

# **New Hampshire Bird Records**



**A First State Record!**

**Spring 2000**

**Vol. 19, No. 1**

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## About the Cover

The cover photo is a LeConte's Sparrow by Daniel Hayward. See page 34 for an article discussing this unusual visitor.

### In This Issue

- A new photo quiz
- Find out where to bird on Great Bay
- A first state record — LeConte's Sparrow
- Summary of spring bird banding on Star Island

### In Memoriam: Anna Frances "Nan" Turner Waldron (1922–2000)

*Nan Turner Waldron enjoyed a profound spiritual connection with the natural world that first took root during childhood summers spent in the Maine north woods and grew strong during later years spent on the Cape Cod dunes near Nauset, Massachusetts. She nourished her lifelong appreciation of New England's varied wild landscapes through hiking, birding, and nature photography, and shared her insights with the rest of us through her teaching and her writing. Along with her husband, Ted, she walked a path that we all would do well to tread: instilling an abiding love of nature in her children and her grandchildren.*

*In more recent years, Nan was a generous supporter of New Hampshire Bird Records. Several of us who enjoy contributing to, editing, or simply reading this publication wanted to honor her memory by sponsoring this issue. Nan is greatly missed, but not forgotten, as her spirit remains here among us.*

*"How can I say this place is gone?  
When I still can hear the weathervane protest the squally wind  
And see in detail all the scenes beyond the panes of glass,  
Can walk again beside the waving grasses where the sparrow sings  
And watch the flaming sunrise creep across the morning sky?  
In my mind's eye remains the mystery and the wonder of it all  
While still the journey lies ahead..."*

*By NAN TURNER WALDRON,  
A POEM INCLUDED IN HER BOOK, *Journey to Outermost House* (1991)*

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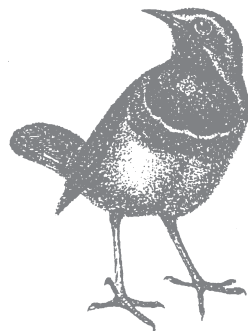
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## Spring Season: March through May

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First, it is important to understand that even though we do not publish all reports, each plays a valuable role in creating an overall picture of a given season.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.

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

Great Cormorant	Peregrine Falcon	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Snowy Egret	Ring-necked Pheasant	White-breasted Nuthatch
Green Heron	Ruffed Grouse	Brown Creeper
American Black Duck	Ring-billed Gull	Eastern Bluebird
Mallard	Herring Gull	Northern Mockingbird
Common Goldeneye	Great Black-backed Gull	European Starling
Common Merganser	Mourning Dove	Cedar Waxwing
Northern Harrier	Great Horned Owl	Song Sparrow
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Barred Owl	Northern Cardinal
Cooper's Hawk	Belted Kingfisher	Purple Finch
Northern Goshawk	Downy Woodpecker	House Finch
Red-shouldered Hawk	Pileated Woodpecker	Pine Siskin
Broad-winged Hawk	Common Raven	American Goldfinch
Red-tailed Hawk	Horned Lark	Evening Grosbeak
American Kestrel	Black-capped Chickadee	

## Spring Season (March 1–May 31, 2000)

This season marks the tenth year I have summarized spring sightings for *New Hampshire Bird Records*. Sometimes it's hard to believe that it's been that long. On the other hand, sometimes it's hard to believe that it's seemed so short. In any event, it seems appropriate at this juncture to reflect a little on the decade past before I jump feet first into the year at hand.

What can happen to an avifauna in ten years, at least from the perspective of a single season? There was a Band-tailed Pigeon in North Conway in late March, 1991. There was a LeConte's Sparrow on White Island in May of 2000. Both of these birds were lost, far from their normal haunts in western North America, and as such were little more than blips on the ornithological radar. Or were they? Not too long before 1991, Red-bellied Woodpeckers were still a hot item when they showed up in southern New Hampshire. By 1991 they were more common, and the expansion has continued north along the Connecticut and Merrimack Rivers. I'm not saying that we should expect New Hampshire to be colonized by Band-tailed Pigeons and LeConte's Sparrows any time soon, but one can only wonder what was going through people's minds in the 1960s when Northern Mockingbirds, Northern Cardinals, and Tufted Titmice began to show up. Now all three of these species are found north of the notches and presumably still expanding their ranges.

My point, of course, is that we can't really put any specific record in perspective without a long-term data set to provide context. Without the context — without a consistent collection of records with which to make comparisons — it is much harder to learn what is going on. Many times in these pages you have seen me bemoan the lack of coastal shorebird reports, and I think I've finally given up. Now it appears that raptor migration

counts are the next to fall by the wayside. It would also appear, despite what I said in the previous paragraph, that Red-bellied Woodpeckers are slowly declining in New Hampshire. There were only two reports this year, both from the periphery of the state, and the prospects are not good. That, at least, is the conclusion that would be drawn if a naïve reader were to pick up the last few issues of *New Hampshire Bird Records*.

Red-bellied Woodpeckers are not declining, at least as far as I can tell from other (but — and this is critical — **unpublished**) sources of data. They are simply not being reported. They have joined coastal shorebirds and spring raptors in the collective dust heap of our own shifting priorities. What do we stress when we bird in spring? To a



Northern Cardinal  
by E.J. Sawyer

large extent, it is the colorful arrival of neotropical migrants, the flood of waterfowl with the opening of lakes, and a few smatterings of everything else. But, at the same time, we are still **seeing** hawks and shorebirds and Red-bellied Woodpeckers; we are just not **reporting** them. We can't report (or publish) everything, so all I ask is that we try to report more evenly, and perhaps comment on the absence of something you would usually expect if it is indeed not present. In this vein, I encourage spring birders to send in more than slips. How about a written overview of your impressions of the season? Did you look for hawks and not find any? Did things seem more or less common? Earlier or later than usual? We all change in the way we report birds, but perhaps by forcing ourselves to look more closely at the whole tapestry, rather than the individual threads, we can do a better job at documenting what is really going on.

OK, so that was more long-winded than anticipated; let's take a quick look at the threads and tapestry of Spring 2000! Weather-wise, March was exceptionally warm, but April and May averaged near normal temperatures. April, however, was much wetter than usual. If there is any broad conclusion about the season's weather, it would be that it was highly varied, a case where the individual threads may be more important than the overall tapestry. Some of the warmest days turned out to be in April, or even late March, while May was often dreary and relatively cool. It would also appear that local conditions varied much across the state, with observers commenting on fall-outs in the Connecticut Valley that did not occur in the southeast, and vice versa.

In light of the above, there were few, if any, widespread migration "events" like last spring's Snow Goose flight and early May warbler fallout. Instead, I'd like to use this space to commend observers in the northern part of the state for the increasing numbers of reports that they are submitting. This spring we had better than usual coverage of Pittsburg in particular, as well as the Colebrook and Jefferson areas, and continued good reporting from Littleton. It is also worth pointing out here that a number of noteworthy records came from the Isles of Shoals, a part of the state that is normally devoid of active observers.

Perhaps the only general trend for the spring would be the apparent increases in reports of normally rare species such as Black Vulture, Greater White-fronted Goose, and Acadian Flycatcher. Are these increases "real," or just another wayward thread in the tapestry? Time will tell, time will tell; ten years is not always all that long.

*Pam Hunt  
Spring Editor*



*White-fronted Geese*

# Loons through Vultures

The only Red-throated Loon reported was inland in early April, and a bit early at that: the lake where it was seen was still more than half frozen. Single Common Loons appeared in both the north and south in late March, but the main push did not occur until the last third of April. Snow and rain in late April grounded large numbers of loons and grebes on Moore Reservoir, while smaller numbers were brought down on Mascoma Lake four days earlier. Pied-billed Grebes arrived somewhat on the early side, and a Red-necked Grebe in Lisbon on March 31 was Bob Bradley's second-ever March record for the region. Double-crested Cormorants also appear to have shown up in the Connecticut Valley long before appearing on the coast.

One of the undisputed highlights of the season was an **American White Pelican**, only the second record for the state, that visited Harris Pond in Pelham on May 23. This was presumably the same bird that spent much of the spring at a pond in nearby Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, and was unofficially reported (to Massachusetts Audubon!) in Nashua on May 24. A Great Blue Heron in Manchester on March 5 was over two weeks earlier than the main push in late March, and one wonders if it had spent the winter in the area. The 31 Glossy Ibis seen from the Isles of Shoals is one of the highest counts for the state since 1996. Is this species shifting its feeding area north into Maine, as might be happening with some heron species? Last, but not least, this spring there were two well-described **Black Vultures** in southeastern New Hampshire. How much longer will it be before this expanding species becomes annual in occurrence in the state?

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Red-throated Loon</b>				
04-07	1	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Common Loon</b>				
03-24	1	Auburn	Massabesic Lake	C. Martin
03-26	1	Dummer	Androscoggin R. at Magill Bay	P. Connolly
04-19	28		Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
04-27	45	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-12	27	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-18	24	Monroe	Comerford Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Pied-billed Grebe</b>				
03-19	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	G. Prazar
03-19	1	Concord	Terrill Park	N., J. & K. Aldrich
03-20	2	Kingston	Powwow Pond	K. Folsom
03-24	4	Salem	World End Pond	K. Folsom
03-31	3	Hinsdale	Connecticut R. above Vernon Dam	C. Martin
<b>Horned Grebe</b>				
04-07	1	Newbury	Lake Sunapee	P. Newbern
04-19	4	Errol	Lake Umbagog	R. Quinn
04-23	5	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
04-27	12	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Red-necked Grebe</b>				
03-31	1	Lisbon	Ammonoosuc R.	B. Bradley
04-01	14	N. Hampton	Little Boars Head	A.& B. Delorey
04-10	22	Monroe	Comerford Dam	B. Bradley
04-23	5	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-27	41	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Northern Gannet</b>				
04-23	10	Rye	Ragged Neck, Rye Ledge	D. Donsker
05-10	24	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-17	25	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala
<b>American White Pelican</b>				
05-23	1	Pelham	Harris Pond	D. Hunt
<b>Double-crested Cormorant</b>				
03-31	1	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
04-04	8	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
04-21	32	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
04-28	400	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-31	60	Woodstock	Pemigewasset River Valley	C. Martin
<b>American Bittern</b>				
04-16	1	Lancaster	flooded meadow edge	B. Bradley
04-20	1	Dummer	Pontook Marsh	C. Martin
04-23	1	Hopkinton	Chase WS	R. Woodward
04-28	2	Newbury	Hay NWR	P. Newbern
<b>Great Blue Heron</b>				
03-05	1	Manchester	Merrimack R. from Rt. 93	J.& R. Williams
<b>Great Egret</b>				
05-09	1	Monroe	Connecticut R. above McIndoe Dam	E. Emery, P. Powers
<b>Little Blue Heron</b>				
04-30	1	N. Hampton	Rt. 1A marsh	K.& M. Prazar
05-03	1	Durham	Adams Pt.	K. Stapelfeldt
<b>Glossy Ibis</b>				
04-30	7	N. Hampton	Little River saltmarsh	R. Aaronian
05-04	31	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Black Vulture</b>				
04-20	1	Manchester	Lake Ave., over Elliot Hospital	G.& N. Belden
05-19	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>				
03-02	1	Madbury	fields near Bellamy Reservoir	T. Chase
03-02	3	Nashua	Daniel Webster Hgwy. & Rt. 3, Exit 3	J. Ayer
03-03	1	Bedford	Nathan Cutler Dr. residence	J.& A. Nelson
03-03	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-16	8	Lancaster	w. of town	D. Skeels
03-29	20	Plymouth	Tenny Mtn. Hgwy.	J. Williams



**A** noteworthy trend this season was an increase in waterfowl reports from the North Country. Was this a result of the early thaw or more active observers? In either case I hope the pattern continues — too much of what we know about migration in the state comes from the more southerly portions. While last spring's Snow Goose flight was not repeated, New Hampshire was instead home to three different **Greater White-fronted Geese** between early March and late April. It is worth noting that these were the only spring reports going back at least as far as 1985. I wouldn't be surprised, however, if they're not the last: all three individuals were of the Greenland race, whose population is increasing. More and more Greater White-fronted Geese are wintering in the northeastern United States, and they have to get through New Hampshire to get back to Greenland. Another noteworthy goose was a Richardson's Canada Goose in Durham on March 6. This is a small subspecies of Canada Goose that breeds in the high Arctic and normally winters in the south-central United States.

A well-described **Eurasian Wigeon** in Colebrook provides the first record of this species away from Great Bay. Its American relatives were more widely reported than usual, especially in the north. Southeastern New Hampshire continues to be the main location for large concentrations of Ring-necked Ducks in March. Note that the large number of Common Eiders on May 30 includes 60 chicks, and that **all** the birds on May 31 were young — the largest group of chicks seen during the month. Harlequin Ducks are not a common species in New Hampshire, even in winter, when they are common in Maine and Massachusetts. As a result, a group of five males on Star Island in early May was an unusual treat. Steve Mirick continues to count roosting Hooded Mergansers on Great Bay. His count of 206 on March 14 was his second-highest total in the last four years. A Red-breasted Merganser on Mascoma Lake on April 8 was much earlier than usual for an inland record; the next sighting, from Littleton on April 27, is much more typical.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Greater White-fronted Goose</b>				
03-04	1	Durham	Oyster R. from Durham Industrial Pk.	D.& T. Donsker, S. Mirick, D. Blezard
04-06	1	N. Hampton	Rt. 111A	S. Mirick
04-15	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	P. Hunt
04-24	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	J. McIlwaine
04-27	1	N. Hampton	Lamprey CA	D. Donsker
<b>Snow Goose</b>				
03-01	1	Durham	fields off Rt. 155A	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
03-09	7	Haverhill	flooded field	B. Bradley
03-16	75	Lyme	corn field along River Rd.	S. Reed
03-18	10	Columbia	residence	B.& D. Killam
04-07	16	Haverhill	flooded field	B. Bradley
<b>Canada Goose</b>				
03-04	1500	Durham	Oyster R.	S. Mirick, et al.
03-29	800	Haverhill	flooded field	E. Emery, P. Powers, B. Bradley

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Canada Goose — Richardson's subsp.</b>				
03-06	1	Durham	stubble field on Rt. 155A	D.& T. Donsker
<b>Brant</b>				
04-23	6	Rye	Ragged Neck	D. Donsker
05-10	35	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala
05-26	14	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Mute Swan</b>				
03-21	2	Salem	World End Pond	K. Folsom
03-31	1	Hinsdale	Connecticut R. above Vernon Dam	C. Martin
<b>Wood Duck</b>				
03-02	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-09	6	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-10	1	Tamworth	Rt. 113	T. Vazzano
<b>Gadwall</b>				
03-20	1	Durham	Jackson Landing	D.& T. Donsker
04-07	4	Newmarket	Pearson Farm off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
04-08	1	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A. Delorey
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b>				
03-25	2	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
04-04	1	Colebrook	Connecticut R., Rt. 3 n.	D.& B. Killam
<b>American Wigeon</b>				
03-18	36		Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-20	2	Hinsdale	Connecticut R. above Vernon Dam	C. Martin
03-25	18	Greenland	Sunset Landing	A.& B. Delorey
03-26	2	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A.& B. Delorey
04-04	6	Colebrook	Connecticut R., Rt. 3	B.& D. Killam
04-08	2	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
04-13	2	Lancaster	flooded field	B. Bradley
04-16	2	Monroe	Comerford Dam	B. Bradley
04-18	2	Dummer	Magill Bay	R. Quinn
04-28	2	Pittsburg	Back Lake	L. Jones
<b>Blue-winged Teal</b>				
04-07	2	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
04-11	4	Northumberland	Connecticut R. backwaters	D. Killam
05-09	2	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
05-31	1	Haverhill	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
<b>Northern Shoveler</b>				
04-06	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment pond	R. Aaronian
05-03	4	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick, B. Atherton, J. Matthews
<b>Northern Pintail</b>				
03-01	6	Durham	fields off Rt. 155A	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
03-05	4	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
03-08	12	Stratham	Sandy Pt.	J. Romano
03-18	8		Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-22	1	Laconia	Eager Is., behind Citizen Newspaper Co.	H. Anderson
04-04	2	Northumberland	Connecticut R. backwaters	D. Killam

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Green-winged Teal</b>				
03-09	2	Durham	Jackson Landing	S. Mirick
03-09	3	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
03-10	21	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-25	65	E. Kingston	Rt. 108 flooded field	A.& B. Delorey
03-25	14	Haverhill	flooded field	B. Bradley
04-06	70	Haverhill	flooded field	B. Bradley
<b>Canvasback</b>				
03-01	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
03-04	1	Durham	Oyster R. from Rt. 108 pump-house	D.& T. Donsker
03-09	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Ring-necked Duck</b>				
03-01	20	Kingston	Powwow River	K. Folsom
03-08	60	Salem	World End Pond	K. Folsom
03-10	75	Kingston	Powwow Pond	K. Folsom
03-16	8	Laconia	Lakeport Dam	H. Anderson
03-16	2	Errol	below dam	R. Quinn
03-19	150	Salem	World End Pond	K. Folsom
03-20	28	Hinsdale	Connecticut R. above Vernon Dam	C. Martin
03-20	150	Kingston	Powwow Pond	K. Folsom
03-26	120	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A.& B. Delorey
03-31	65	Northwood	Northwood Lake	R. Suomala
04-06	90	Errol	Umbagog Lake at Leonard Pond	L. Wunder
04-07	46	Haverhill	flooded field	B. Bradley
04-15	20	Jefferson	Little Cherry Pond, Pondicherry WS	C. Bretton, D. Govatski
04-18	31	Dummer	Magill Bay	R. Quinn
04-29	2	Hanover	Morton Horse farm, Laramie Rd.	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
<b>Greater Scaup</b>				
03-18	600	Newington	from Fabyan Pt.	S. Mirick
04-08	3	Concord	Turkey Pond	R. Woodward
04-30	6	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-09	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Lesser Scaup</b>				
03-01	4	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
03-10	4	Rye	Eel Pond	D. Donsker
04-20	6	Errol	Androscoggin R.	R. Quinn
05-12	2	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>King Eider</b>				
05-05	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-13	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-20	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala, J. Munier
<b>Common Eider</b>				
04-28	40	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-06	151	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-23	288	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-30	540	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-31	75	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Harlequin Duck</b>				
05-10	5	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala
<b>Surf Scoter</b>				
04-13	150	Hampton		R. Aaronian
05-16	2	Pittsburg	Third Lake	E. Nielsen
05-16	1	Pittsburg	Second Lake	E. Nielsen
05-25	1	Littleton	Moore Reservoir	M.& S. Turner
<b>White-winged Scoter</b>				
05-17	18	Enfield	Crystal Lake	H. Beck, R. Ransome, T. Davis
05-19	120	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-21	3	Surry	Surry Mountain Lake	R. Ritz, Monadnock Chapter FT
05-27	100	Newmarket	overhead downtown	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
<b>Oldsquaw</b>				
04-13	45	Hampton	Great Boars Head	R. Aaronian
04-21	6	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-22	4	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Bufflehead</b>				
03-09	1	Lee	Wheelwright Pond	M. Tarr
03-15	4	Salem	Canobie Lake	K. Folsom
03-18	150	Durham	Little Bay duck roost	S. Mirick
04-27	15	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-02	43	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
05-10	25	Rumney	Stinson Lake	T. Richards
05-20	1	Holderness	Squam Lake, Cairns Cove	J. Williams
<b>Barrow's Goldeneye</b>				
04-19	1	Errol	below Errol Dam	R. Quinn
<b>Hooded Merganser</b>				
03-03	40	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-14	206	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
03-24	65	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
<b>Red-breasted Merganser</b>				
04-08	1	Enfield	Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-27	4	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-10	2	Monroe	Connecticut R.	E. Emery, B. Bradley
05-19	5	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
<b>Ruddy Duck</b>				
04-06	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment pond	R. Aaronian
05-08	8	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-09	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
05-16	5	Lancaster	water treatment plant	B. Bradley

# Osprey through Alcids

**F**or the first time ever, as mentioned in the introduction, there were no reports of concentrations of migrating hawks. Was it the weather, or was no one watching (or was no one watching because of the weather?)? Either way, it'd be nice to know. There were six pairs of territorial (or presumed territorial) Bald Eagles this year, including three nests with eggs (Errol, Hinsdale, Nelson), and one nest-building (Dummer). Rails were almost unreported — could that also have been a result of bad weather? A Sandhill Crane, presumably the same individual as last year, returned to Monroe on March 31, and was seen sporadically for the rest of the season.

The upper Connecticut Valley in the Littleton area was again the best location for inland shorebirds this spring. In addition to the more expected species, a Dunlin was seen on May 12. A Pectoral Sandpiper in Concord on April 8 was even more noteworthy: this species has only been recorded in four of the last 12 springs. A fallout of 138 Killdeer in Monroe was the result of three to four inches of wet snow that fell the night before. Along the coast, a couple of good counts came in from Seabrook and Exeter. Unusual species included two **American Oystercatchers** (or the same bird at two different times) and a Whimbrel on Seavey Island. The latter species is very rare in spring, and this bird was also earlier than the few records we do have.

Less common gulls included the increasingly regular **Little** and Lesser Black-backed Gulls, and Laughing Gulls also made a good showing (although mainly on the Isles of Shoals). Two Iceland Gulls lingering into May is more than usual. A Caspian Tern at the Isles of Shoals was noteworthy, as this species is more frequently reported in the late summer and fall. The Tern Restoration Project at the Isles of Shoals continues to be a success. The numbers of Common Terns below are meant to give a rough idea of the growth of the colony through May. For a final summary, you'll have to wait until the summer report. Once again, both Arctic and Roseate Terns were seen at the colony, and a Razorbill on May 17 was unexpected at such a late date.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Osprey</b>				
03-30	2	Newmarket	Lubberland Creek site	S. Mirick
04-01	1	Haverhill	Connecticut R., Woodsville	J. McIlwaine
04-03	1	Belmont	Lake Winnisquam	S. Pearson
04-06	2	Northwood	Meadow Lake, Northwood Meadows	St.Pk. G.& M. Dean
04-08	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
<b>Bald Eagle</b>				
03-08	2	Monroe	Connecticut R.	C. Martin
03-25	2	Hinsdale	Stebbins Is., Connecticut R.	J. Littleton
03-25	2	Errol	Lake Umbagog	A.& D. Desmarais
03-31	2	Nelson	Spoonwood Pond	A. Paivis
04-07	2	Surry	Surry Mountain Lake	B. Descoteaux
04-28	2	Dummer	Androscoggin R. at Magill Bay	L.& A. Jones
<b>Golden Eagle</b>				
05-11	1	Wilmot	Rt. 11, Wilmot Flat	J. Kirk

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Merlin</b>				
04-19	2	Errol	Akers Pond	R. Quinn, J. Casey
05-02	3	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-19	2	Dummer	Androscoggin R. at Magill Bay	C. Martin
<b>Spruce Grouse</b>				
05-03	1	Wentworths Location	Rt. 16	C. Martin
05-15	1	Waterville Valley	near Mt. Tecumseh summit, WMNF	G. Duffy, M. Libby
05-22	1	Livermore	Mt. Osceola trail, WMNF	G. Duffy, B. Blasi, M. Libby, B. Laird
<b>Wild Turkey</b>				
03-09	67	Claremont	Red Water Brook Rd.	C. Belabar
03-15	2	Columbia	residence	B. & D. Killam
03-30	3	Carroll	Little Mt. Deception, se. slope	F. Hagan
<b>Virginia Rail</b>				
05-20	2	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern
05-21	1	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir marsh	C. Martin
05-31	4	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	R. Quinn
<b>Sora</b>				
05-20	2	Hebron	Hebron Marsh	J. Williams, J. Carreaux, et al.
<b>American Coot</b>				
03-23	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
<b>Sandhill Crane</b>				
03-31	1	Monroe	Plains Rd. next to cemetery	S. Turner, E. Emery, P. Powers, J. Cate
04-06	1	Monroe		J. McIlwaine
05-17	1	Monroe	Connecticut R.	S. Turner, P. Powers
<b>Semipalmated Plover</b>				
05-14	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick, S. Turner, et al.
05-17	3	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley
05-27	80	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
<b>Killdeer</b>				
03-02	1	Durham	Rt. 155A fields	R. Woodward
03-08	8	Monroe	Connecticut R.	C. Martin
04-10	138	Monroe	farm fields	B. Bradley
<b>American Oystercatcher</b>				
05-02	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward
05-16	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward
<b>Greater Yellowlegs</b>				
04-07	1	Stratham	Chapmans Landing	S. Mirick
04-14	1	Tamworth	Rt. 25	T. Vazzano
04-23	10	Stratham	saltmarsh near Rt. 108	G. Gavutis III
05-11	5	Pittsburg	Tabor Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-11	4	Pittsburg	Day Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-12	20	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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### **Lesser Yellowlegs**

04-12	1	Stewartstown	Rt. 3 below County Home	D.& B. Killam
05-11	2	Pittsburg	Day Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-14	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	S.& W. Fogleman

### **Solitary Sandpiper**

05-04	1	Nashua	airport	R. Andrews
05-04	4	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge marsh	B. Bradley
05-05	1	Rumney	Quincy bog	B. Taffe, A. Ports
05-11	12	Pittsburg	Day Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-11	6	Pittsburg	Tabor Rd.	E. Nielsen

### **Spotted Sandpiper**

05-03	1	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
05-04	1	Dummer	Androscoggin R. at Magill Bay	C. Martin
05-04	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond	S.& M. Turner
05-05	1	Barrington	Mendums Pond	T. Chase

### **Upland Sandpiper**

05-20	6	Newington	Pease Int'l. Tradeport	A.& B. Delorey, BBC FT
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### **Whimbrel**

04-29	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
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### **Ruddy Turnstone**

05-12	7	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-29	14	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette

### **Semipalmated Sandpiper**

05-17	4	Campton	Campton Pond, WMNF	J. Williams
05-27	120	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse

### **Least Sandpiper**

05-04	7	Haverhill	Connecticut R., N. Haverhill	B. Bradley
05-07	3	Hopkinton	Elm Brook Pk.	R. Woodward
05-09	8	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-12	12	Newmarket	Great Bay	S. Mirick
05-14	40	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick, et al.
05-17	20	Monroe	Connecticut R.	B. Bradley

### **White-rumped Sandpiper**

05-27	6	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
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### **Pectoral Sandpiper**

04-08	1	Concord	W. Portsmouth St. corn fields	R. Woodward
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### **Purple Sandpiper**

4-28	192	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-06	43	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-29	2	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette

### **Dunlin**

05-12	1	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-24	10	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Short-billed Dowitcher</b>				
05-17	15	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Common Snipe</b>				
03-10	1	N. Hampton	Rt. 111 near South Rd. jct.	D. Donsker
04-06	4	Exeter	wastewater treatment pond	R. Aaronian
05-20	5	Hebron	Hebron Marsh	J. Williams, et al.
<b>American Woodcock</b>				
03-07	3	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
03-08	2	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
03-09	2	Keene	Baker St.	K.& B. Ritz
<b>Laughing Gull</b>				
04-23	1	Rye	Rye Harbor	D. Donsker
05-02	4	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-17	6	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Little Gull</b>				
05-27	1	Hampton	Hampton Harbor	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
05-27	1	Hampton	Bicentennial Park	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
<b>Bonaparte's Gull</b>				
04-30	2	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-09	3	Lancaster	water treatment plant	B. Bradley
05-10	14	Littleton	Samuel Moore Dam	B. Bradley
05-21	10	Hanover	Wilson's Landing, Connecticut R.	B. Johnston, Mascoma Chapter FT
<b>Iceland Gull</b>				
04-30	1	Newcastle	Fort Stark	S. Mirick
05-14	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick, J.& S. Urban, S.& M. Turner
05-20	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward
<b>Lesser Black-backed Gull</b>				
03-10	1	Somersworth	Willand Pond	S. Mirick
<b>Glaucous Gull</b>				
03-05	1	Lisbon	water treatment plant	B. Bradley
04-30	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Caspian Tern</b>				
05-11	1	Rye	Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	M. Charette, D. Hayward
<b>Roseate Tern</b>				
05-19	3	Newcastle	Portsmouth Harbor	S. Mirick, A. Borrer, et al.
05-19	4	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Common Tern</b>				
05-02	16	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-16	104	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-23	220	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-24	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond	M.& S. Turner



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Arctic Tern</b>				
05-12	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-24	4	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-29	2	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Black Tern</b>				
05-09	1	Lancaster	water treatment plant	B. Bradley
05-11	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Razorbill</b>				
05-17	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	M. Charette, D. Hayward
<b>Black Guillemot</b>				
05-02	18	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-17	28	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-28	11	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala

## Cuckoos through Flycatchers

The fact that cuckoos show cyclic population fluctuations is clear from this spring's reports: there were no Yellow-billed and only two Black-billed Cuckoos. A Snowy Owl was photographed in Rochester on March 21. The Common Nighthawk in Keene on May 9 was somewhat early, as indicated by the bulk of reports over a week later. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were early once again, with a new record set by the bird seen on March 25.

The flycatcher migration pattern this spring is a little paradoxical. Note that many species (Olive-sided, Yellow-bellied, and Alder) were seen in the north by mid-May, well before they were reported farther south. All three species were also relatively early (and Alder was record early). Eastern Wood-Pewees, by contrast, were unusually late, even though all these species usually migrate around the same time, and presumably are subject to the same weather conditions along the way. Three **Acadian Flycatchers** in the same spring is unprecedented. The bird at Pawtuckaway State Park was in the same location as the previous two years, and seems to be arriving earlier each time.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Black-billed Cuckoo</b>				
05-27	1	Rye	banded, Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala
05-27	1	Kensington	Kimball Rd.	B. Delorey
<b>Snowy Owl</b>				
03-21	1	Rochester	Pickering Rd., Gonic	D. Orfe, M. Kirouac, C. & K. Vincent
<b>Common Nighthawk</b>				
05-09	1	Keene	West & Avon Sts.	R. Ritz
05-20	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. & S. Gavutis
05-22	1	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Common Nighthawk — continued</b>				
05-26	4	Keene	Colony Mill	M. Wright
05-27	5	Newmarket		S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
05-29	1	Deerfield	Coffeetown Rd.	S. Kjendal
05-29	5	Exeter	over Portsmouth Ave.	R. Aaronian
05-30	1	Plymouth	Fairgrounds Rd.	C.& D. Guenther
<b>Whip-poor-will</b>				
05-05	1	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
05-06	1	Bow	Hooksett Rd., Woodhill	P. Niswander
05-09	1	Epping	n. end of Birch Rd., near Rt. 87	G. Gavutis
05-12	1	Bath	Route 135	P. Powers
<b>Chimney Swift</b>				
04-30	6	Enfield	Main St.	P. Hunt, K. Johnson
05-03	30	Nashua	Mine Falls Park	R. Andrews
05-03	3	Hanover	Dartmouth College	K. Kluge
05-04	3	Keene	Emerald St.	M. Wright
05-22	250	Holderness	Intervale ponds	B. Taffe
<b>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</b>				
04-30	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-04	3	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
05-04	2	Monroe	residence	E. Emery, P. Powers
<b>Red-bellied Woodpecker</b>				
03-04	1	Hinsdale	abandoned RR s. of "dump"	R. Frechette
05-06	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	P. Hunt
<b>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker</b>				
03-25	1	Enfield	Main Street Pond	P. Hunt, D. Crook, C. Sandstrom
03-30	1	Chichester	Smith Sanborn Rd.	R.& M. Suomala
04-02	2	Hanover	Blueberry Hill residence	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
04-02	1	Center Harbor	Bean Rd.	T. Vazzano
04-03	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
04-03	2	Pembroke	N. Pembroke Rd.	K. Palfy
04-19	15		Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
05-04	10	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
<b>Black-backed Woodpecker</b>				
03-04	1	Errol	Seven Islands	R. Quinn, C. Martin
04-18	2	Errol	13 Mile Woods	R. Quinn
<b>Northern Flicker</b>				
03-27	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	R. Williams
04-03	1	Bedford	Ministerial Rd.	S.& G. Sidel-Goley
04-05	1	Surry	Old Walpole Rd. field	R. Ritz
<b>Olive-sided Flycatcher</b>				
05-12	1	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-16	1	Sandwich	Thompson WS	S. Mirick
05-21	1	Lebanon	Mascoma Lake Campground	P. Hunt, M. Krenitsky
05-21	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-21	1	Andover	Taunton Hill	P. Newbern, B. Vernon, et al.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Eastern Wood-Pewee</b>				
05-21	3		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt, M. Krenitsky
05-21	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-26	1	Sanbornton	Steele Hill Resort	G. Prazar
05-26	8	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
05-27	1	Walpole	Warner Forest off Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
<b>Yellow-bellied Flycatcher</b>				
05-12	1	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-25	18	Rye	banded, Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala
<b>Acadian Flycatcher</b>				
05-12	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
05-27	1	S. Hampton	Burrough's Brookside WS	S. Mirick, P. Lacourse
05-31	1	Rye	banded, Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala
<b>Alder Flycatcher</b>				
05-11	1	Pittsburg	Jesse Young Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-14	1	Pittsburg	Deer Mountain Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-21	1	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern
05-21	1	Enfield	near water tower	P. Hunt
<b>Willow Flycatcher</b>				
05-14	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick, et al.
05-22	1	Holderness	Intervale ponds	B. Taffe
05-27	1	Lebanon	Icehouse Rd.	P. Hunt
05-27	1	Exeter	Powder Mill Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Least Flycatcher</b>				
05-03	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-05	1	Hanover	Blueberry Hill residence	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-05	1	Lyman	Dodge Pond	S.& M. Turner
05-06	24	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
05-06	4	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-06	8	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-17	37	Pittsburg	Round Pound Rd.	E. Nielsen
<b>Eastern Phoebe</b>				
03-16	1	N. Hampton	residence	D. Donsker
03-16	1	Chichester	Burnt Hill Rd.	R. Suomala
03-21	1	Bedford	Nathan Cutler Dr.	J.& A. Nelson
03-28	1	Dummer	Androscoggin R. at Bofinger CA	C. Martin
04-08	19		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Great Crested Flycatcher</b>				
05-07		Exeter	Gilman Park	R. Aaronian, P. Greer
05-07	1	Hanover	Blueberry Hill	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-08	1	Nashua	Deerhaven Dr.	R. Andrews
<b>Eastern Kingbird</b>				
05-04	2	Nashua	airport	R. Andrews
05-04	1	Holderness	Rt. 175	J. Williams
05-04	2	Gilsun	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-05	2	Deerfield	Coffeetown Rd.	S. Kjendal

# Shrikes through Waxwings

The previous winter was a good one for Northern Shrikes, so it is not surprising that 13 were still around in the spring. The reports below were selected to represent the spatial and temporal breadth of this species' occurrence in the state. A **White-eyed Vireo** was banded on Star Island, yet another indication that you never know what sorts of goodies you'll turn up if you spend enough time on an offshore island. Philadelphia Vireos are less common than they used to be in New Hampshire, so it is nice to see that they are still fairly easy to find in Pittsburg.

The 70 Blue Jays at Odiorne State Park on May 6 were all moving north, and it seems likely that the birds a few days later on White Island were also part of a coastal migratory movement. Fish Crows continue to move north through the Merrimack Valley. This year's winner was in Plymouth, possibly the northernmost location yet in the state for this species. At the same time, there were no reports from the extreme southeast, the species' presumed stronghold. Remember what I said about the Red-bellied Woodpecker in the introduction.

Perhaps another result of the highly variable April-May weather was the lack of many large swallow concentrations. The March 30 Barn Swallow, however, was close to being a record-early date. Boreal Chickadees staged a modest southward movement last fall (including a couple in New Hampshire), so it was not surprising that two were detected heading back north this spring. What might not have been expected was that they were within a day of each other in Warren and Enfield. A Golden-crowned Kinglet was unusually late on Star Island on May 28, but, then again, it is an island! The huge number of American Robins in Monroe was the result of the same storm that grounded the Killdeer mentioned earlier. The winter's Bohemian Waxwings lingered into late April in a few locations.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Northern Shrike</b>				
03-02	1	Milan		R. Quinn
03-10	1	Sandwich	Rt. 25	T. Vazzano
03-15	1	Westmoreland	River Rd.	R. Ritz
03-23	1	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
03-29	1	Northwood	Short Falls Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
04-02	1	Charlestown	Connecticut R., Jarvis Is.	W. & S. McCumber
04-15	1	Whitefield	Mt. Washington Regional Airport	C. Bretton, D. Dovatski
<b>White-eyed Vireo</b>				
05-12	1	Rye	banded, Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala, K. Palfy
<b>Yellow-throated Vireo</b>				
05-03	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd.	R. Ritz
05-19	4	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
05-31	2	Derry	Ballard Marsh	A. Delorey
<b>Blue-headed Vireo</b>				
04-27	1	Newbury	Stoney Brook	C. & C. Martin
04-29	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
04-30	2		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
04-30	3		Rt. 103A, Newbury-New London line	P. Newbern
05-06	12	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
05-12	16	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen

### **Warbling Vireo**

05-04	1	Enfield	Main St. Pond	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-04	1	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy stadium	R. Aaronian
05-05	3	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge	B. Bradley
05-06	8	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-06	2	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern

### **Philadelphia Vireo**

05-13	1	Pittsburg	road near Second Lake	E. Nielsen
05-14	2	Pittsburg	Round Pond Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-14	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-16	1	Pittsburg	Third Lake	E. Nielsen
05-17	6	Pittsburg	Round Pond Rd.	E. Nielsen

### **Red-eyed Vireo**

05-06	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-08	2	Nashua	Deerhaven Dr.	R. Andrews
05-10	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams

### **Gray Jay**

03-03	3	Second College Grant	State Line Bog	R. Quinn, C. Martin
03-03	2	Wentworths Location	Rt. 16 at state line	R. Quinn, C. Martin
03-21	2	Beans Grant	Mizpah Hut	D. Govatski
05-12	2	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-15	1	Waterville Valley	Mt. Tecumseh summit, WMNF	G. Duffy, M. Libby, B. Blasi

### **Blue Jay**

05-06	70	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	P. Hunt
05-11	7	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette

### **Fish Crow**

04-11	1	Concord	Goodwin Pt.	P. Newbern
04-15	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
05-06	2	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-08	1	Plymouth	Plymouth St. College	B. Taffe, W.& S. Fogleman
05-14	2	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	R. Woodward, Capital Area Chapter FT

### **Purple Martin**

05-04	6	Moultonborough	Lees Mill Rd.	T. Vazzano
05-29	55	Laconia	Fun Spot, Weirs Beach	J. Williams

### **Tree Swallow**

03-25	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-30	85	Exeter	Powder House Pond	R. Aaronian
03-31	20	Hollis	Beaver Brook Assoc.	R. Andrews
03-31	100	Hinsdale	Connecticut R. above Vernon Dam	C. Martin
04-07	200	Exeter	Powder House Pond	S. Mirick
05-16	500	Littleton	Moore Reservoir	M.& S. Turner

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</b>				
04-05	8	Nashua	Nashua R. at Millyard	R. Andrews
04-08	1	Newmarket	Lamprey R.	S. Mirick
04-08	2	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	A.& B. Delorey
<b>Bank Swallow</b>				
05-03	50	Merrimack	Thornton's Landing	R. Andrews
05-06	75	Holderness	Pemigewasset R. sand bank	J. Williams
05-15	5	Pittsburg	Tabor Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-19	8	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	C. Martin
<b>Cliff Swallow</b>				
05-15	6	Pittsburg	Tabor Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-20	30	Plymouth	Rt. 3A barn	J. Williams
05-27	11	Plymouth	Bridgewater Hill Rd. barn	J. Williams
05-27	19		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Barn Swallow</b>				
03-30	1	Exeter	Powder House Pond	R. Aaronian
04-06	2	Durham	Durham Pt. Rd.	S. Mirick
04-07	1	Exeter	Powder House Pond	S. Mirick
<b>Boreal Chickadee</b>				
03-03	2	Second College Grant		R. Quinn, C. Martin
03-20	6	Sargents Purchase	Hermit Lake Shelter, Tuckerman's Ravine	D. Govatski
04-18	4	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	C. Bretton, D. Govatski
05-03	1	Warren	off old RR track	A. Ports, T. Johnson
05-04	1	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-12	5	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-20	3	Pittsburg	e. of East Inlet flowage	C. Martin, L. Jones
<b>Tufted Titmouse</b>				
04-07	2	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
<b>Carolina Wren</b>				
03-08	1	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake Dam	P. Hunt, B. Johnstone
05-01	1	Lebanon	near Mascoma Lake Dam	B. Johnstone
05-16	1	Tamworth		I. Harrison
<b>House Wren</b>				
05-06	1	Plymouth	Beech Hill Rd.	J. Williams
05-06	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-06	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
<b>Winter Wren</b>				
03-23	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-27	1	Woodstock	Gordon Pond Brook, N. Woodstock	J. Williams
04-15	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
04-16	1	Tamworth	Great Hill	B. Steele
04-19	23		Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
05-12	17	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Marsh Wren</b>				
05-17	1	Jefferson	Cherry Pond	M. & S. Turner
05-21	1	Errol	Leonard Marsh on Lake Umbagog	C. Martin
05-21	6	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir marsh	C. Martin
05-22	6	Sutton	Cascade Marsh	P. Newbern
<b>Golden-crowned Kinglet</b>				
05-28	1	Rye	banded, Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala
<b>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</b>				
04-08	1	N. Hampton	off Rt. 111A	S. Mirick
04-08	1	Chichester	Smith Sanborn Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
04-08	2	Kensington	Moulton Ridge	G. Gavutis
04-19	10		Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
05-03	5	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-04	5	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-21	12	Wentworths Location	along Route 16	R. Quinn
<b>Blue-gray Gnatcatcher</b>				
05-03	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-05	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-06	2	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-07	2	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy stadium	R. Aaronian, P. Greer
05-12	5	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Veery</b>				
05-03	1	Merrimack	Thornton's Landing	R. Andrews
05-05	1	Plymouth	Cooksville Rd. pasture edge	J. Williams
05-09	3	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-12	7	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Gray-cheeked Thrush</b>				
05-28	1	Rye	banded, Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala
<b>Swainson's Thrush</b>				
05-07	1	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
05-09	7	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-17	2	Nashua	Spit Brook Rd.	A. Delorey
05-17	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
05-19	3	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Hermit Thrush</b>				
03-29	1	Jefferson	Rt. 2 near Lantern Motel/ campground	C. Bretton
04-04	2	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
04-05	1	Kensington	Drinkwater Rd.	M. Tarr, P. Auger, D. Becktel
<b>Wood Thrush</b>				
04-25	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-03	2	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Road	R. Quinn
05-05	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-06	2	Littleton	Moore Reservoir trail n.	S. & M. Turner
05-06	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-06	1	Hanover	Blueberry Hill	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-06	3	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>American Robin</b>				
04-02	144		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-02	216	Bath	wet meadows	B. Bradley
04-10	452	Monroe	farm fields, etc.	B. Bradley
<b>Gray Catbird</b>				
04-29	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
05-03	2	Nashua	Mine Falls Park	R. Andrews
05-04	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-05	1	Plymouth	RR grade off Cooksville Rd.	J. Williams
<b>Brown Thrasher</b>				
05-02	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-03	1	Gilford	behind high school	E. McLaughlin
05-03	1	Merrimack	Thornton's Landing	R. Andrews
05-03	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
<b>American Pipit</b>				
04-11	10	Canaan	Potato Rd.	P. Hunt
05-07	1	Nashua	airport	R. Andrews
05-11	3	Pittsburg	Day Rd.	E. Nielsen
<b>Bohemian Waxwing</b>				
03-05	28	Columbia	Trask Rd.	B. & D. Killam
03-05	315		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
03-26	12	Enfield	Riverside Dr.	P. Hunt
04-07	40	Laconia	Church St.	J. Clark
04-08	10	Northfield	Bean Hill Rd.	C. Swete
04-14	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
04-26	30	Andover	Procter Academy	P. Hunt

## Warblers

Two Blue-winged Warblers in Jefferson were presumably overshooting spring migrants, since this species is normally restricted to the southern third of the state. The rare **Lawrence's Warbler**, the recessive hybrid of Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers, was seen in Derry on May 11. Tennessee and Bay-breasted Warblers are relatively uncommon in spring migration, but such was not the case this year. Both of these species tend to fluctuate with spruce budworm populations, making one wonder if last summer was a good budworm year. If so, however, you'd expect there to have been more of these warblers than usual last fall, which was not the case. The only way we'll ever know is to keep collecting data and wait for the tapestry to come into focus.

Warbler fallouts were scattered this spring. Al Delorey reported them on May 9 and 11, with 16 and 12 species respectively. He also had good numbers of several species at Pawtuckaway State Park on May 12, the highlights of which are in the listings. Meanwhile, at Clough State Park, Peter Newbern continues to have good warbler days in early May. This year on May 6 he had 14 species, which are included in the table below, with his 1999 data for comparison. Does the fact that most species were more common at an earlier date this year mean anything, or is it just another random thread in that tapestry I keep going on about?



Warbler Species	5/9/99	5/6/00	Warbler Species	5/9/99	5/6/00
Blue-winged Warbler	1	8	Palm Warbler	1	
Nashville Warbler	20	10	Black-and-white Warbler	33	31
Northern Parula	5		American Redstart	6	8
Yellow Warbler	17	23	Ovenbird	19	35
Chestnut-sided Warbler	15	24	Northern Waterthrush	2	
Magnolia Warbler	6	1	Louisiana Waterthrush	1	4
Black-throated Blue Warbler	3	1	Common Yellowthroat	3	12
Yellow-rumped Warbler	26	27	Wilson's Warbler	1	
Black-throated Green Warbler	12	11	Canada Warbler	1	
Blackburnian Warbler	2	2	<b>Total Species</b>	<b>21*</b>	<b>14</b>
Pine Warbler	1		<b>Total Individuals</b>	<b>176*</b>	<b>197</b>
Prairie Warbler	1				

\*NOTE: the 1999 figures originally shown on page 24 of the Spring 99 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records* incorrectly listed the total species as 20 and the Total Individuals as 190 for Clough.

This year, both Palm and Yellow-rumped Warblers showed the “scout” pattern discussed in 1998: early arrivals followed by a relatively long absence before the majority of migrants arrive. Miscellaneous warbler highlights include five Cape May Warblers coming to oranges and peanut butter in Lyman, a Kentucky Warbler in Lebanon, and a Canada Warbler that tied the species’ record early arrival date for the state.

date	#	town	location	observer(s)
<b>Blue-winged Warbler</b>				
05-06	8	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-07	1	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy stadium	R. Aaronian, P. Greer
05-15	1	Jefferson	North Rd. near Rt.2 jct.	C. Bretton
05-26	1	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	C. Bretton, K. Mazel, P. Cotter
<b>Golden-winged Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Newmarket	Bald Hill Road	S. Mirick
05-09	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
<b>Lawrence’s Warbler — hybrid</b>				
05-11	1	Derry	Mittimore Rd.	B. Horton
<b>Tennessee Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A.& B. Delorey
05-11	1	Nashua	Spit Brook Rd.	A. Delorey
05-12	1	Concord	Horseshoe Pond	R. Woodward
05-12	1	Holderness	behind US Forest Service office	J. Williams
05-16	2	Bradford	Bradford Bog	P. Newbern
05-20	1	Walpole	County Rd.	R. Ritz
05-21	2		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt, M. Krenitsky
05-27	1	Enfield	Rt. 4A	P. Hunt

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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### **Nashville Warbler**

05-03	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Road	R. Quinn
05-03	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-04	1	Rumney	Stinson Mtn. Rd., WMNF	J. Williams, J. Gilsdorf
05-05	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-14	16	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-26	7	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt

### **Northern Parula**

05-04	1	Wentworths Location	near Mt. Dustam Store	C. Martin
05-04	1	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy stadium	R. Aaronian
05-04	1	Dummer	Magill Bay	C. Martin
05-06	2	Kensington	Moulton Ridge Rd.	G. Gavutis
05-08	3	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
05-11	6	Nashua	Spit Brook Rd.	A. Delorey
05-17	8	Pittsburg	Round Pond Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-20	6	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey, BBC FT
05-21	15	Wentworths Location	along Route 16	R. Quinn

### **Yellow Warbler**

05-04	1	Enfield	Main St. Pond	P. Hunt
05-04	1	Westmoreland	River Rd., Partridge Brook Rd.	R. Ritz
05-05	1	Holderness	next to Irving gas station	J. Williams
05-06	9	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams

### **Chestnut-sided Warbler**

05-04	1	Nashua	airport	R. Andrews
05-04	1	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-05		Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-09	15	Holderness	behind US Forest Service office	J. Williams
05-26	12	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt

### **Magnolia Warbler**

05-05	1	Rumney	Quincy Bog	B. Taffe, A. Ports
05-06	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-07	1	Nashua	airport	R. Andrews
05-07	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-08	1	Hanover	Blueberry Hill residence	K. Kluge
05-09	13	Holderness	behind US Forest Service office	J. Williams
05-14	25	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-21	22	Wentworths Location	along Route 16	R. Quinn

### **Cape May Warbler**

05-09	1	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala
05-10	5	Lyman	Dodge Pond residence	S. & M. Turner
05-21	2	Wentworths Location	along Route 16	R. Quinn

### **Black-throated Blue Warbler**

05-02	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Road	R. Quinn
05-04	1	Hanover	Blueberry Hill	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-05	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-05	1	Newbury	Stoney Brook WS	C. Martin
05-05	5	Lincoln	n. slope of Black Mtn., WMNF	J. Williams
05-17	20	Pittsburg	Round Pond Rd.	E. Nielsen

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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### **Yellow-rumped Warbler**

04-08	1	Enfield	Currier Landing	P. Hunt
04-15	1	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	C. Bretton, D. Govatski
04-17	1	Holderness	US Forest Service office, Rt. 175	J. Williams
04-19	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
04-25	14	New London	Low Plain	P. Newbern
05-03	24	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-04	50	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-06	65	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-06	19	Littleton	Moore Reservoir trail s.	S. & M. Turner
05-10	135	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-14	32	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen

### **Black-throated Green Warbler**

05-02	1	Walpole	County Rd.	R. Ritz
05-03	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-03	1	Rumney	Stinson Mtn. Rd., WMNF	J. Williams
05-03	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
05-12	16	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
05-14	10		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt, K. Johnson
05-17	14	Pittsburg	Round Pond Rd.	E. Nielsen

### **Blackburnian Warbler**

05-04		Moultonborough	Markus WS	T. Vazzano
05-05	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-06	2	Littleton	Moore Reservoir trail s.	S. & M. Turner
05-12	20	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey

### **Pine Warbler**

04-03	2	Concord	Silk Farm WS	R. Suomala
04-08	2	Kensington	Moulton Ridge	G. Gavutis
04-15	27	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
04-19	12	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-03	1	Errol	Metallak Is. on Lake Umbagog	C. Martin

### **Prairie Warbler**

05-04	1	Nashua	airport	R. Andrews
05-04	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
05-11	1	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy stadium	R. Aaronian
05-21	4	Andover	Taunton Hill	P. Newbern, B. Vernon, et al.

### **Palm Warbler**

04-08	5	Concord	Turkey Pond	R. Woodward
04-08	1	Newington	Great Bay NWR	S. Mirick
04-08	3		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-23	1	Littleton	Dodge Bog	B. Bradley
04-30	11	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-16	1	Pittsburg	Round Pond Rd.	E. Nielsen

### **Bay-breasted Warbler**

05-08	6	Hanover	Blueberry Hill residence	K. Kluge, J. Rosenmeier
05-09	3	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-09	2	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-11	6	Nashua	Spit Brook Rd.	A. Delorey

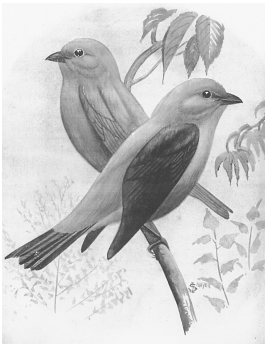
<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Bay-breasted Warbler — continued</b>				
05-13	2	Pittsburg	East Inlet Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-14	2		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt, K. Johnson
05-16	1	Bradford	E. Washington Rd.	P. Newbern
05-26	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
<b>Blackpoll Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
05-10	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-12	2	Exeter	Swasey Pkwy.	R. Aaronian
05-15	1	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-17	1	T&M Purchase	Jefferson Notch	S. & M. Turner
05-21	4	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
05-27	8		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
<b>Cerulean Warbler</b>				
05-06	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
05-26	1	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Black-and-white Warbler</b>				
05-01	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Road	R. Quinn
05-02	1	Hanover	Occom Pond, Dartmouth College	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-03	7	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-04	7	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-12	13	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>American Redstart</b>				
05-06	2	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
05-06	1	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-09	6	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-12	34	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
05-20	20	Rye	Odiorne Pt. St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey, BBC FT
<b>Ovenbird</b>				
04-29	1	Plainfield	Meriden Bird Sanctuary	P. Hunt
05-03	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-05	2	Lincoln	n. slope of Black Mtn., WMNF	J. Williams
05-05	3	Hanover	Blueberry Hill	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-06	41	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Northern Waterthrush</b>				
04-30	1	Newbury	off Rt. 103A	P. Newbern
05-03	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-04	4	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-04	2	Dummer	bog at Millsfield town line	C. Martin
05-04	2	Moultonborough	Markus WS	T. Vazzano, H. Vogel
05-21	11	Wentworths Location	along Magalloway R.	R. Quinn
<b>Louisiana Waterthrush</b>				
04-15	2	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
04-19	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-01	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Road	R. Quinn
05-06	4	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-06	1	Plymouth	Beech Hill Rd.	J. Williams
05-20	1	Sandwich	Cold R. near Durgin Bridge	N. Beecher, B. Steele

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Kentucky Warbler</b>				
05-14	1	Lebanon	Mascoma Lake Campground, Rt. 4A	P. Hunt
<b>Mourning Warbler</b>				
05-21	1	Enfield	Main St. Pond	P. Hunt
05-21	1	Hinsdale	Hinsdale bluffs	R. Frechette, F. Von Mertens, F. Doyle, S. Spangenberg
05-25	1	Canterbury	Baptist Hill Rd.	R. Quinn
05-25	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
<b>Common Yellowthroat</b>				
05-04	1	Exeter	Phillips Exeter Academy stadium	R. Aaronian
05-06	1	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
05-06	12	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-06	1	Holderness	s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
<b>Wilson's Warbler</b>				
05-09	1	Enfield	Main St. Pond	P. Hunt
05-09	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A.& B. Delorey
05-10	1	Concord	Silk Farm WS	R. Woodward
05-10	4	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
<b>Canada Warbler</b>				
05-04	1	Springfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
05-12	1	Deering	Baldwin Rd.	L. Sunderland
05-17	1	Campton	Mt. Morgan Trail	J.& D. Romano
05-17	1	Campton	Campton Pond, WMNF	J. Williams
05-26	4	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt

## Tanagers through Finches

American Tree Sparrows lingered into late April yet again, but more remarkable were the three birds still on White Island on May 2. The **LeConte's Sparrow** photographed on White Island on May 16 provided the first record for the state and was the season's ultimate testament to the power of islands. It was a better-than-average spring for Fox Sparrows, while Song Sparrows, on the other hand, showed no large concentrations whatsoever. Vagrant juncos of western subspecies seem to show up every year somewhere in New England. New Hampshire's contribution to this pattern was an "Oregon" Junco in Holderness on May 2.

It is becoming pretty clear that the greater Exeter area is the stronghold for Orchard Oriole in the state. Holdovers from the winter's finch invasion lingered for various lengths of time. Pine Grosbeaks were only seen in the north and barely made it into the season. Common Redpolls, by contrast, stayed into late April, and even in the south. Among them was a single Hoary Redpoll in Sandwich. There were few reports of crossbills, and reports of Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks showed no noteworthy patterns.



*Scarlet Tanager*  
by E.J. Sawyer

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Scarlet Tanager</b>				
04-29	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-05	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
05-07	1	Hanover	Blueberry Hill	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-07	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. & S. Gavutis
05-12	9	Nottingham	Pawtuckaway St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
<b>Eastern Towhee</b>				
04-25	1	Pembroke	N. Pembroke Rd.	K. Palfy
04-29	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
05-02	3	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-03	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
<b>American Tree Sparrow</b>				
03-08	24	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
03-25	27	Haverhill	N. Haverhill hedgerow	B. Bradley
04-23	2	Enfield	Main Street Pond	P. Hunt, K. Johnson
04-28	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
05-02	3	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Chipping Sparrow</b>				
04-04	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
04-06	1	Bethlehem	Ammonoosuc Ranger Station	P. Bellavance, D. Govatski
04-08	1	Chichester	Lane Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
<b>Field Sparrow</b>				
03-25	2	Nashua	Greeley Park at Merrimack R.	R. Andrews
04-19	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
04-24	1	Walpole	County Rd.	R. Ritz
<b>Vesper Sparrow</b>				
04-14	2	Whitefield	Mt. Washington Regional Airport	C. Bretton, T. Walker
05-13	1	Newington	Pease Int'l. Tradeport	A. & B. Delorey
05-16	1	Rye	banded, Star Is. Banding Station	R. Suomala
05-24	2	Plymouth	junction of Fairgrounds & Loon Lake Rds.	J. Williams
<b>Savannah Sparrow</b>				
04-08	1	Holderness	Outback Driving Range	J. Williams
04-14	7	Whitefield	Mt. Washington Regional Airport	C. Bretton, T. Walker
04-15	2	Concord	Clinton St. field	P. Newbern

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
<b>Le Conte's Sparrow</b>				
05-16	1	Rye	White Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>Fox Sparrow</b>				
03-09	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
03-10	3	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
03-10	1	Chichester	South Sanborn Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
03-18	3	Newmarket	Bay View Drive	S. Mirick
03-25	4	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
03-26	3	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. & M. Harris
03-26	5	Concord	residence	R. Woodward
03-30	5	Holderness	US Forest Service back lot	J. Williams
04-02	3		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
04-03	15	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
04-14	2	New London	Pingree Rd.	A. & R. Vernon
<b>Lincoln's Sparrow</b>				
05-05	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis
05-07	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-12	1	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-14	4	Pittsburg	Perry Stream Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-27	1	Lebanon	Icehouse Rd.	P. Hunt
<b>Swamp Sparrow</b>				
04-08	2	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175A	J. Williams
04-23	1	Enfield	Main Street Pond	P. Hunt
04-30	5	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-04	16	Enfield	Bog Rd.	P. Hunt, T. Vazzano
<b>White-throated Sparrow</b>				
04-10	2	Columbia	residence	D. & B. Killam
04-14	1	Walpole	Merriam Road	R. Ritz
04-30	50	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-02	150	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-09	14	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
05-31	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette
<b>White-crowned Sparrow</b>				
05-04	2	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
05-05	3	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
05-06	2	New London	Hilltop feeder	H. & P. Damon
05-07	3	Hopkinton	Elm Brook Pk.	R. Woodward
05-10	4	Tamworth	Wonalancet cemetery	B. Steele
05-10	20	Holderness	Pine Gate Rd. wetlands	J. & R. Williams
05-12	9	Littleton	residence	B. Bradley
05-12	29	Pittsburg	Scott Bog Rd.	E. Nielsen
<b>Dark-eyed Junco</b>				
04-02	44	Monroe	Comerford Dam	B. Bradley
04-08	82	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	R. & J. Williams
04-11	157	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
04-19	90		Lake Umbagog region	R. Quinn
05-02	180	Holderness	US Forest Service office	J. Williams, J. Turley

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
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**Dark-eyed Junco — Oregon subsp.**

05-02	1	Holderness	Pemigewasset Ranger District office	J. Williams
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**Snow Bunting**

03-03	3	Dummer	Pontook Reservoir	R. Quinn, C. Martin
03-14	2	Durham	high school grounds	M. Davis
03-15	12	Rumney	Main St. at Baker R.	C. Martin

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**

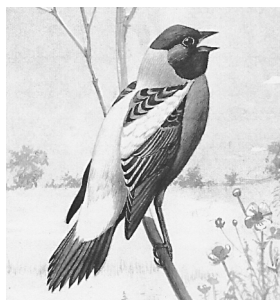
05-03	2	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
05-04	1	Concord	Eastside Dr.	D.& B. Soule
05-05	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G.& S. Gavutis
05-05	1	Hanover	Blueberry Hill	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
05-05	2	Rumney	Quincy Rd. residence	B. Taffe

**Indigo Bunting**

05-04	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. Harris
05-09	1	Walpole	Scovill Rd.	N. Ritz
05-09	2	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern

**Bobolink**

05-05	3	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge	B. Bradley
05-05		Walpole	Scovill Rd. haying fields	R. Ritz
05-06	1	Weare	Clough St. Pk.	P. Newbern
05-09	18	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick
05-25	15	Rye	Star Is., Isles of Shoals	R. Suomala



*Bobolink*  
by E.J. Sawyer

**Red-winged Blackbird**

03-02	100	Keene	Rt. 12 & West St., Hannaford's	R. Ritz
03-11	108		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt
03-20	500	Durham	dairy barns	D.& T. Donsker

**Eastern Meadowlark**

03-04	1	Durham	Spinney Lane	M. Davis
03-18	5	Newmarket	Pearson Farm	S. Mirick
03-23	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	B. Delorey
04-14	2	Whitefield	Mt. Washington Regional Airport	C. Bretton, T. Walker, D. Govatski
04-16	1	Lebanon	Hardy Hill Rd.	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier

**Rusty Blackbird**

04-02	1	Enfield	Currier Landing	P. Hunt
04-14	3	Haverhill	Bedell Bridge Park	B. Bradley



<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer(s)</i>
05-06	4	Holderness	wetlands s. of Rt. 175 A	J. Williams
05-11	6	Pittsburg	Tabor Rd.	E. Nielsen
05-20	2	Pittsburg	Harris Pond	C. Martin, L. Jones
05-30	2	Jefferson	Little Cherry Pond, Pondicherry WS	D. Govatski, C. Bretton

### **Common Grackle**

03-20	1000	Durham	dairy barns	D. & T. Donsker
03-20	60	Windham	residence	J. Romano

### **Brown-headed Cowbird**

03-16	60	Laconia	Wildwood Road	H. Anderson
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### **Orchard Oriole**

05-05	1	Stratham	Rt. 108 just s. of Squamscott Rd.	G. & G. Gavutis
05-06	1	Chester	Hillside Haven	A. & B. Delorey
05-08	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. & S. Gavutis
05-14	2	Exeter	wastewater treatment plant	S. Mirick, J. & S. Urban, M. & S. Turner
05-15	5	Stratham	Rt. 108 just s. of Squamscott Rd.	G. & G. Gavutis

### **Baltimore Oriole**

05-01	2	Salem	residence	K. Folsom
05-01	1	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
05-02	1	Concord	Eastside Dr.	D. & B. Soule
05-02	3	Stratham	Rt. 108 near Swampscott Rd.	G. Gavutis III
05-06	12	Windham		K. Folsom
05-14	8		Lower Mascoma Lake	P. Hunt, K. Johnson

### **Pine Grosbeak**

03-01	1	Livermore	Kancamagus Hgwy. near Lily Pond	J. Williams, D. Hrdlicka
03-04	26	Errol		R. Quinn, C. Martin
03-07	12	Whitefield	E. Whitefield Rd.	S. Pitts

### **Red Crossbill**

03-06	6	Pembroke	Pembroke Hill feeder	H. Laramie
03-31	1	Conway	Saco Ranger Station, WMNF	K. Starke, L. Rowse
04-05	6	Gilmanton	Crystal Lake, Gilmanton Iron Works	W. Arms
04-10	5	Deerfield	Coffeetown Rd.	S. Kjendal
05-29	3	Gilmanton	Crystal Lake, Gilmanton Iron Works	W. Arms

### **White-winged Crossbill**

05-11	3	Pittsburg	Day Rd.	E. Nielsen
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### **Common Redpoll**

03-10	60	Chichester	Smith Sanborn Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
03-25	150	Hanover	Blueberry Hill residence	K. Kluge, T. Rosenmeier
03-26	90	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
04-12	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	R. Williams
04-20	130	Errol	near Thurston Cove	R. Quinn
04-29	1	Rye	White & Seavey Is., Isles of Shoals	D. Hayward, M. Charette

### **Hoary Redpoll**

03-11	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano, S. Mirick B. Fox, D. Duxbury
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# Star Island Spring 2000 Bird Banding Summary

by *Rebecca Suomala*

**T**he Star Island Banding Station was open in spring of 2000 for another year of bird banding. I am very grateful to the supporters who helped make this second year possible, especially the many generous individual donors whose contributions enabled me to move forward with planning for the spring season well before any other funding was received.

Spring was characterized by a great deal of cloudy and cool weather. We were able to see the sunrise only 13 of the 30 days the banding station was in operation! We had more than our usual share of east winds, which were often dismal and cold and not conducive to either migrants or mist netting.

I set up the station on May 9 in the middle of a spectacular fallout of birds. Warblers were everywhere following an early spell of warm weather. Naturally, by the time I had everything set up, it was too windy to open the nets, and that was the last warm weather we saw for some time. The station was open from May 10 through June 8. We spent several busy days early in May, culminating with 138 birds banded on May 17, with Jo Weldon's help. Highlights included a White-eyed Vireo and my first Vesper Sparrow in the hand.

After that, a front stalled to the south (near New Jersey), and bird numbers plummeted with many days of east winds. Rain finally pushed out the front on May 24 when Alex Chang arrived. The next day, the dam broke, and we were flooded with migrants. It was a record-breaking day for the station, with 151 new birds, followed by 106 on May 26. I thought that would be the end of the migration when we dropped to three birds banded on May 29, a return of the dreaded east winds, and a mackerel in the net on June 1! What a surprise — fish instead of birds (we decided a gull had lost its lunch in an encounter above the nets). After that, I was surprised by a fairly big day on June 3, with 92 new birds. Gary Stansfield was lucky enough to experience the quietest day of the season on June 6 with only one bird all morning, a Red-eyed Vireo that was already banded. At the end of the season, Kathie Palfy helped me pack up the station and finish my habitat surveys before leaving for the season.

The habitat surveys were a part of my masters thesis research that will contribute to my analysis of the bird banding data. You will be hearing more about the results as my research progresses. For more information 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).

The second year of the Star Island Bird Banding Project was made possible by the many generous donors who contributed to the project through the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, grants from the Eastern Bird Banding Association and the University of New Hampshire Graduate School, the Star Island Corporation, and the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. 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.

## Bird Totals

These totals are preliminary and will be finalized after the data has been computerized.

1262	New birds banded
249	Captures of birds previously banded on Star or Appledore Island
1	Recapture of a bird banded somewhere other than Appledore or Star (the data on when and where it was banded is not yet available)

## Most Common Species

Common Yellowthroat	207
Magnolia Warbler	159
American Redstart	67
Red-eyed Vireo	62
Yellow Warbler	57
Blackpoll Warbler	52
Gray Catbird	52



*White-eyed Vireo*  
by Rebecca Suomala

## Highlights

### Rarities and Surprises in the Nets

- Acadian Flycatcher, a total of 3 banded
- White-eyed Vireo, 1 on 5/12
- Vesper Sparrow, 1 on 5/16
- Mackerel, 1 on 6/1 — my first fish ever in the nets!

## Sightings (birds seen but not banded)

- King Eider — 5/20 (immature male first found near White Island by the tern biologists)
- Harlequin Duck — 5 adult males on 5/10
- Summer Tanager — 6/2
- Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow — 6/2 though 6/8

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

# LeConte's Sparrow in New Hampshire

by Daniel Hayward

Many unusual birds passed by our binoculars out on White and Seavey Islands this summer, but by far the most noteworthy was a LeConte's Sparrow. This lost visitor to the islands spent most of the day on May 16, 2000, foraging on the lawn around the lighthouse keeper's house on White Island. It seemed to find refuge in a tall patch of grass near the picnic table. Numerous times it hopped up onto the bench to get a little sun and inspect its surroundings. On one exploratory trip out on to the rocks I was able to photograph it. After a few phone calls to Becky Suomala and Steve Mirick to verify the identification, Matt Charette and I were very excited to have the privilege of documenting a first New Hampshire record.



*LeConte's Sparrow*  
by Dan Hayward

The LeConte's Sparrow, *Ammodramus leconteii*, can be confused with some of the other sparrows, the easiest being the sharp-tailed sparrows. Two key field marks that distinguish the LeConte's from the others are the white median crown stripe and the chestnut-streaked grayish nape. Also look for the buff-colored streaks on the back.

Breeding primarily in South-central Canada and the Northern Plains of the United States and wintering from the Midwest over to South Carolina and down to the Gulf States, the LeConte's Sparrow is not a regular visitor to this part of the country. There are 14 records in Massachusetts, 13 fall records and 1 "largely ignored" spring record.

With the number of people interested in birding on the rise and more eyes out in the field, the number of previously undocumented species is likely to increase. In order for birds to be "properly documented," the descriptions must not only identify the species in question, they must eliminate other confusing species. Photographs usually leave little question to the species identity, but good notes taken in the field are just as valuable. It is a shame when rarities are lost because of lack of documentation. Write as much and take the best photos you can, but remember to key in on the features that single the species out. I urge all those interested to keep your pencils and cameras handy, share your sightings, and, above all, enjoy.

*Dan Hayward has been a Field Biologist for the ASNH Common Tern Restoration Project at the Isles of Shoals for the past three years and lives in Springfield, New Hampshire.*

by Stephen R. Mirick

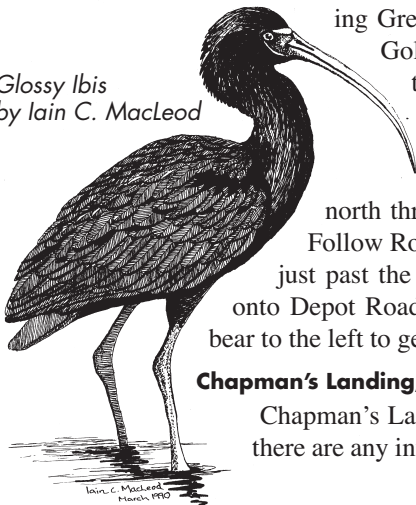
**G**reat Bay is the largest estuary in the state. It encompasses approximately 11,000 acres of tidal water and is bordered by ten towns. It is a wide, shallow bay where the tidal waters of the ocean meet the incoming fresh water from seven different rivers that flow into the estuary system. Not surprisingly, the bay also represents the most important migratory stop and wintering area for several species of waterfowl, including the American Black Duck, Canada Goose, and Greater Scaup. In addition, one of the largest wintering populations of Bald Eagles in the state utilizes the bay, and it is the only nesting location in coastal New Hampshire for Ospreys. Because of its importance, Great Bay has been established as part of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

The best time of year to visit is from October through April, when the greatest numbers of waterfowl will be present. This is also the best time for viewing Bald Eagles. The summer is relatively slow on the bay; however, the nesting birds, including Ospreys, will be most easily seen then. Shorebirds may be migrating through during the fall, beginning as early as mid-July. Be aware that hunting is common on the bay in season; birders may be sharing space with hunters at all of the locations outlined below.

## **Sandy Point Discovery Center, Stratham**

This area, managed by the New Hampshire Fish & Game Department, is situated along the southern edge of the bay. It offers a 1700-foot boardwalk, accessible to wheelchairs, which winds through a forested area, wooded swamp, and out onto the edge of the salt marshes, where there are nice views of the bay. During migration, the boardwalk can be excellent for migrant warblers and sparrows. Both species of cuckoos have been seen here, and watch for Pileated Woodpeckers, which are year-round residents of the area. From October through April, the boat launch is a good location to scan the bay for the large flocks of migrant and wintering Greater Scaup, American Black Duck, Common Goldeneye, and Canada Geese. During mid-winter, this area usually becomes iced in, so it is better to search the northern section of the bay from Adam's Point.

*Glossy Ibis*  
by Iain C. MacLeod



Iain C. MacLeod  
March 1990

To reach Sandy Point, follow Route 108 north through Stratham to the Route 33 traffic circle. Follow Route 33 east towards Portsmouth for 1.5 miles, just past the set of lights for Squamscott Road. Turn left onto Depot Road and follow this to the end, where you will bear to the left to get to the parking lot for the nature center.

## **Chapman's Landing, Stratham**

Chapman's Landing is always worth a quick check to see if there are any interesting birds along the river or over the open

salt marshes. It is a public boat launch managed by New Hampshire Fish & Game and located along the Squamscott River. Public restrooms are open in season. During the early spring and late fall, check the salt pans for Green-winged Teal and Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs. During the summer, Salt-marsh and Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows nest here, and be sure to check the power lines crossing the river. Ospreys have nested on the poles in recent years, and Red-tailed Hawks can often be seen perched along the wires or soaring overhead. During the winter, the only noteworthy birds seen here are Common Mergansers, which are frequently seen swimming among the ice flows in the river.

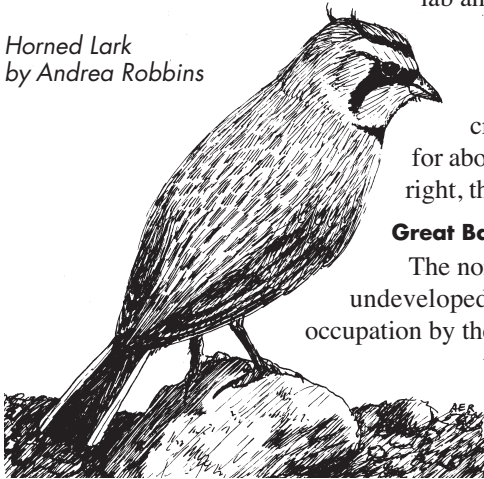
To reach Chapman's Landing from Sandy Point, return to Route 33 and drive west for a short distance. Turn right at the first set of lights onto Squamscott Road. Follow this to the intersection of Route 108. Turn right and head north on Route 108 for less than a 1/4 mile and look for the landing on the right, just prior to the metal bridge over the Squamscott River.

### **Adam's Point, Durham**

Located at the mouth of Great Bay, Adam's Point is state-owned land and the site of the UNH Jackson Estuarine Laboratory. There is an excellent trail that leads around the point and offers numerous locations to scan for migrating and wintering waterfowl along the northern part of the bay. Adam's Point is probably the best area to search for wintering Bald Eagles on the bay. The eagles are best seen with a spotting scope roosting along the shores of the bay, or perhaps feeding along the edge of the ice. During the spring, summer, and fall, be sure to check the saltmarsh opposite the boat launch. Glossy Ibis and Snowy Egrets can sometimes be seen feeding in these pools, along with Belted Kingfishers. In migration, shorebirds can be common at high tide roosting and feeding along the edge of the pools. The list of bird species seen from Adam's Point is impressive, and a trip here is highly recommended.

To reach Adam's Point, drive south along Route 108 from Durham for .4 miles and turn left onto Durham Point Road. Drive for 4 miles to Adam's Point Road, where there is a gate but no road sign. Turn left here and follow the road past the boat launch to the end, where there is a public parking lot for the lab and the trails.

*Horned Lark*  
by Andrea Robbins



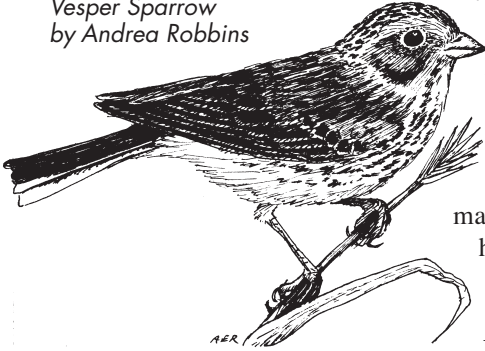
From the south, follow Route 108 north through Newmarket center and turn right onto Bay Road just after crossing over the Lamprey River. Drive for about 5 miles to Adam's Point Road on your right, then follow directions above.

### **Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

The northeastern shore of the bay has remained undeveloped over the years because of the former occupation by the Pease Air Force Base. With its closure, this land is now being managed as the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Two trails provide nice opportunities for birders.

To reach the parking lot for the trails, take Exit 1 off of the Spaulding Turnpike and drive south on Gosling Road into the Pease International Tradeport. Drive .6 miles through a set of lights and turn right onto Arboretum Drive. Follow this road around the northwest side of the airport. At 2.3 miles, you will be at the end of the runway for the airport. Park off of the side of the road and walk up to the fence overlooking the airport. From late April through August, Upland Sandpipers may be found out in the grassy area in the middle of the runways. This is one of very few nesting locations for this species in New Hampshire. A spotting scope is usually required, although some-

*Vesper Sparrow*  
by Andrea Robbins



times the birds can be found close to the fence. Search the sparse vegetation along the end of the runway for Horned Lark and Vesper Sparrows, which also sometimes nest here.

Continuing along the road for 1 more mile, and you will pass through an automatic gate and find the parking lot and trail heads. Rest rooms are available here. The shorter of the two trails is .5 miles long and takes you out to Upper Peverly Pond, a freshwater pond that can sometimes be good for waterfowl in the spring and fall. The longer

of the two trails is 2 miles long and starts along the edge of the former weapons storage area for the old Pease Air Force Base. Search the brushy areas for Field Sparrows and Brown Thrasher, and Eastern Bluebirds and American Kestrels can often be found perched along the wires. The trail travels by a beaver pond, through an open field, and eventually comes out at the Furber Straits at the mouth of Great Bay, directly opposite Adam's Point. Unfortunately, there are no good vantage points for viewing the bay from the trail. However, waterfowl and an occasional eagle can sometimes be found along the water's edge.

### **Bayside Road Access**

The state of New Hampshire has recently acquired this land off Bayside Road. The view of the bay is limited, but sometimes in the spring this can be a good spot to see the Greater Scaup and dabbling ducks near Pierce's Point.

To get here from Portsmouth, follow Route 33 west towards Greenland. After crossing the Winnicut River, turn right onto Bayside Road. Follow Bayside Road for less than .5 mile and look for the signs on the right after crossing a small creek. Park at the end of the gravel road and walk north along the .5-mile trail to the bay.

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

# Powerline Rights-Of-Way: The Solution for Shrubland Birds?

*Research reported by Diane Wells*

*Edited by Francie Von Mertens*

**T**hroughout eastern North America, several shrubland bird species appear to be experiencing population declines and are currently at levels that find them state-listed as species of concern, threatened, or endangered. Chestnut-sided Warblers, Eastern Towhees, and Field Sparrows are just a few examples of shrubland species thought to be in the midst of a downward trend. Although pinpointing the cause(s) of this decline is difficult, it is safe to assume that this group of breeding habitat specialists is at least partly responding to a direct loss of nesting habitat.

State bird records and personal communication with birdwatchers testify to the fact that powerline rights-of-way (ROWs) in New Hampshire are being utilized by shrubland species of concern. However, the question remains as to how they are being utilized. Are ROWs source habitats where breeding populations of shrubland species are producing offspring? Or are ROWs sink habitats where shrubland species are either not attempting to nest due to some suboptimal habitat characteristic(s) or are attempting to nest but are unsuccessful due to high rates of nest predation and/or nest parasitism.

In an attempt to answer these questions and understand the role that ROWs play in providing nesting habitat for New Hampshire's shrubland birds, the Audubon Society of New Hampshire and the Nongame Program of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department are sponsoring a study of Public Service of New Hampshire's ROWs in southeastern New Hampshire.

During this past summer, field technicians conducted surveys from May 15 to August 1 along eight ROW study sites. Each site was visited 11 times over the course of the season, and all birds observed were mapped and their behaviors recorded. Behaviors included those that indicated territories, nesting attempts, and fledglings.

Preliminary results have indicated that the study sites were heavily utilized as breeding habitat by Eastern Towhees, Prairie Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, and Field Sparrows. Additional breeding species included Chestnut-sided Warblers, Blue-winged Warblers, Yellow Warblers, Indigo Buntings, Gray Catbirds, and Alder Flycatchers. A total of 21 breeding species were documented and an additional 31 species were observed either foraging in the shrubland habitat or utilizing utility poles as perches and/or drumming sites.

Nest parasitism by Brown-headed Cowbirds was documented, as well as other nest failures that may be attributed to such things as weather and predation. However, it is important to note that the goal of this particular study is to collect baseline data on overall nesting success. Future studies may further investigate what is influencing that success and why.



Vegetation surveys were also conducted so that a habitat profile of each site could be developed and, ultimately, compared with the breeding bird communities that utilized them. All in all, herbaceous and woody plant species were identified and their heights recorded at 1,760 survey points. In collecting this information, we may now begin to understand how these species are selecting for breeding habitat. Additionally, we may determine how they are benefiting from Public Service of New Hampshire's management practices and, perhaps, how those practices may be improved for the good of the breeding bird community.



*Field Sparrow*  
by Andrea Robbins

At this time, we are about halfway through the project, with one field season under our belts and another scheduled for the summer of 2001. The overall design of next year's field season remains to be determined. Although the bird survey technique will remain the same, we have yet to decide whether we will survey the same or different sites. Habitat surveys for next year may also potentially include species-specific habitat measurements so that a Field Sparrow breeding territory may be compared with that of the Chestnut-sided Warbler.

Although powerline ROWs are not necessarily a pristine part of our landscape, there is growing interest by researchers and natural resource managers in their value as sources of shrubland habitat. If ROWs provide breeding habitat for shrubland birds, they could potentially play an important role in the future conservation of shrubland species in New Hampshire and, for that matter, eastern North America.

*Diane Wells started working with ASNH in 1992, when she was hired as an observer for the White Mountain National Forest breeding bird surveys. Since then, she has scouted for Northern Harriers, searched for wintering eagles, and conducted point count surveys throughout the state. Additionally, she has worked with Carol Foss on Carol's northern forest breeding bird community research and spent some time in northeastern Oregon chasing Northern Goshawks. In 1998, she was hired as an assistant to the Conservation Department, but in 1999 she left to return to school. She is pursuing her M.S. in the Wildlife and Fisheries program at the University of Vermont. Her thesis will be on powerline ROWs and the breeding habitat they provide for shrubland bird species.*

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 98

- p. 7 Sooty Shearwater: There was 1 not 12 in Hampton on 06-16.
- p. 8 The location of the American Bittern seen on 06-04 in Pittsburg should read Scott Bog Rd., Connecticut Lakes region.
- p. 15 The Killdeer on 07-09 were seen at Elm Brook Park beach not Elm Brook State Park beach.
- p. 19 The Gull-billed Tern on 07-23 should not have appeared in the listings because it was not accepted as a record for the state due to the requirements of a first state record.
- p. 31 The Wilson's Warblers were seen on 06-20 not 05-20 in Pittsburg.
- p. 38 In the fourth paragraph in response to the question "When is a Solitary Sandpiper significant?" the next to last line should read "When seen in July in Whitefield or Jefferson in the North Country, when it represents the first sighting of their southbound migration." (It is not a very late northbound migrant in July.)

### Fall 98

- p. 8 Note that the Great Cormorants on Duck Is. on 09-01 were in Maine.
- p. 12 Lesser Scaup on 10-21 were in Littleton not Whitefield at the Samuel Moore Dam.
- p. 24 Black-billed Cuckoo on 09-01 in Enfield was on Rt. 4 not Rt. 2.
- p. 26 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on 10-03 in Chester was a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.
- p. 27 Gray Jay & Boreal Chickadee on 11-19 were in Waterville Valley not Woodstock.
- p. 29 American Robin on 11-19 were in Waterville Valley not Woodstock.
- p. 37 Lapland Longspur on 11-14 should be 1 not 11, and the summary on **p. 35**, paragraph 2 should read "One (not eleven) Lapland Longspur in Concord was a nice find away from the coast."

### Winter 98-99

- p. 14 In the Owls through Waxwings summary, second paragraph should read "One Varied Thrush, a fairly regular vagrant" not a migrant.
- p. 14 Red-bellied Woodpecker on 12-16 was seen on Hackleboro Rd. not Mt. Hackleboro.
- p. 18 Grasshopper Sparrow on 12-19 was observed by S. Mirick also.
- p. 21 & Mute Swan totals are incorrect. Some individuals were double counted due to
  - p. 24 compilation difficulties (see below).
- p. 21 Seacoast CBC note: the data for this count is incomplete — numbers from three areas were not available due to unforeseen circumstances which delayed the count compilation.

## Can You Identify This Bird?



Answer to appear in the  
next issue.

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# **New Hampshire Bird Records**

## **Volume 19, Number 1**

### **Spring 2000**

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## **Abbreviations Used**

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

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