



# Field Records

## November 1985

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

November was very wet, cloudy, and slightly on the mild side. The temperature fluctuated widely, reaching a high of 73° on the twentieth and a low of 25° on the sixteenth; the average temperature was 45.4° in Boston, just .2° above normal. The season's first freeze in Boston came on November 15 - a week later than average. Precipitation totaled 6.39 inches, 2.18 inches more than normal. It was the wettest November since 1983 when Boston recorded 8.89 inches; the record is 11.03 inches in 1876. The most in a 24-hour period was 2.24 inches on November 5, when heavy showers and the month's only thunderstorm brought some street flooding. Snow fall totaled 3.0 inches, 1.8 inches more than the November average. This was the most snow in November since 1979 (4.2 inches). The snow on the twenty-sixth and on Thanksgiving (November 28) caused very slippery road conditions. Fog was frequent and noted on most days during the month. Heavy fog was recorded on three days, one more than average. Sleet occurred on five days and glazing on three days.

### LOONS THROUGH HERONS

Northeast winds and fog on November 5 and again on November 11 produced a good flight of seabirds at Cape Ann. At Andrew's Point in Rockport on the fifth, the sky was filled with birds most of the day according to a number of observers. Over 300 Red-throated Loons, 200 Northern Fulmars, 50 Cory's and over 400 Greater shearwaters as well as over 1000 Northern Gannets were counted during just two and a half hours. On November 11 at Andrews Point, two observers (in two different periods) counted a total of 908 Red-throated Loons in four-plus hours. On November 12, other striking counts of this species were 590 in less than two hours tallied from Sandy Neck in Barnstable and 300 in one hour from Corporation Beach in Dennis. A Brookline Bird Club pelagic trip on the last day of the month recorded 42 Northern Fulmar, late dates for Greater and Manx shearwaters, and a very late date for Sooty Shearwater.

R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1985</u>
<b>Red-throated Loon:</b>				
3,5	Lakeville, Rockport (A.P.)	2, 300+(in 2½ hr.)	SSBC(W.Peterson), R.McHale#	
6,10	Winthrop, outer Cape Cod	75, 20	D.Desmond#, SSBC (R.Fox)	
11	A.P.; Plymouth	400+(1.75 hr.), 508(2½ hr.); 50	W.Petersen, R.Forster; L.Robinson	
12	S.N., Dennis(Corp.Beach)	590 (1.75 hr.), 300 (1 hr.)	J.Aylward, B.Nikula	
24,28	Newbypt, Dennis(Corp.Beach)	25, 250 (2 hr.)	M.Lynch#, B.Nikula	
<b>Common Loon:</b>				
6,9	Winthrop, Sterling	5, 2	D.Desmond#, C.Quinlan	
10,11	Lakeville, Plymouth	12, 150	G.Gove, L.Robinson	
11	Rockport (A.P.)	60+ (2 ½ hr.)	W.Petersen#	
<b>Pied-billed Grebe:</b>				
3	Lakeville, GMNWR	10, 3	SSBC (W.Peterson), BBC (R.Vernon)	
3,8	Arlington, GMNWR	5, 6	L.Taylor, R.Walton	
9	Wareham, Quabbin (Gate 40)	3, 4	L.Robinson, S.Carroll#	
Other reports of one or two birds in many locations.				
<b>Horned Grebe:</b>				
2,3	Littleton, Lakeville	2, 5	J.Baird, SSBC (W.Peterson)	
8,10,26	Revere (Short Beach)	13, 18, 15+	R.Cumming	
10,14,20	Waltham (Camb. Res.)	2, 3, 1	J.Forster	
10,16	Marion, Quabbin (Gate 40)	20, 5	L.Robinson, M.Lynch#	
<b>Red-necked Grebe:</b>				
9,11	Salisbury, Rockport	2, 4	BBC (V.Albee), W.Peterson	
30	Dennis (Corp. Beach)	10	J.Aylward	
<b>Northern Fulmar:</b>				
5	Rockport (A.P.)	200+ (1 ½ hr.)	R.McHale#	
30	Stellwagen	42	BBC (M.Blazis)	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1985
Cory's Shearwater:				
5	Rockport (A.P.)	50+ (1½ hr.)	R.McHale#	
Greater Shearwater:				
2,5	P'town, Rockport (A.P.)	3, 400+	W.Petersen#, R.McHale#	
11	Rockport, Plymouth	1, 1	W.Petersen, L.Robinson	
23,30	N.Monomoy, Stellwagen	4+, 5+	B.Nikula, BBC (M.Blazis)	
Sooty Shearwater:				
30	Stellwagen	1	BBC (M.Blazis)	
Manx Shearwater:				
5	Rockport (A.P.)	1	R.McHale	
28,30	Barnstable(S.N.),Stellwagen	1, 1	R.Pease, BBC (M.Blazis)	
Northern Gannet:				
3	Rockport (A.P.) Truro	230 (3 hr.), 800+	R.Floyd, B.Nikula	
5,10	Rockport (A.P.), outer Cape Cod	1000+(2½hr.), 800+	R.McHale#,SSBC (R.Fox)	
11;12,28	Plymouth;Dennis(Corp.Beach)	200; 800(1 hr.), 500 (2 hr.)	L.Robinson;B.Nikula	
23,28	N.Monomoy, S.Monomoy	3000+, 2000+	B.Nikula	
29	Nantucket (Smith's Pt.)	2000	E.Andrews#	
Great Cormorant:				
3;9,16	Lakeville; Sterling, Southboro	2; 9, 3	SSBC (W.Petersen); C.Quinlan	
Double-crested Cormorant:				
3;10,16,30	Bridgewater; E.Boston	250 mig.; 40+,12,6	BBC(G.Gove); S.Thomas	
14,26;16-23	Waltham (Camb.Res.); Cambridge	4, 1; 1	R.Forster; J.Barton+v.o.	
American Bittern:				
9,10	P.I., Eastham (F.H.)	1, 2	J.Cumming, SSBC(R.Fox)	
Great Blue Heron:				
9;10	P.I.;Westport;outer C.Cod	4; 27, 40	J.Cumming; G.Gove#, SSBC (R.Fox)	
19,28	Saugus, Nant. (Polpis)	9, 14	J.Berry, M.Litchfield	
	Many other reports of one or two birds in many locations.			
Black-crowned Night-Heron:				
6,9	E.Boston, Squantum	1, 4	D.Desmond#, G.d'Entremont	

#### WATERFOWL

Seven Tundra Swans were found on Monomoy, and another was observed flying over Great Meadows NWR. The Greater White-fronted Goose returned to Rochester for the fourth consecutive year. A Blue-winged Teal was carefully observed in Rowley on November 11, and Eurasian Wigeon were found on Nantucket and on South Monomoy. Fresh Pond's population of Canvasbacks continues to rise each year; this year a maximum of 337 gathered there. A carefully-made count of 1650 Ring-necked Ducks in Lakeville represents an all-time high for this species in Massachusetts. The previous record was 1500 in Lakeville on November 1, 1981. Cold weather and northeast winds for several days prior undoubtedly contributed to this record count.

A drake Barrow's Goldeneye was found inland at Norton Reservoir, and Harlequin Ducks were reported in three places. There were good counts made of Hooded Mergansers and Ruddy Ducks from many locations. R.H.S.

Tundra Swan:				
9,17	GMNWR, N.Monomoy	1 (overhead), 7 (6 ad., 1 imm.)	S.Selesky#,B.Nikula#	
Mute Swan:				
10,24,25	Westport,S.Carver,Wellesley	75, 5, 3	G.Gove#, J.Ebert, C.Quinlan	
Greater White-fronted Goose:				
3-30	Rochester	1 (details)	J.Gordon# + v.o.	
Snow Goose:				
thr.	Rochester, P.I.	1, max. 14 (11/21)	v.o., D.Arvidson# + v.o.	
Brant:				
6,16	Winthrop	15, 135	D.Desmond, J.Cumming	
17,23	Newbypt, E.Boston	2, 320+	BBC (T.Prince), S.Thomas	
Canada Goose:				
1-20,3	Cambridge(Fresh P.),Lakeville	max.108 (11/7), 400	J.Barton+v.o.,W.Petersen#	
9,21;11	P.I.; Ipswich	500, 500; 1500+	BBC(V.Albee), M.Lynch#; W.Petersen	
16	Rochester, Concord (9 Acre)	300, 800	W.Petersen, R.Forster	
23	Hamilton	500+	J.Berry	
Wood Duck:				
3,10	GMNWR, E.Orleans	25, 2	BBC (R.Vernon), SSBC (R.Fox)	
Green-winged Teal:				
2	GMNWR	200+	R.Stymeist#	
3,9,21	P.I.	300, 325, 370	J.Cumming, BBC (V.Albee), D.Arvidson#	
11,30	S.Monomoy	300, 250	B.Nikula	
American Black Duck:				
thr.	Cambridge (Fresh P.)	max. 57 (11/4)	J.Barton + v.o.	
3,9,16	Quabbin (Gate 40)	15, 43, 48	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	

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American Black Duck (cont.):				
23	E.Boston	186	S.Thomas	
Mallard:				
thr.	Cambridge (Fresh P.)	max. 247 (11/4)	J.Barton	
Northern Pintail:				
3,9;21	P.I.	15, 50; 50	J.Cumming; D.Arvidson	
8;11,30	GMNWR; S.Monomoy	25; 125, 40+	R.Forster; B.Nikula#	
Blue-winged Teal:				
11	Rowley	1 (details)	R.Walton	
Northern Shoveler:				
8,9	GMNWR, P.I.	12, 7	R.Forster, BBC (V.Albee)	
11,30	S.Monomoy	35+, 25	B.Nikula#	
Gadwall:				
1,8	Ipswich, GMNWR	12, 43	BBC (J.Berry), R.Walton	
24	Plymouth	26	W.Petersen#	
Eurasian Wigeon:				
19;11,30	Nantucket; S.Monomoy	3 m.; 1	E.Andrews; B.Nikula#	
American Wigeon:				
thr.,3	Cambridge (Fresh P.),GMNWR	max. 24 (11/17),20	J.Barton+v.o., BBC(R.Vernon)	
1:11,30	Ipswich; S.Monomoy	130; 15+, 15	BBC (J.Berry); B.Nikula#	
23,24	Lexington, Plymouth	31, 28	L.Taylor, W.Petersen#	
Canvasback:				
thr.	Cambridge (Fresh P.)	max. 337 (11/25)	J.Barton + v.o.	
8:11,30	Lakeville; S.Monomoy	61; 20, 13	K.Anderson#; B.Nikula#	
24	Braintree	14	G.d'Entremont	
Redhead:				
9,19 on	Sterling, Nantucket	2 f., 75+	C.Quinlan, E.Andrews	
24,30	Plymouth, S.Monomoy	5, 40+	W.Petersen#, B.Nikula#	
Ring-necked Duck:				
thr.	Lakeville	max. 1650 (11/3)	SSBC (W.Petersen) + v.o.	
thr.	Cambridge (Fresh P.)	max. 141 (11/14)	J.Barton + v.o.	
3,11	Littleton, W.Newbury	225, 180	J.Baird, R.Forster	
15,30	Southboro, S.Monomoy	250, 70	C.Quinlan, B.Nikula#	
Greater Scaup:				
thr.	Cambridge (Fresh P.)	max. 41 (11/6)	J.Barton + v.o.	
6	Winthrop	150	D.Desmond#	
Lesser Scaup:				
thr.	Cambridge (Fresh P.)	max. 21 (11/7)	J.Barton + v.o.	
3	Lakeville	100+	SSBC (W.Petersen)	
10,14;25	Waltham (Camb. Res.); Lynn	9, 14; 2	R.Forster	
Common Eider:				
3,6	Rockport, Winthrop	2100 (3 hr.), 600	C.Floyd, D.Desmond#	
10,11	Winthrop, S.Monomoy	1300, 25000+	J.Cumming, B.Nikula#	
16,25	Nantucket Sound, Revere	3000+, 1000+	M.Litchfield, R.Forster	
King Eider:				
3	Dennis (Corp. Beach)	1 f.	B.Nikula#	
Harlequin Duck:				
10,22-23	Winthrop, S.Chatham	1 m., 1 m.	J.Cumming, P.Trull	
23	Rockport (A.P.)	1 f.	J.Cumming	
Oldsquaw:				
11	Rockport, Plymouth	350, 2000+	R.Forster, L.Robinson	
16	Nantucket Sound	1500+	M.Litchfield	
29	Nantucket (Smith Pt.)	10000+	E.Andrews	
Black Scoter:				
11	Rockport, Plymouth	50, 700	R.Forster, L.Robinson	
Surf Scoter:				
3,4	Lakeville, Cambridge (Fresh P.)	1 m., 1	G.Gove#, J.Barton	
11,17	Rockport, Marion	250, 350	R.Forster, G.Gove#	
White-winged Scoter:				
9,10	S.Monomoy, Revere-Winthrop	5000+, 750+	B.Nikula#, J.Cumming	
Common Goldeneye:				
3,10	Lakeville, Waltham (Camb. Res.)	16, 5	BBC (G.Gove), R.Forster	
Barrow's Goldeneye:				
6,9	Winthrop, Squantum	1, 1 f.	D.Desmond, G.d'Entremont#	
24	Norton (Reservoir)	1 m.	B.Cassie, J.Kricher	
Bufflehead:				
thr.	Lakeville, Waltham (Camb. Res)	max. 50(11/2),max. 47(11/10)	v.o., R.Forster	
6,10	Winthrop, E.Orleans	150, 250	D.Desmond, SSBC (R.Fox)	
Hooded Merganser:				
thr.	Lexington,Waltham(Camb. Res.)	max. 14(11/2),max. 16(11/14)	L.Taylor,R.Forster+v.o.	
3,9,16	Quabbin (Gate 40)	65+, 52, 69	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	
10	Petersham (Quabbin)	82	E.Nielsen	

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Hooded Merganser (cont.):				
11,30	S.Monomoy	25, 20+	B.Nikula#	
14,30	Eastham, Yarmouthport	46, 29	J.Aylward#	
Common Merganser:				
3;9,16	Lakeville; Quabbin (Gate 40)	12; 3, 36	SSBC (W.Petersen); M.Lynch#	
10,20	Waltham (Camb. Res.)	63, 123	R.Forster	
Red-breasted Merganser:				
9,30	N.Monomoy	4000+	B.Nikula	
10,16	Winthrop	250+, 300+	J.Cumming	
Ruddy Duck:				
thr.	Lakeville, Arlington	max. 225(11/3), max. 29(11/2)	SSBC(W.Petersen)+v.o., L.Taylor	
3,9	Littleton, Framingham	1, 45	J.Baird, J.Ashley	
10,14,20	Waltham (Camb. Res.)	107, 105, 106	R.Forster	
11,30;20,25	S.Monomoy; Norton	350, 200; 70, 160	B.Nikula#; K.Ryan	
Other reports of small flocks in many locations.				

#### RAPTORS THROUGH WILD TURKEY

Both Turkey Vultures and Ospreys were reported to be lingering about, later than usual. One or two Turkey Vultures were observed at Quabbin; none were sighted in November 1984. At least nine Ospreys (compared with five last November) and six Bald Eagles were reported during the month, with two adult eagles in the Quabbin area. There were sightings of as many as nine Peregrine Falcons, all from coastal locations.

R.H.S.

Turkey Vulture:				
3,9	Quabbin (Gate 40)	1, 1	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	
Osprey:				
2;3,6,9	Lincoln; Wayland	1; 3, 2, 1	R.Forster	
6,9	S.Carver, Nantucket	1, 1	fide K.Anderson, J.Van Vorst#	
10,23	Westport, Nantucket	1, 1	J.Gordon#, A.McClune	
25	Cambridge (Fresh P.)	1	J.Barton	
Bald Eagle:				
3	Petersham	1 ad.	E.Nielsen	
13,16	Concord, Dedham	1 imm., 1 imm.	G.Bertrand, T.Raymond	
16,24	Quabbin (Gate 40), Lakeville	1 imm., 1 imm.	M.Lynch#, K.Holmes	
27	Chilmark	1 imm.	W.Manter	
Northern Harrier:				
thr.	P.I.	max. 7 (11/3 + 11/16)	P.Roberts# + v.o.	
2-3,10	GMNWR, outer Cape Cod	2, 4	R.Stymeist# + v.o., SSBC (R.Fox)	
Other reports of one or two birds in many locations.				
Sharp-shinned Hawk:				
2;3,16	Newbypt; Quabbin (Gate 40)	2; 2, 3	BBC (R.Hamburger); M.Lynch#	
10	outer Cape Cod	2	SSBC (R.Fox)	
Other reports of individual birds in many locations.				
Cooper's Hawk:				
9,15	Sterling, Milton	1, 1	C.Quinlan, K.Ryan	
Northern Goshawk:				
3,9	Quabbin (Gate 40)	1 imm., 2	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	
9,16	Ashburnham, P.I.	1, 1 imm.	P.Roberts	
16,17	Halifax, Newbypt	1 ad., 1	W.Petersen, BBC (T.Prince)	
29	Ipswich	1 imm.	J.Berry	
Red-shouldered Hawk:				
3	Petersham	1 ad.	E.Nielsen	
Red-tailed Hawk:				
3	Petersham	4	E.Nielsen	
9,14	Belmont, ONWR	3+, 4	L.Taylor, BBC (M.Lynch)	
14,15	Mt. Wachusett	2, 3	SSBC (K.Ryan), BBC (P.Roberts)	
17,24	Salisbury, Rowley	3, 2-3	J.Berry	
Rough-legged Hawk:				
3,16	P.I., P.I.-Salisbury	1, 5	P.Roberts, B.Basham#	
21,25	GMNWR, E.Middleboro	1, 1 (dark)	K.Harte, K.Anderson	
American Kestrel:				
17,21	Newbypt area, Salisbury	5, 3	BBC (T.Prince), P.Roberts	
Merlin:				
7-23	N.Monomoy	max. 2 (11/23)	B.Nikula#	
7-21	Eleven individuals reported from ten locations.			
Peregrine Falcon:				
7,30;11,30	N.Monomoy; S.Monomoy	1, 1; 1 imm.	B.Nikula#	
9,16	P.I.	1, 1 ad.	BBC (V.Albee), v.o.	
10-29	Four individuals reported from four locations.			

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Ruffed Grouse:				
7,9	E.Middleboro, Milton	1, 1	K.Anderson, G.d'Entremont	
29	Ipswich	2	J.Berry	
Wild Turkey:				
16	Quabbin (Gate 40)	1	M.Lynch, S.Carroll	

#### RAILS THROUGH ALCIDS

A Piping Plover was reported from Martha's Vineyard on November 6. This is a very late date for this species. Most Piping Plovers have departed from our area by mid-September, and there are only two other November records in BOEM for this species - November 11 and 18, 1979. Reflecting their recent establishment and increase as breeders, oystercatchers were present in their highest November numbers. They have been reported in November each year since 1980, but none were reported before then. Marbled Godwits were also present in unusual numbers for November. Only the second November Willet on record (previous report in 1977) was noted at Chatham this year, and it was attributed to the Western race, ornatus. Both Semipalmated and Western sandpipers were reported. Recent evidence indicates that most November peep are Westerns. All late sightings should be carefully described and voice, when heard, noted. Otherwise, they are best reported as "peep" species. White-rumped Sandpiper, not unusual in November, was also reported. Purple Sandpiper reports were few, and those reported were in low numbers.

The BBC pelagic trip on November 30 to Stellwagen produced the following highlights (of the species discussed here): Pomarine Jaeger (6), Glaucous Gull (1), Black-legged Kittiwake (1000), Razorbill (36), Black Guillemot (12), and Atlantic Puffin (3). A skua species was reported from Rockport but no details given. An immature Little Gull was seen in Dennis, and Common Black-headed Gulls were noted in East Boston and in Gloucester. Up to 875 Bonaparte's Gulls were counted in Revere, and two reports of this species came from inland locations. Approximately 1800 Ring-billed Gulls were noted roosting and feeding in fields in the Bridgewater - Halifax area. Iceland Gulls and Glaucous Gulls were seen in the usual areas in addition to one Iceland Gull in Milton. An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull was found in Scituate. In the stormy weather of November 5 and 11, hundreds of kittiwakes passed by Andrew's Point (1200 in two and a half hours). Royal Terns, notably late, lingered at Nantucket and Naushon I., remnants of Hurricane Gloria. Common and Forster's terns were also present, but they are more usual lingerers at this time of year. Dovekies were noted on two occasions at Rockport. The most common alcid was the Razorbill, with good numbers noted in Cape Cod Bay where three immature Atlantic Puffins were also observed. G.W.G.

Virginia Rail:				
10	outer Cape Cod	1	SSBC (R.Fox)	
American Coot:				
thr.	Cambridge	max. 7 (11/20)	BBC (J.Barton)	
3,20	GMNWR, Norton	35, 55	BBC (R.Vernon), K.Ryan	
24	Braintree, Plymouth	46, 70	G.d'Entremont, W.Petersen#	
Black-bellied Plover:				
2,10	Nantucket, Ipswich	5, 200	E.Andrews, BBC (W.Drummond)	
9,17	N.Monomoy	800, 400	B.Nikula	
24	Duxbury	100	W.Petersen#	
Semipalmated Plover:				
6,17	Nantucket, N.Monomoy	3, 1	E.Andrews, B.Nikula	
Piping Plover:				
6	M.V.	1	V.Laux	
Killdeer:				
3,9	Lakeville, Concord	12, 32	SSBC (W.Petersen), R.Forster	
23	Lexington	2	L.Taylor	
American Oystercatcher:				
thr.	Chatham	max. 14 (11/7)	B.Nikula	
Greater Yellowlegs:				
2-16	E.Boston	max. 42 (11/2)	J.Cumming	
24	Duxbury	2	W.Petersen#	
Lesser Yellowlegs:				
11	Rowley	1	R.Forster, W.Petersen	
Willet (Western):				
17	Chatham	1	B.Nikula	
Marbled Godwit:				
thr.	Chatham	max. 6 (11/11)	B.Nikula + v.o.	
Ruddy Turnstone:				
6	Winthrop	2	D.Desmond#	
Red Knot:				
9,24	N.Monomoy, Duxbury	80, 20	B.Nikula, W.Petersen#	

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1985
Sanderling:				
thr.	N.Monomoy	max. 600+ (11/9)	B.Nikula	
6,24	Nantucket, Duxbury	200+, 400	E.Andrews, W.Petersen#	
Semipalmated Sandpiper:				
2,9;6	P.I.; Nantucket	2, 3; 1	BBC; E.Andrews	
Western Sandpiper:				
3,17	P.I., N.Monomoy	1, 1	J.Cumming, B.Nikula	
White-rumped Sandpiper:				
7,9	N.Monomoy	1	B.Nikula	
9,16	P.I.	1, 1	BBC (V.Albee), G.Gove#	
Pectoral Sandpiper:				
3,7	Halifax, N.Monomoy	5, 4+	BBC (G.Gove), B.Nikula	
17	Newbury	3	J.Berry	
Purple Sandpiper:				
6,10;16	Winthrop; Nantucket	50, 20; 6	D.Desmond#, J.Cumming; M.Litchfield	
Dunlin:				
thr.	N.Monomoy, P.I.	max. 1600 (11/9),	max. 350 (11/9)	B.Nikula, v.o.
6,24	Winthrop, Duxbury	600, 3000	D.Desmond, W.Petersen#	
Stilt Sandpiper (details):				
8	Nantucket Harbor flats	1 (molting)	M.Litchfield	
Long-billed Dowitcher:				
2-24	Newbypt-P.I.	max. 15 (11/2)	v.o.	
Common Snipe:				
9,17	Concord, Newbury	3, 16	R.Forster, J.Berry	
Pomarine Jaeger:				
30	Stellwagen	6	BBC (M.Blazis)	
skua species:				
5	Rockport	1 (no details)	R.McHale	
Laughing Gull:				
8,10	Nantucket, Winthrop	20, 210	M.Litchfield, J.Cumming	
Little Gull:				
11	Dennis	1 imm.	B.Nikula	
Common Black-headed Gull:				
6-26,23	E.Boston, Gloucester	1, 1 ad.	D.Desmond + J.Cumming, J.Cumming	
Bonaparte's Gull:				
3,10	Lakeville, Revere	9, 875+	SSBC (W.Petersen), J.Cumming	
23,25	Arlington, Newbypt.	1, 40	L.Taylor, M.Lynch#	
Ring-billed Gull:				
3,6	Halifax, Barnstable	1800, 300	W.Petersen#, J.Aylward	
Iceland Gull:				
3,4	Rockport, Milton	1, 1	C.Floyd, R.Abrams	
10,11	P'town, Rockport	1 ad., 1 (1W)	SSBC (R.Fox), R.Forster	
23	Gloucester	10	BBC (W.Drummond)	
Lesser Black-backed Gull:				
3	Scituate	1 ad.	D.Clapp	
Glaucous Gull:				
17,30	Nantucket, Boston	1 (2W), 1	M.Litchfield, BBC (M.Blazis)	
Black-legged Kittiwake:				
5,11	Rockport	1000+ (in 2½ hr.),	1200+ (in 2½ hr.)	R.McHale, W.Petersen
30	Stellwagen, S.Monomoy	1000+, 1500+	BBC (M.Blazis), B.Nikula#	
Royal Tern:				
2-6,10	Nantucket, Naushon	2-1, 2	E.Andrews#, J.Hatch	
Common Tern:				
10;11,17,23	Yarmouthport; Chatham	21; 75, 20+, 5+	J.Aylward; B.Nikula#	
Forster's Tern:				
17	Chatham	1	B.Nikula	
Dovekie:				
5,29	Rockport	1, 3	R.McHale, W.Drummond	
Thick-billed Murre:				
29	Rockport	3	W.Drummond	
Razorbill:				
3	Rockport, Dennis	2, 1	P.W.Smith, B.Nikula	
28,30	Dennis, Stellwagen	31, 36+	B.Nikula, BBC (M.Blazis)	
28,30	Barnstable, S.Monomoy	46, 5+	R.Pease, B.Nikula	
Black Guillemot:				
23,29	Gloucester, Rockport	3, 5	J.Cumming, W.Drummond	
30	Boston	12	BBC (M.Blazis)	
Atlantic Puffin:				
30	Stellwagen	3 imm.	BBC (M.Blazis)	

## DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Six hundred Mourning Doves were estimated in one field in Sudbury, and a Yellow-billed Cuckoo lingered on Martha's Vineyard. A Snowy Owl was found emaciated in Quincy where it was picked up, fed, banded, and released. (It was recaptured at Logan International Airport in December.) A goodly representation of Northern Saw-whet Owls was noted this month.

A Chimney Swift was reported seen on November 7 at Martha's Vineyard. This is a late date for that species, the latest date in BOEM records being of a bird seen feeding at a farm in Bridgewater on November 5 and 6, 1983. Two hummingbird species were reported this month, both on the seventh. The one from Arlington was said to be an immature and was feeding on *Nicotiana*. Vagrant hummingbirds have been well-documented east of the Mississippi, and two western species have occurred in Massachusetts. Most late hummers are immatures, and the potential for western vagrants at a late date is always there. Likely candidates for vagrancy are Black-chinned (virtually indistinguishable except in hand and even then difficult) and Rufous, which can be determined by subtle plumage characteristics. See the article by Bruce Sorrie in BOEM 8 (August 1980): 143 (and the useful references cited therein). The overwhelming likelihood is that most sightings are the Ruby-throated species. G.W.G.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1985
Mourning Dove:				
1,3	Sudbury, Lakeville-Bridgewater	600, 400	R.Forster#, SSBC (W.Petersen)	
28	Brookline	78 at feeder	H.Wiggin	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:				
8	M.V.	1	V.Laux	
Eastern Screech-Owl:				
1;15,23	ONWR; P.I.	1; 1 (heard)	J.Berry; G.Gove	
24	Braintree	6	G.d'Entremont	
Great Horned Owl:				
11,19	Wareham, Brookline	1, 1	L.Robinson, B.Rielly#	
25	Middleboro	1	K.Holmes	
Snowy Owl:				
6	Quincy	1 b.	N.Smith	
Barred Owl:				
3,8	Lakeville, Norwood	1, 1	SSBC (W.Petersen), L.Robinson#	
23,30	Hamilton, E.Middleboro	1, 1	J.Berry, K.Anderson	
Short-eared Owl:				
1,17	Nantucket	5, 3	E.Andrews	
21,25	Salisbury, Middleboro	1, 1	P.Roberts, K.Holmes	
30	N.Monomoy, S.Monomoy	1, 1	R.Prescott#, B.Nikula#	
Northern Saw-whet Owl:				
3,13	Oakham, Chatham	1 dead, 1	M.Lynch#, B.Nikula	
16,17	Middleboro, W.Newbury	2, 1 imm.	K.Holmes, I.Giriunas + v.o.	
24	P.I.	1 ad.	L.Taylor#	
Chimney Swift:				
7	M.V.	1	V.Laux	
hummingbird species:				
7	Brookline, Arlington	1 imm., 1 imm.	M.Wilhelm, M. +. J.Rosenfeld	
Belted Kingfisher:				
3,9	Lakeville, Manchester	3, 3	SSBC (W.Petersen), BBC (G.Hotz)	
17,19	Winchester, Salem	1, 1	BBC (J.Holman), J.Berry	
Hairy Woodpecker:				
9,11	Quabbin (Gate 40)	5, 5	M.Lynch#	
Northern Flicker:				
3	Belmont	3	L.Taylor	
Pileated Woodpecker:				
5	Lincoln	1	P.Cook	

## FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS

A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was seen for one day and photographed on Martha's Vineyard, providing a very late vagrant record. The report of a Common Raven in Billerica is convincing, but is from a non-traditional locale. Only one individual raven was reported from the more expected Worcester County region. American Robins were notably absent this November, with only one report received. The Northern Shrike total of ten individuals constitutes of well-above-average number but pales in comparison to the twenties of individuals seen in the major flight years of 1978 and 1979. Two White-eyed Vireos were reported on widely different dates from North Shore sites. There is only one other November record for this species in the last ten years.

A ten species total for the month, warbler diversity continued the low trend set in

October. A few individuals of a number of species lingered, primarily on Nantucket, over a month beyond typical departure norms; included were Black-throated Blue, Prairie, Bay-breasted, Black-and-white, and Wilson's warblers. Southwesterly wind conditions on the ninth and tenth may have contributed to the occurrence of the Prairie Warbler and also the earlier one of the White-eyed Vireos. Similar conditions on and after the nineteenth may explain one of the Bay-breasted Warbler reports and the Black-and-white Warbler individual. Yellow-rumped Warbler counts were quite low in comparison with the numbers reported in recent Novembers. L.E.T.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1985
Eastern Phoebe:				
27	Nantucket	1	J.Van Vorst	
Western Kingbird:				
10-23,16-30	Eastham, Nantucket	1-2, 1	v.o.	
22	Nantucket (second site)	1	M.J. Litchfield	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:				
14	M.V.	1 ph.	W.Manter#	
Horned Lark:				
10,11	Truro, Ipswich	75, 50	SSBC (R.Fox), v.o.	
16,17	Rochester, Newbypt.	200, 43	W.Petersen, BBC (T.Prince)	
Tree Swallow:				
9	P.I.	1	E.Nielsen	
Barn Swallow:				
1-3,2	Wayland, P'town	max. 2 (11/3), 1	R.Forster, W.Petersen#	
Eurasian Jackdaw:				
from 1982-thr.	Nantucket	1	E.Andrews#	
Fish Crow:				
9	Sudbury	20	R.Forster	
Common Raven:				
3-23, 18	Petersham, Billerica	max. 1, 1	v.o., K.Harte	
Red-breasted Nuthatch:				
thr.,3-16	8 locations, Quabbin (Gate 40)	11 total, max. 9 (11/16)	v.o.,M.Lynch#	
9	Ashburnham	3	P.Roberts	
Brown Creeper:				
3-16,10	Quabbin(Gate 40),Hamilton	max. 8 (11/16), 6	S.Carroll#, BBC (W.Drummond)	
24	Braintree	3	G.d'Entremont	
Carolina Wren:				
thr.	Winchester, E.Middleboro	1, 1	M.McClellan, K.Anderson	
1-19,3	Ipswich, Lakeville	1 m., 3	J.Berry, v.o.	
11-26,29	Weston, Millis	max. 2 (11/11), 1	E.Rondle, R.Forster	
Winter Wren:				
10	Framingham	1	R.Forster	
Marsh Wren:				
8	Nantucket	3	M.J.Litchfield	
Golden-crowned Kinglet:				
3,3-16	Lakeville, Quabbin (Gate 40)	3, max. 16 (11/16)	SSBC(W.Petersen),M.Lynch#	
9	Ashburnham	6	P.Roberts	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:				
9-10,25	5 locations, Cambridge	5 total, 1	v.o., J.Barton	
Eastern Bluebird:				
3,11	Berkley, Nantucket	3, 1 f.	SSBC (W.Petersen), E.Andrews	
Hermit Thrush:				
8-14,22	3 locations, Nantucket	4 total, 1	v.o., M.J.Litchfield	
American Robin:				
10	Framingham	45	R.Forster	
Brown Thrasher:				
9,30	Sudbury, Groton	1, 1	R.Forster, F.Smith	
Water Pipit:				
1,3	Ipswich, Petersham	15, 100+	BBC (J.Berry), E.Nielsen	
9,9-19	Manchester, Concord	11, max. 11. (11/9)	BBC (G.Hotz), R.Forster	
11,17	Rowley, Lakeville	10, 12	R.Forster, K.Holmes	
Cedar Waxwing:				
10,16	Framingham, W.Newbury	85, 35	R.Forster, G.d'Entremont#	
17,28	Ipswich, Wellesley	24, 100+	J.Berry, R.Forster	
Northern Shrike:				
2-29,2	P.I., Middleboro	max. 2 (11/3), 1	v.o., K.Holmes	
3-21,9-23	Salisbury,Quabbin(Gate 40)	max. 1, max. 2 (11/16)	v.o., S.Carroll#	
11,16	Newbypt, Nantucket	1, 1	R.Forster, E.Andrews	
28,30	Framingham, M.V.	1, 1	K.Hamilton, W.Manter	
White-eyed Vireo:				
10,24	Ipswich, P.I.	1, 1 imm.	BBC (W.Drummond), M.Lynch#	
Solitary Vireo:				
1	Boston	1	B.Litchfield#	

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1985</u>
Orange-crowned Warbler: 9,23	Squantum, Nantucket	1, 1	G.d'Entremont, M.J.Litchfield	
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 4	Nantucket	1 m.	J.Husted	
Yellow-rumped Warbler: 3,9	Lakeville, Manchester	10, 13	BBC (G.Gove), BBC (G.Hotz)	
Pine Warbler: 12-13,16	Stoneham, P.I.	1, 1	M.Martinek, H. Weissberg#	
18-30,24	Nantucket, Plymouth	max. 4., 1	E.Andrews, W.Petersen#	
Prairie Warbler: 9	P.I.	1	E.Nielsen	
Palm Warbler: 3,6	Lakeville, E.Boston	1, 1	SSBC (W.Petersen), D.Desmond#	
10,27	outer Cape Cod, Nantucket	3, 10	SSBC (R.Fox), M.J.Litchfield	
Bay-breasted Warbler: 10,19-21	Nantucket (2 sites)	1 imm. m., 1 imm. m.	E.Andrews	
Black-and-white Warbler: 19	Nantucket	1	J.Van Vorst	
Wilson's Warbler: 21	Eastham	1	W.Swift	
Yellow-breasted Chat: 3,18	Salisbury, Weston	1, 1	J.Cumming, E.Randle	

#### TANAGERS THROUGH EVENING GROSBEAK

The Western Tanager continued at a Nantucket feeder from October through November 18. Fox Sparrow migration was relatively light, and reports were confined entirely to the first half of the month. Over the last decade, White-crowned Sparrow totals for November have generally ranged from zero to six individuals, the latter being the count this year. Lapland Longspurs continued notably scarce as in October, with only a single individual reported. Surprisingly, the highest count of Snow Bunting was from an inland, Worcester County site, though other large inland counts are in the record. A noteworthy total of close to 6000 blackbirds was observed in Littleton on November 3; the 5000 Red-winged Blackbirds in Concord a week later is similarly very large compared to recent November counts. An immature male "Bullocks" Oriole visited a feeding station in Watertown on November 10 only. Of the three "Baltimore" Orioles reported from Nantucket, one was unusual in that it was a male in full adult plumage. Total winter finch numbers were rather low, but species diversity and geographical distribution were good. L.E.T.

Western Tanager: from Oct.-18	Nantucket	1	E.Andrews#
Indigo Bunting: 9	Truro	2	J.Aylward#
Dickcissel: 6	Marshfield	1	D.Clapp
Rufous-sided Towhee: 10,22	outer Cape Cod, Wellesley	1, 1	SSBC (R.Fox), C.Quinlan
American Tree Sparrow: 3,17	Bridgewater, Newbypt	8, 50	W.Petersen#, BBC (T.Prince)
Field Sparrow: 2,3	Belmont, Lakeville	6, 10	L.Taylor, SSBC (W.Petersen)
17,24	Winchester, Holbrook	5, 1	BBC (J.Holman), G.d'Entremont
Vesper Sparrow: 3	GMNWR	1	BBC (R.Vernon)
"Ipswich" Sparrow: 4-24	3 coastal locations	3 total	v.o.
Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 10	Eastham	4	SSBC (R.Fox)
Seaside Sparrow: 10	Eastham	3	SSBC (R.Fox)
Fox Sparrow: 3-16,3-14	Bridgewater,Belmont	3, max. 3 (11/3)	W.Petersen#, L.Taylor
5,9-14	Easton, Waltham	2, max. 4 (11/14)	K.Ryan#, L.Taylor
9,16	Sudbury, Malden	5, 1	R.Forster, D.Gibson
Swamp Sparrow: 3,9	Lakeville, Belmont	14, 7	BBC (G.Gove), L.Taylor
White-throated Sparrow: thr.,3	Brookline, Lakeville	8, 9	H.Wiggin, BBC (G.Gove)
9,17	Manchester, Winchester	8, 7	BBC (G.Hotz), BBC (J.Holman)
White-crowned Sparrow: 2,3	Truro, Halifax	1, 3	W.Petersen#

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1985</u>
White-crowned Sparrow (cont.):				
9,10	Squantum, outer Cape Cod	1 imm., 1	D.Brown#, SSBC (R.Fox)	
Dark-eyed Junco:				
3,8	Lakeville, Sudbury	200+, 75	SSBC (W.Petersen), R.Forster	
17	Newbyrt	300	BBC (T.Prince)	
Lapland Longspur:				
11	Ipswich	1	R.Forster	
Snow Bunting:				
2-23,3	Salisbury-P.I., Petersham	max. 230 (11/9), 600+	v.o., E.Nielsen	
7,10	N.Monomoy, Truro	200+, 50	B.Nikula#, SSBC (R.Fox)	
10,30	E.Boston, S.Monomoy	40, 100	S.Thomas, B.Nikula#	
Red-winged Blackbird:				
1,3	Ipswich, Littleton	250, 1000	BBC (J.Berry), J.Baird	
10,23	Concord, Belmont	5000, 35	R.Forster, L.Taylor	
Eastern Meadowlark:				
9,10	P.I., outer Cape Cod	1, 1	BBC (V.Albee), SSBC (R.Fox)	
Rusty Blackbird:				
3	Bridgewater, GMNWR	2, 1	SSBC (W.Petersen), BBC (R.Vernon)	
9	Sudbury	2	R.Forster	
Common Grackle:				
3	Bridgewater, Littleton	1200, 3000	BBC (G.Gove), J.Baird	
22	Hopkinton	3	G.Gove#	
Brown-headed Cowbird:				
3	Littleton, Bridgewater	1750, 8	J.Baird, BBC (G.Gove)	
Northern Oriole:				
9-30,21	Nantucket, Millis	max. 3 (11/22), 1	E.Andrews, R.Forster	
27	Cohasset	1	T.Healy	
Northern ("Bullocks") Oriole:				
10	Watertown	1 imm. m.	R.Stymeist#	
Pine Grosbeak:				
1,9	Rockport, Ashburnham	1 m. b., 4	R.Norris, P.Roberts	
9,10	Lincoln, Nantucket	4, 5	C.Quinlan, E.Andrews#	
11-17,20	W.Newbury, Baldwinville	4, 25	v.o., J.O'Regan	
Purple Finch:				
3,16	Lakeville, Ipswich	2, 6	BBC (G.Gove), J.Berry	
Red Crossbill:				
24	P.I.	2 m. + 1 f.	v.o.	
White-winged Crossbill:				
2,9	Nantucket, Framingham	1 m., 2	M.J.Litchfield, R.Forster	
11,16	S.Monomoy, Wayland	1, 2	B.Nikula#, R.Forster	
16,24	Quabbin (Gate 40), Newbyrt	17, 5	S.Carroll#, BBC (Dillavou)	
Common Redpoll:				
1,9	Chatham, Lancaster	1, 150	B.Nikula, C.Quinlan	
9,16	Squantum, Southboro	30, 35	D.Brown#, C.Quinlan	
18,24	GMNWR, Salisbury	40, 20	P.Roberts, M.Lynch#	
Pine Siskin:				
1,8	Chatham, Nantucket	15, 5	B.Nikula, E.Andrews	
9,11	E.Middleboro, Boston	15, 8	K.Anderson, K.Ryan	
16,25	Quabbin (Gate 40), Brookline	53, 5	S.Carroll#, H.Wiggin	
Evening Grosbeak:				
3,9	Nantucket, Quabbin (Gate 40)	20, 20	E.Andrews, M.Lynch#	
19,24	S.Lincoln, Ipswich	19, 25	R.Forster, J.Berry#	

### BIRD OBSERVER NEEDS TYPISTS

BIRD OBSERVER NEEDS TYPISTS to produce camera-ready copy for this journal. (Such typing must be done on an IBM Correcting Selectric 12-pitch typewriter; so if you own or have access to such a machine, that would be a distinct plus.) If you are a GOOD OR EXPERT TYPIST - with or without a typewriter - and would like to join the BIRD OBSERVER staff, please call the editor at 641-2205 (anytime).

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ad.	adult	F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham
alt.	alternate (plumage)	F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham
b.	banded	F.M.	Fowl Meadow, Milton
br.	breeding	gr.	greater as in Gr. Boston area
dk.	dark (phase)	I.	Island
f.	female	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
fl.	fledge	Mt. A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
imm.	immature	Nant.	Nantucket
ind.	individuals	Newbypt	Newburyport
loc.	locations	P.I.	Plum Island
lt.	light (phase)	P'town	Provincetown
m.	male	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
max.	maximum	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
migr.	migrating	Stellw.	Stellwagen (Bank)
N.S.E.W.	direction	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
ph.	photographed	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
pl.	plumage	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
pr.	pair	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
thr.	throughout	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
v.o.	various observers	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
W	winter (2W = second winter)	LCES	Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies
w/	with	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
yg.	young	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
#	additional observers	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	NEHW	New England Hawk Watch
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
Buzz.	Buzzards (Bay)	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
C.	Cape as in C.Cod or C.Ann	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
		WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

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