

1976 CHRISTMAS CENSUS

The 77th annual Christmas Bird Counts sponsored by the National Audubon Society will be held this year from Saturday, December 18 - Sunday, January 2, 1976. Last year 28,688 participants in 1,141 counts reported an amazing 124,651,593 birds! There were 23 counts in Massachusetts including the Westport census. A total of 199 species were seen during the count period. Cape Cod always takes the prize for the most species seen--133. Other counts with over 100 species included Buzzards Bay 110, Greater Boston 106, Martha's Vineyard 110, Nantucket 113 and Plymouth 107.

Any birders interested in working the Greater Boston census are welcome. The date is SUNDAY, December 19, 1976. There is a \$1.00 participation fee for all observers. If you live within the count circle, that is, within Rte. 128, and feed birds, we would also like to have the number of individuals visiting your feeder that day. Contact Robert Stymeist, 46 Beaver St., Waltham, Mass. 02154, for further details.



As a breeding species, the Goshawk has increased in Massachusetts during recent years. In Weston nesting has been confirmed in 1975 and 1976 and probably occurred earlier. This photograph of the angry female was taken in May, 1975, by Leif J. Robinson with a 400-mm. lens. Note the fine barring on the breast and the prominent fluffy white feathers on the flanks.

MBO BANDING STATISTICS FOR 1975

In its annual report for 1975, the Manomet Bird Observatory reports the following:

"A total of 12,559 birds of 137 species were banded in 1975 (8,634 of these banded at MBO headquarters). Thirty birds of 20 species were reported as having been recovered elsewhere during the year, the most distant recoveries being a Red Knot from Guyana and a Pine Siskin from British Columbia. Six birds banded by other stations were recovered by MBO personnel. A summary of the first ten years of banding by the Manomet Bird Observatory (102,634 birds of 189 species!) was completed by Trevor Lloyd-Evans and is available for 75¢ in stamps upon request."

Write to Manomet Bird Observatory, Box 0, Manomet, Massachusetts, 02345. This observatory is a valuable asset and deserves the support of bird enthusiasts. For further information, write to the address above.