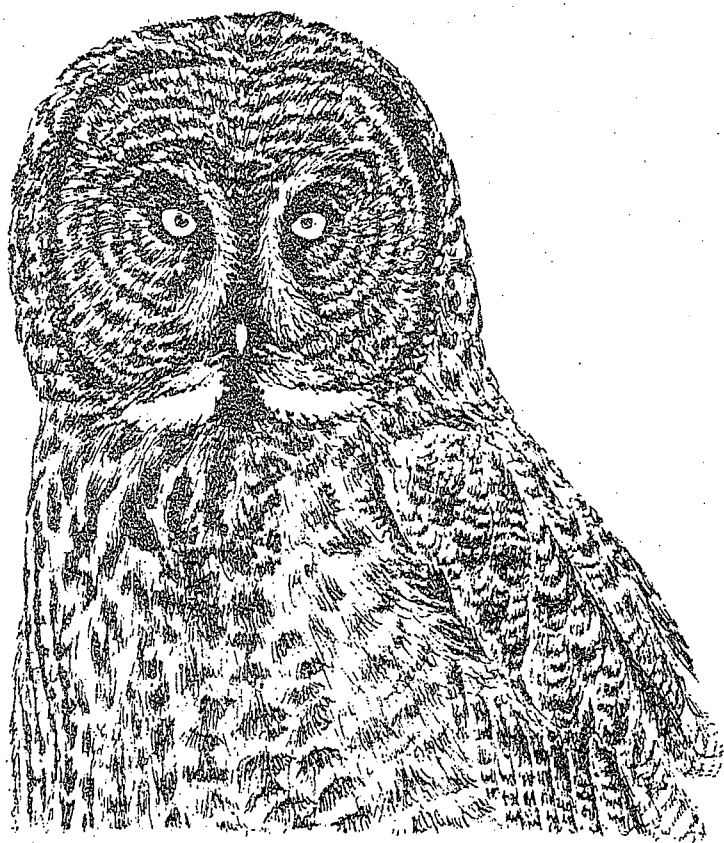


New Hampshire Bird Records

A Publication of the
Audubon Society of New Hampshire



A. Robbins

Winter 1995-96
Volume 14, No. 4

From the Editor

This is the final issue of the current subscription year, and enclosed is your renewal. This is the only renewal notice you will receive, so please fill it out and return it right away. The next issue, Spring 1996, is due out in November. It should be an exciting one with the spectacular migration fall-out we experienced in May.

We are happy to welcome Al Delorey as editor for the winter season. Also new with this issue is a change in the way we present the Christmas Bird Count data. Instead of listing most of the CBC totals in the list of sightings for each species, all the data is presented separately in tables beginning on page 22, making it easier to see all the data from every CBC in the state by count or by species. Please let us know what you think of this change.

As some of you will soon notice, the official names of some familiar birds have once again changed, and a few new ones have been added. The Baltimore Oriole is back! For more information on these changes, please see this issue's articles by Peter Hunt (page 30) and Al Delorey (page 32).

We are also pleased to present a summary from the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee on page 26. We work closely with this independent committee to exchange sighting information, and the committee has been working to review current sightings in time for inclusion in each issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. Each one of the season editors sits on the committee and facilitates the exchange of data (see the article on the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee in the Winter 1994-95 issue). This issue's summary explains some of the decisions and lists those sightings that the committee did not accept.

We are continuing to include a section of what to report for each season—please let us know if you have questions.

Rebecca Suomala
Managing Editor

What to Report?
See page 34 for more information.

Cover Illustration of Great Gray Owl by Andrea Robbins

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Winter Season

December 1, 1995 - February 28, 1996

Volume 14, Number 4

We are implementing something new for the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) data in this issue of *NHBR*—it's presented in a tabular format. This allows us to publish more data in a more concise format. You will find the CBC table after the standard systematic list of species for non-CBC sightings from the winter season. The table includes all species observed on all CBCs conducted in New Hampshire this winter with one exception: The Saxtons River CBC takes place primarily in Vermont, but a small section crosses into Walpole, New Hampshire, producing some sightings of interest to birders in our state; these reports are included in the regular listings for each species. Incidentally, there were two new CBCs in the state this year: Manchester and Sandwich.

The winter season began with snow—two to five inches fell on December first. This pattern continued, and one to three feet of snow blanketed New Hampshire by the end of December. In Concord, December averaged almost 2° below normal, while snowfall was twice the normal amount.

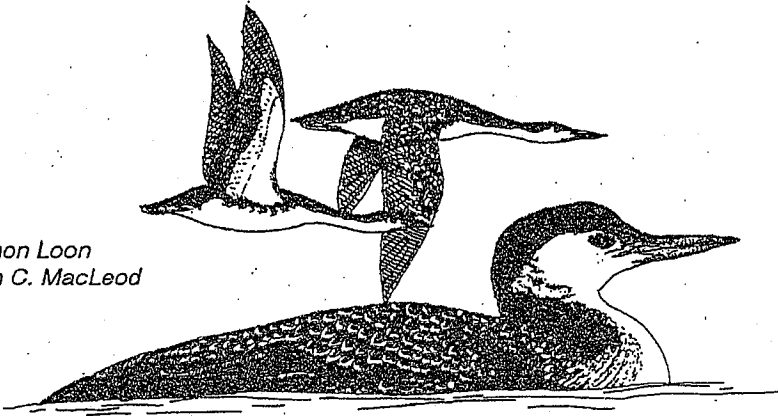
The first half of January saw three nor'easters, each one dumping up to a foot of snow in the state. A much-needed thaw began on January 17 and lasted for 10 days, with heavy rains and rapid snow melt. January averaged 3° above normal, yet snowfall totaled 10 inches above normal. Another nor'easter dumped six to 12 inches of snow on February 16, followed by another thaw during the last eight days of the month. February averaged 1.6° above normal, with near average snowfall.

The most notable sightings from the winter 1995–96 season were three Great Gray Owls, a Hoary Redpoll, a Eurasian Wigeon, and numerous Red-bellied Woodpeckers. Several people commented on the apparent lack of some common feeder birds such as House Finches, Black-capped Chickadees, Tufted Titmouse, nuthatches, American Goldfinches, and Evening Grosbeaks.

Standard Abbreviations Used

ASNH	Audubon Society of NH	NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	R.	River
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	Rd.	Road
CA	Conservation Area	Rt.	Route
CC	Country Club	St. Pk.	State Park
FT	Field Trip	SPNHF	Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Concord
L	Lake	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
LPC	Loon Preservation Committee	WMNF	White Mountain National Forest
NA	Natural Area	WS	ASNH Wildlife Sanctuary
NHBR	<i>New Hampshire Bird Records</i>	~	approximately
NHRBC	NH Rare Birds Committee		

Common Loon
by Iain C. MacLeod



Loons through Herons

Horned and Red-necked Grebes were scarce this winter. The only Northern Gannets reported were on the Isles of Shoals CBC. Great Cormorants in breeding plumage were observed at the coast in February. Two hardy Great Blue Herons were seen inland at Bow and Peterborough during January.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Common Loon				
12-03	1	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
12-11	1	Durham	Adams Pt.	S. Drew
02-23	33	Hampton	North Beach & Hampton Beach	P. Hunt, L. Bunten
02-26	6	Rye	Rye Harbor St. Pk.	T. Vazzano
Horned Grebe				
02-23	9	Hampton	North Beach & Hampton Beach	P. Hunt, L. Bunten
Red-necked Grebe				
02-28	29		NH coast	R. Quinn
Great Cormorant				
12-25	7	Rye	Rye Ledges	A. & B. Delorey
02-06	10	Rye	Rye Ledges	T. Vazzano
02-18	7	Rye	Rye Ledges	A. & B. Delorey
02-19	1	Manchester	Merrimack R.	G. Mitchell
02-28	14	Rye	Rye Ledges	R. Quinn
Great Blue Heron				
12-07	1	Exeter	Squamscott R., e. of sewer ponds	J. Broyles, D. Millett
12-13	1	New Castle	Great Is. Common	J. Romano, S. Weiker
12-13	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond, by Rt. 393	M. LeBlanc
12-16	1	Bow	PSNH plant	R. Quinn
01-14	1	Bow	Merrimack R.	J. Verville, K. Collins
01-19	2	Hopkinton	Farrington Corners Rd.	E. Verville
01-19	1	Peterborough	Main St. bridge, Contoocook R.	M. Johnson, B. Gnade

Common Loon by Iain MacLeod

Waterfowl

A very late Green-winged Teal was observed in Milford during January. Noteworthy were two Northern Pintails seen at Great Bay on December 4 and one in Nashua on December 30. A male Gadwall, present on Great Bay in November, lingered until December 3. Several American Wigeon overwintered on Great Bay. A young male Harlequin Duck observed and photographed at Seabrook Harbor on January 1 was in an unusual location. They usually prefer the open ocean. Barrow's Goldeneyes put in a strong showing with three on the Merrimack River in Manchester, two on Great Bay, and a few other single birds. No Brant were reported for the winter season, Oldsquaw were scarce, and numbers were low on all three scoter species.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Mute Swan				
01-29	40	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
Snow Goose				
12-01	2	Stratham	Great Bay, Sandy Pt.	G. Mitchell
12-02	2	Hopkinton	Contoocook field	E. Allison
12-04	3	Greenland	Great Bay	G. Mitchell
12-14	6	Hooksett	Dale Rd.	R. Landery
01-05	7	Hopkinton	Stickney Hill Rd.	M. Verville
Canada Goose				
12-02	75	Dublin	mud pond	J. Broyles
12-02	100	Columbia	residence	D. & B. Killam
12-03	2850	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
12-03	94	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
12-07	20	Nashua	Salmon Brook pond, Burke St.	B. Ayer
12-10	85	Dublin	mud pond on Rt. 1	J. Broyles
01-09	255	Durham	Adams Pt., Great Bay	S. Drew
02-21	4	Lebanon	below Wilder Dam	P. Hunt, J. Rychlik
Green-winged Teal				
01-13	1	Milford	Souhegan R., downtown	R. & M. Suomala
American Black Duck				
12-06	16	Bridgewater	Newfound Lake	T. Richards, K. Elkins
01-14	20	Monroe	cornfield	B. Bradley
01-18	3	Laconia	Winnisquam R.	A. & G. Robbins
01-31	33	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
02-27	4	Laconia	Winnisquam R.	A. & G. Robbins, R. Quinn
Mallard				
01-18	15	Laconia	Winnisquam R.	A. & G. Robbins
01-22	7	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
02-24	2	Pittsfield	Suncook R.	A. Robbins
02-27	17	Laconia	Lake Winnisquam & Winnisquam R.	A. & G. Robbins, R. Quinn

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Northern Pintail				
12-03	1	Milford	Souhegan R. near town center	R. Suomala
12-04	2	Greenland	Great Bay	G. Mitchell
12-30	1	Nashua	Crowne Plaza Hotel	D. Deifik
02-22	1	New Castle	along Rt. 1B	S. Mirick
02-25	1	Newmarket	Lamprey R.	S. Mirick
Gadwall				
12-03	1	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
Eurasian Wigeon				
12-12	1	Newmarket	Moody Pt.	G. Mitchell
American Wigeon				
12-01	50	Stratham	Great Bay, Sandy Pt.	G. Mitchell
12-03	23	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
12-21	1	Laconia		A. Ports
01-09	12	Durham	Great Bay, Adams Pt.	S. Drew
01-12	7	Durham	Adams Pt.	G. Mitchell, R. Martin
01-28	2	Newington	Great Bay NWR	S. Mirick, R. Suomala
02-03	6	Durham	Adams Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
Ring-necked Duck				
12-01	2	Stratham	Great Bay, Sandy Pt.	G. Mitchell
12-24	1	Manchester	Merrimack R. at wastewater treatment plant	K. Metz
Greater Scaup				
12-21	4	Belmont	Winnesquam L. from Lower Bay Rd.	W. Arms
01-12	25	Durham	Great Bay, Adams Pt.	G. Mitchell
02-18	950	Durham	Adams Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
Harlequin Duck				
01-01	1	Seabrook	Hampton Harbor	D. Donsker, M. Resch, D. Deifik
Black Scoter				
02-23	2	Hampton	Hampton Beach	P. Hunt, L. Bunten
02-24	18	Hampton	near Boar's Head	S. Mirick
Common Goldeneye				
12-03	60	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
12-06	4	Tilton	Silver Lake	T. Richards, K. Elkins
12-06	5	Hebron	Newfound Lake	T. Richards, K. Elkins
12-18	57	Newmarket	Great Bay, Moody Pt.	G. Mitchell
01-31	5	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
02-21	11	Lebanon	Connecticut R.	P. Hunt, L. Bunten
02-27	7	Laconia	Lake Winnisquam	A. & G. Robbins, R. Quinn
02-27	6	Belmont	Silver Lake	A. & G. Robbins, R. Quinn
Barrow's Goldeneye				
12-17	3	Manchester	Merrimack R., n. of Black Brook	G. Mitchell
12-25	1	Manchester	above Amoskeag Dam, Merrimack R.	D. Deifik
01-01	1	Greenland	Sandy Pt.	D. Deifik, M. Resch
01-12	1	Durham	Great Bay, Adams Pt.	G. Mitchell, R. Martin

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Bufflehead				
12-02	6	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	J. Broyles, D. Millett
12-25	40	New Castle	Back Channel	A. & B. Delorey
01-14	5	Durham	Great Bay, Adams Pt.	G. Mitchell
Hooded Merganser				
12-04	57	Hanover	River Rd.	L. Bunten, D. Crook
12-06	4	Franklin	Webster Lake	T. Richards, K. Elkins
12-06	10	Tilton	Silver Lake	T. Richards, K. Elkins
12-24	4	Ossipee	Pine R. boat ramp at Rt. 25	C. & J. Tewksbury
01-14	4	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
01-25	5	Lisbon	Ammonoosuc R.	B. Bradley
01-31	9	Bath	Ammonoosuc R.	B. Bradley
02-13	4	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
02-18	4	Kingston	Powwow Pond	J. Romano
02-27	5	Laconia	Winnisquam R.	A. & G. Robbins, R. Quinn
Common Merganser				
02-18	4	Stratham	Chapmans Landing	A. & B. Delorey
02-27	7	Laconia	Lake Winnisquam	A. & G. Robbins, R. Quinn
12-06	64	Franklin	Webster Lake	T. Richards, K. Elkins
Ruddy Duck				
12-03	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	A. & B. Delorey
Duck sp.				
01-15	225	Monroe	Connecticut R.	P. Powers

Hawks

At least 80 Bald Eagles were recorded in New Hampshire this winter, with 18 at Great Bay, seven in the Lakes Region, 10 along the Connecticut River, seven on the Androscoggin River, and 21 along the Merrimack River. Seven Rough-legged Hawks was a respectable number. After several years of a single Peregrine Falcon wintering in Manchester, two Peregrines were observed there this winter. A third Peregrine wintered in the Portsmouth-Dover area, often seen perched on the General Sullivan Bridge.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Turkey Vulture				
02-26	1	Hampton	Rt. 1, near Rt. 95 toll booths	D. & K. Hughes
02-26	1	Warner	Rt. 89 at mile 16	C. Martin
Northern Harrier				
12-19	1	Hampton	Rt. 1 rotary towards salt marsh	S. Drew
01-20	1	Dover	Farmwood Village, Rt. 108	E. Belloli
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
12-05	1	Strafford	residence	H. Cilley
12-10	1	Windham	residence	K. Metz
12-11	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano

date # town location observer(s)

Sharp-shinned Hawk (continued)

12-16	1		Saxtons River CBC, Walpole NH	
12-18	1	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
12-22	1	Concord	N. Spring St.	R. Quinn
12-28	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	J. & J. Romano
01-05	1	Gilmanton	Crystal L., Gilmanton Iron Works	W. Arms
01-10	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
02-06	1	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
02-08	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
02-11	1	Hudson	Barretts Hill	J. & L. Kegley
02-22	1	Jaffrey	Prospect St.	B. Elliott

Cooper's Hawk

12-06	1	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
12-07	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
12-12	1	Warner	jct. of Rts. 89 & 103	G. Stansfield
12-20	1	Hudson	Barretts Hill residence	J. & L. Kegley
01-26	1	Concord	over planetarium	M. Suomala

Northern Goshawk

12-28	1	Gorham	Jimtown Rd. swamp	J. Ely
January	1	Epsom	New Orchard Rd.	P. Call
01-15	1	Keene	Ralston St.	W. Goodwill
01-24	1	Bedford	Gault St.	Z. Lamb
01-27	1	Windham	residence	K. Metz
02-17	1	Madbury	Nute Rd.	D. Strong

Red-shouldered Hawk

02-24	1	Manchester	wastewater treatment plant	G. Mitchell
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Red-tailed Hawk

02-18	7		Great Bay	A. & B. Delorey
02-26	3		e. of Great Bay	T. Vazzano

Rough-legged Hawk

12-10	1	Greenland	off Newington Rd.	S. Mirick
12-15	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-01	1	Northwood	Rt. 4 e. of village	W. & K. Goodwill
01-13	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence & Cottage Hill	G. Gavutis
01-18	1	Lee	Steppingstone Rd. residence	A. Tappan
02-16	1	Piermont	River Rd.	A. Ports
02-28	1	Hampton	salt marsh	R. Quinn

American Kestrel

12-06	2	Hampton	Rt. 51 salt marsh	S. Drew
12-23	1	Greenland	Rt. 33	G. Mitchell
01-14	1	Greenland	Great Bay	G. Mitchell
01-22	1	Hampton	Hampton salt marsh	S. Drew
02-08	1	Merrimack	Reeds Ferry lumberyard	J. Albert

Merlin

12-22	1	Portsmouth	fish pier	M. Suomala
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<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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Peregrine Falcon

12-04	1	Dover	General Sullivan Bridge	S. Mirick
01-17	2	Manchester	Elm St., NYNEX microwave tower	I. MacLeod
12-18	2	Ossipee	Circuit Rd. on Pocket Mtn.	P. Hatch
12-29	2	Epsom	Center Hill Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
01-01	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence & Cottage Hill	G. Gavutis
01-21	2	Cambridge	Rt. 16 near Bog Brook	J. Brown
02-24	3	Salisbury	Bay Rd.	L. Deming

Turkey through Alcids

Wild Turkeys continue to increase in New Hampshire, with flocks of up to 40 birds seen in spite of the harsh, snowy winter. A late Killdeer appeared on the beach in Rye on December 23.

At least 16 Iceland Gulls were reported this winter, and for the third consecutive year, a dark-eyed Iceland Gull wintered at Seabrook Harbor. Numbers of Glaucous Gulls were up, with several seen inland at landfills. On the other hand, Black-legged Kittiwakes and alcids were scarce.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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Wild Turkey

12-04	11	Marlow	Sand Pond Rd.	M. & S. Wright
12-08	18	Amherst	Green Rd. on top of Christian Hill	M. Suomala
12-12	30	Concord	Diamond Hill, Stel-Lou Farm, on Rts. 202 & 9	T. McGann
12-13	23	Peterborough	Currier Ave.	J. Frechette
01-07	39	Haverhill	Knapp Rd.	A. Ports
01-3	2	Newport	off Rt. 10 by Newport Hgwy. Dept.	P. Newbern
02-01	40	Bath	farm fields	P. Powers
02-21	17	Plainfield	River Rd.	P. Hunt, J. Rychlik

Northern Bobwhite

12-23	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-16	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

American Coot

12-01	6	Stratham	Great Bay, Sandy Pt.	G. Mitchell
12-02	9	Strafford	Pipers Cove, Bow Lake	A. & H. Cilley, et al.
12-04	7	Stratham	Great Bay, Sandy Pt.	G. Mitchell, S. Drew

Killdeer

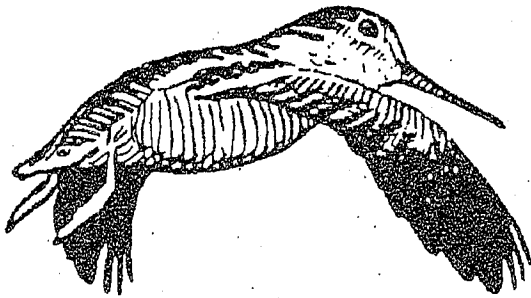
12-09	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
12-10	1	New Castle	near Wentworth CC	S. Mirick
12-23	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt.	A. & B. Delorey

Sanderling

01-28	20	Rye	Seal Rocks	S. Mirick
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Purple Sandpiper

12-25	5	Rye	Rye Ledges	A. & B. Delorey
02-18	4	Rye	Rye Ledges	A. & B. Delorey
02-28	12	Hampton	mouth of Hampton R.	R. Quinn



American Woodcock

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
American Woodcock				
12-12	1	Plymouth	Rt. 93, s. of exit 25, near Pemigewasset R.	R. Cook, C. Martin
Iceland Gull				
12-12	1	Lebanon	landfill	D. Crook
12-25	1	Seabrook	Hampton Harbor	A. & B. Delorey
01-01	1	Seabrook	Hampton Harbor	D. Donsker, M. Resch, D. Deifik
01-01	1	Seabrook	Hampton Harbor	A. & B. Delorey
02-03	1	Seabrook	Hampton Harbor	A. & B. Delorey
02-19	3	Manchester	wastewater treatment plant	G. Mitchell, H. Baldoumas
02-20	1	Manchester	below Rt. 293 bridge over Merrimack R.	B. & M. Harris
02-20	1	Manchester	Merrimack R., n. of Amoskeag Bridge	G. Mitchell
02-28	1	Manchester	wastewater treatment plant	G. Mitchell
Glaucous Gull				
12-12	1	Lebanon	landfill	P. Hunt
01-01	1	Bethlehem	Trudeau Rd. landfill	B. Bradley
02-10	1	Tamworth	town landfill	C. & J. Tewksbury
02-18	1	Bethlehem	Trudeau Rd. landfill	B. Bradley
02-20	1	Manchester	Merrimack R., n. of Amoskeag Bridge	G. Mitchell
02-24	1	Seabrook	Hampton Harbor	S. Mirick
02-28	1	Manchester	Merrimack R., Stark Landing	G. Mitchell
Great Black-backed Gull				
01-01	40	Bethlehem	Trudeau Rd. landfill	B. Bradley
01-18	90	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
Black-legged Kittiwake				
02-18	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
Black Guillemot				
12-03	7	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick
02-26	1	Rye	Rye Harbor St. Pk.	T. Vazzano
Mourning Dove				
12-03	21	Rindge	Kimball Rd. feeders	B. Palmer
12-15	32	Littleton	residence	B. Bradley
01-02	23	Milford	Federal Hill Rd. residence	B. Becker
02-13	20	Gilsun	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

Owls through Woodpeckers

The biggest news of the winter season was the **Great Gray Owl** invasion that brought several birds to New England and three to New Hampshire. The most famous was the bird discovered in Rochester near the Turnkey Landfill. This bird was seen and photographed by many birders. Unfortunately, it lingered only for a few days after its initial discovery. Another Great Gray, seen in Dover, was found dead a few days later. A third bird put in an appearance in Sanbornton. Previous Great Gray Owl invasions to New Hampshire include seven in the winter of 1978-79 and four in 1983-84. The heavy snows forced many resident owls out into the open in search of food. Many Barred Owls were seen at feeding stations. Two Boreal Owl reports were received this season, but the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee (NHRBC) did not accept either one (see summary on page 27 for details). The last Boreal Owl reported in New Hampshire was in 1979.

At the same time that owls invaded from the North, **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** invaded from the South. An amazing total of 21 sightings were reported, plus another 14 CBC records. The majority of these sightings occurred in December, although several lingered into January and February.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Eastern Screech-Owl				
12-22	1	Greenland	Bayside Rd.	M. Suomala
Great Horned Owl				
12-22	1	Peterborough	downtown	D. Rowell
Snowy Owl				
12-15	1	Concord	Fort Eddy Rd. Shopping Plaza	D. Stavros
Barred Owl				
12-09	1	Bedford	Baboosic Farm on Rt. 101	R. Frechette, D. Rowell
12-15	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	V. & M. Quinn
12-21	1	Brookline	residence	N. & M. Neveu
12-25	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon
12-29	1	Ossipee	residence	P. Hatch
01-01	1	Hopkinton	Bohanan Farm	G. Bohanan
01-11	1	Sandwich	residence	T. Vazzano
01-18	1	Laconia	Cross St.	D. Stavros, W. Arms
02-06	1	Plymouth	development across from Tenney Mtn.	F. Engel
02-07	1	Sunapee	Bradford Rd.	P. Francen
02-10	1	New London	Old Main St.	C. Edmunds, A. Vernon
02-21	1	Hopkinton	residence	H. Werner
02-21	1	New London	residence	J. Chapin
Great Gray Owl				
01-12	1	Sanbornton	residence	M. & V. Collard
01-13	1	Dover	Bellamy River WMA	J. Denik
02-28	1	Rochester	Rochester Neck Rd., s. of landfill	L. Driscoll, et al.
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
01-01	1	Sandwich	residence	T. Vazzano
01-26	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
02-17	1	Canaan	West Farms Rd.	L. Bunten

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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Belted Kingfisher

12-31	1	Manchester	e. bank of Merrimack R. at Devon St.	K. Metz, R. Tulloh
01-01	1	Rye	Cable Rd.	R. Aaronian
01-04	1	Durham	Great Bay, Adams Pt.	S. Drew
01-05	1	Durham	Adams Pt.	G. Mitchell
01-12	1	Durham	Adams Pt.	G. Mitchell, R. Martin
02-10	1	Bow	jct. of Rts. 89 & 93	D. & J. Strong

Red-bellied Woodpecker

12-01	1	Lancaster	Richardson St.	I. Baird
12-07	1	Hooksett	residence suet feeder	M. Israel
12-12	1	Durham	Mathes Cove Rd.	R. Mott
12-15	1	Hooksett	Sherwood Dr.	W. & J. Berry
12-20	1	Milton	Pineland Mobile Home Pk.	D. Mather
12-20	1	Nottingham	Cahill Ln.	S. Liddy
12-20	1	Pittsfield	Siel Rd.	J. Hamlin
12-22	1	Lee	residence suet feeder	R. Wolfe
12-22	2	Hooksett	Merrimack St.	J. MacDonald
12-23	1	Haverhill	Hazen Dr., N. Haverhill	P. & E. Johnson
12-23	2	Durham	Oyster River area	S. Mirick, J. Matthews, J. Anderson
12-23	1	Hollis	residence	M. Pease
12-25	1	Hudson	Daniel Webster Dr.	C. & E. Laffin
12-28	1	Madbury	Chase Farm, Nute Rd.	T. & L. Chase
12-28	1	Hollis	S. Merrimack St.	D. & R. Roach, et al.
01-11	1	Concord	Little Pond Rd.	A. Macey
02-11	1	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
02-12	1	S. Hampton	Main Ave.	B. McCarthy
02-26	1	Waterville Valley	n. end of Waterville Valley	L. Baker

Black-backed Woodpecker

01-01	1	Carroll	Bretton Woods Ski Area	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
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Northern Flicker

12-27	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
01-13	1	Amherst	Souhegan R., River Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
01-16	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
01-19	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	B. Delorey
01-28	3	Newington	Great Bay NWR	M. & R. Suomala, S. Mirick

Pileated Woodpecker

12-05	1	Bartlett	Rt. 16	D. Killam
12-16	2		Saxtons River CBC, Walpole NH	
12-21	1	Rochester	Juniper St.	R. Horn
01-02	1	Gorham	Jimtown Rd. residence	J. Brown
01-09	1	Jaffrey	Rt. 124	B. Elliott
01-14	1	Laçonia	near Weirs Beach	W. Arms
01-15	1	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
01-24	1	Allenstown	Cedar Circle	M. Ortisi
02-01	1	Tamworth	near Chocorua Village	P. Hatch
02-10	2	Bow	Dunbarton line	D. Birmingham
02-18	1	Gilford	B.Y. Bass	W. Arms
02-21	1	Kensington	Cottage Hill	G. Gavutis
02-23	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	B. Delorey

Horned Lark through Shrike

Many common feeder birds such as Black-capped Chickadees, Tufted Titmouse, and nuthatches were down in numbers. Surprisingly for such a cold and snowy winter, several Carolina Wrens were reported.

Continuing the trend of the past two years, over 100 Eastern Bluebirds were reported, most during December. A Brown Thrasher overwintered in New London. After a complete absence last year, Bohemian Waxwings returned in force, with over 2,000 reported. Northern Shrike counts were staggering, with 66 sightings in addition to CBC tallies.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Horned Lark				
01-08	18	Hopkinton	residence	J. & A. Bohanan
02-18	2	Lebanon	airport	A. & C. Ports
Gray Jay				
01-01	2	Sargents Purchase	Crawford Path	D. & J. Romano
Blue Jay				
12-15	44	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu, et al.
12-27	10	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
American Crow				
01-31	50	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
02-24	40	Monroe	farm field	B. Bradley
Common Raven				
01-13	11	Shelburne	Cascade Mtn. summit	C. Martin
01-20	7	Raymond	residence	G. Mitchell, S. Mitchell
01-22	2	Lee	Steppingstone Rd. residence	A. Tappan
02-03	2	Newmarket	Bay Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
White-breasted Nuthatch				
12-12	2	Milford	Federal Hill Rd. residence	B. Becker
12-23	4	Stratham	River Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
12-25	5	Newfields	town landing	A. & B. Delorey
01-07	2	Nashua	residence	J. Ayer
Carolina Wren				
12-01	1	Rochester	Rochester Hill Rd.	J. Wheeler
12-14	1	Salem	residence	K. Folsom
12-24	1	Dover	Prospect St.	D. Killam
02-02	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
01-13	2	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
01-23	2	Hanover	Dartmouth campus	A. & M. Mudge
Eastern Bluebird				
12-04	15	Greenland	Great Bay	G. Mitchell
12-10	7	Hinsdale	Hinsdale Bluffs	A. Greenwood
12-21	15	Lee	Riverside Farm Dr.	R. Gehling
01-14	8	Hollis	Clinton Dr.	R. Creamer

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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Hermit Thrush

12-16	1		Saxtons River CBC, Walpole NH	
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American Robin

12-25	2	Belmont	Linda Dr.	E. Deitrick
01-08	1	Concord	Harrison St.	D. Lamarre
02-03	2	Londonderry	Mac's Apple Orchard, Rt. 28	S. Maguire
02-25	5	Kensington	Cottage Hill	G. Gavutis

Brown Thrasher

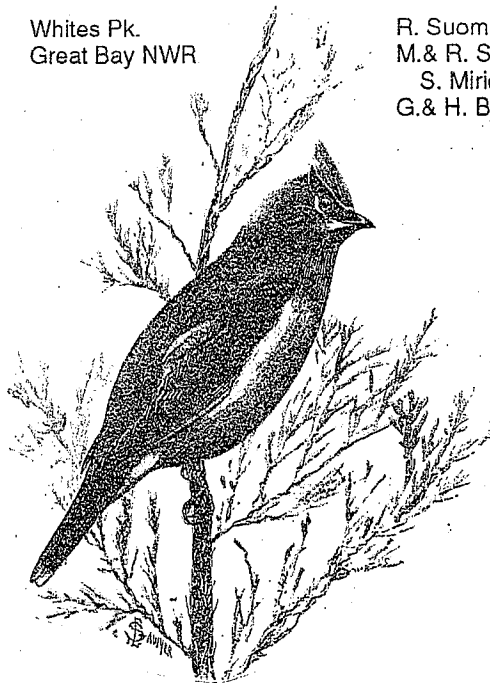
12-20	1	New Ipswich	Perry Rd.	F. Blackburn
12-31	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon
01-29	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon
02-07	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon

Bohemian Waxwing

01-31	30	Bow	Birchtree Ln. off Clinton St.	C. Reynolds
12-03	250	Canterbury	Hildreth's field	R. Quinn
12-16	210		Saxtons River CBC, Walpole NH	
12-24	55	Madbury	Chase Farm, Nute Rd.	T. Chase
12-29	50	Epsom	Center Hill Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
01-17	50	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	K. Sorlin
01-29	25	Franklin	Rt. 3 s.	W. Goodwill
02-04	120	Laconia	corner of N. Main & Mitchell Place	H. Anderson
02-04	150	Durham	Foss Farm	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
02-17	25	Northwood	Noel's Bird Feeders, Rt. 4	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
02-18	100	Goffstown	Wallace Rd. residence	B. Lemire

Cedar Waxwing

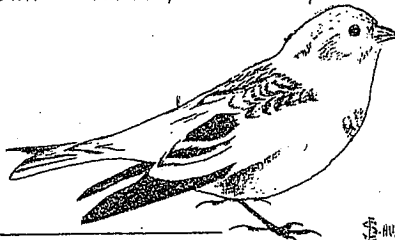
01-16	57	Concord	Whites Pk.	R. Suomala
01-28	20	Newington	Great Bay NWR	M. & R. Suomala, S. Mirick
02-25	14	Walpole		G. & H. Beck



Warblers through Snow Bunting

In anticipation of the harsh winter, warblers wisely moved south. The only warbler report for the season was a single Yellow-rumped on the coastal CBC. Sparrows were also notably scarce—not even a single Savannah or Swamp Sparrow was reported for the season. An Eastern Towhee (formerly the Rufous-sided Towhee) wintered at a residence in Windham. Interestingly, the only Lapland Longspur was inland. They are more commonly found on the seacoast.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Northern Cardinal				
12-01	14	Goffstown	Wallace Rd.	D. Hinton
12-20	3	Pembroke	residence	K. Palfy
12-27	6	Mont Vernon	residence	M. Suomala
02-14	12	Concord	South St.	M. Frye
02-14	3	Milford	Federal Hill Rd. residence	B. Becker
Eastern Towhee				
01-01	1	Windham	residence	K. Metz
02-24	1	Windham	residence	K. Metz
American Tree Sparrow				
12-01	9	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
12-14	10	Littleton	residence	B. Bradley
01-18	7	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-11	7	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
02-22	23	Windham	residence	K. Metz
Fox Sparrow				
12-02	1	Strafford	Tupelo Pt. residence, Bow Lake	A. & H. Cilley
12-03	1	Exeter	High St. residence	E. Ring
Lapland Longspur				
12-16	1		Saxtons River CBC, Walpole NH	
Snow Bunting				
01-07	20	Haverhill	Knapp Rd.	A. Ports
12-02	8	Candia	Rt. 1	J. Broyles
12-03	10	Dublin	over mud pond	J. Broyles
12-10	10	Newmarket	Moody Pt.	G. Mitchell
01-07	20	Plymouth	Beech Hill Rd.	A. Greenwood
01-10	32	Tilton	Calef Hill Rd.	C. Johnson
01-16	27	Boscawen	Merrimack County Nursing Home	H. Miller, et al.
01-16	14	Gilmanton	residence	L. & J. Wininger
01-16	20	Goffstown	Rt. 114, across from prison	L. Churchill



Blackbirds through Evening Grosbeak

A Baltimore Oriole lingered in Exeter through December 11. Over 600 Pine Grosbeaks were reported, in sharp contrast to last year's absence. Purple Finches were almost nonexistent this winter, and numbers of House Finch and Pine Siskins were down. Common Redpolls put in a strong showing. Two Hoary Redpolls were reported, although only the one from the Sandwich CBC was accepted by the NHRBC (see page 26).

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Red-winged Blackbird				
02-22	1	Kensington	residence ponds	G. Gavutis
02-26	4	Londonderry	Devonshire Ln.	H. Chary
02-27	15	N. Hampton	Rt. 111 at Post Rd.	D. Donsker
02-27	12	Manchester	Mammoth Rd.	M. Sudak, S. Boutin
Common Grackle				
12-13	2	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
01-07	2	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
02-27	35	N. Hampton	Rt. 111 at Post Rd.	D. Donsker
02-28	2	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
02-29	3	Sandwich	near school	J. Vernon
Baltimore Oriole				
12-11	1	Exeter	Elliot St.	R. Aaronian
Pine Grosbeak				
12-08	12	Hanover	Rt. 10 n. of Dartmouth College	D. Crook
12-12	8	Haverhill	Beech St., Woodsville	M. Mullen
12-19	13	Manchester	Countryside Dr.	L. & P. Sunderland
12-29	10	Shelburne	North Rd.	K. Dube, S. Blais
01-01	12	Carroll	Bretton Woods Ski Area	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
01-03	11	Concord	St. Paul's School	K. Tuttle
01-03	12	New London	County Rd. residence	H. & P. Curtiss
01-15	10	New Boston		K. Lauren
01-17	12	Concord	Steeplegate Mall	P. Willey
02-02	12	Concord	Clinton St. at S. Concord Meadows	C. Martin, R. Smith
02-09	25	Concord	Clinton St. at S. Concord Meadows	C. Martin
Red Crossbill				
12-10	8	Gorham	Jimtown Rd. swamp	J. Ely
Common Redpoll				
12-09	35	Hanover	King Rd.	D. Crook
12-13	32	Concord	jct. of Fish & Long Pond Rds.	L. Deming
12-16	255		Saxtons River CBC, Walpole NH	
12-22	51	Sandwich	residence	T. Vazzano
01-07	50	Gorham	Jimtown Rd.	J. Brown, J. Ely
01-12	200	Kensington	Horse Hill	G. Gavutis
01-21	54	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-29	30	Northwood	Ridge Rd. & Rt. 4	A. & G. Robbins
02-01	34	Keene	Hilltop Dr.	A. Greenwood

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
02-11	100	Lancaster	residence	J. Jackson
02-11	30	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
02-14	50	Derry	Brady Ave.	K. Gifford
02-15	50	Jaffrey	Highland Ave.	B. Elliot
02-16	100	Rindge	Kimball Rd. residence	B. Palmer
02-20	75	Keene	Hilltop Dr.	A Greenwood
02-25	70	Enfield	Rt. 4A	P. Hunt, D. Crook
02-26	120	Hancock	Harris Center, Kings Hwy.	M. Cadot
02-27	60	Newbury	Stoney Brook WS	C. Martin
02-27	40	Londonderry	Devonshire Ln.	H. Chary

Pine Siskin

12-23	6	Windham	residence	J. & J. Romano
12-23	3	Rindge	Kimball Rd. residence	B. Palmer
01-20	3	Lee	Steppingstone Rd. residence	A. Tappan
01-23	4	Laconia	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. Robbins
02-25	5	Pittsfield	Tilton Hill Rd.	A. & G. Robbins

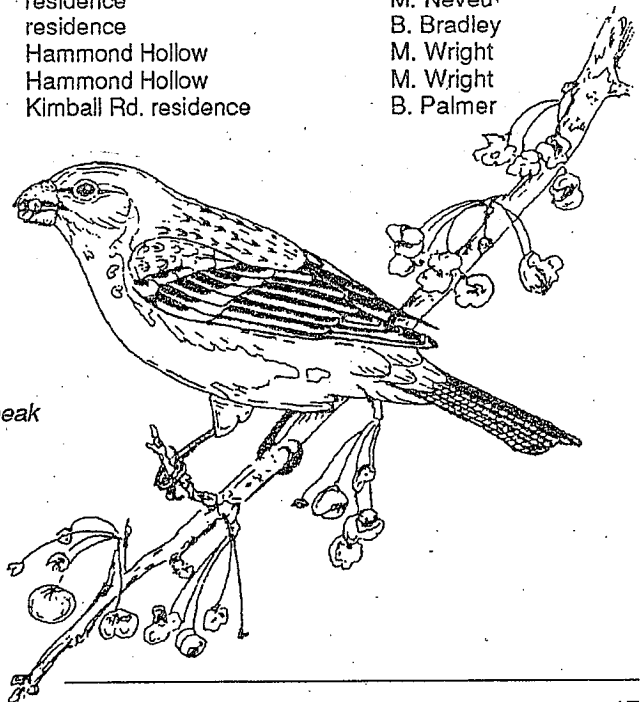
American Goldfinch

12-24	70	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
01-12	100	Greenland	Liams Court	G. Mitchell
02-11	40	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris

Evening Grosbeak

12-03	18	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
12-05	20	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
12-16	22	Littleton	residence	B. Bradley
12-16	30	Rindge	Kimball Rd. residence	B. Palmer
12-19	14	Concord	West Parish Rd.	E. Wilson
12-23	10	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
01-05	18	Littleton	residence	B. Bradley
01-11	19	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-09	10	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-15	70	Rindge	Kimball Rd. residence	B. Palmer

Pine Grosbeak



Christmas Bird Count Highlights

There were several state-wide CBC highlights this year. Wild Turkeys set a few first count records and a few high CBC tallies, producing a statewide total of 219. Red-bellied Woodpeckers were well-represented with an impressive total of 14. Several counts set record totals of Northern Shrike, with an incredible statewide total of 54. Several counts had record or near-record counts of Pileated Woodpeckers, for a total of 58. Three counts set records for Common Raven to propel New Hampshire to a statewide total of 192. The Tufted Titmouse continues to push its frontier northward; it set a second count record in Littleton and record counts on North Conway and Lake Sunapee CBCs. Keene and Baker Valley both posted record low totals for Blue Jays. Two new counts were added this year: Manchester and Sandwich.

The Nashua-Hollis CBC set first-count records for Mute Swan and Wild Turkey (13), a third count record of Green-winged Teal, and its fourth record for Northern Pintail. Its four Red-bellied Woodpeckers set the second-highest all-time record for any New Hampshire CBC. Record-high totals were reported from the Nashua-Hollis count for Great Blue Heron (6), Sharp-shinned Hawk (6), Ring-billed (269), Herring (4653) and Great Black-backed (985) Gulls, Eastern Bluebird (25, eclipsed only by the Lee-Durham count this year), and Northern Shrike (6). The Peterborough-Hancock CBC recorded its highest total of Wild Turkey (46). The Keene CBC reported its highest counts of Wild Turkey (94), Horned Lark (166), and Snow Bunting (188).

The Seacoast CBC took place during a snowstorm that hampered visibility, resulting in record low counts of Horned and Red-necked Grebes, Black Scoters, and Common Goldeneyes. The seacoast had a Eurasian Wigeon for the second year in a row and its second-highest Northern Shrike count with nine (13 in 1978). Lee-Durham posted second-count records of Northern Pintail, Lesser Scaup, and Barrow's Goldeneye. It had record-high totals for Red-breasted Merganser (126), Cooper's Hawk (3), Northern Goshawk (3), Glaucous Gull (5), Horned Lark (57), Blue Jay (743), Eastern Bluebird (41, record-high total ever recorded on any New Hampshire CBC), Bohemian Waxwing (63), Northern Shrike (9), and Northern Cardinal (78). An incredible total of eight Red-bellied Woodpeckers set an all-time high for any New Hampshire CBC.

The Concord CBC had its third count record for Wild Turkey and Red-bellied Woodpecker, its fourth count record for Bohemian Waxwing, and a record-high total for Northern Cardinal (48). The Laconia-New Hampton count reported its first Wild Turkey and record high totals for Sharp-shinned Hawk (4), Pileated Woodpecker (14, record-high total ever recorded on any New Hampshire CBC), Common Raven (15), and Northern Shrike (5).

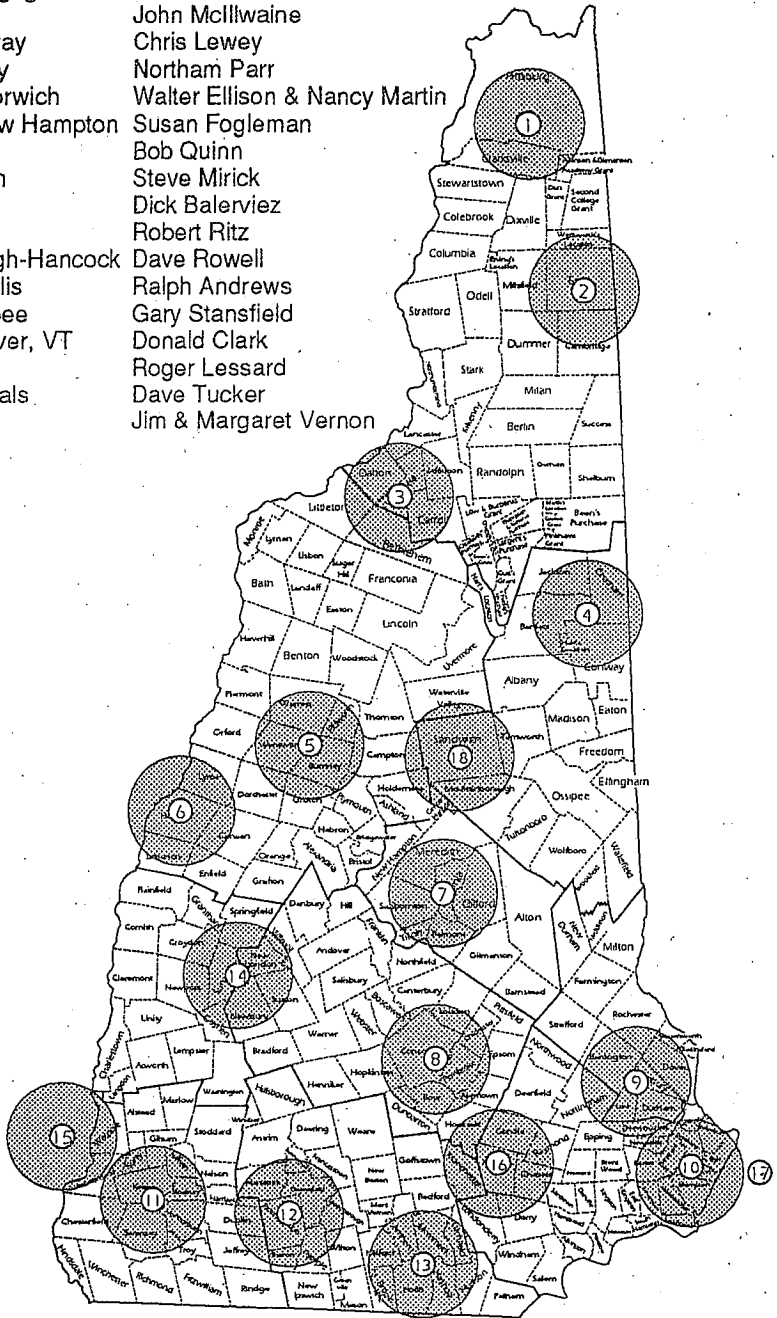
Hanover-Norwich saw its first count record of White-crowned Sparrow, second count record of Merlin, Glaucous Gull, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and record-high totals for Common Merganser (63), Northern Goshawk (3), Wild Turkey (19, fourth count record), Common Raven (37), and Northern Shrike (4, tied 1975). Baker Valley also reported its first count record of Wild Turkey and a record high total of five Pileated Woodpeckers (tied 1985).

Littleton had its second count record of Wild Turkey and Tufted Titmouse, plus its second-highest total of Pileated Woodpecker (6). Pittsburg recorded high totals for Hooded Merganser (4, tied 1993), Common Raven (55), and Northern Shrike (3, tied 1991).

North Conway saw its first Boreal Chickadees in that count's seven-year history, plus record-high totals for Tufted Titmouse (28) and Brown Creeper (7). Lake Sunapee (in its sixth year) had record high totals for Hairy Woodpecker (22), Tufted Titmouse (21), and American Tree Sparrow (14), plus its first ever Brown Thrasher and Pine Grosbeak.

Christmas Bird Count Compilers

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Pittsburg | Dennis Abbott |
| 2 | Errol-Umbagog | Dennis Abbott |
| 3 | Littleton | John McIlwaine |
| 4 | North Conway | Chris Lewey |
| 5 | Baker Valley | Northam Parr |
| 6 | Hanover-Norwich | Walter Ellison & Nancy Martin |
| 7 | Laconia-New Hampton | Susan Fogleman |
| 8 | Concord | Bob Quinn |
| 9 | Lee-Durham | Steve Mirick |
| 10 | Coastal | Dick Balerviez |
| 11 | Keene | Robert Ritz |
| 12 | Peterborough-Hancock | Dave Rowell |
| 13 | Nashua-Hollis | Ralph Andrews |
| 14 | Lake Sunapee | Gary Stansfield |
| 15 | Saxton's River, VT | Donald Clark |
| 16 | Manchester | Roger Lessard |
| 17 | Isles of Shoals | Dave Tucker |
| 18 | Sandwich | Jim & Margaret Vernon |



96th Christmas Bird Count: Dec. 16, 1995 - Jan. 2, 1996

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	Isles	LeeDu	Cncrd
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	49	8	3	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	1	15	-	-
Northern Gannet	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
Great Cormorant	-	-	-	7	52	-	-
Great Blue Heron	6	-	-	3	1	3	1
Mute Swan	1	-	-	35	-	2	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Canada Goose	159	33	60	1672	101	10	1
Wood Duck	2	-	-	CW	-	CW	-
Green-winged Teal	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
American Black Duck	117	-	1	713	20	353	6
Mallard	1240	-	3	824	-	783	241
Northern Pintail	1	-	-	1	-	3	-
Eurasian Wigeon	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	7	-	1	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	113	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Common Eider	-	-	-	26	600	-	-
Oldsquaw	-	-	-	16	400	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	1	43	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	19	29	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	47	17	-	-
Common Goldeneye	1	-	-	95	50	129	9
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	CW	1	2	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	39	-	129	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Common Merganser	55	-	-	11	-	7	9
Red-br. Merganser	-	-	-	121	40	126	-
Duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	1	-	-	1	-	2	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6	1	-	1	-	4	CW
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	3	-
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	1	-	3	-
Accipiter sp.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Red-tailed Hawk	16	2	2	5	-	12	7
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	2	-	-	3	-	-	1
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	4	-	1	1	-	5	-
Ruffed Grouse	4	6	2	2	-	4	-
Wild Turkey	13	46	94	-	-	1.	9
Northern Bobwhite	-	-	2	-	-	-	CW
American Coot	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Sanderling	-	-	-	66	-	-	-
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	-	16	42	-	-
Dunlin	-	-	-	40	-	-	-
Common Snipe	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

Lenia	Hnovr	BkrVI	Ltftn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnwy	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	-	2115
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
40	19	1	-	-	-	5	14	75	-	1364
409	66	-	-	-	6	53	142	807	7	4581
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	117
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	626
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	416
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64
182	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	-	516
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	168
50	5	-	1	1	4	-	2	-	-	66
65	63	-	-	31	-	-	-	26	1	268
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	287
-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	20
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
1	3	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	12
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
3	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	12	-	66
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
5	3	1	6	7	3	4	1	-	4	52
1	19	9	24	-	-	-	2	-	1	219
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

96th Christmas Bird Count (continued)

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	Isles	LeeDu	Cncrd
Black-headed Gull	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	11	1	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	269	-	-	306	2	42	2
Herring Gull	4653	-	109	3092	3500	3952	4
Iceland Gull	2	-	2	1	2	3	-
Glaucous Gull	57	-	-	-	-	5	-
Great Bla.-bac. Gull	985	-	349	789	720	545	4
Larus Sp.	-	-	96	-	-	-	-
Bla.-leg. Kittiwake	-	-	-	-	10	-	-
Razorbill	-	-	-	-	14	-	-
Black Guillemot	-	-	-	-	49	-	-
Alcidae Sp.	-	-	-	-	12	-	-
Rock Dove	804	219	234	1229	-	965	472
Mourning Dove	683	253	156	1022	-	546	318
Eastern Screech-owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	2	2	-	3	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	3	-	3	-	4	-
Belted Kingfisher	7	-	-	1	-	2	-
Red-bel. Woodpecker	4	-	-	1	-	8	1
Downy Woodpecker	112	51	24	63	-	84	37
Hairy Woodpecker	49	50	30	23	-	42	19
Bla.-bac. Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	4	-	-	6	-	3	-
Pileated Woodpecker	3	6	3	3	-	3	2
Horned Lark	70	-	166	142	-	57	11
Gray Jay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	522	224	99	324	-	743	270
American Crow	811	138	671	553	-	508	161
Common Raven	-	9	8	-	-	4	2
Black-cap. Chickadee	937	1056	703	1095	-	1002	363
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	195	71	39	157	-	180	50
Red-br. Nuthatch	24	52	24	14	-	35	15
White-br. Nuthatch	146	76	36	74	-	118	38
Brown Creeper	13	3	2	1	-	5	2
Carolina Wren	2	-	1	-	-	CW	-
Winter Wren	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marsh Wren	2	5	16	6	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	25	-	-	5	-	41	-
American Robin	5	-	4	1	-	6	2
N. Mockingbird	81	2	5	88	-	60	7
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	1	-	-	-	4	63	19
Cedar Waxwing	51	-	-	17	-	33	38
Northern Shrike	6	7	1	9	1	9	1
European Starling	2564	231	530	10078	-	1545	247
Myrtle Warbler	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	92	23	20	117	-	78	48
Am. Tree Sparrow	186	40	34	284	-	120	80
Field Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	9	-	-	59	1	15	4
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

Lonia	Hnovr	BkrVI	Litn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnwy	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	-	683
133	50	-	6	-	-	-	-	354	-	15853
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
117	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	370	-	3999
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
209	911	18	221	-	2	67	47	877	38	6313
393	460	66	162	2	9	171	154	182	27	4604
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
3	1	CW	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	18
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
72	58	19	6	11	5	41	14	32	17	646
52	34	19	20	4	9	26	22	17	26	442
-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	15
14	6	5	6	1	1	-	CW	1	4	58
-	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	484
-	-	CW	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	5
386	179	86	122	31	18	60	65	245	37	3411
234	878	51	103	4	46	64	55	528	26	4831
15	37	7	23	10	55	17	2	1	2	192
1876	1595	676	260	276	357	555	546	317	439	12053
-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	8
69	41	11	5	-	-	28	21	48	25	940
65	30	35	28	36	23	51	9	6	37	484
97	83	27	11	1	1	36	13	33	49	839
17	10	1	3	1	-	7	-	2	1	68
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2	1	2	-	6	2	2	1	1	-	46
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	80
1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	1	262
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
356	169	-	12	-	-	-	-	28	-	652
-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	10	1	156
5	4	CW	1	2	3	-	2	1	2	54
616	251	183	247	2	15	77	121	2514	38	19259
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
19	13	4	3	-	-	8	10	9	-	444
134	96	CW	14	-	-	6	14	30	1	1039
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

96th Christmas Bird Count (continued)

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	Isles	LeeDu	Cncrd
White-thr. Sparrow	3	-	--	7	-	4	-
White-cr. Sparrow	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	188	31	11	-	-	75	18
Snow Bunting	50	44	188	-	1	64	1
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Common Grackle	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Br.-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Baltimore Oriole	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	1	3	38	CW	-	-	30
Purple Finch	1	-	1	2	-	2	-
House Finch	280	65	60	421	-	520	188
Whi.-wing. Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	56	-	-	4	-	28	65
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	301	141	48	404	-	456	108
Evening Grosbeak	21	27	52	9	3	25	16
House Sparrow	1057	201	252	1760	-	1140	310
Number of Species	64	33	43	87	34	66	46

Total Number of Species Across all CBCs: 124

CW = Count Week

Nshua = Nashua-Hollis

Petrb = Peterborough-Hancock

Keene = Keene

Coast = Seacoast

Isles = Isles of Shoals

LeeDu = Lee-Durham

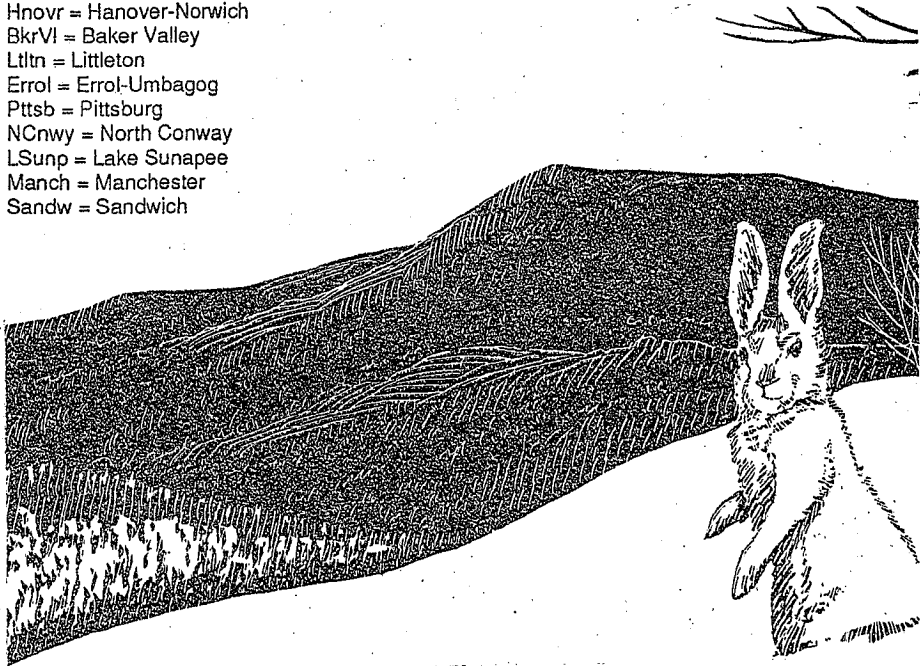
Cncrd = Concord



Illustration by John Quinn

Lcnia	Hnovr	BkrVI	Ltltn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnwy	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
4	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	20
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
6	23	-	3	-	1	3	3	13	1	376
31	64	-	2	-	17	10	-	-	-	472
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	103	29	29	33	259	4	10	-	2	541
4	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
188	175	-	-	-	-	8	4	60	-	1969
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
174	52	54	108	21	51	61	-	25	64	763
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	13	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	15
57	73	-	-	-	-	3	4	62	31	1688
16	121	46	87	3	39	73	24	18	27	607
739	253	62	74	-	3	7	149	544	11	6562
51	50	27	36	25	26	30	30	43	30	

Lcnia = Laconia-New Hampton
 Hnovr = Hanover-Norwich
 BkrVI = Baker Valley
 Ltltn = Littleton
 Errol = Errol-Umbagog
 Pttsb = Pittsburg
 NCnwy = North Conway
 LSunp = Lake Sunapee
 Manch = Manchester
 Sandw = Sandwich



1995 New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee Decisions

Beginning with this issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records* and continuing in subsequent Winter Season issues, the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee (NHRBC) plans to publish the results of its decisions on rare birds from the preceding four seasons. Here you will find the NHRBC's decisions for Spring, Summer, and Fall 1995, and Winter 1995-96. The current committee members are Bob Quinn, secretary, Dennis Abbott, Alan Delorey, Peter Hunt, Steve Mirick, Andrea Robbins, and George Robbins.

Spring 1995

Species accepted by the committee:

- Great Cormorant, Mascoma Lake (Enfield) on May 6 and 26. Presumably this was the same bird that was present at this location during the late fall of 1994.
- Least Bittern, Ballard Marsh (Derry) on May 20. Well-described, seen and heard.
- Least Bittern, Horsehide Creek (Durham) on May 29. Heard and tape-recorded.
- Tricolored Heron, Odiome Point (Rye) on May 29. Well-described.
- White-faced Ibis, Chapman's Landing (Stratham) on April 15. A first state record. Seen by several observers and photographed.
- Black Vulture, Nashua on April 21. Possibly the same bird found on the Nashua Christmas Bird Count the previous December.
- Black Skimmer, Durham on May 16. Photographs conclusive.
- Acadian Flycatcher, Singing bird at Lake Massabesic (Auburn) on May 14.
- Yellow-throated Warbler, Clough State Park (Weare) from April 30 to May 20. This singing male was seen by numerous observers during its extended stay.
- Cerulean Warbler, Pawtuckaway State Park (Nottingham) on May 27. This sighting was notable because it involved a female building a nest, the first confirmed breeding in New Hampshire. Cerulean Warblers have become regular enough at this location that they may no longer require review by the committee.
- Hooded Warbler, Pawtuckaway State Park (Nottingham) on April 28. A well-described male, this was the first state record of this species in several years.
- "Oregon" Junco, Chester on March 14. A well-described individual, probably of the Rocky Mountain subspecies; visiting a feeder.

Species not accepted by the committee:

- Broad-winged Hawk, Concord on March 30. This date would be very early for this species, and the observer did not convincingly eliminate the more likely Red-shouldered Hawk.
- "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk, Manchester on March 13. The observer described what was definitely a dark-plumaged Red-tailed Hawk, but the bird was not necessarily this rare western subspecies because eastern Red-taileds show extensive variation.

Golden Eagle, Gorham on April 2. Observer did not convincingly eliminate Bald Eagle.

Upland Sandpiper, Hampton marshes on April 23. This would be an unusual location for this species, and the description did not eliminate other large shorebirds.

Iceland Gull, Horseshoe Pond (Concord) on May 19. Description unclear.

Western Kingbird, Sandy Point (Stratham) on April 11. Although well-described, this species is exceedingly rare in spring in the Northeast, especially at such an early date. Some members of the committee were thus reluctant to accept the record without corroboration from an additional observer.

Kentucky Warbler, Wilton on May 30. The details on this sighting did not eliminate female Common Yellowthroat as a possibility.

Indigo Bunting, Keene on March 24. The exceptionally early date on this sighting is what caused it to go to the committee, who felt that the details provided were not convincing enough to completely eliminate other possibilities.

"Ipswich" Sparrow, Moody Point (Newmarket) on March 4. This species is very rare away from the immediate coast, and the description provided did not eliminate more likely species.

Black-throated Sparrow, Concord on April 6. Description did not eliminate House Sparrow.

Hybrid Hooded x Common Merganser, Lake Wantastiquet (Hinsdale) on March 19.

The observers described a bird that certainly could be such a hybrid, but the committee felt that it was not qualified to make a final decision on its parentage.

Species still under review:

Sedge Wren, Pontook Reservoir (Dummer) on May 20. Initially not accepted by the committee and still not accepted after additional information was provided. A second sighting has come to light, and the record will be reconsidered by the committee.

Summer 1995

Species accepted by the committee:

Black Vulture, two birds at Mt. Monadnock on June 4. The fifth state record for this species.

Little Gull, Dover on July 10. Well-described and very unusual for mid-summer.

Acadian Flycatcher, Lyndeborough on June 18. Singing male heard by observer familiar with the species.

Grasshopper Sparrow, Pease Airfield (Newington) on June 1.

Species not accepted by the committee:

Brown Pelican, Newcastle on June 13. The observer did not provide an adequate description of this bird.

Long-eared Owl, Hancock on June 7. There were insufficient details provided for the committee to properly evaluate this record.

Say's Phoebe, Wolfeboro in early June. Observer did not convincingly eliminate the more likely Eastern Phoebe.

Fall 1995

Species accepted by the committee:

- Manx Shearwater, seen from shore in Rye on October 21 during a strong fall storm.
- Leach's Storm-Petrel, Hampton Harbor on October 6. Well-described.
- Eurasian Wigeon, Great Bay on November 24. A well-described young male.
- Eurasian Wigeon, Exeter Sewage Ponds on November 28. Believed to be same individual as the above sighting due to plumage similarities.
- Eurasian Wigeon, Great Bay on September 24. An adult seen through the fall.
- Sandhill Crane, Marshes near Odiorne Point State Park (Rye) on November 4. Conclusive photographs of a bird that flew over and landed in the marshes.
- American Avocet, Hampton Beach on September 15. Four birds landed on the beach and were well-described.
- Parasitic Jaeger, Seen from shore in Rye on October 21. Accepted as Jaeger sp. unless further information can help to pinpoint the species:
- Lesser Black-backed Gull, Mascoma Lake (Enfield) from November 11 to 20. A well-described bird seen on three occasions.
- Black-legged Kittiwake, Mascoma Lake (Enfield) on November 19 and 20. Seen two consecutive days by two different observers.
- Caspian Tern, Hampton Beach State Park on October 28. Seen at very close range.
- Rufous Hummingbird, Tamworth on August 10. This extremely rare western species has now been seen in the last three fall seasons.

Species not accepted by the committee:

- Rough-legged Hawk, Hinsdale on August 11. Because of the extremely early date and the similarities with dark plumaged Red-tailed Hawks, this report could not be accepted in a fall when very few were reported in the east.
- Rough-legged Hawk, Peterborough on September 11. See comments for previous sighting.
- Gyr Falcon, Keene on November 22. Short observation period with no optics.
- Black-backed Woodpecker, Hinsdale on August 11. Short observation period with no optics.
- Loggerhead Shrike, New London on October 20. In a fall season that was inundated with Northern Shrikes, there was insufficient information to support identification of this rare and declining species.
- Orange-crowned Warbler, Sandwich on August 27. Insufficient details to accept for such an early date.
- Pacific Golden-Plover, Hampton Harbor (Seabrook) on September 16. A well-described and photographed bird from an experienced observer, but photos were inconclusive. More information was needed to separate the more common American Golden-Plover from this recently named species.
- Common Ringed Plover, Hampton on August 31. Unfortunately, the only sure way to identify this species from the Semipalmated Plover is by its call note, which was not heard.
- Brambling, Rochester on October 23. A very interesting report from an experienced observer, but insufficient to accept as a first state record.

Winter 1995-96

Species accepted by the committee:

Eurasian Wigeon, Great Bay in Newmarket on December 12.

Great Gray Owl, Sanbornton on January 12. Well-described.

Great Gray Owl, Dover on January 13. This bird was found dead a few days later.

Great Gray Owl, Rochester on February 28. This bird was seen by many observers and photographed.

Hoary Redpoll, Sandwich on December 23 was accepted. This bird was photographed.

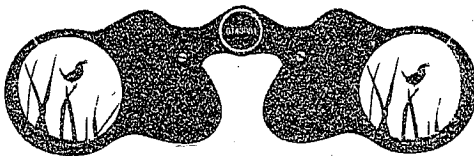
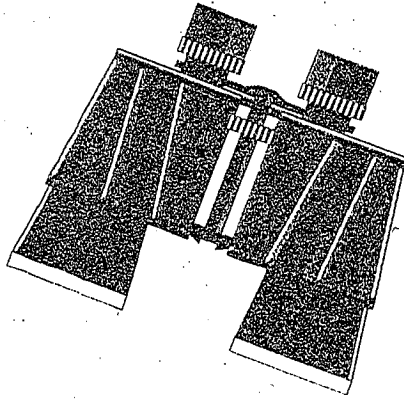
Species not accepted by the committee:

Great Gray Owl, Somersworth on January 9 was not accepted due to lack of sufficient details. The observers had no binoculars and did not note the "bow tie" or the eye color.

Boreal Owl, Epsom on December 26 was not accepted due to lack of sufficient details. Northern Saw-whet Owl and Eastern Screech-owl were not eliminated as possibilities.

Boreal Owl, Manchester on January 16 was not accepted due to insufficient details (no mention of bill color and forehead pattern) and concern about night-time lighting conditions.

Hoary Redpoll, Newbury on February 4 was not accepted due to lack of sufficient details. Details such as the abbreviated red cap, unstreaked undertail coverts, head and bill shape were not noted.



The Return of the Baltimore Oriole

by Peter Hunt

Readers of upcoming issues of *New Hampshire Bird Records* may notice some unfamiliar names: Eastern Towhee, Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow, and Bicknell's Thrush, plus the return of the old standby Baltimore Oriole (which many people never stopped using anyway). What is going on here? Are these name changes merely part of a nefarious plot to sell new editions of field guides, or are they based on some more rational thinking?

As you may have guessed, the latter is the correct explanation. While all these "new" birds are in fact the same old species with a different name, the name change reflects a fundamental change in how we think about each species. In all four cases, the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) has reviewed new data and come to the decision that more than one species existed where previously we thought there was only one. Such decisions are colloquially called "splits" because they result in one species being split into two or more.

Several different types of information are considered when making such taxonomic decisions, including plumage, morphology, vocalizations, behavior, biochemistry (proteins and DNA), and the extent of hybridization of the two forms. Each of the above splits was based on at least four of these six criteria, and in the interests of space I'll discuss only the oriole in detail.

Prior to the mid-1970s, there were two species of orioles recognized by the AOU in northern North America: Bullock's in the west and Baltimore in the east. The two species' ranges overlapped in the Great Plains, where they occasionally hybridized. It was this tendency to hybridize, discussed in detail in a paper published in 1964, that prompted the AOU to lump the two species into one, dubbed the Northern Oriole. After 1973, Baltimore Orioles existed only as a subspecies and a baseball team.

More recent work on the species, however, has turned up some new information, some of which was not available to researchers in the 1960s. First of these was simply the passage of time. In the 30 years following the initial oriole study, the frequency of hybrids and their distribution has remained essentially the same, suggesting that hybridization is of relatively limited occurrence and that gene flow between the two orioles is extremely limited. Since the initial study, the importance of song as an isolating mechanism has received greater acknowledgment, and the two orioles certainly have different vocalizations. Other differences that have turned up include allele frequencies (genetic differences), molt physiology, nesting behavior, size, and, of course, the original difference, plumage patterns.

The observation that all these characters shift fairly abruptly between the western and eastern populations of Northern Oriole convinced the AOU that the decision to lump the two species was probably made too hastily. Thus we have our Baltimore Orioles back, and the tantalizing possibility of finding a Bullock's Oriole to boot. Of course, what the

AOU's decision really means is that Baltimore Oriole never left; the Northern Oriole was last seen thousands of years ago, before it was separated into eastern and western forms.

So that's the story on the oriole, but what about these more obscure splits involving sparrows, towhees, and thrushes? In a nutshell, all involve populations that were formerly considered subspecies and which recent research has shown to be more distinct than originally thought. The two species of sharp-tailed sparrow (STS) are the Saltmarsh STS from southern Maine south and the Nelson's STS from Maine, Atlantic Canada and interior western Canada (see following article). Rufous-sided Towhee has two well-marked populations, one eastern and one western, much like the orioles. Many of the same criteria were considered when this species was split.

And finally there is the Bicknell's Thrush, something of a northeastern specialty now that it is distinct from Gray-cheeked Thrush. All the "Gray-cheeked" Thrushes breeding in the White Mountains are actually Bicknell's Thrushes, and any attempt to identify a migrant to either species must be made with a great deal of caution. They are separable, but less often than one might like to think. In any event, a very good look is required, and a vocalization may be the clincher.

Hopefully this article has shed some light on the often mysterious workings of that legendary body, the AOU Checklist Committee, and to convince you that you don't actually have to go out and buy a new field guide (especially since most of the appropriate subspecies are already in most field guides). You will have to get used to some new terminology, however, and rise to the challenge of trying to find a few extra species in New Hampshire at the same time. (I'm personally focusing on the thrush and the sharp-tailed sparrow this fall.)

Summary of name changes that apply to New Hampshire:

- Scientific name of Great Egret is changed to *Ardea alba*.
- Scientific name of American Golden-Plover is changed to *Pluvialis dominicus*.
- English name of Common Black-headed Gull is shortened to Black-headed Gull.
- Gray-cheeked Thrush becomes Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) and Bicknell's Thrush (*C. bicknelli*).
- Rufous-sided Towhee becomes Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) and Spotted Towhee (*P. maculatus*).
- Sharp-tailed Sparrow becomes Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus caudacutus*) and Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*A. nelsoni*).
- Northern Oriole becomes Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) and Bullock's Oriole (*I. bullockii*).

Identification and Distribution of Sharp-tailed Sparrows

by Alan Delorey

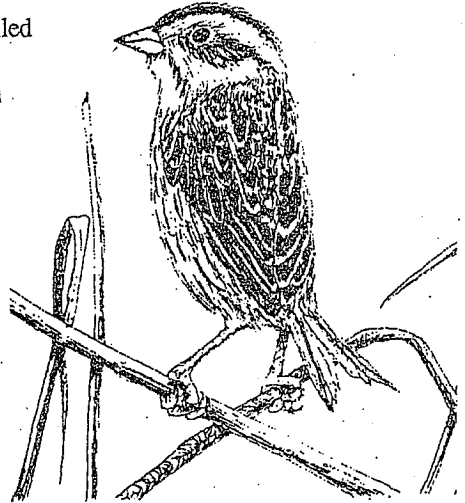
The recent changes introduced by the 40th supplement to the AOU checklist included separating the Sharp-tailed Sparrow into two distinct species of five forms. The new species are Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (three races) and Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow (two races). This article gives a brief overview of the species' distribution and tips on how to identify them in the field.

The Acadian race of the Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni subvirgatus*) nests along the Maine coast from Scarborough eastward and in maritime Canada. The other two races of Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*A. n. nelsoni* and *A. n. alterus*) nest in the interior of northern North America.

The Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow has been divided into two subspecies. One (*A. caudacutus caudacutus*) nests from Scarborough, Maine, southward through New Jersey, while the other (*A. c. diversus*) nests from New Jersey southward to North Carolina.

New Hampshire has nesting Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrows (*A. c. caudacutus*) from late May through mid-September and migrant Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows (primarily the Acadian race) from late May through early June and from mid-September through early October. Not surprisingly, the nesting sites are located in the seacoast marshes and around Great Bay. This is also the best area to look for migrant Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows of the Acadian race. Inland races of the Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow are rare migrants to New England.

The key features to look for on Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrows are the white throat, white to pale yellow breast, and distinct dark streaks on the breast and flanks. In contrast, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows tend to have a buffy orange throat and breast, blurred or muted streaks on the breast and flanks, and a sharply contrasting line between the buffy orange breast and the white belly. There are additional subtle distinctions between the forms, but these are the most obvious ones and should enable you to separate them in the field. Fall (especially mid-September through early October) may be the best time to look for migrants of the Acadian race of Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow because they will be in fresh plumage following their late summer molt and most of the Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrows should have departed by then.



Sharp-tailed sparrow species
by Andrea Robbins

Reporters for Winter 1995-96

Rich Aaronian
 Jayne Allard
 Richard Allard
 H. Cook Anderson
 Widge Arms
 Jenny Ashley
 Jeannine Ayer
 Iris Baird
 Henry Beck
 Bert Becker
 Elsie Belloli
 Richard Bickford
 Jeannette Bohanan
 Bob Bradley
 Jennie Brown
 Joe Broyles
 Meade Cadot
 Jacqueline Carreaux
 Henry Chary
 Tom Chase
 Wendy Christensen
 Herb Cilley
 Virginia Collard
 Phyllis Curtiss
 David Deifik
 Alan Delorey
 Barbara Delorey
 Laura Deming
 David Donsker
 Lawrence Driscoll
 Stanley Drew
 Kathy Dube
 Kimball Elkins
 Bill Elliott
 Ken Folsom
 Jean Frechette

Rich Frechette
 Rosemarie Gagnon
 George Gavutis
 William Goodwill
 Andy Greenwood
 Bill Harris
 Marjorie Harvey
 Phyllis Hatch
 Heidi Horne
 Dick Hughes
 Peter Hunt
 John Jackson
 Margot Johnson
 Jim Kegley
 Donald Kienholz
 David Killam
 Jane Koiias
 Beth Krontlund
 Curt Laffin
 Missi LeBlanc
 Brian Lemire
 Chris Martin
 Julie Maziarz
 John McIlwaine
 Karen Metz
 Karen Michaud
 Sandy Michaud
 Hazel Miller
 Steve Mirick
 Gary Mitchell
 Arthur Mudge
 Marion Mullen
 Marie Neveu
 Peter Newbern
 Kathie Palfy
 Bruce Palmer

Northam Parr
 Al Ports
 Karen Prazar
 Robert Quinn
 Elizabeth Ring
 Doris Roach
 Andrea Robbins
 Judy Romano
 Dave Rowell
 Frank Sandford
 Linda Schultz
 Dot Skeels
 Gus Smith
 Jim Stansfield
 Betty Steele
 Dan Strong
 Matt Sudak
 Larry Sunderland
 Mark Suomala
 Rebecca Suomala
 Ann Tappan
 Lori Terwilliger
 Jean Tewksbury
 David Tibbetts
 Tony Vazzano
 Arroyln Vernon
 Bob Vernon
 Elizabeth Verville
 Jack Verville
 Martin Verville
 Francie Von Mertens
 Ethel Wilson
 Jean Wininger
 Robert Woodward
 Mary Wright

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

Lesser Scaup
 Oldsquaw
 Red-breasted Merganser
 Bald Eagle
 Ring-necked Pheasant
 Herring Gull
 Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker
 Black-capped Chickadee
 Boreal Chickadee
 Tufted Titmouse
 Red-breasted Nuthatch
 Brown Creeper
 Northern Mockingbird
 Northern Shrike

European Starling
 Song Sparrow
 White-throated Sparrow
 Dark-eyed Junco
 Purple Finch
 House Finch
 House Sparrow

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

What To Report in the Winter Season (December through February)

Which sightings should *New Hampshire Bird Records* reporters submit? There are no hard and fast rules, but here are some guidelines to help reporters focus their efforts during the winter season.

First, it's important to understand that even though we do not publish all reports, each plays a valuable role in creating an overall picture of a given season. All sightings become part of a database that provides information on bird distribution for research projects, endangered species reports, and other requests for data.

Always report any birds that are unusual for the state or the time of year. We recommend using *A Checklist of the Birds of New Hampshire*, by Kimball C. Elkins, as a reference (available at ASNH). Also, reports of state endangered and threatened species are always valuable for the database.

Species which are seen in New Hampshire only in the winter are often the highlights of this season. Report any of these visitors: alcids, white-winged gulls (i.e., Glaucous, Iceland), wintering sea ducks and shorebirds, northern hawks and owls, and the "winter finches" (redpolls, Bohemian Waxwings, Pine Grosbeaks, Pine Siskins). Some of these species are irruptive, occurring in huge numbers during some years and absent during others.

Late-lingering or early-returning migrants are always of interest, along with inland waterfowl. For the common year-round residents, report unusually high numbers and large flocks. Reports from the White Mountains and northward are valuable since we receive so few from this area.

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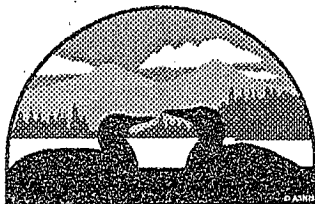
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Volume 14, Number 4
Winter 1995-96

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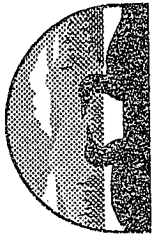
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