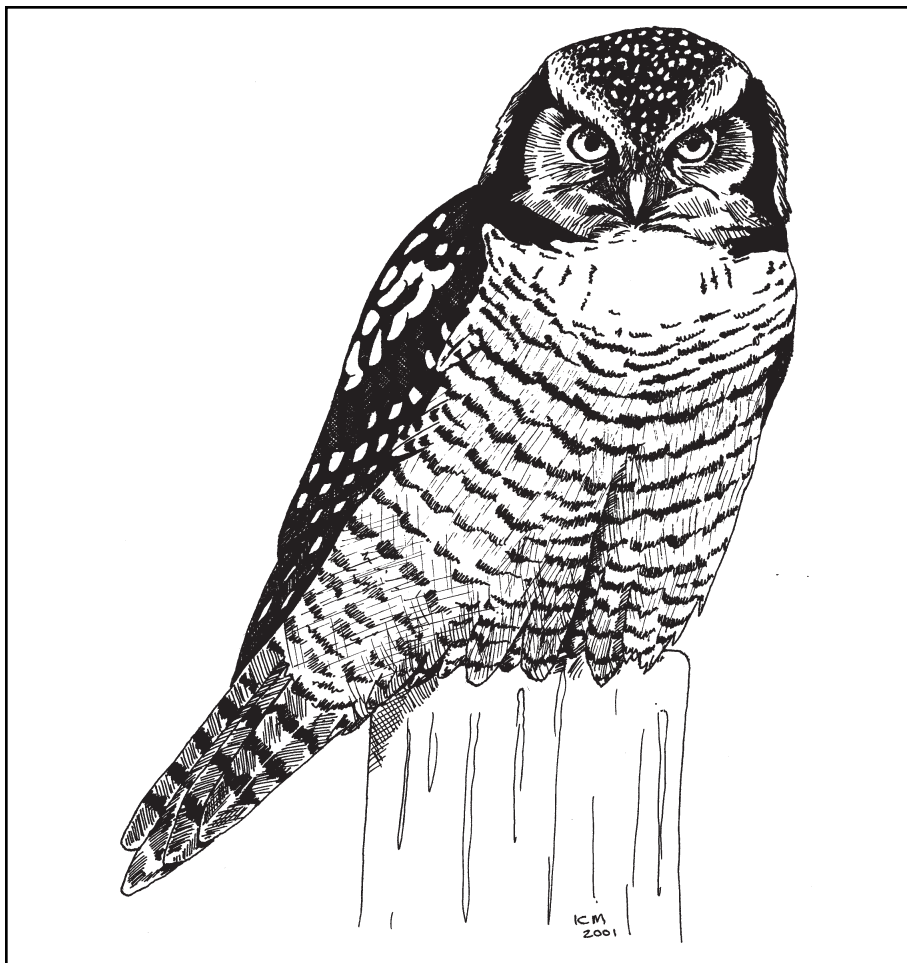


New Hampshire Bird Records



Winter 2000–2001

Vol. 19, No. 4

About the Cover

by Pam Hunt and Rebecca Suomala

During the winter of 2000–2001, southern Canada and the northern United States hosted one of the largest Northern Hawk Owl incursions on record. In the far west, Washington hosted five (only 11 previous records!), and British Columbia birders found at least 75. In the central part of the continent, one could see up to six a day in Manitoba, and Minnesota logged a record 159. Finally, we reach our home turf, where most of the action was just to the north. The Province of Quebec had a mind-boggling 209 reports, with only 18 scattered between New York and Nova Scotia. Learn more about the Northern Hawk Owl that appeared in Whitefield this winter on page 25.

The beautiful cover illustration of a Northern Hawk Owl is by Iain MacLeod, whose work appears often in *New Hampshire Bird Records*. This drawing has inspired us to showcase it on more than just the cover, and we hope to produce T-shirts with Iain's spectacular owl on the front. (Proceeds will benefit *New Hampshire Bird Records*.) You'll be hearing more about this.

In This Issue

- Highlights of the Christmas Bird Counts and the full New Hampshire results
- The annual NH Rare Birds Committee summary
- Northern Hawk Owl in Whitefield
- Bog Road in Enfield, a great place to bird
- Volunteers track high elevation species

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

Published by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire

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Letter from the Editor

Subscription Renewal

It's time to renew your subscription to *New Hampshire Bird Records*. All renewals take place in October and your form is enclosed with this issue. Please return your renewal right away and save us from sending you a reminder.

New Hampshire Bird Records is the only source of information on current bird sightings in the state and is utilized by many projects here at the Audubon Society of New Hampshire and throughout the state. When you subscribe to *New Hampshire Bird Records*, you support not only the publication but also the bird conservation efforts that need the data *New Hampshire Bird Records* provides.

The publication continues to grow and we are always interested in suggestions, comments, and ideas from our readers. If you are interested in helping with the publication, please contact me (see below).

Increase in Subscription Costs

The increasing costs of producing *New Hampshire Bird Records* has made it necessary to increase subscription rates. The rates have been the same since 1993, when subscriptions began. Since that time, there has been a dramatic increase in the costs of production. An increase in income was needed to ensure the continued publication of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. We hope that our readers appreciate the increase in quality of the publication since 1994 and understand the factors involved in this decision. The Audubon Society of New Hampshire continues to underwrite a major portion of the expenses, and members of the Society will still receive a significant reduction in the subscription price. New subscription rates will be \$14 for members and \$20 for non-members. We value your continued interest and support for *New Hampshire Bird Records* and hope you will continue to subscribe. Please contact me if you have any comments or questions.

Rebecca Suomala
Managing Editor
August, 2001
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New Winter Editor Needed

Alan Delorey has regretfully resigned as the Winter Editor for health reasons. We are looking for someone to fill the position beginning in December, 2001. The job requires experience birding in New Hampshire, good writing skills, and the ability to meet deadlines. Please contact me for more information about the position. I will send a job description to anyone who is interested, so please provide your mailing address if you reply via voice or e-mail.

Rebecca Suomala

What to Report

Winter Season (December through February)

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

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

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

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

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

Winter 2000 Deleted Species

Canada Goose	Bonaparte's Gull	American Crow
American Black Duck	Ring-billed Gull	Common Raven
Mallard	Herring Gull	Black-capped Chickadee
Greater Scaup	Great Black-backed Gull	Tufted Titmouse
Common Eider	Mourning Dove	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Surf Scoter	Barred Owl	White-breasted Nuthatch
Red-breasted Merganser	Northern Saw-whet Owl	Brown Creeper
Bald Eagle	Belted Kingfisher	Northern Mockingbird
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Downy Woodpecker	American Pipit
Cooper's Hawk	Hairy Woodpecker	Northern Cardinal
Red-tailed Hawk	Northern Flicker	House Finch
Ring-necked Pheasant	Pileated Woodpecker	American Goldfinch
Ruffed Grouse		

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

Winter Season

December 1, 2000–February 28, 2001

by Alan Delorey, Winter Editor and Barbara Delorey, Assistant

The winter of 2000–2001 started out cold. The average temperature at Laconia in December was 22.7 degrees, 2.2 degrees below normal, and 6.8 degrees colder than December of last year. Both January and February were slightly warmer than normal. Snowfall was heavy, especially when compared to last winter. December saw three “nor’easters,” but February really racked up the snow. A monster storm on February 5–6 dropped one to two feet over the entire state, with some sections receiving over 30 inches.

The big news of the season was the influx of owls and hawks, probably due to the heavy snow. The celebrity bird this winter was the cooperative **Northern Hawk Owl** that entertained birders at the Mount Washington Regional Airport in Whitefield for two months. A second, less cooperative Hawk Owl put in occasional appearances at Jefferson Meadows in Jefferson. The last confirmed record of Northern Hawk Owl in New Hampshire was in November 1991 in Stewartstown (see p. 25). A gray morph **Gyrfalcon** was seen by several birders in the Lancaster-Jefferson region. This bird proved elusive for many birders, who searched for it unsuccessfully.

A **Common Murre**, rare in this area, was photographed at North Hampton State Beach. Other luminaries of the season included a **Varied Thrush** in Rye, a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in Derry, and a **Lark Sparrow** in Durham.

The rarest bird of the winter season was a **Veery**, which spent the winter at a feeder in Bristol. This bird arrived in October and continued to visit the feeder regularly through the end of February. While common in New Hampshire during summer, a Veery in winter is very rare in New England.

Loons through Vultures

Red-throated Loon numbers were about the same as last year, with 12 being the highest one-day count at the coast. This species is more common in November and early December, when migrants are still moving, than later in the winter. A count of 19 Horned Grebes at Newfound Lake was one of the highest inland counts in recent years. A storm-grounded Red-necked Grebe was rescued from the road in Bedford and released. A Double-crested Cormorant at the coast on December 30 was a late lingering bird.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Red-throated Loon				
12-04	4	Rye	Ragged Neck	A.& B. Delorey
12-22	12		NH coast	A.& B. Delorey

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Common Loon				
12-02	1	Lancaster	Connecticut River	B. Taffe
12-03	6		NH coast	J. McIlwaine, F. Krauss
12-08	1	Belmont	Lake Winnisquam	J. & R. Williams
12-10	3		Winnisquam Lake	P. Hunt
12-24	1	Bristol	Newfound Lake by Wellington St. Pk.	J. Williams
01-28	17	Hampton	s. side of Boars Head	S. Mirick, B. Fox, D. Duxbury, B. Goodwin
Horned Grebe				
12-03	2	Bristol	Newfound Lake	J. Williams
12-04	8	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
12-22	26		NH coast	A. & B. Delorey
12-24	19	Hebron	Newfound Lake from Rt. 3A	J. Williams
02-16	12	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
Red-necked Grebe				
12-04	20	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	A. & B. Delorey
12-20	1	Bedford	Rt. 93	J. Kanter
12-22	54		NH coast	A. & B. Delorey
12-24	1	Bristol	Newfound Lake by Wellington St. Pk.	J. Williams
01-07	15	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
02-10	20	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
Northern Gannet				
12-14	12		NH coast	S. Mirick
12-17	5	Rye	Ragged Neck	A. & B. Delorey
Double-crested Cormorant				
12-30	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A. & B. Delorey
Great Cormorant				
01-05	27	Rye	Concord Pt.	A. & B. Delorey
02-16	34	Rye	Rye Ledge	A. & B. Delorey
Great Blue Heron				
01-05	1	Dover	Cocheco R.	S. Mirick
01-07	1	Hampton Falls	Depot Rd.	D. Donsker
01-07	1	Rye	Wallis Sands St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
02-15	1	Northwood	Northwood Lake	G. Rollins
02-28	1	Portsmouth	marshes near WHEB	S. Mirick
Turkey Vulture				
12-31	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
02-28	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.

Waterfowl

In sharp contrast to last winter, when mild weather provided lots of open water, few puddle-ducks lingered into the winter season. The small flock of Northern Pintail wintered in Newcastle again. Northward-bound Canvasback migrants passed through in February, as usual. There were no large counts of Greater Scaup from their stronghold on Great Bay, perhaps due to the cold weather and freeze-up on the bay. There were

very few Common Eider along the coast this winter and no reports of King Eider. Surf and Black Scoter numbers were also low. Lake Winnisquam continues to be the best place in New Hampshire for Barrow's Goldeneye, with a peak count of five in early December. Lake Winnisquam also provided this winter's highest counts of Common Goldeneye and Hooded Merganser.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Snow Goose				
12-08	1	Plymouth	Quincy Rd. by Smith Bridge	J. Williams
Northern Pintail				
01-02	1	Newmarket	Bayview Dr.	S. Mirick
01-14	4	Newcastle	off Rt. 1B	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
02-15	1	Newmarket	Bayview Dr.	S. Mirick
Canvasback				
02-18	2	Stratham	Squamscott R.	S. Mirick, B. Smith
Ring-necked Duck				
12-03	2	Laconia	Opechee Bay	P. Hunt
02-28	2	Tilton	Winnisquam Lake outflow	P. Hunt
White-winged Scoter				
12-22	144		NH coast	A. & B. Delorey
Black Scoter				
12-04	24	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
02-24	36	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A. & B. Delorey
02-24	30	Hampton	Hampton Beach	A. & B. Delorey
Long-tailed Duck				
01-05	94		NH coast	A. & B. Delorey
Bufflehead				
12-01	6	Salem	Canobie Lake	K. Folsom
12-02	3	Ashland	Squam R.	J. Williams
01-13	12	Dover	Hilton Pk.	C. Martin, A. Todd
Common Goldeneye				
12-10	271		Winnisquam Lake	P. Hunt
02-27	178	Newmarket	Bayview Dr.	S. Mirick
Barrow's Goldeneye				
12-10	5		Winnisquam Lake	P. Hunt
Hooded Merganser				
12-01	47	Wakefield	Lovell Lake, cemetery area	S. Snyder
02-03	56	Tilton	Winnisquam Lake outflow	P. Hunt
Common Merganser				
12-03	28	Gilmanton	Gilmanton Iron Works, Crystal Lake	W. Arms
12-08	10	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
01-07	12	Stratham	Squamscott R.	A. & B. Delorey
01-28	15	Laconia	Winnepesaukee R. by Martel's Bait Shop	J. Williams

Hawks

Northern Harriers had a banner year, with 15 reports of at least four individuals at the coast. It was also a big flight year for Rough-legged Hawks, with eight reports of three to four individuals at the coast, plus two more inland. Several lucky birders observed a gray morph Gyrfalcon in the Lancaster-Jefferson area. This bird proved to be elusive for many more birders, who searched in vain for it. A total of 57 Bald Eagles (29 adults, 6 sub-adults, 22 immatures) were tallied in the state this winter.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Northern Harrier				
12-04	1	Rye	Concord Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
12-11	1	Hampton	Tide Mill Creek estuary	C. Martin
12-16	1	Dover	shoreline near Hilton Pk., Dover Pt.	D.& A. Stavros
01-05	1	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
01-05	1	Rye	Concord Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
01-07	1	Hampton Falls	Depot Rd.	D. Donsker
01-08	1	Rye	marsh behind Rye Harbor	D.& T. Donsker
01-13	1	Rye	Rye Harbor Marsh	D. Donsker, M. Resch
01-13	1	Seabrook	dunes s. of bridge	D. Donsker, M. Resch
01-13	1	Rye	Concord Pt.	R. Woodward
01-14	1	Newcastle	off Rt. 1B	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
01-23	1	Seabrook	along Rt. 1A	S. Mirick
01-28	1	Seabrook	Seabrook dunes	S. Mirick, B. Goodwin, et al.
02-24	1	Hampton	Hampton Harbor	R. Woodward, Capital Area Chapter FT
02-24	1	Seabrook	Cross Beach Rd.	A.& B. Delorey
Northern Goshawk				
12-11	1	Rumney	Stinson Mtn. n. ridge, WMNF residence	J. Williams
12-13	1	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
01-02	1	Canterbury	Rt. 93	A. Ports
01-28	1	Rumney	residence	A. Ports
01-31	1	New London	Pingree Rd.	A.& R. Vernon
02-09	1	Rumney	residence	A.& C. Ports
02-16	1	Laconia	Ashley Dr.	A. Husson
02-18	1	Plymouth	Beech Hill Rd.	J. Williams
Red-shouldered Hawk				
02-07	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
Rough-legged Hawk				
12-21	1	Durham	off Rt. 155A	S. Mirick
01-04	1	Keene	bypass n. of West St. overpass	M. Wright
01-05	1	Hampton	Rt. 101	A.& B. Delorey
01-07	1	Rye	marsh behind Rye Harbor	D.& T. Donsker
01-13	1	Rye	marsh just s. of Odiorne Pt.	D. Donsker, M. Resch
01-28	2	Hampton	Hampton salt marshes	S. Mirick, B. Fox, D. Duxbury, B. Goodwin
02-01	1	N. Hampton	South Rd. & Rt. 111	T. Donsker
02-24	1	Hampton	Rt. 101 marsh	A.& B. Delorey
02-24	1	Hampton	Rt. 101 near water tower	R. Woodward, Capital Area Chapter FT
02-28	1	Atkinson	Island Pond Rd.	J. Romano

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
American Kestrel				
01-24	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
Merlin				
01-05	1	Seabrook	mussel beds	A.& B. Delorey
01-14	1	Hampton	off Rt. 101	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
02-16	1	Seabrook	Seabrook dunes	S. Mirick
02-24	1	Rye	Odiorne Pt.	A.& B. Delorey
Gyrfalcon				
01-01	1	Lancaster	Grange Rd.	R. Frechette, S. Spangenberg
Peregrine Falcon				
01-08	1	Dover	downtown	S. Mirick
01-13	1	Durham	Wagon Hill	C. Martin
01-28	2	Manchester	City Hall Plaza Bldg.	R. Woodward, Capital Area Chapter FT
02-03	1	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
02-16	1	Portsmouth	Memorial Bridge	S. Mirick

Grouse through Alcids

A Spruce Grouse in Gorham was a nice find. The town of Bath continues to be the stronghold for the largest flocks of Wild Turkeys in the state. At the coast, Sanderling numbers were down, while Dunlin numbers were up. Just as it was last winter, a single Black-headed Gull was seen in the Hampton-North Hampton area. The dark-eyed Iceland Gull reappeared at Seabrook Harbor, plus at least three immature Iceland Gulls wintered at the coast. A very cooperative Lesser Black-backed Gull spent January and February in Newmarket. Sightings of this European species continue to increase in New Hampshire. Only a single Glaucous Gull was reported for the entire winter. There were several reports of Black-legged Kittiwakes. Sightings from shore are always interesting for this largely pelagic gull.

Alcids rebounded from last year's low numbers, but were not quite as numerous as the winter of 1998-99. A **Common Murre** was photographed at North Hampton State Beach. This is a rare alcid in New Hampshire. Two cooperative Thick-billed Murres were seen throughout February at Great Boars Head in Hampton. A high count of 20 Razorbills off Pulpit Rock in Rye in late December was a migrating flock moving south. Black Guillemots were well distributed along the coast throughout the winter.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Spruce Grouse				
01-13	1	Gorham	Rt. 16, just s. of ranger station	R.& S. Snyder
Wild Turkey				
01-13	118	Bath	Rt. 135 fields n. of Woodsville	J. Williams
01-19	60	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
02-19	50	Newbury	Rt. 103 near Mt. Sunapee traffic circle	P. Newbern

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Sanderling				
01-07	100	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A.& B. Delorey
Purple Sandpiper				
02-10	50	New Castle	Great Island Common	A.& B. Delorey
Dunlin				
01-07	67	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A.& B. Delorey
Black-headed Gull				
01-14	1	Hampton	Hampton Beach	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
Iceland Gull				
12-14	2	Rye	Odiorne Point St. Pk.	S. Mirick
12-30	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
12-30	1	Seabrook	Seabrook Harbor	D.& T. Donsker
02-03	3	Portsmouth	Portsmouth Harbor	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
12-23	1	Durham	Durham Landing	S. Mirick, A. Borrer, D. Blezard
01-05	1	Dover	downtown	S. Mirick
01-08	1	Newmarket	Lamprey R. town landing	S. Mirick
01-27	1	Newmarket	downtown	S. Mirick, D. Tucker
02-03	1	Newmarket	town landing	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier, B. Smith
02-04	1	Newmarket	Bayview Dr.	S. Mirick
02-22	1	Newmarket	Lamprey R.	S. Mirick
Glaucous Gull				
01-05	1	Dover	Cocheco R.	S. Mirick
Black-legged Kittiwake				
12-14	12		NH coast	S. Mirick
12-22	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
01-05	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
01-05	1	Hampton	Bicentennial Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
01-07	4		NH coast	S. Mirick, R.& M. Suomala
Common Murre				
12-31	1	Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	W. Clark
Thick-billed Murre				
01-14	1	Hampton	North Side Pk.	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
01-16	2	N. Hampton	coast	S. Mirick
01-20	1	Rye	Straw Pt.	S. Mirick, R. Duddy, R. Woodward
01-20	1	Hampton	Hampton Beach	S. Mirick, M. Suomala, et al.
02-16	2	Hampton	Great Boars Head	S. Mirick
Razorbill				
12-04	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
12-04	6	Rye	Ragged Neck	A.& B. Delorey
12-22	4	Rye	Ragged Neck	A.& B. Delorey
12-22	20	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
01-05	2	Rye	Ragged Neck	A.& B. Delorey

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
01-13	6		NH coast	R. Woodward
01-14	2	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
02-16	2	N. Hampton	Little Boars Head	S. Mirick

Black Guillemot

12-04	2	Rye	Ragged Neck	A.& B. Delorey
12-04	4	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A.& B. Delorey
12-04	10	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
12-30	1	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
01-05	2	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
01-05	2	Rye	Ragged Neck	A.& B. Delorey
01-13	5		NH coast	R. Woodward
01-14	2	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
02-03	7	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	A.& B. Delorey
02-03	3	Rye	Pulpit Rocks	S. Mirick, A. Delorey, et al.
02-16	8		NH coast	S. Mirick
02-16	6	Seabrook	Seabrook Beach	A.& B. Delorey

Owls through Waxwings

The dearth of Snowy Owls continued, with only one confirmed sighting this winter. As noted in the introduction, two **Northern Hawk Owls** graced northern New Hampshire this winter. (See the introduction and page 25 for more details). A Short-eared Owl was present in Seabrook from late January to late February. There were rumors of one or two additional Short-eared Owls at the coast this winter, but no reports were submitted. A Red-headed Woodpecker in Hudson was the first winter record in a few years. Eleven Red-bellied Woodpeckers was down slightly from recent winters, perhaps due to the severe weather. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, which spent January and February in Moultonborough, was unusual for the winter season.

Twenty-three Northern Shrikes almost matched last year's count. Six Carolina Wrens was about average for recent years. A Winter Wren, rare at this season despite its name, spent most of the winter in Kensington. Two more were observed in Durham mid-winter.

A Ruby-crowned Kinglet, a rare winter find, was probably a late migrant. In spite of the heavy snow, the usual number of Bluebirds were present, as well as two Hermit Thrushes and large counts of American Robins. A **Varied Thrush**, photographed at a residence in Rye, was a rare visitor from the Pacific Northwest. A **Veery**, photographed at a feeder in Bristol, was certainly out of place in the winter season. This is only the second winter record for New England. The prior record was from 1980 in Connecticut. An American Pipit at Hampton during January and February and another in Rye were truly rare. There are only a handful of previous winter records.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Great Horned Owl				
12-12	2	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
01-16	2	Chichester	wetland e. of Highland Dr.	R. Suomala
02-04	1	Danbury	Rt. 103B	P. Newbern

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Snowy Owl				
02-20	1	Hopkinton	Rt. 89 near exit 6, Contoocook	R. Cook, R. Courser
Northern Hawk Owl				
12-01	1	Jefferson	Jefferson Meadows, Rt.115A	C. Bretton, F. Sladen
12-02	1	Whitefield	Whitefield Airport	D. Govatski, C. Bretton, et al.
Short-eared Owl				
01-22	1	Seabrook	marsh w. of Rt. 1A	T. Vazzano, D. Rock
Red-headed Woodpecker				
01-06	1	Hudson	Edgewood Dr.	J. & B. Bedard
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
12-01	1	Pelham	Marie Ave.	D. Goyette
12-01	1	Middleton	Sunrise Lake residence	D. & C. Reynolds
12-14	1	Milford	Federal Hill Rd.	B. Becker
01-01	1	Hampstead	residence	S. Mirick, et al.
01-05	1	Stratham	near Rt. 108 & Swamscott Rd. jct.	G. Gavutis, III
02-01	1	Hudson	Daniel Webster Dr.	C. Laffin
02-04	1	Warner	Lower Village, E. Main St.	D. Carroll
02-10	1	Brookline	residence	M. Neveu
02-15	1	Newmarket	Lady Slipper Dr.	S. Wassal
02-26	1	Middleton	Sunrise Lake residence	D. & C. Reynolds
02-28	1	Brookline	Parker Rd.	M. Brown
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
01-14	1	Moultonborough	Winaukee Rd.	J. Currier, T. Vazzano, R. Bennett
Black-backed Woodpecker				
12-08	1	Jefferson	Waumbeck Jct., Pondicherry WS	B. Taffe
01-04	2	Second College Grant		T. & B. Lorenz
02-08	1	Dummer	Androscoggin R. near Magill Bay	W. Staats, J. Kanter, J. Kelly, C. Martin
Northern Shrike				
12-08	1	Whitefield	Whitefield Airport	B. Taffe, C. Bretton, et al.
12-20	1	Laconia	Prescott Farm Audubon Ctr.	A. McIntyre
12-21	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
12-23	1	Jefferson	Rt. 115A along the Israel R.	J. Williams
12-24	1	Rumney	residence	A. Ports
12-30	1	Stratham	near Rt. 108 & Swamscott Rd. jct.	G. Gavutis, III
01-02	1	Columbia	residence	D. Killam
01-04	1	Concord	Silk Farm WS	R. & M. Suomala, S. Mirick
01-05	1	Stoddard	Shedd Hill Rd.	C. Perks, S. Spurrier
01-10	1	N. Hampton	Rt. 111 at Rt. 95	D. Donsker
01-11	1	Hinsdale	Hinsdale Bluffs	L. Deming, K. Sopoto
01-13	1	Washington	E. Washington feeder	R. & P. Clark
01-16	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-16	1	Newmarket	off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick
01-17	1	Henniker	Shaker Hill Rd.	R. Hardy
01-18	1	Plymouth	Beech Hill Rd.	J. Williams, R. Fellows
01-19	1	Holderness	US Forest Service lot	J. Williams, J. Haartz
01-20	1	Portsmouth	off Elwynn Rd.	S. Mirick, R. Duddy

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
01-21	1	Peterborough	Freemont land	E. Masterson
01-28	1	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-28	1	Rye	near Wallis Sands Beach	S. Mirick, D. Duxbury, et al.
02-18	1	Belmont	South Rd.	H. Anderson
02-20	1	Durham	Emery Farm	S. Mirick
Gray Jay				
01-05	3	Errol	Long Pond	T.& B. Lorenz
Horned Lark				
12-15	10	Litchfield	near Passaconaway Golf Course	C. Martin, J. McKibbin, R. Tulloh
01-05	20	Rye	Ragged Neck	A.& B. Delorey
01-07	18	Litchfield	Naticook Ave. behind golf course	J. Henderson
01-07	17	Seabrook	Rt. 286	D. Donsker
01-11	2	Concord	Merrill Farm, Penacook	C. Foss
02-16	18	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A.& B. Delorey
Carolina Wren				
12-28	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
12-31	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
01-05	1	Concord	Main St.	I. Bridges
01-14	1	Hampstead	Woodridge Rd., E. Hampstead	D.& W. Trested
02-13	1	Boscawen	North Main St.	R. Hardy
Winter Wren				
12-05	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
01-09	2	Durham	near Colby Marsh	S. Mirick, R. Suomala
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
12-03	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
12-27	5	Ellsworth	WMNF	J. Williams
01-03	4	Bartlett	Bear Notch ski trail # 21	C.& J. Tewksbury
01-15	5	Errol	Long Pond	T.& B. Lorenz
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
12-02	1	Concord	airport	P. Verville, P. Hunt, ASNH FT
Eastern Bluebird				
01-01	7	Hampstead	residential neighborhood	S. Mirick, et al.
01-03	2	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-13	20	Dover	Clements Pt.	C. Martin, A. Todd
01-16	1	Rye	off Rt. 1A	S. Mirick
01-29	6	Temple	Fish Kill Rd.	G. Cromwell
01-31	12	Durham	Ellison Brook wetland	C. Martin, D. Hughes
02-05	4	Rye	Perkins Rd.	J. Elliott
02-06	5	Merrimack	Seaverns Bridge Rd.	J. Baardman
02-11	3	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
Veery				
02-10	1	Bristol	Worfield Circle	P. Moulton

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Hermit Thrush				
01-10	1	Nashua	Dublin Ave.	M. Haig
01-27	1	Durham	Adams Pt.	S. Mirick
02-10	1	Exeter	Watson Rd.	J. Sheldon
02-26	1	Nashua	Dublin Ave.	M. Haig
American Robin				
12-05	15	Sandwich	Whiteface Intervale	T. Vazzano
12-10	16	Laconia	Wildwood Rd.	H. Anderson
12-28	20	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
01-06	15	Brookline	N. Mason Rd. residence	M. Neveu
01-09	15	Rumney	Quincy Bog	A. Ports
01-11	22	Middleton	residence	S. Snyder
01-13	25	Chichester	Horse Corner Rd.	M. Reinhardt
01-25	18	Newbury	Stoney Brook W.S.	C.& C. Martin
01-28	12	Barrington		J. Emery
01-28	20	Northfield	census route	P. Hunt, R. Suomala
01-30	57	Rumney	Quincy Bog	A. Ports
01-31	32	Durham	Ellison Brook wetland	C. Martin, D. Hughes
02-02	62	Milford		R. LeBlanc
02-11	20	Concord	Hopkinton Rd.	D. Loven
02-12	14	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
Varied Thrush				
02-16	1	Rye	residence	J. Cullen
02-22	1	Rye	residence	J. Cullen, S. Mirick, D. Abbott
American Pipit				
01-13	1	N. Hampton	N. Hampton State Beach	D. Donsker, M. Resch
01-28	1	Hampton	Bicentennial Park	S. Mirick, B. Crowley, et al.
02-03	1	Hampton	Bicentennial Park	A.& B. Delorey
02-22	1	Rye	Rt. 1A pull-off s. of Odiorne Pt.	S. Mirick, D. Abbott
Bohemian Waxwing				
01-11	21	Tilton	Johsen Barn Rd. & Lower Bay Rd.	E. Regan, W. Arms
01-13	15	Goffstown	Mase Rd.	A. Frans
02-19	10	Walpole	County Rd., s. of village	H.& G. Beck
Cedar Waxwing				
12-22	250	Walpole	County Rd.	R. Ritz
01-05	50	Holderness	Plymouth State College field house	J. Williams
01-11	60	Sanbornton	fields off Calef Hill Rd.	S. Twimby
01-18	155	Keene	Arch St. and Blackberry Ln.	M. Wright
01-20	57	Plymouth	Highland St.	J. Williams
01-25	50	Franklin	Cross St.	W. Arms
02-27	60	Londonderry	Tower Hill Plaza	B. Delorey

Warblers through Snow Bunting

A few warblers braved the cold, snowy conditions this winter. Two single Yellow-rumped Warblers in southeastern New Hampshire were not really unusual. However, a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in Derry in mid-February was indeed rare. This southern

warbler is uncommon in New Hampshire during spring and summer. Surprisingly, there are two previous winter records in New Hampshire: one from December 1972 and one from December 1981. A Pine Warbler wintering in Hanover was also unusual.

American Tree Sparrows were widely distributed throughout the state in small flocks. Similar to the warblers, there were some unusual sparrows this winter, including a Chipping Sparrow in Northfield, two Field Sparrows in southern New Hampshire, a Savannah Sparrow in Plymouth, an Eastern Towhee in Brookline, and many reports of Fox Sparrows throughout the southern half of the state. In the rarity department, a **Lark Sparrow** was photographed in Durham and a **Harris' Sparrow** was observed in Berlin. Juncos were abundant at feeders this winter, whereas Snow Buntings were scarce.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
02-20	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
02-24	1	Rye	Odiorne Point St. Pk.	R. Woodward, Capital Area Chapter FT
Yellow-throated Warbler				
12-18	1	Derry	Opal Rd.	K. & M. Meditz
Pine Warbler				
12-07	1	Hanover	Smith Rd.	S. Sturup
01-06	1	Hanover	Smith Rd.	S. Sturup
Eastern Towhee				
02-10	1	Litchfield	Center St.	L. Brennan
02-10	1	Brookline	North Mason Rd.	C. & M. Neveu
02-10	2	New Ipswich	Mason Rd.	C. Johnson
American Tree Sparrow				
12-12	6	Concord	East Side Rd.	D. & B. Soule
12-14	4	Salem	residence	K. Folsom
12-17	40	Plymouth	Smith Bridge Rd.	J. Williams
01-01	8	Tilton	Winnepesaukee R. by Rt. 140	J. Williams
01-05	17	Holderness	Smith Bridge Rd.	J. Williams
02-04	22	Northfield	census route	P. Hunt
02-16	5	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. Harris
Chipping Sparrow				
02-18	1	Northfield	Towne & Country Estates	P. Hunt
Field Sparrow				
01-15	1	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. Harris
02-09	1	Dover	Penny Lane	J. Gerstenblatt
Lark Sparrow				
12-23	1	Durham	Cedar Point Rd.	D. Abbott, D. Finch
12-27	1	Durham	Cedar Point Rd.	S. Mirick
Savannah Sparrow				
01-06	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
01-15	1	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Savannah Sparrow — Ipswich subsp.				
01-20	1	Seabrook	Hampton Harbor	S. Mirick, R. Duddy
01-28	1	Seabrook	Seabrook dunes	S. Mirick, B. Fox, et al.
Fox Sparrow				
12-16	1	Tamworth	Great Hill Rd.	B. Steele
12-22	1	Concord	Silk Farm Audubon Center	E. Masterson
01-04	1	Windham	residence	J. Romano
01-21	2	Peterborough	Central St.	E. Masterson
01-29	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-02	2	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
02-09	1	Dover	Penny Lane	J. Gerstenblatt
02-10	4	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
02-18	2	Belmont	Gardeners Grove Rd.	H. Anderson
02-28	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
Song Sparrow				
12-31	1	Nashua	residence	J. & B. Ayer
01-05	1	Holderness	Smith Bridge Rd.	J. Williams
01-10	2	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. Harris
02-04	1	Northfield	Scribner Rd.	P. Hunt
White-throated Sparrow				
12-05	5	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
12-16	2	Milford	Federal Hill Rd.	R. & B. Becker
12-22	2	Rumney	residence	A. Ports
01-04	7	Tamworth	Tall Pines Rd. residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
Harris' Sparrow				
12-22	1	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube
12-23	1	Berlin	Argonne St.	K. Dube, S. Blais, A. Ports
Dark-eyed Junco				
12-22	50	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
12-23	40	Chichester	Smith Sandborn Rd.	R. & M. Suomala
01-06	75	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
01-16	50	Middleton	residence	R. & S. Snyder
01-28	103	Northfield	census route	P. Hunt, R. Suomala
02-02	48	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
Lapland Longspur				
01-14	1	Hampton	Hampton marshes	S. Mirick, J. Mittermeier
Snow Bunting				
12-17	20	Hampton	Hampton Beach St. Pk.	A. & B. Delorey
01-03	6	Deering	Rt. 202	E. Masterson
01-11	5	Concord	Merrill Farm, Penacook	C. Foss
01-31	10	Hopkinton	Sugar Hill Rd.	G. Chase
02-25	1	Northfield	Cross Mill Rd.	P. Hunt

Blackbirds through Evening Grosbeak

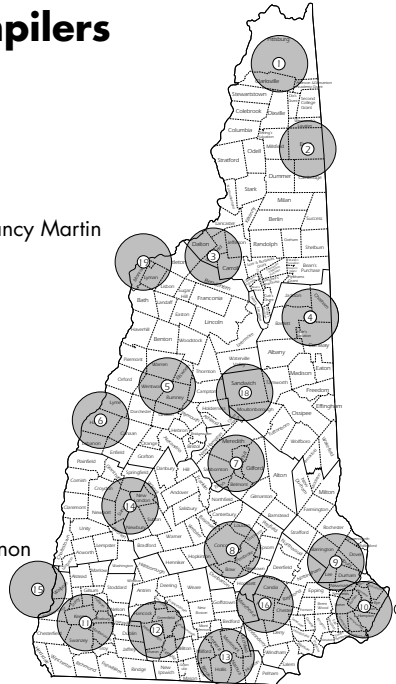
A count of 70 Red-winged Blackbirds in Kensington in late December was an impressive number for that late date. A roost of 500 Common Grackles was also noteworthy in December. There was only one report from the White Mountains of a single Pine Grosbeak. In sharp contrast to last year, Purple Finches were numerous throughout the state. White-winged Crossbills were widely reported from northern and western New Hampshire, with typical flock sizes of 6–20 birds. There were no reports of redpolls outside of a few noted on two Christmas Bird Counts.

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
Red-winged Blackbird				
12-28	70	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
01-07	1	Rye	Rye Harbor	S. Mirick, R. & M. Suomala
01-31	1	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
02-06	1	Stratham	near Rt. 108 & Swampscott Rd. jct.	G. Gavutis, III
02-14	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
02-23	2	Gilmanton	Middle Route	B. Sens
02-26	1	Newmarket	Moody Pt.	S. Mirick
02-27	5	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
Rusty Blackbird				
01-08	2	Nashua	Clovercrest Dr.	B. Harris
12-23	1	Kensington	Rt. 107 residence	G. Gavutis, Jr.
Common Grackle				
12-05	500	Portsmouth	Great Bog roost	S. Mirick
Brown-headed Cowbird				
12-16	40	Milford	Federal Hill Rd. residence	B. & R. Becker
12-28	8	Jefferson	Jefferson Meadows, Rt. 115A	R. & M. Suomala, T. Robinson, A. Lepine
02-04	4	Stratham	near Rt. 108 & Swampscott Rd. jct.	G. Gavutis, III
Pine Grosbeak				
02-20	1	Harts Location	Mt. Willard Trail	J. Tewksbury
Purple Finch				
12-04	10	Sugar Hill	residence	J. McIlwaine
12-27	22	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-14	10	Gilmanton	Middle Route	B. Sens
01-24	40	Jefferson	Pondicherry WS	H. Anderson
02-10	12	Plymouth	Pine Gate Rd.	J. & R. Williams
02-11	30	Newbury	residence	P. Newbern
02-18	35	Newmarket	off Bay Rd.	S. Mirick, B. Smith
02-25	18	Northfield	Cross Mill Rd.	P. Hunt
02-27	24	Gilsum	Hammond Hollow	M. Wright
Red Crossbill				
02-18	3	Walpole	Merriam Rd.	R. Ritz
White-winged Crossbill				
12-19	9	Ellsworth	Stinson Lake Rd.	J. Williams
01-04	20	Second College Grant		T. & B. Lorenz

<i>date</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>town</i>	<i>location</i>	<i>observer</i>
White-winged Crossbill — cont.				
01-08	12	Rumney	Bald Mtn.	J. Williams
01-20	18	Peterborough	Miller St. Pk.	E. Masterson
02-01	25	Livermore	Hix Mountain Rd.	J. Williams, D. Govatski, C. Weloth
02-05	12	Alexandria	Perkins Hill Rd.	D. Sharp
Pine Siskin				
12-01	40	Tamworth	residence	C. & J. Tewksbury
12-04	35	Sandwich	Whiteface Intervale	T. Vazzano
12-28	75	Thornton	Bagley Brook, WMNF	J. Williams, S. Nistler
01-04	37	Ellsworth	Bald Mtn., WMNF	J. Williams
01-05	30	Errol	Long Pond	T. & B. Lorenz
02-05	15	Danbury	Ragged Mtn.	P. Newbern
Evening Grosbeak				
12-06	19	Rumney	Stinson Mtn. n. slope, WMNF	J. Williams
12-15	4	Ellsworth	near Batchelder Rd., WMNF	J. Williams
12-25	2	Sandwich	Diamond Ledge Rd.	T. Vazzano
01-08	12	Columbia	residence	B. & D. Killam
01-13	2	Gilmanton	Middle Route	B. Sens
02-02	24	Acworth	Gage Road	H. Laware

Christmas Bird Count Compilers

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Pittsburg | Dennis Abbott |
| 2 | Errol-Umbagog | Dennis Abbott |
| 3 | Littleton | John McIlwaine |
| 4 | North Conway | Emberly Hudak |
| 5 | Baker Valley | Northam Parr |
| 6 | Hanover-Norwich | Walter Ellison & Nancy Martin |
| 7 | Laconia-New Hampton | Pam Hunt |
| 8 | Concord | Robert Quinn |
| 9 | Lee-Durham | Stephen Mirick |
| 10 | Coastal | David Donsker |
| 11 | Keene | Robert Ritz |
| 12 | Peterborough-Hancock | Dave Rowell |
| 13 | Nashua-Hollis | Ralph Andrews |
| 14 | Lake Sunapee | Gary Stansfield |
| 15 | Saxton's River, VT | Donald Clark |
| 16 | Manchester | Barbara Schult |
| 17 | Isles of Shoals | |
| 18 | Sandwich | Jim & Margaret Vernon |
| 19 | Barnet, VT | Charlie Browne |



Christmas Bird Count Summary

by Alan Delorey

State-wide Highlights

This year's Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was held from December 15, 2000, to January 6, 2001. Three **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were reported on the Lee-Durham count. The Seacoast count tallied 123 **Black-legged Kittiwakes**, which were pushed inshore by a stiff east wind just before dark. An Eastern Phoebe was seen in the Seacoast region during CBC week. Although not unprecedented, there are only a handful of CBC records for this species in New Hampshire. A Swainson's Thrush reported on the Baker Valley count was not documented and may have been the more likely Hermit Thrush.

Six American Pipits were found on the Seacoast count for the species' second-best showing ever on a New Hampshire CBC. A **Lark Sparrow** was found on both the Lee-Durham and Seacoast counts.

Fox Sparrows put in their strongest showing since 1968-1969, with 17 on the Seacoast count and 13 on the Keene count. White-throated Sparrows occurred in their highest numbers since 1976, with 211 on the Nashua CBC and 167 on the Keene CBC. Similarly, several counts tallied record-high numbers of Dark-eyed Juncos.

Individual Count Highlights

Nashua-Hollis had its second record of American Wigeon, its second highest count of Green-winged Teal (3), and just one shy of its high count for Golden-crowned Kinglet (35). It was the only CBC to record Bohemian Waxwing this year. Notable birds included eight Field Sparrows, close to its record high of 10. The Nashua-Hollis CBC posted its highest totals of Red-bellied Woodpecker (11), Pileated Woodpecker (6), American Robin (390), Dark-eyed Junco (1659), and Northern Cardinal (208).

The Peterborough-Hancock CBC had its third-ever Rough-legged Hawk, second-ever Peregrine Falcon, its third-ever Gray Jay, its first Carolina Wren, and its first Rusty Blackbird. It tallied record totals of Sharpshinned Hawk (3), European Starling (414), Cedar Waxwing (350), White-throated Sparrow (49), and Dark-eyed Junco (4002).

The Keene CBC reported its third-ever Rough-legged Hawk and its second-ever Red-bellied Woodpecker. Keene had its highest number of Song Sparrow (7), White-throated Sparrow (167), Dark-eyed Junco (3794), and American Goldfinch (300).



Gray Jay
by Andrea Robbins

Continued on page 24

101st Christmas Bird Count, Dec. 15, 2000 – Jan. 6, 2001

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	LeeDu	Cncrd
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	27	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	95	1	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	19	-	-
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	141	-	-
Northern Gannet	-	-	-	7	-	-
Great Cormorant	-	-	-	60	-	-
Great Blue Heron	3	-	-	9	3	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	4	-	-
Canada Goose	607	31	84	6100	1094	-
Mute Swan	-	-	-	42	1	-
Whooper Swan	-	-	-	2	-	-
Wood Duck	-	1	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	2	-	-	23	-	-
American Black Duck	122	2	10	1073	838	11
Mallard	1273	5	46	716	759	179
Green-winged Teal	3	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	1	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	450	-	-
Common Eider	-	-	-	39	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	156	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	387	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	2	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	207	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	60	150	-
Common Goldeneye	3	-	-	278	27	21
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	51	-	11	46	2	17
Red-br. Merganser	-	-	-	253	18	-
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	3	2	1
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	3	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	3	1	7	6	-
Cooper's Hawk	2	-	-	4	2	2
Northern Goshawk	1	-	-	-	1	-
Red-tailed Hawk	22	2	1	46	32	7
Rough-legged Hawk	-	1	1	2	1	-
American Kestrel	1	-	-	3	1	1
Merlin	-	-	-	1	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	1	-	1	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	1	1	3	2	2
Ruffed Grouse	1	4	1	1	4	3
Wild Turkey	4	13	44	46	31	32
Sanderling	-	-	-	210	-	-
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	-	6	-	-
Dunlin	-	-	-	167	-	-
Common Snipe	-	-	-	1	-	-
Black-headed Gull	-	-	-	1	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	52	3	-
Ring-billed Gull	198	-	-	667	546	40
Herring Gull	892	1	10	3286	6000	12

Lcni	Hnovr	BkrVI	Ltln	Errol	Pttsb	NCnw	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	97
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58	-	7978
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
52	4	-	15	-	-	-	17	1	-	2145
771	124	3	56	7	-	14	105	128	2	4188
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	450
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	156
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	387
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	207
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	210
161	14	-	-	-	-	-	CW	62	-	566
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
139	11	-	7	12	-	-	6	-	-	175
246	92	-	8	37	2	-	13	48	3	576
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	271
4	2	-	-	2	-	-	2	6	-	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
3	4	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	31
1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	18
1	2	-	CW	1	1	-	-	-	-	7
6	21	-	1	-	-	2	4	7	2	153
-	CW	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
1	4	5	4	8	5	3	2	-	1	47
10	75	1	119	-	-	-	1	-	45	421
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	210
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	167
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
12	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	238	1	1705
124	1	-	70	-	-	-	-	457	5	10858

101st Christmas Bird Count (continued)

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	LeeDu	Cncrd
Iceland Gull	2	-	-	3	3	1
Lesser Bla.-bac. Gul	-	-	-	CW	3	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	1	1	-
Great Bla.-bac. Gull	251	-	5	661	199	5
Bla.-leg. Kittiwake	-	-	-	123	-	-
Razorbill	-	-	-	6	-	-
Black Guillemot	-	-	-	2	-	-
Alcid sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-
Rock Dove	681	124	348	1392	700	686
Mourning Dove	590	243	293	1352	366	217
Eastern Screech-owl	-	-	-	1	-	-
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-
Barred Owl	1	1	-	1	-	CW
N. Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	7	-	1	6	1	2
Red-bel. Woodpecker	11	-	1	2	5	CW
Downy Woodpecker	118	55	35	97	66	45
Hairy Woodpecker	59	26	19	33	35	19
Bla.-bac. Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	9	-	-	22	6	2
Pileated Woodpecker	6	3	4	6	4	3
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	-	CW	-	-
Northern Shrike	1	1	-	1	-	-
Gray Jay	-	1	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	815	505	407	651	452	283
American Crow	1589	232	347	1438	517	408
Common Raven	3	11	4	4	8	3
Horned Lark	-	-	75	101	8	14
Black-cap. Chickadee	702	795	517	713	666	508
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	255	72	51	156	138	89
Red-br. Nuthatch	17	30	22	7	22	9
White-br. Nuthatch	144	87	46	109	88	56
Brown Creeper	20	12	4	7	12	5
Carolina Wren	2	1	-	4	1	CW
Winter Wren	-	-	-	3	5	3
Marsh Wren	-	-	-	2	-	-
Golden-cr. Kinglet	35	13	9	25	9	4
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	-	-	-	3	1	1
Eastern Bluebird	44	-	-	58	28	3
Swainson's Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	4	2	-
American Robin	390	33	7	381	183	31
N. Mockingbird	60	-	7	107	49	16
European Starling	1961	414	959	19351	5698	760
American Pipit	-	-	-	6	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	12	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	496	350	306	791	215	363
Ylw.-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	25	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	1	-

Lcni	Hnovr	BkrVI	Lltn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnw	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
37	12	-	30	-	-	6	1	208	-	1415
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	123
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
370	1327	14	277	-	-	24	137	273	12	6365
276	403	45	155	29	4	111	412	90	104	4690
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
-	CW	CW	CW	-	-	-	CW	-	3	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	0
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	21
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
79	50	18	5	8	6	28	25	33	22	690
37	43	15	11	15	7	11	27	12	17	386
-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	43
8	6	CW	4	1	2	3	10	2	6	68
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2	3	2	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	16
-	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	11
417	754	134	114	27	41	140	298	215	149	5402
521	1448	75	149	21	9	191	167	234	57	7403
11	17	6	22	9	10	10	3	4	4	129
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	198
1265	1584	359	203	425	288	375	880	122	355	9757
-	-	-	-	9	47	2	1	-	-	59
109	71	1	4	-	-	5	15	70	24	1060
60	54	21	17	59	43	21	46	1	12	441
110	95	9	5	6	3	57	58	22	28	923
30	15	CW	1	3	3	3	13	4	4	136
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	CW	9
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	12
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
13	24	5	12	94	28	27	65	-	14	377
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	CW	137
-	-	1?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
81	5	3	-	-	-	-	5	3	3	1125
6	4	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	253
813	724	25	384	1	31	180	214	351	174	32040
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
561	139	-	-	-	-	25	299	92	20	3657
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2

101st Christmas Bird Count (continued)

species	Nshua	Petrb	Keene	Coast	LeeDu	Cncrd
Am. Tree Sparrow	302	37	83	372	210	127
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	1	1	-
Field Sparrow	8	-	-	-	-	1
Lark Sparrow	-	-	-	1	1	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	3	-	-
Ipswich Sparrow	-	-	-	2	-	-
Fox Sparrow	1	2	13	17	2	CW
Song Sparrow	49	2	7	177	53	43
Swamp Sparrow	1	-	-	12	2	-
White-thr. Sparrow	170	49	167	211	142	36
Dark-eyed Junco	1659	4002	3794	1695	1453	1013
Snow Bunting	-	18	-	34	100	-
Northern Cardinal	208	35	39	178	115	61
Red-winged Blackbird	3	-	CW	16	1	CW
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	5	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	1	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	82	-	-
Br.-headed Cowbird	4	-	-	107	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	8	41	37	1	21	9
House Finch	234	62	55	432	189	98
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whi.-wing. Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	102	22	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	514	698	300	891	555	243
Evening Grosbeak	-	6	9	-	-	-
House Sparrow	756	79	149	2072	782	80
Number of Species	59	47	45	103	72	49
Number of Participants	32	26	23	35	27	16

Total Number of Species Across all CBCs: 127

? = Questionable Sighting

Nshua = Nashua-Hollis (12/30/2000)

Keene = Keene (12/16/2000)

LeeDu = Lee-Durham (12/23/2000)

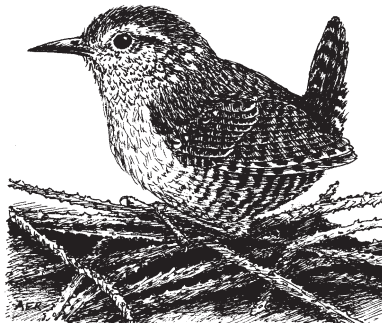
CW = Count Week

Petrb = Peterborough-Hancock (12/16/2000)

Coast = Seacoast (12/16/2000)

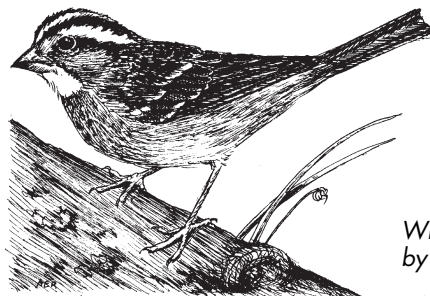
Cncrd = Concord (12/17/2000)

Winter Wren
by Andrea Robbins



Lcnia	Hnovr	BkrVI	Lltn	Errol	Pttsb	NCnw	LSunp	Manch	Sandw	Total
88	136	21	4	29	28	32	138	19	15	1641
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	37
4	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	1	347
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
25	32	-	-	-	-	2	129	7	33	1003
1291	1393	96	40	9	17	177	981	282	614	18516
48	CW	CW	-	1	3	-	2	-	-	206
69	76	6	2	-	-	5	18	22	7	841
-	8	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	40
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	83
4	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	120
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
30	154	59	89	74	118	45	30	6	21	743
301	211	-	4	-	-	8	35	18	10	1657
-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
-	6	2	1	223	61	14	1	-	12	320
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5
5	54	28	19	61	32	270	19	-	43	655
668	906	129	145	178	77	282	534	53	671	6844
-	9	25	10	1	-	-	1	-	2	63
493	383	36	38	-	20	50	54	177	37	5206
53	52	31	40	32	26	32	49	42	40	
25	26	7	6	5	4	26	19	10	19	

Lcnia = Laconia-New-Hampton (12/30/2000) Hnovr = Hanover-Norwich (1/1/2001)
 BkrVI = Baker-Valley (1/6/2001) Lltn = Littleton (12/16/2000)
 Errol = Errol-Umbagog (12/21/2000) Pttsb = Pittsburg (12/22/2000)
 NCnw = North-Conway (12/28/2000) LSunp = Lake-Sunapee (12/16/2000)
 Manch = Manchester (12/23/2000) Sandw = Sandwich (12/17/2000)



White-throated Sparrow
by Andrea Robbins

Continued from page 17

The Seacoast CBC noted its second-ever Snow Goose, its first Lesser Black-backed Gull (count week), second-ever Chipping Sparrow, and second-ever Lark Sparrow. Another first was two Whooper Swans, which were believed to be escaped domestic birds. The Seacoast posted record numbers of Canada Goose (6100), Wild Turkey (46), Sanderling (210), Ring-billed Gull (667), Black-legged Kittiwake (123), Razorbill (6, tied 1996), Mourning Dove (1352), Common Raven (4), Carolina Wren (4), Cedar Waxwing (791), Song Sparrow (177), Dark-eyed Junco (1695), Northern Cardinal (178), Common Grackle (82), and American Goldfinch (891).

The Lee-Durham count had its first Ring-necked Duck as well as its first Lesser Black-backed Gull, second-ever Chipping Sparrow, and its first Lark Sparrow. Lee-Durham had record totals of Canada Goose (1094), American Black Duck (838), Ring-billed Gull (546), Common Raven (8, tied 1999), Winter Wren (5), Hermit Thrush (2), European Starling (5698), Fox Sparrow (2), White-throated Sparrow (142), Dark-eyed Junco (1453), and Eastern Meadowlark (5).

The Concord CBC reported record-high counts for Wild Turkey (32), Winter Wren (3, tied 1996 & 1998), Cedar Waxwing (363), Song Sparrow (43), Dark-eyed Junco (1013), and Northern Cardinal (61).

The Laconia-New Hampton count had its first Red-bellied Woodpecker (2), and its first Savannah Sparrow (2). The count posted records for European Starlings (813), and Dark-eyed Juncos (1291).

Hanover-Norwich had its second-ever Peregrine Falcon and second Savannah Sparrow (2). Record highs were tallied for Common Merganser (92), Cooper's Hawk (6), Red-tailed Hawk (21), Rock Dove (1327), White-throated Sparrow (32), Dark-eyed Junco (1393), Red-winged Blackbird (8), Purple Finch (154), and American Goldfinch (906).

Baker Valley saw its first confirmed Chipping Sparrow and had both Red Crossbills (12) and White-winged Crossbills (2).

Littleton reported its first Rough-legged Hawk and high counts of Rock Dove (277) and European Starling (384).

Errol-Umbagog saw its first Common Loon and had high counts of Hooded Merganser (12), Mourning Dove (29), Northern Shrike (5), Golden-crowned Kinglet (94), and American Tree Sparrow (29).

Pittsburg had no first count records or any high counts this year.

Lake Sunapee (started in 1990) notables included a Belted Kingfisher, a Boreal Chickadee, a Carolina Wren, a Winter Wren, two Fox Sparrows, 12 Red-winged Blackbirds, 4 Brown-headed Cowbirds, and a White-winged Crossbill.

Manchester (started in 1995) highlights included six Bald Eagles, an American Kestrel, and an Iceland Gull.

Sandwich (started in 1995) notables included a Northern Saw-whet Owl, a Carolina Wren, a Winter Wren, and an Eastern Bluebird, all seen count week. They also had an Eastern Towhee and 12 White-winged Crossbills.

Seventy-Nine Days of the Hawk Owl

by David Govatski

The extended visit of a Northern Hawk Owl to the Whitefield Airport was an exciting event for New Hampshire birders last winter. The reliability of seeing this rare owl attracted an estimated 1800 birders from 20 states and 4 countries to this north country town. There were persistent reports of two owls in the area, with the first seen on December 1 in Jefferson Meadows and the second located near the Whitefield Airport the following day.

Credit for locating the first hawk owl goes to Carl Bretton, of Jefferson, who found it perched along Route 115-A in Jefferson. Carl quickly rounded up Fred Sladen and his party of birders, who were in the area, and brought them to see the owl. Fred was able to get digital photos, which he placed on the New Hampshire Rare Bird Alert that evening. New Hampshire birders arrived the next morning to see the owl but were unable to locate it despite coordinated efforts.

After a morning of fruitless searching, I decided to hike into nearby Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge. While driving by the Whitefield Power Plant, I noticed an owl perched on the top of a red maple in a field near the airport. I immediately saw it was the Hawk Owl and began calling, by cell phone, other birders searching the Jefferson and Lancaster fields. I found Chris Costello, who quickly rounded up several delighted birders.

The Northern Hawk Owl has been a rare irruptive visitor to New Hampshire. According to the *Birds of New Hampshire*, written by Glover Allen in 1902, the fall of

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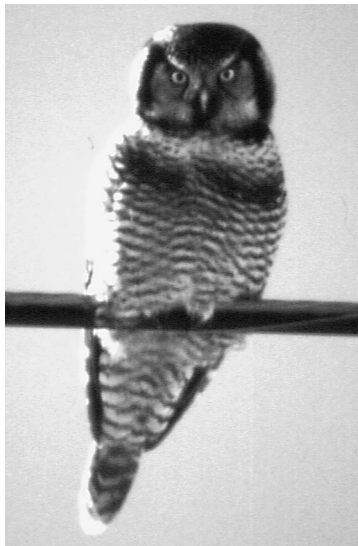


photo by Mark Suomala

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1884 produced a unusual flight of these birds. Allen reported that “farmers sons have been killing them all over the country.” Fortunately, the period where hawks and owls were shot on sight has passed, and farmers now recognize the value of these birds in eliminating rodents.

Selected New Hampshire Sightings of Northern Hawk Owls

12-30-1964	Laconia	John Merrill
12-17-1965	Northumberland	Gary Waterhouse (bird was shot)
12-28-1965	Littleton	Harry McDade
1-5-1969	Littleton	Bob Bradley, et al. (present through 3-24-1969)
1-28-1973	Gilford	Vera Hebert, et al. (present through 3-25-1973)
11-11-1991	Stewartstown	D. Blais

Note: These reports were from the *New Hampshire Bird Records* archives, which go back to the early 1960s. The older records often include only a few or no details documenting sightings, and not all reports are included in the above listing.

The Northern Hawk Owl that visited the Whitefield Airport stayed for 79 days from December 2, 2000 until February 19, 2001. This length of stay is not unusual for this species. Hunting success was observed to be excellent for this daytime hunter in the fields around the airport. The ease of finding this bird perched atop a tall spruce or tamarack made it a favorite of visiting birders.

Local residents brought their children to see this bird, which appeared almost tame. Several observers reported that there must have been two Hawk Owls: one in Jefferson Meadows and the other at the airport. A group of visiting Vermont birders was the first to note that they had just seen a Hawk Owl in Jefferson Meadows and ten minutes later saw another Hawk Owl at the airport, a distance of several miles. Perhaps these two owls flew down to search for rodents after a crash in the vole population of northern Canada (see *About the Cover*).

The last day the Whitefield owl was sighted was February 19, 2001. Perhaps it was the lengthening hours of sunlight or possibly the urge to return to their ancestral lands that caused the Hawk Owls to leave. I wished them well on their journey north and hope that they may one day return. I will always remember the sight of this yellow-eyed hunter with pointed wings and long tail that flew like a hawk.

Note: The fields where the Hawk Owl hunted at the Whitefield Airport will soon be no more. Three factories are planned for this beautiful location.

David Govatski is an avid birder and conservationist from Jefferson, New Hampshire. He has been the volunteer refuge manager at Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge in Jefferson and Whitefield for the past 10 years. He is employed as a Fire and Aviation Management Officer with the White Mountain National Forest.

New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee Decisions

We are continuing to publish the results of the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee (NHRBC) decisions on rare birds. In this issue you will find the NHRBC decisions for Spring, Summer, and Fall 2000, and Winter 2000–2001 and additional records voted on by the committee.

The NHRBC is an independent Technical Advisory Committee to *New Hampshire Bird Records*. It reviews unusual sightings in an effort to maintain accuracy and scientific integrity for both *New Hampshire Bird Records* and the historical database of bird sightings maintained by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire (ASNH). Sightings are evaluated based on the details submitted. A record must have a vote of 6-0 or 5-1 to be accepted by the committee.

A rejection is not an indication that the identification was incorrect but that the information received was not enough to allow its inclusion into the state record. Adequate documentation is the key to whether a report is accepted or not. For information on the committee and its decision-making process, please see the article in the Summer 1996 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. The Fall 1996 issue has an article on how to document rare bird sightings. Contact the Managing Editor at ASNH for a copy of either of these articles.

The current committee members are Dennis Abbott, Alan Delorey, David Donsker, Pamela Hunt, Steve Mirick, and George Robbins. Please contact any one of them if you have questions.

Spring 2000

Records accepted by the committee:

White Pelican in Pelham on May 23.
Black Vulture in Manchester on April 20.
Black Vulture at Pawtuckaway State Park on May 19.
Greater White-fronted Goose in Durham on March 4.
Greater White-fronted Goose in North Hampton on April 6.
Greater White-fronted Goose in Concord on April 15.
Eurasian Wigeon in Colebrook on April 4.
Golden Eagle in Wilmot on April 11.
Sandhill Crane in Monroe on March 31.
American Oystercatcher on Seavey Island on May 2.
American Oystercatcher on Seavey Island on May 16.
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Somersworth on March 10.
Acadian Flycatcher at Pawtuckaway State Park on May 12.
Acadian Flycatcher in South Hampton on May 27.
Acadian Flycatcher on Star Island on May 31.
White-eyed Vireo on Star Island on May 12.
Lawrence's Warbler in Derry on May 11.
Kentucky Warbler in Lebanon on May 14.
LeConte's Sparrow on White Island on May 16. Photographs submitted.
"Oregon" Junco in Holderness on May 2.
Hoary Redpoll in Sandwich on March 11.

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Records not accepted by the committee:

Black Vulture in Colebrook on April 1. Description did not eliminate Turkey Vulture.
Golden Eagle in Derry on May 6. Immature Bald Eagle not eliminated.
Fork-tailed Flycatcher on White Island on May 25. There were insufficient details for a bird of this rarity.
Pyrrhuloxia in Bow on May 7. Insufficient details to eliminate Northern Cardinal.
Black-headed Grosbeak in Boscawen on May 5. Insufficient details to eliminate female Rose-breasted Grosbeak.
Black-headed Grosbeak in Thornton on May 17. Insufficient details to eliminate female Rose-breasted Grosbeak.
Bullock's Oriole in Hampton on May 28. Insufficient details to eliminate immature Baltimore Oriole.

Summer 2000

Records accepted by the committee:

Manx Shearwater seen from Rye on June 6 & 9.
Tricolored Heron in Hampton on June 7.
Sandhill Crane in Boscawen on July 11.
Sandhill Crane in Bradford on July 28 & 29. Photographed.
American Oystercatcher in Rye on June 9.
American Oystercatcher in Rye on June 28.
Baird's Sandpiper in North Hampton on July 29.
Franklin's Gull in Newmarket on June 1. Photographed.
Atlantic Puffin in Rye on June 13.
Atlantic Puffin at White & Seavey Islands on June 14.
Atlantic Puffin at White & Seavey Islands on July 23 & 24.
Three-toed Woodpecker at Thompson & Meserves Purchase on July 14.
Acadian Flycatcher on Star Island on June 1.
Acadian Flycatcher on Star Island on June 6.
Acadian Flycatcher at Pawtuckaway State Park on June 10.
Western Kingbird in Millsfield on June 14.
Summer Tanager on Star Island on June 2.
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow on Star Island on June 2.

Records not accepted by the committee:

Tricolored Heron at Great Bay on July 20. No documentation submitted.
Red-bellied Woodpecker in Pelham on June 7. Record submitted for possible proof of nesting in N.H. There is no proof that young were born in N.H., the location is very close to the Massachusetts border.

Fall 2000

Records accepted by the committee:

Leach's Storm-Petrel at Cashe's Ledge on August 21. The committee accepted the species as correctly identified, but the location of the bird was ambiguous regarding the state.
Storm-Petrel species in Manchester on October 26.
Greater White-fronted Goose in Dunbarton on November 20.
Purple Gallinule in Exeter on October 14. Digital photograph submitted.
Red Phalarope in Rye on September 1.
Red Phalarope at Cashe's Ledge on August 21. The committee accepted the species as correctly identified, but the location of the bird was ambiguous regarding the state.
Pomarine Jaeger in Seabrook on September 2. Photographed.
Pomarine Jaeger at Cashe's Ledge in Hampton on August 21. Digital photograph submitted.
Little Gull in Rye on November 19.

Little Gull in Rye on September 22. Digital photograph submitted.
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Rye on August 29. Digital photograph submitted.
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Rye on November 11. Digital photograph submitted.
Lesser Black-backed Gull (2) in Rochester on November 17. Digital photograph submitted.
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Rye on October 7.
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Rochester on November 25.
Sooty Tern in Rye on August 11.
Black-backed Woodpecker in Nelson on November 20.
Western Kingbird in Newington on September 22.
Nashville Warbler (western form) in Northfield on October 29.
Yellow-throated Warbler in Chichester on August 7.
Connecticut Warbler in Sandwich on September 19.
Hooded Warbler in Rye on September 24.
Hooded Warbler in Hanover on November 21.
Lark Sparrow in Rye on September 14.
Lark Sparrow in Rye on September 4.
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow in Rye on November 4.
Lapland Longspur in Rye on September 18.

Records not accepted by the committee:

Greater White-fronted Goose in Concord on September 4. The description did not eliminate a domestic goose. A juvenile Greater White-fronted Goose would be highly unlikely at this time of year.
Golden Eagle in Munroe on November 16. Details did not eliminate immature Bald Eagle or dark morph Rough-legged Hawk.
Gyrfalcon in Lancaster on November 27. Details were not submitted.
Buff-breasted Sandpiper in Rye on September 30. Description does not match many features of Buff-breasted Sandpiper. Description did not eliminate American Golden-Plover.
Caspian Tern in Rye on September 24. Description did not eliminate Royal Tern.
Common Murre in Rye on November 18. Details on bill shape not sufficient to eliminate first-year Razorbill.
Magnificent Hummingbird in Amherst on August 8. A large female Ruby-throated Hummingbird could not be eliminated. The committee felt a photograph was necessary for a bird of this rarity (would have been a first state record), especially given the size discrepancies in the reports.
Northern Wheatear in Chichester on October 12. Insufficient details: the description did not eliminate Eastern Bluebird or Cedar Waxwing.
Cape May Warbler in Rochester on October 19. Insufficient details were submitted for evaluation.

Winter 2000–2001

Records accepted by the committee:

Gyrfalcon in Lancaster on January 1.
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Durham December 23 and in Dover on January 5. Photo submitted.
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Rochester on December 23 on the Lee-Durham CBC.
Common Murre in North Hampton on December 31. Photos submitted.
Northern Hawk-Owl in Whitefield on December 2. Photo submitted.
Northern Hawk-Owl in Jefferson on December 10. Photo submitted.
Varied Thrush in Rye on February 22. Photo submitted.
American Pipit in Hampton on January 28 and February 3. Photos submitted.
American Pipit in Rye on February 22. Photo submitted.
Yellow-throated Warbler in Derry February 18 through 22.
Pine Warbler in Hanover December 7 through January 6.

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Field Sparrow in Dover in late January and early February.
Lark Sparrow in Durham on December 27. Photo submitted.
Lark Sparrow in Hampton on December 16 on the Seacoast CBC.
Harris' Sparrow in Berlin December 22 through 24.
Fox Sparrow in Dover in January and February.

Records not accepted by the committee:

Western Grebe in Littleton on January 6. Red-necked Grebe was not eliminated.
Barrow's/Common Goldeneye hybrid in Tilton on February 4. Description fits a Barrow's Goldeneye, not a hybrid.
Gyr Falcon in Whitefield on December 5. There were insufficient details.

NHRBC Decisions on Late Submissions

There are occasional records that the committee is unable to evaluate in time for publication with the other votes from that season. The decisions for these records appear below.

Species accepted by the committee:

Eared Grebe in Rochester on September 14, 1998. Originally listed as still under review in the 1998 voting summary in Winter 1998-99. Additional documentation and photographs met criteria for acceptance as a first state record.
Least Bittern in Newmarket on June 25, 1999.

Species not accepted by the committee:

Lesser Black-backed Gull in North Hampton on April 2, 1996. Originally listed as pending review by the NHRBC on page 15 of the Spring 1996 issue of New Hampshire Bird Records. Insufficient details submitted.
Hoary Redpoll in Kensington on January 5, 2000. Insufficient details to eliminate Common Redpoll.

Birding Bog Road (Enfield)

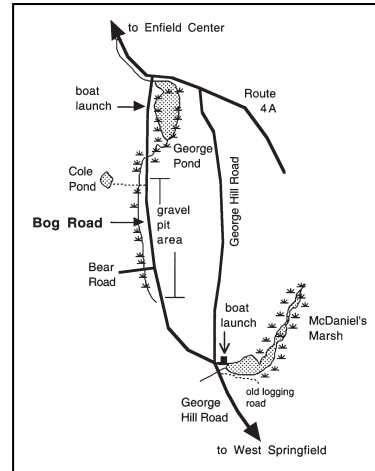
by Pam Hunt

Picture a morning birding trip where you find the following: Northern Parula, Olive-sided Flycatcher, American Bittern, Rusty Blackbird, Marsh Wren, and Louisiana Waterthrush. Up until the end, I'll bet you were placing yourself in some secluded spruce/wetland complex north of the notches, but the waterthrush sort of throws a wrench into that particular theory. No, where you are is along Bog Road in Enfield, only 60 miles from Massachusetts and 15 miles from the Connecticut River. In less than five miles, this area offers a diverse mix of habitats ranging from cattail marsh to spruce-fir forest, thus hosting a wide variety of breeding species. Birding is best between April and September, but experience has shown that you never know what might show up here.

We'll start this tour at the southern end of the route, McDaniel's Marsh in the town of Springfield. To reach this area, take Interstate 89 to Exit 13 and drive south on Route 10 for 0.8 miles to the village of Grantham. Turn left (east) here on Route 114 (Springfield Road), and follow it for 4.9 miles to West Springfield, where George Hill

Road enters on the left. If you reach a small store, you have gone too far. Turn left onto George Hill Road and follow it for 2.2 miles. At this point, you will see a large wetland on the right, along with a sign and parking area. This is McDaniel's Marsh, an extensive wetland owned and managed by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. From the dam and boat launch, you can only see less than half of the wetland, but it is nonetheless well worth examining in some detail.

The part of the marsh that is visible from here is a fairly good area for waterfowl during migration. From April to September, Wood Ducks are quite common, although they can be hard to see during the summer months except very early in the morning. Other regular ducks here include American Black Duck, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, and Common and Hooded Mergansers. Bald Eagle and Osprey sometimes stop by to look for a fish or two.

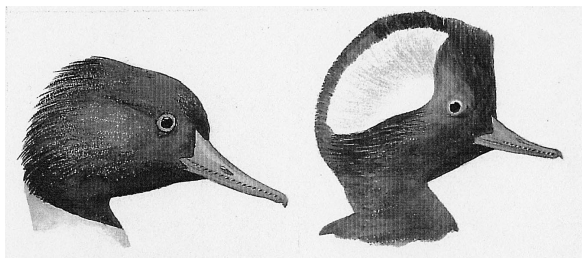


However, most of McDaniel's Marsh is not visible from the boat launch and is best accessed by boat. Canoes and kayaks are best, since they are not only better for birding, but they don't get propellers tangled in the abundant water lilies. Once you reach the prominent peninsula with several large pines (a former site of heron nesting), you will turn the corner into a different world. For the next 1.3 miles, the main channel winds among alders, cattails, and dead trees and is a rich wildlife area if you get there early in the morning. Regular species here include Olive-sided Flycatcher, Virginia Rail, Marsh Wren, both Alder and Willow Flycatchers, American Bittern, Common Snipe, and Northern Parula, along with a host of other common forest passerines. If you're lucky, maybe there will even be a Pied-billed Grebe, as this is one of the few locations in the state where this species has nested in recent years.

A final option at McDaniel's Marsh is to cross to the opposite side of the dam, where an old logging road goes along the south side of the wetland. A walk along here in early spring can produce a good variety of migrants, and in summer there are the expected breeders, including Canada Warbler and Northern Waterthrush.

From the McDaniel's Marsh parking area, Bog Road takes off directly across George Hill Road. After 1.5 miles of unremarkable mixed forest, you will come to the beginning of an extensive complex of sand and gravel pits. The first access point to

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*Common Merganser (left)
and Hooded Merganser
by E.J. Sawyer*

Continued from page 31

these pits is actually a driveway, so continue on another 0.3 miles to where Bear Road enters on your left. These gravel pits are home to one of the few remaining populations of Whip-poor-wills in the region, and birds can be heard almost anywhere in the next mile, usually between mid-May and mid-July. At night they can sometimes be seen in your headlights as they sit in the middle of the road. During the day, look and listen for Bank Swallows, a colony of which nests a little farther down the gravel pit. In spring, several small temporary ponds form in sandy depressions and attract a few migrant shorebirds. Killdeer and Spotted and Solitary Sandpipers are most regular, but both Least Sandpiper and Greater Yellowlegs have also been recorded.

Bear Road marks the southern edge of another extensive parcel of preserved land, again owned by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. This is the Enfield Wildlife Management Area and occupies most of the wetland area on the west side of the road. This combination of wetland and a variety of forest types (hardwoods, white pine, and spruce/fir) is what makes Bog Road such a diverse place for breeding birds.

It is worth parking at the junction with Bear Road and walking along the edge of both roads here, paying special attention to the narrow strip of alder swamp and its associated stream. In the summer of 1997, a pair of Rusty Blackbirds was present here between late April and early July, strongly suggesting that they were nesting. This is noteworthy, because the main breeding population of Rusty Blackbirds in the state occurs at least 50 miles to the northeast and is apparently declining. Other species with northern affinities that can be found along Bog Road include Olive-sided Flycatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Northern Parula. Both species of crossbills have been recorded during the summer, although neither is to be expected.

This productive mix of wetland and forest continues for the next 2.5 miles, and the best approach is to simply drive slowly (or walk) and stop at interesting patches of habitat. I'll simply mention a couple of the more noteworthy areas. If you travel 0.65 miles beyond Bear Road, you will come to a wide area on the left, marked with a large brown Fish and Game sign. This sign marks the trailhead for Cole Pond, located roughly a mile up the gradually sloping trail. Birding along this trail is similar to that elsewhere along Bog Road but without the wetland species, so the main draw is the abundant highbush blueberry crop around the pond itself. Throughout the month of August, you can pick blueberries for hours here without making an appreciable dent in their abundance.

After Cole Pond, the road enters forest for the next 0.7 miles, at which point it opens out into a large clearing, with the alder-lined stream separating the road from a prominent ridgeline to the west. The southern end of this opening is probably the most reliable spot for Olive-sided Flycatcher along Bog Road, and the east side of the road for the next half-mile is very good for Northern Waterthrushes. About halfway down the ridge is a small area of exposed cliff where ravens are known to nest.

If you've started birding Bog Road while it is still dark (to try for those elusive Whip-poor-wills!), a stop at this clearing is a must. Barred Owls are almost guaranteed along the ridgeline, woodcock line the road at dusk and dawn, and Northern Saw-whet Owl are occasionally heard tooting here in April and May (and also at scattered other areas along the road, especially near Bear Road and Cole Pond). This is also the

place to be for the dawn chorus, which is supplemented by gobbling turkeys in early spring. Among the common forest birds are Hermit Thrush, Veery, Winter Wren, White-throated Sparrow, and Brown Creeper, with Alder Flycatcher and Swamp Sparrow dominating the wetland.

After leaving this clearing, you reenter the woods for another quarter mile, only to reemerge by an extensive alder wetland to the east (now 4.1 miles from McDaniel's Marsh). This is the south end of George Pond, and the vegetation you are seeing is what gives Bog Road its name. While not technically a bog, the area has numerous tamaracks, and if you venture forth by boat, you will find other bog specialists such as pitcher plants and cotton grass.

Lincoln's Sparrows nested here in 1996, a species that, like the Rusty Blackbird, normally resides 50 miles or so to the northeast. Other noteworthy nesting records date from the early 1980s, when workers for New Hampshire's breeding bird atlas confirmed breeding for Ring-necked Duck and listed Northern Harrier as "probable." At dawn and dusk, this is an excellent spot for American Bittern and Common Snipe.

A quarter mile farther north is the George Pond boat launch, another good spot for snipe and bittern, as well as Virginia Rail. While George Pond is small and mostly visible from the road, a boat does allow one to explore the more distant corners, and who knows what you might turn up?

During waterfowl migration, George Pond attracts fewer ducks than McDaniel's Marsh, but it is certainly worth checking for them. Good vantage points include the height of land just south of the boat launch, the boat launch itself, and a quarter-mile down the road where Bog Road ends at Route 4A. You can scan the pond from its outlet or turn right on Route 4A and look down the pond from the north. The species here are similar to those at McDaniel's Marsh.

Here at the outlet of George Pond you have reached the balmy lowlands of Bog Road, home to the occasional cardinal or titmouse and, if you're lucky, a Louisiana Waterthrush singing somewhere just downstream!

To reach Bog Road from the north, exit Interstate 93 at Route 4 (Exit 17) and go east. In less than two miles, turn right onto Route 4A, which follows the shore of Mascoma Lake (worth checking for waterfowl in the spring and fall). Pass through the village of Enfield Center and after a couple of sharp turns, Bog Road will be on the left. This is the north end of the route so you will have to follow the description above in the reverse order.

*Pam Hunt is the spring editor of **New Hampshire Bird Records** and the Biodiversity Project Coordinator for the Audubon Society of New Hampshire.*

Based on an article that appeared in *Bird Observer* (<http://massbird.org/birdobserver>) in expanded form including a description of birding areas around nearby Mascoma Lake.

Virginia Rail
by Andrea Robbins



Birding Volunteer Opportunity

Mountain Birdwatch

by Francie Von Mertens

Mountain Birdwatch, Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 27023 Church Hill Road, Woodstock, Vermont 05091 (<http://www.vinsweb.org/conservation/citizenscience/mtnbirdwatch.html>).

Partners in Flight ranks Bicknell's Thrush at the top of its endangered neotropical migrants list for the Northeast. Accordingly, Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) has launched a long-term monitoring program for the species – the one-and-only bird species endemic to the Northeast. In addition, four other high-elevation forest species are included in the study: Blackpoll Warbler, Swainson's Thrush, White-throated Sparrow, and Winter Wren.

Launched in 2000, the program recruited volunteers to survey over 60 mountains in Vermont that first June. Last June, the number more than doubled as the survey reached into New York, New Hampshire, and Maine. Additional volunteers are needed to expand coverage even more and ensure its long-term continuation.

Protocol for the survey involves a point count along a 1-km route during birding prime time, 4:30–6:30 a.m. Depending on access, volunteers either hike up their adopted mountain area early or camp out the night before. Taped recordings of the targeted species' songs are played and any response noted, as well as the presence of red squirrels, a key songbird predator.

Dan Lambert, VINS conservation biologist and the project's coordinator, reports that volunteers range in skills from expert birders to AMC members who are eager to help but are unskilled birders. Training and practice tapes are provided. Lambert says, "Participants in the project reported invigorating hikes, breathtaking scenery, and close encounters with wildlife, avian and otherwise."

Lambert also mentions four main threats to the health and survival of montane forests in the Northeast and the species they host: acid rain, ski area development, tower construction, and climate change. As for their very specific winter territory – the wet, broadleaf forests in the Dominican Republic – just a bare 8% of the original historic expanse remains.

Mountain Birdwatch, funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is designed to provide population trend information to encourage and guide appropriate responses to the species' increasingly threatened existence.

Bicknell's Thrush



What's in a Name?

by Alan Delorey

I went on an offshore pelagic trip a few years ago. Someone called out that he saw some *Northern Phalaropes* — but I was busy looking for *Red-necked Phalaropes*.

This past winter, there was a bit of an invasion of northern owls into New England. Some people were out looking for Mr. *Richardson's owl*. I guess he must have lost it. As for me, I was hoping to find a *Boreal Owl*.

Recently, at the seacoast, I came across the strangest thing. There were people with binoculars and spotting scopes looking for *old squaws* — on the ocean! I was somewhat distracted as I admired some beautiful *Long-tailed Ducks* making their transformation from winter to breeding plumage.

What's going on with orioles? They used to be common in *Baltimore*, then apparently they moved to *northern* climates. Now they seem to have returned to *Baltimore*. A similar thing happened to the *Rufous-sided Towhees* when they all became *eastern*.

I saw a *Tricolored Heron* in Seabrook, New Hampshire last summer. That was to be expected because I'd heard they were no longer just in *Louisiana*. Speaking of down south, I recently went to Florida and watched an *Anhinga* that *darted* into the water.

Crows seem to be growing more common, even though it is said that they're not so much *Common* as *American*. Just the opposite happened to the raven. It used to be more *Northern*, now it's more *Common*. Did you hear what happened to the *Canada Jay*? It turned *Gray*.

The Black-bellied Ducks switched hobbies from *tree* climbing to *whistling*. A certain little duck used to have a *stiff-tail*. But it must have been embarrassed, because it turned *Ruddy*. Some people say that the Greater Scaup used to have a *Bluebill*. Others contend that it used to be more *American*. Still others argue that it was once more *Common*. Why, there are even some old-timers who claim it was once known for its *mussels*.

I hope that you've enjoyed this tongue-in-cheek look at bird names. The one serious lesson to be learned from this is that it behooves us to keep abreast of the AOU name changes, lumps, and splits. Otherwise, it generates a lot of confusion. It's green.

No it's green-backed. Wait — it's green again. Well, at least it was always a heron.



Alan Delorey is an avid birder and the Winter Editor for New Hampshire Bird Records. He is also the author of a Birder's Guide to New Hampshire.

*Common Raven
by William E. Davis*

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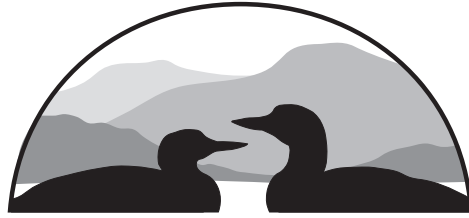
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New Hampshire Bird Records
Volume 19, Number 4
Winter 2000-2001

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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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