

BIRD OBSERVER



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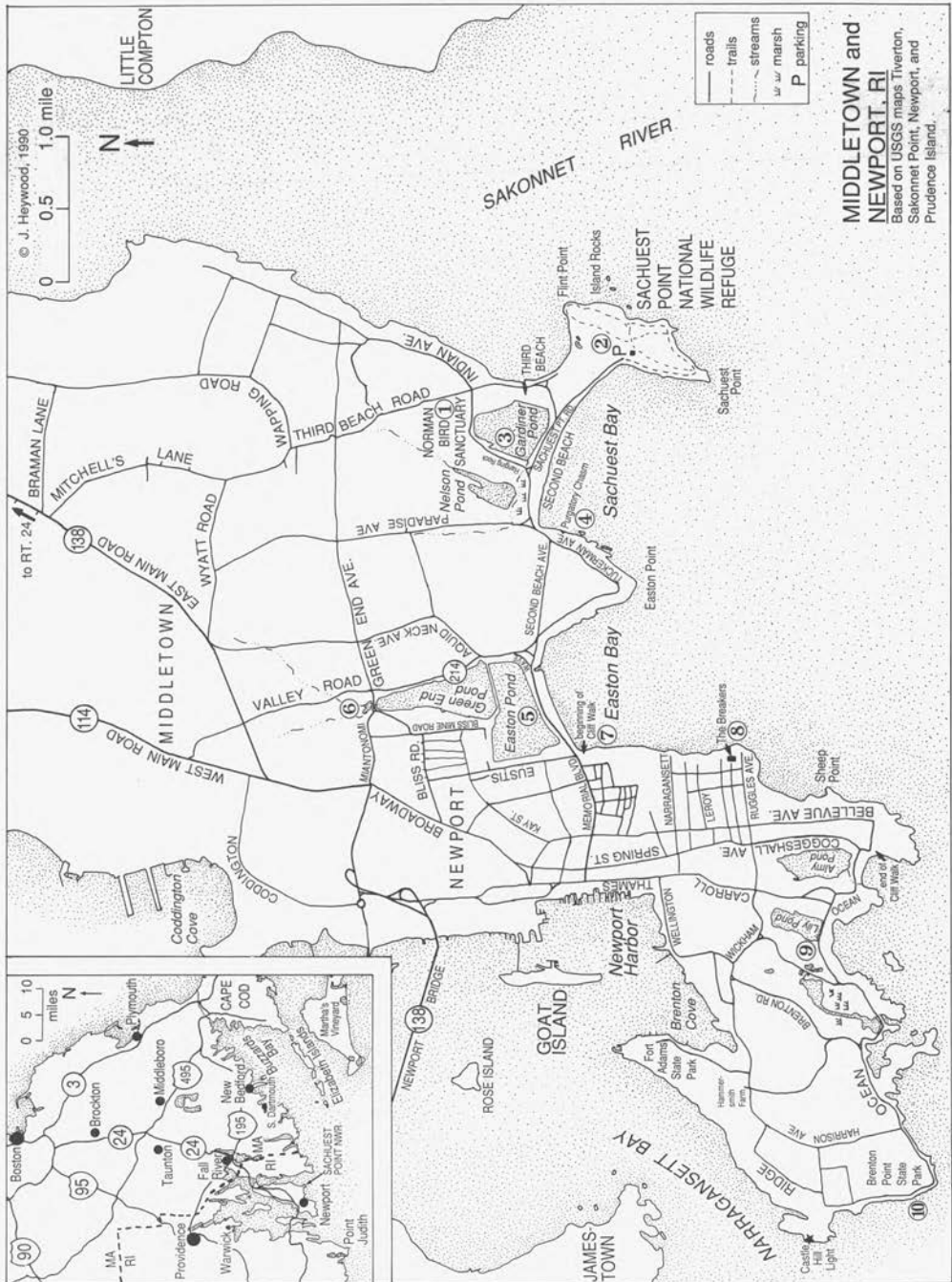
CONTENTS

BIRD FINDING AT SACHUEST POINT, RHODE ISLAND, AND ENVIRONS	Alan E. Strauss	196
THOREAU: SPEAKING FOR BIRDS	Richard K. Walton	205
EVOLUTION OF DISTRACTION DISPLAY BEHAVIOR IN BIRDS	William E. Davis, Jr.	211
FIELD NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE		
Black-and-White Distraction	Dorothy Louise Case	215
Accipiter Interaction at a Cooper's Nest	Tom Aversa	215
Airport Sandpipers	Phillips Hallowell	216
Outdoor Work: The Bird Finder's Advantage	Chuck Aversa	216
PHOTO FEATURE: BIRDS OF MAY 1990		218
A Plethora of Grosbeaks	Sue Burton	
Chuck-will's-widow at Marblehead Neck	Torrey Jackson	
Fork-tailed Flycatcher in Concord	Jack Murray	
FIELD RECORDS: APRIL 1990		220
FIELD RECORDS: MAY 1990		233
ABOUT THE COVER: Black-bellied Plover	Richard A. Forster	248
MEET OUR COVER ARTIST: Paul K. Donahue	Dorothy R. Arvidson	249
AT A GLANCE	Wayne R. Petersen	250
Cover Illustration: Black-bellied Plover by Paul K. Donahue		

JEFF DODGE TO SPEAK ON HAWKS OF BRADDOCK BAY

Jeff Dodge, President of Braddock Bay Raptor Research, will be the featured speaker at the annual meeting of the Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch (EMHW) on September 7, 1990. He will speak on Braddock Bay, one of the world's premier hawkwatching sites, and the hawks and hawkwatchers one sees there. Special attention will be given to the Broad-winged, Red-shouldered, and Rough-legged hawks, for which Braddock Bay is famous.

The EMHW annual meeting, which is open to the public and free of charge, will be held at Drumlin Farm, Lincoln, MA. The room will be open at 7 P.M. with displays, exhibits, hawk talk, and refreshments, and the meeting begins at 7:30 P.M. For more information, call 617-483-4263 after 8 P.M.



**MIDDLETOWN and
NEWPORT, RI**
Based on USGS maps Tiverton,
Sakonnet Point, Newport, and
Prudence Island.

BIRD FINDING AT SACHUEST POINT, RHODE ISLAND, AND ENVIRONS

by Alan E. Strauss

When all of the freshwater ponds are frozen and the sheltered bays are covered with ice, a birder can always find some excitement at Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge in Middletown, Rhode Island. The refuge is situated on Aquidneck Island, which is surrounded by Narragansett Bay to the west, Rhode Island Sound to the south, and the Sakonnet River to the east, and contains the towns of Portsmouth, Middletown, and Newport. At the end of the last ice age, Sachuest was itself a separate island (Quinn 1976, page 57). The steep slopes of the island fall to shingle beaches composed of Pennsylvania Age shales, sandstones, and argillites. It is believed that the local prehistoric inhabitants used some of these rocks to make their stone tools (Strauss 1989, page 25). The rocky coast and the promontory of Sachuest Point, which noses out into the ocean, provide a wonderful habitat for many interesting avian winter visitors.

Birding at Sachuest Point really picks up beginning in October with the arrival of small groups of Harlequin Ducks, a major birding highlight of the area. Thirty were reported on the December 1989 Newport County, RI/Westport, MA Christmas Bird Count.

As the winter progresses the sanctuary plays host to a variety of birds including Snowy Owls, Common Eiders, King Eiders, Short-eared Owls, Rough-legged Hawks, Perègrine Falcons, Snow Buntings, Lapland Longspurs, meadowlarks, Common Goldeneyes, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Purple Sandpipers, American Pipits, Horned Larks, Common and Red-throated loons, Horned and Red-necked grebes, and Sanderlings. During stormy weather, the lucky birder may also find gannets, Razorbills, and Dovekies although the latter two are only occasionally seen.

To reach Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge from Massachusetts, take Routes 93 (128) or 495 or 195 to Route 24 south. Follow Route 24 south into Rhode Island to the exit marked Portsmouth/Bristol. At the stop sign at the end of the exit ramp, turn left to Route 138. Bear south on Route 138, also called East Main Road, for about 6.7 miles to Mitchell's Lane on the left, immediately after a sign "Entering Middletown." Turn left onto Mitchell's Lane.

Barn Owls and the Norman Bird Sanctuary (1). Follow Mitchell's Lane for about 1.3 miles, and look for an owl box on the side of a barn on the left side of the street opposite the intersection with Wyatt Road. The owl box can be viewed if you stop at utility pole number 37. The Barn Owl that occupies this box must be observed from the edge of the road. *Do not go into the farmyard.*

The Barn Owl was present on June 20, 1990. Continue on Mitchell's Lane, and take the right fork at the small sign for Newport Memorial Park. Mitchell Lane's becomes Third Beach Road from this point on. At the next stop sign, continue straight ahead.

After about a mile, you will pass the Norman Bird Sanctuary on the right side of Third Beach Road. Although the birding here in recent years has been poor, the wooden water tower at the sanctuary has been home to a family of Barn Owls for several years. The birds are best viewed at dusk or early evening. The Grey Craig Trail in this sanctuary leads to Nelson Pond (also known as Grey Craig Pond), which often has teal and both American and Eurasian wigeons. This area also has wintering landbirds such as catbirds and Carolina Wrens.

Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge (2). When finished at Norman Sanctuary, return to Third Beach Road. At the next stop sign continue straight ahead to what is known locally as Navy Beach. The road forks opposite a long trailer-like building marked "Navy MWR." Go to the right. Shortly you will come to a yield sign; a fenced-in parking lot and camp spot is at this corner. Proceed left to the entrance to Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge.

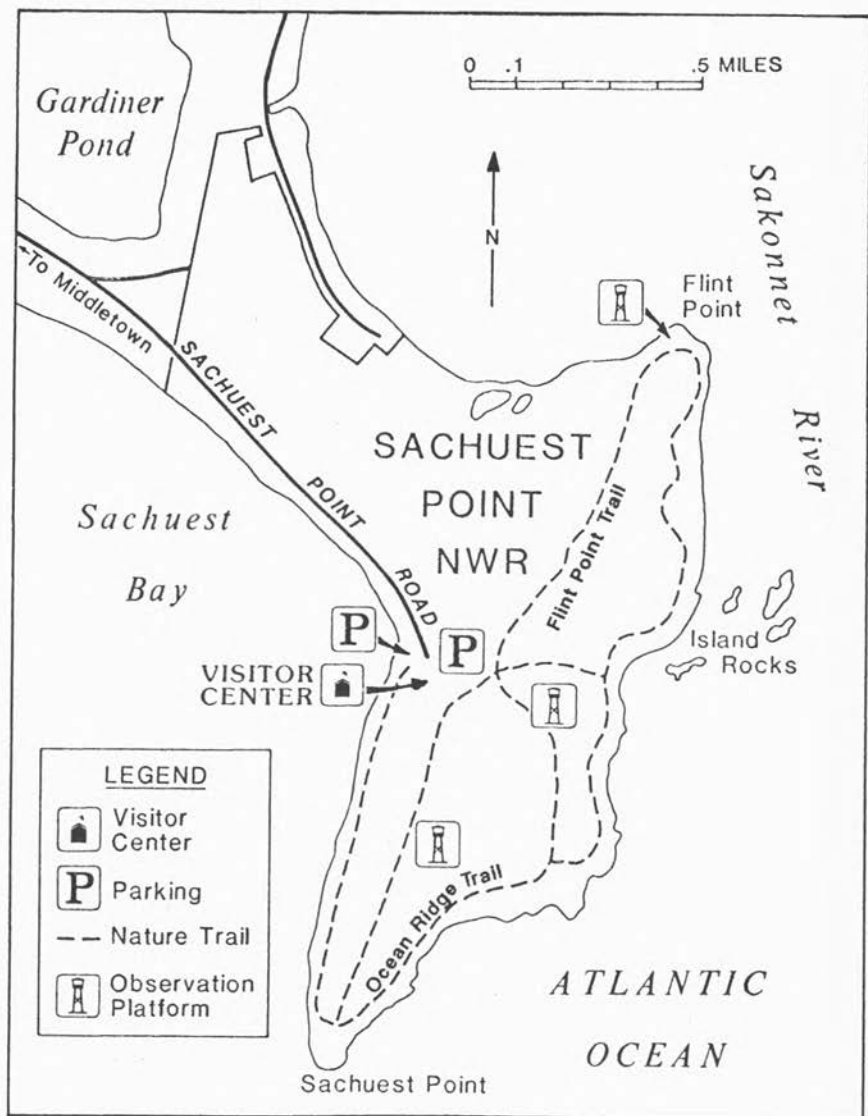
At the parking lot is a small visitors' center, which is open Wednesday through Sunday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and provides drinking water, restrooms, and a display of local marine life. The park naturalist, George Sprague, is usually available to provide information about bird sightings on the refuge as well as at other nearby locations in Rhode Island. Maps, bird lists, and information about all of the state's national refuges can be obtained here.

Birding at the refuge is best begun early in the morning. This will provide the best views of Short-eared Owls and the closest looks at loons, grebes, eiders, and Harlequins. Late in the day, people walk their dogs here, and fishermen often come in close to shore to check lobster pots and fishing traps. These activities sometimes spook the aquatic birds and force them farther offshore.

Sachuest Point Refuge is a 242-acre sanctuary with a three-mile system of easily walked trails that skirt a majestic coastline and cross through the interior of the park. The major trails are shown on the map, reproduced here with permission. This map is also available at the visitors' center. The Ocean Ridge Trail follows the coastal edges of the sanctuary. The views into Sachuest Bay often result in sightings of Common Loons, American Black Ducks, Greater and Lesser scaups, Red-breasted Mergansers, Common and Barrow's goldeneyes, and Horned and Red-necked grebes. In the winter of 1988, as many as 119 Red-necked Grebes were counted at one time.

Follow the eastern coastline to a small peninsula of rocks that projects out into the ocean. Male and female King Eiders as well as Common Eiders have been seen feeding just off the end of the line of rocks. As you continue along the

coastal trail, scan for Common and Red-throated loons, Greater and Lesser scaup, three species of scoters, and, of course, Harlequin Ducks. The Harlequins usually feed around the rocks, often in the rough water currents. One of the best places to view them is from Island Rocks, where you can slowly crawl out along the rock slabs and get very close to these fascinating ducks. It is not uncommon for fifty or more Harlequins to be present at one time, and King Eider has been observed here as well.



Map by Steve Haydock. Reprinted with permission.

Proceed along the shoreline trail, scanning the water, the rocks, and the fields for birds. A large population of Yellow-rumped Warblers is present year-round in the brush. Northern Harriers cruise low over the fields often putting up a kestrel or large flocks of Eastern Meadowlarks and Snow Buntings. Towhees, mockingbirds, and Northern Flickers are present in the tangled bittersweet.

At Flint Point, there is an observation platform from which you can scan the Sakonnet River and adjacent hillsides. The trail then heads away from the shore back toward the parking lot. In the interior of the property one can find a variety of common landbirds. The low bushes and man-made T-posts provide perches for Snowy and Short-eared owls, although these raptors often perch on the ground. For several years two Short-eared Owls have stayed the winter at the refuge. Last winter, two Short-ears circled directly over my head at dusk as I watched from the viewing platform near the parking lot. Snowy Owls, which usually arrive by the end of December, may be found in a variety of locations in the park—perched on the roof of the visitors' center, on the man-made perches, on the low dike that borders the refuge, on small juniper or cedar trees, and even on the rocks adjacent to the ocean. Other raptors regularly seen on the refuge are Merlins, Ospreys, Cooper's Hawks, and, during migration, Peregrine Falcons. An immature Bald Eagle was also reported this year by George Sprague, the refuge naturalist.

On any given day a red fox mousing in the open fields is a sight that may catch the eye of an observant visitor. On my trip to Sachuest to prepare this article, a young fox not only tolerated my presence but cooperated further by letting me photograph him at close range.

If you visit the refuge on a stormy day with east or southeast winds, you may find a variety of interesting seabirds. Oldsquaws may be seen, as well as Razorbills, Thick-billed Murres, Dovekies, Northern Gannets, Bonaparte's Gulls, and in the fall on rare occasions jaegers. Just before you enter the park on any day it is a good idea to check the shoreline for shorebirds on the sandy beach or around the seaweed-coated rocks. Purple Sandpipers can usually be found in the winter along the offshore rocks.

I suggest that a visiting birder whose interests extend beyond avifauna might also wish to explore the tidal pools and eddies along the rocky coast. Interesting shells and a variety of flora and marine fauna can be seen. In the spring and summer, the waters of Rhode Island Sound often bring in unusual marine life. The exposed rocks at low tide provide an ideal place from which to cast for tautog, or blackfish. (Green crab pieces make the best bait, but almost any natural bait will work.) This past summer in the area between Sachuest Point proper and Island Rocks, I caught a gray triggerfish (*Ballistes capriscus*) measuring over sixteen inches—a state record.

Gardiner Pond (3) and Hanging Rock. After finishing at Sachuest Point,

drive back out of the park heading west along Sachuest Point Road. Take the second right, and you will find a large elevated pond, Gardiner Pond, that is surrounded by a dike. On the left-hand side of the road, one can see "Hanging Rock," a conglomerate cliff formed during the last glacial episode. Across from "Hanging Rock" on the right-hand side of the road, there is a pulloff near a steep set of wooden steps that leads up to the top of the dike. Here one can scan the pond for a variety of diving ducks such as scaup, Ruddy Ducks, Redheads, mergansers, black ducks, and Canada Geese. The grassy wetlands around the dike are noted for wintering Soras and Virginia Rails. The salt marsh opposite Second, or Sachuest, Beach should also be checked for rails. A Sedge Wren was found at this location last fall.

Purgatory Chasm (4). Return to the main road and continue west. After passing the last stretch of beach, the road rises and forks. The left fork is Tuckerman Avenue. Take the first left off Tuckerman into a small parking lot for Purgatory Chasm. The park is open from 6:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. with thirty minute parking. This area provides a good vantage point from which to scan the ocean for Common Loons, scoters, Red-necked Grebes, scaup, and both Common and Barrow's goldeneyes. The chasm itself is an interesting geological formation. It consists of a split in the conglomerate rock that is about 10 feet wide, 120 feet long, and nearly 50 feet deep. The chasm was formed by constant marine erosion and weathering.

Easton Pond (5). Now return to the main road and continue west across Easton Point. At the stop sign at the end of Tuckerman, go left, and then take a right onto Wave Avenue. Easton Pond is on the left. Vantage points can be found from the several parking sites along Wave Avenue. Continue left at the end of this short street, and go north to an electric substation at the edge of the pond near the dike between Easton and Green End ponds. This spot provides a good viewing point. Easton Pond may offer diving ducks, coots, teal, and merganser. The lucky birder may also be able to add Northern Pintail, Redhead, Canvasback, and Lesser Scaup to the list. When the water level is low enough, this area also attracts late fall shorebirds, including occasional Hudsonian Godwits. Two unusual sightings at this area were a Smew seen January 3 through March 2, 1976, and an American White Pelican recorded in the winter of 1978 (Conway 1979, pages 31-32).

Green End, or North Easton, Pond (6). Continue straight on Route 214 to the light at Green End Avenue and turn left. At the point where Green End Avenue crosses the outlet from the north end of Green End Pond, pull cautiously off to the right side of the road, which is narrow and heavily traveled. The small wetland on the right side of the road, if not frozen, often has wintering snipe and Black-crowned Night-Heron. The northern end of Green End Pond, across the road, is one of the most reliable spots for Lesser Scaup.

Cliff Walk (7), Newport's mansions, and the Breakers (8). Next cross the bridge and go left at the fork. Follow this road (still Green End Avenue), turn left on Bliss Mine Road and then right on Bliss Road into Newport. After five blocks, go left on Eustis. You will pass through several stop signs until you reach Memorial Boulevard. The entrance to the Cliff Walk will be directly across the street in front of you. Go right on Memorial and then, after about 0.5 mile, turn left at the first main intersection onto Bellevue Avenue. This is the area of the famous Newport's mansions, a good side trip should the weather totally preclude birding. Follow the road to the entrance to the Breakers Mansion on Ruggles Avenue. If you have not seen Barrow's Goldeneye, you might try the Breakers. An elevated wooden platform above the rocky coast provides good viewing opportunities. Return to Bellevue Avenue, which goes past the end of the Cliff Walk and makes a sharp bend where it becomes Ocean Drive at the fork with Coggeshall Avenue. Go left on Ocean Drive by the tennis courts.

Lily Pond (9) will be on the right across from Gooseberry Beach. The pond is surrounded by a thick screen of *Phragmites*, but there is an opening where a small brook crosses under the road. This pond is perhaps the most reliable spot in the state for Gadwall, sometimes supporting as many as two hundred birds in November, and is also a good location to find Northern Shovelers.

After viewing Lily Pond, proceed west on Ocean Drive. In about 0.5 mile you will see a large rocky cove on the left which makes an excellent photographic locale, especially during sunset or stormy weather. A rocky outcrop on the right side has been a traditional nesting site for Common Tern. On June 20, 1990, there were nine terns here, and one egg could be seen. The water on the right side curves around into a marshy area and pond. The ducks from Lily Pond such as Hooded Mergansers often travel back and forth between the two ponds. Continuing on Ocean Drive, you will see greenish metavolcanic rocks. These rocks are similar to the types used by prehistoric inhabitants to manufacture stone tools. Following Ocean Drive west once again, you will come to Brenton Point State Park (10). People often fish from the rocks for tautog and bluefish at this location. Gulls and cormorants can be found on the offshore rocks. The golf course in this area can be a good spot to find Short-eared and Snowy owls in winter, and Castle Hill Light to the west can produce various raptors (Sharpshins, Cooper's, kestrels, and Merlins) during the fall migration.

This tour of some of Rhode Island's birding spots can be made in one day. However, numerous accommodations are available in Newport and Portsmouth for those who wish to stay overnight and visit other birding localities in the state or the parks, mansions, and museums of Newport. You should check with the Newport Chamber of Commerce for seasonal schedules. It is best to be aware that Newport, like Cape Cod, is a prime tourist area and very crowded in the

summertime. At other times of year, however, Rhode Island provides a variety of interesting birdlife that can often be studied at very close range. When the winter doldrums set in and you are ready to settle for watching birds at the feeder, plan to visit a little island that, for this birder, shines like a jewel in the sea—Sachuest Point.

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ALAN E. STRAUSS, an archaeological consultant working in Providence, Rhode Island, received his M.A. in that field at the State University of New York. He has been interested in birds since childhood and a serious birder since the winter of 1986. Alan is an amateur artist and photographer and has contributed additional articles and sketches that are scheduled to appear in future issues of *Bird Observer*. Alan is grateful to George Sprague, naturalist and caretaker at Sachuest Point, for sharing his knowledge of the birds of the refuge and wishes to thank David Emerson and Daniel Finizia for their helpful suggestions. The map of Sachuest Point is the creation of Steve Haydock, a naturalist at the Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge.

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THOREAU: SPEAKING FOR BIRDS

by Richard K. Walton

The Turkyes of that Countrie are great, and fat, and exceeding in plentie. The riuers from August, or September, till February, are couered with flocks of Wildfoule; as swannes, geese, ducke, mallard, teal, wigeons, hearons, bitters, curlewes, godwights, plouers, snights, dottrels, cormorants, in such abundance as are not in all the world to be equalled.

William Strachey's early seventeenth century description (Forbush 1912, page 8) of Virginia (the name used by the early English explorers for the entire eastern section of North America) birdlife is typical of the reports sent back for the edification and the enticement of potential colonials. These accounts described a garden of plenty: land, timber, water, and game of all kinds. In England where the landowners were few, the timber long since cut down, the sources of pure water scarce, and the game available to most only at the considerable risk of poaching, America must indeed have seemed like Eden. The possibility of substantially improving one's lot through landownership and surplus crops moved boatloads of Europeans across the Atlantic.

The realities of the New World were not always as advertised. Although America was indeed a land of plenty, there was another side to the coin. Once coastal lands were claimed, pioneers were forced to move inland. Here they were faced with a wilderness that was decidedly hostile. Early colonial settlements were often isolated, distant communities constantly struggling to maintain their foothold in the backcountry. The backbreaking work of clearing the land, building homesteads, and planting, raising, and harvesting crops was made all the more difficult by animal predators and whimsical natives. Although the settler may have been delighted by a ready supply of game, he was not prepared to appreciate or even to try to understand the less benign aspects of natural America. Those things which were useful were considered good; other natural features were simply a hindrance to the colonial crusade to clear and work the land.

Even the early naturalists looked at the plants and animals from a utilitarian perspective. In fact, naturalists first explored America as hired collectors for wealthy and curious Europeans. The employers hoped that the New World would hold miraculous botanic cures from which a profit might be made. At the very least, they expected to have their private collections filled with curios of the American flora and fauna. When animals or plants were encountered that seemed to be more of a detriment than a blessing, one senses a disillusionment about the promised land. In the mid-1700s Mark Catesby, one of the first European naturalists to visit America, wrote the following account of the "red-

wing'd Starling" (Red-winged Blackbird).

This and the Purple-Daw (Common Grackle) are of the same Genus, and are most voracious corn-eaters. They seem combined to do all the mischief they are able: and to make themselves most formidable, both kinds unite in one flock, and are always together, except in breeding time, committing their devastations all over the Country. When they are shot, there usually falls of both kinds; and before one can load again, there will be in the same place oft-times more than before they were shot at. They are the boldest and most destructive Birds in the Country.

For close to three centuries the birdlife in the New World was seen as a pestilence or as mere food on the table. In both instances bird populations suffered substantial and, in some cases, irreparable losses. Initial pressures created by bounties on blackbirds and hawks, as well as hunting for the family table, gradually increased as specialists made a living hunting for the market. The first species to be extirpated were the game birds of eastern North America. Birds such as the Wild Turkey and Heath Hen were greatly reduced throughout most of their eastern range as early as the eighteenth century. Numerous migrant species were the next to suffer. During the latter part of the nineteenth century, as the railroads opened up the country, the slaughter became widespread. Edward Howe Forbush summed it up this way.

The fame of America as a game country was noised far and wide. Hunters and sportsmen came from every land; sportsmen, market hunters, big game hunters and skin hunters crowded into the new country. The improvement in firearms kept pace with the increased transportation facilities. The breech-loader gave the hunter an added advantage. Then followed the practical extermination of the American bison, the deer, elk, antelope, mountain sheep, mountain goat, Wild Turkey and Prairie Chicken over wide areas. Then first began the marked decrease in the numbers of game birds, shore birds and wildfowl throughout most of the United States. . . . (Forbush 1912, page 26).

Descriptions of the market gunners' spoils include accounts of wagonloads of duck carcasses rotting in the heat of a North Dakota summer, barrels full of prairie chickens for sale in Boston markets, and a one-day kill of fifteen thousand Redheads and Canvasbacks on Chesapeake Bay.

To the numerous species that were directly affected by the gun must be added an equal or greater number adversely impacted by the axe and the plow. The intensive agricultural efforts of the settlers resulted in elimination of large parts of the eastern forests, gradual depletion of the soil, and drainage of a majority of the wetlands. Habitat destruction was probably more lethal than the hunting. Yet all of these depredations were carried out in the name of progress and civilization, in the best traditions of the Judeo-Christian culture. As Aldo Leopold said, "Abraham knew exactly what the land was for; it was to drip milk

and honey into Abraham's mouth." And if this was to be accomplished, the wilderness needed to be subdued. One of the first Americans to offer an alternative viewpoint was Henry David Thoreau.

Thoreau rejected the utilitarian-Abrahamic land ethic that was being enthusiastically embraced by his Concord neighbors. While they fretted over how to get two blades of grass to grow where formerly there was but one, Thoreau sought to accommodate himself to the natural world. Wilderness, he said, was an important and necessary component of a truly civilized world. Thoreau's intellectual roots were the natural history tradition of Gilbert White of Selborne and the transcendentalism of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Along with White, he shared an abiding interest in his local area and an ecological perspective of the natural world. With Emerson he shared a concern for a culture where progress and materialism seemed out of control. "Things are in the saddle and ride mankind." A more fulfilling life might be had through the contemplation of nature as a symbol for greater truths. In Thoreau we find an uneasy synthesis of the objective field naturalist and a seeker of metaphysical enlightenment. The common element was wilderness—the medium of both philosophy and natural history.

Thoreau's ornithology reflects this dichotomy. At times he focuses on the birds themselves; elsewhere Thoreau is looking for the meaning behind his observations. What is constant is Thoreau's belief in the inherent value of the natural world. Thoreau considered himself a part of the natural world. His duty was not to exploit the material wealth of that world, but rather to develop an appreciation and understanding of nature. This perspective led to one of the first in-depth looks at a local bird fauna in America. Thoreau's bird studies, which include notes on identification, behavior, seasonality, nesting, and ecology of over one hundred species, began a tradition that has continued to this day.

The relentless hunting of birds is a repeated theme in Thoreau's notes ("Huckleberries" essay). In the fall when migrant Common Loons stopped in at Walden, "all Concord sportsmen were on the alert, in gigs, on foot, two by two, three by three, with patent rifles, patches, conical balls, spy-glass or open hole over the barrel." His journals contain numerous entries about Passenger Pigeons. Ensnared in nets and gunned down by the flock, Thoreau tells how one of his neighbors caught two thousand of these birds in one week. Hawks attracted by the netted pigeons were quickly dispatched. "They are catching pigeons nowadays. Coombs has a stand west of Nut Meadow, and he says that he has just shot fourteen hawks there, which were after his pigeons." A family of Wood Duck that Thoreau had been observing met a similar fate. "In my boating of late I have several times scared up a couple of summer ducks of this year, bred in our meadows. They allowed me to come quite near and peopled the river. I have not seen them for some days. Would you know the end of our intercourse?"

Goodwin shot them, and Mrs. _____, who never sailed on the river, ate them. Of course she knows not what she did. What if I should eat her canary?"

Thoreau suggested quite a different "use" for the birds. At times it was simply to enjoy their beauty. "They belonged to me," said Thoreau of those Wood Ducks, "as much as to any one, when they were alive, but it was considered of more importance that Mrs. _____ should taste the flavor of them dead than I should enjoy the beauty of them alive." At other times Thoreau's interest is identification and behavior. "A hen-hawk [Red-tailed Hawk] sails away from the wood southward. I get a fair sight of it sailing overhead. What a perfectly regular and neat outline it presents! an easily recognized figure anywhere. Yet I never see it represented in any books. The exact correspondence of the marks on one side to those on the other, and the dark line midway the wing. I have no idea that one can get as correct an idea of the form and color of the under sides of a hen-hawk's wings by spreading those of a dead specimen in his study as by looking up at a free and living hawk soaring above him in the fields." Thoreau often finds a spiritual use for birds; they allow him to transcend the moment of observation. "I sit here at my window like a priest of Isis, and observe the phenomena of three thousand years ago, yet unimpaired. The tantivy of wild pigeons, an ancient race of birds, gives a voice to the air, flying by twos and threes athwart my view or perching restless on the white pine boughs. . . ." Thoreau was not aware that his was to be one of the last generations to see this species alive.

At a time when bird study was primarily concerned with describing and classifying, Thoreau's interests foreshadowed the work of twentieth century ecological studies. Concord's landscape at mid-nineteenth century, like much of New England, had been radically altered by two centuries of "progress." Forest cover had been reduced to a mere ten percent and much of the land had been overworked. The newest hope of the local farmers was land reclamation; the wetlands were to be drained to produce more arable acres. Thoreau was aware of the effects of these practices on the birdlife. "He who cuts down woods beyond a certain limit," he said, "exterminates birds." Thoreau also appreciated the habitat requirements of many species and understood how different habitats suited different species. "The surface of the earth is portioned out among them. By a beautiful law of distribution, one creature does not too much interfere with another." Although Thoreau's perspective on the land and its wildlife was a minority opinion in the nineteenth century, he was not content to remain silent. Thoreau repeatedly asked his fellow townfolk to consider a different point of view; furthermore he suggested appropriate action.

What are the natural features which make a township handsome—and worth going far to dwell in? A river with its water-falls—meadows, lakes—hills, cliffs or individual rocks, a forest and single ancient trees—such things are

beautiful. They have a high use which dollars and cents never represent. If the inhabitants of a town were wise they would seek to preserve these things though at a considerable expense.

Thoreau was not heeded by many of his contemporaries. The forests were cut and recut, the swamps and marshes drained, and the bird killing continued. It was not until a half century after his death that concern over the plunder of the land and the wildlife resulted in concerted action to save what was left. When Americans finally began their search for alternatives to the utilitarian land ethic, they would find in Thoreau's work a detailed and carefully elaborated model for appreciating the natural world for its own sake. Ironically, as Thoreau was to point out, a truly civilized America would look to those needs fulfilled by wild America.

April 15, 1852. How indispensable our one or two flocks of geese in spring and autumn! What should be a spring in which that sound was not heard? Coming to unlock the fetters of northern rivers. Those annual steamers of the air.

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RICHARD K. WALTON is a freelance writer and naturalist living in Concord. His recent publications include *Birding by Ear—Western* (Houghton Mifflin, 1990) and *Familiar Butterflies of North America* (A. Knopf, 1990). Those interested in more ornithological history should refer to his *Birds of the Sudbury River Valley—An Historical Perspective* (Massachusetts Audubon Society, 1984).

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EVOLUTION OF DISTRACTION DISPLAY BEHAVIOR IN BIRDS

by William E. Davis, Jr.

In a previous article (Davis 1989) I discussed some aspects of distraction displays, or "injury feigning," in birds. This article speculates about the question, how did this fascinating behavior evolve?

In attempting to work out a feasible scenario for the evolution of distraction displays, it may be helpful to examine the diversity of bird species that utilize this behavior to see what patterns emerge. This phenomenon is most common in ground nesters. Skutch (1976) points out that most species that nest in burrows or cavities do not perform distraction displays, and it is rare among birds that construct open nests in trees. He further suggests that the species that do, which include some of the Parulidae such as the American Redstart and Pine Warbler and many doves, may have had ancestors that nested on the ground. The occurrence of injury feigning chiefly in ground-nesting birds suggests that the displays were evolved primarily under selective pressures related to terrestrial mammals.

In most species that share responsibility for rearing young, both males and females give distraction displays. However, in some species, such as the Prairie Warbler, the females seem to be more prone to display (Nolan 1978). The major focus for the display in altricial birds seems to be the nest. Nolan found, for example, that when he banded chicks at the nest the adult bird displayed and when he took the chicks to an adjacent territory the bird stopped displaying. But when he returned them to their nest, the adult resumed the display. For precocial birds like grouse, the nest plays a minor role since it is abandoned soon after the chicks hatch. These observations, together with the correlation of display intensity with the stage in the nesting cycle, suggest the hypothesis that distraction displays have evolved as a device against predators for the protection of the young.

Varied observations of distraction displays have led some workers to conclude that these represent intelligent and thoughtful acts, whereas others have concluded that the displays are a purely instinctive response. Taverner (1936), for example, found that an individual bird could behave differently toward different predators. A Killdeer flew into the face of a cow or horse grazing too close to its nest with "a great outcry" but feigned injury to lead off a dog. Taverner suggested that "the feigning is more or less calculated." Griffin (1984) explored the possible role of thinking and learning in distraction displays. But several lines of evidence argue that, at least in some species, the display is an automatic, instinctive response. Wheatears, for example, in an apparently meaningless behavior, continued to display after their nest and eggs

were removed (Armstrong 1965). Welty (1975) states that "both the stereotyped nature of the performance and its occasional nonadaptive application (for example, by a Ringed Plover, *Charadrius hiaticula*, to a strange egg in its nest) argue against its being interpreted as an intelligent, purposive act." Since many bird species give distraction displays but many do not, and since each species has its own characteristic display, it is possible that distraction-display behavior has evolved independently in different families of birds and perhaps even in different species within the same family. Hence, there could be substantial variability in the learned versus the instinctive component of the behavior.

Clearly, feigning injury has survival advantages for the nestlings and fledglings and is a behavior character that natural selection would favor. Those birds that performed the act would, on the average, raise more offspring and thus spread into the next generation the genetic trait that produced the display. If this advantage persisted, eventually it would become a normal component of the gene pool of the species.

How can the mechanism for the production of distraction displays be explained? One of the most widely accepted suggestions was presented by Friedmann (1936). "Injury feigning is a compromise between fear and reproductive emotions. Fear impels the bird to leave its nest; the bond to the nest and eggs or young prevents the bird from doing so; the result is a crippled departure." Welty (1975) sums up this position: "Perhaps the best current interpretation of distraction display is that it originated in the bird's inability to react simultaneously to two great drives: one to protect the nest or young, and



Killdeer on eggs

*Photo by Wilfred Kimber
Courtesy of MAS*

the other to flee from the predator. The result is a frenzied compromise refined in its more convincing aspects by years of natural selection into what today appears to be 'injury feigning'." Support for the fear component of this hypothesis has come from Lorenz (see Armstrong 1965) with the observation that he could not elicit a distraction display from tame birds, thus suggesting that fear was an important component in the display. Griffin (1984), on the other hand, seems to discount fear as an important factor in the evolution of distraction displays and argues that a displaying bird is in control of its behavior and modifies the details of its behavior depending on what the predator does. He concludes, "There are many well-orchestrated complexities to the behavior, and its adjustments to circumstances strongly suggests intentional reaction to the situation rather than crippling confusion."

Perhaps one of the major unanswered questions is why is there so much intraspecific and interspecific variability in the use of distraction displays? In some species like the Killdeer most individuals perform distraction displays. But even within families that are prone to display, such as the Parulidae, there are species that rarely exhibit the behavior. For example, I could find only two references (Lawrence 1948, Pitelka 1940) to injury feigning by Nashville Warblers. Chisholm (1936) reported that in thirty years of experience with the ground-nesting Pilotbird of Australia a colleague had seen injury feigning but once. Perhaps there is some threshold of response in which the necessary conditions of nesting stage, predator type, hormonal levels, and perhaps fear combine to elicit a response. The threshold may be low for Killdeers but high for Nashville Warblers and thus rarely exceeded. Perhaps learning and individual experience plays a greater role than is currently held by many behavioral ecologists. Distraction display may be only weakly evolved in many species because it puts the parent bird at risk, and it may be a better reproductive strategy in the long run to abandon the nest and start over again, especially in the early phases of the nesting cycle (Davis 1989).

Whether or not these questions are eventually resolved, the distraction display will remain a fascinating behavior to observe.

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WILLIAM E. DAVIS, Jr., who is chairman of the Division of Science and Mathematics in the College of Basic Studies at Boston University, serves on the board of directors of *Bird Observer* and regularly contributes articles and drawings for publication. Ted left in mid-July for New Guinea for six weeks of study of the Raggiana Bird of Paradise with Bruce Beehler of the Smithsonian. For ten weeks thereafter, he will investigate forest fragmentation and corridor effects, particularly with reference to thornbills, with Harry Recher at New England University, Armidale, New South Wales, Australia, and will spend a month in New Zealand at the time of the International Ornithological Congress in December.

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BLACK-AND-WHITE DISTRACTION

While birding in mid-July in the park behind the New Brunswick Museum in Saint John, I was set upon by a Black-and-white Warbler, who was protecting its fledgling nearby. The tiny parent pirouetted around me, looking up, unafraid of the human tower. Accompanying this distraction ballet, which included fluttering one wing while twirling in place, was a busy monotone chatter, something like a low-pitched Warbling Vireo, that alternated with a distinct insectival buzzing noise. I mused that the bird figured if buzzing worked for bugs....

I am wondering if any readers have experienced this buzzing sound in warblers or know of references to it in the literature. I would have liked to remain and have the song and dance continue longer, but the rocky area was littered with broken glass. I wished to avoid a possible "black-and-white-and-red-all-over" situation.

Dorothy Louise Case, Needham Heights

ACCIPITER INTERACTION AT A COOPER'S NEST

While checking on the status of a Cooper's Hawk's nest located in Essex County, I was witness to an encounter between a Cooper's and a Northern Goshawk.

On my approach to the nest, I became the target of the wrath of a pair of adult goshawks. They were evidently feeding their youngsters nearby and were not very pleased that I was walking by. The pair followed me for over a hundred yards before they apparently tired of the pursuit. At this point, I was still almost a quarter of a mile from the Cooper's nest. When I arrived at the nest, I found an adult Cooper's Hawk brooding young. The bird did not seem too concerned by my cautious approach, but after a few minutes, it did give a warning call. The bird left the nest and flew in for a closer look at me.

Suddenly, an adult goshawk entered the scene like a gray streak, screaming at full volume. The smaller accipiter immediately left its perch to intercept the intruder, which was flying directly at the nest. Both birds flew to a hardwood within thirty yards of the nest. My view was obstructed, but the ruckus that came to my ears indicated that considerable contact was made between them. The larger bird then flew away.

I immediately left the area in an awestruck state. As I moved, the goshawk flew back toward its own territory, leaving the Cooper's Hawk to its domestic duties. A check later in the month revealed two healthy Cooper's fledglings still in the nest. It is good to see these secretive forest raptors beginning to make a comeback here in the Northeast.

Tom Aversa, Somerville

AIRPORT SANDPIPERS

On June 1, 1990, a beautiful cloudless day, I stopped at the airport in Newburyport on my way to Plum Island to see if the Upland Sandpipers were in residence. I entered the dirt road near the east end of the runway, across from the old baseball field. Sure enough, there were two Upland Sandpipers in the tall grass directly opposite me, searching for food in a leisurely way. As I was feasting my eyes on them, a small Piper-Cub-type plane taxied down the runway toward the east end. The sandpipers could not have cared less and continued searching for food. The plane turned and at full throttle took off at a point just beyond the sandpipers. What I observed next was a first in my experience. The sandpipers rushed onto the runway, feeding frantically on things stirred up in the wake of the plane. The birds were momentarily successful in capturing objects that I could not identify. Then, nonchalantly, they came over to my side of the runway and "loafed" along in the mowed grassy border, again feeding quietly. The action was highly suggestive of Cattle Egret behavior and an interesting opportunistic activity, exploiting a special feature of airport habitat.

Phillips Hallowell, Dover

OUTDOOR WORK: THE BIRD FINDER'S ADVANTAGE

To a birder any time out of doors is time to relax and observe. But time spent in physical labor during the heat of summer does not seem the proper setting for bird finding. I am a teacher in the Boston Public Schools from September until June and a house painter during July and August. Since 1975, I have worked during the summer, 7:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. painting houses in the suburbs as far as twenty-five miles from Boston. I was introduced to bird finding by a good friend in 1986. Since then, my summer labors have been enhanced, and I have made several interesting observations. Because I am usually facing the house, I hear more birds than I see, but this has helped to improve my vocal identification skills. The nesting activity of House Finches in hanging plants and House Sparrows in eaves has been very closely observed and sometimes unavoidably disturbed. Completion of one house averages four or five days. Being in one location for this time period allowed me to make an inventory of the birds and to note their daily activities. Each house and its immediate surroundings became a microcosmic survey area. Birds nesting in the area and passing birds were both observed. The topography (small ponds, streams, pine stands, brush piles, etc.) gave clues as to what birds to expect to see or hear. The call of young birds begging food and adult territorial displays

helped to establish the location of nest sites. Bird counts to establish numbers and species for each area plus working in many different locations for the summer gave a good cross section of the resident birds. Driving through these communities helped to locate woodlots for further investigation. All things considered, working outdoors was a boon to my bird-finding hobby.

My bird list while house painting comprises fifty-six species—not bad for on-the-job birdwatching.

Chuck Aversa, West Roxbury

FALL HAWK WATCH



The Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch (EMHW) will maintain a consecutive-day count on the summit of Wachusett Mountain in Princeton from September 1 through October 8 and continue on weekends through November 19—if the number of volunteer observers permits. Help is especially critical for weekdays during the peak accipiter and falcon migration, from September 20 through October 8.

EMHW will also conduct coordinated weekend watches on September 8-9, September 15-16, September 22-23, and October 27-28. Volunteers are needed to report the level of hawk activity from any site on any of the coordinated weekend dates. Select a site near your home or contact the EMHW coordinator for recommendations as to the best sites for coverage.

You do not have to be an expert to participate. If you wish, the EMHW coordinator can team you with a more experienced hawkwatcher at any of a number of sites across the eastern half of the state, from Cape Cod to the Connecticut River. Volunteers are needed for all dates. We would also appreciate reports for any other dates or sites in eastern Massachusetts or Rhode Island. If you would like to participate or seek additional information, please contact Paul Roberts, 254 Arlington Street, Medford, MA 02155. Telephone 617-483-4263 after 8 P.M.

If you want more information on hawkwatching in eastern Massachusetts, including a copy of the *Fall 1989 EMHW Report*, please write to Paul Roberts at the address above, and include \$1.50 to help defray costs. The information includes two fliers: "Why People Watch Hawks" and a revised "Where and When to Watch Hawks in Eastern Massachusetts."



A Plethora of Grosbeaks:
Rose-breasted, Blue, and
Evening grosbeaks
at feeder in Ipswich, MA
May 19-25, 1990
Photos by Sue Burton, Ipswich





Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*)
May 12, 1990, Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
Photo by Torrey Jackson, Marblehead



Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*)
May 2, 1990, Concord, MA
Photo by Jack Murray, Peabody



FIELD RECORDS

APRIL 1990

by Richard A. Forster

April was mostly wet and cloudy, averaging 1.1 degrees below normal in spite of record-breaking heat on April 27 and 28. These two days were the first consecutive 90-degree days in April in 118 years of record keeping. Temperatures plunged in the afternoon of April 28, and the high temperature for April 29 was 47 degrees. Precipitation was nearly six inches, more than two inches above normal. Snow fell on only one day, April 7. Only 52 percent of possible sunshine was seen. Southwesterly winds conducive to migration were scarce. However, there were three periods when winds averaged from the southwest for three consecutive days: April 9-11, April 19-21, and April 25-27. The weather pattern for the month had a strong influence on migration.

LOONS THROUGH CRANES

By and large the waterbird situation was very quiet, and the general paucity of reports reflects this. Loons, grebes, and most sea ducks were sparsely reported. The few notable reports were mostly holdovers from previous months, but the small flock of Harlequin Ducks at North Scituate was apparently augmented by migrants. Early April found good numbers of Red-necked Grebes, particularly in Hull where a **Western Grebe** returned for a brief stay for the second consecutive year and almost on the same day as previously. Observers canoeing along the Sudbury River April 16 reported 11 Pied-billed Grebes calling. This is an impressive number for a species that is now considered scarce and declining. The good number of gannets on Cape Cod was fairly typical for early April. Herons were reported in low numbers with the exception of a flight of Glossy Ibises in Salem on April 28, comprising three flocks. Freshwater ducks averaged a below normal migration, especially Northern Shoveler, which has declined in recent years as a spring (and fall) migrant, being only reliably recorded in numbers at Monomoy. Hooded Mergansers were so unremarkable that no reports were received!

Routine coverage by hawkwatchers at several locations produced modest counts on favorable days, especially in Ashburnham and at Plum Island, where kestrels were prominent on April 16. At North Truro on April 28 Sharp-shinned and Broad-winged hawks were the feature along with Red-breasted Nuthatches! A **Black Vulture** at Bolton Flats on April 14 provided further evidence of an increase in this species not too far to our south. An **American Swallow-tailed Kite** added spice at Martha's Vineyard on April 27, and what was certainly the same individual was observed the following day at Nantucket. A **Sandhill Crane** was seen flying in Provincetown on April 12, appeared in Wellfleet the following day, and shortly thereafter took up residence on the airport runway in Provincetown where it spent the rest of the month.

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH SHRIKES

Shorebird migration was slow. Typical April migrants of this group filtered through in small numbers through midmonth. Large aggregations of snipe were few, and Pectoral Sandpipers were almost unrecorded. The gem during this period was a well-described Stilt Sandpiper in a flooded field in Ipswich. With the coming of the heat wave, both migrant and resident shorebirds surged in numbers with the count of Greater Yellowlegs in Newburyport Harbor tripling overnight on April 29.

Larids continued the slow trend for the month. Very few Bonaparte's Gulls were in evidence at Newburyport Harbor, so the presence of at least two Little Gulls is mildly surprising. A second **Mew Gull** joined the wintering individual at Raccoon Island in Quincy concurrent with the presence of 350 Ring-billed Gulls in Middleboro. A flooded field in Acton hosted an Iceland Gull and a Lesser Black-backed Gull amongst their more numerous brethren on April 15. An unseasonable and inexplicable Forster's Tern appeared on April 16 in Concord, where it was well seen by a handful of observers and photographed.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, an unpredictable and mysterious migrant, was almost unreported during its typical migration period. Several flycatcher species arrived during the heat wave, highlighted by a handsome

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Manchester. Swallow numbers were low, with the scarcer species becoming more widespread in small numbers at the end of the month. Fish Crows dispersed from their winter stronghold and were widely reported including reports from several unusual locations. Golden-crowned Kinglets responded to whatever moves them and were most prevalent in the middle of the month with few being part of the flood of migrants later on. On the other hand, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, often common in mid-April, were present in low numbers until the wave and even then in numbers well below normal. Cedar Waxwings were particularly numerous and widespread in April, a time when they are typically scarce—between the breakup of winter flocks and the arrival of normal late May migrants.

VIREOS THROUGH FINCHES

Perhaps the highlight of the month was the explosion of landbirds during the heat wave. What was most rewarding was that the movement was widespread rather than concentrated in a few favored areas. Of the three species of vireos, eighteen (!) species of warblers, and assorted others, none was really unexpected although the presence of Orange-crowned, Prothonotary, and Hooded warblers, and Summer Tanager did add some excitement. Among the seedeaters things were much the same. Fox Sparrow, whose migration is about as fathomable as that of the sapsucker, was poorly represented. Savannah Sparrows, often numerous in flocks in mid-April, were down. Only one migrant Vesper Sparrow was noted, the others representing holdovers from winter. The Grasshopper Sparrow in the unlikely location of Petersham was most likely a bird that spent the winter. Juncos, like Golden-crowned Kinglets, moved through in the early portion of the month. Purple Finches showed a resurgence during the month, Pine Siskins were widespread in small numbers and suspected of breeding at several locations, and the few Evening Grosbeaks that ventured south this winter were filtering north from midmonth on.

All in all, April was a classic example of migration being controlled by weather. On the whole, a rather dreary month produced a rather dreary and unremarkable migration. When the temperatures soared and the skies brightened, so did the prospects of birders. By the end of the month, even the most jaded birder (this writer?) was eagerly anticipating the follow-up movement in May. R.A.F.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Red-throated Loon				
7, 13	Cape Cod, Nantasket	3, 1	J. Brown, M. Lynch#	
Common Loon				
thr	Ipswich (Crane B.)	2-8	v. o.	
thr	P.I.	13 max 4/1, 9 on	4/10 v. o.	
7	Wachusett Res.	1	M. Lynch#	
Pied-billed Grebe				
1, 2	W. Newbury (Cherry Hill), Westboro	2, 1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), E. Taylor	
7, 8	Boylston, E. Quabbin	1, 1	M. Lynch#	
8; 8, 19	Randolph (Great Pd); P.I.	1; 1, 1	G. d'Entremont; BBC (S. Moore), W. Drew#	
16	Sudbury River (Wayland to Sudbury)	11 all calling	S. Perkins#	
14, 30	Wakefield, Townsend	2, 1	P. + F. Vale, fide W. Petersen	
Horned Grebe				
1	Quincy, P.I.	37, 7	R. Titus#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
1, 7	Lakeville, Wachusett Res.	1, 1	SSBC (W. Petersen), M. Lynch#	
8	P.I., Winthrop	20, 6	BBC (S. Moore), P. + F. Vale	
13, 21	Hull-N. Scituate, Mashpee	35, 1	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Red-necked Grebe				
8	Winthrop, P.I.	30, 6	P. + F. Vale, BBC (S. Moore)	
9, 14	Hull	220, 49	R. Forster, R. Titus#	
14	P.I.	2	M. Lynch#	
Western Grebe				
8-13	Hull	1	T. Cameron + v. o.	
Northern Gannet				
1, 3, 4	P.I.	17, 6, 20	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), T. Aversa, R. Forster	
6-8	Cape Cod	500+	J. Brown	
14	Marblehead	2	J. Brown	
20, 21	Chatham, Mashpee	5, 1	I. Lynch, P. Trimble	
Great Cormorant				
1-15	Lakeville	5-6	W. Petersen + v. o.	
5, 28	Cohasset, P.I.	60, 1	E. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
29	N. Scituate	29	R. Titus#	
Double-crested Cormorant				
7, 9	Wachusett Res., E. Middleboro	1, 30	M. Lynch#, K. Anderson	
13, 21	Nantasket, Mashpee	97, 40	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
24, 27	Acton, E. Middleboro	37, 30	R. Forster, K. Anderson	
28, 29	Lakeville, Newbury-P.I.	81, 100+	BBC (D. Davis), BBC (D. Chickering)	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
American Bittern				
1	Bolton, P.I.	1, 1	M. Lynch#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
22, 24	Wayland (Wash Brook), Bridgewater	2 or 3, 1	S. Perkins#, D. Briggs	
28, 29	Canton (F.M.), P.I.	2, 1	P. O'Neill, BBC (D. Chickering)	
Great Blue Heron				
4, 7	Ipswich, Westboro	11, 25 on nests	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
8, 15	P.I., Hardwick	17, 15	BBC (S. Moore), M. Lynch#	
20	Sudbury	4 active nests	W. Petersen	
8-30	Reports of 1-4 (total 14) from 5 locations.			
Great Egret				
7, 9	Ipswich, S. Dartmouth	1, 2	I. Lynch, M. Boucher	
11, 12, 15	Hull, Hingham, Marshfield	1, 3, 1	R. Titus#, K. Ryan, K. Anderson	
24, 28	S. Dartmouth, Westport	9, 4	LCES (J. Hill), W. Petersen	
28	Ipswich, Essex	3, 3	J. Berry, M. Argue#	
28	IRWS	1	P. + F. Vale	
Snowy Egret				
11	Quincy	4	K. Ryan	
13, 15	Hull-Scituate, Duxbury	8, 3	M. Lynch#, K. Anderson	
19, 21	P.I., Mashpee	5, 5	W. Drew#, P. Trimble	
5-28	Reports of single birds from 6 locations.			
Little Blue Heron				
14	Gloucester	1	C. Leahy	
Cattle Egret				
5, 10-30	Ipswich	1, 2	L. North + v. o.	
Green-backed Heron				
24, 28, 29	Mt. A.	1, 1, 2	v. o.	
28	Westport, P.I.	5, 2	W. Petersen, A. B. Delorey	
28	Reports of single birds from 3 locations.			
Black-crowned Night-Heron				
4, 11	Boston (Muddy River)	5, 10	R. Stymeist#, T. Aversa	
14, 28	Wakefield, Ipswich	5, 2	P. + F. Vale, J. Berry	
Glossy Ibis				
5	Hamilton	2	D. Rimmer	
10	Essex, Mattapoisett	70, 24	T. Aversa, M. Boucher	
12, 13	Newbury, Scituate	5, 4	D. Rimmer, M. Lynch#	
13, 15	Squantum	9, 18	K. Ryan, D. Clapp	
14, 22	Ipswich, Newbury	29, 30	J. Berry, J. Edick	
25, 28	Mattapoisett, Salem	30, 120+	B. Blodget, P. Willis	
Mute Swan				
thr	Ipswich	2 nesting pair	J. Berry	
9	Rowley	nesting pair	J. Berry	
13, 21	Scituate, Mashpee	15, 20	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Snow Goose				
1-8	Newbypt (Woodbridge I.)	42 max 4/1	G. Gove + v. o.	
19-28	P.I.	2	W. Drew# + v. o.	
Brant				
thr	Ipswich (Crane B.)	12-75	D. Rimmer	
thr	Newburyport	75+ max 4/28	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
8, 13	Salisbury, Scituate	77, 51	D. Chickering, M. Lynch#	
Canada Goose				
1, 7	Bolton Flats, Wachusett Res.	147, 366	M. Lynch#	
5, 19, 24	P.I.	245, 320, 315	W. Drew#	
8, 24	W. Newbury, Newbury	400, 261	R. Titus#, R. Forster	
28	Ipswich	300+	J. Berry#	
Wood Duck				
2, 7	Lakeville, E. Middleboro	16, 8	M. Boucher, K. Anderson	
7, 8	Wakefield, New Braintree	5, 14	P. + F. Vale, M. Lynch#	
16	Sudbury River (Wayland to Sudbury)	25	S. Perkins#	
27, 29	GMNWR, IRWS	8-10, 12+	J. Berry	
Reports of 1-4 birds (total 16) from 8 locations.				
Green-winged Teal				
thr	P.I.	225 max 4/5	W. Drew# + v. o.	
1, 8	Middleboro	100, 20	SSBC (W. Petersen), G. d'Entremont	
5-24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	40 max 4/13	LCES (J. Hill)	
8, 15	New Braintree	48, 40	M. Lynch#	
10, 11	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	24, 78	R. Forster	
14	Bridgewater, ONWR	20, 20	W. Petersen#, M. Lynch#	
16	Sudbury River (Wayland to Sudbury)	75	S. Perkins#	
22	Wayland (Wash Brook)	225	R. Walton#	
25	S. Monomoy	25	D. Houghton	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
American Black Duck				
thr	P.I.	165 max 4/5	W. Drew# + v. o.	
5-24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	153 max 4/13	LCES (J. Hill)	
8	Randolph, New Braintree	85, 89	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
25	S. Monomoy	150	D. Houghton	
Mallard				
1, 8	Bolton Flats, New Braintree	69, 40	M. Lynch#	
Northern Pintail				
thr	P.I.	9 max 4/5	W. Drew#	
1, 11	Bolton Flats, Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	2, 8	M. Lynch#, R. Forster	
25	S. Monomoy	15	D. Houghton	
Blue-winged Teal				
1, 4, 22	P.I.	1, 2, 13	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), R. Forster, BBC (J. Center)	
4, 11	Topsfield, Wakefield	1, 2	R. Forster, P. + F. Vale	
16	Sudbury River (Wayland to Sudbury)	15	S. Perkins#	
22, 28	Wayland (Wash Brook), Ipswich	15, 2	S. Perkins#, J. Berry#	
Northern Shoveler				
10, 11-17, 25	P.I., Swampscott, S. Monomoy	1, 1 m, 15	T. Aversa, L. Sager, D. Houghton	
Gadwall				
thr	P.I.	79 max 4/5	W. Drew# + v. o.	
16	Sudbury River (Wayland to Sudbury)	2	S. Perkins#	
13, 25	DWWS, S. Monomoy	3, 100	M. Lynch#, D. Houghton	
28, 29	Ipswich, Holden	50, 1	J. Berry#, B. Blodget	
Eurasian Wigeon (from winter)				
8	Chatham	1 m	J. Brown	
American Wigeon				
1	Wakefield, Belmont	3, 6	P. + F. Vale, E. Taylor	
2, 7	Marlboro, Wachusett Res.	4, 12	E. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
8	P.I., Chatham	4, 6	BBC (S. Moore), J. Brown	
11	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	6	R. Forster	
14	Cambridge (F.P.)	9	BBC (J. Holman)	
22, 28	Middleboro, S. Dartmouth	2, 1	W. Petersen#	
Canvasback				
1	W. Newbury (Cherry Hill Res.)	1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
Ring-necked Duck				
thr	Wakefield	6-20	P. + F. Vale	
1	Halifax, W. Newbury	10, 35	K. Anderson, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
4	Westboro, Sudbury	12, 20	E. Taylor, T. Aversa	
7, 8	Wachusett Res., Andover	248, 10	M. Lynch#, S. Selesky	
22, 24	S. Hanson, W. Newbury	70, 27	W. Petersen#, R. Forster	
Greater Scaup				
7, 8	Wachusett Res., Randolph	46, 35	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont	
8, 14	Newburyport	60, 75+	BBC (S. Moore), M. Lynch#	
Lesser Scaup				
1, 14, 22	Lakeville	2, 30+, 12	W. Petersen	
4, 7	Newbypt, Wachusett Res.	3, 4	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
28	Acoaxet	4	W. Petersen	
King Eider				
1	Quincy (Nut I.)	1 ad m	R. Titus	
Harlequin Duck				
8, 14	Winthrop, N. Scituate	1, 5	P. + F. Vale, R. Titus#	
Oldsquaw				
thr	Newburyport	800+ max 4/28	M. Lynch#	
Black Scoter				
1, 21	P.I., Mashpee	2, 20	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), P. Trimble	
Surf Scoter				
13	Nantasket-Minot	18	M. Lynch#	
White-winged Scoter				
1, 8	P.I.	83, 1000	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), BBC (S. Moore)	
Common Goldeneye				
1-22	Newburyport	400 max 4/4	R. Forster + v.o.	
1	Lynnfield	37	P. + F. Vale	
Barrow's Goldeneye				
1, 14	Newburyport	2, 1 f	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), D. Chickering	
Bufflehead				
thr	Wakefield	20 max	P. + F. Vale	
5-24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	44 max 4/13	LCES (J. Hill)	
1, 14	Newburyport	95, 200+	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), M. Lynch#	
8, 13	Randolph, Nantasket-Minot	30, 150+	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
20, 21	Wenham, Mashpee	16, 750	J. Brown, P. Trimble	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Common Merganser				
thr	Stoneham	44 max 4/2	T. Aversa	
1, 4	Lynnfield, Framingham	37, 21	P. + F. Vale, E. Taylor	
2, 11	Marlboro	25	R. Graefe	
7, 8	Wachusett Res., Randolph	65, 20	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont	
1-22	Reports of 1-20 (total 113) from	15 locations.		
Red-breasted Merganser				
5-24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	82 max 4/17	LCES (J. Hill)	
8, 13	Chatham, Nantasket-Minot	400, 265	J. Brown, M. Lynch#	
19, 21	W. Boylston, Mashpee	2, 160	B. Blodgett, P. Trimble	
25	Monomoy	5000	D. Houghton	
Ruddy Duck				
1-24, 8-25	Arlington Res., W. Newbury	4 max 4/3, 1 or 2	T. Aversa + v. o., v. o.	
8	Braintree (Great Pd)	1	G. d'Entremont	
Black Vulture (details submitted)				
14	Bolton Flats	1	E. Salmela	
Turkey Vulture				
8	Quabbin (G40-43), Milton (Blue Hills)	18, 10	M. Lynch#, R. Titus#	
14	Ashburnham, Barre	11, 10	BBC (R. Stymeist), M. Lynch#	
15	Petersham	10	M. Lynch#	
22, 23	N. Dartmouth, Bourne	12, 6	M. Boucher, K. Machado	
27	Dover	5	E. Taylor	
Reports of 1-3 (total 31) from 17 locations.				
Osprey				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	8 max	LCES (J. Hill)	
14, 16, 20, 22, 28	Ashburnham	11, 33, 26, 18, 6	EMHW	
4, 7	Newbypt, Wachusett Res.	1, 1	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
11	Westboro, DWWS	1, pr on nest	E. Taylor, D. Ludlow	
21, 22	Mashpee, Wachusett	6, 6	P. Trimble, EMHW	
16, 27; 28	P.I.; N. Truro	5, 1; 4	EMHW	
American Swallow-tailed Kite				
27	M. V. (Chappaquidick)	1	K. Leuscher	
28	Nantucket	1	P. Dunwiddie	
Bald Eagle				
8	Quabbin (G40-43)	11 (5 ad)	M. Lynch#	
17, 24	Ashburnham	1, 1	EMHW	
Northern Harrier				
1, 13	Newbypt-P.I., DWWS	4, 3	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), M. Lynch#	
8, 22	Middleboro	6, 4	G. d'Entremont, W. Petersen	
Reports of 1-2 (total 16) from 10 locations.				
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
4, 8	Sharon, Quabbin (G40-43)	1, 2	K. Ryan, M. Lynch#	
14, 16, 20, 22, 28	Ashburnham	10, 12, 13, 13, 17	EMHW	
27, 28; 28	P.I.; N. Truro	39, 28; 85	EMHW; T. Carrolan	
7-28	Reports of single birds from 7 locations.			
Cooper's Hawk				
2, 8	Easton, Middleboro	1, 1 imm	K. Ryan, G. d'Entremont	
16, 18	Ashburnham, Sharon	1, 1 ad m	EMHW, R. Titus	
20; 22	P.I.; Middleboro, Halifax	1; 1, 1	EMHW; W. Petersen	
28, 29	N. Truro, Hanson	1, 1	EMHW, W. Petersen	
Northern Goshawk				
thr	Boxford (C.P.)	pair nesting	J. Berry, J. MacDougall	
8, 14	E. Quabbin, Sudbury (Round Hill)	1, 1 imm	M. Lynch#, S. Perkins#	
22	IRWS	1	P. + F. Vale	
Red-shouldered Hawk				
thr	Boxford (C.P.)	pair nesting	J. Berry, J. MacDougall	
thr	E. Middleboro	pair nesting	K. Anderson	
1, 5	Middleboro, Stoughton	2, 1	W. Petersen, R. Titus	
19-30, 22	Wellesley, Middleboro	1, 4	R. Forster, W. Petersen	
25, 30	Essex, N. Dartmouth	1, 1	H. Wiggin, K. Machado	
Broad-winged Hawk				
14, 16, 20, 22, 28	Ashburnham	1, 12, 103, 112, 155	EMHW	
22, 27; 27	Wachusett; Little Wachusett	18, 5; 5	EMHW	
21-29, 28	Westford, Mashpee	1, 2	S. Selesky, P. Trimble	
28	N. Truro	60	T. Carrolan	
28, 29	IRWS, Newbury	2, 1	P. + F. Vale	
Red-tailed Hawk				
thr, 7	Wakefield, Ipswich	1 or 2, 5	P. + F. Vale, J. Berry	
8, 22	Middleboro, Dover	4, 6	G. d'Entremont, E. Taylor	
14, 16, 20, 22, 28	Ashburnham	7, 3, 1, 5, 1	EMHW	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Rough-legged Hawk				
1-28	Middleboro	1	K. Anderson + v. o.	
22	Wachusett	2	EMHW	
American Kestrel				
thr	DWWS	42 max 4/11	perched and feeding	D. Ludlow
10	Salisbury, P.I.	9, 12	T. Aversa	
14, 16, 20, 22, 28	Ashburnham	8, 2, 13, 5, 6	EMHW	
16, 18, 20, 27, 28	P.I.	113, 33, 15, 28, 5	EMHW	
28	N. Truro	22	EMHW	
Merlin				
10, 11	Waltham, N. Dartmouth	1, 1	J. Young, K. Machado	
12, 13	Ipswich (Crane B.)	1, 1	D. Rimmer	
14; 16, 20	P.I.	1; 2, 1	H. Wiggin; EMHW	
21, 28	P.I.	1, 1	D. Chickering, A. + B. Delorey	
28	MNWS, N. Truro	1, 1	M. Lynch#, EMHW	
Peregrine Falcon				
thr, 6	Boston, Sharon	pair, 1	fide T. French, R. Titus	
25, 28	S. Monomoy, Nantucket	1, 1	D. Houghton, E. Andrews	
Ring-necked Pheasant				
28	Ipswich	12	J. Berry#	
Wild Turkey				
10	Boxford (C.P.)	1	T. Aversa	
Northern Bobwhite				
21, 22	Belmont	1	L. Taylor	
26, 28	Plymouth (M. Standish S.F.), Otis AFB	2, 4	G. d'Entremont, P. Trimble	
Virginia Rail				
19; 22, 26	Hamilton; Belmont	3; 1	J. Brown; L. Taylor	
22, 23	Wayland (Wash Brook), GMNWR	1, 2	S. Perkins#, K. Ryan	
28, 29	Ipswich, IRWS	1, 3	J. Berry, J. Berry + J. MacDougall	
Sora				
22, 23	Wayland (Wash Brook), GMNWR	5, 1	S. Perkins#, K. Ryan	
American Coot				
22	Wayland (Wash Brook)	1	S. Perkins#	
Sandhill Crane				
12, 13, late April	P'town, Wellfleet, P'town airport	1	fide K. Jones	
Black-bellied Plover				
2, 3	N. Monomoy, Newburyport	30, 1	B. Nikula, T. Aversa	
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	2	LCES (J. Hill)	
Semipalmated Plover				
28	Acoaxet	1	W. Petersen#	
Piping Plover				
thr	Ipswich (Crane B.)	2-18	D. Rimmer	
9, 17	S. Dartmouth, N. Monomoy	6, 25	M. Boucher, D. Houghton	
29	P.I.	1	D. Chickering	
Killdeer				
1, 19	Bolton Flats, P.I.	51+, 8	M. Lynch#, W. Drew#	
American Oystercatcher				
2	N. Monomoy	8+	D. Houghton	
Greater Yellowlegs				
1-4	Newburyport-P.I.	3	v. o.	
13	DWWS, S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	2, 4	M. Lynch#, LCES (J. Hill)	
14, 24, 29	Newburyport	29, 125, 500	M. Lynch#, R. Forster, P. + F. Vale	
29	S. Chatham	36	B. Nikula	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
4	Newburyport, Essex	1, 3	R. Forster	
16, 24, 28	Newburyport	30, 2, 12	P. + F. Vale, R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
22	Middleboro	1	W. Petersen	
Solitary Sandpiper				
29, 30	Petersham, Easton	1, 2	M. Lynch#, K. Ryan	
Willet				
24, 28	Newbypt, P.I.	1, 2	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
29	S. Chatham	2	B. Nikula	
Spotted Sandpiper				
29, 30	Topsfield, Marlboro	3, 1	I. Lynch, R. Graefe	
Upland Sandpiper				
24, 28	DWWS	1, 2	D. Ludlow#	
28-29	Newburyport	3	S. Perkins# + v.o.	
28	Otis AFB, Middleboro	5, 2	P. Trimble, BBC (D. Davis)	
Sanderling				
thr	Ipswich (Crane B.)	1-5	D. Rimmer	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Least Sandpiper				
28	Acoaxet, Middleboro	15, 10	W. Petersen	
28, 30	Newbypt, Easton	33, 2	M. Lynch#, K. Ryan	
Pectoral Sandpiper				
1	Middleboro	3	W. Petersen	
Purple Sandpiper				
3, 15	P.I., Brant Rock	5, 40	T. Aversa, K. Anderson	
Dunlin				
2, 3	N. Monomoy, Ipswich	200, 15	B. Nikula, D. Rimmer	
13, 17	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	51, 91	LCES (J. Hill)	
28	Newburyport	120	M. Lynch#	
Stilt Sandpiper (details submitted)				
13	Ipswich (Northgate)	1	R. Bieda, A. Richards	
Short-billed Dowitcher				
24, 28	Newburyport	2, 6	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	
dowitcher species				
10, 21	Newburyport	1, 2	T. Aversa, P. + F. Vale	
Common Snipe				
1, 4	Bolton Flats, Essex	52, 33	M. Lynch#, R. Forster	
6, 28	Ipswich	55+, 8	J. Berry	
16, 24	Concord (Nine Acre Corner), Newbypt	40, 12	S. Perkins#, M. Lynch#	
American Woodcock				
5, 8	Reading, Belmont	3, 3	D. Williams, BBC (S. Sanders)	
19, 24	Wenham, Plymouth	2, 8	J. Brown, G. d'Entremont	
Red Phalarope				
21	Mashpee (South Cape B.)	1	P. Trimble	
Laughing Gull				
6	Cape Cod	3	J. Brown	
Little Gull				
4, 14	Newburyport	2 ad W, 1	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
Common Black-headed Gull				
10, 24	Newburyport	1 ad, 1 (1S)	T. Aversa, R. Forster	
28	Revere	2 (1S)	J. Quigley	
Bonaparte's Gull				
1; 14, 28	Newburyport	8; 40+, 25+	BBC (D. + D. Oliver); M. Lynch#	
Mew Gull (details submitted)				
1	Quincy (Raccoon I.)	2 ad	R. Titus	
Ring-billed Gull				
1, 29	Bridgewater, Revere	350, 100	SSBC (W. Petersen), J. Quigley	
Iceland Gull				
14, 15	Newbypt, Acton	1 (1W), 1(1W)	M. Lynch#, R. Forster#	
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
15	Acton	1 (1W-1S)	R. Forster	
Glaucous Gull				
19, 28	Brewster, Revere	1, 1	P. Trimble, J. Quigley	
Caspian Tern				
26	DWWS	1	D. Ludlow, M. Emmons	
Forster's Tern				
16	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1	R. Forster, C. Seeckts, S. Perkins#	
Razorbill				
25	S. Monomoy	1	D. Houghton	
Eastern Screech-Owl				
thr	Westford	1 (red)	S. Selesky	
Great Horned Owl				
1, 7	Ipswich, Westboro (SUASCO)	pair, 1 on nest	J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
8-15	Milton	1 or 2	G. d'Entremont	
11, 26	Boston (Franklin Park)	1	T. Aversa	
15, 22	Essex, Boxford	ad w/ 2 yg, pr w/ 1 yg	J. Berry	
Snowy Owl				
1	Newbypt, P.I.	1, 1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
Barred Owl				
14	Lincoln, Boxford	1, 1	R. Stymeist, D. Cosgren	
Long-eared Owl				
26	Plymouth (M. Standish S.F.)	1	G. d'Entremont, R. Campbell	
Short-eared Owl				
2, 4	N. Monomoy, Newbury	1, 1	B. Nikula, R. Forster	
6, 8-9	Middleboro	2, 1	D. Kimberlin, G. d'Entremont#	
24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Northern Saw-whet thr, 21-30	Owl Hamilton, Sudbury	1, 1	J. Berry, V. Dietrich	
Whip-poor-will 22, 26 28	S. Dartmouth, Plymouth Brewster	1, 1 1	T. Raymond, G. d'Entremont B. Nikula	
Chimney Swift 24, 25 28	Sandwich, Milford Acton, Newbypt	3, 3 2, 2	P. Trimble, B. Blodget R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
Red-headed Woodpecker 24	Ipswich	1 ad	R. Forster	
Red-bellied Woodpecker 1, 27	Lakeville, Sudbury (Nobscot)	1 m, 1 m	SSBC (W. Petersen), R. Forster	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 23 27	Salem, Middleboro Wachusett Mt.	2, 1 3	I. Lynch, D. Briggs G. Gove, J. Gordon	
Hairy Woodpecker 4, 24 28	Brookline, Easton Wollaston	pair, pair pair	B. Rielly#, K. Ryan G. d'Entremont	
Northern Flicker 11, 14 21 28	Boston (Franklin Park), P.I. P.I., Mashpee Squantum, Wollaston, Braintree	12, 11 6, 6 4, 3, 5	T. Aversa, M. Lynch# D. Chickering, P. Trimble G. d'Entremont	
Pileated Woodpecker thr 8, 13 18, 22	Westford, Boxford Quabbin (G40), Essex Ipswich (B. Palmer S.P.), IRWS	pair at nest, 1 or 2 1, 2 1, 2	S. Selesky, v. o. M. Lynch#, T. Raymond J. Brown, I. Lynch	
Least Flycatcher 28	Wollaston, Mt. A.	1, 1	G. d'Entremont, v. o.	
Eastern Phoebe 1, 4 10, 11 14, 16 28	Mt. A., Westford P.I., Boston (Franklin Park) High Ridge, P.I. Ipswich	8, 6 6, 6 26, 7 7	R. Stymeist, S. Selesky T. Aversa BBC (R. Stymeist), P. + F. Vale J. Berry#	
Great Crested Flycatcher 28 28	Winchester (Middlesex Fells) N. Dartmouth	1 1, 1	P. Roberts M. Boucher, K. Machado	
Eastern Kingbird 28 29	DWWS, Lakeville Holden, Mt. A.	1, 1 1, 1	T. Raymond#, BBC (D. Davis) B. Blodget, M. Lynch#	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 28-29	Manchester	1	S. Hedman + v. o.	
Horned Lark thr 1 21, 29	Ipswich (Crane B.) Salisbury, P.I. Mashpee, P.I.	2-4 8, 3 6, 6	D. Rimmer D. Chickering, BBC (D. + D. Oliver) P. Trimble, BBC (D. Chickering)	
Purple Martin 17, 22, 24 21-30	Middleboro P.I.	2, 8, 12 8 max 4/22	v. o. BBC (J. Center) + v. o.	
Tree Swallow 2; 2, 8 7, 12 13, 16 19	Lakeville; Westboro (SUASCO) Weston, IRWS GMNWR, P.I. W. Boylston	150+; 100, 300 350, 450 250, 1000 100+	M. Boucher; E. Taylor R. Stymeist, J. Brown W. Petersen, P. + F. Vale B. Blodget	
N. Rough-winged Swallow 6, 19 20; 20, 21 22 29	Ipswich, Wellesley Wayland; Wakefield Middleboro, Holden, Old Furnace Ipswich, Hyannis	1, 2 1; 2, 6 1, 2, 4 6, 6	J. Berry, R. Forster R. Forster; P. + F. Vale W. Petersen#, B. Blodget, M. Lynch# J. Brown, P. Trimble	
Bank Swallow 22, 29 29	New Braintree, Ipswich S. Dartmouth	1, 1 1	M. Lynch#, J. Berry M. Boucher	
Barn Swallow 13, 14 16, 21, 24 18; 22, 24 25 on	GMNWR, High Ridge P.I., Stoughton, S. Dartmouth General arrival.	2, 1 1, 3, 20+ 1, 3; 5	W. Petersen, BBC (R. Stymeist) P. + F. Vale, J. Young, R. Forster R. Titus; M. Boucher, LCES (J. Hill)	
Fish Crow thr, 1 7-28	Mt. A., Braintree Reports of 1 or 2 from the following locations: Weston, Sharon, Middleboro, Hanson, Wayland, Waltham, W. Newton, Topsfield (IRWS), Gloucester, Mashpee (1 on 4/28).	4-6, 3	R. Stymeist + v. o., R. Titus	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Common Raven				
8, 14	Ashburnham	1, 4	J. Gordon#, BBC (R. Stymeist)	
Boreal Chickadee	(from Nov.)			
1-19	W. Boylston	1	v. o.	
Tufted Titmouse				
14	Boxford	10	BBC (D. Cosgren)	
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
8	Quabbin (G40-43), N. Dart.	7, 10	M. Lynch#, M. Boucher	
14, 22	Ashburnham, Petersham	12, 10	BBC (R. Stymeist), M. Lynch#	
26, 29	Mt. A.	4, 4	BBC (F. Bouchard), BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
28	N. Truro	40	T. Carrolan	
White-breasted Nuthatch				
14, 22	Boxford, Westford	8, 10	BBC (D. Cosgren), S. Selesky	
Brown Creeper				
1	Boxford, Byfield	4, 3	J. Berry, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
8, 14	Quabbin (G40-43), Ipswich	16, 2	M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
22	Holden, Westford	3, nest building	B. Blodget, S. Selesky	
Carolina Wren				
thr	Ipswich	1	J. Berry	
thr	Easton (from winter)	pair (f on nest 4/15)	pair feeding yg 4/30	K. Ryan
13, 28	DWWS, Westport-Dartmouth	2, 21	M. Lynch#, W. Petersen#	
House Wren				
24, 29	Easton, W. Newbury	1, 2	K. Ryan, P. + F. Vale	
27-29	Reports of single birds from 7 locations.			
Winter Wren				
thr	Boxford	5 max 4/22	J. Berry + v. o.	
8	Quabbin (G40-43), Milton	2, 1	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont	
19	Westminster	1	B. Blodget	
22	Middleboro, Petersham	1, 3	W. Petersen#, M. Lynch#	
28	Canton (F.M.)	2	P. O'Neill	
Marsh Wren				
22, 28	Middleboro, P.I.	1, 1	W. Petersen#, M. Lynch#	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
2, 8	N. Dartmouth	2, 8	M. Boucher	
7, 16, 17	Mt. A.	13, 10, 11	R. Stymeist + v. o.	
8, 15	Quabbin (G40-43), (G41)	25, 12	M. Lynch#	
10, 11	P.I., Boston (Franklin Park)	4, 16	T. Aversa	
14	High Ridge, W. Boylston	25+, 8	BBC (R. Stymeist), B. Blodget	
14	Boxford, Hamilton	5, 4	BBC (D. Cosgren), J. Berry	
21, 28	Mashpee	2, 4	P. Trimble	
20-29	Reports of 1-4 (total 16) from 7 locations.			
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
7, 10	Westboro (SUASCO), P.I.	1, 2	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
14	High Ridge, P.I.	1, 1	BBC (R. Stymeist), D. Chickering	
16	Mt. A., Holden	4, 1	R. Stymeist, B. Blodget	
21, 22	Canton (F.M.), P.I.	9, 3	BBC (S. Olanoff), D. Chickering	
22	Petersham, Holden, IRWS	7, 10, 5	M. Lynch#, B. Blodget, P. + F. Vale	
28	P.I., MNWS	22, 18	M. Lynch#	
29	Holden, P'town	7, 6	B. Blodget, B. Nikula	
29, 30	Mt. A.	12, 20	D. + D. Oliver, D. Dillavou	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
13	Cohasset (Whitney Woods)	1	D. Clapp + v. o.	
21, 28	P.I., Douglas	1, 1	P. + F. Vale, K. Machado	
29	IRWS, Mt. A.	pair, 1	J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
29, 30	P'town, N. Dartmouth	1, 1	J. Young, K. Machado	
Eastern Bluebird				
thr, 8	E. Middleboro, Byfield	1 or 2 pair, 4	K. Anderson, BBC (S. Moore)	
10	Easton	pair	K. Ryan	
14	High Ridge, Middleboro	9, 4	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen#	
17-30, 29	Sharon, Mt. A.	pair, 2	R. Titus, v. o.	
Veery				
29	Holden	1	B. Blodget	
Hermit Thrush				
5, 8	Stoughton, Quabbin (G40-43)	1, 4	R. Titus, M. Lynch#	
10	Boxford, P.I.	2, 4	T. Aversa	
14	Boxford, Holden	4, 1	BBC (D. Cosgren), B. Blodget	
22	Boxford, Petersham	7, 7	J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
24, 26	Salem, Mt. A.	3, 4	I. Lynch, BBC (F. Bouchard)	
28, 29	MNWS, Petersham	9, 8	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
American Robin				
1, 8	Bolton Flats, Wakefield	150, 50+	M. Lynch#, P. + F. Vale	
14, 15	High Ridge, New Braintree	380+, 152	BBC (R. Stymeist), M. Lynch#	
Varied Thrush				
2	Martha's Vineyard (Chilmark)	1 m	W. Manter#	
Gray Catbird				
27, 30	Mt. A.	1, 1	P. Shapiro, D. Dillavou	
28	P.I., Lakeville	2, 1	A. + B. Delorey, BBC (D. Davis)	
Brown Thrasher				
22	Belmont, S. Dartmouth	1, 1	L. Taylor, M. Boucher	
22	P.I.	1	D. Chickering	
26	Milford, Belmont	2, 2	G. Gove, L. Taylor	
28, 29	P.I.	4, 6	A. + B. Delorey, P. + F. Vale	
28	Squantum, Wollaston	1, 1	G. d'Entremont	
American Pipit				
14	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1	S. Perkins#	
24, 28	Ipswich, P.I.	2, 1	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
Cedar Waxwing				
1	Ipswich, Rowley	50+, 58	J. Berry	
1	Bolton Flats, W. Newbury	52, 30	M. Lynch#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
4, 10, 11	Burlington	40+, 95+, 200+	J. Berry	
7, 8	Mt. A., Wakefield	60, 80+	R. Stymeist, P. + F. Vale	
8, 18, 23	E. Middleboro	20, 75, 75	K. Anderson	
8, 14	Ipswich, W. Roxbury	45, 11	R. Titus, T. Aversa	
28, 29	Mt. A.	32, 25	v. o.	
Northern Shrike				
7	P'town	1	J. Brown	
White-eyed Vireo				
28, 28-29	Westport, MNWS	1, 1	W. Petersen, R. Heil#	
Solitary Vireo				
22, 29	Petersham	1, 9	M. Lynch#	
26	Waltham, IRWS	2, 1	L. Taylor, P. + F. Vale	
27	Mt. A., Wellesley	2, 1	v. o., R. Forster	
28, 28-30	MNWS, Mt. A.	4, 2 or 3	M. Lynch#, v. o.	
28	Reports of single birds from 5 locations.			
Yellow-throated Vireo				
27, 28	P'town, Mt. A.	1, 1	B. Nikula, v. o.	
Blue-winged Warbler				
28	Hanson, Westport; Truro	1, 1; 1	W. Petersen; J. Young	
Orange-crowned Warbler				
27, 28	Mt. A., P.I.	1, 1	G. Ferguson + v. o., M. Lynch#	
Nashville Warbler				
28	Concord, Wollaston	2, 1	R. Forster#, G. d'Entremont	
28	Boxford, IRWS	1, 1	H. Wiggin, P. + F. Vale	
29	Mt. A.	1	D. + D. Oliver	
Northern Parula				
28	MNWS, Mt. A.	3, 2	M. Lynch#, v. o.	
29	Mt. A., MNWS	4, 2	v. o., I. Lynch	
29	Reports of single birds from 5 locations.			
Yellow Warbler				
27	Wakefield, Wayland	1, 1	P. + F. Vale, R. Forster	
28	Dartmouth-Westport	10	W. Petersen#	
28-30	Reports of 1-3 (total 15) from 8 locations.			
Black-throated Blue Warbler				
29	Holden	1	B. Blodget	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
22	Topsfield	40+	P. + F. Vale	
27, 28, 29	P'town	80, 200, 300	B. Nikula	
28	P.I., MNWS; Wollaston	253, 42; 75	M. Lynch#; G. d'Entremont	
29	Holden, Petersham, Sandwich	125+, 32, 30	B. Blodget, M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Black-throated Green Warbler				
28	Ipswich, P'town	6, 1	J. Berry, B. Nikula	
28-30	Mt. A.	2 or 3	v. o.	
29	Petersham; Holden, W. Boylston	9; 1, 1	M. Lynch#; B. Blodget	
Blackburnian Warbler				
28, 29	Mt. A., Petersham	1, 1	BBC (D. Desmond), M. Lynch#	
Pine Warbler				
8, 9	N. Dartmouth, Easton	5, 2	M. Boucher, K. Ryan	
10, 13	Concord, Cohasset	1, 2	R. Forster, D. Clapp	
15, 29	Quabbin (G41), Petersham	8, 6	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Pine Warbler (continued)				
16-30	SRV	8 singles	R. Forster	
21, 28	Mashpee	10, 20	P. Trimble	
24, 28	Halifax-Bridgewater, Lakeville	30+, 17	D. Briggs, BBC (D. Davis)	
Prairie Warbler				
25, 30	Saugus, N. Dartmouth	1, 1	P. + F. Vale, K. Machado	
Palm Warbler				
10	W. Newton, Easton	1, 2	T. Kuklinski, K. Ryan	
10, 11	Boxford, Boston (Franklin Park)	1, 5	T. Aversa	
12, 13	IRWS, Cohasset	26, 2	J. Brown, D. Clapp	
16, 19	Lexington, Waltham	4, 4	L. Taylor	
22	IRWS, Waltham	20+, 7	P. + F. Vale, L. Taylor	
22; 22, 23	Holden; GMNWR	16+; 10, 6	B. Blodget; S. Selesky, K. Ryan	
Black-and-white Warbler				
22, 26	Easton, Waltham	1, 1	K. Ryan, L. Taylor	
27-30	Mt. A.	10 max 4/30	v. o.	
28	MNWS; Squantum, Wollaston	6; 2, 5	M. Lynch#; G. d'Entremont	
29	Holden, Petersham	4, 5	B. Blodget, M. Lynch#	
28-30	Reports of 1 or 2 (total 12) from	10 locations.		
Prothonotary Warbler				
16-19, 28-30	Nantucket, MNWS	1 m, 1 or 2	J. Papale#, R. Heil#	
Ovenbird				
28	Hanson, Douglas	1, 1	W. Petersen, K. Machado	
29	Mt. A., Wenham	1, 1	v. o., J. Brown	
29, 30	Petersham, Sandwich	1, 2	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Northern Waterthrush				
22, 27	Middleboro, E. Middleboro	1, 1	W. Petersen#, K. Anderson	
28	P.I., Lakeville	1, 1	M. Lynch#, BBC (D. Davis)	
29; 30	Holden, Petersham; MNWS	1, 4; 1	B. Blodget, M. Lynch#; I. Lynch	
Louisiana Waterthrush				
14	Boxford, High Ridge	1, 1	BBC (D. Cosgren), P. O'Neill	
22	Boxford	4	J. Berry	
28; 29	Ipswich, Braintree; Petersham	1, 1; 2	J. Berry, G. d'Entremont; M. Lynch#	
Hooded Warbler				
28-30, 29	Mt. A., Truro	1 m, 1	v. o., J. Young	
Summer Tanager				
18, 29	Eastham, P'town	1 m, 1 m	A. Thomas, B. Nikula	
Northern Cardinal				
thr	Mt. A.	10-12	v. o.	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
29-30	Nantucket (Madaket)	1 m	E. Andrews	
Dickcissel				
1-22	Weymouth (from March)	1 m	R. Campbell	
21	Marblehead	1 f	J. Smith	
Rufous-sided Towhee				
21, 22	Hanson, Boxford	1, 1	W. Petersen#, J. Berry	
24-30	Mt. A.	2-4	v. o.	
28	P.I., MNWS	4, 6	A. + B. Delorey, M. Lynch#	
28, 29	Wollaston, Holden	4, 9	G. d'Entremont, B. Blodget	
American Tree Sparrow				
1, 1-8	Bolton Flats, Newbury	4, 4-7	M. Lynch#, D. Chickering	
1, 21	P.I.	2, 2	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), G. Gove#	
14	Holden	1	B. Blodget	
Chipping Sparrow				
5, 16	Danvers, Wellesley	1, 1	I. Lynch, D. Clapp	
16-30	Mt. A.	11 max 4/29	v. o.	
22, 23	Hardwick, E. Middleboro	5+, 2	M. Lynch#, K. Anderson	
26	SRV	6 (general arrival)	R. Forster	
28	Boxford, Ipswich	5, 12	H. Wiggan#, J. Berry	
Field Sparrow				
2, 18	Easton, Sharon	6, 2	K. Ryan, R. Titus	
22, 29	Byfield, Mt. A.	5, 1	BBC (J. Center), BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
30	N. Dartmouth	3	K. Machado	
Vesper Sparrow				
1, 8	Middleboro	2, 1	W. Petersen#, G. d'Entremont	
24	P.I.	1	R. Forster#	
Savannah Sparrow				
7, 16	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	2, 24	R. Forster	
13, 21	GMNWR, Mashpee	2, 4	W. Petersen, P. Trimble	
13, 24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	5, 2	LCES (J. Hill)	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Grasshopper Sparrow (details submitted)				
14-15	Petersham	1	R. Jenkins#	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow				
25	Mattapoisett	1	B. Blodget	
Fox Sparrow				
1	Hopkinton, W. Newbury	1, 2	G. Gove, I. Giriunas	
7; 8	Acton; Boxford, Salisbury	1; 1, 1	R. Forster; BBC (S. Moore), R. Titus	
16	Mt. A.	1	v. o.	
Song Sparrow				
1	Bolton Flats, Newbypt area	41, 29	M. Lynch#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
1, 7	Mt. A.	10, 13	R. Stymeist	
13, 14	DWWS, P.I.	16, 56	M. Lynch#	
21, 22	Mashpee, Hardwick	16, 16	P. Trimble, M. Lynch#	
Swamp Sparrow				
1	Bolton Flats	4	M. Lynch#	
14, 21	P.I.	1, 1	D. Chickering	
14, 27; 29	IRWS	1, 7; 10+	P. + F. Vale; J. Berry	
23, 28	GMNWR, Ipswich	10, 3	K. Ryan, J. Berry	
White-throated Sparrow				
thr, 7	Mt. A., Ipswich	55 max 4/29-30,	4 or 5 v. o., J. Berry	
28	MNWS, P.I.	25+, 3	M. Lynch#, A. + B. Delorey	
29	Holden, Petersham	28, 22	B. Blodget, M. Lynch#	
White-crowned Sparrow				
22	N. Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher	
Dark-eyed Junco				
7	Ipswich, Mt. A.	15, 76	J. Berry, R. Stymeist	
7, 8	Wachusett Res., Milton	10+, 10	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont	
11, 22	Boston (Franklin Park), Petersham	65, 12	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
28	Mashpee	2	P. Trimble	
Lapland Longspur				
1, 30	Middleboro, Easton	2+, 1	W. Petersen, K. Ryan	
Snow Bunting				
1, 23	Salisbury, Ipswich (Crane B.)	1, 1	D. Chickering, D. Rimmer	
Bobolink				
28	DWWS	1 m singing	D. Ludlow#	
Red-winged Blackbird				
1, 15	Bolton Flats, New Braintree	200+, 200+	M. Lynch#	
Eastern Meadowlark				
2-17, 4	Marlboro, Newbypt	1, 2	R. Graefe, R. Forster	
13, 16	DWWS, Sharon	5, 2 or 3	M. Lynch#, R. Titus	
28	Ipswich	5 or 6	J. Berry	
Yellow-headed Blackbird				
23	Eastham	1 m	fide R. Prescott	
Rusty Blackbird				
1	Middleboro, W. Newbury	3, 20	W. Petersen#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
2, 6	Sharon, E. Middleboro	8, 20	R. Titus, K. Anderson	
8, 9	Braintree, Wakefield	2, 2	G. d'Entremont, P. + F. Vale	
12, 14	IRWS, High Ridge	18, 30	J. Brown, R. Stymeist#	
22	Wayland, Holden	30+, 2	R. Forster, B. Blodget	
26, 27	Waltham, Wayland	2, 5	L. Taylor, R. Forster	
Orchard Oriole				
30	S. Dartmouth	3 (1 imm m + 2 f)	M. Boucher	
Northern Oriole				
27	Lakeville	1	D. Briggs	
28	Squantum, Somerset	1, 1	G. d'Entremont, K. Machado	
Purple Finch				
thr	Hanson	6-8	W. Petersen	
6, 7	Sharon, Ipswich	9, 30-40	R. Titus, J. Berry	
10, 14	Boxford, High Ridge	3, 6	T. Aversa, R. Stymeist#	
22, 27	Topsfield, SRV	7, 7	G. Gove, R. Forster	
House Finch				
1-28, 14	Newbury, P.I.	37 max 4/12, 18	D. Chickering, M. Lynch#	
Red Crossbill				
29	Holden	8	B. Blodget	
White-winged Crossbill				
1-16	W. Boylston	15 max 4/14	v. o.	
Pine Siskin				
1, 8, 22	Boxford	5 or 6, 3, 4	J. Berry	
6, 7, 8	Sharon, Acton, Easton	2, 2, 1	R. Titus, R. Forster, K. Ryan	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1990
Pine Siskin (continued)				
8, 14	Quabbin (G41), W. Boylston	9, 10+	M. Lynch#	
14	High Ridge, Lakeville	25, 8	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen#	
16	Acton, Mt. A.	3, 2	R. Forster, R. Stymeist	
28	Westford	5 at feeder	S. Selesky	
American Goldfinch				
1, 26	Bolton Flats, Mt. A.	10, 20	M. Lynch#, BBC (F. Bouchard)	
28	Ipswich, Mashpee	10, 10	J. Berry, P. Trimble	
Evening Grosbeak				
1, 8	E. Middleboro, New Braintree	10, 1	K. Anderson, M. Lynch#	
14, 15	High Ridge, Oakham	18, 30	R. Stymeist, M. Lynch#	
22	Hardwick, Petersham	21, 4	M. Lynch#	
28, 29	Squantum, W. Boylston	2, 6	G. d'Entremont, B. Blodgett	

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ad	adult	F.S.F.	Federation State Forest
b	banded	G37 or 40	Gate 37 or 40, Quabbin
br	breeding	H.	Harbor
dk	dark (phase)	I.	Island
f	female	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
imm	immature	Mt.A.	Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
ind	individuals	Nant.	Nantucket
juv	juvenile	Newbypt	Newburyport
loc	location	P.I.	Plum Island
lt	light (phase)	Pd	Pond
m	male	P'town	Provincetown
max	maximum	Quab.	Quabbin
mi	mile	Res.	Reservoir
migr	migrating	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
n	nesting	S. Dart.	South Dartmouth
ph	photographed	S.F.	State Forest
pl	plumage	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
pr	pair	S.P.	State Park
S	summer (1S = first summer)	Stellw.	Stellwagen (Bank)
thr	throughout	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
v.o.	various observers	BMB	Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester
W	winter (2W = second winter)	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
w/	with	CBC	Christmas Bird Count
yg	young	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
#	additional observers	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	DLSP	Demarest Lloyd State Park
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	DWWS	Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary
B.	Beach	EMHW	Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	FCBC	Felix Cutler Bird Club
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
Buzz.	Buzzards Bay	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
C.	cape as in Cape Cod	LCES	Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies
Cambr.	Cambridge	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	NEHW	New England Hawk Watch
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
F.M.	Fowl Meadow	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
F.Pk	Franklin Park, Boston	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
		WMWS	Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary

Wilson's Phalarope
Nine Acre Corner
Concord, MA
May 15, 1990
Photo by Simon Perkins



FIELD RECORDS

MAY 1990

by Richard A. Forster and Robert H. Stymeist

May 1990 averaged cooler and wetter than normal. In 120 years of record keeping, this May was the fourth wettest and twelfth coldest on record. The temperature averaged 55 degrees, 3.5 degrees below normal, due mostly to a very cool latter half of the month. Rain totaled 6.53 inches, slightly more than 3 inches above average. Southerly or southwesterly winds were not frequent with no prolonged southerly flow to encourage migration. However, the cool damp days served to bring birds lower and closer to the observer, and activity was fairly constant.

R.A.F.

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

A fair flight of Common Loons was seen on Cape Cod May 11, and a rather late Red-necked Grebe was present at North Scituate. A few shearwaters moved to Stellwagen Bank, and the 10 fulmars off Chatham constituted a routine but difficult-to-explain May phenomenon. Herons were unremarkable. American Bitterns, however, may have been better reported than usual, and the two pairs of Great Blue Herons nesting in West Peabody represent the first breeding record for Essex County. Otherwise heron reports were low, especially Cattle Egret. The two reports of Tricolored Heron were likely of the same individual. Good numbers of Brants were noted in staging areas prior to their departure northward. Puddle ducks were sparsely recorded, and lingering species of waterfowl included King Eider, Harlequin Duck, and Ruddy Duck.

R.A.F.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Red-throated Loon				
5, 6	N. Scituate, S. Dartmouth	1, 14	D. Brown#, T. Raymond	
19, 23	P.I.	7, 3	W. Petersen#, W. Drew#	
Common Loon				
6, 7	P.I., Stoughton	3, 2	BBC (P. Stevens), R. Titus	
8, 9	Mt. A.	3, 5	R. Stymeist#, S. Perkins#	
11, 18	N. Truro, Quincy	40+, 6	B. Nikula, E. Taylor	
3-31	Reports of single birds from 5 locations.			
Pied-billed Grebe				
18-19, 26	P.I., Sudbury	1, 1	D. Bechar#, R. Forster	
Horned Grebe				
2; 14, 27	Marblehead Neck; S. Dart.	4; 1, 1	R. Forster; M. Boucher, R. Masturzo	
Red-necked Grebe				
8	N. Scituate	1	T. Aversa	
Northern Fulmar				
6, 18	Stellwagen, 15-20 miles E of Chatham	2, 10	M. Payne, W. Harrington	
Greater Shearwater				
6	Stellwagen Bank	1	M. Payne	
Manx Shearwater				
6, 26	Stellwagen Bank, P'town	1, 2	M. Payne, D. Clapp	
Northern Gannet				
5, 28	N. Scituate, Stellwagen Bank	2+, 1 imm	D. Brown, J. Berry	
Great Cormorant				
5, 26	N. Scituate	1, 1	G. d'Entremont	
13; 19	Wayland, Lakeville; Nahant	3, 3; 4	R. Forster, W. Petersen; A. Bennett#	
Double-crested Cormorant				
thr	P.I.	236 max 5/6	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
25-27	M. V.	142	BBC (D. Davis)	
American Bittern				
2, 6	P.I.	1, 1	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
5, 26; 6, 27	Salem; Wayland	1, 1; 1, 2	I. Lynch; S. Perkins, R. Forster	
13, 20; 15	Bolton Flats; Sudbury	1, 2; 1	M. Lynch#; R. Forster	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Least Bittern 18, 19	Wayland, P.I.	1, 1	R. Walton, J. Berry	
Great Blue Heron 16-31 7, 16	W. Peabody W. Newbury, N. Middleboro	2 pair nesting 12, 3	H. Wiggin# + v. o. P. + F. Vale, K. Holmes	
Great Egret thr 2, 7 11, 13	P.I., Ipswich (Crane B.) S. Dartmouth, Salem Ipswich, Essex	6 max 5/27, 1-3 3, 2 4, 4	BBC (S. Bolton) + v.o., D. Rimmer LCES (J. Hill), I. Lynch J. Berry	
Snowy Egret thr 13, 22 23, 25-27	P.I. Essex, S. Dart. (Allens Pd) Ipswich, M. V.	15 max 5/9 & 5/26 18, 4 6, 12	v. o. J. Berry, LCES (J. Hill) J. Brown, BBC (D. Davis)	
Little Blue Heron 19	Essex	6	I. Giriunas#	
Tricolored Heron 5, 19	Manchester, P.I.	1, 1	BBC (G. Hotz), W. Drew#	
Cattle Egret 15-31 19, 20 23, 30	Ipswich Yarmouthport, Barre Kingston, Hamilton	1 1, 1 1, 2	v. o. C. Smith, M. Lynch# D. Clapp, T. Aversa	
Green-backed Heron thr 2-17, 13	P.I. Mt. A., Gloucester	4 max 5/9 1 or 2 daily, 2	D. Chickering + v. o. v. o., BBC (J. Nove)	
Black-crowned Night-Heron 5, 19 26	Boston (F. Pk), P.I. P.I. Sound	4, 4 5	T. Aversa, J. Berry J. Berry#	
Glossy Ibis 6, 9 11, 12 13, 15 16, 17	Westford, P.I. E. Boston (B.I.), Westport Ipswich-Essex Newbury, Essex	1, 7 2, 1 11, 17 3, 14	M. Lynch#, D. Chickering P. + F. Vale, K. Machado J. Berry, E. Taylor D. Rimmer	
Mute Swan 5, 22 25-27	N. Scituate, S. Dart. M. V.	24, 17 20	G. d'Entremont#, LCES (J. Hill) BBC (D. Davis)	
Brant thr 6, 19 15, 21 19	P.I. Newbypt Harbor Nahant Duxbury	200 max 5/12 200, 157 200, 475 1200	BBC (K. Griffis) + v. o. S. Perkins, H. Wiggin# E. Taylor, R. Forster W. Petersen#	
Canada Goose 13	Lynnfield	61 ad + 94 goslings	R. Stymeist#	
Wood Duck thr 15, 16 9-26	W. Newton GMNWR, Randolph Reports of a total of 37 ducklings from 4 locations.	4 max 12, 3+	T. Kuklinski D. Chickering, G. d'Entremont	
Green-winged Teal 2 6	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), S. Dart. (DLSP) Lincoln, P.I.	12, 9 4, 30	LCES (J. Hill), K. Machado BBC (J. Nove), BBC (P. Stevens)	
American Black Duck thr, 12	Wakefield, P.I.	20, 50	P. + F. Vale, BBC (P. Stevens)	
Northern Pintail thr	P.I.	2-4 max 5/9	T. Aversa + v. o.	
Blue-winged Teal thr, 2 19, 20	P.I., Malden Middleboro, S. Dart. (DLSP)	6 max 5/9, 1 2, 3	W. Drew#, P. + F. Vale W. Petersen#, K. Machado	
Northern Shoveler 1-16	P.I.	3 max 5/6	M. Lynch#	
Gadwall thr, 3 11, 20	P.I., Gloucester S. Dart. (Allens Pd), S. Dart. (DLSP)	58 max 5/23, 6 5, 3	W. Drew#, BBC (J. Nove) LCES (J. Hill), K. Machado	
Common Eider 8 26, 28	Marion N. Scituate, Gloucester	nest with eggs 25, 45+	B. Blodget G. d'Entremont#, J. Berry	
King Eider 26	Nahant	1 m	C. Floyd#	
Harlequin Duck 13, 19	N. Scituate, Lynn	1 m, 1 m	G. d'Entremont, G. Gove#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Oldsquaw 6, 23	Newburyport	1000, 500	G. d'Entremont, W. Petersen#	
Black Scoter 19, 26; 26	Nahant; N. Scituate	4, 3; 1	R. Stymeist; G. d'Entremont#	
Surf Scoter 10, 13 23, 26	Nahant, Gloucester P.I., N. Scituate	200, 2 1, 2	R. Forster, BBC (J. Nove) H. Williams, G. d'Entremont#	
White-winged Scoter 5, 10 11 26, 27	P.I., Lynn/Nahant Winthrop N. Scituate, P.I.	250+, 700 200+ 5, 4	W. Petersen#, R. Forster P. + F. Vale G. d'Entremont#, BBC (S. Bolton)	
Common Goldeneye 8	Dartmouth	1 m	B. Blodget	
Bufflehead 2, 7 8, 12 13	S. Dart. (DLSP), P.I. Mattapoisett, Wollaston Lakeville, W. Newbury	11, 5 12, 14 3, 6	K. Machado, P. + F. Vale B. Blodget, G. d'Entremont W. Petersen, D. Chickering	
Common Merganser 7, 16 27	Stoneham, Nahant Wachusett Reservoir	2, 1 1 m	T. Aversa, H. Coolidge# K. Machado	
Red-breasted Merganser 2, 22 6, 13 16, 18 21, 26	S. Dartmouth P.I., Gloucester Fairhaven, Monomoy Nahant, P. I. Sound	62, 28 17, 10 4, 400+ 15, 5	LCES (J. Hill) BBC (P. Stevens), BBC (J. Nove) B. Blodget, B. Nikula R. Forster, J. Berry#	
Ruddy Duck 1-18	Arlington Reservoir	1 m	v. o.	

RAPTORS THROUGH CRANES

Turkey Vultures were very well reported and widespread, and Ospreys are doing very well in the Westport area. The now seemingly annual **Mississippi Kite** was seen in Plymouth and North Truro. A good Sharp-shinned Hawk flight occurred on May 2 with figures from both Newburyport and Plum Island, representing the same birds, agreeing very closely and indicating the flight line travelled that day. Cooper's Hawks were also well reported. A dark Rough-legged Hawk in Middleboro on May 8 was late. Merlins were also moving on May 2, and the count of 11 at Plum Island is one of the highest single-day totals in recent memory. Peregrine Falcons were also fairly well reported.

A King Rail was reported from South Dartmouth without details, and both Soras and Virginia Rails were better reported than usual. The count of 5 or 6 Common Moorhens was higher than usual, and the lone coot, now a very rare spring migrant, was seen in Wakefield. The **Sandhill Crane** in Provincetown from April remained the entire month. Remarkably, five other Sandhill Cranes were seen, including two separate individuals in Concord and an individual at Plum Island, which is probably the same bird that has shown up in the Plum Island-Newbury area around Memorial Day for the past several years. R.A.F.

Turkey Vulture

6	P'town, Bourne	9, 3	B. Nikula, W. Petersen
10, 12	Wakefield, W. Newbury	3, 4	P. + F. Vale, H. Wiggin
22, 26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), Newbury	4, 4	LCES (J. Hill), J. Brown
Additional reports of a total of 51 birds.			
Osprey 2, 19 25-27, 27 28	P.I., Truro M. V., Barnstable (S.N.) Westport	5, 9 14, 5 or 6 54 active nests	EMHW, B. Nikula# BBC (D. Davis), H. Ferguson R. Stymeist
Mississippi Kite 3, 12	Plymouth (Cedarville), N. Truro	1, 1 sub ad	S. Hecker, T. Carrolan + B. Nikula#
Bald Eagle 3, 5 9, 11; 9-31 19 8-10, 20	Newbypt, N. Scituate N. Truro; outer Cape Cod Lakeville, P.I. Mattapoisett, Rochester	1, 1 ad 1, 1; 2+ imm 1, 1 sub ad 1 imm, 1 imm	EMHW, D. Brown EMHW; v. o. W. Petersen#, J. Berry B. Blodget, K. Machado
Northern Harrier thr 2, 3 15 6-31	N. Truro, P'town P.I. S. Monomoy Reports of 1 or 2 (total 16) from 14 locations.	6 (4 f + 2 m), 3 7, 4 3 nests	B. Nikula, v. o. EMHW, W. Drew# D. Houghton#

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
2	Newbypt, P.I.	150, 145	EMHW	
3	Newbypt, W. Newbury	3, 13	EMHW	
3, 12, 19	N. Truro	61, 46, 5	EMHW	
Cooper's Hawk				
thr	Boxford	pr at nest	T. Aversa	
2, 12	P.I., N. Truro	3, 2 imm	EMHW, B. Nikula#	
2-26	Reports of single birds from 12 locations.			
Northern Goshawk				
thr	Boxford, W. Boxford	pr nesting, pr nesting	J. MacDougall#	
3, 9	W. Newbury, N. Truro	1, 1 imm	EMHW, T. Carrolan	
19, 20	Lakeville, Petersham	1 ad, 1 ad	S. Perkins#, M. Lynch#	
29	Holliston	pr at nest	T. Aversa	
Red-shouldered Hawk				
thr	E. Middleboro	2 pair	K. Anderson	
thr	N. Dartmouth, Wellesley	2, 1 or 2	K. Machado, R. Forster	
thr	Boxford	pr + 3 yg	v. o.	
12	Quabbin (G22), N. Truro	2, 1	M. Lynch#, EMHW	
12, 26	Newbury, Milton	1, 2	H. Wiggan#, BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
25, 26	Royalston, Templeton	2, 1	B. Blodget	
Broad-winged Hawk				
12, 28	N. Truro	21, 21	B. Nikula#	
Red-tailed Hawk				
thr	Boston (F.Pk)	2 nests, 4 yg	T. Aversa	
Rough-legged Hawk				
8	Middleboro	1 dark	T. Aversa	
American Kestrel				
thr	Ipswich	2 nests	J. Berry	
2, 3	P.I.	54, 0	EMHW	
3, 9, 11	N. Truro	1, 5, 1	EMHW	
Merlin				
2	P.I., Ipswich (Crane B.)	11, 4	EMHW, D. Rimmer	
12, 19	N. Truro	1, 1	B. Nikula#	
16, 19, 26	P.I.	1, 1, 1	v. o.	
26	Scituate	1	D. Brown#	
Peregrine Falcon				
thr	Boston (Custom House)	pr nesting	v. o.	
8, 9	S. Monomoy, N. Truro	1, 2	P. Trull, T. Carrolan	
11, 19	N. Truro	1, 1	B. Nikula	
12, 16, 19	P.I.	1, 1, 1	v. o.	
20, 26	S. Dartmouth, Squantum	1, 1	K. Machado, D. Brown	
Ring-necked Pheasant				
thr	Boston (F.Pk)	4	T. Aversa	
6, 12	Lincoln, W. Newbury	4, 3	BBC (J. Nove), BBC (K. Griffis)	
Ruffed Grouse				
4, 26	Plymouth, Milton	2, 2	G. d'Entremont	
Reports of single birds from 4 locations.				
Wild Turkey				
19	Boxford (C.P.)	2	C. Floyd#	
20, 25	Middleboro, S. Middleboro	1, 1 f	K. Holmes, K. Anderson	
Northern Bobwhite				
thr	Belmont (Rock Meadow)	1-3	J. Heywood#	
25-27, 27	M. V., Medfield	12, 6 (4 ad + 2 yg)	BBC (D. Davis), J. Heywood	
6-26	Reports of 1 or 2 (total 7) from 6 locations.			
King Rail				
20	S. Dartmouth	1	M. Boucher	
Virginia Rail				
thr	Wayland	12 max 5/26	S. Perkins#	
thr	Lynnfield/Wakefield	10 max 5/15	BBC (W. Van Cor) + v. o.	
20	GMNWR	4	M. Boucher	
Reports of 1 or 2 (total 17) from 11 locations.				
Sora				
thr	Wayland	10 max 5/26	S. Perkins	
15	Lynnfield, Sudbury	2, 2	BBC (W. Van Cor), R. Forster	
Reports of single birds from 12 locations.				

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Common Moorhen				
12, 19	P.I.	1, 1	H. Wiggin#, W. Drew#	
13, 18	Bolton Flats, Wayland	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Forster	
15, 25; 20	Wakefield; GMNWR	1; 1	P. + F. Vale; M. Boucher	
American Coot				
15	Wakefield	1	P. + F. Vale	
Sandhill Crane				
thr, 3	P'town, Westboro	1, 1	v. o., B. King	
3, 10	Concord, Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1, 1	T. Raymond#, S. Verrill + v. o.	
12, 27	Lynnfield, P.I.	1, 1	I. Giriunas, BBC (S. Bolton)	

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS

The shorebird migration was spotty. Some species were very well reported, and others were not. In the first category were Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, and Sanderling. Apparently a good flight of Semipalmated Plovers occurred at midmonth. An almost daily survey of Solitary Sandpipers at a sewage treatment plant in Hudson recorded a remarkable 67 birds on May 14. A Ruff in Newburyport was the only one of the spring season. Two individual Black-necked Stilts were rare spring visitors. Both Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers were observed, and a rare spring Franklin's Gull was seen in Newburyport. Both Little and Common gulls were concentrated in the Boston area. Two Royal Terns in Scituate were quite unusual since they normally do not appear until mid-June. Modest numbers of Black Terns were seen including a small flight on May 19. R.A.F.

Black-bellied Plover				
thr	Newburyport	3-200+ max 5/31	K. Machado + v. o.	
11, 12, 12	Revere, Eastham, Winthrop	10, 50+, 115	P. + F. Vale, W. Petersen, I. Giriunas	
17, 18	Fairhaven, N. Monomoy	40, 600	B. Blodget, B. Nikula	
25-27, 26	M. V., P.I. Sound	206, 200+	BBC (D. Davis), J. Berry	
Semipalmated Plover				
10-31	Ipswich (Crane B.)	4-65	D. Rimmer	
14, 15	S. Dartmouth, Ipswich (Great Neck)	157, 250	K. Machado, J. Brown	
23, 25	Newbypt, N. Monomoy	20, 30	T. Aversa, B. Nikula	
25-27	M. V.	10	BBC (D. Davis)	
Piping Plover				
thr	Ipswich (Crane B.)	20 ad + 12 chicks	D. Rimmer	
thr	P.I.	4-10 ad	D. Rimmer	
11, 22	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), M. V.	2, 6	LCES (J. Hill), D. Rimmer	
26, 28	Scituate, Westport	2, 6	G. d'Entremont#, R. Stymeist#	
Killdeer				
thr	P.I.	15 max	W. Drew# + v. o.	
American Oystercatcher				
thr, 12	N. Monomoy, Eastham	25+, 7	B. Nikula, W. Petersen	
17; 25-27	Mattapoisett, Fairhaven; M. V.	1, 2; 4	B. Blodget; BBC (D. Davis)	
Black-necked Stilt				
16-31	Nantucket	1	Dr. Hayden	
27	Chatham	1	R. Barlow	
Greater Yellowlegs				
2; 12, 23	Newburyport	450; 800, 5	R. Forster; S. Perkins	
13, 19	Acton, Topsfield	12, 10	R. Forster, P. + F. Vale	
21	E. Boston (B.I.)	24	T. Aversa	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
2, 12	Newburyport	6, 30	R. Forster, BBC (K. Griffis)	
13, 20	Acton, Halifax	1, 18	R. Forster, K. Holmes	
Solitary Sandpiper				
3-24	Hudson	67 max 5/14	E. Salmela	
12, 20	Marshfield, Bolton Flats	11, 3	D. Clapp, M. Lynch#	
5-22	Reports of 1 or 2 (total 10) from 9 locations.			
Willet				
thr	P.I., S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	20+ max 5/26, 9 max	J. Berry#, LCES (J. Hill)	
16, 31	Fairhaven, N. Monomoy	1, 30	B. Blodget, B. Nikula	
Spotted Sandpiper				
2, 10-23	Mt. A., Ipswich (Crane B.)	1, 3-5	S. Sweet, D. Rimmer	
11-26	Boston (F.Pk)	8 max 5/19	T. Aversa	
20	Braintree, Bolton Flats	4, 4	D. Morimoto, M. Lynch#	
26, 27	P.I. Sound, Wachusett Res.	4, 4	J. Berry#, K. Machado	
Upland Sandpiper				
thr, 6-31	Newbypt, Middleboro	3 max 5/30, 3 max 5/19	T. Aversa + v. o., W. Petersen#	
5, 26	Eastham, Randolph	1, 1	K. Jones#, G. d'Entremont	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY*1990
Ruddy Turnstone				
9, 30; 12	P.I.; Winthrop	1, 2; 10	T. Aversa; I. Giriunas	
16, 23; 25-27	Fairhaven; M. V.	8, 12; 104	B. Blodget; BBC (D. Davis)	
27	Plymouth, Wachusett Res.	60, 1	R. Stymeist, K. Machado	
31	N. Monomoy	250	B. Nikula	
Red Knot				
19, 31	Duxbury, N. Monomoy	2, 80	W. Petersen, B. Nikula	
Sanderling				
1-13, 11	Ipswich (Crane B.), Revere	2-16, 33	D. Rimmer, P. + F. Vale	
26; 28, 31	Nahant; N. Monomoy	190; 500, 1100	R. Stymeist#; H. Ferguson, B. Nikula	
Semipalmated Sandpiper				
12, 28	Newbypt, P.I.	5-10, 25	G. Gove#, G. d'Entremont#	
25-27, 31	M. V., N. Monomoy	12, 500	BBC (D. Davis), B. Nikula	
Least Sandpiper				
2, 12, 14	Newburyport	80, 2500, 3000	R. Forster, S. Perkins, R. Forster	
11-12, 16	Ipswich (Great Neck), P.I.	300+, 136	J. Brown, W. Drew#	
13, 20	Cambridge (F.P.), Bolton	20+, 2	H. Pratt, M. Lynch#	
18, 25	N. Monomoy	400	B. Nikula	
White-rumped Sandpiper				
12, 23	P.I.	1, 1	H. Wiggin, W. Petersen	
14	Newbypt, Ipswich	1, 2	R. Forster, J. Brown	
25	N. Monomoy	25	B. Nikula	
Pectoral Sandpiper				
6	Middleboro, Newbypt	2, 3	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
27	P.I.	2	BBC (S. Bolton)	
Purple Sandpiper				
5, 26	N. Scituate	30, 15	G. d'Entremont	
12, 16	Marion (Bird I.), Fairhaven	1, 3	P. Trull, B. Blodget	
21, 30	Marblehead Neck	40, 1	R. Forster, T. Aversa	
Dunlin				
2	Newbypt, S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	120, 51	R. Forster, LCES (J. Hill)	
4, 18	N. Monomoy	600	B. Nikula	
22, 25-27	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), M. V.	28, 4	LCES (J. Hill), BBC (D. Davis)	
23, 24	Fairhaven, Ipswich (Great Neck)	35, 35	B. Blodget, J. Brown	
Ruff				
3-12	Newburyport	1 m	L. Jodrey, G. Soucy + v. o.	
Short-billed Dowitcher				
9, 16	P.I.	6, 15	D. Chickering, W. Drew#	
16, 22	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	13, 22	LCES (J. Hill)	
18, 25; 20	N. Monomoy; Bolton Flats	25; 31	B. Nikula; M. Lynch#	
Common Snipe				
12	Ipswich	1	J. Berry	
American Woodcock				
4, 10	Plymouth (M. Standish)	6, 5	G. d'Entremont#	
13, 14	Hamilton, P.I.	3, 2	J. Berry, R. Forster	
Wilson's Phalarope				
2-31	P.I.	4 max	v. o.	
15	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1 m ph	S. Perkins#	
18, 19	N. Monomoy, Newbypt	1, 1	B. Nikula, R. Heil	
Pomarine Jaeger				
26	Stellwagen Bank	1	D. Clapp	
Parasitic Jaeger				
6, 26	Stellwagen Bank	1, 1	M. Payne, D. Clapp	
27	N. Monomoy	1 ad	B. Nikula	
Laughing Gull				
5, 10	Newbypt, Revere	1, 1	R. Stymeist, J. Quigley	
13	E. Boston	1	J. Quigley	
Franklin's Gull				
20	Newburyport	1 ad	R. Maker#	
Little Gull				
14	Newburyport	1 ad	R. Forster	
14; 15, 26; 23	Revere (Point of Pines)	1 (1S); 1 ad; 3 (1S)	J. Quigley	
20-31, 21	Squantum, Lynn	1 ad, 2 (1S)	D. Brown, R. Forster	
Common Black-headed Gull				
7, 14	Revere (Point of Pines)	2 (1S), 1 (1S)	J. Quigley	
13, 21	E. Boston (Suffolk Downs)	1 (1S)	J. Quigley	
19	Lynn	3	C. Floyd#	
23, 27	Newbypt, N. Monomoy	1 (1S), 1 ad	T. Aversa, B. Nikula	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Bonaparte's Gull				
2, 14; 23	Newburyport	80, 250; 250	R. Forster; S. Perkins#	
10, 21	Nahant, Lynn	80, 362	R. Forster	
14	Revere (Point of Pines)	350	J. Quigley	
27, 31	N. Monomoy	20, 35	B. Nikula#	
Ring-billed Gull				
15	Revere (Point of Pines)	300	J. Quigley	
Herring Gull				
26	Lynn (Breeds Pd)	400	J. Quigley	
Iceland Gull				
7	Newburyport	1	S. Perkins#	
"white-winged" gull species				
27	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	
Great Black-backed Gull				
26	Lynn (Breeds Pd)	60	J. Quigley	
Royal Tern				
18	Scituate	2	D. Clapp	
Roseate Tern				
8, 25-27	Marion, M. V.	23 pr, 3	B. Blodget, BBC (D. Davis)	
Common Tern				
6, 8	Ipswich, Marion	25+, 50 pr	D. Rimmer, B. Blodget	
19, 26	P.I., P.I. Sound	12, 50+	J. Berry	
25-27, 31	M. V., Newbypt	45, 200+	BBC (D. Davis), D. Rimmer	
Arctic Tern				
25-27; 27	M. V.; Plymouth, N. Monomoy	1; 4, 1	BBC (D. Davis); R. Stymeist#, B. Nikula	
Least Tern				
14-31	Ipswich (Crane B.)	10-20	D. Rimmer	
11, 22	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	10	LCES (J. Hill)	
25-27, 26	M. V., Revere (Point of Pines)	61, 2	BBC (D. Davis), J. Quigley	
26, 29	Scituate (Third Cliff), P.I.	75, 200+	G. d'Entremont#, D. Rimmer	
Black Tern				
6, 12	Westminster, Marion (Bird I.)	1, 2	A. Hill, P. Trull	
19	Wayland (Broad Meadow)	3-6	J. Center + v. o.	
19, 26; 27	Newburyport; N. Monomoy	1, 1; 1	v. o.; B. Nikula	

CUCKOOS THROUGH GNATCATCHERS

Both cuckoo species were scarce. A very late Snowy Owl was in Revere on May 27. At least 4 nesting pairs of Northern Saw-whet Owls were discovered. Was this a result of fairly good numbers from winter or is this a normal distribution? A **Chuck-will's-widow** delighted numerous observers at Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary on May 12 when it spent the day perched on a snag. See the photo elsewhere in this issue. Another was heard in Walpole. Whip-poor-wills still maintain fair numbers in those few areas where they continue to breed, especially in the Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth. A total of 7 Red-headed Woodpeckers was well above what is expected for this scarce migrant. Perhaps one of the surprises of the season was the appearance of a Pileated Woodpecker in the unlikely locale of Marblehead Neck. Flycatcher numbers were modest with most being found late in the month. A spectacular **Fork-tailed Flycatcher** in a Concord cemetery was extremely unusual since most records are in the fall along the coast. See photo in this issue. A good flight of swallows occurred on May 2 and May 19. A Golden-crowned Kinglet nest in Ipswich represents one of the few Essex County breeding records. R.A.F.

Black-billed Cuckoo				
4-26	Reports of single birds at 4 locations.			
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				
7-31	Reports of single birds at 7 locations.			
Barn Owl				
25-27	M. V.	1	BBC (D. Davis)	
Eastern Screech-Owl				
thr, 25-27	Mt. A., M. V.	pr, 1	v. o., BBC (D. Davis)	
Great Horned Owl				
thr	Boxford, Essex, P.I.	nesting pairs	J. Berry + v. o.	
thr	Boston (F.Pk)	nesting pr + 2 yg	T. Aversa	
6, 13	Lincoln, Ipswich	2, 2	BBC (J. Nove), J. Berry	
26, 31	P.I. Sound (Grape I.), Plymouth	2, 1	J. Berry#, G. d'Entremont#	
Snowy Owl				
27	Revere	1 being mobbed by crows	J. Quigley	
Barred Owl				
thr	Boxford	pr + 3 yg	v. o.	
13, 19	Ipswich, Bridgewater	1, 3	J. Berry, W. Petersen	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
thr	S. Wellfleet, Brewster	2 nests, 2 dead yg	K. Jones#	
thr	Topsfield	1 nest	J. Holt	
6, 31	Hamilton, Plymouth	1 (from April), 2	J. Berry#, G. d'Entremont#	
Common Nighthawk				
14, 18	Mt. A., Cambridge	4 or 5, 1	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen#	
20, 23	Bolton Flats, Wayland	1, 2	M. Lynch#, W. Petersen#	
27	Brockton, Princeton	1, 31	R. Titus, S. Perkins#	
Chuck-will's-widow				
12, 28	MNWS, Walpole	1 ph, 1 heard	L. Sager + v. o., D. Munafo	
Whip-poor-will				
4, 26, 31	Plymouth (M. Standish)	4, 6, 41	G. d'Entremont + R. Campbell	
6, 12	Petersham, P.I.	3, 1	A. Hill, S. Perkins#	
19, 25-27	Middleboro, M. V.	6, 4	W. Petersen#, BBC (D. Davis)	
26, 28	Newbury, Otis AFB	8, 5	R. Stymeist#, K. Machado	
Chimney Swift				
2, 2-31	Sherborn, Mt. A.	2, 6-10 daily	E. Taylor, v. o.	
6, 19	Wayland	10, 45+	R. Forster	
7, 9	Ipswich, P.I.	25+, 5	J. Berry, D. Chickering	
11	Medfield, Wayland	20, 20	E. Taylor	
14, 19	Ipswich, IRWS	8, 8	J. Brown	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				
7, 12	Brookline, Mt. A.	1, 2	R. Stymeist, D. Lange#	
12	W. Newbury	2	D. Chickering	
16	Nahant, P.I.	2, 3	H. Wiggin#, T. Aversa	
19	P'town, N. Truro	2, 2	B. Nikula#	
28-31	E. Middleboro	1-3 at feeder	K. Anderson	
12-27	Reports of single birds from 11 locations.			
Red-headed Woodpecker				
3-5, 8-10	Boston (F.Pk), Westwood	1 ad, 1	T. Aversa, R. Vernon	
9	Cambridge (F.P.), Ipswich	1, 1	J. Barton, M. Hintliand	
21, 28	Eastham, S. Dartmouth	1, 1 ad	W. Bailey, R. Stymeist#	
26-31	Randolph	1 ad	S. Denison	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
4, 23	Sudbury, Duxbury	1 m (from April), 1 m	R. Forster, D. Clapp	
25-27	M. V.	9	BBC (D. Davis)	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
25	Royalston	1 f	B. Blodget	
Downy Woodpecker				
6, 12	Lincoln, W. Newbury	5, 15	BBC (J. Nove), BBC (K. Griffis)	
Northern Flicker				
thr, 6	Boston (F.Pk), Lincoln	8 max 5/3, 16	T. Aversa, BBC (J. Nove)	
Pileated Woodpecker				
thr	Boxford, Westford	nesting pairs	v. o., S. Selesky	
5, 6	Manchester, Lincoln	2, 1	BBC (G. Hotz), BBC (J. Nove)	
8; 15, 24	Topsfield; Weston	1; 1, 2	J. Brown; D. Morimoto	
26	Milton, MNWS	1, 1	D. Brown, C. Floyd#	
Olive-sided Flycatcher				
17, 20	N. Dartmouth, Petersham	1, 1	M. Boucher, M. Lynch#	
18, 20, 25	Mt. A.	1, 1, 1	v. o.	
24, 28	P'town	1, 1	S. Highley, B. Nikula	
25	Royalston, Boxford	1, 1	B. Blodget, R. Stymeist#	
Eastern Wood-Pewee				
12, 14	Cambridge (F.P.), Newbypt	1, 1	R. Stymeist, R. Forster	
16, 18-31	P.I., Mt. A.	1, 4 max 5/31	D. Chickering, v. o.	
25, 25-27	Royalston, M. V.	7, 9	B. Blodget, BBC (D. Davis)	
31	Dover	6	P. Iarrobino	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				
16, 20	MNWS, Princeton	1, 1	D. Chickering, M. Boucher	
18-31	Mt. A.	1 or 2 (almost daily)	v. o.	
20, 23	Petersham, Worcester	1, 1	M. Lynch#	
25, 28	Manomet, DWWS	2 b, 1	MBO, D. Ludlow	
Alder Flycatcher				
20; 25	Bolton Flats; Templeton, Philipston	1; 1, 1	M. Lynch#; B. Blodget	
26	SRV, Lynnfield	2, 1	R. Forster, R. Stymeist	
26, 27	Templeton, Rutland	3, 1	B. Blodget	
Willow Flycatcher				
19, 20	Wayland, Bolton Flats	4, 7	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
26, 28	Lynnfield, W. Newbury	3, 2	R. Stymeist#, P. + F. Vale	
29	Bolton Flats	6	T. Aversa	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Least Flycatcher				
2-25	Mt. A.	6 max 5/24	v. o.	
6, 7	ONWR, Petersham	2, 15+	M. Lynch#, A. Hill	
12, 15	Petersham, Quabbin (G40)	5, 17	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
16, 19	Nahant, Boston (F.Pk)	3, 3	H. Coolidge#, T. Aversa	
20	Bolton Flats, Petersham	6, 9	M. Lynch#	
25	Philipston	6	B. Blodget	
Eastern Phoebe				
8	Sharon	7	R. Titus	
Great Crested Flycatcher				
2-31	Mt. A.	4 max 5/19	v. o.	
7, 9	Stoneham, P.I.	1, 1	T. Aversa, D. Chickering	
10-31	Boston (F.Pk)	5 max 5/31	T. Aversa	
22, 25-27	Sharon, M. V.	5, 8	R. Titus, BBC (D. Davis)	
Eastern Kingbird				
thr	Mt. A.	6 max 5/15	v. o.	
2, 12; 25-27	Concord; M. V.	3, 5; 7	v. o., K. Anderson; BBC (D. Davis)	
Fork-tailed Flycatcher				
2-3	Concord	1	T. Handley + v. o.	
Horned Lark				
19-27	P.I.	1 or 2	A. + B. Delorey#	
Purple Martin				
thr	P.I.	60 max 5/12	BBC (K. Griffis) + v. o.	
12, 13	IRWS, Hanson	2, 6	I. Lynch, W. Petersen	
Tree Swallow				
12, 19	P.I., Sudbury (Broad Meadow)	50, 2000+	BBC (K. Griffis), R. Forster	
N. Rough-winged Swallow				
1, 6	Sharon, Stoughton	2, 2	R. Titus	
2	P.I., E. Middleboro	1, 4	R. Forster, K. Holmes	
6, 7	Boston, Ipswich	6, 4	E. Nielsen, J. Berry	
12, 20	Lynn, Holden	14, 5	I. Giriunas, M. Lynch#	
Bank Swallow				
12, 19	Ipswich, P.I.	2, 5	J. Berry	
19, 22	Sudbury, Stoughton	75+, 25	R. Forster, R. Titus	
Cliff Swallow				
2, 6	P.I., Wayland	3, 3	R. Forster, S. Perkins#	
12; 13	P.I.; Wayland, GMNWR	6; 1, 2	BBC (K. Griffis); R. Forster	
19	Wayland-Sudbury	12+	R. Forster	
19	N. Truro, Newbury	2, 12+	B. Nikula, J. Berry	
27	Rutland	15 nesting pr	B. Blodget	
Barn Swallow				
2, 6	P.I., Wayland	100+ mig, 250	R. Forster, S. Perkins#	
American Crow				
thr	Boston (F.Pk)	45 max/ 5 nests	T. Aversa	
Fish Crow				
thr; 20, 25	Mt. A.; P'town	4 nesting pr; 1, 2+	R. Stymeist#; B. Nikula	
Black-capped Chickadee				
6, 12	Lincoln, W. Newbury	17, 8	BBC (J. Nove), BBC (K. Griffis)	
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
1-11	Mt. A.	5 max 5/4	v. o.	
2, 5	P.I., Manchester	7, 2	T. Aversa, BBC (G. Hotz)	
5, 20	Malden, Petersham	4, 6	P. + F. Vale, M. Lynch#	
25, 25-27	P.I., M. V.	1, 1	D. Bechar, BBC (D. Davis)	
Brown Creeper				
6, 19	Lincoln, P.I.	14, 1	BBC (J. Nove), A. + B. Delorey	
8, 22; 25-27	Sharon; M. V.	3, 4; 1	R. Titus; BBC (D. Davis)	
Carolina Wren				
thr	Sherborn, Stoughton	2 pr nesting, 2	E. Taylor, R. Titus	
5, 11	Bridgewater, Milford	3, 2	R. Titus, G. Gove#	
25-27, 28	M. V., Westport	9, 10	BBC (D. Davis), R. Stymeist#	
House Wren				
2, 6	Worcester, Boston (F.Pk)	1, 1	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
7	Bridgewater/Freetown, Lincoln	3, 1	K. Holmes, W. Petersen	
12, 16	W. Newbury, Worcester	2, 5	H. Wiggin, M. Lynch#	
Winter Wren				
6	Boston (F.Pk), Norwood	1, 1	E. Nielsen, R. Forster	
13, 14	Ipswich, Topsfield	1, 1	J. Brown	
15-31	Weston	1	D. Morimoto	
19, 20	Boxford, Petersham	4 m, 1	R. Stymeist#, M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Marsh Wren				
5, 12	P.I.	3, 12	M. Lynch#, BBC (K. Griffis)	
12, 15	IRWS, Lynnfield	3, 3	I. Lynch, BBC (W. Van Cor)	
26	Wayland	35	S. Perkins#	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
9, 19	P.I., Lakeville	1, 5 on territory	T. Aversa, W. Petersen#	
20	Ipswich	1 or 2 at nest	J. Berry	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
1-14	Mt. A.	18 max 5/3, 8 on 5/10	v. o.	
6, 19	Lincoln, P.I.	6, 2	BBC (J. Nove), A. + B. Delorey	
23, 25	Worcester, Templeton	1, 1	M. Lynch#, B. Blodget	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
1-9	Mt. A.	4 max 5/3	v. o.	
2	Wayland, S. Dart. (DLSP)	2 pr, 3	R. Forster, K. Machado	
6, 11	Boxford, Uxbridge	3, 4	W. Petersen#, M. Lynch#	
12, 19	IRWS, Middleboro	6, 4	I. Lynch, W. Petersen#	
20	Quabbin (G22), (G40)	3, 4	M. Lynch#	

THRUSHES THROUGH FINCHES

The passerine migration was reported as being the best in many years from a number of widespread locations. Although there was no prolonged strong southerly flow and southwesterly winds occurred on only three days during May, the cool damp and foggy weather kept birds in our area, and the birding activity was fairly consistent through the month. Several veteran observers at Mount Auburn Cemetery considered the migration to be "just like the old days." When it seemed that migrants were lingering, some birders were even imagining possible nesting at Mount Auburn.

Thrush reports were fairly high this year, considerably higher than May 1989. A good count of 9 Gray-cheeked Thrushes was tallied. Swainson's Thrush numbers exploded with highs occurring May 23 and 24. American Pipits were found on Plum Island early in the month, and another was found at Bolton Flats on May 20. Cedar Waxwings continued to be reported in large numbers early in the month. All six vireo species were recorded, and the total of 6 Philadelphia Vireos reported was high.

A total of thirty-four species of warblers was noted, the same number tallied in May 1989. No Yellow-breasted Chats were reported this year, and only 5 Golden-winged Warblers were noted, down from the total of 10 seen last May. Both hybrid "winged" warblers were observed. Warbler numbers were good most of the month. On May 22-24, twenty-three species were noted at Mount Auburn with several oaks having as many as 18 species in a single tree. Unusual warbler reports included 4 Orange-crowned Warblers at Mount Auburn, 2 Yellow-throated, 4 Prothonotary, 5 Kentucky, and 6 Hooded warblers.

Cerulean Warblers returned to the Gate 40 area of Quabbin Reservation where nesting was confirmed again this year. At Crooked Pond in Boxford, an extremely pale-colored male Cerulean was seen in the same area where a pair of Ceruleans was noted in 1989. Nesting was not confirmed at this location.

Two Summer Tanagers were noted, one more than last May, but a long way from the 12 individuals in May 1988. Three Blue Grosbeaks were seen this year, one of which was beautifully photographed at a feeder in Ipswich. See photo elsewhere in this issue.

Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from East Middleboro, and another male took up residence in Medfield from midmonth through the end of May. Lincoln's Sparrows were much more in evidence this year compared with last May when only one individual was reported.

Pine Siskins lingered at many locations, and nesting was suspected at several spots. Three Red Crossbills were found at Truro, and Evening Grosbeak reports were widespread and continued into late May. R.H.S.

Eastern Bluebird				
6, 11	Lincoln, N. Truro	3, 4	BBC (J. Nove), B. Nikula	
19, 25-27	Boston, M. V.	1, 6	T. Aversa, BBC (D. Davis)	
26, 31	E. Middleboro, Plymouth	2 pr, 2	K. Anderson, G. d'Entremont	
Veery				
1; 2	E. Middleboro; MNWS, Boxford	1; 1, 1	K. Anderson; R. Forster, fide R. Stymeist	
6	P.I., Nantucket	1, 1	M. Lynch#, F. Reed	
8-25	Mt. A.	4 max 5/18	P. Iarrobino + v. o.	
22, 24	Sharon, Weston	3, 4	R. Titus, D. Morimoto	
Gray-cheeked Thrush				
14	Bridgewater, Worcester	1, 1	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
14, 17-20	Mt. A.	1, 3 max 5/18	K. Machado, v. o.	
20, 24	Bridgewater, Boston (F.Pk)	2, 1	K. Holmes, T. Aversa	
Swainson's Thrush				
9, 10	MNWS, Waltham	1, 1	T. Aversa, L. Taylor	
11-27	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	22 max 5/23, 15 max 5/24	v. o., T. Aversa	

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Hermit Thrush				
2, 4	MNWS, Plymouth (M. Standish)	9, 5	R. Forster, G. d'Entremont#	
18	Weston, Sherborn	2, 2	E. Taylor	
19, 22; 26	Sharon; Boxford	3, 2; 3	R. Titus; R. Stymeist#	
Wood Thrush				
4, 6	Boston (F.Pk), Lincoln	1, 2	T. Aversa, BBC (J. Nove)	
6	Nantucket, Ipswich	1, 1	E. Andrews#, J. Berry	
7, 14, 23	Worcester (BMB)	4, 6, 4	M. Lynch#	
9-26, 14	Mt. A., Bridgewater	3 max 5/19, 3	v. o., K. Holmes	
25-27, 30	M. V., MNWS	8, 2	BBC (D. Davis), T. Aversa	
American Robin				
6, 13	Lincoln, Gloucester	22, 22	BBC (J. Nove)	
Gray Catbird				
thr	Mt. A., Worcester (BMB)	25+ max 5/19, 26	max 5/16 v. o., M. Lynch#	
3, 6	E. Middleboro, Ipswich	1, 2	K. Anderson, J. Berry	
9, 13	Fall River, Gloucester	24, 23	R. Titus, BBC (J. Nove)	
16, 20, 22	P.I., Bolton Flats, Sharon	12, 20+, 15	D. Chickering, M. Lynch#, R. Titus	
Brown Thrasher				
4, 6	Plymouth (M. Standish), Ipswich	5, 3	G. d'Entremont#, J. Berry	
19, 26	P.I., Salem	6, 6	A. + B. Delorey, I. Lynch	
American Pipit				
5, 6; 20	P.I.; Bolton Flats	5, 1; 1	M. Lynch#	
Cedar Waxwing				
3, 16	Mt. A., Lynnfield	156, 15	R. Stymeist, H. Coolidge#	
18, 19	Fall River, Sharon	24, 24	K. Machado, R. Titus	
White-eyed Vireo				
9, 9-26	DWWS, MNWS	1, 1-3	D. Ludlow, T. Aversa + v. o.	
10, 16, 17	Worcester, Concord, Fairhaven	1, 1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Shaw, B. Blodget	
22; 28	P.I.; Westport, S. Dart.	1; 6, 4	D. Bechar, R. Stymeist#	
Solitary Vireo				
1-23, 4-25	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	6 max 5/9, 3 max 5/19	v. o., T. Aversa	
12	Petersham (2 locations)	10	M. Lynch#	
20, 22	Milton (Blue Hills), Sharon	1, 1	G. d'Entremont, R. Titus	
Yellow-throated Vireo				
5, 6	Mt. A., S. Dartmouth	1, 1	v. o., T. Raymond	
8-31, 8	Wayland, Uxbridge	1, 1	R. Forster#, T. Aversa	
9	P.I., Worcester	1, 1	D. Chickering, M. Lynch#	
13, 20	GMNWR, Milton (Blue Hills)	1, 1	R. Forster, G. d'Entremont	
22, 29	Wellesley, Bolton Flats	1, 4	R. Forster, T. Aversa	
Warbling Vireo				
1, 2-22	Wayland, Mt. A.	1, 1 or 2	R. Forster, v. o.	
2; 6	P'town; P.I., ONWR	1; 1, 1	B. Nikula; M. Lynch#	
12	Cambridge (2 locations)	20	R. Stymeist	
19, 20	Wakefield, Bolton Flats	3, 8	P. + F. Vale, M. Lynch#	
Philadelphia Vireo				
16, 17	P.I.	1, 2	T. Aversa, D. Chickering	
19, 24-25	MNWS, Mt. A.	1, 1	C. Floyd#, A. Dasinger + v. o.	
26, 27	Newbypt, W. Boylston	1, 1	G. Gove#, K. Machado	
Red-eyed Vireo				
7-31	Mt. A.	12 max 5/22	v. o.	
9, 16	Fall River, Worcester (BMB)	2, 7	R. Titus, M. Lynch#	
20	Petersham	14	M. Lynch#	
Blue-winged Warbler				
2, 4	MNWS, Natick	1, 4	R. Forster, J. Miller	
6, 9-17	Ipswich, Mt. A.	1, 1-3	J. Berry, v. o.	
12	E. Middleboro, W. Newbury	8, 9	K. Anderson#, BBC (K. Griffis)	
19, 22	Weston, Sharon	6, 7	BBC (B. Howell), R. Titus	
Golden-winged Warbler				
19, 23-31	Topsfield, Groveland	1, 1 or 2	H. Wiggin#, T. Aversa + v. o.	
26	Royalston, Newbypt	1, 1 f	B. Blodget, C. Floyd#	
"Brewster's Warbler"				
23-31	Groveland	1	T. Aversa + v. o.	
"Lawrence's Warbler"				
19	Byfield	1	R. Stymeist#	
Tennessee Warbler				
1, 7	Nantucket, Bridgewater	1, 2	E. Andrews, K. Holmes	
9-26, 16	Mt. A., Worcester (BMB)	22 max 5/22, 12	v. o., M. Lynch#	
17-25, 20	Boston (F.Pk), Braintree	11 max 5/18, 6	T. Aversa, D. Morimoto	
24, 27	Weston, P.I.	3, 3	D. Morimoto, BBC (S. Bolton)	

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Orange-crowned Warbler				
3-4, 12-13	Mt. A.	1, 1	R. Stymeist#	
19-20, 22-23	Mt. A.	1, 1	R. Abrams#, A. Bennett#	
Nashville Warbler				
2-26, 4-17	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	9 max 5/8, 3 max 5/10 v. o.,	T. Aversa	
23	Brookline, Worcester	1, 1	H. Wiggin, M. Lynch#	
Northern Parula				
1-30, 2	Mt. A., MNWS	20 max 5/23, 8	v. o., R. Forster	
3-24, 6-27	Boston (F.Pk), P.I.	9 max 5/24, 8 max 5/19	T. Aversa, v. o.	
13, 23	Gloucester, Brookline	8, 2	BBC (J. Nove), H. Wiggin	
Yellow Warbler				
2-30, 2	Mt. A., E. Middleboro	10+ max 5/19, 1	v. o., K. Holmes	
4, 6	GMNWR, Lincoln	4, 2	M. Lynch#, BBC (J. Nove)	
6-31, 12	P.I., Cambridge	29 max 5/19, 15	A. + B. Delorey#, R. Stymeist	
16, 20	Worcester (BMB), Bolton Flats	26, 28	M. Lynch#	
Chestnut-sided Warbler				
2-31	Mt. A.	15 max 5/19	v. o.	
7, 10-25	N. Middleboro, Boston (F.Pk)	1, 8 max 5/24	K. Holmes, T. Aversa	
12, 20	W. Newbury, Bolton Flats	15, 6	BBC (K. Griffis), M. Lynch#	
Magnolia Warbler				
5-26, 8-31	Boston (F.Pk), Mt. A.	25 max 5/24, 26 max 5/24	T. Aversa, v. o.	
10; 20, 26	MNWS	8; 5+, 5+	R. Forster; P. + F. Vale	
16, 23; 20	Worcester (BMB); Braintree	10, 2; 5	M. Lynch#; D. Morimoto	
22, 27	Sharon, P.I.	4, 5	R. Titus, D. Chickering	
Cape May Warbler				
8, 9	W. Newton, MNWS	1, 2	T. Kuklinski, T. Aversa	
9-10, 16-24	Mt. A.	2-4, 1 or 2	v. o.	
10, 14	Boston (F.Pk), Newbypt	2, 1	T. Aversa, D. Chickering	
16, 20	Worcester (BMB), Petersham	1, 1	M. Lynch#	
24	P.I.	1	D. Chickering	
Black-throated Blue Warbler				
5-30, 10-26	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	15 max 5/11, 3 max 5/24	v. o., T. Aversa	
12	MNWS, P.I.	4, 2	J. Brown, D. Chickering	
12, 20	Petersham	4, 7	M. Lynch#	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
1-27	Mt. A.	80 max 5/2	v. o.	
2, 12	P'town	150, 25	B. Nikula	
3, 26	Wayland	100, 1	R. Forster	
6, 14, 28	P.I.	29, 15, 1	M. Lynch#, D. Chickering, P. + F. Vale	
7, 9, 16	Worcester (BMB)	15+, 10+, 4	M. Lynch#	
Black-throated Green Warbler				
2-30, 5-25	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	20 max 5/23, 8 max 5/18	v. o., T. Aversa	
6	Lincoln, Boxford	5, 5	BBC (J. Nove), W. Petersen#	
7	Petersham	10+	A. Hill	
7, 9, 14	Worcester (BMB)	2, 4, 2	M. Lynch#	
Blackburnian Warbler				
3-29	Mt. A.	21 max 5/23	v. o.	
6, 9	Boxford, Stoughton	2, 2	W. Petersen#, R. Titus	
9, 16, 23	Worcester (BMB)	1, 5, 2	M. Lynch#	
19	Newbypt, P.I.	4, 4	J. Berry, A. + B. Delorey	
20, 22	Petersham, Sharon	3, 4	M. Lynch#, R. Titus	
24, 27	Boston (F.Pk), P.I.	5, 3	T. Aversa, BBC (S. Bolton)	
28	Weston	3	D. Morimoto	
Yellow-throated Warbler				
1, 4	Wayland (Hearsd Pd), Mt. A	1 m, 1 m	R. Forster#, D. F. Oliver# + v. o.	
Pine Warbler				
6	Hamilton, Lincoln	2, 7	J. Berry, BBC (J. Nove)	
9, 12	Fall River, Petersham	5, 3	R. Titus, M. Lynch#	
20, 22	Gardner, Sharon	2, 5	M. Lynch#, R. Titus	
Prairie Warbler				
8	Middleboro-Bridgewater, Sharon	8, 2	K. Holmes, R. Titus	
9	Stoughton, Fall River	2, 12	R. Titus	
9-25, 11	Mt. A., Ipswich	4 max 5/19, 1	v. o., J. Berry	
16, 22	Worcester, Sharon	3, 12	M. Lynch#, R. Titus	
26, 31	Milton (Blue Hills), Dover (Noanet)	6, 2	BBC (G. d'Entremont), P. Iarrobino	
Palm Warbler				
1-8, 15-16, 22-24	Mt. A.	4 max 5/3, 1, 1	v. o.	
13, 16	P.I.	1, 1	D. Chickering	

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Bay-breasted Warbler				
9, 11-31	MNWS, Mt. A.	3, 13 max 5/19	T. Aversa, v. o.	
16, 23; 16, 25	Worcester (BMB); Wenham	11, 3; 2, 2	M. Lynch#; J. Brown	
16, 17-25	P.I., Boston (F.Pk)	2, 3 max 5/25	D. Chickering, T. Aversa	
20, 24	Braintree, Weston	5, 2	D. Morimoto	
Blackpoll Warbler				
9-31, 18-31	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	12 max 5/22, 5	max 5/25 v. o., T. Aversa	
20, 26	Braintree, P'town	5, 15	D. Morimoto, B. Nikula	
Cerulean Warbler				
12	Quabbin (G40)	pair	M. Lynch#	
19-31	Boxford	2 m	R. Heil + v. o.	
Black-and-white Warbler				
thr, 1-26	Boston (F.Pk), Mt. A.	15 max 5/5, 15	max 5/19 T. Aversa, v. o.	
7, 16, 23	Worcester (BMB)	3, 4, 4	M. Lynch#	
8, 9	Sharon, MNWS	8, 28	R. Titus, T. Aversa	
12, 16	W. Newbury, P.I.	6, 8	BBC (K. Griffis), D. Chickering	
American Redstart				
9, 9-31	MNWS, Mt. A.	4, 35 max 5/19	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
9, 16, 23	Worcester (BMB)	2, 9, 8	M. Lynch#	
11-31, 12	Boston (F.Pk), Waltham	24 max 5/24, 4	T. Aversa, L. Taylor	
20	Bolton, Petersham	8, 14	M. Lynch#	
24, 26	Weston, MNWS	5, 10+	D. Morimoto, P. + F. Vale	
27, 31	P.I., Dover (Noanet)	10+, 14	J. Berry, P. Iarrobino	
Prothonotary Warbler				
1-9, 8	MNWS, Weston	1 f, 1 m	v. o., fide R. Stymeist	
8-9	Cambridge (F.P.)	1 m	J. Barton + v. o.	
19	Essex	1	A. Bennett#	
Worm-eating Warbler				
4, 6, 8, 18, 23	Mt. A.	1 each day	v. o.	
8, 15-28	Bridgewater, Weston	1, 1	K. Holmes, D. Morimoto	
20, 26	Milton (Blue Hills)	1, 2+	G. d'Entremont#	
Ovenbird				
2, 11; 4-26	E. Middleboro; Mt. A.	1, 3; 6 max 5/23	K. Anderson, v. o.	
6; 7-31	Ipswich, Boxford; Worcester (BMB)	1, 2; 5 max 5/9	J. Berry; M. Lynch#	
8, 22; 9	Sharon; Fall River	14, 26; 13	R. Titus	
10, 11-26	Nahant, Boston (F.Pk)	4, 5 max 5/24	R. Forster, T. Aversa	
15, 20	Quabbin (G40), Petersham	12, 21	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
20, 24	Milton (Blue Hills), Weston	6, 8	G. d'Entremont, D. Morimoto	
31	Dover (Noanet)	8	P. Iarrobino	
Northern Waterthrush				
1-8, 15, 23	Mt. A.	4 max, 1, 1	v. o.	
1	Boston (F.Pk), Holliston	1, 5	T. Aversa	
2, 12	MNWS, Cambridge (Charles R.)	3, 5	R. Forster, R. Stymeist	
Louisiana Waterthrush				
thr	Boxford (C.P.)	3 singing m	v. o.	
20	Petersham, Princeton	3, 1	M. Lynch#, M. Boucher	
20-26, 22	Milton (Blue Hills), Westport	1+, 1	G. d'Entremont, R. Stymeist#	
23	Boxford (C.P.)	nest w/ 5 yg	W. Petersen#	
Kentucky Warbler				
8; 10, 16	Uxbridge; Mt. A.	1; 1, 1	T. Aversa; v. o.	
12	Boston (F.Pk), MNWS	1, 1	T. Aversa, R. Heil#	
Mourning Warbler				
20-31, 25	Mt. A., P.I.	1 or 2, 1	v. o., D. Bechar	
26	Salem, Lynn	1, 1	I. Lynch, J. Quigley	
26-28	P'town	1 or 2	B. Nikula#	
Common Yellowthroat				
2, 4	MNWS, GMNWR	1, 1	R. Forster, M. Lynch#	
7-31, 8-27	Worcester (BMB), Mt. A.	29 max 5/16, 9	max 5/23 M. Lynch#, v. o.	
10; 20, 26	MNWS	8; 10+, 10+	R. Forster; P. + F. Vale	
19, 20	P.I., Bolton	14, 28	A. + B. Delorey, M. Lynch#	
22, 31	Sharon, Dover (Noanet)	20, 8	R. Titus, P. Iarrobino	
Hooded Warbler				
1-3, 15-16, 23	Mt. A.	2, 1 f, 1 f	v. o.	
19, 22	P.I., Sharon	1 f, 1 m	H. Wiggin#, R. Titus	
Wilson's Warbler				
8-28, 10-25	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	11 max 5/23, 5	max 5/24 v. o., T. Aversa	
20, 26	MNWS	5+, 1	P. + F. Vale	
Canada Warbler				
10-27, 17-26	Mt. A., Boston (F.Pk)	20 max 5/19, 13	max 5/24 v. o., T. Aversa	
20, 22	Braintree, Sharon	4, 4	D. Morimoto, R. Titus	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Summer Tanager 17, 19	Mt. A., Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1, 1	A. Scott#, R. Forster#	
Scarlet Tanager 6, 7	P.I., Brookline	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Stymeist	
8	Middleboro, Nantucket	1, 1	K. Holmes, E. Andrews	
8-29, 9-31	Mt. A., Worcester (BMB)	7 max 5/19, 13	max 5/16 v. o., M. Lynch#	
12, 15-31	Waltham, Sherborn	2 m, 10 max	L. Taylor, E. Taylor	
20, 26	Milton (Blue Hills)	8, 7	G. d'Entremont#	
22, 24	Sharon, Weston	6, 8	R. Titus, D. Morimoto	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak 5, 6, 7	Nantucket	6, 13, 9	E. Andrews	
8, 9-26	Ipswich, Mt. A.	1, 12 max 5/12	J. Berry, v. o.	
9-31	Worcester (BMB)	12 max 5/16	M. Lynch#	
11, 12	Canton (F.M.)	1, 6	E. Taylor	
16, 19	Marlboro, P.I.	2, 13	R. Graefe, A. + B. Delorey	
Blue Grosbeak 8-10	Marshfield	1	fide D. Clapp	
19-25, 24	Ipswich, P'town	1 ph, 1	S. Burton, S. Highley	
Indigo Bunting 6, 10	Nantucket, Boston (F.Pk)	1, 1	E. Andrews, T. Aversa	
11-19, 15	Mt. A., Wellesley	4 max 5/18, 1	v. o., R. Forster	
30	Newbury	3	D. Chickering	
Rufous-sided Towhee 8, 16	Sharon, Worcester (BMB)	26, 11	R. Titus, M. Lynch#	
25-27, 26	M. V., Milton (Blue Hills)	76, 14	BBC (D. Davis), BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
27	Newburyport area	20	BBC (S. Bolton)	
Chipping Sparrow thr	Mt. A.	12-15 pair	v. o.	
Clay-colored Sparrow 12, 18-31	E. Middleboro, Medfield	1, 1	K. Anderson, H. Robbins# + v. o.	
Field Sparrow 12, 16	E. Middleboro, Worcester (BMB)	nest w/ 3 eggs, 6	K. Anderson#, M. Lynch#	
22, 30	Sharon, Newbury	3, 4	R. Titus, D. Chickering	
Vesper Sparrow 22	P'town	2	T. Aversa	
Savannah Sparrow 1, 4	Wakefield, Boston (F.Pk)	15, 4	P. + F. Vale, T. Aversa	
6, 13	P.I., Arlington	2, 1	M. Lynch#, L. Taylor	
Grasshopper Sparrow 25-27	M. V.	2	BBC (D. Davis)	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow 16-31, 16	P.I., W. Falmouth	20+ max 5/26, 1	v. o., B. Blodget	
16, 22; 26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd); N. Scituate	10, 8; 1	LCES (J. Hill); G. d'Entremont#	
Seaside Sparrow 16, 26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), P.I.	3, 3 or 4	LCES (J. Hill), R. McHale#	
Song Sparrow 6, 25-27	P.I., M. V.	27, 65	M. Lynch#, BBC (D. Davis)	
Lincoln's Sparrow 7-8, 10	Petersham, Belmont	1, 1	W. Fregeau, L. Taylor	
11, 19; 12-25	Boston (F.Pk); Mt. A.	1, 1; 6 or 7	T. Aversa; v. o.	
19, 22, 23	IRWS, Sharon, P.I.	2, 1, 1	J. Brown, R. Titus, A. Williams	
Swamp Sparrow 2, 19	MNWS, Mt. A.	10, 1	R. Forster, v. o.	
19, 20	IRWS, Bolton Flats	4, 12	J. Brown, M. Lynch#	
White-throated Sparrow 2, 10	MNWS	75, 35	R. Forster	
3, 23	Mt. A.	100+, 4	R. Stymeist#	
10, 28	Nahant, P.I.	35, 1	R. Forster, P. + F. Vale	
White-crowned Sparrow 4, 12, 20, 23	Mt. A.	1, 1, 1, 1	v. o.	
5-8, 5	Nantucket, Rowley	1, 1	E. Andrews#, M. Argue#	
7, 10	Petersham, Nahant	1, 3	A. Hill, R. Forster	
11-22, 15	P.I., IRWS	5 max 5/22, 1	v. o., K. Machado	
16	Worcester (BMB), Boston (F.Pk)	2, 1	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
19, 22	Wakefield, E. Middleboro	1, 1	P. + F. Vale, K. Anderson	
Dark-eyed Junco 2, 20	Mt. A., Petersham	4, 1	R. Stymeist, M. Lynch#	
Bobolink 13	Bolton Flats, Acton	3, 100+	M. Lynch#, R. Forster	
19-31, 19	Sherborn, Mt. A.	12, 1	E. Taylor, M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1990
Red-winged Blackbird				
6, 15	P.I., Lynnfield	120+, 26	M. Lynch#, BBC (W. Van Cor)	
20	Bolton Flats	50+	M. Lynch#	
Eastern Meadowlark				
thr	Holliston, Sharon	2, 3	T. Aversa, R. Titus	
16	Beverly (airport)	2	J. Brown	
Rusty Blackbird				
2	GMNWR, Wayland	5, 1	C. Floyd#, W. Petersen#	
Brown-headed Cowbird				
8	Sharon (Ward Farm)	70	R. Titus	
Orchard Oriole				
2, 12, 16	Mt. A.	1 ad m, 1 imm m, 1 f	v. o.	
8, 9	N. Dartmouth, Woburn	1 imm m, 1 imm m	M. Boucher, J. Berry	
11, 13	Milford, Acton	1 ad m, 1 imm m	M. Lynch#, R. Forster	
15	Wayland, Sudbury	3, 1	R. Forster	
15, 15-31	Newbury, Wellesley	2, 1 imm m	D. Chickering, R. Forster	
19, 26	Middleboro, Peabody	1 imm m, 1 ad m	+ 1 f W. Petersen#, R. Stymeist#	
27	P.I.	1	D. Chickering	
Northern Oriole				
2	Concord, Wayland	1, 1	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen#	
2, 4-31	N. Middleboro, Mt. A.	1, 10 max 5/19	K. Holmes, v. o.	
4-31, 5	Boston (F.Pk), Newbypt	16 max 5/18, 2	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
8, 16	Sharon, Worcester (BMB)	6 m, 13	R. Titus, M. Lynch#	
Purple Finch				
1, 2	Nantucket	1 m + 4 f, 5 m + 5 f	E. Andrews	
2, 8	Acton, Sharon	4, 3	R. Forster, R. Titus	
11, 23	Mt. A., P.I.	4, 5	P. Shapiro#, A. Williams	
House Finch				
28	Annisquam	9 nests	B. Rielly#	
Red Crossbill				
11	N. Truro	3	B. Nikula	
Pine Siskin				
2, 6; 2	Nantucket; MNWS	1, 3; 1	E. Andrews; R. Forster	
2; 3, 4	Quincy; Mt. A.	1; 3, 2	G. d'Entremont; R. Stymeist#	
6	Boxford, Ipswich	2+, 1	W. Petersen#, J. Berry	
11, 12, 19	N. Truro	2, 1, 7	B. Nikula#	
18, 19	Boxford, Wenham	1, 1	J. Brown	
Evening Grosbeak				
2, 6	P'town, Mt. A.	1, 1	B. Nikula, G. d'Entremont*	
6, 9-10	Lincoln, MNWS	23, 1	BBC (J. Nove), T. Aversa#	
9-10, 13	Hopkinton, Ipswich	1, 10	G. Gove#, J. Berry	
19, 20	P.I., Westford	8-10, 2	J. Berry, J. Jones	
22, 23	Sharon, Boxford	2, 1	R. Titus, W. Petersen#	

BIRD OBSERVER FIELD RECORDS

Bird Observer monthly field records represent observations from the ten counties of eastern Massachusetts (Essex, Middlesex, Worcester, Suffolk, Norfolk, Plymouth, Bristol, Barnstable, Duke, and Nantucket). Although space does not permit the inclusion of all sightings submitted, the compilers attempt to present sufficient data to document early and late dates for migratory species, maximum counts for migrants, and high or low numbers for the more common species and to note species outside of their normal ranges.

Please send eastern Massachusetts field records of any given month, no later than the 8th of the subsequent month, to Robert H. Stymeist, 98 Boylston Street, Watertown, MA 02172. The basic information that should be submitted is species name, date and place of observation, an accurate count or careful estimate, sex (if determinable), immature or adult plumage, vocalizations (if any), and observers. Species should be arranged in the current A.O.U. (American Ornithologists' Union) checklist order. Reports of species that can be difficult to identify should include details of the diagnostic characteristics observed or heard that led to the identification.

All field records received by *Bird Observer* are archived at the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

ABOUT THE COVER: BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER

Various groups of birds are appreciated for different reasons: warblers for their brightly colored plumage, thrushes for their musical songs, hawks for their spectacular migrations. But for devotees of shorebirds, it is something different—an indefinable mystique. For some, the diligent inspection of the coloration of minute feather-edgings or determining the length and curvature of a bill presents a challenging identification problem that is totally absorbing. But beyond that, there is about these birds the aura of wildness, of the distant unknown. Many shorebirds breed in the Arctic, an area generally unfamiliar to local observers. The "wind birds," as Peter Matthiessen calls them, journey between their tundra nesting grounds and distant wintering areas, pausing in Massachusetts for only brief periods in favored localities to feed and fatten before continuing their migration.

Of the thirty or so species that occur in Massachusetts, perhaps none is more the quintessential shorebird than the Black-bellied Plover. A medium-to-large-sized charadriid, it occurs commonly in coastal locations, is conspicuous in time-honored shorebird areas, is strikingly patterned and readily identified. The call note is a mellow, plaintive, treble whistle, easily learned and once learned, not forgotten. The sound invokes the essence of wildness, even when heard in the most urban environment.

An adult in full alternate, or breeding, plumage has evenly black underparts extending beyond the legs. The head and neck are mostly white, and the back is marbled black and white. Winter birds are overall grayish in tone (hence, the British name, Grey Plover) with paler flecks scattered liberally over the upperparts. In flight they are readily identified in any plumage by the white tail, white wing stripe, and black axillars, or "armpits." Adults in transitional plumage are mottled black and white on the underparts and are often referred to as "speckle-bellies."

In Massachusetts Black-bellied Plovers are found almost exclusively along the coast. At low tide they feed along extensive sand and mud flats. Unlike many sandpipers that tend to pick steadily, this typical plover runs several feet, stops, looks, picks, and then runs again. This manner of feeding coupled with a robust body, large head (hence "beetlehead," the name bestowed by market gunners of a former era), and short thick bill serve to identify them even at great distances. During high tide they retreat to coastal marshes or pools or areas near dunes. By nature they are very wary, seemingly always alert and ready to sound the alarm at the first sign of danger.

In coastal Massachusetts this plover is a spring and fall migrant, but the spring movement is rapid. A few begin filtering in during the latter half of April with numbers slowly building into mid-May. The bulk of the migration then

moves through rapidly during the last third of May. Returning migrants, probably nonbreeders, begin appearing in mid-July. From then until early November, the migration is very protracted, with a peak of adult birds occurring in mid-to-late August and a second peak comprising both adults and juveniles occurring in late September. After November, numbers are greatly reduced, but usually a few hardy individuals attempt to survive the winter, especially on Cape Cod. The Black-bellied Plover has an extensive winter range reaching from coastal mid-Atlantic states south to Brazil. Richard A. Forster

MEET OUR COVER ARTIST

Bird Observer is delighted to have another of Paul Donahue's pictures on the cover. Paul, a native of Winchester educated at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, began his career as ornithologist/artist with several years of internship at Manomet Bird Observatory. He has been a birding tour guide and traveled extensively in North America and Ireland and over much of Central and South America. Since 1972, he has spent about half of each year in South America. He spent four years in bird-related travel (two years in Peru), netting and painting birds, especially shorebirds. He was for six seasons a resident naturalist at the Explorer's Inn, a lodge in the Tambopata Nature Reserve in the upper Amazon basin of eastern Peru, where he tape-recorded bird vocalizations and worked on a long-term survey of the avifauna. Paul's last several field seasons at Tambopata have been spent, literally, up in the rain forest canopy. He has constructed observation platforms as high as one hundred and twenty-five feet above the ground in the canopy of twenty large, emergent trees. The platforms are reached via climbing ropes and rope ascenders. Paul's canopy studies will continue over the next several years and will lead to a series of paintings of birds of that habitat.

Paul is author or coauthor of a number of papers on the distribution and behavior of neotropical birds and published (with Jan Pierson) in 1982 *Birds of Surinam—An Annotated Checklist*. His paintings have appeared in *Wilson Bulletin*, *American Birds*, and other publications.

In addition to tropical birds, Paul's favorite subjects are shorebirds and raptors. We have printed on this month's cover a black-and-white photograph taken by the artist of one of his shorebird paintings. Paul now lives for part of the year in Machias, Maine 04654 (P.O. Box 554). Dorothy R. Arvidson

June's photo plainly depicts a shorebird. The feature that is most striking in the picture is the series of heavy dark markings that extend along the sides well down onto the flanks and across the belly. Also noteworthy is the fairly heavy, long, and slightly decurved blunt bill. A small whitish mark anterior to the eye and a dusky breast round out the features that make the pictured bird distinctive and its identification reasonably straightforward.

The longish and slightly decurved stout bill immediately removes plovers as possibilities, while the heavy patterning on the underparts eliminates the structurally similar Red Knot. Few East Coast scolopacids (sandpipers) have such prominent and extensive flank markings, most notably the juvenile Dunlin, White-rumped Sandpiper, and Purple Sandpiper.

Despite the fact that the pictured species appears to have the long-winged appearance of a White-rumped Sandpiper, the overall darkness of the bird, heaviness of the bill and ventral markings, and the absence of a pale supercilium (eyebrow stripe) all serve to discount that species. Likewise, the relatively undrooped and blunt bill tip, extensive dusky wash across the upper breast, and the prominent white mark in front of the eye remove the Dunlin as a candidate.

At this point only the Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*) remains as a possibility, which is precisely what this mystery sandpiper is. The Purple Sandpiper is identified by the combination of the bold pattern on its underparts, dusky chest markings, heavy blunt bill, white mark in front of the eye, and chunky build. The species' short legs and preference for rocks are also suggested by the photograph. Its hardy constitution makes it one of only a handful of sandpiper species regularly occurring in New England during the winter. The individual in the picture was photographed in May at Scituate, Massachusetts.



Photo by Wayne R. Petersen

AT A GLANCE

Photo by Wayne R. Petersen



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CONTENTS

BIRD FINDING AT SACHUEST POINT, RHODE ISLAND, AND ENVIRONS Alan E. Strauss	196
THOREAU: SPEAKING FOR BIRDS Richard K. Walton	205
EVOLUTION OF DISTRACTION DISPLAY BEHAVIOR IN BIRDS William E. Davis, Jr.	211
FIELD NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE	
Black-and-White Distraction Dorothy Louise Case	215
Accipiter Interaction at a Cooper's Nest Tom Aversa	215
Airport Sandpipers Phillips Hallowell	216
Outdoor Work: The Bird Finder's Advantage . . . Chuck Aversa	216
PHOTO FEATURE: BIRDS OF MAY 1990	218
A Plethora of Grosbeaks Sue Burton	
Chuck-will's-widow at Marblehead Neck Torrey Jackson	
Fork-tailed Flycatcher in Concord Jack Murray	
FIELD RECORDS: APRIL 1990	220
FIELD RECORDS: MAY 1990	233
ABOUT THE COVER: Black-bellied Plover Richard A. Forster	248
MEET OUR COVER ARTIST: Paul K. Donahue Dorothy R. Arvidson	249
AT A GLANCE Wayne R. Petersen	250
Cover Illustration: Black-bellied Plover by Paul K. Donahue	
