

THE BIRD OBSERVER SUMMARY FOR JULY 1974

This was the driest July that eastern Massachusetts had experienced since 1968; the only rainfall during the month occurred in the form of scattered and infrequent thunderstorms. Many farmers faced problems with drought. During the first part of the month, temperatures averaged 3° above normal, then dropped to 4° below average during the latter two weeks.

It was during this month that Cattle Egret and Glossy Ibis, two species which occurred with increasing frequency in the state over the last few years, were found breeding on two coastal islands among other nesting herons. These two islands were Clark's Island in Duxbury Bay and House Island, off Manchester. (Cattle Egret proved to nest at Manchester only.) The discovery of each of these species constitutes first breeding records for the state, although Glossy Ibis had been found nesting previously to the north of here, at Appledore Island, Maine.

Virtually all of the regular shorebird migrant species arrived by mid-month, the most noteworthy being 3 Curlew Sandpipers, 2 Marbled Godwits, a Golden Plover, 1 Wilson's Phalarope, and the repeated early arrival of Long-billed Dowitchers by the 22nd of the month.

The outstanding varieties reported during July included 13 Fulvous Tree Ducks, a Sandhill Crane, a Sooty Tern and a White-winged Dove.

In addition, a Lesser Black-backed Gull, an adult of the race L. f. graellsii, made an appearance for the third year in a row at Eastham. Could this be the same bird returning? Or is this bird actually more regular in occurrence on the Massachusetts coast than records would indicate? Hopefully, all winter gull populations will be scrutinized this winter in search of this species.

R. R. V..

Common Loon:			
16	Marion	3	G. Mock
Pied-billed Grebe:			
15	P. I.	8	BBC (G. Soucy)
Sooty Shearwater:			
20	Gloucester (E.P.)	1	L. Robinson
<u>Manx Shearwater:</u>			
13	Barnstable (S.N.)	1	H. D'Entremont
Wilson's Storm-Petrel:			
20, 28	Gloucester (E.P.), Monomoy	<u>200+</u> , 5	L. Robinson#, W.W. Harrington#
Double-crested Cormorant:			
25	Clinton	7	B. Blodget
Green Heron:			
27	Hatfield	7	M. Yenlin
<u>Little Blue Heron:</u>			
13 on	Duxbury Bay (Clark's Is.)	5 prs., 10+ imm.	W. Petersen#
18 on	off Manchester (House Is.)	2-4 prs.	C. Leahy#
27	Chappaquidick Is. (M.V.)	1	E. M. Sears
29	S. Dartmouth	2 imm.	P. Regan
<u>Cattle Egret:</u>	<u>(First Nesting Record for State)</u>		
13 on	Duxbury Bay (Clark's Is.)	1 ad.	W. Petersen, K. Anderson, B. Harrington
18 on	off Manchester (House Is.)	2-4 prs.	C. Leahy#
21	Essex	4-5	P. Parsons
Great Egret:			
thr.	6 localities	8 individuals	v.o.
13 on	Duxbury Bay (Clark's Is.)	1-2 prs., 2 imm.	W. Petersen#
Snowy Egret:			
13	Duxbury Bay (Clark's Is.)	30+ prs.	W. Petersen#
14	P. I.	62 ad.	R. Forster#
18	off Manchester (House Is.)	60 prs.	C. Leahy#
Louisiana Heron:			
23-24	Monomoy	1	P. Bailey & A. Palmer
Black-crowned Night Heron:			
thr.	Nantucket	250+ prs.	R. Veit#
13 on	Duxbury Bay (Clark's Is.)	20+ imm.	W. Petersen#
18 on	off Manchester (House Is.)	45+ prs.	C. Leahy#

<b>Yellow-crowned Night Heron:</b>			
5,14,26	P.I., Cambridge, Dennis	1 imm., 2 ad., 1 imm.	S&J Harrison, R. Stymeist, D. Baines
<b>Least Bittern:</b>			
thr., 4	P.I., Marshfield	max. 5 (July 20), 1 f.	v.o., W. Petersen#
<b>American Bittern:</b>			
15, 21	P.I., Newburyport	1, 1	BBC (G. Soucy), W. Petersen#
27	Brookfield, Hatfield	2, 1	B. Blodget, M. Yenlin
<b>Glossy Ibis: (First Nesting Record for State)</b>			
13 on	Duxbury Bay (Clark's Is.)	4-6 probable prs.	with 15 young W. Petersen#, K. Anderson#
18 on	off Manchester (House Is.)	2-4 prs.	C. Leahy#
<b>Brant:</b>			
thr.	Wellfleet	8	v.o.
<b>Black Duck:</b>			
25	Clinton	249	B. Blodget
<b>Gadwall:</b>			
5	Concord (GMNWR)	3 ad., 6 imm.	M. Bates
14, 15	P.I.	6 families, 130	W. Petersen, G. Soucy
<b>Green-winged Teal:</b>			
18; 20	Buzzard's Bay; P.I.	2 ad., 4 imm.; 8-10	M. B. O.; W. Petersen#
<b>Blue-winged Teal:</b>			
20	P.I.	3	W. Petersen#
<b>American Wigeon:</b>			
15-20	P.I.	3	v.o.
<b>Wood Duck:</b>			
20	P.I., Harwich	10, 40	W. Petersen#, B. Nikula
<b>Ring-necked Duck:</b>			
7	Brookline	1	A. Agush
<b>Greater Scaup:</b>			
7	Newburyport	1	W. Petersen#
<b>Common Goldeneye:</b>			
5-21	Newburyport	1 m., 1 f.	v.o.
<b>Harlequin Duck:</b>			
9 on	Plymouth (Edison site)	1 imm. m.	B. Sorrie#
<b>King Eider:</b>			
25-31	Nauset	1 f.	v.o.
<b>Surf Scoter:</b>			
21	Marion	1 m.	G. Mock
<b>Ruddy Duck:</b>			
20	P.I.	4 m., 1 f., 5 imm.	W. Petersen#
<b>Fulvous Tree Duck:</b>			
3	Edgartown (M.V.)	10	G. Ben David & v.o.
21-31	Rowley	3	W. Petersen, R. Forster & v.o.
<b>Cooper's Hawk: (no details submitted)</b>			
12	Marshfield	1	A. Richardson
<b>Broad-winged Hawk:</b>			
thr.	5 localities	singles	v.o.
<b>Bald Eagle:</b>			
13-23	Monomoy	1 ad.	W. Bailey#
<b>Marsh Hawk:</b>			
thr.	Nantucket	12+ prs.	R. Veit#
<b>Osprey:</b>			
5, 8	Harwich, Katama (M.V.)	1, 1	R. Pease, D. Grimes#
11-14	Concord (GMNWR)	1	V. Albee#
<b>Ruffed Grouse:</b>			
25	Marshfield	1 with 4 yg.	A. Richardson#
<b>Sharp-tailed Grouse:</b>			
thr.	Tuckernuck Is.	1 pr., 1 yg.	R. Veit
<b>Sandhill Crane:</b>			
24-30	W. Harwich	1 (photographed)	H. Smith & v.o.
<b>King Rail:</b>			
1, 14	P.I., Milton (F.M.)	1, 1	J. Clancy
<b>Clapper Rail:</b>			
thr.; 15-27	Nantucket; S. Dartmouth	1 ad. with 3 yg., 2	R. Veit, E. Andrews; P. Regan
<b>Common Gallinule:</b>			
21	Concord (GMNWR)	12 (2 f., 10 yg.)	BBC (E. Taylor)

American Oystercatcher:			
thr.	Monomoy, Nantucket Islands	9,13	v.o., R.Veit & v.o.
Semipalmated Plover:			
20,27	P. I., Barnstable(S.N.)	35+,80	W.Petersen#
Piping Plover:			
13	Monomoy	25	BBC(R.Stymeist)
Killdeer:			
12,25	Rowley, Clinton	12,12	R.Emery#, B.Blodget
Golden Plover:			
14-20	Plymouth Beach	1	M.B.O.Staff
Black-bellied Plover:			
1	Monomoy	600	B.Nikula
Ruddy Turnstone:			
20	Plymouth	6	F.Hammond
Whimbrel:			
early July	S.Wellfleet(WBWS)	20	V.Laux
20	Nantucket Sound	23	R.Veit
Upland Sandpiper:			
thr.	Newburyport	6	v.o.
Spotted Sandpiper:			
17,19	Westwood, Quansoo(M.V.)	1 yg.,13	J.Clancy, fide S.Whiting
Solitary Sandpiper:			
15,21	Katama(M.V.), W.Newbury	1,2	E.Chalif, W.Petersen#
Willet:			
6,15	Monomoy, Manomet	6,1	J.Harris#, M.B.O.Staff
Greater Yellowlegs:			
7,14	P. I., Newburyport	3,12	W.Petersen#
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
7,14;28	Newburyport	37,200;600+	W.Petersen#; R.Forster#
Red Knot:			
13,20,24	Monomoy, P. I., Scituate	45,34,3000+	R.Stymeist, W.Petersen#, C.Clark#
White-rumped Sandpiper:			
13,22	Monomoy, P. I.	2,2	R.Stymeist, W.Drummond
Least Sandpiper:			
7,21	Newburyport, Concord	40,50	E.Taylor
Curlew Sandpiper:			
5,27	Nauset, Monomoy	1,1	V.Laux#, N.Hill
11-16	Plymouth Beach	1 (breeding plumage)	B.Sorrie#
Dunlin:			
13	Monomoy	1	C.Bauer, R.Stymeist
Short-billed Dowitcher:			
7,14,21	Newburyport	180,450,600+	W.Petersen#
13	Monomoy	250	R.Stymeist
Long-billed Dowitcher:			
20-28,22-23	P. I., S.Wellfleet(WBWS)	2,1	R.Forster#, B.Nikula#
Stilt Sandpiper:			
14,28;30	P. I.; Monomoy	2,24;78	R.Forster#; W.Harrington#
Semipalmated Sandpiper:			
21,28;24	Newburyport; Scituate	12,000+, 8000;5000	W.Petersen#, R.Forster#; C.Clark
Western Sandpiper:			
15,16,22-23	Katama(M.V.), Plymouth, P. I.	1,1,1	E.Chalif#, R.Dwellely, P.Butler#
Marbled Godwit:			
29-31	Monomoy	2	W.Harrington#
Hudsonian Godwit:			
2 on	Monomoy	max.77(July 23)	v.o.
7 on	Newburyport	max.42(July 21)	v.o.
Ruff:			
3-13,21	Monomoy, Newburyport	1 m.,1	R.Stymeist & v.o., R.Forster#
Wilson's Phalarope:			
20	Essex	1	P.Parsons
Parasitic Jaeger:			
3-28	4 localities	5 individuals	v.o.
Glaucous Gull:			
7&14	Newburyport	1 2nd year bird	R.Forster#
Lesser Black-backed Gull:			
31	Nauset(Coast Guard Beach)	1 ad.	J.Harris#
Ring-billed Gull:			
7	Newburyport	225	W.Petersen#

Black-headed Gull:			
14-28	Newburyport	1 sub-ad.	v.o.
Laughing Gull:			
13	Monomoy	30	R.Stymeist#
Bonaparte's Gull:			
7-23	Newburyport	300	W.Petersen# & v.o.
Little Gull:			
14-31	Newburyport	1 sub-ad.	R.Forster,R.Emery#
Gull-billed Tern:			
1	Nauset	1	B.Nikula
early July	S.Wellfleet (WBWS)	1	V.Laux
Forster's Tern:			
17,21	Newburyport,P.I.	1,1	M.Gardler,N.Claflin
Arctic Tern:			
20	Nauset,Plymouth	4,2	B.Blodget,F.Hammond
Roseate Tern:			
13,20	Monomoy,P.I.	18,3	BBC(R.Stymeist),W.Petersen
Sooty Tern:			
early July	Nauset(Coast Guard Beach)	1	I.Nisbet
Least Tern:			
20	P.I.,Plymouth	15 prs.,6	W.Petersen#,F.Hammond
Royal Tern:			
3-13,7	Chatham(North Beach),Monomoy	1,1	v.o.,W.Bailey & v.o.
3-28	Nauset(Coast Guard Beach)	max.3	B.Nikula# & v.o.
7	Tuckernuck Is.	1	R.Veit#
Caspian Tern: (no details received)			
5,24	P.I.,Scituate	1,1	S&J Harrison,C.Clark
Black Tern:			
1,6&13	Nauset,Monomoy	1,1&1	B.Nikula,J.Harris#&BBC(R.Stymeist)
5,11&16	P.I.,Plymouth	1,1	S&J Harrison,M.B.O.Staff
Black Skimmer:			
10-28	Nauset(Coast Guard Beach)	1-3	v.o.
13&28	Monomoy	1	BBC(R.Stymeist)&W.W.Harrington
White-winged Dove:			
4	S.Wellfleet(WBWS)	1	V.Laux
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:			
thr.	11 localities	19 individuals	v.o.
Black-billed Cuckoo:			
thr.	8 localities	11 individuals	v.o.
Barn Owl:			
thr.	N. Sandwich 2 ad.,1 yg.(b),2 dead yg.& 1 live yg.		M.B.O.Staff
thr.	Chilmark,W.Tisbury(M.V.)	3 prs.,2	R.Beauregard,A.Woodruff
thr.	Vineyard Haven (M.V.)	2,3 yg.	B.Wong,A.Fischer
Screech Owl:			
1-15	4 localities	6 individuals	v.o.
Great Horned Owl:			
14	Manomet	1 "rare here"	M.B.O.Staff
Barred Owl:			
20-21	Holden	1	B.Blodget
Short-eared Owl:			
6&13	Monomoy	1,1	J.Harris#,BBC(R.Stymeist)
16	Nantucket	23(total?)	N.Claflin
Saw-whet Owl:			
5,8	Scituate,W.Newbury	1 imm.;1	fide B.Litchfield,M.Poore
Chuck-will's-widow:			
thr.	Nantucket,Polpis	1	S.Perkins,R.Veit et al
Common Nighthawk:			
thr.;21	Cambridge;Concord(GMNWR)	4 prs.,2 yg.;1	R.Stymeist;BBC(E.Taylor)
Pileated Woodpecker:			
14,21	Hingham,Weston	1,1	S.Higginbotham#,L.Robinson
Red-headed Woodpecker:			
1	Weston	1	Mounts
Eastern Kingbird:			
22	P.I.	10	BBC(W.Drummond)
Alder Flycatcher:			
27	Brookfield	4+	B.Blodget#
Bank Swallow:			
thr.	Rowley	200 prs.	M&A Argue# & v.o.

Rough-winged Swallow:			
4	Duxbury	1	W.Petersen#
Cliff Swallow:			
20,21 on	Wellfleet, Newburyport	1,1 pr.	B.Blodget, W.Petersen# & v.o.
<u>Fish Crow:</u>			
29	Roslindale	2 ad. & 2 yg.	D.Brown
Winter Wren:			
13,17&18	Boxford, Weston	1,1	V.Albee, L.Robinson
Carolina Wren:			
thr.	8 localities	10 individuals	v.o.
Long-billed Marsh Wren:			
4,15	Brookfield, P.I.	2,20	D.Crompton, BBC(G.Soucy)
21	Concord	15	BBC(E.Taylor)
American Robin:			
27	S.Dartmouth	50-60	P.Regan
Hermit Thrush:			
thr.,4	Westwood, Sherborn	10-3	J.Clancy, BBC(E.Taylor)
Eastern Bluebird:			
thr.	6 localities	10 individuals	v.o.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:			
27	Plymouth	1	F.Hammond
Loggerhead Shrike:			
27	Plymouth	1	R.Stymeist
White-eyed Vireo:			
thr.	Ipswich(Crane's Beach), Manomet	1,1(b)	J.Berry, M.B.O.Staff
4	Marshfield, Fairhaven	1,2	W.Petersen#, G.Mock
Yellow-throated Vireo:			
7	Boxford	1	W.Petersen#
Blue-winged Warbler:			
July	Manomet	2(b)	M.B.O.Staff
20	Barnstable	1	J.Clancy
Blackburnian Warbler:			
7,13	Boxford(Crooked Pond)	1,2	W.Petersen#, V.Albee#
<u>Blackpoll Warbler:</u>			
17	P.I.	1 singing	M.Baird#
Northern Waterthrush:			
18	Norwell	1	W.Petersen#
Louisiana Waterthrush:			
7	Boxford	1	W.Petersen#
Bobolink:			
28	Ipswich	175+	J.Berry
Orchard Oriole:			
4,7	Marshfield, Wellesley	2,2	W.Petersen#
Cardinal:			
thr.	Annisquam	7 prs.	H.Wiggin
House Finch:			
13,20;26	P.I.; Baldwinville	1 m. & 1 f., 2; 1 pr.	R.Emery#, W.Petersen#; J.O'Regan
<u>Pine Siskin:</u>			
24	Plymouth	1(feeder)	C.Youngstrom
<u>Henslow's Sparrow:</u>			
thr.	Newburyport	2 singing(from May)	v.o.
Vesper Sparrow:			
early July	Manomet	3 m.singing	v.o.
<u>Dark-eyed Junco:</u>			
12-25	Marshfield	2"carrying food"	A.Richardson
<u>White-crowned Sparrow:</u>			
13	P.I., Weston	1 ad., 1 ad.	R.Emery#, L.Robinson#
White-throated Sparrow:			
4,17-18	Cambridge(Mt.A.), Weston	2,1 with food	R.Stymeist, L.Robinson
28	Annisquam	nested successfully	H.Wiggin
Swamp Sparrow:			
27	Brookfield	21	B.Blodget