caron	Sora		
6/25	Hawley	1	M. Lynch#	thr	P.I.	2-3
6/26	Petersham	1 ad	M. Lynch#	5/1, 28	GMNWR	1, 2
6/29	Gardner	1 n	T. Pirro	5/5	Sheffield	1
Cooper's Hawk				5/9	Bolton Flats	1
5/thr	N. Truro	17	Hawkwatch (DM)	5/17	Petersham	1
5/thr	Beverly	pr n	J. Berry	5/19	Ludlow	1
5/5	Mashpee	pr	M. Keleher	5/20	Ipswich	1-2
5/5	Medford	2	M. Rines	5/24	Topsfield	1
5/11	Lexington	pr	H. Spencer#	5/26	Sheffield	1
6/1-13	N. Truro	5	Hawkcount (DM)	6/1	Southwick	1
6/2-5	Lynnfield	1	P. + F. Vale	6/7	Lee	2
6/14	Beverly	nest/2 yg	J. Berry	6/14	Worc. (BMB)	1
6/28	Rowley	pr, 1 juv	S. McGrath#	Purple Gallinule		
Northern Goshawk				5/4-7	Oak Bluffs	1 ad ph
5/thr	Groveland	pr n	K. Elwell#	Common Moorhen		
5/10	Hawley	1 ad	M. Lynch#	5/5	Sheffield	1
5/11	Ashburnham	1	C. Caron	5/15	Pittsfield	1
5/14	N. Truro	1	Hawkcount (DM)	5/20-29	P.I.	1-2
5/17	W. Newbury	1 ad	D. + S. Larson	6/7	Lee	1
5/17	Wompatuck SP	1	B. Cassie	6/26	GMNWR	1
5/19	Florida	1	J. Lucier	American Coot		
5/22	Manomet	1	I. Davies	6/16	S. Carver	1
5/24	Quabbin (G8)	1	G. d'Entremont	Sandhill Crane		
Red-shouldered Hawk				5/26	Monterey	1
5/6	N. Truro	3	Hawkcount (DM)	Black-bellied Plover		
5/10	Hawley	2	M. Lynch#	thr	Duxbury B.	259 max
6/2	Mashpee	3	CCBC (M. Keleher)	thr	P.I.	160 max
6/15	Petersham	3	M. Lynch#	5/24, 6/27	Chatham (S.B.)	500, 300
6/26	Haverhill	2	S. Mirick	5/26	Newbypt H.	175
Broad-winged Hawk				5/26	Newbypt H.	250
thr	Lexington	pr n	M. Rines	5/26	Squantum	70
5/thr	N. Truro	359	Hawkcount (DM)	6/3	P'town H.	175
5/1	Berlin	3	S. Sutton	Semipalmated Plover		
5/5	Wompatuck SP	3	C. Nims	5/3	W. Falmouth	5
5/6	Pepperell	pr	M. Resch	5/6-6/1	Duxbury B.	147 max
5/14	Carlisle	pr	A. Ankers	5/8-6/21	P.I.	180 max
5/29	N. Truro	133	Hawkcount (DM)	5/18	Westminster	17
6/1-27	N. Truro	116	Hawkcount (DM)	5/22	Lynn B.	60
6/3	P'town	6	R. Heil	5/24, 6/27	Chatham (S.B.)	120, 9
6/7	Lee	pr +1	M. Lynch#	5/27	GMNWR	30
6/19	Fitchburg-3	3	C. Caron	6/8	Duxbury B.	16
6/19	Hubbardston	3	C. Caron	Piping Plover		
Rough-legged Hawk				6/thr	Ipswich (C.B.)	22 pr + 33 yg
5/1, 23	N. Truro	1, 1	Hawkcount (DM)	6/14	Duxbury	6 ad, 2 juv
American Kestrel				6/19	Winthrop	5 ad, 5 juv
5/thr	N. Truro	46	Hawkcount (DM)	6/19	Revere B.	4 ad, 3 juv
5/1-18	P.I.	32	Hawkcount (CJ)	Killdeer		
5/1	Essex	5	J. Nelson	5/13	Lexington	25 ad, 1 juv
5/3	Ipswich-12	pr	D. Brown#	6/2	GMNWR	14
5/5	Mashpee	2 m	M. Keleher	American Oystercatcher		
5/5	Fitchburg	3	C. Caron	5/22	Fairhaven	6 BBC (R. Stymeist)
5/7	Hingham	2	J. Moore	5/24	Nahant	2
6/1, 13	Shelburne	2, 2	C. Caron	5/30	Nomans I.	6 ad.; 1 yg
Merlin				6/thr	Nomans I.	9 pr n
5/thr	N. Truro	30	Hawkwatch (DM)	6/29	Chatham (S.B.)	18
5/1-8	P.I.	23	Hawkcount (CJ)	Black-necked Stilt		
5/1-17	Reports on indiv. from 17 locations			6/1	Nantucket	1 ph
						V. Laux

Spotted Sandpiper				5/28-6/27 P.I.	2-6	v.o.
5/1	W. Gloucester	5	J. Nelson	6/3 P'town	26	R. Heil
5/9	Newbury	18	D. Saffarewich	Semipalmated Sandpiper		
5/10	Arlington Res.	10	M. Rines	5/9	Bolton Flats	5 C. Caron
5/16	Manomet	7	I. Davies	5/12-6/27 P.I.	2020 max	T. Wetmore
5/24	Topsfield	7	S. McGrath#	5/18-6/21	Duxbury B.	1000 max R. Bowes
5/28	P.I.	6	S. Sutton	5/24, 6/21	Chatham (S.B.)	400, 50 B. Nikula
6/2	GMNWR	6	USFWS	5/26	Northampton	6 C. Gentes
6/5	Rainsford I.	11	R. Stymeist#	5/28	GMNWR	5 S. Perkins
Solitary Sandpiper				6/3	Brewster	110 R. Heil
5/8	Deerfield	14	R. Ranney	Least Sandpiper		
5/8	Arlington Res.	7	C. Floyd#	thr	P.I.	160 max v.o.
5/9, 24	Bolton Flats	7, 1	Caron, Zadja	5/1, 10	W. Harwich	9, 225 B. Nikula
5/15	Ipswich R.	30	J. Berry#	5/10	Arlington Res.	22 J. Forbes
5/16	Northampton	20	T. Gagnon	5/11, 26	Newbypt H.	130, 100 Heil, Zadja
5/24	Topsfield	32	S. McGrath#	5/14	W. Bridgewater	60 G. d'Entremont
Greater Yellowlegs				5/14	Northampton	104 C. Gentes
thr	P.I.	55 max	5/11 v.o.	5/23	Newbypt H.	80 P. + F. Vale#
5/thr	GMNWR	10 max	v.o.	5/24, 6/29	Chatham (S.B.)	50, 30 B. Nikula
5/1	W. Harwich	44	B. Nikula	6/14	N. Monomoy	1 B. Nikula
5/3	Bolton Flats	31	S. Sutton	White-rumped Sandpiper		
5/4	Hadley	18	T. Gagnon	5/18, 31	Duxbury B.	1, 1 R. Bowes
5/4	Nantucket	54	V. Laux	5/18	Gloucester (E.P.)	1 S. Hedman
5/5	Northampton	31	T. Gagnon	5/24, 6/21	Chatham (S.B.)	6, 10 B. Nikula
5/11	Newbypt	38	P. + F. Vale	5/26	Newbypt H.	2 P. + F. Vale
5/16-17	Tuckermuck	24	S. Perkins#	5/27-6/27	P.I.	35 max v.o.
6/25	Duxbury B.	1	R. Bowes	5/28	GMNWR	6 S. Perkins
6/29	Chatham (S.B.)	2	B. Nikula	6/21	Marion	1 I. Nisbet
Willet				Pectoral Sandpiper		
thr	P.I.	56 max	v.o.	5/2	Rowley	3 D. Chickering#
5/1, 6/8	Duxbury B.	1, 24	R. Bowes	5/27	GMNWR	5 USFWS
5/4	Turners Falls	1	J. Smith	5/27-28	P.I.	1 v.o.
5/5	W. Falmouth	55	I. Nisbet	Purple Sandpiper		
5/5	Chatham	28	B. Nikula	5/4	N. Scituate	10 G. d'Entremont
5/22	Fairhaven	16	BBC (R. Stymeist)	5/21	Westport	15 R. Stymeist#
6/13	Snake I.	5	pr n R. Stymeist#	5/22	Gloucester (E.P.)	40 D. + S. Larson
6/14	N. Monomoy	60	B. Nikula	5/22	Fairhaven	3 BBC (R. Stymeist)
6/27, 29	Chatham (S.B.)	40, 2	B. Nikula	6/1	Duxbury B.	3 R. Bowes
Lesser Yellowlegs				Dunlin		
thr	P.I.	11 max	v.o.	5/1-6/22	P.I.	80 max v.o.
5/1	W. Harwich	8	B. Nikula	5/1	Easthampton	1 C. Gentes
5/3	Bolton Flats	5	S. Sutton	5/4-6/8	Duxbury B.	915 max R. Bowes
5/4	Hadley	7	T. Gagnon	5/11	Newbypt H.	400 R. Heil
5/5	Newbury	8	I. Davies#	5/17	Eastham (F.E.)	900 B. Nikula
5/5, 16	Northampton	7, 1	T. Gagnon	5/18	Northampton	1 T. Gagnon
5/10	W. Harwich	5	B. Nikula	5/24, 6/29	Chatham (S.B.)	1500, 11 B. Nikula
5/11	Rowley	138	R. Heil	5/26	Plymouth H.	70 I. Davies#
5/20	GMNWR	6	USFWS	Ruff		
Upland Sandpiper				5/3-8	Rowley area	2 m Peterson, D'Entremont
5/5	Nantucket	1	V. Laux	Short-billed Dowitcher		
5/17	Chicopee	1	H. Allen	5/5	Mashpee	2 M. Malin
6/thr	Boston (Logan)	3	pr + 4 yg N. Smith	5/18-6/29	P.I.	130 max T. Wetmore
6/20	P.I.	1	P. O'Neill#	5/24, 6/27	Chatham (S.B.)	7, 150 B. Nikula
6/20-25	Plymouth Airport	6	L. Newlands	5/25	Plymouth B.	3 SSBC (GdE)
Whimbrel				5/26-6/8	Duxbury B.	200 max R. Bowes
5/5-24	P.I.	1	v.o.	6/3	Ipswich (C.B.)	20 BBC (J. Berry)
Marbled Godwit				6/3	P'town	1 R. Heil
6/21	Chatham (S.B.)	1	B. Nikula	6/5	Manomet	2 I. Davies
Ruddy Turnstone				Wilson's Snipe		
5/6-6/7	P.I.	65 max	v.o.	5/1	W. Harwich	24 B. Nikula
5/7-6/21	Duxbury B.	517 max	R. Bowes	5/3	Bolton Flats	18 S. Sutton
5/22	Fairhaven	26	BBC (R. Stymeist)	5/5	Mashpee	3 M. Keleher
5/24, 6/21	Chatham (S.B.)	300, 12	B. Nikula	5/9	Bolton Flats	5 C. Caron
5/25	Plymouth B.	25	SSBC (GdE)	5/25	P.I.	4 B. Zadja
6/5	Rowley-Ipswich	17	J. Berry#	5/25	Tyringham	2 M. Lynch#
Red Knot				6/6	Northfield	1 M. Taylor
5/3	Chatham	1	B. Nikula	American Woodcock		
5/16-17	Tuckermuck	1	R. Veit#	5/5	Groton	3 T. Murray
5/24, 6/29	Chatham (S.B.)	100, 135	B. Nikula	5/5	Sudbury	20 G. Gove#
5/25-6/20	P.I.	10 max	v.o.	5/8	P.I.	9 M. Daley
6/4	Duxbury B.	45	R. Bowes	5/10	Hawley	6 M. Lynch#
Sanderling				5/11	Blackstone	3 M. Lynch#
5/4-6/19	Duxbury B.	184 max	R. Bowes	6/21	Quabbin (G40)	3 I. Davies#
5/7	Mashpee	64	M. Malin	Wilson's Phalarope		
5/17	Eastham (F.E.)	150	B. Nikula	5/2-19	Rowley	2-9 v.o.
5/22	Lynn B.	35	A. Birch	5/17	Fairhaven	1 m D. Zimmerlin
5/24, 6/29	Chatham (S.B.)	2000, 50	B. Nikula	5/18-19	Marion	1 fide I. Nisbet
5/25	Plymouth B.	35	SSBC (GdE)	5/19	E. Boston (B.I.)	1 D. Logan

Wilson's Phalarope (continued)				6/thr Ipswich (C.B.)	163 pr	F. Ingelfinger
5/20 N. Truro	1		B. Nikula	6/3 Chatham	40	R. Heil
6/thr P.I.	1 m		v.o.	6/14 Winthrop B.	20	S. Coronna
6/1 W. Boxford	1 m		T. Zajac	6/23 S. Carver	3	K. Anderson
6/25 Duxbury B.	1		R. Bowes	Gull-billed Tern *		
Red-necked Phalarope				5/18 Nauset	2	P. Trull
5/4 Topsfield	1 f		T. Martin	6/1 P.I.	2	D. Brink
Pomarine Jaeger				6/10-21 P.I.	1-2S	Grinley# + v.o.
6/5 Brewster	1 (imm)		B. Nikula	Caspian Tern		
6/28 Atlantis Can.	1 1S		BBC (R. Heil)	5/4, 11 P.I.	2, 1	Davies, Goetschkes
Parasitic Jaeger				5/5, 20 N. Truro	1, 1	D. Manchester#
6/17 P.I.	1		T. Factor	6/8 Stellwagen	1	B. Nikula
Long-tailed Jaeger				6/9 P.I.	1	D. Hunneman
5/31 Nantucket	1 ad		V. Laux	Black Tern		
Laughing Gull				5/21 P.I.	1	M. Wilson
5/3 Easthampton	1		C. Gentes	5/24, 6/13 P'town	1, 2	B. Nikula
5/7 N. Truro	11		D. Manchester	5/25 Manomet	2 ad	I. Davies
5/9, 26 P'town	150, 205		B. Nikula	6/1 Marion	2	I. Nisbet
5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	6 ad		R. Heil	6/5 Wachusett Res.	2	K. Bourinot
5/15, 6/5 Manomet	7, 55		I. Davies	Roseate Tern		
5/23, 6/5 Brewster	200, 125		B. Nikula	5/7 Mashpee	2	M. Malin
5/25 Plymouth B.	75		SSBC (GdE)	5/12 Nantucket	75	E. Ray
6/8 Duxbury B.	3 ad, 29		IS R. Bowes	5/16-17 Tuckernuck	22	S. Perkins#
Franklin's Gull (details submitted) *				5/16-20 P.I.	5 max	v.o.
6/5 P.I.	1		T. Wetmore	5/22, 6/4 Manomet	1, 2	I. Davies
Little Gull				5/25 Plymouth B.	1	SSBC (GdE)
5/17-26 Newbypt H.	1 1W		Ferraresso# + v.o.	5/26 N. Falmouth	250	I. Nisbet
6/6 P.I.	3 1S		R. Heil	5/31 Newbypt H.	2	P. + F. Vale
Black-headed Gull				6/8 Marion	1 ad	S. Mitra
5/20-6/21 Lynn/Nahant	1		J. Quigley#	Common Tern		
6/3 P'town H.	1 1S		R. Heil#	5/3 Turners Falls	5	F. Bowrys
Bonaparte's Gull				5/7 Mashpee	3	M. Malin
5/1 Turners Falls	1		F. Bowrys	5/11-6/30 P.I.	740 max	5/20 v.o.
5/4 Southwick	1		S. Kellogg	5/18 Eastham (F.H.)	75	I. Davies#
5/5 Harwich Port	7		B. Nikula	5/25 Plymouth B.	750	SSBC (GdE)
5/11, 26 Newbypt H.	6, 8		Heil, Zadjia	5/28 P'town	800	B. Nikula
5/23-6/12 Manomet	29 max		I. Davies#	6/thr Medford	pr n	M. Fager#
5/25-6/30 P.I.	73 max		v.o.	6/3 Chatham	1500	R. Heil
6/1 Lynn B.	38		F. Bouchard	6/13 Hull (Spinnaker I.)	250	C. Trock#
Iceland Gull				Arctic Tern		
5/4 Nantucket	10		V. Laux	5/7 Duxbury B.	2	R. Bowes
5/5, 23 N. Truro	2, 1		D. Manchester#	5/15, 6/6 Manomet	2, 1	I. Davies
6/3, 26 P'town	1 1S		B. Nikula	6/7 Marion	2 ad	S. Mitra
6/6 Manomet	1 2S		I. Davies	6/25 Plymouth B.	4	J. Center
Lesser Black-backed Gull				6/29 Chatham (S.B.)	2 1S	B. Nikula
5/8 Westminster	1 2S		T. Pirro	Forster's Tern		
5/10, 6/3 P'town	2, 2		B. Nikula	5/11 Newbypt H.	2 ad	R. Heil
5/19 Nantucket	20		R. Veit	5/16-6/17 P.I.	2	M. Daley
6/5 Brewster	4		B. Nikula	5/24 Newbypt H.	1	D. Bates#
6/8 Stellwagen	2 2S		B. Nikula	Royal Tern		
6/13, 21 P.I.	1, 2		Wetmore, Heil	6/5 Nantucket	1	D. Lang
6/13 Brewster	1 2S		B. Nikula	6/21, 24 P.I.	1 ad, 1 ad	R. Heil
Glaucous Gull				6/29 M.V.	1	D. Deifik#
5/17 Manchester (KI)	1		C. Caron#	Black Skimmer		
5/31 Nantucket	1 2S		V. Laux	5/5 Chatham	1	B. Nikula
"Nelson's" Gull				6/19 Fairhaven	1	C. Longworth
5/25 Plymouth	1		SSBC (GdE)	6/27 P.I.	2	T. Wetmore
Black-legged Kittiwake				Common Murre		
5/10-6/26 P'town	1 1S		B. Nikula	5/22-29 P.I.	1	v.o.
5/12 Rockport (A.P.)	10 ad, 5 1S		R. Heil	Razorbill		
6/8 Stellwagen	12 imm		B. Nikula	6/2 Wellfleet	1 ph	E. Williams
Least Tern				6/7 Gloucester H.	1	J. Frontiero
5/11-6/30 P.I.	145 max		6/5 v.o.	Black Guillemot		
5/12 Nantucket	250		E. Ray	5/10, 17 P'town	1, 1	B. Nikula
5/18 Eastham (F.H.)	126		I. Davies#	5/17 Rockport (A.P.)	1	S. + J. Mirick
5/22-6/13 Manomet	56 max		I. Davies	5/22 Gloucester (E.P.)	1	D. + S. Larson
5/25 Plymouth B.	60		SSBC (GdE)	6/9 Marblehead	1	D. Noble

DOVES THROUGH FINCHES

The offshore islands seem to be magnets for wayward **White-winged Doves**, and this year one bird was documented from Tuckernuck Island. There are over ten records for this species on Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. The pair of Barred Owls that made history last year as the first confirmed nesting of the species on Cape Cod did it again this year in Mashpee with one fledged young reported. A pair of Short-eared Owls on Tuckernuck Island succeeded in

hatching four young birds that were seen at the end of May. For the second year in a row, there were no reports of Chuck-will's-widow in the state. At least fourteen Whip-poor-wills were reported on Plum Island.

Acadian Flycatchers continue to expand into our area and establish new breeding territories each year. Good numbers of *Catharus* thrushes were noted thanks to the second year of the Mass Audubon Breeding Bird Atlas. Bicknell's Thrushes were reported at Mount Auburn Cemetery and Manomet. Thirty-four species of warblers plus two hybrids (Brewster's and Lawrence's) were noted during the period, but, surprisingly, no Yellow-breasted Chats were recorded. There was good fallout of warblers noted at Mount Auburn and in the Middlesex Fells on May 11, a day of east winds. On May 27, a significant fallout occurred at both Manomet and Plum Island; the night before a moderate southwest wind turned northerly and nearly an inch of rain grounded many migrants along the coast. The more unusual warblers noted included just one Golden-winged, three Orange-crowned, two **Yellow-throated**, six Prothonotary, and four Kentucky. Wompatuck State Park in Hingham played host to several sought-after species of warblers, including Cerulean, several Worm-eating, a Kentucky, and a Hooded. Other trends noted were increased numbers of Tennessee and, especially, Cape May Warblers with the most number of individuals since 1997.

Ten Summer Tanagers were reported during the period, but none later than May 18; a **Western Tanager** in Amherst was only the third record from western Mass. The first was in 1942 from Pelham, and the second was in 1964 in Amherst. Clay-colored Sparrows were possible breeders in the Crane Wildlife Management area in Falmouth, where as many as nine Field Sparrows were reported. A Lark Sparrow was an unusual visitor to Mount Auburn, the first record for the Cemetery. Orchard Orioles continue to expand into our area; note the number tallied in Middleboro on the last day of June, including both adults and young of the year. Wayward Red Crossbills were noted on Cape Cod, and small numbers of Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks were noted statewide during the period

There were some intriguing reports of breeding attempts, most notably a **Loggerhead Shrike** that really wanted to find a mate. The bird was found on the restricted area of Otis Air Force Base, where it sang constantly and built two starter nests on two different trees. There is no evidence that Loggerheads have bred anywhere in Massachusetts since 1971. A male **Prothonotary Warbler** in the Middlesex Fells in Medford was observed pulling moss off trees and carrying it into a nest hole. Sedge Wrens were found in Lee and in the High Ridge Management area in Gardner.

Passerine movement was consistent during May with peak numbers occurring on May 8, 11, 14, 18, 23 and 27. On May 18, west winds pushed a strong diurnal movement to the coast, and a classic migration of daytime migrants was noted. Rick Heil reported well over 1000 American Goldfinches migrating that day on Plum Island.

R. Stymeist

White-winged Dove (details submitted)*

6/2 Tuckernuck I.	1	R. Veit	5/15-6/8 P.I.	1-2	v.o.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			5/17-6/1 Medford	1-3	M. Rines#
5/15 Mt.A.	1	BBC (L. O'Bryan)	5/18 Lexington	3	A. Piccolo#
5/17 Ludlow	2	H. Allen	5/25 Tyringham	3	M. Lynch#
5/21-6/2 Medford	1-2	M. Rines	5/31 Milton	3	P. O'Neill
5/28 Plymouth	pr	K. Doyon	6/2 N. Truro	3	B. Nikula
6/1 Foxboro	4	B. Cassie#	6/8 Groton	3	M. Resch
6/1 Woburn	2	M. Rines	6/23 Halifax	3	J. Sweeney
6/3 Manomet	2	I. Davies	Eastern Screech-Owl		
6/3 Weymouth-8	3	C. Nims	5/2 Mashpee	2	M. Keleher
6/8 Spencer	3	M. Lynch#	6/5 Medford	pr + 2 yg	P. Devaney
6/23 Halifax	2	J. Sweeney	6/22 Blackstone	2	M. Lynch#
Black-billed Cuckoo			Great Horned Owl		
5/11, 31 Blackstone	1, 2	M. Lynch#	5/10 Hawley	2	M. Lynch#
5/14 Central Quabbin	1	L. Therrien	5/16 Scituate	ad + 2 yg	MAS (Galluzzo)
			6/1 P.I.	ad + 2 yg	R. Heil

Great Horned Owl (continued)				6/28	Ashburnham	3	C. Caron
6/24	Sutton	2 yg	J. Liller	Hairy Woodpecker			
Barred Owl				5/3	Spencer	5	M. Lynch#
5/4	Wompatuck SP	pr n	G. d'Entremont#	6/10	Berlin	5	S. Sutton
5/6	Hamilton		J. Berry#	6/14	Worc. (BMB)	8	BBS (J. Liller)
5/11	Blackstone	2	M. Lynch#	6/14	Fitchburg-3	7	C. Caron
5/11	Mt. Holyoke	2	L. Therrien	6/21	Quabbin (G40)	8	I. Davies#
5/11	Haverhill	pr	S. + J. Mirick	6/22	Mashpee	5	M. Keleher
5/20	Mashpee	pr + 1 yg	M. Keleher	6/28	Sterling-8	8	S. Sutton
6/7	Becket	2	R. Laubach	6/29	Essex	6	J. Berry
6/20	E. Longmeadow	2	G. Kingston	Pileated Woodpecker			
6/26	Granville	3	J. Wojtanowski	5/thr	Essex Co.	4 pr n	J. Berry
6/27	Lincoln	2 yg	M. Rines	5/4	Petersham	4	M. Lynch#
Short-eared Owl				6/9	Fitchburg-8	4	C. Caron
5/25	Tuckernuck	3 pr + 4 yg	R. Veit	6/14	Berlin	2	S. Sutton
Northern Saw-whet Owl				6/15	Petersham	5	M. Lynch#
5/3	Petersham	1	M. Lynch#	6/20	Princeton	3	S. Sutton
5/14	Central Quabbin	1	L. Therrien	6/21	Quabbin (G40)	4	I. Davies#
5/18	Concord	1	C. Coppersmith	Olive-sided Flycatcher			
6/11	MSSF	1	BBC (GdE)	5/11	N. Andover	1	B. Drummond
6/14	Tyringham	1	S. Kellogg	5/24	Williamstown	1	A. Werner
Common Nighthawk				5/25	Framingham-1	1	S. Miller#
5/7, 28	P.I.	1, 7	Gurka, Grinley	5/26	Woburn	1	M. Rines
5/17	Ludlow	1	H. Allen	5/28	MBWMA	1	D. Chickering#
5/24	GMNWR	2	G. d'Entremont	5/29	N. Truro	1	B. Nikula
5/25	Carlisle	3	A. Ankers	5/31	Manchester	1 m	J. Berry
5/26	Westminster	3	T. Pirro	5/31	Central Quabbin	1	L. Therrien
5/28	Belchertown	5	L. Therrien	5/31	P.I.	1	P. + F. Vale
6/1	Arlington	3	O. Plimpton	6/1, 14	Hawley	1, 1	M. Lynch#
6/4	Manomet	4	I. Davies	6/1	Ipswich	1	J. Berry
6/6	Pittsfield	2	N. Mole	6/2	Newbypt	1	C. Floyd
Whip-poor-will				6/7	MNWS	1	J. Smith#
thr	P.I.	14 max	v.o.	Eastern Wood-Pewee			
5/8	Mashpee	4	M. Keleher	5/10-6/30	Medford	8 max	M. Rines#
5/8, 6/11	MSSF	10, 6	G. d'Entremont	5/15-6/7	P.I.	5 max	v.o.
5/11	Blackstone	4	M. Lynch#	5/26, 6/26	Petersham	15, 12	M. Lynch#
5/17	Ludlow	3	H. Allen	5/29	Ipswich	7 m	J. Berry
5/22	Lancaster	3	J. Hoye#	6/8	N. Andover	9 m	J. Berry#
6/6	Southwick	5	S. Kellogg	6/9, 22	Fitchburg-8	14, 8	C. Caron
6/19	Montague	3	H. Allen	6/12	Boxford	7 m	J. Berry
6/21	Florence	3	T. Gagnon	6/18	Westminster	6	C. Caron
6/21	Monson	2	B. Jones	6/21	Quabbin (G40)	6	I. Davies#
Chimney Swift				6/22	Blackstone	10	M. Lynch#
5/1, 28	GMNWR	40, 40	S. Perkins#	6/thr	Sterling-8	8	S. Sutton
5/11, 6/22	Blackstone	80, 28	M. Lynch#	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			
5/18	P.I.	48	R. Heil	5/17, 28	Mt.A.	1	Clevenger, Floyd
5/20	Medford	22	I. Davies#	5/18-5/24	S. Quabbin	1-2	v.o.
5/22	Fairhaven	22	BBC (R. Stymeist)	5/20, 6/1	Medford	2, 2	M. Rines
5/23	Newbury	20	J. Berry#	5/24-6/14	P.I.	4 max	v.o.
5/29	Arlington Res.	61	I. Davies	5/25-31	P.I.	6 b MAS	(B. Flemer)
6/17	Stoneham	50	D. + I. Jewell	6/1	Woburn	2	M. Rines
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				6/2	Manomet	2	I. Davies
5/5-6/30	P.I.	29 max	5/18 v.o.	6/14, 25	Hawley	2, 1	M. Lynch#
5/11	Groveland	3	K. Elwell	Acadian Flycatcher			
5/11	Mt.A.	3	D. Berard#	5/24	Wompatuck SP	2	E. Giles#
5/18	Natick	3	G. Long	5/24	Quabbin (G8)	1	G. d'Entremont
5/23	Manomet	6	I. Davies#	5/24	Medford	1	R. Stymeist
5/26	Westminster	3	T. Pirro	5/25, 6/9	Manomet	1, 1	I. Davies
6/1	Hawley	6	M. Lynch#	5/25	Tuckernuck	1	R. Veit
6/7	Lee	6	M. Lynch#	5/25	Shutesbury	1	L. Therrien
Belted Kingfisher				5/26	Quabbin (G15)	2	B. Zajda
6/7	Mashpee	pr	M. Keleher	5/27	Mt.A.	1	C. Floyd#
6/14	Hawley	3	M. Lynch#	5/30	P.I.	1 b MAS	(B. Flemer)
6/18	Westminster	2	C. Caron	6/1, 24	Granville	1, 3	Kellogg, Weeks
6/26	Petersham	2	M. Lynch#	6/3-08	Newton	1	P. Gilmore + v.o.
Red-bellied Woodpecker				6/7	MNWS	1	J. Smith
5/11	Blackstone	6	M. Lynch#	6/21	Monson	1	B. Jones
5/15	Medford	7	M. Rines	6/29	Lenox	1	D. St James
5/15	Ipswich R.	5	J. Berry#	Alder Flycatcher			
6/8	Spencer	8	M. Lynch#	5/18	Lee	2	G. Hurley
6/12	Boxford	4	J. Berry	5/20-30	P.I.	6 max	T. Wetmore
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				5/21-6/3	Medford	6 max	M. Rines
5/10	Hawley	11	M. Lynch#	5/24	New Salem	3	G. d'Entremont
6/15	Petersham	7	M. Lynch#	5/25, 6/21	Tyringham	11, 5	M. Lynch#
6/20	Sterling-8	3	S. Sutton	6/1	Hawley	13	M. Lynch#
6/21	Quabbin (G40)	4	I. Davies#	6/7	Lee	11	M. Lynch#
6/21	Tyringham	23	M. Lynch#	6/15	Ashburnham	5	C. Caron
6/25	Hawley	pr + 3 yg	M. Lynch#				

Willow Flycatcher				5/10, 6/14	Hawley	10, 13		M. Lynch#
5/18-6/30	P.I.	15 max	v.o.	5/25, 6/21	Tyringham	6, 12		M. Lynch#
5/22	Fairhaven	5	BBC (R. Stymeist)	6/21	Quabbin (G40)	7		I. Davies#
5/24	Bolton Flats	6	J. Hoye#		Warbling Vireo			
5/25	Marlboro	5	T. Spahr	5/1	Medford	6		P. + F. Vale
6/8	Spencer	7	M. Lynch#	5/11	Blackstone	9		M. Lynch#
6/14	Worc. (BMB)	7	BBS (J. Liller)	5/15	Ipswich R.	19 m		J. Berry#
6/14	Amherst	5	H. Allen	5/24	E. Brookfield	16		M. Lynch#
6/22	Southwick	8	S. Kellogg	5/25	Framingham-1	20		S. Miller#
6/25	N. Billerica	5	M. Rines	6/8	Spencer	17		M. Lynch#
6/28	Lee	9	M. Lynch#	6/24	Berlin	11		S. Sutton
Least Flycatcher					Philadelphia Vireo			
5/4, 6/15	Petersham	1, 15	M. Lynch#	5/17	Tuckernuck	1		S. Perkins#
5/5, 26	Westminster	1, 5	C. Caron	5/25	N. Truro	1		B. Nikula
5/5-27	P.I.	5 max	T. Wetmore		Red-eyed Vireo			
5/8-25	Medford	6 max	M. Rines#	5/3	S. Quabbin	1		L. Therrien
5/10, 6/25	Hawley	11, 15	M. Lynch#	5/7-27	Medford	14 max		M. Rines
5/24	Gloucester (E.P.)	5	S. Hedman#	5/18	Sandwich	16		M. Malin
5/25, 6/21	Tyringham	7, 19	M. Lynch#	5/28	Quabbin Pk	45		P. + F. Vale
6/7	Lee	20	M. Lynch#	5/30	Hubbardston	24		C. Caron
6/21	Quabbin (G40)	7	I. Davies#	6/14	Fitchburg-3	29		C. Caron
Empidonax species				6/14	Athol-10	26		T. Pirro
6/8	Stellwagen	1	B. Nikula	6/15	Petersham	47		M. Lynch#
Eastern Phoebe				6/20	Sterling-8	32		S. Sutton
5/10	Hawley	27	M. Lynch#	6/21	Tyringham	74		M. Lynch#
5/11	Blackstone	13	M. Lynch#	6/25	Hawley	82		M. Lynch#
6/14	Berlin	16	S. Sutton		Blue Jay			
6/14	Athol-10	9	T. Pirro	5/7	Ashby	66		C. Caron
6/20	Sterling-8	16	S. Sutton	5/18	P.I.	83		R. Heil
6/29	Spencer	8	M. Lynch#	5/20, 6/1P	'town	55 migr, 40 migr		B. Nikula
Great Crested Flycatcher					Fish Crow			
5/3	Amherst	1	L. Hoffman	thr	Reports of 1-2 indiv. from 22 locations			
5/4-31	Medford	7 max	M. Rines	5/4	Sharon	3		W. Sweet
5/7	Wompatuck SP	7	G. d'Entremont	5/6	Mashpee	21		M. Keleher
5/15	Ipswich R.	16	J. Berry#	5/14	Concord	3		S. Perkins
5/16, 6/3	Manomet	5, 14	I. Davies	5/16	Falmouth	6		G. Hirth#
5/17, 6/7	Mashpee	5, 9	M. Keleher	5/18	Sandwich	3		M. Malin
5/18	Sandwich	6	M. Malin	5/19	Manomet	27		I. Davies
5/22	Fairhaven	8	BBC (R. Stymeist)	5/19	N. Truro	9		D. Manchester
6/7	Uxbridge	8	J. Liller#		Common Raven			
6/15	Petersham	9	M. Lynch#	5/1	Ashburnham	4		C. Caron
6/20	Sterling-8	7	S. Sutton	5/3	Carlisle	pr n		T. Brownrigg
Eastern Kingbird				5/11	Blackstone	pr + 3 yg		M. Lynch#
5/1	ONWR	1	S. Hardy	5/17	Chesterfield	12		T. Gagnon
5/2	Pittsfield	1	N. Mole	5/24	E. Brookfield	2		M. Lynch#
5/2	Arlington Res.	1	M. Rines	5/26	Westminster	5		C. Caron
5/6-6/30	P.I.	34 max	v.o.	6/1	Hawley	2		M. Lynch#
5/17	Mashpee	8	M. Keleher	6/26	Princeton	5		C. Caron
5/25	Framingham-1	15	S. Miller#	6/26	Petersham	3		M. Lynch#
6/7	Fitchburg-3	9	C. Caron		Horned Lark			
6/8	Spencer	16	M. Lynch#	5/9	Fitchburg	2		T. Pirro
Loggerhead Shrike				5/11	Newbury	2		S. McGrath#
5/27-30	Cataumet	1 ph	P. Trimble	5/12	P.I.	1		W. Tatro
White-eyed Vireo				5/17	Plymouth Airport	6		SSBC (GdE)
5/1	P'town	1	B. Nikula	5/29	Orleans	2 nests		P. Trull
5/2-8	Nahant	1	L. Pivacek#	6/3	Templeton	2 m		T. Pirro
5/7	Hingham	1	J. Moore	6/14	Duxbury	1		R. Bowes
5/7	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore	6/19	Montague	2		H. Allen
5/10	Waltham	1	I. Giriunas#	6/29	Athol-11	1		T. Pirro
5/12	Boston (F.Pk)	1	J. Young		Purple Martin			
5/17	Arlington	1	M. Rines	thr	P.I.	24 max		v.o.
5/19-23	Manomet	1 ad	I. Davies	5/4	Rehoboth	4		R. Marr
5/21	Westport	3	R. Stymeist#	5/12	S. Quabbin	1		J. Smith
Yellow-throated Vireo				5/17	DWWS	65		I. Davies#
5/2, 6/22	W. Bridgewater	1, 3	R. Finch	5/21	Westport	2		R. Stymeist#
5/5-6/30	Lee	8 max	v.o.	5/26	N. Truro	3		B. Nikula
5/6	ONWR	4	P. Cozza	6/13	Boston H.	1		W. Petersen#
5/11, 6/8	IRWS	1, 3	MAS (W. Tatro)	6/27	Mashpee	21 ad + 8 yg		M. Keleher
5/11, 6/22	Blackstone	5, 6	M. Lynch#		Tree Swallow			
5/15-31	Ipswich R.	pr n	J. Berry#	thr	P.I.	775 max	5/18	v.o.
5/17	Groveland	6	D. + S. Larson		Northern Rough-winged Swallow			
5/24	Topsfield	8	S. McGrath#	5/10	Arlington Res.	15		P. + F. Vale
5/26	Bolton	3	S. Sutton	5/12	Manchester	8		S. Hedman
Blue-headed Vireo				6/1	Ipswich	6, pr n		J. Berry
thr	Ashburnham	13 max	C. Caron	6/10	Manomet	15		I. Davies
5/1-15	Medford	11 max	M. Rines		Bank Swallow			
5/1-26	P.I.	10 max	T. Wetmore	5/1	GMNWR	4		S. Perkins#
5/5	Newbypt	15	P. + F. Vale	5/5, 18	P.I.	3, 85		Davies, Heil

Bank Swallow (continued)				6/28	Sterling-8	11	S. Sutton
5/11 Burlington	25	M. Rines	Winter Wren	5/5	Wompatuck SP	4	C. Nims
5/20 Southwick	300	S. Kellogg		5/10, 6/14	Hawley	14, 11	M. Lynch#
5/25 Manomet	111	I. Davies		5/11, 6/28	Ashburnham	5, 3	C. Caron
5/26 Westminster	200	T. Pirro		5/28	Boxford	3; nest	J. Berry
5/30 Nomans I.	50 n	S. Perkins#		6/19	Westminster	3	C. Caron
6/3 Ipswich (C.B.)	50	BBC (J. Berry)		6/22	Wenham	3	BBS (Vale)
6/14 Athol-10	30	T. Pirro		6/28	Lee	10	M. Lynch#
6/27 Spencer	33	M. Lynch#					
Cliff Swallow							
5/2-24 P.I.	13 max	v.o.		5/28	HRWMA	1 m	H. D'Entremont
5/5, 25 N. Truro	4, 3	D. Manchester#		6/28	Lee	1	M. Lynch#
5/7 Rockport	2	J. Robinson					
5/9 Lunenburg	3	T. Pirro	Marsh Wren	thr	P.I.	46 max	v.o.
5/23 Rowley	6	P. + F. Vale#		5/1	Burlington	2	M. Rines
5/25 Manomet	2	I. Davies		5/25, 6/28	Lee	2, 5	M. Lynch#
5/25, 6/21 Tyringham	3, 2	M. Lynch#		6/1	Wakefield	5	P. + F. Vale
5/25, 6/28 Lee	2, 2	M. Lynch#		6/8	GWNWR	5	BBC (J.Forbes)
6/1 Hawley	4	M. Lynch#		6/15	Cummington	2	T. Swochak
6/3 Concord (NAC)	pr n	S. Perkins		6/22	Mashpee	7	M. Keleher
6/21 Lenox	10	M. + K. Conway					
6/25 W. Newbury	6	MAS (B. Gette)	Golden-crowned Kinglet	5/1	Gloucester (E.P.)	3	J. Nelson
6/25 Hawley	2	M. Lynch#		5/16, 30	Falmouth	3, 2	G. Hirth#
Barn Swallow				5/17	Rockport	1	C. Caron#
5/4 Petersham	55	M. Lynch#		6/1	Hamilton	1	J. Berry
5/18 P.I.	157	R. Heil		6/1	Hawley	4	M. Lynch#
5/25 Tyringham	50	M. Lynch#		6/7	Lee	2	M. Lynch#
6/1 Hawley	56	M. Lynch#		6/15	Petersham	6	M. Lynch#
6/8 Spencer	64	M. Lynch#		6/15	Ashburnham	1	C. Caron
6/21 Tyringham	75	M. Lynch#		6/21	Tyringham	ad + 2 fl yg	M. Lynch#
Black-capped Chickadee							
5/3 Ashburnham	56	C. Caron	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5/1-25	P.I.	24 max 5/5	v.o.
6/21 Tyringham	42	M. Lynch#		5/3	P'town	5	B. Nikula
6/22 Wenham	63	BBS (Vale)		5/5, 17	Medford	8, 1	M. Rines
Tufted Titmouse				5/5	Mt.A.	23	I. Davies#
5/11 Blackstone	31	M. Lynch#		5/5	Newbypt	7	P. + F. Vale
6/2 Middleton	12 m	J. Berry		5/10	Quabbin	5	L. Therrien
6/22 Wenham	38	BBS (Vale)		5/13	MNWS	4	P. + F. Vale
Red-breasted Nuthatch				5/21	N. Truro	1	B. Nikula
thr Mashpee	8 max	M. Keleher		6/5	Ashburnham	1	C. Caron
5/6 Central Quabbin	6	L. Therrien	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	5/7	Wompatuck SP	5	G. d'Entremont
5/6 P.I.	5	S. Grinley		5/8	Medford	8	M. Rines#
5/7, 20 P'town	5, 5	B. Nikula		5/11, 6/22	Blackstone	10, 11	M. Lynch#
5/7 Newbury	12	L. Leka		5/15	Ipswich R.	10	J. Berry#
5/24 Gloucester (E.P.)	4	S. Hedman#		5/17	Longmeadow	24	M. + K. Conway
6/1 Hawley	6	M. Lynch#		5/17	Petersham	7	M. Lynch#
6/24 Paxton	7	M. Lynch#		5/23	P'town	5	B. Nikula
6/26 Ashburnham	4	C. Caron		5/25	Milton	5	M. Trimitsis
White-breasted Nuthatch				6/21	Manchester	nest/4 yg	J. Berry
6/22 Wenham	21	BBS (Vale)					
6/27 Boxford	18	J. Berry	Eastern Bluebird	5/31	Carlisle	5	A. Ankers#
6/29 Essex	15	J. Berry		6/6	Ipswich	6	J. Berry
Brown Creeper				6/14	Berlin	10	S. Sutton
5/3, 6/5 Ashburnham	3, 3	C. Caron		6/22	Blackstone	23	M. Lynch#
5/4, 6/26 Petersham	3, 4	M. Lynch#		6/23	Halifax	5	J. Sweeney
5/10, 6/14 Hawley	3, 5	M. Lynch#					
5/24 Mashpee	pr n	M. Keleher	Veery	5/2-27	P.I.	5 max	v.o.
5/31 Plymouth	pr n	K. Doyon		5/3	Amherst	1	L. Hoffman
6/1, 14 Athol-10	3, 4	T. Pirro		5/17	Wompatuck SP	15	SSBC (GdE)
6/7 Ipswich	nest + yg	J. Berry		5/22	Manchester	15	J. Berry
6/21 Tyringham	5	M. Lynch#		5/26, 6/26	Petersham	27, 37	M. Lynch#
6/22 Fitchburg-8	3	C. Caron		6/20	Sterling-8	31	S. Sutton
6/28 Sterling-8	5	S. Sutton		6/21	Tyringham	38	M. Lynch#
Carolina Wren				6/21	Colrain/Shelburne	19	C. Caron
5/1 Medford	3	P. + F. Vale		6/21	Quabbin (G40)	24	I. Davies#
5/11 Blackstone	7	M. Lynch#		6/22	Wenham	28	BBS (Vale)
5/17 Mashpee	8	M. Keleher		6/28	Lee	44	M. Lynch#
5/22 Lynnfield	3	P. + F. Vale		6/29	Essex	16	J. Berry
5/22 Fairhaven	14	BBC (R. Stymeist)					
House Wren							
5/5 Medford	12	M. Rines	Gray-cheeked Thrush	5/24	Sheffield	1	J. Drucker
5/6 W. Gloucester	10	J. Nelson		5/26-6/1	P.I.	4 b	MAS (B. Flemer)
5/25 Manomet	17	I. Davies		5/27-31	Auburn	4 b	M. Blazis
6/7 Lee	13	M. Lynch#		5/30	Medford	2 m	M. Rines
6/8 Spencer	17	M. Lynch#	Bicknell's Thrush	5/25-26	Mt.A.	1 m	C. Floyd + v.o.
6/14 Athol-10	15	T. Pirro		5/29	Manomet	1 m	I. Davies
6/22 Blackstone	17	M. Lynch#		6/5	Manomet	1 b	ph I. Davies
6/27 E. Brookfield	12	M. Lynch#					

Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush

5/24	Wompatuck SP	1	MAS (J. Galluzzo)	
5/27	Mt. Tom	1	T. Gagnon	
5/27-28	Mt.A.	1	v.o.	

Swainson's Thrush

5/6, 30	Medford	1, 3	M. Rines	
5/8, 18	Mt.A.	1, 2	Kelly, Forbes	
5/15-31	P.I.	22 b	MAS (B. Flemer)	
5/18	Mt. Holyoke	2	B. Zadja#	
5/18	Gloucester (E.P.)	2	S. Hedman	
5/26	Central Quabbin	3	L. Therrien	
5/27	Manomet	6	I. Davies	
5/30	Ipswich	2 m	J. Berry	
6/14	Hawley	1	M. Lynch#	

Hermit Thrush

5/1-26	P.I.	14 b	MAS (B. Flemer)	
5/5	Wompatuck SP	5	C. Nims	
5/8	Nahant	21	L. Pivacek	
5/10	Hawley	35	M. Lynch#	
6/14	Berlin	6	S. Sutton	
6/21	Colrain	7	C. Caron	
6/25	Hawley	12	M. Lynch#	
6/28	Sterling-8	8	S. Sutton	
6/28	Ashburnham	14	C. Caron	

Wood Thrush

5/4	Wayland	1	J. Forbes	
5/5	Pepperell	1	M. Resch	
5/6, 11	Medford	4, 11	M. Rines	
5/7, 6/24	Worcester	6, 10	M. Lynch#	
5/10	Hawley	40	M. Lynch#	
5/17	Wompatuck SP	10	SSBC (GdE)	
5/24	Milton	12	M. Trimitsis	
6/29	Essex	11	J. Berry	

Gray Catbird

thr	P.I.	90 max	v.o.	
5/7, 6/24	Worcester	53, 42	M. Lynch#	
5/11, 6/22	Blackstone	64, 66	M. Lynch#	
5/17	Mashpee	49	M. Keleher	
5/18, 6/8	Spencer	40, 57	M. Lynch#	
5/22	Fairhaven	46	BBC (R. Stymeist)	
5/27	Manomet	62	I. Davies	
6/28	Lee	49	M. Lynch#	

Brown Thrasher

thr	P.I.	12 max	v.o.	
5/1	Medford	3	P. + F. Vale	
5/8	MSSF	6	G. d'Entremont	
5/8	Ipswich (C.B.)	5 m	J. Berry	
5/30	Manomet	4	I. Davies	
6/8	Spencer	5	M. Lynch#	
6/23	Halifax	3	J. Sweeney	
6/27	E. Brookfield	4	M. Lynch#	

American Pipit

5/1	Lexington	1	M. Rines	
5/11	Topsfield	2	J. Hoye#	
5/18, 28	P.I.	4, 1	Heil, Sutton	

Cedar Waxwing

5/21	Medford	57	I. Davies	
5/27	Manomet	152	I. Davies	
6/2	N. Truro	77	D. Manchester#	
6/3	Woburn	55	M. Rines	
6/28	P.I.	180	L. Seitz#	

Blue-winged Warbler

5/4	Southwick	1	S. Kellogg	
5/5, 10	Medford	1, 5	M. Rines	
5/8	Wompatuck SP	8	J. Offermann	
5/18, 6/27	Spencer	12, 3	M. Lynch#	
5/21	Westport	9	R. Stymeist#	
5/22	Fairhaven	14	BBC (R. Stymeist)	
5/27	S. Quabbin	5	L. Therrien	
6/7	Burlington	5	M. Rines	

Golden-winged Warbler

5/10	P.I.	1	S. Motyl	
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Brewster's Warbler

5/14	Devens	1 ph	S. Price	
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Lawrence's Warbler

5/6-11	E. Bridgewater	1	R. Finch + v.o.	
5/15-22	Fairhaven	1 ph	M. Boucher#	
5/18	Lee	1	G. Hurley	

Tennessee Warbler

5/7-22	Mt.A.	3 max	v.o.	
5/10-25	Medford	3 max	M. Rines	
5/17	Agawam	3	S. Kellogg	
5/21	Pittsfield	5	G. Hurley	
5/22	S. Quabbin	2	L. Therrien	
5/24	Gloucester (E.P.)	4	S. Hedman#	
5/24	P.I.	2	T. Wetmore	

Orange-crowned Warbler

5/16-19	Nahant	1	G. Jones	
5/25	Mt.A.	1	C. Cook	
5/25-26	P.I.	1	B. Zadja	

Nashville Warbler

5/5-25	Medford	14 max	5/14 M. Rines	
5/5-14	Mt.A.	14 max	5/8 v.o.	
5/6	Central Quabbin	7	L. Therrien	
6/19	Fitchburg-3	2	C. Caron	
6/20	Ashburnham	1	C. Caron	
6/25	Hawley	1	M. Lynch#	
6/29	Athol-11	1	T. Pirro	

Northern Parula

5/thr	P.I.	21 max	5/25 v.o.	
5/thr	Medford	57 max	5/11 M. Rines	
5/2-20	Mt.A.	24 max	5/11 v.o.	
5/8	Wompatuck SP	16	J. Offermann	
5/8	S. Quabbin	14	L. Therrien	
5/15	N. Truro	25	B. Nikula	
5/16	Gloucester	14	C. Caron#	

Yellow Warbler

thr	P.I.	68 max	v.o.	
5/4	Watertown	21	C. Cook	
5/15	N. Truro	20	B. Nikula	
5/21	Westport	68	R. Stymeist#	
5/22	Fairhaven	54	BBC (R. Stymeist)	
5/24	E. Brookfield	33	M. Lynch#	
5/25	Manomet	39	I. Davies	
6/8	Spencer	57	M. Lynch#	

Chestnut-sided Warbler

5/3	Uxbridge-7	1	J. Liller#	
5/5	Pittsfield	1	T. Collins	
5/8-27	Medford	10 max	M. Rines#	
5/10, 6/1	Hawley	21, 30	M. Lynch#	
5/25	Tyringham	31	M. Lynch#	
6/1	Colrain/Shelburne	43	C. Caron	
6/21	Quabbin (G40)	35	I. Davies#	
6/21	Tyringham	31	M. Lynch#	
6/28	Sterling-8	16	S. Sutton	

Magnolia Warbler

5/6-6/3	Medford	32 max	M. Rines	
5/6-6/7	P.I.	38 max	v.o.	
5/15	Manomet	12	I. Davies	
5/15	N. Truro	15	B. Nikula	
6/14	Hawley	6	M. Lynch#	
6/21	Quabbin (G40)	5	I. Davies#	
6/21	Tyringham	5	M. Lynch#	
6/28	Ashburnham	3	C. Caron	

Cape May Warbler

5/7, 14	Mt.A.	1, 4	Dysart, Floyd	
5/7, 17	Amherst	1, 2	D. Minear	
5/8-24	P.I.	1-2	v.o.	
5/9-27	Reports of indiv. from	12	locations	
5/10, 20	Medford	1, 2	Forbes, Rines	
5/11	Agawam	2	J. Hutchison	

Black-throated Blue Warbler

5/2	Pittsfield	1	N. Mole	
5/3-23	Mt.A.	14 max	v.o.	
5/6-25	Medford	34 max	M. Rines	
5/6-6/3	P.I.	15 max	v.o.	
5/10	Winchester	12	M. Rines	
5/15	N. Truro	20	B. Nikula	
5/26, 6/26	Petersham	19, 12	M. Lynch#	
6/16	Fitchburg-8	9	C. Caron	
6/20	Sterling-8	20	S. Sutton	

Yellow-rumped Warbler

5/1-23	Mt.A.	103 max	v.o.	
5/1-24	Medford	300 max	M. Rines	
5/1-27	P.I.	90 max	T. Wetmore	
5/3, 6/15	Petersham	117, 7	M. Lynch#	

Yellow-rumped Warbler (continued)				6/25 Southwick	1	S. Kellogg
5/6	P'town	30	B. Nikula	Black-and-white Warbler		
5/9	Amherst	50	J. Smith	5/1-14 Mt.A.	20 max	5/11 v.o.
6/15	Ashburnham	6	C. Caron	5/1-24 Medford	76 max	5/11 M. Rines
6/20	Sterling-8	2	S. Sutton	5/6 W. Gloucester	17	J. Nelson
6/29	Athol-11	3	T. Pirro	5/6, 6/19P.I.	23, 1	Grinley, Wetmore
Black-throated Green Warbler				5/7 Wompatuck SP	17	G. d'Entremont
thr	Medford	21 max	M. Rines	5/10 Winchester	18	M. Rines
5/4, 6/15	Petersham	17, 21	M. Lynch#	5/15 Manomet	26	I. Davies
5/5-23	Mt.A.	10 max	v.o.	5/26, 6/26 Petersham	17, 8	M. Lynch#
5/5-6/3	P.I.	15 max	v.o.	6/20 Sterling-8	15	S. Sutton
5/6	W. Gloucester	15	J. Nelson	6/21 Quabbin (G40)	26	I. Davies#
5/8	Wompatuck SP	16	J. Offermann	6/21 Tyringham	14	M. Lynch#
5/10, 6/10	Westminster	15, 3	C. Caron	American Redstart		
5/24	Quabbin (G15)	19	G. d'Entremont	5/6-31 Medford	41 max	5/23 M. Rines
6/17	N. Andover	7 m	J. Berry	5/6-6/30 P.I.	37 max	5/27 v.o.
Blackburnian Warbler				5/10 Hawley	20	M. Lynch#
5/2	Becket	1	R. Laubach	5/15-6/6 Manomet	15 max	5/27 I. Davies
5/6-30	Medford	2-4	M. Rines	5/21 Westport	14	R. Stymeist#
5/6-6/7	P.I.	1-4	v.o.	5/25, 6/21 Tyringham	37, 44	M. Lynch#
5/10	Hawley	14	M. Lynch#	5/26, 6/26 Petersham	24, 18	M. Lynch#
5/24	Gloucester (E.P.)	10	S. Hedman#	6/21 Quabbin (G40)	11	I. Davies#
6/7	Lee	15	M. Lynch#	6/22 Wenham	12	BBS (Vale)
6/9	Colrain	9	C. Caron	Prothonotary Warbler		
6/21	Quabbin (G40)	7	I. Davies#	5/6 Quabbin Park	1	B. Zajda
Yellow-throated Warbler				5/14 Sandwich	1	P. Trimble
5/12-14	Nantucket	1	S. Langer#	5/20-28 Medford	1 ph	M. Rines#
6/3	Chester	1	J. Morris-Siegel	5/22-23 Boston (FH)	1 m	M. Kaufman#
Pine Warbler				5/23-24 Topsfield	1 m	S. Santino + v.o.
5/2, 6/22	Mashpee	27, 10	M. Keleher	Worm-eating Warbler		
5/4, 6/26	Petersham	12, 24	M. Lynch#	5/2, 27 Mt. Tom	1	Lafley, Gagnon
5/7	Wompatuck SP	15	G. d'Entremont	5/3 P'town	1	B. Nikula
5/25	Framingham-1	10	S. Miller#	5/6 Concord	1	W. Hutcherson
5/25	Marlboro	10	T. Spahr	5/7-6/3 Wompatuck SP	3-4	v.o.
6/8	N. Andover	10 m	J. Berry#	5/8-6/30 Mt. Holyoke	1-2	J. Smith
6/14	Athol-10	10	T. Pirro	5/9-6/25 Southwick	1	S. Kellogg
6/21	Quabbin (G40)	26	I. Davies#	5/11 Blackstone	1	M. Lynch#
6/28	Sterling-8	16	S. Sutton	5/12 Boston	1	B. Cassie
Prairie Warbler				5/16 Falmouth	1	G. Hirth#
5/6	P.I.	4	S. Grinley	5/17 Mashpee	1	M. Keleher
5/16	Falmouth	8	G. Hirth#	5/17 Petersham	1	M. Lynch#
5/17	Sutton	6	M. Lynch#	5/17 Agawam	1	J. Weeks
5/18	N. Truro	7	I. Davies#	5/18, 6/13 Uxbridge	1	J. Liller
5/26	Petersham	10	M. Lynch#	5/19 Mt.A.	1	BBC (L. Ferrareso)
5/28	Quabbin Pk	6	P. + F. Vale	5/24 E. Brookfield	1	M. Lynch#
6/1	Colrain	9	C. Caron	5/25 P.I.	1	B. Zajda
6/14	Worc. (BMB)	8	BBS (J. Liller)	Ovenbird		
6/15	Petersham	16	M. Lynch#	5/1 Fall River	1	L. Abbey
6/29	Athol-11	6	T. Pirro	5/2-6/2 Mashpee	14 max	5/24 M. Keleher
Palm Warbler				5/5-30 Medford	17 max	5/8 M. Rines
5/1-15	Mt.A.	5 max	5/1 v.o.	5/7 Wompatuck SP	76	G. d'Entremont
5/1-14	Medford	7 max	5/5 M. Rines	5/10 Hawley	53	M. Lynch#
5/1-20	P.I.	20 max	5/6 T. Wetmore	5/15-6/3 Manomet	16 max	5/15 I. Davies
5/5	Amherst	6	L. Therrien	6/14 Athol-10	32	T. Pirro
5/6	W. Gloucester	8	J. Nelson	6/15 Ashburnham-2	31	C. Caron
5/11	Waltham	1	J. Forbes	6/17 N. Andover	28	J. Berry
6/10	Belmont	1	R. Stymeist#	6/20 Sterling-8	44	S. Sutton
Bay-breasted Warbler				6/21 Quabbin (G40)	34	I. Davies#
5/7	Amherst	1	D. Minear	6/21 Tyringham	40	M. Lynch#
5/8, 23	P.I.	1, 5	Nelson, Wetmore	6/22 Wenham	23	BBS (Vale)
5/11-25	Medford	1-3	M. Rines	Northern Waterthrush		
5/18	Reading	2	D. Williams	5/1 Fall River	5	L. Abbey
5/24	Marshfield	3	MAS (S. Wheelock)	5/1 Ashburnham	4	C. Caron
Blackpoll Warbler				5/1-6/15 P.I.	7 max	v.o.
5/8	Amherst	2	J. Smith	5/2 Nahant	3	L. Pivacek
5/9-6/3	Medford	10 max	5/27 M. Rines#	5/4-24 Medford	3 max	M. Rines
5/14-6/17	P.I.	8 max	6/2 v.o.	5/5 Wompatuck SP	3	C. Nims
5/19-6/10	Manomet	67 max	5/27 I. Davies	5/10 Brookline	4	N. Yusuff
5/24	Gloucester (E.P.)	12	S. Hedman#	5/21 Longmeadow	5	J. Hutchison
Cerulean Warbler				5/24 E. Brookfield	5	M. Lynch#
5/7-30	Wompatuck SP	1-2	v.o.	5/29 Ipswich	3 m	J. Berry
5/8	Waltham	1 m	J. Forbes + v.o.	6/19 Westminster	13	C. Caron
5/8-6/30	Mt. Holyoke	2-4	J. Smith	Louisiana Waterthrush		
5/9	Mt.A.	2	W. Petersen#	5/1 Berlin	2	S. Sutton
5/13	Central Quabbin	1	J. Smith	5/3 Spencer	2	M. Lynch#
5/18	Mt. Holyoke	4	B. Zajda#	5/10, 6/14 Hawley	2, 5	M. Lynch#
5/22	Pittsfield	1	J. Lucier	5/11, 6/9 Haverhill	2, 1 ad + 1 fl	Mirick
6/21	Monson	1	B. Jones	6/7 Lee	4	M. Lynch#

Louisiana Waterthrush (continued)				6/21	Quabbin (G40)	14	I. Davies#
6/10	Berlin	3	S. Sutton	6/28	Sterling-8	16	S. Sutton
6/21	Colrain/Leyden	8	C. Caron		Western Tanager*		
Kentucky Warbler				5/10	Medford	1	A. Ankers#
5/17-19	Wompatuck SP	1 ph	E. Giles#	5/18	Amherst	1	H. Allen
5/19	P.I.	1 b	MAS (B. Flemer)		Eastern Towhee		
5/25	E. Falmouth	1	M. Kasprzyk	5/2	Mashpee	43	M. Keleher
6/3	Manomet	1	I. Davies	5/5	Medford	21	M. Rines
Mourning Warbler				5/6	W. Gloucester	24	J. Nelson
5/18-31	Medford	4 total	M. Rines	5/8	Ipswich (C.B.)	37	J. Berry
5/26-31	Auburn	3 m, 3 f b	M. Blazis	5/16	Tuckernuck	80	S. Perkins#
5/26-6/2 P.I.		10 b	MAS (B. Flemer)	5/23	Falmouth	35	M. Keleher
5/27	Manomet	3	I. Davies	6/7	P.I.	31	I. Davies#
5/27	Wompatuck SP	2	C. Nims	6/21	Quabbin (G40)	39	I. Davies#
6/7	Lee	3	J. Hoye#	6/24	Worcester	25	M. Lynch#
6/14	Hawley	5	M. Lynch#	6/28	Sterling-8	36	S. Sutton
6/21	Hancock	4	K. Wienck		Chipping Sparrow		
6/21	Washington	1	M. + K. Conway	5/3	Spencer	52	M. Lynch#
Common Yellowthroat				5/5	Mt.A.	32	I. Davies#
5/1	P.I.	1	A. + G. Gurka	5/7	Wompatuck SP	23	G. d'Entremont
5/2	Pittsfield	1	N. Mole	5/17	Mashpee	27	M. Keleher
5/6-6/2	P.I.	277 b	MAS (B. Flemer)	6/14	Berlin	40	S. Sutton
5/15	Ipswich R.	35 m	J. Berry#	6/21	Quabbin (G40)	24	I. Davies#
5/17	Mashpee	29	M. Keleher	6/22	Blackstone	75	M. Lynch#
5/21	Westport	40	R. Stymeist#	6/28	Sterling-8	56	S. Sutton
5/30	Nomans I.	55	S. Perkins#		Clay-colored Sparrow		
6/7	Lee	41	M. Lynch#	5/23	Falmouth	2 ph	M. Keleher
6/8	Spencer	46	M. Lynch#	6/2	N. Truro	1	C. Skowron
6/21	Quabbin (G40)	38	I. Davies#		Field Sparrow		
6/28	Lee	51	M. Lynch#	5/2	Westminster	5	T. Pirro
6/28	Sterling-8	26	S. Sutton	5/3	Spencer	5	M. Lynch#
Hooded Warbler				5/6, 6/8	Colrain/Shelburne	10, 10	C. Caron
5/7-12, 21	Mt.A.	1, 1	v.o.	5/17	Sutton	7	M. Lynch#
5/10	Wompatuck SP	2	R. Finch#	5/23	Falmouth	9	M. Keleher
5/13	Boston	1	P. Perry	6/14	Worc. (BMB)	14	BBS (J. Liller)
5/15	Manomet	1 m	I. Davies	6/22	Blackstone	10	M. Lynch#
5/15, 28	Medford	2, 1	M. Rines	6/26	Petersham	10	M. Lynch#
5/30	P.I.	1	B. Buxton#	6/29	Athol-11	6	T. Pirro
6/5	Sheffield	2	A. Spring		Vesper Sparrow		
Wilson's Warbler				5/5	Groton	1	J. Wooding#
5/6-6/15 P.I.		13 max	5/24 v.o.	5/25	Plymouth Airport	2	SSBC (GdE)
5/11-29	Medford	6 max	5/23 M. Rines		Lark Sparrow		
5/15	Mt.A.	2	J. Forbes	5/28	Mt.A.	1	J. Moore + v.o.
5/15	S. Quabbin	2	L. Therrien		Savannah Sparrow		
5/16	Milton	2	P. O'Neill	5/4	Rowley	16	I. Davies#
5/17	Chicopee	3	T. Swochak	5/5	Gloucester (E.P.)	24	S. Hedman
5/17	W. Roxbury	2	M. Iliff	5/8	Nahant	18	L. Pivacek
5/18	Lee	2	G. Hurley	5/14	W. Bridgewater	15	G. d'Entremont
5/24	Gloucester (E.P.)	3	S. Hedman#	5/16	Lexington	20	M. Rines
5/25-6/5	Manomet	5 max	5/25 I. Davies	5/17	W. Roxbury	12	M. Iliff
Canada Warbler				5/18	P.I.	14	R. Heil
5/8-6/7	P.I.	5 max	5/24 v.o.	6/25	Hawley	17	M. Lynch#
5/10-29	Medford	22 max	5/23 M. Rines#		Grasshopper Sparrow		
5/11-28	Mt.A.	1-3	v.o.	5/5-6/2	Southwick	1-2	S. Kellogg
5/19-6/3	Manomet	6 max	5/30 I. Davies	5/7	Northampton	1	F. Bowrys
5/24	Marshfield	3	MAS (S. Wheelock)	5/16	Bedford	1	P. + F. Vale
5/24	Gloucester (E.P.)	5	S. Hedman#	5/17	Sutton	2	M. Lynch#
6/7	Westminster	5	C. Caron	5/23	Falmouth	4	M. Keleher
6/14	Hawley	6	M. Lynch#	6/19	Montague	3	H. Allen
6/19	Fitchburg-3	3	C. Caron		Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow		
6/20	Sterling-8	4	S. Sutton	thr	P.I.	17 max	v.o.
Summer Tanager				5/17	Scituate	2	SSBC (GdE)
5/10-11	Nantucket	3	v.o.	5/21	Duxbury B.	2	R. Bowes
5/10-12	Harwich Port	1 ph	J. Stewart	5/30	Westport	6	J. Hoye#
5/12	W. Tisbury	1 m ph	L. McDowell	6/2	Mashpee	2	CCBC (M. Keleher)
5/12	Amherst	1D.	Minear, H. Allen	6/13	Snake I.	2	C. Trocki#
5/15	Peabody	1	W. Tatro	6/24	Eastham (F.E.)	2	M. Malin
5/15	N. Truro	1	B. Nikula	6/27	Chatham (S.B.)	12	B. Nikula
5/15-17	Mt.A.	1 m imm	Offermann + v.o.		Seaside Sparrow		
5/18	P'town	1	I. Davies	thr	P.I.	5 max	T. Wetmore
Scarlet Tanager				5/21	Westport	3	R. Stymeist#
5/5	Amherst	1	L. Therrien		Lincoln's Sparrow		
5/6, 14	Medford	1, 10	M. Rines	5/5, 20	Medford	1, 1	M. Rines
5/10, 6/25	Hawley	4, 13	M. Lynch#	5/8	Boston	2	L. Ferraresso
5/17, 6/15	Petersham	4, 21	M. Lynch#	5/8-31	P.I.	7 b	MAS (B. Flemer)
5/28	Quabbin Pk	12	P. + F. Vale	5/9	Waltham	1	J. Forbes#
5/29	Ipswich	12	J. Berry	5/10	Mt.A.	1	P. + F. Vale
6/14	Berlin	11	S. Sutton	5/11, 19	Amherst	1, 1	L. Therrien

Lincoln's Sparrow (continued)			5/16	Groton	2	T. Murray#
5/11 N. Andover	1	B. Drummond	5/17	Sutton	2-Jan	M. Lynch#
5/11 Wompatuck SP	1	P. Gilmore#	5/29	Falmouth	4	C. Nims
5/15 Northampton	2	T. Gagnon	6/1	Halifax-Hanson	3SSBC	(J. Sweeney)
5/18-27 Manomet	1	I. Davies		Rusty Blackbird		
5/19-20 Chelmsford	1	J. Center	5/1	P'town	1	B. Nikula
5/22 Central Quabbin	1	L. Therrien	5/1	P.I.	1	A. + G. Gurka
Swamp Sparrow			5/4	Groveland	3	J. Berry#
5/3 Wakefield	20	P. + F. Vale	5/5	Westfield	3	T. Gagnon
6/7 Lee	27	M. Lynch#	5/10	N. Berkshire	1	C
6/22 Fitchburg-8	12	C. Caron	5/11	Belchertown	2	L. Therrien
6/26 Ashburnham	17	C. Caron	5/13	Central Quabbin	1	J. Smith
6/27 Spencer	18	M. Lynch#		Brown-headed Cowbird		
6/27 E. Brookfield	22	M. Lynch#	5/3	Spencer	21	M. Lynch#
6/28 Lee	52	M. Lynch#	5/17	Petersham	28	M. Lynch#
White-throated Sparrow			6/1	Colrain/Shelburne	13	C. Caron
5/1-23 P.I.	114 b MAS	(B. Flemer)		Orchard Oriole		
5/3 P'town	50	B. Nikula	5/7	Hingham	4	J. Moore
5/5 Mt.A.	37	I. Davies#	5/9	Mashpee	10	M. Keleher
5/10-12 Nantucket	50	v.o.	5/10-12	Nantucket	15	v.o.
5/15 Manomet	15	I. Davies	5/18	WBWS	5	I. Davies#
6/1 Hawley	9	M. Lynch#	5/23	Falmouth	4	M. Keleher
6/8 Stellwagen	1	B. Nikula	6/3	Dennis	5	R. Heil
6/14 Hawley	18	M. Lynch#	6/7	Winchester	6	R. LaFontaine
6/20 Ashburnham	7	C. Caron	6/21	Belmont	4	C. Cook
White-crowned Sparrow			6/21	P.I.	4	T. Wetmore
5/6-25 P.I.	6 max	v.o.	6/22	Blackstone	8	M. Lynch#
5/7 Rockport (H.P.)	3	J. Robinson	6/30	Middleboro	24	J. Sweeney
5/8 Pittsfield	8	T. Collins		Baltimore Oriole		
5/10-12 Nantucket	12	v.o.	5/1, 20	Medford	1, 28	LaFontaine, Davies
5/11 IRWS	5	MAS (W. Tatro)	5/7	Wompatuck SP	27	G. d'Entremont
5/12 Boston	8	J. Nelson	5/10-12	Nantucket	77	v.o.
5/17 N. Truro	4	B. Nikula	5/15	Ipswich R.	70	J. Berry#
6/15 Ipswich	1 ad	J. Berry	5/17	Mashpee	44	M. Keleher
Dark-eyed Junco			5/18	Spencer	46	M. Lynch#
5/17 P'town	1	B. Nikula	5/23	Falmouth	45	M. Keleher
5/24 Hadley	2	G. d'Entremont	5/25	Framingham-1	30	S. Miller#
5/26 Newbury	1	L. Leka	6/22	Wenham	39	BBS (Vale)
6/14 Hawley	5	M. Lynch#		Purple Finch		
6/15 Ashburnham-1	1 juv	C. Caron	thr	P.I.	9 max	v.o.
6/28 Lee	3	M. Lynch#	thr	Hawley	17 max	M. Lynch#
6/29 Athol-11	2	T. Pirro	thr	W. Gloucester	8 max	v.o.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			5/6	P'town	6	B. Nikula
5/2, 11 Waltham	1, 8	J. Forbes#	5/6	Westminster	10	T. Pirro
5/2, 26 Westminster	1, 6	T. Pirro	5/7	HRWMA	5	T. Pirro
5/6 ONWR	10	P. Cozza	5/8	Ipswich (C.B.)	8	J. Berry
5/11 Blackstone	16	M. Lynch#	5/11	Groveland	5	K. Elwell
5/15 Ipswich R.	18 m	J. Berry#	6/7	Lee	21	M. Lynch#
6/14 Worc. (BMB)	12	BBS (J. Liller)	6/20	Sterling-8	6	S. Sutton
6/25 Hawley	25	M. Lynch#		Red Crossbill		
Blue Grosbeak			5/11	Wellfleet	1	B. Nikula
5/9 Littleton	1 m	V. Sprong	5/31, 6/3P'town		1	B. Nikula
5/16 Rowley	1	C. Caron#		Pine Siskin		
5/18 Tuckernuck	1	R. Veit#	5/1	Belchertown	8	S. Surner
5/26 Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher + v.o.	5/1	Granby	12	L. Rogers
Indigo Bunting			5/1, 19	S. Orleans	5, 2	C. Thompson
5/7, 14 Medford	4, 7	M. Rines	5/3	Westfield	6	J. Barnes
5/24 Gloucester (E.P.)	7	S. Hedman#	5/6	Merrimac	2	B. + B. Buxton
5/25 Woburn (H.P.)	7	P. Ippolito#	5/6	Brookline	4	C. Dalton
6/8 Spencer	10	M. Lynch#	5/6, 18	P.I.	2, 4	Wetmore, Heil
6/14 Berlin	11	S. Sutton	5/11	Leominster	3	R. Monroe
6/14 Hawley	16	M. Lynch#	5/15	Pittsfield	5	T. Collins
6/22 Blackstone	17	M. Lynch#	5/21	P'town	2	B. Nikula
6/27 Spencer	12	M. Lynch#	5/23	Southwick	4	S. Kellogg
Bobolink			5/26	Newbury	2	L. Leka
5/3, 6/7 Spencer	1, 27	M. Lynch#		American Goldfinch		
5/5-6/30 P.I.	52 max	v.o.	5/18	P.I.	1057	R. Heil
5/10, 6/1 Hawley	12, 55	M. Lynch#		Evening Grosbeak		
5/16 Groton	50	T. Murray#	5/1	Chesterfield	2	D. Snoeyenbos
5/17 DWWS	85	I. Davies#	5/2	Northampton	2	A. Hildebrandt
5/25 Marlboro	15	T. Spahr	5/3	Clarksburg	2	P. Wells
5/25, 6/21 Tyringham	53, 28	M. Lynch#	5/3, 6/20	Ashburnham	28, 2	C. Caron
5/31 Essex	15	J. Berry	5/4, 17	Petersham	4, 2	M. Lynch#
Eastern Meadowlark			5/10, 6/25	Hawley	10, 7	M. Lynch#
thr P.I.	1-4	v.o.	5/11	Williamsburg	2	A. Mueller
5/1 Essex	3	J. Nelson	5/11	Winchendon	6	C. Caron
5/1 Leominster	pr	T. Pirro	5/14	Central Quabbin	6	L. Therrien
5/11 Newbypt	3	P. + F. Vale	6/29	Ipswich	1	J. Nelson

ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIRD SIGHTINGS

Taxonomic order is based on AOU checklist, Seventh edition, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, and 48th Supplements, as published in *The Auk* 117: 847-58 (2000); 119:897-906 (2002); 120:923-32 (2003); 121:985-95 (2004); 122:1026-31 (2005); 123:926-936 (2006); 124(3):1109-1115, 2007 (see <<http://www.aou.org/checklist/index.php3>>).

Location-#	MAS Breeding Bird	NAC	Nine Acre Corner, Concord
ABC	Atlas Block	Newbypt	Newburyport
A.P.	Allen Bird Club	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
A.Pd	Andrews Point, Rockport	P.I.	Plum Island
B.	Allens Pond, S. Dartmouth Beach	Pd	Pond
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	P'town	Provincetown
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	Pont.	Pontoosuc Lake, Laneshoro
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
BMB	Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester	Res.	Reservoir
C.B.	Crane Beach, Ipswich	S.B.	South Beach, Chatham
CGB	Coast Guard Beach, Eastham	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
Cambr.	Cambridge	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club	TASL	Take A Second Look
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	WBWS	Boston Harbor Census
Cumb. Farms	Cumberland Farms, Middleboro	WMWS	Wellfleet Bay WS
DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary	Wompatuck SP	Wachusett Meadow WS
DWMA	Delaney WMA	Worc.	Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, and Norwell Worcester
DWWS	Stow, Bolton, Harvard Daniel Webster WS	Other Abbreviations	
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	ad	adult
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	b	banded
F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge	br	breeding
F.Pk	Franklin Park, Boston	dk	dark (morph)
G40	Gate 40, Quabbin Res.	f	female
GMNWR	Great Meadows NWR	fl	fledgling
H.	Harbor	imm	immature
H.P.	Halibut Point, Rockport	juv	juvenile
HRWMA	High Ridge WMA, Gardner	lt	light (morph)
I.	Island	m	male
IRWS	Ipswich River WS	max	maximum
L.	Ledge	migr	migrating
MAS	Mass Audubon	n	nesting
M.P.	Millennium Park, W. Roxbury	ph	photographed
M.V.	Martha's Vineyard	pl	plumage
MAS	Mass. Audubon Society	pr	pair
MBWMA	Martin Burns WMA, Newbury	S	summer (1S = 1st summer)
MNWS	Marblehead Neck WS	v.o.	various observers
MSSF	Myles Standish State Forest, Plymouth	W	winter (2W = second winter)
Mt.A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambr.	yg	young
		#	additional observers

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO *BIRD OBSERVER*

Sightings for any given month must be reported in writing by the eighth of the following month, and may be submitted by postal mail or e-mail. Send written reports to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 36 Lewis Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474-3206. Include name and phone number of observer, common name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, other observer(s), and information on age, sex, and morph (where relevant). For instructions on e-mail submission, visit: <<http://massbird.org/birdobserver/sightings/>>.

Species on the Review List of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee (indicated by an asterisk [*] in the Bird Reports), 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 Marjorie Rines, Massachusetts Audubon Society, South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773, or by e-mail to <marj@mrines.com>.

ABOUT THE COVER

Blackpoll Warbler

The Blackpoll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*) is the quintessential long-distance migrant, flying thousands of miles over the ocean to reach its wintering grounds in South America, the longest migration of any warbler species. Blackpoll Warbler males are distinctive in breeding plumage, largely black and white with a black crown and white cheeks and two white wing bars. They are gray and black above and white striped black below. The female is more muted in tone and lacks the white cheek and black cap. She does not have the black and white head stripes of the Black-and-white Warbler female. In fall, this warbler could be confused with many other species, for example Bay-breasted Warbler, but most individuals have yellowish legs and a distinct throat-stripe and are tinged in front with greenish gray. The Blackpoll Warbler is monomorphic (no subspecies recognized) and is most closely related to the Bay-breasted Warbler, with which it occasionally hybridizes.

Blackpoll Warblers breed in boreal spruce and fir forests from Alaska across central and northern Canada to Hudson Bay and east to Labrador and Newfoundland. They winter in northern South America east of the Andes as far south as northern Bolivia; and in the east, south as far as the mouth of the Amazon in Brazil. In Massachusetts they are late spring migrants, arriving about mid-May, but they are one of the most abundant warblers. A few have bred near the summit of Mt. Greylock in western Massachusetts. In fall, Blackpoll Warblers move to the east coast and fly nonstop to wintering grounds. Some come from as far as the Maritime Provinces, an overocean flight of more than 2000 miles that takes up to eighty-eight hours. This is a remarkable feat for such small birds, but they do nearly double their weight prior to the flight. In Massachusetts, the fall migration occurs mostly from mid-September to mid-October.

Blackpoll Warblers often produce two broods and are generally monogamous, although about a quarter of the males are bigamous. Their breeding habitat is primarily spruce and fir boreal forest, but they will nest in willow thickets. Males sing from perches near the top of conifers probably both to advertise their territory and to attract mates. Their song is a very high-pitched staccato series of *tsit, tsit, tsit, tsit* that is emitted throughout the day. Males chase intruders from their territory, and females will chase their own and other species from near their nests. Females beg food from males from a crouched posture with fluttering wings. Females select the nest site and construct the nest by themselves. The nest consists of an open cup of twigs and lichen, typically placed close to the trunk at a height of one to fifteen feet. The nest is lined with grass or other fine plant fibers. The usual clutch is five creamy to pale-green eggs, blotched with lavender, with fewer eggs in the second brood. Only the female develops a brood patch, and she alone incubates the eggs during the eleven to twelve days until hatching. Only the female broods the chicks for the nine to ten days until fledging. Both parents feed the young and continue to feed them up to three weeks after fledging.

AT A GLANCE

August 2008



PHOTOGRAPH BY WAYNE R. PETERSEN

A quick look at this month's mystery species immediately suggests a seabird. More careful scrutiny reveals that the pictured bird shows obvious barring on its underparts, a pale collar around its hind neck, and prominent pale-colored shafts on its outer primaries. This combination of characteristics alone removes all seabirds except jaegers as identification candidates. Unfortunately, establishing the mystery bird as a jaeger is only part of the solution since jaegers are notoriously difficult to identify.

To appreciate the difficulties associated with jaeger identification, the reader must consider a number of factors. First, like many gull species, jaegers take nearly four years to reach full adult plumage. There is a bewildering sequence of plumages between the juvenal plumage stage in the bird's first autumn to the plumage of its full maturity several years later. Add the fact that Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers are strongly polymorphic; any given jaeger can range from melanistic (i.e., practically black), to intermediate, to light in overall color tone, particularly in the underparts. And finally, subtle sexual and seasonal differences can influence the appearance of jaegers. When all these variables are seen, as they often are, in poor light, at a great distance, or from an unstable viewing platform (i.e., the deck of a boat), the problem of field identification is frequently exacerbated.

Most seabird experts agree that identifying jaegers often relies on features other than the physical appearance of the bird. Relative size, flight style, behavior, date, and location, information not available in the mystery photograph, are often just as important as the bird's plumage. Here, the reader is able to consider only plumage and structural characteristics.

A look at the pictured jaeger reveals several features. The heavy barring on the underparts and upper tail coverts and the checkering on the underwings (though difficult to see in the photograph) indicate that the bird is an immature (i.e., sub-adult). The obvious pale neck collar, capped appearance, and fairly dark basal coloration on the dusky-barréd underparts further suggest that the bird is probably in an intermediate morph plumage. The molting flight feathers (indicated by gaps in the feathers on the trailing edges of the wings) and the patchy appearance of the upper wing coverts indicate that the jaeger not a juvenile. The plumage of a juvenile jaeger would be fresh, often with pale tips on the wing coverts, and it would not exhibit the wing molt seen in the pictured bird. Having determined that the pictured jaeger is a sub-adult in an intermediate morph, we are closer to determining the identity of the mystery bird.

A feature of all jaegers, regardless of plumage, morph, or age, is the pale, ivory-colored shafts of the outer primary feathers. Long-tailed Jaegers typically exhibit only two pale feather shafts — a feature that often makes their identification relatively straightforward. Parasitic Jaegers ordinarily display three to five pale primary shafts, and Pomarine Jaegers flash four to six. The pictured jaeger clearly shows at least five obviously pale primary shafts, unfortunately placing it between Pomarine and Parasitic. Identification is more difficult because of the angle of the photograph. The fact that the bird appears to be missing its extended central tail feathers does not provide a clue since that is a hallmark of adult and many sub-adult jaegers when not molting. Bill size and structure, features sometimes useful when identifying standing jaegers or birds sitting in the water at close range, is not terribly helpful in the pictured jaeger. All that can be definitively said about the bill is that it appears to be slightly bicolored, another feature suggesting that the bird is a sub-adult (although Pomarine Jaegers of all ages tend to have more prominently bicolored bills than other jaegers). So what is the reader to do?

Given the information available in the photograph, it is conservative to say that this jaeger cannot be identified with confidence. A more complete series of images revealing features such as underwing pattern, upper tail pattern, and size relative to another bird of known identity would all be useful. From the image presented, in the author's judgment the pictured jaeger could be either a Pomarine or a Parasitic jaeger. Based upon having seen and photographed the bird in the field, however, along with having several additional images from which to make an identification, the author feels confident that the mystery jaeger is a Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*), probably in its second or third summer plumage.

Parasitic Jaegers are uncommon spring migrants and uncommon to relatively common late summer and fall migrants in Massachusetts inshore waters, often with a few individuals apparently spending the summer in the waters off Cape Cod. Parasitic Jaegers tend to arrive earlier in the summer than other jaegers, and they regularly appear closer to shore than the more pelagic Pomarine and Long-tailed jaegers. The author photographed the pictured jaeger on Stellwagen Bank off Provincetown in late July 2008. 🐦

Wayne R. Petersen

AT A GLANCE



WAYNE R. PETERSEN

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