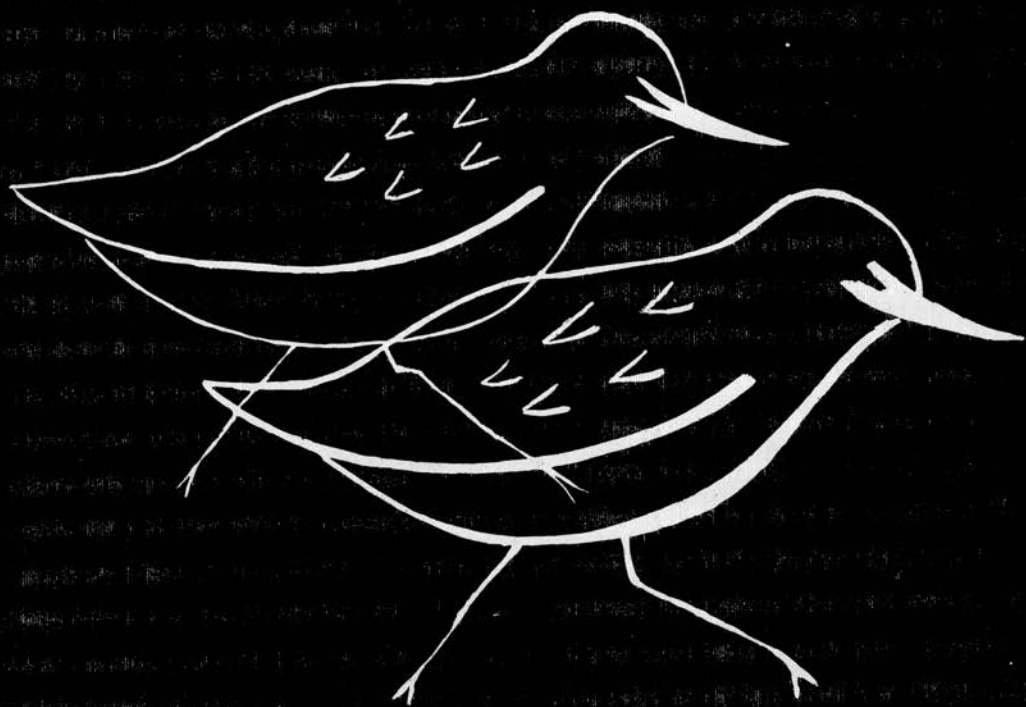


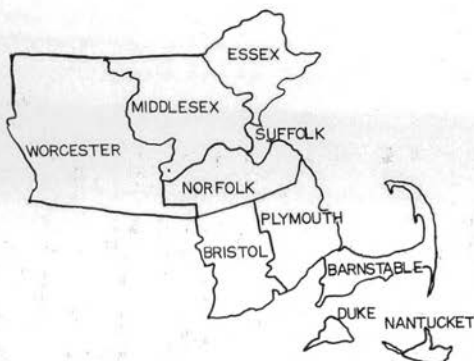
BIRD OBSERVER

OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS



VOL. 4 NO. 4
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MUD HEN



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Send all bird reports to Mrs. Ruth P. Emery
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Reports should be received by the 10th of the month following the date of the sighting.



EDITOR'S PAGE

Observers this fall should be aware of color-marked Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers in Massachusetts. In James Bay, the Canadian Wildlife Service is color-dyeing and color-banding individuals of these species, while in the South American country of Surinam, birds are being banded with two orange color bands. In each case, the criteria to note are the color and position of the color bands (i.e. red above white, etc.) and the color of the dye, which would be on the breast. All birds will also be banded with one standard aluminum band.

Report birds with orange bands to: Arie L. Spaans
Surinam Forest Service
P.O. Box 436
Paramaraibo
Surinam, S. A.

Other birds should be reported to the Manomet Bird Observatory, Manomet, Massachusetts, 02345, or to the Massachusetts Audubon Society, Great Road, South Lincoln, Massachusetts, 01773.

COLOR-DYED GEESE

More than 300 Snow Geese were dyed yellow or orange last winter at the Mackay Island N. W. R. in Virginia. Sightings this autumn of such birds should be reported to Refuge Manager, Missisquoi N. W. R., RFD 2, Swanton, VT. 05488. Include details of where any bird was seen, the color, and date of observation.

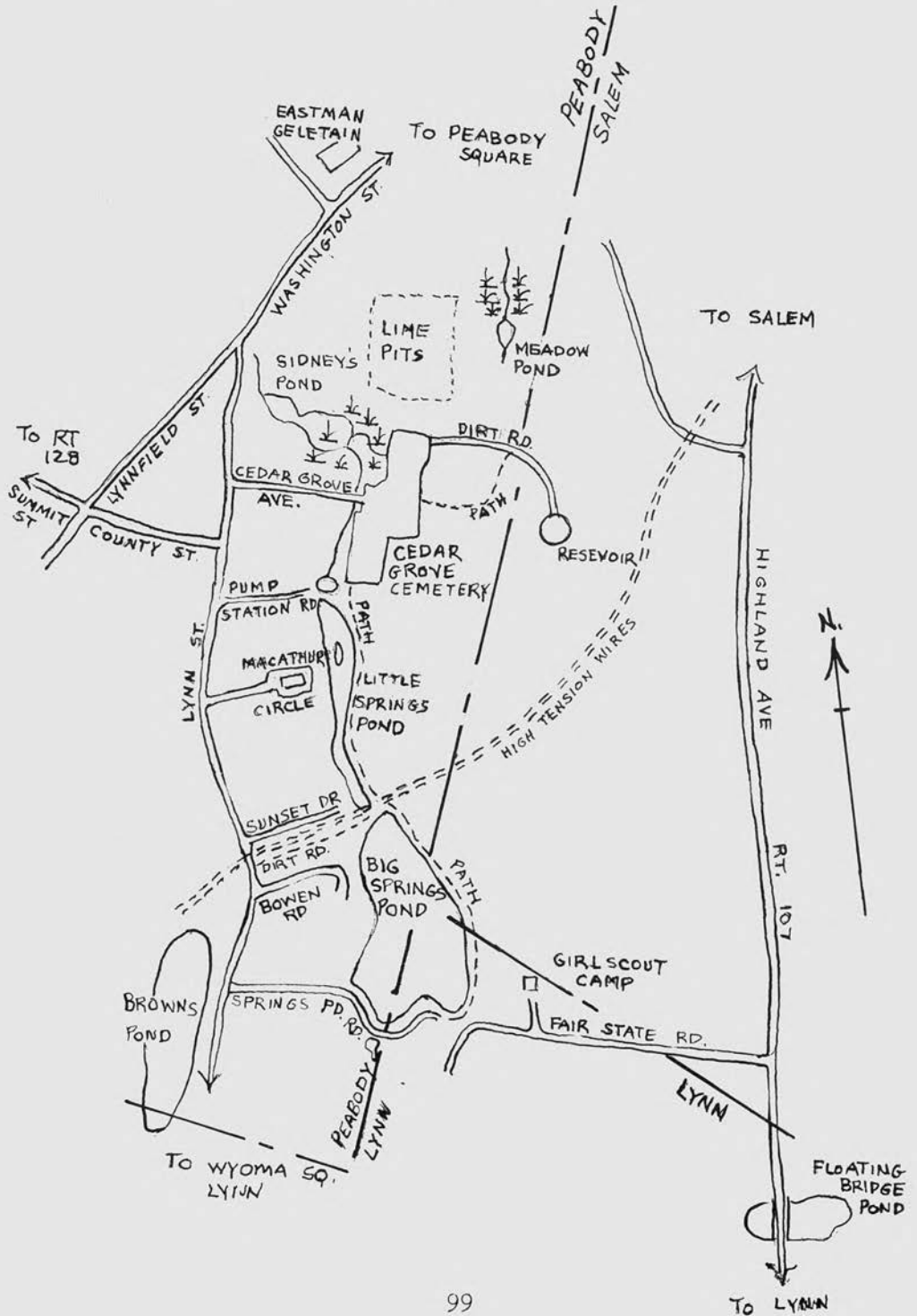
L. J. R.

TIDE TABLE

The following tide table for Boston and Newburyport Harbor is according to Eastern Standard Time for October and November. Add one hour for Daylight Savings Time. (For best shore bird and gull results, be at the harbor approximately four hours before or after high tide.)

	<u>High Tide</u>	<u>High Tide</u>
Sat October 2	6:14 am	6:36 pm
Sun October 3	7:18 am	7:41 pm
Sat October 9	11:39 am	---
Sun October 10	12:04 am	12:17 pm
Mon October 11	12:43 am	12:55 pm
Sat October 16	4:30 am	4:48 pm
Sun October 17	5:25 am	5:44 pm
Sat October 23	10:39 am	11:10 pm
Sun October 24	11:28 am	---
Sat October 30	4:48 am	5:07 pm
Sun October 31	5:49 am	6:12 pm
Sat November 6	10:33 am	11:01 pm
Sun November 7	11:10 am	11:39 pm
Sat November 13	3:10 am	3:22 pm
Sun November 14	3:59 am	4:16 pm
Sat November 12	9:24 am	9:57 pm
Sun November 21	10:17 am	10:52 pm
Sat November 27	3:21 am	3:39 pm
Sun November 28	4:19 am	4:38 pm

SPRINGS POND AREA



BIRDS OF SPRINGS POND AREA, PEABODY-SALEM

by Rick S. Heil, Peabody

The Springs Pond area is comprised of approximately 700 acres in three cities, mostly Peabody and Salem, but also a small section in Lynn. The area has a large variety of birdlife because of its many and varied habitats. Most of the area is deciduous woodland, primarily of oak, but there are several wooded swamps as well. Although White Pine is scarce, Pitch Pine can be found in several sections. There are many acres of rolling grassy hills and brushland around, and to the east of, the lime pits. These ponds, or "pits," are where the Eastman Gelatin Company dumps lime used in processing film. This area is completely enclosed by a chain link fence. There are four ponds: Big Springs Pond, Little Springs Pond, Sidney's Pond, and Meadow Pond. Sidney's Pond contains an eleven or twelve acre cattail marsh. Big Springs Pond is large and its rocky shores are evidence of its glacial origin.

Another reason for the large variety and numbers of birds in the area during migration is probably because the hills, which average 150-200 feet above sea level, run north to south--providing a natural ridge for migrants to follow. The Springs Pond area is 2.5 miles from Nahant Bay and 3 miles from Salem Harbor.

The best spots to observe the spring warbler migration are along the wooded shores of Big and Little Springs Pond. There are paths running along the shores of both of these ponds. The path along Little Springs Pond enters the woods at the south end of Cedar Grove Cemetery. This section of the path from the edge of the cemetery to where a stone wall runs up the side of the hill contains thick underbrush and is especially good in spring for warblers, such as Northern Parula, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, and Canada. On rarer occasions, a Mourning or a Hooded Warbler might be seen here. Pine Warblers can be seen in the Pitch Pines just north of the Girl Scout camp during the third week in April. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and dozens of Palm Warblers can also be found here. To get to the area, take Fair State Road off Highland Avenue where there is a parking lot at the Girl Scout Camp. Pine Grosbeaks, Red Crossbills, an Orange-crowned Warbler and a Boreal Chickadee were found in these same Pitch Pines one day last October.

Take Cedar Grove Avenue off Lynn Street to enter Cedar Grove Cemetery. Proceed to the rear of the cemetery, where behind the garage there is a path which leads through some very dense deciduous woods. The following birds can frequently be seen here during migration: Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Olive-sided Flycatchers, Tennessee and Canada Warblers, and last May a Summer Tanager was found.

The cattail marsh at Sidney's Pond has resident Least and American Bitterns, Virginia Rails, Long-billed Marsh Wrens and Swamp Sparrows and an occasional Common Gallinule or Gadwall. Virginia Rails, Common Snipes, Swamp Sparrows, and as many as five American Bitterns also survive the winter here.

Nesting birds at Springs Pond area include: Broad-winged Hawks, Killdeers, Spotted Sandpipers, Black-billed Cuckoos, Warbling Vireos, Scarlet Tanagers, Indigo Buntings, Field and Swamp Sparrows.

The lime pits are the best spots in the fall. Here dozens of migrating Savannah, White-crowned and Song Sparrows feed on weed seeds, and a few Vesper and Lincoln's Sparrows come through each fall. The shallow chalky pools of the lime pits are good for shorebirds, considering it is an inland location. As many as one-hundred Greater and some Lesser Yellowlegs come in to rest each night. Other shorebirds seen here one or more times include: Golden and Black-bellied Plovers, Solitary, Pectoral, Least, and Semi-palmated Sandpipers and Dunlins. Other birds seen at the lime pits in fall are Marsh Hawks, Merlins, Sora Rails and Rusty Blackbirds. Last spring a male Clay-colored Sparrow set up a territory and sang constantly, until Field Sparrows drove him off.

During October, one or two Ospreys usually fish Big Springs Pond. This pond in winter occasionally harbours some Common and Hooded Mergansers, Common Goldeneyes, Buffleheads and occasional Ruddy and Ring-necked Ducks.

Birding in the Springs Pond area is not always exciting, with mid-summer and mid-winter usually being most unproductive. Being such a large area, birds must often be searched out. Motorcycles very often become a nuisance, especially around Big Springs Pond and in the fields around the lime pits--even to the point of scaring off nesting Bobolinks.

The following list of 179 species and their seasonal abundance, including all the birds I

have previously mentioned, have all been recorded since March, 1974. Forty-three species have nested.

SEASONS

1. Feb., Mar.
2. Apr., May
3. Jun., Jul.
4. Aug., Sep.
5. Oct., Nov.
6. Dec., Jan.

ABUNDANCE

- A - Abundant
- C - Common
- U - Uncommon
- O - Occasional
- R - Rare
- 1 - Has only been recorded once.

* - Nesting has occurred.

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Common Loon			R			
Red-throated Loon					R	R
Pied-billed Grebe	O	O			U	O
Double-crested Cormorant		O	R		O	
Great Blue Heron	O	O	R	O	O	
Green Heron		O	O	U		
Cattle Egret		R				
Snowy Egret				R		
Little Blue Heron		R				
Black-crowned Night Heron		O	O	O		
Least Bittern			O	R		
American Bittern	O	O	O	O	O	O
Glossy Ibis			R			
Canada Goose		O	O	O	O	O
*Mallard	U	U	U	U	U	U
*Black Duck	U	U	U	U	U	U
Gadwall				R		
Pintail	R					R
Green-winged Teal		R			O	
Blue-winged Teal	R	O		O		
Wood Duck	R	R	R	R	O	
Ring-necked Duck	O					
Common Goldeneye	O					R
Bufflehead	U	O			U	O
Ruddy Duck					R	
Hooded Merganser	R	R				R
Common Merganser	R	O				O
Red-breasted Merganser		1				
Sharp-shinned Hawk		O			O	
Red-tailed Hawk	O	O	R	O	O	R
*Broad-winged Hawk		O	O	O		
Marsh Hawk		R			R	
Osprey		O			O	
Merlin					R	
*American Kestrel	O	C	R	O	C	R
Ruffed Grouse	R					
*Ring-necked Pheasant	U	U	U	U	U	U
*Virginia Rail	O	U	U	U	U	O
Sora Rail		O		O		
Common Gallinule			O	O	O	
American Coot	O	O	O	O	O	O
*Killdeer	O	O	O	O	O	R
Golden Plover				R		
Black-bellied Plover				R		
American Woodcock	O	R				
Common Snipe	O	O			O	O
*Spotted Sandpiper		U	U	O	U	
Solitary Sandpiper		R	R	O	O	
Greater Yellowlegs		R		U	U	
Lesser Yellowlegs		R	R	O	O	
Pectoral Sandpiper					R	
Least Sandpiper		O	R	R		

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Semipalmated Sandpiper				R		
Short-billed Dowitcher			R			
Dunlin					R	
Great-black Backed Gull	U	U	Ø	O	U	U
Herring Gull	C	C	C	C	C	C
Ring-billed Gull	R					R
Bonaparte's Gull					R	
Least Tern			1			
Rock Dove	U	U	U	U	U	U
*Mourning Dove	O	U	U	O	O	O
*Black-billed Cuckoo			O	O	O	
Screech Owl	U	U	U	U	U	U
Common Nighthawk			O	O	C	R
Chimney Swift			C	C	C	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird			R	R	R	
Belted Kingfisher	O	O	O	O	O	R
*Common Flicker	R	C	C	C	U	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			O		R	
Hairy Woodpecker	O	O	R	R	O	R
*Downy Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	U	O
*Eastern Kingbird			C	C	U	
Great-crested Flycatcher			C	O	O	
Eastern Phoebe			C	O	O	O
Least Flycatcher			O	R	O	
Eastern Wood Peewee			O	O	O	
Olive-sided Flycatcher			R	R		
Tree Swallow			U	U	O	
Rough-winged Swallow			O	O	O	
Barn Swallow			U	O	U	
*Blue Jay	U	U	U	U	U	U
*Common Crow	U	U	U	U	U	U
Fish Crow			R			
*Black-capped Chickadee	U	U	U	U	U	U
Boreal Chickadee					R	
*Tufted Titmouse	U	U	U	U	O	O
White-breasted Nuthatch	O	O	O	O	O	O
Red-breasted Nuthatch			O	R	O	O
Brown Creeper	O	O			O	O
*House Wren		U	U	U	O	
Winter Wren	R	O			O	
*Long-billed Marsh Wren			O	O	O	
*Mockingbird	O	U	O	O	U	O
*Gray Catbird			C	C	C	O
*Brown Thrasher			C	C	U	O
*American Robin	O	C	C	C	C	R
Wood Thrush			O	R	O	
Hermit Thrush			C			O
Swainson's Thrush		U			O	O
Gray-cheeked Thrush				R		
Veery			O	R	O	
Eastern Bluebird			O		O	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			U			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	R	C			U	O
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		C		O	U	R
*Cedar Waxwing		U	U	U	O	
Northern Shrike	R					
*Starling	C	C	C	C	C	C
Yellow-throated Vireo			R			
Solitary Vireo		U				
Red-eyed Vireo		U	R	O		
*Warbling Vireo		O	O			
Black and White Warbler		C		C	R	
Golden-winged Warbler		R		R		
Blue-winged Warbler		O		R		
Tennessee Warbler		U			R	
Orange-crowned Warbler					R	

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Nashville Warbler		U	R	R		
Northern Parula		C		U		
*Yellow Warbler		C	U	U		
Magnolia Warbler		U	R	O		
Cape May Warbler		O		O	R	
Black-throated Blue Warbler		U		U	O	
Yello-rumped Warbler		A		A	C	
Black-throated Green Warbler		U	R	U	O	
Blackburnian Warbler		O		O		
Chestnut-sided Warbler		O				
Bay-breasted Warbler		U		U		
Blackpoll Warbler		C	R		C	
Pine Warbler			O			
Prairie Warbler		O		R		
Palm Warbler		C		U	U	O
Ovenbird		U	R	U	R	
Northern Waterthrush		U		R		
Mourning Warbler			R		R	
*Common Yellowthroat		C	U	U	R	
Hooded Warbler		R				
Wilson's Warbler		O		O		
Canada Warbler		U	R	O		
American Redstart		C	O	C	O	
*House Sparrow	C	C	C	C	C	C
Bobolink		O	O			
Eastern Meadowlark	R	O	O	O	O	R
*Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	C	C	O
*Northern Oriole		C	U	U	R	
Orchard Oriole		R				
Rusty Blackbird	U	O			O	R
*Common Grackle	U	C	C	C	U	R
*Brown-headed Cowbird	C	U	O	O	O	O
*Scarlet Tanager		U	U	O		
Summer Tanager		l				
Cardinal	O	O	O	O	O	O
Rose-breasted Grosbeak		O		O		
Indigo Bunting		U	U			
Dickcissel					l	
Evening Grosbeak	O	O			O	R
*House Finch	O	O	O	U	U	O
Purple Finch	R	O	O	O		
Pine Grosbeak					R	
Common Redpoll	R				R	
Pine Siskin					R	
*American Goldfinch	O	U	U	U	O	O
Red Crossbill	R	R			O	
*Rufous-sided Towhee		U	U	U	U	
Savannah Sparrow		U		O	C	O
Vesper Sparrow		R			R	
Dark-eyed Junco	U	U			C	U
Tree Sparrow	U	U			C	U
*Chipping Sparrow		O	O	O	O	
Clay-colored Sparrow		l				
*Field Sparrow	R	C	C	U	U	O
White-crowned Sparrow		R			U	
White-throated Sparrow	O	A		U	A	O
Fox Sparrow	U	O			O	
Lincoln's Sparrow		R			O	
*Swamp Sparrow	O	U	U	O	U	O
*Song Sparrow	C	C	C	C	C	U
Snow Bunting	R				O	

FIELD IDENTIFICATION OF WESTERN SANDPIPERS IN MASSACHUSETTS

by Paul K. Donahue, Winchester

Shorebirds are a very perplexing group for many birders. Yet of all the shorebird species which pass through Massachusetts, the Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) could be the most difficult of all to identify. Very similar to Semipalmated Sandpipers (*C. pusillus*) at any time of year, the two species are virtually identical through the late fall, winter, and early spring.

Distribution and Occurrence in Massachusetts

If Western Sandpipers occurred in Massachusetts only as spring migrants, when they are near the peak of their breeding plumage, the identification problem for birders here would be considerably diminished. This is not the case, however, as Western Sandpipers are much more regular in Massachusetts as fall migrants. After leaving their breeding grounds in northwest Alaska, the majority of their population passes down the Pacific coast of North America. However, a percentage of the population swings east across Canada, then heads southeast towards the Atlantic coast of the continent. It is rather unusual as a migrant much to the north of Massachusetts, and is still uncommon here on our coast. As one travels south along the Atlantic seaboard, though, the species increases in abundance, becoming quite common or even abundant in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida. Some of these birds remain for the winter along the southern Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States, while others continue south to winter in the islands of the West Indies, or along the northern coast of South America.

The first fall migrants in Massachusetts are generally found in late July. This first "wave", made up of adult birds, lasts through early August. Usually there is then a break of a couple of weeks before the second larger "wave" of juveniles in late August. (This is usually two or three weeks after the appearance of the first juvenile Semipalmated Sandpipers.) The numbers of juveniles build to a peak sometime in early September, when on a good day up to fifty or a hundred individuals may be seen at one of the better spots. The numbers then gradually decline until late October, when the last are usually seen.

Winter sightings are scarce, but have occurred in late November, December, and January.

In Spring migration Western Sandpipers migrate up the Mississippi Flyway, this accounting for the scarcity of spring sightings in Massachusetts. The spring sightings that have been made in Massachusetts are generally from the last two weeks of May through the first week of June.

Habits

While they are here, Western Sandpipers stick to the coast as a rule. They are generally closely associated with flocks of Semipalmated Sandpipers, feeding over tidal sand or mudflats at low tide, and roosting higher up on the beach or up in the saltmarsh at high tide. Very much like Semipalmated Sandpipers in habits and manner of feeding, there are, however, a few differences between the two species which can aid in identifying them. For one thing, Westerns tend to be found more along the periphery of a flock of Semipalmateds, whether the birds are feeding or roosting. This is also true of other of the more uncommon "peeps", such as Baird's (*C. bairdii*) and White-rumped Sandpipers (*C. fuscicollis*). If there are several Westerns in the flock they will tend to group together. Secondly, Westerns sometimes feed in slightly deeper water than Semipalmateds, due to their proportionately longer bills and legs. When feeding in the deeper water their manner of probing becomes distinguishable--their stance is more vertical, and the probes of the bill are straight up and down, somewhat reminiscent of a Stilt Sandpiper's (*Micropalama himantopus*) manner of feeding.

Size and Measurements

Western Sandpiper's most important mensural feature, and the one usually noted in field guides is its longer bill. This is often the most significant criteria used in separating Westerns from Semipalmateds, especially in winter, when there is practically nothing else to go on. However, it can be a misleading field mark as both Westerns and Semipalmateds have immense variation in the length of their bills. It is true that on the average Western Sandpipers have longer bills, and Semipalmated Sandpipers have shorter bills. But as with most shorebirds there is also a sexual dimorphism, with females having

significantly longer bills than males. There would not be much difficulty in identifying a small-billed male Semipalmated Sandpiper, or a long-billed female Western Sandpiper, but the ranges of bill length for female semipalmateds and male Westerns do overlap considerably. (SEE DRAWING) This is a very important point to keep in mind when searching through flocks of "peeps" for a Western. During a banding program on Plymouth Beach from 1971 to 1973 the bill lengths of netted Semipalmated Sandpipers ranged from 16mm to 25.5 mm, with an average length of about 20.5mm (approximately only one bird in one or two hundred had a bill measuring 25mm). Working with Western Sandpipers in California, Page and Fearis (1971) found a range of bill lengths from 20.4 to 25.5mm, with a mean of 22.8mm for males, and a range of from 22.5 to 30.1mm, with a mean of 26.5mm for females. According to that data, all of their male Western Sandpipers fall within the range of bill lengths of Semipalmateds from Plymouth Beach. Assuming that the bill lengths of Western Sandpipers here on the east coast are comparable to those of birds from California, that would make all male Westerns unidentifiable on the basis of bill length, and even a percentage of the females unidentifiable!

Aside from its greater length, the bill of a Western Sandpiper is supposedly shaped slightly different. It is said to be thicker at the base, coming to a narrower tip. Yet on Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers that have the same length bills, the bills are very close to the same thickness at base and tip on both species. However, the droop of the bill does seem to be slightly different between the two species. On a long-billed Semipalmated Sandpiper the bill seems to droop more throughout its entire length, whereas on a Western the droop is more at the tip of the bill.

The longer legs of Westerns comprise a second mensural difference. Both sections of the leg are longer than the corresponding sections on the leg of a Semipalmated Sandpiper. This has the effect of giving the Western a spindly-legged look, further emphasized by the slightly longer body and wings. When this effect is combined with the often longer bill, which is held at a more downward angle when roosting or walking, it gives the bird an appearance of being slightly tipped forward.

Plumage

The similarity in the plumage of Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers varies greatly in relation to age and time of year. Knowing when the two age groups of Western Sandpipers pass through the state, and understanding the timing and sequence of its plumages are key factors in successfully locating and identifying them.

Breeding or Alternate Plumage--This is the most distinctive plumage of the species. It is usually attained in April and kept, at least partially, until late August or September. The birds which do appear in the spring and the few adult birds comprising the first "wave" in late July and early August are in this plumage. At the peak of the breeding plumage the Western Sandpiper is much redder over the dorsal surface than the Semipalmated Sandpiper. This is due to wide reddish-cinnamon edgings to the feathers of the back and scapulars, a reddish-cinnamon cap, and a reddish cinnamon ear patch (much like on a breeding plumage Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*)). The breast and flanks are usually covered with heavy, dark, sharply demarcated streaking. The corresponding streaking on a Semipalmated Sandpiper is much lighter, and more restricted in its extent. The plumage generally seems to have a coarser appearance to it than on a Semipalmated.

By the time the first adult birds reach our coast on their way south this plumage will be somewhat worn and faded. The reddish-cinnamon edgings to the feathers of the mantle are not as wide and conspicuous, and the cap and ear patch have lost some of their color. Also, this plumage will be mixed with the beginnings of the winter plumage. Dull grayish brown feathers will be scantily sprinkled throughout the dorsum, and many of the breast and flank streaks will have disappeared. Just the same, it is still quite distinctive, and much redder or rustier than the corresponding plumage of Semipalmated Sandpipers.

Juvenile Plumage--In a normal year's birding in Massachusetts most Western Sandpipers seen will be in this plumage. The second "wave" of juvenile Westerns, arriving in late August, far outnumber the few adults that were around earlier in the season. However, the juvenile plumage is very temporary, the young sandpipers retaining it in full for only a short time. Even a week or two after they first arrive the initial traces of the winter plumage appear in the dorsal feathers. This molting process then continues through the fall, and is usually complete sometime after mid-October. The first juvenile Semipalmated Sandpipers arrive in Massachusetts two to three weeks before the first juvenile Westerns, and are present for the time that the juvenile Westerns are here. Semipalmated's schedule of molting from juvenile plumage to winter plumage is on a comparable

timetable.

The juvenile plumage can be recognized as such by its very fresh, sharp, unworn appearance. The feathers of the back and wings have narrow, but very well defined light edges, giving them a scaly appearance. The breast is washed and very lightly marked with buff. Unfortunately this plumage is not pictured in field guides. Basically this pattern of scaly, neatly marked upperparts and a buffy wash on the breast applies to the juvenile plumage of all of the sandpipers of the genus *Caladris*. Once the pattern is learned it is easily recognized, even if the species at hand is not known.

In the juvenile plumage Western Sandpipers are considerably less distinctive than when in breeding plumage, and closely resemble juvenile Semipalmated Sandpipers. The main difference between Westerns and Semipalmateds at this time lies in the color of the scapulars, and to a lesser extent, the tertials and central back. On Semipalmateds the edging of these feathers is a buffy or sandy to light rusty or orangish color, while on Westerns the edging is a deeper rusty or reddish-cinnamon color, somewhat the same color as these feathers are in the adult breeding plumage. A second difference is in the extent of the buffy coloring on the breast of the two species. The breast of the juvenile Western Sandpiper is whiter than that of Semipalmated, with the buffy coloring restricted to a smudge on the sides of the upper breast, much the same as on a Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) in winter plumage, only much lighter. A third difference is the lighter appearing head of the Western. At a distance the whole bird can give a slightly paler effect overall.

For birders, the main problem with this plumage is that it is so temporary. In addition to the molting, fading and wear of the feathers can be noticed even a week or so after their arrival. Juvenile feathers are structurally less durable than adult feathers and the combined action of sun, sand, and salt water take effect on them faster. As the plumage fades and wears it becomes progressively more similar to the juvenile plumage of Semipalmated Sandpipers, which is also wearing. The remarks on recognizing it as the juvenile plumage still hold though, as it is always much newer looking and more sharply marked than the adult plumage.

Winter or Basic Plumage--Identification problems are relatively simple as long as the bird in question has a few remaining scapulars from either the breeding or juvenile plumage. Fortunately, the scapulars are usually the last feathers to molt. Eventually, though, the last rusty scapular is lost. This is usually sometime after mid-October, with the exact time varying from bird to bird. Once in full winter plumage Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers become essentially identical, identifiable, when possible, only on the basis of measurements.

In winter plumage Westerns and Semipalmateds are mostly gray or gray-brown above, whitish below, with less distinct graying markings on the upper breast. There are but a few subtle differences that can possibly be noted between the winter plumages of the two species. Though hardly anything to base an identification on, they might be useful as corroborating evidence. As with the juvenile plumage, a Western Sandpiper in winter plumage presents an overall slightly paler appearance, especially so on the head. The mantle seems to have a slightly grayer cast, Semipalmateds seeming a bit browner. At very close range, Westerns seem to have a finer dark shaft streak through the feathers of the mantle. As with the breeding plumage, the winter plumage has a coarser appearance on Westerns than on Semipalmateds.

It must be emphasized once more how similar the two species are in this plumage. Individuals should only be identified when bill length and other size differences are obvious. Any birds which are questionable would be just as well left alone.

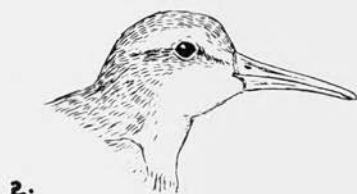
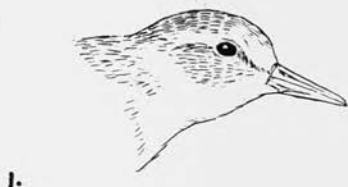
Where to Look

Very briefly, the spots which seem to be most productive for finding Western Sandpipers are: 1. Nauset or Coast Guard Beach in Eastham, at high tide, 2. Plymouth Beach in Plymouth, also at high tide, 3. Newburyport Harbor, about 3 1/2 - 4 hours after Boston high tide, and 4. Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, the first pool on the refuge, at high tide.

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1. Semipalmated Sandpiper - 15.5 mm. bill
2. Semipalmated Sandpiper - 25 mm. bill
3. Western Sandpiper - about 25 mm. bill

(drawings taken from photographs of netted birds) by Paul Donahue

Book Review

Another Penguin Summer, Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., Scribners, New York, \$10.

Most of our readers have heard of Dr. Pettingill or used his books A Guide to Bird Finding East of the Mississippi and A Guide to Bird Finding West of the Mississippi. Now he shares with us his experiences with the penguins in the Falkland Islands. The Falklands are at the tip of Argentina. The Pettingills first visited the islands in 1953 and 1954 to film for Walt Disney Productions, which led to a film-lecture called "Penguin Summer." The material for this book was gathered over a five-month period in 1971-72. The Falklands were chosen because of their accessibility by commercial airlines and proximity to hotel accommodations as a base camp.

The book provides excellent pictures and many humorous notes on the habits of the Gentoo, Rockhopper, King, Magellanic (Jackass) and Macaroni Penguins. Dr. Pettingill's description of these super-aquatic birds' trials and tribulations on land gives them very human characteristics. Their vocalizations are comical and nesting habits seem impossible. The color photographs are superb. Alas, many are in black and white. The photographs should have related better with the text. For example, I would prefer to see the pictures of the Rockhopper following or interspersed with, the information on that bird. Some of the "above-below-opposite" captions are confusing. One photo had me changing reading lights and cleaning my glasses to check my vision--a panoramic scene of a penguin colony half in color, half in black and white. The King Penguin "teddy bear" babies are great, color or not. What Ogden Nash said of the canary certainly is applicable to the penguin--"and when they're moultin' they're pretty revoltin'." Despite these layout problems, this is a very enjoyable and informative book and I recommend it for your bookshelf.

Paula Butler, Belmont

MORE BIRDING FROM A TRAIN SEAT

by John Nove, Ipswich

Before moving to Ipswich, from where I now commute with Jim Berry (see his "Birding from a Train Seat," Bird Observer 4, 12), I lived in Manchester and traveled to Boston and/or Beverly by train daily. For the orientation of non-North Shore residents, the tracks of the Eastern Division of the Boston and Maine Railroad extend northeastward from Boston to Beverly, at which point they split into two branches--an inland route extending through North Beverly, Wenham, and Hamilton to Ipswich and Newburyport, and a coastal route passing through Beverly Farms, Manchester, Gloucester, and Rockport. I'd like to supplement Jim's article by describing a portion of this coastal route as well as contributing other species to his list of North Shore train-birds.

As far as stations go, Manchester's gets my vote as being the best for birding, based on the fact that during a single week in May, 1975, I saw a Peregrine Falcon, several Cliff Swallows and a Pileated Woodpecker--all while waiting for a train to arrive!

From Manchester station, the tracks pass over a narrow section of the Manchester Harbor. The calmer water on the right often holds hundreds of gulls, including Iceland and Glaucous during the winter. Peppered throughout the rest of the harbor are Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, Red-breasted Mergansers, occasionally several Coots, and always Black Ducks and Mallards (including a variety of hybrids). During last winter a pair of Canada Geese remained among the ice floes.

The tidal inlet on the right, about a hundred yards beyond the bridge, hosts a Green Heron and Belted Kingfisher during the spring and summer, and it seems to be one of the first places incoming Cattle Egrets visit. Tuck's Point and the flats behind have contained as many as four wintering Great Blue Herons. Snowy Egrets are often present at low tide, and once I observed a single Great Egret. Black Cove offers a variety of diving ducks, including this year, a dozen Common Eiders. On two occasions, I observed Sanderlings scurrying along the beach.

The most consistently rewarding area along the route has been Chubb Marsh, which straddles the Manchester-Beverly border. Activity in this area is primarily a result of the breeding heron-egret-ibis population on nearby House Island. In addition to being a popular feeding area, the marsh lies on the local "flyway;" if the marsh does not yield an interesting find, the sky above it usually will. On a sunny day this past June, I observed one Little Blue Heron, 12 Snowy Egrets, a Great Egret, two Great Blue Herons, four Glossy Ibises and a pair of Black-crowned Night Herons. The tree-covered island adjacent to the tracks in the center of the marsh seems to be a favorite perching place for Merlins and American Kestrels. Only during migration have I ever seen a Marsh Hawk in the area.

In the spring the brush and brambles across from the station at Pride's Crossing attract Gray Catbirds, Common Yellowthroats and Yellow-rumped Warblers. This is the only area in which I've ever observed warblers from the train, probably because it's a lot easier to focus on a small bird from a stationary train than from a moving one. The only other area of interest lies on either side of the tracks in the Montserrat section of Beverly adjacent to the Hancock Nursing Home. The wet meadow/field has a breeding pair of American Kestrels, Common Snipes in season, Ring-necked Pheasants, numerous Eastern Kingbirds and a reliable Red-tailed Hawk. This is the only area in which I've ever observed a Goshawk.

Following are additions to Jim Berry's list of North Shore train-birds, bringing the total number of species to 93: Common Loon, Horned Grebe (in the Mystic River), Little Blue Heron, Mute Swan (four in Beverly Harbor daily for several weeks), Green-winged Teal, Common Eider, Turkey Vulture (my best train-bird--it was perched in a tree at close range in the Highland Park area of Salem), Goshawk, Marsh Hawk, Merlin, Ruffed Grouse (seen at the back edge of the golf course in Wenham), Sora (could repeated sightings of this bird from the train be the origin of the word railroad?), American Coot, Wilson's Phalarope (in Lynn Harbor during a fortuitous "unscheduled" stop), Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Gray Catbird, Water Pipit (in a mowed portion of the Saugus marshes), Yellow-rumped Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Evening Grosbeak, House Finch, and Song Sparrow.



THE BIRD OBSERVER SUMMARY FOR MAY, 1976

May is always the zenith for birders, and this year 281 species plus 2 hybrids were recorded. In 1974 there were 277 species seen, and last May a total of 279 were observed. The month was abnormally warm, dry and sunny according to the National Weather Service. The exceptional warmth continued through the 18th, when temperatures returned to normal. The high temperature was 83 degrees on May 6 and 15, and a low of 44 degrees was recorded on the 4th, 5th and 19th.

There was no real wave this year. The best days were May 6-8, 15 and 22. Manomet Bird Observatory banded 443 birds on May 15, and 589 Gray Catbirds were banded there during April and May, the exact number banded in April and May in 1975.

The highlights were many: a breeding plumaged Arctic Loon at the north end of Plum Island; a Black Vulture at Truro; a Mississippi Kite at Eastham; a Purple Gallinule; a Bar-tailed Godwit at Newburyport; a Western Wood Pewee seen and heard on Monomoy; a Connecticut Warbler singing at Mt. Auburn; and a Western Tanager in Scituate.

Heron's were well represented. At least 12 Louisiana Herons were observed as compared to none in 1975 and 3 in 1974. Glossy Ibis numbered 65 in Ipswich as compared to a maximum of only 28 last May. A Least Bittern at Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge delighted hundreds of birders as it sat at the top of a dogwood tree for over six hours.

Over 1500 Snow Geese were still at Plum Island through May 8. Oldsquaws at Newburyport on the 1st numbered 1200, and there were still 250 there on May 22.

A King Rail and Clapper Rail, possibly a King x Clapper hybrid, delighted many birders with excellent views at Plum Island. A Golden Plover was present for four days at Newburyport Harbor. A breeding plumaged Hudsonian Godwit and 1-2 Marbled Godwits were observed along with a Bar-tailed Godwit at Newburyport Harbor. This was the fourth record of a Bar-tailed Godwit for the state.

A Western Wood Pewee at Monomoy was the second state record, the first being collected at Monomoy on September 11, 1966. Swallows were still migrating on May 22nd when several thousands were seen on Plum Island.

A total of 36 species of warblers was reported. The most interesting were 4 Prothonotary, 8 Worm-eating, 6 Cerulean, 2 Yellow-throated, 8 Kentucky, a singing Connecticut, 2 Yellow-breasted Chats and 2 hybrids. Three Summer Tanagers and an adult male Western Tanager at Scituate were reported, but just 2 Blue Grosbeaks were noted. A Henslow's Sparrow was banded at the Manomet Bird Observatory, and a Clay-colored Sparrow was singing in Peabody

R.H.S.

Common Loon:			
2, 19	Fieldstone, P.I.	2, 14	J. Flaherty, R. Heil
Arctic Loon:			
20	P.I.	1 (breeding plumage)	R. Jenkins
Red-throated Loon:			
8, 16, 30	P.I.	30+, 7, 16	R. Veit, S. Zende, R. Forster#
Red-necked Grebe:			
23	Manomet	1	W. Harrington
Northern Fulmar:			
20	Nantucket Shoals	55+	J. Loughlin
Greater Shearwater:			
8	P.I.	1	D. Johnson
Sooty Shearwater:			
13, 25	Nantucket Sound, Barnstable	1+, 56	S. Perkins, R. Pease
28	Truro	50	B. Nikula#
Manx Shearwater:			
19, 25	George's Bank, Barnstable	1, 6	J. Loughlin, R. Pease
25	P.I.	1	H. Coolidge, B. Keenan#
Wilson's Storm Petrel:			
29-31	Martha's Vineyard	1	BBC (J. Kenneally)
Gannet:			
2, 3	Ipswich, P.I.	27 imm., 100+	J. Berry, M. McClellan
19	P.I.	100	R. Forster#

Double-crested Cormorant:			
29-31	Martha's Vineyard	500+	BBC(J.Kenneally)
Great Blue Heron:			
1,31	P.I.,Harwich	8,3	V.Albee#,W.Petersen
Little Blue Heron:			
8,2-23	Natick,5 localities	1 ad.,6 ads.	R.Forster,v.o.
Cattle Egret:			
2,8	Ipswich,Halifax	12,9	J.Berry,J.Flaherty
8,10	Bridgewater,Halifax	5,11-12	J.Flaherty,H.Waterman
22	Manchester	8	BBC(G.Hotz)
Great Egret:			
1-24	12 localities	16 individuals	v.o.
3	Duxbury(Clark's Island)	"have eggs"	B.Harrington
Snowy Egret:			
29	Boston Harbor	100	S.Zendeh
Louisiana Heron:			
1-22,2-8	P.I.,Squantum	1-4,2-1	v.o.,E.Morrier#
2,9,10	Westport,W.Harwich,Eastham	2,1,1	R.O'Hara,B.Nikula,C.Goodrich
10,17	W.Chatham,Wellfleet	1,1	C.Goodrich,B.Nikula
Black-crowned Night Heron:			
2	Plymouth	young hatched	B.Harrington
Yellow-crowned Night Heron:			
2,8-30	Brookline,P.I.	1 imm.,1-3 ads.	H.Wiggin#,v.o.
15	Ellisville	1	W.Hams
23,30	Westport,Hingham	1 ad.,1 ad.	D.Brown,N.Osborne
29-31	Chappaquidick(M.V.)	1	BBC(J.Kenneally)
Least Bittern:			
6,15	Cambridge(Mt.A.),Raynham	1,1	O.Earle# & v.o.,S.Higginbotham
16,19	Rowley,Bolton	2,1	R.Heil & M.Kasprzyk,B.Evel
22,29,31	Marshfield,P.I.,Concord	1,1,1	W.Petersen,G.Gove,BBC(A&N Clayton)
American Bittern:			
1,15	P.I.,Milton(F.M.)	2,3	BBC(V.Albee),J.O'Regan
Glossy Ibis:			
thr.	many scattered flocks coastally		v.o.
9,10	P.I.,E.Bridgewater	45,30	R.Forster#,L.Kakolia
22,23	Marshfield,Westport	15,13	R.Forster,BBC(S.Grinely)
31	Ipswich	65	BBC(M.Ladd)
Canada Goose:			
1	P.I.	1000	BBC(V.Albee)
American Brant:			
1,2	Newburyport,Marshfield	500,80	G.Gove,SSBC(B.Smyth)
2,11	Duxbury,Newburyport	700,200	J.Flaherty,M.Gardler
22	Salisbury,Plymouth	18,250	J.Berry,R.Forster
Snow Goose:			
1,8	P.I.	1500+,700+	R.Veit#,v.o.
Gadwall:			
1,15	P.I.,Ipswich	20,4 prs.	BBC(V.Albee),BBC(J.Berry)
30	Monomoy	20+	W.Petersen
Pintail:			
1,30	P.I.,Monomoy	1 m.,2	J.Berry & J.Nove,W.Petersen
Green-winged Teal:			
thr.,3;30	Bolton,Lancaster;Monomoy	2,4-7;14	H.Merriman;W.Petersen#
Blue-winged Teal:			
thr.;1	Lancaster,Bolton;P.I.	3-1,1-2;10	H.Merriman;BBC(V.Albee)
American Wigeon:			
1,15	P.I.,Rowley	1,1	H.Merriman,D.Johnson
Northern Shoveler:			
1-22,30	P.I.,Monomoy	2-4,6	v.o.,W.Petersen#
Redhead:			
22	Orleans	2(prs.)	B.Nikula
Ring-necked Duck:			
2,2-5	Ipswich,Lancaster	1 m.,1	M.McClellan,H.Merriman
30	Rowley	1 pr.	R.Forster,K.Hamilton
Canvasback:			
1,9,15	Newburyport	1 m.,10,1	J.Berry#,J.Murphy,J.Nove
Greater Scaup:			
30	Newburyport	2	D.Johnson,H.Merriman
Common Goldeneye:			
9	Newburyport	5	R.Forster

Bufflehead:			
2,9	Duxbury, Squantum	15+, 35	J. Flaherty, BBC (D. Brown)
Oldsquaw:			
1,8;22	Newburyport	1200+, 500+; 250	R. Veit; J. Berry
Common Eider:			
1,2	P. I., Duxbury	30, 35+	H. Merriman, J. Flaherty
2,5	Manomet, Boston (Long Is.)	20, 20	SSBC (B. Smyth), G. Wilson
8,14	P. I., N. Scituate	30, 500+	H. Merriman, J. Flaherty
White-winged Scoter:			
1,30	P. I.	20, 50	H. Merriman
Surf Scoter:			
1,8	P. I.	3, 1	BBC (V. Albee), H. Merriman
15,16,22	Nahant, Manchester, Nahant	2, 6, 8	R. Stymeist#, R. Heil, R. Stymeist#
Black Scoter:			
1,8	P. I.	800+, 350+	J. Berry#, R. Veit#
15	Nahant, P. I.	3, 2	T. Leverich#, D. Johnson#
Ruddy Duck:			
1,22	P. I.	4, 9	BBC (V. Albee), BBC (R&D Hale)
30	Monomoy	2 m.	W. Petersen
Hooded Merganser:			
8,15	P. I., Hingham	1, 1	BBC (S. Grinley), SSBC (P. Langley)
Common Merganser:			
1,11-16	Boxford, W. Harwich	2, 2	H. Merriman, B. Nikula
15	Hingham	1	SSBC (N. Osborne)
Red-breasted Merganser:			
1,9	P. I., Squantum	1000+, 43	G. Gove, BBC (D. Brown)
Turkey Vulture:			
2,5	Concord, Provincetown	1, 1	M. Argue, B. Nikula
6,6	Wellesley, Medford	1, 2	R. Forster, C. Jackson
8,15	W. Newbury, Wenham	1, 1	D. Johnson, S. Lazell
15-17, 27&31	W. Newbury, Provincetown	1, 1	v.o., W. Bailey# & W. Petersen
28	Sandwich	1	R. Pease
<u>Black Vulture:</u>			
5-12	Truro-Provincetown	1	B. Nikula, W. Bailey#
<u>Mississippi Kite:</u>			
23	Eastham	1 ad.	C. House#
Goshawk:			
1,23	Cambridge, Boxford	1, 1	R. Stymeist#, D. Brown
23,31	Newburyport, Framingham	1, 2 ads. & 1 yg.	D. Brown, R. Forster#
Sharp-shinned Hawk:			
1	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	8	B. Cassie#
1,6	P. I., Truro-Provincetown	6, 40	R. Veit, C. Goodrich#
Coopef's Hawk:			
22	Newburyport	1	H. Wiggin, B. Kennan, H. Coolidge#
Red-shouldered Hawk:			
thr., 1-9	Weston, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1 pr., 3 singles	C. Smith, R. Stymeist
1&15, 2-15	Sherborn, Bridgewater	1, 1	E. Taylor, J. Flaherty
9, 22, 23	Sudbury, Boxford, W. Newbury	1, 1, 1	J. Irish, T. Leverich#, D. Brown
Broad-winged Hawk:			
1	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Provincetown	19, 60	B. Cassie#, B. Nikula
Rough-legged Hawk:			
3,15	Littleton, Bridgewater	1, 1	R. Forster, L. Resmini & J. Flaherty
23	Westport	1	BBC (S. Grinley)
Osprey:			
thr.	6 localities	singles	v.o.
thr.	Westport-Dartmouth	"18 young hatched by May 30 - 11 in 1975"	G&J Fernandez
26	Wareham	1 pr. nesting	M. McClellan
Peregrine Falcon:			
1,5	P. I., Provincetown	1, 1	M. Argue#, C. Goodrich#
Merlin:			
1-15, 2	P. I., Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1 imm., 1	v.o., T. Leverich#
4,5	Edgartown (M. V.), Provincetown	1, 1	M. Hancock, B. Nikula#
6,14	Squantum, N. Scituate	1, 1	A. Salzman, J. Flaherty
King Rail:			
2 on	P. I.	1 (possible hybrid King x Clapper)	BBC (R&D Hale) et al
2-9, 5-31	Squantum, W. Harwich	1, 1	E. Morrier#, R. Comeau#
30	Monomoy	1	W. Petersen
Clapper Rail:			
2 on, 29	P. I., Barnstable	1-2, 1	J. Berry# & v.o., C. Goodrich#

Virginia Rail:			
1,5	Lynnfield, Concord	10+,6	R. Veit#, M. Davis#
8,22	P. I., Marshfield	5,3	H. Merriman, W. Petersen
Sora:			
1	Lynnfield	5	R. Veit
<u>Purple Gallinule:</u>			
16	Easton	1	Mrs. Althea Thornton
Common Gallinule:			
1	P. I.	6	R. Veit
American Oystercatcher:			
28,29-31	Monomoy, Martha's Vineyard	3,7	W. Bailey#, BBC (J. Kenneally)
Semipalmated Plover:			
15,22	Ipswich, Plymouth	12,30	J. Berry, R. Forster
<u>Golden Plover:</u>			
12-15	Newburyport	1 ad.	P. Parsons#
Black-bellied Plover:			
2,4	Duxbury, Squantum	30+,35	J. Flaherty, J. Murphy
8,10	Newburyport, Rivermoor	400+,40+	R. Veit#, J. Flaherty
19	Newburyport	6500+	M. Moore#
Ruddy Turnstone:			
6,15	Squantum, N. Scituate	15,10	A. Salzman, SSBC (N. Osborne)
30	Monomoy	600+	W. Petersen#
Common Snipe:			
23,24	Westport, Bridgewater	2,1	BBC (S. Grinley), L. Resmini
26,31	Cambridge, Concord	1,1	A. Horn, BBC (A&N Clayton)
Whimbrel:			
2-10,7	P. I., Barnstable	1,1	W. Koch, R. Pease
15,18	Saugus, W. Chatham	2,1	S. Zende, B. Nikula
24	Eastham	2	B. Nikula, C. Goodrich
Upland Sandpiper:			
1,9	S. Natick, Bolton	1,1	F. Hamlen, H. Merriman
11-12,12-15	Eastham, Bridgewater	2,2	v.o., L. Resmini#
25	Newburyport	4	J. Andrews
Spotted Sandpiper:			
15	Scituate to Hingham	13	SSBC (N. Osborne)
Solitary Sandpiper:			
1-15	13 localities	14 individuals	v.o.
16	Lancaster	10	H. Merriman
28	P. I.	1-2 (late)	R. Veit, W. Petersen#
Willet:			
2,8	Westport, Newburyport	6,1	S. Zende, R. Veit#
11,18	Newburyport, Plymouth	3,2	M. Gardler, D. Brown
29-31	Martha's Vineyard	3	BBC (J. Kenneally)
Greater Yellowlegs:			
1,4	Newburyport, Squantum	150,75	R. Veit#, G. Wilson
9-29	Bolton	7-3	H. Merriman
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
1,8	Newburyport, Wellfleet	30+,20+	R. Veit, C. Goodrich#
9,9-23	Squantum, Bolton	3,15-1	BBC (D. Brown), H. Merriman
28	P. I.	3	R. Veit, M. Moore#
Red Knot:			
8,23	Newburyport, N. Scituate	20+,8	R. Veit#, BBC (G. Wilson)
Purple Sandpiper:			
14,22	Lynn	75,85	R. Heil, R. Stymeist#
Pectoral Sandpiper:			
9;29	Newburyport, Bolton; P. I.	5,3;1	R. Forster, H. Merriman; G. Gove
White-rumped Sandpiper:			
8,23	Newburyport, Dartmouth	8-10,3	R. Veit#, R. O'Hara
25	P. I.	5	J. Andrews
Least Sandpiper:			
1,8	Newburyport	125,1000+	R. Veit
11,12	Bridgewater, Middleboro	9,35+	J. Flaherty, L. Resmini
12	Bridgewater	11	L. Resmini
Dunlin:			
8,30	Newburyport	2000+,4	R. Veit, H. Merriman
Short-billed Dowitcher:			
1,3	Eastham, P. I.	1,8	W. Petersen, M. McClellan
8,23;23	Newburyport; Bolton	65,1400+;27	R. Veit; H. Merriman

<u>Stilt Sandpiper:</u>			
8;28	Wellfleet;Monomoy	1;1	B.Nikula,C.Goodrich;W.Bailey
28,30	Newburyport-P.I.	1	P.Buckley,R.Forster#
<u>Semipalmated Sandpiper:</u>			
8,23	Newburyport,Bolton	3-4,2-3	R.Veit,H.Merriman
<u>Marbled Godwit:</u>			
14-23	Newburyport	1,2	D.Johnson & v.o.
<u>Bar-tailed Godwit:</u>			
15-31	Newburyport	1	W.Petersen & v.o.
<u>Hudsonian Godwit:</u>			
23	Newburyport	1(breeding plumage)	R.Veit
<u>Ruff:</u>			
8,14	Wellfleet,Newburyport	1,1	B.Nikula#,M.Gardler
<u>Red Phalarope:</u>			
28	Monomoy	1 m.	W.Bailey
<u>Wilson's Phalarope:</u>			
8,12-22	Wellfleet,P.I.	1,1 f.	W.Bailey#,P.Parsons & v.o.
15	Truro	2	B.Nikula & C.Goodrich
27,28	Monomoy,Bolton Flats	1,1 m. & 1 f.	W.Harrington,B.Evel & E.Samuels
<u>Northern Phalarope:</u>			
10;19,20	Vineyard Sound;P.I.	7;50,25+	R.Veit;R.Forster,M.McClellan
<u>Parasitic Jaeger:</u>			
29-31,30	Edgartown(M.V.),Chatham	3,1	W.Harrington#,BBC(J.Kenneally)
<u>Jaeger: (sp?)</u>			
8,19	P.I.	1,2	R.Veit,P.Parsons
<u>Glaucous Gull:</u>			
3;8-9	Sandwich;P.I.area	2;1+	R.Pease;R.Veit,R.Forster#
<u>Iceland Gull:</u>			
1,8	Provincetown,Newburyport	2,8	W.Petersen,R.Veit#
22,30	Plymouth,P.I.	1,1	W.Petersen,H.Merriman
<u>Black-headed Gull:</u>			
1-28,17	Newburyport,Boston	1-2,1	v.o.,W.Petersen
<u>Laughing Gull:</u>			
1	Newburyport,Squantum	3 ad.,1	R.Veit,E.Morrier
22	N.Scituate	1	R.Forster
<u>Little Gull:</u>			
1,8	Newburyport	4 ad.,6 ad. & 1 imm.	R.Veit
23-30,27	Monomoy	2 imm.,1 ad.	v.o.,I.Nisbet
<u>Black-legged Kittiwake:</u>			
24,30	Monomoy	2,7 imm.	I.Nisbet,W.Petersen
30	off Chatham	7	W.Harrington & C.Goodrich
<u>Forster's Tern:</u>			
1-4	Newburyport	1	H.Merriman,D.Johnson,A.Salzman
<u>Common Tern:</u>			
5,9	Wollaston,Provincetown	20,40+	R.Veit,S.Zendeh
22	Newburyport	24	BBC(R&D Hale)
<u>Arctic Tern:</u>			
18&22	Plymouth Beach	2	D.Brown,R.Fox
<u>Roseate Tern:</u>			
5,6	Hull,Squantum	2,1	R.Veit,M.Gardler
9,18	Marion,Plymouth	700,3	I.Nisbet,D.Brown
<u>Least Tern:</u>			
1	Eastham,Squantum	6,1	W.Petersen,A.Salzman
<u>Royal Tern:</u>			
3	Sandwich (no details)	1(very early)	R.Pease
<u>Caspian Tern:</u>			
1,12	Marshfield,Wood's Hole	6,3	P.Castle,R.Fox
<u>Black Tern:</u>			
9,14	Marion,Nauset	1,4	I.Nisbet
21,22	Nauset,P.I.	4,2	I.Nisbet,H.Wiggin#
<u>Black Skimmer:</u>			
24	Monomoy	1	I.Nisbet
<u>Black Guillemot:</u>			
1	off Provincetown	2	W.Petersen#
<u>Yellow-billed Cuckoo:</u>			
13,15 on	Dover,Lancaster	1,1	F.Hamlen,H.Merriman
22	W.Peabody,Newburyport	1,1	Coolidge & Keenan,BBC(G.Hotz)
29-30	Dover	3	F.Hamlen

Black-billed Cuckoo:			
Firsts:			
8,9,11-31	Cambridge,Milton,Winchester	1,1,1	P.Putler#,F.Hamlen,G.Gove
+ 15-31	6 localities	singles	v.o.
Barn Owl:			
9	Long Island	1	BBC(R&M Braun)
Screech Owl:			
15	Bridgewater,W.Newbury	1,1	J.Flaherty,R.Stymeist#
Great Horned Owl:			
thf.,15	Weston,Bridgewater	6,1	L.Robinson,J.Flaherty
Barred Owl:			
15 on,18	Boxford,Weston	3,1	T.Leverich,I.Robinson
Long-eared Owl:			
thr.	Barnstable	<u>nest w/2 yr.</u>	R.Pease#
Short-eared Owl:			
9,29-31	Orleans,Vineyard	1,4	C.Goodrich#,BBC(J.Kenneally)
Saw-whet Owl:			
2,13 on	Mansfield,Middleboro	1 ad. (dead),1	J.Clancy,F.Anderson
Chuck-will's Widow:			
15,26,28-29	Wellfleet,Beverly,Chatham	1,1,1	D.McNair,B.Frvin,W.Harrington#
Whip-poor-will:			
24,30	Rowley,Newbury	8,7	R.Heil,H.Merriman
Common Nighthawk:			
Firsts:			
8,10	Lynnfield,Wellesley	1,1	W.VanCor,P.Forster
Chimney Swift:			
15	Newburyport,Sherborn	50+,20+	J.Nove,F.Taylor
Ruby-throated Hummingbird:			
8,26	Cambridge(Mt.A.)	1,4	J.Barton,BBC(N.King)
9,22	P.I.	1,4	P.Forster,G.Gove
Pileated Woodpecker:			
thr.	Weston,Lancaster	2,1-2	L.Robinson,H.Merriman
2,9 on	Manchester,Boxford	1,1 pr.	R.Nolan,v.o.
11	Framingham	1	H.Fraungruber
Red-bellied Woodpecker:			
1,29	Dartmouth,W.Harwich	1 m.,1	Fernandez,C.Goodrich & B.Nikula
Red-headed Woodpecker:			
8	Cambridge(Mt.A.),P.I.	1,1	J.Barnett#,F.Gardner
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:			
1,1-14	Newbury,Cambridge(Mt.A.)	1,1-4	H.Merriman,v.o.
16	Harwich	1(last)	BBC(J.Brvant)
Eastern Kingbird:			
1,2	Middleton,Dover	1,2	M.McClellan#,F.Hamlen
3,6 on	Bridgewater,Cambridge(Mt.A.)	2,3-8	L.Resmini,R.Stymeist# & v.o.
15,23	Milton(F.M.),Westport area	8,30	J.O'Regan,BBC(S.Grinley)
Great-crested Flycatcher:			
thr.,3	Cambridge(Mt.A.),Boxford	1-4,2	N.Claflin & v.o.,M.McClellan#
15,29-31	Dover,Martha's Vineyard	6,10	F.Hamlen#,BBC(J.Kenneally)
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:			
18,22	Cambridge(Mt.A.),Lynnfield	1,1	D.Brown,H.Wiggin#
27	Brookline,Cambridge	1,1	H.Wiggin,A.Horn
28,31	Marblehead,P.I.	1,1	M.Moore#,R&M Braun
Willow Flycatcher:			
22,30	Lynnfield,Woburn	6,1	R.Keenan#,G.Gove
30	P.I.,Ipswich	5,3	R.Forster,K.Hamilton
31	Newburyport,Concord(GMNR)	3,10	G.Soucy#,BBC(R.Clayton)
Alder Flycatcher:			
28,29	Weston,Rolton	1,5	L.Robinson,R.Blodget#
Least Flycatcher:			
1&8,6&16	Newbury,Lancaster	1,1	H.Merriman
7-27	Cambridge(Mt.A.)	1-3	P.Stymeist# & v.o.
Eastern Wood Pewee:			
15	Bridgewater,Nahant	1,1	J.Flaherty,T.Leverich
15	Sherborn & Wayland	1&1	F.Taylor
16 on,22	Cambridge(Mt.A.),Boxford	1-5,4	S.Zende & v.o.,J.Perry
Western Wood Pewee:			
28	Monomoy	1(seen & heard)	C.Goodrich,W.Bailey

Olive-sided Flycatcher:			
16, 25, 21-23	Cambridge (Mt. A.), S. Peabody	1-3, 1	I&M Romanow & v.o., R. Heil
22	Newburyport, P.I.	1, 1	R. Emery#, D. Johnson#
23&28	Marblehead	1, 1	R. Veit, W. Petersen#
Tree Swallow:			
1	P.I.	200	BBC (V. Albee)
Bank Swallow:			
2-31, 9	Lancaster, Bolton	15-20, 30	H. Merriman
22	Rowley	75+	R. Stymeist#
Rough-winged Swallow:			
1, 2	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Marshfield	2, 2	R. Stymeist#, B. Smyth#
6, 12	Dover, Bridgewater	1, 8	F. Hamlen, L. Resmini
15, 18	Lynnfield, Weston	6, 5 (2 nesting)	R. Stymeist#, J. Hines#
Cliff Swallow:			
9	Rowley, Bolton	1, 1	J. Baird#, H. Merriman
12, 15	Middleboro, Ipswich	2-4, 1	W. Petersen#, J. Baird
22	10 locations	73	v.o.
		(20-50 migrants on P.I.)	G. Gove
Purple Martin:			
thr., 2	P.I., Middleboro	max. 50+, 50+	v.o., L. Resmini
15, 30	Scituate, Nantucket	1, 4	SSBC (N. Osborne), C. Jackson
Blue Jay:			
16	P.I.	70 (migrants)	R. Heil, M. Kasprzyk
Fish Crow:			
8	W. Roxbury	2	BBC (M. Murphy)
Boreal Chickadee:			
4&7, 6	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Squantum	1, 1	M. Romanow#, R. Veit
Red-breasted Nuthatch:			
thr., 14	Cambridge (Mt. A.), S. Dennis	1-8, 8	v.o., C&B Holdridge
Brown Creeper:			
thr., 29-31	Weston, Martha's Vineyard	2 (nesting), 2	L. Robinson, BBC (J. Kenneally)
House Wren:			
1; 2	Sherborn; Dover, Brookline	1; 1, 3	E. Taylor; F. Hamlen, H. Wiggin
Winter Wren:			
thr.	Boxford, Weston	1-3, 2 (nesting)	M. McClellan# & v.o., L. Robinson
1&14, 2	Dover, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1, 1	F. Hamlen, T. Leverich
2, 9	Manchester, Concord	1, 1	B. Nolan#, M. McClellan#
22; 31	Middleboro, Milton; Ipswich	1, 1; 1	W. Petersen#; BBC (I. Giriunas)
Carolina Wren:			
2, 6	Westport, Scituate	10, 1	R. Veit
23, 29-31	Concord (GMNWR), Tisbury (M. V.)	2, 7	J. Marshall, BBC (J. Kenneally)
Long-billed Marsh Wren:			
1, 15, 18	P.I., Ipswich, Lynnfield	8, 4, 6	R. Stymeist, J. Berry, BBC (W. VanCor)
<u>Short-billed Marsh Wren:</u>			
22	P.I.	1	C&T Banes & v.o.
Gray Catbird:			
2, 3	Brookline, Ipswich	1, 1	H. Wiggin#, J. Berry
5, 6 on	Dover, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	3, 5-18 (max. May 15)	F. Hamlen, O. Komer# & v.o.
23	Westport	20	BBC (S. Grinley)
Brown Thrasher:			
thr.	8 localities	singles only!	v.o.
Wood Thrush:			
thr.	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	2-4 (nesting)	R. Stymeist# & v.o.
2, 3 on	Westport, Lancaster	12, 1-10	R. Veit, H. Merriman
15	Milton (F. M.)	5	J. O'Regan
Hermit Thrush:			
thr., 1-22	Lancaster, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	2-4, 1-9	H. Merriman, R. Stymeist#
22	Boxford, Plymouth	1, 1	T. Leverich#, W. Petersen#
Swainson's Thrush:			
11 on, 15	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Winchester	1-15, 1	S. Zende# & v.o., G. Gove
22	general arrival at several locations		v.o.
Gray-checked Thrush:			
10, 11	Dover, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1, 1	P. Hallowell, M. McClellan# & v.o.
16&22, 18	Lancaster, Woburn	1, 1	H. Merriman, S. Zende#
27	P.I.	1	R. Emery#
Veery:			
6, 6-20	Newton, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1, 1-4	F. Hamlen, A. Salzman & v.o.
8	Milton, Newburyport, Dorchester	2, 1, 1	F. Hamlen, G. Wilson, J. Murphy
28	Nahant	1 (Newfoundland Race)	R. Forster

Eastern Bluebird:			
1,1-24	Boxford, Sherborn	1,2(2 unsuccess.nestings)	D.Johnson#, J.Willison
6,15 on	Middleboro, Woburn	1,2(nesting)	L.Resmini, G.Gove & v.o.
22,30	Plymouth, Newburyport	1,1	P.Fox#, R.Forster#
31	Hopkinton	2	E.Taylor
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:			
1,1-15	Provincetown, Cambridge(Mt.A.)	1,1-3	W.Petersen#, J.Fines & v.o.
3,6,7	P.I., Millis, S.Peabody	2,1,1	M.McClellan, J.Marshall, R.Heil
Golden-crowned Kinglet:			
2	Cambridge(Mt.A.)	2	R.Stymeist
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:			
1-15,1-8	Cambridge(Mt.A.), P.I.	2-15,1-6	R.Stymeist#&v.o., S.Grinley#&v.o.
Water Pipit:			
16	Ipswich	4	R.Heil, M.Fasprzyk
Cedar Waxwing:			
22,23 on	Milton, Lancaster	50,30-40	R.Forster#, H.Merriman
White-eyed Vireo:			
2-8,2	Cambridge(Mt.A.), Wellesley	3,1	S.Raabe# & v.o., R.Forster
2	Plymouth, S.Dartmouth, Westport	1,1,1	B.Smvth, R.Veit#, R.Veit#
3,8,10	P.I., W.Newbury, Cambridge	1,1,1	M.Baird#, P.Parsons#, S.Zendeh
15	Lynnfield, Nahant, Milton	1,1,1	T.Leverich#, R.Stymeist#, J.O'Regan
16,20	Bridgewater, Lancaster	1,1	L.Resmini, H.Merriman
30	Marblehead, Monomoy	1,1	H.Merriman, W.Petersen#
Yellow-throated Vireo:			
15	Nahant, Scituate, Dorchester	1,1,1	M.Greenwalt#, N&S Osborne#, J.Murphy
18 on, 22	Boxford, Middleboro	1-2,1	D.Brown & v.o., K.Anderson
22	Sterling, Bridgewater	1,1	H.Merriman, W.Petersen#
24	Harvard	pair nesting	N.Powell
Solitary Vireo:			
1-18,1	Cambridge(Mt.A.), P.I.	3-9,3	R.Stymeist#&v.o., BRC(V.Albee)
4,7	Dorchester, S.Peabody	7,4	J.Murphy, R.Heil
22	Boxford, Marblehead	2,1	T.Leverich#, T.Lawrence#
Red-eyed Vireo:			
5,10-31	Waban, Lancaster	1,2-10	D.Wells, H.Merriman
10,11 on	Winchester, Cambridge(Mt.A.)	1,2-10(1 nest)	G.Gove, P.Stymeist# & v.o.
Philadelphia Vireo:			
10,22	Scituate, Nahant	1,1	J.Flaherty, R.Stymeist#
27;28	Boxford; P.I., Marblehead	1;2,1	R.Fmery#; R.Fmery#, R.Veit
Warbling Vireo:			
2,2 on	Wayland, Woburn	1,5 prs.	R.Forster, G.Gove
3&7-11,7	Cambridge(Mt.A.), Lancaster	1&3,1	D.Verger# & v.o., H.Merriman
8;9	Needham, Milton; Jamaica Plain	3,1;3	D.Wells#, F.Hamlen; D.Alessi
22	Lynnfield, Boxford	3,8-10	H.Wiggin#, J.Berry
Black-and-white Warbler:			
thr.	Lancaster	5+	H.Merriman
1-25	Cambridge(Mt.A.)	max.22(May 7)	R.Stymeist# & v.o.
2,7	Westport, S.Peabody	15,30	R.Veit, R.Heil
Prothonotary Warbler:			
6&7,6-9	Cambridge(Mt.A.), Newburyport	1,1	K.Beckham & v.o., M.Kovsky# & v.o.
9,14	Sharon, Canton	1,1	D.Clapp, T.Andrews
Worm-eating Warbler:			
thr.	Weston	2 m.	L.Robinson
10,18&21	Cambridge(Mt.A.)	2,1&1	M&A Argue#, D.Brown# & R.Stymeist
15,16	Manomet(MBO), Dover	1(b),1	Staff, F.Hamlen
Golden-winged Warbler:			
2,10	Framingham, Winchester	1,1	K.Hamilton#, G.Gove
15	W.Newbury, Scituate	4,1	D.Johnson#, N&S Osborne#
16,20	Boxford, Lancaster	1,1	D.Johnson#, H.Merriman
Blue-winged Warbler:			
2-13,6-15	Cambridge(Mt.A.), Dover	1-3,1-5	T.Leverich# & v.o., F.Hamlen
7 on, 9 on	Lancaster, W.Newbury	1-5,1-3	H.Merriman, A.Salzman# & v.o.
15,30	Sherborn, Hopkinton	2,3	F.Taylor#, J.Marshall, Jr.
Brewster's Warbler: (Hybrid)			
9	Sharon, Ipswich, Groton	1,1,1	D.Clapp, J.Berry, R.O'Hara
11&15	W.Newbury	1	A.Salzman & H.Weissberg
Lawrence's Warbler: (Hybrid)			
16,18 on	Walpole, Lancaster	1,1	J.Dav, H.Merriman

Tennessee Warbler:			
3-29	Cambridge(Mt. A.)	2-20(May 23)	R. Stymeist# & v.o.
7&30	S. Peabody	2&1	R. Heil
8;10	Boxford, Newbury; Wellesley	1, 1; 1	H. Merriman; R. Forster
Orange-crowned Warbler:			
1-7, 8&27	Cambridge, P. I.	1, 1&1	S. Zende & v.o., H. Wiggin & R. Emery
2-4, 11&18	Dorchester, Cambridge(Mt. A.)	1, 1&1	J. Murphy, F. Gardner & D. Brown
Nashville Warbler:			
1-15, 2	Cambridge(Mt. A.), Brookline	2-9, 1	T. Leverich# & v.o., H. Wiggin
7; 8	S. Peabody, Dorchester; Boxford	10, 4; 5	R. Heil, J. Murphy; H. Merriman
16	Weston	pair nesting	L. Robinson
18, 30	P. I., Squantum	1, 1 (late)	M&A Argue, R. Veit
Northern Parula:			
3-26	Cambridge(Mt. A.)	max. 19(May 6)	J. Barton# & v.o.
6, 7, 8	Melrose, S. Peabody, Boxford	2, 30, 20	J. Andrews, R. Heil, H. Merriman
29-31	Martha's Vineyard	4	BBC(J. Kenneally)
Yellow Warbler:			
1-20, 1	Cambridge(Mt. A.), Dover	1-5, 2	J. Barton# & v.o., F. Hamlen
2 on, 2	Lancaster, Westport	1-10, 20	H. Merriman, R. Veit#
18	P. I.	<u>100</u>	M&A Argue
Magnolia Warbler:			
1-27, 7	Cambridge(Mt. A.), Dorchester	2-7, 5	S. Dennison# & v.o., J. Murphy
7-27, 7	Lancaster, S. Peabody	1-3, 5	H. Merriman, R. Heil
18&27	P. I.	7&1	M&A Argue, G. Wilson
Cape May Warbler:			
5-21, 7-10	Cambridge(Mt. A.), Lancaster	2-4, 1-3	H. D'Entremont# & v.o., H. Merriman
7	Dorchester, S. Peabody, Weston	3, 4, 1	J. Murphy, R. Heil, L. Robinson
15	Scituate, Newton	1, 1	N. Osborne#, N&F Myrvaagnes
Black-throated Blue Warbler:			
5, 6-22	Dover, Cambridge(Mt. A.)	1, 1-5	F. Hamlen, J. Barton# & v.o.
6, 7	P. I., S. Peabody	1, 4	M. McClellan, R. Heil
10-31	Lancaster	2-1	H. Merriman
Yellow-rumped Warbler:			
1-21	Cambridge(Mt. A.)	max. 150+(May 7)	R. Stymeist# & v.o.
1-15	Lancaster	max. 50(May 1)	H. Merriman
7	S. Peabody	<u>450+</u>	R. Heil
Black-throated Green Warbler:			
1-23, 2-23	Cambridge(Mt. A.), Lancaster	1-19, 1-3	J. Barton# & v.o., H. Merriman
7, 8&18	S. Peabody, P. I.	7, 8&15	R. Heil, S. Grinley#, M&A Argue
Cerulean Warbler:			
9, 12	Weston, Newburyport	1, 1	L. Robinson, fide R. Forster
18, 19	P. I., Boxford	1, 1	W. Davis#, N. Claffin
22, 24	Boxford, Dover	1, 1	T. Leverich#, F. Hamlen
Blackburnian Warbler:			
1, 6-27	Boxboro, Cambridge(Mt. A.)	1, 1-5	H. Merriman, H. D'Entremont# & v.o.
6, 7	Waban, S. Peabody	1, 2	D. Wells, R. Heil
Yellow-throated Warbler:			
10, 17	Provincetown, W. Newbury	1, 1	D. McNair, P. Parsons
Chestnut-sided Warbler:			
1, 4 on	Boxboro, Lancaster	1, 1-3	H. Merriman
5, 6-17	Lexington, Cambridge(Mt. A.)	2, 1-6	M. Baird, S. Raabe# & v.o.
7, 15	S. Peabody, Ipswich	4, 2	R. Heil, BBC(J. Berry)
Bay-breasted Warbler:			
6-31, 15	Cambridge(Mt. A.), Lancaster	1-8, 5	S. Raabe# & v.o., H. Merriman
15	Dorchester, Winchester	2, 1	J. Murphy, G. Gove
15, 30	Scituate, S. Peabody	4, 5	N. Osborne#, M. Kasprzyk
Blackpoll Warbler:			
7-31	Cambridge(Mt. A.)	1-25(May 24)	R. Stymeist# & v.o.
15	Scituate	5	N. Osborne#
15	general arrival at several locations - few numbers reported		
Pine Warbler:			
1, 2	Dover, Plymouth	2, 1	F. Hamlen, B. Smyth#
2, 16	Ipswich, Cambridge(Mt. A.)	3-4, 2	J. Berry, R. Cassie# & v.o.
29-31	Martha's Vineyard	8	BBC(J. Kenneally)
Prairie Warbler:			
2	Westport, Plymouth, Woburn	2, 1, 1	R. Veit#, R. Smyth#, G. Gove
3-29, 23	Cambridge(Mt. A.), Westport	1-4, 8	R. Stymeist#, BBC(S. Grinley)
Palm Warbler:			
1-11, 1-8	Cambridge(Mt. A.), P. I.	2-4, 1	v.o.

Ovenbird:			
1,2	Bridgewater, Westport	1,12	J. Flaherty, R. Veit
3,4 on	Boxford, Lancaster	3,1-15	M. McClellan, H. Merriman
5-25,7	Cambridge (Mt. A.), S. Peabody	1-17 (May 7), 5	R. Stymeist#, R. Heil
15	Dover, Scituate	8,5	F. Hamlen, N&S Osborne#
Northern Waterthrush:			
6 on, 6-15	Boxford, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1-2,1-4	M. McClellan# & v.o., M. Baird# & v.o.
22	Nahant (thicket)	8	R. Stymeist#
Louisiana Waterthrush:			
thr., 1	Boxford, Fall River	2-4,2	v.o., F. Athearn
2,15	Manchester, Dover	1,1	B. Nolan#, F. Hamlen
15,22	Milton (F.M.), Milton (Blue Hills)	1,1	J. O'Regan, R. Forster
Kentucky Warbler:			
6-21	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	3	G. Shook, P. Forster, R. Stymeist
14,15	Peabody, Nahant	1,1	R. Heil, L. Taylor# & v.o.
15;20	Orleans, Winchester; Ipswich	1,1;1	C. Goodrich#, fide G. Gove; J. Berry
<u>Connecticut Warbler:</u> (no written details rec'd.)			
31	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1 "singing"	C. Quinlan, D. McNair
Mourning Warbler:			
22,23	P.I., Boxford	1,1	J. Move, D. Brown
28,29	Dorchester, N. Scituate	1,1	F. Rouchard, SSBC (M&B Litchfield)
Common Yellowthroat:			
2,3 on	Westport, Lancaster	1,1-10	R. Veit, H. Merriman
4 on	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Dover	1-6,1-4	D. Johnson# & v.o., F. Hamlen
8,18	W. Roxbury, P.I.	20,50	BBC (M. Murphy), M&A Argue
Yellow-breasted Chat:			
16,30	Newbury, Weston	1,1	R. Heil#, J. Hines#
Hooded Warbler:			
7-27,7	Sandwich, S. Peabody	1,1	R. Pease, R. Heil
10-12,10	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Boston (Pru.)	1,1	J. Holman# & v.o., H. Wiggin#
11,14	Newburyport, Weston	1,1	M. Baird, J. Hines#
22,27	P.I., Provincetown	1,1	F. King, W. Bailey
Wilson's Warbler:			
7 on	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	2-6	R. Stymeist# & v.o.
8,11	P.I., Winchester	1,1	BRC (S. Grinley), G. Gove
22	general arrival in several locations - very few reports)		
Canada Warbler:			
1-27	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	2-5 (very early arrival)	J. Harrison# & v.o.
10,15	Scituate, Dover	1,3	J. Flaherty, F. Hamlen
22	general arrival in several locations - very few reports)		
<u>American Redstart:</u>			
6,6-31	Winchester, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1,3-18	G. Gove, M. Baird# & v.o.
7 on, 8	Lancaster, W. Roxbury	1-8,5	H. Merriman, BRC (M. Murphy)
18	P.I.	75	M&A Argue
Bobolink:			
thr.	Newburyport area	1-25	R. Veit# & v.o.
2 on, 7	Lancaster, S. Peabody	1-20,3	P. Merriman, R. Heil
16,31	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Truro	15,1	S. Dennison# & v.o., W. Petersen
	(Bobolinks are uncommon in spring on Cape Cod)		
Orchard Oriole:			
1 on, 2	Wellesley, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	2 m., 1	R. Forster, T. Leverich
2,2-23	Winchester, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1,1-7	M. McClellan, T. Leverich#
6,7	Woburn, W. Newton	1 m., 1	G. Gove, H. Schneiderman
14 on, 15	Wellesley, Bolton	1 f., 1 m.	R. Forster, H. Merriman
15,16 on	Plymouth, Rowley	1,1 pr.	W. Petersen, C. Soucy#
16-22,24	Newburyport, Wood's Hole	1,1 pr.	R. Forster#, P. Garrey
30	Ipswich	1 m.	R. Forster
Northern Oriole:			
1,2	Bridgewater, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1,1	J. Flaherty, T. Leverich
2	Marshfield, Dover	2,4	SSBC (B. Smyth), F. Hamlen
7	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	15	R. Stymeist#
Rusty Blackbird:			
2	Wayland	5	R. Forster
<u>Western Tanager:</u>			
17	Scituate	1 ad.m.	J. Flaherty
Scarlet Tanager:			
7	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	5	D. Brown
7,8	Winchester, Bridgewater	1,1	G. Gove, J. Flaherty

Summer Tanager:			
8-10,21-23	Wellfleet, S. Peabody	1 m., 1	C. Goodrich#, R. Peil
28	Monomoy	1	C. Goodrich, W. Bailey
Rose-breasted Grosbeak:			
1,2	S. Natick, Framingham	1, 1	F. Hamlen, P. Forster
7,8	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Milton	7, 8	P. Stymeist#, F. Hamlen
Blue Grosbeak:			
10-16	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1-2 m.	F. Taylor#
Indigo Bunting:			
4,7	Hyannis, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1 pr., 1	M. Carroll, R. Stymeist
5-30	various localities	18-31 individuals	v.o.
Evening Grosbeak:			
7	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Byfield	38, 75	R. Stymeist#, T. Joyce
Pine Siskin:			
1,2	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Brookline	4, 1	BBC (F. Taylor), P. Wiggins
1-31	Abington, Winchester	nesting, 1	F. Pearson, G. Gove
6,15	Vineyard Haven (M. V.), Wayland	1, 2	M. Hancock, BBC (F. Taylor)
15	Dover, Wellesley	2, 2 ad. & 2 yg.	F. Hamlen, R. Forster
22,31	Manchester, Framingham	3, 3	BBC (G. Hotz), K. Hamilton#
Red Crossbill:			
1,6	Newburyport, Lincoln	3, 3	P. Veit#, P. Forster
23,24	Plymouth, Abington	40, 2 prs.	M. Moore#, F. Pearson
29-31, 31	Chappaquiddick (M. V.), Chatham	15, 5+	BBC (J. Kenneally)
White-winged Crossbill:			
4,17	Cambridge (Mt. A.)	4 f., 1	R. Peil, R. Stymeist
18	Wellesley	14	D. Fwes
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
23,29-31	Westport, Martha's Vineyard	2, 15	BBC (S. Grinley), BBC (J. Kenneally)
31	Truro	2+	W. Petersen
Henslow's Sparrow:			
16	Manomet (MBO)	1 b.	Staff
Sharp-tailed Sparrow:			
23,30	Westport, Newburyport	10, 35+	BBC (S. Grinley), P. Veit
Seaside Sparrow:			
12-28, 28	on Newburyport, Barnstable	1-2, 3	v.o., P. Pease
Vesper Sparrow:			
10,16	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Wellfleet	4, 2	BBC (J. Holman), BBC (J. Bryant)
Clay-colored Sparrow:			
27-31	S. Peabody	1 "singing"	R. Peil#
White-crowned Sparrow:			
7,8	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Milton	1, 1	P. Stymeist, F. Hamlen
8-9,9	Cambridge (Mt. A.), Winchester	2, 1	R. Emery#, R. Cavston
15	Bridgewater, Scituate	1, 1	L. Resmini, SSBC (N. Osborne)
15	Martha's Vineyard, P. I.	1, 2	M. Hancock, v.o.
White-throated Sparrow:			
2	Dover	4	F. Hamlen
Lincoln's Sparrow:			
1,10	P. I., S. Peabody	2, 1	S. Carrett, R. Peil
15,18	Abington, Cambridge (Mt. A.)	1, 1	F. Pearson, D. Brown
27	Dorchester, Boxford	3, 1	J. Murphv, R. Emery

Abbreviations

ad.	adult	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
b.	banded	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
f.	female	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
imm.	immature	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
m.	male	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
max.	manimum	A.A.	Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain
pr.	pair	F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham
thr.	throughout	F.M.	Fowl Meadow, Milton
v.o.	various observers	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
yg.	young	Mt. A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery Cambridge
#	additional observers	P. I.	Plum Island
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	Pru.	Prudential Center, Boston
SSBC	South Shore Bird Club	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable

THE BIRD OBSERVER SUMMARY FOR JUNE, 1976

This was the hottest June in the official 105 years of record keeping, topping the 1930 mark by one whole degree. The temperature averaged 73.4 degrees, 5.4 degrees above normal. The temperature reached the 90 degree mark on more days than ever before, a total of 11, the past average is only 2 days.

Tubenoses, outside of the fine counts by J. Loughlin of the Manomet Bird Observatory at George's Bank, had a poor showing. Northern Fulmar however were seen off Plum Island and Chatham, a total around 16 as compared with two for last year (1 dead and 1 unable to fly). An adult Yellow-nosed Albatross was certainly the highlight.

Louisiana Herons were found breeding this year for the first time on House Island off Manchester. A total of 451 Snowy Egrets were seen flying to House on June 17. Throughout the month large numbers of Black-crowned Night Herons came to fish at dusk at the Charles River in Watertown Square. Herons continue to breed at Clark's Island off Duxbury. The following chart compares the number of nests found this year with 1975.

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1975</u>
Little Blue Heron:	5	5
Great Egret:	5	5
Snowy Egret:	245	150
Black-crowned Night Heron:	245	350
Glossy Ibis:	60	40

The Mississippi Kite continued from May on the outer cape and over 70 immature Broad Winged Hawks were noted at Race Point, Provincetown. A Rough-legged Hawk was well studied at Monomoy, this being a very unusual season. The latest record prior to this occurred at Orleans May 16, 1959.

Shorebird highlights included a pair of breeding Willet at Monomoy. The first such breeding record in 101 years. They were last known to breed at Monomoy in 1875. A young chick was confirmed on July 7, though their behavior suspected breeding on June 23. The Bar-tailed Godwit was last seen at Newburyport on the 1st and a Curlew Sandpiper was photographed at Nauset.

Late stragglers included an Iceland Gull at Plymouth and a Glaucous Gull at Nantucket. Over 550 Arctic Terns were present throughout the month at Monomoy. The majority of these birds were in the "sterna portlandica" plumage, which is assumed to occur among certain aberrant second year birds. Typical Arctic Terns achieve adult plumage in their second year. This is by far the largest number of non-breeding Arctic Terns ever to occur in Massachusetts.

Acadian Flycatchers continue to appear as late spring migrants (totals for the last four years 1973,4; 1974,5; 1975,6-8). In recent years this species has been found nesting on Long Island, New York, a trend which may continue to this state in the future. Pine Siskins lingered and were seen with nesting material in several locations and Red Cross-bills were still present at the end of the month.

R.H.S.

Common Loon:			
5,6	Manomet, Harwichport	16,3	W. Petersen, BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Red-throated Loon:			
3,22	Clinton, Marshfield	1,1	H. Merriman, W. Petersen
Pied-billed Grebe:			
21	P.I.	4	BBC(R.Heil)
<u>Yellow-nosed Albatross:</u>			
14	Cultivator Shoals (north side of George's Bank)	1 ad.	J. Loughlin
Northern Fulmar:			
6	off P.I., off Chatham	5-10,6	E. Phinney#, BBC(H.D'Entremont)
10	George's Bank	<u>960+</u>	J. Loughlin
Cory's Shearwater:			
14,30	George's Bank, off Cuttyhunk	14,2	J. Loughlin, H.&V. Sprong
Greater Shearwater:			
10	George's Bank	<u>3200+</u>	J. Loughlin
Sooty Shearwater:			
6,12	off Chatham, Provincetown	15,1	BBC(H.D'Entremont), R. Forster
10	George's Bank	<u>900+</u>	J. Loughlin

Manx Shearwater:			
10	George's Bank	1	J. Loughlin
Wilson's Storm Petrel:			
6	off P.I., off Chatham	1500,3	E. Phinney#, BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Gannet:			
6	off Chatham	2	BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Little Blue Heron:			
17	Manchester(House Island)	6	R. Heil#
Great Egret:			
thr.	5 localities	9 individuals	v.o.
Snowy Egret:			
17,24	Manchester, P.I.	451,60	R. Heil#, R. Emery#
Louisiana Heron:			
3-4,13	Duxbury, P.I.	1,4	D. Walton, P. Parsons
17	Manchester	5	R. Heil#
Blue-crowned Night Heron:			
thr.	Waltham(Watertown Sq.)	max. 181 6/18	J. Luck#
Yellow-crowned Night Heron:			
7-17	P.I.	1-4	R. Heil# + v.o.
Least Bittern:			
thr.	Bolton	2	H. Merriman
3-4,6-24	Concord(GMNWR), P.I.	1,1-4	D. Walton, G. Soucy# + v.o.
8,12	Manomet(UBO), Swampscott	1,5	S. Parsons, S. Zende#
19,21	Manomet, Beverly(from train)	1,1	B. Cassie, V. Albee
American Bittern:			
thr.	Bolton	1-5	H. Merriman
12,28	Swampscott, P.I.	2,1	S. Zende#, BBC(C.Simmons)
Glossy Ibis:			
thr.	P.I. area	max. 21	BBC(C.Simmons) + v.o.
Gadwall:			
12	Concord(GMNWR)	8 ad. + 17 yg.	BBC(E. Taylor)
28	P.I.	40 ad. + 8 yg.	BBC(C.Simmons)
Blue-winged Teal:			
27	W. Newbury	1 ad. + 8 yg.	W. Petersen#
Wood Duck:			
thr.	Lancaster	5 prs., 40 yg.	H. Merriman
12	Concord(GMNWR)	10 ad. + 15 yg.	BBC(E. Taylor)
14	Sherborn	1 ad. + 11 yg.	E. Taylor
26	Ipswich	24 ad. + 10 yg.	J. Berry
Common Eider:			
6	off Harwichport	8	BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Common Merganser:			
6	Harwichport	1	BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Hooded Merganser:			
19,20	Bolton	1 f., 6 yg.	H. Merriman
Turkey Vulture:			
8,30	Truro, Holliston	1,3	W. Bailey, J. Marshall
Goshawk:			
3	Clinton	1	H. Merriman
Mississippi Kite: (from May)			
8	Truro	1	C. Goodrich, B. Nikula, W. Bailey
8	Eastham (same bird)	1	I. Nisbet, T. Scott
11	Provincetown	1	B. Nikula, C. Goodrich
Red-shouldered Hawk:			
5,12	Bridgewater, Topsfield	1 breeding,1	. Petersen, J. Berry
Broad-winged Hawk:			
thr.	Weston	2 nests,4 yg.	L. Robinson
9	Provincetown(Race Point)	70 imm.	R. Heil#
Rough-legged Hawk:			
9	Monomoy	1 lt. phase	R. Forster, I. Nisbet
Bald Eagle:			
8-13	Provincetown	1 imm.	B. Nikula, C. Goodrich, W. Petersen
Osprey:			
thr.	Wareham, Lakeville	nesting pairs	fide H. Kingmen, W. Petersen# + v.o.
9,10	Monomoy, Eastham(FH)	1,1	R. Forster#, R. Veit#
American Kestrel:			
30	Waltham	4(2 yg.)	J. Luck#

Bobwhite:			
20	Ipswich	1	J. Berry
King Rail:			
3-12	P.I. (possible King X Clapper)	1	R. Heil, M. Gardler
19	Barnstable	1	R. Pease
Clapper Rail:			
thr.	Barnstable	6	R. Pease
Virginia Rail:			
21,27	P.I., Concord(GMNWR)	2 ad. 5 yg.,6(with yg.)	BBC(R.Heil), BBC(Wilsons)
Sora Rail:			
24,28	P.I.	3 ad.+4 yg.,1 ad.,6 yg.	R. Emery#, BBC(C.Simmons)
Common Gallinule:			
12	Concord(GMNWR)	5 ad.,7 yg.	BBC(E. Taylor)
American Oystercatcher:			
thr.	Monomoy, Nantucket	max. 15,3 prs. nesting	v.o., R. Veit#
thr.	Tuckernuck, Muskeget	3 prs. nesting,1 pr. nesting	R. Veit
Semipalmated Plover:			
6	Ipswich	6	J. Nove
Piping Plover:			
6	Ipswich(Castle Neck)	11	J. Nove
Whimbrel:			
3	Barnstable	1	R. Pease
Upland Sandpiper:			
thr.,27	Bridgewater, Newburyport	2,6	W. Petersen, D. Butler
Willet:			
thr.	Monomoy	6-8 1 pr. nesting	v.o.
FIRST RECENT MASSACHUSETTS BREEDING RECORD			
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
24,26	P.I., Rowley	5,6	R. Emery#, J. Berry
White-rumped Sandpiper:			
26	Rowley	3	J. Berry
Curlew Sandpiper:			
15-20	Nauset	1(photographed)	B. Nikula# + v.o.
Bar-tailed Godwit:			
1	Newburyport(from 5/22)	1	R. Veit
Red Phalarope:			
2+10	Monomoy	1-2	C. Goodrich, B. Nikula
Pomarine Jaeger:			
5	Nantucket Shoals	1	J. Loughlin
Parasitic Jaeger:			
6	off Chatham, Nantucket Shoals	2,1	BBC(H.D'Entremont), J. Loughlin
12	P.I., Barnstable	3,1	G. Soucy#, R. Pease
Skua:			
2	Nantucket Shoals	1	J. Loughlin
Glaucous Gull:			
22 on	Nantucket	1st year	R. Veit, L. Stockford
Iceland Gull:			
29	Plymouth Beach	1,1	MBO staff
Bonaparte's Gull:			
27	Newburyport	130	W. Petersen
Little Gull:			
2+9,6	Monomoy, Harwichport	2+1,1	C. Goodrich# + R. Forster#, H. D'Entremont#
Sandwich Tern:			
26	Katama, M.V.	1	P. Olmstead
		no details	
Common Tern:			
6,21	Plymouth, P.I.	200,25+	BBC(H.D'Entremont, R.Heil)
Arctic Tern:			
the.	Monomoy	550+	R. Forster, I. Nisbet
		1 st year type "Portlandica"	
Least Tern:			
thr.	Ipswich	50-60	J. Nove + V.O.
Royal Tern:			
9,20-25	Sandwich, Plymouth	2,1-3	R. Pease, B. Cassie + v.o.
Black Tern:			
12,14	Barnstable, P.I.	1,1	R. Pease, BBC(M.Kasprzyk)

Black Skinner:			
3,5	Monomoy, Nauset	1,1	P. Trull, B. Nikula#
12	P.I.	1	G. Soucy, R. Heil + v.o.
Thick-billed Murre:			
10	George's Bank	1	J. Loughlin
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:			
9-26	Dover	4-5	B. Morrissey + v.o.
Black-billed Cuckoo:			
5,26	W. Newbury, Dover	1,4	G. Soucy#, F. Hamlen#
Great Horned Owl:			
thr.	Millis	1-3 including yg.	J. Marshall
16,27	Lancaster, Harvard	2,2	H. Merriman
Long-eared Owl:			
16	Essex	1 dead	J. Berry, J. Nove
Short-eared Owl:			
thr.	Tuckernuck	3 prs. nesting	R. Veit
Saw-whet Owl:			
14+25	Sandwich	1	R. Pease
Pileated Woodpecker:			
5	Lancaster	2	H. Merriman
Chimney Swift:			
5,15,20	Framingham	57,54,74	E. Taylor
Ruby-throated Hummingbird:			
3	Cambridge(Mt.A.)	1	S. Raabe + H. Barr
Eastern Kingbird:			
6	Ipswich	23	J. Nove
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:			
1,3	Lincoln, Dorchester	1,1	R. Forster, J. Murphy
3,7	P.I.	1,1	M+A Argue, L. Jodrey
12,13	Ipswich, W. Newbury	2,1	J. Berry, H. Weissberg
19	Annisquam	1	H. Wiggin
Acadian Flycatcher:			
5,9	Cambridge, Sandwich	1,2	R. Forster, R. Pease
13,20	P.I., Duxbury	1,2	P. Fox, M. Baird, W. Petersen+ K. Anderson
Alder Flycatcher:			
5,6	Brookfield, P.I.	1,2	T. Gagnon, G. Soucy
12-14,13-14	P.I., Newburyport	1,1	v.o., v.o.
15-17,26	Millis, Newburyport	1,1	J. Marshall, Argues
Willow Flycatcher:			
5,5-6	Milton, W. Newbury	3,3	F. Hamlen#, G. Soucy
7	Concord	7	BBC(Clayton)
Least Flycatcher:			
5,20	Lakeville, Duxbury	1,1	W. Petersen
Eastern Wood Pewee:			
2,6	Cambridge, Concord	1,1	BBC(Zendeh),(Clayton)
11,19	Chelmsford, Dover	1,1	W. Harris, BBC(Morrissey)
Bank Swallow:			
6	Ipswich	24 nests	J. Nove
Rough-winged Swallow:			
thr.	Weston	14+ (7 imm.)	L. Robinson
Cliff Swallow:			
1,6	Squantum, Essex	9,pr.	G. Wilson, G. Soucy
Purple Martin:			
14,21	P.I.	14,15+	M. Kasprzyk, R. Heil
Fish Crow:			
7	Plymouth	9	M. Moore
White-breasted Nuthatch:			
28	Millis	4	J. Marshall
Red-breasted Nuthatch:			
5,13	Lakeville, Boxford	1-2,1 nesting	W. Petersen, S. Zendeh
19	Waltham	1	J. Luck
Winter Wren:			
6-26,11	Dover, Chelmsford	1,1	J. Marshall, W. Harris#
Carolina Wren:			
23,25	Dartmouth, Scituate	1,1	B. Nickerson, W. Petersen
Mockingbird:			
16	Essex	nest w/ 4 yg.	J. Berry

Swainson's Thrush:			
2	Cambridge	2	BBC(Zendeh)
Veery:			
1,12	Sherborn, Falmouth	1,pr.	BBC(Taylor), A. Clarke
Eastern Bluebird:			
1,11-13	Milton(F.M.), Lanesboro	1,1	R. Veit, BBC(Grimley)
12	Harvard	3-4	H. Merriman
12,19	Falmouth, Annisquam	pr.,nesting pr.	A. Clarke, H. Wiggin
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:			
17,28	Winchester, Falmouth	1,pr. building nest	M. McClellan, A. Clarke
30	Manomet	1	T. Lloyd-Evans
White-eyed Vireo:			
6,22	Ipswich, Marshfield	1,3	J. Nove, W. Petersen
Yellow-throated Vireo:			
1	Lincoln	1	R. Forster, J. Baird
Solitary Vireo:			
5,6	Lakeville, Concord	1,1	W. Petersen, BBC(Clayton)
Worm-eating Warbler:			
thr.	Weston	2 ad.,2 yg.	L. Robinson
20-26	Dover	1	F. Hamlen
Golden-winged Warbler:			
thr.,13	Weston, Holliston	1,1	L. Robinson, F. Hamlen
Blue-winged Warbler:			
11-13,13	Lenox, Holliston	3,1	BBC(Grimley), F. Hamlen
19	Foxboro	1	J. Luck
"Brewster's" Warbler:			
3	W. Newbury	1	C. Goodrich#
"Lawrence's" Warbler:			
1-5	Lancaster	1	H. Merriman
thr.	N. Dighton	1 m. nesting w/ Blue-wing young fledged 6/12	D. Emerson + v.o.
Nashville Warbler:			
20	Duxbury	1	W. Petersen
Magnolia Warbler:			
3,5	P.I., Milton	3,1	Argues, F. Hamlen
18	Brewster	1	B. Nikula
Yellow-rumped Warbler:			
13	Princeton(WMWS)	1(breeding?)	H. Merriman
Black-throated Green Warbler:			
6	Ipswich, Dover	2-3,1	J. Berry, J. Marshall
Blackburman Warbler:			
2,3	Cambridge, P.I.	1,2	BBC(Zendeh, Argues)
Chestnut-sided Warbler:			
14,19	Millis, Foxboro	1,2	J. Marshall, J. Luck
Bay-breasted Warbler:			
3	P.I.	1	M+A Argue
Blackpoll Warbler:			
5	Milton	1(last)	F. Hamlen
Pine Warbler:			
20	Millis	1	J. Marshall
Ovenbird:			
26	Dover	9	F. Hamlen
Northern Waterthrush:			
20	Middleboro	1-2	W. Petersen
Mourning Warbler:			
1,5	Lancaster	1	H. Merriman
7	Dover	1 dead	F. Alwon
Common Yellowthroat:			
29	Boston(Prudential Center)	1	A. Argue
Yellow-breasted Chat:			
23	Dartmouth	2	B. Nickerson
Canada Warbler:			
thr.	Weston	2-3	L. Robinson
20,27	Dover, W. Newbury	2,2	F. Hamlen, W. Petersen
American Redstart:			
2,21	Cambridge, P.I.	1 f.,1	BBC(Zendeh), (Heil)
Orchard Oriole:			
thr.,5	Winchester, Marshfield	1,1	M. McClellan, H.D'Entremont
14,27	Foxboro, Rowley	pr. w/ 4 yg.,1 ad.	D. Clapp, D. Butler
28	Falmouth	pr.	A. Clarke

Northern Oriole:			
3	Cambridge(Mt.A.)	6	S. Raabe + H. Barr
Rose-breasted Grosbeak:			
19,27	Milton, Concord	4,3	BBC(Morrissey),(Wilson)
Indigo Bunting:			
thr.,1	Wellesley-Lincoln, Ipswich	7,3 m.	R. Forster, J. Berry
Purple Finch:			
1,21	Cambridge, P.I.	1,6	BBC(Clayton), BBC(Heil)
Pine Siskin:			
10,12	Foxboro, Wayland	1,15	W. Davis, J. Hines
Red Crossbill:			
3,7,11	Plymouth	3+,4,1	M. Moore
3	Falmouth, Foxboro	"small groups",3	A. Clarke, W. Davis
6,14	Ipswich, Shirley	6,4	J. Nove, F. Hegliger
11,20	Provincetown, P.I.	11,1	R. Forster, J. Denison
27	Sandwich	5	R. Pease
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
thr.	Tuckernuck I.	12+prs.	R. Veit
12,13on	Truro, Dartmouth	1-2,2	W. Petersen, M. Argue#
Sharp-tailed Sparrow:			
thr.	Barnstable	400+ nesting	R. Pease
Seaside Sparrow:			
thr.,7-24	Barnstable, P.I.	35+ nesting,2	R. Pease, R. Heil#
Dark-eyed Junco:			
thr.	Weston, Westwood	2-3,2	L. Robinson, J. Clancy
White-throated Sparrow:			
13	Princeton(WMWS)	2	H. Merriman
11-14,20	Abington, Middleboro	1,1	E. Pearson, W. Petersen

A RECORD COUNT OF BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS AT NEWBURYPORT

by Michael C. Moore and Steven B. Light, Manomet Bird Observatory

At 12:45 P.M. on 19 May 1976 we estimated that 6500 Black-bellied Plovers (Pluvialis squatarola) were foraging on mudflats at Newburyport Harbor, Massachusetts. Our estimate was made about 2 1/4 hours after low tide while the incoming tide forced shorebirds towards shore, but before they had begun leaving for resting areas. Our independent estimates were made with telescopes (Light using 20X, Moore 35X), and were derived by slightly different techniques. Light counted all Black-bellied Plovers in one telescope-field and then counted the number of scope-fields of similar density thereafter. When noticeable changes of density occurred, another telescope-field was counted and the count modified accordingly. Moore estimated by first counting 100 plovers and, using this as a unit, counting the rest by 100's. On the first count Light estimated 5200 and Moore estimated 5700. About 15 minutes later, when the tide had forced the birds closer, Light estimated 4900 and Moore estimated 6500. However, on this count Moore included a distant flock of about 1000 birds that Light was unable to see with his lower magnification telescope. We agreed that Moore's estimate was probably more accurate. Despite the fact that 6500 birds is an unusually high number for Black-bellied Plovers, we feel that our figure is satisfactory and may even be a conservative estimate.

Comments from other observers (as well as our own rough estimate on 18 May) indicate that about 6500 Black-bellied Plovers were present in the Newburyport area from about 16-20 May. By 28 May Moore estimated only 2500 under conditions similar to those that prevailed when estimates were made on 19 May.

Although we have not made an exhaustive literature search, our count of Black-bellied Plovers is the highest we have found reference to, and likely is the highest known anywhere in the United States in recent years. The previous high count for Massachusetts was 3500 observed on Monomoy Island by Griscom on 21 May 1947 (Bailey 1955). The highest count we have found outside of Massachusetts was 6200 birds and was made by Bent and Oberholser at Tuckerton Bay, New Jersey, on 27 May 1927 (Bent 1929).

Literature Cited

- Bailey, Wallace, 1955, Birds in Massachusetts, Where and When to Find Them, College Press, South Lancaster, Massachusetts.
- Bent, A. C., 1929, Life Histories of North American Shorebirds, Smithsonian Institution, United States National Museum, Bulletin 146.

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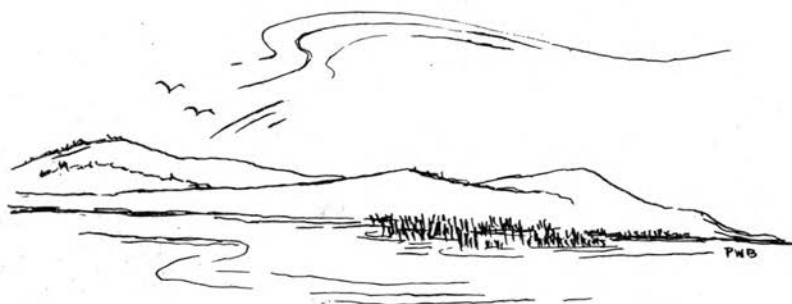
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