

BIRD SIGHTINGS

January–February 2021

Neil Hayward and Robert H. Stymeist

The exceptionally mild weather between Christmas and the New Year continued well into January. The temperature was above average for 16 days in January, with a high of 52 degrees recorded on January 16. A winter storm brought a mix of rain and snow and bitter cold on January 27—prior to which Boston had only recorded three-tenths of an inch of snow for the month. Snow totals from the storm were 4.4 inches at Logan Airport in Boston, 5.3 inches in Worcester, 2.5–4.0 inches on Cape Cod, and 13 inches in the town of Savoy in Berkshire County.

A nor'easter rolled across Massachusetts on February 1, dumping up to a foot of snow in central and western parts of the state. Farther east, Lowell topped the list with 24 inches, Wilmington recorded 20 inches, and Athol measured 22 inches, which was the highest total for Worcester County. Greater Boston received far less as the warm front turned snow into rain along the coast; Logan Airport recorded just 1.2 inches of snow compared to 3.8 inches in West Roxbury, only a few miles inland. Within a week, another snowstorm and cold front hit the region. Boston recorded a low temperature of 7 degrees on February 7, and an additional 3–6 inches of snow. More snow arrived on February 19–20, bringing another 3–6 inches throughout the state, with higher amounts in southeastern Massachusetts—Barnstable measured 7.7 inches and Dartmouth had 7.5 inches. Total snowfall for the month recorded at Logan Airport was 15.3 inches, 4.4 inches above normal.

R. Stymeist

GEESE THROUGH HERONS

Bristol County has become one of the most reliable places to find rare geese in North America. This period, a **Pink-footed Goose** was present in Dartmouth, marking the fourth year in a row that the county has hosted this rare goose. **Cackling Geese** were reported from three counties, which is below average for the period.

Blue-winged Teals were reported from two locations on Cape Cod, where the species has been wintering annually since 2012. A count of three **Eurasian Wigeons** on Nantucket is the highest in the state since 2016. Redhead numbers have been increasing in Massachusetts in recent years, and a count of 39 on Nantucket is the highest period count for the state since 1997. The 12 Redheads at Waltham is the highest count for Middlesex County since 2006. A female **Tufted Duck** at Eastham from mid-February was the first record for Outer Cape Cod. **King Eiders** were reported from three counties, which is about average for this species. Two hybrid ducks made the news this period. A Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser hybrid at Chatham on January 24 is the first eBird record for Barnstable County. This hybrid taxon has previously been reported from Essex, Plymouth, and Middlesex counties. An American Wigeon X Mallard hybrid was reported from Sandwich on January 14, one of about 10 records in the country this period. Apart from one record in Connecticut, all the New England eBird records for this taxon have come from Massachusetts, where it has been annual since 2016.

An **Eared Grebe** was discovered at Marblehead on January 11 and stayed throughout the period. In February 2020, a bird was present for two weeks in nearby Beverly, about five miles as the grebe flies.

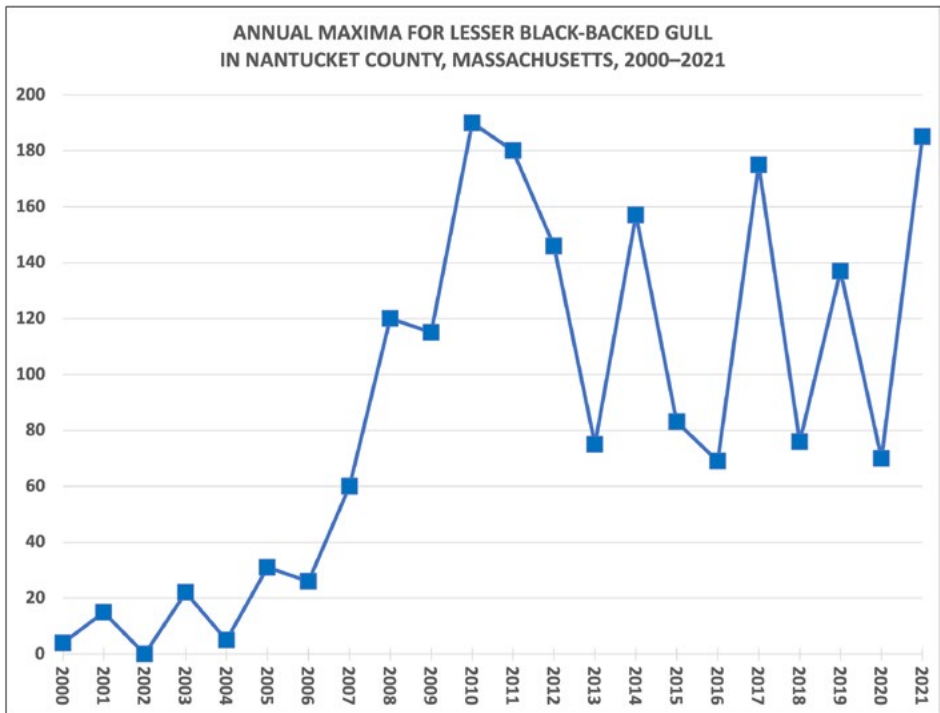


Figure 1. Annual high counts of Lesser Black-backed Gulls in Nantucket County, Massachusetts, for the period 2000–2021. Data from eBird.org.

The immature male **Rufous Hummingbird** in Orleans continued throughout the period. This bird was banded on December 2 after first appearing in mid-November.

An adult and immature **Common Gallinule** were present on Nantucket in January. This was the northernmost record on the continent, except for a bird in Newfoundland. A **Yellow Rail** was reported to the Bird Watcher’s General Store in Orleans. It was found dead in the wrack line at Harding’s Beach, Chatham, on February 5. This is the first record since November 2017, although given the cryptic nature of the species the majority of migrant Yellow Rails are undoubtedly overlooked. Most historical records are from the fall, peaking in October.

A number of shorebirds made unseasonal appearances this period. American Oystercatchers occasionally linger into January, and this year a pair at Edgartown, Martha’s Vineyard, on January 2–3 were the northernmost birds on the continent. A very late Piping Plover was found at Hyannis on January 5. This is the only eBird record for January in Massachusetts. There are, however, historical precedents, with at least January records on Cape Cod from the past century (Veit and Petersen, 1993). Long-billed Dowitchers are similarly rare in the winter. A bird at Plum Island on January 12 is only the sixth January record this century. Greater Yellowlegs were recorded from a record six counties this period. The previous high was four counties in 2013 and 2000.

An incredible 61 **Atlantic Puffins** were counted flying north past First Encounter Beach, Eastham, on January 7—an additional 12 southbound birds were excluded from the count to avoid potential double-counting. This count was the highest for the continent this period, beating the 19 recorded on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, North Carolina, on February 21. It was also the second-highest count for Massachusetts, after the 104 birds logged at Andrews Point, Rockport,

on October 12, 2002. A count of 228 Common Murres past Andrews Point on January 16 is the highest period count for Essex County since 2007. Razorbill numbers this period were below average.

The larid highlight of the period was a one-person one-day wonder: an adult **Ivory Gull** observed by Rick Heil flying past Andrews Point on January 2. This sighting was nearly 44 years to the day since the only other record of this species from the same location—and by the same observer—on January 8, 1977. It is the first record of Ivory Gull for the state since January 2010, when birds were recorded at Race Point, Provincetown, and at Westport. An adult **Thayer's Gull**—now demoted to a subspecies of Iceland Gull—was photographed at Race Point on January 17, the first record of this taxon since May 2019, which was also an adult at Race Point. A **Mew Gull** was discovered on Nantucket on February 25. This species has been recorded almost annually since 1990, although the pattern is complicated by four subspecies that stretch almost circumglobally. Based on the primary pattern, the current record is thought to be of the Russian subspecies *Larus canus kamtschatschensis* and would be the only record of this taxon on the continent this year. A Bonaparte's Gull at Quabbin Reservoir on January 20 is the first eBird period record for Hampshire County. This species is rare inland, typically appearing in April and May and then again in October and November. Laughing Gulls are similarly rare in the winter. A single bird at Harwich on January 9–11 represents only the sixth January record this century and the first since 2016. A count of 185 Lesser Black-backed Gulls on Nantucket on February 25 is the third-highest count for the state (the highest is 207 at Monomoy NWR on September 17, 2018). The population of Lesser Black-backed Gulls in the state—especially those in Nantucket—has been increasing steadily over the past two decades (see Figure 1).

Up to three **Pacific Loons** were reported from Race Point, Provincetown. Sooty Shearwaters are rare in the state after November. In recent years, single birds have been recorded in January, including two sightings this year on Cape Cod in mid-January.

Up to two Great Egrets lingered at Plum Island into January, the first January records for Essex County since 2012 and 1999.

N. Hayward

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|--------------------|
| Snow Goose | | | 2/27 | Belchertown | 2 | L. Therrien |
| 1/1-1/9 | Harwich | 2 | 2/28 | Westborough | 4 | M. Lynch# |
| 1/1-1/11 | Lenox | 1 | Blue-winged Teal | | | |
| 1/1-1/2 | Edgartown | 1 | thr | W. Barnstable | 2 | v.o. |
| 1/2-1/17 | Rochester | 1 | 1/3-1/14 | Marstons Mills | 2 | G. Cooperman# |
| 1/14 | Saugus | 2 | Northern Shoveler | | | |
| 1/23-1/24 | Melrose | 2 | 1/1-2/23 | Jamaica Plain | 2 | R. Doherty + v.o. |
| Greater White-fronted Goose | | | 1/5 | Stockbridge | 1 | J. Pierce |
| 1/2 | Edgartown | 2 ph | 1/19 | E. Boston (BI) | 3 | J. Smith |
| 1/24-1/31 | Dartmouth | 1 ph | 2/23 | Yarmouth | 2 | P. Trimble |
| Pink-footed Goose | | | 2/28 | Nantucket | 14 | S. Kardell# |
| 1/26-2/5, 2/28 | Dartmouth | 1 ph | Gadwall | | | |
| Brant | | | 1/1-1/31 | PI | 14 max | R. Heil + v.o. |
| 1/17 | Plymouth H. | 60 | 1/2 | Plainville | 17 | V. Zollo |
| 2/12 | Orleans | 260 | 2/1-2/28 | Gloucester (EP) | 16 max | v.o. |
| 2/28 | Fairhaven | 85 | 2/26-2/27 | Sudbury | 7 max | S. Miller + v.o. |
| Cackling Goose | | | Eurasian Wigeon | | | |
| 1/1 | Danvers | 1 ph | thr | Fairhaven | 1 m | phC.Longworth+v.o. |
| 1/5-2/3 | Longmeadow | 2 ph | thr | Yarmouth | 1 m | ph v.o. |
| 1/17-1/29 | Amherst | 2 ph | 1/3 | Edgartown | 1 m | L. Johnson |
| 1/17-1/31 | Sheffield | 1 ph | 2/10 | Nantucket | 3 m | ph S. Kardell |
| Wood Duck | | | 2/17-2/24 | Swansea | 1 m | ph Q. Corey |
| 1/2-1/28 | Watertown | 2 max | American Wigeon | | | |
| 1/31 | Boston (Olmsted Pk) | 3 | 1/1-1/20 | Marlborough | 3 max | N. Paulson + v.o. |
| 2/26 | Sheffield | 2 | 1/2-1/3 | Worc. | 2 max | P. Morlock |
| 2/27 | Turners Falls | 2 | 1/3 | Yarmouth | 360 | M. Kasprzyk |

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|--|------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| American Wigeon (continued) | 2/15 | Hadley | 1 | G. Brown + v.o. |
| 2/26 Hadley | 2 | S. Surner + v.o. | | |
| American Wigeon x Mallard (hybrid) | 1/13 | Marblehead | 27 | N. Hayward |
| 2/14 Sandwich | 1 ph | P. Crosson | 14 | M. Lynch# |
| American Black Duck | 2/5-2/14 | Agawam | 8 max | M. Moore + v.o. |
| 1/1-1/31 PI | 950 max | R. Heil + v.o. | | |
| 1/13 Rowley | 1030 | R. Heil | | |
| 2/6 Salisbury | 200 | G. d'Entremont# | | |
| 2/26 Quaboag IBA | 84 | M. Lynch# | | |
| Northern Pintail | 1/11 | Lowell | 72 | N. Hayward |
| 1/1 Barnstable | 17 | M. Kasprzyk | | |
| 1/2-1/18 Marlborough | 6 max | L. Oliver + v.o. | | |
| 2/1-2/28 PI | 45 max | v.o. | | |
| 2/28 Worc. | 4 | M. Lynch# | | |
| Green-winged Teal | 1/3 | Orleans | 15 | G. d'Entremont |
| 1/1 P'town (RP) | 26 | B. Nikula# | | |
| 2/28 Waltham | 4 | J. Forbes | | |
| Canvasback | 1/3 | Nantucket | 97 | T. Pastuszak |
| Redhead | 1/1-1/11 | Melrose | 2 | E. Labato + v.o. |
| 1/1-2/14 Lakeville | 2 m | J. Sweeney + v.o. | | |
| 2/4 Nantucket | 39 | S. Fea# | | |
| 2/6 Waltham | 12 max | H. Miller + v.o. | | |
| 2/8-thr Sandwich | 11 | M. Keleher# | | |
| Ring-necked Duck | 1/1-1/31 | Cambr. (FP) | 50 max | v.o. |
| 1/12 Southborough | 80 | P. Morlock | | |
| 2/19 Plymouth | 350 | J. Hare | | |
| 2/26 Mashpee | 265 | P. Crosson | | |
| Tufted Duck | thr | Nantucket | 1 m ph | v.o. |
| 2/15-thr Eastham | 1 f ph | L. Waters# | | |
| Greater Scaup | 1/1-1/18 | Wachusett Res. | 80 max | J. Dekker + v.o. |
| 1/2 Gloucester | 25 | R. Heil | | |
| 1/5 Falmouth | 1100 | A. Burdo# | | |
| 2/28 Fairhaven | 160 | G. d'Entremont# | | |
| Lesser Scaup | 1/5 | Falmouth | 50 | A. Burdo# |
| 1/9 Plymouth | 85 | G. d'Entremont# | | |
| 1/20 Westborough | 13 | M. Lynch# | | |
| King Eider | 1/11, 1/15 | PI | 1, 1 f | m M. Goetschkes# + v.o. |
| 1/12 P'town | 1 m ph | A. Burdo# | | |
| 1/16-1/22 Rockport (AP) | 2 max | 1 pr ph | R. Heil + v.o. | |
| 1/31-2/26 Bourne | 1 f ph | S. Arena + v.o. | | |
| 2/4-2/6 Boston H. | 1 m ph | T. Bradford + v.o. | | |
| Common Eider | 1/1-1/31 | PI | 3000 max | S. Grinley# + v.o. |
| 1/3 Salisbury | 1250 | G. d'Entremont# | | |
| Harlequin Duck | 1/1-1/22 | PI | 1 f | T. Wetmore# + v.o. |
| 1/1-2/5 Millers Falls | 1 | A. Jemas + v.o. | | |
| 2/13, 2/17 Nahant | 1, 1 m | M. Padulo, F. Porter | | |
| 2/16 Rockport (HPt) | 91 | J. Bock | | |
| Surf Scoter | 1/11 | PI | 30 | M. Goetschkes + S. Grinley |
| 1/16 Mystic River (Somerville) | 11 | J. Forbes | | |
| 2/9 Nahant | 55 | A. Sanford | | |
| White-winged Scoter | 1/1-1/31 | PI | 750 max | S. Grinley# + v.o. |
| 1/5 Longmeadow | 1 | T. Gilliland | | |
| 2/8-2/28 Mystic River | 2 max | v.o. | | |
| Black Scoter | 1/1-1/31 | PI | 1000 max | T. Wetmore + v.o. |
| 1/2 Rockport (AP) | 36 | R. Heil | | |
| 1/21 Quabbin Pk | 1 | J. Oliverio | | |
| 2/1-2/28 Mystic River | 3 max | v.o. | | |
| Long-tailed Duck | 1/1-1/31 | PI | 40 max | S. Grinley# + v.o. |
| 1/2 Edgartown | 700 | A. Lamoreaux# | | |
| Bufflehead | 1/13 | Wachusett Res. | 14 | M. Lynch# |
| 2/5-2/14 Agawam | 8 max | M. Moore + v.o. | | |
| Common Goldeneye | 1/1-2/28 | Turners Falls | 130 max | J. Smith + v.o. |
| 1/1 Wachusett Res. | 78 | B. Millett | | |
| 1/3 Lakeville | 180 | M. Faherty | | |
| 1/11 Lowell | 72 | N. Hayward | | |
| Barrow's Goldeneye | 1/1-2/15 | Lowell | 1 f | J. Mott# + v.o. |
| 1/1-2/28 Turners Falls | 1 | imm m | J. Smith + v.o. | |
| 1/3 N. Andover | 1 m | J. Parrot-Willis | | |
| 1/3-1/18 E. Boston | 1 m | J. Hanson + v.o. | | |
| 1/3-1/24 Randolph | 1 ad m | R. Yuen + v.o. | | |
| 1/9 Plymouth | 4 2pr | G. d'Entremont# | | |
| 1/11-2/4 PI | 1 m | T. Wetmore# + v.o. | | |
| 1/20 Quabbin Pk | 1 | L. Therrien + v.o. | | |
| 2/11-2/28 W. Newbury | 2 max | D. Larson + v.o. | | |
| Common X Barrow's Goldeneye (hybrid) | 1/17 | Falmouth/Mashpee | | N. Marchessault# |
| Hooded Merganser | 1/1-1/31 | Woburn (HP) | 107 max | v.o. |
| 1/5 WWMA | 72 | N. Dowling | | |
| 1/30 Boston (JPd) | 75 | G. d'Entremont | | |
| 1/31 Mystic Lakes | 232 | N. Hayward | | |
| 1/31 S. Dartmouth | 60 | G. d'Entremont# | | |
| 2/1 Mystic Lakes | 176 | M. Rines | | |
| Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser (hybrid) | 1/24 | Chatham | 1 | L. Briggs |
| Common Merganser | 1/31 | Mystic Lakes | 267 | N. Hayward |
| 2/21 Falmouth | 13 | G. d'Entremont | | |
| 2/26 Quaboag IBA | 73 | M. Lynch# | | |
| Red-breasted Merganser | thr | Mystic Lakes | 8 max | v.o. |
| 1/2 Mystic River (Somerville) | 11 | N. Hayward | | |
| 1/4-1/16 Wachusett Res. | 1 | B. Robo + v.o. | | |
| 1/4-1/30 Quabbin Pk | 1 | L. Therrien | | |
| 2/20 Waltham | 1 | J. Forbes | | |
| Ruddy Duck | 1/1 | Eastham | 92 | K. Griffiths |
| 1/13 Wachusett Res. | 2 | K. Nickerson | | |
| 1/30 Boston (JPd) | 20 | G. d'Entremont | | |
| 2/21 Medford | 8 | J. Forbes | | |
| Wild Turkey | 1/26 | Woburn | 44 | M. Rines |
| 2/27 Grafton | 59 | S. Williams | | |
| Ruffed Grouse | 1/12 | Sandwich | 8 | P. Trimble# |
| 1/15 Williamstown | 4 | So. Auer | | |
| 2/14 Quabbin (G40) | 5 | E. Abrams | | |
| Ring-necked Pheasant | 1/1 | Tyringham | 2 | L. Hertzog |
| 2/21 Lenox | 2 | J. Pierce | | |
| Pied-billed Grebe | 1/1-1/31 | Cambr. (FP) | 1 | v.o. |
| 1/13 Wachusett Res. | 1 | M. Lynch# | | |
| 1/20 Ware | 1 | L. Therrien | | |
| 1/21 Falmouth | 9 | N. Tepper# | | |
| Horned Grebe | 1/1-1/26 | Quabbin Pk | 8 max | J. Oliverio + v.o. |
| 1/1-1/31 PI | 11 max | D. Prima# + v.o. | | |
| 2/4-2/5 Mystic River | 1 | C. Matheson + v.o. | | |
| Red-necked Grebe | 1/8 | PI | 8 | T. Wetmore |
| 1/16-1/23 Cambr. (FP) | 1 | J. Trimble# | | |
| 2/13 P'town (RP) | 17 | G. d'Entremont# | | |
| Eared Grebe | 1/11-2/28 | Marblehead | 1 ph | L. Curtis + v.o. |
| Rufous Hummingbird | 1/1-thr | S. Orleans | 1 imm m | ph b S. Finnegan# |

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|-------------------------|------------------|----------|----------------------|---|-----------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Clapper Rail | | | | 1/23 | Rockport (AP) | 2 | J. Trimble |
| 1/13 | Rowley | 1 | R. Heil | Common Murre | | | |
| 1/27 | Duxbury B. | 1 | R. Bowes | 1/3 | Jeffreys L. | 1 | L. McKillop# |
| Virginia Rail | | | | 1/10 | P'town (RP) | 142 | P. Flood# |
| 1/1 | Barnstable | 7 | P. Crosson | 1/10 | Nahant | 1 | L. Pivacek |
| 1/1 | Peabody | 4 | R. Heil | 1/16 | Rockport (AP) | 228 | R. Heil |
| 1/3-1/18 | W. Roxbury (MP) | 1 | M. Iliff + v.o. | Thick-billed Murre | | | |
| 1/9, 2/4 | GMNWR | 1 | C. Kaynor, F. Porter | 2/1-2/28 | Rockport (AP) | 3 max | C. Winstanley+v.o. |
| 1/13 | Woburn (HP) | 1 | C. Matheson | 2/3 | P'town (RP) | 9 | K. Yakola# |
| 2/9, 2/19 | Peabody | 2 | R. Heil | Razorbill | | | |
| Sora | | | | 1/1-1/22 | PI | 35 max | P. Vale + v.o. |
| 1/3-1/8 | GMNWR | 1 | M. McCarthy# + v.o. | 1/1-2/5 | Boston H. | 5 | S. Jones + v.o. |
| 1/16 | Ellisville | 1 | L. Schibley | 1/2-1/23 | Rockport (AP) | 48 max | J. Trimble + v.o. |
| Common Gallinule | | | | 1/3 | Jeffreys L. | 3 | L. McKillop# |
| 1/7-1/31 | Nantucket | 2 ad+imm | ph T. Pastuszak# | 1/7 | Eastham (FE) | 488 | A. Burdo# |
| American Coot | | | | large alcid sp. | | | |
| thr | Woburn (HP) | 50 max | v.o. | 1/3 | P'town (RP) | 1445 | B. Nikula# |
| 1/1 | Barnstable | 75 | P. Crosson | Black Guillemot | | | |
| Yellow Rail | | | | 1/1-1/31 | Gloucester (BR) | 5 max | v.o. |
| 2/5 | Chatham | 1 d ph | L. Caruso | 1/2-1/7 | Nahant | 1 | M. Padulo + v.o. |
| American Oystercatcher | | | | 2/15 | P'town | 5 | L. Waters |
| 1/2-1/3 | Edgartown | 2 | M. Carman-Goeke | Atlantic Puffin | | | |
| Black-bellied Plover | | | | 1/3 | Jeffreys L. | 1 | L. McKillop# |
| 1/1 | Chatham | 17 | F. Atwood | 1/7 | Eastham (FE) | 61 | A. Burdo# |
| 1/3-1/9 | PI | 1 | M. Altieri + v.o. | 1/10, 1/18, 2/1, 2/3 | P'town (RP) | 1,1,1,1 | P. Flood# + v.o. |
| 1/4 | E. Boston | 1 | S. Jones + v.o. | 1/16, 1/23 | Rockport (AP) | 5,1 | R. Heil, J. Trimble |
| 1/17 | Ellisville | 4 | G. d'Entremont# | Black-legged Kittiwake | | | |
| Killdeer | | | | 1/2 | Rockport (AP) | 27 | R. Heil |
| 2/25 | Hadley | 3 | M. Akresh | 1/3 | Jeffreys L. | 8 | L. McKillop# |
| 2/26-2/28 | Somerville | 3 | J. Young + v.o. | 1/13 | PI | 3 | T. Wetmore |
| 2/26 | Cheshire | 1 | C. Walz | 2/3 | P'town (RP) | 102 | K. Yakola# |
| 2/28 | Fairhaven | 17 | G. d'Entremont# | Ivory Gull | | | |
| Piping Plover | | | | 1/2 | Rockport (AP) | 1 ad | R. Heil |
| 1/5 | Hyannis | 1 | P. Kyle | Bonaparte's Gull | | | |
| Ruddy Turnstone | | | | 1/2 | Gloucester | 2 | R. Heil |
| 1/2 | Boston | 3 | N. Hayward | 1/20 | Quabbin Pk | 1 | L. Therrien |
| 1/15 | W. Dennis | 10 | P. Bono | Black-headed Gull | | | |
| 1/30 | Hyannisport | 44 | Anonymous | thr | Gloucester | 1 ad | ph W. Klockner+v.o. |
| Sanderling | | | | 1/1-1/16 | W. Dennis | 1W ph | v.o. |
| 1/1-1/31 | PI | 240 max | T. Wetmore+v.o. | 1/4-1/22 | Sagamore | 1 ad ph | v.o. |
| 1/4 | W. Dennis | 345 | S. Finnegan | Laughing Gull | | | |
| Dunlin | | | | 1/9-1/11 | Harwich | 1 | C. Thompson# |
| 1/1 | Chatham | 510 | F. Atwood | Mew Gull (<i>kamtschatschensis/heinei</i>) | | | |
| 1/1-1/31 | PI | 200 max | S. Babbitt + v.o. | 2/25-thr | Nantucket | 1 ad ph | S. Kardell# |
| 1/2 | Boston | 19 | N. Hayward | Iceland Gull (Thayer's) | | | |
| 1/10 | Hyannis | 130 | B. Nikula | 1/17 | P'town (RP) | 1 ad ph | B. Nikula, P. Flood |
| 2/15 | Duxbury B. | 800 | L. Briggs | Iceland Gull | | | |
| Purple Sandpiper | | | | 1/1-1/31 | Lowell | 5 max | v.o. |
| 1/2 | Boston | 4 | N. Hayward | 1/14-2/28 | Turners Falls | 2 ph max | J. Smith + v.o. |
| 1/6 | PI | 8 | T. Wetmore# | 1/26-2/24 | Agawam | 4 ph max | L.+A. Richardson+v.o. |
| 1/15 | Marblehead | 30 | J. Hoyer# | 2/1-2/28 | Gloucester (EP) | 11 max | R. Heil + v.o. |
| 2/1-2/28 | Rockport (AP) | 35 max | v.o. | 2/15 | P'town (RP) | 30 | L. Waters# |
| 2/3 | W. Dennis | 4 | P. Kyle | 2/25 | Nantucket | 60 | S. Kardell |
| 2/15 | P'town | 5 | L. Waters | Lesser Black-backed Gull | | | |
| Long-billed Dowitcher | | | | 1/7-2/23 | Turners Falls | 1 ad | G. Watkevich+v.o. |
| 1/12 | PI | 1 max | D. Larson | 1/15-2/18 | Medway | 1 ad | J. Bock |
| American Woodcock | | | | 1/16 | Sharon | 1 ad | W. Sweet + v.o. |
| 1/1 | Barnstable | 1 | M. Keleher# | 1/20 | Westborough | 1 ad | M. Lynch# |
| 1/14 | Mashpee | 2 | K. Miller# | 1/31 | S. Dartmouth | 1 ad | G. d'Entremont# |
| 2/25 | Eastham (FH) | 5 | J. Doyle | 2/18 | Gloucester (EP) | 2 ad | R. Heil |
| 2/26 | Longmeadow | 3 | M. + C. Moore | 2/25 | Nantucket | 185 | S. Kardell |
| 2/26 | Cambr. (Alewife) | 1 | R. Weil | Glaucous Gull | | | |
| Wilson's Snipe | | | | 1/1-1/11 | Lowell | 1 | B. Lee + v.o. |
| 1/15 | Hadley | 1 | M. Locher | 1/1-1/31 | Gloucester | 3 max | v.o. |
| 2/9 | Peabody | 1 | R. Heil | 2/5-2/28 | Revere B. | 4 | M. Iliff + v.o. |
| 2/19-2/21 | Salisbury | 1 | D. Graovac + v.o. | 2/11 | Nahant | 1 | M. Padulo |
| 2/28 | Ipswich | 1 | A. Sanford | 2/16 | Lynn | 1 | R. Heil |
| Greater Yellowlegs | | | | 2/17 | Salisbury | 1 | J. Oliverio + v.o. |
| 1/5 | Rockport | 1 | T. Sackton | 2/21-2/23 | Turners Falls | 1 | A. Richards + v.o. |
| Dovekie | | | | Red-throated Loon | | | |
| 1/3 | Jeffreys L. | 11 | L. McKillop# | 1/1-1/11 | Mystic River | 1 | v.o. |
| 1/7 | Eastham (FE) | 40 | A. Burdo# | Pacific Loon | | | |
| 1/10 | P'town (RP) | 18 | P. Flood# | thr | P'town (RP) | 3 max ph | P. Flood#, B. Nikula+v.o. |

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|------------------|----------------|-------|------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Common Loon | | | 1/9-1/22 | Rockport (AP) | 17 max | R. Heil + v.o. |
| 1/1-2/4 | Quabbin Pk | 2 max | L. Therrien+v.o. | Great Cormorant | | |
| 1/13 | Marblehead | 3 | N. Hayward | 2/2-2/28 | Medford | 2 max |
| 1/31 | Wachusett Res. | 10 | M. Lynch# | 2/20 | N. Scituate | 17 |
| 2/1-2/16 | Mystic River | 4 max | J. Layman + v.o. | Double-crested Cormorant | | |
| Northern Fulmar | | | | 1/1-1/31 | Medford | 3 max |
| 1/3 | Jeffreys L. | 8 | L. McKillop# | 2/20 | Rockport (HPT) | 2 |
| 1/16 | Rockport (AP) | 3 | R. Heil# | Great Blue Heron | | |
| 1/17 | P'town (RP) | 1 | B. Nikula# | 1/18-2/24 | Sunderland | 10 max |
| 2/3 | Eastham (FE) | 5 | T. Spahr | 2/20 | Sandwich | 17 |
| Sooty Shearwater | | | | 2/28 | Worc. | 3 |
| 1/16 | P'town (RP) | 1 | P. Flood | Great Egret | | |
| 1/17 | N. Truro | 1 | E. Goodman | 1/1-1/23 | PI | 2 max |
| Northern Gannet | | | | 1/10-1/19 | Edgartown | 1 |
| 1/1 | PI | 8 | R. Yuen# | Black-crowned Night-Heron | | |
| 1/3 | P'town (RP) | 160 | B. Nikula# | 1/12 | Eastham | 3 |

VULTURES THROUGH DICKCISSEL

October raptor highlights during the period included continuing high numbers of Black Vultures, especially in southwest Berkshire County, where as many as 28 were counted in Ashley Falls. Twenty-six Black Vultures were tallied in Blackstone, along the Rhode Island border.

Golden Eagles were noted from four locations, and the only Northern Goshawk reported during the period was an adult from Marlborough. Two Long-eared Owls were found at Salisbury and remained through the period to the delight of many birders, who observed from a safe distance. There were 12 individual Short-eared Owls reported including four in Hadley.

This season's winter finch irruption continued through the period in exceptional numbers. Large groups of Common Redpolls numbering well into the hundreds were noted throughout the state. Birders had wonderful opportunities to study, identify, and photograph many **Hoary Redpolls**. Both Red and White-winged crossbills continued throughout our area. The Campground at Salisbury State Park allowed close encounters with crossbills presenting excellent photographic opportunities. **Pine Grosbeaks** continued mostly in western Massachusetts and were entirely absent on the South Shore, Cape Cod, and the islands.

Among the vagrants were some holdovers from December, including the cooperative **Varied Thrush** from Sudbury, the **Sage Thrasher** from Hatfield, **Yellow-throated Warblers** from Lancaster and Hingham, and a **Western Tanager** in Brewster. An **Ash-throated Flycatcher** was found in Sagamore. This is only the third record for the period within the past 10 years—the two previous records were from Cambridge and Manomet in January 2016. Birders in search of the flycatcher turned up a **Townsend's Warbler** in the same neighborhood. Cape Cod seems to be a hotspot for **Painted Buntings** during the winter months, as three different birds were noted during the period. Over the past 10 years, as many as 20 Painted Buntings have been seen during winter months on Cape Cod.

Other interesting reports during the period include a Cliff Swallow photographed on Nantucket on February 26 following strong southwest winds. This date eclipsed the previous earliest date reported for this species of March 8. Yellow-breasted Chats were noted from eight localities; many of them were present for several days. Unusual warblers found during this period included an Ovenbird in Woods Hole and a Tennessee Warbler coming to a feeder in Athol. 🐦

R. Stymeist

References

Veit, R. R., and W. R. Petersen. 1993. *Birds of Massachusetts*. Lincoln, Massachusetts: Massachusetts Audubon Society.

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|---------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Black Vulture | | | | 1/25-1/28 | Egremont | 1 | C. Blake# + v.o. |
| thr | Ashley Falls | 28 max | G. Ward, G. Hurley | 2/3-2/28 | Salisbury | 1 | v.o. |
| 1/1-1/18 | Bourne | 6 | J. McCumber + v.o. | 2/26 | Rowley | 1 | R. Heil |
| 1/6-1/28 | Greenfield | 9 max | B. Kanash + v.o. | 2/26-2/28 | P'town (RP) | 1 | K. Burke + v.o. |
| 1/7-2/22 | Blackstone | 26 max | E. Kittredge + v.o. | Northern Saw-whet Owl | | | |
| 1/31 | Westport | 14 | G. d'Entremont# | 1/1-1/14 | Great Barrington | 4 max | Z. Adams# + v.o. |
| 2/26 | Cambridge | 4 | C. Winstanley | 1/8 | Wellfleet | 4 | K. Burke |
| Turkey Vulture | | | | 1/12-2/23 | Quabbin Pk | 2 max | M. McKittrick# + v.o. |
| 1/2 | Edgartown | 24 | L. Johnson | 2/25 | Groton | 3 | S. Wilson# |
| 1/20 | Bourne | 30 | P. Kyle | Red-headed Woodpecker | | | |
| 1/22 | Blackstone | 22 | M. Lynch# | 1/1-2/11 | Florence | 1 ph | L. Therrien + v.o. |
| Golden Eagle | | | | 1/1-2/21 | Princeton | 2 ad ph | E. Kittredge + v.o. |
| 1/17 | Gloucester | 1 ad | S. Grinley# | 2/20 | Spencer | 1 ad ph | D. Therien |
| 1/27-2/14 | Buckland | 1 juv | ph J. Smith + v.o. | Yellow-bellied Sapsucker | | | |
| 2/17 | Great Barrington | 1 ph | C. Schneider | 1/1-2/15 | Jamaica Plain | 2 | J. Miller + v.o. |
| 2/24, 2/26 | Quabbin Res. | 1 juv | M. Lynch#, L. Therrien | 2/1-2/28 | MTA | 2 max | v.o. |
| Northern Harrier | | | | 2/12 | Orleans | 2 | L. Waters |
| thr | PI | 6 max | R. Heil + v.o. | Pileated Woodpecker | | | |
| 1/13, 2/28 | Rowley | 6 | R. Heil | 2/7 | DFWS | 3 | P. Sowizral |
| 1/24 | Hadley | 3 2ad m | G. d'Entremont# | 2/28 | Upton | 3 | T. Dodd |
| 2/18 | Barnstable (SN) | 5 | K. Dec# | American Kestrel | | | |
| Northern Goshawk | | | | 1/21 | Brookfield | 2 | D. Lusignan |
| 1/3 | Marlborough | 1 ad | T. Spahr | Merlin | | | |
| Bald Eagle | | | | 2/4 | Eastham (FE) | 2 | N. Villone |
| 1/2 | Nantucket | 2 | T. Pastuszek | Peregrine Falcon | | | |
| 1/10 | Lunenburg | 5 | T. Pirro | 2/15 | Bourne | 2 | E. Hoopes |
| 1/13 | Rowley | 3 | R. Heil | 2/28 | Fairhaven | 2 | C. + M. Molander |
| 1/31 | Mystic Lakes | 2 | N. Hayward | Monk Parakeet | | | |
| 2/24 | Quabbin Res. | 5 | M. Lynch# | 1/29 | Medford | 1 | M. Rines# |
| 2/28 | Dennis | 4 | R. Crosby | Ash-throated Flycatcher | | | |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | | | | 1/10-1/25 | Sagamore | 1 ph | R. Timberlake + v.o. |
| 1/13 | Rowley | 1 | R. Heil | Western Kingbird | | | |
| 1/22 | Blackstone | 1 | M. Lynch# | 1/11 | Eastham | 1 ph | R. Budnick# |
| 1/24 | Boston (FPk) | 1 | M. Kanarek | Northern Shrike | | | |
| 2/13 | PI | 1 | M. Goetschkes# | thr | Indiv. reported from 24 locations | | |
| Red-tailed Hawk | | | | 2/26 | P'town | 2 1ad+1imm | J. Taylor |
| 1/22 | Blackstone | 9 | M. Lynch# | Fish Crow | | | |
| 1/31 | Wachusett Res. | 6 | M. Lynch# | 1/2 | Falmouth | 850 | G. Hirth |
| Rough-legged Hawk | | | | 2/1-2/28 | Lawrence | 250 max | C. Gibson + v.o. |
| 1/30 | Egremont | 1 lt | Z. Adams | 2/28 | Plympton | 156 | T. Lloyd-Evans |
| 2/1-2/28 | PI | 3 max | S. Babbitt + v.o. | Common Raven | | | |
| 2/20 | DWWS | 2 1dk+1lt | G. d'Entremont# | 1/21 | Hardwick | 7 | M. Lynch# |
| 2/22 | Aquinnah | 1 ad dk | B. Shriber | 1/22 | Falmouth | 7 | P. Crosson |
| 2/25-2/27 | Nantucket | 1 imm dk | J. Sherwonit | 2/4 | Athol | 13 | B. Mallet |
| 2/28 | Rowley | 2 lt | R. Heil | 2/20 | Quaboag IBA | 16 | M. Lynch# |
| Barn Owl | | | | Horned Lark | | | |
| 1/2 | Chappaquiddick | 2 | A. Lamoreaux# | 1/1 | Edgartown | 125 | A. Lamoreaux |
| 2/13 | Nantucket | 2 | S. Fea# | 1/3-1/31 | PI | 61 max | M. Altieri + v.o. |
| Eastern Screech-Owl | | | | 1/12 | Fitchburg | 75 | T. Murray |
| 1/1 | Barnstable | 6 | P. Crosson | 1/21 | Easthampton | 120 | J. Harrison |
| Great Horned Owl | | | | 1/24 | Williamstown | 125 max | J. Pierce + v.o. |
| 1/25 | Wellfleet | 5 | M. Harris | 1/25-2/1 | Egremont | 100 max | G. Ward + v.o. |
| 2/28 | BFWMA | 4 | N. Tepper | Tree Swallow | | | |
| Snowy Owl | | | | 1/3 | Wellfleet | 2 | P. Henson |
| thr | Salisbury | 1 | N. Tepper + v.o. | Cliff Swallow | | | |
| 1/1-1/19 | PI | 4 max | v.o. | 2/26 | Nantucket | 1 | S. Kardell# |
| 1/13 | Rowley | 2 | R. Heil | Boreal Chickadee | | | |
| 1/17 | Quincy | 2 | Anonymous | 1/1-2/27 | Williamstown | 1 ph | L. vanHandel + v.o. |
| 1/30 | Orleans | 2 | S. Finnegan# | Red-breasted Nuthatch | | | |
| 2/11 | Nahant | 1 | N. Cantelmo | thr | Montague | 40 max | S. McGullam# + v.o. |
| Barred Owl | | | | 1/2 | Quabbin (G40) | 31 | M. Lynch# |
| 2/13 | Boston (FPk) | 2 | G. Exley-Smith + v.o. | Brown Creeper | | | |
| 2/27 | Wompatuck SP | 2 | G. d'Entremont | 1/3 | DWMA | 7 | J. Bourget# |
| 2/28 | Sandwich | 2 | P. Johnson-Staub | Winter Wren | | | |
| Long-eared Owl | | | | 1/1 | Medford | 3 | M. Rines# |
| 1/22-2/5 | Whately | 1 | J. Smith + v.o. | 1/2 | Quabbin (G40) | 2 | M. Lynch# |
| 1/24-2/28 | Salisbury | 2 max | C. Morgan + v.o. | 1/2-2/7 | Medfield | 2 | J. Bock |
| Short-eared Owl | | | | 1/15-1/20 | Millers Falls | 2 max | J. Smith |
| thr | Hadley (Honeypt) | 4 max | L. Therrien + v.o. | Marsh Wren | | | |
| thr | PI | 2 max | S. Babbitt + v.o. | 1/3-1/14 | GMNWR | 3 max | M. McCarthy# + v.o. |
| 1/1-2/3 | Nantucket | 1 | C. Winstanley | 1/27 | Eastham (FH) | 1 | T. Spahr |
| 1/1-2/9 | E. Boston (BI) | 1 | T. Carlile + v.o. | 1/31-2/25 | W. Roxbury (MP) | 1 | M. Iliff + v.o. |

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Marsh Wren (continued) | | | | 1/15 | Wellfleet | 210 | L. Waters# |
| 2/4 | Truro | 1 | R. Sormani | 1/15 | Lenox | 100 | T. Collins |
| Carolina Wren | | | | 1/20-2/20 | WWMA | 110 max | T. Spahr + v.o. |
| 1/22 | Blackstone | 12 | M. Lynch# | 1/24 | Hadley | 75 | G. d'Entremont# |
| 2/21 | Falmouth | 23 | G. d'Entremont# | 1/26-2/1 | Egremont | 150 max | Z. Adams + v.o. |
| 2/28 | Fairhaven | 23 | G. d'Entremont# | 2/1-2/28 | Salisbury | 60 max | v.o. |
| Golden-crowned Kinglet | | | | 2/5 | Sunderland | 80 | A. Richards |
| 1/3-2/28 | Longmeadow | 3 max | C. Hyytinen + v.o. | 2/7 | Wachusett Res. | 120 | M. Lynch# |
| 2/26-2/27 | Windsor | 6 max | N. Henkenius + v.o. | Common Redpoll (Greater) | | | |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet | | | | 1/9 | Hadley (Honey)pot | 1 ph | S. Williams# |
| 1/8-1/9 | Medford | 2 max | J. Layman + v.o. | 1/22 | Salisbury | 1 ph | D. Adrien |
| 1/11-1/22 | Marblehead | 2 max | R. Heil + v.o. | Hoary Redpoll | | | |
| Eastern Bluebird | | | | 1/1-2/15 | Wellfleet | 1 ph | K. Burke + v.o. |
| 2/1-2/28 | DFWS | 14 max | P. Sowizral + v.o. | 1/6, 1/15 | PI | 1 ph | R. Heil, N. Tepper |
| 2/12 | Athol | 28 | N. Gerry | 1/8 | Sandwich | 1 ph | P. Trimble, S. Williams |
| 2/26 | Quaboag IBA | 18 | M. Lynch# | 1/12 | Barnstable (SN) | 1 ph | J. Trimble# |
| Townsend's Solitaire | | | | 1/20-2/21 | WWMA | 2 max | ph T. Spahr# + v.o. |
| 1/7 | Orleans | 1 ph | M. O'Connor | 1/21 | Mystic Lakes | 1 ph | J. Layman |
| Hermit Thrush | | | | 1/22-2/15 | Quincy | 1 ph | E. Ross + v.o. |
| thr | PI | 4 max | T. Wetmore + v.o. | 1/31 | Salisbury | 2 ph | E. Zawatski |
| 1/12 | WWMA | 2 | T. Spahr | 1/31 | Buckland | 1 ph | J. Smith |
| 1/31 | Wellfleet | 6 | T. Spahr | 2/10 | Gt. Barrington | 1 ph | J. Pierce |
| 1/31 | S. Dartmouth | 2 | G. d'Entremont# | 2/28 | Leominster | 1 ph | B. Robo |
| 2/18 | Worcester | 2 | M. Lynch# | Red Crossbill | | | |
| Varied Thrush | | | | thr | Montague | 65 max | S. McGullam# + v.o. |
| thr | Sudbury | 1 ph | C. Goddard + v.o. | 1/1 | Aquinnah | 70 | B. Shriber |
| Gray Catbird | | | | 1/1 | Chatham 40 1 Type3 | | J. Trimble# |
| thr | PI | 2 max | v.o. | 1/1-1/25 | PI | 80 max | S. Babbitt + v.o. |
| 1/1 | Worc. | 2 | C. Liazos | 1/3, 1/11 | Ipswich (CB) | 8,33 | N. Dubrow |
| Brown Thrasher | | | | 1/7 | Sagamore | 47 | P. LoCicero |
| 1/1-2/26 | MNWS | 1 | J. Smith + v.o. | 1/8-1/13 | Marlborough 22 max | Type10 au | T. Spahr |
| 2/14 | Leicester | 1 | G. Williamson | 1/9-1/12 | Concord (NAC) 25 max | Type 10 | D. Swain# + v.o. |
| 2/22 | E. Bridgewater | 1 | J. Carlisle | 1/10-1/16 | Tidmarsh WS | 18 | K. Duggan |
| Sage Thrasher | | | | 2/1-2/28 | Salisbury | 55 max | v.o. |
| thr | Hatfield | 1 ph | T. Gessing + v.o. | 2/11 | Worc. | 40 | S. Williams |
| Bohemian Waxwing | | | | 2/28 | Quincy | 8 | M. Perrin |
| 1/8 | P'town | 1 ph | P. Trimble, S. Williams | White-winged Crossbill | | | |
| Cedar Waxwing | | | | 1/1-1/31 | Salisbury | 15 max | v.o. |
| 1/11 | Athol | 125 | E. LeBlanc | 1/3-1/12 | Concord (NAC) | 11 max | P. Fitzgerald# + v.o. |
| 1/24 | Waltham (Cambr. Res.) | 15 | J. Forbes | 1/7 | Rockport | 10 | D. Peterson |
| American Pipit | | | | 1/7-1/8 | Jamaica Plain | 7 | L. Eyster + v.o. |
| 1/4 | W. Tisbury | 25 | B. Shriber | 1/8-2/26 | Windsor | 7 max | N. Henkenius |
| 1/10 | Saugus | 4 | G. Wilson + v.o. | 1/10 | Milton | 11 | R. Schain |
| 1/29 | Boston (FPK) | 3 | S. Jones + v.o. | 2/14-2/28 | MtA | 9 max | J. Layman + v.o. |
| 2/28 | Fairhaven | 50 min | G. d'Entremont# | 2/27 | Mt Watatic | 4 | T. Pirro |
| Evening Grosbeak | | | | 2/28 | Topsfield | 10 | J. Owens |
| 1/3 | S. Hamilton | 4 | M. Chuffnell | Pine Siskin | | | |
| 1/6 | Ipswich | 14 | N. Hayward | 1/5 | Gardner | 32 | T. Pirro |
| 1/12 | Wellfleet | 37 | M. Harris | 1/7 | Deerfield | 20 | D. Sibley |
| 1/18 | Royalston | 120 | J. Johnson# | 1/9 | Ware | 40 | E. Abrams |
| 1/19-2/27 | Hingham | 15 | S. Avery + v.o. | 1/14-2/21 | Jamaica Plain | 7 | S. Jones + v.o. |
| 2/20 | New Braintree | 8 | M. Lynch# | 1/29 | Dalton | 16 | G. Hurley |
| Pine Grosbeak | | | | 2/14-2/19 | Sudbury | 7 max | T. Stewart |
| 1/1-2/26 | Williamstown | 30 max | S. Keogh + v.o. | Lapland Longspur | | | |
| 1/1 | Rutland | 9 | M. Lynch# | 1/1-2/21 | Hadley (Honey)pot | 3 max | L. Therrien + v.o. |
| 1/2 | Granville | 3 | D. Holmes | 1/10, 1/17 | Saugus | 2,1 | G. Wilson + v.o. |
| 1/3 | Pepperell | 2 | L. Ackerman | 1/12-1/13 | Lanesboro | 2 max | L. Merry + v.o. |
| 1/4-2/15 | N. Adams | 25 max | V. Coleman + v.o. | 2/1 | Newbury | 2 | M. Watson |
| 1/7-1/8 | October Mountain | 10 max | M. + E. Watson | 2/3 | PI | 2 | S. Babbitt |
| 1/15 | Oakham | 29 au | T. Spahr | 2/10 | S. Boston | 5 | A. Martin + v.o. |
| 1/15-1/24 | Boxborough | 25 max | L. Markiewicz + v.o. | 2/12-2/15 | Lynn/Nahant | 6 max | K. Hewitt + v.o. |
| 1/20 | Bolton | 11 | M. Lynch# | Snow Bunting | | | |
| Purple Finch | | | | 1/12-1/13 | Lanesboro | 135 max | L. Merry + v.o. |
| 1/2 | W. Barnstable | 34 | P. Crosson | 1/25-2/1 | Egremont | 200 max | G. Ward + v.o. |
| 2/7 | Athol | 20 | G. Watkevich | 1/27 | Fitchburg | 60 | S. Miller# |
| 2/22-2/28 | Sherborn | 6 max | K. Winkler | 2/1-2/28 | Salisbury | 90 max | v.o. |
| Common Redpoll | | | | 2/4 | Sunderland | 37 | A. Richards |
| 1/1 | Burrage Pd WMA | 75 | P. McGovern | 2/6 | Quaboag IBA | 20 | M. Lynch# |
| 1/1-1/31 | PI | 160 max | R. Heil + v.o. | 2/20 | Sandwich | 103 | L. Waters# |
| 1/5-1/6 | Jamaica Plain | 48 | C. Hartshorn + v.o. | 2/28 | DFWS | 17 | P. Sowizral |
| 1/8 | Sandwich | 116 | S. Williams# | Field Sparrow | | | |
| 1/9-2/3 | Hadley (Honey)pot | 140 max | M. Chalfin-Jacobs# | 1/1-2/26 | Hatfield | 4 max | J. Johnson# + v.o. |
| 1/12 | Barnstable (SN) | 89 | J. Trimble# | 1/3 | Concord | 1 | W. Klockner# |

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|------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|--|---|----------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Field Sparrow (continued) | | | | 2/12 | Orleans | 2 | Anonymous |
| 1/22 Falmouth | 35 | P. Crosson | | 2/14 | Dennis | 4 | J. Stevens |
| Fox Sparrow | | | | Rusty Blackbird | | | |
| 1/1-2/22 Woburn (HP) | 3 max | v.o. | | thr | Longmeadow | 41 max | M. Moore# + v.o. |
| 1/3-1/5 Stow | 2 max | M. Liguon | | 1/1 | Barnstable | 7 | P. Crosson |
| 2/6 Jamaica Plain | 2 | M. Iliff | | 1/7 | Medway | 5 | M. Pagliarini |
| American Tree Sparrow | | | | 1/9-2/27 | Wayland | 20 max | J. Hoye# |
| 1/21 Hardwick | 17 | M. Lynch# | | 1/26 | S. Carver | 5 3m+2f | T. Lloyd-Evans |
| 1/24 Hadley | 20 | G. d'Entremont# | | 2/7 | Sandwich | 5 | S. Finnegan |
| 2/11 WWMA | 150 | C. Floyd | | 2/18 | Hatfield | 13 | A. Hulsey |
| White-crowned Sparrow | | | | Ovenbird | | | |
| 1/1-2/25 Hadley | 3 max | B. Finney + v.o. | | 2/5-thr | Woods Hole | 1 | M. Tucker |
| 1/2-2/24 Sunderland | 8 max | Sa. Auer, K. Barnes + v.o. | | Northern Waterthrush | | | |
| Vesper Sparrow | | | | 1/1 | Barnstable | 1 | P. Crosson |
| 1/6-2/5 Sheffield | 2 max | G. Ward + v.o. | | Tennessee Warbler | | | |
| Nelson's Sparrow | | | | 11/20-2/11 Athol | | 1 | J. Johnstone + v.o. |
| 1/10 Gloucester | 3 | J. Trimble | | Orange-crowned Warbler | | | |
| Saltmarsh Sparrow | | | | 1/3 | Wellfleet | 1 | M. Iliff |
| 1/10 Gloucester | 1 | J. Trimble | | 1/6-1/26 | Harwich | 1 | v.o. |
| Savannah Sparrow | | | | 1/17-thr | Chatham | 1 | P. Gaines |
| 1/3 Concord | 7 | S. Perkins# | | 1/21 | Barnstable | 1 | N. Villone |
| 1/28 Hadley | 27 | A. Richards | | Common Yellowthroat | | | |
| Savannah Sparrow (Ipswich Sparrow) | | | | 1/1 | Mashpee | 1 | J. McCumber |
| 1/18 PI | 2 | S. Zhang | | 1/1-2/3 | Deerfield | 1 | T. Greist, Sa. Auer + v.o. |
| 2/5 Hadley (Honeyptot) | 1 | D. Allard | | 2/13-2/21 | Sandwich | 1 | L. Briggs + v.o. |
| 2/6-2/22 Salisbury | 2 max | v.o. | | Pine Warbler | | | |
| 2/9-2/10 Revere B. | 2 | J. Layman + v.o. | | 1/1-1/5 | S. Hamilton | 2 max | M. Chuffnell |
| 2/16 Saugus | 1 | B. Burke | | 2/20 | Centerville | 14 | P. Trimble |
| Lincoln's Sparrow | | | | Yellow-rumped Warbler | | | |
| 1/3-2/5 Hadley | 1 | M. McKittrick + v.o. | | 1/1-1/31 | PI | 2 max | v.o. |
| 1/12 Hingham | 1 | P. Edmundson | | 1/1-2/15 | Lexington (DM) | 3 max | v.o. |
| Swamp Sparrow | | | | 1/15 | Waltham | 2 | J. Forbes |
| 1/1-2/2 Amherst | 2 max | T. Bombadil + v.o. | | 2/11 | Ipswich | 3 | M. Watson |
| 1/2 Woburn (HP) | 4 | M. Rines | | Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's) | | | |
| 1/4 WWMA | 6 | T. Spahr | | 1/8 | Nantucket | 1 ph | T. Pastuszek# |
| 1/9 Harwich | 3 | G. d'Entremont# | | Yellow-throated Warbler (<i>dominica/stoddardi</i>) | | | |
| Eastern Towhee | | | | 1/1-2/15 | Lancaster | 1 ph | J. Paster |
| 1/1-1/3 Lincoln | 1 | N. Levey | | 1/22-2/16 | Hingham | 1 ph | P. Edmundson + v.o. |
| 1/3-1/16 Sharon | 1 | W. Sweet + v.o. | | Yellow-throated Warbler (<i>albilora</i>) | | | |
| 2/1 Wellfleet | 3 | J. Doyle | | 2/26-2/28 | Belmont | 1 ph | P. Cassidy |
| Yellow-breasted Chat | | | | Townsend's Warbler | | | |
| 1/7-1/10 MNWS | 1 | D. Noble + v.o. | | 1/11-1/25 | Sagamore | 1 ph | A. Sanford + v.o. |
| 1/8-1/13 Nantucket | 1 | S. Kardell# | | Western Tanager | | | |
| 1/8-1/30 Harwich | 1 | J. Pratt# + v.o. | | 1/1-1/17 | Brewster | 1 ph | D. Desplaines + v.o. |
| 1/9-1/13 Nahant | 1 | L. Pivacek# + v.o. | | 1/8 | Harwich Port | 1 ph | J. Hutchins |
| 1/12-1/25 Sandwich | 1 | M. West | | 1/26 | Chatham | 1 imm m | M. Rzasas |
| 1/13-1/28 Eastham (FH) | 1 | K. Dec# + v.o. | | 2/21-2/22 | Harwich | 1 ph | M. Ford |
| 1/21 Orleans | 1 | N. Tepper | | Indigo Bunting | | | |
| 2/18 Medford | 1 | J. Layman | | 1/3 | Wellfleet | 1 | M. Iliff |
| Eastern Meadowlark | | | | Painted Bunting | | | |
| 1/3-2/28 Cumb. Farms | 23 | D. Furbish | | 1/1 | Chatham | 1 ph | F. Atwood |
| 1/12-1/26 DWWS | 8 | J. Frost# + v.o. | | 1/31 | Westport | 1 m | A. Baptiste |
| 1/22 Falmouth | 9 | P. Crosson | | 2/5-thr | Eastham | 1 m ph | R. Price |
| Bullock's Oriole | | | | 2/28 | Orleans | 1 f ph | J. Taylor |
| 1/14-2/13 Cohasset | 1 ad m | E. Freeda + v.o. | | Dickcissel | | | |
| 2/23-2/27 Wareham | 1 | K. Burke + v.o. | | 2/7-thr | W. Dennis | 1 | B. Eastman |
| Baltimore Oriole | | | | 2/11 | Rockport (HPt) | 1 | J. Mott |
| thr | | | | | | | |
| Indiv. reported from 9 locations | | | | | | | |



ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIRD SIGHTINGS

Taxonomic order is based on AOS checklist, Seventh edition, 61st Supplement, as published in *Auk* 137: ukaa030 (2020) (see <<http://checklist.americanornithology.org/>>).

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

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO BIRD OBSERVER

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

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

BYGONE BIRDS

Historical Highlights for January–February

Neil Hayward

5 YEARS AGO



January–February 2016

A **Pink-footed Goose** that was wintering in Connecticut made occasional visits to Agawam this period. A **Western Grebe** was discovered on Winthrop Beach on February 7. An injured **Purple Gallinule**, discovered at Hathaway Pond in Barnstable on January 11, was treated for anemia by a wildlife rehabilitator. A Barn Owl was found dead in Danvers. A **Hammond's Flycatcher** discovered in Fairhaven on New Year's Day was the third record for the state. Another third for the state was a **Smith's Longspur** found on January 17 at Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary in Saugus. **Ash-throated Flycatchers** continued in Cambridge and Manomet, and a **Mountain Bluebird** was present throughout the period at the Crane Wildlife Management Area in Falmouth.

Best sighting: a first-winter **Yellow-billed Loon** discovered at Race Point in Provincetown on February 27. This was the first state record.

10 YEARS AGO



January–February 2011

A **Ross's Goose** continued on Nantucket through February 17. A **Mew Gull** of the Asian *kamtschatschensis* or *heinei* subspecies was found at Lynn Beach at the end of February. The three Monk Parakeets continuing on Bremen Street, East Boston, were being fed suet and parrot food by local residents. This was a poor winter for Snowy Owls with no sightings during this period. A **Varied Thrush** was visiting a feeder in Centerville in February.

Best sighting: two **Harris's Sparrows**, one on Duxbury Beach, from January 9–February 27, another in Falmouth, February 1–26.