

BIRD SIGHTINGS

MARCH 1997

SUMMARY

by Simon Perkins, Marjorie W. Rines, and Robert H. Stymeist

Although March began with a short warm spell, a long cold stretch prevailed from March 7 to 25, when temperatures averaged more than 6° below average. The high temperature for the month was 63° on March 30, and snowfall for the month was only a shade over 5 inches. The next day the great blizzard began and raged into April 1, with a storm total of 24.4 inches, breaking the single-storm record of 23.6 inches set by the February "Blizzard of '78." Winds were from the southwest only on March 17 and 26. M. W. R.

LOONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Reports of loons and grebes were relatively scanty, and the only noteworthy report among this group was a **Pacific Loon** in Provincetown, which was well described in a written report. A count of 400 Northern Gannets at Provincetown on the March 30 marked the beginning of migration for this species. Three reports of Glossy Ibis was unusual, as they typically make their first arrival in early April. An early **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** in Pepperell was doubly unusual, being inland.

A **Tundra Swan**, which was first reported on the last day of February, loitered for two weeks in a pond behind the Chestnut Hill Shopping Center in Newton, then moved to Chestnut Hill Reservoir in Brighton for the rest of the month. Grounded Snow Geese were reported in exceptional numbers following a storm March 22, especially from Worcester County. Two reports of single Eurasian Wigeons in Lynnfield and Wakefield probably involved the same individual, and another drake seen in Cambridge midmonth was probably the bird that overwintered in the Belmont/Arlington area. The usual March influx of migrant ducks brought an above-average number of Redhead reports. Among these, came a count of 21 in Northboro and 18 in Brookfield, both exceeding the previous record for Worcester County. A **Tufted Duck** at Nantucket that lingered from February continued through the month.

Two **Black Vultures**, originally reported in January coming to an evening roost on the Westport/Dartmouth town line, were frequently observed during the day at a pig farm near the roost. Other reports of this species from Randolph and West Barnstable, therefore, could well be different birds. Ospreys begin returning in March, and, as usual, by the end of the month they were on territory. An excellent written description accompanying a report of an early Broad-winged Hawk in Concord left little doubt as to its identification.

Killdeer and American Oystercatchers arrived on schedule, while two Piping Plovers in South Dartmouth March 5 were earlier than normal. A Lesser Yellowlegs in Newbury on the 28th was also early. A **Mew Gull** that overwintered in Winthrop continued through most of the month. Alcids had a poor showing, with reports only of Black Guillemot. Guillemots often frequent the outermost Boston Harbor islands, but two birds within sight of Long Island were more unusual. Up to five Short-eared Owls were seen throughout the month in the Cumberland Farms section of Middleboro. An early Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was noted in Petersham.

S. A. P., M. W. R.

| Date | Location | Number | Observers | Date | Location | Number | Observers |
|--|--------------|--------|----------------|-------------------|------------|--------|-------------------|
| Red-throated Loon | | | | 15 | Gloucester | 12 | BBC (W. Drummond) |
| 2 | Salisbury | 4 | D. Chickering | Pied-billed Grebe | | | |
| 8 | Nant. Sound | 21 | S. Perkins | 17 | Lakeville | 1 | J. Paluzzi |
| 9 | Westport | 14 | M. Lynch# | 23 | Brighton | 1 | D. Oliver |
| 20 | Orleans | 5 | S. + E. Miller | 23 | Waltham | 1 | D. Oliver |
| Pacific Loon (details submitted)* | | | | 29 | Petersham | 1 | S. + L. Hennin |
| 4 | Ptown (R.P.) | 1 | S. + E. Miller | Horned Grebe | | | |
| Common Loon | | | | 2 | Gloucester | 21 | S. Perkins# |
| 8 | Nant. Sound | 30 | S. Perkins | 2 | P.I. | 9 | BBC (D. Oliver) |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------|-----------------|
| Horned Grebe (continued) | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Westport | 44 | M. Lynch# | 2 | Lynnfield | 5 | D. Williams |
| 9 | Boston H. | 80 | B. Zuzavich | 2 | P.I. | 7 | D. Oliver |
| 22 | Lakeville | 1 | SSBC (W. Petersen) | 4, 26 | Concord (NAC) | 14, 60 | S. Perkins |
| Red-necked Grebe | | | | 11 | Nantucket | 18 | E. Ray |
| 1 | Winthrop | 30 | G. d'Entremont | 23 | Arlington | 15 | D. Oliver |
| 2 | Gloucester | 18 | S. Perkins# | 23 | Topsfield | 10 | P. + F. Vale |
| 30 | Lanesville | 3 | J. Berry# | 23 | Bolton Flats | 19 | M. Lynch# |
| Northern Gannet | | | | 28 | IRWS | 18 | J. Brown# |
| 16 | P'town (R.P.) | 12 | J. Hoye# | 28 | P.I. | 100 | R. Heil |
| 28 | P.I. | 3 | D. + I. Jewell | 28 | Rowley | 150 | R. Heil |
| 30 | P'town | 400 | B. Nikula | 30 | Wayland | 45 | S. Perkins# |
| Double-crested Cormorant | | | | 30 | Pepperell | 16 | E. Stromsted |
| 29 | Squantum | 6 | G. d'Entremont | American Black Duck | | | |
| 30 | W. Harwich | 26 | B. Nikula | 9 | Quincy | 150 | G. d'Entremont |
| American Bittern | | | | 9 | Westport | 1219 | M. Lynch# |
| 4 | Eastham (F.H.) | 1 | S. + E. Miller | 16 | Cumb. Farms | 200 | S. Arena |
| Great Blue Heron | | | | Northern Pintail | | | |
| 1, 29 | Westboro | 3, 18 | E. Taylor | 1 | GMNWR | 6 | E. Taylor |
| 19 | Acton | 20 prs | B. Volkle | 2 | P.I. | 10 | BBC (D. Oliver) |
| 26 | Concord (NAC) | 3 | S. Perkins | 2 | Concord (NAC) | 12 | R. Lockwood |
| Great Egret | | | | 12 | Newbury | 2 | M. Rines |
| 18 | S. Dart. (A.Pd) | 1 | LCES (J. Hill) | 16 | Marlboro | 4 | B. Parker |
| 28 | Rowley | 1 | R. Heil | 18 | Concord (NAC) | 22 | S. Perkins |
| 28 | P.I. | 1 | D. Chickering | 22 | W. Bridgewater | 10 | W. Petersen# |
| 28 | Newbypt | 1 | R. Heil | 23 | Newbypt | 22 | J. Hepburn# |
| 30 | Essex | 1 | J. Berry | 25 | GMNWR | 13 | R. Lockwood |
| 31 | Westport | 1 | G. Gove | 28 | Bolton Flats | 15 | M. Lynch# |
| Snowy Egret | | | | 28 | Rowley | 32 | R. Heil |
| 29 | Hull | 1 | N. Swirka | 28 | P.I. | 28 | R. Heil |
| 30 | Lanesville | 3 | J. Berry# | 29 | Halifax | 7 | R. Finch |
| 31 | Ipswich | 1 | J. MacDougall | Blue-winged Teal | | | |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron | | | | 20 | E. Brookfield | 2 | C. Phillips# |
| 16 | New Bedford | 1 | M. Boucher | 22 | P.I. | 1 m | W. Taitrow |
| 29 | Squantum | 4 ad | G. d'Entremont | 24 | Newbury | 2 | M. Rines |
| 30 | E. Boston (B.I.) | 5 | R. Cressman | 25 | GMNWR | 1 m | S. Perkins |
| Yellow-crowned Night-Heron | | | | 28 | Rowley | 2 | R. Heil |
| 26 | Pepperell | 1 | E. Stromsted | 29 | Newbypt | 2 | J. Berry |
| Glossy Ibis | | | | 30 | W. Harwich | 1 | B. Nikula |
| 22 | W. Bridgewater | 1 | W. Petersen# | 23 | Bolton Flats | 1 | M. Lynch# |
| 23-31 | Falmouth | 5 max | D. Remsen | Northern Shoveler | | | |
| 28 | Rowley | 1 | R. Heil | thr | Boston | 1 m | v.o. |
| Tundra Swan | | | | 9 | DWWS | 2 | T. Prince# |
| 1-17 | Newton | 1 | D. Oliver# | 14 | E. Orleans | 1 m | M. Preu# |
| 20-31 | Brighton | 1 | C. Hepburn# | 14 | Osterville | 2 | S. + E. Miller |
| Mute Swan | | | | 15 | DWWS | 1 | D. Larson# |
| 9 | Westport | 101 | M. Lynch# | 26 | P.I. | 1 m | M. Rines |
| Snow Goose | | | | Gadwall | | | |
| thr | Medford | 1 | M. Rines | 2 | P.I. | 13 | BBC (D. Oliver) |
| 22 | Templeton | 150 | T. Pirro | 7 | DWWS | 86 | D. Ludlow |
| 22 | Middleboro | 60 | W. Petersen# | 9 | Gloucester | 12 | J. Brown# |
| 22 | W. Bridgewater | 62 | W. Petersen# | 20-30 | GMNWR | 2 | S. Perkins |
| 22 | Worcester | 28 | M. Lynch# | 23 | Waltham | 3 | D. Oliver |
| 22 | Lexington | 50+ | M. Pelikan | 28 | P.I. | 47 | R. Heil |
| 23 | Littleton | 50 | D. Lange | 29 | Arlington | 8 | BBC (D. Oliver) |
| 23 | Barre | 450 | M. Lynch# | Eurasian Wigeon | | | |
| 28 | P.I. | 28 | R. Heil | 14 | Osterville | 2 | S. + E. Miller |
| 30 | Pepperell | 3 | E. Stromsted# | 16 | Camb. (F.P.) | 1 m | R. Stymeist |
| Brant | | | | 22 | Wakefield | 1 | P. + F. Vale |
| 1 | W. Dennis B. | 69 | C. Hepburn# | 25 | Lynnfield | 1 | D. + I. Jewell |
| 9 | P.I./Newbypt | 35 | P. Roberts | American Wigeon | | | |
| 15 | Nantucket | 90 | fide E. Ray | 2 | Newbypt | 4 | D. Oliver |
| 23 | Salisbury | 140 | B. Volkle | 2 | P.I. | 2 | D. Oliver |
| Wood Duck | | | | 16 | Marlboro | 12 | S. + L. Hennin |
| 4, 22 | Concord (NAC) | 2, 22 | S. Perkins | 21 | Sudbury | 5 | S. Perkins# |
| 9, 26 | Cumb. Farms | 23, 50+ | R. Finch | 21 | Concord (NAC) | 5 | S. Perkins |
| 20 | W. Brookfield | 11 | C. Phillips# | 22 | Wakefield | 4 | P. + F. Vale |
| 22 | Worcester | 33 | M. Lynch# | 22 | Marlboro | 7 | E. Taylor |
| 23 | Bolton Flats | 60 | M. Lynch# | 23 | Waltham | 11 | D. Oliver |
| 25 | GMNWR | 14 | S. Perkins | 23 | Arlington Res. | 5 | M. Pelikan |
| 29 | Petersham | 15 | S. + L. Hennin | 28 | Rowley | 14 | R. Heil |
| Green-winged Teal | | | | 30 | GMNWR | 3 | S. Perkins |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------|--|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------|--|-----------------|
| Canvasback | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Falmouth | 4 | | E. Giles | 9 | Pepperell | 40 | | E. Stromsted |
| 9 | Yarmouth | 3 | | R. Finch | 15 | Wakefield | 15 | | P. + F. Vale |
| 9 | Westport | 105 | | M. Lynch# | 16 | Harvard | 15 | | S. + L. Hennin |
| 22 | Lakeville | 5 | | W. Petersen# | 18 | GMNWR | 12 | | R. Lockwood |
| 23 | Arlington | 3 | | D. Oliver | 19 | S. Carver | f n | | R. Turner |
| Redhead | | | | | 22 | Worcester | 37 | | fide M. Lynch# |
| 7-10 | Gloucester | 2 | | J. Soucy | 23 | Athol | 17 | | D. Small# |
| 8-28 | GMNWR | 21 | | S. + L. Hennin | 28 | Edaville | nest | | R. Turner |
| 15-28 | Northboro | 1 | | M. Lynch# | 29 | Petersham | 30 | | S. + L. Hennin |
| 15-16 | Brookfield | 18 | | B. Volkle# | Common Merganser | | | | |
| 18-20 | Framingham | 2 | | A. Porter | 1 | Westboro | 165 | | A. Boover |
| Ring-necked Duck | | | | | 1 | GMNWR | 50 | | J. Hoye# |
| thr | Wakefield | 43 max | | P. + F. Vale | 1 | W. Newbury | 48 | | P. + F. Vale |
| 9 | W. Bridgewater | 150 | | G. d'Entremont | 2 | Newton | 50 | | R. Lockwood |
| 16 | Harvard | 50 | | S. + L. Hennin | 9 | Sherborn | 60 | | E. Taylor |
| 22 | Athol | 62 | | D. Small# | 15 | N. Andover | 180 | | E. Stromsted |
| 22 | GMNWR | 100 | | S. Perkins | 15 | Brighton | 25 | | N. Komar |
| 22 | Westboro | 50 | | E. Taylor | 15 | Westboro | 68 | | M. Lynch# |
| 28 | Northboro | 51 | | A. Boover | 22 | GMNWR | 45 | | S. Perkins |
| 28 | Arlington Res. | 90 | | C. Floyd | Red-breasted Merganser | | | | |
| 29 | GMNWR | 50+ | | S. Perkins | 1, 16 | Quincy | 600, 300 | | E. Taylor |
| Tufted Duck | | | | | 9 | Westport | 392 | | M. Lynch# |
| thr | Nantucket | 1 | | fide E. Ray | 29 | Somerville | 6 | | D. Oliver |
| Greater Scaup | | | | | 29 | GMNWR | 1 | | S. Perkins |
| 2 | Newbypt | 6 | | D. Oliver | Ruddy Duck | | | | |
| 8 | Nantucket | 12 | | S. Perkins | 15 | Wakefield | 5 | | D. Williams |
| 9 | Westport | 75 | | M. Lynch# | 15 | Lynnfield | 5 | | D. Williams |
| 15 | Newton | 1 | | N. Komar | 16 | Medford | 14 | | R. Stymeist# |
| 22 | Lakeville | 125 | | SSBC (W. Petersen) | 16 | Brighton | 18 | | D. Oliver |
| 29 | Arlington Res. | 1 | | D. Oliver | 27 | Waltham | 8 | | M. Partridge |
| Lesser Scaup | | | | | 28 | Arlington Res. | 7 | | C. Floyd |
| 8 | Nantucket | 20 | | S. Perkins | 29 | Brighton | 18 | | D. Oliver |
| 9 | Westport | 30 | | M. Lynch# | 29 | W. Newbury | 7 | | J. Berry |
| 16 | Lakeville | 60 | | S. Arena | 29 | Winchester | 16 | | BBC (D. Oliver) |
| 28 | W. Newbury | 2 | | R. Heil | 38 | S. Carver | 4 | | R. Turner |
| Common Eider | | | | | Black Vulture | | | | |
| 9 | Quincy | 500 | | G. d'Entremont | 15 | Westport | 2 | | R. Stymeist# |
| 28 | Newbypt | 870 | | R. Heil | 20 | Randolph | 1 | | N. Smith |
| King Eider | | | | | 28 | W. Barnstable | 1 | | G. Martin |
| 2 | Rockport | 2 | | v.o. | Turkey Vulture | | | | |
| Harlequin Duck | | | | | 1 | Westboro | 4 | | A. Boover |
| 1 | N. Scituate | 2 | | W. Lackey | 2 | Lynnfield | 5 | | P. + F. Vale |
| 2 | Rockport | 39 | | S. Perkins# | 2 | W. Newbury | 3 | | BBC (D. Oliver) |
| 8 | Nantucket | 3 | | S. Perkins | 15 | Westport | 21 | | R. Stymeist# |
| 23 | Squibnocket | 45 | | G. Daniels | 23 | Northboro | 14 | | B. Volkle |
| Oldsquaw | | | | | 23 | Southbridge | 4 | | S. + L. Hennin |
| 7 | Nant. Sound | 4000 | | S. Perkins | 28 | Hingham | 3 | | N. Swirka |
| 26 | Gardner | 3 | | T. Pirro | 28 | Newbury | 3 | | R. Heil |
| Black Scoter | | | | | 28 | Newbypt | 6 | | R. Heil |
| 7 | Nant. Sound | 90 | | S. Perkins | 28 | Provincetown | 3 | | T. Raymond |
| 10 | Rockport | 50 | | J. Soucy | 30 | Lincoln | 4 | | S. Perkins |
| 16 | Nauset B. | 12 | | J. Hoye# | 30 | East Bridgewater | 2 | | R. Finch |
| Surf Scoter | | | | | 30 | Concord (NAC) | 8 | | S. Perkins# |
| 7 | Nant. Sound | 600 | | S. Perkins | Osprey | | | | |
| Common Goldeneye | | | | | 9 | Westport | 1 | | M. Lynch# |
| 2 | Newbypt | 180 | | BBC (D. Oliver) | 15 | Nantucket | 2 | | fide E. Ray |
| 18 | GMNWR | 5 | | R. Lockwood | 19 | S. Carver | 1 | | K. Anderson |
| 29 | Petersham | 2 | | S. + L. Hennin | 20 | Chilmark | 1 | | J. Slater |
| 29 | IRWS | 4 | | P. + F. Vale | 26 | Wareham | 2 | | H. Thomas |
| Barrow's Goldeneye | | | | | 29 | Westport | 15 | | R. Finch |
| 1-12 | Newbypt | 1 | | v.o. | 30 | Nantucket | pr | | A. Charder |
| 2 | Wareham | 1 | | M. Sylvia | 31 | Marshfield | pr n | | T. Nickerson |
| 2 | Winthrop | 1 | | B. Volkle | Bald Eagle | | | | |
| 7 | Nantucket | 2 | | S. Perkins | 1 | W. Newbury | 1 | | P. + F. Vale |
| Bufflehead | | | | | 2 | Acton | 1 ad | | M. Lynch# |
| 9 | Yarmouth | 137 | | R. Finch | 17 | Middleboro | pr n | | R. Turner |
| 9 | Westport | 498 | | M. Lynch# | 20-26 | Wayland | 1 imm | | N. Patterson |
| 29 | Newbypt | 390 | | R. Heil | 23 | Petersham | 1 ad | | M. Lynch# |
| Hooded Merganser | | | | | 27 | S. Quabbin | 5 | | M. Rines |
| 2 | Newton | 12 | | R. Lockwood | 30 | Wayland | 2 imm | | S. Perkins# |
| 8 | Athol | 11 | | D. Small | Northern Harrier | | | | |
| | | | | | 2 | Middleboro | 4 | | S. Arena |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| Northern Harrier (continued) | | | | 23 | Petersham | 36 | M. Lynch# |
| 9 | DWWS | 3 | T. Prince# | 28 | Newbypt | 11 | R. Heil |
| 15 | East Boston (B.I.) | 1 | R. Cressman | 29 | IRWS | 1 | P. + F. Vale |
| 28 | P.I. | 3 | R. Heil | Virginia Rail | | | |
| 28 | Cumb. Farms | 7 | R. Finch | 28 | Yarmouthport | 2 | S. + E. Miller |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk | | | | 30 | GMNWR | 1 | S. + L. Hennin |
| 2 | Bolton Flats | 1 | M. Lynch# | American Coot | | | |
| 9 | Marshfield | 1 | L. Ferrarosso | 23 | Medford | 9 | D. Oliver |
| 15 | Malden | 1 | P. + F. Vale | 23 | Arlington | 41 | D. Oliver |
| 16 | Cumb. Farms | 1 | S. Moore# | Black-bellied Plover | | | |
| 19 | Lynn | 1 | J. Berry | 16 | Duxbury B. | 1 | D. Clapp |
| 22 | W. Newbury | 1 | D. Chickering | Piping Plover | | | |
| 26 | Concord (NAC) | 1 ad | S. Perkins | 5 | S. Dart. (A.Pd) | 2 | LCES (J. Hill) |
| 28 | GMNWR | 3 | S. Perkins | 9 | Westport | 1 | S. + L. Hennin |
| 28 | Provincetown | 1 | T. Raymond | 15 | Nantucket | 1 | fide E. Ray |
| Cooper's Hawk | | | | 15 | Duxbury B. | 1 | D. Clapp |
| 23 | Marstons Mills | 2 | M. Partridge | 22 | Acoaxet | 7 | J. Hoye# |
| 30 | Lanesville | pr n | J. Berry | 23 | S. Dartmouth | 13 | B. Hodgson |
| thr | Reports of individuals from 16 loc. | | | 27 | Mashpee | 4 | S. + E. Miller |
| Northern Goshawk | | | | 29 | Katama | 3 | P. Davey# |
| 22 | Hopkinton | 1 | G. Gove | Killdeer | | | |
| 23 | Petersham | 1 ad | M. Lynch# | 12 | Nantucket | 9 | fide E. Ray |
| 28 | Boxford (C.P.) | 1 | P. + F. Vale | 20 | Lexington | 16 | M. Rines |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | | | | 22 | W. Bridgewater | 18 | W. Petersen# |
| thr | E. Middleboro | pr n | K. Anderson | 22 | Concord (NAC) | 12 | S. Perkins# |
| 7, 13 | Lincoln | 1 | M. Rines | 26 | Cumb. Farms | 35 | R. Finch |
| 9 | Cumb. Farms | 2 | S. Moore# | 28 | Rowley | 10 | R. Heil |
| 10 | Hanover | 1 | W. Petersen# | 28 | Newbury | 67 | R. Heil |
| 11 | Marshfield | 1 | D. Clapp | American Oystercatcher | | | |
| 13-30 | Boxford | 2-3 | J. Brown# | 4 | M.V. | 1 | J. Cressy |
| 22 | Lexington | 2 | M. Rines | 11, 22 | Nantucket | 2, 8 | fide E. Ray |
| 22 | Petersham | 2 | M. Polana | 26 | Logan | 2 | N. Smith |
| 25-26 | Dartmouth | 1 | A. Hankin | Greater Yellowlegs | | | |
| 25 | Boston | 1 ad | K. Hudson | 30 | Cummaquid | 4 | S. + E. Miller |
| 28 | N. Dartmouth | 1 | M. Boucher | Lesser Yellowlegs | | | |
| 30 | N. Truro | 1 imm | B. Nikula | 28 | Newbury | 1 | R. Heil |
| 30 | Easton | 1 | S. Arena | Ruddy Turnstone | | | |
| 30 | Boxford (C.P.) | 3 | J. MacDougall | 8 | Nantucket | 20 | S. Perkins |
| Broad-winged Hawk | | | | Red Knot | | | |
| 21 | Concord | 1 | R. Lockwood | 15 | Duxbury B. | 1 | D. Clapp |
| Red-tailed Hawk | | | | Purple Sandpiper | | | |
| 28 | Newbypt area | 19 | R. Heil | 8 | Nantucket | 50 | S. Perkins |
| Rough-legged Hawk | | | | Dunlin | | | |
| 9 | P.I./Newbypt | 1 | P. Roberts | 9 | Nahant | 80 | J. Young |
| 9 | Cumb. Farms | 1 | S. Moore# | 15 | Duxbury B. | 320 | D. Clapp |
| 15 | Cumb. Farms | 1 dk | R. Stymeist# | Common Snipe | | | |
| 16 | W. Roxbury | 1 | S. Cronenweth | 4 | Cumb. Farms | 3 | R. Finch |
| American Kestrel | | | | 17 | Dorchester | 2 | R. Donovan |
| 2 | Newbypt | 2 | BBC (D. Oliver) | 22 | W. Bridgewater | 80 | W. Petersen# |
| 15 | Westport | 3 | M. Rines# | 28 | Newbury | 45 | R. Heil |
| 22 | W. Bridgewater | 3 | W. Petersen# | 30 | Concord (NAC) | 6 | S. Perkins# |
| 23 | P.I. | 2 | W. Petersen | 30 | Cumb. Farms | 65 | T. Raymond |
| 30 | Concord (NAC) | 2 | S. Perkins# | American Woodcock | | | |
| thr | Reports of individuals from 10 loc. | | | 2 | Northboro | 5 | B. Volkle |
| Merlin | | | | 2 | Newton | 3 | M. Partridge |
| 2 | Newbury | 1 | P. + F. Vale | 4 | Bedford | 3 | M. Rines |
| 9 | Nahant | 2 | J. Young | 5 | IRWS | 4 | J. MacDougall |
| 16 | Arlington | 1 | S. Cronenweth | 11 | Cumb. Farms | 10 | K. Anderson |
| 22 | South Boston | 1 | R. Donovan | 19 | Ipswich | 9 | J. Berry |
| Peregrine Falcon | | | | 21 | Wayland | 11 | N. Patterson |
| 12 | Newbypt | 1 | B. Gette | 21 | Cambridge | 9 | M. Rines |
| Ruffed Grouse | | | | 23 | Bolton Flats | 10 | M. Lynch# |
| 7 | W. Newbury | 1 | R. Heil | 28 | W. Newbury | 8 | R. Heil |
| 21 | IRWS | 3 | L. Healy | Black-headed Gull | | | |
| 23 | Bolton | 1 | R. Lockwood | 1 | N. Scituate | 1 imm | W. Lackey |
| 29 | Lincoln | 1 | M. Rines | 2 | Gloucester | 1 imm | V. Laux# |
| 29 | Petersham | 1 | D. Small# | 2-24 | Newbypt | 2 | v.o. |
| Wild Turkey | | | | 9 | W. Lynn | 1 | J. Young |
| 1 | Danvers | 1 | B. Foley | 15 | Winthrop | 7 | R. Cressman |
| 2 | Templeton | 18 | R. Stymeist# | Mew Gull (no details) * | | | |
| 7 | W. Newbury | 6 | R. Heil | 1-23 | Winthrop | 1 | v.o. |
| 15 | Athol | 10 | D. Small | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|-----------------|
| Iceland Gull | | | | 30 | Rockport | pr n | D. Jacques |
| 6 | Concord (NAC) | 1 1W | S. Perkins | 30 | Maynard | 2 | L. Nachtrab |
| 8 | Brockton | 1 | S. Arena | Snowy Owl | | | |
| 11 | Oak Bluffs | 1 | C. Cameron | 2 | Logan | 7 | N. Smith |
| 13 | Arlington Res. | 1 | D. + I. Jewell | 2 | P.I. | 1 | BBC (D. Oliver) |
| 15 | Newbypt | 2 | J. Brown# | 8 | Duxbury | 2 | F. Bygate |
| 20 | Acton (Nagog) | 4 | R. Forster | 31 | Logan | 4 | N. Smith |
| 28 | P'town | 9 | T. Raymond | Barred Owl | | | |
| Lesser Black-backed Gull | | | | 11 | E. Middleboro | 1 | K. Anderson |
| 2 | Acton | 1 ad | R. Stymeist# | 29 | Sharon | 1 | D. Larson# |
| 15 | Westboro | 1 | M. Lynch# | 30 | Harvard | 1 | C. Kopkowski |
| Glaucous Gull | | | | Short-eared Owl | | | |
| 2 | Acton | 2 | R. Stymeist# | 10 | Cumb. Farms | 5 | S. Cronenweth |
| 23 | Ipswich | 1 | J. Brown# | 15 | Nantucket | 1 | fide E. Ray |
| 28 | Provincetown | 1 | T. Raymond | 26 | P.I. | 1 | J. Dwyer |
| 28 | Kowley | 1 1W | R. Heil | 30 | Cumb. Farms | 5 | T. Raymond |
| 29 | Hingham | 1 | M. Partridge | 31 | P.I. | 1 | W. Stubblefield |
| Black-legged Kittiwake | | | | Red-headed Woodpecker | | | |
| 16 | P'town (R.P.) | 12 | J. Hoye# | thr | Essex | 1 | v.o. |
| Black Guillemot | | | | thr | Sherborn | 1 | E. Taylor |
| 2 | Gloucester | 6 | S. Perkins# | Red-bellied Woodpecker | | | |
| 2 | Rockport | 3 | S. Perkins# | thr | Lincoln | pr | S. Perkins |
| 9 | Boston H. | 2 | B. Zuzavich | thr | Sherborn | 2 | E. Taylor |
| 30 | Lanesville | 2 | J. Berry# | 19 | Ipswich | 2 | K. Disney |
| Eastern Screech-Owl | | | | 21 | Medford | 3 | M. Rines |
| 8 | Norfolk | 3 | B. Cassie | 25 | IRWS | 2 | D. + I. Jewell |
| 9 | Harwich | 1 | D. Chickering | 28 | Holliston | 2 | J. Howe |
| 9 | Foxboro | 4 | B. Cassie | 29 | Boston | 2 | J. Young |
| 21 | Brighton | 1 | M. Partridge | thr | Reports of individuals from 16 loc. | | |
| 21 | Millis | 13 | B. Cassie | Yellow-bellied Sapsucker | | | |
| 28-30 | Mt. A | 1 | v.o. | 29 | Quabbin (G40) | 1 | E. Nielsen# |
| Great Horned Owl | | | | Pileated Woodpecker | | | |
| 4 | Bedford | 1 | M. Rines | 2 | Acton | 2 | R. Lockwood |
| 6 | Hopkinton | pr | R. Wolanin | 11 | Wayland | 2 | C. Jackman |
| 8 | Norfolk | 8 | B. Cassie | 16,28 | GMNWR | 1 | S. Perkins |
| 8 | Framingham | 1 | E. Taylor | 21 | Lincoln | 1 | P. Schnepper |
| 8 | Westboro | 1 | M. Lynch# | 23 | Petersham | 2 | M. Lynch# |
| 9 | W. Bridgewater | 1 | G. d'Entremont | 25 | Harvard | 1 | C. Kopkowski |
| 9 | Foxboro | 3 | B. Cassie | 28 | Sunderland | 1 m | M. Rines |
| 10 | N. Dartmouth | 1 | M. Boucher | 29 | Milton | 2 m | G. d'Entremont |
| 11 | E. Middleboro | 3 | K. Anderson | 29 | Quabbin (G40) | 2 | E. Nielsen# |
| 21 | Millis | 4 | B. Cassie | 30 | Boxford | 2 | J. MacDougall |
| 29 | Newbury | pr n | J. Berry | | | | |

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH GROSBEAKS

March brings the first spring arrival of Eastern Phoebes and Tree Swallows, whetting the appetite of birders for things to come. A Barn Swallow at Great Meadows in Concord on March 30 was exceptionally early. American Crows at their Framingham roost had dispersed by the end of the month, presumably to their breeding areas. Fish Crows continue to expand into new areas in eastern Massachusetts. Common Raven sightings in the eastern part of the state are always unusual, so an observer in Ipswich was surprised to discover a bird chowing down on a road kill fisher, an equally unusual mammal.

On March 30, a **Rock Wren** was discovered in the Lanesville section of Gloucester, only the third occurrence of this species in Massachusetts. It is an odd time of year for the discovery of such a rarity, leading to speculation that the bird may have been there since the fall. The **Townsend's Solitaire**, originally discovered on the Mid-Cape Christmas Bird Count, continued to be reported from Barnstable through the middle of the month, and a second bird was discovered in Sandwich on March 5. There are only a handful of records of this species in the state, so the occurrence of a second bird led the observer to suspect it might have been the same bird. He went to the Barnstable location, however, and saw the original bird, becoming probably the first person on the east coast to see two Townsend's Solitaires in one day.

A male Cape May Warbler was discovered to have overwintered at a feeder on Martha's Vineyard. While other warbler species are known to overwinter, this is the first record of this species doing so. Dickcissels are very unusual in winter, and a total of four birds is exceptional. The handful of Chipping Sparrow reports at the very end of the month suggests the vanguard of spring arrivals rather than overwintering birds. A Clay-colored Sparrow visiting a feeder in North Dartmouth was exceptionally early for a spring migrant. A **Harris' Sparrow**, originally discovered in January, continued visiting a feeder in Salisbury through March 22.

Large flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds and Common Grackles were observed in a number of locations, congregating prior to breeding dispersal. With the exception of a count of 133 Rusty Blackbirds in Westwood,

it was a mediocre March flight for this species. The only winter finch reports were a scattering of Purple Finches, plus reports of Red Crossbills in West Peabody and Quabbin, two Pine Siskins in Athol, and a flock of Evening Grosbeaks in Petersham.

R. H. S.

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|--|----------------|------|--------------------|
| Eastern Phoebe | | | | 23 | Wayland | 1 | J. Hoye# |
| 20 | IRWS | 1 | R. Speare | 29 | Braintree | 2 | G. d'Entremont |
| 20 | Lexington | 1 | M. Rines | 30 | E. Middleboro | pr n | K. Anderson |
| 22 | Worcester | 3 | S. + L. Hennin | Winter Wren | | | |
| 28 | Hingham | 5 | N. Swirka | 7 | Worc. (BMB) | 1 | C. Phillips |
| 28 | W. Newbury | 6 | R. Heil | 15 | Westport | 2 | R. Stymeist# |
| 29 | Quabbin (G40) | 7 | E. Nielsen# | 20 | Boxford (C.P.) | 1 | K. Disney |
| 29 | Petersham | 9 | E. Nielsen# | 21 | Medford | 1 | M. Rines |
| 29 | Lincoln | 5 | M. Rines | 21 | Melrose | 1 | D. + I. Jewell |
| 30 | Lexington | 6 | M. Rines | 22 | Malden | 1 | P. + F. Vale |
| Horned Lark | | | | 23 | Petersham | 2 | M. Lynch# |
| 2 | Middleboro | 125 | S. Arena | 28 | Boxford (C.P.) | 3 | P. + F. Vale |
| 13 | Wayland | 11 | N. Patterson | 28 | W. Newbury | 1 | R. Heil |
| 15 | Eastham (F.E.) | 20 | J. Hoye# | 29 | Braintree | 1 | G. d'Entremont |
| 26 | Cumb. Farms | 75+ | R. Finch | 30 | Lexington | 1 | M. Rines |
| Tree Swallow | | | | Marsh Wren | | | |
| 18, 29 | GMNWR | 1, 150 | S. Perkins | 17 | Dorchester | 1 | R. Donovan |
| 21 | Sudbury | 1 | S. Perkins# | 19-27 | GMNWR | 1 | R. Lockwood |
| 22 | Lakeville | 2 | W. Petersen# | 28 | Yarmouthport | 1 | S. + E. Miller |
| 22 | Cumb. Farms | 2 | W. Petersen# | Golden-crowned Kinglet | | | |
| 23 | Bridgewater | 3 | M. Boucher | 16 | Hingham | 8 | N. Swirka |
| 26 | Concord (NAC) | 28 | S. Perkins | 23 | Petersham | 15 | M. Lynch# |
| 27 | Harvard | 40 | S. + L. Hennin | 29 | IRWS | 8 | P. + F. Vale |
| 29 | Halifax | 25 | R. Finch | Ruby-crowned Kinglet | | | |
| 29 | Tisbury | 75 | v.o. | 22 | Nantucket | 3 | fide E. Ray |
| 31 | Pepperell | 250 | E. Stromsted | Eastern Bluebird | | | |
| Barn Swallow | | | | 1 | Rowley | 6 | P. + F. Vale |
| 30 | GMNWR | 1 | S. Perkins# | 1 | Wayland | 2 | N. Patterson |
| American Crow | | | | 2 | Westboro | 3 | A. Boover |
| 2 | Bolton Flats | 300 | M. Lynch# | 4-30 | E. Boxford | 2 | J. Brown# |
| 1, 31 | Framingham | 9000, 900 | E. Taylor | 9 | E. Bridgewater | 2 | R. Finch |
| Fish Crow | | | | 9 | Wellfleet | 8 | B. Parker |
| 1 | W. Roxbury | 2 | M. Rines | 15 | Concord | 3 | R. Lockwood |
| 7 | Hanson | 8 | W. Petersen | 16 | Wenham | 2 | P. + F. Vale |
| 19 | E. Middleboro | 1 | K. Anderson | 16 | W. Newbury | 3 | D. + I. Jewell |
| 22 | Bedford | 4 | M. Rines | 17 | Lincoln | 2 | S. Perkins |
| 24 | Waltham | 2 | K. Anderson | 18 | IRWS | 3 | D. + I. Jewell |
| 26 | Georgetown | 2 | A. Bennett | 22 | Worc. (BMB) | 4 | S. + L. Hennin |
| 28 | W. Newbury | 1 | R. Heil | 27 | Petersham | 4 | M. Rines |
| 29 | Braintree | 2 | G. d'Entremont | 27 | Hardwick | 2 | M. Rines |
| 30 | Mt.A. | 2 | P. + F. Vale | 29 | Hingham | 8 | N. Swirka |
| Common Raven | | | | Townsend's Solitaire (details submitted) * | | | |
| 1 | Quincy | 1 | N. Smith | 1-16 | Barnstable | 1 | v.o. |
| 2, 22 | Athol | 2, 7 | D. Small | Townsend's Solitaire (no details) * | | | |
| 3, 10 | Ipswich | 1, 2 | J. MacDougall | 5 | Sandwich | 1 | W. Loughran |
| 28 | Royalston | 2 | M. Rines | Hermit Thrush | | | |
| Red-breasted Nuthatch | | | | 14 | E. Orleans | 1 | A. Williams# |
| thr | E. Middleboro | pr | K. Anderson | 16 | Wenham | 1 | P. Vale |
| 1 | Weston | 4 | M. Rines | 16 | Medford | 1 | D. Oliver |
| 16 | Hingham | 2 | N. Swirka | 23 | Worc. (BMB) | 4 | S. Moore# |
| 28 | Boxford (C.P.) | 4 | P. + F. Vale | 23 | Randolph | 2 | G. d'Entremont |
| 29 | Quabbin (G40) | 10 | E. Nielsen# | 29 | Petersham | 1 | S. + L. Hennin |
| Brown Creeper | | | | American Robin | | | |
| 1 | Weston | 3 | M. Rines | 22 | Marlboro | 2000 | B. Volkle |
| 2 | Royalston | 3 | M. Rines# | Gray Catbird | | | |
| 16 | Hingham | 4 | N. Swirka | 9 | Westport | 1 | S. + L. Hennin |
| 29 | IRWS | 3 | P. + F. Vale | 9 | Barnstable | 1 | D. Chickering |
| 29 | Quabbin (G40) | 8 | E. Nielsen# | Brown Thrasher | | | |
| Rock Wren (details submitted) * | | | | 29 | Squantum | 1 | G. d'Entremont |
| 30-31 | Gloucester | 1 | J. Berry + v.o. | Cedar Waxwing | | | |
| Carolina Wren | | | | thr | Taunton | 125 | max G. d'Entremont |
| 2 | Westboro | 1 | A. Boover | 1 | Newbypt | 25 | P. + F. Vale |
| 8 | Worcester | 1 | M. Lynch# | 2 | Littleton | 126 | R. Stymeist# |
| 9 | E. Bridgewater | 1 | R. Finch | 2 | Wakefield | 60 | D. Williams |
| 11 | Bedford | 1 | M. Rines | 2 | Westboro | 54 | A. Boover |
| 15 | Westport | 9 | R. Stymeist# | 4 | N. Andover | 75 | R. Parkinson |
| 17 | Lexington | 2 | M. Rines | 8 | Rockport | 35 | D. + I. Jewell |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| Cedar Waxwing (continued) | | | | 28 | W. Newbury | 4 | R. Heil |
| 29 | Milton | 60 | G. d'Entremont | 29 | Petersham | 3 | D. Small# |
| 29 | W. Newbury | 50 | J. Berry | 13-31 | Reports of 1 or 2 indiv. from 21 loc. | | |
| Northern Shrike | | | | Swamp Sparrow | | | |
| 2 | Katama | 1 | A. Keith | 7 | Woburn | 1 | M. Rines |
| 10, 26 | Wayland | 1 | N. Patterson | 9 | Westport | 2 | S. + L. Hennin |
| 16 | Cumb. Farms | 1 | S. Moore# | 25 | GMNWR | 1 | R. Lockwood |
| 23 | Petersham | 1 | D. Small# | White-crowned Sparrow | | | |
| 28 | Dennis | 1 | J. Sones | 8 | S. Dartmouth | 1 | R. Comeau |
| 30 | Cumb. Farms | 1 | R. Finch | Harris' Sparrow (no details) * | | | |
| 30 | Lexington | 1 | M. Rines | 22 | Salisbury | 1 | v.o. |
| Cape May Warbler | | | | Lapland Longspur | | | |
| thr | Edgartown | 1 ph | V. Laux + v.o. | 22 | Cumb. Farms | 2 | W. Petersen# |
| Yellow-rumped Warbler | | | | Snow Bunting | | | |
| 9 | Squantum | 25 | G. d'Entremont | 2 | Ipswich (C.B.) | 20 | J. Berry |
| 9 | P.I. | 12 | J. Berry | 22 | Cumb. Farms | 10 | W. Petersen# |
| Pine Warbler | | | | Red-winged Blackbird | | | |
| 24 | Acton | 1 | G. Marley | 2 | Newbury | 350 | P. + F. Vale |
| 28 | Royalston | 4 | M. Rines | 2 | ONWR | 2000 | M. Lynch# |
| 28 | E. Middleboro | 1 | K. Anderson | 23 | Methuen | 700 | J. Hogan |
| 29 | E. Bridgewater | 1 | E. Giles | 23 | Bolton Flats | 5000 | M. Lynch# |
| 30 | Lakeville | 4 | R. Finch | 28 | W. Newbury | 1100 | R. Heil |
| 30 | Wakefield | 1 | P. + F. Vale | Eastern Meadowlark | | | |
| 30 | Malden | 1 | P&V Fale | 8 | Cumb. Farms | 29 | D. Deifik |
| 30 | Easton | 2 | S. Arena | 21 | Westboro | 5 | A. Boover |
| 30 | Cohasset | 3 | N. Swirka | 22 | Essex | 5 | D. Chickering |
| 30 | Hingham | 3 | N. Swirka | 23 | Bolton Flats | 7 | M. Lynch# |
| 31 | Fall River | 15+ | G. Gove | 24 | Newbury | 10 | M. Rines |
| Dickcissel | | | | 28 | P.I. | 6 | D. + I. Jewell |
| 8 | Athol | 1 | B. Fregeau# | 29 | Hingham | 3 | SSBC (N. Swirka) |
| 9 | Westport | 1 | M. Lynch# | 30 | GMNWR | 2 | migr S. Perkins |
| 20 | Winthrop | 1 | G. Foley | Rusty Blackbird | | | |
| 25-26 | Dartmouth | 1 | A. Hankin | 2 | Newbury | 1 | P. + F. Vale |
| Eastern Towhee | | | | 2 | Bolton | 1 | M. Lynch# |
| thr | N. Dartmouth | 2 | M. Boucher | 10 | Ipswich | 3 | J. Berry |
| thr | Lincoln | 1 f | W. Harrington | 15 | Wakefield | 2 | P. + F. Vale |
| 13 | E. Middleboro | 1 | K. Anderson | 15 | Lynnfield | 1 | D. Williams |
| 19 | Newbury | 1 | M. Rines | 22 | Malden | 1 | P. + F. Vale |
| 22 | Worcester | 1 | S. + L. Hennin | 22 | Athol | 8 | D. Small# |
| American Tree Sparrow | | | | 22 | Middleboro | 7 | W. Petersen# |
| 2 | Sudbury | 25 | R. Lockwood | 22 | Concord (NAC) | 1 | S. Perkins# |
| 2 | Newbypt | 32 | BBC (D. Oliver) | 27 | Wayland | 11 | N. Patterson |
| 9 | W. Quincy | 10 | G. d'Entremont | 30 | Westwood | 133 | E. Nielsen |
| 30 | Wakefield | 6 | P. + F. Vale | 30 | Canton | 3 | J. Young |
| Chipping Sparrow | | | | Common Grackle | | | |
| 28 | Cumb. Farms | 1 | R. Finch | 23 | Bolton Flats | 10,000 | M. Lynch# |
| 28 | W. Peabody | 1 | R. Heil | 28 | W. Newbury | 750 | R. Heil |
| 30 | Easton | 2 | S. Arena | 30 | Methuen | 45,000 | J. Hogan |
| 30 | Northboro | 5 | S. Arena | Brown-headed Cowbird | | | |
| 31 | Hopkinton | 3 | G. Gove | thr | N. Dartmouth | 18 | M. Boucher |
| Clay-colored Sparrow | | | | 2 | ONWR | 60 | M. Lynch# |
| 14-31 | N. Dartmouth | 1 | M. Boucher | Purple Finch | | | |
| Field Sparrow | | | | 7-26 | Maynard | 4 | L. Nachtrab |
| 7 | Dennis | 1 | S. + E. Miller | 15 | Athol | 5 | D. Small |
| 13 | Charlton | 1 | S. + L. Hennin | 16 | IRWS | 2 | D. Larson# |
| 16 | Northboro | 1 | S. + L. Hennin | 28 | Concord (NAC) | 1 m | S. Perkins |
| 30 | Lexington | 2 | M. Rines | 28 | W. Newbury | 5 | R. Heil |
| Savannah Sparrow | | | | 29 | Petersham | 6 | E. Nielsen# |
| 9 | W. Quincy | 7 | G. d'Entremont | 29 | Hardwick | 15 | E. Nielsen# |
| 14 | Westboro | 2 | A. Boover | 29 | Quabbin (G40) | 6 | E. Nielsen# |
| 29 | Arlington | 1 | BBC (D. Oliver) | 30 | Wayland | 2 | J. Hoye# |
| 30 | Cumb. Farms | 30 | T. Raymond | Red Crossbill | | | |
| "Ipswich" Sparrow | | | | 28 | W. Peabody | 1 | R. Heil |
| 5 | S. Dart. (A.Pd) | 1 | LCES (J. Hill) | 29 | Quabbin (G40) | 2 | E. Nielsen# |
| Fox Sparrow | | | | Pine Siskin | | | |
| 8 | Barnstable | 1 | S. + E. Miller | 8 | Athol | 2 | B. Fregeau |
| 8 | Worcester | 1 | M. Lynch# | Evening Grosbeak | | | |
| 10 | Beverly | 2 | L. Pivacek | 22 | Petersham | 20 | M. Polan |
| 23 | Bolton | 5 | R. Lockwood | | | | |