

*Sprague's Pipit*  
Provincetown, MA  
December 22, 1988  
Photo by Roger Everett



## FIELD RECORDS

DEC. 1988/

JAN./FEB. 1989

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

December 1988 through February 1989 was a mild, dry, snow-deficient winter season. At Boston the temperature for the period averaged 32.6 degrees, 1.3 degrees above normal. The high mark was 66 degrees on February 1, and the low was 2 degrees on December 12. Precipitation totaled just 4.14 inches, 8.03 inches less than normal and the second least amount on record for the period. The lowest precipitation was just nine years ago, December 1979-February 1980. Snowfall was only 11.9 inches, 19.6 inches under the normal for these months. The ground was bare or had just a trace of snow until February 25, a record least amount. Sunshine was 45 percent of possible at Boston. Clear days numbered 22; partly cloudy, 17; and cloudy, 51.

Observations from December 1988 through February 1989 have been combined and are presented here. The results of the annual Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) are not included in this tabulation, but the complete figures from the eastern Massachusetts CBCs, except Westminster, are displayed in table form elsewhere in this issue. We will return to the usual monthly compilations with March 1989 in the next issue.

The Boston Harbor monitoring program continued through the period. These observations are shown as reports from Boston Harbor (includes the area from East Point in Nahant to the Weir River in Hingham) with MAS/TASL (Massachusetts Audubon Society/Take A Second Look) listed as the observers. R.H.S.

### LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

The Cape Cod Bird Club (CCBC) conducted its sixth annual Lake and Pond Waterfowl Survey on the weekend of December 3-4, 1988. A total of thirty-five observers censused 284 ponds and recorded a total of 11,756 birds of twenty-six species. According to compiler Blair Nikula only four species were found in numbers notably above last year's totals: Canada Goose (up 36%), American Wigeon (up 86%), Common Merganser (up 68%) and Red-breasted Merganser (up 173%). Eight species were down substantially from last year: Pied-billed Grebe (down 65%), Northern Pintail (down 43%), Gadwall (down 47%), Redhead (down 46%), Ring-necked Duck (down 58%), Common Goldeneye (down 29%), Ruddy Duck (down 75%), and American Coot (down 69%). In the field records, these observations are shown as reports from Cape Cod with CCBC Lake and Pond Survey listed as the observers. Anyone interested in a town-by-town summary, as well as a five-year summary, should send a self-addressed, stamped, business-sized envelope to Blair Nikula, 23 Atwood Lane, Chatham, MA 02633.

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife conducted its annual midwinter coastal waterfowl survey on January 3 and 10, 1989. On January 3, the area covered the coast from Salisbury to New Bedford. On January 10, a team flew over the Elizabeth Islands, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. In all, the Division counted 21,615 American Black Ducks, up from the 19,035 counted last year. The Common Eider count of 22,625 was the lowest since 1962. Other interesting results included 12,455 Canada Geese, down from the record high of 18,135 last year. It should be noted that in 1988 the ground was covered with snow during the survey period. This year geese were able to remain on inland fields and golf courses. For more information about this survey, contact H W Heusmann, Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Field Headquarters, Westboro, MA 01581.

A presumed Pacific Loon was found near Bass Rocks in Gloucester in mid-February but could not be found later. A Western Grebe, first noted off Marconi Station in South Wellfleet on January 18, was seen later the same day farther north off LeCount Hollow Beach. Another Western Grebe was present in Rye, NH through most of the period.

As many as 110 Red-necked Grebes were counted at Gun Rock in Hull with several reports of nearly breeding-plumaged individuals by the end of February. A maximum of 76 Double-crested Cormorants was noted in Boston Harbor in early December and as many as 10 were still around in late February.

There were good numbers of Great Blue Herons observed throughout the period. Great Egrets were found in North Scituate and on Nantucket, but only 3 Black-crowned Night-Herons were reported in addition to those seen on the CBCs.

Four **Tundra Swans**, first found on the Martha's Vineyard CBC, were still around or returned on February 20. Along the Acushnet River in New Bedford, 2 or 3 Greater White-fronted Geese and a **Barnacle Goose** were found on December 18 during the New Bedford CBC. The Barnacle Goose remained there through January 25, and the white-fronted geese continued throughout February. The origin of these birds will probably remain a mystery. Barnacle Goose is a western Palearctic species breeding in eastern Greenland and wintering in northwestern Europe. There are few records for the United States. This species is not an unusual one to be kept in captivity.

The relatively mild winter kept many ponds open during the winter, though unfortunately a cold spell just before the CBC period froze many ponds for a short time. The **Tufted Duck** found on the Buzzards Bay CBC was seen off and on in the Sandwich area through the end of February. Other highlights included reports of 7 Eurasian Wigeons, 5 King Eiders, and good numbers of Harlequin Ducks and Barrow's Goldeneyes. R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
Red-throated Loon 12/4, 12/31	Rockport, E. Orleans	3, 5	M. Lynch#, A. Williams	
Arctic/Pacific Loon 2/12	Gloucester	1	T. French	
Common Loon thr	Ipswich (Cranes B.)	15-35	D. Rimmer	
thr	P.I.-Newburyport	29 max 2/28	D. Chickering + v. o.	
thr	Cape Ann	14 max 2/26	G. d'Entremont + v. o.	
Pied-billed Grebe 12/3-4	Cape Cod	56	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
2/11	Nantucket H.	3	R. Stymeist#	
Horned Grebe thr	Boston H.	196 max 2/26	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	N. Scituate	32 max 1/2	SSBC (S. Higginbotham) + v. o.	
thr	Cape Ann	20 max 2/5	J. Berry + v. o.	
Red-necked Grebe thr	Hull (Gun Rock)	110 max 12/1	P. Thayer + v. o.	
thr	Cape Ann	23 max 1/29	J. Berry + v. o.	
thr	N. Scituate	35 max 12/27	T. Aversa + v. o.	
Western Grebe (details submitted) 1/18	Wellfleet (two locations)	1	H. + N. Ober	
Northern Gannet thr	Cape Ann	50+ max 1/31	J. Brown + v. o.	
12/3	Chatham	2000	B. Nikula#	
1/3, 1/21	Provincetown	100, 350	R. Titus, SSBC (R. Fox)	
2/25	Eastham (F.E.)	500+	W. Petersen#	
Great Cormorant thr	Boston Harbor	56 max 2/26	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	Newburyport Harbor	76 max 2/14	T. Aversa + v. o.	
12/13, 12/18	Waltham, Jamaica Plain	1 imm, 1 imm	R. Forster, H. D'Entremont	
1/18, 1/20	Nahant	85, 85	T. Aversa, R. Forster	
2/20, 2/26	Lakeville, Rockport	2, 44	W. Petersen#, G. d'Entremont#	
Double-crested Cormorant thr	Boston Harbor	76 max 12/4	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
12/7, 12/30	P.I., Hyannis	2, 1	W. Drew#, D. Brown#	
1/29	Plymouth	11	D. F. Oliver#	
2/18	Newburyport	1	H. Wiggin#	
American Bittern 1/29, 2/16	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
Great Blue Heron thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	11 max 12/6	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
12/4, 12/26	Boston H., Milton	19, 31	MAS/TASL, G. d'Entremont	
1/17	Plymouth	18	W. Drew#	
1/19-2/28	Hull	6 max	P. Thayer	
Reports of 1-3 individuals from many locations.				
Great Egret 1/16	N. Scituate	1	S. Hecker	
2/26	Nantucket	1	M. Litchfield	
Black-crowned Night-Heron 1/2, 1/7	Ipswich	1 imm	J. Nove	
2/9, 2/12	Orleans, Nantucket	1 ad, 1 ad	E. Williams, M. Litchfield#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
<b>Tundra Swan</b>				
2/20	M. V.	4	V. Laux	
<b>Mute Swan</b>				
thr	Gloucester	33 max 1/2	J. Brown + v. o.	
thr	Acoaxet	260 max 2/11	G. Gove + v. o.	
thr	P.I., Arlington	7 max 2/14, 2	T. Aversa + v. o., L. Taylor + v. o.	
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	32 max 1/1	R. Timberlake + v. o.	
2/4, 2/11	Nantucket, New Bedford	80, 40	R. Stymeist#, M. Lynch#	
<b>Greater White-fronted Goose</b>				
12/18-2/28	New Bedford (Acushnet R.)	2 or 3	v. o.	
12/31	Wenham	1	R. Humphrey#	
1/31	Danvers	1	J. Brown	
<b>Snow Goose</b>				
12/1, 12/7	Brewster, P.I.	1, 1	P. Trull#, W. Drew#	
12/13-15	Belmont	1 imm	J. Heywood	
12/19, 1/3	Essex, WBWS	1 imm, 1 imm	J. Berry, R. Titus	
1/11, 2/11	Hamilton, Clinton	1 imm, 5	R. Humphrey, M. Lynch#	
2/14, 2/24	Dartmouth, N. Middleboro	1, 2	P. Trimble, K. Holmes	
<b>"Blue" Snow Goose</b>				
2/23-28	Framingham	1 ad	R. Forster	
<b>Brant</b>				
thr	Boston Harbor	1975 max 2/26	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
12/30	Hyannis	500	G. d'Entremont#	
1/8	Marion	500	SSBC (K. Anderson)	
<b>Barnacle Goose</b>				
12/18-1/25	New Bedford	1	CBC + v. o.	
<b>Canada Goose</b>				
thr	P.I.-Newburyport	805 max 12/26	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
thr	Wenham (Wenham Lake)	2000+	J. Brown	
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	519 max 12/6	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
thr	Sherborn	365 max	E. Taylor	
12/3-4	Cape Cod	1291	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
1/11	Hamilton (Myopia)	375	R. Humphrey	
1/16	Lakeville, Somerset	215, 900	W. Petersen#, R. Titus	
1/22	Arlington, Brighton	96, 290	T. Aversa, R. Stymeist	
1/28, 2/18	Harvard, Cambridge	388, 190	M. Lynch#, J. Barton	
Many reports of flocks up to 100 birds from various locations.				
<b>Wood Duck</b>				
12/3, 12/4	Mashpee, Harwich	6, 1	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
2/12	Nantucket	6	R. Stymeist#	
<b>Green-winged Teal</b>				
thr	P.I.	20 max 12/7	W. Drew# + v. o.	
12/3-4	Barnstable, Yarmouth, Falmouth	42, 4, 1	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
12/10, 12/11	Arlington, Nantucket	4, 12	L. Taylor#, R. Stymeist#	
2/15	W. Roxbury	9	T. Aversa	
<b>American Black Duck</b>				
thr	Boston Harbor	3462 max 1/29	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	Newburyport Harbor	600 max 1/22	M. Lynch#	
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	444 max 12/20	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
thr	PRNWR	1434 max 12/26	W. Drew# + v. o.	
12/4, 12/10	Plymouth, Duxbury	600, 1300	W. Petersen#	
<b>Mallard</b>				
thr	Stoneham	600+ max 12/20	T. Aversa	
12/3-4	Cape Cod	1596	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
12/4	Boston Harbor	186	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
12/31	Natick	160	E. Taylor	
1/1	Plymouth	200+	BBC (R. Timberlake)	
2/12	Lynn	200	G. d'Entremont	
<b>Northern Pintail</b>				
12/12-1/22	Hull	2	P. Thayer	
12/16-28	Stoneham	3 f	T. Aversa	
12/3, 12/4	Yarmouth, Barnstable	33, 2	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
12/26, 12/31	P.I., W. Newbury	1, 1	W. Drew#, J. Brown	
1/15, 1/24	Westport, New Bedford	11, 1 f	G. Gove#, R. Forster	
1/26, 1/29	Boston, E. Gloucester	2 m, 1 f	T. Aversa, J. Berry#	
2/11, 2/19	Yarmouthport, Newbypt	30, 1	B. Nikula, v. o.	
<b>Northern Shoveler</b>				
12/20-1/22	Hull	1	P. Thayer	
1/2	Marshfield	2	SSBC (S. Higginbotham)	
1/4, 1/21	Holliston, Plymouth	1, 1	R. Hildreth, R. Titus	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
Gadwall				
thr	Sandwich	29 max 2/20	W. Petersen# + v. o.	
1/1-2/28	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	12 max 2/12	W. Petersen# + v. o.	
2/10-2/14	P.I.	2	W. Drew# + v. o.	
Eurasian Wigeon				
thr	Plymouth (two locations)	2 m	v. o.	
thr	Chatham	1 m	v. o.	
thr	Nantucket	1 m	v. o.	
1/7-1/31, 2/20	Hyannis, M. V.	1, 2	S. Clifton, V. Laux#	
American Wigeon				
thr	Belmont (Clay Pit Pd)	32 max	v. o.	
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	45 max	v. o.	
12/10, 12/21	Arlington, Chatham	16, 32	C. Black#, T. Aversa	
1/2	Plymouth (Bartlett Pd)	100	SSBC (S. Higginbotham)	
1/29	New Bedford	60+	M. Lynch#	
Canvasback				
thr	Falmouth	210 max 2/11	SSBC (A. Leggett) + v. o.	
thr	Nantucket	140 max 2/11	R. Stymeist# + v. o.	
thr	Westport	200 max 2/20	G. Gove# + v. o.	
thr	Lakeville	150 max 12/10	K. Holmes + v. o.	
2/19	Newburyport Harbor	1 m	W. Petersen#	
Redhead				
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	12 max 1/1	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
thr	Plymouth (Jenny Pd)	16 max 1/17	W. Drew# + v. o.	
thr	Nantucket	80 max 2/12	R. Stymeist# + v. o.	
thr	Falmouth	6 max	v. o.	
Ring-necked Duck				
12/3-4	Cape Cod	73	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
1/2, 1/16	Plymouth, Newbypt	70, 1	SSBC (S. Higginbotham), J. Berry	
1/20-2/12	Lynn	1	R. Forster + v. o.	
2/12, 2/25	Sandwich, Arlington	150+, 1	B. Nikula, L. Taylor#	
2/26	Winchester, Lakeville	3, 5	BBC (R. Clayton), K. Holmes	
Tufted Duck				
12/17-2/28	Sandwich area	1 m	CBC (E. Nielsen#) + v. o.	
Greater Scaup				
thr	Boston Harbor	2379 max 1/8	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	Falmouth	2300 max 2/19	SSBC (A. Leggett) + v. o.	
1/3, 1/29	Westport, New Bedford	160, 400+	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
2/4, 2/5	Lakeville, Gloucester	20, 16	K. Anderson, J. Berry#	
Lesser Scaup				
12/4	Lakeville, Harwich	20+, 20	K. Anderson, R. Rozsa	
12/31, 1/2	W. Newbury, Nantucket	2, 2	J. Brown, C. Floyd#	
1/8, 1/29	Newbury, New Bedford	1, 2	D. Chickering, M. Lynch#	
2/26	Nahant, Lakeville	2, 4	J. Berry#, K. Holmes	
scaup species				
12/3-4	Cape Cod	3395	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
Common Eider				
thr	Boston Harbor	7312 max 2/26	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	Plymouth	1500+ max 1/1	BBC (R. Timberlake) + v. o.	
King Eider				
1/12, 1/21	Rockport	1 f	H. Coolidge#, M. Argue#	
2/5, 2/20	Hull, M. V.	1 m, 2	J. Barton, V. Laux	
2/25	Eastham (F.E.)	1 m	W. Petersen#	
Harlequin Duck				
thr	Nantucket, M. V.	8-13, 38 max	v. o., v. o.	
thr	Rockport, N. Scituate	3 or 4, 2 or 3	v. o., v. o.	
2/18-25	Provincetown	1 m	R. Rozsa# + v. o.	
Oldsquaw				
thr	Nant.-Tuckermuck I.	142000 max	CBC	
thr	Newburyport Harbor	100 max	v. o.	
Black Scoter				
thr	Rockport	2 or 3	v. o.	
Surf Scoter				
1/15, 1/29	Rockport, Plymouth	9, 18	J. Berry#, D. F. Oliver#	
2/5, 2/26	Boston Harbor	11, 6	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
White-winged Scoter				
thr	Boston Harbor	192 max 2/26	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	P.I.-Newburyport	642 max 12/26	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
thr	Cape Ann	115 max 12/4	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
1/7, 1/29	P'town, Manomet	50, 35	G. d'Entremont#, D. F. Oliver#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
Common Goldeneye				
thr	Boston Harbor	2477 max 2/26	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	Newburyport area	600+ max 1/14	E. Taylor# + v. o.	
12/11, 1/29	Quabbin, E. Gloucester	30, 100+	BBC (M. Lynch), J. Berry	
Barrow's Goldeneye				
thr	Nantucket, Newbypt	8-10, 1-6	v. o., v. o.	
12/5-2/18	Hull	1 or 2	P. Thayer + v. o.	
12/6	S. Carver	1 m	J. Shaw	
1/8-2/26	Boston Harbor	1-3	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
1/1-31, 1/8	Hyannis, P'town	2, 1	S. Clifton#, R. Comeau	
1/19	Manchester	1 m	A. Williams	
2/28	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1 m	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
Bufflehead				
thr	Boston Harbor	3051 max 1/29	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
thr	Newburyport Harbor	200+ max 2/11	G. d'Entremont# + v. o.	
12/3-4	Cape Cod	1727	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey	
Hooded Merganser				
thr	Falmouth	203 max 12/3	CCBC Lake and Pond Survey + v. o.	
thr	Plymouth	53 max 12/7	T. Aversa+ v. o.	
thr	Arlington (Spy Pd)	98 max 12/10	L. Taylor + v. o.	
12/5, 12/12	Stoneham, S. Carver	14, 15-20	T. Aversa, J. Shaw	
1/16, 1/20	Lakeville, Eastham	13, 7	W. Petersen#, E. Williams	
2/12, 2/19	Nantucket, Fall River	25, 12	R. Stymeist#, SSBC (A. Leggett)	
Common Merganser				
thr	Newburyport	298 max 12/26	CBC + v. o.	
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	300 max 1/1	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
12/9, 12/10	Stoneham, Arlington	55, 79	T. Aversa, L. Taylor#	
12/11, 12/16	Quabbin (G35), S. Carver	150+, 73	BBC (M. Lynch), J. Shaw	
12/25, 12/26	Harwich, Milton	100+, 118	R. Rozsa#, G. d'Entremont	
2/11, 2/18	Arlington, Cambridge (F. P.)	43, 81	L. Taylor#, J. Barton	
2/26	Wayland	33	R. Forster	
Red-breasted Merganser				
thr	Boston Harbor	1429 max 2/26	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
1/16	Newbypt, P'town	75+, 1000+	J. Berry, W. Drew#	
Ruddy Duck				
12/1, 12/3	Arlington, Marlboro	7, 7	L. Taylor#, R. Graefe	
12/3, 12/10	Framingham	100, 50	G. Gove, J. Gordon	
12/9, 12/10	Stoneham, Waltham	2, 15	T. Aversa, L. Taylor#	
1/2, 1/10	Falmouth, Plymouth	3, 3	R. Stymeist#, R. Titus	
1/7, 1/31	Plymouth, Danvers	1, 1	T. Prince#, J. Brown	

#### RAPTORS

As many as 8 Turkey Vultures were reported during the period with 1-3 individuals lingering in the Blue Hills area through mid-January. Last year just 3 birds were reported in the same period. A late Osprey report was of an individual seen in Harwich on December 4.

Up to 8 Bald Eagles were found along the Merrimack River during the period, two more than last year. Other eagles were noted in East Quabbin, Lakeville, and South Dartmouth. Eight reports of Red-shouldered Hawks were received during the period, and one individual returned to its nest site as early as February 20. An adult Golden Eagle was present throughout the winter in the East Quabbin area, and Peregrine Falcon reports came from six locations including downtown Boston. R.H.S.

Turkey Vulture				
12/9-1/11	Wellfleet area	1	W. Swift + v. o.	
12/14-1/29	Blue Hills area	1-3	N. Smith + v. o.	
1/3, 1/28-2/2	Westport, Middleboro	1, 1	T. Aversa, R. Fox# + v. o.	
1/29, 2/19-20	New Bedford, Dart. area	1, 1	H. Weissberg#, P. Trimble + v. o.	
Osprey				
12/4	Harwich	1	R. Rozsa#	
Bald Eagle				
thr	East Quabbin	11 max 2/12 (4 ad + 7 imm)	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
12/4-2/18	Lakeville	3 max 1/13 (1 ad + 2 imm)	K. Holmes + v. o.	
12/26-2/28	Newburyport	6-8 (including 2 ad)	v. o.	
1/29	S. Dart. (Salters Pd)	1 imm	D. Christiansen	
Northern Harrier				
thr	P.I.-Salisbury	3-7	v. o.	
thr	Middleboro-Halifax, DWWS	2-5, 2-5	v. o.	
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1-3	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
1/1, 1/22	E. Orleans, Duxbury B.	3, 3	A. + E. Williams, R. Fox#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
<b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b>				
12/26, 12/31	Newbury, E. Orleans	1, 1	D. Chickering, A. Williams	
1/1-31	Reports of individuals from 14 locations.			
2/1-28	Reports of individuals from 6 locations.			
<b>Cooper's Hawk</b>				
1/1	Plymouth, Eastham (F. H.)	1, 1	BBC (R. Timberlake), R. Comeau	
1/15, 1/16	Newbury, Somerset	1, 1 ad	J. Brown#, R. Titus#	
2/4, 2/5	Salisbury, Belmont	1, 1 imm	W. Petersen#, R. Stymeist	
2/11, 2/27	Cambridge, Chatham	1 imm, 1	G. d'Entremont, P. Trull	
<b>Northern Goshawk</b>				
12/17, 12/19	Brookline, Natick	1, 1	H. Wiggin, E. Taylor	
1/1, 1/3	P.I., Harwichport	1, 1 imm	H. Wiggin#, B. Nikula	
1/6, 1/21	Scituate, Lakeville	1, 1	D. Clapp, K. Holmes	
1/29	Halifax, Newburyport	1 ad, 1 ad	W. Petersen, J. Brown	
2/4, 2/13	Westboro, Middleboro	1, 1 ad	E. Taylor, D. Brown#	
2/25	Chatham	1 imm	P. Trull	
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>				
12/3, 12/9	E. Middleboro, Easton	1, 1	K. Anderson, K. Ryan	
12/26-1/14	DWWS	1	D. Ludlow# + v. o.	
1/14	Lakeville, N. Scituate	1 imm, 1	K. Holmes, SSBC (D. Ludlow)	
2/19	Fall River, Marshfield	1, 1	SSBC (A. Leggett), K. Anderson	
2/20-28	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	
<b>Red-tailed Hawk</b>				
1/10	Braintree-Plymouth	6	R. Titus	
1/28	Salisbury Beach Reservation	5	R. Stymeist#	
2/20	Newburyport-Salisbury	12+	L. Taylor#	
2/26	Mass. Pike (Weston to Auburn)	9	L. Taylor#	
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b>				
thr	P.I.-Salisbury	1-4	v. o.	
12/18-1/6	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	
12/26-1/31	DWWS	1 dark, 1 light	D. Ludlow + v. o.	
1/4, 1/21-22	Ipswich, Middleboro	1, 1 light	D. Rimmer, W. Petersen#	
1/29, 2/5	Rowley, Halifax	1 dark, 1	R. Forster, W. Petersen	
<b>Golden Eagle</b>				
12/11-2/12	East Quabbin	1 ad	v. o.	
<b>American Kestrel</b>				
12/3, 1/14	Newburyport	6, 3	BBC (J. Nove), G. Gove#	
1/28, 1/29	New Bedford, Middleboro	4, 3	G. d'Entremont#, D. F. Oliver#	
Many reports of 1 or 2 individuals from a wide area.				
<b>Merlin</b>				
12/4, 12/20	Plymouth, Sandwich	1, 1	W. Petersen#, R. Stymeist#	
1/19, 1/21	Barnstable (S.N.), Eastham	1, 1	H. + N. Ober, SSBC (R. Fox)	
2/12, 2/24	Nantucket, Marshfield	2, 1	R. Stymeist#, D. Ludlow#	
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>				
12/6	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
12/27	DWWS	1	T. Aversa	
1/25	P.I.	1 ad (eating Bufflehead)	W. Drew#	
2/4, 2/8	Boston, Roxbury	1, 1	K. Griffiths#, N. Komar	
2/18, 2/20	P.I., Fall River	1, 1	H. Wiggin#, R. Fox#	

#### GALLIFORMES THROUGH DOVES

Note that the Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) for eastern Massachusetts are summarized elsewhere in this issue and that CBC birds are not included here. Also note that the mild, snowless winter meant that many bird species lingered and apparently successfully overwintered.

Common Moorhens, scarce this year, were seen at two locations this winter with one bird spending the period near a feeder on Nantucket. Approximately 200 coots were in the Billington Sea in Plymouth. The usual shorebirds seen in winter were reported in all three months. A dowitcher (probably Long-billed) was noted in December and in February in the Hyannis-Osterville area.

There was only one report of Little Gull for the period, and up to 14 Common Black-headed Gulls were counted in the Boston Harbor area. A Mew Gull was seen at least three times through the period at Raccoon Island in Quincy, probably the same bird that has appeared there the last few winters. An adult Thayer's Gull was present in Provincetown Harbor for a few days, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls were noted at four locations.

There were two reports each of Dovekies and Atlantic Puffins during the period, and four Black Guillemots in breeding plumage were noted in Boston Harbor on a MAS/TASL count. G.W.G.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
Ruffed Grouse 12/28, 1/17	Holliston, Quabbin (G40)	3, 6	T. Aversa	
Wild Turkey 1/15, 2/12	S. Dartmouth, Hardwick	1, 8	J. Gordon#, M. Lynch#	
Northern Bobwhite 1/4, 1/10	W. Bridgewater, Mansfield	15, 6	T. Aversa	
Virginia Rail 1/2-2/12 1/21	Nantucket Eastham	4-8 1	M. Litchfield# + v. o. SSBC (R. Fox)	
Common Moorhen thr 12/3-4	Nantucket Sandwich	1 1	E. Ray fide B. Nikula	
American Coot 12/1-1/29 12/3-2/25 1/29, 2/26	Plymouth Arlington Falmouth, Lynn	200 max 1-19 12, 5	v. o. L. Taylor# D. F. Oliver, J. Berry#	
Black-bellied Plover 12/7, 1/1-2/26 2/26	P.I., Quincy Nantucket	2, 2-10 9	W. Drew#, v. o. M. Litchfield	
Killdeer 12/6-2/16 2/20	S. Dart. (Allens Pd) Westport	1 or 2 2	LCES (D. Christiansen) J. Gordon#	
Ruddy Turnstone 12/11 12/27 1/6-2/18 1/29, 2/11	Cape Ann Osterville Scituate Boston H., Nantucket	16 4 80 max 1/21 12, 37	BBC (S. Bolton) R. Jenkins# D. Clapp + v. o. MAS/TASL, M. Litchfield#	
Red Knot 1/6-2/18	Scituate	20-35	D. Clapp, R. Abrams#	
Sanderling 1/1-31 1/14, 1/29 2/5, 2/26 2/5, 2/26	Hull Lynn H., Boston H. Salisbury, Nahant Lynn	90 max 100, 140 20, 60 200, 36	P. Thayer J. Brown, MAS/TASL W. Petersen, J. Berry# MAS/TASL	
Purple Sandpiper thr thr 1/6-25	Rockport, P.I. Boston H. N. Scituate	90 max, 90 max 228 max 1/8 350 max 1/21	v. o., v. o. MAS/TASL D. Clapp + v. o.	
Dunlin thr 12/8, 1/7 1/8-2/5 2/20	S. Dartmouth Hull, Eastham Boston H. Acoaxet	53 max 1/25 35, 75 39 max 2/5 50	LCES (D. Christiansen) + v. o. P. Thayer, G. Gove# MAS/TASL G. Gove	
dowitcher species 12/27, 2/27	Osterville, Hyannis	1, 1	R. Jenkins#, P. Trimble	
Common Snipe 1/14-22, 1/22 2/4, 2/12	Ipswich, W. Newbury Salisbury, Lexington	1, 3 1, 1	J. Berry, BBC (D. + D. Oliver) W. Petersen#, L. Taylor#	
American Woodcock 12/23, 1/22 2/8-28, 2/19	Chatham, Hyannis Chatham, Sandwich	1, 1 1, 1	B. Nikula, P. Trimble L. Roscoe#, I. Giriunas#	
Little Gull 12/14	Lynn	1	J. Quigley	
Common Black-headed Gull thr 12/11-1/29 1/2-2/19	Boston Harbor Gloucester Newburyport	14 max 1 1 or 2	MAS/TASL + v. o. v. o. BBC + v. o.	
Bonaparte's Gull thr 12/4, 2/5 12/28, 2/12	Newburyport Boston Harbor Lynn	60-70 max 1152, 85 700, 14	v. o. MAS/TASL J. Quigley + v. o.	
Mew Gull 12/15-2/12	Quincy	1	D. Brown, R. Fox, G. d'Entremont	
Ring-billed Gull 12/4-31, 2/21	Plymouth	750 max, 126	W. Petersen#, J. Quigley	
Thayer's Gull 1/16-21	Provincetown Harbor	1 ad	W. Bailey, SSBC (R. Fox)	
Iceland Gull thr thr	Cape Ann Newburyport	14 max 15 max	J. Quigley# + v. o. W. Petersen# + v. o.	



DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
Iceland Gull (continued)				
thr	Boston Harbor	1-3	v. o.	
12/29-1/8	N. Scituate	1 or 2	v. o.	
1/1-29	Provincetown	4	B. Nikula + v. o.	
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
12/6-2/5	Lynn	1 or 2	J. Quigley	
1/1-28, 1/24	Gloucester, New Bedford	1, 1	v. o., R. Forster	
2/1-28	Boston Harbor	1 or 2	R. Stymeist# + v. o.	
Glaucous Gull				
12/29-2/26	Gloucester	1 or 2	v. o.	
12/31-2/19	Newburyport	1	v. o.	
12/9, 1/1-21	Wayland, Provincetown	1 ad, 1	R. Forster, v. o.	
1/1-2/7	Hull	1	v. o.	
Black-legged Kittiwake				
12/20-2/11	Rockport	100 max	SSBC (J. Kenneally) + v. o.	
1/21, 2/25	Provincetown, Eastham	300, 600	SSBC (R. Fox), W. Petersen	
Dovekie				
12/29, 1/21	N. Scituate, Cape Ann	1, 1	R. Titus, D. Chickering	
Thick-billed Murre				
12/10, 12/25	Provincetown	1, 1	R. Comeau#, R. Rozsa#	
1/7	Provincetown	3	G. d'Entremont	
1/15, 1/31	Rockport	1, 1	J. Berry#, J. Brown#	
Razorbill				
12/31, 1/7	Nantucket, Provincetown	500, 125	G. d'Entremont#	
1/15-2/11	Cape Ann	1 or 2	v. o.	
large alcid species				
1/22	Provincetown	350	B. Nikula#	
Black Guillemot				
thr	Cape Ann	1-12	v. o.	
12/4, 1/14	Manomet, Provincetown	1, 11	W. Petersen#, B. Nikula#	
2/26	Boston Harbor	6 (4 br pl)	MAS/TASL	
Atlantic Puffin				
1/31, 2/13	Rockport, Provincetown	1, 1	J. Brown#, S. Highley	

#### OWLS THROUGH SWALLOWS

Owls in the Middleboro area during the period included Common Barn, Eastern Screech, Great Horned, Snowy, Barred, Short-eared, and Northern Saw-whet. Long-eared Owls were noted at three locations, and Short-eared Owls were noted at four locations with 5 or 6 birds in the Cumberland Farm fields in Halifax.

An immature Red-headed Woodpecker was seen in Wayland, and Red-bellied Woodpeckers were reported from seven locations including a male at the Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary throughout the period and one or two birds at the Lloyd Center in South Dartmouth. (See CBC tabulation.) A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was found at Nantucket. Eastern Phoebe were present through late January. G.W.G.

Common Barn-Owl				
12/26, 1/8	Bridgewater, Boston H.	1, 1	K. Holmes, MAS/TASL	
1/1-31	Nantucket	2	M. Litchfield	
Eastern Screech-Owl				
12/26, 1/1	Middleboro area	8, 14	K. Holmes	
12/17	Randolph, Holbrook, Braintree	5, 3, 2	G. d'Entremont#	
1/20, 2/11	Topsfield, Newbury	1, 1 red	BBC (C. Schubarth), E. Taylor	
Great Horned Owl				
thr	Ipswich	2	J. Berry	
12/26, 1/1	Middleboro area	3, 5	K. Holmes	
12/10, 1/2	P.I., Petersham	2, 3	BBC (W. Drummond), M. Lynch#	
Snowy Owl				
thr	P.I.	1 or 2	v. o.	
12/14-18	Boston (Logan airport)	2 or 3	N. Smith	
1/1-31	Nantucket	2 or 3	M. Litchfield	
2/15	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
2/26	Lakeville	1	K. Holmes	
Barred Owl				
12/26-1/1	Middleboro area	2	K. Holmes	
12/26-1/23	P.I.	1	F. Burrill	
2/19	Boxford	2	W. Petersen#	
Long-eared Owl				
12/11, 1/29-2/19	Ipswich, Essex	1, 1 or 2	J. Berry#	
2/19	Nantucket	2	D. Ludlow	



DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
Short-eared Owl				
12/30-2/20	Nantucket	1-4	D. Brown#, D. Ludlow#	
12/25, 1/18-2/19	Truro, Rowley	1, 2	R. Rozsa#, J. Berry	
1/3-2/5	Halifax-Middleboro	5 or 6	W. Petersen + v. o.	
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
12/26, 1/1	N. Middleboro, Bridgewater	1, 1	K. Holmes	
12/30, 2/18	Nantucket	1, 2	G. d'Entremont#, D. Ludlow#	
2/20	P.I.	1	L. Taylor#	
Belted Kingfisher				
12/10, 1/16	Lakeville, Newburyport	2, 2	K. Holmes, J. Berry	
2/20	Acoaxet	2	G. Gove#	
Reports of individuals from 13 locations.				
Red-headed Woodpecker				
12/20	Wayland	1 imm	T. Aversa	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
thr	DWWS	1 m	D. Ludlow + v. o.	
12/27, 1/2	Sandwich, Nantucket	1, 1	S. Parsons#, I. Giriunas#	
1/1-31	Sterling, Westboro	1, 1	H. + N. Ober	
1/1-2/12	Hardwick	1	H. + N. Ober	
1/6-2/28	S. Dartmouth	1 or 2	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
1/2	Nantucket	1	I. Giriunas#	
Northern Flicker				
12/10, 1/1-31	Lakeville, Essex county	1, 5	K. Holmes, J. Berry	
1/25, 2/13	Orleans, Middleboro	4, 5	T. Aversa, G. d'Entremont#	
Pileated Woodpecker				
12/28-1/15	Westford	1	S. Selesky	
1/24, 2/11	Sherborn, Boxford (CP)	2, 2	R. Forster, J. Brown	
Eastern Phoebe				
12/18-1/10	Boston	1	T. Prince# + v. o.	
12/11-19	Topsfield	1	J. Brown	
12/20-21	S. Orleans	1	S. Thompson	
12/29	Waquoit	1	A. Poole	
1/21-22	Wellfleet	1	fide R. Prescott	
Horned Lark				
1/1-2/28	Ipswich	10-25	D. Rimmer	
1/5-2/19	Newbury	150-500	v. o.	
1/27	Rochester	100	R. Forster	
Tree Swallow				
12/10-1/1, 12/12	Eastham, Wellfleet	1-2, 6	R. Comeau#, J. Jacques	
1/1, 1/3	Truro, Provincetown	3, 1	D. Ludlow, R. Titus	

#### CROWS THROUGH SHRIKES

The Framingham crow roost consisted of up to 4200 American Crows and 200 Fish Crows. As is often true in a mild, snowless winter, Carolina Wrens were at many locations throughout the period, including 5 in Framingham. (See CBC tabulation.) Winter Wrens also survived through early February, and a Marsh Wren was seen at Nantucket.

Up to 15 Eastern Bluebirds were at a feeder in Middleboro through the winter, and 2 to 4 birds of this species were noted at four other locations. Hermit Thrushes were also present, and robins were around in large numbers with 9000 tallied on the eastern Massachusetts CBCs this year as compared with 3000 last year. A large robin roost was seen in Cambridge where there was also a Bohemian Waxwing. Other reports of Bohemian Waxwings included a flock of 20 in Millis. Catbirds were noted at 13 locations, and a Brown Thrasher was seen in South Dartmouth.

A Water Pipit was seen at Georges Island in Boston Harbor in late January, but the bird of the period was the Sprague's Pipit that was found on the Stellwagen CBC at the Provincetown airport and was seen by many people at least through February 12. (If anyone knows of a later date, please let us know.) This sighting of the Sprague's Pipit constitutes the first Massachusetts state record for the species. G.W.G.

American Crow			
thr	Framingham	4200 max	E. Taylor
12/10-1/29	Bridgewater	500 max	W. Petersen
2/20	Lawrence	2000	E. Taylor
Fish Crow			
thr	Framingham	200 max	E. Taylor
Common Raven			
1/15-2/12	Quabbin	1-5	M. Lynch#

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
<b>Red-breasted Nuthatch</b>				
thr	Quabbin	3-6	M. Lynch#	
12/10	Hamilton	4	J. Berry	
<b>Brown Creeper</b>				
12/21, 2/19	Quabbin (G40), Nantucket	3, 5	M. Lynch#, D. Ludlow#	
<b>Carolina Wren</b>				
12/6-30	Reports of individuals from 6 locations.			
1/6, 1/7	Berkeley, Framingham	4, 5	R. Titus, R. Forster	
1/15-2/20	Westport	6	G. Gove#	
2/4-19	Reports of individuals from 5 locations.			
<b>Winter Wren</b>				
12/3	Holbrook	1	G. d'Entremont#	
12/3, 12/6	Nahant	1, 1	C. Floyd, T. Aversa	
1/7, 1/17	Quabbin (G40), Falmouth	2, 1	M. Lynch#, W. Drew#	
2/6	Sandwich	1	P. Trimble	
<b>Marsh Wren</b>				
2/12	Nantucket	1	M. Litchfield	
<b>Golden-crowned Kinglet</b>				
12/1-1/7	Quabbin (G40)	16 max 1/7	M. Lynch#	
12/17, 1/21	N. Middleboro, Hamilton	2, 2 or 3	K. Holmes, J. Berry	
1/30, 2/4	Mashpee, Boxford (C.P.)	4, 5	P. Trimble, J. Brown	
<b>Eastern Bluebird</b>				
thr	Middleboro	15 max 12/5	K. Holmes + v. o.	
1/1-31, 1/29	S. Dartmouth, Lakeville	2, 3	D. Christiansen, K. Holmes	
2/11, 2/11-19	ONWR, Nantucket	4 m, 1 or 2	M. Lynch#, E. Ray	
<b>Hermit Thrush</b>				
1/1, 2/26	E. Orleans	1, 1	A. Williams, B. Nikula	
2/12, 2/26	Nantucket, Hamilton	1, 2	R. Stymeist#, J. Berry	
<b>American Robin</b>				
12/4, 12/20	Plymouth, Provincetown	50, 165	W. Petersen#, R. Stymeist#	
1/7, 1/14	Eastham, Provincetown	150, 350	SSBC (A. Leggett), B. Nikula	
1/29-2/18	Cambridge	750 max 1/30	J. Heywood + v. o.	
2/15	W. Roxbury	135	T. Aversa	
<b>Gray Catbird</b>				
12/30-2/26	E. Orleans	1-3	A. Williams, B. Nikula	
1/2-8, 1/15	Ipswich, Westport	1, 1	J. Berry, J. Gordon#	
1/2, 1/29	Marshfield, Squantum	2, 2	D. Ludlow, J. Barton	
2/20	Westport	3	G. Gove#	
1/2-2/3	Reports of individuals from 7 locations.			
<b>Brown Thrasher</b>				
2/28	S. Dartmouth	1	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
<b>Water Pipit</b>				
1/28	Boston H. (Georges I.)	1	J. Nove#	
<b>Sprague's Pipit</b>				
12/17-2/12	Provincetown Airport	1 ph	J. Smith, R. Heil# + v. o.	
<b>Bohemian Waxwing</b>				
1/14-2/24	N. Middleboro	4	K. Holmes	
1/29-2/5	Cambridge	1	L. Taylor# + v. o.	
2/19	Millis	20	R. Forster	
<b>Cedar Waxwing</b>				
12/4, 12/15	Plymouth, Middleboro	75, 20	W. Petersen#, K. Anderson	
1/2-2/24	N. Middleboro	30 max 1/14	K. Holmes	
1/2, 2/11	Barre, ONWR	32, 25	M. Lynch#	
2/9, 2/28	Billerica, Framingham	50, 40	K. Griffis, R. Forster	
<b>Northern Shrike</b>				
12/7-1/28	P.I.	1 or 2	W. Drew# + v. o.	
1/7	Provincetown, Hardwick	1, 1	R. Fox#, M. Lynch#	

#### WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

The abundance and availability of food, especially cedar berries and bayberries, resulted in increased numbers of Yellow-rumped and Pine warblers compared with recent years. An **Ovenbird** in Eastham was unusual, although not unprecedented.

A **Black-headed Grosbeak** was discovered at Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary on Martha's Vineyard on December 3. The bird was not seen for a few weeks but was relocated during the Vineyard CBC. It was then monitored closely through February 26. On that day it was observed being taken by a Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Sparrows benefited from the lack of snow cover. A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was found in Middleboro among 150 American Tree Sparrows, 4 Field Sparrows, and 20 Savannah Sparrows. A Dickcissel was

present most of the winter at a feeder in Newbury. A **Grasshopper Sparrow** was seen well at close range in a Halifax field on February 5. Other lingering sparrows included 2 Lincoln's, 2 White-crowned, and 9 Vesper. The highlight was the discovery of a cooperative **Le Conte's Sparrow** in the cornfields of the Little Estate in Newbury. Once located, this bird would walk a few feet in front of observers, providing excellent views and easy photographs. In the same field, over 90 Lapland Longspurs and over 50 Snow Buntings were found.

Rusty Blackbirds were reported from three locations with as many as 22 noted at Gethsemane Cemetery in West Roxbury, a traditional winter spot for this species. Good numbers of Eastern Meadowlarks were observed, once again probably the result of the lack of snow cover. Several Northern Orioles were noted, most at feeders. Except for Evening Grosbeaks, winter finches were absent. G.d'E. and R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>				
12/16-2/6	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	11 max 2/23	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
12/7-26	P.I.	46 max 12/26	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
12/24-1/1	P'town	25	v. o.	
1/14	Newburyport	1	BBC (C. Schubarth)	
2/5-18, 2/20	Essex, Millis	2 or 3, 2	J. Berry#, R. Forster	
<b>Pine Warbler</b>				
thr	Middleboro	20 max 1/29	R. Stymeist + v. o.	
1/30-2/28	Mashpee	1	P. Trimble	
2/24	Nantucket	1	M. Litchfield	
<b>Palm Warbler</b>				
1/3, 1/15	S. Dart., Middleboro	1, 1	T. Aversa, W. Petersen	
2/12, 2/13	Halifax, Middleboro	1, 1	K. Anderson, G. d'Entremont#	
<b>Ovenbird</b>				
12/16-17	Eastham	1	fide D. Reynolds	
<b>Common Yellowthroat</b>				
12/3, 1/2	MNWS, Salisbury	1, 1 f	C. Floyd, J. Berry#	
<b>Northern Cardinal</b>				
thr	Sherborn, Topsfield	6-8, 3-13	E. Taylor, J. Brown	
<b>Black-headed Grosbeak</b>				
12/3-2/26	Felix Neck WS	1	D. Small# + v. o.	
<b>Dickcissel</b>				
12/26-2/28	Newbury	1	CBC + v. o.	
<b>Rufous-sided Towhee</b>				
12/15-1/3	Easton	1	K. Ryan	
12/17, 1/2	Middleboro, Nantucket	1 f, 4	K. Holmes, R. Stymeist	
1/21, 1/28	Manomet, IRWS	3, 1	SSBC (R. Fox), B. Sims	
2/11, 2/20	Acoaxet, S. Dart.	2, 1	J. Gordon#, G. Gove#	
2/28	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	2	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
<b>American Tree Sparrow</b>				
12/10-1/29	Lakeville	15 max 1/29	K. Holmes	
12/7-26	P.I.	10 max 12/26	W. Drew#	
1/15-2/13	Middleboro	150 max 1/15	v. o.	
1/2, 1/18	Salisbury, Rowley	30+, 12	J. Berry	
2/5, 2/11	Halifax, ONWR	50, 14	W. Petersen#, M. Lynch#	
<b>Chipping Sparrow</b>				
12/18-19, 1/15	Essex, Westport	1 ad, 1	J. Cushing#, G. Gove#	
<b>Clay-colored Sparrow</b>				
1/15-2/13	Middleboro	1	W. Petersen + v. o.	
<b>Field Sparrow</b>				
12/10	Braintree (3 locations)	1, 10, 4	G. d'Entremont	
12/26, 1/2	Milton, N. Middleboro	2, 4	G. d'Entremont, K. Holmes	
1/14, 1/18	Holliston, Eastham	5, 12	R. Hildreth, H. + N. Ober	
2/14, 2/20	Newbypt, Westport	2, 6	T. Aversa, J. Gordon#	
<b>Vesper Sparrow</b>				
1/14, 2/4-19	Sandwich, Newbury	2, 1	P. Trimble, v. o.	
2/27	Halifax	6	K. Anderson	
<b>Savannah Sparrow</b>				
12/4, 1/15	Gloucester, Middleboro	1, 20+	M. Lynch#, W. Petersen	
12/20	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	2	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
1/12, 1/29	Salisbury, Halifax	3, 10	H. Wiggan#, W. Petersen	
2/5-19	Newbury	12 max	v. o.	
2/25	Provincetown	2	W. Petersen	
<b>"Ipswich" Savannah Sparrow</b>				
2/5	Salisbury	1 or 2	J. Brown	
<b>Grasshopper Sparrow</b>				
2/5	Halifax	1	W. Petersen#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
<b>Le Conte's Sparrow</b> (details submitted)				
2/4-20	Newbury	1 ph	W. Petersen# + v. o.	
<b>Fox Sparrow</b>				
1/2, 1/16	Squantum, Somerset	1, 1	J. + T. Cameron, R. Titus#	
<b>Lincoln's Sparrow</b>				
12/8, 12/11-17	Barnstable, Belmont	1, 1	M. Tuttle, L. Taylor# + v. o.	
<b>Swamp Sparrow</b>				
1/7, 1/8	Ipswich, E. Boston	4, 1	J. Berry, T. Aversa	
1/29-2/26	Lakeville	1	K. Holmes	
1/16, 2/13	Newbypt, Middleboro	1, 1	J. Berry, D. Brown#	
<b>White-throated Sparrow</b>				
12/6-11	Topsfield	1	J. Brown	
12/19	Brookline	5	H. Wiggin	
1/1-2/28	Ipswich	4 or 5	J. Berry	
2/3, 2/12	Brookline, Cambridge	4, 20	B. Rielly#, L. Taylor#	
<b>White-crowned Sparrow</b>				
1/6	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
1/20-2/28	Nantucket	1	M. Litchfield	
<b>Dark-eyed Junco</b>				
thr	Topsfield, Brookline	15 max, 11	J. Brown, H. Wiggin	
12/11	Quabbin (G40)	16	BBC (M. Lynch)	
1/1-2/28	Ipswich	18 max 2/25	J. Berry	
2/13	Middleboro	25	G. d'Entremont#	
<b>Lapland Longspur</b>				
thr	Newbury	90 max 1/14	v. o.	
1/3, 1/22	P'town, Duxbury	2, 18	R. Titus, R. Fox#	
1/29	Halifax	25	W. Petersen	
<b>Snow Bunting</b>				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	29 max 12/16	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
thr	Hull	13	P. Thayer	
12/7-26	P.I.	30 max 12/7	W. Drew#	
12/11	Quabbin	6	BBC (M. Lynch)	
1/1-2/28	Newbury, Ipswich	10 max 1/14, 50 max	v. o., v. o.	
1/21, 1/28	Rockport, Boston H.	15, 13	H. Wiggin, J. Nove	
2/5	Boston Harbor	15	MAS/TASL + v. o.	
<b>Red-winged Blackbird</b>				
12/3, 12/16	Belmont, Natick	4, 1 m	J. Heywood, E. Taylor	
12/26, 1/1	Milton, Wayland	1, 1	G. d'Entremont, R. Forster	
2/1-11	W. Bridgewater	20+	v. o.	
2/5, 2/6	Belmont, Sandwich	7, 2	R. Stymeist#, P. Trimble	
2/20	Ipswich, Easton	2 m, 60	BBC (J. Berry), G. Gove#	
<b>Eastern Meadowlark</b>				
12/1-2/23	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	15 max 1/17	LCES (D. Christiansen)	
1/24-2/28	Halifax-Middleboro	40+ max 1/29	W. Petersen + v. o.	
2/12, 2/26	Rowley, N. Middleboro	1, 7	J. Berry, K. Holmes	
<b>Rusty Blackbird</b>				
12/15, 1/2	Brookline, Hardwick	1, 3	H. Wiggin#, M. Lynch#	
12/27-2/19	West Roxbury	22 max 2/19	I. Giriunas + v. o.	
<b>Common Grackle</b>				
12/4	Belmont	1	C. Black#	
1/1	Sudbury, Wayland	2, 3	R. Forster	
1/26, 1/29	Boston, Belmont	7, 1	T. Aversa, J. Heywood	
<b>Brown-headed Cowbird</b>				
1/6-2/28	Burlington	60 max	M. Hall	
1/17, 1/29	Petersham, Millis	21, 70	T. Aversa, R. Forster	
2/11, 2/26	W. Bridgewater, Petersham	24, 25	G. Gove, L. Taylor#	
<b>Northern Oriole</b>				
12/30-early Jan	E. Orleans	2	A. + E. Williams	
12/18	Harwich	1	J. Stewart	
1/1-31	Lawrence	1	J. Hogan	
1/2, early Jan	Nantucket, Truro	1, 3	M. Litchfield, fide R. Prescott	
2/6	Sandwich	1	P. Trimble	
<b>Purple Finch</b>				
12/16, 2/12	Randolph, Nantucket	1, 1	G. d'Entremont, M. Litchfield	
2/12, 2/14	Quabbin (G43), Scituate	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Abrams	
<b>House Finch</b>				
12/10, 12/28	Braintree, S. Carver	25, 70	G. d'Entremont, K. Anderson	
1/1, 1/2	Ipswich, Newbypt	40, 100+ (one flock)	H. Wiggin#, J. Berry	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	12/1988; 1, 2/1989
American Goldfinch				
12/31, 1/14	W. Newbury, Ipswich	10, 6	J. Brown, J. Berry	
1/8, 1/16	Lakeville, Middleboro	25, 100	K. Holmes, W. Petersen#	
2/11, 2/19	ONWR, Beverly	30, 38	M. Lynch#, J. Brown	
Evening Grosbeak				
1/2	Nantucket	1	G. d'Entremont	
1/7-15	Quabbin (G40)	23 max 1/15	v. o.	
1/15, 1/21	Hardwick, Duxbury	13, 25	H. + N. Ober, W. Bartlett	
2/16	Brookline, Whitman	1 f, 15	H. Wiggin, K. Holmes	

#### CORRIGENDA TO SEPTEMBER RECORDS (VOL. 17, NO. 1)

Semipalmated Sandpiper (page 42)				
8, 14	Duxbury, Chatham	169, 800	M. Kasprzyk, B. Nikula	
should read				
8, 14	Duxbury, Orleans (New I.)	169, 800	M. Kasprzyk, B. Nikula	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper (page 42)				
3, 10	S. Monomoy, Chatham	2, 2	B. Nikula	
should read				
3, 10	S. Monomoy, Orleans (New I.)	2, 2	B. Nikula, V. Abel	

#### PEREGRINE UPDATE

from a news release of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, 6/5/89

Two pairs of endangered Peregrine Falcons, one in Boston and one in Springfield, successfully hatched six chicks in mid-May. The first reports came when two of the four eggs in the Boston nest hatched on Saturday, May 13. The other eggs in Boston hatched, and the Boston peregrines are presently caring for a full nest, monitored by concerned and watchful neighbors.

In Springfield, the birds have nested on the twenty-first floor ledge of the Monarch Place Building, almost three hundred feet above the street. The female of the pair had selected the site, and a crew from the building prepared a "nesting tray" for her convenience should she choose this site to lay eggs. This spring she returned with her mate and settled into the tray. Of the three eggs laid, two hatched, one on May 13 and one on May 14. On Wednesday, May 17, Dr. Tom French, Assistant Director in charge of the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program for the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, descended to the ledge to take the third egg to an incubating facility. "With only eighty pairs of peregrines along the east coast," French explains, "every individual counts." The egg, however, candled at the incubation facility, proved to be infertile.

The city of Springfield has been sharing much of the excitement of raising the young peregrines as activities are being transmitted via live television throughout the area. On Thursday, May 25, viewers reported that one of the Springfield chicks was not eating and was struggling to breathe. Once again, French rappelled down the side of the building to rescue the chick. The chick was transported to the Tufts Veterinary School's Wildlife Clinic where it was found that the chick was choking on a piece of meat lodged in its crop with a sinew that had looped around the base of its tongue. The offending piece of meat was removed and within a few days the chick had doubled its weight. On June 1, French made a third trip down the outside of the Monarch building to replace the chick in its nest. For a day the mother ignored it, and during the afternoon of June 2 the chick fell out of the nestbox onto the adjacent ledge, sending viewers into a telephone frenzy. For nearly two hours, the chick struggled to return to the nestbox, hampered in its efforts by its small size and by a violent thunderstorm. Finally, about 4 P.M. the chick managed to wedge itself against the building, gain a toehold, and catapult itself back into the nest. At that point it was herded into a corner and groomed and warmed by its mother—both the Division and the city of Springfield breathed a sigh of relief and settled in to await further developments.

Press release contact: Ellie Horwitz, Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, 508-366-4470 or 617-727-2864.

## 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)	P.I.	Plum Island
m	male	Pd	Pond
max	maximum	P'town	Provincetown
mi	mile	Quab.	Quabbin
migr	migrating	Res.	Reservation
n	nesting	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
ph	photographed	S. Dart.	South Dartmouth
pl	plumage	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
pr	pair	Stellw.	Stellwagen (Bank)
S	summer (1S = first summer)	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
thr	throughout	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
v.o.	various observers	CBC	Christmas Bird Count
W	winter (2W = second winter)	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
w/	with	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
yg	young	DWWS	Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary
#	additional observers	EMHW	Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	FCBC	Felix Cutler Bird Club
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
B.	Beach	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	LCES	Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
Buzz.	Buzzards Bay	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
C.	cape as in Cape Cod	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
Cambr.	Cambridge	NEHW	New England Hawk Watch
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
F.M.	Fowl Meadow	WMWS	Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary