

Field Records: October 1983



by Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

October's bright blue weather was no exception this year. In spite of an unseasonably warm first two weeks, which made for an extended display of foliage, the month averaged out just 0.4° above normal. The high mark reached 85° on the fourth, tying the record for that date. Record nighttime lows were broken on the third and again on the thirteenth, with 65° and 66° respectively. The first two weeks averaged more than 6° above normal, but the rest of the month was mostly on the cool side, with the last half of the month averaging 4.5° below normal. The monthly low was 32° on October 30; this first freeze of the season came just eight days earlier than average. Many inland suburbs had their first freeze on the twentieth, two to three weeks later than normal. Precipitation totaled 3.74 inches, less than an inch more than normal.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS

Both species of loons were migrating past Sandy Hook in Barnstable on the twenty-fifth, a day with a moderate northeast wind. Pied-billed Grebes were reported in fairly good numbers and an inland record of Red-necked Grebe at Lakeville was well described. On October 24, a fairly gusty northeast wind blew birds past Sandy Neck; Bob Pease noticed a bird that "dwarfed the Gannets; with a solid black back and upperwings; a white head and body; bill color not seen; bird never flapped the entire time". Mr. Pease watched what he believed to be an albatross for three to four minutes.

Shearwaters were present at Stellwagon at the end of the month, but not anywhere near the numbers of previous Octobers. A total of 75 Greater Shearwaters, as compared with over fifteen hundred last year, were counted on the BBC trip out of Plymouth. Twenty Manx Shearwaters, on the other hand, were reported as compared with just eight on last year's trip.

Interesting is the report of a possible Band-rumped Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma castro*) seen off Andrews Point in Rockport on October 25, 1983. This sighting should be considered hypothetical, for the species has not yet been proven to occur in Massachusetts by either a specimen or a photograph. Richard Heil of Peabody submitted the following description in the hope that with future possible or confirmed sightings, a clearer picture of the status and distribution of Band-rumped Storm-Petrel in the western North Atlantic can be formed:

A storm-petrel observed Oct. 25, 1983, 150-200 yds. off Andrews Pt., Rockport for ca. 3-4 minutes at approx. 1100 hrs. did not fit the description of either of the two common storm-petrels in our area: the Wilson's and Leach's.

This was the second day of a northeast storm with winds out of the NE at 10-15 MPH, overcast, but with no precipitation at the time of the sighting. Visibility was fairly good, probably 3 miles.

Appearance and behavior was strikingly intermediate between Wilson's and Leach's. Size intermediate or closer to Leach's; wings distinctly pointed like Leach's, but not as long or as crooked at the bend like that species, but quite unlike the broad rounded wings of a Wilson's. The upperparts including the wings were more blackish than the usually grayish-brown Leach's, approximating Wilson's in this regard. Each upper wing possessed a dull whitish band similar to that of Leach's, but darker than Wilson's. The rump was gleaming white, with no observable darker band of feathering through the center typical of Leach's. The precise shape of the rump patch, despite all efforts, just could not be discerned at the distance involved. I have never seen a Leach's with a rump patch anywhere near this white and obvious. The dark tail was not visibly forked. The flight

behavior was unlike Leach's bounding, gliding and sharply veering manner, but seemed to approximate that of a Wilson's swallow-like flight, with fairly rapid and shallow wingbeats. It was observed foraging, picking food items from the surface, at times maintaining its position over a spot as it did so. Thus flight appeared to consist of rapid, shallow wingbeats, interspersed with an occasional short glide.

I am very familiar with both Wilson's and Leach's storm-petrels, having observed both from headlands during storms, on numerous pelagic trips and while participating in seabird research for the Manomet Bird Observatory, for which I have logged 56 days at sea. I have also banded several of each species during MBO cruises. My experience with Leach's Storm-Petrels includes sightings of 50+ per day in the Gulf of Maine during Sept. 1979, and 350+ observed from First Encounter Beach, Eastham on Aug. 13, 1979. On May 30, 1982, off Hatteras, N.C., two birds identified as Band-rumped Storm-Petrels by Bob Ake and Paul Dumont (American Birds 36: 840) were pointed out to myself and others on board the boat. I saw them clearly and made note of their appearance and behavior but did not feel confident enough to call them anything but probable in my own mind. In retrospect, those birds gave an identical jizz to the Rockport storm-petrel.

Other reports of storm-driven birds at coastal locations were four Leach's Storm-Petrels at Barnstable, and over 12,000 Gannets at First Encounter Beach in Eastham.

Double-crested Cormorants were migrating during the first half of the month in large numbers whereas only five Great Cormorants were reported, all at inland locations.

Thirteen American Bitterns were noted from five locations, a bit better than the six individuals from two locations of last October. As usual in October, good numbers of Great Blue Herons were reported, 100 in Wellfleet being the best count. The last Green-backed Heron was noted on the eighth and the last Cattle Egret was reported from Rowley on the fifteenth. The roost of Black-crowned Night-Herons at Eastham totaled 85 at mid-month, an immature Yellow-crowned Heron among them. R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Red-throated Loon:			
8-10,10	P.I., Eastham	6, 6	J.Grugan, D.Brown#
24,25	P.I., Barnstable (SN)	24, 125	J.Grugan, J.Aylward#
Common Loon:			
1,25	P.I., Barnstable (SN)	3, 75	J.Grugan, J.Aylward#
Pied-billed Grebe:			
7,9	GMNWR, Nantucket	1, 4	A.Williams, BBC(D.Davis)
10,11	Westport, Peabody	5, 1	BBC(A.Blaisdell), D.Hill
20,27	Cambridge (F.Pond),Lakeville	4, 7	F.Bouchard, W.Petersen
Horned Grebe:			
25,26	Wollaston, Lynn	50, 4	S.+R.Higginbotham,C.Blaszczak
Red-necked Grebe:			
22,23-26	P'town, Lakeville	1, 1	B.Nikula, D.Clapp#
albatross, sp.:			
24	Barnstable (SN)	1	R.Pease
Northern Fulmar:			
23,30	Stellwagen	5, 5-6	W.Smith, BBC
Cory's Shearwater:			
1	Nantucket	2	F.Bouchard
Greater Shearwater:			
1,9	Nantucket	14-16, 7	F.Bouchard, BBC
15,23,30	Stellwagen	2, 75, 75	D.Clapp,W.Smith,BBC
Sooty Shearwater:			
9,10;23	Nantucket;Stellwagen	3, 1; 1	BBC; W.Smith
Manx Shearwater:			
15,23,30	Stellwagen	2, 3, 20	D. Clapp, W.Smith, BBC
storm-petrel, sp.:			
25	Rockport (AP)	1	R.Heil
Leach's Storm-Petrel:			
24,25	Barnstable (SN)	2, 2	R.Pease#
Northern Gannet:			
8,9,10	P.I.,outer Cape Cod,Nantucket	4, 20+, 3	J.Grugan, BBC, BBC
15,23	Stellwagen	750+(all imm), 50	D.Clapp, W.Smith
24,25	P.I., Eastham	414, 12,000+ (in 2 hrs)	J.Grugan, B.Nikula

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Great Cormorant:			
9	Newton, Concord	1, 1	O.Komar, R.Walton
27	Lakeville	3 imm.	W.Petersen
Double-crested Cormorant:			
1,2	P.I.	2500+, 700+	R.McHale, J.Grugan
7,8	Topsfield, P.I.	150, 450	T.Walsh, R.Prybis#
9	Newton, Concord	350+, 67	O.Komar#, R.Walton
9	outer Cape Cod, Ipswich	150, 300	BBC, J.Berry
10,16	Norfolk, Newbypt-Salisbury	800, 500	BBC, L.Pivocek#
American Bittern:			
1,2,7,23	P.I.	1, 2, 2, 2	v.o.
2,9	Eastham, Salisbury	1, 1	L.Taylor#, M.Lynch#
17,18,31	GMNWR	1+	G.Gove
23,30	Salisbury, E.Boston	2, 1	SSBC, S.Zendeh#
Great Blue Heron:			
2,4,8,16	Eastham	55,63,72,53	L.Taylor#, D.Brown, H.Mallers#, G.Gove#
1,7,22,24	P.I.	21, 24, 17, 4	v.o.
10,18	Westport area, Wellfleet	35, 100	BBC, J.Baird
19	Salisbury, Ipswich	75, 56 migrating	E.Pyburn#, R.Heil
Great Egret:			
1,9,23;10	P.I.; Westport	4, 4, 1; 30	v.o.; BBC
Snowy Egret:			
3	N.Scituate	65 flying to roost	H.Mallers
6,16,22	P.I.	83, 6, 2	G.Gove, J.Grugan, L.Pivocek#
9,10	Ipswich, Westport	5, 6	J.Berry, BBC
12,22	Squantum, E.Boston	1, 3	R.Abrams, S.Zendeh
Little Blue Heron:			
6	P.I.	1 ad; 1 calico, 1 basic	G.Gove; M.Lynch#
7,8-11	Scituate	1, 2(1 calico)	H.Mallers
11	Nantucket, Westport	1, 1	BBC(Davis), BBC(Blaisdell)
Cattle Egret:			
3,15	Ipswich, Rowley	3, 1	J.Berry, H.Weissberg
Green-backed Heron:			
2,8	E.Boston, GMNWR	3, 1	S.Zendeh#, M.Lynch#
Black-crowned Night-Heron:			
2,9	E.Boston, Salisbury	3, 7	S.Zendeh#, S.Carroll#
17	Eastham (Hemenway)	85	B.Nikula
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:			
1-17	Eastham	1 imm.	v.o.
8,14	Dorchester, Yarmouthport	1 imm., 1 ad.	J.Murphy, J.Aylward

WATERFOWL

Over ninety Wood Ducks were seen flying to a night roost in Wayland, and two Eurasian Wigeon were noted from Ipswich. The Tufted Duck continued on South Monomoy; it was first noted there last winter and was seen periodically throughout the summer. Wollaston Bay played host to 1200 Red-breasted Mergansers by the end of the month. R.H.S.

Mute Swan:			
10	Westport	267	BBC (A.Blaisdell)
Snow Goose:			
6-31	P.I.	max. 30 10/8	H.Weissberg# + v.o.
8,16	Concord, Marshfield	1, 20	R.Walton, SSBC
16	E.Boston, Chatham(3 flocks)	2, 75	S.Zendeh#, B.Nikula#
20;23,26	Plymouth; Monomoy	12; 1	D.Davis; W.Bailey#
"Blue Goose":			
23-24	P.I.	1	v.o.
Brant:			
23,25	E.Orleans, Quincy	50+, 25	A.Williams, K.Ryan
31	Eastham, Newburyport	74, 14	SSBC, F.Bouchard
Canada Goose:			
22,30	P.I., Lakeville	1000+, 1000+	BBC, K.Holmes
Wood Duck:			
22	Wayland (Heard's pond)	90+(flying to night roost)	R.Forster
Green-winged Teal:			
16	P.I.	200	BBC
Northern Pintail:			
20,23	Yarmouthport, P.I.	36, 65	J.Aylward, BBC(Nove)
Blue-winged Teal:			
7	GMNWR	50+	A.Williams

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Northern Shoveler: 6,23	GMNWR, P.I.	14, 18	G.Gove, BBC(Nove)
Eurasian Wigeon: 19	Ipswich	2	R.Heil
American Wigeon: 2,9	P.I., Nantucket	22, 55	J.Grugan, BBC
10,16	Westport, Wayland	29, 3	BBC, R.Forster#
19	Ipswich, Lincoln	220, 9	R.Heil, R.Forster
Canvasback: 27,29	Lakeville, Cambridge	30, 98	W.Petersen, T.Walsh
Redhead: 1-19,29	GMNWR, Cambridge	1, 3	G.Gove#, T.Walsh
Ring-necked Duck: 6,14	GMNWR	3, 2	G.Gove
11,12;29	Cambridge	9,16;50	F.Bouchard;T.Walsh
15,24	W.Newbury	160, 760	G.Gove#, I.Giriunas#
31	Lakeville	1000	W.Petersen
Tufted Duck: 23	Monomoy	1 m.	W.Bailey#
Greater Scaup: 10	Newburyport	4	J.Grugan
Lesser Scaup: 9	P.I.	1	W.Smith
Common Eider: 16,24	Rockport, P.I.	175, 359	J.Berry, J.Grugan
Black Scoter: 16	Millis	1	B.Cassie
16,26	Rockport, Lynn	6, 22	J.Berry, C.Blaszczak
Surf Scoter: 16,26	Rockport, Monomoy	440(1 hr), 500	J.Berry, B.Nikula#
White-winged Scoter: 24,26	P.I., Lynn	60, 350	J.Grugan, C.Blaszczak
Bufflehead: 19,27	Newburyport, Lakeville	5, 5	G.Gove, W.Petersen
Hooded Merganser: 23, 28	Braintree, Lincoln	5, 12	S.Higginbotham#, R.Forster
Common Merganser: 30	P.I.	15	J.Grugan
Red-breasted Merganser: 23,25	Wollaston Bay, Waltham(Camb.Res.)	1200, 4	S.Higginbotham, R.Forster
Ruddy Duck: 10,27	Westport, Lakeville	24, 85	BBC, W.Petersen
31	Lakeville (Little Quittcas)	150+	D.Briggs

RAPTORS

There was a good and steady flight of Ospreys this October, with thirty-two reported through the last day of the month; last year only half as many were reported. Four immature Bald Eagles were noted, with the bird seen in Lynn and a day later in East Boston, possibly the same individual. Twenty-four sightings of Peregrine Falcons were reported, thirteen of which came from the Plum Island-Salisbury area. R.H.S.

Turkey Vulture: 3,7	Wayland, Concord(GMNWR)	1, 1	T.Walsh, A.Williams
10,15	Hardwick, Sturbridge	3, 2	M.Lynch#, Langer
Osprey: 1,7,8	P.I.	1, 2, 1	BBC,P.Roberts#,BBC
2,3,4	P'town, Everett, Cambridge	2, 1, 1	L.Taylor#, J.Berry, F.Bouchard
3,23;4	Wayland; Squantum	1, 1; 1	T.Walsh, E.Morrier; K.Ryan
6,7,18	Concord (GMNWR)	1, 2, 1	G.Gove, A.Williams, G.Gove
6,7,17	Woburn (Horn Pond)	1	C.Gove
10;15	Westport; W.Newbury, Lincoln	6; 1, 3	BBC; H.Wiggin#, R.Forster
17;22	Saugus; E.Boston, Concord	1; 1, 1	J.Berry; S.Zendeh, F.Bouchard
22,29,31	Lincoln, Lakeville, Newburyport	1,1,1	J.Hines, W.Petersen, F.Bouchard
Bald Eagle: thr.	Monomoy	1 imm.	v.o.
21,22	Lynn, E.Boston	1 imm., 1 imm.	R.Heil, S.Zendeh
30	Mt.Wachusett	1 imm.	P.Roberts
Northern Harrier: thr.	P.I.	5-12(10/7) each visit	v.o.
8-10	Nantucket	14	BBC

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Sharp-shinned Hawk:			
7,8,9,15	P.I.	1, 1, 1, 1	P.Roberts,BBC,J.Grugan,BBC
10	Westport, Eastham	6, 1	BBC, D.Brown#
16,26	Marshfield, Lakeville	1, 1	SSBC, K.Ryan
Cooper's Hawk:			
6	P.I.,Concord(GMNWR)	1 imm., 1	G.Gove#,C.Floyd
10,11	Eastham, E.Orleans	1, 1	D.Brown,D.+E.Williams
16,27,30	Ipswich,Newton,Mt.Wachusets	1, 1, 1	J.Berry,O.Komar,P.Roberts
Northern Goshawk:			
6,7	Concord(GMNWR),Hingham	1 imm., 1 ad.	G.Gove, R.Campbell
16	E.Middleboro, Weston	1,1 ad.	K.Anderson, J.Heywood#
20-30,19	Chatham,Topsfield(IRWS)	1 imm., 1 ad.	W.Bailey, J.Bradley
30	Framingham,Mt.Wachusett	1, 1	K.Hamilton, P.Roberts
Red-shouldered Hawk:			
2-3	E.Middleboro	1	K.Anderson
22,24	Brookline,Milton (FM)	1 ad., 1	R.Stymeist#, R.Abrams
Rough-legged Hawk:			
22,24	Ipswich, P.I.	1, 1	T.Walsh, BBC(I.Giriunas)
American Kestrel:			
15,23	E.Boston, P.I.-Salisbury	4, 6	S.Zendeh, SSBC
Merlin:			
1+16;1,2,6	Belmont; P.I.	1;1,1 ad.,2	L.Taylor#;BBC,P.Roberts,G.Gove
2;4	Eastham,P'town;Squantum	1, 1; 1	L.Taylor#,G.Gove;K.Ryan
8	Concord(GMNWR),Lynn	1, 3	S.Carroll#, R.Heil
9	Newburyport,Nantucket	1, 2	E.Morrier, BBC(D.Davis)
Peregrine Falcon:			
2-19	P.I.-Salisbury	13 sightings	v.o.
4,8	Eastham, Lynn	1, 3 migrating	D.Brown#, R.Heil#
6	Wayland, Middleboro	1,1 imm.	D.Gould, C.Silvia#
7,15	Littleton E.Orleans	1,1 imm.	J.Baird, B.Nikula
9-23,16	Monomoy	1 ad., 1 imm.	v.o. H. Stabins#
16,29	Eastham,Framingham	1, 1	R.Heil, R.Forster

RAILS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

Though the bulk of shorebird migration occurs in September, good numbers were recorded during October. Lesser Golden-Plover totaled forty-one individuals as compared with just twenty-two last October. Oystercatchers continued at their traditional locations most of the month. Late shorebirds included Spotted Sandpipers at Woburn on October 27 and two at Lakeville on the thirtieth, Solitary Sandpiper in Lexington and Mansfield, Short-billed Dowitchers at East Boston and Newburyport, and Stilt Sandpipers in Ipswich and Braintree. A Marbled Godwit continued all month in Newburyport Harbor accompanied by as many as eight Hudsonian Godwits. R.H.S.

Clapper Rail:			
4,10	Eastham, Yarmouth	1, 1	D.Brown#, B.Sorrie
18	Wellfleet (WEWS)	1	J.Baird
Virginia Rail:			
7,22	Concord(GMNWR),Ipswich	1, 1	A.Williams, fide L.Pivocek
Sora:			
2,8,9	Newton,GMNWR,Nantucket	1, 6, 1	B.Hallet,M.Lynch#,BBC
Common Moorhen:			
8	GMNWR	1	S.Carroll, M.Lynch
American Coot:			
30	Braintree, Lakeville	40, 30	R.Abrams, S.Peck
Black-bellied Plover:			
1,12	P.I., Squantum	300, 300	J.Grugan, R.Abrams
16,23	Monomoy, Scituate	2200, 350	B.Nikula#, D.Clapp
28,31	Bridgewater,Newburyport	3, 120	K.Ryan, F.Bouchard
Lesser Golden-Plover:			
1,2	P.I., P'town	11, 1	R.Stymeist#, G.Gove#
8,8-10	Concord, Nantucket	6, 15	R.Walton, BBC
15,16-17	Newburyport, Concord	2 imm., 4 imm.	C.Floyd#, R.Forster
18,25	Marshfield, Quincy	1, 1	B.Sorrie, K.Ryan
Semipalmated Plover:			
12,22	Squantum, Scituate	6, 30	R.Abrams, W.Petersen
Killdeer:			
18,23	Concord, Sudbury	28, 14	R.Forster, E.Morrier
22,28	Scituate, Braintree	12, 16	W.Petersen, R.Emery#

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
American Oystercatcher:			
1-13,1-23	Nantucket, Monomoy	13, max 31 10/4	F. Bouchard, v.o.
Greater Yellowlegs:			
thr.	E. Boston (Belle Isle)	90 on 10/15, 71 on 10/30	S. ZendeH
23, 26	P.I., Boston (UMass)	140, 35+	SSBC, J. Carter
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
14-28	Lexington (Camb. Res.)	4-1	R. Forster + v.o.
15, 22	P.I., E. Boston	32, 3	J. Grugan, S. ZendeH
Solitary Sandpiper:			
22, 24	Lexington (Camb. Res.), Mansfield	1, 1	J. Hines, B. Sorrie
Willet:			
19	Ipswich (Great Neck)	1	R. Heil
Spotted Sandpiper:			
27, 30	Woburn, Lakeville	1, 2	G. Gove, S. Peak#
Whimbrel:			
1, 2	P.I., P'town	6, 7	BBC, G. Gove#
10, 16	Newburyport, Eastham	9, 1	E. Morrier, C. Floyd#
Hudsonian Godwit:			
1-29	P.I. - Newburyport	max. 8	v.o.
16, 23	Monomoy	1	B. Nikula#, v.o.
Marbled Godwit:			
thr.	Newburyport	1	L. Jodrey# + v.o.
16	Monomoy	1	B. Nikula# + v.o.
Ruddy Turnstone:			
23	P.I.	30	SSBC
Red Knot:			
4, 23, 22	P.I.; Scituate	11, 2; 2	G. Gove, SSBC; W. Petersen
Semipalmated Sandpiper:			
22, 23	Scituate, P.I.	2, 6	W. Petersen, BBC (L. Pivocek)
Western Sandpiper:			
11, 15	E. Orleans, P.I.	1, 1	A. Williams, D. Resnick
Least Sandpiper:			
16	E. Boston	1	S. ZendeH
White-rumped Sandpiper:			
22, 23	Scituate, Monomoy	3, 30	W. Petersen, B. Nikula#
27	Wollaston	1	S. Higginbotham
Baird's Sandpiper:			
1-15, 4	Squantum, P.I.	1, 1	R. Abrams + v.o., G. Gove
Pectoral Sandpiper:			
3, 6, 7, 17	GMNWR	14, 14, 8, 4	G. Gove# + v.o.
14, 23, 28	Lexington (Camb. Res.)	11, 9, 8	R. Forster + v.o.
16	Newburyport	14	G. Gove#
23, 28	Braintree, Bridgewater	5, 6	R. + S. Higginbotham, K. Ryan
Purple Sandpiper:			
24	P.I.	13	BBC
Dunlin:			
19, 23	P.I.	570, 1000+	G. Gove, SSBC
22	Scituate, E. Boston	250, 52	W. Petersen, S. ZendeH
Stilt Sandpiper:			
19	Ipswich (Clarks Pond)	7	R. Heil
23	Braintree (Great Pond)	5	S. + R. Higginbotham
Short-billed Dowitcher:			
2, 7	E. Boston, Newburyport	5, 3	S. ZendeH, R. Heil
Long-billed Dowitcher:			
2-30	E. Boston (Belle Isle)	total 9	S. ZendeH
10, 19	Newburyport, P.I.	15+, 21	J. Berry, G. Gove
28, 31	Lexington (Camb. Res.)	1	R. Forster
Common Snipe:			
thr.	Six locations	6 individuals	v.o.
American Woodcock:			
10	Nantucket	1	BBC (D. Davis)
Red Phalarope:			
30	Stellwagen	6	BBC (H. D'Entremont)

JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Unlike last year when many jaegers were reported, only a small number were noted this year, and most of these were offshore at Stellwagen Bank. On October 25, a Great Skua was observed as close as 150 yards and in good light at First Encounter Beach in Eastham. The bird had "uniformly brown body and head, lacking any rustiness or golden

hackles, suggesting an immature Great Skua."

Among the gull highlights were reports of a total of three Sabine's Gulls - two seen together on the BBC pelagic trip on October 30 and another, an adult bird in alternate plumage, observed at First Encounter Beach on October 25. A fairly large concentration of Forster's Terns was noted from New Island in Eastham, and two late Black Terns were reported from Chatham on October 30. A handful of reports of alcids came in; the most exciting observation was two Atlantic Puffins seen off Andrews Point in Rockport.

Late reports included a Common Nighthawk on October 4, a Whip-poor-will on October 1, and a Chimney Swift on October 7.

R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Pomarine Jaeger: 15,23,30	Stellwagen	1, 4, 3	D.Clapp,W.Smith,BBC
Parasitic Jaeger: 15,23,30	Stellwagen	12, 6, 4	D.Clapp, W.Smith,BBC
<u>Great Skua</u> : 25	Eastham (F.E.)	1	B.Nikula
Laughing Gull: 21,30	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	38, 140	G.Gove, S.Zendeh#
Little Gull: 1,25	Newbypt,Eastham	3(1 ad,1 1st yr,1 imm), 1 ad	BBC, B.Nikula
Common Black-headed Gull: thr.	E.Boston (Belle Isle)	1-2	S.Zendeh# + v.o.
Bonaparte's Gull: 15,17	Newbypt, Lynn	200, 430	J.Grugan, C.Blaszczak
Iceland Gull: 23	Wayland (Heard's Pond)	1 ad.	E.Morrier
29,31	Newbypt, P'town	1, 1	E.Nielsen#, SSBC (Fox)
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 24	Scituate	1 ad.	D.Clapp
Glaucous Gull: 23	Waltham (Camb. Res.)	1 (2W)	G.Gove#
Black-legged Kittiwake: 15,23	Stellwagen	1000+, 2000	D.Clapp, W.Smith
<u>Sabine's Gull</u> : 25	Eastham (F.E.)	1 ad. (br.pl.)	B.Nikula#
30	Stellwagen	2	BBC
Caspian Tern: 3	Manomet	1	MBO staff
Roseate Tern: 2,4	P'town, Chatham	4-6, 4	G.Gove#, D.Brown#
Common Tern: 2,16	P'town	2100, 1000+	G.Gove#, R.Heil
1,23	Newbypt, P.I.	20+, 3	BBC
10,27	Eastham, Barnstable	650, 100	D.Brown#, J.Aylward
Forster's Tern: 2	Eastham, P'town	55, 1	G.Gove#
5,23	Eastham (New Island)	125+, 40+	B.Nikula#
16,19	Chatham, Ipswich	50+, 6	R.Heil#, R.Heil
23,31	Salisbury, P'town	8, 5	SSBC
Black Tern: 30	Chatham	2	W.Bailey#
Dovekie: 25,30	Eastham, Stellwagen	2, 2	B.Nikula, BBC
Razorbill: 20,30	P.I.,Stellwagen	1, 2	N.Clayton, BBC
Black Guillemot: 31	P'town	1	SSBC (Fox)
Atlantic Puffin: 25	Rockport (A.P.)	2	R.Heil
Mourning Dove: 19	Ipswich	<u>550</u>	R.Heil
Black-billed Cuckoo: 3,5	Newton, Manomet	1, 1 b.	B.Cassie,MBO staff
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 6,7	P.I., Woburn	9, 1	M.Lynch#,G.Gove
11,15	Peabody, Marshfield	1, 3	D.Hill,D.Clapp
18,23	Truro, Monomoy	2, 1 dead	J.Baird,H.Stabins#

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Northern Saw-whet 4,27;8	Owl: Manomet; P.I.	2 b., 1 b.; 1	MBO Staff; BBC
Common Nighthawk: 4	Chatham	1 in flight	D.Brown, J.Murphy
Whip-poor-will: 1	Squantum (Squaw Rock)	1	D.Brown
Chimney Swift: 7	Woburn (Horn Pond)	2	G.Gove
Red-headed Woodpecker: 14,16;15	Nantucket; Eastham	1 ad.; 1	R.Bower,G.Frost;W.Petersen#
Red-bellied Woodpecker: 4,16	S.Peabody,Nantucket	1, 1	R.Heil, E.Andrews
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1	P.I., Newton	4, 2	BBC, O.Komar
4-8,7	Peabody, Salem	3-2, 2	R.Heil, C.Blaszczak

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS

October is an unpredictable month for migration of many of the species in this group. Some of the birds which we think of as residents may or may not move out in large numbers, depending on food supply available in a given year. Also, most of the flycatchers and warblers which we see are stragglers, coming through on the late side compared to their congeners.

This year Blue Jays were conspicuously moving, particularly at coastal locations, during the first half of October. This was somewhat surprising in light of a good acorn crop in some areas, for the first year in several. American Robins followed just the opposite course as the jays, making their expected move primarily at inland sites, and during the latter half of the month. The banding station at Manomet caught a good flight of Black-capped Chickadees, with the total for the whole month of over 1800 individuals. These were joined at the end of the month by two Boreal Chickadees, a never-common species even less so on the South Shore.

Individuals comprising a total of 21 warbler species were seen in October, with few really remarkable records. The report of three Yellow-breasted Chats in one day from Plum Island is quite good, especially when achieved without the aid of nets! Several warbler species were reported in rather small numbers, though this doesn't necessarily imply small actual numbers migrating. In this category are Magnolia Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Blackpoll, and American Redstart. Counts for the last two species are so low compared to most previous years that they are probably significant. Another species reported in comparatively low numbers was Ruby-crowned Kinglet, with one good count inland at Mt. Wachusett.

The last week of the month produced several very late flycatcher reports, including two Empidonax and an Eastern Kingbird. Other individuals over a month late compared to norms were a Cliff Swallow at Salisbury and a Golden-winged Warbler banded at Nantucket.

In the "fancy bird" department for this month was first and foremost the Sedge Wren. This very well-described bird was seen in the garden plots near Newton South High School, during the course of coverage for the BOEM Field Studies Committee sparrow migration project. Other interesting reports included the Common Ravens at three sites and the Loggerhead Shrike at Eastham. L.E.T.

Empidonax, sp.:			
15-30,16	Lincoln, Sudbury	1, 1	R.Forster
30	Belmont	1	F.Bouchard
Eastern Phoebe:			
1-23,15	P.I., Waltham	2 max.(10/19), 3	v.o., L.Taylor
27,31	Woburn	1, 1	G.Gove
Ash-throated Flycatcher:			
4	Chatham	1 (no details)	D.Brown
Western Kingbird:			
16	Naushon Island	1	J.Hatch
Eastern Kingbird:			
10,31	Nantucket, Truro	1, 1	BBC, SSBC
Tree Swallow:			
1,6	Cape Cod, Halifax	560, 1000	SSBC, K.Anderson
14,27	Middleboro, Squantum	1000+, 10	S.MacDonald,G.Wilson

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Cliff Swallow: 7	Salisbury	1	R.Heil
Blue Jay: 1,2 10	P.I., P'town Pocasset	200+, 220 250+	BBC, L.Taylor# P.Hallowell
American Crow: 16,23 28	Ipswich, Waltham Bridgewater	200+, 100+ 250	J.Berry, K.Durham# K.Ryan
Fish' Crow: 5	Whitman	1	W.Petersen
Common Raven: 3,7 25	Mt.Wachusett, Littleton Westborough	2, 1 1	K.Durham#, J.Baird B.Cassie
Black-capped Chickadee: thr.	Manomet	1815 b.	MBO Staff
<u>Boreal Chickadee:</u> 26,31	Manomet	1 b., 1 b.	MBO Staff
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1,3 8-10,16 23	P.I., E.Middleboro Nantucket, Andover Lexington	1, 1 10, 5 5	BBC, K.Anderson BBC, K.Durham# L.Taylor#
Brown Creeper: 8-10,16	Nantucket, Weston	8, 11	BBC, J.Heywood#
Carolina Wren: 3-4,4-22 30	E.Middleboro, Weymouth Lakeville	1, 1 1	K.Anderson, E.Richards K.Holmes
House Wren: 15,20	Newton, Cambridge	1, 1	O.Komar, F.Bouchard
Winter Wren: 4,9 16,20 22 30	Manomet, Nantucket Chatham, P.I. Newburyport, Mt.Wachusett Chatham	1 b., 2 1, 1 2, 1 1	K.Anderson, BBC B.Nikula, N.Clayton# BBC, P.Roberts B.Nikula
<u>Sedge Wren:</u> 5	Newton	1 (good details)	O.Komar
Marsh Wren: 26	Lakeville	1	K.Ryan
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1-10,8-10 23,30	P.I., Nantucket Lakeville, Mt.Wachusett	30 max., 12 30+, 10	v.o., BBC D.Clapp, P.Roberts
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 8,17 30,31	Nantucket, E.Middleboro Mt.Wachusett, Woburn	2, 1 24, 1	BBC, K.Anderson P.Roberts, G.Gove
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 15-16	P.I.	1	D.Newton#
Eastern Bluebird: thr.,21 22	Middleboro, Millis Truro	pair, 1 2	R.Harju, B.Cassie B.Nikula
Veery: 21	Millis	1	B.Cassie
Swainson's Thrush: 21,22 28	Lincoln, P.I. Cambridge (F.P.)	1, 3 2	R.Forster, BBC F.Bouchard
Hermit Thrush: 10,16 18,23	Hardwich, Weston Princeton, Waltham	14, 4 2, 1	M.Lynch#, R.Stymeist# G.Gove, L.Taylor#
Wood Thrush: 21	Millis	1	B.Cassie
American Robin: 18,21 22,27	Norfolk, Millis Weston, Wayland	800, 300 175, 100	B.Cassie R.Stymeist#, T.Walsh
Gray Catbird: 9,22	Bolton, P.I.	4, 5	A.Williams, BBC
Water Pipit: 2,18 22,23 26	P'town, Concord Sudbury, Harvard (Oxbow) Monomoy	50, 20 32, 56 40+	W.Smith#, R.Forster R.Walton, M.Lynch B.Nikula
Cedar Waxwing: 1,2 9-10	P.I., Brighton Nantucket	60, 18 17	BBC, J.Paputseanos BBC

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
<u>Loggerhead Shrike:</u>			
4	Eastham	1	D.Brown#
<u>White-eyed Vireo:</u>			
4,6	P.I., S.Peabody	1, 1 ad.	G.Gove, J.Smith#
<u>Solitary Vireo:</u>			
15,20	Belmont, Manomet	1, 1 b.	L.Taylor, MBO Staff
<u>Philadelphia Vireo:</u>			
1	P.I.	1	J.Grugan#
<u>Golden-winged Warbler:</u>			
8	Nantucket	1 b.	E.Andrews#
<u>Tennessee Warbler:</u>			
2,18	Newton, Manomet	2, 1 b.	O.Komar, MBO Staff
22-23	P.I.	1	v.o.
<u>Orange-crowned Warbler:</u>			
4,10	Eastham, Hardwick	1, 1	D.Brown#, M.Lynch#
12,23	Manomet, P.I.	1 b., 1	MBO Staff, v.o.
<u>Nashville Warbler:</u>			
2,5	Newton, Worcester	2, 1	O.Komar, S.Carroll#
7,22	Manomet, P.I.	1 b., 2	MBO Staff, BBC
<u>Northern Parula:</u>			
13-27,23	Nantucket, Concord	11 b., 1	E.Andrews#, R.Forster#
<u>Yellow Warbler:</u>			
19	Newton	1	O.Komar
<u>Magnolia Warbler:</u>			
1-10	P.I.	1 max.	v.o.
<u>Cape May Warbler:</u>			
1-16,5	P.I., Newton	3 max. (10/1), 2	v.o., O.Komar
9,15	Nantucket, Eastham	2, 2	BBC, R.Stymeist#
<u>Black-throated Blue Warbler:</u>			
1,9	P.I., Nantucket	4, 2	BBC
15,27	Waltham, Manomet	1, 2 b.	L.Taylor, MBO Staff
<u>Yellow-rumped Warbler:</u>			
1-22,7	P.I., Woburn	500 max. (10/18), 150	v.o., G.Gove
10,16	Pocasset, Weston	300, 55	P.Hallowell, J.Heywood#
<u>Black-throated Green Warbler:</u>			
8,15	Nantucket, P.I.	2, 1	BBC, J.Grugan
31	P'town	1	R.Fox#
<u>Blackburnian Warbler:</u>			
8	Truro	1	H.Mallers, R.Titus
<u>Pine Warbler:</u>			
2,20	Wellfleet, Newton	7, 1	K.Griffis#, O.Komar
<u>Palm Warbler:</u>			
7,8-9	Sudbury, Nantucket	6, 34	R.Walton, BBC
15,16	S.Wellfleet, Belmont	15, 4	W.Petersen#, K.Durham#
19,30	Newton, Malden	10, 1	O.Komar, D.Gibson
<u>Bay-breasted Warbler:</u>			
2,8	P.I., Nantucket	2, 1	J.Grugan, BBC
<u>Blackpoll:</u>			
1-16,2	P.I., Wellfleet	4 total, 6	v.o., L.Taylor#
22,26	Cambridge, Framingham	2, 4	J.Heywood#, R.Forster
<u>Black-and-white Warbler:</u>			
8,10	Nantucket, Hardwick	2, 1	BBC, M.Lynch#
<u>American Redstart:</u>			
8,10	Nantucket, Westport	2, 1	BBC
<u>Connecticut Warbler:</u>			
7	Natick	1	G.Dysart
<u>Mourning Warbler:</u>			
4,10	Eastham, P.I.	1, 1	J.Murphy#, J.Grugan
<u>Common Yellowthroat:</u>			
19-20,22	Newton, Belmont	2, 1	O.Komar, L.Taylor
<u>Yellow-breasted Chat:</u>			
1,7	P.I., Salisbury	3, 1	T.Walsh, R.Heil
16,22	Marshfield, Nahant	1, 1	SSBC, L.Pivacek

TANAGER THROUGH SPARROW

October is appreciated by those of us who like subtleties in shades of brown because it is sparrow migration time! This year 20 sparrow species were reported throughout the region with those of highest interest including a Harris's and a Le Conte's Sparrow. The former individual carried over at the chicken farm in Truro from

September. The LeConte's Sparrow was well seen at Plum Island by an observer familiar with the species and was very well described. Of somewhat less interest but nice just the same were one individual each of Grasshopper and Lark sparrows and two Clay-colored Sparrows. The Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Newton on the fifth was described as appearing closest to the Acadian race.

Observers at Plum on October 1 were treated to an Island inundated with White-throated Sparrows, with an estimated 500 individuals in attendance. American Tree Sparrows arrived in small numbers towards the end of the month, right on time. L.E.T.

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Scarlet Tanager:			
10	Nantucket	1	BBC
Rose-breasted Grosbeak:			
1,9	P.I., Nantucket	1, 1	J.Grugan#, BBC
Blue Grosbeak:			
6,8,9	S.Peabody,Truro,Belmont	1, 2, 1	R.Heil,R.Titus#,L.Taylor
Dickcissel:			
4,7	Truro, Newton	1, 2	J.Murphy#, O.Komar
8,9	S.Peabody, Salisbury	1, 1	R.Heil, S.Carroll#
9,23	Belmont, Concord	1, 1	L.Taylor, R.Walton
American Tree Sparrow:			
10,23	Nantucket, Belmont	1, 1	BBC, L.Taylor#
23,30	P.I., Concord	1, 1	BBC, R.Walton
Chipping Sparrow:			
1-23,2-9	P.I., Wellfleet	15 max.(10/23),30+	v.o.
10,29	Truro, Newton	6, 1	J.Murphy#, O.Komar
Clay-colored Sparrow:			
1,2	P.I., Newton	1, 1	BBC, B.Hallett#
Field Sparrow:			
1,10-22	Wellfleet, P.I.	5, 5 max.	D.Brown#, v.o.
10,15	Truro, Framingham	10, 10	J.Murphy#, R.Forster
22,29	Sudbury, Newton	5, 5	R.Walton, O.Komar
Vesper Sparrow:			
1-4,2-15	Wellfleet, Newton	6 max., 1 max.	v.o., O.Komar
9,12-23	Nantucket,Belmont	1, 1	BBC, v.o.
19	Cambridge	1	F.Bouchard
Lark Sparrow:			
4	Chatham	1	D.Brown#
Savannah Sparrow:			
1-15,3	P.I., Newton	100 max.(10/1), 37	v.o., O.Komar
2,8-10	E.Boston, Nantucket	40, 36	S.Zendeh#, BBC
13,22	Belmont, Sudbury	30+, 82	F.Bouchard, R.Walton
"Ipswich" Sparrow:			
19,22	Salisbury, Scituate	5, 5	E.Pyburn#, W.Petersen
26-30,30	P.I., E.Boston	1 max., 1	v.o., S.Zendeh#
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
16	Truro	1	R.Heil#
LeConte's Sparrow:			
21	P.I.	1 (details)	R.Ferren#
Sharp-tailed Sparrow:			
1-21,5	P.I., Newton	70 max.(10/10), 1	L.Robinson#, O.Komar
Seaside Sparrow:			
2	Eastham, E.Boston	2, 1	K.Griffis#, S.Zendeh#
Fox Sparrow:			
30	Concord	1	R.Walton
Song Sparrow:			
1-16,2	P.I., Newton	30+, 41	v.o., O.Komar
Lincoln's Sparrow:			
4,5-11	Truro, Newton	1, 6 max.(10/7)	D.Brown#, O.Komar
7,29	Woburn, Newton	2, 1	G.Gove, O.Komar
Swamp Sparrow:			
1-29,7	Newton, Woburn	10 max.(10/19),20	O.Komar, G.Gove
9	Ipswich	8	J.Berry
White-throated Sparrow:			
1,19	P.I., Newton	500+, 20	v.o., O.Komar
White-crowned Sparrow:			
1-16,6	P.I., Belmont	4 max.(10/1), 2	v.o., L.Taylor
9,9-19	Nantucket, Newton	2, 2 max.	BBC, O.Komar
10,30	Truro, Concord	4, 2	J.Murphy#, R.Walton
Harris' Sparrow:			
1-10, from Sept.	Truro	1	J.Murphy#

JUNCO THROUGH EVENING GROSBEEK

Of the more interesting inbound winter residents among this group, both Snow Bunting and Pine Siskin arrived in typical numbers and in the usual time frame. On the out-bound side, the small group of Bobolinks at West Newbury at month's end constituted lingerers by close to a month. A clear total of three Yellow-headed Blackbirds was observed during a one-week period at two sites on Nantucket. These were the only records for this species, a fairly regular coastal fall visitor to the region. L.E.T.

<u>SPECIES/OCTOBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Dark-eyed Junco:			
1,22	P.I., Sudbury	20+, 60	BBC, R.Walton
Lapland Longspur:			
4,22	Salisbury, Scituate	2, 5	M.Lynch#, W.Petersen
Snow Bunting:			
20,22	Princeton, Scituate	4, 50	K.Durham, W.Petersen
31	Salisbury, P'town	85, 125	F.Bouchard, SSBC
Bobolink:			
16,19	Truro, Newton	2, 2	R.Heil, O.Komar
20,31	Belmont, W.Newbury	1, 4	L.Robinson, F.Bouchard
Red-winged Blackbird:			
9,31	Ipswich, Salisbury	1000+, 175	J.Berry, F.Bouchard
Eastern Meadowlark:			
9,22	Bolton, Newburyport	9, 3	A.Williams, BBC
Yellow-headed Blackbird:			
16-24,21	Nantucket(town),Nantucket(Quaise)	1 m.+1 f., 1 m.	E.Andrews#
Rusty Blackbird:			
3,9	GMNWR, Bolton	8, 12	L.Taylor#, A.Williams
11,31	Peabody, Truro	6, 2	D.Hill, R.Fox#
Common Grackle:			
10,22	Nantucket, Concord	400, 200	BBC, F.Bouchard
26,28	Halifax, Middleboro	5000+, 5000+	K.Anderson, K.Holmes
Brown-headed Cowbird:			
9,15	Ipswich, Framingham	175, 1500	J.Berry, R.Forster
Northern Oriole:			
1,5	P.I., Whitman	1, 1	J.Grugan, W.Petersen
Purple Finch:			
19,22	Newton, Littleton	20, 50	O.Komar, V.Sprong
House Finch:			
19,22	Newton, Littleton	70, 30	O.Komar, V.Sprong
Pine Siskin:			
8,15-29	S.Peabody, P.I.	2, 5 max.	R.Heil, v.o.
16,18	Sudbury, Wellfleet	15, 12	R.Forster#, J.Baird
21,23	Lynn, Newton	25, 6	R.Heil, O.Komar
Evening Grosbeak:			
21,30	Lincoln, Princeton	2, 12	R.Forster, L.Taylor#

CORRIGENDA: September 1983

In the section, NIGHTHAWKS THROUGH VIREOS, the records of Common Nighthawk through Barn Swallow on page 334 should be inserted ahead of Common Raven on page 333.

Osprey:			
thr	Mt. Wachusett	total 332 max 70 (9/13)	EMHW(fide P.Roberts)
		<u>should read</u>	
thr	Mt. Wachusett	total 341 max 200 (9/13)	EMHW(fide P.Roberts)
Lesser Black-backed Gull:			
5,11	Monomoy	1 ad	W.Petersen#,W.Harrington#
		<u>should read</u>	
5,11	Monomoy	1 ad, 2 ad	W.Petersen#,W.Harrington#
Common Tern:			
3,15	Monomoy	15000, 8000	B.Nikula#(roosting at dusk)
17	PI	250	BBC
		<u>should read</u>	
Common Tern/Roseate Tern:			
3,15	Monomoy	15000, 8000	B.Nikula#
	About 1/3 of the mass of roosting terns were Roseates.		
		<u>and</u>	
Common Tern:			
17	PI	250	BBC