

TAKE A SECOND LOOK IN 1981

Take a Second Look (TASL) has completed a full year of Boston Harbor water bird censuses. In this process we have accomplished these goals:

First, several dozen nature-lovers and bird-watchers of varied experience came together six times in 1980 to count and observe the water birds of the Harbor. Previously, many of these people had not thought of Boston Harbor as a rich and varied resource for bird-study. The seminars that followed each field trip helped to deepen the participants' understanding of birds and bird-watching.

Second, the birds of the harbor were tallied, using consistent techniques repeatable from census to census. Thus our census data will be comparable from year to year.

And finally, the censuses served to pinpoint exactly where the birds concentrate in the harbor. This kind of pinpointing can help in the planning of future developments in Boston Harbor.

The consensus among TASL participants and advisors has been that the Boston Harbor water bird censuses should be continued, at least through 1981. Already there are indications that this winter's bird populations and concentrations might be quite different from last. The only way to know more about what is going on is to be out there in the field, gathering data. We invite everyone to participate in our three winter censuses, all on Sundays:

February 8

March 8

April 5

Censusing parties will meet at 8 a.m. on each date, and the field trips will last about five hours. Each field trip will be followed by a compilation and seminar; a \$1 fee will be collected from all seminar participants, in order to defray refreshment costs. Those interested should contact one of the TASL coordinators listed below.

TASL News is published approximately four times a year and mailed out to TASL participants and others interested in our project. The contents include tabulations of current TASL censuses, as well as informative articles on the populations or behavior of birds and other wildlife in our region. Subscriptions to TASL NEWS costs \$2 per year. Please send a check to one of the coordinators.

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