

Field Records: October 1982



by George W. Gove, Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

October 1982 began and ended on the warm side; in fact, the weather was nearly perfect with sunshine occurring 66% of the time. The temperature averaged 54.2°, 1.2° below normal, but 3.0° warmer than October 1981. No record temperatures were broken, but the mercury reached the 82° mark on the sixth and the lowest reading was 35° on the twenty-third. The final four days of October were pure Indian Summer with highs in the 60s and 70s and much sunshine and haze. Rain totaled 3.19 inches, the most, 1.77 inches, falling on October 8-9. That was the most rain for a single day in nearly three months. A thunderstorm accompanied this rain, double the October average.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS

Red-throated Loons were migrating past Sandy Neck in Barnstable on the average of one hundred individuals per hour on October 26, a day with fog and northeast winds. Seven Pied-billed Grebes were found at Great Meadows, the most reported from one location since last April.

On the ninth and tenth of the month when gusts from the northeast were the highest, Northern Fulmars were recorded from land locations at Sandy Neck, Barnstable, at Andrews Point, Rockport, and at Race Point, Provincetown. During that storm there was also a considerable flight of shearwaters reported with a thousand Greater Shearwaters logged in just half an hour at Provincetown. Six Leach's Storm-Petrels were noted during the storm at Sandy Neck and eight were seen milling about Barnstable Harbor the following day. Needless to say, gannets were also recorded in impressive numbers from both Andrews Point and Sandy Neck. Great Cormorants were migrating and the last push of migrating Double-crested Cormorants was noted during the storm of October 9-10.

The last of the Green-backed Herons reported was on the second, and a Cattle Egret was reported from Newburyport on October 8. Thirty-eight Great Egrets were in the marshes of Westport near Horseneck Beach on the eleventh. The Tricolored Heron was last reported on October 16, and only one Glossy Ibis was noted all month. American Bitterns continued to be scarce!

R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Common Loon:			
10	Salisbury-P.I., Barnstable	21, 18	R.Forster#, D.Clapp
23	Scituate, Mt. Wachusett	30+, 1	BBC, P.Roberts#
Red-throated Loon:			
26	Barnstable (SN)	100/hour	R.Pease
Red-necked Grebe:			
10,16,22	Barnstable, P.I., MBO	1, 1, 2	R.Pease, BBC, MBO
Horned Grebe:			
10,16-30	Lakeville, P.I.	1, 2	K.Anderson, v.o.
Pied-billed Grebe:			
11	GMNWR, Lakeville	7, 2	G.Gove#, W.Petersen
23	Cambridge, Lakeville	1, 4	BBC, W.Petersen#
Northern Fulmar:			
9,10	Barnstable (SN)	3+, 3	R.Pease#
9,10	Rockport (AP), P'town	2, 2	R.Heil, W.Petersen#
13-14,16+31	Noman's I., Stellwagen	3, 2+1	W.Manter, MBO + BBC
Cory's Shearwater:			
9+10,12	Barnstable (SN), Noman's I.	1+2, 20	R.Pease#, W.Manter
31	Stellwagen	3	D.Brown

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Greater Shearwater:			
10,11	P'town	500 per one half hr, 1000 per one half hr.	W.Petersen#
12,16	Noman's I., Stellwagen	200, 2000	W.Manter, MBO
23,31	Chatham, Stellwagen	300+, 1500+	R.Heil, BBC
Sooty Shearwater:			
9,10	Barnstable (SN)	1, 1	R.Pease#
31	Stellwagen	5	BBC
Manx Shearwater:			
9,10	Barnstable (SN), Eastham	6, 1	R.Pease#, W.Petersen#
17,31	Stellwagen	10, 8	MBO, BBC
Leach's Storm-Petrel:			
10	Barnstable (SN), Barnstable Harbor	16, 8	R.Pease#
10,31	P'town, Nantucket	2, 1 (dead)	W.Petersen#, C. Andrews
Northern Gannet:			
9,10	Rockport (AP), Barnstable (SN)	1200 in hour, 3300 in 1	1/2 hr. R.Heil, D.Clapp
26,31	Eastham, Stellwagen	1000, 500	W.Bailey#, BBC
Great Cormorant:			
3	P'town, P.I.	5, 2	SSBC, C.Gove#
11-30,13	Lakeville, Woburn	2-1, 1	W.Petersen#, G.Gove
19,23	Cambridge, Scituate	2, 20	F.Bouchard, BBC
24,28	Randolph, Wellesley	1, 1	D.Brown, C.Ewer
Double-crested Cormorant:			
8,10	Wollaston, Salisbury-P.I.	2000+, 2000+	G.Wilson, R.Forster#
24,31	P.I., Easton	300+, 80	BBC, K.Ryan
Great Blue Heron:			
thr.	Eastham (FH)	max. 40	v.o.
11,15	Westport, P.I.	26, 8	R.Stymeist#, D.Spencer
17,29	W.Gloucester, Saugus	7, 7	J.Grugan, J.Berry
Green-backed Heron:			
2	Eastham	3	L.Taylor#
Little Blue Heron:			
3,15	Nantucket, P.I.	3, 1 imm.	BBC, D.Spencer
21,26	Walpole, N.Scituate	1 ad., 1 imm.	R.Titus, B.Litchfield
29	Barnstable	1 imm.	R.Pease#
Cattle Egret:			
8	Newburyport	1	J.Carter
Great Egret:			
11,24	Westport, Squantum	38, 1	R.Stymeist#, D.Brown#
Snowy Egret:			
10	Cohasset, P.I.	6, 14	H.Mallers, BBC
11,30	Westport, P.I.	13, 1	R.Stymeist#, BBC
Tricolored Heron:			
16	P.I.	1	W.Petersen#
Black-crowned Night-Heron:			
15,18	P.I., Squantum	35, 20	D.Spencer, K.Ryan
23	Eastham	24	SSBC
American Bittern:			
8,16	Eastham, P.I.	2, 4	R.Heil#, W.Petersen#
Glossy Ibis:			
1-31	Nantucket	1	E.Andrews

WATERFOWL

The survey of waterfowl at the Parker River N.W.R. continues; the results for the census taken there on October 15 are:

Canada Goose	1330	Green-winged Teal	2035
Snow Goose	9	Blue-winged Teal	48
Mallard	631	Eurasian Wigeon	1
Black Duck	2445	American Wigeon	200
Gadwall	160	Northern Shoveler	63
Northern Pintail	232		

A high count of 77 Wood Ducks was recorded at Great Meadows on the eleventh; last year thirty-five were recorded on the twelfth. The bay ducks returned in good numbers by the third week of the month at their traditional locations. A Surf Scoter at Lakeville was unusual. Ruddy Ducks were noted in good numbers from Randolph and in Eastham. R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMB."</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Mute Swan: 11,23	Westport, Falmouth	172, 25	R.Stymeist#, P.Hallowell
Canada Goose: 15	P.I.	1330	D.Spencer
Brant: 2,16	Nantucket, Newburyport	6, 22	BBC, BBC
Snow Goose: 2 on 11,20 27,28	P.I. GMNWR, M.V. SRV, Lakeville	max. 9 1, 3 1, 3	v.o. G.Gove, fide A.Brown R.Walton, D.+J.Briggs
Mallard: 15	Scituate, P.I.	145, 631	D.Clapp, D.Spencer
American Black Duck: 15	P.I.	2445	D.Spencer#
Gadwall: 15,31	P.I., Ipswich	160, 200+	D.Spencer#, R.Heil#
Northern Pintail: 6,15,26	GMNWR, P.I., Yarmouth	20, <u>232</u> , 40	P.Roberts, D.Spencer#, J.Aylward
Green-winged Teal: 15	P.I.	<u>2035</u>	D.Spencer#
Blue-winged Teal: 11,15	GMNWR, P.I.	4, 48	G.Gove, D.Spencer#
Eurasian Wigeon: 15,31	P.I., Ipswich	1, 1	D.Spencer#, R.Heil#
American Wigeon: 3,15 16,31	Nantucket, P.I. GMNWR, Ipswich	50, 200 300, 240+	BBC, D.Spencer# BBC, R.Heil#
Northern Shoveler: 10,15	GMNWR, P.I.	6, <u>63</u>	G.Gove, D.Spencer#
Wood Duck: 11	GMNWR	<u>77</u>	G.Gove
Redhead: 23,24,29	Falmouth, Braintree, Cambridge	6, 1, 1	P.Hallowell, D.Brown, J.Barton
Ring-necked Duck: 11,23,30 21,23,29 24,30	Lakeville Cambridge West Newbury	500, 100, 400 21, 35, 37 295, 450	W.Petersen J.Barton BBC
Canvasback: 20,23,29,30	Cambridge	14, 45, 62, 107	J.Barton + v.o.
Greater Scaup: 11,16 29	Lakeville, Newburyport Cambridge	12, 30 7	W.Petersen J.Barton
Lesser Scaup: 20,23,29 23,24	Cambridge Lakeville, Randolph	3, 4, 8 2, 23	J.Barton W.Petersen, D.Brown
Common Goldeneye: 23	Lakeville	2	W.Petersen#
Bufflehead: 23,25	Lakeville, Cambridge	17, 1	W.Petersen#, F.Bouchard
Oldsquaw: 23,24	Manomet, P.I.	40, 7	SSBC, BBC
Common Eider: 23,24	Manomet, Scituate	75, 100	SSBC, BBC
White-winged Scoter: 10 16,24,30	Barnstable P.I.	1050 in 1 1/2 hrs. 100, 42, 90	D.Clapp# BBC
Surf Scoter: 10,23	Barnstable, <u>Lakeville</u>	500, 1	D.Clapp, W.Petersen#
Black Scoter: 10	Barnstable	135	D.Clapp
Ruddy Duck: 11,17 24,31	Lakeville, Wayland Randolph, Eastham	1, 6 79, 81	W.Petersen, E.Morrier D.Brown, SSBC (Fox)
Hooded Merganser: 22-31	Winchester	13 (3 m., 10 f.)	G.Gove
Common Merganser: 5,10 16,23	Lincoln, Cohasset Eastham, Lakeville	1, 2 .9, 1	P.Alden, R.Titus G.Gove#, W.Petersen#

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Red-breasted Merganser:			
10	Barnstable	375	D. Clapp

RAPTORS

A flight of eleven hundred Sharp-shinned Hawks was reported migrating past Gay Head on Martha's Vineyard during the second day of the northwest winds of October 2. Nineteen Red-shouldered and fifty-eight Red-tailed hawks seen on the twenty-third over Mt. Wachusett constituted a good count for a single day of these two species. Also on the same date, nine Northern Harriers seen on Mt. Wachusett tied the all time high for that species at Wachusett. At Mt. Watatic on October 24, twenty-two Red-shouldered Hawks were recorded. Only five Red-shoulders were reported during October 1981.

A Golden Eagle was reported from Barnstable, and immature Bald Eagles were noted on the Vineyard and in Truro. Twenty-two sightings of Peregrine Falcon were reported mostly from coastal locations; in addition ten individuals were seen on the Vineyard on October 12. R.H.S.

Turkey Vulture:

1,2	Walpole, New Braintree	1, 4	H.Parker, D.Crompton#
23	Mt. Wachusett, Framingham	2, 9	P.Roberts, R.Fisher fide R. Forster

Goshawk:

16,19	P.I., WBWS	1, 1 imm.	BBC (S.Grinley), B.Nikula
23,29	Mt. Wachusett, E.Middleboro	1 imm., 1	P.Roberts#, K.Anderson

Sharp-shinned Hawk:

2	Nantucket, Gay Head	15, <u>1100</u>	R.Stymeist, V.Laux
3	Ashburnham, P'town	28, <u>5</u>	P.Roberts, SSBC
23,24;24	Mt.Wachusett; Ashburnham	20, 6; 7	P.Roberts

Cooper's Hawk:

2,3	Nantucket, Ashburnham	1, 3	R.Stymeist#, P.Roberts
2,7	Canton, GMNWR	1, 1	R.Titus, P.Roberts#
8,11	P'town, Bridgewater	1, 1	J.Smith#, W.Petersen
23,24;23	Mt.Wachusett; Chatham	2, 1; 1 imm.	P.Roberts#, B.Nikula
16,31	P.I.	1, 1	W.Petersen, P.Roberts

Red-tailed Hawk:

23,24;24	Mt. Wachusett; Ashburnham	58, 19; 19	P.Roberts#
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Red-shouldered Hawk:

23,24;24	Mt. Wachusett; Ashburnham	19, 8; 22	P.Roberts#
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Rough-legged Hawk:

21,31	P.I., Eastham	1, 2	N.Clayton, SSBC (Fox)
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Golden Eagle:

15	Barnstable	1 imm.	R.Pease
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Bald Eagle:

5,12;10	Chilmark; Truro	1 imm.; 1 imm.	G.BenDavid, V.Laux; B.Nikula
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Northern Harrier:

23	Mt. Wachusett	9	P.Roberts
thr.	P.I.	max. 9 (10/2)	v.o.

Osprey:

1-17	9 locations	13 individuals	v.o.
19,29,31	Saugus, Peabody, Wayland	1, 1, 1	J.Grugan, R.Heil, E.Morrier

Peregrine Falcon:

thr.	10 locations	22 individuals	v.o.
12	M.V.	<u>10</u>	v.o. fide A.Brown

Merlin:

thr.	26 individuals reported mostly from coastal locations		
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American Kestrel:

3,16	Ashburnham, Newburyport	5, 8	P.Roberts, BBC
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SANDHILL CRANE THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

A Sandhill Crane was seen in a cornfield in Andover on the second and another, probably the same bird, was seen in the vicinity of Cross Farm Hill on Plum Island on October 4. The last one seen in Essex County was present in Middleton-Danvers-Beverly from January through March of 1979.

A Whimbrel was seen on the late date of October 30 and 31 at Nauset and Monomoy, respectively, and was judged to be one individual as it had an injured foot. Spotted and Solitary sandpipers were late also as they have generally departed by the end of

September although Bailey (Birds of Massachusetts) states that from one to four are reported in October and gives extreme late dates into November. Other shorebirds reported at later than normal dates included a Willet on October 23 and Lesser Yellowlegs and Stilt Sandpiper on the 31st; Bailey gives an extreme late date for the latter species of November 1. Good numbers of reports of Pectoral and White-rumped Sandpipers were received. Five Dunlin were seen in Lakeville; one usually does not expect to see these shorebirds at an inland location. Short-billed Dowitchers also were seen on later than usual dates. The East Boston Marbled Godwit, seen most of September, continued there throughout this month.

G.W.G.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Sandhill Crane:			
2,4	Andover, P.I.	1, 1	J.Kimball#, E.Darling
Virginia Rail:			
2-3,31	Eastham; Marshfield	1; 1	SSBC; D.Brown#
Sora:			
23,31	Marshfield	1, 1 calling	BBC, D.Brown#
Common Moorhen:			
3,6,11	Sandwich	1	R.Pease#
10,24	P.I.	1	BBC
31	Ipswich	1 imm.	R.Heil#
American Coot:			
6,11	GMNWR	10, 6	BBC, G.Gove
16,30;23	P.I.; Lakeville	3; 2	BBC; W.Petersen#
25,30	Cambridge	5, 8	F.Bouchard, BBC
Semipalmated Plover:			
17,24,30,31	Newburyport-P.I.	32, 9, 1, 2	BBC
17,23	Scituate	10, 28	SSBC, BBC
27	Nantucket	3	E.Andrews
Killdeer:			
4,7,8	Walpole, E.Middleboro, Newburyport	25,40,25	R.Titus, K.Anderson, J.Carter
13,15,21	Easton, Lynn, Concord	28, 60, 28	K.Ryan, R.Heil, R.Forster
30,31	P.I., Ipswich	6, 42	BBC, J.Smith
Lesser Golden-Plover:			
1-23,3	M.V., P.I.	10, 6	V.Laux, G.Gove#
24;31	P.I.; Rowley, Newburyport	1; 4 juv., 1 juv.	BBC; R.Heil
Black-bellied Plover:			
10, 23	Scituate	8, 80	H.Mallers, BBC
23,31	Plymouth, Monomoy	60, 600+	SSBC, B.Nikula#
Ruddy Turnstone:			
23	Marshfield, Scituate	1, 1	BBC
Common Snipe:			
8,24	Newburyport	1, 3	J.Carter, BBC
13	Easton, SRV	2, 2	K.Ryan, R.Walton
Whimbrel:			
2,10	P.I.	13, 1	BBC
2-3,10	Eastham, P'town	1, 1	SSBC, W.Petersen#
30,31	Nauset, Monomoy	1, 1	B.Nikula
Spotted Sandpiper:			
9,15	Lincoln, Lynn	1, 1	R.Forster, R.Heil
Solitary Sandpiper:			
1,11	Chatham, Bridgewater	4, 2	B.Nikula, W.Petersen
15;16,17	Lynn; P'town	1; 1	R.Heil; G.Gove#, R.Stymeist#
20,25	SRV	2, 1	R.Walton
Willet:			
23	Chatham	3	J.Smith#
Greater Yellowlegs:			
2-3,3	WBWS, E.Boston	125, 75	SSBC, K.Winkler
1-19	Nantucket	max. 79 (10/12)	E.Andrews
15;30,31	PRNWR; P.I.	39; 35, 40	Staff; BBC
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
16	GMNWR	5	BBC
24;31	Squantum; Newburyport, P.I.	3; 1, 2	D.Brown; R.Heil, P.Roberts
Red Knot:			
23,31	Scituate, Monomoy	400, 200+	BBC, B.Nikula#
Pectoral Sandpiper:			
11;13	Bridgewater; Easton, SRV	22; 4, 3	W.Petersen; K.Ryan, R.Walton
15,16;30,31	P.I.	1, 2; 2, 8	NWR Staff, E.Morrer; BBC
23,29	M.V., Nantucket	50, 1	V.Laux, E.Andrews#

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Pectoral Sandpiper (continued):			
23,30	Halifax	19, 41	W.Petersen#
23,31	Monomoy	30+, 20+	B.Nikula+H.Stabins
24,27	Squantum, SRV	1, 1	D.Brown#,R.Walton
White-rumped Sandpiper:			
3,15	P.I.	2, 15	G.Gove#,D.Spencer
16,31	P.I.	20, 15	W.Petersen#,R.Heil
15;17	Gloucester, Lynn; P'town	4, 12; 5	B.Sorrie,R.Heil;J.Heywood#
11,23;23,30	Bridgewater;Halifax	3, 1; 7, 10	W.Petersen#
23,31	Monomoy	30, 35+	B.Nikula+H.Stabins
24,29	Squantum, Wenham	2, 5	D.Brown#,R.Heil
26,30	MV, Eastham	3, 20	A.Brown, B.Nikula
Least Sandpiper:			
11	Westport	1	R.Stymeist#
Dunlin:			
2,3	P'town	300	SSBC(Osborne)
11,23	Lakeville, Halifax	5, 2	W.Petersen#
15;30,31	P.I.	927; 300, 3400	NWR Staff;BBC
Short-billed Dowitcher:			
3,16	P.I., Newburyport	7 juv., 2 juv.	R.Heil,W.Petersen#
Long-billed Dowitcher:			
3,10,30,31	P.I.	75, 14, 3, 27	G.Gove,R.Forster#,BBC,R.Heil
30,31	Orleans, Monomoy	1, 1	B.Nikula
dowitcher species:			
31	Monomoy	2-3	B.Nikula
Stilt Sandpiper:			
16,31	P.I.	1, 3	W.Petersen#,R.Heil#
Semipalmated Sandpiper:			
11,27	Bridgewater, Scituate	26, 20	W.Petersen,SSBC
16,30	P.I.	30, 6	W.Petersen#,BBC
17;23,30	Scituate; Halifax	20; 1	SSBC;W.Petersen#
Western Sandpiper:			
2,30	P.I.	1	BBC
17	Plymouth	7	MBO staff
23,30	Monomoy, Eastham	2, 3	B.Nikula#
Marbled Godwit:			
thr.	E.Boston	1	K.Winkler,S.Zendeh
2	Eastham	1	L.Taylor,G.Gove
Hudsonian Godwit:			
3;10,24	P.I.; Newburyport	3; 2, 2	G.Gove#;R.Forster#,G.Gove#
3,17	E.Boston	2, 1	K.Winkler,F.Bouchard
Sanderling:			
8,12	Wollaston, Winthrop	40, 10	G.Wilson,F.Bouchard
23	Scituate	125	BBC
Red Phalarope:			
10,26	Barnstable, Eastham	1, 2	D.Clapp,W.Bailey
Red-necked Phalarope:			
9,10	Barnstable	6, 15+	B.Nikula#,W.Petersen#
10,17;17	Eastham; Orleans	15, 15; 1	W.Petersen#,R.Forster#;J.Aylward

JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

On the ninth, 125 Parasitic Jaegers were seen from Sandy Neck and on the tenth, 20 Pomarine and 85 Parasitic jaegers were seen at First Encounter Beach, where a skua was also seen. Quoting from the report by W. Petersen, "Based upon my impression that the bird was decidedly reddish-brown, I suspect that this bird was of the nominate race (Great Skua). However, due to the conditions at the time, positive species identification could not be safely made." At least eight Lesser Black-backed Gulls were reported from five locations including one inland at Clinton. Not surprisingly, neither Bailey nor Griscom mentions this European gull; the first state record was September 14, 1971 (see BOEM, 1:113 and 8:137). Recent reports are numerous. The bird in Clinton had been there since the end of September. An adult Black-headed Gull in winter plumage with an aluminum band on the left leg was reported from East Boston; it would be interesting to know where this bird was banded or ringed. An immature Sabine's Gull was seen in Eastham, First Encounter Beach, on the tenth, and a late Roseate Tern was both seen and heard on October 8. Seven Caspian Terns were on the mud at Stage Island Pool, Plum Island on the third and eight were seen on Plymouth Beach on October 8. Black Terns were seen through

the month at Provincetown (Herring Cove); they also have normally departed by the end of September. A puffin, a rare bird in Massachusetts, was seen in Eastham on October 26 when northeast winds were blowing.

A Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Martha's Vineyard was late on October 23. Two Northern Saw-whet Owls were banded at Manomet Bird Observatory, and one was seen in the Old Pines at Plum Island. A Common Nighthawk was late on the 18th in Marshfield, as was a Ruby-throated Hummingbird on the 21st. Immature Red-headed Woodpeckers were noted in Rockport and Lowell. G.W.G.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Pomarine Jaeger:			
10,17,26	Eastham	20+, 1, 3	W.Petersen#,R.Forster,W.+P.Bailey
17,31	Stellwagen	6, 6	MBO staff,BBC
Parasitic Jaeger:			
7,9	Stellwagen, Manomet	3, 1	MBO staff,W.Petersen
9;16,31	Barnstable; P'town	125; 1, 9	R.Pease#;L.Taylor#,SSBC
10,26	Eastham	85+, 7	W.Petersen#,W.+P.Bailey
skua species:			
10	Eastham	1	W.Petersen,B.Sorrie,B.Nikula
Glaucous Gull:			
13-14	MV	1	W.Manter
Iceland Gull:			
16,31	P'town	1, 2	G.Gove#,SSBC
31	Stellwagen	4	BBC
Lesser Black-backed Gull:			
1-24	Clinton	1 ad.	L.Babbit,D.+V.Crompton
8,10	P'town	1 ad., 1 (2W)	W.Petersen#,R.Heil#
6-9,29	Plymouth, Gloucester	1, 2 ad. + 1 imm.	D.Evered#,H.Weissberg#
30,31	Monomoy	1, 1 ad.	B.Nikula
Ring-billed Gull:			
11,23	Bridgewater, Norton	500, 110	W.Petersen,R.Titus
Black-headed Gull:			
3	E.Boston	1 ad.	K.Winkler
	Winter plumage, aluminum band on left leg		
Bonaparte's Gull:			
30	Newburyport	75	BBC
Little Gull:			
9,16	Newburyport	1 imm., 1	BBC,W.Petersen#
Black-legged Kittiwake:			
10,26	Eastham	200, 1400	B.Nikula#,W.+P.Bailey
16,31	Stellwagen	200, 300	MBO staff,BBC
10,23	Cape Cod Bay, P'town	250+, 1200+	W.Petersen#,R.Heil
<u>Sabine's Gull:</u>			
10	Eastham	1 imm.	B.Nikula,W.Petersen,B.Sorrie
Forster's Tern:			
3,10	Newburyport, Cape Cod Bay	2, 6	R.Heil,W.Petersen#
16,31	P'town	6, 2	G.Gove#,SSBC(Fox)
Common Tern:			
10	Cape Cod Bay	3000	W.Petersen#
16,24,31	P'town	2000	v.o.
Roseate Tern:			
8	P'town	2	R.Heil
Caspian Tern:			
3	P.I.	7	v.o.
3,8	Plymouth Beach	1, 8	MBO staff
Black Tern:			
thr.	P'town	max. 3 (10/16)	v.o.
Razorbill:			
31	P'town	6	SSBC(Fox)
Dovekie:			
11,26	Barnstable	1, 5	R.Pease#
26	Eastham	7	B.Nikula
Atlantic Puffin:			
26	Eastham	1	W.+P.Bailey
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:			
3,23	Salisbury, MV	1, 1	R.Heil,v.o.(fide A.Brown)
Black-billed Cuckoo:			
18	Harwich	1	H.Stabins

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Eastern Screech Owl: 3,23	Easton, Marshfield	1, 2	K.Ryan,BBC(Harrington)
Great Horned Owl: 3;10	Weston; Easton, P.I.	1; 1, 1	L.Robinson;K.Ryan,BBC(Olivers)
2+3,19	Brewster, Mt.Auburn	2, 1	SSBC(Osborne),J.Heywood
Northern Saw-whet Owl: 2+3,19	Brewster, MBO	1, 2 (banded)	SSBC(Osborne),K.Anderson
30	P.I. Old Pines	1	BBC(W.Drummond)
Common Nighthawk: 18	Marshfield	1	W.Harrington
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 21	Wollaston	1	R.Emery
Belted Kingfisher: 15,27,30	P.I., SRV, Cambridge	1, 1, 1	D.Spencer,R.Walton,BBC(Holman)
Pileated Woodpecker: 14	Worcester	1	V.+D.Crompton
Red-headed Woodpecker: 27-28,29-31	Rockport, Lowell	1 imm., 1 imm.	R.Norris, M.Mayotte
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 2,3	P.I., W.Newbury	2, 2	BBC(McHales),R.Heil
2-3,3	P'town, Nantucket	2, 1	SSBC(Osbornes),BBC(Davis)
10	Worcester	1 imm.	V.+D.Crompton
Hairy Woodpecker: 16	P.I.	1	W.Petersen#

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SNOW BUNTINGS

Landbird migration was intense throughout the first half of the month. Manomet Bird Observatory banders had extraordinarily high activity in the nets on Monday, October 4. This was reportedly one of their best fall migration days in the last few years. On the following weekend, after the foul weather cleared out, observers throughout our area encountered large numbers of migrants. Both kinglet species, Palm and Yellow-rumped warblers were particularly noticeable elements of this wave. On the weekend of October 16-17, migration was again apparent, this time consisting most notably of Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, American Robin, Hermit Thrush and Yellow-rumped Warbler. A remarkable count of nine Winter Wrens was made at Chatham on the 17th. For the rest of the month, there was little breadth reported in terms of migrant species or individuals. During the last weekend, however, good-sized flocks of Snow Bunting arrived, approximately on schedule.

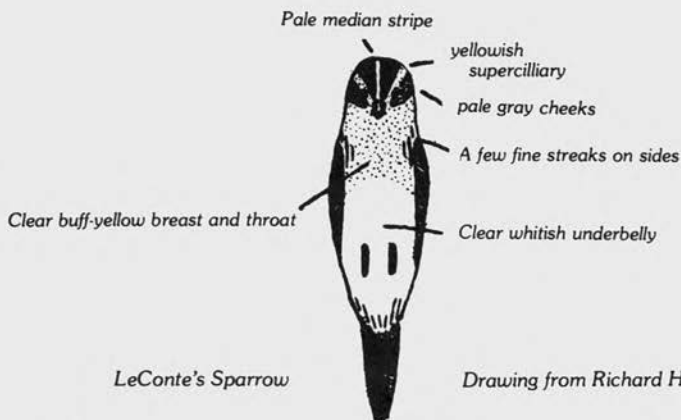
In October, we can reasonably start to look for indications of the northern winter irruptive species. This year, both Red-breasted Nuthatch and Evening Grosbeak came down, but in only moderate numbers. Of the other winter finches, only White-winged Crossbill was reported.

It seemed subjectively to some observers that a number of summer resident species departed early this year, possibly in response to the cold spell during the second week of October. Due to the variability of reporting from year to year, it is risky to make this assertion from the records. However, it is pretty clear that early departure did indeed occur with House Wren and Brown Thrasher.

In the opposite time-direction, a few individuals typically linger well beyond the departure schedules they would do better to follow. Great Crested Flycatcher and Bay-breasted Warbler individuals took this course. Also, a high count of Tree Swallows occurred slightly later than in years past.

This October was not a big month for rare species. Loggerhead Shrike, always of high interest to area birders, was reported for single days from two coastal locations. Probably the most excitement was generated by the well-documented sighting of LeConte's Sparrow at the edge of the saltmarsh across from the Newburyport airstrip. The accompanying illustration was taken from Richard Heil's notebook.

L.E.T.



LeConte's Sparrow

Drawing from Richard Heil's notebook

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Western Kingbird: 5,23,24	MBO, P.I., Waltham	1, 1, 1	Staff,N.Hill,R.Stewart
Great Crested Flycatcher: 24,29	M.V.	1, 1	W.Manter#
Eastern Phoebe: 2-24	P.I.	7(max. 3 on 10/24)	v.o.
6-20	SRV	4(max. 3 on 10/6)	R.Walton
11-17	4 locations	5	v.o.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: 2+3	P'town	1	SSBC
Horned Lark: 10-17,30-31	Scituate, P.I.	10 max., 60	v.o.
Tree Swallow: 2,10	Nantucket,Barnstable	35, 35	BBC, D.Clapp
17,18	Orleans, Squantum	100+, 2000	B.Nikula#, K.Ryan
26	M.V.	6	A.Brown#
Barn Swallow: 10	P'town	1	W.Petersen#
Common Raven: 3	Ashburnham	1	P.Roberts#
American Crow: 23,24	Mt. Wachusett,Ashburnham	130, 297	P.Roberts#
Fish Crow: 18,31	Newton	110, 272	N.+O.Komar
Tufted Titmouse: 16	P.I.	1	W.Petersen#
Red-breasted Nuthatch: 16,31	P'town	5, 6	L.Taylor#, SSBC
24,31	P.I.	1, 1	BBC
House Wren: 11	Westport	1	R.Stymeist
Winter Wren: 10-23,15	P.I.-Salisbury,Rockport	4 singles, 2	v.o., J.Grugan
17,31	Chatham, E.Middleboro	2, 1	W.Bailey#,K.Anderson
Carolina Wren: 10	Marshfield	1	H.Mallers
Marsh Wren: 2-3,31	Eastham, Marshfield	2, 3	SSBC, D.Brown#
Gray Catbird: 3;17,23	Nantucket; Marshfield	6; 1, 1	BBC; SSBC, BBC
17,30;18	P.I.; Belmont	2, 1; 1	BBC; L.Robinson
Brown Thrasher: 16,23	P.I., Salisbury	1, 1	BBC, H.Wiggin#
American Robin: 17	Belmont	225+ migrants in 15 min.	L.Taylor
Wood Thrush: 2	P.I.	1	BBC

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Hermit Thrush:			
3-21	6 locations	6	v.o.
4,19,20	SRV	2, 3, 1	R.Walton
10,17	Salisbury-P.I., Waltham	5, 9	R.Forster#, L.Taylor
19,23	Cambridge, Chatham	5, 3	F.Bouchard, B.Nikula
Swainson's Thrush:			
2-3,10	P'town, P.I.	3, 2	SSBC, BBC
15	Rockport	1	J.Grugan
Veery:			
3	Nantucket	1 b.	E.Andrews
Eastern Bluebird:			
5,30	Sandwich, Sudbury	7, 3 migrants	R.Pease, R.Forster
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:			
19	P'town	1	B.Nikula
Golden-crowned Kinglet:			
2-30	P.I.	55 max. (10/10)	v.o.
10-23	5 locations	16	v.o.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:			
2-30	P.I.	70 max. (10/10)	v.o.
2-3,11	P'town, Lexington	5, 4	SSBC, J.Carter
Water Pipit:			
3;8,16	Nantucket; Newburyport	28; 50+, 30	R.Stymeist#; v.o.
6,21,24;17	SRV; P'town	17, 13, 14; 67	R.Walton;J.Heywood#
19,30	Framingham, Halifax	17, 25	R.Forster, W.Petersen
Cedar Waxwing:			
28	Wayland, Lincoln	20, 5	R.Forster
Loggerhead Shrike:			
14,23	Duxbury Beach,Eastham (F.H.)	1, 1	D.Clapp, G.Gove#
White-eyed Vireo:			
7	MNWS	1 imm.	R.Heil#
Solitary Vireo:			
2-3,10	P'town, P.I.	2, 2	SSBC, v.o.
23,31	Marshfield	1, 1	BBC, R.Stymeist#
Red-eyed Vireo:			
2-3,24	P'town, E.Middleboro	4, 1	SSBC, K.Anderson
Philadelphia Vireo:			
2-3	P'town	1	SSBC
Warbling Vireo:			
5	MNWS	1	R.Heil
Black-and-white Warbler:			
2-3,4	P'town,Boston Common	1, 1	SSBC, P.O'Neil
10,13	Marshfield, Westport	2, 1	H.Mallers, BBC
Tennessee Warbler:			
2-3,3	P'town, Salisbury	2, 1	SSBC, D.Lange#
10	P.I., Milton (F.M.)	1, 1	BBC, J.Paputseanos
Orange-crowned Warbler:			
4-19,19	MBO, Rockport	5 b., 1 b.	K.Anderson, R.Norris
5-24	8 locations	15	v.o.
29,30	S.Peabody, Chatham	1, 1	R.Heil#, B.Nikula
Nashville Warbler:			
2-17	3 locations	3	v.o.
17,28	Westport, Lynn	1, 1	B.Hallett#, R.Heil
Northern Parula:			
2-3,10	P'town, Marshfield	5, 1	SSBC, H.Mallers
Magnolia Warbler:			
2-3	P'town	1	SSBC
Cape May Warbler:			
2-3,22	P'town, Belmont	1, 1	SSBC, F.Bouchard
Black-throated Blue Warbler:			
2-3,9-15	P'town, 4 locations	4, 5	SSBC, v.o.
Yellow-rumped Warbler:			
2-17,2-16	P.I., P'town	300 max. (10/10),	500 max. (10/16) v.o.,v.o.
3,16	Weston, Eastham	200, 190	L.Robinson,R.Stymeist#
18,31	Squantum,Stellwagen Bank	120, 3	K.Ryan, BBC
Black-throated Green Warbler:			
10	Salisbury, P.I.	1, 1	K.Hamilton#
10	Milton (F.M.), Marshfield	1, 2	J.Paputseanos, H.Mallers
Bay-breasted Warbler:			
1,2-3	Nantucket, P'town	1, 1	BBC, SSBC

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Blackpoll Warbler:			
2-3,6	P'town, Belmont	12, 4	SSBC, L.Robinson
15-19,29	5 locations, Boston	7, 1	v.o., J.Grugan
Prairie Warbler:			
16	Truro, Eastham	1, 1	G.Gove#, J.Heywood#
31	Marshfield	1	D.Brown#
Palm Warbler:			
2-3,10	P'town, Marshfield	2, 4	SSBC, H.Mallers
10	P.I., Milton (F.M.)	8, 11	R.Forster#, J.Paputseanos
19,30	Belmont, P.I.	4, 1	F.Bouchard, BBC
Northern Waterthrush:			
10	P.I.	1	R.Forster#
Connecticut Warbler:			
2-3	P'town	1, 1	SSBC (Osbornes)
Common Yellowthroat:			
10	Salisbury-P.I., Lincoln	6, 1 m.	R.Forster, J.Carter
14,31	Belmont, Orleans	1, 1	L.Robinson, SSBC
Yellow-breasted Chat:			
3,18	P.I., Chatham	1, 1	D.Lange#, B.Nikula
Wilson's Warbler:			
2-3	P'town	1	SSBC
American Redstart:			
2-3,10	P'town, P.I.	8, 1	SSBC, BBC
10,17	Marshfield, P.I.	1, 1	H.Mallers, BBC
Bobolink:			
3,9	Nantucket, P.I.	20, 4	BBC, F.Bouchard
Eastern Meadowlark:			
2,8	Leicester, Newburyport	1, 8	D.Crompton#, J.Carter
Red-winged Blackbird:			
14,31	Walpole, Newton	1200, 16 ad. m.	R.Titus, O.Komar
Northern Oriole:			
16,31	Truro, Marshfield	2, 1	L.Taylor#, D.Brown#
Northern "Bullock's" Oriole:			
15,28	S.Peabody, Sandwich	1, 1	R.Heil, R.Pease
Rusty Blackbird:			
2-3,16	5 locations, Truro	31, 3	v.o., L.Taylor#
20,31	GMNWR, Littleton	150+, 36	G.Gove, J.Baird
Common Grackle:			
15,30	Boston, Rowley	115, 70	F.Bouchard, BBC
Brown-headed Cowbird:			
19,21	P'town, Concord	200, 175	B.Nikula, R.Forster
Rose-breasted Grosbeak:			
10	P.I., Truro	1, 5	R.Forster, W.Petersen#
Blue Grosbeak:			
2-17,3	Truro, Nantucket	5 max. (10/3), 4	v.o., R.Stymeist#
20,21	Yarmouth, Harwich	1, 2	R.Scott#, B.Nikula
Indigo Bunting:			
1,10-18	Lexington, Truro	1, 3	J.Andrews, v.o.
22,31	Newton, Truro	2, 1	O.Komar, SSBC
Dickcissel:			
11,15	Newton, Barnstable	1, 1	O.+N.Komar, R.Pease
16	Sudbury, Newburyport	1 m., 1	C.Cooper, W.Petersen
17,23	Truro, P'town	1, 1	D.Brown#, R.Heil
27-28,31	Shrewsbury, MBO	1 m., 1	N.+H.Ober, staff
Evening Grosbeak:			
14,24	Orleans, Ashburnham	1, 1	C.Goodrich, P.Roberts#
26	Framingham	5	K.Hamilton
Purple Finch:			
31	Marshfield	32	R.Stymeist#
White-winged Crossbill:			
13	Chatham	6	W.Bailey
Rufous-sided Towhee:			
3,15	Nantucket, Newton	3, 1	BBC, M.Greenwald#
16,24	P.I.	2, 1 m.	BBC, L.Taylor#
"Ipswich" Sparrow:			
24	Squantum	1	D.Brown#
Savannah Sparrow:			
2,3	P.I.-Salisbury, Nantucket	50, 70	BBC(McHales), BBC(Davis)
13,15	SRV, Newton	23, 28	R.Walton, O.Komar#

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Savannah Sparrow (continued):			
22,27	Newton, Belmont	13, 14	O.Komar#, F.Bouchard
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
2;5	Nantucket; Newton	1;1 (details),1(2 loc)	BBC(Davis);O.Komar#
8,21	Truro, Harwich	1, 1	R.Heil, B.Nikula
LeConte's Sparrow:			
31	Newburyport	1 (details)	R.Heil, J.Smith
Sharp-tailed Sparrow:			
3	GMNWR	1	L.Taylor#
17,31	Marshfield, Newburyport	6, 20	SSBC(B.Smyth), R.Heil
Seaside Sparrow:			
31	Newburyport	5	R.Heil
Vesper Sparrow:			
2,16;23	Wellfleet;P'town	max. 7; 3	L.Taylor#; R.Heil
19	Belmont	2	L.Robinson
	Ten individuals from as many locations		
Lark Sparrow:			
2,3	P.I., Nantucket	1, 1	BBC(McHales),BBC(Davis)
30	Squantum	1	D.Brown
Dark-eyed Junco:			
2,3	P.I., Nantucket	22, 24	BBC(McHales),BBC(Davis)
23	P.I., Salisbury	60, 80	M.Argue + H.Wiggin
Tree Sparrow:			
10	Salisbury	1	K.Hamilton
24	Squantum	15	D.Brown#
Chipping Sparrow:			
10	Salisbury-P.I.	45	K.Hamilton + R.Forster
16,17	S.Wellfleet, Truro	20, 18	R.Stymeist#
30	P.I.	1	BBC (Giriunas)
Clay-colored Sparrow:			
20,23,30	Sandwich,P.I.,Squantum	1,1,1	R.Pease,M.Argue+H.Wiggin,D.Brown
Field Sparrow:			
20	Belmont, Newton	12, 11	L.Robinson,O.+N.Komar
White-crowned Sparrow:			
10,18	P.I., Truro	8, 3	BBC(Olivers), R.Forster#
19,20	Belmont	3, 2	L.Robinson, F.Bouchard
24;31	SRV,Squantum;P'town	12,8;1	R.Walton, D.Brown;SSBC (Fox)
White-throated Sparrow:			
2,3	P.I., Weston	60, 150	BBC(McHales),L.Robinson
13,18	SRV, Lexington	67, 45	R.Walton, F.Bouchard
Fox Sparrow:			
10,16	P.I.,Salisbury	1, 1	BBC(Olivers),BBC(Grinley)
23,27	Woburn, SRV	1, 7	G.Gove#, R.Walton
	4 locations	4	v.o.
Lincoln's Sparrow:			
5,16	Newton, N.Easton	3, 3 (1 singing)	O.Komar#, R.Titus
31	Newton, Marshfield	1, 1	N.Komar, D.Brown#
	8 locations	10	v.o.
Swamp Sparrow:			
11,16	Belmont, Truro	6, 35	L.Taylor#
20	SRV, Newton	20, 8	R.Walton, N.Komar#
31	Wayland	10	E.Morrier
Song Sparrow:			
13,20	SRV	48, 74	R.Walton
18,20	Belmont	13, 23	F.Bouchard,L.Robinson
20	Newton	65	O.+N.Komar
Lapland Longspur:			
2,17	Scituate, Plymouth	5, 9	D.Clapp#, MBO Staff
23,24	Halifax, M.V.	4, 4	W.Petersen#, A.Brown#
Snow Bunting:			
10;23	P'town; P.I., Scituate	1;20,25	W.Petersen#;I.Giriunas,BBC(Harrington)
23	Halifax, Mt. Wachusett	6, 7	W.Petersen#, P.Roberts#
23-27	GMNWR	max. 7	v.o.
26,31	M.V., P.I.	20, 94	A.Brown#, P.Roberts#