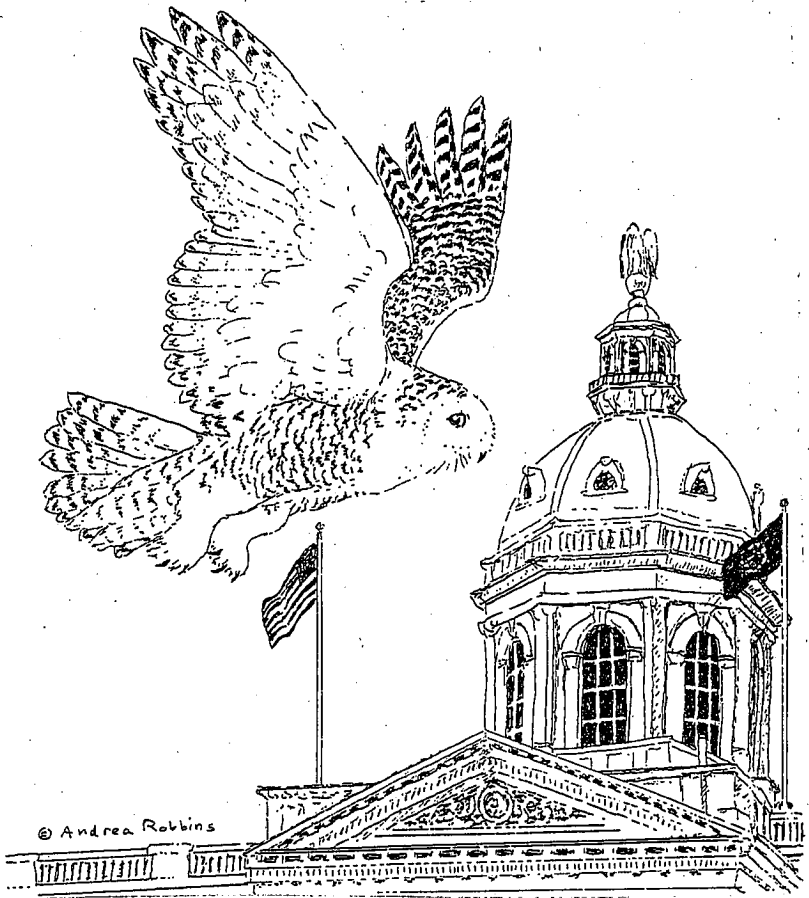


New Hampshire Bird Records

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WINTER 1992-93

Volume 11, No. 4

From the Editor

Welcome to another issue of *NH Bird Records*. We continue to make steady progress in publication, this being the fourth issue to come out in five months. We have the next three issues lined up for publication and we'll be working to get them out as fast as we can.

Thanks to Andrea Robbins for a wonderfully appropriate cover illustration of a Snowy Owl flying by the State House in Concord. In addition to being the Winter Editor, Andrea is an accomplished artist who recently received an award from the Currier Gallery and has been featured in several newspapers. She has exhibited in juried shows and placed 8th in the NH Duck Stamp competition. Her work has appeared in many ASNH publications and we are delighted to feature her piece on the cover of *NH Bird Records*.

Welcome to our new subscribers and thank you all for your support. Subscriptions continue to trickle in and we would like to encourage all of you to spread the word about *NH Bird Records*. New subscribers will still receive all issues that are published during the subscription year, so it's never too late to subscribe. If you think a complimentary issue would help entice someone, please let me know and I will send them one.

We still haven't heard from some long-time, former recipients and we'd like to get out friendly reminders to them to subscribe. If you know someone who used to receive the publication as a member benefit, please pass the word that we're still hoping they will subscribe. I would also like to hear if there is any special reason they are reluctant to subscribe.

A very special thank you to those who contributed over and above the cost of the subscription. This kind of support is very important and so much appreciated.

Rebecca W. Suomala
Managing Editor

Standard Abbreviations Used

ASNH	Audubon Society of New Hampshire	R.	River
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	Rd.	Road
CA	Conservation Area	Rt.	Route
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	St. Pk.	State Park
CBC-CW	Christmas Bird Count, count week	SPNHF	Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Concord Center
LPC	Loon Preservation Committee	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
NHBR	<i>NH Bird Records</i>	WMNF	White Mountain National Forest
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge	WS	ASNH Wildlife Sanctuary



Winter Season

December 1, 1992 – February 28, 1993

Volume 11, Number 4

The winter of 1992-93 was one of ups and downs in bird numbers and especially in the weather.

During December temperatures in northern New England averaged 2° to 2.5° above normal, while half the normal precipitation fell. A cloudy start to the month quickly turned to snow and rain, followed by cold Arctic air on December 5. Temperatures then fluctuated between 0° and 30° until six days later, when a major Nor'easter brought heavy snows and coastal flooding through December 12. As much as two feet of snow fell in southern New Hampshire amidst blizzard conditions that created six- to-10-foot drifts. Coastal Connecticut and Massachusetts were declared federal disaster areas because of storm damage. Just prior to this storm, a Green-tailed Towhee turned up at a feeder in Keene (see the Sparrow section for more on this first state record). Killdeer and Black Guillemot were among the interesting species found at the coast in the storm's wake. The remainder of December was typically wintery, with only one short period of highs near 50° and dense fog just after mid-month.

Temperatures were above normal as 1993 began, and January averaged 2.7° above normal, the fourth above-normal January of the last five in New England. High temperature records were broken on January 5, and the mercury reached the 50°'s on January 24. This was the driest January since 1989 (79% of norm).

Normally warmer than January, February was 8.5° colder this year, making this the fifth largest drop in average temperature from the first to second month in the last 99 years—and the third-coldest February on record. Also, above normal amounts of snowfall helped make it the wettest since 1984. Despite the harsh conditions, such unusual species as **Double-crested Cormorant**, **Snow Goose**, **Long-eared Owl**, **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, **Hermit Thrush**, **Brown Thrasher**, and **Black-and-white Warbler** were discovered. The cold, snowy conditions persisted through the end of the month, with no periods of southerly flows or warm temperatures to encourage early migrants.

Season wide, Blue Jays and Evening Grosbeaks were present in low numbers. High numbers were noted for Mallard, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Red-tailed Hawk, Wild Turkey, Belted Kingfisher, most woodpeckers, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Northern Oriole, and House Finch. Highlighting the season were individual reports of Long-eared Owl, possible **Great Gray Owl**, **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, **Orange-crowned Warbler**, **Black-and-white Warbler**, and **Green-tailed Towhee**.

Andrea Robbins
Winter Editor

Loons and Grebes

Based on the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) Data, Red-throated Loons experienced another decline after last year's encouraging upsurge. During the 1970s, Red-throats on the Coastal CBC averaged near 20 individuals per year. Through the '80s the average fell to fewer than six. Let's hope this year's low of nine isn't the beginning of another downward trend. In contrast, Common Loons were exceptionally plentiful. The Coastal CBC had its second-highest total ever, and the number of Commons wintering off-shore remained high right through February.

Horned Grebes were present in typical numbers at the coast, and as many as three lingered on slow-to-freeze Lake Winnisquam. The total for Red-necked Grebe on this year's Coastal count fell back to average from last year's record high.

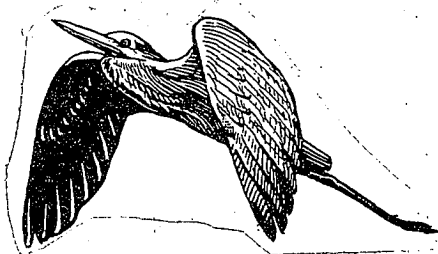
<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Red-throated Loon				
12-19	9		Coastal CBC	
02-15	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
Common Loon				
12-19	134		Coastal CBC	
12-19	2		Keene CBC	
12-22	1	Belmont	Lake Winnisquam by bridge over Rts. 3 & 11	W. Arms, D. Stavros
12-28	1	Newbury	Lake Sunapee	B. Burdett, B. & M. Pike
01-02			Nashua-Hollis CBC-CW	
01-02			Lake Sunapee CBC-CW	
01-23	30		NH coast	P. Hunt, I. Lovette
02-13	80		NH coast	S. Mirick, P. Hunt
02-15	2	Rye	Seal Rocks	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	15	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	28	Rye	Rye Harbor St. Pk.	S. Mirick, R. & M. Suomala
Horned Grebe				
12-13	3	Laconia	Lake Winnisquam off Gale Ave.	H. Anderson
12-19	32		Coastal CBC	
12-19	1	Greenland	Bracketts Pt.	S. Mirick
12-25	2	Laconia	Lake Winnisquam, Wildwood Beach	H. Anderson
02-15	1	Rye	Seal Rocks	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	1	Newcastle	Great Is.	A. & G. Robbins
Red-necked Grebe				
12-19	57		Coastal CBC	
02-15	2	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins

Cormorants through Herons

The 40 Great Cormorants tallied by the Coastal CBC is very close to the 20-year average of 35. The one immature Great Cormorant spotted on the Contoocook River in Penacook was a new species for the Concord count, and the three seen in Lee-Durham were that count's fifth record since 1980. Three **Double-crested Cormorants** were discovered by the Nashua-Hollis CBC.

Last year a few Great Blue Herons overwintered, but this year's cold conditions made it impossible for these fish-eating birds. Surprisingly, though, two did attempt to remain in the state until January, one at the coast and the other in Concord, where it was seen foraging on ice, possible in search of ice-fishing scraps.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Great Cormorant				
12-19	40		Coastal CBC	
12-20	1		Concord CBC	
12-26	3		Lee-Durham CBC	
02-15	1	Rye	Seal Rocks	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	1	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	A. & G. Robbins
02-18	2	Nashua	Merrimack R.	D. Deifik, P. Milliotis
Double-crested Cormorant				
01-02	3		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
02-04	1	Merrimack	Thornton's Ferry	R. Andrews
Great Blue Heron				
12-03	1	Hollis	Maple Hill Farm, Ridge Rd.	J. Broyles, E. Brown, N. Mitchell
12-07	1	Northwood	Spruce Cove, opposite Northwood Lake	B. Carr
12-14	1	Monroe	over Connecticut R.	A. Ports
12-19	8		Coastal CBC	
12-19	1		Littleton CBC	
12-26	3		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-05	1	Concord	Goodwin's Pt.	W. Cummings
01-16	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	P. Hunt, I. Lovette, B. Johnstone



Waterfowl

Mute Swan totals for the Coastal CBC surged to a new high of 25, while Lee-Durham tied its record for this species with four. A single Snow Goose was with Canada Geese on Great Bay in mid-January, and a flock of 100 flew over the Connecticut River (Piermont) in February.

An injured Wood Duck, perhaps limited in its mobility, was still present in tidal Exeter to be counted as only the sixth Wood Duck in 46 years by the Coastal CBC, and an apparently healthy Wood Duck was a new species for the North Conway CBC. The Green-winged Teal and Northern Pintail seen on the Nashua count were possibly the same individuals photographed with other Pintails in Nashua later in the season.

Three drake Canvasbacks spent the first half of February near Adams Point on Great Bay, and two Ring-necked Ducks in Exeter set a new record high for the Coastal CBC. There was no obvious explanation of the below-average number of Red-breasted Mergansers on the Coastal count, especially considering the good weather, calm seas, and good visibility on count day. These conditions most likely accounted for record or near-record highs of Oldsquaw, Surf Scoter, and White-winged Scoter. Of particular interest was the exceptionally high count of 229 Common Goldeneyes on this year's Laconia-New Hampton count. Not only was this their highest total for Common Goldeneye in the last 36 years, but it was also reminiscent of the average numbers recorded during the early 1950s.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Mute Swan				
12-01	1	Barrington	Mendem's Pond	A. Sibley
12-19	25		Coastal CBC	
12-26	4		Lee-Durham CBC	
02-15	2	Newington	Great Bay	A. & G. Robbins
Snow Goose				
01-10	1	Durham	Durham Pt. Rd.	S. Mirick
02-14	100	Piermont	over Connecticut R.	T. & S. Sears
Canada Goose				
12-19	1112		Coastal CBC	
12-19	13		Keene CBC	
12-26	45		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	410		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-19	165	Salem	Town Farm Rd.	K. Folsom
01-23	250	Merrimack	Merrimack R.	M. & R. Suomala
02-05	100	Salem	Town Farm Rd.	K. Folsom
02-22	14	Concord	Goodwin's Pt.	W. Cummings
Wood Duck				
12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
12-20	1		N. Conway CBC	

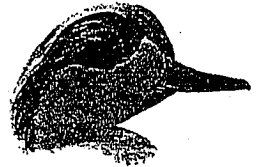
date # town location observer(s)

Green-winged Teal

01-02 1 Nashua-Hollis CBC
 02-11 1 Nashua Trout Brook Dr. W. & M. Harris

American Black Duck

12-19 1234 Coastal CBC
 12-20 2 N. Conway CBC
 12-20 26 Concord CBC
 12-26 1 Hanover-Norwich CBC
 12-26 329 Lee-Durham CBC
 01-02 52 Laconia-New Hampton CBC
 01-02 97 Nashua-Hollis CBC
 01-02 4 Errol-Umbagog CBC
 01-03 3 Pittsburg CBC
 01-17 20 Pembroke Suncook R. W. & K. Goodwill
 02-08 3 Monroe n. of Connecticut R.
 02-15 4 Newington Great Bay A. & G. Robbins
 02-15 3 Newcastle Great Is. A. & G. Robbins
 02-20 2 Lebanon below Mascoma Lake Dam P. Hunt



Mallard

12-19 928 Coastal CBC
 12-19 2 Peterborough-Hancock CBC
 12-19 5 Keene CBC
 12-20 72 N. Conway CBC
 12-20 237 Concord CBC
 12-26 279 Lee-Durham CBC
 01-02 996 Laconia-New Hampton CBC
 01-02 969 Nashua-Hollis CBC
 01-02 113 Lake Sunapee CBC
 01-03 2 Pittsburg CBC
 01-17 100 Pembroke Suncook R. W. & K. Goodwill
 02-08 6 Monroe n. of Connecticut R.
 02-12 30 Great Bay
 02-15 4 Newcastle A. & G. Robbins



Northern Pintail

12-19 4 Coastal CBC
 01-02 1 Nashua-Hollis CBC
 02-01 3 Nashua Trout Brook Dr. W. & M. Harris
 02-18 2 Merrimack Thornton's Ferry, Merrimack R. R. Andrews

Canvasback

02-03 3 Durham Adams Pt., Great Bay S. Bailey

Ring-necked Duck

12-19 2 Coastal CBC

Greater Scaup

12-19 300 Coastal CBC
 01-23 1 Rye Jenness Beach P. Hunt, I. Lovette
 02-15 85 Durham Adams Pt. S. Mirick, R. & M. Suomala

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Common Eider				
12-19	90		Coastal CBC	
02-12	6		NH coast	J. McIlwaine
02-15	6	Rye	Rt. 1A pull offs	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	10	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
Oldsquaw				
12-13	2	Rye	Rye Harbor	R. & M. Suomala
12-19	149		Coastal CBC	
02-15	3	Newcastle	Great Is.	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	12	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
Black Scoter				
12-19	31		Coastal CBC	
Surf Scoter				
12-13	1	Rye	Rye Harbor St. Pk.	R. & M. Suomala
12-19	116		Coastal CBC	
02-15	2	Rye	Rye Harbor St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	6	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	6	Rye	Seal Rocks	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	2	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
White-winged Scoter				
12-19	480		Coastal CBC	
12-19	1	Greenland	Bracketts Pt.	S. Mirick, et al.
02-15	30	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	4	Rye	Seal Rocks	A. & G. Robbins
Common Goldeneye				
12-26	75		Lee-Durham CBC	
12-26			Hanover-Norwich CBC-CW	
01-02	229		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	5		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
02-12	12		NH coast	J. McIlwaine
02-15	3	Newcastle	Great Is.	A. & G. Robbins
02-18	3	Hooksett	Merrimack R.	D. Deifik
02-28	50	Durham	Adams Pt.	S. Mirick
Barrow's Goldeneye				
01-01	1	Tilton	Silver Lake	N. & J. Aldrich
02-03	1	Rye	Rt. 1A, above Wallis Sands Pk.	A. Ports
02-14	2		Winnisquam Lake	S. Mirick, D. Abbott
02-15	2	Rye	Seal Rocks & Rye Harbor St. Pk.	S. Mirick, R. & M. Suomala
Bufflehead				
12-19	184		Coastal CBC	
12-26	80		Lee-Durham CBC	
02-15	8	Newcastle		A. & G. Robbins
02-15	7	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	A. & G. Robbins
Hooded Merganser				
12-10	4	Sunapee	Sugar R.	B. Burdett
12-14	2	Monroe	Connecticut R.	A. Ports

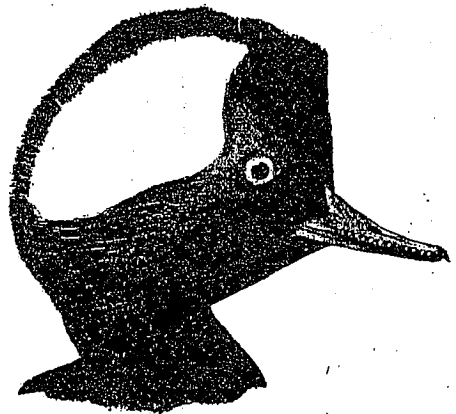
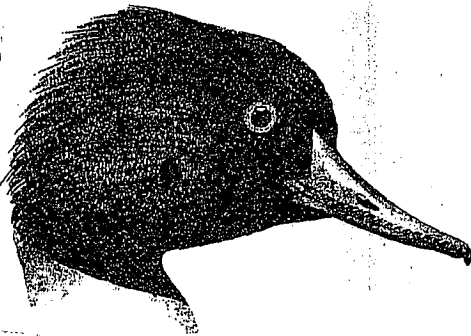
<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-20	3		Concord CBC	
12-26	2		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
01-02	58		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	2		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-03	1		Pittsburg CBC	
01-17	1	Pembroke	Suncook R.	W. & K. Goodwill
01-21	1	Gorham	Androscoggin R.	J. Brown
02-16	2	Sunapee	Sugar R., near Rt. 11 bridge	B. Burdett
02-18	1	Hooksett	Merrimack R.	D. Deifik

Common Merganser

12-14	7	Monroe	Connecticut R.	A. Ports
12-19	6		Coastal CBC	
12-19	6		Littleton CBC	
12-19	1		Keene CBC	
12-20	48		Concord CBC	
12-21	33	Laconia	Lake Opechee	H. Anderson
12-26	23		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	7		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	166		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	26		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	4		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-03	1		Pittsburg CBC	
01-08	30	Gorham	Androscoggin R.	A. Ports
02-08	7	Littleton	Connecticut R. below Moore Dam	J. McIlwaine

Red-breasted Merganser

12-19	166		Coastal CBC	
12-26	35		Lee-Durham CBC	
02-15	4	Newington	Great Bay	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	2	Newcastle	Great Is.	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	8	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & G. Robbins
02-15	3	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	A. & G. Robbins



Hawks

This winter's unprecedented high of 938 Bald Eagle sightings was a 55% increase over last year's record 605 observations, yet the actual number of individual eagles rose only slightly to 71. These 43 adults, 5 sub-adults, and 23 immatures wintered in the following areas: Androscoggin River (4), Lakes Region (8), Connecticut River (11), Great Bay (14), Merrimack River (15), and other locations (19).

Although not a New Hampshire sighting, an adult male Northern Harrier hunting over fields in Thetford, Vermont, was a new species for the Hanover-Norwich CBC. Accipiters reported this winter included 28 Sharp-shinned Hawks, seven (plus two unconfirmed) Cooper's Hawks, and at least 18 Northern Goshawks (the highest number reported in fifteen years, more than twice the average 7.9). A light-plumaged Red-shouldered Hawk (first identified mistakenly as a Short-eared Owl) was described well by Dennis Abbott, who finally managed a good look at the mystery owl/hawk after several misses. Other raptor reports included more than 110 Red-tailed Hawks (record highs for Coastal, Hanover-Norwich, and Lee-Durham CBCs), at least five Rough-legged Hawks, 15 American Kestrels, and three Peregrine Falcons (one adult returning to the historic eyrie on Holt's Ledge, Lyme, in mid-February).

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Northern Harrier				
12-19	2		Coastal CBC	
12-26	1	Thetford, VT	Hanover-Norwich CBC	
01-17	1	Weare	Weare Town Center store	I. MacLeod
02-13	1	Seabrook	Seabrook marshes	S. Mirick, P. Hunt
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
12-05	1	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
12-19	5		Coastal CBC	
12-19	1		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19			Keene CBC-CW	
12-20	2		N. Conway CBC	
12-26	3		Lee-Durham CBC	
12-26	1	Manchester	Reservoir Ave.	M. Sudak
01-02	3		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	3		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-17	1	Salem	residence	K. Folsom
01-17	1	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. & G. Robbins
01-30	1	Kensington	residence	G. Gavutis
02-05	1	Hollis	Ridge Rd.	J. Broyles, E. & R. Brown
02-12	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-28	1	Deering	E. Deering Rd.	I. MacLeod
Cooper's Hawk				
12-19	2		Coastal CBC	
12-19	1		Keene CBC	
12-20	1	Loudon	Concord CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-21	1	Exeter		D. Hughes
01-02	1		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
02-04	1	Bedford	Moore's Crossing	R. Andrews

Northern Goshawk

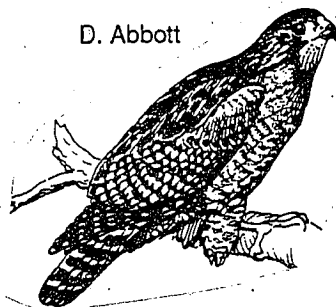
12-15	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	R. Quinn
12-19	1		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	1		Baker Valley CBC	
12-26	1		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
01-02	2		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-03	1	Deering	Black Fox Farm	S. Walker, D. De Luca
01-03	1		Pittsburg CBC	
01-05	1	Hanover	Rt. 10, River Rd.	A. Ports
01-09	1	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
01-23	2	Manchester	Merrimack R., RR trestle s. of Rt. 101	J. Broyles, S. Millett
01-23	1	Hollis	center of town	J. Broyles
01-31	1	Enfield	Hemlock Hills	K. Riley
02-05	1	Sugar Hill	Pearl Lake Rd.	J. McIlwaine
02-05	1	Gilford	Cobble Mtn.	H. Anderson
02-14	1	Laconia	Laconia Country Club	H. Anderson
02-26	1	Mason	Hurricane Hill Rd., sw. corner	A. Burris

Red-shouldered Hawk

02-20	1	Stratham	Bunker Hill Ave.	D. Abbott
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Red-tailed Hawk

12-19	3		Littleton CBC	
12-19	40		Coastal CBC	
12-19	3		Keene CBC	
12-20	1		N. Conway CBC-CW	
12-20	6		Concord CBC	
12-26	20		Lee-Durham CBC	
12-26	6		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
01-02	16		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	1		Lake Sunapee CBC	
02-01	1	Bristol	residence	G. Jeffers
02-15	2	Newington	Rt. 4	A. & G. Robbins
02-22	2	Concord	Penacook St. area	W. Cummings



Rough-legged Hawk

12-19	2		Coastal CBC	
01-02	1		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	1	Berlin	Success Rd., James River field	J. Ely
01-07	1	Seabrook	Hampton-Seabrook Estuary from Rt. 286	R. Cook, D. Stavros
02-20	1	Seabrook	off Rt. 1A	S. Mirick, YCAS Field Trip

American Kestrel

12-05	1	Bow	jct. of Rts. 93 & 89	H. Anderson
12-19	6		Coastal CBC	
12-20	1	Walpole	residence	D. Bertin
12-20	1		Concord CBC	
12-26	1		Lee-Durham CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
01-02	3		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-12	1	Concord	Stickney Ave.	M. LeBlanc
01-23	1	Seabrook	dunes	P. Hunt, I. Lovette

Peregrine Falcon

01-02	1	Hampton	off Rt. 51	S. Mirick
01-13	1	Manchester	microwave tower	M. Shearin
02-15	1	Lyme	Holts Ledge	S. Smith

Pheasants through Shorebirds

The gallinaceous birds established many records in what was an exceptional season. New highs for Ruffed Grouse were set by CBCs in Peterborough-Hancock and Pittsburg (which doubled its previous high). Northern Bobwhites were recorded for the first time on the Concord CBC and for the second on the Peterborough-Hancock count. The Concord CBC also nearly tripled its high for Ring-necked Pheasants. Evidently a few of the 20,000 pheasants released statewide in October by Fish & Game were able to avoid the hunters' guns.

Most noteworthy for this group, however, was the substantial leap in the number of Wild Turkeys reported (nearly 200!). Since the early 1980s this species has become increasingly visible, turning up with greater frequency at feeders as far north as the Lakes Region. The recent string of mild winters has certainly been a factor in this increase. However, a successful, on-going project of New Hampshire Fish & Game, which involves the capture and transplantation of portions of wild New Hampshire flocks to establish new populations, has perhaps played the most significant role.

In contrast, shorebirds had their ups and downs. Two very late Killdeer in Rye were an unexpected find following the mid-December Nor'easter. Purple Sandpipers made a minor comeback after last year's complete absence, but Sanderlings went unreported, missed by the Coastal CBC for the first time in 13 years. On an up note, a flock of 120 Dunlin was in Seabrook in mid-January.

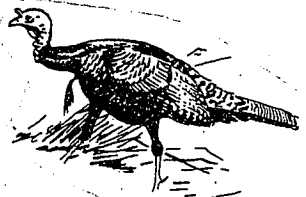
<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Ring-necked Pheasant				
12-19	7		Coastal CBC	
12-19			Keene CBC-CW	
12-19	1		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	1		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	29		Concord CBC	
12-22	2	Lebanon	Mascoma Lake Dam	P. Hunt
12-26	1		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	5		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	2		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
02-27	2	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake Dam	P. Hunt

date # town location observer(s)

Ruffed Grouse

12-19 7 Coastal CBC
 12-19 18 Peterborough-Hancock CBC
 12-19 3 Littleton CBC
 12-19 9 Keene CBC
 12-20 5 N. Conway CBC
 12-20 1 Concord CBC
 12-26 1 Meredith Collins Rd. power line
 12-26 7 Lee-Durham CBC
 12-26 11 Hanover-Norwich CBC
 01-02 8 Laconia-New Hampton CBC
 01-02 4 Nashua-Hollis CBC
 01-02 6 Errol-Umbagog CBC
 01-02 5 Lake Sunapee CBC
 01-03 61 Pittsburg CBC

H. Anderson



Wild Turkey

12-19 18 Coastal CBC
 12-19 9 Newbury Stoney Brook WS
 12-19 17 Peterborough-Hancock CBC
 12-19 36 Keene CBC
 12-20 1 Concord CBC
 12-26 17 Hanover-Norwich CBC
 12-26 48 Lee-Durham CBC
 12-31 3 Goffstown Range Rd.
 01-01 2 Deering Black Fox Farm
 01-02 9 Lake Sunapee CBC
 01-23 1 Effingham Watts WS, Rt. 153
 01-26 18 Keene Base Hill Rd.
 01-27 5 Pembroke Buck St.
 02-14 10 Bow Page Rd.
 02-27 4 Holderness Mt. Prospect Rd.

C. & C. Martin

P. LaCroix
 K. & D. Brice

W. Simmons
 M. Ayers
 K. Palfy
 B. Cotter
 S. Fellows

Northern Bobwhite

12-19 1 Peterborough-Hancock CBC
 12-20 1 Concord CBC

Semipalmated Plover

12-05 1 Rye beach on n. side of Rye Harbor S. Mirick, P. Mueller,
 M. Suomala

Killdeer

12-13 1 Rye Rt. 1A, s. of Odiorne Pt. R. & M. Suomala
 12-19 2 Coastal CBC

Purple Sandpiper

12-13 8 Rye Rye Harbor St. Pk. R. & M. Suomala
 12-19 14 Coastal CBC
 01-23 8 Rye n. of Rye Harbor St. Pk. P. Hunt, I. Lovette
 01-23 10 Rye Rt. 1A M. Medeiros

Dunlin

12-19 21 Coastal CBC
 01-23 120 Seabrook Hampton Harbor, s. jetty P. Hunt, I. Lovette

date # town location observer(s)

Common Snipe

01-02 8 Nashua-Hollis CBC

American Woodcock

12-26 1 Lee-Durham CBC

Gulls through Alcids

The 39 Bonaparte's Gulls tallied by the Coastal CBC were noticeably below the 10-year average of 66 and a considerable drop from the highs of 100 and 84 for the previous two winters. Ring-billed, Herring, and Great Black-backed Gulls reached record lows in some inland areas such as Laconia-New Hampton and Concord (where landfills had closed), but Ring-bills were seen for the first time ever on the Littleton CBC.

Iceland Gulls were well-represented with a record high of five on the Lee-Durham CBC, and as many as nine spent parts of February along the New Hampshire coast. At least four individual Glaucous Gulls were observed this winter in coastal and southern inland locations. A particularly good spot to see Glaucous Gulls is Portsmouth Harbor, where at least one has been present every winter (except one) since 1985.

Steve Mirick located the season's only Black-legged Kittiwake on a mild January day with southerly breezes. Winds were gusting to 50 mph following a December Nor'easter when he counted nine Black Guillemot in rough surf, and an intense storm was raging when he and Peter Hunt saw a Razorbill fly by off North Hampton State Beach in February. Dedicated bird watchers never let the weather stop them!

date # town location observer(s)

Bonaparte's Gull

12-13 2 Rye off Rt. 1A pullout R. & M. Suomala
12-19 39 Coastal CBC

Ring-billed Gull

12-19 228 Coastal CBC
12-19 2 Littleton CBC
12-20 1 Concord CBC
12-26 34 Lee-Durham CBC
01-02 1 Laconia-New Hampton CBC
01-02 16 Nashua-Hollis CBC
02-15 6 Portsmouth Portsmouth Harbor A. & G. Robbins
02-15 18 Newcastle A. & G. Robbins

Herring Gull

12-19 897 Littleton CBC
12-19 7527 Coastal CBC
12-19 10 Keene CBC
12-20 1 N. Conway CBC
12-20 96 Concord CBC
12-26 45 Hanover-Norwich CBC
12-26 3493 Lee-Durham CBC
01-02 945 Nashua-Hollis CBC



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
01-02	89		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-08	50	Berlin	Androscoggin R.	A. Ports
Iceland Gull				
12-15	1	Lebanon	W. Lebanon landfill	P. Hunt
12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
12-26	5		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	2		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-08	1	Berlin	Androscoggin R.	A. Ports
01-29	1	Manchester	Merrimack R.	W. Goodwill
02-13	8		NH coast	S. Mirick, P. Hunt
02-28	1	Rochester	Rochester lagoons	S. Mirick
Glaucous Gull				
12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
12-26	1		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	1		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-09	1	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	S. Mirick
01-23	1	Manchester	Merrimack R., n. of Bridge St.	P. Hunt, I. Lovette
Great Black-backed Gull				
12-19	960		Coastal CBC	
12-19	346		Littleton CBC	
12-19	40		Keene CBC	
12-20	39		Concord CBC	
12-26	68		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	414		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	32		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	241		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	5		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-08	100	Berlin	Androscoggin R.	A. Ports
02-15	6	Newcastle		A. & G. Robbins
02-15	22	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	A. & G. Robbins
Black-legged Kittiwake				
01-24	1	Rye	off of Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick
Razorbill				
02-13	1	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	S. Mirick, P. Hunt
Black Guillemot				
12-13	1	Rye	Rye Harbor	R. & M. Suomala
12-13	9		NH coast	S. Mirick



Owls through Woodpeckers

An Eastern Screech-Owl in Greenland provided the fifth record in 10 years for the Coastal CBC. Four Snowy Owls visited New Hampshire this winter. One in Rye—a color-marked bird with black and orange stripes on the back of its head—was a recruit from a study of wintering Snowys at Logan Airport. It's still a mystery what makes the Concord area so attractive to Snowy Owls (four wintered there in 1983). Our cover illustrates this year's Snowy, which hung around the Capitol building and State Library through the season.

Observers of a possible **Great Gray Owl** in Strafford (December 17 through January 3) placed undue emphasis in their identification on a perceived black chin spot and the owl's large size. Unfortunately, they had never before seen for comparison a Barred Owl (the most likely species), and they failed to note the most crucial field mark separating the Great Gray from the Barred: eye color. Great Gray Owls have yellow eyes; Barred Owls have dark brown eyes. Without that distinctive feature noted, therefore, this sighting must remain listed as possible only.

But there were no doubts about the identification of a **Long-eared Owl** photographed as it roosted on a window ledge at a home in Keene! It has been 12 years since the last winter report of a Long-eared Owl, a species that was encountered infrequently from the 1950s through the early '80s on Coastal and Northern Christmas counts.

During February, a single Short-eared Owl was in Rye for two days, and a dead, emaciated Northern Saw-whet Owl was discovered in Brookfield.

A remarkable number of Belted Kingfishers braved the early half of our winter, with as many as 14 still present in January even as far north as Errol! Reports cease after February 4, when the weather turned bitterly cold.

At least eight Red-bellied Woodpeckers, three Black-backed Woodpeckers, 35 Northern Flickers, and record high numbers of Downy, Hairy, and Pileated Woodpeckers were observed. An adult male **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** in Nashua on February 22 was an exceptional find for a species that has been reported only twice during the previous 30 winters.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Eastern Screech-Owl				
12-19	1	Greenland	Coastal CBC	
Great Horned Owl				
12-19	7		Coastal CBC	
12-26	2		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02			Nashua-Hollis CBC-CW	
01-02	1		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-08	1	Concord	Hannah Dustin Memorial area	D. Corliss
01-23	1	Seabrook	near nuclear power plant	P. Hunt, I. Lovette
02-05	1	Hampton	Rt. 51, Exeter Rd.	D. Ekstrom

date # town location observer(s)

Snowy Owl

12-02 1 Peterborough E. Mountain Rd. E. Thomas
 12-19 1 Coastal CBC
 12-28 1 Concord Stickney Ave. D. Stenberg
 12-29 1 Rye Ragged Neck St. Pk. J. Lyons
 01-07 1 Concord flying over State House J. Kusmiss
 01-23 1 Hampton Hampton Beach St. Pk. P. Hunt, I. Lovette
 02-15 1 Seabrook across from Hampton Beach St. Pk. S. Mirick

Barred Owl

12-19 2 Littleton CBC
 12-19 1 Coastal CBC
 12-20 2 Concord CBC
 12-26 1 Hanover-Norwich CBC
 12-26 2 Lee-Durham CBC
 01-02 Nashua-Hollis CBC-CW
 01-02 1 Laconia-New Hampton CBC
 01-02 Lake Sunapee CBC-CW
 01-20 1 Pembroke residence K. & S. Palfy
 02-20 1 Lyme Post Pond S. Smith

Long-eared Owl

02-25 1 Keene Burdeett St. L. Rowe, M. Green

Short-eared Owl

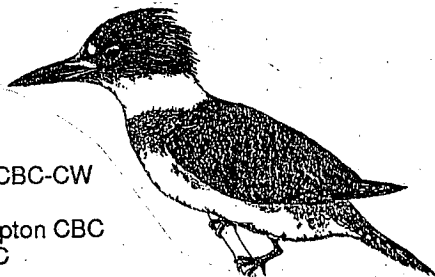
02-21 1 Rye Rye Harbor D. Abbott
 02-24 1 Rye Odiorne Pt. St. Pk. J. Romano

Northern Saw-whet Owl

02-10 1 Brookfield residence D. Weeks

Belted Kingfisher

12-19 1 Littleton CBC
 12-19 1 Keene CBC
 12-19 14 Coastal CBC
 12-20 1 Concord CBC
 12-26 Hanover-Norwich CBC-CW
 12-26 2 Lee-Durham CBC
 01-02 1 Laconia-New Hampton CBC
 01-02 5 Nashua-Hollis CBC
 01-03 1 Pittsburg CBC
 01-04 1 Bradford Rt. 103, corner of Breezy Hill Rd. M. Herley
 01-11 2 Salem Spicket R. K. Folsom
 01-15 1 Errol town dump C. Martin, D. De Luca,
 D. Stavros, D. Heasley
 01-23 1 Merrimack Naticook Brook at Rt. 3 R. & M. Suomala
 01-26 1 Litchfield Merrimack R. K. Folsom
 02-04 1 Manchester Cohas Brook K. Folsom



Red-bellied Woodpecker

12-19 3 Coastal CBC
 12-25 1 Exeter Millstream Dr. G. & A. Prazar
 01-02 2 Nashua-Hollis CBC
 02-15 1 Concord Penacook residence C. Foss, D. Schwarz
 02-17 1 Sandwich residence feeder D. Eastman

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

02-22	1	Nashua	Mine Falls Park, Nahsua R.	R. Andrews
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Downy Woodpecker

12-19	75		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	9		Littleton CBC	
12-19	44		Keene CBC	
12-19	169		Coastal CBC	
12-19	29		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	28		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	53		Concord CBC	
12-26	39		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	53		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	50		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	89		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	8		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	9		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-03	12		Pittsburg CBC	



Hairy Woodpecker

12-19	13		Littleton CBC	
12-19	51		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	46		Coastal CBC	
12-19	26		Keene CBC	
12-19	20		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	20		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	26		Concord CBC	
12-26	23		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	16		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	29		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	26		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	7		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	12		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-03	6		Pittsburg CBC	

Black-backed Woodpecker

12-22	1	Whitefield	E. Whitefield Rd.	S. Pitts
01-02	1		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-03	1		Pittsburg CBC	
02-26	1	Effingham	Snow Rd.	W. Simmons, L. Williams

Northern Flicker

12-19	24		Coastal CBC	
12-20	2		Concord CBC	
12-26	3		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	5		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-30	1	Kensington	residence	G. Gavutis

Pileated Woodpecker

12-02	1	Orford	Upper Baker Pond Rd.	A. Ports
12-19	8		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	3		Littleton CBC	
12-19	3		Coastal CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-19	2		Keene CBC	
12-19	2		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	3		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	1		Concord CBC	
12-26	3		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	3		Lee-Durham CBC	
12-29	1	Columbia	Rt. 3, residence	B. & D. Killam
01-02	2		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	1		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	2		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02			Lake Sunapee CBC-CW	
01-03	1		Pittsburg CBC	
01-05	1	Hanover	River Rd.	A. Ports
01-09	1	Deering	E. Deering Rd.	I. MacLeod
01-10	2	Bow	River Rd.	D. Mosbeck
01-15	2	Derry	Island Pond Rd.	R. Kay
01-17	1	Exeter	behind residence	G. Prazar, M. Prazar
01-21	1	Bristol	Peaked Hill Rd.	G. Jeffers
02-15	1	Sandown	Little Mill Rd.	R. Cotter
02-28	1	Hopkinton	Dustin Rd.	E. Baron

Larks through Wrens

The Coastal CBC established a new record high for Horned Lark, and small flocks of 26 and 22 frequented Hampton Beach and our state capital. The nine Gray Jays for the Pittsburg CBC was its highest total in 10 years. Although the Coastal CBC had a new high for Blue Jays (1040—the IRS's favorite number), lows were reported from most other areas. American Crow numbers were up, as were those for Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, and Tufted Titmouse.

Albinistic birds and mammals can be quite fascinating. Imagine a white deer, bear, or moose, or a robin with red belly and white back! (One turned up on a Maryland CBC several years ago.) This winter Tom Sears photographed a partially albinistic Black-capped Chickadee that had extra white in wings and tail, pink rather than blue-gray legs, and white in place of its usual black cap and chin patch!

The number of wintering Carolina Wrens nearly doubled this year to 35; the seven Winter Wrens were six times the 10-year average of 1.2; and a Marsh Wren on the Foss Farm in Durham was a new species for the Lee-Durham count.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Horned Lark				
12-19	349		Coastal CBC	
12-19	9		Keene CBC	
02-12	26		Hampton Beach St. Pk.	J. McIlwaine
02-28	22	Concord	Thomas St.	A. Robbins

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Gray Jay				
01-02	4		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-03	9		Pittsburg CBC	
Blue Jay				
12-19	275		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	138		Littleton CBC	
12-19	341		Keene CBC	
12-19	1040		Coastal CBC	
12-19	167		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	171		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	131		Concord CBC	
12-26	237		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	152		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	144		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	121		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	53		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	70		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-03	85		Pittsburg CBC	
01-30	50	Kensington	Cottage Hill	G. Gavutis
02-22	21	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
American Crow				
12-12	108	Holderness	Rt. 175	C. & A. Ports
12-19	83		Littleton CBC	
12-19	119		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	826		Coastal CBC	
12-19	266		Keene CBC	
12-19	60		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	302		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	213		Concord CBC	
12-26	354		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	533		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	523		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	988		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	3		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	47		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-03	7		Pittsburg CBC	
02-06	750	Manchester	Mammoth & Wellington Rds.	B. Coyne
Fish Crow				
01-23	1	Hampton	Hampton landfill	P. Hunt, I. Lovette
Common Raven				
12-19	41		Littleton CBC	
12-19	5		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	2		Keene CBC	
12-19	8		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	12		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	8		Concord CBC	
12-26	17		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
01-02	5		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	2		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	97		Errol-Umbagog CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
01-02	3		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-03	13		Pittsburg CBC	
01-15	48	Errol	town dump	C. Martin, D. De Luca, D. Stavros, D. Heasley
01-15	2	Gilford	Cobble Mtn.	H. Anderson
02-10	2	Sunapee	near Burkehaven Harbor	B. Burdett
02-27	11	Deering	E. Deering Rd.	I. MacLeod
02-27	2	Bristol	E. Bristol	G. Jeffers

Black-capped Chickadee

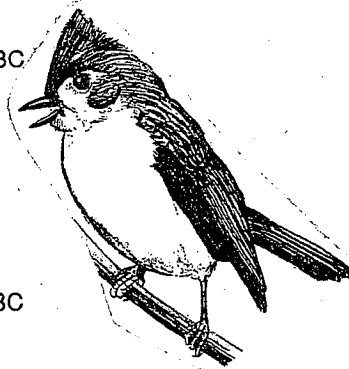
12-19	266		Littleton CBC	
12-19	765		Keene CBC	
12-19	1445		Coastal CBC	
12-19	339		Baker Valley CBC	
12-19	1161		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-20	669		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	628		Concord CBC	
12-26	1382		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	628		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	1745		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	674		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	263		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	473		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-03	415		Pittsburg CBC	
01-13	9	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-27	30	Bristol	residence	G. Jeffers

Boreal Chickadee

01-02	3		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-03	24		Pittsburg CBC	
01-17	2		Church Pond Bog Trail	S. Mirick
01-23	1	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	C. & J. Tewksbury
02-14	3	Pittsburg		S. Mirick, D. Abbott

Tufted Titmouse

12-19	88		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	1		Littleton CBC	
12-19	239		Coastal CBC	
12-19	52		Keene CBC	
12-19	8		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	8		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	89		Concord CBC	
12-26	18		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	120		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	54		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	244		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	5		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-08	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-24	3	Rumney	Buffalo Rd.	M. Zahouricka
01-28	4	Bristol	residence	G. Jeffers



M. Wright
M. Zahouricka
G. Jeffers

Red-breasted Nuthatch

12-19	22		Littleton CBC	
12-19	68		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-19	26		Keene CBC	
12-19	32		Coastal CBC	
12-19	11		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	78		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	22		Concord CBC	
12-26	21		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	11		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-01	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
01-02	46		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	16		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	13		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	17		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-03	78		Pittsburg CBC	

White-breasted Nuthatch

12-19	123		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	8		Littleton CBC	
12-19	166		Coastal CBC	
12-19	78		Keene CBC	
12-19	22		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	40		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	67		Concord CBC	
12-20	67		Concord CBC	
12-26	58		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	84		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	93		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	94		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	3		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	32		Lake Sunapee CBC	

Brown Creeper

12-19	1		Littleton CBC	
12-19	5		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	5		Keene CBC	
12-19	16		Coastal CBC	
12-19	4		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	2		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	12		Concord CBC	
12-20	1	Errol	Hampshire Woods	S. Breaser
12-26	10		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	3		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	14		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	10		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	2		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-13	1	Colebrook	Elementary School	D. Killam
02-10	1	Milford	Beechbrook	A. Ames
02-21	2	Albany	Upper Nanamocomuck Ski Trail	C. & J. Tewksbury

Carolina Wren

12-06	1	Alstead	Hill Rd.	P. Warren
12-19	1	Amherst	Ravine Rd.	T. Egbert
12-19	1	Derry	residence	J. & J. Puffer
12-19			Keene CBC-CW	
12-19	2		Coastal CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-20	1		Concord CBC	
12-25	1	Laconia	Holman St. residence	C. Wilder
12-26			Hanover-Norwich CBC-CW	
12-26	5		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	6		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-03	1	Derry	Island Pond Rd.	R. Kay
01-09	1	Jaffrey		M. Gatliff
01-10	1	Manchester	Mitchell St.	M. Griffin
01-20	1	Concord	Audubon House	I. MacLeod
01-23	1	Barnstead		S. Allison
01-30	1	Bristol	Hemphill Rd.	A. O'Hara
02-01	2	Exeter	residence	A. Prazar
02-04	2	Newington	Woodbury Ave.	E. Seaver
02-09	1	Tilton	Silver Lake Rd.	W. Mauch
02-13	1	Hooksett	Ardon Dr./Rt. 3A	B. Cooper
02-18	1	New Hampton	Wolfe Den	R. Baun
02-25	1	Hooksett	Hummingbird Ln.	C. Stetson
02-28	1	Milford	Spaulding St.	S. Gassman

Winter Wren

12-19	3		Coastal CBC	
12-20	1		Concord CBC	
12-20	1	Kensington	residence	G. Gavutis
01-02			Nashua-Hollis CBC-CW	
01-03	1	Durham	Dame Farm	S. Mirick, P. Mueller

Marsh Wren

12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
12-26	1		Lee-Durham CBC	

Kinglets through Shrikes

George Robbins hiked his customary 4.5 miles along the Merrimack River to reap the Concord count's second ever Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

This was the second outstanding year in a row for Eastern Bluebirds, American Robins, and Cedar Waxwings. More than 30 bluebirds were reported from as far north as the Lakes Region. Throughout the winter months nearly 860 robins were observed (400 during February), of which 364 were a new high for the Coastal CBC. Although there were surprisingly few Bohemian Waxwings, Cedar Waxwings had their second greatest year ever, with 1639 reported for the three months combined. Of those all but one—in Wentworth's Location—were seen from Hanover south.

Late-lingering Hermit Thrushes (2), Gray Catbirds (3), and Brown Thrashers (2) were noteworthy. Of these, apparently one **Hermit Thrush** was able to overwinter in Rye, and a single **Brown Thrasher** survived at a feeder in Springfield.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
12-19	9		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	6		Keene CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-19	55		Coastal CBC	
12-19	7		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	1		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	5		Concord CBC	
12-26	10		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	5		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	19		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	9		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	1		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-03	11		Pittsburg CBC	
01-15	1	Dixville	Dixville Notch, Rt. 26	A. Ports
01-30	5	Kensington	Winkley Brook	G. Gavutis
02-28	2	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

12-19	6		Coastal CBC
12-20	1		Concord CBC
12-26			Lee-Durham CBC-CW

Eastern Bluebird

12-04	2	Danville	Kingston Rd. residence	B. Haley
12-19	4	Stratham	Coastal CBC	
01-02	6		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-09	4	Kensington	residence	G. Gavutis
01-10	2	Derry	Island Pond Rd.	R. Kay
01-19	6	Belmont	Gardner Grove Rd.	D. Stavros, W. Arms
01-26	7	Durham	Dame Farm	S. Mirick
02-01	4	Hollis	Brown Ln.	J. Broyles
02-03	4	Brentwood	South Rd.	R. Hatch

Hermit Thrush

12-19	2		Coastal CBC	
02-24	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	J. & D. Romano

American Robin

12-19	364		Coastal CBC	
12-19	1		Baker Valley CBC	
01-24	50	Kensington	residence, Rt. 107	G. Gavutis
02-04	15	Salem	Bridge St.	K. Folsom
02-06	40	Rollinsford	beaver pond	V. Bannon
02-10	30	Chester	Old Sandown Rd.	B. Nash
02-13	175	Rye	near Urban Forestry building	S. Mirick
02-13	20	Amherst	Austin Rd.	J. Poirier
02-21	12	Hopkinton	Gould Hill	A. Coda

Gray Catbird

12-19	2		Coastal CBC
01-02	1		Nashua-Hollis CBC

Northern Mockingbird

12-18	1	Orford	Rt. 10	A. Ports
12-19	1		Littleton CBC	
12-19	151		Coastal CBC	
12-19	2		Peterborough-Hancock CBC-CW	
12-20	17		Concord CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-26	1		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	35		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	53		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	12		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	2		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-17	1	Center Harbor	Maple Grove Farm, Waukewan overlook	B. Perkins, G. Jeffers
02-03	1	Bristol	Rt. 104, e. edge of town	H. Anderson

Brown Thrasher

12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
02-16	1	Springfield	George Hill Rd.	C. Bruss

Bohemian Waxwing

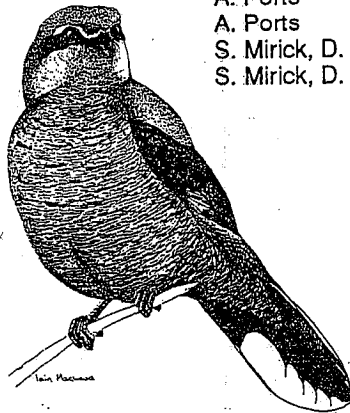
12-22	4	Enfield	Rt. 4	P. Hunt
12-31	9	Enfield	Shaker Bridge	P. Hunt
02-14	6	Pittsburg	downtown Pittsburg	S. Mirick, D. Abbott
02-16	1	Allenstown	Cross St., at Valley St.	M. Barton

Cedar Waxwing

12-19	43		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	34		Keene CBC	
12-19	471		Coastal CBC	
12-20	74		Concord CBC	
12-26	178		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	19		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	132		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	300		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-17	60	Belmont		S. Mirick
01-30	25	Kensington	residence	G. Gavutis
02-01	1	Wentworths	Location Brown Owl	S. Breeser
02-03	60	Exeter	near Exeter Clinic Medical Bldg.	G. Prazar
02-06	17	Candia	Depot Rd.	H. French
02-07	12	Milford	Beechbrook	A. Ames

Northern Shrike

12-09	1	Wentworth	Rt. 25A	A. Ports
12-19	1		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
01-15	1	Colebrook	Rt. 26	A. Ports
01-26	1	Wentworth	residence	A. Ports
02-14	1	Northumberland	Rt. 3	S. Mirick, D. Abbott
02-14	1	Pittsburg	Rt. 3	S. Mirick, D. Abbott



Warblers through Snow Bunting

Late lingerers from this group included one **Orange-crowned Warbler**, six **Yellow-rumped Warblers**, three **Common Yellowthroats**, one **Rufous-sided Towhee**, one **Chipping Sparrow**, and one **White-crowned Sparrow** (new for the Peterborough-Hancock CBC). Five **Savannah Sparrows** remained through the winter in Seabrook, and careful field observation and study of photographs proved that these Savannahs were the less common Ipswich subspecies.

One February morning after eight inches of new snow had fallen, a **Black-and-white Warbler** flew across the road and perched momentarily on the low branch of a deciduous bush near the Merrimack Wastewater Treatment Facility. It was a remarkable sighting for a species that has only once before been recorded during winter (Manchester, mid-January, 1981). Nevertheless, the bird was studied and described well, and the potential exists for a warbler to survive in the warmer microcosm surrounding a wastewater plant.

Especially exciting for 1992-93 was the first state record of a **Green-tailed Towhee**. The adult towhee, with its greenish-yellow wings and tail, white throat, and rufous cap, was first seen at a Keene feeder on the morning of December 10. It remained near that feeder for two days (through that potent Nor'easter) and was often seen hopping and scratching for sunflower seeds in its distinctive towhee fashion. What a shame that bad weather conditions and the bird's brief appearance prevented others from having the chance to enjoy seeing this casual Western vagrant!

date	#	town	location	observer(s)
Orange-crowned Warbler				
12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
12-19	6		Coastal CBC	
Black-and-white Warbler				
01-17	1	Merrimack	Wastewater Treatment Facility, off Rt. 3	K. Metz
Common Yellowthroat				
12-19	3		Coastal CBC	
Northern Cardinal				
12-19	25		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	3		Littleton CBC	
12-19	157		Coastal CBC	
12-19	65		Keene CBC	
12-19	10		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	3		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	20		Concord CBC	
12-26	38		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	65		Lee-Durham CBC	
12-28	3	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	



A. Robbins

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-31	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-02	86		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	36		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	7		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-04	2	Wentworth	residence	A. Ports
01-25	1	Bridgewater	River Rd.	G. Jeffers

Green-tailed Towhee

12-10	1	Keene	residence	D. Maynard
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Rufous-sided Towhee

12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
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American Tree Sparrow

12-19	4		Littleton CBC	
12-19	43		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	61		Keene CBC	
12-19	341		Coastal CBC	
12-19	5		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	24		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	75		Concord CBC	
12-26	75		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	83		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	172		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	10		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	6		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-02	66		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-08	12	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

Chipping Sparrow

12-19	1		Keene CBC	
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Field Sparrow

12-20	1		Concord CBC	
12-20	1	Loudon	Loudon Village	P. Hunt
12-22	1	Enfield	Main St. pond	P. Hunt
12-26	1		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
01-02	2		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-10	1	Lebanon	Mascoma Lake Dam	P. Hunt

Savannah Sparrow

12-19	4		Coastal CBC	
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Savannah Sparrow - Ipswich sub.

01-16	1	Seabrook	Fisherman's Cooperative, Hampton Harbor	P. Hunt, I. Lovette, B. Johnstone
02-13	5	Seabrook	Fisherman's Cooperative	S. Mirick, P. Hunt

Song Sparrow

12-19	1		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	135		Coastal CBC	
12-19	2		Keene CBC	
12-20	15		Concord CBC	
12-26	6		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	17		Lee-Durham CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
01-02	52		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	7		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-03	5	Durham	Dame Farm	S. Mirick, P. Mueller
01-24	1	Kensington	residence	G. Gavutis
02-20	1	Lyme	Post Pond	S. Smith

Swamp Sparrow

12-19	4		Coastal CBC	
12-26	1		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	1		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-03	1	Durham	Dame Farm	S. Mirick, P. Mueller

White-throated Sparrow

12-19	3		Littleton CBC	
12-19	6		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	43		Coastal CBC	
12-19	4		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	2		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	15		Concord CBC	
12-26	9		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	27		Lee-Durham CBC	
12-28	3	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
01-02	24		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	4		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	4		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-02	9		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-03	1		Pittsburg CBC	

White-crowned Sparrow

12-19	1		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
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Dark-eyed Junco

12-19	4		Littleton CBC	
12-19	86		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	390		Coastal CBC	
12-19	83		Keene CBC	
12-19	17		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	2		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	49		Concord CBC	
12-26	22		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	82		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	224		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	3		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	4		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-02	31		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-03	1		Pittsburg CBC	
01-07	6	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-10	5	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
02-23	6	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

Snow Bunting

12-19	2		Coastal CBC	
12-19			Keene CBC-CW	
12-26			Hanover-Norwich CBC-CW	
12-26	64		Lee-Durham CBC	

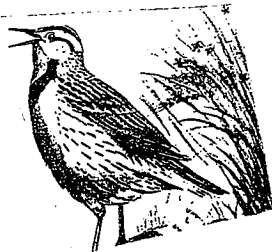
<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
01-19	25	Litchfield	Passaconoway Golf Club	K. Folsom
01-23	8	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	P. Hunt, I Lovette
02-14	20	Grantham	Rt. 89 interchange	B. Norman
02-23	100	Litchfield	Passaconoway Country Club	K. Folsom

Blackbirds through Grosbeak

Two Red-winged Blackbirds, an Eastern Meadowlark, two Common Grackles, 12 Brown-headed Cowbirds, and a Northern Oriole were among the blackbirds still around during Christmas counts. Four other Northern Orioles were found throughout the season, all at feeders. A Rusty Blackbird was feeding in shallow water, overturning leaf mold in a Gorham golf course stream on January 16. The observer supplied a nicely painted portrait of the bird to aid in identification.

Purple Finches and American Goldfinches were plentiful, as were House Finches, which broke records on seven CBCs. Only a few scattered flocks of Pine Siskins were noted early in the season, none after mid-January. Evening Grosbeaks were present throughout the winter, but in such small numbers that a third of the CBCs had record lows and many counts experienced their lowest totals since 1966, when Evening Grosbeaks were equally scarce.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Red-winged Blackbird				
12-26	1		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
01-02			Nashua-Hollis CBC-CW	
Eastern Meadowlark				
12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
Rusty Blackbird				
01-16	1	Gorham	Androscoggin Valley Golf Course	J. Brown, J. Ely
Common Grackle				
12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
12-19	1		Baker Valley CBC	
Brown-headed Cowbird				
12-19	5		Littleton CBC	
12-20	6		Concord CBC	
01-02	1		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
Northern Oriole				
12-08	1	Allenstown	residence	J. Thibault
12-20	1		Concord CBC	
01-05	1	Manchester	Chase Ave.	M. Wainright
01-14	1	Stratham	Heights Rd.	P. Brown
02-01	1	Hampton Falls	Kensington Rd.	M. Janvrin
Pine Grosbeak				
01-02			Nashua-Hollis CBC-CW	
01-03	83		Pittsburg CBC	



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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Purple Finch

12-19	14		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	2		Littleton CBC	
12-19	8		Coastal CBC	
12-19	58		Keene CBC	
12-19	28		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	10		N. Conway CBC	
12-26	47		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	9		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	9		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	26		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-02	42		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-30	10	Bristol	residence	G. Jeffers
02-04	1	Hanover	Heather Ln.	I. Lovette
02-06	21	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
02-13	5	Mont Vernon	Francestown Tpk.	R. & M. Suomala
02-16	5	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
02-22	7	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-22	9	Bristol	residence	G. Jeffers
02-28	1	Sugar Hill	Pearl Lake Rd.	J. McIlwaine

House Finch

12-19	95		Littleton CBC	
12-19	232		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	431		Keene CBC	
12-19	1588		Coastal CBC	
12-19	45		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	21		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	336		Concord CBC	
12-25	30	Rochester	residence	H. Fitzgerald
12-26	605		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	398		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-01	50	Bedford	Kahliiko Ln.	M. LeBlanc
01-02	712		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	97		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-02	867		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
02-20	224		Lower Mascoma Lake census rt.	P. Hunt

Common Redpoll

12-19	3		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
01-11	10	Laconia	Fenton Rd. at Winnisquam Lake	C. Foss, H. Nevers
01-14	30	Exeter	residence	A. & K. Prazer

Pine Siskin

12-19	43		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	1		Coastal CBC	
12-19	3		Keene CBC	
12-20	10		N. Conway CBC	
12-26			Hanover-Norwich CBC-CW	
12-31	4	Fitzwilliam	W. Lake Rd.	M. Ayers

American Goldfinch

12-19	140		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	6		Littleton CBC	

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
12-19	92		Keene CBC	
12-19	548		Coastal CBC	
12-19	19		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	120		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	145		Concord CBC	
12-26	82		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	129		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	87		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-02	226		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	116		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	20		Lake Sunapee CBC	
01-04	70	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
01-15	13	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-07	66	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

Evening Grosbeak

12-19	85		Littleton CBC	
12-19	17		Peterborough-Hancock CBC	
12-19	14		Keene CBC	
12-19	9		Coastal CBC	
12-19	116		Baker Valley CBC	
12-20	7		N. Conway CBC	
12-20	2		Concord CBC	
12-26	15		Hanover-Norwich CBC	
12-26	1		Lee-Durham CBC	
01-02	10		Nashua-Hollis CBC	
01-02	256		Errol-Umbagog CBC	
01-02	27		Laconia-New Hampton CBC	
01-03	271		Pittsburg CBC	
01-24	9	Enfield	Main St.	P. Hunt
01-26	4	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
01-29	6	Fitzwilliam	West Lake Rd.	M. Ayers
02-04	31	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
02-13	16	Sugar Hill	Pearl Lake Rd.	J. McIlwaine
02-14	200		on Rt. 3 in northern NH	S. Mirick, D. Abbott
02-23	48	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

Reports for the following species were received but they do not appear in the listings

Bald Eagle
 Rock Dove
 Mourning Dove
 European Starling
 House Sparrow

Sightings of the species listed above were either discussed in the summaries,
 or occurred in average numbers at expected locations.

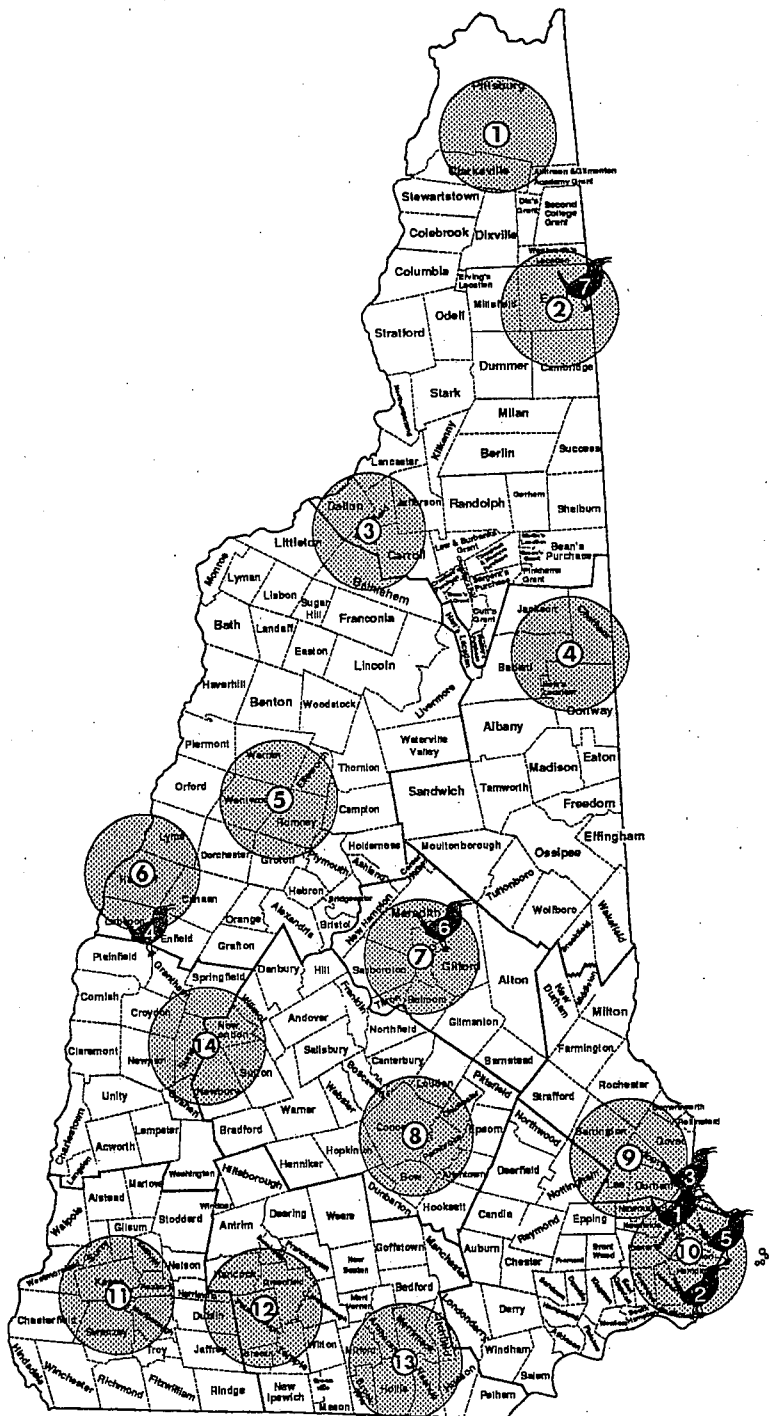
New Hampshire Birding Hot Spots

1. Great Bay
2. Hampton Harbor (Hampton/Seabrook)
3. Adams Point (Durham)
4. Mascoma Lake (Lebanon/Enfield)
5. Odiorne Point (Rye)
6. Lake Winnisquam (Laconia)
7. Lake Umbagog (Errol)

Christmas Bird Count Circles

1. Pittsburg
2. Errol – Umbagog
3. Littleton (not registered with American Birds)
4. North Conway
5. Baker Valley
6. Hanover – Norwich (VT)
7. Laconia – New Hampton
8. Concord
9. Lee – Durham
10. Coastal
11. Keene
12. Peterborough – Hancock
13. Nashua – Hollis
14. Lake Sunapee

CBC-CW indicates a sighting during the count week



Reporters for Winter 1992-93

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Ralph Andrews
Widge Arms
Marjorie Ayers
Eleanor Baron
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Janet Bourne
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Dolores Weeks
Harold Wilder
Linda Williams
Mary Wright

Christmas Bird Count Compilers

Baker Valley
Concord
Coastal
Errol-Umbagog
& Pittsburg
Hanover-Norwich
Keene

Northam Parr
Diane De Luca
Dave Balerviez
Dennis Abbott
Walter Ellison
Robert Ritz

Laconia-
New Hampton
Lake Sunapee
Lee-Durham
Littleton
Nashua-Hollis
North Conway
Peterborough-
Hancock

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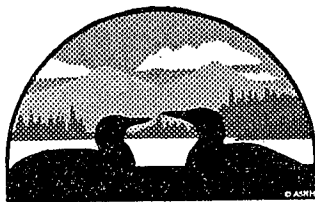
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New Hampshire Bird Records
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Winter 1992-93

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Text Editor: Tom McMillan (volunteer)

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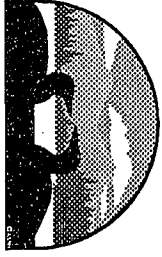
Rare Bird ALERT



224-9900

Weekdays: after 5:00 pm • Weekends: all day

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