

# New Hampshire Bird Records



Spring 1999

Vol. 18, No. 1

## About the Cover

Despite its outward appearance, the Sandhill Crane is not closely related to herons at all, but, instead, is placed in the same order as rails and coots. These majestic gray birds occur in the thousands along their traditional migratory route through the center of the continent but appear to be increasing as vagrants to the east coast. Records in New Hampshire are about evenly split between spring and fall, and sightings have come from all corners of the state. This spring, there were reports of single birds from the seacoast and Connecticut Valley, and the latter bird entertained birders in two states through August. The Sandhill Crane is best distinguished from the far more common Great Blue Heron by its shorter, straighter neck, bulkier body, and red crown patch. Spring birds are often stained a rusty color from iron compounds in the mud where they have been feeding.

*Pam Hunt, Spring Editor*

## About the Artist

Wendy Christensen is a painter, illustrator and award-winning writer based in New Ipswich, New Hampshire. She specializes in animals and botanical and natural history themes.

## In This Issue

- The answer to our first photo quiz.
- How to tap into birding resources on the internet.
- Making bird lists can be fun, and the possibilities are intriguing.
- California Gnatcatcher research.
- Summary of bird banding on Star Island.

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Welcome to our new subscribers and thanks to everyone who has sent in their renewal. The world of birding is changing with the advance of computer technology, as Steve Mirick's article on page 36 demonstrates. With these exciting developments, it's easy to quickly find yourself spending many spare moments on the computer. But, as I discovered this spring, there's still no substitute for getting out in the field and watching birds.

I spent five weeks on Star Island banding birds and was immersed in birds all day, every day, except for some infrequent rainy moments. We checked the nets every half-hour, so I was outside from sunrise to sunset. I was able to watch the changes in species as the migration progressed, who arrived when, and where they fed. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn through my own observations. There were unexpected events, like the Northern Shoveler that flew into the pond for a few minutes, the Common Nighthawk that flew just a few feet away from my head as it looked for insects at sunset, and the Canada Warbler that snapped at flies in the window of the banding station. I became familiar with the birds on the island in a way I had never experienced before. Common Yellowthroats are feisty in the net, Golden-crowned Kinglets sometimes fly into the Star Island chapel, Common Terns like to sit on the moorings in Gosport Harbor and call to one another, and there's a Yellow Warbler territory right by the dock where you come off the boat. None of this information was part of my study, and you won't find it included in the summary on page 34!

I hope that the information I did gather through banding will help the birds in the long run, but it also renewed my sense of wonder and curiosity – there's still much we still don't know about the birds we see, despite all the research that's been done. Although few people are lucky to have the same kind of opportunity I've had, we can all watch the birds that live where we spend most of our days. Take a few minutes every day to observe them before work, at lunch, or on a break. You never know what you might see and learn! And don't forget to report your sightings to *New Hampshire Bird Records*. If you don't know how, please contact me at Audubon at 224-9909 ext. 309, or, at [birdsetc@nhaudubon.org](mailto:birdsetc@nhaudubon.org) if you're a cyber-birder.

*Becky Suomala*  
Managing Editor  
October, 1999

### Sponsorship for Spring 99

This issue is sponsored in part by Suzanne McCoy Poirier, Consulting Biologist, in appreciation of all that New Hampshire birders contribute to bird knowledge in the state.

# What to Report

## Spring Season: March through May

Which sightings should *New Hampshire Bird Records* reporters submit? There are no hard and fast rules, but here are some guidelines for the spring season.

First, it is 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). For spring migrants, focus on arrival dates, high counts, inland sightings of coastal species, hawk flights, and shorebird movements. Note late-lingering winter invaders such as Common Redpolls or other northern finches. Sometimes the common year-round resident species show migratory movements, and these are also of interest.

Reports of species sought by many birders are interesting to all. These are often resident species that are not commonly seen, including boreal, nocturnal, and secretive wetland species. Reports of state endangered and threatened species are always valuable for the database.

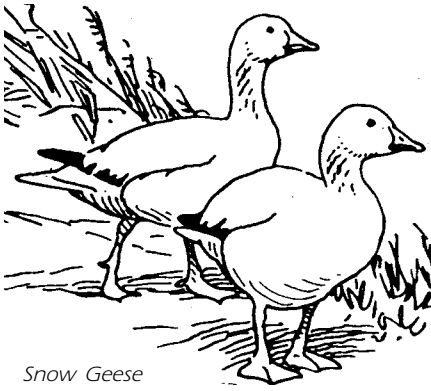
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### Reports for the following species were received but not listed

Red-throated Loon	Ruffed Grouse	White-breasted Nuthatch
Common Loon	Wild Turkey	Brown Creeper
Northern Gannet	American Coot	Carolina Wren
Great Cormorant	Killdeer	Marsh Wren
Great Blue Heron	Willet	Golden-crowned Kinglet
Great Egret	Ring-billed Gull	Eastern Bluebird
Black-crowned Night-Heron	Herring Gull	Swainson's Thrush
Glossy Ibis	Common Tern	Northern Mockingbird
Turkey Vulture	Mourning Dove	Brown Thrasher
American Black Duck	Great Horned Owl	American Pipit
Mallard	Barred Owl	Bohemian Waxwing
Common Eider	Northern Saw-whet Owl	Cedar Waxwing
Black Scoter	Belted Kingfisher	Song Sparrow
Surf Scoter	Hairy Woodpecker	White-crowned Sparrow
White-winged Scoter	Northern Flicker	Dark-eyed Junco
Common Merganser	Pileated Woodpecker	Northern Cardinal
Northern Harrier	Gray Jay	Red-winged Blackbird
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Blue Jay	Eastern Meadowlark
Cooper's Hawk	American Crow	Common Grackle
Northern Goshawk	Fish Crow	Brown-headed Cowbird
Red-tailed Hawk	Common Raven	Purple Finch
Merlin	Bank Swallow	House Finch
Peregrine Falcon	Tufted Titmouse	American Goldfinch
Ring-necked Pheasant	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Evening Grosbeak

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

March 1 - May 31, 1999



*Snow Geese*

Above-normal temperatures throughout and one of the driest Aprils on record dominated the weather scene in New Hampshire this spring. The now seemingly traditional March heat wave resulted in early ice-out on many lakes and a correspondingly early and widespread waterfowl migration. Otherwise, there were few significant weather events

to help migrants along during the peak passerine period from mid-April through May, so, for the most part, sightings just dribbled in.

There were exceptions, of course. The first was the several thousand Snow Geese that moved through the state, especially the Connecticut Valley, at the very end of March. Another was a phenomenal number of warblers at a couple of locations on May 9. Adding a new perspective to the season was a new banding station set up on Star Island by Becky Suomala (see page 34). Some of the highlights from her efforts are reported here, but a full report will have to wait until she finishes her project.

Traditionally, seasonal editors use this initial space to introduce some of a season's outstanding rarities, but I've opted not to do that this year. One reason is that, after one does this sort of thing for a while, the rarities start blurring together, and you're left looking at the bigger picture. Personally, I'm still trying to get the bigger picture in focus, but I can guarantee that things like White-faced Ibises and record early dates are only tiny parts of it.

What I tend to see are our local New Hampshire patterns in the context of the bigger world around us. Birds do not recognize political boundaries, and the nature of bird reporting attaches inflated importance to such boundaries. The shorebirds we see in New Hampshire in spring have just flown some hundreds (if not thousands) of miles from their last feeding area. The warblers we band on the Isles of Shoals might be in the bellies of bluefish were it not for a few specks of rock seven miles offshore. Yet, as insignificant as these sightings start to seem in this more global context, we need to accumulate them in order to learn how the world really works. And, if we can't learn how it works, someday those warblers and shorebirds just might stop showing up. I hope I'm not around if that happens, and, in the meantime, will continue to do what I can to learn how the world works. Next time you go birding, keep this in mind, and maybe you'll find that watching the seasons pass your doorstep is more interesting than being the umpteenth person to see the Blue-footed Booby at some lake in the middle of Texas.

*Pam Hunt  
Spring Editor*

# Loons through Herons

Once again, loon movements were not of note. Red-throated Loons were only on the coast and in small numbers, and there were no concentrations of Common Loons on inland lakes. The story was a little more interesting for grebes. Both Horned and Red-necked Grebes occurred in higher than usual numbers inland in early April. For the second year in a row, **Manx Shearwater** was reported from New Hampshire waters in May. To put these sightings in a better perspective, consider the fact that there are no other spring records going back at least to 1984. Traditionally a late summer visitor to our waters, this increase in sightings suggests a change in this small shearwater's distribution that bears watching in the future.

The Double-crested Cormorant on March 2 would be record early, but may instead represent a previously undetected wintering bird. Winter records of this species are increasing in northern New England, and, given the mildness of the previous three months, this bird may simply have been one of these lingerers. Otherwise, this species arrived right on time in late March and early April. Inland small egrets included a Snowy along the Connecticut River, two Cattles in the Lakes Region, and one of uncertain identity in Hollis. The season's only Little Blue Heron was on Star Island.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Pied-billed Grebe</b>				
04-01	2	Dummer	Magill Bay	R. Quinn
04-04	1	Peterborough	Contoocook R. above falls, Rts. 202 & 136	R. Frechette
04-12	1	Hanover	E. Wilder, Connecticut R.	A. Mudge
04-17	1	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Horned Grebe</b>				
03-20	12	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
04-03	1	Hinsdale	L. Wantastiquet	P. Hunt, L. Bunten, et al.
04-03	2	Concord	Turtle Pond	R. Quinn, Capital Area Chapter FT
04-03	1	Charlestown	Connecticut R.	P. Hunt, L. Bunten, et al.
04-03	13	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
04-15	25	N. Hampton	Atlantic Ave.	R. Aaronian
04-17	14	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Red-necked Grebe</b>				
04-03	2	Concord	Merrimack R. & Turtle Pond	R. Quinn, Capital Area Chapter FT
04-03	1	Charlestown	Connecticut R.	P. Hunt, L. Bunten, et al.
04-17	16	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
04-17	6	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
05-13	1	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Manx Shearwater</b>				
05-02	1	New Castle	offshore from Great Island Common	S. Mirick
05-24	1	Rye	off Jenness Beach	S. Mirick



*Double-crested Cormorant*  
by Andrea Robbins

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Double-crested Cormorant</b>				
03-02	1	Manchester	Moores Crossing RR bridge, Depot St.	L. Deming, M. Johnson
04-16	21	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
04-28	36	Haverhill	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
04-28	30	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
<b>American Bittern</b>				
04-18	1	Hopkinton	Chase WS	R. Woodward
04-22	1	Plymouth	wetlands near Cooksville Rd.	J. Williams
04-25	1	Lisbon	off Rt. 10	J. McIlwaine
04-27	1	Sandwich	Chick's Corner	T. Vazzano
04-29	1	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern
<b>Snowy Egret</b>				
05-29	1	Charlestown	Connecticut R. valley	W. McCumber, J. Kahn
<b>Egret sp.</b>				
05-27	1	Hollis	Rt. 130, Brookdale Farm fields	R. Andrews
<b>Little Blue Heron</b>				
05-25	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
<b>Cattle Egret</b>				
04-18	1	Alexandria	wet field beside Rt. 104 & Walker Rd.	J. Williams, S. & W. Fogelman, et al.
04-19	1	Alexandria	Walker Farm, Rt. 104	A. Payne
05-24	1	Gilford	Rt. 11 by Honey Dew Donuts	L. & C. Magee
<b>Green Heron</b>				
05-01	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
05-03	1	Hollis	Beaver Brook Assoc.	J. Romano, L. French
05-10	2	Enfield	George Pond	P. Hunt
05-11	1	Littleton	bog	B. Bradley
05-19	1	Sugar Hill	Pearl Lake Rd., small pond	J. McIlwaine

# Waterfowl

The waterfowl event of the spring was unquestionably the Snow Goose migration. From mid-March to early April, literally thousands passed over the state, with most concentrated in the upper Connecticut Valley from Enfield to Lancaster. The peak movement occurred on March 31, when over 3000 were reported statewide. Over the next three days, 2400 were reported from the upper Connecticut Valley, with roughly 1000 of these lingering until April 8. Given the number of reports that were **not** submitted to *New Hampshire Bird Records*, this flight certainly ranks as one of the largest and most widespread in the state. The single Snow Goose that wintered in Laconia was last reported on March 26 – perhaps it joined up with a flock of conspecifics as they headed north a few days later.

Six Tundra Swans in Haverhill in early March were both a high number and an unusual spring sighting. Given the higher-than-usual numbers in the state last fall and the apparent increase of this species in New England, perhaps these birds were part of a bigger trend. The only Mute Swans were not on Great Bay, and the Derry birds were quite distant from this species' usual coastal haunts. There were good numbers of Brant reported, including an unusually large inland flock in Haverhill. And not to be outdone, huge numbers of Canada Geese moved up the Connecticut in late March and early April.

Among other waterfowl, many species tended to appear relatively far north well before they were reported from the southern part of the state. Look at the data for Green-winged Teal as an example, as well as the two inland Oldsquaw in early April. Perhaps this pattern was somehow a result of early ice-out. There were several northern Shoveler reports this year, including an unexpected bird at the Isles of Shoals. Note the gradual disappearance of Greater Scaup from Great Bay over the course of the season. Twelve Ruddy Ducks at Littleton were described as “very rare” for that location by observer Bob Bradley.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Tundra Swan				
03-02	6	Haverhill	Rt. 10, flooded pools in cornfield	B. Bradley, E. Emery, P. Powers, et al.
03-19	6	Haverhill	Rt. 10, flooded pools in cornfield	B. Bradley, et al.
Mute Swan				
04-22	2	Exeter	Powder House Pond	R. Aaronian
04-26	2	Derry	Beaver Lake runoff	D. David
Snow Goose				
03-18	44	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
03-19	200	Monroe	Connecticut R.	P. Powers
03-20	49	Lee	Rt. 155 field sw. of UNH sawmill	A. Eaton
03-21	400	Piermont	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
03-21	30	Durham	UNH fields across from TC farm stand	F. Schwartz
03-23	75	Sunapee	Wendell Flat	P. Newbern



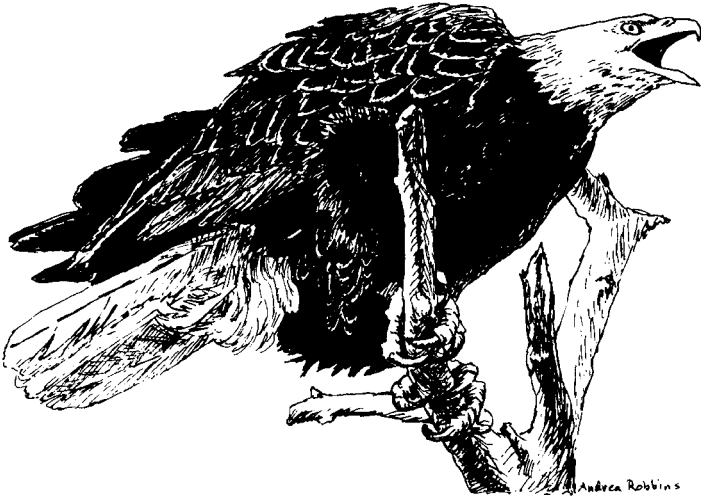
<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
03-28	75	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	J. Williams
03-31	60	Keene	near Rt. 9W	E. Richard
03-31	1000	Enfield	Jones Hill Rd.	H. Saunders
03-31	250	Canaan	Clark Rd.	N. Allen, G. Renee
03-31	200	Lebanon	over Rt. 4	P. Hunt
03-31	100	Andover	E. Andover	L. Vaillancourt
03-31	1000	Alexandria	off Braley Hill Rd.	N. Oulette
03-31	300	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
03-31	175	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick, D. Fotiades
04-01	95	Benton	Rt. 116	J. Williams
04-01	140	Monroe	corn stubble field	E. Emery, P. Powers
04-03	1400	Haverhill	corn stubble field	B. Bradley
04-06	240	Monroe	cornfields	P. Powers, E. Emery, B. Bradley
04-06	30	Campton	Avery Brook Drainage	J. Williams, J. Gilsdorf
04-06	800	Piermont	Connecticut R.	C. Martin, L. Garland
04-06	750	Lancaster	meadows n. of covered bridge, Connecticut R.	D. Killam
04-08	1000	Lancaster	cornfield	B. Bradley
<b>Brant</b>				
03-15	10	Rye	Pulpit Rock	D. & T. Donsker
03-28	55	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	J. Williams
05-21	150	Rye	over Star Is.	S. Mirick, et al.
<b>Canada Goose</b>				
03-03	75	Concord	Merrimack R.	R. Quinn
03-26	35		in flight, Connecticut R.	J. McIlwaine
03-31	800	Monroe	over village	E. Emery
04-01	83	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-08	350	Sugar Hill	in flight, Connecticut R.	J. McIlwaine
04-10	4000	Monroe	over village	E. Emery
04-14	88	Lancaster	cornfield	B. Bradley
<b>Wood Duck</b>				
03-03	1	Concord	Merrimack R.	R. Quinn
03-18	2	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
03-21	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
04-08	55	Plymouth		A. Ports
04-08	38	Lyme	Wilder WMA	P. Hunt
04-10	4	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	J. McIlwaine
<b>Green-winged Teal</b>				
03-17	9	Boscawen	Merrimack R.	R. Quinn
03-18	5	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
03-20	4	E. Kingston	Rt. 108 flooded field	A. & B. Delorey
03-27	5	Greenland	Great Bay access	A. & B. Delorey
04-06	23	Walpole	Cobb Brook	P. Hunt
04-10	23	E. Kingston	Rt. 108 flooded field	A. & B. Delorey
04-13	25	Lyme	Wilder WMA	P. Hunt
04-26	8	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	J. McIlwaine
04-30	42	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Northern Pintail</b>				
03-04	3	Haverhill	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
03-27	3	E. Kingston	Rt. 108 flooded field	A. & B. Delorey
03-27	6	Greenland	Sunset Landing, Great Bay	A. & B. Delorey
04-01	2	Milan	Androscoggin R.	R. Quinn
04-01	1	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Blue-winged Teal</b>				
04-02	2	Dummer	Magill Bay	R. Quinn
04-02	3	Whitefield	Hazens Pond	R. Quinn
04-03	2	Walpole	Cobb Brook	P. Hunt, L. Buntten, et al.
<b>Northern Shoveler</b>				
03-18	1	Monroe	Connecticut R., N. Monroe	B. Bradley, E. Emery, P. Powers
04-04	2	Lyme	Wilder WMA	P. Hunt
04-15	1	Meredith	Rt. 104	A. Ports
04-16	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
05-20	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
<b>Gadwall</b>				
03-27	4	Greenland	Sunset Landing, Great Bay	A. & B. Delorey
04-03	1	Boscawen	Big Bend in Merrimack R.	R. Quinn, Capital Area Chapter FT
04-03	2	Charlestown	Connecticut R.	P. Hunt, L. Buntten, et al.
04-04	1	Hanover	River Rd.	P. Hunt
05-21	2	Errol	Lake Umbagog	R. Quinn, L. Wunder
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b>				
03-21	1	Greenland	Sunset Farm	S. Mirick
<b>American Wigeon</b>				
03-21	43	Greenland	Sunset Farm	S. Mirick
04-03	3	Charlestown	Lower Meadows	P. Hunt, L. Buntten, et al.
04-13	1	Concord	Merrimack R., Terrill Pk.	R. Quinn, T. Richards
04-21	2	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
<b>Canvasback</b>				
03-02	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Ring-necked Duck</b>				
03-04	45	Salem	World End Pond	K. Folsom
03-05	30	Kingston	Powwow Pond	K. Folsom
03-07	9	Tilton	just above Lochmere Dam	J. Williams
03-20	78	Kingston	Powwow Pond	A. & B. Delorey
03-24	51	Northwood	Northwood L.	M. & R. Medeiros
03-31	116	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A. Delorey
03-31	24	Swanzy	Wilson Pond	E. Richard
04-02	50		Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
04-05	35	Auburn	Lake Massabesic	I. MacLeod
04-12	24	Canterbury	Otter Pond	R. Quinn
04-21	20	Springfield	McDaniels Marsh	P. Hunt
05-28	1	Springfield	McDaniels Marsh	P. Hunt

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Greater Scaup</b>				
03-02	1500	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-13	1350		Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
03-20	1001	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-27	783		Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
05-02	16	Greenland	Sunset Farm on Great Bay	S. Mirick
05-07	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Lesser Scaup</b>				
03-10	3	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
04-22	7	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
04-30	5	Lyman	Round Pond	S. Turner
<b>King Eider</b>				
03-06	1	Rye	Rye Harbor	A.& B. Delorey
05-02	1	Rye	Rye Harbor	S. Mirick
<b>Oldsquaw</b>				
04-02	1	Lebanon	above Wilder Dam	M. Krenitsky
04-02	1	Dummer	Magill Bay	R. Quinn
<b>Scoter sp.</b>				
05-22	4500	Rye	over Star Is.	S. Mirick, A. Borrer, et al.
<b>Common Goldeneye</b>				
03-20	135	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
04-02	64	Errol	below Errol Dam	R. Quinn
<b>Barrow's Goldeneye</b>				
04-01	2	Errol	Errol dam	B. Bradley
04-05	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
04-08	1	Lyme	Wilder WMA	P. Hunt
<b>Bufflehead</b>				
03-27	54		Great Bay	A.& B. Delorey
03-27	2	Salem	Canobie Lake	K. Folsom
03-30	2	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
03-31	11	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A. Delorey
04-03	10	Lebanon	above Wilder Dam	P. Hunt, L. Bunten, et al.
04-11	3	Whitefield	airport pond	J. McIlwaine
<b>Hooded Merganser</b>				
03-09	51	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-14	71	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-20	114	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
04-07	14	Moultonborough	Unsworth Preserve	T. Vazzano
04-22	9	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Red-breasted Merganser</b>				
04-03	1	Hinsdale	Lake Wantastiquet	P. Hunt, L. Bunten, et al.
04-20	2	Auburn	Lake Massabesic	I. MacLeod
<b>Ruddy Duck</b>				
04-26	12	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley

## Osprey through Crane

Like the waterfowl, Ospreys took advantage of warm weather and open water and arrived much earlier than usual. Kestrels, on the other hand, were late once again, perhaps reflecting this species' recent decline as a breeder in increasingly forested northern New England. The big news for raptors this spring was a third Bald Eagle nest in New Hampshire: along the Connecticut River in Hinsdale. Along with nests in Errol and Hancock and other apparently territorial pairs in Dummer, Surrey, and Littleton, this brings the total potential breeding eagle population in the state to six pairs.



*Bald Eagle*  
by Andrea Robbins

Overall, hawk migration this spring went unnoticed, even in the traditional spring hot-spot in Deering, where Iain MacLeod never saw more than two of any given species in a day. He was watching in Auburn for the big Broad-winged Hawk push in mid-April, however.

A Virginia Rail on April 7 was near record early, beat out only by Bob Quinn's bird in Canterbury last March 31. New Hampshire hosted two **Sandhill Cranes** in May at opposite ends of the state. The first showed up in Seabrook on the May 14, where it wandered around the marshes until May 25. The second appeared along the Connecticut River in Monroe on May 27 and was still being reported in August. One is left wondering if, perhaps, these two were the same bird, given the closeness of their respective departure and arrival dates.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Osprey				
03-27	2	Greenland	Great Bay access	A. & B. Delorey
04-01	2	Belmont	Lake Winnisquam	S. Pearson
04-02	1	Auburn	Lake Massabesic	center visitor
04-03	4		Great Bay	A. & B. Delorey

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Bald Eagle</b>				
03-16	2	Hancock	Nubanusit L.	C. Martin
04-21	2	Hinsdale	Connecticut R. above Vernon Dam	C. Martin
04-29	2	Dummer	Androscoggin R. at Pontook Reservoir	C. Martin
04-30	3	Errol	Umbagog L. at Leonard Pond	L. Wunder, C. Martin
<b>Cooper's Hawk</b>				
05-15	1	Bethlehem	Gilmanton Hill Rd.	J. McIlwaine
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>				
03-20	1	Kensington	Cottage Hill	G. Gavutis
03-21	1	Deerfield	Perkins Rd.	R. Moore
03-21	2	Deering	East Deering Rd.	I. MacLeod
<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>				
04-17	1	E. Kingston	Moulton Ridge	G. Gavutis
04-17	22	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod
04-18	1	Andover	Ragged Mtn. bulkhead	L. Deming, K. Bennett
04-18	1	Gilsum	Rt. 10, n. side Bingham Hill	M. Wright
04-22	1	Sugar Hill	Pearl Lake Rd. residence	J. McIlwaine
<b>American Kestrel</b>				
03-19	1	Piermont	River Rd.	E. Emery, P. Powers
03-20	1	Monroe	Rt. 5 along Connecticut R.	J. McIlwaine
03-20	1	Monroe	near McIndoe Falls	J. McIlwaine
03-22	1	Claremont	Rts. 11 & 103	P. Newbern
03-27	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Spruce Grouse</b>				
05-22	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet	L. Jones, C. Martin
05-23	1	Beans Grant	Mizpah cutoff trail	D. Govatski, J. Dwight
05-31	1	Beans Grant	Webster Cliff Trail	R. Woodward
<b>Virginia Rail</b>				
04-07	1	Durham	Longmarsh Road	S. Mirick, J. Anderson
05-08	1	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	S. & M. Turner
05-22	2	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	D. Donsker, M. Resch
05-23	1	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	C. Martin
05-26	1	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
<b>Sora</b>				
05-06	1	Jefferson	adjacent to Cherry Pond	C. Martin, ASNH FT
05-15	1	Littleton	cattail marsh	B. Bradley
05-22	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	D. Donsker, M. Resch
05-23	7	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS, old RR marsh	R. Quinn, G. Robbins, I. MacLeod
<b>Sandhill Crane</b>				
05-14	1	Seabrook	saltmarshes off Rt. 286	S. Foote
05-27	1	Monroe	Plains Rd. field beyond cemetery	S. & M. Turner, E. Emery, P. Powers, B. Bradley, et al.

# Plovers through Alcids

Good coverage of the Connecticut Valley again produced shorebird numbers that put the coast to shame. With the exception of Purple Sandpiper, there was a grand total of **six** shorebird reports from the coast, which, to put it bluntly, is appalling. I know the birds were there and I am among the guilty parties who didn't report my sightings, but it is critical for birders who visit the coast regularly in spring to keep better track of these species. How else will anyone ever accurately know the potential effects of deteriorating conditions at staging areas to the south? When we notice that a species is gone, it is usually a little too late – seen any Eskimo Curlews recently?

For what it's worth, the exception to this sad state of affairs was Seavey Island, where tern biologists kept daily logs of species seen. There were shorebirds here, but most records came too late for inclusion in this summary. Noteworthy, however, were two American Oystercatchers that flew by the tern colony on May 24. It is intriguing that most of the inland shorebird numbers occurred between May 12 and 14 despite the absence of any clear meteorological events during that period.

Coastal observers fared better with (i.e., reported more) unusual gulls, with both **Little and Black-headed Gulls** in a large flock of Bonaparte's Gulls on May 24, and lingering winter specialties, such as Iceland, Glaucous, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Back on Seavey Island, both Roseate and Arctic Terns were regularly sighted among the growing number of Common Terns, although there was never any evidence of breeding. After a phenomenal winter, three species of alcids were reported this spring. Thick-billed Murres and Black Guillemots lingered in numbers into late March, and a Razorbill was a complete surprise in May. The observers of the latter bird suggested the possibility of it being oiled or injured in some way, thus accounting for its tardiness in returning to its Canadian breeding grounds.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Semipalmated Plover</b>				
05-12	8	Monroe	Connecticut R. mud flats	P. Powers, E. Emery, S. Turner, B. Bradley
<b>American Oystercatcher</b>				
05-24	2	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, D. Trested
<b>Greater Yellowlegs</b>				
03-27	1	E. Kingston	Rt. 108 flooded field off Rt. 101	A. & B. Delorey
04-19		Hampton		R. Aaronian
04-23	3	Haverhill	Connecticut R. mud flats	B. Bradley
05-06	1	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	C. Martin, ASNH FT
05-12	24	Monroe	Connecticut R. mud flats	E. Emery, P. Powers, S. Turner, B. Bradley
05-13	6	Surry	Surry Mtn. Lake	C. Martin
<b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b>				
05-12	2	Monroe	Connecticut R. mud flats	P. Powers, E. Emery, S. Turner, B. Bradley
05-14	2	Milford	Souhegan R. trail, e. of trailhead	J. Broyles, S. Millett, S. MacKinnon

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>				
04-30	1	Lyman	bog	B. Bradley
05-07	4	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	B. Bradley
05-10	3	Unity	Quaker City	W. McCumber
05-12	6	Durham	Lamprey R., Bennett Rd.	J. Romano
05-12	9	Lyman	Flagg Pond	B. Bradley
<b>Spotted Sandpiper</b>				
04-30	1	Haverhill	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
05-06	2	Littleton	Moore Reservoir	C. Martin
<b>Upland Sandpiper</b>				
04-25	1	Plymouth	Rt. 25 hay field	J. Williams
04-29	5	Newington	Pease Intl. Tradeport runways	M. Suomala
<b>Semipalmated Sandpiper</b>				
05-14	1	Canaan	Canaan Street Lake	P. Hunt, L. Buntin, J. Granton
<b>Least Sandpiper</b>				
05-12	48	Monroe	Connecticut R. mud flats	E. Emery, P. Powers, S. Turner, B. Bradley
05-13	6	Surry	Surry Mtn. Lake	C. Martin
05-13	20	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
<b>White-rumped Sandpiper</b>				
05-23	1	Hampton Falls	Depot Rd.	P. Hunt, A. & D. Strong
<b>Purple Sandpiper</b>				
04-08	65	Rye	Rye Ledge	R. Quinn, M. Haig, J. Allen
04-28	62	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, D. Wells
05-08	75	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	S. Mirick
05-29	8	Rye	Rt. 1A, Isles of Shoals pullout	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Dunlin</b>				
04-08	1	Rye	Rye Ledge	R. Quinn, M. Haig, J. Allen
<b>Common Snipe</b>				
04-01	1	Franconia	near Skookumchuck Trail	K. Marchowsky, C. Martin
04-01	6	Belmont	South Rd. pasture by Tioga R.	J. Lanier
04-02	2	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	M. Suomala
04-04	5	Hopkinton	Elm Brook Pk.	R. Woodward
<b>American Woodcock</b>				
03-03	1	Kensington	near Rt.107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-04	1	Rye	West Rd., W. Rye	B. & H. Blanchard
03-04	1	Canterbury	Riverland CA	R. Quinn
03-05	1	Newington	Great Bay NWR	S. Mirick
<b>Laughing Gull</b>				
05-08	1	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick, et al.
05-23	3	Rye	various locations	P. Hunt, A. & D. Strong

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Little Gull</b>				
05-24	1	Rye	cove just s. of Odiorne Pt.	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
<b>Black-headed Gull</b>				
05-24	2	Rye	cove just s. of Odiorne Pt.	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
<b>Bonaparte's Gull</b>				
04-03	2	Charlestown	Lower Meadows	P. Hunt, L. Bunten, et al.
05-12	1	Monroe	Connecticut R.	S. Turner, P. Powers, E. Emery
05-24	75	Rye	s. of Odiorne Pt.	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
05-25	9	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Iceland Gull</b>				
03-03	1	Lisbon	Ammonoosuc R.	B. Bradley
03-06	4	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
05-08	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt.	P. Hunt, et al.
<b>Lesser Black-backed Gull</b>				
03-05	1	Rochester	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
<b>Glaucous Gull</b>				
03-05	2	Rochester	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
05-15	1	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	S. Mirick, M. Suomala, ASNH FT
<b>Roseate Tern</b>				
05-21	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, K. Rueckheim
<b>Arctic Tern</b>				
05-09	2	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Tarr
05-29	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Black Tern</b>				
05-26	1	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Thick-billed Murre</b>				
03-13	7	Hampton	Great Boars Head	S. Mirick
03-17	5	Hampton	Great Boars Head	S. Mirick
03-21	1	Hampton	s. side of Great Boars Head	S. Mirick
<b>Razorbill</b>				
05-21	1	Rye	outside Portsmouth Harbor	S. Mirick, A. Borrer, et al.
<b>Black Guillemot</b>				
03-06	1	Rye	Rye Harbor	A. & B. Delorey
03-18	7	Seabrook	off Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick
03-20	2	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
05-02	21	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward



# Cuckoos through Woodpeckers

Both species of cuckoos made scattered appearances at the very end of May, the exception being one Yellow-billed at mid-month. Three different Eastern Screech-Owls is more than any spring since 1990; the usual pattern is one every other year or so. All were in this species' traditional "stronghold" in the extreme southeastern part of the state. A Common Nighthawk on Star Island on May 9 was relatively early, while on the mainland the species was right on time. For the third year in a row, Whip-poor-wills and Chimney Swifts arrived noticeably late. Perhaps this pattern reflects these species declining populations: as numbers decline, there are fewer and fewer birds to migrate all the way to the northern edge of their range, and so they don't show up as early as they used to.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Black-billed Cuckoo</b>				
05-29	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	R. Woodward
05-29	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A.& B. Delorey
05-30	1	Campton	Beebe River Hill	J. Williams
05-30	1	Pembroke	Buck St.	W. Goodwill
<b>Yellow-billed Cuckoo</b>				
05-14	1	Milford	Souhegan R. trail, e. of trailhead	J. Broyles, S. Millett, S. MacKinnon
05-23	1	Pittsfield		R. Quinn, G. Robbins, I. MacLeod
<b>Eastern Screech-Owl</b>				
03-05	1	Newington	Great Bay NWR	S. Mirick, S. Lloyd, et al.
04-29	1	Kingston	w. side of Greenwood L.	P. Wood
05-13	1	Exeter	residence woods	K.& G. Prazar
<b>Great Horned Owl</b>				
04-19	1	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
<b>Barred Owl</b>				
04-12	1	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
<b>Common Nighthawk</b>				
05-09	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
05-17	1	Keene	Hannafords, West St.	M. Wright
05-23	1	Greenfield	Greenfield St. Pk.	R. Frechette
05-24	1	Henniker	N.E. College campus	R. Hardy
<b>Whip-poor-will</b>				
05-01	1	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
05-02	1	Tamworth	residence	J. Tewksbury
05-13	1	Canaan	Fernow Farms Rd.	N. Allen
05-15	2	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	R. Woodward
05-16	2	Rumney	Buffalo Rd.	B. Berti
05-20	1	Bath	Rt. 135	E. Emery. P. Powers
05-22	1	Whitefield	Hazen Dr.	P. Hunt
05-23	1	Durham	Packers Falls Rd. marsh	P. Hunt, A.& D. Strong
05-23	4	Pittsfield		R. Quinn, G. Robbins, I. MacLeod

*Chimney Swift*  
by J.R. Quinn



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Chimney Swift</b>				
05-03	2		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
05-06	2	Nashua	Deerhaven Dr.	R. Andrews
05-08	34	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-08	1	Monroe		E. Emery, P. Powers
<b>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</b>				
05-03	2	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
05-07	1	Newbury	Stoney Brook WS	C., G. & P. Martin
05-08	1	Monroe	residence	E. Emery, P. Powers
05-08	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd. residence	J. & R. Williams
<b>Red-bellied Woodpecker</b>				
04-05	1	Atkinson	Christian Dr.	B. Chavers
04-18	1	Mont Vernon	Old Amherst Rd.	M. & R. Suomala
05-04	1	Canterbury	Misery Rd.	R. Quinn
<b>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker</b>				
04-03	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
04-03	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	R. Vernon
04-04	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
04-06	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
04-06	1	Rumney	Avery Brook, WMNF	J. Williams, J. Gilsdorf
04-25	11	Lyman	Flagg & Round Ponds	B. Bradley
04-28	12	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
<b>Black-backed Woodpecker</b>				
04-02	1	Dixville	Rt. 26	R. Quinn
05-12	1	Lincoln	Lonesome L.	R. Sidel
05-20	1	Bethlehem	Ammonoosuc Ranger Station, Trudeau Rd.	P. Robinson
05-30	1	Carroll	off Base Rd.	S. Mirick
05-31	1	Beans Grant	Webster Cliff Trail	R. Woodward

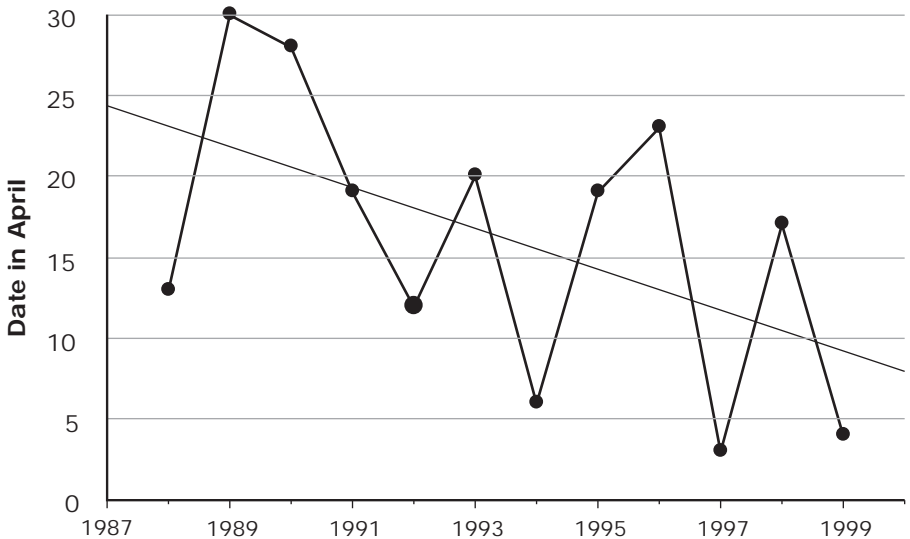
# Flycatchers through Thrasher

Northern flycatchers, namely Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied, were well represented this year, including a few sightings of migrant birds in the seacoast area. With the exception of the under-reported Eastern Wood-Pewee, flycatchers arrived right on time, and there were no significant movements or concentrations of any sort. For the second year, an **Acadian Flycatcher** took up residence along the Boulders Trail in Pawtuckaway State Park. The number and distribution of Northern Shrike reports was near normal, which is actually unusual following a winter where relatively few were present in the state.

There were a number of Purple Martin reports, none of them from known colony locations! The birds on Star Island appeared to have been grounded by a storm, although the end of May is a little late for martins to be migrating. Both Tree and Northern Rough-winged Swallows came within a few days of setting new early arrival records. The graph below shows the gradual moving up of Northern Rough-winged Swallow arrival dates over the last 12 years – the trend for increasingly early arrival is marginally statistically significant.

A reasonably large movement of Ruby-crowned Kinglets occurred in the Connecticut Valley during the last week in April but went undetected elsewhere. Of the two Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrushes, one was actually reported as a Gray-cheeked but failed to be accepted as such by the NHRBC. This serves to point out how difficult these two species can be to distinguish by sight alone, given current knowledge. Good numbers of American Robins spent the winter in the north and mountains, as evidenced by counts in the southern White Mountains during March. The Varied Thrush that spent part of the winter at a Pembroke feeder made a token reappearance on March 12 before leaving for points unknown.

Arrival Dates of N. Rough-winged Swallow in New Hampshire: 1988-99



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Olive-sided Flycatcher</b>				
05-14	1	Canaan	Stevens Rd.	P. Hunt, L. Buntten, J. Granton
05-15	1	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern, B. Vernon, W. Crowell, C. Thompson
05-21	1	Exeter	High St.	D. Donsker
05-21	1	Errol	Magalloway R.	R. Quinn, L. Wunder
05-22	1	New London	Esther Currier WMA (Low Plain)	P. Newbern, R. Vernon, et al.
05-28	3	Enfield	Enfield WMA, Bog Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
05-29	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	R. Woodward
<b>Eastern Wood-Pewee</b>				
05-22	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd., WEKW-TV tower	R. Ritz
05-31	16	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Yellow-bellied Flycatcher</b>				
05-21	1	Errol	Harpers Meadow	R. Quinn
05-22	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt.	D. Donsker, M. Resch
05-24	1	Durham	Foss Farm	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
05-30	8		Caps Ridge & Link Trails	S. Mirick
05-30	1	Benton	Gorge Brook Trail, Mt. Moosilauke	A.& C. Ports
05-31	8	Beans Grant	Crawford Path, Webster Cliff Trail	R. Woodward
<b>Acadian Flycatcher</b>				
05-17	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Alder Flycatcher</b>				
05-15	1	Wilmot	Kearsarge Valley Rd.	P. Newbern, B. Vernon, W. Crowell, C. Thompson
05-16	1	Campton	Mad River overflow	J. Williams
05-19	1	Lisbon	Cole Plain Swamp	S. Turner
05-19	1	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
05-22	10	Pittsburg	upstream of East Inlet	L. Jones, C. Martin
05-25	9	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
<b>Willow Flycatcher</b>				
05-16	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-18	1	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A. Delorey
05-22	1	Kensington	Kimball Rd.	D. Donsker
05-25	1	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
<b>Least Flycatcher</b>				
05-01	6	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
05-02	2		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
05-03	2	Weare	East Weare Rd., Clough St. Pk.	M. Suomala
<b>Eastern Phoebe</b>				
03-24	1	Greenville	Chamberline St.	S. Maguire
03-24	1	Hancock	Powder Mill Pond	C. Martin
03-25	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
03-26	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-26	1	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Great Crested Flycatcher</b>				
05-07	1	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	B. Bradley
05-08	1	Columbia	residence	B. & D. Killam
05-08	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
05-09	1	Nashua	Mine Falls Pk.	R. Andrews
05-09	2	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-24	1	Landaff	Scotland Brook WS	J. McIlwaine
<b>Eastern Kingbird</b>				
05-06	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-08	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	P. Hunt, et al.
05-08	1	Monroe	Rt. 135	E. Emery, P. Powers
05-08	1	Holderness	Outback Driving Range	J. Williams
<b>Northern Shrike</b>				
03-18	1	Sutton	Ring Brook Swamp	C. Martin
03-20	1	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod
03-24	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
03-27	1	Newington	MacIntyr Rd. residence	A. & B. Delorey
04-01	1	Whitefield	airport	R. Quinn
04-01	1	Wilmot	Eagle Pond fields	C. Martin
<b>Blue-headed Vireo</b>				
04-25	1	Newbury	off Bowles Rd.	P. Newbern
04-25	1	Mont Vernon	e. end of Francestown Tpk.	M. Suomala
05-01	12	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
05-13	1	Lancaster	Weeks St. Pk.	J. McIlwaine
<b>Yellow-throated Vireo</b>				
05-08	1	Hollis	Beaver Brook	R. Andrews
05-09	1	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake Dam	P. Hunt
05-10	1	Epping	Campground Rd., e. of Lamprey	R. G. Gavutis
<b>Warbling Vireo</b>				
05-01	1	Durham	Mill Pond	A. & B. Delorey
05-02	2	Amherst	Souhegan R. off River Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
05-06	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond residence	S. & M. Turner
05-07	4	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	B. Bradley
05-16	14		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Red-eyed Vireo</b>				
05-06	2	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
05-09	1		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
05-17	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
<b>Horned Lark</b>				
03-13	59	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	D. Donsker
04-01	5	Whitefield	airport	R. Quinn
04-13	200	Concord	cornfield behind P.O.	R. Quinn, T. Richards
<b>Purple Martin</b>				
04-10	1	Hopkinton	Stumpfield Marsh	I. MacLeod
04-28	6	Moultonborough	Lees Mill Rd.	T. Vazzano
05-13	1	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod
05-24	3	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Tree Swallow</b>				
03-18	2	Boscawen	off Rt. 4 s. of Salisbury	L. Silver
03-26	3	Hollis	south Hollis	R. Creamer
03-26	1	Concord	Horseshoe Rd.	P. Hunt
03-26	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-26	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A.& B. Delorey
04-01	35	Exeter	Squamscott R.	R. Aaronian
04-02	75	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	M. Suomala
04-03	75	Charlestown	Connecticut R.	P. Hunt, L. Bunten, et al.
04-10	500	Hopkinton	Stumpfield Marsh	I. MacLeod
04-18	300	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
04-24	125	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
04-25	300	Plymouth	Cooksville Rd. sandpit	J. Williams
<b>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</b>				
04-04	1	Newmarket	over Lamprey R.	S. Mirick
04-07	1	Canterbury	Kimball Pond	R. Quinn
04-10	1	Hopkinton	Stumpfield Marsh	I. MacLeod
04-29	8	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
<b>Cliff Swallow</b>				
04-27	1	Enfield	Main Street Pond	P. Hunt
05-08	4	Monroe	residence	E. Emery, P. Powers
05-11	1	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod
05-11	1	Alton	L. Winnepesaukee, W. Alton	G. Gavutis
05-12	1	Campton	Pulsifer Farm	J. Williams
<b>Barn Swallow</b>				
04-10	1	Hopkinton	Stumpfield Marsh	I. MacLeod
04-16	3	Campton	Pulsifer Farm, Bog Rd.	J. Williams
04-18	1	Deering	East Deering Rd.	I. MacLeod
<b>Boreal Chickadee</b>				
04-09	8	T & M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	R. Frechette, S. Spangenberg
05-22	2	Pittsburg	Back Lake residence	L. Jones, C. Martin
05-30	4	T & M Purchase	Link Trail	S. Mirick
05-31	3	Beans Grant	Crawford Path, Webster Cliff Trail	R. Woodward
<b>House Wren</b>				
04-28	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
04-28	1	Dover	Prospect St.	S. Galt
05-01	1	Durham	Mill Pond	A.& B. Delorey
05-03	1	Walpole	County Rd.	R. Ritz
<b>Winter Wren</b>				
03-17	1	Belmont	off South Hill Rd.	D. Wells, J. Lanier
03-20	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-25	1	Pembroke	Brickett Hill	D. Wells
04-03	1	Rindge	residence	E. Richard
<b>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</b>				
04-08	1	Lyme	Wilder WMA	P. Hunt
04-11	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd. yard	R. Ritz
04-11	1		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-25	6	Lyman	Round Pond	P. Powers, E. Emery
04-25	6	Springfield	McDaniels Marsh	P. Hunt

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
04-28	15	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
04-29	7	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
04-30	8	New London	Low Plain	P. Newbern
<b>Blue-gray Gnatcatcher</b>				
04-21	1	Hinsdale	Connecticut R. island near Vernon Dam	C. Martin
04-25	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk., Goodrich Farm site	R. Moore
04-28	2	E. Kingston	H. Bodwell Farm near Kensington line	G. Gavutis
04-30	1	Haverhill	along Connecticut R.	J. McIlwaine, F. Krauss
04-30	2	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A. Delorey
<b>Veery</b>				
04-26	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
05-07	1	Lyman	Ogontz Rd.	M. Turner
05-08	4	Holderness	s. of Rte 175A	J. Williams
05-24	15	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush sp.</b>				
05-15	1	Durham	Foss Farm	D. & T. Donsker
05-22	1	Tamworth	James Pond Trail	T. Vazzano, N. Beecher
<b>Hermit Thrush</b>				
03-11	1	Walpole	Warner Forest	N. Ritz
04-06	1	Dunbarton	Stone St.	M. Suomala
04-12	1	Windham	Fosters Pond Natural Area	J. Romano
04-12	1	Peterborough	Tarbell Rd.	R. Frechette
04-12	1	Walpole	Warner Forest	R. Ritz
04-25	13	Campton	Campton Group Campground, WMNF	J. Williams
<b>Wood Thrush</b>				
04-26	1	Newbury	Stoney Brook WS	C. Martin
04-28	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
05-08	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-08	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-08	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd. & Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
<b>American Robin</b>				
03-03	15	Thornton	hillside n. of Tripoli Rd.	J. Williams
03-05	1	Columbia	residence	D. & B. Killam
03-15	50	Thornton	along Tripoli Rd.	J. Williams
04-02	350	Sandwich	Whiteface Intervale	T. Vazzano
<b>Varied Thrush</b>				
03-12	1	Pembroke		V. Blais
<b>Gray Catbird</b>				
05-08	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
05-08	1	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-09	2	New London	Pingree Rd.	R. Vernon
05-09	6		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Brown Thrasher</b>				
05-15	1	Bethlehem	off Brook Rd.	J. McIlwaine

# Warblers

As a group, warblers showed no clear pattern of any kind this spring: some were early, some were late, and many were right on time. The major phenomenon of interest was the amazing numbers and diversity of warblers that appeared the weekend of May 8 and 9, a time during the spring migration when numbers and diversity are usually relatively low. In particular, two different observers on May 9 tallied especially impressive numbers. The table below shows numbers of each species seen on May 9 by Peter Newbern at Clough State Park in Weare and by me around Mascoma Lake, and as a supplement, another list by myself from Bog Road in Enfield on May 10. To put it all in perspective, note that my usual number of species at this time of year around Mascoma Lake (based on the nine previous years) is 10, and the number of individuals is roughly 30-40. Why such diversity this early in 1999? Perhaps it was the warm weather, but there was certainly no warm front such as is usually associated with “fallouts” of this kind.

Species	Clough	Mascoma	Bog Road
Blue-winged	2	1	—
Nashville	20	1	15
N. Parula	5	2	1
Yellow	17	6	4
Chestnut-sided	15	3	10
Magnolia	6	7	2
Cape May	—	2	—
Black-thr. Blue	3	3	1
Yellow-rumped	26	31	23
Black-thr. Green	12	9	3
Blackburnian	2	—	1
Pine	1	1	—
Prairie	1	—	—
Palm	1	1	—
Black-and-white	33	10	11
Am. Redstart	6	2	—
Worm-eating	—	1	—
Ovenbird	19	6	10
N. Waterthrush	2	1	3
La. Waterthrush	1	—	—
C. Yellowthroat	3	2	10
Wilson's	1	1	—
Canada	1	—	—
<b>Total Species</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total Individuals</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>94</b>

The single species highlight from this chart is the **Worm-eating Warbler**, a species seen less than annually in New Hampshire. And, to add to the excitement, a second “wormer” was banded on Star Island on May 30. Other warbler stand-outs include a Golden-winged on Seavey Island, another Golden-winged chasing a Brewster's (hybrid) in Hampstead, the continuing Cerulean at Pawtuckaway State Park, and a higher-than-usual number of Bay-breasted Warblers. Holdovers from the winter included the famous Black-throated Blue Warbler at a feeder in Stratham, which was last reported on April 17, and a Yellow-rumped Warbler in Kensington on March 20.



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Blue-winged Warbler</b>				
05-03	1	Weare	E. Weare Rd., Clough St. Pk.	M. Suomala
05-08	5	Weare	along Piscataquog R.	A. & B. Delorey
05-08	1	Hollis	Beaver Brook	R. Andrews
05-12	3	Kensington	Rts. 150 & 107	R. Aaronian
05-15	1	Plymouth	Pike Hill Farm	S. Bailey
05-18	1	Clarend	e. of Long Pond, W. Concord	L. Deming
05-25	1	Claremont	Grissom Rd.	P. Hunt
<b>Golden-winged Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward
05-16	1	Hampstead	Hampstead Woods, West Rd.	P. Trombley
05-30	1	Pembroke	Rt. 3, across from Pembroke Academy	W. Goodwill
<b>Brewster's Warbler - hybrid</b>				
05-16	1	Hampstead	Hampstead Woods, West Rd.	I. Rex
<b>Tennessee Warbler</b>				
05-06	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-13	2	Kensington	Kimball Rd.	R. Aaronian
05-15	1	Tamworth	residence	J. Tewksbury
05-22	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	D. Donsker, M. Resch
05-23	1	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	P. Hunt, A. & D. Strong
<b>Nashville Warbler</b>				
04-29	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-01	1	Nashua	Mines Falls Pk.	R. Andrews
05-03	1	Weare	E. Weare Rd., Clough St. Pk.	M. Suomala
<b>Northern Parula</b>				
05-05	1	Wilmot	Kearsarge Valley Rd.	P. Newbern
05-06	2	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	B. Bradley
05-06	1	Monroe	village	P. Powers
05-08	4	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-14	1	Lancaster	Weeks Pond, Martin Meadow Pond Rd.	J. McIlwaine
<b>Yellow Warbler</b>				
05-01	1	Nashua	Mine Falls Pk. near millyard	R. Andrews
05-02	1		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
05-07	3	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	B. Bradley
05-08	4	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
<b>Chestnut-sided Warbler</b>				
05-07	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-08	1	Holderness	brush lot next to Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-08	2	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield, et al.
<b>Magnolia Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Holderness	area s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-09	3	Nashua	Mine Falls Pk.	R. Andrews

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Cape May Warbler</b>				
05-09	2		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
05-12	1	Nashua	Little Florida	R. Andrews, D. Deifik
05-21	1	Lempster	Goshen-Lempster School	P. Newbern
05-23	1	Jefferson	Little Cherry Pond	R. Quinn, G. Robbins, I. MacLeod
05-31	1	Rye	Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
<b>Black-throated Blue Warbler</b>				
04-17	1	Stratham	off Stratham Heights Rd.	S. Mirick, R. Moore
05-06	1	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
05-07		Columbia	residence	D. Killam
05-08	3	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-08	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-15	11	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>				
03-20	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
04-21	2	Walpole	Scoville Rd.	R. Ritz
04-21	1	Holderness	Forest Service parking lot	J. Williams
04-25	3	New London	Phillips Memorial Preserve	P. Newbern
04-25	7	Lyman	Round Pond	E. Emery, P. Powers
05-08	50	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-13	60	Hinsdale	Connecticut R.	C. Martin
<b>Black-throated Green Warbler</b>				
04-27	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
04-29	1	N. Hampton	residence	T. Donsker
04-30	3	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
04-30	2	Rumney	Avery Brook Rd.	J. Williams
05-09	12	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
<b>Blackburnian Warbler</b>				
05-01	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
05-07	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-08	3	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-09	1	Nashua	Mine Falls Pk.	R. Andrews
05-13	2	Lancaster	Weeks St. Pk.	J. McIlwaine
<b>Pine Warbler</b>				
04-01	1	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
04-07	1	Enfield	near Shaker Bridge	C. Howe
04-07	1	Gilmanton	Crystal L., Gilmanton Iron Works	W. Arms
04-08	1	Concord	NH Fish & Game, Hazen Dr.	R. Suomala
04-08	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
04-24	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	J. McIlwaine
05-09	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-31	8	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Prairie Warbler</b>				
05-11	4	Chester	Walnut Hill powerline	A. Delorey
05-15	5	Andover	Taunton Hill	P. Newbern, B. Vernon, W. Crowell, C. Thompson
05-19	1	Hopkinton	Dustin Rd., Contoocook	J. Magoon
05-21	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
05-28	2	Nashua	RR along Merrimack R.	R. Andrews

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Palm Warbler</b>				
04-08	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon
04-08	1	S. Hampton	Powwow Rd.	R. Quinn, M. Haig, J. Allen
04-10	1	Hopkinton	Elm Brook Pk.	P. Newbern
04-12	1	Windham	Fosters Pond Natural Area	J. Romano
04-24	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	J. McIlwaine
05-09	2	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
<b>Bay-breasted Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-13	2	Nashua	Spit Brook Rd.	A. Delorey
05-22	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt.	D. Donsker, M. Resch
05-23	1	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	P. Hunt, A. & D. Strong
<b>Blackpoll Warbler</b>				
05-13	1	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy woods	R. Aaronian
05-16	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-17	3	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
05-22	8	Pittsburg	upstream of East Inlet	L. Jones, C. Martin
05-23	12	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
<b>Cerulean Warbler</b>				
05-24	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Black-and-white Warbler</b>				
04-28	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
04-28	1	Westmoreland	River Rd.	R. Ritz
04-29	1	Sandwich	Thompson WS	T. Vazzano
04-30	1	Nashua	Spit Brook Rd.	A. Delorey
<b>American Redstart</b>				
05-02	1		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
05-08	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
05-08	1	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield, et al.
05-09	5	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-17	39	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Worm-eating Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Enfield	Oak Grove Rd.	P. Hunt
05-30	1	Rye	Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
<b>Ovenbird</b>				
05-02	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
05-06	1	Keene	Blackberry Lane	M. Wright
05-07	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-07	5	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
05-17	42	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Northern Waterthrush</b>				
04-25	5	Lyman	Flagg & Round Ponds	B. Bradley
04-30	1	New London	Low Plain	P. Newbern
05-04	3	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
05-08	6	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-08	1	Colebrook	Beaver Brook Falls	D. Killam

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Louisiana Waterthrush</b>				
04-25	1	Newbury	off Rt. 103A	P. Newbern
04-26	1	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern
05-01	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Mourning Warbler</b>				
05-23	2	Second College	Grant; Dike Site Rd.	C. Martin
05-23	1	Bath	powerline	B. Bradley
05-24	1	Durham	Foss Farm	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
05-28	1	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
05-29	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Common Yellowthroat</b>				
05-03	1	Mont Vernon	Mont Vernon P.O.	M. Suomala
05-07	1	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
05-18	20	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
<b>Wilson's Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-22	4	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
<b>Canada Warbler</b>				
04-29	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, D. Wells
05-08	2	Monroe	Coppermine Rd.	E. Emery, P. Powers
05-09	1	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams

## Tanagers through Finches

Three American Tree Sparrows almost made it into May in Campton; this species is usually gone by mid-April, especially in the recent warmer-than-usual years. Grasshopper Sparrows are almost never reported in spring, although they should be present in late May. This year, there were three in a field in Merrimack, setting the stage for an exceptional summer for this species. The status of Sharp-tailed Sparrows gets a little clearer every year. The data we have so far suggest that both species arrive at roughly the same time in late May. A Seaside Sparrow was most definitely out of place on Seavey Island on May 1; this species belongs in the coastal salt marshes. A Snow Bunting on a mountain top in April is a little unusual, since most such records come from fall.

This season's only Blue Grosbeak was in Goffstown. Two others were photographed, but unfortunately the photos clearly show Indigo Buntings, demonstrating the usefulness of a camera in documenting rarities, even if they turn out to be something common in the end. A Rusty Blackbird on March 1 is record early, but large numbers remained in New England the previous winter, so it may not have had as far to travel as usual. Finch activity this spring was unremarkable to the extreme, not surprisingly in light of their absence over the winter. Small numbers of White-winged Crossbills were in the White Mountains and north, as were the only large flocks of Pine Siskins.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Scarlet Tanager</b>				
05-07	1	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
05-08	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt.	P. Hunt, et al.
05-09	1	Newbury	Stoney Brook WS	C. Martin
05-09	1	Nashua	Mine Falls Pk.	R. Andrews
05-23	1	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
<b>Eastern Towhee</b>				
04-16	1	Henniker	residence	R. Hardy
04-26	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
04-30	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
05-02	2	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-03	3	Weare	East Weare Rd., Clough St. Pk.	M. Suomala
<b>American Tree Sparrow</b>				
04-02	1	Laconia	Wildwood Rd.	H. Anderson
04-25	3	Campton	behind Campton Plaza	J. Williams
<b>Chipping Sparrow</b>				
04-11	1		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-12	2	Nashua	Trout Brook, Jensens	B. & M. Harris
<b>Field Sparrow</b>				
03-17	2	N. Hampton	Rt. 111 at Dearborn Rd.	D. Donsker
04-05	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
04-12	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
04-17	1	Henniker	Shaker Hill Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
<b>Vesper Sparrow</b>				
05-11	1	Concord	end of Greely St. at airport	J. Kanter
05-22	2	Tamworth	along Rt. 41	T. Vazzano
05-22	2	Newington	Pease Intl. Tradeport	A. & B. Delorey, BBC FT
<b>Savannah Sparrow</b>				
04-10	4	Holderness	Outback Driving Range	J. Williams
04-16	3	Concord	Silk Farm WS	M. Suomala
04-19	1	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod
04-26	4	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	J. McIlwaine
<b>Grasshopper Sparrow</b>				
05-28	3	Merrimack	behind Anheuser Busch brewery	R. Andrews
<b>Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow</b>				
05-23	2	Hampton	Rt. 1A marshes	P. Hunt, A. & D. Strong
<b>Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow</b>				
05-24	1	Hampton	salt marshes	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
05-28	2	Stratham	Chapmans Landing salt marsh	S. Mirick
<b>Sharp-tailed Sparrow sp.</b>				
05-23	4	Stratham	Chapmans Landing	P. Hunt, A. & D. Strong

*Seaside Sparrow by Andrea Robbins*



<u>date</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>town</u>	<u>location</u>	<u>observer(s)</u>
<b>Seaside Sparrow</b>				
05-01	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward
<b>Fox Sparrow</b>				
03-01	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	R. & J. Williams
03-24	3	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
04-01	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd. residence	J. & R. Williams
04-03	2	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
04-21	1	New London	Great Brook Trail	P. Newbern
04-27	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
<b>Lincoln's Sparrow</b>				
05-07	2	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
05-15	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
05-15	1	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
05-16	1	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
05-23	1	Andover	Dodge Pond	P. Newbern, B. Dutcher
<b>Swamp Sparrow</b>				
04-25	6	Lyman	Flagg & Round Ponds	B. Bradley
04-27	2	Sandwich	Chicks Corner	T. Vazzano
04-29	10	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern
05-02	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
<b>White-crowned Sparrow</b>				
05-09	2	Monroe	feeder	P. Powers
05-09	4	Monroe	powerline	B. Bradley
05-09	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
05-09	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-09	3		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Snow Bunting</b>				
04-07	1	Albany	near Middle Sister summit	D. & J. Romano
<b>Rose-breasted Grosbeak</b>				
05-03	1	Walpole	residence feeder	H. & G. Beck
05-04	1	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
05-06	1	Milford	Federal Hill Rd.	B. Becker
05-07	1	Concord	East Side Dr.	D. & B. Soule
05-07	1	Gilmanston	Middle Route	B. Sens
05-07	1	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Blue Grosbeak</b>				
05-01	1	Goffstown	Glen Falls Rd.	M.,D.& G. Morgrave
<b>Indigo Bunting</b>				
05-05	2	Newbury	Mountain Rd.	J. Ashley
05-10	1	Bow	River Rd.	B. Capozzi
05-10	2	Chichester	Bailey Rd.	B.& N. Andrew
<b>Bobolink</b>				
05-06	1	Whitefield	Mt. Washington Regional Airport	C. Martin
05-06		Walpole	Scoville Rd.	R. Ritz
05-06	6	Auburn	Massabesic Audubon Center	I. MacLeod
05-08	9	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	P. Hunt, et al.
<b>Rusty Blackbird</b>				
03-01	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence wetlands	G. Gavutis
03-25	3	Conway	E. Conway Rd.	T. Vazzano
03-28	2	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge St. Pk.	J. Williams
03-31	6	Exeter	along Exeter Rd.	R. Aaronian, E. Snyder
04-02	10		Lake Umbagog Region	R. Quinn
04-10	8	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
04-26	13	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern
<b>Common Grackle</b>				
04-10	15	Nashua	residence	J. Ayer
<b>Orchard Oriole</b>				
05-11	1	Rye	Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
05-12	1	Rye	Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
05-14	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond RR tracks	W. Goodwill, et al.
05-22	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
05-23	1	Exeter	Powder House Pond	P. Hunt, A.& D. Strong
05-23	1	Rye	Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
<b>Baltimore Oriole</b>				
05-01	1	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy woods	R. Aaronian
05-06	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-07	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond residence	S.& M. Turner
05-07	1	Plymouth	Beech Hill Rd.	J. Williams
<b>White-winged Crossbill</b>				
03-03	1	Lincoln	Kancamagus Hwy. near Kancamagus Pass	M. Suomala
03-05	6	Bethlehem	Trudeau Rd.	D. Frechette
03-30	3	Woodstock	Kinsman Notch	J. Williams
04-02	5		Lake Umbagog Region	R. Quinn
04-07	6	Albany	Kancamagus Hwy.	B. Bradley
05-21	4	Pittsburg	Second Connecticut Lake access road	C. Martin, L. Jones
<b>Pine Siskin</b>				
03-06	10	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
04-02	80		Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
05-21	50	Wentworths Loc.	Rt. 16	R. Quinn

## Photo Quiz

by Robert A. Quinn

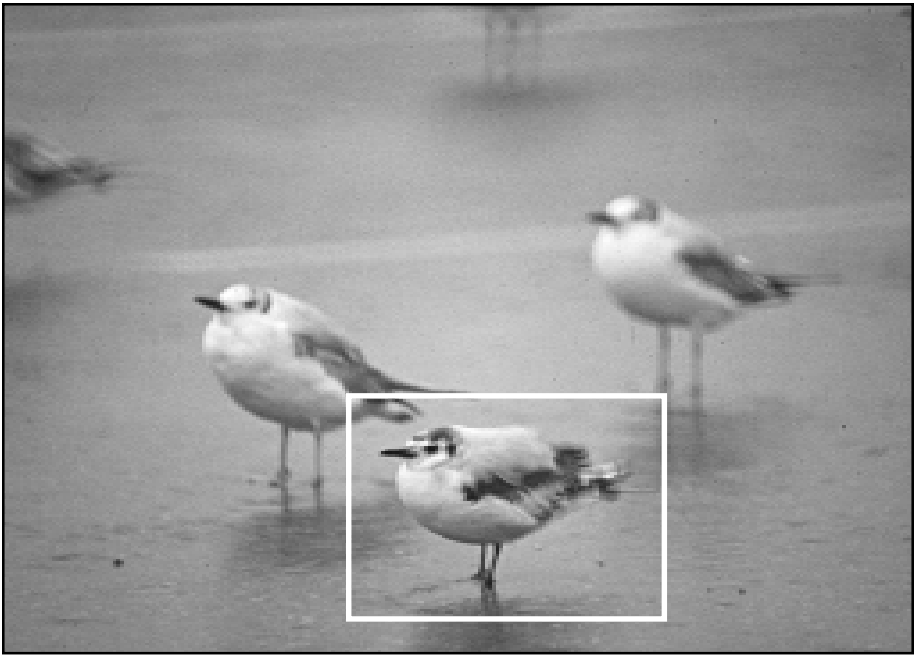
Welcome to our first photo quiz. In this photograph, we have two species for your consideration. But first let's describe the setting. June, 1998, was incredibly rainy and June 13 was the rainiest day of all. As high tide approached, a mixed flock of birds roosted in a parking lot along the New Hampshire coast as the wind whipped the rain into horizontal sheets. So now you have the date and habitat (only fair, because you usually know where and when you are birding).

The first step in identification (after your initial snap judgment, which could be way off the mark) is to put your mystery bird into a particular category. The best technique is to place the bird in the order or family in which it seems to belong and then go on from that point. So, into what category do these birds appear to fit? It should be rather obvious that these mostly gray-and-white birds, with their relatively long wings and legs, rather short tails and bills, and the fact that they were seen along the coast, are water birds rather than land birds, but which group? When in doubt, look at their bills – this is a good rule of thumb for any unknown species. They are relatively short, pointed, and all black. By now you may have narrowed the possibilities down to either several species of small gulls or terns. Good work. But how do you separate the small gulls from terns? By structure! Almost all species of birds have a unique size and shape, and that is true of our pair of mystery birds. In general, gulls have stouter bodies, thicker necks, shorter tails, and thicker bills than terns. Also, most terns in New Hampshire in June would have red or yellow bills, so our birds must be gulls.

What are the choices for small, tern-like gulls along our shore? By far, the most common species is the Bonaparte's Gull. Every other candidate is rare, especially in June, so we have to work carefully through the process of elimination. The other small gull species that are possible include Little Gull, Sabine's Gull, Ross's Gull, Ivory Gull, and Black-legged Kittiwake. It is finally time to look closely at the plumages of our birds, which will be very helpful in determining the age of our species as well as eliminating birds of similar size but different plumage.

One of the best field marks is the black spot on the side of the head and behind the eye in each bird. This mark indicates that these are probably young or winter plumage birds that have a completely dark head in adult summer plumage. This feature, combined with its larger size and heavier bill, eliminates Ivory Gull. Immature Kittiwakes can have this "eye spot" but they also have a conspicuous dark collar on the nape, a short and rather thick bill and black legs (our birds seem to have legs that are distinctly lighter than black) so it can be eliminated. Sabine's Gulls are extraordinarily rare in New Hampshire but have been recorded and need to be considered. In this case, they are also fairly easily eliminated. In all plumages, Sabine's has a striking black, white, and gray pattern on the upperparts that should not be mistaken for any other species. Adult Sabine's are easily eliminated by this pattern and so are juvenile Sabine's, which also have a unique scalloped design to the feathers of their upper surface. Ross's Gull has never been recorded in the state, but they have been seen in Maine and Massachusetts on several occasions so need to be considered. Ross's Gull





has a pigeon-like shape due to its small, rounded head, stubby bill, and relatively long tail and wings that give it a very different shape from our birds. Alas, no Ross's Gull.

So we are finally down to Bonaparte's Gull and Little Gull. If you read the very first paragraph carefully, you know that there are two species in this photograph. As you might expect, the two larger birds in the background are Bonaparte's and the smaller bird in the foreground is a Little Gull. Note the difference in the size, and especially shape, of these two species. The shorter legs and squatter body of the Little Gull really are evident in this shot. Finally, note the plumage differences. The Little Gull has a diagnostic dark grayish-black cap that is absent in the winter/immature Bonaparte's, and there is an obvious dark "carpal" bar along the side of the Little Gull that is faint or lacking in the Bonaparte's.

Other field marks: in the field (but not obvious in this photo), there were several other field marks that helped identify the Little Gull. Besides being noticeably shorter, the legs were a darker, grayish-pink in the Little Gull versus the brighter pink of the Bonaparte's. The bill was a little shorter and noticeably thinner in the Little Gull, the body was obviously more squat, and, finally, in flight, the bold and distinctive, black "W" pattern on the wings was clearly visible.

This "first winter" Little Gull was roosting in a parking lot with about 80 Bonaparte's Gulls, three Laughing Gulls, 30 Ring-billed Gulls and a few Great Black-backed and Herring Gulls during a storm on June 13, 1998 at Wallis Sands in Rye.

*Bob Quinn is the Summer Editor for New Hampshire Bird Records and a consulting biologist and field trip leader for his own business, Merlin Enterprises.*

## Bird Banding Summary

### Star Island, Spring 1999

by Rebecca Suomala

This spring marked the first season of bird banding on Star Island at the Isles of Shoals as part of a research project on songbird migration. There has been a banding station on nearby Appledore Island in the Maine portion of the Isles since the 1970s. The station on Star will allow us to compare the results of the two stations, examine the differences, and see if some birds move from one island to the other during their migration stopover. And, because Star Island is in New Hampshire, we can include the results in *New Hampshire Bird Records!* This project is part of my masters thesis for a wildlife degree at the University of New Hampshire.

My research will focus on neotropical migrants – birds that breed in North America and migrate to Central and South America and the Caribbean for the winter. They migrate at night and stop during the day to rest and feed. Stopover sites are critical during their long journeys, and this research will give us a better picture of how birds choose and utilize a particular site. I will be looking at whether differences in habitat between the two islands result in differences in bird species and length of stay on the island. This should help us determine what makes a quality stopover site.

Islands are always interesting places for birds; here's a brief overview of some of the highlights of spring 1999. The station was open from May 11 through June 8 for spring migration. The second day turned out to be the biggest day of the season. My husband Mark, who was my banding assistant that week, and I had 137 birds of 28 species. The second busiest day came on May 29, with 109 birds and about 150 people on the island. Gerry Tilley and I had our hands full with all the kids. On June 1, bird numbers dropped dramatically and stayed **very** slow, as Alex Chang can attest. A Black-billed Cuckoo on the last day of spring banding was a nice treat. I was lucky to have a great crew of volunteers who rotated during the season so that I always had one assistant. A very big thank you to everyone who has helped out in one way or another.



*Worm-eating Warbler*  
photograph by Rebecca Suomala

## Bird Totals

The totals for numbers of birds are based on running tallies kept during banding. They are **preliminary** until the data has been entered and checked.

1219 new birds banded  
235 captures of birds previously banded on Star or Appledore (149 individuals)

### Most Common Species

Common Yellowthroat	303
Magnolia Warbler	137
Yellow Warbler	80
Gray Catbird	69
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	47
Swamp Sparrow	44
American Redstart	42
White-throated Sparrow	41

### Highlights

#### Rarities

Worm-eating Warbler on 5/30  
Orchard Orioles, a total of 4

#### Old friends (*birds banded on Appledore in a previous season*)

Yellow Warbler male first banded 5/18/96 in its second year  
Common Yellowthroat male first banded 8/16/96, the year it hatched  
Common Yellowthroat male first banded 5/31/97 in its second year

#### Sightings (*birds seen at the island but not banded*)

Black Guillemot - seen regularly, high of 7 on 5/20  
Little Blue Heron on 5/25  
Northern Shoveler on 5/20  
Purple Martin - 3 on 5/24, a stormy day  
Common Nighthawk - seen daily from 5/9 through 5/17 (except on 5/16)

The Star Island Bird Banding Project is sponsored by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire and the Star Island Corporation. In addition, this effort would not be possible without the help of the bird banding volunteers at the Appledore Island banding station, which is supported in part by the Shoals Marine Laboratory. If you would like more information about the project contact me at the Audubon Society of New Hampshire at 603-224-9909 or visit the project's web site at [www.unh.edu/natural-resources/rsuomala.html](http://www.unh.edu/natural-resources/rsuomala.html).

*Becky Suomala is the Managing Editor for New Hampshire Bird Records, a graduate student with Dr. Kim Babbitt at the University of New Hampshire, and a staff member for the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. She is a licensed bird bander under the guidance of master bander Dr. Sara Morris of Caisius College.*

# Cyber-Birding

by Stephen R. Mirick

March 16, 1999 – San Antonio Oeste, Brazil.

Biologists in Brazil document 8,000 Red Knots at a winter location along the Rio Negro and note any birds with color-coded leg bands. Within a day, the information is conveyed to shorebird biologists throughout North and South America.

July 24, 1999 – Charlestown, Rhode Island.

Two birders walking the beach discover a rare Mongolian Plover on the mudflats of the Charlestown Breachway. By the end of the day, a dozen birders have traveled to see the bird; by the next morning, over a hundred birders are lined up at dawn along the beach. Within 24 hours of the bird's first sighting, information and images of the bird are seen throughout the world.

August 9, 1999 – Newmarket, New Hampshire.

I glance at a Little Blue Heron walking through a marsh in southern Florida, and, moments later, I witness the flight of a Wandering Albatross as it leaves its nest off the coast of Peru. I never left my desk.

These are a few ways in which birdwatching and bird study have been transformed by the use of the computer and the internet.

While Ludlow Griscom and Roger Tory Peterson pioneered the sport and hobby of birdwatching during the 20th century, it is clear that a new era in birding is evolving through the use of the internet. Information exchange has changed to a new format that will continue into the 21st century and change the way we bird forever. Home computers have replaced telephone lines, and ornithological data is transferred over the Internet rather than through the mail. Classrooms are using the World Wide Web as well as textbooks to find out about birds. Information is literally travelling at the speed of light.

It would be impossible to list the thousands (or more likely millions?) of pages of bird information that are immediately available at your fingertips. However, it may be pertinent to list a couple of interesting web sites where more information can be found.

*Stephen Mirick is the Fall Editor for New Hampshire Bird Records and a trustee of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire.*

## Web Sites

Audubon Society  
of New Hampshire

[Http://www.nh.audubon.org/default.htm](http://www.nh.audubon.org/default.htm)  
*Good links to local field trips and web sites established by local chapters.*



The Virtual Birder  
[Http://www.virtualbirder.com/vbirder](http://www.virtualbirder.com/vbirder)  
*Good resource for virtual birding or checking the rare bird alerts throughout the US!*



The American Birding Association  
[Http://www.americanbirding.org](http://www.americanbirding.org)  
*Good place to buy bird books.*



Massbird  
[Http://massbird.org](http://massbird.org)  
*Best all-around site for birds of Massachusetts.*



Fugleskue Birdwatch  
[Http://home.sol.no/~tibjonn/index.htm](http://home.sol.no/~tibjonn/index.htm)  
*Lots and lots of bird links.*

## E-mail Lists/Listservs

Bird e-mailing lists (sometimes referred to as listservs) are methods by which e-mail messages can be sent to groups of people with a common interest for open e-mail discussions and bird sightings. The groups are sometimes moderated and usually focus on specific subjects. The problem with these is that e-mail overload can occur; if you leave for a weekend, you may return to find 100 or more new e-mails!

For a detailed list of the many bird e-mail lists throughout the world, you can check this site: <http://www.princeton.edu/~llarson/misc/birdlistservs.html>.

Here are a few popular e-mail lists:

**BIRDEAST** – Subscribe to this and automatically receive e-mail versions of all of the rare bird alerts up and down the east coast of the United States and Canada.

**BIRDCHAT** – A nationwide mailing list that focuses on varied bird subjects.

**MASSBIRD** - A local mailing list dedicated to the interchange of wild bird and birding information relevant to New England with an emphasis on sightings in Massachusetts.

**NH.BIRD** – With assistance from the University of New Hampshire, this mail list has just recently started up and will hopefully become one of the best methods for conveying bird information across the state of New Hampshire. For more information, visit the following web site: <http://www.nh.ultranet.com/~mirickk/NHbirds.htm>.

# Listing Birds for the Fun of it

by Alan Delorey


This may strike you as one of those topics that is everything you don't want to know about something that you don't want to do. What is "listing"? It is keeping a list (or lists) of the birds that you identify. Why would anyone want to keep bird sighting lists? Isn't it a lot of work? Birdwatching is supposed to be fun. Keeping lists can't be fun, can it?

I found that it is a real joy to keep birding lists. For the first few years after my introduction to birdwatching I didn't take it very seriously. I failed to see enough purpose in it to be considered a serious birder. Then I received a lifelist diary as a present. That did it; I was hooked. I wanted to fill up my bird list diary as quickly as possible. That meant more birding trips, more time spent in the field, more focus on birdwatching.

Why does listing appeal to so many people? For some, it legitimizes birdwatching as a competitive "sport". You can send your list totals to national birding organizations or local birding clubs and have them published. You can see your name in print and compare your totals with those of other birdwatchers. Tracking your progress on a yearly basis can be rewarding. You can set personal goals for yourself, such as how many new birds you hope to acquire during a given year.

Some people keep just one lifelist of all the birds that they have seen in their lives. Others keep many lists, including lifelists and yearlists for separate geographic regions (world, country, state, province, etc.). I find keeping a yardlist to be especially fun. A bird seen in my own yard seems to be worth more than several birds seen elsewhere. When a bird is in your yard, it seems like it is *your* bird, making it a special joy to see.

A computer is a wonderful tool to help with list-keeping. I found that my lifelist diary was soon full of scribbles, erasures, and fixes to track changes as species were lumped or split or the names changed. Then I had to manually recount to see what my totals were. Converting my



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Yard Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Beginning Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Ending Date \_\_\_\_\_

### NEW HAMPSHIRE YARDLIST

A Checklist of New Hampshire's Common Backyard Birds

Revised October 1998  
By Alan Delorey

Check off each species when you first see it in your yard, then fill in the date and details about the sighting.

✓	Species	Date	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Double-crested Cormorant		
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Bittern		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Blue Heron		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Canada Goose		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wood Duck		
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Black Duck		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mallard		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hooded Merganser		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Turkey Vulture		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Osprey		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharp-shinned Hawk		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cropper's Hawk		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Goshawk		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-shouldered Hawk		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Broad-winged Hawk		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-tailed Hawk		
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Kestrel		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ring-necked Pheasant		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ruffed Grouse		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wild Turkey		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Bobwhite		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Killdeer		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spotted Sandpiper		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Snipe		
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Woodcock		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ring-billed Gull		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Herring Gull		

The New Hampshire Yardlist, available from ASNH.

continued on page 41

## One Man's Bird: Jonathan Atwood, the California Gnatcatcher, and Habitat Conservation

by Francie Von Mertens

What began for Jonathan Atwood 20 years ago as doctoral research on a western gnatcatcher species whose classification was suspect, developed into a battle over hugely valuable coastal real estate — a battle that resulted in conservation planning that looks at habitat rather than the customary species-by-species focus of the Endangered Species Act. Atwood's six years of gnatcatcher recordings and observation determined that the Black-tailed Gnatcatcher was indeed more than one species. What was to become the "California Gnatcatcher" holds tight to coastal sage scrub from southern California down through Baja California, and the Black-tailed Gnatcatcher proper is found in northern Mexico through the southwestern United States.

Rapidly expanding agriculture and residential sprawl has reduced California's original 2.5 million acres of coastal sage scrub to a fragmented remainder of some 400,000 acres — much of it owned by a few large-scale developers. To the developers' dismay, it soon became clear that this new species probably would qualify for endangered species listing.

As the leading authority on California Gnatcatchers, Atwood was called back to California in 1990 from Massachusetts and the Manomet Observatory, where he was working. His census found 3,000 gnatcatcher pairs north of the border, and his predictive computer modeling showed levels of future development of the remaining coastal sage scrub that confirmed that the California Gnatcatcher was endangered.

In the meantime, conservationists, state agencies, and developers were hammering out a planning model that focused on habitat or natural communities rather than on one species or one development project. Developers feared that as soon as protection was negotiated for one species or one project, another species would be listed, and then another. As an alternative planning tool, California's Natural Community Conservation Planning program (NCCP) was formed. In the NCCP, keystone or umbrella species for a particular habitat, such as coastal sage scrub, are identified and their habitat needs are assessed. Also, links are sought between existing reserves, and/or new reserves are set aside where needed. New reserves are secured either by developer donation or fee or land trade. Under NCCP, once a bargain is struck, if a new endangered species is listed years later, the developers cannot be called back for further concessions — a guarantee that gives developers an incentive to set designated areas aside from development. Any protections that might be desired in the future would be the financial responsibility of government or private agencies.

The Endangered Species Act had been amended in 1982 to allow a broader habitat-conservation focus, but most implementation was conducted on a local scale, thus

*continued on page 41*

# Corrections

The following corrections were found after the issue was published. Minor typos are not included. 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.

## Summer 1997

- p. 2 About the Cover, second paragraph, first sentence: Five nests were found in May and June.
- p.17 The Razorbill on 07-12 should not have appeared in the listings. This unusual summer report was received without accompanying documentation.
- p. 30 Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrows: There were 8 not 6 in Newington on 07-27.
- p. 38 Legal status for Piping Plover should be FE, SE, not ST.
- p. 39 Legal status for Cooper's Hawk should be ST not SE.  
Legal status for Peregrine Falcon should be FE, SE, not ST.

## Fall 1997

- p. 9 In the Waterfowl and Hawks summary, first paragraph: There was no report of Gadwall in Littleton, (the six birds referred to were a different species).  
The following sightings on 09-04 were in Jefferson not Whitefield:
  - p. 7 Red-necked Grebes
  - p. 10 Green-winged Teals
  - p. 19 Least Sandpipers

## Winter 97-98

- p. 19 Bohemian Waxwings were seen on 02-21 not 02-02 in Plymouth.
- p. 23 Red-winged Blackbird on 02-28 was seen in Sandwich not Tamworth.
- p. 39 Hoary Redpoll in Sandwich on 11-08 should read "well described bird with many Common Redpolls at Whiteface Intervale" not at feeder.
- P. 39 Hoary Redpoll in Sandwich on 11-30 should read "well described bird with many Common Redpolls at Thompson WS" not at feeder.

## Spring 98

- p. 6 In Loons through Ibis summary the second paragraph should read "A pair of Manx Shearwaters photographed off New Castle" not Portsmouth.
- p. 39 The following bird names should be corrected:
  - Rufous-sided Towhee is now Eastern Towhee
  - Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow should be Sharp-tailed Sparrow species
  - Northern Oriole is now Baltimore Oriole



---

## Listing Birds for the Fun of It (continued)

lists to a computerized system made it so much easier, and I keep more lists than I could have conveniently done on paper. It is simple to make adjustments for lumps, splits, and name changes. The computer obediently recounts my totals at the flick of a command. It will also keep all lists in proper AOU order.

There are several PC-compatible programs commercially available to help you with computerizing your lists. I work in the computer industry and developed my own “home-grown” database format for my bird records. I then wrote a few simple programs to retrieve, sort, and count this data. At the end of each year, I print out my current lifelist and yearlist totals. I find it a joy to compare the most recent year with prior years to see what kind of year it has been for birdwatching.

Before I am accused of having no real interest in birds and only being an overly competitive “lister”, let me hasten to add that listing was only the catalyst. I do enjoy seeing the same species over and over again and observing their interesting behavioral patterns. Yet it was listing that interested me enough so that I took the time to appreciate birds.

As a beginning birder, I was daunted by the plethora of shorebirds and the multitude of warblers. It was listing that initially gave me the motivation to study, learn, watch, and appreciate birds. So, if listing has never appealed to you, start with something simple and begin at home. Keep track of the birds that you identify in your yard. You’ll have fun as you compare your current sightings to previous years’. You will also be building a valuable database on the frequency and distribution of birds.

Alan Delorey is the Winter Editor for *New Hampshire Bird Records* and author of *A Birder’s Guide to New Hampshire*.

---

## One Man’s Bird (continued)

making it difficult to achieve the large-scale reserve networks that are often required for the protection of many species.

California, motivated by Jon Atwood’s gnatcatcher, is attempting planning that seeks to preserve species before they become endangered.

In a talk last September at Antioch New England, in Keene, where he teaches ornithology, Dr. Atwood presented maps of the resulting reserve system for California Gnatcatchers and the approximately 100 other coastal sage scrub species whose populations are declining. Because California’s Natural Community Conservation Planning program is voluntary, Atwood said that the threat of endangered species listing motivates developers to sit at the bargaining table and consider giving up acreage valued in the millions.

Conservationists working to achieve coastal sage scrub reserves have commented that saving the gnatcatcher also will save what’s left of southern California. Atwood’s slides of the area’s overcrowded freeways and housing developments support that observation.

Jon Atwood continues his coast-to-coast travels on behalf of the California Gnatcatcher. He is currently studying the population at Camp Pendleton to determine how best to manage NCCP reserves – including fire management – to maintain their biologic values.

---

# Reporters for Spring 1999

Rich Aaronian	Terri Donsker	John Lanier	Libby Ring
H. Cook Anderson	Peter Doyle	Marsha Lerner	Naomi Ritz
Elizabeth Andrew	Bill Elliott	Iain MacLeod	Robert Ritz
Neal Andrew	Ken Folsom	Loren Magee	Judy Romano
Ralph Andrews	Sue Foote	Joanne Magoon	Samuel Saidel-Goley
Widge Arms	Danielle Frechette	Chris Martin	Lucas Savoy
Jenny Ashley	Rich Frechette	William McCumber	Brenda Sens
Jeannine Ayer	Steve Gage	John McIlwaine	Tori Smith
Henry Beck	Jan Gagnon	Mike Medeiros	Dot Soule
Bert Becker	Susan Galt	Stephen Mirick	Dawn Stavros
Bob Berti	George Gavutis	Richard Moore	Betty Steele
Bud Blanchard	Mike Gibbons	Malcolm Morgrage	Mark Suomala
Helen Blanchard	William Goodwill	Arthur Mudge	Rebecca Suomala
Bob Bradley	Dave Govatski	Marie Neveu	Jean Tewksbury
Pat Brown	Roni Hardy	Peter Newbern	Pauline Theriault
Joe Broyles	Bill Harris	Kathie Palfy	Sandy Turner
Sherrri Bruno	Daniel Hayward	Alfred Payne	Tony Vazzano
Henry Chary	Pam Hunt	Linda Peck	Michael Vermette
Richard Cook	Chris Johnson	Pam Pike	Robert Vernon
Phyllis Curtis	Margot Johnson	Al Ports	Diane Wells
Alan Delorey	John Kanter	Gregory Prazar	John Williams
Barbara Delorey	Barbara Killam	Karen Prazar	Robert Woodward
Laura Deming	David Killam	Robert Quinn	Amy Wright
Jane Doherty	Mark Krenitsky	Eric Richard	Mary Wright
Dave Donsker			

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# New Hampshire Bird Records

## Volume 18, Number 1

### Spring 1999

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*Text Editor:* Miranda Levin  
*Season Editors:* Pamela D. Hunt, Spring; Robert A. Quinn, Summer;  
Stephen Mirick, Fall; Alan Delorey, Winter.  
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*Assistants:* Jeannine Ayer, Julie Chapin, Rita Ciraso, Margot  
Johnson, Susan MacLeod, Marie Neveu, Kathie Palfy,  
Dot Soule, Jean Tasker, Tony Vazzano, Robert Vernon  
*Volunteer Opportunities  
and Birding Research:* Francie Von Mertens

#### Abbreviations Used

ASNH	Audubon Society of NH	R.	River
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	Rd.	Road
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	Rt.	Route
CA	Conservation Area	SF	State Forest
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
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge		

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# In This Issue

	<i>page</i>
About the Cover	2
About the Artist	2
From the Editor	3
What to Report in Spring	4
Spring Season: March 1 through May 31, 1999	5
Photo Quiz	32
Star Island Spring 99 Bird Banding Summary	34
Cyber-Birding	36
Listing Birds for the Fun of It	38
Birding Research	39
Corrections	40
Reporter List	42

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