

BIRD SIGHTINGS

March/April 2015

Seth Kellogg, Marjorie W. Rines, and Robert H. Stymeist

March started with a continuation of the snows of February. On March 1 Boston received nearly four more inches of snow, the South Shore and Cape Cod got six more inches, and parts of Bristol County reported eight inches. This was a heavy snow causing multiple roof collapses throughout the region. On March 15 2.9 inches of snow fell in Boston and with that we set the record for the snowiest winter with 108.6 inches, one inch more than the previous record set in 1995-96. The deep freeze continued in March, causing many harbors to become clogged with ice. In Plymouth Harbor the ice was six to eight inches thick and even the Coast Guard cutter *Pendant* got stuck in Boston Harbor while breaking ice.

April had no snow and the temperature averaged 48° in Boston, which is normal for the month. The high was 69° on April 13 and the low was 30° on the first. Rainfall totaled 2.28 inches in Boston, 1.46 inches below normal. Most of this fell on Patriot's Day, which is also the day of the Boston Marathon, and was undoubtedly appreciated by the runners.

R. Stymeist

WATERFOWL THROUGH ALCIDS

A **Ross's Goose** was discovered at the University of Massachusetts campus in Amherst on April 1 and stayed a single day. This is the second Ross's Goose for the winter in western Massachusetts, the other having been a bird at Turners Falls in December. The only **Cackling Geese** reported during the period were also in western Massachusetts, all in the first two days of the month. The **Tufted Duck** that spent most of February on Nantucket lingered through the middle of April, and a different Tufted Duck was discovered in Lowell on March 26, moving down the Merrimack River to Salisbury by April 10. **White-faced Ibis** is now annual in Essex County, and this year's bird arrived unusually early on April 6.

April was an exciting time on the outer Cape, starting with the sighting of a **Crested Caracara** in Chatham on April 5. Sadly it was not seen again. There are only two previous sightings of Caracara in Massachusetts. The first was an individual seen by many people at the Cumberland Farm fields in Halifax in January 1999. Although this sighting was initially rejected by the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee based on questionable origin, it was reevaluated in 2008 as additional evidence became available of extralimital occurrence. The second sighting was in West Tisbury in May 2007.

The second piece of excitement was the sighting of two **Swallow-tailed Kites** on April 12 by two experienced hawkwatchers. If that weren't enough, the next day the same two people spotted four kites together, and there were additional sightings of singles on April 16 and 18. Although Swallow-tailed Kites have become increasingly common as spring migrants through Massachusetts, particularly on Cape Cod and the Islands, most of these sightings have been in May and early June, and a total of four kites is unprecedented.

Sandhill Cranes have been breeding in New Marlborough since 2006, but still remain uncommon in the rest of the state. Reports for the period were unusually high, including birds in Worthington that have been regular since 2013, and may be breeding in that area as well.

Black-headed Gulls are always a nice find, but are exceptionally rare inland, so the discovery of one at the Meadow Street fields in Amherst on April 6 was exciting, and enjoyed by many.

M. Rines

Greater White-fronted Goose				4/28	Bolton Flats	110	J. Hoye#
3/13-23	Plymouth	1	G. Gove	Eurasian Green-winged Teal			
3/30	Amherst	1	J. Drucker	3/29	W. Harwich	1	M. Malin
4/2-6	Lancaster	1	M. Lynch#	4/10	Concord (NAC)	1	S. Perkins#
4/3-20	Chatham	1	P. Swenson#	4/24	Plymouth	1	L. Waters
4/4-10	Topsfield	1	J. Griffin	Eurasian Green-winged Teal x Green-			
4/7-12	Hadley	1	J. Drucker	4/7	Ipswich	2	R. Heil
Snow Goose				4/25	Concord	1	D. Sibley
3/18	Eastham (F.E.)	27	E. Hoopes	Canvasback			
3/29	Pittsfield	100	T. Collins	3/1	Nantucket	78	T. Pastuszak
3/29	Bolton Flats	117	B. Black#	3/4	Falmouth	2	M. Malin
3/31	Turners Falls	290	M. Lynch	4/11	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	1	P. Champlin
4/3	Holyoke	125	T. Gagnon	Redhead			
4/11	Newbury	40	B. Colby	3/4	Westport	1	P. Champlin
Ross's Goose				3/10-14	Cheshire	2	J. Pierce
4/1-2	Amherst	1	J. Drucker	Ring-necked Duck			
Brant				3/29	Groveland	92	J. Berry#
3/13	Swampscott	40	D. Williams	3/30	Waltham	70	J. Forbes
3/13	Manomet	23	G. Gove#	4/3	Quabog IBA	118	M. Lynch#
4/4	W. Gloucester	30	J. Nelson	4/7	Turners Falls	375	J. Rose
4/8	P.I.	100	S. McGrath#	4/10	W. Bridgewater	75	S. Arena
Cackling Goose				4/12	IRWS	55	BBC (J. Center)
4/1	Agawam	1	F. Bowrys	4/19	Lincoln	40	J. Forbes
4/2	Turners Falls	1	J. Drucker	Tufted Duck			
4/2	Northampton	2	L. Therrien	3/1-4/12	Nantucket	1	T. Pastuszak#
Wood Duck				3/26-27	Lowell	1	m ph S. Sullivan#
3/25	Waltham	40	R. Stymeist	3/29-4/10	Merrimack R.	1	v.o.
4/2	Bolton Flats	141	M. Lynch#	Greater Scaup			
4/2	GMNWR	47	K. Dia#	3/3	Ipswich (C.B.)	6	J. Berry#
4/3	Sunderland	115	A. Richards	3/16	Acoaxet	192	M. Lynch#
4/5	New Braintree	59	M. Lynch#	3/25	Hadley	5	P. Yeskie
Gadwall				4/15	S. Monomoy	12	D. Clapp#
3/7	Gloucester	6	M. Lynch#	4/18	Waltham	8	J. Forbes
3/16	P.I.	7	R. Heil	4/27	S. Quabbin	2	L. Therrien
3/16	Acoaxet	17	M. Lynch#	Lesser Scaup			
4/15	S. Monomoy	8	D. Clapp#	4/3	Hadley	6	L. Therrien
4/16	Hadley	2	S. Surner	4/11	Quabog IBA	2	M. Lynch#
Eurasian Wigeon				4/12	Arlington Res.	2	K. Hartel#
3/22-31	Nantucket	2	R. Ouren#	4/15	S. Monomoy	12	D. Clapp#
3/31-4/6	Sandwich	1	P. Crosson#	4/17	Pittsfield (Pont.)	14	J. Pierce
4/18-19	Salisbury	1	M. Goetschkes#	4/25	Gloucester (E.P.)	3	J. Nelson
American Wigeon				King Eider			
3/1	Westport	24	P. Champlin	3/2	Ipswich (C.B.)	1	J. MacDougall
3/29	Plymouth	5	S. van der Veen	3/8	Gloucester	2	BBC (I. Giriunas)
4/10	Cumb. Farms	23	S. Arena	4/2	Weymouth	1	S. Avery
4/21	Ipswich	10	J. Berry	Common Eider			
4/27	P.I.	16	BBC (D. Williams)	3/4	Gloucester	150	J. Berry
Blue-winged Teal				3/8	P'town	525	B. Nikula
3/31	Duxbury B.	1	R. Bowes	3/16	Acoaxet	343	M. Lynch#
4/5	DWWS	3	J. Hoye#	Harlequin Duck			
4/7	Newbury	4	R. Heil	3/7	Rockport	31	M. Lynch#
4/9	Longmeadow	2	M. Moore	3/10	Dennis (Corp. B.)	3	D. Clapp#
4/15	S. Monomoy	6	D. Clapp#	3/13	Manomet	11	G. Gove#
Northern Shoveler				3/21	P'town	1	L. Waters#
4/3	Sunderland	4	A. Richards	4/26	Nantucket	1	E. Rudden
4/4	Hadley	6	F. Bowrys	Surf Scoter			
4/15	S. Monomoy	16	D. Clapp#	3/4	Gloucester	40	J. Berry
4/18	Salisbury	13	S. McGrath	3/16	Westport	21	M. Lynch#
4/19	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	6	P. Champlin	White-winged Scoter			
Northern Pintail				3/3	Ipswich (C.B.)	50	J. Berry#
3/11	Northampton	7	B. Emily	3/7	Gloucester	44	M. Lynch#
3/16	Acoaxet	9	M. Lynch#	3/8	P'town (R.P.)	960	M. Anderson
4/9	P.I.	16	T. Wetmore	3/21	Eastham (F.E.)	800	I. Davies#
4/10	Cumb. Farms	8	S. Arena	4/17	Cheshire	3	J. Pierce
4/15	S. Monomoy	8	D. Clapp#	Black Scoter			
Green-winged Teal				3/3	Ipswich (C.B.)	350	J. Berry#
3/4, 25	Waltham	1, 6	J. Forbes	3/7	Rockport	195	M. Lynch#
4/thr	W. Harwich	70	B. Nikula	4/4	Plymouth B.	64	P. + F. Vale
4/3	Sunderland	53	A. Richards	4/27	P.I.	39	D. Williams
4/6	Lancaster	168	M. Lynch#	Long-tailed Duck			
4/7	Newbury	150	R. Heil	3/6	Springfield	1	A. & L. Richardson
4/11	Concord (NAC)	125	MAS (D. Swain)	4/13	Cheshire	1	J. Pierce

Long-tailed Duck (continued)				Horned Grebe			
4/17	Pittsfield (Pont.)	3	J. Pierce	3/16	P.I.	5 dead	B. Cassie
4/27	Stockbridge	3	R. Wendell	3/21	P'town H.	18	B. Nikula
4/27	Pittsfield (Onota)	2	R. Wendell	4/26	Westport	38	M. Lynch#
4/27	P.I.	175	BBC (D. Williams)	Red-necked Grebe			
Bufflehead				3/8	P'town (R.P.)	144	M. Anderson
3/29	Groveland	4	J. Berry#	4/6	Winthrop	27	G. Gove#
4/4	Wachusett Res.	10	M. Lynch#	4/24	Pittsfield (Onota)	7	J. Pierce
4/5	Turners Falls	11	T. Gagnon	4/25	Pittsfield (Pont.)	10	H. Powell
4/25	Wakefield	8	P. + F. Vale	Manx Shearwater			
4/26	Westport	51	M. Lynch#	4/6	Revere B.	7	S. Riley
4/27	P.I.	9	D. Williams	4/11	P'town	1	B. Nikula
Common Goldeneye				4/11	Stellwagen	1	J. Sender#
3/16	Westport	149	M. Lynch#	Northern Gannet			
3/16	Falmouth	72	M. Malin	4/9, 18	P'town	185, 325	B. Nikula
3/22	Chatham	60	L. Waters	4/22	P.I.	25	U. Goodine#
4/4	GMNWR	15	BBC (J. Center)	4/26	Stellwagen	150	K. Hartel
4/4	Wachusett Res.	21	M. Lynch#	Double-crested Cormorant			
4/10	Lakeville	40	S. Arena	3/25	Dorchester	30	P. Peterson
4/29	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore	4/12	P.I.	70	T. Wetmore
Barrow's Goldeneye				4/22	Mt Shatterack	88	T. Swochak
3/16	Newbypt H.	1	R. Heil	4/30	Medford	40	M. Rines
4/3	Winthrop	1	M. Badger#	Great Cormorant			
Hooded Merganser				3/11	Amesbury	13	J. Berry#
3/21	Quabog IBA	32	M. Lynch#	3/16	Salisbury	7	R. Heil
3/26	GMNWR	14	K. Dia#	3/16	Acoaxet	32	M. Lynch#
3/29	Groveland	16	J. Berry#	4/22	Concord	1	C. Winstanley
4/10	Arlington Res.	20	K. Hartel	American Bittern			
4/24	Chatham	13	J. Trimble#	4/5	Northampton	2	R. Clark
Common Merganser				4/12	P.I.	2	P. + F. Vale
4/5	Waltham	60	J. Forbes	4/26	Cumington	2	L. Therrien
4/7	Wenham	42	R. Heil	Great Blue Heron			
4/7	Southwick	325	S. Kellogg	4/3	Methuen	28	E. Parker
4/9	Westboro	48	S. Miller	4/11	Quabog IBA	18 nests	M. Lynch#
4/10	Woburn (HP)	233	M. Rines	4/12	W. Newbury	40	J. Berry#
4/11	Quabog IBA	72	M. Lynch#	4/18	W. Newbury	31 n	D. Williams
Red-breasted Merganser				Great Egret			
3/4	Gloucester	50	J. Berry	3/25	Dorchester	1	P. Peterson
3/16	Acoaxet	37	M. Lynch#	3/28	Hatfield	1	S. Tomlinson
3/31	Hadley	6	L. Therrien	4/4	W. Gloucester	8	J. Nelson
4/26	P'town	200	B. Nikula	4/7	Essex	19	R. Heil
Ruddy Duck				4/14	E. Boston (B.I.)	6	P. Peterson
4/17	Westfield	6	D. Schell	Snowy Egret			
4/17	Stockbridge	25	G. Ward	4/1	Scituate	1	J. Feeney
4/17	Richmond	17	G. Ward	4/1	W. Dennis	1	P. Trull
4/17	Cheshire	17	J. Pierce	4/14	E. Boston (B.I.)	3	P. Peterson
4/30	Chestnut Hill	5	S. Simpson	4/25	Ipswich	15	P. + F. Vale
Northern Bobwhite				Little Blue Heron			
4/11	Yarmouth	1	E. Hoopes	4/13	E. Boston (B.I.)	1	P. Peterson
4/16	Chatham	1	R. Schain	4/15	DWWS	1	G. Gove#
Ring-necked Pheasant				4/16	Gloucester	1	C. Haines
4/2	Fall River	1	L. Abbey	4/18	W. Harwich	1	M. Malin
4/11	Rockport	1	B. Harris	4/23	Mashpee	1	K. Fiske
4/14	Newbypt.	1	J. Hoye#	Tricolored Heron			
4/26	Westport	1	M. Lynch#	4/25	Falmouth	1	M. Schanbacher#
Red-throated Loon				Green Heron			
3/1, 4/11	P'town	22, 650	B. Nikula	4/15	Arlington Res.	1	C. Gras
3/31	Duxbury B.	15	R. Bowes	4/17	Worc. (BMB)	1	B. Robo
4/13	Woburn (HP)	1	K. Sweadner	4/18	P.I.	1	S. McGrath#
4/26	Westport	4	M. Lynch#	4/22	Dartmouth	1	A. + D. Morgan
Pacific Loon				4/22	Mashpee	1	K. Fiske
3/15, 4/18	P'town	1, 1	Flood, Nikula	Black-crowned Night-Heron			
Common Loon				3/29	Dorchester	6	P. Peterson
3/1	Westport	12	P. Champlin	4/4	Plymouth	5	P. + F. Vale
3/3	Ipswich (C.B.)	12	J. Berry#	4/5	Milton	18	P. Peterson
3/7	Gloucester	17	M. Lynch#	4/20	Watertown	14	A. Gurka#
4/18	P'town	60	B. Nikula	4/25	Camb. (Alewife)	10	Z. Weber#
4/21	Wachusett Res.	6	M. Lynch#	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			
Pied-billed Grebe				4/20	Gloucester	1 ad ph	fide R. Heil
3/29	Georgetown	1	D. + B. Fox	Glossy Ibis			
4/8	Carlisle	2	J. Center	4/2	DWWS	10	S. Maguire
4/19	Konkapot IBA	2	M. Lynch#	4/11	W. Bridgewater	30	J. Center

Glossy Ibis (continued)			4/29	Ware R. IBA	10	M. Lynch#
4/12	Concord	11		Rough-legged Hawk		
4/14	W. Bridgewater	34		3/6	Cumb. Farms	3 MAS (K. Rawdon)
4/18	W. Harwich	6	W. Mumford#	3/11	Westport	1 P. Champlin
4/23	Sheffield	3	J. Pierce	3/15	Rowley	1 J. Berry#
4/24	Cumb. Farms	19	L. Waters	3/24	Lee	1 G. Hurley
4/30	Rowley	100	P. + F. Vale	3/29	Plymouth	1 S. van der Veen
4/30	E. Boston (B.L.)	13	P. Peterson	3/31	Saugus	1 P. Peterson
White-faced Ibis				4/2	Bolton Flats	1 M. Lynch#
4/6-30	Essex to P.I.	1	v.o.	4/2	Barre Falls	1 Hawkcount (DG)
Black Vulture				4/3	P.I.	2 K. Elwell
3/27	Worcester	2	J. Lawson	Golden Eagle		
3/31	P.I.	2	Hawkcount (TM)	3/25	Mt. Wachusett	1 B. Harris
4/4	Palmer	2	S. Motyl	4/13	Royalston	1 D. Small
4/10	Millbury	3	A. Marble	4/16	Barre Falls	1 Hawkcount (DS)
4/19	Sheffield	4	M. Lynch#	Crested Caracara		
Turkey Vulture				4/5	Chatham	1 ph P. Zuckerman
3/16	Acoaxet	10	M. Lynch#	Virginia Rail		
3/25	Mt. Wachusett	38	B. Harris	4/18	Burlington	5 M. Rines
3/29	N. Andover	23	D. + B. Fox	4/27	Lexington (DM)	3 M. Rines
3/31, 4/11	P.I.	90, 63	Hawkcount (TM)	4/29	Bolton Flats	3 A. Marble
3/31	S. Peabody	15	R. Heil	4/30	Wenham	2 J. Berry
4/19	Sheffield	11	M. Lynch#	Sora		
Osprey				4/18	Woburn (HP)	1 J. Forbes#
3/9	Orleans	1	M. Lowe	4/19	Lenox	1 G. Hurley
3/31	S. Peabody	3	R. Heil	4/22	Harwichport	1 B. Nikula
4/2-29	Barre Falls	52	Hawkcount (DS)	4/29	Bolton Flats	1 A. Marble
4/3-25	P.I.	59	Hawkcount (PR)	4/30	Wenham	1 J. Berry
4/26	Westport	26	nests M. Lynch#	American Coot		
Swallow-tailed Kite				3/18	Brookline	2 P. Peterson
4/12, 13	S. Truro	2, 4	M. Brokenshire#	3/25	Woburn (HP)	5 D. Williams
4/16	Wellfleet	1	S. Pamet	4/2	Sudbury	1 P. Sowizral#
4/18	Truro	1	B. Nikula	4/14	Jamaica Plain	1 M. Barber
Bald Eagle				4/28	Plymouth	1 B. Hodson
3/1	Westport	3	P. Champlin	Sandhill Crane		
3/2	Salisbury	4	T. McElligott	3/27	Lowell	1 J. Keeley
4/2-29	Barre Falls	15	Hawkcount (DS)	3/29	Burrage WMA	2 P. McGovern#
4/3	Quabog IBA	5	M. Lynch#	3/29	Cumb. Farms	2 E. LeBlanc#
4/11	GMNWR	3	J. Forbes	3/31	S. Peabody	3 R. Heil
4/12	P.I.	4	J. Keeley#	4/4	Newbury	3 J. Hoye#
Northern Harrier				4/5	DWWS	1 J. Hoye#
3/22	Saugus	2	S. Zende#	4/11	Newbury	4 MAS (D. Swain)
3/31	P.I.	11	Hawkcount (TM)	4/12	Worthington	3 B. Bieda
4/1-26	P.I.	92	Hawkcount (PR)	4/13	Gill	1 J. Smith
4/15	P.I.	14	Hawkcount (TM)	4/14	Ipswich	1 N. Dubrow
Sharp-shinned Hawk				4/15	Montague	1 J. Rose
4/4-29	Barre Falls	27	Hawkcount (DS)	4/18	N. Truro	1 B. Nikula#
4/5-25	P.I.	37	Hawkcount (PR)	4/18	Concord	1 J. Keyes
4/24	P.I.	2	D. Chickering	4/19	Hadley	1 S. Surner
4/27	Woburn (HP)	2	D. Fruguglietti#	4/26	E. Bridgewater	1 E. Giles
Cooper's Hawk				Black-bellied Plover		
4/11-26	P.I.	12	Hawkcount (PR)	4/13	Duxbury B.	3 R. Bowes
4/18	Boxford (C.P.)	2	J. Berry#	4/15	S. Monomoy	66 D. Clapp#
Northern Goshawk				4/24	Edgartown	20 P. Gilmore
3/13	Windsor	1	M. Moore	4/29	Duxbury B.	21 R. Bowes
3/31	P.I.	1	Hawkcount (TM)	Piping Plover		
4/5	Groveland	1	J. Berry#	3/15	Duxbury B.	1 R. Bowes
4/19	Amherst	1	K. Weir	3/29	Westport	7 P. Champlin
4/24	Salisbury	1	S. McGrath	4/3	P.I.	18 K. Hojnacki
Red-shouldered Hawk				4/3	Winthrop	8 R. Stymeist
3/29	Westport	3	P. Champlin	4/15	S. Monomoy	15 D. Clapp#
3/31	S. Peabody	5	R. Heil	4/29	Duxbury B.	12 R. Bowes
4/2	Barre Falls	3	Hawkcount (DG)	Killdeer		
4/12	New Marlboro	3	M. Lynch#	3/5	Hadley	1 J. Rose
4/12	Rehoboth	4	K. Bartels	3/8	Westport	1 P. Champlin
Broad-winged Hawk				4/7	Ipswich	23 R. Heil
4/4-29	Barre Falls	267	Hawkcount (DS)	4/9	Westminster	28 T. Pirro
4/12	Groveland	1	M. Brengle#	4/10	Hadley	102 K. Yakola
4/12	IRWS	1	BBC (J. Center)	4/10	Cumb. Farms	25 S. Arena
4/16	Barre Falls	85	Hawkcount (DG)	American Oystercatcher		
4/22	Mt Tom	163	T. Gagnon	3/20	Falmouth	1 M. Keleher
4/22	Mt Shatterack	159	T. Swochak	3/27	Edgartown	1 P. Gilmore

American Oystercatcher (continued)			4/16	Orleans	410	P. Trull	
3/28	Oak Bluffs	2	P. Gilmore	4/19	P.I.	60	J. Berry#
3/29	Osterville	6	J. Hoye#	4/21	Ipswich (C.B.)	48	J. Berry
3/31	Winthrop	3	P. + F. Vale	4/24	Edgartown	80	P. Gilmore
4/10	Chatham	6	M. Faherty	Short-billed Dowitcher			
4/24	Winthrop	10	P. + F. Vale	4/22	Nantucket	1	K. Blackshaw#
Spotted Sandpiper				4/24	Edgartown	1	P. Gilmore
4/12	Newton	1	H. Miller	Wilson's Snipe			
4/15	Boston (Fens)	1	R. Schain	3/23	Fairhaven	5	G. Gove#
4/19	Sheffield	1	M. Lynch#	4/4	W. Bridgewater	30	J. Carlisle
4/25	Cambr. (Alewife)	1	Z. Weber#	4/7	Essex	67	J. Berry
4/27	Ipswich	1	J. Berry	4/8	Newbury	40	J. Spencer
Solitary Sandpiper				4/10	Hadley	71	K. Yakola
4/16	Sudbury	1	B. Black#	4/10	Cumb. Farms	160	S. Arena
4/19	Mashpee	1	K. Fiske	4/12	Concord	23	M. Rines
4/20	Bolton Flats	2	J. Hoye#	4/15	W. Harwich	13	B. Nikula
4/25	Worcester	1	S. LaBree#	American Woodcock			
4/28	W. Roxbury (MP)	1	P. Peterson	3/27	Burlington	10	M. Rines
Greater Yellowlegs				3/31	Newburyport	10	M. Watson
3/29	Duxbury	1	R. Bowes	4/3	Cambr. (Alewife)	10	R. Stymeist#
3/31	Acton	1	D. Swain	Wilson's Phalarope			
4/15	W. Harwich	64	B. Nikula	4/29	Rowley	2	J. Berry
4/27	Newbyp H.	22	P. + F. Vale	Black-legged Kittiwake			
4/29	Ipswich	28	J. Berry	3/1	Stellwagen	15	M. Brengle#
4/30	E. Boston (B.I.)	14	P. Peterson	3/29	P'town	10	B. Nikula
Willet				Bonaparte's Gull			
4/22	Westport	1	P. Champlin	3/28	Agawam	1	A. Robblee
4/24	Chatham (MI)	1	B. Harris	4/10	Turners Falls	1	A. Richards
4/24	Winthrop	1	P. + F. Vale	4/10	Cheshire	1	G. Hurley
4/25	Duxbury B.	1	R. Bowes	4/10	Hadley	3	K. Yakola
4/29	Ipswich	7	J. Berry	4/13	Westboro	3	T. Spahr
Lesser Yellowlegs				4/17	Turners Falls	3	A. Richards
4/11	W. Harwich	1	B. Nikula	4/18	S. Quabbin	3	L. Therrien
4/18	Topsfield	1	D. Williams	4/18, 30	P'town	175, 250	B. Nikula
4/19	Amherst	2	E. Rubinstein	Black-headed Gull			
4/22	Wayland	1	B. Harris	3/11	Nantucket	2	R. Ouren#
Upland Sandpiper				3/22	N. Truro	1	P. Flood
4/18	Westover	2	S. Motyl	3/31	P.I.	1	D. Williams
4/23	Topsfield	1	D. Williams	4/6	Amherst	1 ph	K. Yakola
4/25	Bedford	1	P. + F. Vale	Laughing Gull			
4/28	Eastham (F.H.)	1	B. Murtha	3/23	Plymouth	1	R. Bowes
Whimbrel				3/24	Dennis	1	P. Flood
4/21	P.I.	1	T. Mara#	4/4	Plymouth	10	P. + F. Vale
4/26	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	3	E. Nielsen	4/26	P'town	700	B. Nikula
4/26	Westport	3	M. Lynch#	Mew Gull			
Ruddy Turnstone				3/1-16	Swampscott/Lynn	1	J. Keeley
4/3	Revere B.	1	P. Peterson	Iceland Gull			
4/24	Edgartown	1	P. Gilmore	3/7	Gloucester	49	M. Lynch#
4/28	Duxbury B.	1	R. Bowes	3/9	Northampton	3	L. Therrien
4/30	Winthrop B.	1	P. Peterson	3/15	Fitchburg	3	T. Pirro
Sanderling				3/16	Turners Falls	5	J. Smith
3/29	W. Dennis	12	J. Hoye#	4/4	Boston (Deer I.)	64	J. Offermann
3/31	P.I.	25	J. Nelson	4/5	Wilmington	5	S. Sullivan
4/21	Ipswich (C.B.)	28	J. Berry	4/26	P'town	25	B. Nikula
4/24	Edgartown	20	P. Gilmore	Lesser Black-backed Gull			
4/26	Westport	10	M. Lynch#	thr	Reports of indiv. from 10 locations		
Least Sandpiper				4/11	Nantucket	30	G. Andrews
4/11	W. Harwich	1	B. Nikula	4/28	Duxbury B.	3	R. Bowes
4/18	Essex	1	E. Nielsen	4/29	P'town	10	B. Nikula
4/26	Westport	2	M. Lynch#	Herring x Lesser Black-backed Gull			
4/26	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	2	E. Nielsen	3/29	N. Truro	1 ad	B. Nikula
4/30	E. Boston (B.I.)	4	P. Peterson	Glaucous Gull			
Pectoral Sandpiper				3/8	Gloucester	2	BBC (I. Giriunas)
4/8	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	1	N. Sylvia	3/9	Northampton	1	J. Drucker
4/9	Ipswich	1	S. Hedman	3/15	Revere B.	2	V. Zollo
4/18	Newbury	2	D. Oliver#	4/2	Turners Falls	1	J. Drucker
4/26	W. Harwich	1	P. Kyle	4/10	Nahant	2	L. Pruvacek
Purple Sandpiper				Caspian Tern			
3/14	Swampscott	10	D. Swain#	4/17-26	Burrage WMA	1	J. Young
3/16	Acoaxet	6	M. Lynch#	4/20	Pittsfield (Onota)	1	J. Pierce
4/11	P.I.	6	T. Wetmore	4/23	Newbyp H.	1	S. Sullivan
Dunlin				4/27	Plymouth H.	1	G. Gove#
3/15, 4/28	Duxbury B.	88, 187	R. Bowes	4/30	Duxbury B.	2	R. Bowes

Common Tern				3/1	Gloucester H.	1	M. Brengle#
4/20	Pittsfield (Pont.)	1	G. Hurley	3/15	P'town (R.P.)	15	P. Flood
4/30	Marion	1	K. Hiller	3/16	P.I.	10 dead	B. Cassie
4/30	Vineyard Sound	21	B. Porter	3/31	Winthrop B.	2 dead	S. Riley
Forster's Tern					Razorbill		
4/18	Newbypt H.	1	E. Nielsen	3/1	Stellwagen	450	M. Brengle#
Dovekie				3/1, 29	P'town (R.P.)	537, 525	P. Flood
3/8	P'town (R.P.)	3	M. Anderson	3/3	Newbury	8	S. Riley
Common Murre				3/8	P.I.	400	T. Wetmore
3/1	P'town (R.P.)	4	P. Flood		Black Guillemot		
3/1	Stellwagen	16	M. Brengle#	3/1	Stellwagen	2	M. Brengle#
4/27	Stellwagen	7	J. Sender#	3/28	P'town	3	L. Waters
Thick-billed Murre					Atlantic Puffin		
3/1	Stellwagen	1	M. Brengle#	3/1	Stellwagen	3	M. Brengle#

OWLS THROUGH FINCHES

Great Horned Owls were on nests and the first young were noted by the second week of April. Snowy Owls were reported from eleven locations with four individuals noted in the Saugus marshes on March 29. The dark phase **Gyr Falcon** that had been frequenting New Hampshire, then Maine, then New Hampshire again finally made two brief visits to Salisbury on March 4 and 18. At Lot #1 on Plum Island hawkwatchers recorded great numbers of migrating Merlins and American Kestrels.

The **Black-backed Woodpecker** discovered January 6 at the Forest Hills Cemetery in Jamaica Plain continued in the area, expanding to nearby Franklin Park and was last seen on April 19. Red-headed Woodpeckers were found in Fitchburg and in Sterling.

Migration was rather lackluster until some warmer weather came in from April 11 through April 15 when good numbers of Hermit Thrush and Palm, Pine, and Yellow-rumped warblers were counted. A total of 14 species of warblers were noted in April highlighted by reports of **Yellow-throated Warblers** in Carlisle and Arlington. A cold front came through on April 16 with cool northwesterly winds and birds seemed stalled with just light movement until a southwesterly flow on April 28 brought a mini wave of birds in the final days of the month. In Provincetown over 80 Yellow-rumped Warblers were counted and similar high counts were noted in several locations.

There was a moderate incursion of **Bohemian Waxwings** all around the state with the jackpot in the Gardner area with as many as 300 individuals present. Other high counts were noted in Leominster, Sheffield, Windsor, and New Salem. Common Redpolls were noted in fair numbers in March and a Hoary Redpoll was reported in Falmouth. Two Red Crossbills were banded at the Plum Island banding station on April 23.

Finally this past winter was one of the coldest and the snowiest on record and may have badly affected the population of Carolina Wrens; this species has had a history of up and down populations when there is a severe winter. In recent years they have been increasing significantly with relatively mild winters, it will be interesting to see the results of next winter's Christmas Bird Count and compare it with the all time high counts of this past CBC. I for one have already missed hearing more than a very few this spring.

R. Stymeist

Great Horned Owl				4/18	S. Quabbin	6	M. Lynch#
3/29	W. Boxford	pr n	J. Berry#	4/29	Lincoln	3	M. Rines
4/3	Methuen	pr n	E. Parker	Eastern Phoebe			
4/7	Jamaica Plain	ad + 1 yg	R. Mayer	3/6	Ayer	1	M. Morris
4/11	Quabog IBA	ad + 3 yg	M. Lynch#	4/3	E. Boston (B.I.)	3	P. Peterson
4/26	N. Andover	ad + 2 yg	C. Gibson	4/3	Ipswich	4	J. Berry
Snowy Owl				4/9	Templeton	12	T. Pirro
thr	P.I.	1-2	v.o.	4/11	Quabog IBA	42	M. Lynch#
3/1	P'town	1	D. Ludlow#	4/19	P.I.	8	J. Berry#
3/13	Westport	3	N. Sylvia	Eastern Kingbird			
3/15	Gloucester	1	C. Haines	4/22	Mashpee	1	K. Fiske
3/18	Dennis	1	E. Hoopes	4/22	Wayland	1	B. Harris
3/23	S. Boston	1	D. Scott	4/22	Boston (F.Pk)	1	P. Peterson
3/24, 4/28	Duxbury B.	3, 1	R. Bowes	4/23	Arlington Res.	1	M. Rines
3/27	Edgartown	1	N. Papian	Northern Shrike			
3/29	Orleans	1	C. Thompson	3/10-19	Windsor	1	T. Gagnon
3/29	Saugus	4	S. Zende#	3/18	Adams	1	J. Jones
4/3	Mashpee	2	K. Fiske#	3/28	Rowe	1	C. Hyttinen
Barred Owl				3/29-4/7	Carlisle	1	S. Heinrich
4/10	E. Falmouth	pr n	R. Galat	White-eyed Vireo			
4/26	Topsfield	2	P. Brown	4/24	Falmouth	1	K. Fiske
Short-eared Owl				Blue-headed Vireo			
3/13	Salisbury	1	W. Tatro	4/16	Quabbin (G40)	2	J. Hoye#
3/29	Saugus	1	S. Riley	4/18	Boxford (C.P.)	3	J. Berry#
4/3	P.I.	1	K. Elwell	4/22	P'town	2	B. Nikula
4/11	E. Boston (B.I.)	1	P. Peterson	4/26	Ipswich	2	J. Berry#
Northern Saw-whet Owl				4/29	Newton	3	P. Gilmore
3/13	Charlemont	1	E. Ryba	Warbling Vireo			
4/3	P.I.	1	B. Murphy#	4/26	Newton	1	A. Gurka
Eastern Whip-poor-will				4/30	E. Boston (B.I.)	1	P. Peterson
4/26	Falmouth	1	M. Malin	Fish Crow			
Chimney Swift				3/16	Newburyport	18	R. Heil
4/10	Northbridge	2	B. Milke	3/24	W. Roxbury (MP)	7	P. Peterson
4/18	Upton	2	T. Murray	3/31	N. Reading	15	P. + F. Vale
4/21	Worcester	2	R. Cavalieros	Common Raven			
4/30	GMNWR	6	A. Bragg#	3/20	Canton	pr n	W. Johnston
4/30	Woburn (HP)	7	D. Fruguglietti#	4/thr	Woburn	pr n	M. Rines
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				4/18	Waltham	pr n	J. Marino
4/19	Newton	1	P. Gilmore	Horned Lark			
4/23	Holden	1	fide K. Mills	3/2	Cheshire	82	J. Pierce
4/24	Sandwich	1	J. Ghadban	3/5	Hadley	300	J. Rose
4/29	Ipswich	2	E. Parker	3/29	Saugus	70	S. Zende#
American Kestrel				4/1	Acton	25	J. Forbes
3/24	Medford	pr	J. Layman	4/5	Hardwick	19	M. Lynch#
3/29	Somerville	pr	P. Bain	4/13	E. Bridgewater	40	J. Carlisle
4/1-28	P.I.	233	Hawkcount (PR)	Purple Martin			
4/4-29	Barre Falls	30	Hawkcount (DS)	4/5	DWWS	1	J. Hoye#
4/7	Hanscom	21	M. Rines	4/11	P.I.	1	C. Jackson#
4/11, 12	P.I.	81, 58	Hawkcount (CJ)	4/12	Mashpee	4	M. Keleher
Merlin				4/12	Rehoboth	4	R. Marr
4/3-25	P.I.	37	Hawkcount (PR)	4/20	Pittsfield (Onota)	1	J. Pierce
4/11	P.I.	21	Hawkcount (CJ)	4/26	Nantucket	1	R. Ouren#
4/11-29	Barre Falls	6	Hawkcount (DS)	Tree Swallow			
Gyrfalcon				3/15	Wayland	8	B. Black
3/4, 18	Salisbury	1	Graham, Grinley	3/24	Clinton	3	B. Kamp
Peregrine Falcon				3/27	Quabog IBA	2117	M. Lynch#
3/thr	Watertown	pr n	v.o.	4/3	Salisbury	40	S. Riley
3/4	Cambridge	pr	J. Guion	4/14	P.I.	150	R. Heil
3/12	Woburn	pr	M. Rines	Northern Rough-winged Swallow			
3/23	Worcester	pr	B. Mulhearn	4/4	Weston	2	J. Forbes
Red-headed Woodpecker				4/14	Nahant	4	L. Pivacek
4/7	Fitchburg	1	M. Neufell	4/26	Wayland	5	G. Long
4/19-30	Sterling	1	M. Paine	4/28	W. Roxbury (MP)	3	P. Peterson
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				Bank Swallow			
4/7	Belmont	3	R. Stymeist#	4/19	Sheffield	2	M. Lynch#
4/12	New Marlboro	8	M. Lynch#	4/24	Arlington Res.	1	J. Forbes
4/18	S. Quabbin	13	M. Lynch#	Cliff Swallow			
4/19	Sandisfield	14	M. Lynch#	4/24	Arlington Res.	1	J. Forbes
Black-backed Woodpecker				4/26	Cummington	1	L. Therrien
3/1-4/19	Jamaica Plain	1	v.o.	Barn Swallow			
Pileated Woodpecker				4/4	W. Boylston	1	J. Gahagan
4/13	Hamilton	3	J. Berry#	4/5	Berkley	1	J. Eckerson#

Barn Swallow (continued)			4/14	P.I.	1	R. Heil
4/21	P.I.	100	4/18	Rehoboth	1	L. Abbey
4/24	Orange	20		Bohemian Waxwing		
Red-breasted Nuthatch			3/1-12	Windsor	130 max	v.o.
4/12	P.I.	6	3/1	N. Truro	23	B. Nikula
4/18	Gloucester	3	3/1	Dalton	9	J. Drucker
4/19	MSSF	5	3/1-13	Waltham	3	J. Forbes
4/25	Ware R. IBA	4	3/5	Nantucket	12	T. Pastuszak
Brown Creeper			3/10	Northampton	40	G. LeBaron
4/12	Groveland	4	3/15-4/5	Gardner	297 max	T. Pirro
4/18	Gloucester	6	3/17	Adams	14	J. Smith
4/18	Boxford (C.P.)	7	3/22	New Salem	65	A. Griffiths
4/21	Milton	4	3/23	Cheshire	50	J. Pierce
4/26	Ipswich	6	3/24	Belchertown	20	D. Griffiths
4/29	Ware R. IBA	8	3/29	Truro	35	J. Young
House Wren			4/2	Wellfleet	25	J. Hill
4/15	Concord	1	4/3	Williamstown	18	C. Jones
4/16	W. Newbury	1	4/5	Leominster	150	T. Pirro
4/19	Newton	2	4/10	Sheffield	150	R. Wendell
4/23	Arlington Res.	1	4/30	P'town	2	B. Nikula#
4/25	Gloucester (E.P.)	2		Lapland Longspur		
Winter Wren			3/5	Hadley	3	J. Rose
4/9	Templeton	2	3/10	Newbury	8	R. Heil
4/12	New Marlboro	3	4/24	Chatham (MI)	1	B. Harris
4/18	Boxford (C.P.)	2		Snow Bunting		
4/19	P.I.	2	J. Berry#	3/16	P.I.	29
4/22	P'town	2	B. Nikula	3/20	Northampton	63
4/22	Wompatuck SP	2	P. Gilmore#	3/21	Duxbury B.	38
Marsh Wren			3/24	S. Peabody	12	R. Heil
4/27	P.I.	2	BBC (D. Williams)	3/31	Winthrop B.	15
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				Ovenbird		
4/11	Edgartown	1	N. Papian	4/22	Dighton	1
4/15	IRWS	4	J. Nelson	4/22	S. Hamilton	1
4/18	Wayland	6	G. Long	4/22	Wompatuck SP	2
4/23	Woburn (HP)	5	M. Rines	4/22	P'town	1
4/26	Topsfield	7	P. Brown	4/30	Medford	1
4/30	GMNWR	6	A. Bragg#		Louisiana Waterthrush	
Golden-crowned Kinglet			4/15	Wompatuck SP	1	P. Edmundson
4/7	Chestnut Hill	10	P. Peterson	4/16	Sharon	1
4/7	P.I.	35	T. Wetmore	4/18	Spencer	4
4/8	Winchester	10	R. LaFontaine	4/19	Sandisfield	5
4/10	Lincoln	7	M. Rines	4/21	Petersham	1
4/14	P.I.	7	R. Heil	4/25	Newton	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			4/29	Quabbin (G22)	2	J. Hoye#
4/7	Westboro	1	J. Lawson		Northern Waterthrush	
4/18	Boxford (C.P.)	9	J. Berry#	4/22	Brookline	1
4/18	Carlisle	12	A. Ankers	4/22	Hamilton	1
4/19	P.I.	10	T. Wetmore	4/22	Wompatuck SP	2
4/25	Ware R. IBA	13	M. Lynch#	4/24	Hamilton	3
4/29	P'town	7	B. Nikula	4/30	Wenham	7
Eastern Bluebird				Blue-winged Warbler		
3/15	Rehoboth	24	K. Bartels	4/27	Westport	1
4/13	DFWS	10	P. Sowizral		Black-and-white Warbler	
Hermit Thrush			4/18	Canton	1	N. Block
4/3	Nahant	2	L. Pivacek	4/18	W. Bridgewater	1
4/10	Medford	2	M. Rines#	4/22	P'town	2
4/14	P.I.	26	R. Heil	4/22	Wompatuck SP	1
4/14	E. Boston (B.I.)	4	P. Peterson	4/24	Hamilton	1
4/18	Boxford (C.P.)	4	J. Nelson	4/26	Lexington	1
4/25	Ware R. IBA	5	M. Lynch#		Common Yellowthroat	
Gray Catbird			4/20	Watertown	1	A. Gurka#
4/20	Watertown	1	A. Gurka#	4/23	Needham	1
4/23	Westwood	1	E. Nielsen	4/26	Westport	1
4/25	Middleboro	1	K. Anderson		Northern Parula	
Brown Thrasher			4/22	Brewster	1	S. Finnegan
4/11	Quabog IBA	1	M. Lynch#		Yellow Warbler	
4/14	Salisbury	1	S. McGrath#	4/22	Newton	2
4/17	Westboro	2	J. Lawson	4/26	Newton	4
4/26	P.I.	2	F. Vale	4/30	GMNWR	2
American Pipit				Palm Warbler		
3/24	Sheffield	11	K. Schopp	4/4	Newton	1
4/9	Ipswich	12	S. Hedman	4/8	Medford	3

Palm Warbler (continued)			4/6	E. Boston	23	P. Peterson
4/14	P.I.	17	4/10	Belchertown	12	E. Dalton
4/16	Dracut	15	4/12	P.I.	10	T. Wetmore
4/24	W. Newbury	20	4/12	Boston (Fens)	18	R. Stymeist
4/25	Ipswich	18		Swamp Sparrow		
4/29	P'town	12	4/6	Winthrop	5	P. Peterson
Pine Warbler			4/11	Boston (Fens)	6	B. Mayer
4/8	Winchester	2	4/20	Bolton Flats	6	J. Hoye#
4/10	Woburn (HP)	4	4/29	Ware R. IBA	19	M. Lynch#
4/18	Boxford (C.P.)	15	4/30	GMNWR	16	A. Bragg#
4/22	P'town	36		White-crowned Sparrow		
4/26	Ipswich	17	thr	Nantucket	3 max	T. Pastuszak
4/29	Ware R. IBA	42	3/24	Essex	1	N. Dubrow
Yellow-rumped Warbler			3/29	Saugus	1	S. Zende#
3/17	Framingham	1	4/26	E. Bridgewater	2	J. Carlisle
4/14	Newton	2		Dark-eyed Junco		
4/18	Wayland	28	4/29	P.I.	4	T. Wetmore
4/25	Ipswich	37	4/30	Ipswich	4	J. Berry
4/26	Arlington Res.	74		Scarlet Tanager		
4/29	P'town	80	4/25	Canton	1	D. Albeck
Yellow-throated Warbler				Rose-breasted Grosbeak		
4/18	Carlisle	1	4/24	Chatham (MI)	2	B. Harris
4/19-21	Arlington Res.	1	4/30	Lincoln	1	G. Loud
Prairie Warbler				Indigo Bunting		
4/22	Fairhaven	1	4/17	Nahant	1	L. Pivacek
Black-throated Green Warbler			4/21	Orleans	1	E. Hilliar
4/29	Ware R. IBA	1	4/21	Rochester	1	M. LaBranche
4/30	Arlington Res.	1	4/24	Worcester	1	B. Kamp
4/30	Chestnut Hill	1		Eastern Meadowlark		
Eastern Towhee			4/1	P.I.	1	MAS (B. Gette)
4/10	Tewksbury	2	4/3	Hanscom	2	M. Rines
4/18	S. Quabbin	8	4/4	Boxboro	1	S. Miller
4/19	P.I.	17	4/7	Ipswich	4	J. Hoye#
4/29	Ware R. IBA	14	4/9	Essex	1	S. Hedman
American Tree Sparrow			4/12	Newbury	2	P. + F. Vale
3/3	E. Boston (B.I.)	25	4/18	P.I.	2	T. Wetmore
3/16	P.I.	32	4/25	Worcester	3	S. LaBree#
4/26	Wilmington	1	4/26	Cumb. Farms	2	J. Carlisle
4/27	Ipswich	1	4/29	Bedford	4	G. Gove#
Chipping Sparrow				Yellow-headed Blackbird		
3/1	Westwood	1	3/3-10	Cumb. Farms	1	D. MacKinnon#
3/7	Woburn (HP)	1	3/10-11	Chatham	1	L. Karr
4/16	Groveland	13		Rusty Blackbird		
4/18	S. Quabbin	43	4/4	GMNWR	18	BBC (J. Center)
4/26	Ipswich	15	4/10	Pittsfield	54	G. Hurlay
Clay-colored Sparrow			4/11	W. Bridgewater	11	J. Carlisle
3/1-4/8	Belchertown	1	4/13	Brookline	24	T. Bradford
4/29	P'town	1	4/15	Lexington	15	M. Rines
Field Sparrow			4/22	Westboro	18	S. Arena
3/25	Burlington	1	4/22	Hamilton	46	J. Berry
4/13	Charlestown	2		Orchard Oriole		
4/14	Northbridge	2	4/25	GMNWR	1 f	D. Swain#
4/17	Millbury	5		Baltimore Oriole		
4/18	S. Quabbin	4	4/29	Boston (A.A.)	1	M. Salett
4/25	W. Tisbury	3		Purple Finch		
Vesper Sparrow			4/5	W. Bridgewater	11	J. Carlisle
4/11	Concord	1	4/14	P.I.	19	R. Heil
4/12	Tyringham	3	4/26	Stoughton	9	A. Johnston
4/16	Orange	1	4/28	Burlington	11	J. Mullen#
4/22	Lancaster	2	4/29	Mt.A.	18	BBC (D. Hursh)
4/27	P.I.	1	4/29	Ware R. IBA	14	M. Lynch#
4/28	Canton	1		Red Crossbill		
Savannah Sparrow			4/11	Rockport	1	B. Harris
4/7	Belmont	4	4/23	P.I.	2 b	B. Flemer#
4/7	Westboro	6		Common Redpoll		
4/22	P.I.	15	3/1	Quincy	40	M. Salett
4/28	Canton	30	3/2	Cheshire	61	J. Pierce
4/30	Wenham	35	3/3	Everett	32	R. Stymeist
Grasshopper Sparrow			3/15	Woburn (HP)	30	J. Kovner#
4/16	Tisbury	1	3/21	Shrewsbury	103	J. Lawson
Fox Sparrow			3/21	Truro	35	I. Davies#
4/6	Lexington (DM)	23	3/26	P.I.	50	T. Wetmore

Common Redpoll (continued)				3/25	Mt. Wachusett	12	B. Harris
4/5	W. Concord	12	A. Joslin	4/12	Norwell	12	C. Patterson
4/24	Worcester	1	D. Grant	4/24	Leyden	20	M. Lynch#
Hoary Redpoll				4/29	P'town	1	B. Nikula
3/21-29	Falmouth	1	M. Schanbacher	Evening Grosbeak			
Pine Siskin				4/19	Windsor	2	K. Yakola
3/16	Turners Falls	100	J. Smith	4/24	Chesterfield	1	L. Therrien
3/16	Boston (A.A.)	10	P. Peterson				

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VS. MBTA

Birding Community E-Bulletin July 2015

In June 2015, the Birding Community E-Bulletin described the announcement of intent from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to strengthen implementation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) in order to address some new “incidental takes” from some oil pit, power line, communications towers, and other potential hazards. The report indicated that comments were to be due by July 27th:

<http://refugeassociation.org/?p=12013/#proposed>

In what seemed to be by many as a reaction to this proposal, the U.S. House of Representatives passed and sent to the Senate an appropriations bill for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS), HR 2578, which contained a rider. This rider, presented by Congressman Duncan (R-3-SC), amendment 347, would defund enforcement of the MBTA by the Department of Justice for one year.

Bird conservationists around the country were stunned and outraged, prompting a flood of letters, calls, and e-mails to the Senate to make sure the rider would not be part of the Senate companion bill.

While the Senate struck the anti-MBTA rider from its initial consideration of the CJS appropriations bill, there is still a chance that it could reemerge. Congressman Duncan has been trying to get a similar amendment through the House Interior Appropriations bill.

You can get more information from the Ornithology Exchange, here:

http://ornithologyexchange.org/articles/_/community/gop-trying-to-block-enforcement-of-migratory-bird-treaty-act-via-appropriations-bills-r204

Archive: <http://refugeassociation.org/2015/07/the-birding-community-e-bulletin-july-2015/>

ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIRD SIGHTINGS

Taxonomic order is based on AOU checklist, Seventh edition, up to the 53rd Supplement, as published in *Auk* 129 (3): 573-88 (2012) (see <<http://checklist.aou.org/>>).

Locations		Newbypt	Newburyport
Location-#	MAS Breeding Bird Atlas Block	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum, Boston	PG	Public Garden, Boston
ABC	Allen Bird Club	P.I.	Plum Island
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	Pd	Pond
A.Pd	Allens Pond, S. Dartmouth	POP	Point of Pines, Revere
B.	Beach	PR	Pinnacle Rock, Malden
Barre F.D.	Barre Falls Dam	P'town	Provincetown
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	Pont.	Pontoosuc Lake, Lanesboro
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	Res.	Reservoir
BMB	Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester	RKG	Rose Kennedy Greenway, Boston
BNC	Boston Nature Center, Mattapan	S.B.	South Beach, Chatham
C.B.	Crane Beach, Ipswich	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
CGB	Coast Guard Beach, Eastham	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
Cambr.	Cambridge	TASL	Take A Second Look, Boston Harbor Census
CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay WS
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	WE	World's End, Hingham
Cumb. Farms	Cumberland Farms, Middleboro	WMWS	Wachusett Meadow WS
DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary	Wompatuck SP	Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, Norwell
DWMA	Delaney WMA, Stow, Bolton, Harvard	Worc.	Worcester
DWWS	Daniel Webster WS		
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	Other Abbreviations	
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	ad	adult
F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham	b	banded
F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge	br	breeding
F.Pk	Franklin Park, Boston	dk	dark (morph)
G40	Gate 40, Quabbin Res.	f	female
GMNWR	Great Meadows NWR	fide	on the authority of
H.	Harbor	fl	fledgling
H.P.	Halibut Point, Rockport	imm	immature
HP	Horn Pond, Woburn	juv	juvenile
HRWMA	High Ridge WMA, Gardner	lt	light (morph)
I.	Island	m	male
IRWS	Ipswich River WS	max	maximum
L.	Ledge	migr	migrating
MAS	Mass Audubon	n	nesting
MP	Millennium Park, W. Roxbury	ph	photographed
M.V.	Martha's Vineyard	pl	plumage
MBWMA	Martin Burns WMA, Newbury	pr	pair
MI	Morris Island	S	summer (1S = 1st summer)
MNWS	Marblehead Neck WS	v.o.	various observers
MSSF	Myles Standish State Forest, Plymouth	W	winter (2W = second winter)
Mt.A.	Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambr.	yg	young
NAC	Nine Acre Corner, Concord	#	additional observers

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO *BIRD OBSERVER*

Sightings for any given month must be reported in writing by the eighth of the following month, and may be submitted by postal mail or email. Send written reports to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 36 Lewis Avenue, Arlington MA 02474-3206. Include name and phone number of observer, common name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, other observer(s), and information on age, sex, and morph (where relevant). For instructions on email submission, visit: <<http://www.birdobserver.org/Sightings/>>.

Species on the Review List of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, as well as species unusual as to place, time, or known nesting status in Massachusetts, should be reported promptly to the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, c/o Matt Garvey, 137 Beaconsfield Rd. #5, Brookline MA 02445, or by email to <mattgarvey@gmail.com>.