

White Ibis
 Middleboro, MA
 March 24, 1989
 Photo by Wayne R. Petersen



FIELD RECORDS

MARCH 1989

by George W. Gove and Robert H. Stymeist

Although the average temperature of 37.3 degrees was just 1.1 degree below normal, March 1989 was a month of temperature extremes. For the first fourteen days the temperature was below freezing, the longest such stretch in this month since the first sixteen days of March 1960. At the other end of the temperature scale, March 28 saw the mercury rise to a sizzling 81 degrees, the second hottest reading on record for so early in the year, trailing only the 83 degrees recorded on March 21, 1921. Rainfall totaled 3.67 inches in Boston, 1.03 inches less than normal, but still the most in any month since November 1988. Snowfall was only 3.2 inches, 4.3 inches less than normal. The seasonal total was just 15.1 inches, 24.8 inches below normal, and the fourth least snowfall in ninety-nine years. Sleet was recorded on three days, and thunder was heard on three days, triple the past average for March. Southwest winds during the period March 13-15 brought large numbers of early migrants into our area, and migration fever was with us again. R.H.S.

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

The Boston Harbor waterfowl monitoring program continued in March. The survey on March 12 covered the area from East Point in Nahant to the Weir River in Hingham. In the field records these observations are shown as reports from Boston Harbor with MAS/TASL listed as the observers. A few highlights of the March 12 census were 70 Horned Grebes, 12 Northern Gannets, 2579 Brants, 2254 American Black Ducks, 1734 Greater Scaups, and 5535 Common Eiders.

The first migrant Pied-billed Grebes appeared this month, and Red-necked Grebes numbered 135 at Hull, a traditional spring gathering point. A flock of Great Cormorants was observed at Cliff Pond in Brewster, presumably feeding on recently stocked trout. Early heron reports included Great Egrets in Bristol County and at Fort Hill in Eastham and Snowy Egrets from Hingham and Hull. Two Great Egrets were photographed at Quabbin Reservoir on March 28, a very unusual location for this species at any time of the year.

The highlight of the month was the report of an adult **White Ibis** in the flooded fields of Cumberland Farms in Middleboro-Halifax on March 21. This species is found in the southeastern United States and is an irregular vagrant in Massachusetts, appearing very infrequently. The sighting of one White Ibis was unusual, but on March 23 observers spotted an adult White Ibis in a field less than a mile from the location of the original sighting. When these observers went to the site of the first reports, they found birders watching an adult White Ibis that had apparently been under observation during the entire time they had been watching the bird in the other field. Two White Ibis! Two days later both White Ibises were seen in the same field.

Tundra Swans were reported from Great Meadows on March 15, and two adults were found in Middleboro-Halifax on March 18 and 19. Birders looking for the Tundra Swans found the White Ibis in the same fields on March 21. Over 5200 Snow Geese were migrating over Quabbin on March 28 during the heat wave, and 110 birds were noted over Sudbury on March 29. A "Richardson's" Canada Goose was seen with a flock of Canada Geese at Nine Acre Corner in Concord. Wood Ducks were in evidence, especially by month's end when 46 were seen at the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. A Eurasian Green-winged Teal was noted in West Harwich. R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
Red-throated Loon				
16, 26	Marshfield, Winthrop	2, 1	G. d'Entremont, T. Aversa	
Common Loon				
thr	Ipswich (Crane Beach)	3-18	D. Rimmer	
thr	PRNWR	27 max 3/14	D. Chickering + v. o.	
5, 12	Cape Ann, Salisbury	9, 6	J. Berry#, M. Lynch#	
16, 25	W. Tisbury, N. Scituate	11, 5	D. Rimmer, D. Brown#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
Pied-billed Grebe				
18	Waltham, New Braintree	1, 2	R. Stymeist, M. Lynch#	
19	Holliston, Arlington	1, 1	R. Hildreth, L. Taylor	
22	P.I., DWWS	1, 1	W. Drew#, T. Aversa	
25, 26	Plymouth, Lincoln	2, 1	T. Prince, S. Perkins	
Horned Grebe				
12	Boston Harbor	70	MAS/TASL	
16, 18	W. Tisbury, Falmouth	2, 9	D. Rimmer, BBC (J. Bryant)	
21, 25	Dennis (Corp. B.), Lakeville	20+, 1	B. Nikula, W. Petersen	
Red-necked Grebe				
thr	Hull	135 max 3/14, 3/27	P. Thayer + v. o.	
5, 12	Cape Ann, Boston Harbor	8, 31	J. Berry#, MAS/TASL	
21	Winthrop, Dennis	26, 22+	T. Aversa, B. Nikula	
Northern Gannet				
12	Boston Harbor	12	MAS/TASL	
21	Nantucket	100	M. Hall	
Great Cormorant				
thr	Lakeville	1 or 2 ad	W. Petersen + v. o.	
2, 4	N. Scituate, Cape Ann	150, 50	R. Forster, BBC (R. Vernon)	
25	Brewster (Cliff Pd)	125	B. Nikula#	
Double-crested Cormorant				
12	Boston Harbor	22	MAS/TASL	
18, 29	Falmouth, Newburyport	4, 11	BBC (J. Bryant), T. Aversa	
Great Blue Heron				
4, 6	Plymouth, Hull	4, 4	W. Petersen, P. Thayer	
11, 26	Westport, Acoaxet	7, 28	R. Stymeist#, G. Gove#	
Great Egret				
26	Dartmouth, Acoaxet	1, 1	R. Forster	
28, 29	Quabbin (G43), Eastham (F.H.)	2, 1	C. Quinlan, fide R. Prescott	
Snowy Egret				
27, 30	Hingham, Hull	1, 1	K. Ward, P. Thayer	
Black-crowned Night-Heron				
19	Brookline	2	D. F. Oliver	
White Ibis				
21-29	Middeboro-Halifax	1 ad 3/21-3/22; 2 ad 3/23-29	T. Aversa, M. Paine + v. o.; W. Drew# + v. o.	
Tundra Swan				
15	GMNWR	6	M. Noland, R. Walton	
18-19	Middleboro-Halifax	2 ad	W. Petersen# + v. o.	
Mute Swan				
10, 11	Cape Ann, Acoaxet	14, 210	D. Chickering, R. Stymeist#	
16, 27	W. Tisbury, N. Scituate	10, 24	D. Rimmer, P. Thayer	
Greater White-fronted Goose (from Nov.)				
11	New Bedford	2 (Greenland race)	L. Taylor#	
Snow Goose				
15-25	Middleboro-Halifax	1-3	K. Anderson + v. o.	
28	Quabbin (G43)	5200	C. Quinlan	
29	Sudbury, Quabbin	110, 200	W. Petersen#, D. Small#	
"Blue" Snow Goose				
1-11	Framingham	1 ad (from Feb.)	R. Forster	
24-25	W. Bridgewater	2	K. Ryan + v. o.	
29	Sudbury	1	W. Petersen#	
Brant				
4	Plymouth	300	W. Petersen	
12	Boston Harbor	2579	MAS/TASL	
20, 21-31	Quincy, Ipswich	700, 30-80	E. Taylor, D. Rimmer	
Canada Goose				
11	New Bedford, Westport	450+, 900+	R. Stymeist#	
15, 17	Halifax, E. Middleboro	175, 100+	K. Anderson	
18	Waltham, Adamsville	100, 400+	R. Stymeist, B. Sorrie#	
18	Halifax, Lakeville	225, 250	W. Petersen	
"Richardson's" Canada Goose				
15-24	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1	R. Forster + v. o.	
Wood Duck				
17, 18	GMNWR, Milford	10, 16	T. Aversa, R. Hildreth	
18, 19	Quabbin (G41), New Braintree	10, 6	M. Lynch#	
19, 21	E. Middleboro, Halifax	2, 4	K. Anderson, T. Aversa	
25, 29	Quabbin (G40), IRWS	6, 46	M. Lynch#, R. Heil	
Green-winged Teal				
17	Arlington, Scituate	4, 6	R. Stymeist, D. Clapp	
18	Middleboro, Quabbin (G41)	20, 19	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
Green-winged Teal (continued)				
21	Halifax, Bridgewater	120, 21	T. Aversa, G. d'Entremont	
22	Wayland, P.I.	12, 75	R. Forster, W. Drew#	
"Eurasian" Green-winged Teal				
24-25	West Harwich	1	R. Comeau#	
American Black Duck				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	206 max	LCES (J. Hill)	
thr	PRNWR	485 max 3/2	W. Drew# + v. o.	
12	Boston Harbor	2254	MAS/TASL	
18, 25	Middleboro	500, 300	W. Petersen	
Mallard				
12	Boston Harbor	228	MAS/TASL	
23, 25	Quabbin (G40), New Braintree	48, 60+	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
Northern Pintail				
11, 18	Westport, S. Hanson	12, 1	L. Taylor#, W. Petersen	
18	Falmouth, Middleboro	20, 20	BBC (J. Bryant), W. Petersen	
18, 22	P.I.	6, 27	J. Center#, T. Aversa	
25	Newbypt, Middleboro	8, 35+	H. Wiggins#, W. Petersen	
Blue-winged Teal				
22, 23	Marshfield, Quabbin (G40)	2, 2	D. Clapp, G. d'Entremont	
25, 29	Middleboro, P.I.	1, 3	W. Petersen, T. Aversa	
Northern Shoveler				
11, 18-31	Middleboro, P.I.	2, 2	R. Stymeist, BBC (J. Center) + v. o.	
28	Bolton	1	C. Quinlan	
Gadwall				
22	P.I.	17	W. Drew#	
American Wigeon				
4, 11	Belmont, New Bedford	30, 24	R. Stymeist, L. Taylor#	
18	Mt. A., Waltham	2, 12	R. Stymeist	
18, 19	P.I., Arlington	14, 19	BBC (J. Center), L. Taylor	
21, 25	Wayland, Plymouth	17, 19	R. Forster, G. d'Entremont#	
Canvasback				
4, 11, 25	Lakeville	150, 360, 5	W. Petersen, D. Davis#, W. Petersen	
11, 18	Acoaxet	24, 95	R. Stymeist#, B. Sorrie#	
19-22, 29	Marlboro, Athol	3 or 4, 1	R. Graefe, D. Small	
Ring-necked Duck				
7, 11	Framingham, Lakeville	6, 20	G. Gove, BBC (D. Davis)	
18; 18, 25	W. Bridgewater; S. Hanson	15; 60, 200	W. Petersen	
21, 25	Wayland, W. Newbury	11, 100	R. Forster, M. Argue#	
25, 26	Holliston, Halifax	104, 15	R. Hildreth, J. Young	
27, 29	Holden, Athol	49, 68	M. Lynch#, D. Small	
Greater Scaup				
5, 11	Newbypt, Lakeville	8 or 9, 120	J. Berry, BBC (D. Davis)	
12	Boston Harbor	1734	MAS/TASL	
16, 18	W. Tisbury, Falmouth	200+, 400+	D. Rimmer, BBC (J. Bryant)	
18	Acoaxet, Newburyport	100+, 200	B. Sorrie#, D. Chickering	
Lesser Scaup				
4, 22	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	7, 11	W. Petersen, T. Aversa#	
22, 25	P.I., Manomet	5, 2	W. Drew#, G. d'Entremont#	
26	Lakeville	5	M. Lynch#	
Common Eider				
12	Boston Harbor	5535	MAS/TASL	
19	Chatham	10,000+	B. Nikula	
King Eider				
12	Nahant	1 f	R. Stymeist, T. Estes	
Harlequin Duck				
thr	Manomet Point	3-5	S. Hess#	
thr	N. Scituate	3	v. o.	
2, 4	Squibnocket, Cape Ann	38, 7	V. Laux, BBC (R. Vernon)	
Oldsquaw				
14, 18	Newburyport	19, 65	D. Chickering	
21	Nantucket	200,000	M. Hall	
Black Scoter				
2, 12	P.I., Nahant	8, 2	W. Drew#, T. Estes#	
Surf Scoter				
21	Nantucket	500	M. Hall	
White-winged Scoter				
3, 11	P.I.	1000+, 100+	BBC (R. McHale), D. Chickering	
12, 21	Boston Harbor, Nantucket	154, 1000+	MAS/TASL, M. Hall	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
Common Goldeneye				
thr	Ipswich (Crane Beach)	10-30	D. Rimmer	
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	23 max	LCES (J. Hill)	
thr	Newbypt (Merrimack R.)	600+ max 3/5	J. Berry + v. o.	
2, 10, 22	PRNWR	40, 80, 150	W. Drew#	
11, 12	Lakeville, Boston H.	250, 1453	BBC (D. Davis), MAS/TASL	
Barrow's Goldeneye				
1-18	Newburyport	1-3	v. o.	
Bufflehead				
12	Boston Harbor	2350	MAS/TASL	
Hooded Merganser				
11, 17	Lakeville, Stoneham	8, 5	BBC (D. Davis), T. Aversa	
18	Belmont, Falmouth	12, 5	R. Stymeist, BBC (J. Bryant)	
18	Halifax, Quabbin (G41)	7, 10	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
19, 22, 29	GMNWR, P.I., Petersham	2, 4, 28	D. F. Oliver, W. Drew#, D. Small	
Common Merganser				
11, 12	Lakeville, Newbypt	47, 15	BBC (D. Davis), BBC (I. Giriunas)	
15, 19	Wayland (Heards Pd)	85, 140	R. Forster	
17, 18	Stoneham, Arlington	37, 64	T. Aversa, R. Stymeist	
Red-breasted Merganser				
thr	Ipswich, S. Dart.	5-16, 43 max	D. Rimmer, LCES (J. Hill)	
12	Boston Harbor	1361	MAS/TASL	
12, 16	Salisbury, W. Tisbury	75+, 25+	M. Lynch#, D. Rimmer	
19, 21	Chatham, Nantucket	430, 1000	B. Nikula, M. Hall	
Ruddy Duck				
18, 19	Belmont, Arlington	2, 5	R. Stymeist, L. Taylor#	

VULTURES THROUGH LARKS

Turkey Vultures are on the increase in eastern Massachusetts, and there were reports of Turkey Vultures from many locations. Ospreys were first reported on March 25, right on time. A maximum of 10 Bald Eagles was counted in the Newburyport area, where up to 10 Northern Harriers were also noted. All three species of accipiters were reported, and Red-shouldered Hawks were seen moving throughout the month with a pair on territory in East Middleboro by midmonth. Red-tailed Hawks (a.k.a. "interstate buzzard") along the region's major highways were counted on March 9 and 11. Rough-legged Hawks were present until March 26, and an adult Golden Eagle was seen at Quabbin. Wild Turkeys were seen and heard in Boxford State Forest.

A Clapper Rail was noted at Allens Pond in South Dartmouth, and up to 225 American Coots were present at the Billington Sea in Plymouth through most of the month. Piping Plovers returned to coastal beaches by March 5, the earliest date in *Bird Observer* field records, and they were seen at eight locations during the month. There were many reports of migrating flocks of Killdeers, and an American Oystercatcher was reported from Nantucket on March 21. One observer reported 2 Willets on Plum Island on March 25, an extremely early date. On the early date of March 31, an Upland Sandpiper was reported from Halifax. Not since the same date in 1962 has such an early arrival of Upland Sandpiper been reported.

Common Black-headed Gulls were noted in Boston and Newburyport harbors, and a bird demonstrating the characteristics of a Thayer's Gull was reported from Provincetown, possibly the same bird that was seen there in January. Lesser Black-backed Gulls also were noted, including two reports from inland locations.

Screech-owl reports included a red-phase bird in Worcester and one found dead in Lakeville. Snowy Owls were present through March 28, and a Long-eared Owl was noted in Essex. People who went to see the White Ibis in Halifax in the late afternoon were treated to views of up to six Short-eared Owls couring the fields.

Red-bellied Woodpeckers were still present in Marshfield and in South Dartmouth, and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was noted at Plum Island on March 29. Eastern Phoebe were noted in numbers by the end of the month.

G.W.G.

Turkey Vulture

2, 23	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1, 1	LCES (J. Hill)
4, 11	Bridgewater, S. Dartmouth	1, 2	W. Petersen, R. Stymeist#
15, 29	Milton	4, 8	B. Wicks, N. Smith
18, 26	Quabbin (G41), Barre	4, 5	M. Lynch#
26, 29	Fall River, Sudbury	3, 3	E. Nielsen#, W. Petersen#
11-28	Reports of individuals from 12 locations.		
Osprey			
25, 26	Acoaxet	1, 5	J. + G. Fernandez, G. Gove#
25, 28	Lakeville	1, pr at nest	W. Petersen, T. Aversa

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
Bald Eagle				
4-18	Newburyport area	10 max 3/15 (1 ad + 9 imm)	R. Heil + v. o.	
11	Westport, Concord	1 ad, 1 ad	L. Taylor#, C. Storrs	
6, 11	Lakeville	1 ad, 1 ad	fide K. Anderson, K. Holmes	
19, 26	Quabbin (G43), N. Middleboro	10, 1 ad	M. Lynch#, K. Holmes	
Northern Harrier				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1 or 2	LCES (J. Hill)	
thr	Newburyport-P.I.	10 max 3/29	T. Aversa + v. o.	
16, 21	M.V., Nantucket	2, 10	D. Rimmer, M. Hall	
25	W. Bridgewater	3	W. Petersen	
28	E. Middleboro	3	K. Holmes	
28	Sudbury, Concord	2 m, 1 m	W. Petersen#	
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
3, 27	Needham, Sudbury	1, 2	W. Petersen	
19, 24	Belmont, Easton	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, M. Ryan	
26, 27	Lakeville, Holden	1, 2	M. Lynch#	
Cooper's Hawk				
16, 22	DWWS, Bridgewater	1, 1	D. Brown#, W. Petersen	
26	Acoaxet	2	E. Nielsen#	
Northern Goshawk				
4, 19	Middleboro	1 ad, 1	T. + J. Cameron, D. F. Oliver	
6, 18	Concord, Quabbin (G41)	1, 1	G. Moretti, M. Lynch#	
Red-shouldered Hawk				
1, 2	Hanson, Easton	1 ad, 1	W. Petersen, K. Ryan	
11-31	E. Middleboro	1 or 2	K. Anderson	
12; 16, 25	Bridgewater; DWWS	1; 1, 1	G. d'Entremont#	
18, 22	Quabbin, DWWS	4, 2	H. Wiggin#, T. Aversa	
22, 28	Lakeville, Sudbury	2, 1	K. Ryan, W. Petersen	
Red-tailed Hawk				
9	Rt. 495 (Bridgewater-Hopkinton)	7	K. Anderson	
11	Rt. 2 (Concord-Gardner)	5	G. d'Entremont#	
11	Rt. 495 (Harvard-Raynham)	10	G. d'Entremont#	
11	Rt. 128 (Concord-Milton)	8	L. Taylor#	
11	Rt. 24 (Milton-Fall River)	9	R. Stymeist#	
11	Middleboro-Lakeville	13	BBC (D. Davis)	
21	Nantucket	8	M. Hall	
Rough-legged Hawk				
2-26	P.I.	4 max 3/2	W. Drew# + v. o.	
4-19	Middleboro	1	v. o.	
Golden Eagle				
19	Quabbin (G43)	1 ad	M. Lynch#	
American Kestrel				
4-26	Newburyport area	5 max 3/5	BBC (R. McHale)	
29	Ipswich, Halifax	9, 21	D. Rimmer, T. Aversa	
Peregrine Falcon				
11, 15	Bolton, Eastham	1, 1	E. Salmela, A. Thomas	
16, 19	M. V., Nantucket	1, 1 ad	D. Rimmer, M. Litchfield	
15, 25	Boston	2, 1	E. Taylor	
Ruffed Grouse				
13, 26	Milton	3, 2	G. d'Entremont, T. + J. Cameron	
22, 24	Easton, N. Middleboro	2, 1	K. Ryan, K. Holmes	
Wild Turkey				
7	Petersham, Belchertown	22, 12	W. Drew#	
11, 18	New Salem, Barre	12, 14	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch	
29	Boxford (C.P.)	2	R. Hamburger	
Northern Bobwhite				
4, 12	Middleboro, Halifax	4, 25	W. Petersen	
Clapper Rail				
9	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	
American Coot				
4-25	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	225 max 3/22	T. Aversa + v. o.	
Black-bellied Plover				
31	Ipswich	1	D. Rimmer	
Piping Plover				
5, 20-31	Chatham, Ipswich	2, 2-4	fide R. Prescott, D. Rimmer	
22, 25	P.I., Westport	1, 3	W. Drew#, J. + G. Fernandez	
26, 27	Acoaxet, Duxbury	3, 3	R. Forster, F. Bygate	
28	Scituate	2	S. Hecker	
29	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	6	LCES (J. Hill)	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
Killdeer				
11, 12	Uxbridge, Newbypt	1, 1	R. Hildreth, BBC (I. Giriunas)	
18, 19	Belmont, Middleboro	36, 60	R. Stymeist#	
20, 21	Braintree, Halifax	19, 46	G. d'Entremont#, T. Aversa	
17-20	Reports of 3-40 birds from many locations.			
American Oystercatcher				
21	Nantucket	1	M. Hall	
Greater Yellowlegs				
18, 29	Westport, Norwell	1, 1	B. Sorrie#, D. Clapp	
29	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
18	Westport	1	B. Sorrie#	
29	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	
Willet				
25	P.I.	2	F. Burrill	
Upland Sandpiper				
31	Halifax	1	S. Kellogg	
Sanderling				
24, 31	Ipswich	2, 4	D. Rimmer	
Purple Sandpiper				
12, 14	Boston Harbor, P.I.	21, 14	MAS/TASL, D. Chickering	
22, 25	N. Scituate, Westport	320, 25	T. Aversa, J. + G. Fernandez	
Dunlin				
14, 29	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	47, 61	LCES (J. Hill)	
18, 31	Westport, Ipswich	200, 66	B. Sorrie#, D. Rimmer	
Common Snipe				
12	Newburyport	3	I. Giriunas	
19-26	Halifax-Middleboro	28 max 3/22	G. d'Entremont# + v. o.	
29	Marshfield	26	D. Clapp	
American Woodcock				
10-31, 14-22	Essex, Hopkinton	2-4, 1 or 2	D. Rimmer, J. Gordon#	
17, 19	Marshfield, P.I.	4, 3	D. Clapp, A. + B. Delorey	
19, 21	Nantucket, Middleboro	12, 8	M. Litchfield, R. Stymeist#	
25, 26	Milton, N. Middleboro	6, 4	T. + J. Cameron, K. Holmes	
28	Canton	11	T. Aversa	
Laughing Gull				
19	Chatham	1	B. Nikula	
Common Black-headed Gull				
10, 12	Winthrop, Boston Harbor	6, 8	D. Chickering, MAS/TASL	
5, 15	Newburyport, E. Boston	3, 5	BBC (R. McHale), J. Quigley#	
22	Quincy	1 ad	T. Aversa	
Bonaparte's Gull				
2	Newburyport	19	J. Quigley#	
Ring-billed Gull				
3, 20	Lynn, Hull	155, 120	J. Quigley#, P. Thayer	
Thayer's Gull				
5	Provincetown	1 ad	D. Ludlow	
Iceland Gull				
3, 12	Hull, Boston Harbor	1 ad, 2	P. Thayer, MAS/TASL	
4-17	Newburyport Harbor	7 max 3/17	J. Quigley# + v. o.	
4, 10	Lakeville, Gloucester	1 (1W), 3	W. Petersen, D. Chickering	
19, 20	Quabbin (G43), Ipswich	1, 1	M. Lynch#, D. Rimmer	
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
12	Boston Harbor	1	MAS/TASL	
17, 21	E. Boston	1 imm, 1	J. Young, T. Aversa	
21, 30	Wayland, Concord	1, 1	R. Forster, W. Petersen#	
Glaucous Gull				
4	Lakeville	1 (1W)	W. Petersen	
Black Guillemot				
4, 5	Cape Ann	5, 5	BBC (R. Vernon), J. Berry#	
5	Newburyport	1	BBC (R. McHale)	
Eastern Screech-Owl				
2, 3	Ipswich, Worcester	1, 1 (red)	J. Berry, M. Lynch#	
4	Lakeville, Newburyport	1 (dead), 1	W. Petersen, D. F. Oliver	
11	Middleboro-Lakeville	3	BBC (D. Davis)	
12	Easton	1	M. Ryan	
Great Horned Owl				
thr	Milton	2	fide G. d'Entremont	
4	Bridgewater, Middleboro, Lakeville	2, 1, 1	W. Petersen	
4-12	Belmont	1	J. Heywood, L. Taylor#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
9, 11	Cambridge, Middleboro	1, 5	R. Stymeist#, K. Holmes	
26, 29	Holliston, Newburyport	2, 2	R. Hildreth, T. Aversa	
Snowy Owl				
9	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	
11, 12	P.I., Boston Harbor	1, 1	D. Chickering, MAS/TASL	
14, 28	Eastham, Chatham	1, 1	fide R. Prescott	
Barred Owl				
5, 11	Holliston, N. Middleboro	1, 3	J. Gordon#, K. Holmes	
21-22, 28	DFWS, Canton (F.M.)	1, 1	fide W. Petersen, T. Aversa	
30	Boxford (C.P.)	1	J. Berry#	
Long-eared Owl				
5	Essex	2	J. Berry	
Short-eared Owl				
3, 8	P. I., Taunton	1, 1	D. Chickering, fide W. Petersen	
9-29	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Hill)	
12-23	Halifax-Middleboro	6 max 3/22	D. Clapp + v. o.	
15, 26	E. Boston	1, 1	L. Rogers, T. Aversa	
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
4-19	P.I.	2 max	v. o.	
2	Hamilton	1 calling	J. Berry	
Belted Kingfisher				
12, 18	Newburyport, Quabbin (G41)	2, 3	BBC (I. Giriunas), M. Lynch#	
20, 26	Hull, Holliston	1, 2	P. Thayer, R. Hildreth	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
thr	S. Dartmouth (LCES)	1 ad m	LCES (J. Hill)	
15, 16	Mashpee, DWWS	1, 1 (from Dec.)	P. Trimble, D. Brown#	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
29	P.I.	1 m	T. Aversa	
Northern Flicker				
1, 14	E. Middleboro, Raynham	1, 1	K. Anderson	
11	Middleboro	9	BBC (D. Davis)	
Pileated Woodpecker				
17, 19	Norwell, Quabbin (G43)	1, 1	D. Clapp, M. Lynch#	
23, 27	Quabbin (G40), Holden	2, 1	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
28, 29	Quabbin, Boxford (C.P.)	4, 2	C. Quinlan, R. Hamburger	
Eastern Phoebe				
18	Quabbin, Mt. A., SRV	2, 3, 2	H. Wiggin#, R. Stymeist#, E. Nielsen	
19, 28	Middleboro, Sudbury	3, 5	L. Taylor#, W. Petersen	
28, 29	P.I., IRWS	21, 16	S. Perkins, R. Heil	
29	Newburyport area	13	T. Aversa	
Horned Lark				
thr	Ipswich	2-14	D. Rimmer	
4, 5	Salisbury, Newbury	20, 150	D. F. Oliver, BBC (R. McHale)	
18, 29	Middleboro, Newbury	150, 250	W. Petersen, T. Aversa	

SWALLOWS THROUGH FINCHES

The first Tree Swallows of the season arrived on March 18, following a southwest wind, and others were noted from Wayland and Quabbin on March 21 and 23. The American Crow roost in Framingham-Natick numbered over 3000 birds at the beginning of the month and dropped to about 150 by March 18. Good numbers of Carolina Wrens were reported with many individuals noted from new areas. Six Winter Wrens from as many locations were reported during the month.

The many reports of Eastern Bluebirds were encouraging. A total of 71 birds was reported from 22 locations, up from the 9 birds noted in March 1988. Perhaps the relatively mild winter with little snow saved quite a few bluebirds that wintered just south of Massachusetts.

A Bohemian Waxwing was found in Hardwick among a flock of over 100 Cedars. American Robins had a general arrival on March 18 with thousands of birds noted that day from across the state. March 18 also saw large numbers of Red-winged Blackbirds, Common Grackles, and Brown-headed Cowbirds reported. Four Water Pipits were seen in Halifax-Middleboro, and small flocks of Fox Sparrows were widely reported on March 18 as well. Winter finch reports were confined to the Quabbin area. Purple Finches were noted in two locations.

R.H.S.

Tree Swallow			
18	S. Hanson, Middleboro	25, 10	W. Petersen
21, 23	Wayland, Quabbin (G40)	4, 2	R. Forster, G. d'Entremont#

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
American Crow				
5, 18	Framingham-Natick	3000, 150	E. Taylor	
11	Bridgewater	100	G. d'Entremont	
Fish Crow				
18	E. Middleboro	1	W. Petersen	
Common Raven				
11	Hardwick	1	M. Lynch#	
Black-capped Chickadee				
11, 23	Petersham, Quabbin (G40)	55+, 26	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont#	
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
17, 18	Norwell, Quabbin (G41)	3, 13	D.Clapp, M. Lynch#	
White-breasted Nuthatch				
25	Quabbin (G40)	15+	M. Lynch#	
Brown Creeper				
19, 29	Quabbin (G43), P.I.	5, 5	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
Carolina Wren				
thr, 2-8	Ipswich, Easton	1, 1 or 2	J. Berry, K. Ryan	
5-31, 5	E. Orleans, Acoaxet	1, 6	E. Williams#, J. Gordon#	
6-31, 11	E. Middleboro, Dartmouth	1, 16	K. Anderson, R. Stymeist#	
16, 18	Marshfield, Bridgewater	3, 4	G. d'Entremont#, W. Petersen	
18, 20	Milton, Randolph	2, 1	G. d'Entremont#	
20, 27	Lexington, Reading	1, 1	D. Dillavou, F. Burrill	
28, 29	Newton, IRWS	1, 1	O. Komar, R. Heil	
Winter Wren				
4, 11	Lakeville, Petersham	1, 1	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
25, 26	Plymouth, Hanson	1, 1	G. d'Entremont#, J. Young	
26, 29	Stoneham, Brookline	1, 1	T. Aversa, R. Hamburger	
Marsh Wren				
28	Wayland	1	B. Howell	
Eastern Bluebird				
4, 5	Hardwick, WMWS	1, 5	M. Lynch#, J. Choiniere	
5	Acoaxet, Dartmouth	3, 1	J. Gordon, G. Gove	
5	S. Wellfleet, Lincoln	4, 1	R. Prescott, fide P. Swift	
9, 11	Westboro, Middleboro	3, 4	C. Quinlan, R. Stymeist#	
13, 14	Otis AFB, Sherborn	2, 2	P. Trimble, J. Miller	
17, 18	Medford, Raynham	2, 2	P. Roberts, K. Ryan	
18	DWWS, S. Hanson	1, 1	D.Clapp#, W. Petersen	
18	Quabbin (G41), Oakham	2, 2	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
26, 27	IRWS, Holden	1, 3	R. Stymeist#, M. Lynch#	
25, 29	Quabbin (G40), Petersham	8, 3	D. Small, M. Lynch#	
29	Marshfield, Milton	5, 7	D.Clapp, N. Smith	
Hermit Thrush				
11	S. Dartmouth	4	R. Stymeist#	
American Robin				
4, 16	Halifax, Wayland	50, 3 (first)	W. Petersen, R. Forster	
18	Mt. A., Quabbin	302, 600	R. Stymeist, H. Wiggin#	
18	Hardwick-New Braintree	1200	M. Lynch#	
18	SRV, Middleboro	general arrival	R. Forster, W. Petersen	
Gray Catbird				
11	E. Orleans, S. Dartmouth	1, 1	A. Williams, R. Stymeist#	
26, 29	IRWS	1, 2	P. Westrom#, R. Heil	
Brown Thrasher				
11	S. Dartmouth	1	R. Stymeist	
Water Pipit				
18	Halifax	4	W. Petersen	
Bohemian Waxwing				
11	Hardwick	1	M. Lynch#	
Cedar Waxwing				
4, 4-11	Halifax, Hardwick	200, 125 max	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
Northern Shrike				
11-18	P.I.	1	v. o.	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
5, 9	P.I., S. Dartmouth	5, 14	BBC (R. McHale), LCES (J. Hill)	
16, 25	W. Tisbury, Norwood	10+, 10	D. Rimmer, J. Young	
Pine Warbler				
18, 23	Holliston, Plymouth	1, 1	R. Hildreth, G. d'Entremont	
26	E. Middleboro	3 or 4 singing	K. Anderson	
Common Yellowthroat				
11	Milford	1	R. Hildreth	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MARCH 1989
Rufous-sided Towhee				
11	S. Dartmouth	6	R. Stymeist#	
American Tree Sparrow				
4	Halifax	500	W. Petersen#	
Field Sparrow				
4	Halifax	15	W. Petersen#	
Vesper Sparrow				
4	Halifax	6	W. Petersen#	
Savannah Sparrow				
4	Halifax	20	W. Petersen#	
"Ipswich" Savannah Sparrow				
18, 23	Salisbury, S. Dart.	1, 1	D. Chickering, LCES (J. Hill)	
Fox Sparrow				
14, 18	Milton, Mt. A.	1, 10	J. Cameron, R. Stymeist	
18	Hopkinton, Sudbury	1, 7	J. Gordon#, G. Gove#	
18	Hardwick, Quabbin (G41)	3, 6	M. Lynch#	
19, 19-23	Reading, Brookline	1, 1 or 2	F. Burrill, B. Rielly#	
25, 27	Norwood, Holden	4, 17	J. Young, M. Lynch#	
25-31	Reports of 1-3 individuals from many locations.			
Song Sparrow				
18	Dorchester, Sudbury	25, 25	G. d'Entremont#, G. Gove#	
25, 27	Quabbin (G40), Holden	35, 38	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
Swamp Sparrow				
27, 31	GMNWR, W. Newton	1, 1	D. Dillavou, T. Kuklinski	
White-crowned Sparrow				
17	Marshfield	1	D. Clapp	
Dark-eyed Junco				
18	Mt. A., Quabbin	75, 300	R. Stymeist, H. Wiggin#	
Lapland Longspur				
1-29	Newburyport	12 max	v. o.	
12-18	Middleboro	12 max	v. o.	
Snow Bunting				
thr	Ipswich (Crane Beach)	8-25	D. Rimmer	
5, 29	Newburyport	25, 5	BBC (R. McHale), T. Aversa	
14, 29	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	25, 7	LCES (J. Hill)	
23, 26	Quabbin (G40), N. Monomoy	50, 40+	G. d'Entremont#, L. Roscoe#	
Red-winged Blackbird				
3, 4	Weymouth, Lakeville	1, 4	W. Petersen	
4	S. Natick, N. Braintree	3, 15	E. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
11, 12	Middleboro, Newbypt	56, 50	BBC (D. Davis), BBC (I. Giriunas)	
18	Mt. A., Hardwick	49, 250+	R. Stymeist, M. Lynch#	
Eastern Meadowlark				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	21 max	LCES (J. Hill)	
1, 21; 26	Halifax	7, 15+; 29	K. Anderson; R. Forster	
16, 18	W. Tisbury, Sudbury	2, 8	D. Rimmer, G. Gove#	
25	Hardwick, Newbury	9, 1	M. Lynch#, M. Argue#	
31	Newton	1	O. Komar	
Rusty Blackbird				
18	Mt. A., Hardwick	2, 2	R. Stymeist, H. Wiggin#	
20, 21	Braintree, Wayland	3, 30	G. d'Entremont#, R. Forster	
Common Grackle				
2, 4	Foxboro, Lakeville	1, 1	M. Kasprzyk, W. Petersen	
4, 16	S. Natick, N. Middleboro	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, K. Holmes	
18	Natick, Hardwick	3500+, 110	E. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
Brown-headed Cowbird				
18	Bridgewater, Hardwick	50, 50	E. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
Purple Finch				
5, 8	Essex, Easton	4, 4	J. Berry, K. Ryan	
Red Crossbill				
25	Quabbin (G41)	1 m singing	M. Lynch#	
Pine Siskin				
18	Quabbin (G41)	1	M. Lynch#	
Evening Grosbeak				
7, 10-25	Petersham, Hardwick	15, 30 max 3/25	W. Drew#, M. Lynch#	

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