

BIRD SIGHTINGS

January–February 2020

Neil Hayward and Robert H. Stymeist

The weather was the highlight for birders during this period. Winter, as defined by meteorologists, is December through February. This winter, the temperature averaged well above normal and snowfall totaled only 15.1 inches, 19 inches below average, with 7.1 inches of that total falling in early December. This warm and nearly snowless winter was a boon for many species, including the human birders who were able to get out and enjoy some comfortable birding.

Both January and February were warmer than normal with near average rainfall. Only 3.6 inches of snow fell in Boston compared to 13.7 inches during the same period in 2019. The year opened with clear skies and a high temperature of 43 degrees for those birders ready to start a new year of birding. The temperature for the month of January averaged 38 degrees in Boston, compared with a 30-year average of 29 degrees. The high temperature was an amazing 74 degrees on January 12, setting an all-time record high for the month. It was also the first year in which Boston reached 70 degrees twice during January. The previous record high was 64 degrees, recorded on January 26, 1950.

Neither Punxsutawney Phil nor Ms. G—his Massachusetts counterpart at Drumlin Farm, Lincoln—saw their shadows and so both predicted an early spring. We have to agree that they were spot-on; the temperature averaged 44.8 degrees, six degrees above normal for February. The high mark was 64 degrees on February 24; the low for daytime temperature for Boston was 31 degrees. Rainfall during the month was 2.8 inches, nearly a half inch less than average. Snowfall was a paltry 0.5 inches for Boston, more than 10 inches below normal.

R. Stymeist

GEESE THROUGH IBISES

The fields around Rochester, Plymouth County, continued to be the hotspot for wild goose chases. A pair of **Barnacle Geese** appeared on January 15 and stayed through the period into March. During their visit, they hopped the border into Bristol County, where they were regularly reported along the Acushnet River. This pair represents the second county record for both Bristol and Plymouth counties, after records in February and March 2003. On February 23, Rochester hosted a **Pink-footed Goose**, perhaps the same individual that had continued from December until January 5 in the Dighton or Somerset area. Pink-footed Geese have been recorded in the state every year now since 2014. **Greater White-fronted Geese** were reported from eight counties, including the first for Martha's Vineyard since 2011.

The adult **Tundra Swan** at Somerset continued from the previous period (discovered on December 7) until January 19. Five adult Tundra Swans in Worcester on February 29 were the first for the county since January 1999.

Since 2010, Blue-winged Teals have been found overwintering in small numbers on Cape Cod. This year, up to four birds (two pairs) were present at Mill Pond in West Barnstable, which represents a new high count for the period. This location has become somewhat of a regular wintering location for the species, hosting up to three birds in 2018 and a long-staying pair in 2019. A count of 30 Redheads on Nantucket on February 16 is the highest February count for the state since 1997. Another high count was logged for **Tufted Duck**; two birds (male and female)

at Harwich for most of the period is a new high count for Barnstable County. A male Tufted Duck continued on Nantucket. The island has hosted a male Tufted Duck annually since 2013. **King Eiders** were reported from four counties, including a female at Chappaquiddick on January 4, the first January record for Dukes County since 2008.

Duck hybrids included two returning birds: a Bufflehead x Common Goldeneye at Rock Harbor Marsh, Orleans, first discovered in April 2017, and a Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser at Oldham Pond in Pembroke, which has been wintering there since January 2017. A Northern Pintail x Mallard hybrid was found on the Charles River at Waltham.

An **Eared Grebe** spent over three weeks in February off the Beverly coast. This was the first record for Essex County since the long-staying individual that wintered off Eastern Point from December 1995 through March 2008. The only other Eared Grebe in New England this period was a bird just across the Rhode Island state line in Stonington, Connecticut.

Though Sandhill Cranes have become a regular visitor to the state in recent years, with breeding first recorded in 2007, the four birds reported in Medfield and Lancaster represent high counts for both January and February.

The mild conditions this period were conducive to overwintering rails. Soras rarely attempt to winter in the state unlike the hardier Virginia Rail. This year Soras were recorded in January for only the fourth time this century, with Plymouth County adding its first January record at Mass Audubon's Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary. **Common Gallinule**, another uncommon wintering species, was recorded for just the fifth January this century, with Plymouth and Norfolk Counties adding their first January records.

The warm temperatures were also no doubt responsible for the number of unseasonal shorebird records. The most northerly American Oystercatchers on the continent for the period were three birds at Snake Island, Winthrop, on January 4. They represent the first Suffolk County record for January, and the fifth year this century that the species has been recorded in January in Massachusetts. A Piping Plover seen on Nantucket on February 23 was the only record north of Virginia Beach for the period. Remarkably, this is only the second February record for the state on eBird. The first came the previous year—a bird spotted on Nantucket, less than a mile from this year's bird and on the exact same date. Historically, there are other midwinter records of Piping Plovers (Veit and Petersen, 1993). This was the seventh year this century that Semipalmated Plovers have been recorded in January, almost all of which have been found on Cape Cod. This year, two birds were in Harwich for most of the period. A Marbled Godwit at Plymouth Harbor was the fourth January record this century. Red Knots were reported from Chatham and Rockport, the latter being the first February record since 2008. A couple of Long-billed Dowitchers on January 20 was the first January record for Nantucket, and the fourth January record for the state this century. A report of a Willet on January 3 is only the third January record for the state. The observer noted it was a Western Willet (subspecies *inornata*), which would be consistent with the wintering distribution of the species; Western Willets winter along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. "Our" breeding Willets, the eastern subspecies *semipalmata*, leaves the country entirely to winter in the West Indies and the east coast of South America.

This period saw a major incursion of alcids into our waters. Boat trips to Jeffreys Ledge set a new eBird high count for Dovekie in January with an amazing 820 on January 4, and the second-highest count for February with 635 logged on February 9. Closer to shore, Suffolk County recorded its second January eBird record of Dovekie, with a bird stranded on Winthrop Beach. The 248 Common Murres that flew past Race Point on January 2 was a high count for the month and an all-time high for Cape Cod. Similarly, the 86 Thick-billed Murres reported

from Andrews Point, Rockport, on January 25 was a new January eBird high count. In historical terms, these numbers are still a long way shy of the 4,000 Thick-billed Murres that flew past Race Point after a storm on January 16, 1977 (Veit and Petersen, 1993). The pale, arctic breeding *mandtii* subspecies of Black Guillemot continued at MacMillan Wharf, Provincetown from the previous period. This is the only record of this subspecies in North America so far this year and represents a subspecies first for Massachusetts. On January 14, a boat trip to Jeffreys Ledge sighted 10 **Atlantic Puffins**, which is the second highest state count for January.

Lynn Beach should add **Mew Gull** to its tourist signs; it's surely one of the most reliable spots to find the species on the East Coast. This year, two birds appeared, both on the same day—January 31—and stayed throughout much of February. One bird was the returning “Common Gull”—the European *Larus canus canus* subspecies. This bird has become something of a celebrity. It was banded in Akureyrarflogvöllur, northern Iceland, on June 23, 2013, and has returned to the same spot on Lynn Beach every winter since February 2017. The other bird appears to be the Asiatic form, either the Kamchatka Gull, *L. c. kamtschatschensis* or the Russian Common Gull *L. c. heinei*. Elsewhere, Bristol and Norfolk counties added their second records of Mew Gull (subspecies unknown or unreported). On Nantucket a high count of 125 Lesser Black-backed Gulls was impressive.

Pacific Loon is annual to the state, recorded in every month except for August. This year, up to four birds were present off Race Point, which represents a new high count for the state. Single Sooty Shearwaters at Race Point and Stellwagen Bank at the start of January were unseasonal—just the fifth year the species has been recorded in January.

American White Pelican was missed entirely for the state in 2019 for the first year since 2007. But it only took two days for one to appear in 2020—soaring over Truro and Wellfleet on January 2. A month later, a bird was seen swimming on a pond in Wareham.

The only Great Egrets of the period were in February at Chappaquiddick and Chatham, the latter being the northernmost bird reported on the East Coast. A roost of 22 Black-crowned Night-Herons at the Upper Lagoon Pond on Martha's Vineyard is the second highest eBird January count, after a count of 33 also on the Vineyard on January 1, 1995. By the end of February, the roost numbers had dropped to 12. Black-crowned Night-Herons were also reported on the mainland coast north to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Such attempts at overwintering are usually restricted to mild winters, such as this one. An immature Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, photographed at Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, on January 2, represents the first state record for January. As an indication for how unusual this sighting is, there appear to be no records in the state for this species between November 1 and March 14, except for an adult in Bourne on February 17, 1965 (Veit and Petersen, 1993).

N. Hayward

Snow Goose				2/14-2/15	Boston (FPk)2	1ad+1juv	phS. Jones+v.o.
1/1	Southwick	1	D. Holmes	2/18	Edgartown	1 ph	B. Shriber
1/1-2/29	Duxbury	1 ad	B. Frost + v.o.	Pink-footed Goose			
1/1-2/29	Rochester	1 imm	L. Schibley+v.o.	1/1-1/5	Dighton/Somerset	1 ph	v.o.
1/11	Agawam	1	T. Gilliland	2/23	Rochester	1 ph	B. Vigorito + v.o.
1/12	Nantucket	4	J. Wagner#	Brant			
1/23-2/24	Rumney (Revere)	1	P. Peterson + v.o.	1/11	Fairhaven	322	M. Lynch#
1/25-2/28	Chatham	1	D. Clapp, v.o.	1/23	Bourne	140	M. Lynch#
2/3	Hatfield	1	A. Hulsey	2/22	Beverly	63	G. d'Entremont
2/13	Montague	1	P. Gagarin	Barnacle Goose			
Greater White-fronted Goose				1/15-thr	Rochester	2 ph	N. Dowling + v.o.
1/1-1/23	Rochester	1 ph	A. Kneidel + v.o.	Cackling Goose			
1/5-2/17	Sheffield	1 ph	Z. Adams + v.o.	1/13-1/27	Topsfield	1 ph	v.o.
1/12-2/7	Westfield	1 ph	D. Holmes + v.o.	1/20-2/1	Halifax	1 ad	ph A. Kneidel+v.o.
1/16	Rutland	1 ph	B. Robo + v.o.	2/14	Easthampton	1 ph	T. Gessing
1/25-2/29	PI	1 ph	v.o.	2/16-23	BFWMA	1 ph	R. Heil + v.o.

Mute Swan					1/24-2/17	N. Chatham	1 m ph	M. Plato#
2/9	Westborough	22		M. Lynch#	2/27	Gloucester	1 m	D. Pelloquin
2/25	Acoaxet	28		M. Lynch#	Common Eider			
Tundra Swan					1/23	Scusset B.	1460	M. Lynch#
1/1-1/19	Somerset	1 ad ph		v.o.	1/23	Bourne	802	M. Lynch#
2/29	Worc.	5 ad		D. Hollie	2/25	N. Chatham	18000	R. Heil
Wood Duck					Harlequin Duck			
2/16-2/29	BFWMA	5 max	R. Heil + v.o.		1/4-2/17	Aquinnah	9 max	v.o.
2/25	ONWR	3		B. Robo	1/12	Nantucket	11	S. Kardell
Blue-winged Teal					1/18	Manomet Point	26	J. Chisholm
1/1-2/22	W. Barnstable	4 max	P. Johnson-Staub+v.o.		1/25	BHI (Shag Rocks)	3 f	T. Bradford + v.o.
Northern Shoveler					2/2	Acoaxet	6	M. Lynch#
1/1, 2/29	Nantucket	12,8	J. Trimble#, S. Fee		2/19	Yarmouth	8 ph	T. Crocker
Gadwall					Surf Scoter			
thr	Gloucester (EP)	28 max		v.o.	1/11	Fairhaven	110	M. Lynch#
1/18	Plymouth H.	140		G. d'Entremont#	2/29	Mattapoisett	53	M. Lynch#
2/2	Acoaxet	23		M. Lynch#	White-winged Scoter			
2/10	Worc.	1 ph		C. Martone	1/11	Fairhaven	7	M. Lynch#
2/23	Chatham	15		B. Nikula	1/23	Scusset B.	61	M. Lynch#
Eurasian Wigeon					Black Scoter			
1/1-1/16	Somerset	1 m ph	V. Burdette + v.o.		2/25	Acoaxet	67	M. Lynch#
1/1-2/16	Nantucket	1 m ph		v.o.	Long-tailed Duck			
2/19-2/27	Rochester	1 ad m ph	P. Zika + v.o.		1/11	Fairhaven	22	M. Lynch#
American Wigeon					2/29	Mattapoisett	35	M. Lynch#
2/2	Acoaxet	59		M. Lynch#	Bufflehead			
2/9	Sandwich	29	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)		2/2	Westport	400	M. Lynch#
2/13-2/29	Longmeadow	2 max	F. Bowrys + v.o.		2/26	Wachusett Res.	8 7m+1f	M. Lynch#
2/23	Arlington	2		K. Hartel	2/29	Mattapoisett	129	M. Lynch#
2/26	GMNWR	2		S. Beattie	Bufflehead x Common Goldeneye (hybrid)			
American Black Duck					1/1-1/8	Orleans	1 m ph	v.o.
1/23	Bourne	47		M. Lynch#	Common Goldeneye			
2/11	Kingston	1100		A. Kneidel	thr	Turners Falls	135 max	S.Auer, K. Barnes+v.o.
2/25	Acoaxet	359		M. Lynch#	1/11	Fairhaven	143	M. Lynch#
Northern Pintail					1/19	Mashpee	110	A. Kneidel#
1/14-2/22	Osterville	9		P. Crosson#	2/1-2/22	Lowell	52 max	D. McDermott + v.o.
1/14-2/29	P'town	4		J. Wagner, v.o.	2/29	Mattapoisett	87	M. Lynch#
1/18	Plymouth H.	6		G. d'Entremont#	Barrow's Goldeneye			
2/2	Acoaxet	67		M. Lynch#	1/1	Nantucket	3	L. Waters#
2/22	Worc.	7		K. Keohane	Barrow's Goldeneye (continued)			
Mallard x Northern Pintail (hybrid)					1/1-2/24	Sharon	1	W. Sweet + v.o.
1/18	Waltham	1 m ph		J. Forbes	1/2-1/11	Agawam	1 m	L.+A. Richardson+v.o.
Green-winged Teal					1/11	Fairhaven	1 m	M. Lynch#
2/9	Marlborough	3		M. Lynch#	1/13-1/30	E. Boston	1 m	G. Denton + v.o.
Canvasback					1/15-1/22	Rochester area	2	N. Dowling + v.o.
1/1	Nantucket	74		L. Waters#	1/19	Mashpee	2 1pr	A. Kneidel#
1/16-1/31	Wenham	1		S. MacDonald + v.o.	1/24	Bourne	2 1pr	Anon.
Redhead					2/5-2/22	Lowell	2 1pr	D. McDermott + v.o.
1/1-1/21	Lakeville	2 1pr		M. Faherty + v.o.	2/9	Plymouth	5 3m	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)
1/23-1/25	Harwich	2		D. Clapp#	Hooded Merganser			
2/16	Nantucket	30		G. Andrews#	1/2-2/27	Lee	41 max	J. Pierce + v.o.
Ring-necked Duck					1/23	Wareham	58	M. Lynch#
1/1-2/29	Cambr. (FP)	129 max		v.o.	2/15	Quaboag IBA	60	M. Lynch#
1/12-1/14	Ashley Falls	46		S. Townsend# + v.o.	2/25	Acoaxet	55	M. Lynch#
1/19	Mashpee	155		A. Kneidel#	Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser (hybrid)			
2/28	Northboro	38		M. Lynch#	2/24	Pembroke	1	I. Davies
Tufted Duck					Common Merganser			
thr	Nantucket	1 m ph		v.o.	thr	Turners Falls	78 max	S.Auer, K. Barnes+v.o.
1/10-2/2	Harwich	2 max 1pr ph		S. Finnegan+v.o.	1/1-2/27	Southwick	400 max	D. Holmes
Greater Scaup					1/15	Westborough	478	S. Williams
1/1	Wachusett Res.	82		M. Lynch#	2/1	Wenham	200	G. d'Entremont#
1/2	Fairhaven	550		G. d'Entremont	Red-breasted Merganser			
1/19	Harwich	880		J. Trimble#	1/3-2/22	Wachusett Res.	3 max	P. Morlock#
Lesser Scaup					1/10	Quabbin Pk	1	M. McKittrick
1/2	W. Boylston	6		B. Abbott	1/18	Southwick	1	D. Holmes
1/19	Mashpee	510		A. Kneidel#	1/23	Scusset B.	54	M. Lynch#
2/25	Acoaxet	42		M. Lynch#	2/2	Acoaxet	74	M. Lynch#
King Eider					Ring-necked Pheasant			
1/1-2/23	Gloucester (BR)	1 ad m ph		v.o.	1/11-2/16	Egremont	3 max	C. Blake + v.o.
1/2-2/23	Rockport (HPt)	2 1f+imm m ph		v.o.	2/1	New Braintree	1	Bob Abbott
1/4	Chappaquiddick	1 f ph		A. Kneidel	Ruffed Grouse			
1/8-1/15	Nantasket B.	1 ad m ph		H. Cross + v.o.	1/22	Hardwick	2	W. Howes
1/17-30	Scusset B.	1 imm m ph	R. Doherty+v.o.		1/23	Quabbin (G11)	4	A. Hulsey

Wild Turkey									
1/3	Lancaster	21	M. Lynch#						
1/6	Grafton	58	C. Martone						
2/9-2/16	Orange	80	G. Watkevich, B. Lafley						
Pied-billed Grebe									
1/18	Harwich	3	G. d'Entremont#						
Horned Grebe									
1/3-1/28	Quabbin Pk	6 max	L. Therrien + v.o.						
2/2	Acoaxet	27	M. Lynch#						
2/29	Mattapoisset	11	M. Lynch#						
Red-necked Grebe									
1/5-1/7	Quabbin Pk	1	T. Gilliland + v.o.						
1/14-1/14	MBO	101	A. Kneidel						
1/23	Scusset B.	2	M. Lynch#						
Eared Grebe									
2/1-2/29	Beverly	1 ph	F. Morello# + v.o.						
Virginia Rail									
thr	GMNWR	4 max	v.o.						
1/1-2/9	DWWS	2	K. Rawdon + v.o.						
1/9	Cuttyhunk I.	13	M. Sylvia #						
2/22	Tidmarsh WS	2	I. Davies						
Sora									
1/1-2/17	GMNWR	1 ph	D. Littauer + v.o.						
1/1	DWWS	1 ph	T. O'Brien + v.o.						
Common Gallinule									
1/1-2/25	Nantucket	1 ph	v.o.						
1/1-1/29	Tidmarsh WS	1 ph	B. Griffith + v.o.						
American Coot									
2/25	Acoaxet	9	M. Lynch#						
Sandhill Crane									
1/10	Medfield	4 ph	P. Pilch						
1/15-2/29	Lancaster	4 ph	P. Christoph + v.o.						
American Oystercatcher									
1/4	BHI (Snake I.)	3 ph	N. St George						
Black-bellied Plover									
1/1-1/7	Ellisville	2	E. LeBlanc + v.o.						
1/3-2/17	Barnstable	6	v.o.						
2/18	Edgartown	14	B. Shriber						
2/26	Nantucket	18	S. Fea#						
Killdeer									
1/9, 2/21	Nantucket	6, 11	T. Pastuszak						
1/11	Fairhaven	1	M. Lynch#						
1/19-1/19	Ellisville	1	L. Schibley						
2/23	Fairhaven	3	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)						
2/29	Rochester	4	M. Lynch#						
Semipalmated Plover									
1/6-2/19	Hyannis	2	S. Finnegan, v.o.						
Piping Plover									
2/23	Nantucket	1	S. Kardell						
Marbled Godwit									
1/1-1/12	Plymouth H.	1 ph	L. Schibley + v.o.						
Ruddy Turnstone									
1/1-1/1	Scituate	1	T. O'Brien						
1/11	Fairhaven	1	M. Lynch#						
Red Knot									
1/22-2/25	N. Chatham	5,6	M. Faherty, R. Heil						
2/23	Rockport (AP)	1	A. Karighattam#						
Sanderling									
1/2	Wellfleet	872	K. Yakola#						
2/25	Westport	147	M. Lynch#						
Dunlin									
1/2	Wellfleet	750	K. Yakola#						
2/2	Westport	9	M. Lynch#						
2/29	P'town (RP)	105	B. Nikula#						
Long-billed Dowitcher									
1/20	Nantucket	2	T. Pastuszak#						
American Woodcock									
1/9	Belchertown	1	L. Therrien						
2/8	Marstons Mills	2	anonymous						
2/16	Cuttyhunk I.	10	M. Sylvia						
2/25	Stoneham	2	M. Sinclair						
Wilson's Snipe									
2/4-2/29	Concord	3 max	J. Keyes						
Willet (Western)									
1/3	Edgartown	1	P. Gilmore						
Pomarine Jaeger									
1/1	P'town (RP)	1	P. Flood						
1/3	Stellwagen Bank	1	P. Flood#						
1/5	Eastham (FE)	1	J. Johnson#						
Parasitic Jaeger									
1/5	Eastham (FE)	1	J. Johnson#						
Dovekie									
1/3	Stellwagen Bank	148	P. Flood#						
1/3	PLY Co. seas	7	L. Waters#						
1/4	Jeffreys L.	820	Z. Cornell#						
1/14, 1/26	P'town (RP)	39,6	L. Waters#, B. Nikula#						
1/26	Winthrop B.	1	M. Sovay + v.o.						
1/27	Manomet Point	2	E. Dalton						
2/9	Jeffreys L.	635	J. Sparrell#						
Common Murre									
1/2, 1/26	P'town (RP)	248,20	S. Arena, B. Nikula#						
1/3	Stellwagen Bank	177	P. Flood#						
2/1-2/6	Rockport (AP)	77 max	R. Heil + v.o.						
2/9	Jeffreys L.	48	J. Sparrell#						
Thick-billed Murre									
1/25	Rockport (AP)	86	R. Heil						
1/25-1/27	Manomet Point	4	B. Griffith + v.o.						
1/26-2/2	BHI (Deer I.)	2 max	R. Doherty + v.o.						
2/1-2/14	Lynn H.	4 max	S. Williams # + v.o.						
2/9	Jeffreys L.	5	J. Sparrell#						
2/12	Gloucester	6	J. Keyes						
2/29	P'town (RP)	13	I. Davies#						
Razorbill									
1/1	P'town (RP)	2500	P. Flood						
1/11-2/2	BHI (Deer I.)	3	J. Taylor + v.o.						
1/23	Scusset B.	11	M. Lynch#						
2/9	Jeffreys L.	36	J. Sparrell#						
large acid sp.									
1/26	P'town (RP)	3400	B. Nikula#						
Black Guillemot									
thr	P'town	5 max	v.o.						
1/11	Fairhaven	1	M. Lynch#						
Black Guillemot (<i>mandtii</i>)									
thr	P'town	1	<i>mandtii</i> P. Flood, v.o.						
Atlantic Puffin									
1/14, 2/9	Jeffreys L.	10,3	v.o.						
1/25, 2/18	Rockport (AP)	2,1	R. Heil						
Black-legged Kittiwake									
1/1	P'town (RP)	575	P. Flood						
1/3	PLY Co. seas	1	L. Waters#						
Bonaparte's Gull									
1/12	Plymouth B.	3	J. Johnson						
Black-headed Gull									
thr	Hyannis	1 ad ph	v.o.						
Mew Gull									
2/3	Sharon	1 ad ph	W. Sweet						
Mew Gull (European)									
1/20	Westport	1 ph	J.+M. Eckerson						
1/31-2/23	Swampscott	1 ph	A. Sanford + v.o.						
Mew Gull (<i>kamtschatschensis/heinei</i>)									
1/31-2/23	Swampscott	1 ph	A. Sanford + v.o.						
Iceland Gull									
1/1	Blackstone	1 2W	M. Lynch#						
1/4-2/23	Turners Falls	4 max	E. Huston + v.o.						
1/5	Lunenburg	1	N. Tepper						
1/13-1/31	Sharon	1	W. Sweet + v.o.						
1/28, 2/22	Quabbin Pk	1	L. Therrien						
2/29	P'town (RP)	57	B. Nikula#						
Lesser Black-backed Gull									
1/1-2/18	Sharon	2 max ad	W. Sweet + v.o.						
1/6-1/8	Taunton	2 max	D. Burton + v.o.						
1/25-2/29	Turners Falls	5 max	J. Layfield + v.o.						

Lesser Black-backed Gull (continued)				1/3	Stellwagen Bank	1	P. Flood#
2/9-2/24	Wilmington	4 max	S. Sullivan + v.o.	2/2	Double-crested Cormorant		
2/28	Nantucket	125	S. Kardell	2/2	Rockport (AP)	1	A. Sgroi
Glaucous Gull				2/11	Cambridge	1	T. Bradford
1/4-2/15	Gloucester	2 1ad+1W	R.Heil, J. Trimble		Great Cormorant		
1/10	Wilmington	1	J. Keeley	1/23	Bourne	1	M. Lynch#
1/13-1/24	Sharon	1 imm	phW.Sweet+v.o.	2/2	Acoaxet	11	M. Lynch#
1/19	Rumney (Saugus)	1	S. Zende + v.o.	2/26-2/29	Medford	1	J. Kovner + v.o.
1/19	Rumney (Revere)	1	S. Jones	2/29	Mattapoisett	2	M. Lynch#
1/24-2/22	Turners Falls	2 max,	ph J. Rose + v.o.	American White Pelican			
2/2	Swampscott	1	J. Smith#	1/2	Truro, Wellfleet	1 ph	M. Waters#, D. Berard
2/9	Rockport	1	S. Grinley#	2/9	Wareham	1	T. OBrien
2/29	P'town (RP)	3 2-1W, 1 ad.	B. Nikula#	American Bittern			
Herring x Glaucous Gull (hybrid)				1/15	N. Truro	1	J. Eckerson#
1/14, 2/16	P'town (RP)	1 ad ph	L. Waters#	2/16-2/19	PI	1	v.o.
1/26	P'town (RP)	1 2W ph	B. Nikula#	Great Blue Heron			
Red-throated Loon				1/1-2/1	Cambridge	11 max	K. Johnson + v.o.
1/18-1/27	Everett	1	T. Sackton + v.o.	2/17	Barnstable	8	G. d'Entremont#
1/23	Scusset B.	4	M. Lynch#	2/25	Acoaxet	4	M. Lynch#
2/20-2/29	Medford	1	J. Kovner + v.o.	Great Egret			
Pacific Loon				2/9	Chappaquiddick	1	B. Shriber#
thr	P'town (RP)	4 max ph	v.o.	2/22	Chatham	1	W. Kaempfer
2/6, 2/12	Rockport (AP)	1,1 ph	R.Heil, C. Floyd	Black-crowned Night-Heron			
Common Loon				1/5-2/17	Gloucester	1 imm	v.o.
1/1	Wachusett Res.	6	J. Bourget# + v.o.	1/22, 2/25	MV	22,12 ad+imm	A. Steenstrup#
1/1-2/23	Quabbin Pk	3 max	S. Surner + v.o.	1/26	Salem	1 ad	D. Brewster
1/23	Scusset B.	26	M. Lynch#	2/17	Lynn	1 imm	M. Genova
2/2	Westport	18	M. Lynch#	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			
Sooty Shearwater				1/2	Chilmark	1 ph	P. Gilmore
1/1	P'town (RP)	1 ph	P. Flood				

VULTURES THROUGH DICKCISSEL

Raptor highlights during the period included high numbers of Black Vultures; in Ashley Falls, southwestern Berkshire County, as many of 26 were counted, while 28 were tallied in Blackstone, along the Rhode Island border. Ten Bald Eagles, nine of which were immatures, were found along the canal at Turners Falls. As many as six Long-eared Owls were reported from areas in East Boston and Revere. There were 15 individual Short-eared Owls reported compared with nine for the same period last year.

For those birds that have been lucky or hardy enough to survive to the start of the winter season, the period after the Christmas Bird Counts can take a heavy toll. Many individuals, including species such as Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, and Baltimore Oriole don't make it. This year (now through March, as I write this), has been one of the top 10 mildest and snowless winters in official record keeping. The result for wintering songbirds has been a bright picture of survival, as shown in Figure 1.

Among the vagrants were some holdovers from December including the elusive **Townsend's Solitaire** at Halibut Point State Park. Many birders made several trips before finding it, while others failed entirely. A **Western Tanager** that was coming to a feeder on Oriole Lane in Sandwich was much more obliging. The birding community is grateful to birders Scott and Sharon Boutilier for graciously allowing access to see the bird on their property. Another rare yard bird, a **Varied Thrush**, was visiting a feeder in Westhampton. The bird—unbeknownst to the host—was only discovered during a visit by a birding friend.

Other noteworthy reports included a **Sedge Wren** on Cuttyhunk, a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in Lancaster, and four individual **Painted Buntings** coming to feeders. Yellow-breasted Chats were reported in 20 locations. Other winter highlights included Nashville Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and as many as 14 Orange-crowned Warblers.

R. Stymeist

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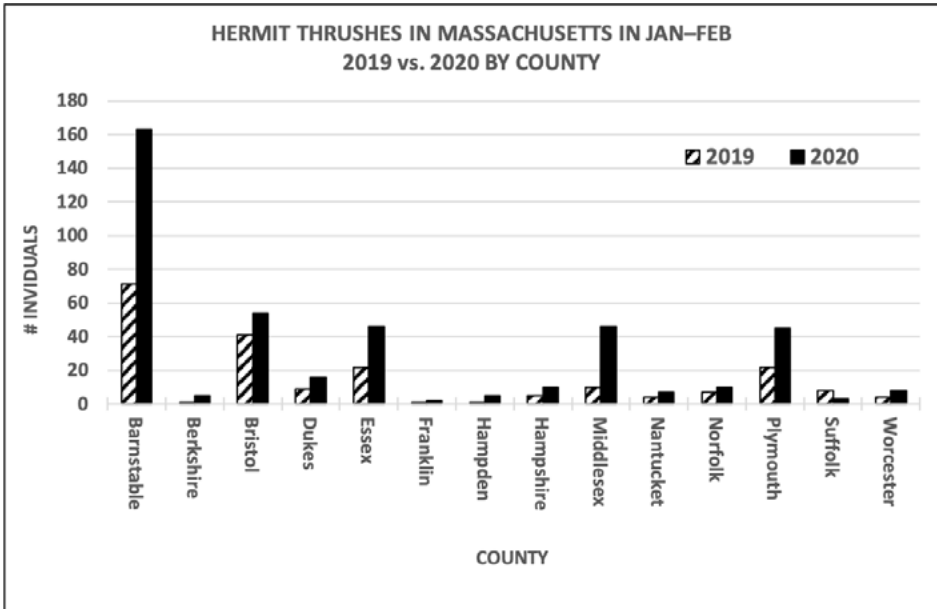
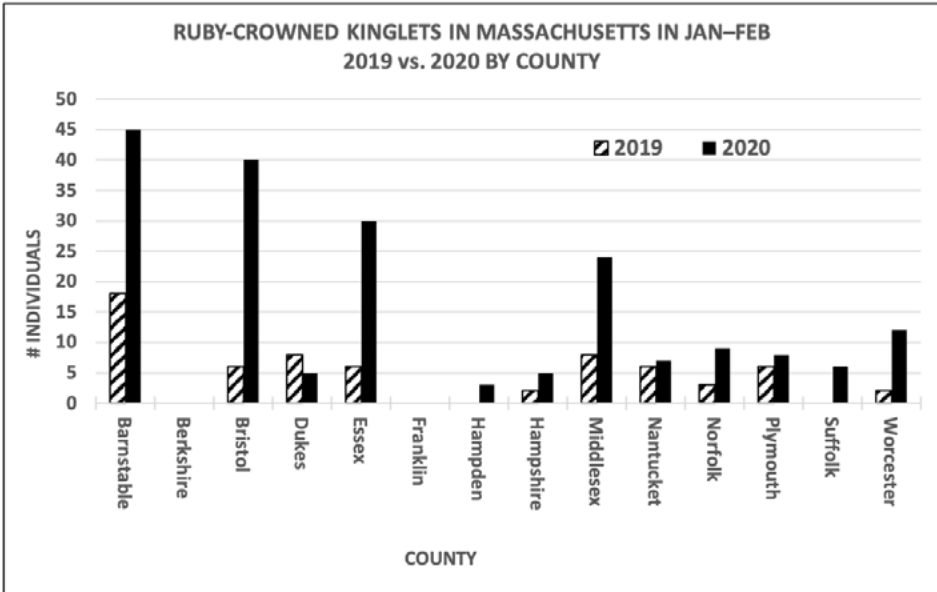


Figure 1. A comparison between 2019 and 2020 of total wintering individuals of Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Hermit Thrushes in Massachusetts counties for the period January–February. Data from eBird.org.

Black Vulture				2/5	Easthampton	2	imm	ph D.McLain, K.Jones	
1/1	Blackstone	28	M. Lynch#	Yellow-bellied	Sapsucker				
1/1-2/22	Ashley Falls	26	max R. Wendell# + v.o.	1/1-1/30	MtA	2	max	A. Parker + v.o.	
2/2	Westport	7	M. Lynch#	1/2	Wellfleet	4		Truro CBC	
2/8	Hopkinton	3	S. Williams	1/5	Boston (AA)	2		J. Hanson + v.o.	
2/23	Barnstable	5	P. Trimble	Northern Flicker					
Turkey Vulture				1/25-1/25	Tidmarsh WS	27		S. van der Veen	
2/2	Westport	16	M. Lynch#	2/2	Acoaxet	4		M. Lynch#	
2/29	Blackstone	21	R. Hodson	Pileated Woodpecker					
Northern Harrier				2/20	Concord	2		J. Forbes	
1/10	Hadley	1	imm M. Lynch#	2/21	Harvard	1		M. Lynch#	
1/15	N. Truro	4	J. Eckerson#	2/22	Montague	2		M. Lynch#	
2/23	Fairhaven	2	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)	American Kestrel					
2/25	Acoaxet	1	f M. Lynch#	1/1-1/29	Ashley Falls	2	max	G. Ward# + v.o.	
Bald Eagle				1/11-2/14	Williamstown	1		M. Morales	
2/8	Quabbin Res. 4	2ad+2imm	M. Lynch#	1/17	Easthampton	1		M. McKittrick	
2/24	Petersham	5	B. Lafley	1/23-2/19	Hadley	1		M. Locher + v.o.	
2/25	Turners Falls	10	J. Rose, D. Small	Merlin					
Red-shouldered Hawk				1/1-1/2	Worc.	3	max	B. Robo + v.o.	
1/11	Bourne	1	G. d'Entremont#	1/1-2/29	Medford	2	max	J. Layman + v.o.	
1/11	Fairhaven	1	M. Lynch#	Peregrine Falcon					
2/9	Scusset B.	2	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)	1/11	Holyoke	3		D. Allard	
2/12	W. Roxbury (MP)	1	R. Hodson	2/1-2/24	Watertown	2	1pr n	R. Stymeist# + v.o.	
2/15	Quaboag IBA	2	1pr M. Lynch#	Eastern Phoebe					
Rough-legged Hawk				thr	Hadley	1		C. Elowe	
1/1-1/11	Freetown	1	dk L. Abbey + v.o.	1/1	Sheffield	2		R. Wendell#	
1/1-1/26	Saugus	1	dk S. Zende# + v.o.	1/3-1/3	MBO	1		A. Kneidel	
1/2	Hadley	1	lt L. Therrien	1/6-1/20	Mashpee	2		K. Miller#	
1/27	Montague	1	P. Gagarin	1/15-2/15	Athol	1		E. LeBlanc	
1/28	Chesterfield	1	lt T. Gessing	2/22-2/25	IRWS	1		D. Littauer + v.o.	
2/12	Williamstown	1	M. Morales + v.o.	2/23	Marion	1		I. Davies	
2/16	Ashley Falls	1	dk J. Pierce# + v.o.	Northern Shrike					
2/16	BFWMA	1	lt T. Murray + v.o.	thr	Indiv. reported from 14 locations				
2/22	Northampton	1	lt T. Tynning	Fish Crow					
2/27-2/28	Lee	1	lt J. Pierce + v.o.	1/1	Falmouth	635		J. McCumber	
Eastern Screech-Owl				1/2-1/20	Chicopee	4	max	F. Bowry#	
2/4	MSSF	2	G. d'Entremont	1/28-2/27	Pittsfield	2	max	J. Jew + v.o.	
2/22	Westborough	2	S. Arena	1/31	Blackstone	83		M. Lynch#	
2/24	Lancaster/Harvard	3	M. Lynch#	Common Raven					
Great Horned Owl				thr	Amherst	4	max	J. Rose	
1/9	Ipswich	3	J. Berry	1/12-2/23	Nantucket	2	max	v.o.	
2/23	Westborough	3	S. Arena	1/31	Hardwick	23		W. Howes	
2/24	Lancaster/Harvard	6	M. Lynch#	2/9	Groton	4	ph	T. Murray	
2/24	Marlborough	4	T. Spahr#	2/16	Pittsfield	6	max	G. Miller, M. Marino	
Snowy Owl				2/22	WBWS	3		L. Chen#	
thr	PI	3	max v.o.	Horned Lark					
1/1-3/20	Boston (Logan)	1	W. Scott + v.o.	thr	Northampton	250	max	L. Therrien + v.o.	
1/11-2/29	Nantucket	1	v.o.	1/9-1/30	Rutland	50	max	B. Abbott + v.o.	
1/12	Ipswich (CB)	2	J. Berry#	1/12	Ipswich (CB)	7		J. Berry	
2/9	Edgartown	1	B. Shriber	2/1-2/16	Saugus	80	max	G. Wilson + v.o.	
2/10	Nahant	1	T. McElligott#	Tree Swallow					
Barred Owl				1/1	Falmouth	2		K. Fiske	
2/2	Upton	2	T. Dodd	2/10	Nantucket	16		T. Pastuszak	
2/24	Marlborough	4	T. Spahr#	Red-breasted Nuthatch					
Long-eared Owl				2/1-2/29	Shutesbury	9		A. Eckerson + v.o.	
thr	Suffolk Co.	6	max anon	2/24	Quabbin (G40)	6		S. Miller#	
Short-eared Owl				Brown Creeper					
thr	Indiv. reported from 8 locations				1/22	Royalston	2		M. Lynch#
1/7-2/29	Cumb. Farms	3	max D. Furbish + v.o.	2/16	Hubbardston	5		N. Tepper	
1/13-2/17	P'town	2	K. Burke, v.o.	Winter Wren					
1/15	PI	2	B. Howell#	1/1-2/17	Belchertown	2	max	L. Therrien	
Northern Saw-whet Owl				1/2	Fairhaven	2		G. d'Entremont	
1/1-1/31	Great Barrington	3	max au Z. Adams, J.Pierce+v.o.	1/2	Waltham	2		J. Forbes	
1/1	Paxton	2	M. Lynch#	1/7-2/23	W. Roxbury (MP)	2		M. Iliff + v.o.	
2/1-2/3	Williamstown	4	max au N. Henkenius	Sedge Wren					
2/24	Marlborough	5	T. Spahr#	1/9	Cuttyhunk I.	1		M. Sylvia #	
Belted Kingfisher				Marsh Wren					
2/26	Wachusett Res.	2	M. Lynch#	thr	GMNWR	2	max	v.o.	
Red-headed Woodpecker				1/2	N. Truro	6		M. Waters#	
thr	Ayer	1	imm ph v.o.	1/12	Burlington	1		M. Rines	
1/7-2/29	Hadley	3	2ad+1imm A. Hulsey+v.o.	2/9	Sandwich	1		SSBC (G. d'Entremont)	

Marsh Wren (continued)				thr	Arlington	6 max	R. Stymeist#
2/22-2/24	Wayland	1	B. Harris + v.o.	2/9	Sudbury Res.	7	M. Lynch#
2/23	Fairhaven	1	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)	2/21	Chilmark	15	B. Shriber
Carolina Wren				Clay-colored Sparrow			
thr	Northampton	8 max	L. Therrien + v.o.	thr	Eastham	1	v.o.
thr	Longmeadow	6 max	M. Moore + v.o.	2/21	Chilmark	1	B. Shriber
1/31	Blackstone	8	M. Lynch#	Field Sparrow			
2/23	Fairhaven	18	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)	thr	Easthampton	4 max	L. Therrien + v.o.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				1/26	Freetown	14	G. d'Entremont#
1/10-1/15	Uxbridge	2 max	ph C. Liazos + v.o.	1/27-2/23	Southwick	9 max	D. Holmes + v.o.
1/25	Rockport (HPT)	2	G. d'Entremont#	2/23	W. Roxbury (MP)	5	M. Iliff
1/31	Mashpee	4	M. Keleher	2/26	Wachusett Res.	2	M. Lynch#
Eastern Bluebird				Fox Sparrow			
thr	Pittsfield	18	S. Townsend	2/1-2/17	Belmont	4 max	J. Layman + v.o.
2/2	Acoaxet	28	M. Lynch#	2/10	Boston (AA)	3	P. Peterson
2/23	Hardwick	24	M. Lynch#	2/17	Woburn (HP)	2	M. Rines
Townsend's Solitaire				American Tree Sparrow			
thr	Rockport (HPT)	1 ph	v.o.	thr	Great Barrington	45	G. Ward
Hermit Thrush				1/1-2/26	Northampton	50	J. Young + v.o.
1/12	Amherst	3	S. Zhang	2/8	Northfield	63	F. Bowrys
Varied Thrush				2/15	Quaboag IBA	19	M. Lynch#
1/19	Westhampton	1 ph	S. Jaffe	White-crowned Sparrow			
Gray Catbird				thr	Ashley Falls	4 max	G. Ward + v.o.
1/2	N. Truro	10	M. Waters#	1/23	Scusset B.	2	imm M. Lynch#
1/9-2/1	Cumb. Farms	3	B. Vacchino + v.o.	2/1-2/29	Saugus	4 max	G. Wilson + v.o.
1/11	E. Orleans	8	R. Heil	Vesper Sparrow			
1/11	Fairhaven	5	M. Lynch#	1/1-2/20	Hadley (Honeypt)	1	L. Therrien + v.o.
Brown Thrasher				1/2	Truro	1	P. Crosson#
1/9	Cuttyhunk I.	2	M. Sylvia #	1/31-2/29	Falmouth	1	R. Heil, N. Marchessault
2/2	Nantucket	2	S. Kardell#	2/23	Hardwick	1	M. Lynch#
Bohemian Waxwing				Savannah Sparrow			
1/22-1/24	Rockport (HPT)	1 ph	R. Heil + v.o.	1/1-2/9	Northampton	21 max	T. Gessing + v.o.
2/29	P'town	1 ph	J. Wagner#	Savannah Sparrow (continued)			
Cedar Waxwing				1/23	Sheffield	8	G. Ward
1/1	Lincoln	92	M. Rines	Swamp Sparrow			
1/2-1/11	Dalton	105 max	G. Hurley	1/1	Blackstone	2	M. Lynch#
1/4	Ashburnham	72	C. Caron	1/3-2/21	Lenox	5 max	Z. Adams + v.o.
American Pipit				1/21	Hamilton	2	J. Berry
2/1-2/29	Gloucester	2	v.o.	Eastern Towhee			
2/25	Nantucket	3	S. Fea	2/17-2/29	Newton	2	H. Miller+ v.o.
Evening Grosbeak				2/23	Fairhaven	2	SSBC (G. d'Entremont)
1/4	Heath	1	H. Hallman	Yellow-breasted Chat			
2/6-2/7	Colrain	5 max	R. & H. Olson	thr	Indiv. reported from 20 locations		
Purple Finch				Eastern Meadowlark			
1/1	Mount Washington	3	S. Townsend#	thr	Cumb. Farms	15 max	v.o.
Red Crossbill				1/1-1/24	S. Dartmouth (APd)	31	E. Lipton# + v.o.
1/1	New Marlborough	5	Type1,2,4,10 J. Pierce# + v.o.	1/1-1/29	Falmouth	9 max	v.o.
2/1	Montague	1 f	J. Layfield	1/1-2/16	Saugus	3 max	G. Wilson + v.o.
2/9	Conway	8 max	S. Auer, K. Barnes	Baltimore Oriole			
Pine Siskin				1/1	Dennis	2	N. Villone#
1/1	Shelburne Falls	2	J. Coleman	1/15-1/23	Eastham	2	H. Swift#
1/3	Easthampton	1	T. Gessing	1/27-1/30	Sandwich	1	P. Trimble + v.o.
1/25	Hadley	1	M. McKittrick	2/1-2/15	Danvers	1 f	K. McCusker
2/2	Stockbridge	1	L. Beasley	2/2	Acoaxet	1 imm m	M. Lynch#
2/16	Montgomery	4	L. Conley	2/3-2/22	Kingston	2 m	D. Furbish
Lapland Longspur				2/8-2/22	Watertown	1	C. Browne
1/1-1/5	Bridgewater	2	P. Jacobson + v.o.	2/22-2/23	Jamaica Plain	1	P. Normandia
1/14	P'town (RP)	1	L. Waters#	2/13-2/29	Nantucket	2 max	G. Andrews#
1/19-2/19	Hadley	4 max	T. Gilliland + v.o.	Red-winged Blackbird			
1/25-2/9	Egremont	3 max	K. Hanson# + v.o.	1/5-2/29	Northampton	215 max	B. Finney + v.o.
2/16	Saugus	1	G. Wilson + v.o.	1/28-1/31	Great Barrington	400 max	G. Ward + v.o.
Snow Bunting				2/23	BFWMA	600	N. Dowling
1/14	P'town (RP)	120	L. Waters#	Brown-headed Cowbird			
1/21	Gloucester	35	P. Peterson	1/11	Rochester	55	M. Lynch#
1/26	Wachusett Res.	15	T. Pirro	1/28-1/31	Great Barrington	100 max	G. Ward + v.o.
2/12	Williamstown	100	C. Johnson	Rusty Blackbird			
Grasshopper Sparrow				1/13	Sandwich	3	S. Finnegan#
thr	Saugus	1	G. Wilson + v.o.	1/13	Grafton	2	C. Martone
1/29-2/21	Barnstable	1	v.o.	1/14-2/19	Longmeadow	5 max	M. Moore
Chipping Sparrow				1/17-1/17	Plymouth	2 1pr	E. Gustafson#
thr	Eastham	14 max	v.o.	1/31-2/23	Northampton	3 max	L. Therrien

Rusty Blackbird (continued)				1/4-1/9	Great Barrington	3	J. Pierce, R. Wendell
2/21	Lancaster	3	J. Bourget#	1/21	Lakeville	11	M. Sylvia
Common Grackle				2/17	Harwich	6	G. d'Entremont#
2/23	BFWMA	1700	N. Dowling	Yellow-rumped Warbler			
2/25	Westport	45	M. Lynch#	1/1-2/26	Northampton	20 max	A. Hulsey + v.o.
Northern Waterthrush				1/2	N. Truro	508	L. Waters#
1/1-1/12	Nantucket	1	G. Andrews#	1/23	Scusset B.	7	M. Lynch#
1/4	Edgartown	1	J. Trimble#	2/9	Lexington (DM)	5	M. Rines#
Orange-crowned Warbler				2/16	Winthrop	5	S. Jones + v.o.
thr	Indiv. reported from	14 locations		Yellow-throated Warbler			
Nashville Warbler				1/6-1/26	Lancaster	1 ph	L. Ercolini
2/6	Mashpee	1	M. Keleher#	Prairie Warbler			
Common Yellowthroat				1/2	Wellfleet	1	J. Young
1/2	Wellfleet	1	J. Young#	Western Tanager			
1/6-1/6	DWWS	1	B. Albro	thr	Sandwich	1 ph	v.o.
1/10-1/22	W. Roxbury (MP)	2	M. McMahon + v.o.	Painted Bunting			
2/16	IRWS	1	B. Bolnick	thr	Eastham	1 m ph	J. Carbone
2/16	Ayer	1	R. Heil	thr	Orleans	1	R. Utt
Northern Parula				1/1-2/18	Harwich	1 m ph b	S. Mackoul
1/14-thr	S. Orleans	1 m ph	D. Gilmore	1/1-1/28	Carver	1 f ph	E. Dalton# + v.o.
Black-throated Blue Warbler				Dickcissel			
1/1-1/24	Wellfleet	1 f/imm	M. Dorrell	1/2-1/3	Lynn	1 ph	S. McDonald + v.o.
Palm Warbler (Western)				2/9-2/12	Haverhill	1 ph	D. Lyons
1/11	E. Orleans	2	R. Heil	2/20-2/29	Rumney (Revere)	1 ph	P. Peterson + v.o.
Pine Warbler							
1/1-1/20	Waltham	1	J. Forbes				



NORTHERN GOSHAWK BY NEIL DOWLING

BYGONE BIRDS

Historical Highlights for January–February

Neil Hayward

5 YEARS AGO

January–February 2015



A pair of **Barnacle Geese** were present in Northampton from January 2–11. An **Eared Grebe** was back at Mashpee on January 20, possibly the same bird seen in November. An immature **Purple Gallinule** was found in distress in Weston on January 19 but died before rehabilitators arrived the following day. Nantucket hosted a flyby **Brown Pelican** on New Year's Day and a Royal Tern on January 16, the first winter record for the state. A **Prairie Falcon** was a nice surprise on Plum Island for the first day of 2015. What would have been a state first ended up being rejected based on photographs that showed falconer's gear attached to one of the bird's legs. A **Spotted Towhee** was in Chilmark and a **Painted Bunting** in Wellfleet. Continuing birds from December included the **Townsend's Solitaire** in Marion, the **Townsend's Warbler** in Marblehead, and the **Audubon's Warbler** in Hingham.

Best sighting: Black-backed Woodpecker at the Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain, January 6. This bird stayed for over four months and was seen by many local birders.

10 YEARS AGO

January–February 2010



Rare geese included the continuing **Greater White-fronted Goose** in Sharon and a **Barnacle Goose** in South Egremont. The pair of **Tundra Swans** continued on Nantucket. An **Eared Grebe** spent four days at Marstons Mills in January. A **Wood Stork** was a one-day wonder in Cotuit on January 20. Another one-day surprise was a **Slaty-backed Gull** photographed at Eastern Point, Gloucester, on January 25. **Ivory Gulls** were more obliging, with an adult at Race Point, January 14–17, and a second bird at Westport on January 23. The **White-winged Dove** first found on the Sturbridge Christmas Bird Count continued into January at the feeders of the Bird Store and More in Sturbridge. The **Allen's Hummingbird** first discovered in October at a feeder in Harwich survived until January 19. A **Townsend's Solitaire** spent more than three weeks in Yarmouthport, while a **Summer Tanager** and a **Painted Bunting** visited feeders within three blocks of each other in Orleans.

Best sighting: **Sage Thrasher** at Salisbury State Park, January 11–March 28. This represents the third state record for the species, the two previous records coming from Plum Island in October 1965 and November 2005.

20 YEARS AGO



January–February 2000

The **Eared Grebe** at East Gloucester continued for its fifth consecutive winter. Up to two **Greater White-fronted Geese** were on the north shore with another in Fairhaven. **Tufted Ducks** were found in Plymouth and at Wachusett Reservoir. A **Mew Gull** was present in South Boston for most of the period. Passerine highlights included a **Boreal Chickadee** in West Newbury, a **Western Tanager** in Orleans, an **Oregon Junco** in Easthampton, a **Spotted Towhee** in Hadley, and **Hoary Redpolls** in Easthampton and Halibut Point.

Best sighting: **Brown Pelican** in Westfield, January 1–4. This was a first for western Massachusetts. It was eventually captured, rehabilitated and relocated to Florida.

40 YEARS AGO



January–February 1980

A **Western Grebe** continued at Plum Island for the second half of January. Two **Gyrfalcons**—one gray and one dark—were reported from the Newburyport area marshes from late January through mid-February. **Varied Thrushes** were found at Harvard and South Orleans in February. Rare icterids included a **Yellow-headed Blackbird** in Hingham on January 1, and one or two **Brewer's Blackbirds** on Martha's Vineyard through the end of February. Other passerine highlights included **Western Tanagers** at Framingham and Dover and a Lincoln's Sparrow at Eastern Point, Gloucester, on New Year's Day.

Best sighting: After an absence off nearly twenty-five years, Bald Eagles were reported back at their former wintering haunts along the Merrimack River. As many as five immatures were present during February. 🦅

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ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIRD SIGHTINGS

Taxonomic order is based on AOS checklist, Seventh edition, 60th Supplement, as published in *Auk* 136: ukz042 (2019) (see <<http://checklist.aou.org/>>).

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

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO *BIRD OBSERVER*

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

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