

# New Hampshire Bird Records



Winter 1997-98

Vol. 16, No. 4

## About the Cover

The cover illustration of a White-throated Sparrow is one of a collection of drawings by E. J. Sawyer used to illustrate *The American Natural History*, a four volume work by William T. Hornaday published in 1914. We extend our thanks to John Ripley Forbes for loaning the originals and sponsoring the use of these works by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire.

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*New Hampshire Bird Records (NHBR)* is published quarterly by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire (ASNH). Bird sightings are submitted to ASNH and are edited for publication. A computerized printout of all sightings in a season is available for a fee. To order a printout, purchase back issues, or volunteer your observations for *NHBR*, please contact the Managing Editor at 224-9909.

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# From the Editor

## *New Hampshire Bird Records* Celebrates Another Successful Year

It has been fifteen years since *New Hampshire Bird Records* became an independent publication. The first issue was Spring 1982. Before that time the Audubon Society of New Hampshire had published bird reports for many years in a variety of formats as part of the society's regular publications.

Copies of this first issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records* are hard to come by. It was 12 pages long and printed in a larger, 8½ x 11-inch format on sage green paper. A blizzard in early April and two Mississippi Kites, the first and second state records, highlighted the issue. The season editors at that time were Winter: George and Andrea Robbins, Spring: Susan (then Gonzalez) and Wavell Fogleman, Summer: Robert Quinn, Fall: Kimball Elkins.

It is interesting to note that a section on What to Report is on the front page, recommending Kimball Elkins' Checklist as a resource and stating that "Documentation is the key" for rare bird reports. Some things don't change!

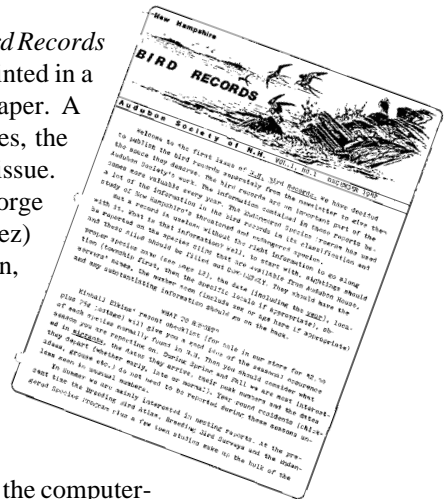
But there have been some dramatic changes – the computerization of records in 1987, which enabled the inclusion of an actual list of sightings, a new booklet format in 1990, the addition of regular articles in the Winter '95-'96 issue, and our first photo this year.

I was surprised to find the color code for each season's paper stock was the same as the one I worked out several years ago: green for spring, blue in summer, gold for fall, and winter white. I knew there had been one, but I couldn't find it and thought I was very clever and original with my choices! Great minds think alike, although I made the radical change of switching to the "new" salmon color for fall.

Then, as now, *New Hampshire Bird Records* depended upon volunteers and active birders. I am pleased to have Bob Quinn's continuing involvement as Summer Editor and to see some familiar reporter names that are still with us from that first issue: R.S. Aaronian, D.J. Abbott, A.C. Borrer, M. Cadot, M.L. Davis, K.E. Folsom, G.W. Gavutis, W.M. Goodwill, T. Richards. and A.H. and R.C. Vernon, to name a few. A very special thanks to all the volunteers and reporters. I am proud to work with such wonderful people and be a part of this high-quality publication.

We hope you will continue your support by filling in the renewal notice that is enclosed with this issue. Pass along a copy to a friend and show them what a great experience they can find in *New Hampshire Bird Records*.

Becky Suomala  
Managing Editor  
July, 1998



# 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.

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

Common Eider	Rock Dove	White-breasted Nuthatch
Bald Eagle	Mourning Dove	Northern Mockingbird
Red-tailed Hawk	Downy Woodpecker	European Starling
Ring-necked Pheasant	Hairy Woodpecker	Northern Cardinal
Ring-billed Gull	Blue Jay	House Finch
Herring Gull	Black-capped Chickadee	American Goldfinch
Great Black-backed Gull	Tufted Titmouse	House Sparrow
	Red-breasted Nuthatch	

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

# Winter 1997-98

December 1, 1997 - February 28, 1998

It is difficult to select a “best bird” of the season, since there were so many unexpected rarities this winter. The outstanding highlights of the winter 1997-98 season included the following. Up to three Eurasian Wigeon wintered on Great Bay. Eight **Gray Partridge** were seen in Columbia during December and January, although the Rare Birds Committee (RBC) has not yet officially accepted this record. While the identification of the birds was viewed as correct, the question of origin is still being considered. The RBC is conducting further research to determine if there were any captive releases in that area or if the birds may have wandered from the established population in Vermont. Alcids were well represented by three **Dovekies**, three or four **Thick-billed Murres**, and several Razorbills. Four Snowy Owls were reported in a year that did not seem especially productive for them. Two **Varied Thrushes** visited feeders in New Hampshire. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** braved the cold at a peanut butter and suet feeder in Derry. A **Townsend’s Warbler** lingered from November until Christmas time at Intervale. A **Yellow-breasted Chat** spent over a month at a feeder in Laconia. A **Western Tanager** that took up residence at a feeder in Portsmouth for the winter may have been part of a larger movement of this species to the northeast. A **Lincoln’s Sparrow** seems to have wintered in Concord. Winter finches were well-represented in small scattered flocks. Two **Hoary Redpolls** were accepted by the RBC.

It was a very mild winter. Great Bay stayed almost entirely open and clear of ice, only the shallow coves froze over. The temperature in December averaged 2.9 degrees above normal at Laconia, while precipitation was slightly below normal. January remained warm with the average temperature at Laconia 6.1 degrees above normal. Precipitation was heavy, making up for a dry December. February was even warmer, averaging 8.7 degrees above normal at Laconia. December and January had about average snowfall amounts, although February’s six inches of snow was only one-third the normal amount. A devastating ice storm struck central and northern New Hampshire in early January, causing tree damage and widespread power outages.

One can only speculate if the El Niño effect was responsible for our mild winter, and the large number of western vagrants in the state. It is interesting to note that even with the mild weather a fair winter finch flight developed. This supports the idea that these birds are driven more by food supply than by weather. The mild weather resulted in plenty of open water which in turn encouraged waterfowl to linger. (See the waterfowl summary for more details.)

The 98th Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was held from December 19, 1997 through January 4, 1998. We are continuing to publish the CBC data separately in tabular format (see page 30). The table includes all species observed on all CBCs conducted in New Hampshire this year. Two Vermont counts, which include small portions of New Hampshire, are not included in the CBC table. Notable sightings from those two counts are the only CBC reports included in the systematic list. However, seasonal species totals given in the summaries include the CBC totals unless explicitly stated otherwise.

*Alan Delorey, Winter Editor*

# Loons through Herons

Red-throated Loons are always a treat to see. A least four of them wintered off the New Hampshire coast. It was interesting to note one from Great Bay. Horned Grebes were well represented this winter with sizeable flocks off Hampton and Seabrook. Concord Point in Rye continues to be the favorite roosting site for Great Cormorants. One tardy Northern Gannet lingered into December.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Red-throated Loon</b>				
12-13	4	Rye	Concord Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
01-10	4		NH coast	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Common Loon</b>				
12-06	2	Ashland	Little Squam Lake by Rt. 3	J. Williams
01-10	1	Durham	Adams Point	S. Drew, K. Barrett
01-29	1	Lebanon	Connecticut R., Rt. 4 bridge	D. Lacey
01-31	10	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Horned Grebe</b>				
12-13	3	Hampton	off Ocean Blvd. at High St. jct.	M. Suomala
12-26	21		NH coast	A.& B. Delorey
01-02	21	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
01-02	17	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A.& B. Delorey
01-10	2	Greenland	Sunset Landing on Great Bay	S. Mirick, J. Berry
02-06	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Red-necked Grebe</b>				
12-26	50		NH coast	A.& B. Delorey
12-28	1	Tilton	Silver Lake	J. Williams
<b>Northern Gannet</b>				
12-13	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Great Cormorant</b>				
12-01	1	Franklin	Franklin Falls Reservoir	D. Crook
02-14	25	Rye	Concord Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	13	Rye	Square Rock	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Double-crested Cormorant</b>				
12-27	2	Durham	Durham Point	S. Mirick
<b>Great Blue Heron</b>				
12-08	1	Laconia	Lexington Dr.	H. Anderson
12-13	1	Dover	pond across from Tuttle's Red Barn	G. Prazar
01-07	1	Dover	Dover Pt. behind Newicks Restaurant	C.& J. Tewksbury
01-14	1	Farmington	Rt. 153, just n. of Rt. 11	S.& R. Snyder
01-17	1	Nashua	cove at Mine Falls Park	R. Andrews
01-27	1	Durham	Adams Point	S. Drew
02-12	1	Exeter	Swazey Pkwy., Exeter R.	G.& M. Prazar
02-28	1	Middleton	residence	S. Snyder

# Waterfowl

Thirty Snow Geese on the ocean, off Concord Point, was an interesting sighting. A Wood Duck in Enfield was rather far north for that species in December. Several Northern Pintails were seen at scattered locations. Two Gadwalls wintered on Great Bay. Continuing their trend established in 1994, Eurasian Wigeon once again overwintered on Great Bay in the company of American Wigeon. A Canvasback in December was a late fall migrant, while another in late February was a typical spring migrant. A female King Eider wintered along the coast again this year. Oldsquaw and Scoter counts were much better than last year. Barrow's Goldeneyes were well-reported from usual locations.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Mute Swan</b>				
01-01	17	Portsmouth	Rt. 1B	H. Chary
<b>Snow Goose</b>				
12-06	30	Rye	Concord Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
12-06	1	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Canada Goose</b>				
12-24	31	Rindge	boat ramp, Contoocook R.	S. Drew
12-31	60	Walpole	Flying low over tower to the south	H. Beck
01-03	3744		Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
02-14	2147		Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	340	E. Kingston	Rt. 108 flooded fields	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Wood Duck</b>				
12-07	1	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
12-20	3		Saxtons River CBC - NH sightings	
12-22	1	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Hospital	S. Mirick
01-01	1	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Hospital	S. Mirick
<b>American Black Duck</b>				
02-14	1231		Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Mallard</b>				
02-15	110	N. Hampton	Little River marsh	B. Elliott
<b>Northern Pintail</b>				
12-30	2	Londonderry	Kendall Pond	A. Delorey
01-01	1	Salem	Arlington Mill Reservoir	A.& B. Delorey
01-06	1	Londonderry	Kendall Pond	A. Delorey
01-11	1	New Castle	River Rd.	R. Frechette, F. Doyle, S. Spangenberg
02-09	2	Newcastle	off Rt. 1B	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
02-14	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Gadwall</b>				
01-10	2	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
02-14	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	1	Greenland	Sunset Farm landing, Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b>				
12-04	1	Greenland	Sunset Landing, Great Bay	S. Mirick
12-06	2	Greenland	Sunset Landing	A.& B. Delorey
12-26	2	Greenland	Sunset Landing	A.& B. Delorey
01-10	3	Greenland	Sunset Landing	A.& B. Delorey
02-09	1		Great Bay	S. Mirick
02-28	1	Greenland	Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	2	Greenland	Sunset Farm, Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>American Wigeon</b>				
12-04	110	Greenland	Sunset Landing, Great Bay	S. Mirick
01-10	20	Greenland	Sunset Landing, Great Bay	S. Mirick, J. Berry
01-31	45	Greenland	Meloon Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
02-14	10	Greenland	Sunset Farm, Great Bay	S. Mirick, J. Berry, T.& A. Young
02-22	30	Greenland	Sunset Farm, Great Bay	S. Mirick, M. Anderson
02-28	27	Greenland	Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Canvasback</b>				
12-19	1	Greenland	Sunset Landing, Great Bay	S. Mirick
02-25	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Ring-necked Duck</b>				
12-02	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
12-07	9	Sanbornton	Lake Winnisquam above bridge	J. Williams
12-13	3	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	M. Suomala
<b>Greater Scaup</b>				
12-26	590	Greenland	Sunset Landing	A.& B. Delorey
12-29	1	Sanbornton	Lake Winnisquam, Lower Bay Rd.	J. Williams
01-10	650	Greenland	Sunset Landing, Great Bay	S. Mirick, J. Berry
01-31	930		Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	3056	Greenland	Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Lesser Scaup</b>				
12-05	3	Tilton	Rt. 3, near Winnisquam bridge	J. Williams
<b>King Eider</b>				
01-31	1	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	A.& B. Delorey, VINS FT
02-03	1	Newcastle	Fort Stark	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
02-09	1	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	S. Mirick

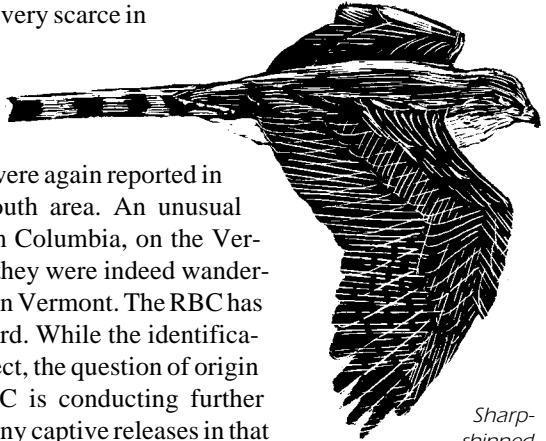


<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Oldsquaw</b>				
12-03	1	Lebanon	Wilder Dam	D. Crook
12-06	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick, B. Atherton
12-26	80		NH coast	A. & B. Delorey
02-22	39	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Black Scoter</b>				
12-26	120	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
12-26	88	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
01-02	137	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
02-22	38	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
<b>White-winged Scoter</b>				
12-26	1	Durham	Little Bay	S. Mirick
01-15	2	Durham	Little Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Common Goldeneye</b>				
12-27	128	Manchester	Amoskeag Dam	I. MacLeod
01-02	82	Sanbornton	Lower Bay Rd., Lake Winnisquam	J. Williams
01-31	350		Great Bay	A. & B. Delorey
02-28	427		Great Bay	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Barrow's Goldeneye</b>				
12-06	1	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
01-07	1	Tilton	river above Silver Lake	J. Williams
02-09	2	Stratham	Sandy Point	S. Mirick
<b>Bufflehead</b>				
12-04	3	Salem	Canobie Lake	K. Folsom
01-20	3	Durham	Adams Pt. area	S. Drew
02-02	125	Durham	Little Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Hooded Merganser</b>				
12-13	2	Moultonborough	Rt. 109, Red Hill R.	T. Vazzano
01-27	2	Lebanon	Connecticut R. behind Ames Mall	A. Mudge
02-10	6	Monroe	Connecticut River	B. Bradley
02-10	8	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
02-13	4	Ashland	Squam River	W. Goodwill
02-15	4	Lisbon	Ammonoosuc River	B. Bradley
02-27	5	Salem	Canobie Lake	K. Folsom
<b>Common Merganser</b>				
12-05	12	Derry	Beaver Lake	A. Delorey
12-06	200	Holderness	Squam Lake, near the outlet	J. Williams
12-20	10		Saxtons River CBC - NH sightings	
02-27	25	Salem	Canobie Lake	K. Folsom
02-28	12	Kingston	Powwow Pond	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Ruddy Duck</b>				
12-11	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
12-13	7	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	M. Suomala

# Hawks

As usual, Turkey Vultures began returning in late February. A total of 58 Bald Eagles (32 adults and 26 immatures) were tallied in the state for the winter season. With major rivers and large lakes unfrozen due to the unusually warm weather, there were fewer wintering eagles than in the past several years. For the first time since the winter of 92-93 adult eagles outnumbered immature birds.

Rough-legged Hawks have been very scarce in New Hampshire in recent years. Continuing that trend, only one was reported this winter. Four Merlins made a good winter tally for that species. Peregrine Falcons were again reported in both Manchester and the Portsmouth area. An unusual report of eight Gray Partridge from Columbia, on the Vermont border, makes one wonder if they were indeed wanderers from the established population in Vermont. The RBC has not yet officially accepted this record. While the identification of the birds was viewed as correct, the question of origin is still being considered. The RBC is conducting further research to determine if there were any captive releases in that area or if the birds may be considered natural wanderers from the established population in Vermont.



*Sharp-shinned  
Hawk by  
Arthur C. Borror*

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>				
12-24	1	Bedford	Rt. 101 & Meetinghouse Rd. jct.	M. & R. Johnson
02-13	1	Pembroke	Cross Rd.	K. & W. Goodwill
02-21	1	Manchester	over Rt. 93 & Rt. 293 jct.	P. Hunt, et al.
02-28	1	Bow	over Merrimack R., near PSNH power plant	L. Deming, T. Desrosiers
<b>Northern Harrier</b>				
12-19	1	Stratham	off Squamscott Rd.	S. Mirick
12-21	1	Newington	Spaulding Turnpike	T. Vazzano
12-26	1	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b>				
12-03	1	Franconia	downtown	S. & M. Turner
12-16	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
12-20	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr. residence	M. Harris
12-28	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-01	1		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-04	1	Monroe	residence	E. Emery
01-15	1	Londonderry	Devonshire Ln.	H. Chary
02-08	1	Manchester	Mammoth Rd.	S. Sudak & S. Boutin

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Cooper's Hawk</b>				
12-09	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
12-30	1	Sandwich	fairgrounds	T. Vazzano
01-01	1	Newmarket	off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
01-07	1	Londonderry	Rt. 93 overpass at exit 5, Rt. 102	J. Kegley
01-22	1	Hudson	end of Kenyon St.	P. Theriault, H. Chaplin
02-04	1	Concord	Penacook St.	C. Foss, H. Nevers
02-28	1	Kensington	Moulton Ridge, n. side	G. Gavutis
<b>Northern Goshawk</b>				
12-04	1	Lancaster	Wesson Rd.	D. Skeels
12-06	1	Temple	Twillingate Rd. residence	B. Palmer
01-01	1		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-01	1	Lyman	Hurd Hill Rd.	S. & M. Turner
01-02	1	Tilton	Silver Lake Rd.	J. Williams
01-16	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-23	1	Middleton	New Portsmouth Rd. residence	S. Snyder
02-05	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
02-11	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>				
02-21	1	Kensington	Moulton Ridge	G. Gavutis
02-22	1	Kensington	Cottage Hill	G. Gavutis
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b>				
01-04	1	Portsmouth	Sagamore Creek	R. & A. Frechett
<b>American Kestrel</b>				
01-04	1	Newington	Great Bay NWR	D. & T. Donsker
<b>Merlin</b>				
12-04	1	Greenland	Emery Farm	S. Mirick
01-06	1	Nashua	Deerhaven Dr.	R. Andrews
02-07	1	Rye	south of Wallis Sands St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
02-09	1	Newfields	off Rt. 108	S. Mirick
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>				
12-20	1		Saxtons River CBC - NH sightings	
12-26	1	Newmarket	downtown	S. Mirick
02-09	1	Portsmouth	Prescott Park	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
02-10	1	Manchester	microwave tower near Elm St.	C. Martin
02-21	1	New London	Rt. 103A	P. Newbern
02-28	2	Franconia	Franconia Notch	C. Martin
02-28	2	Rumney	Rattlesnake Mtn.	B. Taffe, C. Martin
02-28	1	Lyme	Holts Ledge	C. Martin

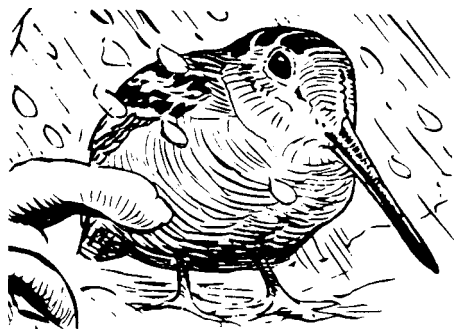
# Pheasant through Alcids

A Northern Bobwhite was reported from the lakes region. An American Coot in Nashua in late February was unusual. It makes one wonder if it had overwintered there. The dark-eyed Iceland Gull spent its fifth winter at Seabrook Harbor. One Black-legged Kittiwake was noted for the winter (aside from the Seacoast CBC).

Alcids put in a strong showing at the coast this winter with three **Dovekie** sightings, three or four **Thick-billed Murres**, several Razorbills including a flock of five, and numerous reports of Black Guillemots.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Ruffed Grouse</b>				
12-08	2	Pembroke	N. Pembroke Rd.	K. Palfy
12-10	4	Lyman	Ogontz Rd.	S. & M. Turner
12-19	1	Sunapee	Brook Rd.	P. Newbern
01-01	4		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-01	4	Lyman	through town	S. & M. Turner
02-02	2	Rindge	above w. shore of Grassy Pond	R. Multer, C. Linares
02-12	2	Walpole	Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
<b>Wild Turkey</b>				
12-02	13	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
12-02	26	Goshen	Brook Rd.	P. Newbern
12-30	31	Haverhill	Court St. residence	T. Estill
01-01	10	Newbury	along Rt. 103A	P. Newbern
01-01	14		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-02	12	Haverhill	Rt. 10 field just s. of Rogers Ranger memorial farm field	T. Estill
01-02	36	Bath	Rt. 107 near golf course	B. Bradley
01-06	20	Kingston	Abbott Ave.	S. Drew
02-08	12	Bath	Rt. 135 farm field	B. Bradley
02-17	17	Bath	Rt. 4	E. Emery, P. Powers
02-22	28	Enfield		P. Hunt
<b>Northern Bobwhite</b>				
01-26	1	Wolfeboro	residence	C. Pineo
<b>American Coot</b>				
02-21	1	Nashua	cove at Mine Falls Pk.	R. Andrews, et al.
<b>Killdeer</b>				
02-22	1	Stratham	near Swampscott Rd. & Rt. 108 jct.	G. Gavutis
02-28	2	E. Kingston	Stumpfield Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Sanderling</b>				
12-26	20	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
01-10	7	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	A. & B. Delorey

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Purple Sandpiper</b>				
12-06	21	Rye	Concord Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
01-01	9	N. Hampton		H. Chary
01-04	20	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	D. & T. Donsker
01-13	8	Rye	near Pulpit Rocks	T. Vazzano
01-21	10	Rye	Rye Harbor St. Pk.	J. Romano, S. Walker
01-31	20	Seabrook	jetty	A.& B. Delorey
02-07	11	Rye	Seal Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
02-15	22	Rye	Seal Rocks	R.& M. Suomala, ASNH FT
02-15	5	Rye	near Pulpit Rocks	R.& M. Suomala, ASNH FT
02-15	9	Rye	Rye Harbor St. Pk.	R.& M. Suomala, ASNH FT
<b>American Woodcock</b>				
01-23	1	Hampton	Winnacunnet HS, Alumni Dr.	P. Lacourse



*American Woodcock*

<b>Iceland Gull</b>				
12-05	3	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
12-20	1		Saxtons River CBC - NH sightings	
12-27	1	Manchester	Amoskeag Dam	I. MacLeod
01-02	1	Seabrook	marina	A.& B. Delorey
01-10	1	Seabrook	marina	A.& B. Delorey
01-15	4	Durham	Little Bay	S. Mirick
01-18	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
01-31	1	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	A.& B. Delorey
02-07	1	Seabrook	marina	A.& B. Delorey
02-07	1	Rye	Rye Ledge	A.& B. Delorey
02-14	1	Nashua	river at millyard	R. Andrews
02-17	1	Merrimack	landfill	R. Andrews
<b>Glaucous Gull</b>				
01-15	1	Durham	Little Bay	S. Mirick
01-18	1	Tilton	behind Tilton Diner, Rt. 93 at Tilton exit	C. Foss, H. Nevers
01-24	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Black-legged Kittiwake</b>				
01-04	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	D.& T. Donsker



*Dovekie by Iain C. MacLeod*

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Dovekie</b>				
12-06	1	Rye	Concord Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
12-10	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks, Rt. 1A	S. Mirick
02-08	1	New Castle	Fort Stark	T. Vazzano
<b>Thick-billed Murre</b>				
02-14	1	Rye	Seal Rocks	S. Mirick
02-14	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick
02-22	1	N. Hampton	cove s. of Rye Ledge	A. & B. Delorey
02-22	1	N. Hampton	off Rt. 1A	S. Mirick, M. Anderson
<b>Razorbill</b>				
12-06	2	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
12-10	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks, Rt. 1A	S. Mirick
12-13	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
12-13	3	Rye	Concord Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
01-01	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick
01-02	5	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
01-04	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	D. & T. Donsker
<b>Black Guillemot</b>				
12-04	3	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick
12-06	7	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
12-10	4	Rye	Pulpit Rocks, Rt. 1A	S. Mirick
12-26	2	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
01-02	2	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
01-04	2	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	D. & T. Donsker
02-22	4	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey

# Owls through Woodpeckers

Four Snowy Owls was a better showing than last year. Ten Northern Saw-whet Owls (not including CBC reports) was better than usual. Red-bellied Woodpeckers continue to be widely reported. Twenty Pileated Woodpecker reports (not including CBC records) was twice as many as reported last year.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Great Horned Owl</b>				
12-14	1	Rindge	Grassy Pond	R. Multer
01-11	1	Exeter	Rt. 101	R. Frechette, F. Doyle, S. Spangenberg
<b>Snowy Owl</b>				
12-10	1	Rye	Ragged Neck	S. Mirick
01-05	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	A. deSteiguer
01-14	1	Concord	E. Concord	J. Niswander
02-01	1	Concord	Loudon Rd. over armory	J. Rosen
<b>Barred Owl</b>				
12-23	1	Haverhill	County Road	A. & M. Mudge
12-26	1	Lyman	Lyman & Ogontz Rds.	S. Turner
12-28	1	Lisbon	Parker Hill	S. Turner
12-28	1	Chesterfield	Hulslander Rd.	N. Bellugeio
01-01	1		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-01	1	Lyman	Quebec Rd.	D. McKown
01-02	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-14	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
01-27	1	Bath	Pettyboro Rd.	B. Bradley
02-01	1	Washington	Half Moon Pond Rd.	D. Mullin
02-06	1	Kensington	Horse Hill	G. Gavutis
02-07	1	Pittsfield	Rt. 28	C. Foss, H. Nevers
02-11	1	Kensington	Horse Hill above Winkley Brook	G. Gavutis
02-18	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon
<b>Northern Saw-whet Owl</b>				
12-04	1	Concord	Silk Farm WS	C. Martin, L. Deming, J. Zelasny
12-08	1	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
12-27	1	Durham	off Dame Rd. near Dame Farm	S. Mirick
02-15	2	Monroe	residence	Blanchard, P. Powers
02-17	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
02-20	2	Monroe	residence	E. Emery
02-20	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-28	1	Canaan	Prospect Rd.	P. Hunt, L. Reitsma, et al.
<b>Belted Kingfisher</b>				
12-03	1	Goshen	Rt. 10, by Sugar R. tributary	P. Newbern
01-10	1	Stratham	Great Bay, Sandy Pt. Discovery Ctr.	D. Clint
01-10	1	Durham	Adams Pt.	S. Drew
01-26	1	Haverhill	Connecticut R., jct. Rts. 135 & 10	F. Krauss
01-31	1	Rye	harbor	A. & B. Delorey
02-06	1	Goshen	Rt. 10	P. Newbern
02-12	1	Exeter	Swazey Pkwy., Exeter R.	G. & M. Prazar

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Red-headed Woodpecker</b>				
02-14	1	Jefferson	North Rd.	T. Sturtevant
<b>Red-bellied Woodpecker</b>				
12-12	1	Antrim	residence	F. Pierce
12-20	1	Lyme	near town green	D. Crook
12-22	1	Concord	Portsmouth St.	R. Landry
12-23	1	Mont Vernon	Kendall Hill Rd.	B. Buck
12-27	1	Mont Vernon	Kendall Hill Rd.	R. Powers
01-05	1	Marlborough	Boxbury Rd.	S. Rice
01-09	1	Sandwich	Partridge Hill Rd.	D. Stuntz
01-28	1	Concord	Portsmouth St.	B. Landry
02-03	1	Concord	south end	R. & C. Cohen
<b>Black-backed Woodpecker</b>				
12-27	1	Beans Purchase	Carter Dome Trail at 4000'	R., J. & J. Moore
02-13	2	Bethlehem	nw. of Trudeau Rd. & Rt. 3 jct.	J. Williams
<b>Northern Flicker</b>				
12-07	1	Mont Vernon	Old Amherst Rd.	L. Peck
12-19	1	Raymond	Lincoln Dr. residence	E. Makin
12-20	2		Saxtons River CBC - NH sightings	
12-27	1	Salem	Town Farm Rd.	K. Folsom
12-29	1	Bow	Bow Bog Rd.	J. Verville
01-03	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
01-10	1	Canterbury	Baptist Rd.	R. Quinn
01-11	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
01-18	1	Meredith	Meredith Neck Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-21	1	Mont Vernon	Old Amherst Rd.	L. Peck
01-27	1	Durham	Adams Pt., Great Bay	S. Drew
02-03	2	Durham	Adams Pt.	S. Drew
02-06	1	Kensington	Winkley Brook	G. Gavutis
<b>Pileated Woodpecker</b>				
12-03	1	Lyman	Tinkerville Rd.	S. & M. Turner
12-03	1	Laconia	Laconia Country Club	H. Anderson
12-05	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
12-25	1	Jaffrey	Highland Ave.	S. Drew
01-01	2		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-01	2	Lyman		S. & M. Turner, D. McKown
01-02	1	Bath	Abbott Ave.	B. Bradley
01-03	1	Lyman	Round Pond	B. Bradley
01-04	1	Lisbon	landfill	B. Bradley
01-17	1	Jaffrey	Shattuck Inn Golf Course	B. Elliott
01-26	2	Tamworth	Great Hill Rd.	B. Steele
02-07	1	Windham	residence	D. Romano
02-13	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence & Moulton Ridge	G. Gavutis
02-18	1	Bedford	Ministerial Circle	J. Sarno
02-20	1	E. Kingston	residence	S. Drew
02-22	1	Deering	E. Deering Rd.	I. MacLeod



# Horned Lark through Shrike

A Gray Jay in Greenville (west of Nashua near the Massachusetts border) was south of its usual range from the White Mountains northward. Two Varied Thrushes spent several weeks at two separate feeders, one in Meredith and the other in Rindge. The last winter record of **Varied Thrush** in New Hampshire was in December, 1991. A Brown Thrasher was a nice find in late December. Bohemian Waxwings put in a strong showing.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Horned Lark</b>				
12-02	2	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	T. Vazzano
01-02	21	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
01-22	17	Concord	Hazen Dr.	R. Suomala
01-31	30	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
02-07	19	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
02-15	6	Haverhill	N. Haverhill farm field	B. Bradley
<b>Gray Jay</b>				
01-29	2	Benton	Beaver Brook trail	S. Drew
01-31	4	Dixville	around Mud Pond	J. & D. Romano
02-07	1	Greenville	Laurel Drive	R. & P. Wallace
02-10	5	Dixville	Mud Pond	C. & J. Tewksbury
<b>American Crow</b>				
01-15	500	Manchester	Victory Park, near library	M. LeBlanc
02-04	612	Manchester	Amherst St.	I. MacLeod
02-11	700	Portsmouth	near Portsmouth Traffic Circle	S. Mirick
<b>Common Raven</b>				
12-20	1	Gilsum	east side of Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
12-27	2	Durham	off Dame Rd.	S. Mirick, et al.
01-01	1		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-24	2	Kensington	Horse Hill	G. Gavutis
02-01	1	Nashua	millyard	R. Andrews
02-02	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
02-26	2	Merrimack	landfill	R. Andrews
02-28	8	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
<b>Boreal Chickadee</b>				
12-28	3	Beans Purchase	Wildcat Ridge between A + B	R., J. & J. Moore
12-31	1	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
01-01	2	Lisbon	Glebe Rd.	S. & M. Turner
01-01	2		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-17	1	Canaan	residence	J. Granton, H. Benham
01-22	1	Whitefield	Hazen Rd.	R. Quinn
<b>Brown Creeper</b>				
12-09	1	Lyman	Ogontz Rd.	S. & M. Turner
12-21	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	M. & B. Harris
01-19	1	Goffstown	residence	J. Doherty
02-09	1	E. Kingston	residence	S. Drew
02-25	1	Tamworth	Great Hill Rd.	B. Steele
02-28	7	Hollis	Beaver Brook Assoc., near Otter Pond	R. & M. Suomala

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Carolina Wren</b>				
01-26	1	Concord	Portsmouth St.	B. Landry
<b>Winter Wren</b>				
01-31	1	Salisbury	Mountain Rd.	L. Deming
02-06	1	Durham	Mill Rd.	C. Federer
<b>Golden-crowned Kinglet</b>				
12-11	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-01	2		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-17	5	Jaffrey	Shattuck Inn Golf Course	B. Elliott
<b>Eastern Bluebird</b>				
wk of 12-01	20	Walpole	residence	D. Bertin
12-07	6	Milford	Jennison Rd.	M.& R. Suomala
12-10	4	Newmarket	off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
12-21	1	Enfield	Main St. Pond	P. Hunt, S. Burson
12-28	5	Newmarket	off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
01-01	3	Chester	Rt. 102 by Silver Sands Campground	H. Chary C. Kressler
01-03	1	Windham		
01-11	1	Enfield	Main St. Pond	T. Bickell
01-11	5	Newmarket	Pierson Farm, Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
02-14	2	E. Kingston	Forest Dr.	S.& M. Drew
02-21	1	E. Kingston	Stumpfield Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
02-22	2	Greenland	off Rt. 33	S. Mirick, M. Anderson
02-23	3	Lyme	River Rd.	H. Swartz
02-26	1	Alton	Prospect Mtn. Rd.	W. Hall
02-26	4	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B.& M. Harris
02-28	3	Newmarket	Bay Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	2	E. Kingston	Stumpfield Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
02-28	1	Canterbury	Shaker Rd.	R. Quinn
02-28	1	Rochester	Rochester Hill Rd.	A. Brooks
<b>Hermit Thrush</b>				
01-04	1	Keene	Colony Hill Marketplace	F. Cristiano
<b>American Robin</b>				
12-13	12	Concord	Merrimack Valley HS	P. Trombley
01-01	50	Stratham	near Stratham Hill Pk.	S. Mirick
01-05	20	Kensington		B. Randall
01-07	60	N. Hampton	Wood Knoll Rd.	H. Melvin
01-15	15	Rye	marsh behind Ocean Blvd.	C. Beckwith
01-20	35	Durham	Great Bay, Adams Pt.	S. Drew
02-02	40	Dunbarton	Long Pond Rd.	R. Mason
02-04	62	Hopkinton	Upper Straw Rd.	unknown
02-07	11	Center Harbor	Old Meredith Rd.	J. Merrill
02-12	70	Canterbury	Great Brook Farm	R. Quinn, R. Suomala
02-17	128	Concord	W. Portsmouth St.	R. Suomala, J. Kanter
02-18	17	Center Harbor	Old Meredith Rd.	J. Merrill
02-20	30	Rochester	Old Ox Rd. residence	R. Bickford
02-22	30	Center Harbor	Old Meredith Rd.	J. Merrill

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Varied Thrush</b>				
mid-Jan. 01-27	1 1	Rindge Meredith	Park Dr. off Rt. 202 residence	R. Lavoie, D. Abbott M. Alkema, et al.
<b>Brown Thrasher</b>				
12-26	1	Wentworth	residence	A.& C. Ports
<b>American Pipit</b>				
12-26 01-20	2 2	Greenland Rye	Sunset Landing Rye Harbor St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey C. Federer
<b>Bohemian Waxwing</b>				
12-16	20	Littleton	Old Partridge Lake Rd.	M. Turner
12-26	30	Tamworth	Great Hill Rd.	B. Steele
12-29	10	Sandwich	Thompson WS	S. Mirrick
12-30	65	Sandwich	Lily Cove, Squam Lake	R. Ridgley
12-30	30	Sandwich	Sandwich Fairgrounds	T. Vazzano
12-30	5	Sandwich	Thompson WS	T. Vazzano
12-30	110	Sandwich	Whiteface Intervale	R. Ridgley
01-01	360	Littleton	Rt. 18 by Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
01-01	360		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-07	50	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
01-09	40	Concord	residence	M. Lee
01-15	15	Hanover	Goss Rd.	T. Bickell
01-15	14	Hillsboro	crabapple tree	M. Baker
01-19	60	Enfield	Main St.	D. Crook
01-21	19	Plymouth	Pine Gate Village	J. Williams
01-22	55	Concord	Christian Ave.	C. Hanscone
01-29	25	Sandwich	near Rt. 109 & Pond Rd. jct.	M. Gotshall
02-02	34	Plymouth	Hatch Plaza	J. Williams
02-04	40	Littleton	residence	C. McWade
02-15	8	Enfield	Rt. 4	P. Hunt
02-17	20	Bath	Pettybone Rd.	B. Bradley
02-18	2	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
02-20	120	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
<b>Cedar Waxwing</b>				
12-01	100	New London	Hilltop Place	P.& H. Damon
12-02	100	Center Harbor	Old Meredith Rd.	J. Merrill
12-08	175	New London	Colby-Sawyer College	P. Hunt
12-08	100	New London	Hilltop Place	P.& H. Damon
12-15	250	Laconia	Lynwood Rd.	H. Anderson
12-15	350	Hanover	Dartmouth College	D. Crook
12-21	250	Enfield	Main St.	P. Hunt, S. Burson
12-31	135	Sutton	Sutton rest area, Rt. 89	C. Martin
01-15	150	Concord	Pillsbury & South Sts. jct.	A. Coughlin
01-18	340	Concord	Broadway St. by fire station	R. Suomala
01-31	100	Meredith	Chemung Rd.	T. Vazzano
02-05	200	Canterbury	Great Brook Farm	R. Quinn
02-05	100	Hanover	Dartmouth College, Toch Dr.	A. Mudge
02-08	273		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt, L. Reitsma
02-15	140	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
02-20	150	Antrim	Depot St.	M. Johnson

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Northern Shrike</b>				
12-24	1	Lebanon	Stevens Rd.	D. Crook
12-24	1	Lyme	River Rd.	D. Crook
01-20	1	Littleton	Riverside Dr.	B. Bradley
01-22	1	Newmarket	off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
01-23	1	Center Harbor	Daigneau Dr.	D. Rod
01-31	1	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
02-03	1	Lyme	Wilder Marsh	D. Crook
02-10	1	Errol	south of town	B. Crowley
02-10	1	Goffstown	off Back Mountain Rd.	S. Mirick
02-16	1	Bath	Pettyboro Rd.	B. Bradley
02-25	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-27	1	Hanover	Goss Rd.	T. Bickell
02-28	1	Lyme	East Thetford Rd.	C. Martin
02-28	1	Jackson	residence	R. Heald

## Warblers through Snow Bunting

An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was a late holdover as it fed on peanut butter and suet at a feeder in Derry from late December through early February. The **Townsend's Warbler** first reported in November in Bartlett (near the village of Intervale) lingered until December 25. A hardy **Yellow-breasted Chat** spent several weeks at a feeder in Laconia. As its name implies, a **Western Tanager** was a vagrant from the western United States. This male in winter plumage settled in at a feeder in Portsmouth in mid-December, where it stayed for the rest of the winter. This cooperative bird delighted numerous birders who went to view it.

Sparrows also put in a strong showing this winter. An Eastern Towhee in Sandwich was an unusual find for January. An "Ipswich" Savannah Sparrow in December was a nice surprise. A **Lincoln's Sparrow** in Concord was an unexpected winter find. This bird was seen from late December through the end of January and may have overwintered. There are only a few previous winter records for that species.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>				
12-29	1	Derry	Windham Rd.	R. Yanuszewski
<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>				
12-06	1	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	P. Hunt
12-10	6	Newmarket	off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
01-03	1	Ashland	Mill Pond	J. Williams
02-02	1	Durham	Durham Landing	S. Mirick
02-05	1	Durham	Mill Rd.	C. Federer
<b>Townsend's Warbler</b>				
12-22	1	Bartlett	Rt. 16A residence, Intervale	B. & J. Ellis
12-24	1	Bartlett	Rt. 16A residence, Intervale	A.& B. Delorey, M. Archie

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Yellow-breasted Chat</b>				
12-16	1	Laconia	residence	J. & P. Cowners, H. Anderson
01-01	1	Laconia	residence	H. Anderson
<b>Western Tanager</b>				
12-15	1	Portsmouth	Thornton St.	J. Grant
<b>Eastern Towhee</b>				
01-04	1	Sandwich	Mason Rd.	W. Lancaster



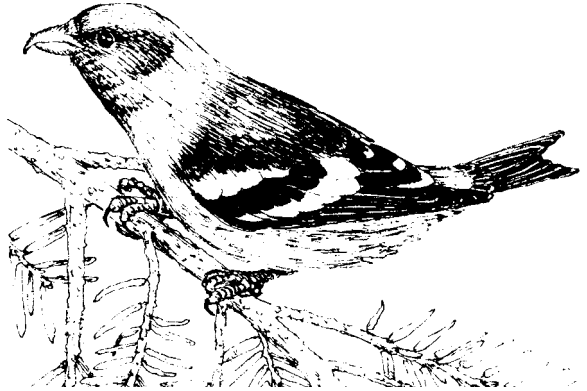
*Eastern Towhee*  
by Andrea Robbins

<b>American Tree Sparrow</b>				
12-07	2	Middleton	residence	S. Snyder
12-09	1	Lyman	residence	S. & M. Turner
12-13	10	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
12-16	2	Columbia	Rt. 3	B. Killam
12-25	8	Hampton	High St.	D. Kirwan
12-26	3	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-01	6		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-02	25	Seabrook	off Walton Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
01-09	8	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-17	1	Milford	Federal Hill Rd. residence	B. Becker
01-18	15	Hampton	High St.	D. Kirwan
02-01	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-28	6	Newmarket	Moody Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Chipping Sparrow</b>				
01-30	1	Durham	town landing	C. Federer
<b>Field Sparrow</b>				
02-09	1	N. Hampton	off Rt. 151	S. Mirick
<b>Savannah Sparrow - Ipswich subsp.</b>				
12-13	1	Seabrook	end of River St.	M. Suomala

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Seaside Sparrow</b>				
12-04	1	Hampton	salt marshes n. of Little Jack's	S. Mirick
<b>Fox Sparrow</b>				
12-29	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
02-28	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
<b>Song Sparrow</b>				
12-01	1	Middleton	New Portsmouth Rd. residence	R. & S. Snyder
01-04	1	Ashland	Mill Pond	J. Williams
01-19	1	Columbia	residence	B. & D. Killam
02-16	1	Westmoreland	River Rd.	R. Ritz
02-27	2	Tilton	Silver Lake Dam	J. Williams
<b>Lincoln's Sparrow</b>				
12-28	1	Concord	White Farm, Clinton St.	R. Quinn, T. Richards
01-09	1	Concord	White Farm, Clinton St.	R. Quinn, T. Richards
<b>Swamp Sparrow</b>				
12-20	4		Saxtons River CBC - NH sightings	
<b>White-throated Sparrow</b>				
all winter	1	Center Harbor	Old Meredith Rd.	J. Merrill
01-03	1	Ashland	Mill Pond	J. Williams
01-08	3	Durham	Oyster River Rd.	C. Federer
<b>Dark-eyed Junco</b>				
12-05	10	Middleton	residence	S. Snyder
12-23	4	Exeter	residence	G. Prazar
12-23	6	Hampton	High St.	D. Kirwan
01-01	11		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-14	14	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
01-15	12	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-17	6	Exeter	residence	G. Prazar
01-25	2	Pembroke	residence	K. Palfy
<b>Lapland Longspur</b>				
01-02	1	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Snow Bunting</b>				
12-07	1	Enfield	Oak Grove Cemetery	P. Hunt
12-08	4	Springfield	New London Golf Course	P. Hunt
12-24	30	Madison	Downs Rd.	J. Wiley
12-27	14	Weare	Poor Farm Rd.	B. Reeve
01-01	1		Barnet CBC-CW - NH sightings	
01-10	3	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	D. Clint
01-11	1	Newbury	Rt. 103	P. Newbern
01-20	35	Epsom	cornfield	D. Davis
01-22	30	Portsmouth	off Rt. 1	S. Mirick
01-25	11	Newmarket	Bay View Drive	S. Mirick
01-28	50	Chester	Derry Rd.	A. Delorey
01-31	2	Plainfield	River Rd.	D. Crook
02-15	20	Haverhill	N. Haverhill farm field	B. Bradley

# Blackbirds through Evening Grosbeak

Winter Finches were fairly well represented with numerous, small, scattered flocks. Pine Grosbeaks were largely restricted to the northern half of the state with a total of over 430 reported (excluding CBC data). White-winged Crossbills outnumbered Red Crossbills by a wide margin. White-winged Crossbills were reported from virtually every part of the state to the delight of many birders who had not seen them in years. Over 1,000 Common Redpolls and a few **Hoary Redpolls** were reported.



*White-winged Crossbill*  
by Andrea Robbins

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Red-winged Blackbird</b>				
12-16	1	Littleton	residence	B. Bradley
02-11	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
02-12	1	Enfield	Main St. Pond	D. Crook
02-15	1	Exeter	Rt. 88, Hampton Falls Rd.	D. Kirwan
02-18	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-19	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
02-20	3	Rochester	Old Ox Rd. residence	R. Bickford
02-20	3	Auburn	Lake Massabesic	I. MacLeod
02-21	5	Manchester	Mammoth Rd.	M. Sudak, S. Boutin
02-22	2	Dover	Prospect St. marsh by Cochecho R.	A. & S. Galt
02-22	2	Windham	residence	J. & D. Romano
02-23	1	Newton	Rt. 125, Newton Jct.	G. Marshall
02-23	3	Peterborough	residence	M. & R. Johnson
02-23	1	Stratham	Rt. 108 near Swampscott Rd.	G. Gavutis
02-23	2	Tilton	Rt. 3	R. Woodward
02-28	7	Enfield	Main St. Pond	P. Hunt
02-28	12	Hollis	Worcester Rd. wetland	R. & M. Suomala
02-28	6	Canterbury	Shaker Rd.	R. Quinn
02-28	1	Tamworth	Henderson Rd.	T. Vazzano
02-28	20	Deering	E. Deering Rd.	I. MacLeod
02-28	1	Plymouth	Beech Hill & Fairgrounds Rds.	J. Williams

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Common Grackle</b>				
01-06	1	Columbia	residence	B. & D. Killam
02-21	1	Milford	Federal Hill Rd. residence	R. & B. Becker
02-28	1	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake dam	P. Hunt
02-28	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
02-28	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
<b>Brown-headed Cowbird</b>				
01-31	1	Plainfield	River Rd.	D. Crook
<b>Pine Grosbeak</b>				
12-01	15	Gilford	Liberty Hill	N. Therrien
12-02	16	Goshen	Brook Rd.	P. Newbern
12-03	21	Franconia	downtown	S. & M. Turner
12-29	32	Plymouth	Hatch Plaza	J. Williams
01-01	39		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-08	20	Ossipee	apple tree	I. Coombs
01-19	15	Enfield	Main St.	D. Crook
01-23	15	Hanover	S. Park St. residence	A. Mudge
02-12	18	Canterbury	Great Brook Farm	R. Quinn, R. Suomala
<b>Purple Finch</b>				
02-21	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
02-28	1	Enfield	Oak Grove Cemetery	P. Hunt
<b>Red Crossbill</b>				
12-04	5	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
12-09	10	Bath		S. & M. Turner
12-09	1	Concord		M. Lee
12-10	3	Lyman	Hurd Hill Rd.	S. & M. Turner
12-21	6	Sandwich	Whiteface Intervale	T. Vazzano
12-29	3	Conway	off Rt. 16, N. Conway	S. Mirick
01-01	1	Lyman	Mountain Meadows Rd.	S. Turner
01-01	1		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-21	1	Conway	residence	J. Donahue
01-25	1	Enfield	Rt. 4	P. Hunt
02-09	3	N. Hampton	Spruce Woods	S. Mirick
02-24	6	Hopkinton	Bohanan Farm, Contoocook	A. Bohanan
<b>White-winged Crossbill</b>				
12-03	30	Sandwich	Rt. 113A & Wing Rd.	T. Vazzano
12-05	40	Lyman	Tinkerville Store	S. & M. Turner
12-08	20	Lyman	Ogontz Rd.	S. & M. Turner
12-14	50	Enfield	Oak Grove Cemetery	P. Hunt, D. Crook
12-23	41	Plymouth	Hatch Plaza	J. Williams
01-24	12	Tamworth	Tall Pines Rd., Chocorua	C. & J. Tewksbury
02-07	12	Rye	Concord Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
02-07	60	Amherst	feeder	D. Barretto
02-10	17	Center Harbor	Old Meredith Rd.	J. Merrill
02-26	20	Monroe	residence	P. Powers
02-27	10	Hampton Falls	Tonry Tree Farm	M. Wilkinson



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Common Redpoll</b>				
12-01	38	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
12-01	25	Lyman	Dodge Pond residence	S. & M. Turner
12-10	40	Sandwich	Thompson WS	T. Vazzano
12-20	88		Saxtons River CBC - NH sightings	
12-25	25	Haverhill	Haverhill Corner	A. & M. Mudge
12-26	44	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-13	50	Chester	Rod & Gun Club Rd.	B. Delorey
01-13	25	Gilmanton	Crystal Lake	W. Arms
01-23	60	Goffstown	Tenny Rd.	B. Barbour
01-29	150	Moultonborough	Rt. 109 south	T. Vazzano, C. Bollinger
02-05	90	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
02-08	25	Exeter	residence	G. Prazar
02-11	200	Chichester	Burnt Hill Rd.	D. Dorsey
02-16	75	Gilmanton	Crystal Lake	W. Arms
02-18	50	Epsom	Towle Pasture Dr.	R. Chateauneuf
02-20	80	Rochester	Old Ox Rd. residence	R. Bickford
02-28	140	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
<b>Hoary Redpoll</b>				
12-23	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-13	1	Columbia	residence	D. & B. Killam
<b>Pine Siskin</b>				
12-01	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
12-05	50	Middleton	residence	S. Snyder
12-07	1	Dover	Prospect St. residence	S. Galt
12-16	4	Moultonborough	Daigneau Dr.	T. Vazzano
12-17	7	Laconia	Wildwood Rd.	H. Anderson
02-08	1	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake dam	P. Hunt, L. Reitsma
02-17	1	Westmoreland	River Rd.	R. Ritz
02-28	2	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon
<b>Evening Grosbeak</b>				
12-03	12	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
12-08	4	Sugar Hill	Church & Main Sts.	S. Turner
12-08	8	Lyman	Ogontz Rd.	S. & M. Turner
12-09	10	Lyman	residence	S. & M. Turner
12-09	35	Bath		S. & M. Turner
12-17	15	Middleton	residence	S. Snyder
01-01	37		Barnet CBC - NH sightings	
01-01	37	Lyman	throughout town	S. & M. Turner
01-06	25	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
01-09	30	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-25	1	Pembroke	residence	K. & B. Palfy
01-29	25	Goshen	Brook Rd.	P. Newbern
02-08	25	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
02-10	8	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

# Christmas Bird Count Summary

By Alan Delorey, Winter Editor

There were several statewide CBC highlights this year. Nashua-Hollis reported three Red-bellied Woodpeckers, a Fox Sparrow, and for the second year in a row, two Winter Wrens. Peterborough-Hancock had a Short-eared Owl during the count week. The Seacoast CBC had a **Greater White-fronted Goose**, a holdover from late November.



There are only about five previous state records for this species. The Seacoast count also reported two Peregrine Falcons, American Woodcock, Black-legged Kittiwakes, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, Razorbills, a Pine Warbler, and the **Western Tanager** in Portsmouth. Lee-Durham reported three Cooper's Hawks, three Northern Goshawks, six Iceland and five Glaucous Gulls, nine Great Horned Owls, and a Northern Saw-whet Owl. The Isles of Shoals count turned in a nice tally of 20 Razorbills. The Concord count located its first ever Lincoln's Sparrow, only the third state CBC record for that species. Concord also had a Boreal Chickadee during the count week, rather far south for that species. Laconia had an exceptional **Yellow-breasted Chat** (count week), only the second one ever reported by a New Hampshire CBC. Sandwich reported an Eastern Towhee and a Hoary Redpoll (seen CBC week). North Conway was able to claim the **Townsend's Warbler** for the count week.

Winter finches staged a modest flight this year. Five counts reported Red Crossbills, 10 reported White-winged Crossbills, 14 recorded Common Redpolls, and 12 counts noted Pine Grosbeaks.

The Nashua-Hollis CBC reported its highest counts ever of Downy (154) and Hairy (59) Woodpeckers, Black-capped Chickadee (1056), Tufted Titmouse (362), White-breasted Nuthatch (218), American Robin (32), Cedar Waxwing (698), Northern Cardinal (147), Purple Finch (19), and American Goldfinch (811). Other noteworthy sightings included three Red-bellied Woodpeckers, a Fox Sparrow, two Carolina Wrens, two Winter Wrens, and 22 Eastern Bluebirds.

The Peterborough-Hancock CBC posted its highest totals of Red-tailed Hawk (4), Wild Turkey (69), Tufted Titmouse (106), American Robin (11, ties 1980) and Cedar Waxwing (206), plus its second highest total of Blue Jay (957). They were lucky enough to find a Short-eared Owl during the CBC week, the only report of this species for the winter season.

The Keene CBC reported its first count records of Red-shouldered and Rough-legged Hawk, plus Bohemian Waxwing, along with its second count record for Field Sparrow. Record high totals were reported for Blue Jay (441) and Cedar Waxwing (569). Keene had its second highest total for Common Redpoll (26).

The Seacoast CBC posted 107 species, its highest total ever. The Western Tanager in Portsmouth was tallied for the count, the first time that species was ever recorded on

a New Hampshire CBC. Seacoast had its second record ever for Greater White-fronted Goose, the previous record from 1990. This bird was a holdover from late November on Great Bay. Second count records were also turned in for Gadwall (3), Ruddy Duck (2), and Common Raven (2). A first count record was set for Turkey Vulture (2). Record high totals were posted for Mute Swan (58), Cooper's Hawk (5), Pileated Woodpecker (8), American Crow (1474), Tufted Titmouse (341), White-breasted Nuthatch (235), American Robin (2062), White-winged Crossbill (19), and American Goldfinch (880). Other notable sightings included 10 Black-legged Kittiwakes, two Eurasian Wigeon, two Razorbills, five Black Guillemots, a Red-bellied Woodpecker, and a Pine Warbler.

The Isles of Shoals count was run this year. Although this count is centered around Duck Island, Maine, and most of the count circle is in the state of Maine, the southern edge of the circle does include the New Hampshire islands and has historically been reported in *New Hampshire Bird Records*. The Isles of Shoals count had its first count records of Northern Harrier, Mourning Dove, Northern Mockingbird, Dark-eyed Junco, and Red-winged Blackbird. It had its highest count record of Razorbill (20), and Song Sparrow (6), plus its second highest counts of Red-necked Grebe (11), Northern Gannet (9), Iceland Gull (12, tied 1975 record), Glaucous Gull (3), and Black Guillemot (62, tied 1967 and 1976).

The Lee-Durham CBC posted its first record of Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, and White-winged Scoter. It had high count totals of Common Loon (4), Mallard (866), Common Goldeneye (444), Common Merganser (9, tied 1988), Red-tailed Hawk (43), Herring Gull (12,000), Great Black-backed Gull (1300), Rock Dove (1104), Mourning Dove (761), Great Horned Owl (9), Downy Woodpecker (179), Pileated Woodpecker (7), Black-capped Chickadee (1253), Tufted Titmouse (248), Cedar Waxwing (442), European Starling (3380), Northern Cardinal (120), American Tree Sparrow (367), Common Redpoll (82), and American Goldfinch (768). Other notables were three Cooper's Hawks, three Northern Goshawks, six Iceland and five Glaucous Gulls, a Northern Saw-whet Owl, and the second count record of Eastern Meadowlark (4).

The Concord CBC reported its first Lincoln's Sparrow. It was the third one ever reported on a New Hampshire CBC. The first was on the Isles of Shoals count in 1967, the second was on the Seacoast count in 1991. A Boreal Chickadee during the count week was rather far south for this species. Concord also had a high count record for Cedar Waxwing (282). Other notables included two Bald Eagles, a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and 131 Common Redpolls.

The Laconia-New Hampton count posted its highest count records of Canada Goose (12), Ring-necked Duck (7), Ring-billed Gull (173), Black-capped Chickadee (2222), Tufted Titmouse (176), Red-breasted Nuthatch (422), White-breasted Nuthatch (241), Brown Creeper (40), American Robin (25), Cedar Waxwing (586), and White-winged Crossbill (171). Other notable sightings included a Red-necked Grebe (fourth count record), a Green-winged Teal (third count record), four Bald Eagles, 19 Wild Turkey (second count record), a Yellow-rumped Warbler (third count record), and an exceptional Yellow-breasted Chat (count week). The chat was only the second one ever recorded on a New Hampshire CBC, the previous record from the seacoast in 1969.

The Hanover-Norwich CBC tallied its highest count records of Mallard (339), Wild Turkey (23), Barred Owl (6), Downy Woodpecker (91), Hairy Woodpecker (55), American Crow (1562), Tufted Titmouse (78), Red-breasted Nuthatch (175), White-breasted Nuthatch (188), Cedar Waxwing (765), Northern Cardinal (84), and White-winged Crossbill (88). Other notable sightings included a Hermit Thrush, a Rusty Blackbird, and 306 Pine Grosbeaks (second highest total).

The Baker Valley count turned in its highest count totals for Wild Turkey (14), Barred Owl (2), Common Raven (16), Tufted Titmouse (19), Red-breasted Nuthatch (51), Cedar Waxwing (30), and Red Crossbill (16).

Littleton reported high count records for American Black Duck (21), Mallard (5), and White-winged Crossbill (47). Other interesting sightings were six Hooded Mergansers, a Bald Eagle, two Tufted Titmice, three American Robins, 146 Pine Grosbeaks, and 225 Common Redpolls.

The Errol-Umbagog CBC posted its highest count record for Bohemian Waxwing (15). Additional highlights included 92 Pine Grosbeaks and 120 Common Redpolls.

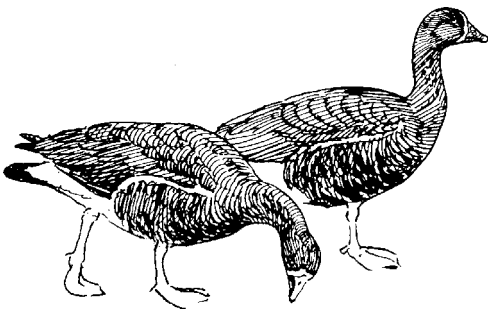
Pittsburg also had a record high number of Bohemian Waxwings (10). Additional noteworthy sightings included 147 Pine Grosbeaks and 221 Common Redpolls.

North Conway (started in 1989) reported its first record of Wild Turkey. The Townsend's Warbler in the village of Intervale lingered long enough to be seen during the count week. The only previous state records are from the Lee-Durham CBC in 1991 and Odiorne Point State Park in fall 1994. Record high tallies were noted for Mourning Dove (313), Barred Owl (3), Black-capped Chickadee (998), Tufted Titmouse (28, tied 1995), Red-breasted Nuthatch (107), White-breasted Nuthatch (125), Northern Shrike (3), Northern Cardinal (15), and Pine Grosbeak (22).

Lake Sunapee (started in 1990) had interesting sightings of five Hooded Mergansers, one Bald Eagle (first count record), 17 American Robins, 859 Cedar Waxwings, 21 American Tree Sparrows, and 18 Snow Buntings.

Manchester (in its third count year) reported notable numbers of 147 Common Goldeneyes, five Bald Eagles, seven Horned Larks, eight Common Ravens, 115 Tufted Titmice, and 70 American Tree Sparrows.

Sandwich (in its third count year) turned up nine Pileated Woodpeckers, 13 Boreal Chickadees, 263 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 132 White-breasted Nuthatches, 120 Bohemian Waxwings, an Eastern Towhee, and a Hoary Redpoll (seen CBC week).



# 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	Barbara Schultz
17	Isles of Shoals	Dave Tucker
18	Sandwich	Jim & Margaret Vernon
19	Barnet, VT	Charlie Browne

98th Christmas Bird Count: Dec. 19, 1997-Jan. 4, 1998

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	Isles	LeeDu	Cncrd
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	11	-	1	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	72	11	4	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	42	-	-	-
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	92	11	2	-
Northern Gannet	-	-	-	-	9	-	-
Great Cormorant	-	-	-	51	32	-	-
Double-cr. Cormorant	-	-	-	4	-	2	-
American Bittern	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	16	-	4	2
Mute Swan	-	-	-	58	-	-	-
Gr. White-fr. Goose	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Canada Goose	795	11	-	5028	-	464	2
Wood Duck	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	118	1	5	1748	9	254	61
Mallard	1324	-	8	1146	-	866	154
Northern Pintail	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Eurasian Wigeon	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	18	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	522	-	-	-
Common Eider	-	-	-	109	275	-	-
King Eider	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Oldsquaw	-	-	-	98	50	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	97	12	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	270	8	1	-
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	359	9	444	16
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	87	2	125	-
Hooded Merganser	1	-	-	1	-	2	5
Common Merganser	48	-	1	17	-	9	15
Red-br. Merganser	-	-	-	178	20	63	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	1	1	-	3	-	1	2
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	1	-	3	-	3	2
Cooper's Hawk	1	-	-	5	-	3	-
Northern Goshawk	-	1	1	1	-	3	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	18	4	3	45	-	43	7
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Buteo sp.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	1	-	-	5	-	1	-
Merlin	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	2	-	CW	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	-	3	-	-	-

Lcni	Hnovr	BkrVI	Ltltn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnw	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	92
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	106
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12	1	-	1	-	-	-	CW	26	-	6340
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CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	522
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275	20	-	-	-	-	-	15	147	-	1285
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101	6	-	6	1	-	-	5	-	-	128
84	85	-	14	3	-	-	8	17	-	301
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4	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	5	CW	21
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1	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	22
<hr/>										
1	CW	-	-	-	-	-	CW	1	-	11
-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	11
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
2	9	-	1	-	-	-	1	7	1	141
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<hr/>										
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

## 98th Christmas Bird Count (continued)

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	Isles	LeeDu	Cncrd
Ruffed Grouse	5	7	1	4	-	11	4
Wild Turkey	-	69	1	5	-	36	-
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	-	16	125	-	-
Dunlin	-	-	-	75	-	-	-
Common Snipe	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	144	25	3	-
Ring-billed Gull	147	-	-	338	-	263	14
Herring Gull	4274	9	86	3928	2800	12000	9
Iceland Gull	1	-	-	4	12	6	-
Glaucous Gull	1	-	-	1	3	5	-
Great Bla.-bac. Gull	819	-	118	378	136	1300	25
Gull sp.	-	-	713	-	-	-	-
Bla.-leg. Kittiwake	-	-	-	10	26	-	-
Dovekie	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
Razorbill	-	-	-	2	20	-	-
Black Guillemot	-	-	-	5	62	-	-
Rock Dove	748	118	281	1309	-	1104	361
Mourning Dove	824	125	154	739	1	761	104
Eastern Screech-owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	1	-	-	3	-	9	-
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Barred Owl	3	1	-	4	-	2	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-
N. Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	CW	-	1	-
Belted Kingfisher	8	1	-	7	-	3	-
Red-bel. Woodpecker	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	154	67	22	172	-	179	45
Hairy Woodpecker	59	43	13	48	-	79	18
Bla.-bac. Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	10	-	-	27	-	7	-
Pileated Woodpecker	3	8	3	8	-	7	1
Horned Lark	-	-	-	4	-	-	5
Gray Jay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	926	957	441	950	-	629	179
American Crow	741	188	136	1474	-	584	381
Common Raven	-	10	1	2	-	3	7
Black-cap. Chickadee	1056	972	397	1383	-	1253	501
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW
Tufted Titmouse	362	106	47	341	-	248	85
Red-br. Nuthatch	49	36	7	99	-	22	5
White-br. Nuthatch	218	97	45	235	-	204	64
Brown Creeper	13	13	2	25	-	15	2
Carolina Wren	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	2	-	-	1	-	1	-
Golden-cr. Kinglet	4	17	5	10	-	3	2
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Eastern Bluebird	22	-	-	28	-	4	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Lcνια	Hnovr	BkrVI	Ltltn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnw	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
1	3	1	8	-	-	2	1	-	9	57
19	23	14	15	-	-	1	4	-	6	193
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	172
173	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	1	960
122	3	-	51	-	-	-	1	291	1	23575
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	24
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
116	39	-	61	-	-	-	2	159	CW	3153
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	714
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
272	696	7	14	-	3	40	64	1240	22	6279
192	248	86	66	12	18	313	148	235	93	4119
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	6	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	2	24
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
92	91	24	14	5	4	34	20	38	63	1024
42	55	20	26	7	7	30	16	15	54	532
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	45
9	6	2	3	4	1	4	1	1	9	70
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	17
-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
696	708	473	167	10	24	302	387	412	412	7673
478	1562	61	122	8	13	112	80	228	94	6262
7	12	16	22	42	19	9	4	8	11	173
2222	2551	805	367	204	212	998	466	518	1255	15160
-	-	-	-	3	15	-	-	-	13	31
176	78	19	2	-	-	28	9	115	55	1671
422	175	51	49	9	10	107	18	25	263	1347
241	188	43	18	1	1	125	32	61	132	1705
40	21	3	3	-	-	5	4	12	22	180
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
13	3	1	CW	11	1	1	4	-	6	81
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

## 98th Christmas Bird Count (continued)

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	Isles	LeeDu	Cncrd
American Robin	32	11	1	2062	-	48	6
N. Mockingbird	71	2	1	100	1	56	8
Bohemian Waxwing	-	CW	7	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	698	206	569	555	-	442	282
Northern Shrike	-	2	-	2	-	CW	-
European Starling	2839	147	212	18232	11	3380	498
Ylw.-rumped Warbler	5	-	-	66	-	-	-
Townsend's Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Yellow-breasted Chat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Tanager	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	147	7	17	144	-	120	28
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Am. Tree Sparrow	227	25	25	509	-	367	49
Field Sparrow	1	-	2	1	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	34	-	-	112	6	37	13
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
White-thr. Sparrow	17	-	-	13	-	16	4
Dark-eyed Junco	522	56	55	340	4	280	36
Snow Bunting	-	3	30	1	-	1	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	-	1	-	4	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Br.-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	8	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	2	7	-	-	3	2
Purple Finch	19	-	-	2	-	1	2
House Finch	427	21	18	647	-	424	85
Red Crossbill	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Whi.-wing. Crossbill	-	2	-	19	-	7	2
Common Redpoll	58	55	26	74	-	82	131
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	3	1	6	4	-	1	-
American Goldfinch	811	100	151	880	-	768	131
Evening Grosbeak	26	97	60	-	-	12	18
House Sparrow	1050	160	66	1734	-	775	151
Number of Species	59	43	42	107	31	71	49
Number of Participants	24	22	18	47	19	31	21

Total Number of Species Across all CBCs: 137

### Count Abbreviations and Dates

? = Questionable Sighting    CW = Count Week

Nshua = Nashua-Hollis                    (12/27/97)                    Isles = Isles of Shoals (12/21/97)  
 Petrbr = Peterborough-Hancock       (12/20/97)                    LeeDu = Lee-Durham (12/27/97)  
 Keene = Keene                                (12/27/97)                    Cncrd = Concord            (12/28/97)  
 Coast = Seacoast                            (12/20/97)

Lcnia	Hnovr	BkrVI	Ltltn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnw	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
25	2	-	3	-	-	-	17	2	8	2217
8	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	20	-	272
-	24	-	3	15	10	-	-	-	120	179
586	765	30	23	-	-	6	859	3	195	5219
-	1	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	1	11
315	511	121	135	-	14	140	245	2608	42	29450
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72
-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
57	84	10	4	-	-	15	4	23	14	674
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
49	75	1	12	-	-	39	21	70	3	1472
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14?	-	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	210
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
13	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	78
182	106	7	CW	-	-	62	29	74	55	1808
28	-	-	-	-	2	8	18	22	-	113
-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	1	CW	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
7	306	9	146	92	147	22	37	-	7	787
-	-	CW	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	29
458	286	8	-	-	-	30	86	61	23	2574
-	6	16	-	-	-	53	-	-	21	100
171	88	12	47	6	-	23	-	-	69	446
251	114	79	225	120	221	142	87	-	212	1877
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	0
45	69	-	-	-	-	2	-	5	CW	136
129	130	88	16	1	-	28	49	214	35	3531
31	38	202	60	1	7	103	97	25	7	784
370	396	128	12	-	4	104	87	550	9	5596
54	53	33	40	25	23	40	42	46	41	
16	21	13	14	7	5	20	17	20	18	

Lcnia = Laconia-New Hampton (12/27/97)  
Hnovr = Hanover-Norwich (1/1/98)  
BkrVI = Baker Valley (1/3/98)  
Ltltn = Littleton (12/20/97)  
Errol = Errol-Umbagog (12/27/97)

Pttsb = Pittsburg (12/28/97)  
NCnw = North Conway (12/29/97)  
LSunp = Lake Sunapee (12/20/97)  
Manch = Manchester (12/27/97)  
Sandw = Sandwich (1/4/98)

## New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee Decisions

We are continuing to publish the results of the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee (NHRBC) decisions on rare birds. In this issue you will find the NHRBC decisions for spring, summer, fall 1997, and winter 1997-98. Records not accepted by the NHRBC will be reconsidered if significant new information is submitted, such as reports from additional observers, photographs, or field notes.

In addition, there are occasional records that the committee is unable to evaluate in time for publication with the other votes from that season. The decisions for these records also appear in the following summary, as is the case with the Blue Grosbeak from the summer '94.

The NHRBC is an independent Technical Advisory Committee to *New Hampshire Bird Records* (NHBR). It reviews unusual sightings in an effort to maintain accuracy and scientific integrity for both *New Hampshire Bird Records* and the historical database of birds sightings maintained by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire (ASNH). Sightings are evaluated based on the details submitted. A record must have a vote of 7-0 or 6-1 to be accepted by the committee.

A rejection is not an indication that the identification was incorrect but that the information received was not enough to allow its inclusion into the state record. Adequate documentation is the key to whether a report is accepted. For information on the committee and its decision making process, please see the article in the summer '96 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. The fall '96 issue has an article on how to document rare bird sightings. Contact the *New Hampshire Bird Records* Managing Editor at ASNH for a copy of either of these articles.

The current committee members are Dennis Abbott, Alan Delorey, P.D. Hunt, Steve Mirick, Bob Quinn, Andrea Robbins, and George Robbins. Feel free to contact any one of them if you have questions.

### 1997 Decisions

#### Spring 1997

Species accepted by the committee:

Little Gull, Enfield on April 7. Good description at close range.

White-eyed Vireo, Odiorne Point in late May. Well-described and seen over several days by multiple observers.

Orange-crowned Warbler, Whitefield on May 7. Excellent description.

Yellow-throated Warbler, Concord on May 11. Good details; seen by several observers.

Cerulean Warbler, Derry on May 28. Heard only, but good description by an observer familiar with the species.

Hooded Warbler, North Hampton on May 21. Well-described and seen by multiple observers.

Summer Tanager, Millsfield on May 7. Excellent description of a bird seen at close range.

Western Tanager, Dublin on May 24. Good description of a species more likely in fall.

Species not accepted by the committee:

Least Bittern, Hopkinton on May 30. A heard-only bird; details did not eliminate Black-billed Cuckoo.

Little Egret, Rye on April 20 and 21. This intriguing bird was not accepted because of the possibility of its being a hybrid between Snowy and Little Egrets.

Whooper Swan, Hampton on April 5. Although correctly identified, this record was rejected because the bird may have been of captive origin.

Hairy Woodpecker (Pacific Northwest form), Madbury on April 29. Probably just an unusually dark Hairy Woodpecker, as there is no pattern of vagrancy of the NW form.

Three-toed Woodpecker, Canterbury in late May. Observer did not convincingly eliminate the more likely Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

Sedge Wren, Lisbon on May 18. Heard only; description of song inconclusive.

Summer Tanager, Westmoreland on May 20. Inadequate details.

Bobolink, Middleton on April 21. Insufficient details to accept such an unusually early record.

Pine Grosbeak, Goffstown on May 11. Description unclear, especially for such a late date and southerly location in a non-invasion year.

## Summer 1997

Species accepted by the committee:

Manx Shearwater, July 26, Rye. Good description of a bird seen well offshore at Jeffrey's Ledge by observers familiar with the species.

White Pelican, two birds on June 11, Tuftonboro. An excellent description with a good sketch of this easy to identify (though rare) species.

Least Bittern, June 11, Jefferson. Good description of a heard only bird, in appropriate habitat by an observer familiar with the species.

Arctic Tern, June 12, Hampton. A good description separating this species from the Common Tern.

Loggerhead Shrike, June 18, Newington. An adequate description by an observer familiar with the species; the only shrike likely in June.

Blue Grosbeak, June 1, Wilmot. An excellent description of a male, seen by observers familiar with the species.

Blue Grosbeak, June 20, Milford. Another good description of a male.

Fox Sparrow, throughout June, Pittsburg. Good descriptions of a pair of birds seen by numerous observers; in the same spot as 1996.

Species not accepted by the committee:

Three-toed Woodpecker, two birds in Hillsboro on July 10. Far south of its normal range, insufficient details to eliminate other more common species.

## Fall 1997

Sightings accepted by the committee:

Greater Shearwater, Durham on October 5. Well seen from a boat in the middle of the bay.

Manx Shearwater, nine birds from Rye on August 21. Storm driven birds along the coast.

Leach's Storm-Petrel, Lake Winnepesaukee, Moltonborough on November 2. Well described by experienced observers.

Greater White-fronted Goose, Stratham on November 21. Stayed on Great Bay for several weeks, seen by many.

King Eider, Rye on August 25. An immature male seen for two days off Seavey Island.

King Eider, Portsmouth on September 13 and September 16. A female seen by several observers over a few days.

Golden Eagle, Londonderry on October 26. A well described immature bird apparently migrating.

Golden Eagle, North Hampton on October 2. A well described immature bird.

Golden Eagle, two immature birds from Rye on October 7. Photographed.

Golden Eagle, Millsfield on November 4. A well described immature bird.

Marbled Godwit, Seabrook on August 9. Well seen and described bird on harbor mudflats.

Black-legged Kittiwake, Rye on August 21. An early storm blown immature bird along the coast.

Caspian Tern, one in Rye on October 4. Possibly one of the same birds noted by other observers that day.

Caspian Terns, 30 in Rye on October 4. Seacoast migration witnessed by a group. Some very close.

Black Guillemot, Piscataqua River, Newington on August 29. Seen at close range from a boat.

Long-eared Owl, Concord on November 23. Perched for a day outside a residence in Concord.

Rufous Hummingbird, East Kingston on August 18. Photographed adult male.

Three-toed Woodpecker, Bethlehem on August 6. In appropriate spruce-fir habitat at 2900 feet elevation.

Western Kingbird, Portsmouth on September 22. Photographed and seen by several.

Townsend's Solitaire, Franconia on October 6. A very convincing description and sketch of this rare western thrush.

Varied Thrush, Bedford on November 19. Photographed.

Orange-crowned Warbler, Rye on October 7. Nice description and sketch provided.

Dickcissel, Rye on August 15. Seen and photographed on Seavey Island.

Lark Sparrow, Exeter on October 18. Stayed for several days, seen by many.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Stratham on August 19. Well seen adult bird with good description.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Juvenile in Stratham on August 20. Well seen juvenile bird with good description.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Hampton on October 7 and 9. Well seen adult bird with good description.  
Dark-eyed Junco - Pink-sided subsp., Nashua on October 16. Well described bird.  
Yellow-headed Blackbird, Wakefield on September 25. An immature male video-taped at a feeder!  
Hoary Redpoll, Sandwich on November 8. Well described bird at feeder with many Common Redpolls.  
Hoary Redpoll, Sandwich on November 30. Well described bird at feeder with many Common Redpolls.  
Townsend's Warbler, Conway in early November. Stayed for several weeks and photographed at suet feeder.  
Connecticut Warbler, Newington on September 25. Well described bird seen from close range.

Sightings not accepted by the committee:

Pacific Loon, Rye on October 31. Unfortunately, distance did not allow for good observation and positive identification.  
Red-necked Grebe, North Sandwich on September 1. A bird identified as an immature. There were insufficient details to rule out more likely species.  
Black Vulture, Merrimack on September 12. Documentation was not provided for this sighting which was received through a phone call.  
Golden Eagle, Loudon on September 29. Insufficient details to eliminate immature Bald Eagle.  
Golden Eagle, North Walpole on September 2. Insufficient details to eliminate immature Bald Eagle.  
Yellow Rail, Dummer on August 2. An intriguing report of vocalizations, but the exact pattern was not described, and the possibility exists for confusion with other species. This species has never been known to nest in New Hampshire.  
Prothonotary Warbler, two birds in Richmond on August 28. Insufficient details to eliminate the more likely Yellow Warbler.

## Winter 1997-98

Species accepted by the committee:

Barrow's Goldeneye (female), Great Bay February 9. Adequate description, associating with male.  
Gray Jay, Greenville (south of usual range) February 8. Adequate description.  
Varied Thrush, Meredith, January-February. Photographed.  
Varied Thrush, Rindge, January-February. Well described, seen by many observers.  
Orange-crowned Warbler, Derry December-February. Video taped.  
Yellow-breasted Chat, Laconia December-January. Well described.  
Western Tanager, Portsmouth December-March. Photographed, seen by many observers.  
Lincoln's Sparrow, Concord December-January. Well described.  
Hoary Redpoll, Sandwich December 23. Well described.  
Hoary Redpoll, Columbia January 13. Well described.

Species not accepted by the committee:

Yellow-nosed Albatross, Hancock on December 28 was not accepted due to insufficient details for such a rarity.

Broad-winged Hawk, Salem on January 19 was not accepted due to insufficient details to eliminate Cooper's Hawk or Red-shouldered Hawk.

Hoary Redpoll, Sandwich on December 3 was not accepted due to photos being inconclusive. Could have been a Common Redpoll.

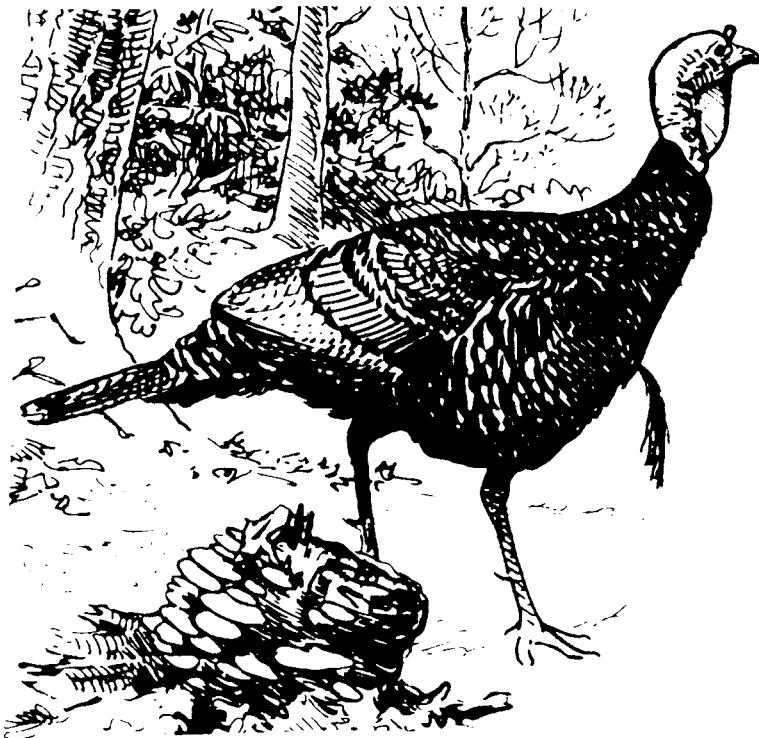
Hoary Redpoll, Sandwich on December 4 & 16 was not accepted due to photos being inconclusive. Could have been a Common Redpoll.

Hoary Redpoll, Rochester on February 22 was not accepted. Common Redpoll could not be eliminated.

## Summer 1994

Species not accepted by the committee:

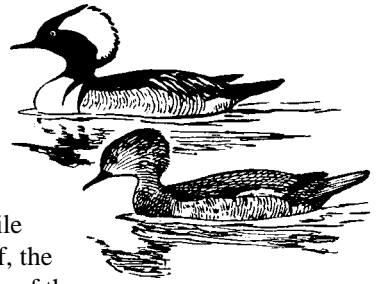
Blue Grosbeak, June 9, Hollis. Description did not adequately eliminate Indigo Bunting.





# Birding Mascoma Lake for Waterfowl Migration

by P.D. Hunt



The Connecticut Valley is one of the major waterfowl migration corridors in New Hampshire. While ducks and geese are most common on the river itself, the several lakes in the valley can also be very good. One of the most productive lakes is Mascoma Lake in Enfield, an area that has received extensive coverage in recent years. While one is in the area, it is often worthwhile to visit nearby Crystal Lake as well. The best time to view waterfowl migration in this area is late September to early December, and again in late March through late April or early May.

A waterfowl search on Mascoma Lake is best accomplished by following Route 4A along the southwest shore of the lake, as access and views from the northeast side are very limited. Start your tour at the Lebanon end of the lake, where you can scan from either the dam or the boat launch. This is not the best spot for ducks in early fall, but as winter approaches it slowly becomes one of the only ice-free areas on the lake. From late November on, it can be a good place to find Common and Hooded Mergansers, Mallards, and American Black Ducks, as well as the occasional rarity such as goldeneye or coot. It is similarly productive in spring, before the rest of the lake opens up.

Continuing down the lake a little farther, the next place to stop is the parking lot at The Baited Hook, a restaurant on the left about half a mile from the dam. From here, look across to the far side of the lake, to the right of the last house on the opposite shore. This is the deepest spot in this end of the lake and seems to attract a number of diving birds. Scoters and Red-necked Grebes are regular, and this is the only spot on the lake where I have seen Ruddy Ducks. Many of these waterfowl are more likely to land in rainy weather, so take a quick look if you happen to be traveling along Route 4A at such times.

From here, the road gets a little windy, and there are few places to pull off to scan, so it's probably best to head straight to the Shaker Bridge. There is a large parking lot here for the boat launch, and you can scan the lake from here or out on the bridge. The place to concentrate your efforts is again the center of the lake, to the right and somewhat toward you from the islands. You will definitely need a scope here, as the birds can be almost a mile away. Another option at this point is to cross the bridge and scan from near the Shaker Bridge Motel (be sure not to block any cars). You are a little closer to the islands here, and have a better chance at seeing ducks that are tucked into the area of the lake where the Mascoma River enters to the east. While looking for waterfowl, don't ignore the other birds that can be found here. The cluster of rocks to the right of the island is a favorite roost site for cormorants and gulls, including occasional rarities such as Great Cormorant.

From the Shaker Bridge, continue along 4A, keeping an eye on the lake. There are again few areas to stop and scan, as most of the lakeshore here is away from the road and privately owned. One option is to turn left into the development at Lower Shaker Village and take a quick look around, but be sure to respect people's property. The other

good vantage point is to the left at the far southern end of the lake. There is a wide spot here that I regularly use to scan north up the lake. I have seen such diverse species as Surf Scoter, Green-winged Teal, Greater Scaup, and Red-throated Loon from here. That pretty much covers Mascoma Lake, unless you own lakefront property or know someone who does!

To reach Crystal Lake, continue southeast on 4A to Shaker Hill Road (about a half-mile from Shaker Blvd.). Turn left, and continue straight on Crystal Lake Road when the main road bends sharply left. After another half mile, turn right on Algonquin Road and follow it to the boat launch at the end. The shallow waters here can be excellent for a wide variety of species, including Pied-billed and Horned Grebes, Ring-necked Ducks, and, of course, lots of Mallards. Loons are also fairly regular, and at least one person has seen a Bald Eagle from here. Like the dam end of Mascoma Lake, this end of Crystal Lake may remain open longer than the rest, and thus concentrate waterfowl.

The rest of Crystal Lake is easily viewed by returning to Crystal Lake Road and turning right. The road hugs the shore and has little traffic, making it relatively easy to look at the water carefully. This part of the lake is also deeper, and thus attracts more scoters and Common Mergansers as well as the occasional Oldsquaw and Red-breasted Merganser. Crystal Lake Road comes to a T at Lockhaven Road. Turn left here and continue straight until you reach Shaker Hill Road. From here you can turn left to return to Route 4A (and check Mascoma again!), or turn right to head into the village of Enfield and Route 4.

Hopefully you will see a few ducks in the course of this tour of two of Enfield's lakes, although there are certainly no guarantees! Waterfowl, like all birds, seem to come and go as they please, and it may take you a couple of visits to see much more than the local Mallards and a few mergansers. But one day, when you least expect it, you'll hit the mother load, and from that point on you'll be coming back in the hopes of finding more!



## Finding Rarities

By Alan Delorey

Most birders dream of the thrill of finding a bona fide rarity. It is exhilarating to be the one to find a rare and unexpected species and to notify the Rare Bird Alert of the lucrative find. But how do you go about finding a rarity? Is there some special trick to it or is it just a quirk of fate?

Probably the most important element in finding rare birds is being a very careful observer. It is surprisingly easy to overlook a rarity. When you see a flock of waxwings, do not dismiss them all as Cedar Waxwings. Search through the flock carefully, examining each bird

in turn, looking for the possible Bohemian Waxwing that might be hiding amongst them. This principle holds true for any large flock of birds. Always check each individual thoroughly in case it is an unexpected species.

The same holds true for a single bird perched in view. Do not assume that it is just a Northern Mockingbird or Tree Swallow. Take a second look at it and make certain what it is. It just may turn out to be that elusive rarity that you have been hoping for.

This takes a great deal of patience and practice. It requires self-discipline. All too often we are in a hurry to move on to the next stop in our itinerary, to rush ahead without checking out the present location carefully enough.

Let me cite a few examples from my own experience. In the fall of 1994, Barbara (my wife) and I were the lucky ones to find the first Eurasian Wigeon reported in New Hampshire in 40 years. Although there certainly was an element of luck in that we were in the right place at the right time, we could have easily overlooked it. We were scanning through ducks at Great Bay, being very careful to examine each individual in a large flock of ducks. By checking out each bird and making certain that we could identify each individual to species, we came across a strange looking duck that we could not immediately identify. We had to study it for a few moments to recognize it as an immature male Eurasian Wigeon. If we had just scanned through the ducks quickly, we would have written the bird off as just another American Wigeon.

Contemplating a large flock of gulls may not sound like your idea of exciting birding. Yet that is how you are likely to find a Little Gull or a Common Black-headed Gull mixed in with a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls. Searching carefully through the flocks of Common Eiders at the seacoast will sometimes turn up a King Eider. Would you like to see a Lapland Longspur in New Hampshire? Go to the seacoast and examine every bird in the flocks of Horned Larks and Snow Buntings.

It is amazing how empty the ocean can look sometimes. To the unaided eye, the sea can look devoid of birdlife. But you should never despair. Scoping the ocean carefully will usually turn up a number of birds that were hiding between the swells or just out of range of your vision. That is how we find Thick-billed Murres and other alcids off the New Hampshire coast.

Studying shorebirds can be downright tedious. Yet that is how you find rare shorebirds. Never assume that all of the shorebirds in a flock are all the same species. Grit your teeth and with determination check each individual until you are sure of its identity. This is especially challenging since they are almost certain to pick up and fly only to settle down again a few seconds later, in a different random order, of course.

Can you think of anything more boring than inspecting a flock of 3000 Canada Geese? Yet that is exactly how I found a Greater White-fronted Goose from Sandy Point on Great Bay in November 1997. I was painstakingly scoping through the flock of geese, examining each individual, hoping to find a Brant mixed in with them. Suddenly I came across the white-fronted goose. What a surprise!

I could cite many more examples, but hopefully you get the idea. Train yourself to be a thorough and careful observer. Learn to pick out the "odd duck" in a flock, even if you cannot readily identify the bird that looks different. Discovering it is nine-tenths of the battle.

Once you have found a rarity, remember to document it carefully and notify other birders immediately. For tips on documenting sightings see the article, "Documenting Rare Bird Sightings," by Alan Delorey, in the fall 1996 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*.

# Volunteers and Birding Research

By Francie Von Mertens

## Research

*The Winter Ecology of Northern Waterthrushes, or ¿Donde Estan las Pizpitas de Mangle?*; P.D. Hunt and colleagues; written up by P.D. Hunt

This title translates as “Where are the Northern Waterthrushes?” and it’s in Spanish because for at least half the year “our” waterthrushes are in Latin America. For the past three winters, my colleagues and I have been working in a mangrove swamp in southwest Puerto Rico color-banding over 200 Northern Waterthrushes and mapping their spatial distribution on a three hectare study plot. Lest you think this sounds just a little too much like a vacation, consider the fact that we are constantly wading about in 30 to 60 centimeters of murky water, walking into spider webs at every turn-- and then rethink your impressions about what research in the Caribbean is all about! During the winter, most migrants either defend territories or travel around in flocks, but it turns out that waterthrushes do neither. Our research has shown that while they do occupy restricted “feeding territories” of less than a quarter hectare, these areas are not aggressively defended in the manner of true territories. Sometimes we’ve even seen two or three birds on the same branch! But the story gets more complicated. At night, it appears that the birds leave these feeding areas for roosting areas that we have yet to find, based on data from mist-netting and radio telemetry. Such nocturnal roosting behavior is actually fairly common among migrants in Puerto Rico, but not well studied elsewhere. There is still a lot to learn about the non-breeding biology of the birds we see all summer, but work like this on the Northern Waterthrush helps to close the gaps.

## Volunteers in Research

Project FeederWatch; Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology in partnership with others.

Since 1987, Project FeederWatch has monitored winter birdfeeder populations across North America to determine general population declines and expansions, as well as tracking nomadic and irruptive species. Volunteers also were among the first to report eye infection in House Finches (in Washington, D.C., January, 1994) and to track its subsequent spread. State-by-state data indicate that states like New Hampshire, with established House Finch populations, are seeing significant declines in their numbers. The more recent avian salmonellosis, first reported in January, 1998, also is being tracked and analyzed. For a fee of \$15 to cover data-handling, FeederWatchers receive the quarterly Birdscope that reports results, trends, and interpretations. Phone 1-800-843-2473 to join the ranks of over 6000 annual reporters. Elementary and middle school teachers also can sign up for “Classroom FeederWatch,” a new program that includes extensive curriculum materials and actually encourages students to stare out the window.

## Corrections

The following corrections were found after the issue was published. Minor typos are not included. In the future, we hope to publish corrections in each issue for the previous season, but we still have a backlog. We will be including corrections chronologically as space allows.

Please let us know of any major inaccuracies you find in any issue. Those which involve sighting records will be corrected in the computer data file to improve accuracy.

### Spring 95

- p. 11 The Peregrine Falcon on 04-16 was in the town of Albany, not New London.
- p. 31 The European Goldfinch in Bedford was an escaped exotic.

### Summer 95

- p. 7 Waterfowl through Hawks summary: There was only one Common Merganser family in Dublin. The 2 in Enfield were not a family.
- p. 9 Northern Harrier on 06-26 was at Snag, not Shag Pond in Pittsburg.
- p. 13 Lesser Yellowlegs:  
There were 15 on 06-16 in Stratham, not 106.  
The 2 on 07-02 were at Landing Rd. in Hampton, not Rt. 101 in Hampton Falls.
- p. 14 The Wilson's Phalarope records from Hampton were both at the same location, usually known as Landing Road.
- p. 15 Cuckoos through Larks summary: Last paragraph should read "See also the [not three] Spring 1995 reports....".
- p. 24 Warblers summary: Second paragraph regarding Cerulean Warblers at Pawtuckaway State Park, add "A second male was also seen on 06-05."

### Fall 95

- p. 6 The Cattle Egret sightings were one flock of 14 that were seen at two different locations.
- p. 9 American Black Duck on 11-28 was in Bath not Bethlehem.
- p. 19 The Parasitic Jaeger should have been listed as Jaeger sp.

### Winter 95-96

- p. 4 The last sentence should read "Three [not two] hardy Great Blue Herons were seen inland in Bow, Peterborough and Hopkinton during January".

The following records for Winnisquam River should be Winnepesaukee River:

- p. 5 Mallards
- p. 5 American Black Ducks
- p. 7 Hooded Mergansers
- p. 22 CBC Table:  
Marsh Wren line is incorrectly labelled. It should be Golden-crowned Kinglet.  
Myrtle Warbler should be Yellow-rumped Warbler.  
The Hanover count should show 4 Golden-crowned Kinglets instead of 1 as listed.  
1 Ruby-crowned Kinglet for the Hanover Count is missing from the table.

## Reporters for Winter 1997-98

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# New Hampshire Bird Records

## Volume 16, Number 4

### Winter 1997-98

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### 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	T&M	Thompson & Meserves (Purchase)
LPC	Loon Preservation Committee	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
NA	Natural Area	WMNF	White Mountain National Forest
NHBR	<i>New Hampshire Bird Records</i>	WS	ASNH Wildlife Sanctuary
NHRBC	NH Rare Birds Committee	~	approximately

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