

Field Records

August 1984



by George W. Gove, Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

August 1984 was hot and humid and with little rain. The temperature averaged 74.6° , 2.7° more than the mean of prior years. This was the hottest August since 1973 and, with 1937, the third hottest in 114 years. Highs reached 90° or better on five days during the month, and 93° on the fifteenth was the highest temperature of the month. The low mark was 56° on August 21. Rain totaled 1.60 inches, 2.08 inches less than normal. This was the driest month since September 1983 when 1.06 inches fell. The month was quite humid with frequent fog; in fact heavy fog was observed on seven days in a row, from August 9-15, for a new record stretch. The summer of 1984 on the whole was the fourth warmest in 114 years of record, with rainfall near normal.

LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS

The BOEM-sponsored two-day trip to Georges Bank and Hydrographer Canyon was again most successful. Both the variety of species and the quality of what was seen reflect the importance to marine birds of Georges Bank and the edge of the Continental Shelf. According to Wayne Petersen, one of the leaders, "Trips such as this should make the ecological importance of the region all the more obvious to those fortunate enough to experience it." Highlights included 15 Audubon's Shearwaters, all of which were carefully observed in the company of about 100 Leach's Storm-Petrels, one Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, and a possible White-tailed Tropicbird. The occurrence of the Band-rumped Storm-Petrel (Harcourt's or Madeira Storm-Petrel) was a first record for the North Atlantic (waters north of Delaware). In a recent article by David Lee, "Petrels and storm-petrels in North Carolina's offshore waters" (American Birds, 38: 151-163), he states that, with few exceptions, the 75 sightings of this species in North Carolina waters (off Oregon Inlet) were obtained in deep-water zones (500-1000+ fathoms) with surface sea temperatures of 80.2° - 83.1° F. and were, therefore, "consistent with the idea that this storm-petrel is a highly pelagic, warm-water species." The depth at the Hydrographer Canyon area where the bird was seen was a mere 550 feet; the surface water temperature was 80° F. Because it is very difficult to arrange regular trips into deep-water areas, the true status of this bird off our coast is uncertain. The sighting of a tropicbird was made as the bird flushed from the water and flew directly in front of the boat, but no positive identification could be made due to the glare.

In waters closer to shore, as many as 15 Manx Shearwaters were seen on Stellwagen Bank where at least 2500 Wilson's Storm-Petrels were counted in early August. On a sea trip to waters southwest of Martha's Vineyard, 150 Cory's, 700 Greater, and 5 Manx shearwaters were recorded, along with at least 1300 Wilson's and 3 Leach's storm-petrels.
R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>AUGUST 1984</u>
Common Loon:				
18	Manchester	1	E.Foster	
Cory's Shearwater:				
18,30	Stellwagen	3, 3	D.Lange, H.Wiggin	
20-21	Nantucket Shoals, S.W.Georges B.	40	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
25	S.W. of M.V.	150	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
Greater Shearwater:				
18,30	Stellwagen	300, 150	D.Lange, H.Wiggin	
20-21	Nantucket Shoals, S.W.Georges B.	275	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
25	S.W. of M.V.	700	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
Sooty Shearwater:				
18,30	Stellwagen	40, 15	D.Lange, H.Wiggin	
21	Nantucket Shoals	26	W.Petersen	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	AUGUST 1984
<u>Manx Shearwater:</u>				
1,4	Dux. Bay, Boston Harbor	2, 2	D.Clapp#, R.Stymeist#	
5,18,30	Stellwagen	5, 15, 1	J.Berry,D.Lange,H.Wiggin	
21	Chatham-Stellwagen	9	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
25	S.W. of M.V.	5	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
<u>Audubon's Shearwater:</u>				
20	Hydrographer Canyon	15	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
<u>Wilson's Storm-Petrel:</u>				
4,5,18	Stellwagen	2500+, 500+, 700	R.Stymeist#,J.Berry,D.Lange	
20,21	Nantucket Shoals,S.W.Georges B.	4000	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
25	S.W. of M.V.	1300	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
<u>Leach's Storm-Petrel:</u>				
20	Hydrographer Canyon	100	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
21	Stellwagen	1	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
25	S.W. of M.V.	3	BOEM (W.Petersen)	
<u>Band-rumped Storm-Petrel:</u>				
20	vic. of Hydrographer Canyon	1	BOEM (R.Veit,W.Petersen)	
<u>tropicbird, species:</u>				
20	Hydrographer Canyon	1	BOEM (R.Veit,W.Petersen)	
<u>Northern Gannet:</u>				
28	P.I. (Emerson Rock)	1	R.Forster#	
<u>Double-crested Cormorant:</u>				
1,5	Duxbury Bay, P.I. area	150, 500	D.Clapp#, BBC	
11,25	Monomoy, Newbypt.	200, 400+	BBC, J.Berry	

HERONS THROUGH RAPTORS

A pair of Least Bittern parents exhibited three downy young to hundreds of birders along the dike at Hellcat Swamp on Plum Island. There were no serious counts made at the Plum Island heron roost this year with the exception of seven Little Blue Herons noted on August 28. Tricolored Herons were found on South Monomoy, Plum Island, and in Duxbury. The roost of night-herons at Hemenway Landing in Eastham totalled a maximum of 166 Black-crowned and 5 Yellow-crowned on August 20.

A lone male Greater Scaup was unusual for mid-August, seen at close range at Hellcat Swamp on Plum Island for at least four days. Two hundred twenty-five Common Eider in Duxbury Bay were mostly young males.

A Turkey Vulture was observed over North Monomoy on August 18, and a migrating Broad-winged Hawk was noted in Brookline on August 30. The six Peregrine Falcons released on the Post Office Building in downtown Boston started to fly during August, and on the fourth several observers saw four birds at once. The captive-bred falcons, two females and four males, were brought to Boston on July 17 by the Peregrine Fund of Cornell University as part of a national program to reestablish the species in the eastern United States. Unfortunately, not all six survived. The first mishap occurred on August 21 when a male crashed against windows on a courtyard on top of the Bank of New England building. The falcon was paralyzed and was treated for three days at the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine but did not survive. The next accident was on August 29 when a female was found with a broken wing by members of Logan Airport's bird patrol near the ocean shore. This bird underwent surgery at Tufts and was flown to Cornell to recuperate. The same day, remains of a tiercel (a male) were found on a runway at Hanscom Field in Bedford. The bird was apparently struck by a plane. The death of one third of the birds was unfortunate but is the typical mortality rate according to Thomas W. French, assistant director, Nongame and Endangered Species, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. R.H.S.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	AUGUST 1984
<u>American Bittern:</u>				
thr.	P.I.	1+	v.o.	
<u>Least Bittern:</u>				
thr.	P.I. (Hellcat)	max. 2 ad., 3 yg.	v.o.	
<u>Great Blue Heron:</u>				
thr.	P.I.	max. 18	G.d'Entremont + v.o.	
12,18,21	GMNWR	17, 9, 11	B.Phillips	
21,28	Eastham, Saugus	31, 10	R.Titus, J.Berry	
<u>Great Egret:</u>				
12-31	P.I.	max. 6 (8/16)	M.Lynch# + v.o.	
16,18	Westport, S.Dartmouth	30, 24	R.Laubach, G.Gove#	
<u>Snowy Egret:</u>				
thr.	P.I.	max. 150	J.Grugan + v.o.	
5,6	Squantum, Duxbury	75, 200	R.Abrams, D.Clapp	
11,23	Monomoy, Beverly Harbor	36, 24	R.Stymeist#, J.Berry	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>AUGUST 1984</u>
Little Blue Heron:				
thr.	P.I.	max. 7 (8/28)	G.Bertrand + v.o.	
thr.	Monomoy	max. 2	R.Humphrey + v.o.	
5,26	Wareham, Mashpee	1 imm., 1	L.Robinson, P.Trimble	
Tricolored Heron:				
3,6	Duxbury	1, 1	K.Anderson#, D.Clapp	
5,18	P.I.	1 ad.	J.Grugan, W.Regan	
26	S.Monomoy	1	B.Nikula + v.o.	
Cattle Egret:				
6,9	Ipswich	3, 15-20	J.Berry	
Green-backed Heron:				
thr.	P.I., GMNWR	max. 6, max. 5	v.o.	
5,27	Lancaster (Bolton Flats)	5, 8	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	
26, 31	Scituate, Wayland	5, 9+	D.Clapp, R.Forster	
Black-crowned Night-Heron:				
thr.	P.I.	max. 29 (8/6)	v.o.	
thr.	Eastham (Hemenway)	max. 166 (6/20)	B.Nikula# + v.o.	
31	Wayland	9	R.Forster	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:				
thr.	Eastham (Hemenway)	max. 5 (8/20,27)	B.Nikula# + v.o.	
thr.	P.I.	max. 2	v.o.	
Glossy Ibis:				
thr.	P.I., S.Monomoy	max. 15 (8/19), max. 5	v.o.	
Mute Swan:				
18	Westport	114	G.Gove#	
Canada Goose:				
thr.	P.I., Sherborn	max. 150, 350	v.o., E.Taylor	
Wood Duck:				
5,18	Lancaster (Bolton Flats)	18, 20	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	
5	Ipswich (Norman's Pd.)	12	J.Berry	
26	GMNWR	15	BBC	
Green-winged Teal:				
thr.	P.I.	max. 20 (8/5, 8/26)	v.o.	
Northern Pintail:				
16,25	P.I.	3, 5	J.Nove#, G.d'Entremont#	
Blue-winged Teal:				
thr.	P.I.	max. 80 (8/28)	R.Forster# + v.o.	
Northern Shoveler:				
28	P.I.	1	R.Forster#	
Gadwall:				
9	P.I.	1 f. w/1lyg.	D.Arvidson#	
American Wigeon:				
thr.	P.I.	max. 16 (8/26)	v.o.	
Greater Scaup:				
16-19	P.I.	1	J.Nove# + v.o.	
Common Eider:				
1	Duxbury Bay	225	D.Clapp#	
Surf Scoter:				
thr.	Scituate	1	W.Petersen + v.o.	
19,25	Wareham, off Fairhaven	1, 7	L.Robinson, W.Petersen#	
White-winged Scoter:				
13,16	Westport	3	R.Laubach	
Common Scoter:				
20	Eastham	2 f.	B.Nikula#	
Turkey Vulture:				
18	N.Monomoy	1	B.Nikula	
Northern Harrier:				
thr.	P.I.	max. 5 (8/25)	G.d'Entremont # + v.o.	
Sharp-shinned Hawk:				
20	Middleboro	1	R.Titus	
Northern Goshawk:				
10,13	E.Middleboro	1 ad.	K.Anderson#	
Red-shouldered Hawk:				
17-29	E.Middleboro	1	K.Anderson	
Broad-winged Hawk:				
30	Brookline	1 ad. mig.	R.Stymeist#	
American Kestrel:				
19	Newbypt.	4 ad., 3 yg.	R.Stymeist#	
Peregrine Falcon:				
thr.	Boston	max. 4 (8/4)	C.Floyd# + v.o.	
17	Wareham	1	These are hacked birds / Cornell's Peregrine Fund L.Robinson	

RAILS THROUGH WOODPECKER

Five Lesser Golden-Plovers were reported this month. Reports and numbers of Piping Plover were down this year with only ten reported from North Monomoy and one from Plum Island for the month. This species may be in trouble due to loss of or competition for appropriate habitat. An American Avocet spent the month's end at Plum Island, mostly in Stage Island Pool. The highest August count of Willets in the last 12 years was reported from North Monomoy with 75 birds present. Ten Upland Sandpipers were at Hanscom Air Force Field, and one was seen in Watertown, an unlikely spot. The count of Whimbrels at North Monomoy eclipsed last month's unprecedented numbers with 230 observed going to roost. On Nantucket, 75 Whimbrels were seen and a "Eurasian" Whimbrel was also reported from there; there have been five previous records of this whimbrel since 1973. The Eurasian Whimbrel is conspecific with our Whimbrel and is identified by the white "vee" on the rump and lower back, similar to that mark on dowitchers.

Reported numbers of Hudsonian Godwit are down from the usual August peak counts. August and September are the big months for Marbled Godwits. Three were present on North Monomoy, and two singles were reported from Newburyport this month. The report of 3000 Sanderlings constitutes the highest total for that species in twelve years. Numbers of Western Sandpiper are below usual as totals for August are generally 3-20, maxima up to 50 birds. Also sparse are reports and numbers of Baird's Sandpiper. A few Dunlin are starting to trickle in indicating the approach of winter. The Curlew Sandpiper continued into early August at Squantum. The number of reports of Buff-breasted Sandpipers and the number of birds is about average with one from each of four locations. Reports of American Woodcock are unusual for August, but there were two reports this month. Reports of Red Phalaropes are unusual anytime.

There were two reports this month from Plum Island of very unusual birds that were not seen subsequent to the initial report, and there were no photographs or substantiating details. The first was of a Little Stint that may have actually been a juvenile Least Sandpiper. People are looking more closely at shorebirds of late and the juvenile plumage of most shorebirds is ephemeral. Thus when we see juvenile birds in bright, crisp, clean plumage, we are sometimes baffled. They do not look like anything we are familiar with and we try to make something else of them. The other bird was identified as a Spoon-billed Sandpiper, and it, too, could not be found subsequent to its initial appearance. In the area where the bird had been, there were one or two Semis feeding in the mud. It is possible that one of these birds had a bill aberration, or the mud was extremely tenacious and stuck to and accumulated on the bill.

The above is not to say that those birds were not actually there; they were simply not seen by others and thus not substantiated. Remember the Spotted Redshank of two years ago. Only two people (from New Jersey) saw it but they took photos!

A South Polar Skua was seen on the BOEM Hydrographer Canyon trip as were two Pomarine Jaegers. A skua species, probably a South Polar Skua, was seen on the BOEM Nantucket Shoals trip. A Gull-billed Tern was reported from Eastham, and Caspian and Royal terns were seen during the month. "Portlandica" Arctic Terns and Forster's Terns were present on North Monomoy. A Bridled Tern was reported from Stellwagen Bank (see field report elsewhere in this issue). The adult and immature skimmers at Monomoy and Orleans represented post-breeding dispersal from more southerly breeding areas and probably included the young fledged at Monomoy. A sub-adult Atlantic Puffin was seen on a whalewatch trip out of Boston, and another was found injured on Plum Island.

Again, as in past years, Lars Anderson Park in Brookline was carefully monitored during the Common Nighthawk migration, and a total of 1035 were counted there during August. Complete results of the nighthawk migration survey can be obtained from the Natural History Services of M.A.S.

At least ten Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were seen at Bolton Flats and a Pileated Woodpecker appeared in Dover. G.W.G. & R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>AUGUST 1984</u>
Virginia Rail:				
5,13	P.I., Lancaster	7-8 heard, 8	J.Berry, M.Lynch#	
26	GMNWR	4	BBC	
Sora:				
19,26	GMNWR	8, 2	D.Gibson, BBC	
Common Moorhen:				
26	GMNWR	1	BBC	
Black-bellied Plover:				
thr.	N.Monomoy, P.I.	max. 1000 (8/19), max. 1200 (8/29)	B.Nikula#, v.o.	
8,31	Squantum	32, 175	W.Reagan	
29	Scituate	300	W.Petersen	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>AUGUST 1984</u>
<u>Lesser Golden-Plover:</u>				
8,18	Squantum, Scituate	2, 1	W.Reagan, W.Petersen	
25	P.I.	2 ad.	v.o.	
<u>Semipalmated Plover:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy, P.I.	max. 800 (8/19), max.	400 (8/5)	B.Nikula#, v.o.
4,6	Squantum, Scituate	200, 400		G.d'Entremont, D.Clapp
13,30	Westport, Boston	20, 27		R.Laubach, J.Carter
<u>Piping Plover:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 10 (8/20)		B.Nikula#
20	P.I.	1		F.Bouchard
<u>Killdeer:</u>				
6,16,21	Bedford	17+, 12, 16		J.Carter
29	P.I.	10		W.Reagan
<u>American Oystercatcher:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 32+ (8/20)		B.Nikula#
<u>American Avocet:</u>				
25-31	P.I.	1		C.Casas + v.o.
<u>Greater Yellowlegs:</u>				
3,5-19	Duxbury, P.I.	200, max. 200 (8/5)		K.Anderson#, v.o.
11,29	N.Monomoy	200, 60		R.Stymeist#, P.Trimble
<u>Lesser Yellowlegs:</u>				
thr.	Halifax	max. 19 (8/1)		K.Anderson
5-19	P.I.-Newbypt.	max. 450 (8/11)		v.o.
29,31	N.Monomoy, Squantum	20, 45		P.Trimble, W.Reagan
<u>Solitary Sandpiper:</u>				
1,18	Halifax, P.I.	2, 1		K.Anderson, J.Grugan
16,26	GMNWR	1, 1		J.Carter, BBC
<u>Willet:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 75 (8/1)		B.Nikula#
5-19	P.I.	max. 2		v.o.
6,26	Scituate, Mashpee	2, 3		D.Clapp, P.Trimble
<u>Spotted Sandpiper:</u>				
1,4	Halifax, Wareham	2, 3		K.Anderson, L.Robinson
5,12	Westport, P.I.	12, 3		R.Stymeist#, BBC
26	Mashpee	3		P.Trimble
<u>Upland Sandpiper:</u>				
5-19	Newbypt.	max. 5 (8/19)		v.o.
8-29	Bedford	max. 10 (8/29)		J.Carter
31	Watertown	1		R.Stymeist
<u>Whimbrel:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	230 (counted going to roost)		B.Nikula#
5,9	Chatham, Nantucket	42, 75		F.Bouchard, K.Harte
16-28,29	P.I., Scituate	max. 6 (8/28), 5		v.o., W.Petersen
26	Mashpee	4		P.Trimble
<u>"Eurasian" Whimbrel:</u>				
9,10	Nantucket	1 (verbal details given to M.A.S. over phone)		K.Harte
<u>Hudsonian Godwit:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 100 (8/1)		v.o.
thr.	P.I.-Newbypt.	max. 31 (8/29)		v.o.
<u>Marbled Godwit:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 3 (8/26-31)		v.o.
18,22	Newbypt.	1, 1		R.Forster#, W.Reagan
<u>Ruddy Turnstone:</u>				
4,5-29	Wareham, P.I.	60, max. 20 (8/12+19)		L.Robinson, v.o.
5	S.Dartmouth, Chatham	15, 27		R.Stymeist#, F.Bouchard
11,29	Monomoy, P.I.	100, 15		BBC, W.Reagan#
<u>Red Knot:</u>				
5-29	P.I.	max. 15 (8/29)		W.Reagan#
6	Scituate	1300		D.Clapp
5-29	N.Monomoy	max. 400 (8/11)		v.o.
<u>Sanderling:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 3000 (8/4)		B.Nikula#
<u>Semipalmated Sandpiper:</u>				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 2400 (8/4)		B.Nikula#
5,19;5	P.I.; Orleans	1500, 250; 1800		BBC; B.Nikula
25,28	P.I., Halifax	1000+, 100		J.Berry#, W.Petersen
<u>Western Sandpiper:</u>				
18	P.I.	1		W.Reagan
<u>Least Sandpiper:</u>				
11,29	N.Monomoy	250, 100		R.Stymeist#, P.Trimble
28,29	Halifax, P.I.	150, 100		W.Petersen, B.Cassie#
<u>White-rumped Sandpiper:</u>				
5-29	P.I.	max. 20 (8/28)		v.o.

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White-rumped Sandpiper (cont.):				
17,19	S.Monomoy	40, 50	B.Nikula#	
Baird's Sandpiper:				
20-29	P.I.	max. 2 (8/25)	v.o.	
26	S.Monomoy	1	B.Nikula#	
Pectoral Sandpiper:				
thr.	Halifax	max. 10 (8/28)	K.Anderson, W.Petersen	
26,29	P.I., N.Monomoy	4, 4	G.d'Entremont, P.Trimble	
Dunlin:				
26;28,29	Scituate; P.I.	1; 1, 4	W.Petersen#;R.Forster,B.Cassie	
Curlew Sandpiper:				
2,3 (from July)	Squantum	1	W.Reagan, R.Abrams	
Stilt Sandpiper:				
5-28	P.I.	max. 21 (8/16)	v.o.	
2;17,19	N.Monomoy; S.Monomoy	25; 8, 8	R.Heil; B.Nikula#	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper:				
25,26	P.I., N.Monomoy	1, 1	J.Berry#, J.Russell#	
26,27	Scituate, Marblehead	1, 1	W.Petersen#, J.Smith	
Short-billed Dowitcher:				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 1200 (8/1)	v.o.	
5-29	Newbypt.-P.I.	max. 150 8/5)	v.o.	
3	Duxbury	150	K.Anderson#	
Long-billed Dowitcher:				
5-28	P.I.	max. 63 (8/11)	v.o.	
Common Snipe:				
19,29	P.I.	1, 1	BBC, B.Cassie#	
26	GMNWR	4	BBC	
American Woodcock:				
5,27	Lancaster, Ipswich	2, 1	S.Carroll#, J.Berry	
Wilson's Phalarope:				
17,19	S.Monomoy	4, 4	B.Nikula#	
26,29	N.Monomoy	1, 2	B.Nikula#, P.Trimble	
Red-necked Phalarope:				
18,21	Stellwagen	3, 12	D.Lange, W.Petersen#	
25,30	P.I., off Gloucester	1, 10	J.Berry, H.Wiggin	
Red Phalarope:				
18,21	Stellwagen, Nantucket Shoals	1, 120	D.Lange, W.Petersen#	
Pomarine Jaeger:				
20	Hydrographer Canyon	2	BOEM	
25	S.W. of M.V.	7	BOEM	
Parasitic Jaeger:				
1,21	N.Monomoy, Stellwagen	1, 7	B.Nikula#, W.Petersen#	
Skua sp.:				
25	S.W. of M.V.	1	BOEM	
South Polar Skua:				
21	Nantucket Shoals	2 imm. (ph.)	BOEM(W.Petersen,R.Veit#)	
Laughing Gull:				
18	Rockport	4 imm.	J.Berry	
11,29	N.Monomoy	450, 60	BBC, P.Trimble	
26,28	Scituate, P.I.	5 imm., 3 imm.	D.Clapp, R.Forster#	
Little Gull:				
12-28	Newbypt.	max. 3 (1 ad. + 2 sub-ad.)(8/28)	R.Forster#	
Common Black-headed Gull:				
thr.	N.Monomoy	2 ad.	D.Holt#	
16	Yarmouthport	1	P.Trull	
Bonaparte's Gull:				
thr.	Newbypt.	max. 275 (8/11)	v.o.	
Ring-billed Gull:				
11	Newbypt.	350	R.Forster#	
Herring Gull:				
11	N.Monomoy	2000+	BBC	
Great Black-backed Gull:				
11	N.Monomoy	3000	BBC	
Gull-billed Tern:				
25	Eastham	1 (no details)	F.Bouchard	
Caspian Tern:				
1,8	Wollaston	1, 2	W.Reagan	
Royal Tern:				
18	Newbypt.	1	J.Grugan	
Roseate Tern:				
11,29	N.Monomoy, Scituate	30, 250	BBC, W.Petersen	

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Common Tern:				
11,18	N.Monomoy, Rockport	300, 265	BBC, J.Berry	
21,29	Eastham, Scituate	1500, 650	R.Titus, W.Petersen	
Arctic Tern:				
1	N.Monomoy	25 Portlandica	B.Nikula	
5	Stellwagen	2 ad.	J.Berry	
29,30	N.Monomoy, Stellwagen	1 br. pl., 1	P.Trimble, H.Wiggin	
Forster's Tern:				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 7 (8/11)	BBC + v.o.	
17	S.Monomoy	11	B.Nikula	
27,30	Scituate, Stellwagen	1, 1	W.Petersen, H.Wiggin	
Least Tern:				
12,28	P.I.	9, 5	BBC, R.Forster	
<u>Bridled Tern:</u> (Details elsewhere in this issue.)				
25	Stellwagen	1	W.Ellison	
Black Tern:				
6,20	P.I., Georges Bank	1, 1	BBC, BOEM	
29	Scituate	1	W.Petersen	
Black Skimmer:				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 9 (4 ad. + 5 imm.)	v.o.	
thr.	Orleans	max. 10 (3 ad. + 7 imm.)	B.Nikula	
24	P.I.	2	I.Giriunas#	
<u>Atlantic Puffin:</u>				
4	Stellwagen	1 sub-ad.	R.Stymeist#	
9	P.I.	1 imm.	fide D.Taylor	
Mourning Dove:				
22	Stoughton	106	R.Titus	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:				
29	E.Middleboro	1	K.Anderson	
Eastern Screech-Owl:				
thr.	Ipswich	1-2	J.Berry	
Short-eared Owl:				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 5	D.Holt#	
Common Nighthawk:				
18	Beverly, Watertown	2, 2	S.Loring, R.Stymeist	
21,31	Brookline	total 1035	R.Stymeist#	
21-24	Worcester	total 197	M.Lynch#	
21	Melrose	48 (1 hr.)	C.Jackson	
24,28	Milford,Winchester	255, 10	G.Gove	
24	Wareham, New Bedford	3, 3	R.Stymeist, G.Gove	
Whip-poor-will:				
9	Sharon	1	R.Titus	
Chimney Swift:				
7,21	Bedford, Marshfield	50+, 60+	J.Carter, D.Clapp	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird:				
13	Lancaster (Bolton Flats)	10+	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	
Pileated Woodpecker:				
27	Dover	1	P.Hallowell	

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PURPLE FINCH

A telephone survey of persons known to maintain Purple Martin houses at South Shore locations indicated good breeding success compared to recent years. Martin productivity as measured by average number of fledged young per nest was high and was attributed to favorable weather conditions, in particular low rainfall during the period when the young would be susceptible to exposure.

A remarkable flock totaling 110 individual Eastern Kingbirds was observed assembling at dusk on August 13 in Lancaster. The fall passerine migration was noticeable by the third weekend of the month, with reports of Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, Nashville, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, and Bay-breasted warblers from migrant-trap sites.

Rarities for the month were comparatively scarce. Two Jackdaws, the second of which was initially detected in July, remained on Nantucket. Both "Brewster's" and the less common "Lawrence's" hybrids of Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers were reported. An immature Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen by many observers for a period of over a week at Plum Island.

L.E.T.

Eastern Wood-Pewee:				
17-28,18	E.Middleboro, ONWR	1, 2	K.Anderson, M.Lynch#	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	AUGUST 1984
Alder Flycatcher:				
5	Lancaster	2	S.Carroll#	
Willow Flycatcher:				
5;5,18	P.I., Lancaster	5; 7, 2	BBC, M.Lynch#	
Eastern Phoebe:				
26, 27	GMNWR, ONWR	1, 4	BBC, S.Carroll#	
Eastern Kingbird:				
thr.,13	P.I., Lancaster	max. 20 (8/19), 110	v.o., M.Lynch#	
Purple Martin:				
thr.	P.I., South Shore	max. 100 (8/5), 175+	pr. v.o., fide D.Clapp	
31	E.Middleboro	2	K.Anderson	
Tree Swallow:				
5,19,26	P.I.	100, 5000+, 3000	v.o.	
Cliff Swallow:				
16	Stoughton	1	R.Titus	
Barn Swallow:				
12,31	Bedford, Wayland	150+, 89	J.Carter, R.Forster	
Fish Crow:				
27,29	Norwell, Whitman	1, 1	R.Forster, W.Petersen	
Jackdaw:				
thr.(from 7/11)	Nantucket	2	v.o.	
Red-breasted Nuthatch:				
26	Ipswich	2	J.Berry	
Carolina Wren:				
6-12	Hopkinton	1	J.Gordon	
Marsh Wren:				
thr.,26	P.I., GMNWR	max. 20 (8/5), 8	v.o., BBC	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:				
5,18	Natick, MNWS	1 ad. + 2 yg., 1	E.Taylor, M.Martinek	
Cedar Waxwing:				
12,29	P.I., Annisquam	8, 6	BBC, H.Wiggin	
White-eyed Vireo:				
18	Westport	1 imm.	G.Gove#	
Yellow-throated Vireo:				
5,23	Lancaster, Lincoln	2, 1	M.Lynch#, J.Carter	
Philadelphia Vireo:				
18,28	Medfield, MNWS	1, 1	W.Reagan, J.Smith	
Blue-winged Warbler:				
12,17	Hopkinton, Wayland	2, 2	J.Gordon, B.Howell	
18,24	ONWR, MNWS	7, 4	S.Carroll#, M.Martinek	
Golden-winged Warbler:				
12,28	P.I., MNWS	1, 1	BBC, J.Smith	
"Lawrence's" Warbler:				
24	MNWS	1	M.Martinek	
"Brewster's" Warbler:				
17,24	Wayland, MNWS	1, 1	B.Howell, M.Martinek	
Tennessee Warbler:				
24,29	MNWS, P.I.	1, 1	M.Martinek, B.Cassie#	
Nashville Warbler:				
18,24	P.I., MNWS	1, 1	J.Grugan, M.Martinek	
Magnolia Warbler:				
18	P.I.	1	S.Carroll#	
Cape May Warbler:				
21,26	P'town, P.I.	2, 2	R.Titus, BBC	
Black-throated Blue Warbler:				
18,28	MNWS, P.I.	1, 1	M.Martinek, R.Forster#	
Blackburnian Warbler:				
8,28	Sharon, P.I.	1, 1	R.Titus, K.Holmes	
Pine Warbler:				
7	Concord	1 ad. + 2 yg.	J.Carter	
Bay-breasted Warbler:				
18,18,21	P.I., MNWS, P'town	2, 2, 5	M.Lynch#, M.Martinek, R.Titus	
Black-and-white Warbler:				
18,19	P.I.	1, 2	M.Lynch#, BBC	
American Redstart:				
17,19	Wayland, P.I.	1, 3	B.Howell, BBC	
Ovenbird:				
17	Wayland	2	B.Howell	
Northern Waterthrush:				
4,21	Sharon, WBWS	3, 2	R.Titus	
25,28	Annisquam, P.I.	2, 1	H.Wiggin, K.Holmes	
Louisiana Waterthrush:				
6	Rockport	1 imm. b.	R.Norris	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	AUGUST 1984
Wilson's Warbler: 26	Mt.A.	1	J.Heywood	
Canada Warbler: 17,28	Wayland, P.I.	4, 1	B.Howell, K.Holmes	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 26	Newbypt., Mashpee	3, 1 f.	J.Grugan, P.Trimble	
Indigo Bunting: 19	Concord	6	J.Carter	
Savannah Sparrow: 10	Bedford	25+	J.Carter	
Grasshopper Sparrow: 10	Bedford	1	J.Carter	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 5,29	P.I., Monomoy	15, 40+	BBC, P.Trimble	
Seaside Sparrow: 5,22	Hyannis, Newbypt.	1, 1	G.Wilson, H.Wiggin#	
White-throated Sparrow: 8	Sharon	3-4	R.Titus	
Bobolink: 13,31	Lancaster, Wayland	86, 370	S.Carroll#, R.Forster	
Red-winged Blackbird: 13,31	Lancaster, Wayland	60, 1467	M.Lynch#, R.Forster	
Eastern Meadowlark: 26	Lincoln	30+	J.Carter	
Yellow-headed Blackbird: 19-28	P.I.	1 imm. m.	v.o.	
Purple Finch: 24	Annisquam	3	H.Wiggin	
House Finch: 29	P.I.	400	B.Cassie#	

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ad.	adult	F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham
alt.	alternate (plumage)	F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham
b.	banded	F.M.	Fowl Meadow, Milton
br.	breeding	gr.	greater as in Gr. Boston area
dk.	dark (phase)	I.	Island
f.	female	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
fl.	fledge	Mt.A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
imm.	immature	Nant.	Nantucket
ind.	individuals	Newbypt	Newburyport
loc.	locations	P.I.	Plum Island
lt.	light (phase)	P'town	Provincetown
m.	male	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
max.	maximum	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
migr.	migrating	Stellw.	Stellwagen (Bank)
N.S.E.W.	direction	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
ph.	photographed	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
pl.	plumage	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
pr.	pair	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
thr.	throughout	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
v.o.	various observers	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
W	winter (2W = second winter)	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
w/	with	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
yg.	young	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
#	additional observers	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
Buzz.	Buzzards (Bay)	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
C.	Cape as in C.Cod or C.Ann	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester		

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