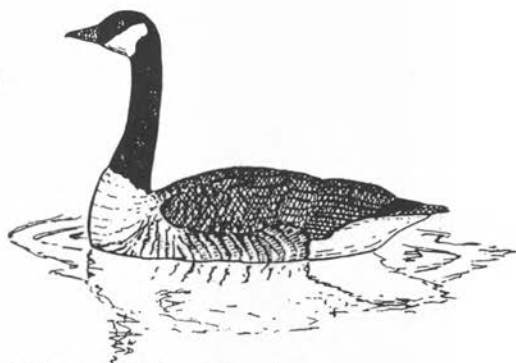


FIELD RECORDS

APRIL 1988



by Glenn d'Entremont, George W. Gove, and Robert H. Stymeist

April 1988 was very cloudy, with frequent light rain and temperatures on the cool side. There were also prolonged northwest winds, making April not a good migration month. The temperature averaged 46.8 degrees, 1.9 degrees below normal. The high was but 67 degrees on April 5, the lowest April maximum since 66 degrees in April 1946. The lowest temperature for Boston was 33 degrees on April 14. Rainfall totaled 1.47 inches, 2.26 inches less than normal; but it was frequent, being recorded on twenty days during the month. In fact, sunshine was only 42 percent of possible, making this April the fourth least sunny in 96 years of official records. Fog was frequent, especially during the first part of the month; thunder was heard on April 29. Southwest winds were recorded on five days: April 4, 18, 23, 26, and 29. R.H.S.

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

Pied-billed Grebe reports totaled 15 birds, compared with just 3 last April. Horned and Red-necked grebes were reported in fair numbers, and most observers noted breeding-plumaged birds. Winter Great Cormorants were generally replaced by returning Double-crested Cormorants by April 9.

Great Blue Herons were on nests in Quabbin and at the SUASCO Dam area in Westboro, where 19 nests were occupied. As many as 4 adult Little Blue Herons were in the Essex area, and the only report of a Tricolored Heron came from Nantucket. Green-backed Herons were first noted on April 21, with the vanguard back by month's end.

Seventy Snow Geese were found in Newburyport on April 9. Brant remained in the harbor there all month with a maximum of 350 reported. A "Eurasian" Teal was found at Plum Island, where a maximum of 172 Green-winged Teal was tallied. A drake King Eider and a drake Harlequin Duck remained in Winthrop all month, and 8 mallard ducklings were counted on Nantucket by the third week of April. R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Red-throated Loon				
1-24	Winthrop	10 max 4/10	J. Cumming + v. o.	
Common Loon				
25, 30	Clinton, Lakeville	7, 4	D. Donovan, W. Petersen	
Pied-billed Grebe				
1, 1-9	Lakeville, W. Newbury	1, 1	D. Donovan#, D. Davis# + v. o.	
2	Waltham, GMNWR, Concord	1, 1, 1	J. Cumming	
2, 4-24	Easton, Stoneham	3, 1	K. Ryan, T. Aversa	
2, 5-30	Ipswich, IRWS	1, 3 max	R. Heil + v. o.	
23	Peabody, S. Monomoy	1, 1	T. Aversa, B. Nikula#	
Horned Grebe				
1	Westport, Quabbin (G37)	30, 1	D. Donovan#, M. Lynch#	
1, 24	Winthrop	6, 6	J. Cumming	
2, 10	Lakeville	2, 1	K. Holmes, W. Petersen#	
17, 26	P.I., Hull	4, 2	BBC (S. Moore), P. Thayer	
Red-necked Grebe				
1, 9, 25	Hull	75, 50, 15	P. Thayer	
1, 20	Winthrop	40, 3	J. Cumming, T. Aversa	
3, 5	Dennis, Marblehead Neck	5, 52	J. Aylward, R. Heil	
15	Quabbin (G40)	2	T. Aversa	
Northern Gannet				
1, 13	P'town, Cape Ann	79, 5	T. Aversa, J. Brown	
Great Cormorant				
2, 9	N. Scituate	110, 48	T. Aversa	
10	Lakeville, Rockport	2, 16	W. Petersen#, BBC (J. Nove)	
30	P.I.	1	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Double-crested Cormorant				
1	Westport, E. Middleboro	15, 5	D. Donovan#, K. Anderson	
9-30	Newbypt area	400+ max 4/30	BBC (C. Schubarth) + v. o.	
13, 19	Attleboro, Easton	85, 40	K. Ryan	
American Bittern				
15, 19	IRWS, Bolton Flats	1, 1	J. MacDougall, M. Lynch#	
Great Blue Heron				
1	Quabbin (G37)	4 (2 on nests)	M. Lynch#	
18, 19	P.I., Westboro (SUASCO)	35, 27 (19 on nests)	D. Donovan#, M. Lynch#	
21, 29	Gloucester, Mt. A.	4, 3	J. MacDougall, E. Taylor	
Great Egret				
thr	Essex-Ipswich area	4 max	v. o.	
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	8 max 4/5	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
18, 25	Rowley, Hingham	3, 1	D. Donovan#, P. Thayer	
Snowy Egret				
1, 11	Hingham, Essex	4, 11	P. Thayer, G. Gove#	
18, 21	P.I., Gloucester	7, 6	D. Donovan#, J. MacDougall	
Little Blue Heron				
21	Gloucester	3 ad, 1 pied	J. MacDougall	
23-24	Essex	4 ad	M. Argue# + v. o.	
Tricolored Heron				
24	Nantucket (Coskata)	1	M. Litchfield	
Cattle Egret				
18-30	Essex	1 or 2	D. Donovan# + v. o.	
Green-backed Heron				
21-30	Yarmouthport	1	J. Aylward	
27	Mt. A., Topsfield	1, 1	S. Zende, J. Brown	
28	Brookline	1	R. Stymeist#	
30	P.I., IRWS	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Heil	
Black-crowned Night-Heron				
5, 28	Brookline	1, 6	J. Heywood, R. Stymeist#	
17-30	P.I.	5 max	v. o.	
22	Nantucket	12	fide M. Litchfield	
Glossy Ibis				
9-30	Essex-Ipswich	55 max 4/25	J. MacDougall + v. o.	
18	P.I., Rowley	6, 5	D. Donovan#, E. Salmela#	
26	Squantum, N. Andover	9, 6	K. Ryan, V. Yurkunas	
27	Middleboro	9	D. Briggs	
Mute Swan				
13	Gloucester	6	J. Brown	
Snow Goose				
9, 17	Newbypt, Marshfield	70, 1	J. Cumming, R. Stymeist#	
Brant				
thr	Newburyport	350+ max 4/14	R. Heil + v. o.	
1, 16	Winthrop, Ipswich	300, 27+	J. Cumming, J. Berry	
Canada Goose				
3, 29	Bolton Flats	1000+, 10+	D. Donovan#, M. Lynch#	
Wood Duck				
thr	GMNWR, IRWS	60 max 4/24, 20	max 4/23 v. o.	
1, 9, 23	Quabbin (G37)	2, 11, 9	M. Lynch#	
Green-winged Teal				
thr	P.I.	172 max 4/2	v. o.	
1, 23	New Braintree	31, 9	M. Lynch#	
2, 23	S. Monomoy	35, 30	B. Nikula	
3, 17	Bolton Flats	49, 40+	M. Lynch#	
9, 16	Ipswich, Newton	52, 22+	J. Berry, O. Komar	
10, 22	Halifax, W. Bridgewater	65, 17	W. Petersen, G. d'Entremont	
"Eurasian" Teal				
8	P.I.	1	T. Aversa	
Mallard				
22	Nantucket	8 ducklings	fide M. Litchfield	
Northern Pintail				
2, 23	S. Monomoy	12, 12	B. Nikula#	
16, 25	Ipswich, Newburyport	3, 1	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont	
Blue-winged Teal				
1	New Braintree, Halifax	4, 1	M. Lynch#, K. Anderson	
2	Ipswich, GMNWR	1, 1	R. Heil, J. Cumming	
Northern Shoveler				
thr; 2, 25	P.I.; Hingham	2 max; 1, 1	v. o.; T. Aversa, P. Thayer	
2, 23	S. Monomoy	20, 10	B. Nikula#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Gadwall thr 2, 23 19-26	P.I. S. Monomoy Stoneham	14 max 4/23 40, 50 2	v. o. B. Nikula# T. Aversa	
Eurasian Wigeon ?	Chatham	1	D. Houghton	
American Wigeon 23, 24	Belmont, Ipswich	4, 8	P. Thayer, D. F. Oliver	
Ring-necked Duck thr, 1-26 1, 23; 1 15, 16	W. Newbury, IRWS Quabbin (G37); Andover Petersham, Braintree	7 max, 30 max 33, 9; 32 12, 28	v. o. M. Lynch#; V. Yurkunas T. Aversa, G. d'Entremont#	
Greater Scaup thr 1-18	Lakeville Newburyport	100+ max 4/10 200 max 4/9	W. Petersen# v. o.	
Lesser Scaup 2 10, 15	S. Monomoy, Lakeville Stoneham, Danvers	10, 2 2, 3	B. Nikula#, G. d'Entremont# T. Aversa, J. Brown	
scaup species 23	S. Monomoy	12	B. Nikula#	
Common Eider 1, 29 13	Hull Cape Ann	1500, 80 65	P. Thayer J. Brown	
King Eider thr	Winthrop	1 m	v. o.	
Harlequin Duck thr 2, 9; 9	Winthrop N. Scituate; Rockport	1 m 1 m; 1	v. o. T. Aversa; D. Chickering	
Oldsquaw thr 2	Newbypt Harbor S. Monomoy	1000 max 4/18 200	v. o. B. Nikula#	
Black Scoter 10, 13	Rockport, Cape Ann	16, 18	BBC (J. Nove), J. Brown	
Surf Scoter 1, 13	Winthrop, Cape Ann	5, 33	J. Cumming, J. Brown	
Common Goldeneye 2, 9 13, 20	Newburyport Cape Ann, Winthrop	200+, 50 10, 6	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont# J. Brown, T. Aversa	
Barrow's Goldeneye 9	Newburyport	1 m	BBC (G. Gove)	
Bufflehead 24, 25 26, 30	Newburyport Lakeville, P.I.	15, 2 5, 7	M. Emmons#, G. d'Entremont K. Anderson, M. Lynch#	
Hooded Merganser thr 2, 9	Quabbin (G37) Waltham, Boston	7 max 4/9 1 f, 2 f	M. Lynch# J. Cumming, R. Stymeist	
Common Merganser 1, 2 27, 30	Andover, Stoneham Stoneham, W. Newbury	11, 45 12, 1	V. Yurkunas, J. Cumming T. Aversa, J. Brown	
Red-breasted Merganser 1; 3, 30 5, 12, 19, 26 13, 23	Hull; N. Monomoy S. Dart. (Allens Pd) Cape Ann, S. Monomoy	50; 1000+, 400+ 43, 96, 51, 92 75, 400+	P. Thayer; B. Nikula# LCES (D. Christiansen) J. Brown, B. Nikula#	
Ruddy Duck 1-3, 23 2 2 9, 17 18	Belmont (Claypit Pd) S. Monomoy, Waltham Lakeville W. Newbury P.I.	7, 2 m 1, 5 f 1 1, 1 1	R. Stymeist, P. Thayer B. Nikula#, J. Cumming K. Holmes BBC (G. Gove), BBC (S. Moore) D. Donovan#	

RAPTORS THROUGH CRANES

The Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch (EMHW) reported from sixteen locations for a total of about eighty-eight hours of observation time. The American Kestrel reports from Plum Island were most impressive. There were at least 4 immature Bald Eagles found at Quabbin, and another 1 or 2 adults were seen over Mt. Watic in Ashburnham. Other encouraging reports included Northern Goshawks from eleven locations, and Red-shouldered Hawks from over nineteen locations. The first Broadwings were seen early at Brewster, with most others noted after April 19. A Red-tailed Hawk was being mobbed by crows at Mt.

Auburn, and later it was seen eating a crow. Enough is enough. A Swainson's Hawk was well studied at a distance of about one hundred feet at Plum Island on April 15.

Wild Turkeys were heard at Boxford State Forest, and in Carver 2 birds were seen. The Fisheries and Wildlife folks released birds in these areas in January 1988. A Sandhill Crane was heard calling and seen flying over North Quincy on April 4. R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Turkey Vulture				
2, 5	Ipswich, Topsfield	5, 6	R. Heil, J. Berry	
10, 13, 26	Mt. Watatic	16, 6, 6	EMHW	
10	Quabbin (G43)	32	M. Lynch#	
17	W. Newbury, Wellfleet	6, 7	BBC (S. Moore), C. Smith	
Many other reports of 1-4 individuals from a wide area.				
Osprey				
1	Westport, P.I.	25, 1	D. Donovan#, D. Davis#	
10, 17, 23	Mt. Watatic	16, 29, 13	EMHW	
17; 23, 26	Wachusett Mt.	11; 17, 13	G. Gove#; EMHW	
Many other reports of 1 or 2 individuals from a wide area.				
Bald Eagle				
1, 9, 23	Quabbin (G37)	1 imm, 1 imm, 2 imm	M. Lynch#	
2, 10	Kingston, Quabbin (G37)	1 imm, 4 imm	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
19, 23	Mt. Watatic	1 ad, 1 ad	EMHW	
Northern Harrier				
thr	P.I.	30 max 4/16 + 17	EMHW (E. Mair) + v. o.	
1, 2	New Braintree, Middleboro	1, 3	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont#	
17	Hull, Outer Cape Cod	3, 16	P. Thayer, P. Roberts#	
24	Bolton Flats	1	M. Lynch#	
26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	3	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
10	Rockport, Quabbin (G37)	1, 1	G. Gove#, M. Lynch#	
17	P.I. area, Hull	6, 11	J. Brown, P. Thayer	
17	Outer Cape Cod, Wachusett Mt.	13, 2	P. Roberts#, J. Gordon#	
18, 19	Hull, P.I.	8, 9	P. Thayer, J. MacDougall	
23	N. Andover, Nantasket	7, 41	V. Yurkunas, J. Samdahl	
23	Wachusett Mt.	27	EMHW	
23, 26	Mt. Watatic	15, 23	EMHW	
26	IRWS, E. Boston	21, 49	R. Heil, EMHW	
Cooper's Hawk				
2, 16	Wayland, Middleboro	1, 1	J. Gordon#, K. Holmes	
15, 16	Milton, Worcester	1 ad, 1 ad	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
17	W. Newbury, IRWS	1, 1 imm f	BBC (S. Moore), R. Heil	
23	Bolton	1	G. Gove#	
26	N. Andover, P.I.	1, 1	V. Yurkunas, E. Mair	
23, 26	Wachusett Mt., Mt. Watatic	2, 1	EMHW	
Northern Goshawk				
1-9, 1	Boxford, E. Middleboro	pair, 1	v. o., K. Anderson	
3; 17, 23	Bolton Flats; IRWS	1; 2 ad, 1 ad	M. Lynch#, R. Heil	
17	Wellfleet, Truro	1 imm, 1 imm	B. Nikula, P. Roberts#	
18, 22	Petersham, Holliston	2 ad, 1	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
23	Mt. Watatic, Wachusett Mt.	2 ad, 1	EMHW	
23	N. Andover	1	V. Yurkunas	
Red-shouldered Hawk				
thr	E. Middleboro, Boxford	pr at nest, pr	K. Anderson, R. Stymeist# + v. o.	
17, 30	Outer Cape Cod, Lakeville	6, 3	P. Roberts, W. Petersen	
Reports of single individuals from 15 locations.				
Broad-winged Hawk				
9	Brewster	3	J. Aylward	
10, 19, 23, 26	Mt. Watatic	9, 53, 201, 293	EMHW	
17	Wachusett Mt., Harvard	5, 4	G. Gove#, M. Lynch#	
17, 19	Westboro, Norton	7, 1	EMHW, K. Ryan	
23, 26	N. Andover	9, 17	V. Yurkunas	
23	Wachusett Mt., Little Wachusett	299, 48	EMHW	
26	E. Boston	46	EMHW	
Swainson's Hawk (details submitted)				
15	P.I.	1	G. Soucy, L. Jodrey	
Red-tailed Hawk				
2, 9	Middleboro, W. Newbury	5, 4	G. d'Entremont#, J. Cumming	
10, 19	Bridgewater, Westboro	pr at n, pr at n	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
19, 23	Mt. Watatic, S. Monomoy	9, 1 imm	EMHW, B. Nikula#	
Many reports of 1-3 individuals.				

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Rough-legged Hawk				
1	E. Middleboro, Milford	1, 1	K. Anderson, D. Donovan#	
2, 23	S. Monomoy, N. Truro	1, 1	B. Nikula#, EMHW	
American Kestrel				
thr	P.I.	273 total (94 max 4/17)	EMHW + v. o.	
thr	Sherborn	pr at nest with 5 eggs	E. Taylor	
17; 23	Truro; Wachusett Mt., N. Scituate	12; 12, 14	EMHW	
30	Middleboro	35+	W. Petersen#	
Merlin				
10-30	P.I.	15+ total	EMHW + v. o.	
23, 25	Somerville, Plymouth	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, M. Kasprzyk	
28, 29	Foxboro, ONWR	1, 1	M. Kasprzyk, M. Lynch#	
Peregrine Falcon				
10, 17-30	Boxford, P.I.	1, 7+ total	G. d'Entremont#, v. o.	
23, 26	S. Monomoy, E. Boston	1 ad, 1	B. Nikula#, EMHW	
Ruffed Grouse				
Reports (many drumming) from 9 locations.				
Wild Turkey				
1, 23; 24	Quabbin (G37); Carver	8, 4; 2	M. Lynch#; T. Lloyd-Evans	
3, 17	Boxford, Bolton Flats	1 or 2, 1	J. Berry#, M. Lynch#	
Northern Bobwhite				
27, 30	Belmont	1, 1	L. Taylor	
Virginia Rail				
1, 5-30	Westport, IRWS	1, 4 max 4/26	D. Donovan#, R. Heil	
17, 18	Melrose (Pine Banks)	1, 1	C. Jackson	
19, 24; 30	Bolton Flats; Newburyport area	1, 4; 3	M. Lynch#; BBC (C. Schubarth)	
Sora				
24	Bolton Flats	1	M. Lynch#	
Common Moorhen				
9	Nantucket	1	fide M. Litchfield	
American Coot				
1-20, 2	Walpole, Plymouth	1 (from Jan.), 235	O. Komar, T. Aversa	
24, 26	Arlington, IRWS	3, 1	L. Taylor, R. Heil	
Sandhill Crane				
4	N. Quincy	1	D. Brown	

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS

One or two Ruffs were seen in Newburyport Harbor; descriptions varied as to sex and plumage so that it was difficult to determine the exact number.

A California Gull was sighted in Newburyport during the afternoon on April 24, 1988. The bird was first seen feeding with approximately 250 Ring-billed Gulls in the Common Pastures. Seen at point-blank range, the bird stood out as being slightly larger than the surrounding Ring-bills with a black tip to its bill and a vague red spot adjacent to the black on the bill. The iris was dark brown, not black; the leg color, greenish yellow; the mantle color, darker than the Ring-bills; the bill, generally horn or pale yellow color with the tip black. The observer reported some flecking on the head and neck; the bird was smaller than a nearby first summer Herring Gull. The gulls were flushed by a car. In flight, a few tail spots and light brown edges to some of the secondary coverts were noticed. The flock was relocated on another factory lawn. The California Gull, determined to be a second summer bird, stood out due to its larger size and distinctive bill pattern. This report represents the first sighting of California Gull in Massachusetts.

Next morning at 7 A.M., a Franklin's Gull was found on Scotland Road in Newburyport. The gull was in a flock of Ring-billed Gulls on a roof top. According to the observers, the Franklin's Gull was noticeably smaller than the other gulls. The bill was thinner and shorter than that of the Ring-billed Gulls and was rather delicate with virtually no gonys. The bill was dark red from the head to the nostrils and black beyond that. The bird's mantle and wings were slate gray (a shade darker than those of the Ring-billed Gulls). The gray of the wing was interrupted by a broad white band across the black primaries, which had white apical spots. The head had a smoky gray hood extending from the crown to just below the eye and back from the bill to a sharply delineated line on the mid nape. The hood darkened from pale forward to nearly black along the nape. Conspicuous white crescents were formed above and below the eye. The rest of the head, including chin, throat, neck, and lower nape, was white as were the breast, belly, tail and tail coverts, and lower back. The legs and feet could not be observed.

An early Least Tern was noted at North Monomoy, and Caspian Terns were seen in Plymouth. G.W.G.

Black-bellied Plover			
2, 19	N. Monomoy	5, 175	B. Nikula
2, 10	Quincy, Nantucket	1, 25	T. Aversa, M. Litchfield

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Piping Plover				
1, 1-18	Westport, P.I.	5, 2	D. Donovan#, v. o.	
3, 14, 19	N. Monomoy	12, 23, 8	B. Nikula#	
12, 26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	3, 4	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
24	Nantucket	4, 3	fide M. Litchfield	
Killdeer				
1, 3	Westport, Bolton	10, 10	D. Donovan#	
3	P.I., Essex	7, 2	BBC (S. Bolton), J. MacDougall	
9	Ipswich, W. Newbury	25, 21	J. Berry, BBC (G. Gove)	
10	Essex	14	D. F. Oliver	
American Oystercatcher				
3, 23	N. Monomoy, S. Monomoy	14, 6	B. Nikula#	
3, 16	Nantucket	4, 10	M. Litchfield	
Greater Yellowlegs				
thr	Newburyport-P.I.	200 max	v. o.	
2, 21	Quincy, Duxbury	2, 6	T. Aversa, P. Thayer	
30	Middleboro, Squantum	24, 50	W. Petersen, K. Ryan	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
3, 6	Easton, W. Bridgewater	1, 2	K. Ryan	
9, 17	Ipswich, Newburyport	2, 20	J. Berry, BBC (S. Moore)	
29, 30	Newburyport, Middleboro	3, 3	J. Berry, W. Petersen	
Willet				
26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	2	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
30	P.I.	3	BBC (C. Schubarth) + v. o.	
Spotted Sandpiper				
29	ONWR	1	M. Lynch#	
Upland Sandpiper				
29, 30	Middleboro, Newburyport	3, 2	D. Briggs, BBC (C. Schubarth)	
Whimbrel				
23	Nantucket	1	M. Litchfield	
Ruddy Turnstone				
2, 9	N. Scituate	50, 50	T. Aversa	
Red Knot				
2, 30	N. Scituate, Newburyport	8, 1	T. Aversa, BBC (C. Schubarth)	
Sanderling				
19, 24	N. Monomoy, Nahant	200, 100	B. Nikula, J. Cumming	
24	Nantucket	140	M. Litchfield	
Semipalmated Sandpiper				
30	N. Monomoy	3	B. Nikula	
Least Sandpiper				
30	Quincy	4	K. Ryan	
Pectoral Sandpiper				
8-23, 10	P.I., W. Bridgewater	3-10, 2	v. o., W. Petersen	
Purple Sandpiper				
1, 2	Westport, N. Scituate	3, 340	D. Donovan#, T. Aversa	
20	Winthrop	85	T. Aversa	
Dunlin				
1, 2	Westport, N. Scituate	180, 70	D. Donovan#, T. Aversa	
3, 19	N. Monomoy	60, 450	B. Nikula	
24	Nahant	10	J. Cumming	
26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	96	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
Ruff				
14-24	Newburyport	1 or 2	R. Heil + v. o.	
Common Snipe				
thr	Bolton	49 max 4/3	M. Lynch#	
9, 10	W. Newbury, W. Bridgewater	21, 50	BBC (G. Gove), W. Petersen	
15, 24	Concord, W. Newbury	17, 5	T. Aversa, BBC (M. Emmons)	
22	Bridgewater	34	G. d'Entremont	
American Woodcock				
thr	IRWS	3 or 4	R. Heil	
10, 19	Lexington, Bolton	2, 6	BBC (S. Sanders), M. Lynch#	
30	S. Wellfleet	9	A. + E. Williams	
Laughing Gull				
1, 24	Eastham, Nantucket	1 ad, 2 ad	T. Aversa, M. Litchfield	
Franklin's Gull (details submitted)				
25	Newburyport	1 ad	S. Perkins#	
Little Gull				
2-18	Newburyport	1-2	v. o.	
Common Black-headed Gull				
2-3, 18	Newburyport area, Stoneham	1-3, 1 (1W, details)	v. o., T. Aversa	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Bonaparte's Gull 18-30	Newburyport	1-3	v. o.	
Ring-billed Gull 18, 25	Stoneham, Newbury	140, 200	T. Aversa, G. d'Entremont#	
California Gull (details submitted) 24	Newburyport	1 (2S)	R. Forster#	
Iceland Gull thr	Newburyport area	1-6	v. o.	
Glaucous Gull 9	Newburyport	1 (2W)	G. d'Entremont#	
Black-legged Kittiwake 13	Cape Ann	1	J. Brown	
Caspian Tern 25, 26	MBO, Plymouth Beach	1, 1	fide M. Kasprzyk, B. Howell	
Least Tern 30	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	

OWLS THROUGH SHRIKES

Whip-poor-wills were heard calling in South Dartmouth, and Chimney Swifts appeared on schedule at several locations. Male Red-bellied Woodpeckers were found at two locations, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports included one group of five birds at Wachusett Mountain. All the swallow species arrived during the month. The crow roost in Framingham continued through April, and Fish Crows were present at scattered locations. An early Veery was noted at Plum Island, where a Northern Shrike was also seen. Another Northern Shrike was seen in Essex. A Loggerhead Shrike was seen in Harvard on April 17. When this species is seen in the state in the spring, it is generally found from mid-March through April, and two were noted in this period this year.

G.W.G.

Eastern Screech-Owl 2, 5	Topsfield, W. Roxbury	1, 1	J. Brown, T. Aversa	
19, 21	Bolton, Belmont	2, 1	M. Lynch#, L. Taylor#	
Great Horned Owl thr, 8-30	IRWS, Waltham	3 pr, pr at nest + 2 yg	R. Heil, L. Taylor#	
10; 11, 26	Middleboro; Ipswich	3; 2 pr, 1 pr	W. Petersen; J. Berry	
19, 23	Westboro (SUASCO), Mt A.	1 nest, 1	M. Lynch#, BBC (J. Clancy)	
23	Boxford	1 dead	T. Aversa	
Snowy Owl 2-14	Newburyport area	1	v. o.	
Barred Owl thr	E. Middleboro, Plympton	pr, 1	K. Anderson, T. Lloyd-Evans	
3, 30	Boxford	1, 4 calling	J. MacDougall	
14, 27	IRWS, Ashland	1, 1-2	R. Heil, G. Gove	
Short-eared Owl 2, 23; 14	S. Monomoy; Essex	1, 4; 1	B. Nikula; R. Heil	
Northern Saw-whet Owl 25	Topsfield	1	J. MacDougall	
Whip-poor-will 26, 28	S. Dartmouth	calling	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
Chimney Swift 23, 24	Quabbin (G37), Peabody	1, 1	D. Donovan#, R. Heil	
27	Ipswich, Topsfield	1, 2	J. MacDougall, J. Brown	
30	Belmont, S. Natick	1, 25	L. Taylor, E. Taylor	
Belted Kingfisher 1, 3	Eastham, Bolton	pr, 3	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
13, 18	Cape Ann, Newburyport	2, 2	J. Brown, D. Donovan#	
Reports of individuals from 9 locations.				
Red-headed Woodpecker 2	Nantucket	2	M. Litchfield	
Red-bellied Woodpecker 2, 4-30	Hingham, MNWS	1 m, 1 m	T. Aversa, R. Heil	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 3, 10	Topsfield, Rockport	1, 1	J. MacDougall, BBC (J. Nove)	
23; 27	Wachusett Mt., Arlington; MNWS	5, 1; 1 f	G. Gove#, J. Heywood; R. Heil	
Northern Flicker 1, 23; 1-30	Westport, Quabbin (G37); Topsfield	20, 12; 1-4	D. Donovan#; J. Brown	
15, 21	IRWS, Mt A.	7, 30	J. MacDougall, BBC (A. Bennett)	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Pileated Woodpecker				
1, 10	Quabbin (G37), (G43)	1, 1	M. Lynch#	
3, 16	Bolton, Petersham	1, 1	M. Lynch#	
Eastern Phoebe				
1	Hull, Quabbin (G37)	1, 6	P. Thayer, M. Lynch#	
3, 10	Boxford, Hamilton	6, 5	J. Berry	
5	IRWS, MNWS	8, 13	R. Heil	
9	Quabbin (G37), (G40), (G41)	8, 5, 2	M. Lynch#	
21	Mt A.	6	BBC (A. Bennett)	
Eastern Kingbird				
29	Bolton, Middleboro	1, 2	M. Lynch#, D. Briggs	
30	Provincetown	3	B. Nikula	
Horned Lark				
9-10	Ipswich	40-50	v. o.	
Purple Martin				
30	Lakeville, Middleboro	8, 2	W. Petersen	
30	Hanson, P.I.	3, 20	W. Petersen, BBC (C. Schubarth)	
Tree Swallow				
thr	Quabbin (G37)	64 max 4/23	M. Lynch#	
3, 8	Bolton, GMNWR	20, 300	D. Donovan#, T. Aversa	
16	Wayland	150	E. Taylor	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow				
9	Wayland	3	R. Forster	
19, 23	Stoneham, Hardwick	1, 6	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
24, 30	Ipswich, W. Peabody	1, 2	D. F. Oliver, H. Wiggin#	
Bank Swallow				
27	Middleboro, Bolton	1, 3	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
30	W. Peabody	1	M. Argue#	
Cliff Swallow				
25, 26	Newburyport, IRWS	1, 1	G. d'Entremont#, R. Heil	
30	Norfolk	6	G. Gove#	
Barn Swallow				
8, 20	GMNWR, Danvers	1, 4	T. Aversa, J. Brown	
27, 30	Middleboro, P.I.	2, 20	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
American Crow				
thr	Framingham	325 max 4/24	E. Taylor	
Fish Crow				
thr	Mt A.	2 pr	R. Stymeist# + v. o.	
2, 27	Woburn, Waltham	2, 1	BBC (R. Clayton), L. Taylor	
Reports of 1 or 2 from 4 locations.				
Common Raven				
10	Quabbin (G43)	5	M. Lynch#	
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
thr	IRWS	7 max 4/5	R. Heil	
1-23, 10	Quabbin (G37), (G43)	15 max, 9	M. Lynch#	
9, 17	Boxford (C.P.), Westford	4, 4	BBC (G. Gove), S. Selesky	
Brown Creeper				
thr	Quabbin (G37)	6-8	M. Lynch#	
2	Boxford, Topsfield	2, 2	J. Brown, J. MacDougall	
Carolina Wren				
9, 10	Acoaxet, Rockport	6, 1	W. Petersen, BBC (J. Nove)	
16	Braintree	1	BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
House Wren				
23, 26	Topsfield, E. Middleboro	1, 1	J. Brown, K. Anderson	
27, 29	Mt A., ONWR	1, 2	R. Stymeist#, M. Lynch#	
Winter Wren				
1-23	Quabbin (G37)	1-7	M. Lynch#	
3, 9	Boxford (C.P.)	2, 4	J. Berry#, BBC (G. Gove)	
6, 27; 26	MNWS; IRWS	3, 4; 1	R. Heil	
Marsh Wren				
30	P.I.	2	M. Lynch#	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
2-25; 5	Topsfield; IRWS, MNWS	2; 11, 30	J. Brown; R. Heil	
2, 9	P.I., Boxford (C.P.)	7, 10	M. Lynch#, BBC (G. Gove)	
16	Milton	10	BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
21	Mt. A.	25	BBC (A. Bennett)	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
5, 17; 23	MNWS; IRWS	3, 50; 41	R. Heil	
18, 20-30	P.I., Mt A.	50, 25 max 4/23	D. Donovan#, v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
27, 29	Mt A., IRWS	2, 1	H. Hoffman#, J. Brown	
30	IRWS, Melrose	4, 1	R. Heil, C. Jackson	
Eastern Bluebird				
thr	E. Middleboro	2 pr at boxes	K. Anderson	
2	Nantucket	2	M. Litchfield	
1; 9	Hardwick; Quabbin (G37), (G40)	2; 1, 1	M. Lynch#	
10	Hamilton, Topsfield	2 m, pr	J. Berry, J. Brown	
10, 23	Westminster	9, pr	R. Stymeist#, L. Taylor	
Hermit Thrush				
1, 14	Westport, Boxford	1, 1	D. Donovan#, J. MacDougall	
16, 18	Clinton, P.I.	2, 2	D. Donovan#	
23, 27	Mt A., MNWS	2, 18	P. Thayer, R. Heil	
Gray Catbird				
1, 9	Westport, Acoaxet	1, 1	D. Donovan#, W. Petersen	
22, 30	S. Natick, Canton	1, 1	T. Aversa, E. Taylor	
Brown Thrasher				
1, 9	Westport, Acoaxet	1, 1	D. Donovan#, W. Petersen	
24-30, 30	Belmont, P.I.	1-4, 6	L. Taylor, J. Brown	
Cedar Waxwing				
2, 26	Middleboro, Topsfield	8, 13	K. Holmes, J. MacDougall	
Northern Shrike				
2	P.I., Essex	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Heil	
Loggerhead Shrike				
17	Harvard	1	M. Lynch#	

VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS

A total of 13 species of warblers was reported this April, a much better number than 7 recorded during April of 1987. But this total of 13 species is still below the average of 18 species from past Aprils. April 27 was the best "wave" day; the previous night of southwest winds and a temperature of 66 degrees brought a good movement into the area. The only southern warbler found was a single Hooded Warbler in Chatham on April 30.

R.H.S.

White-eyed Vireo				
24-27	MNWS	1	R. Heil	
Solitary Vireo				
17-30, 19	Boxford, Middleboro	1+, 1	H. Wiggin + v. o., D. Briggs	
21-30	Mt. A.	7 max 4/29	v. o.	
23	Quabbin (G37)	7	M. Lynch#	
27	Newton, Arlington	5, 17	O. Komar, J. Heywood	
28, 30	Topsfield, P.I.	1, 2	J. MacDougall, M. Lynch#	
Warbling Vireo				
29	Middleboro	1	D. Briggs	
Nashville Warbler				
28	Middleboro	1	D. Briggs	
30	IRWS, Melrose	1, 1	R. Heil, C. Jackson	
Northern Parula				
27	Mt. A.	1	I. Giriunas	
Yellow Warbler				
27, 29	Mt. A., Halifax	1, 1	S. Zende, D. Briggs	
30	Topsfield	1	J. Brown	
30	Easton, Middleboro	1, 1	K. Anderson, D. Briggs	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
1, 8	Westport, Wayland	5, 10	D. Donovan#, R. Forster	
10	Middleboro	3	W. Petersen	
16, 17	Braintree, Westford	15, 1	BBC (G. d'Entremont), S. Selesky	
17, 19; 24	Auburn; P'town	4, 23; 150	M. Lynch#; B. Nikula	
23, 24	Quabbin (G37), GMNWR	26, 38	M. Lynch#	
27	Waltham, Mt. A.	35, 10	L. Taylor, D. F. Oliver	
27	Arlington	21	J. Heywood	
Black-throated Green Warbler				
30	IRWS, Boxford	4, 7	R. Heil, R. Stymeist#	
Pine Warbler				
1, 2	E. Middleboro, N. Middleboro	2 m, 1	K. Anderson, K. Holmes	
3, 17, 29	ONWR	1, 2, 2	M. Lynch#	
5; 9, 23	Boxford; Quabbin (G37)	1+; 5, 10	J. Brown; M. Lynch#	
14-30	IRWS	10 max 4/23	R. Heil	
Reports of a total of 18+ birds from 4 locations on 4/10.				

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Palm Warbler				
10, 17	Westminster, Westford	1, 3	R. Stymeist#, S. Selesky	
17, 23, 24, 27	Waltham (Met. State)	2, 8, 10, 8	L. Taylor	
18-30, 18	Melrose, P.I.	7 max 4/18, 50+	C. Jackson, D. Donovan#	
18, 19	IRWS, Stoneham	5, 10	J. Brown, T. Aversa	
22, 23	S. Natick, IRWS	8, 16	T. Aversa, R. Heil	
23, 24	Mt. A., GMNWR	12, 28	v. o., M. Lynch#	
27	Arlington	22	J. Heywood	
Black-and-white Warbler				
23, 30	IRWS	2, 5	R. Heil	
27	Mt. A., Newton	4, 1	R. Stymeist#, O. Komar	
27	Arlington	14	J. Heywood	
29, 30	ONWR, S. Natick	1, 2	M. Lynch#, E. Taylor	
30	Halifax, Raynham	1, 8	D. Briggs, K. Anderson	
Ovenbird				
29, 30	Hanson, Boxford	1, 5	W. Petersen, R. Stymeist#	
Northern Waterthrush				
28, 29	Brookline, E. Middleboro	2, 1	R. Stymeist, K. Anderson	
30	Mt. A., Raynham	1, 5	v. o., W. Petersen	
30	Lakeville	6	K. Anderson	
Louisiana Waterthrush				
3-30	Boxford	6 max	J. Berry + v. o.	
10, 16	Chatham, Petersham	1, 1	W. Bailey, M. Lynch#	
17, 23	Lincoln, Quabbin (G37)	1, 1	BBC (J. Nove), M. Lynch#	
30	Halifax	1	D. Briggs	
Common Yellowthroat				
30	P.I.	1	J. Brown	
Hooded Warbler				
30	Chatham	1	R. Clem	

TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

Two Summer Tanagers, one at a bird bath in Brookline, were seen this April; these are the first April reports since 1984. Only one male Blue Grosbeak was noted. Tree Sparrows lingered, overlapping the arrival of Chipping Sparrows. Four Vesper Sparrows were observed in three locations, while Savannah Sparrows were widespread. One White-crowned Sparrow was observed as it crossed a road in Topsfield. Longspurs and Snow Buntings stayed until the middle of the month. Rusty Blackbirds were seen throughout the month from many locations.

Northern and Orchard orioles, one of each species, were observed on April 30. Red Crossbills were reported from locations scattered throughout eastern Massachusetts. Pine Siskins were entrenched throughout the month, with one observer noting nesting activity at Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. Evening Grosbeaks continued in central areas of the state. G. d'E.

Summer Tanager				
22, 30	Brookline, Melrose	1 ad m, 1 imm	H. Wiggin, C. Jackson	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
24, 30	Nantucket	2, 4	E. Andrews	
Blue Grosbeak				
24	Lakeville	1 m	A. Delano	
Indigo Bunting				
19, 29	S. Dartmouth (2 locations)	1 m, pr	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
22	Nantucket	1	fide M. Litchfield	
Rufous-sided Towhee				
1, 10	Westport, Rockport	6, 1	D. Donovan#, J. Nove	
21, 24	Topsfield, Newton	1, 1	J. Brown, O. Komar	
29, 30	ONWR, P.I.	2, 5	M. Lynch#	
American Tree Sparrow				
1	Westport, IRWS	2, 3	D. Donovan, J. Brown	
3, 9	Bolton, IRWS	20, 3	D. Donovan, D. F. Oliver	
16, 17	Bolton, ONWR	1, 1	D. Donovan, M. Lynch#	
Chipping Sparrow				
5	Dover	1	R. Forster	
9, 10	E. Middleboro, Westminster	1, 2	K. Anderson, R. Stymeist#	
24; 29, 30	Hanson; ONWR, P.I.	2; 4, 14	W. Petersen; M. Lynch	
Field Sparrow				
1, 2	Westport, P.I.	1, 2	D. Donovan#, M. Lynch#	
17, 27	Lincoln, Beverly	6, 1	BBC (J. Nove), J. Brown	
29, 30	Harvard, Lynnfield	2, 1	M. Lynch#, M. Argue#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	APRIL 1988
Vesper Sparrow				
24	Rowley	1 or 2	M. Barnett	
30	Middleboro, P.I.	1, 1	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
Savannah Sparrow				
1, 9	Westport, Ipswich	2, 10	D. Donovan, BBC (G. Gove)	
9, 16	Bridgewater, Bolton	8, 4	G. d'Entremont, D. Donovan	
20, 24	E. Boston, Newton	16, 19	T. Aversa, O. Komar	
24, 27	Rowley, Newton	25, 36	D. F. Oliver, O. Komar	
"Ipswich" Sparrow				
3, 14	N. Monomoy	1, 1	B. Nikula	
Fox Sparrow				
10, 26	Westminster, Stoneham	4+, 1	R. Stymeist#, T. Aversa	
Song Sparrow				
2, 3	P.I., Bolton	59, 45	M. Lynch#, D. Donovan	
Swamp Sparrow				
5, 8	IRWS, Lynnfield	5, 5	R. Heil, T. Aversa	
24, 26	GMNWR, IRWS	30+, 42	M. Lynch#, R. Heil	
White-throated Sparrow				
5-30	Topsfield	1-3	J. Brown	
27	Waltham, MNWS	9, 65	L. Taylor, R. Heil	
27, 30	Mt. A., P.I.	35, 19	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
White-crowned Sparrow				
24	Topsfield	1	J. MacDougall	
Dark-eyed Junco				
1-20	Topsfield	4-6	J. Brown	
10, 23	Ipswich	6, 6-8	J. Berry, BBC (J. Berry)	
Lapland Longspur				
2, 10	Ipswich, Middleboro	11, 25	R. Heil, W. Petersen	
Snow Bunting				
8, 14	P.I., N. Monomoy	1, 3	T. Aversa, B. Nikula	
Red-winged Blackbird				
3, 24	Bolton, GMNWR	300+, 800+	D. Donovan, M. Lynch#	
Eastern Meadowlark				
1, 17	Westport, Newbytt	1, 2	D. Donovan#, J. Brown	
23	Ipswich	2	BBC (J. Berry)	
29	Bolton, ONWR	3, 2	M. Lynch#	
Rusty Blackbird				
6, 8	Essex, GMNWR	11, 8	J. MacDougall, T. Aversa	
3, 17; 17	Hamilton; Melrose	25, 34; 1	J. Berry; C. Jackson	
23	E. Middleboro, Boxford	5, 2	K. Anderson, T. Aversa	
Common Grackle				
16	Framingham	2800	E. Taylor	
Brown-headed Cowbird				
1, 17	Quabbin (G37), Lincoln	42, 65	M. Lynch#, BBC (J. Nove)	
Orchard Oriole				
30	P'town	1	B. Nikula	
Northern Oriole				
30	Halifax	1	D. Briggs	
Purple Finch				
3, 9	Boxford, Milton	3 or 4, 15	J. Berry#, T. Aversa	
23	IRWS, Quabbin (G37)	10, 6	R. Heil, M. Lynch#	
26, 28	Marlboro, Brookline	3, 1	B. Parker, H. Wiggin	
Red Crossbill				
1-10, 27	Quabbin, Mt. A.	6 max 4/9, 1	M. Lynch#, I. Giriunas#	
3 + 4, 27	Dorchester, Rehoboth	38, 15	K. Ryan, K. Anderson	
Pine Siskin				
thr	IRWS, Quabbin	28 max 4/14, 24 max 4/9	R. Heil, M. Lynch#	
thr	E. Middleboro, Westford	10 max, 10+	K. Anderson, S. Selesky	
3, 30	Boxford, Marlboro	8-10, 6	J. Berry, B. Parker	
Evening Grosbeak				
thr	Middleboro	1-3 daily	D. Briggs	
1, 3	Hardwick, Bolton	20, 17	M. Lynch#, D. Donovan	
18	Petersham, Barre	30, 40	M. Lynch#	
15, 23	Quabbin (G37), IRWS	45, 7	T. Aversa, R. Heil	

BIRD OBSERVER FIELD RECORDS

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

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

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

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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