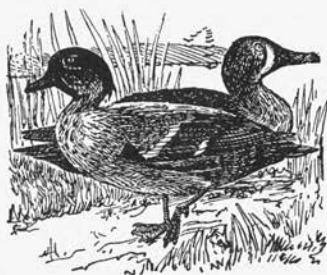


# BIRD SIGHTINGS

## MARCH 1996

### SUMMARY



by Richard A. Forster, Marjorie W. Rines, and Robert H. Stymeist

#### LOONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

March is often a cruel month. Warmer weather and southwesterly winds offer birders hope that migration will begin in earnest, but the results rarely meet expectations. Nevertheless, by the end of the month, the early spring migration had dispelled the memory of the long winter.

Reports of both loon species increased at midmonth, but Red-necked Grebe reports seemed low for the season. Double-crested Cormorant reports began to dominate toward the end of the month. As is typical, both Great and Snowy egrets began appearing at month's end, but the scattering of Glossy Ibis reports on outer Cape Cod were early. Waterfowl appearance is a typical feature of the month. Species reported in good numbers included Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, and Green-winged Teal. Less common duck species that were reported in lesser numbers from scattered locations included Northern Shoveler, Eurasian Wigeon, and Lesser Scaup. Among the more unusual winter mainstays, Harlequin Duck was reported only from traditional wintering areas. A sub-adult King Eider was unique at Squantum, and Barrow's Goldeneye was reported from only two locations.

Although no pronounced raptor movement was noted, the tally by the end of the month indicated that some early migrants were arriving. Turkey Vultures were everywhere, and Ospreys were well established in Westport. Both Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks were widely reported late in the month, although mainly as single individuals. An exceedingly early report of Broad-winged Hawk was undetailed. Rough-legged Hawk reports reflected their scarcity this past winter. A few Merlins and Peregrine Falcons appeared late in the month, and one Merlin was observed taking and carrying off a Killdeer.

The shorebird movement was normal, and featured the seasonal arrival of residents such as American Oystercatcher, Piping Plover, and American Woodcock. Both Killdeer and Common Snipe were widespread and occasionally in good numbers. Among the arriving Greater Yellowlegs were the usual scattering of Lesser Yellowlegs. The only reports that might be termed mildly surprising were Upland and Pectoral sandpipers.

Gulls were noteworthy this month, particularly in Newburyport Harbor and a nearby field on Little's Lane in Newbury. An astute observer commented on the fact that they were attracted to copious amounts of bone meal spread on the fields. This event coincided with the migration period for several species and produced some impressive tallies. Present among the assembled gulls were adults of both Lesser Black-backed and Mew gulls. Another adult Mew Gull was present for a brief period early in the month in South Boston. A few Common Black-headed Gulls were reported in small numbers away from the Newbury gull assemblage. Notable among alcids was a Common Murre well observed close to shore in East Gloucester. An Atlantic Puffin in East Orleans appeared to be sick or partially oiled. A careful count of Razorbills passing the outer beach in Wellfleet during a two-and-a-half-hour period totaled an impressive 2,810.

A handful of reports of Short-eared Owls and only a single report of Snowy Owl reflect the scarcity of both species this winter. The Great Gray Owl in Rowley, originally discovered in February, continued to bring delight to many birders throughout March. Reports of Barred Owls reflected their strong showing last fall and winter. A Red-headed Woodpecker in Medfield was interesting both by date and location, and a Black-backed Woodpecker in Sharon, originally located in February, continued to be seen through midmonth.

R. A. F.

Date	Location	Number	Observers	Date	Location	Number	Observers
<b>Red-throated Loon</b>				27	Essex	1	G. Soucy#
1	Newburyport H.	1	T. Aversa	28	Wareham	1	M. LaBossiere
9	Wellfleet	30	S. Arena#	29	P.I.	2	C. Leahy
10	P'town, Orleans	15, 12G.	d'Entremont#	30	W. Harwich	1	J. Trimble #
17	Boston H.	8	TASL (M. Hall)	<b>Snowy Egret</b>			
29	Nantucket	300+	S. Perkins	28	Gloucester	2	G. Soucy#
<b>Common Loon</b>				29	Rochester	1	M. LaBossiere
9	Wellfleet	10	S. Arena#	<b>Glossy Ibis</b>			
10	Truro, P'town	5, 7G.	d'Entremont#	23	Orleans	1	E. Winslow
10	Plymouth	10	M. Lynch#	24	Chatham	1	B. Nikula
17	Boston H.	9	TASL (M. Hall)	<b>Whooper Swan</b>			
23	Westport	8	M. Lynch#	thr	Ipswich	2	G. Soucy#
29	Nantucket	30	S. Perkins	1	P.I.	1	J. Brown#
31	P.I.	3	G. d'Entremont#	<b>Mute Swan</b>			
<b>Pied-billed Grebe</b>				17	Westport	108	M. Lynch#
3	Lakeville	3	W. Petersen	<b>Snow Goose</b>			
10	Plymouth	1	M. Lynch#	10	Newyport	1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)
25	GMNWR	1	R. Lockwood	15	Saugus	1	S. Hatch
26	P.I.	1	D. + I. Jewell	18	Wenham	2	J. Berry#
27	Lynnfield	1	C. Leahy	<b>Brant</b>			
30	Arlington	1	K. Hartel	1	Newburyport	24	R. Heil
30	Nantucket	1	S. Perkins#	10	Plymouth	460+	M. Lynch#
31	IRWS	3	R. Heil	17	Boston H.	2368	TASL (M. Hall)
<b>Horned Grebe</b>				17	Salisbury	120	R. Heil
1	P.I.	51	R. Heil	30	Nantucket	11	S. Perkins#
10	Plymouth	18	M. Lynch#	<b>Canada Goose</b>			
17	Boston H.	142	TASL (M. Hall)	3	Salisbury, P.I.	700, 500	M. Lynch#
17	Cape Ann	6	J. Hoyer#	23	W. Bridgewater	2200	S. Arena#
23	Winthrop	32	G. Long	24	Bolton Flats	720	M. Lynch#
24	Lakeville	1	W. Petersen	<b>Wood Duck</b>			
24	Scusset B.	15	M. Sylvia	10	Lakeville	20	R. Shore
29	Nantucket	6	S. Perkins	16	Acushnet	2	M. LaBossiere
<b>Red-necked Grebe</b>				23	GMNWR	18	S. Perkins#
10	Manomet	5	M. Lynch#	24	Bolton Flats	10	M. Lynch#
12	Cape Ann	3	J. Brown#	25	Westboro	6	J. Coyne
17	Rockport	4	J. Hoyer#	31	Sherborn	12	E. Taylor
17	Boston H.	21	TASL (M. Hall)	31	IRWS	25	R. Heil
23	Lakeville	2	H. Ferguson	<b>Green-winged Teal</b>			
24	Truro	12	J. Hoyer#	9	Cambridge	9	J. Campbell
24	Winthrop	36	M. Pelikan	10	Acoaxet	10	S. Hennin
24, 30	Lakeville	3, 2	W. Petersen	15	W. Roxbury	14	T. Aversa
29	Nantucket	6	S. Perkins	16-31	Arlington Res.	12 max	M. Pelikan
<b>Northern Gannet</b>				17	W. Bridgewater	15	R. Finch
9	Wellfleet	300	S. Arena#	17, 30	W. Harwich	7, 25	B. Nikula #
10	P'town, Orleans	75, 25G.	d'Entremont#	19	Concord (NAC)	20	R. Walton
17	Boston H.	2	TASL (M. Hall)	25	GMNWR	20	R. Lockwood
30	Nantucket	25	S. Perkins#	25	Dorchester	15	R. Donovan
<b>Great Cormorant</b>				27	Arlington Res.	8	M. Rines
10	Plymouth	35	M. Lynch#	29	P.I.	400	C. Leahy
13	S. Carver	4	J. Shaw	3, 30	W. Bridgewater	6, 60+	W. Petersen
16, 23	Lakeville	11, 10	S. Arena#	30	Newbury	13	T. Young
17	Newburyport	60+	J. Berry	31	Bolton Flats	12	R. Bradbury
<b>Double-crested Cormorant</b>				<b>American Black Duck</b>			
17	Boston H.	14	TASL (M. Hall)	1	Newburyport	910	R. Heil
24	Squantum	25	G. d'Entremont#	10	Plymouth	1400	M. Lynch#
25	Dorchester	15	R. Donovan	10	Orleans	500	G. d'Entremont#
28	Wareham	1	M. LaBossiere	17	Boston H.	1057	TASL (M. Hall)
30	Nantucket	4	S. Perkins	17	Westport	1720	M. Lynch#
<b>American Bittern</b>				30	Salisbury	1100	M. Lynch#
19	Squantum	1	D. Brown	<b>Northern Pintail</b>			
<b>Great Blue Heron</b>				1	Newburyport	9	R. Heil
13	Acton	8	B. Colburn	3	P.I.	9	M. Pelikan
16	Yarmouth	14	M. Lynch#	10	Westport	130	S. Hennin
23	Chatham	11	J. Hoyer#	17	W. Bridgewater	2	R. Finch
24	Westboro	7 nests	M. Lynch#	19, 31	Wayland	1, 2	N. Patterson
<b>Great Egret</b>				20-24	GMNWR	3	S. Perkins#
23	Chilmark	1	W. Keith	29	P.I.	35	C. Leahy
24	Truro	2	K. Jones #	3, 30	W. Bridgewater	5, 8	W. Petersen
25	Dorchester	1	R. Donovan				

<b>Blue-Winged Teal</b>			
24, 30	W. Harwich	2, 4	B. Nikula #
25	Dorchester	12	R. Donovan
26	Chatham	2	R. Hall
26	P.I.	2	L. Healey
31	Bolton	1	S. Hennin
<b>Northern Shoveler</b>			
23, 30	Sudbury	2, 3	R. Forster#
27	Lynnfield	2	C. Leahy
28	Arlington Res.	1 m	M. Rines
28	Wayland	2	N. Patterson
30	Wakefield	1	D. + I. Jewell
<b>Gadwall</b>			
18	Gloucester	8	G. Soucy#
22	GMNWR	2	R. Lockwood
29	Ipswich	77	C. Leahy
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b>			
24	Quincy	1 f	D. Brown#
26	Arlington Res.	1 m	M. Pelikan
30	Chatham	2	E. Banks
<b>American Wigeon</b>			
3	W. Bridgewater	2	W. Petersen#
15	Newburyport H.	2	R. Heil
16	Arlington Res.	6	M. Pelikan
17	Marlboro	4	S. Hennin
23	GMNWR	6	S. Perkins#
24	Wakefield	4	P. + F. Vale
29	Nantucket	8	S. Perkins
30	Newbury	6	J. Berry#
<b>Canvasback</b>			
3	Nantucket	66	E. Andrews#
10	Westport	4	S. Hennin
16	Falmouth	40	J. Hoye#
16	Lakeville	2	S. Arena#
17	Newburyport	1 m	J. Berry
17, 23	Westport	53, 55	M. Lynch#
20	Wareham	17	M. Sylvia
25	GMNWR	1m	J. McLaughlin
26-31	Arlington Res.	1	M. Pelikan
30	Nantucket	14	S. Perkins#
<b>Redhead</b>			
23	Yarmouth	pr	J. Hoye#
29	Nantucket	43	S. Perkins
30	Arlington	1	K. Hartel
<b>Ring-necked Duck</b>			
10	Wayland	100	S. Hennin
17	Waltham	30	E. Taylor
17	Halifax	25	R. Finch
19	Concord (NAC)	35	R. Walton
23	GMNWR	48	S. Perkins#
24, 30	Halifax	125, 90	W. Petersen
27	Arlington Res.	98	M. Rines
27	Westboro	50	J. Coyne#
29	Nantucket	15	S. Perkins
31	Brockton	28	S. Arena#
31	IRWS	17	R. Heil
<b>Greater Scaup</b>			
16	Lakeville	240	S. Arena#
16	Falmouth	70	J. Hoye#
17	Boston H.	666	TASL (M. Hall)
17	Newburyport	4	J. Berry
23	New Bedford	72	M. Sylvia
30	Nantucket	290	S. Perkins
<b>Lesser Scaup</b>			
16	Lakeville	36	S. Arena#
16	Falmouth	60	J. Hoye#
23	Waltham	3	R. Forster
24	Halifax	2	W. Petersen
27	W. Newbury	1	R. Forster
30	Arlington Res.	1 f	M. Pelikan
30	Pembroke	30	W. Petersen
30	Nantucket	40	S. Perkins#
<b>Common Eider</b>			
1	P.I.		
10	Plymouth	3800+	M. Lynch#
17	Boston H.	9110	TASL (M. Hall)
<b>King Eider</b>			
19	Squantum		1 imm m D. Brown
<b>Harlequin Duck</b>			
2	Rockport	18	BBC (J. Nove)
10	Manomet	9	M. Lynch#
23	N. Scituate	9	SSBC (D. Clapp)
<b>Oldsquaw</b>			
3	Newburyport	300+	M. Lynch#
17	Woods Hole	400	N. Komar
30	Nantucket	200,000	S. Perkins#
<b>Black Scoter</b>			
10	Orleans	50	G. d'Entremont#
10	Plymouth	80+	M. Lynch#
16	Sandwich	30+	M. Lynch#
17	Boston H.	1	TASL (M. Hall)
<b>Surf Scoter</b>			
10	Plymouth	50+	M. Lynch#
10	Nahant	20	R. Lockwood
16	Sandwich	70+	M. Lynch#
17	Boston H.	78	TASL (M. Hall)
28	Nant Sound	720	S. Perkins
31	P.I.	6	D. Brown#
<b>White-winged Scoter</b>			
16	Sandwich	130+	M. Lynch#
17	Boston H.	179	TASL (M. Hall)
<b>Common Goldeneye</b>			
1, 17	Newburyport	260, 360	R. Heil
10	Plymouth	135+	M. Lynch#
17	Boston H.	817	TASL (M. Hall)
29	Nantucket	150	S. Perkins
<b>Barrow's Goldeneye</b>			
17	Newburyport	1 m	R. Forster
17, 30	Newburyport H.	1 f	J. Berry#
19, 30	Squantum	7, 1	D. Brown
23	M.V.	1	A. Keith#
<b>Bufflehead</b>			
17	Boston H.	1929	TASL (M. Hall)
20-24	GMNWR	5	S. Perkins#
<b>Hooded Merganser</b>			
1	Melrose	15	D. + I. Jewell
2, 24	Wakefield	11, 4	P. + F. Vale
3	Lakeville	25	W. Petersen#
9	W. Brookfield	22	M. Lynch#
16	Arlington	31	K. Hartel
16	Yarmouth	27	M. Lynch#
17	Wash Brook	2	S. Perkins#
25	GMNWR	4	J. McLaughlin
29	Nantucket	2	S. Perkins
<b>Common Merganser</b>			
thr	Wayland	19 max	N. Patterson
1	Boston	26	C. Hepburn
3	Hanson	17	W. Petersen#
1, 30	Pepperell	62, 6	E. Stromsted
10	S. Carver	71	J. Shaw
10	Lakeville	42	R. Shore
2, 30	Arlington	62, 2	K. Hartel
24	Randolph	30	G. d'Entremont
24	GMNWR	17	S. Perkins#
25	Dorchester	75	R. Donovan
26	Westboro	40	J. Coyne#
30	W. Newbury	80	J. Berry#
<b>Red-breasted Merganser</b>			
10	Plymouth	490+	M. Lynch#
17	Boston H.	1285	TASL (M. Hall)
23	Westport	470+	M. Lynch#
23	Dorchester	600	R. Donovan

<b>Ruddy Duck</b>				17	Newbypt area	9	J. Berry
26	P.I.	1	K. Disney	23	Bridgewater	9	S. Arena#
30	Pembroke	12	W. Petersen	31	Wayland	8	G. Long
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>					<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b>		
14	Milton	19	N. Smith	9, 24	Middleboro	1, 4	W. Petersen#
16	Taunton	3	M. Lynch#	10, 31	Cumb. Farms	2, 1	C. Ralph
16	Lynnfield	7	S. Hepburn#	16	W. Bridgewater	1	S. Arena#
17	GMNWR	3	M. Pelikan	17	P.I.	1 dk	D. + I. Jewell
17	Westport	4	M. Lynch#	22	P.I.	1 lt	M. Pelikan
17, 24	Newbury	1, 4	R. Heil		<b>American Kestrel</b>		
22	Concord	5	A. Hirschkop	1	Newburyport	1	J. Brown#
23	Bridgewater	3	S. Arena#	9	Wakefield	1	P. + F. Vale
25	Randolph	26	N. Smith	10	S. Boston	1	R. Lockwood
29	Rochester	4	M. Sylvia	10	Salisbury	1	P. + F. Vale
30	Fall River	3	P. O'Neill	27	Wayland	1	N. Patterson
31	Bolton	3	S. Hennin		<b>Merlin</b>		
thr	Reports of 1-2 individuals from 18 loc.			2	Melrose	1	P. + F. Vale
				20	Salisbury	1	C. Ralph
<b>Osprey</b>				27	Newbury	1	R. Forster
14	Chilmark	1	R. Conway	29	Nantucket	1	S. Perkins
17	Malden	2	J. Burns		<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>		
17, 23	Westport	2, 33	M. Lynch#	1	Newton	1	C. Hepburn#
21	Wareham	1	M. LaBossiere	10	Provincetown H.	1	J. Trimble #
23	Lakeville	2	S. Arena#	14, 24	Boston	2 pr	K. Hudson
28	Wareham	2	M. Sylvia	22	P.I.	1	M. Pelikan
30	Nantucket	1	S. Perkins#	23	Orleans	1	J. Hoyer#
				23	W. Bridgewater	1	S. Arena#
<b>Bald Eagle</b>				30	Nantucket	1	S. Perkins#
13	Wareham	1 ad	R. Turner		<b>Ruffed Grouse</b>		
15	Athol	1	C. Paine	16	Canton	1	G. d'Entremont
17	Newburyport	3	J. Berry	23	Sharon	1	G. d'Entremont
17	M.V.	1	T. Lubin	24	Worc. (BMB)	1	J. Liller
22	GMNWR	1 2yr	S. Perkins#	28	Westford	1	C. Paine
23	Lakeville	1 ad	S. Arena#	31	IRWS	1	R. Heil
25	Sudbury	1	R. Walton		<b>Wild Turkey</b>		
30	W. Newbury	1 ad	J. Berry	thr	Middleboro	61 max	R. Shore
				1-13	Braintree	1	R. Campbell#
<b>Northern Harrier</b>				21	Holliston	1	J. Hoyer#
17	Westport	2	M. Lynch#	22	Wayland	1	M. Fraser
23	W. Bridgewater	2	S. Arena#		<b>Northern Bobwhite</b>		
27	P.I.	4	R. Forster	10	Plympton	2	W. Petersen
29	W. Newbury	1 m	R. Heil		<b>Virginia Rail</b>		
30	Lexington	1	M. Pelikan	27	P.I.	1	G. Leet
30	Nantucket	5	R. Clem#		<b>American Coot</b>		
				5	Boston	12	T. Aversa
<b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b>				15	Lynn	1	C. Packard
31	Arlington	2	K. Hartel	22	Arlington	22	M. Rines
thr	Reports of individuals from 16 loc.				<b>Black-bellied Plover</b>		
				16	Sandwich	1	S. Hennin
<b>Cooper's Hawk</b>					<b>Piping Plover</b>		
19-31	Lincoln	2	A. Jones	1	M.V.	1	R. Culbert
thr	Reports of individuals from 17 loc.			20	Centerville	1	fide S. Hecker
				24	Provincetown	1	J. Hoyer#
<b>Northern Goshawk</b>				24	Scusset B.	1	M. Sylvia
16	Cumb. Farms	1 ad	S. Arena#	27	P.I.	1	G. Soucy#
25	Maynard	1 imm	L. Nachtrab		<b>Killdeer</b>		
30	Boxford	1	J. Brown#	2	Rowley	2	F. Garretson
31	Wayland	1	G. Long	15	W. Roxbury	7	T. Aversa
				17	W. Bridgewater	17	R. Finch
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>				17	Cumb. Farms	15	G. d'Entremont#
thr	E. Middleboro	pr	K. Anderson	17	Boston H.	7	TASL (M. Hall)
1	Acushnet	1	M. Sylvia	20	Bedford	4	M. Rines
3	Lakeville	1	W. Petersen#	21	M.V.	4	fide S. Hecker
10	Halifax	1	W. Petersen	26	Concord	10	R. Forster
10	Harwich	1	B. Zusavich	27	Newbypt area	35	R. Forster
17	Newbury	1	R. Heil	30	W. Harwich	11	B. Nikula #
17-26	Taunton	2	R. Dillon	31	Wayland	12	A. Hirschkop
22	Sudbury	1	A. Hirschkop	31	Newburyport	25	G. d'Entremont#
22	Hanover	2	W. Petersen		<b>American Oystercatcher</b>		
23	Sharon	1 imm	G. d'Entremont#	14	M.V.	1	J. Cressey
27	Northboro	1	C. Paine	22	S. Dart. (A. Pd)	2	fide S. Hecker
30	Wareham	1	M. Sylvia				
30	Newton	1	S. Hepburn#				
31	Petersham	2	E. Nielsen				
<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>							
17	W. Newbury	1	BBC (S. Grinley)				
<b>Red-tailed Hawk</b>							
16	Cumb. Farms	8	S. Arena#				

American Oystercatcher (continued)							
30 Nantucket	14	S. Perkins#		17 Newby/Newbypt	1400		R. Heil
31 Chatham	2	J. Sones #		Herring Gull			
Greater Yellowlegs				17 Newby/Newbypt	7500		R. Heil
24 Newburyport	3	R. Heil		20 GMNWR	300		S. Perkins#
25 Fairhaven	1	M. LaBossiere		Iceland Gull			
26, 30 W. Harwich	5, 8	J. Sones #		1 Newburyport	23		R. Heil
29 W. Bridgewater	3	S. Arena		17 Winthrop	3	TASL (M. Hall)	
31 P.I.	2	G. d'Entremont#		17 Newby/Newbypt	15		R. Heil
Lesser Yellowlegs				24 Provincetown	5		J. Hoye#
23 Newbury	2	P. + F. Vale		30 Nantucket	42		S. Perkins#
27 P.I.	1	R. Forster		Lesser Black-backed Gull			
29 W. Bridgewater	4	S. Arena		10 Harwich	1	B. Zusavich	
Upland Sandpiper				12, 30 Newburyport H.	1 ad	R. Heil	
28 Wayland	1	N. Patterson		16 Yarmouth	1 ad	M. Lynch#	
Ruddy Turnstone				17 Sandwich	1 ad	S. Arena#	
16 Sandwich	5	M. Lynch#		17-30 Newbury	1 ad	R. Heil#	
Sanderling				26 Gloucester	1 3W	G. Soucy	
10 Westport	60	S. Hennin		Glaucous Gull			
Pectoral Sandpiper				11 Scusset B.	1	M. LaBossiere	
26-31 W. Harwich	1	J. Sones #		12 Sandwich	1	T. Aversa	
29 P.I.	1	C. Leahy		16 Provincetown	1	A. Hirschkop	
Purple Sandpiper				17 Quincy	1	TASL (M. Hall)	
3 Salisbury	4	M. Lynch#		17 Newby/Newbypt	2 1W	R. Heil	
10 Manomet	6	M. Lynch#		24, 31 Newburyport	2 1W, 1 1WR	R. Heil	
10 Westport	1	S. Hennin		Great Black-backed Gull			
17 Nahant	7	TASL (M. Hall)		15 Newby/Newbypt	850		R. Heil
28 Nantucket	20	S. Perkins		Black-legged Kittiwake			
Dunlin				3 Rockport (A.P.)	2	M. Pelikan	
10 Westport	50	S. Hennin		9 Wellfleet	3	S. Arena#	
Common Snipe				Common Murre			
17 Cumb. Farms	2	G. d'Entremont#		21-22 Gloucester	1	G. Soucy + v.o.	
26 Rowley	4	K. Disney		Razorbill			
26 Concord (NAC)	2	R. Forster		9 Wellfleet	2810	S. Arena#	
29 W. Bridgewater	63	S. Arena		23 M.V.	32	A. Keith	
29 Wayland	1	N. Patterson		29 Nantucket	320	S. Perkins	
30 Wakefield	3	D. + I. Jewell		Black Guillemot			
31 Bolton Flats	3	R. Bradbury		9 Wellfleet	2	S. Arena#	
31 W. Harwich	8	J. Sones #		9 Rockport	2	R. Lockwood	
31 Cumb. Farms	20	C. Ralph		17 Boston H.	2	TASL (M. Hall)	
American Woodcock				22 Rockport (A.P.)	1	M. Pelikan	
1 Concord	1	D. + I. Jewell		Monk Parakeet			
7 W. Peabody	1	R. Heil		30 Taunton	3	SSBC	
9 Wellfleet	1	S. Arena#		Atlantic Puffin			
15 Belmont	8	R. Martel		13 E. Orleans	1 oiled	K. Von den Deale	
16 Arlington Res.	3	M. Pelikan		24 Gay Head	1	A. Keith	
17 Wayland	3	N. Patterson		Eastern Screech-Owl			
17 W. Newbury	3	R. Heil		thr Mt. A.	pr	R. Stymeist	
20 DWWS	18	D. Clapp		1 Newburyport	1	J. Brown#	
24 Boxboro	3	R. Lockwood		11 Arlington	1	G. Benson	
25 Belmont	8	R. Hartel		23 Westport	1	M. Lynch#	
30 Newton	3	C. Hepburn#		28 Ipswich	1	D. + I. Jewell	
20-31 Reports of 1-2 individuals from 8 loc.				Great Horned Owl			
Laughing Gull				thr Mt. A.	1 or 2	v.o.	
31 Chatham	8	J. Sones #		4 Boxboro	1	C. Paine	
Common Black-headed Gull				19 Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell	
thr Newburyport	1 ad	R. Heil		24 Westboro	1 n	M. Lynch#	
9 S. Boston	1	R. Donovan		29 Ipswich	3-4	J. Berry	
10 Plymouth	2 ad	M. Lynch#		Snowy Owl			
13 New Bedford	1	M. Sylvia		9 Nantucket	1	V. McNay	
13, 25 E. Boston	1, 3	J. Quigley		Great Gray Owl			
17 Winthrop	2	TASL (M. Hall)		thr Rowley	1	N. Sullivan + v.o.	
Bonaparte's Gull				Barred Owl			
17 Newburyport	5	J. Berry		3 Sharon	1	J. Hoye#	
26 Newburyport	15	J. Brown#		10 W. Newbury	1	R. Heil	
Mew Gull				10 Rowley	1	C. Ralph	
12, 17 Newbypt, Newby	1 ad	R. Heil		12-14 Bedford	1	A. Maier	
27 Newbury	1 ad	R. Forster		15 W. Roxbury	1	T. Aversa	
5-9 S. Boston	1	R. Donovan		16 Arlington	1	R. Penkala	
Ring-billed Gull				17 Boston	1	T. Aversa	
1, 15 Newburyport	610, 660	R. Heil		17 W. Bridgewater	1	G. d'Entremont#	
				17 Reading	1	C. Wing	

<b>Barred Owl (continued)</b>			<b>Red-bellied Woodpecker</b>		
18-31 Lincoln	1	C. Leahy	thr Maynard	pr	L. Nachtrab
18, 25 Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell	thr Pepperell	pr	E. Stromsted
21 IRWS	1	D. + I. Jewell	thr Mt. A.	1 or 2	v.o.
23 Middleboro	1	S. Arena#	thr Boxford	2	J. Brown#
24 Acushnet	1	M. LaBossiere	3 Ipswich	1 m	J. Berry
24 Reading	1	V. Stasiak	10 Westport	1	S. Hennin
31 Ipswich	1	J. Berry	28 Hingham	1	J. Norton
<b>Short-eared Owl</b>			30 Taunton	1	P. O'Neill
thr Katama	5	v.o.	30 Westwood	1	E. Nielsen
10 N. Scituate	1	R. Renaud	<b>Hairy Woodpecker</b>		
22 P.I.	1	M. Pelikan	thr Boxford	3	J. Brown#
24 Scusset B.	1	M. Sylvia	3 Pepperell	2	E. Stromsted
31 Middleboro	2	C. Ralph	<b>Black-backed Woodpecker</b>		
31 Cumb. Farms	2	C. Ralph	3-16 Sharon	1 f	D. Lahaise
<b>Northern Saw-whet Owl</b>			<b>Northern Flicker</b>		
2 P.I.	1	J. Berry#	30 Nantucket	18	S. Perkins#
20 Needham	1 dead	W. Petersen	<b>Pileated Woodpecker</b>		
27 Braintree	1 dead	W. Petersen	thr Pepperell	2	E. Stromsted
30 Lexington	1	C. Paine#	1 Wayland	1	N. Patterson
<b>Belted Kingfisher</b>			1 Newburyport	1	R. Heil
30 Wayland	2	R. Forster	14 Lincoln	1	A. Jones
<b>Red-headed Woodpecker</b>			31 IRWS	1	R. Heil
24 Medfield	1	W. Nightingale			

#### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH GROSBEAKS

The severe winter weather had its toll on several normal hardy winterers, most notably Carolina Wrens, which have been decimated over the years in bad winters. A concerted search for Carolina Wrens on March 30 in Westport yielded just three individuals, surprising for a location where casual birding typically results in far more wrens. Equally poorly represented were Hermit Thrushes, Gray Catbirds and Eastern Towhees.

On the plus side, spring does return and the first Eastern Phoebes were noted on March 22, and the first Tree Swallows after March 17. Large flocks of blackbirds were everywhere.

**Boreal Chickadees** continued at feeders in Groveland and Wakefield, and Northern Shrikes continued in large numbers throughout our area. The **Bohemian Waxwings** seen in January and February just disappeared with no reports for the month. Likewise, there were fewer reports of redpolls, siskins, and Evening Grosbeaks.

An adult **Yellow-headed Blackbird** in Danvers, and an early Northern Parula on Martha's Vineyard on March 28 were unusual. Fox Sparrows were noted from a wide area from midmonth on. R. H. S.

<b>Eastern Phoebe</b>			25 Sudbury	2	R. Walton
22 Marshfield	1	D. Clapp	25 GNMWR	6	J. McLaughlin
22 Sudbury	1	J. Hoye#	27 Maynard	6	L. Nachtrab
24 Lakeville	1	W. Petersen	27 Easton	30	K. Ryan
25 E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	28 Rochester	10	M. LaBossiere
25 Boxford	1	J. Brown#	28 Wayland	250+	R. Forster
26 P.I.	4	K. Disney	30 Lakeville	75	M. Sylvia
26 Lexington	1	M. Rines	30 W. Bridgewater	100	W. Petersen
26 Gloucester	1	J. Soucy	<b>Barn Swallow</b>		
28, 31 Wayland	1, 2	N. Patterson	23 Chatham	1	J. Hoye#
30 SRV	5	R. Forster#	<b>American Crow</b>		
30 Arlington Res.	1	M. Pelikan	1-18 Framingham	7200	E. Taylor
30 Lakeville	2	M. Sylvia	21-31 Framingham	15	E. Taylor
30 W. Bridgewater	2	W. Petersen	<b>Fish Crow</b>		
31 Topsfield	5	R. Heil	16 Braintree	1	G. d'Entremont
31 Bolton	1	S. Hennin	21 Wareham	2	M. Sylvia
<b>Horned Lark</b>			24 Milton	5+	G. d'Entremont#
3 Ipswich	40	M. Pelikan	30 Needham	1	G. d'Entremont
3 Salisbury, P.I.	50, 10	M. Lynch#	<b>Black-capped Chickadee</b>		
3 Newbury	20	M. Pelikan	1 Newburyport	76	R. Heil
5 Cumb. Farms	100	K. Anderson	<b>Boreal Chickadee</b>		
30 Nantucket	5	S. Perkins#	1 Wakefield	1	C. Neeley
31 Newburyport	50	G. d'Entremont#	<b>Red-breasted Nuthatch</b>		
<b>Tree Swallow</b>			1 Brookline	2	H. Wiggin#
17 Middleboro	1	R. Finch	22 E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson
17 Wash Brook	10	S. Perkins#	30 Needham	1	G. d'Entremont
18-31 Wayland	300 max	3/31 N. Patterson	<b>Brown Creeper</b>		
24 Harvard	3	S. Hennin	thr Boxford	2	J. Brown#

Brown Creeper (continued)				3 Ipswich	20	J. Berry
22 E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson		Chipping Sparrow		
22 Halifax	1	K. Anderson		27 Falmouth	3	J. Smith
24 Milton	5	G. d'Entremont#		Field Sparrow		
30 Needham	1	G. d'Entremont		27 Lynnfield	1	C. Leahy
Carolina Wren				Savannah Sparrow		
17 Lexington	1	M. Pelikan		31 IRWS	1	R. Heil
24 Worc. (BMB)	1	J. Liller		Fox Sparrow		
30 Westport	3	M. Rines#		15 Medford	2	D. Wilkerson
31 Sherborn	1	E. Taylor		15 Lincoln	2	K. Calmer
Golden-crowned Kinglet				16 WBWS	12	J. Hoye#
11 Marshfield	1	D. Furbish		16 P.I.	4	BBC (W. Drummond)
20 Rochester	6	M. Sylvia		22 Rockport (H.P.)	3	D. + I. Jewell
Eastern Bluebird				25 S. Boston	3	R. Donovan
14 Milton	9	N. Smith		25 Bedford	3	M. Rines
17 E. Middleboro	pr	K. Anderson		26 P.I.	3	D. + I. Jewell
21 Rochester	3	M. Sylvia		26 Boxboro	6	C. Paine
22 Concord	1	J. Hoye#		26-31 W. Newbury	7 max	R. Heil
24 Wayland	3	M. Pelikan		27 Easton	3	K. Ryan
24 Lincoln	3	M. Pelikan		28 Harvard	12	E. Salmela
30 Maynard	5	L. Nachtrab		29 Bolton	4	S. Hennis
Hermit Thrush				30 Westwood	7	E. Nielsen
9 Wellfleet	1	S. Arena#		31 IRWS	4	R. Heil
29 Nantucket	4	fide E. Ray		31 Concord	6	M. Pelikan
American Robin				31 Wayland	5	G. Long
23 Westport	80	M. Lynch#		15-31 Reports of 1-2 indiv. from 24 loc.		
31 Cumb. Farms	500	C. Ralph		Song Sparrow		
31 Middleboro	500	C. Ralph		21 Lincoln	1	S. Perkins#
Gray Catbird				Lincoln's Sparrow		
30 Nantucket	2	S. Perkins#		19 Norfolk	1	J. Fuller
Brown Thrasher				Dark-eyed Junco		
8 Brookline	1	H. Wiggin#		28 Brookline	21	H. Wiggin#
American Pipit				"Oregon" Junco		
17 Cumb. Farms	1	G. d'Entremont#		1 Uxbridge	1	J. Huntington
29 W. Bridgewater	3	S. Arena		Lapland Longspur		
31 Cumb. Farms	6	C. Ralph		3 Salisbury	2	M. Lynch#
Cedar Waxwing				17 Cumb. Farms	2	G. d'Entremont#
26 Taunton	25+	G. d'Entremont		17, 27 Newbury	2, 6	R. Forster
29 W. Acton	60	C. Paine		31 Newburyport	5	G. d'Entremont#
30 Nantucket	17	S. Perkins#		Snow Bunting		
Northern Shrike				1 P.I.	34	R. Heil
2 Wakefield	2	P. + F. Vale		3 Lakeville	20	W. Petersen#
3-17 P.I.	1-3	v.o.		15 W. Roxbury	1	T. Aversa
3 Mt. A.	1	R. Stymeist		20 P.I.	200	C. Ralph
5, 26 Wayland	1	N. Patterson		22 Gay Head	1	A. Fischer
6 Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab		Red-winged Blackbird		
10 Lincoln	1	M. Pelikan		2 Lancaster	200	M. Lynch#
16 Cumb. Farms	2	S. Arena#		3 Harvard	200	C. Kopkowski
16 GMNWR	1	R. Lockwood		24 Bolton Flats	2390	M. Lynch#
16 Taunton	1	M. Lynch#		Eastern Meadowlark		
17 Salisbury	1	R. Forster		10 Cumb. Farms	5	R. Shore
17 Ipswich	1	D. + I. Jewell		18 Wayland	3	N. Patterson
18 Rochester	2	M. Sylvia		31 Sherborn	2	E. Taylor
19, 31 Middleboro (2 loc.)	1, 2	R. Shore		Yellow-headed Blackbird		
21 IRWS	1	D. + I. Jewell		20 Danvers	1ad m	J. Fox
24 Chilmark	1	A. Keith		Rusty Blackbird		
25 Dorchester	1	R. Donovan		15 W. Roxbury	2	T. Aversa
25 Swampscott	1	L. Healey		22 GMNWR	6	R. Lockwood
29 Peabody	1	R. Heil		22 Lexington	1	M. Pelikan
30 Wellesley	1	R. Forster		22 E. Middleboro	1 m	K. Anderson
30 Nantucket	1	S. Perkins#		24 Provincetown	1	A. Hirschkop
31 Bolton	1	R. Bradbury		27 Lynnfield	10	C. Leahy
Northern Parula				30 Wayland	12	S. Hennis
28 Edgartown	1m	E. Silbert#		31 Ipswich	30	J. Berry
Yellow-rumped Warbler				Brown-headed Cowbird		
28 Wayland	3	R. Forster		2 Lancaster	60	M. Lynch#
30 Nantucket	100	S. Perkins#		23 Westport	52	M. Lynch#
31 Bolton	1	S. Hennis		25 Dorchester	10	R. Donovan
Indigo Bunting				31 Wayland	4	G. Long
3/30 M.V.	1	J. Bayley#		Purple Finch		
American Tree Sparrow				16 Salem	1	L. Healey

Purple Finch (continued)				5	Lincoln	20	N. Sullet + v.o.
17	E. Middleboro	1 m	K. Anderson	6	Sudbury	16	B. McHugh
30	Wayland	1 m	R. Forster	14	Milton	12	N. Smith
30	Ipswich	1 m	J. Berry#	16	Pepperell	10	E. Stromsted
31	Sherborn	2	E. Taylor	28	Framingham	1	K. Hamilton
Red Crossbill				Pine Siskin			
27	P.I.	8	G. Leet	thr	Duxbury	2	E. Cleveland
29	Harwich	3	T. Noonan	25	Royalston	27	D. Clapp
31	Quabbin (G40)	3	E. Nielsen	Evening Grosbeak			
Common Redpoll				5	E. Middleboro	pr	K. Anderson
1	Uxbridge	30	J. Huntington	31	Quabbin (G41)	2	E. Nielsen

#### HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO BIRD OBSERVER

This publication prints monthly compilations of reports of birds seen in the ten counties of eastern Massachusetts (Worcester County and east) and offshore waters. Space does not permit the inclusion of all material submitted. However, bird sightings sent to Bird Observer are archived at the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Our compilers select and summarize for publication sightings that provide a snapshot of birdlife during the reporting period. These sightings include early and late dates for migratory species, maximum counts of migrants and some common birds, and species found beyond their normal ranges.

Sightings for any given month must be reported in writing by the eighth of the following month. Send to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 94 Grove Street, Watertown, MA 02172. Please organize reports by month and by species in current A.O.U. checklist order. Include name and phone number of observer, common name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, number of observers, and information relevant to age, sex, morph, etc.

Reports of difficult identifications, vagrants, rarities, or species unusual as to place, time, or prior nesting activity in Massachusetts also should be reported promptly to the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, c/o Wayne Petersen, Massachusetts Audubon Society, South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773. Include, in addition to the above information, time of day and light available, weather conditions, the optics used and approximate distance from the bird, length of observation, observer's prior experience with the species, and field guide or other references used. Provide a description of the bird based solely on personal observation. Comment on the distinguishing field marks (observed and unobserved), vocalizations, activity, general behavior, habitat, and other birds present. Include with your report copies of any field notes and sketches.

*Buying a used VW?*  
**Complete Pre-purchase  
 Evaluation  
 Golf - Jetta - Quantum  
 \$50.**

**GT** Shop  
 Inc.  
 (617) 923-0941

We service Nissan, Honda,  
 Saab, Toyota, VW, Volvo

106 Pleasant Street  
 Watertown Square

*Formerly Coop Garage*