

THE BIRD OBSERVER SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 1976

Seasonal temperatures prevailed throughout August, with a lot of sunshine, but also frequent heavy rains and thunderstorms. The temperatures averaged 72.0°, 0.7° above normal, but nearly 1° cooler than August 1975. No daily records were broken. The highest temperature was 93° on the 21st, at the low mark was 49° on the 31st. Rain totalled 7.99 inches, 4.53 inches above normal and the most in August since 17.09 inches in 1955. The greatest accumulation fell in the two days prior to Hurricane Belle, when 2.27 inches fell in 24 hours on the 8th and 9th, with 3.42 inches total in the whole 2 days, causing considerable street flooding. Local street flooding also came with the heavy rainfall on the 28th and 29th. Thunder was heard on 7 days nearly double the average, and hail fell on the 14th. Hurricane Belle brought almost no rain itself, and the winds were very light during the several wet days prior to Belle. Winds from Belle reached a peak gust of 54 m.p.h. on the 10th. These winds stripped a few limbs from the Boston area trees, but did relatively little damage. In other sections of New England Belle rang at a different pitch. The center of lowest pressure passed northward through western Massachusetts and then curved more eastward through northern Maine. Winds were not excessive anywhere, but flooding was disastrous in parts of Vermont, New Hampshire and northern Maine. Thousands of acres of Aroostock County, Maine, potatoes were damaged.

A possible Magnificent Frigatebird was seen on the 11th, the day after Hurricane Belle; no details were received on this interesting record. Other pelagics included 2 Leach's Storm-Petrel and 29 Manx Shearwater were reported, 13 alone at Sandy Neck, Barnstable.

Cattle Egret totaled 44 at both Ipswich and Dartmouth, exceptionally high counts for this species. A Louisiana Heron was found at Plum Island and a Swainson's Hawk was seen at Monomoy on the 20th.

Shorebird highlights included a Curlew Sandpiper at Plum Island, 2 Ruffs and an American Avocet at Plum Island. Hudsonian Godwits peaked on the 11 at Monomoy when over 200 were counted, and 72 were seen on the 10th in Newburyport.

An adult Mew Gull was observed at Monomoy at mid month and a Sandwich Tern was found there on the 24th. A Gull-billed Tern was at Nauset and 6 Royal Tern and 15 Black Skimmer were noted.

Nighthawks were migrating in large numbers on the 21st. Other interesting birds were Red-bellied Woodpecker, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Hingham, and a Wheatear on Duxbury Beach.

Banding was well underway at Manomet where 25 Cape May and 57 Bay-breasted Warbler were netted.

R.H.S.

Common Loon:			
8	Lynn	1	W.Drummond
Cory's Shearwater:			
6	Cape Cod Bay	1	S.Zendeh
Greater Shearwater:			
5,6	Jeffrey's Ledge, Cape Cod Bay	30, 200+	R.Veit, M.Moore; S.Zendeh
8	Stellwagen Bank	75	BBC(H.Weissberg)
Sooty Shearwater:			
5,6	Jeffrey's Ledge, Cape Cod Bay	2, 30+	R.Veit & M.Moore, S.Zendeh
8,11	Stellwagen Bank, Jeffrey's Ledge	8, 3-4	BBC(W.Drummond), M.Kasprzyk
21,11	Cape Cod Bay	2, 8	H. & G.D'Entremont, J.Andrews
Manx Shearwater:			
1,5	Rockport, Jeffrey's Ledge	2, 1	G.Soucy, R.Veit & M.Moore
6,10	Cape Cod Bay, Nahant	7, 2	S.Zendeh, S.Zendeh
11,18	Jeffrey's Ledge, Barnstable	3, 13	M.Kasprzyk#,
21	Provincetown	1	H. & G.D'Entremont
Leach's Storm Petrel:			
10,11	Chatham, P.I.	1, 1	fide W.Bailey, W.Davis
Wilson's Storm Petrel:			
5,6	Jeffrey's Ledge, Cape Cod Bay	2000+, 150+	R. Veit#, S.Zendeh
8,11	Stellwagen Bank, Jeffrey's Ledge	130, 150+	BBC(H.Weissberg), M.Kasprzyk
<u>Magnificent Frigatebird:</u>			
11	N. Chatham	1 imm. (no details)	fide W. Bailey
Gannet:			
5,6	Jeffrey's Ledge, Cape Cod Bay	4, 5	R.Veit & M.Moore, S.Zendeh
8,11	Stellwagen Bank, Jeffrey's Ledge	3, 6	BBC(W.Drummond), M.Kasprzyk

Double-crested Cormorant: 6,28	Boston Harbor, Squantum	400+, 175	S.Zendeh, BBC(E.Taylor)
Little Blue Heron: 2-26,5 6,14	P.I., E.Boston Squantum, Concord	5+ imm., 1 imm. 17, 1 imm.	v.o., S.Zendeh D.Franzeen, L. Robinson
Cattle Egret: 1,8 16,24	Ipswich, Dartmouth Topsfield	$\frac{44}{23}$, $\frac{44}{31}$	J.Berry, F.Hamlen K.Hamilton, M.Kasprzyk
Great Egret: 29	Westport	30+	R.O'Hara
Snowy Egret: 1,17	Ipswich, Barnstable	130, 170+	J.Berry, R.Pease
Louisiana Heron: 1-3	P.I.	1	v.o.
Glossy Ibis: 2	P.I.	18	BBC(W.Drummond)
American Wigeon: 1,15	Concord(GMNWR)	2	BBC(Claytons)
Northern Shoveler: 1,2	Concord(GMNWR), P.I.	2, 1	BBC(Claytons), BBC(W.Drummond)
Oldsquaw: 8	Stellwagen Bank	1	BBC(W.Drummond)
Common Eider: 6,11	Provincetown, Rockport	15, 25	S.Zendeh#, M.Kasprzyk
White-winged Scoter: 14	Monomoy	5	BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Surf Scoter: 1,10 11,14	Cotuit, Plymouth Rockport, Monomoy	1 f., 1 1, 1	M.Kasprzyk, BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Black Scoter: 3	Peddock's Island	1	W.Petersen
Hooded Merganser: 2,3	Cambridge, Newbury	1 f., 1 f.	R.Veit, M.Moore
Turkey Vulture: 24	Watatic Mt.	2	M.Patsaid
Goshawk: 8	P.I.	1 imm.	R.Emery#
Cooper's Hawk: 19	Weston	1	L.Robinson
Red-shouldered Hawk: 3,26	Peddock's Is., Manomet	1, 2	W.Petersen, MBO staff
<u>Swainson's Hawk:</u> 20	Monomoy	1 ad.	W.Bailey#
Osprey: 8,10 16,29	Dartmouth, Kingston, Westport	2, 1 1, 4	F.Hamlen, L.Day MBO staff, P. O'Hara
King Rail: 29	Bolton Flats	1	E.Salmela
Common Gallinule: 1	Concord(GMNWR)	10	BBC(Claytons)
American Oystercatcher: Thr., 26	Monomoy, Nantucket	8, 10	v.o.,
Semipalmated Plover: 10,21 28	P.I., Monomoy P.I.	80, 150+ 100	BBC(M.Kasprzyk), R.Stymeist# BBC(I.Giriunas)
Piping Plover: 14,16	Monomoy, P.I.	50, 2	BBC(H.D'Entremont),BBC(W. Drummond)
	21,25	40+, 37	BBC(R.Stymeist), Argues
Golden Plover: 14,18 23,24 25	Monomoy, Plymouth Manomet, Monomoy Plymouth	1, 1 1, 2 1 ad.	BBC(R.Stymeist), M.Moore MBO staff, W.Bailey# M.Moore#
Black-bellied Plover: 3 21, 21	Newburyport P.I. Monomoy	150 200, 200 1000	M.Moore & R.Veit BBC(V.Albce), BBC(I.Giriunas) BBC(R.Stymeist)
Ruddy Turnstone: 1-5,2 14,21	Winthrop, P.I. Monomoy	25-30, 60 30, 46	S.Zendeh, BBC(W.Drummond) BBC(H.D'Entremont), BBC (R.Stymeist)

Whimbrel:				
2,2-3	Wellfleet, Monomoy	80, 140		W.Bailey, C.Goodrich#
10	Westport-Dartmouth	45		J.Murphy
Upland Sandpiper:				
24,28	Monomoy, Newburyport	1, 1		W.Bailey#, M.Moore
Spotted Sandpiper:				
1,18	Concord, S.Peabody	10, 10		BBC(Claytons), M.Kasprzyk
Solitary Sandpiper:				
23,27	Concord(GMNWR), Worcester	1, 2		R.Forster, D.Crompton
Willet:				
3,4	Plymouth, Duxbury	1, 1		M.Moore, MBO staff
1-4,21	Monomoy	3, 14		BBC(H.D'Entremont), BBC (R.Stymeist)
Greater Yellowlegs:				
14,21	Monomoy, Newburyport	75, 40		BBC(H.D'Entremont), BBC(V.Albee)
28	P.I.	50		BBC(I.Giriunas)
Lesser Yellowlegs:				
1,3	Concord(GMNWR), Newburyport	8, 1300		BBC(Claytons), R.Veit, M.Moore
5,21	E.Boston, Newburyport	40+, 80		S.Zendeh, BBC (V.Albee)
Red Knot:				
10,14	Ipswich, Monomoy	30, 50		J.Berry, BBC(H.D'Entremont)
21	Monomoy	383		BBC(R.Stymeist)
Pectoral Sandpiper:				
9,10	Bridgewater, Duxbury	3, 1 juv.		D.Briggs, MBO staff
15,18	Concord, Sandwich	2, 1		BBC(Claytons), R.Pease
21,28	P.I.	1, 4		BBC (V.Albee), R. Forster
White-rumped Sandpiper:				
21,24	Monomoy	9, 4-5		BBC(R.Stymeist), W.Bailey#
28	P.I.	6		R.Forster
Baird's Sandpiper:				
8,26	Dartmouth, Plymouth	1, 1 juv.		F.Hamlen, M.Moore
27,28-31	Worcester, Nauset	1, 1		D.Crompton, B.Nikula, C.Goodrich#
Least Sandpiper:				
7,14	Concord, Monomoy	25, 25		BBC(E.Cushman), BBC(H.D'Entremont)
16,27	P.I., Scituate	50, 1000		BBC(M.Kasprzyk), M.Moore
Curlew Sandpiper:				
3-31	Newburyport	1		R.Veit, M.Moore#
Dunlin:				
21,28-29	Monomoy, Newburyport	1, 1		BBC(R.Stymeist), R.Forster
Short-billed Dowitcher:				
1,3	E.Boston, Newburyport	40, 1500+		S.Zendeh, R.Veit#
7,14	Revere, Monomoy	40, 60		S.Zendeh, BBC(H.D'Entremont)
Long-billed Dowitcher:				
17,28	P.I.	1, 17		M.Moore, R.Forster
Stilt Sandpiper:				
10-28	P.I.	max. 70 Aug. 15		R.Forster & v.o.
24	Weston	1		L.Robinson
Semipalmated Sandpiper:				
3,4	Newburyport, Monomoy	6000+, 250		R.Veit#, H.D'Entremont#
13,28	Revere, Concord(GMNWR)	600+, 45		S.Zendeh, BBC(E.Taylor)
Western Sandpiper:				
2,4	Plymouth Beach	1, 1		MBO staff
5,14	Concord, Monomoy	1, 1		H.Ferris, BBC(H.D'Entremont)
24,26	Monomoy, Plymouth	4, 2 juv.		W.Bailey, M.Moore
Buff-breasted Sandpiper:				
28-31	P.I.	1		J.Berry#
Marbled Godwit:				
22,27	Monomoy, Scituate	1, 1		R.Clem#, M.Moore
29	P.I.	1		J.Cavanaugh
Hudsonian Godwit:				
thr.	Monomoy, P.I.	max. 200 Aug. 11		v.o., v.o.
5,29	E.Boston, Dartmouth	5, 6		S.Zendeh, R.O'Hara
Ruff:				
17,28	Rowley, Nauset	1 juv., 1		M.Moore, C.Goodrich
Sanderling:				
14,28	Monomoy, Revere	200, 800		BBC(H.D'Entremont), S.Zendeh
American Avocet:				
26 on	P.I.	1		H.Wiggin#

Wilson's Phalarope:				
thr. 3-8	Outer Cape, P.I.	8-10, 3	v.o., R.Veit & M.Moore#	
27-28	Worcester	1	D.Crompton	
Northern Phalarope:				
8,11	Stellwagen Bank, Jeffrey'e Ledge	5, 90+	BBC(W.Drummond), M.Kasprzyk	
Pomarine Jaeger:				
21	Monomoy	1	C.Goodrich#	
<u>Mew Gull:</u>				
17 + 18	Monomoy	1 ad.	C.Goodrich#, B.Nikula#	
Laughing Gull:				
14,16	Monomoy, P.I.	80, 59	BBC(H.D'Entremont), K.Hamilton	
Bonaparte's Gull:				
thr.	Revere	40-200+	S.Zendeh	
Little Gull:				
10,13	Nahant, Revere	1, 1	S.Zendeh	
21,28	Newburyport, Nauset	1, 1	BBC(V.Albee), B.Nikula#	
<u>Gull-billed Tern:</u>				
14	Nauset	1	B.Nikula, C.Goodrich	
Forster's Tern:				
thr.	Outer Cape	8-10	v.o.	
29	Newburyport	1	H.Merriman	
Common Tern:				
14	Monomoy	400	BBC(H.D'Entremont)	
Arctic Tern:				
21	Monomoy	2	BBC(R.Stymeist)	
Roseate Tern:				
14,16	Monomoy, P.I.	100, 86	BBC(H.D'Entremont),K.Hamilton	
Royal Tern:				
1,3	Dartmouth, Peddock's I.	2, 1	T.Raymond, W.Petersen#	
12,14,16	Annisquam, Nauset, P.I.	1, 1, 1	H.Wiggin, C.Goodrich, K.Hamilton	
<u>Sandwich Tern:</u>				
24	Monomoy	1	W.Bailey#	
Caspian Tern:				
14	Wellfleet	1	B.Nikula & C.Goodrich	
Black Tern:				
thr.	Plymouth	1-3	M.Moore# & v.o.	
1-16	P.I., Ipswich	1-12	v.o.	
11,14	Sandwich, Monomoy	2, 2	R.Pease, BBC(H.D'Entremont)	
Black Skimmer:				
thr.	Monomoy	7	v.o.	
10,12	Acoaxet, Plymouth	1, 2	H.D'Entremont#, MBO staff	
15,16	Westport, Ipswich	4, 1	G.Briggs, J.Nove	
Mourning Dove:				
28	Weston	141	L.Robinson	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:				
7,8	Rochester, Dartmouth	2, 3	G.Mock, F.Hamlen	
31	Gloucester	1	H.Wiggin	
Black-billed Cuckoo:				
2,22,23	P.I.	1, 5, 1	W.Drummond, H. & G.D'Entremont, M.Kasprzyk	
Great Horned Owl:				
1	Weston	2	L.Robinson	
Whip-poor-will:				
8,14	Dartmouth, Ipswich	1, 1	F.Hamlen, J.Berry	
Common Nighthawk:				
13	Littleton	11	J.Beird	
21	Fremingham, Wellesley	137, 76	K.Hamilton, R.Forster	
21	Weston, Waltham	90+, 36	L.Robinson, R.Stymeist	
30	Cambridge	1	R.Stymeist	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird:				
29,31	Rochester, Gloucester	1, 1	G.Mock,H.Wiggin	
Pileated Woodpecker:				
3	Westwood	1 ad., 1 yg.	J.Clancy	
<u>Red-bellied Woodpecker:</u>				
31	Chatham	1	O.Earle	
Eastern Kingbird:				
2,16,21,28	P.I.	80, 50, 40, 12	v.o.	
<u>Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:</u>				
2	Hingham(World's End)	1	Mrs.J.Sampson, P.Craig	
Great-crested Flycatcher:				
15	Westwood	6+	J.Clancy	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:				
15 + 16	S.Dartmouth	1	A.Nickerson	

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (cont'd):			
28,29	P.I., Marblehead	1, 1	R.Heil#, BBC(M.Kasprzyk)
Alder Flycatcher:			
26	Bolton	3+	H.Merriman
Tree Swallow:			
thr.	.I.	500+	v.o.
Cliff Swallow:			
7,8	Concord(GMNWR), Ipswich	10, 1	E.Cushman, J.Berry
21	Monomoy	2	R.Stymeist
Purple Martin:			
2,16,21	P.I.	60, 20, 6	v.o.
Carolina Wren:			
8,12	Dartmouth, Norwell	5, 1	F.Hamlen, M&B Litchfield
13	Sandwich	7	R.Pease
Mockingbird:			
thr.,9	Weston, Ipswich	21, 8	L.Robinson, J.Berry
Gray Catbird:			
29,31	Marblehead(MNWS)	37, 19	M.Kasprzyk
21,28	P.I.	40, 30	v.o.
Hermit Thrush:			
21	Rochester	1	G.Mock
Veery:			
29	Rochester	1	G.Mock
Eastern Bluebird:			
18	Chilmark(M.V.)	6	M.Hancock
Wheatear:			
23-30	Duxbury Beach	1	R.Walton, M.Moore, J.Clancy
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:			
15	S.Orleans	pr. nesting	O.Earle
16-31	Manomet Bird Observatory	5(b.)	MBO staff
Cedar Waxwing:			
28	P.I.	50	BBC(I.Giriunas)
Loggerhead Shrike:			
8,31	Ayer,Chatham	1, 1	S.Green, B.Nikula
White-eyed Vireo:			
25	Annisquam	1	H.Wiggin
Philadelphia Vireo:			
2	Cambridge(F.Pond)	20	R.Veit
Blue-winged Warbler:			
thr.	4 localities	6 individuals	v.o.
"Lawrence's Warbler" (hybrid):			
15,30	Sharon, Chatham	1, 1	fide R.Forster, B.Nikula
Tennessee Warbler:			
19	Manomet(MBO)	4(b.)	MBO staff
Yellow Warbler:			
12	Weston	2(last residents)	L.Robinson
Cape May Warbler:			
16on	Manomet	25(b.)	MBO staff
28,31	P.I., Gloucester	12, 25	R.Forster, H.Wiggin
Blackburnian Warbler:			
24,26,31	P.I., Littleton, Marblehead	1, 1, 2	M.Kasprzyk, J.Baird, M.Kas- przyk
Bay-breasted Warbler:			
18on	Manomet(MBO)	57(b.)	MBO staff
24	P.I.	20+	M.Kasprzyk
Prairie Warbler:			
13on	Manomet(MBO)	4(b.)	MBO staff
Northern Waterthrush:			
20	Marblehead	8	J.Clancy
Kentucky Warbler:			
21 + 27, 26	P.I., Marblehead	1+1, 1	BBC(V.Albee) & E.Pyburn,M.Kas- przyk
Mourning Warbler:			
13,25	Manomet(MBO)	1, 2	staff
31	Chatham, Truro	2, 2	B.Nikula
Yellow-breasted Chat:			
14,20	Westwood, Marblehead	1, 2	A & BBeale, J.Clancy
23-26	Manomet(MBO)	4	staff
26,31	Marblehead, Truro	1, 1	M.Kasprzyk, B.Nikula
Hooded Warbler:			
28	Lancaster	1	H.Merriman
Wilson's Warbler:			
24,25	P.I., Lancaster	1, 1	M.Kasprzyk, H.Merriman

Canada Warbler:			
1;13	Weston; Peabody, Manomet(MBO)	1; 1, 1	L.Robinson; M.Kasprzyk, Staff
American Redstart:			
21,29	P.I., Marblehead	15, 18	BBC(V.Albee), M.Kasprzyk
Bobolink:			
16	P.I.	8	BBC(W.Drummond)
Northern Oriole:			
13,31	Peabody, Marblehead	12, 10	M.Kasprzyk
Dickcissel:			
15	Annisquam	1	H.Wiggin
Pine Siskin:			
26-28	Lancaster	1	H.Merriman
Seaside Sparrow:			
14,28,30	Monomoy, P.I., Manomet(MBO)	2, 1, 1	BBC(H.D'Entremont), BBC(I.Giriunas), Staff
Dark-eyed Junco:			
26	Annisquam	1	H.Wiggin
Chipping Sparrow:			
14	Westwood	16+	J.Clancy
White-throated Sparrow:			
21	P.I.	4	BBC(V.Albee)

Abbreviations

ad.	adult	GMNWR	Great Meadows Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge
b.	banded	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
f.	female	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
imm.	immature	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
m.	male	WMWS	Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary
max.	maximum	A.A.	Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain
pr.	pair	A.Pt.	Andrews Point, Rockport
thr.	throughout	F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham
v.o.	various observers	F.M.	Fowl Meadow, Milton
yg.	young	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
#	additional observers	Mt.A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	P.I.	Plum Island
SSBC	South Shore Bird Club	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable

FRESH POND ALERT

So far this autumn, the water level at Fresh Pond has been ideal for migrant waterfowl. The flats at the rotary end (see *Bird Observer*, Vol. 3, No. 4, 1975) are partially exposed; even a few hundred feet out the water suits dabblers.

Redheads (four drakes and a duck) were seen at the astonishingly early date of September 24th. Furthermore, normally rare Green- and Blue-winged Teals have been present in good numbers, as have most other species that occur regularly. This could be a banner autumn for Fresh Pond birders!

Leif Robinson

BOOKS FOR SALE

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