

New Hampshire Bird Records



Summer 1999

Vol. 18, No. 2

About the Cover

by Chris Martin



ASNH FILE PHOTO

Prolonged efforts to recover Bald Eagle populations throughout the Northeast are finally resulting in more eagles nesting in New Hampshire. At least three eagle pairs occupied nests in the state during the 1999 breeding season. The nest shown on the cover was located in a mature cottonwood tree on an island in the Connecticut River in Hinsdale. It was discovered by employees of Normandeau Associates in May, 1999, and photographed later that month by the author. The color-banded adult female eagle at this site was herself produced in 1993 in a Connecticut River nest located less than 40 miles to the south in Northampton, Massachusetts. This was the first year of nesting activity at this site and no eggs were laid. A pair at another new site on Nubanusit Lake in Hancock hatched two chicks during the 1999 breeding season, marking the first successful hatch of eagles in southern New Hampshire

in well over half a century. Unfortunately, both chicks at Nubanusit ultimately became food for hungry raccoons later in the season. The traditional nest site at Lake Umbagog in Errol, which has been active since 1989, successfully produced two young in 1999.

Chris Martin is a Senior Biologist with the Audubon Society of New Hampshire.

In This Issue

- Bob Quinn retires as Summer Editor
- 25 years of bird surveys in New London
- Birds you can find at Moore Reservoir
- Ovenbirds and forest management

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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Thank You, Bob Quinn

This issue marks the end of Bob Quinn's tenure as the summer editor of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. After 20 years, Bob has decided to resign and spend more time writing, consulting, conducting bird surveys, and travelling with his business, Merlin Enterprises.

He took over the Summer Editor position from Vera Hebert, who prompted him to become an editor and to whom he dedicated the Summer 1988 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. At that time, all bird report slips were sent directly to the season editor and published in a narrative format. He was Managing Editor during the creation of *New Hampshire Bird Records* as an independent publication in 1982 and has been instrumental in the formation of a New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee. Bob has seen many changes in *New Hampshire Bird Records* over the years, but he found the biggest to be the computerization of both the sighting reports and the publication process.

Bob has amassed a great store of knowledge about the distribution of New Hampshire's breeding birds. He also has a large store of knowledge and historical perspective on the sighting records of many species, which he has gained not only as a season editor but also through his own interest in birds and birding in New Hampshire.

We will miss his presence as the summer editor, but he has promised to stay involved with *New Hampshire Bird Records* and help with the transition to a new Summer Editor (see below). Bob has made a tremendous contribution to the birding community and our knowledge of birds in this state and deserves a very special thank you.

Rebecca Suomala
Managing Editor, March 2000

New Summer Editor Needed

New Hampshire Bird Records needs you! The Summer Editor's primary responsibilities involve writing the summaries for the season, choosing which sightings to publish, and serving as a liaison with the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee. The position requires experience birding in New Hampshire, good writing skills, and the ability to meet deadlines. If you have questions or are interested in becoming the Summer Editor, please contact me at 224-9909 ext. 309 or birdsetc@nhaudubon.org. I will send a full job description to anyone who is interested, so please give me your mailing address if you reply via voice or e-mail.

Rebecca Suomala

What to Report

Summer Season: June through July

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 summer season.

First, it's important to understand that even though we do not publish all reports, each one plays a valuable role in creating an overall picture of a given season. All sightings also 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 for 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). Report late spring migrants such as some warblers and flycatchers that are still moving during the first week of June, and early fall migrants. Adult shorebirds can be headed south as early as July 4, for instance, and some landbirds begin moving in late July.

Report colonial nesting bird sites such as Great Blue Heron rookeries or Bank Swallow burrows. Reports of erratic species such as cuckoos and crossbills are of interest, as are grassland nesting birds, which are of concern due to shrinking habitat.

Species that are confirmed to be breeding at an unusual time or location are very valuable—refer to the *Atlas of Breeding Birds in New Hampshire* for the known distribution of breeding birds in the state (available in the ASNH store and library). Unusual behavior or breeding of a species unusual for your local area is of interest.

Reports of species sought by many birders are interesting to all. These include pelagic species and resident species that are present but not commonly seen, such as boreal, nocturnal, and secretive wetland birds. Reports of state endangered and threatened species are always valuable for the database.

Reports for the following species were received but not listed

Great Blue Heron	Barred Owl	Veery
Great Egret	Chimney Swift	Hermit Thrush
Snowy Egret	Belted Kingfisher	American Robin
Glossy Ibis	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Northern Mockingbird
Wood Duck	Downy Woodpecker	European Starling
American Black Duck	Hairy Woodpecker	Chestnut-sided Warbler
Mallard	Pileated Woodpecker	Black-and-white Warbler
American Wigeon	Warbling Vireo	Canada Warbler
Surf Scoter	Blue Jay	Song Sparrow
White-winged Scoter	American Crow	Swamp Sparrow
Hooded Merganser	Common Raven	Northern Cardinal
Red-tailed Hawk	Barn Swallow	Red-winged Blackbird
Peregrine Falcon	Black-capped Chickadee	Common Grackle
Ring-necked Pheasant	Tufted Titmouse	Baltimore Oriole
Ruffed Grouse	White-breasted Nuthatch	Purple Finch
Northern Bobwhite	Brown Creeper	House Finch
Common Snipe	House Wren	

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



Summer Season

June 1 - July 31, 1999

This summer's weather was tame compared to 1998. June continued a stretch of hot, dry months – conditions very favorable for most breeding species. July was also hotter than normal, but thunderstorms (some severe) brought the rainfall average back up to normal. Southern and central parts of the state were much dryer than the area north of the mountains, but this discrepancy was not reflected by any noticeable changes in the bird life.

There were not many rare birds reported this summer, but the coverage of the state as a whole was outstanding. Through your hard work, the amount of valuable data – as well as just plain fun information – keeps growing. Having biologists out on the Isles of Shoals and in the North Country (the area north of the White Mountains) makes a huge difference in our knowledge and understanding of bird movements and breeding status in New Hampshire. This is all the more impressive considering that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey data and the White Mountain National Forest breeding bird survey results are not even included in this document. (Contact the Audubon Society of New Hampshire if you would like to see this data.)

Breeders

The breeding highlights were: the continuing success of Piping Plovers and Common Terns (about 140 tern nests were counted on Seavey Island in the third year of their recolonization); the apparent mainland nesting of Common Eider (again); several new, but unsuccessful, Bald Eagle nests; several Merlins in Coos County, with at least one definite nesting; high Peregrine Falcon productivity; a **Common Moorhen** on territory at Great Bay; the return of an **Acadian Flycatcher** and a **Cerulean Warbler** to their only known nest sites at Pawtuckaway State Park; the second year that **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows** have apparently nested in Stratham (Great Bay); and the higher-than-expected numbers of Vesper Sparrows, and, especially, Grasshopper Sparrows discovered as part of Pam Hunt's grassland bird study.

Rarities

The prime rarity was a **Sandhill Crane** along the Connecticut River in Monroe, seen throughout the period. Several **Manx Shearwaters** were seen from shore (based on records for the last two years, it seems we should expect them, at least for the present). Other unusual species included a **Least Bittern**, a couple of out-of-season Brant, a drake **Gadwall**, two **Ruddy Ducks**, a **Forster's Tern**, a **Black Skimmer** and one or two **Atlantic Puffins**.

Robert A. Quinn, Summer Editor

Loons through Turkey Vulture

At least three Red-throated Loons along the coast were an unexpected report, because summer sightings are usually of solitary birds (this was the fourth summer record for the 1990s). An adult Pied-billed Grebe with a chick at a new site (Peterborough) was a pleasant surprise, while a territorial bird or two in Errol were at a site where they have been reported only rarely. Shore-based sightings of sea birds were few compared to last summer but included two **Manx Shearwaters**. Offshore reports of shearwaters and storm-petrels were of expected species in normal numbers.

New sites for American Bitterns (for the 1990s) were Warren, Littleton, and Stewartstown. A **Least Bittern** seen in Newmarket was a rare find, though more likely in that part of the state than elsewhere. Other unusual "heron" reports included a wandering immature Black-crowned Night-Heron in Nashua and 30 Glossy Ibis in East Kingston on June 3 (though the observer did not comment on it as an unusual local occurrence).

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Red-throated Loon				
06-17	3		NH coast	S. Mirick
Common Loon				
06-02	3	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
06-12	2	Jefferson	Big Cherry Pond	R. Crowley
07-07	5	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway Lake	G. Gavutis
07-16	2	Monroe	Connecticut R.	D. Donsker
07-31	4	Lempster	Sand Pond	M. Wright
Pied-billed Grebe				
06-26	2	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	R. Woodward
06-26	2	Peterborough	Contoocook R., above dam	R. Frechette
07-03	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet	R. Woodward
Greater Shearwater				
06-05	1	Rye	offshore pelagic trip	S. Mirick, D. Green
Sooty Shearwater				
06-30	1		whalewatch, 10 mi. e. of Isles of Shoals	J. Stockwell
Manx Shearwater				
06-04	1	N. Hampton	offshore from Little Boar's Head	S. Mirick
Wilson's Storm-Petrel				
06-04	25	Rye	offshore pelagic trip	S. Mirick, D. Green
06-16	2	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-24	10	Rye	3 miles out at sea	S. & G. Saidel-Goley
Northern Gannet				
06-04	25	Rye	offshore pelagic trip	S. Mirick, D. Green
06-09	30	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
06-10	20	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Double-crested Cormorant				
07-25	1	Ashland	Squam R.	J. Williams
07-30	3	Monroe	Connecticut R.	E. Emery
07-31	55	Rye	Rye Ledge	A.& B. Delorey
American Bittern				
06-01	4	Errol	Lake Umbagog NWR wetlands	R. Quinn
06-06	1	Lyman	Lyman Rd.	S.& M. Turner
06-10	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet road	E. Nielsen
06-11	1	Stewartstown	Back Pond	D. Killam, D. Wells
06-26	2	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	R. Woodward
07-04	1	Littleton	Wal-Mart pools	B. Bradley
07-13	1	Warren	Rt. 25C	A. Ports
Least Bittern				
06-25	1	Newmarket	Tuttle Swamp, Fisk Tract	G. Gavutis
Great Blue Heron				
06-12	3	Meredith	Hatch Corner Rd.	J. Williams
Green Heron				
07-12	1	Hopkinton	marsh on Crowell Rd.	R. Woodward
07-30	1	Monroe	Connecticut R.	E. Emery
Black-crowned Night-Heron				
06-21	1	Exeter	Powder House Pond	R. Aaronian
07-06	1	Nashua	Nashua R., Mine Falls	R. Andrews
Glossy Ibis				
06-03	30	E. Kingston	Rt. 108 pond near Bodwell Dairy Farms	G. Gavutis
06-03	39	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
Turkey Vulture				
06-01	1	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	R. Crowley
06-05	4	Bedford	Ministerial Rd.	S. Saidel-Goley
06-08	1	Errol	Rt. 26 clearcut	R. Quinn
06-18	1	Wentworths Location;	Magalloway R.	R. Quinn
06-20	9	Berlin	Hutchins St. landfill	G. Gavutis
06-23	1	Bartlett	over Iron Mtn. ledges	J.& D. Romano

Waterfowl through Hawks

Migrant Brant in early June are not surprising, even inland, but a bird at the Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge in Jefferson in late June was most unusual, particularly for the date. The observers thought it was an immature bird, which would help explain its occurrence in our state when the species should be nesting well to the north of us. Another Brant at Seavey Island was out of season (and only seen that one day). Other noteworthy or inexplicable waterfowl sightings included a flock of 34 Canada Geese flying south over Wentworths Location on June 9 (most of the other large goose totals include young), an apparent migrant Green-winged Teal on Great Bay on July 16, a

drake **Gadwall** seen in the Lake Umbagog marshes on June 1 (but not thereafter), a pleasingly high number of Common Goldeneye families (about a dozen) along the Magalloway River in the Lake Umbagog region, and two out-of-season Ruddy Ducks in Exeter. Once again, several family groups of Common Eiders appeared to have nested along the mainland, although we still have not found a nest.

A few more accipiters were reported than in most summers, and a family of Cooper's Hawks was seen preying on nestlings in Kensington. Our Osprey population had average nesting success this summer, but Ospreys nested in a human-made nest at the Massabesic Audubon Center in Auburn. This is the first successful Osprey nest in south-central New Hampshire "in living memory." The discovery of several new Bald Eagle nests was cause for true excitement. There were newly discovered nests in Hancock and Hinsdale to join the now long-standing Lake Umbagog nest. Unfortunately, the Umbagog nest was the only one that was successful, but all this eagle activity bodes well for the future. Even more encouraging were the apparently territorial pairs of eagles in Dummer, Surry, Franklin, and Littleton. Most impressive of all was a report of seven Bald Eagles in one day at the Moore Reservoir. The Bald Eagle at Seavey Island June 1 must have wreaked havoc among the terns, at least temporarily. A Broad-winged Hawk well above tree line on Mount Washington July 22 must have been an odd sight. Merlins scored another nesting success in Errol, and there were several other possible nesting pairs. Peregrine Falcons had their "...most successful breeding season since the first half of this century" according to ASNH Senior Biologist Chris Martin. The 25 fledged peregrines smashed the previous record of 16 young set in 1998 and 1997.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Brant				
06-04	1	Rye	Odiorne Point St. Pk.	S. Mirick
06-06	12	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
06-26	1	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	A. & B. Delorey
07-07	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Canada Goose				
06-09	34	Wentworths	Location; along Rt. 16	R. Quinn
06-10	8	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-24	6	Piermont	Lily Pond	A. & M. Mudge
06-27	31	Monroe	Connecticut R,	E. Emery
07-03	8	Pittsburg	East Inlet	R. Woodward
07-20	7	Nashua	IMPCO office building grounds	J. & B. Ayer
Green-winged Teal				
06-13	1	Errol	Sweat Meadow	R. Quinn
07-16	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick, J. Matthews
Gadwall				
06-01	1	Errol	Leonard Marsh, Lake Umbagog	R. Quinn
Ring-necked Duck				
06-01	5	Errol	Harpers Meadow	R. Quinn
06-21	2	Jefferson	Big Cherry Pond	R. Crowley
06-22	2	Pittsburg	Big Bog Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Common Eider				
06-17	28	Rye	Seal Rocks	S. Mirick
06-19	4	Rye	Seal Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
06-19	26	Rye	Seal Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
07-14	371	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-31	13	Rye	Concord Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
Black Scoter				
06-17	4	Rye	off Jenness Beach	S. Mirick
Common Goldeneye				
06-01	22	Errol	Magalloway R.	R. Quinn
Common Merganser				
06-12	11	Dublin	Dublin Lake	I., S., G. & S. Saidel-Goley
06-18	5	Wolfeboro	Wentworth Lake, w. end	G. Gavutis
06-23	8	Ossipee	Conner Pond	M. & G. Prazar
07-07	15	Errol	Androscoggin R.	R. Quinn
07-09	7	Bath	Ammonoosuc R.	B. Bradley
Ruddy Duck				
06-04	2	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
Duck sp.				
07-31	222	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
Osprey				
06-17	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
06-22	1	Pittsburg	The Glen	E. Nielsen
07-01	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-02	1	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
07-07	1	Bath	Rt. 302	A. Ports
07-16	2	Monroe	island in Connecticut R.	D. Donsker
07-17	1	Northumberland	covered bridge	B. & D. Killam
07-25	3	Stratham	Swamscott R.	M. Neveu, et al.
07-30	16	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir area	C. Martin
Bald Eagle				
06-07	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
06-07	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-12	1	Newport	over Beech St.	H. Tait
06-27	2	Monroe	Connecticut R.	E. Emery, P. Powers
07-02	1	Walpole	Westmoreland Ave., Connecticut R.	G. Dennis
07-04	1	Pittsburg	Lake Francis	R. Woodward
07-10	1	Center Harbor	Squam Lake	R. Wood, W. Bailey
Northern Harrier				
06-07	1	Errol	Rt. 26 clearcut	R. Quinn
06-17	1	Whitefield	airport	P. Hunt, D. Govatski
06-17	2	Colebrook	Bear Rock Rd.	P. Hunt
07-07	1	Errol	Sweat Meadow	R. Quinn
07-31	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd. haying field	R. Ritz

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
06-09	1	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-13	1	Errol	Magalloway R.	R. Quinn, Capital Area Chapter FT
06-26	1	Errol	Bear Brook Pond	R. Quinn
06-27	1	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	R. Quinn
07-28	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
Cooper's Hawk				
06-13	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
07-03	2	Pittsburg		R. Woodward
07-07	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
07-22	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
Northern Goshawk				
06-03	1	Errol	Harpers Meadow	R. Quinn, L. Wunder
07-08	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond	M. Turner
07-28	1	Rumney	Stinson Mtn., WMNF	J. Williams
Red-shouldered Hawk				
06-13	1	Errol	Eames Rd.	R. Quinn, R. Woodward, Capital Area Chapter FT
Broad-winged Hawk				
07-22	1	Sargents Purchase	Crawford Path near Lakes of the Clouds	C. Martin, B. DeWolf
American Kestrel				
06-30	4	Whitefield	airport	P. Hunt
07-04	1	Pittsburg	Rt. 3	R. Woodward
07-10	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
07-27	1	Sunapee	Rt. 103 flats near Wendell Vet.	P. Newbern
Merlin				
06-02	2	Errol	Magalloway R.	R. Quinn
06-10	1	Dummer	Androscoggin R. near Wentworth Is.	C. Martin
07-07	1	Errol	Greenough Pond	R. Quinn

Grouse through Gulls

Common Moorhens were suspected of nesting at the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge, but only one bird was seen. One of the most accommodating rare birds was a **Sandhill Crane** along the Connecticut River in Monroe that was first noted during the last week in May and was still being seen at the end of July. We have to share this bird with Vermont, because it fed primarily on the Vermont side of the River but roosted in the New Hampshire part of the River. The Wild Turkey numbers reported included many family groups.

In the third year of their return, **Piping Plovers** produced 17 fledglings, compared with 12 last year. May they continue to live long and prosper! Once again, good coverage of the coast gives us a better picture of the migration dates for shorebirds. The

early- to mid-June shorebird dates are for north-bound migrants (Ruddy Turnstone, Short-billed Dowitcher, Black-bellied Plover, Red Knot, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, Dunlin, and Least Sandpiper) but the yellowlegs species seen on June 26 was believed to be an early south-bound migrant. The first “fall” migrants at Seavey Island were eight unidentified sandpipers on June 30, and, after that date, note the numbers for Ruddy Turnstone, Short-billed Dowitcher, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Greater Yellowlegs, and Whimbrel, plus the rare appearance of three Stilt Sandpipers, all at Seavey Island. The Spotted Sandpipers on Seavey are local (and productive!) breeders. The eight Pectoral Sandpipers seen in Rochester on July 30 are an unusually large number on an unusually early date – especially for an inland site.

Up to four Laughing Gulls visited Seavey Island this summer; and the species was recorded along the coast several times in June. Two Bonaparte’s Gulls in Littleton on July 28 were most likely south-bound migrants.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Spruce Grouse				
06-04	1	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	R. Frechette
06-04	2	Orford	Mt. Cube, Appalachian Trail	D. Hrdlicka
06-07	2	Waterville Valley	near Sandwich Dome summit, WMNF	J. Maddox, C. Carr
06-19	2	Beans Purchase	Wildcat Ridge Trail	S. Mirick
07-12	6	Lincoln	Twinway between S. Twin & Guyot	K. DeAngelus, M. Prentiss
Wild Turkey				
06-09	22	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	N. Ritz
07-10	30	Lyman	Hurd Hill Rd.	S. Turner, A. Kimball
07-12	19	Piermont	Rt. 10 near Haverhill town line	A. Mudge
07-14	15	Henniker	River Rd.	R. Hardy
Virginia Rail				
06-03	7	Errol	Lake Umbagog NWR	R. Quinn
06-12	1	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	R. Crowley
06-14	1	Exeter	Powder House Pond	R. Aaronian
06-16	1	Stratham	Chapmans Landing	P. Hunt
06-17	2	Newmarket	Tuttle Swamp, Colby Tract	G. Gavutis
06-21	3	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	R. Crowley
06-23	2	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	S.& M. Turner
06-27	12	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	R. Quinn
07-01	2	Dublin	Mud Pond	R. Frechette, D. Rowell
07-03	1	Enfield	Main Street Pond	P. Hunt
07-03	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet	R. Woodward
07-07	7	Errol	Harpers & Sweat Meadows	R. Quinn
07-09	6	Errol	Leonard Marsh, Lake Umbagog	R. Quinn
Sora				
06-03	1	Errol	Harpers Meadow	R. Quinn
06-11	2	Whitefield	Pondicherry WS	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni, R. Duddy
07-03	1	Durham	Packers Falls Rd. marsh	S. Mirick, ASNH FT

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Common Moorhen				
06-17	1	Newington	Stubbs Pond	S. Mirick, K. O'Brien
Sandhill Crane				
06-04	1	Monroe	Rt. 135	E. Emery, P. Powers, J. Cate
06-30	1	Monroe	Connecticut R.	P. Hunt
07-16	1	Monroe	sandbar in Connecticut R.	D. Donsker
07-23	1	Monroe	Connecticut R. island	E. Emery, J. Cate
Black-bellied Plover				
06-03	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Semipalmated Plover				
07-31	200	Hampton	Henrys Pool	A.& B. Delorey
07-31	40	Rye	Rye Ledge	S. Mirick
Piping Plover				
06-17	22	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick
Killdeer				
June/July	10	Meredith	Moulton Farm, Quarry Rd.	J. Merrill
06-11	3	Pittsburg	J. Young Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-20	2	Pittsburg	Indian Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-04	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
07-17	6	Stratham	over Shaw's parking lot	G. Prazar
07-29	10	Weare	field	S. Saidel-Goley
Greater Yellowlegs				
07-07	1	Errol	Sweat Meadow	R. Quinn
07-11	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	R. Cook
07-16	1	Monroe	island in Connecticut R.	D. Donsker
Lesser Yellowlegs				
07-04	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-07	1	Errol	Sweat Meadow	R. Quinn
07-07	4	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-31	12	Hampton	Henrys Pool	A.& B. Delorey
Yellowlegs sp.				
06-26	1	Newfields	railroad trestle marsh	S. Mirick
Willet				
06-07	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Spotted Sandpiper				
06-10	17	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-15	30	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Upland Sandpiper				
07-04	2	Manchester	airport	P. Hunt
07-09	12		Pease Int'l. Tradeport	P. Hunt, D. DeLuca

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Whimbrel				
07-08	2	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-12	6	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward
07-31	8	Seabrook	mussel beds	A.& B. Delorey
Ruddy Turnstone				
06-07	5	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-08	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-12	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward
07-16	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-26	30	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-31	1	Seabrook	mussel beds	A.& B. Delorey
07-31	1	Rye	Concord Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
Red Knot				
06-07	3	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-23	2	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Sanderling				
06-17	1	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick
07-31	40	Rye	Rye Ledge	S. Mirick
07-31	70	Seabrook	mussel beds	A.& B. Delorey
Semipalmated Sandpiper				
06-04	20	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick
06-07	6	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-12	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, J. Kanter
07-16	36	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-31	200	Hampton	Henrys Pool	A.& B. Delorey
Least Sandpiper				
06-08	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-03	34	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-07	3	Errol	Sweat Meadow	R. Quinn
07-07	56	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
White-rumped Sandpiper				
06-04	5	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick
Calidris sp. (peeps)				
06-30	8	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Pectoral Sandpiper				
07-30	8	Rochester	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
Dunlin				
06-10	1	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick
Short-billed Dowitcher				
06-02	14	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-01	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-03	8	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-07	14	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-16	27	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-31	28	Hampton	Henrys Pool	A.& B. Delorey

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Laughing Gull				
06-05	3	Seabrook	marina	A.& B. Delorey
06-08	3	Rye	Jeness Beach	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-15	4	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-17	7		NH Coast	S. Mirick
Bonaparte's Gull				
07-28	2	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
Ring-billed Gull				
06-13	2	Errol	Leonard Pond	R. Quinn, Capital Area Chapter FT
06-22	6	Pittsburg	The Glen	E. Nielsen
07-28	50	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley

Terns through Woodpeckers

First there were seven nests (1997), then there were 45 (1998), but now the Common Tern colony on Seavey Island has mushroomed into what appears to be an unparalleled success, with 141 nests producing at least 300 chicks this summer. To put this in perspective, that is more chicks than the mainland colonies have produced in probably the last 20 years. Up to five Roseate Terns visited Seavey throughout June and July, and one pair was deeply involved in courtship. Between one and three Arctic Terns spent considerable time at the island, and a Least Tern made a one-day visit, too. Maybe next year it will be a mixed colony of tern species for the first time since the 1930s. An early south-bound Black Tern was noted at Seavey Island on July 6. A **Black Skimmer** flying around the tern colony was a very rare summer occurrence (too bad there isn't a sandy spit for the Black Skimmer and Least Terns out there).

Two individual sightings of what may have been one individual **Atlantic Puffin** were outstanding records at the Isles of Shoals. Puffins are very rare in New Hampshire waters at any season but especially so in the summer.

Black-billed Cuckoos were widespread and included a bird unusually far north in Pittsburg plus a late-spring migrant banded on Star Island on June 8. Noteworthy numbers of both Red-bellied Woodpeckers and Black-backed Woodpeckers were tallied this summer. The Red-bellieds would be part of the population that is moving north, but the Black-backed would probably not represent any particular increase in the birds – just better reporting. However, it is possible that because of spruce budworms, or perhaps an increase in food as a result of the January 1998 ice storm damage, there actually has been an increase. Whatever the cause, it seems as if more people saw more Black-backed than in many a year.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Roseate Tern				
06-01	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-29	5	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-07	4	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Common Tern				
07-12	300	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward
07-25	2	Portsmouth	Piscataqua R.	M. Neveu, D. Labrie
Arctic Tern				
06-25	2	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-05	3	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-16	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Forster's Tern				
06-02	1	Rye	s. end of Jenness Beach	B. Bruni, T. Vazzano
Least Tern				
06-28	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Black Tern				
07-06	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-19	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Black Skimmer				
06-06	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Black Guillemot				
06-06	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
Atlantic Puffin				
06-09	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala
06-15	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Mourning Dove				
07-28	2	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Black-billed Cuckoo				
06-06	1	Salisbury	Mountain Rd.	L. Deming, S. Gage
06-07	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond	S.& M. Turner
06-08	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-11	1	Sandwich	start of Sandwich Notch Rd.	T. Vazzano, R. Duddy
06-15	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
06-21	1	Salisbury	South Rd. just w. of Blackwater R.	L. Deming
06-24	1		BBS Wilmot Route	P. Newbern
06-25	1	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	1	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	R. Woodward
06-30	1	Tamworth	Great Hill Rd.	B. Steele
07-01	1	Tamworth	Jackman Pond	B. Steele
07-01	1	New London	auto survey route	A.& R. Vernon
07-03	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
07-04	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
07-04	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
07-26	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. Williams
07-27	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	R. Vernon
07-30	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A.& B. Delorey
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				
06-15	2	Sandwich	Guinea Pond Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-15	1	Concord	residence	R. Woodward

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
06-19	1	Salisbury	along Blackwater R.	L. Deming, K. Spoto
06-20	1	Unity	Quaker City	W. McCumber
07-06	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn

Northern Saw-whet Owl

06-25	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
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Common Nighthawk

06-04	1	Conway	Mountain Valley Mall	C. & J. Tewksbury
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Whip-poor-will

06-01	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond	S. & M. Turner
06-02	1	Pembroke	N. Pembroke residence	P. Daley
06-06	2	Monroe	Rt. 135	S. & M. Turner, E. Emery, P. Powers
06-15	1	New Boston	Bradford Lane	R. Clark
06-19	1	Chester	Shepard Home Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
06-20	1	Sandown	Hunts Pond Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
06-24	1	Londonderry	Little Cohas Marsh	A. Delorey
06-28	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
07-24	3	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

June	4	New Boston	residence	I. & E. McDowell
06-02	1	Bedford	Ministerial Rd.	S. Saidel-Goley
06-05	1	Bedford	Ministerial Rd.	J. Saidel
06-21	1	Pembroke	N. Pembroke Rd.	K. Palfy
06-25	2	Pembroke	N. Pembroke Rd.	K. Palfy
07-14	3	Hollis	Rocky Pond Rd. off hiking trail	B. & M. Harris
07-24	3	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu

Red-bellied Woodpecker

06-05	2	Exeter	residence woods	M. Prazar
07-02	2	Greenfield	residence	L. Olson
07-27	3	Plymouth	residence	W. Palmquist

Black-backed Woodpecker

06-02	1	Errol	Long Pond	R. Quinn
06-09	1	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-10	2	Carroll	Cog Railway Rd.	R. Crowley
06-10	2	Cambridge	Bear Brook	R. Quinn
06-12	1	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-14	2	Errol	Long Pond	R. Quinn
06-23	1	Franconia	near jct. of Franconia Ridge & Liberty Springs Trails	J. Littleton
06-23	1	Pittsburg	Coon Brook Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	2	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-03	1	Pittsburg	Fourth Connecticut Lake	R. Woodward
07-04	1	Whitefield	Pondicherry WS	S. Mirick
07-08	1	Harts Location	Webster-Jackson Trail	C. Costello
07-09	1	Errol	edge of Chewonki Marsh	R. Quinn
07-10	2	Lincoln	Fishin' Jimmy Trail above Lonesome Lake Hut	A. Chapman

Northern Flicker

07-24	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
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Flycatchers through Waxwings

Flycatcher migration continued into the summer season, with two Eastern Wood Pewees, three Yellow-bellied Flycatchers and five “Trail’s” Flycatchers banded on Star Island (all on June 6), and a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on Seavey Island June 3. Two Great Crested Flycatchers in Pittsburg were unusual for this species, which is more common in southern New Hampshire and at lower elevations than the Pittsburg birds. More expected were the number of Great Cresteds around the edge of Lake Umbagog.

A singing Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Pawtuckaway State Park on June 8 was probably a late migrant, but another bird of this species singing on July 13 in Manchester is particularly difficult to categorize. However, even though the Pawtuckaway bird was definitely within the known dates for a spring migrant (a bird in Rumney on June 7 was classified by its observer as such in 1998) a Yellow-bellied was heard singing at Pawtuckaway in both June and July. While both the 1998 Pawtuckaway and 1999 Manchester “sightings” were of heard birds only, the observers are familiar with the species and seem to recognize that they were well out of their expected breeding range. A word of caution is in order, though, because the calls of this species can be very similar to several other flycatchers, and neither of the birds was seen. That is not to cast doubt on the records nor to question the veracity of the observers, just to be conservative and to encourage observers to explore a little further for visual evidence as well as habitat and behavior notes, because these areas are about 100 miles south of the species’ known nesting range. Two **Acadian Flycatchers** returned to Pawtuckaway State Park for the second summer in a row, but there was no direct nesting evidence.

An Eastern Kingbird on June 22 and a Least Flycatcher on July 1 were probably the vanguard of the fall flycatcher migration (see also the warbler discussion). High numbers of Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Swainson’s Thrushes were noted in Pittsburg, especially compared to similar habitat at Lake Umbagog. Philadelphia Vireos need to be seen as well as heard. During six weeks of intensive bird surveys in the Lake Umbagog region, this editor failed to find any Philadelphia Vireos, and every time I thought I heard a vireo that was different it always turned out to be a Red-eyed. Unfortunately, those observers who reported Philadelphia Vireos did not mention whether they saw the birds, but the reports come from known observers in good habitat for the species. Pam Hunt’s grassland bird study (see Sparrows through Evening Grosbeaks) turned up a lot more Horned Larks than normally get reported. She found them at five different sites – which is as many sites as were discovered during the six full years of the *Breeding Bird Atlas* surveys!

Another new, albeit small, nesting colony of Purple Martins surfaced this summer in Greenland, but the species is still near extirpation. Marsh Wrens at Lake Umbagog in Errol did not appear until early July – apparently they waited until the marsh vegetation was tall enough for them. At other sites, the wrens seemed to appear during their normal arrival times of late May to early June.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Olive-sided Flycatcher				
06-22	3	Pittsburg	Deer Mountain Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
Eastern Wood-Pewee				
06-05	1	Exeter	residence	G. Prazar
06-06	2	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-21	1	Ossipee	Conner Pond, Bayle Mtn. Rd.	G. Prazar
07-05	8	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				
06-03	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-04	8	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	R. Frechette
06-06	3	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-07	1	Rumney	Quincy Bog	P. Hunt
06-08	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-11	4	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-11	4	Pittsburg	border area	E. Nielsen
06-12	6	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-16	7	Errol	Whaleback South transect	R. Quinn
06-19	12	Beans Purchase	Wildcat Ridge Trail	S. Mirick
07-13	1	Manchester	Camp Carpenter	R. Frechette
07-27	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Acadian Flycatcher				
06-12	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
07-05	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
Alder Flycatcher				
06-05	1	Kensington	Kimball Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
06-05	10	Sandwich	Guinea Pond Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-06	2	E. Kingston	BBS Route	A.& B. Delorey
06-07	8	Dixville	Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-12	2	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	R. Crowley
06-13	1	Chatham	Upper Kimball Pond	R. Crowley
06-13	1		BBS Epsom Route	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield
07-14	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
07-25	1	Hebron	Hebron Marsh	J. Williams
Willow Flycatcher				
06-02	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
06-05	1	Exeter	Powder Mill Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
06-05	2	Kensington	Kimball Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
06-06	2	E. Kingston	BBS Route	A.& B. Delorey
06-10	1	Plymouth	brush lot off Ledgeside Dr.	J. Williams
06-13	1	Shelburne	North Rd.	S.& M. Turner, A. Kimball
06-13	1		BBS Epsom Route	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield
06-16	1	Nashua	Mine Falls Park	R. Andrews
07-04	1	Holderness	brush area s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
Traill's Flycatcher sp. (Willow/Alder)				
06-07	5	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Least Flycatcher				
07-01	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Eastern Phoebe				
07-23	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Great Crested Flycatcher				
06-11	2	Pittsburg	border area	E. Nielsen
Eastern Kingbird				
06-03	11	Errol	edge of Lake Umbagog	R. Quinn
06-13	1	Nashua	Burke St. residence	J.& B. Ayer
06-22	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Trested, T. Smith
07-01	1	Concord	Pembroke Rd. & Rt. 106	K. Palfy
07-01	5	New London	auto survey route	A.& R. Vernon
07-17	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-30	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
Blue-headed Vireo				
06-10	13	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-11	12	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	6	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	5	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Yellow-throated Vireo				
06-04	2	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A. Delorey
06-11	2	Lyme	River Rd.	P. Hunt
06-12	6	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-12	1	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	R. Crowley
06-20	1	Concord	Turkey Pond	R. Woodward
06-25	1	Newmarket	Tuttle Swamp, Fisk Tract	G. Gavutis
07-05	8	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
Philadelphia Vireo				
06-06	1	Waterville Valley	near Welch Mtn. summit, WMNF	J. Williams
06-10	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	2	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-06	1	Dixville	off Rt. 26	P. Newbern
Red-eyed Vireo				
June/July	6	New Hampton	Old Bristol Rd.	J. Merrill
06-02	58	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-02	5	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-04	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-10	48	Errol	Thurston Cove	R. Quinn
06-17	32	Errol	Black Is. Cove transect	R. Quinn
06-24	18	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	7	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-01	24	New London	auto survey route	A.& R. Vernon
07-05	20	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
Gray Jay				
06-01	1	Waterville Valley	Mt. Tecumseh summit, WMNF	C. Carr, G. Duffy
06-04	3	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Gray Jay (continued)				
06-09	1	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-24	10	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	2	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Fish Crow				
07-07	4	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway Lake, s. end	G. Gavutis
Horned Lark				
07-04	1	Nashua	airport	P. Hunt
07-04	2	Manchester	airport	P. Hunt
07-04	5	Concord	airport	P. Hunt
07-08	1	Lebanon	airport	P. Hunt
07-09	7		Pease Int'l. Tradeport	P. Hunt, D. DeLuca
Purple Martin				
06-14	16	Moultonborough	Lees Mill Rd. & Harriett Lane	T. Vazzano
06-21	6	Greenland	Portsmouth Country Club	S. Mirick
06-27	21	Laconia	Funspot, Weirs Beach	J. Williams
Tree Swallow				
06-01	43	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
06-18	108	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
Northern Rough-winged Swallow				
07-02	6	Bath	Ammonoosuc R.	B. Bradley
Bank Swallow				
06-25	50	Conway	Saco R., East Conway	R. Crowley
07-04	270	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
Cliff Swallow				
June	16	Meredith	Quarry Rd., Moulton Farm	J. Merrill
06-11	20	Pittsburg	Tabor Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-20	1	Bartlett	Experimental Forest bldg.	R. Crowley
07-11	10	Sandwich	Whiteface Intervale	T. Vazzano
07-25	8	Plymouth	Rt. 3A barn	J. Williams
Boreal Chickadee				
06-04	1	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	R. Frechette
06-12	3	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-13	4	Pittsburg	Big Brook Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-19	4	Beans Purchase	Wildcat Ridge Trail	S. Mirick
06-25	3	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	8	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	5	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-28	3	Errol	Long Pond	R. Quinn
07-03	10	Pittsburg		R. Woodward
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
06-04	4	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-12	15	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-16	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
07-20	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-24	2	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Carolina Wren				
06-18	3	Hollis	Beaver Brook at Brown Barn	R. Frechette
06-24	1	Unity	Quaker City	W. McCumber, R. Welsh
07-11	1	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake dam	B. Johnstone
07-24	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr. feeder	B. & M. Harris
07-25	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
Winter Wren				
06-12	18	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-16	14	Errol	Whaleback South transect	R. Quinn
06-22	13	Pittsburg	Deer Mountain Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-23	17	Pittsburg	Coon Brook Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	19	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	8	T&M Purchase	Jefferson Notch	A. & B. Delorey
06-26	13	Errol	Lake Umbagog St. Pk.	R. Quinn
06-30	1	Durham	Foss Farm	S. Mirick
07-05	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
07-08	5	New London	trail to old meadow	R. Vernon
Marsh Wren				
06-22	1	Stratham	Rt. 108 near Swamscott Rd.	G. Gavutis
06-26	6	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	R. Woodward
06-27	12	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	R. Quinn
07-01	4	Errol	Lake Umbagog wetlands	R. Quinn
07-11	1	Enfield	Main Street Pond	P. Hunt
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
06-10	11	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	8	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	12	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	7	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
06-01	4	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-09	8	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-09	6	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-19	6	Beans Purchase	Wildcat Ridge Trail	S. Mirick
06-24	10	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	15	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
06-04	2	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A. Delorey
06-05	2	Exeter	Powder Mill Rd.	A. & B. Delorey
06-11	1	Lyme	Grant Brook	P. Hunt
07-04	2	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
Eastern Bluebird				
06-20	92	Sunapee	bluebird trail census	B. Burdett
Bicknell's Thrush				
06-04	3	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-04	1	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	R. Frechette
06-19	5	Beans Purchase	Wildcat Ridge Trail	S. Mirick

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Swainson's Thrush				
06-04	2	Chandlers Purchase	Jefferson Notch Rd.	R. Frechette
06-09	34	Pittsburg	Magalloway Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-17	16	Errol		R. Quinn
06-17	10	Errol	Black Is. Cove transect	R. Quinn
06-19	12	Beans Purchase	Wildcat Ridge Trail	S. Mirick
06-24	33	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	9	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	4	T&M Purchase	Jefferson Notch	A.& B. Delorey
Wood Thrush				
June/July	6	New Hampton	Old Bristol Rd.	J. Merrill
06-09	1	Errol	Rt. 16 s.	R. Quinn
06-17	1	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
06-20	2	Pittsburg	Hall Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-01	5	New London	auto survey route	A.& R. Vernon
07-07	3	Errol	Greenough Pond	R. Quinn
07-08	1	Exeter	residence	G. Prazar
07-20	4	Bedford	Ministerial Rd.	S.& J. Saidel-Goley
07-21	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
Gray Catbird				
06-13	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, J. Kanter
Brown Thrasher				
06-19	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
06-20	1	Gilmanton	Rt. 140 & White Oaks Rd. Gilmanton Iron Works	K.& S. Palfy
06-26	1	Crawfords Purchase		L. Deming, S. Gage
American Pipit				
07-15	4	T&M Purchase	Mt. Washington	C. Martin, R. White
07-16	11	Sargents Purchase	Mt. Washington	C. Martin, R. White
Cedar Waxwing				
06-01	64	Errol	Magalloway R.	R. Quinn

Warblers

Most Tennessee Warbler reports seemed to be very early fall migrants again (see the discussion in the Summer 1998 *NHBR*). None was noted in the Lake Umbagog region until June 28, and none was noted in Pittsburg until early July. However, a female on a nest at Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge was noteworthy and one of very few nests ever discovered in New Hampshire. Late spring migrant warblers on Seavey Island included a Blackburnian Warbler and two Yellow Warblers on June 3, plus an American Redstart June 13 (though the appearance of a Gray Catbird and two Brown-headed Cowbirds at Seavey on the same date as the Redstart raise some doubt as to which way it/they might have been going). A Yellow-rumped Warbler on Seavey on June 24 is still harder to classify. It was seen two days after the Eastern Kingbird, and both of those species could easily have been post-breeding wanderers or early fall migrants.

Northern Parulas were again noted at Pawtuckaway State Park throughout the period, but still without direct evidence of nesting. A Parula in Enfield on June 13 was considered to be “lingering” and not a possible breeder. No **Cerulean Warblers** were noted away from their Pawtuckaway stronghold this summer. Bay-breasted Warblers were moderately plentiful in their expected habitats in Pittsburg and the Lake Umbagog region. Perhaps due to spruce budworm? The only Cape May Warblers noted were in the Lake Umbagog region. A Louisiana Waterthrush was unusually far north in Carroll. Pittsburg was the only place with noteworthy numbers of Mourning Warblers.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Blue-winged Warbler				
06-01	1	Pembroke	Church Rd.	W. Goodwill
06-05	2	Kensington	Kimball Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
06-05	2	Exeter	Powder Mill Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
06-13	1		BBS Epsom Route	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield
Tennessee Warbler				
06-26	3	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	A.& B. Delorey
06-28	1	Millsfield	Rt. 26	R. Quinn
07-03	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	R. Woodward
07-03	1	Bethlehem	off Trudeau Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
07-07	1	Errol	Greenough Pond	R. Quinn
Nashville Warbler				
06-04	15	Bethlehem	Trudeau Rd. bogs	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-05	2	Sandwich	Guinea Pond Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-09	15	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-13	1		BBS Epsom Route	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield
06-24	27	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	10	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-11	1	Tamworth	Rt. 41	T. Vazzano
Northern Parula				
06-02	33	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-12	3	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-13	1	Enfield	Bridge St.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
06-24	3	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	5	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
06-25	2	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	10	Errol	Lake Umbagog St. Pk.	R. Quinn
07-01	3	Lyman	Dodge Pond	S.& M. Turner
07-05	3	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
Yellow Warbler				
07-25	4	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Magnolia Warbler				
06-02	30	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-04	12	Bethlehem	Trudeau Rd. bogs	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-05	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-23	5	Bartlett	Iron Mountain Trail	J.& D. Romano
06-24	27	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	9	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Cape May Warbler				
06-08	1	Errol	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-10	1	Errol	Potter Farm	R. Quinn
06-12	1	Errol	Eames Rd.	R. Quinn
06-17	1	Errol	Potter Farm	R. Quinn
Black-throated Blue Warbler				
06-08	13	Errol	Thurston Cove	R. Quinn
06-10	13	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-15	10	Sandwich	Guinea Pond Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-17	4	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
07-03	1	Durham	off Packers Falls Road	S. Mirick, ASNH FT
07-03	3	New London	vicinity of Carr Ledge	R. Vernon
07-08	2	New London	trail to old meadow	R. Vernon
07-15	5	Rumney	Stinson Mtn., e. slope WMNF	J. Williams
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
06-03	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-17	2	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
06-24	12	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Trested, T. Smith
06-25	8	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Black-throated Green Warbler				
06-05	8	Sandwich	Guinea Pond Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-05	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-08	13	Errol	Thurston Cove	R. Quinn
06-12	32	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-17	3	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
06-22	4	Harts Location	Mt. Willard Trail	M. & G. Prazar
06-24	15	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	6	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-05	7	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
Blackburnian Warbler				
06-02	18	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-03	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-03	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
06-12	10	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-12	5	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-14	10	Errol	Mile Long West transect	R. Quinn
06-15	1	Auburn	Clark Pond	R. Andrews
06-25	3	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-25	1	Enfield	Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt, M. Anderson
Pine Warbler				
06-17	1	Errol	Potter Farm	R. Quinn
07-11	5	Center Harbor	off Old Meredith Rd.	J. Merrill
07-28	5	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
Palm Warbler				
06-15	5	Errol	Floating Island Bog	R. Quinn
06-22	1	Second College Grant	Alder Brook near Swift Diamond R.	L. Deming, M. Nelson

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Bay-breasted Warbler				
06-01	1	Errol	Thurston Cove Rd.	R. Quinn
06-02	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-02	1	Errol	Eames Rd.	R. Quinn
06-07	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, et al.
06-08	3	Errol	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-14	1	Errol	near Magalloway R.	R. Quinn
06-17	3	Errol	Potter Farm	R. Quinn
06-22	3	Pittsburg	Deer Mountain Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	7	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	1	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	13	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	2	T&M Purchase	Jefferson Notch	A.& B. Delorey
Blackpoll Warbler				
06-03	1	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
06-05	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-20	2	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	R. Crowley
06-24	18	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	5	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	12	T&M Purchase	Jefferson Notch	A.& B. Delorey
Cerulean Warbler				
06-05	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	W.& S. McCumber, J. Kahn
American Redstart				
06-06	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-12	30	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-13	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, J. Kanter
06-22	4	Harts Location	Mt. Willard trail	M.& G. Prazar
06-24	12	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	4	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-29	1	Pembroke	N. Pembroke near Borough Rd.	K. Palfy
Ovenbird				
June/July	10	New Hampton	Old Bristol Rd.	J. Merrill
06-10	21	Errol	Thurston Cove transect	R. Quinn
06-12	25	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-17	23	Errol	Black Is. Cove transect	R. Quinn
06-17	12	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
06-20	7	Pittsburg	Hall Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	2	Pembroke	N. Pembroke Rd.	K. Palfy
07-01	10	New London	auto survey route	A.& R. Vernon
07-05	23	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
Northern Waterthrush				
06-05	2	Sandwich	Guinea Pond Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-11	1	Kensington	off Hickory Lane	S. Mirick
06-13	1		BBS Epsom Route	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield
06-14	7	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt
06-24	3	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	3	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-01	2	Lyman	Dodge Pond	S.& M. Turner
07-26	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Louisiana Waterthrush				
06-11	1	Lyme	Grant Brook	P. Hunt
06-12	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-20	1	Carroll	wetlands on Base Station Rd.	J. Williams
Mourning Warbler				
06-07	1	Landaff	Chandler Rd.	S. & M. Turner, et al.
06-07	3	Errol	Mountain Pond Rd.	R. Quinn
06-07	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-10	1	Plymouth	brush lot off Ledgeside Dr.	J. Williams
06-11	7	Whitefield	Pondicherry WS trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni, R. Duddy
06-12	16	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	3	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-03	2	Jefferson	trail to Cherry Pond	A. & B. Delorey
07-03	1	Wentworth	brush lot off Webster Rd.	J. Williams, P. O'Donnell
Common Yellowthroat				
06-24	18	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	9	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Wilson's Warbler				
06-02	2	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-13	2	Errol	Magalloway R.	R. Quinn
06-15	2	Errol	Floating Island Bog	R. Quinn
06-21	7	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-22	3	Pittsburg	Deer Mountain Rd.	E. Nielsen

Tanager through Evening Grosbeak

Our knowledge of the status of sparrows in New Hampshire continues to increase, primarily as a result of Pam Hunt's intensive grassland work. For the fourth year in a row, she braved the sun and heat to survey for them and came up with several surprises. Most notable were the numbers of Grasshopper Sparrows and Vesper Sparrows in the Merrimack River valley. On July 4 alone, she had more of both species than the totals from all three previous summers combined. She found 29 Vesper Sparrows (including an amazing 11 in Concord) and 13 Grasshopper Sparrows. This far surpasses anything that has been reported in probably several decades for either of these species. Could the dry spring and early summer conditions have contributed to the surprisingly large numbers found? Maybe we will find out in 2000. The numbers of Savannah Sparrows probably accurately reflect their status in New Hampshire. Single Field Sparrows in Pittsburg and Umbagog were hopeful signs that they hang on in the North Country. The higher elevation of Pittsburg versus Lake Umbagog probably is the reason for so many more Dark-eyed Juncos in that town. A singing Junco in Enfield for a week in mid-June was considered a lingering bird rather than a local breeder. **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows** were accepted by the Rare Birds Committee this summer from the marshes near Great Bay. This extends the breeding range of this recently split species farther south than was previously known. A sharp-tailed sparrow species on Seavey Island June 5 was presumably a late migrant heading Down East.

Where have all the Rusty Blackbirds gone? They have become downright scarce in Pittsburg as well as Lake Umbagog, and none was reported from the high-elevation ponds in the mountains. One Brown-headed Cowbird in Pittsburg and none at Lake Umbagog clearly demonstrate the pleasant lack of this species in heavily wooded northern Coos County.

An Indigo Bunting on Seavey Island in early June was a late spring migrant. Most finches were reported from the North Country (and in small numbers) except for American Goldfinches and Evening Grosbeaks, which were widespread. The Evening Grosbeaks were particularly numerous in the central and southern parts of the state.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Scarlet Tanager				
06-04	1	Hollis	off Rocky Pond Rd.	B. & M. Harris
06-08	8	Errol	Mountain Pond Rd.	R. Quinn
06-12	12	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-15	5	Errol	Mile Long East transect	R. Quinn
06-17	1	New London	Bunker Loop Trail	R. Vernon
July	2	New Hampton	Old Bristol Rd.	J. Merrill
Eastern Towhee				
06-10	3	Plymouth	brush lot along Ledgeside Dr.	J. Williams
06-13	1		BBS Epsom Route	P. Newbern, G. Stansfield
06-19	2	New Boston	Joe English Hill	J. Romano
07-11	2	Tamworth	Rt. 41	T. Vazzano
Chipping Sparrow				
07-25	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Field Sparrow				
06-12	1	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-05	2	Warren	powerline off Rt. 25C	A. Ports
07-05	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
07-11	3	Tamworth	Rt. 41	T. Vazzano
Vesper Sparrow				
06-04	1	Piermont	River Rd.	P. Hunt
06-10	9	Concord	airport	P. Hunt
06-16	2		Pease Int'l. Tradeport	P. Hunt
07-04	1	Manchester	airport	P. Hunt
07-04	1	Amherst	field off Merrimack Rd.	P. Hunt
07-04	11	Concord	airport	P. Hunt
07-04	1	Merrimack	behind Anheuser-Busch brewery	P. Hunt
07-08	1	Lebanon	airport	P. Hunt
07-09	1	Henniker	Old Concord Rd.	P. Hunt
07-13	1	Claremont	airport	P. Hunt
Savannah Sparrow				
06-15	10	Errol	Floating Island Bog	R. Quinn
06-17	17	Lancaster	Lost Nation	P. Hunt
06-17	15	Whitefield	airport	P. Hunt, D. Govatski
06-23	5	Pittsburg	Day Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-23	5	Pittsburg	Tabor Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	3	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-30	14	Piermont	River Rd.	P. Hunt
06-30	11	Whitefield	airport	P. Hunt

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Savannah Sparrow (continued)				
07-04	7	Concord	airport	P. Hunt
07-04	5	Merrimack	behind Anheuser-Busch brewery	P. Hunt
07-08	15	Lebanon	airport	P. Hunt
07-09	20		Pease Int'l. Tradeport	P. Hunt, D. DeLuca
Grasshopper Sparrow				
06-18	1	Amherst	Merrimack Rd. field e. of Rt. 122	R. Frechette
07-04	5	Merrimack	behind Anheuser-Busch brewery	P. Hunt
07-04	2	Concord	airport	P. Hunt
07-04	3	Amherst	field off Merrimack Rd.	P. Hunt
07-09	2		Pease Int'l. Tradeport	P. Hunt, D. DeLuca
07-16	1	Derry	old landfill	P. Hunt
07-17	1	Whitefield	Mt. Washington Regional Airport	D. Fortin, J. Rhymer, et al.
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow				
06-21	6	Greenland	Portsmouth Country Club	S. Mirick
06-26	6	Newmarket	Lubberland Creek Marsh	S. Mirick
06-26	7	Newfields	railroad trestle marsh	S. Mirick
06-26	7	Stratham	Chapmans Landing	S. Mirick
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow				
06-16	2	Stratham	Chapmans Landing	P. Hunt
06-26	4	Stratham	Chapmans Landing salt marsh	S. Mirick
Sharp-tailed Sparrow sp.				
06-05	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
07-05	3	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Lincoln's Sparrow				
06-11	2	Second College Grant	n. of Swift Diamond R.	L. Deming, K. Evans
06-12	6	Pittsburg	Magalloway Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-15	3	Errol	Floating Island Bog	R. Quinn
06-22	1	Second College Grant	Alder Brook near Swift Diamond R.	L. Deming, M. Nelson
06-24	4	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	9	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-03	3	Pittsburg		R. Woodward
07-06	1	Dixville	off Rt. 26	P. Newbern
White-throated Sparrow				
06-01	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-09	33	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
Dark-eyed Junco				
06-06	1	Enfield	Bridge St.	P. Hunt
06-12	32	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-22	2	Harts Location	Mt. Willard peak	M.& G. Prazar
06-24	17	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	5	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-11	1	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake dam	P. Hunt
07-15	7	T&M Purchase	Great Gulf headwall	C. Martin, R. White
07-15	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
07-21	5	Sargents Purchase	near Cow Pasture, Mt. Washington	C. Martin, J. Allen, J. Carreaux, B. DeWolf

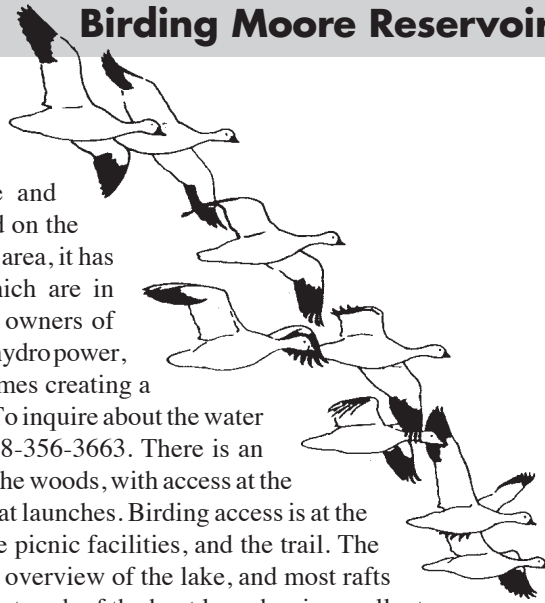
<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
06-20	4	Pittsburg	Hall Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-23	3	Pittsburg	Coon Brook Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Indigo Bunting				
06-01	1	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
06-08	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
06-13	1	Pittsburg	Big Brook Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
Bobolink				
06-04	44	Piermont	River Rd.	P. Hunt
06-15	3	Errol	Floating Island Bog	R. Quinn
06-16	45	Brentwood	County Farm	P. Hunt
06-16	6	Dover	County Farm	P. Hunt
06-17	9	Whitefield	airport	P. Hunt, D. Govatski
06-17	17	Lancaster	Lost Nation	P. Hunt
06-17	20	Colebrook	Bear Rock Rd.	P. Hunt
06-18	6	Errol	Leonard Marsh	R. Quinn
06-19	13	Amherst	field off Merrimack Rd.	P. Hunt
06-27	3	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	R. Quinn
07-09	2		Pease Int'l. Tradeport	P. Hunt, D. DeLuca
07-11	16	Sandwich	Whiteface Intervale	T. Vazzano
Eastern Meadowlark				
06-04	10	Piermont	River Rd.	P. Hunt
06-10	2	Concord	airport	P. Hunt
06-16	3	Brentwood	County Farm	P. Hunt
06-16	4	Dover	County Farm	P. Hunt
06-17	3	Whitefield	airport	P. Hunt, D. Govatski
06-19	7	Amherst	field off Merrimack Rd.	P. Hunt
07-04	6	Merrimack	behind Anheuser-Busch brewery	P. Hunt
07-08	11	Lebanon	airport	P. Hunt
07-09	24		Pease Int'l. Tradeport	P. Hunt, D. DeLuca
Rusty Blackbird				
06-07	1	Dixville	along Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-10	4	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-11	2	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-22	6	Pittsburg	Deer Mountain Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-26	1	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	A. & B. Delorey
07-02	1	Pittsburg	Deer Mtn. Campground	R. Woodward
07-09	1	Errol	Chewonki Marsh, Lake Umbagog	R. Quinn
Brown-headed Cowbird				
06-13	2	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, J. Kanter
Orchard Oriole				
06-02	1	Rye	Star Island Banding Station	R. Suomala, et al.
Purple Finch				
06-02	14	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-08	6	Gilmanton	Crystal Lake, Gilmanton Iron Works	W. Arms
06-09	7	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-19	4	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	7	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-04	2	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
07-09	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
Red Crossbill				
06-12	1	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-21	1	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-23	1	Pittsburg	town	E. Nielsen
06-24	1	Pittsburg	Second Connecticut Lake	E. Nielsen
06-26	1	Pittsburg	Magalloway Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-08	1	Errol	Rt. 16	R. Quinn
07-09	1	Errol	Chewonki Marsh, Lake Umbagog	R. Quinn
White-winged Crossbill				
06-08	4	Errol	Mountain Pond Rd.	R. Quinn
06-10	4	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
07-03	8	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	R. Woodward
Pine Siskin				
06-02	14	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-04	10	T&M Purchase	Caps Ridge Trail	T. Vazzano, B. Bruni
06-06	4	Enfield	Main St.	P. Hunt
06-09	6	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-12	9	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-24	12	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-25	16	Columbia	residence	D.& B. Killam
07-05	1	Pittsburg	Deer Mtn. Campground	R. Woodward
American Goldfinch				
07-16	2	Rye	White & Seavey Islands	D. Hayward, D. Trested
Evening Grosbeak				
06-01	10	Errol	Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
06-09	20	Cambridge	off Rt. 26	R. Quinn
06-12	6	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
06-12	7	Pittsburg	Smith Brook Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-13	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
06-17	13	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
06-17	3	Chester	Hillside Haven	A.& B. Delorey
06-19	4	Newbury	Stoney Brook WS	C.& C. Martin
06-20	8	Pittsburg	Hall Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-21	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
06-22	2	Gilmanton	Crystal Lake, Gilmanton Iron Works	W. Arms
06-24	6		BBS Wilmot Route	P. Newbern, B. Vernon
06-25	2	Rumney	Avery Brook Rd., WMNF	J. Williams
06-25	6	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
06-28	3	Lyman	Dodge Pond	S. Turner
06-28	2	Haverhill	Haverhill Corner residence	M. Mudge
07-01	2	New London	auto survey route	A.& R. Vernon
07-04	2	New London	Hilltop Place	H.& P. Damon
07-04	2	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
07-05	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
07-08	5	Columbia	residence	D.& B. Killam
07-15	2	Bow	Bow Bog Rd. residence	J.& G. Tasker
07-25	3	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
07-26	5	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright

Birding Moore Reservoir

by Sandy Turner

Moore Reservoir is New Hampshire's fourth-largest lake and completely undeveloped. Located on the Connecticut River in the Littleton area, it has seven boat launches, two of which are in Vermont. Since it is used by the owners of Samuel P. Moore Dam to generate hydropower, the water level fluctuates, sometimes creating a wide shoreline on which to walk. To inquire about the water level, you may call toll free 1-888-356-3663. There is an excellent three-mile trail through the woods, with access at the Dodge Hill and North Littleton boat launches. Birding access is at the dam, the launches where there are picnic facilities, and the trail. The dam parking lot provides the best overview of the lake, and most rafts of ducks seem to be in this area, but each of the boat launches is excellent for closer views. A telescope is very helpful.



Because of the rapid and sometimes extreme changes in the water level, Common Loons cannot nest, but some of the unattached population use it whenever the lake is ice-free. Occasionally, Red-throated Loons are seen in the fall. In April, 1999, there was a fallout of migrating Red-necked and Horned Grebes.

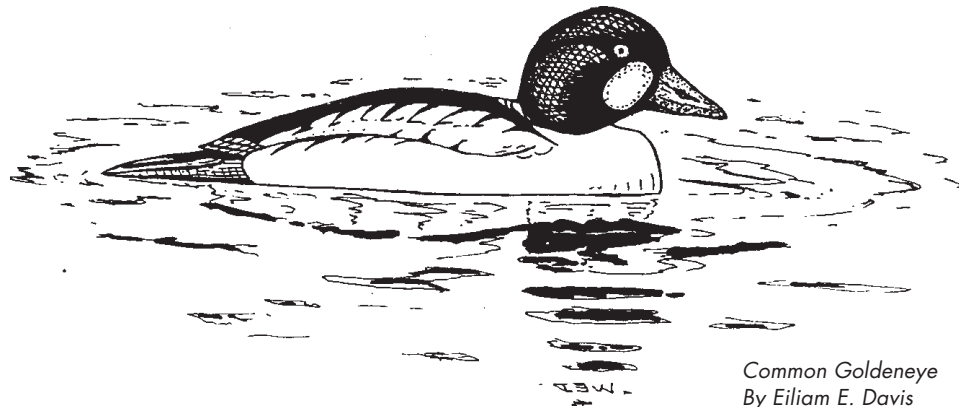
Moore Reservoir generally ices in by late December and is then used extensively by ice fishermen. Although allowed, bob houses are not used, and therefore the holes are exposed. Scavengers such as ravens, crows, and gulls check the holes for fish (and lunch) remains. Since the closure of the nearby Littleton open dump, fewer gulls can be found. In the recent past, as many as 1,000 gulls would congregate on the ice.

By mid-April the ice is breaking up and a "Spanish Armada" of debris is floating around the lake. Small flocks of Brant migrate through at this time. Large V's of Snow and Canada Geese also fly the Connecticut River Valley.

The trail built by the New Hampshire Youth Conservation Corps in 1991-1992 winds through mixed woods, which contains softwoods and hardwoods of many ages. Because some of the shoreline was farmland until 50 years ago, the woodland is not old. Fields and recent forest cutting a few hundred yards from shore provide some open habitat. A walk along the trail during spring and fall migrations should produce many species of passerines. Very few records exist for this segment of the bird population at Moore, however.

There is also a short nature/fishing trail below the dam. During winter, the open water there attracts ducks and the occasional Belted Kingfisher or Bald Eagle. In spring, swallows gather over the dam, with Northern Rough-winged Swallows commonly seen.

Bob Bradley, of Littleton, has been keeping records at Moore for many years; October and November's duck migration is well documented by him. He has seen flocks of Buffleheads with up to 48 individuals, many Oldsquaw and Common



Common Goldeneye
By Eiliam E. Davis

Mergansers, a few Common Goldeneyes, Lesser Scaup, and Red-breasted Mergansers, but no teal or Wood Ducks. Black Scoters have been seen both months in rafts estimated at 450, while White-winged Scoters are less common but regular. Surf Scoters are rarest of the scoters with only three sightings, all in October.

There are few appropriate spots for shorebird use. When the water is low, most of the shoreline is rocky. A sandspit a few hundred yards east of the dam is visited regularly during fall migration, according to Bob's records. He has documented Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, and small flocks of Killdeer. Least Sandpipers and Semipalmated Plovers have been seen just south of Moore at Monroe.

Mark and I spent three summers several years ago boating Moore Reservoir searching for threatened and endangered species for the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. We saw many Ospreys; although none was nesting then, an Osprey nest has been newly discovered on the power line in Vermont. During our survey project, five Bald Eagles scavenged just below the dam after a fish kill. In August, 1999, seven Bald Eagles were sighted at the north end, which is where we had noted the most use by them. Regular searches have found no nesting activity.

Other interesting sightings in the past few years include Black Tern, Ruddy Duck, Redhead, Lapland Longspur, Snow Bunting, Iceland Gull, and Northern Saw-whet Owl. Surely Moore Reservoir deserves more attention by New Hampshire's birding community.

Sandy Turner

Sandy lives five miles from Moore Reservoir, next to a small pond in Lyman. She has worked on many projects for ASNH, including serving as regional coordinator for the Atlas of Breeding Birds in New Hampshire, president of the Seacoast Chapter, and as field biologist at Lake Umbagog's Bald Eagle nest site and White Mountain National Forest Breeding Bird Surveys. She and her husband Mark just returned from wintering in southeast Arizona, where they led field trips to find the unique birds there.

Trends in New London Area Birds

by Bob Vernon

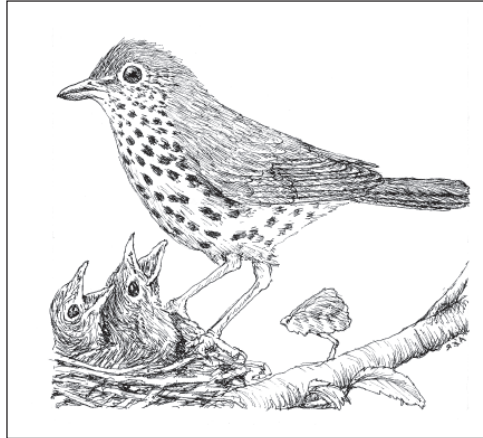
Watching and listening to birds is always fun. For me, making a game out of it by counting the birds makes it even more fun. Besides keeping a life list, state list, year list, etc., I have kept track of the birds I find on certain routes I travel each year. I started doing this in the summer of 1973. Looking at the data accumulated, it is interesting to note changes in bird populations. Before discussing the data, I will briefly describe the surveying methods. I made observations on seven walking routes and, with my wife, on an automobile route. For the walking routes, each time a bird was observed, usually by hearing vocalizations, I stopped and made a notation in a notebook. Sometimes I stood still for a minute or two trying to identify a faint sound. I averaged a little less than a mile per hour.

The auto route was done by a method similar to that used by the Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We stopped about every half mile and got out and watched and listened for three minutes. We have 33 stops (the Fish and Wildlife surveys have 50 stops.) The auto route and the walking routes were done only in June (rarely in early July) and early in the morning, when there is no rain or appreciable wind. We usually waited until after the first week in June so as not to miss the late migrants.

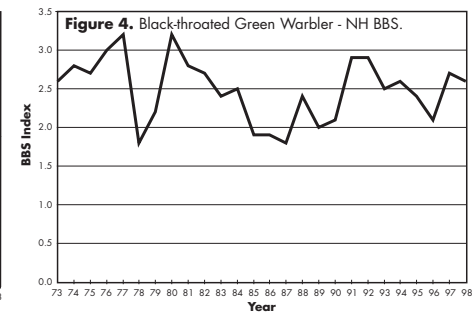
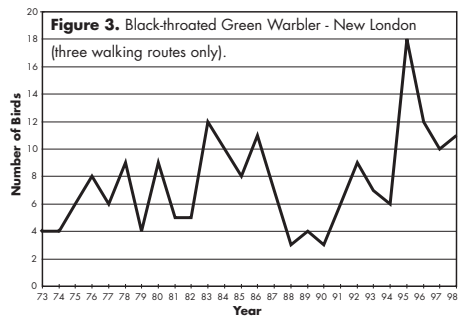
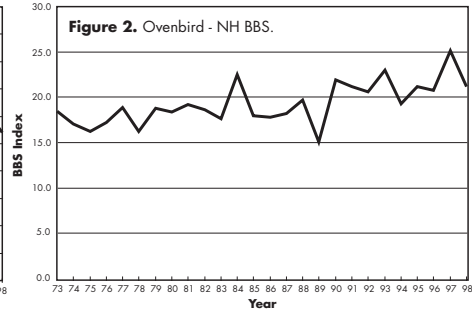
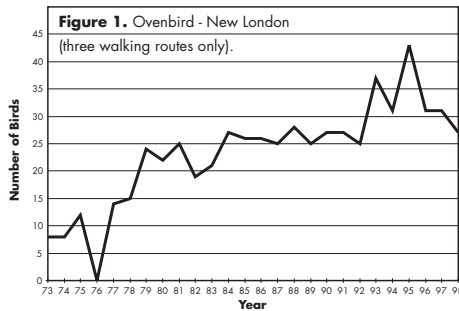
The walking routes were mostly in woods and included three ponds with accompanying marshes, a field, a gravel area, and eight houses. The auto route skirts two lakes and goes through the center of New London but is mostly along side roads. Three of the walking routes have been surveyed from 1973 to 1998. All eight routes, including the auto route, have been done from 1980 to 1998. There has been little change in the environment of these routes over the years.

Looking over the data accumulated, it is obvious that the number of birds keeps changing. Why do bird populations vary? Some reasons are easy to come by. For instance, changes in the food supply at the nesting site, and for migrants, the food supplies en route during migration and in the winter locations. In addition, populations are affected by environmental conditions such as weather and pressure from predators and competing species. Then there is the availability of nesting sites, which may depend, for example, on there being sufficient numbers of dead trees around.

Surveys reflect not only the actual number of birds but also the observing conditions: weather, time of year, size of the territory, keenness of the observer, etc. Birds are generally more vocal during nesting than after the young have fledged. In relying on



Wood Thrush by Andrea Robbins

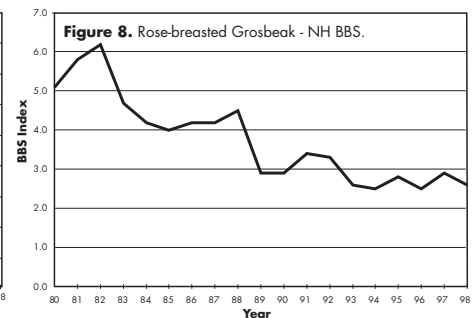
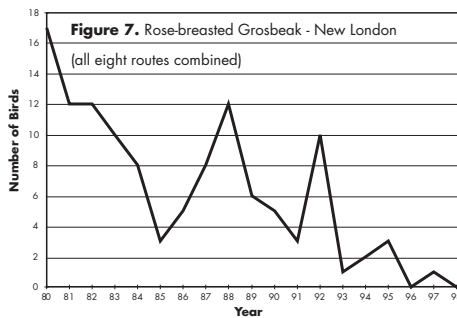
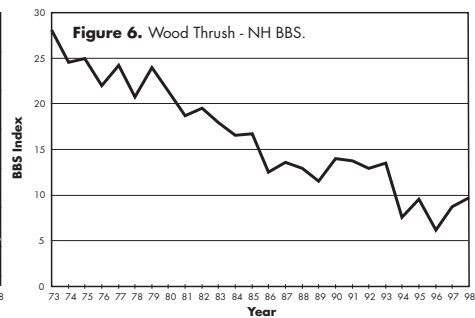
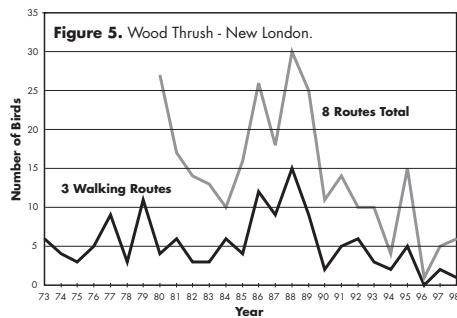


vocalizations, June is probably the best time, although late for some species (woodpeckers, e.g.) and early for others (goldfinches and waxwings).

When doing a route, either walking or auto, only a sampling is possible. If the method of surveying is kept constant from year to year, however, the results should reflect any actual change in numbers, but there will be “chance” variations. Often a species will increase from one year to the next, and then it will decrease. The graphs above illustrate this.

Although our results generally agree with the results of the BBS, there are some differences. The Ovenbird data shown in Figure 1 shows a general increase from 1973 to 1998. The BBS data for the entire state (24 routes) shown in Figure 2 shows only a slight increase. (The Breeding Bird Surveys started in 1966, but I show only the results for the same years as my own data. BBS results can be found on the Internet at the address www.mbr.nbs.gov/bbs/bbs.html and are made available by courtesy of Sauer, J. R., J. E. Hines, G. Gough, I. Thomas, and B. G. Peterjohn, 1997. *The North American Breeding Bird Survey Results and Analysis. Version 96.4.* Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD.) Another example, Figure 3, shows a slight increase in Black-throated Green Warblers over the years. The BBS results, Figure 4, show no long-term change. Cases where there are differences between our results and those of the entire state may be due to changes in habitat. The BBS results for the entire state may be affected by an increasing number of houses on the routes and therefore less forest. As indicated above, the habitat of our routes has remained about the same over the years.

I am concerned about the decrease in the number of Wood Thrushes, one of my favorite birds because of its beautiful song. In Figure 5, I show the results both for the 26-year period for which I have data from three walking routes, and for the 19-year period for which we have data from all eight routes. Figure 6 graphs the BBS results



for all of New Hampshire for the 26-year period. Although not shown here, the BBS results for all of the U.S. and Canada show a similar decline. The decrease seems to be widespread. Could the decrease be due to changes in the winter habitats of these birds? Rose-breasted Grosbeaks are another concern. Our results and the state's, Figures 7 and 8, both show declines.

Presumably, these declines reflect changes in the environment. Just what causes the changes in a particular case is not always easy to see. Does the change reflect a change in the environment in the birds' winter homes or just a very local change, such as the maturing of the forests where the routes are? One needs to be cautious here. The average number of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks on our routes is only slightly greater than six. Clearly, the missing of just one pair of breeding birds could make a significant statistical difference. I have more confidence in the Ovenbird data, because the average is about 26.

Overall, there are some increases and decreases. Although I lament the decline in Wood Thrushes and a few other species, I cannot complain about birds in general. (My studies are limited to certain areas around New London, and this excludes sea birds, waders, nocturnal birds, and, in fact, most of the more than 125 species that are known to breed in New Hampshire.) I feel it is important to keep tabs on bird populations, so we can anticipate problems, such as the declines caused by DDT. In any case, it has been fun gathering the data.

Bob Vernon lives in New London and is active in the Soo-Nipi Chapter. He also volunteers in the Natural History Department of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire in Concord. He received Audubon's Goodhue-Elkins Award in 1999 in recognition of his contributions to the study of birds in New Hampshire.

Research

Forest Fragmentation and the Ovenbird

by J. Daniel Lambert

For over two decades, ecologists examining effects of forest fragmentation¹ on songbirds have focused considerable attention on the Ovenbird. Its wide geographic distribution, conspicuous song, and association with large tracts of mature forest help to explain its appeal as a study organism. One prominent ornithologist recently referred to the species as the “lab rat” of fragmentation research. The extensive Ovenbird literature has painted a revealing portrait of this neotropical migratory warbler. Still, the portrait remains incomplete.

Research performed in agricultural landscapes has shown that Ovenbirds face a variety of problems in small forest fragments, including low availability of food, reduced success finding a mate (pairing success), and nest failure caused by high rates of predation and brood parasitism. These negative effects have contributed to sharp population declines in heavily fragmented areas of the Midwest. Despite the discovery of clear agricultural impacts on Ovenbirds, the effects of forest management on the species have remained shrouded in mystery. Only in the last few years have ornithologists started to investigate effects on Ovenbirds from forest fragmentation created by timber harvesting. The four studies summarized below tackle this question.

John Hagan² reported on the fragmentation effects from clear cutting in Maine’s industrial forests. He and his colleagues actually found more Ovenbirds in forests fragmented by very recent clear cutting than they did in undisturbed forest tracts. However, only 53% of males in fragmented forest patches were observed with mates, compared with 80% in large blocks of contiguous habitat. The authors suggest that crowding may compromise the ability of males to defend territories and attract females.

A similar study in New Brunswick³ indicates that crowding in forest remnants gradually subsides in the years following clearcutting. Sabine found that small, isolated forest patches surrounded by young (<15 yr) regenerating forest contained Ovenbirds

-
1. Forest fragmentation is the process whereby a large forest is reduced in size or separated into small forests surrounded by a different habitat, such as fields, houses, parking lots, or shrublands.
 2. Hagan, J.M., III, W.M. Vander Haegen, and P.S. McKinley. 1996. The early development of forest fragmentation effects on birds. *Conservation Biology* 10:188-202.
 3. Sabine, D.L., A.H. Boer, and W.B. Ballard. 1996. Impacts of habitat fragmentation on pairing success of male Ovenbirds, *Seiurus aurocapillus*, in southern New Brunswick. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 110:688-693.
 4. King, D.I., C.R. Griffin, and R.M. DeGraaf. 1996. Effects of clearcutting on habitat use and reproductive success of the Ovenbird in forested landscapes. *Conservation Biology* 10:1380-1386.
 5. Lambert, J.D., and S.J. Hannon. 2000. Short-term effects of upland timber harvest on Ovenbird abundance, territory characteristics, and pairing success in riparian buffer strips. *Auk* 117: in press.

Metric Conversion: 1 meter = 3.28 feet, 1 hectare = 2.5 acres.

in comparable numbers to nearby, contiguous forests. Pairing success was also similar.

David King⁴ provides further insight into the effects of clearcutting on Ovenbirds with results from the Saco Ranger District of New Hampshire's White Mountain National Forest. He found that Ovenbird abundance in the forest adjacent to recent, small clearcuts (<6 years, <12 hectares) did not differ from that found in the forest interior. In fact, Ovenbirds within the first 200 meters of the edge were just as likely to find mates as those settling 200-400 meters in the interior. Although edge-dwelling Ovenbirds had lower nest survival because of higher rates of predation, these birds re-nested and produced a similar number of young. Keep in mind that the edge-dwelling Ovenbirds were not in small forest fragments but on the edge of a large forest tract.

In the latest addition to this growing body of knowledge, Susan Hannon and I⁵ examined the effects of upland clearcutting on Ovenbirds in adjacent riparian forests. When upland forest is cut, a buffer strip is left uncut along rivers and streams, so habitat remains there for Ovenbirds. In these riparian buffers, we examined pairing success and changes in territory size or location. In a pre- and post-harvest study, we looked at Ovenbirds in buffer strips of varying widths in Alberta's boreal mixed-wood forest. Buffers ranging in width from 20-80 meters failed to support Ovenbirds in the year following upland harvest. However, harvesting did not significantly influence abundance or territory size in 100- or 200-meter buffers. The location of individual Ovenbird territories in 100-meter buffers shifted towards the water (away from the cut) and included more habitat adjacent to the water's edge than before harvest. Despite this shift, males were still successful in attracting mates. Post-harvest territory position did not change in 200-meter buffers.

Of course, these studies raise as many questions as they address. For example, are Ovenbirds truly representative of other forest-dwelling songbirds? Is pairing success a reliable index of reproductive success? What proportion of the landscape can be harvested, and at what intervals, in a manner that sustains forest songbird populations in the long-term? Continuing research will provide further information to guide forest songbird conservation in landscapes managed for timber production.

Dan Lambert is a Conservation Biologist with the Vermont Institute of Natural Science. His Ovenbird research was in fulfillment of his Masters of Science degree at the University of Alberta, Canada in 1998.



Ovenbird by Andrea Robbins

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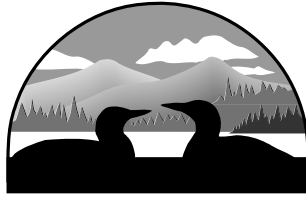
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Abbreviations Used

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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