

Bird Observer

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 5

OCTOBER 2006



HOT BIRDS



Blair Nikula captured this stunning portrait of a cooperative immature **Purple Gallinule** (left) in East Orleans on August 16, 2006.



Highlights of a Brookline Bird Club trip to Hydrographer Canyon on August 26 included three **White-faced Storm-Petrels** (above left) and a possible **Scapoli's Shearwater** (above right, darker bird on the right). Scapoli's Shearwater is the Mediterranean race of Cory's Shearwater (*C. diomedea diomedea*); compare with the common *borealis* (*C. d. borealis*) subspecies. Photographs by David Larson.

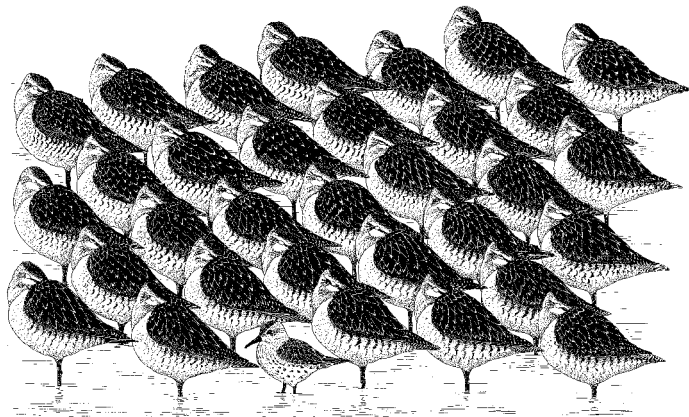


A bird in the hand is worth one in the bush! This fourth state-record **Gray Kingbird** (above) was found by Peter Gilmore on Martha's Vineyard on September 17 and photographed the next day by Lanny McDowell. This second state-record **Bell's Vireo** (right) was banded at the Manomet Center for Conservation Science on September 8 and photographed by Scarlett Howell.



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SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER FLOCK BY GEORGE C. WEST



Bird Observer

A bimonthly journal — to enhance understanding, observation, and enjoyment of birds
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Massachusetts Important Bird Areas (IBAs) — The North Shore Region

Wayne R. Petersen and Brooke Stevens

This issue of *Bird Observer* profiles three IBAs located in Essex County, a region where the birdlife has been studied more extensively than any other in Massachusetts. The rocky coastline of Cape Ann and its offshore islands provide a notable contrast to the typically sandy strands of southeastern Massachusetts and Cape Cod. The county's interior forests are some of the most extensive and unfragmented east of Worcester County. Islands off the coast support several of the largest cormorant, heron, and gull colonies in the Commonwealth. Likewise, the coastal promontory and surrounding waters of Eastern Point in Gloucester attract waterbird species that require inshore waters for feeding and shelter. Eastern Point also hosts periodic concentrations of migrant passerine species on the upland.



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Essex County Coastal Bird Islands IBA

Situated between the Nahant peninsula to the south and Cape Ann to the north are twenty-nine low-lying granite islands. Totalling approximately 250–300 acres, these islands are all located within a mile of the coast. Collectively they support significant numbers of colonial nesting birds, including Double-crested Cormorants, several species of wading birds, and Herring and Great Black-backed gulls, as well as small numbers of Common Eiders. Ownership of the islands is shared by Mass Wildlife (MDFW), the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR), Mass Audubon (MAS), and the towns of Beverly, Gloucester, Manchester, Marblehead, Nahant, Rockport, and Salem. Most of the important islands are reasonably well protected.

Milk Island (fifteen acres) off Rockport and Egg Rock (four-plus acres) in Nahant Bay hold approximately 30 percent of the state's Double-crested Cormorant population, and collectively the Essex County Coastal Bird Islands support an estimated 6000 pairs of Herring and Great Black-backed gulls. Situated off the coast of Manchester, Mass Audubon's Kettle Island (ten acres) is the largest mixed heronry in Massachusetts, with breeding species that include Great and Snowy egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, and Glossy Ibis, along with the only Little Blue and Tricolored herons nesting in the Commonwealth in recent years. Similarly, Eagle Island (four-plus acres) off Salem is the sole Bay State breeding locality for Cattle Egret, a site close to the northern limit of this species' breeding range on the Atlantic Coast. These colonial waterbird colonies represent a major constellation in the Massachusetts IBA galaxy.



Cattle, Great, and Snowy egrets on Eagle Island on May 18, 2006, by Simon Perkins

Over the long-term, many colonial waterbird colonies experience change. During the 1970s, for example, House Island (ten acres) off Manchester was the foremost wading bird colony in Essex County; by the early 1980s, however, most of the birds from that once flourishing site had relocated to nearby Kettle Island. Similarly, a number of the islands within this IBA have increased in significance through the years. As Double-crested Cormorants began their recovery after a long period of

persecution north of Massachusetts, the Essex County Coastal Islands began hosting nesting cormorants as early as the 1940s. By the mid-1990s the population had swelled to over 2500 pairs.

The increased nesting of Common Eiders on Essex County islands is a trend seen elsewhere in Massachusetts. Black Guillemots, however, which are tantalizingly frequent in early summer in the waters around several Essex County islands, have not been confirmed as breeding in Massachusetts. Their closest known breeding station is at the Isles of Shoals in New Hampshire. Could it be that the next new breeding species for Massachusetts might come from this IBA?

In addition to providing habitat for colonial waterbirds, the surrounding waters and rocky shores of the Essex County Coastal Bird Islands have long been known for their concentrations of wintering sea ducks (including the locally uncommon King Eider and Harlequin Duck), gulls, alcids, and Purple Sandpipers, which extensively utilize the wave-washed outer skerries in winter. House Island also contains two priority plant communities, the maritime rocky cliff and the marine intertidal rocky shore communities, both designated as “state imperiled” under the community state rank (SRANK) system.

Conservation: Serious potential threats to birdlife on the islands include mammalian predators and feral pets, natural plant succession, disturbance to birds or habitat by careless or reckless boaters, an increase in invasive or nonnative plants, water pollution, and commercial or recreational development on certain islands.

Factors that could affect the breeding wading birds on Kettle Island specifically are disturbance from recreational boaters and fishermen and ecological change due to succession of native or nonnative vegetation. Also, degradation of the habitat by the birds themselves is common to many wading bird colonies. The concentration of so many state-listed species at one site is a major concern if abandonment of the entire colony should occur. Ensuring that satisfactory alternative sites exist on other nearby islands should be a priority.

Presently the only conservation actions undertaken on these islands are the annual monitoring of Kettle Island (and occasionally others) by Mass Audubon and a comprehensive census conducted by the MDFW at ten-year intervals. Ideally, all of these islands should be monitored annually. Management initiatives such as the eradication of rats and the creation of gull-free habitat for terns on certain islands should be considered. Colonization of some islands by species such as Common Eider may already be inhibited because of flourishing rat populations.

House Island was recently given permanent protection through acquisition by Mass Audubon and a Conservation Restriction managed by the Manchester-Essex Conservation Trust. Graves Island and the Ram Islands remain unprotected but would benefit from similar protections due to their potential to support additional bird habitat and unusual marine plant communities.

Eastern Point and Gloucester Harbor IBA

This IBA is essentially a suburban neighborhood adjacent to the city of Gloucester and its working harbor. The area, which represents the southeastern tip of the East Gloucester peninsula, is roughly bounded by Farrington Avenue on the north, Gloucester Harbor to the west, and Brace Cove to the east. Although only 400–500 acres in extent, the IBA contains an upland portion with a series of linked parcels that include oak woods, a wooded shrub swamp, and upland scrub in various stages of succession. The shrub habitat regularly supports nesting Brown Thrashers and Eastern Towhees, both species with a high conservation priority. Mass Audubon owns much of the non-residential upland area. The surrounding waters of Gloucester Harbor and Brace Cove, along with Niles Pond, are well known for a diversity of waterfowl at appropriate seasons. A good variety of gulls regularly rest on the ice at Niles Pond in winter, and once the pond was actually graced by the appearance of a rare Ross's Gull.

The well-planted estates and natural upland habitats that comprise much of the peninsula represent important stopover habitat for migrating passerines during both spring and fall migration, while the surrounding waters routinely attract modest numbers of Common Eiders, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, Red-breasted Mergansers, Horned and Red-necked grebes, and Black Guillemots, while Purple Sandpipers often feed on the granite sides of the Dogbar Breakwater, which guards the entrance to Gloucester Harbor. Both of these habitats have been consistently monitored for many years by Mass Wildlife waterfowl surveys, Christmas Bird Count coverage, and birders who cover the peninsula all year. A solid database documents the status of birds at this IBA for over half a century.



Purple Sandpipers by Wayne R. Petersen

In addition to its value to birds and its compactness, the Eastern Point IBA is a fine spot to see migrating butterflies, including a perennial roost of Monarchs on the pine trees near the south end of the peninsula. There is also rare, state-endangered hairy wild rye grass on the peninsula, a species very close to the southern terminus of its range.

Conservation: Virtually all the threats to the Eastern Point IBA are of human origin: introduced invasive plants and animals, feral pets, residential or commercial development, and direct disturbance to birds and their habitat as result of recreational development and overuse. Brood parasitism by Brown-headed Cowbirds and succession in shrub habitats are also threats. Boating and shipping activity in the surrounding waters is increasing and brings concomitant threats of pollution and disturbance. To date, land protection has been the major threat abatement technique, and there currently exists a narrow window of opportunity for protecting significant remaining tracts of undisturbed open space. Such protection will be critical to maintaining the ecological integrity of the IBA. Fortunately, the most critical areas of habitat needing protection have been mapped, and meetings with Eastern Point residents have increased their awareness of the conservation concerns and importance of this IBA.

The road to the U.S. Coast Guard Station and Dogbar Breakwater created a tidal restriction that resulted in the degradation of the nearby salt marsh and encouraged invasion by phragmites and purple loosestrife. Phragmites is also rapidly encroaching on Niles Pond, one of the most significant natural features at the site. Thanks to a very successful project orchestrated by Mass Audubon and a number of other partners, the once ditched salt marsh has had its tidal flow restored. An interpretive sign at the site describes the project.

Eastern Essex County Interior Forest IBA

Criteria that may define an IBA include an ability to support bird species of high conservation priority and features that attract significant numbers of birds in breeding



Rose-breasted Grosbeak by David Larson

season. The Eastern Essex County Interior Forest IBA qualifies on both counts. Located in the towns of Ipswich, Hamilton, Wenham, Topsfield, Rowley, Georgetown, Boxford, and Essex, most of the 7200 acres of this interior mixed-forest ecosystem is comprised of state forests (i.e., Willowdale, Cleveland Farm, Georgetown-Rowley), Bradley Palmer State Park, and Mass Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. Collectively these relatively unfragmented tracts contain deciduous and mixed forest habitat, extensive red maple swamps,

freshwater marshes, and riverine habitat along the Ipswich River corridor. At one point the floodplain of the Ipswich River broadens to form the Great Wenham Swamp, the largest freshwater marsh system in Essex County. This diverse floodplain attracts Wood Ducks, Red-shouldered Hawks, Virginia Rails, and a variety of other species preferring riparian conditions.

A fascinating aspect of bird distribution in Massachusetts is the subtle interface between northern and southern species. The Eastern Essex County Interior Forest IBA offers some splendid examples of this phenomenon. Northern Goshawk, Common Raven, and Blackburnian Warbler clearly represent a northern element, while Red-bellied Woodpecker, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Louisiana Waterthrush definitely reflect a southern flavor at this site. Equally important in this IBA is the confirmed breeding of such rare and elusive species as Pied-billed Grebe and Least Bittern, both of which are state endangered.

What makes this IBA so important is the large number of breeding pairs of many forest species. As forested areas everywhere become increasingly fragmented by housing and industrial development, roads, power-line corridors, and recreation areas, many forest birds are beginning to decline, a trend clearly demonstrated by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey results throughout the eastern United States. As extensive, unbroken forests become increasingly scarce or overly fragmented, species such as Eastern Wood-Pewee, Red-eyed Vireo, Veery, Wood Thrush, Black-throated Green Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak are showing significant population declines in many areas. IBAs such as the Eastern Essex County Interior Forest will become increasingly important in the years ahead.

Besides its unusual assembly of bird species, this IBA hosts a variety of other state-listed organisms, including four-toed and blue-spotted salamanders, an endangered dragonfly (ringed bog haunter), and an inconspicuous freshwater crustacean (Mystic Valley amphipod).

Conservation: The spread of nonnative invasive plants such as Japanese knotweed and European buckthorn in uplands and purple loosestrife and phragmites in wetlands are ongoing threats to this IBA's ecosystems. Invasive plants are especially problematic at Mass Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary, where there is ongoing invasive species monitoring and control. Target species include phragmites, garlic mustard, tall manna grass, and black swallowwort. Swallowwort is especially threatening to understory species and native grasses in the forests and fields, since it fruits profusely and mowing has not proved to be an effective management tool. It is being spot-sprayed where growth is less profuse. Tall manna grass, a highly competitive Eurasian species first discovered at the sanctuary in 1990 and not known to exist elsewhere in the eastern U.S., has the ability to dominate wetland environments. Its eradication from the sanctuary along with several large stands of phragmites in Bunker Meadows is a high management priority.

Feral pets are a potential threat to all forested landscapes in eastern Massachusetts that are ringed with human development. Brown-headed Cowbirds are a more serious threat and today can be found even deep within this IBA. Although development continues to be a serious issue around the perimeter of this IBA, a major threat was averted when a 40-acre holding within Willowdale State Forest was purchased by a coalition of interested groups and added to the already existing footprint of the state forest.

Bradley Palmer State Park and Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary are the most heavily used for recreation of the five parcels, but with most activity confined to the trails or the Ipswich River itself (canoes and kayaks), these threats appear minor in terms of their impact on avian breeding populations. Off-road vehicles (e.g., ATVs, snowmobiles, dirt bikes) are currently permitted only in portions of Georgetown-Rowley State Forest. However, the cumulative effect of constant recreation, including occasional illegal use of ORVs, should be viewed as a long-term potential threat to wildlife. 🦋



Great Egret carrying nesting material on Kettle Island by Simon Perkins

Young Bird Observers

Bird Observer is pleased to recognize the very generous donation made by Charlotte Morrier in memory of her late husband, Edward J. Morrier. In notifying the magazine of his death, she noted that he “loved *Bird Observer*, read it like a bible, and took it on all our birding trips.”

With this in mind, she suggested that she would like to provide two young birders with one-year subscriptions to the magazine, with the rest of the contribution to be used at our discretion. The *Bird Observer* Board of Directors voted to expand the number of recipients, and we are happy to report that there are now twelve young Massachusetts birders receiving gift subscriptions through Mrs. Morrier’s thoughtfulness. The young birders were nominated by five local bird clubs and five Massachusetts Audubon sanctuaries which we approached for suggestions. The recipients, nine boys and three girls, range in age from ten to sixteen years old. They are distributed across the state from Boston to the Berkshires and have varying levels of birding experience, but they share a fascination with the natural world. They, and *Bird Observer*, are grateful for this contribution. 🦋

Stemming the Decline of Shrubland Birds in Massachusetts

Jill Liske-Clarke

Ed. Note: This article is based on a lecture included in the Valley Environmental Education Collaborative lecture series, "Tides of Change: Wildlife Population Trends in the Valley," presented in Hadley, MA, January 24, 2006.

For many birders and nature enthusiasts in Massachusetts, the courtship ritual of the American Woodcock is a rite of spring as eagerly anticipated as Red Sox spring training is for baseball fans. At dusk and dawn, in open fields and forest clearings, woodcock males woo females with their "peenting" calls and dizzying flight displays.

A would-be observer can easily find a local woodcock walk sponsored by a nature center or environmental organization, which gives the impression that Massachusetts' woodcock population is thriving. This is far from the truth. In fact, the Breeding Bird Survey documents an annual decline of about five percent in Woodcock numbers in Massachusetts over the last five decades, and all of the New England states have named American Woodcock as a species of greatest conservation need in their respective Wildlife Action Plans.

American Woodcock is a "shrubland" bird, dependent on transitory, early-successional habitats. The woodcock creeps through alder thickets and similar habitats on moist soils, using its specialized bill to probe for earthworms, the staple of its diet. It uses grasslands and hayfields for its spectacular courtship displays; and later in the season these same fields may be filled at night by dozens of roosting woodcocks seeking safety in numbers. Females, which have the sole responsibility of rearing young, build nests and rear broods in young, open hardwoods or abandoned fields very near the display grounds where they chose their mate. All of these habitats are in increasingly short supply on the Massachusetts landscape, and habitat loss is identified as the primary cause of the woodcock decline.

The American Woodcock is not alone; many species that feed or nest in Massachusetts' shrublands have experienced long-term population declines (Figure 1). The maturing of the state's forests has combined with increased development to shrink the habitat they need. The most recent figures available from MassGIS indicate that only about three percent of Massachusetts is now categorized as "open land," which is a catchall category for abandoned fields and variety of habitats sometimes called "shrublands." "Shrubland" is not a technical term, but here describes habitats with a significant component of woody vegetation less than fifteen feet in height. It includes abandoned agricultural lands, regenerating timber harvests, shrub swamps, scrub oak barrens, power line rights-of-way, and more.

A few shrubland species, including the Golden-winged Warbler (in double jeopardy from loss of habitat and increased competition and hybridization with the Blue-winged Warbler), have become so rare that they receive legal protection under

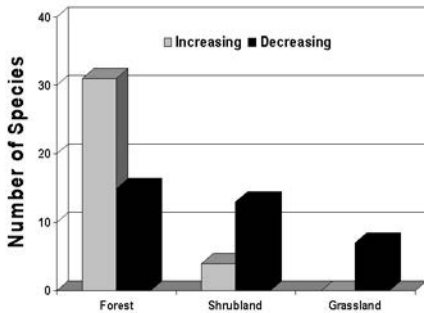


Figure 1. Bird Population Trends in the Northeast by Habitat Type, 1966–2003 (From Sauer, J. R., J. E. Hines, and J. Fallon. 2004. *The North American Breeding Bird Survey, Results and Analysis 1966–2003*. Version 2004.1. USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD)

farms en masse and headed west, and when firewood had to be constantly cut to heat New England’s homes and fuel its boilers. But shrubland species were here long before the first Indian tribes began clearing the forests, tucking their nests into beaver meadows and the natural blowdowns and clearings caused by storm, flood, and wildfires. None of the processes that historically created shrubland habitat function in the same way today. To offset habitat losses and stem the decline in shrubland bird populations, private landowners and public land managers need to create and maintain suitable habitat. This can be created by two alternative methods, reclamation and timber harvesting.

Reclamation typically involves mowing or mulching of trees and chemically or mechanically controlling exotic plants that are invading abandoned fields and other open habitats. The cost is substantial, ranging from \$400 to \$2400 an acre, depending on site conditions. Then the shrubland habitat has to be maintained, typically by mowing every three to ten years. Some types of timber harvests (e.g., clear-cut, seed-tree, and shelterwood) create shrubland habitat and generate revenue for the owner. Timber can typically be harvested on a 50–75-year rotation, providing habitat for shrubland birds during the first five to ten years after cutting. These two methods do not create equivalent shrubland habitat. Reclamation sites typically have more herbaceous plants, while timber harvest areas are quickly occupied by trees regenerating from sprouts and seeds. Not surprisingly, the shrubland bird communities associated with these two shrubland habitat types are distinctly different.

The value of these complementary habitat types was underscored in a recently completed study examining habitat use and reproductive success of shrubland birds in western Massachusetts reclamation and timber harvest sites. The cooperative study was conducted by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Research Station, and the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act. Most of our shrubland birds have not yet reached that point. Still, the long-term declines in many species, even those that are still relatively common, have been alarming enough to prompt the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, which has statutory responsibility for all of the Commonwealth’s plants and animals, to push to increase shrubland habitat. The objective is to halt these declines before the species dwindle to the point of needing legal protection.

Shrubland birds were at their most numerous more than a century ago when the region’s farmers abandoned their

Some shrubland birds were found in both habitat types in similar numbers (e.g., Eastern Towhee, Alder Flycatcher), but most bird species exhibited habitat preferences. Song Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, and Blue-winged Warbler were clearly more abundant, and Field Sparrow was found exclusively, on reclamation sites. Timber harvest areas were preferred by Mourning Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Prairie Warbler. Mourning Warbler, a species of Special Concern protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act, was found almost exclusively in timber harvest areas.

Habitat for shrubland birds has long been an inadvertent by-product of timber harvesting, but harvesting for multiple goals, including wildlife habitat, is becoming more common. The Town of Westminster completed the first of four adjacent fifteen-acre clear-cut timber harvests in 2004, specifically to create habitat for shrubland birds. Surveys were conducted prior to harvest to establish baseline documentation of the bird community, and ongoing surveys will document changes through and after the remaining scheduled harvests.

The importance of shrubland habitat reclamation and maintenance has been recognized by biologists and land managers since at least the 1960s, but it has become relatively common only within the past decade. The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife created its Upland Habitat Management Program in 1996. The program, supported by the current Open Space Bond Act, focuses on reclaiming shrublands and grasslands for the benefit of associated species of conservation concern, including many shrubland birds (Figure 2). Since its inception, the program has reclaimed nearly 1000 acres at twenty-seven sites across the state (Figure 3). Bird monitoring is conducted at least once prior to treatment and every two to three years thereafter.

American Woodcock	Indigo Bunting
Black-billed Cuckoo	Mourning Warbler
Blue-winged Warbler	Nashville Warbler
Brown Thrasher	Olive-sided Flycatcher
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Prairie Warbler
Common Yellowthroat	Red-headed Woodpecker
Eastern Kingbird	Ruffed Grouse
Eastern Towhee	Song Sparrow
Field Sparrow	Whip-poor-will
Golden-winged Warbler	White-throated Sparrow
Great-crested Flycatcher	Willow Flycatcher
House Wren	Yellow-breasted Chat

Figure 2. Upland Program Target Shrubland Bird Species. All of these species are experiencing long-term statewide population declines.

Bird monitoring data are used to assess the success of management for target species, and so far provide solid evidence that habitat reclamation can provide dramatic benefits to shrubland birds. On a fifty-five-acre reclamation site on DCR's Taconic Trail State Forest in Williamstown, abundance of all target species detected in the 1999 pretreatment survey more than doubled in the years following reclamation (Figure 4). Chestnut-sided Warbler numbers increased twenty-eight-fold and a variety of target species (including Eastern Kingbird, Blue-winged Warbler, and Willow Flycatcher) were detected posttreatment that had not been detected in the 1999 survey.

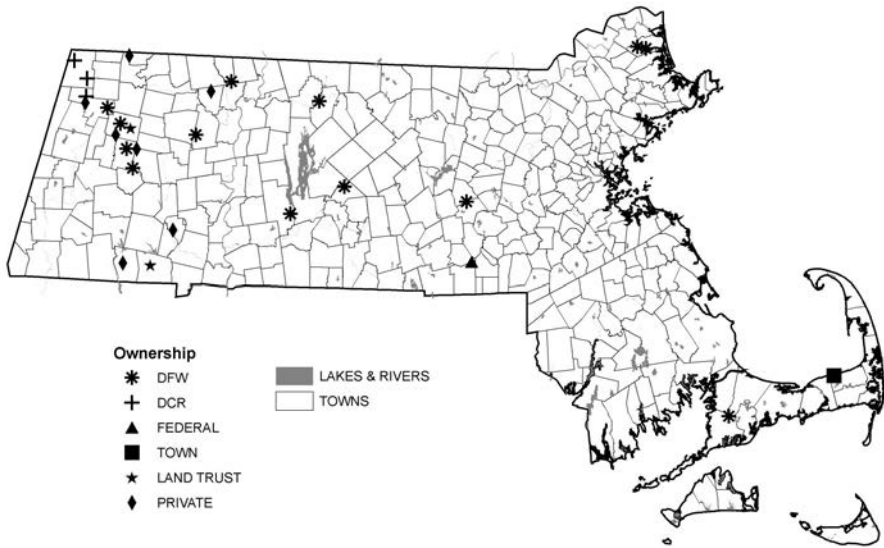


Figure 3. Upland Program Reclamation Sites on Massachusetts Public and Private Lands

Although localized benefits to shrubland birds on reclamation sites are quite easily demonstrated, we should not expect to see any meaningful slowing or reversal in statewide shrubland bird population declines until many more acres of shrubland habitat are created. The minimum amount of habitat needed is unknown, but increasing the amount of open land in Massachusetts by even one percent would entail creating about 30,000 acres of shrubland habitat. With Upland Program reclamation projects averaging more than \$1300 per acre, it is patently obvious that timber harvesting must be relied upon to create a large proportion of the habitat that is needed.

Reclamation is costly because reclamation sites are typically occupied by trees with little or no monetary value. Such trees are frequently chipped for use as landscaping mulch, pulp for paper products, and energy generation at biomass plants. These chip products offer a very small financial return that offsets only a portion of reclamation costs. Unfortunately, the cost to transport chips to often relatively distant markets reduces or even eliminates the already limited profitability of the product.

Many funding sources are currently available, however, to landowners interested in shrubland habitat management. Currently, the largest potential source of funding for shrubland habitat reclamation in Massachusetts is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), which offers a 75:25 cost-share on eligible projects under nonfederal ownership. The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife's Landowner Incentive Program (LIP), partially funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, offers a similar cost-share for projects on private lands that can demonstrate benefits to "at-risk" species, including many shrubland birds. The Upland Program is a limited source of

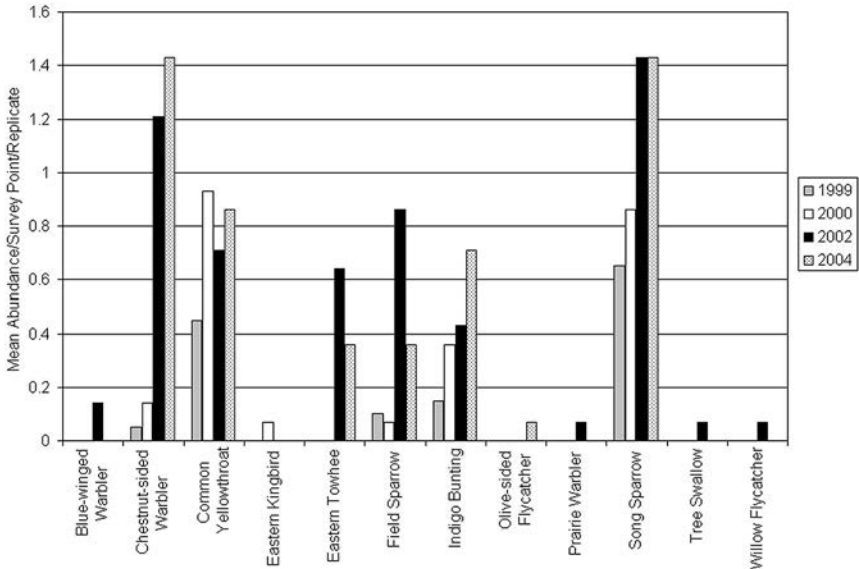


Figure 4. Taconic Trail State Forest Target Bird Species Response. Reclamation occurred winter 1999–2000.

funding for reclamation projects on public lands. All of these programs offer some technical assistance to landowners interested in shrubland habitat reclamation.

Cost is not the only challenge for successful reclamation of sufficient quantities of shrubland habitat to stem long-term population declines. Public perception of reclamation is frequently negative when outreach and education are not explicitly included in project plans. Immediately following reclamation, sites can appear quite messy and unattractive, with stumps and woody debris littering the site. After a few years of regrowth, shrubland habitats can appear overgrown, which is ideal from the perspective of a shrubland bird, but is not pleasing to the human eye.

Beyond issues of aesthetics, inappropriate application of vegetation management tools (i.e., cutting, mowing, herbicide use, grazing, and prescribed fire) can have negative consequences (e.g., you should not bring a heavy mower into a wetland in the spring, or light a fire during fifty mph winds). When the public has had experience with poorly planned or implemented projects, or has had little direct experience with vegetation management tools, it can foster opposition that hampers even the best-planned projects with the highest potential benefits to shrubland birds.

Public education regarding the importance of shrubland habitat, the species it supports, and the management tools required to create and maintain it is vital to broaden sensibilities and encourage public support for this critical conservation tool. 🦋

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On the Web:

- DFW Landowner Incentive Program: <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/dfw_lip.htm>
- DFW Upland Program: <<http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/bdi/uplandintro.htm>>
- North American Breeding Bird Survey Results: <<http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs>>
- Managing Grassland, Shrublands, and Young Forests for Wildlife: A Guide for the Northeast: <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/Northeast_Hab_Mgt_Guide.htm>
- MassGIS: <<http://www.mass.gov/mgis/>>
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Massachusetts: <<http://www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov/>>

Jill Liske-Clarke is the Upland Program Coordinator for the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Jill's interest in grassland and shrubland birds stems from experiences along the Platte River in her native state of Nebraska.



EASTERN TOWHEE BY DAVID LARSON

The Fall Roundup — After Fifty Years

Bob Fox

The concept of a roundup began in 1952 when I and other birders in Texas were trying to record the species of birds seen along the Central Texas Coast during migration. To see a bigger picture of the migration, we encouraged groups of birders to organize “big days” on the same date, to identify the species present, and to record the number of birds of each species, similar to the Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs).

Back home in Massachusetts, the South Shore Bird Club (SSBC), of which I was an early member, already sponsored a May Big Day and a CBC. I encouraged them to establish a new activity that would combine elements of both. We were intrigued by the idea of combining a Big Day event with the goal of finding the greatest number of different species, with the CBC methods of tallying the numbers of individuals. We called this new event the Fall Roundup. We chose the third Saturday in September, since we felt this date would have the highest potential of hitting the peak of fall migration, for species as well as for individual numbers. We hoped the collective results might show a picture of population trends on the South Shore.

We defined a count area extending from the Neponset River and Blue Hills, south to Manomet in Plymouth and the Lakeville ponds, a total area of about 800 square miles. This area was initially divided into seven territories: Quincy, Hull/Hingham, Scituate, Marshfield, Duxbury, and Plymouth. Each territory extended inland from the coast to include sea and shorebird habitat, migrant traps, salt and freshwater marshes, ponds, fields, forests, and uplands. We felt that on a good day, any group might be able to find ninety to one hundred species. A seventh, inland, territory has since been added, since Hanson and Lakeville were hard to cover by those near the coast.

The tradition for the Roundup, as for Big Days, is to set up the best possible route for the “territory.” Our groups have averaged five people that travel together. As the Roundup evolved, the leaders for each group remained largely the same. At the end of the day, participants gathered over dinner to tabulate the results.

As with any one-day event, weather affects observations, and our bird numbers have fluctuated from year to year. To compensate for this variability, data were averaged over five-year periods and patterns of migration and long-term changes in numbers of birds have emerged. While it is beyond the scope of this article to present the data for all species, I will present a broad overview of our observations and a closer analysis of some species that have exhibited significant trends.

Results

Over the past fifty years, a total of 293 species have been observed on the Fall Roundup. The average number of species observed each year is 158, with a range of 129-190. In twenty percent of the years, the number of species was over 170. Conversely, for twenty percent of the years, they averaged 146. The most productive five years were 1970-74, which averaged 172 species, followed by a slight decline to

169 in the twenty years from 1970-89. This appears to point to a continued decline; the 1990-94 period averaged 153 species, with 150 in 1995-99, and 158 in 2000-04.

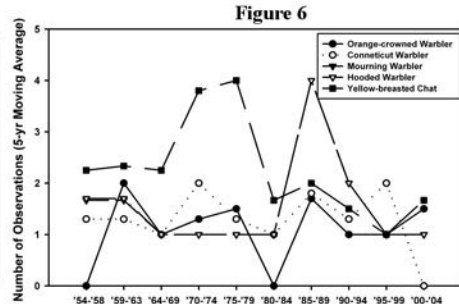
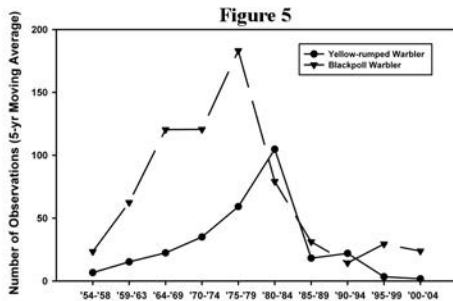
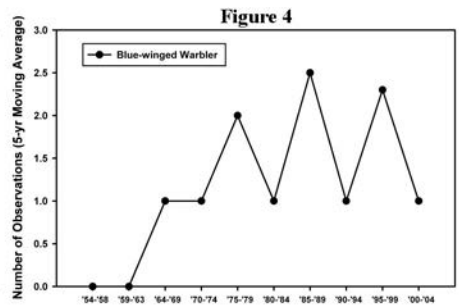
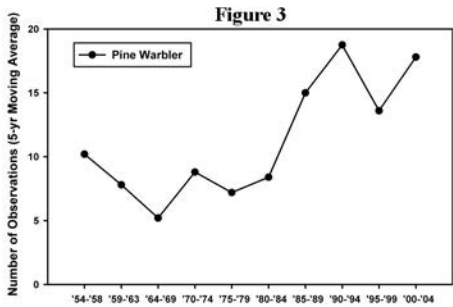
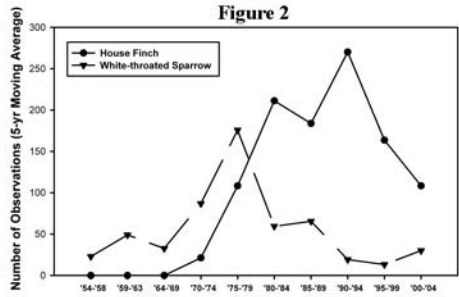
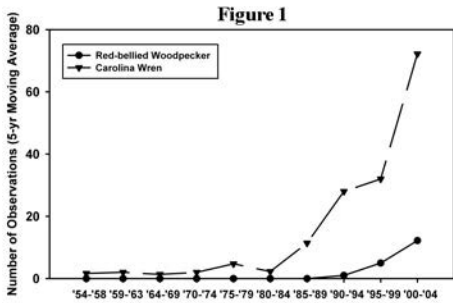
Between 1966 and 2004 there have been twenty-seven years in which one or more group recorded ninety or more species. Every group has had 100 or more species at least once in that same span of years. Overall, a group has topped the 100 species mark thirty-two times. Among the best-ever group totals were 117 in Duxbury (1970 and 1972) and Plymouth (1975), 121 in Plymouth (1973), and 123 in Scituate (1988).

All birders enjoy seeing a rare bird during a day in the field and the Fall Roundup has had a number of these over the years. A few of the most memorable include Kentucky Warbler (2003) and Northern Wheatear (1986) in Plymouth, Say's Phoebe (1987) in Scituate, Brewer's Blackbird and Blue Grosbeak (1991) in Middleboro, Summer Tanager (1983) and Blue Grosbeak (1987) in Marshfield, and Hooded Warbler (1988), and Eared Grebe (1993) in Duxbury. Two of the most interesting finds were an Alaskan race Yellow Warbler (*D. p. rubiginosa* in 1954 in Plymouth) — now at the Boston Museum of Science — and an enigmatic Cox's Sandpiper (1987 on Duxbury Beach).

Beyond the unexpected birds, the most interesting — and valuable — data from the Fall Roundup is the change in the numbers of each species. Some of these fluctuations represent range expansion, while others clearly reflect the decline of a particular species. For example the numbers of observations of Carolina Wrens and the Red-bellied Woodpeckers have increased since the mid-1980s and mid-1990s, respectively (Figure 1). This is most likely a function of range expansion. The House Finch shows its initial invasion in the early 1970s, followed by a drop in numbers a decade later, due no doubt to an epidemic of conjunctivitis (Figure 2). The White-throated Sparrow follows a pattern similar to that of the House Finch, with increasing abundance beginning in the early 1970s, a peak in the early 1990s, and a subsequent decrease in numbers (Figure 2). The reason for this change is unclear.

Most birders are particularly interested in changes in the wood-warbler family, many of which are neotropical migrants. The Roundup has recorded thirty-three of these species, three of which were found only once. The total number of species has varied from twenty-seven to thirty-three but continues to average thirty for each five-year grouping. While the number of species remains similar, the number of individuals varies over the period of record. Graphs of six species with differing breeding and wintering locations indicate different patterns for their frequency over time (Figures 3-6).

A few species have increased in abundance. For example, the Pine Warbler appears to have been increasing over the last thirty years (Figure 3). This is a common species that nests on the South Shore and migrates a relatively short distance to its wintering grounds. Similarly, the Blue-winged Warbler also has appeared to increase in numbers (Figure 4). This is most likely a result of a northward extension of its breeding range despite its neotropical wintering grounds.



Figures 1-6. Observations of teams of birders (approximately 40 birders) on the third Saturday in September on the South Shore of Massachusetts, for the indicated species from 1954 to 2004. Data represent average of five years of observations.

In contrast, a number of species that spend the winter in the tropics show a decline. Yellow-rumped and Blackpoll warblers breed north of Massachusetts. They show a similar pattern of abundance from the mid-1950s to a peak in the late 1970s and early 1980s, respectively, followed by a precipitous decline in the mid-1980s (Figure 5). This pattern follows a decline of many other northern-breeding warblers in the last quarter of the twentieth century.

Cape May and Bay-breasted Warblers show a similar pattern (Fig. 6). Their peak abundance was probably a result of the spruce budworm infestation. Cape May Warbler numbers peaked in the early 1970s and have decreased to only one observed

in 1997 and one in 2002. The Bay-breasted Warbler, while low in numbers throughout the period of record, also increased in the 1970s, then dropped in the early 1980s, and was then observed in low numbers on only nine counts from 1990 to 2005.

Five uncommon warblers have also been seen on the Roundup. They include three from the north and west — the Orange-crowned, Connecticut and Mourning warblers and, two from the south — the Hooded Warbler and Yellow-breasted Chat. The fact these species have occurred as often as they have may surprise some, but the Roundup documents a few of them each year.

It would be interesting to see how the Roundup data compares with other long-term studies done in eastern Massachusetts. Trevor Lloyd-Evans and Jonathan Atwood (2004) conducted a long-term study using banding data collected at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, which is located in the Roundup's southernmost territory. They recently published a paper that examined changes in the capture rates of passerines from 1970 to 2001 during fall, and spring migration (hereafter "MBO")(Lloyd-Evans and Atwood 2004). Specifically, they compared capture rates between two 16 year periods (from 1970 to 1985 and from 1986 to 2001) and reported the percent change in abundance between these two periods.

They found that sixty out of seventy-two species captured in the spring had a lower capture rate in the 1986-2001 period as compared to the 1970-85 period. Of the sixty species, thirty-six were statistically significant. A similar result was obtained with fall captures: sixty-nine of seventy-eight species had lower capture rates in the 1986-2001 period, and forty-five of these were statistically significant.

Using methods* similar to those in the MBO study, we developed graphs (Figures 7 and 8) showing the annual observations for Roundup data and the mist-net capture rate for standardized MBO data for Blackpoll and Cape May warblers. These graphs also show a regression, or trend line, for the data, and reveal a few important facts: 1) how closely the data track each other and 2) the similar, disturbing, decreasing trend in the number of these birds observed and captured for Roundup and MBO, respectively.

A second long-term avian study in eastern Massachusetts published by Dr. Norman Hill and John M. Hagan III analyzed population trends of twenty-six species of North American migratory landbirds using fifty-three years (1937-89) of spring migration count data. They found that "18 species (69%) have declined significantly, three species (12%) have increased significantly and five species (19%) showed no significant change." They also found cyclical change in some species over long periods of time and some dramatic declines in the last decade of the study.

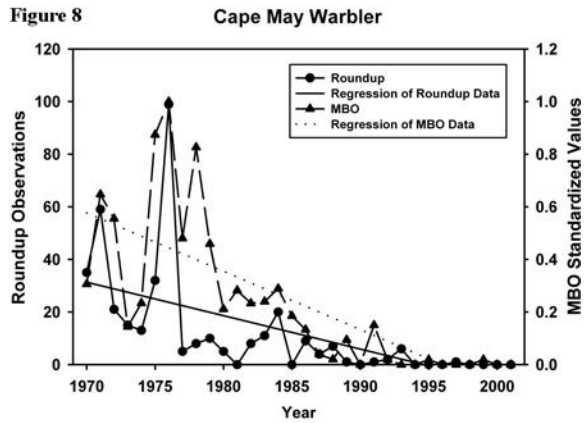
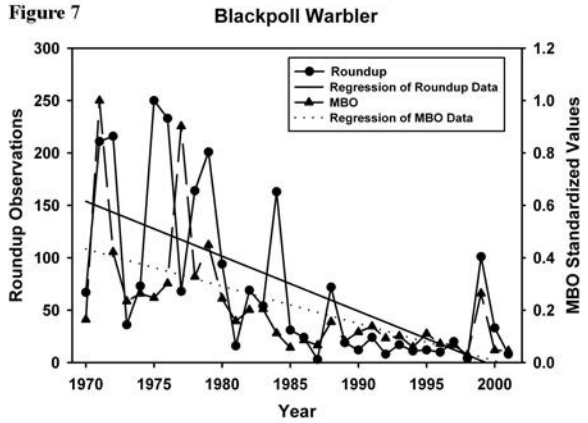
The species with greatest decline over forty-nine years were Least Flycatcher, Golden-winged, Nashville, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Wilson's, and Canada warblers, Ovenbird, and Northern Waterthrush. In the last decade of their study Black-throated Green and Black-and-White Warblers showed a "notably precipitous decline." Of interest, the Blue-winged was the only warbler showing a forty-nine year increase. This trend is also suggested by our data (Figure 4).

Lloyd-Evans and Atwood also found a decrease in fall mist-net capture rates for these species as well as for Cape May, Bay-breasted, and Tennessee warblers. Their study's fall percentage rate of change from 1970 to 2001 for these species are as follows: Least Flycatcher (-62), Nashville Warbler (-36) Chestnut-sided Warbler (-22), Magnolia Warbler (-12) Wilson's Warbler (-36) Canada Warbler (-36), Ovenbird (-19) Northern Waterthrush (-57), Black-throated Green Warbler (-23), Black-and-White Warbler (-51), Cape May Warbler (-93), Bay-breasted Warbler (-86), Tennessee Warbler (-85), Blue-winged Warbler (+3). They concluded that their findings were fairly close to those of Hill and Hagan; both studies found their results to be fairly close to what has been reported in the Breeding Bird Survey data (Sauer, et al. 2001).

Even though the Fall Roundup is only a one-day observation and is subject to the influences of weather conditions, it is interesting to see that our long-term results are similar to other studies made in eastern Massachusetts. The Fall Roundup has been an enjoyable event for those in the SSBC, and the excitement generated by the high number of species and the rare and unusual sightings has kept many birders participating for a half-century. This is also one of the longest continual records of bird populations in this area. Thus, the results from the Fall Roundup have contributed, and will continue to contribute, to a better understanding of population trends of species we see in the field. 🦋

Acknowledgements

I thank Dr. Norman Hill and Trevor-Lloyd-Evans and their co-authors for their help and support in this report and Craig Duxbury for technical review and statistical



Figures 7 and 8. Observations from 1970 to 2001 of Blackpoll and Cape May warbler from Roundup event, and number of mist net captures (standardized to a maximum value) from Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences data. Linear regressions for the periods of record are also indicated.

presentations. My wife, Dana Duxbury-Fox, was the moving force in organizing this article and I thank her deeply for her efforts and encouragement. Also, I thank the hundred birders who do the fieldwork on the Fall Roundup, a major South Shore Bird Club activity.

Bob Fox began his lifelong interest in birds in his teens. He is a member of the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Nuttall Ornithological Club. He has contributed articles to the Wilson Society's Bulletin and to the Auk. Currently retired from school superintendancy, he is enjoying birding around the world with his wife and caring for his many rhododendrons.

**In order to compare Roundup with MBO data, I first calculated the mean observation rates for the same species as reported in Lloyd-Evans and Atwood for the same time periods (i.e., 1970-85 and 1986-2001). I then compared the differences between the two time periods using the same non-parametric statistical procedures as were used in the MBO paper. I found that there were statistically significant differences in observation rates between the two time periods for 28 species. Of these 28 species, 20 were noted to be statistically significant at MBO. Using similar methods, I then calculated the percent change in observations between the two time periods for these 20 species. Next, I examined the degree of linearity between the two datasets. I found that there was a high degree of linearity ($r = 0.98$) between Roundup and MBO percent change. This gives us confidence that our methods are robust.*

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INDIGO BUNTING BY DAVID LARSON

Birding on Two Wheels

John Nelson

Your typical birding stroll does not qualify as an aerobic workout. The pace is too sluggish and the breaks in rhythm too frequent, unless your goal is to surpass the cardiovascular output of a sloth or one of the permanent, non-migratory residents of Mount Auburn Cemetery. Birding walks can be strenuous — say, the treks to see a Bristle-thighed Curlew in Alaska or a Colima Warbler in the West Texas mountains — but most birds can be found without signing up for a death march. True, I did set a personal record for the 3000-meter run when I was birding at age 58, long after my days on the college track team, while hauling a heavy scope in the deadly midday heat of the Everglades, but that was because I was being chased by mosquitoes armed with Uzis, while hungry gators and startled vipers looked on. I'd found what I wanted — a lone, distant Greater Flamingo wobbling in heat shimmer. Fortunate, since I'd vowed never to venture down the Snake Bight trail again. If I'm tired at the end of a birding walk, it's usually because I've been standing around too long.

An alternative to strolling, one that combines the pleasures and challenges of the field with more vigorous exertion, is birding by bicycle. My interest in birding began on two wheels. From five through fifty, I spent my leisure time playing competitive sports. I thought that all the white birds in Gloucester Harbor were gulls. After three knee operations, one hip replacement, and the eradication of all cartilage in my body, I turned to a more joint-friendly form of exercise: cycling. One day I was riding down Island Road in Essex when I saw four astonishing creatures — birds to be sure, but outlandish, iridescent birds that belonged not five miles from my house but somewhere in Nubia or early Paleolithic Cape Ann. When I learned what these birds were called, I promptly informed the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and I checked that Sunday's *Boston Globe* for a report of my finding. Incredibly, that very week somebody else had seen sixty of these birds somewhere in nearby Manchester, and I found no mention of my four measly Glossy Ibises. No matter. From then on, I went riding with binoculars stashed in my backpack. I saw my first American Oystercatchers from a bike on Martha's Vineyard, my first Little Blue Herons within a mile of home in West Gloucester.

In Massachusetts I bird by bicycle a few days each week from early April into November. My favorite time is June, when most migrants have moved on and the local breeders are singing away. If I try to bike-bird during the peak of migration, I rarely make much aerobic progress. In May 2005 my wife Mary and I decided to try out her new bicycle around Eastern Point in Gloucester. The area was teeming with birds that morning: four Bay-breasted Warblers in one tree, three Rose-breasted Grosbeaks down the road, a Tennessee Warbler on the next street over, Canadas around the corner. In our three-hour ride we journeyed about a mile. If you won't stop to look at these birds, you're not birding by bicycle; you're just pedaling and gazing.

For me the primary pleasure of birding by bike is the constant open-air accompaniment of familiar birdsong. Some days I might ride twenty-five miles without stopping. It's enough to keep moving from bubbly Bobolink to raucous Red-bellied Woodpecker, from insistent Ovenbird to plaintive Eastern Wood-pewee. When I do stop, it's often because I've heard a bird — Brown Creeper, Yellow-throated Vireo — that I would never have heard from a car, in a location I would never have thought to bird by foot. During one two-week span in the summer of 2004, I found Broad-winged Hawks on four separate excursions in four different North Shore towns. On another ride I heard three species of wren — Winter, Carolina, House — within a half-mile stretch in Hamilton and another species, Marsh Wren, while heading home on a detour with Marsh Wren potential. It's a rare ride when I don't happen upon a few birds up to something interesting.

It's generally not practical to cycle after rare birds unless you've got extraordinary stamina, but I've done a little rarity-chasing on two wheels. In the summer of 2004, a White-faced Ibis was reported in the wetlands on Route 1A near the Newbury/Rowley line. Several times I drove to the spot and failed to find the bird. On my last attempt I drove there, failed to find any ibises, parked my car on nearby Stackyard Road, unloaded my bike, and started riding. When I reached the wetlands, ibises had arrived, including a potential White-faced. I pedaled back to my car, drove to the wetlands, scoped the birds — White-faced, yes — drove back to Stackyard Road, parked, retrieved my bike, and set off again on a carefree ride, mission accomplished. The ibises had all left the wetlands. The White-faced was never relocated.

My most memorable bicycle chase happened that same summer. My friend Susan Hedman and I met, strapped our bikes to the rack, drove to Falmouth, parked the car, caught a ferry, disembarked at Vineyard Haven, mounted our bikes, and rode across Martha's Vineyard to a field, where we joined a large, transient community of birders and a falcon with red feet. The bird perched, hunted, hovered, put on a show. We watched, ate lunch, chatted with birders and delighted civilians, were interviewed by a local reporter, and watched some more. Then we got back on our bikes. Our round-trip mileage from ferry to field was 25 miles. When we got back on the boat to Falmouth, we were exhilarated and wiped out.

I sometimes ride from my house and back, but the surrounding roads are badly potholed, and I live atop a high, steep hill, which means that the ride home ends with me creeping uphill on foot. More often I'll drive somewhere, park, bird on foot for a while, then plan a loop route and ride, checking out the main drags and side roads from Gloucester to Newburyport, from Beverly to Groveland. It's been a great way to expand my knowledge of Essex County and take in all its beauty and wildlife: birds, mammals, landscapes and seascapes, woodlands and marshes. I particularly like riding through the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island, where Laura de la Flor has led birding-by-bike trips for the Brookline Bird Club. The Rowley-Newbury-Boxford-Georgetown area, with flat roads, variety of habitat, and relatively light traffic, is popular among cyclists generally.

Beyond Essex County, there's fine birding while riding on the bike paths, rail trails, and back roads of New England from Newport to Acadia National Park. In *Bike Birding Nantucket*, Kenneth Blackshaw describes a number of routes for birding the island by bicycle. Other favorite pathways include the Cape Cod Rail Trail, the Minuteman Bikeway from Cambridge to Bedford, Massachusetts, the Jay to Farmington Trail in Maine, and the extensive Lake Champlain Bikeways in Vermont. In May 2005 The Pioneer Valley Bike Week featured a bike-birding trip along the Norwottuck Rail Trail from Amherst to Northampton, and on June 21, 2006, the Allen Bird Club will sponsor a bird-and-bike trip along the Westfield River in western Massachusetts.

Out of New England, my wife and I have rented bicycles to check out such bike-friendly bird havens as Sanibel Island in Florida, Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia, Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge in Texas, the Cook Inlet bike path in Anchorage, Alaska, and Ambergris Cay in Belize. On Michigan's Upper Peninsula we looped around the Seney National Wildlife Refuge, where cyclists have access to many miles of deserted paths and dirt roads off limit to motorized vehicles, and were rewarded with close views of breeding-plumaged Sandhill Cranes, a Ruffed Grouse ambling across our path, and a belching American Bittern. My wife, while rounding a bend, also glimpsed a bear, which she momentarily mistook for me — a sign that, despite vigorous exercise, I could still lose some weight.

Bike birding has become increasingly popular throughout the United States and around the world. Google "bicycle + birding," and you'll find outings organized by local Audubon chapters, birding clubs, and birding festivals from Oregon to Florida. In western Wisconsin, for instance, the Great River Birding Festival offers trips by bicycle as well as by mini-rail car and boat to explore the backwaters of the Mississippi. In May 2005 Zeiss Optics sponsored the first team of birding cyclists in the Great Texas Birding Classic. In one day the team covered 50 miles and identified 149 species. The Rio Grande Valley in Texas is also home to Father Tom Pincelli — "Fr.Bird" on his license plate — a Roman Catholic priest, birding columnist, nature guide, and avid promoter of birding on two wheels. Outside the United States, you can find excursions — some brief, some more extended — to look for birds in the Bahamas, the Camargue wetlands of southern France, the Rhineland in Germany, Keolado Ghana National Park in Bharatpur, India, and Guandu Nature Park in Taipei.

Thus far, my birding-by-bike has been strictly recreational, but others have collected data or engaged in other forms of ornithological research while on bicycle. In California, the UC Davis Veterinary Genetics Lab has initiated a project in which "bicycle bird biologists" study avian population trends in the Sacramento Valley, with particular emphasis on the West Nile virus. Locally, Bob Stymeist of Watertown uses his bike to carry out a regular freshwater waterfowl survey at Fresh Pond in Cambridge. This type of cycling survey, he says, works best "when you can navigate a circuit completely around a pond or lake on bike." Two or three times each breeding season, Bob also conducts a Breeding Bird Survey by bicycle on either side of the Charles River, from Waltham to Boston. A cycling census, he cautions, is inadvisable in many habitats but well-suited for routes along rivers, especially in urban areas. His

route includes “a dedicated bike path that winds through some wonderfully concentrated territory on both sides of the river.” The survey, he says, is easiest to carry out in late May or mid June, when bird song is at its height. By early July, song has declined and more walking is required. Bob brings a notebook “with the most likely species ... already written in with enough space to stroke-count as I’m hearing or seeing the birds en route.” For the numerous Yellow Warblers and Warbling Vireos he’s got hand clickers, one in each pocket. In addition to the more common breeding birds such as Song Sparrows and Baltimore Orioles, he has come across many “surprise” birds — a wayward Osprey or “a skulking Mourning Warbler still on its journey.”

For his book *The Singing Life of Birds*, Donald Kroodsma studied birdsong by bicycle as well as by foot, canoe, car, and roof-sitting. Around Zion Canyon in Utah, he pedaled up the switchbacks on mountain roads to listen to the “matched countersinging” of Bewick’s Wrens in an effort to determine whether the wrens learn their songs from their fathers, their neighbors, or both. On Martha’s Vineyard he strapped his recording gear on his body, mounted his bike, and rode around the island to record and marvel at the local variations of Black-capped Chickadee songs. “Extraordinary!” Kroodsma exclaims. “On this small island of Martha’s Vineyard, less than 20 miles across, was more variety than I had known across the entire continent of North America.” He also suffered an occupational hazard of doing science by bicycle when Vineyard police stopped him for questioning after some citizens mistook his sound gun for a real gun and concluded that he was a terrorist on wheels. The culmination of his experiences came when Kroodsma and his son David cycled cross country. “It’s the ultimate celebration of birdsong,” he writes, “listening to every chirp in our 4500-mile route across the entire continent.”

I’ve chased birds by car too far and too often to hold myself up as a righteous exemplar, but one value of birding by bicycle, in addition to exercise and access to varied habitats, is its low impact on the environment. After the most recent Birdathon, I considered all the miles my partner and I had driven to find our targets, and all the miles driven by all the other teams. We were trying to maximize our lists, raising money for a good cause, but at what cost in fuel and other resources required to deliver us that fuel? I’m too spoiled to swear off my four-wheeled vehicle, but I’m ready for my first Biking Birdathon.

I ride a hybrid bicycle, more efficient than a mountain bike for riding on paved roads, yet sturdier than a racing bike if a dirt path or gravel road looks promising. Trek, Gary Fisher, and GT, among other manufacturers, all make reliable, affordable hybrids as well as a wide range of other bicycles.

One cautionary note: if while biking you see or hear an intriguing bird, stop pedaling, dismount, and secure your bicycle well off the road before trying to get the bird in your bins. I’ve learned this lesson the hard way. 🐦

John Nelson is a retired English professor and the author of a recently published book about teaching, Cultivating Judgment. He lives in Gloucester and volunteers as a property monitor for Essex County Greenbelt.

FIELD NOTES

Close Encounter with an Owl

J. Thomas Brownrigg

On the morning of June 11, 2006, I was at Great Brook Farm State Park in Carlisle, walking east along North Road near the dairy farm. There was a commotion of irate birds along the edge of a field south of the farmhouse, so I decided to investigate.

About ten Common Grackles were diving at something along the shrubby border of the field, but I could not see what it was. As I got closer, I saw a large brown animal moving slowly on the ground. I thought it was probably a mammal or a hawk that had captured a baby bird. Finally I got close enough and discovered that it was an immature Great Horned Owl.



Immature Great Horned Owl by J. Thomas Brownrigg

I was able to get about fifteen feet from the owl before it saw me — it was distracted by the grackles. When it noticed me, it stared directly at me and raised its wings umbrella-fashion above its head. It made a loud, sharp “click” sound with its beak, possibly a distress call to alert the parents. Luckily, I had my digital camera with zoom lens and was able to get photos at close range. I did not see an adult owl, but I suspect that they were nearby keeping an eye on the baby. Kenn Kaufman

(1996) says that young Great Horned Owls are tended and fed by the parents for up to several months.

I have seen Great Horned Owls in the same general area of the state park in past years, including juveniles, but have never been this close to one — and will probably never be as lucky again! 🦉

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Editor's Note: The following citations from existing literature on the behaviors noted are printed with permission from Birds of America Online <<http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/BNA/>>. "In both adults and older young, at least 3 forms of threat displays grade into one another. Mild threats consist of agitated bill-clapping, hissing, occasional low, drawn-out screams, and other guttural noises. Second threat level consists of fully spread wings arching in a "wall" toward intruder, while head is held either beneath wings, bill almost touching ground, or upright. This threat may also be accompanied by agitated bill-clapping, screams, and other guttural noises" (Dwight G. Smith).

Discovery of a Late Autumn Waterfowl Roost at Pleasant Bay, Massachusetts

Peter Trull, with contributions from Amanda Lynch, Jackson Niles, Nate Rogers, Christopher Rheume, Noe Karlson, Rachel Lake, and Maddy Niles

Last mid-November, I was returning from an afternoon outing with a van full of middle schoolers from the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School in Orleans, Massachusetts. The excursion was part of a program funded by a Toyota Tapestry Grant I had received to study the birds of Pleasant Bay with my students.

These were birder kids: boys and girls who love birds and want to see as many species and individuals as they can on every outing. Each Monday after school we would travel a predetermined route of boat ramps, town landings, and beaches, observing and counting birds, mostly waterfowl.

It was close to dark now, and we were running late.

"Did you see that, Mr. Trull?" I heard from the back of the van. "A huge flock of birds out on the water."

It was getting dark but I had to turn around and look. Even in the twilight, through our binoculars we could see a raft of ducks half a mile long! The silhouettes of Red-breasted Mergansers were easy to identify, and the white patches of the drake Buffleheads were discernable, but in the low light we couldn't be certain of the third

species, but they looked like Goldeneye. We estimated 3000 and then headed back to school late, to a group of waiting, concerned parents.

The following Monday, November 22, we headed right back to the same spot near the Wequassett Inn on Pleasant Bay. During the daylight hours, up until about 4 p.m., few birds were present. We headed over to Eastward Point in Chatham, which looks north over Strong Island and Pleasant Bay and also affords a pretty good view to the east. Sure enough mergansers were streaming by, and as the light faded goldeneye and Buffleheads began funneling in from the east.

We raced back to our vantage point at the Wequassett Inn, where we estimated 4000 Red-breasted Mergansers, 2000 goldeneye, and 600 Buffleheads! We realized that we had discovered a large roosting site for migrating waterfowl in the protected waters of Pleasant Bay.

My good pal Blair Nikula was skeptical at first, especially regarding the goldeneye numbers, until he went and checked it for himself. I also reported this to Mass. Audubon's Wayne Petersen, who told me of another big goldeneye and Bufflehead roost at Carson Beach in South Boston. Wayne explained that these roosts can go unnoticed because of their development late in the day, in poor light.

On November 29, we counted 3000 Common Goldeneye and 1000 Bufflehead. Although most of the mergansers had already dispersed, we observed an additional 500–600 gulls. As the weeks progressed, the birds dispersed more widely over the Cape's waters. Jeremiah Trimble was still able to record some good numbers in Pleasant Bay on the Christmas Count, including a Barrow's Goldeneye, but by January the roost was no more.

The best time to observe this roost is mid-late November, at dusk, 4:30–4:45 p.m. The roost can be viewed from the Wequassett Inn on Route 28, in Harwich.

It's been a great pleasure sharing the wonder of birds and nature with kids. Once they learn to use binoculars, it's like a new world has been opened to them. I feel very lucky to have been with them when they made a real contribution to the understanding of waterfowl migration on Cape Cod. 🦅

Observations of a Sharp-shinned Hawk Nest

Craig Jackson

In the spring of 2002 a Sharp-shinned Hawk nest was discovered by Dana Jewell in Breakheart Reservation in the town of Saugus. Bent (1937) states that Sharp-shinned Hawks were once fairly common breeding birds in southeastern Massachusetts. This is no longer true, and today it is a fairly unusual breeding bird anywhere in Massachusetts (Veit and Petersen 1993). A friend, Fay Vale, told me about the nest and described its location.

On July 18, I observed the nest from 8:40 a.m. until 3:10 p.m., with just a short break around midday. The nest was high in a white pine, on a branch very close to the trunk. The tree is situated in a small pine grove near the top of an esker just off a well-used trail. (I estimated that the nest was sixty to seventy feet above the ground, although others thought it was under fifty feet.) There were two young birds in the nest; one appeared larger, but both had predominantly white, downy feathers. However, when they flapped their wings it was also clear that both had flight feathers coming in. The adult female was larger than the male, which at first caused some confusion as I note below.

During my visit, I observed three feedings. More significantly, I also observed the female caching extra food after having first fed her young and later returning to that cache for a subsequent feeding. This is potentially the first record of food caching by Sharp-shinned Hawks, since I have been unable to find any mention of this behavior in the literature on this species. [Jim Berry has subsequently observed food caching by a male Sharp-shinned in a nest he was observing in Ipswich in 2006.]

The following are excerpts from notes I took during my observation of feeding and caching behavior. I have also included calls heard which I believe were related to food exchanges. Since I had not originally seen the male while observing the nest, I was confused at times as to whether I was seeing the same or different adults in the vicinity. However, when the adult male showed up at 12:05 p.m., it became clear that prior references in my notes were to the larger female. All later visual references pertain to the female, since I did not see the male again.

8:40 a.m. — Heard two vocalizations shortly after I arrived but did not see a bird. One was a high-pitched squeal and the other was a trill.

9:45 a.m. — Noticed an adult on the nest, and a young bird popped up its head. The adult bird then flew down toward trees very close to the trail.

9:47 a.m. — The adult bird (the female) flew into a nearby tree with something in its talons. The female left whatever this was in a crook of one of the overhanging branches of this tree, then flew to another branch and started preening.

9:50 a.m. — Noticed a young bird visible at the top of the nest, which appeared to be feeding on something.

9:55 a.m. — Examined what had been left in the branch crook through binoculars. It appeared to be fleshy, and there seemed to be a wet spot of blood on the branch.

[Looking at the adult female sitting in the tree I am unsure whether it is a Sharp-shinned or Cooper's Hawk. The female is sitting in a tree right off the trail and stares at me but does not fly away when I examine it in binoculars. She does not seem to be a full adult, since she appears mottled rather than barred on the breast. The tail does not seem to be rounded, but in sunlight the breast seems whitish (not heavily streaked).]

10:53 a.m. — The adult bird flew back into the pines. [When I again examined the stuff in the tree it seemed that there was fur. Could this have been feathers?]

11:47 a.m. — Started hearing Red-tail-like whistles and one combination call. Noticed one of the young birds stirring in the nest. [The calls did not seem to be coming either from the nest or from where the adult was last seen.]

12:00 p.m. — Heard a shriek-like call and a flicker-like yip on other side of hill. I then saw an adult Sharp-shinned (the female) picking at food in its talons. [Was it removing feathers?] The bird then moved to where I could not see it. Apparently, I had missed a food exchange from male (hunter) to female (feeder of the young).

12:05 p.m. — Heard a couple of other shrieks and then saw an adult bird fly up into a tree near the nest. It then flew by the nest and landed high in another tree. When I looked at this bird, I noted that it was small and had a squared tail and a very gray back (not splotched with white and brown, like the adult I had been observing earlier). I also noted the first bird was still picking at the food, so I assumed the second, smaller bird (a full adult) was the male.

12:07 p.m. — Female flew to the nest to feed the young. She left after three minutes. Although the young were not visible while being fed, they both showed their heads after she left.

1:07 p.m. — After returning from a break I could not see the food that had earlier been put in the crotch of the branch. [Had it been cached and fed to the young while I was away? Had it been given to or taken by the male when he had arrived?]

2:05 p.m. — The adult female flew into the tree in which she had earlier stored food. After emerging from the other side of tree, she began plucking feathers from something in her talons. [It looked like what I had seen her place in the branch earlier, although the blood spot seemed to have dried up. My prior guess that there had been fur seems to have been wrong; it also appears that when I had left I had forgotten exactly where the food had been cached.]

I now had a much better view of the stored food. It appeared to be half a body with two little stubby wings (a baby bird?). It was mostly grayish-yellow. The adult seemed to take a few bites herself before flying up to the nest to feed her young. This lasted about two minutes, after which at least one young bird showed itself and flapped its wings.

[The food seems to have been cached and not exchanged by an unseen male. The blood spot was dry. More importantly, there was no calling beforehand — shrieks or trills.]

Analysis of my observations

It appears as if a food exchange had been made shortly before my arrival, and that the noises I heard were part of it. After feeding her young, the female had then cached the remainder of the prey item in the crook of a nearby branch. At 12:05 p.m. the male had again come with food and exchanged it with the female, who once more

fed her young. However, at 2:05 p.m. the female relied on the cached food, instead of freshly killed prey, to again feed her young.

The much larger size and browner coloration of the female was very noticeable. At first, I thought she was an immature bird mating with a full adult male, and that is still a possibility. However, Bent states that in “all adult females, the upper parts are less bluish, more brownish, and the under parts are lighter than in males” (p. 101). It also seems possible that she was a second-summer bird that had not quite completed the molt into full adult plumage (see Clark and Wheeler 2001, pp. 158-59).

I have purposely omitted notes I made regarding other species in this article. It was interesting to note, however, that whereas the hawks showed no concern about nearby Black-capped Chickadees, on two occasions the adults chased Blue Jays away from the nest. I was also somewhat surprised that many chipmunks moved near the nest without fear, nor did the hawks take much notice of them. 🦉

References:

- Bent, A.C. 1937. *Life Histories of North American Birds of Prey, Part 1*. Washington: U.S. National Museum Bulletin 167. (Reprinted by Dover Press, 1961.)
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Editor's note: This is a condensed version of field observations published originally in the Fall 2006 EMHW (Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch) newsletter.

Bird Observer Web Content

Which are the best areas for spring birding at Wompatuck State Park?

I want to explore new birding trails and habitat in Worcester County — where should I go?

I misidentified a Lincoln's Sparrow today and am wondering if there's an “At A Glance” article to help me identify this bird?

I know Barry Van Dusen sketched a Carolina Wren for one of *Bird Observer's* covers, but which issue?

I want to increase my knowledge of raptors — I wonder if *Bird Observer* has recommended any good hawk field guides or videos?

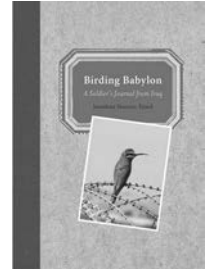
These and other questions can be quickly answered by using *Bird Observer's* online indices at <<http://massbird.org/birdobserver/BOIndex/index.htm>>. Each of *Bird Observer's* four regular features — “Where to Find Birds,” “At A Glance,” “About Books,” and “About the Cover” (Art) — are indexed back to the 1970s or 1980s and easily searchable by keyword. Check out this web feature, give it a try, and you may find your back issues of *Bird Observer* getting dusted off and used more than ever!

ABOUT BOOKS

Birding in Full Battle-Rattle: A Conversation with Jonathan Trouern-Trend

Mark Lynch

At first glance, *Birding Babylon: A Soldier's Journal From Iraq* (2006 University of California Press) looks like a trifle of a book. It is short (80 pages), quite small, and reminds you of those silly gift booklets found near the checkout counter of a large bookstore. Don't be fooled; Jonathan Trouern-Trend's published version of his wartime Iraq blog is a deeply fascinating and ultimately poignant account of his tour of duty in Iraq. A Connecticut Army National Guardsman and Sergeant First Class, Trouern-Trend served with the 118th Area Support Medical Battalion at Camp Anaconda, north of Baghdad. Jonathan is also a serious birder who, despite being set down in the worst of all possible situations, doggedly, some would say insanelly, still got out and observed birds. His writing is spare and matter of fact, which makes what he was doing seem even more wonderful and bizarre. Despite almost daily shelling, he dons his helmet and body armor, grabs his gun and *binoculars* to venture out to the local cesspool to search for shorebirds. The very act of birding becomes his touchstone with the saner world of natural history, something associated with home and family.



I interviewed Jonathan in July and found him to be a careful and conscientious observer of the political, social, and natural world of Iraq. He has a droll sense of humor that adds to the delightful dissonance of a person searching for a life bird while cruising in a helicopter over an embattled landscape. We have seen and heard so much about Iraq over the years that we are almost numb to the constant carnage and violence, which is why this book is such a surprise. It doesn't matter what your political beliefs about the war are, Jonathan Trouern-Trend's little book speaks to the hardcore birder lurking in us all, and stirs a deep longing for a world in which birders everywhere could raise their binoculars to get a lifer without having to wear Kevlar.

Mark Lynch would like to thank WICN (90.5 FM, <<http://www.wicn.org>>) and Producer Kyle Warren for giving *Bird Observer* permission to print this interview. It was recorded July 7, 2006.

M: This book was originally a blog, correct?

J: Correct.

M: There has been a lot of intense interest in this tiny book, why do you think that is?

J: I think it's a different take on what we think about, when we think about Iraq, because we have a steady diet of violent images on TV, the idea of chaos reigning supreme there. So I think it's a totally different way of looking at Iraq.

M: I can also tell you that from the birding community point of view, you represent the birder they wish they could be...a feeling that no matter what is going on around you, you still want to look at birds.

J: Yeah, I think that's right. Actually my children are more a hindrance (to birding) than a war.

M: (laughs) Jonathan!

J: I actually had more free time to bird there.

M: I have this picture of you en route to Iraq thinking "I hope I get some lifers." Did you actually think that?

J: Oh yeah. Of course. In fact I made a list.

M: You did!?

J: I printed the Iraq list off the Internet and went through and thought which birds I would like to see, what identification problems I might run into.

M: What field guides did you bring?

J: Well, there's one in particular...Porter's *Birds of the Middle East*, and that turned out to be a very good book.

(Author's note: Jonathan is referring to *Field Guide to the Birds of the Middle East* by R.F. Porter, S. Christensen, and P. Schiermacker-Hansen 1986. T & A D Poyser London, Great Britain.)

M: Let's talk about what you did there. What was your role in the Iraq conflict? You were there with the 118th Area Support Medical Battalion...

J.: Correct. I was part of the Battalion's staff. I was the Intelligence Sergeant for the Battalion, so basically I poured through hundreds of intel reports during my time there and tried to give my commander a high level view of what was going on for the individual units. We had about 25 locations throughout the country, from Turkey to Kuwait. If there were particular things to watch out for...be concerned about. Say we had a unit down in Baghdad, was there something we had to be worried about there? So it was mostly sitting in front of a computer reading all sorts of intel and then trying to compile it into something our Battalion Commander could use.

M: Are you talking about medical intel?

J: No, this was more about security. Though we did provide medical intel, that was one of our reports. (we dealt with) Like diseases and non-battle injuries. Everything from diarrhea to Leishmaniasis, which is a parasitic skin disease spread by a sand fly.

M: Talk to me about Camp Anacaonda, which is where you were stationed most of the time?

J: Yes. It was a gigantic place, fifteen square miles. I had a Hum-Vee so I could roam a little. On the way to a security meeting, I could take a little detour to the pond. Or on the way back I would too. People would refer to these as my joy rides, but I was just basically taking the long way home. It was flat and dusty, but all around us were trees and agricultural land. They grew tomatoes, cucumbers, sunflowers,

cotton, grapes...there was a huge vineyard just off base. We were in the Tigris River Valley, so around us was a pretty lush area. There were huge runways for the F-16s. There were probably twenty thousand troops there.

M: Was the area fairly secure? In the book, you talk about shelling occurring on almost a daily basis.

J: The good thing was it was fifteen square miles in size, which made it a very big target. The bad thing was that it was the biggest target in Iraq. So we had in excess of 600 rounds of various types fired at us over the course of a year. Only a little of it came over the wire, which is our fence. So, yeah, you could get killed there, but chances were pretty low. Probably driving down Route 95 is more dangerous.

M: What inspired you to start this blog?

J: Because I was the “intel guy” and was trying to get information on what was really happening in Iraq, I tuned into a lot of soldier’s blogs that were coming out at the time. They would talk about all sorts of things, from what they had for breakfast to living conditions, stuff like that. I found it was easy to set one up, basically it took five minutes. So I thought it would be an interesting way to record my nature observations.

M: Did you have “target” birds and other birds you knew that no matter what, you would probably see them?

J: I don’t know if I had “target birds,” but I had ones I hoped I’d see.

M: Did you see any of those?

J: Oh yeah. I saw bee-eaters (Blue-cheeked bee-eater *Merops superciliosus*).

M: They’re spectacular.

J: Oh yeah! They’re almost an electric green and the underwings are a golden color, and they’re twittering away, flying all over the place. There were exotic birds, but there were also the familiar birds. The first birds I saw when I got there were Barn Swallows migrating north from Africa over a camp in Kuwait. Just me and twelve thousand of my closest friends, all waiting to go to Iraq. It was a surreal scene. I go to the dining hall and there were Mongolian infantry guys, guys from El Salvador, Japanese engineers. It was kind of a U.N. of camps. Then I saw these Barn Swallows and it was a familiar feeling because I could see the same species in Connecticut.

M: How did you get from Kuwait to Baghdad?

J: We drove in a convoy. It took two days. We drove from the Kuwaiti border up to just south of Baghdad and stayed overnight by the side of the road. The next day we went through Baghdad. The risk was a lot lower in Baghdad.

M: You write in your journal that as you were riding along, you started to notice pools of water and that the birding improved incredibly.

J: That’s true! I only saw about five species in my desert outpost (Kuwait) and only two of them I hadn’t seen before. So I was pretty happy to start seeing water and vegetation. I was actually amazed at the amount of water. During the winter there’s a good deal of rain in Iraq and lots of these temporary pools form.

M: And you started getting shorebirds?

J: Lots of waders. I saw avocets (Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*), stilts (Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*).

M: One of the birds I am jealous of you getting was Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*).

J: That was at what some people referred to as the “Poo Pond” or by other more colorful names. We had at one time eight hundred to a thousand Port-O-Potties on our base, which were emptied out daily with pump trucks. And all that stuff...they dug out this little pond with basically a containerized sewage treatment plant attached to it. There was even a fountain in the middle to aerate it. But the shorebirds liked it.

We had a lot of Phillipino guys who had contracts to work on base. These were the guys who drove those trucks. And they were looking at me like: “Why is this dude coming over here? This would be the last place I would go on base.” But there was Great Snipe and I saw a lot of other good shorebirds there.

M: Talk to me about birding in a war zone. What did people think about what you were doing?

J: Well, those who knew me well put up with my idiosyncrasies. People in my unit would think “that’s Sergeant Trouern-Trend and his craziness.” But other people I don’t think even noticed because the security guys have binoculars, the persons up in the guard towers have binoculars. Sometimes I would go up there to get a good look.

M: Those were obviously the binoculars you were issued, right?

J: No, I brought my own.

M: You did!

J: Yeah. Only certain units really get issued binoculars. Medical units don’t.

M: How are the binoculars that get issued? Are they good?

J: Yeah, there are some pretty good ones. Sometimes they have a range finder. Sometimes they have a grid on the front, like a honeycomb, which prevents or minimizes glint off the lens.

M: And there’s no distortion of the image?

J: Not anything significant.

M: Did you ever try those for birding?

J: Oh yeah. When I was in an infantry unit I would sometimes abscond with them.

M: You didn’t have a scope with you?

J: No. I wish I did. Other guys who have since gone, have brought scopes. I definitely could have used them for waterfowl and shorebirds. There were a few times when large flocks, probably pipits or something, were far out on the runway. I couldn’t see what they were other than some general “pipit-like” birds.

M: I have to imagine this bird list from Iraq is one of the most respected bird lists of the last couple of years. Someone who has birded Iraq: that’s one tough birder!

J: Yeah. You know, I’m not the only one.

M: You bumped into other people birders?

J: Mostly through e-mails. I did go birding with a few people, mostly from my unit. After I left I kept hearing from different people. A Marine helicopter pilot wrote to me about seeing flamingoes (likely Greater Flamingoes *Phoenicopterus ruber*) flying out of Najaf, bee-eaters and Blue Rock Thrush (*Monticola solitarius*) out of Al Asad Air Force Base in Al Anbar Province. I got a bird list from a Polish soldier from the Ornithological Society of the Middle East. One of the guys there had translated it and wanted to know if I knew some of the camps the soldier was talking about. His list put mine to shame, it was so detailed. A systematic species list. Every date he saw something, exactly where. I was less systematic, but I did at least collect some useful information.

M: Do I understand you got Houbara Bustard (*Chlamydotis undulata*) by helicopter?

J: Yes. I was flying up to Tikrit and then north towards Mosul. We jumped on a Medi-Vac helicopter and started flying. Out in the scrublands, we started looking down at things. You're flying about eighty feet off the ground. Even though you are closer to people who shoot at you, you come over so fast that hopefully before they can react, you're gone. The bird came out from underneath us. I could see it's striking black and white wings. I only saw it for about ten seconds.

M: That doesn't matter, you get to tick it.

J: And then we're flying along and we hit a giant flock of "somethings." Hitting birds with aircraft seems to be a common theme. I was talking to these guys flying Sherpas, which are little transport planes. They'll zip along at eighty to a hundred feet off the ground. And they go: "Oh, yeah, I think we hit an eagle or vulture. We dented the front of the propeller. It still works, but we're going to have to replace it."

Another time, some of our people were coming up from the south of Baghdad, and they hit a sand grouse with their helicopter. They were in a Blackhawk. It (the sand grouse) went through the little window near the pilot's feet, into the helicopter. When they landed, they fished it out from behind the seats. It was a very colorful male Pin-tailed Sandgrouse (*Pterocles alchata*) and I was very jealous.

M: You could count that couldn't you?

J: (laughs) Well, if I saw it hurtling towards me before the moment of impact, perhaps.

M: Talk to me about the environment under Hussein. You mention in the book that the southern marshes were totally decimated by Hussein. Talk to me about the effect that had on the wildlife of the area.

J: At one time the marshes of southern Iraq were about twice the size of the Everglades. They were one of the most important wetlands in Asia. After the first Gulf War, some of the Shi'a in the south rose up against Saddam and he decided it was going to be like what Rome did to Carthage: salt the soil, destroy everything. They had a gigantic engineering project to divert the Euphrates River around the

marshes, created pumping stations, made canals. They estimate that by 2000 the marshes were at seven percent of their former size.

M: There were people there whose whole lifestyle was dependent on that marsh.

J: Yeah. The Marsh Arabs had lived there for thousands of years. There are Babylonian references to people living in similar ways. They had floating mats of reeds that their houses, also made of reeds, would be on. They would float up and down with the spring floods. They had water buffalo that would swim between little islands.

When the marshes were drained, a lot of the Arabs went to Iran as refugees and were there for ten years or more. But Coalition Forces went in there even before Baghdad fell. These guys were breaking dikes down, turning off pumping stations and re-flooding areas.

I think the last satellite photo that I saw was from April (2006). The U.N. actually has a monitoring program with the Japanese government, who helped fund it. They take satellite imagery and vegetation-wise, the marsh is back to about fifty-eight percent. So, from seven to fifty-eight percent in about three years. It's not perfect and I don't think currently it can get to one hundred percent because there are a lot of dams up in Turkey now that reduce the flow of the Tigris and the Euphrates. It's a pretty spectacular rebound. I have been in contact with an Iraqi birder who has spent the last three seasons doing bird surveys in the marshes in some of the re-flooded areas.

M: And the birds are returning to the marshes?

J: Yeah!

M: What about the Marsh Arabs?

J: Some of them have returned in small numbers. Some of them have settled down near the marshes. But there are people returning. I don't know if the tens of thousands that used to live there (will return). Some of them have now settled into sedentary life styles.

M: There are many amazing images from this book. One is your birding in "full battle rattle." You didn't wear that all the time, did you? Were there just some times you had to put on all that gear?

J: Actually, for a long time we had such consistent mortar and rocket attacks that pretty much anytime you went outside, you had to wear your helmet, your body armor and of course everywhere you went you had to carry your weapon. It was about forty pounds of stuff. I think it kept people in shape. But it also adds about ten degrees to your perceived temperature. So when it's one hundred and twenty-seven degrees out, which is about the hottest I saw, *that's* pretty hot. You're just soaked to the skin with sweat. You go to the showers, you're wearing your body armor. Or if you go to the Port-O-Lets, that's how it was. So if I wanted to go birding, I would have to wear all that.

M: You had a lot of interaction with the local people too. What did they think about your birding?

J: I think it was a point of common interest or at least common appreciation. Maybe it made me a little more human to them. I just got an e-mail from one of these guys yesterday. He said he remembers chatting about the birds. A lot of these guys were farmers, with wild boars tearing up their vegetable beds, so it (natural history) was a subject of which we had a lot in common. They liked observing nature too.

I think they appreciated that I was trying to figure out the Arabic names, so we talked all the time. "What do you call that?" "Are there any storks nesting around here?" And they said: "Oh, yeah. Up in Samarra, on some of the mosques." It was kind of cool.

Several thousand local guys worked on our base, so I had quite a lot of interaction with them. Then I would go out to the villages on occasion, not very often, on a medical mission, or a civil affairs type thing, or delivering supplies to a school. Kids are like kids everywhere. They're interested in everything.

M: You birded the ruins of Babylon proper, right?

J: Saddam was no great preserver of archaeology. I heard he spent something like seven hundred million dollars to rebuild the palace of Nebuchadnezzar on top of the actual ruins. I had a long talk with one of the archaeologists there, an Iraqi, and he told me "over there, that's where they think Daniel's lion's den was." It was part of a prison. I went down in there and there were tons of bats there.

There were huge bats coming out of the palace. I went up into one of Saddam's palaces and out of the walls came these huge tomb bats (Genus *Taphozous*) I think they're called. And they're flying around in this big marble room. I thought "this is weird." Then they flew out over the Euphrates.

M: Seems kind of symbolic in a weird way I can't explain.

J: (laughs) There were some funny messages on the palace walls. Like: "Dear Saddam: Thanks for the tour of your palace. Next time try to spread the wealth around." It was interesting seeing the juxtaposition of so much wealth in there and just outside, so much poverty.


M: You feel fairly positive about how things are going to turn out in Iraq?

J: I think so. I take the long view, which is what I think most Iraqis do too. At least the guys I made contact with. Yes, bad things happen, but they see it more as a process that is very painful, but feel confident it will turn out all right for them in the end.

M: When everything calms down, would you want to go back there and bird?

J: Oh yeah. It's an incredible place, with all that history — that's deep history there, it's an exotic place. In the Twenties all the European upper class would go to Iraq. It's where the Orient Express went. Agatha Christie met her husband there at a dig down in Ur. It was a well-traveled place before.

M: What was your most frustrating miss?

J: Hmmm. I don't know. I think seeing so many shorebirds I couldn't identify. There were probably ten other species. But I had no scope! So, I'll have to go back for them. 

Letter to the Editor

Great article in the June issue! I enjoyed every bit of Mark Lynch's "Yellow-legged Claphangers." It was much needed!

But, please allow me to differ, if only slightly, with one of his assertions, at least as far as TV goes. Lynch says that the epitome of the sexless nerd birder on TV was the hapless Miss Jane Hathaway, of the *Beverly Hillbillies*. That's true to a point...but before the *Beverly Hillbillies*, and even before the *Honeymooners* (and that seminal moment when Ed Norton identifies a sapsucker in Central Park), there was *Mr. Peepers*. The show starred Wally Cox, whom Lynch correctly identified as the actor who appeared as Miss Hathaway's bird-club founder. The fact is, he pioneered that specific typecast role a decade earlier as the star on *Mr. Peepers*. The show was broadcast on NBC between July 1952 and June 1955.

Mr. Robinson J. Peepers was the mild-mannered and shy junior-high school science teacher (there you go again!) whose hobby was birdwatching. While Mr. Peepers (notice the implication of the name?) had a girlfriend, Nancy, the school nurse, she often seemed to be almost "a cover" for him. She was certainly more assertive than the less-than-manly Peepers. Actually, I remember his character being of, shall I say, dubious sexual orientation.

The sitcom's humor tended to involve Mr. Peepers coping with misbehaving inanimate objects, with very embarrassing results. His interest in birds added another peculiar dimension the comic character of Mr. Peepers.

This early TV show is significant for having helped establish the popular stereotype of the bookish nerd, and of those same supposed behavioral characteristics of birders that Lynch outlined so well in his article. Alas, not only was Wally Cox subsequently stuck being typecast in variations on the mild-mannered and geeky "Peepers," so were we!

Paul Baicich
Oxon Hill, MD

P.S. The cast of *Mr. Peepers* also included some other fine actors, including Tony Randall as history teacher Harvey Weskit. The show was a big hit, a recipient of one Peabody Award and eight Emmy nominations. *Mr. Peepers* was aired live, and, therefore, was not preserved — except in the form of kinescopes on 16 mm film. These have recently been released in a DVD box set.

Notes from MassWildlife

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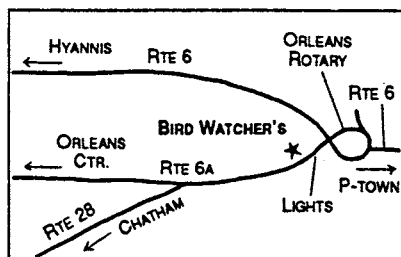
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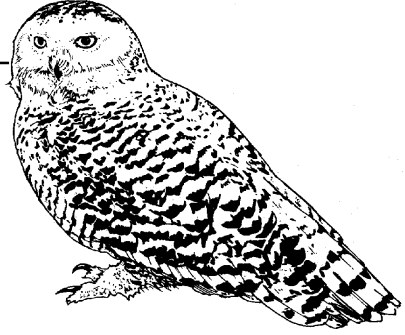
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BIRD SIGHTINGS

May/June 2006

Seth Kellogg, Marjorie W. Rines, Robert H Stymeist, and Jeremiah R. Trimble

The weather highlight in May (or lowlight, from the perspective of the birder) was the rain. It was the second rainiest month of May in Boston on record dating back to 1872 and ranks the fourth wettest of any month! A total of 12.48 inches was recorded in Boston, 9.24 inches greater than normal; the all-time record was 13.38 inches in May 1954. Measurable amounts fell on fourteen days, with the most occurring during Mass Audubon's Bird-A-Thon on May 13. That weekend of May 13-14 totaled 7.61 inches in Boston. Essex County was especially hard hit, with Salisbury recording 20.32 inches and Rockport tallying 19.67 inches. Accompanying this rain were persistent strong northeast winds starting on May 8 and scarcely letting up until May 15. A thunder squall on May 21 caused considerable damage locally in greater Boston areas when a peak gust of 55mph from the west was noted. May was persistently cold, with an average temperature of 57° in Boston, 1.5° below normal but 4.8° warmer than last May. The high mark was 84° on May 29 and the low was 44° on May 1 and 2. There were few days with favorable winds for migration: southwest on just May 20, 25, and 31; south on May 18, 19, 26; and southeast on May 29.

June was very wet and cloudy, and it was the first time in 136 years of record keeping that any two consecutive months recorded more than ten-plus inches of rain. In fact, this May-June total of 22.57 inches in Boston will be on the record books for quite some time. In June, rainfall totaled 10.99 inches in Boston, 6.87 inches over normal, ranking it as the third wettest June in 136 years. Measurable rains fell on fifteen days, four more than average. Of the four weekends, two had moderate to heavy rains on both days (June 3-4, and 24-25). The weekend of June 17-18 had no measurable rain and the remaining weekend June 10-11 was dry on Sunday but saw moderate rain on Saturday. The temperature averaged out at 68.1°, just 0.1° above normal; the first half of the month was generally cool and the later half was warm and humid. *R. Stymeist*

WATERFOWL TO ALCIDS

Several Brant decided that 10 million tourists can't be wrong and lingered on Cape Cod into June, perhaps just to see what all the hubbub was about. There were two observed at North Monomoy on June 5 and three at Eastham on June 8. Although this species is routinely observed through May in Massachusetts, they have generally departed by Memorial Day. Significantly more unexpected was the adult male Eurasian Wigeon that was found at Dorchester on June 3! This species is uncommon even in winter, and there are only a handful of previous June records. Also somewhat unusual were the two American Wigeon at Plum Island on May 17. This species usually disappears by the end of May and does not show up in Massachusetts again until the end of August. American Wigeon, however, has been recorded breeding in the state once on Penikese Island and twice on South Monomoy Island.

Diving ducks put on a show of their own during this period. Redheads, uncommon even in the winter, usually depart Massachusetts by the middle of April at the latest. Impressively late then was the Redhead that lingered in Deerfield: May 23-26. A Greater Scaup at Chilmark on June 9 and a King Eider at Rockport on June 5 were also exceptionally late. A Harlequin Duck that lingered through June on Martha's Vineyard is part of a growing trend of individuals of this species summering in the state over recent years. Joining the late puddle ducks at Plum Island

was a Bufflehead, which stayed through the end of June and was joined by a female Ruddy Duck on June 24.

Horned Grebes are rarely seen in Massachusetts during the summer, so the bird that spent the month of June in Falmouth was noteworthy. A Red-necked Grebe in Chatham on June 11 was also unusual.

The real story of the season, though, just as last year, was probably the spectacle of pelagic birds, thanks to some late May/early June storms. The first bit of excitement came in mid May when a storm hit coastal Massachusetts and produced some major excitement; well almost. On May 14, an **albatross**, suspected of being a Yellow-nosed, was observed at Sandy Neck Beach in Barnstable. The following day, at nearby Corporation Beach in Dennis, an experienced observer watched a **small shearwater** resembling an alcid that was likely a Little Shearwater, but the duration and conditions of the sighting were not sufficient for a confirmed identification. Little Shearwater is unrecorded in Massachusetts. Large numbers of Northern Gannets, including 2850 at Dennis on May 14, were also associated with this storm. Another storm produced some interesting sightings in the beginning of June. Without question the major find was another albatross, seen well enough this time to conclusively identify it as **Yellow-nosed**, flying past Andrew's Point in Rockport on June 6.

An adult female **Magnificent Frigatebird** was reported from Nauset Light in Eastham on May 17. Although Magnificent Frigatebird is by far the most likely frigatebird species to occur in Massachusetts, that genus of birds, and indeed all seabirds, are known to wander widely, and Lesser Frigatebird, a very similar species, has occurred in Maine and just last year in Detroit. Observers of such rarities are encouraged to submit details to the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee.

Least Bitterns were noted at various localities throughout the state, though as in recent years, they put on their best showing at their real foothold in the state, Plum Island. Up to 5 adults were seen throughout the period. One Least Bittern was noted calling at Noman's Land, representing the first known record for that site. The most interesting heron sighting of the season was the hybrid **Little Egret X Snowy Egret** at Nantucket near the end of May. As these two species have been increasingly reported interbreeding, observers should be on particular alert for the possibility of this hybrid occurring more frequently in the state. The main heron rookery in the state at Kettle Island seems to have had a productive season. Several species, including Great Egret (102 nests), Black-crowned Night-Heron (35 nests), and Glossy Ibis (117 nests) had their highest nest totals in 17 years at this site. The Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reported at N. Andover in May was an interesting find.

Reports of Black Vultures were well distributed during this reporting period, with many more eastern Massachusetts reports than usual. There were two reports of **Mississippi Kites** from Pilgrim Heights in Truro, as has become typical over the last few years. Two were observed there on May 29 and a single was seen on June 27. A **Swallow-tailed Kite**, much more unusual in the state, was observed in Wellfleet on May 20. A pair of Bald Eagles successfully hatched 2 young in Fall River this year, providing the first nesting record for Bristol County. At least four Peregrine Falcon nests were noted. Two chicks were banded at the Christian Science Building; four chicks were banded at the Customs House in Boston; while another two were banded at a nest on the Goliath Crane in Quincy. A fourth nest was not accessed on the control tower at Logan airport.

A Clapper Rail with two young at Chappaquiddick provided the first breeding record for this species on Martha's Vineyard. Plum Island once again proved to be the stronghold for many declining marsh birds in the state. A King Rail was observed there throughout most of

June. As many as 17 Virginia Rails and 9 Soras were counted there. Most impressive was a count of 8-9 adult **Common Moorhens** at Plum Island during June. Two American Coot lingered at Plum Island until at least June 21. This species is quite rare in the state after May and has furnished only 2 records in June over the last 10 years. A single **Sandhill Crane** was seen at Bolton Flats on May 6, while a pair was seen throughout May and June at New Marlboro for the third year in a row!

A pair of American Oystercatchers was found nesting at Salem at the end of May for the first nesting record for Essex County. A Willet was discovered at Quabbin on May 13, representing one of very few inland records for Massachusetts. Other noteworthy shorebird sightings included a **Curlew Sandpiper** at North Monomoy at the end of May and a Reeve at Plum Island on June 6. A first summer Western Willet seen at Chatham during the first half of June was somewhat unusual. This taxon typically is observed during fall migration in the state. The mid-May storm mentioned earlier produced an inland and near-shore phalarope show similar to what was observed last year at this time. Dozens of Red-necked and Red Phalaropes were seen along the Massachusetts coastline and inland as far as Turners Falls and Deerfield. Caspian, Common, and Arctic terns showed up at several inland locations, and three Black-legged Kittiwakes made a very rare inland appearance at Chestnut Hill Reservoir in Brookline.

This storm also produced decent numbers of jaegers at typical sea watch sites including Andrew's Point, Sandy Neck Beach, and Corporation Beach. Most unusual were as many as three **Long-tailed Jaegers** observed on May 14 at several Cape Cod Bay beaches. On June 11, 2 subadult Long-tailed Jaegers were also observed off Truro. Several other Larid sightings caused some excitement during the period. Following an incursion late last fall, a second summer **Franklin's Gull** was seen on May 23 at Newburyport Harbor. A **California Gull**, representing only the fifth state record, was seen in South Boston on June 2. On May 14, during the aforementioned storm, an alternate plumaged **Sabine's Gull** was noted at Corporation Beach. **Sandwich Terns** were found during June at several sites on Cape Cod. Observers noted excellent numbers of Arctic Terns during the mid-May storm. Typically this species is found in numbers less than 10, so counts of 75 at Andrew's Point and 130 at Dennis were newsworthy. Rounding out the tern excitement was the **Bridled Tern** that turned up in Marion on June 14, exactly a year after the same observer reported one from the same location. Razorbills are rarely noted in the state after May; however, there have been several records in recent years of a few individuals spending at least a good portion of the summer months on Martha's Vineyard. This year 2 were at Chilmark through at least the end of June. Common Murres were recorded sporadically through the beginning of June, as were Black Guillemots, the latter including at least one immature bird. Also, a first summer Atlantic Puffin made an appearance at Andrew's Point on June 7.

J. Trimble

Brant				Gadwall				
5/7	Duxbury B.	200+	R. Bowes	thr	P.I.	10-23		v.o.
5/15	E. Boston (B.I.)	225	A. Birch	6/12	Rowley	2 m		J. Berry#
5/20, 6/11	P.I.	60, 1	T. Wetmore	6/17	Chatham (S.B.)	4		B. Nikula#
5/20	Scituate	50	SSBC (G. d'E)	6/18	Mattapoisett	1 m		M. Lynch#
5/23	Yarmouth	155	B. Nikula	Eurasian Wigeon				
6/5	N. Monomoy	2	B. Nikula	6/3	Dorchester	1 ad m		R. Donovan
6/8	Eastham (F.E.)	3	B. Nikula	American Wigeon				
Mute Swan				5/17	P.I.	2		D. Chickering#
5/21	Westport	32	M. Lynch#	Blue-winged Teal				
6/1	Turners Falls	9	H. Allen	thr	P.I.	2-7		T. Wetmore
6/13	Mashpee	37	M. Keleher	5/1-26	Deerfield	1		R. Packard
Wood Duck				5/12	Newbypt	1		S. McGrath
5/6	Stockbridge	16	M. Lynch#	5/15	S. Lancaster	2 pr		S. Sutton#
5/14	Bolton Flats	20	M. Lynch#	5/15	Scituate	1		P. O'Neill
5/20	Hampden County	89	Allen Club	5/18	Hatfield	1		R. Packard
6/4	Little River IBA	33	Allen Club	5/24-6/12	Rowley	pr		J. Berry#
6/25	Longmeadow	43	R. Packard	6/21	Concord (NAC)	pr		S. Perkins#

Northern Shoveler				5/13	Quabbin (G45)	13	M. Lynch#
5/6-6/18	P.I.	2-3	v.o.	5/29	Gardner	2 f	T. Pirro
Northern Pintail				6/15	Pittsfield	2	R. Packard
5/1-6/21	P.I.	1-8	v.o.	6/16	Richmond	2	R. Packard
5/3	Amherst	6	H. Allen	6/19	Egremont	2	R. Packard
5/14-16	GMNWR	pr	S. Perkins	6/23	Ware	5	H. Allen
Green-winged Teal				6/24	Bolton Flats	2	S. Sutton
thr	P.I.	12-54	T. Wetmore	Common Merganser			
5/3	Southwick	7	S. Kellogg	5/13	Gloucester (E.P.)	3	A. Birch#
5/4	W. Bridgewater	6	G. d'Entremont	5/17	P.I.	2 m	S. Sutton
5/5	W. Harwich	12	A. Curtis	5/28	Quabbin Pk	2 m	M. Lynch#
5/15	E. Boston (B.I.)	2	A. Birch	6/16	Northampton	17	T. Gagnon
6/24	Bolton Flats	1 m	S. Sutton	6/17	Hawley	2 m	M. Lynch#
6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	pr	J. Berry	6/21	Huntington	10	S. Kellogg
Redhead				Red-breasted Merganser			
5/23-26	Deerfield	1	R. Packard	5/3	Duxbury B.	5	R. Bowes
Ring-necked Duck				5/5, 6/5	P.I.	12, 3	Wetmore, McNeal
5/8-17	S. Quabbin	2	L. Therrien	5/13	P'town	150+	B. Nikula
5/13	Ware	pr	S. Moore#	5/15	Turners Falls	2	H. Allen
5/16	Gloucester (E.P.)	1	S. Hedman	5/29	Duxbury B.	4 f	R. Bowes#
Greater Scaup				6/2	Yarmouth	4	B. Nikula
5/1	Randolph	18	G. d'Entremont	6/8	Eastham (F.E.)	6	B. Nikula
5/6	Quincy Bay	5	G. d'Entremont	6/11, 28	P'town	10, 2	Heil, Nikula
5/12, 6/9	Chilmark	2, 1	A. Keith	6/21	WBWS	4 f	S. Perkins#
Lesser Scaup				Ruddy Duck			
5/1	Randolph	1 m	G. d'Entremont	5/14	Jamaica Plain	1	A. Joslin
King Eider				5/15-6/20	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
6/5	Rockport	1 m	J. Berry	5/16	N. Andover	1 m	G. d'Entremont
Common Eider				6/24	P.I.	1 f	T. Wetmore
thr	P.I.	45 max	R. Heil	Ring-necked Pheasant			
5/13	Winthrop	20	P. Vale	5/5	Mattapan	3	A. Birch#
5/14	Rockport (A.P.)	16	R. Heil	Ruffed Grouse			
5/18	Salem (Eagle I.)	1 nest	S. Perkins#	5/4	ONWR	3	D. Berard#
5/21	Acoaxet	29	M. Lynch#	5/7	Wompatuck SP	2	BBC (E. Giles)
5/24-25	Boston H.	91	K. Parsons#	5/7	Brookfield	5	M. Lynch#
5/24	Ten Pound I.	15 nests	J. Berry#	5/13	Quabbin (G45)	6	M. Lynch#
6/6	N. Truro	97	J. Miller	5/20	Hampden County	3	Allen Club
6/15	N. Monomoy	55	B. Nikula	5/29	Colrain	3	M. Lynch#
6/18	Fairhaven	17	M. Lynch#	Wild Turkey			
Harlequin Duck				5/12	Haverhill	7	S. Mirick
5/10, 6/13	Chilmark	21, 1	A. Keith	5/18	Georgetown	6	P. + F. Vale
Surf Scoter				5/18	Quabbin (G29)	1, 10 yg	G. d'Entremont
5/7	N. Scituate	200	G. d'Entremont	5/20	DWWS	6	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/14	Rockport (A.P.)	15	R. Heil	6/10	ONWR	1 f, 6 yg	S. Sutton#
5/16, 6/25	P.I.	16, 3	R. Heil	6/12	Pepperell	6 ad, 12 yg	E. Stromsted
5/20	N. Scituate	25	SSBC (G. d'E)	6/16	Templeton	11	T. Pirro
6/11	Chatham	2 m	R. Heil	6/20	Melrose	1 f, 2 yg	D. + I. Jewell
6/24	Woods Hole	6	M. Williams	Northern Bobwhite			
White-winged Scoter				5/21	WBWS	1	MAS (Silverstein)
5/6	Quincy Bay	150	G. d'Entremont	5/23	Chatham (MI)	1	B. Harris
5/7	N. Scituate	25	G. d'Entremont	6/4	Yarmouthport	2 m	P. Bono
5/16, 6/25	P.I.	75, 2	R. Heil	6/4	Essex	1	D. Brown#
6/13	Falmouth	3	R. Farrell	6/5	Rockport	4	J. Berry#
6/1	Hinsdale	1	R. Packard	6/6	N. Truro	3	J. Miller
6/5	N. Truro	4	J. Miller	6/13	Maspee	1	M. Keleher
6/17	N. Monomoy	6	B. Harris	6/16	Chatham	1	B. Harris
Black Scoter				6/25	Hyannisport	1	M. Williams
5/14	Manomet	3	T. Auer	Red-throated Loon			
5/16, 30	P.I.	27, 6	R. Heil	5/4, 25	Chatham (S.B.)	11, 4	Nikula, Perkins
5/21	Acoaxet	1	M. Lynch#	5/13, 6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	24, 1	R. Heil
6/5	N. Truro	1	J. Miller	5/13	Quabbin Pk	1 br pl	M. Lynch#
6/10	Chilmark	5	A. Keith	5/13, 6/5	P'town	24, 1	B. Nikula
6/11	Chatham	6	R. Heil	5/14	Dennis (Corp. B.)	28	B. Nikula#
6/24	Woods Hole	2 f	M. Williams	5/28	Jeffries L.	7	J. Wallius
Long-tailed Duck				5/28	P.I.	1	P. + F. Vale
5/16	Newbpt H.	500	R. Heil	6/19	Tillies Bank	1	J. Wallius
5/16	P.I.	150	R. Heil	Common Loon			
5/24	Rockport	1 m	J. Berry#	thr	P.I.	16 max	v.o.
6/11	Chatham	3	R. Heil	5/8, 6/5	N. Truro	135, 13	D. Manchester#
Bufflehead				5/12	Southwick	17	S. Kellogg
5/1	Randolph	16	G. d'Entremont	5/13	Quabbin (G35)	12	M. Lynch#
5/2-6/30	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore	5/14	Turners Falls	14	S. Sumner
5/3	Scituate	5	D. Furbish	5/15	Dennis (Corp. B.)	26	B. Nikula#
5/6	Quincy Bay	6	G. d'Entremont	6/5, 22	P'town	35 migr, 6	B. Nikula
5/7	Pembroke	8	G. d'Entremont	6/9, 23	Falmouth	42, 28	R. Farrell
5/7	Brookfield	2	M. Lynch#	6/24	Ashburnham	5 ad, 1 juv	T. Pirro
Hooded Merganser				6/24	Princeton	5 ad, 1 juv	T. Pirro
5/6	Stockbridge	4 f	M. Lynch#				

Pied-billed Grebe				5/5	Hingham (Sarah I.)	120 pr	P. Fitzgerald#
5/1	Longmeadow	1	R. Packard	5/7	N. Truro	475+	D. Manchester#
5/12	Brookfield	1	M. Lynch#	5/16, 6/25	P.I.	250, 110	R. Heil
5/13	Goshen	1	T. Gagnon	5/18	Chatham (S.B.)	600	B. Nikula
5/15	GMNWR	pr n	D. Sibley	5/20	Hampden County	55	Allen Club
5/17	S. Quabbin	1	L. Therrien	5/24-25	Boston H.	1180	K. Parsons#
5/19-6/12	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore#	6/thr	Stoneham	2 nests	D. + I. Jewell
6/28	Northampton	1	C. Gentes	Great Cormorant			
Horned Grebe				5/7	Duxbury B.	4	R. Bowes
5/14	Southwick	1	J. Hutchison	5/7, 20	N. Scituate	20, 2	G. d'Entremont
6/thr	Falmouth	1	R. Farrell	5/23	Boston H.	4 imm	K. Parsons#
Red-necked Grebe				5/24	Essex C. islands	2 imm	J. Berry#
5/1	Dennis	1	B. Nikula	6/18	Chilmark	1	A. Keith
5/13	Rockport (A.P.)	1	C. Caron#	Magnificent Frigatebird (no details)			
5/20	Ludlow	1	B. Platenik	5/17	Eastham	1 f ad	A. Rudkin#
6/11	Chatham	1	R. Heil	American Bittern			
Yellow-nosed Albatross				thr	Reports of indiv. from 14 locations		
6/6	Rockport (A.P.)	1	R. Heil	thr	P.I.	2-3	T. Wetmore
Albatross species				5/7	Brookfield	4	M. Lynch#
5/14	Barnstable (S.N.)	1	G. Hirth#	6/10	Tyringham	4	M. + K. Conway
Northern Fulmar				Least Bittern			
6/19	Tillies Bank	1	J. Wallius	thr	P.I.	5 ad max	v.o.
Cory's Shearwater				5/6	Deerfield	1	R. Packard
6/26	off Cuttyhunk	1	A. Keith	5/24-29	GMNWR	1	S. Perkins#
Greater Shearwater				5/25	Leverett	1	R. Packard
5/13	Manomet	2	T. Auer	5/27	Hatfield	1	R. Packard
5/13	Rockport (A.P.)	4	C. Caron#	6/20	Nomans I.	1 h	J. Heinz
6/6	P'town (R.P.)	5	J. Miller	Great Blue Heron			
6/11	off Truro	80+	W. Petersen#	5/thr	Framingham	35+ pr n	J. Hines
6/19	Tillies Bank	14	J. Wallius	6/11	Stockbridge	22 nests	M. Lynch#
6/21	10 m E of Chatham	50	B. Perkins	6/21	W. Warren	8 nests	B. Zajda
Sooty Shearwater				6/30	W. Boxford	60 pr n	J. Berry#
5/25	Chatham (S.B.)	2	S. Perkins#	6/thr	Stoneham	6+ nests	D. + I. Jewell
5/28	Jeffries L.	2	J. Wallius	Great Egret			
5/28, 6/5	P'town	25, 18	B. Nikula	5/thr	Framingham	2 pr n	J. Hines
5/31	off Gay Head	15+	A. Keith#	5/5	Hingham (Sarah I.)	52 nests	P. Fitzgerald#
6/7	Dennis (Corp. B.)	16	B. Nikula#	5/10	Bolton Flats	1	S. Sutton
6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	16	R. Heil	5/13	Amherst	1	H. Allen
6/8	Eastham (F.E.)	14	B. Nikula	5/18	Salem (Eagle I.)	16 nests	S. Perkins#
6/11	off Truro	750+	W. Petersen#	5/18	Manchester (KI)	102 nests	S. Perkins#
6/21	10 m E of Chatham	200	B. Perkins	6/2	Medford	1	R. LaFontaine
Manx Shearwater				Snowy Egret			
5/2	Revere Beach	2	P. Petersen	5/5	Hingham (Sarah I.)	6 pr	S. Perkins#
5/13, 6/25	P.I.	1, 2	Daley, Heil	5/18	Manchester (KI)	231 nests	S. Perkins#
5/13, 6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	15, 8	R. Heil	5/24	Boston H.	20	K. Parsons#
5/14, 6/7	Dennis (Corp. B.)	5, 3	B. Nikula#	6/30	N. Monomoy	22+	B. Nikula
6/11	off Truro	8+	W. Petersen#	Little Egret X Snowy Egret			
6/28	Stellwagen	5	MAS (D. Larson)	5/18-21	Nantucket	1 ad br pl ph	E. Ray
Small shearwater species				Little Blue Heron			
5/15	Dennis (Corp. B.)	1	B. Nikula	5/1-7	Hingham	1 pied	G. d'Entremont#
Wilson's Storm-Petrel				5/7	Wayland (HP)	1 sub ad	J. Hines
5/13, 6/25	P.I.	1, 16	Daley, Heil	5/8, 6/1	P.I.	1, 3	Chickering, Daley
5/13, 6/4	P'town	5, 120	B. Nikula	5/18	N. Truro	1	D. Manchester
5/14, 6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	2, 27	R. Heil	5/18	Manchester (KI)	17+ pr	S. Perkins#
5/15	Sandwich	6	M. Keleher	5/21	N. Monomoy	1	MAS (Silverstein)
5/28	Jeffries L.	3	J. Wallius	5/25	Boston H.	1	K. Parsons#
6/8	Eastham (F.E.)	5	B. Nikula	6/4	Chatham	1 ad	R. Clem#
6/11	off Truro	300	W. Petersen#	6/13	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	2	BBS (Buchsbaum)
6/21	10 m E of Chatham	75	B. Perkins	Tricolored Heron			
Leach's Storm-Petrel				5/22-6/14	P.I.	1	v.o.
5/13, 6/4	P'town	1, 1	B. Nikula	5/29	Nauset	1	C. Goodrich
5/14	Rockport (A.P.)	9	R. Heil	5/29	Duxbury B.	1	R. Bowes#
5/15	Dennis	1	G. d'Entremont	Cattle Egret			
5/15	Wellfleet	2	B. Harris	5/18	Salem (Eagle I.)	2 pr	S. Perkins#
5/16	Orleans	1	B. Nikula	5/19	DWWS	1	S. Shapiro#
Northern Gannet				5/20	Manchester	1	D. Larson
5/1, 14	Dennis	350, 2850	B. Nikula	5/26	Chilmark	1	T. Simmons
5/13, 6/5	P'town	450, 650	B. Nikula	6/30	Ipswich	2	O. Spalding#
5/13, 6/7	Manomet	100, 150	T. Auer	Green Heron			
5/14, 6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	485, 252	R. Heil	5/7	Brookfield	2	M. Lynch#
5/14	Barnstable (S.N.)	300	G. Hirth#	5/19	Mt.A.	3	BBC (F. Vale)
5/15, 6/7	Dennis (Corp. B.)	910, 320	B. Nikula	5/20	Hampden County	7	Allen Club
6/5	N. Truro	530+	D. Manchester	5/26	P.I.	3	MAS (Weaver)
6/8	Eastham (F.E.)	660	B. Nikula	5/29	N. Truro	5+	D. Manchester#
6/11	Wellfleet	800	R. Heil	6/25	Longmeadow	6	R. Packard
Double-crested Cormorant				6/thr	Falmouth	3	R. Farrell
5/thr	Framingham	13 pr n	J. Hines	Black-crowned Night-Heron			
5/3	Duxbury B.	300+	R. Bowes	5/1, 6/2	Medford	8, 62	M. Rines

Black-crowned Night-Heron (continued)	6/10	ONWR	1	S. Sutton
5/5 Hingham (Sarah I.) 215 nests	S. Perkins#	Cooper's Hawk		
5/6, 6/21 P.I.	6, 15	T. Wetmore	5/4-30	N. Truro 16
5/18 Salem (Eagle I.)	53 nests	S. Perkins#	5/5	Hamilton pr n
5/18 Manchester (KI)	35 nests	S. Perkins#	5/7	Gloucester (E.P.) 2
5/20 W. Harwich	15	B. Nikula#	5/11-17	Medford pr n
5/24 Ten Pound I.	7 nests	J. Berry#	5/11	Wakefield pr n
5/24-26 Boston H.	93	K. Parsons#	5/21	Westport 2
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			6/11	Wellfleet 3
5/7-16 N. Andover 1 ad	B. Drummond + v.o.	Northern Goshawk		
Glossy Ibis			5/thr	E. Middleboro pr n
thr P.I.	7 max	v.o.	5/2	Groveland 1
5/13 DWWS	1	C. Nims#	5/5	N. Truro 1
5/18 Manchester (KI)	117 nests	S. Perkins#	5/18	Quabbin (G15) 1 ad
5/18 Salem (Eagle I.)	4 nests	S. Perkins#	5/19	New Salem 1
5/24-25 Boston H.	5	K. Parsons#	5/27	Monterey-Lenox 1 ad
5/28 E. Boston (B.I.)	3	S. Zende#	6/5	Richmond 1
5/28 S. Dart. (A.Pd)	1	J. Liller#	6/17	HRWMA 1
6/4 Hingham	2	C. Nims	6/24	Mt. Holyoke 1
Black Vulture				
5/6 P.I.	1	T. Carrolan	5/thr	E. Middleboro 2-5
5/13 Westport	2+	N. Paulson#	5/4-30	N. Truro 6
5/21 Sheffield	4	T. Gagnon	5/5	Easton 3 pr
6/4 Mattapoisett	1	M. LaBossiere	5/6	Oxford 1
6/9 Sandisfield	1	R. Packard	5/14	S. Quabbin 1
6/18 New Marlboro	3	T. Swochak	5/17	Georgetown 2
6/19 Marion	1	M. Maurer	5/31	Wompatuck SP 1
Turkey Vulture			6/4	Little River IBA 7
5/4-30 N. Truro	93	Hawkcount (DM)	6/11	Freetown 1
5/16 W. Gloucester	6	S. Hedman	6/25	Ware R. IBA 1
5/17 Newbury	6	P. + F. Vale		
5/19 Hingham	10	P. + F. Vale#		
5/20 Hampden County	34	Allen Club	5/thr	N. Truro 142
6/1-27 N. Truro	55	Hawkcount (DM)	5/4	Easton 3
6/4 Little River IBA	19	Allen Club	5/7	Brookfield 5
6/5 P.I.	7	J. McNeal	6/1	Ipswich 2
6/6 Newbypt	7	S. Perkins#	6/6	Rockport 2 imm
6/17 Westport	8	P. + F. Vale	6/16	Quabbin (G15) 3
6/18 New Marlboro	16	T. Swochak	6/17	HRWMA 2
6/23 Bourne	21	M. Keleher	6/thr	N. Truro 141
Osprey				
5/thr N. Truro	126	Hawkcount (DM)	5/20	Hampden County 33
5/thr M.V.	54 pr n	R. Bierregaard		
5/21 Westport	34 nests	M. Lynch#	5/thr	N. Truro 77
5/29 Mashpee	19	M. Keleher#	5/1	P.I. 4
6/thr N. Truro	48	Hawkcount (DM)	5/5	N. Truro 25
Swallow-tailed Kite			5/5	Cape Ann 3
5/20 Wellfleet	1	J. Wilder#	6/18	Dorchester 2 ad, 2 yg
Mississippi Kite			6/27	Saugus 1 m, 1 f
5/29, 6/27 N. Truro	2, 1	Hawkcount (DM)		
Bald Eagle				
5/6 Mashpee	1 imm	M. Keleher#	5/thr	N. Truro 32
5/7 Brookfield	1 ad	M. Lynch#	5/4	N. Truro 13
5/7 P.I.	2	T. Wetmore	5/5	Cape Ann 6
5/20 Scituate	1 IS	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/7	P.I. 5
5/22 N. Andover	1 sub ad	P. + F. Vale	5/16	Concord 2 migr
5/23 N. Monomoy	1 imm	B. Harris	5/18	Groveland 1
6/thr N. Truro	10 imm	Hawkcount (DM)	5/21	Windsor 1
6/5 Fall River	pr + 2 yg	J. Zimmer	5/23	MNWS 1
6/11 Stockbridge	1 ad	M. Lynch#	6/4	P.I. 1
6/12 S. Monomoy	1 imm.	B. Harris		
6/13 S. Dart. (A.Pd)	1 imm	R. Buchsbaum		
6/22 Chappaquiddick	1	A. Keith		
Northern Harrier				
thr P.I.	8 max	5/7 v.o.	5/13-6/18	P.I. 1-2
5/4 Groton	1	T. Pirro	6/21-24	Chappaquiddick 1 ad, 2 yg
5/5, 6/6 N. Truro	1, 1	Hawkcount (DM)		
5/7 Sheffield	1	C. Blagdon	5/9-19	GMNWR 1 ph
5/9 Sunderland	1	R. Packard	5/24-6/29	P.I. 1
5/13 Orange	1	W. Lafley		
5/13 DWWS	1	C. Nims#		
5/20 S. Quabbin	1	L. Therrien	thr	P.I. 17 max
6/11 Halifax	1	J. Sweeney	5/6	Stockbridge 4
6/21 WBWS	1 ad m	S. Perkins#	5/6	Bolton Flats 3
Sharp-shinned Hawk			5/7	Sheffield 8
5/thr Ipswich	pr n	J. Berry	5/15	GMNWR 4 ad + 3 yg
5/thr N. Truro	150	Hawkcount (DM)	6/16	Richmond 10
5/7 P.I.	22	R. Heil	thr	P.I. 9 max
				5/24 T. Wetmore

Sora (continued)				5/9, 16	Deerfield	6, 20	Packard, Smith
5/13	Goshen	2	T. Gagnon	5/24	Concord (NAC)	4	S. Perkins#
5/15	Bolton Flats	2	S. Sutton#	Willet			
6/5	Richmond	2	R. Packard	5/4-6/30	P.I.	50 max	T. Wetmore
6/15	Pittsfield	2	R. Packard	5/4	Chatham (S.B.)	115+	B. Nikula
Common Moorhen				5/4	N. Falmouth	22	I. Nisbet
5/15	Wayland	1	J. Hines	5/5, 6/30	N. Monomoy	45, 150	B. Nikula
5/17-6/21	P.I.	8-9 ad	v.o.	5/6, 21	Duxbury B.	3, 15	R. Bowes
5/29	Longmeadow	1	R. Packard	5/13	Quabbin (G35)	1	M. Lynch#
American Coot				5/16	Groton	1	T. Pirro
5/12	GMNWR	1	S. Perkins#	6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	13 ad	J. Berry
5/24, 6/21	P.I.	2	Wetmore, Heil	Western Willet			
Sandhill Crane				6/4-15	Chatham-N. Monomoy	1 1S	B. Nikula
thr	New Marlboro	pr	S. Mullen	6/30	N. Monomoy	4	B. Nikula
5/6	Bolton Flats	1	J. Center	Spotted Sandpiper			
Black-bellied Plover				5/5	Leicester	3	M. Lynch#
thr	P.I.	65 max	5/30 v.o.	5/6, 19	Bolton Flats	3, 8	S. Sutton
5/3, 29	Duxbury B.	14, 640	R. Bowes#	5/16, 30	Concord (NAC)	5, 5	S. Perkins#
5/4-6/17	Chatham (S.B.)	800 max	5/18 B. Nikula	5/20	Hampden County	22	Allen Club
5/13	Wachusett Res.	5	T. Pirro#	5/21	Arlington Res.	6+	I. Davies
5/13, 16	Concord (NAC)	7, 1	S. Perkins#	6/3	Dorchester	10	R. Donovan
5/15	Bolton Flats	1	S. Sutton	6/24	Bolton Flats	10	S. Sutton
5/28	N. Monomoy	525	B. Nikula	Upland Sandpiper			
5/28	E. Boston (B.I.)	159	S. Zende#	5/5	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula
6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	2 imm	J. Berry	5/6	DWWS	1	D. Furbish
American Golden-Plover				5/12, 6/10	Westover	1, 15	Allen, Beida
6/16	Marion	1	I. Nisbet	5/16	Bedford	1	P. + F. Vale#
Semipalmated Plover				5/28	Plymouth airport	6	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/4-6/17	Chatham (S.B.)	55 max	5/18 B. Nikula	6/11	Ludlow	2	M. Lynch#
5/6-6/26	P.I.	20 max	5/16 v.o.	Whimbrel			
5/6, 6/4	Duxbury B.	4, 18	R. Bowes	5/4	WBWS	2	S. Ellis
5/13	Wachusett Res.	2	T. Pirro#	5/4	Eastham	2	S. Ellis
5/15	Bolton Flats	2	S. Sutton	5/20	Marshfield	1	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/20	Scituate	40	S. Maguire	5/20-6/13	P.I.	1-2	T. Wetmore
5/22-30	Concord (NAC)	14 max	S. Perkins#	6/11	Chatham	1	R. Heil
5/24	Longmeadow	8	S. Kellogg	6/30	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula
6/4	Deerfield	3	R. Packard	Hudsonian Godwit			
Piping Plover				6/26	N. Monomoy	2	B. Harris
thr	P.I.	7 max	v.o.	Ruddy Turnstone			
5/4	Chatham (S.B.)	28	B. Nikula	5/12-6/14	P.I.	1, 125 max	5/30 v.o.
5/21	Duxbury B.	7	R. Bowes	5/14, 29	Duxbury B.	9, 152	R. Bowes
5/27	Plymouth B.	11	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/18	Wellfleet	17	M. Keleher
6/5	P'town (R.P.)	11 ad, 1 juv	J. Miller	5/27	Plymouth B.	30	SSBC (G. d'E)
6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	9 ad	J. Berry	5/28, 6/5	N. Monomoy	500, 35	B. Nikula
American Oystercatcher				5/28, 6/17	Chatham (S.B.)	250, 14	B. Nikula
5/12	Chatham	12 max	v.o.	5/29	Edgartown	40+	A. Keith#
5/12	Newbury	1	S. McGrath	Red Knot			
5/16-6/14	P.I.	1-3	D. Larson#	5/4-6/17	Chatham (S.B.)	105 max	6/17 B. Nikula
5/19	Mattapoisett	5 n	I. Nisbet	5/12	Edgartown	2	J. M. Nelson#
5/19	Marion	3 n	I. Nisbet	5/19	Lynn B.	2	D. Bates#
5/23-26	Boston H.	11	K. Parsons#	5/20, 6/21	P.I.	4, 1	Wetmore, Heil
5/25	Salem	pr n	J. Berry#	5/28	N. Monomoy	90	B. Nikula
5/28, 6/30	N. Monomoy	18, 16	B. Nikula	6/11	Eastham	7	R. Heil
6/11	Eastham	8	R. Heil	Sanderling			
Greater Yellowlegs				5/4-6/17	Chatham (S.B.)	1200 max	5/18 B. Nikula
thr	P.I.	220 max	5/7 v.o.	5/15-6/25	P.I.	24 max	v.o.
5/4-19	Bolton Flats	27 max	S. Sutton#	5/23, 28	N. Monomoy	650, 900	B. Harris
5/4	W. Bridgewater	64	G. d'Entremont	5/27	Plymouth B.	200	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/5	Wellfleet	23	B. Nikula	6/4	Duxbury B.	10	R. Bowes
5/13-24	Concord (NAC)	19 max	S. Perkins#	Semipalmated Sandpiper			
5/14	Deerfield	9	S. Sumner	5/5	Minimoy	1	B. Harris
5/15	Newbury	92+	P. + F. Vale	5/7-6/24	P.I.	45 max	6/10 v.o.
5/16	Squantum	30	G. d'Entremont	5/18-6/17	Chatham (S.B.)	1200 max	5/28 B. Nikula
6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	5	J. Berry	5/21, 6/4	Duxbury B.	40, 3	R. Bowes
6/30	N. Monomoy	9	B. Nikula	5/27	Plymouth B.	225	SSBC (G. d'E)
Lesser Yellowlegs				5/28, 6/15	N. Monomoy	900, 110	B. Nikula
thr	P.I.	12 max	6/18 T. Wetmore	6/11	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	20	G. d'Entremont#
5/6	W. Harwich	5	B. Nikula	6/12	Rowley	17	J. Berry#
5/7	Rowley	5	P. + F. Vale	Least Sandpiper			
5/13	Petersham	4	W. Lafley	thr	P.I.	42 max	5/5 T. Wetmore
5/15	Bolton Flats	4	S. Sutton#	thr	N. Monomoy	30 max	5/5 B. Nikula
5/27	E. Boston (B.I.)	3	J. Miller	5/6	W. Harwich	35	B. Nikula
6/11	Wenham	8	BBS (Vale)	5/7	Chappaquiddick	75	R. Potter
Solitary Sandpiper				5/13-6/26	Concord (NAC)	30 max	5/13 S. Perkins#
5/6	P.I.	3	E. Nielsen	5/13	Southwick	35	M. + K. Conway
5/6, 19	Bolton Flats	2, 2	S. Sutton	5/16	Turners Falls	30	M. Taylor
5/6	HRWMA	2	T. Pirro	5/20	Marshfield	50	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/7	Brookfield	3	M. Lynch#	5/20	Scituate	23	S. Maguire

Iceland Gull (continued)				5/13	Turners Falls	1	T. Gagnon
5/13	Gloucester	2	C. Caron#	5/14	Brookline	1	R. Merrill
5/14-15	Concord (NAC)	1 2S	S. Perkins	5/25	Chatham (S.B.)	10,000+	S. Perkins#
5/16	Haverhill	1 2S	R. Heil	5/27	Plymouth B.	800	SSBC (G. d'E)
6/14	N. Monomoy	1 1S	B. Harris				
Lesser Black-backed Gull				Arctic Tern			
5/5	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	5/13	Waltham	1	J. Hines
5/13	Brewster	2	B. Nikula	5/14-15	Haverhill	2-5	D. Larson
5/25	Chatham (S.B.)	1 1S	S. Perkins#	5/15	Wayland (HP)	3	J. Hines
6/3	S. Harwich	1 2S	B. Nikula	5/14, 6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	75, 11	R. Heil
6/18	P'town	5 imm	B. Nikula#	5/15	Dennis	130	G. d'Entremont
5/15	Wellfleet	3		5/15	Plymouth B.	4	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/16	DWWS	1 2W	D. Furbish	6/18	P'town	3	B. Nikula#
Sabine's Gull				Forster's Tern			
5/14	Dennis (Corp. B.)	1 alt pl	B. Nikula#	5/5	Minimoy	1 ph	B. Harris
5/13, 6/18	P'town	1, 1	B. Nikula	5/28	N. Monomoy	1 basic pl	B. Nikula
5/13	Rockport (A.P.)	22	R. Heil	Least Tern			
5/14	Brookline	3 imm	R. Merrill	5/15-6/30	P.I.	40 max	v.o.
5/14	Dennis (Corp. B.)	7	B. Nikula#	5/18	Wellfleet	1	M. Keleher
5/14	Barnstable (S.N.)	2	G. Hirth#	5/21	Acoaxet	2	M. Lynch#
5/21	Westport	20		5/21	Plymouth B.	25	SSBC (G. d'E)
6/5	P'town (R.P.)	47		6/25	Rowley	8	J. Miller
6/25	Ipswich (C.B.)	50+		6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	50+	J. Berry
6/26				Bridled Tern *			
6/14	Marion	1		6/14	Marion	1	I. Nisbet
Black-legged Kittiwake				Black Tern			
5/13, 6/18	P'town	1, 1	B. Nikula	5/13	GMNWR	2 br pl	S. Perkins
5/13	Rockport (A.P.)	22	R. Heil	5/14-15	Haverhill	1-2	D. Larson
5/14	Brookline	3 imm	R. Merrill	5/14-16	P.I.	2-4	v.o.
5/14	Dennis (Corp. B.)	7	B. Nikula#	5/14	Dennis (Corp. B.)	2	B. Nikula#
5/14	Barnstable (S.N.)	2	G. Hirth#	5/28-6/24	P'town	5 max	v.o.
5/12	Plymouth B.	1	E. Neumuth#	6/11	off Truro	2	W. Petersen#
5/13	Quabbin (G35)	1	M. Lynch#	6/11	S. Monomoy	2	B. Harris
5/13-14	Wachusett Res.	2	T. Pirro#	6/18-24	Edgartown	2	A. Keith#
5/14	Rockport (A.P.)	1 ad	R. Heil	Black Skimmer			
5/14, 15	GMNWR	1, 2	Moore, Merrill	5/5, 24	Chatham	3, 5	B. Nikula
5/15-17	P.I.	1	B. Stevens + v.o.	5/6	S. Monomoy	2	B. Harris
5/16	Westfield	2	B. Bieda	5/20	Minimoy	8	B. Harris
6/16	Marion	2	I. Nisbet	6/11	P'town	1	R. Heil
6/16				6/26	Edgartown	1	R. Clammer
Royal Tern				Common Murre			
6/11, 24	P'town	1 ad	Heil, Hoyer	5/13, 14	Rockport (A.P.)	1, 1	R. Heil
6/18	Edgartown	1	A. Keith#	6/4, 13	P.I.	1, 1	McGrath, Heil
6/18	Nantucket	4	E. Ray#	6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	2	R. Heil
Sandwich Tern *				Razorbill			
6/12	S. Monomoy	1 ad ph	B. Harris	thr	Chilmark	2 ph	L. McDowell
6/18, 24	P'town	1	Nikula, Hoyer	5/13	P.I.	2	A. Birch#
6/24	Edgartown	1	V. Laux	Black Guillemot			
6/26	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	5/24, 6/18	Rockport	2, 2	Berry, Larson
Roseate Tern				6/5	Gloucester	1 imm	J. Berry#
5/4	N. Falmouth	2	I. Nisbet	6/8	Plymouth	1	S. Hecker
5/13, 14	Dennis (Corp. B.)	3, 23	B. Nikula	6/18	P.I.	1	S. McGrath
5/19	Marion	4 n	I. Nisbet	6/18	N. Truro	1 ad	L. Boudreau
5/30, 6/25	P.I.	14, 10	R. Heil	Atlantic Puffin			
6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	8 ad	R. Heil	6/7	Rockport (A.P.)	1 1S	R. Heil
6/18	Edgartown	150+	A. Keith#				
6/18	P'town	25	B. Nikula#				
Common Tern							
5/4	N. Falmouth	60	I. Nisbet				
5/9, 6/18	Edgartown	300	A. Keith#				
5/9-6/30	P.I.	200 max	5/14 T. Wetmore				
5/13	Manomet	1000	T. Auer				
5/13, 14	Dennis (Corp. B.)	550, 400	B. Nikula				
5/13, 6/18	P'town	1100, 450	B. Nikula				
5/13	Wachusett Res.	1	T. Pirro#				
5/13	Quabbin (G35)	5	M. Lynch#				

CUCKOOS THROUGH FINCHES

Despite a heavy infestation of defoliating caterpillars (gypsy and winter moths) in portions of Bristol and Plymouth counties, there were no unusual reports of either cuckoo species. Other areas of the state, (eastern Essex, northern Berkshire and western Franklin counties) experienced localized heavy infestations as well. A pair of Barn Owls was noted nesting in Chilmark, and another Barn Owl was reported from Edgartown. A Snowy Owl remained on Plum Island through May 14, providing one of the only highlights of the Bird-A-Thon on that rain-soaked day. There were at least two Snowy Owls at Logan Airport during the month, with one reported as late as June 9. The latest previous report of Snowy Owl was June 10, 1968, in Cambridge. Norm Smith reported that 2005-06 was the third best winter for Snowy Owls since he started monitoring Logan in 1981. He banded 35 owls, with one owl recaptured that was banded in 2004, a total of 36 for the season. There were also at least three owls seen that he was not able to capture.

The spring migration of Common Nighthawks is much less apparent than the one in late August, and a report of 154 from Amherst on May 25 was exceptional. A single Chuck-will's-widow was reported in Edgartown. At least 15 Whip-poor-wills were noted in Wellfleet but no sign of the Chuck that was present there for many years. A large flock of Chimney Swifts at Great Meadows in Concord on May 9 was probably grounded by the weather. That was the windiest day in May, with northeast winds, fog and rain. There were just two reports of Red-headed Woodpecker, one in May from Berlin and one in Wellfleet during June.

Allan Keith from the Vineyard echoed the thoughts of many birders on the migration: "This has to be the worst spring migration on the island in many years; only 13 species of warblers were reported, no thrushes and just one vireo." Many other birders commented on the poor showing as well and blamed the weather with all of the northeast winds and the rain (winds were out of the northeast on 10 of the first 15 days of May!). This poor showing must have been confined to New England since migration watchers in central New York reported normal migration. There was one big wave this year on May 5. Radar showed the biggest migration night of the year on May 4 and birds were noted just about everywhere on the morning of May 5. This writer sighted over 70 species, including 20 species of warblers, from Mount Auburn Cemetery. Rick Heil reported a steady stream of migrants arriving from the south and east off the water passing overhead and descending onto the land in easternmost Rockport, and later that day noticed a continuous stream of passerines, over 500, flying high overhead for a period just over 45 minutes. Blair Nikula also noted a good flight from the Beech Forest in Provincetown, sighting at least 25 Blue-headed Vireos, a record high count for the Cape. At the Pilgrim Heights hawk watch the bird of the morning was the Red-breasted Nuthatch, over 70, which is by far a record spring count for the Cape. Soon after May 5, the rains set in, and for several days after that it rained off and on and the winds were from the northeast. There was a late mini wave at the end of the month coinciding with the warmer weather and southerly winds affording good birding on Memorial Day weekend.

The Allen Bird Club conducts a survey of Hampden County always around mid-May each year. These long-term censuses provide us with a picture of bird populations, though many migrant species were down considerably from previous years, and again the weather played an important aspect. The resident birds remained in nearly the same numbers in the past. Some of the more interesting numbers include 73 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, down from 113 last year, and the first year that showed a decrease; Great crested Flycatcher 52, Warbling Vireo 82, Red-eyed Vireo 116, Veery 64, Wood Thrush 187, American Robin 839, Gray Catbird 370, Yellow Warbler 207, and Baltimore Oriole 279.

For the third year, a breeding bird survey was conducted at the Little River Important Bird Area (IBA) on June 4. The area includes upland forest, beaver swamps, and meadows in the towns of Granville, Blandford, and Russell, and some areas of Westfield and Southwick. New high counts were tallied for the following species: Veery 207, Yellow Warbler 70, and Black-and-white Warbler 102. Other noteworthy counts included 53 Eastern Wood Pewees, 11 Yellow-throated Vireos, 280 Red-eyed Vireos, 11 Nashville, 102 Chestnut-sided, 34 Magnolia, 98 Black-throated Blue, 70 Black-throated Green, and 58 Blackburnian warblers, 135 American Redstarts and 273 Ovenbirds. Another census was taken on June 25 at the Ware River IBA, and highlights included 24 Least Flycatchers, 20 Blue-headed Vireos, 9 Golden-crowned Kinglets, 52 Hermit Thrushes, 41 Pine Warblers, 127 Ovenbirds, and 12 Canada Warblers.

The most interesting breeding reports included an adult female White-winged Crossbill and 5-6 juvenile birds being fed on May 13 at the Moran Wildlife Management Area in Windsor. No such nest has ever been found in Massachusetts according to Veit and Petersen, although there are several spring and summer records, and there was an unpublished report of

young White-winged Crossbills from Moran about seven years ago. Also of note were young Red Crossbills at the Montague Plains Wildlife Management Area. At least two pair were noted, one a tight family group of an adult male and female with 5 or 6 streaked juveniles and the other group consisting of three older juveniles. In Plymouth, a pair of Red Crossbills appeared at a feeder in mid-April, then a female showed up again in mid-May, and then on June 7 the pair of adults appeared again with a begging juvenile. On May 20, nine Red Crossbills were noted from Myles Standish State Forest. Although it's possible that these birds could have interrupted into these areas, the presence of begging young seems to indicate local breeding.

An Olive-sided Flycatcher was located for the second year in a row into late June at the same spot in Washington where the habitat is ideal for breeding. Other unusual birds noted included a Ruby-crowned Kinglet in Provincetown on May 28, an American Tree Sparrow on the Vineyard on May 1, and a Dark-eyed Junco in South Boston on June 21.

Spring rarities included a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** that spent just one day in Lincoln and a **Northern Wheatear** that was present on Nantucket at the end of May. Among the 34 species of warblers reported this spring, a Yellow-throated was found in Provincetown, there were at least ten reports of Cerulean, three Kentucky, and two chats, but only one Golden-winged Warbler was noted during this period. Despite the poor migration, Cape May warblers were noted in good numbers. Common Ravens continue to appear in new places, with reports from Plum Island and on Cape Cod.

R. Stymeist

Black-billed Cuckoo				6/22	Boston	2	F. Bouchard
5/7	Hadley	4	C. Gentes	Chuck-will's-widow			
5/11	Millbury	3	D. Berard	5/12	Edgartown	1	J. M. Nelson#
5/20	Hampden County	9	Allen Club	Whip-poor-will			
5/21	P.I.	3	P. + F. Vale	5/thr	Medford	1-2	P. Devaney
5/28	Plymouth (MSSF)	4	G. d'Entremont	5/5-6/30	P.I.	1-3	T. Wetmore
6/17	Mt. Greylock	3	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/25	W. Newbury	7	R. Stymeist#
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				5/25	Montague	6	H. Allen
5/5	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	5/31	Dover	3	E. Taylor
5/6	Medford	1	M. Rines#	6/4	Truro	6	J. Miller
5/6	Stockbridge	1	M. Lynch#	6/6	Wellfleet	15	J. Miller
5/7-6/3	Reports of 1-2 indiv.	from many locations		6/14	MSSF	5	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/27	Stockbridge	4	M. Lynch#	Chimney Swift			
6/14	MSSF	3	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/1	Melrose	2	D. + I. Jewell
Barn Owl				5/1	Mt.A.	3	P. + F. Vale
5/thr	Chilmark pr nesting		A. Keith#	5/5	Cape Ann	30	R. Heil
5/12	Edgartown	1	J. M. Nelson#	5/9	GMNWR	350	S. Perkins#
Eastern Screech-Owl				5/10	Arlington Res.	40	K. Hartel
5/21	Duxbury	2 red	W. + E. Lackey	5/20	Hampden County	243	Allen Club
6/1	Arlington	pr + 2 yg	D. Bean	5/23	Arlington Res.	45	I. Davies
Great Horned Owl				Ruby-throated Hummingbird			
5/5	Grafton	2 yg	M. Lynch#	5/1	S. Dartmouth	1	T. Raymond
5/6	Grafton	2 yg	J. Liller#	5/2	Concord	1 m	M. Small
5/21	Boston	1 ad, 3 juv	A. Birch#	5/7, 30	P.I.	8, 12	R. Heil
Snowy Owl				5/17	S. Quabbin	6	L. Therrien
5/1-14	P.I.	1	v.o.	5/20	Hampden County	18	Allen Club
5/1-17	Boston (Logan)	2	N. Smith	5/24	Northampton	8	T. Gagnon
5/18-6/9	Boston (Logan)	1	N. Smith	6/4	Little River IBA	8	Allen Club
Barred Owl				Belted Kingfisher			
thr	Reports of indiv. from	14 locations		5/20	Hampden County	11	Allen Club
5/5	Boxford	2	J. Berry	Red-headed Woodpecker			
5/5	Sheffield	4	M. Lynch#	5/19	Berlin	1	M. + F. Howes
5/12	N. Quabbin	2	M. Lynch#	6/16	Wellfleet	1 ad	G. Page
5/25	W. Newbury	2	R. Stymeist#	Red-bellied Woodpecker			
6/4	Little River IBA	4	Allen Club	5/thr	Medford	3-4	M. Rines#
Northern Saw-whet Owl				5/5	Boxford	pr n	J. Berry
5/6	Stockbridge	1	M. Lynch#	5/6	Stockbridge	3	M. Lynch#
5/12	N. Quabbin	2	M. Lynch#	5/20	Hampden County	73	Allen Club
6/14	MSSF	1	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/20	Hingham	4	SSBC (G. d'E)
Common Nighthawk				5/24	Medford	4	M. Rines#
5/12	Ludlow	1	H. Allen	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			
5/18	Concord	3	P. Alden	5/6	Stockbridge	10	M. Lynch#
5/18	Ipswich	5	P. Brown	5/27	Monterey-Lenox	7	M. Lynch#
5/19	Waltham	3	J. Forbes	5/28	Quabbin Pk	4	M. Lynch#
5/20	Longmeadow	4	M. + K. Conway	5/29	Colrain	5	M. Lynch#
5/25	Amherst	154	J. P. Smith	6/4	Little River IBA	13	Allen Club

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (continued)			5/6, 27	Stockbridge	6, 6	M. Lynch#
6/17 Hawley	7	M. Lynch#	5/6, 6/11	Lenox	7, 4	M. Lynch#
6/17 Mt. Greylock	4	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/25	Quabbin (G40)	20	J. P. Smith#
6/18 October Mt.	4	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/27	Monterey-Lenox	24	M. Lynch#
6/18 HRWMA	2	T. Pirro	6/21	Huntington	14	S. Kellogg
Hairy Woodpecker			6/25	Ware R. IBA	24	M. Lynch#
5/20 Hampden County	22	Allen Club	Great Crested	Flycatcher		
5/26, 6/17 Worc. (BMB)	4	J. Liller	5/5	Leicester	2	M. Lynch#
5/28 Medford	3	M. Rines	5/5	Boston (A.A.)	2	J. Miller
6/4 Little River IBA	14	Allen Club	5/6, 17	Medford	1, 5	M. Rines#
6/10 ONWR	11	S. Sutton	5/6, 17	Mt.A.	1, 5	P. + F. Vale
6/17 HRWMA	6	T. Pirro	5/20	Sandwich	12	CCBC (Jurkowski)
Northern Flicker			5/20	Hampden County	52	Allen Club
5/20 Hampden County	64	Allen Club	6/1	Wompatuck SP	10	C. Nims
6/4 Little River IBA	18	Allen Club	6/4	Little River IBA	11	Allen Club
Pileated Woodpecker			6/11	Wenham	7	BBS (Vale)
5/20 Hampden County	8	Allen Club	Eastern Kingbird			
5/27 Stockbridge	4	M. Lynch#	5/4	Winchester	1	R. LaFontaine
6/4 Little River IBA	3	Allen Club	5/5	Gardner	1	T. Pirro
6/5 Lincoln	2	S. Sutton	5/5	Boston (A.A.)	2	J. Miller
Olive-sided Flycatcher			5/5	Oxford	4	D. Berard
5/17-6/11 Reports of indiv. from 17 locations			5/5-6/30	P.I.	51 max	5/30 v.o.
5/25 Quabbin (G40)	2	J. P. Smith#	5/20	Hampden County	26	Allen Club
5/26 Paxton	2	M. Lynch#	5/27	Stockbridge	17	M. Lynch#
5/26 P.I.	2	T. Spahr	6/4	Little River IBA	16	Allen Club
5/27 P.I.	4	M. Moore	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher			
6/17 Hawley	1	M. Lynch#	6/4	Lincoln	1	ph N. Levey + v.o.
6/18 October Mt.	1	SSBC (G. d'E)	White-eyed Vireo			
6/22 Washington	2	H. Allen	5/5	Gloucester	1	R. Heil
Eastern Wood-Pewee			5/7	Amesbury	1	S. McGrath
5/6 P'town	1	B. Nikula#	5/8-9	P.I.	1	W. Tatro#
5/10 Mt. Tom	1	J. P. Smith	5/17	Marshfield	1	G. d'Entremont#
5/20 Hampden County	28	Allen Club	5/20	Nahant	2	P. + F. Vale
5/26, 6/17 Worc. (BMB)	9, 17	J. Liller	5/21	Beverly Farms	1	I. Giriunas#
5/27 Stockbridge	11	M. Lynch#	5/21	Westport	8	M. Lynch#
5/28 MBWMA	8 m	J. Berry	6/11	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	1	G. d'Entremont
5/29 P.I.	9	J. Nelson	Yellow-throated Vireo			
6/4 Little River IBA	53	Allen Club	5/4	ONWR	1	D. Berard#
6/17 HRWMA	8	T. Pirro	5/5	Southwick	1	S. Kellogg
6/25 Ware R. IBA	23	M. Lynch#	5/7	Sheffield	6	C. Blagdon
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			5/13	Quabbin (G45)	5	M. Lynch#
5/17-6/11 Reports of indiv. from 14 locations			5/17	Medford	4	M. Rines#
5/18, 26 Medford	1, 2	Rines, Diggins	5/20	Hampden County	10	Allen Club
5/25 Quabbin (G40)	3	J. P. Smith#	6/4	Little River IBA	11	Allen Club
5/26, 6/4 P.I.	2, 1	Wetmore, Reid	6/18	New Marlboro	7	T. Swochak
5/27 Stockbridge	2	M. Lynch#	Blue-headed Vireo			
6/12 Pelham	1	L. Therrien	5/5	P'town	25	B. Nikula
6/17 Mt. Greylock	1	P. McMahon	5/5	P.I.	8	T. Wetmore
6/17 Hawley	1	M. Lynch#	5/5	Mt.A.	7	R. Stymeist#
Acadian Flycatcher			5/5, 13	Medford	6, 1	M. Rines
5/13-6/3 Reports of indiv. from 8 locations			5/5	Cape Ann	8	R. Heil
6/11 Quabbin (G15)	2	B. Zajda#	5/6	Lenox	8	M. Lynch#
6/14 Granville	1	J. Hutchison	5/7	Belmont (H.F.)	7	R. Stymeist#
6/15 Medford	1	M. Rines#	6/4	Little River IBA	13	Allen Club
6/16 W. Tisbury	pr	A. Keith	6/17	Hawley	14	M. Lynch#
6/16-30 Quabbin (G8)	1	G. d'Entremont#	6/18	October Mt.	7	SSBC (G. d'E)
Alder Flycatcher			6/25	Ware R. IBA	20	M. Lynch#
5/20 Hadley	2	C. Gentes	Warbling Vireo			
5/21, 28 Medford	1, 2	M. Rines#	5/1	Boston (A.A.)	5	J. Miller
5/23, 27 P.I.	1, 7	Wetmore, Vale	5/4	Woburn (H.P.)	14	M. Rines
5/27 Stockbridge	7	M. Lynch#	5/4	ONWR	10	D. Berard#
6/4 Little River IBA	11	Allen Club	5/5	Mattapan	15+	A. Birch#
6/5 Richmond	9	R. Packard	5/7	Brookfield	12	M. Lynch#
6/9 Windsor	13	R. Packard	5/20	Hampden County	82	Allen Club
6/17 Hawley	9	M. Lynch#	5/20	Medford	12	M. Rines
6/18 New Marlboro	6	T. Swochak	6/25	Longmeadow	13	R. Packard
Willow Flycatcher			Philadelphia Vireo			
5/8 Sudbury	1	S. Arena	5/7	Boston (A.A.)	1	J. Miller#
5/11 Orange	1	W. Laffey	5/27	Nahant	1	C. Floyd
5/11 Hadley	1	J. P. Smith	5/27	Newbury	1	L. Leka
5/17-6/30 P.I.	16 max	v.o.	5/27-6/4	P.I.	1	S. Miller#
5/19, 29 Bolton Flats	1, 14	S. Sutton	Red-eyed Vireo			
5/27 Hatfield	10	R. Packard	5/5	Boston (A.A.)	1	J. Miller
6/4 Little River IBA	8	Allen Club	5/5	Cape Ann	1	R. Heil
6/16 Richmond	14	R. Packard	5/6, 27	Stockbridge	1, 39	M. Lynch#
Least Flycatcher			5/7, 20	Medford	3, 15	M. Rines
5/1 Belchertown	1	L. Therrien	5/20	Hampden County	116	Allen Club
5/5-6/4 P.I.	1-3	v.o.	5/28, 6/24	Quabbin Pk	56, 51	M. Lynch#

Red-eyed Vireo (continued)				5/19	Bolton Flats	35+	S. Sutton
5/29	Colrain	51	M. Lynch#	5/20	Hampden County	107	Allen Club
6/4	Little River IBA	280	Allen Club	5/29	Deerfield	20+	M. Lynch#
6/17	Mt. Greylock	86	SSBC (G. d'E)	6/3	Brookfield	30	M. Lynch#
6/17	HRWMA	31	T. Pirro	6/18	Lee	50	SSBC (G. d'E)
6/17	Hawley	93	M. Lynch#	6/20	Agawam	50	S. Kellogg
6/18	October Mt.	41	SSBC (G. d'E)	6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	50+	J. Berry
6/25	Ware R. IBA	71	M. Lynch#	Cliff Swallow			
Blue Jay				thr	Newbury	1-3	v.o.
5/6	P.I.	10 migr	J. Berry	5/4	Cheshire	25	T. Collins
5/20	Hampden County	200	Allen Club	5/7	P.I.	4	R. Heil
5/21	N. Truro	210	D. Manchester	5/10	Chilmark	2	A. Keith
5/29	P.I.	20 migr	J. Berry#	5/12	Brookfield	2	M. Lynch#
6/4	Little River IBA	54	Allen Club	5/16	GMNWR	2	L. Ferraresso#
6/15	Chatham	8 migr	B. Nikula	5/23	Arlington Res.	3	I. Davies
Fish Crow				6/14-30	Concord (NAC) pr n		S. Perkins#
5/4	N. Monomoy	2	B. Harris	6/21	W. Warren	2	B. Zajda
5/5	P'town	3	B. Nikula	Barn Swallow			
5/5, 6/4	Wompatuck SP	1, 2	Nims, G. d'E.	5/7	P.I.	74	R. Heil
5/17	DWWS	3	G. d'Entremont	5/7	Duxbury B.	150+	R. Bowes
5/22	Hadley	6	J. P. Smith	5/9	GMNWR	60	S. Perkins#
5/29	Mashpee	2	M. Keleher#	5/10	Arlington Res.	35	K. Hartel
6/11	Newbypt	pr n	J. Berry#	5/14	Turners Falls	315	J. P. Smith
6/21	Northampton	8	L. Therrien	5/20	Hampden County	134	Allen Club
Common Raven				5/21	Westport	56	M. Lynch#
5/6	HRWMA	2	T. Pirro	5/29	Colrain	53	M. Lynch#
5/6	Quabbin Pk	pr, 3 juv	G. Dysart	6/4	Little River IBA	43	Allen Club
5/23	Westhampton	3	J.M. Nelson	Black-capped Chickadee			
5/27	Milton (F.M.)	2	M. Trimitsis	5/6	HRWMA	26	T. Pirro
5/31-6/5	P.I.	1	D. Larson	5/7	Brookfield	47	M. Lynch#
6/4	Little River IBA	5	Allen Club	5/20	Hampden County	152	Allen Club
6/11	Yarmouthport	1	P. Bono	6/4	Little River IBA	92	Allen Club
6/13	Paxton	2	M. Lynch#	6/25	Ware R. IBA	32	M. Lynch#
6/17	Hawley	2	M. Lynch#	Tufted Titmouse			
6/25	W. Dennis	1	P. Flood	5/7	Brookfield	39	M. Lynch#
Horned Lark				5/20	Hampden County	120	Allen Club
5/6, 29	Mashpee	1, 2	M. Keleher	6/4	Little River IBA	39	Allen Club
5/13	P.I.	1	J. Miller#	Red-breasted Nuthatch			
5/15	Sandwich	3	G. d'Entremont	5/5	Cape Ann	10	R. Heil
5/25	Chatham (S.B.)	4	S. Perkins#	5/5	N. Truro	50+	D. Manchester#
5/27	Plymouth B.	3	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/5	P.I.	6	T. Wetmore
5/29	Templeton	4	T. Pirro	5/6	HRWMA	5	T. Gillo
6/5	P'town (R.P.)	1	J. Miller	5/7	Wompatuck SP	6	BBC (E. Gires)
6/13	Mashpee	4	M. Keleher	5/7	Brookfield	7	M. Lynch#
Purple Martin				5/7	Gloucester (E.P.)	9	S. Hedman
thr	P.I.	28 max	v.o.	5/29	Colrain	10	M. Lynch#
5/7	W. Newbury	1	B. Harris#	5/29	Mashpee	7	M. Keleher#
5/16	DWWS	3	D. Furbish	Brown Creeper			
5/20	W. Harwich	2	B. Nikula#	5/7	Brookfield	5	M. Lynch#
5/23	Westhampton	2	J.M. Nelson	5/18	Agawam	4	J. Hutchison
5/25	P'town	1	B. Nikula	5/20	Hampden County	5	Allen Club
5/25, 6/12	N. Truro	7, 2	D. Manchester	5/29	Colrain	5	M. Lynch#
5/25	Chatham (MI)	2 f.	B. Harris	6/4	Little River IBA	4	Allen Club
Tree Swallow				6/17	HRWMA	5	T. Pirro
5/3	Southwick	250	S. Kellogg	6/20	Windsor	4	R. Packard
5/6	Stockbridge	90	M. Lynch#	6/25	Ware R. IBA	8	M. Lynch#
5/7	P.I.	525	R. Heil	Carolina Wren			
5/12	Brookfield	250	M. Lynch#	5/5	Cape Ann	6	R. Heil
5/12	GMNWR	65	P. + F. Vale	5/14	Amherst	5	R. Packard
5/13	Quabbin (G35)	90	M. Lynch#	5/20	Hampden County	22	Allen Club
5/20	Hampden County	289	Allen Club	5/21	Acoaxet	10	M. Lynch#
6/4	Little River IBA	82	Allen Club	6/11	Berkley	4	G. d'Entremont
6/30	P.I.	1000	R. Heil	6/27	Mt.A.	4	R. Stymeist
Northern Rough-winged Swallow				House Wren			
5/6	Oxford	12	P. Meleski	5/7	Brookfield	8	M. Lynch#
5/10	Arlington Res.	6	K. Hartel	5/20	Hampden County	33	Allen Club
5/14	Jamaica Plain	8	A. Joslin	5/20	Medford	12	M. Rines
5/14	Turners Falls	16	J. P. Smith	5/28	MSSF	12	G. d'Entremont
5/17	S. Quabbin	8	L. Therrien	6/4	Little River IBA	6	Allen Club
5/20	Hampden County	46	Allen Club	6/5	Cape Ann	7 m	J. Berry#
5/28	Quabbin Pk	8	M. Lynch#	6/6	Pepperell	9	E. Stromsted
6/5	Cape Ann	7	J. Berry#	6/17	HRWMA	7	T. Pirro
Bank Swallow				Winter Wren			
5/5	Sheffield	35+	M. Lynch#	5/5, 27	Boxford	3, 3	J. Berry
5/6, 6/24	Bolton Flats	80, 105	S. Sutton	5/6	Stockbridge	4	M. Lynch#
5/7	Sudbury	150 n	B. Harris	5/13	Quabbin (G45)	5	M. Lynch#
5/7, 6/25	P.I.	21, 50	R. Heil	5/29	Colrain	4	M. Lynch#
5/14	Turners Falls	60	J. P. Smith	5/31	Wompatuck SP	7	C. Nims

Winter Wren (continued)				6/17	Hawley	3	M. Lynch#	
6/4	Little River IBA	10	Allen Club	Hermit Thrush				
6/11	Sharon	3	J. Baur	5/5	Cape Ann	8	R. Heil	
6/17	Hawley	21	M. Lynch#	5/7	Belmont (H.F.)	13	R. Stymeist#	
6/18	October Mt.	4	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/28, 6/14	MSSF	6, 4	G. d'Entremont	
Marsh Wren				6/thr	Sherborn	6	E. Taylor	
thr	P.I.	60 max	6/30	v.o.	6/4	Little River IBA	28	Allen Club
5/4, 29	Mashpee	2, 4	M. Keleher	6/13	Mashpee	5	M. Keleher	
5/7	Brookfield	5	M. Lynch#	6/16	Templeton	11	T. Pirro	
5/20	W. Harwich	3	B. Nikula#	6/17	Hawley	14	M. Lynch#	
5/29, 6/24	Bolton Flats	3, 3	S. Sutton	6/25	Ware R. IBA	52	M. Lynch#	
6/5, 16	Richmond	10, 12	R. Packard	Wood Thrush				
6/6	Stockbridge	3	R. Packard	5/5	Leicester	14	M. Lynch#	
6/18	Wakefield	5	P. + F. Vale	5/6, 20	Medford	6, 14	M. Rines#	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				5/12	Brookfield	16	M. Lynch#	
5/6	Falmouth	pr n	G. Hirth	5/13	Quabbin (G45)	31	M. Lynch#	
5/29	Colrain	8	M. Lynch#	5/20	Hampden County	187	Allen Club	
6/4	Little River IBA	3	Allen Club	5/29	Colrain	18	M. Lynch#	
6/17	Mt. Greylock	9	SSBC (G. d'E)	6/4	Little River IBA	62	Allen Club	
6/18	October Mt.	5	SSBC (G. d'E)	6/17	Worc. (BMB)	17	J. Liller#	
6/20	Windsor	9	R. Packard	American Robin				
6/25	Ware R. IBA	9	M. Lynch#	5/12	Brookfield	169	M. Lynch#	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				5/20	Hampden County	839	Allen Club	
5/5	Cape Ann	8	R. Heil	6/4	Little River IBA	137	Allen Club	
5/5	Salisbury	10+	D. Chickering#	6/27	Mt.A.	151	R. Stymeist	
5/5	MBWMA	10+	D. Chickering#	Gray Catbird				
5/5	Mt.A.	11	R. Stymeist#	thr	P.I.	138 max	5/30	
5/5, 18	P.I.	22, 1	T. Wetmore	5/1, 17	Medford	7, 46	I. Davies	
5/5	P'town	8	B. Nikula	5/7	Brookfield	50	M. Lynch#	
5/6	Medford	6	M. Rines#	5/17	Hingham	33	G. d'Entremont	
5/7	Belmont (H.F.)	8	R. Stymeist#	5/20	Hampden County	370	Allen Club	
5/28	P'town	1	C. Goodrich	5/21	Acoaxet	87	M. Lynch#	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				5/27	Stockbridge	55	M. Lynch#	
5/5	Cape Ann	5	R. Heil	5/29	Mashpee	31	M. Keleher#	
5/6	P.I.	5	E. Nielsen	6/4	Little River IBA	65	Allen Club	
5/16	Milton	5	G. d'Entremont	6/17	Hawley	33	M. Lynch#	
5/17	S. Quabbin	14	L. Therrien	Brown Thrasher				
5/20	Hampden County	24	Allen Club	thr	P.I.	16 max	5/30	
6/10	ONWR	5	S. Sutton	5/6	Medford	8	M. Rines#	
6/25	Longmeadow	10	R. Packard	5/6	Oxford	6	P. Meleski	
Northern Wheatear				5/20	Hampden County	9	Allen Club	
5/30-31	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	5/28	MSSF	6	G. d'Entremont	
Eastern Bluebird				American Pipit				
5/1	E. Middleboro	2 pair	K. Anderson	5/5	Cape Ann	2	R. Heil	
6/4	Little River IBA	15	Allen Club	5/7	P.I.	1	R. Heil	
6/10	Ipswich	5-6	J. Berry#	5/13	Ipswich	4	L. Ferrareso#	
6/30	Sunderland	4	H. Allen	5/19	Bedford	1	D. Bates#	
Veery				Cedar Waxwing				
5/20	Hampden County	64	Allen Club	5/21	N. Truro	93	D. Manchester	
5/27	Stockbridge	28	M. Lynch#	5/30	P.I.	98	R. Heil	
5/28, 6/24	Quabbin Pk	22, 9	M. Lynch#	5/30	Medford	150	M. Rines	
5/31	Ipswich	14	J. Berry	6/4	Little River IBA	60	Allen Club	
5/31	Wompatuck SP	39	C. Nims	6/11	Wenham	75+	BBS (Vale)	
6/4	Little River IBA	207	Allen Club	6/25	Ware R. IBA	35	M. Lynch#	
6/10	ONWR	11	S. Sutton	Blue-winged Warbler				
6/17	Mt. Greylock	15	SSBC (G. d'E)	5/1	Wilbraham	1	D. Morrison	
6/17	Hawley	25	M. Lynch#	5/5	Mt.A.	4	P. + F. Vale	
6/25	Ware R. IBA	48	M. Lynch#	5/5	Hingham (WE)	15	H. Cross#	
Gray-cheeked Thrush				5/7	Hadley	18	C. Gentes	
5/27	Squantum	1	G. d'Entremont	5/7	Brookfield	19	M. Lynch#	
5/27	P'town	1	B. Nikula	5/7	MBWMA	7	L. de la Flor#	
Bicknell's Thrush				5/20	Hampden County	33	Allen Club	
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	1	M. Lynch#	5/25	Quabbin (G40)	6	J. P. Smith#	
5/18	Mt.A.	1 heard	J. Hoye#	6/4	Little River IBA	9	Allen Club	
5/28	Quabbin Pk	1	M. Lynch#	Golden-winged Warbler				
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush				5/20	Rockport (H.P.)	1	A. Quintano	
5/17	Boston (P.G.)	1	M. Garvey	Brewster's Warbler				
5/26	Mt.A.	1	C. Floyd#	5/13	Hardwick	1 m	M. Lynch#	
5/26-27	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore	Lawrence's Warbler				
5/27	Boston (A.A.)	1	J. Miller	5/21	Westport	1 m	M. Lynch#	
Swainson's Thrush				6/18	E. Bridgewater	1 m	S. Fostello	
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	3	M. Lynch#	Tennessee Warbler				
5/17	Boston	7	J. Offermann	5/5	Mt.A.	1	N. Chen#	
5/18	Leicester	5	M. Lynch#	5/5	Cape Ann	1 m	R. Heil	
5/27	P.I.	4	P. + F. Vale	5/7	Boston	2	J. Dibbell	
5/27	Newbury	5	L. Leka	5/21, 24	Medford	1, 4	M. Rines#	
6/4	Granville	2	J. Wojtanowski	5/24	S. Quabbin	2	L. Therrien	
6/17	Mt. Greylock	2	P. McMahon					

Orange-crowned Warbler				6/4	Little River IBA	98	Allen Club
5/7	Winchester	1	M. Rines	6/17	Hawley	17	M. Lynch#
5/9, 14	Medford	1, 2	M. Rines	6/17	Mt. Greylock	15	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/15	Scituate	1	S. Maguire#				
Nashville Warbler							
5/3-25	Mt.A.	13 max	5/5 v.o.	5/5	Ipswich	75	J. Berry
5/5	Hingham (WE)	6	H. Cross#	5/5	Hingham (WE)	1000+	H. Cross#
5/5	Medford	9	M. Rines	5/5, 26	P'town	80, 1	B. Nikula#
5/5	Cape Ann	10 m	R. Heil	5/6, 26	Stockbridge	133, 4	T. Wetmore
5/7	Belmont (H.F.)	5	R. Stymeist#	5/6, 5/27	Medford	245, 1	M. Lynch#
5/9, 29	Gardner	4, 2	T. Pirro	5/7	Belmont (H.F.)	65	M. Rines#
5/13	Windsor	6	R. Packard	5/7	Winchester	85	R. Stymeist#
6/4	Little River IBA	11	Allen Club	5/20	Hampden County	32	M. Rines
6/25	Ware R. IBA	1	M. Lynch#	6/4	Little River IBA	14	Allen Club
Northern Parula				6/17	Mt. Greylock	15	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/4-28	Medford	34 max	5/6 M. Rines	Black-throated Green Warbler			
5/5	Hingham (WE)	20	H. Cross#	5/5	P'town	10	B. Nikula#
5/5	P'town	10	B. Nikula#	5/5, 28	Medford	21, 1	M. Rines
5/5-28	P.I.	15 max	5/17 v.o.	5/5, 25	Mt.A.	11, 1	R. Stymeist#
5/5-24	Mt.A.	17 max	5/5 v.o.	5/5, 29	P.I.	20, 1	T. Wetmore
5/5	Cape Ann	16 m	R. Heil	5/27	Monterey-Lenox	23	M. Lynch#
5/20	Hampden County	6	Allen Club	6/4	Little River IBA	70	Allen Club
6/4	Russell	2	L. Richardson	6/17	Hawley	51	M. Lynch#
6/4	Blandford	1	M. + K. Conway	6/17	Mt. Greylock	16	SSBC (G. d'E)
6/14	Mt. Holyoke	1	W. Howes	6/25	Ware R. IBA	35	M. Lynch#
6/23-26	P.I.	1 m	T. Wetmore	Blackburnian Warbler			
Yellow Warbler				5/5-6/4	P.I.	5 max	v.o.
5/4-6/30	Bolton Flats	43 max	S. Sutton	5/6, 27	Stockbridge	2, 5	M. Lynch#
5/4-6/30	P.I.	153 max	5/30 v.o.	5/18, 6/16	Quabbin (G15)	5, 6	G. d'Entremont
5/5	Hingham (WE)	25	H. Cross#	5/20	Hampden County	14	Allen Club
5/5-6/30	Medford	19 max	M. Rines	5/27	Monterey-Lenox	23	M. Lynch#
5/6	Lenox	48	M. Lynch#	6/4	Little River IBA	58	Allen Club
5/7	Brookfield	29	M. Lynch#	6/17	Hawley	29	M. Lynch#
5/20	Hampden County	207	Allen Club	6/17	Mt. Greylock	23	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/21	Acoaxet	56	M. Lynch#	6/25	Ware R. IBA	12	M. Lynch#
6/4	Little River IBA	70	Allen Club	Yellow-throated Warbler			
Chestnut-sided Warbler				5/8	P'town	1	C. Goodrich#
5/1	Belchertown	1	L. Therrien	Pine Warbler			
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	29	M. Lynch#	5/7	Wompatuck SP	15	G. d'Entremont
5/20	Hampden County	29	Allen Club	5/7	Brookfield	13	M. Lynch#
5/27	Monterey-Lenox	18	M. Lynch#	5/20	Hampden County	37	Allen Club
5/29	Colrain	21	M. Lynch#	5/28	MSSF	14	G. d'Entremont
6/4	Little River IBA	102	Allen Club	6/4	Little River IBA	11	Allen Club
6/17	Hawley	26	M. Lynch#	6/6	Mashpee	14	M. Keleher
6/17	Mt. Greylock	24	SSBC (G. d'E)	6/11	Fall River	12	G. d'Entremont
6/25	Ware R. IBA	38	M. Lynch#	6/24	Quabbin Pk	15	M. Lynch#
Magnolia Warbler				6/25	Ware R. IBA	41	M. Lynch#
5/5-25	Mt.A.	10 max	5/17 P. + F. Vale	Prairie Warbler			
5/6-31	Medford	25 max	5/17 M. Rines	5/1	Andover	1	M. Baird
5/8-6/4	P.I.	23 max	5/27 v.o.	5/5	Hingham (WE)	4	H. Cross#
5/20	Hampden County	17	Allen Club	5/6	Falmouth	9	M. Keleher#
5/27	Monterey-Lenox	12	M. Lynch#	5/7	Montague	7	R. Packard
6/4	Little River IBA	34	Allen Club	5/17	Quabbin (G29)	11	J. P. Smith
6/17	Hawley	7	M. Lynch#	5/20	Hampden County	19	Allen Club
6/25	Ware R. IBA	8	M. Lynch#	5/28	MSSF	17	G. d'Entremont
Cape May Warbler				6/4	Little River IBA	13	Allen Club
5/5, 17	Mt.A.	2, 1	Stymeist, Floyd	6/11	Wellfleet	4	R. Heil
5/6	Roslindale	1 m	M. Trimitis	6/17	Worc. (BMB)	5	J. Liller#
5/7	Montague	1	R. Packard	6/25	Ware R. IBA	4	M. Lynch#
5/7	Brookfield	1	M. Lynch#	Palm Warbler			
5/8, 19	P.I.	1 m	Larson, Bates	5/3	Amherst	4	H. Allen
5/11-15	Mattapan	1	v.o.	5/5	Hingham (WE)	80	H. Cross#
5/13	Boxford (C.P.)	1	L. Ferraresso#	5/5	Mt.A.	5	R. Stymeist#
5/22	Amherst	3	H. Allen	5/5	Mattapan	9	A. Birch#
5/23	Marshfield	2 m	R. Finch	5/5, 29	P.I.	10, 1	T. Wetmore
5/24	Belchertown	1	L. Therrien	5/6, 13	Medford	7, 2	M. Rines#
5/24	Medford	1	M. Rines#	5/13	Quabbin (G45)	1	M. Lynch#
5/27	Stockbridge	1	M. Lynch#	Bay-breasted Warbler			
Black-throated Blue Warbler				5/12	MNWS	1 m	S. Stumpf-Hebert
5/4	Becket	1	R. Laubach	5/18	Quabbin (G29)	2	G. d'Entremont
5/4	Southwick	1	S. Kellogg	5/19	Mt.A.	2	BBC (F. Vale)
5/5	Hingham (WE)	12	H. Cross#	5/21	Medford	2	M. Rines#
5/5-28	P.I.	20 max	5/17 v.o.	5/24, 6/4	P.I.	7, 1	T. Wetmore
5/5, 24	Medford	8, 1	M. Rines	6/4	Wompatuck SP	1	G. d'Entremont
5/6, 6/17	HRWMA	4, 7	T. Pirro	Blackpoll Warbler			
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	11	M. Lynch#	5/6	Westwood	2	E. Nielsen
5/20	Hampden County	10	Allen Club	5/14	Turners Falls	1	J. P. Smith
5/27	Monterey-Lenox	21	M. Lynch#	5/14	Southwick	1	S. Kellogg

Blackpoll Warbler (continued)

5/17-24	Mt.A.	11 max	5/19	P. + F. Vale
5/18-6/9	P.I.	14 max	5/25	T. Wetmore
5/18-6/2	Medford	14 max	5/28	M. Rines
5/20	Hampden County	8		Allen Club
5/27	Stockbridge	9		M. Lynch#
5/28	Quabbin Pk	11		M. Lynch#
5/29	Hatfield	6		R. Packard
6/17	Mt. Greylock	8		P. McMahon
6/18	P.I.	1		S. McGrath

Cerulean Warbler

5/4	Amherst	1		A. Duprey
5/5	Pelham	1		L. Therrien
5/7	Arlington	1 m		S. Simpson#
5/11-6/14	Mt. Holyoke	1-2		J. P. Smith
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	1 m		M. Lynch#
5/23	Hadley	1		W. Laflay
6/5	Pepperell	1		R. Resch
6/6	Princeton	1		J. Dekker
6/8	Northampton	1		D. McLain
6/17	Skinner SP	1		S. Sutton

Black-and-white Warbler

thr	P.I.	22 max	5/5	T. Wetmore
5/1-25	Medford	23 max	5/5	M. Rines
5/5	P'town	10		B. Nikula#
5/5	Hingham (WE)	75		H. Cross#
5/5	Cape Ann	31		R. Heil
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	33		M. Lynch#
5/20	Hampden County	37		Allen Club
6/4	Little River IBA	102		Allen Club

American Redstart

5/1	Southwick	1		S. Kellogg
5/5-6/30	P.I.	100 max	5/27	v.o.
5/6-6/3	Medford	25 max	5/28	M. Rines
5/20	Hampden County	72		Allen Club
5/27	Stockbridge	50		M. Lynch#
5/27	Monterey-Lenox	64		M. Lynch#
5/28, 6/24	Quabbin Pk	21, 19		M. Lynch#
5/29	Colrain	25		M. Lynch#
6/4	Little River IBA	135		Allen Club
6/21	Huntington	35		S. Kellogg

Worm-eating Warbler

5/5	Southwick	2		S. Kellogg
5/5	Hingham (WE)	1		P. Fitzgerald
5/5-6/13	Wompatuck SP	2-5		v.o.
5/8	P'town	1		B. Murphy#
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	1		M. Lynch#
5/17	W. Tisbury	1		M. Pelikan
5/20	Agawam	2		J. Weeks
5/20	Medford	1		I. Davies
5/22	Deerfield	2		J. P. Smith
5/25	Marlboro	1		B. deGraaf
6/4	Granville	1		J. Wojtanowski
6/6	Dover	1		J. O'Connell
6/17	Skinner SP	2+		S. Sutton#

Ovenbird

5/2	Becket	1		R. Laubach
5/5, 18	Leicester	24, 16		M. Lynch#
5/5, 31	Wompatuck SP	18, 81		C. Nims
5/6, 6/17	HRWMA	21, 31		T. Pirro
5/20	Hampden County	116		Allen Club
5/28	Quabbin Pk	37		M. Lynch#
5/29	Colrain	47		M. Lynch#
5/31	Ipswich	25 m		J. Berry
6/4	Little River IBA	273		Allen Club
6/17	Hawley	82		M. Lynch#
6/25	Ware R. IBA	127		M. Lynch#

Northern Waterthrush

5/3	Longmeadow	4		J. Hutchison
5/5, 20	Medford	2, 7		M. Rines
5/5-6/18	P.I.	10 max	5/26	v.o.
5/5	Cape Ann	5		R. Heil
5/5, 31	Wompatuck SP	1, 6		C. Nims
5/20	Hampden County	5		Allen Club
5/27	Stockbridge	4		M. Lynch#
5/31	Ipswich	6 m		J. Berry
6/11	Walpole	10		J. O'Connell
6/13	Millis	5		J. O'Connell

Louisiana Waterthrush

5/4	Hubbardston	1		W. Howes
5/6	Stockbridge	2		M. Lynch#
5/6	Oxford	1		P. Meleski
5/13	Boxford (C.P.)	2		L. Ferrareso#
5/17	Quabbin (G29)	1		J. P. Smith
5/20	Hampden County	5		Allen Club
5/27	Stockbridge	2		M. Lynch#
6/4	Little River IBA	7		Allen Club
6/10	Petersham	1		J. Hoye#
6/17	Hawley	2		M. Lynch#

Kentucky Warbler

5/17	Medford	1		M. Rines#
5/17	MNWS	1		K. Haley
5/23-29	Squantum	1		T. O'Neil + v.o.

Mourning Warbler

5/19	New Salem	1		W. Laflay
5/20-6/1	Medford	4 total		M. Rines
5/27	Stockbridge	2		M. Lynch#
5/27	PI.	2		C. Floyd
6/18	October Mt.	4		SSBC (G, d'E)
6/22	Washington	3		H. Allen

Common Yellowthroat

5/3	Northampton	1		C. Gentes
5/5, 30	PI.	5, 30		Wetmore, Heil
5/6, 28	MBWMA	2, 29		Nielsen, Berry
5/20	Hampden County	145		Allen Club
5/27	Stockbridge	54		M. Lynch#
5/29	Mashpee	26		M. Keleher#
5/29	Bolton Flats	31		S. Sutton
6/4	Little River IBA	113		Allen Club
6/17	Hawley	43		M. Lynch#
6/25	Ware R. IBA	77		M. Lynch#

Hooded Warbler

5/1	Boston (A.A.)	1		P. Peterson + v.o.
5/1-18	Mt.A.	1-2		S. Ketchian + v.o.
5/6	P'town	1 m		C. Goodrich#
5/7-15	Gloucester (E.P.)	1		S. Hedman + v.o.
5/17-6/13	Wompatuck SP	1 m		G. d'E. + v.o.
5/21	Acoaxet	1 m		M. Lynch#
5/21	Chilmark	1 m ph		L. McDowell
5/23	Sharon	1		K. Ryan
5/27	Boston (F.Pk.)	1		P. Peterson
5/29, 6/4	PI.	1 m		Berry, McGrath
5/30	Sheffield	1		W. Laflay

Wilson's Warbler

5/6-6/4	PI.	10 max	5/17	v.o.
5/9-5/28	Medford	4 max	5/21	M. Rines
5/20	Holyoke	2		D. McLain
5/24	Longmeadow	2		J. Hutchison
5/27	Gloucester (E.P.)	3		S. Hedman

Canada Warbler

5/13	New Salem	1		W. Laflay
5/13	Hockomock WMA	1		K. Anderson#
5/17-6/4	Medford	5 max		M. Rines#
5/17-6/4	PI.	9 max	5/27	v.o.
5/20	Hampden County	16		Allen Club
5/27	Stockbridge	5		M. Lynch#
5/27	Gloucester (E.P.)	6		S. Hedman
5/29	Colrain	6		M. Lynch#
6/4	Little River IBA	22		Allen Club
6/9	Windsor	6		R. Packard
6/25	Ware R. IBA	12		M. Lynch#

Yellow-breasted Chat

5/19	Nahant	1		L. Jackson
5/22	N. Quabbin	1		J. P. Smith

Summer Tanager

5/10-17	Sheffield	2 ph		B. Friedman
5/12	Boston	1		G. Jones#
5/17	PI.	1 f		S. Mirick#
5/18	Mt.A.	1		S. Denison#

Scarlet Tanager

5/4	Southwick	1		S. Kellogg
5/6-6/30	Medford	7 max		M. Rines
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	21		M. Lynch#
5/17	Gloucester (E.P.)	8		J. Nelson
5/19	Wompatuck SP	11		P. + F. Vale#
5/20	Hampden County	77		Allen Club

Scarlet Tanager (continued)				Fox Sparrow			
5/26	Worc. (BMB)	8	J. Liller	5/1	Mt.A.	1	S. Simpson
5/28	Quabbin Pk	19	M. Lynch#	Lincoln's Sparrow			
5/28	MBWMA	8 m	J. Berry	5/5, 17	Medford	1, 1	M. Rines
6/4	Little River IBA	57	Allen Club	5/5, 24	DFWS	1 b, 1 b	MAS (Clayton)
6/17	HRWMA	7	T. Pirro	5/6, 17	Mt.A.	1	Giles, Vale
6/17	Hawley	25	M. Lynch#	5/9-26	Reports of indiv. from 13 locations		
6/25	Ware R. IBA	34	M. Lynch#	Swamp Sparrow			
Eastern Towhee				5/6	Stockbridge	35	M. Lynch#
thr	P.I.	76 max	5/6 v.o.	5/7	Gloucester (E.P.)	5	S. Hedman
5/6	Falmouth	23	M. Keleher#	5/16	Milton	6	G. d'Entremont
5/13	Quabbin (G45)	28	M. Lynch#	5/20	Hampden County	16	Allen Club
5/19	Wompatuck SP	23	P. + F. Vale#	5/27	Stockbridge	18	M. Lynch#
5/20	Hampden County	57	Allen Club	6/4	Little River IBA	16	Allen Club
5/28	MSSF	56	G. d'Entremont	6/18	October Mt.	6	SSBC (G. d'E)
6/4	Little River IBA	43	Allen Club	6/25	Ware R. IBA	19	M. Lynch#
6/6	Mashpee	21	M. Keleher	White-throated Sparrow			
6/25	Ware R. IBA	39	M. Lynch#	5/5	Newbury	40	L. Leka
American Tree Sparrow				5/5, 30	P.I.	30, 1	Wetmore, Heil
5/1	W. Tisbury	1	S. Anderson	5/5	P'town	35	B. Nikula#
Chipping Sparrow				5/6	MBWMA	42	E. Nielsen
5/5	Sheffield	40+	M. Lynch#	6/17	Hawley	27	M. Lynch#
5/6	Falmouth	30+	M. Keleher#	6/18	October Mt.	11	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/7	Brookfield	56	M. Lynch#	6/25	Ware R. IBA	9	M. Lynch#
5/20	Hampden County	105	Allen Club	6/30	Worcester	1	M. Lynch#
5/21	Acoaxet	30	M. Lynch#	White-crowned Sparrow			
5/28	MSSF	34	G. d'Entremont	5/1-2	S. Dartmouth	2	T. Raymond
6/4	Little River IBA	49	Allen Club	5/5	Southwick	2	S. Ricker
6/25	Ware R. IBA	42	M. Lynch#	5/5, 28	P.I.	6, 1	Wetmore, Spahr
Clay-colored Sparrow				5/6	Pittsfield	2	T. Collins
5/5-6	Boston	1	M. Garvey + v.o.	5/7	Medford	2	M. Rines
Field Sparrow				5/8	Amherst	2	H. Lappen
thr	P.I.	10 max	v.o.	5/8	Boston	2	S. Williams
5/6	Falmouth	19	M. Keleher#	5/14	Concord	5	M. Rines
5/6	MBWMA	8	E. Nielsen	5/15	Gloucester	3	S. Hedman
5/7	Southwick	11	S. Kellogg	Dark-eyed Junco			
5/20	Hampden County	17	Allen Club	5/1-23	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore
6/4	Little River IBA	7	Allen Club	5/5	Mt.A.	1	R. Stymeist#
6/17	Worc. (BMB)	6	J. Liller#	5/29	Colrain	4	M. Lynch#
Vesper Sparrow				5/31-6/2	Lincoln	1 f	J. Kile
5/1	Boston (A.A.)	1	P. Peterson	6/4	Little River IBA	22	Allen Club
5/5	HRWMA	1	T. Pirro	6/17	Mt. Greylock	10	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/7	Southwick	3	S. Kellogg	6/17	Hawley	9	M. Lynch#
5/13	Newbury	1	M. Daley#	6/18	October Mt.	2	SSBC (G. d'E)
5/15	W. Roxbury	1	A. Birch	6/21	S. Boston	1	B. Zuzavich
5/28	Plymouth Airport	2	SSBC (G. d'E)	Rose-breasted Grosbeak			
6/17	Hawley	2	M. Lynch#	5/3	Mashpee	1 f	M. Keleher
6/30	Sunderland	4	H. Allen	5/4-6/30	Medford	7 max	M. Rines
Savannah Sparrow				5/7	Hadley	14	C. Gentes
thr	P.I.	12 max	v.o.	5/7	Brookfield	21	M. Lynch#
5/5	Cape Ann	20+	R. Heil	5/13	Quabbin (G45)	19	M. Lynch#
6/11	Ludlow	20+	M. Lynch#	5/18	Agawam	16	J. Hutchison
6/17	Falmouth	8+	P. + F. Vale	5/20	Hampden County	123	Allen Club
6/17	Hawley	23	M. Lynch#	5/21	Acoaxet	12	M. Lynch#
6/27	Saugus	61	BBS (L. Pivacek#)	5/28	MBWMA	11 m	J. Berry
Grasshopper Sparrow				6/4	Little River IBA	20	Allen Club
5/6	Falmouth	3	M. Keleher#	6/17	Worc. (BMB)	8	J. Liller#
5/7-25	Southwick	2-4	S. Kellogg	6/25	Ware R. IBA	13	M. Lynch#
5/28	Plymouth Airport	2-3	SSBC (G. d'E)	Blue Grosbeak			
5/29	Turners Falls	3	M. Lynch#	5/17	Hingham	1 imm m	G. d'Entremont
5/31	Maynard	1 m	S. Perkins#	5/22	Ashburnham	1	P. Dowd
6/10	Westover	15	B. Bieda	5/23	Marshfield	1	R. Finch
6/11	Ludlow	3	M. Lynch#	6/6	Nahant	1 IS	B. Pivacek
6/21	W. Warren	1 ad	B. Zajda	Indigo Bunting			
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow				5/5	Cape Ann	1	R. Heil
5/7-6/30	P.I.	59 max	6/29 v.o.	5/5	Newton	1	C. Marsh#
5/15	Sandwich	1	G. d'Entremont	5/5	Littleton	1	G. Marry#
5/21	Acoaxet	6	M. Lynch#	5/7-24	Medford	4-6	M. Rines
5/25	Chatham (S.B.)	4	D. Berard	5/20	Hampden County	12	Allen Club
5/28	E. Boston (B.I.)	10	S. Zende#	5/28	Quabbin Pk	6	M. Lynch#
6/11	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	16	G. d'Entremont	6/4	Little River IBA	28	Allen Club
6/13	Mashpee	4	M. Keleher	6/17	Hawley	17	M. Lynch#
6/15	N. Monomoy	20	B. Nikula	6/17	Shelbourne	6	M. Lynch#
6/18	Mattapoisset	2	M. Lynch#	6/18	HRWMA	6	T. Pirro
Seaside Sparrow				6/25	Ware R. IBA	8	M. Lynch#
thr	P.I.	7 max	T. Wetmore	Dickcissel			
5/28	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	5/5-6	Orleans	1	M. O'Connor#
6/11	S. Dart. (A.Pd)	2	G. d'Entremont#				

Bobolink				5/17	Wompatuck SP	21	G. d'Entremont
5/5-6/30	P.I.	50 max	v.o.	5/20	Hampden County	279	Allen Club
5/6, 6/18	HRWMA	1, 42	T. Pirro	5/28	MBWMA	18	J. Berry
5/6, 16	DWWS	2, 22	D. Furbish	6/4	Little River IBA	22	Allen Club
5/6, 27	Stockbridge	6, 15	M. Lynch#	6/11	Wenham	25	BBS (Vale)
5/20	Hampden County	50	Allen Club	6/17	Worc. (BMB)	17	J. Liller#
5/24	Hanscom	25	S. Perkins#	6/18	HRWMA	26	T. Pirro
6/4	Little River IBA	34	Allen Club	Purple Finch			
6/4	Pepperell	40	E. Stromsted	thr	P.I.	14 max	v.o.
6/10	Ipswich	50+	J. Berry#	5/1	Belchertown	6	L. Therrien
6/16	Templeton	21	T. Pirro	5/5	Cape Ann	5	R. Heil
6/27	Saugus	32	BBS (L. Pivacek#)	5/5	P'town	12	B. Nikula#
Red-winged Blackbird				5/7	Gloucester (E.P.)	5	S. Hedman
5/12	Brookfield	183	M. Lynch#	6/4	Little River IBA	8	Allen Club
5/20	Hampden County	411	Allen Club	6/17	Hawley	9	M. Lynch#
5/27	Stockbridge	115+	M. Lynch#	6/26	Ipswich (C.B.)	4 m	J. Berry
6/25	Ware R. IBA	118	M. Lynch#	Red Crossbill			
Eastern Meadowlark				5/20	MSSF	9	E. Nielsen
5/5	Leicester	5	M. Lynch#	5/26	Montague pr + 5 yg, + 3 juv		J. P. Smith
5/18	Leicester	3	M. Lynch#	6/7	S. Plymouth pr + 1 yg		S. Leslie
5/20	Hampden County	6	Allen Club	White-winged			
5/24	Hanscom	4	S. Perkins#	5/13	Moran WMA	ad f + 5 juv	P. Steinman
6/10	Westover	16	B. Bieda	Pine Siskin			
6/11	Ludlow	4	M. Lynch#	5/1	Sheffield	1	T. Collins
6/27	Saugus	20	BBS (L. Pivacek#)	5/1, 6/1	Pittsfield	1, 1	T. Collins
Yellow-headed Blackbird				5/5	Williamstown	1	G.Soucie
5/1	Chatham	1 imm m	P. Bailey#	5/5	Cape Ann	3+	R. Heil
Common Grackle				5/6	P'town	1	B. Nikula
5/20	Hampden County	366	Allen Club	5/7	P.I.	4	R. Heil
Brown-headed Cowbird				American Goldfinch			
5/5	P.I.	250	T. Wetmore	5/5	Cape Ann	80+	R. Heil
5/20	Hampden County	120	Allen Club	5/7	P.I.	433	R. Heil
Orchard Oriole				5/20	Hampden County	189	Allen Club
5/1	Boston (A.A.)	3	P. Peterson	6/4	Little River IBA	64	Allen Club
5/4-6/30	Medford	7 max	M. Rines	Evening Grosbeak			
5/5	Mt.A.	3	R. Stymeist#	5/6	HRWMA	1	T. Pirro
5/6-6/30	Falmouth	8 max	v.o.	5/13	Petersham	2	M. Lynch#
Baltimore Oriole				5/22	N. Quabbin	6	J. P. Smith
5/5	Mt.A.	16	R. Stymeist#	5/29	Colrain	2	M. Lynch#
5/6	Lenox	19	M. Lynch#	6/17	Pelham	3	S. Sutton
5/7	Brookfield	31	M. Lynch#	6/17	Hawley	3	M. Lynch#
5/14	Springfield	20	H. Kingston	6/30	Savoy	4	R. Packard



YOUNG GREAT HORNED OWL YAWNING BY SANDY SELENSKY

ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIRD SIGHTINGS

Taxonomic order is based on AOU checklist, Seventh edition, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, and 46th Supplements, as published in *The Auk* 117: 847-58 (2000); 119:897-906 (2002); 120:923-32 (2003); 121:985-95 (2004); 122:1026-31 (2005).

ABC	Allen Bird Club	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	P.I.	Plum Island
A.Pd	Allens Pond, S. Dartmouth	Pd	Pond
B.	Beach	P'town	Provincetown
Barre FD	Barre Falls Dam, Barre, Rutland	Pont.	Pontoosuc Lake, Lanesboro
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	Res.	Reservoir
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	S. Dart.	South Dartmouth
BMB	Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester	S.B.	South Beach, Chatham
C.B.	Crane Beach, Ipswich	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
CGB	Coast Guard Beach, Eastham	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
Cambr.	Cambridge	TASL	Take A Second Look
CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club	WBWS	Boston Harbor Census
Cumb. Farms	Cumberland Farms, Middleboro	WMWS	Wellfleet Bay WS
DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary	Wompatuck SP	Wachusett Meadow WS
DWMA	Delaney WMA	Worc.	Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, and Norwell Worcester
DWWS	Stow, Bolton, Harvard Daniel Webster WS	Other Abbreviations	
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	ad	adult
EMHW	Eastern Mass. Hawk Watch	alt	alternate
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	b	banded
F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge	br	breeding
F.Pk	Franklin Park, Boston	dk	dark (morph)
G40	Gate 40, Quabbin Res.	f	female
GMNWR	Great Meadows NWR	fl	fledgling
H.	Harbor	imm	immature
H.P.	Halibut Point, Rockport	juv	juvenile
HRWMA	High Ridge WMA, Gardner	lt	light (morph)
I.	Island	m	male
IRWS	Ipswich River WS	max	maximum
L.	Ledge	migr	migrating
M.V.	Martha's Vineyard	n	nesting
MAS	Mass. Audubon Society	ph	photographed
MBWMA	Martin Burns WMA, Newbury	pl	plumage
MNWS	Marblehead Neck WS	pr	pair
MSSF	Myles Standish State Forest, Plymouth	S	summer (1S = 1st summer)
Mt.A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambr.	v.o.	various observers
NAC	Nine Acre Corner, Concord	W	winter (2W = second winter)
Newbypt	Newburyport	yg	young
		#	additional observers

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO BIRD OBSERVER

Sightings for any given month must be reported in writing by the eighth of the following month, and may be submitted by postal mail or e-mail. Send written reports to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 36 Lewis Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474-3206. Include name and phone number of observer, common name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, other observer(s), and information on age, sex, and morph (where relevant). For instructions on e-mail submission, visit: <<http://massbird.org/birdobserver/sightings/>>.

Species on the Review List of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee (indicated by an asterisk [*] in the Bird Reports), as well as species unusual as to place, time, or known nesting status in Massachusetts, should be reported promptly to the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, c/o Marjorie Rines, Massachusetts Audubon Society, South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773, or by e-mail to <marj@mrines.com>.



ABOUT THE COVER

Loggerhead Shrike

The Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) is an awesome predator of the south and west that occasionally wanders into New England. Its alternative common names include “butcherbird” and “thornbird,” both of which refer to the shrike’s habit of impaling prey on thorns or barbed wire. Its hooked beak is superficially like that of a falcon and is adapted to a predatory existence, but unlike most raptorial species, this bird lacks strong feet and claws. The habit of impaling prey while dismembering it is thought to be an adaptation that compensates for this lack of predatorial equipment. The Loggerhead Shrike is a black, gray, and white bird that appears big-headed — “loggerhead” means “blockheaded” — largely gray above and white below with black wings, tail, and broad mask. The tail is edged with white, and the wing has a white slash at the base of the primaries. Juveniles are brownish-gray and finely barred. They share with the Northern Mockingbird a superficially similar color pattern and the habit of perching atop trees or shrubs, but mockingbirds have proportionally smaller heads and longer tails and lack the black mask. The Northern Shrike is similar in appearance to the Loggerhead but is larger and has a pale base to the lower mandible rather than the bill being all black. The Northern Shrike has a narrower mask that does not enclose the entire eye and a finely barred breast. Juvenile Northern Shrikes are browner than Loggerheads. The Loggerhead Shrike is polytypic, with seven to nine subspecies recognized by various taxonomists.

Loggerhead Shrikes have a breeding range that encompasses most of the United States, except for the Northeast and parts of the Midwest and Northwest. They breed in the north into the prairie states of Canada and through much of Mexico. Northern populations are migratory, but most are sedentary. Migratory birds reach as far south in winter as southern Mexico. The population in the Northeast has all but disappeared in the last half century, and in Massachusetts the species is considered a rare migrant and very rare winter resident. There have been no Massachusetts breeding records since 1971.

Loggerhead Shrikes are mostly monogamous, but polygyny has been reported. They occasionally produce a second or even third brood in a single season. They prefer open country with short vegetation, such as orchards, golf courses, pastures bounded by fence rows, and open woodlands. They have a sound repertoire that includes harsh rattles and clicks as well as peeps and musical notes. Both males and females have a territorial song of trills and screeches that are harsh in nature. In territorial disputes males give a bowing display in which they flex their legs horizontal to the body and peck the ground with drooping wings fluttering and dorsal feathers raised. Occasionally fights occur with feet grappling in the air or on the ground and attempted biting. In courtship males feed females and perform a dance similar to the bowing display, accompanied by vocalizations. The pair may also duet in song. Loggerhead Shrikes are aggressive towards other species in foraging areas

and have been reported chasing, for example, kingbirds, mockingbirds, thrashers, and grackles.

The nest site, usually in a small tree or shrub, often with thorns, is chosen by both birds. The female does most of the nest construction, but both collect nesting material. The nest is an open cup of woven twigs, bark, and rootlets, lined with a variety of soft materials including grass, lichens, fur, feathers, and string. The nests may be reused in subsequent years. The clutch is typically five or six buffy gray eggs, spotted mostly at the large end. Only the female incubates, but she is fed by the male. The incubation period is about sixteen days, and the chicks are altricial (helpless, eyes closed, little down). The young hatch asynchronously, and the smallest youngest chick often starves, particularly when food is scarce. This is probably adaptive behavior which allows for the production of large broods in years when food is superabundant. The female broods the young, and the male does all the hunting for the first four or five days, after which both parents hunt and feed the chicks. During the early period the male also removes feces and regurgitated pellets from the nest. Adults will mob, chase, and attack potential nest predators, including magpies, corvids, and hawks. The young fledge in about eighteen days. For about three weeks the parents attend the fledglings and feed them, while the young are learning the skills required for predatory behavior.

Loggerhead Shrikes feed on arthropods such as grasshoppers, small mammals, reptiles, and birds. They are opportunistic foragers and shift their diet to whatever is available. Generally, they eat mostly invertebrates in summer but may change to largely vertebrate prey in winter when insects are less abundant. Loggerhead Shrikes may feed on carrion. They usually hunt from perches such as shrubs and fence posts but sometimes hunt on the ground, hopping along, often with wings raised. They flash white wing patches, a behavior that may serve to startle prey and is similar to the behavior of mockingbirds. They kill vertebrate prey by biting through the spinal cord at the neck with their highly specialized beak. The problem of holding the prey for dismemberment with weak passerine feet is solved by impaling the prey on thorns or barbed wire or by wedging their prey in forks in branches. Despite weak feet, they can carry prey as heavy as their own weight. Shrikes regurgitate pellets of indigestible material such as fur and bones.

European settlement initially benefited the Loggerhead Shrike by converting forest into farmland with trees and shrubs along the fields and pastures, thus creating optimal shrike habitat. In the twentieth century, however, a gradual change to large-scale agriculture with larger fields and fewer tree and shrubs together with reforestation, particularly in the Northeast, precipitated a gradual decline in numbers that continues today. Recent declines correlate with the introduction of organochlorines from the 1940s to the early 1970s and the increased use of organophosphate pesticides. The potential damage with these pesticides is two-fold — the birds are poisoned by eating contaminated prey, and the pesticides reduce the prey populations. Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) and Christmas Bird Count data indicate declines across the species' range. For example, from 1966–1989, BBS data indicated declines, some precipitous, in thirty-seven of forty-three states and provinces. The

species has a high reproductive potential, however, and aggressive management could potentially reverse or stall these startling trends. 🐦

William E. Davis, Jr.

About the Cover Artist: Paul Donahue

Paul Donahue is a bird artist, environmental activist, and tree climber who divides his time between Maine, California, and South America, where he spends a part of most years in the rainforests of the western Amazon Basin. For the past 18 years his time in the neotropics has been concentrated in the rainforest canopy, where he and his wife, Teresa Wood, have constructed two canopy walkways and dozens of canopy observation platforms and taught over two thousand people how to safely climb into the rainforest canopy on ropes. The majority of his artwork is done in acrylics and watercolor, and his favorite subjects are shorebirds, raptors, and tropical birds. He can be reached via email at charadrius@verizon.net. 🐦

USFWS Migratory Bird Conservation Commission Awards

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission has approved \$28.9 million from the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund for 30 conservation projects in 17 U.S. states and 12 Canadian provinces. U.S. partners in 26 projects will add nearly \$130 million, including more than \$55 million in obligated match, to restore more than 209,000 acres of wetlands and associated uplands. Partners in four Canadian projects will add more than \$7.5 million to improve more than 24,000 acres of habitat.

The Commission also earmarked more than \$6.5 million and approved the acquisition of fee title and conservation easements for 4253 additional acres of habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System. New refuge acquisitions, all previously approved by the Service and each of the states, include:

Maine: Acquisition of 219 acres to provide nesting and waterfowl habitat at Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Penobscot County.

Massachusetts/Vermont: Acquisition of 107 acres to provide habitat for waterfowl at Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge — Mill River Division — in Hampshire County, Massachusetts, and 76 acres for Nulhegan Basin Division in Essex County, Vermont.

New Hampshire: Acquisition of 392 acres to protect waterfowl habitat at Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge in Coos County.

A fact sheet containing summary information about the approved NAWCA projects is available at

<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Standard/files/2006_Sept_StandardGrantSummaryTable.pdf> and brief descriptions of U.S. projects are available at <<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Standard/US/ApprovProj.shtm>>.

AT A GLANCE

August 2006



DAVID LARSON


Because August is a premiere month for shorebird migration, the August mystery bird should rightfully be a shorebird. To readers unfamiliar with shorebird terminology, in North America shorebird collectively refers to a number of species in approximately half a dozen families. The two most important families are *Charadriidae* (plovers) and *Scolopacidae* (sandpipers and their allies). Distinguishing members of these two families is straightforward. Plovers typically exhibit short, blunt-tipped bills; chunky, full-chested bodies; angular-shaped heads; and large eyes in proportion to their head size. Plovers are often either strikingly dark-banded or extensively black on their underparts when in alternate (breeding) plumage (e.g., Black-bellied Plover). Sandpipers, many of which do not bear the name sandpiper (e.g., Whimbrel, Red Knot, Short-billed Dowitcher), possess thin, tapered bills that may be upturned, straight, or decurved. They have slimmer body proportions and longer necks than plovers, rounded heads, relatively small eyes in proportion to head size, and, often, vertical streaking on their underparts.

If one keeps these distinctions in mind, it is obvious that the shorebird in the picture is in the sandpiper family. Since the bird is standing in the water yet still reveals much of its upper legs (tibia), it is a relatively long-legged species. Additionally, what can be seen of the bird's upper legs suggests that they are light

(yellowish?) in color. Also, the slim bill is very long in proportion to the head, which appears small, rounded, and clearly marked by a distinct white supercilium over the eye.

The light-colored legs; long, fine-tipped bill; and distinct supercilium above the eye are important clues. However, since there are several species that exhibit variations of these characteristics, all must be considered carefully before making a correct identification. One possibility would be Lesser Yellowlegs. A yellowlegs, however, would not have the obvious and extensive pale supercilium shown by the bird in the picture; also, yellowlegs are usually more spotted on the back, and their bills do not usually appear as long in proportion to the depth of their head (measured as a vector from the base of the bill to the back of the head). Subtler is the more evenly rounded head shape of the yellowlegs, not the slight bulge in the rear shown by the mystery bird. Another similar bird, the Short-billed Dowitcher, would have a noticeably longer, more blunt-tipped bill and would be shorter-legged and chunkier overall.

This leaves only Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*) as a possibility. The long, slender, pointed-tipped bill; conspicuous and extensive supercilium; long, pale legs; and somewhat puffy appearance at the back of the head are all features typical of Stilt Sandpipers. The pictured individual is an adult changing from alternate (breeding) into basic (non-breeding) plumage. The change is indicated by the mixture of plain-gray in-coming basic feathering with the darker, light-spotted out-going feathering of the alternate (breeding) plumage. The slight downward curvature of the bill is less obvious in the mystery photograph than often appears in this species. This is because the bill is slightly open at the tip, a feat made possible by the flexible, rhynokinetic tip characteristic of a number of long-billed shorebird species.

In Massachusetts Stilt Sandpipers are relatively uncommon and decidedly local late summer and early fall migrants. Unlike many shorebirds, they often prefer to feed in standing fresh water, such as the impoundments at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island. They are very rare in spring and are seldom encountered on open tidal flats along the coast. David Larson obtained this digital image of an adult Stilt Sandpiper at the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. 

Wayne R. Petersen

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AT A GLANCE



DAVID LARSON

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Identification will be discussed in next issue's AT A GLANCE.



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