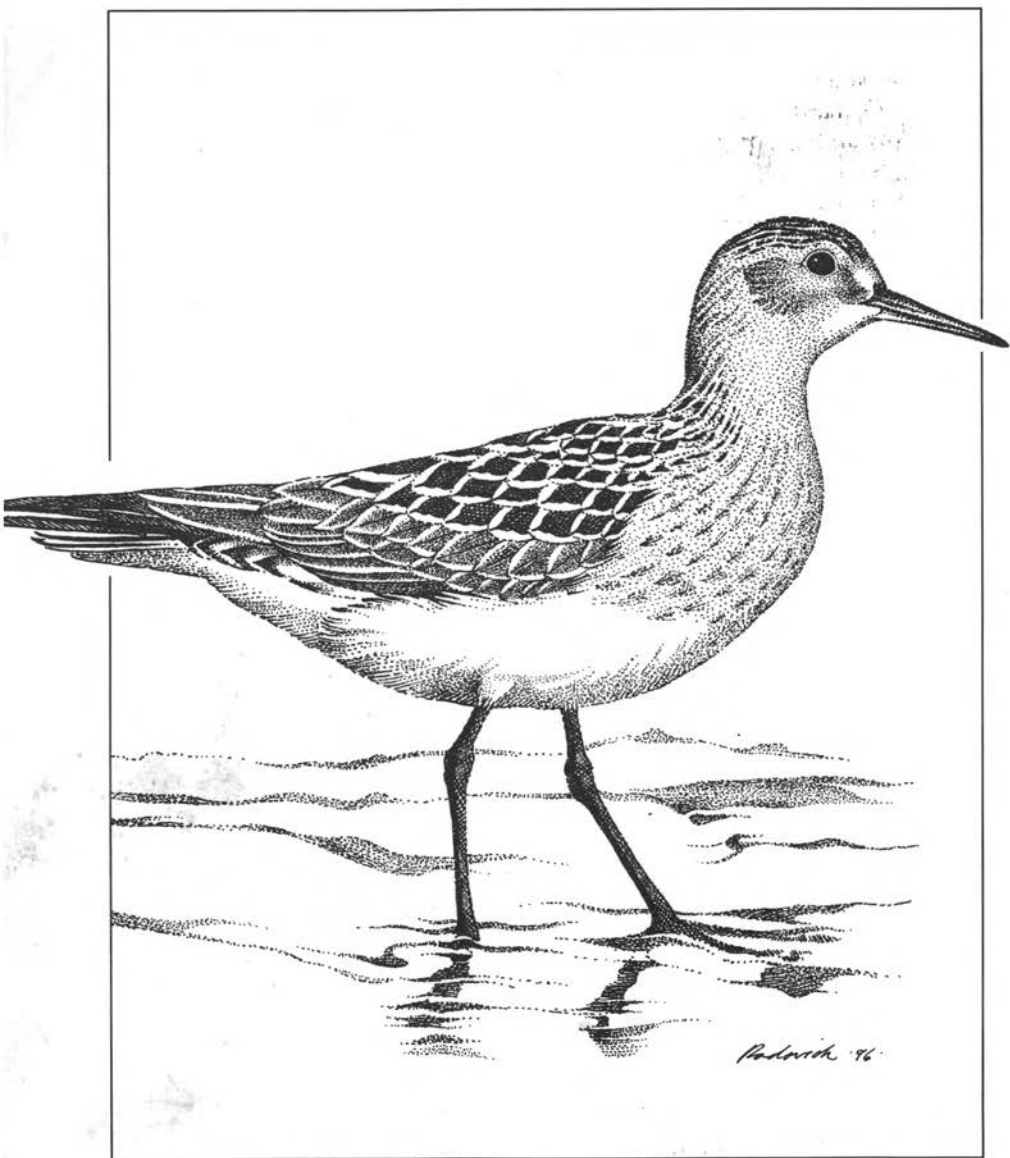


BIRD OBSERVER



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AUGUST 1998



BIRD OBSERVER

• bimonthly journal •

To enhance understanding, observation, and enjoyment of birds.

VOL. 26, NO. 4 AUGUST 1998

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Bird Observer Web Site

The *Bird Observer* web site offers an easy way to communicate with the journal's staff, and it also includes reprints of articles of topical interest, tables of contents from the last four years (search for that article you remember but can't locate), "At A Glance" photos, and links of interest to New England Birders. Visit our web site at

<http://people.ne.mediaone.net/marjines/BirdObserver.htm>

OBSERVERS OBSERVED: HOW WE AFFECT THE BIRDS WE WATCH

by Marta Hersek

Most of us are painfully aware of the many large-scale, negative impacts the ever-increasing human population has on other species. We watch in dismay as millions of acres in the tropics are deforested, as the last of the North American wetlands become housing developments, and as the few remaining tall-grass prairies are invaded by introduced species. But many of you might be surprised, as I was, to discover that even small-scale intrusions like hiking and nature-watching also negatively affect birds. As a researcher who regularly follows, records, traps, and otherwise bothers birds, I became interested — and concerned — about the effect my presence has. I was aware that I would influence my study animals, but I was interested in just how much I changed their behavior. I also wondered how much my research activities put the birds and their nests at risk of higher predation. A variety of researchers and managers have asked these questions, and the observations and experimental results are interesting — if a little sobering. It seems that even the lowest level of intrusion can change how animals behave, and can threaten their well-being.

It seems intuitive that disturbing birds near their nests could have detrimental effects, and some studies document such impact. For example, in the California Gnatcatcher, a threatened species, Sockman (1997) found that some birds abandoned the nest if it was discovered during construction. Also, pairs whose nests were frequently visited by researchers suffered higher rates of predation than those visited less frequently. Red-winged Blackbirds, American Goldfinches, and American Robins became more aggressive toward researchers who regularly visited their nests, and Black-billed Magpies began nesting in less accessible spots when exposed to increasing human disturbance (Knight and Fitzner 1985, Knight and Temple 1986a, Knight and Temple 1986b, Knight and Temple 1986c). A more extreme example comes from Safina and Burger (1983), who studied Black Skimmers. These beach-nesting birds often moved from disturbed nesting areas, where researchers walked through the colony regularly, into undisturbed areas, even if this meant abandoning a nest at an early stage. The human-disturbed birds that didn't leave the area had lower hatching success, probably due to thermal stress to eggs which were left unattended more often and for longer periods than normal. Nestlings often left nests prematurely and ran when humans entered a colony, and it's likely that many of these chicks were not reunited with their parents: observers found young chicks up to 100 meters from their nesting area, and many chicks were found dead. Both cannibalism and attempted predation on young, wandering chicks were also observed by researchers. Obviously, the effects of human

disturbance can have a large impact on the success of a Black Skimmer colony. Finally, there is also some evidence that predators may follow humans, or their signs, to nests. For example, avian predators may learn to forage near where people are visiting bird nests. Parasitic Jaegers were regularly observed circling overhead while researchers were checking the nests of waterfowl, and in some cases they took advantage of the researchers having flushed the parents to predate a nest before the parents returned (MacInnes and Misra 1972, Strang 1980). Similarly, predation on Brown Pelican nests by Western Gulls and Ravens increased after closely-approaching humans flushed the parents (Anderson and Keith 1980).

Most birders, however, probably do not regularly disturb nests, so the issue of importance to them is how lower-level disturbances affect birds. A number of studies have found that people simply walking through an area can cause changes in behavior. For example, Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Yellow-rumped Warblers sang less in areas in which observers regularly walked through the birds' territories, compared with areas that were surveyed only from the perimeter (Gutzwiller et al. 1994). Since song can function in both territorial behavior and mate attraction, such disturbance may lead to decreased pairing success, later nesting, and decreased nesting success (Gutzwiller et al. 1994). Some of the birds were even sensitive to the clothing worn by observers: orange hunter's vests reduced researchers' probability of detecting Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, and American Goldfinches (Gutzwiller and Marcum 1993). Other studies have shown that many shorebirds will flush from nests or move into sub-optimal foraging areas if recreationists, including fishermen and birdwatchers, approach too closely (summarized in Knight and Cole 1995). Norling et al. (1992) found that the thousands of birders who annually gather to observe migrating Sandhill Cranes along the Platte River in Nebraska often cause the cranes to flush. Since the birds are fattening up for breeding, this wasteful use of energy can be significant, especially for young birds. Furthermore, flushed cranes may be more likely to fly into deadly power lines. Overall, these relatively subtle behavioral changes may affect breeding success of individual pairs, or they may reduce the overall size of the breeding population through redistribution of animals (Knight and Cole 1995). In fact, it has been suggested that the decline in North American waterfowl may in part be blamed on a loss of disturbance-free nesting sites for birds (Knight and Cole 1995).

Perhaps most significantly, these relatively small-scale changes in behavior and populations can lead to larger-scale changes at the community level. For example, Skagen et al. (1991) studied a guild of scavengers in the Pacific Northwest. These birds — Bald Eagles, American Crows, and Glaucous-winged Gulls — all forage on salmon carcasses that wash up on gravel bars during the spawning season. In general, there is a dominance hierarchy among these

- Safina, C. and J. Burger. 1983. Effects of Human Disturbance on Reproductive Success in the Black Skimmer. *Condor* 85:164-171.
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Marta Hersek is a member of the editorial board of *Bird Observer*; she is an assistant professor at Boston University. Marta did her graduate work at the University of California at Davis and has worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian, and as a visiting assistant professor at several schools.

Of interest to researchers and serious birders is a pamphlet titled Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research (1997), produced by the Ornithological Council. This publication provides extensive recommendations on ethical practices for scientific researchers engaged in banding, field research, or laboratory studies. Topics covered include investigator impact, trapping and collecting, housing captive birds, marking wild birds, and manipulative procedures such as collection of tissue samples, use of artificial eggs, anesthesia, and surgery. Copies can be obtained by sending \$8 to Dr. Max C. Thompson, Assistant Treasurer, AOU, Department of Biology, 100 College Street, Winfield, KS 67158-8382 (checks should be made out to the American Ornithologists' Union).

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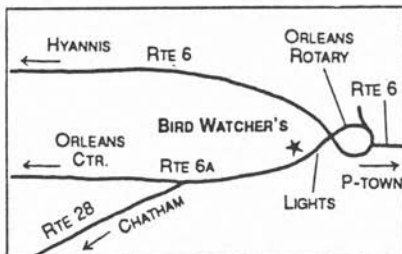
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AMERICAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION PRINCIPLES OF BIRDING ETHICS

Everyone who enjoys birds and birding must always respect wildlife, its environment, and the rights of others. In any conflict of interest between birds and birders, the welfare of the birds and their environment comes first.

CODE OF BIRDING ETHICS

1. Promote the welfare of birds and their environment.

1(a) Support the protection of important bird habitat.

1(b) To avoid stressing birds or exposing them to danger, exercise restraint and caution during observation, photography, sound recording, or filming.

Limit the use of recordings and other methods of attracting birds, and never use such methods in heavily birded areas or for attracting any species that is Threatened, Endangered, or of Special Concern, or is rare in your local area.

Keep well back from nests and nesting colonies, roosts, display areas, and important feeding sites. In such sensitive areas, if there is a need for extended observation, photography, filming, or recording, try to use a blind or hide, and take advantage of natural cover.

Use artificial light sparingly for filming or photography, especially for close-ups.

1(c) Before advertising the presence of a rare bird, evaluate the potential for disturbance to the bird, its surroundings, and other people in the area, and proceed only if access can be controlled, disturbance can be minimized, and permission has been obtained from private land-owners. The sites of rare nesting birds should be divulged only to the proper conservation authorities.

1(d) Stay on roads, trails, and paths where they exist; otherwise keep habitat disturbance to a minimum.

2. Respect the law and the rights of others.

2(a) Do not enter private property without the owner's explicit permission.

2(b) Follow all laws, rules, and regulations governing use of roads and public areas, both at home and abroad.

2(c) Practice common courtesy in contacts with other people. Your exemplary behavior will generate goodwill with birders and non-birders alike.

3. Ensure that feeders, nest structures, and other artificial bird environments are safe.

3(a) Keep dispensers, water, and food clean and free of decay or disease. It is important to feed birds continually during harsh weather.

3(b) Maintain and clean nest structures regularly.

3(c) If you are attracting birds to an area, ensure the birds are not exposed to predation from cats and other domestic animals, or dangers posed by artificial hazards.

4. Group birding, whether organized or impromptu, requires special care.

Each individual in the group, in addition to the obligations spelled out in Items #1 and #2, has responsibilities as a Group Member.

4(a) Respect the interests, rights, and skills of fellow birders, as well as those of people participating in other legitimate outdoor activities. Freely share your knowledge and experience, except where code 1(c) applies. Be especially helpful to beginning birders.

4(b) If you witness unethical birding behavior, assess the situation and intervene if you think it prudent. When interceding, inform the person(s) of the inappropriate action and attempt, within reason, to have it stopped. If the behavior continues, document it and notify appropriate individuals or organizations.

Group Leader Responsibilities [amateur and professional trips and tours].

4(c) Be an exemplary ethical role model for the group. Teach through word and example.

4(d) Keep groups to a size that limits impact on the environment and does not interfere with others using the same area.

4(e) Ensure everyone in the group knows of and practices this code.

4(f) Learn and inform the group of any special circumstances applicable to the areas being visited (e.g., no tape recorders allowed).

4(g) Acknowledge that professional tour companies bear a special responsibility to place the welfare of birds and the benefits of public knowledge ahead of the company's commercial interests. Ideally, leaders should keep track of tour sightings, document unusual occurrences, and submit records to appropriate organizations.

**PLEASE FOLLOW THIS CODE —
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THE SILVIO O. CONTE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE REFUGE

by Beth Goettel

National wildlife refuges have always been for the birds. The first NWR, Pelican Island National Bird Reservation, formed in 1903, protected colonies of Roseate Spoonbills, herons, egrets, and pelicans from plume hunting. In 1906 the Game and Bird Preserves Protection Act was passed. In 1908 the Lower Klamath Lake and Lake Malheur Bird Reservations were created. Twenty-six more bird reservations were established the following year, and land acquisition continued over the following decades. Although refuges were sometimes established mainly to protect particular species, most acquisitions concentrated on strategically placed nesting, stopover, and wintering areas for a variety of birds, especially for waterfowl along migratory flyways. Today's system includes over 500 refuges containing over 92 million acres of valuable habitat.

Birders enjoy refuges and often travel great distances to take advantage of bird observation opportunities at national wildlife refuges all over the country. One would expect that they would flock to see the system's newest refuge, the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge. But visitors arriving at the Refuge's headquarters in Turners Falls, Massachusetts, binoculars in hand, are often puzzled and surprised when they ask, "Where's the Refuge?" This is no ordinary refuge. It may have less land than other refuges (just one 3.8 acre island so far), but someday it will provide more habitat than most.

In 1991 Congress asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to design a refuge to conserve, protect, and enhance natural diversity (native species and the ecosystems on which they depend) throughout the 7.2-million-acre Connecticut River watershed. Biologists found this to be quite a challenge. Areas in which waterfowl concentrate might be relatively easy to identify and purchase, but identifying and protecting habitat for migratory songbirds, migratory fish, and the hundreds of endangered and rare plants and invertebrates in the watershed is much more difficult. Little research has been done on the habitat requirements of many of these species.

Moreover, some species cannot be helped by habitat acquisition alone. For example, freshwater mussels depend on good water quality, which cannot be obtained simply by purchasing a stretch of streambed and adjacent banks. For others species, habitat acquisition may be secondary to the primary need for active habitat management to mimic natural disturbance regimes. Grassland birds, for example, may thrive on land that remains in use for other purposes, like agriculture; but they cannot persist on land that is simply acquired and then left alone, because it soon grows up into forest. Finally, it is impractical to protect enough land to provide for all the needs of widely-distributed species, like New England's large variety of wood warblers.

Biologists found that even an ambitious land acquisition program, targeting approximately 140,000 acres, would only protect two percent of the watershed. At the same time, they found that twenty-two percent of the watershed was already dedicated open space, including national, state, and local forests, parks and wildlife management areas, watershed lands, and land trust holdings. Additional large tracts of undeveloped land are held by electric utilities and forest products companies. Working with the owners of these holdings could improve habitat on a significant portion of the watershed — much more of it than could be protected by land acquisition alone — so that is what the Refuge will do.

The design of the Refuge relies on encouraging and assisting citizens and landowners to protect their plant and wildlife resources. To be effective, the Refuge must be active and successful in three complementary areas: education; research, inventory and management on land belonging to others; and land acquisition. Projects in the first two areas are supported by matching grants and cooperative agreements with Refuge partners, funded by the Refuge's operating budget. Land acquisition projects are supported by the Fish and Wildlife Service's portion of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Because the Refuge has already supported over 100 projects, spread far and wide, it is a difficult Refuge to "see." You might see the Refuge mentioned in the credits of a videotape on Connecticut Public Television, or see a sign near a wetland or grassland restoration project in Amherst, Massachusetts. You might run into a volunteer "River Rover" at Rainbow Beach in Northampton, Massachusetts, who would explain the research they are doing on Puritan Tiger Beetles, a federally endangered species. You may have seen smoke from a prescribed fire in Stoddard, New Hampshire, last May, or a strange aquatic weed harvester on the Connecticut River in Holyoke, Massachusetts, in June. You could stop by the Montshire Museum in Norwich, Vermont, to see the new watershed exhibits there. You may have seen "Eagle TV," the live broadcast of nesting activities on cable TV or as snapshots on the internet. The best way to hear about all the Refuge's activities is to call the Refuge office at (413) 863-0209, ext. 4, and ask Fran to add you to the mailing list to receive newsletters; or look the Refuge up on the internet at <http://www.fws.gov/r5soc>.

What's in It for Birds?

Of course, birders are most interested in what the Refuge is doing for birds. The Refuge has supported a wide range of research and management activities for rare birds. Findings from projects on Acadian Flycatchers (completed by the Metropolitan District Commission in Massachusetts) and Black-backed Woodpecker nesting habitat (accomplished by the University of Vermont in northern Vermont) may help foresters accommodate these species. Conte Refuge has also supported Massachusetts Audubon Society efforts to develop educational materials and work directly with landowners to encourage them to

employ management methods that benefit grassland birds. It is also working with researchers, the Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Connecticut River Conservation District Coalition to help landowners maintain open habitat in Coos County, New Hampshire. This will benefit nesting Northern Harriers. The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection has restored salt marsh and native grasses and tested Osprey eggs for contaminants with Refuge financial help. Refuge funds are helping the Mattabesset River Watershed Association install nest platforms for Ospreys in Middletown, Connecticut.

The most interesting research being funded is an exciting landscape-scale research project, the Migratory Bird Stopover Habitat Survey. The study will show whether migrant songbirds concentrate along the Connecticut River and its tributaries during spring migration. If they do, the Refuge and its partners will protect and manage more riverside habitat. Dr. Thomas S. Litwin, of Smith College, is the primary investigator, with assistance from the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences. A cooperating organization in each state recruits and trains volunteers and coordinates the data collection. (These organizations are the Connecticut Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, Massachusetts Audubon Society, the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, and the Vermont Institute of Natural Science.) Over 100 experienced birder volunteers have completed point counts at 48 sampling sites over the past three springs, and Dr. Litwin will now analyze the data.

The Refuge is also interested in educational projects about migratory birds and their problems. It helped fund a bird-banding station that the Connecticut Audubon Center at Glastonbury, Connecticut, uses for educational purposes. New Hampshire Audubon used Challenge Cost-Share Funds to complete a breeding bird inventory and bird list for its Pondicherry Refuge. The Conte Refuge stands ready to help the Partners in Flight state committees and others with future educational efforts.

One project at a time, the Refuge is helping build a better future for birds and their habitats in the Connecticut River watershed. The Refuge and its many partners are working to keep you, your children, and your grandchildren supplied with plenty of birds to observe. Best of all, you won't have to come to a place with a refuge boundary sign to enjoy them: they'll be everywhere!

Beth Goettel received her B.S. in Wildlife Management from the University of Maine at Orono in 1976. She has worked for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and as a volunteer educator and writer with several national wildlife refuges and school systems. She is currently a biologist at the Conte Refuge.

(Announcement)

EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS HAWK WATCH

Annual Meeting

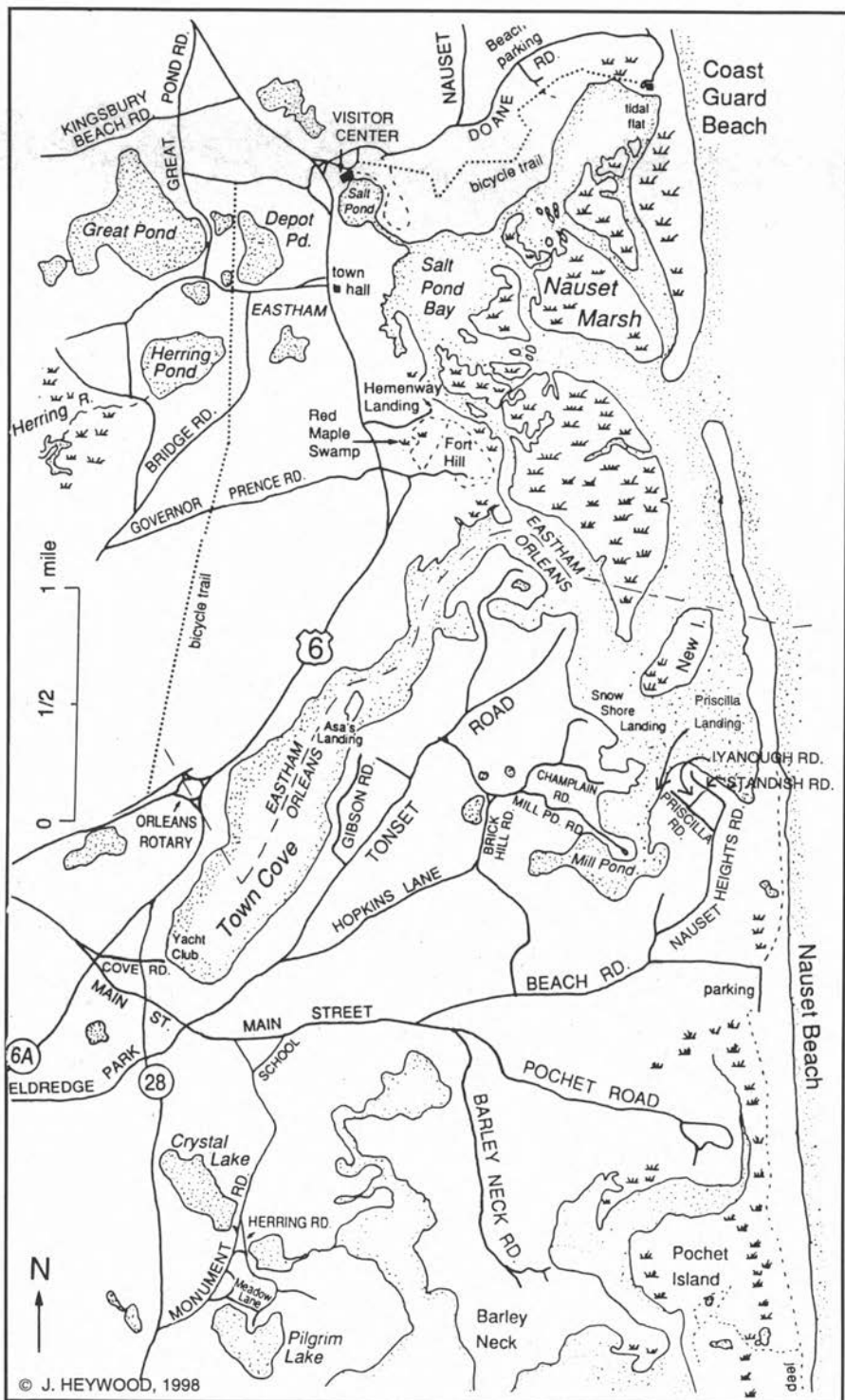
The Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch will hold its annual meeting on Friday, September 11, at Drumlin Farm in Lincoln at 7:00 P.M. (social hour starting at 6:00 p.m.). The meeting is free of charge and open to the public. This year's program features a new presentation by Wingmasters Julie Collier and Jim Parks. They will be bringing a number of live raptors, including a Broad-winged Hawk, a harrier, a Short-eared Owl, and a recently acquired Red-tailed Hawk that sports some puzzling plumage. In addition, Shawn Carey will debut a new video presentation, and Dick Walton will be giving a preview of his brand-new hawk ID video.

Volunteer Hawkwatchers Sought

Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch seeks volunteers to hawk watch this fall. You don't have to be an identification expert to participate. The best way to learn to identify hawks is to look for them as often as possible during migration. We need volunteers to hawk watch from well-known sites such as Mt. Watatic, Bolton Flats, and Wachusett Mountain, especially on weekdays, or from any location you'd like to cover, including your own backyard. Reporting the volume of migrating hawks is more important than identifying them all by species. For more information on participating in a hawk watch or on submitting reports of what you see, contact Paul M. Roberts, 254 Arlington Street, Medford, MA 02155; telephone (781) 483-4263 after 7 P.M.

EMHW Information Available

If you are not a member of the Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch and would like to receive a copy of the Fall 1997 EMHW Report, as well as complete information on the Fall 1998 watch, fliers on "Where and When to Watch Hawks in Eastern Massachusetts," or a "Guide to Books on Hawks," please write Paul Roberts at the address given above and enclose a check for \$2 (made out to EMHW) to help defray costs.



BIRDING NAUSET MARSH, EASTHAM/ORLEANS

by Jackie Sones

For many people, the first experience of Nauset Marsh is the view from Fort Hill in Eastham: an expansive salt marsh protected from the powerful waves of the Atlantic Ocean by a thin strip of yellow sand. The view is impressive, and so are the many birding opportunities that this area offers. Nauset Marsh has a lot going for it: excellent habitat, good accessibility, and a tendency to attract interesting birds!

Records of birds in this area extend back at least to the seventeenth century, when Samuel de Champlain noticed Black Skimmers in Nauset Harbor in 1605 (in Forbush 1925). In the late 1800s Henry David Thoreau walked the Outer Beach several times; some of his avian observations appear in *Cape Cod* (Thoreau's "mackerel gulls" are today's terns). Henry Beston described the call of the Piping Plover in *The Outermost House*:

The bird I write of is the piping plover, *Charadrius melodus*, sometimes called the beach plover or the mourning bird. Its note is a whistled syllable, the loveliest musical note, I think, sounded by any North Atlantic bird.

Others who have recorded bird sightings in Nauset Marsh include Oliver Austin, Jr., Wyman Richardson, Ludlow Griscom, Wallace Bailey, and Norman Hill.

Bob Prescott wrote articles about where to go birding in the Nauset Marsh area in *Bird Observer* (October 1979, Volume 7, Number 5) and *Birding Cape Cod* (1991). Sightings during the past few years have prompted me to write again . . . to review some recent birding highlights and to introduce new birders to this exciting area.

All of the locations mentioned here are easy to find with a good map. Butterworth's *Cape Cod and Islands Atlas and Guide Book* is particularly helpful (about \$16; call 508-760-2000). It offers easy-to-read individual town maps, with symbols for town landings.

Parking is relatively easy in the fall, winter, and spring. However, beware of summer regulations. Some beaches require stickers or fees from Memorial Day through Labor Day. To avoid any surprises, check with the local town halls for current regulations: Eastham (508-240-5900) and Orleans (508-240-3700).

When looking for waterbirds (shorebirds, rails, waders, waterfowl), pay close attention to the tides. I recommend picking up a tide chart from a local marina to use throughout the year. (*Bird Observer* also publishes a tide chart each year in the December issue.) Remember to correct the times for the inner reaches of Nauset Marsh. This is somewhat challenging due to annual and

seasonal changes in water flow through Nauset Inlet. When consulting a chart with Boston tides, plan on the high tide being about one-half to one hour later at Fort Hill and from one to two hours later in Town Cove.

Coast Guard Beach, Eastham

From the Orleans rotary, follow Route 6 East toward Provincetown for about three miles until you see signs for the Cape Cod National Seashore's Salt Pond Visitor Center. Turn right onto Nauset Road. While driving east, watch the cedar trees for Cedar Waxwings. A careful observer may spot an occasional Bohemian Waxwing among them during the winter. Nauset Road eventually turns left, but stay straight on Doane Road, which will take you to the beach. Turn right into the Coast Guard Beach parking lot. The southern edge of the parking lot provides a sweeping view of the northern half of Nauset Marsh. For another view of the flats, walk down the path located at the southwest corner of the parking lot. You will eventually come to a wooden bridge that crosses a portion of the marsh. Whether at the parking lot or on the bridge, use a scope to scan the flats for feeding shorebirds (low or intermediate tides are best): Greater Yellowlegs, Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, and Semipalmated Sandpiper are among the most common. In 1997 an American Avocet appeared here on August 22 and remained until at least the end of September, and a Marbled Godwit lingered through December.

To reach the beach, walk down the path just north of the old Coast Guard building. This is a terrific spot to observe Piping Plovers from late March through July. (Please note: access to some of the beach is restricted during the nesting season.) If you walk down the beach to the inlet, remember to watch for Forster's Terns (in fall), Caspian Terns (in spring and fall), and Royal Terns (in summer). At high tides shorebirds may concentrate near the southern tip of the beach. In fall, winter, or spring (and especially in late September and October), it's worth checking the Osprey pole in the marsh on the inside of the beach for Peregrine Falcons.

Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham

For another view of the northern edge of Nauset Marsh, park at the Cape Cod National Seashore's Salt Pond Visitor Center (at the intersection of Route 6 and Nauset Road), and walk the Nauset Marsh Trail (about 1.3 miles round-trip). It winds along the edge of the Salt Pond and eventually takes you to a great overlook from which you can scan the marsh and flats. Following the main trail back to the Visitor Center provides an opportunity to visit upland habitat dominated by grasses, Eastern Red Cedars, Black Oaks, and Black Cherries. In the spring and early summer, listen for Prairie Warblers, Field Sparrows, Eastern Towhees, Gray Catbirds, and Northern Bobwhites.

Fort Hill Area, Eastham

From the Orleans rotary, follow Route 6 East towards Provincetown for about 1.4 miles until you see signs for the Fort Hill Area. Turn right and follow the road to the upper parking lot. Birding is good here at any time of year, but my favorite season is the fall (September through November). At high tide (especially during full and new moons, when the tides range over eleven feet), a walk along the edge of the marsh may produce sightings of Saltmarsh and Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows, Seaside Sparrow, Sora, Virginia Rail, Clapper Rail, and American Bittern. Since 1964, at least four Yellow Rails have been discovered among the dense grasses here; all of the sightings occurred between October 13 and October 26. Other autumn highlights include Black-crowned Night-Herons, good numbers of Great Blue Herons, and Eastern Meadowlarks.

Raptors frequent Fort Hill year-round. Northern Harriers tilt over the grasses, Red-tailed Hawks soar overhead, and American Kestrels hover in the wind. Migrants (Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, and Broad-winged Hawks, Merlins, and Peregrine Falcons) may also be seen in spring and fall. Once I saw a Northern Goshawk fly in with a Red-breasted Merganser in its talons! This is probably one of the most reliable places for Bobolinks on Cape Cod. They are most often seen during the spring, and may occasionally breed on the slopes of the hill. In winter the thickets provide ideal perches for Northern Shrikes and lingering songbirds. Fort Hill has also had its share of recent rarities: Northern Wheatear (September 15-18, 1992 and September 16-21, 1995), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (October 24-29, 1993), and Sedge Wren (November 26-29, 1994).

Just north of Fort Hill, Hemenway Landing is often worth a stop. To reach it, follow Route 6 East for about a half-mile past the Fort Hill Area and turn right onto Hemenway Road. This site used to be known for its "heron show" — large numbers of wading birds flying overhead at dusk. Unfortunately, the "show" no longer exists, but smaller numbers of egrets and herons can still be found. Scan the salt marsh grasses for Snowy and Great Egrets, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Great Blue Herons, and Green Herons. Shorebirds and terns may also be visible. If you are here after sunset, listen for the deep hoots of a Great Horned Owl.

Town Cove, Orleans

Town Cove divides the towns of Eastham and Orleans. It may be accessed from several locations. On the west side, park in the dirt lot behind the Goose Hummock Shop. From the Orleans rotary, follow Route 6A West toward Orleans and turn left at the first set of lights. During the summer, scan for terns and Laughing Gulls hovering above the water or perching on boats or mooring balls. Winter waterfowl may include American Black Ducks, Buffleheads,

Common Goldeneyes, and Red-breasted Mergansers. One particularly strong northeast storm blew storm-petrels into Town Cove!

To explore the southern end of Town Cove, follow Route 6A West into Orleans, and turn left onto Route 28 North toward Chatham. (Yes, the sign does read north toward Chatham. To avoid confusion when using Route 28, pay more attention to the towns than to the compass directions). After 0.3 mile, turn left on Cove Road and follow it to the Orleans Yacht Club. This site is best known for its occasional wintering Common Snipe and Killdeer. To look for either one, walk slowly through the salt marsh along the northern edge of the Cove; they often flush before you can get a good look at them, so listen for their distinctive calls. While you're there, scan the marsh behind the Yacht Club, check the surrounding thickets for sparrows, and examine the trees for perched raptors.

Along the eastern shore, try Asa's Landing. Follow the directions to Cove Road, then continue along Route 28 for another 0.2 mile and turn left at the lights onto Main Street. At the next set of lights turn left onto Tonset Road. Follow Tonset Road for one mile to Gibson Road. Turn left and start looking for Asa's Landing on the left (about 0.4 mile). This is one of the only publicly accessible points along the eastern edge of Town Cove. During the summer and fall, Greater Yellowlegs and American Oystercatchers feed among the exposed mussel beds. Looking east you will see the western tip of Hopkins Island, a favorite hangout of the "Great White" Heron that appeared during the summer and fall of 1996.

Southern Perspectives, Orleans

Follow the directions toward Asa's Landing, but instead of turning left on Gibson Road, follow Tonset Road to the end (about 2.5 miles). Common Eiders gather here in the winter to feed on blue mussels. On quiet days you can hear them calling and watch their courtship displays. Eelgrass beds attract flocks of Brant in winter and spring. Throughout the year, shorebirds may be visible on the sandbars: look for Black-bellied Plovers, Semipalmated Plovers, Red Knots, Short-billed Dowitchers, Dunlin, and Greater Yellowlegs.

To reach Snow Shore Landing, follow the directions to Tonset Landing, but turn right off Tonset Road onto Brick Hill Road after 1.7 miles. Keep left, and at the top of a small rise, turn left onto Champlain Road. Keep left again, and after a strong bend to the right, turn left onto Snow Shore Road and follow it to a small dirt parking lot at the water's edge. At low tides in the late spring and summer, shorebirds (for example, American Oystercatchers and Black-bellied Plovers) feed on the exposed mussel beds and sand flats in front of the landing.

To reach Priscilla's Landing, follow Route 6A West into Orleans and turn left onto Route 28 North toward Chatham. After 0.5 mile turn left at the lights onto Main Street. Continue through the next set of lights, and then bear left at a fork with a small blue-and-white sign pointing to Nauset Beach. Just before you

get to the beach, turn left onto Nauset Heights Road. Drive 0.8 mile and turn left on Standish Road. Bend to the left on Iyanough Road, and then turn right on Priscilla Road. Follow it to a small parking area overlooking Nauset Harbor. From May through August, watch for terns, Laughing Gulls, and Black Skimmers searching for small fish. This is another great spot to look for rafting eiders during the winter months.

Thicket-birding in East Orleans can be very productive during the winter season. During Cape Cod Christmas Bird Counts, highlights from this area often include Eastern Towhee, Gray Catbird, Hermit Thrush, Winter Wren, Yellow-breasted Chat, Fox Sparrow, Brown Thrasher, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Harvey's Lane offers one of the more consistently productive thickets. To find Harvey's Lane, follow Main Street until the road forks left toward Nauset Beach. Bear right onto Pochet Road and then right again onto Barley Neck Road. Harvey's Lane is the third road on the left. (Please note: Harvey's Lane is not shown on the accompanying map.)

Nauset Beach, Orleans

From the Orleans rotary, follow Route 6A West into Orleans and turn left onto Route 28 North toward Chatham. After 0.5 mile, turn left at the lights onto Main Street. Continue straight through the next set of lights. Pass Fancy's Farm Stand (a great stop for fruits and vegetables, soups, and sandwiches), and stay left at the fork, following small blue-and-white signs for Nauset Beach. Park in the lot and walk east to the beach. Scanning the ocean during the fall, winter, and spring can be very productive. Look for Common and Red-throated Loons, Horned and Red-necked Grebes, Black-legged Kittiwakes, and Northern Gannets. At low tide, a few rocks are exposed to the north of the parking lot. In winter, scan the rafts of waterfowl for all three species of scoters, Oldsquaw, Common Eiders, and occasionally a King Eider or Harlequin Duck. Walking farther north to Nauset Inlet (about one mile) may bring sightings of Snow Buntings, Horned Larks, and, if you're lucky, a Snowy Owl. In summer Nauset Beach can be crowded, and large areas are roped off for nesting Piping Plovers and terns. However, if you can't explore the marsh by boat (see below), this is your best chance to see the birds associated with New Island.

Nauset Marsh by Boat

One of the best ways to experience Nauset Marsh is from a boat, be it a canoe, kayak, or motorized vessel. Only experienced paddlers should try these waters. If you're going to explore the area on your own, bring a map, be aware of tides, expect strong currents, and steer clear of Nauset Inlet. Ask a friend to join you and call the local harbormaster (Eastham: 508-240-5972; Orleans: 508-240-3755) to inquire about any recent conditions that paddlers should be aware of.

The Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (508-349-2615) has been leading boat trips in the area for over twelve years. Trips run from May through early October. Experienced guides are aware of current bird sightings and work with Captain Dave Bessom, who adds local color with personal stories of growing up in Orleans. Trips visit different areas, depending upon the tides. A basic outing will include the following: (1) a stop at the northern end of the marsh to check on the nesting Osprey and to look for birds feeding or resting on the peat banks such as Red Knots, Ruddy Turnstones, and Semipalmated Plovers; (2) a cruise along the southern end of Coast Guard Beach, which often allows close-up views of four species of terns (Common, Least, Roseate, and Arctic), Black Skimmers, and Piping Plovers (Black Terns and Parasitic Jaegers may be seen in August and September); (3) a walk through the marsh and across the flats of New Island. Shorebirds can be abundant here from late July through September. Look for Willet, Whimbrel, Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, American Oystercatcher, Greater Yellowlegs, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Sanderling, Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers, and Short-billed Dowitcher. Godwits (most often Marbled) and phalaropes (most often Wilson's) also appear on occasion. Especially noteworthy sightings during the last five years include a Sabine's Gull (July 1, 1993), Sooty Tern (dead, July 16, 1996), and Wilson's Plover (June 28, 1997). Rarities aside, New Island provides an ideal setting to study a variety of gulls, terns, and shorebirds. (It is also possible for small groups to arrange private charters with Dave; call 508-255-8262.)

In summary, Nauset Marsh offers exciting birding year-round. Whether you're interested in wading through the salt marsh in search of rails, walking the winter beach with hopes of spotting a Snowy Owl, scanning the flats for shorebirds, or cruising by the tern colonies and watching for a Parasitic Jaeger, Nauset Marsh is a fantastic place to spend some quality birding time.

Please note: For information about accommodations and restaurants near Nauset Marsh, contact the Eastham Chamber of Commerce (508-255-3444) or the Orleans Chamber of Commerce (508-240-2484). In Eastham you might try spending the night at the Overlook Inn (508-255-1886) or the Captain's Quarters (508-255-5686) and eating at the Eastham Lobster Pool (508-255-9706). In Orleans, call ahead to reserve rooms in the Nauset House Inn (508-255-2195) or the Nauset Knoll Motor Lodge (508-255-2364) and try the chowder at the Land Ho! (508-255-5165).

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Jackie Sones has been a naturalist at the Massachusetts Audubon Society's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary since 1991. Most of her work focuses on the interpretation of birds and coastal habitats of Cape Cod and New England. Jackie has recently developed a strong interest in dragonflies and damselflies. She is coeditor of *Ode News, An Occasional Newsletter about Dragonflies and Damselflies on Cape Cod*, and maintains a Web site about dragonflies at <http://www.capecod.net/~bnikula/odenews.htm>

BOOK REVIEW: Identification Guide to North American Birds, Part I

by Trevor Lloyd-Evans

Identification Guide to North American Birds. Part I (Columbidae to Ploceidae), by Peter Pyle with Steve N. G. Howell, David F. DeSante, Robert P. Yunick, and Mary Gustafson. Illustrated by Steve N. G. Howell. Bolinas, California: Slate Creek Press. 1997. 732 pages, extensively illustrated.

In the small, but growing, world of those birders, banders, and professional ornithologists who inquire deeply into molts and plumages, ageing and sexing, or geographical variation, this is a monumental work. Since I fit into all of the above categories, it was a pleasure to field test this new reference book, with the help of all the banders at Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, during the spring 1998 migration. The soft-bound book is a fat 9 x 6 x 1.5 inches and weighs in at two pounds, five ounces — a bit much for all but the most capacious pockets. Of course, like this volume, we are all metric now; so make that 23.5 x 15.5 x 4 cm and 1,050 grams.

The flier from Slate Creek Press succinctly summarizes the rather astonishing amount of information packed between the basic black covers:

- 395 species treated (doves through weavers)
- 349 figures with close to 1,000 separate illustrations
- 11 tables with measurement data by species, subspecies, age, and/or sex
- Expanded, thirty-eight page introduction
- Detailed sections of molt and ageing of near-passerines, owls, woodpeckers, and passerines; identification of female-plumaged hummingbirds and *Empidonax* flycatchers; ageing and sexing of *Dendroica* warblers
- Descriptors (including new information and measurements) for 857 subspecies
- Expanded and detailed sections on molt of all species
- Bar graphs representing the standards of United States and Canadian banding lab acceptance criteria, and indicating reliability, by month, of ageing and sexing each species
- All known hybrids listed
- 2,442 cited references.

I have been a bird ringer/bander on four continents since the early 1960s, and there has been a world of change in the quality of the literature during this time. The Europeans took an early lead in molt studies with the publication (in German) of *Die Mauser der Vogel* in 1966. In New England terms, Professor Erwin Stresemann was the Ludlow Griscom of moult/molt, introducing the concept of the genetically precise and consistent patterns of molt in different

species, and their use in age and sex studies. The first comprehensive American entry in molt studies was *The Sequence of Plumages and Moults of the Passerine Birds of New York* (Dwight 1900), while a good early field reference from Britain was the thirty-page *A Guide to Molt in British Birds* (Snow 1967). One of the best modern species-by-species guides to age and sex criteria was the *Identification Guide to European Passerines* (Svensson 1970), which is now in its fourth edition and pioneered the methods seen in Pyle of age and sex summaries for species, critical measurements, wing formulae, and copious illustrations.

In North America we learned to "skull" birds early on. This involves moistening the feathers and skin of the bird's head with water and looking through the transparent skin to determine the degree of skull ossification, and hence the bird's age for up to a year after hatching. This led to less emphasis on plumage color, shape, and feather wear by banders, an omission that Pyle fully corrects in this volume. Thus, eastern banders and museum workers used such early references as Roberts (1955), Wood (1969), the *Bird Banding Manual. Vol. II. Bird Banding Techniques* (United States Fish and Wildlife Service and Canadian Wildlife Service 1977), and Pyle et al. (1987). Pyle and his co-authors acknowledged that the 1987 edition was far from complete and hoped it would stimulate all those who had better data to publish it or contribute their work to this later volume. The 1997 Pyle has far fewer errors, though some are inevitable. It also benefits greatly from the inclusion of the U.S. Bird Banding Lab and Canadian Wildlife Service data, principally via Mary Gustafson, one of Pyle's collaborators.

How easy is it to use? The answer from many banders and detail-oriented birders is, "not very." The first problem is the long list of technical jargon which is then abbreviated to save space. Thus, from the account of the Magnolia Warbler, "Molt-PB:HY partial (Jun-Aug)" means that during those months, birds hatched in the current calendar year have a prebasic molt (from juvenal to fall plumage) that involves all the head and body feathers, and median and lesser coverts, but not the flight feathers of wing and tail, or primary coverts or alula. ". . . white on r2" refers to the tail feather next to either central rectrix, and "CP/BP (May-Aug)" suggests the months to look for external signs of breeding in adults with either a swollen cloaca in the male, or a brood patch in the female.

The second problem is that the bar graphs for age coding take some getting used to. If the graph for Northern Cardinals in October suggests 25-95 percent reliability for age AHY (nonhatching-year birds), this is because a fully ossified skull safely denotes an adult bird from October 1-15, but falls below the desired 95 percent certainty after that time. It does not mean that the age determination is accurate somewhere between 25 and 95 percent of the time. If this drives you crazy, this is not a book for you. If not, it is all explained in the introduction, and practice makes it somewhat easier.

Third, now you are ready to identify Alder and Willow flycatchers in the hand by the critical formula $R = [(longest\ p - p6) + (p9 - p5) + (wg - tl)] \div [(p6 - p10) + \text{bill from tip of nares}]$. Or if that is inconclusive, try plotting formula I against bill (anterior nares to tip) by age class, and hope your data point falls outside the 30 percent buffer zone around the optimal equation, based on Hussell (1990). I did this with some late migrant "Traill's" Flycatchers with large crown spots, pale lores, short bills, and long, pointed wings. On June 10, when only Alder calls were heard, the three birds banded keyed out as Alder, but Seutin (1991) would suggest more caution than Pyle, especially for eastern Willow immatures in the fall.

Fourth, it is just hard to find a species account quickly in such a turgid mass of data, and the book tends to close as soon as you let go!

Overall, this is a major step forward in North American age and sex techniques for banders and museum workers. It is perhaps best used in addition to your favorite keys, as you are sometimes not sure which of the characters mentioned is critical, and which is merely a useful supporting datum. Much of the information is new, and it is hoped that the fact of publishing it will stimulate others to confirm or amend the text in the light of their own experience. If you not handling birds, some of the measurement data are not relevant, but the information on plumage and molts will help in the field. The 2,442 references are excellent and very comprehensive, but if you abhor obscure abbreviations in the text, or can't stand less than 100 percent certainty in all conclusions, try a field guide instead.

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(Announcement)

Help Produce *Bird Observer*

Bird Observer is looking for two new volunteer staff members for the following jobs:

Production Editor: This job involves producing camera-ready layout from edited text received from the editor. The Production Editor is responsible formatting, pagination, and inserting cover art, photographs, maps, and advertisements. Only limited birding knowledge is needed, but our Production Editor needs to be proficient with MS Word and a fanatic for details. Proximity to Arlington is preferred; publishing experience is helpful, but we expect to provide training. The job is intense but limited to a few days prior to the publication of each issue.

Mailing Manager: Works with the Production Editor, Subscription Manager, and other volunteers to coordinate the printing and mailing of the journal. The Mailing Manager picks up the issue from the printer, maintains mailing supplies, organizes a team of mailers, and participates in labeling and sorting the issue. Not much time is involved, but this position requires good communication skills and a take-charge attitude.

Interested? To discuss it further, call Marjorie Rines at (781) 643-6128, or email her at <marjrines@mediaone.net>.

VIDEO REVIEW: *Hawk Watch: A Video Guide to Eastern Raptors*

by Jane Stein

Hawk Watch: A Video Guide to Eastern Raptors, by Dick Walton and Greg Dodge. Brownbag Productions. 1998.

Learning field birding is darn tough. You can't wake up one morning and say to yourself, "Today I'm going to go out and really nail those vireos." Well, you could, but the likelihood of getting enough clear views on any given day to make a study of the differences is not very high.

It's even worse for hawks. Outside of a handful of not-entirely-predictable days during the fall migration, you can search all day and not encounter more than a few Red-tails, maybe a couple of Turkey Vultures, and (if you're lucky) one or two "Here it comes, there it goes" birds that might have been an accipiter of some kind.

Unlike passerines and even shorebirds, hawk identification is far less a matter of plumage patterns than it is of "jizz," particularly how the bird moves in the air, which is where you mostly see them. With a few exceptions, most hawks, especially immature ones, sport various kinds of streaky brown and cream feathers, and birders seldom get close enough for long enough really to see the plumage, anyway. As a result, printed field guides aren't much help, and most birders, truth be told, are generally exasperated by hawks.

But now Dick Walton, who taught us all to Bird By Ear, has come to the rescue with a splendid new, long-overdue video on hawk identification called *Hawk Watch: A Video Guide to Eastern Raptors*. This is not a popular video full of pretty pictures like "Hawks Up Close," but rather a no-nonsense, honest-to-goodness, all-business treatment of nineteen species of hawks in flight taped by Walton and Greg Dodge at Wachusett Mountain, Cape May, and other hawk-rich places.

Most birds are shown in multiple examples, accompanied by Walton's clear and simple narration pointing out the basic characteristics of shape and flight behavior that distinguish one from another. Only rarely does the video resort to stop action to show a flight silhouette or plumage pattern, which is a major plus. Pretty much everything you need to see is visible in the full-motion sequences themselves.

The digital video showed crisp and clear on my basic home equipment, but the "production values" are otherwise virtually nonexistent, reflecting the no-nonsense name of the maker, Brownbag Productions, under which Walton has also released several excellent video guides to butterflies and dragonflies.

The video covers not only the commonly occurring Eastern raptors, but occasional to rare visitors, as well: Golden Eagle, Black Vulture, Mississippi and Swallow-Tail Kites, and Swainson's Hawk. The only bird missing, in fact,

is Gyrfalcon which, while understandable, is still a disappointment, particularly after last winter's experience with the elusive Logan Airport Gyr.

The few problems with this video lie in opportunities missed. There is no split-screen, alas, which would have enabled side-by-side comparisons of problem species, such as Sharp-shinned versus Cooper's Hawk. Similarly, more thought could have been given to the sequencing, which goes straight through from Turkey Vulture to Swallow-tailed Kite in taxonomic order. A little less linearity would have made it a more effective teaching tool. Similarly, brief treatment of some of the raptor impersonators that occasionally embarrass us all, such as Mourning Doves and gulls, would have been nice.

The video ends with a twenty-three-segment quiz (the answers are included in the accompanying booklet). The quiz is a lot of fun for folks with a bit of experience and a fast hand on the rewind button, but probably too rapid-fire and too hard to be anything but discouraging for the neophyte.

These are, however, relatively minor failings in an otherwise superb video that fills a big gap in the identification guides available for field birders. It's an essential acquisition for hawkwatchers of all experience levels, of course. The many general birders who have had little exposure to the techniques in the hawkwatcher's bible, Dunne and Sibley's *Hawks in Flight*, should find the video a revelatory introduction to the "jizz" approach to hawk identification. In fact, anyone with less than 100 percent confidence in their hawk identification skills — and that is virtually all of us — should find this video very satisfying.

Jane Stein, an Arlington, Massachusetts-based freelance writer and editor, is vice president of Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch.

Hawkwatchers in need of a quick brush-up (or a crash course) before the fall hawkwatching season can purchase a copy of Hawk Watch: A Video Guide to Eastern Raptors for \$34.95 by calling (800) 343-5540 or visiting Dick Walton's web site at <http://www.concord.org/~dick/>

BIRD SIGHTINGS

MARCH/APRIL 1998

SUMMARY

By Marjorie W. Rines, Simon A. Perkins, and Robert H. Stymeist

Spring began early with unseasonably warm temperatures the first ten days of March; after a cool spell, the final six days of the month averaged over 20° above normal. On March 31, the temperature reached 89° in Boston, 32° above normal for that date. This established a new record high for so early in the season. The first quarter of the year averaged 36.9° to become the second warmest first quarter in 128 years of records. April's temperature was also above normal, with an average of 49.4°. The high was 78° on the 30th, and the low was 34° on the 10th. The warm temperatures in March were often accompanied by southerly winds, including a strong fair weather pattern for the last full week of the month, which stopped abruptly on April Fool's Day. These early warm temperatures were responsible not only for some early bird movement, but also for very early budding of trees and shrubs. By the end of April, many trees in the Boston area were in full leaf, a frustrating condition for birders anticipating the glories of May migration.

Rainfall for both months was seasonally typical, but snowfall for March was only 3.6 inches, less than half of the average. R.H.S.

LOONS THROUGH OWLS

Nantucket is an important spring staging area for Red-throated Loons. This year's high count of 550 in April was fewer than usual. The inclement weather in early April that brought an end to the record-breaking hot weather at the end of March "grounded" (in inland lakes) a few migrant grebes. These included a single Horned in Wakefield, five Horned in Gardner, and single Red-necked in Concord, Gardner, and Petersham. The **Eared Grebe** that spent another winter in East Gloucester remained there through mid-March.

Among the several egrets that arrived in late March, one Great was seen inland in Concord. The earliest Cattle Egrets in spring are usually found in the Ipswich/Essex area, but this year the first report came from Milton. Glossy Ibises are seldom seen inland at any time of year; two seen in both East and West Bridgewater on the same day in early April may have arrived there as a result of being diverted up Narragansett Bay on their flight up the coast.

In western Connecticut, **Black Vultures** in spring have become so common that they are no longer enumerated in local reports. Correspondingly, their numbers in Massachusetts have also continued to increase in recent years, though three reports in March within three nearly contiguous towns may have involved the same individual.

Despite recent, concerted efforts by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife to stem further multiplication of feral Whooper Swans in Essex County, seven were seen on one day in March at Plum Island. A high total of 114 Gadwalls was tallied in Seekonk, and of the five **Eurasian Wigeons** that spent parts of the winter in Carver, one remained at least until early March. Canvasbacks were somewhat out of place in Braintree, Arlington, and Newburyport. **Tufted Ducks** were still rare in New England until this decade when, quite suddenly, they became regular winter visitors. Two overwintering individuals remained into March in Acoaxet and Sterling/West Boylston, and at about the time those vanished, a third (?) appeared in Peabody. Four King Eiders were seen during March in Gloucester, and single, migrant Oldsquaws were noted inland (barely) in Arlington and West Bridgewater. Nesting Hooded Mergansers are seldom found in easternmost parts of Massachusetts, so the observation of a hen entering (and remaining) in a nest box at the GMNWR was noteworthy. Barrow's Goldeneyes were especially well reported in March. Among these were individuals at two sites inland, where they are rare.

The only inland-nesting Ospreys were on territory by mid-April in Westboro and Pepperell. Hawk migration on Plum Island was well documented this year. Especially well represented were Northern Harriers (the first significant numbers of which were detected in late March), Sharp-shinned Hawks, and American Kestrels. Kestrel passage peaked during the third week of April. A **Gyr Falcon** was seen well, albeit briefly, at Hanscom Field in Concord, another was noted in Edgartown, and the Gyr that spent the winter at Logan Airport remained through April. A Clapper Rail noted in West Harwich in late April, was probably a newly arrived migrant, though the species does occasionally overwinter in the state, especially on Cape Cod.

American Golden-Plover is a very uncommon spring migrant in Massachusetts; a carefully scrutinized golden on Nantucket in mid-March was also very early. By comparison, the first Piping Plovers arrived somewhat later than usual. Two crowd-pleasing **American Avocets** visited Musquashicut Pond in Scituate for ten days. Then, two days after their disappearance, a single avocet, presumably one of the same two, was seen in Brewster. Nantucket cornered the market on early shorebirds this spring. In addition to the Golden-Plover, other species of shorebirds that arrived there notably early (all in March) included Willet, Pectoral Sandpiper, and ten Common Snipe. Also, an Upland Sandpiper at Logan Airport was exceptionally early on March 31. The remarkable Whimbrel in Yarmouth, thought to be the first to overwinter in the state (at least since humans have been paying attention to such things), remained through March. For reasons unknown, numbers of Lesser Yellowlegs were very low this spring.

Bonaparte's Gull went virtually unreported during the period, and the overwintering **Mew Gull** in Winthrop was last reported in late March. While single Lesser Black-backed Gulls were noted from four sites on Cape Cod and the Islands, a fifth individual appeared in Westport, in a part of the state where this species is much less frequently detected. Typically, Dovekie is rarely seen in our inshore waters after early winter, so March reports from Rockport and Provincetown were notable. Following a winter in which murre occurred in higher than average numbers, **Common Murre** continued to be reported from Provincetown, and a high count of seven Thick-billeds was made there in early March. A count of 500 Razorbills at Gay Head represented a high total for any Vineyard locale.

Monk Parakeet continues to maintain a tenuous, year-round toehold in a few towns in southeastern Massachusetts; two to three were reported from South Dartmouth in April. Cuckoos very rarely arrive in spring before May, so the appearance of single Yellow-billeds April 20 and 26, both in Sandwich, was extraordinary. The winter Long-eared Owl roost at the DWWS still contained at least three birds through early April.

Date	Location	Number	Observers	Date	Location	Number	Observers
Red-throated Loon				4/2	Gardner	1 br pl	T. Pirro
3/3	Duxbury B.	6	D. Furbish	4/5	Nantucket	29	E. Ray
3/14	P'town	40	R. Stymeist#	4/6	Quabbin (G33)	1	D. Small
3/22	M.V.	20	M. Pelikan	4/12	Nantucket	12	E. Ray
3/28	Westport	91	M. Lynch#	4/19	Winthrop B.	65	R. Cressman
4/5	Nantucket	550+	B. Perkins	Eared Grebe			
4/25	Westport	3	M. Lynch#	3/1-15	Gloucester	1	J. Soucy + v.o.
4/26	Winthrop B.	2	J. Damian#	Northern Gannet			
Common Loon				3/7	P'town (R.P.)	500+B.	Nikula, J. Trimble
3/3	Plymouth B.	5	D. Furbish	3/9	Rockport (A.P.)	4 ad	J. Soucy
3/20	Truro	17	W. Ellison#	3/28	Westport	3	M. Lynch#
3/29	S. Dartmouth	6	S. Perkins#	3/28	P'town	300	C. Floyd
3/28	Westport	7	M. Lynch#	3/28	Duxbury B.	26	D. Furbish
4/11	E. Gloucester	15	J. Berry#	3/29	S. Dartmouth	3	S. Perkins#
4/18	P.I.	14	BBC (J. Center)	4/4	Marion	5	M. Maurer
4/19	Winthrop B.	15	R. Cressman	4/11	E. Gloucester	21 ad	J. Berry#
4/19	Mt.A.	4	D. Oliver#	4/18	P.I.	24	EMHW (J. Stein)
Pied-billed Grebe				4/19	P'town	150	R. Lockwood
3/1-31	Brockton	1	S. Arena	4/11	Stellwagen	1225	G. d'Entremont#
3/1	Nantucket	7	E. Ray	Great Cormorant			
3/20	Arlington	1	K. Dorsey	3/8	Boston H.	3	TASL (M. Hall)
4/2	GMNWR	1	S. Perkins	3/20	P'town Harbor	160	W. Ellison#
4/5	Arlington	1	K. Hartel#	3/28	Westport	14	M. Lynch#
4/11	P.I.	1	S. Perkins#	4/4	Newbypt	2	R. Lockwood#
4/21	Lexington	1	M. Rines	4/11	E. Gloucester	1 imm	J. Berry#
4/22	DWWS	1	T. Young#	4/19	P'town	47	R. Lockwood
Horned Grebe				4/25	Westport	1 imm	M. Lynch#
3/3	Marshfield	8	D. Furbish	Double-crested Cormorant			
3/8	Boston H.	102	TASL (M. Hall)	3/8	Boston H.	3	TASL (M. Hall)
3/15	E. Gloucester	17	J. Berry#	3/30	Wayland	1	E. Taylor
3/15	Truro	3	R. Lockwood#	4/6	Boston H.	200+	J. Paluzzi
3/28	Westport	80	M. Lynch#	American Bittern			
3/29	S. Dartmouth	8	S. Perkins#	3/1	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/1	Wakefield	1	C. Peters	4/9-26	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/5	Nantucket	4	E. Ray	4/11	Newbypt	1	T. Maloney#
4/5	Peabody	1	J. Center	4/21	Eastham (F.E.)	1	R. Everett
4/19	Winthrop B.	2	R. Cressman	4/21	HRWMA	1	T. Pirro
4/20	Gardner	5	T. Pirro	4/22	DWWS	2	T. Young#
Red-necked Grebe				4/26	E. Boston (B.I.)	1	J. Damian#
3/8	Boston H.	40	TASL (M. Hall)	4/26	Bolton Flats	1	M. Lynch#
3/15	E. Gloucester	15	J. Berry#	4/28	Framingham	1	L. Nachtrab
4/1	GMNWR	1 br pl	R. Lockwood	4/30	Mt.A.	1	H. Hoffman

Great Blue Heron				4/11	Lexington	1	B. Wicks
3/28	Westboro Res.	13 n	D. Holly	Turkey Vulture			
3/28	Gardner	5 n	D. + P. Grimm	3/7	Quincy	12	D. Larson
3/29	Barre	6 n	M. Lynch#	3/7	Wareham	8	S. Moore
4/5	Peabody	6 nests	J. Berry	3/15	Braintree	18	J. Paluzzi#
4/5,19	Barre Falls	5 nests	M. Lynch#	3/15	Bourne	13	L. Cooca
Great Egret				3/25	Westwood	12	K. Vespaziani
3/26	Essex	1	J. MacDougall	3/28	Fall River	8	S. Perkins#
3/27	Concord (NAC)	1	M. Pelikan	3/28	Worc. (BMB)	6	C. Phillips
3/28	Westport	2	M. Lynch#	3/28	Quabbin (G 30)	5	C. Jackson
3/28	Dartmouth	1	S. Moore#	3/29	Westport	8	E. Nielsen#
3/29	P.I.	7	J. Paluzzi#	4/3	P.I.	5	T. Carrolan
3/30	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	4/8	P'town	10	F. Bygate#
4/4	Easton	1	S. Arena	4/8	S. Middleboro	12	R. Turner
4/5	Essex	6	S. Moore#	4/12	Essex	5	C. Corley
4/13	Nantucket	4	E. Ray	4/18	Westminster	5BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/18	Manchester	15+	M. Lynch#	4/22	Rockport (H.P.)	6	D. Jacques
4/21	S. Dart. (A. P.)	15	LCES (J. Hill)	4/25	Truro	8	J. Trimble
Snowy Egret				4/26	Wachusett Mt.	7	P. Roberts
3/28	P.I.	1	D. Davis	4/27	Natick	15	N. Paulson
3/29	Rockport	1	S. Klebanoff	Snow Goose			
4/3	E. Boston (B.I.)	1	R. Cressman	3/8	Cumb. Farms	1	R. Finch
4/4	Quincy	7	D. Larson#	3/10-4/7	P.I.	7	W. Drew#
4/10	Essex	4	D. Jacques	3/28	Templeton	200	T. Pirro
4/18	Manchester	20+	M. Lynch#	4/4	Easton	9	S. Arena
4/21	S. Dart. (A. P.)	4	LCES (J. Hill)	4/11	Weymouth	1	S. Carey
4/25	Westport	9	M. Lynch#	Brant			
4/30	Hingham	20	N. Swirka	3/8	Boston H.	2158	TASL (M. Hall)
Little Blue Heron				3/14	Duxbury B.	260	D. Furbish
4/5	W. Gloucester	1	D. Sandee	3/28	P.I.	68	D. Davis
4/11	Essex	4	D. Jacques	4/12	Nantucket	28	E. Ray
4/18	Manchester	3+	M. Lynch#	4/18	Newbypt	400+	BBC (J. Center)
4/25	DWWS	1	K. Vespaziani	4/24	E. Boston (B.I.)	400	R. Cressman
Tricolored Heron				Whooper Swan			
4/23	Hull	1	N. Swirka	thr	P.I.	4-7	v.o.
4/26	Essex	1	D. Chickering#	Wood Duck			
4/26	P.I.	1	E. Pyburn#	3/1	Cumb. Farms	5	R. Finch
4/26	Hingham	1	H. D'Entremont	3/6, 28	Northboro	8, 17	A. Boover
Cattle Egret				3/9	Worcester	8	M. Lynch#
4/10	Milton	1	J. Todd	3/14	Maynard	10	S. + L. Hennin
4/11-29	Ipswich	1	J. Soucy# + v.o.	3/15	GMNWR	8	L. Ferrarosso
Green Heron				3/28	Pepperell	26	E. Stromsted
4/19	Cumb. Farms	1	R. Finch	3/28	DWWS	6	D. Furbish
4/26	Newbury	1	P. + F. Vale	3/28	Westboro Res.	8	D. Larson#
4/26	Carlisle	1	D. Brownrigg	3/29	Petersham	47	M. Lynch#
4/27	Weymouth	1	K. Vespaziani	4/2	GMNWR	16	S. Perkins
Black-crowned Night-Heron				4/7	Oak Bluffs	10	G. Daniels
3/1	Boston	2	B. Mayer	4/12	IRWS	20	D. Hill
3/15	Nantucket	2	E. Ray	4/14	Concord	12	R. Lockwood
3/27	Marion	1 imm	M. Maurer	4/26	W. Newbury	8	P. + F. Vale
3/28	Brookline	1	F. Bouchard	Gadwall			
4/6	Harwich	8	R. Turner	3/1	P.I.	20	D. Oliver
4/7	Cambridge	1	A. Stanwood	3/15	Arl. Res.	3	K. Hartel
4/8	Medford	1	M. Rines	4/4	Seekonk	114	D. Zimmerman
4/11	Hingham	14	R. Finch	4/4	Marion	pr	M. Maurer
4/26	Nantucket	24	E. Ray	4/14	DWWS	8 pr	D. Furbish
Glossy Ibis				4/14	GMNWR	2	S. Perkins#
4/1	Rowley	3	G. Leet	Eurasian Wigeon			
4/4	Eastham	2	W. Bailey	3/7	Carver	1 m	S. Moore
4/5	E. Bridgewater	2	P. Fitzgerald	3/22	Middleboro	1 m	K. Anderson
4/5	W. Bridgewater	2	fide MAS	American Wigeon			
4/7	Fairhaven	1	M. Boucher	3/9	P.I.	3	S. Grinley
4/7	Newbury	3	D. Davis	3/10	W. Bridgewater	4	S. Arena
4/11	Essex	4	E. Nielsen#	3/15	Concord (NAC)	4	P. + F. Vale
4/18	P.I.	15	EMHW (J. Stein)	3/15	Arl. Res.	4	M. Rines
4/20	Fairhaven	39	fide K. Anderson	3/28	Gardner	2	T. Pirro
4/22	Ipswich	70	H. D'Entremont	4/4	Newbypt	5	P. + F. Vale
Black Vulture				4/11	Ipswich	4	S. Perkins#
3/7	W. Tisbury	1	A. Keith	American Black Duck			
3/9	Randolph	1	N. Smith	3/8	Boston H.	718	TASL (M. Hall)
3/10	Westwood	1	B. Wicks	3/10	P.I.	570	W. Drew#
3/15	Milton	1	N. Smith	3/28	Westport	484	M. Lynch#

Blue-winged Teal				3/29	Peabody	9	D. Williams
3/21	DWWS	1 f	R. Stymeist#	3/29	W. Newbury	4	J. Paluzzi#
3/26	W. Harwich	1	J. Trimble	4/18	P.I.	6	M. Lynch#
3/26	Concord (NAC)	1 m	S. Perkins	4/25	Wakefield	6	P. + F. Vale
3/26	Sudbury	1 m	S. Perkins#	Lesser Scaup			
3/28	W. Bridgewater	2 m	S. Arena	3/7	Lakeville	8	K. Anderson
4/1	P.I.	1	G. Leet	3/29	Westport	26	S. Perkins#
4/4	Quabbin (G40)	2	J. Hoye	4/5	Peabody	3	J. Berry
4/5	Pepperell	11	E. Stromsted	4/12	Pembroke	35	W. Petersen
4/5	Newbury	4	J. Center	4/20	Lakeville	29	K. Anderson
4/11	P.I.	5	S. Perkins#	4/20	Westport	22	E. Neilsen
4/19	Arl. Res.	1	S. Cronenweth	4/27	W. Newbury	2	N. Paulson
4/21	Woburn	1	M. Rines	King Eider			
4/23	Lakeville	3	A. Standish	3/1-18	Lanesville	4 max	J. Berry
4/26	Nantucket	6	E. Ray	4/11	E. Gloucester	3	J. Berry#
Northern Shoveler				Common Eider			
thr	Boston	1 m	v.o.	3/1	Gloucester	500	J. Berry
3/9	Worcester	1 f	M. Lynch#	3/8	Boston H.	4999	TASL (M. Hall)
3/25	Cumb. Farms	2 f	G. d'Entremont	Harlequin Duck			
3/27	Hingham	2	S. King	3/1	Rockport	20+	A. Strauss#
3/28-4/30	P.I.	2-6	v.o.	3/22	Nantucket	17	fide E. Ray
4/26	Woburn	2	M. Rines	3/28	N. Scituate	14	D. Clapp
Northern Pintail				4/19	Rockport	14	J. Soucy#
3/1-31	W. Bridgewater	24 max	S. Arena	Surf Scoter			
3/6	Concord (NAC)	2 m	M. Rines	3/8	Boston H.	74	TASL (M. Hall)
3/15	Halifax	21	R. Finch	3/28	Westport	22	M. Lynch#
3/21	Concord (NAC)	10	S. Moore	4/10	Nantucket	200	E. Ray
3/25	P.I.	35	W. Drew#	4/11	E. Gloucester	11	J. Berry#
4/3	Nantucket	3	E. Ray	White-winged Scoter			
4/5	Quabbin	6	D. Small	3/8	Boston H.	232	TASL (M. Hall)
Green-winged Teal				3/15	Truro	17	R. Lockwood#
3/6	Concord (NAC)	3	M. Rines	4/11	Newbypt	15	S. Perkins#
3/7	Cumb. Farms	6	M. Maurer#	Black Scoter			
3/10	P.I.	15	W. Drew#	4/11	E. Gloucester	4	J. Berry#
3/26	W. Harwich	15	J. Trimble	4/25	Westport	10	M. Lynch#
3/26	Sudbury	60	S. Perkins#	4/27	P.I.	2	D. Lounsbury#
3/26	Concord (NAC)	26	S. Perkins	Oldsquaw			
3/29	Rowley	19	J. Berry	3/1	Nantucket	100,000	E. Ray#
4/1-30	Easton	140 Max	S. Arena	3/3	Newburyport	90	J. Brown#
4/5	W. Bridgewater	150	W. Petersen	3/8	Boston H.	39	TASL (M. Hall)
4/11	P.I.	170	S. Perkins#	3/20	P'town	70	W. Ellison#
4/12	Wayland	25	S. Perkins#	3/21	W. Bridgewater	1 m	S. Arena
4/18	Rowley	24	J. Berry#	4/11	E. Gloucester	4	J. Berry#
4/18	Cumb. Farms	44	BBC (R. Finch)	4/18	Newbypt	430+	M. Lynch#
Canvasback				4/18	P.I.	1000	EMHW (J. Stein)
3/2	Braintree	2	S. Carey	4/20	Arlington	1	M. Rines
3/1-4/5	Arl. Res.	1-5	M. Rines	Bufflehead			
4/18	Newbypt	1	M. Lynch#	3/1	Wakefield	27	P. + F. Vale
Redhead				3/2	Braintree	25+	S. Carey
3/27	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	3/28	Westport	315	M. Lynch#
Ring-necked Duck				3/28	Fall River	20	S. Perkins#
3/1-31	Brockton	36 max	S. Arena	4/3, 21	S. Dart. (A.P.)	56, 12	LCES (J. Hill)
3/1-4/5	Arl. Res.	72 max	M. Rines	4/5	Peabody	20	J. Berry
3/3-31	W. Bridgewater	164 max	S. Arena	4/18	Newbypt	90+	M. Lynch#
3/13	Brockton	43	M. Faherty	4/20	Gardner	8	T. Pirro
3/14	Maynard	73	S. + L. Hennin	4/30	Pembroke	18	M. Emmons
3/26	Northboro	23	A. Boover	Common Goldeneye			
3/27	Concord (NAC)	22	S. Perkins	3/1-31	W. Bridgewater	27 max	S. Arena
3/28	Wayland	55	S. Perkins#	3/1	GMNWR	8	S. Perkins#
3/28	Framingham	35	E. Taylor	3/2	Braintree	10+	S. Carey
3/29	Boylston	20	J. Rees	3/6	Lincoln	9	M. Rines
3/29	Petersham	24	M. Lynch#	3/8	Boston H.	425	TASL (M. Hall)
4/12	Nantucket	20	E. Ray	3/25	P.I.	25	W. Drew#
4/26	Bolton Flats	2	M. Lynch#	3/29	Westport	45	S. Perkins#
Tufted Duck				3/29	Petersham	28	M. Lynch#
3/2-19	Sterling	1 m	F. McMememy + v.o.	4/3	S. Dart. (A.P.)	37	LCES (J. Hill)
3/29-4/18	Peabody	1 m	D. + I. Jewell + v.o.	4/18	Newbypt	108	M. Lynch#
3/29	Acoaxet	1 f	E. Nielsen#	Barrow's Goldeneye			
Greater Scaup				3/1	Rockport	1 m	A. Strauss#
3/8	Randolph	10	G. d'Entremont	3/1-15	Westboro	1 m	M. Lynch#
3/8	Boston H.	129	TASL (M. Hall)	3/4-18	Gloucester	1 m	v.o.
3/29	Westport	20	S. Perkins#	3/8	Nahant	1 m	R. Stymeist#

Barrow's Goldeneye (continued)

3/16	GMNWR	1 f	K. Dorsey
3/20	Winthrop B	1	R. Cressman
3/22	Essex	1	D. Brown
3/28	Marshfield	1 m	D. Clapp
4/5	Squantum	1	G. d'Entremont

Hooded Merganser

3/1-31	W. Bridgewater	20 max	S. Arena
3/7	Templeton	15	T. Pirro
3/9	Worcester	29	M. Lynch#
3/11	Groton	6	E. Stromsted
3/14	Maynard	12	S. + L. Hennin
3/28	Templeton	5	T. Pirro
3/28	Sutton	5	D. Boyle
4/12	Brockton	4	K. Cohen
4/14	GMNWR	1 f	S. Perkins#
4/29	Pepperell	4	E. Stromsted

Red-breasted Merganser

3/1	Gloucester	70	J. Berry
3/8	Squantum	350	G. d'Entremont
3/20	P'town	350	W. Ellison#
3/22	Arlington	9	K. Hartel
3/28	Westport	127	M. Lynch#
4/4	Marion	55	M. Maurer
4/11	E. Gloucester	350	J. Berry#
4/21	S. Dart. (A. P.)	69	LCES (J. Hill)

Common Merganser

3/2	Braintree	35+	S. Carey
3/6	W. Newbury	45	N. Nash
3/6	Acton	50+	M. Resch
3/8	Westboro	997	M. Lynch#
3/8	Waltham	30+	J. Forbes
3/9	Worcester	141	M. Lynch#
3/12, 31	Andover	280, 9	E. Stromsted
3/15	Sterling	502	M. Lynch#
3/15	Quabbin (G37)	35	D. Larson#
3/22	Arlington	88	K. Hartel
3/29	W. Newbury	20	J. Paluzzi#
4/5	Arlington	34	K. Hartel#
4/27	Acton	27	J. Center

Ruddy Duck

3/3	Jamaica Plain	19	J. Hepburn
3/6	Waltham	10	M. Rines
3/7	Medford	39	R. Cressman
3/8	Southboro	10	M. Lynch#
3/27	Nantucket	10	E. Ray
3/28	Waltham	10	E. Taylor
3/30	Peabody	53	P. + F. Vale
4/5, 25	Pembroke	42, 24	W. Petersen
4/6, 31	Melrose	27, 14	D. + I. Jewell
4/25	Wakefield	2	P. + F. Vale
4/25	Waltham	6	E. Taylor
4/26	W. Newbury	16	P. + F. Vale

Osprey

3/10	Nantucket	1	fide E. Ray
3/24	Marion	1	M. Maurer
3/24	Swansea	1	L. Abbey
3/24	Wareham	2	M. LaBossiere
3/24	Edgartown	1	P. Uhlendorf
3/27	Falmouth	pr	J. Eddy
3/28	Westboro	1	D. Holly
3/28	Plymouth	10	D. Holly
3/28	Wareham	2 pr	M. Maurer
4/11	Weymouth	2	S. Carey
4/12	Westboro	pr	D. Holly
4/14	GMNWR	2	S. Perkins#
4/18	Pepperell	2	E. Stromsted
4/18, 21, 29	P.I.	7, 7, 7	T. Carrolan
4/18	Westminster	4BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/18	Templeton	6	T. Pirro
4/25	Westport	41 pr n	M. Lynch#
4/25	Truro	5	J. Trimble

Bald Eagle

3/6	Framingham	2	M. Wolf
3/9	Lakeville	1 ad	K. Holmes
3/10	Norfolk	1 imm	C. Anderberg
3/13	Wayland	1 imm.	L. Nachtrab
3/13	Sterling	1 ad, 1 imm	A. Strauss
3/13	Worcester	1	R. Wolanin
3/14	Newbury	2	MAS (B. Getty)
3/15	S. Carver	1 imm	M. Maurer
3/15	Harvard	1 imm	S. + L. Hennin
3/15	Quabbin (G37)	3 imm	D. Larson#
3/25	Dighton	1	B. Rose
3/27	Easton	1 imm	S. Arena
3/28	Acoaxet	1 ad	S. Moore
4/4	Quabbin (G40)	2	J. Hoyer
4/5	Cumb. Farms	1 imm	M. Mauer
4/13	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/18	P.I.	1 imm	T. Carrolan
4/25	Truro	1 imm	J. Trimble

Northern Harrier

3/1	DWWS	9	D. Furbish
3/6	Cumb. Farms	3	R. Finch
3/8	Logan Airport	2	N. Smith
3/14	P'town	1	R. Stymeist#
3/27-29	P.I.	10 migr	T. Carrolan
3/28	Templeton	1	T. Pirro
3/29	Westport	1	E. Nielsen#
3/29	Rowley	2	J. Berry
4/3, 7, 18	P.I.	15, 16, 21 migr	T. Carrolan
4/11	Wayland	1	P. + F. Vale
4/13	Groveland	1	J. MacDougall
4/14	GMNWR	1 f	S. Perkins#
4/25	P.I.	12	T. Carrolan
4/26	Truro	6	J. Trimble#
4/26, 30	P.I.	11 migr	T. Carrolan

Sharp-shinned Hawk

3/1, 28	DWWS	1	D. Furbish
3/5, 26	Westboro	1, 1	A. Boover
3/15	Quabbin (G37)	1 imm	D. Larson#
3/15	Eastham	1	R. Lockwood#
3/18	Scituate	1	D. Furbish
3/27-29	P.I.	2	T. Carrolan
3/27	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
3/28	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes
3/28	S. Natick	1	D. Larson#
3/29	Westport	2	S. Perkins#
3/29	W. Newbury	2	D. + I. Jewell
3/29	Barre	1	M. Lynch#
4/1	N. Middleboro	2	K. Holmes
4/10	Newbypt	4	D. Jacques
4/18, 19, 21	P.I.	28, 79, 85	T. Carrolan
4/18	Westminster	3BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/25	Westport	4	M. Rines#
4/25	Truro	12	J. Trimble
4/26, 29, 30	P.I.	70, 131, 48	T. Carrolan
4/26	Nantucket	2	E. Ray

Cooper's Hawk

3/1	Cumb. Farms	1	R. Finch
3/4	Concord	1	R. Lockwood
3/7	Medfield	1	E. Taylor
3/9	Worcester	1 ad.	M. Lynch#
3/14	Malden	1	P. + F. Vale
3/15	Hanover	1 pr	S. Katz
3/15	Quabbin (G37)	1 ad	D. Larson#
3/27-9	P.I.	2	T. Carrolan
3/27	Groton	1	T. Pirro
3/28	Templeton	1	T. Pirro
3/29	Westport	2	S. Perkins#
thr Reports of ind. from 15 locations			

Northern Goshawk

3/2	Lincoln	2 ad	M. Rines
3/8	Saugus	1	P. + F. Vale

Northern Goshawk (continued)			
3/15	IRWS	1	P. Vale
3/15, 25	DWWS	1	D. Clapp
3/16	Acton	1	B. Donovan
3/27	Maynard	1 ad	L. Nachtrab
3/30	Boxford	1	D. + I. Jewell
4/1	Lincoln	pr	R. Clem
4/11	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes
4/12	Chatham	1	W. Bailey
4/18	Westminster	1BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/20	Easton	1 imm	S. Arena
4/25	Boxford (C.P.)	1	R. Finch
4/26	Groton	1 ad	E. Stromsted
Red-shouldered Hawk			
3/8	E. Boxford	1	J. Brown#
3/15	Middleboro	3	R. Finch
3/27	DWWS	1 ad	D. Furbish
3/27	Groton	1	T. Pirro
3/27	Sudbury	1 imm	S. Perkins#
3/28	S. Natick	1	D. Larson#
3/29	Westport	1	S. Perkins#
3/29	Petersham	2	M. Lynch#
3/29	N. Truro	1 imm.	B. Nikula
3/30	Lakeville	1	M. Boucher
3/30	Boxford	1	D. + I. Jewell
4/1	N. Middleboro	4	K. Holmes
4/1	E. Boxford	1	J. Brown#
4/3	GMNWR	1 imm	S. Perkins
4/4	Quabbin (G40)	1	J. Hoye
4/7	P.I.	1 imm	T. Carrolan
4/11	Rowley	1	D. Jacques
4/18	P.I.	1 ad	T. Carrolan
Broad-winged Hawk			
4/7	Newbypt	1 ad	T. Carrolan
4/8	Bridgewater	2	K. Holmes
4/11	N. Middleboro	2	K. Holmes
4/13	Topsfield	1	J. MacDougall
4/16	Quincy	2	N. Smith
4/18	Templeton	63	T. Pirro
4/18	Cumb. Farms	2	BBC (R. Finch)
4/18	Westminster	27BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/18	E. Middleboro	2	K. Anderson
4/19	Barre Falls	9	M. Lynch#
4/25	Truro	4	J. Trimble
4/25	Mt.A.	4	E. Taylor
4/29	Bedford	2	M. Rines
Red-tailed Hawk			
3/1	Cumb. Farms	5	R. Finch
3/9	Worcester	17	M. Lynch#
3/19	DWWS	8	D. Furbish
3/25	Sudbury	7	S. Perkins#
3/27-9	P.I.	13 migr	T. Carrolan
4/3	P.I.	9	T. Carrolan
4/14	GMNWR	8	S. Perkins#
Rough-legged Hawk			
3/15	W. Bridgewater	1	R. Finch
4/11	P.I.	1	D. Peacock#
4/18	Cumb. Farms	1	BBC (R. Finch)
Golden Eagle			
3/10	Quabbin (G40)	1 ad	D. Small#
3/28	Quabbin (G30)	1	C. Jackson
4/19	Billerica	1	C. Ralph
American Kestrel			
3/24	Boston (Logan)	7	N. Smith
3/27-29P.I.		156 migr	T. Carrolan
3/28	Carver, Wareham	8	M. Maurer
3/28	DWWS	2	D. Furbish
3/31, 4/3	P.I.	34, 77 migr	T. Carrolan
4/3	GMNWR	2	A. Ralph
4/4	Rockport	3	BBC (J. Nove)
4/5	Cumb. Farms	2	M. Maurer
4/6	Newbypt	3	M. Rines
4/12	Carver	6	M. Maurer
4/18, 19, 21	P.I.	334, 43, 197	T. Carrolan
4/18	DWWS	4	D. Larson#
4/18	Westminster	2BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/19	Newbypt	2	P. + F. Vale
4/19	Barre Falls	2	M. Lynch#
4/19	Essex	4	D. Jacques
4/19	Bedford	26	M. Rines
4/22	DWWS	8	T. Young#
4/25	Truro	11	J. Trimble
Merlin			
3/4	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
3/13	Brockton	1 f	M. Faherty
3/16	Cambridge	1	K. Dorsey
3/21	W. Bridgewater	1	S. Arena
3/26	Randolph	1	D. Larson
3/27-31P.I.		5 migr	T. Carrolan
3/27	Gloucester	1	N. Nash
3/28	Worc. (BMB)	1	B. Rasku
3/31	Westboro	1	A. Boover
4/7	M.V.	10	G. Daniels
4/18, 21, 29	P.I.	9, 12, 8	T. Carrolan
thr	Reports of indiv. from 13 locations		
Peregrine Falcon			
3/11	Boston	1	P. Lyons
3/15	Quabbin (G37)	2	D. Larson#
3/22	Nantucket	2	fide E. Ray
3/23	MNWS	1	L. Healy
3/28	Chilmark	1	A. Keith#
3/28	W. Bridgewater	1	S. Arena
3/29	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/7	M.V.	1	G. Daniels
4/8	Lynn	1	J. Berry
4/10, 13	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/18	Westminster	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)
4/21	Boston	pr	T. Smith
4/25	Truro	1 ad	J. Trimble
4/25	P.I.	1	EMHW (P. Roberts)
Gyr Falcon			
3/1-18	Boston (Logan)	1	N. Smith
3/21	Katama	1 gray	M. Pelikan
4/21	Concord	1	M. Rines
Ruffed Grouse			
3/13	Lexington	1	M. Rines
3/18	Halifax	2	D. Furbish
3/30	IRWS	1	J. MacDougall
4/4	Sharon	1	D. Larson#
4/5	Berkley	1	J. Hoye
4/5	Quabbin (G40)	4	R. Lockwood#
4/9	Groton	1	T. Pirro
4/9	Concord	3	R. Lockwood
4/11	ONWR	2	R. Hodson
4/12	IRWS	1	P. + F. Vale
4/12	Ipswich	1 m	J. Berry
4/12	Billerica	1	D. DePaso
4/12	Lancaster	2	R. Lockwood
4/18	Templeton	1	T. Pirro
4/26	Bolton Flats	1	M. Lynch#
4/26	W. Newbury	1	P. + F. Vale
4/28	Worc. (BMB)	1	J. Liller
4/28	Falmouth	1	B. Good
Wild Turkey			
3/2	Easton	8	G. d'Entremont
3/7	Templeton	104	T. Pirro
3/8	Middleboro	71	M. Maurer
3/15	Ipswich	4 m, 2 f	P. + F. Vale
3/26	Cambridge	3	A. Goode
3/28	Worc. (BMB)	18	J. Liller
3/29	Petersham	10	M. Lynch#
3/29	Boxford	1	R. Stymeist#
3/31	Marlborough	2	M. Howes
4/1	Cambridge	1	J. Kaplan

Wild Turkey (continued)				3/31	Boston (Logan)	2	N. Smith
4/6	Newbypt	2	M. Rines	4/4	Westport	3	S + L Hennin
4/7	Reading	3	S. Spinney	4/5	Nantucket	14	E. Ray
4/8	Norton	1 m, 3 f	J. Shea	4/5	S. Dartmouth	3	J. Hoyer
4/9	Brookline	1	P. Kellogg	4/19-30	Winthrop	4	R. Cressman + v.o.
4/9	Weymouth	1	K. Vespaziani	American Avocet			
4/10	S. Carver	19	R. Turner	3/17-27	N. Scituate	2	W. Lackey + v.o.
4/11	W. Newbury	3	S. Perkins#	3/29	Brewster	1	P. Trull
4/13	Chelmsford	1 f	B. Stevens	Greater Yellowlegs			
4/13	Watertown	1	L. Cormier	3/29	Newbury	1	J. Paluzzi#
4/18	Templeton	1	T. Pirro	4/4	Quincy	1	D. Larson#
4/24	Arlington	1 m	K. Ricigilano	4/4	Westport	2	S + L Hennin
4/26	Bolton Flats	2	M. Lynch#	4/5	P.I.	15	S + L Hennin
Northern Bobwhite				4/13	Nantucket	4	E. Ray
3/22	Nantucket	7	fide E. Ray	4/18	Rowley	15	J. Berry#
3/28	Westport	1	M. Lynch#	4/19	Newbypt	54	P. + F. Vale
Clapper Rail				4/19	Easton	4	S. Arena
4/30	W. Harwich	1	J. Sones, B. Nikula	4/24	Squantum	18	D. Larson
Virginia Rail				4/26	E. Boston (B.I.)	5	J. Damian#
3/7	Chilmark	1	A. Keith	4/26	Bolton Flats	1	M. Lynch#
3/29	Lynnfield	1	R. Stymeist#	Lesser Yellowlegs			
4/3	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	4/5	Newbury	1	D. Larson#
4/3	Falmouth	1	B. Good	4/5	Rowley	1	D. Sandee
4/3, 14	GMNWR	2, 4	S. Perkins	4/7	Fairhaven	1	M. Boucher
4/11	P.I.	1	D. Peacock#	4/24	Squantum	2	D. Larson
4/19	Gloucester (E.P.)	2	J. Soucy#	4/28	Newbypt	3	MAS (D. Davis)
4/20	Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	Solitary Sandpiper			
4/21	Groveland	4	J. MacDougall	4/6	Groton	1	T. Pirro
4/26	Bolton Flats	4	M. Lynch#	4/12	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/29	Worc. (BMB)	2	J. Liller	Willet			
Sora				3/24	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
3/22-4/22	DWWS	1	M. Maurer + v.o.	4/3	S. Dart. (A. P.)	1	LCES (J. Hill)
4/11	P.I.	1	D. Peacock#	4/10	Newbypt	2	D. Jacques
4/28	Wayland	1	G. Long	4/25	Westport	5	M. Lynch#
American Coot				Spotted Sandpiper			
3/1-31	Easton	13 max	S. Arena	4/29	Arl. Res.	1	C. Floyd
3/3	Brookline	10	J. Hepburn	Upland Sandpiper			
3/14-4/5	Arlington	98 max	K. Hartel	3/31	Logan	2	N. Smith
4/11	P.I.	1	T. Maloney#	4/13-30	Bedford	1-4	v.o.
4/26	GMNWR	1	L. Ferrareso	4/27	Rowley	1	J. Soucy#
Sandhill Crane				4/30	Newbypt	1	C. Leahy
4/24-27	Truro	1	R. Beatty	Whimbrel			
Black-bellied Plover				3/1-31	Yarmouth	1	M. Kasprzyk
3/20, 26	M.V.	40	M. Pelikan	Ruddy Turnstone			
4/4	Revere	1	BBC (G. Wood)	4/4	Revere	21	BBC (G. Wood)
4/5, 13	Nantucket	10, 27	E. Ray	4/26	Winthrop B.	7	J. Damian#
4/11	P.I.	2	BBC (W. Drummond)	Sanderling			
4/24	Winthrop	100	R. Cressman	3/8	Boston H.	60	TASL (M. Hall)
American Golden-Plover				3/13	P'town (R.P.)	50+	K. Dorsey
3/17-18	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	3/26	M.V.	150	M. Pelikan#
Piping Plover				4/8	Barnstable (S.N.)	40+	B. Good
3/24	Nantucket	2	P. Gardner	Pectoral Sandpiper			
3/25	Westport	6	J. Hill	3/24	Nantucket	1	E. Andrews
3/26	M.V.	3	M. Pelikan#	3/31	W. Bridgewater	1	G. d'Entremont
4/4	Westport	12	S + L Hennin	4/4	Westport	1	S + L Hennin
4/5	S. Dartmouth	7	J. Hoyer	4/11	Newbypt	4	S. Perkins#
4/8	P.I.	18	fide PRNWR	Purple Sandpiper			
4/8	Barnstable (S.N.)	12	B. Good	3/1	Gloucester	45	J. Berry
4/8	Mashpee	3	B. Good	3/1	Nahant	90	R. Heil
4/15	Ipswich	4	R. Hodson	3/1	Rockport (H.P.)	12	D. Jacques#
Killdeer				3/8	Boston H.	89	TASL (M. Hall)
3/1-31	Easton	21 max	S. Arena	3/18	Marshfield	11	D. Furbish
3/7	Cumb. Farms	6	M. Maurer#	3/25	Scituate	196	S. Bolton#
3/8	Boston H.	8	TASL (M. Hall)	4/5	Westport	40	J. Hoyer
3/12	Pepperell	6	E. Stromsted	4/11	E. Gloucester	13	J. Berry#
3/26	W. Harwich	11	J. Trimble	Dunlin			
3/28	Westport	7	M. Lynch#	3/8	Boston H.	20	TASL (M. Hall)
American Oystercatcher				3/20, 26	M.V.	140, 200	M. Pelikan
3/6	Sandwich	1	S. Bolton#	4/3	S. Dart. (A. P.)	125	LCES (J. Hill)
3/8	E. Boston	1	C. Paine#	4/4	Westport	136	S + L Hennin
3/26	M.V.	17	M. Pelikan#	4/22	Duxbury B.	200+	L. Cleveland
3/29	Nantucket	5	E. Ray	4/26	Winthrop B.	80	J. Damian#

Common Snipe			
3/1	Cumb. Farms	1	R. Finch
3/1	Nantucket	10+	E. Ray
3/22-4/30	Easton	118 max	S. Arena
3/28	Westport	4	M. Lynch#
3/29	Newbury	5	J. Paluzzi#
3/31	W. Bridgewater	7	G. d'Entremont
4/3	DWWS	35	D. Clapp
4/5	Newbury	100	D. Larson#
4/5	Athol	1	D. Small
4/9	Cumb. Farms	33	R. Finch
4/9	Concord (NAC)	54	G. Ferguson
4/11	Wayland	22	P. + F. Vale
4/12	GMNWR	5	R. Lockwood
4/12	Arlington	3	M. Rines
4/19	Topsfield	15	P. + F. Vale
4/26	E. Boston (B.I.)	10	J. Damian#
American Woodcock			
3/1-31	DWWS	19 max	D. Furbish
3/1-31	Wayland	11 max	N. Patterson
3/4	Concord	3	R. Lockwood
3/5	Lexington	3	M. Rines
3/6	Cumb. Farms	10	R. Finch
3/8	Ipswich	3	J. Berry
3/18	Burlington	10	M. Rines
3/28	Newton	3	D. Larson#
3/30	Westboro	3	A. Boover
4/11	P.I.	3	S. Haydock
4/25	Magnolia	8BBC	(D. Peloquin)
Laughing Gull			
3/16	Falmouth	2	E. Rudd
4/22	Plymouth	10	K. Holmes
Black-headed Gull			
3/1-20	Winthrop B.	1-3	R. Cressman
4/11	Newbypt	1 ad	T. Maloney#
Bonaparte's Gull			
3/8	Boston H.	1	TASL (M. Hall)
4/11	Newbypt	2	S. Perkins#
Mew Gull			
3/1-29	Winthrop B.	1	R. Cressman + vo
Iceland Gull			
3/1	P.I.	3	D. Oliver
3/7, 28	Gardner	1 ad	T. Pirro
3/8	Boston H.	2	TASL (M. Hall)
3/14, 21	Easton	1	S. Arena
3/20	P'town (R.P.)	17	W. Ellison#
3/21	M.V.	1	M. Pelikan
3/22	Nantucket	8	fide E. Ray
3/29	Westport	1 ad	S. Perkins#
4/5	P.I.	2	S + L Hennis
4/5	Nantucket	2	E. Ray
4/6	Winthrop B.	1	R. Cressman
4/25	Provincetown	5	B. Nikula
Lesser Black-backed Gull			
3/7	P'town (R.P.)	1 ad	S. Moore
3/20	Truro	1	W. Ellison#
3/29	Westport	1 ad	Nielsen#
4/4	S. Harwich	1	D. Comeau#
4/12	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
Glaucous Gull			
3/7	Gloucester	2 imm	J. Berry
3/15	P'town (R.P.)	2	R. Lockwood#
4/5	Newbypt H.	1	D. Larson#
Black-legged Kittiwake			
3/7	P'town (R.P.)	6	S. Moore
3/9, 10	Rockport (A.P.)	120, 5	J. Soucy
Common Tern			
4/30	Everett	2	J. Berry
Black Skimmer			
4/23	WBWS	1	P. Whitlock
Dovekie			
3/7	P'town (R.P.)	1	S. Moore
3/9, 10	Rockport (A.P.)	1, 3	J. Soucy
Common Murre			
3/7	P'town (R.P.)	3	M. Halloran
3/28	P'town	2	C. Floyd
Thick-billed Murre			
3/1-13	Gloucester	2-4	v.o.
3/7	P'town	7	S. Moore
3/10	Rockport (A.P.)	1	J. Soucy
3/15	P'town	3	R. Lockwood#
4/20	Gloucester (E.P.)	1	J. Soucy
Razorbill			
3/7	P'town (R.P.)	50	B. Nikula#
3/9, 10	Rockport (A.P.)	220, 5	J. Soucy
3/15	Truro	11	R. Lockwood#
3/24	Gay Head	50+	G. Daniels#
4/4	M.V.	500	M. Pelikan
4/5	Nantucket	3	E. Ray
Black Guillemot			
3/1	Gloucester	13	J. Berry
3/14	P'town	120	R. Stymeist#
3/28	Scituate	2	D. Clapp
4/11	E. Gloucester	8	J. Berry#
Monk Parakeet			
4/19-30S.	Dartmouth	2-3	L. Abbey + v.o.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			
4/20	Sandwich	1	P. Trull
4/26	S. Sandwich	1	P. Trimble
Eastern Screech-Owl			
3/1	Lanesville	1	D. Jacques#
3/7	Ipswich	1	J. Berry
3/15	Carver	1	M. Maurer
3/20	DWWS	2	D. Furbish
3/28	Waltham	2	L. Gretz
4/3	Wayland	1	J. Hoye
4/7	Hanover	2	S. Katz
4/13	Mt.A.	1 BBC	(R. Petersen)
Great Horned Owl			
3/1	Rockport	1	A. Strauss#
3/5	Ashburnham	1	T. Pirro
3/5	Concord	1	R. Lockwood
3/7	Ipswich	2	J. Berry
3/17	Cambridge	1	M. Rines
3/20	DWWS	2	D. Furbish
3/24	Wenham	1	J. Brown#
3/29	Hingham	1	R. Finch
4/1-30	Westboro	pr + 2 yg	v.o.
4/2	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson
4/3	Weston	2	J. Hoye
4/7	Quabbin	2	D. Small
4/8	Lynnfield	1	D. + I. Jewell
4/12	Byfield	2	S. Haydock
4/18	Rowley	1 n	J. Berry#
4/19	Barre Falls	1 n	M. Lynch#
4/26	Reading	2	D. Williams
Snowy Owl			
3/1, 29	Nantucket	3, 2	E. Ray
3/8, 31	Boston (Logan)	7, 3	N. Smith
3/20	Bourne (Otis AFB)	1	P. Cavanaugh
4/16	Logan	2	N. Smith
Barred Owl			
3/4	IRWS	2	D. Jacques
3/13	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
3/25	Lincoln	2	B. McHugh
3/28	Northboro	1	D. Holly
4/7	Quabbin	1	D. Small
4/11	E. Middleboro	pr	W. Petersen
4/14	Bridgewater	1	K. Rodman
4/16	Concord	1	R. Lockwood
4/19	Boxford (C.P.)	1	R. Lockwood#
4/23	Pepperell	1	E. Stromsted
4/25	Magnolia	2BBC	(D. Peloquin)
4/30	Groveland	2	J. MacDougall

Long-eared Owl				4/10	P.I.	1	T. Martin
3/1-31 DWWS	7 max	D. Furbish + v.o.		Northern Saw-whet Owl			
Short-eared Owl				3/1-31	Concord	1	R. Lockwood
3/6 Cumb. Farms	1	R. Finch		4/3	Middleboro	3	R. Finch
3/15 Nantucket	1	E. Ray		4/7	Quabbin	1	D. Small

WOODPECKERS THROUGH GROSBEAKS

Three Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers in late March were unusually early, undoubtedly the result of a strong southwest pattern of winds that began on March 25 and lasted through the end of the month. A **Black-backed Woodpecker** was discovered in Uxbridge, but was only seen for a single day. Eastern Phoebes arrived in one fell swoop, and were reported in significant numbers starting on March 27. A White-eyed Vireo on April 22 on Nantucket was early. There have been a significant number of sightings of Common Ravens in Essex County during the previous several months, but this reporting period included seven sightings. Ravens are not often seen in the eastern part of the state, and while some of these sightings could represent the same bird, it is an intriguing trend, nonetheless.

The first migrant Tree Swallows arrived with the phoebes on the southwest winds at the end of March, slightly later than normal. Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Concord is one of the best spots in the state for early swallows, and among the many Tree Swallows there on April 2, there were exceptionally early Barn and Cliff swallows. Southwest winds on April 17 brought in the first real wave of these later swallows.

House Wrens rarely overwinter in Massachusetts, but individuals reported in early March undoubtedly did so. The wren on March 28 could have been an early arrival with the favorable winds. A **Varied Thrush** seen in Oakham had been visiting a feeder off and on for most of the winter.

The **Hermit Warbler** that spent the winter on Martha's Vineyard was last reported on March 4. Other nice sightings included a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in Provincetown on April 20, two **Hooded Warblers** banded at Manomet, and another Hooded reported from Wayland. It is impossible to discuss warbler sightings for this period without mentioning (sorry, folks) *El Nino*. Many individuals were unusually early: Blue-winged and Prairie warblers on April 23, Black-and-white on April 19, Worm-eating on April 30, Ovenbird on April 22 (the March Ovenbird was an overwinterer) — all were unusually early. A Northern Parula on March 10 was astonishing, and a second bird two days later on Nantucket only made it more astonishing.

A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was a nice sighting in Truro, and another individual in Weston obligingly visited a feeder at a public brush dump in Weston, where the manager welcomed visitors and helped them spot the bird. A **White-crowned Sparrow** on Nantucket in March had overwintered at a feeder. Other White-crowns were either overwinterers or very early migrants. A **Golden-crowned Sparrow** spent a week in Weston. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Indigo Buntings typically do not arrive on their breeding grounds until May, but there is occasionally a small flurry of birds that show up in mid-April, most often in the southeastern coastal part of the state. These birds, along with the occasional Blue Grosbeak that shows up in April, are most likely individuals which have been staging in Central America and Mexico, waiting for favorable conditions for their trans-Gulf migration. Under certain meteorological conditions, a handful of these overshoot their goal along the Texas coast and end up as stragglers along the eastern U.S. coast further north. Three Dickcissels are more than normal in spring.

A count of 100 Rusty Blackbirds in Topsfield was the only highlight in an otherwise lackluster spring migration for this species. An Orchard Oriole on April 26 in Nantucket was an exceptionally early arrival. A **Bullock's Oriole** that spent the winter visiting a feeder in Reading (and most probably, earlier in Wakefield) lingered well into April, but was not seen after the 19th. Winter finches lingered into the period. Evening Grosbeaks were particularly well reported, and many may have been birds preparing for breeding, especially in Worcester County.

Whip-poor-will				4/1-30	Medford	10 max	M.W.R.
4/25 S. Dartmouth	2	M. Boucher		4/4	Worc. (BMB)	3	J. Liller
4/30 Upton	1	P. DeBruyd		4/4	Northboro	3	S. Moore#
Chimney Swift				Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			
4/18 W. Bridgewater	1	BBC (R. Finch)		3/27	Brookline	1	P. Perry
4/22 P.I.	1	B. Stevens (MAS)		3/30	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/25 Maynard	3	L. Nachtrab		3/31	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
4/25 Worcester	2	J. Center		4/2	Abington	1	W. Petersen
4/26 Mt.A.	3	BBC (M. Rines)		4/5	Quabbin (G40)	1	R. Lockwood#
4/30 W. Newbury	3	BBC (S. Grinley)		4/6	Wayland	1	G. Long
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				4/12	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/26 Pepperell	1	M. Resch		4/14,16	Worcester	1	M. Lynch#
Belted Kingfisher				4/18	Templeton	1	T. Pirro
4/17 GMNWR	3	K. Dorsey		4/19	Boxford (C.P.)	1	R. Lockwood#
Red-headed Woodpecker				4/26	WBWS	2	J. Eddy
4/11 ONWR	1	E. Salmela		4/26	Boston	1	B. Mayer
4/18 W. Brookfield	1 ad	S. Miller		Hairy Woodpecker			
Red-bellied Woodpecker				3/28	DWWS	3	D. Furbish

Hairy Woodpecker (continued)				4/30 Brookline	8	R. Stymeist#
3/29 Petersham	4	M. Lynch#		Warbling Vireo		
4/4 Ipswich	4	J. Berry		4/19 GMNWR	1	D. Larson#
4/12 Lexington	3	M. Rines		4/30 Medford	1	M. Rines
4/25 Wakefield	3	P. + F. Vale		4/30 Winchester	1	M. Rines
Black-backed Woodpecker				American Crow		
3/18 Uxbridge	1 m	B. Kimball		3/7 Framingham	1000	E. Taylor
Northern Flicker				4/30 Framingham	2600+	E. Taylor
3/22 M.V.	8	M. Pelikan		Fish Crow		
3/28 Westport	8	M. Lynch#		3/1 Bedford	4	M. Rines
4/2 P.I.	30	D. + I. Jewell		3/8 Southboro	1	M. Lynch#
4/4 Newbypt	18	BBC (S. Grinley)		3/15 Medford	2	D. + D. Oliver
4/5 Pepperell	10	E. Stromsted		3/29 E. Middleboro	2	K. Anderson
4/20 Rockport (H.P.)	12	D. Jacques		4/2 S. Hanson	4	W. Petersen
Pileated Woodpecker				4/12 Topsfield	14	J. MacDougall
3/4 Concord	1	R. Lockwood		4/21-30N. Middleboro	2	K. Holmes
3/15 E. Boxford	1	J. Brown#		4/21 Rockport (H.P.)	2	D. Jacques
3/17 Sterling	1	C. Phillips		4/21 Groveland	2	J. MacDougall
3/18 Amesbury	1	S. Hefler		Common Raven		
3/25-31 Weston	pr n	B. Chiasson#		3/4 Gardner	1	R. Hodson
3/25 Hamilton	1	L. Healy		3/6 Wenham	2	C. Leahy
3/28 Pepperell	2	E. Stromsted		3/6 W. Newbury	1	R. Heil
3/28 Westminster	1	T. Pirro		3/6 Groton	2	T. Pirro
3/29 Barre	2	M. Lynch#		3/15 Quabbin (G37)	1	D. Larson#
3/29 Petersham	3	M. Lynch#		3/16 Topsfield	1	J. MacDougall
3/30 Topsfield	2	J. MacDougall		3/24 Essex	2	J. MacDougall
4/2 Lincoln	pr	B. McHugh		4/4 Quabbin (G40)	1	J. Hoyer
4/3 GMNWR	pr	A. Ralph		4/12 Ipswich	2	D. Young
4/4 Northboro	2	S. Moore#		4/18 Templeton	3	T. Pirro
4/4 Milton	1	BBC (S. Olanoff)		4/18 Royalston	6BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/5 Quabbin (G40)	3	R. Lockwood#		4/19 Barre Falls	pr n	M. Lynch#
4/8 Bolton	1	R. Lockwood		4/22 Wakefield	1	P. Roberts
4/18 S. Lancaster	1	F. + M. Howes		4/25 Essex	1	E. Salmela#
4/23 Holliston	1	C. Hurd		4/26 Wachusett Mt.	1	P. Roberts
4/25 W. Brookfield	pr n	J. Center		4/30 Groveland	1	J. MacDougall
4/25 Magnolia	2BBC	(D. Peloquin)		Horned Lark		
Eastern Phoebe				3/3 Concord (NAC)	2	S. Perkins#
3/1 Chilmark	1	D. Remsen		3/5 Templeton	2	T. Pirro
3/15 S. Middleboro	1	M. Maurer		3/6 Cumb. Farms	120+	R. Finch
3/27 Weston	5	M. Rines		3/14 Mansfield	23	S. Arena
3/27 Wayland	6	M. Pelikan		3/15 P'town (R.P.)	3	R. Lockwood#
3/28 Concord	7	M. Rines#		3/15 Eastham	1	R. Lockwood#
3/28 Worc. (BMB)	12	C. Phillips		3/22 Sharon	8	S. Arena
3/28 Westboro Res.	8	D. Larson#		Purple Martin		
3/28 Carver, Wareham	8	M. Maurer		4/11 P.I.	1 m	S. Perkins#
3/28 Sutton	8	D. Boyle		4/13 Hanson	4	W. Petersen
3/29 Hingham	7SSBC	(N. Swirka)		4/18 DWWS	12	D. Larson#
3/29 Boxford	11	R. Stymeist#		4/18 Halifax	1	BBC (R. Finch)
3/29 Barre	9	M. Lynch#		4/19 P'town	pr	J. Trimble#
3/29 Topsfield	18	M. Rines#		4/21 Groveland	4	J. MacDougall
3/29 Petersham	21	M. Lynch#		Tree Swallow		
3/29 Boxford	6	J. Berry		3/25 DWWS	3	B. Wicks
4/18 Westminster	13BBC	(R. Stymeist)		3/25 Sudbury	15	B. Malcolm#
Eastern Kingbird				3/26 Sudbury	4	S. Perkins#
4/22 P.I.	2	S. McGrath		3/27 N. Dartmouth	4	M. Boucher
4/22 Nantucket	1	E. Ray		3/27 W. Newbury	4	N. Nash
4/23 Middleboro	1	K. Holmes		3/27 Groton	5	T. Pirro
4/30 P'town	1	J. Sones		4/2 GMNWR	700	S. Perkins
Northern Shrike				4/2 Pepperell	300+	E. Stromsted
3/1-14 P.I.	1	v.o.		4/2 Wayland	200+	N. Patterson
3/14 Wayland	1	N. Patterson		4/2 S. Hanson	100	W. Petersen
3/1-31 Pepperell	1-2	S. Stromsted		4/4 Peabody	250+	P. + F. Vale
White-eyed Vireo				4/13 Wakefield	200+	P. + F. Vale
4/22 Nantucket	1	E. Ray		4/27 P.I.	1000	D. Lounsbury#
Blue-headed Vireo				Northern Rough-winged Swallow		
4/13 N. Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher		3/30 Lakeville	2	M. Boucher
4/14 Waltham	1	J. Forbes		4/9 Weston	1	M. Rines#
4/18 Templeton	3	T. Pirro		4/11, 27 Boston	1, 5	K. Hudson
4/19 Barre Falls	7	M. Lynch#		4/14 Maynard	2	L. Nachtrab
4/29, 30 Mt.A.	1, 9	v.o.		4/14 GMNWR	1	S. Perkins#
4/30 Medford	5	M. Rines		4/17 Melrose	2	D. + I. Jewell
4/30 P'town	5+	J. Sones		4/18 Manchester	2	M. Lynch#

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (continued)				4/19	N. Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher
4/19	Barre Falls	6	M. Lynch#	4/20	Rockport (H.P.)	1	D. Jacques
4/19	P'town	2	J. Trimble#	4/22	Wakefield	1	P. + F. Vale
4/19	M.V.	3	M. Pelikan#	4/25	Westport	3	R. Stymeist#
4/20	Arl. Res.	4	M. Rines	Winter Wren			
4/24	Wakefield	10	P. + F. Vale	3/20	Nahant	1	L. Pivacek
4/26	Brockton	16	S. Arena	3/28	Worc. (BMB)	1	J. Liller
Bank Swallow				4/1	Brookline	1	J. Kuivenhoven#
4/14	GMNWR	1	S. Perkins#	4/4	Carlisle	1	T. Brownrigg#
4/19	P'town	5	J. Trimble#	4/4	Cohasset	1	N. Swirka
4/20	Arl. Res.	1	M. Rines	4/4	Quabbin (G40)	1	J. Hoye
4/22	Plymouth	1	K. Holmes	4/5	Medford	2	D. Oliver
4/26	Sterling	30+	M. Lynch#	4/5-30	Bolton	1	R. Lockwood
Barn Swallow				4/10, 21	Weston	1	M. Rines
4/2	GMNWR	1	S. Perkins	4/10	Boxford (C.P.)	5	P. + F. Vale
4/11	Halifax	1	K. Anderson#	4/12	Ipswich	2 m	J. Berry
4/11	E. Middleboro	1	T. Lloyd-Evans	4/15	Acton	1	J. Center
4/12	Nantucket	4	E. Ray	4/18	Westminster	1BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/15	Acton	2	J. Center	4/18	Templeton	1	T. Pirro
4/15	Hanover	2	S. Katz	4/18	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson
4/18	Westport	2	F. Thurber	4/19	Barre Falls	4	M. Lynch#
4/18	Cumb. Farms	2	BBC (R. Finch)	4/25	Lynnfield	4	P. + F. Vale
4/28	GMNWR	25+	N. Paulson	Marsh Wren			
Cliff Swallow				3/28	Wakefield	1	S. Haydock
4/2, 18	GMNWR	1, 1	S. Perkins	4/5	Wayland	1	G. Long
4/18	DWWS	1	D. Larson#	4/11	GMNWR	2	J. Mullen#
4/19	M.V.	1	M. Pelikan#	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			
4/19	P'town	1	J. Trimble#	4/2	DWWS	1	B. Good
4/20	Arl. Res.	1	M. Rines	4/10	GMNWR	1	R. Lockwood
Red-breasted Nuthatch				4/11	Hanson	1	W. Petersen
3/27	Quabbin	3	C. Phillips	4/11	ONWR	1	E. Salmela
3/28	Boxford	2	J. Berry#	4/13	Wakefield	1	M. Rines
4/4	Carlisle	prT.	+ D. Brownrigg	4/18	Westminster	2BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/5	Ipswich	2	I. Giriunas#	4/19	Mt.A.	4	M. Rines
4/12	Lancaster	5	R. Lockwood	4/22	Rockport (H.P.)	8	D. Jacques
4/13	Groveland	12	J. MacDougall	4/23	Brookline	2	S. Katz
4/14	Concord	4	R. Lockwood	4/25	Truro	5	J. Trimble
Brown Creeper				4/26	S. Sandwich	4	P. Trimble
3/25	Halifax	8	D. Furbish	4/29	Boxford	6	C. Ralph
3/27	Quabbin (G40)	18	C. Phillips	4/30	P'town	4	J. Sones
3/28	Boxford	3 m	J. Berry#	Golden-crowned Kinglet			
3/29	Petersham	10	M. Lynch#	3/25	Halifax	6	D. Furbish
3/29	Cohasset	2	SSBC (N. Swirka)	3/28	Boxford	6	J. Berry#
3/30	Lakeville	2	M. Boucher	3/29	Barre	8	M. Lynch#
4/4	Sharon	4	D. Larson#	4/4	Ipswich	14	J. Berry
4/8	Mt.A.	2	M. Rines	4/4	Sharon	10	D. Larson#
4/12	Ipswich	6	J. Berry	4/4	P'town	15	J. Trimble
4/12	Lancaster	5	R. Lockwood	4/5	Malden	22	P. + F. Vale
4/18	Cumb. Farms	6	BBC (R. Finch)	4/5	Quabbin (G40)	12	R. Lockwood#
4/19	Barre Falls	9	M. Lynch#	4/5	Milton	24	G. d'Entremont#
4/27	Boxford (C.P.)	4	N. Paulson	4/8	Mt.A.	12	M. Rines
Carolina Wren				4/10	Boxford (C.P.)	10	P. + F. Vale
3/10	Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab	Ruby-crowned Kinglet			
3/14	Reading	1	L. de la Flor#	3/28	Brookline	1	J. Kuivenhoven
3/16	Southboro	2	A. Boover	3/28	P.I.	1 mG.	d'Entremont #
3/16	Lexington	4	M. Rines	3/31	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
3/21	DFWS	1	B. Chiasson	4/1-30	Medford	9 max	M. Rines
3/23	MNWS	2	L. Healy	4/4	Newbypt	4	BBC (S. Grinley)
3/27	Northboro	1	A. Boover	4/4	P'town	4+	J. Trimble
3/28	Worc. (BMB)	2	J. Liller	4/13	Rockport (H.P.)	6	D. Jacques
3/29	Brookline	1	J. Kuivenhoven	4/18	Westminster	17BBC	(R. Stymeist)
3/30	Winchester	1	M. Rines	4/19	Mt.A.	15	v.o.
4/12	Weston	2	M. Rines	4/19	P'town	15	J. Trimble#
4/12	Rockport (H.P.)	2	D. Jacques	4/30	Brookline	15	R. Stymeist#
4/18	S. Lancaster	1	F. + M. Howes	4/30	P.I.	25	B. Gette
4/19	Brewster	1	A. Hill	Eastern Bluebird			
4/25	Westport	36	M. Lynch#	3/1	Cumb. Farms	12	R. Finch
House Wren				3/1	Rockport	8	A. Strauss#
3/6	Acton	1	M. Resch	3/20	Sherborn	30	E. Taylor
3/13	Reading	1	D. Schromm	3/27	Concord (NAC)	4	E. Mallet
3/28	Lexington	1	M. Rines	3/27	DWWS	5	N. Swirka
4/18	Westminster	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)	3/28	Wareham	8	M. Maurer

Eastern Bluebird (continued)				4/30	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
3/28	Sutton	8	D. Boyle	4/30	Medford	1	M. Rines
3/29	Hingham		7SSBC (N. Swirka)	Yellow Warbler			
3/29	Petersham	4	M. Lynch#	4/24	HRWMA	1	D. + P. Grimm
4/9	Weston	8	M. Rines#	4/25	Bolton	2	D. Malone
4/11	Worc. (BMB)	3 pr	J. Liller	4/25	Westport	2	M. Lynch#
4/18	Westminster	12BBC	(R. Stymeist)	4/30	N. Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher
Hermit Thrush				Yellow-rumped Warbler			
3/2	Lexington	1	M. Rines	3/8	Squantum	3+	G. d'Entremont
3/22	M.V.	1	M. Pelikan	3/29	Chappaquiddick	450+	A. Keith#
3/31	Boston	1	R. Mayer	4/2	S. Hanson	30	W. Petersen
3/31	Brookline	2	S. Carey	4/12	Wayland	18	S. Perkins#
4/11	E. Middleboro	3	W. Petersen	4/19, 30	Mt.A.	20, 30	v.o.
4/14	Concord	3	R. Lockwood	4/25	Waltham	50	C. Ralph
4/18	Templeton	3	T. Pirro	4/25	Westport	25	M. Lynch#
4/19	Barre Falls	3	M. Lynch#	4/26	W. Newbury	20	P. + F. Vale
4/25, 30	Mt.A.	3, 30	v.o.	4/26	Carlisle	24	BBC (T. & D.)
4/30	MNWS	4	J. Paluzzi	4/26	Arlington	26	M. Rines
4/30	P.I.	25	B. Gette	4/27	Belmont	30	G. Wood
4/30	Brookline	8	R. Stymeist#	4/30	P'town	30	J. Sones
Wood Thrush				4/30	Brookline	35	R. Stymeist#
4/26	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	4/30	Hingham	60	N. Swirka
4/30	Middleboro	1	M. Maurer#	4/30	Medford	120	M. Rines
American Robin				4/30	Melrose	30	D. + I. Jewell
3/17	Halifax	120	D. Furbish	Hermit Warbler			
3/28	Westport	299	M. Lynch#	3/1-4	Edgartown	1 f	M. Pelikan + v.o.
3/29	Petersham	150	M. Lynch#	Black-throated Green Warbler			
Varied Thrush				4/25	Boxford (C.P.)	1	E. Tarry
3/22	Oakham	1 f	K. Graham	4/29	Middleboro	1	M. Maurer#
Gray Catbird				4/29	Melrose	2	D. + I. Jewell
3/1	Cumb. Farms	1	R. Finch	4/30	Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab
3/1	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	4/30	W. Newbury	1	BBC (S. Grinley)
3/15	Lexington	1	M. Rines	4/30	Mt.A.	3	v.o.
3/20	Lincoln	1	M. Rines	4/30	Brookline	1	R. Stymeist#
3/22	Eastham	1	W. Ellison#	Yellow-throated Warbler			
3/25	P.I.	1	S. Haydock	4/20	Provincetown	1	W. Willard#
3/28	Westport	1	M. Lynch#	Pine Warbler			
4/10	Rockport	1	J. Butler	3/28, 30E.	Middleboro	1, 2	K. Anderson
4/30	Mt.A.	2	v.o.	3/28	Fall River	3	E. Nielsen#
4/30	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell	3/28	Westport	1	M. Lynch#
Brown Thrasher				3/29	Cohasset	1	mSSBC (N. Swirka)
4/18	Easton	1	S. Arena	3/29	Petersham	2	M. Lynch#
4/19	Concord	2	M. Rines	3/30	Topsfield	2	J. MacDougall
4/20, 30	Medford	1, 6	M. Rines	3/30	Lexington	2	T. Roberts
4/22	P'town	1	J. Eddy#	4/4	Newbypt	6	BBC (S. Grinley)
4/22	N. Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher	4/4	Ipswich	7 m	J. Berry
4/22	Burlington	1	M. Rines	4/4	P'town	10+	J. Trimble
4/22	P.I.	1	B. Stevens (MAS)	4/5	Quabbin (G40)	6	H. D'Entremont
4/22	Rockport (H.P.)	4	D. Jacques	4/12	Cohasset	6	N. Swirka
4/25	Worc. (BMB)	2	J. Liller	4/12	Ipswich	8	J. Berry
American Pipit				4/13	N. Dartmouth	7	M. Boucher
3/27	W. Bridgewater	4	G. d'Entremont	4/14	Concord	6	R. Lockwood
3/30	Newbury	1	R. Heil	4/19	P'town	7	R. Lockwood
4/19	W. Newbury	4	P. + F. Vale	4/19	Barre Falls	15	M. Lynch#
Cedar Waxwing				4/22	Bedford	10	M. Rines
4/4	Newbypt	85	BBC (S. Grinley)	4/24	Concord	7	J. Gawienowski
4/19	Wakefield	38	P. + F. Vale	4/25	Magnolia	9BBC	(D. Peloquin)
Blue-winged Warbler				4/25	Westport	8	M. Rines#
4/23	Mt.A.	1	R. Stymeist	Prairie Warbler			
Orange-crowned Warbler				4/23	Manomet	1 m	T. Lloyd-Evans
4/20	Westport	1	E. Nielsen	Palm Warbler			
4/30	Belmont	1 m	M. Rines	3/18	Nantucket	4	E. Ray
Nashville Warbler				3/28	Edgartown	1	A. Keith
4/30	Brookline	1	R. Stymeist#	3/29	Barre	1	M. Lynch#
4/30	Mt.A.	2	M. Rines	3/31	Nahant	1	M. Rines
4/30	Gardner	1	T. Pirro	3/31	Boston	1	J. Damian
Northern Parula				4/2	S. Hanson	5	W. Petersen
3/10	WBWS	1	J. Sones	4/5	Quabbin	8	D. Small
3/12	Nantucket	1	R. Laterra	4/6	Acton	6	J. Center
4/25	P.I.	1	E. Salmela#	4/10	GMNWR	8	K. Dorsey
4/30	Mt.A.	2	v.o.	4/14	Concord	6	R. Lockwood
4/30	Winchester	1	M. Rines	4/18	Westminster	16BBC	(R. Stymeist)

Palm Warbler (continued)				3/7	Wakefield	30+	P. + F. Vale
4/19	P'town	20+	J. Trimble#	Chipping Sparrow			
4/22	Rockport (H.P.)	12	D. Jacques	3/29	Winchester	1	M. Rines#
4/24	Mt.A.	20	M. Rines	4/2	Lincoln	1	B. McHugh
4/26	Woburn	12	M. Rines	4/4, 9	Weston	1, 5	M. Rines
4/27	Boxford (C.P.)	10+	N. Paulson	4/4	Sharon	1	D. Larson#
Black-and-white Warbler				4/4	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson
4/19	Essex	1	D. Jacques	4/5	Ipswich	2	I. Giriunas#
4/19	M.V.	2	M. Pelikan#	4/13	N. Dartmouth	6	M. Boucher
4/25	Westport	4	M. Rines#	4/19	Barre Falls	11	M. Lynch#
4/25	Magnolia	5BBC (D. Peloquin)		4/24	Mt.A.	12	v.o.
4/26	ONWR	1	M. Lynch#	4/25	Westport	117	M. Lynch#
4/26	Boxford (C.P.)	2	R. Cressman	Clay-colored Sparrow			
4/26	Hudson	1	E. Salmella#	3/20	Truro	1	W. Ellison#
4/26	Cohasset	1	N. Swirka	3/26-4/18	Weston	1	M. Rines + v.o.
4/26	Pepperell	1	M. Resch	Field Sparrow			
4/30	W. Newbury	2	BBC (S. Grinley)	3/15	Wellfleet	8	R. Lockwood#
4/30	Medford	4	M. Rines	3/28	Westport	5	M. Lynch#
4/30	Mt.A.	4	v.o.	3/28	Worc. (BMB)	2	C. Phillips
4/30	Melrose	2	D. + I. Jewell	3/28	P.I.	3	G. d'Entremont#
American Redstart				3/31	Concord	5	R. Lockwood
4/30	Mt.A.	1	L. Ferrarosso	4/18	Newbury	6	J. Berry#
Worm-eating Warbler				4/22	Saugus	4	D. + I. Jewell
4/30	P'town	1	J. Sones	4/26	Bolton Flats	3	M. Lynch#
Ovenbird				Vesper Sparrow			
3/14	Athol	1	D. Small	3/15	Cumb. Farms	2	R. Finch
4/22	IRWS	1	D. Schromm#	4/3	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
4/29	N. Dartmouth	3	M. Boucher	4/18	Plymouth	1	N. Samson
4/30	Mt.A.	1	M. Rines	4/22	P'town	2	J. Eddy#
4/30	Medford	1	M. Rines	4/25	S. Wellfleet	7	J. Trimble
4/30	Plymouth	1	P. Kyle	4/28	Groton	1	T. Pirro
Northern Waterthrush				Savannah Sparrow			
4/21	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	3/19	Wayland	9	N. Patterson
4/25	Easton	1	S. Arena	3/29	Hingham	2SSBC (N. Swirka)	
4/25	Boxford (C.P.)	1	E. Tarry	4/18	P.I.	4	M. Lynch#
4/26	Cohasset	1	N. Swirka	4/19	Bedford	4	M. Rines
4/29-30	Waltham	1	C. Ralph	4/22	P'town	15	J. Eddy#
4/30	Brookline	1	R. Stymeist#	4/25	Bolton	6	D. Malone
4/30	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	4/26	Arlington	6	M. Rines
Louisiana Waterthrush				Ipswich Sparrow			
4/4-30	Boxford (C.P.)	1-3	v.o.	3/25	P.I.	2	MAS (B. Stevens)
4/8	P'town	2	F. Bygate#	3/28	Westport	2	M. Lynch#
4/14	Weston	1	W. Petersen	3/28	Dartmouth	2	S. Moore#
4/18	Westminster	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)	3/29	Edgartown	6	A. Keith#
Common Yellowthroat				3/31	GMNWR	1	R. Lockwood
4/19	M.V.	1-2	M. Pelikan#	4/6	P.I.	3	J. Brown#
4/25	Magnolia	1	BBC (D. Peloquin)	4/12	Newbury	1	D. Larson#
4/25	Westport	1	M. Lynch#	sharp-tailed sparrow species			
4/26	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	4/21	S. Dart. (A. P.)	2	LCES (J. Hill)
4/26	Falmouth	1 f	J. Eddy	Seaside Sparrow			
Hooded Warbler				3/15	P.I.	1	R. Heil
4/21-22	Manomet	2 m b	T. Lloyd-Evans	Fox Sparrow			
4/30	Wayland (HP)	1 m	V. Laux	3/1	Kingston	1	D. + N. Ludlow
Scarlet Tanager				3/5	Middleboro	1	K. Anderson
4/18	P'town	1	J. Trimble	3/7	W. Barnstable	1	S. Miller
4/25	N. Brookfield	1	H. Tibbetts	3/7	Templeton	3	T. Pirro
Eastern Towhee				3/27	Princeton	9	J. Choiniere
3/11	Groton	1	E. Stromsted	3/27	Quabbin	7	C. Phillips
3/13	Nahant	2	L. Pivacek	3/27	Brookline	5	F. Bouchard
3/16	Lincoln	1	M. Rines	3/27	Newbury	3	D. Davis
3/22	M.V.	1	M. Pelikan	3/27	Quabbin (G40)	7	C. Phillips
3/25	Franklin	1	M. Martinek	3/28	S. Natick	4	D. Larson#
3/27	Hingham	3	N. Swirka	4/2	Watertown	1	R. Stymeist#
4/12	Middleboro	2	M. Maurer#	4/4	Weston	2	M. Rines
4/30	Medford	14	M. Rines	4/4	Easton	1	S. Arena
4/22	Saugus	4	D. + I. Jewell	4/4	Stoneham	1	D. + I. Jewell
4/25	Westport	15	M. Lynch#	4/5	Needham	2	R. Finch
4/27	P.I.	5	D. Lounsbury#	4/6	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
4/28	Worc. (BMB)	12	J. Liller	4/16	Northboro	1	S. Moore
4/30	Brookline	5	R. Stymeist#	4/20	Acushnet	1	K. Holmes
4/30	W. Newbury	3	BBC (S. Grinley)	4/25	Magnolia	1	BBC (D. Peloquin)
American Tree Sparrow							

Swamp Sparrow				4/4, 19	Bedford	2, 16	M. Rines
3/1	Cumb. Farms	2	R. Finch	4/4	Newbury	1	P. + F. Vale
3/26	Sudbury	1	S. Perkins#	4/5	Wayland	1	G. Long
3/30	IRWS	1	J. MacDougall	4/5	Newbypt	1	D. Sandee
3/31	GMNWR	7	R. Lockwood	4/11	P.I.	12	D. Peacock#
4/13	Wakefield	7	M. Rines	4/19	Essex	6	D. Jacques
4/19	Barre Falls	15	M. Lynch#	Rusty Blackbird			
4/21	Groveland	12	J. MacDougall	3/13	Wayland	6	L. Nachtrab
4/30	W. Newbury	6	BBC (S. Grinley)	3/15	Arl. Res.	6	K. Hartel
White-throated Sparrow				3/16	Medford	3	M. Rines
4/30	P.I.	80	B. Gette	3/24	Melrose	2	D. + I. Jewell
4/30	Melrose	40+	D. + I. Jewell	3/27	DWWS	1	M. Lynch#
4/30	Wayland (HP)	100	V. Laux	3/28	Lexington	3	M. Rines
4/30	Brookline	60+	R. Stymeist#	3/29	IRWS	5-6	J. Paluzzi#
White-crowned Sparrow				3/29	Lynnfield	6	R. Stymeist#
3/1-4/5	Nantucket	1	E. Andrews	4/5	Quabbin (G40)	6	H. D'Entremont
4/19	Cumb. Farms	2	R. Finch	4/9	Lynnfield	12	P. + F. Vale
4/20	Westport	1	E. Nielsen	4/12	Lancaster	3	R. Lockwood
4/26	P.I.	1	B. Gette	4/13	Wakefield	20+	P. + F. Vale
Golden-crowned Sparrow				4/15	Topsfield	100	J. Berry
4/9-15	Weston	1 ad	M. Hunt + v.o.	4/19	Essex	2	D. Jacques
Dark-eyed Junco				4/19	GMNWR	8	J. Center
4/19,20	Mt.A.	10, 1	v.o.	4/30	P'town	2	J. Sones
4/5	Bolton	12	R. Lockwood	Common Grackle			
4/18	Westminster	10BBC	(R. Stymeist)	3/1	W. Bridgewater	250	S. Arena
4/25	Magnolia	2BBC	(D. Pelouin)	3/5	Worc. (BMB)	222	J. Liller
4/30	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell	3/28	Westport	130	M. Lynch#
4/30	Brookline	1	R. Stymeist#	3/29	Petersham	100	M. Lynch#
4/30	Medford	1	M. Rines	4/4	Frammingham	2400+	E. Taylor
Oregon Junco				Brown-headed Cowbird			
3/1-26	Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab	3/1	W. Bridgewater	100	S. Arena
Lapland Longspur				3/15	Medford	2	D. + D. Oliver
3/16	Logan	9	N. Smith	3/28	Westport	77	M. Lynch#
3/1-31	Halifax	2	D. Furbish	3/28	DWWS	60	D. Furbish
Snow Bunting				3/28	P.I.	3	D. Davis
3/6	Winthrop B.	9	R. Cressman	Orchard Oriole			
3/14	P'town	3	M. Rines#	4/26	Nantucket	1	E. Ray
3/16	Boston (Logan)	150	N. Smith	Baltimore Oriole			
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				4/25	Mt.A.	1	v.o.
4/19, 26	Nantucket	1, 3	E. Ray	4/26	Nantucket	2	E. Ray
4/30	Northboro	1 m	B. Volke	4/30	Medford	1	M. Rines
4/30	Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab	Bullock's Oriole			
Blue Grosbeak				3/1-4/19	Reading	1 m	D. Schromm + vo
4/19, 24	Nantucket	1, 2	E. Ray	Pine Grosbeak			
4/19	M.V.	1 imm m	M. Pelikan#	3/1, 3	Royalston	17	T. Roberts#
4/25-26	S. Wellfleet	2 imm m	B. Nikula#	3/9	Worcester	1	M. Lynch#
4/25	Hingham	1	Z. Jacobs	3/28	Northboro	1	A. Boover
Indigo Bunting				Purple Finch			
4/18	Monomoy	1 m	K. Koper#	3/1-31	Middleboro	12 max	M. Maurer
4/19	Chatham	1	K. Koper	4/10	Weston	3	M. Rines
4/19	M.V.	1 m	M. Pelikan#	4/12	Ipswich	3 m	J. Berry
4/19	Nantucket	3	E. Ray	4/16	Scituate	3	E. Burbank
4/21	Whitman	1	M. Emmons	4/18	Westminster	6BBC	(R. Stymeist)
4/25	Quincy	1	L. Mendall	4/19	Chelmsford	7	J. Center
Dickcissel				4/25	Westport	3	M. Rines#
3/28	Chilmark	1	A. Keith	4/25	Magnolia	3BBC	(D. Pelouin)
4/16	Salisbury	1 f	E. Pyburn	4/26	Reading	3	D. Williams
4/19	P'town	1	J. Trimble#	4/26	Pepperell	2	M. Resch
Red-winged Blackbird				4/26	Provincetown	10	B. Nikula
3/1	W. Bridgewater	600	S. Arena	4/30	P'town	6+	J. Sones
3/5	Worc. (BMB)	365	J. Liller	Red Crossbill			
3/14	Groton	200	E. Stromsted	3/4, 22	Nantucket	7	J. Papale
Eastern Meadowlark				3/21	W. Bridgewater	1	S. Arena
3/1	DWWS	14	D. Furbish	3/29	Petersham	2	M. Lynch#
3/5	S. Dart. (Allens P.)	4	LCES (J. Hill)	4/30	Holden	1 f	W. Starbard#
3/7	Lincoln	1	K. Calmer	White-winged Crossbill			
3/27	Rowley	1	N. Nash	3/16	Nantucket	6	E. Ray
3/27	Gardner	3	T. Pirro	3/21	Jamaica Plain	6	R. Donnis
3/29	Hingham	1SSBC	(N. Swirka)	4/4	Weston	5	S. Moore#
3/30	Concord	1	R. Lockwood	4/5	Sterling	5	fide MAS
3/31	Westboro	1	R. Willis	4/13	Groveland	4	J. MacDougall
4/2	DWWS	2	B. Good				

Common Redpoll				4/26	Pepperell	1	M. Resch
3/25 Bolton	2	R. Lockwood		4/26	Truro	1	J. Trimble#
3/28 Sutton	3	D. Boyle		Evening Grosbeak			
3/28 Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab		3/7 Templeton	6	T. Pirro	
3/29 Lynnfield	1	R. Stymeist#		3/24 Barre	1	C. Phillips	
3/1-31 Pepperell	100 max	E. Stromsted		4/4 Quabbin (G40)	7	J. Hoye	
4/5 Wayland	1	N. Patterson		4/5 Petersham	35	H. D'Entremont	
4/26 Woburn	1	M. Rines		4/6 Ipswich	pr	M. Rines	
Pine Siskin				4/18 Royalston	12BBC	(R. Stymeist)	
3/27 Quabbin (G40)	3	C. Phillips		4/18 Westminister	3BBC	(R. Stymeist)	
3/30 Chatham	1	W. Bailey		4/19 P'town	2	J. Trimble#	
4/4, 19 P'town	3, 11	J. Trimble		4/24 Nantucket	1	E. Ray	
4/5 Wayland	2	N. Patterson		4/25 Barre	5	C. Phillips	
4/5 Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab		4/26 Nantucket	7	E. Ray	
4/8 Wenham	1	N. Nash		4/29 Boxford	1	N. Nash	
4/9 Weston	1	G. Ferguson		4/29 Orleans	1 m	R. McGinley	
4/16 Scituate	1	E. Burbank		4/30 Middleboro	1 f	M. Maurer#	
4/18 Royalston	4	BBC (R. Stymeist)		4/30 Wayland	1	N. Patterson	

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO BIRD OBSERVER

This publication prints monthly compilations of reports of birds seen in the ten counties of eastern Massachusetts (Worcester County and east) and offshore waters. Space does not permit the inclusion of all material submitted. However, bird sightings sent to Bird Observer are archived at the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Our compilers select and summarize for publication sightings that provide a snapshot of birdlife during the reporting period. These sightings include early and late dates for migratory species, maximum counts of migrants and some common birds, and species found beyond their normal ranges.

Sightings for any given month must be reported in writing by the eighth of the following month. Send to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 94 Grove Street, Watertown, MA 02172. Please organize reports by month and by species in current A.O.U. checklist order. Include name and phone number of observer, common name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, number of observers, and information relevant to age, sex, morph, etc.

Species on the Review List of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee (Bird Observer Vol. 25, #4, page 195), 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 Wayne Petersen, Massachusetts Audubon Society, South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773. Include, in addition to the above information, time of day and light available, weather conditions, the optics used and approximate distance from the bird, length of observation, observer's prior experience with the species, and field guide or other references used. Provide a description of the bird based solely on personal observation. Comment on the distinguishing field marks (observed and unobserved), vocalizations, activity, general behavior, habitat, and other birds present. Include with your report copies of any field notes and sketches.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

* Indicates a species on the review list of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee (MARC). Because these sightings are generally published before the MARC votes, they normally have not been approved by the MARC. The editors publish records which are supported by details, multiple observers, or both.

ad	adult	H.	Harbor
alt	alternate	I.	Island
b	banded	L.	Ledge
br	breeding	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
dk	dark (phase)	Mt.A.	Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
f	female	Nant.	Nantucket
fl	fledged	Newbypt	Newburyport
imm	immature	P.I.	Plum Island
ind	individuals	Pd	Pond
juv	juvenile	P'town	Provincetown
loc	location	Quab.	Quabbin Reservoir
lt	light (phase)	Res.	Reservoir
m	male	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
max	maximum	S.B.	South Beach, Chatham
migr	migrating	S. Dart.	South Dartmouth
n	nesting	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
ph	photographed	Stellw.	Stellwagen Bank
pl	plumage	Worc.	Worcester
pr	pair	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
S	summer (1S = first summer)	BMB	Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester
thr	throughout	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
vid	videotaped	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
v.o.	various observers	DWWS	Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary
W	winter (2W = second winter)	EMHW	Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch
w/	with	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
yg	young	HRWMA	High Ridge Wildlife Management Area, Gardner-Westminster
#	additional observers	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum, Boston	LBS	Local Bird Survey
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	LCES	Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies
A.Pd	Allens Pond, S. Dartmouth	MARC	Massachusetts Avian Records Committee
Arl.	Arlington	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
B.	Beach	MBO	Manomet Observatory
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	MBWMA	Martin Burns Wildlife Management Area, Newbury
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	MDFW	MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Cambr.	Cambridge	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
C.B.	Crane Beach, Ipswich	MSSF	Myles Standish State Forest
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	NAC	Nine Acre Corner, Concord
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	NBC	Needham Bird Club
Cumb. Farms	Cumberland Farms, Middleboro-Halifax	NEHW	New England Hawk Watch
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
F.M.	Fowl Meadow, Milton	TASL	Take A Second Look Harbor Census
F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge	USFWS	US Fish and Wildlife Service
F.Pk	Franklin Park, Boston	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
G40	Gate 40, Quabbin	WMWS	Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary
G45	Gate 45, Quabbin		
H.P.	Halibut Point, Rockport		

ABOUT THE COVER: BAIRD'S SANDPIPER

For many New England birders, the highlight of the fall migration is the sighting of a Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*) at the impoundments and pools of Plum Island or Monomoy. This species also presents a challenging identification problem as well as a thrill for fall birders. Baird's Sandpipers are buffy-brown above with a streaked buffy breast, black legs and nearly straight, rather finely tipped black bill. Young birds (and most Baird's Sandpipers seen in the east are juveniles) have fairly uniform pale edges to their back feathers, giving them a scaly appearance. They have very long wings that protrude *beyond* the end of the tail when the bird is standing and give the bird a long, sleek appearance. They have relatively short legs. An intermediate sized "peep," larger than a Semipalmated or Least Sandpiper but smaller than a Dunlin, they are often seen foraging by themselves, making size comparisons problematic. Dark legs help separate them from Least and Pectoral sandpipers, and their dark rump separates them from White-rumped Sandpipers. The sexes are similar in appearance, but females average slightly larger. The species is monotypic with no subspecies recognized.

Baird's Sandpipers are high-arctic breeders and long-distance migrants. They breed from northeastern Siberia across arctic Alaska and Canada to Baffin Island and northwestern Greenland. They winter in the high Andes from Ecuador through Bolivia and in Argentina through Tierra del Fuego, largely in wetlands and grasslands.

Their spring migration, which may cover 9,000 miles, takes them through the interior of the United States, with few records from the east or west coasts. In the fall they stage in the prairies of the northern United States and southern Canada, then fly nonstop to northern South America, and from there continue on to their wintering grounds in southern South America. Adult Baird's Sandpipers migrate early — late July to mid-August — while juveniles follow but are more widespread, showing up on both coasts in small numbers. In Massachusetts adults are rare, and juveniles uncommon fall migrants, with a dozen or so reported annually. They are not gregarious and are often found foraging on beach wrack, or freshwater pools, meadows, and sewage beds.

Baird's Sandpipers breed largely in drier sections of tundra, including inland hills and mountains, but often locate their nests near wet tundra. The males perform hovering and circling display flights up to 60 feet above the ground. Their calls have been described as "frog-like," *kreep*, *preet*, or *cree*. Their flight is sometimes exaggerated — bouncing with wings held high. During the display season males sometimes form loose "lek-like" aggregations.

Their nest is a scrape or depression lined with lichen, grass, or leaves. The usual clutch is four brown-spotted buffy eggs. Incubation lasts for about three weeks, and both parents incubate and brood. The young are precocial and leave

their nest within a day. They are accompanied by the parent birds — especially the male — and feed themselves. They fledge in two to three weeks.

Baird's Sandpipers are largely insectivorous, running or walking quickly across mud and meadow, and sometimes through shallow water, gleaning grasshoppers, beetles, spiders, flies, and crane fly larvae. They rarely probe for food.

These lovely sandpipers were common prior to 1900 and probably suffered population declines along with other shorebird species due to heavy hunting by market and sport gunners. They are widespread and distant from man on the breeding grounds for the most part, but their wintering grounds include areas in which pesticide use is heavy enough to pose threats. They must endure among the longest of migrations, and habitat alteration is always a threat on their prairie and Latin American migration staging areas. Hopefully, they will continue to promote adrenaline surges in birdwatchers each fall as juvenile Baird's Sandpipers straggle to the East Coast and fatten up for their long flights to southern South America.

--W.E. Davis, Jr.

ABOUT THE COVER ARTIST

Don Radovich is a Colorado wildlife artist who is retired from his teaching position (painting, art history) at Western State College. He has been interested in birds since childhood. He received a Master's degree in art from the University of New Mexico in 1959, with a thesis on birds and mammals. He has illustrated several books, including *Migratory Shore and Upland Game Bird Management in North America*, by Thomas Tacha and Clait Braun, and the recent *A Guide to the Birds of the West Indies*, by Herbert Raffaele et al., for which he did the warbler plates. Anyone interested in exploring the possibility of Don doing commission work can contact him at P.O. Box 313, Gunnison, CO 81230 or by telephone at (970) 641-0793.

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Photograph by Hal H. Harrison

Long legs, long, slender bill, and plainly patterned plumage — all features variously shared by herons, rails, and shorebirds — are characteristics of this month's mystery species. Within the heron tribe, only the Least Bittern, Green Heron, and the night-herons are either small enough or short enough in the upper leg (i.e., tibia) to be possibilities. All the herons can readily be eliminated as identification possibilities by the presence of the distinct black-and-white barring on the flanks and the slender, decurved bill of the mystery bird. Similarly, none of the North American shorebirds have strongly barred flanks like those shown by the mystery species.

Having removed herons and shorebirds as possibilities, we must assume that the mystery bird is some species of rail. Because of the bird's long bill, the stubby-billed Sora and the rare and elusive Yellow and Black rail need not be considered as identification possibilities. This leaves the King, Clapper, and Virginia rail as choices.

All of the latter three rails are quite similar: long, slightly decurved bill; barred flanks; plain breast; and muted brown or olive-gray on the back, lightly streaked with black or brown. In other words, they are tough to tell from a black-and-white photo! In life, one of the key features (besides the great

difference in size) between a King Rail and a Virginia Rail is the presence of a gray face on the much smaller Virginia Rail. Since we can't determine this coloration from the photograph, it is important to look at the overall structure of the bird for possible clues.

Compared with a Virginia Rail, both King and Clapper rails have longer and heavier bills and often appear relatively long-necked, pot-bellied, and more elongated overall, particularly from the legs forward. Although all three species have conspicuously barred flanks, the flank markings of Clapper Rails are wavy and blurry and not nearly as distinct and crisp as those on the browner King and Virginia rail. The clarity and darkness of the flank barring on the mystery rail is by itself enough to eliminate the Clapper Rail as a possibility.

This reduces the choice to one between King Rail and Virginia Rail. Based upon the absence of prominent streaks on the back, the medium-length bill, and the aforementioned structural differences, the evidence points to its being an adult Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*).

Virginia Rails are widespread and relatively common summer residents in many Massachusetts wetlands, particularly those dominated by a healthy growth of cattails and other emergent wetland vegetation. Occasionally, they attempt to overwinter in open brooks along the coastal plain.

(Announcement)

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AT A GLANCE

Photo by Alfred M. Bailey



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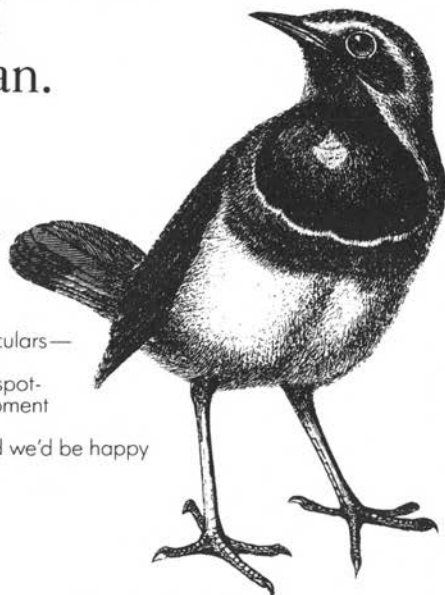
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