

# BIRD OBSERVER

## OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS



FEBRUARY 1985

Vol. 13 No. 1



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## BIRDING THE MUDDY RIVER

by Kenneth Hudson, Boston

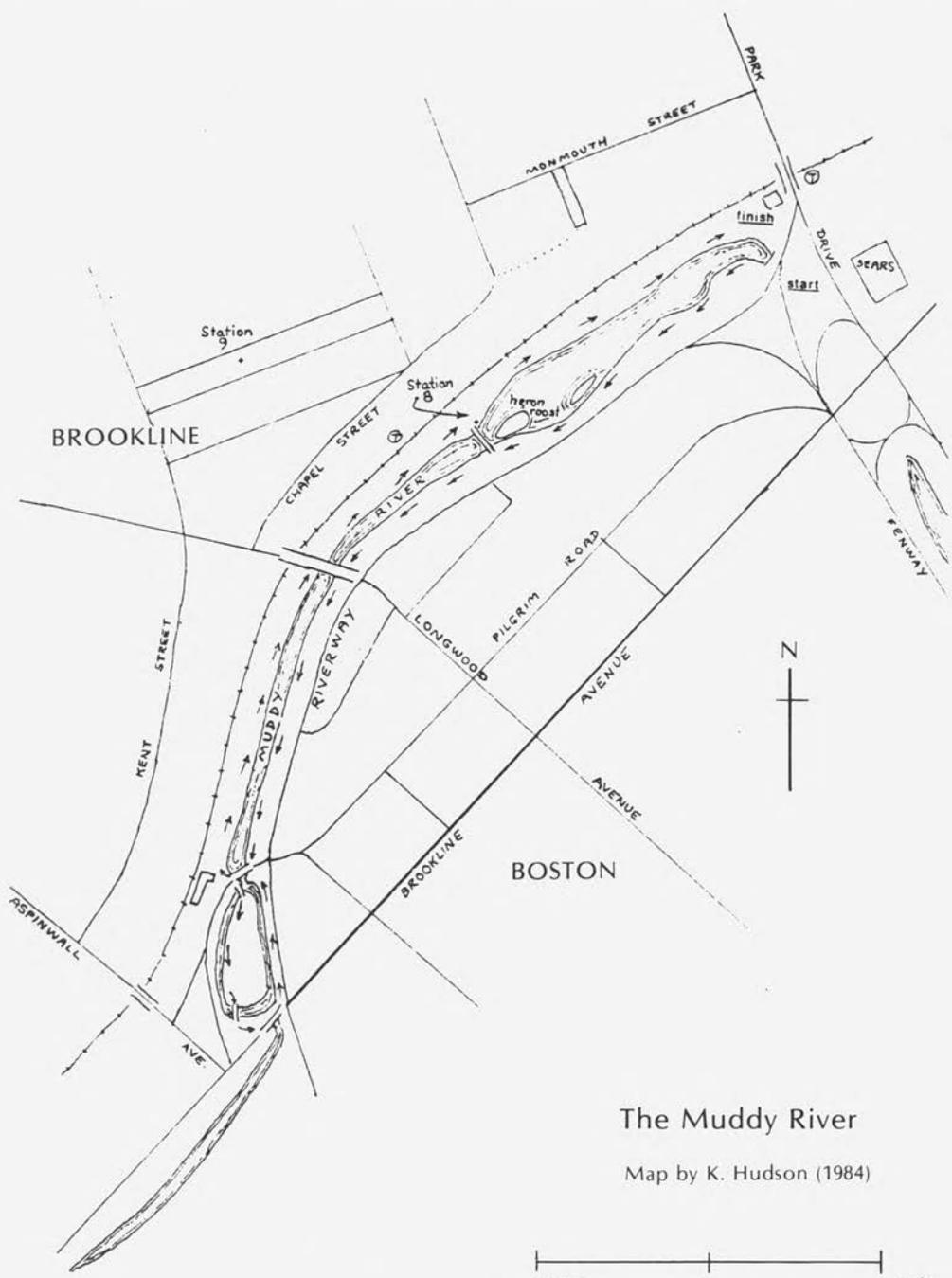
The section of the Muddy River that I will report on here forms part of the boundary between Boston and Brookline, just east and south of the MBTA Riverside trolley tracks. It is bounded on the north by Park Drive, on the southeast by the Riverway, on the south by Brookline Avenue, and on the west by the trolley line. A fairly spry individual can easily do a thorough and leisurely job of birding the area during the course of a comfortable forty-five minute stroll - including the time required to double back along the opposite bank to return to the starting point. An early start is strongly recommended in order to avoid rush-hour noise disturbance from automobile traffic and from the commuter trolleys.

Note the pair of Bur Oaks at the very start of this walk, just across the street from the Sears building. Sometimes the ground beneath these trees is liberally strewn with huge fringe-cupped acorns. In December of 1983, an immature Red-headed Woodpecker lingered here for a week or more, gleaning acorns from the ground as a Blue Jay would. From the middle of May into the late summer you should find kingbirds in the upper branches. In proper flycatcher fashion, these belligerent birds dash out over the stream to snap up flying insects, then promptly return to their original perch. The loud, sputtering, angry-sounding calls can be heard clearly even when the birds are hidden by the foliage.

Along the streambanks grow dense ranks of lofty reeds - phragmites, to be precise - that provide shelter for a number of birds and other organisms. Redwings and night-herons are to be expected in considerable numbers during the milder months. Although the blackbirds tend to depart before the end of summer, one or two herons may linger quite a bit later, sometimes until the water freezes over in December. A complete list of all species of birds observed in these reeds would, I suspect, surprise many birders. Flocks of chickadees, song sparrows, Blue Jays, goldfinches, and even Downy Woodpeckers industriously search for food among the swaying stalks. Once I literally ducked to avoid being struck in the head by a nighthawk that had swooped low in hot pursuit of some six-legged morsel. On another occasion, a Red-tailed Hawk flew past almost at arm's length, grasping the bloody carcass of a plump rodent.

Farther south along the path, which is fine for walking or cycling, you will come to a long narrow sandbar or island that has been thickly overgrown with a variety of trees and shrubs. This is a fine place to look for birds: Green-backed Herons occur every summer, and night-herons fish and roost here; a kingfisher, sometimes a pair of them, can appear at any season if the water is free of ice; and during May and again in autumn, a myriad of warblers throng the bushes. One tree on this little islet looks to me like a Kentucky Coffee-tree. Note the Sweetgum trees while you are here. One grows by the path opposite either tip of the island, the characteristic reddish-brown seed clusters hanging from the twigs in the fall or littering the path in winter.

The next island is greatly favored by night-herons as a roosting place. As many as a dozen birds at a time might use it, but unless the light



## The Muddy River

Map by K. Hudson (1984)



is very good or the herons are moving about, it is amazing how hard it can be to see them all. That a creature of this large size and so boldly patterned can so easily escape detection while perched on the limb of a small tree in broad daylight never fails to surprise and amuse me.

At the small stone footbridge just south of the heron roost, pause for a few minutes to look and listen. This is an excellent spot for spring birding that is rarely visited for that purpose. I am not speaking of rarities, but of a fine assortment of common landbirds that can be easily and comfortably observed by an average birdwatcher or alert novice. Both waterthrushes have been heard here as well as a decent number of warbler and sparrow species, Warbling and Red-eyed vireos, tanagers and grosbeaks, wood-pewee, Chimney Swift, and kestrel - the characteristic suburban garden species. The second half of May is best, naturally, other seasons tending to be less spectacularly productive, but with a little luck, perseverance, and alertness, you can do very well birding here, whatever the month. In spring I often use a portable tape recorder to preserve the songs and calls until I get home to sort them out at my leisure. The music coming at you from every direction, the experience can be likened to trying to follow several separate and distinct conversations at one time - each parley being conducted in a different language!

From this spot southward, to and beyond the Longwood Avenue bridge, the action quickly becomes less intense. In winter, you might find only a few chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, cardinals, and woodpeckers - plus the puddle ducks, of course. American Black Ducks far outnumber Mallards from midautumn through early spring, whereas in summer the reverse is true. The current here usually keeps this stretch of the Muddy River mostly free of ice except during severe cold spells. Even then, however, a few ducks usually can be seen in small, widely scattered openings in the ice. The continuous presence of open water is, I suspect, a prime factor in the attractiveness of the Muddy River to birds and living things in general. Wood Ducks are occasional visitors to the area in the cooler months, associating with the blacks and Mallards, and subsisting apparently on the abundant crop of acorns. One year a pair of Wood Ducks spent the winter at the northern part of this walk. Now and then a scaup will drop in during migration, and coot, Hooded Merganser, and Pied-billed Grebe have been noted. One summer a cormorant loitered on the water for a couple of weeks. No doubt it had acquired a taste for plump goldfish! Each winter a single black-backed gull stands on the ice near the heron roost from time to time, apparently a confirmed solitary.

The low bushes along the path on the southern part of the walk should be checked in April and May for thrushes. All five species of spotted thrush have been seen here during migration. On some spring mornings, the undergrowth seems to be full of thrush song. One autumn, this section of the walk was frequented for a few weeks by a Black-backed Woodpecker. In summer, Northern Orioles hang their sock-like nests from the drooping tips of oak trees overhanging the stream; these nests remain intact almost until the following spring. If you are quiet and the noise level is minimal, you can distinguish the song of a wood-pewee high overhead, but I challenge you to find the singer, with or without



*Black-crowned Night-Heron*

*Illustration by W. E. Davis*

binoculars. Just before you come to the island at the southernmost end of the walk, notice a large clump of Japanese knotweed and a pair of tall Tulip-trees that grow here. This is an excellent spot for autumn birding. Sit on a bench and let the birds come into view. Waxwings, while not common, do occur here every year. Warblers and vireos, kinglets and creepers, nuthatches and sparrows and much more can be expected in September and October. Try to be here in early when the Tulip-trees flower - the blooms are impressive.

Near the stone footbridge leading to the island, there is a Witch-hazel bush at the roadside that might be in flower any time from October to January! Notice also a handsome Sugar Maple here. The footbridge is a good vantage point from which to observe White-throated Sparrows in the weeds and bushes at the water's edge (April and October) and to listen to the songs of Red-eyed and Warbling vireos (both nest here), orioles, house finches, song sparrows, redwings, Yellow warblers, and - bullfrogs! These bulky amphibians occur all along the stream and can be heard both here and at the northern end of the walk. Green frogs also are commonly encountered, but their song is less impressive - the sound of a single plucked banjo string. A family of raccoons is rumored to inhabit this locale, but I've failed to find more than a few tracks in the mud. I did see a coon one year on the path under the Longwood Avenue bridge and another in a tree behind the Longwood MBTA stop. Both Northern Rough-winged and Bank swallows have loitered here at the island in late spring, often perching on overhead telephone wires that parallel the path. Sometimes in late fall a Red-tailed Hawk appears here, either perched in a tree or soaring overhead. A mob of furiously cawing crows or hyper-active Blue Jays will tip you off to the presence of this magnificent bird of prey.

In this brief sketch of the Muddy River I have touched upon only the obvious highlights. A wide-awake beginner or a veteran birder with his senses finely honed can be sure of finding much more. Many species of birds occur regularly, and once in a while, a comparative rarity crops up to add spice to the mixture. A botanical education awaits anyone willing to devote time and energy to the study of the trees, shrubs, and weeds growing in the area. Mammals are more frequently seen than would be surmised from my cursory overview, and the array of summer insects will delight the amateur entomologist. I hope this essay will stimulate some of you to explore the Muddy River. This area has been neglected by most local birders, and it deserves better from us. For a relatively small area within a heavily urbanized zone, it gives a very good account of itself. Take an hour sometime to stroll along this pretty little park.

KENNETH HUDSON describes himself as "a maverick naturalist-artist-writer." He began his birding career in 1962 and has been birding in Boston where he now lives since 1970. In 1978, Kenneth began teaching the art of urban birding to beginners and transplanted Bostonians. He is now writing a book based on his local fieldwork and innovative approach to local urban birding. He conducts Guided Field Trips and runs a subscription phone-in service, Nature Hotline, now in its fourth year of continuous service. A collection of maps, "Twenty-seven Bird Walks in Boston, Cambridge, and Brookline," can be obtained for \$7 from Guided Field Trips, 310 Franklin Street, Suite 322, Boston, MA 02110.

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## PACIFIC (AND ARCTIC) LOON IDENTIFICATION

### Difficulty, Unfamiliarity and a Little Bit of Confusion

by Duncan S. Evered, Manomet Bird Observatory

Before commenting on Terence A. Walsh's discussion of "The Field Identification of Arctic Loon," recently published in this journal [BOEM 12 (December 1984): 309-314], it is first necessary to introduce a new nomenclature for the Arctic Loon species complex that will appear in July 1985 in The Auk. Most readers will be familiar with the convention set forth in the 1983 A.O.U. checklist, where Arctic Loon, *Gavia arctica*, has three recognized subspecies: *arctica* and *viridigularis* of the Palearctic, and *pacifica* of the Nearctic. The results of recent extensive field studies confirm that, despite widespread sympatry in north-eastern Siberia and western Alaska, *pacifica* and *viridigularis* do not interbreed. Since reproductive isolation is the central criterion of the biological species concept espoused by all recent A.O.U. checklist committees (1983, p. xiii), a "split" was made. In August 1984 the A.O.U. Committee for Nomenclature and Classification elevated the North American race of Arctic Loon to the rank of full species once again - Pacific Loon, *G. pacifica*. At the time of writing, I understand that *G. arctica* will continue to be known as Arctic Loon (Dr. Burt Monroe, personal communication), instead of Black-throated Loon which would be more in line with the European literature. In summary, the erstwhile North American race of the Arctic Loon is now a new species, Pacific Loon (*G. pacifica*). In the new usage Arctic Loon refers to two Eurasian races of *G. arctica* - *arctica* breeding in Europe and western Siberia, and *viridigularis* breeding from eastern Siberia, where it interbreeds with *arctica*, and western Alaska. Furthermore, there is no documented record of *arctica* in North America, and *viridigularis* is not recorded on the Atlantic coast. But as Walsh noted, Arctic Loon in New England is a possibility. More on this issue later.

Walsh's attempt to clarify the field identification of winter (basic) plumaged Pacific Loons leaves room for some comment. While poor views and "odd" individuals do not exactly make the confident identification of Pacific Loon easy, I do think that much of the difficulty experienced stems from a poor acquaintance with the extent of variation shown by the "familiar" species and, most relevantly here, a certain amount of misleading emphasis and confusion in the literature. Here, I wish to offer a rather different emphasis on the plethora of field marks for Pacific Loon presented of late. Also I will discuss a recent "hypothetical" record of Arctic Loon in Massachusetts. Throughout, please refer to the drawing by Lyla R. Messick that accompanies this article; it represents an eloquent summary for all my words.

Given that some of the smaller Common Loons (*G. immer*) do closely approach the larger Pacific Loons in size, even if a direct comparison between a suspect Pacific Loon and Common Loon can be made, body size rightly cannot be regarded as a diagnostic field character. However, this should not obscure the fact, which is of value in the field, that typical Pacific Loons are considerably smaller than Commons and noticeably larger than Red-throated Loons, *G. stellata* (see table in Carlson, 1971). Walsh may have overemphasized the size overlap problem,

because his discussion was based on field experience in Europe with Arctic Loons, which are, generally, appreciably larger than Pacific Loons. Nevertheless, despite the value of body size, the overall structure of Pacific Loons is of greater significance, a point well-described, but not stressed strongly enough by Walsh: typically, Pacific Loons are obviously more thickset than Red-throateds, but never approach the "brutish" appearance of Common Loons.

Several authors have also overstressed the overlap of bill length between Common and Pacific loons (e.g., McIntyre and McIntyre, 1974). This is probably a reflection of the variation in body size discussed above. However, bill length per se should not be a distracting concern. To echo Griscom (1943), "the most important and most nearly absolute character of our three Loons is the bill (proportion)." The greater basal depth and more prominently angular gonys of the Common Loon will always serve to distinguish small Commons from Pacific Loons. I strongly disagree with Leverich (1979) who termed the bill structure a "miserable field mark." If close views are possible and one knows what to look for, bill structure is conclusive. For instance, Dawson's (1923) "portrait of a Pacific Loon" depicts in fact, as the bill structure readily testifies, an immature Common Loon. In addition, the slight-stepped forehead typical of Pacific Loon combined with the more fully rounded, almost maned, nape and hind neck should be stressed as equally distinctive characters. The study of accurate drawings (e.g., Harrison, 1983 - Walsh's are inaccurate with respect to bill and head proportions) and good photographs (e.g., Farrand, 1983) as well as looking closely at the "familiar" loons is necessary to fully appreciate these important points.

A common point worth mentioning concerns the "neck-craning" that Walsh refers to in his letter and which seems unmentioned in the literature. I have frequently observed this behavior performed by Pacific (and Arctic) Loons, but never by Common or Red-throated Loons. I would further add that neck-craning need not precede a dive, and not every dive is preceded by neck-craning, although it often is. I regard neck-craning as probably unique to Pacific (and Arctic) Loons. But whether it can be regarded as a primary field character in itself is unimportant since this behavior serves to accentuate the Pacific (and Arctic) Loon's distinctive bill and head and neck structure discussed above and shown in the accompanying drawing.

If close views of a Pacific Loon can be obtained, the back pattern proves more informative than many authors have led one to believe. This is because many discussions fail to differentiate clearly between immature and adult back patterns, which are quite different. The accompanying illustration depicts an immature bird on which pale gray margins to the mantle, scapular, and wing covert feathers produce an overall scaly appearance to the upperparts. This general pattern is also typical of Common Loons, but the overall appearance is that of barring rather than scaling in the latter species (mentioned only in Witherby, 1940). For distant individuals, however, Common and Pacific loon back patterning is effectively identical. Another point seldom discussed because of most authors' preoccupation with the identification of Arctic Loon from a distance (when Common Loon is the most likely cause of confusion), is as follows. When a suspected Pacific Loon is closely watched, its jizz is no longer so apparent, and confusion with low-capped, dark-lored, dark,

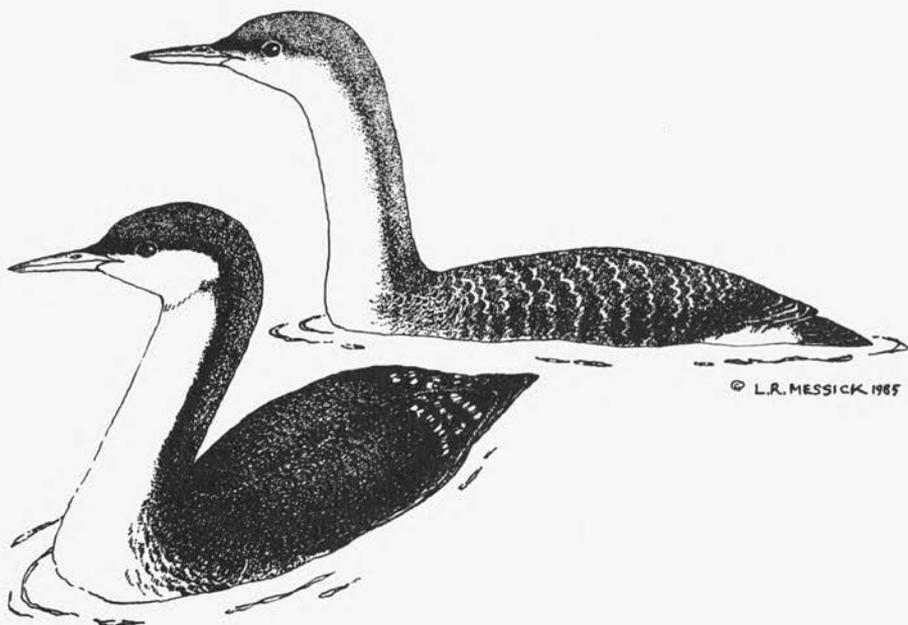
and rather dagger-billed immature Red-throated Loons becomes a very real possibility. In such circumstances, the prominent white-spotted back of Red-throated Loon in all plumages (most pronounced in adults) serves to prevent error. In all comparisons an important caveat is the effect of fading and abrasion on the prominence of scaling (or spotting); immatures in worn plumage (like the January bird described by Carlson) can appear a uniform brown. On the other hand, adult Pacific Loons (e.g., Farrand, 1983, and illustration) are mostly unmarked on the back, unlike any other loon, and therefore look uniformly dark. Close up, they often show a little brilliant white spotting on the scapulars and/or wing coverts (fragments of new or old summer dress).

As Walsh mentions, the whitish thigh patch has been used widely as a field mark for Arctic Loons (*G. a. arctica*) in Europe. Although I would not join Harrison (1983) in regarding it as the "best character" for this species (after all, it is a feather placement phenomenon), this field mark is at least useful for spotting distant loons for closer attention. The intriguing question raised by Walsh is whether a thigh patch occurs at all in Pacific Loon. Walsh first concluded tentatively, then more assuredly after personally seeing eight Pacific Loons, that the thigh patch might indeed be absent in Pacific Loon. My own sample of about thirty Pacific Loons seen around San Diego in December 1984 included two with evident thigh patches, agreeing well with Walsh's contention that the thigh patch is "a convenient method of separating the (sub) species in the field."

If the thigh patch is specific to Arctic Loon, prolonged and close views of a first-year loon, either Pacific or Arctic, discovered (but regrettably not successfully photographed) in excellent weather conditions from the parking lot at Plymouth Beach on October 29, 1984, is of great interest. Based on the field notes of the author and artist, this loon is illustrated in the accompanying drawing (the upper bird); as can be seen, it had a prominent flank patch. In addition, though admittedly this is more speculative, this bird was very noticeably larger than the surrounding Red-throats and had a relatively long, heavy bill and large-headed appearance, characters associated with Arctic Loon (established in the literature and in personal observation of study skins). My notes taken at the time remarked on the great similarity between this individual and Arctic Loons seen in Europe, in contrast to my reaction to Pacific Loons - "like Arctics but smaller and (facially) cuter."

[Ed. note: The author intends the word "cuter" to convey the quality of sweetness, often referred to by birders as distinguishing the Mew Gull from the Ring-billed.] To suggest the individual seen at Plymouth Beach was an Arctic Loon rather than a Pacific Loon based on such untested and rather subjective material is undeniably speculative, but I feel not extremely so.

If an Arctic Loon, to which race did the Plymouth Beach individual belong? I favor a western origin for the following reasons. Personal observations of Golden Eagle (same day) and gray-phase Gyrfalcon (five days earlier) in the Plymouth-Manomet region, suggest an influx of birds from the northwest had recently occurred. And more strongly suggestive, coinciding with the sighting of the Plymouth individual was the largest movement of Red-throated Loons in the fall according to Operation Seawatch (a daily two-hour morning seawatch from Manomet Point), which



Loon observed at Plymouth Beach, October 29, 1984, (upper bird) and an adult Pacific Loon (lower bird)

Illustration by Lyla R. Messick

The upper bird is an immature: note the scaling pattern on the (brown) back, the more extensive dark on the culmen and tip of bill, the dark (brown) eye, less contrasting border between white and gray-brown of the neck, and lack of a well-defined chin strap. It is suggested that this bird is an Arctic Loon of the subspecies *viridigularis* due to its larger size (compared to Pacific Loon), longer and heavier bill structure, proportionally larger head, and presence of a white thigh patch.

The lower bird is a Pacific Loon and an adult: note the paler (reddish) eye, darker (almost black) upperparts with no back scaling or prominent white tips to the scapulars, the well-defined neck contrast, and chin strap. Also note the following field marks: lack of white over and around the eye (typically found in Common Loon, rarely in Pacific), the preocular dark patch that is a shadowing effect - not dark feathering, and chin strap (diagnostic but difficult to see and may be absent).

recorded 318 on October 27 and 434 on October 28 (Yurkunas, 1985). Thus a major exodus of high arctic breeding loons occurred two days before, and since this bird was found in the company of nearly 30 loons, it was probably part of that movement. In conclusion, the Plymouth Beach Arctic Loon more likely originated from the west than the east and, hence, was of the subspecies *viridigularis*.

I gratefully acknowledge the facilities of the Manomet Bird Observatory. Special thanks to Peter W. Whan who spotted the loon at Plymouth, to P. William Smith for his insight and assistance, and to Dr. Raymond Paynter, Jr. for access to the Museum of Comparative Zoology collections. Above all, thanks to Lyla R. Messick for her meticulous artistic efforts and for making sure that I did the rest right.

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DUNCAN S. EVERED, a native of England, graduated with a major in zoology at St. Peter's College, Oxford University, in June of 1984. Interested in birds since boyhood and a birdbander for seven years, he has, during several intervals of residence in the United States since 1982, interned at Manomet Bird Observatory (MBO), prepared a checklist of the birds of Plymouth Beach, and investigated at Harvard University and MBO the subject of adaptation in *Dendroica* warblers. Duncan has also birded across this country and managed to contribute regularly to Massachusetts records while residing here. He will continue his research at Long Point Bird Observatory in Ontario this spring, and we hope to receive more contributions from him.

LYLA R. MESSICK is a free-lance biological illustrator with B.A. degrees in fine arts and biology from the University of Cincinnati. After interning at MBO in 1982, she returned in the fall of 1984 as an artist and researcher. Lyla has birded and sketched extensively in this country and in Europe. This spring she will head north for "a bigger and better Plymouth Beach" - to Long Point Bird Observatory in Ontario.

## "RARE" SANDERLINGS VISIT MASSACHUSETTS

by Blair Nikula, Chatham

July 24, 1984, began like many other summer days on north Monomoy Island. A hazy sun had burned through the dawn's chill, and a docile sou'westerly breeze was riffing the restless waters as Denver Holt and I began to work the flats on the north end. Hordes of migrant shorebirds had begun to mass over the invertebrate-laden expanses, refueling for flights that would carry most of them nonstop for thousands of miles farther south.

Our purpose was to conduct another in a series of censuses I have been doing on Monomoy for the past several years as part of the International Shorebird Survey. However, any trip to Monomoy abounds with anticipation, and an early summer rife with avian waifs and oddities had unleashed our imaginations and heightened our expectations, perhaps unrealistically, for even Monomoy has its slow periods when its vagrant potential is temporarily exhausted.

Among the first birds we encountered were several small groups of roosting Sanderlings, most still wearing their breeding hoods of arctic umber. The image of a Curlew Sandpiper in the same spot just two days before was playing through my mind when Denver called out, "Here's a color-banded Sanderling." Banded, indeed! Bedizened would be a better description! The right leg bore a redband, and the left sported a green band above which was a yellow flag. Although I had been expecting to see a couple such birds during the course of the season, I was pleasantly stunned when, with the next hour, two additional color-marked "beach-birds" paraded their finery before us.

Sanderlings (*Calidris alba*) are one of the most widespread birds in the world, occurring along the coasts of every continent except Antarctica. Their circumpolar breeding range extends into the northernmost reaches of the Arctic, while during the winter season they can be found throughout the southern hemisphere south to the tips of South America, Africa, and Australia, and as far north as British Columbia, New England, the British Isles, and Japan (Cramp et al., 1983) - a wintering range that spans nearly 120 degrees of latitude and, in extent, is unsurpassed in the avian world.

It appears that different populations of Sanderlings have evolved widely varying migration patterns and wintering strategies. Some conduct migrations that are among the longest in the world and subject the birds to tremendous hazards and physiological demands en route but take them to wintering areas in southerly latitudes where there seems to be an abundance of food and chances for survival are good. Others, however, "choose" to migrate relatively short, safe distances but must, in turn, face harsh northern winters where food seems limited, the energy demands are great, and their survival is a day-to-day struggle. How is it that different groups or populations within the same species have evolved such radically differing strategies, and what are the advantages and disadvantages to the individuals involved?

At the forefront of those trying to answer such questions is Dr. J. P. Myers of The Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia who, for the past several years, has been traversing the western hemisphere in an attempt to learn more about what Sanderlings are up to and why (Hawkins, 1983). Initially interested primarily in their territorial interactions on the feeding grounds, Dr. Myers and his colleagues have more recently begun to examine the broader issues of their migration patterns and wintering strategies.

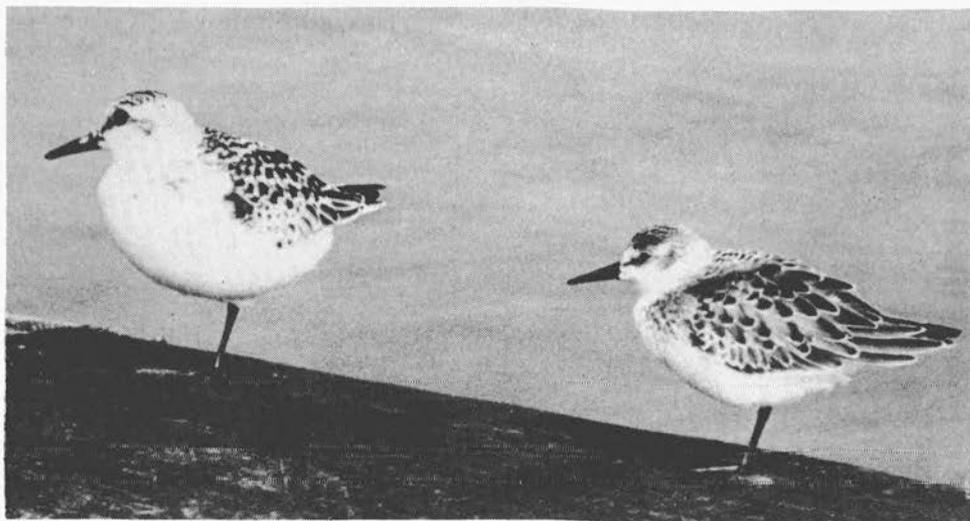
In 1982, Dr. Myers and several other scientists working on shorebirds in the Americas initiated the Pan American Shorebird Program (P.A.S.P.). This is a collaborative research project whose goals are to coordinate banding efforts among ornithologists studying shorebirds in the western hemisphere and, ultimately, to provide the information necessary for the conservation of shorebirds at their migratory stopovers and wintering grounds (Myers et al., in press). Environmental organizations on both continents are involved in the P.A.S.P.: the World Wildlife Fund - U.S., Manomet Bird Observatory, International Council for Bird Preservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Canadian Wildlife Service, to name just a few.

In order to learn more about the migration routes Sanderlings use, Dr. Myers and his colleagues initiated a color-marking project on the coasts of Peru and Chile, site of some of the largest known wintering concentrations of this species, with the hope that some of the marked birds would be sighted somewhere en route to or from their arctic breeding grounds. As a result of their efforts, over 2600 Sanderlings were trapped and marked during the 1982-83 and 1983-84 seasons (Myers et al., 1984).

The first sighting of one of these birds in North America occurred in May of 1983 in Delaware Bay and was followed by eight additional reports during the following fall: seven from the Atlantic coast and one inland in Michigan (Anon. 1984a). These initial reports were surprising, for here were birds from the Pacific coast of South America appearing on the Atlantic coast of North America!

During 1984, a larger number of marked birds in the pool as well as an increase in publicity and search efforts in key areas resulted in a dramatic rise in the number of sightings (Myers et al., 1984). In the spring several birds were seen along the Oregon/Washington coast, several in Texas, and one each in Delaware Bay, North Dakota, and Manitoba (Anon. 1984b). In contrast, during the fall there were over twenty individuals spotted on the Atlantic coast from Massachusetts south to North Carolina, only one in Texas, and none on the Pacific coast.

At this point, the geographical and seasonal distribution of sightings clearly indicates that the bulk of the Sanderlings wintering in Peru and Chile follow one of two large, clockwise migration routes. In the spring some of the birds follow the Pacific coast north to the breeding grounds, while others cross over Central America and take an overland route through central North America. In the fall, however, it appears that the great majority of the birds head southeast from the arctic to the Atlantic coast, thence southward, presumably across Central America, back to the Pacific wintering grounds. Although large numbers of Sanderlings occur on the Atlantic coast in spring, particularly in Delaware Bay



*Sanderling (left) and Semipalmated Sandpiper (right)*

*Photo by Robert Starkins  
Courtesy of MAS*

(Dunne et al., 1982), these birds do not for the most part originate from Peru or Chile but are from other wintering areas, most likely coastal Brazil (Myers et al., 1984).

As in many shorebirds, it seems that Sanderling migration consists of long, nonstop flights of thirty-five to fifty or more hours, interspersed with layovers of ten to twenty days at key refueling areas where food is abundant and the birds are able to greatly increase their fat reserves prior to the next flight. Important known staging areas for migrant Sanderlings are found along the Pacific coast from the Columbia River mouth in Oregon north to Grays Harbor in Washington, the central coast of Texas, southern New England, and the mid-Atlantic coast from Delaware Bay south to North Carolina. Obviously the protection of these areas is vital to the survival of the species (Myers, 1983).

Massachusetts' entry into the P.A.S.P. Sanderling sweepstakes occurred on September 3, 1983, when Wayne Petersen found a Peruvian-marked bird on Monomoy. Two weeks later, the writer spotted a probable Chilean Sanderling in the same area. In 1984, following the late July episode already described, there was a rash of sightings from Monomoy, extending into mid-September and involving no less than ten individuals. Additionally, one bird was seen on New Island, Orleans and two on Duxbury Beach in early August.

Two of the local sightings, both involving individually-marked birds, proved to be particularly exciting. One bird, initially banded in Peru, was seen on North Padre Island, Texas, in April of 1984 and then twice on Monomoy in late August and early September. The bird seen on New Island

bore a green flag, indicating a U.S. banding location, and was initially presumed to be one of 150 birds captured in Delaware Bay during the preceding spring but in fact proved to be a bird marked on the coast of Oregon in May, 1984 (J. P. Myers, personal communication). Thus, the first conclusive evidence of both circular migration routes was provided by Sanderlings seen in Massachusetts! Imagine seeing a bird here that was known to have been in Oregon a mere two months earlier and in the interim, presumably, had bred somewhere near or beyond the Arctic Circle! Such peregrinations by almost any other species would be considered vagrancy in the extreme yet, for Sanderlings, are likely an annual and very routine event.

Shorebirds captured under the P.A.S.P. are marked with one or, in some cases, two colored flags. The flags are simply color-bands with a one-quarter inch extension. The color of the flag indicates the country in which the bird was banded. For example, yellow is used in Peru, red in Chile, and dark green in the United States. In addition, many birds receive one or more color-bands which variously identify the year of banding, the banding location within a country or, in many cases, allow for the identification of individual birds (Myers et al., 1983).

Banding efforts are continuing in both North and South America and the pool of marked birds is growing, providing observers with a good chance of finding these individuals in future seasons. Anyone spotting a color-marked bird should first carefully determine the color and location of the flag. Although marked birds can usually be detected at considerable distances, the flag extension can be difficult to discern if it is pointing away from or toward the observer, and it is often necessary to shift the viewing angle to make an accurate determination. After locating the flag, the color and position (i.e., left or right leg, above or below the joint - see figure 1) of other bands, if present, should be noted. Reports of color-marked shorebirds, even if incomplete, should be sent to the Pan American Shorebird Program, The Academy of Natural Sciences, 19th and The Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103. They would also like to know if you see flocks of Sanderlings that have no banded birds. Negative data is equally valuable. The observer is advised of the banding date and location of the bird(s) reported.

Although Sanderlings have been the focus of most P.A.S.P. activity and constitute the bulk of birds captured to date, no less than twenty additional species of Nearctic shorebirds have been marked, and observers should watch for bands on any species seen in this area. Last summer on Monomoy, a Peruvian-marked Semipalmated Sandpiper was seen within a few feet of two Peruvian Sanderlings! Red Knots, marked by Brian Harrington and his colleagues at the Manomet Bird Observatory, can be found quite easily in locations where the species congregates in Massachusetts, such as Third Cliff in Scituate, Plymouth Beach, Monomoy and New Island. Most of these are birds that were rocket-netted in Scituate and carry dark green flags, but some were marked in Brazil (dark blue flags), and a few individuals have even been handled on both continents! Banded Red Knots should be reported directly to the Manomet Bird Observatory, Manomet, MA 02345.

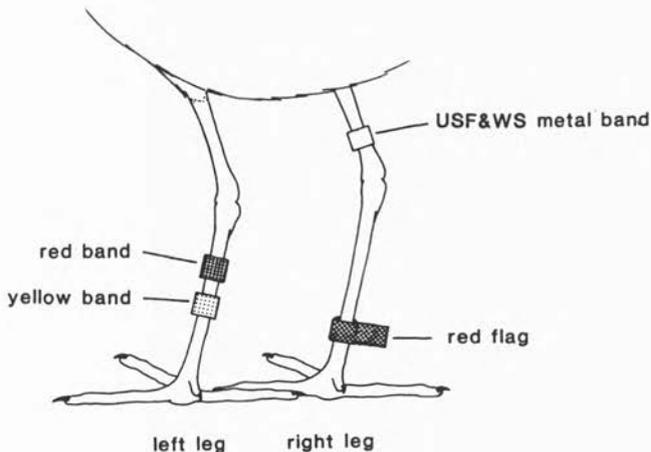


Figure 1. An example of a color-marked bird seen from the rear. Reprinted from Wader Study Group Bulletin, No. 38: 31

Also in Massachusetts, a number of Piping Plovers have been color-marked on Sandy Neck during the past two summers in connection with a long-term research project on that species' breeding ecology. Some of these birds, which have color-bands but no flags, are showing up at other localities and if seen, should be reported to Eric Strauss, Biology Department, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155.

The Pan American Shorebird Program is a first-rate example of how amateurs and professionals can work together to advance our ornithological knowledge. Indeed, the success of the program is closely tied to the contributions of nonprofessionals throughout the Americas, and we in southern New England are particularly well-situated to assist. While the "lure of the list" dominates the activities of many birders, eventually many of us reach the point where our avian interests transcend a mere listing of species, a point where we yearn to know something more about a bird than simply its name and numbers. These heightened interests - Birding with a Purpose as Frances Hamerstrom has so aptly put it in the title of her recent book - and the listing game are by no means mutually exclusive, however. Indeed, I now have a new list: color-marked Sanderlings, and the prospects of adding to this list and of perhaps even seeing some of my old birds back again in the future have provided me with an anticipation and fascination equivalent to any I have previously experienced.

The year past on Monomoy was remarkable in many ways, providing an abundance of invigorating memories. Yet, when I reflect upon 1984, it is not the misguided vagrants, the Eurasian and Long-billed curlews, the

Bar-tailed Godwit, or the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher that first come to mind. Nor is it the pioneering Black-headed Gulls or Black Skimmers, the gaudy black Ruff, or even the magnificent gray Gyrfalcon that provide the most lasting memories. Rather, I most remember a small sandpiper that is among the most common and widespread birds on our coast and one that I have always taken for granted, a bird barely larger than a sparrow that annually traverses the hemisphere and performs remarkable physiological feats, a species that promises, through the efforts of Peter Myers and others, to answer some of the many ornithological riddles that continue to tantalize us.

Though they have passed before me by the tens of thousands in my lifetime, only recently have I begun to see Sanderlings. I invite you to see with me next summer. The game plan is simple - just hit the beaches and check out some legs!

Acknowledgments. J. P. Myers and Richard Forster kindly reviewed an earlier draft; my appreciation to Peter Myers, John Maron, and Brian Harrington for their patience and receptiveness and for providing the opportunities for a frustrated, would-be ornithologist to contribute.

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## OBSERVATION OF CLAY-COLORED SPARROW IN AN UNUSUAL PLUMAGE

by Richard A. Forster, Massachusetts Audubon Society

The recent plethora of "super" field guides would appear adequate to cover every plumage variation a birder is likely to encounter in the field. The standard field guides of the past decade or two, Peterson and Robbins, have both been revised and expanded. In addition, two ambitious field guides have also been published. The National Geographic Society's Field Guide to the Birds of North America and the three-volume Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding cover a much broader spectrum of plumages that are likely to be encountered, especially in species which take more than a year to attain adult plumage. Also, both guides contain identification sections that seemingly address every plumage nuance that can conclusively separate two very similar species.

A case in point is the separation of fall Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) from immature Clay-colored Sparrow (*S. pallida*). The Clay-colored Sparrow occurs as a rare but regular migrant in Massachusetts with the majority of reports occurring in the latter part of September and October. The increasing frequency of spring sightings suggests that the breeding population may be extending eastward from central Canada and may soon breed in western New York. In our state the majority, if not all, of fall observations of Clay-colored Sparrow involve immature birds. Identification of these is usually simplified, for they often are found in the company of flocks of Chipping Sparrows, the species with which they are most likely to be confused. When direct comparison is possible, a careful observer can distinguish the two species.

The immature Chipping Sparrow is quite dissimilar to the adult. It has a dark crown with a noticeable light median stripe (not described in the National Geographic Society field guide), a dusky cheek patch, and an ill-defined dark malar stripe. However, most adult Chipping Sparrows undergo a post-breeding molt and appear very similar to immatures although red-capped adults are occasionally encountered in the fall. In this plumage, the Clay-colored Sparrow is most readily identified by its white chin and underparts (grayish-white in Chipping), obvious buffy breast band, and extensive gray nuchal (neck) collar, which extends to the sides of the neck. The cheek patch is well-defined with dark borders above and below. The dorsal coloration is strikingly different, being a pale sandy coloration in the Clay-colored as opposed to a reddish-brown in the Chipping. One of the most diagnostic field marks, difficult to see when birds are feeding or at rest, is the coloration of the upper-tail coverts (rump). In the Chipping, these are dark gray, providing a sharp contrast between the back and tail. In Clay-colored Sparrows, the uppertail coverts are light grayish buff and lack the obvious contrast between back and tail present in *S. passerina*. Unfortunately, this characteristic is most obvious in flight and is difficult to determine unless the observer is consciously looking for the distinction.

I have had the good fortune to observe Clay-colored Sparrows on their breeding grounds in Manitoba, on fall migration in Arizona, on the wintering ground in Mexico, and as a rare migrant in Massachusetts and the Northeast. From these observations I have formulated impressions,

not field marks, that serve to distinguish the two species. Experience has shown that subjective impressions can be as germane to identification as visual field marks. My impressions are that relative to the Chipping Sparrow, the Clay-colored Sparrow is shorter in length, longer-tailed, and has a slimmer build. These observations are subjective at best and are generally not a topic of field identification in the standard field guides. However, Thomas S. Roberts' A Manual for the Identification of the Birds of Minnesota and Neighboring States, a guide primarily designed to aid bird-banders in identifying hand-held birds, provides pertinent information in this regard. On average, the Clay-colored is shorter in length with a range of 5.0 to 5.5 inches as opposed to 5.0 to 5.85 inches for the Chipping; the tail of the Clay-colored is 2.3 to 2.75 inches versus 2.2 to 2.6 inches for Chipping; and the average weight for the Clay-colored Sparrow is 0.38 ounce and 0.5 ounce for Chipping Sparrow. Based on these data, the impression that Clay-colored is shorter, proportionately (and actually) longer-tailed, and slimmer is borne out. A final impression, again not to be considered a definitive field mark, is that the bill coloration of the Clay-colored is pinkish with a limited area of dusky markings on the upper mandible while that of the Chipping is a dusky yellow with more extensive dark coloration on the upper mandible (cf. Master Guide to Birding, Vol. III).

In addition to the foregoing, which is standard fare in field guides, there is one more plumage to consider. All sparrows have a juvenal, or post-fledging, plumage that is extremely transitory in nature. Many of the sparrows and their relatives (e.g., towhees) exhibit a juvenal plumage that is heavily streaked below. The duration of the plumage is about one month and occurs at a time (mid-summer) when vocalizations and bird activity as well as birder activity are at a low ebb - so these plumages are infrequently seen. However, on rare occasions, this plumage (or condition) persists longer, either as a result of a late summer hatch due to an unsuccessful earlier nesting effort or a biological malfunction resulting in arrested (or delayed) molt. Such situations are uncommon but, nonetheless, do occur and are considerations that cannot be dismissed.

Enough is enough! Now to the bird in question. On October 7, 1984, I observed a juvenal-plumaged sparrow of the genus *Spizella* at the sub-headquarters area (formerly the warden's pen) at the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island. This individual was in loose association with a small flock of Chipping Sparrows (*S. passerina*). When initially viewed, the bird was alone in the binocular field and was feeding on an open sand/gravel area with a few scattered weeds, thus affording good views from about thirty-five feet. The sparrow was small and slim in build, had a pale median stripe, and a dusky cheek patch. The underparts were whitish with rather fine streaking concentrated on the breast and along the sides of the underparts. The pattern of the streaking was similar to, but not as heavy and extensive as, the streaking on a juvenile Chipping Sparrow. The upperparts were sandy or buff in coloration, but the obvious gray hindneck characteristic of Clay-colored Sparrow was not evident, perhaps being masked by the remains of the juvenal plumage. After about two minutes observation I alerted some nearby birders that there was a Clay-colored Sparrow in front of me. As they approached, the sparrow flushed a short distance and alighted in the

company of several Chipping Sparrows. At this time the smaller size and slimmer build were evident, and the pale coloration compared with the reddish-brown coloration of the Chippies was marked. In flight, the rump of the bird in question was grayish-buff and showed little or no contrast with the back and tail. Each of the Chippies in flight showed a distinct contrast between the dark gray rump and rich brown back and dark tail. Additionally, another observer and I noted the pinkish coloration of the bill. Based on these observations, my conclusion was that the bird was a Clay-colored Sparrow that had retained some of the juvenal plumage.

Close observation of the Chipping Sparrow flocks in October will frequently disclose some individuals with streaked underparts indicative of juvenal birds. Although one of the major new field guides (The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding, Vol. 3) specifically states that the juvenal plumage of the Clay-colored Sparrow is molted before the species migrates, any careful student of birds will note that there are many exceptions to the quoted "rules." This observation is apparently the first Massachusetts record of a Clay-colored Sparrow exhibiting this plumage variation, and if the general pattern of eastward range expansion for the species continues, there is reason to expect that similar sightings will occur in the future.

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RICHARD A. FORSTER, biologist and ornithological expert in the Conservation Department of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, producer of the "Voice of Audubon," possessed of an infallible memory for bird records of Massachusetts on which he is a recognized authority, international tour leader, regional editor of the fall season for the northeastern maritime region for American Birds, and author, currently at work on the Birds of Massachusetts (with co-author Richard Veit) and on the Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas, would like to point out that it took considerably more time to research and write the above note than it did to identify the bird.

## GULL STORY

by P. William Smith, Hingham

On July 8, 1984, I was working Plymouth Beach's birds, trying to pin down some terns for an out-of-state friend who was coming for a photographic session. I was out early enough to beat the summer beach buggies that overwhelm the thousand or more gulls that like to loaf near the tip when there's not too much disturbance. There were plenty to pick through, and I was delighted to notice a bird I had seen depicted in field guides (e.g., Peterson 1980; Robbins, et al. 1983) but had not found in many years of active birding - a large, immaculately white gull. Surely it was the ephemeral second-year Glaucous (*Larus hyperboreus*). It was clearly intermediate in size between the Herrings (*L. argentatus*) and most Great Black-backed (*L. marinus*) and lacked all traces of black or gray in the feathers; its legs were pinkish, and its bill was dull pinkish with an irregularly shaped dark tip, which at some angles appeared to be deformed.

I promptly sent a note off to Ruth Emery; I also mentioned the "Glaucous" to several birding friends. I saw it fairly regularly, as did several others, over the next three weeks or so. The bird acted sluggish and had a rather moth-eaten look to it. I took this to be the effects of molt, active in the local gulls at the time, plus, possibly, a touch of PSP (paralytic shellfish poisoning), the red tide that had caused the nearby shellfishing flats to be closed.

By chance, late in July, I received several back issues of British Birds and happened to thumb through an article by Grant (1981), part of the forerunner of his authoritative book on gull identification (Grant 1982). I was astounded to see photos of "real" second-summer Glaucous Gulls and to read under "Identification Pitfalls" that "reference in some literature to an all-white second-year plumage for Glaucous and Iceland gulls is misleading . . . . Any large gull that is genuinely all-white is a certain albino . . ." Aha! What did we have here?



Plymouth Beach, July 1984

Photo by P. William Smith

Asking that question proved easier than answering it. By now the bird could not always be found at Plymouth Beach, but luckily I had a few fair pictures of it, which I showed and mailed around. I was disappointed at the depth of most analyses but not really surprised. Long ago I had learned that identification from photos was notoriously risky, so I become shy myself when the subject of an identification dilemma isn't about to fly away. Since Grant himself was an old friend, I decided to seek his advice.

Peter provided what I would term a specific equivocation, offering a 90 percent probability that it was an albino Great Black-backed Gull but reserving a 10 percent chance for an exceptionally pale and washed-out second-winter Glaucous. He pointed out that if feather color were ignored, the bird had a shape and soft-part colors similar to the adjacent Great Black-backed. He felt that the fairly extensive, angled black tip to the bill was not normally characteristic of Glaucous and that the highly abraded, worn-to-a-point primary tips might suggest weak, albinistic feathers. (See accompanying photograph.) He still believed that the Glaucous and Iceland (*L. glaucoides*) gulls never have all-white feathers unless, of course, they are albinos.

I like Peter's probabilistic approach even after thinking about its effect on my or anyone's birdlist. It is a direct, scientific way of dealing with identification problems such as these and avoids the often unanswerable question of who's the most expert expert. Even if this bird had been collected, its identity might well have been a matter of opinion; for example, many of the skuas shot in New England waters over the years have sported more than one museum label. By calling the bird a probable albino Great Black-backed, it is possible to acknowledge some of the inherent limitations in the identification process itself, especially when photographs become involved (Petersen 1982).

I thank the several people and especially Peter Grant who helped me reach the conclusion stated here. Some of those who also saw the bird have a different opinion, and it's important to acknowledge that fact. If only we could ask the bird who his parents were . . .

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P. WILLIAM SMITH lives in Hingham and claims to be retired. He is a former regional field note editor for Records of New Jersey Birds and American Birds and has worked on several projects at Manomet Bird Observatory. Recently, he has been investigating whether importation, aviculture, or ship-assistance has much to do with the appearance of European birds, especially passerines, in the northeastern U. S.



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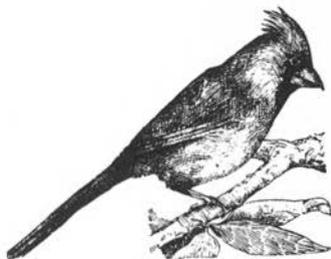


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# Field Records

## October 1984



by George W. Gove, Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

The temperature averaged 53.3° during October 1984. The high mark was 78° on October 20, the low 33° on October 6. The first three weeks brought much dry and sunny weather - perfect for foliage viewing. Rain totaled 5.18 inches, 1.82 inches more than normal and the most in October since 1962. Most came on the first two days of the month when 3.67 inches fell within twenty-four hours. For the next sixteen days not a drop fell, this was the longest such run since sixteen days in June 1949. The longest run was eighteen days in September 1941. Fog was rather frequent with heavy fog noted on four days, double the average.

### LOONS THROUGH HERONS

Both species of loons were migrating past Sandy Neck in Barnstable during the north-easterlies of October 13-14. More loons were seen moving at the end of the month, again on northeast winds; note nineteen Common Loons inland at Lakeville. An Arctic Loon was reported from Plymouth on October 27. Pied-billed Grebes were reported in fairly good numbers with a total of over seventy individuals noted.

A Brookline Bird Club pelagic trip out of Plymouth on the twenty-eighth reported thirty-five Northern Fulmar, 2 Cory's and over 2,000 Greater shearwaters. Leach's Storm-Petrels were noted from First Encounter and Sandy Neck all during northerly storms. Good flights of Northern Gannets were noted all month with the highest numbers during the northeast blows of October 13-15. On October 15 at First Encounter Beach, Eastham, 8,000+ birds were seen and based on a sample count of 400 birds 62% were juvenile, 32% sub-adult and just 6% adult. Double-crested Cormorants were moving south in large flocks early in the month with just a few Great Cormorants reported.

Six American Bitterns were found at Plum Island at an exceptionally high tide where 53 Great Blue Herons were also counted. At Fort Hill in Eastham 127 Great Blue Herons were tallied on October 7; also at nearby Hemenway Landing a maximum 121 Black-crowned Night-Herons and two Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were also observed. Late Cattle Egrets were found in Ipswich and Glossy Ibis were noted from both Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket and on Plum Island.

R.H.S.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
<b>Red-throated Loon:</b>				
13,14	Barnstable (SN)	50, 200	L.Robinson	
13,17	Truro, Salisbury	6, 3	G.Gove#, J.Grugan	
21	Plymouth-Scituate	20	SSBC	
27,28	Salisbury, Marshfield	13, 84	BBC, D.Clapp	
<b>Arctic Loon:</b> (See article by D. Evered in this issue for details.)				
27-31	Plymouth	1	D.Evered + v.o.	
<b>Common Loon:</b>				
13,14	Barnstable (SN)	15, 20	L.Robinson	
13	Wareham, Truro	17, 4	L.Robinson, G.Gove	
14,25	Nahant, Nantucket	20, 30	S.Zendeh#, M.Litchfield	
27,28	Lakeville, Plymouth	19, 50	W.Petersen, O.Kerr#	
<b>Pied-billed Grebe:</b>				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max. 10 (10/5)	B.Nikula	
7,27	Lakeville	13, 17	W.Petersen#	
7,8	Edgartown, Nantucket	2, 7	SSBC, BBC	
13-31	ten locations	21 individuals	v.o.	
<b>Horned Grebe:</b>				
7,27	Lakeville	6, 33	W.Petersen#	
8,28	P.I., Plymouth	2, 15	R.Stymeist#, W.Kerr#	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Red-necked Grebe:				
17,27	Salisbury, P.I.	1, 1	J.Grugan, BBC	
Northern Fulmar:				
2,28	Eastham, Stellwagen	1, 35	H.Stabbins, BBC	
Cory's Shearwater:				
28	Stellwagen	2	BBC	
Greater Shearwater:				
13,14	Eastham, P'town	300, 150+	G.Gove#, R.Heil	
28	Stellwagen	2000	BBC	
Manx Shearwater:				
13,14	Barnstable (SN)	1, 4	L.Robinson	
15	Eastham	2	B.Nikula	
Leach's Storm-Petrel:				
2	Eastham (1st Encounter)	5	W.Petersen#	
14,23	Barnstable (SN)	3, 6	R.Abrams, S.Higginbotham	
Northern Gannet:				
3,13	P'town, P.I.	100+, 10	P.Trimble, BBC	
13,14	Barnstable (SN)	600, 7000	L.Robinson	
14	Rockport (AP), Nahant	250, 60	J.Nove#, S.Zendeh#	
15	Eastham (1st Encounter)	8000+	B.Nikula	
27,30	Nantucket (Low Beach)	60, 160	M.Litchfield	
Great Cormorant:				
3,11	P'town, Lakeville	5, 2	P.Trimble, W.Petersen	
28	Arlington, Lexington	1 imm., 1	L.Taylor	
Double-crested Cormorant:				
3,6	P'town, Monomoy	150, 300+	P.Trimble, G.d'Entremont	
6,7	P.I.	1000+, 1300+	R.McHale#, J.Berry#	
12,14	Gloucester, Nahant	800, 250	P.Thayer, S.Zendeh#	
	Other flocks of 15-100 birds in various locations			
American Bittern:				
8,18	Bolton Flats, Randolph	2, 1	S.Carroll#, G.d'Entremont	
27	P.I.	6	G.Gove	
Great Blue Heron:				
thr.	Saugus, P.I.	max. 15 (10/4,10/30), max. 53 (10/28)	J.Berry, P.Roberts+v.o.	
7	Eastham	127	D.Clapp#	
Great Egret:				
thr.	P.I.	1	v.o.	
8,10	S.Dartmouth, Barnstable	3, 3	T.Raymond, R.Prescott#	
24,27	Westport, Eastham	13, 1	R.Laubach, A.Bennett	
Snowy Egret:				
1-18,6-8	Saugus, M.V.	max. 4 (10/1), 5	J.Berry, SSBC	
8	S.Dartmouth, P.I.	15, 12	T.Raymond, BBC	
Little Blue Heron:				
8,13	P.I., Concord	1 pied, 1 imm.	A.Bennett# + v.o., C.Stone	
15,19	Cohasset, Concord (Sud-River)	2 imm., 1 imm.	R.Titus#, E.Morrier	
Cattle Egret:				
2	Ipswich	4	J.Berry	
Green-backed Heron:				
8,14	P.I., Gloucester	2, 1	BBC, BBC	
Black-crowned Night-Heron:				
1,6	Marshfield, Monomoy	23, 16	D.Clapp, W.Petersen	
8,11,21,24	Eastham	120, 121, 38, 25	B.Nikula	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:				
8,11,21	Eastham	2, 2, 1	B.Nikula	
8	P.I.	1	J.Smith	
Glossy Ibis:				
6;8	M.V., Nantucket; P.I.	1, 1; 1	R.Stymeist#, BBC; BBC	

#### WATERFOWL

Over two-hundred fifty Wood Ducks were tallied at Great Meadows NWR in Concord on October 19. This is the highest total ever recorded from a single location; the previous high was a maximum of 125 birds seen in Hanson during October 1981. South Monomoy played host to many migrating waterfowl with counts of 300 Green-winged Teal, 100 Northern Pintail, 40 Northern Shovelers, 20 Gadwalls, 150 American and two Eurasian wigeons, 20 Ring-necked Ducks and 135 Ruddy Ducks. Plum Island was also very productive with the following high counts: 650 Green-winged Teal and 140 Northern Pintail. A flock of six wigeon resting on the ocean were possibly all of the Eurasian species. The last Blue-winged Teal were found in Provincetown and in Norton on October 20. Only two Redheads were seen during the month, one each in Edgartown and in Plymouth, but Canvasbacks were noted in good numbers especially at the end of the month. King Eiders were seen in Bourne and in Provincetown and Harlequin Ducks were present on Martha's Vineyard.

R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1984</u>
Mute Swan: 7	Westport, M.V., Nantucket	28, 50, 62	BBC, SSBC, BBC	
Snow Goose: 4-16,4 6,6-31	Katama (M.V.),E.Middleboro P'town, P.I.	18, 45 50, max. 17	R.Wainwright#, K.Anderson G.d'Entremont#, v.o.	
"Blue Goose": 14-16	Clinton (Wachusett Res.)	1 ad.	P.Roberts	
Brant: 2,8 21,27	Plymouth, Wareham E.Boston, Lakeville	40, 1 15, 60 mig.	SSBC, L.Robinson S.Zendeh, W.Petersen	
Canada Goose: 7,14 27	Ipswich, Lincoln (Sandy Pd.) P.I.	600+, 1100+ 1000	J.Berry, R.Stymeist F.Bouchard	
Wood Duck: 3,14 19,21	Marshfield, Wayland Concord (GMNWR), Kingston	15, 15 250, 50	D.Clapp, E.Morrier R.Forster, D. + B.Kiel	
Green-winged Teal: thr. 8,18	Monomoy P.I.	max. 300 (10/6) 350, 650	B.Nikula# + v.o. R.Stymeist#, B.Cassie	
American Black Duck: 3	outer Cape Cod	150	P.Trimble	
Northern Pintail: thr. 8,18	S.Monomoy P.I., Yarmouthport	max. 100 (10/25) 140, 45	B.Nikula# + v.o. R.Stymeist, J.Aylward	
Blue-winged Teal: 6 7,19 20	P'town, Truro Squibnocket, GMNWR Norton, P'town	7, 8 6, 3 3, 1	G.d'Entremont#, R.Campbell# R.Stymeist#, R.Forster B.Cassie#, G.d'Entremont#	
Northern Shoveler: thr. 19,20	S.Monomoy GMNWR, Norton	max. 40 (10/21) 14, 2	B.Nikula# + v.o. R.Forster, B.Cassie#	
Gadwall: thr. 7,8	S.Monomoy Westport, P.I.	max. 20 (10/25) 8, 25	B.Nikula# + v.o. W.Drummond#, BBC	
Eurasian Wigeon: 6,10,25 8,18 28	S.Monomoy Chilmark, Nantucket Ipswich	1, 1, 2 1, 1 1	B.Nikula fide V.Laux, E.Andrews R.Heil	
Wigeon sp.: 31	Plymouth	6	A.Leggett	
American Wigeon: thr. 3-31 18	S.Monomoy, P.I. Cambridge (Fresh Pond) Nantucket (Long Pond)	max. 150 (10/25), max. 60 max. 23 (10/31) 189	(10/13) B.Nikula# + v.o., v.o. J.Barton E.Andrews	
Canvasback: 8-31 27,28	Cambridge (Fresh Pond) Randolph, Lakeville	max. 99 (10/31) 2, 4	D.Flood + v.o. G.d'Entremont, W.Petersen#	
Redhead: 7,21	Edgartown, Plymouth	1, 1	SSBC	
Ring-necked Duck: thr. 3-31;6,13 7,27	S.Monomoy Cambridge(Fr.Pd); W.Newbury Lakeville	max. 20 (10/25) max.80(10/31); 700, 1000	B.Nikula + v.o. 100+, 205 D.Flood+v.o.; BBC W.Petersen# + v.o.	
Greater Scaup: 21,31	Falmouth, Cambridge	50, 6	P.Trimble, J.Barton	
Lesser Scaup: 13,21 27 28-31	Petersham, Plymouth Lakeville, Randolph Cambridge (Fresh Pond)	2, 8 14+, 2 1-2	M.Lynch#, SSBC W.Petersen#, G.d'Entremont v.o.	
Common Eider: 13 13,14 21	Cape Cod Bay Rockport, Nahant Plymouth	1000 520, 400 5000	G.Gove P.Yawkey, S.Zendeh# SSBC	
King Eider: 21,28	Bourne, P'town	1 m., 1 m.	SSBC, A.Bennett	
Harlequin Duck: 12-16	Menemsha (M.V.)	1 m.	fide V.Laux	
Oldsquaw: 14 27	Sandy Neck Lakeville	150 1	L.Robinson W.Petersen#	
Black Scoter: 13,14 14,28	Barnstable (SN) Nahant, P'town	400, 150 10, 40	L.Robinson S.Zendeh, A.Bennett	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Surf Scoter:				
13,14;23	Barnstable (SN)	6000, 1500; 3500	L.Robinson; S.Higginbotham	
White-winged Scoter:				
13,14	Barnstable (SN)	2500, 600	L.Robinson	
Common Goldeneye:				
11	Lakeville	2	W.Petersen	
Bufflehead:				
13,30	Wareham, Salem	2, 20	L.Robinson, J.Berry	
31	E.Boston, Cambridge	17, 6	S.Zendeh#, J.Barton	
Hooded Merganser:				
27	Cambridge, Eastham, Randolph	1, 16, 1	J.Cumming#, A.Bennett, G.d'Entremont	
28	Waltham (Camb. Res.)	13	L.Taylor	
Common Merganser:				
28,31	P'town, Cambridge (Fresh Pond)	10, 21	A.Bennett, J.Barton	
Red-breasted Merganser:				
13,14	Barnstable (SN)	1200, 500	L.Robinson	
20,28	Winthrop, Nantucket	130, 2000+	J.Cumming, E.Andrews	
Ruddy Duck:				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max. 135 (10/25)	B.Nikula	
7	Plymouth, Squibnocket	2, 1	W.Petersen, R.Stymeist#	
27,28	Braintree, Norton	75, 108	G.d'Entremont, B.Cassie	

#### RAPTORS

A total of nine Turkey Vultures were reported during the month with the latest seen in Middleboro on the 20th. Two Bald Eagles were noted during October. Golden Eagles were found at Plum Island and at Manomet; both these birds were sub-adults. There were forty-four sightings of Peregrine Falcon reported with more than half from the Cape and the islands. A light gray Gyrfalcon was well observed hunting Black Ducks at Logan Airport in East Boston and two days later was reported from Plymouth. R.H.S.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Turkey Vulture:				
4,7	Gloucester, Ipswich	2, 1	P.Major, J.Berry	
8	Newburyport, Essex	1, 1	R.Stymeist#, J.Berry	
12,13	Milton, Petersham	1, 2	R.Titus, M.Lynch#	
20	Middleboro	1	K.Holmes	
Osprey:				
10,11	W.Peabody, Middlesex Fells	1, 3	G.d'Entremont, P.Roberts	
13,14	Concord, Wayland	3, 1	G.d'Entremont, E.Morrier	
21,23	Woburn, Cambridge	1, 1	D.Williams, P.Pratt	
27,28	Lakeville, Arlington	1, 1	W.Petersen#, L.Taylor	
Bald Eagle:				
9,19	Scituate, Needham	1 imm., 1 ad.	L.Brigham, fide D.Arvidson	
Northern Harrier:				
thr.	Monomoy, P.I.	max. 6+ (10/10),	max. 9 (10/6)	v.o., v.o.
6-8	M.V., Nantucket	10, 19	SSBC, BBC	
Sharp-shinned Hawk:				
6-8	Nantucket	7	BBC	
12,21	Canton, S.Monomoy	13, 8+	R.Titus, B.Nikula	
		other reports of single birds from ten locations		
Cooper's Hawk:				
6,11,17,31	E.Middleboro	1	K.Anderson	
7,12	Hingham, Canton	1, 1	R.Campbell, R.Titus	
24	Concord	1	R.Forster	
Northern Goshawk:				
6	E.Middleboro	1	K.Anderson	
16,18	Lincoln	1 mig., 1 mig.	R.Forster	
Red-shouldered Hawk:				
12	Canton	1	R.Titus	
Red-tailed Hawk:				
thr.	E.Middleboro	1-2	K.Anderson	
6-7,6-8	M.V., Nantucket	4, 13	SSBC, BBC	
12,30	Canton, Middleboro	5, 3	R.Titus, D.Briggs	
Rough-legged Hawk:				
20	P'town	1 lt.	G.d'Entremont#	
Golden Eagle:				
28,29	P.I., Manomet	1 sub. ad., 1 sub. ad.	G.Soucy#+P.Roberts,D.Evered#	
American Kestrel:				
6-8	M.V., Nantucket	6, 7	SSBC, BBC	
28,31	P.I., E.Boston	3, 2	P.Roberts, S.Zendeh#	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Merlin:				
6-8,7	M.V., P.I.	4, 2	SSBC, R.Forster	
7-8,28	Nantucket, Halifax	2, 1	BBC, K.Anderson	
			other reports of 1-2 individuals from 12 locations	
Peregrine Falcon:				
thr.	S.Monomoy, N.Monomoy	total 15±	v.o.	
1-15,2-12	M.V., Nantucket	max. 10, max. 4	v.o.	
1-21,8	P.I., Chatham	1, 2	v.o., J.Russell	
			other reports of single individuals from 12 locations	
Gyrfalcon:				
22,24	E.Boston, Plymouth	1 imm.	N.Smith, D.Evered	

#### GROUSE THROUGH CRANES

Clapper Rails were found at two coastal locations with one to two heard or seen on three occasions at Eastham. A Sandhill Crane was found and seen for about nine days on Martha's Vineyard, and ten days later, the same or another Sandhill Crane was seen flying in from the ocean at Great Point on Nantucket. The bird was being harassed by the local gulls, and it was heard to call as it disappeared in flight to the west.

G.W.G.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Ruffed Grouse:				
13	Petersham	5	M.Lynch#	
Northern Bobwhite:				
3,7	Falmouth, Scituate	5, 25	P.Trimble#, W.Petersen#	
16,18;20	Westport; Middleboro	10; 4	R.Laubach#; K.Holmes#	
Clapper Rail:				
21	S.Monomoy	1	B.Nikula#	
20;21,24	Eastham	1 heard; 1, 2	G.d'Entremont#; B.Nikula	
Virginia Rail:				
8,14	Nantucket, Wayland	1, 1	BBC, E.Morrier	
20	Eastham	1	G.d'Entremont#	
Sora:				
6-8,27	Nantucket, Truro	1, 1	BBC, A.Bennett	
Common Moorhen:				
8,13	P.I., GMNWR	1, 1 imm.	BBC, G.d'Entremont#	
American Coot:				
7,8	M.V., Nantucket	2, 2	SSBC, BBC	
25,27	S.Monomoy, Norton	75, 25	B.Nikula, B.Cassie	
31	Cambridge	10	J.Cumming#	
Sandhill Crane:				
7,8,15	M.V.	1	J.Bryant# + v.o.	
25	Nantucket	1 (details)	M.Litchfield	

#### SHOREBIRDS THROUGH ALCIDS

Lesser Golden-Plover were well reported. A number of shorebirds were reported with the highest October counts in BOEM's 12 years of record. These included Semipalmated and Piping plovers, Greater and Lesser yellowlegs, Hudsonian Godwit, Sanderling, and Pectoral Sandpiper. White-rumped Sandpipers were present in high numbers at Orleans and on Monomoy.

An American Avocet was present at Sandy Neck, constituting the third BOEM October record. American Oystercatchers now occur routinely in October, and this month's records bear this out. The Eurasian Curlew, which had been present at Tuckernuck and then on North Monomoy Island last month, was again reported on October first from the latter site. As noted last month, this was the third occurrence of this species in Massachusetts, all in the last decade.

Stilt Sandpiper is a relatively rare October bird here, and there is only one other October occurrence of Buff-breasted Sandpiper in BOEM records, that being a bird seen on and off until December 1 on Nantucket in 1980. The individual Wilson's Phalarope reported on South Monomoy Island on October 6-7 represents another species of unusual occurrence in October.

Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers were seen at coastal locations, and an unidentified skua was seen on the BBC pelagic trip at month's end. The skua was in a plumage which makes identification of Great and South Polar skua extremely difficult even under optimum conditions. Sabine's Gulls were seen early in the month at Barnstable and at Monomoy. An adult Herring x Great Black-backed Gull was noted on North Monomoy. The bird was intermediate in size, shape, and plumage. Caspian Terns were seen inland at the Norton

Reservoir, and one was seen at Plum Island. A very late juvenile Least Tern was reported from Provincetown on October 28 where four Black Terns were noted until mid-month. Among the alcid's reported were Dovekies, Murres, Razorbills, and Atlantic Puffins, with 11 of the latter (all subadults) seen on the BBC pelagic trip. Two puffins had been reported this past August; certainly these reports reflect the reintroduction of puffins at Eastern Egg Rock in Maine. G.W.G.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
<b>Black-bellied Plover:</b>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 1000 (10/6)	B.Nikula	
5,15	Westport, Scituate	45, 75	R.Laubach, R.Titus	
6,21	P.I., Ipswich	90, 175	BBC, J.Berry	
25	Nantucket	120	M.Litchfield	
<b>Lesser Golden-Plover:</b>				
6,7	N.Monomoy, P.I.	8, 5	W.Petersen#, R.Forster	
12,21	Everett, Ipswich	2, 6	J.Berry	
22,27	Nantucket, Halifax	19, 4	E.Andrews, W.Petersen	
10,12,13	Concord	2, 3, 3	R.Forster	
	ten other reports of 1-6 birds			
<b>Semipalmated Plover:</b>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 100 (10/7)	B.Nikula	
6,14	M.V., Gloucester	20, 11	SSBC, BBC	
21,27	Woburn, Scituate	4, 15	D.Williams, W.Petersen#	
<b>Piping Plover:</b>				
6,7	M.V.	1-2, 1	SSBC, R.Stymeist#	
6	Monomoy	2	B.Nikula#	
<b>Killdeer:</b>				
3,7	Bridgewater, Westport	31, 42	D.Clapp, R.Laubach	
13,15	Concord, M.V.	115, 40	R.Forster, fide V.Laux	
27,28	Halifax, Lexington	20, 13	W.Petersen#, L.Taylor	
<b>American Oystercatcher:</b>				
6,8,28	N.Monomoy	17, 8, 8	B.Nikula#	
7,19	M.V., Nantucket	3, 6	SSBC, B.Sorrie#	
<b>American Avocet:</b>				
25,27	Barnstable	1, 1	H.Nickerson, H.Ferguson	
<b>Greater Yellowlegs:</b>				
3,6	WBWS, P.I.	40, 300+	P.Trimble, BBC	
18,28	Quincy, E.Boston	40, 70	v.o., J.Cumming	
<b>Lesser Yellowlegs:</b>				
3,5	WBWS, Halifax	10, 7	P.Trimble, K.Anderson	
8,13	W.Newbury, P.I.	25, 50	R.Stymeist#, BBC	
27,28	Halifax, E.Boston	10, 1	W.Petersen#, S.Zendeh#	
<b>Solitary Sandpiper:</b>				
3,7	Truro, Nantucket	1, 1	P.Trimble, BBC	
20	P'town	3 imm.	G.d'Entremont#	
<b>Willet:</b>				
7,13;28	N.Monomoy; P'town	3, 1; 1	B.Nikula; A.Bennett	
<b>Spotted Sandpiper:</b>				
7,18	Westport, Medford	2, 2	BBC, N.King	
20, 21	Norton, Plymouth	1, 1	B.Cassie#, SSBC	
<b>Whimbrel:</b>				
7	Dartmouth	1	BBC	
<b>Eurasian Curlew:</b>				
1	N.Monomoy	1	v.o.	
<b>Hudsonian Godwit:</b>				
6-28	P.I.	max. 43 (10/27)	BBC + v.o.	
6-8	M.V.	2-3	v.o.	
28	Halifax	1	K.Anderson	
<b>Marbled Godwit:</b>				
1-8	N.Monomoy	1	v.o.	
14-27	Wollaston	1	D.Morimoto + v.o.	
<b>Ruddy Turnstone:</b>				
28	Winthrop	20	J.Cumming	
<b>Red Knot:</b>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 90 (10/18)	B.Nikula	
21;21,27	Scituate; P.I.	4; 30, 21	SSBC; J.Cumming, BBC	
<b>Sanderling:</b>				
thr.	Orleans	max. 1000 (10/6)	B.Nikula	
7,8	Nantucket, P.I.	55, 180	BBC, C.Floyd#	
14,28	Nahant, Winthrop	250, 28	S.Zendeh, J.Cumming	
<b>Semipalmated Sandpiper:</b>				
3,6	WBWS, P.I.	15, 35	P.Trimble, BBC	
7,12	Nantucket, Orleans	48, 125	BBC, B.Nikula	
27	Scituate	6	W.Petersen#	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
<b>Western Sandpiper:</b>				
8,12	P.I., Orleans	1, 4	BBC, B.Nikula	
13	N.Monomoy	5	B.Nikula	
<b>Least Sandpiper:</b>				
3-11	Halifax	max. 3	v.o.	
6,13	P.I.	1, 4	BBC	
<b>White-rumped Sandpiper:</b>				
6-27	P.I.	max. 11 (10/8)	v.o.	
8,12,27	Orleans	40, 45, 35	B.Nikula	
thr.	N.Monomoy, S.Monomoy	max. 25 (10/18),	max. 30 (10/7)	B.Nikula
<b>Baird's Sandpiper:</b>				
8,9	Halifax	1	K.Anderson	
8,13	M.V.	1, 2	fide V.Laux	
<b>Pectoral Sandpiper:</b>				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max. 75 (10/7)	B.Nikula	
1-28	N.Monomoy	max. 50 (10/6)	B.Nikula	
3-27	Halifax	max. 210 (10/7)	v.o.	
<b>Purple Sandpiper:</b>				
27	P.I.	4	BBC	
<b>Dunlin:</b>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 1600	B.Nikula	
4-8,27	Halifax	max. 11, 50	K.Anderson, W.Petersen#	
6-27	P.I.	max. 1100 (10/6)	v.o.	
<b>Stilt Sandpiper:</b>				
6,8	P.I.	3, 1	BBC, J.Smith	
<b>Buff-breasted Sandpiper:</b>				
5-8,15	M.V.	1, 1	fide V.Laux	
4-10	N.Monomoy	1	J.Russell#	
<b>Short-billed Dowitcher:</b>				
8,21	P.I.	6, 2	BBC, R.Heil	
6,7	Monomoy, Westport	10, 1	W.Petersen#, BBC	
<b>Long-billed Dowitcher:</b>				
6-28	P.I.	max. 20 (10/21)	v.o.	
3,27	WBWS, Eastham	3, 3	P.Trimble, A.Bennett	
<b>Common Snipe:</b>				
6,14	P.I., Wayland	9, 4	BBC, E.Morrier	
20-28	Norton	max. 40 (10/27)	B.Cassie#	
<b>American Woodcock:</b>				
9,24	Nantucket, Ipswich	1, 1	BBC, J.Berry	
<b>Wilson's Phalarope:</b>				
6-7	S.Monomoy	1	B.Nikula#	
<b>Pomarine Jaeger:</b>				
13,14	Barnstable	2, 1	L.Robinson	
14,20	P'town, Orleans	3, 4	R.Heil, G.d'Entremont	
28	Stellwagen	10	BBC	
<b>Parasitic Jaeger:</b>				
2,13	Eastham, Barnstable	5, 1	W.Petersen#, L.Robinson	
13,20	P'town	10+, 1	B.Nikula, G.d'Entremont#	
<b>jaeger sp.:</b>				
2	Eastham	15	W.Petersen#	
<b>skua sp.:</b>				
28	Stellwagen	1	BBC	
<b>Laughing Gull:</b>				
3,14	P'town, Winthrop	20, 80	P.Trimble, J.Cumming	
24	Westport	200+	R.Laubach	
<b>Little Gull:</b>				
8	N.Monomoy	1 imm.	B.Nikula	
<b>Common Black-headed Gull:</b>				
18,21	N.Monomoy, Manomet	1 (1W), 1	B.Nikula, SSBC	
21,28	E.Boston	3	v.o.	
<b>Bonaparte's Gull:</b>				
6,7	Newburyport, Nantucket	125, 24	J.Berry, BBC	
15,28	Cohasset, Nantucket	150, 38	R.Titus#, E.Andrews	
<b>Ring-billed Gull:</b>				
4,13	Westport	200+	R.Laubach	
24,26	Halifax	100, 150	K.Anderson	
<b>Iceland Gull:</b>				
6,8;13	Nantucket; Gloucester	1, 1; 1 (1W)	BBC; C.Leahy	
<b>Lesser Black-backed Gull:</b>				
2,3;2	Nantucket; M.V.	1 ad.; 1 ad.	E.Andrews#; W.Manter	
4	Gloucester	1 (1W)	C.Leahy	
21,28	N.Monomoy, Stellwagen	1 ad., 1 ad.	B.Nikula#, BBC	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Black-legged Kittiwake:				
3	Outer Cape Cod	200+	P.Trimble	
28	P'town	7	A.Bennett	
Sabine's Gull:				
1,2	Barnstable	2 imm., 1 imm.	R.Pease	
6	S.Monomoy	1 imm.	W.Petersen#	
Caspian Tern:				
16,20	Norton	2, 1	J.Kricher, B.Cassie#	
27	P.I.	1	BBC	
Common Tern:				
6,21	P.I. Manomet	3, 4	BBC, SSBC	
28	Nantucket, P'town	21, 15	E.Andrews, A.Bennett	
Forster's Tern:				
14,20	P'town, Orleans	3, 4	R.Heil, G.d'Entremont#	
8,13	N.Monomoy	8, 23	B.Nikula	
28	Nantucket	2	E.Andrews	
Least Tern:				
28	P'town	1 juv.	A.Bennett	
Black Tern:				
3;6,8	P'town; N.Monomoy	4; 2, 1	P.Trimble; B.Nikula#	
14	P'town	4	R.Heil	
alcid sp.:				
15	Eastham	9+	B.Nikula	
Dovekie:				
14,22-28	Rockport, Manomet	1, 2-3	M.Kasprzyk, D.Evered	
murre sp.:				
13,14	Barnstable	1, 1	L.Robinson	
Razorbill:				
2,15	Rockport, Eastham	3, 1	J.Smith, B.Nikula	
23,28	Manomet, Marshfield	1, 1	v.o., D.Clapp	
Atlantic Puffin:				
15,28	Eastham, Stellwagen	2+, 11	B.Nikula, BBC	

#### DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Usually gone by the third week of September, Common Nighthawks and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were both reported later than normal. One hummingbird, a female or immature, was seen coming to plants on a Newburyport back porch for three days. A Black-backed (three-toed) Woodpecker spent a week or so in a yard in Topsfield, providing many fortunate observers with a rare experience, thanks to the homeowners who reported the bird and generously allowed birders to troop around on their property. G.W.G.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Mourning Dove:				
13	Concord	150	R.Forster	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:				
25	Westport	1 (with band)	R.Laubach	
Common Barn-Owl:				
6	Tisbury M.V.	1	R.Stymeist, J.Heywood	
Eastern Screech-Owl:				
6	M.V., Weymouth	2, 1	v.o., G.d'Entremont#	
8,8-9	Newburyport, Westport	1, 1	J.Grugan, R.Laubach	
21	Ipswich	1	J.Berry	
Great Horned Owl:				
4,6	E.Orleans, Wellfleet	2, 1	E.Williams, G.d'Entremont#	
9,10	E.Middleboro, Ipswich	2, 2	K.Anderson, J.Berry	
21	Weston	1	L.Robinson	
Barred Owl:				
3,9	MNWS, Falmouth	1, 1	J.Smith, B.Sorrie	
Short-eared Owl:				
21,27	S.Monomoy, Ipswich	3+, 2	B.Nikula#, M.McClellan	
Common Nighthawk:				
4,11	Yarmouthport, Barnstable	2, 1	J.Aylward, R.Pease	
Chimney Swift:				
6-7,8	M.V., W.Bridgewater	2, 15	SSBC, L.Robinson	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird:				
3,8	Harwich, P.I.	1, 1	P.Trimble, BBC	
14-16	Newburyport	1 f. or imm.	J.Grugan	
21	Brookline	2	fide H.Wiggin	
Belted Kingfisher:				
6-8	Nantucket, M.V.	9, 12	BBC, SSBC	
13,21	Newburyport-P.I., Manomet	3, 3	BBC, SSBC	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1984</u>
Belted Kingfisher (cont.):				
27,29	Boston, E.Middleboro	1, 1	P.Thayer, K.Anderson	
Red-headed Woodpecker:				
6-13	P.I.	1 imm.	v.o.	
7,21	M.V., S.Monomoy	1, 1 ad.	J.Heywood#, C.Goodrich#	
24,25	Westport, WBWS	1 imm., 1 imm.	R.Laubach, P.Trull#	
Red-bellied Woodpecker:				
6-7	M.V.	2	R.Stymeist, SSBC	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:				
6-8;6	M.V.; Scituate	4; 2	R.Stymeist, SSBC; R.Abrams	
6,7	Monomoy, P.I.	2, 3	W.Petersen#, R.Forster	
7,9	Truro, MNWS	1, 3	D.Clapp#, J.Smith	
Hairy Woodpecker:				
4,19	E.Middleboro	1 m. + 1 f.	K.Anderson	
Black-backed Woodpecker:				
18-25	Topsfield	1 m.	J.MacDougall + v.o.	
Northern Flicker:				
6-8	Nantucket	30	BBC	
Pileated Woodpecker:				
20	Weston	1	R.Stymeist	

#### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH VIREOS

A variety of flycatchers was seen on the first weekend of the month, and virtually none reported thereafter. Red-breasted Nuthatch reports consisted of one probable resident individual; conversely, a good Golden-crowned Kinglet flight developed this fall. The 2700 American Robins reported from Lincoln were seen going to a roost. A White-eyed Vireo was seen in Rockport on the 27th, a quite late occurrence.

Among the rarities of the month was a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher seen on Monomoy. Also, a single Gray Jay was observed for a couple of days in the area just east of Quabbin Reservoir. The two Jackdaws continued on Nantucket. Finally, a Northern Wheatear was reported by a single observer at Plymouth but could not be located subsequently by others. L.E.T.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1984</u>
Eastern Wood-Pewee:				
6-8	Nantucket	1	BBC	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:				
6,7	Nantucket, P.I.	1, 1	BBC, R.Forster	
Eastern Phoebe:				
6,7	P.I., M.V.	3, 3	BBC, SSBC	
Great Crested Flycatcher:				
6	Chatham	1	W.Petersen	
Western Kingbird:				
6	M.V.	1	fide V.Laux	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:				
21	S.Monomoy	1	H.Stabins#	
Horned Lark:				
27,28	P.I., P'town	75, 40	BBC, A.Bennett	
Tree Swallow:				
3-6,6	Halifax, Monomoy	max. 1800, 500	v.o., W.Petersen#	
6,6-8	M.V., Nantucket	800, 500	R.Stymeist#, BBC	
8,20	P.I., Truro	10, 2	BBC, D.Brown#	
Barn Swallow:				
6-8,20	4 locations, Norton	10 individuals, 1	v.o., B.Cassie#	
Gray Jay:				
27-28	Petersham	1	R.Coyle	
Blue Jay:				
6,6-8	Chatham, M.V.	100, 200	B.Nikula, SSBC	
6-8,21	Nantucket, Ipswich	126, 50+	BBC, J.Berry	
American Crow:				
1,20	Halifax, Belmont	50, 49	K.Anderson, L.Taylor	
Fish Crow:				
28	Arlington	1	L.Taylor	
Jackdaw:				
thr.	Nantucket	2	E.Andrews#	
Red-breasted Nuthatch:				
20	Lakeville	1	K.Holmes	
Carolina Wren:				
7,10	M.V., Westport	4, 3	SSBC, R.Laubach	
21	Falmouth, Plymouth	4, 1	P.Trimble, SSBC	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Carolina Wren (cont.):				
27	Braintree	1	G.d'Entremont	
House Wren:				
6-7,8	M.V., ONWR	6, 2	SSBC, M.Lynch#	
8,20	P.I., Peabody	1, 1	BBC, R.Heil	
Winter Wren:				
4,6	Chatham, Nantucket	1, 3 b.	W.Bailey, E.Andrews#	
27	Rockport, Eastham	1, 1	I.Giriunas, A.Bennett	
Marsh Wren:				
6,8	M.V., Nantucket	1, 1	fide V.Laux, BBC	
8,25	P.I., Cambridge	1, 1	BBC, L.Robinson	
Golden-crowned Kinglet:				
6-28,7	P.I., Nantucket	max.30(10/28), 32	R.Heil+v.o., BBC	
8,21	Wareham, Falmouth	15, 5	L.Robinson, P.Trimble	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:				
6,27;6-7	P.I.; M.V.	5, 4; 30	BBC; SSBC	
6,13	P'town, Petersham	10, 22	R.Campbell#, S.Carroll#	
21,27	Weston, Belmont	3, 4	L.Robinson, L.Taylor	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:				
4,6	Cambridge, M.V.	1, 1	L.Robinson, SSBC	
7	N.Scituate	1	W.Petersen	
Northern Wheatear:				
27	Plymouth	1	D.Evered	
Eastern Bluebird:				
11-13,13	Medford, P'town	max. 16, 1	P.Roberts, B.Nikula	
13,15	Hardwick, Fall River	4, 13	M.Lynch#, R.Laubach#	
21,25	Lincoln, Millis	3, 6	R.Forster, B.Cassie	
Veery:				
10	MNWS	1	J.Smith	
Gray-cheeked Thrush:				
7-10	Nantucket	2 b.	E.Andrews#	
Swainson's Thrush:				
6-9,20	4 locations, Topsfield	5 total, 1	v.o., S.Carroll#	
Hermit Thrush:				
6-27,6	P.I., Scituate	5 total, 2	v.o., R.Abrams	
7,22	WBWS, Fall River	1, 2	D.Clapp, R.Laubach	
Wood Thrush:				
5	Boston	1	J.Cumming	
American Robin:				
21,28	Medfield, Lincoln	346, <u>2700</u>	W.Reagan, R.Forster	
Gray Catbird:				
6,6-8	P.I., M.V.	25, 60	BBC, SSBC	
Water Pipit:				
1,6-21	Salisbury, P.I.	12, max. 61(10/6)	S.Carroll#, BBC	
7,10	Nantucket, S.Monomoy	48, 75	BBC, B.Nikula	
13,15	SRV, M.V.	192, 350	R.Forster, fide V.Laux	
27,31	Cambridge, E.Boston	7, 3	BBC, S.Zendeh#	
Cedar Waxwing:				
6,28	Nantucket, Sudbury	20, 18	BBC, R.Forster	
White-eyed Vireo:				
6	S.Peabody, Rockport	1, 1 b.	R.Heil#, R.Norris	
6,27	M.V., Rockport	1, 1	SSBC, T.Martin#	
Solitary Vireo:				
6-7,6-15	M.V., 5 locations	8, 6 total	J.Heywood#, v.o.	
20,27	P'town, P.I.	3, 1	D.Brown#, BBC	
Yellow-throated Vireo:				
5	Rockport	1 b.	R.Norris	
Philadelphia Vireo:				
4,6	Belmont, P'town	1, 1	L.Taylor, R.Campbell#	
6,7	S.Dartmouth, M.V.	1, 1	T.Raymond, R.Stymeist#	
Red-eyed Vireo:				
6-8,25	4 locations, MNWS	6 total, 1	v.o., J.Smith	
28	S.Peabody	2	R.Heil	

#### WARBLERS

Migration brought a total of 25 species of warbler our way in October this year, including pretty much the expected varieties encompassing typical dates. The two Pine Warblers at the south end of Monomoy were at a rather unusual location. *Oporornis* warblers were represented by a total of three individuals; one Connecticut and two Mourning, the Plum Island bird occurring late enough that it is hoped it was well observed with MacGillivray's in mind.

L.E.T.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1984</u>
Tennessee Warbler:				
7	P.I., Scituate	1, 2	R.Forster, W.Petersen	
21	Falmouth	1	P.Trimble	
Orange-crowned Warbler:				
6,7	S.Peabody, Nantucket	1, 2	R.Heil, BBC	
7,31	P.I.; Sudbury	1, 1	R.Forster	
Nashville Warbler:				
7,20	Scituate, S.Peabody	2, 1	W.Petersen, R.Heil	
Northern Parula:				
6-12	4 locations	4 singles	v.o.	
Yellow Warbler:				
8,20	P.I., Truro	1, 1	BBC, G.d'Entremont	
Chestnut-sided Warbler:				
7,9	N.Scituate, MNWS	1, 1	W.Petersen, J.Smith	
Magnolia Warbler:				
6-7,8	Nantucket, P.I.	2, 1	BBC, C.Floyd#	
Cape May Warbler:				
6-7,6-8	M.V., Nantucket	4, 5	SSBC, BBC	
6-8,15	P.I., MNWS	max. 2, 1	v.o., J.Smith	
Black-throated Blue Warbler:				
6,7	P.I., M.V.	1, 2	BBC, R.Stymeist#	
21	Falmouth	3	P.Trimble	
Yellow-rumped Warbler:				
thr.,5-13	P.I., M.V.	max. 100, max. 200 (10/13)	v.o.	
10,21	Lincoln, Hamilton	250 mig., 75	R.Forster, J.Berry	
Black-throated Green Warbler:				
6,7	P'town, Plymouth	2, 2	R.Campbell#, W.Petersen	
7-21,28	4 locations, P.I.	6 total, 1	v.o., R.Heil	
Pine Warbler:				
6,7	S.Monomoy, Truro	2, 3	W.Petersen#, D.Clapp#	
7,21	Lakeville, Falmouth	5, 2	W.Petersen, P.Trimble	
Prairie Warbler:				
6,7	Nantucket, P.I.	1, 1	BBC, R.Forster	
20,25	Truro, Millis	1, 1 m.	D.Brown#, B.Cassie	
Palm Warbler:				
6;10,21	Halifax; S.Monomoy	10; 30+, 30+	K.Anderson; B.Nikula	
27,28	Salisbury, P.I.	4, 2	BBC, P.Roberts	
Bay-breasted Warbler:				
6,6	Scituate, Nantucket	1, 1	R.Abrams, BBC	
7,8	Westport, P.I.	2, 2	BBC	
Blackpoll Warbler:				
6-7,6-8	M.V., Nantucket	10, 7	SSBC, BBC	
7	Westport, Wareham	5, 15	BBC, L.Robinson	
27,29	Westport, Lincoln	1, 1	R.Laubach, R.Forster	
Black-and-white Warbler:				
7,7	Scituate, Westport	1, 1	W.Petersen, BBC	
8,9	P.I., MNWS	1, 2	BBC, J.Smith	
American Redstart:				
6-8,8	Nantucket, P.I.	3, 2	BBC	
13	M.V.	1	R.Titus#	
Ovenbird:				
12	Milton	1	R.Titus	
Northern Waterthrush:				
7,10	M.V., MNWS	1, 2	J.Heywood#, J.Smith	
Connecticut Warbler:				
11	Cambridge	1 m.	L.Robinson	
Mourning Warbler:				
10,27	MNWS, P.I.	1, 1	J.Smith, C.Ewer	
Common Yellowthroat:				
6-7,6-8	M.V., Nantucket	12, 17	SSBC, BBC	
24,27	Truro, P.I.	1, 2	P.Trimble, BBC	
Wilson's Warbler:				
8,11	Nantucket	1, 1 b.	BBC, E.Andrews#	
Yellow-breasted Chat:				
6-7,7	Chatham, Scituate	1, 1	v.o., W.Petersen	
21,27	Plymouth, P.I.	1, 1	SSBC, BBC	

SCARLET Tanager THROUGH EVENING GROSBEAK

White-crowned Sparrows occurred in average to low numbers this fall. A Bobolink was observed at the south end of Monomoy on the rather late date of October 25. Seven thousand Red-winged Blackbirds reported from Ipswich were seen flying into a roost, in groups of up to 100 individuals. A total of over 900 Rusty Blackbirds for the month,

led by the count of 710 at Millis, was notably high compared to recent Octobers. No winter finch flight materialized so far.

Unusual sparrow species reported included single individual Lark, Henslow's and LeConte's, all towards the end of the month. An immature male Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen together with cowbirds for about a week near Nine Acre Corner in Concord. Corn Hill, Truro is a familiar site for Brewer's Blackbird, and was frequented briefly by one individual again this fall.

L.E.T.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1984
Scarlet Tanager: 4-8,19	8 locations, Nantucket	9 total, 1 b.	v.o., E.Andrews#	
Blue Grosbeak: 4,28;6 12-14,20	Chatham; M.V. Belmont, Harwich	1, 1; 1 1, 2	v.o.; fide V.Laux v.o., B.Nikula	
Indigo Bunting: 6,7 27,28	M.V., Truro Belmont, Truro	12, 7 1, 3	fide V.Laux, M.Lynch# L.Taylor, A.Bennett	
Dickcissel: 7-27,4-6 3-31,21	Truro, M.V. 8 locations, P.I.	max. 3, max. 2 8 total, 3	v.o. v.o., R.Heil#	
Rufous-sided Towhee: 6,6-7 7,7-8 21,28	P.I., M.V. P'town, Nantucket E.Boston, Lexington	5, 12 50+, 11 1, 2 m.	BBC, SSBC J.Aylward, BBC S.Zendeh, L.Taylor	
American Tree Sparrow: 28-31	4 locations	4 singles	v.o.	
Chipping Sparrow: 6-13,6-7 6-7,27	P.I., M.V. Nantucket, Truro	max. 11, 25 7, 1	v.o., SSBC BBC, A.Bennett	
Clay-colored Sparrow: 4,7 7-9,21 25	Chatham, Scituate P.I., Salisbury Squantum	1, 1 1, 1 1	W.Bailey#, W.Petersen R.Forster#, G.Soucy# D.Brown	
Field Sparrow: 5,13 21,27	Lincoln, Westport Scituate, Salisbury	2, 6 18, 4	J.Carter, R.Laubach SSBC, BBC	
Vesper Sparrow: 7-20 20,27	S.Wellfleet Middleboro, Belmont	max. 7 1, 1	v.o. K.Holmes, L.Taylor	
Lark Sparrow: 20	P.I.	1	M.Argue#	
Savannah Sparrow: 6-8,7-8 21,27	M.V., Nantucket E.Boston, P.I.	30, 45 150, 40	SSBC, BBC S.Zendeh#, BBC	
"Ipswich" Sparrow: 17-21,17-27	Salisbury, Scituate	1, max. 6	v.o.	
Henslow's Sparrow: 20-26	Truro	1 (details)	J.Aylward#	
LeConte's Sparrow: 25	Squantum	1 (no details)	D.Brown	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 7,13 27,28	Dartmouth, Salisbury Scituate, Newburyport	12, 10 6, 50+	BBC W.Petersen#, R.Heil	
Seaside Sparrow: 7,28	Dartmouth, Newburyport	2, 7	BBC, R.Heil	
Fox Sparrow: 27,30	Salisbury, Quincy	2, 2	BBC, S.Higginbotham	
Song Sparrow: 6-8,8 19,21	M.V., Lancaster Sudbury, E.Boston	50, 40 30, 30	SSBC, S.Carroll# R.Forster, S.Zendeh#	
Lincoln's Sparrow: 7-20,8 11-20,20 21,27	Truro, ONWR Belmont, Middleboro E.Boston, P.I.	max. 2, 4 max. 3, 1 2, 1	v.o., M.Lynch# L.Taylor, K.Holmes S.Zendeh#, BBC	
Swamp Sparrow: 8,12 18,27	Lancaster, GMNWR Marshfield, P.I.	37, 55 12, 15	S.Carroll#, L.Robinson R.Abrams#, BBC	
White-throated Sparrow: 6 8,13	P.I., Scituate ONWR, Petersham	40+, 40 25, 130	BBC, R.Abrams M.Lynch#, S.Carroll#	
White-crowned Sparrow: 6-7,7-28 6-8,8	M.V., P.I. Nantucket, ONWR	max. 5, max. 5 max. 6, 5	v.o. BBC, S.Carroll#	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1984</u>
White-crowned Sparrow (cont.):				
7-24,17	Truro, Salisbury	max. 15, 10	v.o., J.Grugan	
Dark-eyed Junco:				
6-8,24	Nantucket, Truro	28, 20	BBC, P.Trimble	
25,27	Millis, Salisbury-P.I.	520, 30	B.Cassie, BBC	
Lapland Longspur:				
7,13	P.I., Salisbury	4, 4	R.Forster, BBC	
21,31	Scituate, E.Boston	5, 16	SSBC, S.Zendeh	
Snow Bunting:				
14,27	Nahant, Salisbury	1, 24	S.Zendeh, BBC	
28,30	P'town, Concord	26, 5	A.Bennett, R.Forster	
Bobolink:				
3,7	Halifax, Nantucket	1, 1	K.Anderson#, BBC	
12,25	Bedford, S.Monomoy	1, 1	L.Robinson, B.Nikula	
Red-winged Blackbird:				
8,21	Lancaster, Ipswich	150+, 7000+	S.Carroll, J.Berry	
Eastern Meadowlark:				
5,7	Lincoln, Newbury	3, 15	J.Carter, R.Forster	
27,30	Eastham, Dartmouth	8, 26	A.Bennett, C.Laubach	
Yellow-headed Blackbird:				
7-14	Concord	1 imm. m. (ph)	R.Walton# + v.o.	
8	Harwich	1 (no details)	J.Aylward + C.Smith	
Rusty Blackbird:				
6,7	Halifax, Lakeville	2, 10	K.Anderson, W.Petersen	
20	Millis, Peabody	710, 200	B.Cassie, R.Heil	
30	E.Middleboro	1 m.	K.Anderson	
Brewer's Blackbird:				
20	Truro (Corn Hill)	1 m.	G.d'Entremont, R.Campbell, D.Brown	
Common Grackle:				
16,20	Arlington, Westboro	120, 800	L.Taylor, L.Robinson	
21,23	Braintree, Westport	3000, 200	R.Abrams, R.Laubach	
Brown-headed Cowbird:				
6-7,13	M.V.	80, 150	SSBC, R.Titus#	
20	Belmont	1	L.Taylor	
Northern Oriole:				
6-8,7	Nantucket, Truro	1-2, 1	BBC, M.Lynch#	
Purple Finch:				
7	Nantucket, Scituate	2, 3	BBC, W.Petersen	
House Finch:				
6-8	M.V.	30	SSBC	
Pine Siskin:				
27	Wellesley	1	L.Robinson	
Evening Grosbeak:				
3	MNWS	2	J.Smith	

#### ANOTHER CHECKLIST AVAILABLE

A new checklist, prepared by Ruth Ogden of the Tucson Audubon Society, is a handy, pocket-sized booklet of twenty pages. The Check-list of North American Birds, United States and Canada Including Hawaii includes 917 species arranged in the sequence of the A.O.U. Checklist, Sixth Edition, with the new common and scientific names given as well as orders and families. There is an index, and introduced birds are marked with an asterisk. Published in 1984, it can be purchased from The Audubon Nature Shop, Tucson Audubon Society, 30-A North Tucson Boulevard, Tucson, Arizona, 85716 for \$1.00.

# Field Records

## November 1984



by George W. Gove, Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

November 1984 was dry, sunny, and a little on the cool side. The temperature averaged 44.6°, 0.6° below normal. The highest was 68° on November 11, and the coldest was 25° on November 20. The season's first freeze came four days earlier than average when the mercury dropped to 29° on November 3. The thermometer seemed to be on a seesaw, ranging from 13° below normal to 15° above normal with the final five days averaging 9° above normal.

Precipitation totaled 1.68 inches, 2.53 inches less than normal and the least in November since 1976. Snowfall was but a trace, and that all melted as it fell. The first flakes of the season came on the thirteenth, one day earlier than in 1983 and six days later than average.

### LOONS THROUGH HERONS

The Arctic Loon seen in October (see paper in this issue by D. Evered on loon identification) was again reported off Plymouth Beach by another observer on November 3. The November bird was visible, feeding actively, for nearly twenty minutes at close range and could be compared with a nearby Common Loon. The following details were given by the observer of the November bird: "two-tone bill, gray with black tip; brown eye with no white above, front, or behind; white cheek with some smudging at chin and eye; forehead and back, dark black or black-brown; neck, white; paler black-gray back of head and neck; high contrast - black and white; straight demarcations on neck; white on sides clearly visible, especially when diving; slight speckling on shoulders; dived by pulling head back and lunging forward."

There were good numbers of Pied-billed Grebes reported with a high count of twenty-nine from the Lakeville area. A Red-necked Grebe was also found in Lakeville, and the count of Horned Grebes there was twenty-five at the beginning of the month, nearly doubling (forty-nine) at the end of November. The Western Grebe returned to Nantucket on November 22.

Northern Gannets were in good supply, especially on Nantucket where counts were over a thousand most of the month. The only Great Cormorants reported were all immatures, all from inland locations.

Late heron reports included three Great Egrets and four or five Snowy Egrets. The most bizarre report of the month came from Yarmouth where a Least Bittern was found dead, hanging from a utility wire along busy Route 28 in the middle of town. The bird had somehow caught its bill between the wires and could not get loose. R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1984</u>
Red-throated Loon:				
1-25,4	Lakeville, Winthrop	1-3, 5	D.Briggs#+v.o., J.Cumming	
1,23	P.I.	37, 130	M.McClellan#, E.Nielsen	
7-27,15	Barnstable, Westport	max.30(11/7), 25	P.Trimble, R.Laubach	
Arctic Loon:				
3	Plymouth Beach	1 (details)	A.Bennett	
Common Loon:				
10,24	Nantucket	25+, 50+	E.Andrews#, M.Litchfield	
12,23	Waltham (Cambridge Res.)	1, 1	R.Forster	
18,23	P.I.	22, 47	P.Roberts#, E.Nielsen	
Pied-billed Grebe:				
4,25	Lakeville	18, 29	W.Petersen#+v.o.	
4,12	Plymouth	5, 8	G.d'Entremont#, W.Petersen	
10,25	Nantucket, Falmouth	7, 5	E.Andrews#, P.Trimble	
Other reports of 1-3 individuals from seven locations.				

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1984
Horned Grebe:				
4	Lakeville, Plymouth	25, 16	G.Gove#, G.d'Entremont#	
9,10	Wollaston, Falmouth	225, 30	R.Abrams#, R.Heil#	
25,27	Lakeville, Plymouth	49, 43	W.Petersen#, D.Evered#	
Red-necked Grebe:				
4,8	Lakeville, Manomet	1, 15	W.Petersen#, D.Evered#	
23,27	P.I., Barnstable	4, 2	E.Nielsen, P.Trimble	
Other reports of 1-2 individuals from eight locations.				
Western Grebe:				
22	Nantucket	1	B.,M.J.+ M.F.Litchfield	
Northern Fulmar:				
24	Provincetown	1	SSBC	
Manx Shearwater:				
14	Barnstable (S.N.)	1	P.Trimble	
Northern Gannet:				
1,10	P.I.	125, 85	D.Arvidson#, BBC	
10,13	Salisbury, Manomet	300, 500	R.Forster, D.Evered#	
14,18	Nantucket	2200, 1500	M.Litchfield, R.Abrams	
Great Cormorant:				
12,17	Woburn, Winchester	1 imm., 1 imm.	R.Forster, BBC	
23	Waltham (Cambridge Res.)	1 imm.	R.Forster	
Double-crested Cormorant:				
25,26	P.I., Marblehead	4, 1	J.Nove#, J.Smith	
American Bittern:				
1-25,11	P.I., Essex	1-2, 1	v.o., I.Giriunas#	
Least Bittern:				
mid-November	S.Yarmouth	1 (dead)	P.Trull + v.o.	
Great Blue Heron:				
4	Lakeville, GMNWR	5, 6	G.Gove#, R.Vernon#	
7,11	Saugus, Salisbury	6, 4	J.Berry, BBC	
Other reports of 1-2 individuals from various locations.				
Great Egret:				
12,25	N.Middleboro, Dartmouth	1, 1	K.Holmes, R.Laubach#	
30	Eastham (Nauset)	1	P.Goodrich	
Snowy Egret:				
1;3,12	Squantum; P.I.	2; 2, 1 imm.	G.Wilson; M.Argue#, W.Smith	
Black-crowned Night-Heron:				
9-30	Cambridge (Fresh Pond)	1-2	J.Barton	
24	Nantucket (Great Point)	12 in roost	M.Litchfield	

#### WATERFOWL

Two Tundra Swans were seen flying over Great Blue Hill in Canton on November 22, and a dozen were counted at Chilmark on Martha's Vineyard on November 25. At South Monomoy the following waterfowl counts were reported: 250 Green-winged Teal, 75 Northern Pintail, 50 Northern Shoveler, 35 Gadwall, 1-2 Eurasian Wigeon, 150 American Wigeon, 90 Ring-necked Ducks, 20 Hooded Mergansers, and 260 Ruddy Ducks. At Fresh Pond in Cambridge, Greater Scaup consistently outnumbered Lesser Scaup by a wide margin, but the highlight here was the good numbers of Canvasbacks present on the pond - over a hundred most of the month and a high count of 260 on November 14. Also at Fresh Pond were good numbers of Ring-necked Ducks, and an Oldsquaw was observed there on the twenty-second of November. At Plum Island, twenty-three Snow Geese were noted, and 400 Green-winged Teal, 46 Northern Pintails, and 21 Northern Shovelers were among the highlights on the refuge. Other interesting waterfowl observations included 75 Wood Ducks in Concord, Eurasian Wigeon on Nantucket and in Plymouth, big counts of Common Eider one mile east of Chappaquiddick and off South Monomoy, 4 reports of King Eider, 6 Harlequin Ducks, inland Oldsquaw at Sherborn, Lakeville, and in Cambridge, and fair numbers of both Hooded and Common mergansers and also Ruddy Ducks. R.H.S.

Tundra Swan:				
22	Canton (Blue Hills)	2	R. Titus	
25	M.V.	12	W. Manter	
Mute Swan:				
10,12	Ipswich, Plymouth	10, 49	BBC, W.Petersen#	
18	Nantucket	150	W.Petersen	
Snow Goose:				
thr.,25	P.I., Wareham	max.23(11/18), 1	G.Gove+v.o., B.Sorrie	
Brant:				
12	Duxbury-Plymouth	750+	W.Petersen#	
19,24	Orleans, Eastham	500, 100	N.Waldron#, SSBC	
Canada Goose:				
10	Ipswich	1500	BBC	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1984
Wood Duck:				
3	Concord (Ball's Hill Road)	75	B.Phillips	
22	Boston (Fenway)	4	P.Thayer	
Green-winged Teal:				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max.250 + 1 albino	B.Nikula#	
11,17	P.I.	400, 150	J.Cumming	
American Black Duck:				
24	Plymouth	680	R.Titus	
Northern Pintail:				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max. 75	B.Nikula#	
9,25	Centerville, P.I.	100, 46	P.Trimble, P.+ J.Roberts	
Northern Shoveler:				
thr.	P.I.	max.21(11/10)	R.Forster#+v.o.	
thr.	S.Monomoy	max.50(11/8)	B.Nikula#	
Gadwall:				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max.35(11/4)	B.Nikula#	
10,12	P.I., Plymouth	8, 11	BBC, W.Petersen	
Eurasian Wigeon:				
1-10	Nantucket	1 m.	E.Andrews#	
12-30;22,24	Plymouth; S.Monomoy	1; 1, 2	W.Petersen#; B.Nikula#	
American Wigeon:				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max.150(11/24)	B.Nikula#	
3,4	Ipswich, GMNWR	75, 50	BBC, R.Vernon#	
10,11	Nantucket, Acoaxet	110, 90	R.Stymeist#, SSBC	
Canvasback:				
thr.	Cambridge (Fresh Pond)	max. 260(11/14)	v.o.	
11,25	Acoaxet, Falmouth	100, 70	SSBC, P.Trimble	
Redhead:				
10,12-30	Nantucket, Plymouth	27, 1-2	R.Stymeist#,R.Campbell+v.o.	
Ring-necked Duck:				
thr.	Lakeville	max.1500(11/4)	G.Gove(BBC)+v.o.	
thr.	Cambridge	max.61(11/9)	J.Barton+v.o.	
thr.	S.Monomoy	max.90	B.Nikula+v.o.	
Greater Scaup:				
9,10	Squantum, Nantucket	450, 400	R.Abrams,R.Stymeist#	
Lesser Scaup:				
4	Lakeville	300±	W.Petersen(SSBC)	
thr.,10	Cambridge, Ipswich	1-3, 2	J.Barton, R.Forster	
Common Eider:				
7	Chappaquiddick	11500	M.Litchfield	
8,24	S.Monomoy, Orleans	15000, 2000	B.Nikula#, G.Gove	
24,27	Plymouth, Nantucket	925, 800	R.Titus, M.Litchfield	
King Eider:				
3	Scituete, Plymouth	1 subad., 1 subad.	G.d'Entremont#	
13,25	Manomet	1 2nd yr., 1 1st yr.	D.Evered	
Harlequin Duck:				
8,12	Manomet	3, 1	D.Evered#	
23-24,25	Winthrop, Rockport	pr., 1 m.	J.Cumming#, A.Bennett	
Oldsquaw:				
3,4	Sherborn, Lakeville	1, 3	B.Cassie#, W.Petersen#	
20,22	Nantucket, Cambridge	10000+, 1	E.+ C.Andrews, J.Barton	
Black Scoter:				
24	Orleans	2000	G.Gove	
Surf Scoter:				
4,27	Winthrop, Barnstable	10, 3	J.Cumming, P.Trimble	
White-winged Scoter:				
11,18	P.I.	70, 350	J.Cumming, P.+ J.Roberts	
Common Goldeneye:				
4,9-15	Lakeville, Cambridge	12, 1-4	G.Gove#, J.Barton#	
18,25	Waltham, Falmouth	11, 90	R.Stymeist, P.Trimble	
Barrow's Goldeneye:				
25	Plymouth Harbor	1 m.	B.Sorrie	
Bufflehead:				
1,9	P.I., Wollaston	95, 1500	D.Arvidson#, R.Abrams	
10,11	Falmouth, Acoaxet	600, 200	R.Heil#, SSBC	
Hooded Merganser:				
thr.	S.Monomoy, E.Quabbin	max.20, max.116(11/16)	v.o., T.Gagnon#+v.o.	
thr.	Waltham (Cambridge Res.)	max.28(11/23)	R.Forster#+v.o.	
thr.	Braintree	max.52(11/12)	S.Higginbotham#+v.o.	
19,25	Eastham, Lakeville	49, 31	N.Waldron#, W.Petersen#	
Many other reports of 3-20 individuals.				
Common Merganser:				
thr.	Waltham	max.161(11/23)	R.Forster#	
thr.	Lakeville	max.100+(11/25)	W.Petersen#	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1984
Common Merganser (continued):				
10,12	E.Quabbin, Braintree	40, 26	T.Gagnon, S.Higginbotham	
Red-breasted Merganser:				
4	Lakeville, Winthrop	1, 380	SSBC, J.Cumming	
8,10	S.Monomoy, N.Monomoy	3000, 7000	B.Nikula#	
24	P'town, Nantucket	962, 2500+	SSBC, M.Litchfield	
Ruddy Duck:				
thr.	S.Monomoy	max.260(11/24)	B.Nikula#+v.o.	
thr.	Waltham (Cambridge Res.)	max.46(11/12)	R.Forster#+v.o.	
thr.	Lakeville	max.50+(11/6)	W.Petersen#+v.o.	
3,20	W.Newbury, Jamaica Plain	26, 24	M.Argue#, H.Coolidge	

#### HAWKS THROUGH COOT

An Osprey was present in Lakeville at least through the third week of the month, and Bald Eagles were noted at seven locations with one being present at Snipatuit Pond in Rochester throughout the month. A maximum of three were seen in the Newburyport area. Cooper's Hawks and Northern Goshawks were noted at several locations, and three Red-shouldered Hawks were reported. Rough-legged Hawks were sparse this month. Two Golden Eagles, an adult and a subadult, were noted at Quabbin throughout most of the month. All of the falcons were represented with up to nine Peregrine Falcons seen, and a gray Gyrfalcon was spotted on South Monomoy Island.

Three Wild Turkeys were seen in Athol. American Coot numbers have been low for the past couple of years, and one observer noted that this year was very poor in reports of that species.

G.W.G.

Osprey:				
4	Lakeville, Concord	2, 1	v.o., BBC	
12,24	Wayland, Lakeville	1, 1	R.Walton#, R. Titus	
Bald Eagle:				
thr.	Rochester	1	K.Elkins	
2,8	W.Wareham, Lakeville	1 imm., 1	E.Kraus, C.Norton	
10-24	E.Quabbin	at least 6	v.o.	
14,18	E.Orleans, Topsfield	1 imm., 1 imm.	D.Williams, C.Floyd#	
12-26	Newburyport	max. 3(11/26)	B.Blodget#	
Northern Harrier:				
3-25	P.I.	max.7(11/12)	v.o.	
18,24	Salisbury, Pembroke	3, 1	G.Gove, SSBC	
Sharp-shinned Hawk:				
1,3	E.Middleboro, Westport	1, 1	K.Anderson, R.Laubach	
9,10	Concord, E.Quabbin	1, 1	J.Carter, T.Gagnon	
24	Weston, Orleans	1, 2	L.Robinson, G.Gove	
Cooper's Hawk:				
4,11	Middleboro, Fall River	1, 1	K.Holmes, W.Petersen#	
25	Falmouth	1	P.Trimble	
Northern Goshawk:				
4,7	Middleboro, E.Orleans	1 ad., 1 imm.	SSBC, D.Williams	
12,18	Lakeville, Brookline	1, 1	K.Holmes, H.Coolidge	
24,25	Quabbin, Rockport	1, 1	G.d'Entremont, M.Heindel	
Red-shouldered Hawk:				
1,11	E.Middleboro, Weston	1, 1	K.Anderson, R.Stymeist	
18	Southboro	1	J.Gordon#	
Red-tailed Hawk:				
3	Ipswich, Southboro	2, 2	BBC, K.Anderson	
18;25	Nant., Salisbury; P.I.	15, 3; 3	W.Petersen#, BBC; BBC	
Rough-legged Hawk:				
thr.	Nantucket	1	fide E. Andrews	
12,25	P.I., Marshfield	1, 1	R.Emery#, D.Clapp#	
Golden Eagle:				
10-23	E.Quabbin	1 ad. + 1 imm.	v.o.	
American Kestrel:				
11,18	Ipswich, P.I.	1, 4	BBC, P.Roberts#	
18	Nantucket	3	R.Abrams	
Merlin				
10	P.I., Nantucket	1 ad. m., 1	P.Roberts#, R.Stymeist#	
11,14	Westport, Manomet	1, 1 m.	B.Sorrie, D.Evered#	
24,25	Eastham, P.I.	1, 1	SSBC, G. Gove	
Peregrine Falcon:				
1,12	P.I.	1, 1	M.McClellan#,D.Evered#	
3,18,25	N.Monomoy	1 imm., 1 ad., 1 ad.	B.Nikula#	
Reports of 4 others from four locations.				
Gyrfalcon:				
22,24	S.Monomoy	1 (gray)	B.Nikula#	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1984
Ruffed Grouse: 4	Lakeville	1	SSBC	
Wild Turkey: 27	Athol	3	K.Hamilton	
Northern Bobwhite: 25,26	E.Middleboro	16	K.Anderson	
Virginia Rail: 4,14	GMNWR, Norwell	1, 1	BBC, fide W.Petersen	
Common Moorhen: 4	Nantucket	1	E.Andrews	
American Coot: thr.	Cambridge	max.12(11/8)	J.Barton	
thr.	S.Monomoy	max.150(11/11)	B.Nikula#	
4,25	Lakeville	10, 21	BBC, W.Petersen#	

#### SHOREBIRDS

Lesser Golden-Plover were seen inland at Halifax where up to four remained at least through November 12. Again there is a November record for American Oystercatcher that reflects the increase in the local breeding population. These birds have normally departed by the first of October as have Spotted Sandpipers. There have been six reports of the latter bird in four out of the eleven past years. The Eurasian Curlew reappeared for one day on November 23 after being unreported since October 1. Hudsonian Godwits, normally gone by the first week of the month, were seen through November 22 in the Newburyport area. The latest date in BOEM records for that species is November 27. The Marbled Godwit seen at Wollaston last month was last reported on the first. The latest date and only prior November BOEM record for Short-billed Dowitcher is November 5. These dowitchers are not generally seen after the first week of October. The thirty-six Common Snipe seen at the Norton Reservoir is a good count for this season.

G.W.G.

Black-bellied Plover: 3,4	N.Monomoy, Ipswich	900, 63	B.Nikula, J.Berry
10	Nantucket, P.I.	75, 85	R.Stymeist, BBC
12,25	Halifax, Dartmouth	100, 2	W.Petersen#, R.Laubach
Lesser Golden-Plover: 1;4,12	Halifax	2; 4, 2	K.Anderson; W.Petersen#
2,3	Nantucket, Orleans	5, 1	E.Andrews, C.Ewer
4	P.I., Bridgewater	1, 1	D.Evered, BBC
Semipalmated Plover: 3-25	P.I.	1-2	v.o.
Killdeer: 3,11	Concord	27, 5	R.Forster
4,6	Middleboro	35+, 6	SSBC, K.Anderson
American Oystercatcher: 3	Chatham	6	B.Nikula
Greater Yellowlegs: 1, 5	P.I., Squantum	14, 10	D.Arvidson#, R.Abrams
11,24	E.Boston, Wellfleet	17, 8	J.Cumming, D.Clapp
Lesser Yellowlegs: 11,24	Ipswich, Wellfleet	1, 2	BBC, D.Clapp
Spotted Sandpiper: 3	Danvers	1	T.Raymond
Eurasian Curlew: 23 (from Oct.)	N.Monomoy	1	R.Prescott#
Hudsonian Godwit: 1-22	P.I.-Salisbury	1-4 (2 on 11/22)	v.o.
1	Everett	2	J.Berry
Marbled Godwit: 1 (from Oct.)	Wollaston	1	D.Brown
Ruddy Turnstone: 24	Plymouth	4	R.Titus
Red Knot: 3,10	N.Monomoy, Scituate	120, 12	B.Nikula, E.Nielsen
Sanderling: 3,14	N.Monomoy, Barnstable	1000, 100	B.Nikula, P.Trimble
27	Nantucket	100	M.Litchfield
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 3	P.I.	1	BBC
Western Sandpiper: 24	P.I.	1 juvenile	R.Heil
White-rumped Sandpiper: 1-12,5	P.I., Squantum	max.4(11/4), 5	v.o., R.Abrams

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1984</u>
White-rumped Sandpiper (continued):				
4,8	S.Monomoy, N.Monomoy	5, 6	B.Nikula#	
Pectoral Sandpiper:				
1-12,4	Halifax, Norton	max.15(11/4), 19	v.o., B.Cassie	
5,12	Concord	3, 2	R.Forster	
18	Mashpee	3	P.Trull	
Purple Sandpiper:				
10,11	Rockport, N.Scituate	150, 450	M.Heindel, W.Petersen	
Dunlin:				
3-25,3	P.I., N.Monomoy	max.1500(11/12), 1800	v.o., B.Nikula	
9,11	Wollaston, Acoaxet	300, 150	R.Abrams, SSBC	
24,25	Eastham, Dartmouth	1250, 150+	SSBC, R.Laubach	
Short-billed Dowitcher:				
3	N.Monomoy	1	B.Nikula	
Long-billed Dowitcher:				
1-24	P.I.	max.11(11/1)	v.o.	
Common Snipe:				
4	Norton, Halifax	36, 1	B.Cassie, SSBC	
American Woodcock:				
9,11,27	E.Middleboro	1	K.Anderson	
Red Phalarope:				
4,21	Cape Ann, Manomet	2, 1	D.Evered#	

JAEGERS THROUGH BLACK GUILLEMOT

Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers were both seen at Rockport at month's end. Little Gull was conspicuous at Newburyport by its absence, but reports of Common Black-headed Gull were back to the frequency of a few years ago. Excellent numbers of both Bonaparte's and Ring-billed gulls were reported. A number of Iceland Gulls moved into the region for the winter, but there was only one report of Glaucous Gull. Three species of terns were represented in November reports, all from Nantucket. Dovekies, Thick-billed Murre, Razorbill, and Black Guillemot were all noted in small numbers throughout the month at various coastal locations. G.W.G.

Pomarine Jaeger:				
11,29	S.Dartmouth, Rockport	4, 3	SSBC, M.Heindel	
Parasitic Jaeger:				
29	Rockport	2 ad.	M.Heindel	
Laughing Gull:				
10,19	Falmouth, Sandwich	180, 4	R.Heil#, P.Trimble	
26	Barnstable	1	P.Trimble	
Little Gull:				
7;28	Plymouth; Manomet	1(1W); 1 ad., 1(2W)	D.Evered	
11	Westport	1	SSBC	
Common Black-headed Gull:				
10	Manomet	1(1W), 1 ad.	D.Evered	
25	Salisbury, E.Boston	1, 2(1 ad. + 1 imm.)	D.Briggs#, K.Norris	
Bonaparte's Gull:				
1,7	P.I., Acoaxet	400, 1000	D.Arvidson, v.o.	
23,27	Falmouth, Nantucket	1200, 300	G.Gove#, M.Litchfield	
Ring-billed Gull:				
1,23	Halifax, Falmouth	500, 600	K.Anderson, G.Gove#	
Iceland Gull:				
thr.	Nantucket	max.4 (2 ad. + 2 1W)	M.Litchfield	
22,24	P.I., Provincetown	1 (1W), 1	D.Evered, SSBC	
Lesser Black-backed Gull:				
10,22	Nantucket, Lynn	2, 1 (1W)	R.Stymeist#, R.Heil#	
26	Peabody	1 (1W)	M.Heindel	
Glaucous Gull:				
22	P.I.	1 (1W)	M.Heindel	
Great Black-backed Gull:				
10	Salisbury-P.I.	900 (mostly ad.)	R.Forster	
Black-legged Kittiwake:				
10-12,11	Rockport, S.Dartmouth	1000 each day, 200	M.Heindel, SSBC	
10,24	Manomet, Orleans	900, 500	D.Evered, G.Gove	
27	Nantucket	600	M.Litchfield	
Common Tern:				
4,14,21	Nantucket	71, 36, 1	E.Andrews#	
Forster's Tern:				
4-27	Nantucket	max.8(11/7)	E.Andrews#	
Black Tern:				
4	Nantucket	1	E.Andrews	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1984</u>
Dovekie:				
10-25 thr.	Rockport Manomet	max.4(11/10) max.8(11/28)	v.o. D.Evered#	
Thick-billed Murre:				
8-17	Manomet	1	v.o.	
23,25	Newburyport, Rockport	1, 1	H.Weissberg, v.o.	
Razorbill:				
1-19,10-29	Manomet, Rockport	1, max.45(11/29)	D.Evered#, v.o.	
10,24	P.I., Nantucket	2, 1	P.Roberts, M.Litchfield	
Black Guillemot:				
11-29	Rockport	max.15(11/25)	v.o.	
24,25	Provincetown, Manomet	1, 1	D.Clapp, B.Sorrie	

#### MOURNING DOVE THROUGH WOODPECKERS

A Common Barn-Owl was present at Logan International Airport for two to three weeks and in the evenings was frequently seen flying in there from the direction of the harbor islands. Two Snowy Owls were present in the Plum Island-Salisbury area, and one was seen sitting on a building in Brookline. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird was coming to plants on a porch in Newburyport, possibly the same bird that appeared there in October. Six reports of seven Pileated Woodpeckers were more than usual for the region. G.W.G.

Mourning Dove:				
thr.	Brookline (at feeder)	max.15(11/25)	H.Wiggin	
1,11	Westport, SRV	45, 300	R.Laubach, R.Forster	
Common Barn-Owl:				
7	E.Boston (Logan Airport)	1	N.Smith	
Eastern Screech-Owl:				
4,6	Lexington, Ipswich	2, 2	L.Taylor, J.Berry	
8,11	E.Middleboro, Topsfield	1, 1	K.Anderson, G.d'Entremont#	
Great Horned Owl:				
thr.	E.Middleboro	1-2	K.Anderson	
4-11,4	Ipswich, Lakeville	2, 1	v.o., K.Holmes	
23,24	Westport, Salisbury	1, 1	R.Laubach, D.Briggs#	
Snowy Owl:				
9-25	P.I.-Salisbury	max.2	v.o.	
26,28	Duxbury, Brookline	1, 1	J.Gady, H.Wiggin	
Short-eared Owl:				
7,12	Plymouth, P.I.	1, 1	D.Evered, W.Smith	
18,25	N.Nomony, Nantucket	1, 1	B.Nikula#, M.Litchfield	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird:				
10	Newburyport	1	fide J.Grugan	
Belted Kingfisher:				
7;28,30	E.Middleboro; Cambridge	(Fr.Pd) 1; 1	K.Anderson; J.Barnett	
Red-headed Woodpecker:				
30	Dover	1	J.Clancy	
Red-bellied Woodpecker:				
7,25	Westport, M.V.	1, 1	R.Laubach, V.Laux#	
Hairy Woodpecker:				
thr.	E.Middleboro	1 m. + 1 f.	K.Anderson	
Northern Flicker:				
17,28	Belmont	2, 1	L.Taylor	
Pileated Woodpecker:				
4	Norfolk, Petersham	1, 1	B.Cassie, J.Baird	
23,25	Holden, Dracut	1, 1	M.Salmi, G.Alberts	
26,27	Hopkinton, Royalston	1, 2	T.Russell, K.Hamilton	

#### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS

An *Empidonax* flycatcher was carefully observed for about half an hour at Peabody on November 18. Its plumage most closely resembled Least or Hammond's, and its wing and tail flicking behavior was typical of the latter species. Unfortunately, attempts to capture the bird failed. The count of five Common Ravens at Royalston was the highest for a single day in recent years. Red-breasted Nuthatch reports were up a bit from October's dearth. The only good numbers, however, were from Worcester County sites; similarly, the highest count of Golden-crowned Kinglet was from Hardwick.

A Wood Thrush at Royalston on November 26 was a very late record although there is a precedent of November individuals in 1979 and 1980. Three vireos were reported for November, not typically a vireo month, with the latest being a solitary on Nantucket at midmonth. Notably late warblers included a Yellow at Falmouth, a Magnolia at Royalston, and a Wilson's at Wellesley. Yellow-rumped Warbler reports were rather scanty.

L.E.T.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1984</u>
<u>Empidonax</u> sp.:				
18	Peabody	1 (well-described)	R.Heil	
Western Kingbird:				
4-20,15-30	Nantucket, WBWS	5 total, 2	E.Andrews#, v.o.	
23	M.V.	1	V.Laux#	
Horned Lark:				
3,3-12	Scituate, P.I.	40, 250 max.	G.d'Entremont#, v.o.	
3-12, 11	Ipswich, Concord	40 max., 11	v.o., R.Forster	
11,18	Middleboro, Nantucket	35, 12	SSBC, R.Abrams#	
American Crow:				
3,17	Ipswich, Hardwick	60,190	BBC, G.Gove#	
Fish Crow:				
1,25	Middleboro, Sudbury	3, 5	D.Briggs, R.Forster	
Common Raven:				
28	Royalston	5	K.Hamilton	
<u>Jackdaw:</u>				
thr.	Nantucket	2	v.o.	
Black-capped Chickadee:				
10,26-28	Hardwick, Athol	60+, 428	T.Gagnon, K.Hamilton	
Red-breasted Nuthatch:				
10	P.I., Hardwick	1, 13	BBC, T.Gagnon	
26-28,30	Athol, Wakefield	61, 1	K.Hamilton, M.Martinek	
Brown Creeper:				
10,24	Hardwick, Weston	9, 9	T.Gagnon, L.Robinson	
Carolina Wren:				
1,4	Millis, Lakeville	1, 4	B.Cassie, K.Holmes	
10,11	Falmouth, Westport	25, 6	R.Heil#, SSBC	
25	M.V.	6	V.Laux#	
House Wren:				
3,12	Eastham (2 loc.)	1, 1	C.Ewer	
Winter Wren:				
4,10	Lakeville, Falmouth	2, 3	W.Petersen#, R.Heil#	
12,26	Eastham, Athol	1, 2	C.Ewer, K.Hamilton	
Marsh Wren:				
25,27	Newburyport, Plymouth	2, 1	R.Heil, D.Evered	
Golden-crowned Kinglet:				
thr.,3-11	Middleboro, Ipswich	8 max., 2	v.o., BBC	
10	P.I., Falmouth	4, 10	BBC, R.Heil#	
10,22	Hardwick, Milton	47, 6	T.Gagnon, R.Titus	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:				
10,12	Falmouth, Woburn	4, 2	R.Heil#, R.Forster	
18	Mashpee, Watertown	1, 1	R.Heil#, R.Stymeist	
19,28	Cambridge, Westport	1, 1	J.Paputseanos, R.Laubach	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:				
3,4	Hingham, Bridgewater	1, 1	W.Smith, BBC	
10,14-18	Falmouth, Cambridge	2, 1	R.Heil#, L.Robinson#	
22	Boston	1	P.Thayer	
Hermit Thrush:				
8,10	Boston, Falmouth	1, 2	J.Berry, R.Heil#	
11,18	Acoaxet, Westport	1, 1	SSBC, R.Laubach	
24,25	Nantucket, M.V.	1, 2	B.Litchfield, V.Laux#	
28	Waltham	1	L.Taylor	
Wood Thrush:				
26	Royalston	1	K.Hamilton	
American Robin:				
3,18	Ipswich, Lexington	25, 106	BBC, L.Taylor	
Gray Catbird:				
3, 4	W.Newbury, Lexington	4, 1	BBC, L.Taylor	
10,25	Falmouth, M.V.	4, 4	R.Heil#, V.Laux#	
Brown Thrasher:				
6,10	MNWS, Falmouth	1, 3	J.Smith, R.Heil#	
11,25	Acoaxet, M.V.	1, 1	SSBC, V.Laux#	
Water Pipit:				
4	P.I., S.Monomoy	30, 30	D.Evered, B.Nikula#	
4,11	Middleboro, Concord	20, 115	SSBC, R.Walton#	
24,25	Middleboro, S.Hanson	12, 60	R.Titus, W.Petersen#	
Cedar Waxwing:				
4,11	Lakeville, Belmont	20, 60	K.Holmes, L.Taylor	
11,17	Westport, Hopkinton	60, 30	SSBC, J.Gordon	
30	E.Middleboro	7	K.Anderson	
Northern Shrike:				
11,24	Sudbury, Orleans	1, 1	R.Forster, C.Gove	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1984</u>
Solitary Vireo: 6,15	MNWS, Nantucket	1, 1	J.Smith, E.Andrews	
Red-eyed Vireo: 3	Eastham	1	C.Ewer	
Yellow Warbler: 10	Falmouth	1 m. (details)	R.Heil	
Magnolia Warbler: 28	Royalston	1	K.Hamilton	
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 3,10	P.I., Falmouth	15, 15	BBC, R.Heil#	
Pine Warbler: 25	Lakeville	2	W.Petersen#	
Prairie Warbler: 10	Nantucket	1	R.Stymeist#	
Palm Warbler: 4-25,24	6 locations, Orleans	9 total, 6	v.o., G.Gove	
26,28	Cambridge, Westport	2, 8	L.Robinson, R.Laubach	
Blackpoll Warbler: 20-21	Lincoln	1	R.Forster	
Common Yellowthroat: 25	M.V., Falmouth	2, 1 m.	V.Laux, P.Trimble	
Wilson's Warbler: 12	Wellesley	1 m.	C.Quinlan	
Yellow-breasted Chat: 25	E.Orleans	1	D.Williams	

DICKCISSEL THROUGH EVENING GROSBEAK

Fox Sparrows exhibited a very light migration this fall. Conversely, impressive numbers of Dark-eyed Junco were seen, especially at Worcester County sites. The 3000 Snow Buntings for the month stands high compared to recent-year November totals of about half that number. Three individual Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported, constituting the only November records in the last seven years. A Northern Oriole was present for the last week of the month at a feeder in Westwood. Most winter finch species finally began to show up, with the only significant numbers occurring well inland. L.E.T.

Dickcissel: 3	Cambridge	1	R.Stymeist#	
Rufous-sided Towhee: 10,25;18	Falmouth; Reading	6, 1; 1	v.o.; M.Martinek	
25	M.V.	8	V.Laux#	
American Tree Sparrow: 9,11	Sudbury, Ipswich	20, 20	R.Forster, BBC	
17,25	Woburn, Bridgewater	11, 2	BBC, D.Briggs#	
Chipping Sparrow: 4,11	Bridgewater, Ipswich	1, 1	G.Gove#, I.Giriunas#	
15	Lincoln	1	R.Forster	
Field Sparrow: 4,23	Bridgewater, Braintree	6, 5	BBC, G.d'Entremont	
23,28	Holbrook, Westport	1, 2	G.d'Entremont, R.Laubach	
"Ipswich" Sparrow: 3-21,10-25	Plymouth, P.I.	3 max., 3 max.	v.o.	
18	Salisbury, Nantucket	5, 2	M.Heindel, W.Petersen#	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 22	P.I.	2	M.Heindel	
Seaside Sparrow: 25	Newburyport	9	R.Heil	
Fox Sparrow: 18-30	Reading	4	M.Martinek	
Swamp Sparrow: 4,11	Lakeville, Ipswich	10, 3	SSBC, R.Campbell#	
23	Holbrook	4	G.d'Entremont	
White-throated Sparrow: 4,18	Bridgewater, Reading	10, 20	BBC, M.Martinek	
Dark-eyed Junco: 4,10	Lakeville, Hardwick	8, 145	SSBC, T.Gagnon	
18,26	Salisbury, Royalston	7, 985	P.Roberts#, K.Hamilton	
Lapland Longspur: 1-18,7-27	P.I., Plymouth	15 max., 22 max.	v.o.	
12-18	Salisbury	150 max.	v.o.	
Snow Bunting: thr.,3	P.I., Ipswich	600 max.(11/11),160	v.o., BBC	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1984</u>
Snow Bunting (continued):				
11,18	Salisbury, Barnstable	250, 200	P.Roberts, J.Aylward	
18,24	Nantucket, S.Monomoy	1000, 800	W.Petersen#, B.Nikula#	
Red-winged Blackbird:				
11,13	Ipswich, Sudbury	30, 250	BBC, J.O'Regan	
16-30,28	E.Middleboro, Westport	5+, 8	K.Anderson, R.Laubach	
Eastern Meadowlark:				
4,12	M.V., Marshfield	3, 20	P.Hallowell, W.Petersen#	
25	Nantucket, Marshfield	10, 15	M.Litchfield, D.Clapp#	
Yellow-headed Blackbird:				
4,9	Rochester, Wakefield	1 m., 1 imm. m.	L.Robinson, L.Lord-Moon	
9	Nantucket (Madaket)	1 f.	Mrs. A. McCleave	
Rusty Blackbird:				
10,11	Hardwick, Halifax	2, 100	T.Gagnon, K.Anderson	
15	Sudbury	2	R.Forster	
Common Grackle:				
4,10	Lakeville, Essex	500+, 200+	SSBC, BBC	
24,29	Nantucket, Westport	2, 1	M.Litchfield, R.Laubach	
Brown-headed Cowbird:				
4,11	Bridgewater, Westport	400, 700	BBC, SSBC	
20,30	Peabody, Dover	6, 1350	G.d'Entremont, J.Clancy	
Northern Oriole:				
23-30	Westwood	1 at feeder	B.Wicks	
Pine Grosbeak:				
26	Athol	3	K.Hamilton	
Purple Finch:				
4,7-26	Sudbury, E.Middleboro	8, 2	R.Forster, K.Anderson	
17	Belmont	1	L.Taylor	
Red Crossbill:				
22	Canton (Big Blue Hill)	1	R.Titus	
White-winged Crossbill:				
18,27	Hardwick, Athol	28, 5	v.o., K.Hamilton	
Common Redpoll:				
25	Lanesville	1	A.Bennett	
Pine Siskin:				
4,10	Sudbury, Hardwick	2, 4	R.Forster, T.Gagnon	
16,27	Framingham, Athol	42, 285	K.Hamilton	
Evening Grosbeak:				
7,20-28	Weymouth, Nantucket	6, 4 max.	R.Campbell, E.Andrews#	
25,28	Manomet, Royalston	15, 68	D.Evered, K.Hamilton	

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ad.	adult	F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham
alt.	alternate (plumage)	F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham
b.	banded	F.M.	Fowl Meadow, Milton
br.	breeding	gr.	greater as in Gr. Boston area
dk.	dark (phase)	I.	Island
f.	female	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
fl.	fledge	Mt.A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
imm.	immature	Nant.	Nantucket
ind.	individuals	Newbypt	Newburyport
loc.	locations	P.I.	Plum Island
lt.	light (phase)	P'town	Provincetown
m.	male	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
max.	maximum	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
migr.	migrating	Stellw.	Stellwagen (Bank)
N.S.E.W.	direction	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
ph.	photographed	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
pl.	plumage	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
pr.	pair	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
thr.	throughout	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
v.o.	various observers	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
W	winter (2W = second winter)	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
w/	with	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
yg.	young	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
#	additional observers	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
Buzz.	Buzzards (Bay)	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
C.	Cape as in C.Cod or C.Ann	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester		

## CORRIGENDA AND ADDENDA TO AUGUST 1984 FIELD RECORDS

				Page No.
Black-crowned Night-Heron:				
thr.	Eastham (Hemenway)	max.166 (6/20)	B.Nikula#+v.o.	330
	should read:			
thr.	Eastham (Hemenway)	max.166 (8/20)	B.Nikula#+v.o.	
Common Scoter:				
20	Eastham	2 f.	B.Nikula#	330
	should read:			
Common Goldeneye:				
20	Eastham	2 f.	B.Nikula#	

In RAILS THROUGH WOODPECKERS summary, delete from second from last paragraph the following part of the sentence that describes adult and immature skimmers at Monomoy: "and probably included the young fledged at Monomoy." 331

Stilt Sandpiper:				
2;17,19	N.Monomoy; S.Monomoy	25; 8, 8	R.Heil; B.Nikula#	333
	should read:			
17,19	S.Monomoy	8, 8	B.Nikula#	
Common Nighthawk:				
21,31	Brookline	total 1035	R.Stymeist#	334
	should read:			
21-31	Brookline	total 1035	R.Stymeist#	
Snowy Egret:				
thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	max. 194 (8/4)	S.Zendeh#	
Lesser Yellowlegs:				
thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	max. 39 (8/12)	S.Zendeh#	
Upland Sandpiper:				
12,16	N.Monomoy	1, 1	B.Nikula	
30	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	1	S.Zendeh#	
Hudsonian Godwit:				
thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	max. 47 (8/12)	S.Zendeh#	
Red-necked Phalarope:				
16	N.Monomoy	4	B.Nikula	
Common Black-headed Gull:				
thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	1	S.Zendeh#	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow:				
thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	max.5 (8/4)	S.Zendeh#	
Seaside Sparrow:				
4,12	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	1, 2 ad. carrying food	S.Zendeh#	

## CORRIGENDA AND ADDENDA TO SEPTEMBER 1984 FIELD RECORDS

Northern Shoveler:				
23	Monomoy	250	J.Barton#	339
	should read:			
23	Monomoy	30	J.Barton#	
Gadwall:				
	Delete:			
23	Monomoy	200	R.Prescott#	339
Merlin:				
6-30	Monomoy	5+	v.o.	340
	should read:			
16-30	Monomoy	5+	v.o.	
Roseate Tern:				
4,19	Monomoy	15000, 10000	B.Nikula#	344
	should read:			
Common/Roseate Tern:				
4,19	Monomoy	15000, 10000	B.Nikula#	
Barred Owl:				
8;16,25	Lakeville;E.Middleboro	1; 1, 1	K.Homes; K.Holmes,K.Anderson	345
	should read:			
8;16,25	Lakeville;E.Middleboro	1; 1, 1	K.Holmes; K.Anderson	
Western Tanager:				
22	Boston, Middleboro	1 imm. m.(good details), 1 P.O'Neil#,D.Briggs		349
	should read:			
22	Boston (Long I.), Middleboro	1 imm. m.(good details), 1	B.Sorrie#, D.Briggs	
Snowy Egret:				
thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	max. 190 (9/2)	S.Zendeh#	
Common Black-headed Gull:				
thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	1	S.Zendeh#	
Orange-crowned Warbler:				
16	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	2	S.Zendeh#	

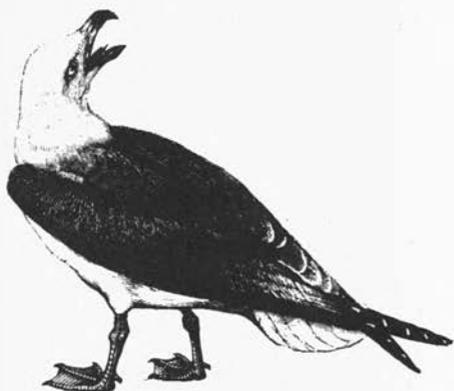
## FIELD NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

A Note on Gull Pellets or How Our Household Trash Ends Up in a Wilderness Area. It is widely known among those of us curious about bird life that certain species, most notably raptors, regurgitate pellets of undigestible materials after consuming food or prey items.

The digestive system in birds consists principally of a tube extending from bill to cloaca with several specialized organs in between - adaptive features to help break down a great array of food types. The first "stomach," called the proventriculus, breaks the food down chemically. Within this organ, peptic and other enzymes along with powerful gastric juices containing hydrochloric acid are capable of breaking down all but the toughest and hardest food items. These then enter the gizzard where the job is completed. Pellets, or the ingredients thereof, do not travel any farther than the gizzard, the second of two "stomachs" in the avian digestive tract. The gizzard is a muscular organ with the primary function of grinding up tough food items like acorns and seed husks taken by some birds or mussels and other bivalves that many sea ducks survive on. Many gallinaceous birds swallow sand and grit to aid in the constant, rhythmic, grinding action of the gizzard. Food leaving the gizzard in the business direction is mostly liquid and enters the intestine where nutrients are absorbed. However, this is not a discussion of nutrients! We need to back up to the gizzard and the part of the system anterior to it and direct our discussion toward pellets and the family Laridae.

It is no secret that landfill areas, i.e., dumps, across the state support a great many gulls, primarily the Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) and the Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*). On Cape Cod, gulls occupy the dumps throughout the year while in some areas of the state landfills are devoid of gulls during the breeding season. The gulls, often numbering in the thousands, feed at the dumps during the day and retire to coastal roosting areas at night. Monomoy Island in Chatham, Gray's Beach in Yarmouthport, and Nauset Beach in Orleans are some principal roosting areas on Cape Cod. These are the areas where the large larids regurgitate pellets of "food" consumed at the dump hours earlier.

Now, it is true that some pellets contain crab shells, fish bones, or the fur, bones, and feathers of various vertebrates, coughed up by what I call "working gulls." The majority of gull pellets, however, contain so many more interesting items. The main body of most gull pellets is comprised of aluminum foil, plastic wrap, or paper towel. Glass fragments, even chunks measuring two centimeters or more, are often found.



The following list of items was found in pellets during the years 1980, '81, '83, and '84 on North Monomoy Island: a broken pencil 7.5 centimeters long, rubber bands, a nylon comb, the spring from inside an automobile oil filter, a plastic fork, and a rubber army man. Steak bones, spareribs, and pork chop bones were common. Also found in a pellet was the plastic tip from a tube of caulking with a chunk of the rubber caulk next to it. In many cases, I have been able to unravel the regurgitated mass and actually read the contents: e.g., margarine or butter wrappers, Swiss Miss cocoa envelopes, Lipton cup-a-soup envelopes, restaurant place mats, and even a road map.

So, consider the amazing capabilities of the family Laridae and how interesting the dissection of their pellets can be - raptors have held the limelight long enough! Oh, yes, there's one item I almost forgot. Robert Humphrey, Refuge Manager of Monomoy, dissected a gull pellet from the island in 1984. Inside he found a dog license! The canine, however, was unaccounted for . . . .

Peter Trull, West Chatham

How Thirsty Can a Cardinal Be? On the morning of December 22, 1984, I observed a male cardinal feeding on seeds from a bush in my backyard. After satisfying himself, he flew into the bare branches of a tall oak tree. I watched him carefully through binoculars and was quite surprised when he crept slowly up to a drop of water hanging from the branch. He lowered his beak down to it, and presto! it was gone. He then crept along the branch until he came close to another drop of water. Again, the same routine. He did this twice more. There was no shortage of water, because a snowfall of the night before was quickly melting. The Cardinal drank a total of four water drops. Hardly a deluge, but perhaps thirstquenching.

Oliver Komar, Newton



## EASTERN SCREECH-OWL SURVEY

April 19 - 29, 1985

More data is needed to understand screech-owl distribution and abundance during the breeding season.

Help make this unique and valuable project a success. As little as one hour's observation near your home can produce useful data.

Please contact Oliver Komar for more information.

OLIVER KOMAR, 61 Wade Street,  
Newton, MA 02161  
Telephone: 617-332-5509

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## Spring Migration Watch in Sixth Year

April 15 to June 6

Again this year, the Bird Observer Field Studies Committee will conduct a Spring Migration Watch. The committee has prepared data forms to enable all who volunteer for this project to keep uniform records for their favorite birding sites. Observers will visit their selected sites about once every four days from April 15 to June 6. This year each observer will receive a computerized analysis of the data. Just let us know the site you wish to cover. For instructions and data forms, new participants should contact:

JOHN ANDREWS, 22 Kendall Road, Lexington, MA 02173  
Telephone: 617-862-6498.

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## Spring Hawk Watch

The Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch will conduct coordinated weekend watches on two weekends this spring, April 20-21 and April 27-28, 1985. Volunteer observers are needed for both weekends. No experience is required, and your help on any date would be appreciated.

We are also seeking individuals who can hawkwatch (if weather is favorable) on Plum Island any weekday between April 15 and May 3 or on Wachusett Mountain between April 15 and April 26.

If you would like to participate in the watch, or if you need additional information, please contact:

PAUL ROBERTS, 254 Arlington Street, Medford, MA 02155  
Telephone: 617-483-4263 (after 8 P.M.).

## Join the Flock!

**GET YOUR RABBIT, DASHER, VOLVO,  
DATSUN, TOYOTA, HONDA OR RENAULT  
REPAIRED AT:**

**CO-OP GARAGE**  
106 Pleasant Street  
Watertown  
923-0941  
(Convenient to MBTA)



We apologize for not changing the caption under the December picture to read, "Can you identify these birds?" The problem was difficult enough without added confusion. Roger Everett, the photographer, is so busy catching ordinary and extraordinary birds on film that he has little time for field guides; hence, these are truly mystery birds - unidentified at the time they were photographed. Although the color slide did not stump the experts at Mass Audubon, identification from a black-and-white photocopy is another matter. We offered several birders the chance to write up this picture, but the most positive response was one expert's suggestion that the photo be withdrawn! By default, then, the reader must be content (or not) with the confused impressions of an acknowledged dilettante in the area of shorebird recognition.

General Inspection. The differences in the size and shape of the bills and the color of the legs indicate that these are two species, with the right-hand bird larger and somewhat longer-legged. Both appear to be immatures (light feather-edgings) and are standing in what looks like a pool but might be a receding wave.

Left-hand bird: dark legs on a light-colored bird; medium-length tapering bill, heavy at the base; slightly elongated body shape, i.e., more bird aft than fore the legs; field marks - presence of a definite dark mark at the bend of the wing as well as a black-and-white checkered dorsal surface and the absence of dark flecks or chevrons along the sides. Possibilities that occur to me are SANDERLING, SEMIPALMATED, or WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.

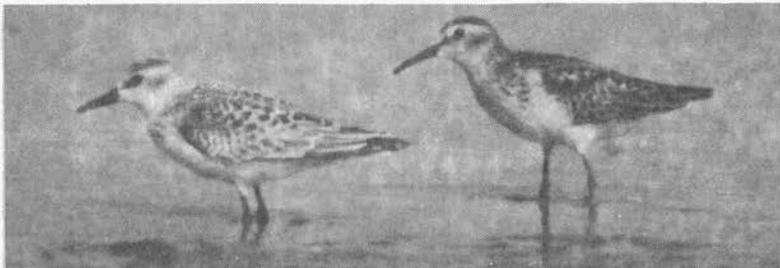
Right-hand bird: light-colored legs on a darker-colored bird; a slender, tapering bill with possibly a terminal droop; the general proportions of a peep (as much bird to the front as to the rear of the legs); field marks - a white, supra-orbital line and a pattern of striations extending well down on the breast. How about LEAST (bird is much too large), WHITE-RUMPED (is bill straight enough; are legs too pale), or PECTORAL (most to my taste)?

I believe Roger was informed that this was a picture of a Semipalmated and a Pectoral Sandpiper, but my gut feeling now is that the left-hand bird is a SANDERLING. What is it doing standing quietly, legs nearly covered, in a pool? Perhaps, an immature, it is unpracticed in the frantic scurrying of Sanderlings at the water's edge.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? This pair of birds is no different from what you might come upon anytime, in season, along our New England coast. You may be lucky enough to have the birds fly off before you must commit yourself, but watch out for photographer-friends who can preserve the question on film!

D.R.A.

Photo by Roger Everett



# At a Glance . . .

Photo by John Gavin  
Courtesy of MAS



Can you identify this bird? Identification will be discussed in next issue's *At a Glance*. Bird Observer will award a PRIZE to the reader who submits the most correct answers in 1985. Please send your entry on a postcard to Bird Observer, 462 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA 02178 before the answer is published.

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## Georges Bank - Hydrographer Canyon Pelagic Trips

May 31 - June 2 or September 6 - 8, 1985

A few places are still available on the June and September pelagic trips to Georges Bank and Hydrographer Canyon. The trips leave Gloucester at 7:00 P.M. and return 48 hours later. The trip leader for both trips will be Wayne Petersen. The cost for either trip is \$250 per person which includes meals and accommodations aboard ship. To reserve your spot please send a \$50 deposit (\$25 nonrefundable) to the BOEM Program Coordinator, Martha Vaughan, 15 Elmwood Park, Newton, MA 02160. Make checks payable to BIRD OBSERVER. If you have any questions, call Martha Vaughan at 617-244-0166.

*Register now!*

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