



For the third consecutive year, a male Lawrence's Warbler occupied a territory in May 2006 and later (here 15 June) at Lac-Brome, Knowlton, Québec. Photograph by Pierre Bannon.

Brisson). A Saffron Finch attended a feeder at Saint-Ambroise, Saguenay 8-19 May (ph. G. Tremblay)

Addendum: A Tufted Titmouse at L'Anse-à-Beaufils 20 Jan 2006 provided the 2nd record for the Gaspé Pen (R. Côté).

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New England



Simon Perkins

The contrast in weather between March/April and May was stark. The first two months were very dry, with March in Massachusetts ranking as the third driest in 112 years of records. Then came May—which in Massachusetts ranked as the second *wettest* ever! Virtually all of the rain came courtesy of a series of coastal storms that bore an uncanny resemblance to the series of storms in spring 2005. To quote the great Yogi Berra: “It’s déjà vu all over again.” The rain peaked with a four-day barrage in the middle of the month that produced a staggering 54 cm in certain communities in northeastern Massachusetts. Predictably, record flooding occurred across wide areas in

northeastern Massachusetts, eastern New Hampshire, and southeastern Maine. Governors declared states of emergency, the National Guard was deployed to assist local residents, and entire towns were evacuated.

However, the water appeared to affect humans more than most birds. Last year’s storms had more significant impacts on nesting species because the brunt of the weather came later in the month, when nesting was well underway. The birds that took the hardest hits were seabirds, many of which were cast against the coast and beyond by the incessant easterly gales. Indeed the break between systems during the middle week of May was so brief that the series of storms is referred to below simply as the Storm. With one striking, localized exception (on 5 May, prior to the onset of heavy weather), May migrants had no choice but to “pick their spots” and move during the few breaks in the weather: land-bird migration was thus very slow indeed. Shorebirds, on the other hand, were conspicuous, rarities plentiful, and early arrivals prevalent—all over again.

Abbreviations: Monomoy (Monomoy N.W.R., Chatham, MA); M.V. (Martha’s Vineyard, Dukes, MA); Monhegan I. (Lincoln, ME); P.I. (Plum I., Essex, MA, including Parker River N.W.R.); Quabbin (Quabbin Res., cen. MA).

WATERFOWL THROUGH FRIGATEBIRD

Eight Tundra Swans reported Regionwide in-

cluded 6 in Massachusetts and 2 in Rhode Island. The Region’s 9 Greater White-fronted Geese, a total that has become more or less



This male Black-necked Stilt, one of two in New England this spring, delighted birders during its eight-day stay in East Boston, Massachusetts 1-8 (here 3) April 2006. Photograph by John Crook.

expected in recent years, included 4 each in Massachusetts and Connecticut and one in n. Maine at Fort Fairfield 2 Apr (ph. BS). A Cackling Goose discovered on the Plymouth, MA C.B.C. remained there at least through 21 Mar (TLE et al.), and 2 were reported from Connecticut, both also in Mar (*vide* GH). In Connecticut, a Barnacle Goose visited Southbury 15-28 Mar (C. Harrison). Seven

Table 1. Selected reports of seabirds from New England, May 2006.

DATE:	MAY 13				MAY 14				MAY 15			MAY 16	MAY 17
STATE:	ME	NH	MA	RI	NH	MA	PI	NH	MA	RI	ME	MA	MA
Species / Location			Cape Cod	AP		Cape Cod	AP	PI		Cape Cod	PI		
unidentified albatross						1 (SN)							
Manx Shearwater				15 1 (J)		5 (CB)	5						
Unidentified small black-and-white shearwater										1 (CB)			
Wilson's Storm-Petrel			5 (P't)	1		2 (CB)	2						
Leach's Storm-Petrel			1 (P't)	2		1 (SN)	9						
Northern Gannet			850 (CB)	714		2850 (CB)	485						
Magnificent Frigatebird			1 ad. female (E)										
Red-necked Phalarope		1 (R)	261 (CB)	1	7 (R)	100 (SN)	386	10 (C)	63 (CB)		6 (SC)		75 (P't)
Red Phalarope	1 (SC)		74 (P't)	2		85 (CB); 150 (SN)	1		38 (CB)	1 (BI)	1 (SC)		
unidentified phalarope						21 (CB)			23 (CB)				
Pomarine Jaeger				4 ads.		3 (CB); 2 (SN)	1 ad.		2 ads. (CB)				
Parasitic Jaeger			16 (CB)	17 ad		30 (CB)	1 ad.		16 (CB)	1 (BI)			
Long-tailed Jaeger						1 (E); 1 (CB)	1 ad.						
unidentified jaeger						11 (CB)							
Sabine's Gull						1 ad. (CB)							
Black-legged Kittiwake			1 (CB)	22		7 (CB)	8						
Arctic Tern							75 ads. 320		130 (CB)	65			1 ad. (PI)
Common/Arctic Tern						1200 (CB)							
Common Murre				1			1						

KEY: Locality abbreviations (observers in parentheses)

CB- Corporation Beach, Dennis (BN, P. Flood, G. d'Entremont)

R- Rye (SM)

E- Eastham (BN, A. Rudkin et al.)

SC- southern coast, various localities (DL, E. Hess, D. Reimer)

AP- Andrew's Point, Rockport (C. Caron, RSH, SM)

J- Jamestown (R. Emerson)

SN- Sandy Neck, Barnstable (G. Hirth)

BI- Block I. (S. Tsagarakis)

PI- Plum I., Essex (RSH, T. Wetmore)

Maximum counts in **boldface**

C- various coastal localities (SM)

P't- Provincetown (BN)



Stilt and Western Sandpipers follow roughly similar spring migration routes, which take them in a north-northwesterly direction across the continent, mostly bypassing New England altogether. Hence, these two species are very unusual in spring in New England and even more rarely photographed. The Stilt Sandpiper (left), one of three at the site, was in Weekapaug, Rhode Island 23 May 2006; the Western Sandpiper was in Charlestown, Rhode Island 30 April 2006.

Photographs by Richard Ferren (Stilt) and Paul L'Etoile (Western).

Eurasian Wigeons were reported from Massachusetts, an average total. A high count of 225 Northern Pintails at PI. 20 Mar was probably comprised mostly of winterers; another noteworthy pintail count of 175 came from the Dead Creek W.M.A., Addison, VT 21 Mar (TGM). Eurasian Teal reports came from Machias, ME (EJR et al.), Connecticut (2),

and Massachusetts. A Eurasian Teal × Green-winged Teal intergrade was described from Tiverton, RI, while a Mallard × Northern Shoveler hybrid and a Common Goldeneye × Hooded Merganser hybrid were both in East Machias (ph. EJR et al.).

Wintering Redheads persisted into spring: 8 of the 9 that were at Scarborough, ME in

Feb remained until 8 Mar, and one was at Biddeford, ME 19 Mar–11 Apr. In Massachusetts, migrants found n. of traditional winter quarters included 14 in Concord and 10 in Randolph, and reports from Vermont included 8 in S. Hero 7 Mar and 10 in Ferrisburgh 18 Mar (TGM). The only Tufted Duck report referred to 2 (a male and a female, “behaving like a pair”) at S. Hero, VT 7–21 Mar (TGM et al.); seen on this same stretch of L. Champlain 21 Mar were roughly 1700 scaup, the majority of which were Greater Scaup (TGM et al.). Very rare on L. Champlain, VT, were a male King Eider at South Hero 5 Mar (A. Strong, TGM) and a male Harlequin Duck in Charlotte 12 Mar (TGM). High inland counts of migrant seaducks included 585 White-winged Scoters, 3 Surf Scoters, and 12 Long-tailed Ducks on the Connecticut Lakes, Pittsburg, NH 21 May, and among these flocks were 8 Common Eiders (MH), the largest number ever recorded inland in the Region. This species is very rare anywhere away from the coast—and rarer even than King Eider except on L. Champlain. Also at the Connecti-

SA elation surrounding the discovery of a **White-tailed Hawk** in Hadley, MA 22-24 Apr (S. Sumner et al.) was tempered by examination of photographs, which showed that the bird had damaged remiges, apparently typical of damage often sustained by captive birds. The next day, 25 Apr, another White-tailed was reported from the Great Swamp N.W.R., NJ. Two days later, 27 Apr, another was reported at the Pilgrim Heights hawkwatch in Truro, MA (VL, DM). Could a single bird have accounted for all three sightings within a mere five-day span? This seems most unlikely. See the S. A. item in the Hudson-Delaware Regional report for more discussion.



This apparent Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser hybrid was present in East Machias, Maine 1-18 (here 11) March 2006. Photographs by Barry Southard (single bird) and E. J. Raynor (flock).



cut Lakes were 200 White-winged Scoters and 500 unidentified scoters seen migrating northward late in the day on 24 May (MH). Other significant seaduck fallouts included large mixed flocks of scoters and 30 Long-tailed Ducks in Aroostook, ME 18-19 May (BS), and 100+ unidentified scoters in Hudson, Penobscot, ME 30 Apr (BD). A minimum of 6 Barrow's Goldeneyes at S. Hero on L. Champlain 7-21 Mar included 5 together 21 Mar (TGM), the highest count in the Region.

Two reports of Pacific Loon at Race Point in Provincetown, MA 12 Mar (J. Hoye) and 23 Apr (BN) may pertain to the same individual. Race Point is currently the most reliable spot in New England for the species. A Pacific Loon in breeding plumage was present at Biddeford, ME 23 May (DL). The remarkable Eared Grebe that spent its 11th winter in Gloucester, MA remained at least through 25 Mar (B.O.). Like most other freshwater marsh species in the Region, Pied-billed Grebe is in decline, and nesting confirmation is increasingly rare. A pair that included an ad. sitting on a nest at the Great Meadows N.W.R. in Concord, MA 15 May (DAS) furnished the most recent breeding record. Unfortunately, the nest and any clutch it might have contained became a flood casualty.

The two most unusual seabirds of the season, whatever they were, were both left unidentified to species. An albatross made a pass off Sandy Neck in Barnstable, MA during the Storm 14 May (G. Hirth), and the next day, a small black-and-white shearwater, first thought to be an alcid, flew by Corporation Beach in Dennis, MA. The observer, a seasoned salt with over 40 years of seawatching

under the belt, felt "pretty certain" that it was a Little Shearwater (BN), but, alas, the bird never approached close enough to allow him to pull the proverbial trigger on what would have been the Region's first and one of very few anywhere in North America. Overall, the total numbers of seabirds recorded during the Storm paled in comparison to those recorded during the storms in May 2005, no doubt because of this year's storm's earlier occurrence, but the species composition and geographical distribution were remarkably similar. As was the case last year, Massachusetts had most of



During its stay, 9-18 (here 18) May 2006, this King Rail at Concord, Massachusetts was forced to the margins of the marsh by floodwaters and soon became habituated to the presence of its many human admirers. Photograph by Shawn Carey.

the records; only smatterings of pelagic species (except for phalaropes; see S.A. item) were reported from neighboring states.

An American White Pelican put in a brief appearance in East Machias, ME 23 May (vt. G. Kraus, *vide* N. Famous) and then took a tour of the Maritime provinces. Three reports

of **Magnificent Frigatebird** included at least 2 different individuals: an ad. female in Eastham, MA 17 May (A. Rudkin et al.), and it (or another) ad. female was found in Casco Bay, ME 20 May (M. Martinkovic, J. Lamb), just 40 minutes before an ad. male was reported at Cape Elizabeth, ME (C. James). Reports of the species thus spanned the length of the Atlantic Seaboard this season.

EGRETS THROUGH RAPTORS

A possible **Snowy Egret** x **Little Egret** hybrid, probably the same individual that was found at Nantucket last May, reappeared there 18 May and remained into summer (ph. E. Ray et al.). At one point, it was seen entering a Snowy Egret colony. A **White Ibis** made a brief showing at Chappaquiddick I. in Edgartown, M.V. 17 Mar (D. Carter), and another or the same individual was found in Scituate, MA 1 Apr (C. Nims). Black Vultures were found in all six New England states: 25+ in Massachusetts, 4 in Rhode Island, 2 in Maine (n. to Bangor), 2 in Vermont, and one in New Hampshire. State compilers in Connecticut, where totals now probably reach triple digits every year, no longer tally the reports.

A **Swallow-tailed Kite** made a typical fleet-ing visit to Deep River, CT 28 Apr (J. Wilder), another put in a brief appearance in Wellfleet, MA 20 May (Eric Olsen et al.). On 29 May, a **Mississippi Kite** flew by the Pilgrim Heights hawkwatch in N. Truro, MA (D. Manchester), a locality that has become known as the most reliable kite site n. of Cape May, NJ. A late **Rough-legged Hawk** was noted in Worcester, MA 7 May (ML), and an equally late (especially for an ad.) **Golden Eagle** passed over Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, MA 6 May (LP et al.); at least 5 were reported from Maine (*vide* JD). Four **Gyr Falcon** reports included a gray morph in S. Hero, VT 7 Mar (TGM) and single dark birds in Nahant, MA 10 & 15 Mar (LP) and at P.I. 14 Mar (B. Secatore), the latter about 40 km from Nahant.

CRANES THROUGH ALCIDS

A total of at least 16 **Sandhill Cranes** included 4 in Maine, 3 in New Hampshire (including one back in Monroe for the 8th consecutive spring; *vide* PH), 2 in Connecticut, one in Massachusetts, and 6 on the Massachusetts/Connecticut border. Two of these latter birds, both ads., remained together in New Marlboro, MA through season and later (S Mullen). With Sandhills now nesting annually in New York and Maine, will this be the next New England nesting site? A glance at

this rural section of the state with Google Earth (an excellent new tool for this sort of prognosticating) reveals ample areas of relatively remote, open, seemingly suitable wetland.

An above-average spring total of 5 American Golden-Plovers included 2 in Maine, 2 together in Rhode Island, and one rather early at Monomoy N.W.R., Chatham, MA 11-20 Apr (BH). Also somewhat early were a Semipalmated Plover in Machias, ME 17 Mar (BD), a Least Sandpiper in Sanford, ME 1 Apr (DL), and an Upland Sandpiper at Monomoy 10 Apr (BH). A remarkably hardy Marbled



This Golden-crowned Sparrow made a one-day stop at a feeder in Sturbridge, Massachusetts 26 April 2006. Photograph by Bruce deGraff.

Godwit that was first found on the local C.B.C. was last seen at Monomoy 8 Mar (C. Longworth); the same or another was there 16 Apr (BH). Both an American Avocet in S. Kingston, RI 20-24 May (T. McLeish) and a Black-necked Stilt in Westport, CT 13 May (FM) may have been dragged up the coast by the Storm. Another Black-necked Stilt was in East Boston, MA 1-8 Apr (L. Ferraresso et al.,



This Fork-tailed Flycatcher in Saco, Maine 6-8 (here 6) May 2006 appeared in a habitat that produces many vagrants in the East: a beach. Photograph by Suzanne Sanborn.

ph.). Stilt Sandpiper occurs less than annually in the Region in spring, the records usually involving one or 2 individuals, so 5 was an above-average count. Singles were in S. Thomaston, ME (M. Libby) and Scarborough, ME (ph. EH), both 30 May, and 3 were found together in Weekapaug, RI 23 May (ph. R. Ferren). Like Stilt Sandpipers and Long-billed Dowitchers, Western Sandpipers moving

SA Among the various species of shorebirds and seabirds (Table 2) that appeared inland during the Storm, phalaropes occurred in the greatest numbers—many more than during last year's wreck—and over the widest area, despite the fact that last year's storms were more intense. The farthest-flung phalaropes were in central Vermont; thus the lack of reports from L. Champlain was surprising. Below is a summary of the inland phalaropes by state.

Vermont

One Red and one Red-necked on an oxbow of the Conn. R. in Newbury, Orange 14-16 May (J. McQueen); 3 Red at Kent Pond, Killington, Rutland 18-20 May (ph. R. Renfrew). According to the latter report, a "local birder" reported seeing 18 "during the previous week."

New Hampshire

Up to 11 Red-necked at Pondicherry N.W.R. in Jefferson 12-15 May (D. Govatski); 17 Red-necked in nearby Whitefield 14 May (C. & L. Vendt); one Red-necked in Laconia 13 May (fide M. Suomala); 3 Red in Concord 14 May (R. Woodward); one Red and one Red-necked in Dorchester 14 May (P. Benham); one Red in Bow 14 May (I. Macleod); one Red in Gilford 15 May (D. Austin); and 2 Red and 2 Red-necked on L. Winnepesaukee, Gilford 15 May (A. LaVin)

Maine

Two Red in Monmouth, Kennebec 13 May (S. DeOrsey).

Massachusetts

Seven Red in Concord 12 May (S. Jaffe et al.); 11 Red at the Wachusett Res., Boylston/Sterling (TP); one Red-necked in Bolton 13 May (S. Sutton); 4 Red and 8 Red-necked in Brookline 14 May (RM); 3 Red-necked in Haverill (on the Merrimac R., roughly 16 km from the mouth) 14 May (D. Larson); 70 Red-necked in Haverill 14-16 May (RSH et al.); one Red in Bolton 15 May (TP).

Connecticut

The only phalaropes reported from Connecticut were inland: one Red (first state record in 15 years) in Hamden 13 May (F. McBride), one Red in Canton 16 May (J. Meyers), and one Red and one Red-necked in Killingly 16 May (MS).

Table 2. Selected records of shorebirds and seabirds, other than phalaropes, recorded at inland locations in New England 13-16 May 2006.

DATE	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16
Species / Number and Location				
Black-bellied Plover	5 (WR); 7 (NAC)		1 (BF)	
Semipalmated Plover	2 (WR)		2 (BF)	
Greater Yellowlegs		19 (NAC)		
Lesser Yellowlegs		8 (BF)		
Least Sandpiper		30 (NAC)		
Dunlin			2 (BF)	
Laughing Gull	2 (NAC)			1 ad. (NAC)
Bonaparte's Gull		40 (H)		
Black-legged Kittiwake		3 (CHR)		
Caspian Tern	1 (Q); 2 (WR)	2 (WR)	2 (GM)	
Arctic Tern	1 (CR)	1 (P)	5 (H); 3 (HP)	

KEY: Locality abbreviations (observers in parentheses)

- BF- Bolton Flats, Bolton, MA (S. Sutton, ML)
- CHR- Chestnut Hill Reservoir, Brookline, MA (RM)
- CR- Cambridge Res., Waltham, MA (JH)
- GM- Great Meadows NWR, Concord, MA (RM)
- H- Haverill, MA on Merrimac R. ~10 miles from mouth (D. Larson)
- HP- Heard's Pond, Wayland, MA (JH)
- NAC- Nine-Acre-Corner, Concord, MA (TP, SP)
- P- Pondicherry NWR, Jefferson, NH (D. Govatski)
- Q- Quabbin Reservoir in central MA (ML)
- WR- Wachusett Reservoir, Boylston/Sterling, MA (TP et al.)



This adult male and juvenile Red Crossbill in Montague, Massachusetts 26 May 2006, members of a group of two adults and at least nine juveniles, provided strong circumstantial evidence of local breeding. Photograph by James Smith.

northbound along the East Coast in spring typically turn inland toward their Canadian breeding grounds well before they reach New England and hence are also less than annually reported in the Region in spring. One in Charlestown, RI 30 Apr was beautifully photographed (ph. P. L'Etoile).

No Ruff was reported in Newburyport, MA this year; a Reeve in S. Kingston, RI 12 Apr (D. Finizia) was the only one reported in the Region. A Curlew Sandpiper brightened the beach at Monomoy 27-30 May (BH). Four reports of Wilson's Phalarope from s. Maine culminated with a male and 2 females in Scarborough 31 May (ph. EH); a few isolated breeding pairs nest each year in the ecologically similar marshes at P.I.

As in May 2005, easterly winds brought Long-tailed Jaeger, Sabine's Gull, and Arctic Tern to the coast (Table 1), species that typically pass far offshore during spring migration. A second-summer Franklin's Gull was in Newburyport Harbor, MA 23 May (RRV). Fifteen Black-headed Gulls (8 in Massachusetts, 7 in Connecticut) represented an above-average total by recent standards. Migrant Caspian Terns made a very strong showing. A minimum of 31 (a few of which are cited in Table 2) included 14 in Massachusetts, 12 in Rhode Island, 4 in Vermont, and one in Maine. The bird in Maine, at Machias 16 Apr (EJR), was also the earliest. Twenty-five Dovekies and 12 Common Murres in Rhode Island waters between Cox's Ledge and Block I. Sound 11 Mar (*vide* RF) represented high seasonal counts for those species, though Common Murre numbers, especially in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, have increased dramatically in recent years.

CUCKOOS THROUGH WARBLERS

A Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Orono, ME 22 Apr (S. Smith) was somewhat early, as was one at Nantucket, MA 25 Apr (ER). One of several wintering Snowy Owls at P.I. remained at least

through 14 May (B.O.). *Selasphorus* hummingbirds were reported twice: one that first appeared at a feeder in W. Warwick, RI 20 Nov 2005 survived the winter and was last seen 20 Apr (C. Simas et al., ph. G. Dennis); an ad. male *Selasphorus* in Orange, MA 22-27 Apr (A. & D. McLeod et al., ph. R. Scherer) was not identified to species. Two reports of early *Myiarchus* flycatchers included one in Falmouth, MA 2 Apr (ML) and Portland, ME 7 Apr (*vide* JD), the latter undetailed but reported as a Great Crested. Two Scissor-tailed

Flycatchers graced the Region, one in Boothbay, ME 24 Apr (N. Bither) and the other at



This possible Snowy Egret × Little Egret hybrid, possessing characteristics of both Snowy (short, bushy nape plumes) and Little Egret (two, long nape plumes), was present at Nantucket 21 May 2006 (here) through most of the summer. A similar bird, almost certainly this individual, visited the same marshes in spring 2005. Photographs by Edie Ray.

Block I., RI 11 May (S. Comings). A Fork-tailed Flycatcher in Saco, ME 6-8 May stayed long enough to be photographed (R. Lambert, ph. S. Sanborn).

Two Fish Crows in Bangor, ME 14 Apr (S. Smith) were well n. of the species' usual state outposts along the s. coast, and several returned again to Burlington, VT, where the northernmost nesters have been recorded since 1998. Early Barn Swallows were widespread. The first was in Essex, CT 16 Mar (J. Restivo), 3 were in Falmouth, MA 25 Mar (P. Morlock), 2 more followed in Truro, MA 31 Mar (DM), and another 2, also 31 Mar, made it to Falmouth, ME (L. Seitz). Three of 4 Boreal Chickadees that reached Massachusetts as part of the winter incursion stayed in spring, with their latest dates being 4 Mar in Plympton, 24 Mar in Rowley, 26 Mar in Orange, and 10 Apr in N. Brookfield. A count of 50+ migrating Red-breasted Nuthatches in Truro, MA 5 May (DM) was noteworthy for a non-irruption year, and a big push of kinglets at P.I. 11 Apr included 192 Golden-crowneds and 17 Ruby-crowneds (RSH).

Northern Wheatear is much rarer in the Region in spring than in fall, so the presence of 2 two days apart was especially exciting. The first was doubly unusual, being well in-

land in W. Greenwich, RI 28 May (D. Cooper), and the other was at Nantucket 30-31 May (ph. ER et al.). A wintering Varied Thrush in Edgartown, MA remained at a feeder until 14 Apr (P. Spencer et al.), and another appeared at a feeder in New Hartford, CT 1 Mar-1 Apr (P. Anderhegger).

The stormy weather that prevailed for much of May made for extremely poor passerine migration that month, as was true over e Canada as well. One window opened during warm, clear weather on 5 May, which saw a heavy flight of Yellow-rumped Warblers. The jackpot came in Hingham, MA where observers were overwhelmed by the task of trying to estimate the numbers but figured minimally 1000 Yellow-rumped, with the actual total possibly being two or three times that

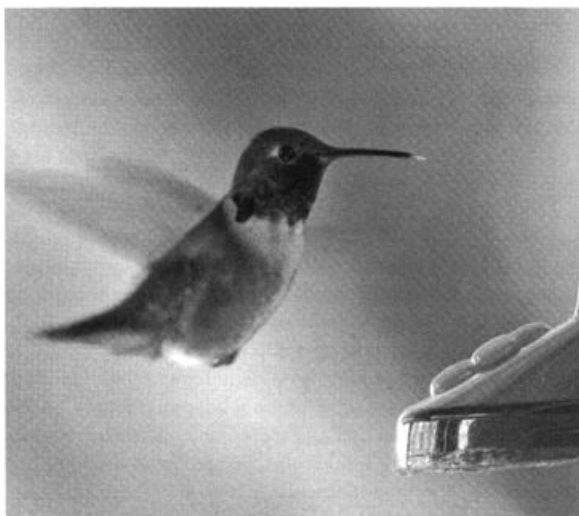


number (H. Cross, P. Fitzgerald et al.); 15 Blue-winged and 75 Black-and-white Warblers were there as well, also top Regional counts this season. Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA was relatively quiet that day (e.g., 40 Yellow-rumped), but a few other sites produced fairly high counts: 100 Yellow-rumped at Block I., RI (*vide* RF); 10



This male Northern Wheatear at Nantucket, Massachusetts 30-31 (here 30) May 2006 was a very rare find anywhere south of Canada in spring. Another wheatear in interior Rhode Island was more remarkable still. Photograph by Edie Ray.

Nashvilles, 16 Northern Parulas, 13 Black-throated Greens, 60 Yellow-rumped, and 31 Black-and-whites at Cape Ann, Essex, MA (RSH); 14 Northern Parulas, 80 Yellow-rumped, 20 Black-throated Greens, and 22 Black-and-white Warblers at P.I. (B. O.); and



This adult male *Selasphorus* hummingbird in Orange, Massachusetts 22-27 (here 26) April 2006 was either a fairly typical Allen's or a very green-backed Rufous. Photograph by Rachael Scherer.

14 Northern Parulas, 8 Black-throated Blues, 75 Yellow-rumpeds (245 there 6 May), 21 Black-throated Greens, and 23 Black-and-whites in Medford, MA (MR). Judging by the lack of reports elsewhere within the Region—with the exception of Block I. and the mention of 15 species of warblers in Portland, ME—it appears that the 5 May fallout was restricted almost entirely to points on or fairly close to the Massachusetts coast. A big wave of Palm Warblers 27 Apr included a very high count of 125 at P.I. (S. Grinley), but this event was apparently also highly localized: other maxima on or about 27 Apr included 28 in Ipswich, MA the day after and 30 in Medford, MA the day before. American Redstarts came in with a bang 24 May, when 100+ were tallied at P.I. (S. Miller). The discovery of a pair of Louisiana Waterthrushes feeding young in Hallowell, *Kennebec*, ME 26 May represented a breeding range extension of roughly 30 km to the northeast (J. Wells). Northernmost among the “southern” warblers was a Hooded at Monhegan I., *Lincoln*, ME 30 May (B. Boynton).

TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

A male Scarlet Tanager in Edgartown, MA 20 Mar shattered the previous arrival record in Massachusetts (8 Apr 1958) by nearly three weeks! The total of 7 Summer Tanagers in Maine exceeded the Massachusetts total by one. Most noteworthy among those in the Bay State were 2 far inland that visited the same feeder in Sheffield 10-17 May, in the southwesternmost corner of the state (ph. B. Friedman). One of the 3 Western Tanagers that spent parts of the winter in Maine remained in Machias until 9 Mar (EJR). Six Clay-colored Sparrows included 4 in Maine, one in

Rhode I., and one in Massachusetts. A well-described Lincoln's Sparrow in Berlin, MA 14 Apr (SS) was very early. What in the world was an ad. male Lark Bunting doing in a Bangor, ME *spruce bog* 28 May (J. Markowsky et al.)? This species is not annual in the Region, and when it does occur, it almost always appears in fall near the coast. This carefully studied and well-described bird was singing and even responded to a tape by teeing up on a spruce less than 20 feet from four amazed bird-a-thoners. A Seaside Sparrow was gently pushing the geographic envelope in Yarmouth, *Cumberland*, ME 7-10 Apr (vt. DL). A Golden-crowned Sparrow

made a far-too-brief visit to a feeder in Sturbridge, MA 26 Apr (B. Courmier et al., ph. B. deGraff), but, luckily, at least two photographers secured excellent digital images. Each spring, so-called “overshooting” Blue Grosbeaks reach Maine, where they are found most consistently at Monhegan Island. One was there this season “some time during the



One of three *Selasphorus* hummingbirds present in Rhode Island in autumn 2006 survived the winter in West Warwick and remained at least through 20 April (here 5 March) 2006. Photograph by Geoff Dennis.

period 27-29 May” (K. Lindquist et al.). While single Indigo Buntings in Westport, MA 8 Apr (W. & M. Bender) and Shutesbury, MA 15 Apr (K. Weir) were decidedly early, they were trumped by 2 even earlier individuals, one in Old Lyme, CT 24-30 Mar (ph. D. Johnson) and another at P.I. 28 Mar (RSH). Dickcissels numbered 2 in Maine, 2 in Massachusetts, and one in New Hampshire.

The Regional total of 5 Yellow-headed

Blackbirds was well above average for spring: a male in Somers, CT 8 Mar (J. Collins); a female in W. Bridgewater 12 Mar-19 Apr (R. Finch et al.); an ad. male at Quabbin 1 Apr (ML); a female in Windsor, CT 28 Apr-2 May (J. Wojtanowski); and an imm. male in Chatham, MA (P. Bailey et al.). Up to 9 Red Crossbills in the pine barrens of Plymouth, MA 15 Apr-21 May (J. Trimble, E. Nielsen)



Among many phalaropes that appeared in inland New England during and immediately after a series of coastal storms in May 2006, those found farthest from the sea were in central Vermont at Killington, where three Reds spent 18-20 (here 19) May. Photograph by Peter Manship.

raised suspicions of nesting, but an ad. pair of Red Crossbills with approximately 9 juvs. in Montague, MA 26 May (ph. J. Smith et al.) left little doubt that the species bred somewhere locally. Likewise, the discovery of an ad. female White-winged Crossbill with 5 juvs. in Windsor, MA 13 May (P. Steinman) provided circumstantial evidence of the 2nd state breeding record. One or 2 lone female White-wingeds visited the same feeder in E. Providence, RI 13-14 Apr and again on 5-6 May (J. Sullivan). Two European Goldfinches brightened feeders in Maine and Massachusetts: one or 2 on Nantucket 16 Apr and 15 May (ph. P. & J. Goodwin) and one at East Blue Hill, *Hancock*, ME in “late Apr” (L. Gierasch).

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